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A lattice of magnetic microtraps and shift register on an atom chip

We have realised a two-dimensional magnetic lattice of microtraps for ultracold atoms on a permanent magnet atom chip. The lattice consists of more than 15000 tightly confining trap sites with a density of 1250 traps/mm2. We load a cloud of ultracold atoms to as many as 400 lattice sites at a distance of approximately 10 μ m from the film surface. Radio frequency evaporation can be applied to cool the individual atom clouds towards quantum degeneracy. We have also realized an atomic shift register: we smoothly transport the atom clouds over the lattice by applying external magnetic fields with rotating orientation. Our magnetic lattice may be most promising as a scalable qubit register, a key ingredient for applications in quantum information processing.



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