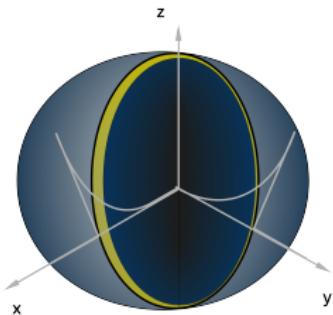


The physics of shell-shaped Bose-Einstein condensates



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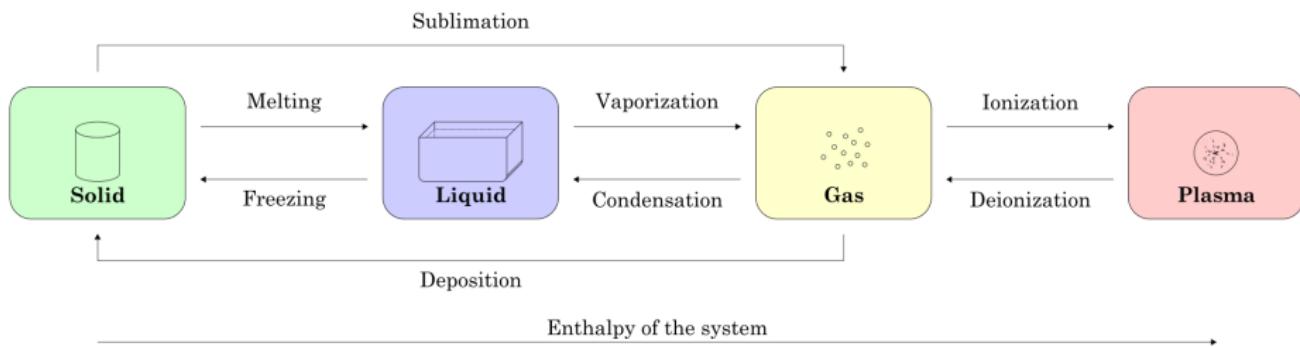
In collaboration with F. Cinti, A. Pelster, L. Salasnich.

This presentation on www.andreatononi.com

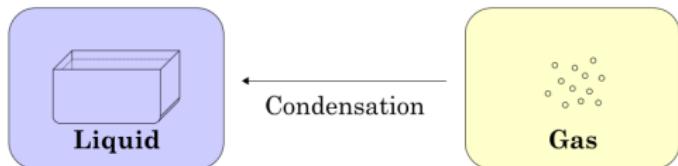
Outline

- ▷ Bose-Einstein Condensation and Superfluidity
- ▷ The physics of shell-shaped BECs
 - ▶ Properties and challenges of shell-shaped condensates
 - ▶ Bose-Einstein condensation on the surface of a sphere
 - ▶ Recent developments
- ▷ Conclusions

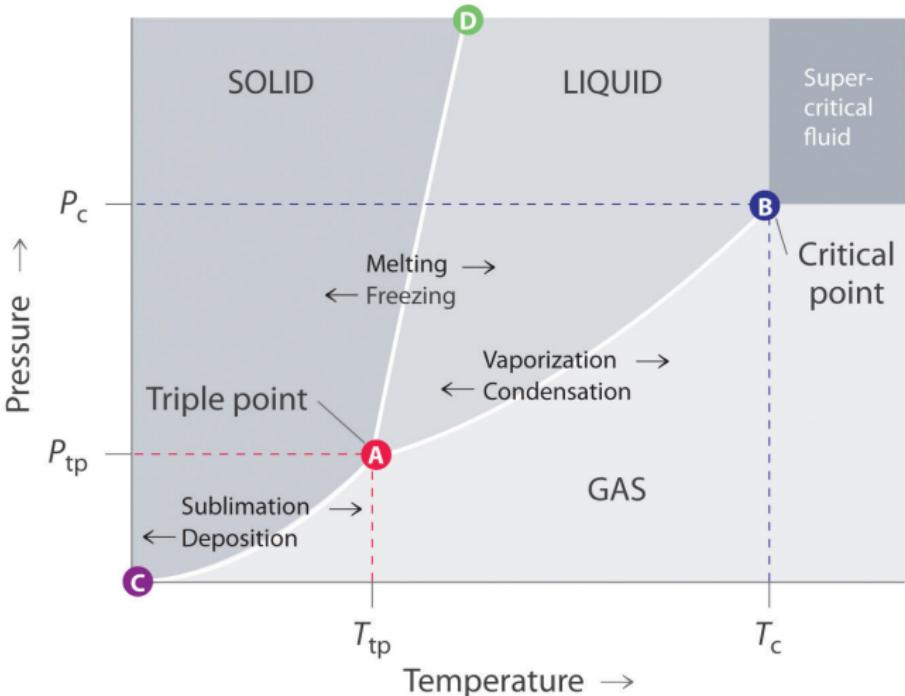
Phases of matter



Condensation

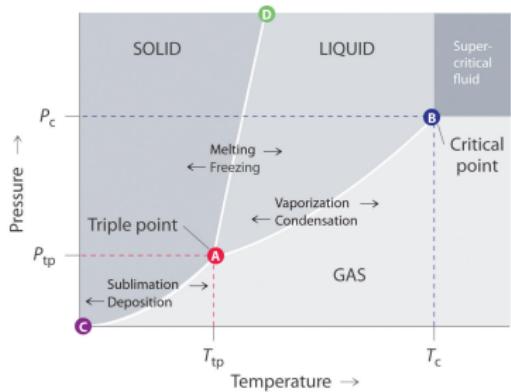


Phases of matter at equilibrium

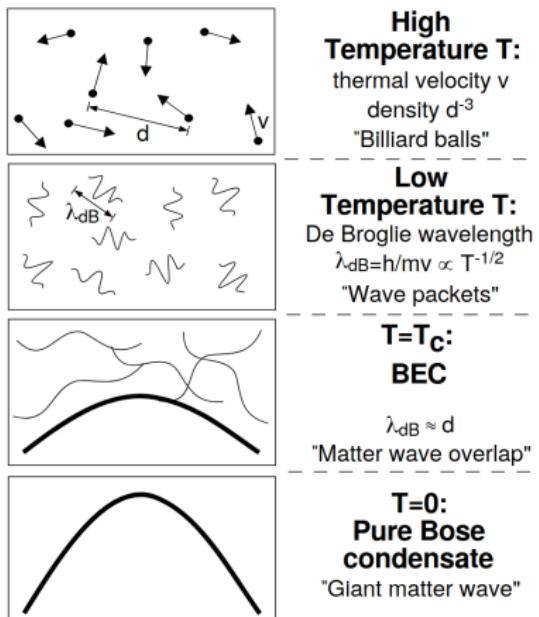


A metastable phase of matter: Bose-Einstein condensate

Cooling a gas at very low pressure and density: **solid** at equilibrium...

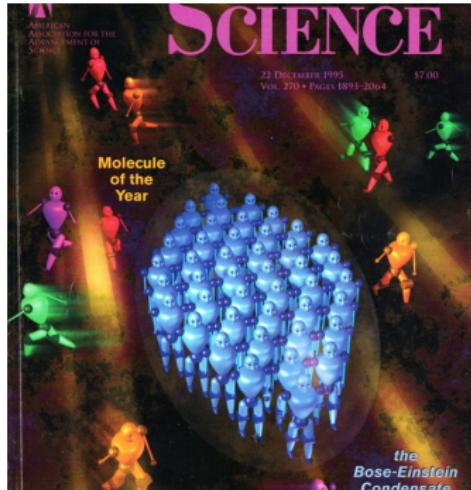


How a BEC forms:



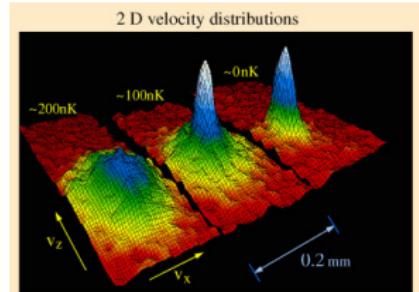
...but (in a bosonic system) a
Bose-Einstein condensate as a
metastable state!

Bose-Einstein Condensation



Bose-Einstein condensate:
a many-body system of identical bosonic
particles of which a **macroscopic fraction**
occupies the same lowest-energy
single-particle state

Cornell & Wieman, Ketterle, in 1995:
observation of **Bose-Einstein condensation**
of ^{87}Rb and ^{23}Na gases through laser
cooling and evaporative cooling



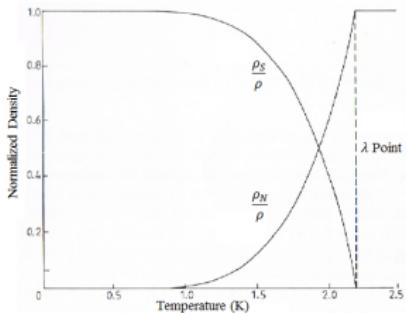
Superfluidity



Superfluidity:
frictionless flow of a quantum liquid
through narrow capillaries

Kapitza, in 1938:
observation of **superfluidity** in liquid ^4He
below $T_\lambda = 2.17\text{ K}$

Landau & Tisza, in 1941:
two-fluid model



BEC and Superfluidity of noninteracting bosons

No superfluidity!

What about BEC?

$$3D \quad T_{BEC}^{(0)} = \frac{2\pi\hbar^2}{mk_B} \frac{n^{2/3}}{\zeta(3/2)^{2/3}}$$

$$2D \quad T_{BEC}^{(0)} = 0: \text{ no long-range order...}$$

... “Hohenberg-Mermin-Wagner theorem”:

no BEC at finite temperature in the thermodynamic limit for $D = 1, 2$

[Hohenberg, PR 158, 383 (1967)] [Mermin, Wagner, PRL 17, 1133 (1966)]

BEC and Superfluidity of **interacting** bosons

For weakly-interacting bosons:

$$3D \quad T_{BEC} = T_{\text{superfluidity}} \sim T_{BEC}^{(0)}$$

$$2D \quad T_{BEC} = 0: \text{ no long-range order...}$$

...but superfluidity ("quasi-long-range order") at $T < \mathbf{T}_{\text{BKT}}$

Berezinskii-Kosterlitz-Thouless transition

Quasi-order parameter of a 2D superfluid:

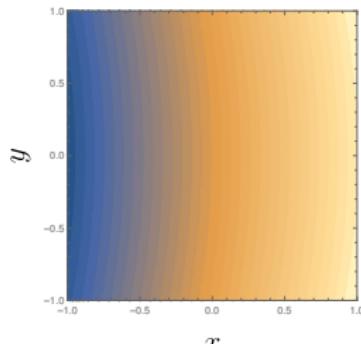
$$\psi(\vec{r}) = [n_s^{(0)}(T)]^{1/2} e^{i\theta(\vec{r})}$$

The kinetic energy includes only phase fluctuations:

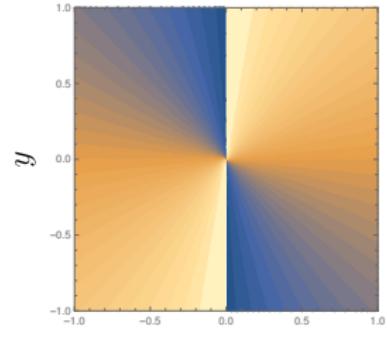
$$U = \int d^2r \psi^*(\vec{r}) \left(-\frac{\hbar^2 \nabla^2}{2m} \right) \psi(\vec{r}) = \frac{\hbar^2 n_s^{(0)}}{2m} \int d^2r (\nabla \theta)^2$$

$\theta(\vec{r})$ invariant under $\theta(\vec{r}) \rightarrow \theta(\vec{r}) + 2\pi q$, $q \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$\theta(\vec{r}) \sim \text{const}$$



$$\theta(\vec{r}) = q \arctan(y/x)$$



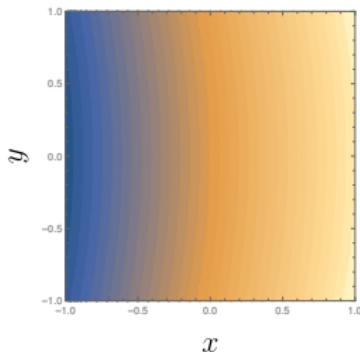
Berezinskii-Kosterlitz-Thouless transition

Introducing the superfluid velocity $\vec{v}_s = \frac{\hbar}{m} \nabla \theta(\vec{r})$,

which satisfies $\frac{m}{\hbar} \oint_{\gamma} \vec{v}_s \cdot d\vec{l} = 2\pi q$ (Feynman-Onsager) ,

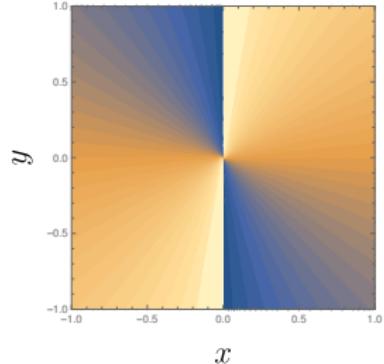
the energy reads $U = \frac{1}{2} m n_s^{(0)} \int d^2 r v_s^2$

$$\theta(\vec{r}) \sim \text{const}$$



low-energy configuration

$$\theta(\vec{r}) = q \arctan(y/x)$$

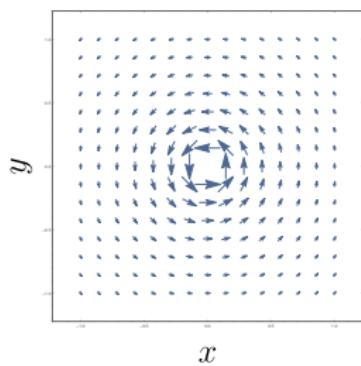


high-energy **topological** configuration

Topological configurations?

A vortex is a **topological** global property of the system.

The velocity circulation $\frac{m}{\hbar} \oint_{\gamma} \vec{v}_s \cdot d\vec{l} = 2\pi q$, **does not depend** on the specific circuit γ considered, which can be deformed continuously (\leftrightarrow topology) around the vortex core.



vortex velocity field



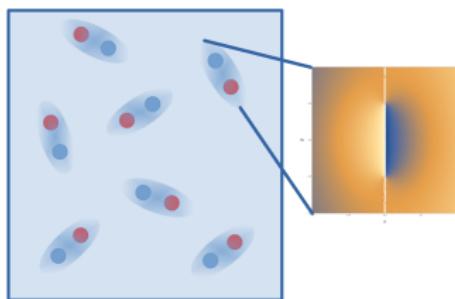
“whorl fingerprint”

Berezinskii-Kosterlitz-Thouless transition

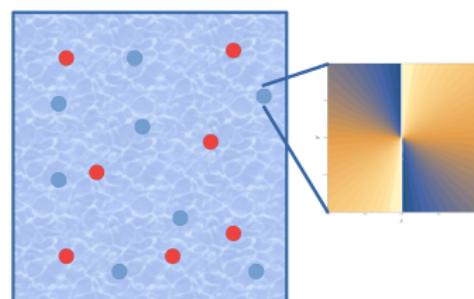
Free energy of a vortex: $F = U - TS = \frac{\pi\hbar^2 n_s^{(0)}(T)}{m} \ln\left(\frac{L}{a}\right) - T k_B \ln\left(\frac{L^2}{a^2}\right)$

Vortices appear when $F < 0$, namely $T > T_{\text{BKT}} = \frac{\pi\hbar^2 n_s^{(0)}(T)}{2mk_B}$

$$T < T_{\text{BKT}}$$



$$T > T_{\text{BKT}}$$

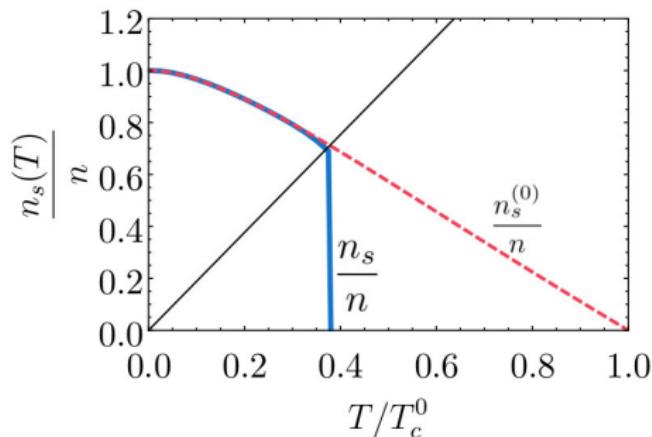


Vortex-antivortex dipoles at $T < T_{\text{BKT}}$, free vortices at $T > T_{\text{BKT}}$

Berezinskii-Kosterlitz-Thouless transition

[Nelson, Kosterlitz, PRL 39, 1201 (1977)]

Renormalization group equations to calculate the renormalized superfluid density, $n_s(T)$, using the bare superfluid density, $n_s^{(0)}$, as initial condition.



Kosterlitz-Nelson criterion: $\frac{n_s(T_{\text{BKT}}^-)}{T_{\text{BKT}}} = \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{mk_B}{\hbar^2}$

The Nobel Prize in Physics 2016



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Mahmoud

David J. Thouless

Prize share: 1/2



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**F. Duncan M.
Haldane**

Prize share: 1/4



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J. Michael Kosterlitz

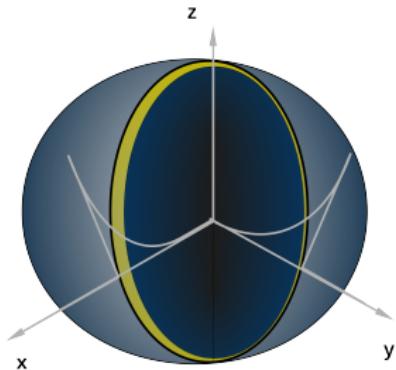
Prize share: 1/4

"for theoretical discoveries of topological phase transitions and topological phases of matter"

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Shell-shaped Bose-Einstein condensate



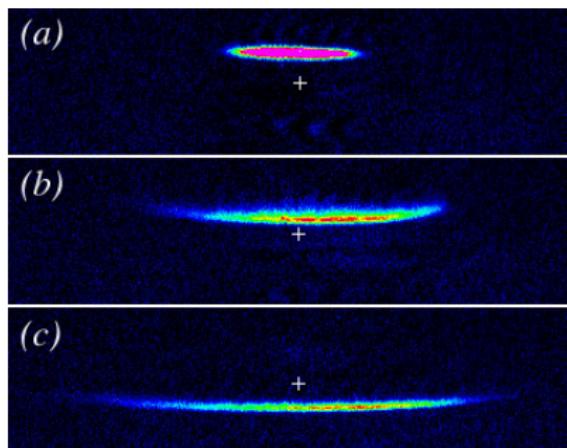
BEC on the surface of an ellipsoid

Why should we care?

- BEC in 2D (finite size)
- curved quantum system
- BKT, topology, vortices
- experimentally realizable

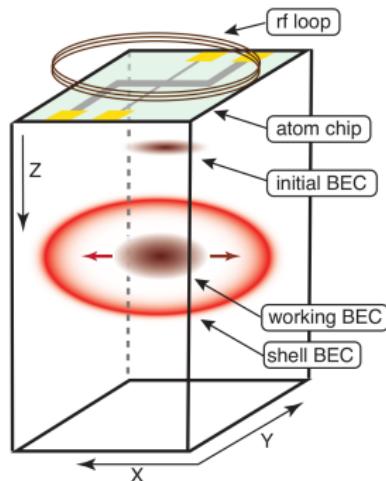
The experiments with “bubble” traps

technically difficult on Earth...



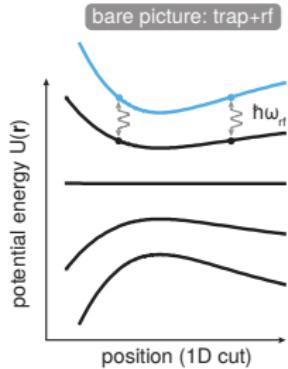
[Colombe *et al.*, EPL **67**, 593 (2004)]

NASA-JPL Cold Atom Laboratory



[Lundblad *et al.*, npj Microgravity **5**, 30 (2019)]

How to implement bubble traps

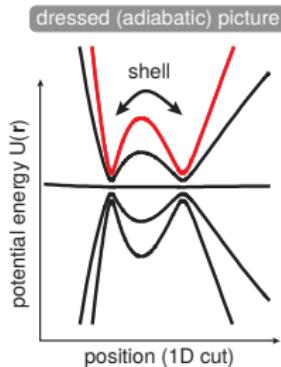


Alkali-metal atoms
(here: total angular momentum $F = 2$)

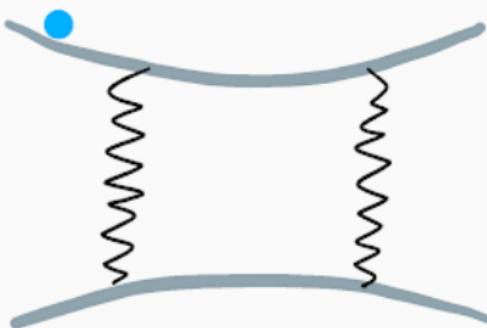
- + Magnetic field $\mathbf{B}(\vec{r})$

\Rightarrow space-dependent Zeeman splitting
with $m_F = \{\pm 2, \pm 1, 0\} \Rightarrow$
space-dependent bare potentials $u(\vec{r})$

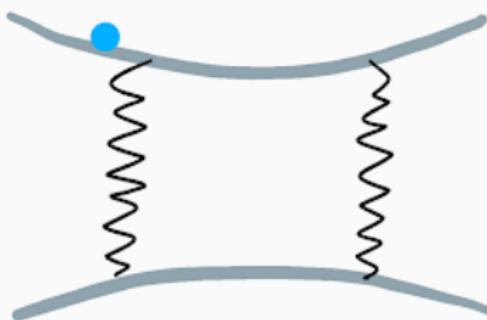
- + Radiofrequency field $\mathbf{B}_{\text{rf}}(\vec{r}, t)$ \Rightarrow
bubble trap in the dressed picture
(old m_F bad quantum number)



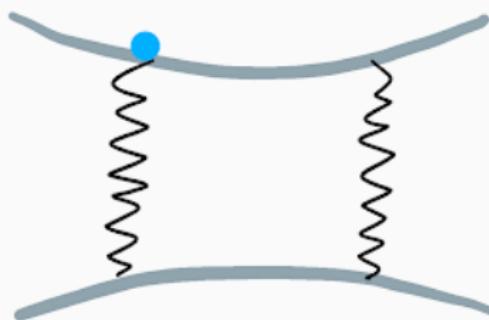
Radiofrequency-induced adiabatic potential



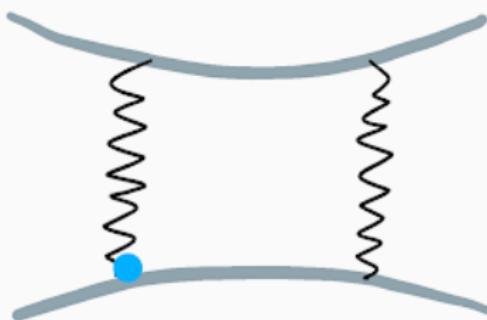
Radiofrequency-induced adiabatic potential



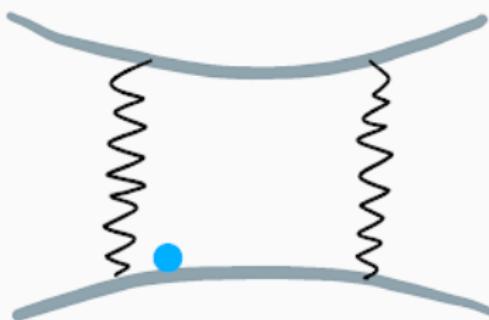
Radiofrequency-induced adiabatic potential



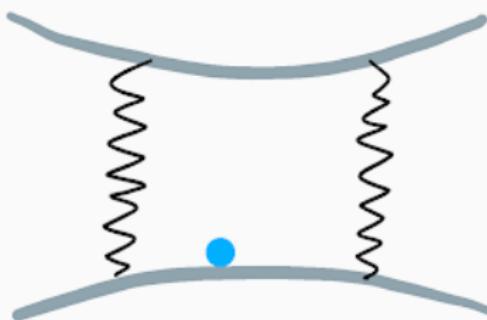
Radiofrequency-induced adiabatic potential



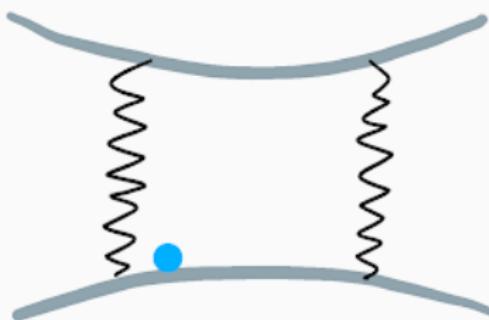
Radiofrequency-induced adiabatic potential



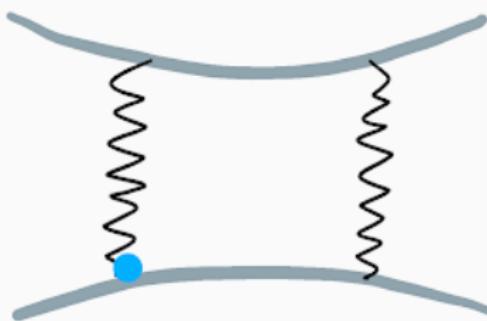
Radiofrequency-induced adiabatic potential



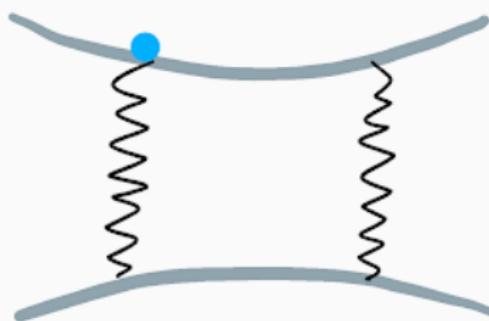
Radiofrequency-induced adiabatic potential



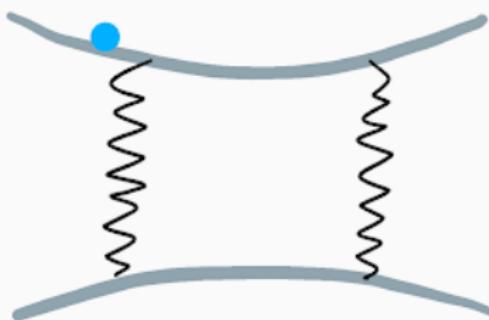
Radiofrequency-induced adiabatic potential



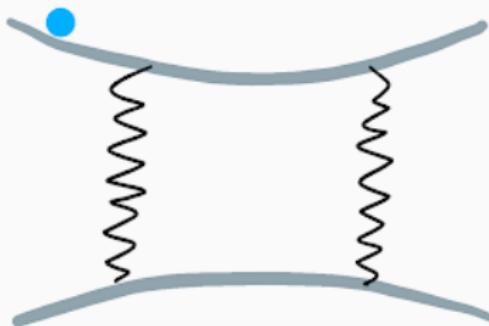
Radiofrequency-induced adiabatic potential



Radiofrequency-induced adiabatic potential



Radiofrequency-induced adiabatic potential



Radiofrequency-induced adiabatic potential



Bubble trap

$$U(\vec{r}) = M_F \sqrt{\left[\sum_i m \omega_i^2 x_i^2 / 2 - \hbar \Delta \right]^2 + (\hbar \Omega)^2},$$

ω_i : frequencies of the bare harmonic trap

Δ : detuning from the resonant frequency

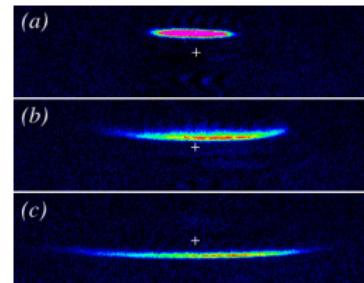
Ω : Rabi frequency between coupled levels

Minimum for $\omega_x^2 x^2 + \omega_y^2 y^2 + \omega_z^2 z^2 = 2\hbar\Delta/m$.

[Zobay, Garraway, Phys. Rev. Lett. **86**, 1195 (2001)]

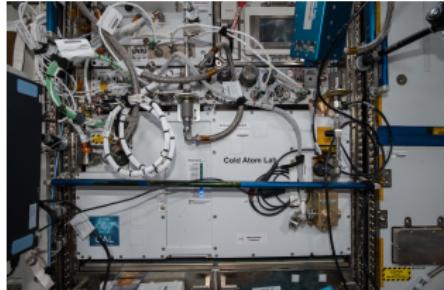
$$U(\vec{r}) = M_F \sqrt{\left[\sum_i m \omega_i^2 x_i^2 / 2 - \hbar \Delta \right]^2 + (\hbar \Omega)^2} + \underline{mgz}$$

If gravity is included the **atoms will fall to the bottom of the trap!**



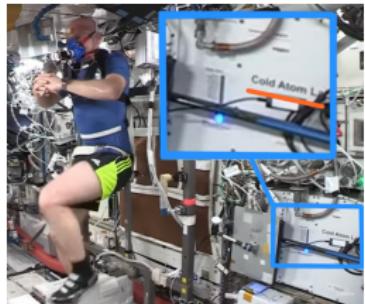
[Colombe *et al.*, EPL 67, 593 (2004)]

⇒ Experiments on NASA-JPL **Cold Atom Lab**, see
[Elliott *et al.*, npj Microgravity 4, 16 (2018)] (PI: N. Lundblad)



Cold Atom Lab (CAL)

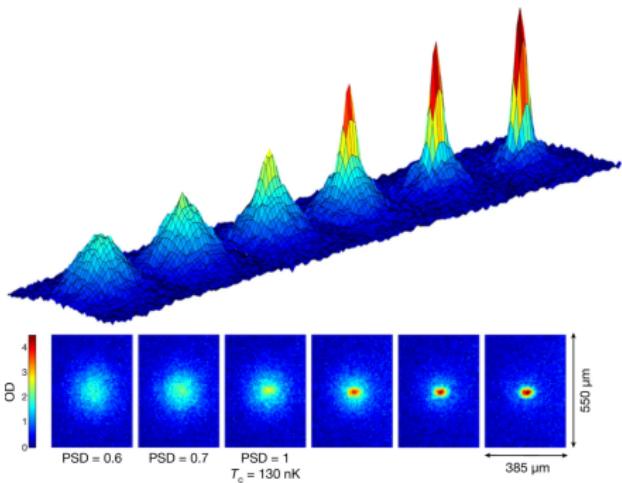
This one ↓



2019 upgrade:



Routine production of microgravity BECs:



[Aveline *et al.*, Nature **582**, 193 (2020)]

...towards BECCAL:

[Frye *et al.*, EPJ Quantum Technol **8**, 1 (2021)]

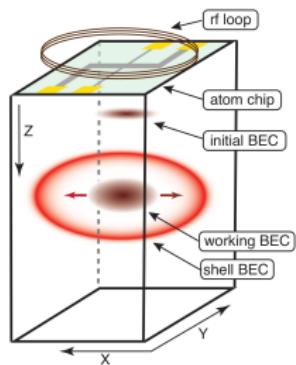
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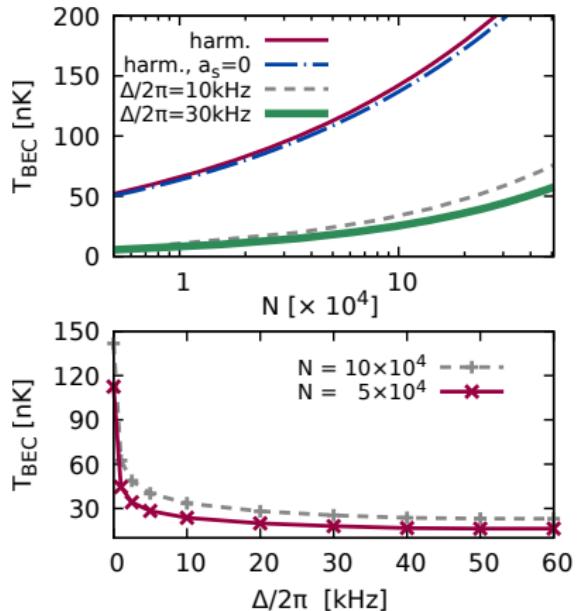
Properties and challenges of shell-shaped condensates

For the **realistic** trap parameters of
NASA-JPL CAL experiment:

$$T_{BEC}^{\text{bubble trap}} \ll T_{BEC}^{\text{harmonic trap}} *$$



(*from Hartree-Fock theory
[Giorgini et al. J. Low T. Phys. (1997)])



[AT, Cinti, Salasnich, PRL 125, 010402
(2020)]

Number density: $T = 0$ vs T_{BEC}

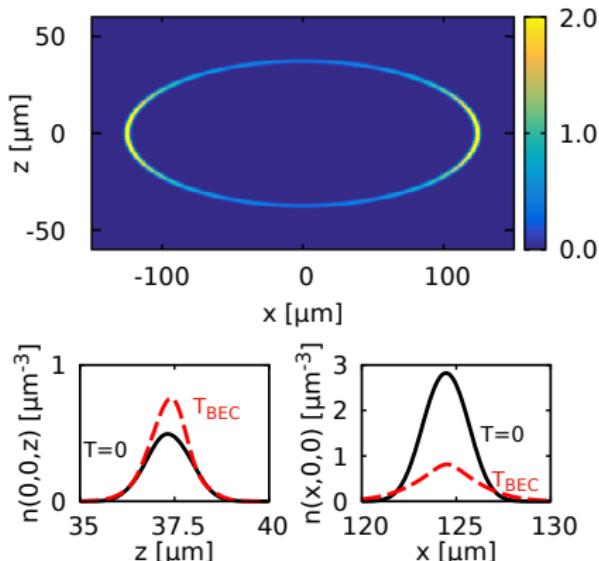
Gross-Pitaevskii equation at $T = 0$:

$$\left[-\frac{\hbar^2 \nabla^2}{2m} + U(\vec{r}) + g|\psi|^2 \right] \psi = \mu \psi$$

Hartree-Fock at T_{BEC} :

$$n(\vec{r}) = \int \frac{d^3 p}{e(E^{HF}(\vec{p}, \vec{r})/(k_B T_{\text{BEC}}) - 1)}$$

$$E^{HF}(\vec{p}, \vec{r}) = p^2/(2m) + U(\vec{r}) - \mu + 2gn(\vec{r})$$

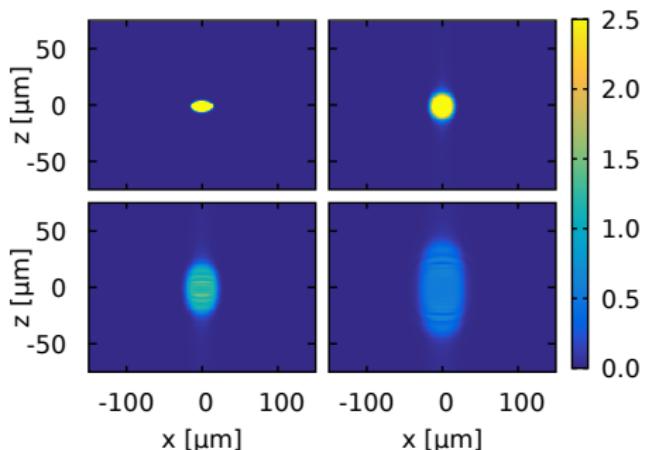


Number density as a probe of the system temperature

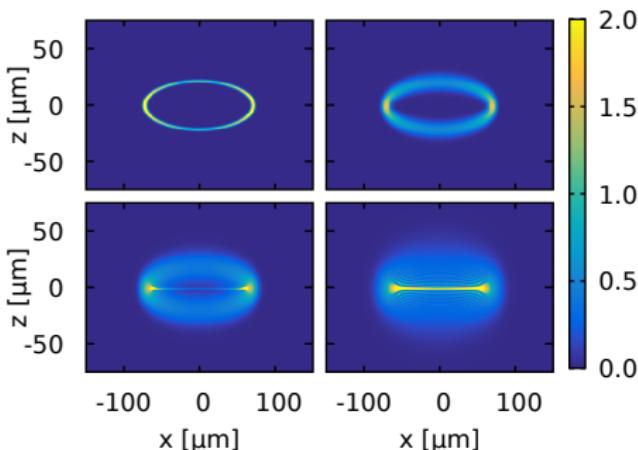
[AT, Cinti, Salasnich, PRL 125, 010402 (2020)]

Free expansion

Harmonic trap



Bubble trap

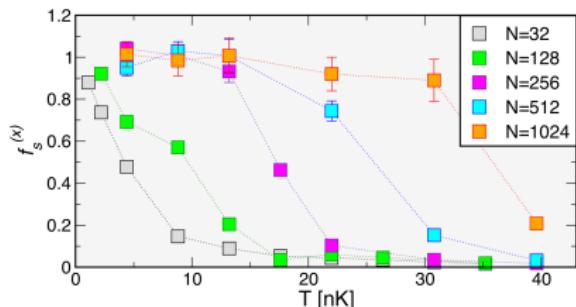


[AT, Cinti, Salasnich, PRL 125, 010402 (2020)]

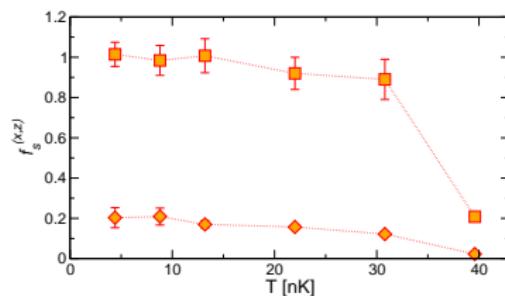
Path Integral Monte Carlo - superfluid fraction

Experimental trap parameters, but **strongly-interacting** bosons:

$$\text{calculation of } f_s^{(i)} = I_i / I_{i,\text{classical}}$$



$$f_s^{(x)}$$



$$f_s^{(x)} > f_s^{(z)}$$

(x : main symmetry axis; $y, z \perp x$)

[AT, Cinti, Salasnich, PRL 125, 010402 (2020)]

A take-home message

- ◊ Experiments can be challenging: to have a sufficient condensate fraction in $\sim 10^5$ atoms you need a final temperature $\ll 30\text{ nK}$.
- ⇒ It is worth studying the finite-temperature properties and BKT physics

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- ▷ Conclusions

Bose-Einstein condensation on the surface of a sphere

Noninteracting case, single particle on a sphere of radius R :

$$\frac{\hat{L}^2}{2mR^2} \psi_{I,m_I}(\theta, \varphi) = \epsilon_I \psi_{I,m_I}(\theta, \varphi),$$

with $\epsilon_I = \frac{\hbar^2}{2mR^2} I(I+1)$ and $m_I = -I, \dots, +I$.

Particle number at temperature T :

$$N = \sum_{I=0}^{+\infty} \sum_{m_I=-I}^{+I} \frac{1}{e^{(\epsilon_I - \mu)/(k_B T)} - 1} = N_0 + \sum_{I=1}^{+\infty} \frac{2I+1}{e^{(\epsilon_I - \epsilon_0)/(k_B T)} - 1}$$

when $N_0 = 0 \implies T = T_{\text{BEC}}$

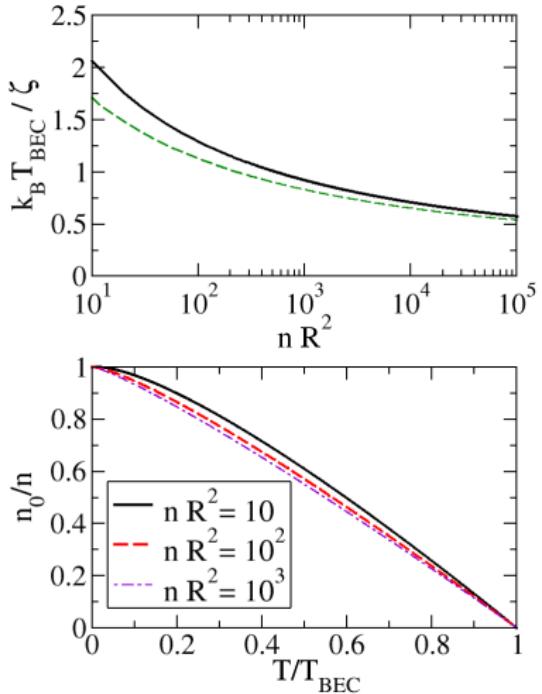
BEC on a sphere: noninteracting case

$$k_B T_{\text{BEC}} =$$

$$\frac{\frac{2\pi\hbar^2}{m}n}{\frac{\beta_{\text{BEC}}\hbar^2}{mR^2} - \ln(e^{\beta_{\text{BEC}}\hbar^2/mR^2} - 1)}$$

$$\frac{n_0}{n} = 1 -$$

$$\frac{1 - \frac{mR^2}{\hbar^2\beta} \ln(e^{\beta\hbar^2/mR^2} - 1)}{1 - \frac{mR^2}{\hbar^2\beta_{\text{BEC}}} \ln(e^{\beta_{\text{BEC}}\hbar^2/mR^2} - 1)}$$



[AT, Salasnich, PRL 123, 160403 (2019)]

BEC on a sphere: interacting case

Popov theory to calculate the grand canonical potential:

$$\Omega = -\beta^{-1} \ln(\mathcal{Z}), \quad \mathcal{Z} = \int \mathcal{D}[\bar{\psi}, \psi] e^{-S[\bar{\psi}, \psi]/\hbar},$$

where

$$S[\bar{\psi}, \psi] = \int_0^{\beta\hbar} d\tau \int_0^{2\pi} d\varphi \int_0^\pi d\theta R^2 \sin(\theta) \mathcal{L}(\bar{\psi}, \psi)$$

is the Euclidean action, and

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi}(\theta, \varphi, \tau) \left(\hbar \partial_\tau + \frac{\hat{L}^2}{2mR^2} - \mu \right) \psi(\theta, \varphi, \tau) + \frac{g}{2} |\psi(\theta, \varphi, \tau)|^4$$

is the Euclidean Lagrangian.

("dimensional" reduction in: [Móller *et al.*, NJP 22, 063059 (2020)])

Thermodynamic potential Ω

In the Bose-condensed phase

$$\psi(\theta, \varphi, \tau) = \psi_0 + \eta(\theta, \varphi, \tau)$$

Keeping up to $\sim \eta^2$ terms, expanding with spherical harmonics, and performing functional integration we get

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega(\mu, \psi_0^2) &= 4\pi R^2 \left(-\mu\psi_0^2 + g\psi_0^4/2 \right) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m_l=-l}^l E_l(\mu, \psi_0^2) \\ &+ \frac{1}{\beta} \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m_l=-l}^l \ln \left(1 - e^{-\beta E_l(\mu, \psi_0^2)} \right),\end{aligned}$$

with $E_l(\mu, \psi_0^2) = \sqrt{(\epsilon_l - \mu + 2g\psi_0^2)^2 - g^2\psi_0^4}$.

Number density n

Following [Kleinert, Schmidt, Pelster PRL **93**, 160402 (2004)]

we impose $\frac{\partial \Omega}{\partial \psi_0}(\mu, \psi_0^2) = 0$, obtaining $\psi_0^2 = n_0(\mu)$

then, perturbatively $E_I^B(\mu, n_0(\mu)) = \sqrt{\epsilon_I(\epsilon_I + 2\mu)}$ and $\mu(n_0)$

Number density:

$$n(\mu) = -\frac{1}{4\pi R^2} \frac{\partial \Omega}{\partial \mu}(\mu, n_0(\mu)),$$

From $\mu(n_0)$ we calculate

$$n(\mu(n_0)) = n_0 + f_g^{(0)}(n_0) + f_g^{(T)}(n_0),$$

$f_g^{(0)}(n_0)$, $f_g^{(T)}(n_0)$: **analytical results!**

Critical temperature and condensate fraction

The critical temperature of the interacting system reads

$$k_B T_{\text{BEC}} = \frac{\frac{2\pi\hbar^2 n}{m} - \frac{gn}{2}}{\frac{\hbar^2 \beta_{\text{BEC}}}{2mR^2} \left(1 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{2gmnR^2}{\hbar^2}} \right) - \ln \left(e^{\frac{\hbar^2 \beta_{\text{BEC}}}{mR^2}} \sqrt{1 + \frac{2gmnR^2}{\hbar^2}} - 1 \right)}.$$

and the condensate fraction

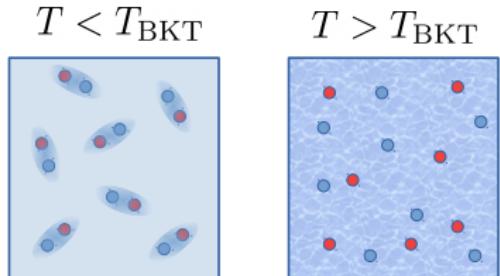
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{n_0}{n} &= 1 - \frac{mg}{4\pi\hbar^2} - \frac{1}{4\pi R^2 n} \left[1 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{2gmnR^2}{\hbar^2}} \right] \\ &\quad + \frac{mk_B T}{2\pi\hbar^2 n} \ln \left(e^{\frac{\hbar^2}{mR^2 k_B T}} \sqrt{1 + (2gmnR^2/\hbar^2)} - 1 \right). \end{aligned}$$

$R \rightarrow \infty$: $T_{\text{BEC}} \rightarrow 0$, flat-case quantum depletion [Schick, PRA 3, 1067 (1971)]

[AT, Salasnich, PRL 123, 160403 (2019)]

BKT transition on a sphere

In the flat case: unbinding of vortex-antivortex dipoles at $T = T_{\text{BKT}}$ destroys the quasi long-range order.



[Ovrut, Thomas PRD 43, 1314 (1991)]: Kosterlitz-Nelson criterion on a sphere

$$k_B T_{\text{BKT}} = \frac{\pi \hbar^2 n_s^{(0)}(T_{\text{BKT}})}{2m},$$

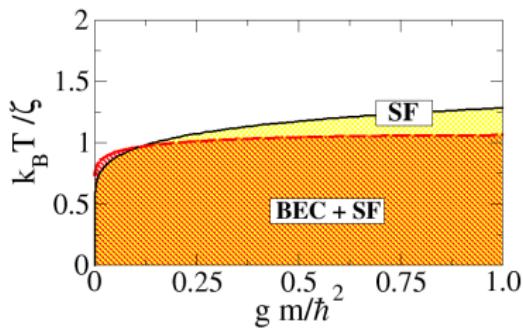
with the bare superfluid density:

$$n_s^{(0)} = n - \frac{1}{k_B T} \int_1^{+\infty} dl \frac{(2l+1)}{4\pi R^2} \frac{\hbar^2(l^2+l)}{2mR^2} \frac{e^{E_l^B/(k_B T)}}{(e^{E_l^B/(k_B T)} - 1)^2}.$$

BEC and BKT on the sphere

Usual 2D picture (thermodyn. limit)

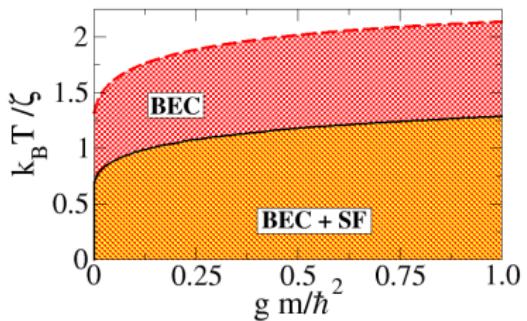
$$nR^2 = 10^5$$



BEC transition (red dashed)
BKT=SF transition (black)

Region of BEC only

$$nR^2 = 10^2$$



[AT, Salasnich, PRL 123, 160403 (2019)]

BEC and BKT on the sphere

- is $nR^2 = 10^2$ observable? Yes!
- we used the Kosterlitz-Nelson criterion with $n_s^{(0)}$

⇒ current work!

Outline

- ▷ Bose-Einstein Condensation and Superfluidity
- ▷ Quantum statistical properties of shell-shaped BECs
 - ▶ Properties and challenges of shell-shaped condensates
 - ▶ Bose-Einstein condensation on the surface of a sphere
 - ▶ Recent developments
- ▷ Conclusions

Current work: **extending the RG equations for a spherical superfluid.**

Renormalization group equations in the flat case

Fundamental analogy:

Charges with 2D Coulomb interaction = Vortices in 2D a superfluid

- Screening of the interaction due to polarization
→ renormalization of the superfluid density: $n_s^{(0)} / \epsilon(r)$
- Define $y_0 = e^{-\beta \mu_{vortex}}$ and $K_0 = \frac{\hbar^2 n_s^{(0)}}{m k_B T}$
- Running of the parameters in $I = \ln(r/a)$
→ $y(I)$ and $K(I) = \frac{\hbar^2}{m k_B T} \frac{n_s^{(0)}}{\epsilon(r)}$

Current work: **extending the RG equations for a spherical superfluid.**

Renormalization group equations in the flat case

- Perturbative calculation in y_0 of $\epsilon(r)$ leads to RG equations:

$$\frac{dK^{-1}(l)}{dl} = -4\pi^3 y^2(l) + o(y_0^3)$$

$$\frac{dy(l)}{dl} = [2 - \pi K(l)] y(l) + o(y_0^2)$$

If T is such that $2 - \pi K < 0$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dy(l)}{dl} < 0 \text{ and } y(\infty) = 0 \Rightarrow \text{no free vortices}$$

Proliferation of vortices at: $K_{\text{BKT}} = 2/\pi \leftrightarrow \frac{n_s(T_{\text{BKT}}^-)}{T_{\text{BKT}}} = \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{mk_B}{\hbar^2}$

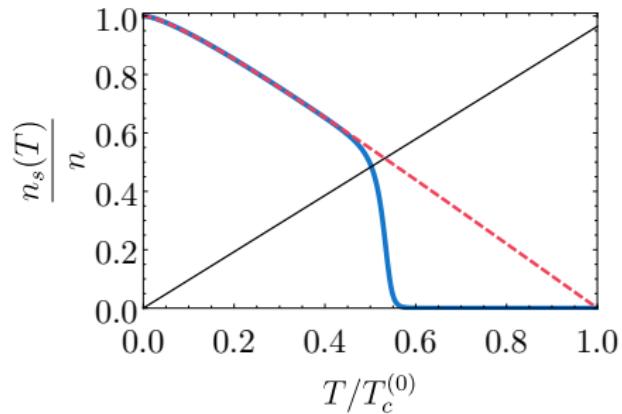
[Kosterlitz, Thouless, J. Phys. C **6**, 1181 (1973)] [Kosterlitz, J. Phys. C **7**, 1046 (1974)]

[Nelson, Kosterlitz, PRL **39**, 1201 (1977)]

Renormalized superfluid density of a spherical superfluid

Extending the Kosterlitz-Thouless RG equations on a spherical superfluid...

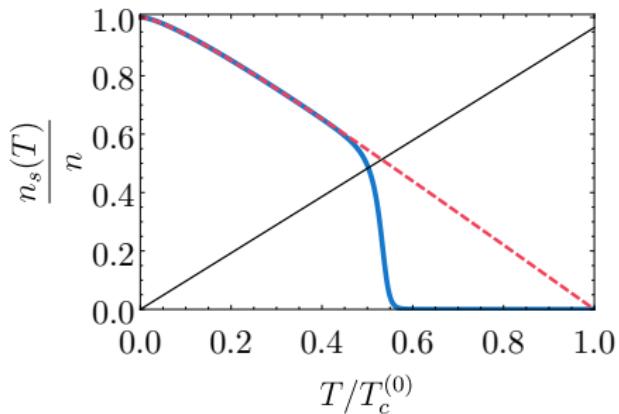
Renormalized superfluid density (**preliminary**)



[Tononi, Pelster, Salasnich, *in preparation*]

Renormalized superfluid density of a spherical superfluid

Different from the infinite flat case, **the transition is not sharp** and there are **finite-size nonuniversal corrections**.



[Tononi, Pelster, Salasnich, *in preparation*]

Current goals:

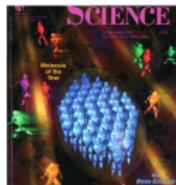
- ◊ Investigation of BEC-BKT interplay, finite-size corrections, ...

Outline

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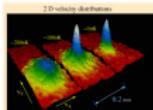
Conclusions

Bose-Einstein Condensation



Bose-Einstein condensate:
a many-body system of identical bosonic
particles of which a **macroscopic fraction**
occupies the same lowest-energy
single-particle state

Cornell & Wieman, Ketterle, in 1995:
observation of **Bose-Einstein condensation**
of ^{87}Rb and ^{23}Na gases through laser
cooling and evaporative cooling



Superfluidity



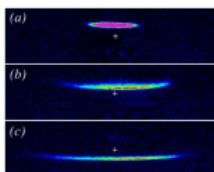
Superfluidity:
frictionless flow of a quantum liquid
through narrow capillaries

Nature 1938, 140, 691
Viscosity of Liquid Helium below the λ -Point
Phys Rev
Issue 140, No. 4, 691–696 (1938)
DOI: 10.1103/PhysRev.140.691
Citation: 388 Authors · 388 Citations · 10 References

This anomalously high viscosity of helium below the λ point, as first observed by Kapitza, suggests to us the possibility of an explanation in terms of a superfluid component of the helium motion. We have also already been interested in experiments, the only viscosity measurements on liquid helium have made in London¹, and showed that the viscosity of liquid helium was much higher than that measured with liquid helium at normal pressure, and by choice of comparison with the values above the λ point. Further experiments, however, are needed to make sure that the motion is not further reduced.

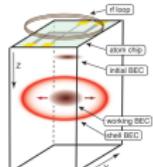
The experiments with "bubble" traps

technically difficult on Earth...



[Colombe et al., EPL 67, 593 (2004)]

NASA-JPL Cold Atom Laboratory



[Lundblad et al., npj Microgravity 5, 30
(2019)]

Bose-Einstein condensation on the surface of a sphere

Noninteracting case, single particle on a sphere of radius R :

$$\frac{\hbar^2}{2mR^2} \psi_{l,m_l}(\theta, \varphi) = \epsilon_l \psi_{l,m_l}(\theta, \varphi),$$

with $\epsilon_l = \frac{\hbar^2}{2mR^2} l(l+1)$ and $m_l = -l, \dots, +l$.

Particle number at temperature T :

$$N = \sum_{l=0}^{+\infty} \sum_{m_l=-l}^{+l} \frac{1}{e^{(\epsilon_l - \mu)/(k_B T)} - 1} = N_0 + \sum_{l=1}^{+\infty} \frac{2l+1}{e^{(\epsilon_l - \epsilon_0)/(k_B T)} - 1}$$

when $N_0 = 0 \implies T = T_{\text{BEC}}$

Conclusions: highlights

- ◊ Phase of BEC without superfluidity!
- ◊ Finite-size **nonuniversal corrections to BKT** physics.
- ◊ For the future: vortices, dynamical properties...

Thank you for your attention!

References

-  A. Tononi, F. Cinti, and L. Salasnich, *Quantum Bubbles in Microgravity*, Physical Review Letters **125**, 010402 (2020).
-  A. Tononi and L. Salasnich, *Bose-Einstein Condensation on the Surface of a Sphere*, Physical Review Letters **123**, 160403 (2019).
-  A. Tononi, A. Pelster, and L. Salasnich, in preparation.