



# ***strongly interacting Fermi gases: recent results from Innsbruck***

***Rudolf Grimm***

**“Center for Quantum Optics”  
Innsbruck**



**University**



**Austrian Academy of Sciences**



# *I: collective oscillations in the BEC-BCS crossover*

## *II. Fermi-Fermi mixture of atoms ( ${}^6\text{Li}$ - ${}^{40}\text{K}$ )*

**Rudolf Grimm**

**“Center for Quantum Optics”  
Innsbruck**



University

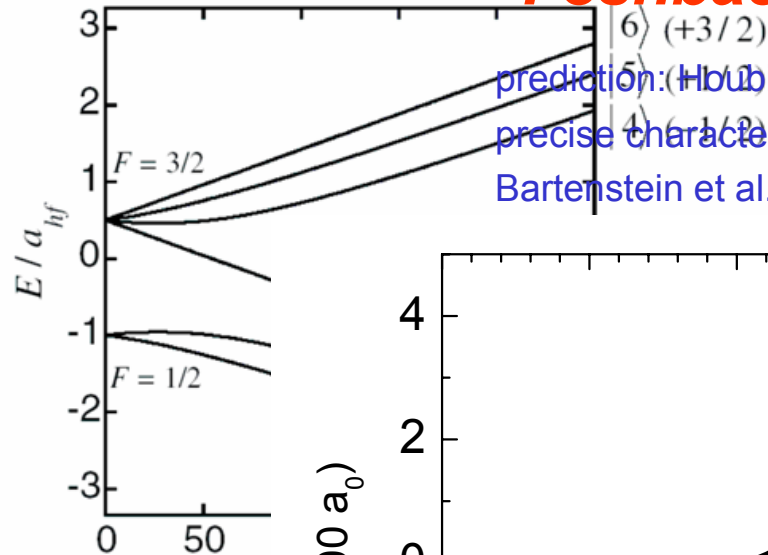
Austrian Academy of Sciences

# $^6\text{Li}$ spin mixture



$^6\text{Li}$  ground state in a magnetic field

**Feshbach resonance**

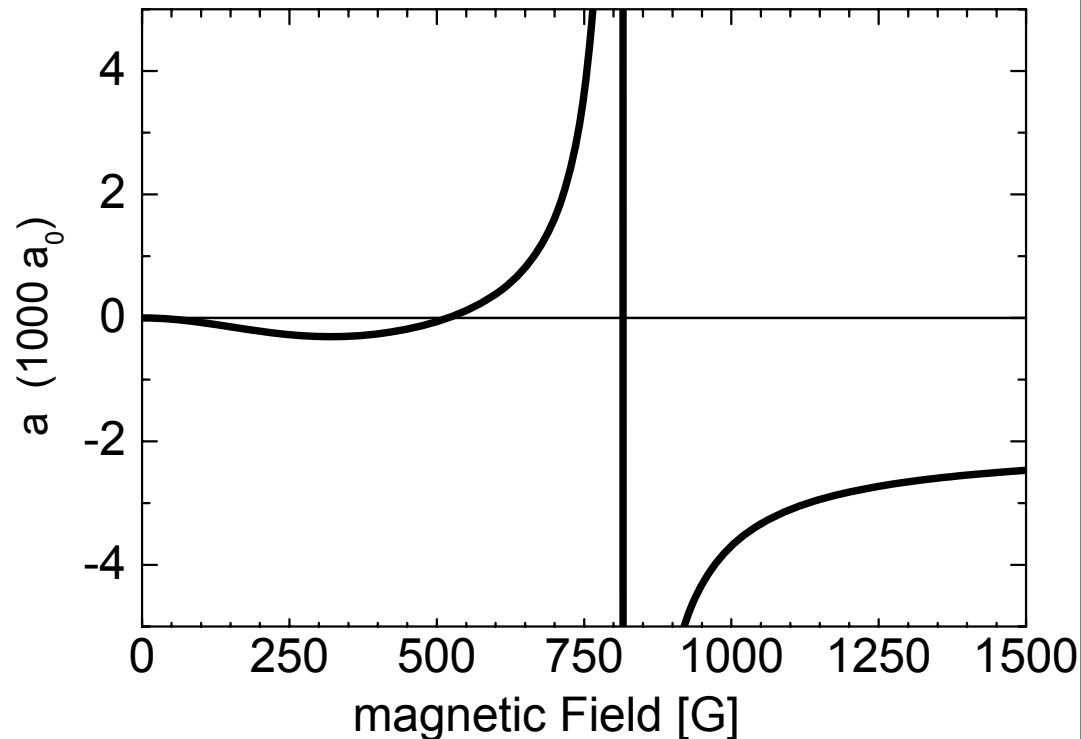


prediction: Houbiers et al., PRA **57**,R1497 (1998)

precise characterization:

Bartenstein et al., PRL **94**, 103201 (2005)

**spin m**  
**two lo**  
stable a  
two-bo



# the ${}^6\text{Li}$ team



RG

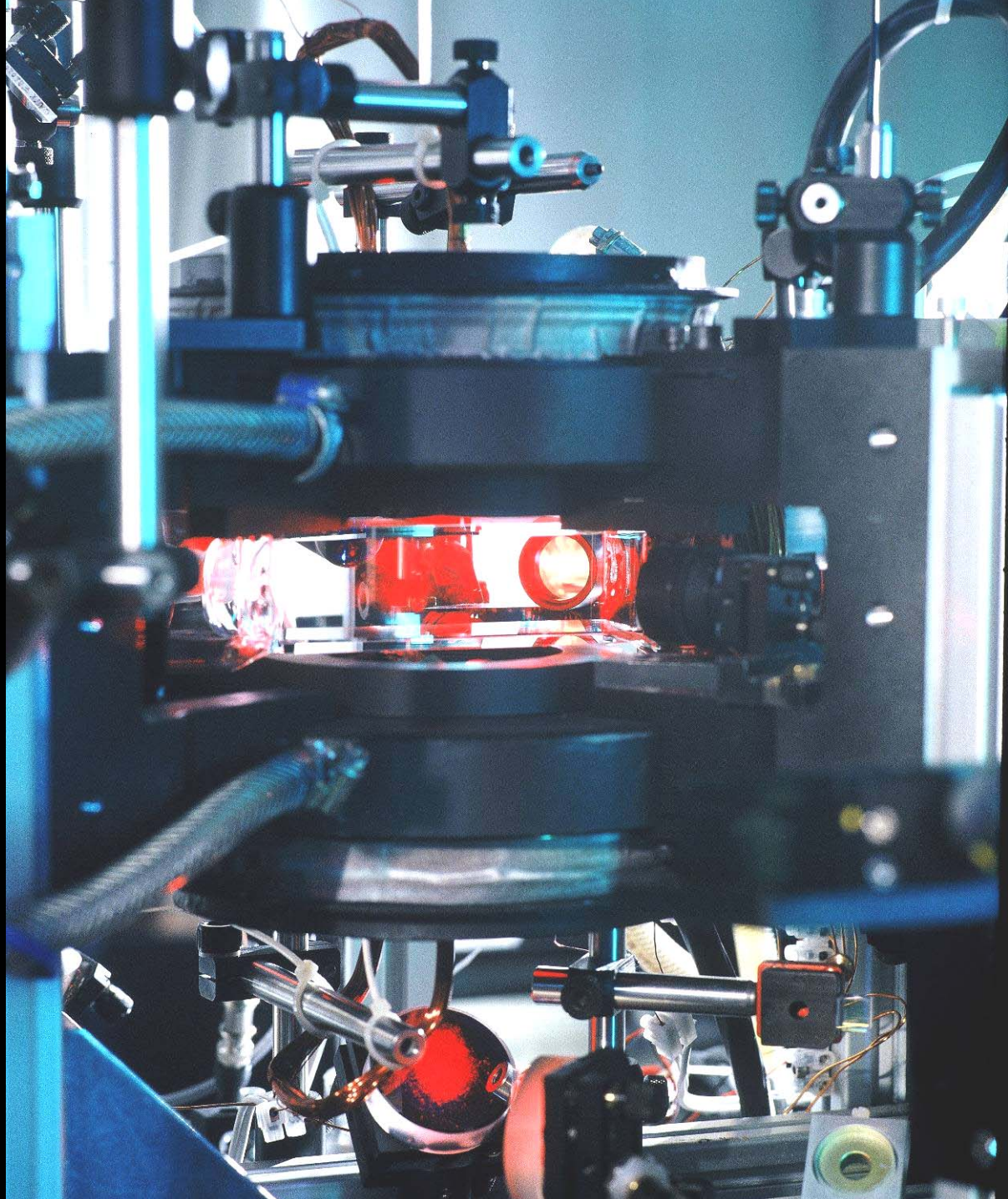
Alexander  
Altmeyer

Matthew  
Wright

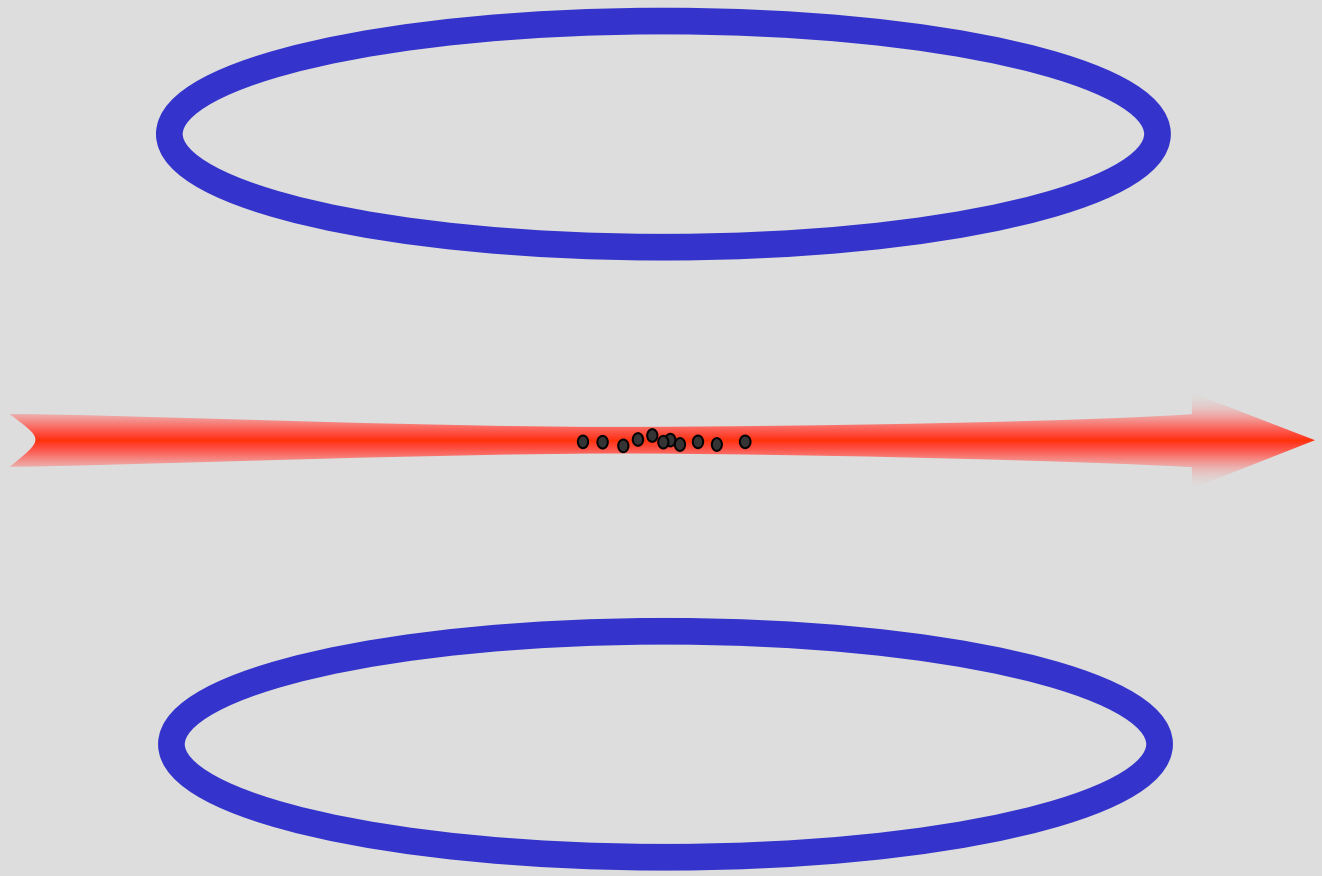
Stefan Riedl

Johannes  
Hecker  
Denschlag

Edmundo  
Sanchez



# optical trap for evaporative cooling



# collective modes

- Stringari, Europhys. Lett. **65**, 749 (2004)
- Hu, Minguzzi, Liu, Tosi, PRL **93**, 190403 (2004)
- Heiselberg, PRL **93**, 040402 (2004)
- Combescot, Leyronas, Europhys. Lett. **68**, 762 (2005)
- Manini, Salasnich, PRA **71**, 033625 (2005)
- Bulgac, Bertsch, PRL **94**, 070401 (2005)
- Kim, Zubarev, PRA **72**, 011603(R) (2005)
- Astrakharchik, Combescot, Leyronas, Stringari, PRL **95**, 030404 (2005)
- ... *and many more recent papers...*

**theory**

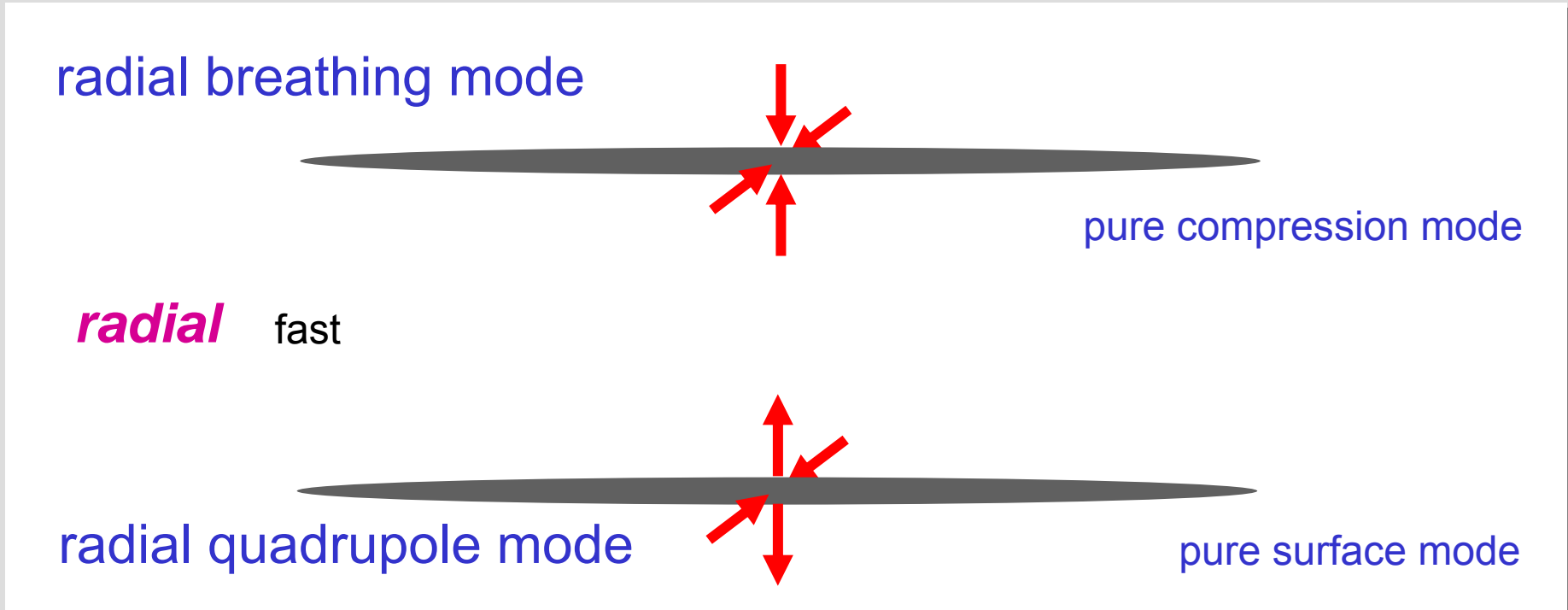
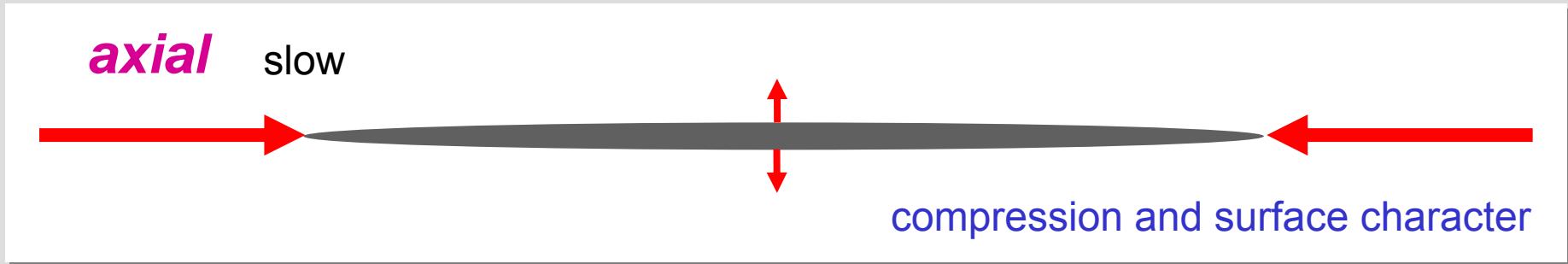
# collective modes: elementary situation



**elongated trap limit** ( $\omega_r \gg \omega_z$  well fulfilled for all our expts.)

**cylindrical symmetry** (radial trap freq.  $\omega_r$ ),

**3D harmonic potential**





# collective mode freq. in BEC-BCS crossover



*polytropic index !!*

$$\mu \propto n^\gamma \quad \text{equation of state}$$

frequencies of  
low-lying collective modes

*general*  
 $\gamma$

**BEC**  
 $\gamma = 1$

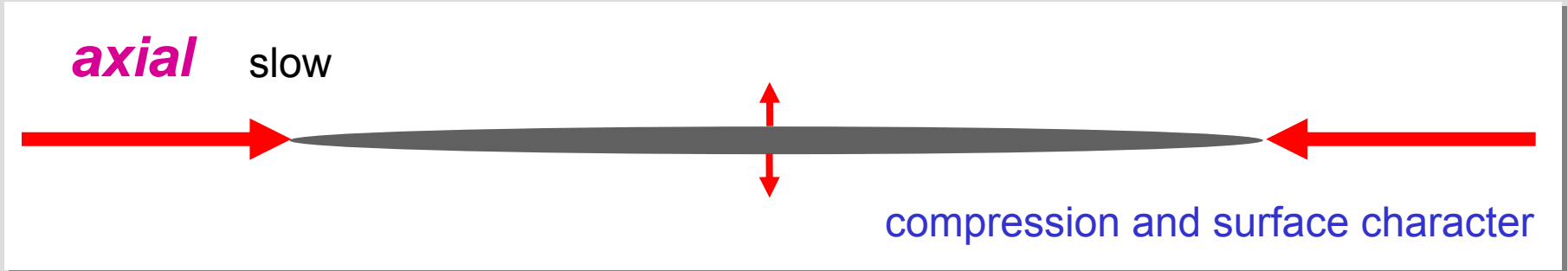
**unitarity**  
(and BCS limit)  
 $\gamma = 2/3$

axial	$\omega_z$	$\sqrt{3 - 1/(\gamma + 1)}$	$\sqrt{5/2}$ = 1.581	$\sqrt{12/5}$ = 1.549	2
radial breathing	$\omega_\perp$	$\sqrt{2(\gamma + 1)}$	2	$\sqrt{10/3}$ = 1.826	2
radial quadrupole	$\omega_\perp$	$\sqrt{2}$	$\sqrt{2}$	$\sqrt{2}$	2

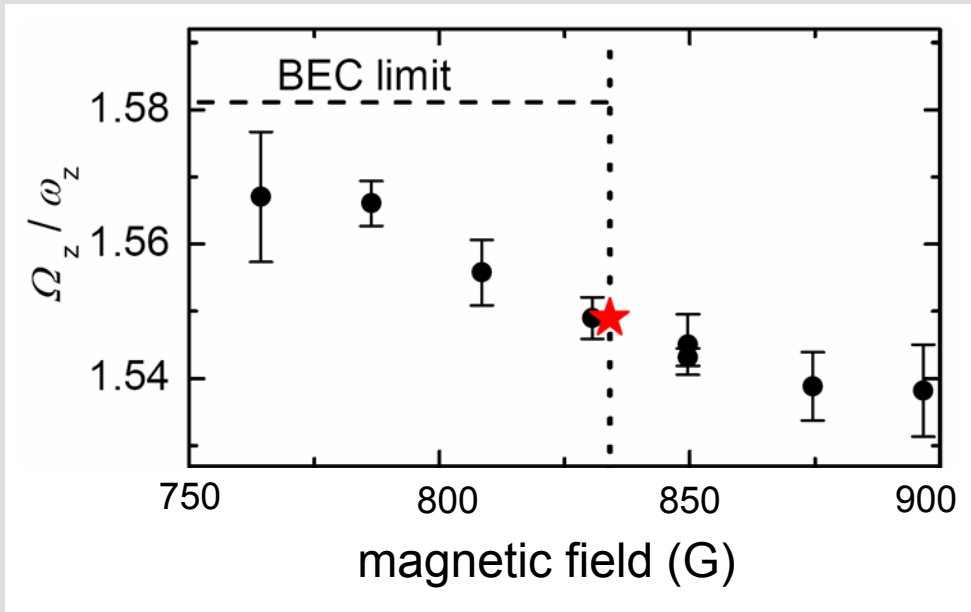
*hydrodynamic behavior*

**collisionless  
oscillation**

# axial mode



Bartenstein et al., PRL **92**, 203201 (2004)



*unitarity*

$$\Omega_z / \omega_z = \sqrt{12/5}$$

confirms equation of state

$$\mu \propto n^{2/3}$$

*extremely weak damping  
in resonance region !!*

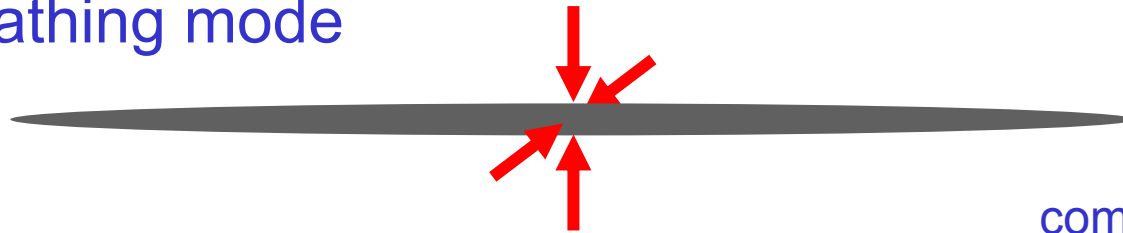
hint on superfluidity

# radial compression mode



radial breathing mode

fast



compression mode

Innsbruck

Bartenstein et al., PRL **92**, 203201 (2004)  
see also Altmeyer et al., cond-mat/0611285

Altmeyer et al., PRL **98**, 0404401 (2007)

Duke

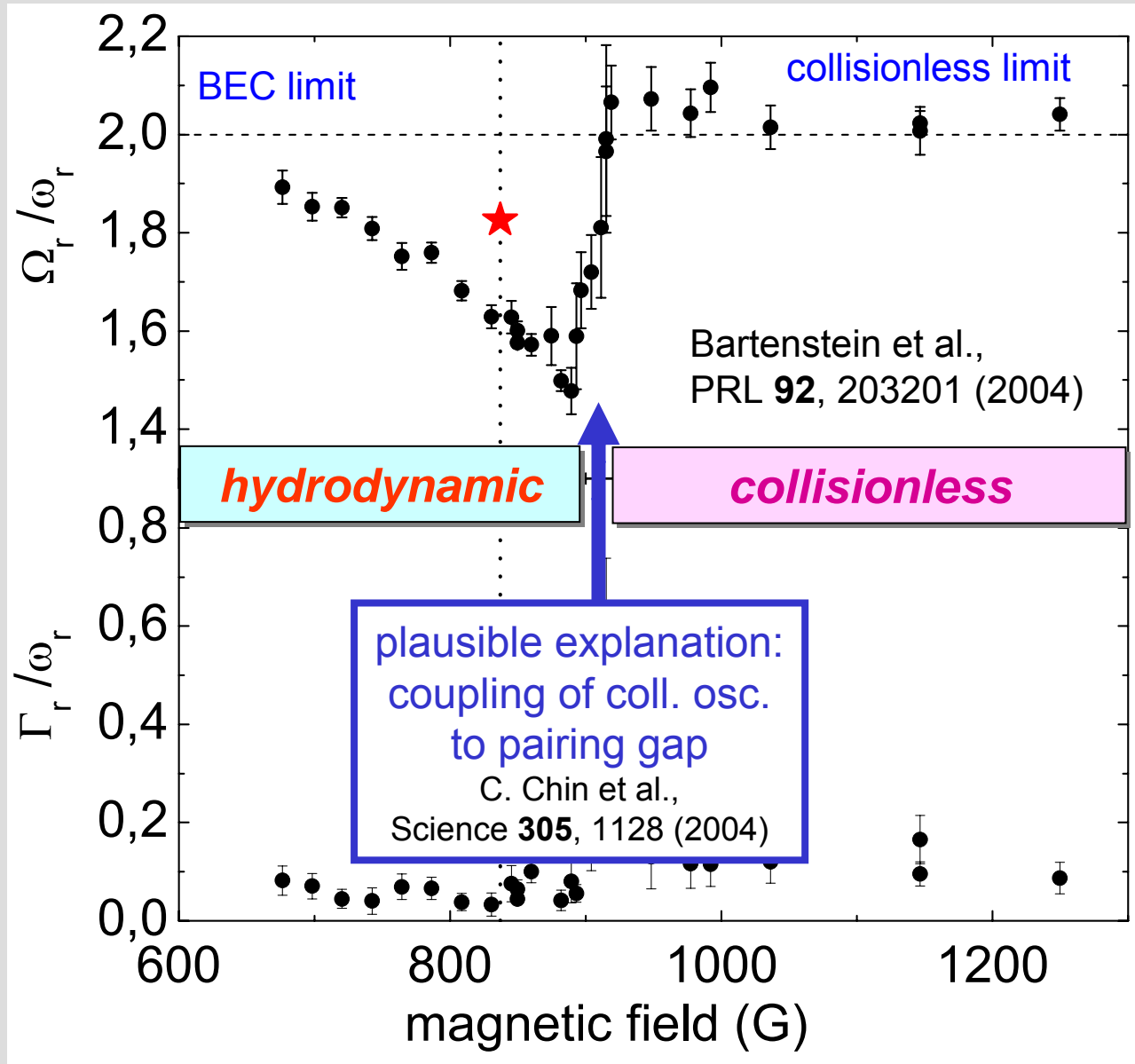
Kinast et al., PRL **92**, 150402 (2004)  
Kinast et al. PRA **70**, 051401(R) (2004)  
Kinast et al., PRL **94**, 170404 (2005)

# radial compression mode



frequency  
(normalized to sloshing mode)

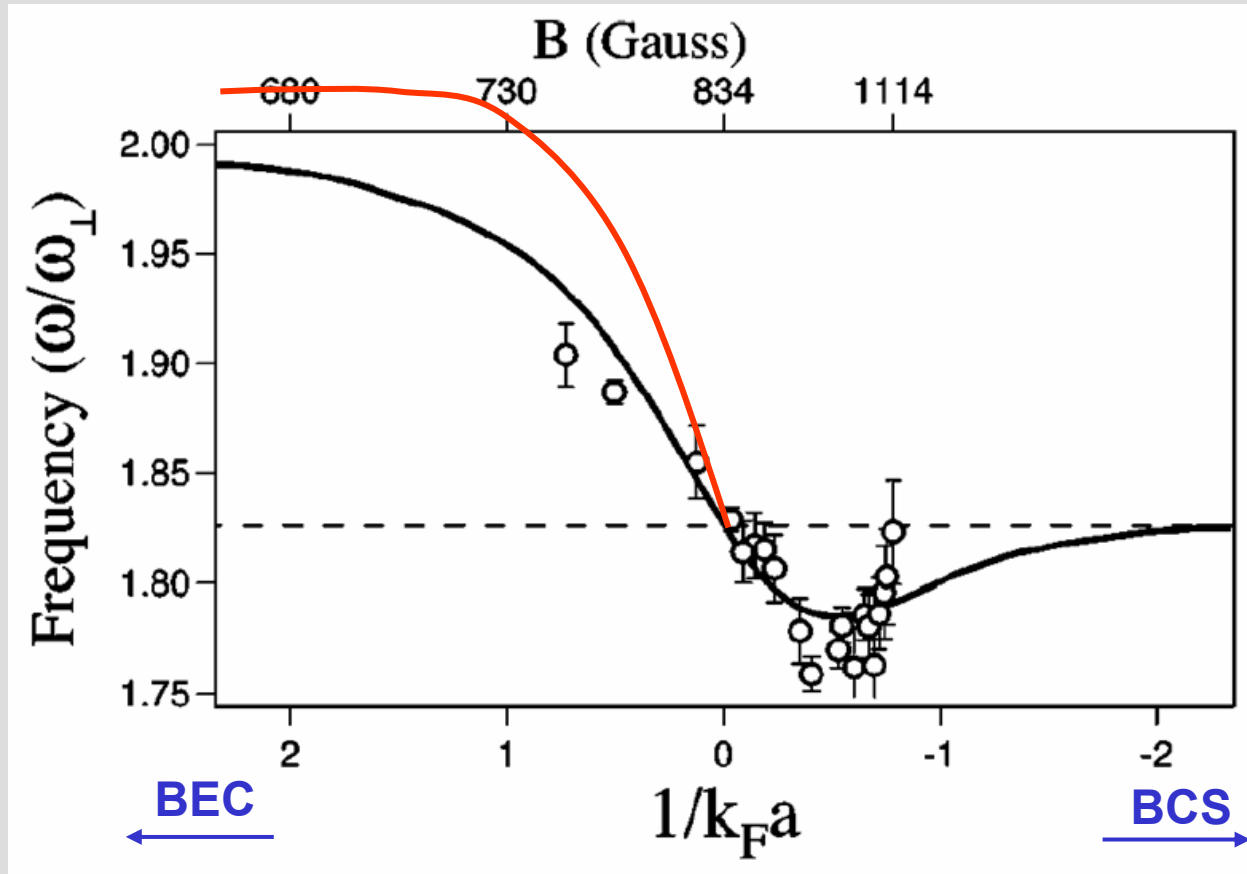
damping



# radial mode



exp. data from John Thomas group at Duke Kinast et al, PRA 70, 051401 (2004)



theory: mean field BCS à la Leggett, Nozières & Schmitt-Rink

Hu et al., PRL 93, 190403 (2004)

quantum Monte Carlo, Astrakharchik et al., PRL 95, 030404 (2005)

see also Manini and Salasnich, PRA 71, 033625 (2005)

## Equation of State of a Fermi Gas in the BEC-BCS Crossover: A Quantum Monte Carlo Study

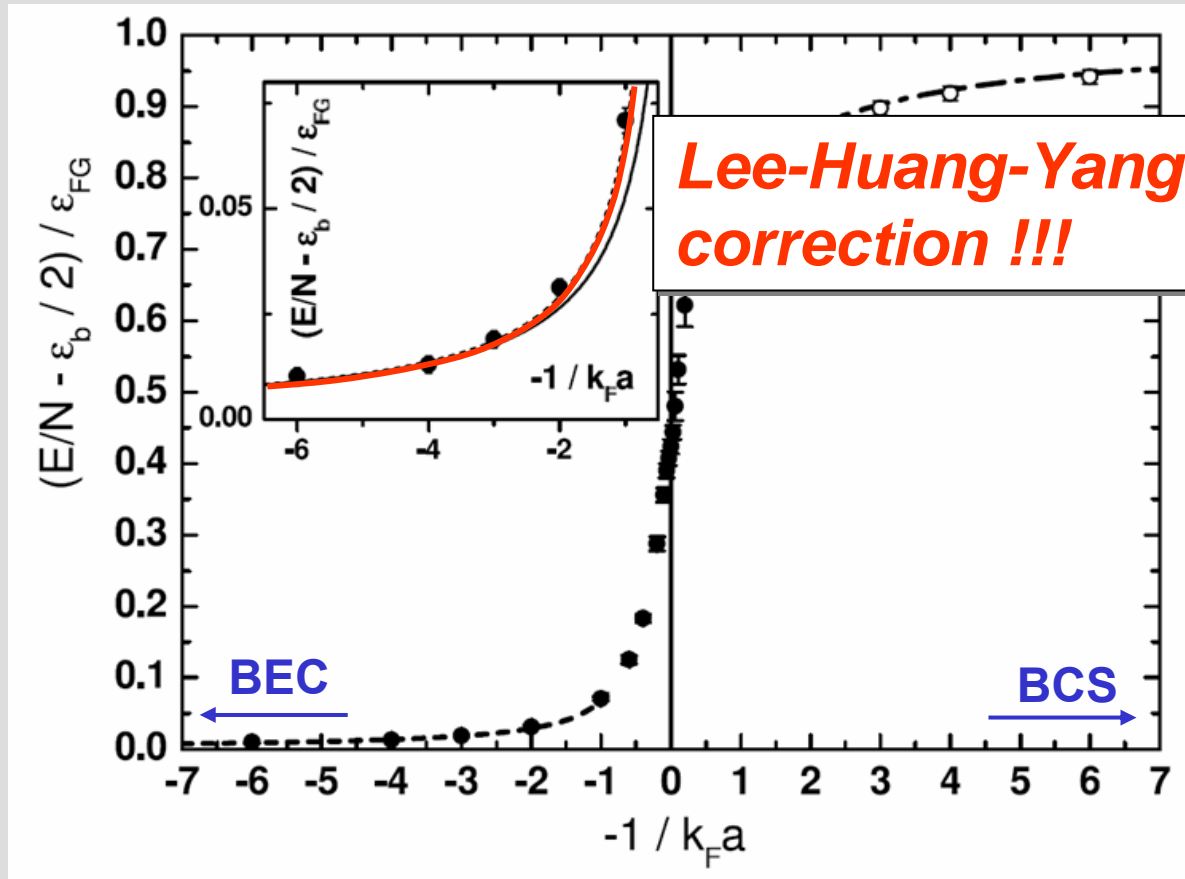
G. E. Astrakharchik,<sup>1,2</sup> J. Boronat,<sup>3</sup> J. Casulleras,<sup>3</sup> and S. Giorgini<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Trento and BEC-INFM, I-38050 Povo, Italy*

<sup>2</sup>*Institute of Spectroscopy, 142190 Troitsk, Moscow region, Russia*

<sup>3</sup>*Departament de Física i Enginyeria Nuclear, Campus Nord B4-B5, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, E-08034 Barcelona, Spain*

(Received 4 June 2004; published 10 November 2004)





## Lee-Huang-Yang correction

Phys. Rev. **105**, 1119 (1957)

**Many-Body Problem in Quantum Mechanics and Quantum Statistical Mechanics**

T. D. LEE, *Columbia University, New York, New York*

AND

C. N. YANG, *Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey*

(Received December 10, 1956)

PHYSICAL REVIEW

VOLUME 106, NUMBER 6

JUNE 15, 1957

**Eigenvalues and Eigenfunctions of a Bose System of Hard Spheres and Its Low-Temperature Properties**

T. D. LEE, *Columbia University, New York, New York*

AND

KERSON HUANG AND C. N. YANG, *Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey*

(Received March 19, 1957)

It is shown that the pseudopotential method can be used for an explicit calculation of the first few terms in an expansion in power of  $(\rho a^3)^{1/2}$  of the eigenvalues and the corresponding eigenfunctions of a system of Bose particles with hard-sphere interaction. The low-temperature properties of the system are discussed.

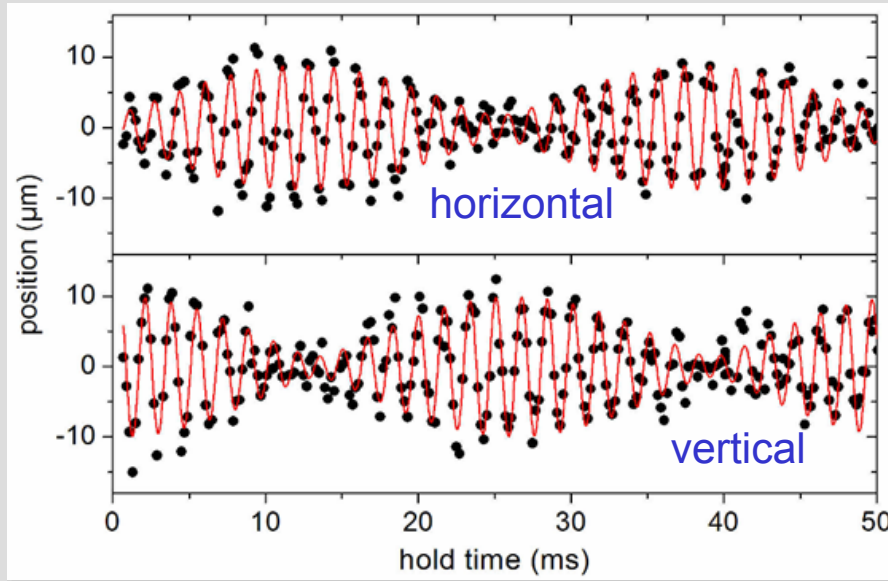
(E) The ground-state energy per particle for a Boltzmann gas and for a Bose gas at a finite density and infinite volume is

$$E/N = 4\pi a \rho \left[ 1 + 128 (\rho a^3)^{1/2} / 15\pi^{1/2} + O(\rho a^3) \right]. \quad (7)$$

leading correction is positive

→ upshift of collective-mode frequency in mBEC regime !

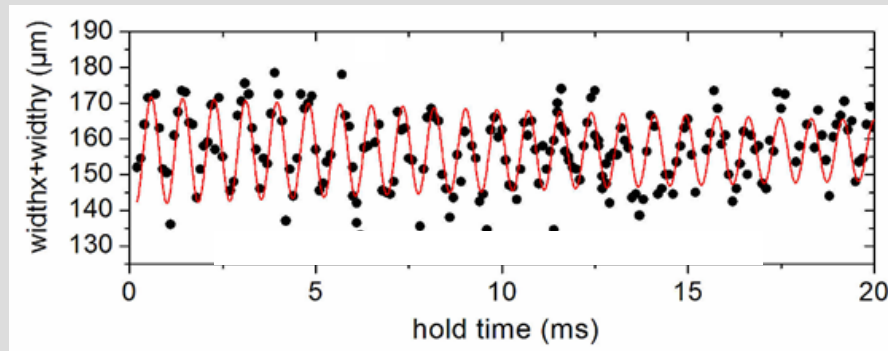
# precision measurements



## sloshing modes

beat reveals  
trap ellipticity of  $\sim 6\%$

can be measured with  
 $\sim 10^{-3}$  uncertainty



## compression mode

accurate determination  
of frequency needs  
very low damping  
→ **optimized cooling !**

anharmonicity effects  
in Gaussian trap potential  $\sim 2\%$

suppressed to **few  $10^{-3}$**   
by normalization to sloshing mode



# precision measurements



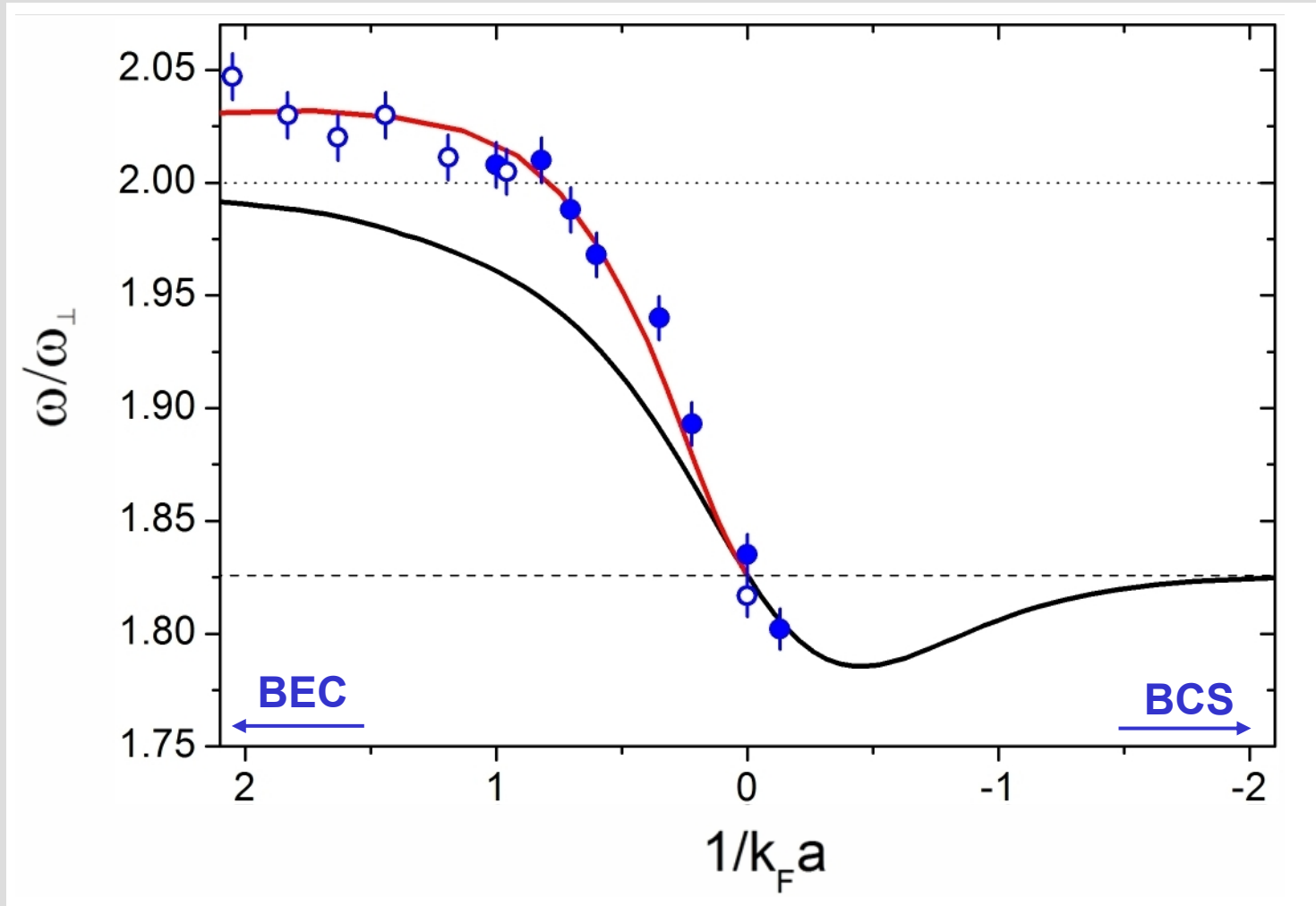
$B$ (G)	$1/k_F a$	Sloshing		Compression		Correction	
		$\omega_{\perp}/2\pi$ (Hz)	$\epsilon$	$\omega_c/2\pi$ (Hz)	$\gamma/\omega_{\perp}$	$\kappa\epsilon^2$ ( $10^{-4}$ )	$b\alpha$
727.8	2.21	292.7(5)	0.083(3)	596.3(6)	0.007(2)	48	20
735.1	1.96	298.6(5)	0.091(3)	602.8(8)	0.008(3)	60	26
742.5	1.75	294.5(5)	0.067(3)	593.2(7)	0.005(2)	53	28
749.8	1.55	296.3(4)	0.073(3)	599.0(7)	0.006(2)	38	28
760.9	1.27	296.0(4)	0.088(2)	592.3(7)	0.007(2)	58	24
771.9	1.03	293.6(7)	0.074(5)	586.2(8)	0.007(3)	41	27
834.1	0	287.5(7)	0.073(5)	579.4(9)	0.014(3)	55	94
757.2	1.07	605.0(9)	0.065(3)	1210.9(12)	0.010(2)	32	13
768.2	0.87	592.5(7)	0.069(2)	1186.6(12)	0.012(2)	36	16
775.6	0.75	590.7(4)	0.060(1)	1170.2(21)	0.007(4)	28	14
782.2	0.64	604.8(9)	0.061(3)	1187.1(16)	0.006(3)	29	16
801.3	0.38	586.8(7)	0.063(2)	1135.2(12)	0.010(2)	33	24
812.3	0.24	586.5(7)	0.058(2)	1106.9(16)	0.014(3)	30	33
834.1	0	596.3(9)	0.070(3)	1089.0(12)	0.010(2)	48	40
849.1	-0.14	583.2(7)	0.052(2)	1046.7(37)	0.007(2)	29	47

this took us a year!

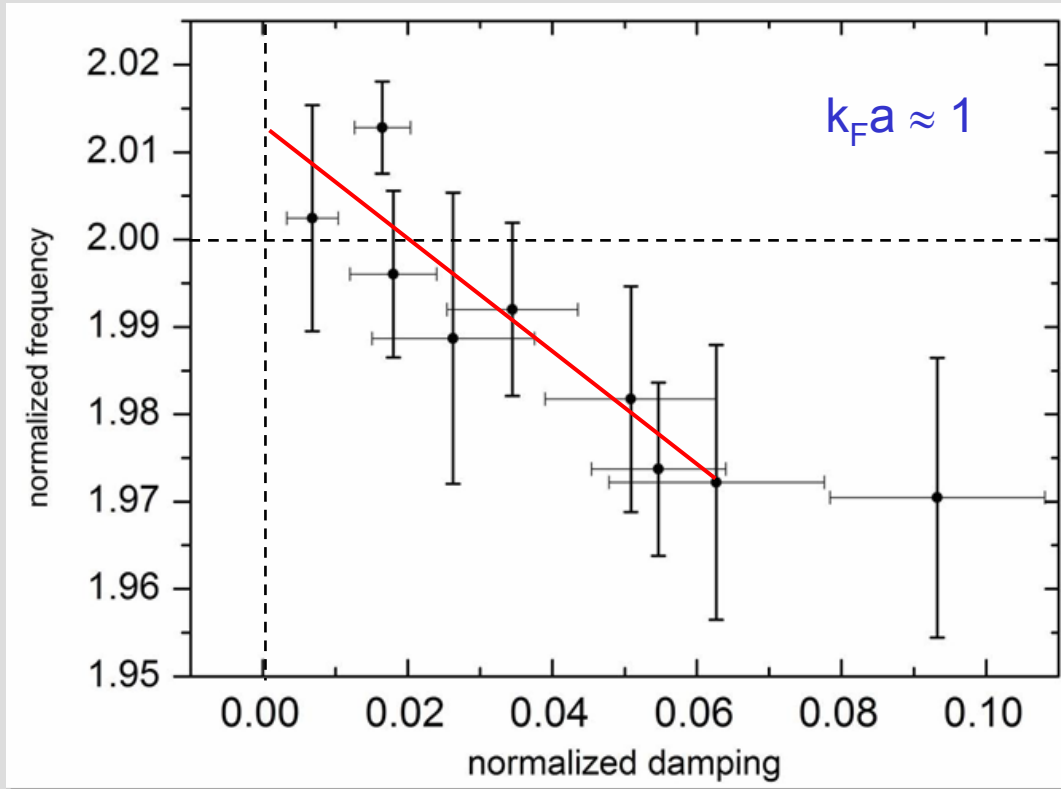
# precisions measurements



Altmeyer et al., PRL **98**, 0404401 (2007)



# temperature shift



2006  
Innsbruck expts.

2004  
Duke expts.

temperature shifts explain  
previous "agreement" of expt. data with (too simple) BCS mean field theory



measurements on radial breathing mode

*confirm*

equation of state from quantum Monte-Carlo calculations  
(including LHY correction)

*rule out*

simple mean-field BCS theory for crossover

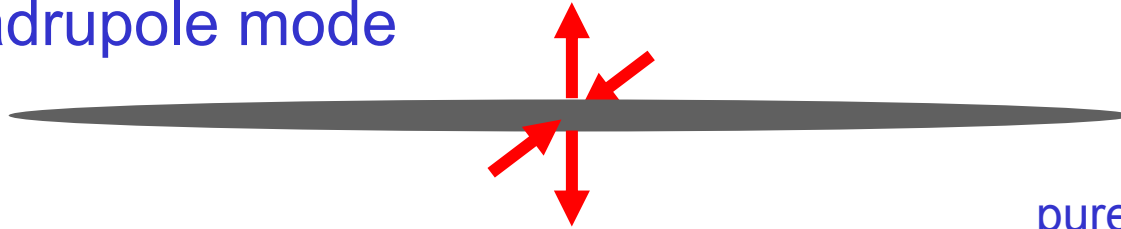
**precision test of many-body theories !**

# radial quadrupole mode



Altmeyer et al., manuscript in preparation  
(should appear on the arXiv this week)

radial quadrupole mode



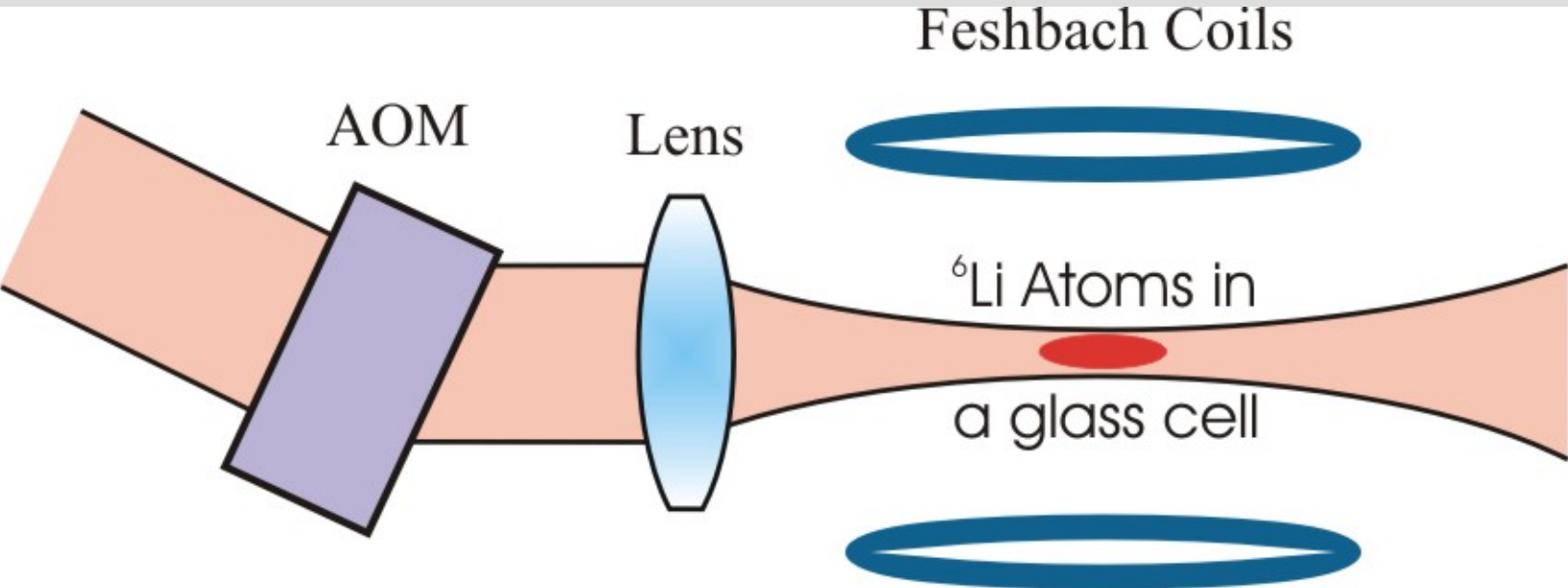
pure surface mode

**pure test of hydrodynamics !**

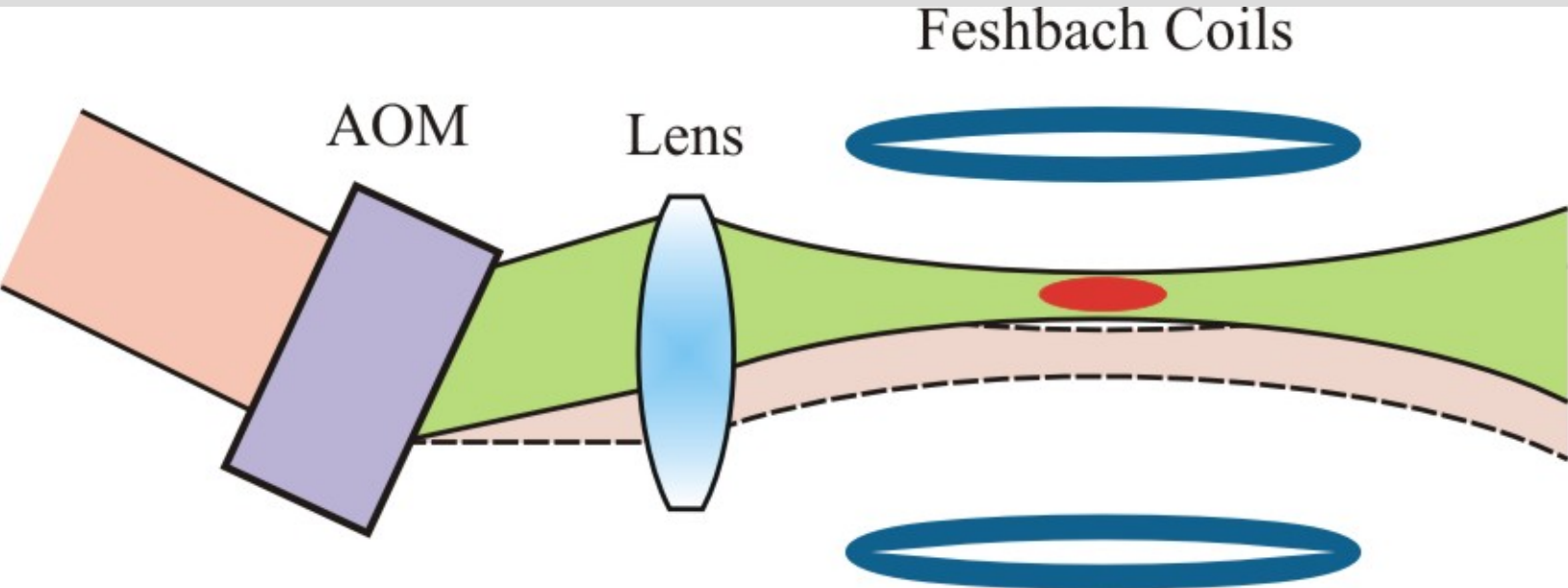
(mode freq. independent of eq. of state)

hydrodynamic freq.  $\sqrt{2}\omega_r$       collisionless freq.  $2\omega_r$

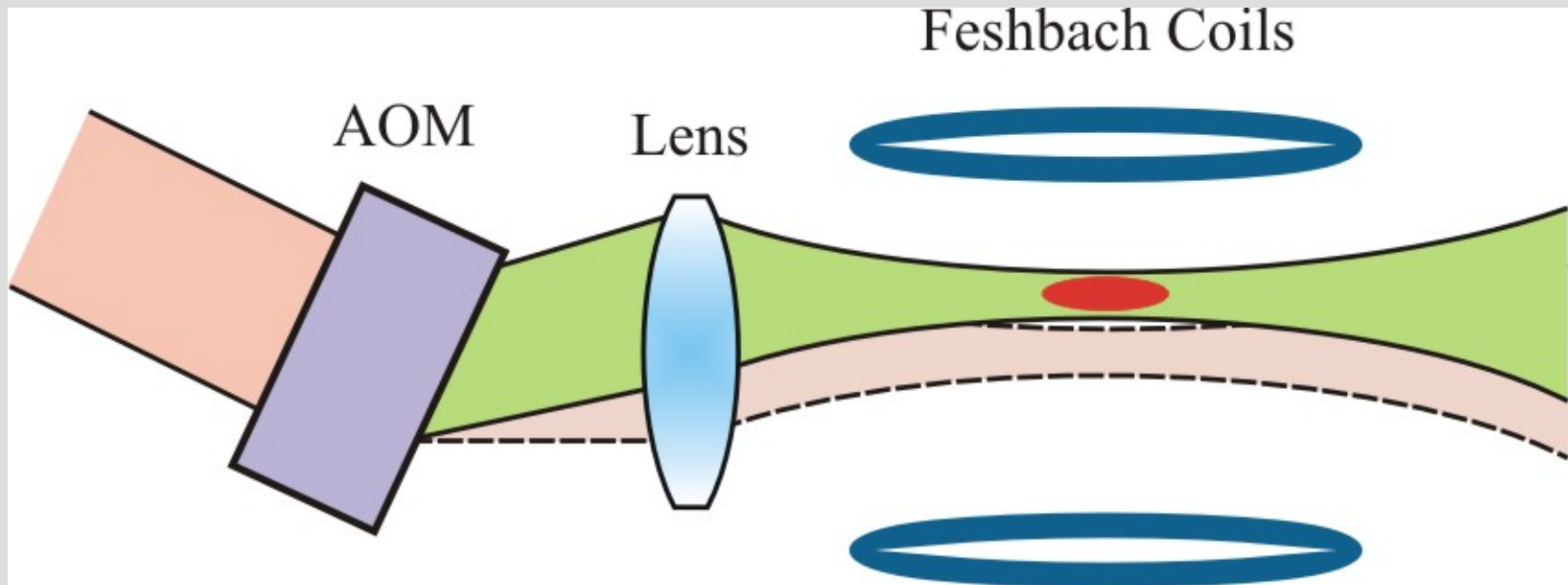
# scanning the trap beam



# scanning the trap beam



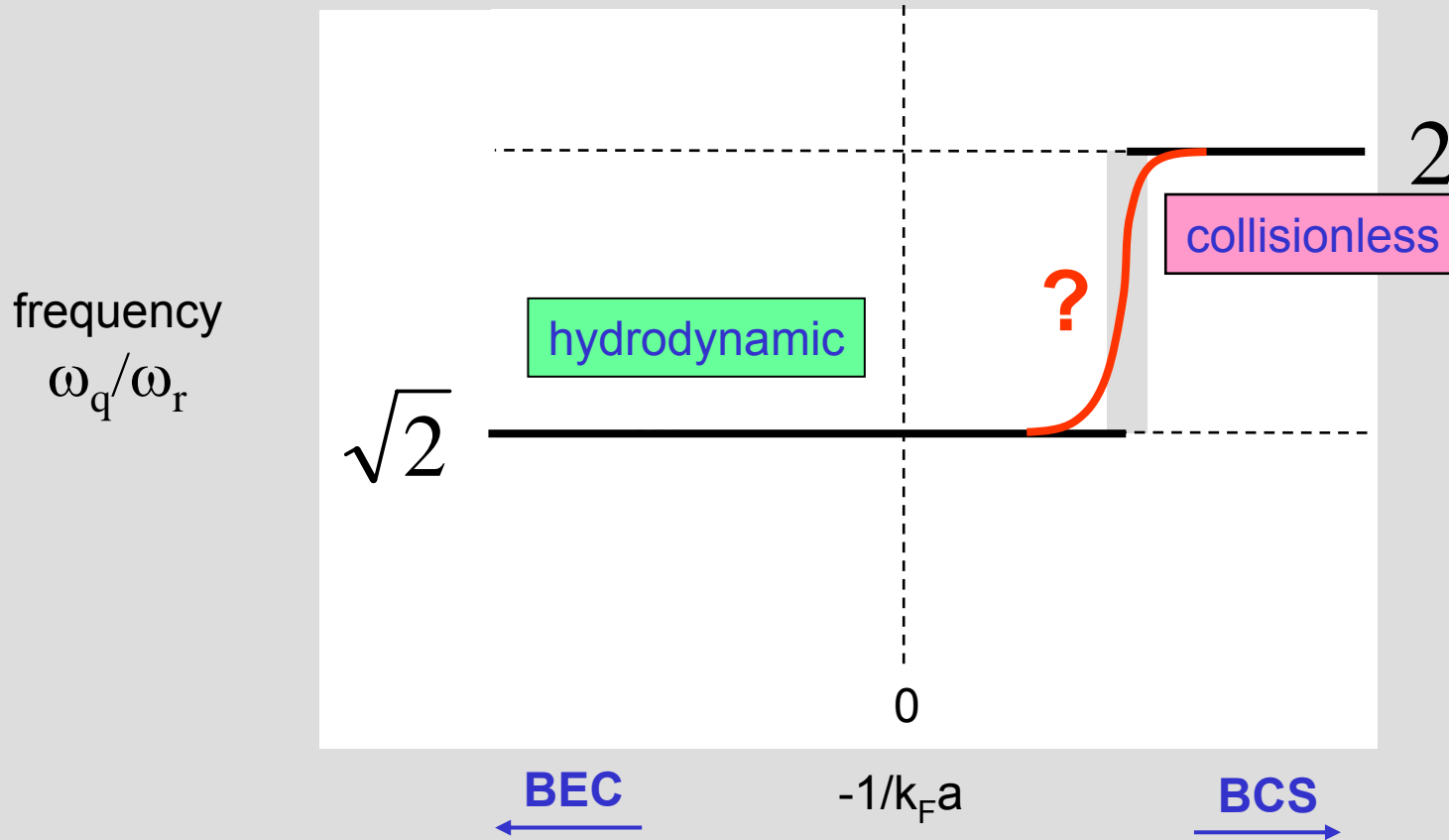
# scanning the trap beam



**time-averaged potentials:**  
a powerful tool for controlled trap deformations



# radial quadrupole mode: expectations



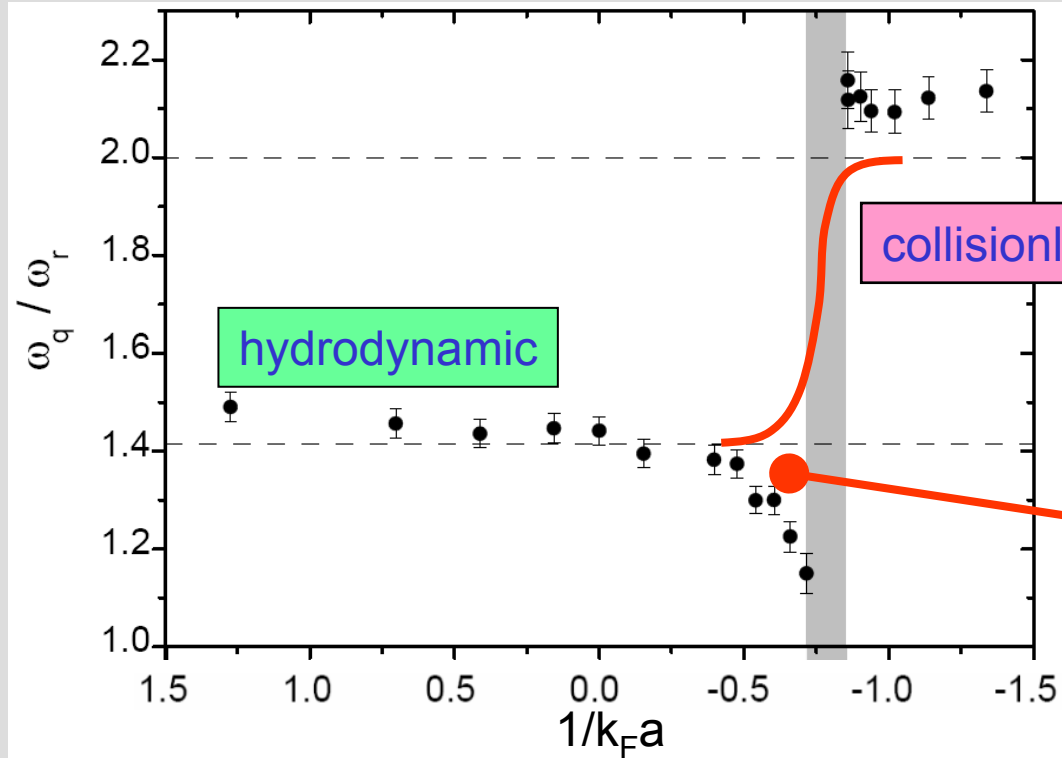
- how sharp is the transition ?
- does it show any structure ?
- smooth change between the two frequencies ?

# results on radial quadrupole mode



930-960G

frequency



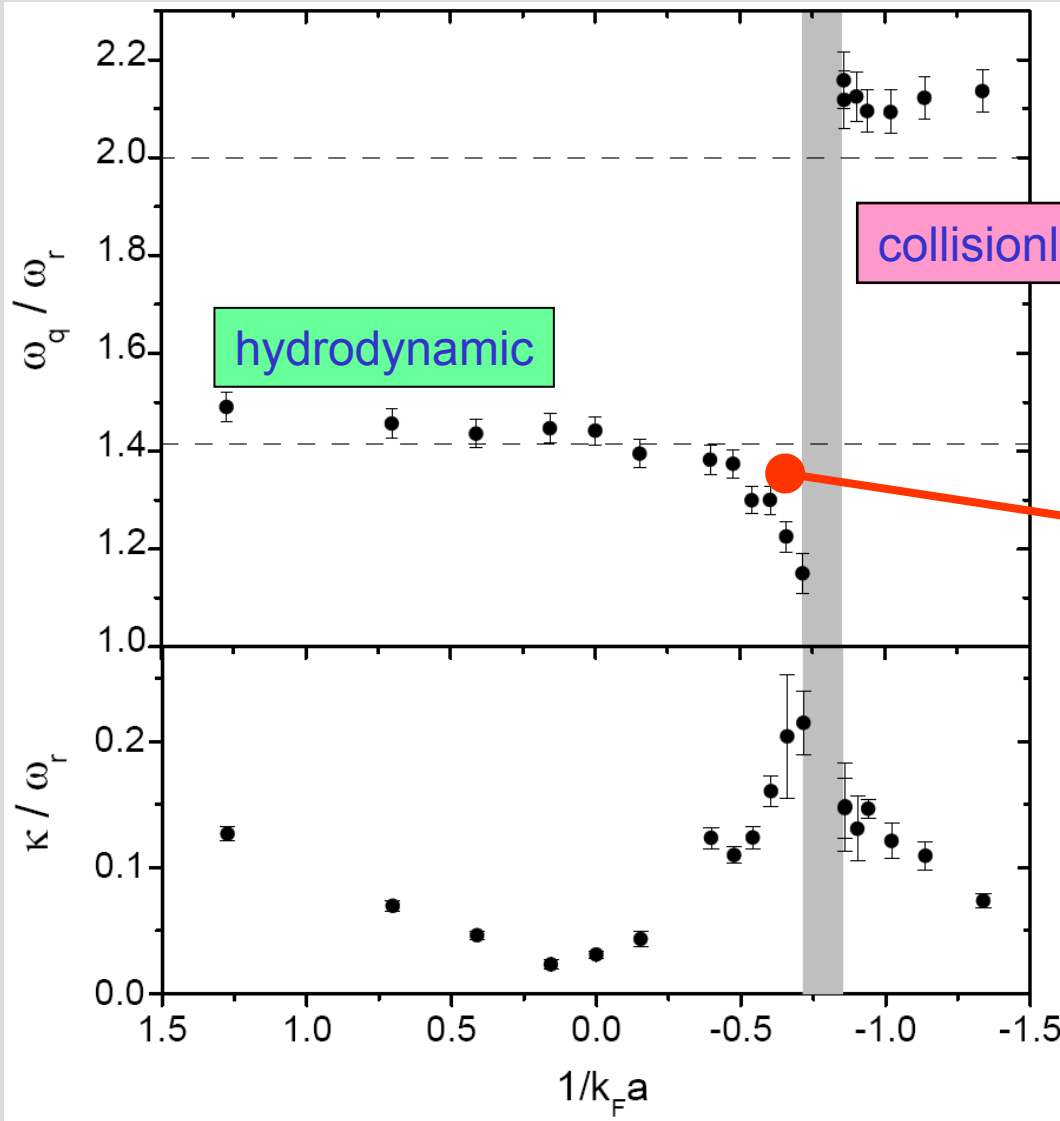
huge  
downshift !

# results on radial quadrupole mode



930-960G

frequency

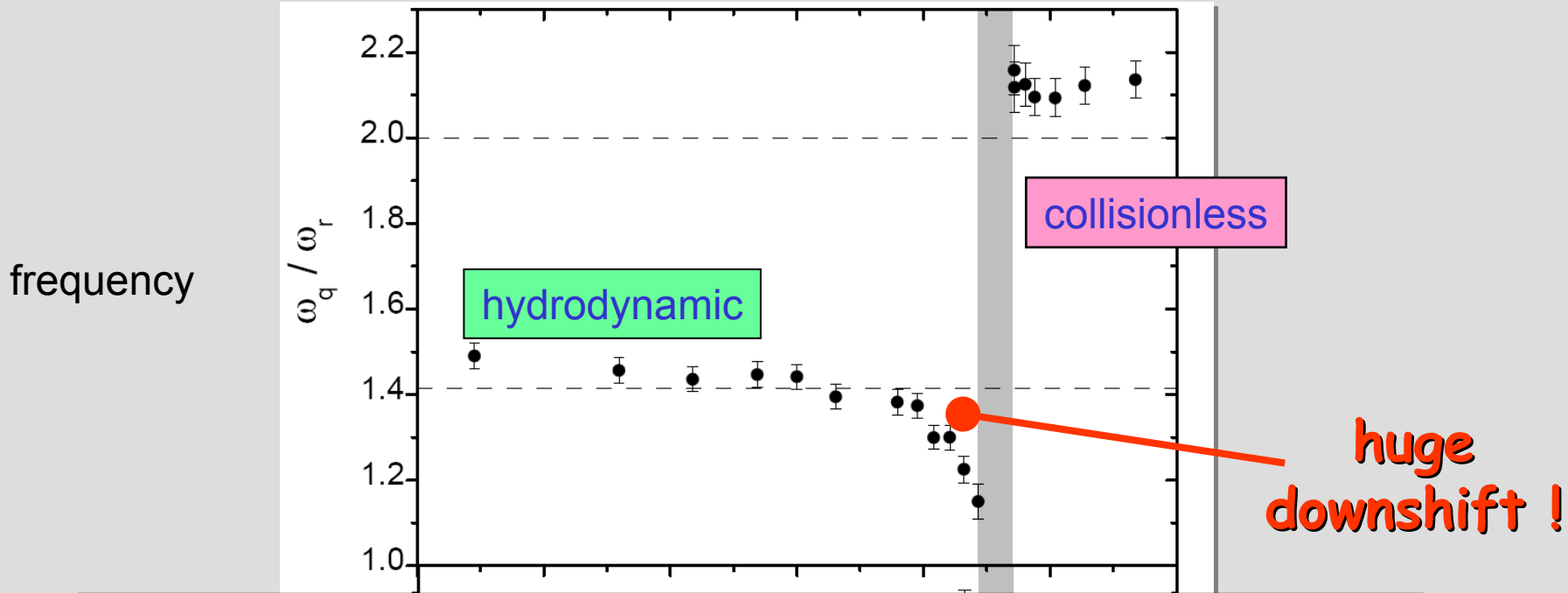


damping  
rate

# results on radial quadrupole mode



930-960G



**standard hydrodynamic theory breaks down !**

**coupling of oscillations to pairing gap ?**

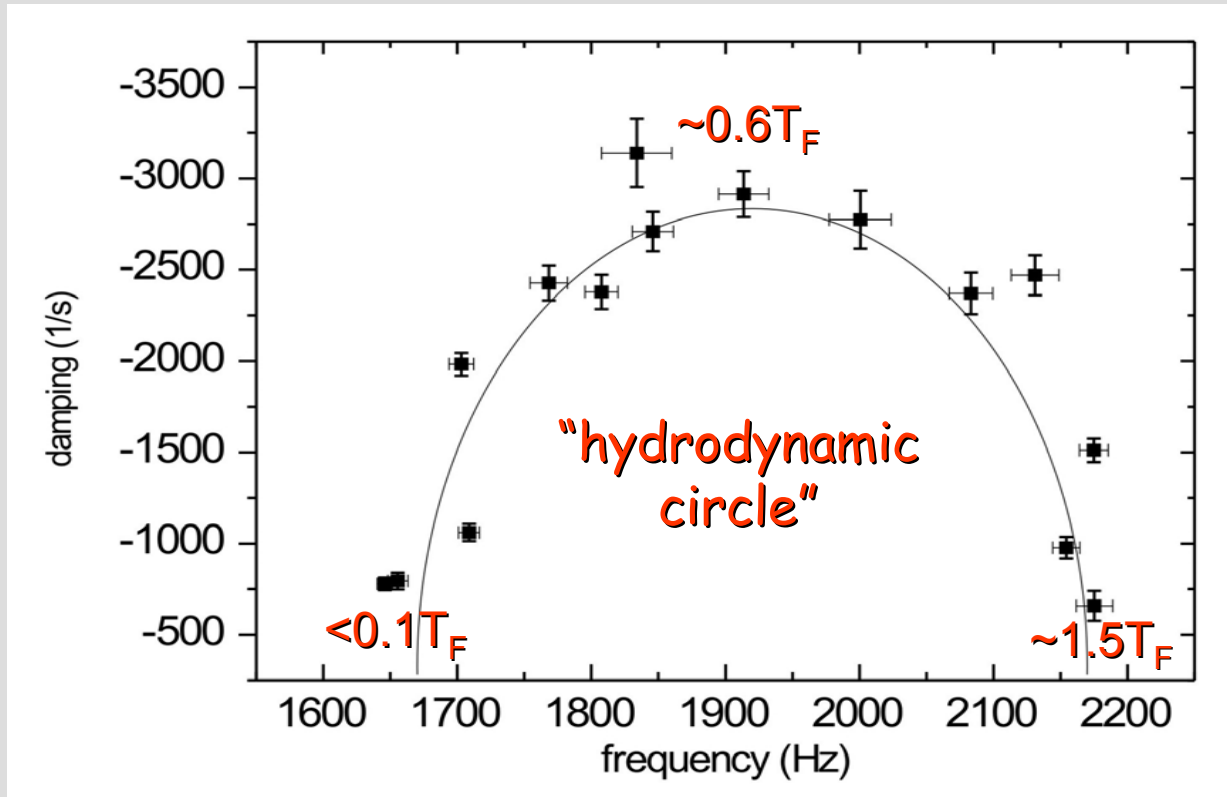
R. Combescot and X. Leyronas, PRL **93**, 138901 (2005)

***theory needed !!!***

# temperature-driven transition



at unitarity ( $1/k_F a=0$ )



temperature-driven transition from hydrodyn. to coll'less  
shows "normal" behavior

(for atomic BEC see Buggle et al., PRA 72, 043610 (2005))



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exploring BEC-BCS crossover physics  
in ultracold Fermi gases

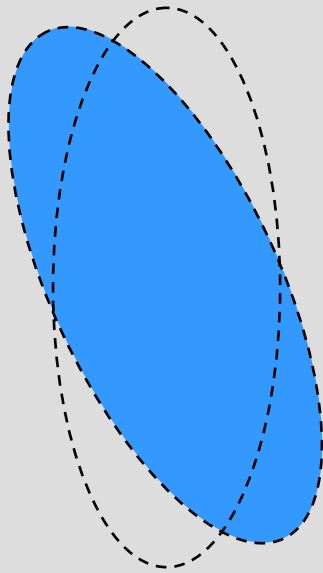
**zero-temperature behavior quite well investigated**

**but, temperature-dependent phenomena  
widely unexplored !**

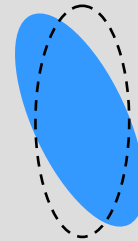
**what is our best experimental tool to do this ?**

# scissors modes

break cylindrical  
symmetry of trap !



atoms in elliptic potential  
aspect ratio  $\sim 2$



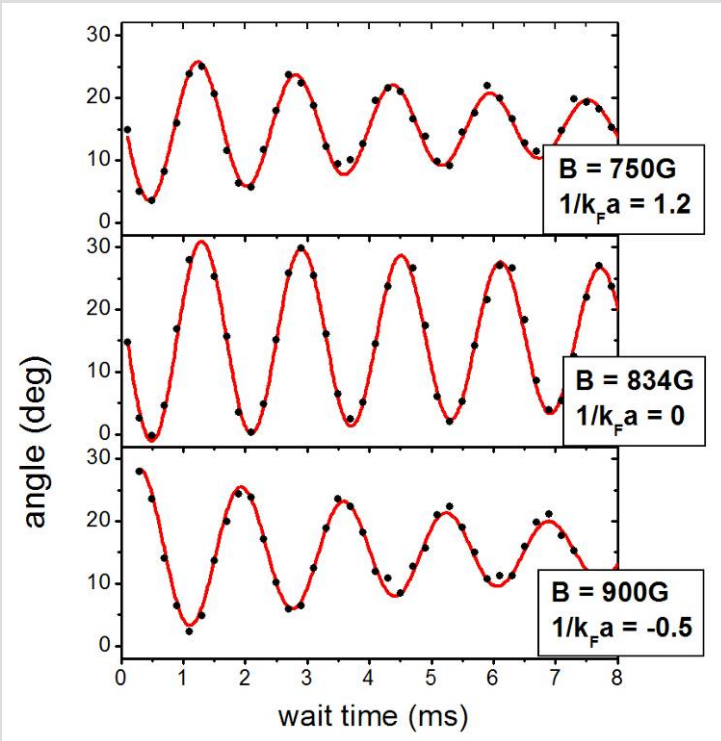
sudden change of angle  
of the elliptic potential



angle of elliptic cloud  
oscillates

- cloud shape doesn't change
- qualitative difference in the oscillation for hydrodynamic and collisionless regime

# scissors oscillation at low T



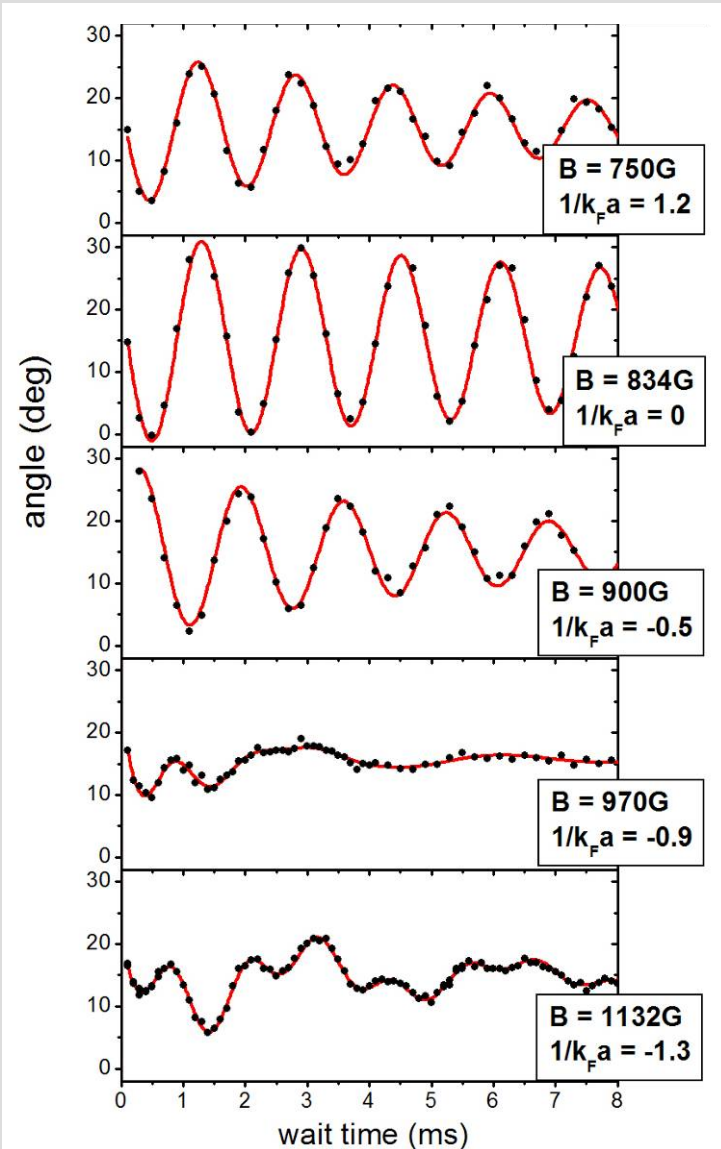
hydrodynamic gas

*single* frequency oscillation

$$\sqrt{\omega_x^2 + \omega_y^2}$$



# scissors oscillation at low T



hydrodynamic gas

single frequency oscillation

$$\sqrt{\omega_x^2 + \omega_y^2}$$

collisionless gas

oscillation with two frequencies

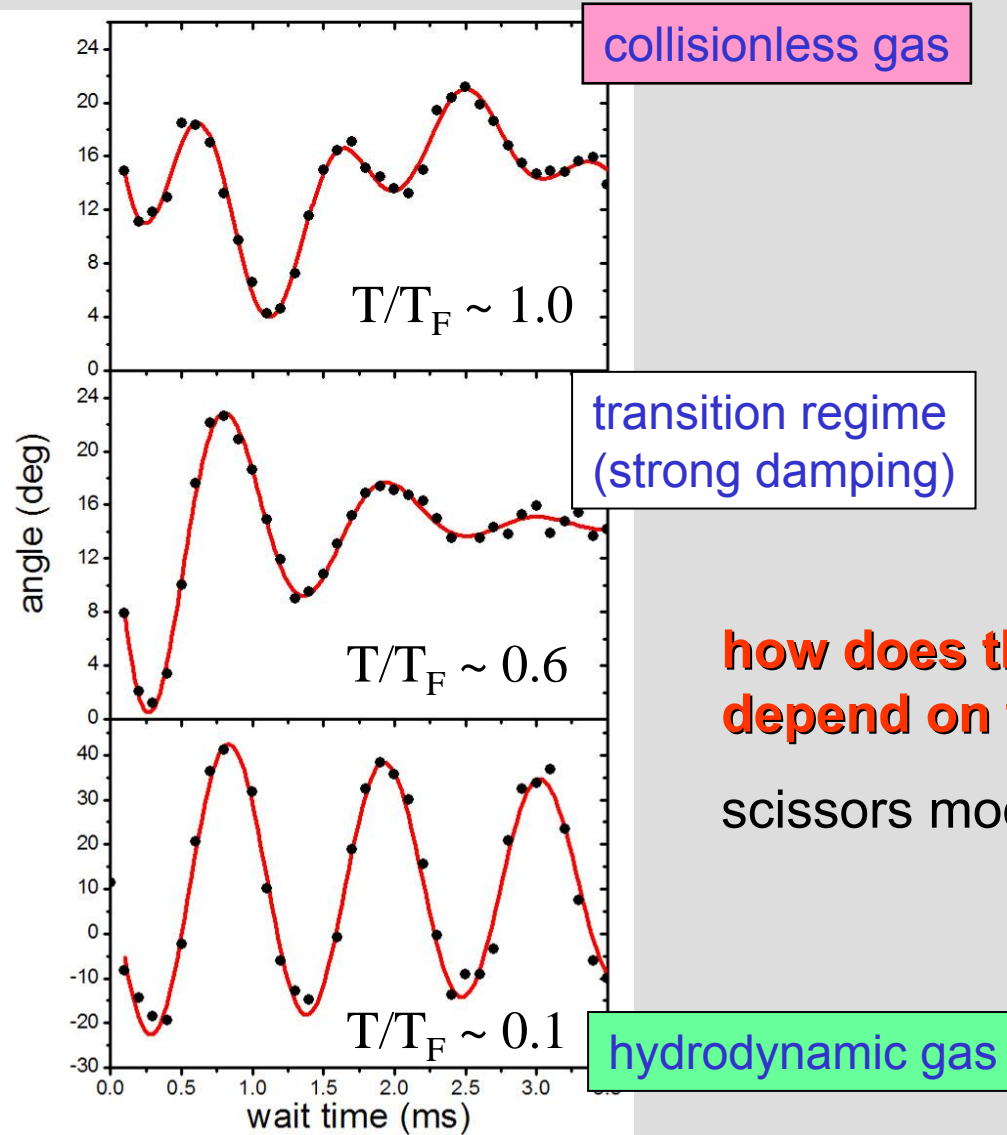
$$\omega_x + \omega_y$$

$$\omega_x - \omega_y$$

# finite temperature



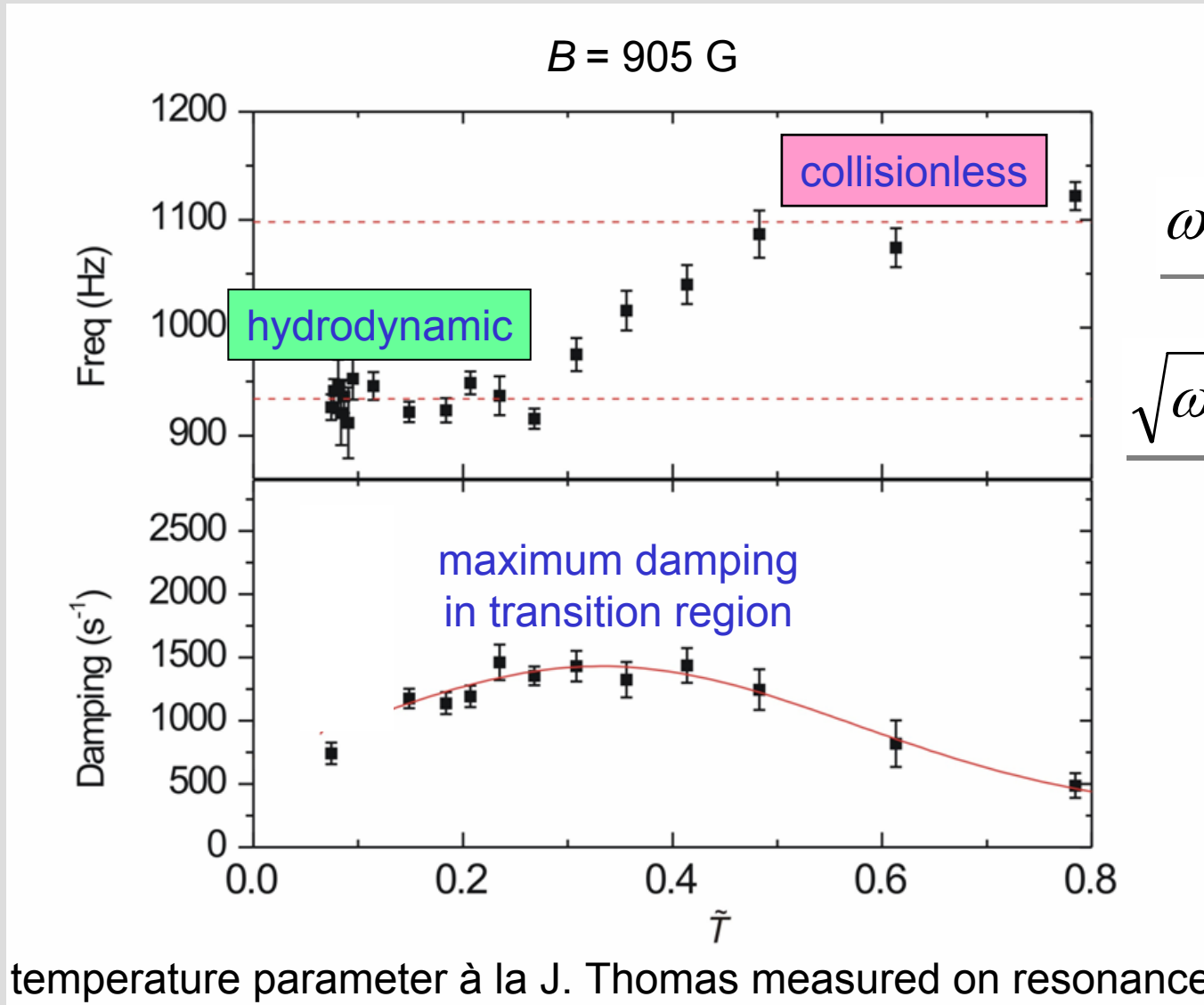
Temperature ↑



**how does the transition temperature depend on the interaction strength ?**

scissors mode excellent tool to probe this!

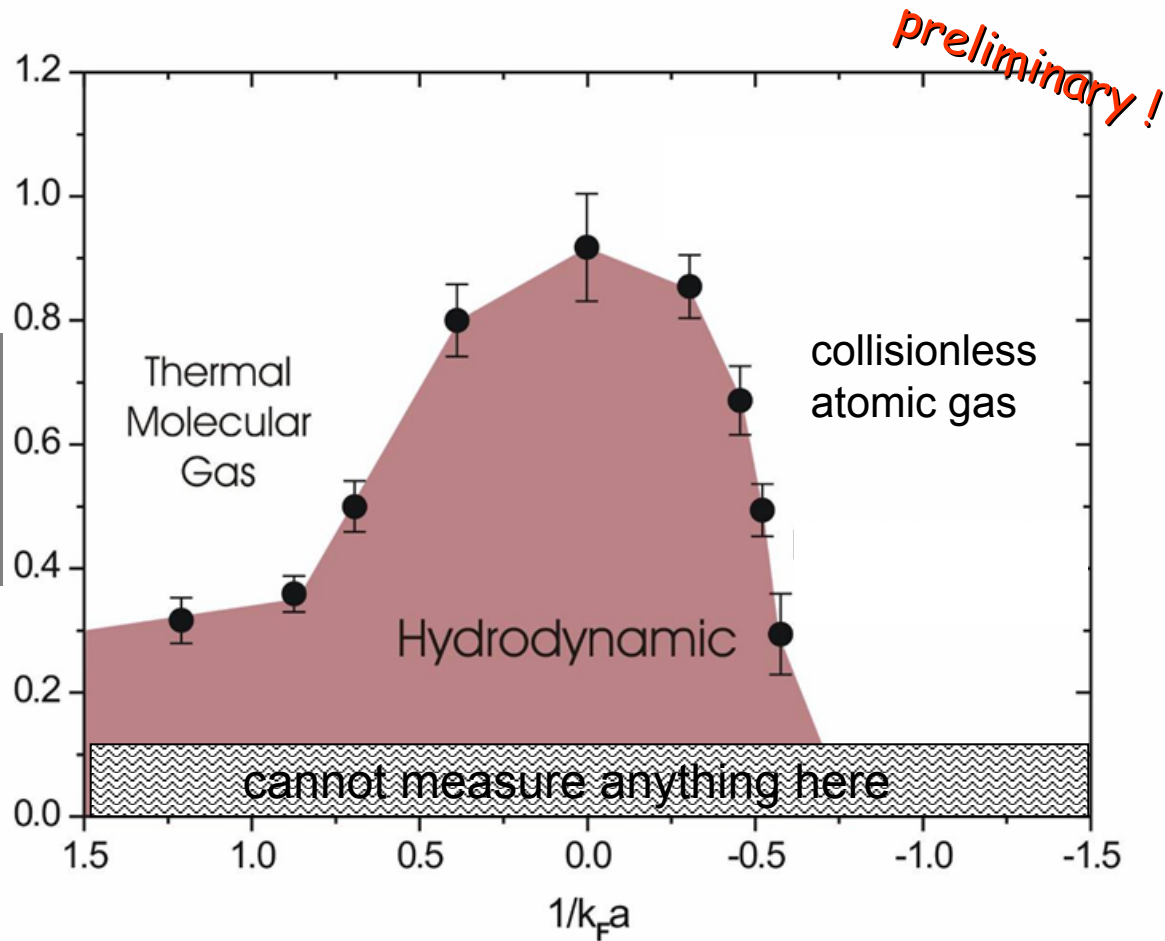
# damping vs temperature



# transition temperature



temperature  
parameter  $\tilde{T}$   
measures  
entropy

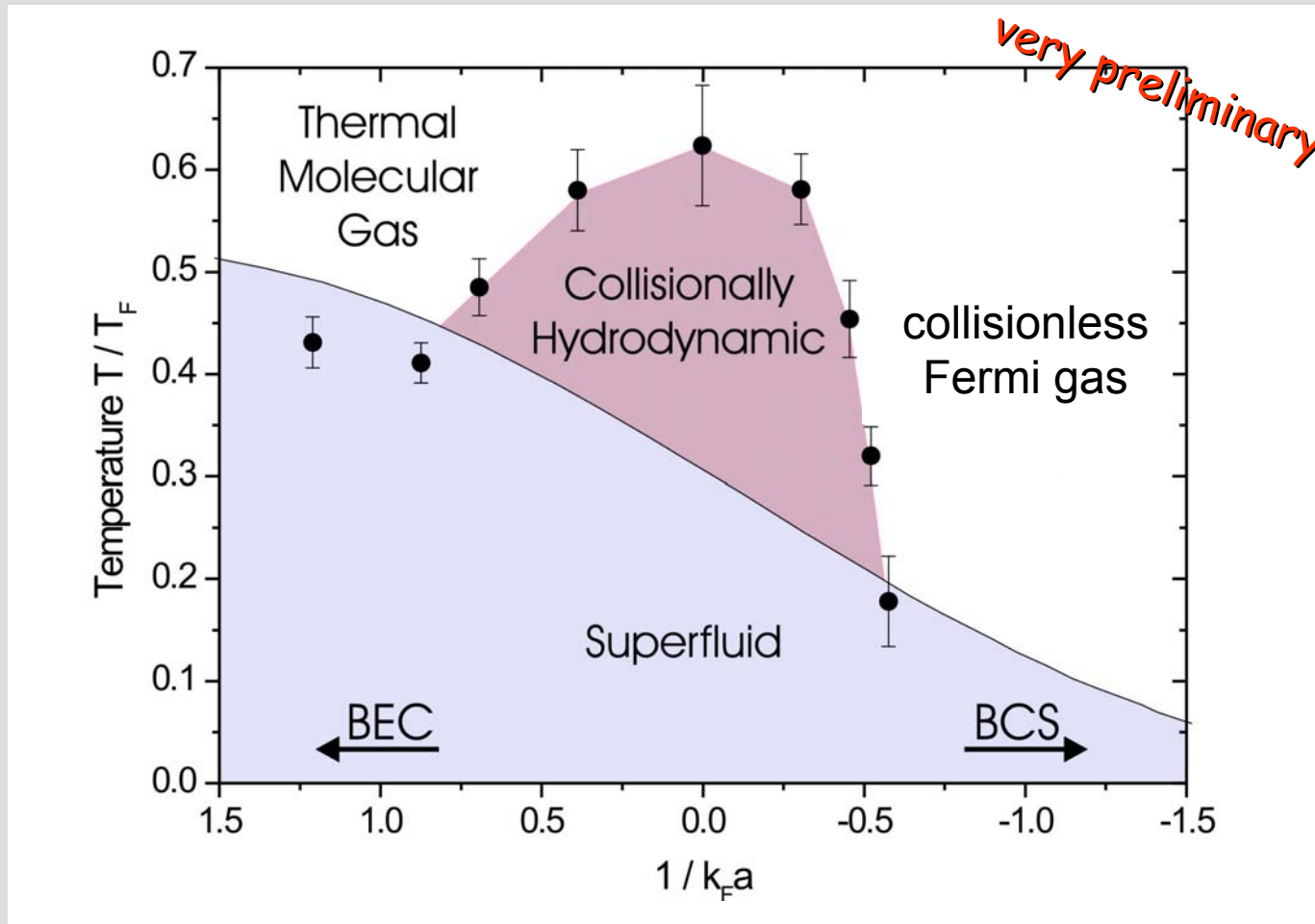


# phase diagram

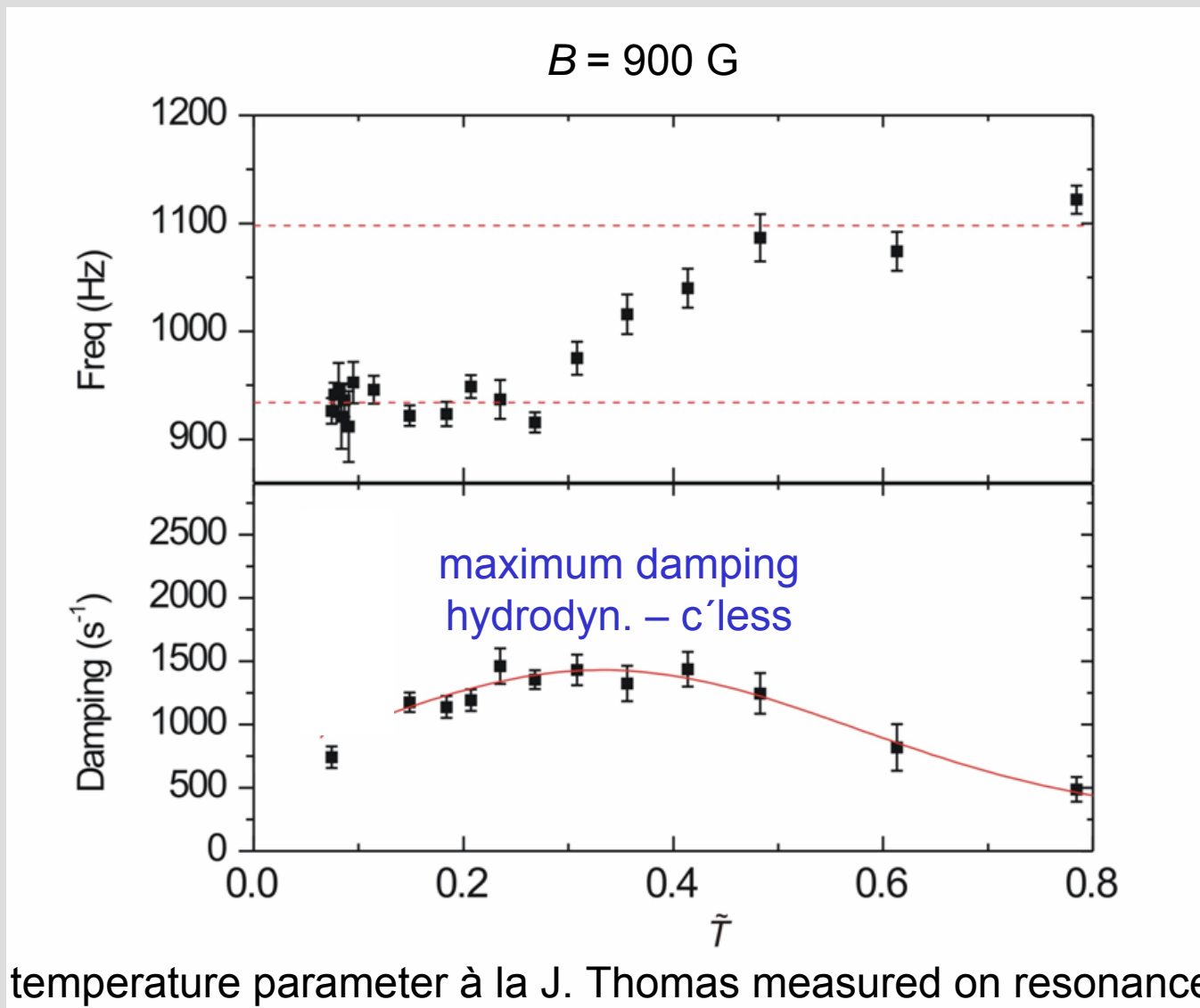


convert the data into a phase diagram

using entropy calculations from K. Levin group (PRL 95, 260405 (1995))



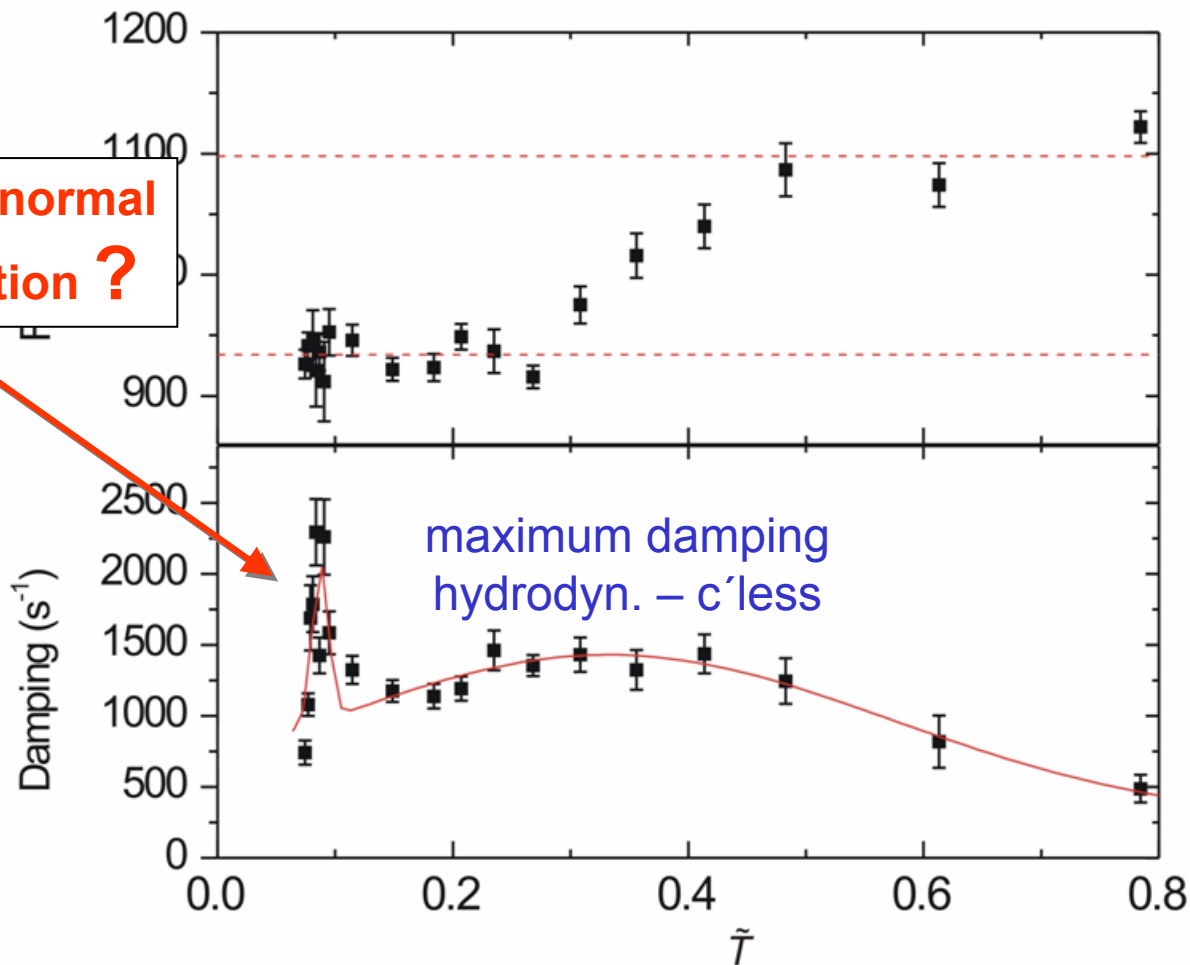
surprise



surprise

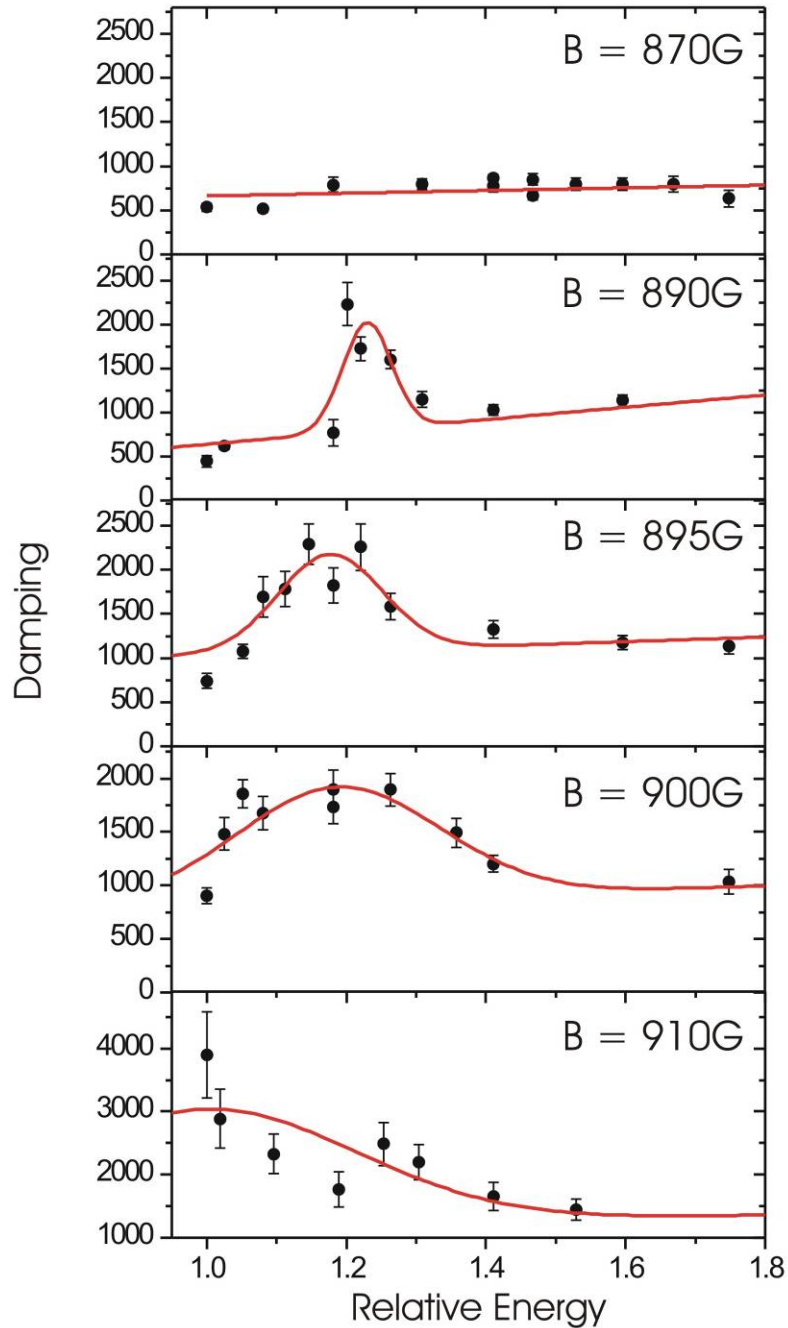


$B = 900 \text{ G}$



temperature parameter à la J. Thomas measured on resonance

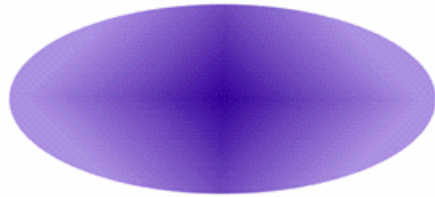
# various $B$



damping feature  
only observable  
in a narrow B-field  
range  
on BCS side of  
resonance



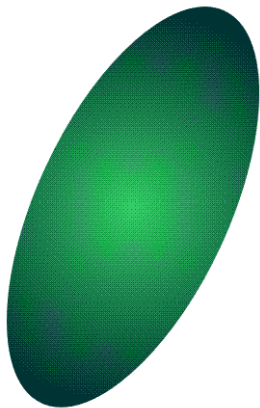
# conclusion on surface modes



hydrodynamic-to-collisionless transition  
with large change of frequency

*strong damping*

transition is not smooth!  
puzzle of down-shift occurring as a precursor



hydrodynamic-collisionless transition  
single frequency – two frequencies

*weak damping*

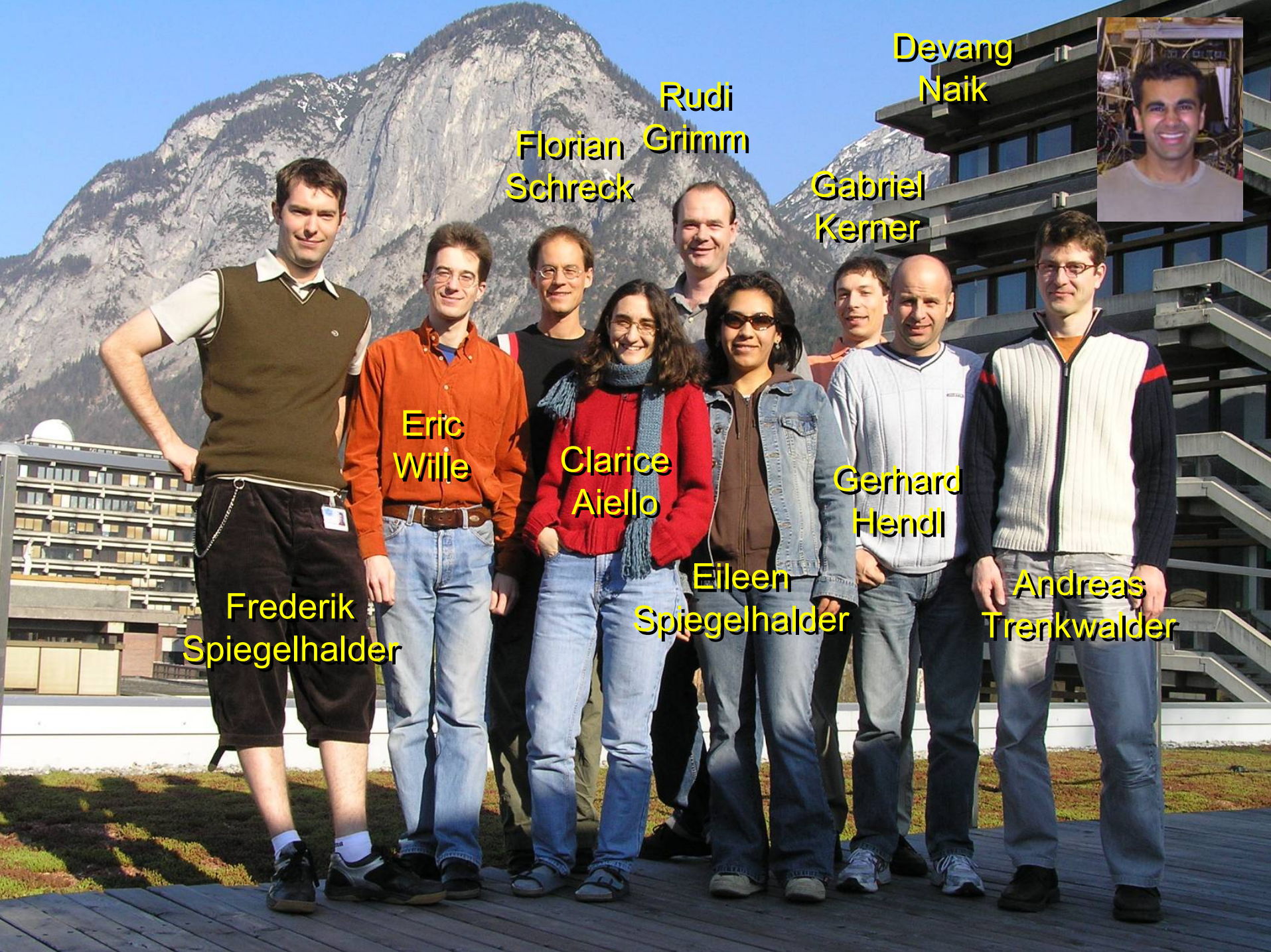
temperature-induced transition:  
phase diagram for hydrodynamic behavior in crossover

striking damping peak at low temperature:  
superfluid phase transition?

very preliminary !

${}^6\text{Li}$ - ${}^{40}\text{K}$ : first results with a  
Fermi-Fermi mixture of atoms





Devang Naik



Rudi  
Florian Grimm  
Schreck

Gabriel  
Kerner

Frederik  
Spiegelhalder

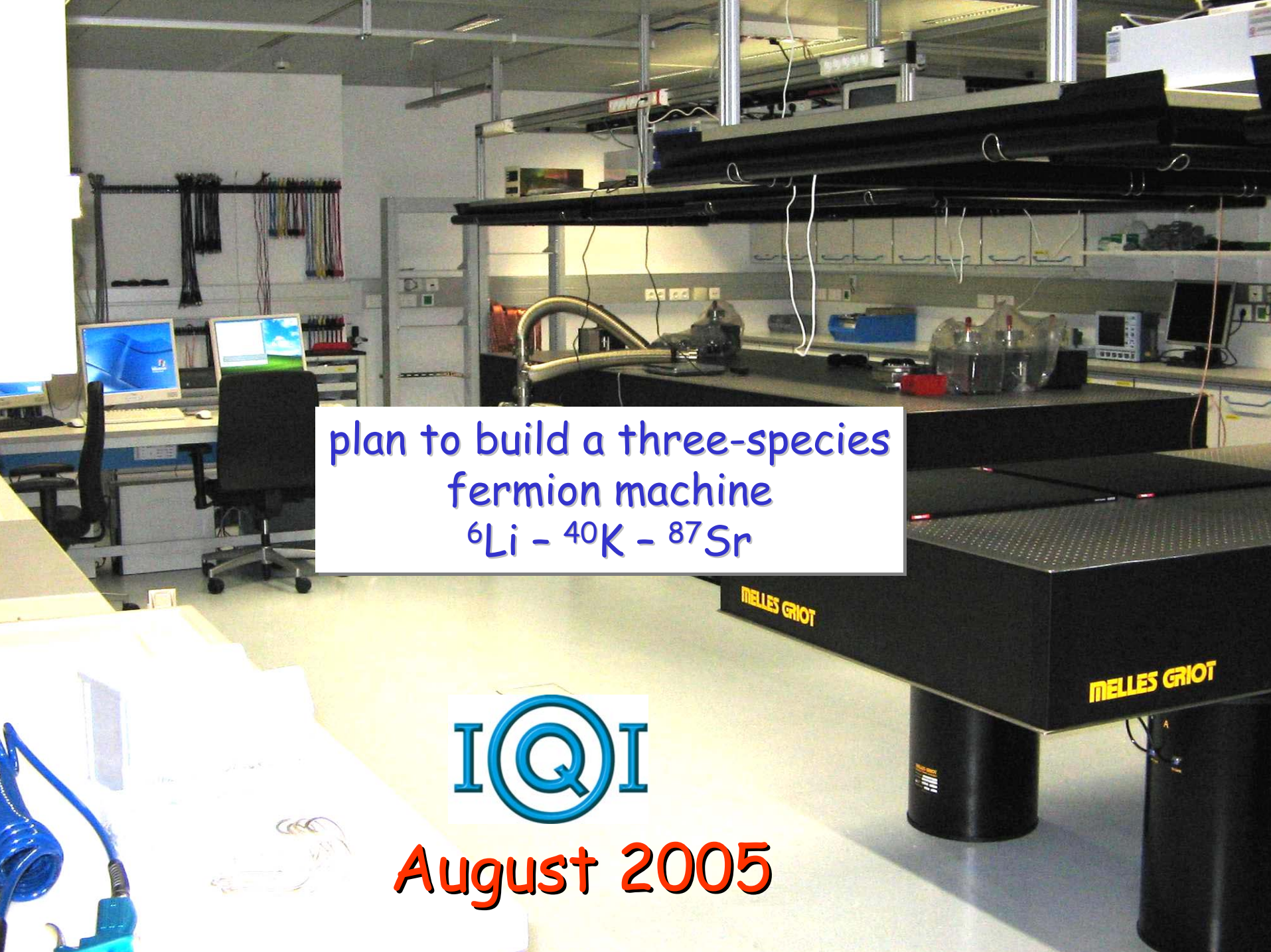
Eric  
Wille

Clarice  
Aiello

Gerhard  
Hendl

Eileen  
Spiegelhalder

Andreas  
Trenkwalder



plan to build a three-species  
fermion machine  
 ${}^6\text{Li} - {}^{40}\text{K} - {}^{87}\text{Sr}$

I@QI

August 2005



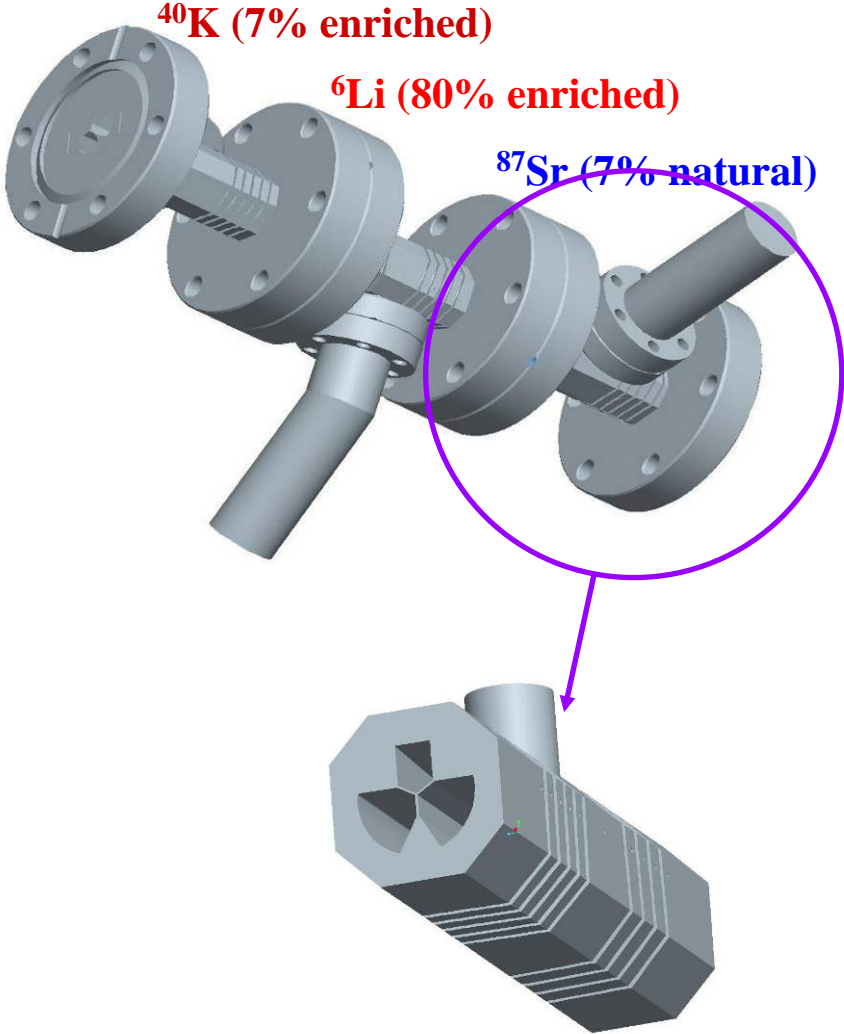
I@QI

Februar 2007

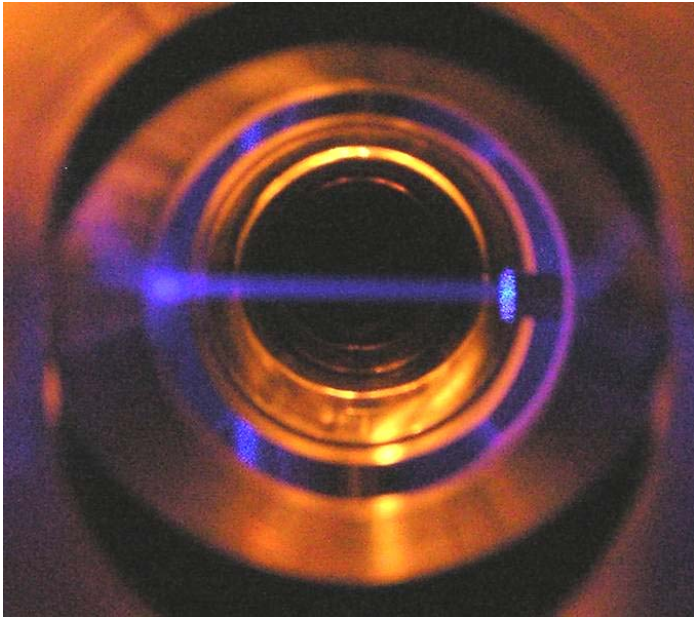
MELLES GRIO

MELLES GRIO

# three-species oven



Microtubes inside

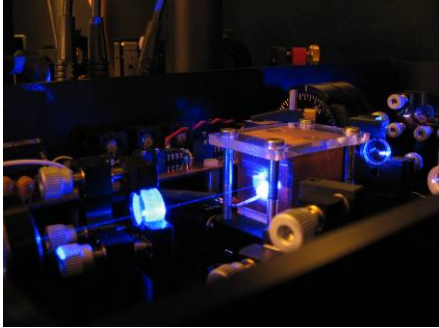


Strontium atomic beam

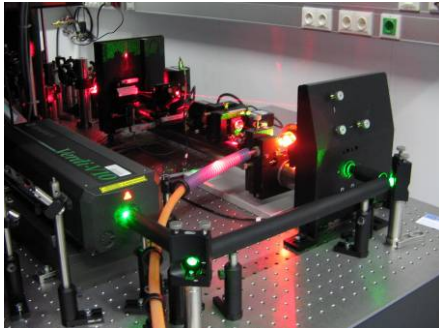
# cooling laser system



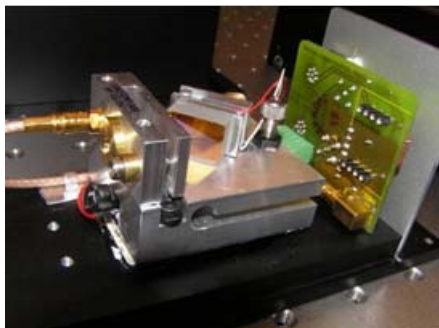
**Sr, 461nm: doubled diode laser**



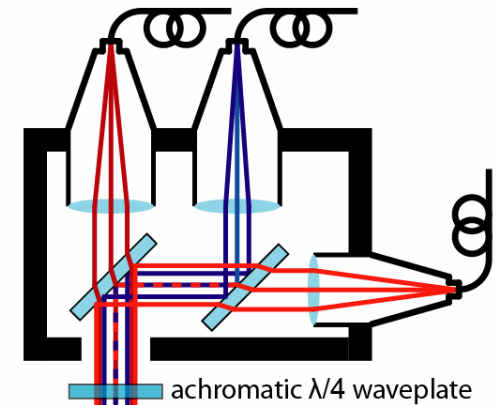
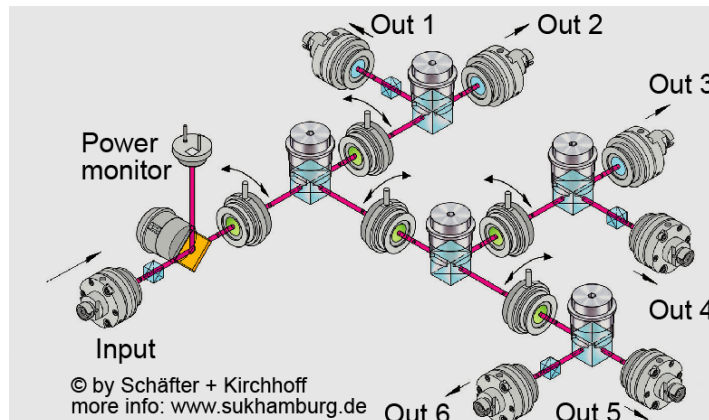
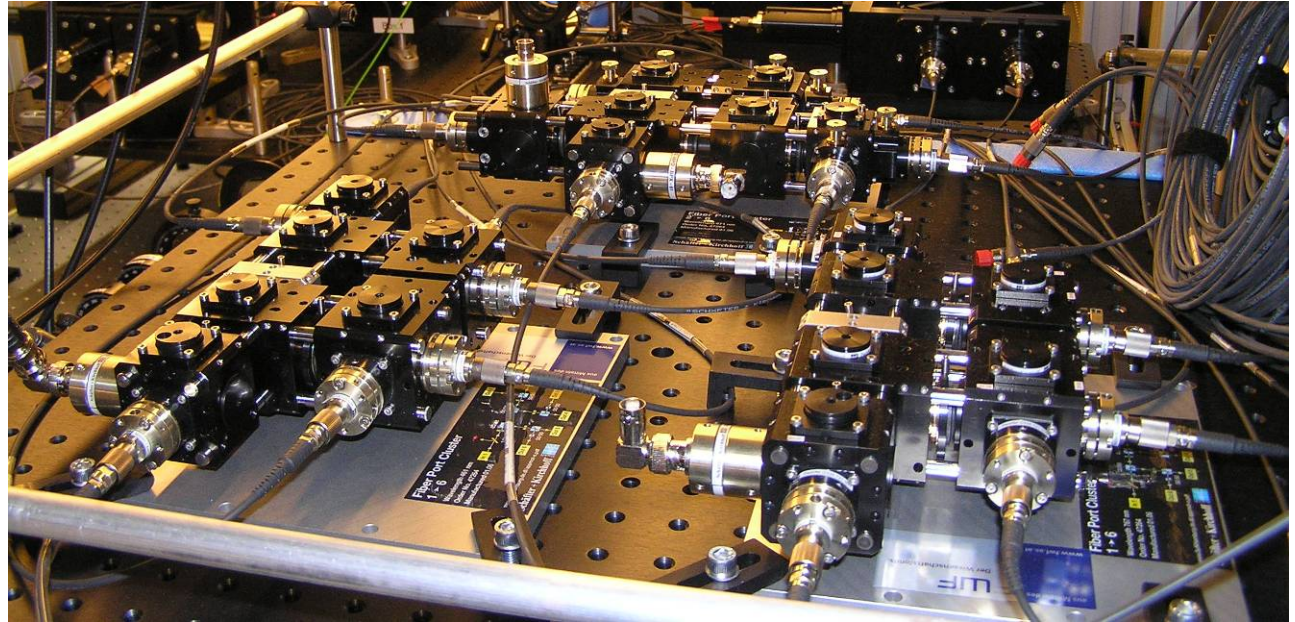
**Li, 671nm: dye laser**



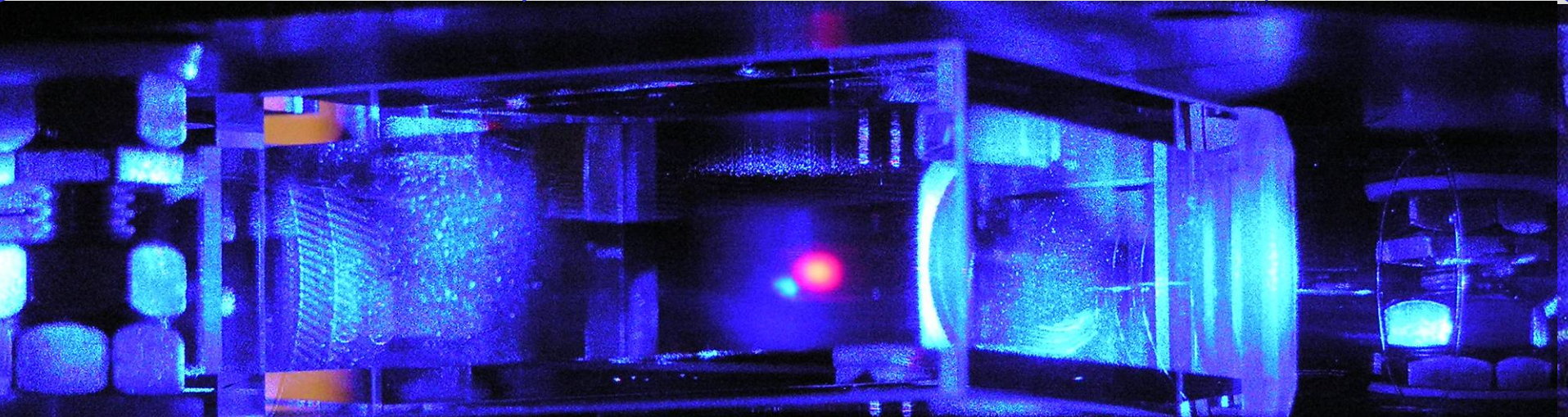
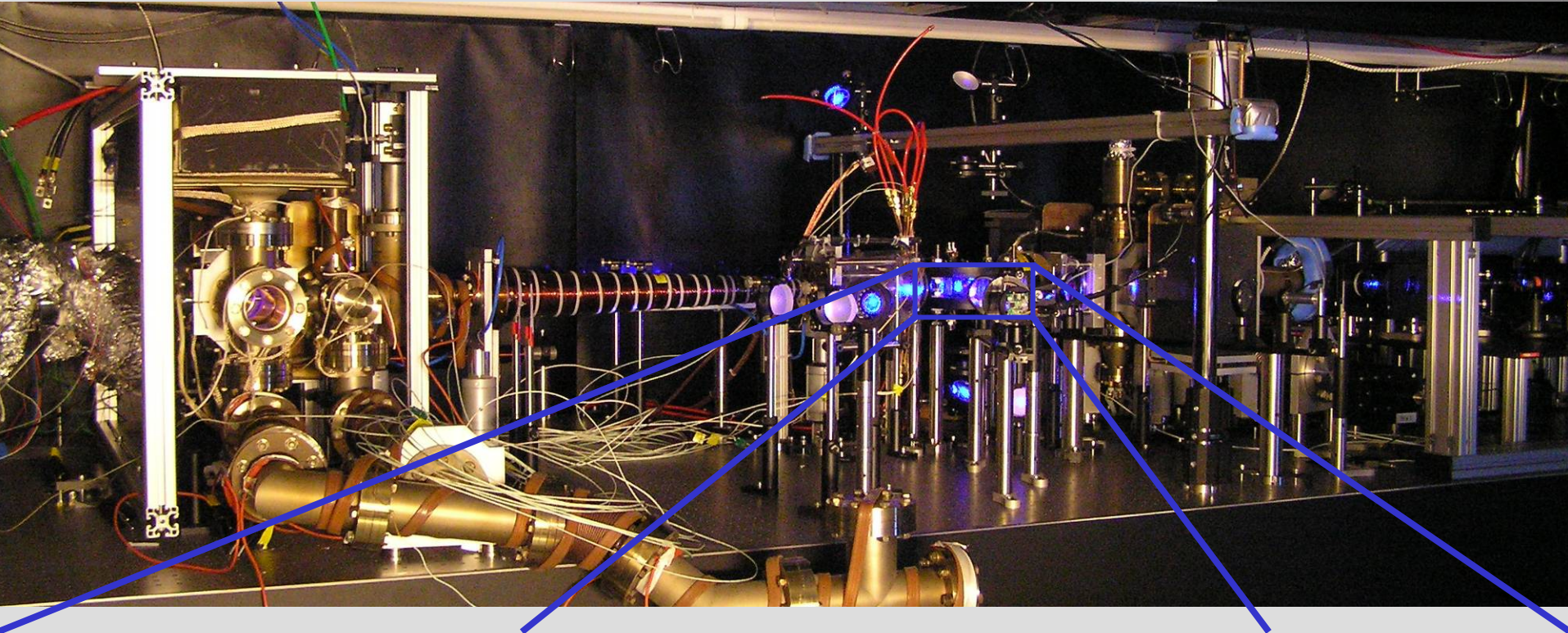
**K, 767nm: diode lasers**



**MOT beam delivery:**

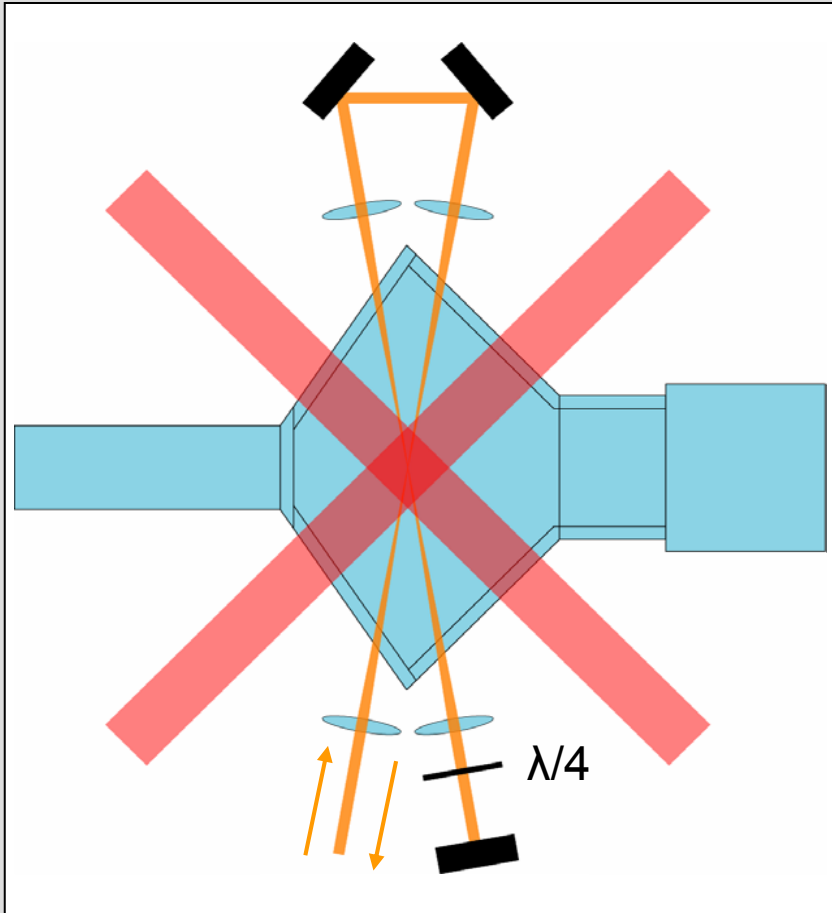


# Lithium-Potassium-Strontium machine





# from MOT to dipole trap

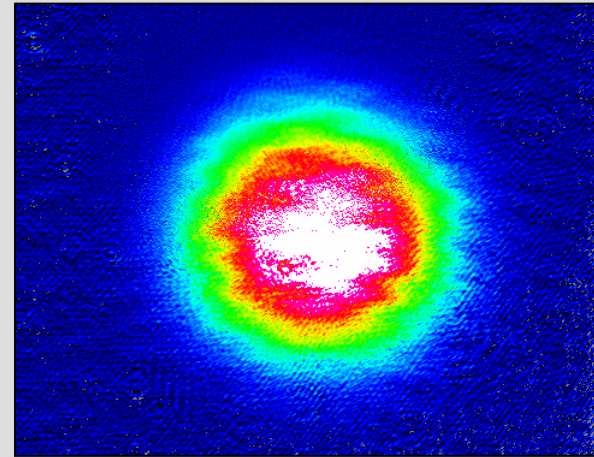


**Dipole trap (100W 1075nm laser):**

$$U \sim k_B 1 \text{ mK}$$

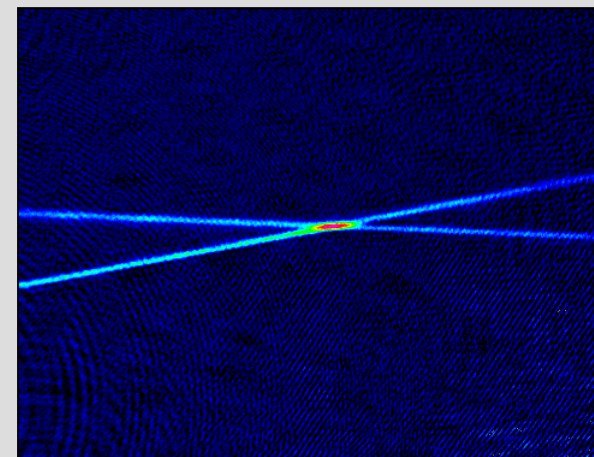
$$w \sim 60 \mu\text{m}$$

${}^6\text{Li}$  MOT:  $N \sim 10^9$   $T \sim 300\mu\text{K}$



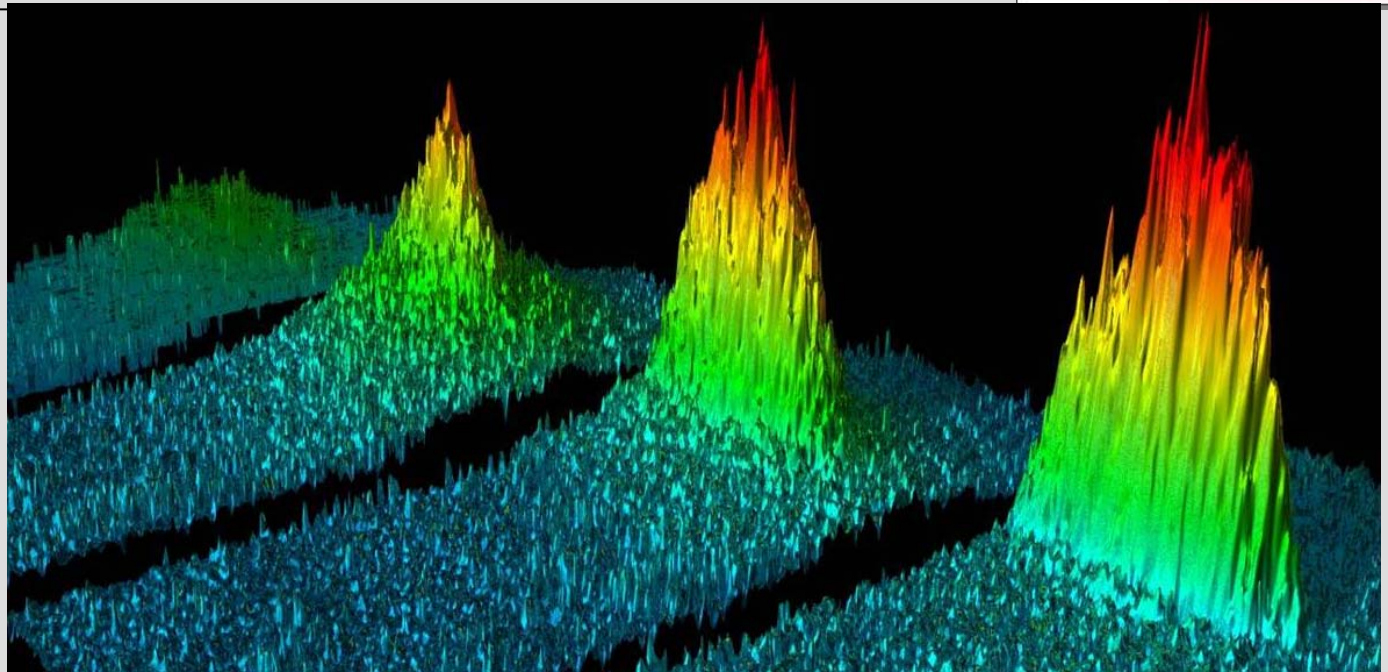
3 mm

Dipole trap:  $N > 10^6$



3 mm

# ${}^6\text{Li}_2$ molecular Bose condensation



in dipole trap

After 10ms time of flight:

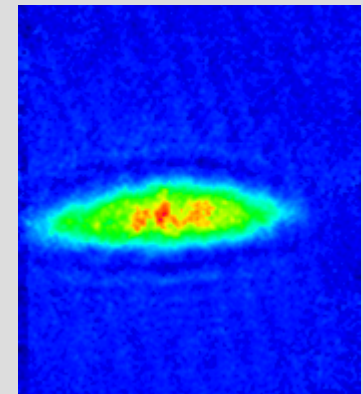
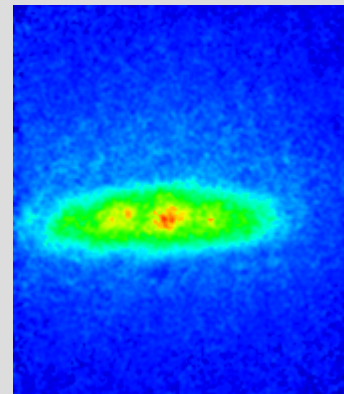
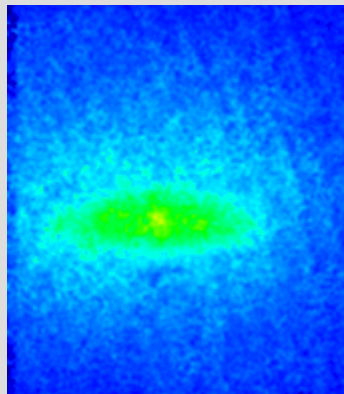
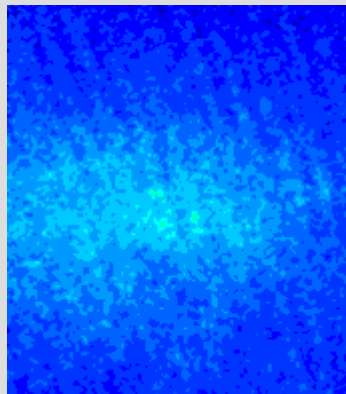
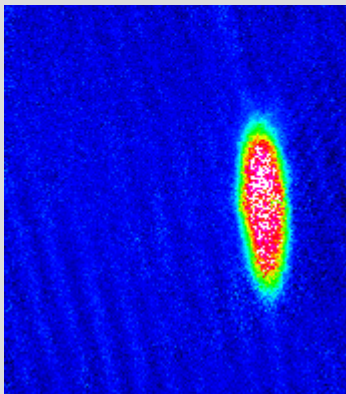
**PURE BEC!**

4.3 sec evap

4.7 sec evap

4.8 sec evap

5.1 sec evap

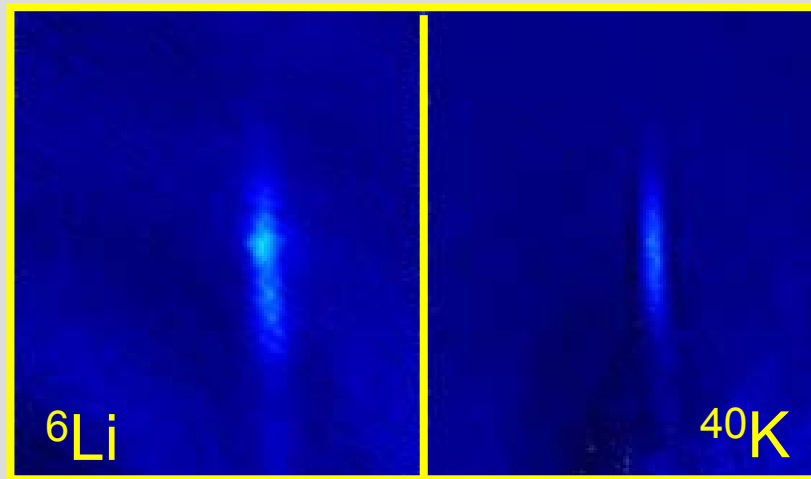


# heteronuclear FF mixture !



absorption images of  ${}^6\text{Li}$  and  ${}^{40}\text{K}$  atoms

after 3.9 s of forced evaporative cooling at 750G



26  $\mu\text{K}$     trap depths    55  $\mu\text{K}$

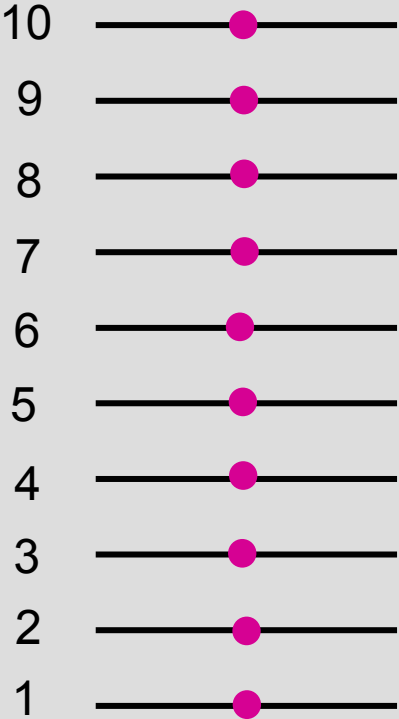
estimated temperature  $\sim 2\mu\text{K}$

**heteronuclear Fermi-Fermi mixture**  
(stable up to the point where  ${}^6\text{Li}_2$  dimers are formed)

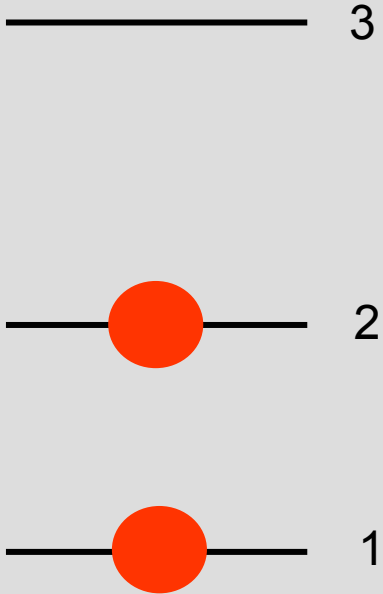
# spin relaxation



$^{40}\text{K}$



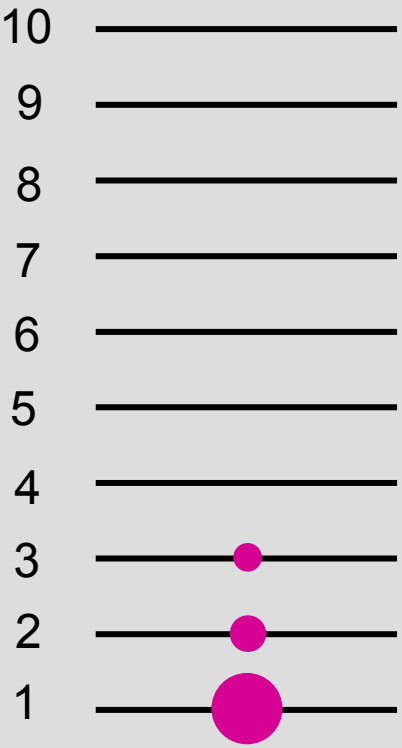
$^6\text{Li}$



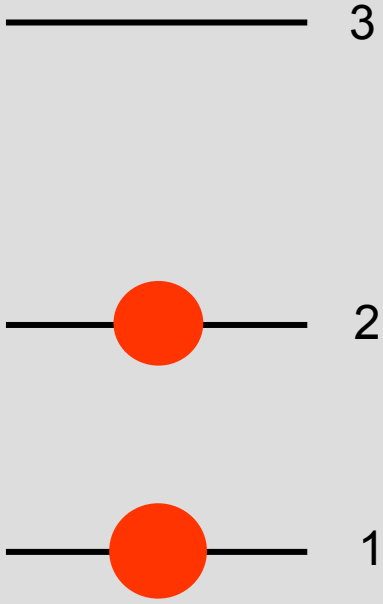
# spin relaxation



$^{40}\text{K}$



$^6\text{Li}$

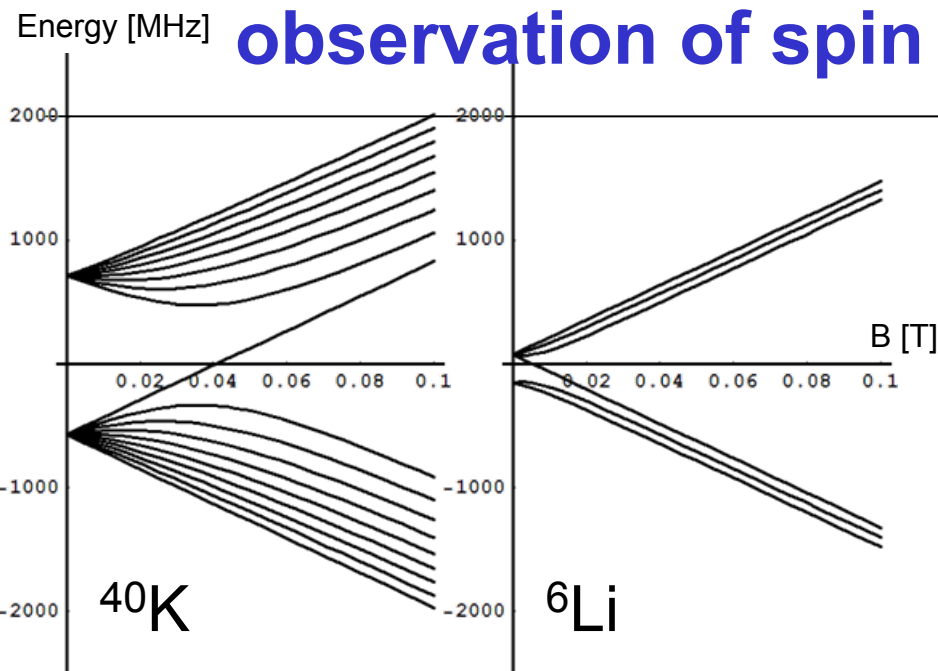




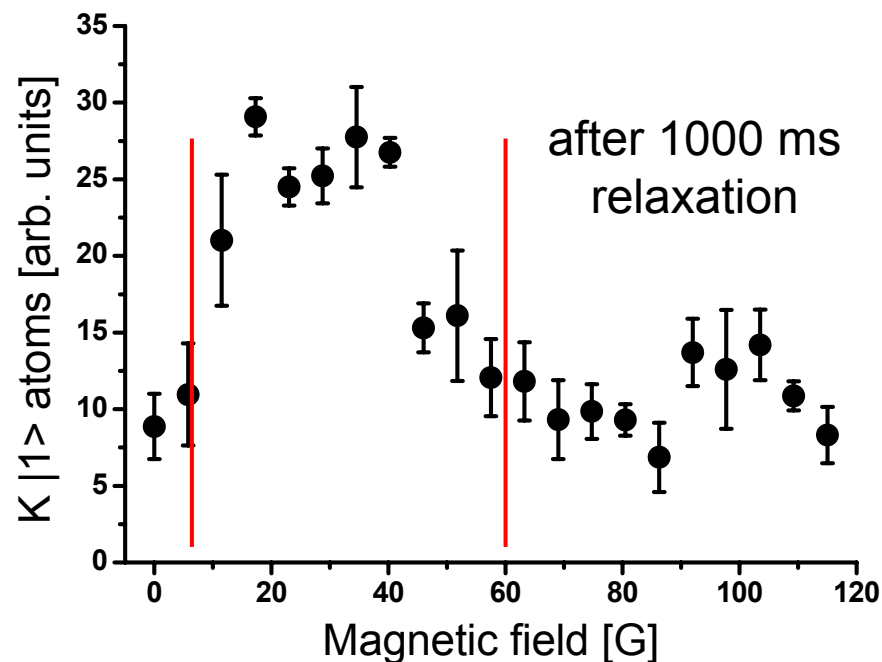
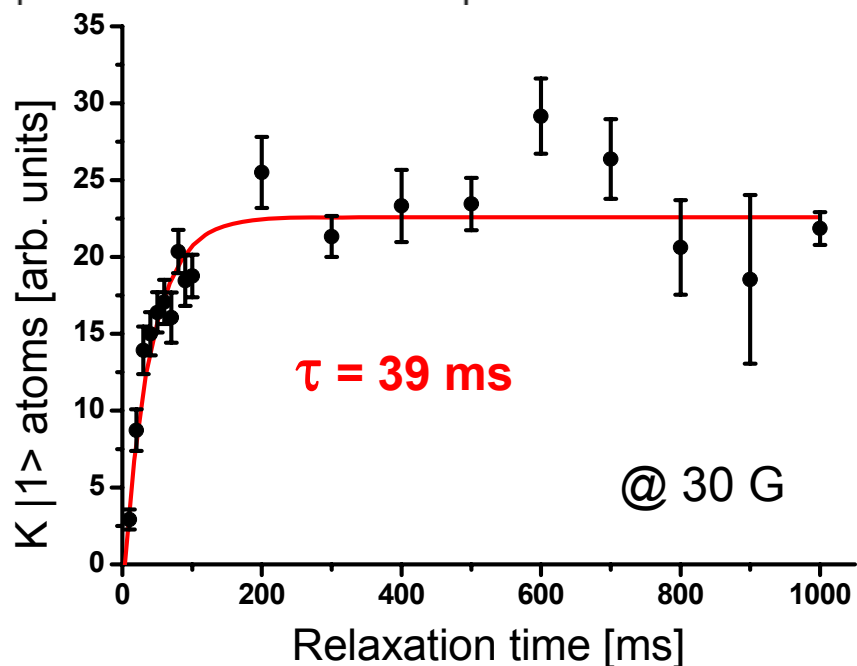
Ultracold atoms quantum gases

# observation of spin relaxation

preliminary



- Energy splitting @ 6 G:  $\sim k_B 100 \mu\text{K}$
- Energy transfer @ 60 G:  $\sim k_B 400 \mu\text{K}$  to the  $^{40}\text{K}$  atom for a  $m_f$  changing collision
- Temperature:  $\sim 300 \mu\text{K}$
- Trap depth:  $\sim 3000 \mu\text{K}$  for  $^{40}\text{K}$



# spin relaxation



$^{40}\text{K}$

$^6\text{Li}$

stable mixtures can be created  
if one of the species is fully polarized  
into the lowest state !

$\Delta m = -1$

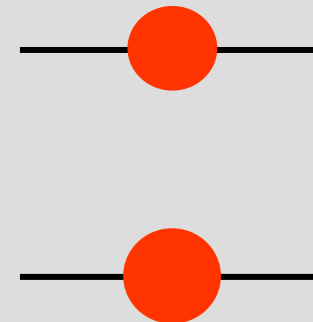
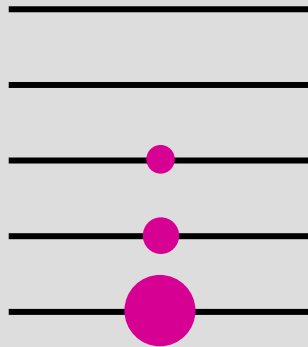


$-5/2$

$-7/2$

$-9/2$

$m$



$-3/2$

$-1/2$

$\Delta m = +1$

$1/2$

$m$

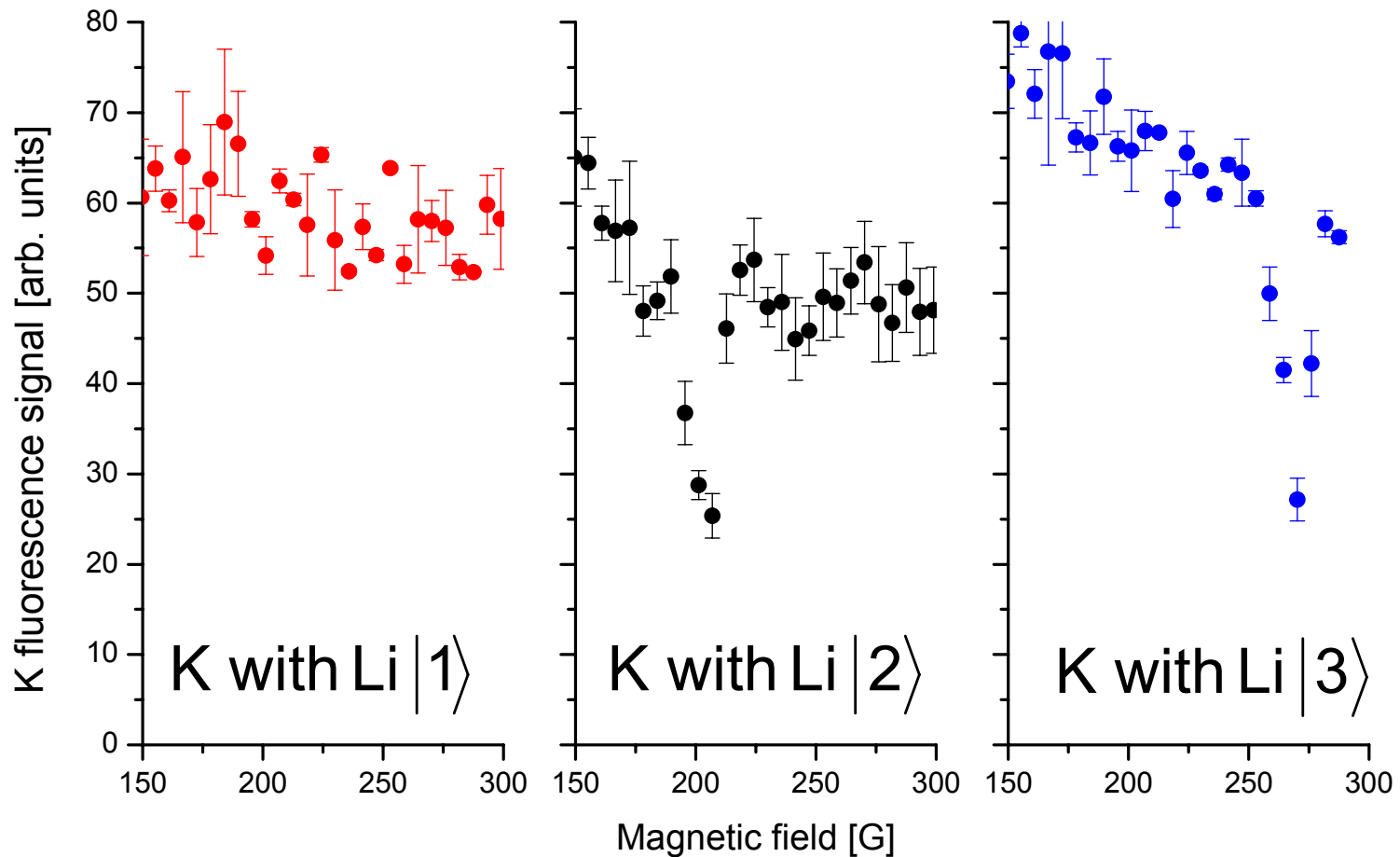


# loss resonances



pure spin states of  ${}^6\text{Li}$  prepared (optical cleaning, rf transfer)

${}^{40}\text{K}$  in a mixture of different states





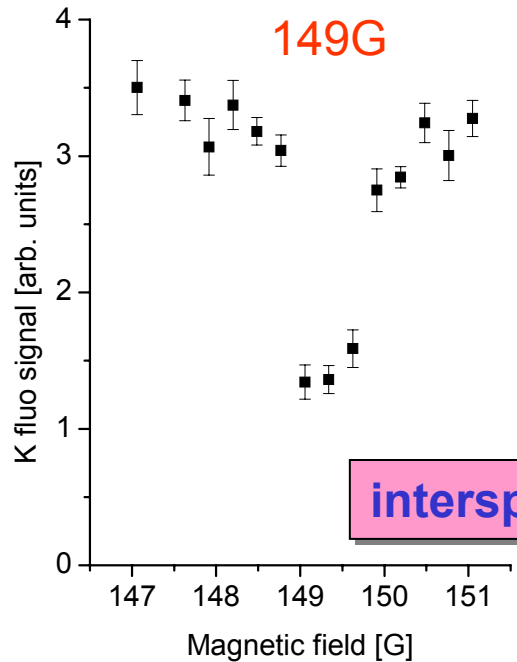
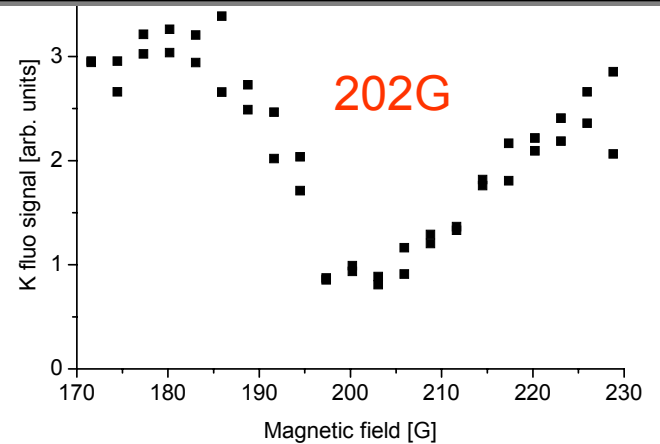
# further resonances



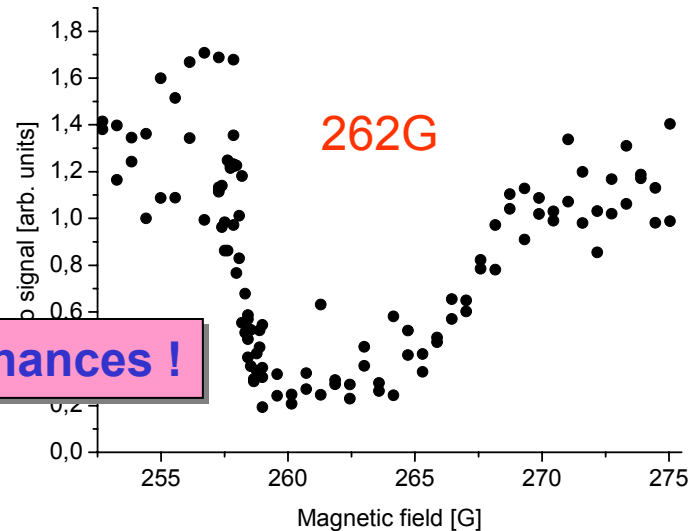
*three-component mixture*  
of  ${}^6\text{Li}$  (lowest state)  
with  ${}^{40}\text{K}$  (lowest two states)

monitor  ${}^{40}\text{K}$  atom number

the “famous”  ${}^{40}\text{K}$  resonance (homonuclear)



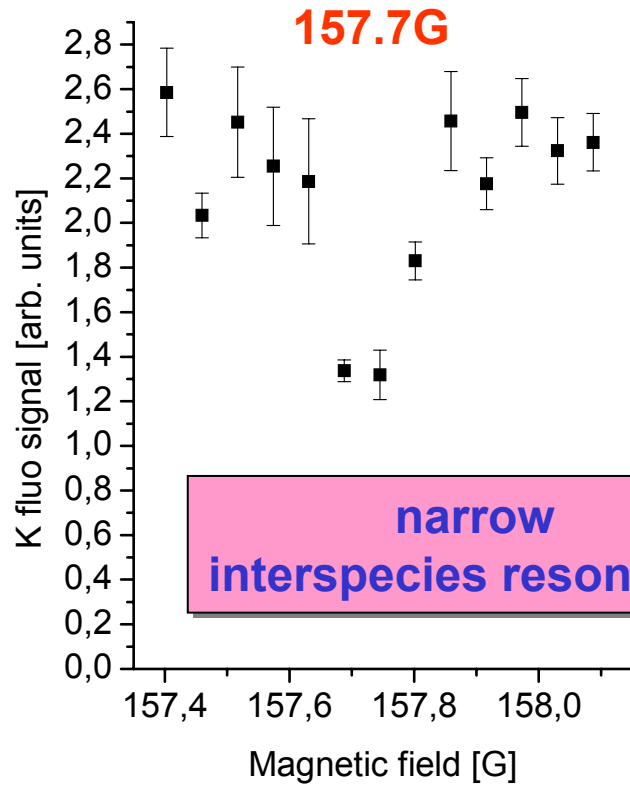
interspecies resonances !



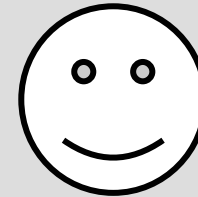
# further resonances



*two-component mixture*  
of  ${}^6\text{Li}$  (lowest state) with  ${}^{40}\text{K}$  (lowest state)



there is more  
to come (soon)...



# preliminary conclusions on ${}^6\text{Li}$ - ${}^{40}\text{K}$

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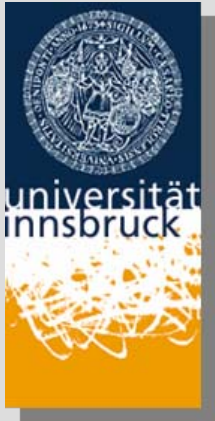
## Fermi-Fermi mixtures available in the lab!

stable mixture if one species is in lowest state state  
(otherwise spin relaxation)

sympathetic cooling of  ${}^{40}\text{K}$  by  ${}^6\text{Li}$  works well  
at the large- $a$  side of the Li-resonance  
(at least until molecules are formed)

several interspecies resonances are observed  
( ${}^{40}\text{K}$  spin states tbd)

**experiments in progress, right now in the lab in Innsbruck...**



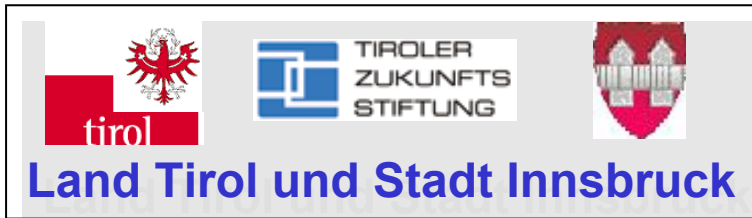
the end



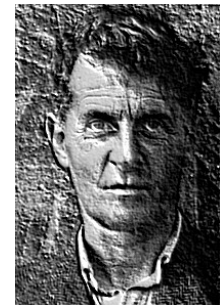
funding

FWF

Der Wissenschaftsfonds.



bm:bwk



Ludwig Wittgenstein  
(1889-1951)  
Austrian Philosopher