

# Dipolar quantum gases

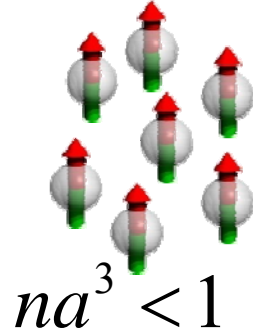
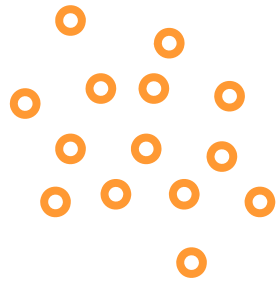
Tilman Pfau

Universität Stuttgart

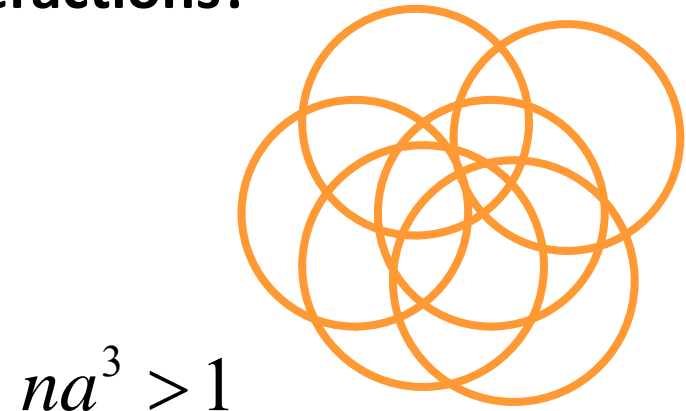


SFB TR21

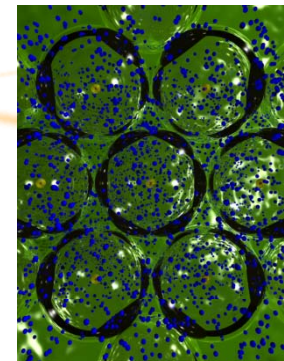
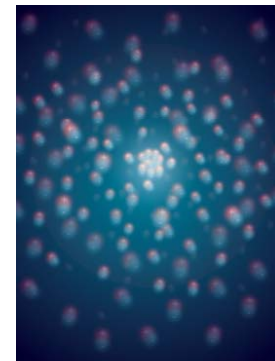
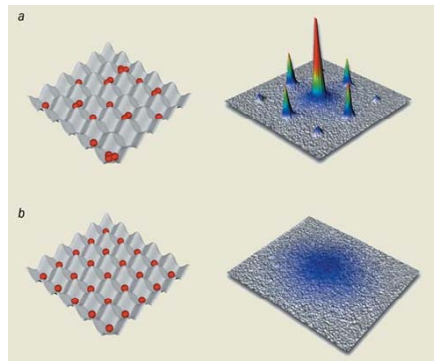
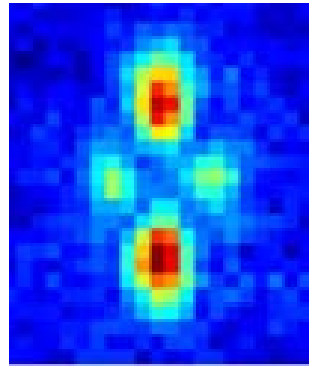
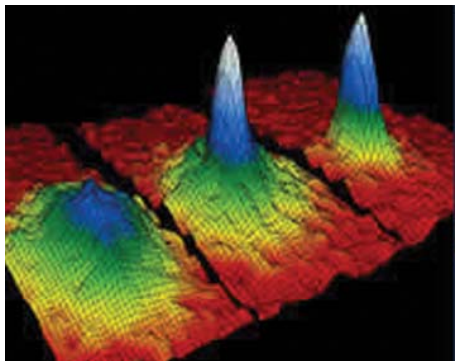
# Weak and strong interactions?



$$na^3 < 1$$



$$na^3 > 1$$



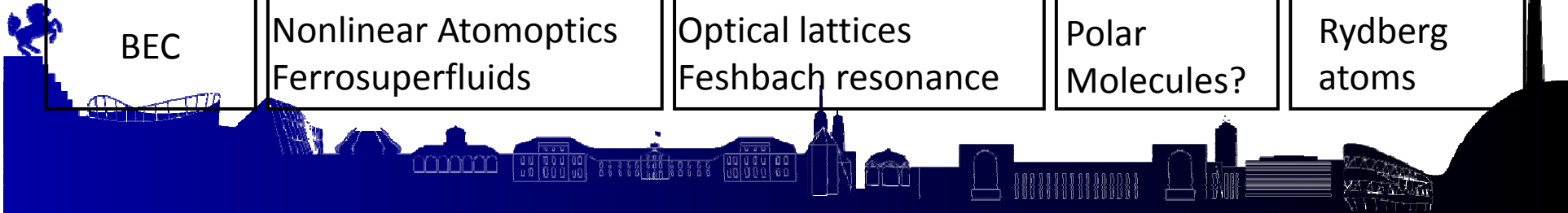
BEC

Nonlinear Atomoptics  
Ferrofluids

Optical lattices  
Feshbach resonance

Polar  
Molecules?

Rydberg  
atoms



# Early interest in dipoles

- Compass needles
- 1970 DeGennes:  
anisotropic gas; chains
- 1980's ferrofluids

## Rosensweig instability

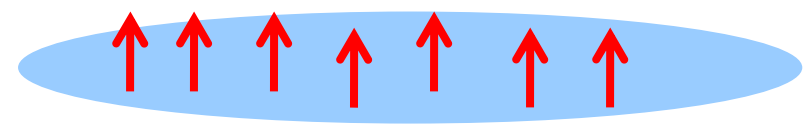
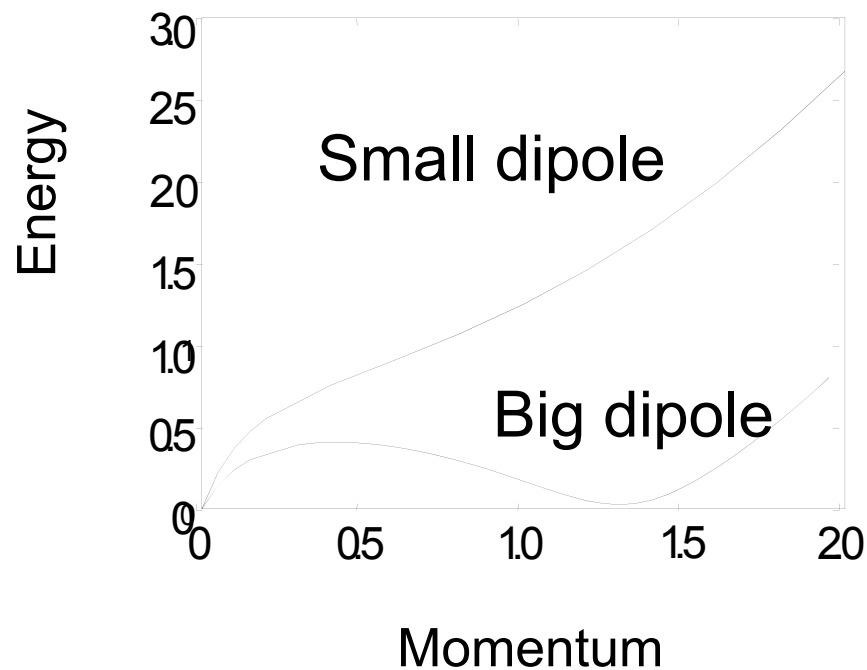
M. D. Cowley and R. E. Rosensweig, J.  
Fluid Mech. **30**, 671 (1967)



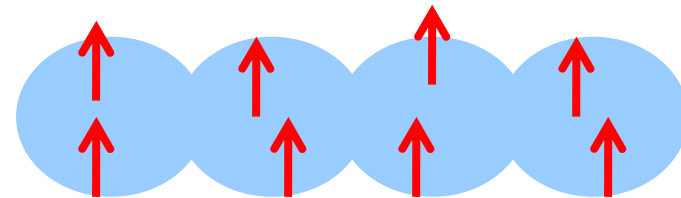
- 21<sup>st</sup> century : add quantum mechanics



# Anisotropy: the roton in dipolar BEC



Stable at long wavelengths

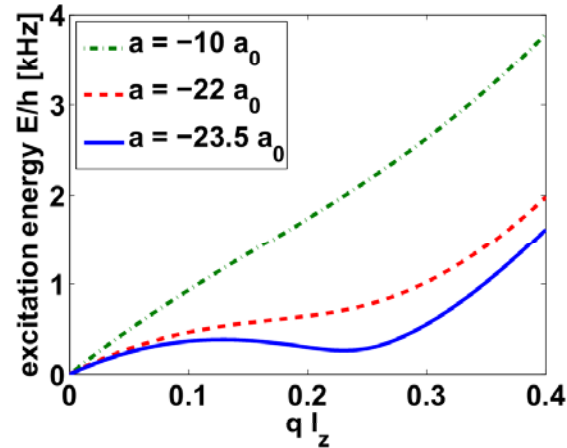
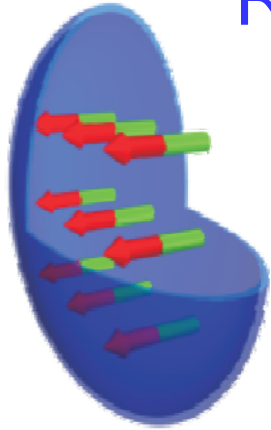


Roton instability at shorter wavelengths

Santos, Shlyapnikov, and Lewenstein PRL 90, 250403 (2003)



# Roton – Maxon type excitation spectrum



## Structured groundstates



R. Richter et al.,  
*PRL* **94**, 184503 (2005)



S. Ronen et al.,  
*PRL* **98**, 030406 (2007)

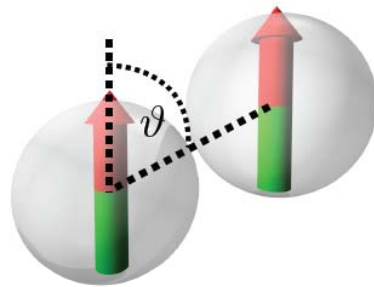


checkerboard  
supersolid

K. Góral et al.,  
*PRL* **88**, 170406 (2002)



## Dipolar gases



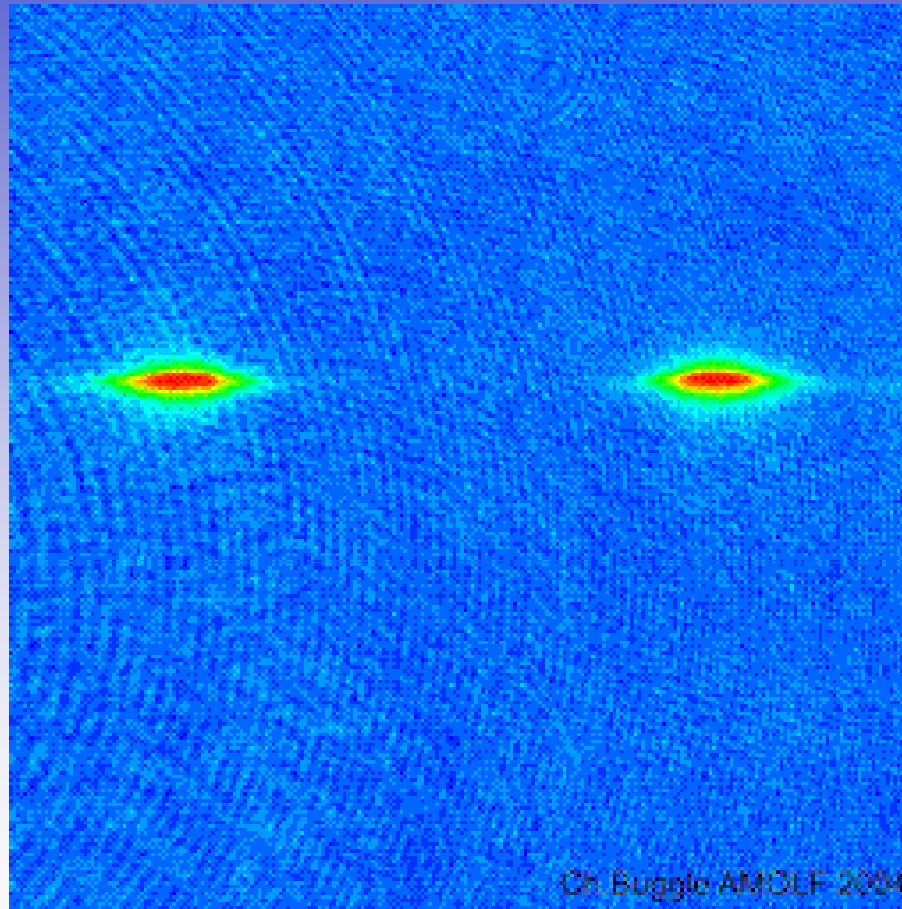
$$\epsilon_{dd} \propto \frac{m \mu^2}{a}$$

*dipolar interaction*

*contact interaction*



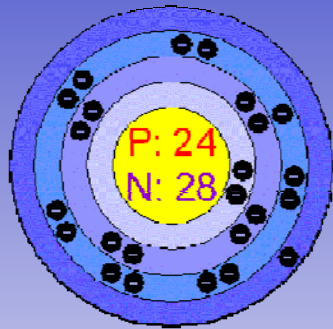
# Isotropic „hard sphere“ interaction



AMOLF



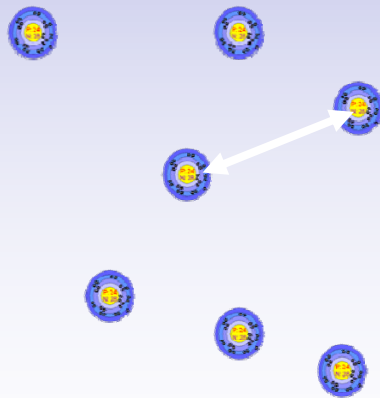
# Length scales



size  
0.1 nm

de Broglie wavelength  
> 100 nm

$$\Lambda = \sqrt{\frac{h^2}{2\pi m k T}}$$



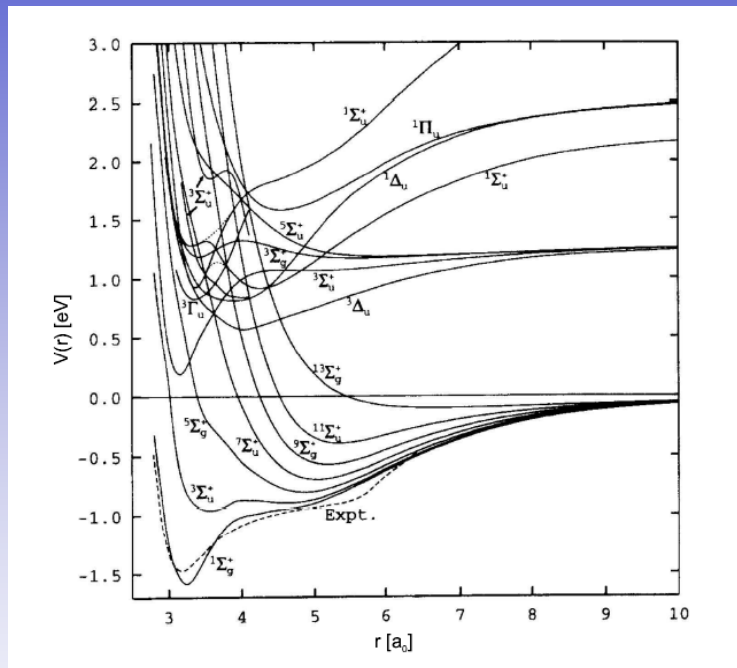
mean distance  
> 100 nm

Two body is dominant  
Quantum treatment required

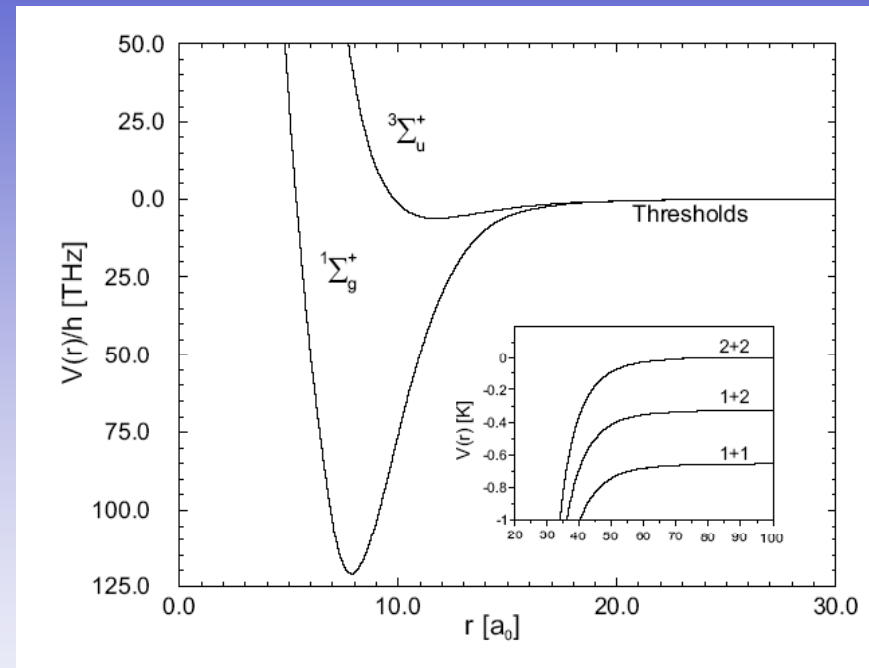




# Real two-body potentials?



Cr<sub>2</sub>

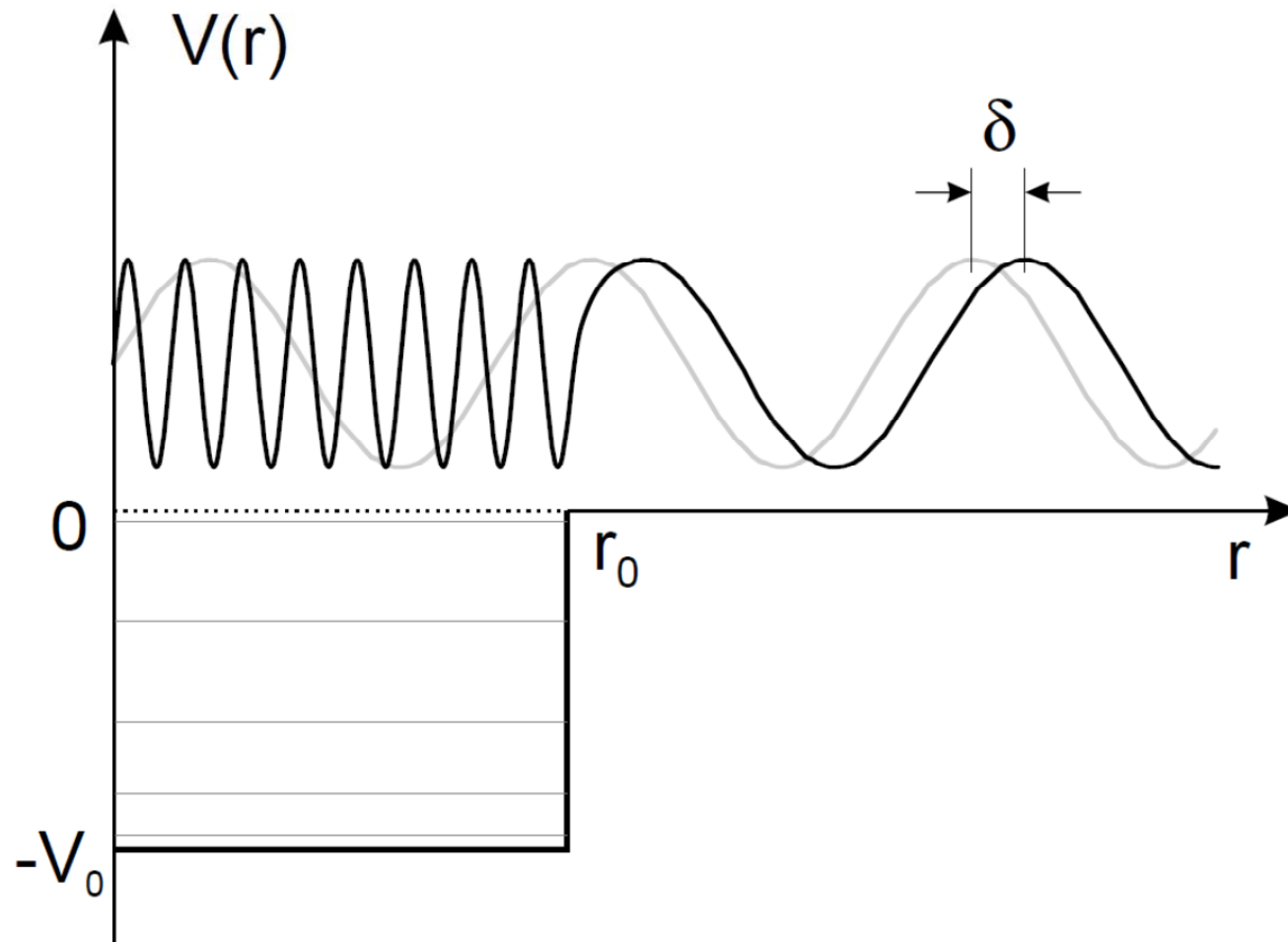


Rb<sub>2</sub>

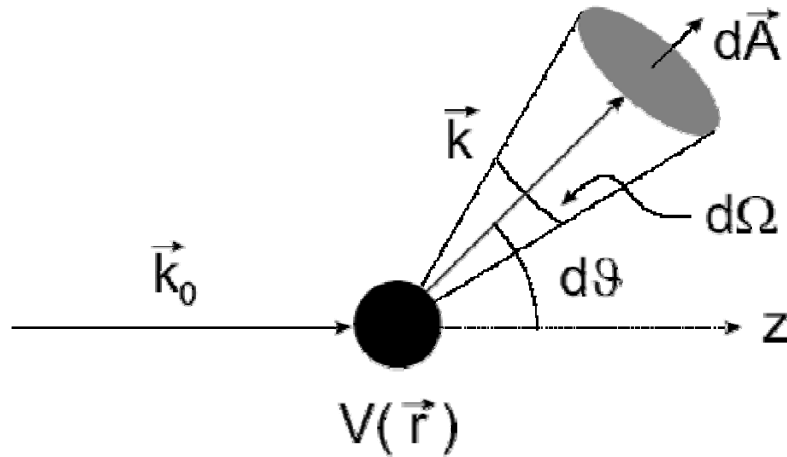
K. Anderson  
Chem Phys. Lett. **237**, 212 (1995)



# Scattering from box potential



# Scattering problem



3D Schödinger Eq.

$$\left[ \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m_\mu} + V(\vec{r}) \right] \phi(\vec{r}) = E\phi(\vec{r}),$$

$$\phi(\vec{r}) = \phi_0(\vec{r}) + \phi_s(\vec{r}).$$

Stationary solution      Ingoing plane wave      Scattered wave

# Partial waves

Central potential (isotropic):

angular momentum conservation  
reduce 3D SG to 1 D SG by

$$\phi(\vec{r}) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \frac{u_{\ell}(r)}{r} P_{\ell}(\cos \vartheta)$$

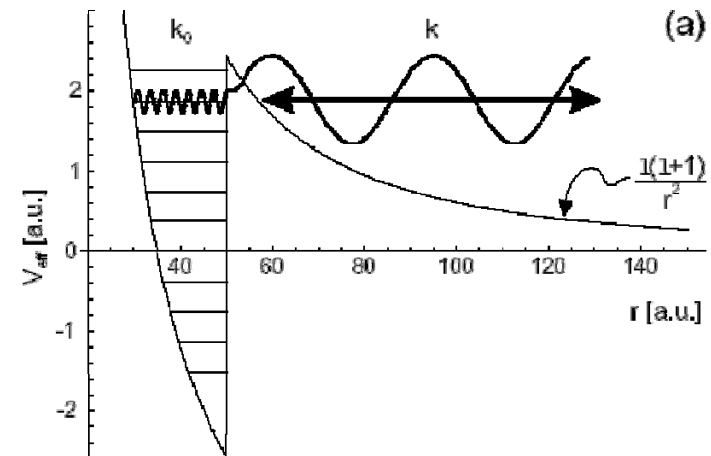
Legendre polynomials

$$\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_{\mu}} u_{\ell}''(r) + [E - V_{\text{eff}}(r)] u_{\ell}(r) = 0,$$

$$V_{\text{eff}}(r) = \left[ V(r) + \frac{\hbar^2 \ell(\ell + 1)}{2m_{\mu} r^2} \right]$$

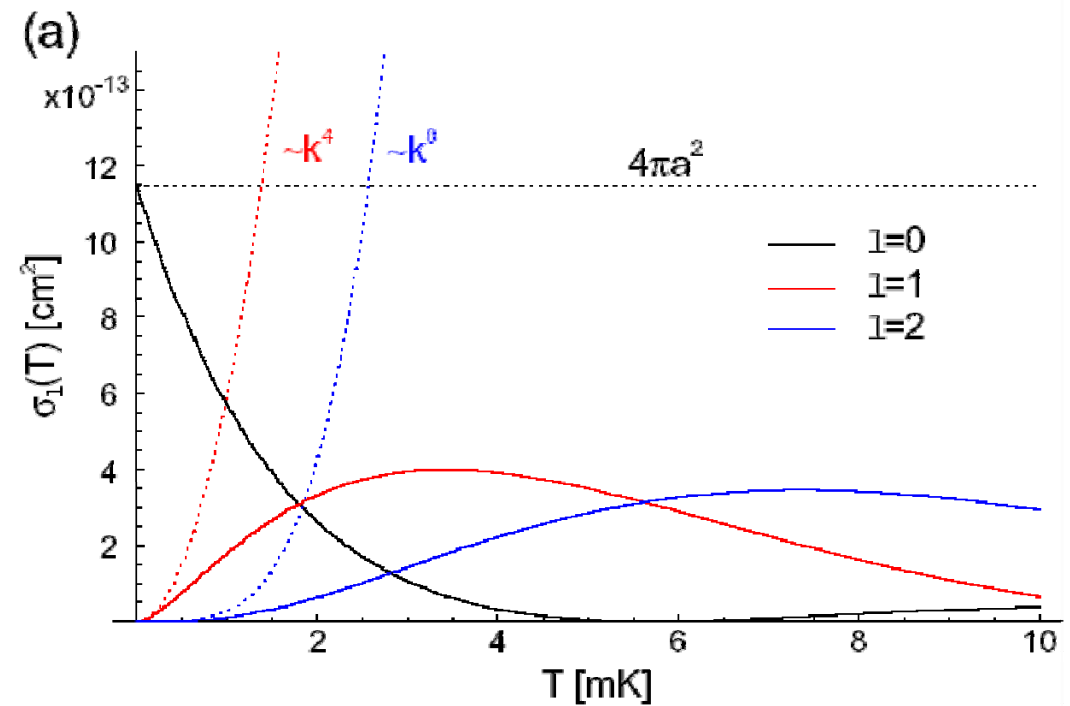
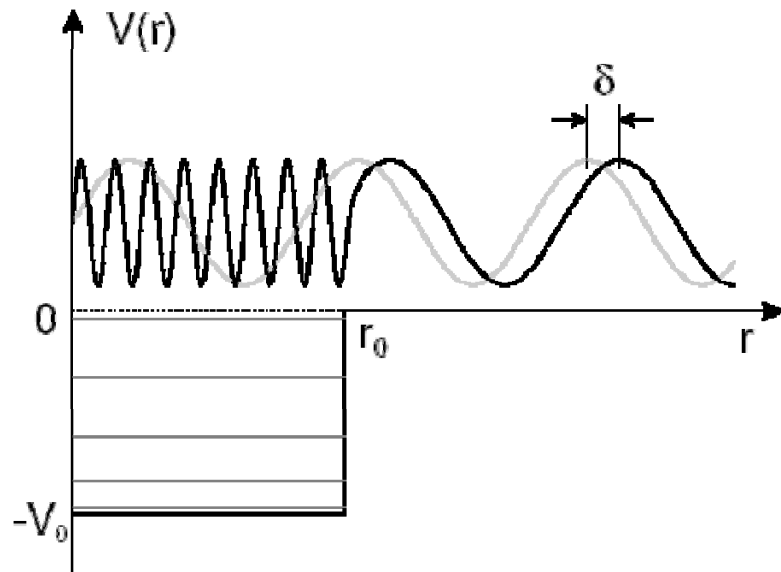


Centrifugal barrier



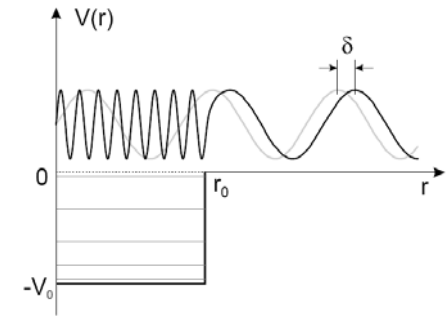
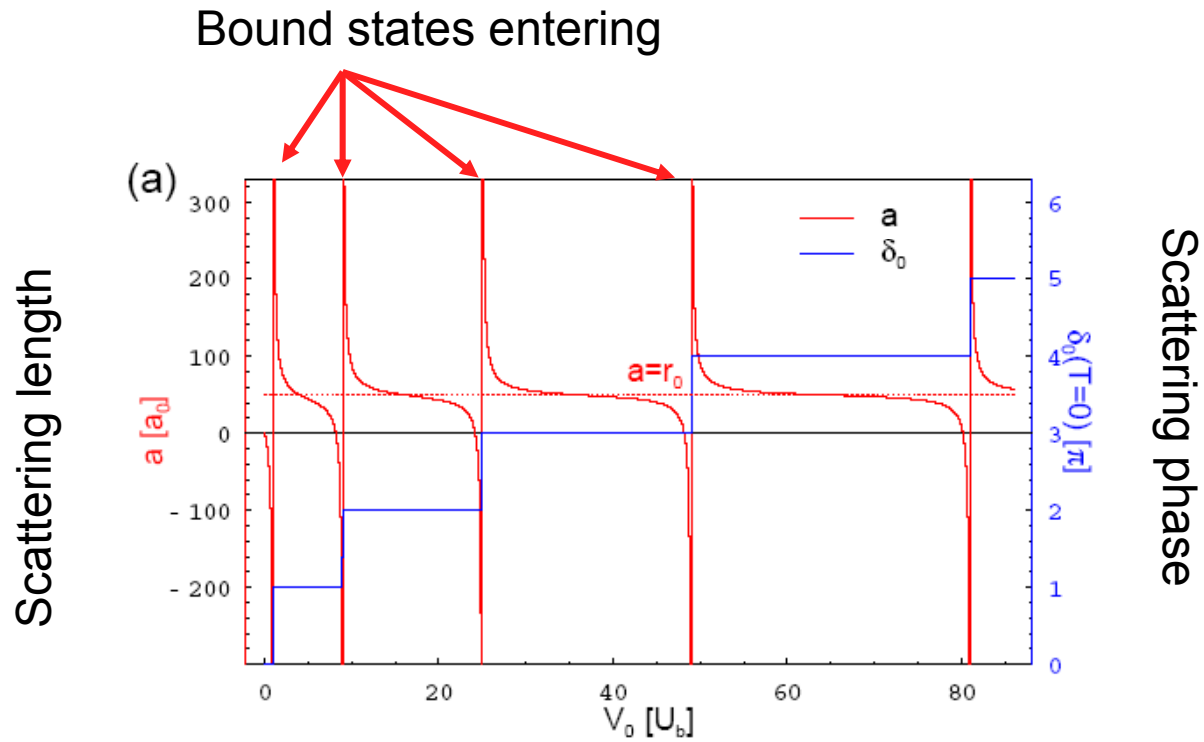
box plus centrifugal

# Basic scattering theory

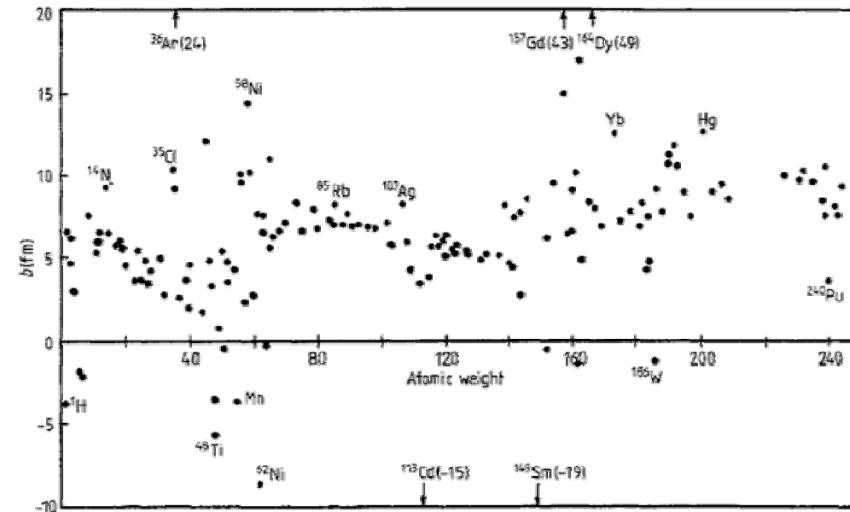
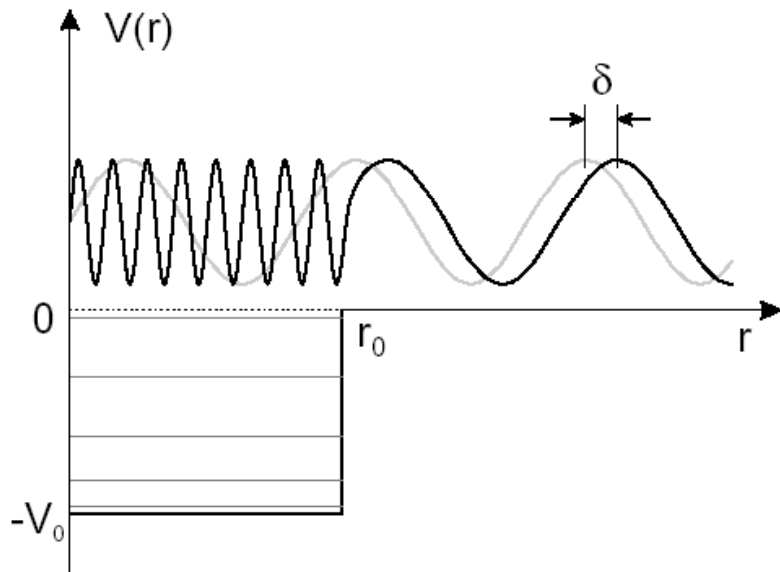


Wigner threshold law  $\sigma \sim k^{-4l}$

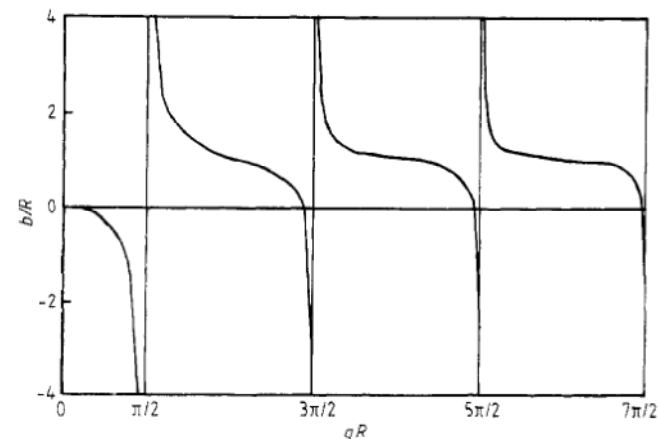
# Square well case



# Basic scattering theory – for neutrons



**Figure 7.** This diagram shows the distribution of scattering lengths as a function of atomic weight. Note that  $1 \text{ fm} = 10^{-13} \text{ cm}$ . Data taken from the compilation of Koester and Rauch (1981).



**Figure 6.** A plot of the ratio of the scattering length  $b$  to the nuclear radius  $R$  as a function of  $qR$ , where  $q$  is proportional to the square root of the depth of the nuclear potential well.

# the s wave scattering length

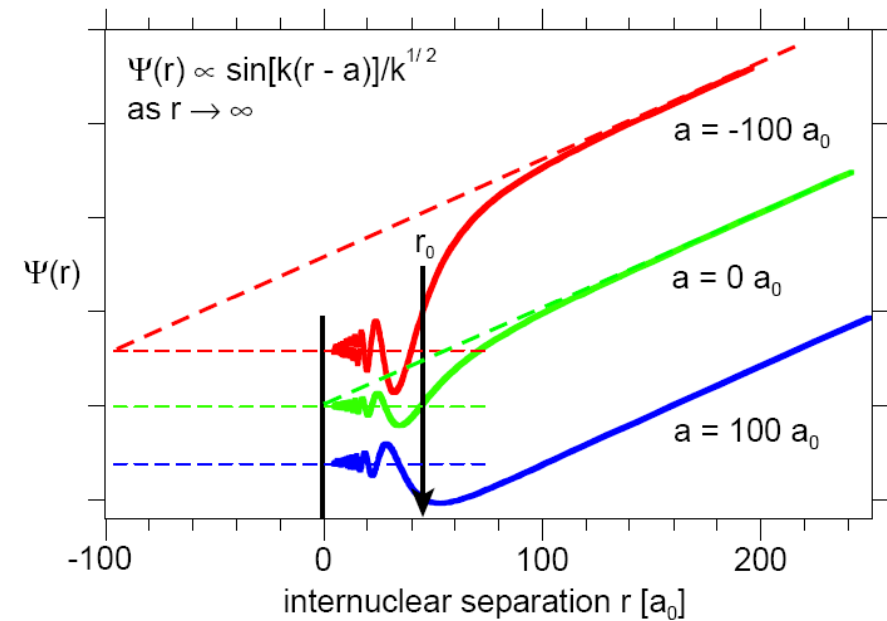
low energy scattering

$$\sigma_0(k) = \frac{4\pi}{k^2} \sin^2 \delta_0(k).$$

Definition

$$a = -\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan \delta_0(k)}{k}$$

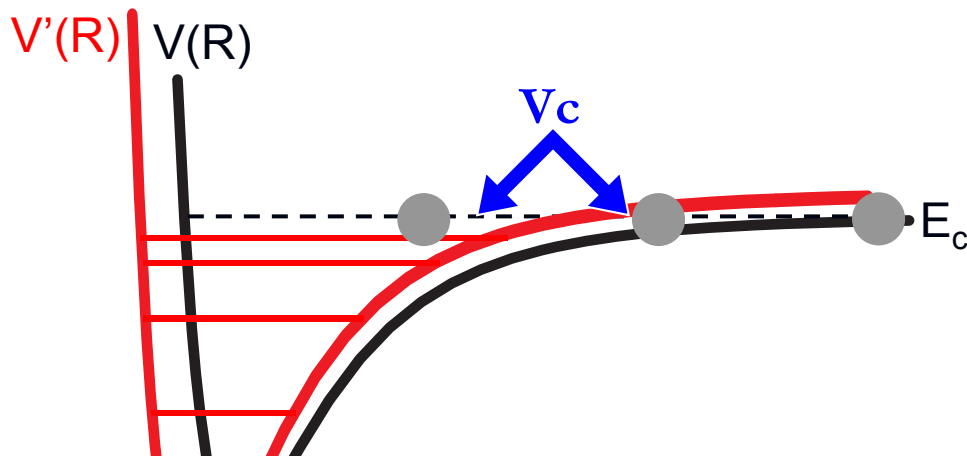
square well  $\left[ 1 - \frac{\tan \lambda_0 r_0}{\lambda_0 r_0} \right] r_0,$





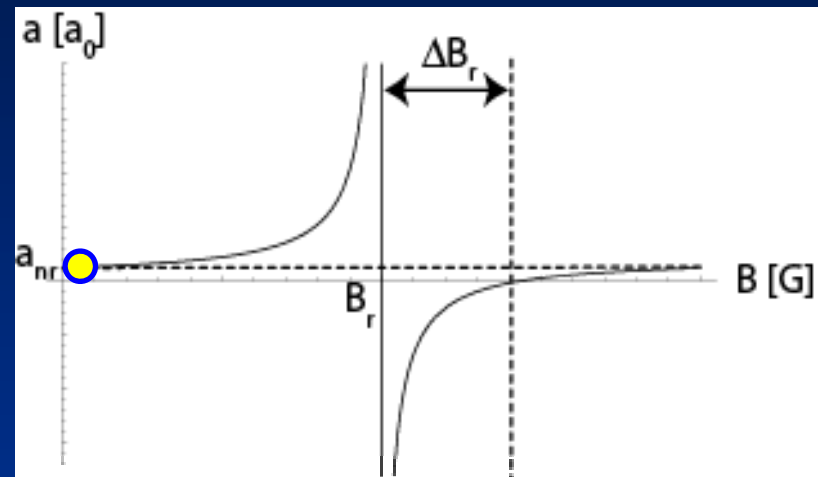
# Feshbach resonances

collision with molecular potential  $V(R)$ :  
 $V'(R)$  with  $M_s' \neq M_s + B\text{-field} + \text{coupling}$ :



$\Rightarrow a$  ! describes scattering @ low T

$\Rightarrow a$  is modified !

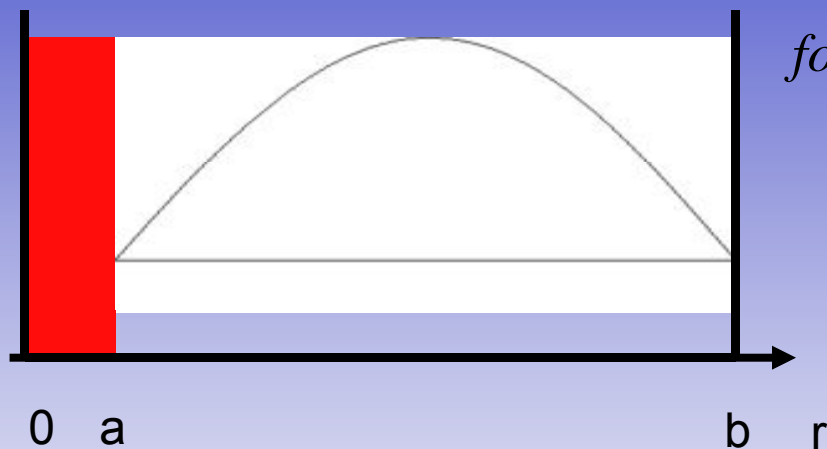


$$a_{FB}(B) = a_{nr} \left( 1 - \frac{\Delta B_r}{B - B_r} \right)$$

**scattering length  $a$  can be tuned with B-field !**

# Effect of contact interaction

Two particles in a box potential (s-wave)



for  $a \ll b$

$$E_{n=1} = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m_\mu} = \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_\mu} \frac{\pi^2}{(b-a)^2} = \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_\mu} \frac{\pi^2}{b^2} \left(1 - \frac{a}{b}\right)^{-2}$$

$$\approx E(a=0) + \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_\mu} \frac{\pi^2}{b^3} a$$



$$E_{contact} = \frac{4\pi\hbar^2}{m} |\psi|^2 a$$



# Periodic table of magnetic moments

2004

H 1																	He 0
Li 1	Be 0											B 0.3	C 0	N 3	O 3	F 2	Ne 0
Na 1	Mg 0											Al 0.3	Si 0	P 3	S 3	Cl 2	Ar 0
K 1	Ca 0	Sc 1.2	Ti 1.3	V 0.6	Cr 6	Mn 5	Fe 6	Co 6	Ni 5	Cu 1	Zn 0	Ga 0.3	Ge 0	As 3	Se 3	Br 2	Kr 0
Rb 1	Sr 0	Y 1.2	Zr 1.3	Nb 1.7	Mo 6	Tc 5	Ru 7	Rh 6	Pd 0	Ag 1	Cd 0	In 0.3	Sn 0	Sb 3	Te 3	I 2	Xe 0
Cs 1	Ba 0		Hf 1.3	Ta 0.6	W 0	Re 5	Os 6	Ir 6	Pt 4	Au 1	Hg 0	Tl 0.3	Pb 0	Bi 3	Po 3	At 2	Rn 0
Fr 1	Ra 0		Rf 1.3	Db 0.6	Sg 0	Bh 5	Hs 6	Mt 6	Ds 4	Rg 1	Cn 0	Uut 0.3	Uuq 0	Uup 3	Uuh 3	Uus 2	Uuo 0

2011      2012

La 1.2	Ce 4	Pr 3.3	Nd 2.4	Pm 0.7	Sm 0	Eu 7	Gd 5.3	Tb 10	Dy 10	Ho 9	Er 7	Tm 4	Yb 0	Lu 1.2
Ac 1.2	Th 1.3	Pa 4.2	U 4.3	Np 3.4	Pu 0	Am 7	Cm 5.3	Bk 10	Cf 10	Es 9.1	Fm 7	Md 4	No 0	Lr 0.3



# Periodic table of magnetic moments

2004

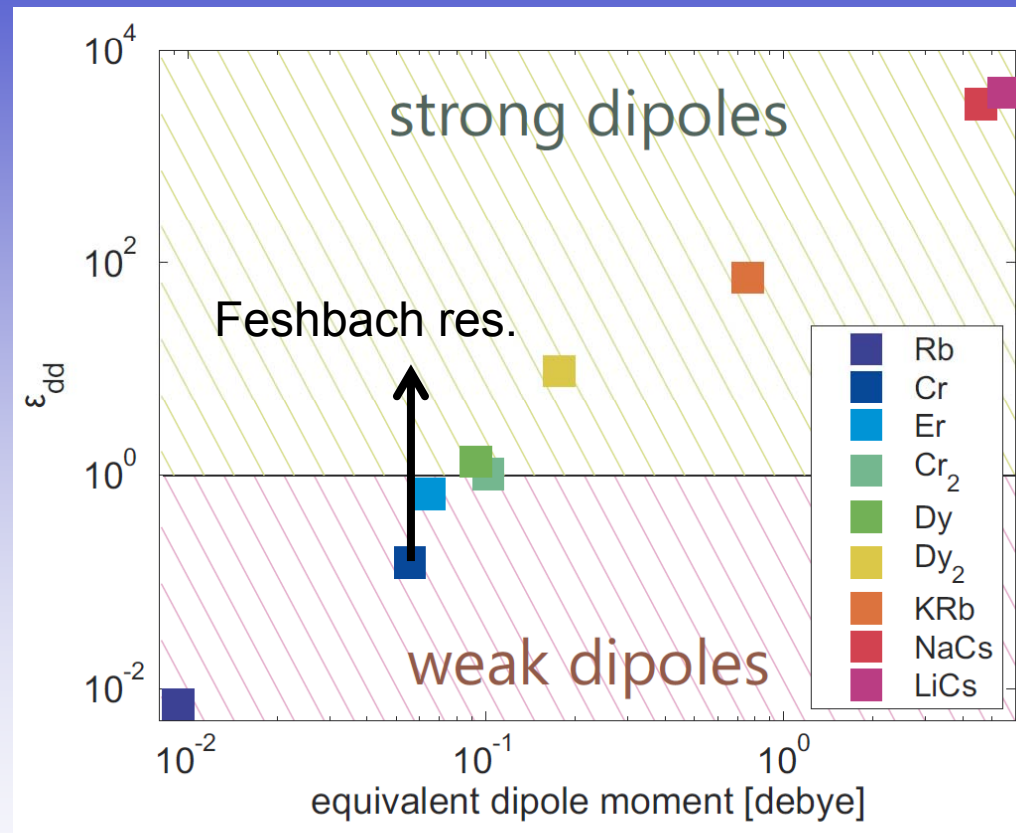
$$\epsilon_{dd} = \frac{\mu_0 \mu^2 m}{12 \pi \hbar^2 a_{bg}}$$

H 1																	He 2
Li 3	Be 4											B 5	C 6	N 7	O 8	F 9	Ne 10
Na 11	Mg 12											Al 13	Si 14	P 15	S 16	Cl 17	Ar 18
K 19	Ca 20	Sc 21	Ti 22	V 23	Cr 24	Mn 25	Fe 26	Co 27	Ni 28	Cu 29	Zn 30	Ga 31	Ge 32	As 33	Se 34	Br 35	Kr 36
Rb 37	Sr 38	Y 39	Zr 40	Nb 41	Mo 42	Tc 43	Ru 44	Rh 45	Pd 46	Ag 47	Cd 48	In 49	Sn 50	Sb 51	Te 52	I 53	Xe 54
Cs 55	Ba 56		Hf 57	Ta 58	W 59	Re 60	Os 61	Ir 62	Pt 63	Au 64	Hg 65	Tl 66	Pb 67	Bi 68	Po 69	At 70	Rn 71
Fr 79	Ra 80		Rf 72	Db 73	Sg 74	Bh 75	Hs 76	Mt 77	Ds 78	Rg 79	Cn 80	Uut 81	Uuq 82	Uup 83	Uuh 84	Uus 85	Uuo 86

2011      2012

La 57	Ce 58	Pr 59	Nd 60	Pm 61	Sm 62	Eu 63	Gd 64	Tb 65	Dy 66	Ho 67	Er 68	Tm 69	Yb 70	Lu 71
Ac 89	Th 90	Pa 91	U 92	Np 93	Pu 94	Am 95	Cm 96	Bk 97	Cf 98	Es 99	Fm 100	Md 101	No 102	Lr 103

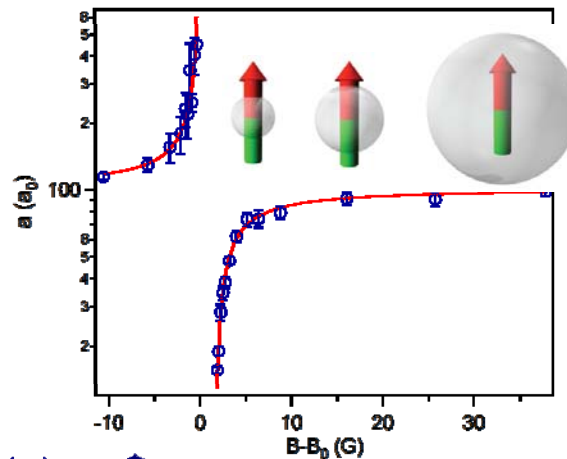
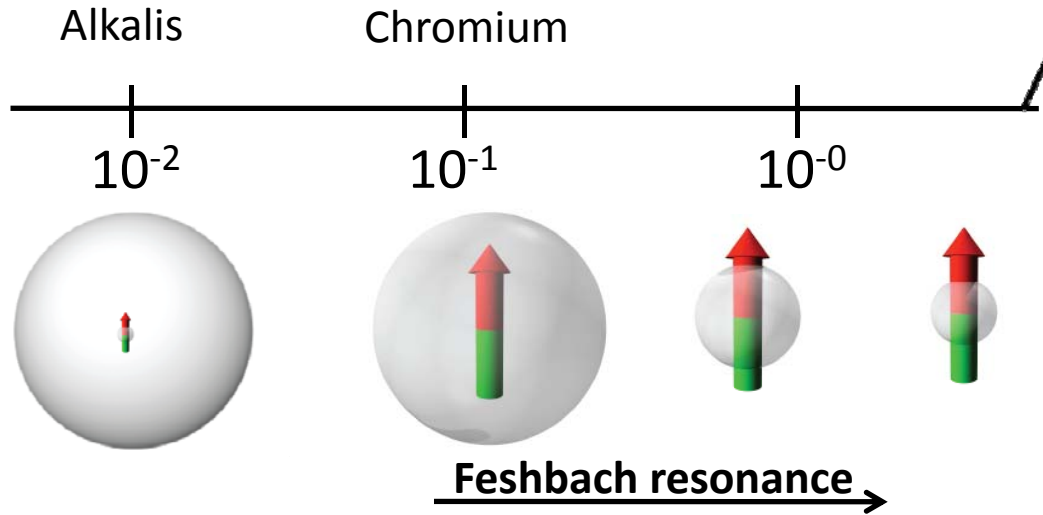




# dipolar interaction $\epsilon_{dd} = \frac{\mu_0 \mu^2 m}{12 \pi \hbar^2 a_{bg}}$

BEC 2004

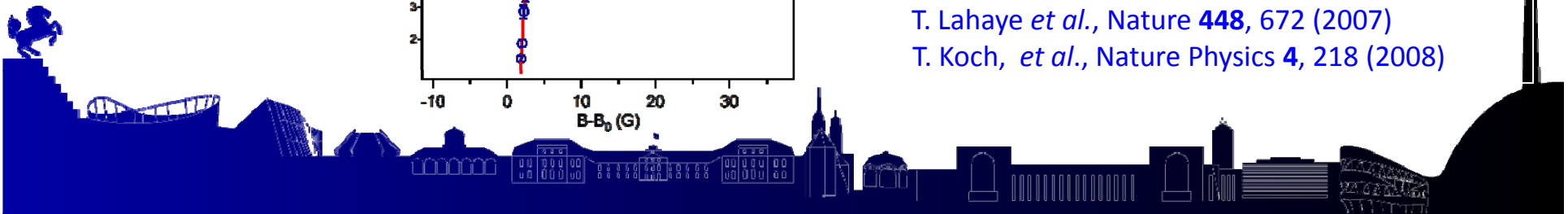
first mechanical dipolar effects 2005



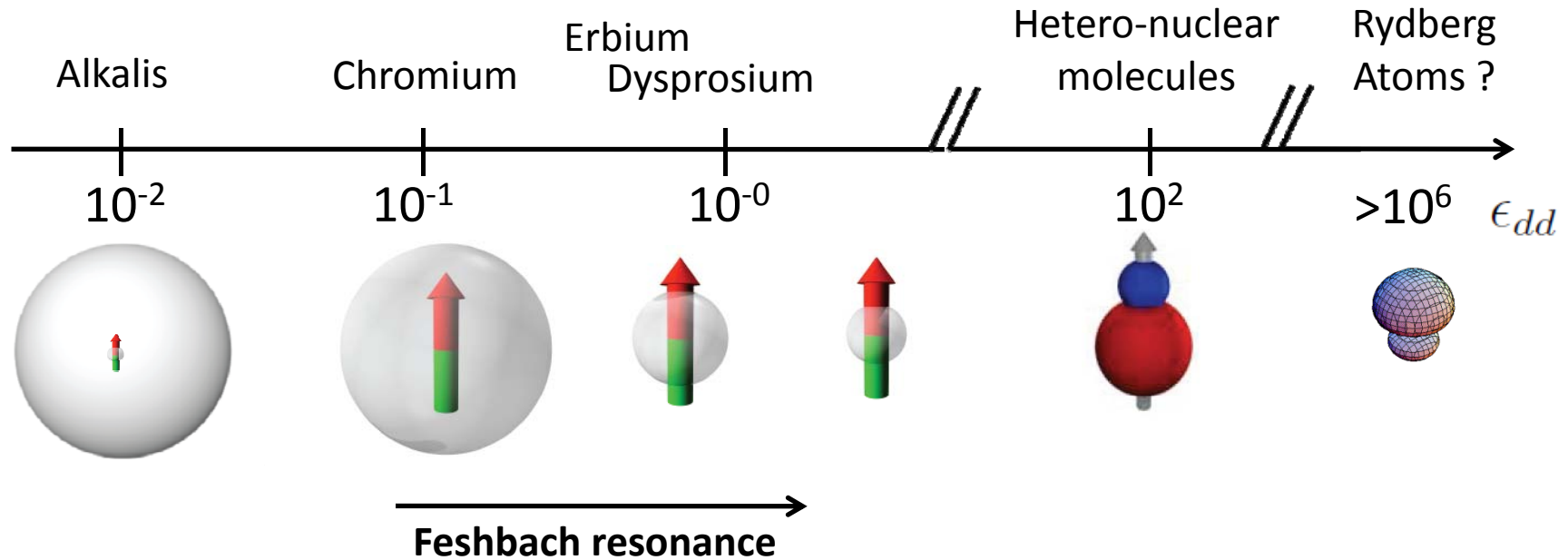
→ Realization of a purely dipolar condensate

T. Lahaye *et al.*, Nature **448**, 672 (2007)

T. Koch, *et al.*, Nature Physics **4**, 218 (2008)



dipolar interaction  $\epsilon_{dd} = \frac{\mu_0 \mu^2 m}{12 \pi \hbar^2 a_{bg}}$



→ Realization of a purely dipolar condensate

T. Lahaye *et al.*, Nature **448**, 672 (2007)

T. Koch, *et al.*, Nature Physics **4**, 218 (2008)



# How to describe an interacting quantum gas

Gross-Pitaevskii equation for the order parameter:

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \Delta \psi + (V_{\text{ext}} + g|\psi|^2 + \Phi_{\text{dd}}(\mathbf{r}, t)) \psi$$

$$g \equiv \frac{4\pi\hbar^2 a}{m}$$

Contact interaction

$$\Phi_{\text{dd}}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \int |\psi(\mathbf{r}', t)|^2 U_{\text{dd}}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') d^3 r'$$

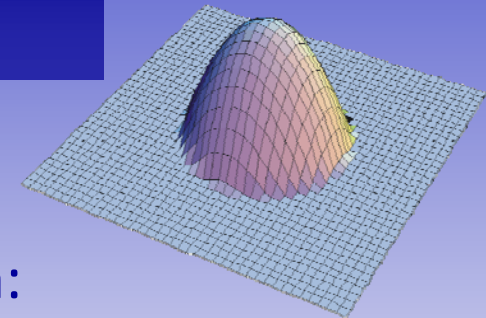
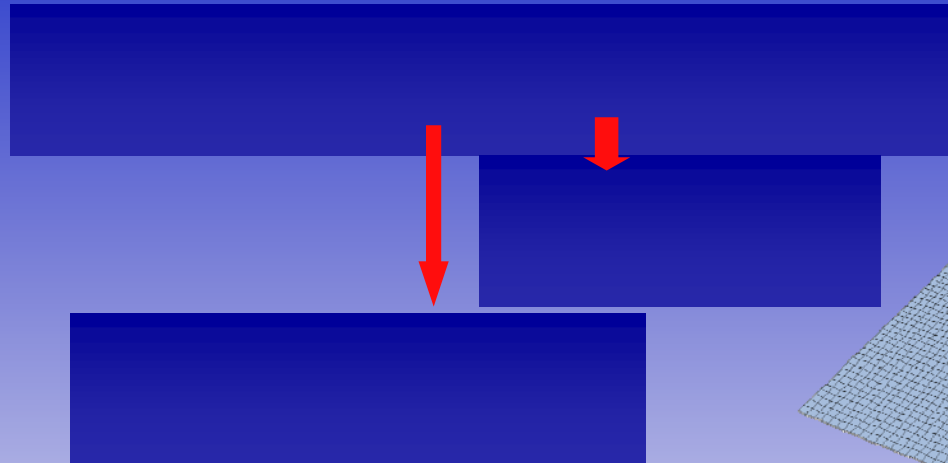
Dipolar interaction  
**NON-LOCAL term**

$$U_{\text{dd}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\mu_0 \mu^2}{4\pi} \frac{1 - 3 \cos^2 \theta}{r^3}$$

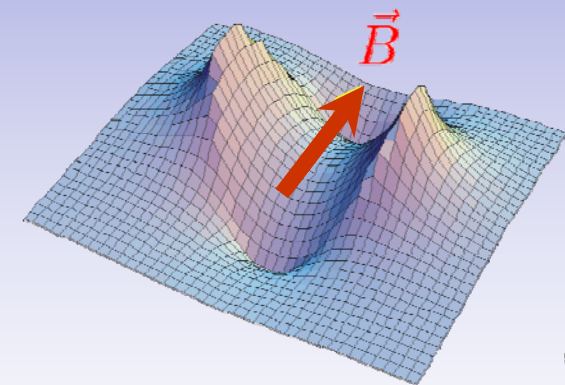


# Elongation of the condensate along $B$

$\epsilon_{dd} \ll 1$ , spherical trap:



Mean-field potential due to the dipolar interaction:



Saddle potential.

→ The atoms are accommodated **close to the  $z$  axis**.

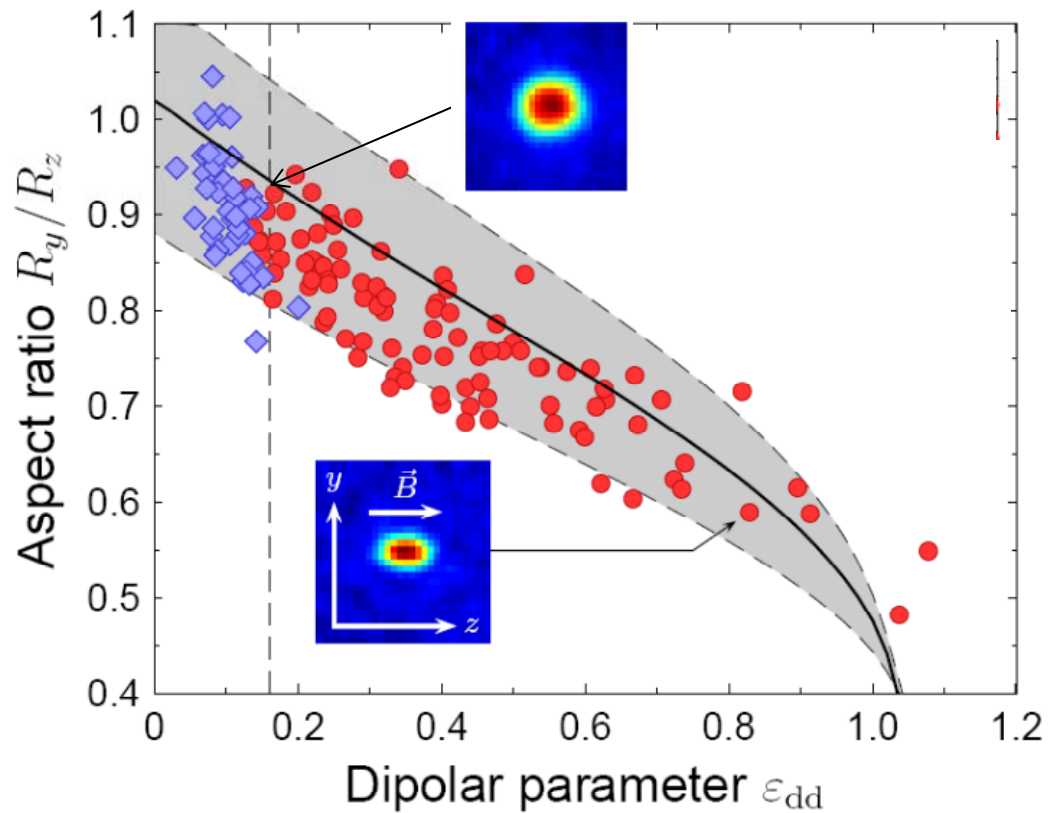
These conclusions remain valid:

- for anisotropic traps,
- for arbitrary  $\epsilon_{dd}$ ,
- during the time of flight.

S. Giovanazzi  
D. O'Dell  
C. Eberlein



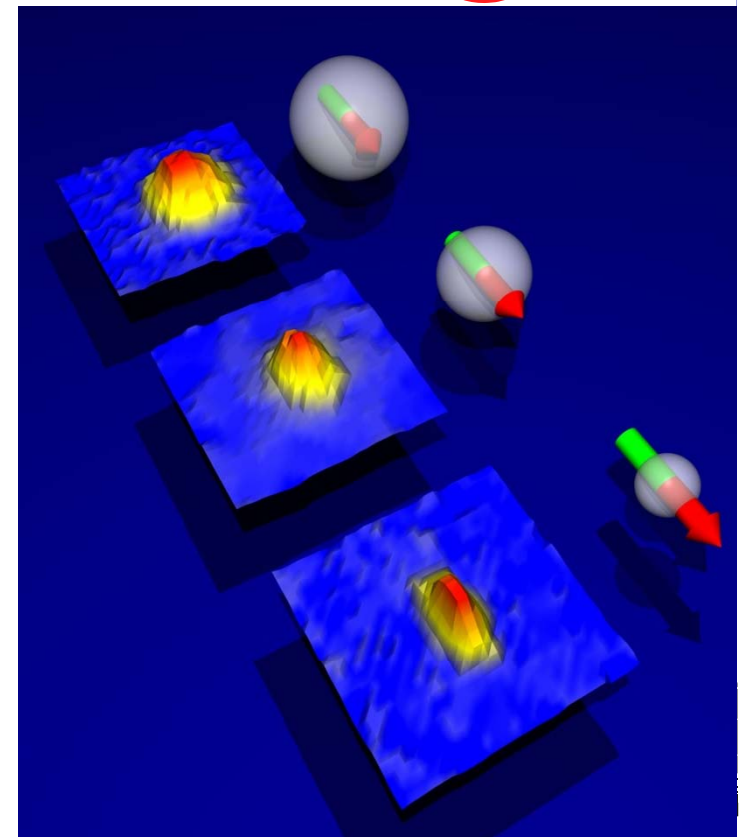
# A quantum ferrofluid



dipolar

$$\epsilon_{dd} = \frac{\mu_0 \mu^2 M}{12\pi \hbar^2 a}$$

contact



T. Lahaye, T. Koch, B. Fröhlich,  
M. Fattori, J. Metz, A. Griesmaier,  
S. Giovanazzi, T. Pfau;  
Nature **448**, 672 (2007)

**Bose-Einstein condensation with magnetic dipole-dipole forces**Krzysztof Góral,<sup>1</sup> Kazimierz Rzążewski,<sup>1</sup> and Tilman Pfau,<sup>2,\*</sup><sup>1</sup>*Center for Theoretical Physics and College of Science, Polish Academy of Sciences, Aleja Lotników 32/46, 02-668 Warsaw, Poland*<sup>2</sup>*Faculty of Physics, University of Konstanz, 78457 Konstanz, Germany*

(Received 20 July 1999; revised manuscript received 1 October 1999; published 24 March 2000)

Ground-state solutions in a dilute gas interacting via contact and magnetic dipole-dipole forces are investigated. To the best of our knowledge, it is the first example of studies of Bose-Einstein condensation in a system with realistic long-range interactions. We find that for the magnetic moment of, e.g., chromium ( $6\mu_B$ ), and a typical value of the scattering length, all solutions are stable and only differ in size from condensates without long-range interactions. By lowering the value of the scattering length we find a region of unstable solutions. In the neighborhood of this region, the ground-state wave functions show internal structures that we believe have not been seen before in condensates. Finally, we find an analytic estimate for the characteristic length appearing in these solutions.

PACS number(s): 03.75.Fi, 05.30.Jp

L. Santos, G. Shlyapnikov, P. Zoller, M. Lewenstein,  
PRL **85**, 1791 (2000).

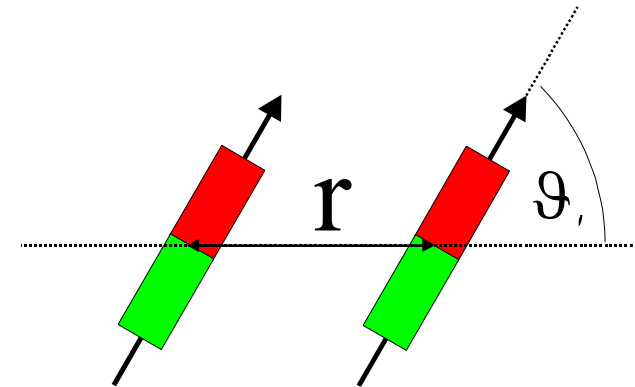
# Stabilization of a dipolar gas

polarized sample

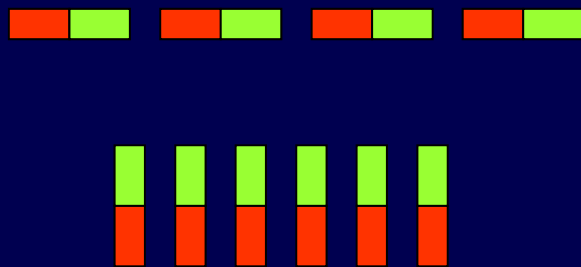
$$V_{dd}(\mathbf{r}) \propto \frac{d^2}{r^3} (1 - 3 \cos^2 \vartheta)$$

long range

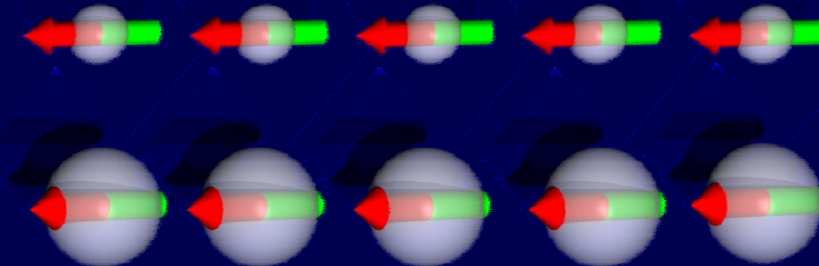
anisotropic



by geometry



by contact interaction



# The stability of a **dipolar** condensate...

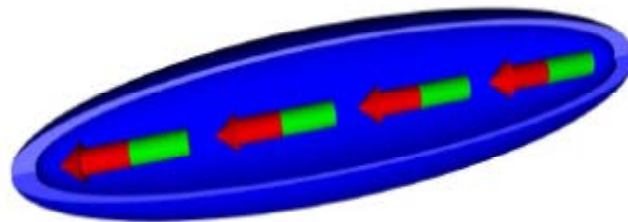
...depends *strongly* on the trap geometry:

$$V(x, y, z) = \frac{m}{2} [\omega_\rho^2(x^2 + y^2) + \omega_z^2 z^2]$$

Aspect ratio:  $\lambda \equiv \frac{\omega_z}{\omega_\rho}$

Cigar-shaped

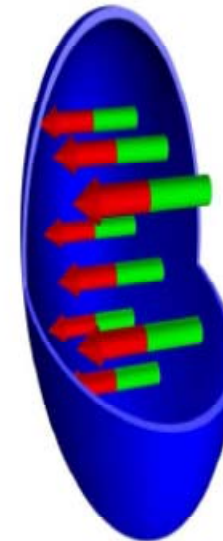
$$\lambda < 1$$



**Attractive: unstable**

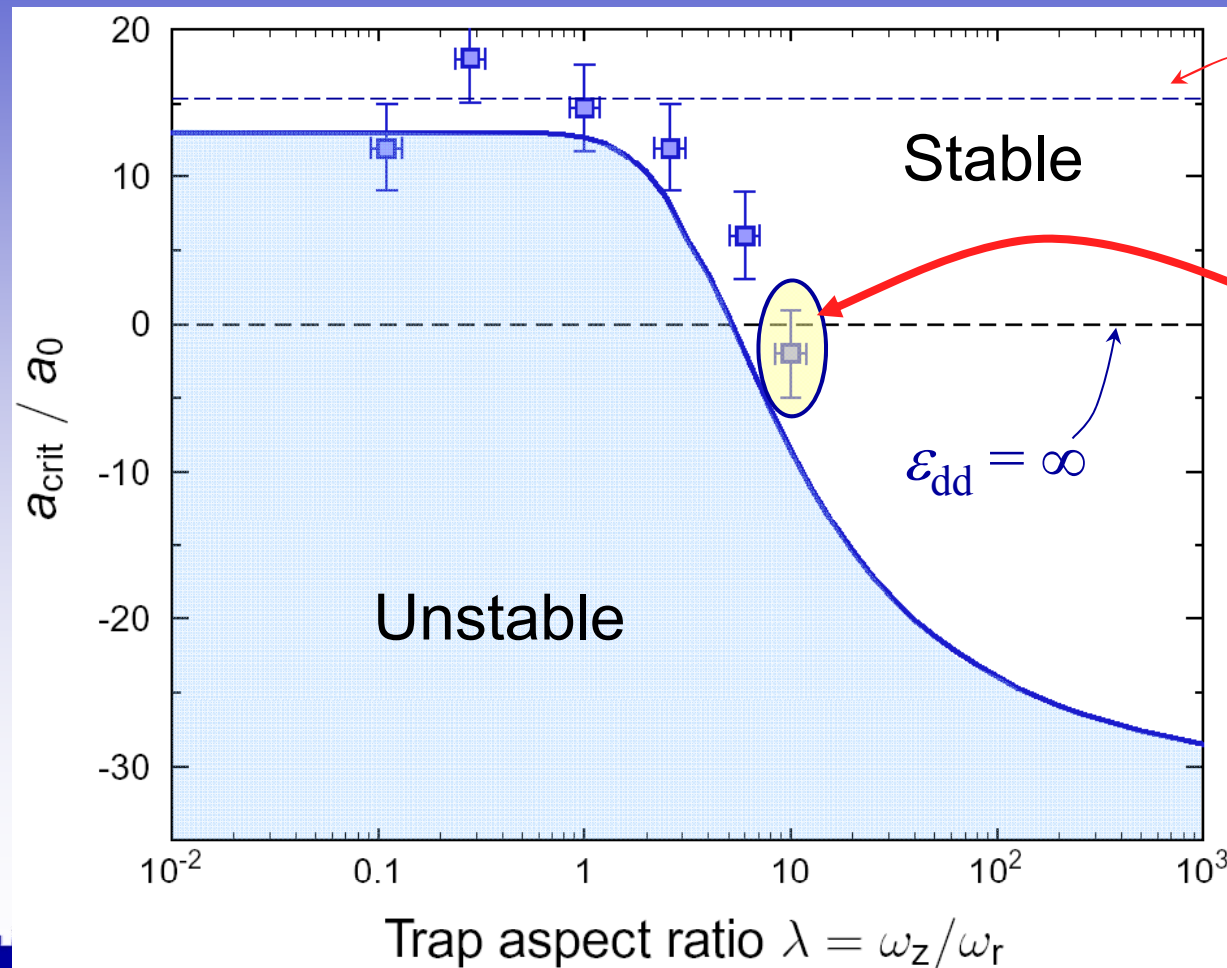
Pancake

$$\lambda > 1$$



**Repulsive: stable**

# Stability diagram



$$\epsilon_{\text{dd}} = 1$$

**Stabilization of a  
purely dipolar  
condensate!**

$$\epsilon_{\text{dd}} = \infty$$

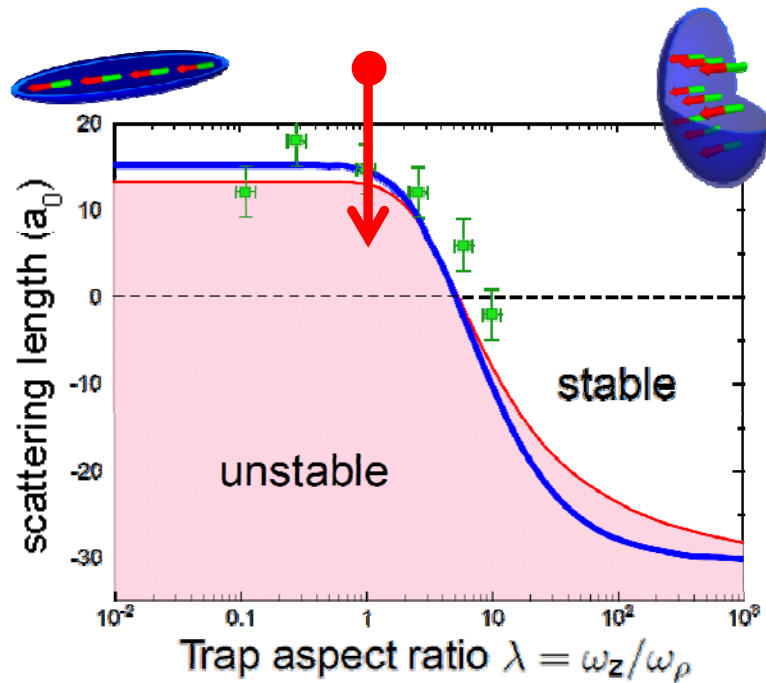
Trap aspect ratio  $\lambda = \omega_z / \omega_r$



# Stability & collapse of a **dipolar** BEC

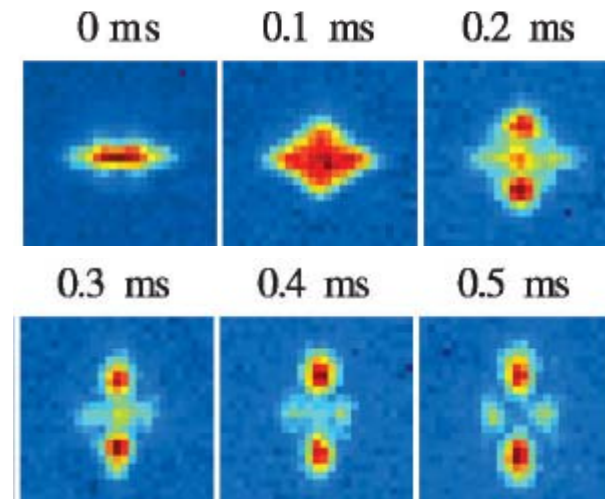
*dipole-dipole interaction:  
long-range and anisotropic*

→ *geometry-dependent stability / collapse*



T. Koch *et al.*, *Nat. Phys.* **4** (2008)

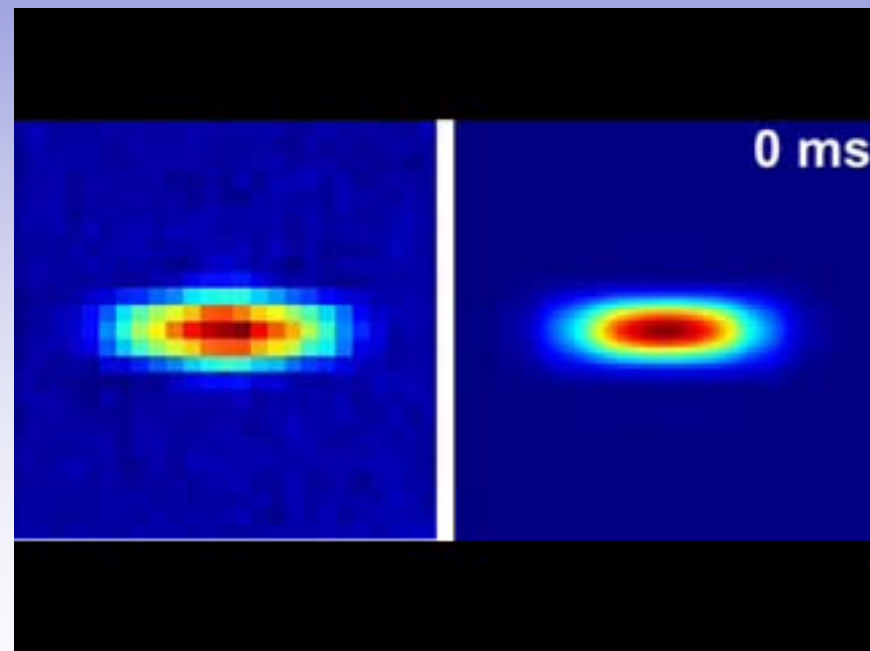
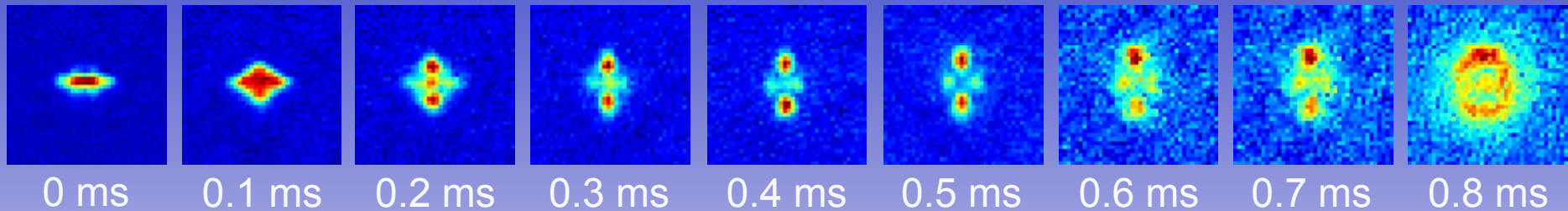
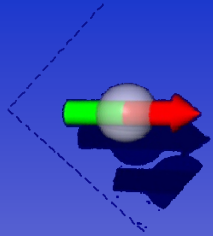
## **d-wave collapse**



*T. Lahaye et al.*, *PRL* **101** (2008)  
*J. Metz et al.*, *New J. Phys.* **11** (2009)



# Collapse dynamics



*T. Lahaye, M. Ueda  
et al., PRL 101 (2008)*



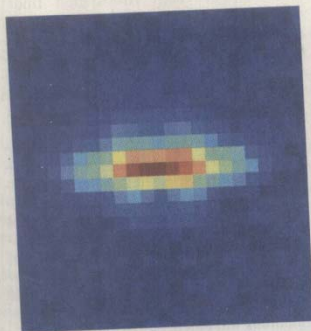


# Atomwolken wie Kleeblätter geformt

FAZ 27.8.08  
Der Tanz nach dem großen Kollaps: Bei der Explosion von Bose-Einstein-Kondensaten aus magnetischen Teilchen prägen die magnetischen Kräfte das Bild.

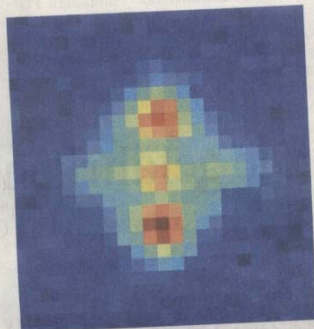
Atomare Gase verhalten sich eigenartig, wenn sie auf extrem tiefe Temperaturen gekühlt werden. In der Nähe des absoluten Nullpunkts geben die Atome plötzlich ihre Individualität auf und stimmen ihr Verhalten perfekt aufeinander ab. Es entstehen Bose-Einstein-Kondensate, an denen sich viele physikalische Phänomene studieren lassen – bei nahezu perfekter Kontrolle aller wichtigen Parameter. Beispiele sind das reibungslose Fließen von Supraflüssigkeiten oder der widerstandslose elektrische Stromfluss in Supraleitern. Von den Experimenten erhoffen sich die Wissenschaftler neue Einblicke in die noch immer rätselhafte Hochtemperatur-Supraleitung. Ein mitunter überraschendes Verhalten legen Bose-Einstein-Kondensate aus magnetischen Atomen – Atomen mit magnetischem Moment – an den Tag, die sich seit kurzem herstellen lassen. Das haben jetzt Wissenschaftler der Universität Stuttgart beobachtet. Die Kondensate kollabieren, und gleich darauf fliegen sie wieder in Form eines Kleeblatts auseinander.

Explosionen von extrem kalten Quantengasen hatten die späteren Nobelpreisträger Eric Cornell und Carl Wieman an der University of Colorado in Boulder erstmals vor sieben Jahren beobachtet. Die Kondensate, die aus Atomen des Isotops Rubidium-85 bestanden, kollabierten, wenn die Atome sich stark anzogen. Die beiden Forscher verstärkten dazu die zwischen den Atomen wirkenden elektrischen Kräfte mit einem äußeren Magnetfeld. Nach dem



Kollaps dehnte sich die Atomwolke explosionsartig in alle Richtungen aus. Wieman hatte den Explosionen deshalb den scherzhaften Namen „Bose-Nova“ verliehen.

Für den Ablauf einer Bose-Nova haben die Forscher folgende Erklärung: Kollabiert das Bose-Einstein-Kondensat, wird es verdichtet. Das schränkt zum einen die Bewegungsfreiheit der Atome ein, wodurch nach der Heisenbergschen Unschärfebeziehung die Geschwindigkeit der Atome so groß wird, dass viele Teil-



Nach 0,2 Millisekunden Fotos Phys. Rev. Lett.

chen aus der Wolke entweichen können. Zum anderen kollidieren die Atome häufiger, und es treten mehr Kollisionen von drei Atomen auf. Aus kinematischen Gründen kann nur dann, wenn mindestens drei Atome aufeinandertreffen, eines davon entfliehen.

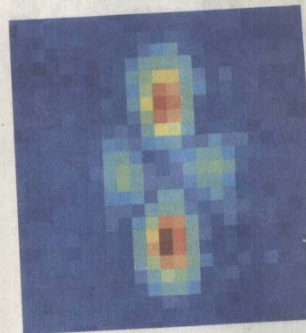
Eine kleeblattförmige Wolke, wie sie die Stuttgarter Forscher um Tilman Pfau jetzt bei der Explosion von Bose-Einstein-Kondensaten aus magnetischen Atomen beobachtet haben, hatte man mit unmagnetischen Atomen nicht feststellen können. Das liegt daran, dass sich die beiden Atomarten bei Kollisionen unterschiedlich verhalten. Stoßen zwei unmagnetische Atome zusammen, gleichen sie perfekten Kugeln, deren räumliche Orientierung auf den Verlauf der Kollision keinen Einfluss hat. Magnetische Atome üben zusätzlich zu der bei Kollisionen wirkenden elektrischen Kraft auch noch eine richtungsabhängige magnetische Kraft aufeinander aus. Setzt man eine Wolke aus magnetischen Atomen einem starken äußeren Magnetfeld aus, dann zeigen die magnetischen Momente der Atome alle in ein und dieselbe Richtung. Wenn zwei Momente nebeneinanderliegen, so stoßen sie sich ab. Sind sie hingegen hintereinander aufgereiht, dann ziehen sie sich an. Wie eine Kollision zwischen magne-

tischen Atomen verläuft, hängt deshalb vor allem von ihrer räumlichen Anordnung ab.

Für ihre Experimente haben Tilman Pfau und seine Kollegen ein Bose-Einstein-Kondensat aus etwa 20 000 magnetischen Chrom-52-Atomen hergestellt und in einer Magnetfalle festgehalten. Dabei konnten sie der Atomwolke die Gestalt einer Zigarre oder eines Pfannkuchens aufprägen. In einer pfannkuchenförmigen Wolke lagen die magnetischen Momente zumeist nebeneinander, wodurch sich die Atome abstießen und es somit zu keiner Explosion kam. Das änderte sich, wenn die Atomwolke die Form einer Zigarre annahm. Nun waren die Atome und deren magnetische Momente überwiegend hintereinander angeordnet und zogen sich an. Die Wolke kollabierte.

Das zigarrenförmige Kondensat stürzte in weniger als einer Millisekunde in sich zusammen, wobei es zunächst einem etwa drei Mikrometer langen, hauchdünnen Faden glich. Die darauf folgende Explosion führte dazu, dass die Wolke bevorzugt in bestimmte Richtungen expandierte. Dabei nahm sie schließlich die Form eines vierblättrigen Kleeblatts an, berichten die Forscher in den „Physical Review Letters“ (Bd. 101, Nr. 080401).

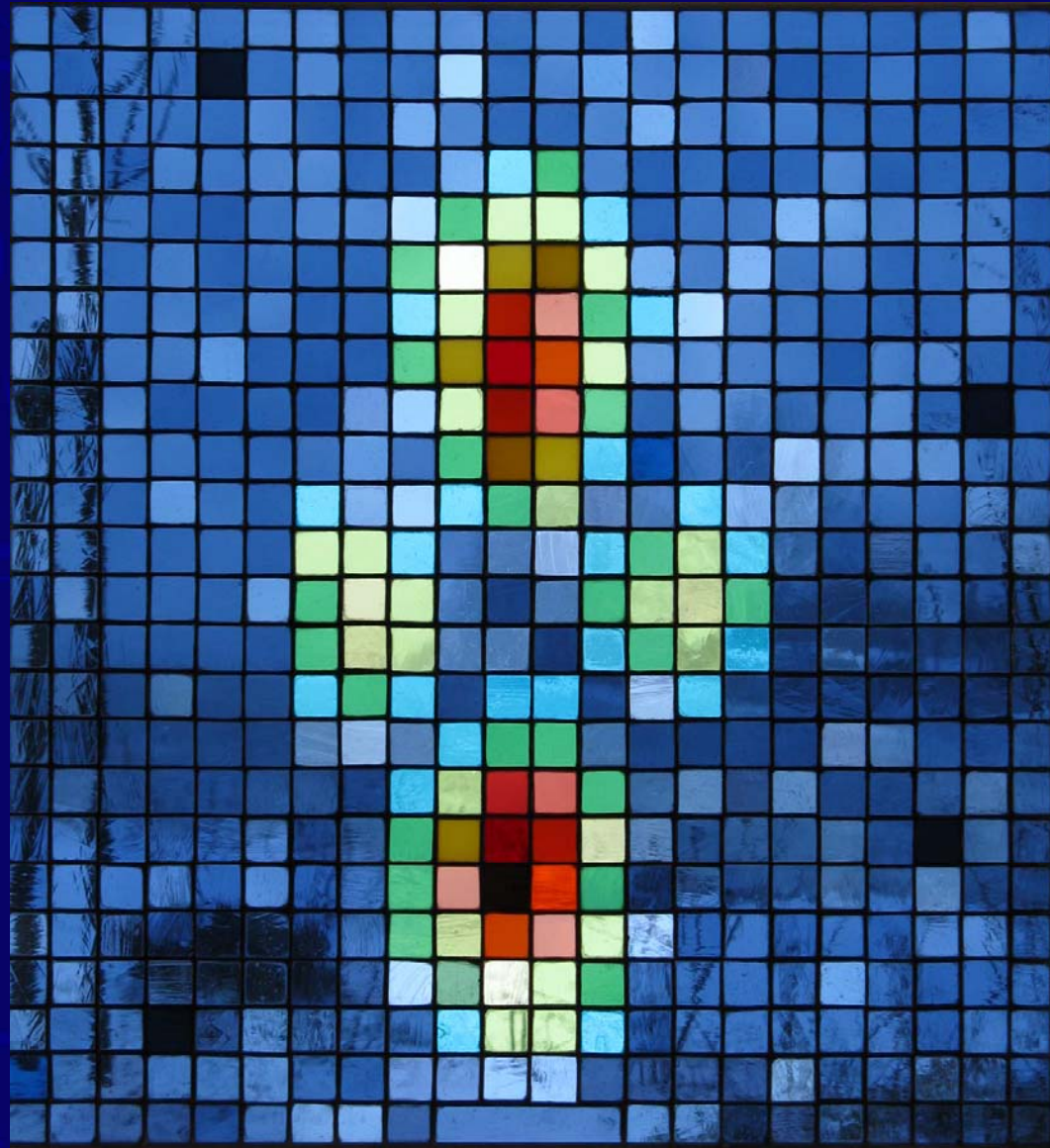
Mit Computersimulationen, die die zwischen den Atomen wirkenden Kräfte berücksichtigen, konnten die Wissenschaftler die Kleeblattform der explodierenden Atomwolken reproduzieren. Die



Nach 0,5 Millisekunden

Rechnungen zeigten zudem, dass sich die Atome in den einzelnen Blättern in unterschiedlichen Richtungen bewegen sollten. Dabei kann es zur Bildung von Wirbeln kommen, wie man sie vom Zigarrenrauch her kennt. Diese Wirbel wollen die Forscher künftig auch experimentell nachweisen.

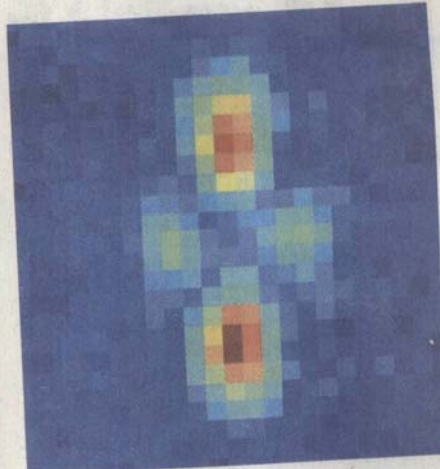
RAINER SCHAR



Brigitte Simon, Lohmar



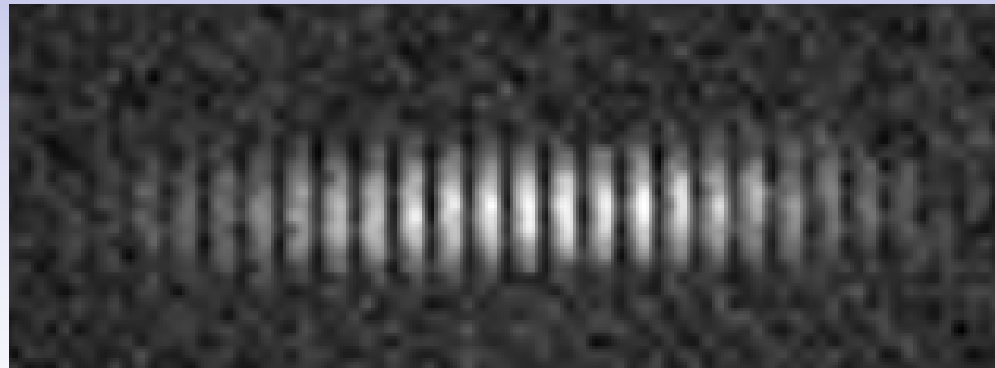
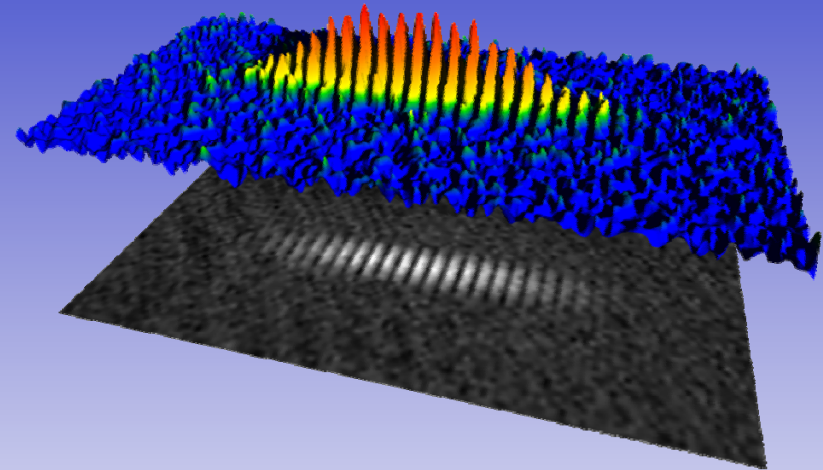
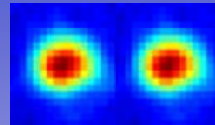
mit Computern  
zwischen den Atomen wirkenden Kräfte  
berücksichtigen, konnten die Wissen-  
schaftler die Kleeblattform der explodie-  
renden Atomwolken reproduzieren. Die

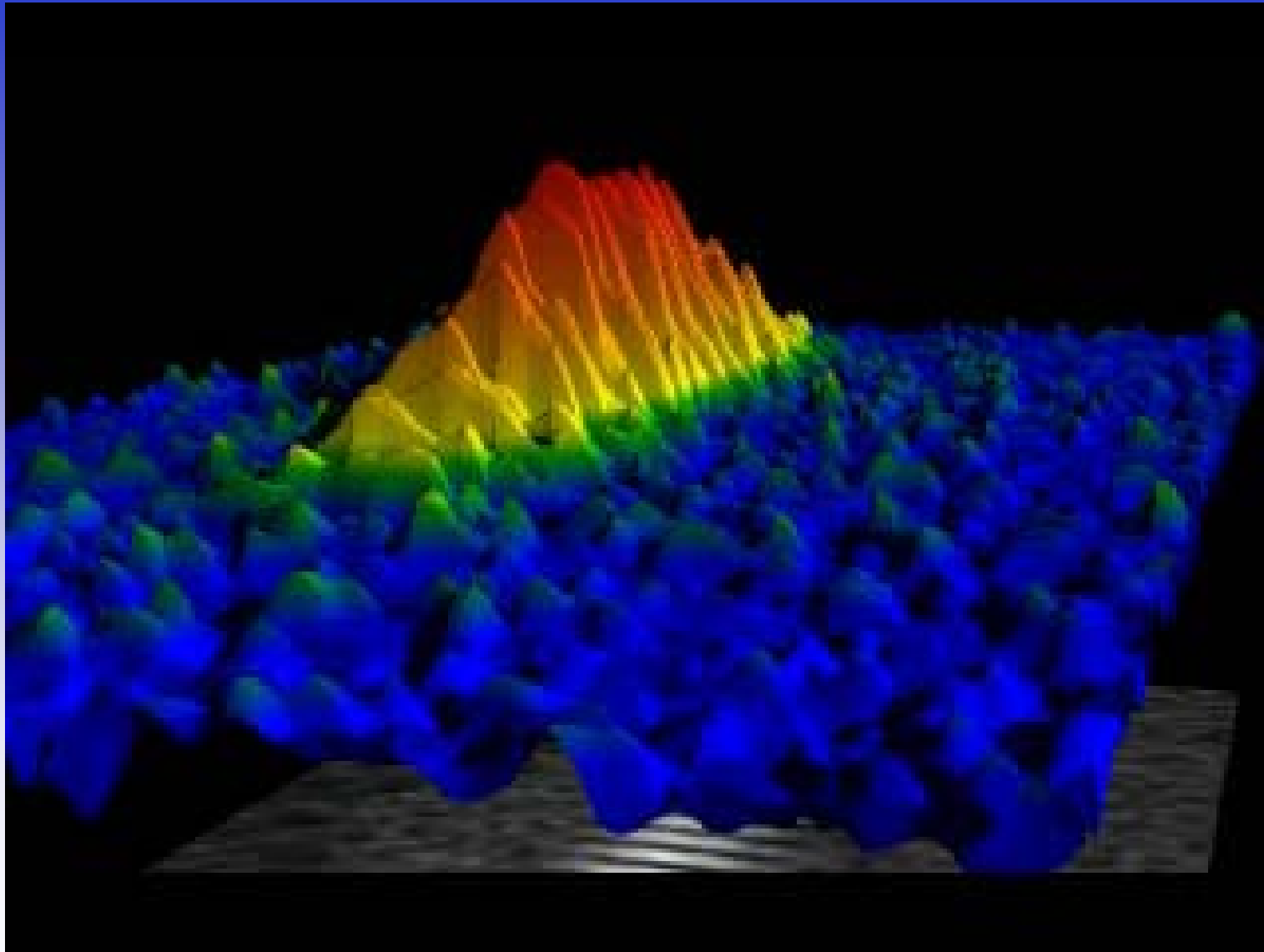


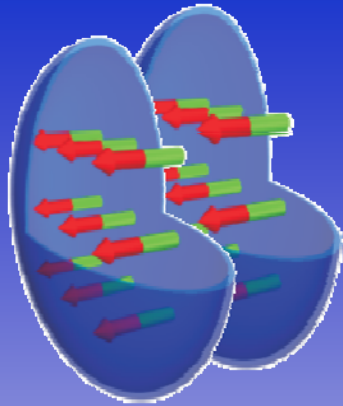
Nach 0,5 Millisekunden

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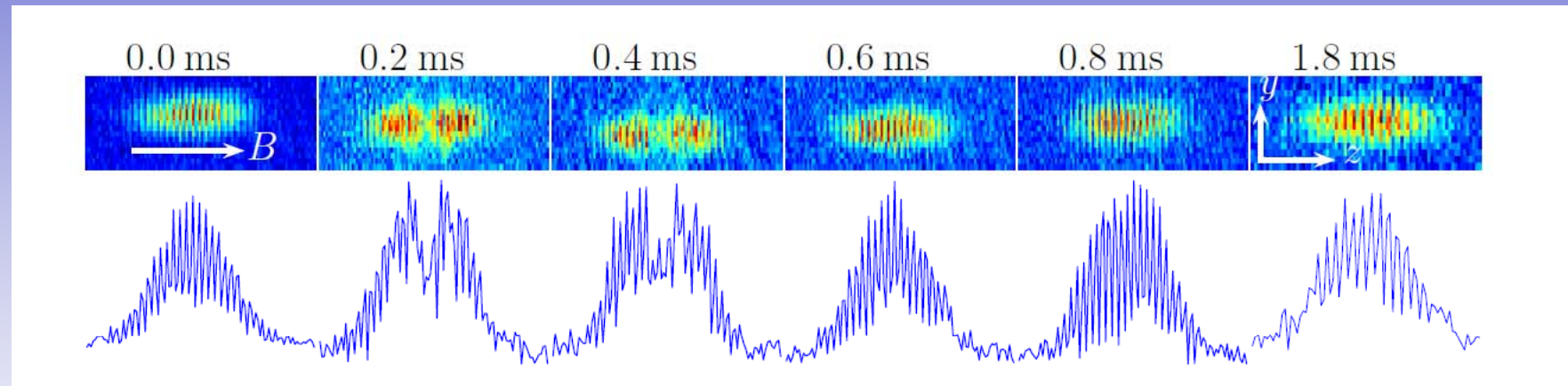
# Is the collapse coherent?







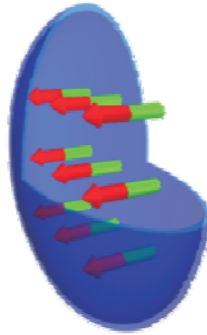
# Coherent collapse dynamics



J. Metz, T. Lahaye, B. Fröhlich, A. Griesmaier, T. Pfau, H. Saito, Y. Kawaguchi, and M. Ueda  
*New J. Phys.* **11**, 055032 (2009)

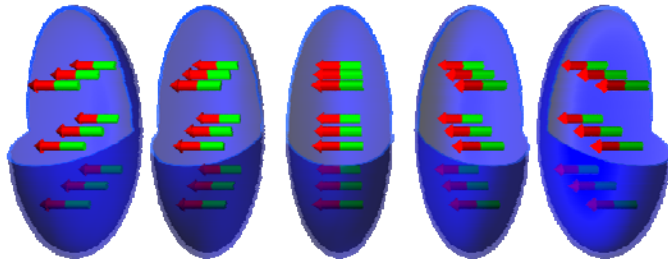


# Stability of a dipolar BEC



## Interactions:

- contact interaction (scattering length  $a$ ):  
tuned via Feshbach resonance  
*isotropic and short-range*
- dipole-dipole interaction (DDI):  
*anisotropic and long-range*



## Multi-well potentials:

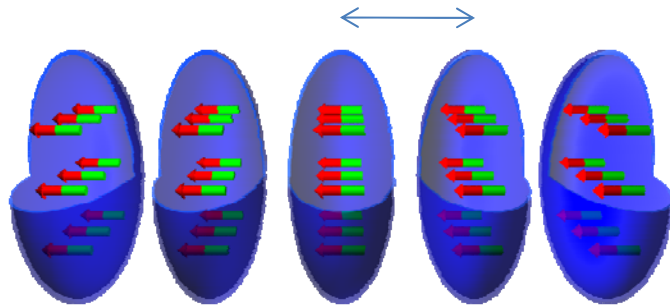
inter-site interaction mediated by DDI

**Stability given by energy balance between**

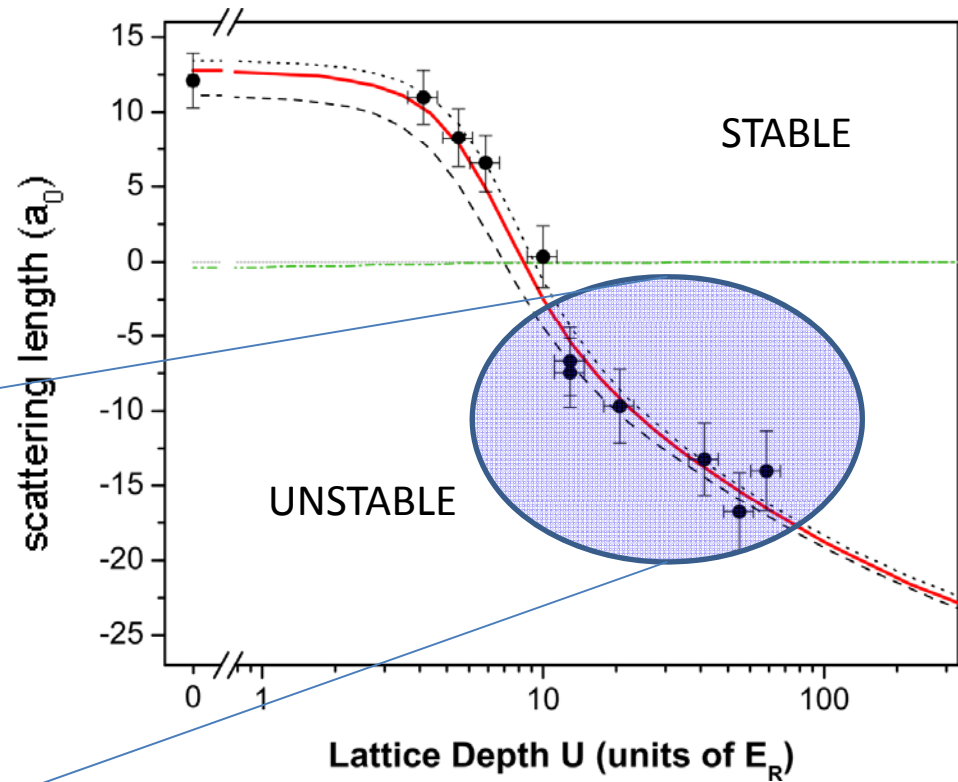
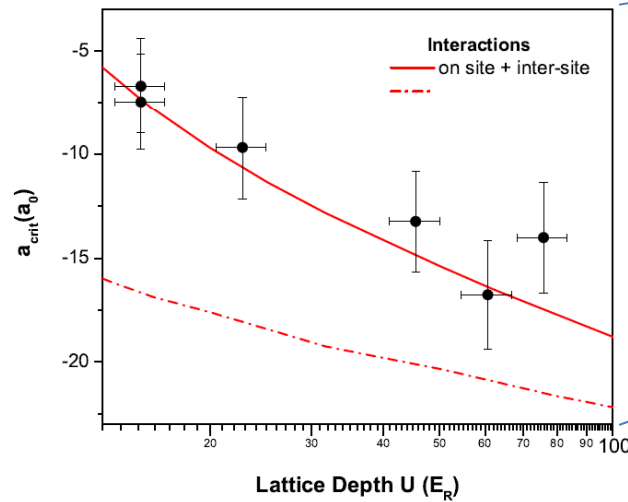
- **on-site interaction (contact + DDI)**
- **inter-site interaction (DDI)**



# A dipolar BEC in a 1D optical lattice



Confinement: lattice + optical trap



S. Müller et al., PRA 84, 053601 (2011)

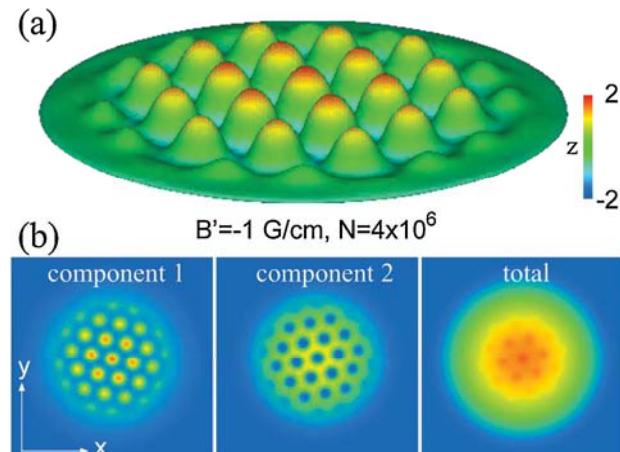


# Outlook: Stronger dipoles - ferrofluid

Classical



Quantum



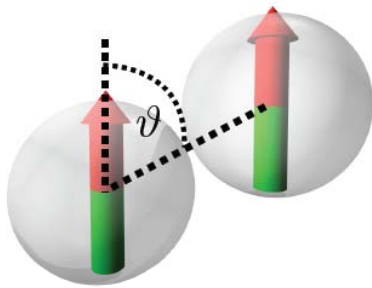
H. Saito, Y. Kawaguchi, and M. Ueda  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **102**, 230403 (2009)





# Interactions in ultracold gases

## Dipolar gases



$$\epsilon_{dd} \propto \frac{m \mu^2}{a}$$

dipolar interaction

contact interaction

	Chromium	Erbium	Dysprosium
Magnetic moment $\mu$	$6 \mu_B$	$7 \mu_B$	$10 \mu_B$
$\epsilon_{dd} = \frac{\mu_0 \mu^2 m}{12 \pi \hbar^2 a_{bg}}$	0.16	0.33-0.45	$\approx 1$

### Degenerate Erbium

K. Aikawa et al.,  
PRL **108**, 210401 (2012)

K. Aikawa et al.,  
PRL **112**, 010404 (2014)

### Degenerate Dysprosium

M. Lu et al.,  
PRL **107**, 190401 (2011)

M. Lu et al.,  
PRL **108**, 215301 (2012)



# The Team

Matthias Wenzel

Thomas Maier



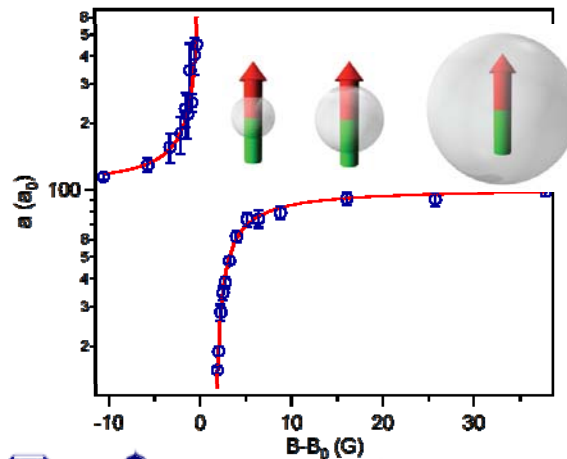
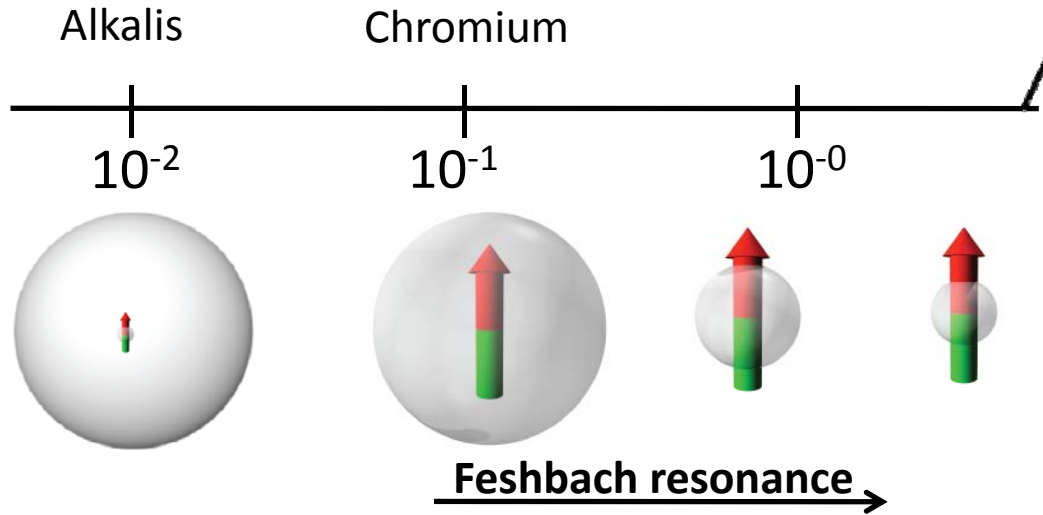
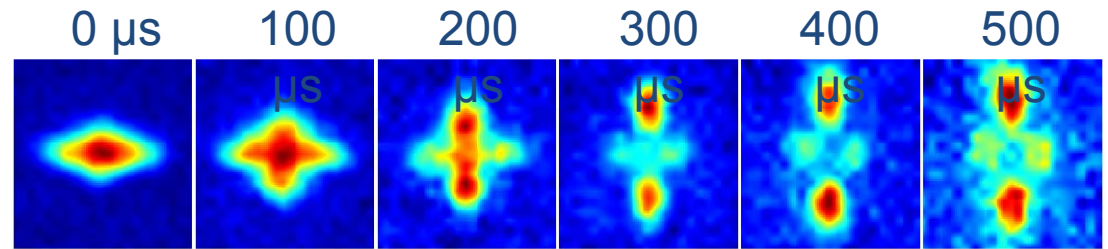
Holger Kadau

Axel Griesmaier

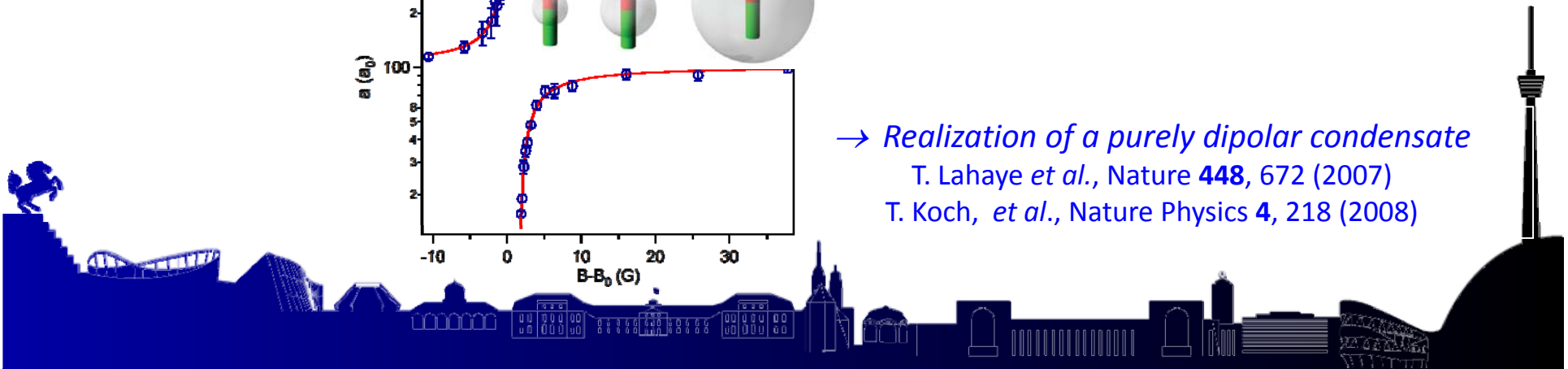
Mathias Schmitt



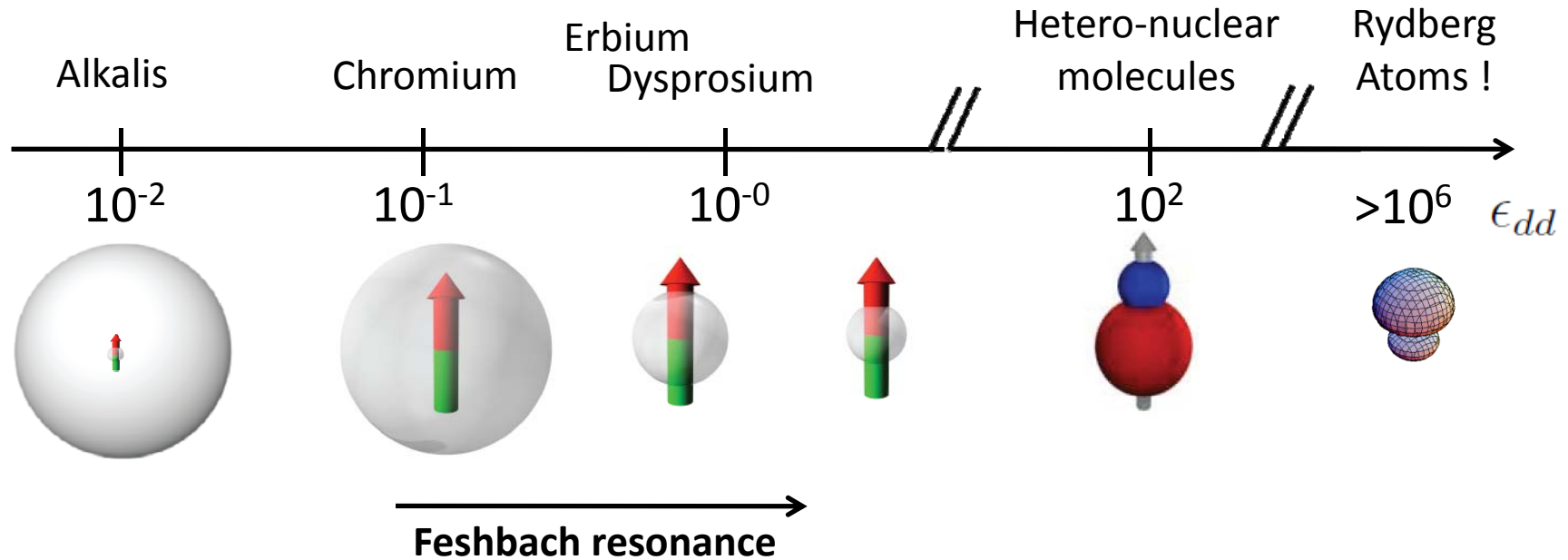
# dipolar interaction



$\rightarrow$  Realization of a purely dipolar condensate  
T. Lahaye *et al.*, Nature **448**, 672 (2007)  
T. Koch, *et al.*, Nature Physics **4**, 218 (2008)



# dipolar interaction



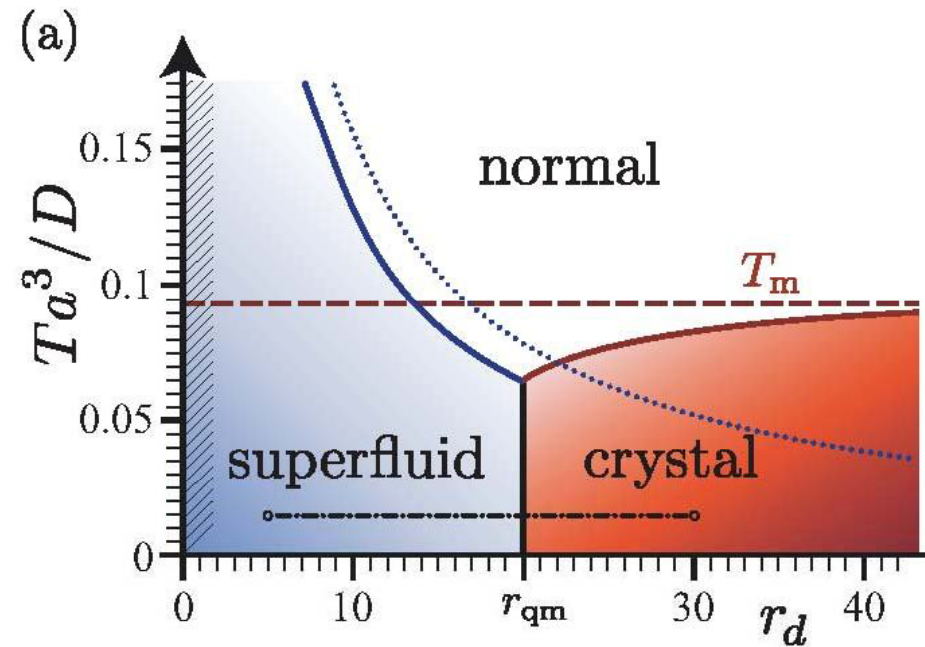
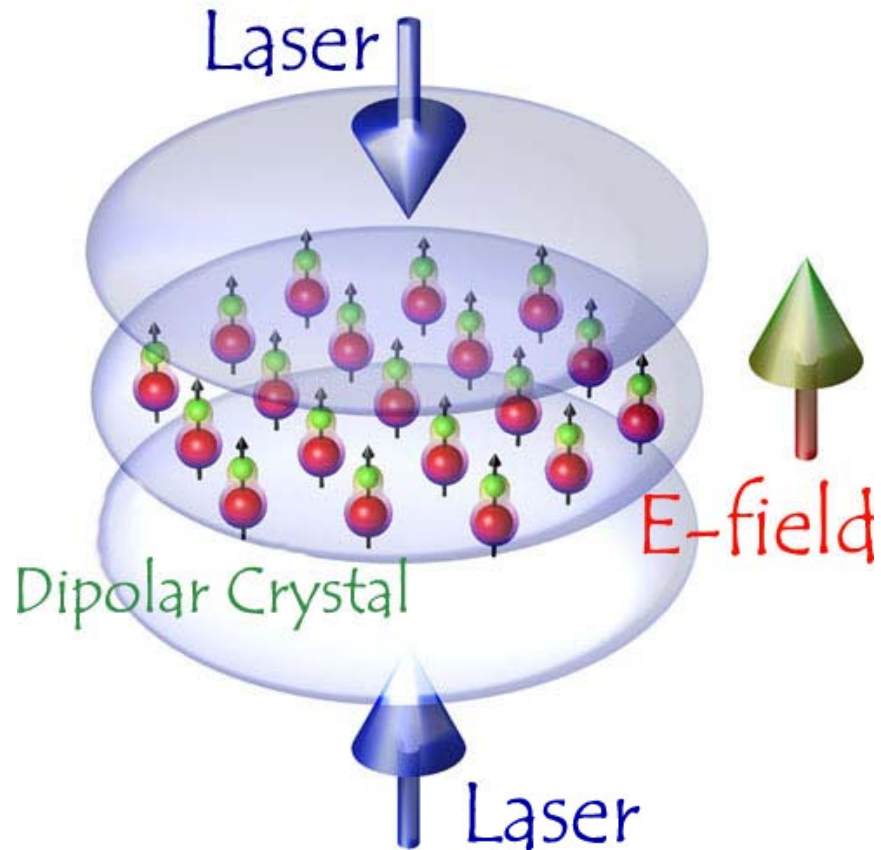
→ Realization of a purely dipolar condensate

T. Lahaye *et al.*, Nature **448**, 672 (2007)

T. Koch, *et al.*, Nature Physics **4**, 218 (2008)



# Polar molecules: Wigner crystal

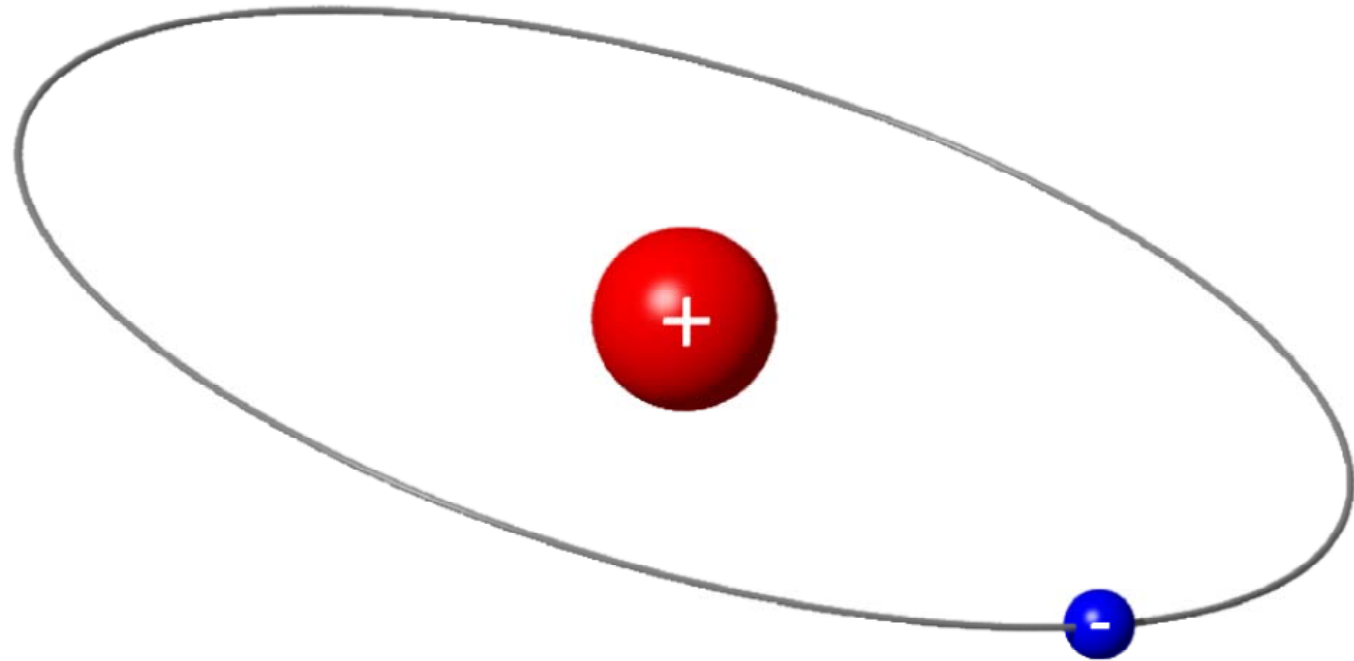


Bose gas  
Bose liquid  
Bose crystal

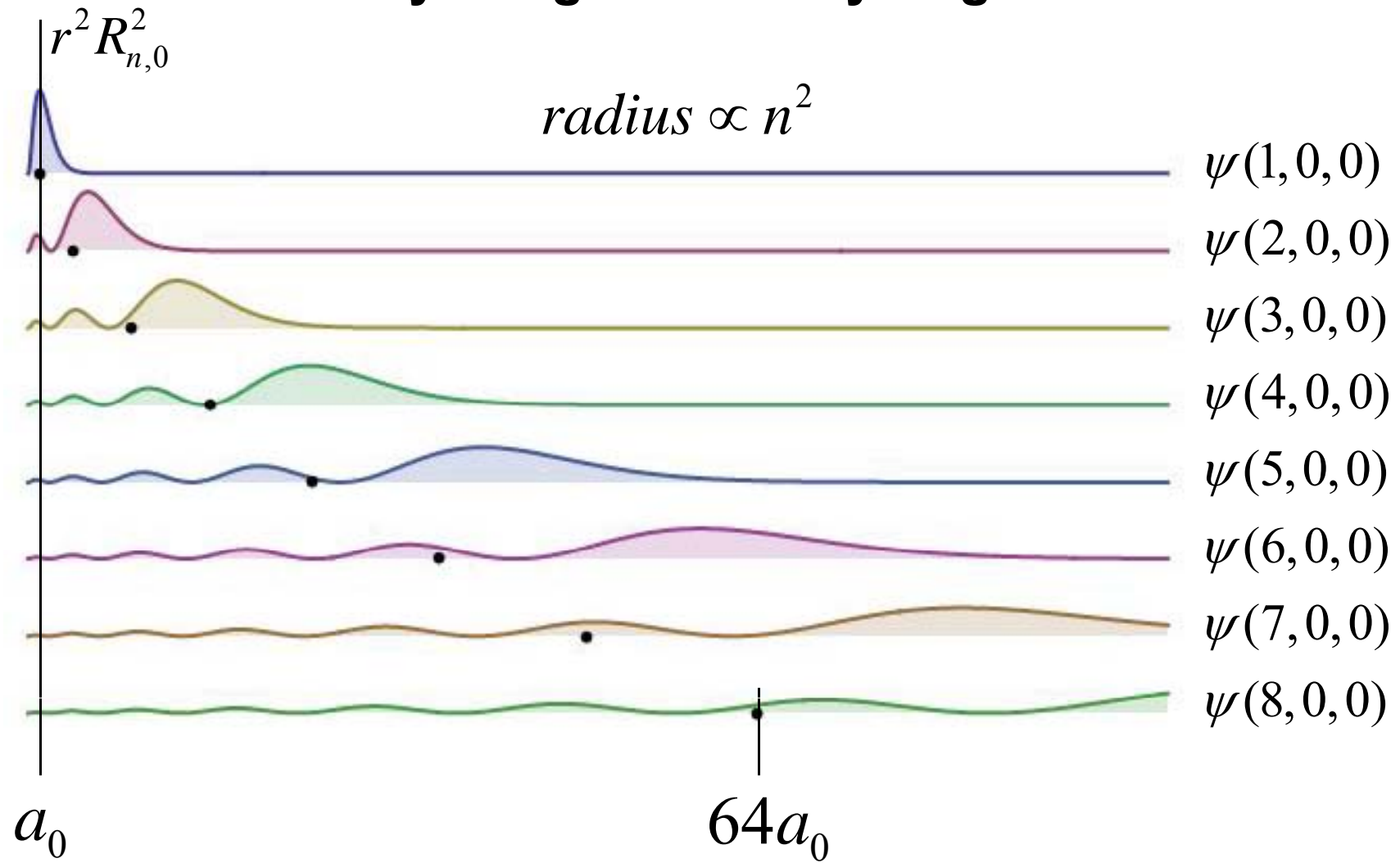
Pupillo, Büchler, Zoller



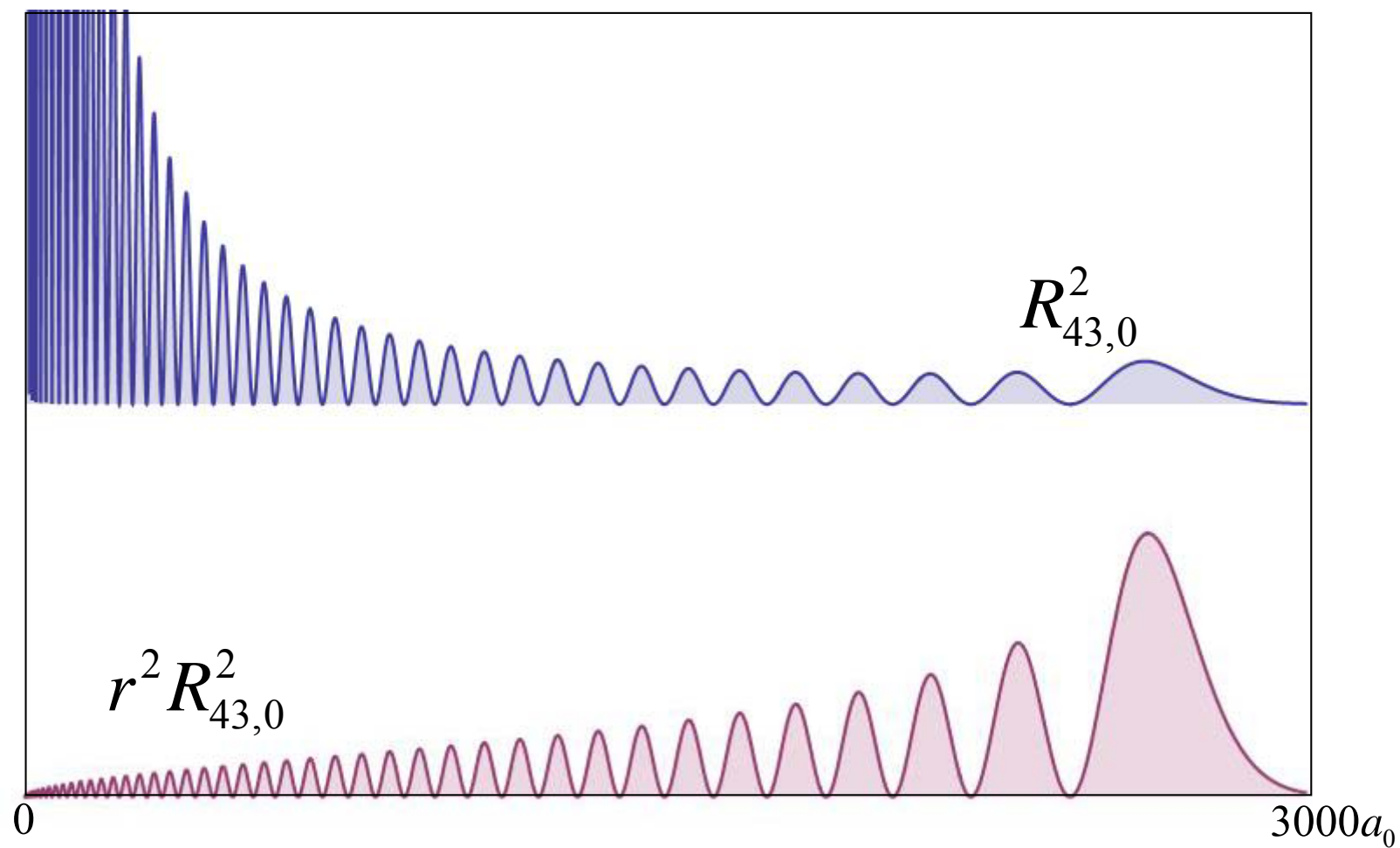
# Rydberg atoms



# Rydberg basics - Hydrogen

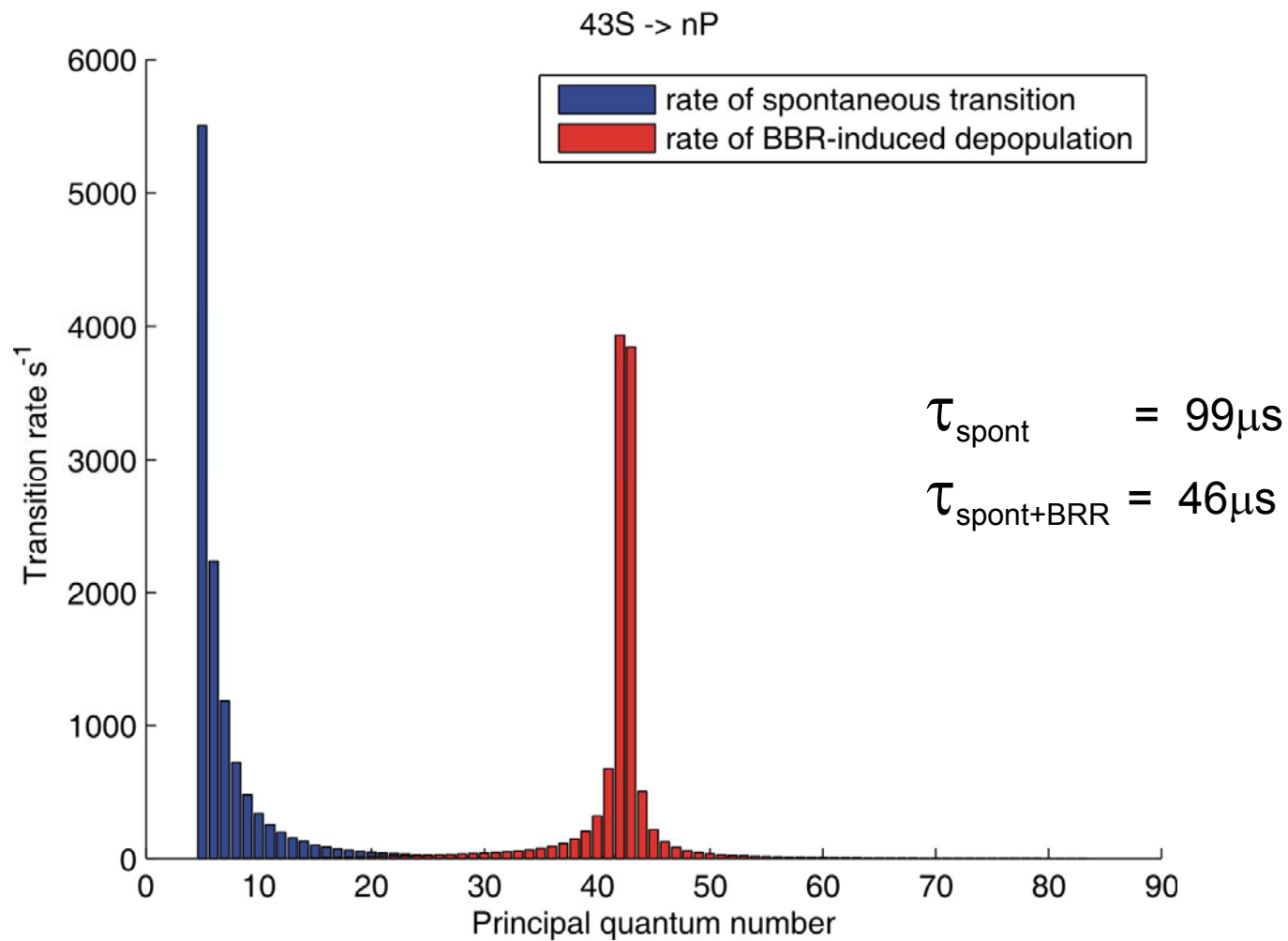


## One typical example: 43S

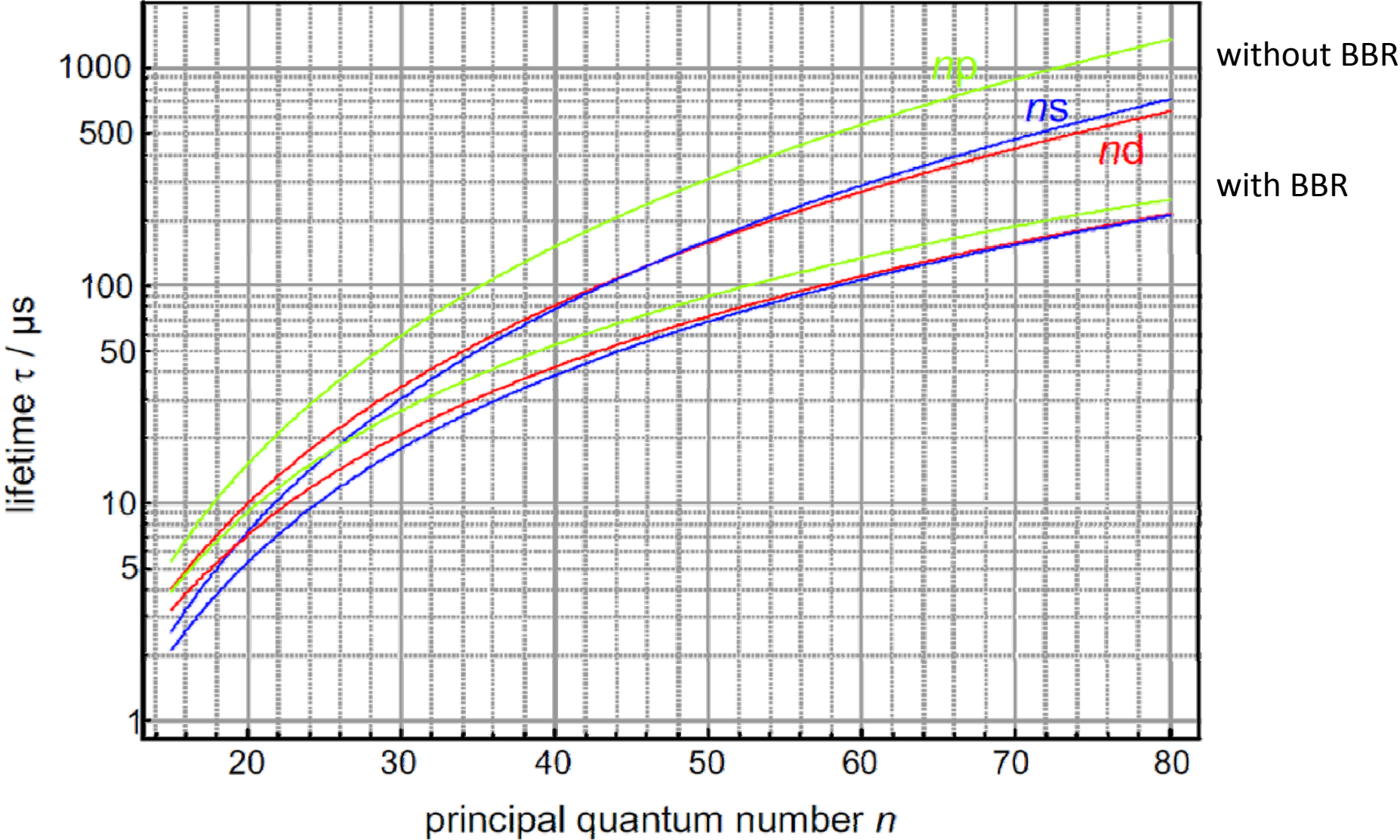


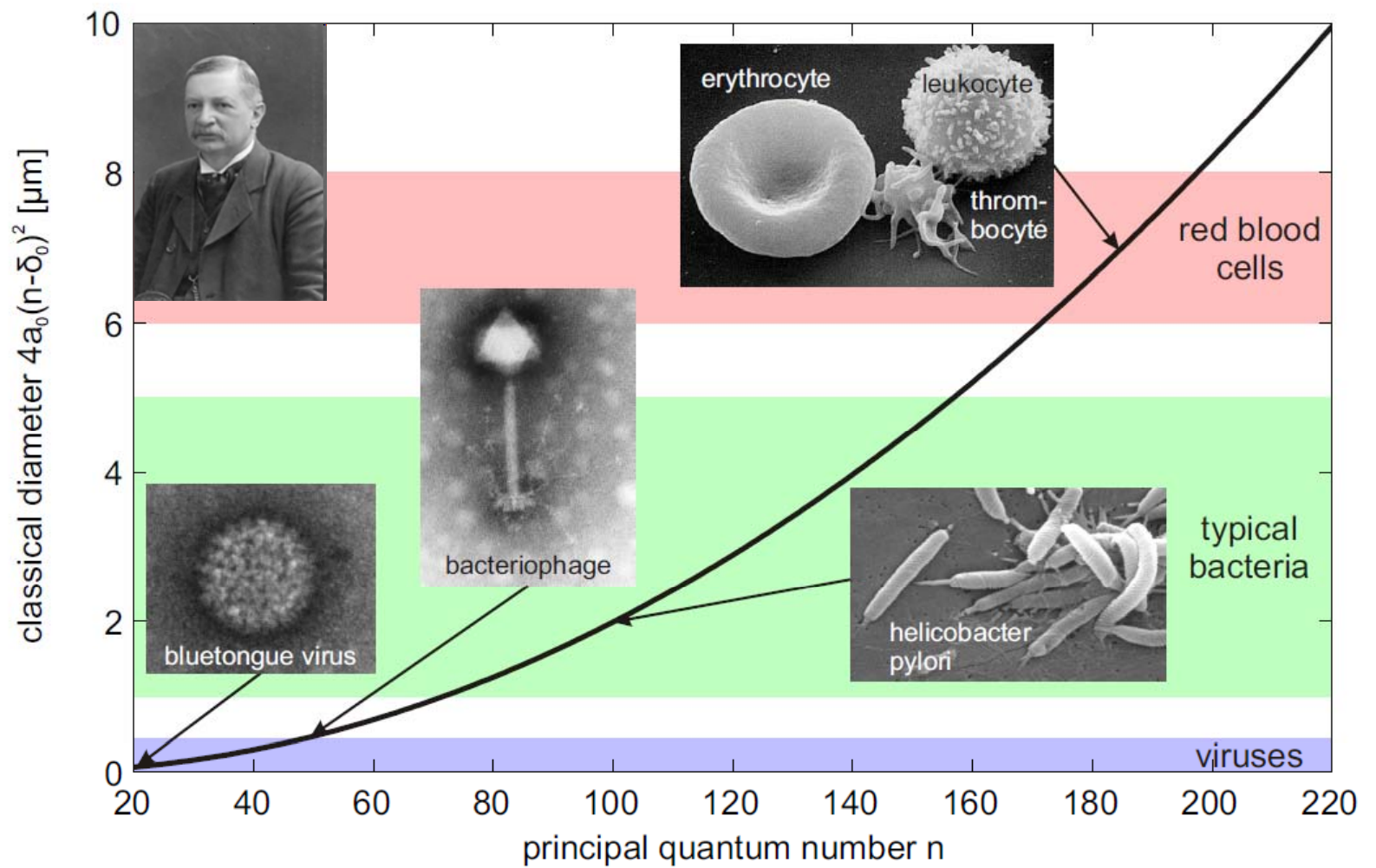
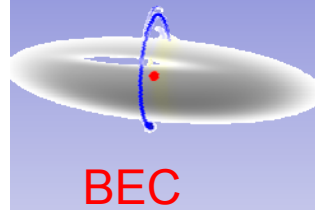


# Lifetime of the 43s state with Blackbody Radiation

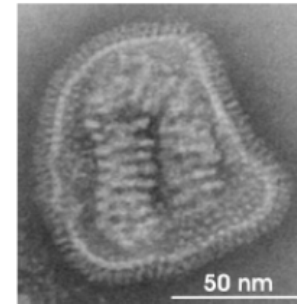
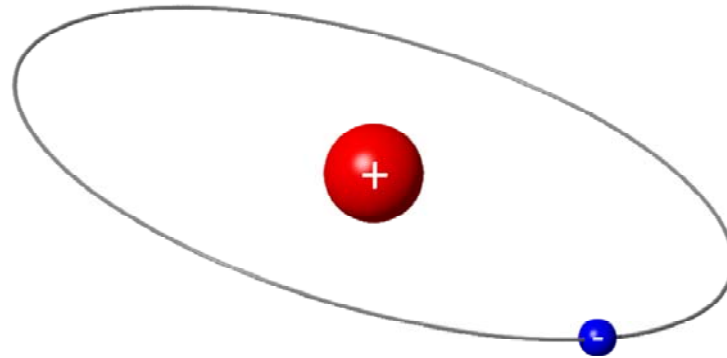


# Rb lifetimes





# Properties of Rydberg Atoms

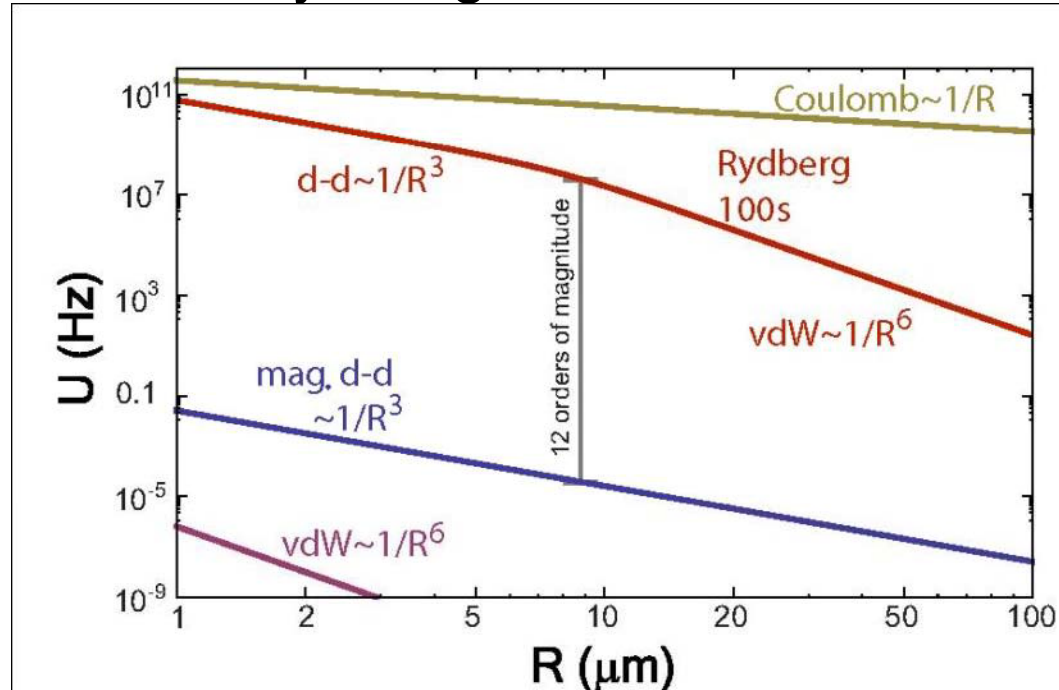


quantity	scaling	43S-state of $^{87}\text{Rb}$
radius	$\propto n^2$	$2384 a_0$
lifetime	$\propto n^3$	$50\mu\text{s}$
Polarizability	$\propto n^7$	$8 \text{ MHz (V/cm)}^{-2}$
Van der Waals $C_6$	$\propto n^{11}$	$-1.7 \times 10^{19} \text{ a.u.}$



# The interactions between Rydberg states are ...

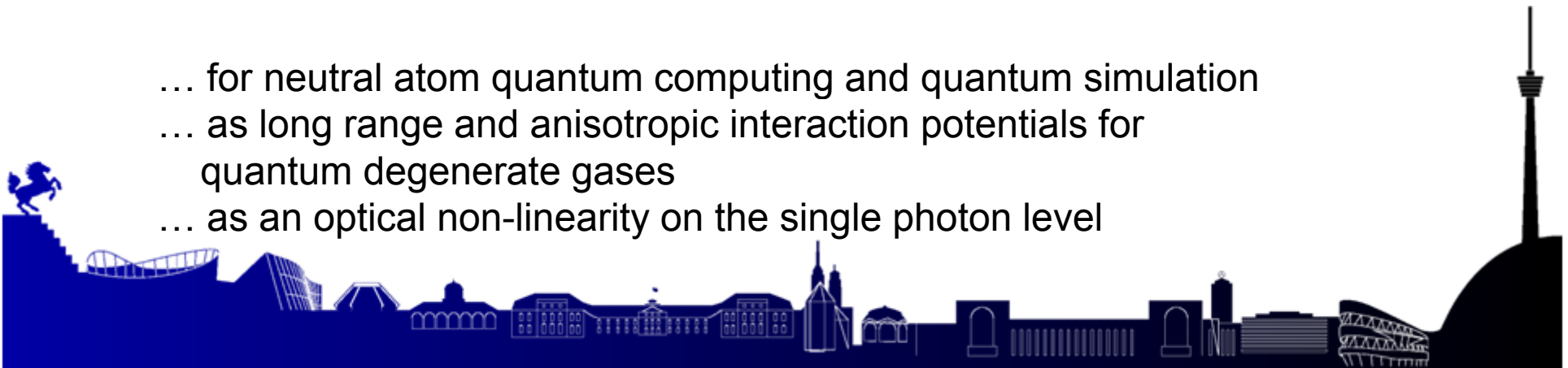
- ... strong
- ... long-range
- ... tunable
- ... switchable
- ... anisotropic



and can be used

M. Saffman et al., Rev. Mod. Phys. 82, 2313 (2010)

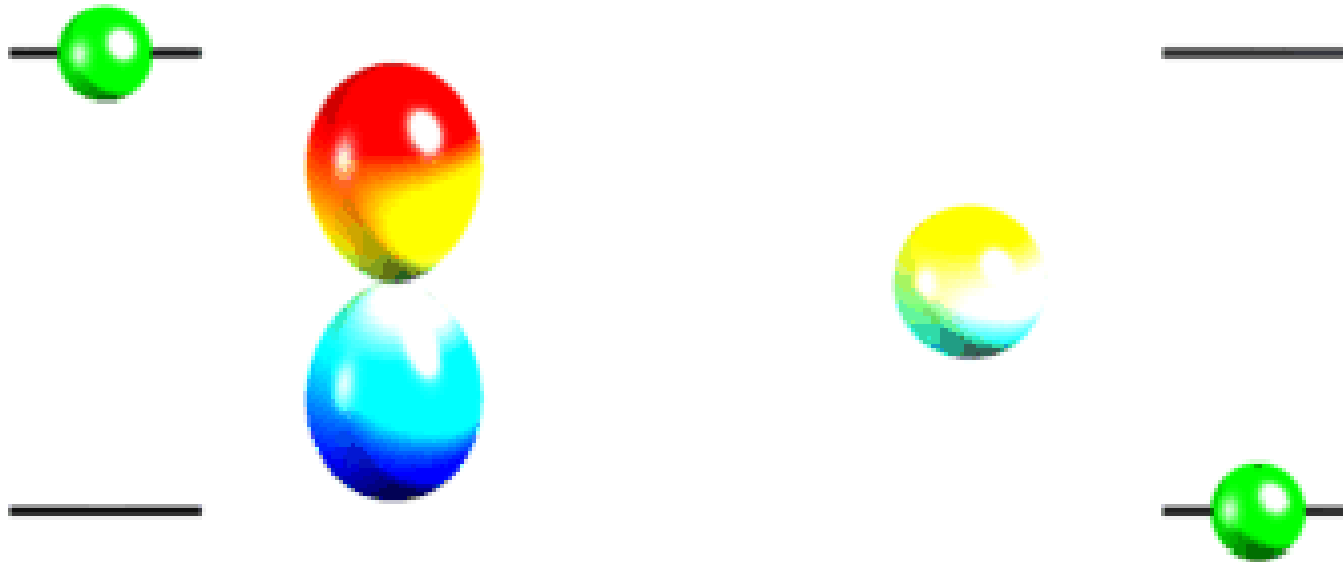
- ... for neutral atom quantum computing and quantum simulation
- ... as long range and anisotropic interaction potentials for quantum degenerate gases
- ... as an optical non-linearity on the single photon level





T. Förster, Z. Naturforsch 4a, 321 (1949)

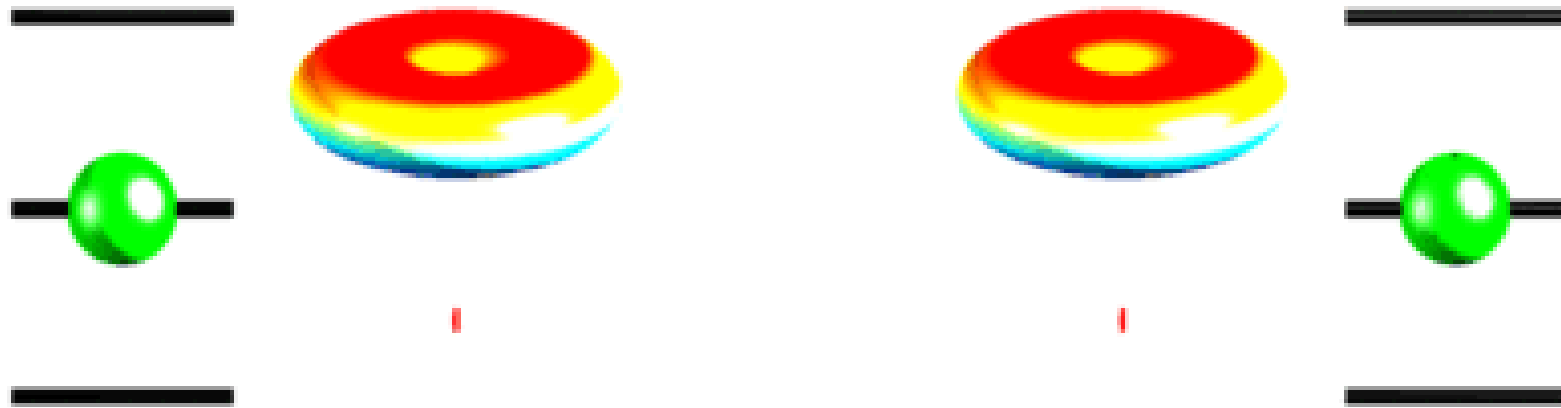
## Förster energy transfer





T. Förster, Z. Naturforsch 4a, 321 (1949)

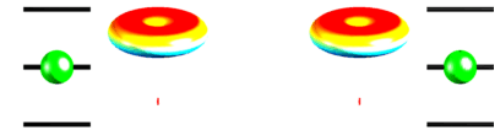
## Förster Resonance



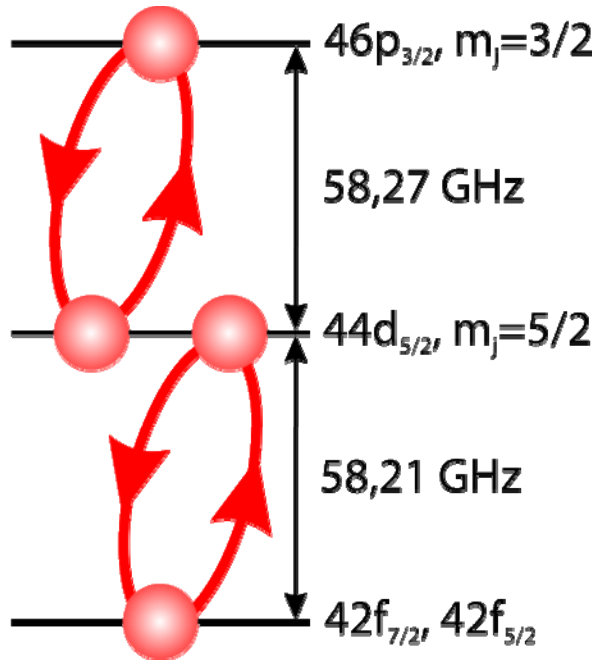


# Dipolar interactions: Förster resonances

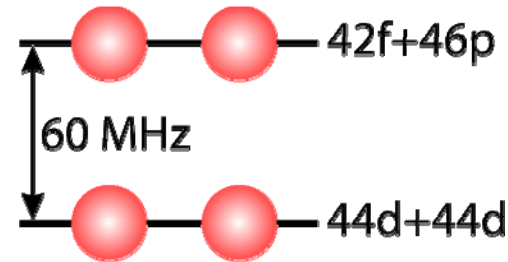
T. Förster, Z. Naturforsch 4a, 321 (1949)



Bare states



Pair states



finite Förster defect  $\Delta$ :  
**van-der-Waals** interaction ( $\sim 1/R^6$ )

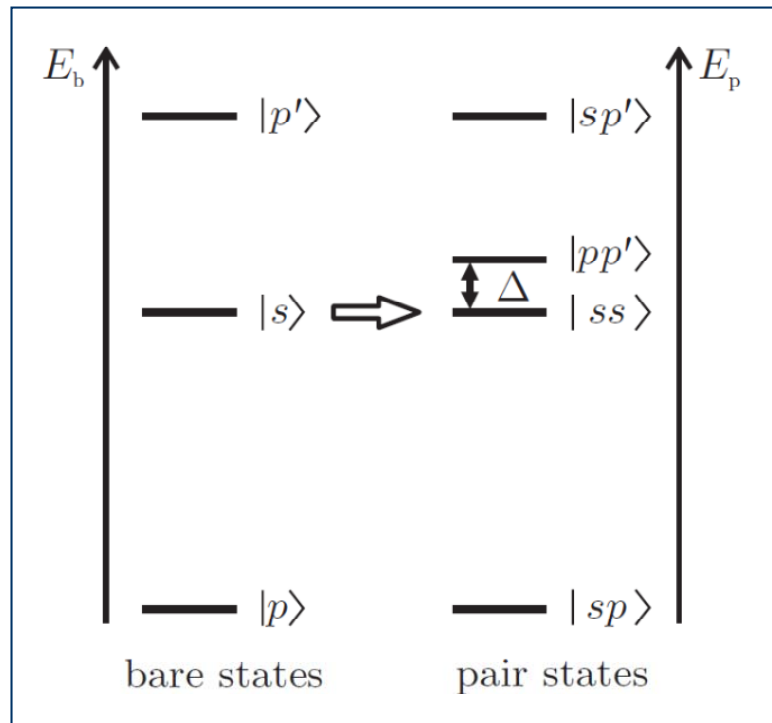
no Förster defect  $\Delta = 0$ :  
 resonant **dipole-dipole** interaction ( $\sim 1/R^3$ )





# Interaction between Rydberg atoms

Förster resonance: tune  $\Delta$  to zero



$$\mathcal{H}_{dd} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{d_1 d_2}{R^3} \\ \frac{d_1 d_2}{R^3} & \Delta \end{pmatrix}$$

$$E_{\pm} = \frac{\Delta}{2} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{\Delta}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{d_1 d_2}{R^3}\right)^2}$$

$$\Delta \gg d_1 d_2 / R^3$$

$$E_{\text{vdW}} = E_- = -\frac{1}{\Delta} \frac{(d_1 d_2)^2}{R^6} \equiv \frac{C_6}{R^6}$$

Dipolar interaction for

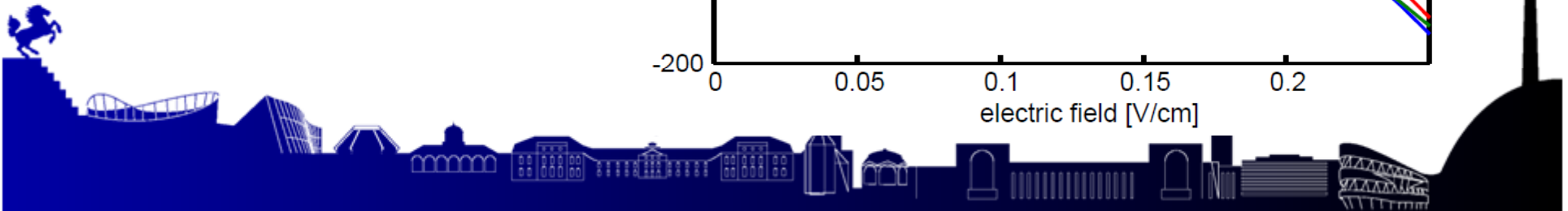
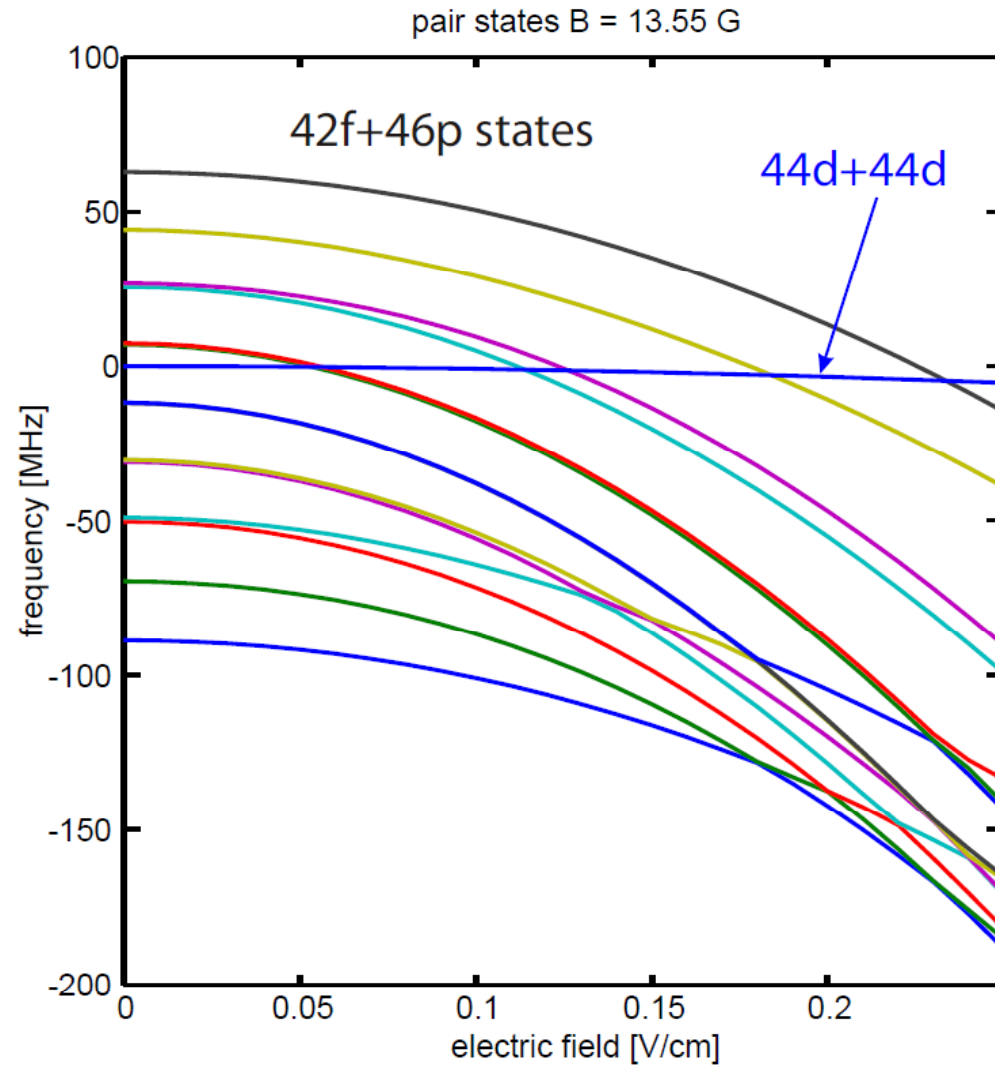
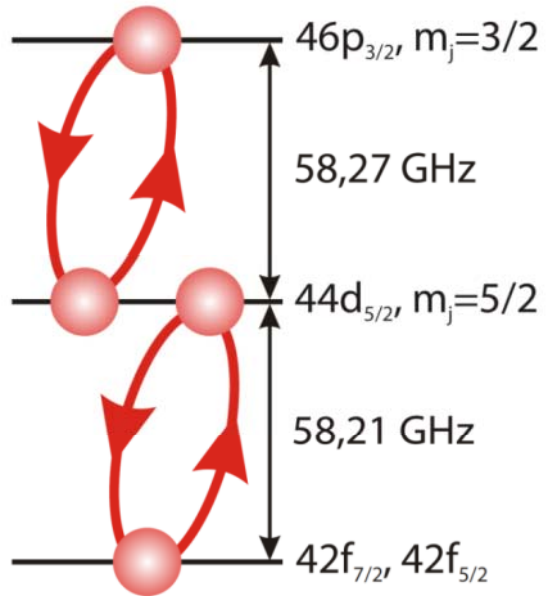
$$R \ll \sqrt[3]{\frac{d_1 d_2}{\Delta}}$$

sign depends on  $\Delta$  !



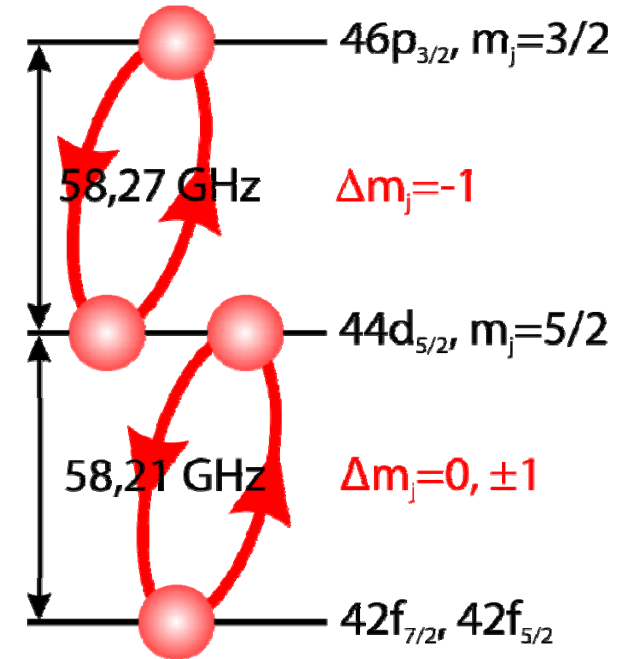
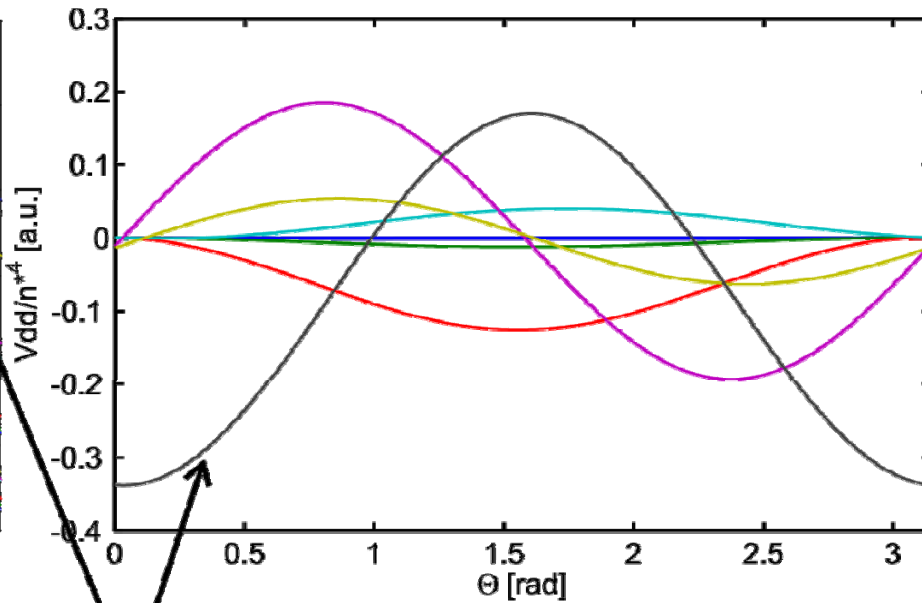
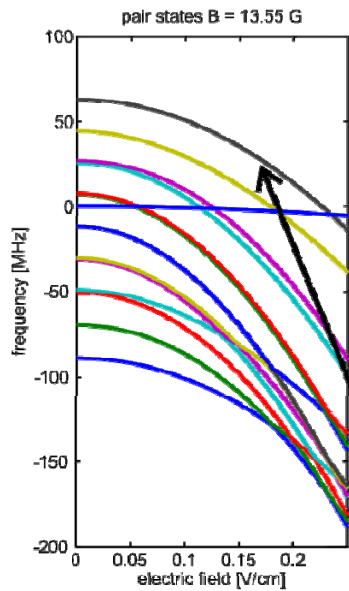


# Stark tuned Förster resonances



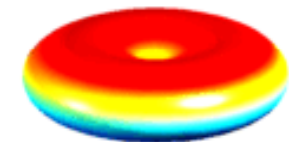
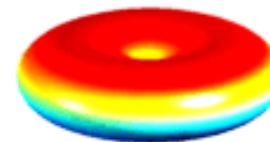


# Förster resonances



$$|46p_{3/2}, m_j=3/2; 42f_{7/2}, m_j=7/2\rangle$$

$$\leftrightarrow |44d_{5/2}, m_j=5/2; 44d_{5/2}, m_j=5/2\rangle$$



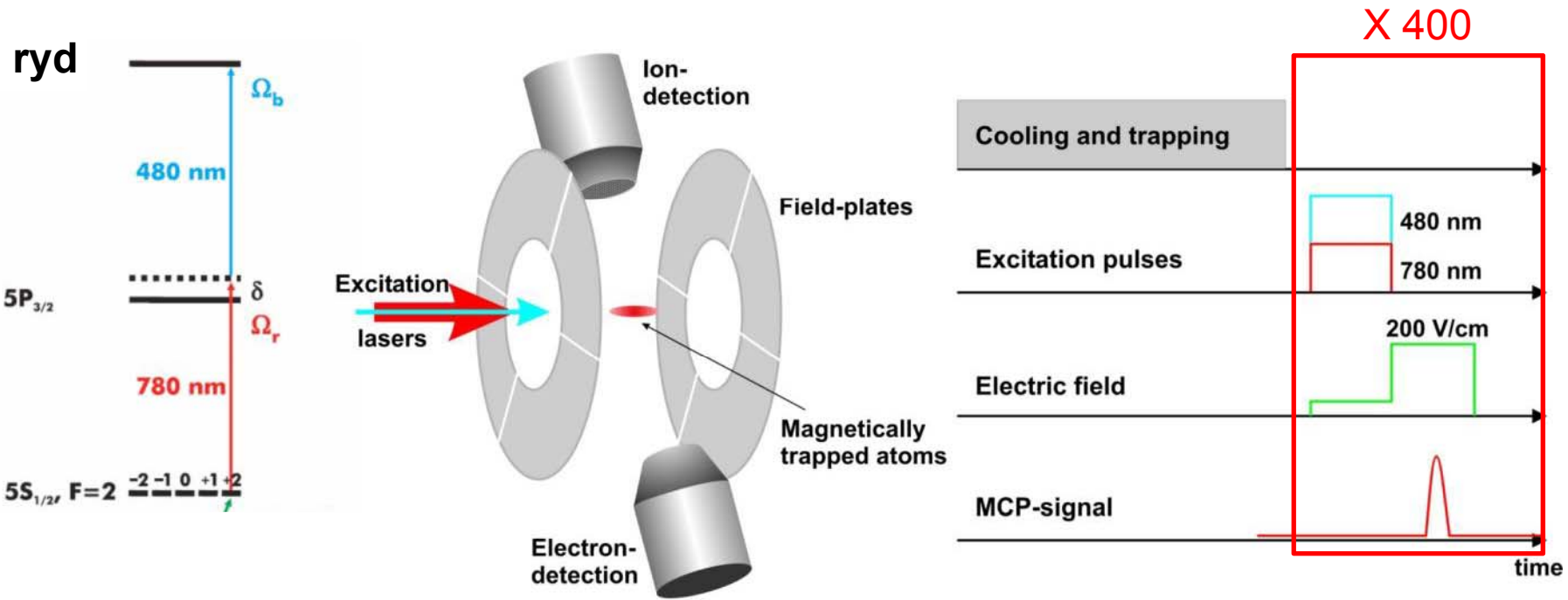


# Förster resonances

Is this all coherent  
in a dense gas??



# Some experimental details



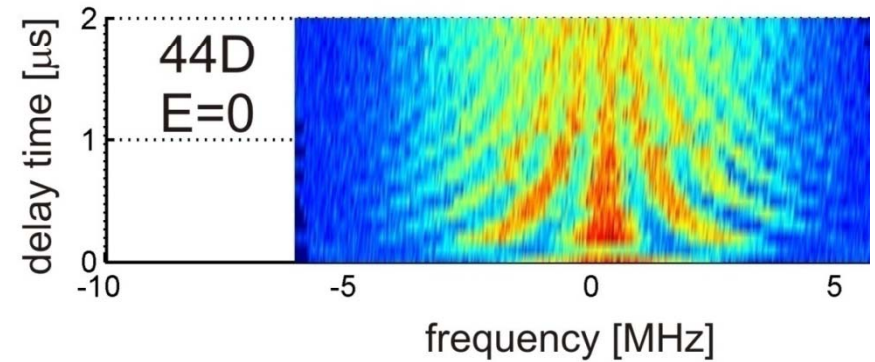
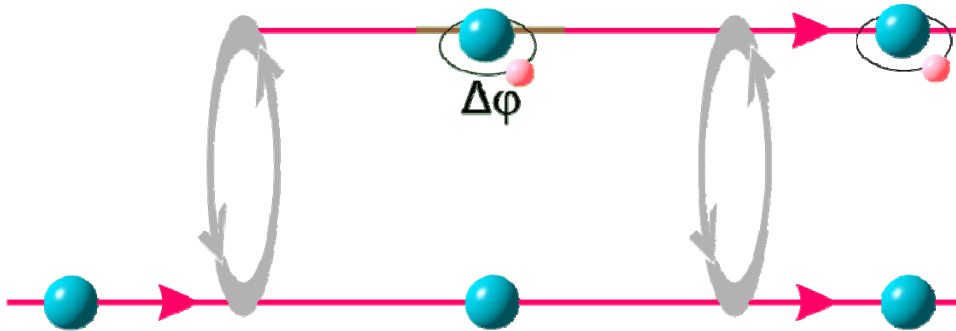
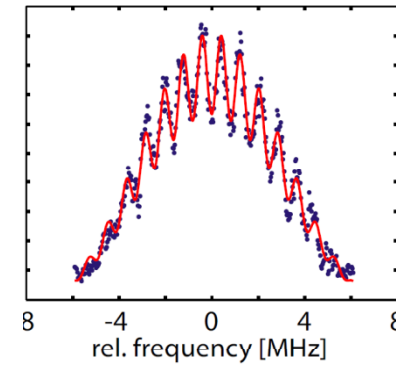
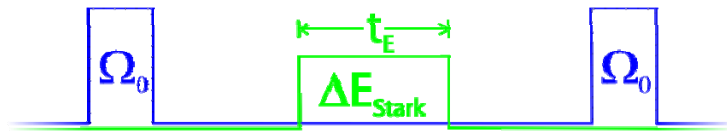
Excitation scheme

Experimental setup

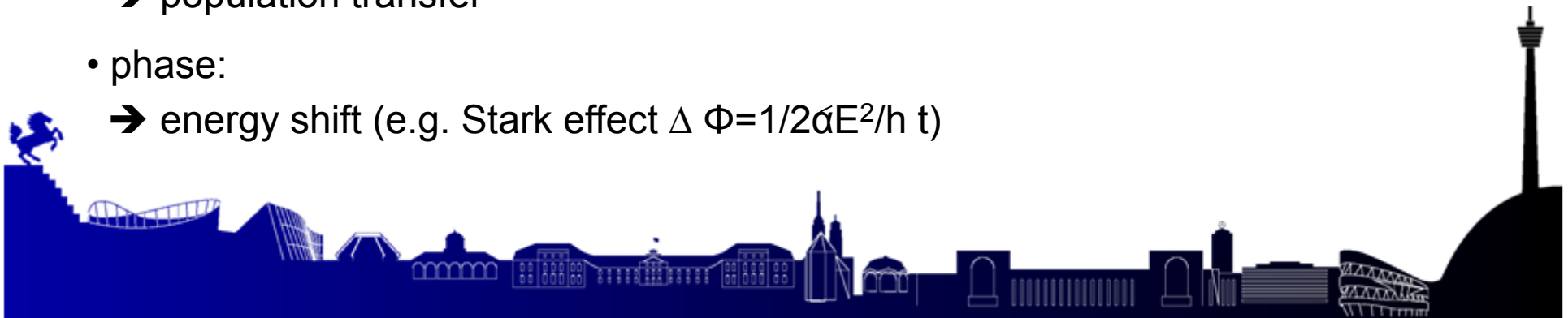
Experimental sequence



# Ramsey interferometer

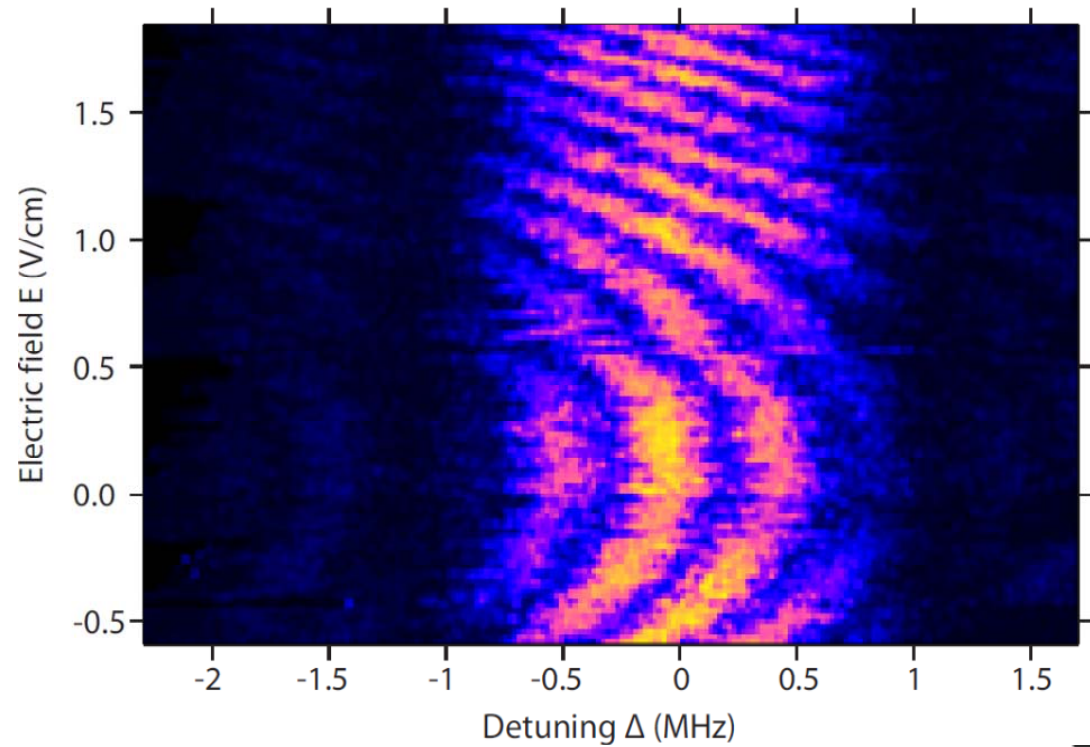
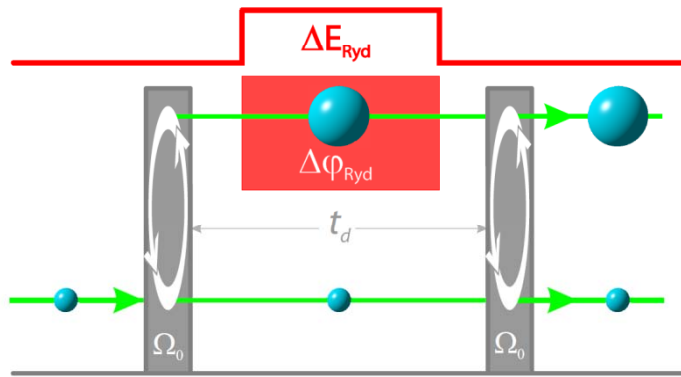


- visibility:
  - decoherence
  - population transfer
- phase:
  - energy shift (e.g. Stark effect  $\Delta\Phi = 1/2\alpha E^2/h t$ )



# Rydberg atom interferometry

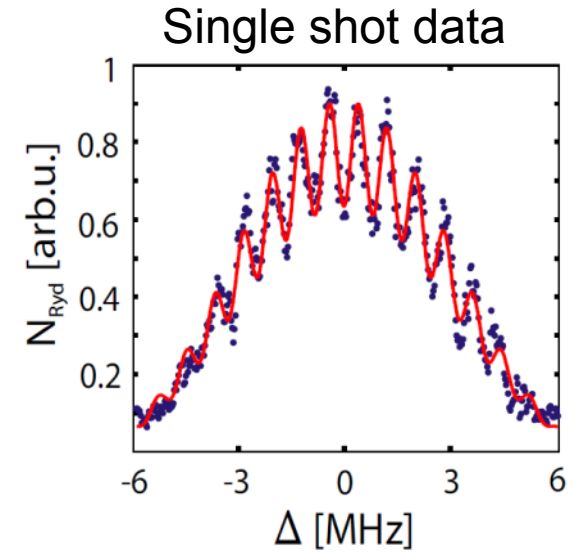
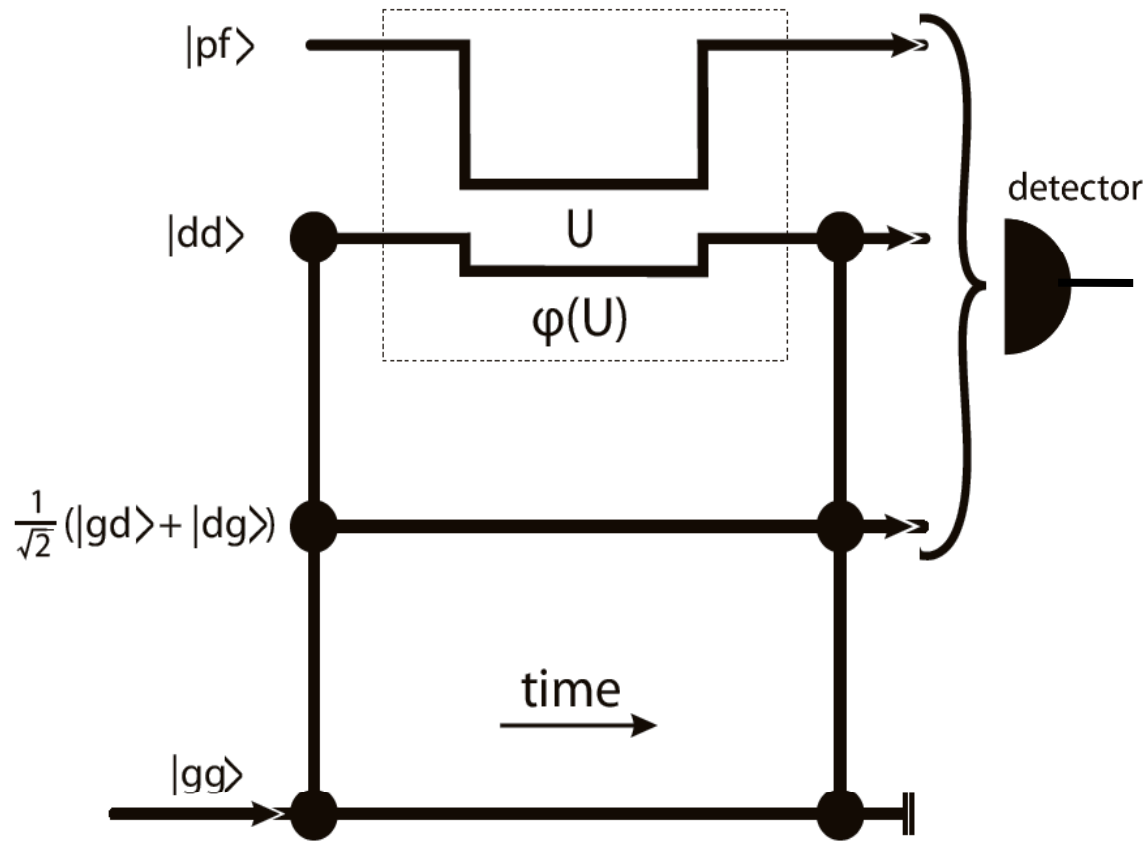
$$\Delta\varphi_{\text{Ryd}} = \frac{1}{\hbar} \int \alpha \underline{E}^2(t) dt$$



43S high density



# A pair state interferometer

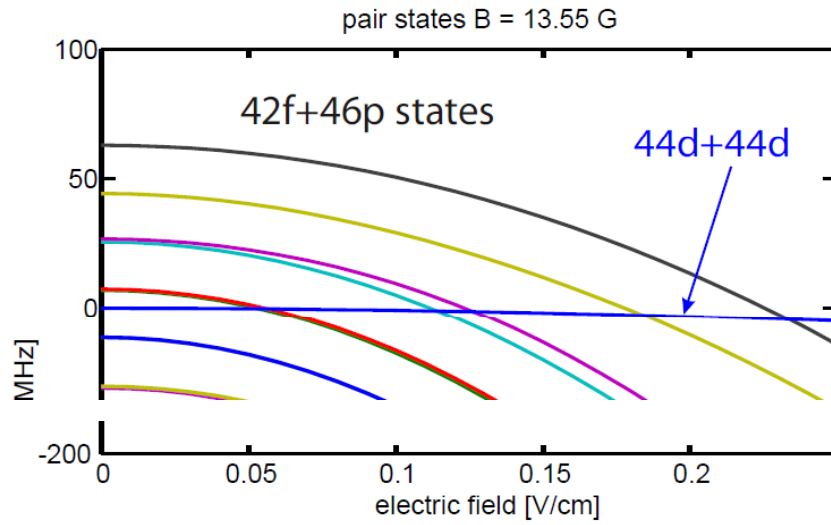


→ see Nipper et al.  
PRL 2012  
PRX 2012

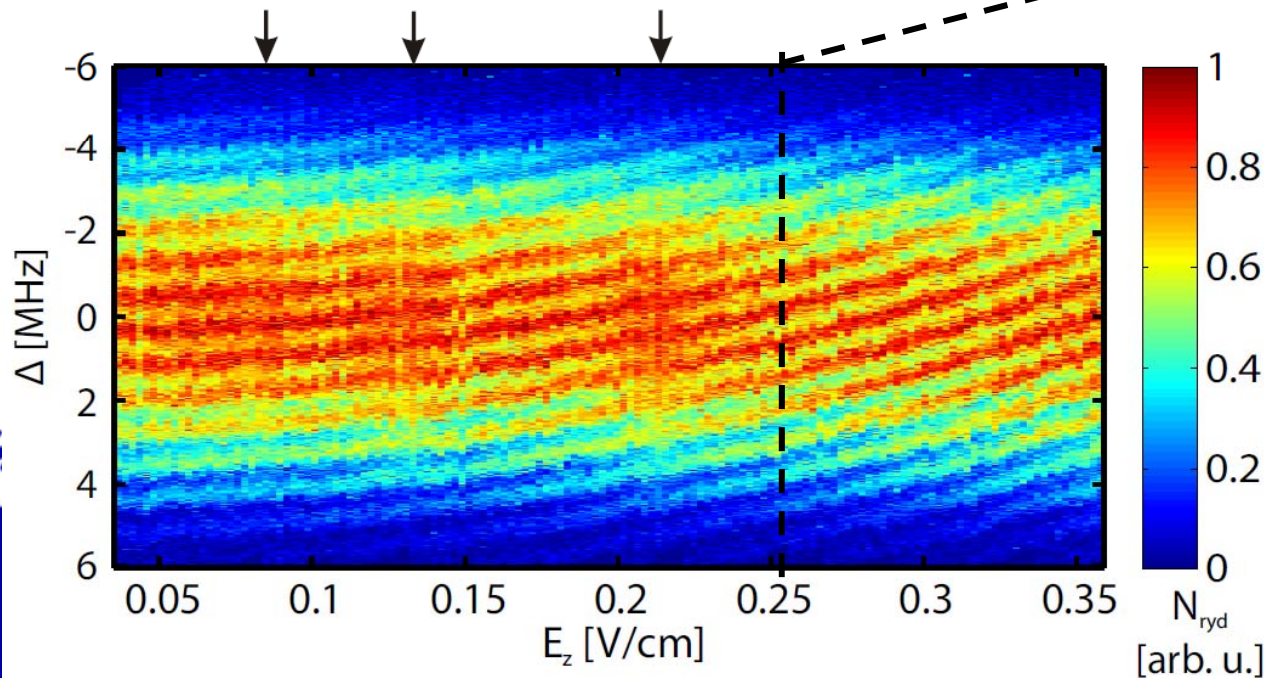
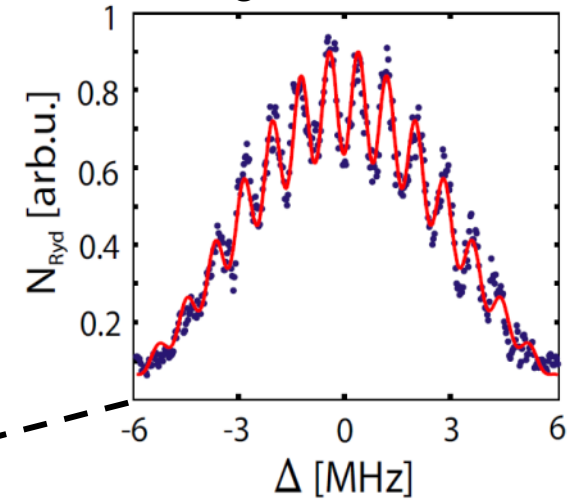




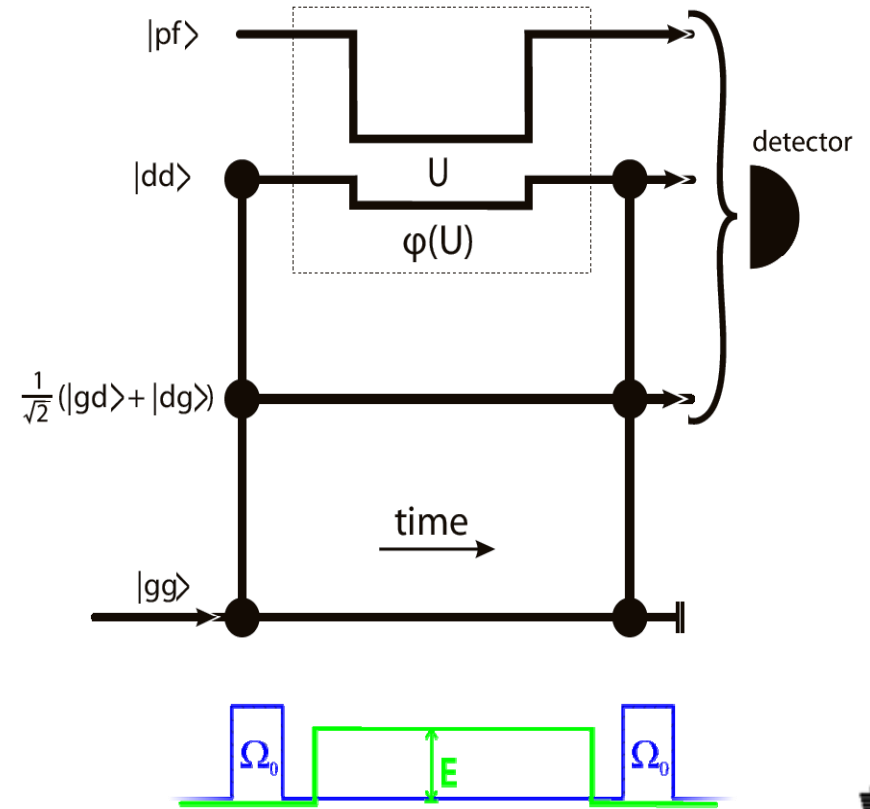
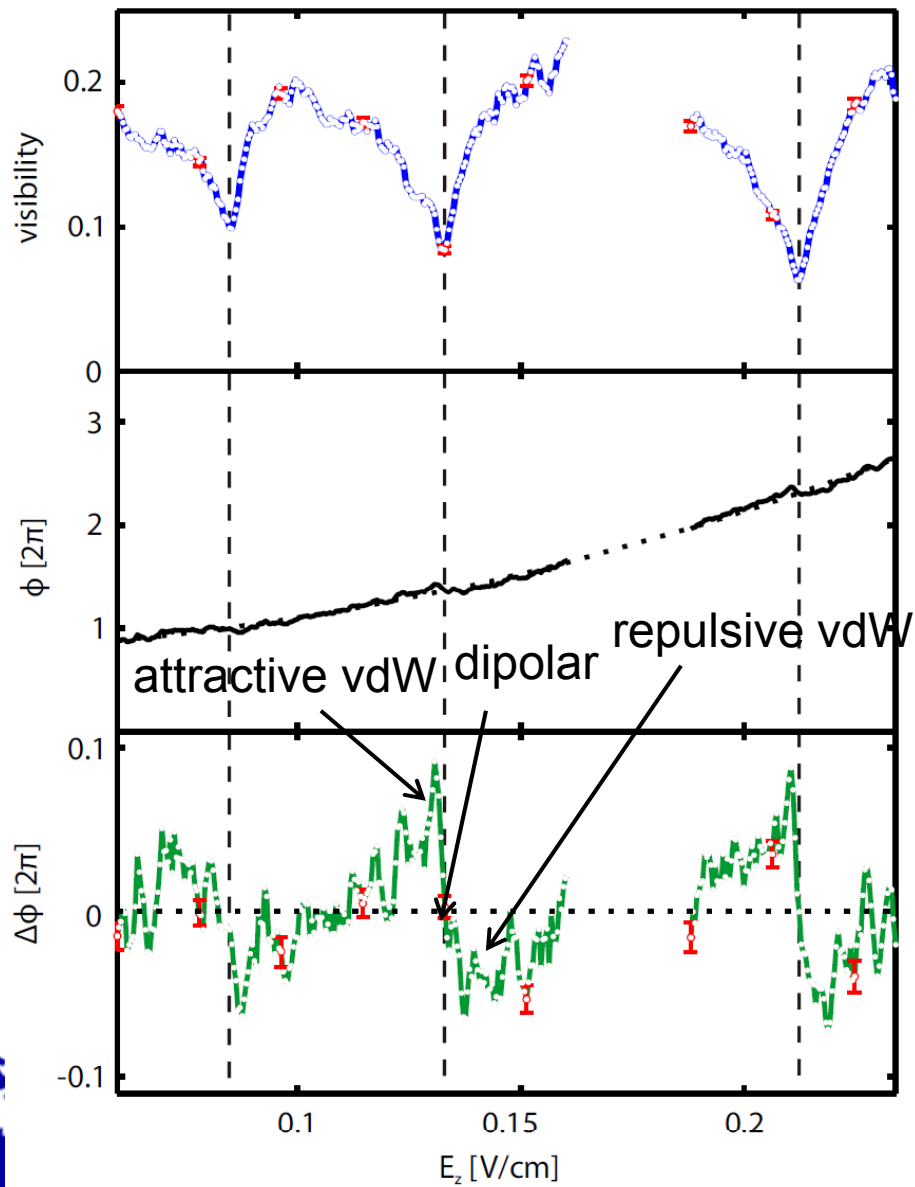
# A pair state interferometer



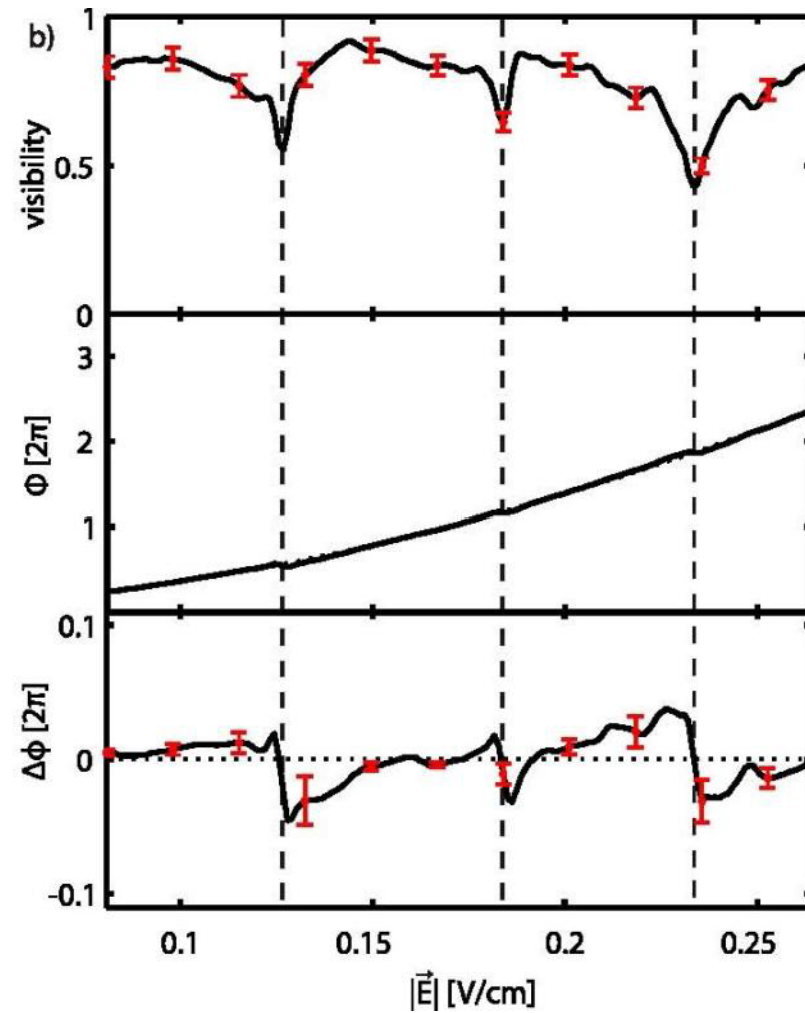
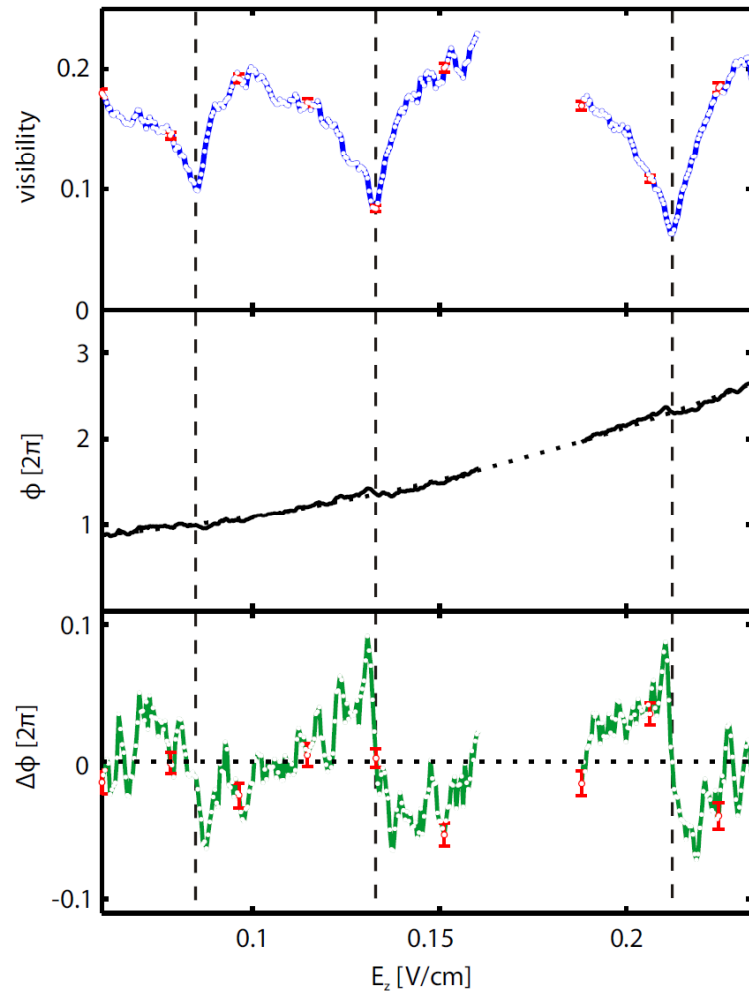
## Single shot data



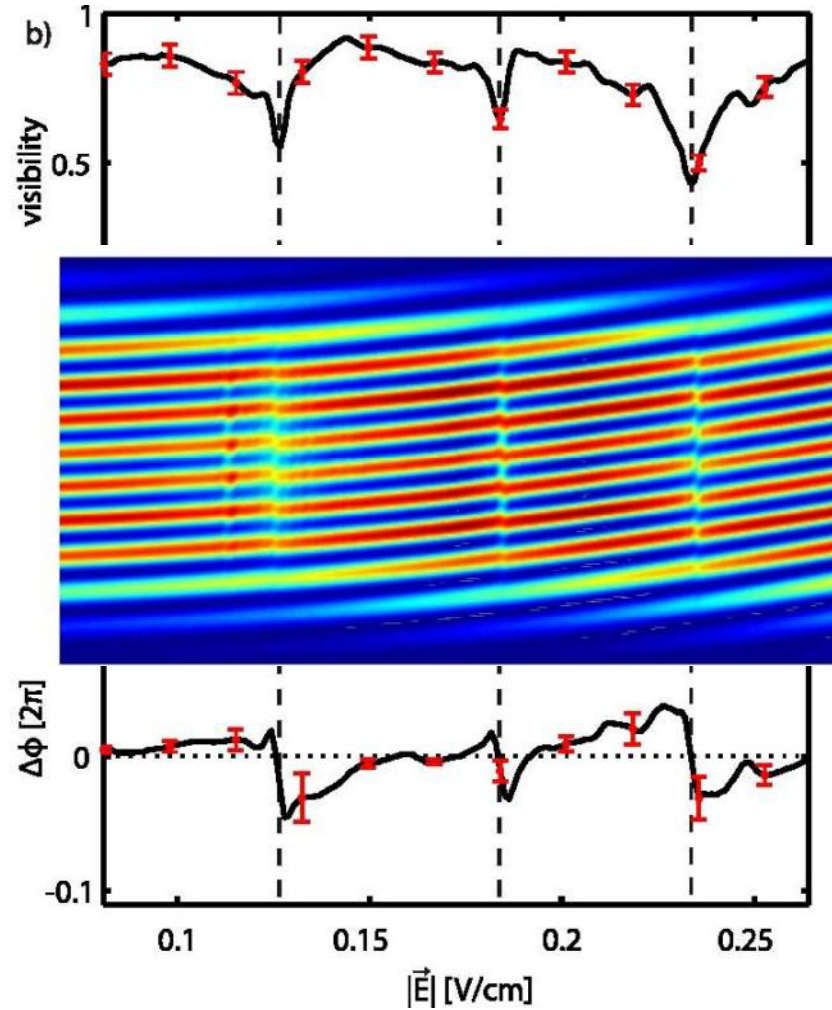
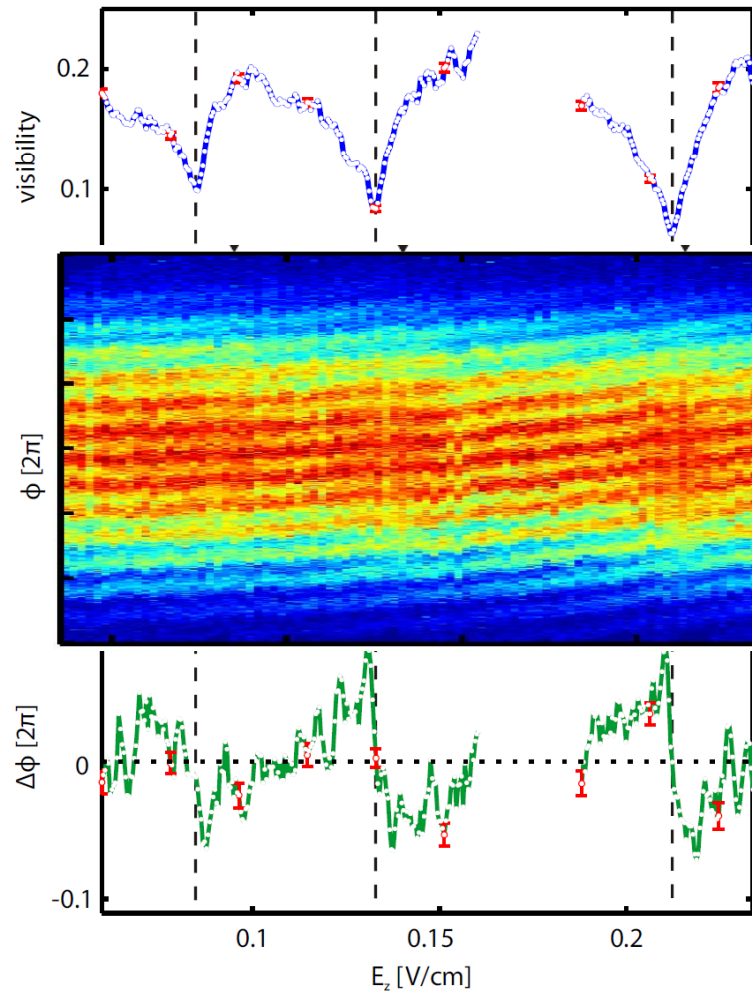
# Interaction induced dephasing and phase shift



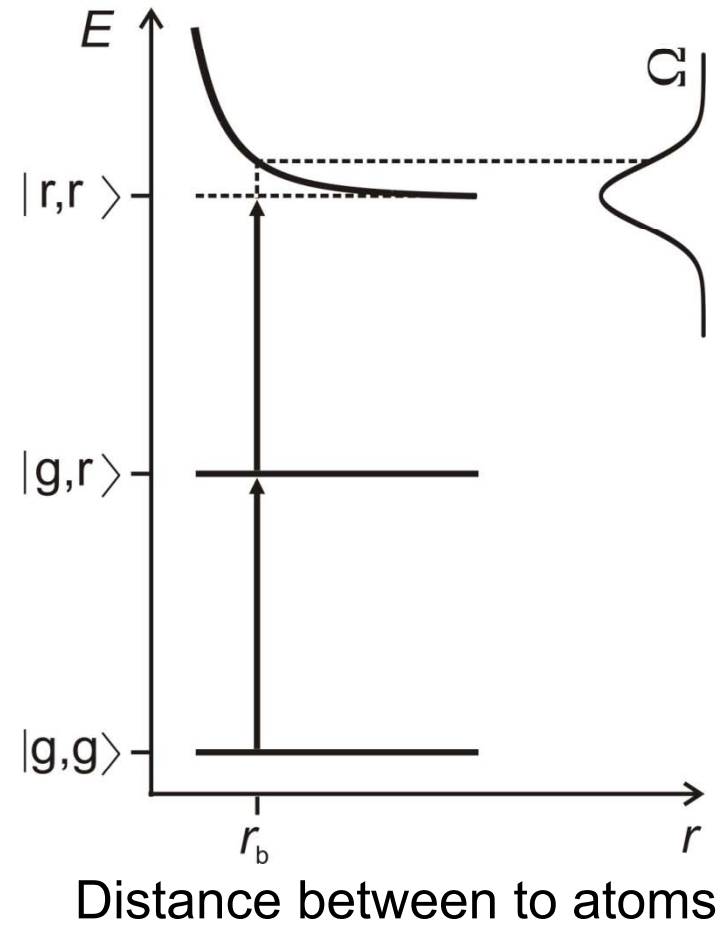
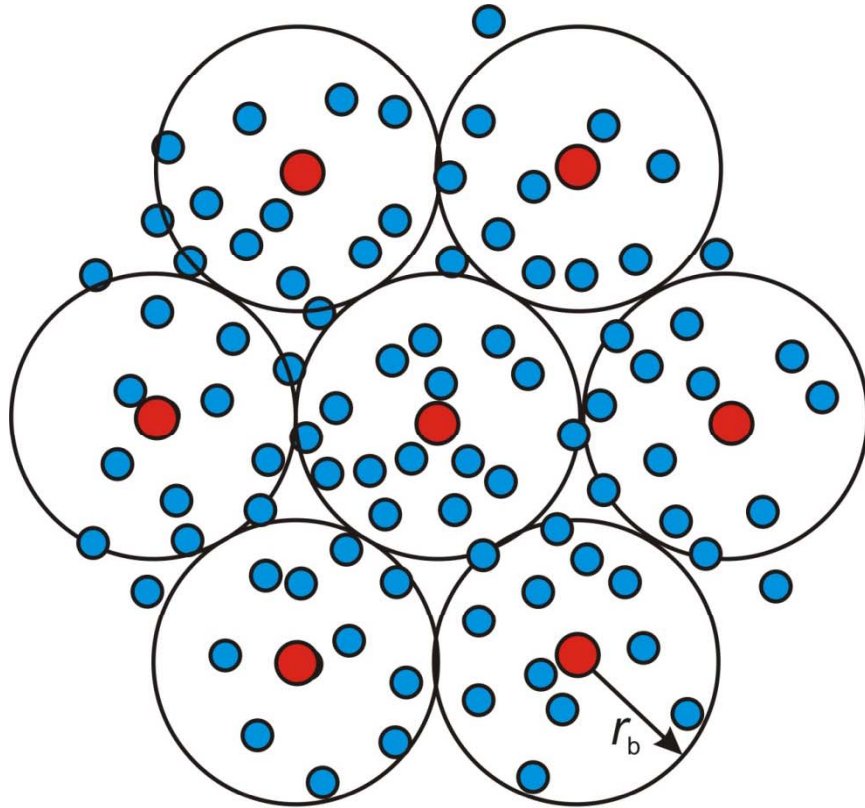
# Interaction induced dephasing and phase shift



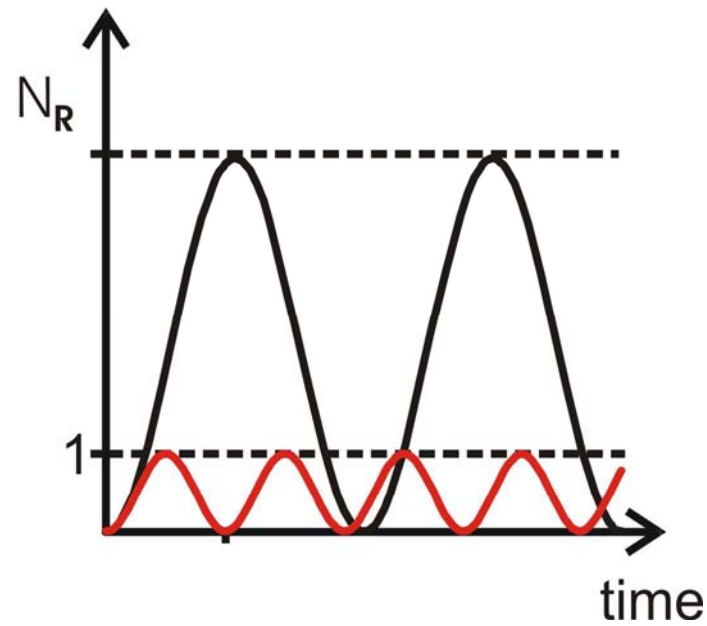
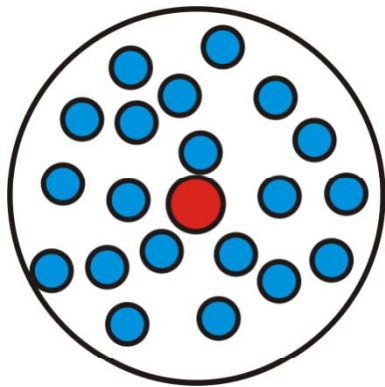
# Interaction induced dephasing and phase shift



# Excitation blockade by van der Waals interaction



## Collective state



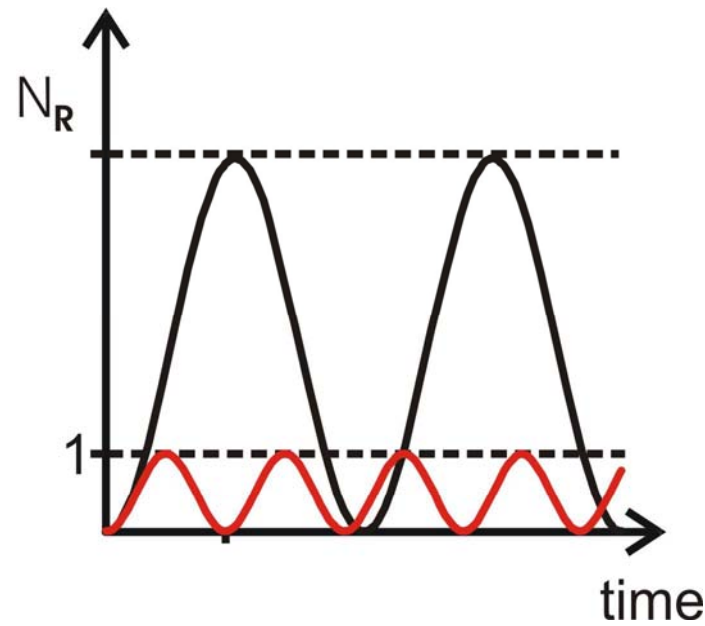
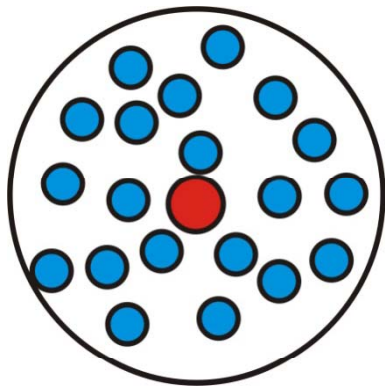
$$|E\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \{ |ryd, g, g, \dots, g\rangle + |g, ryd, g, \dots, g\rangle + \dots + |g, g, \dots, g, ryd\rangle \}$$

$$\updownarrow \quad \Omega = \sqrt{N}\Omega_0$$

$$|G\rangle = |g, g, g, \dots, g\rangle$$



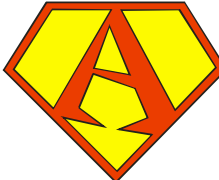
## Collective state



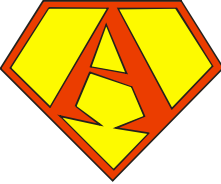
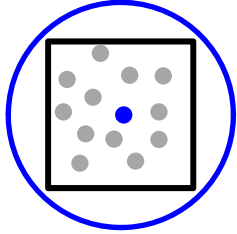
$$|E\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \{ |ryd, g, g, \dots, g\rangle + |g, ryd, g, \dots, g\rangle + \dots + |g, g, \dots, g, ryd\rangle \}$$

$$\Omega = \sqrt{N} \Omega_0$$

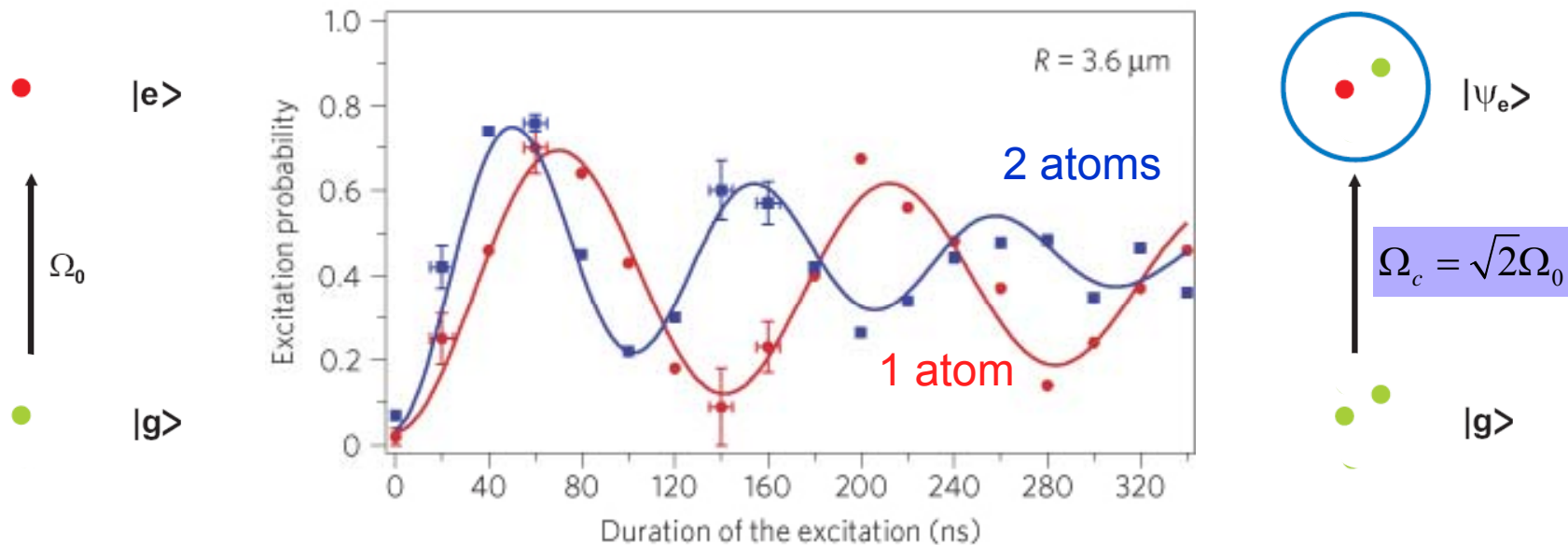
$$|G\rangle = |g, g, g, \dots, g\rangle$$

Super  tom



- Super  tom made of 2-100000 atoms 

Ultracold samples:



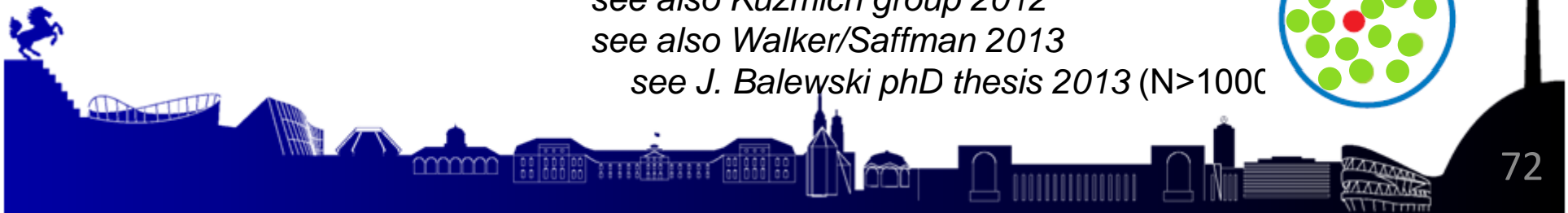
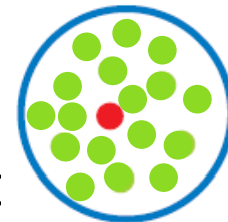
N=2: Gaetan et al., *Nature Phys.* **5**, 115 (2009)

N ~ 1000: Heidemann et al., *PRL* **99**, 163601 (2007)

see also Kuzmich group 2012

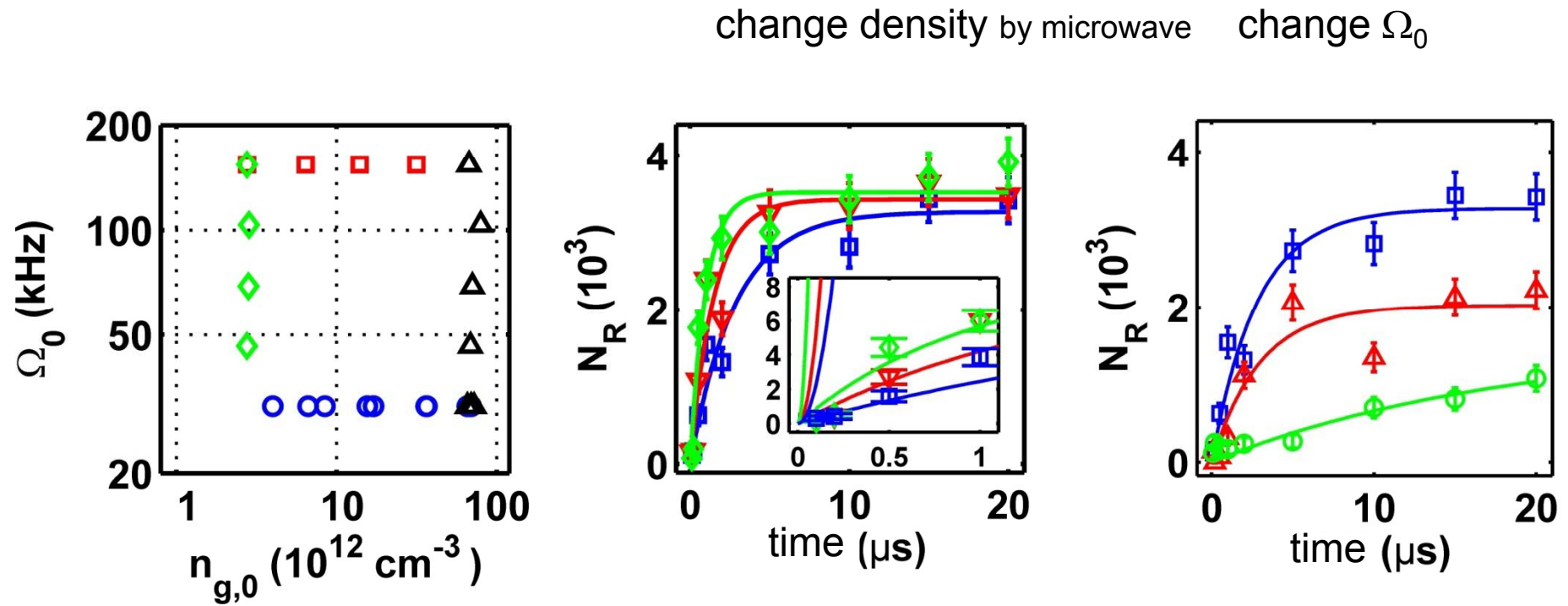
see also Walker/Saffman 2013

see J. Balewski PhD thesis 2013 (N>1000)





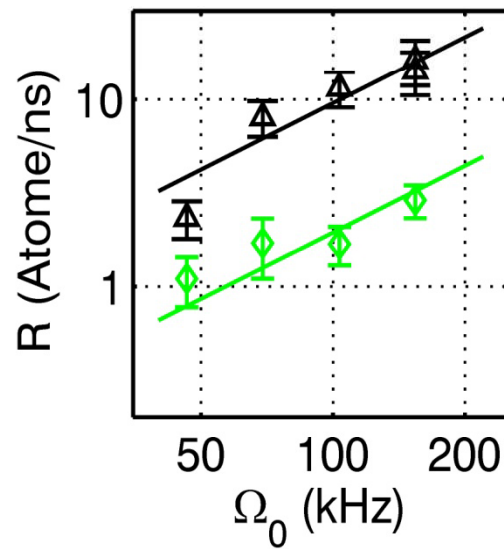
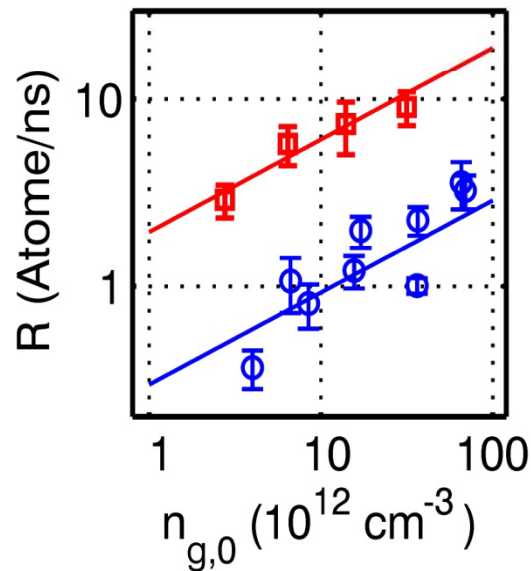
# Blockade measurements



Heidemann et al., *PRL* **99**, 163601 (2007)



# Scaling of excitation rate R



$$R \propto \Omega_0^2 \Gamma^{-1}$$

$$R \propto n_{g,0}$$

$$R \propto n_{g,0}^{0.49(7)} \Omega_0^{1.2(1)}$$

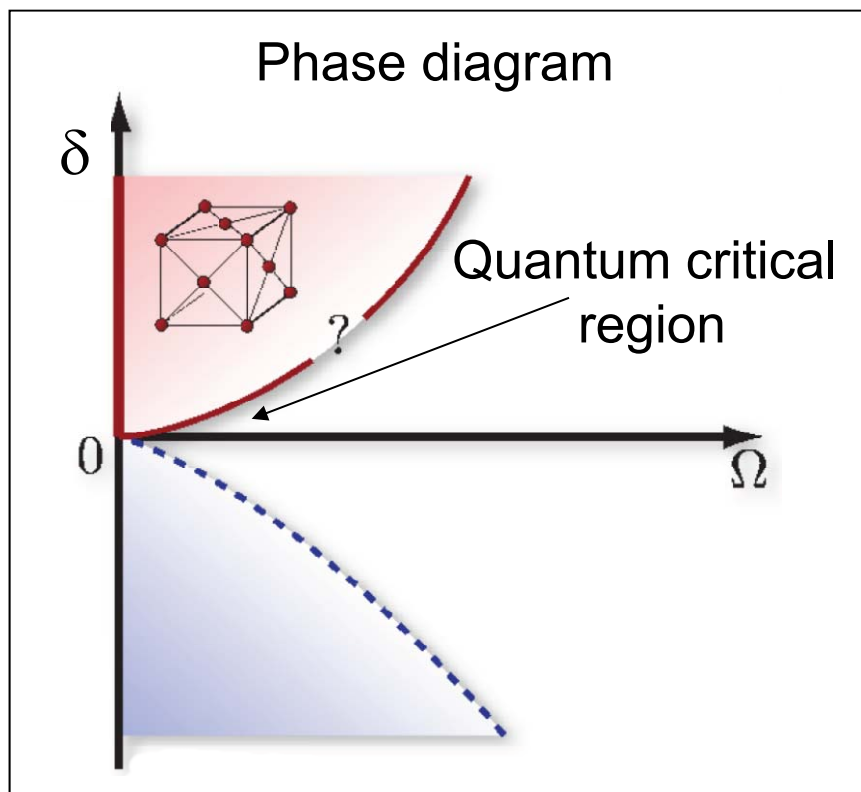
Heidemann et al., *PRL* **99**, 163601 (2007)





# Effective Spin Hamiltonian

$$H = -\frac{\hbar\delta}{2} \sum_i \sigma_z^{(i)} + \frac{\hbar\Omega}{2} \sum_i \sigma_x^{(i)} + C_6 \sum_{j<i} \frac{P_{ee}^{(i)} P_{ee}^{(j)}}{|r_i - r_j|^6}$$



**Projector:**  $P_{ee}^{(i)} = (1 + \sigma_z^{(i)})/2$

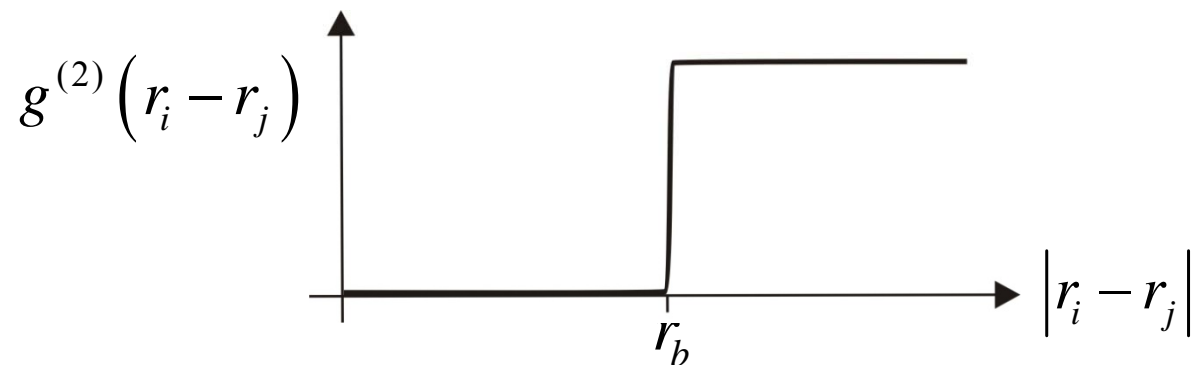
PRL **101** 250601 (2008)



## Effective Spin Hamiltonian – Mean-field description

$$H = -\frac{\hbar\delta}{2} \sum_i \sigma_z^{(i)} + \frac{\hbar\Omega}{2} \sum_i \sigma_x^{(i)} + C_6 \sum_{j<i} \frac{P_{ee}^{(i)} P_{ee}^{(j)}}{|r_i - r_j|^6}$$

Second order correlation function for the excited state



Equation of state:  
(Rydberg fraction)

$$\frac{N_R}{N} = f_R(\Delta, \alpha)$$

Dimensionless parameters

$$\alpha = \frac{\hbar\Omega}{C_6 n^2} \quad \Delta = \frac{\hbar\delta}{C_6 n^2}$$

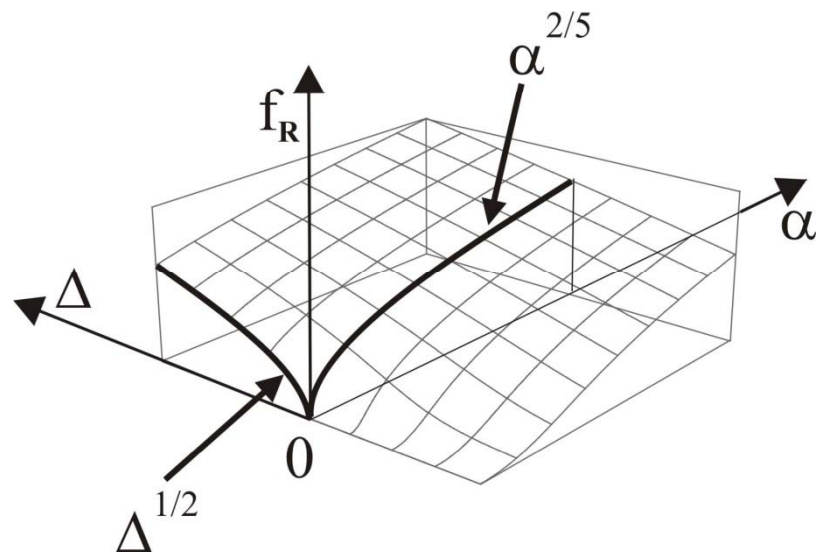
$$\alpha = \left( \frac{\text{Mean atomic distance}}{\text{blockade radius } r_b} \right)^6$$



# Universal scaling close to a quantum critical point

Strongly interacting Rydberg gas

Mean-field result:



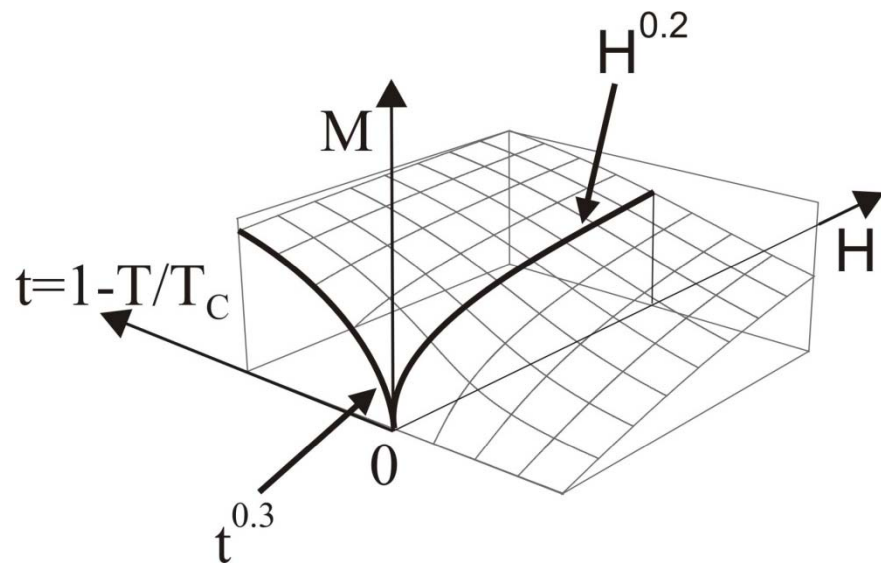
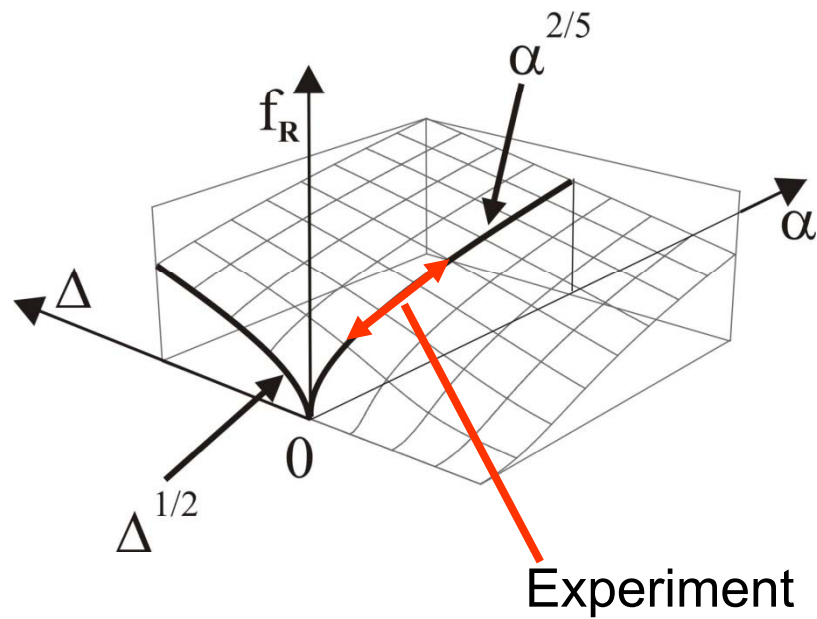
$$\alpha = f_R^{5/2} \left| 1 - \frac{\Delta}{f_R^2} \right|$$



# Universal scaling close to a quantum critical point

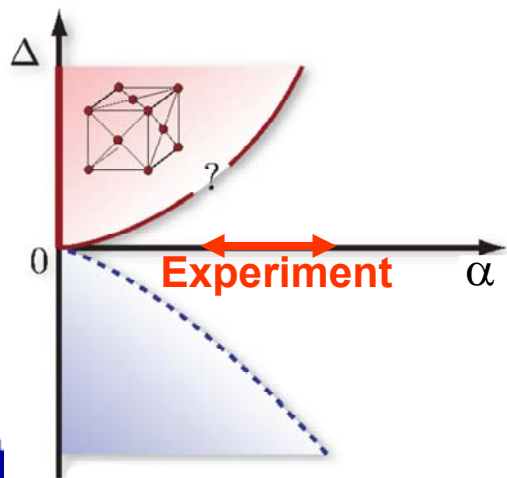
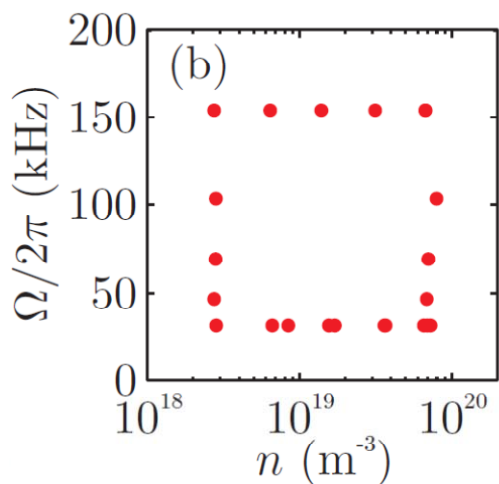
Strongly interacting Rydberg gas

Ferromagnet - Ising model

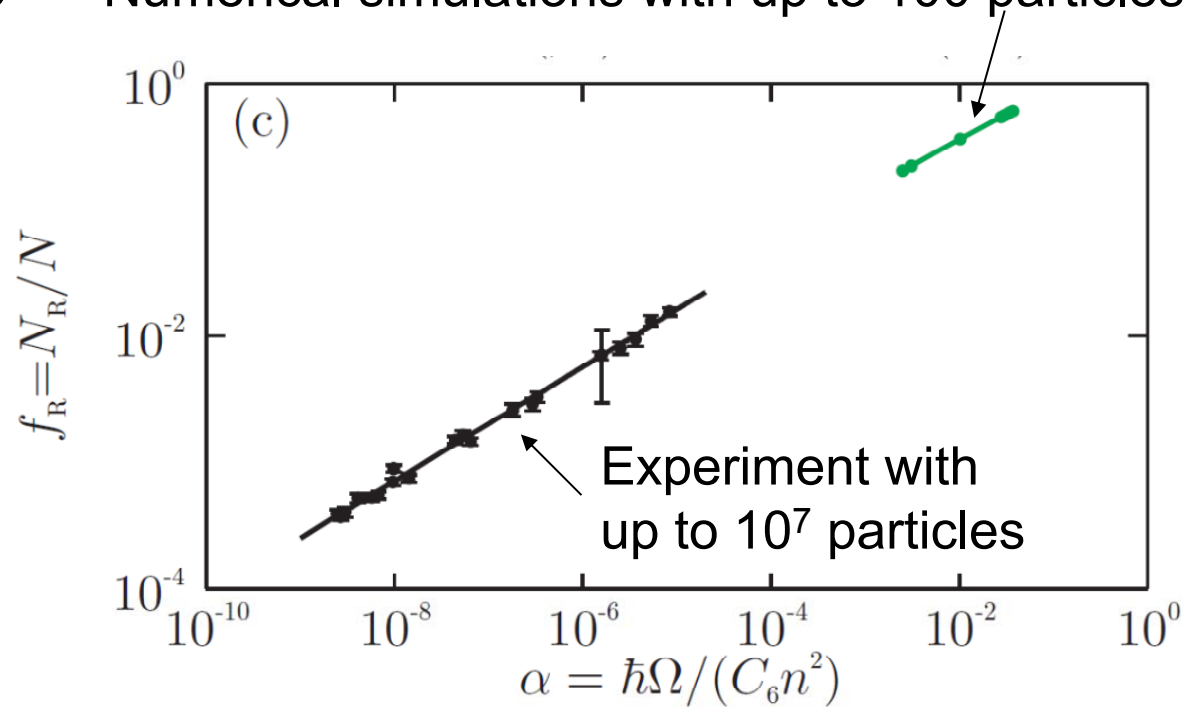


# Data collapse on a simple power law – Universal scaling

Scanned parameter space



Numerical simulations with up to 100 particles



Fit result:  $f_R \propto \alpha^{0.45 \pm 0.01}$

Theory:  $f_R \propto \alpha^{2/5} = \alpha^{0.4}$



# Rydberg atoms in dense gases

Many body physics

- $d$ : mean particle distance
- $r_B$ : blockade radius
- $r_{\text{Ryd}}$ : size of electron orbit

