

Three-body Interactions in Cold Polar Molecules

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Three-body interactions

Many-body interaction potential

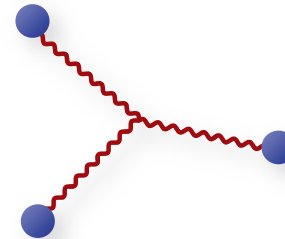
- Hamiltonians in condensed matter are effective Hamiltonians after integrating out high energy excitations

$$V_{\text{eff}}(\{\mathbf{r}_i\}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} V(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j) + \frac{1}{6} \sum_{i \neq j \neq k} W(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_j, \mathbf{r}_k) + \dots$$

two-particle
interaction



three-body
interaction



Application

- Pfaffian wave function of fractional quantum Hall state (More and Read, '91)
- exchange interactions in spin systems: microscopic models exotic phases (Moessner and Sondhi, '01, Balents *et al.*, '02, Moutrich and Senthil '02)
- string nets: degenerate Hilbertspace for loop gases (Fidowski, *et al.*, '06)

Route towards
exotic and topological
phases?

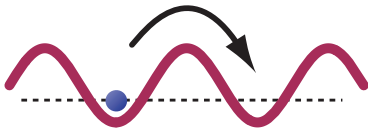
Three-body interactions

Extended Bose-Hubbard models

- hardcore bosons

$$H = -J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} b_i^\dagger b_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} U_{ij} n_i n_j + \frac{1}{6} \sum_{i \neq j \neq k} W_{ijk} n_i n_j n_k.$$

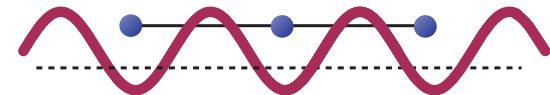
hopping energy



two-body interaction



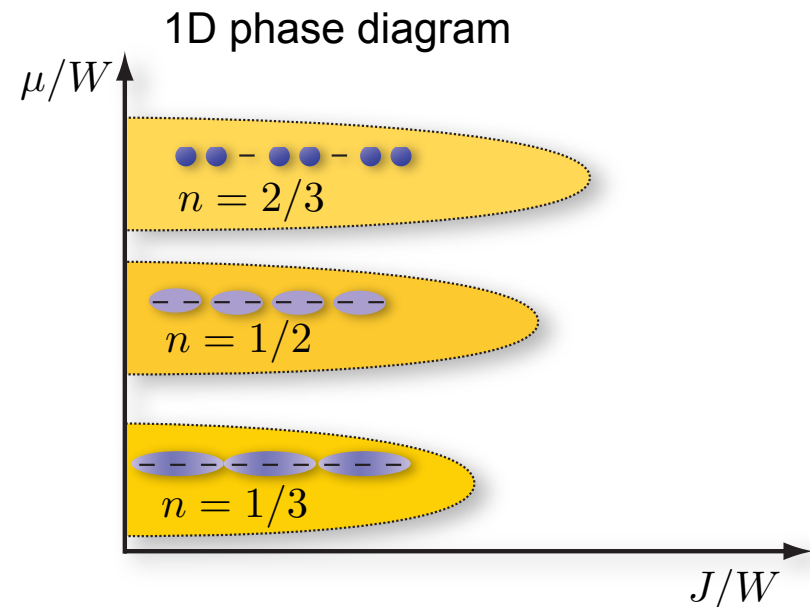
three-body interaction



Goal

- large interaction strengths
- independent control of two- and three-body interaction

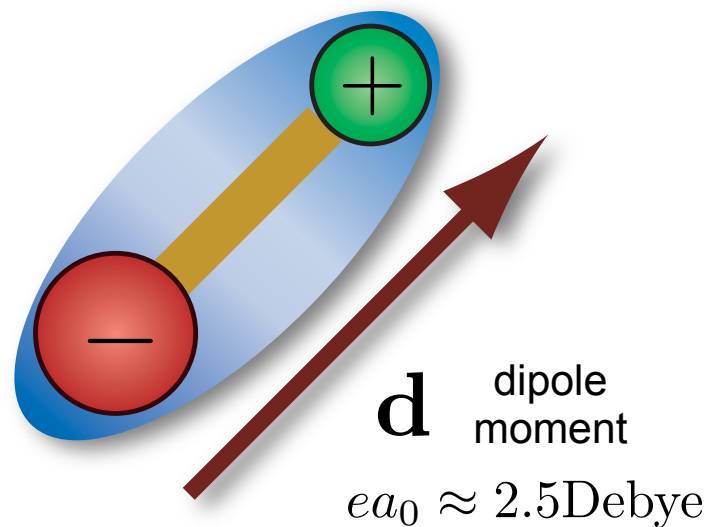
Realizable with
polar molecules



Polar molecules

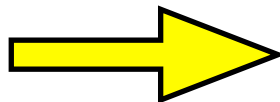
Heteronuclear Molecules

- electronic excitations
 $\sim 10^{15}$ Hz
- vibrational excitations
 $\sim 10^{13}$ Hz
- rotational excitations
 $\sim 10^{10}$ Hz
- electron spin
- nuclear spin



Polar molecules in the electronic, vibrational, and rotational ground state

- permanent dipole moment: $d \sim 1 - 9$ Debye
- polarizable with static electric field, and microwave fields



Strong dipole-dipole interactions tunable with external fields

$$V(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\mathbf{d}_1 \mathbf{d}_2}{r^3} - 3 \frac{(\mathbf{d}_1 \mathbf{r})(\mathbf{d}_2 \mathbf{r})}{r^5}$$

Interaction energies

Particles in an optical lattice

- lattice spacing $a = \lambda/2 \sim 500\text{nm}$

- recoil energy $E_r = \frac{2\hbar^2\pi^2}{m\lambda^2}$

- size of Wannier function $a_{\text{h.o.}} \sim 0.2a$



Pseudo-potential

- dominant interaction in atomic gases

on-site
interaction

nearest-neighbor
interaction

$$U \sim 0.5E_r$$

present but
small

Magnetic dipole moment

- Chromium atoms with
 $m \sim 6\mu_B$

$$U \sim 0.5E_r$$

$$U_1 \sim 10^{-3}E_r$$

Electric dipole moment

- LiCs heteronuclear molecule
 $d \sim 6.5\text{Debye}$

- increased by factor $1/\alpha^2 \sim (137)^2$

$$U \sim ???$$

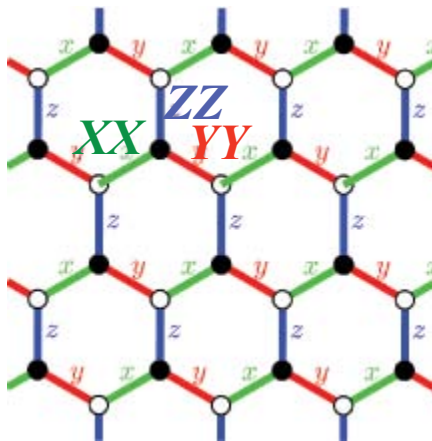
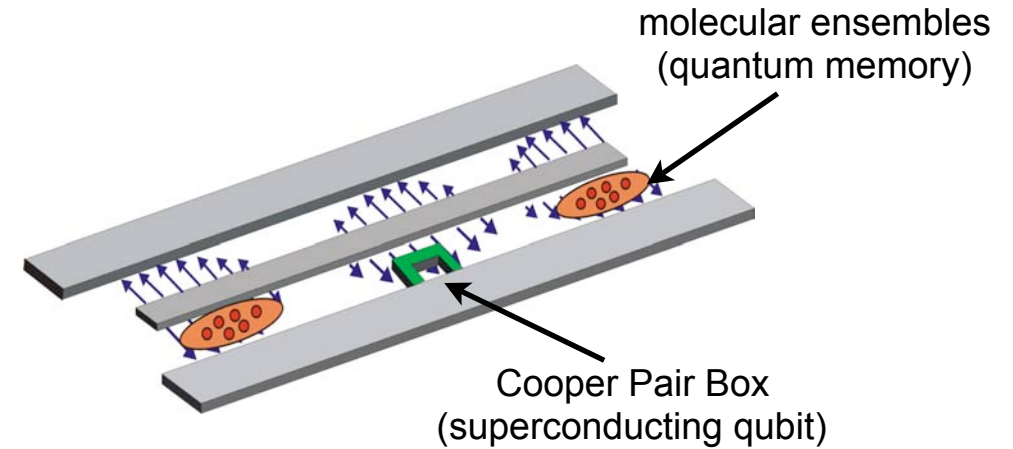
$$(a/a_{\text{h.o.}})^3 U_1$$

$$U_1 \sim 30E_r$$

Polar molecules

AMO- solid state interface

- solid state quantum processor
- molecular quantum memory
(P. Rabl, D. DeMille, J. Doyle, M. Lukin, R. Schoelkopf and P. Zoller, PRL 2006)



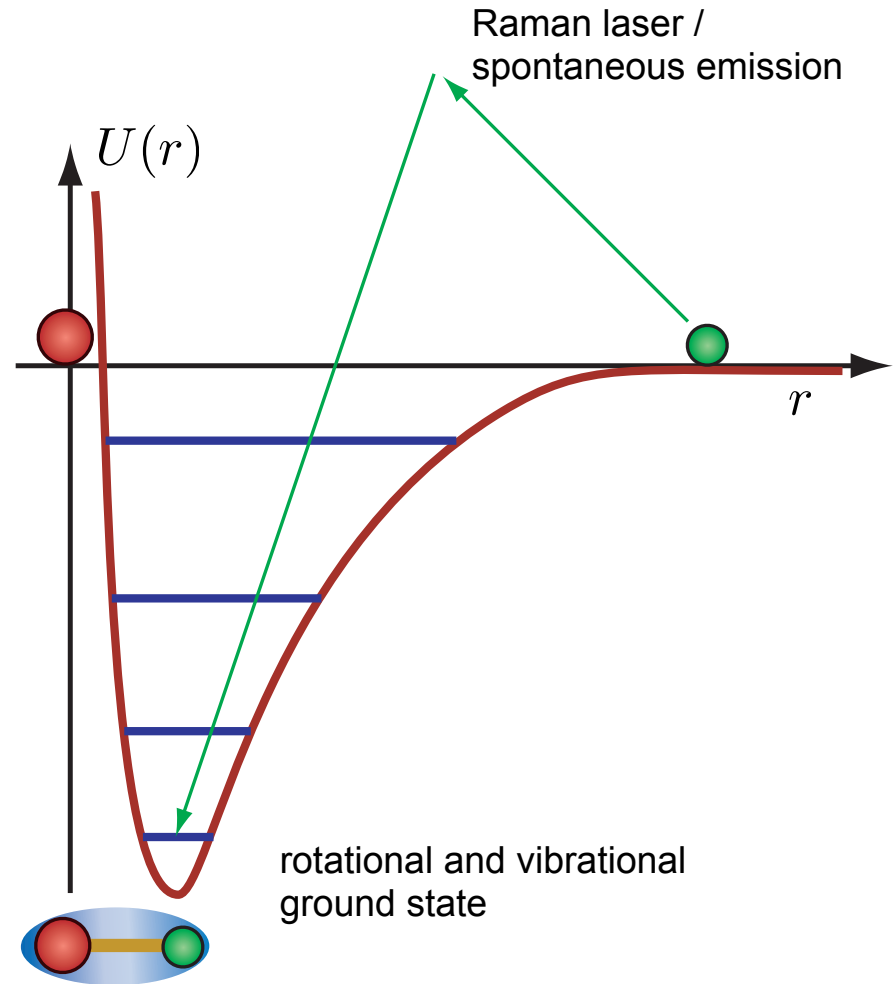
Spin toolbox

- polar molecules with spin
- realization of Kitaev model
(A. Micheli, G. Brennen, P. Zoller, Nature Physics 2006)

Polar molecules

Experimental status

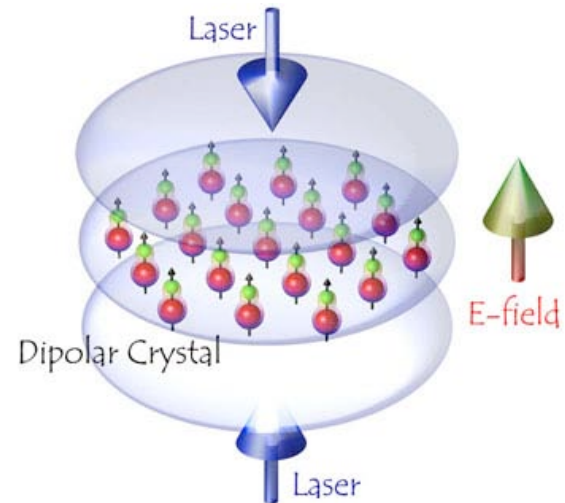
- Polar molecules in the rotational and vibrational ground state
- cooling and trapping techniques beeing developement:
 - cooling of polar molecules:
e.g. stark decelerator
 - D. DeMille, Yale
 - J. Doyle, Harvard
 - G. Rempe, Munich
 - G. Meijer, Berlin
 - J. Ye, JILA
 - photo association
see J. Ye's talk
(all cold atom labs)
- bosonic molecules with closed electronic shell, e.g., SrO, RbCs, LiCs



Polar molecules

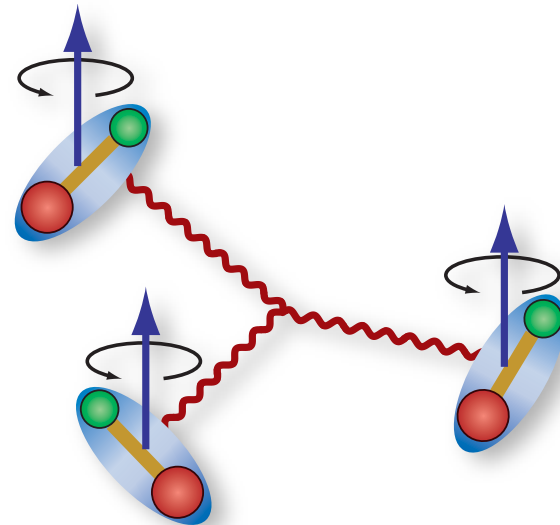
Crystalline phases

- long range dipole-dipole interaction
- interaction energy exceeds kinetic energy



Three-body interaction

- extended Hubbard models
- tunable three-body interaction



Interaction between polar molecules

Hamiltonian

$$H^{(1,2)} = \sum_{i=1}^2 \left[\frac{\mathbf{p}_i^2}{2m} + V_{\text{trap}}(\mathbf{r}_i) + B\mathbf{N}_i^2 - \mathbf{d}_i \mathbf{E} \right] + \frac{\mathbf{d}_1 \mathbf{d}_2 - 3(\mathbf{d}_1 \mathbf{n})(\mathbf{d}_2 \mathbf{n})}{r^3}$$

kinetic
energy

trapping
potential

rigid
rotor

electric
field

interaction
potential

Without external drive

- van der Waals
attraction

$$V_{\text{vdW}}(\mathbf{r}) = -\frac{C_6}{r^6} \quad C_6 \approx d^4/6B$$

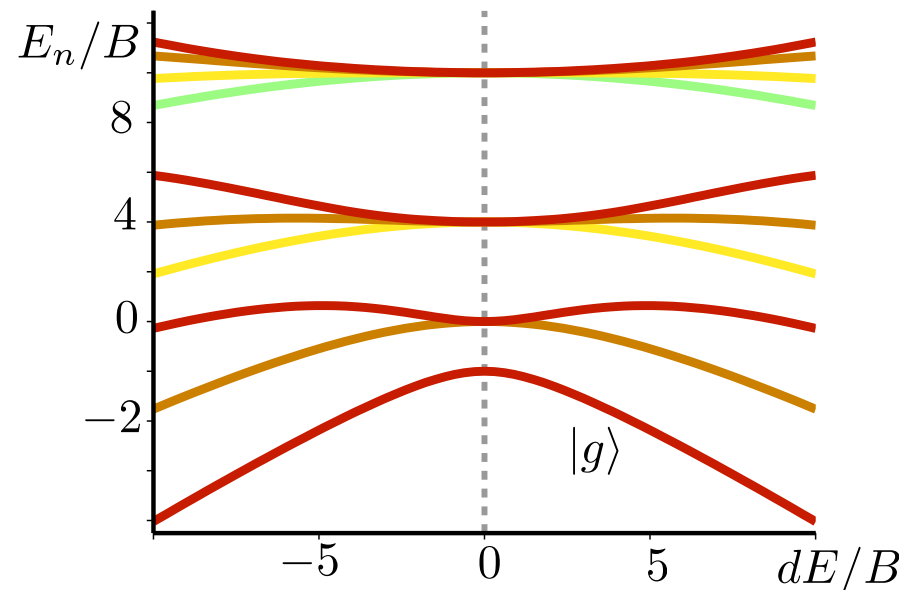
Static electric field

- internal Hamiltonian

$$H_{\text{rot}}^{(i)} = B\mathbf{N}_i^2 - \mathbf{d}_i \mathbf{E}$$

- finite averaged dipole moment

$$D = |\langle g | \mathbf{d}_i | g \rangle|^2 \leq d^2$$



Dipole-dipole interaction

Dipole-dipole interaction

- anisotropic interaction
- long-range

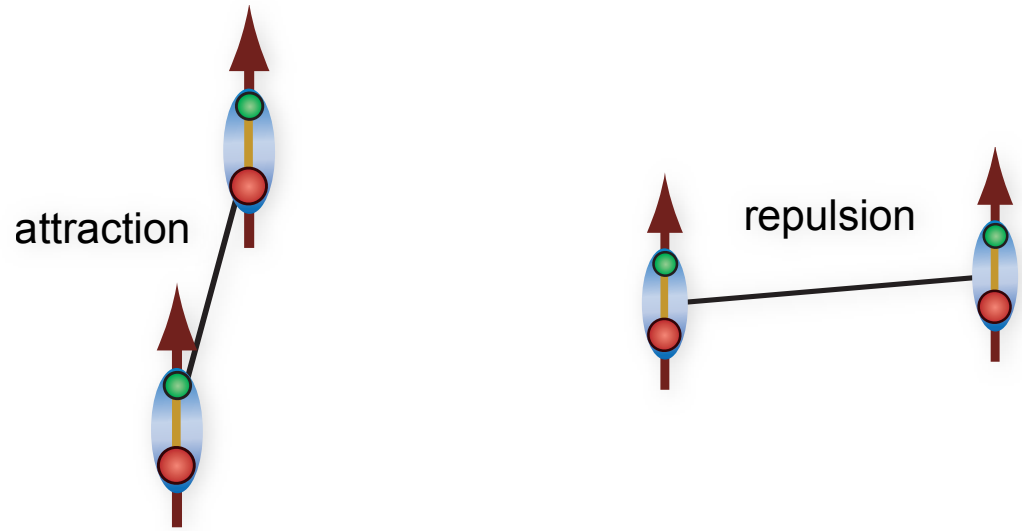
$$V(\mathbf{r}) = D \left[\frac{1}{r^3} - 3 \frac{z^2}{r^5} \right]$$

- Born-Oppenheimer

valid for:

$$r > R_{\text{rot}} = (D/B)^{1/3}$$

$$r > (Ed/D)^{1/3}$$



attraction

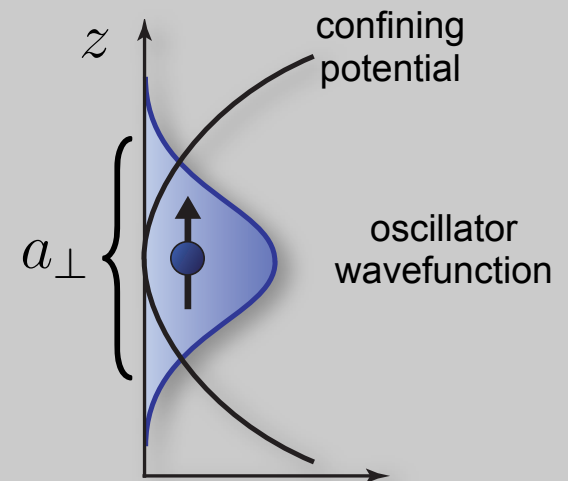
Instability in the many-body system

- collapse of the system for increasing dipole interaction
 - roton softening
 - supersolids?
- (Goral et al. '02, L. Santos et al. '03, Shlyapnikov '06)

$$\frac{Dm}{\hbar^2 a_s} \gtrsim 1$$

Stability:

- strong interactions
- confining into 2D by an optical lattice



Stability via transverse confining

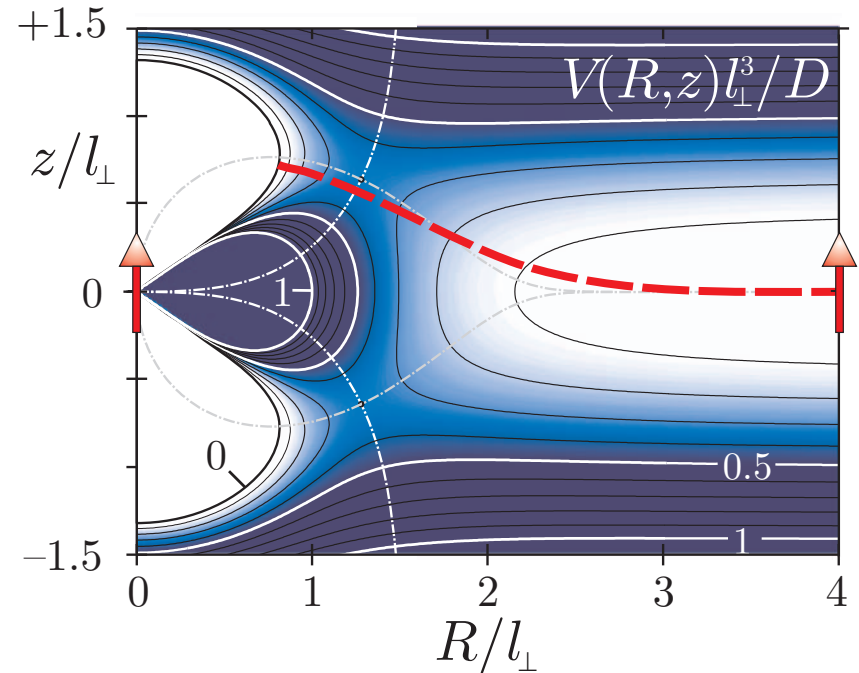
Effective interaction

- interaction potential with transverse trapping potential

$$V(\mathbf{r}) = D \left[\frac{1}{r^3} - 3 \frac{z^2}{r^5} \right] + \frac{m\omega_z^2}{2} z^2$$

- characteristic length scale $l_{\perp} = \left(\frac{Dm}{\hbar^2 a_{\perp}} \right)^{1/5} a_{\perp}$

- potential barrier: larger than kinetic energy



Tunneling rate:

- semi-classical rate (instanton techniques)

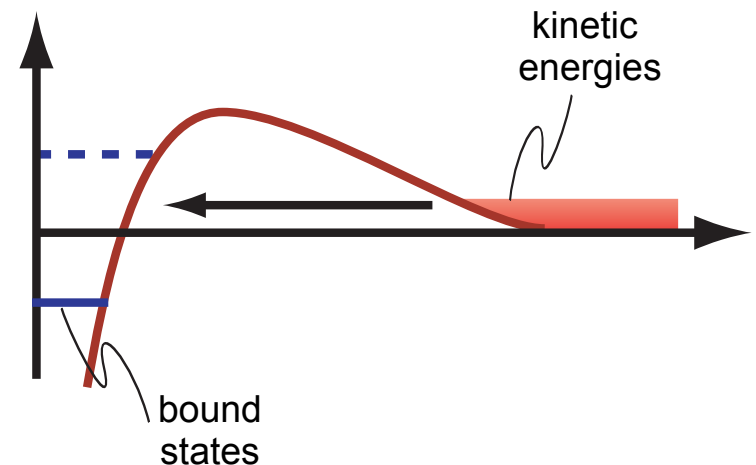
$$\Gamma = A \exp(-S_E/\hbar)$$

attempt frequency

- Euclidean action of the instanton trajectory

$$S_E = \hbar \left(\frac{Dm}{\hbar^2 a_{\perp}} \right)^{2/5} C$$

numerical factor: $C \approx 5.8$



Crystalline phase

Hamiltonian

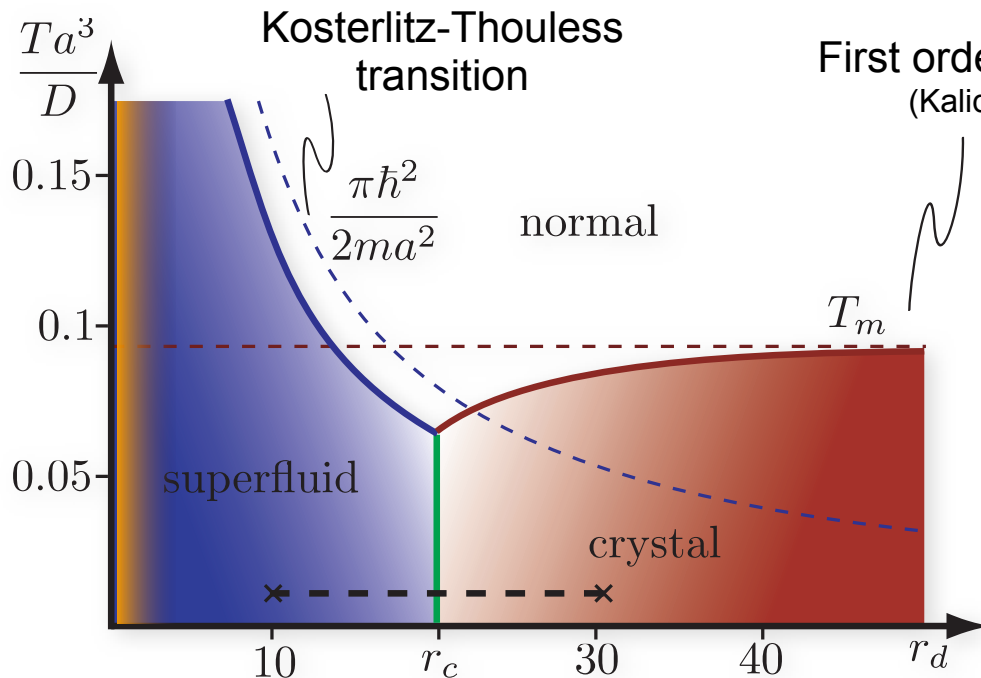
- polar molecules confined into a two-dimensional plane

$$H_{\text{eff}} = \sum_i \frac{\mathbf{p}_i^2}{2m} + \frac{D}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_j|^3}$$

interaction strength:

$$r_d = \frac{E_{\text{int}}}{E_{\text{kin}}} = \frac{Dm}{\hbar^2 a}$$

$$r_d = 1 - 300$$



Quantum melting

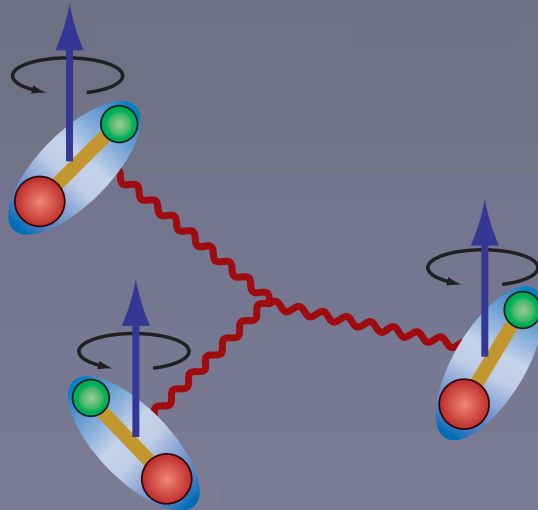
(H.P. Büchler, E. Demler, M. Lukin, A. Micheli, G. Pupillo, P. Zoller, PRL 2007)

- indication of a first order transition
- critical interaction strength

$$r_d \approx 20$$

Three-body interactions

$$V_{\text{eff}}(\{\mathbf{r}_i\}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} V(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j) + \frac{1}{6} \sum_{i \neq j \neq k} W(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_j, \mathbf{r}_k) + \dots$$



H.P. Büchler, A. Micheli, and P. Zoller
cond-mat/0703688 (2007).

Single polar molecule

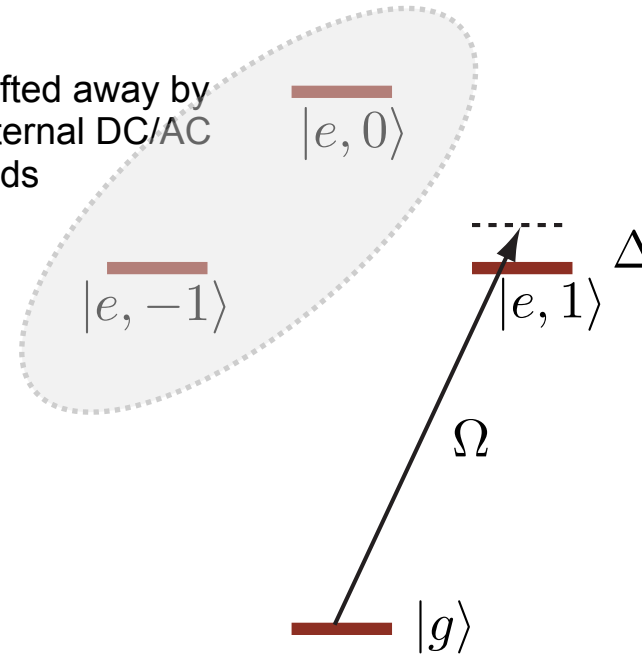
Static electric field

- along the z-axes
- splitting the degeneracy of the first excited states degeneracy
- induces finite dipole moments

$$d_g = \langle g | d_z | g \rangle$$

$$d_e = \langle e, 1 | d_z | e, 1 \rangle$$

shifted away by
external DC/AC
fields



Mircowave field

- coupling the state $|g\rangle$ and $|e, 1\rangle$

Δ : detuning

Ω : rabi frequency

- restrict to two states
- ignore influence of $|e, -1\rangle$
- rotating wave approximation

- anharmonic spectrum
- electric dipole transition

$$\Delta N = \pm 1 \quad \Delta m_z = -1, 0, 1$$

- microwave transition frequencies
- no spontaneous emission

Many-body Hamiltonian

Many-body Hamiltonian

$$H = \sum_i \frac{\mathbf{p}_i^2}{2m} + \underbrace{\sum_i V_{\text{trap}}(\mathbf{r}_i)}_{\text{external potentials}} + \sum_i H_0^{(i)} + \underbrace{H_{\text{int}}^{\text{stat}} + H_{\text{int}}^{\text{ex}}}_{\text{dipole-Dipole interaction}}$$

- external potentials:
 - trapping potential
 - optical lattices

- dipole-Dipole interaction
- restriction to the two internal states:

$$|g\rangle_i \quad |e, 1\rangle_i$$

Two-level System

- rotating wave approximation

$$H_0^{(i)} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \Delta & \Omega \\ \Omega & -\Delta \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{hS}_i$$

- two-level system in an effective magnetic field

- two eigenstates

$$|+\rangle_i = \alpha|g\rangle_i + \beta|e, 1\rangle_i$$

$$|-\rangle_i = -\beta|g\rangle_i + \alpha|e, 1\rangle_i$$

and energies

$$E_{\pm} = \pm \sqrt{\Omega^2 + \Delta^2} / 2$$

Dipole-dipole interaction

Microwave photon exchange

$$- D = |\langle e, 1 | \mathbf{d} | g \rangle|^2 \approx d^2 / 3$$

$$H_{\text{int}}^{\text{ex}} = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{D}{2} \nu(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j) [S_i^+ S_j^- + S_j^+ S_i^-]$$

dipole-dipole interaction $\nu(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1 - \cos \theta}{r^3}$

Induced dipole moments

$$- \eta_{d,g} = d_{e,g} / \sqrt{D}$$

$$P_i = |g\rangle\langle g|_i$$

$$H_{\text{int}}^{\text{stat}} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} D \nu(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j) [\eta_g P_i + \eta_e Q_i] [\eta_g P_j + \eta_e Q_j]$$

$$Q_i = |e, 1\rangle\langle e, 1|_i$$

Born-Oppenheimer potentials

Effective interaction

- (i) diagonalizing the internal Hamiltonian for fixed interparticle distance $\{\mathbf{r}_i\}$.

$$\sum_i H_0^{(i)} + H_{\text{int}}^{\text{stat}} + H_{\text{int}}^{\text{ex}}$$

- (ii) The eigenenergies $E(\{\mathbf{r}_i\})$ describe the Born-Oppenheimer potential a given state manifold.

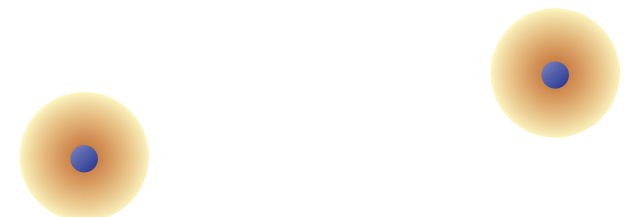
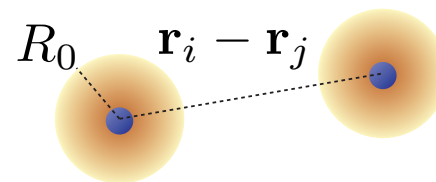
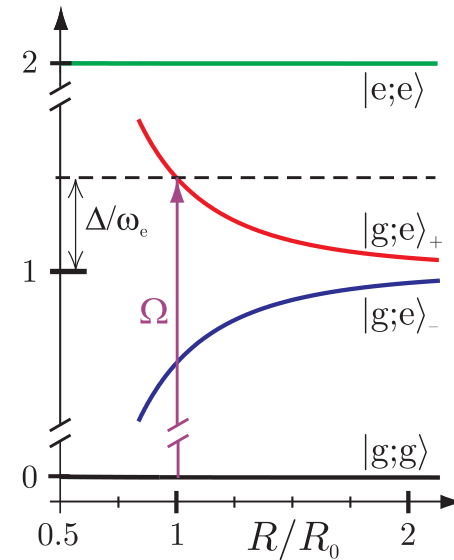
- (iii) Adiabatically connected to the groundstate

$$|G\rangle = \prod_i |+\rangle_i$$

“weak” dipole interaction

$$\frac{D}{\sqrt{\Delta^2 + \Omega^2}} = R_0^3 \ll a^3$$

interparticle distance

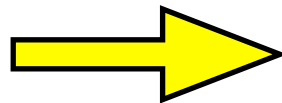


Born-Oppenheimer potential

First order perturbation

- $E^{(1)}(\{\mathbf{r}_i\}) = \langle G | H_{\text{int}}^{\text{ex}} + H_{\text{int}}^{\text{stat}} | G \rangle$
- $|G\rangle = \prod_i (\alpha |g\rangle_i + \beta |e, 1\rangle_1)$

$$E^{(1)}(\{\mathbf{r}_i\}) = \frac{1}{2} \lambda_1 \sum_{i \neq j} D\nu(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j)$$



dipole-dipole
interaction:

$$V_{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{r}) = \lambda_1 \frac{1 - 3 \cos \theta}{r^3}$$

Dimensionless coupling parameter

- $\lambda_1 = (\alpha^2 \eta_g + \beta^2 \eta_e)^2 - \alpha^2 \beta^2$
- tunable by the external electric field dE/B and the ratio Ω/Δ .

- for a magic rabi frequency the
dipole-dipole interaction vanishes

$$\lambda_1 = 0$$

Born-Oppenheimer potential

Second order perturbation

$$E^{(2)}(\{\mathbf{r}_i\}) = \sum_{k \neq i \neq j} \frac{|M|^2}{\sqrt{\Delta^2 + \Omega^2}} D^2 \nu(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_k) \nu(\mathbf{r}_j - \mathbf{r}_k) + \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{|N|^2}{\sqrt{\Delta^2 + \Omega^2}} [D \nu(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j)]^2$$

: three-body interaction

: repulsive two-body interaction

Matrix elements

$$M = \alpha\beta [(\alpha^2\eta_g + \beta^2\eta_e)(\eta_e - \eta_g) + (\beta^2 - \alpha^2)/2]$$

$$N = \alpha^2\beta^2 [(\eta_e - \eta_g)^2 + 1]$$

Effective Hamiltonian

Effective interaction

$$V_{\text{eff}}(\{\mathbf{r}_i\}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} V(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j) + \frac{1}{6} \sum_{i \neq j \neq k} W(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_j, \mathbf{r}_k)$$

- two-body interaction

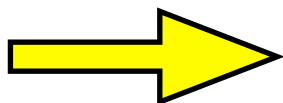
$$V(\mathbf{r}) = \lambda_1 D \nu(\mathbf{r}) + \lambda_2 D R_0^3 [\nu(\mathbf{r})]^2$$

- three-body interaction

$$W(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3) = \gamma_2 R_0^3 D [\nu(\mathbf{r}_{12})\nu(\mathbf{r}_{13}) + \nu(\mathbf{r}_{12})\nu(\mathbf{r}_{23}) + \nu(\mathbf{r}_{13})\nu(\mathbf{r}_{23})]$$

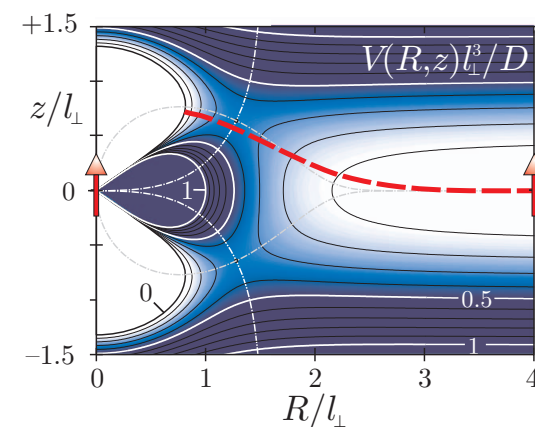
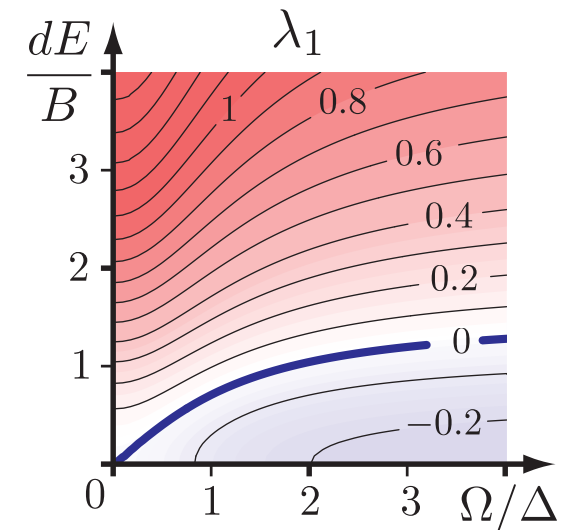
- validity is restricted to

$$\frac{D}{\sqrt{\Delta^2 + \Omega^2}} = R_0^3 \ll a^3 \quad \text{interparticle distance}$$

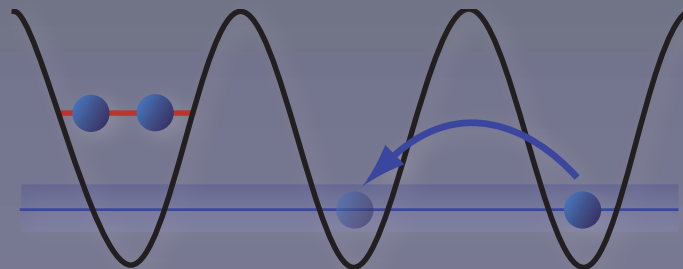


(i) transverse confining into 2D

(ii) vanishing dipole-dipole interaction



Bose-Hubbard model



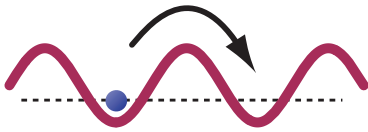
Hubbard model

Extended Bose-Hubbard models

- hardcore bosons

$$H = -J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} b_i^\dagger b_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} U_{ij} n_i n_j + \frac{1}{6} \sum_{i \neq j \neq k} W_{ijk} n_i n_j n_k.$$

hopping energy



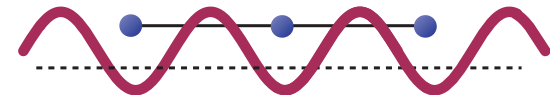
- interaction parameters
for strong optical lattices

two-body interaction



$$U_{ij} = V(\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_j)$$

three-body interaction



$$W_{ijk} = W(\mathbf{R}_i, \mathbf{R}_j, \mathbf{R}_k)$$

Polar molecule: LiCs:

- dipole moment

$$d \approx 6 \text{ Debye}$$

- hopping energy

$$J/E_r \sim 0 - 0.5$$

- lattice spacing:

$$\lambda \approx 1000 \text{ nm}$$

$$E_r \approx 1.4 \text{ kHz}$$

- nearest neighbor
interaction:

$$U/E_r \sim 30$$

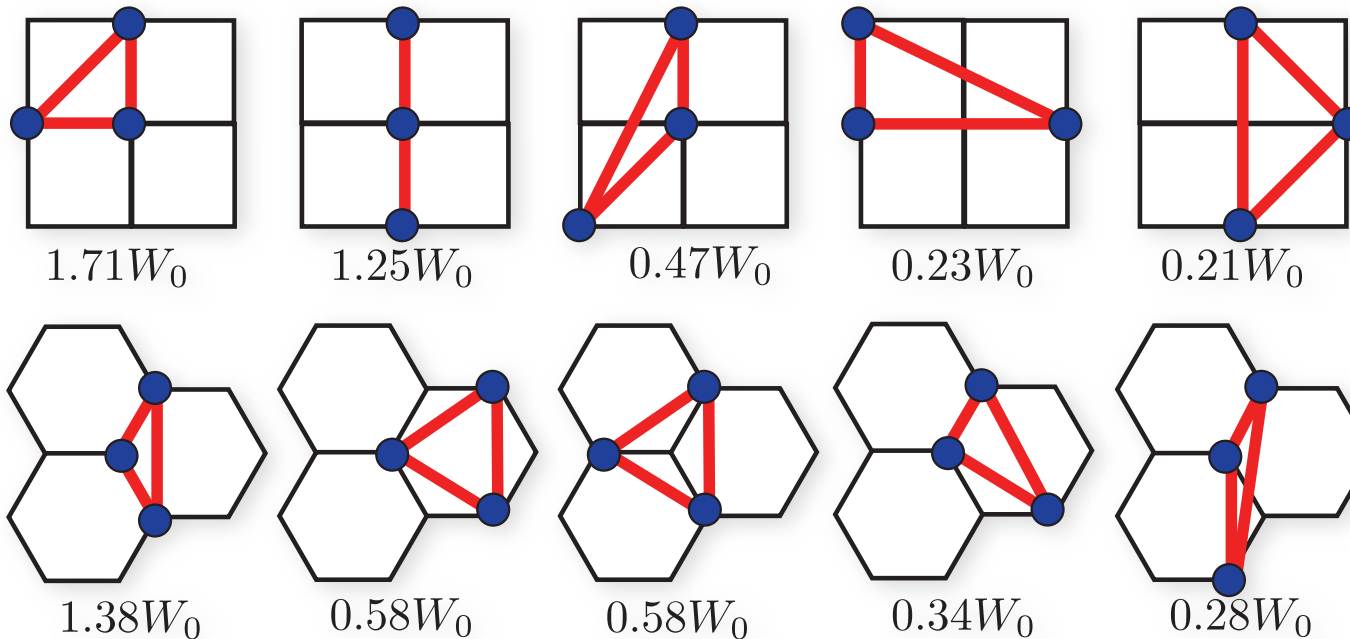
$$W/E_r \sim 30 (R_0/a_L)^3$$

Hubbard model

Three-body interaction

- next-nearest neighbor terms

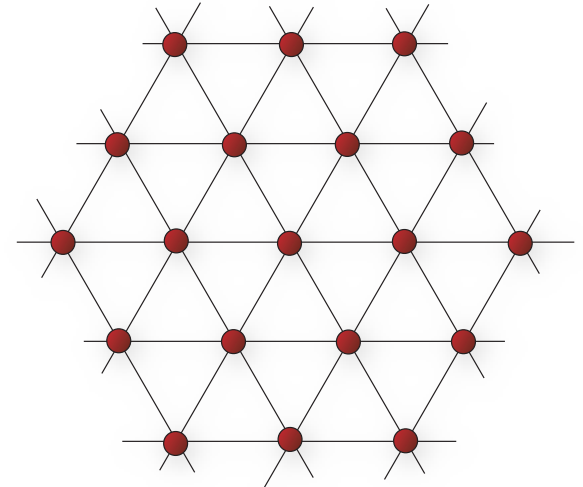
$$W_{ijk} = W_0 \left[\frac{a^6}{|\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_j|^3 |\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_k|^3} + perm \right]$$



Supersolids on a triangular lattice

$$H = -J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} b_i^\dagger b_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} U_{ij} n_i n_j$$

$$U_{ij} \sim \frac{1}{|i - j|^3} \quad : \text{static electric field}$$



Quantum Monte Carlo simulations

Wessel and Troyer, PRL (2005)

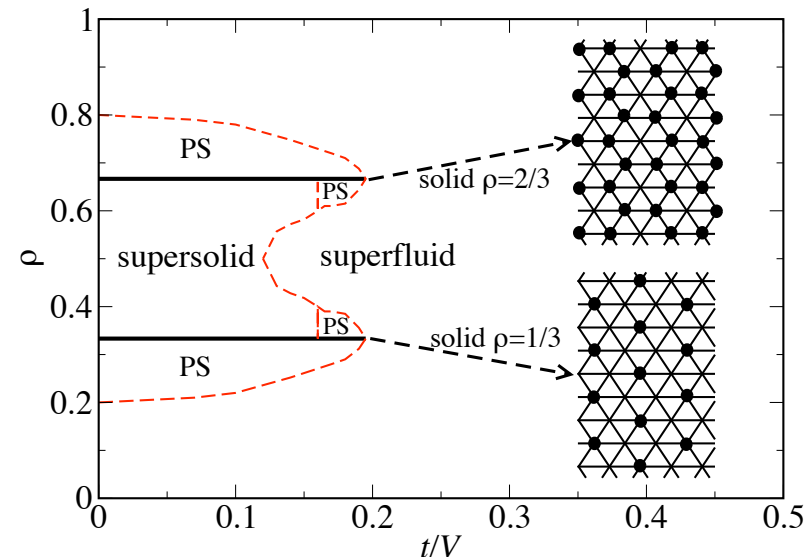
Melko *et al.*, PRB, (2006)

- supersolid close to half filling and strong nearest neighbor interactions

$$n = 1/2$$

$$U/J \gtrsim 10$$

- stable under next-nearest neighbor interactions



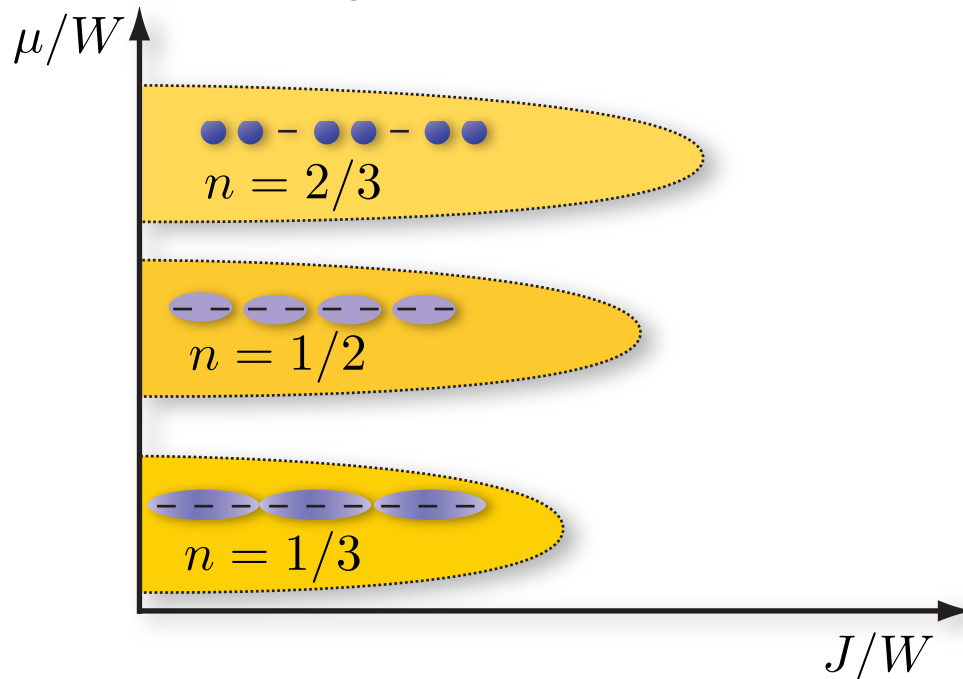
One-dimensional model

next-nearest neighbor interactions

$$H = -J \sum_i b_i^\dagger b_{i+1} + W \sum_i n_{i-1} n_i n_{i+1} - \mu \sum_i n_i + H_{\text{n.n.n.}}$$

Bosonization

- hard-core bosons
- instabilities for densities:
 - $n = 2/3$ $n = 1/2$ $n = 1/3$
- quantum Monte Carlo simulations (in progress)



Critical phase

- algebraic correlations
- compressible
- repulsive fermions

Solid phases

- excitation gap
- incompressible
- density-density correlations

$$\langle \Delta n_i \Delta n_j \rangle$$

- hopping correlations (1D VBS)

$$\langle b_i^\dagger b_{i+1} b_j^\dagger b_{j+1} \rangle$$

Conclusion and Outlook

Polar molecular crystal

- reduced three-body collisions
- strong coupling to cavity QED
- ideal quantum storage devices

Lattice structure

- alternative to optical lattices
- tunable lattice parameters
- strong phonon coupling: polarons

Extended Hubbard models

- strong nearest neighbor interaction
- three-body interaction

Novel quantum matter

- supersolid phases
- string nets?

