Supporting Information

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SI Text

Data analysis of 1D and 2D correlation spectra is given below. The 1D correlation coefficient between 2 time-dependent intensities at 2 wavelengths λ_1 and λ_2 , $y(\lambda_1, t_i)$ and $y(\lambda_2, t_i)$ is given by

 $r(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$

$$=\frac{\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}(y(\lambda_{1},t_{i})-\bar{y}(\lambda_{1}))\cdot(y(\lambda_{2},t_{i})-\bar{y}(\lambda_{2}))}{\sqrt{\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}(y(\lambda_{1},t_{i})-\bar{y}(\lambda_{1}))^{2}}\cdot\sqrt{\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}(y(\lambda_{2},t_{i})-\bar{y}(\lambda_{2}))^{2}}}$$
[s1]

with the average spectra $\bar{y}(\lambda_j) = (1/n)\sum_{i=1}^n y(\lambda_j, t_i)$.

The 2-dimensional synchronous correlation spectrum (2D-SCS) of a 2-dimensional data array $y(\lambda_j, t_i)$, e.g., of wavelength λ and time *t*, is given by the expression (1):

$$\Phi(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = \frac{1}{m-1} \sum_{i=1}^m \hat{y}(\lambda_1, t_i) \cdot \hat{y}(\lambda_2, t_i), \qquad [s2]$$

where $\hat{y}(\lambda_j, t_i) = y(\lambda_j, t_i) - \bar{y}(\lambda_j)$ describes the dynamical part of the spectrum. For sets of spectra taken as a function of time, the 2D-SCS represents correlated changes of intensities measured at wavelengths λ_1 and λ_2 during data collection. The 2D-SCS is a symmetric spectrum with respect to the diagonal $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2$. Peaks appearing on the diagonal and off-diagonal positions are referred to as autopeaks and cross-peaks, respectively. Autopeaks of a symmetric spectral band possess a circular shape in the 2D-SCS representation. Bands that undergo large intensity variations during the time of data collection show strong autopeaks, whereas bands that undergo no intensity variations show vanishing autopeaks. Cross-peaks represent a correlated change of intensity at 2 different spectral positions λ_1 and λ_2 . The sign of the cross-peak specifies whether the changes are correlated (positive sign) or anticorrelated (negative sign). Example series of simulated spectra and their corresponding 2D-SCS are shown in Fig. S1. In the top row of Fig. S1, 3 types of time-dependent spectra are given; each of them has 3 contributions at the wavelengths λ_1 , λ_2 , and λ_3 . In Fig. S1A), these 3 contributions undergo either a linear decrease (λ_1, λ_3) or a linear increase (λ_2) . In Fig. S1B, the time order of the spectra shown in A was changed randomly; and in Fig. S1C, noise was added to the spectra shown in B. The middle row of Fig. S1 shows the contour representation of the spectra, and in the third row the corresponding 2D-SCS are given. The autopeaks are labeled in the left 2D-SCS as a1, a2, and a3 and the 3 cross-peaks as c12, c23, and c13.

The cross-peaks c13 connect the intensity at position a1 with the intensity at a3. The positive sign of the cross-peak indicates the correlated intensity change. Negative signs for the crosspeaks are found in the case of c23 and c12 formed between a1 and a2 and between a2 and a3, as their intensity changes are anticorrelated. The 2D-SCS spectra shown in Fig. S1 *B* and *C* show the same features as in A, irrespective of the random time order of the spectra and the added noise. With the 2D-SCS, it is therefore possible to unravel correlated behavior in singlemolecule spectra that might be hidden in the time-dependent spectra due to random variations and limited signal-noise ratio.

Noda I, Dowrey AE, Marcott C, Story GM, Ozaki Y (2000) Generalized two-dimensional correlation spectroscopy. *Appl Spectrosc* 54:236A–248A.



Fig. S1. Simulated spectra to illustrate the information gained by calculation of the 2D-SCS from series of spectra. Each of the series of spectra given in the top row show 3 contributions that change in dependence of an external parameter, here, the time. (a) The contributions undergo a linear increase or decrease in their intensity. (b) The same spectra as in a are shown, but the time order of the spectra was changed stochastically. (c) Noise was added to the spectra shown in b. The middle row shows the contour representation of the spectra shown above. The bottom row shows the resulting 2D-SCS spectra of the above spectra.

S A No