

## Investigation of the Nonlinear Optical Response of 3-(Dimethylamino)-7-Aminophenothiazin-5-Ium Chloride Dye

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**Abstract :** The nonlinear optical properties of 3-(Dimethylamino)-7-aminophenothiazin-5-ium chloride dye in the solvent chloroform was studied by Diffraction ring technique using cw diode laser at 532 nm. The obtained results for the nonlinear refractive index,  $n_2$ , and the thermo-optic coefficients,  $dn/dT$ , are found to be of the order of  $10^{-7} \text{ cm}^2 / \text{W}$  and  $10^{-5} \text{ K}^{-1}$  respectively. To solidate the present experimental results the diffraction ring patterns are reproduced theoretically based on a well known simple model. The rings number of each pattern variation with power agree well with the experimental findings. These results indicate that the azo dye is a promising candidate for applications in nonlinear optical devices.

**Keywords:** Nonlinear refractive index, Thermo-optic coefficients, Diffraction ring

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### I. INTRODUCTION

Materials with high third-order nonlinear refractive index are always of large interests for their potential applications on many nonlinear optical devices such as optical limiting, beam flattening, optical switching, weak absorption measurement, spatial dark solution transmission [1-4] and so on.

Changes in refractive index by optical field give rise to a variety of nonlinear phenomena in photoresponsive materials. In the spatial domain, the interplay between divergence of the propagating beam and the nonlinear optical response of the medium can elicit a diverse range of self-action behaviour such as optical self-trapping, solution formation and spontaneous pattern formation due to modulation instability [5]. A related phenomenon is the spatial self modulation of a coherent beam, which generates a nested array of concentric intensity ring in the far field. Such diffraction ring have been observed in media with thermally-dependent refractive index change [6-9] atomic vapours [10-13], nematic liquid crystals [14-16], Kerr media [17,18], chromophore-substituted silica [19] and photorefractive crystals [20].

In the present work we presents experimental evidences of observing diffraction pattern in 3-(Dimethylamino)-7-aminophenothiazin-5-ium chloride dye with the calculation of the refractive index change,  $\Delta n$ , effective nonlinear refractive index,  $n_2$ , and variation of refractive index with temperature,  $dn/dT$ . Using theoretical model based on wave theory we have reproduce the diffraction patterns. The obtained results fit reasonably the experimental one.

### II. DIFFRACTION RING TECHNIQUES

We can estimate the induced refractive index change,  $\Delta n$ , and the effective nonlinear refractive index,  $n_2$ , for the preceding data as follows. Because the laser beam used in the experiment has a Gaussian distribution, the relative phase shift,  $\Delta\phi$ , suffered by the beam while traversing the sample of thickness,  $L$  can be written as [8]:

$$\Delta\phi = kL\Delta n \quad (1)$$

where  $k = 2\pi/\lambda$  is the wave vector in vacuum and  $\lambda$  is the laser beam wavelength.

The relationship between  $\Delta\phi$  and number of rings,  $N$ , can be written as [21]:

$$\Delta\phi = 2\pi N \quad (2)$$

The relationship between the total refractive index,  $n$ , and nonlinear part of the refractive index,  $n_2$ , can be written as follows [22]:

$$\begin{aligned} n &= n_0 + \frac{n_2}{2} I \\ n &= n_0 + \Delta n \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

where  $n_0$  is the background refractive index.

The thermal lens signal is expressed as the relative change in power [23]

$$\theta = \frac{I_0 - I}{I} \tag{4}$$

$$\theta = \frac{\Delta I}{I} = \frac{\alpha L_{eff} P}{\lambda K} \left(-\frac{dn}{dT}\right) \tag{5}$$

For the thermal nonlinearity and steady state case, the change nonlinear index,  $\Delta n$ , can be expressed as [8]:

$$\Delta n = \frac{dn}{dT} \cdot \frac{I \alpha \omega_0^2}{4K} \tag{6}$$

Where  $I_0$  and  $I$  are the transmitted power before and after is the formation of the thermal lens respectively.  $\alpha$  is the linear absorption coefficient,  $L_{eff}$  is the effective thickness of the sample,  $P$  is the laser input power,  $dn/dT$  and  $K$  are the sample temperature coefficient of refractive index and thermal conductivity, respectively.

By the combination of equations (1-6) one can calculate,  $\Delta n, n_2$  and  $dn/dT$ . The Diffraction Ring experiments were performed using a 532 nm solid state laser beam, which was focused by +50 mm focal length lens. The laser beam waist  $\omega_0$  at the focus is measured to be 21.63  $\mu\text{m}$ , the linear absorption coefficient  $\alpha = 2.18\text{cm}^{-1}$  and the effective thickness of the sample  $L_{eff}$  is measured to be 0.089 mm. The schematic of the experimental set up used is shown in Fig. 1. A 1mm wide optical cell containing the solution of 3-(Dimethylamino)-7-aminophenothiazin-5-ium chloride dye in the solvent chloroform is translated across the focal region along the axial direction that is the direction of the propagation laser beam.

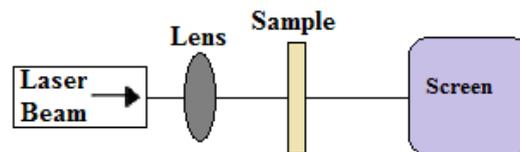


Fig. 1. Schematic diagram of experimental arrangement for the Diffraction Ring measurement.

Figure 2 shows the far-field diffraction ring patterns at different input powers at 0.05mM concentration. These are photographs of the pattern on a screen placed about 65 cm behind the sample. The number of rings increases with increasing input power.

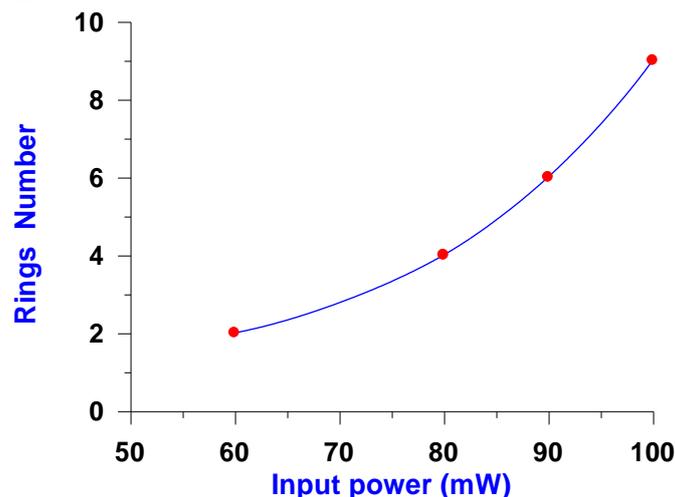


Figure 2: diffraction ring patterns as a function of different input powers for 0.05mM concentration

Figure 3 shows the number of observed ring as a function of the input power. In our experiment we obtained a maximum ring number of 9 at an input power of 100 mW. Our patterns are quite concentric and sharp. This is because the scattering of a laser beam in solvent, which is caused by the fluctuation of molecular axes. The outermost ring is the strongest of all the rings and is especially wide. We were not able to obtain definite rings at input power levels over that value, probably due to the boil of 3-(Dimethylamino)-7-aminophenothiazin-5-ium

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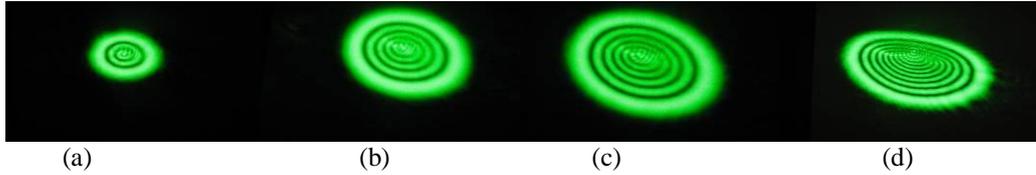


Fig.3: diffraction ring patterns for the azo dye in the solvent chloroform (a) 2 at 60mW, (b) 4 at 80 mW, (c) 6 at 90mW , (d) 9 at 100 mW.

As given in Table 1, the Nonlinear parameters ( $\beta$ ,  $\Delta n$ , and  $n_2$ ) and thermo-optic coefficient,  $dn/dT$ , increases with increasing the number of rings  $N$  and input power for the azo dye solutions at 0.05 mM concentration.

Table 1: Number of rings, phase shift, change in refractive index, nonlinear refractive index and thermo-optic coefficient for the sample.

Power(mW)	$N$	$\Delta\varphi$	$\Delta n$	$n_2$ (cm <sup>2</sup> /W)	$dn/dT$ (K <sup>-1</sup> )
60	2	0.219	$0.206 \times 10^{-4}$	$0.253 \times 10^{-8}$	$0.196 \times 10^{-5}$
80	4	0.438	$0.413 \times 10^{-4}$	$0.379 \times 10^{-8}$	$0.295 \times 10^{-5}$
90	6	0.657	$0.619 \times 10^{-4}$	$0.506 \times 10^{-8}$	$0.393 \times 10^{-5}$
100	9	0.985	$0.929 \times 10^{-4}$	$0.683 \times 10^{-8}$	$0.531 \times 10^{-5}$

The high nonlinear optical refractive index compares favourably with that of some representative of third-order nonlinear optical materials, namely, pararosanilin dye in liquid and solid media [24], basic green 1 dye in aqueous solutions [25], oxazine (OX720) and oxazine (OX750) dye in aqueous solutions and in PAA matrix [23], photo polymerizable organo siloxane [22], and organic polymers [26]. These results predict that 3-(Dimethylamino)-7-aminophenothiazin-5-ium chloride dye has potential applications for nonlinear optics. For practical use in all-optical switching devices many considerations have been taken into account to investigate the effectiveness of nonlinear materials. This large nonlinear refraction makes of an 3-(Dimethylamino)-7-aminophenothiazin-5-ium chloride dye promising for use in all-optical switching devices.

### III. THEORETICAL MODEL OF THE DIFFRACTION RING

The laser beam used in present work has a Gaussian extent of wavelength  $\lambda$ . Assuming that the beam propagate along the z-direction and the medium have a length of  $L$  with a linear absorption coefficient  $\alpha$ . At the entrance of the medium which is taken as the origin of the Cartesian coordinates the electric field of the incident laser beam can be written as [27]:

$$E(r, z) = E(0, z_o) \exp\left[\frac{-r^2}{\omega_o^2}\right] \exp\left[\frac{-ikn_o r^2}{2R}\right] \quad (5)$$

where  $r$  is the radial coordinate,  $z_o$  is the coordinate position of the medium,  $k$  is the free space wave vector,  $\omega_o$  is the beam waist at the medium entrance and  $R$  the radius of curvature of its wave-front in the corresponding position.

By taking into account the total phase shift,  $\varphi$ , suffered by the beam during the course of traversing through the medium, the far-field distribution pattern can be obtained considering the free propagation of the optical wave through space, by means of Fraunhofer approximation of the Fresnel- Kirchhoff diffraction integral as [27]:

$$I(\rho) = I_o \left| \int_0^\infty J_o(k\theta r) \exp\left[-\frac{r^2}{\omega_o^2} - i\varphi(r)\right] r dr \right|^2 \quad (6)$$

Where  $J_o(x)$  is the zero-order Bessel function of the first kind,  $\theta$  is the far field diffraction angle,  $\rho$  is the radial coordinate in the far field observation plane and  $I_o$  can be written as:

$$I_o = 4\pi^2 \left| \frac{E(0, z_o) \exp(-\alpha L / 2)}{i\lambda D} \right|^2 \quad (7)$$

$D$  is related to the radial coordinate by  $\rho = D\theta$ .

Using the values of the various parameters given in table 2 and solving equation 6 and 7 we have generated the theoretical results of diffraction pattern shown in fig.4 for the four chosen input powers.

Table 2. Measured and calculated values of the parameters used to generate figure 4.

Laser beam wavelength ( $\lambda$ )	532 nm
Laser beam waist ( $\omega_o$ )	21.63 $\mu$ m
Input power ( $P$ )	10-100 mWatt
Radius of wave-front ( $R$ )	33mm
Cell length ( $L$ )	1 mm
Distance from the exit plane ( $D$ )	65 cm

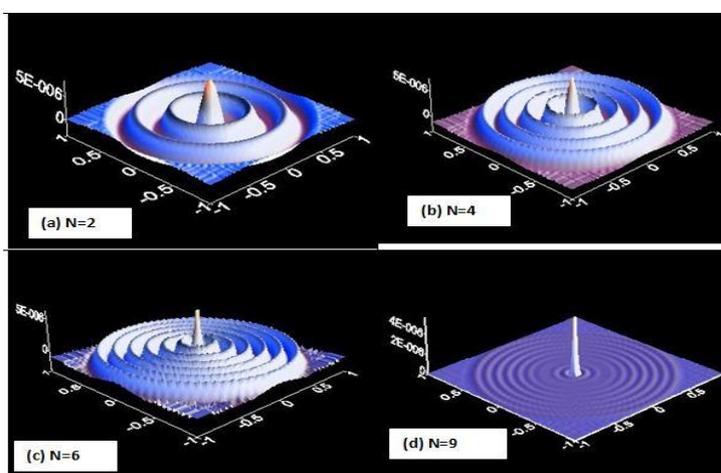


Fig.4: Theoretical results of the diffraction patterns: (a) P=60 mWatt, (b) P=80 mWatt, (c) P=90 mWatt and (d) P=100 mWatt.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

The nonlinear optical properties of 3-(Dimethylamino)-7-aminophenothiazin-5-ium chloride dye in chlorophorm solvent was studied using diffraction pattern technique with a continuous-wave radiation at 532 nm of an different output power. All the solution samples showed large nonlinear refractive indice and absorption coefficient of the order of  $10^{-8}$   $\text{cm}^2/\text{W}$  and  $10^{-3}$   $\text{cm}/\text{W}$ , respectively. Experimental results of ring patterns reinforced theoretically suggest the possibility of using 3-(Dimethylamino)-7-aminophenothiazin-5-ium chloride dye solution in all optical systems. These patterns were generated in 3-(Dimethylamino)-7-aminophenothiazin-5-ium chloride dye by the irradiation with visible laser beam of Gaussian extent. The instantaneous formation of rings prove the fast response of this substance. The thermal number of rings observed increases with increasing input power nonlinearly. The stability of the ring patterns suggest the stability of such medium.

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