Optical Levitation of Nanodiamonds by Doughnut Beams in Vacuum

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Paper

"Optical levitation of nanodiamonds by doughnut beams in vacuum" (L.M.Zhou et al., 2017)



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Abstract Optically levitated nanodiamonds with nitrogenvacancy centers promise a high-quality hybrid spinoptomechanical system. However, the trapped nanodiamond absorbs energy from laser beams and causes thermal damage in vacuum. It is proposed here to solve the problem by trapping a composite particle (a nanodiamond core coated with a less absorptive silica shell) at the center of strongly focused doughnut-shaped laser beams. Systematical study on the trapping stability, heat absorption, and oscillation frequency concludes that the azimuthally polarized Gaussian beam and the linearly polarized Laguerre-Gaussian beam LG₀₃ are the optimal choices. With our proposal, particles with strong absorption coefficients can be trapped without obvious heating and, thus, the spin-optomechanical system based on levitated nanodiamonds are made possible in high vacuum with the present experimental techniques.



Optical levitation of nanodiamonds by doughnut beams in vacuum

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Abstract

• Optical levitated nanodiamonds are spin-optomechanical system

- The trouble is that beams heat diamond
- They propose to use doughnut-shaped laser beams



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1. Introduction









Optical levitation of nanodiamonds

Nanodiamond nitrogen-vacancy (NV) centers are used quantum elements

Merit

- -long spin coherence time(~ $10^2 \mu s$)
- high quality factor $(\sim 10^{10} \text{ in } \mathbf{P} = 10^{-6} Pa)$



Nanodiamond NV centers

Problems

Thermal damage problem

Diamonds absorb energy from laser





2. Proposal

Proposal

(1) reduce the heat absorption \rightarrow silica coat nanodiamonds



(2) improve the laser \rightarrow doughnut laser





core radius r=100 nm

shell radius R=1 μm

P=100 mW

(a) The setup of the system(b) Front view and (c) side view of the beam

A kind of doughnut beams

Laguerre-Gaussian (LG) beam $LG_{0l}(l = 0, 1, 2, \dots)$





3. Trapping stability

Optical trapping potential

Particle size must exceed a critical radius R_{trans}

• $R < R_{trans}$ U(x) has a double-well

• $R > R_{trans}$ U(x) has a single-well



Stability in doughnut beams

Stability depends on polarization

 γ :damping rate

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P = 100 \ mW, r = 20 \ nm
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Stability in doughnut beams



A kind of doughnut beams

Laguerre-Gaussian (LG) beam $LG_{0l}(l = 0, 1, 2, \dots)$



A kind of doughnut beams

Laguerre-Gaussian (LG) beam $LG_{0l}(l = 0, 1, 2, \dots)$



4. Suppression of heat absorption

Intensity distribution

The heat absorption depends on both polarization and OAM



Intensity of beam azimuthal polarized $I_a = A_a (kx)^2$

$$\begin{array}{l} LG_{ol} \text{ beam} \\ I_{1,2} = A_{1,2} \neq 0 \quad (l = 1,2) \\ I_3 = A_3 (kx)^2 \quad (l = 3) \\ I_4 = A_4 (kx)^4 \quad (l = 4) \end{array}$$

Suppression of heat absorption

The heat absorption depends on both polarization and OAM



suppression ratio $\xi \equiv \frac{c_{abs}}{c_{abs,0}}$

c_{abs}:absorptive coefficient c_{abs,0}:absorptive coefficient in Gaussian beam

R=900 nm, $P_1 = P_2 = 50 \ mW$

 $LG_{01,02}$ are NOT appropriate

The equilibrium temperature



 κ : imaginary part of refractive index of core κ_{shell} : shell absorptive coefficient

The equilibrium temperature



Good!

 κ : imaginary part of refractive index of core κ_{shell} : shell absorptive coefficient

A kind of doughnut beams

Laguerre-Gaussian (LG) beam $LG_{0l}(l = 0, 1, 2, \dots)$



A kind of doughnut beams

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5. Trapping frequency Ω and mechanical quality factor Q

Trapping frequency Ω and mechanical quality factor Q



 γ is affected by residual gas (P)

 $Q = \Omega / \Gamma = \Omega M / \gamma$

Trapping frequency Ω and mechanical quality factor Q



6. Conclusion

Conclusion

 They propose to use doughnut beams and core-shell particles

• Linearly polarized LG_{03} beams and azimuthally polarized beam are appropriated

• The low-absorptive shell (e.g., the silica shell) is useful

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