## FCS multi-component free diffusion fitting model.

Assuming a 3D Gaussian detection volume, the general multi-component free diffusion fitting model is described by

$$G(\tau) = 1 + \frac{1}{\langle N \rangle} \cdot \frac{1 - T + Te^{-\frac{\tau}{\tau_T}}}{1 - T} \cdot \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{\Phi_i}{\left(1 + \frac{\tau}{\tau_{D_i}}\right) \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\omega_{xy}}{\omega_z}\right)^2 \cdot \frac{\tau}{\tau_{D_i}}}} \right]$$

where  $\langle N \rangle$  is the mean number of particles in the detection volume, T and  $\tau_T$  are the triplet fraction and triplet lifetime, respectively (both assumed equal for all components),  $\Phi_i$  is the fractional intensity of the ith species, m is the total number of species in the sample, and  $\tau_{D_i}$  is the characteristic diffusion time of the ith species through the detection volume. For m=1, Eq. (1) is reduced to the one-component free diffusion model.  $\omega_{xy}$  and  $\omega_z$  are the axial and the radial waist of the Gaussian detection volume, respectively, defined as the distances at which the intensity drops to  $1/e^2$  of the maximum intensity.