## Collagen Glycation Detected by its Intrinsic Fluorescence Supporting Information

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The supporting information file includes

- 1. Raw TCSPC data analysis.
- 2. Calculated TRES values vs. TRES model (Eqtn 5) curves.
- 3. Akaike's Information Criterion (AICc), definition used and the results for the collagen and collagen-glucose samples.

## 1. Raw TCSPC data analysis

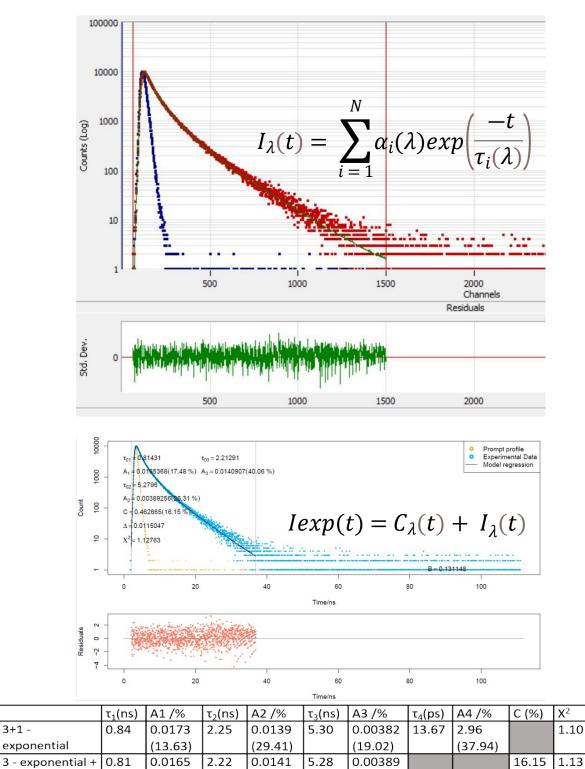


Figure S1. Result of fitting of the fluorescence intensity decay of the sample collagen-glucose, day 0. Excitation wavelength 280 nm, detection wavelength 330 nm.

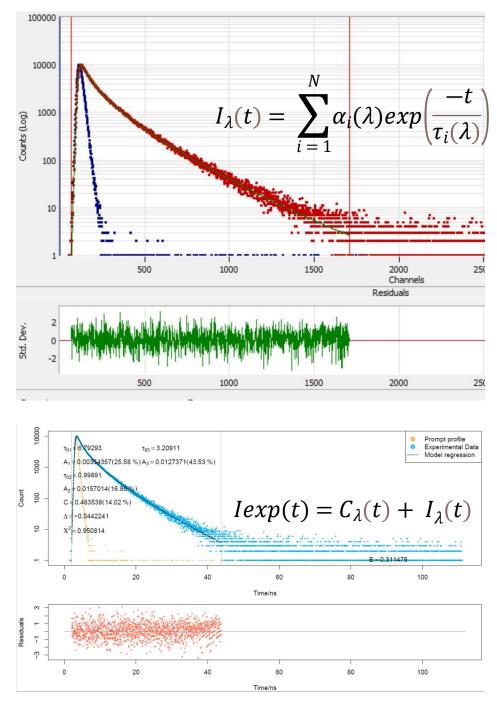
(26.31)

(40.06)

3+1 -

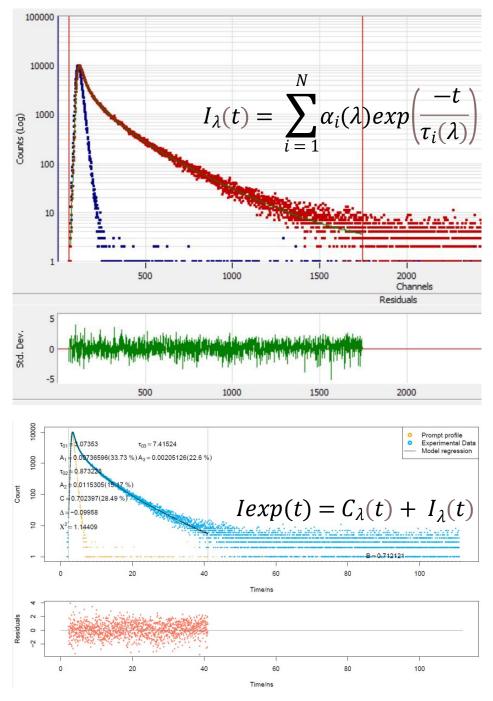
scatter function

(17.48)



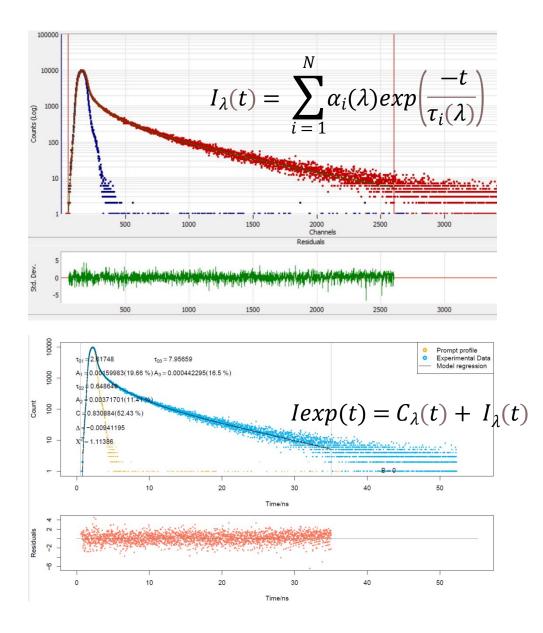
	$\tau_1(ns)$	A1/%	$\tau_2(ns)$	A2 /%	τ <sub>3</sub> (ns)	A3 /%	τ <sub>4</sub> (ps)	A4 /%	C (%)	<b>X</b> <sup>2</sup>
3+1 -	0.99	0.0159	3.13	0.0128	6.65	0.00387	13.67	3.07		0.97
exponential		(12.7)		(32.54)		(20.82)		(33.93)		
3 - exponential +	0.99	0.0157	3.21	0.0127	6.79	0.00354			14.02	0.95
scatter function		(16.86)		(43.53)		(25.58)				

**Figure S2.** Result of fitting of the fluorescence intensity decay of the sample free collagen, day 14. Excitation wavelength 280 nm, detection wavelength 360 nm.



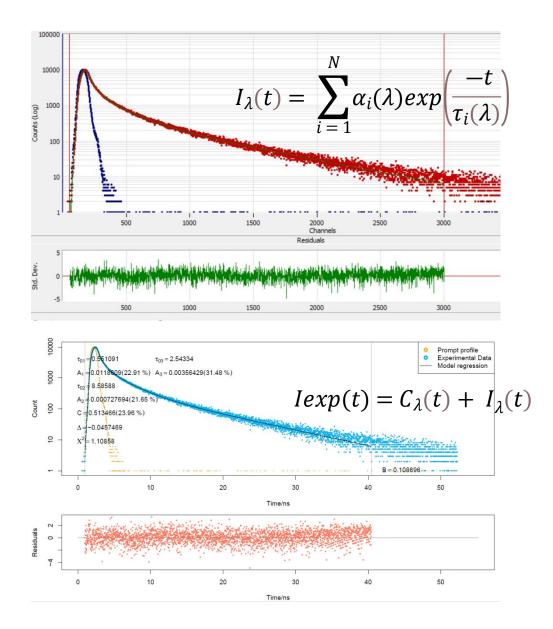
	$\tau_1(ns)$	A1/%	$\tau_2(ns)$	A2 /%	$\tau_3(ns)$	A3 /%	$\tau_4(ps)$	A4 /%	C (%)	<b>X</b> <sup>2</sup>
3+1 -	0.90	0.0118	3.10	0.00727	7.34	0.00207	13.67	4.49		1.15
exponential		(9.65)		(20.55)		(13.86)		(55.94)		
3 - exponential + scatter function	0.87	0.0115 (15.17)	3.07	0.00767 (33.73)	7.42	0.00205 (22.16)			28.49	1.14

**Figure S3.** Result of fitting of the fluorescence intensity decay of the sample collagen-glucose, day 28. Excitation wavelength 280 nm, detection wavelength 390 nm.



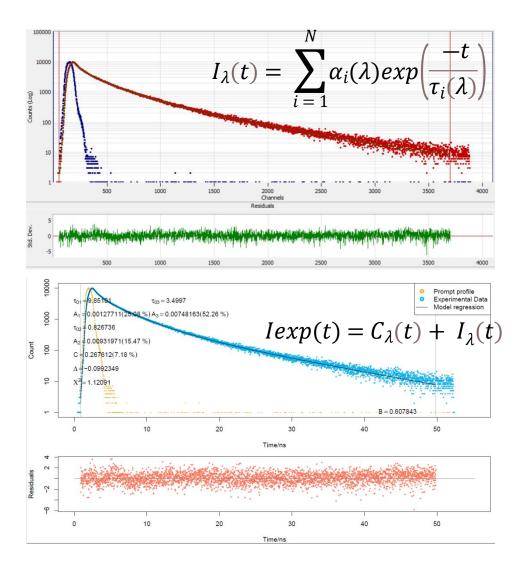
	$\tau_1(ns)$	A1/%	$\tau_2(ns)$	A2 /%	τ <sub>3</sub> (ns)	A3 /%	τ <sub>4</sub> (ps)	A4 /%	C (%)	X <sup>2</sup>
3+1 -	0.63	0.00367	2.44	0.00164	7.43	0.000512	6.74	5.32		1.11
exponential		(5.06)		(8.71)		(8.28)		(77.95)		
3 - exponential +	0.65	0.00372	2.62	0.00160	7.96	0.000442			52.43	1.11
scatter function		(11.41)		(19.66)		(16.5)				

**Figure S4.** Result of fitting of the fluorescence intensity decay of the sample free collagen, day 0. Excitation wavelength 340 nm, detection wavelength 440 nm.



	$\tau_1(ns)$	A1/%	$\tau_2(ns)$	A2 /%	τ <sub>3</sub> (ns)	A3 /%	τ <sub>4</sub> (ps)	A4 /%	C (%)	<b>X</b> <sup>2</sup>
3+1 -	0.52	0.0132	2.46	0.00371	8.34	0.000778	6.74	3.10		1.11
exponential		(15. 8)		(21.04)		(14.97)		(48.19)		
3 - exponential +	0.56	0.0119	2.54	0.00356	8.59	0.000728			23.96	1.11
scatter function		(22.91)		(31.48)		(21.65)				

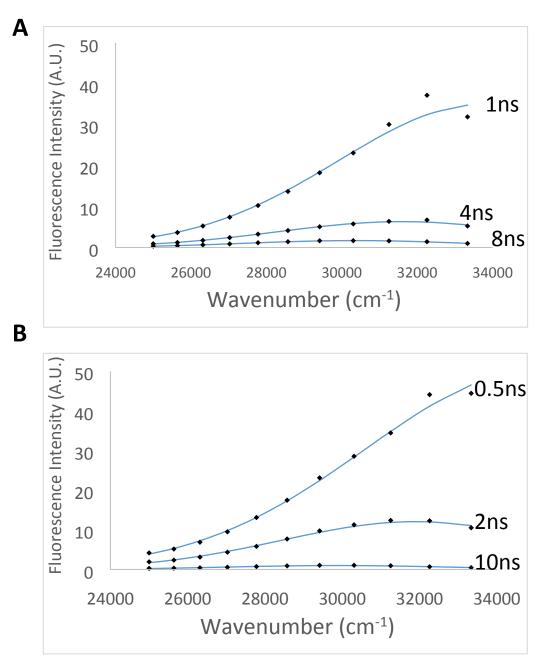
**Figure S5.** Result of fitting of the fluorescence intensity decay of the sample collagen-glucose, day 14. Excitation wavelength 340 nm, detection wavelength 400 nm.



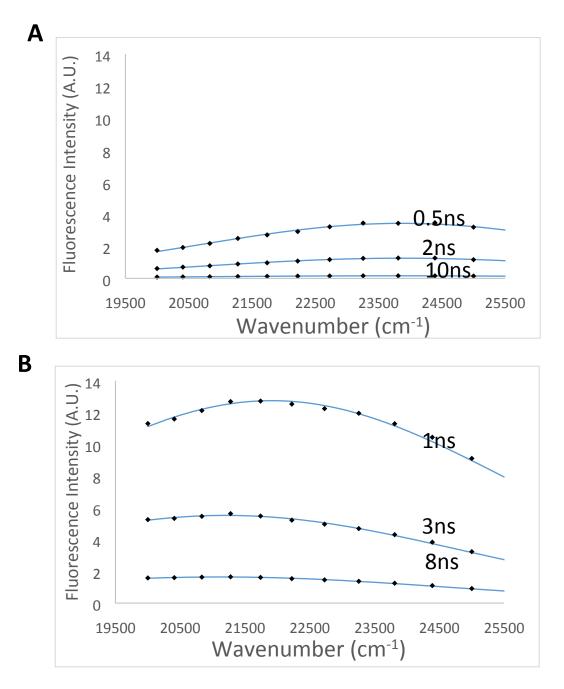
	$\tau_1(ns)$	A1 /%	$\tau_2(ns)$	A2 /%	τ <sub>3</sub> (ns)	A3 /%	τ <sub>4</sub> (ps)	A4 /%	C (%)	<b>X</b> <sup>2</sup>
3+1 -	0.81	0.00932	3.39	0.00755	9.39	0.00144	6.74	1.71		1.09
exponential		(12.94)		(44.04)		(23.23)		(19.79)		
3 - exponential + scatter function	0.83	0.00932 (15.47)	3.50	0.00748 (52.26)	9.85	0.00128 (25.08)			7.18	1.12

**Figure S6.** Result of fitting of the fluorescence intensity decay of the sample collagen-glucose, day 35. Excitation wavelength 340nm, detection wavelength 480 nm.

2. Calculated TRES values vs. TRES model (Eqtn 5) curves.



**Figure S7.** Examples of the model and experimental TRES for excitation 280 nm. TRES calculated from experimental data are shown as black markers, while the model is shown as a blue line. Part A shows an example from collagen-glucose at day 0, while part B shows an example from collagen at day 56.



**Figure S8.** Examples of the model and experimental TRES for excitation 340 nm. TRES calculated from experimental data are shown as black markers, while the model is shown as a blue line. Part A shows an example from collagen at day 0, while part B shows an example from collagen-glucose at day 21.

## 3. Akaike's Information Criterion (AIC<sub>c</sub>)

AIC measures the appropriateness of the model based on the residual sum of squares RSS from the nonlinear least squares fitting, the number of parameters k, and the number of data points n. Since the sample size is small an additional correction factor was used, giving the corrected Akaike's Information Criterion (AIC<sub>c</sub>)

$$AIC_{c} = nlog\left(\frac{RSS}{n}\right) + nlog(2\pi) + n + 2k + \frac{2k(k+1)}{n-k-1}$$

Since *n* is the same in all our cases, the constant terms can be dropped giving

$$AIC_{c} = nlog\left(\frac{RSS}{n}\right) + n + 2k + \frac{2k(k+1)}{n-k-1}$$

A smaller AIC<sub>c</sub> indicates a more parsimonious model i.e. the simpler model with the least assumptions and variables, but the greatest explanatory power. (Burnham KP and Anderson DR, Model Selection and Multimodel Inference, A Practical Information-Theoretic Approach, Springer 2002.)

TRES Spect	ra	AI	C <sub>c</sub>
		Single Toptygin model	Double Toptygin model
Collagen	1ns	49.25	47.67
Day 0	4ns	7.14	9.15
	8ns	-34.57	-27.59
Collagen	1ns	40.24	33.59
–Glucose	4ns	-4.86	-4.31
Day 21	8ns	-42.71	-36.27
Collagen	1ns	40.96	42.72
Day 56	4ns	-3.61	6.32
	8ns	-40.68	-28.10

**Table T1.** Examples of AICc values for the one-and two-component Toptygin model of the TRES for free collagen and collagen glucose when exciting at 280 nm. The smaller AICc value indicates a more adequate model. A small selection of TRES spectra at different days and times after excitation have been included.

TRES Spect	ra	AI	Сс	
		Single Toptygin model	Double Toptygin model	
Collagen	1ns	-71.71	-68.21	
Day 0	4ns	-108.57	-101.68	
	8ns	-132.53	-119.44	
Collagen	1ns	-32.26	-28.97	
–Glucose	4ns	-59.25	-50.79	
Day 21	8ns	-81.12	-82.58	
Collagen	1ns	-53.64	-46.18	
Day 56	4ns	-86.15	-79.81	
	8ns	-106.51	-96.47	

**Table T2.** Examples of AICc values for the one-and two-component Toptygin model of the TRES for free collagen and collagen glucose when exciting at 340 nm. The smaller AICc value indicates a more adequate model. A small selection of TRES spectra at different days and times after excitation have been included.