

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Experimental apparatus</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1	Overview . . . . .	3
2.1.1	Atom cooling and trapping . . . . .	3
2.1.2	Experimental sequence . . . . .	7
2.1.3	Digital atom operations . . . . .	7
2.1.4	Atom imaging . . . . .	9
2.2	Optical lattice . . . . .	11
2.2.1	State-dependent shifting . . . . .	11
2.2.2	Electro-optic modulator . . . . .	13
2.2.3	Two-arm setup for quantum walks . . . . .	13
2.2.4	Coherence in the lattice . . . . .	19
2.3	Special alignment procedures . . . . .	22
2.3.1	Aligning the EOM . . . . .	22
2.3.2	Axial ground state cooling . . . . .	26
2.3.3	Tuning transport parameters . . . . .	27
2.3.4	Measuring vacuum window birefringence . . . . .	29
<b>3</b>	<b>Single Atom Interferometer</b>	<b>32</b>
3.1	Theory . . . . .	32
3.2	Measuring potential gradients . . . . .	36
3.2.1	Phase detection and noise . . . . .	36
3.2.2	Light shift gradient . . . . .	40
3.2.3	External acceleration . . . . .	44
3.3	Measuring contrast . . . . .	47
3.3.1	Contrast decrease from shifting . . . . .	47
3.3.2	Contrast decrease from separation . . . . .	48
3.3.3	Data analysis . . . . .	49
<b>4</b>	<b>Quantum walks</b>	<b>53</b>
4.1	Introduction . . . . .	53
4.2	Theory . . . . .	54
4.2.1	Spreading . . . . .	54
4.2.2	Quantum walks in the Brillouin zone . . . . .	56
4.2.3	Decoherence by projection . . . . .	58
4.2.4	Dephasing and paths . . . . .	60
4.2.5	Acceleration . . . . .	61
4.3	Experiment . . . . .	65
4.3.1	Procedure . . . . .	65
4.3.2	Results from non-electric quantum walks . . . . .	68

4.3.3 Results from electric quantum walks . . . . .	74
4.4 Proposal for $k$ -state selection . . . . .	79
<b>5 Conclusion</b>	<b>83</b>