



1932-18

#### Winter College on Micro and Nano Photonics for Life Sciences

11 - 22 February 2008

Coherent Anti-Stokes Raman Scattering Microscopy (CARS): from fundamentals to applications (Part I, II and III)

Herve Rigneault Institut Fresnel Marseille Marseille, France



# Mosaic project



When photonics meets life

# Coherent anti-Stokes Raman scattering (CARS) microscopy: from principles to applications

# Hervé Rigneault

Mosaic group, Institut Fresnel – Marseille, France

Thanks to: N. Djaker, D. Gachet, N. Sandeau, F. Billard

Institut FRESNEL

sciences et technologies de l'optique l'électromagnétisme et l'image



╋



### Light





Image







**Contrast mechanism** 

Refraction

Scattering

Raman

Fluorescence

Nonlinear









### Light microscopy: excitation field

F'

Х

Ø

Ζ

Ζ



### Light microscopy: emission field



### **Contrast mechanism dependent**

-Fluorescence 1P, 2P -SHG (TWM), THG, CARS (FWM)





### **Light emission in incoherent processes**

...to an assembly of dipoles.



For an incoherent process: Fluorescence



### **Light emission in coherent process**



Adapted from J.X. Cheng and al., *Biophys. J.* **83**, 502 (2002)

• Coherent emission => the phase of each dipole is fixed by a phase relation.

•Locally, the **total field** is the <u>sum</u> of the fields emitted by <u>each dipole</u> (interference).

•The intensity is the square modulus of the total field

Radiation pattern depends on the phase relationship between emitters !

For a coherent process: SHG (TWM), THG, CARS (FWM)







### **Fluorescence contrast**



### Fluorescence microscopy:

#### Advantages:

Chemical specificity

Very good SNR ratio

### Drawbacks:

Staining step before observation

Staining induced cell's potential malfunctioning

Photobleaching



### **Nonlinear contrast**

(cf Mario Bertolotti tutorial on nonlinear optics)  

$$P(\omega) = \varepsilon_0 (\chi^{(1)}E + \chi^{(2)}E : E + \chi^{(3)}E : E : E + ...)$$

$$P_i = \varepsilon_0 (\chi_{ij}^{(1)}E_j + \chi_{ijk}^{(2)}E_jE_k + \chi_{ijkl}^{(3)}E_jE_kE_l + ...)$$
Einstein notation
Linear optics
Non linear tensor
Non linear tensor
Non linear tensor
Need to be strong

Non linear optics requires strong optical field

-Hydogen atom, 
$$E_{at} = \frac{e}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 a^2} \approx 5.10^{11} \ V.m^{-1}$$
; Bohr radius a=5.10<sup>-11</sup> m

- Sun on earth: 10<sup>3</sup> V.m<sup>-1</sup>, linear optics regime

- 10kW laser focused on a 10µm spot: 10<sup>8</sup> V.m<sup>-1</sup>, non linear optics regime

### - Non linear microscopy needs to focus the incident fields!!



### **NLO contrasts in microscopy**



**SHG microscopy** 

**THG microscopy** 

$$\mathbf{P}(\omega) = \varepsilon_0(\chi^{(1)}\mathbf{E} + \chi^{(2)}\mathbf{E} : \mathbf{E} + \chi^{(3)}\mathbf{E} : \mathbf{E} : \mathbf{E} + ...)$$

SHG and THG microscopy	
Advantages:	Drawbacks:
Useless staining	Non-Centrosymmetric media required (SHG)
No photobleaching	No chemical specificity



### The challenge: a chemical selectivity without staining



### **Modeling:**

Assembly of oscillators with mode frequency  $\Omega_R$  and mode energy  $h\Omega_R$ .

### **Specificity:**

 $\Omega_{\rm R}$  specific to each vibrational mode.



### **Detecting vibrational levels: IR absorption microscopy**





### **Detecting vibrational levels: Raman scattering basics (1)**



**Spontaneous Raman scattering** 



### Raman scattering basics (2)





### **Coherent anti-Stokes Raman Scattering**

- Can we excite a <u>specific</u> molecular bond <u>efficiently</u>?
- Can we make an image at a <u>sub-cellular level</u>?

# Coherent Anti-Stokes Raman Scattering Microscopy









# **Bouncing the springs**





k m  $\omega_0$ 







### **The CARS Hammer**



 $\omega_{\mathsf{P}} - \omega_{\mathsf{S}} = \omega_{\mathsf{P}} - (\omega_{\mathsf{P}} - \Omega_{\mathsf{R}}) = \Omega_{\mathsf{R}}$ 



### **Coherent anti-Stokes Raman scattering: Energy view**



$$\sigma_{CARS} = 10^6 \sigma_R = 10^{-8} \sigma_F$$

(in microscopy)



### Coherent anti-Stokes Raman scattering: $\chi^{(3)}$ view

$$\mathbf{P}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \varepsilon_0(\boldsymbol{\chi}^{(1)}\mathbf{E} + \boldsymbol{\chi}^{(2)}\mathbf{E} : \mathbf{E} + \boldsymbol{\chi}^{(3)}\mathbf{E} : \mathbf{E} : \mathbf{E} + \dots)$$

# Four waves mixing $\chi^{(3)}(\omega_1 + \omega_1 - \omega_3; \omega_1, \omega_1, -\omega_3)$

= 
$$\chi^{(3)} (2\omega_P - \omega_S; \omega_P, \omega_P, -\omega_S)$$





### **CARS / Raman Scattering**



frequency



### CARS microscopy: What do you need?









High sensitivity detectors



### A first experimental set-up





### CARS microscopy: let's do a first experiment on GUV





### **CARS** microscopy: a first experiment on GUV



### F-CARS images of GUV (Giant Unilamellar vesicle ) DMPC[D54]

F-CARS GUV (DMPC-D54):

(60×60) pixels, 1ms/pixel.

Pump 730nm, Stokes 862nm: Power 800µW : rep rate: 4MHz



### **CARS:** Resonant and non Resonant contribution



Presence of molecules with oscillating vibrational mode  $\Omega_R$ 

 $\rightarrow$  Enhancement of the signal at frequency  $v_{as}$ 



### **CARS: Resonant and non Resonant contribution**





# Spectral behaviour of the $\chi^{(3)}$ tensor: $\chi^{(3)}_{R}$ and $\chi^{(3)}_{NR}$

CARS as a third-order nonlinear process:  

$$\overrightarrow{P^{(3)}}(\vec{r}, -\omega_{as}) = \overrightarrow{\chi^{(3)}}(\omega_{as}) : \overrightarrow{E_p}(\vec{r}, \omega_p) : \overrightarrow{E_p}(\vec{r}, \omega_p) : \overrightarrow{E_s^*}(\vec{r}, \omega_s)$$

$$I(\omega_{as}) \propto \left| P^{(3)}(-\omega_{as}) \right|^2 \propto \left| \chi^{(3)} \right|^2$$

$$\chi^{(3)} \text{decomposition into two parts} : \chi^{(3)} = \chi^{(3)}_{R} + \chi^{(3)}_{NR}$$

$$\begin{cases} \text{For an isolated Raman line} : \chi^{(3)}_{R} = \frac{\alpha}{(\omega_{p} - \omega_{s} - \Omega_{R}) + i\Gamma} \xrightarrow{\text{Raman line}}{\text{half-width}} \\ \text{Electronic response spectrally independent} : \chi^{(3)}_{NR} \text{ is real & constant} \xrightarrow{\text{frequency}} \\ \chi^{(3)} \text{ spectral behaviour} \end{cases}$$



### Spectral behaviour of the $\chi^{(3)}$ tensor: Interference term



Potma et al., J. Raman Spectr. 34, 642 (2003)



### Raman / CARS spectra











$$\chi^{(3)} = \chi^{(3)}_{\rm R} + \chi^{(3)}_{\rm NR}$$

$$\chi^{(3)}_{\rm \scriptscriptstyle R} = \frac{a}{(\omega_{\rm \scriptscriptstyle p} - \omega_{\rm \scriptscriptstyle s} - \Omega_{\rm \scriptscriptstyle R}) + i\Gamma} = \frac{a}{(\delta\omega - \Omega_{\rm \scriptscriptstyle R}) + i\Gamma}$$

**Resonant contribution** 

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta &= \frac{\delta \omega - \Omega_{\rm R}}{\Gamma} , \\ \eta &= -2\Gamma \frac{\chi_{\rm NR}^{(3)}}{a} . \end{aligned} \qquad \chi^{(3)}(\zeta, \eta) = \frac{\chi_{\rm NR}^{(3)}}{\eta(\zeta^2 + 1)} \left[ \eta(\zeta^2 + 1) - 2\zeta + 2i \right] \end{aligned}$$

 $\chi^{(3)}$  can be expressed as a complex number:

$$\chi^{(3)}(\zeta,\eta) = \rho(\zeta,\eta) \exp\left[i\phi(\zeta,\eta)\right]$$

Modulus:

Phase:

$$\rho(\zeta,\eta) = \chi_{\rm NR}^{(3)} \left[ 1 + 4 \frac{\frac{1}{\eta} - \zeta}{\eta \, (\zeta^2 + 1)} \right]^{1/2}$$

$$\tan\left[\phi(\zeta,\eta)\right] = \frac{2}{\eta(\zeta^2+1) - 2\zeta}$$

 $\label{eq:Circle in the complex plane:} C = \left(\chi_{_{\rm NR}}^{(3)}; \frac{\chi_{_{\rm NR}}^{(3)}}{\eta}\right) \ , \ r = \frac{\chi_{_{\rm NR}}^{(3)}}{\eta} = -\frac{a}{2\Gamma}$ 



### $\chi^{(3)}$ in the complex plane



**Representation of the resonance in the complex plane** 



### $\chi^{(3)}$ drives the CARS antiStokes field





### CARS step by step




# CARS step by step

- 1. Pump & Stokes fields
- 2. Induced nonlinear polarization





#### **CARS field in direct and reciprocal spaces**





#### **Far-field CARS radiation patterns in direct space**

**F-CARS** 



**E-CARS** 

Gachet et al., Proc. SPIE (2006)





# **F-CARS / E-CARS radiation**



Volkmer et al. PRL (2001) Gachet et *al.*, *Proc. SPIE* (2006) Djaker et *al.*, *Appl. Opt.* **45**, 7005 (2006)



#### **Epi-detected CARS:** a way to visualize small objects





A. Volkmer, id.



# Phase matching in NLO (SHG example)











#### **CARS** phase matching: intuitive approach





**Epi-CARS** 

Epi-CARS: 
$$\Delta k = 2k_{as}$$
;  $l_c = \frac{\pi}{\Delta k} = \frac{\pi}{2k_{as}} = \frac{\lambda_{as}}{4n(\lambda_{as})} \approx \frac{\lambda_{as}}{4}$ 



#### **F-CARS / E-CARS radiation**





Gachet et *al.*, *Proc. SPIE* (2006) Djaker et *al.*, *Appl. Opt.* **45**, 7005 (2006)



# **CARS** instrumentation





# A first experimental set-up





#### How to choose pulses temporal length?



J.-X. Cheng et al., J. Phys. Chem. B 108, 827 (2004)



#### Solutions:

• To spectrally match the studied Raman line  $\rightarrow$  ps range



# **Laser Synchronization**





# Setup scheme pico/pico





#### **Two oscillators: pico / pico setup**





#### Two oscillators pico / femto = Multiplex CARS





# **Multiplex CARS**

Identification of the Thermodynamic State of Lipids in Multi-lamellar Membranes



From Müller, J. Phys. Chem. B. (2002)



#### **1 oscillator femto + PCF**



FIG. 2. Typical spectral profile of the supercontinuum in near-infrared region generated from a PCF without the sensitivity correction. The temporal chirp profile of the supercontinuum is also indicated (dotted).

Kano et al. APL86 (2005)

FIG. 4. (a) CARS spectrum of a multilamellar vesicle (MLV), (b) CARS lateral image of a MLV detected at  $2852 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , which corresponds to the aliphatic C-H stretching vibrational mode. Brighter regions indicate greater signal intensities

0 Χ/μm

2

0.0

-4

-6

-6

-4

-2



#### What is an OPO (Optical Parametric Oscillator)



**Recent advances in Optical Parametric Oscillators** 



Berlin





Parametric amplification  $\chi^{(2)}$  ( $\omega_3 - \omega_1, \omega_3, -\omega_1$ ).





#### **One oscillator + One OPO pico/pico**



Signal <690 ... 990 nm



Energy difference (Signal - Idler) 1350 ... 10000 cm<sup>-1</sup>

Tuning range

٠





>700 cm<sup>-1</sup>



### **Sensitivity improvement: FM CARS**

FM-CARS



- 2 pump wavelengths, ω1 resonant, ω2 non resonant with switching speed of ~500kHz
  - $\rightarrow$  lock in detection
  - → non-resonant background subtraction
- →Sensitivity enhancement by factor 1000



ωp

ωs

DM1

1 P

#### Sensitivity improvement: H(eterodyne) CARS

Potma Opt. Lett. 31 (2006): LO generated in DMSO Enable to recover real and imaginary part of  $\chi$  <sup>(3)</sup>

$$\begin{split} S = |E_{\rm LO}|^2 + |E_{as}|^2 + 2E_{\rm LO}E_{EX} \{ [\chi_{NR}^{(3)} + {\rm Re}\,\chi_R^{(3)}] {\rm cos}\,\Phi \\ + [{\rm Im}\,\chi_R^{(3)}] {\rm sin}\,\Phi \}, \end{split}$$

#### Lipid resonance 2845cm<sup>-1</sup>





# H(eterodyne) CARS with OPO!



- $\omega_{as} = 2\omega_p \omega_s$ : with 1064nm =  $\omega_p$  and  $\omega_s$  as OPO-Idler  $\omega_{idler}$
- OPO pumed @  $2\omega_p (532nm) : 2\omega_p = \omega_{sig} + \omega_{idler}$
- $\rightarrow$  OPO  $\omega_{sig}$  = CARS  $\omega_{as}$
- Sensitivity enhancement by a factor of 5000



# **HCARS with interfaces**



- 1. Field symmetry permits to use non resonant CARS as a local oscillator
- 2. Raman spectrum recovery and heterodyne detection



# Single pulse CARS



Other scheme with a control of the probe beam: Oron PRL 89 2002



# **CARS** Application: a stain free microscopy







NIH 3T3 cells in interphase. Aliphatic C-H stretching 2970 cm<sup>-1</sup> Pump 14054 cm<sup>-1</sup>(711nm) and the Stokes 11184 cm<sup>-1</sup>(894nm). P: 40mW; S: 20mW





# **3D sectioning capability of CARS**

#### **Three dimensional distribution of lipids in epithelial cells**. CH<sub>2</sub> stretching vibration (2845 cm<sup>-1</sup>). Lipid granules and plasma membranes.



http://bernstein.harvard.edu/research/cars.html



# **Raman Spectrum of the cell**

Potma, E.O. et al. Optics and Photonics News, 2004, 15



PO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>symmetric stretching vibrational frequency at 1090 cm<sup>-1</sup>

Lipid droplets in 3T3 cells (Xie group)





3300 cm<sup>-1</sup> OH strech

Permeability of the plasma membrane  $P_d=2.2 \mu m/s$  $D_w=5 \mu m^2/s$  (10%-20% of the cell diameter)  $D_w>500 \mu m^2/s$  (central cell region)

Exceptionally low  $D_w$  due to the presence of densely packed actin filaments in this region that provide an additional barrier in the process of water diffusion.



From Potma PNAS 98, 1577 (2001)



В

100 µm

#### **F-CARS** back reflected in scattering tissue

# CARS imaging in scattering media











# **Imaging Tissue**



Experimental Setup and *in vivo* E-CARS images. (A) Experimental setup for combined **E-CARS and SHG imaging** of a live mouse. (B) E-CARS image of parallel **myelinated axons in the sciatic nerve** and the surrounding fat cells. Scale bar =  $25 \mu$ m.



Coherent anti-Stokes Raman scattering imaging of adipocytes (red) and second harmonic generation imaging of collagen fibrils (green) to evaluate the impact of obesity on mammary gland and tumor stromal composition.

Le et al., Molecular Imaging 6 (2007)

Huff, Cheng, J of Microscopy 225 (2007)



#### Imaging the skin: Rat skin



Pump 730nm, Stokes 920nm: Power 800µW, rep rate: 4MHz



#### **Imaging the skin: Stratum Corneum**



ĽORÉAL

 $\frac{1}{1}$ 

E-CARS Stratum Corneum with depth.

Ω<sub>R</sub>=2829cm<sup>-1</sup> (C-H bond) (200×200) pixels - 1ms/pixel.

Pump 730nm, Stokes 920nm: Power 800µW, rep rate: 4MHz



#### A polarization sensitive technique



Djaker et al., Médecine / Science 22, 853 (2006)

# F-CARS GUV (DMPC-D54):

(60×60) pixels, 1ms/pixel.

Pump 730nm, Stokes 860nm: Power 800µW : rep rate: 4MHz

Investigation in polarization CARS microscopy


## Conclusion

- 1. CARS addresses molecular intrinsic vibrational transition and does not require staining with fluorophore or radioactivity.
- 2. CARS is a coherent process which builds an anti-Stokes wave on a large number of molecular bonds. This coherent process permits to obtain a signal orders of magnitude larger than spontaneous Raman scattering. Small laser powers (1mw) can be used which are compatible with biological samples.
- 3. CARS is selective of a certain molecular bond (by adjusting the detuning between laser and Stokes beam) (spectral selectivity)
- 4. CARS is a non linear process which takes place only at the focal point of the microscope objective (diffraction limited). Therefore no confocal pinhole is needed to obtain 3D imaging of biological samples.
- 5. Working in IR limits the absorption and diffusion of bio- tissue. Images as deep as 0.3mm can be obtained in living tissues.
- 6. CARS is an elastic process which does not store energy into the system. It is therefore insensible to photobleaching.
- 7. Finally, CARS is not affected by endogenous fluorescence because the anti-Stokes signal is at lower wavelength than the pump lasers.



## **Mosaic project**

## When photonics meets life



Micro-stereolithography Nanostructures

Laser nanoscissors