Olomouc 2005





Status and Challenges In Molecule Interferometry

Markus Arndt Institut für Experimentalphysik Universität Wien







Short reminder: Far-field diffraction at a nanograting











STATUS:

Interferometry with large molecules

Talbot-Lau Near-Field interferometry





Pattern Formation in a Talbot-Lau Interferometer









Interferometry with Porphyrins: $C_{44}H_{30}N_4$ (TPP)





p. 8



- **↓ C**₆₀ **F**₄₈
- 🔱 1632 amu !
- 4 108 Atoms in a single object !
- Isomeres with different symmetries













Decoherence: Collisions





Decoherence: Thermally induced radiation





Novel Molecules: Similar mass but different physical properties...





- **TPP** with electric dipole moment (COOH, ...)
- **TPP** with magnetic moment (Rare earths, ...)

Question:

- Molecule/Grating interaction: Dephasing ?
- Predictions for proteins ?



Perspectives:

Developments for the near future

Sources in the lab ...







STATUS: Effusive Sources up to 7000 u

Thermal Source Perfluorinated Hydro-carbons



N,N-Bis[3-[tris(2-perfluorooctylethyl)silyl]propyl]-trifluoroacetamide



Can we go even further ? Thermal Beams of Fullerene derivates !







Only 6 side chains shown



m ~ 7000 u, v = 80 m/s





STATUS:

Jet-expanded Laser Desorption

Jet-expanded laser desorption (JETLD)



- Neutral & directed beams of biomolecules
- Excellent velocity selection (1:1000)





Molecule detectors in the lab ...





Mechanically Magnified Fluorescence Imaging









A Porphyrin experiment (TPP)

New Journal of Physics (11/2005).

p. 24



Scalability !

• The efficiency improves with particle size!

Horizontal surface position

- Encodes grating position
- Magnification arbitrarily large, here 4500 x
- ,Immune' to surface diffusion

Vertical surface position

- Encodes molecule velocity
- Simultaneous recording of all velocities: extreme stability
- Favorable for distinguishing quantum from classical fringes

Applications being explored...











From curiosity to curious applications ?!



• Structures with down to 50/100 nm features/periods

• Composed of single (functional) molecules (1-10 nm sized)

• Identified, post-processed with Scanning Probe Microscopy

Non-trivial patterns with added grating motions & new masks

Mounting of the new Nanoimaging/fabrication lab











Summary & Outlook





p. 31

The Vienna team on Molecular Quantum Optics







- M. Arndt
- L. Hackermüller



A. Major



A. Stefanov



A. Zeilinger



S. Deachapunya





E. Reiger



M. Berninger







G. Kiesewetter



H. Ulbricht

Former postdocs:

- Fabienne Goldfarb
- Klaus Hornberger
- Björn Brezger •

Former PhD:

Olaf Nairz •

Former Diploma students

- Julian Voss Andreae
- Julia Petschinka
- Stefan Uttenthaler •