



Optical Filters – Essential Tools

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AHF analysentechnik AG



:: Company profile



AHF analysentechnik was initially founded in 1981 by Helmut Feuerbacher as an engineering company for microwave plasma spectroscopy

Accessories for ultra-trace analysis and ICP spectrometry have soon be added to the product range

Since 1992 AHF analysentechnik offers high end optical filters for any kind of fluorescence and Raman applications

In 1998 the company has been transformed into AHF analysentechnik AG. Today AHF analysentechnik engages 14 employees

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:: Content

- 1. Fluorescence
- 2. Measuring fluorescence
- 3. Filters
- 4. Fluorescence microscopy
- 5. Advanced microscopy techniques
- 6. Filter handling



:: Fluorescence

Intensity of a fluorescent dye

extinction coefficient

efficiency of absorbed energy (light) YFP = 83 000 cm⁻¹ M⁻¹ at 514 nm Q-Dot $605 = 2.8 \times 10^6$ cm⁻¹ M⁻¹ at 405 nm

quantum yield

efficiency of released energy as fluorescence typically 0.1 - 0.95YFP = 0,64 Q-Dot 605 ~ 0,6











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:: Filters

	absorption filters	softcoated filters (D, HQ)	hardcoated filters (HC, ET)
steep cut-on/cut-off	15-30 nm	few nm	few nm
angle of incidence	insensitive	sensitive	sensitive
transmission	~90%	80-90%	>95%
burn out	no	yes	no
aging	depending	yes	no
autofluorescence	yes	no	no
flexible design (single filter)	no	yes	no



ok



aging effects



burned



:: Filters



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:: Filters

Thin film coating



:: Filters



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:: Fluorescence microscopy



:: Fluorescence microscopy Customizing filters to the light source metal halide laser 100 100 laser dichroic exciter emitter dichroic M М۸ emitter %**T** % **T** 50 50 ۵ 550 600 500 550 750 300 350 400 450 500 650 700 750 800 300 350 400 450 600 650 700 800 Wavelength [nm] Wavelength [nm]

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:: Fluorescence microscopy



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:: Fluorescence microscopy



Problem:

:: Spectral overlap

Solution:

- :: Selective singleband filtersets
- :: Multiband filtersets



:: Fluorescence microscopy





:: Fluorescence microscopy

Features of singleband filtersets

- + selective
- + perfect adaption to spectral properties
- + best s/n ratio
- + bright images
- + wide out of band blocking
- + short irradiation time
- ± pixelshift-free filtersets possible with/without adjustment
- slow switching to the next filtercube (~ 1s)

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:: e.g. Tripleband filterset for DAPI, FITC and Texas Red for simultaneous imaging of all three colors

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:: Fluorescence microscopy

Features of multiband filtersets

- + overview
- + no filterchange
- + real time acquisition in up to four channels
- + no pixelshift
- ± "co-localized" signals
- ± balance between the different colour channels
- loss of intensity in comparision to singleband filtersets
- bleed through due to spectral overlap possible





:: Fluorescence microscopy





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:: Advanced microscopy

Total internal reflection microscopy (TIRF)

:: filtersets for a single laser line up to four different laser lines

:: e.g. dualband GFP / mCherry lasers 473-491 nm and 559-561 nm (clean up not shown)



:: Advanced microscopy Multiphoton microscopy (2P, MP) Term scheme: **S**² Ε :: nonlinear optical process :: simultanous absoption of two photons **S**¹ :: electron transition into an excited state :: wavelength of emitted light > $\frac{1}{2} \lambda_{\text{Laser}}$:: non energy conserving $\frac{1}{2}h$ **S**⁰ vibronic states virtual states electronic states **S**ⁿ –

:: Advanced microscopy

Multiphoton microscopy (2P, MP)

Benefits:

- :: less photobleaching (neglible out of focus)
- :: deeper penetration into tissue
- :: quasi confocal imaging
- :: less scattering
- :: excitation profil:
 - 1P MP



Optical components:

- :: low pulse broadening
- :: deep blocked filters in the IR
 - against the laser wavelengths
- :: high near UV and VIS transmission
- :: energy resistent coatings

:: Advanced microscopy



:: Advanced microscopy Multiphoton microscopy (2P, MP) multiphoton laser 100 :: sideport setup 80 longpass beamsplitter :: excitation through transmitted shortpass emitter light axis 60 % T and detection via sideport 40 20 0 300 400 500 600 700 800 _{nm} 900 1000 1100

:: Advanced microscopy

Second harmonic generation (SHG)

:: nonlinear coherent scattering

- :: energy conserving
- :: no absorption of energy
- :: intrinsic property of non-centrosymmetric molecules
- :: signal depends only on the laser: $\lambda_{SHG} = \frac{1}{2} \lambda_{Laser}$
- :: peak width: $\Delta\lambda_{SHG} = \Delta\lambda_{Laser} / \sqrt{2}$
- :: mostly used for collagen (incident laser ~800 nm)







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Second harmonic generation (SHG)

Benefits:

- :: can be combined with 2P-fluorescence
- :: no staining neccessary

Optical components:

- :: low pulse broadening
- :: deep blocked filters in the IR at the laser wavelength
- :: narrowband filters for blocking any 2P fluorescence
- :: energy resistent coatings

:: Advanced microscopy Second harmonic generation (SHG) multiphoton laser 100 beamsplitter BS 720 SP 90 :: Narrowband emitter separates emitter HC 680/SP 80 SHG signals from + narrowband emitter 70 or 2P-blocked narrow-2P-fluorescence 60 band emitter alone % **T** 50 40 30 20 10 0 300 400 500 600 700 800 900 1000 1100 Wavelength [nm]

:: Advanced microscopy

Raman

- :: nonlinear optical process
- :: molecules have to be polarizable
- :: intensity of Raman signals are proportional to the polarizability
- :: can be described as elastic (Rayleigh) and inelastic (Stokes and Antistokes) scattering of light



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Benefits:

Raman

- :: no staining neccessary
- :: molecule specific
- :: molecules can be characterized by their

Raman spectrum

Disadvantage

- :: fluorescence might cover Stokes signals
- :: low intensity (two magnitudes lower than fluorescence)



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Raman

Optical components:

:: very steep filters and beamsplitters neccessary due to small spectral shift
:: deep blocking at the pump laser line
:: notch, longpass or shortpass filters



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Coherent Antistokes Raman Spectroscopy (CARS)

:: nonlinear optical process

:: can be described as driven

harmonic oscillator







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Coherent Antistokes Raman Spectroscopy (CARS)

Benefits:

- :: molecule specific imaging
- :: no staining neccessary
- :: factor 10⁵ more intense compared to Raman
- :: fluorescence does not matter

Optical components:

- :: very steep filters and beamsplitters neccessary due to small spectral shift
- :: deep blocking at both laser lines
- :: shortpass filters as detection filters



:: Filter handling

Cleaning



softcoated filter (always with filter ring)

Cleaning procedure

with filtered pressurized air (oil free!) or bulb puffer
wipe gently with a lint-free towel and ethanol, methanol or propanol. Use new surface of towel for each wipe

Never use aceton, THF, hexane, ... and other solvents



hardcoated filter or beamsplitter (with or without filter ring)

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:: Our experience – your profit

:: Thank you very much



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