

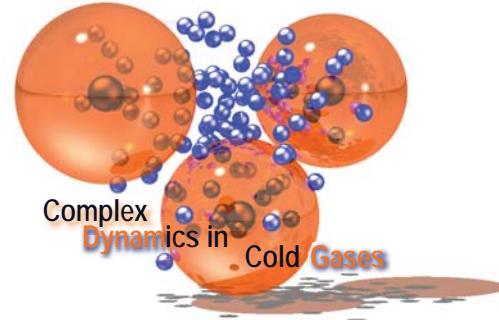
**2449-6**

**38th Conference of the Middle European Cooperation in Statistical Physics -  
MECO38**

*25 - 27 March 2013*

**Quantum Phases and Non-equilibrium Dynamics with Rydberg Gases**

Tommaso MACRI'  
*Max Planck Institute for the Physics of Complex Systems*  
*Dresden*  
*Germany*



# Quantum phases and non-equilibrium dynamics with Rydberg gases

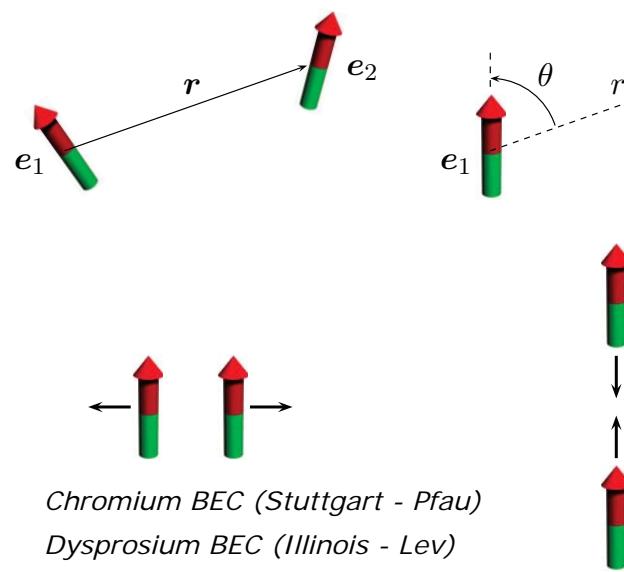
**Tommaso Macrì**  
Max Planck Institute  
for the Physics of Complex Systems, Dresden (Germany)

**Trieste, March 25 2013**

# Motivation

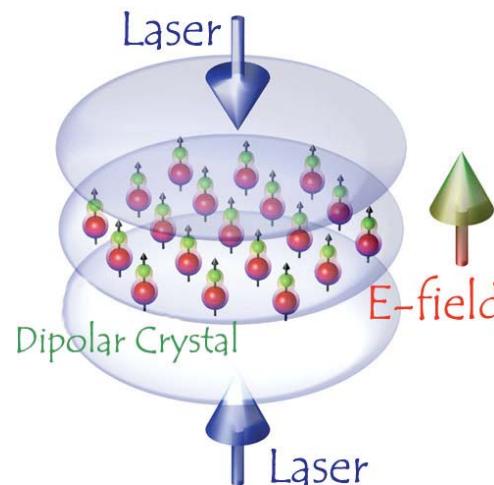
***Manipulation of ultracold atomic gases with long range interactions***

*Magnetic atoms & Polar molecules*



Chromium BEC (Stuttgart - Pfau)  
Dysprosium BEC (Illinois - Lev)  
Erbium BEC (Innsbruck - Ferlaino)

K-Rb Molecules (Jila - Jin, Ye)  
Na-K Molecules (MIT, Zwierlein & Trento, Ferrari and Lamporesi )

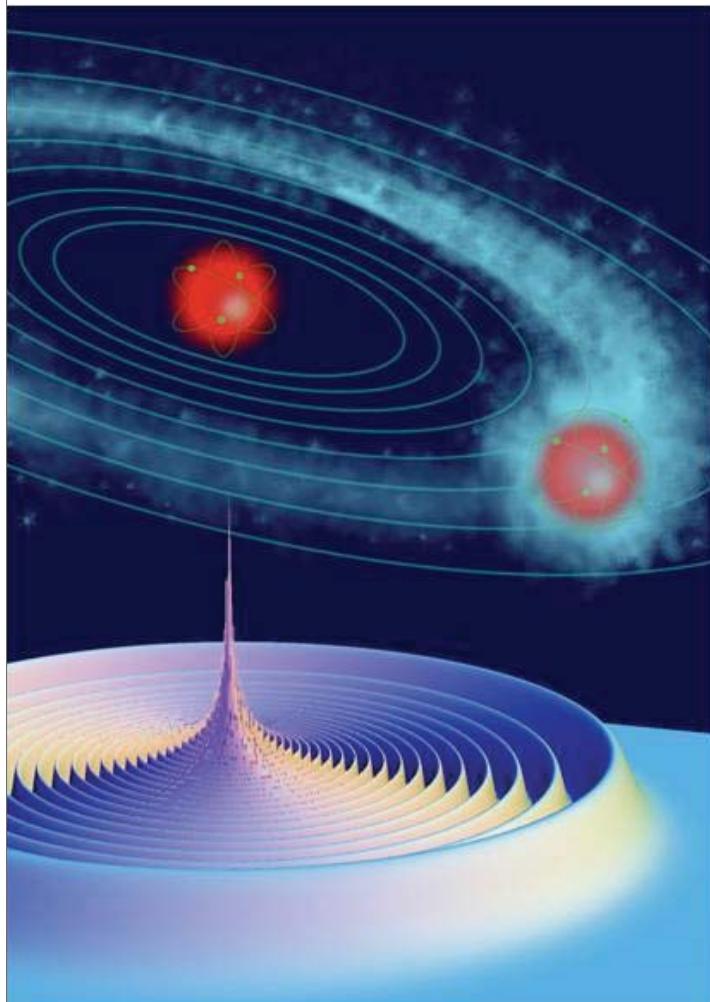


- H. P. Büchler, E. Demler, M. Lukin, A. Micheli, N. Prokof'ev, G. Pupillo and P. Zoller, Phys. Rev. Lett. **98**, 060404 (2007)  
T. Lahaye, C. Menotti, L. Santos, M. Lewenstein and T. Pfau, Rep. Prog. Phys. **72**, 126401 (2009)  
C. Trefzger, C. Menotti, B. Capogrosso-Sansone and M. Lewenstein, J. Phys. B **44**, 193001 (2011)  
M. Baranov, M. Dalmonte, G. Pupillo and P. Zoller, Chemical Reviews **112**, 5012 (2012)

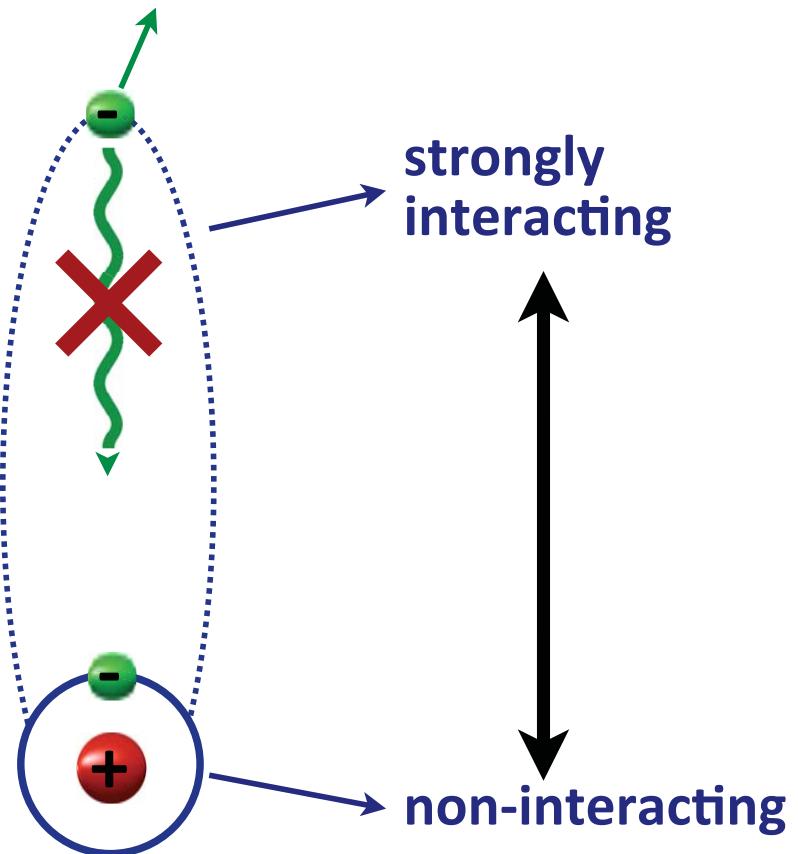
# Motivation

*Manipulation of ultracold atomic gases with long range interactions*

*Rydberg gases*



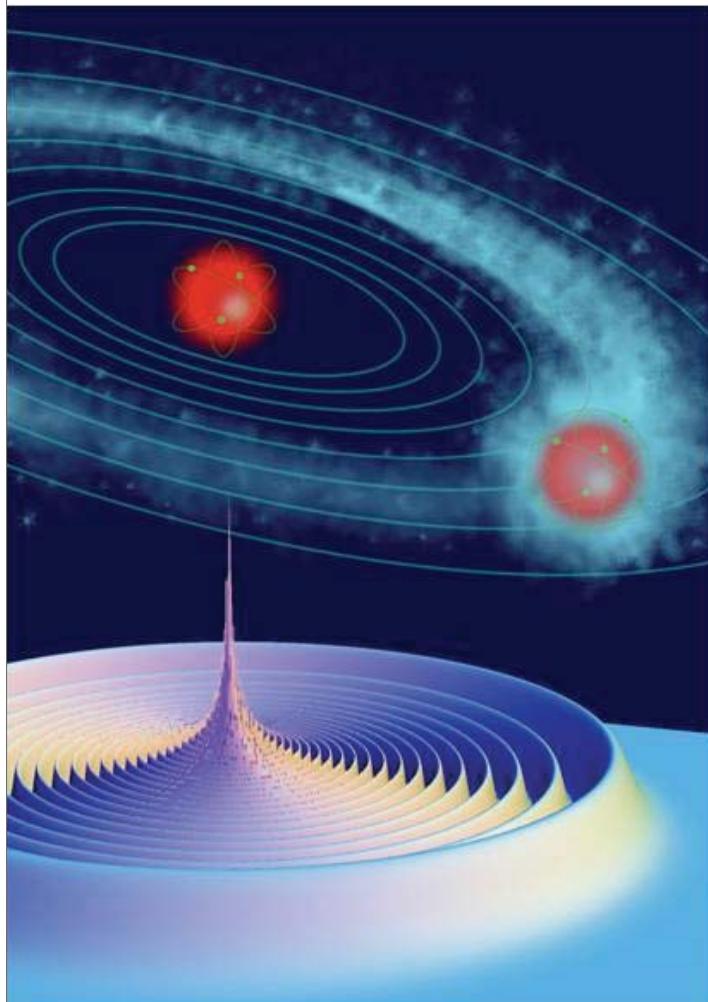
**radiative lifetime**  $\tau = 10 - 100 \mu\text{s}$



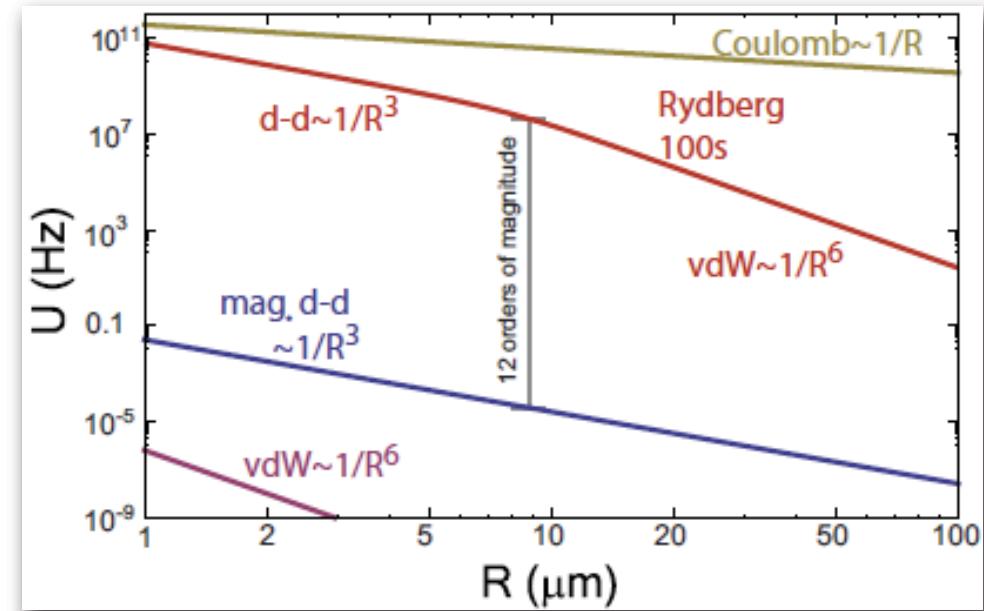
# Motivation

*Manipulation of ultracold atomic gases with long range interactions*

*Rydberg gases*



*Strong interactions  
compared to other systems*



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

# Motivation

*Manipulation of ultracold atomic gases with long range interactions*

*Rydberg gases*

## **COHERENT MANY BODY PHYSICS**

- ▶ *Fast dynamics - internal degrees of freedom: dynamical creation of spatially ordered structures in spin models*
  
- ▶ *Slow dynamics - motional degrees of freedom: defect-induced supersolidity vs. Density wave supersolidity*

T. M., F. Maucher, F. Cinti, T. Pohl, ArXiv 1212.6934v1 (2012)

F. Cinti, T. M., W. Lechner G. Pupillo, and T. Pohl, ArXiv 1302.4576v1 (2013)

# Motivation

*Rydberg gases*

## ***COHERENT MANY BODY PHYSICS***

- ▶ *Fast dynamics - internal degrees of freedom: dynamical creation of spatially ordered structures in spin models*



Günes Soyler



Thomas Pohl



Immanuel Bloch's group

- ▶ *Slow dynamics - motional degrees of freedom: defect-induced supersolidity vs. Density wave supersolidity*



Fabio Cinti



Fabian Maucher



Wolfgang Lechner



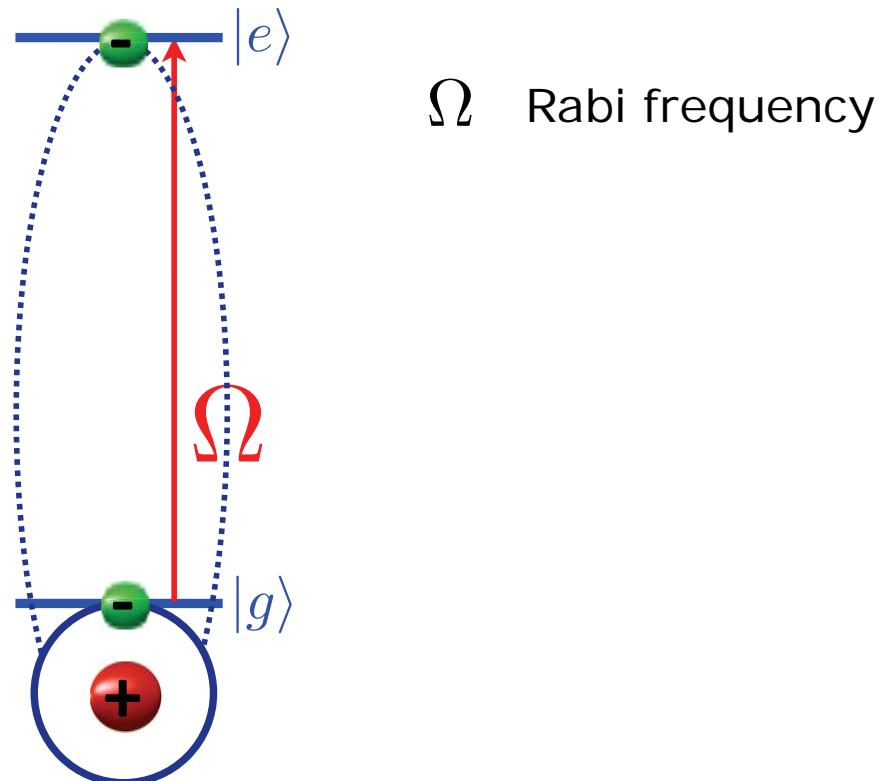
Guido Pupillo



Thomas Pohl

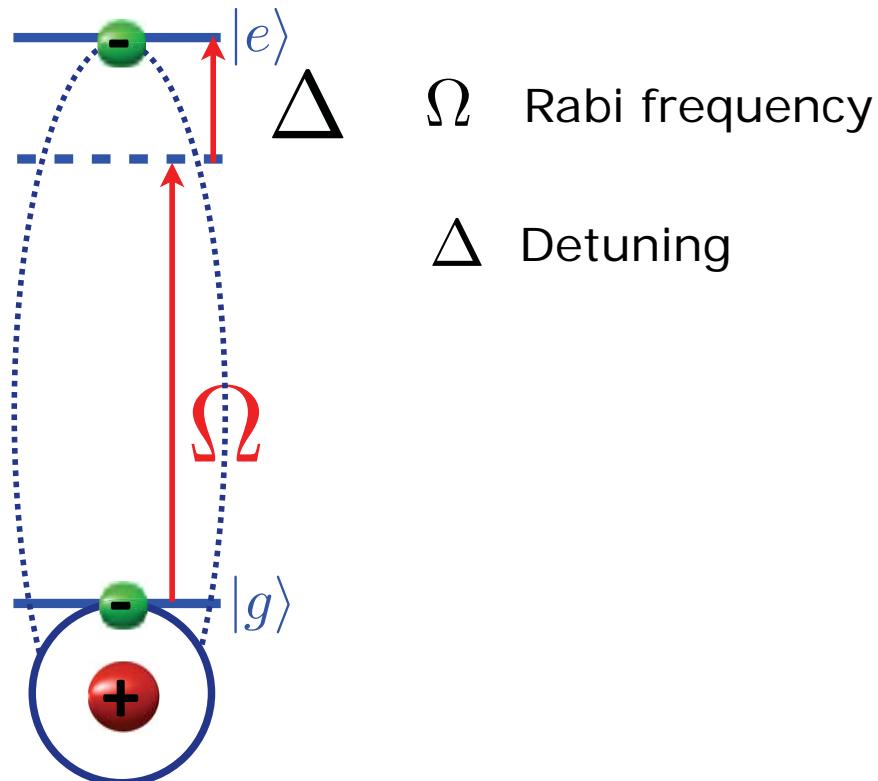
# Quantum dynamics

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\Omega}{2} \sum_i \hat{\sigma}_{eg}^{(i)} + \hat{\sigma}_{ge}^{(i)}$$



# Quantum dynamics

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\Omega}{2} \sum_i \hat{\sigma}_{eg}^{(i)} + \hat{\sigma}_{ge}^{(i)} - \Delta \sum_i \hat{\sigma}_{ee}^i$$



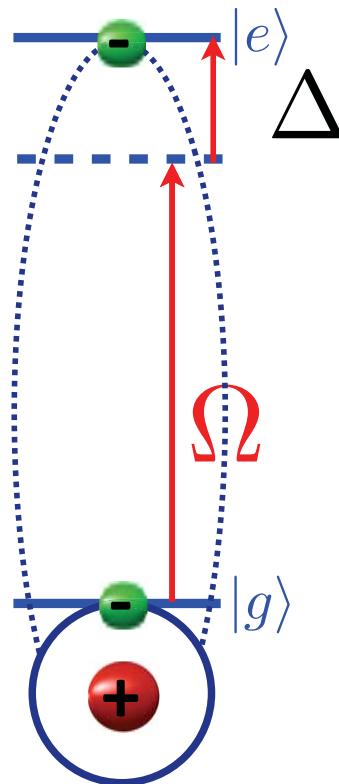
$\Omega$  Rabi frequency

$\Delta$  Detuning

# Quantum dynamics

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\Omega}{2} \sum_i \hat{\sigma}_{eg}^{(i)} + \hat{\sigma}_{ge}^{(i)} - \Delta \sum_i \hat{\sigma}_{ee}^i + \sum_{i < j} \frac{\tilde{C}_6}{r_{ij}^6} \hat{\sigma}_{ee}^{(i)} \hat{\sigma}_{ee}^{(j)}$$

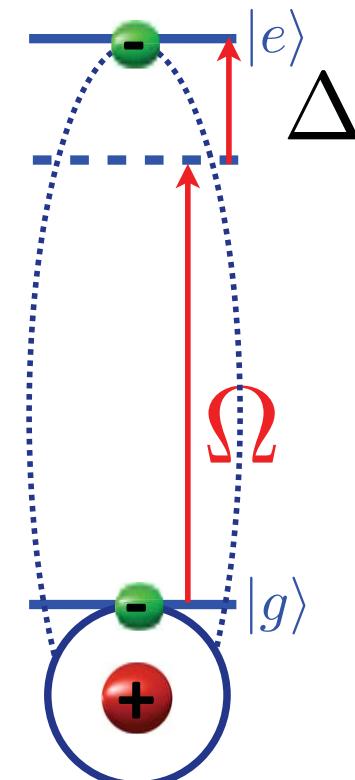
*Quantum simulator for long range spin models with longitudinal and transverse field*



$\Omega$  Rabi frequency

$\Delta$  Detuning

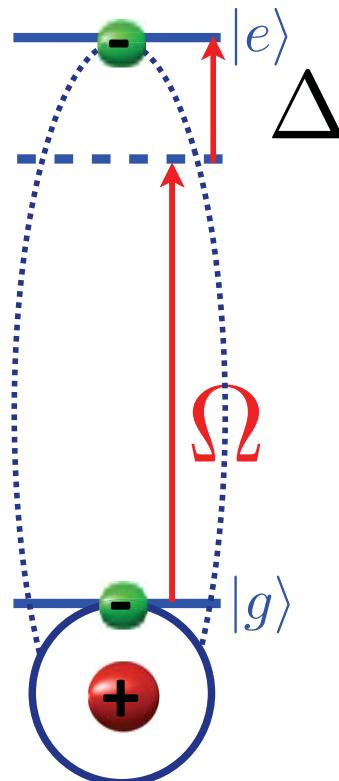
$\frac{\tilde{C}_6}{a^6}$  van der Walls coefficient



# Quantum dynamics

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\Omega}{2} \sum_i \hat{\sigma}_{eg}^{(i)} + \hat{\sigma}_{ge}^{(i)} - \Delta \sum_i \hat{\sigma}_{ee}^i + \sum_{i < j} \frac{\tilde{C}_6}{r_{ij}^6} \hat{\sigma}_{ee}^{(i)} \hat{\sigma}_{ee}^{(j)}$$

*Quantum simulator for long range spin models with longitudinal and transverse field*

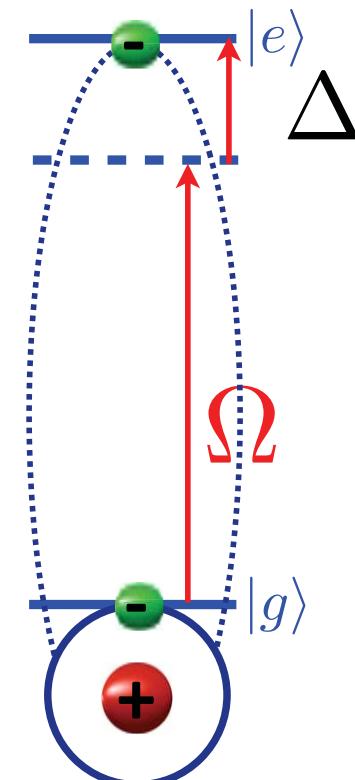


$$\Omega \sim 0.3 \text{ h MHz}$$

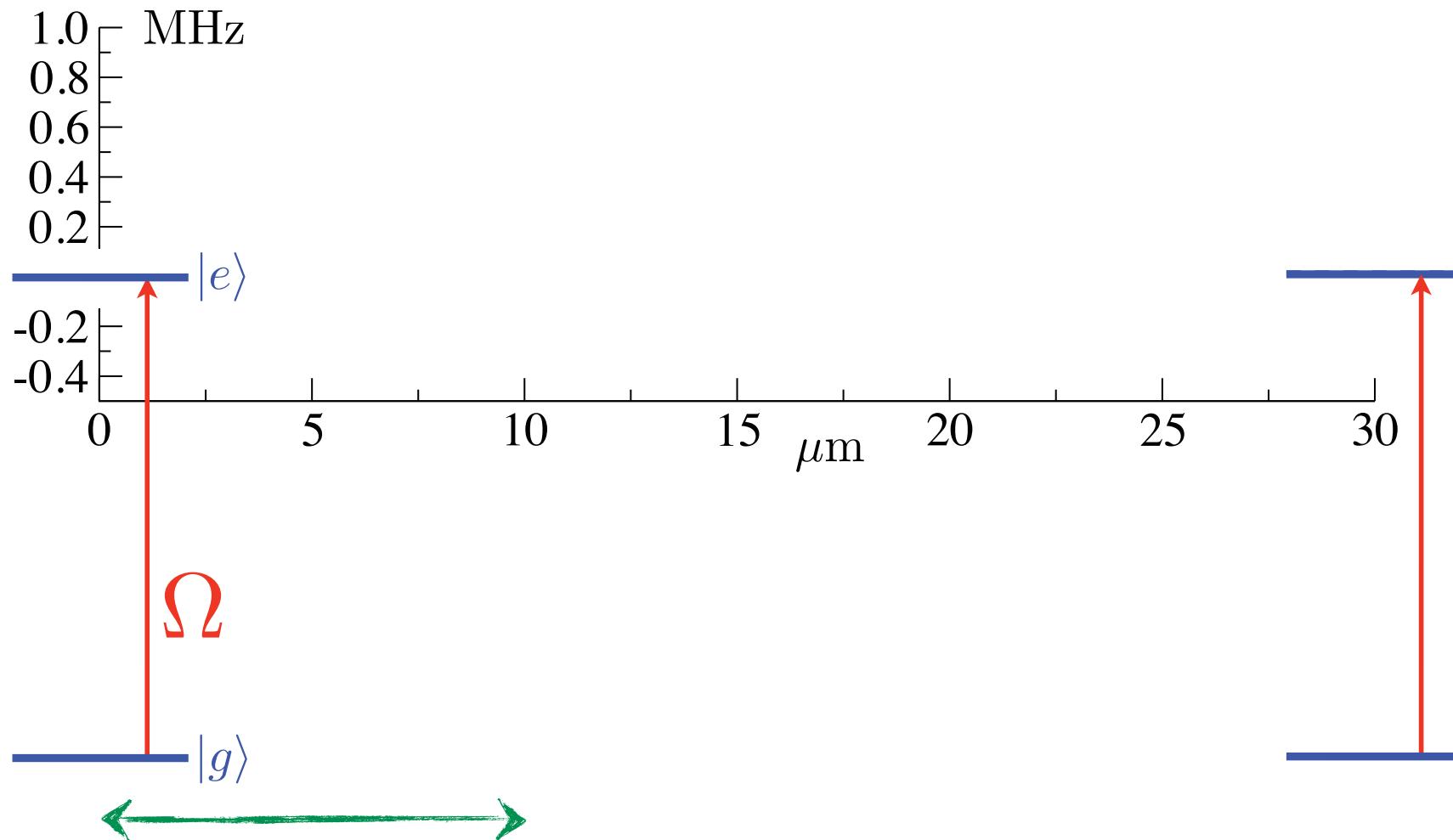
$$\Delta \sim 1 - 5 \text{ h MHz}$$

$$\frac{\tilde{C}_6}{a^6} \sim 100 \text{ h GHz} @ n = 43$$

 **Energy scales:** interaction is by far the largest scale



# Excitation blockade



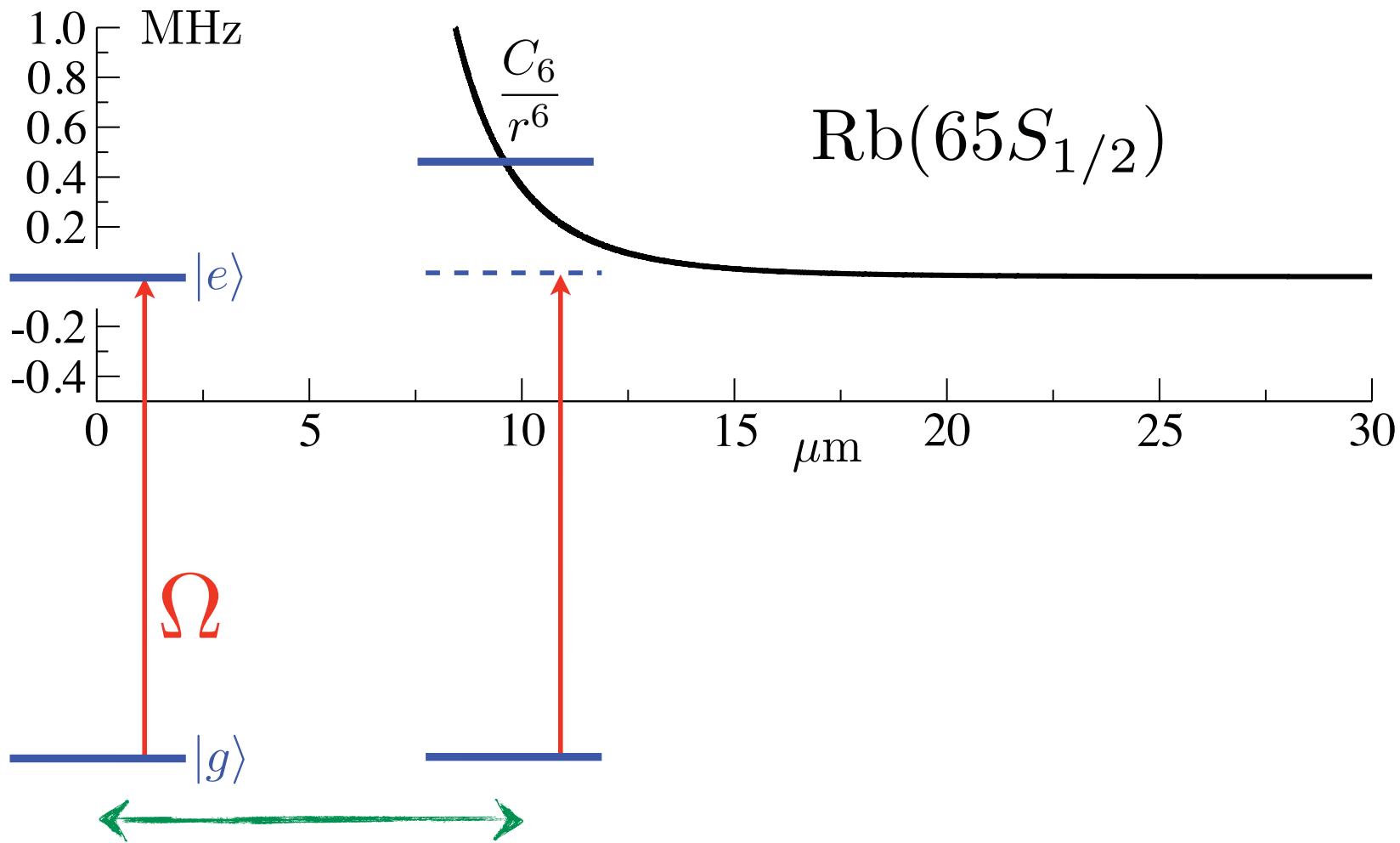
$$R_0 \approx 10 \mu\text{m}$$

$$a \approx 0.1 \mu\text{m}$$

Blockade radius  $\gg$  Interparticle distance

*Simultaneous excitations  
blocked within blockade sphere*

# Excitation blockade



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Blockade radius  $\gg$

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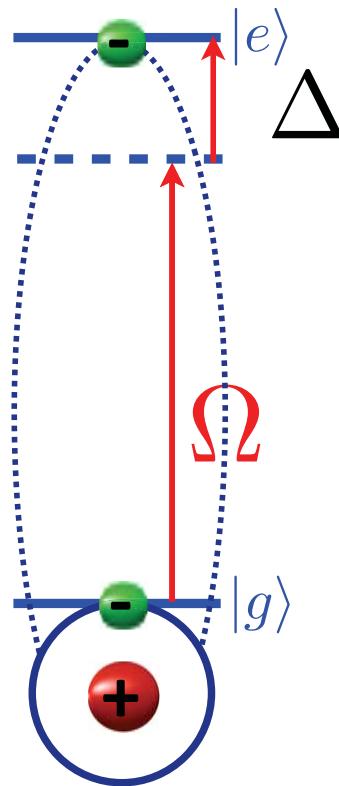
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# Quantum dynamics

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\Omega}{2} \sum_i \hat{\sigma}_{eg}^{(i)} + \hat{\sigma}_{ge}^{(i)} - \Delta \sum_i \hat{\sigma}_{ee}^i + \sum_{i < j} \frac{\tilde{C}_6}{r_{ij}^6} \hat{\sigma}_{ee}^{(i)} \hat{\sigma}_{ee}^{(j)}$$

*Quantum simulator for long range spin models with longitudinal and transverse field*



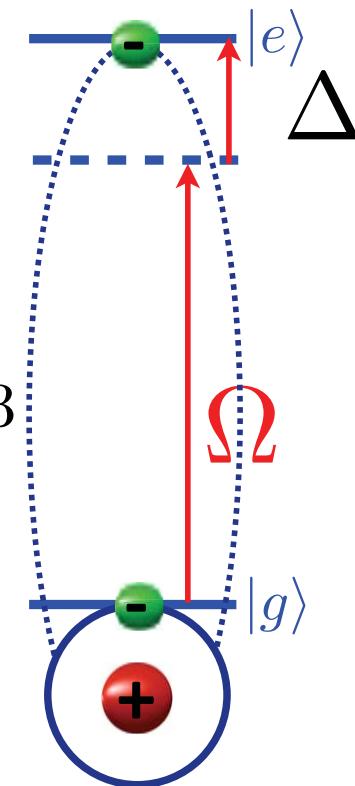
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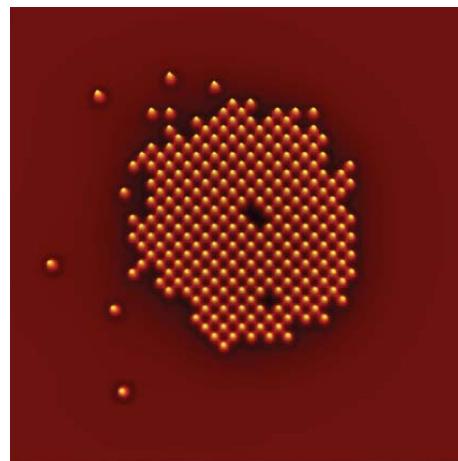
✳ *Energy scales*: interaction is by far the largest scale

✳ *Time scales*: atoms are frozen, only spin degrees of freedom

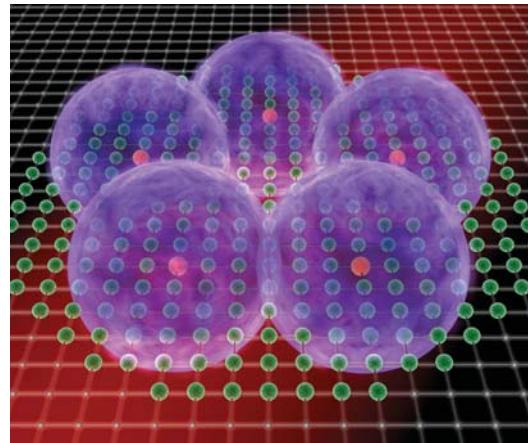


# Experiment

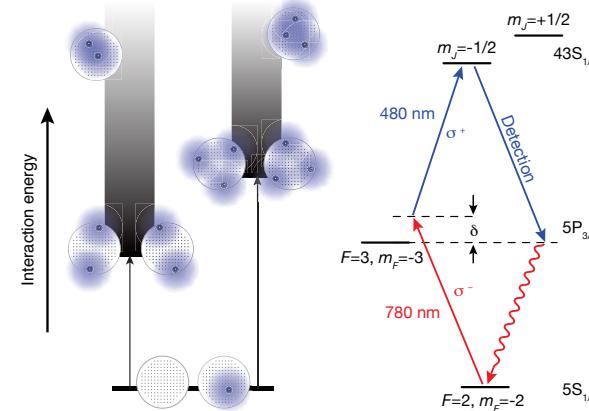
Step 1: Deep Mott insulator



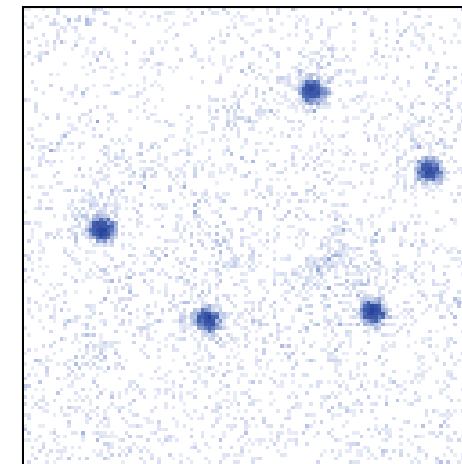
Step 3: Remove optically the ground state atoms



Step 2: Fast resonant excitation  
coherent dynamics



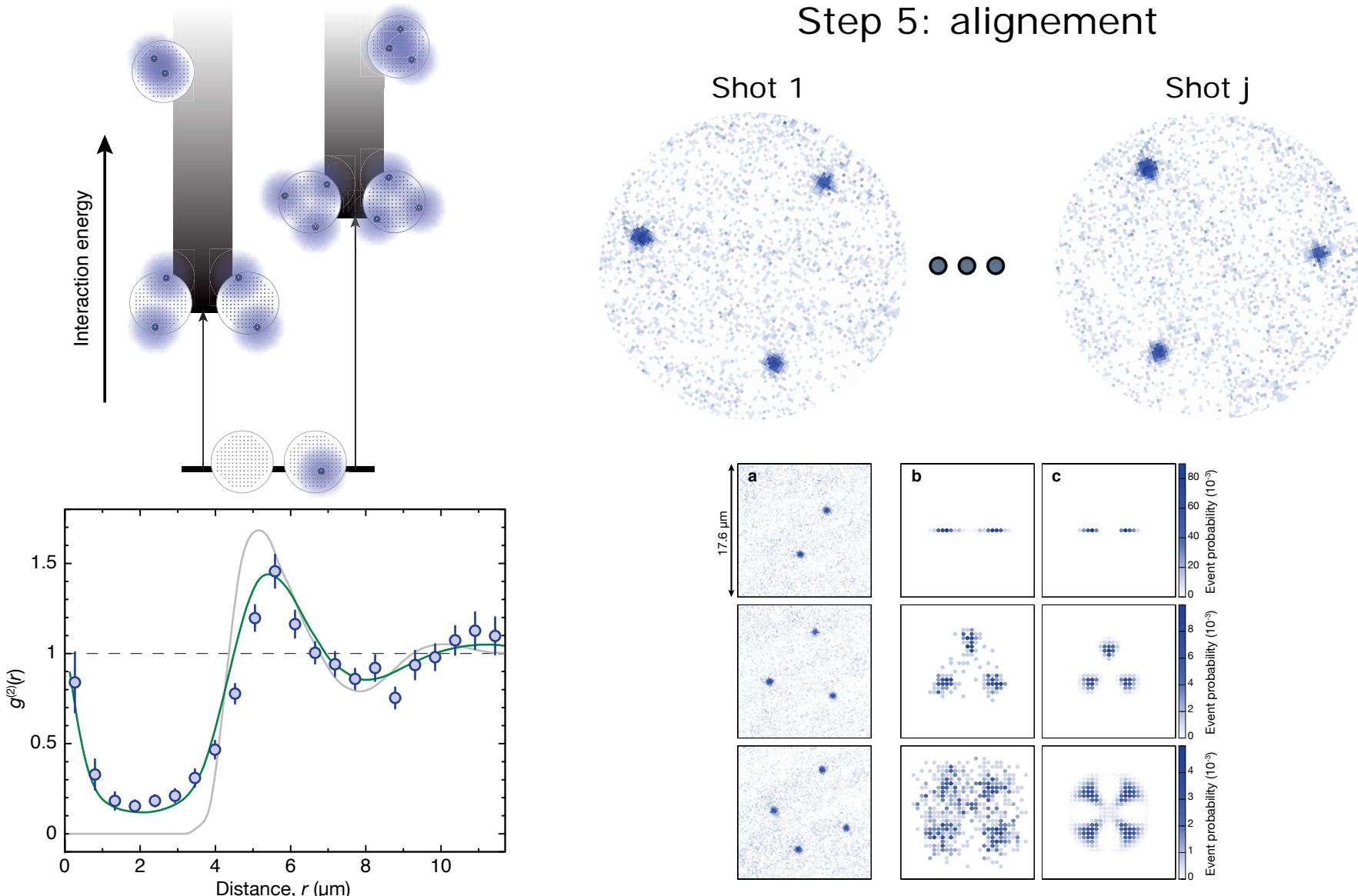
Step 4: De-excite and detect  
Rydberg atoms



P. Schauß, M. Chenau, M. Endres, T. Fukuhara, S. Hild, A. Omran, T. Pohl, C. Gross, S. Kuhr, I. Bloch, Nature 491, 87 (2012)

# Quench dynamics

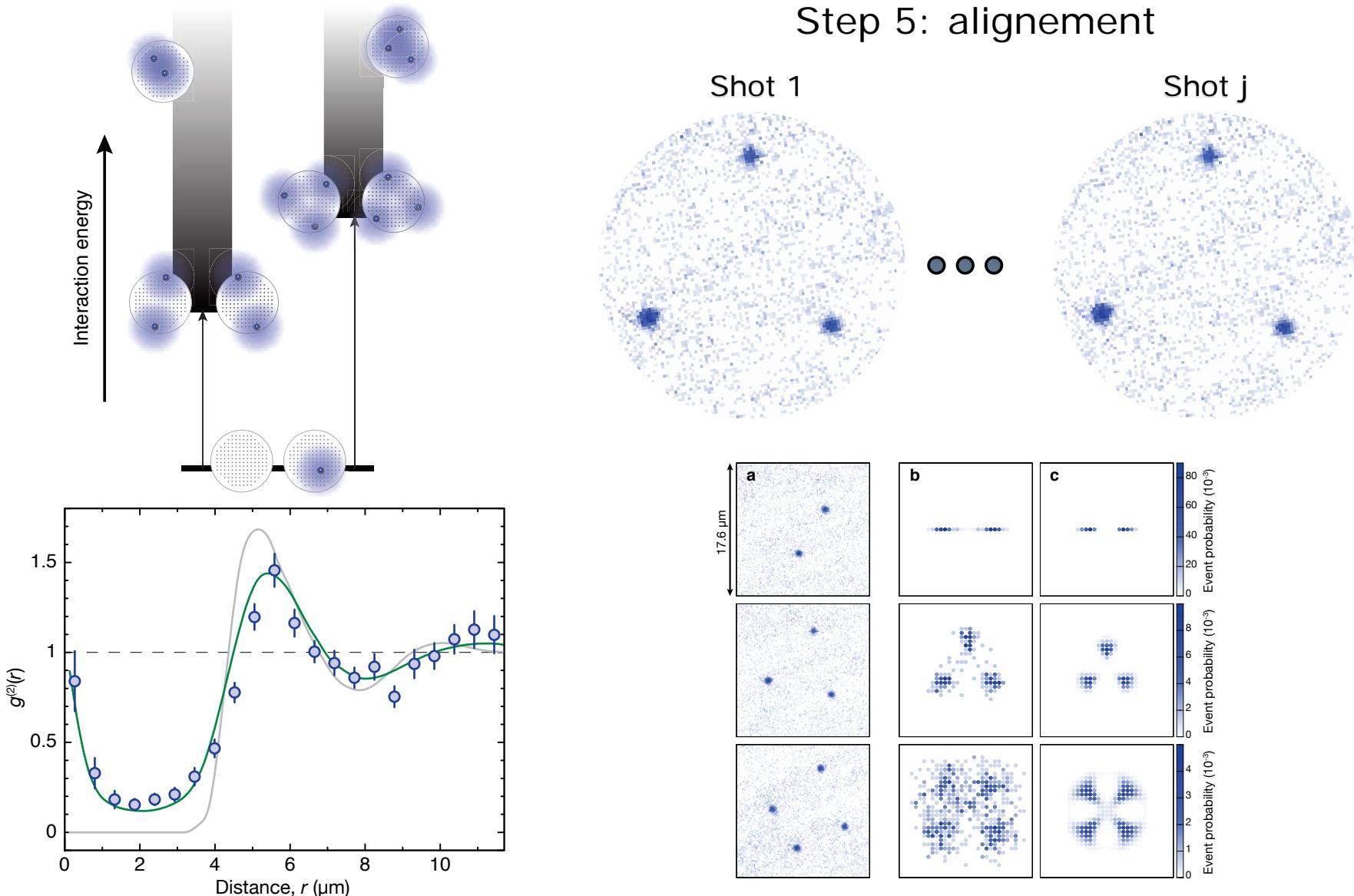
Step 5: alignement



P. Schauß, M. Chenau, M. Endres, T. Fukuhara, S. Hild, A. Omran, T. Pohl, C. Gross, S. Kuhr, I. Bloch, Nature 491, 87 (2012)

# Quench dynamics

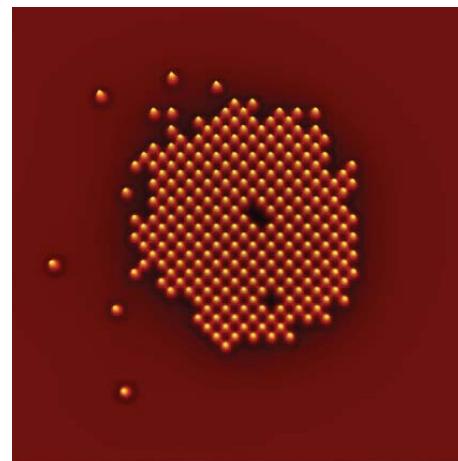
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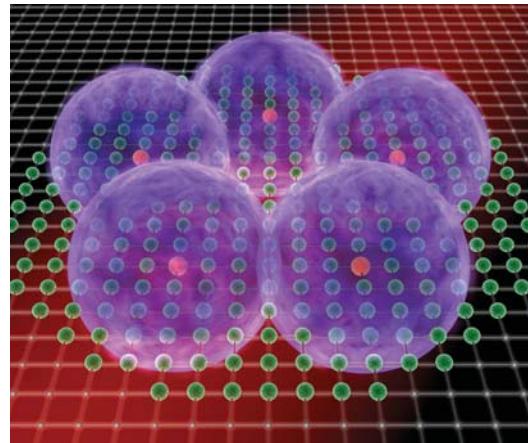
P. Schauß, M. Chenau, M. Endres, T. Fukuhara, S. Hild, A. Omran, T. Pohl, C. Gross, S. Kuhr, I. Bloch, Nature 491, 87 (2012)

# Experiment (ongoing)

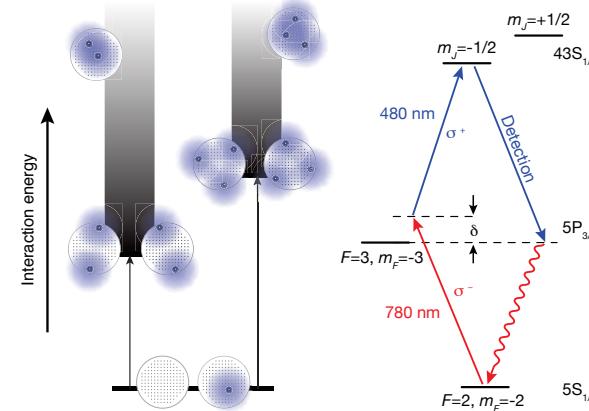
Step 1: Deep Mott insulator



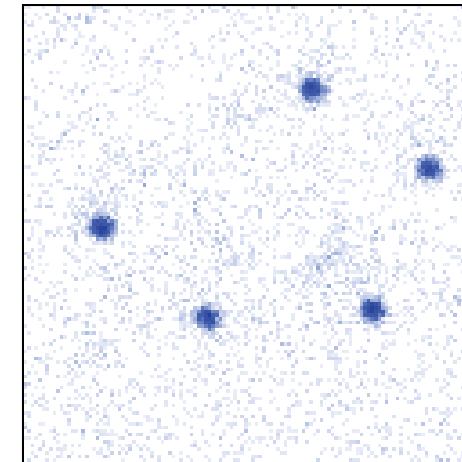
Step 3: Remove optically the ground state atoms



Step 2: Off-resonant non constant excitation coherent dynamics



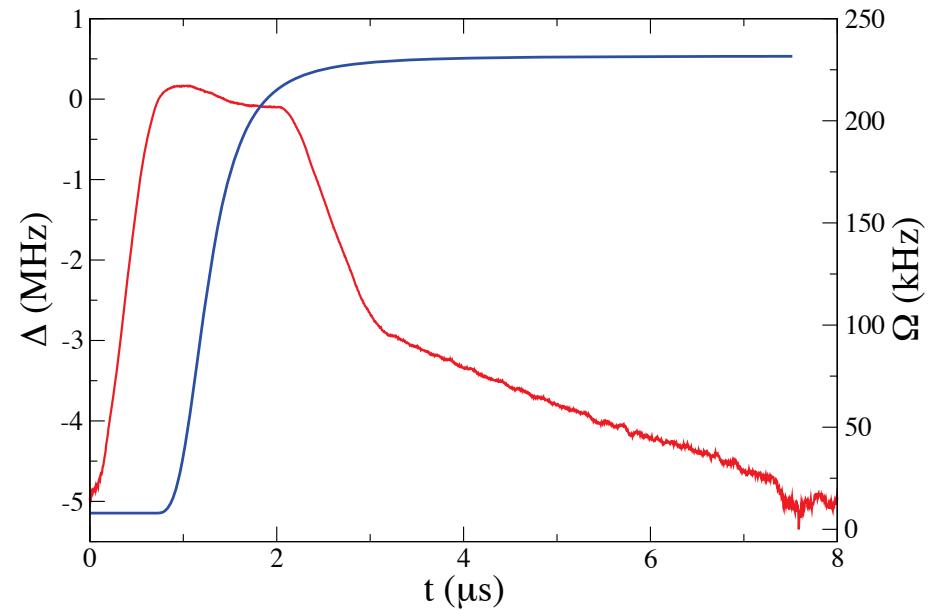
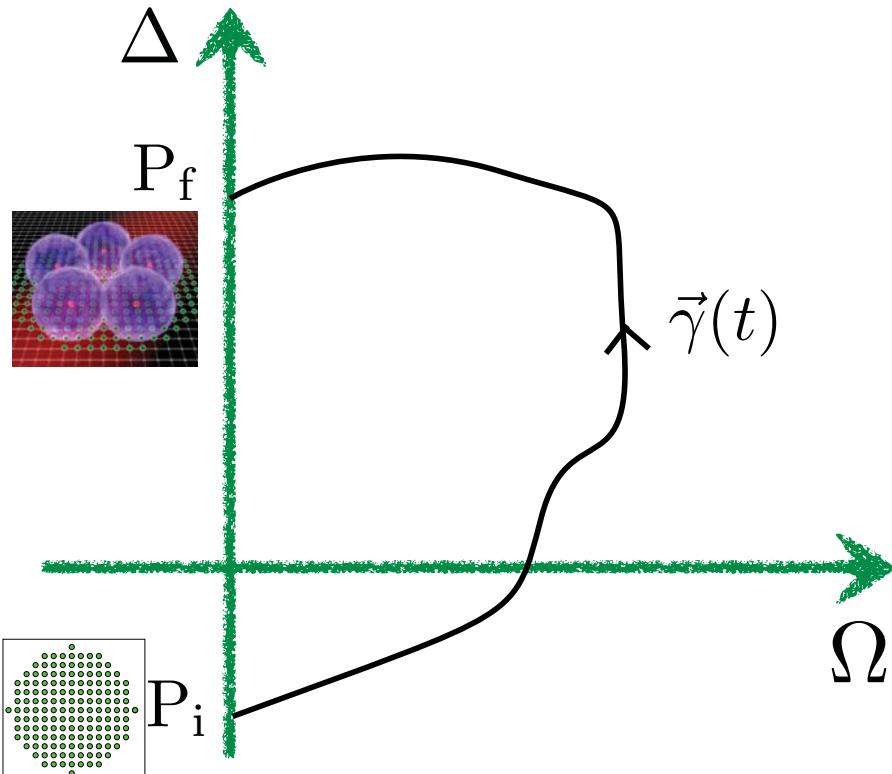
Step 4: De-excite and detect Rydberg atoms



# Finite time dynamics

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\Omega}{2} \sum_i \hat{\sigma}_{eg}^{(i)} + \hat{\sigma}_{ge}^{(i)} - \Delta \sum_i \hat{\sigma}_{ee}^i + \sum_{i < j} \frac{\tilde{C}_6}{r_{ij}^6} \hat{\sigma}_{ee}^{(i)} \hat{\sigma}_{ee}^{(j)}$$

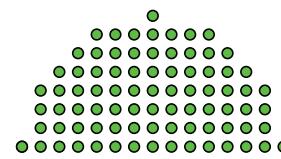
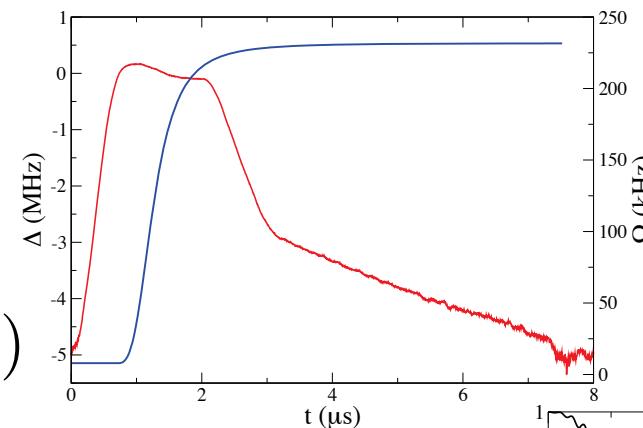
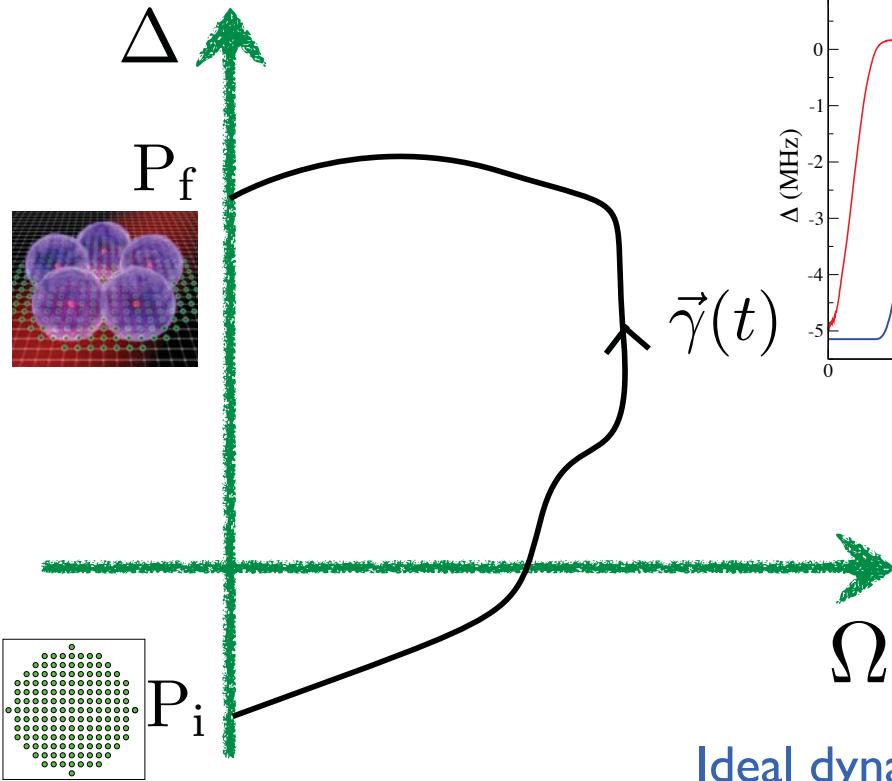
- ▶ Create ordered structures
- ▶ Optimal (chirped) pulse to fit into few  $\mu\text{s}$



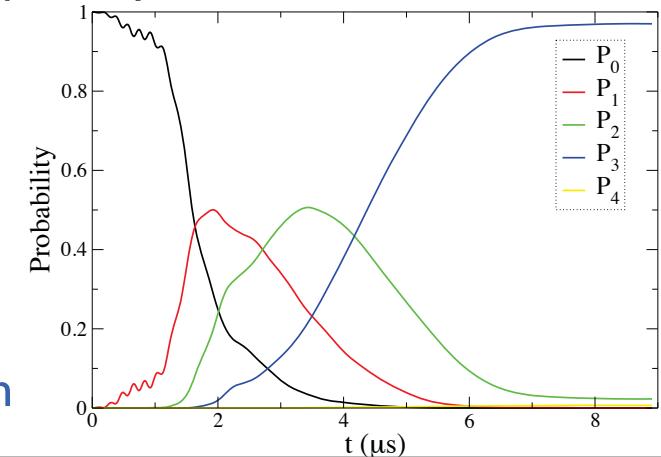
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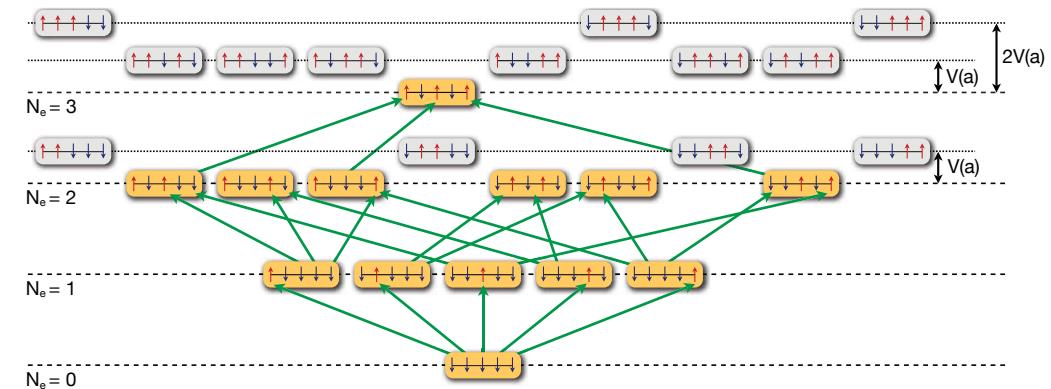
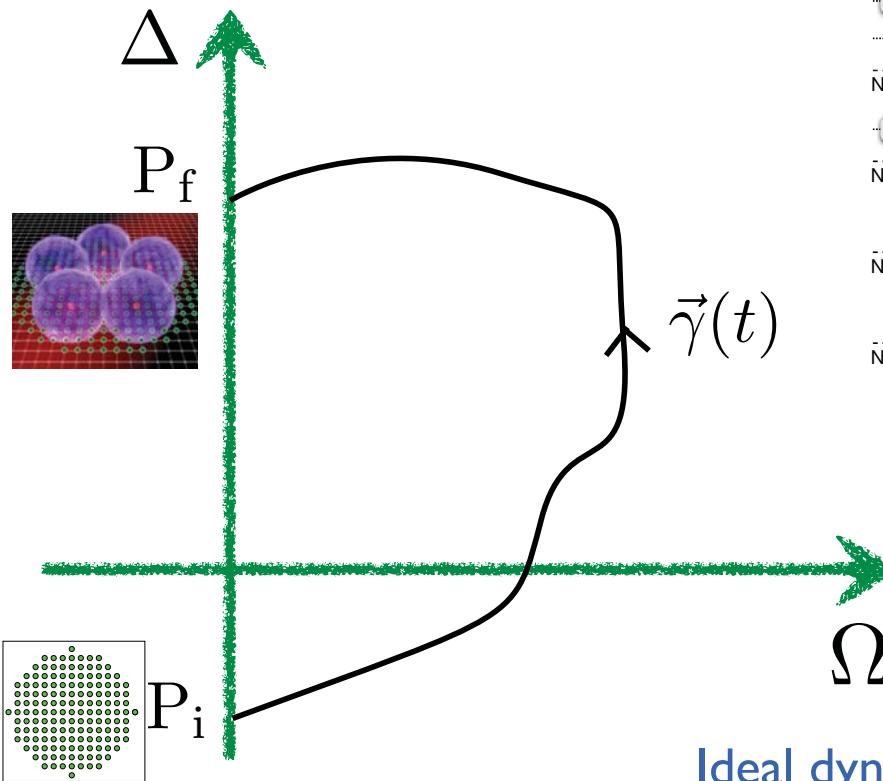
97% probability to excite a state with 3 excitations in a ideal Mott insulator with 149 particles



# Finite time dynamics

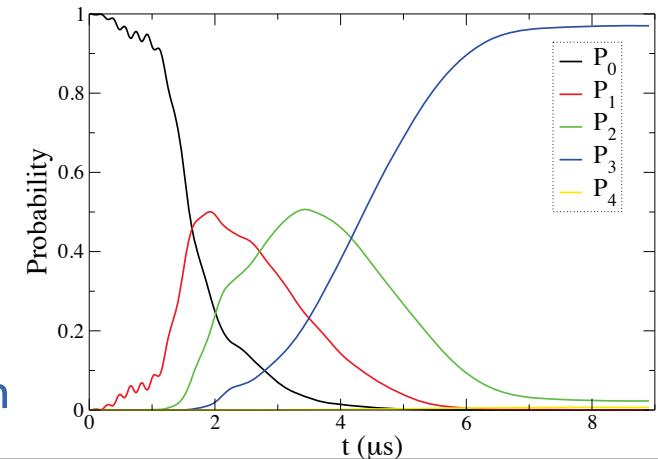
$$\hat{H} = \frac{\Omega}{2} \sum_i \hat{\sigma}_{eg}^{(i)} + \hat{\sigma}_{ge}^{(i)} - \Delta \sum_i \hat{\sigma}_{ee}^i + \sum_{i < j} \frac{\tilde{C}_6}{r_{ij}^6} \hat{\sigma}_{ee}^{(i)} \hat{\sigma}_{ee}^{(j)}$$

- ▶ Create ordered structures
- ▶ Optimal (chirped) pulse to fit into few  $\mu\text{s}$



Truncated  
Hilbert space  
by removing  
excitation  
blockaded  
configurations

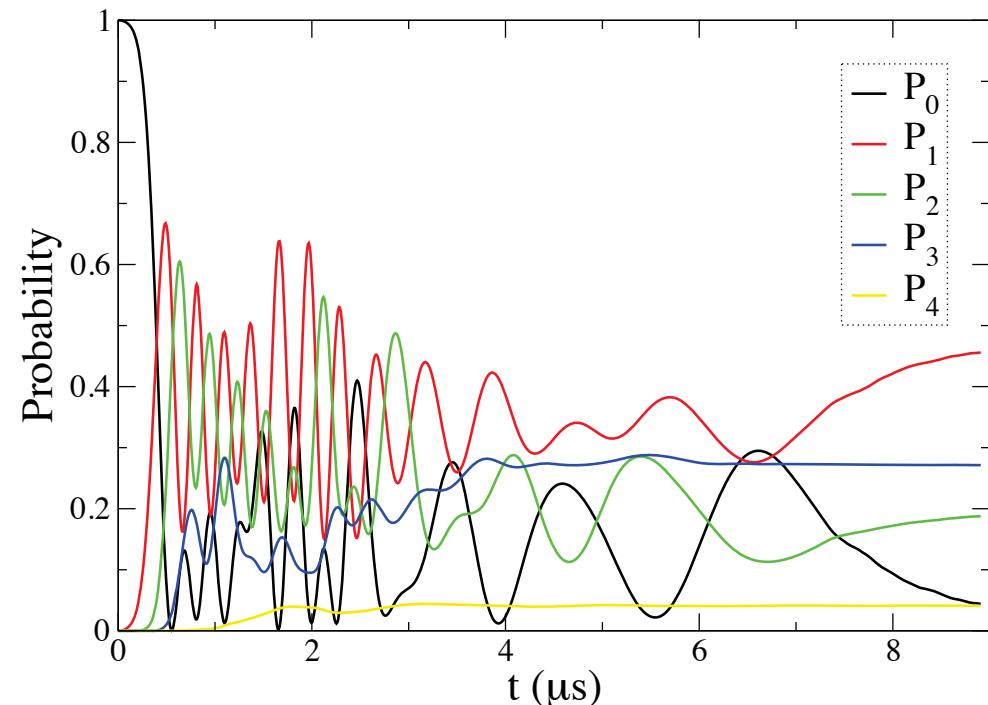
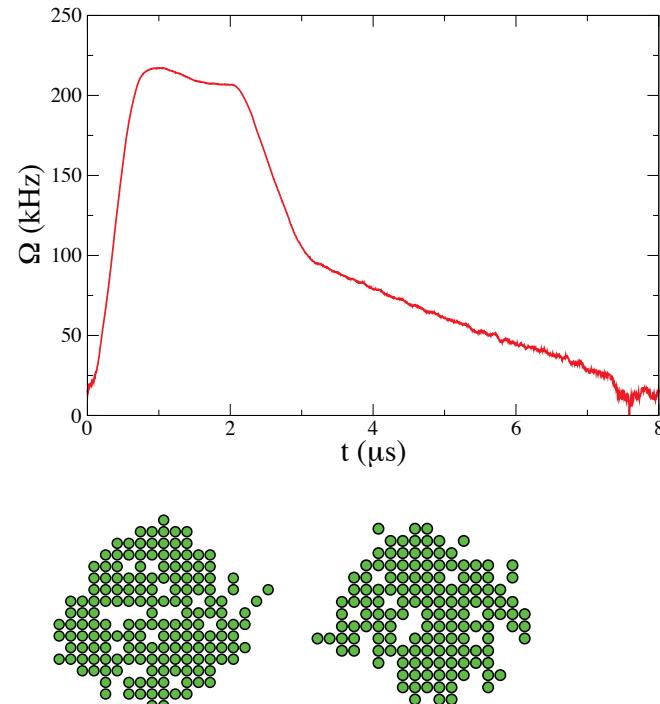
Ideal dynamical evolution



# Finite time dynamics

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Dynamics without longitudinal field  $\Delta=0$  (*preliminary experimental results*)

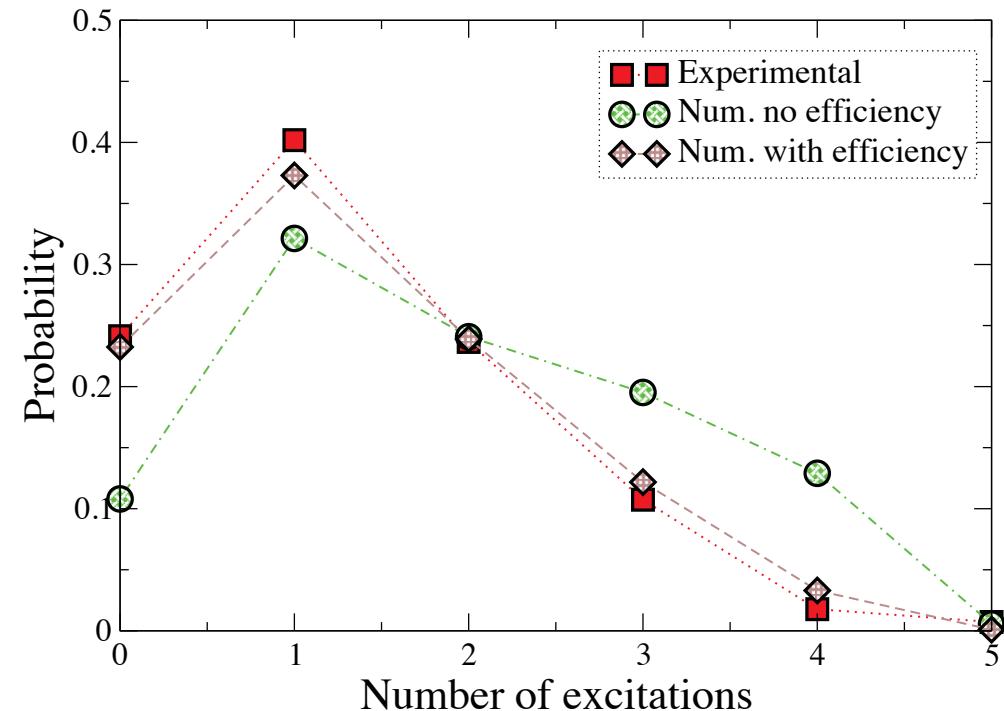
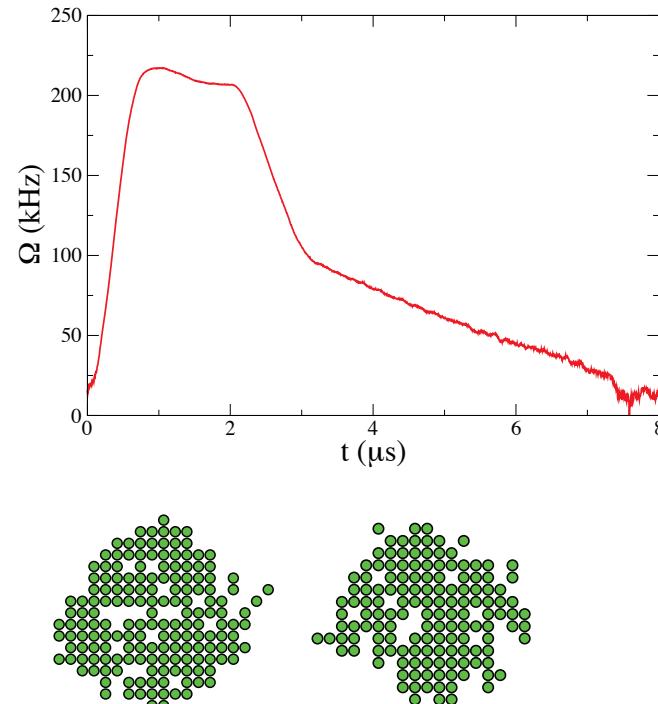


- ⌚ Average over non-ideal 84 lattice configurations from experiment
- ⌚ Detection efficiency to image Rydberg atoms  $\sim 70\%$

# Finite time dynamics

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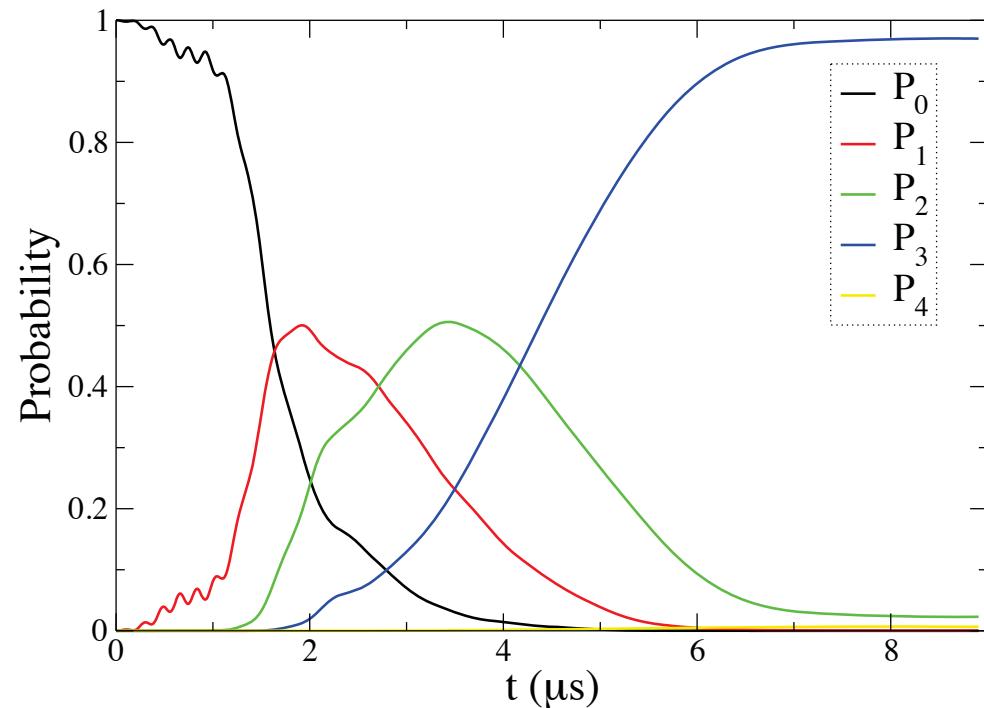
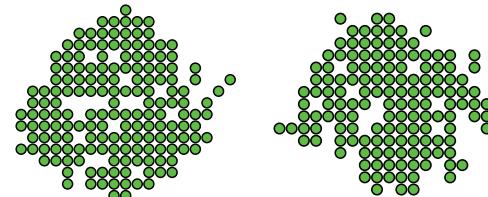
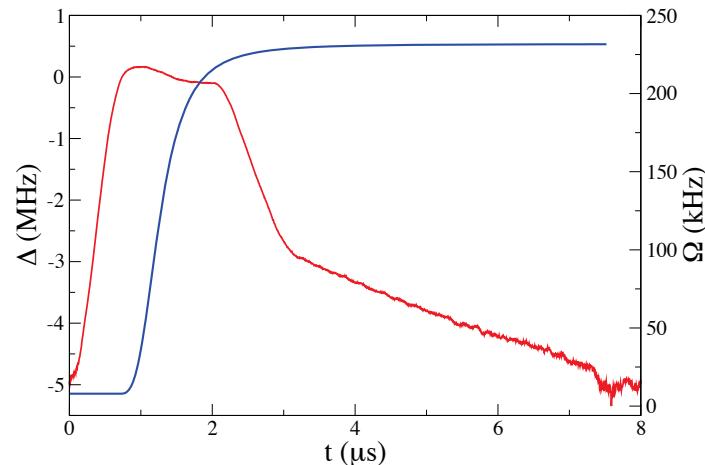


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Dynamics with longitudinal and transverse fields (*numerical results only*)

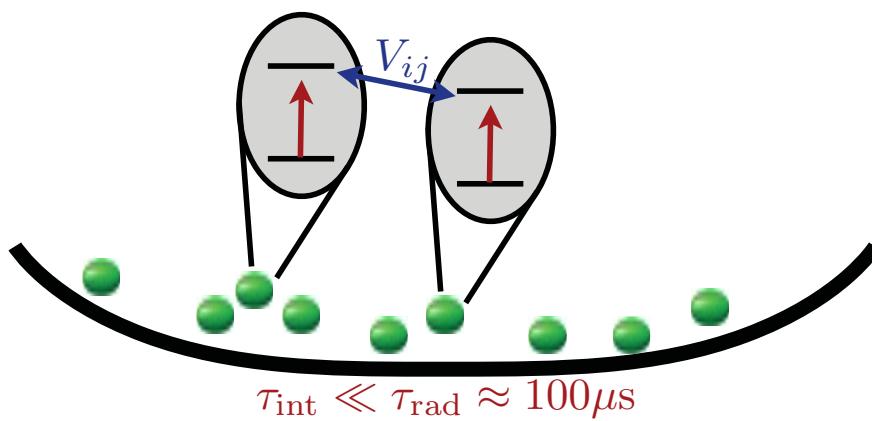


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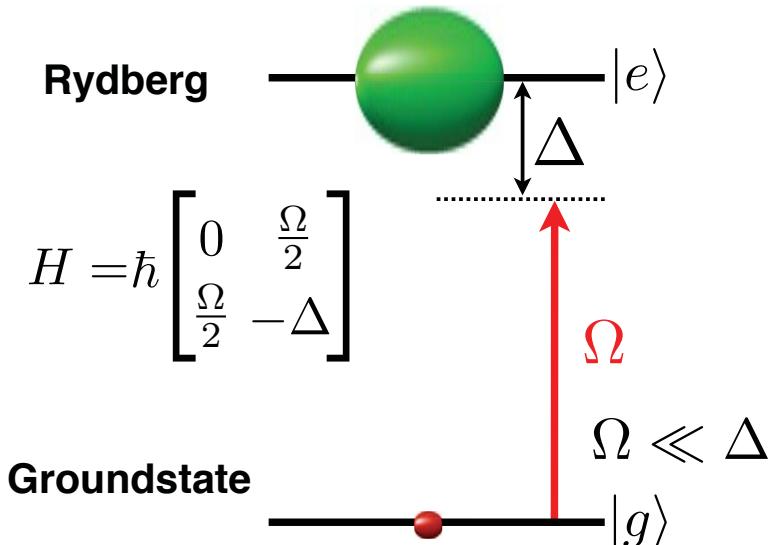
# Slow dynamics

## ATOMIC MOTION

Correlated internal dynamics (spin dynamics)



## RYDBERG DRESSING



**motional dynamics**     $\tau_{\text{mot}} \gg \tau_{\text{rad}}$

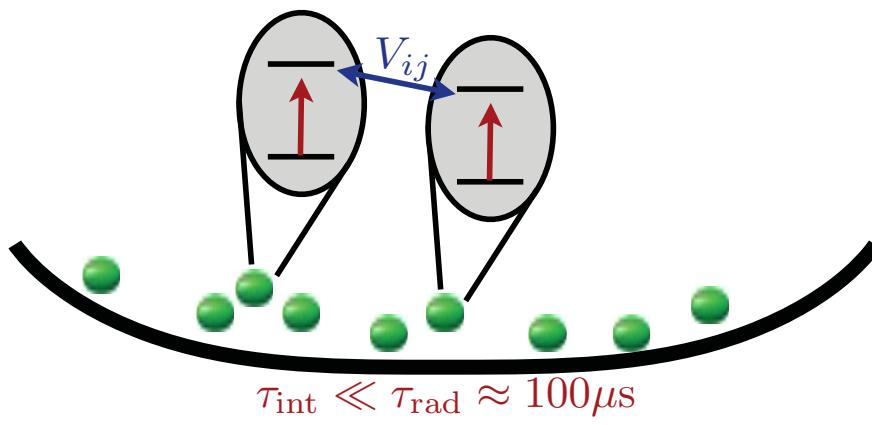
... too slow compared to Rydberg state lifetime

**Effective description with one level**

# Slow dynamics

## ATOMIC MOTION

Correlated internal dynamics (spin dynamics)



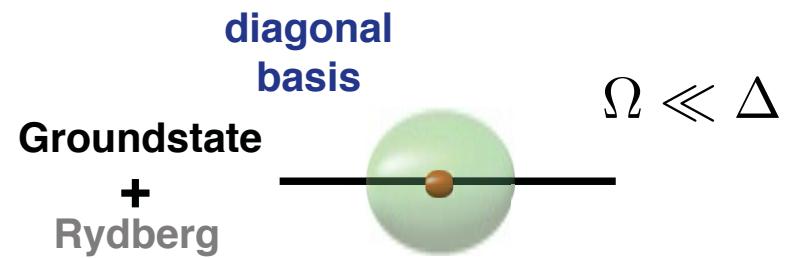
motional dynamics  $\tau_{\text{mot}} \gg \tau_{\text{rad}}$

... too slow compared to Rydberg state lifetime

## RYDBERG DRESSING

Excitation probability  $p_{\text{ex}} = \left(\frac{\Omega}{2\Delta}\right)^2$

Enhanced lifetime  $\tau_{\text{eff}} = p_{\text{e}}^{-1} \tau_{\text{rad}} \approx 1\text{s}$

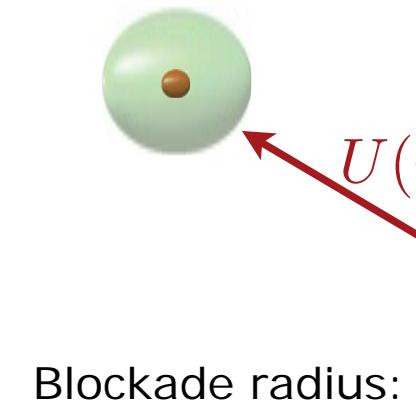


$$|\tilde{g}\rangle = |g\rangle + \frac{\Omega}{2\Delta} |e\rangle$$

Effective description with one level

# Soft-core interactions

## RYDBERG BLOCKADE



Blockade radius:

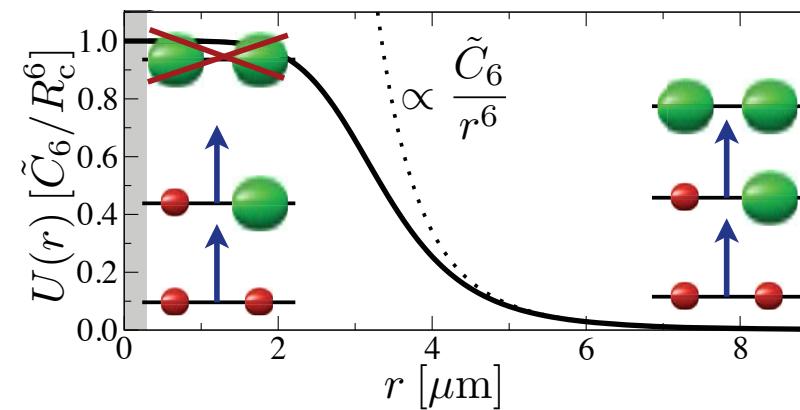
$$R_c = \left( \frac{C_6}{2\Delta} \right)^{1/6}$$

Effective interaction:

$$U(r) = \frac{\tilde{C}_6}{r^6 + R_c^6} \quad \tilde{C}_6 = \left( \frac{\Omega}{2\Delta} \right)^4 C_6$$

**Simultaneous excitations blocked**

## RYDBERG DRESSING



Many body description  
perturbation expansion in  $\Omega/\Delta \ll 1$ :

$$E_N = \sum_{i < j} \frac{\tilde{C}_6}{r_{ij}^6 + R_c^6}$$

**Effective description with one level**

N. Henkel, R. Nath, and T. Pohl, PRL **104**, 195302 (2010)

F. Maucher, N. Henkel, M. Saffman, W. Królikowski, S. Skupin, and T. Pohl, PRL **106**, 170401 (2011)

N. Henkel, F. Cinti, P. Jain, G. Pupillo and T. Pohl, PRL **108**, 265301 (2012)

# Many body framework

Model potential:

$$U(\mathbf{r}) = \begin{cases} V_0, & |\mathbf{r}| < R_0 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

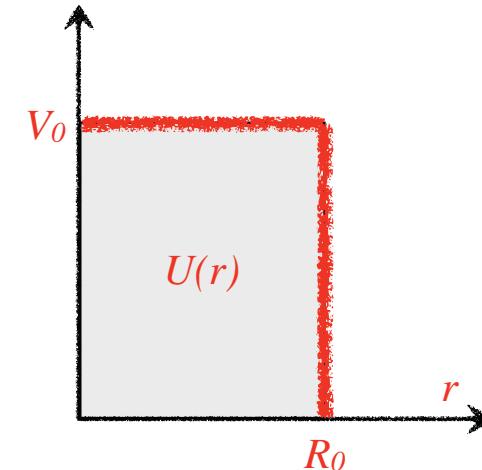
Approaches to the problem:

- Monte Carlo

$$\hat{H} = -\sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{2} \nabla_i^2 + \alpha' \sum_{i < j} \theta(1 - |\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|)$$

- Mean field theory  
Gross-Pitaevskii equation

$$i \frac{\partial \psi(\mathbf{r}, t)}{\partial t} = -\frac{1}{2} \nabla^2 \psi(\mathbf{r}, t) + \alpha \int d\mathbf{r}' \theta(1 - |\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|) |\psi(\mathbf{r}', t)|^2 \psi(\mathbf{r}, t)$$



Dimensionless parameters

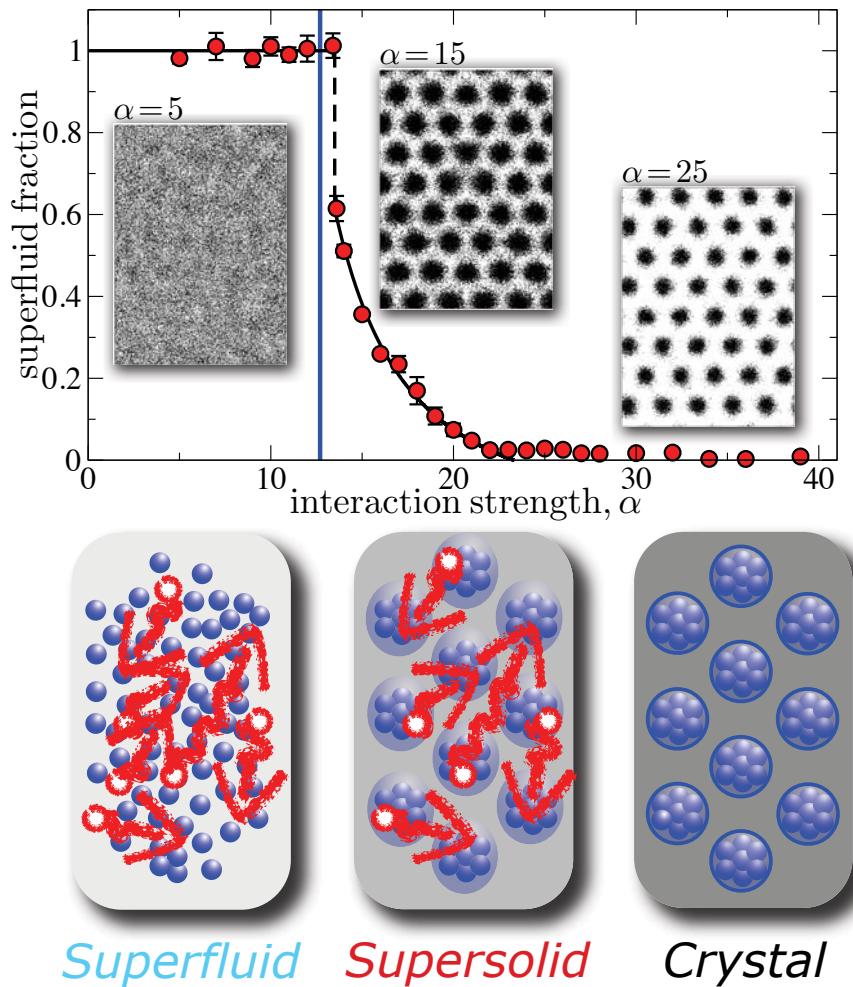
$$1) \quad \alpha' = \frac{V_0 m R_0^2}{\hbar^2}$$

$$2) \quad \rho R_0^2$$

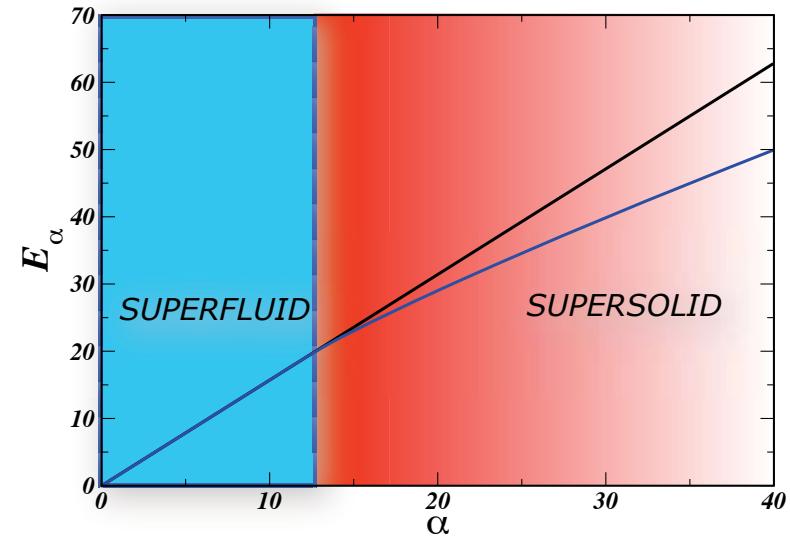
$$\alpha = \alpha' \rho R_0^2$$

# Phase diagram

## PATH INTEGRAL MC IN 2D



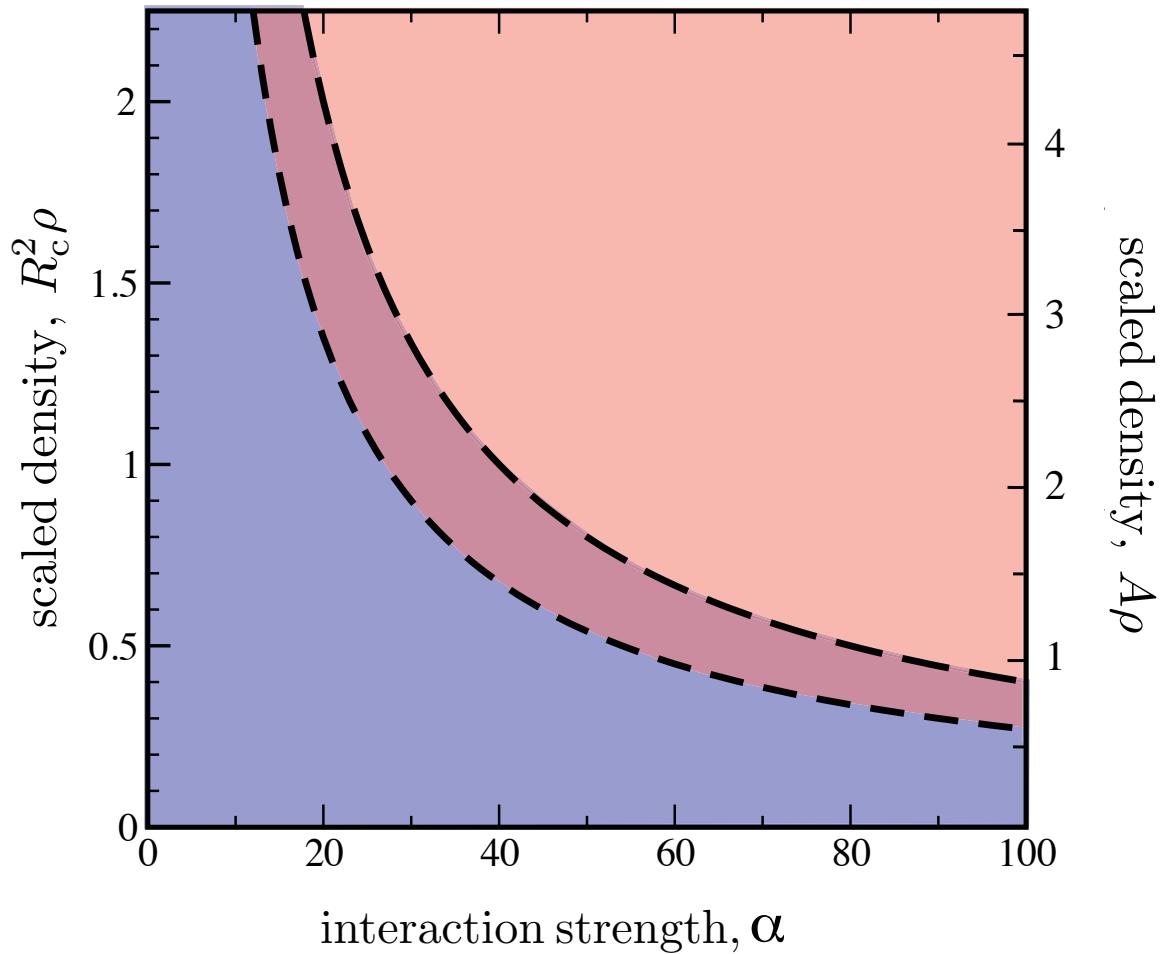
## MEAN FIELD APPROACH



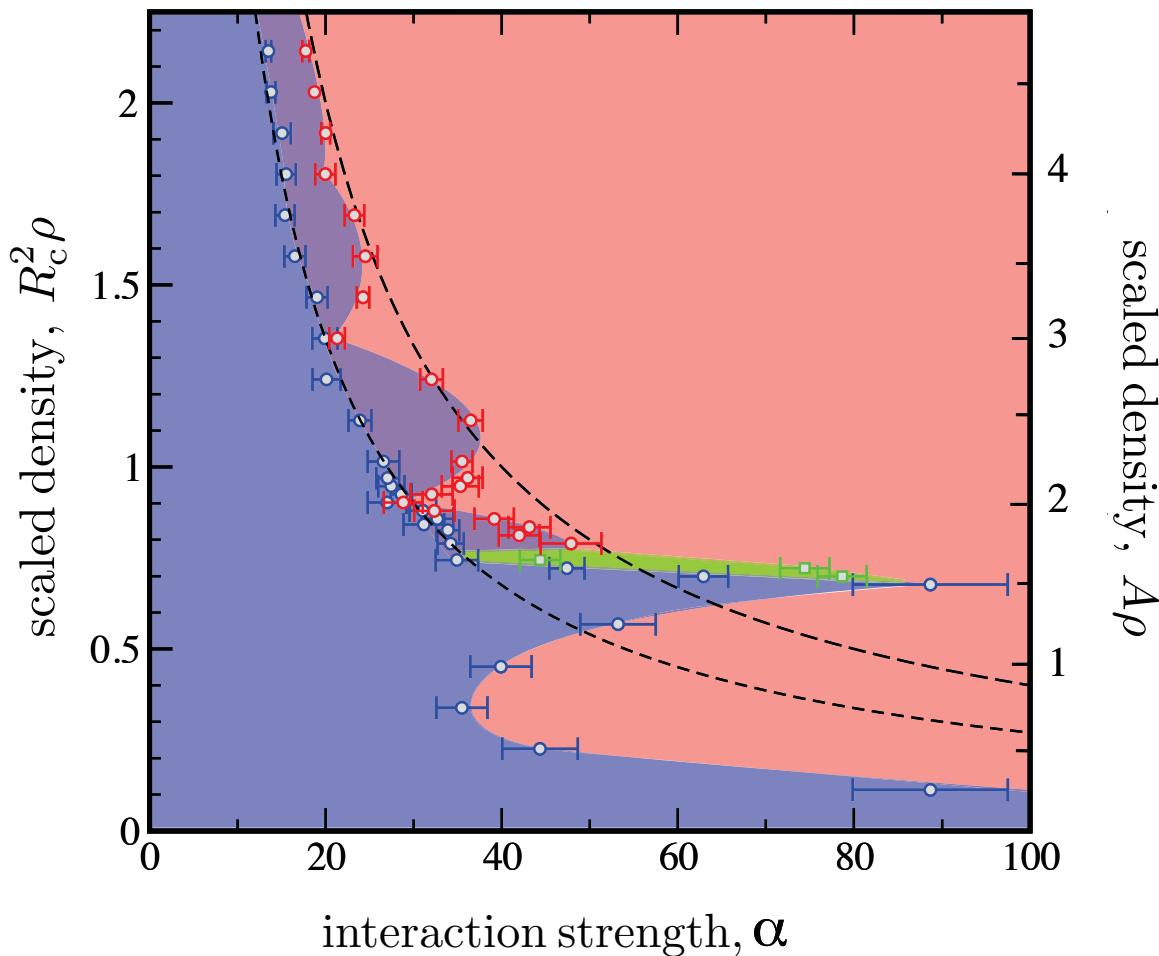
Variational wavefunction:  
Gaussians in a triangular lattice

Both approaches predict cluster supersolid in the high density/low interaction limit, what else?

# Low density phase diagram

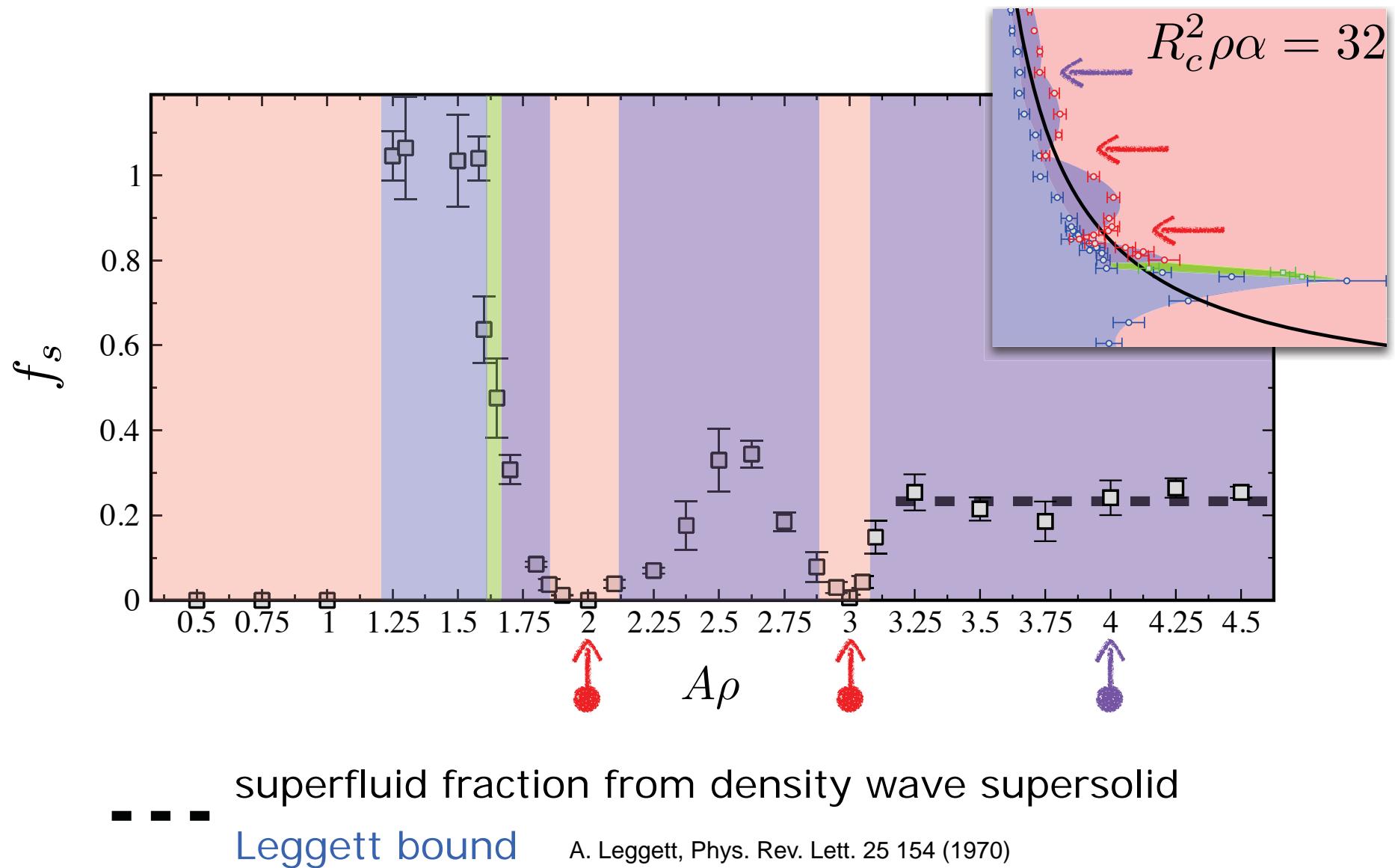


# Low density phase diagram



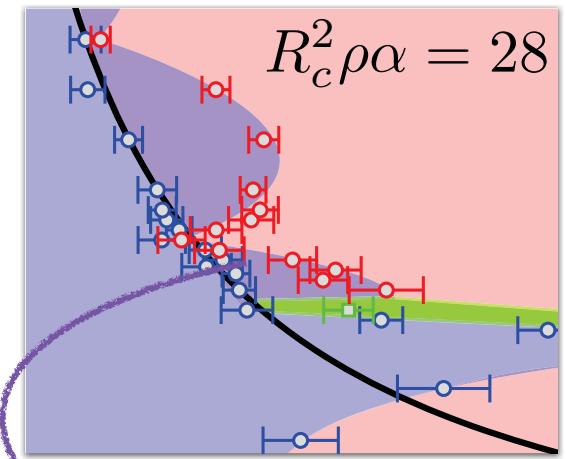
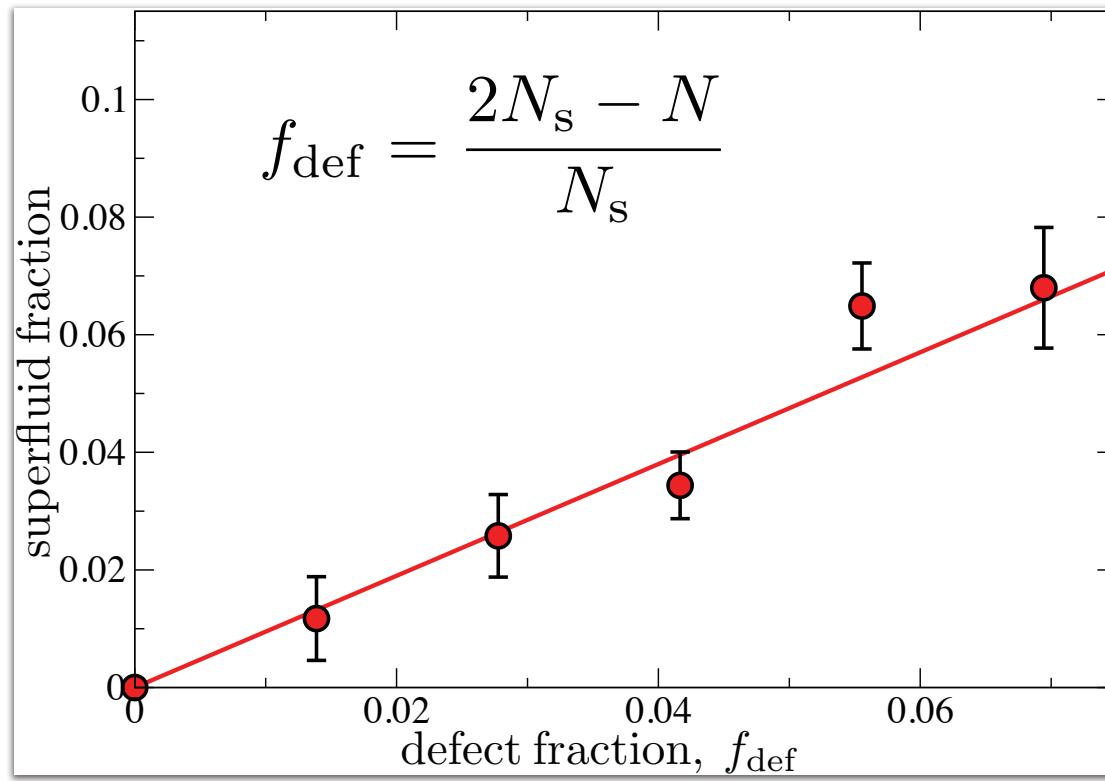
-  Superfluid to Supersolid
-  Supersolid to Crystal
-  Phase separation

# Low density phase diagram



# Defect-induced supersolidity

$f_s$  linearly depends on  $f_{\text{def}}$



$A\rho \approx 2$   
From crystal to SS  
phase removing  
particles randomly

# Excitation spectrum

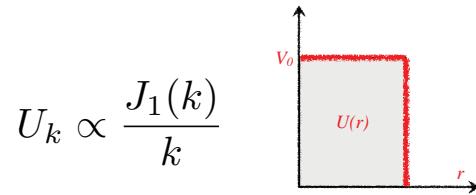
- ▶ Detect the phases experimentally
- ▶ Mean field: analytical results in the homogeneous, good for wide energy range
- ▶ QMC: dyn. struct. factor, long. excitations at low energies, high computational effort

## Mean field approach

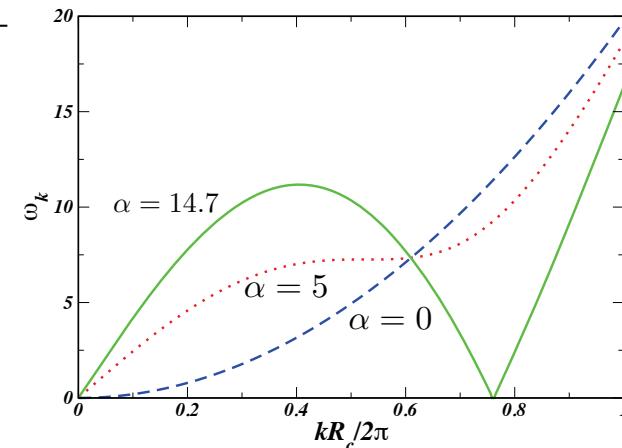
Bogoliubov equations for homogeneous ground state  $\delta\psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = e^{-i\mu t} (u(\mathbf{r})e^{-i\omega t} - v^*(\mathbf{r})e^{i\omega t})$

$$\begin{cases} \left(-\frac{1}{2}\nabla^2 - \omega\right) u(\mathbf{r}) + \alpha R_0^2 n \int d\mathbf{r}' U(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') (u(\mathbf{r}') - v(\mathbf{r}')) &= 0 \\ \left(-\frac{1}{2}\nabla^2 - \omega\right) v(\mathbf{r}) + \alpha R_0^2 n \int d\mathbf{r}' U(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') (v(\mathbf{r}') - u(\mathbf{r}')) &= 0 \end{cases}$$

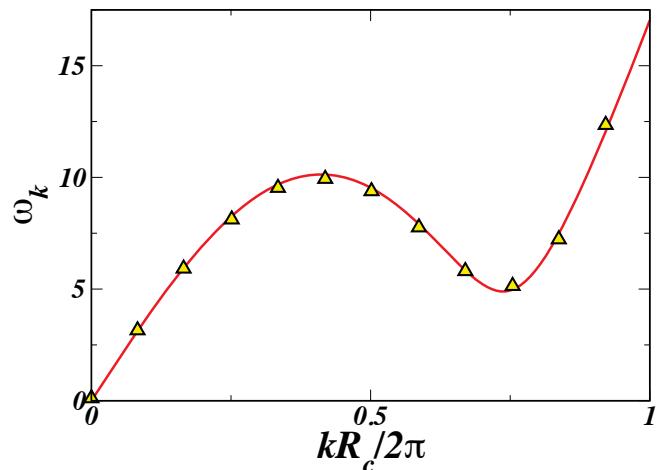
Excitation energy  $\omega_k = \pm \sqrt{\frac{k^2}{2} \left( \frac{k^2}{2} + 2\alpha U_k \right)}$



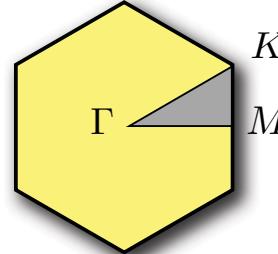
Spectrum of supersolid phase?



# Excitation spectrum



Brillouin zone

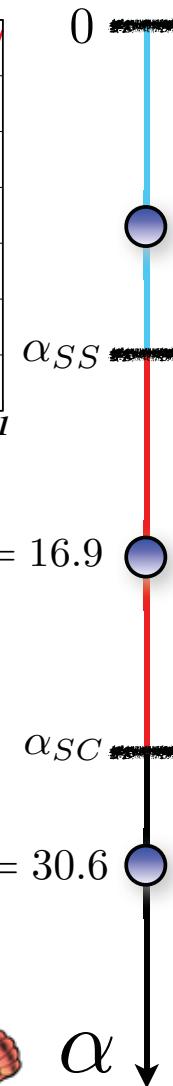


Extremely good agreement!

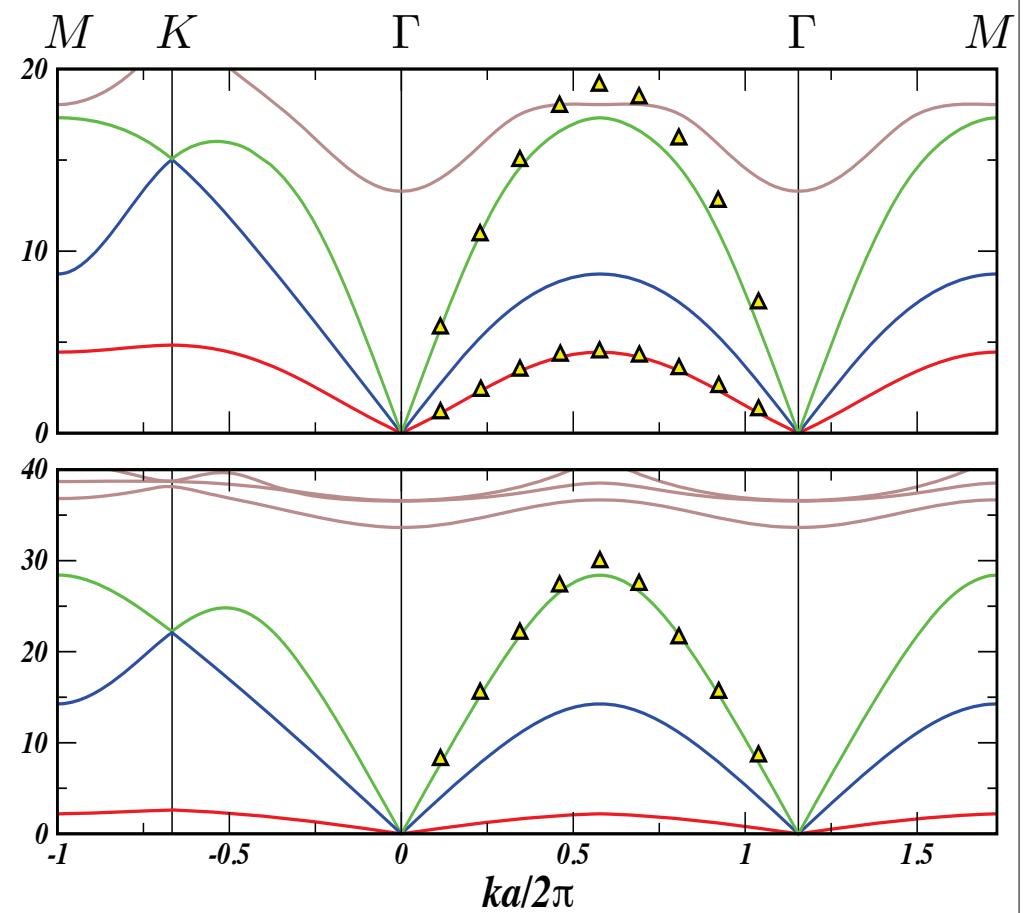
Also in the crystal phase



$\alpha$

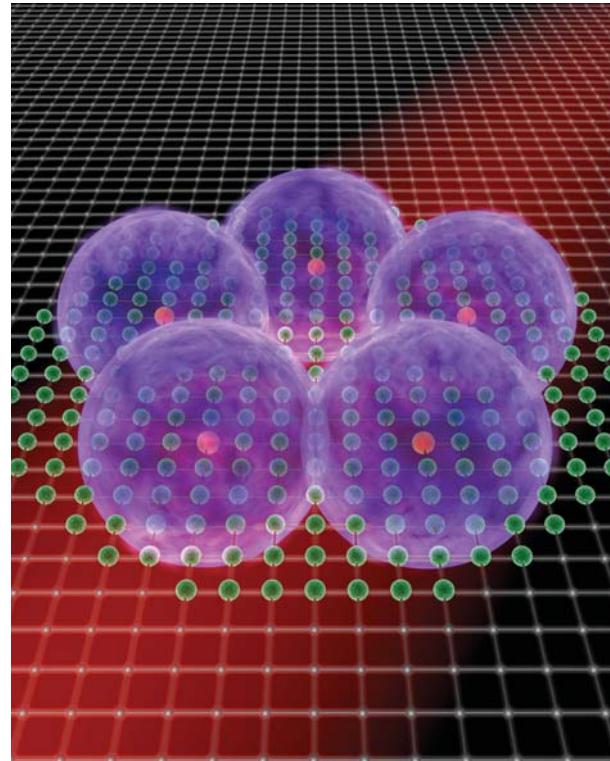


Comparison with MC data of the dynamical structure factor from Saccani, Moroni, Boninsegni, PRL (2012)



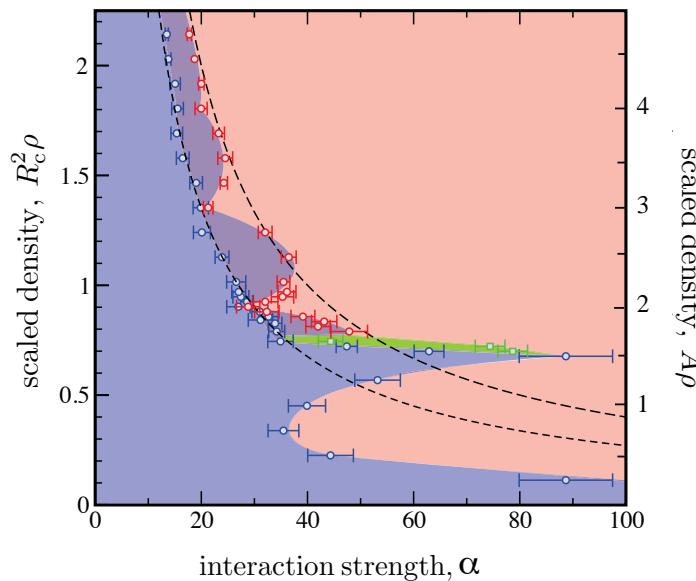
# Conclusions

- *Rydberg gases as quantum simulators of long range spin models and exotic quantum phases.*
- *Fast dynamics: limited coherence time  $\sim 10 \mu s$*   
*Dynamical creation of mesoscopic crystalline phases.*



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**Excitation spectra to probe the many body phases.**



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