

Towards total photonic control of complex-shaped colloids by vortex beams

Clayton P. Lapointe,^{1,2} Thomas G. Mason,^{2,4} and Ivan I. Smalyukh^{1,3,5}

¹Department of Physics and Liquid Crystals Materials Research Center, University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder, CO 30309, USA

²Department of Physics and Astronomy, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, and California NanoSystems Institute, University of California at Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA 90095, USA

³Renewable and Sustainable Energy Institute, University of Colorado and National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Boulder, CO 30309, USA

⁴mason@physics.ucla.edu

⁵1_0 6.41605 Tm [(1_0 6.41605 T-4(3)7(09.41608i(st)9(i)-6(-4(U)4(S)-8(A)13(-8(n)7(d)-si)st)9(i)9

17. D. Engström, R. P. Trivedi, M. Persson, M. Goksör, K. A. Bertness, and I. I. Smalyukh, "Three-dimensional imaging of liquid crystal structures and defects by means of holographic manipulation of colloidal nanowires with faceted sidewalls," *Soft Matter* **7**(13), 6304–6312 (2011).
 18. C. P. Lapointe, T. G. Mason, and I. I. Smalyukh, "Shape-controlled colloidal interactions in nematic liquid crystals," *Science* **326**(5956), 1083–1086 (2009).
 19. F. Mondiot, S. P. Chandran, O. Mondain-Monval, and J.-C. Loudet, "Shape-induced dispersion of colloids in anisotropic fluids," *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **103**(23), 238303 (2009).
 20. F. R. Hung, O. Guzmán, B. T. Gettelfinger, N. L. Abbott, and J. J. de Pablo, "Anisotropic nanoparticles immersed in a nematic liquid crystal: defect structures and potentials of mean force," *Phys. Rev. E Stat. Nonlin. Soft Matter Phys.* **74**(1), 011711 (2006).
 21. M. Škarabot, M. Ravnik, D. Babic, N. Osterman, I. Poberaj, S. Zumer, I. Musevic, A. Nych, U. Ognysta, and V. Nazarenko, "Laser trapping of low refractive index colloids in a nematic liquid crystal," *Phys. Rev. E Stat. Nonlin. Soft Matter Phys.* **73**(2), 021705 (2006).
 22. I. I. Smalyukh, A. V. Kachynski, A. N. Kuzmin, and P. N. Prasad, "Laser trapping in anisotropic fluids and polarization-controlled particle dynamics," *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A.* **103**(48), 18048–18053 (2006).
 23. H. F. Gleeson, T. A. Wood, and M. Dickinson, "Laser manipulation in liquid crystals: an approach to microfluidics and micromachines," *Philos. Transact. A Math. Phys. Eng. Sci.* **364**(1847), 2789–2805 (2006).
 24. C. P. Lapointe, S. Hopkins, T. G. Mason, and I. I. Smalyukh, "Electrically driven multi-axis rotational dynamics of colloidal platelets in nematic liquid crystals," *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **105**(17), 178301 (2010).
 25. E. R. Dufresne and D. G. Grier, "Optical tweezer arrays and optical substrates created with diffractive optics," *Rev. Sci. Instrum.* **69**(5), 1974–1977 (1998).
 26. J. E. Curtis, B. A. Koss, and D. G. Grier, "Dynamic holographic optical tweezers," *Opt. Commun.* **207**(1A6), 169–175 (2002).
 27. C. J. Hernandez and T. G. Mason, "Colloidal alphabet soup: monodisperse dispersions of shape-designed lithoparticles," *J. Phys. Chem.* **111**(12), 4477–4480 (2007).
 28. S. D. Durbin, S. M. Arakelian, and Y. R. Shen, "Optical-field-induced birefringence and Fredericksz transition in a nematic liquid crystal," *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **47**(19), 1411–1414 (1981).
 29. M. A. Clifford, J. Arlt, J. Courtial, and K. Dholakia, "High-order Laguerre–Gaussian laser modes for studies of cold atoms," *Opt. Commun.* **156**(4-6), 300–306 (1998).
 30. D. McGloin, G. C. Spalding, H. Melville, W. Sibbett, and K. Dholakia, "Three-dimensional arrays of optical bottle beams," *Opt. Commun.* **225**(4-6), 215–222 (2003).
 31. R. Agarwal, K. Ladavac, Y. Roichman, G. Yu, C. M. Lieber, and D. G. Grier, "Manipulation and assembly of nanowires with holographic optical traps," *Opt. Express* **13**(2), 8906–8912 (2005).
-

single fixed orientation of the particle relative to the laser propagation direction, and in some



Fig. 1. Schematic of dynamic holographic optical tweezers. The output beam (red) from a ytterbium-doped fiber laser is expanded with a telescope (L_1 and L_2) to overfill the pixel array of a reflective spatial light modulator (SLM). The reflected beam size is reduced with a second telescope (L_3 and L_4) to fill the back aperture of a microscope objective (MO). A rotatable halfwave plate (HWP) controls the linear polarization state of the beam and the dichroic mirror (DM) is used to direct the beam into MO while allowing visible light (yellow) transmitted through the sample to travel to the CCD camera. A polarizer (P) located before the condenser (CD) and an analyzer (A) mounted below the sample allow for observations under crossed polarizers such as the images of a square colloid (top) and a triangular colloid (bottom) in 5CB shown on the left (scale bar: $5\mu\text{m}$). The SLM is capable of generating Laguerre-Gaussian optical vortices as shown in the images of the intensity

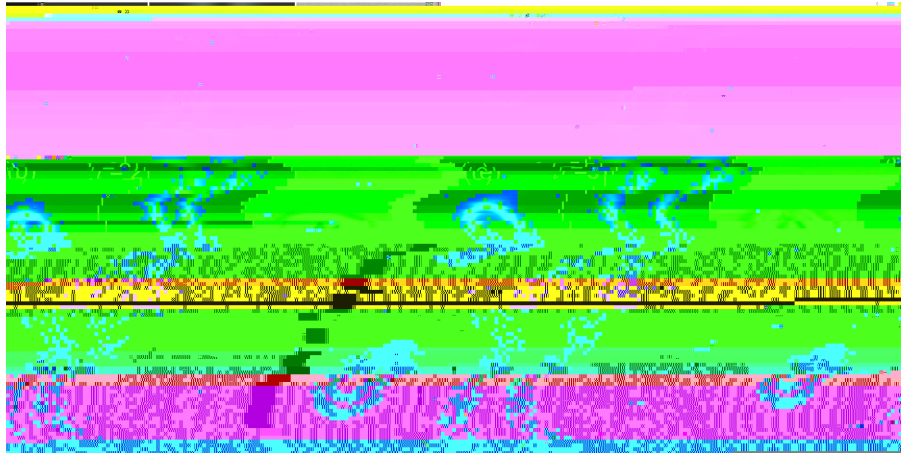
(g)7(e)1-6(y(g3(r)4(i)-6(z)10(e)10(r)4)-169(5)-8())TJ 5B)9())TbJ 5B ni0

4. Results and discussion

Whether the particles are trapped upright with a Gaussian trap or in-plane with a π optical vortex, they can be translated either by steering the trap within the field of view using computer-controlled holography or translating the sample using a stage. At the laser powers used in these studies (20 mW), the maximum velocities achievable before viscous drag forces pull the particle out of the trap are limited to $\sim 2 \mu\text{m/s}$, because of the high shear viscosity of 5CB ($\sim 100 \text{ cP}$). Using a drag coefficient $2 \times 10^{-6} \text{ kg/s}$ determined in previous experiments [18] for similar square shaped colloids in 5CB, we estimate a maximum optical force without viscous drag pulling the particle out to be $\sim 2 \text{ pN}$. Rotating the polarization of the beam parallel to \mathbf{m}_0 results in the colloid being pushed out of the trap for all shapes and is similar to the case of spherical colloids having refractive index intermediate between the ordinary and extraordinary indices of the LC which can be repelled or attracted to the laser trap by controlling beam's polarization [22]. Furthermore, in isotropic solvents, we cannot stably trap similar colloidal particles while keeping their long axes parallel to the focal plane

$$E_p^l = \exp\left[\frac{ikr^2z}{2z^2} - \frac{r^2}{2z}\right] \exp\left[i\left(2p - l - \frac{1}{2}\right)\arctan\left(\frac{z}{z_0}\right)\right] L_p^l\left(\frac{r^2}{2z}\right) \quad (1)$$

where l and p are mode indices, $k = 2\pi/\lambda$ is the wave number using a refractive index $n = 1.5$ and vacuum wavelength $\lambda = 1064$ nm, $z_0 = z_0 \left[1 + (z/z_0)^2\right]^{1/2}$ is the beam waist at a distance z_0 away from the focus along the optical axis, $z_R = n^2 z_0^2 / \lambda$ is the Rayleigh length and $L_p^l(x)$ is a Laguerre-Gaussian polynomial [29].



that these strategies can be extended to other types and shapes of colloids as well as other anisotropic complex fluids such as surfactant or macromolecular based lyotropic liquid crystals, wormlike micellar fluids, and polymer solutions. Furthermore, employing other types