



*The Abdus Salam
International Centre for Theoretical Physics*



1859-24

**Summer School on Novel Quantum Phases and Non-Equilibrium
Phenomena in Cold Atomic Gases**

27 August - 7 September, 2007

Introduction to the theory of the BEC/BCS crossover

Wilhelm Zwerger
Technical University of Munich

BCS-BEC CROSSOVER: AN INTRODUCTION

W. Zwerger

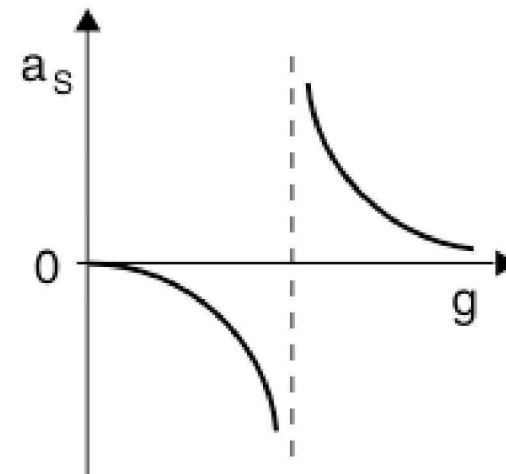
Technische Universität München

problem: Fermions $\uparrow\downarrow$ with density $n = k_F^3/3\pi^2$ and

attractive two particle interaction $V_{\uparrow\downarrow}(\vec{x}) = -\tilde{g} \cdot \delta(\vec{x})$

two-particle bound state : $g > g_c$

binding energy $\epsilon_b = \hbar^2/ma_s^2$



Superfluidity of Fermions

1911 conventional SC's Hg, Al, ... $T_c \approx 1 - 23$ K

1960 pairing in nuclei, $\Delta \approx$ MeV

1972 superfluid ^3He , $T_c = 1$ mK (p-wave)

1975 neutron stars

1986 high- T_c SC's $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4, \dots$ $T_c = 35 - 138$ K

1991 Alkali-doped C_{60} $T_c \approx 30$ K

1994 p-wave SC's in Sr_2RuO_4 $T_c = 1.5$ K

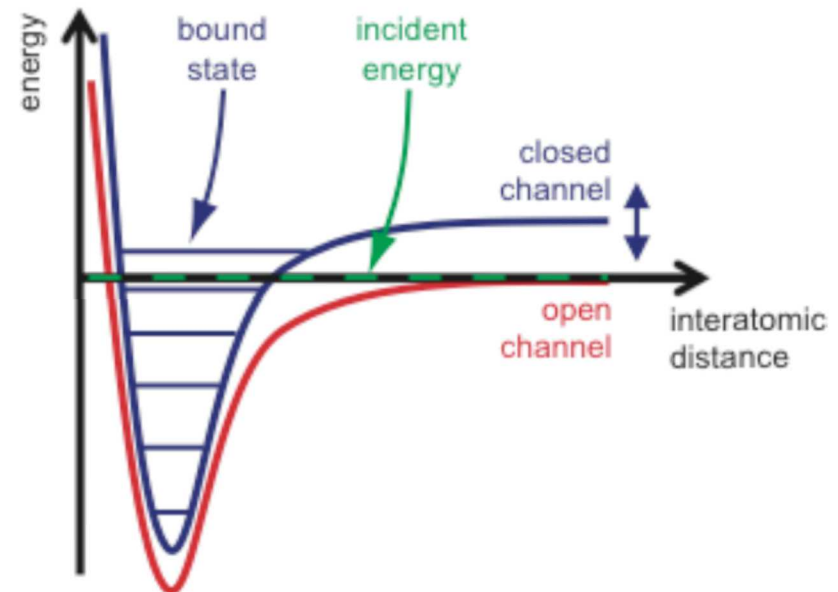
1998 color SC's $\langle qq \rangle \neq 0$, $\Delta \approx$ GeV

FESHBACH-RESONANCES

closed channel bound state

couples resonantly

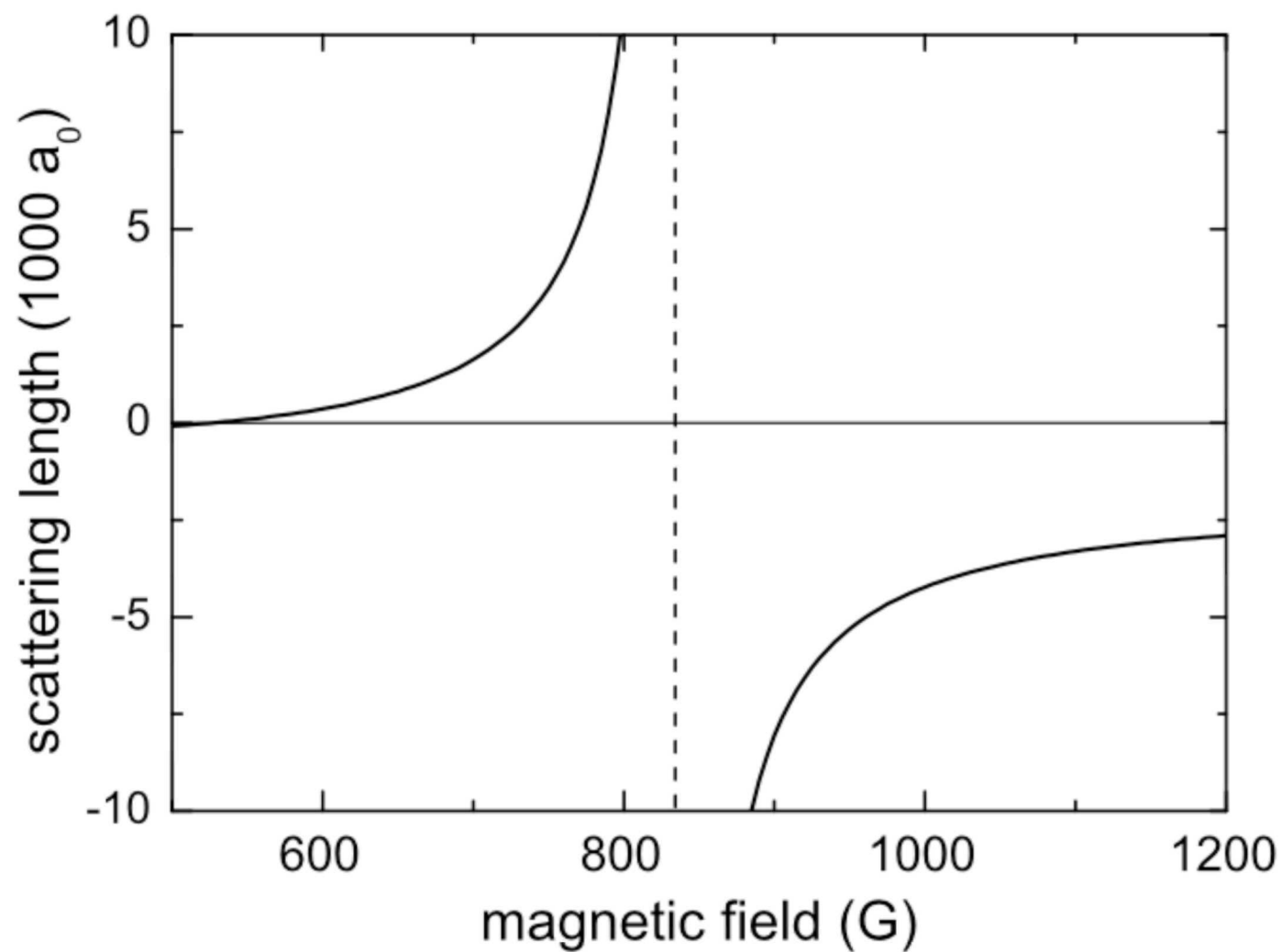
$$a_s = a_{bg} \left(1 - \frac{\Delta B}{B - B_0} \right)$$



scatt. ampl. $f(k) = \frac{-1}{1/a_s + r^*k^2 + ik} \rightarrow \frac{i}{k}$ at $a_s = \infty$

effective range $r^* \ll \lambda_F$, bound state for $a_s > 0$

scattering length in ${}^6\text{Li}$



BCS-LIMIT: weak coupling if $k_F |a_s| < 0.5$ (in practice)

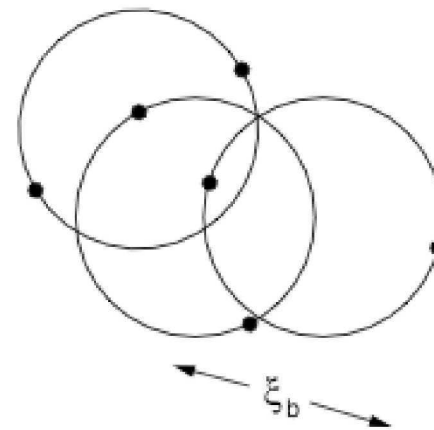
pairs form and condense at

$$T_c \approx 0.3 T_F \exp -\frac{\pi}{2k_F |a_s|} \ll T_F \quad 2\Delta_0 = 3.52 k_B T_c$$

superfluidity is destroyed by pair- breaking

pair size $\xi_b = \xi_0 = \frac{\hbar v_F}{\pi \Delta_0}$ is large $k_F \xi_b \gg 1$

$$k_F \xi_0 \approx \begin{cases} 10^3 & \text{supercond.} \\ 10^2 & {}^3\text{He} \\ 10^1 & \text{high-}T_c \end{cases}$$



BCS-transition in a harmonic trap

local density approx. $\xi_b \ll R_{TF}$ ($\Delta_0 \gg \hbar\omega$) valid

if $N \gg N^* \approx \exp 3\pi/2k_F|a_s| = 10^5$ at $k_F|a_s| = 0.4$

$N \ll N^*$: pairs formed within a single shell $\Delta_0 \ll \hbar\omega$

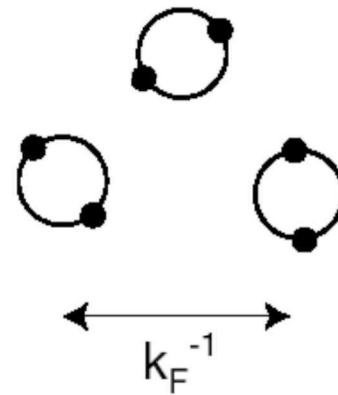
as in atomic nuclei (Bruun, Heiselberg, Mottelson 02)

BEC limit: strong coupling $|\epsilon_b| \gg \epsilon_F \rightarrow k_F a_s \ll 1$

point bosons $\xi_b \approx a_s \rightarrow 0$ form far above T_c

pair size $k_F \xi_b \ll 1$

$\xi_b \neq$ coherence length ξ_0



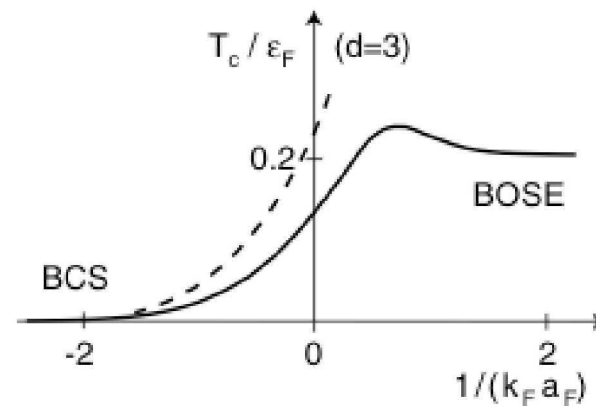
condensation temperature $T_c = 0.218 T_F$ from

ideal Bose gas with $n_B = n/2$ and $m_B = 2m$

critical temperature

Nozieres/SR '85

Drechsler/Zw. '92



attractive fermions turn into **repulsive bosons**

$a_{dd} = 0.60 a > 0$ Petrov/Shlyapnikov/Salomon '03

Universality for broad resonances $k_F r^* \ll 1$ Ho '04

$$\Delta_0 \approx 0.5 \epsilon_F, \quad \mu \approx 0.4 \epsilon_F \quad \text{at} \quad T = 0$$

$$T_c \approx 0.16 T_F, \quad \mu(T_c) \approx 0.42 \epsilon_F, \quad s(T_c) \approx 0.7 k_B$$

Outline:

I) BCS-BEC crossover in 3D

- 1) Thermodynamics Hausmann, Rantner, Cerrito
- 2) Universal properties at resonance

II) Exact solution of the 1D problem

- 1) Bethe-Ansatz Fuchs, Recati
- 2) Imbalanced case, FFLO

III) Imbalanced gases, RF-spectroscopy Punk

BCS groundstate (variational Ansatz for arbitrary g)

$$\psi_{\text{BCS},N} = \hat{A} \{ \underbrace{\phi(1\ 2) \phi(3\ 4) \cdots \phi(N-1\ N)} \}$$

ideal Bose gas of identical pairs

pair-state $\phi(1, 2) = \psi(\vec{x}) \cdot \chi(\vec{r}) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$

internal wavefunction $\chi(\vec{r}) \sim \exp -r/\xi_b \rightarrow$ pair radius ξ_b

COM-coord. $\vec{x} \rightarrow$ inhomogeneous pair-amplitude $\psi(\vec{x})$

increase g : extended \rightarrow local pairs \rightarrow smooth crossover

(Keldysh 1965, Eagles 1969, Leggett 1980)

BCS Hamiltonian $\hat{H}_{\text{BCS}} = -\frac{\tilde{g}}{V} b_0^\dagger b_0$ (only $q = 0$ pairs)

exact ground state for fixed μ is a coherent state

$$|\psi\rangle_{\text{BCS}} = \prod_k (u_k |00\rangle_k + v_k |11\rangle_k) \sim \exp \sum_k \frac{v_k}{u_k} c_{k\uparrow}^\dagger c_{-k\downarrow}^\dagger |0\rangle$$

at fixed N (even): $|\psi_N\rangle_{\text{BCS}} \sim \left(\sum_k \frac{v_k}{u_k} c_{k\uparrow}^\dagger c_{-k\downarrow}^\dagger \right)^{N/2} |0\rangle$

$\chi_k = v_k/u_k =$ Fouriertransf. of internal wavefunction

gap parameter Δ_k follows from gap-equation

$$\frac{1}{\tilde{g}} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_k \frac{1}{\sqrt{(\epsilon_k - \mu)^2 + \Delta_k^2}}$$

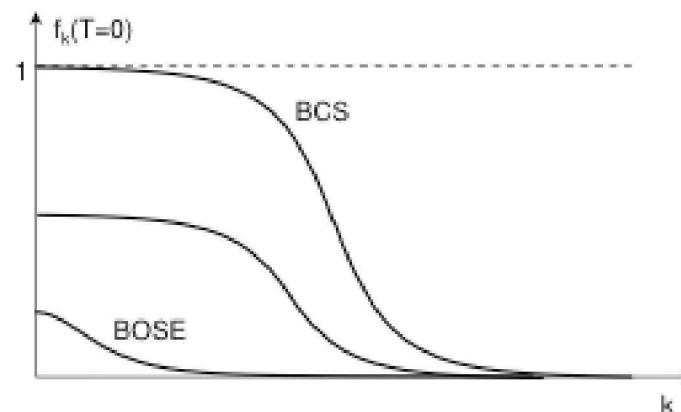
chemical potential μ from number equation ($\mu_{\text{BCS}} = \epsilon_F$)

$$\langle N \rangle = 2 \sum_k v_k^2 = \sum_k \left(1 - \frac{\epsilon_k - \mu}{\sqrt{(\epsilon_k - \mu)^2 + \Delta_k^2}} \right)$$

momentum distrib.

$$f_k = v_k^2 \rightarrow \frac{4\pi n \xi_b^3}{(1 + (k\xi_b)^2)^2}$$

since $\mu_{\text{BEC}} \rightarrow -\epsilon_b/2$



exact solution of \hat{H}_{BCS} at $T = 0$ and fixed N

Richardson + Gaudin 1963, Ortiz/Dukelsky PRA 2005

exact dynamics Barankov/Levitov ...

are Cooper pairs Bosons ?

antisymmetrization \hat{A} reduces the condensate fraction

N_0/N to $\approx \Delta_0/\epsilon_F \ll 1$ in weak coupling, nevertheless

BCS-superfluidity is BEC of pairs !

Low energy description ground state is a

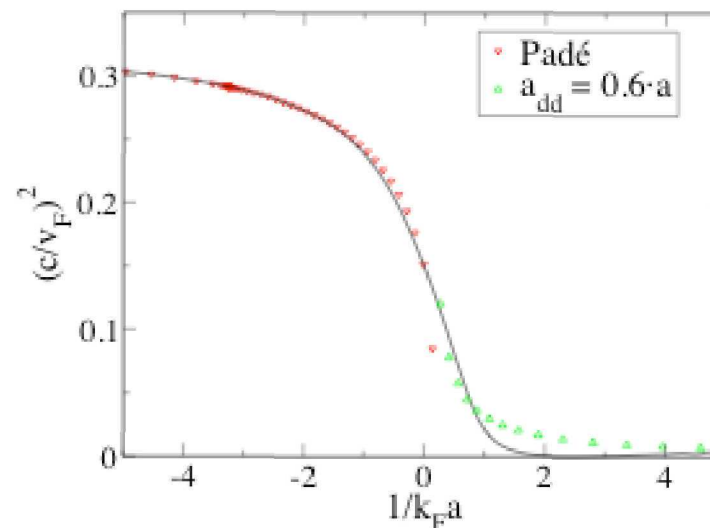
neutral s-wave superfluid for **arbitrary** coupling

excitations $\omega(q) = cq$ **Bogoliubov/Anderson '58**

universal thermodynamics at low temperatures

$$S(T)/V = \frac{2\pi^2}{45} \left(\frac{k_B T}{\hbar c} \right)^3$$

sound velocity c



Many-body theory single channel model with

pseudopotential $V_{\uparrow\downarrow}(\mathbf{x}) = \bar{g} \delta(\mathbf{x})$ ren. $g = 4\pi\hbar^2 a/m$

Luttinger/Ward '60 $\Omega = -T \ln Z = \Omega(\hat{G})$

$$\Omega[\hat{G}] = \beta^{-1} \left(-\frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \{ -\ln \hat{G} + [\hat{G}_0^{-1} \hat{G} - 1] \} - \Phi[\hat{G}] \right)$$

DeDominicis/Martin '64 entropy $S[\hat{G}, \hat{\Gamma}]$ as a functional

of one- and two-particle functions $\hat{G}(\mathbf{k}, \omega)$ and $\hat{\Gamma}(\mathbf{K}, \Omega)$

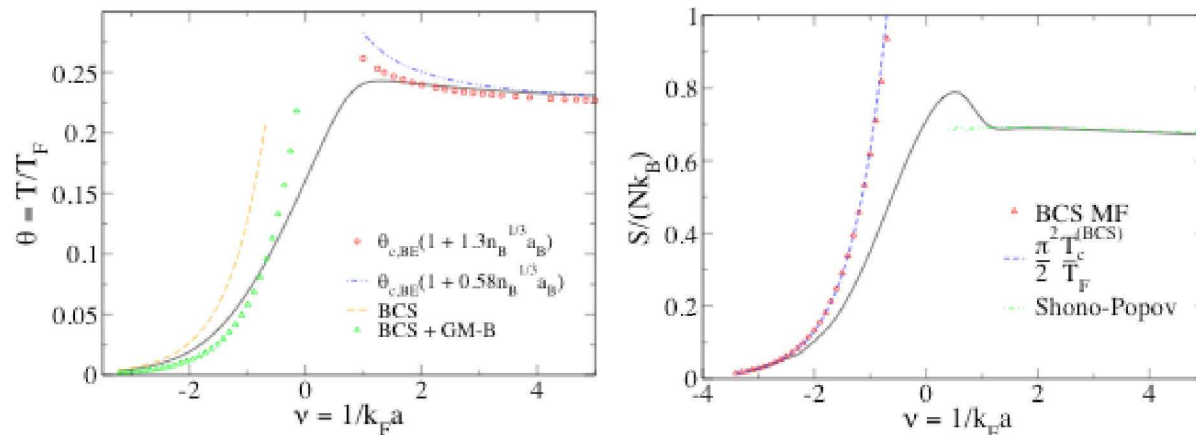
$$\delta\Omega[\hat{G}, \hat{\Gamma}]/\delta\hat{G} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \delta\Omega[\hat{G}, \hat{\Gamma}]/\delta\hat{\Gamma} = 0$$

variational principle for **functions** !

Ladder-approx. $\Phi[G] = \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \left[\text{Diagram 1} + \text{Diagram 2} \right]$

enforce gapless nature by a modified coupling constant

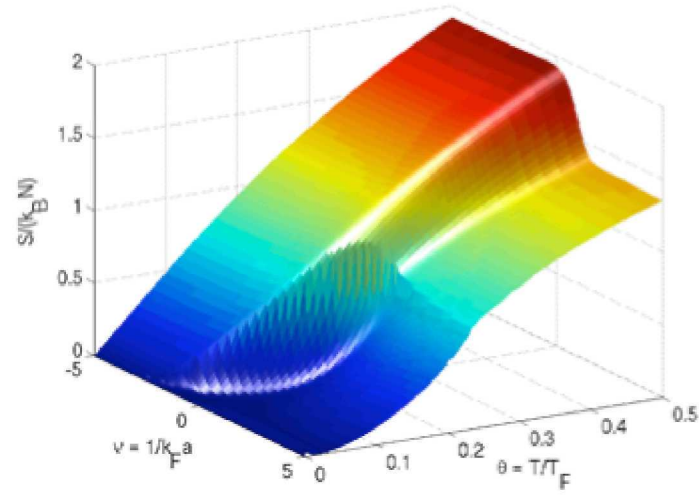
critical temperature and **entropy** at T_c



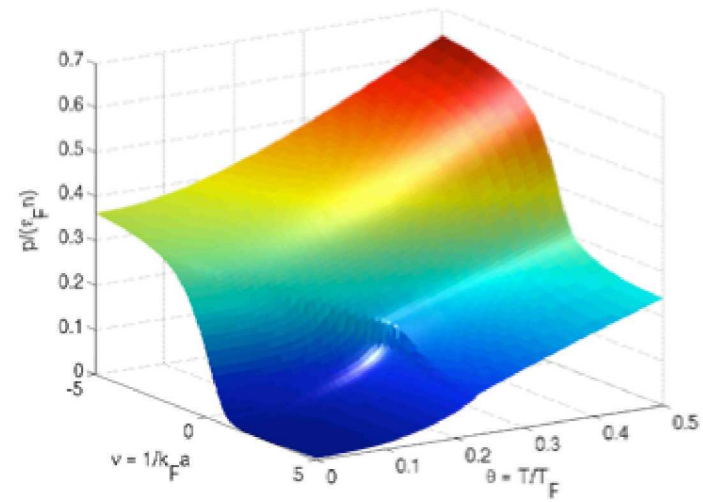
at unitarity $T_c/\varepsilon_F = 0.160$ $S/Nk_B = 0.71$

Burovski et al '06 $T_c/\varepsilon_F = 0.152(7)$ $S/Nk_B = 0.16?$

entropy



pressure



Universality at $a = \infty$ $F/N = \varepsilon_F \cdot g(T/T_F)$ Ho '04

implies $p = 2U/3V$ as if interactions were $1/r^2$

chemical potential $\mu/\varepsilon_F = \xi(T/T_F) = \begin{cases} 0.36 & \text{at } T = 0 \\ 0.39 & \text{at } T = T_c \end{cases}$

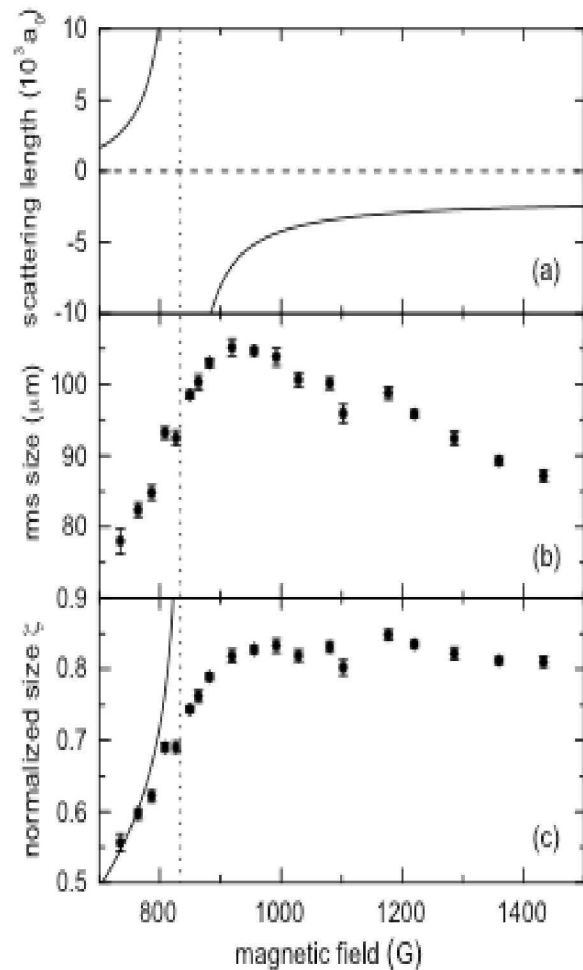
determines cloud size in a trap $R_{TF} = R_{TF}^{(0)} \cdot \xi^{1/4}$

and critical temp. $T_c/\varepsilon_F(N) = 0.16 \cdot \xi^{-1/2}(T_c) \approx 0.25$

field theory $\epsilon = 4 - d$ - expansion Nishida/Son '06

$\xi(T = 0) = \frac{1}{2}\epsilon^{3/2} + \frac{\epsilon^{5/2}}{16} \ln \epsilon + \dots = 0.47$ at $\epsilon = 1$

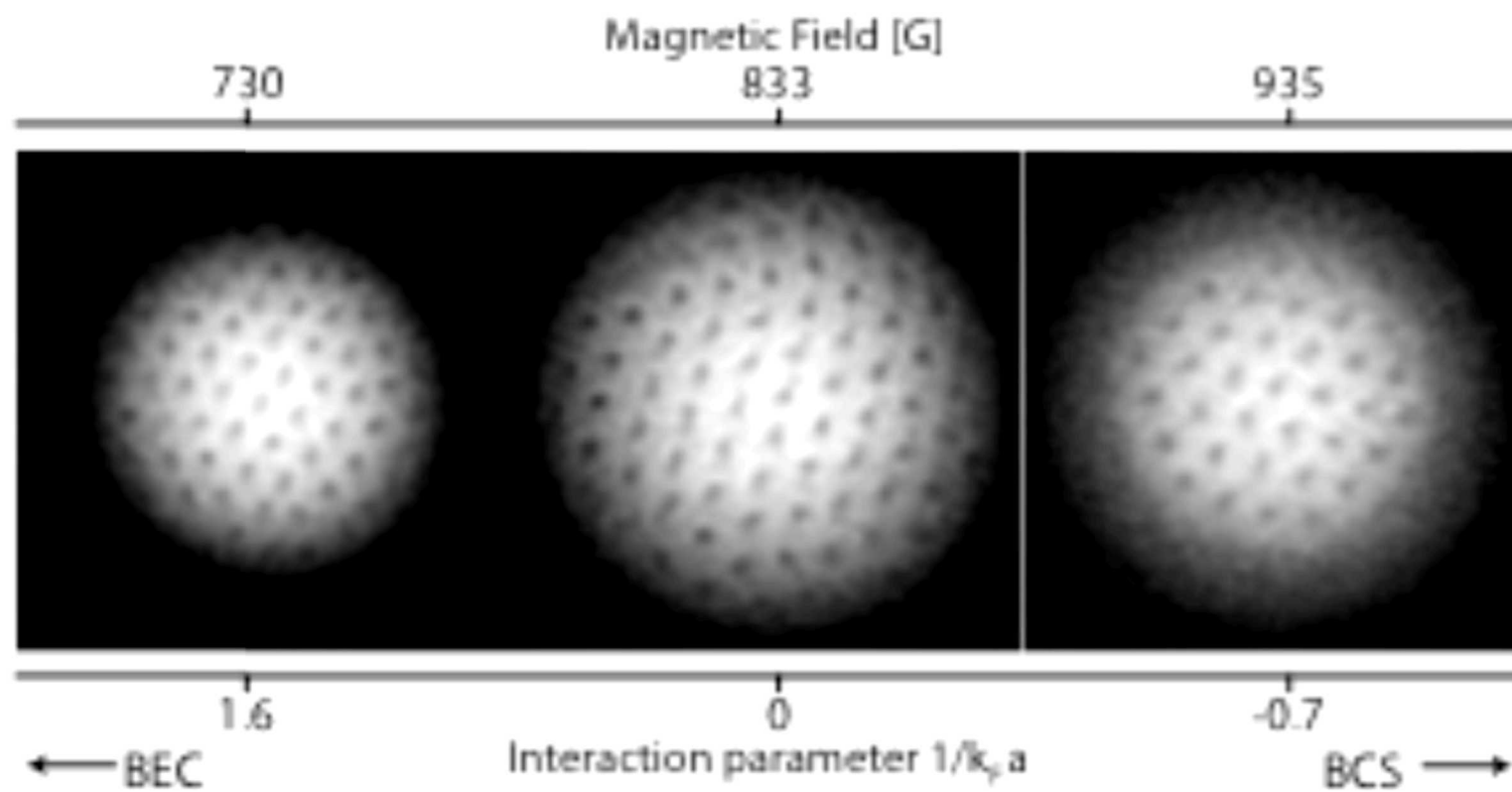
$1/N$ - expansion $\xi(T_c) = 0.59$ at $N = 1$ Nikolic/S. '06



cloud size (in situ)

		β
Experimental results	Bartenstein <i>et al.</i> [61]	$-0.68^{+0.13}_{-0.10}$
	Bourdel <i>et al.</i> [62]	$-0.64(15)$
	Duke [63]	$-0.49(4)$
	Partridge <i>et al.</i> [64]	$-0.54(5)$
Calculated values	Astrakharchik <i>et al.</i> [17]	$-0.58(1)$
	Carlson <i>et al.</i> [16]	$-0.56(1)$
	Hu, Liu, and Drummond [67]	-0.599
	Perali <i>et al.</i> [65]	-0.545
	Padé approximation[8,9]	-0.67
	Present work	-0.64

vortices as a signature of superfluidity MIT

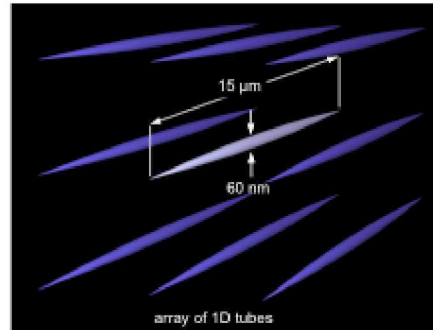


Cold Atoms in 1D (Bloch, Weiss, Schmiedmayer, ..)

strong optical lattice

in two directions

typ. $\approx 10^3$ wires



pseudopotential $U(x) = g_1 \delta(x)$ with $g_1 = 2\hbar\omega_{\perp} \cdot a_s$

repulsive Bosons $\gamma = \frac{\epsilon_{int}}{\epsilon_{kin}} = \frac{g_1 n}{\frac{\hbar^2}{m} n^2} = \frac{2a_s}{nl_{\perp}^2}$

strong coupling at low 1D densities $n \ll a_s/l_{\perp}^2$

Tonks-limit $\gamma = \infty$: 1D Bosons with hard-core int.

$$|\Psi_B(x_1 \dots x_N)| = \prod_{i < j} |\sin [\pi(x_j - x_i)/L]| =$$

$$= |\Psi_F^{(0)}(x_1 \dots x_N)| \leftrightarrow \text{free Fermions (Girardeau)}$$

Strongly interacting fermions in 1D

arbitr. small attraction gives two-particle binding !

Gaudin/Yang '67: Bethe-Ansatz solution of

$$\hat{H} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \sum_{\sigma} \int \hat{\Psi}_{\sigma}^{\dagger} \partial_x^2 \hat{\Psi}_{\sigma} + \frac{g_1}{2} \sum_{\sigma} \int \hat{\Psi}_{\sigma}^{\dagger} \hat{\Psi}_{-\sigma}^{\dagger} \hat{\Psi}_{-\sigma} \hat{\Psi}_{\sigma}$$

dim.less interaction constant $\gamma = mg_1/\hbar^2 n < 0$

H describes a Luther-Emery liquid : extended

pairs if $|\gamma| \ll 1$ transform to local pairs if $|\gamma| \gg 1$

BEC-limit: pairs are hard-core bosons (TG-gas)

Olshanii '98: scattering theory in a single channel wire

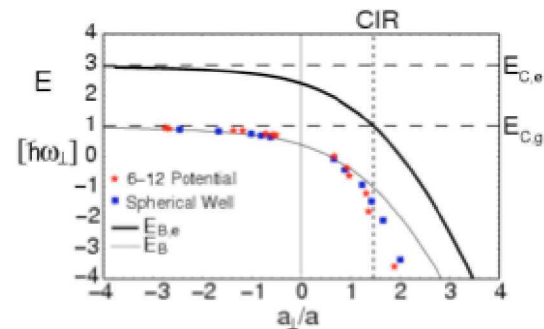
eff. pot. between fermions with opposite spin $g_1 \delta(x)$

$$g_1(a) = 2\hbar\omega_{\perp} \cdot \frac{a}{1 - Aa/a_{\perp}}$$

confinement induced resonance (CIR) at $a = a_{\perp}/A \approx a_{\perp}$

plus a bound state

for arbitrary sign of a



binding energy at CIR: $|\epsilon_b| = 2\hbar\omega_{\perp} \gg \epsilon_F \rightarrow$

BEC-side has unbreakable dimers with repulsive

interaction $g_1 \rightarrow 2\hbar\omega_{\perp} \cdot 0.6 a$ (Mora et al '05)

$\gamma < 0$: increasing $|\gamma|$ transforms Cooper-pairs

to tightly bound molecules; size at CIR is $\approx a_{\perp} \rightarrow$

hard core Bosons form Tonks gas

$\gamma > 0$: Boson size shrinks \rightarrow weakly interacting BEC

Bethe-Ansatz (Gaudin/Yang \rightarrow Lieb/Liniger)

$$\psi_{\sigma}(x_1, \dots, x_N) = \sum_P A_{\sigma}\{P\} \exp i \sum_j k_{jP} x_j$$

$N \rightarrow \infty$: quasimomenta distribution function $\rho(k)$

$$\pi\rho(k) = 1 + \int_{-K}^K \frac{dq}{n} \frac{\gamma\rho(k)}{\gamma^2 + [(k-q)/n]^2}$$

for both $\gamma < 0$ and $\gamma > 0$

excitations: a) **fermionic** for $\gamma < 0$

triplet excit. (2 spinons): $\omega^s(q) = \sqrt{(\Delta/2\hbar)^2 + (v_s q)^2}$

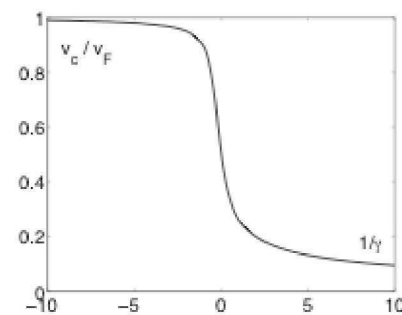
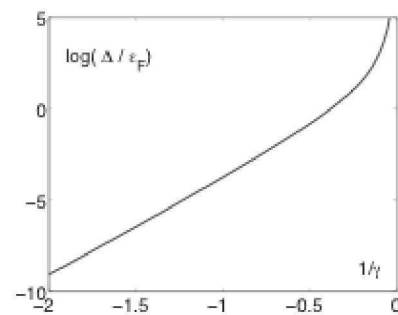
gap $\Delta \rightarrow 2\Delta_{BCS} = \epsilon_F 16\pi^{-3/2} |\gamma|^{1/2} \exp -\pi^2/2|\gamma|$

pair size reaches n^{-1} at $\gamma \approx -2$

spin gap at strong coupling $\Delta \rightarrow |\epsilon_b| = 2\hbar\omega_{\perp}$

b) **bosonic** collective excit. for arbitrary γ

Bogoliubov-Anderson mode: $\omega^c(q) = v_c \cdot q$

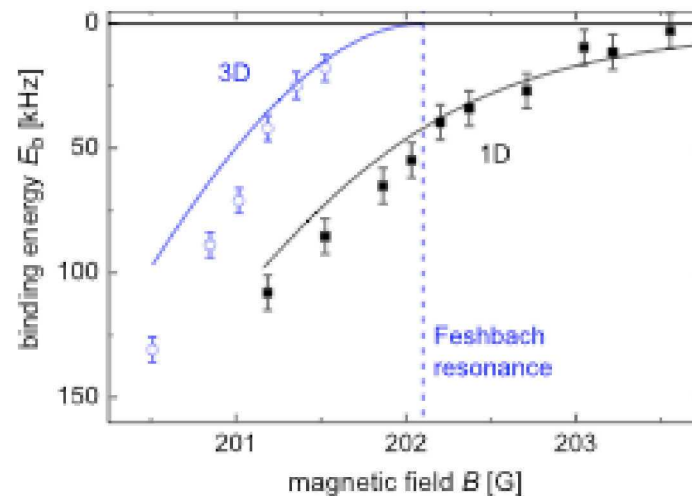


Experiments: Feshbach in 1D (^{40}K , Moritz '05)

$\omega_z \approx 2\pi \cdot 250 \text{ Hz}$, particle number $N \sim \epsilon_F/\hbar\omega_z \approx 100$

$\omega_{\perp} \approx 2\pi \cdot 69 \text{ kHz}$, temperature $T \approx 0.2 T_F$

RF-spectroscopy of
two-particle binding



Imbalanced 1D gases Hu/Liu/Drummond, Orso '07

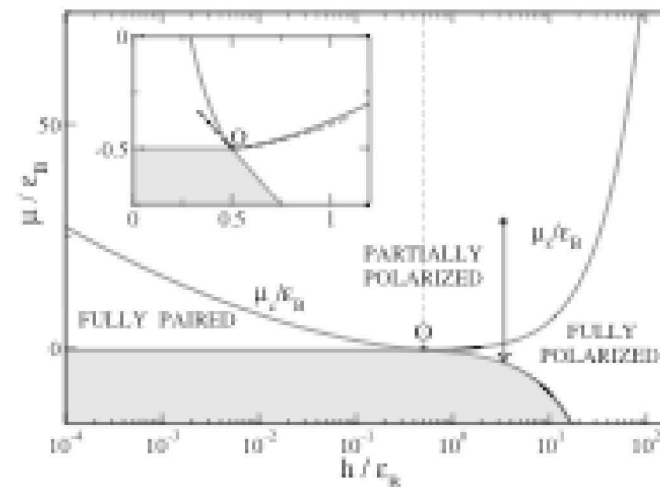
Clogston-Chandrasekhar $h_c \equiv \Delta/2$ where $n_\uparrow \neq n_\downarrow$

saturation field h_s beyond which $n_\downarrow \equiv 0$

$T = 0$ phase diagram

partially polarized phase

exhibits **FFLO** - order



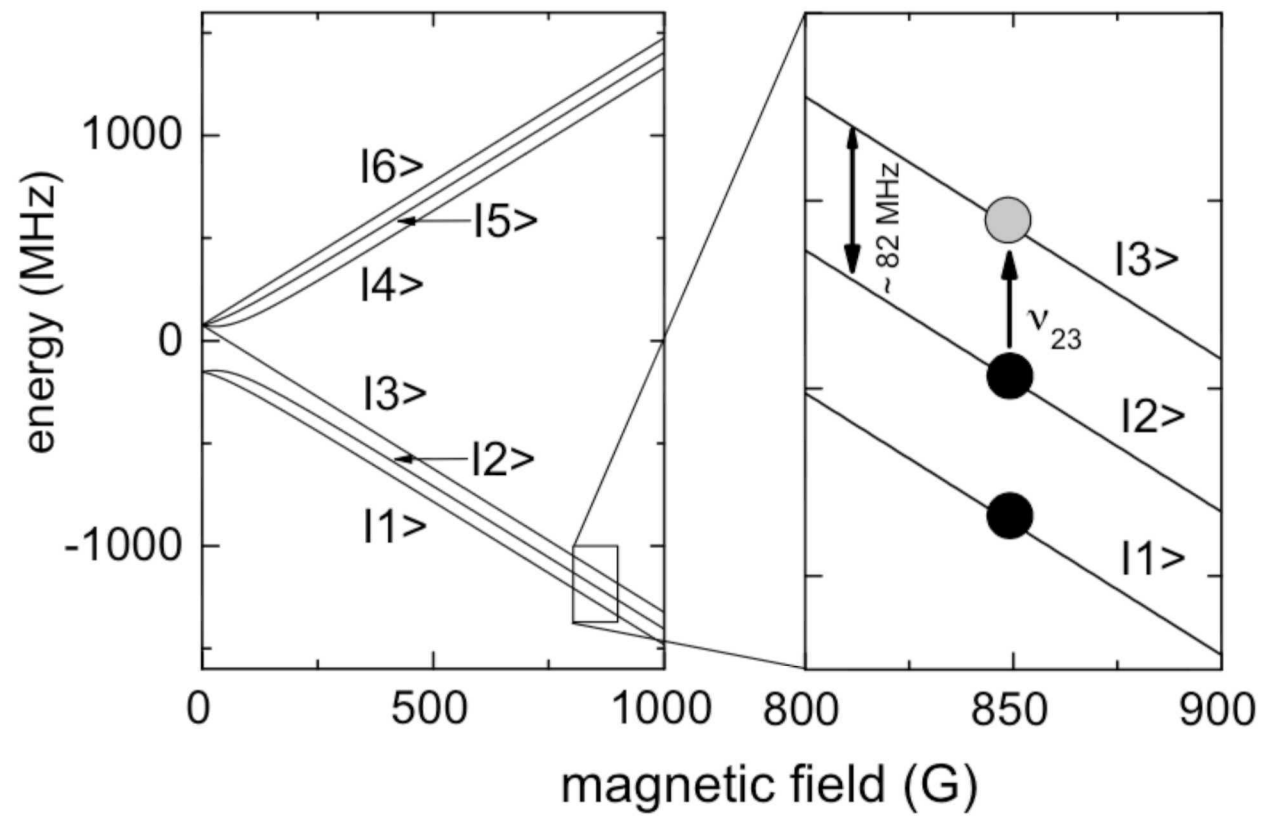
$$\langle \hat{\Psi}_\uparrow^\dagger(x) \hat{\Psi}_\downarrow^\dagger(x) \hat{\Psi}_\downarrow(x') \hat{\Psi}_\uparrow(x') \rangle \sim \exp [iQ(x - x')] / |x - x'|^{1/K}$$

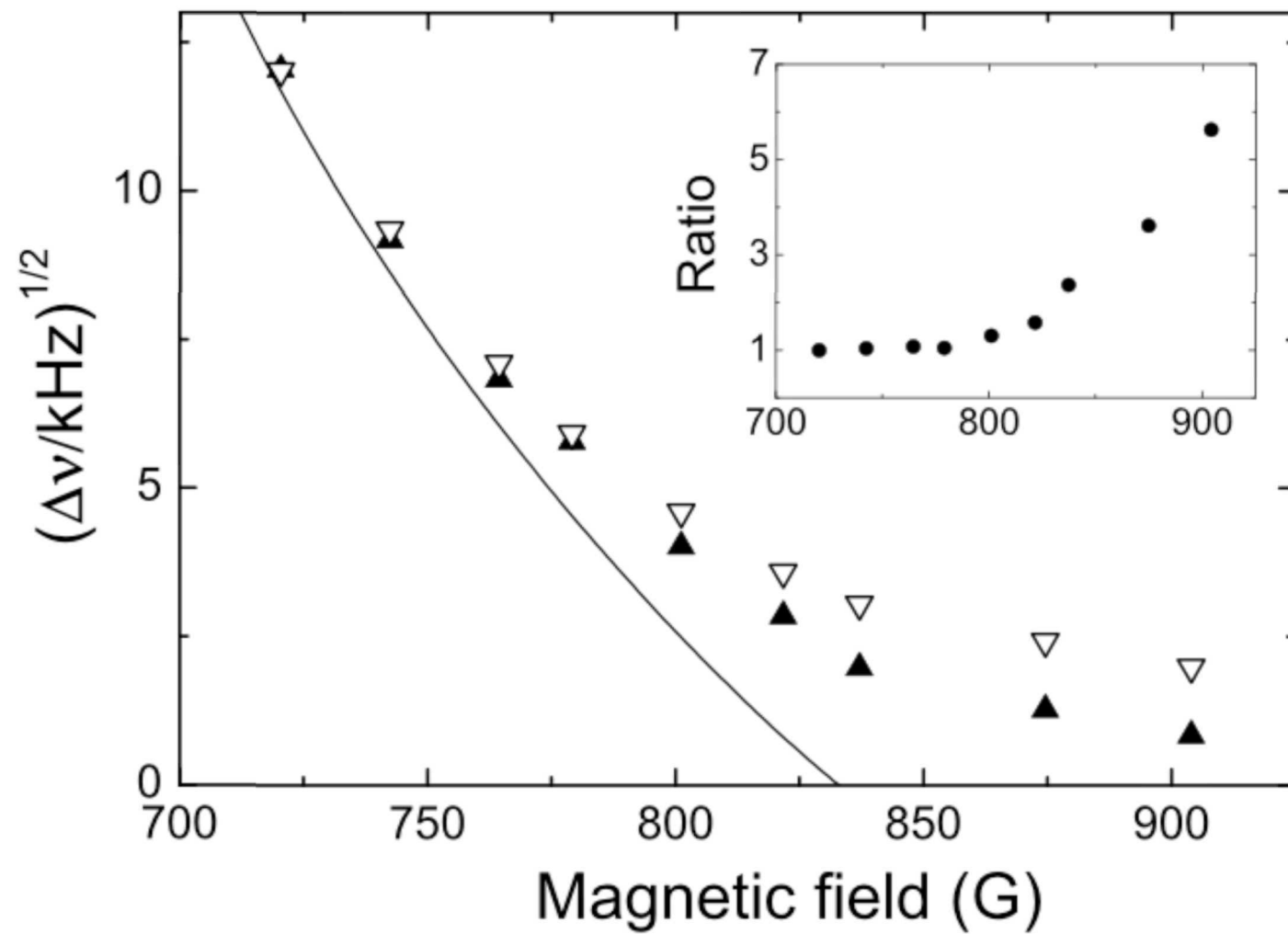
Novel phases in imbalanced Fermi gases

fermionic superfluids possess a pairing gap

measurable by **RF-spectroscopy** Chin et al '04

- a) what is actually measured near unitarity ?
- b) is the appearance of a 'gap' proof of **superfluidity** ?





RF-spectrum as a probe of superfluidity

$$I(\omega) \sim \int dt e^{i\omega t} \langle [\hat{\Psi}_3^\dagger(t) \hat{\Psi}_\downarrow(t), \hat{\Psi}_\downarrow^\dagger(0) \hat{\Psi}_3(0)] \rangle$$

peak shift $\hbar\bar{\omega} = \frac{\langle H'_{12} \rangle}{N_2} \left(\frac{\bar{g}_{13}}{g_{12}} - 1 \right) \rightarrow \frac{\langle H'_{12} \rangle}{N_2 \Lambda} \frac{\pi}{2} \left(\frac{1}{a_{13}} - \frac{1}{a_{12}} \right)$

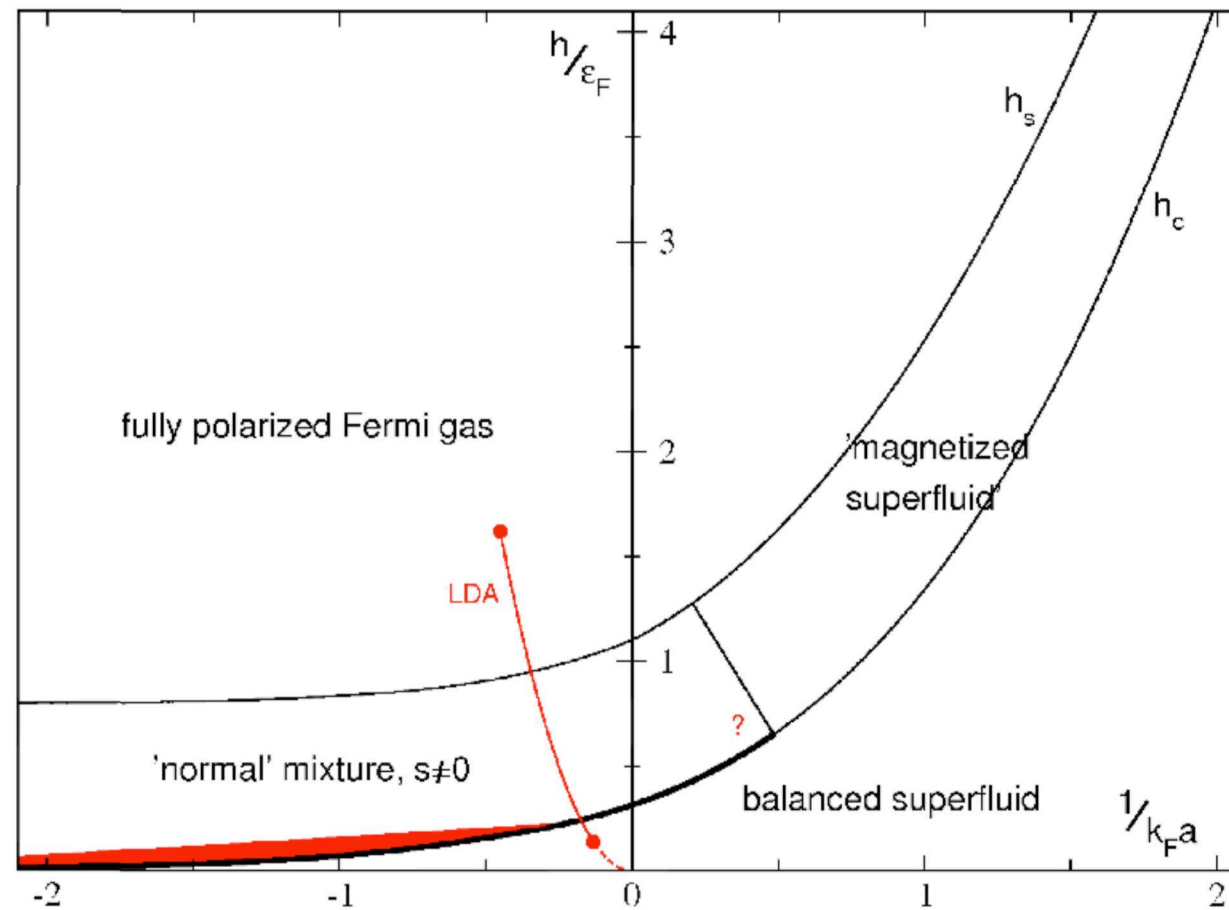
energy $E = 2 \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} (n_{\mathbf{k}} - C/k^4) \quad C = s k_F^4$

$$\hbar\bar{\omega} = s \cdot \frac{4\varepsilon_F^2}{n_2} \left(\frac{1}{g_{12}} - \frac{1}{g_{13}} \right) \quad \text{Punk/Zw. '07}$$

gives $\hbar\bar{\omega} = \begin{cases} 2\varepsilon_b(1 - a_{12}/a_{13}) & \text{BEC-limit} \\ -0.19 \hbar^2 k_F / m a_{13} & \text{at unitarity} \end{cases}$

Imbalanced Fermi gases Partridge, Zwierlein '06

$N_{\uparrow} - N_{\downarrow} \neq 0$ implies $\mu_{\uparrow} - \mu_{\downarrow} \equiv 2h \neq 0$



Clogston-Chandrasekhar field near unitarity

Zwierlein et al '06 disappearance of vortex lattice

beyond a critical imbalance $\delta_c \approx 0.77$

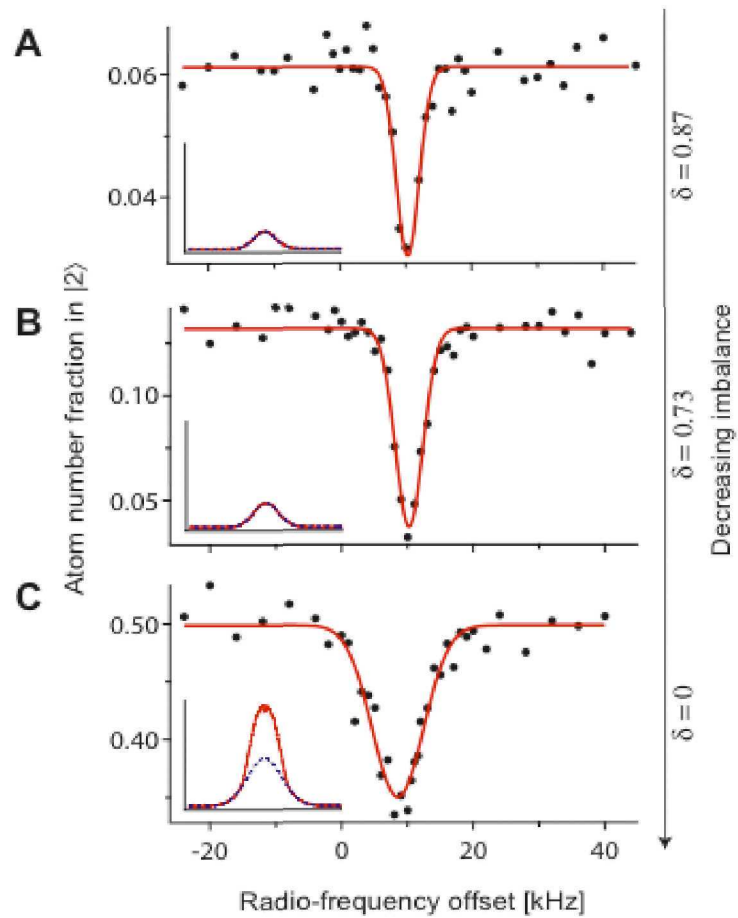
Lobo et al '06 $h_c \approx 0.96 \mu \rightarrow h_c \approx 0.4 \epsilon_F$

saturation field h_s to a fully polarized Fermi gas

Chevy '06: $h_s \geq 0.6 \mu_{\uparrow}$ implies $h_s \geq 1.27 \epsilon_F$

RF in imbalanced gases

Schunck et al '07



Conclusions

- 1) The BCS-BEC crossover in the balanced case is qualitatively well understood, precise results for universal ratio's and dynamical prop. are still open.
- 2) Imbalanced gases exhibit novel phases, like a 'magnetized superfluid' or (possibly) FFLO order.
FFLO appears accessible in 1D imbalanced gases.



Collective mode damping and viscosity

shear viscosity η from sound damping (hydrodynamic)

$$\omega(q) = cq - i \frac{2\eta}{3\rho} \cdot q^2 + \dots$$

$$\alpha_\eta = \eta/\hbar n \sim m\langle v \rangle \ell/\hbar \rightarrow k_F \ell \geq (6\pi)^{-1} \quad \text{Shuryak '04}$$

is the unitary Fermi gas a perfect liquid ? Son '07

quantum hydrodynamics $\hat{H}_0 = \frac{c}{2} \int \left[\frac{\rho}{c} (\nabla\varphi)^2 + \frac{c}{\rho} \Pi^2 \right]$

phase $\hat{\varphi}(\mathbf{x})$ and density fluctuations $\hat{\Pi}(\mathbf{x})$

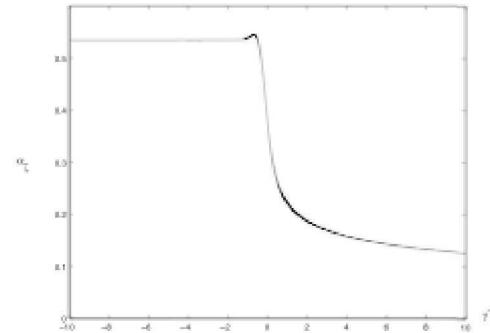
$$\hat{H}' = \frac{1}{6} \int \left[\nabla\varphi \Pi \nabla\varphi + (\nabla\varphi)^2 \Pi + \Pi (\nabla\varphi)^2 + \frac{d}{d\rho} \left(\frac{c^2}{\rho} \right) \Pi^3 \right]$$

self-energy $\Sigma(q, \omega = cq) = -i \frac{\zeta}{2\rho} \cdot q^2$ at $T = 0$

$$\zeta = \alpha_\zeta \hbar n \quad \text{with} \quad \alpha_\zeta = \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\left(\frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{1}{2}\right) \frac{c}{v_F}} \left\{ 3 + \frac{v_F^2}{c^2} \frac{d}{dv_F} \left(\frac{c^2}{v_F} \right) \right\}$$

at unitarity (CIR)

$$\alpha_\zeta = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi/2 - 1} = 0.38$$



$$T \neq 0 \quad \text{Im} \Sigma(q, \omega = cq) \sim \sqrt{T} \cdot q^{3/2} \quad \text{Andreev '80}$$

sound damping is not hydrodynamic at finite T

$$\text{dynamical scaling} \quad \Gamma_q = \frac{\hbar q^2}{2m} \Phi(q\xi_T) \quad \text{with}$$

$$\xi_T = \hbar c/T \quad \text{and} \quad \Phi(x) = \begin{cases} \alpha_\zeta & \text{for } q\xi_T \gg 1 \\ 3.7\alpha_\zeta/\sqrt{x} & \text{for } q\xi_T \ll 1 \end{cases}$$

partially polarized, normal phase $h_c < h < h_s$

poles of pair scattering amplitude $\Gamma_{\uparrow,\downarrow}(\mathbf{q} = 0, \omega)$

excitations at $2h - \Omega_+$ and $-2h + \Omega_-$

binding energy of \uparrow, \downarrow -pairs

approaches $0.6 \mu_{\uparrow}$ for

$h \gg h_c$ (Chevy '06)

