

Stuttgarter Physikalisches Kolloquium

Fachbereich Physik, Universität Stuttgart
Max-Planck-Institut für Festkörperforschung
Max-Planck-Institut für Intelligente Systeme

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Universität Stuttgart, Pfaffenwaldring 57, 70569 Stuttgart-Vaihingen

Gastgeber: Prof. Jörg Wrachtrup, Universität Stuttgart, Telefon: 0711 - 685-65278

Giant Interaction Effects of Rydberg Excitons in Cuprous Oxide

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Abstract

Excitons are decisive for the optics of semiconductors. Their description as hydrogen atom-like complexes has turned out to be extremely successful. In Rydberg atoms an electron is promoted into a state with high principal quantum number leading to an extension of the wavefunction in the micrometer-range. Recently it has been shown that also an exciton can be highly excited by observing states with principal quantum number up to $n=25$ in high-quality natural cuprous oxide crystals. This corresponds to an average radius of more than $1 \mu\text{m}$ so that the exciton wave function is extended over more than 10 billion crystal unit cells. I will compare Rydberg excitons with their atomic counterparts, highlighting similarities and differences. In particular I will focus on interaction effects such as the Rydberg blockade and dressed states.