



Quantum Efficiency Seminar und Colloquium

SPIROS SKOURTIS

**Department of Physics
University of Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus**

Electron transport control: from small molecule to cellular length scales

ABSTRACT: Electron transfer reactions are ubiquitous in biology, chemistry and are central to molecular electronics and energy materials technologies. Biological electron transfer mechanisms range from tunnelling to thermally activated hopping. I give a review of recent trends in the theory and simulation of biomolecular electron transfer rates, mostly focusing on the role of electronic coupling fluctuations, and I compare biomolecular and small-molecule electron transfer mechanisms. I also discuss examples that relate to transport-pathway control over length scales that range from the small-molecule to the cellular level.

- [1] I. A. Balabin, D.N. Beratan, and S.S. Skourtis. *The persistence of structure over fluctuations in biological electron transfer reactions*. Phys. Rev. Lett. 101, 158102 (2008)
- [2] S. S. Skourtis, D. H. Waldeck, and D. N. Beratan. *Fluctuations in biological and bioinspired electron-transfer reactions*. Ann. Rev. Phys. Chem. Vol. 61 461-485 (2010)
- [3] N.F. Polizzi, S. S. Skourtis and D. N. Beratan *Physical constraints on charge transport through bacterial nanowires*. Faraday Discuss. Vol.155, 43-62 (2012)

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Contact: Andreas Buchleitner, Institute of Physics, Quantum Optics and Statistics
T +49 761 203 5821 F +49 761 203 5967 E buchleitner_office@physik.uni-freiburg.de
www.physik.uni-freiburg.de