lecture 10.11.2011 we had last week:

- atom beam diffraction

today:

- atom beam surface diffraction
- radiation pressure as means to cool atom ensembles

Non - destructive Diffraction Grating "Mass Spectrometer" Previous: Na atoms, Pritchard et al (1988); He*, Mlynek et al (1991)



Can discriminate against atoms with mass spectrometer set at mass 8 and larger

from J. P. Toennies

at low source temperatures new diffraction peaks appear



the ⁴He dimer: the world's weakest bound and largest ground state molecule



from J. P. Toennies



200 µm separation, 174 diff. vibrational modes, thus distinguishable

using the wave nature of atoms for surface investigations



Helium atom scattering for surface analysis



Hofmann, Toennies, Chemical Reviews 96, 1996, 1307

Helium atom scattering



Hofmann, Toennies, Chemical Reviews 96, 1996, 1307

scattered Helium atom angular distribution



zero point corresponds to specular reflection

Helium atom scattering with pulsed beam

$$\hbar\omega = \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mathrm{m}}(k_{\mathrm{i}}^2 - k_{\mathrm{f}}^2)$$

$$\Delta \mathbf{K} = k_{\rm f} \sin \theta_{\rm f} - k_{\rm i} \sin \theta_{\rm i}$$

with k_i and k_f initial and final wave vectors, m probe mass Θ_i and Θ_f inc. and final scattering angles





full energy - angular distribution landscape

Cu(001) - CO Helium atom scattering. a) measured, b) calculated



deduced interaction potentials Helium - CO/Cu(001)



J. Chem. Phys. 128, 154712 2008

last example:

development of the hydrogen phases on Rh(311) surfaces with increasing exposure at 110 K as observed with He diffraction



two-dimensional helium diffraction pattern for an 80% coverage of the Pt(111) surface with D2O islands (a) and for a complete bilayer (c)



The incident helium energy is 22 meV and the surface temperature 130 K

for a review see: Farias and Rieder, Rep. Prog. Phys. 61 (1998) 1575

end of atomic beam physics

radiation pressure useful for atom cooling

Strahlungsdruck

optical gratings generated by interfering laser beams

 $4\ \mu m$ polysterene spheres soluted in water





optical forces confine the particles



MMM







T.W. Hänsch and A.L. Schawlow, Opt. Comm. 13, 68 (1975)

Nobel price in physics 1997





This year's Nobel laureates in physics have developed methods of cooling and trapping atoms by using laser light. Their research is helping us to study fundamental phenomena and measure important physical quantities with unprecedented precision.

from the Nobel homepage

Light forces classically:

force is gradient of the potential energy U

$$\vec{F} = - \vec{\nabla} U = \vec{\nabla} (\vec{E} \cdot \vec{d})$$

Though atoms have no permanent dipole moment, one can be induced by the radiation. The scalar product may become non-zero. A fast variing gradient and by this large force appears in an inhomogeneous laser beam, i.e. in the focus or a standing wave:



In a plane wave the transverse derivatives disappear, so a force would act in the propagation direction of the light. However if the force is periodic with the light frequency there is no net force.

In the case of absorption, e.g. by an atom, the force behind the atom is smaller than before. The gradient will be non-zero on average, leading to a finite force on the particle. This force will increase with increasing absorption rate.

First experimental proof of light forces with an atomic beam in 1933 by Frisch.

first demonstration of Na atom beam deflection

R. Frisch, Z. Phys. 86, 42-48 (1933).

(Untersuchungen zur Molekularstrahlmethode aus dem Institut für physikalische Chemie der Hamburgischen Universität. Nr. 80.)

Experimenteller Nachweis des Einsteinschen Strahlungsrückstoßes.



Light forces

quantum mechanically: transfer of momentum and energy of the photon

 $E = T_{W}, p = T_{k}$

absorption is directed, emission isotropic. So the emission leads to no net force and thus can be neglected in a theoretical description.

 $F = r T_{h}K$, with r: the absorption rate

$$r = \Gamma_1 \omega_x^2 / (\Gamma_1^2 + 4 \Delta \omega^2)$$

 ω_x^2 proportional to laser intensity Γ : inverse life time $\Delta \omega$: $\omega_{\text{laser}} - \omega_{0,}$ i.e. the laser detuning from the atomic resonance ω_0

You know the Lorentzian absorption curve from the theoretical lessons.





influence of the Doppler effect

for an atom moving with velocity **v**: $\Delta \omega \rightarrow \Delta \omega + \mathbf{kv}$, with **k**: wave vector thus the rate r changes to 2

$$r = \Gamma_1 \frac{\omega_x^-}{\Gamma_1^2 + 4(\Delta \omega_0 + kv)^2}$$

2

Force $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{r} \mathbf{T} \mathbf{K}$ $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{h} \mathbf{k} \Gamma_1$

$$\frac{\omega_x^2}{\Gamma_1^2 + 4(\Delta \omega_0 + k_V)^2}$$
 has maximum if v

this means the Doppler shift drives the spectrum into resonance.



 \rightarrow slowing down is possible!

 $= -\Delta \omega_0/k$

velocity distribution after irradiation with fixed frequency



problem with fixed frequency: a hole is burned into the velocity distribution

Phillips RMP 1998

velocity distribution after irradiation with chirped frequency



a chirped, i.e. temporally tuned frequency can shift a significant part of the velocity distribution and thus cool the atom ensemble. Problem: it is difficult to create such chirped laser radiation. Solution: we do not tune the laser but the atomic resonance

so far: idealized two-level system in reality: HFS levels involved, e.g. Na 3²S_{1/2} - 3²P_{3/2}



magnetic field helps to separate and to shift the levels

Zeeman cooler: deceleration to identical v possible



- Zirkular polarisiertes Licht σ^+
- Übergang: $3S_{1/2}(m_F = 2) \leftrightarrow 3P_{3/2}(m_F = 3)$
- Wahrscheinlichkeit für falschen Übergang extrem gering





Phillips RMP 1998