

Robert Bittl has studied physics at Technische Universität (TU) München (Germany) up to the doctorate (1988) working on the theory of stochastically modulated magnetic field dependent doublet pair spin dynamics. After a short stay at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (US) he worked as a postdoctoral researcher at Universität Stuttgart (Germany) on the electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) spectroscopic detection of zero-quantum coherences after electron transfer in photosynthetic systems. This was initially theoretical work which led over to experiments at TU Berlin (Germany). There he obtained the habilitation (1997) with work on time-resolved EPR to cofactor geometries in photosystems, in particular distances between cofactors. Since 2001 he is professor for experimental physics at Freie Universität Berlin and applies a range of EPR spectroscopic methods to a variety of different problems in biological, chemical, materials, and medical physics. The methods include less-common variants e.g. electrically detected magnetic resonance and synchrotron-based frequency domain Fourier transform EPR. Examples for studied systems are blue-light photoreceptors, (catalytic) multi-nuclear metal centers, (in)organic photovoltaics materials, and Gadolinium-based magnetic resonance imaging contrast agents. More recently he became interested in the chiral-induced spin selectivity effect, in particular its study by EPR methods on photo-induced donor-acceptor systems.

