振转螺旋二色性的自下而上分析

Mateja Hrast,* Georgios M. Koutentakis,[†] Mikhail Maslov,[‡] and Mikhail Lemeshko[§] 奥地利科学技术研究所(ISTA), Am Campus 1, 3400 Klosterneuburg, Austria (Dated: July 16, 2025)

螺旋二色性(Helical Dichroism, HD)是一种利用光的轨道角动量(Orbital Angular Momentum, OAM)解析分子手性的新兴方法。本研究突破传统理论对HD的假设,基于分子对称性与转动本征态构建了严格的HD分析理论框架。我们推导出的转动选择规则明确指出:即使对于无远场OAM的光束,HD现象也仅源于光的自旋-轨道耦合作用。该发现完善了观测HD的条件,不仅为先前实验结果提供了理论解释,更为未来基于结构光的手性传感设计提供了重要指导。

许多具有生物和化学重要性的分子以手性对形式存在——两种不可重叠的镜像版本称为对映体。分离对映体的能力对于制药和农用化学品行业至关重要[1]。甲基苯丙胺分子最能说明这一点:其R-对映体是有效的鼻充血缓解剂,而S-对映体则是导致成瘾流行的精神活性药物 [2]。高度的经济相关性推动了对不对称合成手性分子的研究,例如通过立体选择性或生物催化,或使用分许通过立体选择性过程评估对映体纯度。这一关键步升通过立体选择性过程评估对映体纯度。这一关键步,并通过立体选择性过程评估对映体纯度。这一关键步,包括高成本、耗时、适用范围有限和可靠性不足等问题[4]。本文从化学物理的视角提出替代方案,旨在通过光-物质相互作用评估对映体纯度。得益于光学物理的快速发展[5],该方法为手性识别提供了一条经济高效且高度可控的途径。

数十年来,左旋和右旋圆偏振光吸收差异(即圆二色性CD)[6,7]已被用于手性介质的光谱学研究[8]。但圆二色性依赖于光的自旋角动量这一有限资源。与此同时,Allen等人的开创性光学工作[9]证明光除了自旋外还具有轨道角动量(OAM)。与自旋不同,光束携带的OAM量子数在理论上是无界的。携带OAM的光束具有螺旋波前结构,这种手性结构与物质手性相匹配的可能性令物理学家着迷,为立体选择性应用开辟了新前景。

这种探索最终催生了以OAM诱导过程作为对映体纯度探针的具体方案,特别是螺旋二色性(HD)[10-12],其被认为较CD有显著改进[11, 12]。Forbes和Andrews的开创性理论研究[13-15]为HD奠定了理论基础,他们系统分析了光-物质相互作用多极展开项的对称性,指出电偶极-磁偶极(E_1 - E_2)和电四极-电四极(E_2 - E_2)项可作为手性鉴别因子。他们推导了 E_1 - E_2 跃迁振幅与分子多极矩的关系表达式,但未尝试用分子转动态来评估后者。实验方面,早期研究未观测到HD信号[16, 17],但近期实验声称实现了观测[18-22]。然而这些实验装置极其复杂,尽管有理论认为强聚焦是必要条件[14],但尚未有研究阐明观测到的二色性起源。

本研究通过揭示转动振动光谱中HD产生的条件填补了这一空白。我们首先概述基于分子多极矩的手性检测方法,推导 E_1 - E_2 二色性观测的对称性要求。利用新近发展的分子-光相互作用哈密顿量[23, 24],我们推导了 E_2 -项诱导的转动振动跃迁选择定则。分析表明,傍轴拉盖尔-高斯(LG)光束无法产生真正的HD(即源于OAM转移的HD)。特别地,强聚焦至关重要——光的自旋-轨道耦合(SOC)[25]使OAM能转移至手性分子,产生傍轴

近似下不存在的HD贡献。我们进一步证明,即使在远场不携带OAM的高斯光束,在强聚焦条件下也能产生HD信号。这些发现完善了转动振动光谱中HD的理论基础,为未来利用结构光进行实验设计和立体选择性技术开发提供了指导。

现有对映体敏感方法多基于分子多极矩分析。标准手性检测方法——(振动)圆二色性涉及 E_1 - M_1 项,已有详尽研究[26-29]。其原理在于:手性分子的电偶极矩在镜像反射下变号(矢量特性),而磁偶极矩(赝矢量)保持不变。两者共存表明分子缺乏镜面对称(严格说是非真转轴),即具有手性。该条件要求分子对称性至少允许一个非零偶极矩,使得这类CD可检测多种对称性手性分子。但 E_1 - M_1 项二色性仅与场强相关,这使得能通过场结构增强二色性的其他机制更具吸引力。

相位敏感微波三波混频技术[30, 31]即为一例,其利用偶极矩乘积 $d_xd_yd_z\neq0$ 作为手性判据[30, 32, 33]。对称性分析表明,仅完全不对称(C_1)手性分子符合此条件。我们研究探索了另一方向——源于分子电偶极和电四极矩的手性条件。 E_1 - E_2 项诱导的二色性可通过场结构增强,使其成为未来对映体敏感技术的理想候选。近期研究还提出磁偶极-磁四极(M_1 - M_2)耦合可作为HD来源,其对称性与 E_1 - E_2 项等效[34]。但此类高阶项(如 E_2 - E_2)因多极展开中跃迁概率过低而难以检测。

本文余下部分将重点分析源自 E_1 - E_2 项的二色性特征。基于简单的点电荷模型,我们推导出以下条件(证明详见补充材料[35]):

若在主轴坐标系中,对于互异的 $\mu,\nu,\rho\in\{x,y,z\}$ 坐标,偶极矩与四极矩的乘积 $d_{\mu}Q_{\nu\rho}\neq0$,则该分子具有手性。该条件以往总是与螺旋二色性(HD)相关联[10, 13]。然而本研究表明,即使光场未向分子内部自由度传递轨道角动量(OAM),该条件仍可导致鉴别效应。本文中HD特指伴随OAM转移的二色性现象,而即便使用携带OAM的光束也不发生OAM转移的二色性则称为圆二色性(CD)。

表 I总结了 E_1 - E_2 项可诱发二色性的手性点群。在纯转动光谱中,仅需考虑分子的永久多极矩;而振动-转动光谱中,振动跃迁可能改变分子态对称性,因此需结合终态振动能级不可约表示V的变换特性进行分析,这使得更多手性群可被检测。该表列出了各手性点群中呈现二色性的V表示。

如表I所示, E_1 - E_2 项仅能通过保持分子对称性的跃迁(纯转动及平凡表示A的振动-转动跃迁)识别 C_1 和 C_2 对称性的手性分子。鉴于已知手性分子多为 C_1 对称(即不

TABLE I. 所有可能手性点群在转动光谱与转动-振动光谱中的 E_1 - E_2 手性特征。对于转动-振动光谱,我们还给出了与非零手性特征相关联的振动模式的不可约表示。

Point group	$ C_1 $	C_2	$C_{n\geq 3}$	D_2	$D_{n\geq 3}$	T	0	I
Rotational	1	~	X	X	X	X	X	X
Ro-vibrational	A	A, B	E_1	$B_{1,2,3}$	E_1	T	X	X

对称陀螺分子) [36], 本文研究范围限定于此。

采用转动基矢 $|J,M,K\rangle$ 表示的不对称陀螺转子哈密顿量本征态[36]为:

$$|J_{N_p,N_o}(M)\rangle = \sum_K C_K |J,M,K\rangle. \tag{1}$$

其中J为总角动量量子数,M和K分别为J在实验室量子化轴和体固定主轴上的投影。不对称陀螺转子指标 N_p 与 N_o 是纯长椭球/扁椭球解中K的极限值,并非好量子数。由于量子数J和M在基矢变换(1)中保持不变,我们进一步推导转动基矢 $|J,M,K\rangle$ 内电偶极跃迁(E_1)与电四极跃迁(E_2)的选择定则。

初态 $i = |J, M, K\rangle$ 至末态 $f = |J, M', K'\rangle$ 的分子转动态 跃迁速率可通过文献[23, 24]中的光-物质相互作用哈密顿 量计算,其跃迁振幅为:

$$\mathcal{M}_{i \to f} = \sum_{lm\mu} \mathcal{I}^{\text{vib};l,\mu} \, \mathcal{I}^{\text{CM};l,m} \, \mathcal{I}^{\text{rot};l,m,\mu,\sigma}_{J,M,K,J,M',K'} \,, \quad (2)$$

式 中l=0和l=1分别对应偶极与四极跃迁, $m=0,\pm 1,\ldots,\pm l$ 表示传递给分子的OAM, $\mu=0,\pm 1,\ldots,\pm (l+1)$ 遍历球基下所选多极矩的所有分量, $\sigma=0,\pm 1$ 为光的偏振分量。振动项 $\mathcal{I}^{\mathrm{vib};l,\mu}$ 与质心项 $\mathcal{I}^{\mathrm{CM};l,m}$ 分别参数化分子与光场特性。本文重点关注决定角动量选择定则的转动跃迁振幅 $\mathcal{I}^{\mathrm{rot};l,m,\mu,\sigma}_{J,M,K,J,M',K'}$,其总结于表 Π 。可以证明 $\mathcal{I}^{\mathrm{rot};l,m,\mu,\sigma}_{J,M,K,J',M',K'}$ $\propto C^{J',M'}_{l+1,m-\sigma;J,M}$

E_1 transition	E_2 transition
$\Delta J \leq 1$	$\Delta J \leq 2$
$\Delta M = -\sigma$	$\Delta M = m - \sigma$
$\Delta K = \pm \mu$	$\Delta K = \pm \mu$
$J=0 \not\to J'=0$	(see [35]
$ J,0,K\rangle \not\to J,0,K'\rangle$	for details)

TABLE II. 电偶极(E_1) 与四极(E_2) 跃迁在转动态|J, M, K〉之间的选择定则。关于禁戒跃迁的详细信息请参阅[35]。

[23, 24],其中 $C_{j_1,m_1,j_2,m_2}^{J,M}$ 为克莱布施-高登系数(推导过程见补充材料[35])。要实现 E_1 - E_2 跃迁,所选态之间必须同时允许 E_1 (l=m=0)和 E_2 (l=1,m=0, ± 1)跃迁。对于具有确定偏振 σ 的光束,这仅对不携带轨道角动量(OAM)的m=0分量可能实现(见表 II)。由此我们得到本工作的第一个关键结论:源于傍轴光束 E_1 - E_2 项的二色性不应与螺旋二色性(HD)关联,因为分子并未获得OAM。此外,这种二色性在平面波情形下依然存在,因此与光场结构或螺旋性完全无关。

这引出一个问题: E_1 - E_2 项能否在发生OAM转移时产生HD? 下文将证明,通过非傍轴光束可以实现这种机制。

图 1展示了不对称陀螺分子转动本征态之间允许的 偶极跃迁(红色方框)和四极跃迁(蓝色方框)。为清晰起见,图中仅显示部分本征态。 $J \leq 2$ 的完整图示见[35],但其定性特征与此一致。图 1的三列对应

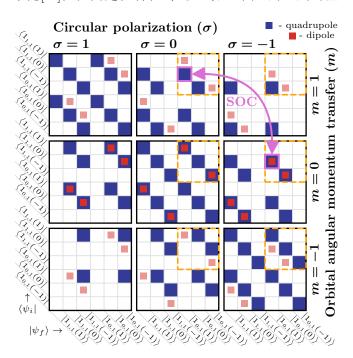


FIG. 1. 不对称顶哈密顿量本征态之间允许的偶极跃迁(红色方框)与四极跃迁(蓝色方框)。各子图列表示光束的不同圆偏振态,子图行则表示光束可传递给分子内转动的轨道角动量数值。紫色圆圈展示了自旋-轨道耦合产生伴随轨道角动量转移的 E_1 - E_2 项的实例。橙色方框标明了实验中将会叠加的跃迁过程,如图2 所示。

不同光束偏振,三行对应不同OAM转移量子数m。如文献[23, 24]所示,电偶极跃迁不转移OAM,故仅出现在m=0行(但为便于比较,我们在 $m=\pm 1$ 行也予以展示)。相反,电四极跃迁可转移最多一个OAM量子($m=0,\pm 1$)。任何非平面光束通常包含所有三行的贡献,但其相对权重取决于具体光束结构。

我们首先关注红蓝方框标记的态对,它们同时存在偶极和四极跃迁。这些跃迁均出现在m=0行,表明未发生OAM转移。这验证了表 II的结论,说明对于具有确定 σ 的光束, E_1 - E_2 项不能产生HD,仅是对圆二色性(CD)的额外贡献。

然而,OAM(通过m表征)与自旋(通过 σ 表征)的明确分离仅适用于傍轴光束。实际上,任何类型的光自旋-轨道耦合(SOC)都会导致不同 σ 分量的混合[25, 37]。这意味着图 1中不同面板的项可驱动同一跃迁。例如,紫色方框对应的 E_1 - E_2 项将同时涉及偶极跃迁(m=0, $\sigma=-1$ 与m=1, $\sigma=0$): $|1_{0,1}(1)\rangle \rightarrow |1_{1,1}(0)\rangle$ 。偶极矩项与m=-1四极分量的耦合使分子能够感知OAM的影响。

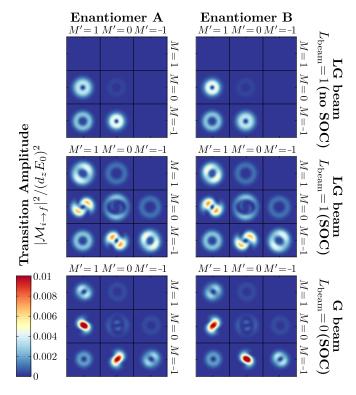


FIG. 2. 由拉盖尔-高斯光束耦合的对映体在无自旋轨道耦合(上)、有自旋轨道耦合(中)以及高斯光束带自旋轨道耦合(下)情况下,从 $\langle 1_{1,1}(M)|\mathfrak{A}|1_{0,1}(M')\rangle$ 的 E_1 - E_2 跃迁信号剖面图。

实现此类跃迁所需的光自旋-轨道耦合可通过紧聚 焦拉盖尔-高斯光束实现[17, 38, 39]。此处我们采用 一阶非傍轴近似描述光束[40](详见[35]),并利用文 献[23, 24]的相互作用哈密顿量计算图 1虚线方框标记 态之间的空间分辨矩阵元。参数设置为: 跃迁四极 矩 $Q_{xy} = 0.5 d_z \lambda \, (d_z$ 为跃迁偶极矩, λ 为波长),聚焦 東腰 $\omega_0 = 0.2\lambda$,离焦距离 $z = \lambda$ (z为传播方向),拉盖 尔-高斯光束的方位角拓扑荷 $L_{\text{beam}} = 1$,偏振 $\sigma = -1$ 。 对映异构体通过分子固定(惯性)xy平面的反射描述。 已有研究明确表明[41, 42], 观测 E_1 - E_2 相互作用需要 各向异性,因此任何HD实验都需分辨M态。图 2展示 了M分辨态的信号分布。 首先注意到,除非 $d_zQ_{xy}^*$ 存在 虚部 $Im[d_zQ_{xy}^*]$,否则所有分布曲线的积分值相等。虚 部会导致总吸收水平的二色性,这是已知的振动CD来 源, 其与电场结构无关, 仅取决于分子内部参数 (参 见[41])。由此我们得出结论:仅通过光吸收强度无法检 测HD, 必须借助吸收分布的空间分辨率[17]。

若无光自旋-轨道耦合,两个对映体间仅存在 $M=0 \rightarrow M'=1$ 与 $M=-1 \rightarrow M'=0$ 分布强度的差异(图 2顶行)。该二色性源于光束的m=0分量——即图 1中 $\sigma=-1 \cdot m=0$ 面板虚线框内的红蓝方框。因此这是另一种空间分辨振动CD来源,因其未涉及OAM转移。

聚焦场引入的光自旋-轨道耦合导致吸收分布中出现新的对映体区分效应(图 2中行)。首先, $M=-1 \rightarrow M'=0$ 与 $M=0 \rightarrow M'=1$ 跃迁的吸收存在显著差异。该信号源自图 1虚线方框中偶极与四极跃迁的耦合。

这种差异源于涡旋光束与手性分子的相对螺旋性,并伴随OAM转移,因此可视为真正的HD。接下来, $M=1 \rightarrow M'=1$ 与 $M=-1 \rightarrow M'=-1$ 的谱线轮廓也存在差异。这源于虚线方格中 $\sigma=0$ 的偶极跃迁(图 1)与m=-1、 $\sigma=-1$ 方格的磁四极跃迁之间的耦合。因此,这也属于螺旋二色性(HD)现象。总体而言,自旋轨道耦合(SOC)光作用下的二色性信号强度比无耦合情况高出一个数量级。

图2最下行表明,在SOC条件下无需使用携带轨道角动量(OAM)的渐进极限光束。事实上,紧聚焦高斯光束同样能观测到HD效应。这是因为焦场会呈现为方位角电荷σ的拉盖尔-高斯(LG)模式。实际上,紧聚焦的线偏振光束也会产生类似二色性,因其内部两个圆偏振分量通过SOC发生耦合。这说明入射光束的OAM或自旋并非观测HD的必要条件,关键在于光场的SOC特性。

需注意的是,由于光的SOC效应,传递给分子的角动量类型难以简单区分,这阻碍了将所得二色性明确归类为圆二色性(CD)或螺旋二色性(HD)。我们的工作通过量子数m和σ(见图 2)标定了OAM与自旋的吸收通道,为解决该问题提供了途径。

综上所述,我们证明了傍轴OAM光束无法产生HD——这些条件下观测到的任何二色性都将退化为标准CD。真正的HD(与OAM转移直接关联的二色性)需要光的自旋-轨道耦合,如紧聚焦光束所展现的那样。引人注目的是,纯高斯模式在充分聚焦后也能展现真正的HD效应,尽管其在远场并不携带OAM。这些发现阐明了结构光实验中HD的起源,并提示先前HD测量结果可能需要仔细复核以确认OAM转移的存在。特别地,未能观测到二色性的研究要么主要探测偶极级相互作用[16],要么因信号平均化导致二色性丢失[17];而成功检测到二色性的研究则同时利用了四极场相互作用和紧聚焦光束[18, 20-22]。

本文建立的框架为设计基于光场空间结构的chiralsensitive 光谱学和enantiomer 分离方法提供了路线图 [43]。

本研究全部或部分由奥地利科学基金(FWF)资助[项目编号: 10.55776/F1004]。

^{*} mateja.hrast@ist.ac.at

[†] georgios.koutentakis@ist.ac.at

[‡] mikhail.maslov@ist.ac.at

[§] mikhail.lemeshko@ist.ac.at

N. M. Maier, P. Franco, and W. Lindner, Separation of enantiomers: needs, challenges, perspectives, Journal of Chromatography A 906, 3 (2001), chiral Separations.

^[2] H. M. Barkholtz, R. Hadzima, and A. Miles, Pharmacology of r-(-)-methamphetamine in humans: A systematic review of the literature, ACS Pharmacology & Translational Science 6, 914 (2023).

^[3] J. M. Brown and S. G. Davies, Chemical asymmetric synthesis, Nature 342, 631 (1989).

^[4] H.-L. Qian, S.-T. Xu, and X.-P. Yan, Recent advances in separation and analysis of chiral compounds, Analytical Chemistry 95, 304 (2023).

- [5] C. P. Koch, M. Lemeshko, and D. Sugny, Quantum control of molecular rotation, Rev. Mod. Phys. 91, 035005 (2019).
- [6] C. W. Deutsche and A. Moscowitz, Optical activity of vibrational origin. ii. consequences of polymer conformation, The Journal of Chemical Physics 53, 2630 (1970).
- [7] G. Holzwarth, E. C. Hsu, H. S. Mosher, T. R. Faulkner, and A. Moscowitz, Infrared circular dichroism of carbonhydrogen and carbon-deuterium stretching modes. observations, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 96, 251 (1974).
- [8] A. J. Miles, R. W. Janes, and B. A. Wallace, Tools and methods for circular dichroism spectroscopy of proteins: a tutorial review, Chem. Soc. Rev. 50, 8400 (2021).
- [9] L. Allen, M. W. Beijersbergen, R. J. C. Spreeuw, and J. P. Woerdman, Orbital angular momentum of light and the transformation of laguerre-gaussian laser modes, Phys. Rev. A 45, 8185 (1992).
- [10] D. Andrews, L. Romero, and M. Babiker, On optical vortex interactions with chiral matter, Optics Communications 237, 133 (2004).
- [11] L. Ye, J. R. Rouxel, S. Asban, B. Rösner, and S. Mukamel, Probing molecular chirality by orbitalangular-momentum-carrying x-ray pulses, Journal of Chemical Theory and Computation 15, 4180 (2019).
- [12] M. Li, S. Yan, Y. Zhang, X. Chen, and B. Yao, Optical separation and discrimination of chiral particles by vector beams with orbital angular momentum, Nanoscale Adv. 3, 6897 (2021).
- [13] K. A. Forbes and D. L. Andrews, Optical orbital angular momentum: twisted light and chirality, Opt. Lett. 43, 435 (2018).
- [14] K. A. Forbes and D. L. Andrews, Spin-orbit interactions and chiroptical effects engaging orbital angular momentum of twisted light in chiral and achiral media, Phys. Rev. A 99, 023837 (2019).
- [15] K. A. Forbes, On the transfer of optical orbital angular momentum to matter (2021), arXiv:2101.10660 [physics.optics].
- [16] F. Araoka, T. Verbiest, K. Clays, and A. Persoons, Interactions of twisted light with chiral molecules: An experimental investigation, Phys. Rev. A 71, 055401 (2005).
- [17] W. Löffler, D. J. Broer, and J. P. Woerdman, Circular dichroism of cholesteric polymers and the orbital angular momentum of light, Phys. Rev. A 83, 065801 (2011).
- [18] E. Rusak, J. Straubel, P. Gładysz, M. Göddel, A. Kedziorski, M. Kühn, F. Weigend, C. Rockstuhl, and K. Słowik, Enhancement of and interference among higher order multipole transitions in molecules near a plasmonic nanoantenna, Nature Communications 10, 5775 (2019).
- [19] X. Zhang and T. J. Cui, Single-particle dichroism using orbital angular momentum in a microwave plasmonic resonator, ACS Photonics 7, 3291 (2020).
- [20] J. R. Rouxel, B. Rösner, D. Karpov, C. Bacellar, G. F. Mancini, F. Zinna, D. Kinschel, O. Cannelli, M. Oppermann, C. Svetina, A. Diaz, J. Lacour, C. David, and M. Chergui, Hard X-ray helical dichroism of disordered molecular media, Nature Photonics 16, 570 (2022).
- [21] J.-L. Bégin, A. Jain, A. Parks, F. Hufnagel, P. Corkum, E. Karimi, T. Brabec, and R. Bhardwaj, Nonlinear helical dichroism in chiral and achiral molecules, Nature Photonics 17, 82 (2023).
- [22] A. Jain, J.-L. Bégin, and R. Bhardwaj, Helical dichroism in enantiomeric solutions. The Journal of Chemical

- Physics 159, 014504 (2023).
- [23] M. Maslov, G. M. Koutentakis, M. Hrast, O. H. Heckl, and M. Lemeshko, Theory of angular momentum transfer from light to molecules, Phys. Rev. Res. 6, 033277 (2024).
- [24] M. Maslov, Emergent physics of rotating quantum impurities in many-body environments, Ph.D. thesis, Institute of Science and Technology Austria (ISTA) (2025).
- [25] K. Y. Bliokh, F. J. Rodríguez-Fortuño, F. Nori, and A. V. Zayats, Spin-orbit interactions of light, Nature Photonics 9, 796 (2015).
- [26] P. J. Stephens, Theory of vibrational circular dichroism, J. Phys. Chem. 89, 748 (1985).
- [27] A. Buckingham, P. Fowler, and P. Galwas, Velocity-dependent property surfaces and the theory of vibrational circular dichroism, Chemical Physics 112, 1 (1987).
- [28] J. Mun and J. Rho, Importance of higher-order multipole transitions on chiral nearfield interactions, Nanophotonics 8, 941 (2019).
- [29] S. W. Lovesey, J. T. Collins, and S. P. Collins, Superchiral photons unveil magnetic circular dichroism, Phys. Rev. B 99, 054428 (2019).
- [30] D. Patterson, M. Schnell, and J. M. Doyle, Enantiomerspecific detection of chiral molecules via microwave spectroscopy, Nature 497, 475 (2013).
- [31] D. Patterson and J. M. Doyle, Sensitive chiral analysis via microwave three-wave mixing, Phys. Rev. Lett. 111, 023008 (2013).
- [32] A. F. Ordonez and O. Smirnova, Generalized perspective on chiral measurements without magnetic interactions, Phys. Rev. A 98, 063428 (2018).
- [33] D. Ayuso, A. F. Ordonez, P. Decleva, M. Ivanov, and O. Smirnova, Strong chiral response in non-collinear high harmonic generation driven by purely electric-dipole interactions, Opt. Express 30, 4659 (2022).
- [34] C.-Y. Ji, S. Xu, Q. Liang, X. Zhang, X. Hong, Y. Wang, X. Li, L. Jiang, Y. Wang, J. Ni, D. Wu, and J. Li, Observation of magnetic quadrupole endowed helical dichroism in artificial propeller meta-molecules, Advanced Optical Materials 12, 2302795 (2024).
- [35] See Supplementary Material, containing references [23–25, 37, 40].
- [36] P. F. Bernath, Spectra of atoms and molecules (Oxford university Press, 2005).
- [37] K. Y. Bliokh, E. Karimi, M. J. Padgett, M. A. Alonso, M. R. Dennis, A. Dudley, A. Forbes, S. Zahedpour, S. W. Hancock, H. M. Milchberg, S. Rotter, F. Nori, Şahin K Özdemir, N. Bender, H. Cao, P. B. Corkum, C. Hernández-García, H. Ren, Y. Kivshar, M. G. Silveirinha, N. Engheta, A. Rauschenbeutel, P. Schneeweiss, J. Volz, D. Leykam, D. A. Smirnova, K. Rong, B. Wang, E. Hasman, M. F. Picardi, A. V. Zayats, F. J. Rodríguez-Fortuño, C. Yang, J. Ren, A. B. Khanikaev, A. Alù, E. Brasselet, M. Shats, J. Verbeeck, P. Schattschneider, D. Sarenac, D. G. Cory, D. A. Pushin, M. Birk, A. Gorlach, I. Kaminer, F. Cardano, L. Marrucci, M. Krenn, and F. Marquardt, Roadmap on structured waves, Journal of Optics 25, 103001 (2023).
- [38] K. A. Forbes and G. A. Jones, Optical vortex dichroism in chiral particles, Phys. Rev. A 103, 053515 (2021).
- [39] K. A. Forbes, D. Green, and G. A. Jones, Relevance of longitudinal fields of paraxial optical vortices, Journal of Optics 23, 075401 (2021).
- [40] M. Lax, W. H. Louisell, and W. B. McKnight, From

- maxwell to paraxial wave optics, Phys. Rev. A 11, 1365 (1975).
- [41] A. D. Buckingham and M. B. Dunn, Optical activity of oriented molecules, J. Chem. Soc. A, 1988 (1971).
- [42] E. A. Power, Two-photon circular dichroism, The Journal of Chemical Physics 63, 1348 (1975).
- [43] M. Leibscher, E. Pozzoli, C. Pérez, M. Schnell, M. Sigalotti, U. Boscain, and C. Koch, Full quantum control of enantiomer-selective state transfer in chiral molecules despite degeneracy, Communications Physics 5, 1234567890 (2022).
 - * mateja.hrast@ist.ac.at
 - † georgios.koutentakis@ist.ac.at
 - † mikhail.maslov@ist.ac.at
 - § mikhail.lemeshko@ist.ac.at
- N. M. Maier, P. Franco, and W. Lindner, Separation of enantiomers: needs, challenges, perspectives, Journal of Chromatography A 906, 3 (2001), chiral Separations.
- [2] H. M. Barkholtz, R. Hadzima, and A. Miles, Pharmacology of r-(-)-methamphetamine in humans: A systematic review of the literature, ACS Pharmacology & Translational Science 6, 914 (2023).
- [3] J. M. Brown and S. G. Davies, Chemical asymmetric synthesis, Nature 342, 631 (1989).
- [4] H.-L. Qian, S.-T. Xu, and X.-P. Yan, Recent advances in separation and analysis of chiral compounds, Analytical Chemistry 95, 304 (2023).
- [5] C. P. Koch, M. Lemeshko, and D. Sugny, Quantum control of molecular rotation, Rev. Mod. Phys. 91, 035005 (2019).
- [6] C. W. Deutsche and A. Moscowitz, Optical activity of vibrational origin. ii. consequences of polymer conformation, The Journal of Chemical Physics 53, 2630 (1970).
- [7] G. Holzwarth, E. C. Hsu, H. S. Mosher, T. R. Faulkner, and A. Moscowitz, Infrared circular dichroism of carbonhydrogen and carbon-deuterium stretching modes. observations, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 96, 251 (1974).
- [8] A. J. Miles, R. W. Janes, and B. A. Wallace, Tools and methods for circular dichroism spectroscopy of proteins: a tutorial review, Chem. Soc. Rev. 50, 8400 (2021).
- [9] L. Allen, M. W. Beijersbergen, R. J. C. Spreeuw, and J. P. Woerdman, Orbital angular momentum of light and the transformation of laguerre-gaussian laser modes, Phys. Rev. A 45, 8185 (1992).
- [10] D. Andrews, L. Romero, and M. Babiker, On optical vortex interactions with chiral matter, Optics Communications 237, 133 (2004).
- [11] L. Ye, J. R. Rouxel, S. Asban, B. Rösner, and S. Mukamel, Probing molecular chirality by orbital-angular-momentum-carrying x-ray pulses, Journal of Chemical Theory and Computation 15, 4180 (2019).
- [12] M. Li, S. Yan, Y. Zhang, X. Chen, and B. Yao, Optical separation and discrimination of chiral particles by vector beams with orbital angular momentum, Nanoscale Adv. 3, 6897 (2021).
- [13] K. A. Forbes and D. L. Andrews, Optical orbital angular momentum: twisted light and chirality, Opt. Lett. 43, 435 (2018).
- [14] K. A. Forbes and D. L. Andrews, Spin-orbit interactions

- and chiroptical effects engaging orbital angular momentum of twisted light in chiral and achiral media, Phys. Rev. A **99**, 023837 (2019).
- [15] K. A. Forbes, On the transfer of optical orbital angular momentum to matter (2021), arXiv:2101.10660 [physics.optics].
- [16] F. Araoka, T. Verbiest, K. Clays, and A. Persoons, Interactions of twisted light with chiral molecules: An experimental investigation, Phys. Rev. A 71, 055401 (2005).
- [17] W. Löffler, D. J. Broer, and J. P. Woerdman, Circular dichroism of cholesteric polymers and the orbital angular momentum of light, Phys. Rev. A 83, 065801 (2011).
- [18] E. Rusak, J. Straubel, P. Gładysz, M. Göddel, A. Kedziorski, M. Kühn, F. Weigend, C. Rockstuhl, and K. Słowik, Enhancement of and interference among higher order multipole transitions in molecules near a plasmonic nanoantenna, Nature Communications 10, 5775 (2019).
- [19] X. Zhang and T. J. Cui, Single-particle dichroism using orbital angular momentum in a microwave plasmonic resonator, ACS Photonics 7, 3291 (2020).
- [20] J. R. Rouxel, B. Rösner, D. Karpov, C. Bacellar, G. F. Mancini, F. Zinna, D. Kinschel, O. Cannelli, M. Oppermann, C. Svetina, A. Diaz, J. Lacour, C. David, and M. Chergui, Hard X-ray helical dichroism of disordered molecular media, Nature Photonics 16, 570 (2022).
- [21] J.-L. Bégin, A. Jain, A. Parks, F. Hufnagel, P. Corkum, E. Karimi, T. Brabec, and R. Bhardwaj, Nonlinear helical dichroism in chiral and achiral molecules, Nature Photonics 17, 82 (2023).
- [22] A. Jain, J.-L. Bégin, and R. Bhardwaj, Helical dichroism in enantiomeric solutions, The Journal of Chemical Physics 159, 014504 (2023).
- [23] M. Maslov, G. M. Koutentakis, M. Hrast, O. H. Heckl, and M. Lemeshko, Theory of angular momentum transfer from light to molecules, Phys. Rev. Res. 6, 033277 (2024).
- [24] M. Maslov, Emergent physics of rotating quantum impurities in many-body environments, Ph.D. thesis, Institute of Science and Technology Austria (ISTA) (2025).
- [25] K. Y. Bliokh, F. J. Rodríguez-Fortuño, F. Nori, and A. V. Zayats, Spin-orbit interactions of light, Nature Photonics 9, 796 (2015).
- [26] P. J. Stephens, Theory of vibrational circular dichroism, J. Phys. Chem. 89, 748 (1985).
- [27] A. Buckingham, P. Fowler, and P. Galwas, Velocity-dependent property surfaces and the theory of vibrational circular dichroism, Chemical Physics 112, 1 (1987).
- [28] J. Mun and J. Rho, Importance of higher-order multipole transitions on chiral nearfield interactions, Nanophotonics 8, 941 (2019).
- [29] S. W. Lovesey, J. T. Collins, and S. P. Collins, Superchiral photons unveil magnetic circular dichroism, Phys. Rev. B 99, 054428 (2019).
- [30] D. Patterson, M. Schnell, and J. M. Doyle, Enantiomerspecific detection of chiral molecules via microwave spectroscopy, Nature 497, 475 (2013).
- [31] D. Patterson and J. M. Doyle, Sensitive chiral analysis via microwave three-wave mixing, Phys. Rev. Lett. 111, 023008 (2013).
- [32] A. F. Ordonez and O. Smirnova, Generalized perspective on chiral measurements without magnetic interactions, Phys. Rev. A 98, 063428 (2018).
- [33] D. Ayuso, A. F. Ordonez, P. Decleva, M. Ivanov, and

- O. Smirnova, Strong chiral response in non-collinear high harmonic generation driven by purely electric-dipole interactions, Opt. Express **30**, 4659 (2022).
- [34] C.-Y. Ji, S. Xu, Q. Liang, X. Zhang, X. Hong, Y. Wang, X. Li, L. Jiang, Y. Wang, J. Ni, D. Wu, and J. Li, Observation of magnetic quadrupole endowed helical dichroism in artificial propeller meta-molecules, Advanced Optical Materials 12, 2302795 (2024).
- [35] See Supplementary Material, containing references [23–25, 37, 40].
- [36] P. F. Bernath, Spectra of atoms and molecules (Oxford university Press, 2005).
- [37] K. Y. Bliokh, E. Karimi, M. J. Padgett, M. A. Alonso, M. R. Dennis, A. Dudley, A. Forbes, S. Zahedpour, S. W. Hancock, H. M. Milchberg, S. Rotter, F. Nori, Şahin K Özdemir, N. Bender, H. Cao, P. B. Corkum, C. Hernández-García, H. Ren, Y. Kivshar, M. G. Silveirinha, N. Engheta, A. Rauschenbeutel, P. Schneeweiss, J. Volz, D. Leykam, D. A. Smirnova, K. Rong, B. Wang, E. Hasman, M. F. Picardi, A. V. Zayats, F. J. Rodríguez-Fortuño, C. Yang, J. Ren, A. B. Khanikaev, A. Alù, E. Brasselet, M. Shats, J. Verbeeck, P. Schattschneider,

- D. Sarenac, D. G. Cory, D. A. Pushin, M. Birk, A. Gorlach, I. Kaminer, F. Cardano, L. Marrucci, M. Krenn, and F. Marquardt, Roadmap on structured waves, Journal of Optics 25, 103001 (2023).
- [38] K. A. Forbes and G. A. Jones, Optical vortex dichroism in chiral particles, Phys. Rev. A 103, 053515 (2021).
- [39] K. A. Forbes, D. Green, and G. A. Jones, Relevance of longitudinal fields of paraxial optical vortices, Journal of Optics 23, 075401 (2021).
- [40] M. Lax, W. H. Louisell, and W. B. McKnight, From maxwell to paraxial wave optics, Phys. Rev. A 11, 1365 (1975).
- [41] A. D. Buckingham and M. B. Dunn, Optical activity of oriented molecules, J. Chem. Soc. A, 1988 (1971).
- [42] E. A. Power, Two-photon circular dichroism, The Journal of Chemical Physics 63, 1348 (1975).
- [43] M. Leibscher, E. Pozzoli, C. Pérez, M. Schnell, M. Sigalotti, U. Boscain, and C. Koch, Full quantum control of enantiomer-selective state transfer in chiral molecules despite degeneracy, Communications Physics 5, 1234567890 (2022).