





# Sonder les modes optiques avec des nanosources fluorescentes

Rémi Carminati

#### Institut Langevin, ESPCI ParisTech, CNRS Paris, France

remi.carminati@espci.fr





# Institut Langevin @ ESPCI ParisTech



www.institut-langevin.espci.fr







# Outline



Spontaneous emission in nanostructured environments

#### Probing localized plasmons on disordered metallic films

# Probing near-field interactions in volume disordered systems (white powders)





### Fluorescence depends on environment



#### Lifetime close to a silver mirror

Drexhage (1970) Chance, Prock, Silbey (1978)





### How to describe the change in lifetime?



Probability of being excited at time  $t = P(t) \propto \exp(-\Gamma t)$ 

Lifetime of excited state  $\tau = 1/\Gamma$ 

 $\Gamma_0$ 



Drexhage (1970) Chance, Prock, Silbey (1978)

$$\frac{\text{Pertubation theory}}{(\text{Fermi golden rule})}$$

$$\Gamma = \frac{\pi \omega}{3\varepsilon_0 \hbar} \left| \mathbf{p}_{ge} \right|^2 \rho_u(\mathbf{r}_0, \omega) \longleftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{Local Density} \\ \text{of States (LDOS)} \end{array}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma}{R} = \text{change in the LDOS}$$





### Local Density Of States (LDOS)

- Density Of States (DOS)
  - Counts modes at a given frequency

$$\rho(\omega) = \sum_{n} \delta(\omega - \omega_{n})$$

- Local Density Of States (LDOS)
  - Counts modes at a given frequency weighted by their contribution at point r

$$\rho(\omega,\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{n} \left| \mathbf{E}_{n}(\mathbf{r}) \right|^{2} \delta(\omega - \omega_{n})$$





#### Purcell effect

#### The change in the LDOS describes the Purcell effect

#### E. M. Purcell "Spontaneous emission probabilities at radio frequencies" Phys. Rev. 69, 681 (1946)

B10. Spontaneous Emission Probabilities at Radio Frequencies. E. M. PURCELL, *Harvard University*.—For nuclear magnetic moment transitions at radio frequencies the probability of spontaneous emission, computed from

 $A_{\nu} = (8\pi\nu^2/c^3)h\nu(8\pi^3\mu^2/3h^2)$  sec.<sup>-1</sup>,

is so small that this process is not effective in bringing a spin system into thermal equilibrium with its surroundings. At 300°K, for  $\nu = 10^7$  sec.<sup>-1</sup>,  $\mu = 1$  nuclear magneton, the corresponding relaxation time would be  $5 \times 10^{21}$  seconds! However, for a system coupled to a resonant electrical circuit, the factor  $8\pi v^2/c^3$  no longer gives correctly the number of radiation oscillators per unit volume, in unit frequency range, there being now one oscillator in the frequency range  $\nu/Q$  associated with the circuit. The spontaneous emission probability is thereby increased, and the relaxation time reduced, by a factor  $f = 30\lambda^3/4\pi^2 V$ . where V is the volume of the resonator. If a is a dimension characteristic of the circuit so that  $V \sim a^3$ , and if  $\delta$  is the skin-depth at frequency  $\nu$ ,  $f \sim \lambda^3/a^2 \delta$ . For a non-resonant circuit  $f \sim \lambda^3/a^3$ , and for  $a < \delta$  it can be shown that  $f \sim \lambda^3/a\delta^2$ . If small metallic particles, of diameter 10<sup>-3</sup> cm are mixed with a nuclear-magnetic medium at room temperature. spontaneous emission should establish thermal equilibrium in a time of the order of minutes, for  $\nu = 10^7$  sec.<sup>-1</sup>.

#### For a single mode cavity





### Interaction with a single nanoparticle





Carminati et al., Opt. Commun. 261, 368 (2006)



#### Nanoscale controlled experiments on single emitter



S. Kühn et al., PRL 97, 017402 (2006)





#### Nanoparticle dimers as optical antennas



Sébastien BIDAULT (CNRS - ESPCI)

M. P. Busson *et al*,

Nano Lett. (2011)

10.1021/nl2032052









Spontaneous emission in nanostructured environments



Probing localized plasmons on disordered metallic films

Probing near-field interactions in volume disordered systems (white powders)





# Peculiar optical properties of disordered metal films

Semi-continuous gold films on a glass substrate



P. Gadenne et al., J. Appl. Phys. 66, 3019 (1989)

V.M. Shalaev, Nonlinear Optics of Random Media (Springer, 2000)





### Near-field intensity distribution - « hot spots »



Surface (TEM image) Gold on glass substrate









### LDOS distributions on disordered metal films









V. KRACHMALNICOFF Post-doc

E. CASTANIE PhD student

Y. DE WILDE (CNRS - ESPCI)

Statistical distributions of  $\Gamma$  (LDOS)







### LDOS fluctuations reveals mode localization







# Numerical simulation provides additionnal information











1.06 1.04 1.02

0.98

0.94 0.92 0.9

0.88 0.86



Spontaneous emission in nanostructured environments



Probing localized plasmons on disordered metallic films



Probing near-field interactions in volume disordered systems (white powders)





# Speckle patterns



Size of speckle spot

Intensity-intensity correlation





## Speckle produced by a source inside a disordered medium



Infinite-range C<sub>0</sub> speckle correlation

- $C(\mathbf{u},\mathbf{u}') = C_0 + F(\mathbf{u},\mathbf{u}')$
- $C_0$  = LDOS fluctuations

Shapiro, Phys. Rev. Lett. **83**, 4733 (1999) van Tiggelen, Skipetrov, Phys. Rev. E **73**, 045601(R) (2006)





#### Typical « numerical experiment »







Romain PIERRAT (CNRS - ESPCI)

Alexandre CAZE PhD student

- Resonant point scatterers
   (« atoms »)
- $\lambda \approx 630 \text{ nm}$
- $\bullet$  Cluster size R = 1.2  $\mu\text{m}$
- Exclusion volume  $R_0 = 50 \text{ nm}$





#### Long tail: Near-field interactions





Cazé, Pierrat, Carminati, Phys. Rev. A 82, 043823 (2010)



# Broad - asymmetric distribution of LDOS (Purcell factor)



(ICFO Barcelona, Spain)



Photon mean free path

$$\ell = 0.9 \ \mu m$$
$$k\ell = 9.4$$

10

0.3

0.2

Number of 0 1000 100 10

10

0

2

6

Decay rate  $\Gamma/\Gamma_{o}$ 

10

12

0.5



Decay rate (ns)

0.4



# Coupling spontaneous emission with disorder: Why?

Fluorescence imaging in complex media



#### Nanophotonics - Novel materials



#### Novel light sources (e.g. random lasers)



Fundamental studies of light transport in scattering media (e.g. probing Anderson localization)





