

Abstract Submitted  
for the DAMOP12 Meeting of  
The American Physical Society

**Single-site resolved studies of a bilayer quantum degenerate gas**  
RUICHAO MA, PHILIPP PREISS, MING TAI, Harvard University, WASEEM  
BAKR, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, JONATHAN SIMON, MARKUS  
GREINER, Harvard University — Ultracold atoms in optical lattices are a versa-  
tile platform for quantum many-body simulation with the promise of insights into  
quantum magnetism, superconductivity, and superfluidity. In recent years, quantum  
gas microscopes with single-site resolution have opened the door to local observa-  
tion and manipulation of strongly correlated two-dimensional quantum gases. Here  
we present techniques for extending study to two tunnel-coupled planes. Using an  
axial superlattice we prepare a bilayer system, with full control of the inter-plane  
tunnel coupling and detuning. We observe coherent inter-plane population trans-  
fer with single-site resolution in both planes. A collisional energy blockade in the  
bilayer system allows us to go beyond parity imaging and unambiguously identify  
site occupations from zero to three atoms. We have obtained site-resolved images  
of the “wedding-cake” Mott insulator structure and antiferromagnetic ordering in a  
quantum Ising model. Further applications include spin-dependent readout and in  
situ phase imaging.

Ruichao Ma  
Harvard University

Date submitted: 31 Jan 2012

Electronic form version 1.4