

**LUCA NODARI**

**MARTINA ZUENA**

# **IN SITU EXTERNAL REFLECTION INFRARED SPECTROSCOPY AS CONTACTLESS TOOL TO INVESTIGATE ARTISTIC MATERIALS**

*Padova, 21-22 Maggio 2019*

# INFRARED SPECTROSCOPY & HERITAGE SCIENCE

An excellent tool to characterize functional groups in organic and inorganic materials

Painting materials, ceramic, glasses, paper, conservation materials....

Organic Materials: binders, polymers, alteration products

Inorganic Materials: binders, pigments, alteration products

# INFRARED SPECTROSCOPY & HERITAGE SCIENCE: A TIMELINE

1980



Invasive and destructive; 1 mg 4000-400  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

2000



Micro-invasive and non-destructive;  
<1 mg 4000-650  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

2010



In situ, contactless; 4000-1000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

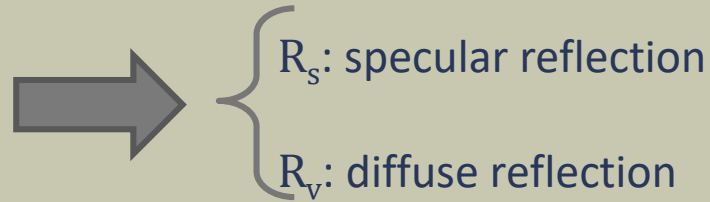
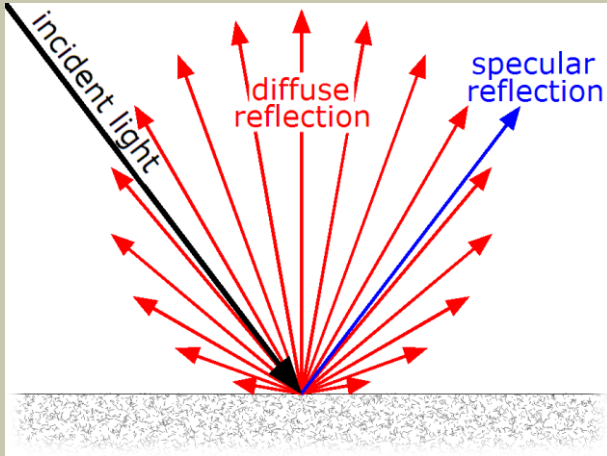
2012



In situ, contactless; 7500-375  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

# ERFTIR: FUNDAMENTALS

Detector



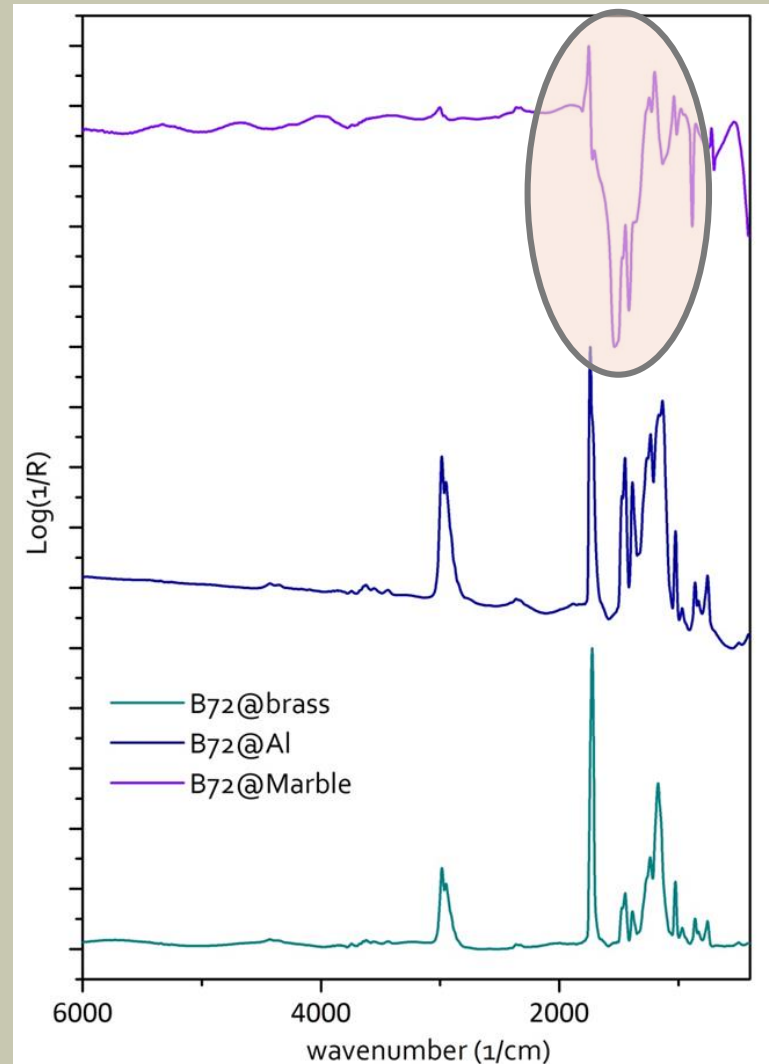
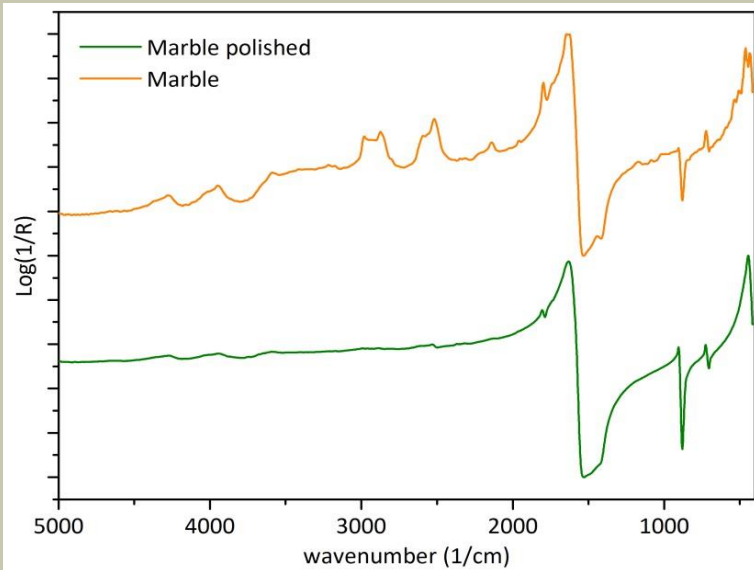
$R_s$  ruled by Fresnel's law  $R_s = \frac{(n - 1)^2 + k^2}{(n + 1)^2 + k^2}$

1. Derivative-like  $k < 1$ , following the profile of  $n$  across the wavelength
2. Inverted band  $k \gg 1$

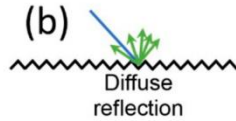
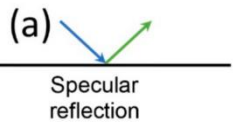
$R_v$  originated by absorption process, spectral features close to the transmission ones, with the exception of bands intensities

Weak bands are enhanced respect to strong ones

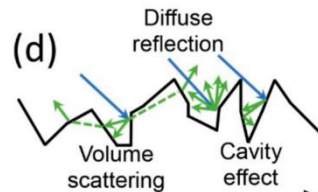
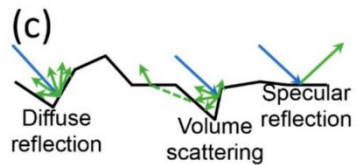
# BAND DISTORTIONS: THE INFLUENCE OF THE SUBSTRATE



## Reflection model

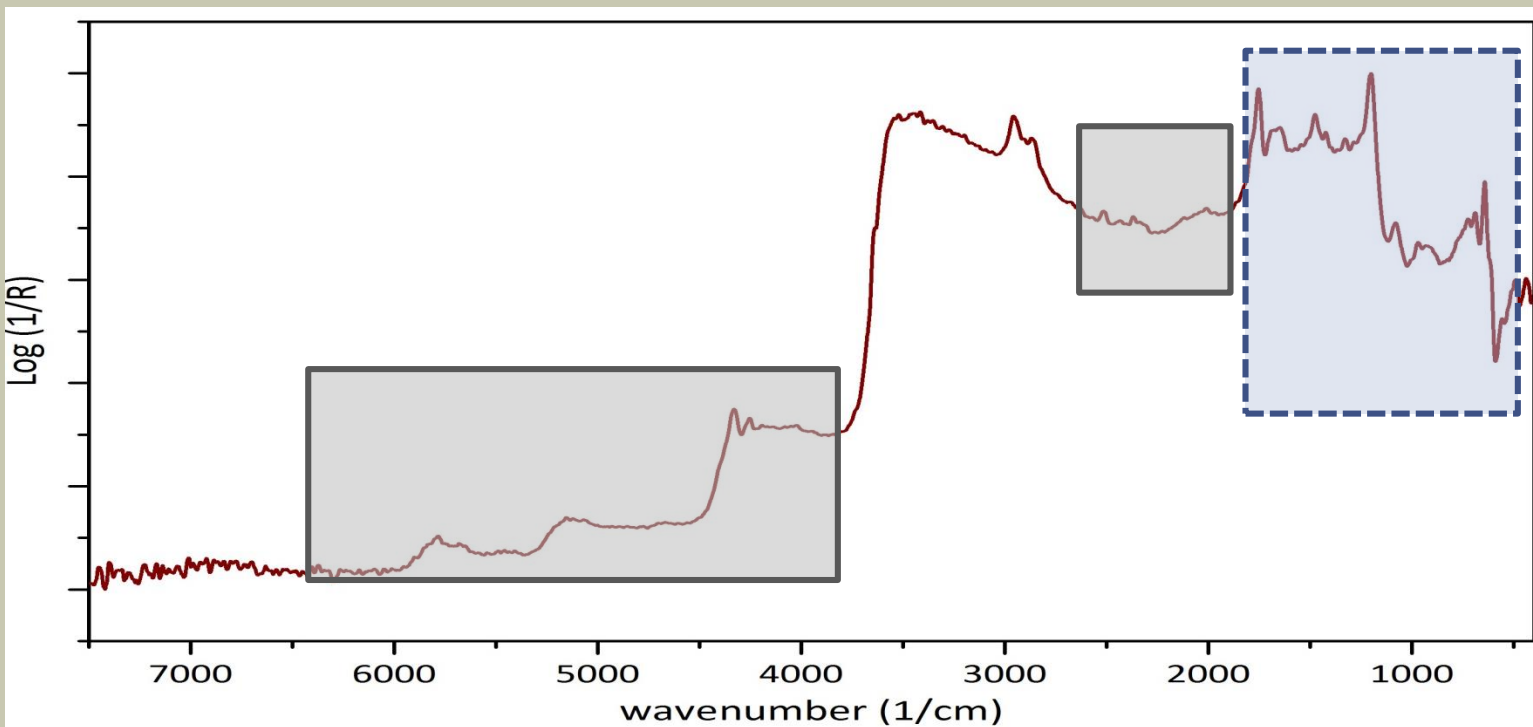
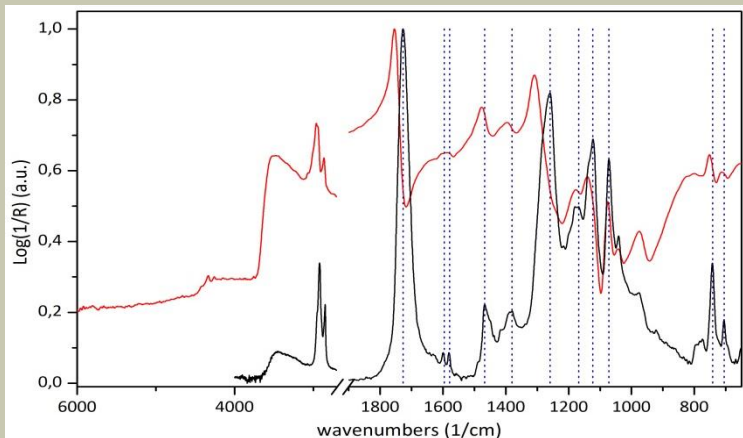


## Natural surfaces

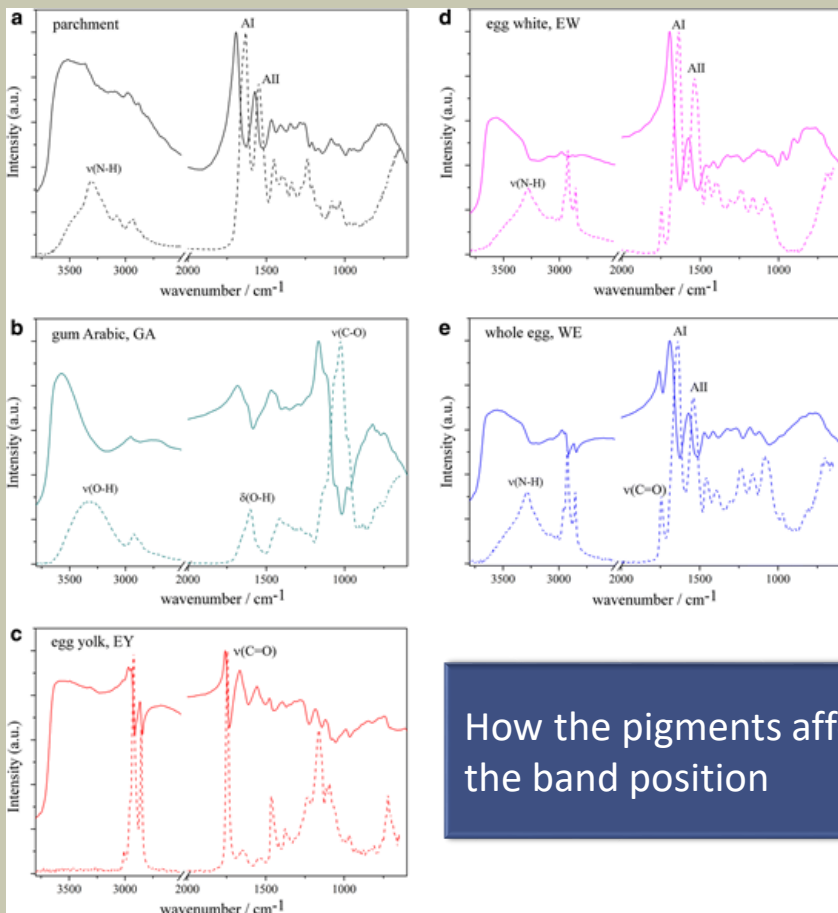


Increasing surface roughness

# ERFTIR SPECTRA & THE SPECTRAL REGIONS

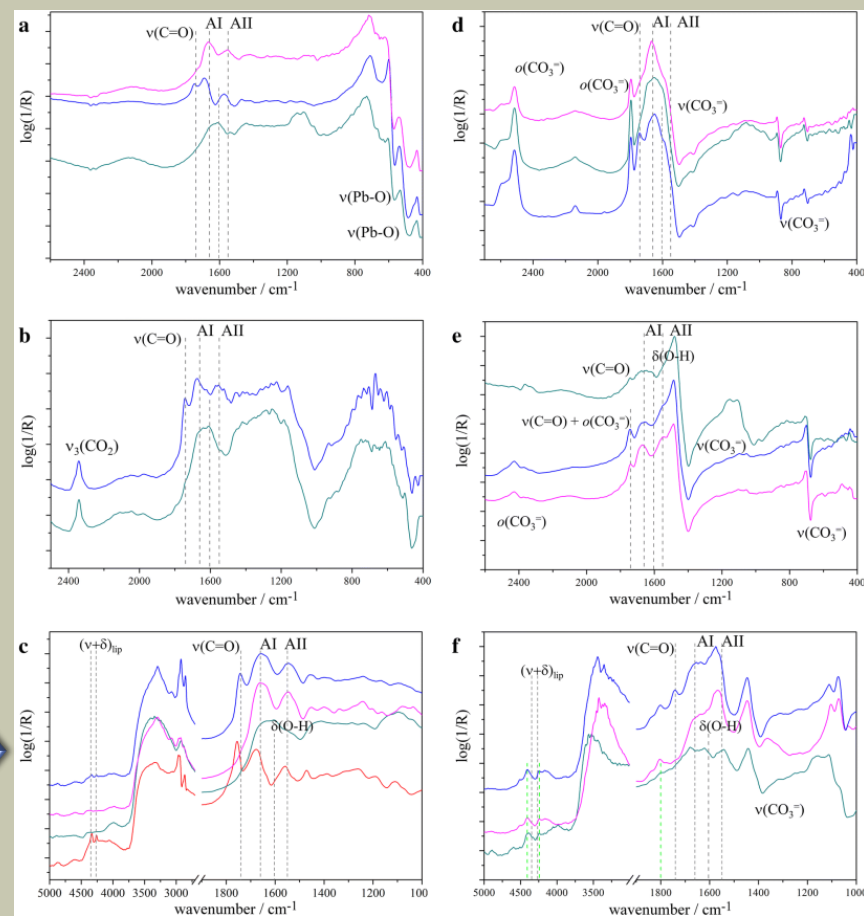


# ABOUT PIGMENTS AND BINDERS



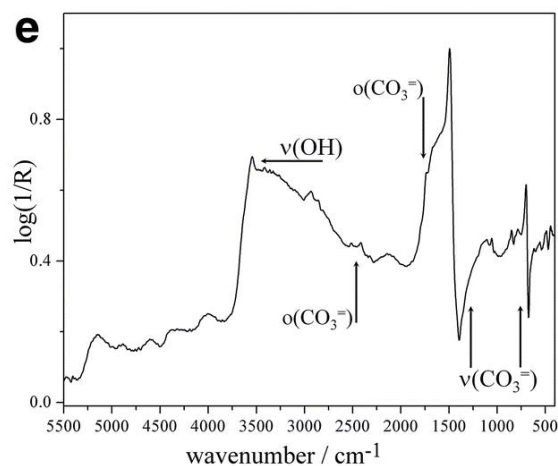
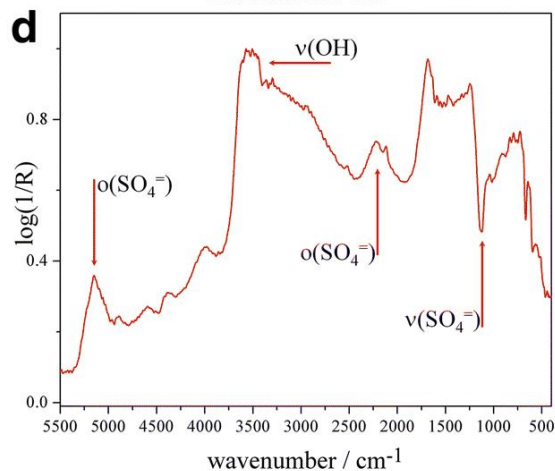
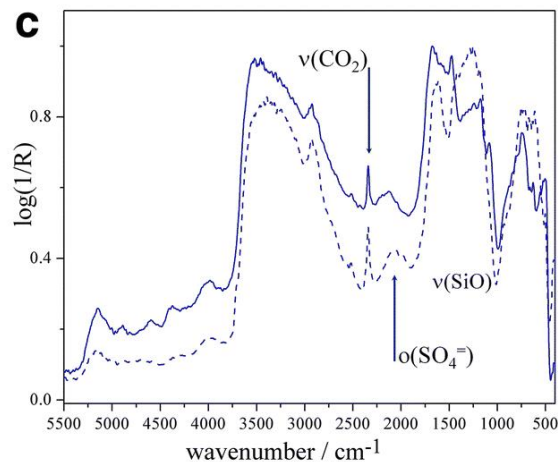
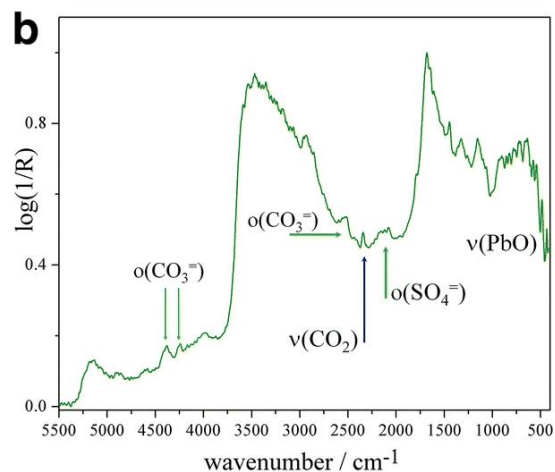
How the pigments affect the band position

Comparison between ER-FTIR and  $\mu$ -ATR measurements on: **a** parchment; **b** gum Arabic; **c** egg yolk; **d** egg white and **e** whole egg. The main absorption region of interest is enlarged in the boxes. Dotted lines refers to the spectra collected in  $\mu$ -ATR mode



Comparison between ER-FTIR spectra collected on paintouts containing various pigments bound in gum Arabic (dark cyan spectra), egg white (magenta), egg yolk (red) and whole egg (blue): **a** Pb-Sn yellow; **b** nat. ultramarine; **c** vermilion; **d** chalk; **e** lead white; **f** malachite

# ABOUT PIGMENTS AND BINDERS



Cambridge, Fitzwilliam Museum, Marlay Cutting Fr. 5 (a). ER-FTIR spectra collected on the green robe (T1, b), the light blue robe (T2, c), the pink robe (T3, d) and the white wimple (T4, e). Characteristic bands for chalk, natural ultramarine, lead–tin yellow, gypsum and lead white are shown; the pigment’s overtones and/or combination bands are labeled with o(functional group). The blue dashed line in c represent the spectrum of natural ultramarine/GA ref.



# MATERIALS AND ALTERATIONS IN MODERN PAINTINGS: MAX ERNST @ GUGGENHEIM



The Kiss (1927)



The Garden airplane trap (1935-36)



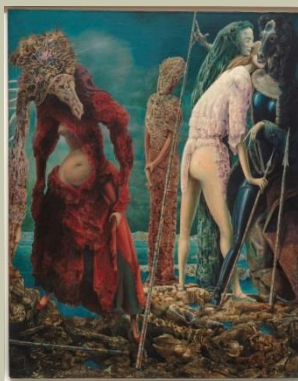
The Entire city (1937)



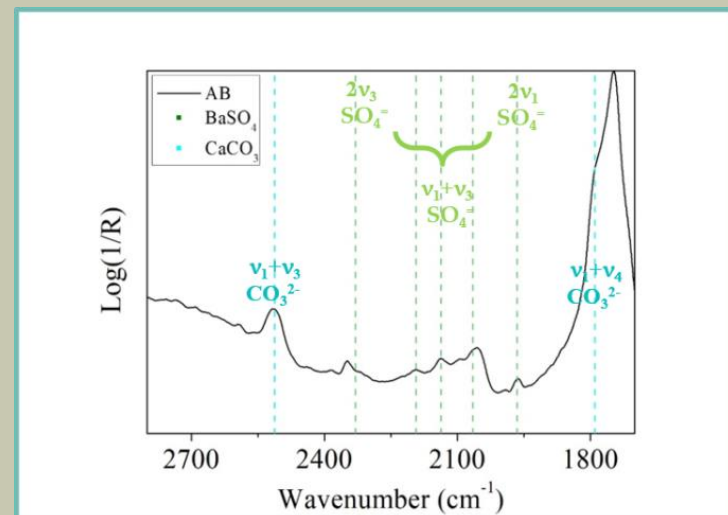
The Zoomorphic couple (1933)



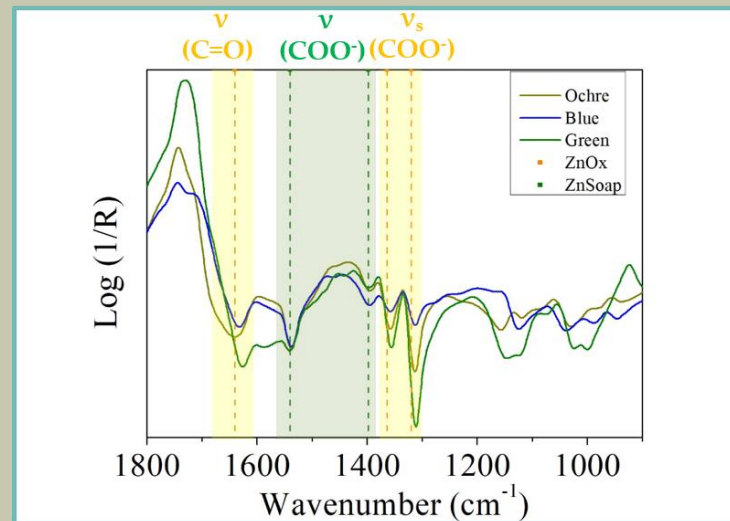
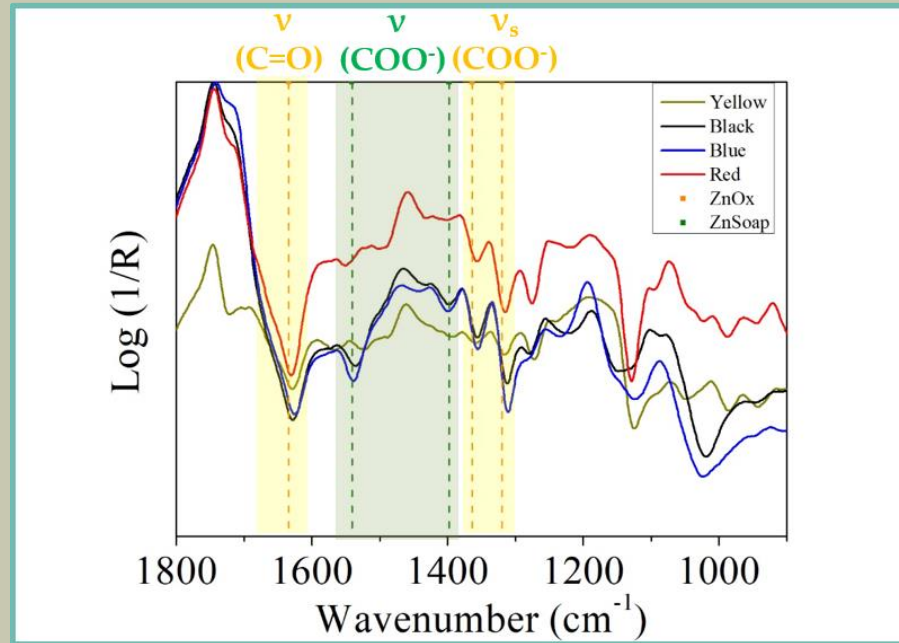
The Attirement of the bride (1940)



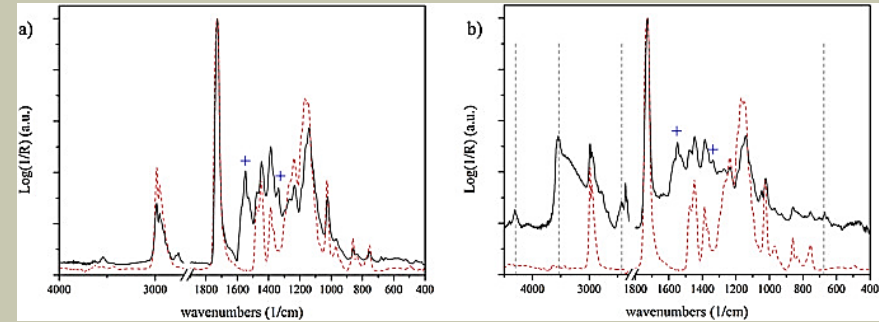
The Antipope (1941-42)



# MATERIALS AND ALTERATIONS IN MODERN PAINTINGS: MAX ERNST @ GUGGENHEIM



# ALTERATIONS IN CONTEMPORARY ARTWORKS: FROM IN SITU MEASUREMENTS TO LAB EXPERIMENTATIONS

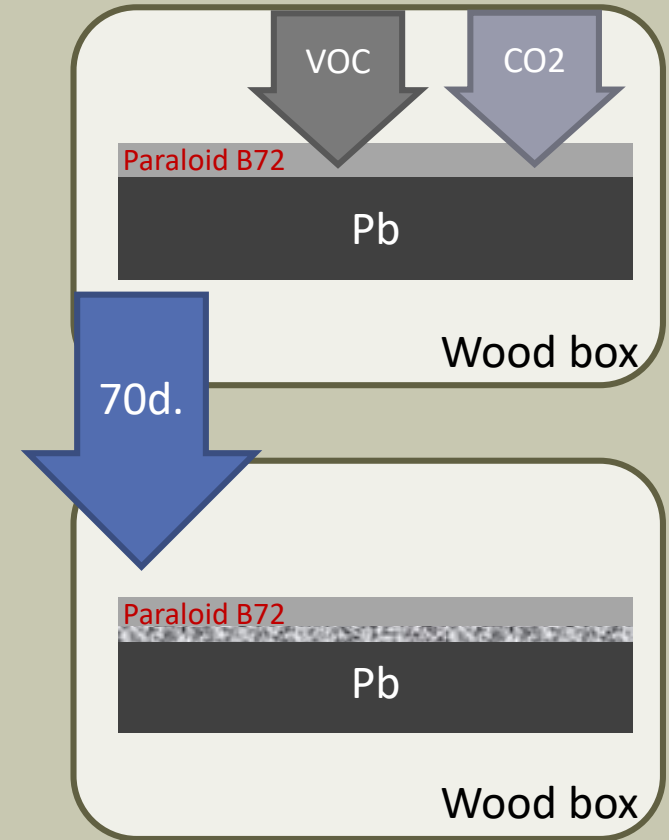
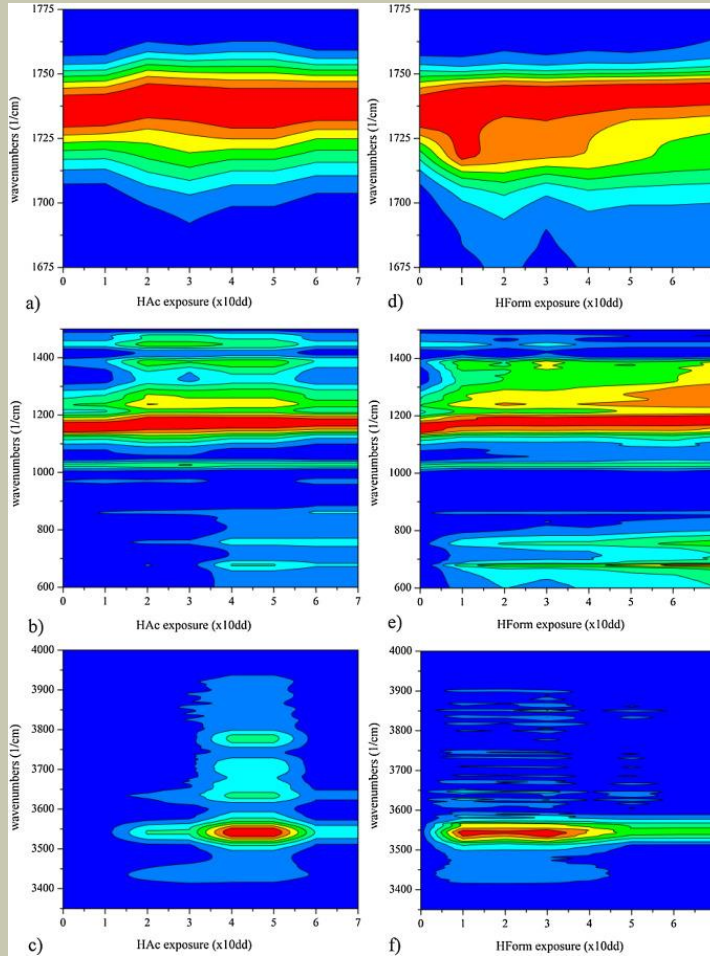
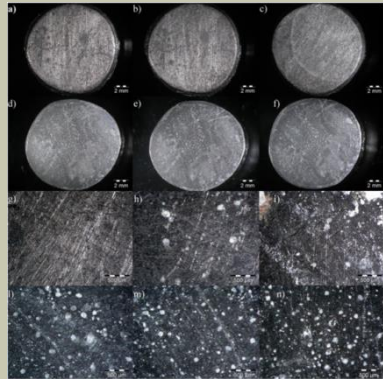


Why these alterations appear?  
Is the room properly conditioned?  
Which is the story of the oeuvre?

Stored in wood boxes

VOC!! (HAc, HForm)

# ALTERATIONS IN CONTEMPORARY ARTWORKS: FROM IN SITU MEASUREMENTS TO LAB EXPERIMENTATIONS



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