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Outline · Brief recapitulation of basic concepts: light-matter interaction • What is light? • What is fluorescence? · What are the most important properties of fluorophores and why is this important for you to know them? · What is fluorescence quenching and how to avoid it? • Fluorescence Imaging - Confocal Laser Scanning Microscope (CLSM) The confocal principle Upright vs. inverted microscopes Epifluorescence microscopes • The light path in epifluorescence microscopes · Magnification vs. resolution · Limits of resolution in epifluorescence microscopy · Evading the resolution limit imposed by the diffraction of light · Super-resolution fluorescence microscopy imaging techniques



What is fluorescence?

Fluorescence is a naturally occurring, two-step dissipative process that may arise when the UV-VIS-IR electromagnetic field interacts with matter. The first step in this interaction is absorption of light, *i.e.* absorption of a photon by a molecule, which is quickly followed by the emission of a photon of lower energy, *i.e.* the emission of light of longer wavelength.



1500-1000 B.C. - first written recordings describing the phenomenon of luminescence

- 1646 Athanasius Kircher wrote a book "Ars Magna Lucis et Umbrae"
- 1845 Sir John Frederick William Bart Herschel described quinine fluorescence Phil.Trans.Roy.Soc. London 1845, 135, 143-145
- 1843 Sir George Gabriel Stokes coined the word fluorescence to describe luminescence calcium fluoride (fluorite). Phil.Trans.Roy.Soc. London 1852, 143, 463-562
- 1875 Eugen Cornelius Joseph von Lommel suggested that a substance must absorb light before it can emit it back as fluorescence
- 1930 Alexander Jablonski "On the influence of the change of wavelengths of excitation light on the fluorescence spectra"

Goldberg and Weiner. The Science of Luminescence. http://pubs.acs.org/doi/pdf/10.1021/bk-1989-0383.ch001 Newton Harvey. A History of Luminescence. From the earliest time until 1900 https://archive.org/stream/historyoflumines00harv#page/n7/mode/2up





Fluorophores are naturally existing or synthetic molecules which have the capacity to absorb light, *i.e.* electromagnetic radiation in the UV-VIS-IR part of the spectrum, and emit the absorbed energy in the form of light of longer wavelength. In this way, the excited molecule returns to its ground state, some energy is lost as heat and the electromagnetic radiation is converted from one wavelength to another.



Sir William Henry Perkin (1838 – 1907) discovered the first aniline dye, mauveine, while trying to synthesize quinine.

1850-1900 Advances in fluorescent dyes development preceded and were crucial for the development of fluorescence microscopy.

1857 - Synthetic dye industry developed by William Perkin facilitated the synthesis, chemical and spectral characterization of many new fluorescent dyes, such as fluorescein (1871, Adolf von Baeyer), Eosin B (1875, Caro), rhodamine B and G (1887 and 1891, Ceresole), thioflavine (1888, Rosenheck), acridine orange (1889, Bender).





































rnysical and optical data									
Protein	Ref. ^{<u>a</u>}	$\lambda_{ex}^{\underline{b}}$	$\lambda_{em}^{\underline{c}}$	ε <u>d</u>	φ ^{<u>e</u>}	Brightness ^f	Photostability ^g	pKa ^{<u>h</u>}	Maturation
LanYFP	1	513	524	150	0.95	424	ND	3.5	ND
dLanYFP	ŧ	513	524	125	0.90	335	ND	ND	ND
mNeonGreen	÷	506	517	116 ± 4	0.80 ± 0.016	276	158 ± 13	5.7	< 10
Clover	7	505	515	111	0.76	251	50	6.2	30
YPet	2	517	530	104	0.77	238	49	5.6	ND
mCitrine	2	516	529	77	0.76	174	49	5.7	ND
mVenus	2	515	528	92	0.57	156	15	6.0	ND
EYFP	2	514	527	83	0.61	151	60	6.9	ND
mEmerald	2	487	509	57	0.68	116	101 ¹	6.0	ND
sfGFP	2	485	510	83	0.65	161	157 ^j	5.5	ND
mWasabi	15	493	509	70	0.80	167	93	6.5	ND
mAG	16	492	505	42	0.81	100	ND	6.2	ND
mEGFP	2	488	507	56	0.60	100	150 ^j	6.0	25 <u>k</u>

"Source of data unless ornerwise hored. "Excitation maximum in hm. "Emission maximum in hm." "Extitaction coefficient in mw" cm", determined by aikali denaturation method. "Fluorescence quantum yield. 'Product of ε and (x003C6), expressed as a percentage of mEGFP brightness. "Time in s to photobleach from 1000 to 500 photons per s per molecule in live cells under widefield arc-lamp illumination. "pH at which fluorescence intensity is 50% of its maximum value. Time in min for fluorescence to reach its half-maximal value after exposure to oxygen at 37 °C. ND = not determined. Shaner et al. Nat Methods. 2013 May: 10(5): 10.1038/nmeth.2413





Milestones in optical microscopy and the birth of fluorescence microscopy

1874 – Abbe E. A Contribution to the Theory of the Microscope and the nature of Microscopic Vision. Proceedings of the Bristol Naturalists' Society 1874 **1**:200-261.

1883 - Abbe E. The Relation of Aperture and Power in the Microscope (continued). Journal of the Royal Microscopical Society. 1883 **3**:790-812.

Microscope objectives that minimized the effects of spherical and chromatic aberrations could be readily produced, but limitations associated with resolution, contrast, noise, sensitivity and specificity remained.

1850-1900 Advances in fluorescent dyes development preceded and were crucial for the development of the fluorescence microscope – synthetic dye industry developed by William Perkin facilitated the synthesis, chemical and spectral characterization of many new fluorescent dyes, such as fluorescein (1871, Adolf von Baeyer), Eosin B (1875, Caro), rhodamine B and G (1887 and 1891, Ceresole), tioflafine (1888, Rosenheck), acridine orange (1889, Bender)

Masters BR. The Development of Fluorescence Microscopy. Encyclopedia of Life Sciences (ELS). John Wiley & Sons, Ltd: Chichester, doi: 10.1002/9780470015902.a0022093; http://www.physics.bilkent.edu.tr/news/masters/ELS_Hist_Fl_Micro.pdf Cell Structure and Function by Microspectrofluorometry, Elli Kohen, Academic Press, 1989 http://books.google.se/books?id=iLhQawAAQBAJAgpePA4dig=PA4dig=Archidine+orange+Bender&source=bl&ots=Y6PJS2HyRb&sig=Wr28HhEaR8 6JO_c7NmWO0jlNvqI&hl=en&sa=X&ei=AENWVNS_JNGradvZgPgM&ved=OCCgQ6AEwAQ#v=onepage&g=Acridine%20orange%20Bender&f=false































































