

INTERNSHIP PROPOSAL

(One page maximum)

Laboratory name: SYRTE
CNRS identification code: UMR 8630
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Internship location: Observatoire de Paris, 77 avenue Denfert Rochereau, 75014 PARIS

Thesis possibility after internship: YES
Funding: TBD If YES, which type of funding:

Delta Kick Squeezing for Atom Interferometry beyond the Standard Quantum Limit

Our team at SYRTE develops inertial sensors (gyrometers, accelerometers...) based on atom interferometry technics. The development of these instruments benefits from the maturity of ultracold atom technology and the advantage of light beamsplitters, easy to implement and efficient, namely two photon transitions and more specifically stimulated Raman transitions. If these methods allow now for the development of commercial products with applications in geophysics on the field, and of onboard instruments in ships or planes for inertial navigation and geoscience, increasing significantly the performances of such instruments remains possible, in particular by using advanced quantum metrology methods to surpass the standard quantum limit.

The aim of this intership is the implementation of the "Delta-Kick squeezing" (DKS) technique, recently proposed by Robin Corgier, now staff member at SYRTE, and his collaborators. This DKS rely on the engineering of atom atom interactions in a BEC in free fall. Such interactions induce strong correlations between the atoms, and lead to squeezing in the population difference between the two interferometer paths, and eventually to phase sensitivity below the standard quantum limit.

The intern will work on implementing this method in a free-falling atom interferometer, based on the use of Raman light beamsplitters and ultra-cold atoms produced by evaporative cooling. The work, essentially experimental in nature, will demonstrate the possibility of realizing strongly spin-squeezed states through atomic lensing methods based on pulse sequences realized with highly detuned high power laser beams. The intern will study the impact of the use of these quantum states in an interferometer on the sensitivity of measurements. He or she will conduct the experimental studies and participate in the analysis of the results. He or she will have extensive theoretical support for the modeling of the experiment, the optimization of the measurement sequence and for the analysis of the results.

Please, indicate which speciality(ies) seem(s) to be more adapted to the subject:

Condensed Matter Physics: NO Soft Matter and Biological Physics: NO
Quantum Physics: YES Theoretical Physics: NO