Ma 5 - Dynamic Processes in Lipid Membranes

Physics:

- Thermodynamics of lipid membranes and phase transitions of lipids in lamellar membranes
- Rotational diffusion
- Fluorescence
 - Emission
 - o Excited state lifetime
 - Quenching
 - Anisotropy
- Absorption / Excitation
- Transition dipole moment
- $n-\pi^*$ transition and $\pi \pi^*$ transition
- Born-Oppenheimer approximation
- Franck-Condon principle, Jablonski diagram

Technical:

- Steady-state fluorescence spectrophotometer
 - Monochromator
 - Lens optics
 - Polarization filters
 - Photomultiplier with adjustable sensitivity range
 - o Anisotropy temperature scan of a lipid membrane with fluorescence probe
- Time-correlated single photon counting (TCSPC) setup for fluorescence lifetime
 - Pulsed laser source, start and stop signals
 - o Polarization filter, $\lambda/2$ waveplates
 - Excitation and emission filter settings
 - o Time-resolved anisotropy temperature scan of a lipid membrane with fluorescence probe

Data analysis:

- Steady-state setup:
 - Visualisation and peak finding in excitation and emission spectra
 - o Gaussian fitting for vibrational transition energy levels differences
 - Excitation
 - Emission
 - o G-factor calculations
 - o Temperature dependent steady-state anisotropy calculation
- TCSPC setup:
 - Tail fitting for fluorescence decay analysis
 - o Calculation of time resolved anisotropy and fit with model function
- Two-state analysis of temperature dependence of anisotropy values
- Comparison of steady-state and lifetime-based transition temperature data of the investigated lipid with calorimetric data (from literature)