



Physics Seminar

Friday, 3:30 pm ~~Feb. 3rd~~, 2012
24th

The Fascinating World of Liquid Crystals

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Liquid Crystals, or LC from now ubiquitous LCDs, have been made part of our daily lives and are on an unceasing stride to enter areas other than displays through various applications yet unimagined. In addition to these numerous technological applications from lasers and photonics and artificial muscles and biomedicine, they let us have a peek into fundamental questions concerning cosmic strings, defect dynamics etc. And above all, they give some of the coolest looking images! I'll talk about this fascinating phase of matter (mainly about cholesteric LCs – which is the LC used in LCD applications, amongst other phases of LCs). I'll also describe some of the ways that help us perform strikingly beautiful imagery of LCs in myriad optical modalities – and what physics lies beneath this beauty. The talk will accompany a demonstration of how to make a LC cell to be used to perform optical experiments/imaging on it.

Location: Ross 0220 (Ground level of Ross Hall)
(Refreshments will be served at 3:20pm.)

Physics/EPS/NHS/UNC

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