Workshop on Probing and Understanding Exotic Superconductors and Superfluids, ICTP-Trieste, Oct. 28, 2014



## Dynamics & Transport in Spin-orbit Coupled Bose-Einstein Condensates (SOBEC)

Robert Niffenegger, Abraham Olson, Chuan-Hsun Li, David Blasing,

<u>Yong P. Chen\*</u>, Dept. of Physics, Purdue Univ.



(Quantum Matter and Devices Laboratory @ Purdue: www.physics.purdue.edu/quantum)

(\*on leave at SNS-NEST, Pisa, Itay in Fall 2014)

Simulation/Theoretical/Discussions: Su-Ju Wang/Chris Greene, Yuli Lyanda-Geller (Purdue)

Chunlei Qu/Chuan-wei Zhang (UTD)

Hui Zhai (Tsinghua)

ACKNOWLEDGE SUPPORT: DURIP-ARO GRANT W911NF-08-1-0265 WILLIAM F. MILLER FAMILY ENDOWMENT, PURDUE OVPR INCENTIVE PROGRAM NSF GRFP

## SOC+Superconductivity → Topological (Nonconventional) SC

(w/t eg. majorana excitations)









 $2\uparrow_k\downarrow_{-k}=$ 

Topological insulator (TI)

#### Spin-orbit coupling in quantum gases

Victor Galitski1,2 & Ian B. Spielman1

Spin-orbit coupling links a particle's velocity to its quantum-mechanical spin, and is essential in numerous condensed matter phenomena, including topological insulators and Majorana fermions. In solid-state materials, spin-orbit coupling originates from the movement of electrons in a crystal's intrinsic electric field, which is uniquely prescribed in any given material. In contrast, for ultracold atomic systems, the engineered 'material parameters' are tunable: a variety of synthetic spin-orbit couplings can be engineered on demand using laser fields. Here we outline the current experimental and theoretical status of spin-orbit coupling in ultracold atomic systems, discussing unique features that enable physics impossible in any other known setting.

#### Colloquium: Artificial gauge potentials for neutral atoms

Jean Dalibard\* and Fabrice Gerbier<sup>†</sup>

Laboratoire Kastler Brossel, CNRS, UPMC, Ecole normale supérieure, 24 rue Lhomond, 75005, Paris, France

Gediminas Juzeliūnas<sup>‡</sup>

Institute of Theoretical Physics and Astronomy, Vilnius University, A. Goštauto 12, Vilnius 01108, Lithuania

Patrik Öhberg<sup>§</sup>

SUPA, Department of Physics, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, EH14 4AS, United Kingdom

(published 30 November 2011)



(**spin-orbit BEC – I.Spielman/NIST**) [also USTC, SXU, WSU, Purdue, ..] (**spin-orbit fermi gas**) [MIT, SXU, NIST, ..]

See also reviews by: H. Zhai'11; Y. Li [Stringari] et al'14, J.Zhang'14 etc.

## Synthetic Spin Orbit Coupling (SOC) by Raman



### Some cautions & contrast with electronic SOC



- Synthetic SOC for atoms: 1D SOC only (so far)  $\widehat{H} \sim \frac{\vec{p}^2}{2m} + (k_r p_x) \cdot \sigma_x + \Omega \cdot \sigma_z$
- "p" in SOC is quasi-momentum
- SOC only for  $|\Omega| > 0$  often  $\Omega$  referred as "SOC" strength, whereas in Rashba  $\alpha$  is SOC (here fixed by k<sub>r</sub>)
- Can work for bosons as well as fermions

inergy [E<sub>r</sub>]  $\hat{\mathcal{H}} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\hbar}{2m} (\hat{k}_y + k_r)^2 - \frac{\delta}{2} & \frac{\Omega_R}{2} \\ \frac{\Omega_R}{2} & \frac{\hbar}{2} (\hat{k}_x - k_r)^2 + \frac{\delta}{2} \end{pmatrix}$ 

#### <u>Production of <sup>87</sup>Rb BEC in $\lambda$ =155nm optical trap (optimized evaporative cooling, $\gamma$ ~4)</u>



time (s)

A.J. Olson *et al.*, Phys. Rev. A 87, 053613 (2013)

## SOC BEC - Adiabatic Transition (Single to Double Minima)



Measured Quasimomenta vs Calculated Band Minima

#### **Adiabatic Loading**

Similar to previous work by: Y.-J. Lin, K. Jiménez-García & I. B. Spielman, Nature 2011





## Tunable Landau-Zener Transition (between SOC dressed bands)

- Landau-Zener model Varied <u>all three parameters</u>
- acceleration in SO gauge fields by gravity or trapping potential
- Spin dependent "atomtronic" transistor
- Non-adiabatic breakdown of spinmomentum locking in SOC BEC

Abraham J. Olson, et al, Phys.Rev. A 90, 013616 (2014)

$$P_{LZ} = \exp\left[-2\pi \frac{(\Omega/2)^2}{\hbar v\beta}\right]$$

 $(\alpha ) \alpha 2 \mathbf{1}$ 





# Using Spin-dependent Synthetic Electric Field to generate (AC) spin current and excite spin-dipole mode in trap



SDM previous studied in non SOC quantum gases,

eg. fermi gas: Sommer [Zwierlein] et al'11 by magnetic gradient bosons: Koller et al'12; Maddaloni et al'00 theory (fermi gas): Stringari'99, etc. What is the effect of SOC?

## Spin Electric Field – Bare spin current $\Omega_F = 0E_r$





### Dressed Spin Current ( $\Omega_F = 0.5E_r$ )





## Spin Dipole Mode (AC Spin Current): no SOC vs SOC





- Take longer time to damp
- ~full thermalization in the end



SDM damp quickly (few oscillations) More BEC remains (less thermalization)

## Damping vs $\Omega_F$





GPE Simulations: Chunlei Qu and Chuanwai Zhang (University of Texas Dallas)

### Damping vs $\delta$ & $\Omega_{\rm F}$



Chunlei Qu and Chuanwai Zhang



## What relaxes spin current?





SDM decays to: thermal particles in bare BEC, ?? in SOC BEC

## Real Space Simulation: damping mechanism Physics



Chunlei Qu and Chuanwai Zhang (University of Texas Dallas)





At  $\Omega$ >0 (dressed), spin part no longer orthogonal, the wavefunction interference leads to enhanced interaction, which excites breathing mode (decay channel of SDM) and leads to strong damping of SDM; this strong damping gives less oscillation thus less heating