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Ultracold atoms in novel optical lattices NATHAN LUNDBLAD,

Bates College — We report progress towards optical lattice experiments using a planned Bose-Einstein condensate of ⁸⁷Rb. We describe vacuum chamber construction, design and construction of a spin-flip Zeeman slower, characterization of laser cooling tools, the results of magnetic trapping and evaporative cooling, and plans for a hybrid dipole trap approach for reaching BEC, as well as optical lattice design and construction.

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