QUANTUM TRANSPORT OF ULTRA COLD ATOMS IN OPTICAL DISORDER

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Using ultra cold atoms to build a controllable quantum system to simulate other quantum systems.

Quantum system



toy-model of the magnified lattice structure of a "solid"



Controllable quantum system =

Quantum Simulator





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Cooled and trapped atoms can be directly observed with a camera





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- Cooled and trapped atoms can be directly observed with a camera
- Direct imaging of matter wave functions
- Accessible time scales (particle velocities of mm/s)







When imaging atoms after they are ejected from the trap, we directly monitor the velocity and the velocity distribution (*time of flight*).









We can simulate transport and conduction properties of electrons in a solid with atoms : lattice, disorder, gauge fields ...







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We can simulate transport and conduction properties of electrons in a solid with atoms : lattice disorder, gauge fields ...



PHYSICAL REVIEW

5 MARCH 1, 1958



Absence of Diffusion in Certain Random Lattices P. W. AMDERSON Boll Telephone Laboratories, Marray Hill, New Jersey (Received October 10, 1957)

This paper presents a simple model for such processes as spin diffusion or conduction in the "impurity band." These processes involve transport in a lattice which is in some sense random, and in them diffusion is expected to take place via quantum jumps between localized sites. In this simple model the essential randomness is introduced by requiring the energy to vary randomly from site to site. It is shown that at low enough densities no diffusion at all can take place, and the criteria for transport to occur are given.

If mean free path smaller than de Broglie wavelength: constructive interference of trajectories returning to origin: localized states: insulator





ANDERSON LOCALIZATION





101 10.4

101

10.4

Studied in a wide variety of systems • Electronic conductivity Classical waves (since 90') • Ultracold atoms (first proposal 2003)



Thickness (µm) D. Wiersma et al. Nature 97

10

eficia diameter



D. Laurent et al. PRL 08





T. Schwartz et al. Nature 07



H. Hu et al. Nature Physics 08



Y. Lahini et al. PRL 08 / PRL 09



Billy, J. et al. Nature 453, 891-894 (2008).



Disorder : bi-chromatic lattices G. Roati et al. Nature 2008 Deissler et al., Nat. Phys Lucioni et al., arXiv 2010 LENS, Florence



Texte

Mapping the 3D transition in momentum space J. Chabé et al. PRL 08 Observation of the critical state G. Lemarié et al. PRL 2010



White et al. PRL (2009) Pasienski et al. Nat. Phys (2010) Urbana Champaign

Strongly interacting regime in disordered lattice : Towards a Bose Glass

Raizen PRL 94



DISORDER FOR ULTRACOLD ATOMS





Longitudinal correlation length = Rayleigh distance







LASER SPECKLE : OPTICAL DISORDER











Coherent or incoherent superposition of two speckle field

(Complex correlation functions)

$$\Delta x_{\rm max} \approx 0.8 \ \mu {\rm m}$$

$$k_{c,\min} = \frac{\pi}{\Delta x_{\max}} \approx 4 \ \mu \text{m}^{-1}$$



Glass cell = large optical access available (NA=0.5)

Extension: w= 1.2 mm

Disorder volume ≈ mm³

Amplitude of disorder : 2+2=4 kHz







Start with a low energy BEC (or ultra low temperature coud).





D(k) Matterwave k-distribution bounded by k_{max} 0 Castin & Dum PRL 1996

Initial BEC in the dipole trap



 $\omega_{\rm PO} / 2\pi = 50 \text{ Hz}$ $N_{\rm at} \approx 2.10^4$ $\mu_{\rm in} \approx 700 \text{ Hz}$



Need to keep the atomic velocities low in all directions





Need to compensate for gravity for long expansion time (1.5 mm/s in 17 ms)



B₀ up to 2000 G: minimal residual trapping (trapping or anti- trapping configuration)

 $\omega_{LEV}^{\rm min}\approx 0.2~{\rm Hz}$





LASER SPECKLE : OPTICAL DISORDER

n_i(0,z)

0.1

n(0,z,t)

0.1

n(0,z,t)

0.1

n(0,z,t)

0.1



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When imaging atoms after they are ejected from the trap, we directly monitor the velocity and the velocity distribution (*time of flight*).



Adding arbitrarily placed obstacles that will deflect the atoms.

Adding arbitrarily placed obstacles that will deflect the atoms.

The atoms will have a random walk because of scattering

Observation of enhanced retroreflection

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- Observation of weak localisation induced by Time Reversal Symmetry of the atomic paths : coherent back scattering

COHERENT BACK SCATTERING OF MATTER WAVES

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just before the dephasing kick dephasing kick

just after the

The magnetic gradient field gives a momentum $\Delta \vec{k}$ to the atoms. => The whole momentum distribution is briefly shifted by $\Delta ec{k}$

KILLING AND RECOVERING TIME REVERSAL SYMMETRY

just before the dephasing kick dephasing kick

just after the

 k_{x}

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At a diffusion time of TDiff=2t_{kick} time-reversal symmetry is briefly reestablished and the coherent peak reappears (CBSE).

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Dephasing kick is applied at TDiff = 1.45ms => We expect the CBSE at 2.9ms

Thin black line marks the position of the ring without ' the dephasing kick.

Transport parameters for this configuration:

- $k_0 \sigma \approx 1.3$
- $\tau_{\rm S} \approx 0.72 {\rm ms}$
- *τ*_B ≈ 1.22ms
- $k_0 \approx 3.76/\mu m$
- $\Delta k \approx k_0/3$
- $\Delta k l_B \approx 4.2$

TDiff = 2.1ms

TDiff = 2.9ms

color scale is fixed for all images

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- Observation of weak localisation
 - Time resolved diffusion
 - Time resolved CBS and weak localisation

- Observation of TRS with ultra cold atoms in disorder
 - It is possible to "kill" and "recover" the time reversal symmetry by changing the atomic trajectories.

Experiments performed in Palaiseau with **A. Aspect, V.Josse, P.B.** K. Muller, J. Richard, V. Volchkov, V. Denechaud

New teams : Cold atom in Bordeaux

P.B., S. Bernon, A. Bertoldi, H. Vasquez, J. Zhang, C. Busquet

Nano structured potentials

A new setup for new regime in 2D electron gas quantum simulation

- Atome-surface interaction
 - Casimir Polder with nano-structured surfaces
- New geometry for the potential
 - hexagonal : graphene including on demand impurities
 - triangular : Spin liquid physics
 - exotic : topological insulators
- High energy physics : quantum anti-ferromagnetism

- From graphene to a topological insulator

Nature 483, 308 (2012)

Collaboration : J.Cayssol

Thank you

you are welcome to joint us in Bordeaux

