OMP/LuMI

Ultra cold atoms and their applications: from precision measurements to quantum simulation

Hélène Perrin (Laboratoire de physique des lasers, Paris 13, CNRS) Jérôme Lodewyck (Syrte, Observatoire de Paris, UPMC, CNRS)

Scientific topics

Cooling, trapping, and atom manipulation with light

Matter waves – Atom interferometry





Precision measurements: atomic clocks and atom interferometers

Quantum gases: Bose-Einstein condensates





Quantum simulation

Goals : acquire a general culture in a timely topic and/or prepare a PhD in precision measurements or ultracold/quantum gases



A very active domain of research

→ Four Nobel prizes over 15 years



Laser Cooling and Trapping S. Chu, C. Cohen-Tannoudji, W. Phillips Nobel Prize 1997



Bose-Einstein Condensation E. Cornell, C. Wieman, W. Ketterle Nobel Prize 2001



2005



Laser-based Precision Spectroscopy and Frequency Comb Technique J. Hall and T. Hänsch Nobel Prize 2005





Measuring and manipulation of individual quantum systems lon clocks S. Haroche, D. Wineland Nobel Prize 2012



2012

The option is organised in three parts :

- 1. Laser cooling and trapping (HP) : 3 4-hour sessions
- 2. Atomic clocks and atom interferometry (JL) : 2 sessions
- 3. Quantum gases (HP) : 2 sessions

+ ¹/₂ day lab class in a (true!) laboratory of IFRAF

















1. Laser cooling and trapping (HP)

3 lectures, 3 exercice classes

- Light forces
- Laser cooling : Doppler cooling, Sisyphus cooling
- Laser trapping : dipole traps, magneto-optical traps
- Magnetic traps (atom chips)
- Optical lattices
- Cold collisions, Feshbach resonances















- Principle of atomic clocks, stability, systematics
- Collisional shift
- Atom interferometry
- Phase shift in an atom interferometer
- Quantum projection noise
- Applications of interferometers















3. Quantum gases (HP) 3 lectures, 1 seminar

- Evaporative cooling
- Bose-Einstein condensation
- Interacting quantum gases
- Superfluidity
- Applications of quantum gases
- Examples of quantum simulators















Final exam



Two components :

Lab class report (4 pts)

Written exam, 3 hours (16 pts)











