

# INPAC

## Super-resolution imaging with Dronpa and its mutants

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## Resolution

We lose a lot of information due to diffraction!

270 nm      360 nm      480 nm

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## Two approaches for super-resolution based on photoswitching

1) Photoactivation-localization microscopy

2) Donut mode fluorescence depletion microscopy

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## Dronpa

- Dronpa is a monomeric GFP-like protein from coral.
- It shows reversible photoswitching upon irradiation with 488 and 405 nm light.

Ando et al, Science 2004

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## Dronpa mutants with faster switching

Dronpa-2  
Dronpa-3

	Dronpa <sup>a</sup>	Dronpa-2	Dronpa-3
$\epsilon / M^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$	95 000	56 000	58 000
$\lambda_{\text{exc}}^{\text{on}} / \text{nm}$	503	486	487
$\lambda_{\text{exc}}^{\text{off}} / \text{nm}$	518	513	514
$\Phi_{\text{on}}$	0.85	0.28	0.33
$\Phi_{\text{off}}^{\text{on}}$	$3.2 \times 10^{-4}$	$5 \times 10^{-2}$	$5 \times 10^{-1}$
$\tau_{\text{off}}^{\text{on}} / \text{ns}^{\text{b}}$	3.6	2.1 (47%)	2.2 (66%)
		0.97 (11%)	1.1 (20%)
			0.02 (14%)

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## Photoactivation-localization microscopy (PALM)

➤ The position of single object can be determined at nanometer resolution.

$$\langle (\Delta x)^2 \rangle = \frac{s^2 + a^2 / 12}{N} + \frac{8\pi^4 b^2}{a^2 N^2}$$

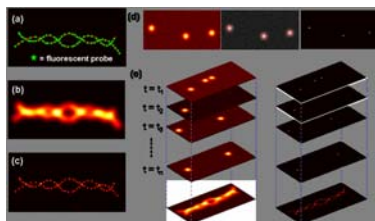
➤ If we could measure the positions of the fluorescence molecules one by one, we could make the map of them at nanometer resolution.

➤ We can take advantage of photoactivation to achieve separation in time of fluorescence emission

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## Photoactivation-localization microscopy (PALM)

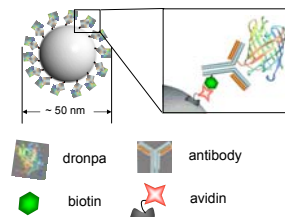
Number of activated molecules  $\leq 1$  in diffraction limited area  
Determination of center with nanometer resolution



Betzig et al, *Science* 2006    Rust et al, *Nat. Methods*, 2006    Hess et al, *Biophys. J.* 2006



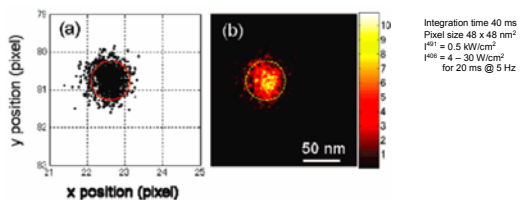
## Dronpa-coated nanospheres



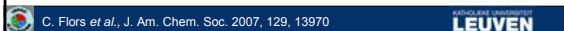
C. Flors et al., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2007, 129, 13970



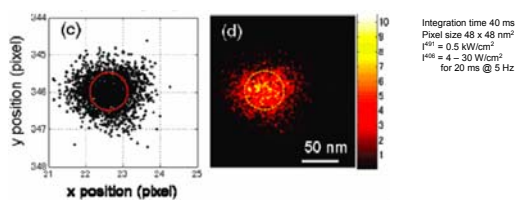
## Dronpa-PALM



- Max. ~170 Dronpa molecules per bead yielded > 1000 positions => reversibility
- Localization precision ~ 15 nm
- Total measurement time for 3000 frames: 2 minutes



## Dronpa-3-PALM

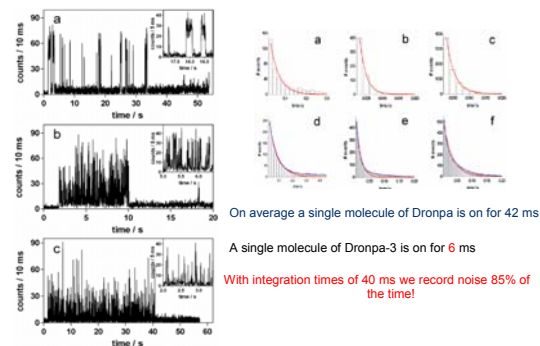


*Identical measurement conditions to Dronpa!*

*How can we improve this data?*



## Confocal single-molecule studies



## Solution: stroboscopic PALM

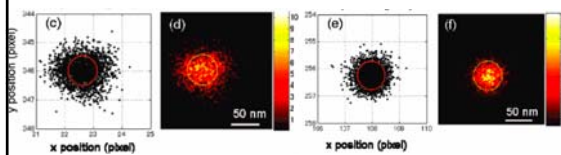
Time the irradiation to coincide with the on-times of the fluorophores



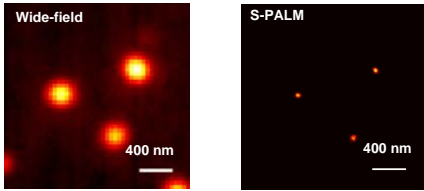
Also take into account possible (not-photoswitched) dark state relaxation

E.G. Dronpa-3: irradiate each frame with the lasers for 6 ms only, even though the integration time is 40 ms

... or buy a faster camera...



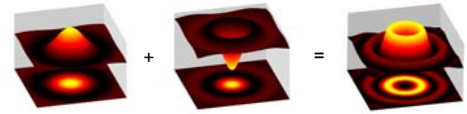
## Comparison of wide-field and S-PALM images



C. Flors *et al.*, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2007, 129, 13970

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## Donut mode fluorescence depletion microscopy



Peter Dedecker

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## Donut mode fluorescence depletion microscopy

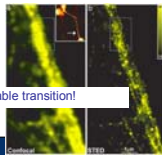
Reversible, Saturable Transitions



Demonstrated using stimulated emission: STED

- + Impressive results.
- Requires high intensities to deplete the fluorescence within the excited-state lifetime (ps-ns)

The Dronpa photoswitching is a reversible and saturable transition!

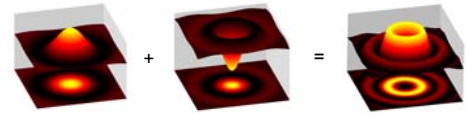


G. Donnert, PNAS 103:11440 (2006) and other papers.  
S. Hell, Science 316:1153 (2007)

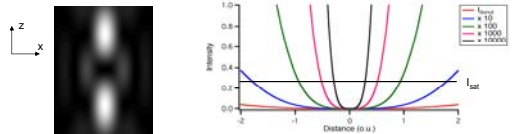
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## Donut modes

Phase shifting the central part of a laser beam by  $\pi$  radians leads to the generation of donut modes at the focus point.



The central zero is confined both in x,y and z direction. Moreover it can be 'squeezed' by increasing the output power.



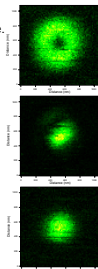
J. Hotta, Optics Express 14:6273 (2006)

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## High Resolution Microscopy with Dronpa

Using the Dronpa photoswitching with 'donut' modes requires the use of 3 beams:

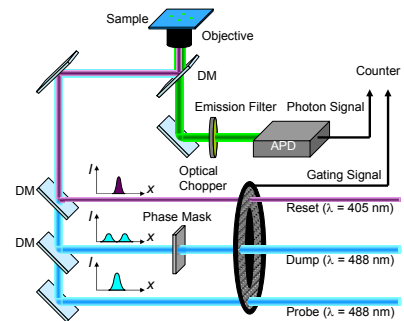
- Dump** Switches Dronpa to the photoswitched (dark) state.
- Probe** Collects fluorescence from the Dronpa that remain in the bright state.
- Reset** Restores the bright state.



P. Dedecker *et al.*, J. Am. Chem. Soc. In press

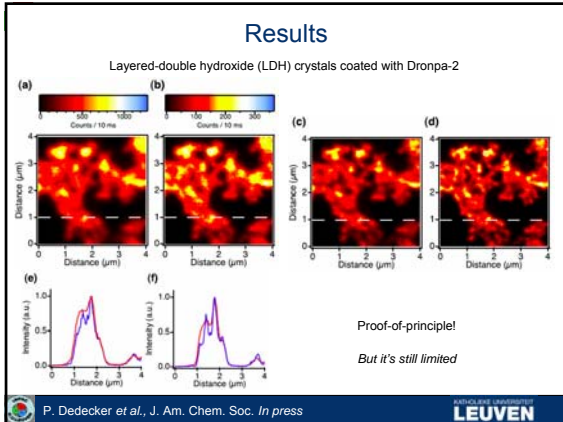
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## Experimental Setup



P. Dedecker *et al.*, J. Am. Chem. Soc. In press

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## Conclusions of this part

- We demonstrated PALM with Dronpa
- We optimized the performance of Dronpa-3 in PALM by studying its photophysics and adapting the measurement (S-PALM)
- We demonstrated spatial-depletion superresolution microscopy with Dronpa

*Fancy techniques, but limited by the photophysics of the fluorophore*

*To get optimal results it is important to study the single-molecule photophysics*

## Collaborative Dronpa-related projects

**1) Nonlinear optical properties (Second harmonic generation):**

pH = 8

pH = 4

840 nm  
(880 nm)

$\beta_{HRS} = 226 \times 10^{-30}$ esu $\beta_{zzz} = 550 \times 10^{-30}$ esu (similar to model EGFP)	<b>Photoswitched</b>	$\beta_{HRS} = 386 \times 10^{-30}$ esu $\beta_{zzz} = 933 \times 10^{-30}$ esu
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No measurable signal for the synthetic chromophore HBDI

Dr. Inge Asselberghs, Prof. Koen Clays (group 6 INPAC)

## Collaborative Dronpa-related projects

**2) Calculations on ground state recovery from dark to bright state**

Back photoswitching  
 $\Phi_{\text{B} \rightarrow \text{A}_2} = 0.37$

$\Phi_{\text{B} \rightarrow \text{I}} = 3.2 \cdot 10^{-4}$

$\Phi_{\text{I} \rightarrow \text{B}} = 0.85$

$k_2 = \text{slow}$

S. Michielssens, S. Moors, Prof. A. Ceulemans (group 2)

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€from INPAC!