

Abstract Submitted
for the MAR06 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Upconversion-Detected Ultrafast Two-Dimensional Infrared Spectroscopy¹ KEVIN KUBARYCH, University of Michigan, MANUEL JOFFRE, Laboratoire d'Optique et Biosciences Ecole Polytechnique — Two-dimensional infrared (2DIR) spectroscopy provides direct access to ultrafast molecular dynamics by measuring time- and structure-dependent couplings between vibrational transitions. Biological molecules, such as proteins, have rich vibrational spectra that relate to key structural elements including secondary structure (α -helix, β -sheet), hydrogen bonding and protonation state. The ability to reliably measure 2DIR spectra in biological molecules represents a major step towards an atomic-level picture of biochemical dynamics. A key limitation of ultrafast IR spectroscopy has been the measurement of the spectrum in a grating-based spectrometer due to HgCdTe detectors limited to linear arrays of 128 or fewer pixels. We have circumvented this problem by converting the coherently generated four-wave mixing 2DIR signal into the visible spectrum, and recording it using a 1340x100 pixel silicon CCD camera. The IR signal is mixed in a MgO:LiNbO₃ crystal with a chirped, <10 μ J, 0.5 ns, 800 nm pulse. Signal detection is sufficient to measure single-shot dispersed vibrational echo spectra, as well as heterodyne detected 2DIR in Mn₂(CO)₁₀. The IR emission temporally overlaps only a narrow frequency range of the chirped near-IR pulse resulting in negligible spectral broadening.

¹We acknowledge support from the Human Frontier Science Program

Kevin Kubarych
University of Michigan

Date submitted: 30 Nov 2005

Electronic form version 1.4