Heat Flow Analysis of Micro-objects Using Optical Tweezers

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Background

• Optical traps can be modeled as Hookean springs

- Ray Optics Explanation
 - Conservation of momentum due to refraction
 - Appropriate for larger beads
- Polarization Explanation
 - Bead is polarized from the laser's electric field and acts like a dipole
 - Appropriate for smaller beads



[http://pubs.rsc.org/en/content/articlehtml/2008/cs/b512471a]

Overall Goals of the Project

- Build and align optical tweezers
- Charaterize trap strength
- Fabricate micro-objects
- Characterize transient heat flow in microobjects dependent on object topology

Overall Setup



Optical Tweezers Setup



Laser Characterization



Brownian Motion Measurements

• Equipartition Theorem:



Where k_B is the Boltzman constant, T is temperature in Kelvin, k is the characteristic spring constant, and $\langle x^2 \rangle$ is the average variance where variance =

$$\sum_{i} (x_{avg} - x_i)^2$$





Brownian Motion Measurements



Transition to IR

- Availability of 980 nm and 1550 nm lasers
- Absorption and transmission characteristics of Thorlabs FGB67 colored glass





Laser Characterization





Brownian Motion Measurements



Stoke's Drag Force Measurement

• Assuming: Spherical objects, homogeneous liquid, laminar flow, and no particle interference

$$F_d = 6\pi r \mu v$$

where r is the radius of the object, μ is the fluid viscosity, and v is the object velocity

 Determining object velocity from sinusoidally driven translation stage

Stoke's Drag Force Measurement



Laser Characterization



Unexpected Obstacles

 At best, objective lens will have 28% transmission at 1550 nm

 Beam expanding lenses refract 1550 nm light and 980 nm light differently



[http://www.thorlabs.us/thorproduct.cfm?partnu mber=RMS100X-PFO]

Objective Lens Characterization





 Thorlabs FGB67 colored glass damaged by
~ 850 mW of unfocused 1550 nm light



Steps for Future Groups

Acquire usable objective lens

• Integrate a 1550 nm laser with a WDM

• Fabricate micro-objects

• Study heat flow of micro-objects