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Cost-effective magneto-optical trap of ytterbium atoms CHANG YONG PARK, WON-KYU LEE, DAI-HYUK YU, HO SUHNG SUH, SANG EON PARK, EOK BONG KIM, Korea Research Institute of Standards and Science, QUANTUM APPLICATION SI LAB. TEAM — We report on a cost-effective magneto-optical trap (MOT) of ytterbium atoms by using diode lasers as a previous step for an optical lattice clock. For the purpose of MOT, we have specially designed GaN external cavity laser diodes (ECLD), which outputs 10 mW at a wavelength of 399 nm. One of the ECLD is used to trap the ytterbium atoms along x-axis, while additional F-P diode lasers, which is injection locked to the previous ECLD, is used for the trapping along y and z axes. These trapping lasers are frequency stabilized to Doppler free ${}^{1}S_{0} - {}^{1}P_{1}$ transition. We have trapped 5×10^{6} atoms for ${}^{174}Yb$ and 2×10^6 atoms for ¹⁷¹Yb respectably at a trapping temperature of 1 mK, which is still too high for settling the atoms inside the optical lattice. In order to further decrease the trapping temperature an additional cooling laser is necessary corresponding to ${}^{1}S_{0} - {}^{3}P_{1}$ transition with which ytterbium atoms can be cooled to 4 μ K. To obtain the desired laser, 1112 nm ECLD with 200 mW output is frequency doubled through MgO doped PPLN waveguide.

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