

The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics



International Atomic Energy Agency

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SCHOOL ON QUANTUM PHASE TRANSITIONS AND NON-EQUILIBRIUM PHENOMENA IN COLD ATOMIC GASES

11 - 22 July 2005

Ultracold Atoms in optical lattice potentials

Presented by:

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ICTP School on Quantum Phase Transitions and Non-Equilibrium Phenomena in Cold Atomic Gases 2005

Ultracold Atoms in optical lattice potentials

Experiments at the interface between atomic physics and condensed matter physics, quantum optics, molecular physics and quantum information

Markus Greiner



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most experiments discussed in this lecture have been performed in the group of Ted Hänsch and I. Bloch at the

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, München and Max-Planck-Institut für Quantenoptik, Garching.

I am presently at JILA, Boulder, Co, in the group of D. Jin, working with fermionic condensates.







Ultracold Atoms in optical lattice potentials

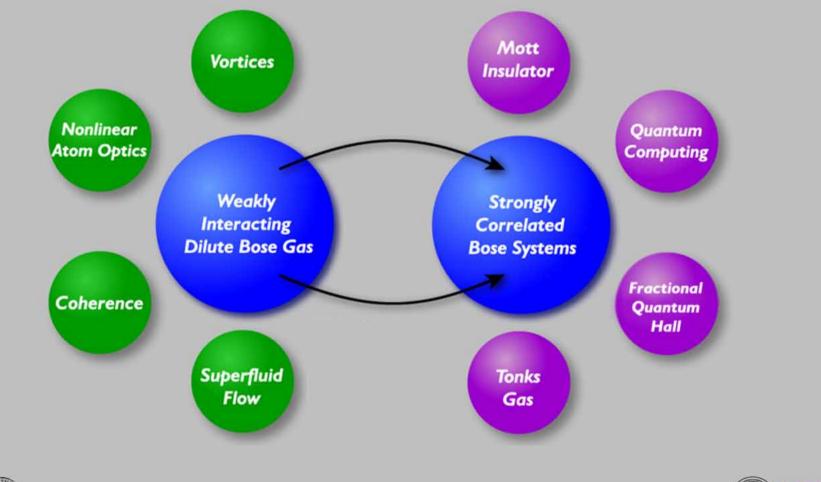


- 1. Typical experimental setup
- 2. Bose Einstein condensates in optical lattice potentials
- 3. Quantum phase transition from a superfluid to a Mott insulator

Thursday lecture: Advanced topics

- 4. Collapse and revival of a macroscopic matter wave field due to cold collisions
- 5. Quantum gates with neutral atoms
- 6. Low dimensional systems

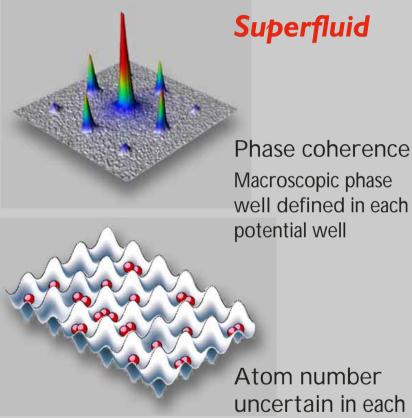
Introduction







Superfluid – Mott Insulator Transition



Superfluid

Mott Insulator

No Phase coherence Macroscopic phase uncertain in each potential well

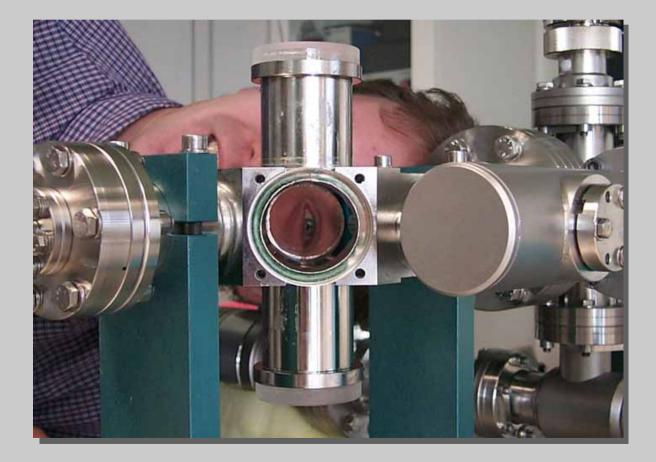
Atom number uncertain in each potential well

Atom number exactly known in each potential well

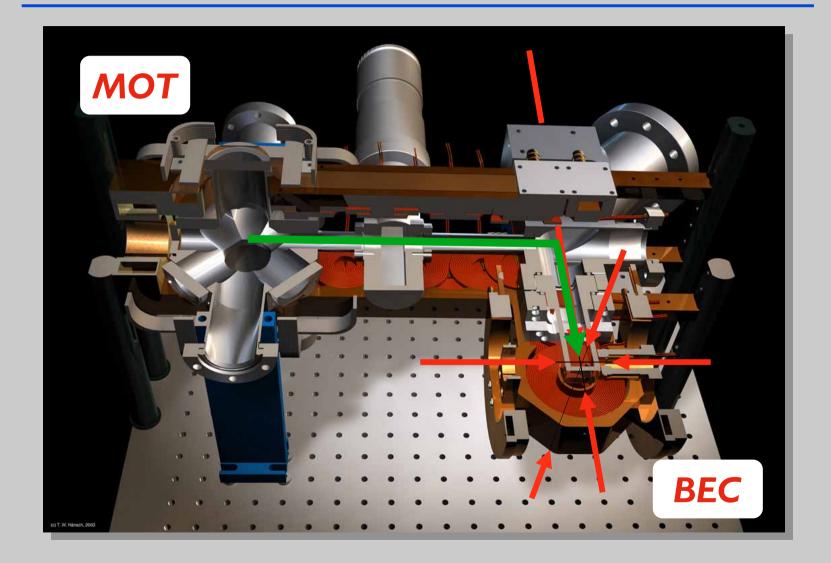
 \rightarrow atom number correlations

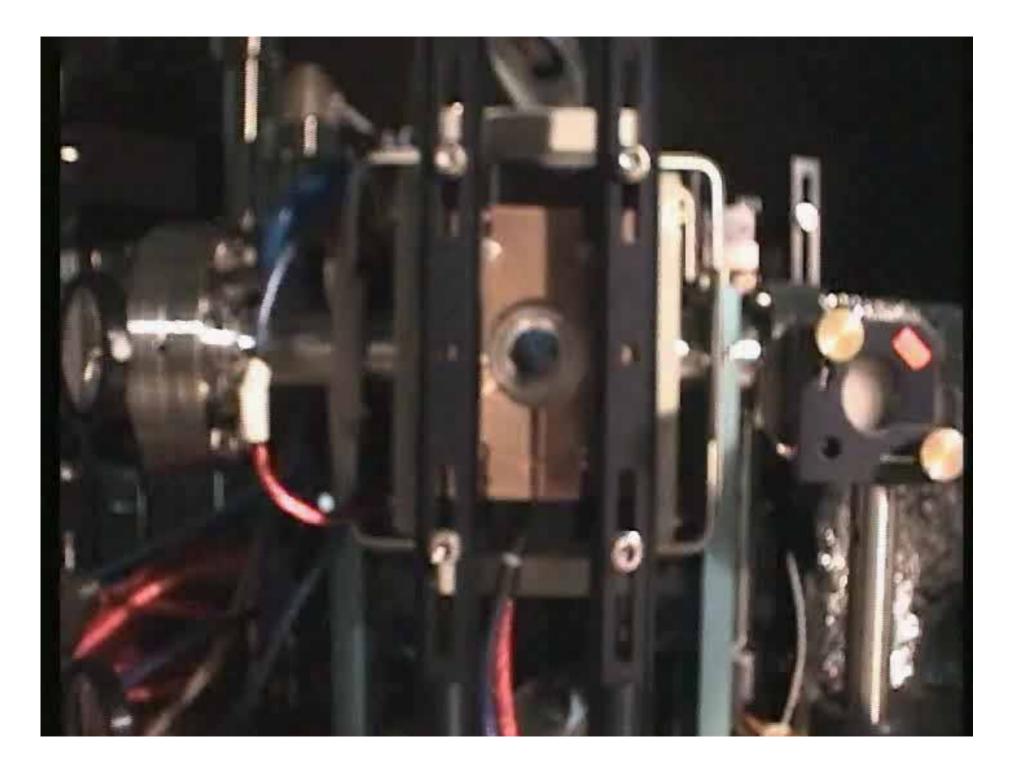
Theory: M.P.A. Fisher et al, Proposal: D. Jaksch et al.

I. Experimental setup for lattice experiments



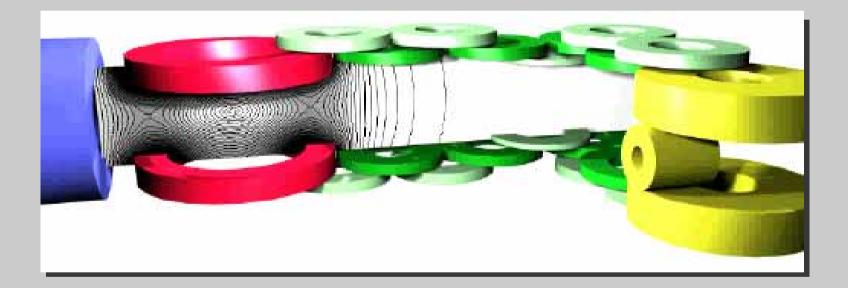
Magnetic Transport of Cold Atoms





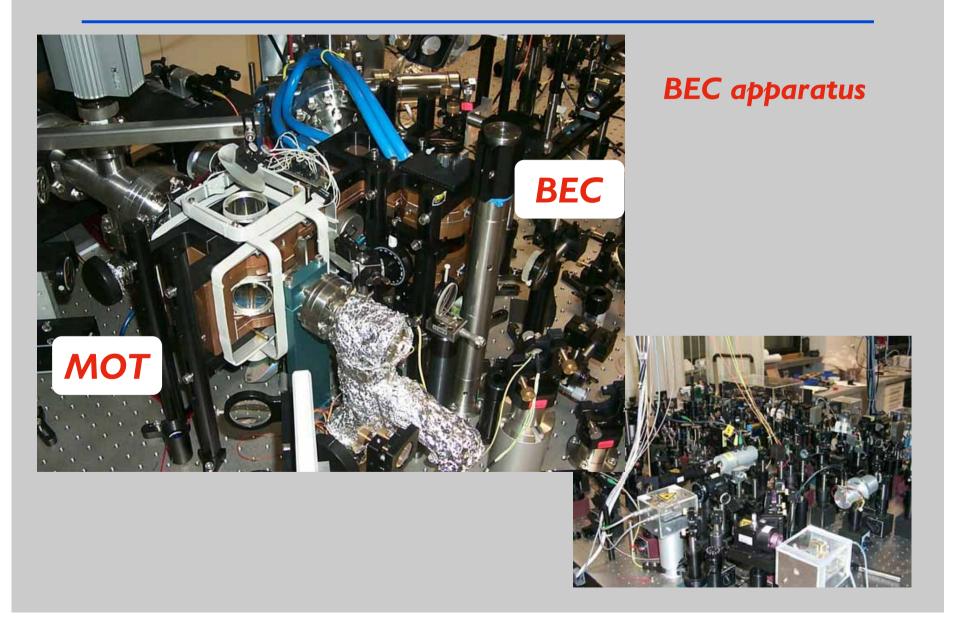
Magnetic Transport of Cold Atoms

Magnetic transport of atoms

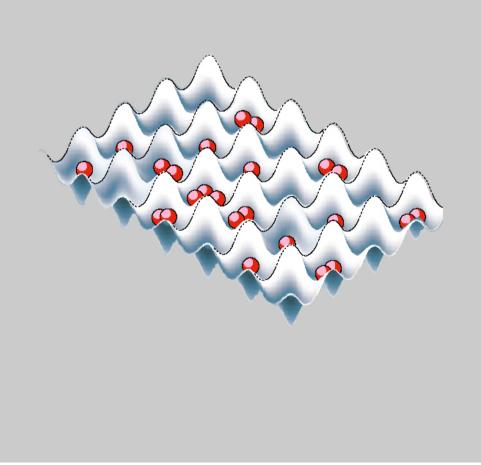


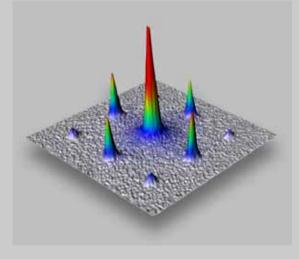
M. Greiner et al., PRA 63, 031401

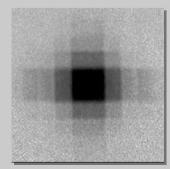
Experimental setup



2. Bose einstein condensates in optical lattice potentials







Trapping Atoms in Light Field -Optical Dipole Potentials

An electric field induces a dipole moment:

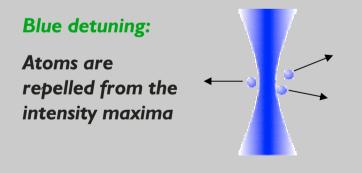
$$\vec{d} = \alpha \vec{E}$$

Energy of a dipole in an electric field:

$$U_{dip} = -\vec{d} \cdot \vec{E}$$

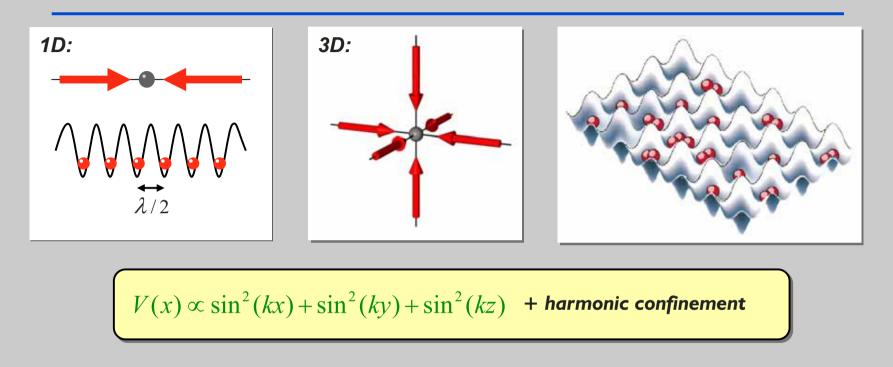
$$\left[U_{dip} \propto -\alpha(\omega) I(\vec{r}) \right]$$





See R. Grimm et al., Adv. At. Mol. Opt. Phys. 42, 95-170 (2000).

3D periodic optical dipole potential



- Resulting potential consists of a simple cubic lattice
- BEC coherently populates more than 100,000 lattice sites

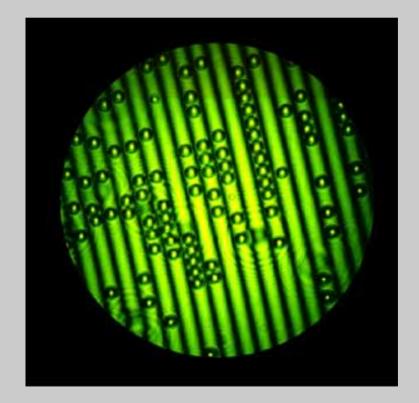
See eg. Jessen and Deutsch, Adv. At. Mol Opt. Phys. 37, (1996) R. Grimm et al., Adv. At. Mol. Opt. Phys. 42, 95-170 (2000).

$$V_0$$
 up to 40 E_{recoil} ω_r up to 2 π \times 50 kHz n \approx 1-3 atoms on average per site

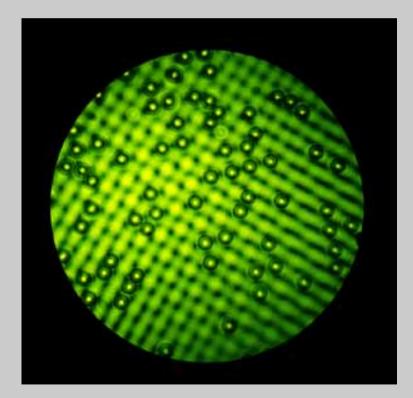
Optical dipole trap also possible with classical particles

"Optical lattice" : 4 μ m polystyrol particles in water conservative light force for macroscipic particles \rightarrow optical tweezers

2 beam lattice:

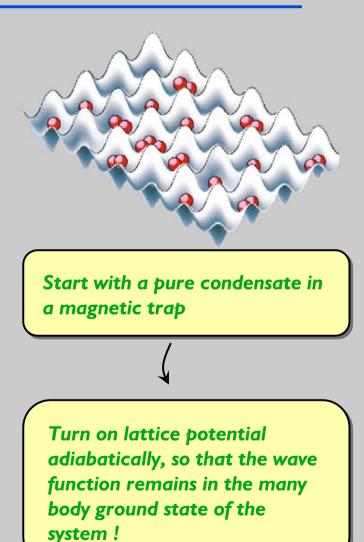


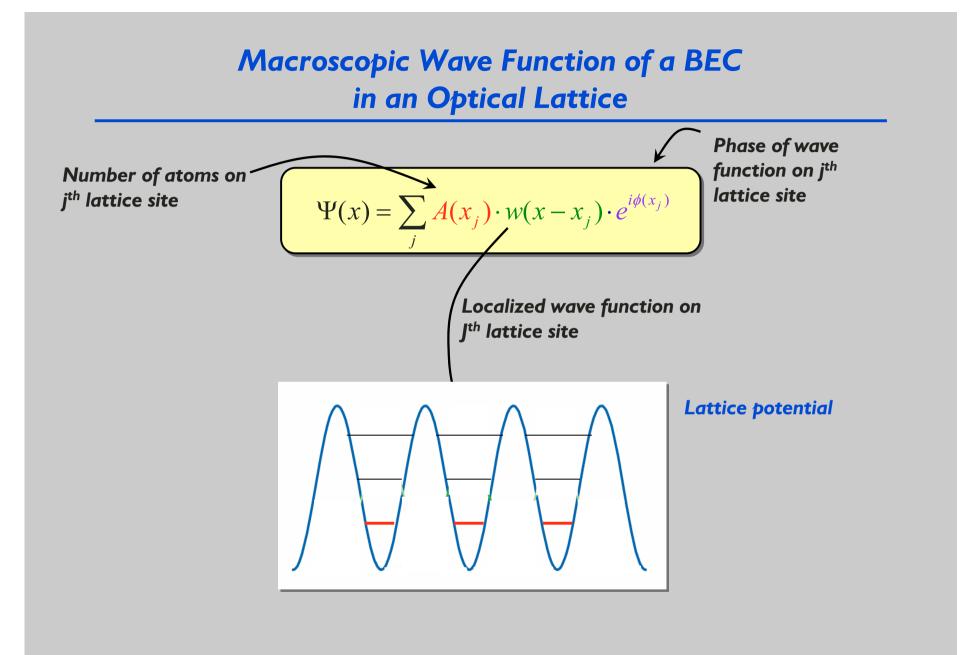
4 beam lattice:



Typical lattice parameters for a 3D lattice

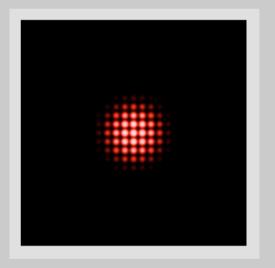
Atomic Species	⁸⁷ Rb
Wavelength	830-850 nm
Waist (I/e²)	I 25 μm
Polarization	Orthogonal between standing wave pairs
Intensity control	All beams intensity stabilized
Lattice geometry	Simple cubic
Lattice spacing	425 nm





Detecting the Atoms in the Lattice

Spacing between neighboring lattice sites (\approx 425 nm) is too small to be detectable by optical means !



(simulation)

Switch off the lattice light

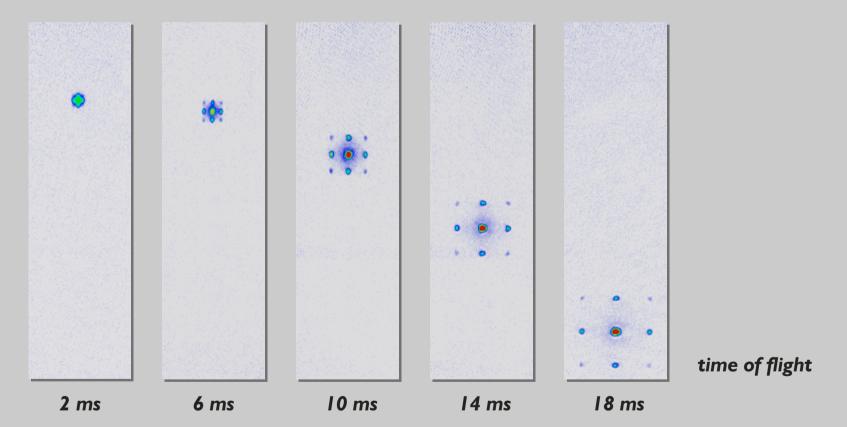
Localized wavefunctions expand and interfere with each other

Observe the multiple matter wave interference pattern !

→ Momentum distribution

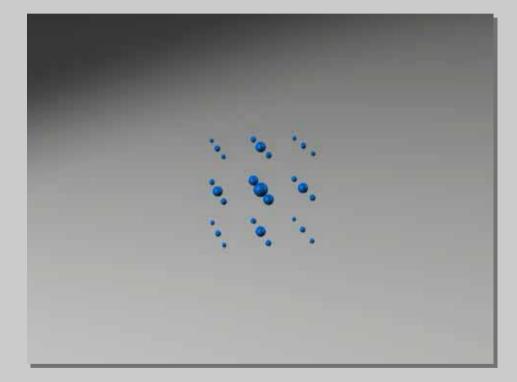
Matter Wave Interference Pattern of a BEC in an Optical Lattice

Time of flight measurement



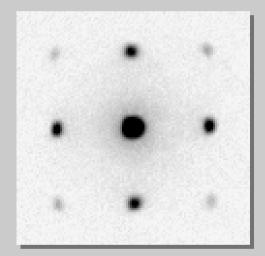
Individual condensates in the lattice expand and interfere with each other, revealing the momentum distribution of the atoms in the lattice.

Interference Pattern of a 3D Lattice



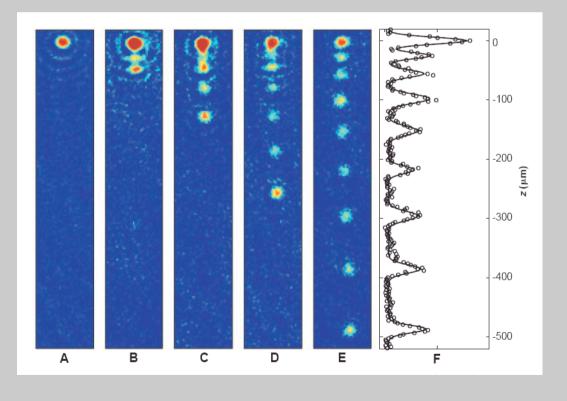
Time of flight images

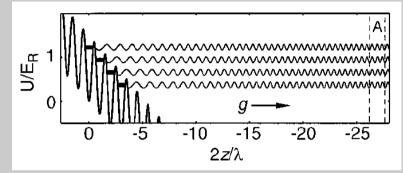
→ Momentum distribution



First BEC lattice experiments

Kasevich (Yale) BEC in a vertically oriented lattice → coherent matter waves tunnel out of each lattice site, interfere, and form "**pulsed atom laser**"



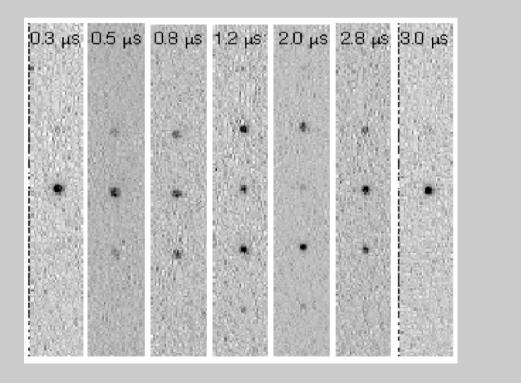


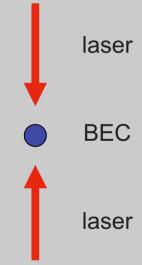
Anderson *et al.,* Science 282,1686 (1998)

First BEC lattice experiments

Bragg type lattices:

lattice light is pulsed on for a short moment e.g. Bill Phillips group, NIST Ovchinnikov *et al.*, PRL 83, 284 (1999)





First BEC lattice experiments

1D lattice

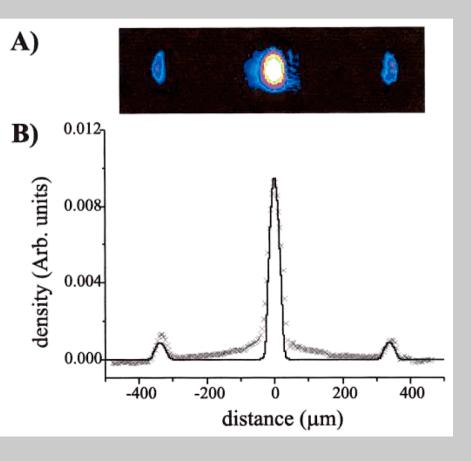
BEC is adiabatically loaded into 1D standing wave, e.g. in Inguscio's group (Florence)

 \rightarrow Studying josephson junction arrays (tunneling, dynamical instabilities ...)

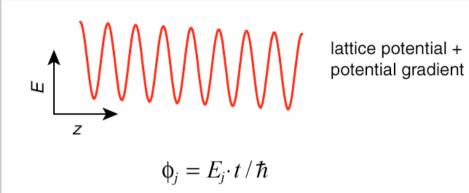
e.g.

Pedri et al., PRL 87, 220401 (2001)

Cataliotti et al., Science 293, 843 (2001)



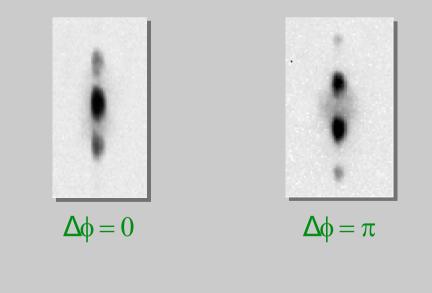
Preparing Arbitrary Phase Differences Between Neighbouring Lattice Sites



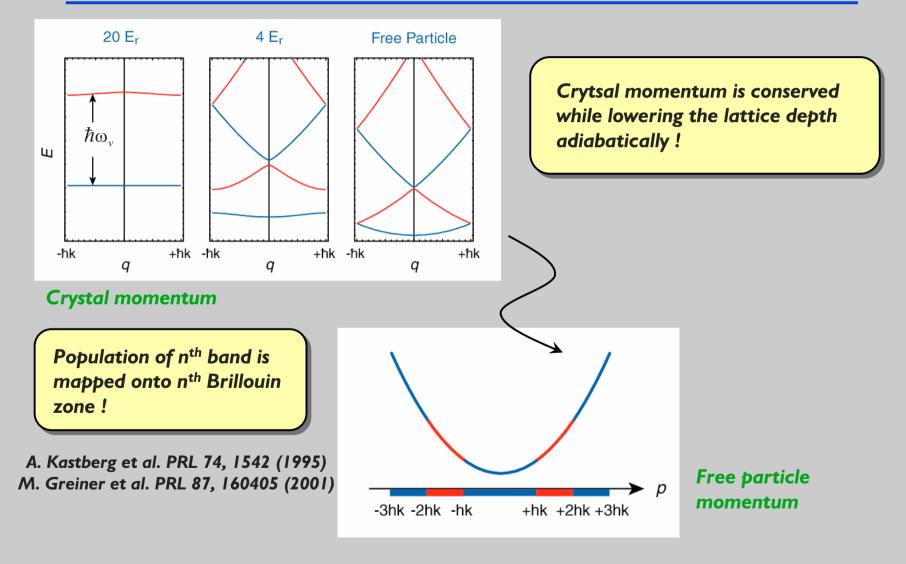
Phase difference between neighboring lattice sites

$$\Delta \phi_j = \left(V' \lambda / 2 \right) \cdot t / \hbar$$

(cp. Bloch-Oscillations)

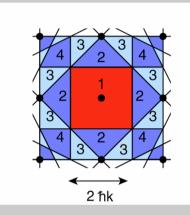


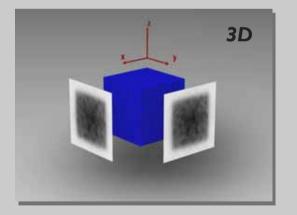
Mapping the Population of the Energy Bands onto the Brillouin Zones



Imaging the Brillouin zones

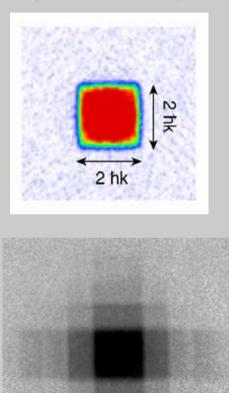
Brillouin Zones in 2D





M. Greiner et al. PRL 87, 160405 (2001)

Momentum distribution of a dephased condensate after turning off the lattice potential adiabtically



2D

Populating higher energy bands by raman transitions

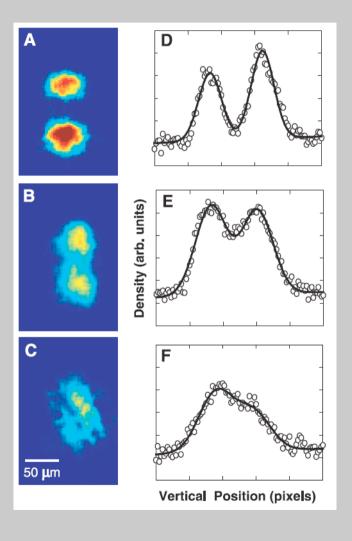
Squeezed states in a Bose-Einstein condensate

In deep optical lattices, repulsive interaction between atoms can cause number squeezing:

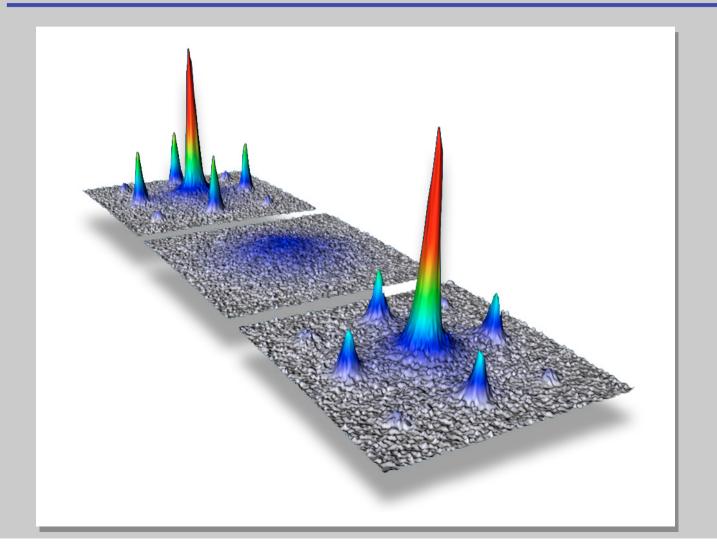
- Atom number fluctuations on each lattice site get reduced
- Therefore the macroscopic phase, as a conjugate variable, becomes more uncertain

This number squeezing has been observed in the experiment of Mark Kasevich for a 1D lattice:

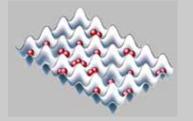
Orzel et al., Science 291, 2386 (2001)



3. Quantum phase transition from a superfluid to a Mott insulator



Bose-Hubbard Hamiltonian



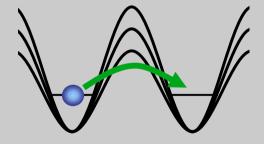
$$H = -J\sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{a}_i^{\dagger} \hat{a}_j + \frac{1}{2}U\sum_i \hat{n}_i(\hat{n}_i - 1)$$

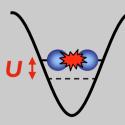
Tunneling term:

J: tunneling matrix element $\hat{a}_i^{\dagger}\hat{a}_i$: tunneling from site j to site i Interaction term:

 \boldsymbol{U} : on-site interaction matrix element

 $\hat{n}_i(\hat{n}_i-1)$: n atoms collide with n-1 atoms on same site





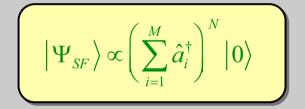
Ratio between tunneling J and interaction U can be widely varied by changing depth of 3D lattice potential!

MI in opt. latt.: proposed by Dieter Jaksch et al. in the group of Peter Zoller, Innsbruck M.P.A. Fisher et al, PRB 40, 546 (1989), D. Jaksch et al., PRL 81, 3108 (1998)

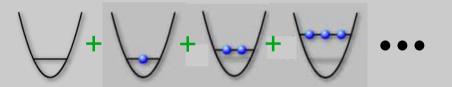
Superfluid Limit

$$H = -J\sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{a}_i^{\dagger} \hat{a}_j + \frac{1}{2}U\sum_i \hat{a}_i(\hat{n}_i - 1)$$

Atoms are delocalized over the entire lattice ! Macroscopic wave function ϕ_i describes this state very well.



$$\varphi_i = \left\langle \hat{a}_i \right\rangle; \quad \left| \Psi \right\rangle_i = e^{-|\varphi_i|^2/2} \sum_n \frac{\varphi_i^n}{\sqrt{n!}} |n\rangle$$



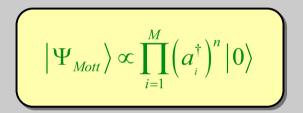
Coherent state with well defined macroscopic phase ϕ_i and poissonian atom number distribution at each lattice site

Atom number distribution after a measurement

Mott-Insulator ground state in the "Atomic Limit"

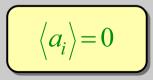
$$H = -J\sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{a}_i^{\dagger} \hat{a}_j + \frac{1}{2}U\sum_i \hat{n}_i(\hat{n}_i - 1)$$

MI ground state: Atoms are completely localized to lattice sites !



Fock states with vanishing atomnumber fluctuation are formed.

 \rightarrow no macroscopic phase



Proposal: Mott with BEC in 3D lattice: D. Jaksch et al., PRL 81, 3108 (1998)

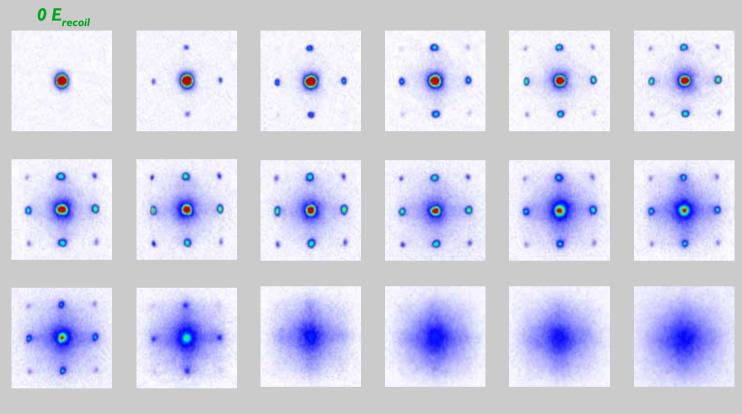
The Simplest Possible "Lattice": 2 Atoms in a Double Well

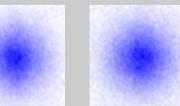
Superfluid State **MI State** $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\phi_l + \phi_r) \otimes \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\phi_l + \phi_r)$ $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\phi_l\otimes\phi_r+\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\phi_r\otimes\phi_l$ 0.25 x 0.25 x +0.5 x < n > = 1< n > = 1 $< E_{int} > = \frac{1}{2} U$ $< E_{int} > = 0$

Average atom number per site:

Average onsite Interaction per site:

Entering the Mott Insulator Regime

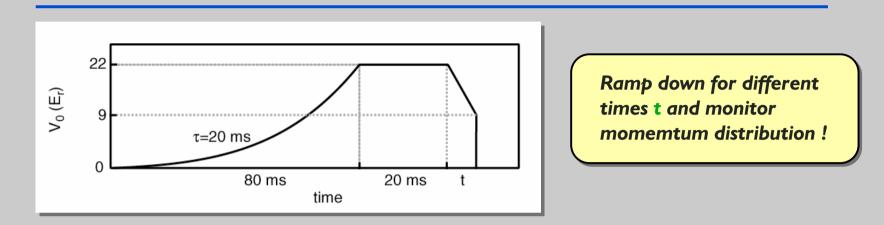


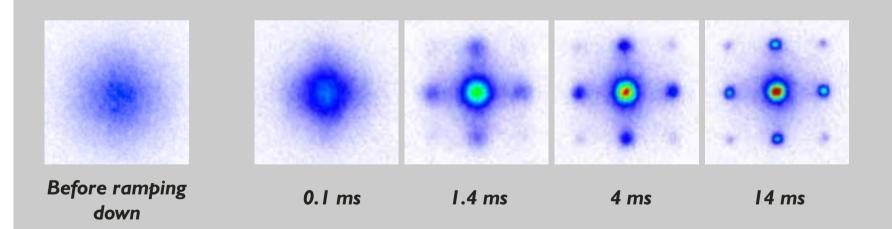


Momentum distribution for different Potential Depths

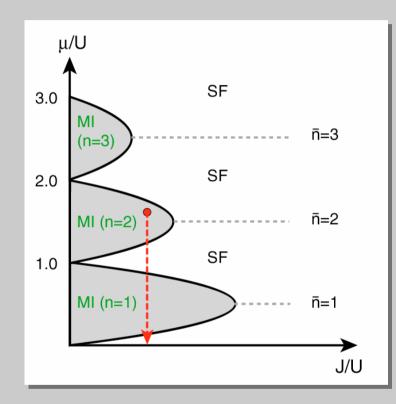
22 E_{recoil}

Can We Restore Coherence ?

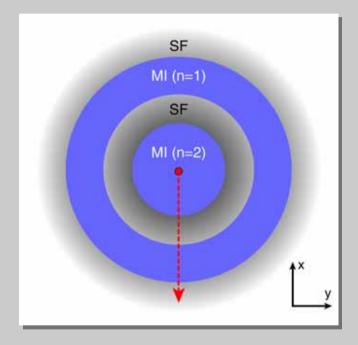




Mott insulator in an inhomogeneous system



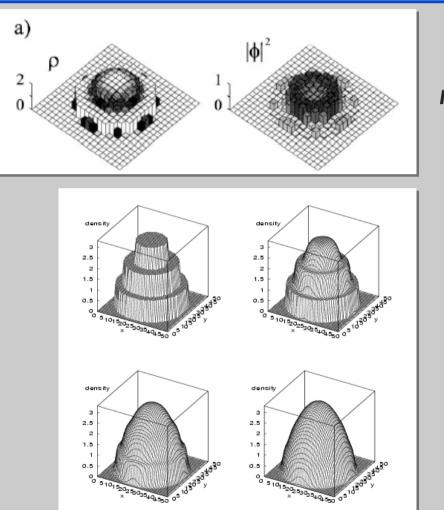




For an inhomogeneous system an effective local chemical potential can be introduced

$$\mu_{loc} = \mu - \varepsilon_i$$

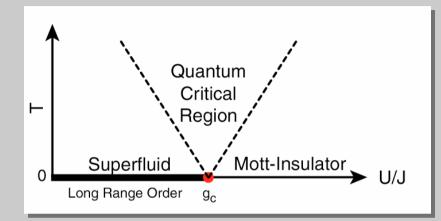
Ground State of an Inhomogeneous System



From Jaksch et al. PRL 81, 3108 (1998)

From M. Niemeyer and H. Monien (private communication)

Quantum Phase Transition (QPT) from a Superfluid to a Mott-Insulator



At the critical point g_c the system will undergo a phase transition from a superfluid to an insulator !

This phase transition occurs even at T=0 and is driven by quantum fluctuations !

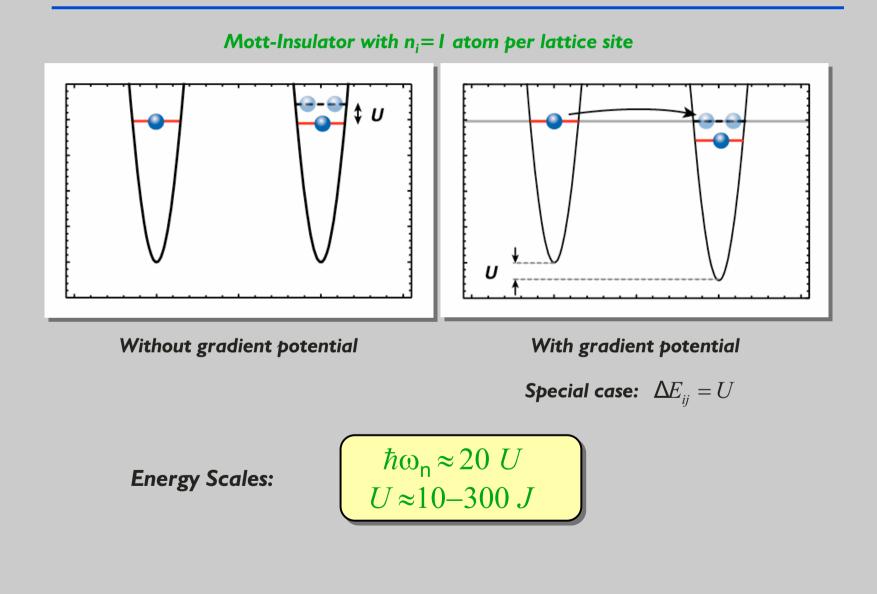
Characteristic for a QPT

- Excitation spectrum is dramatically modified at the critical point.
- $U/J < g_c$ (Superfluid regime) Excitation spectrum is gapless
- $U/J > g_c$ (Mott-Insulator regime) Excitation spectrum is gapped

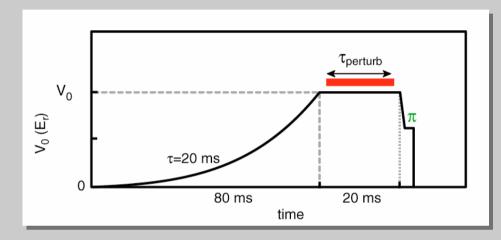
Critical ratio for:

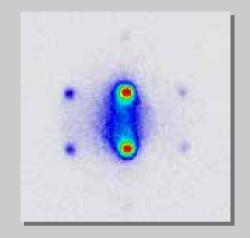
see Subir Sachdev, Quantum Phase Transitions, Cambridge University Press

Creating Excitations in the MI Phase



Measuring Excitation Probability vs. Pertubation Gradient

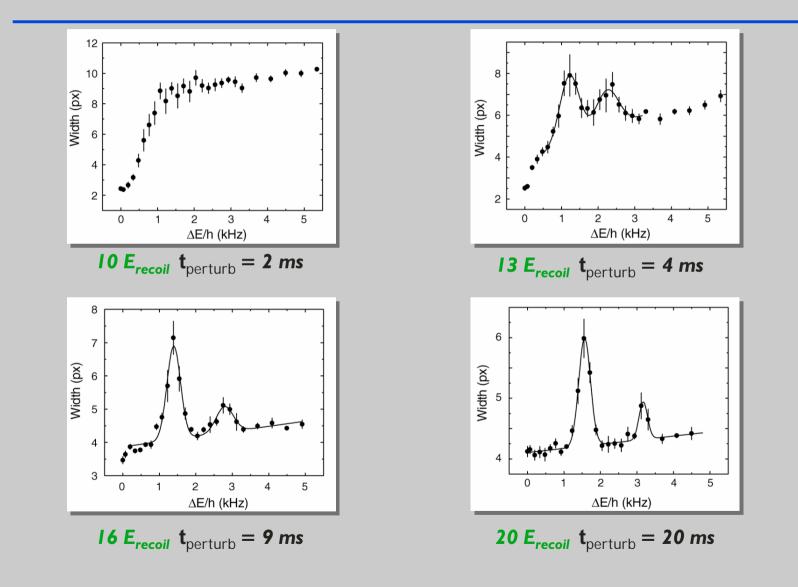




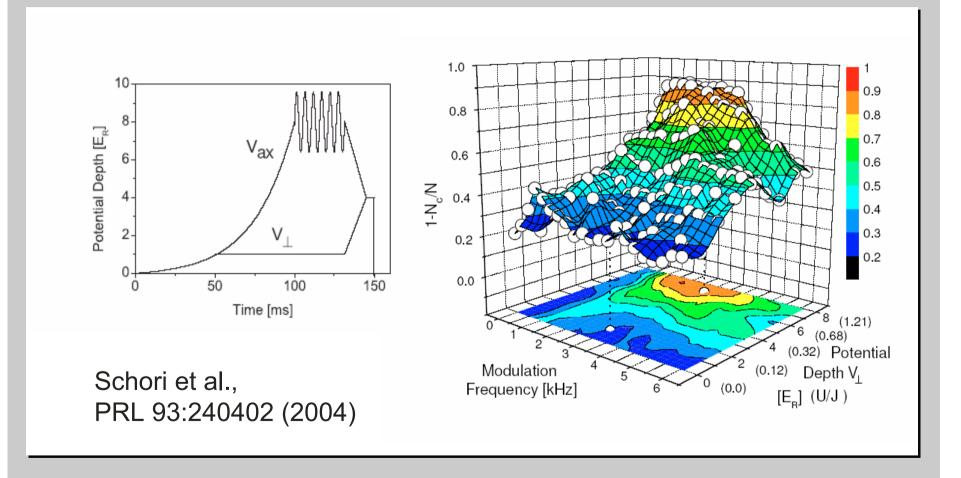
- I. Ramp up to a fixed lattice depth V0
- 2. Apply a gradient for time t_{perturb}
- 3. Ramp down to a potential depth of 10 E_{recoil}
- 4. Apply a p-pulse
- 5. Measure width of interference peaks

If excitations are created, the width of the detected interference peaks will broaden !

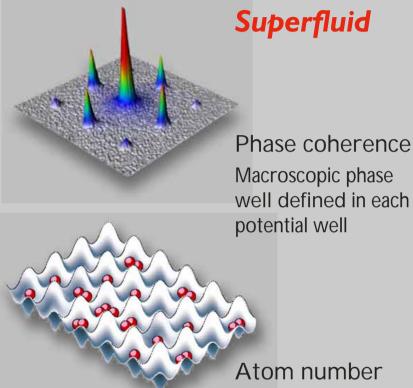
Excitation Probability vs. Gradient



Excitations of bosons in an optical lattice



Conclusion Lecture 1



Superfluid

Mott Insulator

No Phase coherence Macroscopic phase uncertain in each potential well

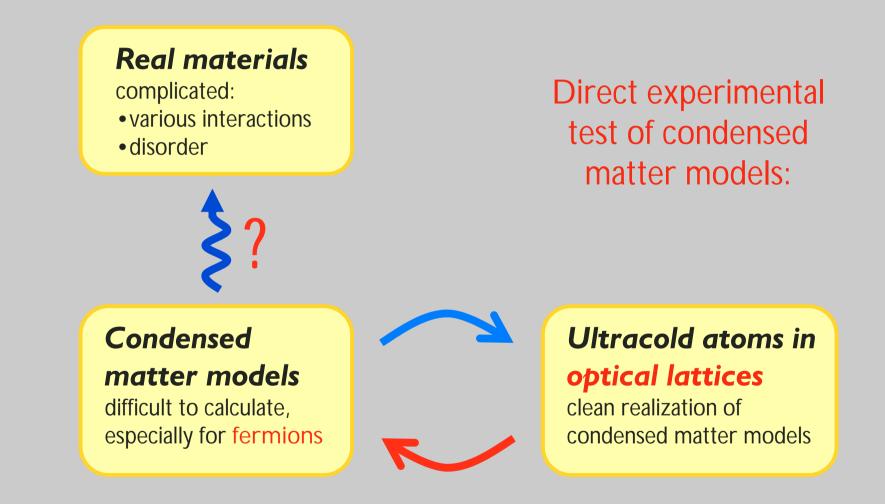
Atom number uncertain in each potential well

Atom number exactly known in each potential well

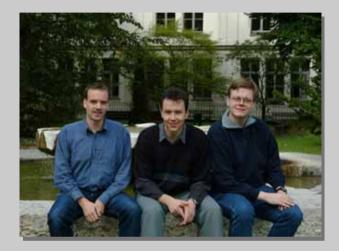
 \rightarrow atom number correlations

M.P.A. Fisher et al, D. Jaksch et al.

Condensed matter physics with ultracold atoms



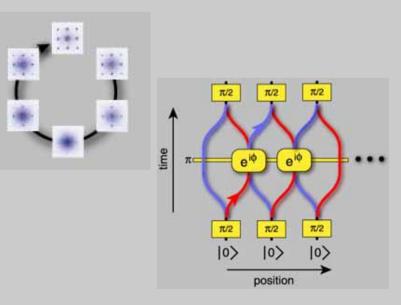
Thanks



Thanks to my Munich collegues: Olaf Mandel, Immanuel Bloch (now at Mainz, Germany) Ted Hänsch (MPQ Munich)

Second lecture:

- Collapse and revival of a macroscopic matter wave
- Quantum gates with neutral atoms
- Low dimensional systems



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Ultracold Atoms in optical lattice potentials

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Ultracold Atoms in optical lattice potentials

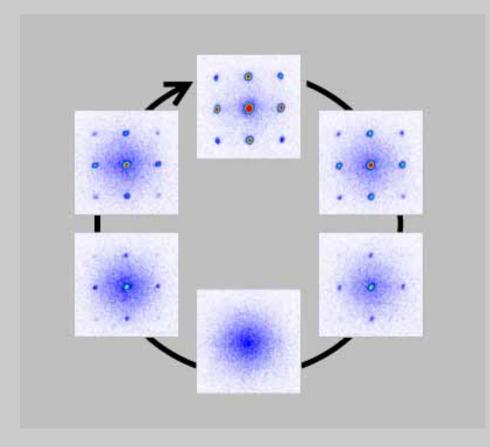
Tuesday lecture:

- 1. Typical experimental setup
- 2. Bose Einstein condensates in optical lattice potentials
- 3. Quantum phase transition from a superfluid to a Mott insulator

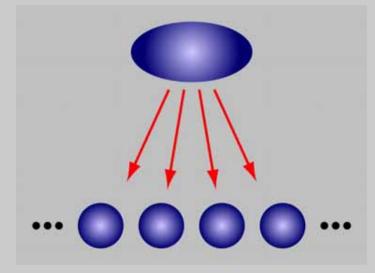
Thursday lecture:

- 4. Collapse and revival of a macroscopic matter wave field due to cold collisions
- 5. Quantum gates with neutral atoms

4. Collapse and revival of a macroscopic matter wave



Collapse and Revival of a Macroscopic Matter Wave Field



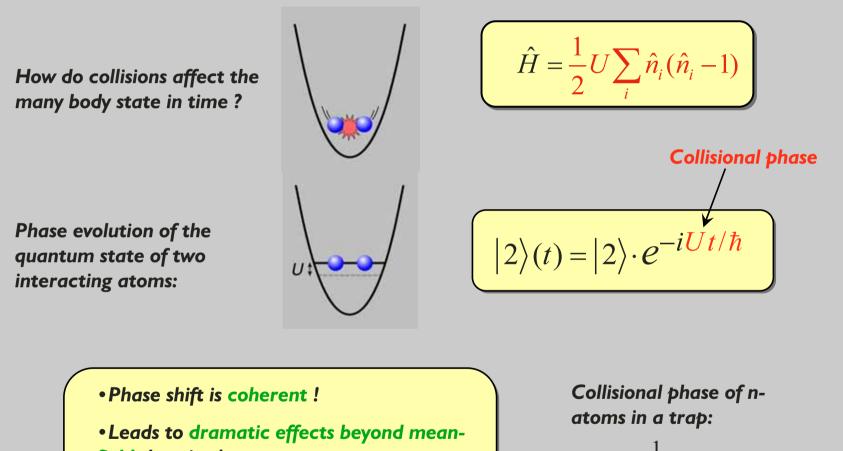
Splitting a condensate:

- \rightarrow Well defined relative phase
- How does the phase correlation evolve in time?
- What happens to the individual matter wave fields?

Non equilibrium experiment:

Rapidly increase lattice potential to isolate potential wells
→ Superfluid state is *projected* into Mott insulator regime

Dynamical Evolution of a Many Atom State due to Cold Collision



field theories !

• Can be used for quantum computation (see Jaksch, Briegel, Cirac, Zoller schemes)

$$E_n t / \hbar = \frac{1}{2} Un(n-1) t / \hbar$$

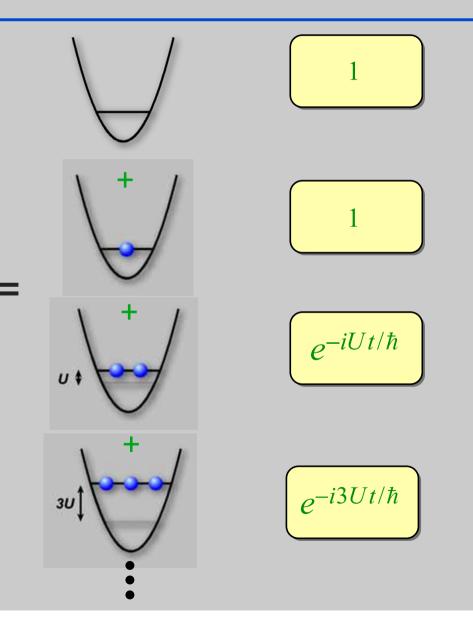
Time Evolution of a Coherent State due to Cold Collisions

$$\hat{H} = \frac{1}{2}U\sum_{i}\hat{n}_{i}(\hat{n}_{i}-1)$$

Coherent state in each lattice site no eigenstate !

$$\left(|\Psi\rangle_{i} = e^{-|\alpha|^{2}/2} \sum_{n} \frac{\alpha^{n}}{\sqrt{n!}} |n\rangle \right)$$

- I. Here α = amplitude of the coherent state
- 2. Here $|\alpha|^2$ = average number of atoms per lattice site



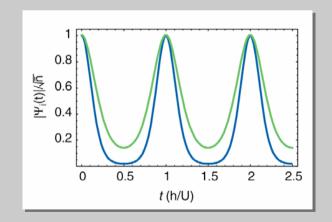
Collapse and Revival of the Macroscopic Wave Function due to Cold Collisions

Quantum state in each lattice site (e.g. for a coherent state)

$$\left(\left|\Psi(t)\right\rangle_{i}=e^{-\left|\alpha\right|^{2}/2}\sum_{n}\frac{\alpha^{n}}{\sqrt{n!}}e^{-i\frac{1}{2}Un(n-1)t/\hbar}\left|n\right\rangle\right)$$

Macroscopic wave function in ith lattice site

$$\Psi_{i}(t) = {}_{i} \left\langle \Psi(t) \left| \hat{a}_{i} \right| \Psi(t) \right\rangle_{i}$$

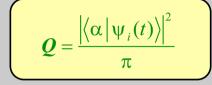


- 1. Macroscopic wave function collapses but revives after times multiple times of h/U !
- 2. Collapse time depends on the variance $s_{\rm N}^{}$ of the atom number distribution !

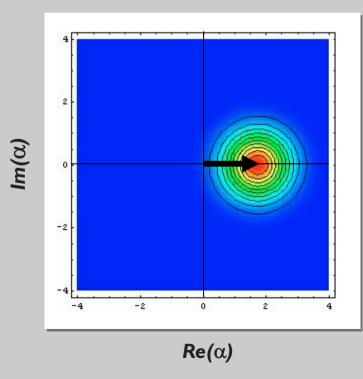
Wright et al. 1997; Imamoglu, Lewenstein & You et al. 1997, Castin & Dalibard 1997

Dynamical Evolution of a Coherent State due to Cold Collisions

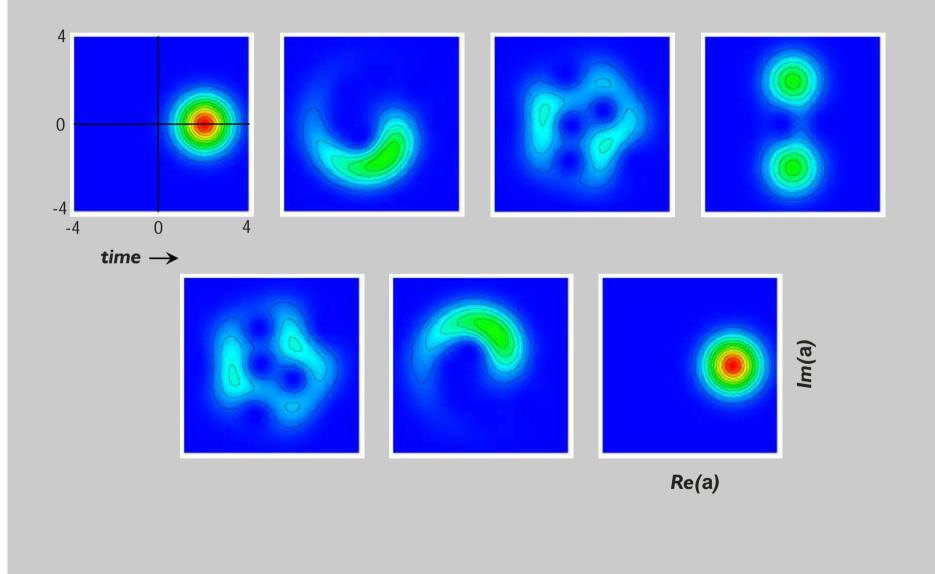
The dynamical evolution can be visualized through the Q-function



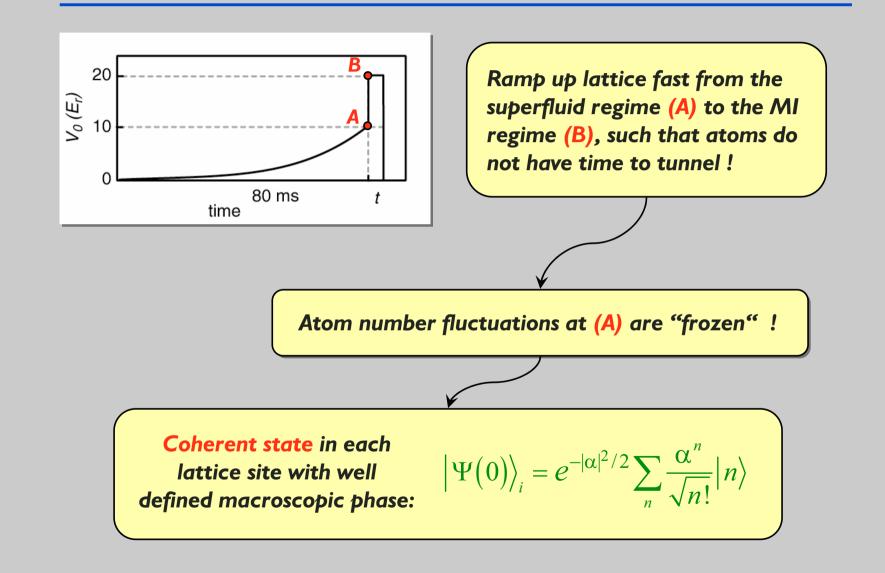
Characterizes overlap of our input state with an aribtrary coherent state $|\alpha\rangle$



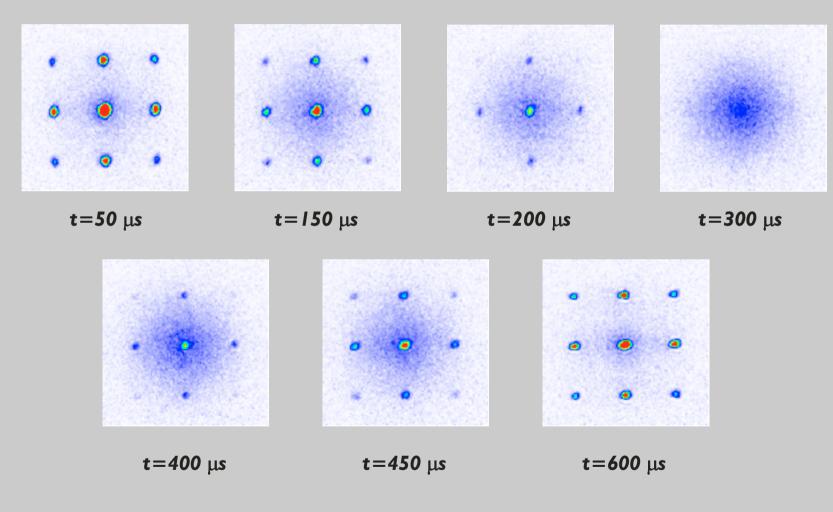
Dynamical Evolution of a Coherent State due to Cold Collisions



Freezing Out Atom Number Fluctuations

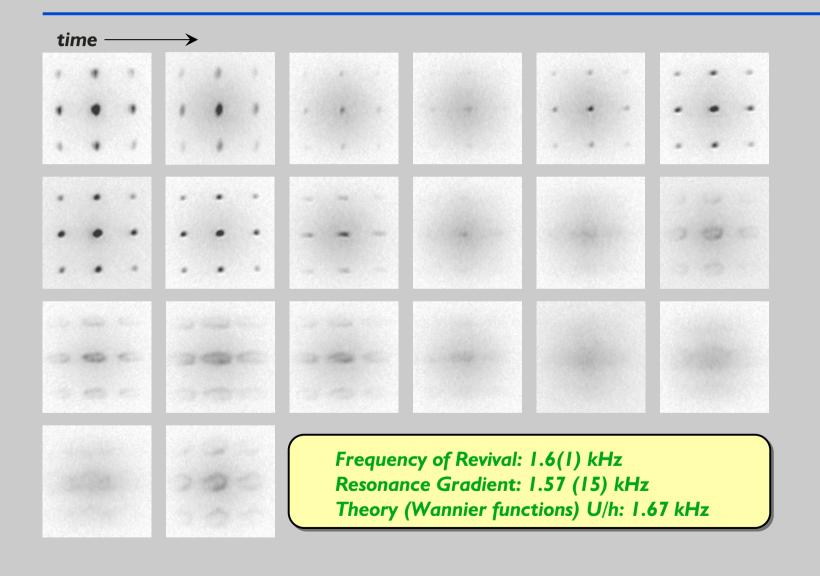


Dynamical Evolution of the Interference Pattern



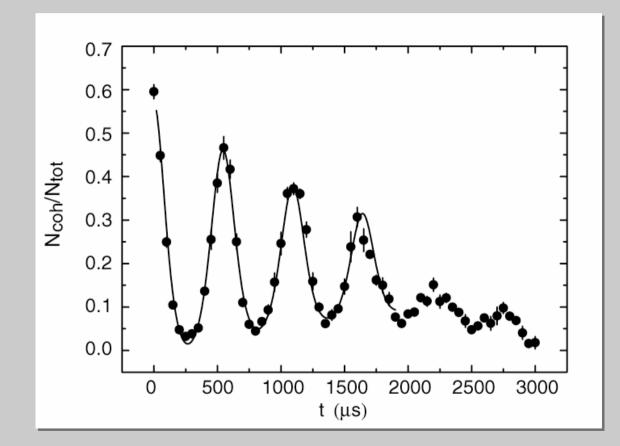
After a potential jump from $V_A = 8E_r$ to $V_B = 22E_r$.

Collapse and Revival (Experiment at $V_0 = 20 E_r$)



Collapse and Revival N_{coh}/N_{tot}

Oscillations after lattice potential jump from 8 E_{recoil} to 22 E_{recoil}



Up to 5 revivals are visible !

SF - MI

Superfluid

Mott Insulator

Phase coherence Macroscopic phase well defined in each potential well

Atom number uncertain in each potential well No Phase coherence Macroscopic phase uncertain in each potential well

Atom number exactly known in each potential well

→ atom number correlations

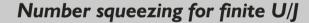
M.P.A. Fisher et al, D. Jaksch et al.

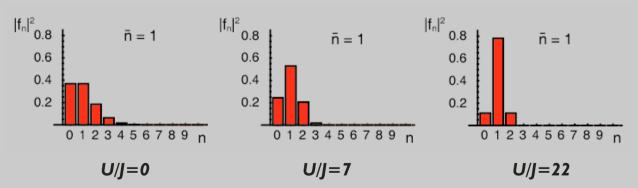
Gutzwiller approximation for finite onsite interaction U

$$H = -J\sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{a}_i^{\dagger} \hat{a}_j + \frac{1}{2}U\sum_i \hat{n}_i(\hat{n}_i - 1)$$

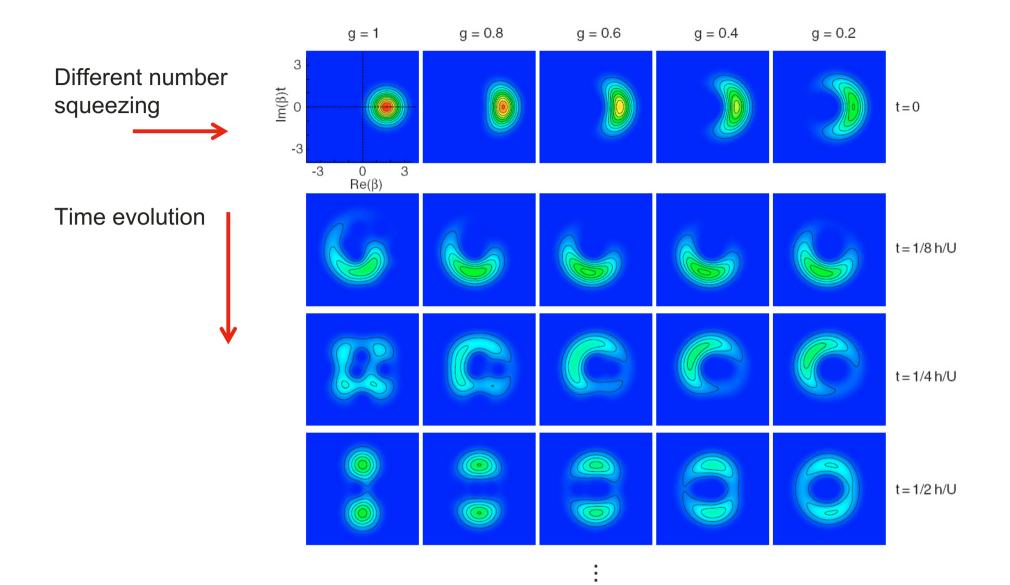
Gutzwiller approximation: Many body state is approximated as a product of localized states $|\Phi_i\rangle$ on each lattice site

$$\left|\Psi_{GW}\right\rangle = \prod_{M} \left|\Phi_{i}\right\rangle \qquad \left|\Phi_{i}\right\rangle = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_{n}^{(i)} \left|n\right\rangle$$

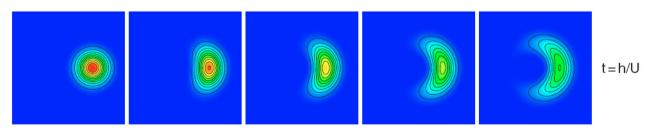




In the limit of large Boson number: Orzel et al.: Squeezed states in a Bose-Einstein condensate, Science, 291, 2001



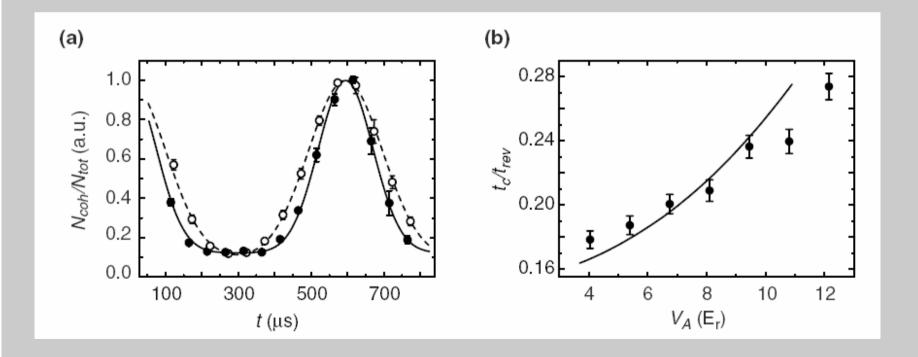
Full revival:



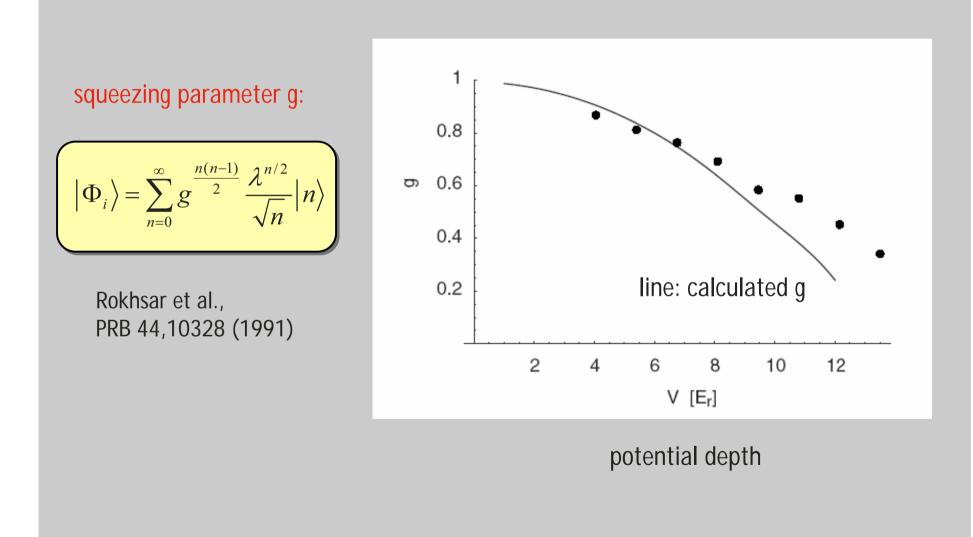
Measurement of number squeezing

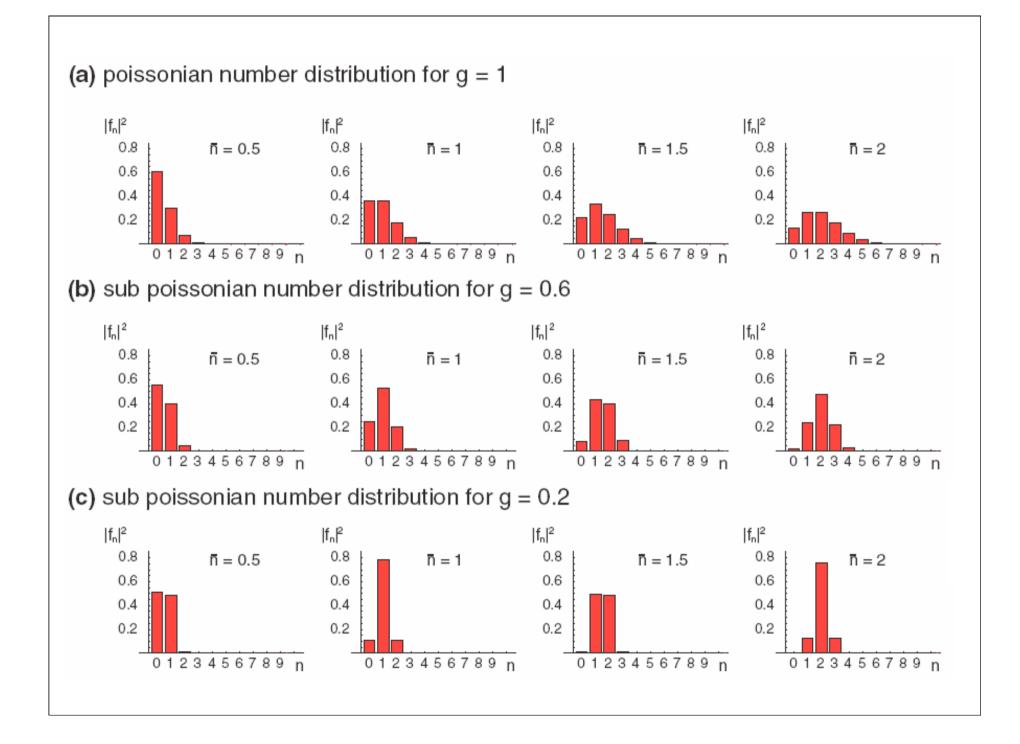
Collapse time depends on variance σ_n^2 of atom number statistics:

$$t_c = t_{rev} / (2\pi\sigma_n)$$

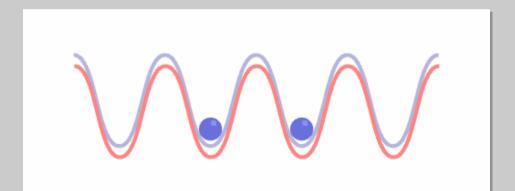


Measured atom number squeezing





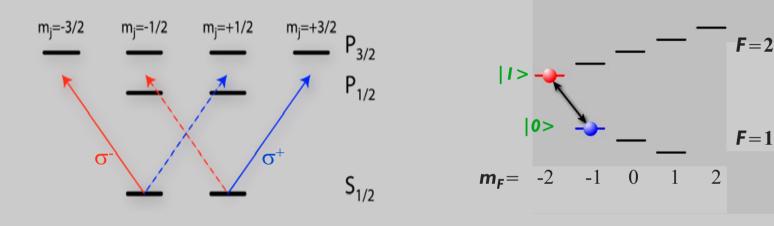
5. Universal quantum gates with ultracold atoms



State Selective Lattice Potentials

⁸⁷Rb Fine-structure

Hyperfine structure



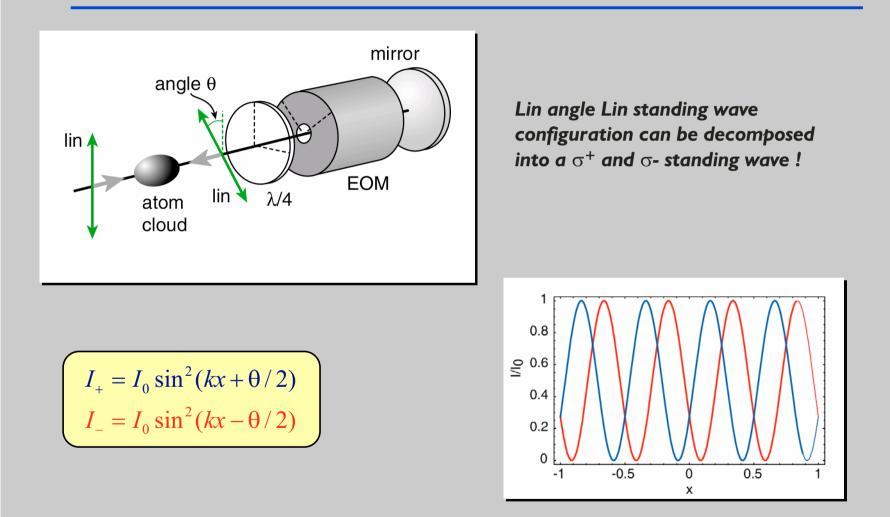
State selective lattice potential

 $|I>: V_{1}(x,\theta) = V_{-}(x,\theta)$ $|0>: V_{0}(x,\theta) = \frac{1}{4}V_{-}(x,\theta) + \frac{3}{4}V_{+}(x,\theta)$

 $V_{-}(x,\theta)$ formed by σ_{-} polarized Light $V_{+}(x,\theta)$ formed by σ_{+} polarized light

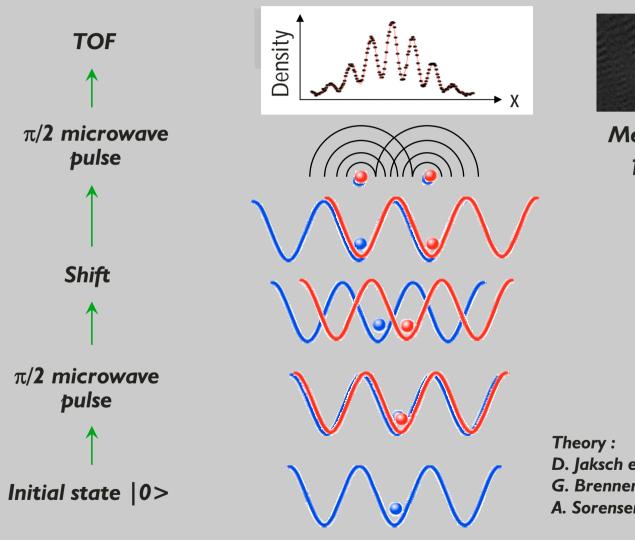
D. Jaksch et al., PRL 82, 1975(1999), G. Brennen et al., PRL 82, 1060 (1999) Overview: I. Deutsch & P. Jessen, Optical Lattices, Adv. At. Mol. Phys. 36, 91 (1996).

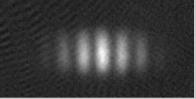
Moving the Lattice Potential

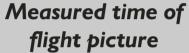


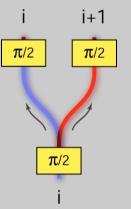
D. Jaksch et al., PRL 82, 1975(1999), G. Brennen et al., PRL 82, 1060 (1999) Overview: I. Deutsch & P. Jessen, Optical Lattices, Adv. At. Mol. Phys. 36, 91 (1996).

Delocalization "by Hand": Trapped Atom Interferometer



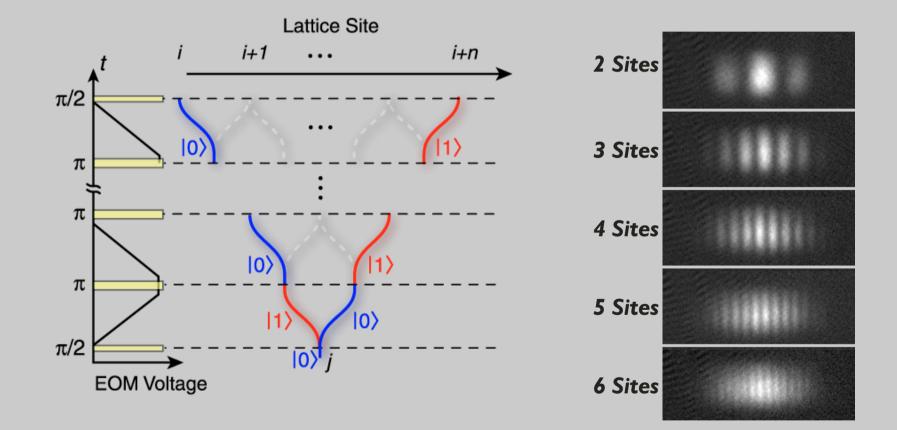






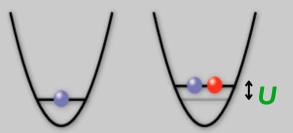
Theory : D. Jaksch et al., PRL 82,1975(1999) G. Brennen et al., PRL 82, 1060 (1999) A. Sorensen et al., PRL 83, 2274 (1999)

Complete Delocalization Sequence



O. Mandel, M. Greiner et al., preprint arXiv: cond-mat/0301169 (2003)

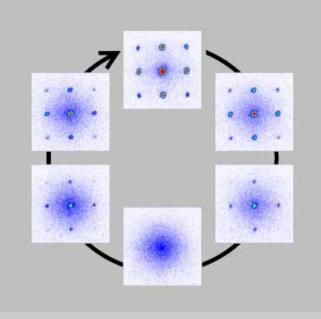
Quantum gates with neutral atoms



2 atoms at same site: collisional phase shift

$$e^{i\phi} = e^{i\mathbf{U}t_{hold}/\hbar}$$

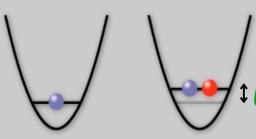
 \rightarrow Collisions between atoms just lead to a coherent collsional phase ϕ



Demonstrated in Collapse and Revival experiment,

M. Greiner, O. Mandel et al., Nature 419, 51 (2002)

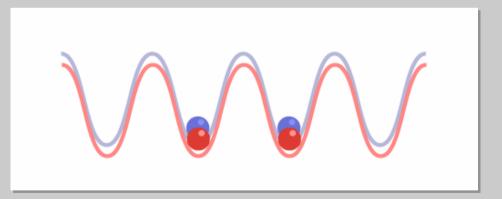
Quantum gates with neutral atoms



2 atoms at same site: collisional phase shift

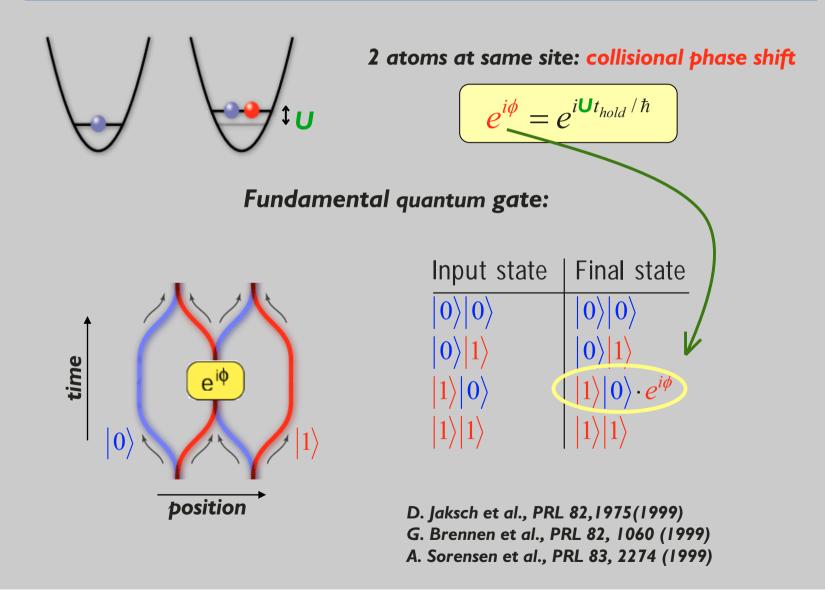
$$e^{i\phi} = e^{i\mathbf{U}t_{hold}/\hbar}$$

Fundamental quantum gate:

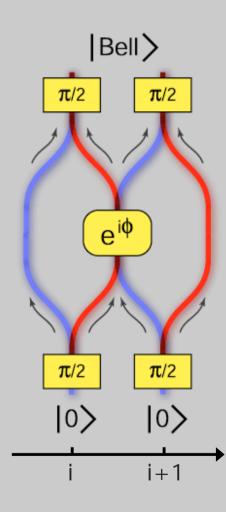


D. Jaksch et al., PRL 82,1975(1999) G. Brennen et al., PRL 82, 1060 (1999) A. Sorensen et al., PRL 83, 2274 (1999)

Quantum gates with neutral atoms



Engineering a Cluster-state

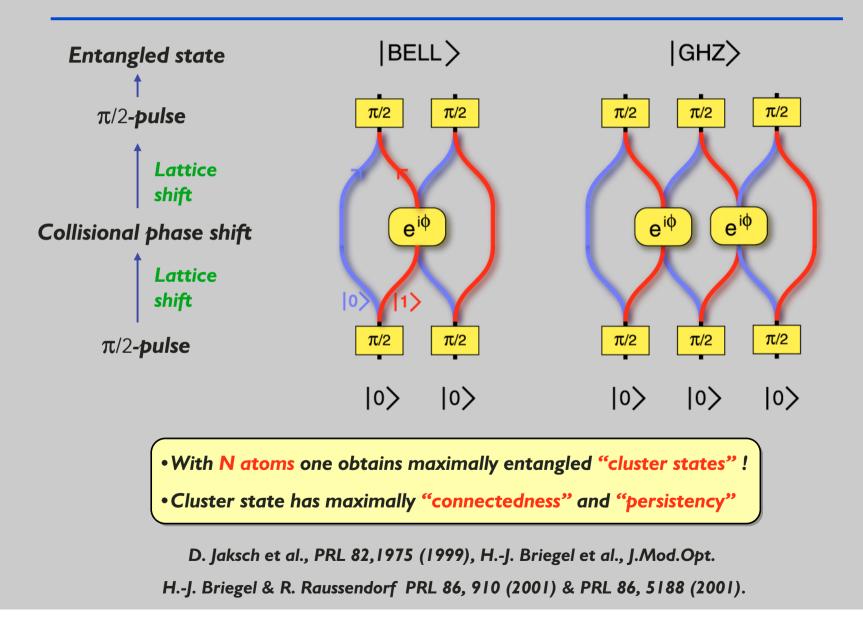


$$\frac{1}{2}(1-e^{i\varphi})|Bell\rangle + \frac{1}{2}(1+e^{i\varphi})|1\rangle_{i}|1\rangle_{i+1}$$

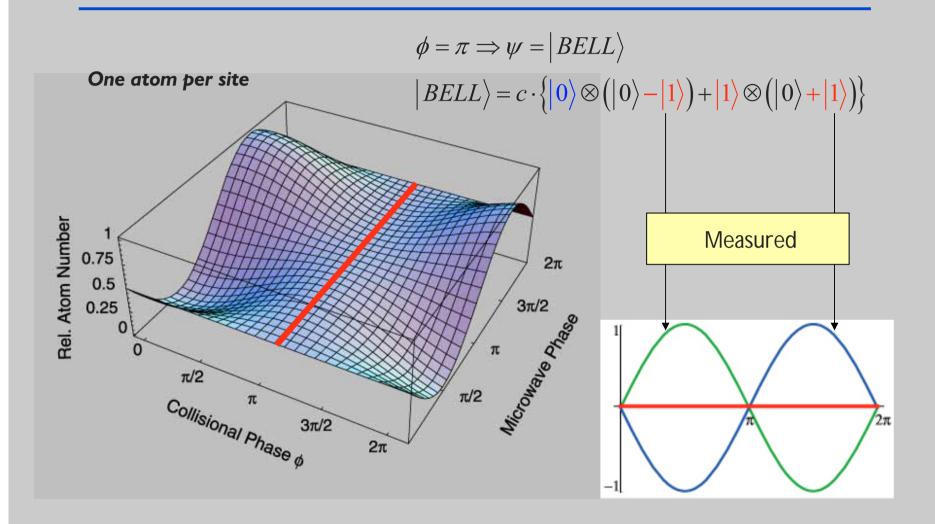
$$\frac{1}{2}(|0\rangle_{i}|0\rangle_{i+1} + |0\rangle_{i}|1\rangle_{i+2} + e^{i\varphi}|1\rangle_{i+1}|0\rangle_{i+1} + |1\rangle_{i+1}|1\rangle_{i+2})$$

$$\frac{1}{2}(|0\rangle_{i} + |1\rangle_{i})(|0\rangle_{i+1} + |1\rangle_{i+1})$$

Entanglement due to Controlled Cold Collisions

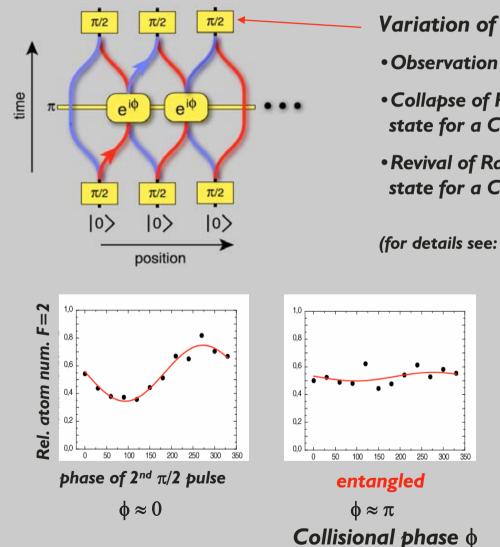


Collapse and Revival of the Ramsey fringe



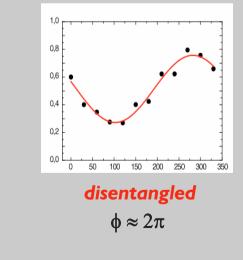
D. Jaksch, PhD-Thesis, Innsbruck

Ramsey Fringe vs. Collisional Phase

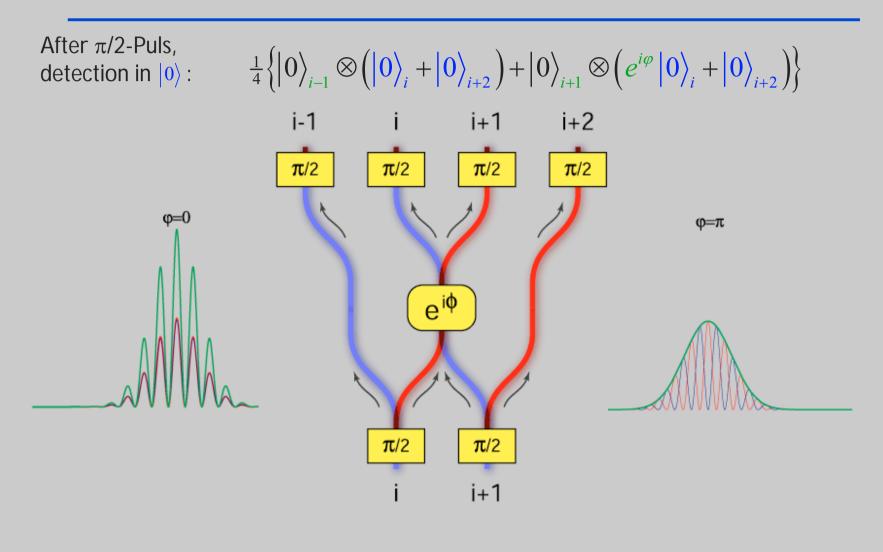


- Variation of the phase of $2^{nd} \pi/2$ pulse:
- Observation of Ramsey fringes
- Collapse of Ramsey fringe for entangled state for a Collisional phase $\phi = \pi$
- Revival of Ramsey fringe for disentangled state for a Collisional phase $\phi = 2\pi$

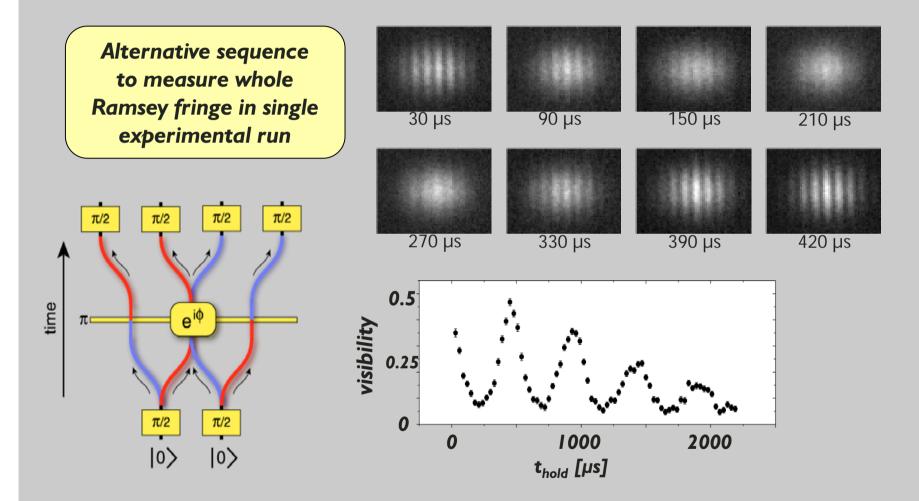
(for details see: D. Jaksch, PhD-Thesis)



Conditional Double-Slit



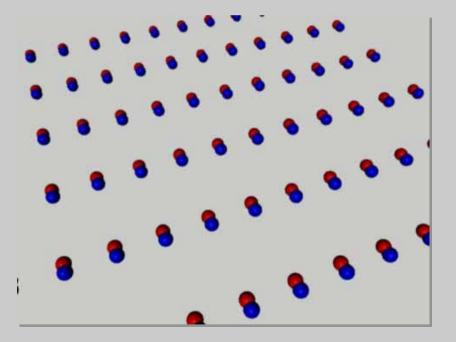
Entanglement Dynamics Sequence



Olaf Mandel, Markus Greiner, Artur Widera, Tim Rom, Theodor W. Hänsch, Immanuel Bloch Nature 425, 937 (2003)

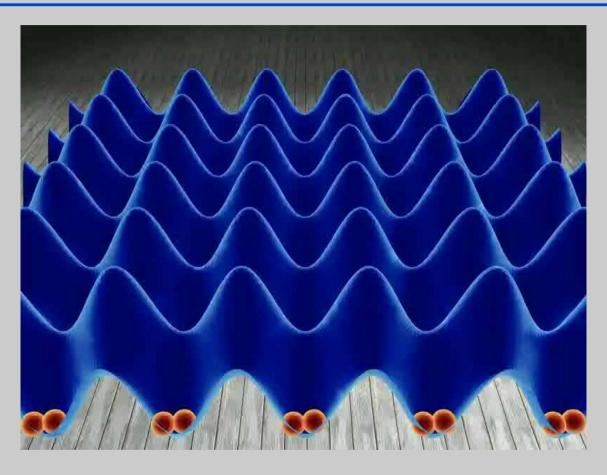
Applications

- Simulation of solid state hamiltonians (Ising, Heisenberg)
- Quantum Random Walks in optical lattices
- Adding addressability of single lattice sites
- Resource for quantum computing



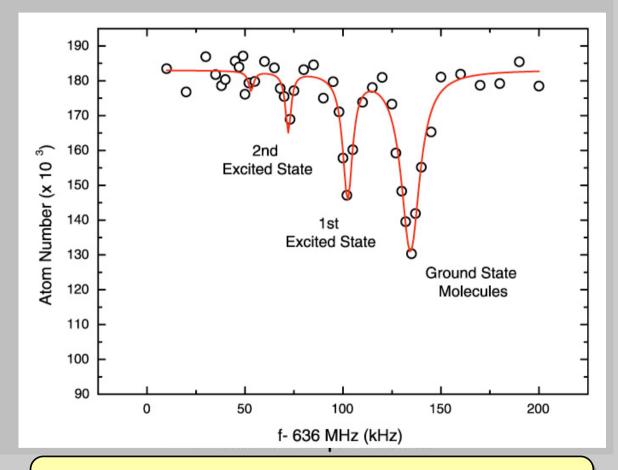
H.-J. Briegel & R. Raussendorf PRL 86, 910 (2001) & PRL 86, 5188 (2001). W. Dür & H.-J. Briegel, PRL 90, 067901 (2003)

Application of MI: Molecule formation by photo association



Mott insulator state with two atoms per lattice site: Great environment to form molecules !

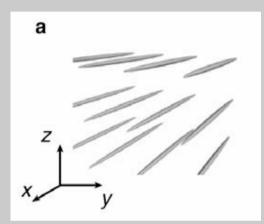
Application of MI: Molecule formation by photo association



Mott insulator state with two atoms per lattice site: Great environment to form molecules !

T. Rom, et al., PRL 93, 073002 (2004)

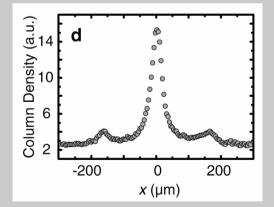
Tonks-Girardeau Gas



Strongly interacting 1D gas: Fermionization of bosonic particles

Munich:

- Tubes: red detuned 2D lattice
- Additional lattice along tubes to increase effective mass
- Detection via momentum distribution
- B. Paredes et al., Nature 429, 277-281 (2004)



Penn State (D. Weiss):

- Tubes: blue detuned 2D lattice
- T. Kinoshita, Science 305, 1125 1128 (2004)

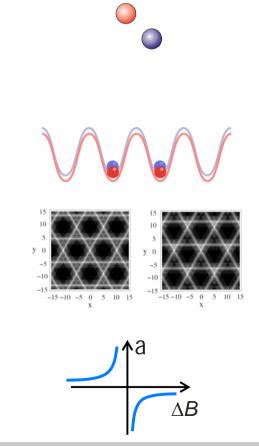
Zurich: 1D regime (see lectures Michael Koehl)

Condensed matter physics with ultracold atoms

A large variety of complex condensed matter and many-body Hamiltonians can be realized in a controlled way:

- combining different spin states of atoms
- using both fermionic and bosonic atoms
 - →boson mediated fermion-fermion interaction
- spin selective potentials
- varying lattice geometries, e.g. Kagome
- Feshbach resonances
- add disorder

• . . .



Research possibilities

This allows to realize exciting quantum phases:

- magnetic order, e.g. Antiferromagnetic phases
- Frustrated phases in Kagome lattices
- High Tc
- spin waves in lattices
- (fractional) Quantum Hall physics with Bosons
- disorder: Bose-glass phase, Anderson localization
- Quantum information: detection of highly entangled state, using them for "teleportation"
- . . .

"Quantum simulator" in the sense of Feynman

Condensed matter physics with ultracold atoms

