



Garching, November 30th, 2023

Dear Mr. Fraps,

we were delighted to welcome you as a guest speaker at our annual departmental retreat 2023 in South Tyrol. And on behalf of the attoworld team at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität and the Max Planck Institute of Quantum Optics and the Centre for Molecular Fingerprinting, I would like to thank you once again for your inspiring lecture and the still puzzling magic tricks that followed.

As the crowning glory of an attoworld conference characterized by scientific lectures on ultrafast physics, your talk about "The Tricks of our Brain and the Psychology of Deception" provided us with exciting insights into how easy it is to mislead our perception and cognition. It is amazing how our senses can be manipulated in every conceivable way.

But even this illuminating insight into our obviously easily deceived perceptive faculties did not prevent us from being stunned into disbelief by your subsequent magic tricks. The question: "*How does he do it?*" was written all over our faces.

As ultrafast physicists, we are all familiar with the tunnelling effect in electrons. Although it is puzzling enough in the quantum world, we can understand the phenomenon quite well and, above all, observe it experimentally. However, it becomes more puzzling when we try to understand how you "tunnel" a previously marked 50 euro note into an intact lemon, then cut it open and, with obvious regret, return the borrowed note intact to our colleague. I am sure that most of my colleagues are still wondering how you managed to do that.

I would be delighted if we could welcome you as our guest again. Together with my team, I look forward to being amazed by you once again and to being presented with puzzles that are beyond our understanding of physics.

Yours sincerely,

Ferenc Krausz