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Probing quantum puddles: nonlinear dynamics in superfluid film optomechanics

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Stellingen

Behorend bij het proefschrift

PROBING QUANTUM PUDDLES: NONLINEAR DYNAMICS IN SUPERFLUID FILM OPTOMECHANICS

- I The large temperature dependence of the photothermal force is dominated by the large temperature dependence of the thermal capacity of silica.
Chapter 3 of this thesis
- II The shift of the optical resonance frequency over the superfluid transition should not be taken as a direct measure of the superfluid film thickness.
Chapter 5 of this thesis
- III Better understanding of boundary conditions for thin films of superfluid helium will help in improving high-quality third sound resonator designs.
Chapter 5 of this thesis
- IV The mode-locked lasing of Bessel modes requires the harmonization of mode frequencies through nonlinearity instead of compensating for intrinsic dispersion.
Chapter 6 of this thesis
- V The intrinsic strong nonlinearity of the restoring van-der-Waals forces makes thin films of superfluid helium ideal systems to explore mechanical quantum computing.
Sfendla et al., npj Quantum Information 7.1, 1-12 (2021)
- VI The true potential of superfluid helium optomechanics lies in space-based experiments.
Brown et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 130, 216001 (2023)
- VII Large third sound resonators are suited to explore classical nonlinear fluid dynamics, whereas minituarized versions could be used for quantum mechanical measurements.
Baker et al., New J. Phys. 18, 123025 (2016)
- VIII Superfluid helium optomechanics on sapphire or diamond optical resonators is ideally suited to explore photothermal (ground state) cooling of mechanical modes.
Restrepo et al., Comptes Rendus. Physique 12.9-10, 860-870 (2011)
- IX Reliable nanopositioning at ultra-low temperatures would save valuable PhD lifetime.
- X Developing an experiment and raising a child involve similar challenges.
- XI Mixing construction sites and cleanroom environments is a recipe for disaster.

Leon David Raabe
Leiden, 8 September 2026