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Abstract for an Invited Paper for the DAMOP20 Meeting of the American Physical Society

Ultracold SU(N) fermions in an optical lattice with controlled symmetry breaking LEONARDO FALLANI, The University of Florence and LENS

I will discuss recent experiments with interacting multicomponent 173Yb fermions in optical lattices. I will focus on the realization of interacting SU(N) Fermi-Hubbard systems, where the addition of a coherent laser coupling between different spin states is used to induce a controlled breaking of the SU(N) global interaction symmetry. This explicit symmetry-breaking action is shown to favour Mott localization and determines the onset of a state-selective behavior. I will discuss the experimental results and the connection with the physics of strongly correlated materials, where a similar orbital-selective behavior arises from coupling between different orbitals.