

Regional Workshop for the 2010 Marie Curie proposers

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- *Myself*

- ✓ *PhD at the Laboratoire Kastler Brossel in Paris, France*
- ✓ *By the time of my proposal submission (August 2009):*
 - *4 years of research experience as a PhD student*
 - *PhD defended 1 month ago*
 - *5 papers, among which 1 EPL first author, 1 Nature, 1 PRL, 2 PRA*

- *The host*

- ✓ *Max-Planck-Institut für Quantenoptik / Quantum many-body systems division of Prof. Bloch*

- *The project*

- ✓ *Use of a high resolution microscope objective to image and address ultracold atoms in an optical lattice with single-site resolution*

- *BI – Scientific and technological quality*
 - ✓ *Scientific and technological quality...*
 - ✓ *Research methodology*
 - ✓ *Originality and innovative nature of the project*
 - ✓ *Timeliness and relevance of the project*
 - ✓ *Host scientific expertise in the field*
 - ✓ *Quality of the group/supervisors*

Criterion 1. S&T QUALITY (award)

(Threshold 3.00/5.00)

Mark: 4.70

Weight: 0.25

Strengths:

- *The scientific quality of the proposal is very good.*
- *The proposed research combines single-site addressability of cold atoms in an optical lattice, which is a feat in itself, with the technique of Rydberg blockades. This could potentially lead to major advances in the realization of quantum information systems.*
- *The research methodology is appropriate and well described.*
- *The host group has an excellent track record in the field.*

- **B2 – Training**

- ✓ *Clarity of the research training objectives for the researcher*
- ✓ *Relevance and quality of additional scientific training & complementary skills offered*
- ✓ *Host expertise in training experienced researchers and capacity to provide mentoring/tutoring*

Criterion 2. TRAINING (award)

(Threshold 3.00/5.00)

Mark: 4.50

Weight: 0.15

Strengths:

- *The research training objectives for the researcher are very good.*
- *The host expertise in training experienced researchers and the capacity to provide mentoring/tutoring are very good.*

- **B3 – Researcher**

- ✓ *Research experience*
- ✓ *Research results, publications, teaching etc., taking into account the level of experience*
- ✓ *Independent thinking leadership qualities*
- ✓ *Match between the fellow's profile and project*
- ✓ *Potential for reaching a position of professional maturity*
- ✓ *Potential to acquire new knowledge*

Criterion 3. RESEARCHER (award)

(Threshold 4.00/5.00)

Mark: 4.50

Weight: 0.25

Strengths:

- *The fellow has 4 years research experience in the physics of ultracold atoms, acquired during his PhD study.*
- *The research results are very good, taking into account the level of experience.*
- *The match between the fellow's profile and the project is very good. The project is well suited for him and will be a good opportunity to widen his horizon and acquire a new range of skills.*
- *The potential for reaching a position of professional maturity is very good.*

Weakness:

- *Potential for acquiring of new knowledge has not been discussed in the proposal.*

- **B4 – Implementation**

- ✓ *Quality of infrastructures/facilities and international collaboration of host*
- ✓ *Practical arrangements for the implementation and management of the scientific project*
- ✓ *Feasibility and credibility of the project, including work plan*
- ✓ *Practical and administrative arrangements and support for the hosting of the fellow*

Criterion 4. IMPLEMENTATION (selection)

(Threshold 0.00/5.00)

Mark: 4.40

Weight: 0.15

Strengths:

- *The quality of the infrastructure at the host is very good, although there may be a number of transitional complications due the recent lab move.*
- *The host has well developed international collaboration.*
- *The work plan is detailed and entirely credible.*
- *All practical arrangements are adequate.*
- *The dissemination of results and IPRs are discussed in the proposal.*

- **B5 – Impact**

- ✓ *Potential of acquiring new competencies during the fellowship to improve the prospects of reaching a position of professional maturity, diversity and independence...*
- ✓ *Contribution to career development*
- ✓ *Contribution to European excellence and European competitiveness*
- ✓ *Benefit of the mobility to the European Research Area*

Criterion 5. IMPACT (award)

(Threshold 0.00/5.00)

Mark: 4.10

Weight: 0.20

Strengths:

- *The fellow is at an early stage of his career and has high potential of acquiring competencies during the fellowship.*
- *If successful then this experiment would be a major milestone towards the practical implementation of quantum information devices.*
- *The fellowship would be an excellent career opportunity for the applicant and would help him on the way to establishing himself as independent researcher.*
- *Benefits for European excellence and mobility within ERA are well explained.*

Weakness:

- *Proposal does not satisfactorily explain the potential competencies to be acquired by the fellow, nor is there any plan for the fellow to achieve a tenured position after the fellowship.*

- *Training*

- ✓ *Clarity of the research training objectives for the researcher (B2)*
- ✓ *Relevance and quality of additional scientific training & complementary skills offered (B2)*
- ✓ *Potential to acquire new knowledge (B3)*
- ✓ *Potential of acquiring new competencies during the fellowship to improve the prospects of reaching a position of professional maturity, diversity and independence... (B5)*

"Each researcher will establish, together with her/his personal supervisor in the host organisation, a Personal Career Development Plan comprising his/her training needs (including complementary skills) and scientific objectives [...]. In this way the researchers will be encouraged to play an active role in shaping their own training programme and professional development."

Work Program 2009 – People

- *Career development*

- ✓ *Contribution to career development (B5)*

"This action is to support the career development of experienced researchers at different stages of their careers, and seeks to enhance their individual competence diversification in terms of skill acquisition at multi- or interdisciplinary level and/or by undertaking intersectoral experiences."

"[...] Rather than merely providing employment opportunities for experienced researchers, this action aims to catalyse significant development in researchers' careers, specifically by adding different and/or complementary research competences at an advanced level, in the process of reaching [...] a position of professional maturity [...]. Projects are therefore expected to add significantly to the career development of the best and most promising researchers active in Europe, in order to enhance and maximise their contribution to the knowledge-based economy and society."

Work Program 2009 – People

- *Benefit for Europe*

- ✓ *Timeliness and relevance of the project (B1)*
- ✓ *Contribution to European excellence and European competitiveness (B5)*
- ✓ *Benefit of the mobility to the European Research Area (B5)*

"Projects under this action are expected to contribute significantly to brain circulation in the European Research Area, thereby providing research organisations in both private and public sectors with opportunities to benefit from the knowledge and experience gained by researchers during their [...] mobility experience, while at the same time adding to these researchers' career development at European level and helping to enhance their employability."

Work Program 2009 – People

- **When writing**

- ✓ *Have a look at what others have done*
- ✓ *Get used to the language of the Work Program*
- ✓ *Get help from your future supervisor and from the EU-Büro*
- ✓ *Take care of the structure and formatting of your proposal*
- ✓ *Could you add pictures to your proposal?*
- ✓ *Don't neglect the "non-scientific" parts*
- ✓ *Regularly save your draft on the EPSS*

- **When submitting**

- ✓ *Don't forget the recommendation letter*

- **Be patient...**

- ✓ *Answer for Christmas...*
- ✓ *I signed my contract on June 2010...*