

The biochemical resolving power of fluorescence lifetime imaging

Andrew L. Trinh^{1,*} and Alessandro Esposito¹

¹MRC Cancer Unit, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom

*at862@cam.ac.uk

Keywords: fluorescence lifetime, resolution, microscopy, biochemistry

Published in bioRxiv: doi_____

```
In[ ]:= (* INITIALIZATION *)
(* Define subscripted symbols *)
<< Notation`
Symbolize[  $\sigma$  ]
(* Beep at every evaluation *)
$Post = (Beep[]; #) &;

In[ ]:= (* Define positivity of all variables, and set substitution rules *)
opts = {B > 0, m > 1, i > 1,  $\tau$  > 0, A > 0,
  T > 0, C > 0, t ≥ 0, p > 0,  $\sigma_{\text{irf}}$  > 0,  $\rho$  > 0,  $\omega$  > 0,  $\mu$  > 0,  $\eta$  > 0};

subs = { $\tau \rightarrow \frac{\sigma_{\text{irf}}}{\sqrt{2} \rho}$ ,  $T \rightarrow \frac{\omega \sqrt{2} \sigma_{\text{irf}}}{m}$ ,  $A \rightarrow 2 \frac{B}{\tau}$ ,  $\mu \rightarrow \eta \sqrt{2} \sigma_{\text{irf}}$ };

subsinv = { $\rho \rightarrow \frac{\sigma_{\text{irf}}}{\sqrt{2} \tau}$ ,  $\omega \rightarrow \frac{m T}{\sqrt{2} \sigma_{\text{irf}}}$ ,  $B \rightarrow \frac{A \tau}{2}$ ,  $\eta \rightarrow \frac{\mu}{\sqrt{2} \sigma_{\text{irf}}}$ };

In[ ]:= (* Exponential decay with Gaussian IRF *)
f1 = FullSimplify[Convolve[PDF[NormalDistribution[ $\mu$ ,  $\sigma_{\text{irf}}$ ], x],
  UnitStep[x] A Exp[-x /  $\tau$ ], x, y, Assumptions → opts], Assumptions → opts]

Out[ ]:= 
$$\frac{1}{2} A e^{\frac{\sigma_{\text{irf}}^2 - 2 y \tau + 2 \mu \tau}{2 \tau^2}} \text{Erfc}\left[\frac{\sigma_{\text{irf}}^2 + (-y + \mu) \tau}{\sqrt{2} \sigma_{\text{irf}} \tau}\right]$$


In[ ]:= (* Expected counts within interval t, starting from time 0 *)
 $\Lambda[t_] =$ 
Simplify[Integrate[f1, {y, 0, t}, Assumptions → opts] /. subs, Assumptions → opts]

Out[ ]:= 
$$B \left( \text{Erf}[\eta] - \text{Erf}\left[\eta - \frac{t}{\sqrt{2} \sigma_{\text{irf}}}\right] + e^{\rho (2 \eta + \rho)} \text{Erfc}[\eta + \rho] - e^{\rho \left(2 \eta + \rho - \frac{\sqrt{2} t}{\sigma_{\text{irf}}}\right)} \text{Erfc}\left[\eta + \rho - \frac{t}{\sqrt{2} \sigma_{\text{irf}}}\right] \right)$$

```

$\ln[*]:=$ (* Log-likelihood. Terms that do not depend on B or ρ are neglected *)

(* The derivative of the logarithm generate a denominator that causes numerical instabilities. REGCNST avoids indeterminate cases of the type $1/0$ *)

REGCNST = 1×10^{-6} ;

LogL[B_, ρ _] =

Simplify[$\left(\sum_{i=1}^m \text{Log}[\text{REGCNST} + \Lambda[i \text{ T}] - \Lambda[(i-1) \text{ T}]] G[i] - \sum_{i=1}^m (\Lambda[i \text{ T}] - \Lambda[(i-1) \text{ T}]) \right) //$.

$\text{T} \rightarrow \frac{\omega \sqrt{2} \sigma_{\text{irf}}}{m} // \eta \rightarrow 0, \text{Assumptions} \rightarrow \text{opts}$]

Out[*]= $-B \left(\text{Erf}[\omega] + e^{\rho^2} \text{Erfc}[\rho] - e^{\rho(\rho-2\omega)} \text{Erfc}[\rho - \omega] \right) +$
 $\sum_{i=1}^m G[i] \text{Log} \left[\frac{1}{1000000} - B \left(\text{Erf} \left[\frac{(-1+i)\omega}{m} \right] + e^{\rho^2} \text{Erfc}[\rho] - e^{\rho \left(\rho - \frac{2(-1+i)\omega}{m} \right)} \text{Erfc} \left[\rho - \frac{(-1+i)\omega}{m} \right] \right) \right] +$
 $B \left(\text{Erf} \left[\frac{i\omega}{m} \right] + e^{\rho^2} \text{Erfc}[\rho] - e^{\rho \left(\rho - \frac{2i\omega}{m} \right)} \text{Erfc} \left[\rho - \frac{i\omega}{m} \right] \right) \Big]$

$\ln[*]:=$ (* Defines the counts per bin, keeping this implicit to avoid being differentiated. EG will be replaced to G[i] when computing expectations *)

EGi = FullSimplify[$(\Lambda[i \text{ T}] - \Lambda[(i-1) \text{ T}]) // \text{subs} // \eta \rightarrow 0, \text{Assumptions} \rightarrow \text{opts}$]

(* $\eta \rightarrow 0$ is the particular case where there is no offset on the temporal axis *)

Out[*]= $-B \left(-1 + \text{Erf} \left[\frac{(-1+i)\omega}{m} \right] + \text{Erfc} \left[\frac{i\omega}{m} \right] + e^{\rho \left(\rho - \frac{2i\omega}{m} \right)} \left(\text{Erfc} \left[\rho - \frac{i\omega}{m} \right] - e^{\frac{2\rho\omega}{m}} \text{Erfc} \left[\rho + \frac{\omega - i\omega}{m} \right] \right) \right)$

$\ln[*]:=$ (* Evaluate derivatives, elements of the Fisher information matrix *)

a = -D[LogL[B, ρ], { ρ , 2}];

b = -D[LogL[B, ρ], {B, 2}];

c = -D[LogL[B, ρ], {B, 1}, { ρ , 1}];

```
In[ ]:= (*F is F2→C  $\frac{\sigma_\tau^2}{\tau^2}$ ;*)
```

```
(* Error propagation *)
```

```
(*  $\sigma_\tau^2 = \left( \left( D[\tau /. \text{subs}[[1]], \{\rho, 1\}] \right)^2 /. \text{subsinv} \right) \sigma_\rho^2 \rightarrow \frac{2 \tau^4}{\sigma_{\text{irf}}^2} \sigma_\rho^2$ ;*)
```

```
(* Fisher Information matrix inversion, first element*)
```

```
(*  $\sigma_\rho = \sqrt{\frac{b}{a b - c^2}} /. G[i] \rightarrow EGi /. \eta \rightarrow 0 /. \text{subsinv}$ ; *)
```

```
(* Expectations will be implicitly determined
```

```
using Gi instead of G[i] and substituting B for *)
```

```
EB = Solve[C ==  $\Delta[m T] /. \text{subs} /. \eta \rightarrow 0$ , B][[1]][[1]]
```

```
(* Therefore, evaluating expectations by substitution with EG and EB *)
```

```
F2ev = C  $\frac{2 \tau^2}{\sigma_{\text{irf}}^2} \frac{b}{a b - c^2} /. \{G[i] \rightarrow EGi\} /. EB /. \left\{ \rho \rightarrow \frac{\sigma_{\text{irf}}}{\sqrt{2} \tau}, \omega \rightarrow \frac{\text{PER}}{\sqrt{2} \sigma_{\text{irf}}} \right\}$ ;
```

```
Out[ ]:= B → 
$$\frac{C}{\text{Erf}[\omega] + e^{\rho^2} \text{Erfc}[\rho] - e^{\rho(\rho-2\omega)} \text{Erfc}[\rho - \omega]}$$

```

```
In[ ]:= (* Test *)
```

```
(* Approx solutions show that F2ev does not depend
```

```
on C. This line is used only for checking that F2ev is well
```

```
behaved numerically and confirming the independency from C *)
```

```
F2ev /. { $\sigma_{\text{irf}} \rightarrow .1$ ,  $\tau \rightarrow .01$ , PER → 25, m → 128, C → 10}
```

... General: Exp[-2450.] is too small to represent as a normalized machine number; precision may be lost.

... General: Exp[-2450.] is too small to represent as a normalized machine number; precision may be lost.

... General: Exp[-2450.] is too small to represent as a normalized machine number; precision may be lost.

... General: Further output of General::munfl will be suppressed during this calculation.

```
Out[ ]:= 400.138
```

```
(* Control curves (Kollner&Wolfrum *)
```

```
F2Dirac = ExpandAll[  


$$\left( (-1 + e^{T/\tau})^2 \left( -1 + e^{\frac{m T}{\tau}} \right)^2 \tau^2 \right) / \left( \left( e^{T/\tau} + e^{\frac{T+2 m T}{\tau}} - e^{\frac{m T}{\tau}} m^2 - e^{\frac{(2+m) T}{\tau}} m^2 + 2 e^{\frac{(1+m) T}{\tau}} (-1 + m^2) \right) T^2 \right) \right];$$

```

```

In[ ]:=  $\tau n = 151$ ;
mn = 12;
 $\sigma n = 7$ ;

memo = Table[100000,  $\tau n$ , mn,  $\sigma n$ ];
memo2 = Table[100000,  $\tau n$ , mn,  $\sigma n$ ];

 $\sigma 0 = \{0.001, 0.1, 0.25, 0.5, 1, 2, 5\}$ ;
 $\tau 0 = \text{Table}[0.01 * 1.05^{(i-1)}, \{i, \tau n\}]$ ;
m0 = Table[2i, {i, mn}];

For[ $\tau i = 1, \tau i \leq \tau n, \tau i++$ ,
  For[mi = 1, mi ≤ mn, mi++,
    For[ $\sigma i = 1, \sigma i \leq \sigma n, \sigma i++$ ,
      vals = {C → 1,  $\sigma_{irf} \rightarrow \sigma 0[[\sigma i]]$ ,  $\tau \rightarrow \tau 0[[\tau i]]$ , PER → 25, m → m0[[mi]]};
      tmp = (F2ev /. vals);
      memo2[[ $\tau i$ , mi,  $\sigma i$ ]] = F2Dirac /. {T → PER / m} /. vals;
      If[tmp > 0.001, memo[[ $\tau i$ , mi,  $\sigma i$ ]] = tmp]
    ]
  ] ×
  Print[ $\tau i$ ]
]
Beep[]

... General: Exp[-1250.] is too small to represent as a normalized machine number; precision may be lost.
... General: Exp[-1250.] is too small to represent as a normalized machine number; precision may be lost.
... General: Exp[-2500.] is too small to represent as a normalized machine number; precision may be lost.
... General: Further output of General::munfl will be suppressed during this calculation.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16

```

17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55

56

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

81

82

83

84

85

86

87

88

89

90

91

92

93

94

95
96
97
98
99
100
101
102
103
104
105
106
107
108
109
110
111
112
113
114
115
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127
128
129
130
131
132
133

134

135

136

137

138

139

140

141

142

143

144

145

146

147

148

149

150

151

```
In[ ]:= Export["GaussianForMatlab.mat", memo]
```

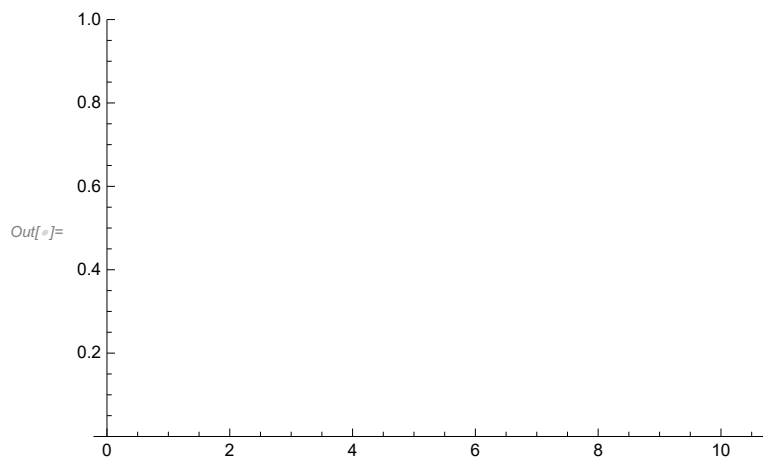
```
Out[ ]:= GaussianForMatlab.mat
```

```
Export["GaussianForMathematica.dat", All]
```

```
In[ ]:= memo[[1, 1, 1]]
```

```
Out[ ]:= 4072.91
```

```
In[ ]:= ListPlot[Table[{ $\tau_0[\tau_i]$ , memo[[ $\tau_i$ , mi, 1]]}, {mi, 1, mn}, { $\tau_i$ , 1,  $\tau_n$ }],  
Joined -> True, PlotStyle -> Directive[Black, Thin, SolidData], PlotRange -> {0, 1}]
```



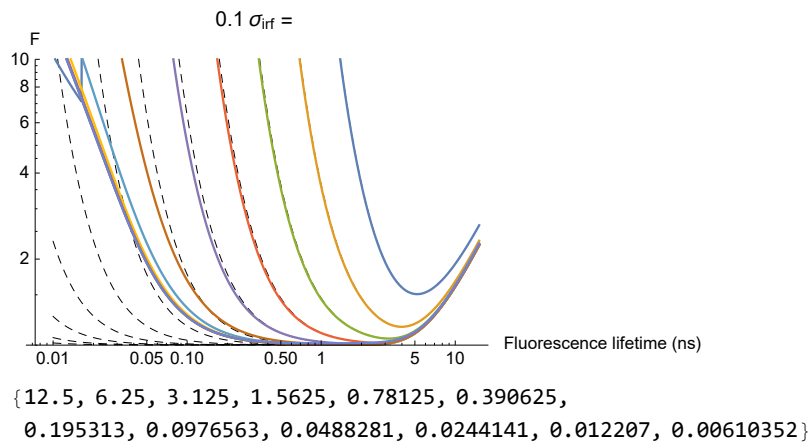
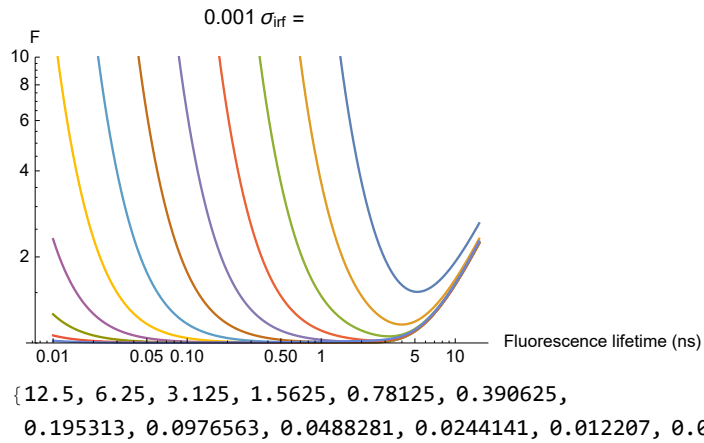
In[]:=

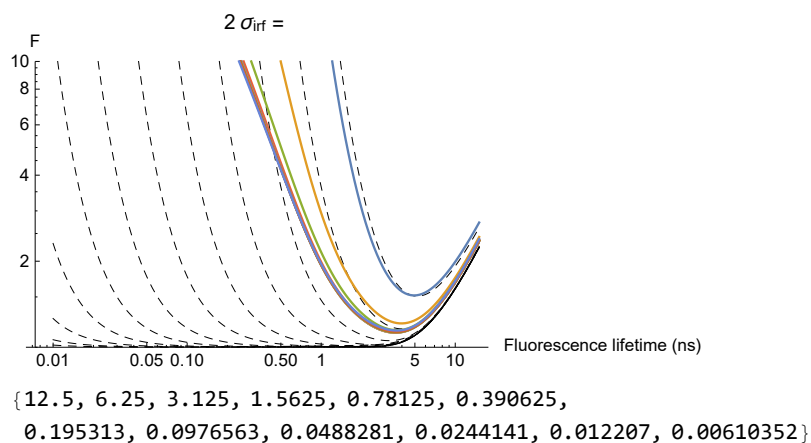
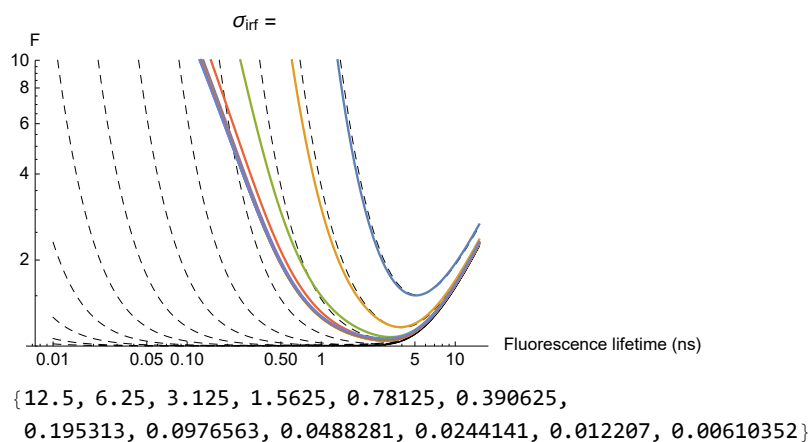
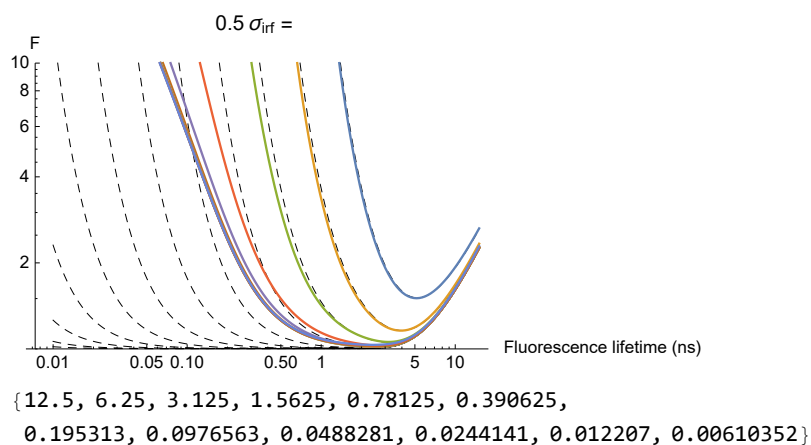
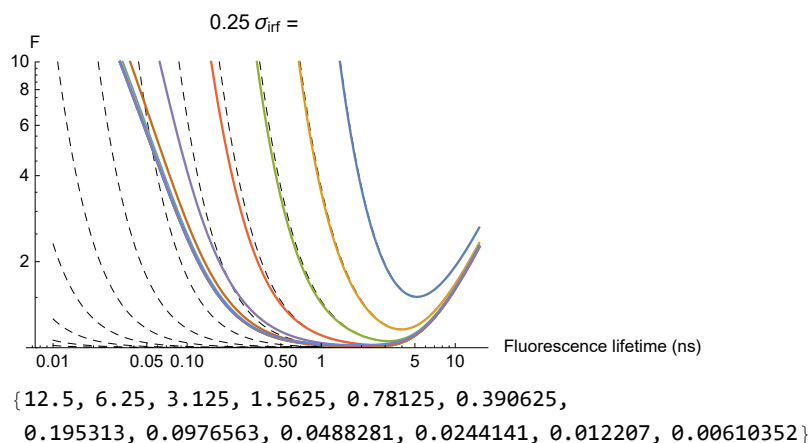
```

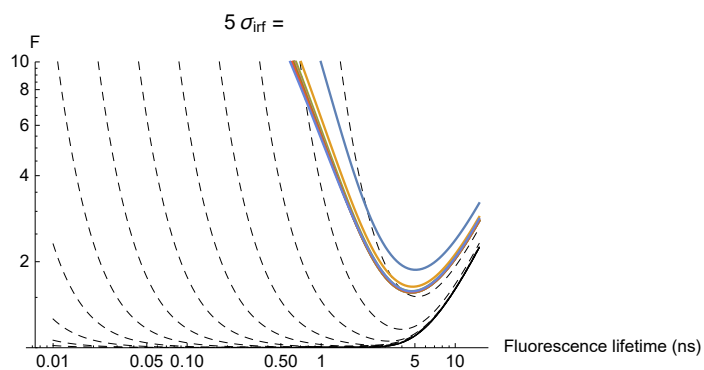
pr = ListLogLogPlot[
  Table[{ $\tau_0[[\tau_i]]$ ,  $\sqrt{\text{memo}[[\tau_i, m_i, 1]]}$ }, {mi, 1, mn}, { $\tau_i$ , 1,  $\tau_n$ }], PlotRange -> {1, 10},
  Joined -> True, PlotStyle -> Directive[Black, Thickness[.001], Dashed]];
For[j = 1, j ≤  $\sigma_n$ , j++, p0 = ListLogLogPlot[Table[{ $\tau_0[[\tau_i]]$ , 1}, {mi, 1, 1}, { $\tau_i$ , 1,  $\tau_n$ }],
  PlotRange -> {1, 10}, Joined -> True, PlotStyle -> Directive[Black, Thin, SolidData]];
p1 = ListLogLogPlot[Table[{ $\tau_0[[\tau_i]]$ ,  $\sqrt{\text{memo}[[\tau_i, m_i, j]]}$ }, {mi, 1, mn}, { $\tau_i$ , 1,  $\tau_n$ }],
  PlotRange -> {1, 10}, Joined -> True,
  PlotStyle -> Directive[Thickness[.005], SolidData]];
p2 = ListLogLogPlot[Table[{ $\tau_0[[\tau_i]]$ ,  $\sqrt{\text{memo2}[[\tau_i, m_i, j]]}$ }, {mi, 1, mn}, { $\tau_i$ , 1,  $\tau_n$ }],
  Joined -> True, PlotStyle -> Directive[Thin, Dashed]];
Print[Show[pr, p1, PlotLabel -> " $\sigma_{\text{irf}} = "$   $\sigma_0[[j]]$ ,
  AxesLabel -> {"Fluorescence lifetime (ns)", "F"}]];
Print[25./m0]

];

```







```
{12.5, 6.25, 3.125, 1.5625, 0.78125, 0.390625,
 0.195313, 0.0976563, 0.0488281, 0.0244141, 0.012207, 0.00610352}
```

```
In[ ]:=
```

```
In[ ]:= 25. / m0
```

```
Out[ ]:= {12.5, 6.25, 3.125, 1.5625, 0.78125, 0.390625,
 0.195313, 0.0976563, 0.0488281, 0.0244141, 0.012207, 0.00610352}
```

(* IRF has to be sampled properly. All curves with PER/m *)

```
In[ ]:= NotebookSave[]
```