Resonant optical rectification. Theory and application to bacteriorhodopsin

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Single protein in the purple membrane of *Halobactrium salinarium*

Forms hexagonal 2D crystal in the membrane

Bacteriorhodopsin



Utilizes light energy by pumping protons across the membrane



Light-induced electric response signal of oriented purple membrane sample

What is the real primary charge separation process?

Traditional idea: charge separation by all-trans \rightarrow 13-cis isomerization of the retinal chromophore

still popular

questioned by studies on artificial pigments of locked isomerization





Upon excitation a huge change of dipole moment takes place.

According to the Maxwell theory this is a source of electromagnetic radiation.

What kind of optical phenomenon could describe this radiation?

The expected radiation

- rises instantaneously with absorption
- decays with excited state = aperiodic, no carrier frequency
- observable only on oriented (noncentrosymmetric) sample

- can not be a first order optical process
- resonant
- dominated by T₁ relaxation

fundemental 2nd order processes

second harmonic generation

optical rectification

no resonant theory! (popular χ^2 expressions are singular)

Theory of resonant optical rectification (based on Mukamel's method)

$$V = \sum_{a,b} \mu_{ab} |a \rangle \langle b| \qquad \mu_{ab} = \langle a|V|b \rangle$$

Hilbert-space dipole operator

VA = [V, A]

Liouville-space dipole operator

$$\chi^{(2)}\left(-\omega_{s};\omega_{1},\omega_{2}\right)=\frac{1}{2}\rho_{0}\sum_{p}S^{(2)}\left(\omega_{1}+\omega_{2},\omega_{1}\right)$$

second-order susceptibility

Specification of the (tetradic) relaxation matrix:

$$\begin{split} &\Gamma_{aa,bb\ (a\neq b)} \equiv \gamma_{ab} \\ &\Gamma_{aa,aa} \equiv -\gamma_a \equiv -\sum_{b(\neq a)} \Gamma_{bb,aa} \\ &\Gamma_{ab,ab} = -\frac{1}{2} \left(\gamma_a + \gamma_b \right) - \hat{\Gamma}_{ab} \equiv -\Gamma_{ab} \end{split}$$

In earlier work the offdiagonal elements were neglected $\Gamma_{aa,bb}(a\neq b) = 0$

- simpler formula
- lack of conservation of the probability
- singularity in $\chi^{(2)}(-\omega_s;\omega_1,\omega_2)$ for $\omega_1 = -\omega_2$

For a two-level system with complete T_1 relaxation matrix:

$$S^{(2)}(t_{2},t_{1}) = \left(\frac{1}{\hbar}\right)^{2} \left(P(\theta) - P(1)\right) \mu_{I0}^{2} \left(\mu_{II} - \mu_{00}\right) \theta(t_{2}) \theta(t_{1}) \left\{-2 e^{-\frac{t_{1} + t_{2}}{T_{2}}} \cos\left[\omega_{I0}\left(t_{1} + t_{2}\right)\right] + 2 e^{-\frac{t_{2}}{T_{1}}} e^{-\frac{t_{1}}{T_{2}}} \cos\left[\omega_{I0}\left(t_{1} + t_{2}\right)\right] + 2 e^{-\frac{t_{2}}{T_{1}}} e^{-\frac{t_{1}}{T_{2}}} \cos\left(\omega_{I0}t_{1}\right) \left\{-2 e^{-\frac{t_{1}}{T_{2}}} \cos\left[\omega_{I0}\left(t_{1} + t_{2}\right)\right] + 2 e^{-\frac{t_{1}}{T_{2}}} \cos\left(\omega_{I0}t_{1}\right) \left\{-2 e^{-\frac{t_{1}}{T_{2}}} \cos\left(\omega_{I0}t_{1}\right)\right\}$$

 $\boldsymbol{\mathcal{O}}_{10}$ transition frequency

 T_1 population relaxation time

 $0 < T_2 <= 2T_1$

 T_2 coherence relaxation time

incident light:

 $E(t) = Env(t)\cos(\omega_0 t)$

polarisation:

$$P^{(2)}(t) = \int_{0}^{\infty} dt_{2} \int_{0}^{\infty} dt_{1} S^{(2)}(t_{2}, t_{1}) Env(t - t_{2}) \cos\left[\omega_{0}(t - t_{2})\right] Env(t - t_{2} - t_{1}) \cos\left[\omega_{0}(t - t_{2} - t_{1})\right]$$

 $P^{(2)}(t) = P^{(2)}_{OR}(t) + P^{(2)}_{SH}(t)$

optical rectification:

$$P_{OR}^{(2)}(t) = \int_{0}^{\infty} dt_{2} \int_{0}^{\infty} dt_{1} S_{0}^{(2)}(t_{2},t_{1}) Env(t-t_{2}) Env(t-t_{2}-t_{1})$$

$$S_0^{(2)}(t_2,t_1) = \frac{1}{2} S^{(2)}(t_2,t_1) \cos(\omega_0 t_1)$$

Simulations



off-resonant excitation

resonant excitation

Simulations



'envelope resonance'



Scheme of the setup for coherent IR emission measurement

700-1500 cm⁻¹ (Ecole Polytechnique, Palaiseau)



Coherent infrared emission signal from bR and GaAs Groma et al. PNAS **101**: 7971 (2004)



Power spectrum of bR and GaAs coherent infrared emission signal





intensity dependence

polarisation dependence



Power spectrum of the oscillation region.

Conclusions

- The theory of optical rectification was extended to the resonant case with complete relaxation matrix.
- The existence of the optical rectification process in bactriorhodopsin was experimentally confirmed.
- We assume that this second order process is the primary reason of the further proton motions, that is the 'functional motor' of the protein.

 $P = \chi^{(2)}E^2$ the function is linear in light intensity

• The optical rectification process is accompanied by multimodal coherent vibration.

causal relation? functionally important vibrations?