

# Lecture 1: Hydrodynamics in quantum gases

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Vortex Dynamics, Turbulence and Related Phenomena  
in Quantum Fluids — Natal, June 24-28, 2019



# Outline of the course

- Lecture 1: Bose-Einstein condensation, superfluid hydrodynamics and collective modes
- Lecture 2: Adiabatic potentials for confining quantum gases
- Lecture 3: Superfluid dynamics at the bottom of a bubble trap

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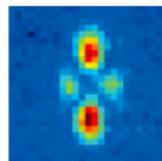
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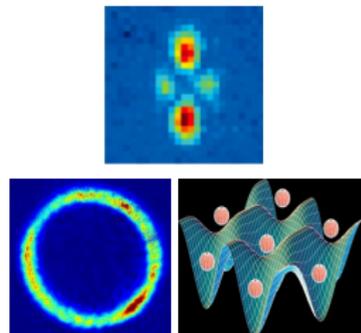
- control of the **temperature**  $1 \text{ nK} - 1 \mu\text{K}$
- **interaction** strength: scattering length  $a$



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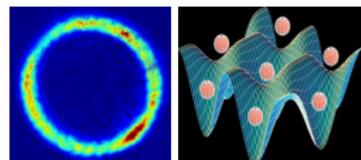
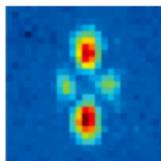
- control of the **temperature** 1 nK – 1  $\mu$ K
- **interaction** strength: scattering length  $a$
- confinement **geometry**
- periodic potentials (optical lattices)
- **low dimensional** systems (1D, 2D)



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- **low dimensional** systems (1D, 2D)
- several internal states, bosons or fermions
- easy optical **detection**

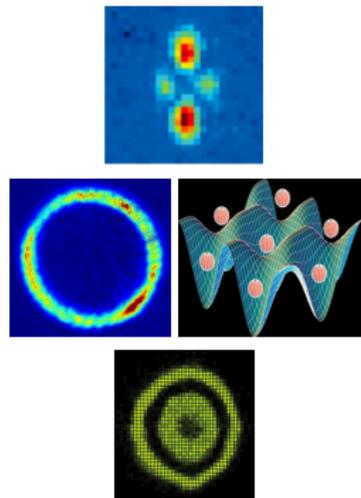


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- easy optical **detection**

⇒ an ideal system for the study of **superfluid dynamics**.



# References for the lecture

- ① F. Dalfovo, S. Giorgini, L. Pitaevskii and S. Stringari, *Theory of Bose-Einstein condensation in trapped gases*, Rev. Mod. Phys. **71**, 463 (1999)
- ② C. J. Pethick and H. Smith, *Bose-Einstein Condensation in Dilute Gases*, Cambridge (2008)
- ③ Lev Pitaevskii and Sandro Stringari, *Bose-Einstein condensation*, Oxford (2003)
- ④ Lev Pitaevskii and Sandro Stringari, *Bose-Einstein Condensation and Superfluidity*, Oxford (2016)

# Outline

- 1 BEC in non interacting Bose gases
- 2 Interacting Bose gases: GPE
- 3 Superfluid hydrodynamics of Bose gases

# Bosons and fermions

Average occupation number of the quantum states:

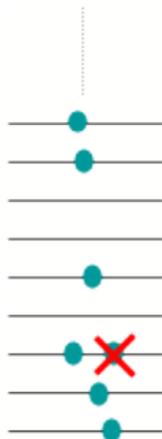
**fermions:** electrons, neutrons, protons...; spin 1/2, 3/2...

Fermi-Dirac  
distribution

$$f(E) = \frac{1}{e^{\beta(E-\mu)} + 1}$$

$$0 < f < 1$$

Pauli principle

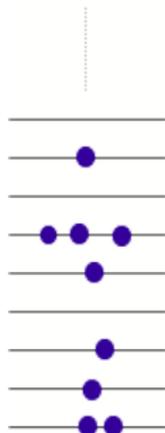


**bosons:** photons, composite with an even number of fermions...; spin 0, 1, 2...

Bose-Einstein  
distribution

$$f(E) = \frac{1}{e^{\beta(E-\mu)} - 1}$$

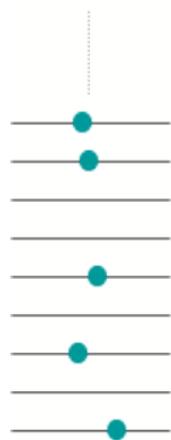
$f$  is not bounded!



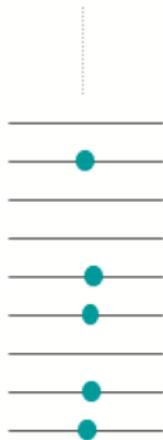
$$\beta = 1/k_B T; \mu: \text{chemical potential}$$

# Fermions at low temperature

Degenerate fermions: the Fermi sea (not a phase transition)



$T > T_F$



$T \sim T_F$



$E_F$

$T < T_F$

# Bosons at low temperature

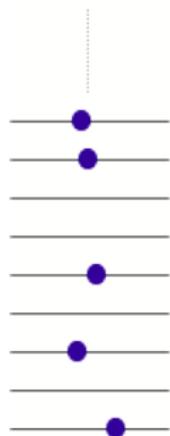
- Chemical potential for non interacting bosons:  $\mu < E_i$  for all states  $i$  to keep  $f(E_i) \geq 0 \Rightarrow \mu < E_0$  of ground state
- Number of particles in excited states  $N'$ :

$$N' = \sum_{i \neq 0} \frac{1}{e^{\beta(E_i - \mu)} - 1} < N'_{\max}(T) = \sum_{i \neq 0} \frac{1}{e^{\beta(E_i - E_0)} - 1}$$

- If this sum is **finite**,  $N'$  is bounded by  $N'_{\max}(T)$   
 $\Rightarrow$  **saturation** of the excited states
- If  $N > N'_{\max}(T)$ ,  $N_0 = N - N'$  is **macroscopic**
- **Bose-Einstein condensation** for  $N > N_C(T) \simeq N'_{\max}(T)$
- Equivalently  $T_C(N)$  defined by  $N_C(T_C) = N$

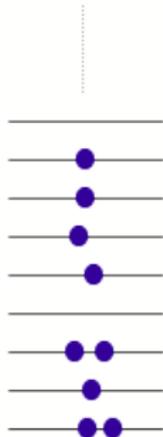
# Bose-Einstein condensation

Bose-Einstein condensation: **saturation** of the number of particles in excited states  $N'$  and **macroscopic accumulation**  $N_0 \sim N$  of particles in the **ground state** for  $T < T_C(N)$  or  $N > N_C(T)$

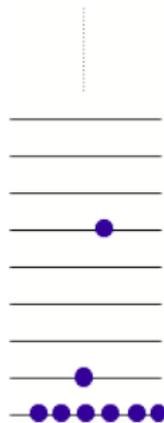


$$T > T_C$$

$$N_0 \ll N$$



$$T \sim T_C$$



$$T < T_C$$

$$N_0 \sim N$$

# Does Bose-Einstein condensation occur?

- The convergence of the sum on  $N'_i$  depends on the **density of states**  $\rho(\varepsilon)$
- An important particular case: **power law density of state**  $\rho(\varepsilon) \propto (\varepsilon - \varepsilon_0)^k$  with  $\varepsilon > \varepsilon_0$

$$N_C(T) \propto \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \int_0^{\infty} \varepsilon^k e^{-n\beta\varepsilon} d\varepsilon \propto (k_B T)^{k+1} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{k+1}}$$

- Converges for  $k > 0$ .
- Fraction of condensed particles:

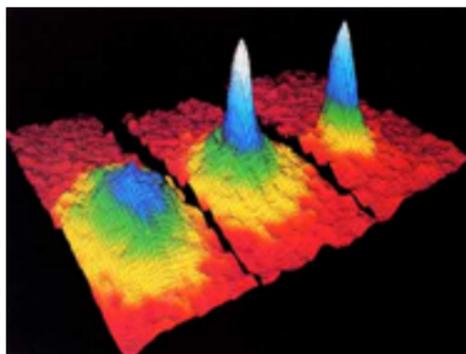
$$N_C(T_C) = N \implies \frac{N_0}{N} = 1 - \left( \frac{T}{T_C} \right)^{k+1}$$

# Bose-Einstein condensation in a harmonic trap

- In a harmonic trap  $\omega_0$  in dimension  $D$ ,  $\rho(E) \propto E^{D-1}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  power law with  $k = D - 1$
- BEC occurs for  $D > 1$  i.e.  $D = 2$  or  $D = 3$  [Bagnato 1987]

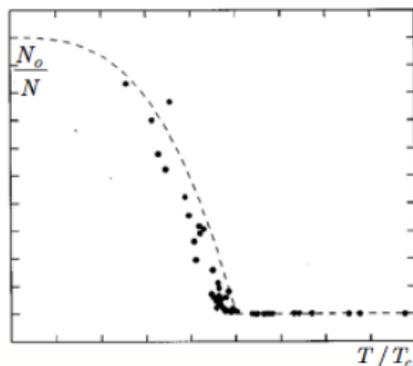
3D harmonic trap:

$$k_B T_C = \hbar \omega_0 N^{1/3} \gg \hbar \omega_0$$



Cornell & Wieman Science 1995

$$\frac{N_0}{N} = 1 - \left( \frac{T}{T_C} \right)^3$$

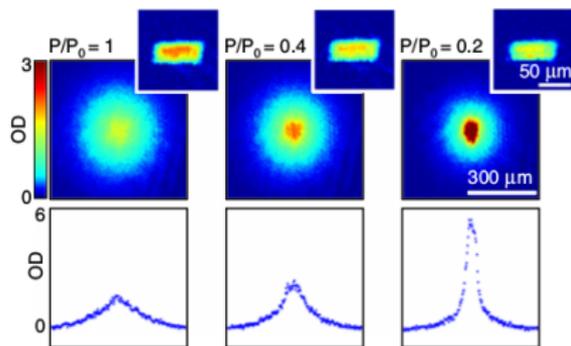


Ensher et al. PRL **77**, 4984 (1996)

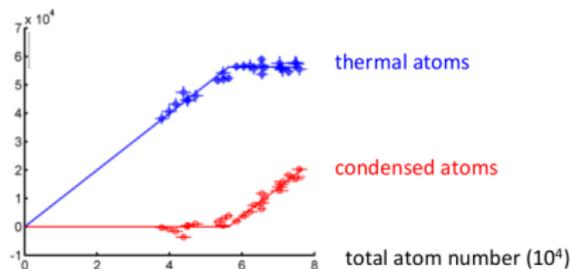
## Bose-Einstein condensation in a 3D box

DOS in a box in dimension  $D$ :  $\rho(E) \propto E^{D/2-1} \Rightarrow$  only  $D = 3!$

In a 3D box BEC for  $n\lambda_T^3 > 2.6$  with  $\lambda_T = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2\pi m k_B T}}$ :  $N_C \propto T^{3/2}$



measure  $N_0/N$ , 3D box potential  
 $^{39}\text{K}$ , tunable interactions  
 PRL **110**,200406 (2013)  
 Hadzibabic group

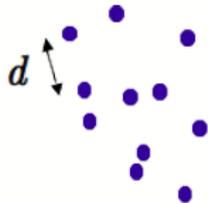


Saturation of thermal particles  
 see also PRL **106**, 230401 (2011)

# Interpretation of critical temperature

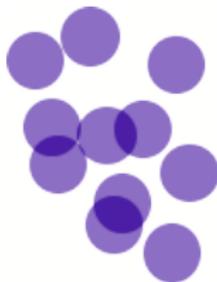
Degeneracy criterion: more than one particle per quantum state.

Size of a state:  $\lambda_T = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2\pi mk_B T}}$  thermal de Broglie wavelength



$$T > T_C$$

$$\lambda_T \ll d$$



$$T \sim T_C$$

$$\lambda_T \sim d$$



$$T < T_C$$

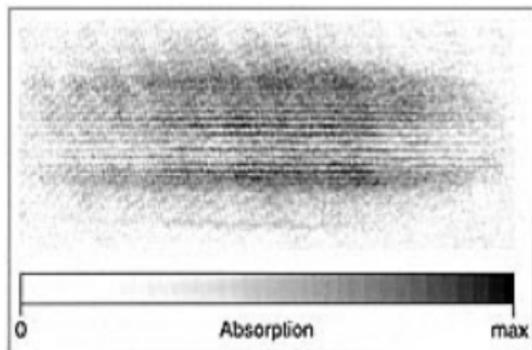
$$\lambda_T > d$$

a single wavefunction for  
all particles

# Role of interactions

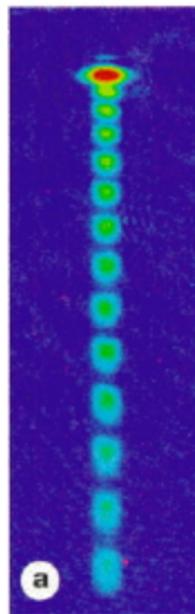
**Problem:** do **interactions** modify this picture of accumulation in a single-particle state?  $H = \sum_{i=1}^N h_0^{(i)} + \sum_{i<j} V(r_i - r_j)$

**Test:** **interferences** between condensates



MIT 1996

- the coherence length is the cloud size
- weak interactions (dilute gas)
- a **mean field** description is appropriate



Munich 2000

# Role of interactions

How to find the ground state of  $H = \sum_{i=1}^N h_0^{(i)} + \sum_{i<j} V(r_i - r_j)$ ?

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- minimize the **energy functional**  $\langle \Psi | H | \Psi \rangle$  to find  $\psi$
- this yields the **Gross-Pitaevskii equation (GPE)** for  $\psi$

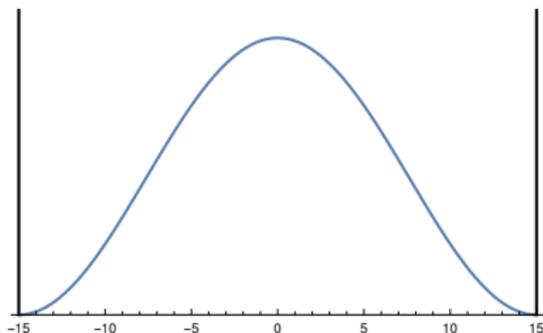
$$\left( \underbrace{-\frac{\hbar^2 \nabla^2}{2m}}_{E_{\text{kin}}} + \underbrace{V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r})}_{E_{\text{pot}}} + \underbrace{g |\psi|^2}_{E_{\text{int}}} \right) \psi = \mu \psi$$

$g = \frac{4\pi\hbar^2 a}{m}$  **interaction** coupling constant, we assume here  $g > 0$   
 $a$  scattering length  
 $\mu$  chemical potential = cost to add a particle

# Solution of GPE in a box

Consider a box potential of size  $L$ :  $V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) = 0 + \text{hard wall b.c.}$

- vanishing interactions (Schrödinger):  $-\frac{\hbar^2 \nabla^2 \psi}{2m} = \mu \psi$   
 $\psi(x) \sim \sin(\pi x/L)$  ground state of  $h^{(0)}$   
 $\Rightarrow \text{density} \propto \sin^2(\pi x/L)$



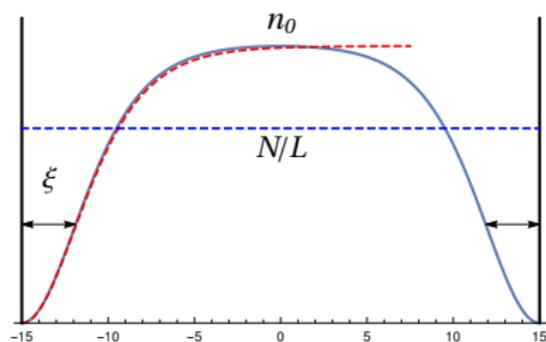
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- increasing interactions:  $-\frac{\hbar^2 \nabla^2 \psi}{2m} + g |\psi|^2 \psi = \mu \psi$

density **flattens**

**healing length** to recover from the edge



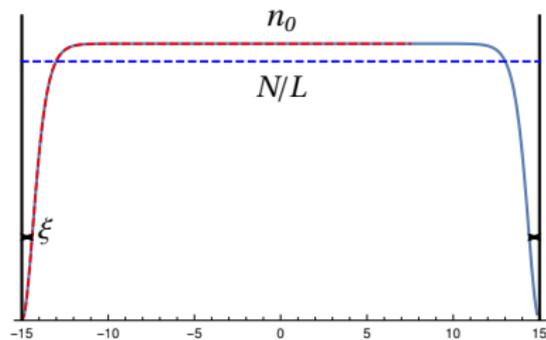
Estimation of healing length:  $\frac{\hbar^2}{2m\xi^2} \simeq \mu$

$$\Rightarrow \xi = \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2m\mu}}$$

# Solution of GPE in a box

Consider a box potential of size  $L$ :  $V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) = 0 + \text{hard wall b.c.}$

- large interactions:  $g |\psi|^2 \psi \simeq \mu \psi \Rightarrow n_0 = \mu/g \simeq N/L$   
except at the edges within the **healing length**



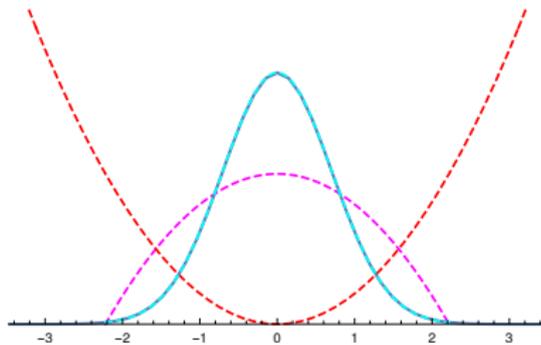
Close to the edge:  $\psi(x) \simeq \sqrt{n_0} \tanh[x/(\xi\sqrt{2})]$

$$\xi = \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2m\mu}}$$

# Solution of GPE in a harmonic trap

Consider now a harmonic potential  $V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{2}m\omega_0^2 r^2$ .

- weak interactions: **Gaussian ground state** of  $h^{(0)}$  with size  $a_0$
- $$-\frac{\hbar^2 \nabla^2 \psi}{2m} + V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r})\psi = \mu\psi$$



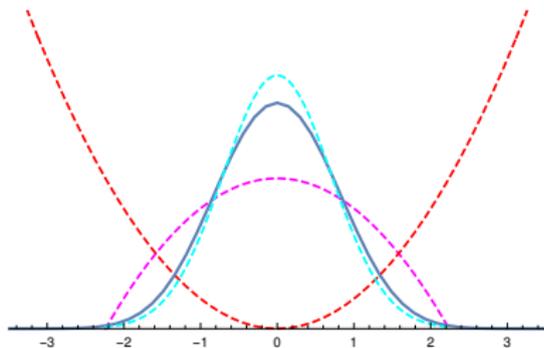
$$a_0 = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{m\omega_0}}$$

# Solution of GPE in a harmonic trap

Consider now a harmonic potential  $V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{2}m\omega_0^2 r^2$ .

- increase interactions: deformed **Gaussian state** with size  $> a_0$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2 \nabla^2 \psi}{2m} + V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r})\psi + g|\psi|^2\psi = \mu\psi$$

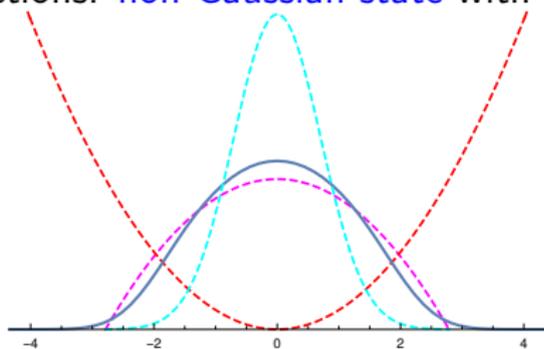


$$a_0 = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{m\omega_0}}$$

# Solution of GPE in a harmonic trap

Consider now a harmonic potential  $V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{2}m\omega_0^2 r^2$ .

- increase interactions: **non-Gaussian state** with size  $\gg a_0$

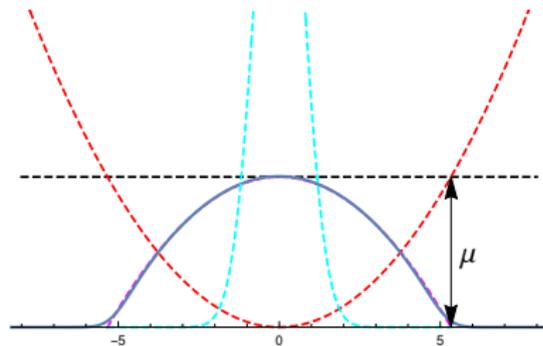


# Solution of GPE in a harmonic trap

Consider now a harmonic potential  $V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{2}m\omega_0^2 r^2$ .

- large interactions: **Thomas-Fermi** profile of radius  $R_{TF}$

$$V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r})\psi + g|\psi|^2\psi \simeq \mu\psi \Rightarrow n(r) = [\mu - V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r})]/g$$



Inverted parabola of radius  $R_{TF} = \frac{1}{\omega} \sqrt{\frac{2\mu}{m}}$

# Time-dependent GPE

Study of the dynamics: out of equilibrium dynamics away from the ground state.

Described by the **time-dependent Gross-Pitaevskii equation**

$$-i\hbar\partial_t\psi = -\frac{\hbar^2\nabla^2\psi}{2m} + V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r})\psi + g|\psi|^2\psi$$

# Hydrodynamics

Equivalent formulation of GPE with hydrodynamics equations:

$$\psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = \sqrt{n(\mathbf{r}, t)} e^{i\theta(\mathbf{r}, t)}$$

$$(1) \quad \partial_t n + \nabla \cdot (n\mathbf{v}) = 0 \quad \text{continuity equation}$$

$$(2) \quad m\partial_t \mathbf{v} = -\nabla \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\Delta(\sqrt{n})}{\sqrt{n}} + \frac{1}{2} m v^2 + V_{\text{ext}} + g n \right)$$

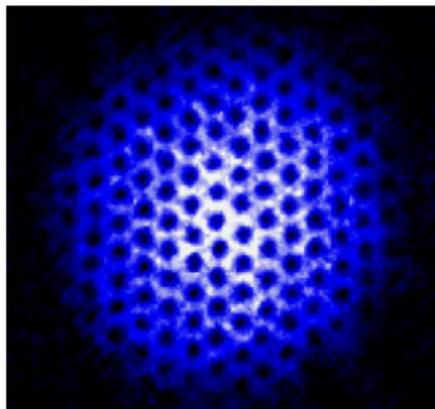
(2) Euler equation

$$\mathbf{v} = \frac{\hbar}{m} \nabla \theta \quad \text{fluid velocity} \Rightarrow \nabla \times \mathbf{v} = 0 \quad \text{irrotational flow}$$

# Hydrodynamics and superfluidity

The hydrodynamics equations describe

- The condensate **expansion in a time-of-flight**
- The **collective modes** (breathing mode, quadrupolar mode. . .)
- More generally the **excitations**: phonons, solitons, free particles, quantized vortices
- The formation of **vortices** in a rotating fluid



A signature of superfluidity: **a vortex lattice** in a rotating condensate.

# Homogeneous gas: the Bogolubov spectrum

Consider  $V_{\text{ext}} = 0$ . What is the small amplitude excitation spectrum around equilibrium ( $n_0 = \mu/g$ )?

Write  $n = n_0 + \delta n$  and linearize for  $\delta n$  and  $\mathbf{v}$

$$(1) \quad \partial_t \delta n + n_0 \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v}) = 0$$

$$(2) \quad m \partial_t \mathbf{v} = -\nabla \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\Delta(\delta n)}{2n_0} + g \delta n \right)$$

Look for a plane wave solution  $\delta n = \delta n_0 e^{ikz - i\omega t}$ , same for  $\mathbf{v}$ :

$$(1) \quad -m\omega \delta n + mn_0 \mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{v}) = 0$$

$$(2) \quad -\omega mn_0 \mathbf{v} = -\mathbf{k} \left( \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{4m} \delta n + gn_0 \delta n \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega^2 = \frac{\hbar^2 k^4}{4m^2} + gn_0 \frac{k^2}{m} \quad \text{with} \quad gn_0 = \mu$$

# Bogolubov spectrum

## Sound and particles

$$\omega = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar^2 k^4}{4m^2} + \frac{\mu}{m} k^2}$$

**Two relevant limits:**

- $k \rightarrow 0$ :  $\omega \simeq kc \Rightarrow$  **sound waves** with the speed of sound

$$c = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{m}} \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \mu = mc^2$$

- $k \rightarrow \infty$ :  $\hbar\omega \simeq \mu + \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} \Rightarrow$  **particle-like excitations** on top of the condensed particles bringing an energy  $\mu$

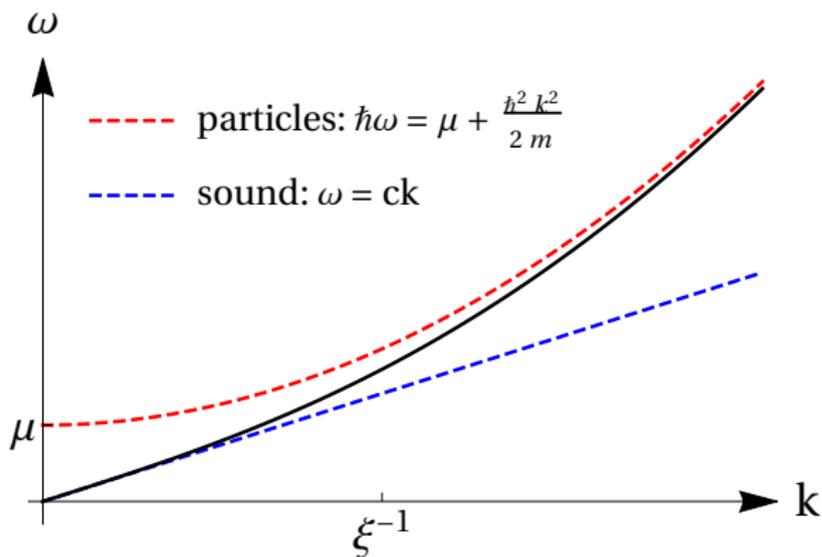
**Boundary between the two regimes:**  $k \simeq \xi^{-1}$  with

$$\xi = \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2m\mu}} = \frac{\hbar}{mc}$$

# Bogolubov spectrum

## Sound and particles

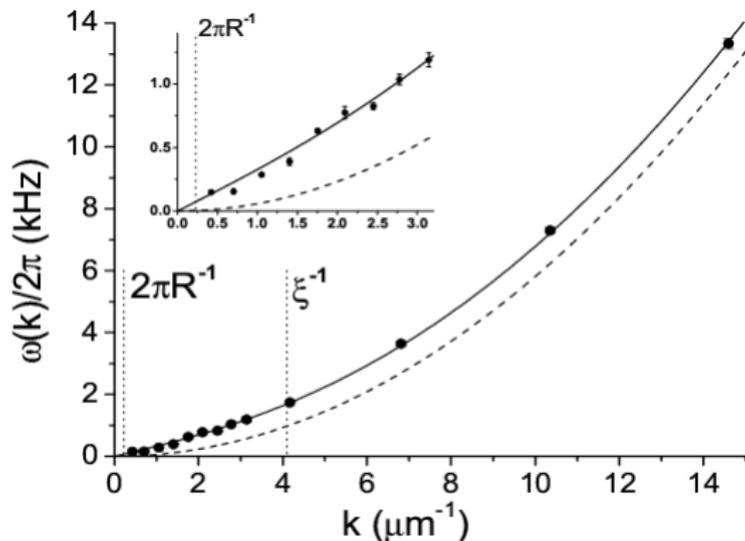
$$\omega = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar^2 k^4}{4m^2} + \frac{\mu}{m} k^2}$$



# Bogolubov spectrum

Experimental observation

Selective excitation at  $(k, \omega)$  with Bragg diffraction



linear spectrum (phonons)

at small  $k$ :  $\omega(k) = ck$

quadratic spectrum at

large  $k$

[Nir Davidson group, 2002]

Warning: Linear at small  $k$  for **interacting** gases only!

# Signatures of superfluidity

## (1) Critical velocity

Consequence of Bogolubov dispersion  $E(p) \geq cp$ : **Landau criterion**

- Consider an **object** of mass  $M$  and momentum  $P$  dragged into the fluid at a speed  $v = P/M$ : can its motion be **damped** by creating an **excitation** of momentum  $p^*$  in the condensate?

- Momentum and energy conservation:**

$$\text{Before: } P, E = P^2/2M + 0$$

$$\text{After: } P' + p^*, E = P'^2/2M + E(p^*)$$

- From  $P' = P - p^*$  it follows that

$$\frac{P \cdot p^*}{M} = v \cdot p^* = E(p^*) + \frac{p^{*2}}{2M} \geq E(p^*) \geq cp^*$$

- Excitations are created only if  $v \geq c$ : existence of a **critical velocity** (Warning:  $c$  vanishes if  $g \rightarrow 0$ )

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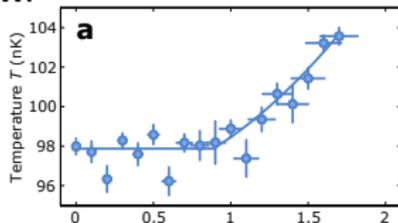
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After:  $P' + p^*, E = P'^2/2M + E(p^*)$

- From  $P' = P - p^*$  it follows that

$$\frac{P \cdot p^*}{M} = v \cdot p^* = E(p^*) + \frac{p^{*2}}{2M} \geq E(p^*) \geq cp^*$$

- Excitations are created only if  $v \geq c$ : existence of a **critical velocity** (Warning:  $c$  vanishes if  $g \rightarrow 0$ )

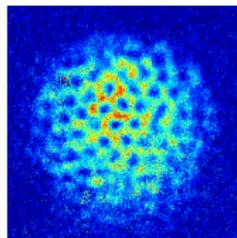
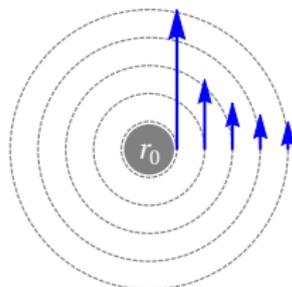


[Dalibard group 2012]

# Signatures of superfluidity

## (2) Quantized vortices

- $\nabla \times \mathbf{v} = 0$  unless at positions  $\mathbf{r}_\mathbf{v}$  such that  $n(\mathbf{r}_\mathbf{v}) = 0$
- Around such a point  $\mathbf{r}_\mathbf{v} = 0$ ,  $\psi(\mathbf{r}) \simeq \sqrt{n_0} e^{i\ell\theta}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  rotation with  $1/r$  velocity field  $\mathbf{v} = \frac{\hbar}{m} \frac{\ell}{r} \mathbf{e}_\theta$
- $\psi$  is uniquely defined  $\Rightarrow \ell \in \mathbb{Z}$
- $\mathcal{C} = \oint \mathbf{v} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \ell \frac{h}{M}$ ,  $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}$   
 the fluid rotates with a **quantized circulation**
- Size of the hole:  $v > c$  for  $r < \frac{\hbar}{mc} = \xi$   
 $\Rightarrow$  **healing length**  $\xi$
- Kinetic energy of a vortex:  $E_{\text{kin}} \propto \ell^2$
- Multiply charged vortices  $|\ell| > 1$  are unstable  
 $\Rightarrow$  Vortices arrange into an **Abrikosov lattice**



# Dynamics of the trapped Bose gas

## Collective modes in a harmonic trap

Derivation of **quantized, low energy modes** in a spherical harmonic trap (large scale). We start from the hydrodynamics equations:

$$(1) \quad \partial_t n + \nabla \cdot (n\mathbf{v}) = 0$$

$$(2) \quad m\partial_t \mathbf{v} = -\nabla \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\Delta(\sqrt{n})}{\sqrt{n}} + \frac{1}{2}m\mathbf{v}^2 + \frac{1}{2}\omega^2 r^2 + gn - \mu \right)$$

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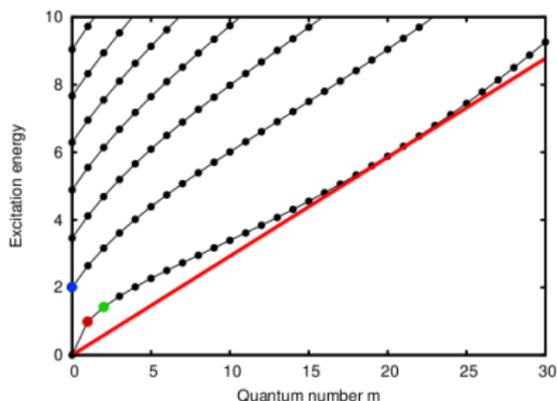
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- 3D:  $n, \ell, m$  quantum numbers:  $\delta n(\mathbf{r}) = P_\ell^{(2n)}(r/R) r^\ell Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi)$
- Get  $\omega(n, \ell) = \omega_0 [2n^2 + 2n\ell + 3n + \ell]^{1/2}$

# Dynamics of the trapped Bose gas

## Excitation spectrum and collective modes

- Quantized excitation spectrum
- Example for the isotropic 2D gas:  $n, m$  are good quantum numbers:  $\omega(n, m) = \omega_0 [2n^2 + 2n|m| + 2n + |m|]^{1/2}$
- Full spectrum:

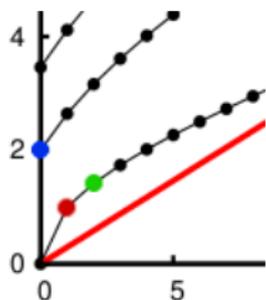


red line: gives the critical velocity, related to surface modes [Anglin2001]

# Dynamics of the trapped Bose gas

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$m$

- **dipole** mode  $n = 0, m = 1$ , both superfluid and thermal: centre of mass oscillation

- **monopole**

$n = 1, m = 0$ :

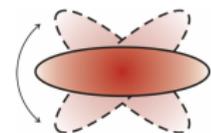
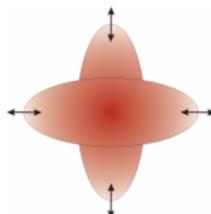
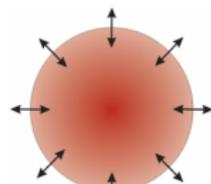
superfluid and thermal  
**signature of the EOS**

- **quadrupole**

$n = 0, m = \pm 2$

**superfluid only**

- **scissors** for  $\omega_x \neq \omega_y$   
**superfluid only**

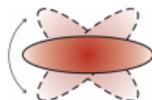


# Signatures of superfluidity

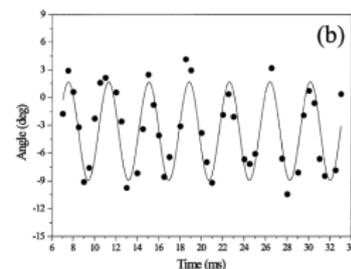
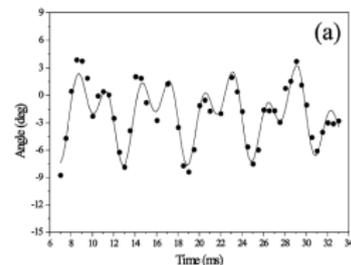
## (3) Specific collective modes

**Specific modes** of a superfluid gas: quadrupole mode, **scissors mode**: oscillation of  $\langle xy \rangle \propto \theta$  in an **anisotropic** harmonic trap  $\omega_x \neq \omega_y \Rightarrow$  Use the scissors mode to characterize a **superfluid** dilute gas [DGO Stringari 1999, Foot2000]

- no scissors mode in the thermal phase in the **collisionless** regime, only beat notes of harmonic modes  $\omega_{\pm} = \omega_x \pm \omega_y$



- scissors mode expected at  $\omega_{sc} = \sqrt{\omega_x^2 + \omega_y^2}$  for a **superfluid**



# Summary

- BEC occurs below  $T_C$  (or above  $N_C$ ) in a **3D box** or in a **harmonic trap in 2D or 3D**
- The dynamics of the condensate is captured in the **mean-field regime** by **GPE** or the **hydrodynamics equations**
- A weakly interacting BEC is a **superfluid**
- Superfluidity should be probed dynamically
- Signatures include critical velocity, vortices, **collective modes**

Next lecture: **adiabatic potentials** for the study of collective modes.