### PHOTOLUMINESCENCE SPECTROSCOPY SDSU CHEM 251

# PHOTOLUMINESCENCE

- Photoluminescence spectroscopy is divided into two categories:
  fluorescence and phosphorescence.
- Both are modes of emission of light by molecules, however <u>fluorescence</u> <u>happens very rapidly</u> after excitation, while <u>phosphorescence takes much</u> <u>longer</u>.

#### Fluorescence







### FLUORESCENCE VS PHOSPHORESCENCE



vr: vibrational relaxationic: internal conversion

ec: external conversion isc: intersystem crossing

# FLUORESCENCE

- Typically fluorescent compounds are excited with lasers to minimize the amount of extra wavelengths of light.
- Excite at shorter wavelengths (e.g. 275 nm) and measure at longer wavelengths (e.g. 310 nm).
- Emmission intensity (I<sub>f</sub>) is dependent on excitation power (P<sub>o</sub>)



$$I_{f} = k \Phi_{f} P_{o} (1 - 10^{-\varepsilon_{bC}})$$

 $\Phi_{f}$ : fluorescent quantum yield (percentage of photons emitted compared to the number absorbed), between 0 and 1.

## PHOSPHORESCENCE

Because phosphorescent
photorelaxation takes longer than
fluorescence, phosphorescence
continues after the excitation
source is gone (glow in the dark).



 Relatively few compounds are phosphorescent so it is not as widely used for quantitative analysis.

$$I_p = 2.303 k \Phi_p \mathcal{E} b C P_o$$