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#### Winter College on Micro and Nano Photonics for Life Sciences

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Optical Trapping and structured light. (3 lectures)

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Optical Trapping and structured light (3 lectures Kishan Dholakia

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ICTP Winter School February 2008

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### Life at St Andrews











# **These lectures**

- Lecture 1: why Multiple traps, how to make multiple traps
- Lecture 2: More exotic light fields: the LG beam and the Bessel beam
- Lecture 3: Optical separation and microfluidics. Integration with other modalities



#### **Reviews:**

Dholakia K and Reece P 2006 Optical micromanipulation takes hold *Nano Today* 1 18-27 Dholakia. K, Reece. P, Gu. M, 2008 Optical micromanipulation *Chem. Soc. Rev* 37 42 – 55 Neuman K C and Block S M 2004 Optical trapping *Review of Scientific Instruments* 75 2787-809 www.st-and.ac.uk/~atomtrap

Slide acknowledgements: G Spalding and the Optical Trapping Group

### At the heart of a basic trap:



Laser

- Pick frequency to minimize absorption (no "optocution").
- Power depends entirely upon application
- Beam Quality:  $M^2 < 1.1$ , TEM<sub>00</sub> typical
- Pointing stability: critical for high-res. work

#### Objective Lens

- Magnification doesn't matter, *aberrations* do
- •A numerical aperture (N.A.) > 1 is essential *if* 3D traps are required

#### PROTOCOL

# Construction and calibration of an optical trap on a fluorescence optical microscope

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The application of optical traps has come to the fore in the last three decades. They provide a powerful, sterile and noninvasive tool for the manipulation of cells, single biological macromolecules, colloidal microparticles and nanoparticles. An optically trapped microsphere may act as a force transducer that is used to measure forces in the piconewton regime. By setting up a well-calibrated single-beam optical trap within a fluorescence microscope system, one can measure forces and collect fluorescence signals upon biological systems simultaneously. In this protocol, we aim to provide a clear exposition of the methodology of assembling and operating a single-beam gradient force trap (optical tweezers) on an inverted fluorescence microscope. A step-by-step guide is given for alignment and operation, with discussion of common pitfalls.

Nature Protocols, 2, 3226 (2007) and references therein





### Trapping metal nanospheres

#### absorption force

$$F_{abs} = n_m < S > \frac{C_{abs}}{c}$$

$$C_{abs} = \frac{2\pi n_m}{\lambda} Im[\alpha]$$

$$\frac{\mathsf{F}_{\mathsf{grad}}}{\mathsf{F}_{\mathsf{scat}}} \propto \frac{\mathsf{F}_{\mathsf{abs}}}{\mathsf{F}_{\mathsf{scat}}} \propto \frac{1}{\mathsf{a}^3}$$

Svoboda, Optics Letters 19, p930, 1994



#### polarisability



#### particle plasmon

### Trapping metal nanospheres

red-detuning blue-detuning

$$F_{\text{grad}} = \frac{\alpha}{2} \nabla \langle E^2 \rangle$$
$$\alpha = 3V \frac{\varepsilon_p - \varepsilon}{\varepsilon_p + 2\varepsilon}$$



### Trapping gold nanospheres



Maria Dienerowitz

#### Mie theory



#### **Behaviour near resonance**



The real part of the polarisability  $\alpha$  of a 100nm gold sphere calculated with the scattering *Cscat* and absorption cross section *Cabs* from Mie theory (see equation 4) and permittivity values from Johnson et al. [17]. The polarisability and thus the gradient force *Fgrad* is decreased by 30% and 70% for 488nm, 514nm and about the same at 528nm as compared to 1064nm. (right) The scattering cross section *Cscat* and the absorption cross section *Cabs* of a 100nm gold sphere calculated with Mie theory plotted against the wavelength of excitation.



#### Single 100nm particle



#### Array of 100nm particle

# **PicoNewton forces**

#### • 1 picoNewton (pN, 10<sup>-12</sup> N) is roughly equal to...

- ... the gravitational attraction between you and a book at arm's length
- ... the radiation pressure on a penny from a flashlight 1 yard away
- ... 1 millionth the weight of a grain of salt



http://yakko.bme.virginia.edu/lab/laserpresent.htm

For a given laser power and particle size, trapped matter experiences

# A Parabolic Potential Energy "Well"





Due to Brownian motion the <u>RMS displacement</u> in the trap may of the order of 10nm which is much more than an order of magnitude less than the <u>trap capture range</u>. Though  $x_{rms}$  can be quite small, this can remain an issue for single molecule studies.

# A Classical Oscillator

A *parabolic* "well" implies a *linear* relationship between force and displacement, as with a mass on a spring.

$$m \frac{\partial^2 x}{\partial t^2} + \beta \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} + \kappa x = 0$$

-- where  $\kappa$  is the elastic constant or stiffness of the optical trap and  $\beta$  is the damping parameter.

With no damping (*e.g.*, in vacuum) the result would be a resonant frequency as follows:

$$f_{res} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{\kappa}{m}}$$
Mass of object: 5 x 10<sup>-16</sup> kg
Typical trap stiffness: 0.05 pN nm<sup>-1</sup>

$$f_{res} \approx 50 kHz$$

For review: Molloy and Padgett, Contemp. Phys (2002)

In typical biological applications, the stiffness of the optical tweezers is around 0.05 pN/Nm and the trapped objects are around diameter 1 micron, corresponding to a mass of 10<sup>-16</sup>kg.. Hence, the resonant frequency would be around 50kHz.

However, because biological experiments must be performed in an aqueous medium, significant damping force arises. For a particle of radius r, moving in a fluid of viscosity, the Stoke's drag constant

$$\beta = 6\pi r\eta$$

For typical biological application we find that the roll-off frequency well below 1 kHz. Since this is much lower than the resonant frequency, the motion is very over-damped.



In fact, it means that inertial and gravitational forces can be ignored altogether



- All living cells contain a wide variety of molecular motors that take chemical energy and convert this to work.
- Functions that are essential to life; eg DNA replication, RNA transcription and protein synthesis to cell division, vesicle trafficking, cell locomotion, endocytosis.

There are two types of molecular motor:

- 1. "Rotary motors" are embedded in membranes. Powered by the flow of ions across transmembrane electrochemical gradients; eg the bacterial flagellar motor.
- 2. "Linear motors" work in an isotropic chemical environment: energy from chemical reactions, usually the hydrolysis of the chemical, adenosine triphosphate (ATP) to adenosine diphosphate (ADP) and phosphate.



From industrial physicist 1999

Single-Molecule Biology: study of molecular motors ("rowers and porters") requires: **Tethering or Clamping of Single Molecules** 



From S. Block lab: www.stanford.edu/group/blocklab/ResearchMain.htm

### Why create multiple traps?

#### -Gaussian beam limiting

-Novel beam shapes useful: eg trapping low index particles

-Rotation: studies of angular momentum and microrheology

-Multiplexed studies in biology

-Cell organisation in 2D/3D

-Studies of colloid in 2D/3D

-Multi-particle interactions

-Creation of optical potential energy landscapes





Holographic /interferometric/time sharing can create 2D/3D arrays of trap sites: useful for optical sorting/guiding and other studies

#### Two or more tweezers often needed..



Biological studies need two more more traps...Tying a knot in DNA...



The enzymology of topoisomerases at the single molecule level. Such polymeric topological constraints arise naturally in cells during DNA Replication. Knotting, is important in elucidating the mechanisms of DNA recombination

Xiaoyan R. Bao, Heun Jin Lee, and Stephen R. Quake, Phys Rev Lett 91, 265506 (Dec 2003)

Question:

### "How do I make more than one trap?"

# **Basic Steerable Tweezers Setup**



The steering mirror must be made "conjugate" to the entrance pupil (back aperture) of the objective lens.









#### Simplest two beam trap

Fallman E and Axner O 1997 Design for fully steerable dual-trap optical tweezers *Applied Optics* 36 2107-13

<u>Polarizing Beamsplitters</u> work for two-beam traps



Versatile, no complex optics, easily steerable

**Multiple Traps 1:** 

*<u>Time-share</u>* the laser beam:</u>



Acousto-Optic Deflectors (AODs) can be scanned at *hundreds* of kHz: place at position of conjugate mirror

<u>Time-share</u>: Repositioning the laser on such a short timescale that the trapped particles experience only a timeaveraged potential.



Time sharing the light field can create multiple traps positions. Video in collaboration with I Poberaj group, Slovenia

<u>New Folder\tetris\_divx5.02.avi</u>
A 1 micron diameter object has a diffusion coefficient, given by Einstein's relation:

$$D = \frac{k_b T}{\beta}$$

and a diffusion distance, , over time, , given by:

$$d = \sqrt{2Dt}$$

For example, for this object suspended in water, the diffusion coefficient is.  $D = 4 \times 10^{-13} m^2 s^{-1}$ 

If the optical tweezers are absent for 25 microsecs, the diffusion distance is about 5nm.



This represents a maximum limit to the accuracy to which the spheres can be positioned or their position measured.

# Tweezing Large Numbers of Particles

*Conventionally* tweezing is of a *single* particle in a *single* beam, though dual-beam traps are commonly used for interaction measurements.

Would be useful to be able to tweeze more particles at once.

Can do this with ONE beam by mimicking the <u>relative</u> <u>phase shifts</u> associated with multiple inputs.



# "Steering" with a Phase-Only Optic



# In fact, phase-only modulation allows for complex designer optical "landscapes"



# **Optical "Caustics"**

# Textured Glass = Transmission Hologram sculpting light



The result of passing light through this phase modulator is...

The "Wesleyan Window" (symbol of Illinois Wesleyan Univ.)



# Hologram of "IWU Window"



# Sculpting Optical "Landscapes"





## After a few minor steps, ...



**Remove Chromium** 

*Dynamic* control is possible through

Liquid Crystal Display Technology



SLM technology also allows for easy creation of beams with novel characteristics:

### **Scottish Country Dancing**



http://www.geocities.com/Colosseum/Midfield/3705/StriptheWill ow.htm

### Multiple Traps 2:

What happens when students with too much time on their hands... <u>Physically Split</u> the laser beam:

# "Strip the Willow" (a traditional Scottish dance)

<u>StripTheWillow.m</u> <u>p4</u> <u>Phase-only holograms</u> have been used to simultaneously create hundreds of traps, (though sophisticated control has only been shown with smaller ensembles).

<u>.avi</u>

Fresnel Lens



Simple Phase Profiles (as at left) can be added (modulo  $2\pi$ ) to steer traps in *three* dimensions

Blazed Grating

60

Video from j Courtial and Miles Padgett group, Univ. of Glasgow

Optical Trapping and structured light lecture 2: Laguerre-Gaussian and Bessel light modes Kishan Dholakia

School of Physics and Astronomy University of St Andrews, Scotland

kd1@st-and.ac.uk www.st-and.ac.uk/~atomtrap ICTP Winter School February 2008

#### Introductory Reference: Dholakia, Spalding, MacDonald, *Physics World*, Oct. 2002



Beams used in optical traps need not be Gaussian. (*a*) Laguerre-Gaussian (LG) optical modes have helical wavefronts (*b*), which - in addition to polarization - control the *angular momentum* transmitted to a trapped particle. Trap low index particles.

(c, d) Bessel beams have a *number* of special properties useful in particle manipulation. 72



Credit G Swartzlander, Tucson, Arizona



Credit: NASA Langley Research Center (NASA-LaRC). Wake vortex study at Wallops Island

## The angular momentum of light

 $j = \mathcal{E}\left[r \times \langle E \times B \rangle\right] \qquad \text{L. Allen et al PRA,} \\ \mathbf{45}, 8185 \text{ (1992)}$ 

**Spin:** due to polarisation state (rotating E-field)

**Orbital:** due to inclined wavefronts







### Laguerre-Gaussian modes: an optical vortex

- circularly symmetric modes, characterised by
  - radial mode index p
  - azimuthal mode index *I* (determines helicity): <u>this leads to</u> <u>helical wavefronts and orbital angular momentum</u>







p = 0, l = 0

L. Allen et al., PRA 45, 8185 (1992)





### Laguerre-Gaussian modes



/= 0



/= 3





# "Optical Vortex" Holograms



Here color represents *phase*, which is a periodic variable  $(0 - 2\pi)$  so the horizontal line is *not* a discontinuity.





The phase difference at opposite ends of the LG is  $\Phi_1 - \Phi_2 = \pi$  (for a single helical phase ramp).

### **Generating LG beams**

 They can be produced using computer generated holograms



$$E_p^l \propto \underbrace{e^{-il\phi} L_p^l \left[\frac{2r^2}{\omega^2}\right] \left(\frac{r\sqrt{2}}{\omega}\right)^l e^{-i\Psi(1+2p+l)}}_{Gaussian} \underbrace{\frac{e^{-\frac{r^2}{\omega^2}} e^{-\frac{ikr^2}{2R}}}_{Gaussian}$$

Laguerre-Gaussian



#### Enhancing the optical toolkit: rotation and optical angular momentum

- 1. Transfer spin or orbital angular momentum
- 2. Asymmetric or rotating light patterns (better?)



### Studies of light





Micromachines Orienting bio-matter microfluidics novel hydrodynamics and microrheology

## Laguerre-Gaussian Light beams

- Helical phase front (compare a plane wave)
- Poynting vector  $\underline{S}$  follows a helical path







Rotation using OAM: He et al, PRL 1995 (absorption); Rotation with spin AM: Friese et al. Nature 1998 (birefringent)

### Interference creates a rotating spiral pattern



# Visualising and using the helical wavefront

Continuous rotation using the angular doppler effect

5 µm long rod

- May be used for rotation: Science **292**, 912 (2001) and 3D structures: Science **296**, 1101 (2002). Naturally such rotation may be achieved with other rotating light patterns.

#### The Angular Doppler Effect; continuous rotation of particles







### **Creation of 3D structures**

#### LG / = 2 + / = -2





#### simple cubic structure







Science, vol296, 1101 (2002)

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**Spin:** due to polarisation state (rotating E-field)

**Orbital:** due to inclined wavefronts







# How can we transfer optical angular momentum?

- Absorption can work
- Scattering from an inclined wavefront (orbital) and possibly spin
- Spin: birefringence
- Orbital: astigmatism

Two original papers:

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He et al., Phys Rev Lett (1995) – OAM transfer by absorption
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Friese et al. Nature (1998) – spin AM transfer by birefringence



### **Rotation using birefringence**



Plus points: no need for complex beam shapes, fast rotation rates: USEFUL FOR MICRORHEOLOGY: LOCAL VISCOSITY



**Fabrication of a microgear. a**, Substrate with release layer, polymer layer and resist layer spun on. **b**, The resist layer is patterned by e-beam lithography. **c**, The pattern is transferred into the polymer by reactive ion etching. **d**, The microgear is released by dissolving the release layer.

### Use of form birefringence for cogs



A birefringence induced by writing a special structure

Form birefringence of rods: Bishop et al., PRA 68, 033802-1 (2003). Indirect cog rotation by Friese et al APL **78**, 547 (2001)

### Microfluidic actuators - form birefringent cogs

Microfluidic systems require a range of actuators including pumps and mixers. Two examples we have been building are positive displacement pumps and diaphragm pumps.



By fabricating a 1D photonic crystal into a microgear we are able to manufacture a form birefringence. This birefringence can be used to transfer spin angular momentum from a circularly polarised laser beam to make a cog rotate



TE mode in cog

TM mode in cog
### Form birefringent pumps

The requirement on the optics for rotating form birefringent cogs are very low such making it ideally suited to labon-a-chip integration.

By using AR coated silicon it might be possible to manufacture a birefringence an order of magnitude higher than that of calcite.



The speed of the cog can be controlled either by power or by using a controllably rotated linear polarisation where the cog continuously re-aligns to the direction of polarisation.



S. Neale et al., vol. 4, p530 Nature Materials (2005)<u>New</u> Folder\Marr1.mov

### Light beams with angular momentum

Linear momentum density

$$\mathbf{p} = \frac{\varepsilon_0}{2} \left( \mathbf{E}^* \times \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}^* \right) = i\omega \frac{\varepsilon_0}{2} \left( u^* \nabla u - u \nabla u^* \right) + \omega k \varepsilon_0 |u|^2 \mathbf{z} + \omega \sigma \frac{\varepsilon_0}{2} \frac{\partial |u|^2}{\partial r} \Phi$$

$$u(r,\phi,z) = u(r,z)\exp(il\phi)$$

The cross product of this momentum density with a radius vector  $\mathbf{r} \equiv (r,0,z)$  gives an angular momentum density. The angular momentum density in the *z*-direction depends upon the  $\Phi$  component of  $\mathbf{p}$ , such that

 $j_z = rp_\phi$ .

# Simultaneous transfer of spin and orbital AM to an optically trapped birefringent particle.

**Spin**: rotation around particle axis (INTRINSIC)

**Orbital:** rotation around beam axis (EXTRINSIC or INTRINSIC)





Conclusive demonstration of intrinsic/extrinsic AM. Particle now a probe of local AM of the light field.

V. Garcés-Chávez et al., PRL 91, 093602 (2003)

A.T. O'Neil et al., PRL 88, 53601 (2002)

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### absorption force

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Svoboda, Optics Letters 19, p930, 1994



### polarisability



### particle plasmon

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red-detuning blue-detuning

$$F_{\text{grad}} = \frac{\alpha}{2} \nabla \langle E^2 \rangle$$
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## Trapping gold nanospheres



Maria Dienerowitz

### Mie theory



### **Behaviour near resonance**



The real part of the polarisability  $\alpha$  of a 100nm gold sphere calculated with the scattering *Cscat* and absorption cross section *Cabs* from Mie theory (see equation 4) and permittivity values from Johnson et al. [17]. The polarisability and thus the gradient force *Fgrad* is decreased by 30% and 70% for 488nm, 514nm and about the same at 528nm as compared to 1064nm. (right) The scattering cross section *Cscat* and the absorption cross section *Cabs* of a 100nm gold sphere calculated with Mie theory plotted against the wavelength of excitation.

## Experiment - setup







### orbital angular momentum transfer + optical "binding"



..\Desktop\ShortMovies\blue-detuned trap\250nml1514nm30mW.mov

## **Bessel light beams**

Bessel beams have an intensity cross-section that does not change as they propagate: termed "propagation-invariant". **THE CENTRE DOES NOT SPREAD.** 

$$E(r,\phi,z) = AJ_n(k_r r) \exp(ik_z z) \exp(in\phi)$$

Durnin et al, JOSA A and PRL 1986/1987

With  $k_r$  and  $k_z$  being the radial and longitudinal components of the wavevector  $|k| = 2\pi/\lambda = \sqrt{k_r^2 + k_z^2}$ 





intensity

The Bessel beam showing the narrow central maximum

### Visualising the form of the Bessel beam





## **Experimental Bessel beam**



Not efficient, but shows the physics nicely

Review:

Contemp Phys **46**, 15 (2005)

Make a Bessel beam at home:

Am. J. Phys 67, 912-915 (1999)

# **Experimental Bessel beam**

- Finite experimental aperture limits propagation distance of "non-diffracting" central maximum to z<sub>max</sub>
- The on-axis intensity is no longer constant
- The **axicon** offers the most efficient method for generating a Bessel beam in the laboratory:



## White light Bessel beams

Fischer et al., Opt. Express Aug 22, 2005









## Bessel beams: an optical rod of light







#### OPTICAL BEAMS Highlight of White Light Takes Shape

Pascal Fischer, Ewan M. Wright, Tom Brown, Wilson Sibbett, Jill E. Morris, Carlos López-Mariscal, Antonia E. Carruthers and Kishan Dholakia

C oherence in both the temporal and spatial domains is central to understanding the rich and diverse range of phenomena involving light and matter interactions. Indeed, the ability to predict the relative phases between light beams, for instance, may lead to well-defined interference. With broadband light that has relatively poor phase coherence, interference is observed in the temporal domain only when the optical path lengths are matched, as exploited for optical sectioning using coherence tomography.

By contrast, lasers more typically exhibit outstanding spatial and temporal coherence properties. These sources normally operate with a Gaussian output beam profile but recently more specialized light patterns have enabled dramatic

impacts to be made in many areas of physics. The Bessel beam is a primary example in this respect and represents an intriguing propagation invariant or pseudo "non-diffracting" light source. Durnin elucidated the zeroth-order Bessel beam solutions for the free-space scalar wave equation: The beam comprises a narrow central region surrounded by a series of concentric rings.1

So how may we interpret this Bessel beam? Any light beam can be thought of as a superposition of plane waves. As the waves propagate, they experience relative phase shifts. In most cases, each plane wave component suffers a distinctive phase shift such that the resultant beam-the interference pattern of the plane waves changes shape. There exist,

a non-diffracting beam be made without having a temporally coherent source? In other words, would it be possible to sculpt or shape white light to form such a beam?

In recent work, we have explored the generation of such "non-diffracting" light fields using broadband and incoherent light sources.<sup>2</sup> We have made "white" Bessel light modes from laser diodes operating below threshold, supercontinuum light sources and even halogen bulbs. The main criterion we found was the need to ensure good spatial coherence in the light field. Remarkably, the superposition of the conical wave-vectors arising from passage through the axicon and the inherent absence of chromatic aberration results in a pure focal line of white light.

**Optics 2006** 

### The Bessel beam may self heal around obstacles





5µm silica sp

Vertical Bessel beam self-heals around obstacles: See V Garces-Chavez et al., Nature **419**, 145 (2002)



A cuvette of fluorescent dye excited by single photon excitation (right line) and multiphoton excitation (localized spot of fluorescence at left) illustrating that two photon excitation is confined to the focus of the excitation beam (courtesy of Brad Amos MRC, Cambridge).

### Optical guiding in Gaussian and Bessel femtosecond beams



H. Little et al., Opt Express 12, 2560 (2004);

K. Dholakia et al. New J. Phys. 6, 136 (2004)









femtosecond guiding: visualise the beam using fluorescent dye



H. Little et al., Opt Express 12, 2560 (2004); K. Dholakia et al. New J. Phys. 6, 136 (2004)

# THE OPTICAL CONVEYOR BELT: motion and localisation of nano-particles and cells.



Bessel beam : J, Arlt et al. Opt. Comm. 197, 239 (2001)

Standing wave traps: see Zemanek group work eg Opt. Lett 1997

Can we make localised 3D traps for nano-objects?



Coherent beams may interfere. Angular Doppler effect for motion

### **Generation of Bessel standing wave traps**

### 1. Using retro-reflected incident beam



- + Easier alignment, better focusing, smaller convection, confinement of smaller object
- View along propagation axis, smaller trapping volume, unutilized potential of non-diffracting beam

### 2. Using two independent counter-propagating beams.



### Calculation of optical forces acting on microparticles in Bessel standing wave



### Calculation of optical forces acting on microparticles in Bessel standing wave



### Interference pattern generation : Generation of Bessel standing wave traps

2. Using two independent counter-propagating beams.



Interference pattern generation Optical conveyor belt for trapped objects and biological cells.

T Cizmar et al, Appl. Phys Lett 86, 174101 (2005)



