## Multi-Parametric Surface Plasmon Resonance

# A unique technique to characterize nanoscale surfaces and interfaces



Surface plasmon resonance (SPR) is a well established technology that has been mainly reserved for the study of biomolecular interactions in life-sciences and pharmaceutical drug discovery. While it has provided a valuable insight into the dynamic nature of binding events at the sensor surface, such as the kinetics and affinity of binding, the technology, as it stands, has only found limited utility in the emerging fields of nano-bio, surface materials and hard-soft interfaces, areas that demand a different set of measurements and capabilities in order to be able to fully understand the mechanisms and behaviour of these systems. Yet, it is possible to derive a whole new insight into dynamic surface analysis and layer-by-layer deposition via SPR, using the appropriate optical configuration and instrument design.

Multi-Parametric Surface Plasmon Resonance (MP-SPR) redefines the capabilities associated with traditional SPR, broadening the scope of what can be achieved with this

technology and delivering new opportunities to study the physical events involved both in the formation and properties of hard and soft layers and the interfacial behaviour of these layers with each other in solid, liquid and gaseous environments. This technology has been specifically tailored, via its SPR-scanning mode and multi-wavelength optical configuration, to present a whole new level of understanding in biophysical and biomaterial studies through its ability to analyse biophysical events, such as layer thickness and density (Refractive Index) associated with layer-by-layer surface deposition, ranging from ultra-thin nano- (0.5 – 100 nm) and thick-layer (300 nm – microns) systems.

Here, we present some of the novel features and applications associated with this versatile yet powerful system to characterise surfaces and interfaces and how it can transform your understanding of the nature of materials in the emerging fields of nano-bio and material sciences.

## Why MP-SPR?

### FLEXIBILITY

- Measures physical, optical, chemical and electrochemical properties
- Measurements of solids, gas, liquids, complex fluids
- Measurements at different wavelengths with same set-up
- **Open architecture** for connection of other instruments

## FREE SELECTION OF MATERIALS

- Layers in gold, but also other metals, semiconductors, ceramics and polymers, e.g. Al2O3, TiO2, Cu, Al, Au, SiO2, graphene, cellulose, lipids,...
- Measurements of nanolayers (0.5-100 nm) as well as thicklayers (350 nm -microns)
- Freedom to prepare your own surfaces and coatings in-and ex-situ

#### NOT ONLY STRUCTURE, BUT ALSO FUNCTION

 Measure effectiveness of biocoatings, while optimizing their thickness, optical properties, anti-fouling, ...

## **Core principles**

Multi-Parametric Surface Plasmon Resonance is based on a optics arrangement, where the light intensity reflected from a surface is recorded as a function of angle of incident light. At lower angle, the intensity of light reaches its maximum at the Total Internal Reflection point. At a certain angle, there is a clear dip of intensity, which is due to the plasmons on the interface between the plasmonic material and adjacent layers.

With other techniques, in order to determine the layer thickness, you have to assume its refractive index. With MP-SPR, you can determine both thanks to measurements in multiple media (such as in air and in liquid) or at multiple wavelengths.

The system can be equipped with up to 3 different wavelenghts.



**SPR Navi™ instrumentsare** used to characterize **Solid / Liquid / Gas / Complex Phase** surfaces and interfaces in terms of their:

**Physical properties:** Thickness, swelling, mass **Optical properties:** (Complex) refractive index **Biochemical properties:** Kinetics, on-/off-rates, adsorption, desorption, affinity, concentration, adhesion

## **Electrochemical** behavior

## Key Questions that MP-SPR can answer:

- What conditions affect polyelectrolyte multilayer growth?
- How thick is the deposited layer, what are the optical properties?
- Do nanoparticles bind to specific proteins, are they stable?
- How does the surface coating react in air to varied moisture levels?
- How fast does a protein bind to cellulose, PP, PET, PS?
- Which material is the most resistant to fouling?
- Is this a monolayer or a bilayer?



**Example 1.** Metal-Organic Framework growth measured in air and in liquid. The angular shift corresponds to 10.4 nm in ethanol. (AN#112)



**Example 2.** Each metallic coating has its own SPR peak characteristics that can be used to study the material deposition process as well as the material interface.



**Example 3.** Cyclic voltametry scans for slow scanning (black) and fast scanning (orange) of electrodeposited copper. Inset: Angular scan peak minimum sensogram of the electrochemical measurement. (AN#120)



**Example 4.** Cellulose model surfaces for studying protein interactions using MP-SPR. (AN#126)



**Example 5.** Off-line optimization of a CVD process. MP-SPR provides information on uniformity of the deposition process. (AN#127)

**See our application highlights** with MP-SPR used with different materials, such as graphene and graphene oxide films (#116), polyelectrolyte multilayers (#111), metal-organic framework assembly (#112), PP, PS, PET, cellulose (#115, #126), Lanbmuir-Blodgett film in air (#109),... The key principles to determining thickness and refractive index are explained in #127 (using two wavelengths and two media approach) and in #128 for ultrathin metal films. All of the newest application notes and publications including examples with nanoparticles, deposition process optimization, sensing of hydrogen and more can be found at **www.bionavis.com**.

## **Experimental Design**



## Choose a sensor slide

- Metals: Au, Ag, Al, Cu...
- Inorganic: SiO<sub>2</sub>, Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, ITO, LiF, MgF<sub>2</sub>, TiO<sub>2</sub>, ZnS, Ti<sub>3</sub>NO...
- Functionalizations: Carboxymethyldextran (CMD) hydrogel, Planar CMD, other functionalizations available on demand: amine, protein A, biotin,...

Our users like the flexibility of preparing their own surfaces and routinely work, for instance, with **cellulose, PET, PS, PP** and other biocompatible and biomimetic surfaces.

Techniques that can be used for coating of our sensors include vapor deposition, sputtering, sol-gel deposition, Langmuir-Blodgett monolayer depositions, spin coating, dip coating, self assembly, electrochemistry, atomic layer deposition and others.



#### SPR Navi<sup>™</sup> 210A See also **MP-SPR with automated handling** of 6 samples SPR Navi<sup>™</sup> 200 SPR Navi<sup>™</sup> 220A Semi-automated Well-plate automation W 62 x H 41 x D 47 cm W 32 x H 40 x D 34 cm (15" x 12.5" x 12.4") (24.5" x 16" x 18.5") 30 kg (66 lbs) 12 kg (22 lbs) Automatic dual channel injector Virtually maintenance-free Low running costs Easy operation Measuring principle Multi-Parametric SPR based on a true goniometric SPR arrangement with a rotating laser (true angular resolution 0.001°) Wavelength of light 670 nm (others by request) in each channel **Additional wavelengths** 780 nm (others by request) enables measurements of refractive index and thickness (feature exclusive to SPR Navi™) and measurements on light-absorbing samples) The system can be equipped with up to 4 different wavelengths (2 per channel). SPR Navi<sup>™</sup> scanning angular 40° - 78° range (feature exclusive to SPR Navi™) Mode of operation Fixed angle mode - measuring at a single angle (intensity vs time sensogram, "traditional SPR") Angular scan mode - scanning across a range of angles (many parameters available, e.g. intensity vs angle, "MP-SPR") **Refractive index (RI) range** 1.00-1.40 (bulk) Can be extended with additional wavelengths; Note: Layers that MP-SPR can measure can have much higher RI. MP-SPR determines complex refractive index also. Dynamic range 38 000 mdeg Noise level Short-term noise 0.3 µRIU, Baseline drift (long term) < 1µRIU/min; in Selectively Amplified SPR 100-fold improvement (practically non-detectable). Note: 1 x 10-6 of Refractive Index Unit corresponds to 1 pg/mm<sup>2</sup> surface coverage of a typical protein. Kinetics k<sub>3</sub> 10<sup>3</sup>-10<sup>8</sup> M<sup>-1</sup>.Sec<sup>-1</sup>, (Note that ka and kd values are highly dependent of each other, as well as the Bmax Measurement range k, 10<sup>-7</sup>- 0.1 Sec<sup>-1</sup> (binding maximum) values of the assay.) Layer thickness and RI from 5 Å to 100 nm (all materials), 300 nm to microns (transparent materials). Multiple layers also possible. Sampling rate from 4 ms Flow cells Standard: Easily exchangeable, 2 channels, PDMS material, 100µm cell height Optional flow cell modules: PEEK, gas, electrochemical (open and flow-through cuvettes), custom Sample loading and injection Automated parallel or serial injections (automatic switch) **Liquid handling** Fully automated handling of up to 6 samples, built-in degasser, syringe pump Flow cell volume 1 µl as a standard Sample volume Min. 20 µl (or less through partial loop fill), Max. 1 ml Programs Freely configurable sequence for unattended operation Injections Full loop, partial loop W 44 x H 41 x D 51 cm (17" x 16" x 20"), 22 kg (48,5 lbs) Instrument dimensions Smallest detected molecules Hydrogen (2 D<sub>a</sub>), dopamine (153.18 D<sub>a</sub>), cocaine (303.13 D<sub>a</sub>), naproxen (230.26 D<sub>a</sub>), quinidine (360.5 D<sub>a</sub>) for instance. Injection volume recommended 50 $\mu$ L (less using partial loop fill function), max. 250 $\mu$ L (standard) to 2 mL Volumes Standard flow-cell volume 1 µL Measured spot volume 80 nL

 Flow-rates
 1 μl/min to 1 mL/min with installed tubing set, up to 6 mL/min with larger tubing diameter

 Measurement temperature
 15-45°C (7°C below to 20°C above room temperature)

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Specifications are subject to change without prior notice.

## About Us

**BioNavis Ltd** is an innovative company established in 2006. We manufacture SPR Navi™ measurement instruments that are based on Multi-Parametric Surface Plasmon Resonance (MP-SPR) technology. This technology enables determination of layer thickness, optical properties and real-time measurements of molecular interactions on a wide range of materials.

## About MP-SPR

This new and unique MP-SPR technology has been developed over 20 years at VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland by Dr. Janusz Sadowski. MP-SPR is based on traditional Surface Plasmon Resonance technology that is now well established in pharma and life sciences. Thanks to our unique optical arrangement, we are able to bring MP-SPR to serve also material science and other multidisciplinary fields.

## Contact information

## **BioNavis**

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