

Abstract Submitted
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Coherent vs. dissipative nonequilibrium dynamics in spectroscopy of molecular aggregates¹ DARIUS ABRA-
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Vilnius, Lithuania — Molecular aggregates embedded in a protein envi-
ronment are the core elements in photosynthetic antennae units. Pho-
toexcitations in these systems experience multistep relaxation, which
could be traced using various time-resolved spectroscopy techniques. Ini-
tiated coherent processes turn into dissipative. Understanding of these
processes is still a major theoretical task. We study theoretically spec-
troscopic properties of simple molecular aggregates coupled to a bath,
which contains main ingredients of protein environemnt: high-energy
vibrations, long-range correlations, and smooth spectrum of frequen-
cies. At short times after the optical excitation high-energy coherent
vibrational resonances can be observed in two-dimensional rephasing
spectroscopy. Their beats overlap with electronic quantum coherences,
responsible for the quantum transport. We show the way to discrim-
inate between them. At the long times we find that the conventional
excitonic picture of eigenstates is valid only in the Markovian regime. In
the non-Markovian regime the exciton concept breaks down and renor-
malized system parameters must be introduced: effective intermolecular
coupling, widely used in polaron theories, can be used to account for the
effects of the bath.

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