

Max Planck Research Department for Structural Dynamics



September 26th, 2012 - 11:00 am

Seminar Room, DESY Bldg. 90 (ZOQ)

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Atom Transport in Optical Lattices

The transport and coherence of atoms in optical lattices are strongly influenced by their interactions with a background gas which provides a reservoir to dissipate energy [1].

I will discuss two possible resulting applications: (i) quantum transport through lattices with an engineered and well controlled phonon bath, for example enabling the realization of nonmarkovian atom-bath couplings; and (ii) measuring transport properties for distinguishing different quantum phases of the background gas. I will also investigate the influence of dephasing on transport in a strongly interacting fermionic lattice gas and describe a many-body mechanism that leads to negative differential conductivity in these systems.

In addition I will briefly describe the main features of tensor network theory which is our main numerical tool for these studies.

[1] T. H. Johnson, S. R. Clark, M. Bruderer and D. Jaksch, "Impurity transport through a strongly interacting bosonic quantum gas", Phys. Rev. A 84, 023617 (2011).