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Einladung
zum
Physikalischen Kolloquium

Montag, 24.10.2011
16:15 Uhr in N24/H13

Dr.Luca Turin
BSRC Fleming Institute
Athen, Griechenland

Fruit flies smell molecular vibrations: is it chemistry or physics ?

The sense of smell is extraordinarily good at molecular recognition: it can identify odorants unerringly over a wide concentration range. The mechanism by which this happens is still hotly debated. One view is that molecular shape governs smell, but this lock-and-key notion, while very successful in other areas of biology, has turned out to have very little predictive power for olfaction. An alternative theory posits instead that the nose is a vibrational spectroscope using a quantum mechanism, inelastic electron tunneling. In my talk I will review the history and salient facts of this debate and describe some recent experiments on Drosophila melanogaster that go some way towards answering the question.

Ab 15.45 Uhr Kaffee, Tee und Kekse vor dem Hörsaal H13

Organisation: **Prof. Marti, Tel.: 23011**
Dr. Retzker, Tel.: 22902
Host: **Prof. Plenio, Tel.: 22900**