

Supplementary material

An alternative method to determine the quantum yield of the excited triplet state using Laser Flash Photolysis

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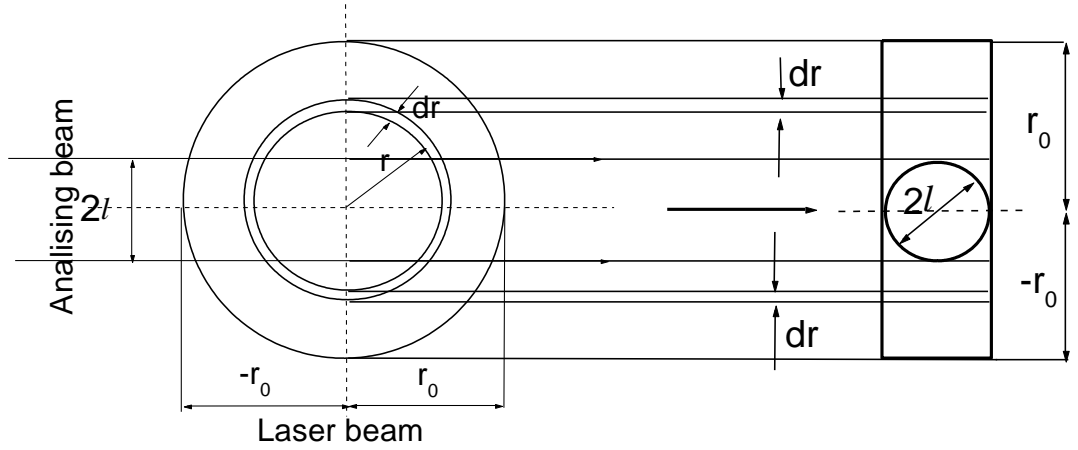
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SI-1: Scheme of propagation of the exciting and analyzing beams, used for calculation of φ_r value from spectroscopic data.

The number of exciting photons in the cylindrical volume element dV_r is

$$dn_{ex}(r, z) = GF(r, z)dV_r$$

where dV_r is equal to

$$dV_r = 4\pi l r dr$$

Here r is the cylinder radius, dr is its thickness and $2l$ is its height, where l is the radius of the analyzing beam.

$GF(r, z)$ is the spatial distribution of laser pulse intensity, which, taking into account the cylindrical symmetry of the pulse, is

$$GF(r, z) = C \times \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{2\zeta^2}\right)$$

The C value is determined from normalization by the volume

$$C \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta \int_0^{r_0} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{2\zeta^2}\right) r dr \int_{-l}^l dz = 1$$

And

$$C = \frac{1}{4\pi l \zeta^2 \left[1 - \exp\left(-\frac{r_0^2}{2\zeta^2}\right)\right]}$$

Finally

$$dn_{ex} = \frac{n_{ex0}}{4\pi l \zeta^2 \left[1 - \exp\left(-\frac{r_0^2}{2\zeta^2}\right)\right]} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{2\zeta^2}\right) \times 4\pi l r dr$$

or

$$dn_{ex} = \frac{n_{ex0}}{\zeta^2 \left[1 - \exp\left(-\frac{r_0^2}{2\zeta^2}\right)\right]} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{2\zeta^2}\right) \times r dr$$

The number of absorbed photons in accordance with the Lambert-Beer law is:

$$dn_{abs} = dn_{ex}(r, z) [1 - \exp(-\sigma_{01} N_0 2l)]$$

where σ_{01} is a cross section of the $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$ transition at the excitation wavelength, N_0 is a number of PS molecules per a volume unit, and

$$dn_{abs} = \frac{n_{ex0} [1 - \exp(-\sigma_{01} N_0 2l)]}{\zeta^2 \left[1 - \exp\left(-\frac{r_0^2}{2\zeta^2}\right)\right]} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{2\zeta^2}\right) r dr$$

When the radius of the analyzing beam $l \ll r_0$, the problem can be considered as a one-dimensional one, and the elementary absorbance can be written as:

$$dA = \sigma_S N_S dr + \sigma_T N_T dr$$

where σ_S and σ_T are cross sections of $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$ and $T_1 \rightarrow T_2$ transitions at the analyzing wavelength and $N_S = \frac{dn_S}{dV_r}$ and $N_T = \frac{dn_T}{dV_r}$ are numbers of the PS molecules in the S_1 and T_1 states per the volume unit, respectively.

Taking into account that $N_S + N_T = N_0$ we obtain

$$d(\Delta A) = d(A - A_0) = (\sigma_T - \sigma_S)N_T dr = (\sigma_T - \sigma_S) \frac{dn_T}{4\pi l r dr} dr = (\sigma_T - \sigma_S) \frac{dn_T}{4\pi l r}$$

where $A_0 = \int_{-r_0}^{r_0} \sigma_S N_0 dr$ is the absorbance of the sample before the exciting pulse action.

Using the definition of the triplet state quantum yield as $\varphi_T = \frac{dn_T}{dn_{abs}}$, we obtain after integration

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta A &= (\sigma_T - \sigma_S) \int_{-r_0}^{r_0} \frac{dn_T}{4\pi l r} = \frac{\varphi_T(\sigma_T - \sigma_S)}{4\pi l} \int_{-r_0}^{r_0} \frac{dn_{abs}}{r} \\ \Delta A &= \frac{\varphi_T(\sigma_T - \sigma_S)}{4\pi l} \times \frac{[1 - \exp(-\sigma_{01}N_0l)]}{\zeta^2 \left[1 - \exp\left(-\frac{r_0^2}{2\zeta^2}\right)\right]} \times \int_{-r_0}^{r_0} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{2\zeta^2}\right) dr \\ \Delta A &= \varphi_T \frac{n_{ex0}(\sigma_T - \sigma_S)}{2\pi l} \times \frac{[1 - \exp(-\sigma_{01}N_0l)]}{\zeta^2 \left[1 - \exp\left(-\frac{r_0^2}{2\zeta^2}\right)\right]} \times \int_0^{r_0} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{2\zeta^2}\right) dr \\ \Delta A &= \varphi_T \frac{n_{ex0}(\sigma_T - \sigma_S)}{2\pi l} \times \frac{[1 - \exp(-\sigma_{01}N_0l)]}{\zeta^2 \left[1 - \exp\left(-\frac{r_0^2}{2\zeta^2}\right)\right]} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} \zeta \times \operatorname{erf}\left(-\frac{r^2}{2\zeta^2}\right) \\ \Delta A &= \varphi_T \frac{n_{ex0}(\sigma_T - \sigma_S)}{2\sqrt{2\pi}l\zeta} \times \frac{[1 - \exp(-\sigma_{01}N_0l)]}{\left[1 - \exp\left(-\frac{r_0^2}{2\zeta^2}\right)\right]} \times \operatorname{erf}\left(-\frac{r^2}{2\zeta^2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\operatorname{erf}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{x^2} \exp(-t^2) dt = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{x^2} \exp(-t) \frac{dt}{\sqrt{t}}$$

is the error integral with the argument $x = \frac{r_0}{\sqrt{2}\zeta}$.

And as a result

$$\varphi_T = \frac{2\sqrt{2\pi}l\zeta}{n_{ex0}(\sigma_T - \sigma_S)} \times \frac{\left[1 - \exp\left(-\frac{r_0^2}{2\zeta^2}\right)\right]}{\left[1 - \exp(-\sigma_{01}N_0l)\right] \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{r_0}{\sqrt{2}\zeta}\right)} \times \Delta A$$