Floquet band engineering and prethermalization in driven optical lattices



David Weld UC Santa Barbara

October 10, 2018 CUA Seminar

Outline

- Introduction
 - Experimental approach
- Driven optical lattices
 - Position-space Bloch oscillations
 - Floquet band engineering & transport
 - Prethermalization & the periodic Gibbs ensemble
- Other current projects

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Driven Systems

The basic question: what happens when you shake stuff?



Driven Systems: Classical Example

Pendulum with vibrating pivot:







https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rwGAzy0noU0

Driven Systems: Quantum Example

- Atoms and solids in pulsed-laser fields
- Nontrivial dynamical behavior (tunnel ionization, HHG)
- Emergent states of matter



Images: Nijmegen, Hamburg, Zurich





UCSB Experiments

Lithium

- Floquet phases
- Quantum quasicrystals
- Bloch oscillations
- New cooling techniques



Strontium

- Strong-field quantum simulation
- Quantum sensing
- Topological pumping
- Single-site resolution
- Anyons



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Hot and Cold Atoms



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STRONGER DRIVING

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- In a periodic system, static force produces oscillatory response (Bloch, Zener 1929)
- Momentum evolves through edge of BZ
- Cold atoms an excellent platform for studying such Bloch oscillations (way easier than in solids)
- Typically probed in momentum space; position-space dynamics initially predicted by Zener too small to be observed



• Li (light, non-interacting) in lattice enables PSBO observation



Z. Geiger et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 213201 (2018)

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• Use 1: directly map phase-space evolution during a Bloch oscillation



Z. Geiger et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 213201 (2018)

- Use 2: direct imaging of band structure
- x(t) maps directly to E(k):

$$E = \frac{hf_B}{d}x, \qquad k = \frac{k_L}{2T_B}t$$

• ARPES-like measurement



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- Adding external driving:
 - Apply constant AM drive resonant with s-d transition at finite k
 - Allow atoms to Bloch oscillate
 - What happens?



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Drive Off	Drive On
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 \rightarrow Giant Floquet-Bloch oscillations



• Can think of this as evolution in a single Floquet-hybridized s/d band



Fujiwara et al, Transport in Floquet-Bloch Bands, arXiv:1806.07858 (2018).

• Allows precise coherent control of long-range transport



Fujiwara et al, Transport in Floquet-Bloch Bands, arXiv:1806.07858 (2018).

• Can couple different pairs of bands at different quasimomenta



• Can image dispersion of hybridized Floquet-Bloch band via PSBOs:



Fujiwara et al, Transport in Floquet-Bloch Bands, arXiv:1806.07858 (2018).

- Can image dispersion of hybridized Floquet-Bloch band via PSBOs
- Flexible tool for band engineering: can sew together Frankenbands arbitrarily
- Some future possibilities:
 - Topological bands
 - Metrology
 - Multi-frequency driving



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"Floquet Matter"

Non-equilibrium steady states of driven interacting systems
Application example: condensed matter in pulsed laser fields

- Role for cold atom quantum emulation
 - Microscopically well-understood system

- Open Questions:
 - Conditions for (meta)stability? Thermalization?
 - Can drive force "phase transitions?"
 - Effect of interactions?
 - Prethermal "memory?"
 - Dynamics of quantum information?



Image: Hamburg

- Goal: realize Kapitza physics in a many-body quantum system
- Optical lattices easily modulated, but need ~1000% modulation
- Possible with two independent phase-shifted lattices:



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$$H(t) = -(\hbar^2/2m)\partial_x^2 + V_0[1 + \alpha\sin(\omega t)]\cos^2(k_L x)$$

$$\Omega = \omega/\omega_0$$

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(plus interactions)

Experiment: Ultrastrong Lattice Modulation

- Vary modulation frequency and amplitude to explore Floquet "phase diagram"
- Experimental Protocol: double quench
 - Load atoms into time-average lattice
 - Fixed A (static lattice depth)
 - Quench to driven lattice with some α (modulation depth) and Ω (frequency of drive)
 - After some drive time, quench back to static lattice and bandmap
- Results depend on α and Ω

A = 10 Er, α = 5 (-50Er \rightarrow 50Er)



Quantifying ergodicity

f₀ = fraction of atoms in ground band after modulation
→ Quantitative measure for characterizing non-ergodicity

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi(t)\rangle &= \sum_{n} c_{n} |n(t)\rangle e^{-i\varepsilon_{n}t/\hbar} \\ \overline{f_{0}(t_{\nu})} &= \overline{|\langle\psi_{0}|\psi(t_{\nu})\rangle|^{2}} = \sum_{n} |\langle\psi_{0}|n(0)\rangle|^{4} \equiv \text{IPR.} \\ t_{\nu} &= \nu T \end{aligned}$$



Theory in collaboration w/ Eckardt & Heyl; more details here \rightarrow Singh *et al,* arXiv:1809.05554 (2018).

- Can map out Floquet phase diagram describing how state depends on α and Ω
- Ground band occupation an IPR quantifying Floquet localization
- Theoretical expectation based on periodic Gibbs ensemble (PGE):

Ground





Theory: André Eckardt, Markus Heyl (MPIPKS Dresden)

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- Ground band occupation an IPR quantifying Floquet localization
- Interactions modify but do not destroy the "phase diagram"



Fully characterizing a Floquet state

• All band occupations can be mapped as a function of drive parameters, both theoretically and experimentally



Experiment



 \rightarrow Complete experimental characterization of the PGE

Singh et al, arXiv:1809.05554 (2018).

Time evolution of Floquet Phases

At each point on the "phase diagram" one can measure the full time dynamics



Moving beyond theory: the long-time limit



- Observation of two Floquet prethermalization plateaux
- Long-time behavior depends on drive parameters & interactions

Singh *et al,* arXiv:1809.05554 (2018).

Moving beyond theory: the long-time limit



- Prethermal plateau recovered by increasing drive frequency
- High-frequency and strong interactions → sub-Joule heating

Singh et al, arXiv:1809.05554 (2018).

Floquet matter: Prethermalization and PGEs

- ightarrow Clean, tunable realization of Floquet matter & Floquet prethermalization
- ightarrow Can study dependence of properties of Floquet matter on drive parameters
- → Interactions introduce poorly-understood long-time dynamics (e.g. root-t heating)



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Conclusions

Cold atoms are a flexible tool for the study of quantum matter

- \rightarrow Position-space Bloch oscillations probe band structure
- → Floquet engineering can hybridize bands & tune transport
- → Strongly modulated lattices can realize and probe nontrivial Floquet phases of matter.
- → Also: quasicrystals, anyons, topological bands, ultrafast quantum emulation, quantum interfaces



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