Abstract Submitted for the TSS05 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Femtosecond CARS on organic molecules¹ DMITRY PESTOV, MIAOCHAN ZHI, ROBERT MURAWSKI, ALEXEI SOKOLOV, NIKOLAI KALU-GIN, YURI ROSTOVTSEV, ZOE SARIYANNI, VLADIMIR SAUTENKOV, MAR-LAN SCULLY, Department of Physics and Institute for Quantum Studies, Texas A&M University — Quantum coherence dynamics on vibrational transitions in organic molecules is studied by means of femtosecond Coherent Anti-Stokes Raman Scattering (CARS) technique. CARS signal profiles for high-frequency Raman transitions in methanol and ethanol, as representative simple organic substances, are obtained. The detailed, good-visibility profiles, spanning six decades in signal magnitude, show clear low-frequency oscillations, attributed to quantum beats, and make it possible to extract decoherence time constants. Non-trivial dependence of these constants on methanol/ethanol concentration in water solution is observed. Coherent response from a saturated solution of dipicolinic acid, which has much more complex molecular structure, is also demonstrated.

¹Supported by the Office of Naval Research, the Air Force Research Laboratory (Rome, NY), Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency QuIST, Texas AM University Telecom. and Inform. Task Force (TITF) Initiative, and the Robert A. Welch Foundation

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Date submitted: 04 Feb 2005

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