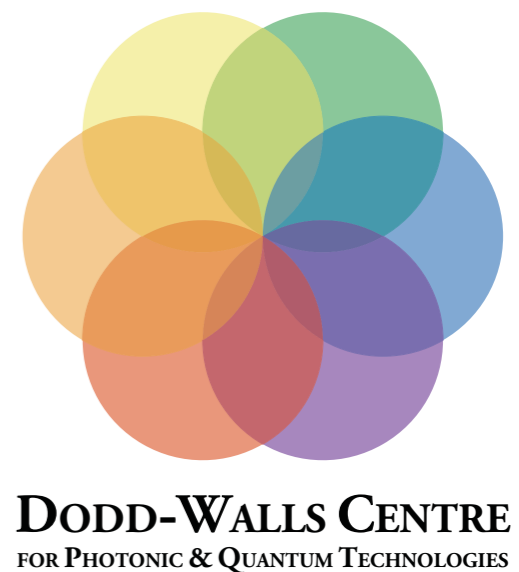
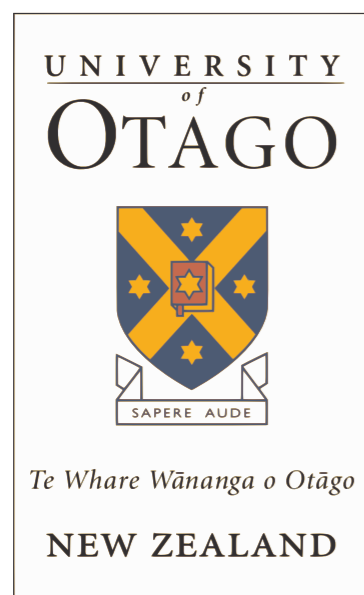


Self-bound droplets of a dipolar Bose-Einstein condensate: stabilized by the Lee-Huang-Yang corrections

Blair Blakie

Department of Physics, University of Otago, New Zealand

work with Danny Baillie, Russell Bisset, Ryan Wilson



(Based at CSRC.ac.cn until end of May)

Outline

- Introduction to Dipolar Bose-Einstein Condensates (BECs)
- Stability and motivating experiments
- LHY fluctuations stabilising a dipolar BEC - Trapped system
- Self-bound droplets in free-space.
- Collective excitations of self-bound droplets

Relevant preprints/papers from my group:

Phys. Rev. A **94**, 021602(R) (2016)

self-bound droplets

Phys. Rev. A **94**, 033619 (2016)

trapped droplets

arxiv.org/abs/1703.07927

Collective excitations of self-bound droplets

A brief history of dipolar BECs

Early theory proposals:

K. Goral, K. Rzazewski, T. Pfau, PRA 2000

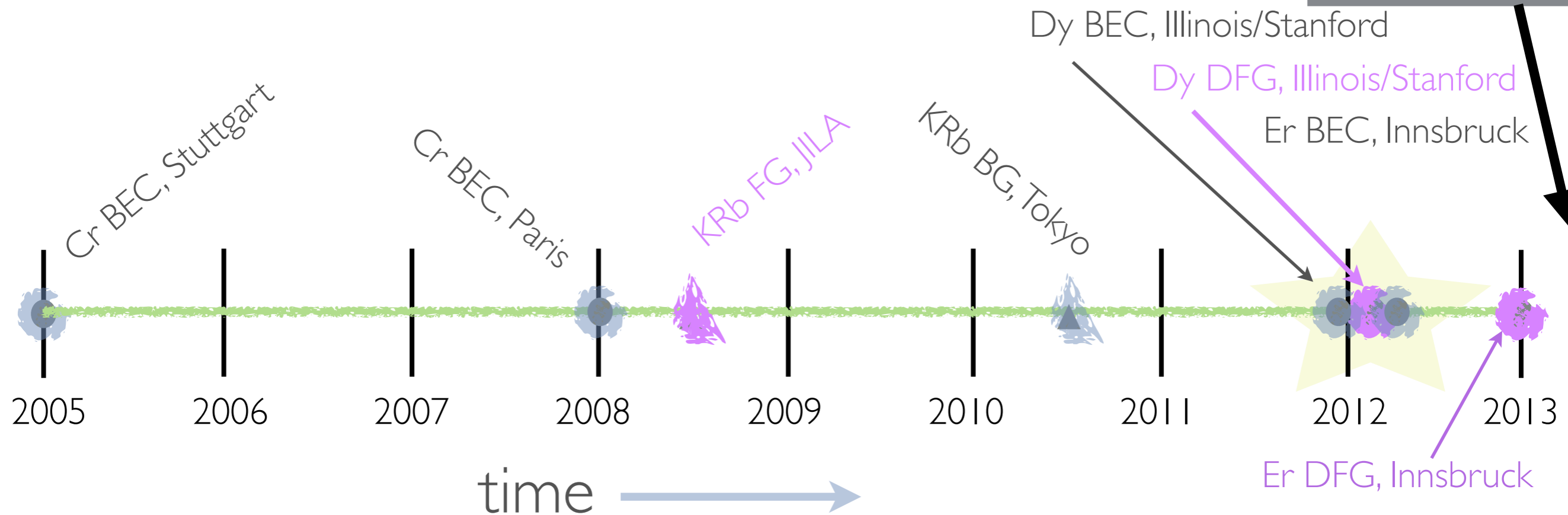
L. Santos, G. Shlyapnikov, P Zoller, M. Lewenstien, PRL 2000

S.Yi, L. You PRA 2001

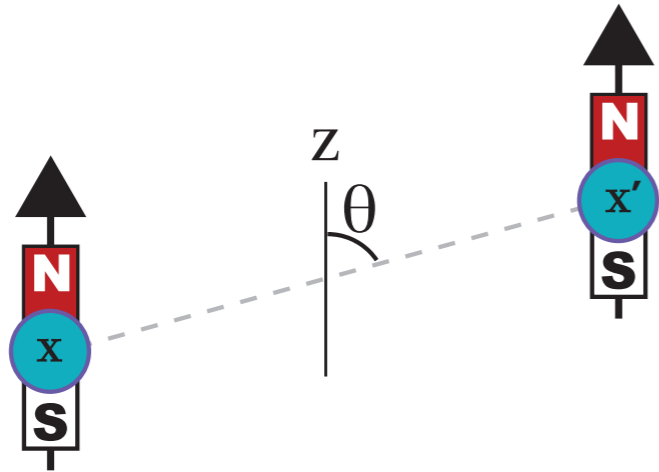
Chromium Experiment:

A. Griesmaer, J. Werner, S. Hensler, J Stuhler, T Pfau, PRL 2005

Dy BEC,
Stuttgart 2015



Dipole-Dipole interaction



$$V_{\text{dd}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{3g_{\text{dd}}}{4\pi} \left(\frac{1 - 3 \cos^2 \theta}{r^3} \right)$$

Atoms:

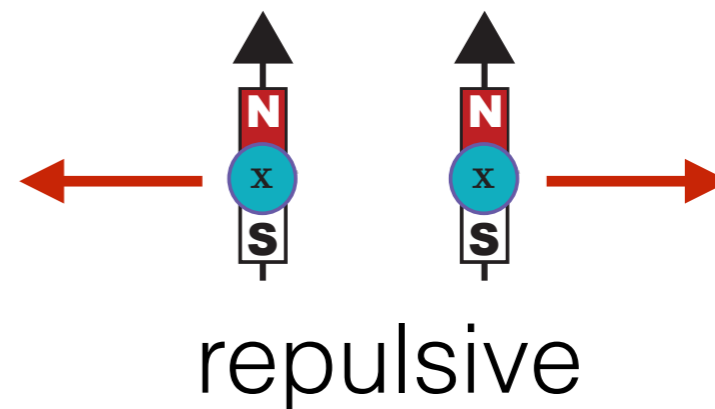
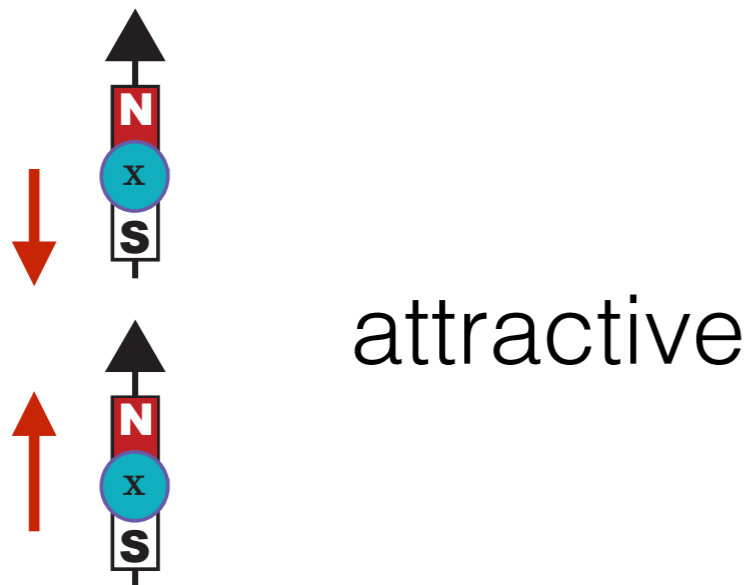
$$g_{\text{dd}} = \frac{1}{3} \mu_0 \mu_m^2$$

magnetic dipole moment

Molecules:

$$g_{\text{dd}} = \frac{1}{3} \frac{d^2}{\epsilon_0}$$

electric dipole moment



Long-ranged + anisotropic

Dipolar interaction strengths

Species	Dipole moment	a_{dd}	ϵ_{dd}
^{87}Rb	$1.0 \mu_{\text{B}}$	$0.7 a_0$	0.007
^{52}Cr	$6.0 \mu_{\text{B}}$	$16 a_0$	0.16
^{168}Er	$7.0 \mu_{\text{B}}$	$67 a_0$	0.38
^{164}Dy	$10 \mu_{\text{B}}$	$130 a_0$	1.3
KRb	0.6 D	$2.0 \times 10^3 a_0$	

$$a_{\text{dd}} = \frac{m\mu_0\mu^2}{12\pi\hbar^2}$$

contact interaction $g_{\text{s}} = \frac{4\pi a_{\text{s}} \hbar^2}{m}$

s-wave scattering length

Dipolar interaction $g_{\text{dd}} = \frac{4\pi a_{\text{dd}} \hbar^2}{m}$

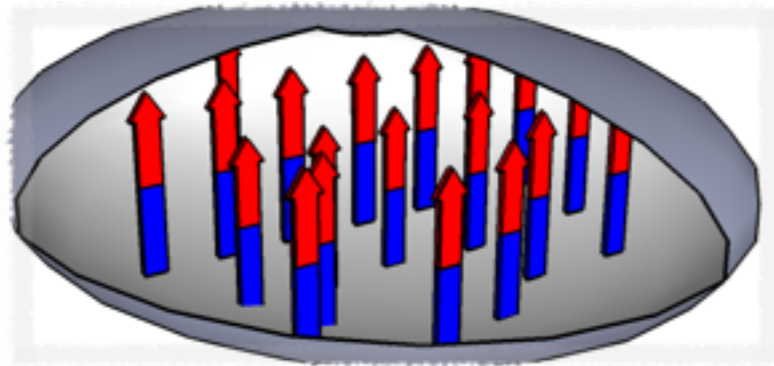
dipole length

Ratio of dipole to contact interactions

$$\epsilon_{\text{dd}} \equiv \frac{a_{\text{dd}}}{a_{\text{s}}} = \frac{g_{\text{dd}}}{g_{\text{s}}}$$

$\epsilon_{\text{dd}} > 1$ **“dipole dominated”**

“strongly” dipolar condensate



Trapped condensate
Magnetic Dipoles (moment μ) polarised along z

“dipole dominated”

$$a_{\text{dd}} > a_s$$

“dipole length” $a_{\text{dd}} = \frac{m\mu_0\mu^2}{12\pi\hbar^2}$

In **dipole dominated regime** new physics *predicted* to emerge: rotons, quasi-2D solitons, structured ground states
(Ronen *et al.*, Pedri *et al.*,...)

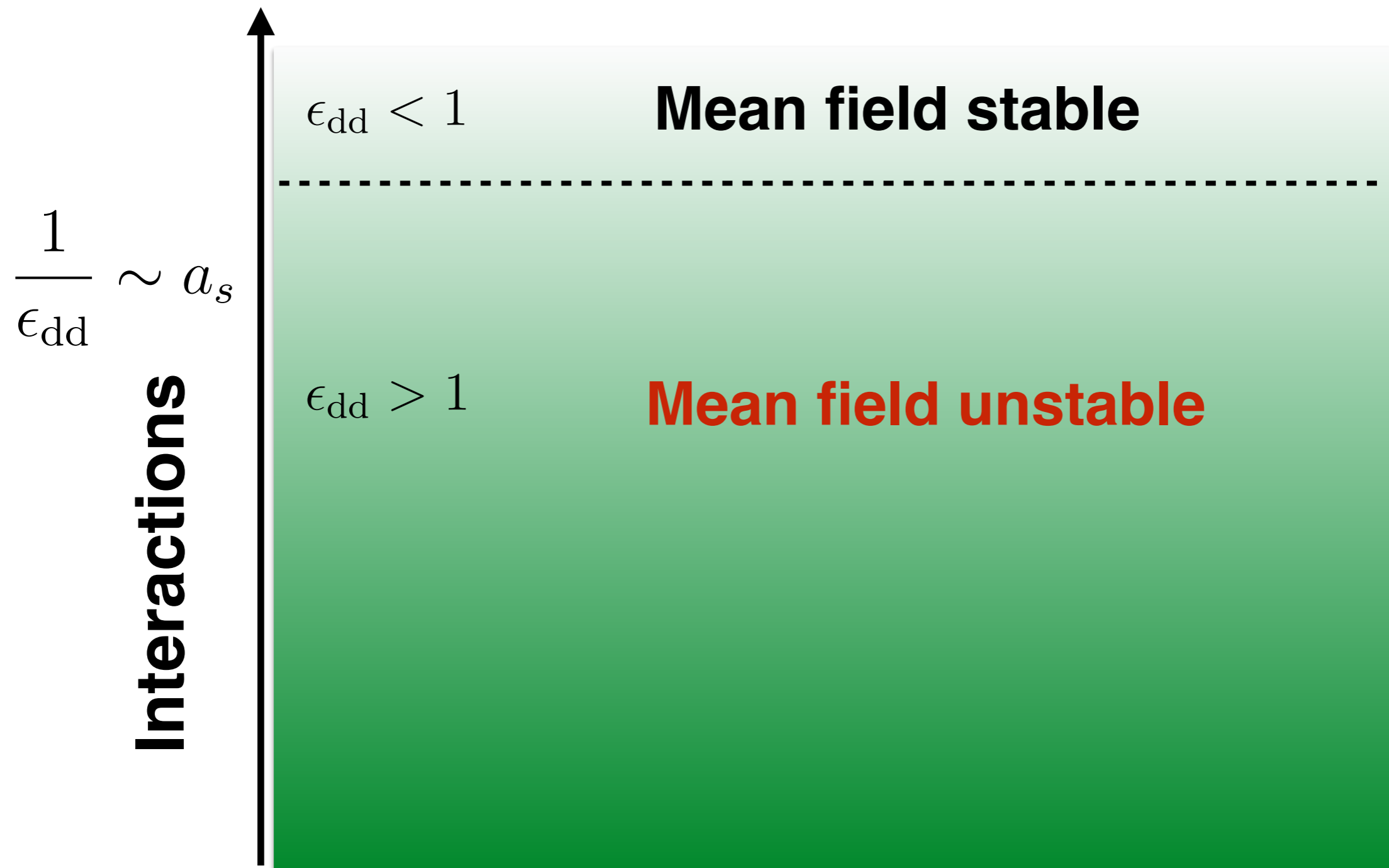
However, condensate is meta-stable to mechanical collapse → **rapid atom loss + heating**

(Koch *et al.*, Wilson *et al.*, Linscott *et al.*)

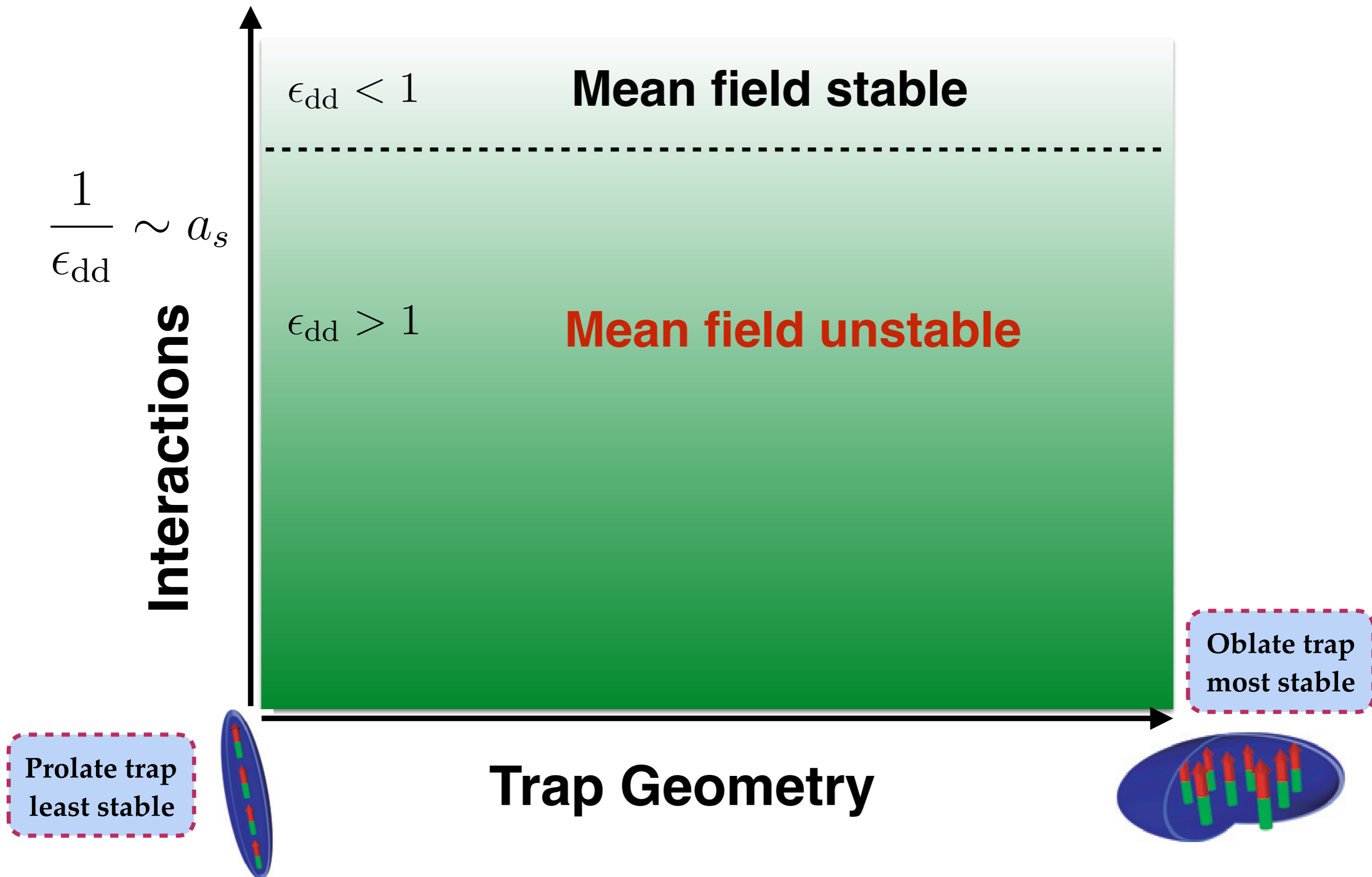
classical collapse analog



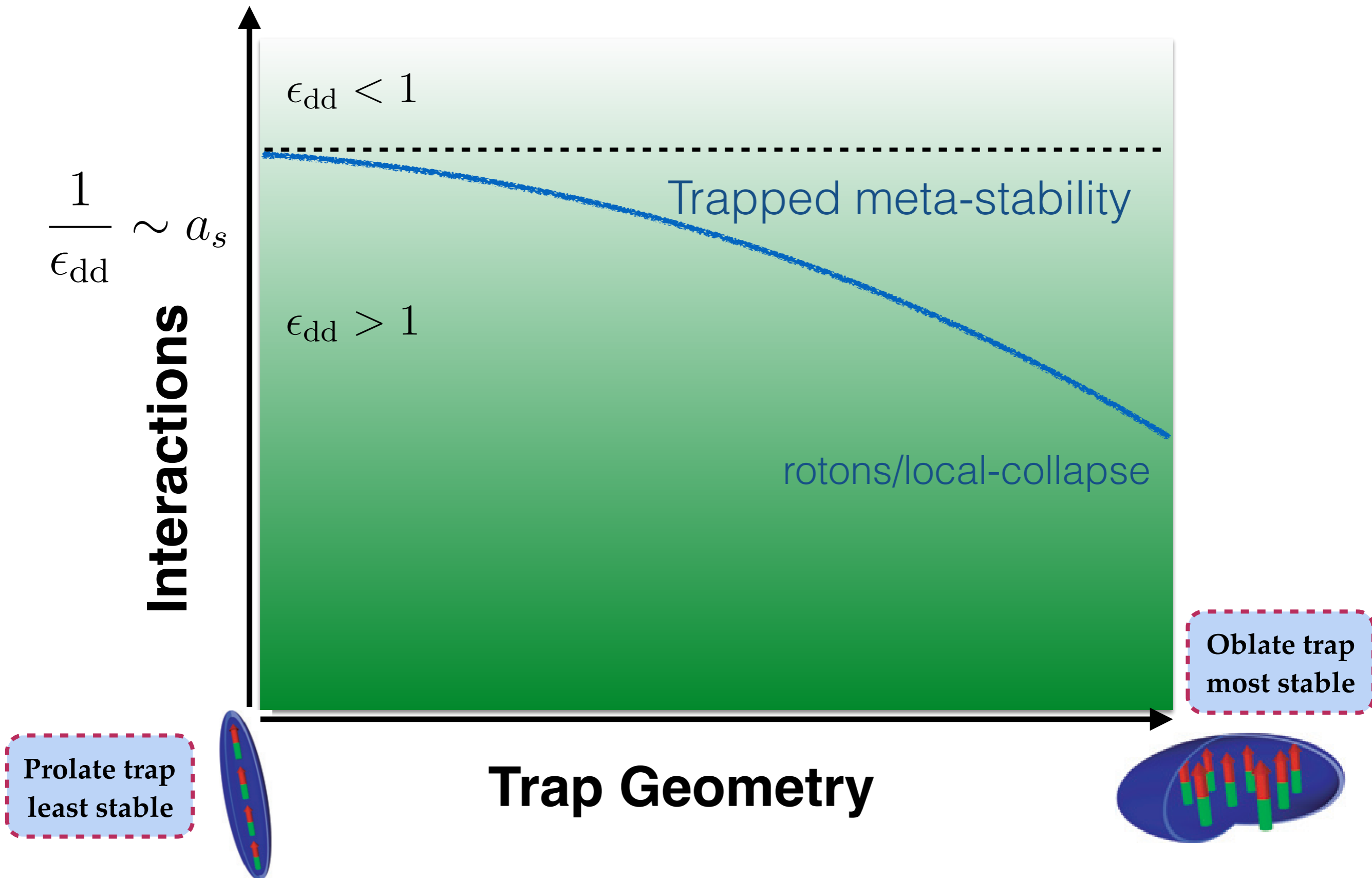
mean field phase diagram



mean field phase diagram

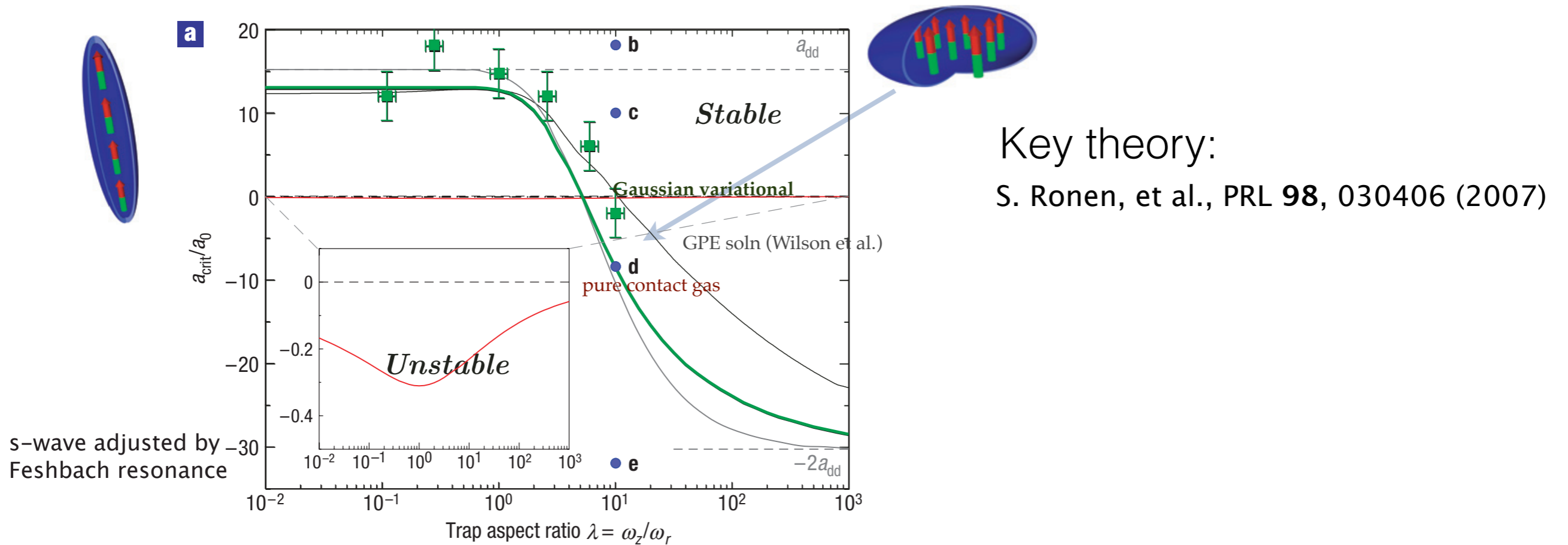


mean field phase diagram

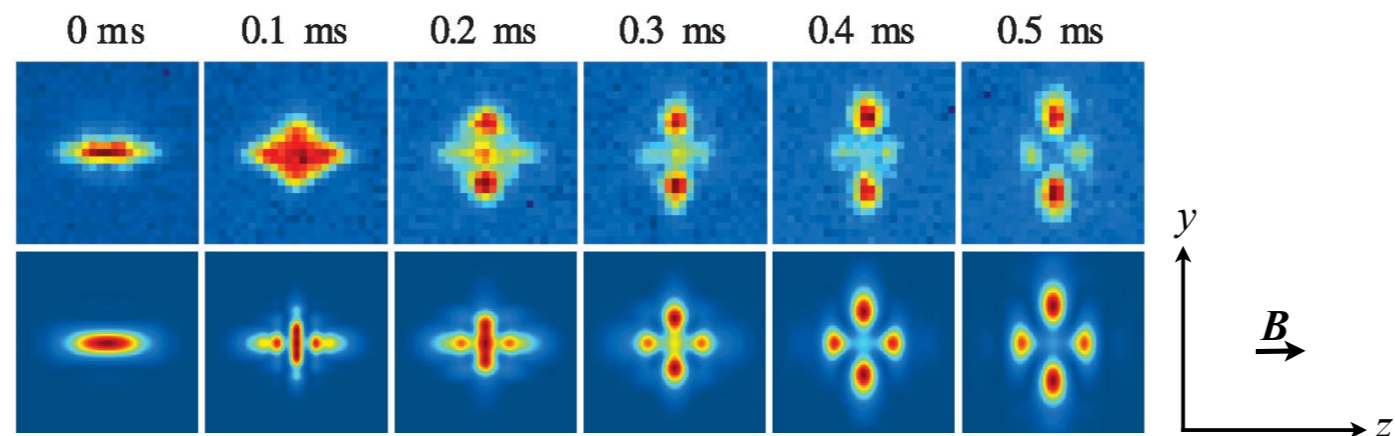


mean field phase diagram

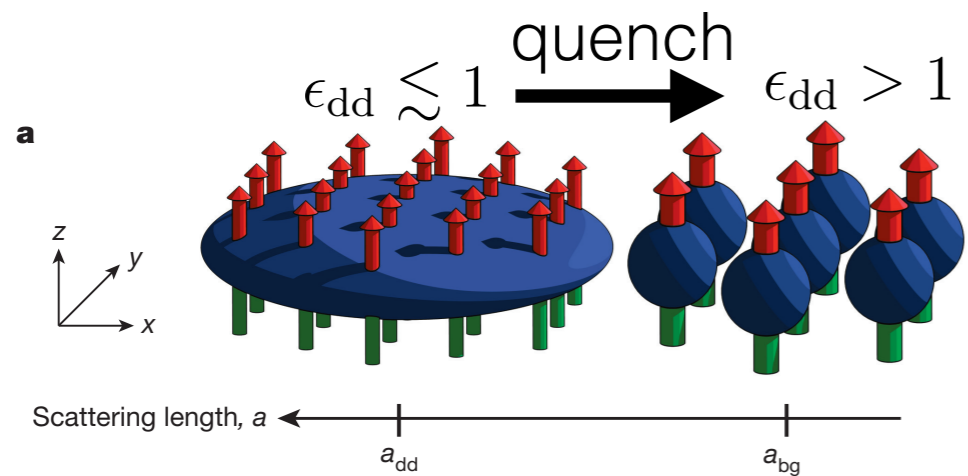
Experiments with ^{52}Cr T Koch et al., Nat. Phys. **4**, 218 (2008)



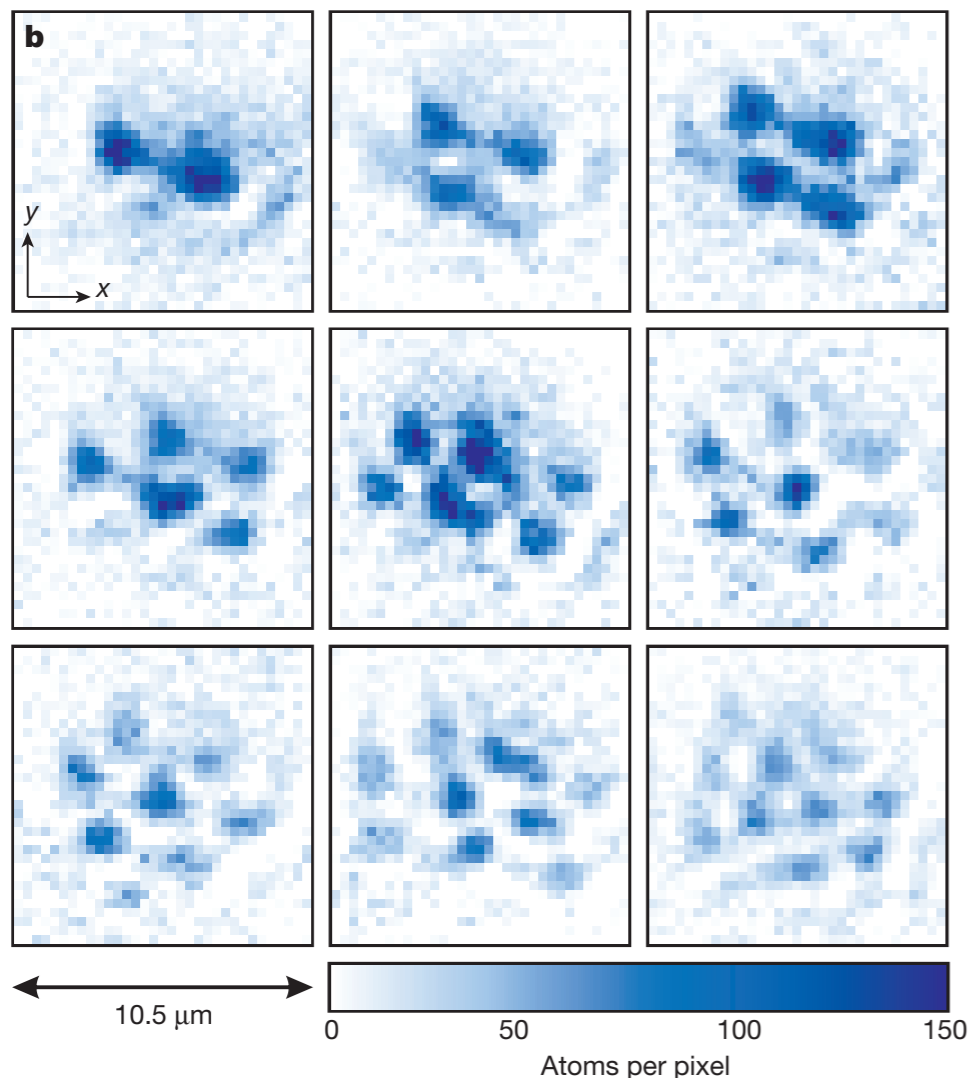
Collapse dynamics with ^{52}Cr : PRL **101** 080401 (2008).



Arrested Development



Quenching to dipole dominated regime experiments observe stable long-lived droplet crystals



- Lifetime > 100 's ms
- ~ 1000 atoms per droplet
- ~ 3 micron spacing
- peak density $> 5 \times 10^{20} \text{m}^{-3}$
- $a_{dd} \gtrsim 1.4 a_s$

Not predicted by standard meanfield theory

(Kadau *et al.*, Nature 2016, also see Ferrier-Barbut *et al.* PRL 2016)

What is this new state?

nature

International weekly journal of science

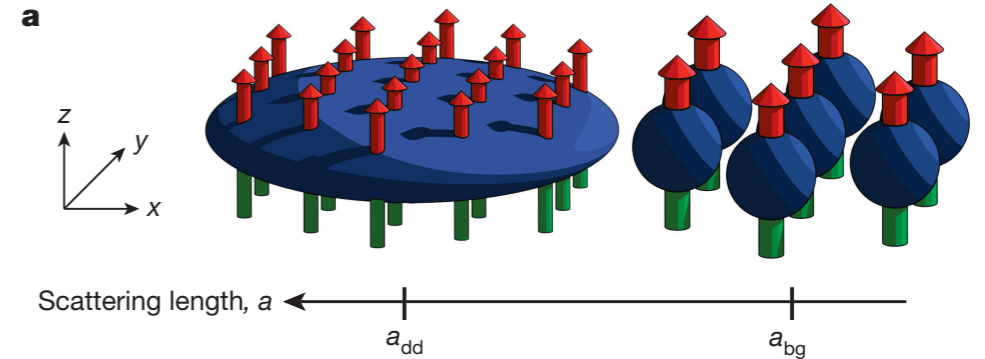
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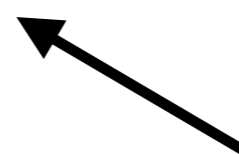
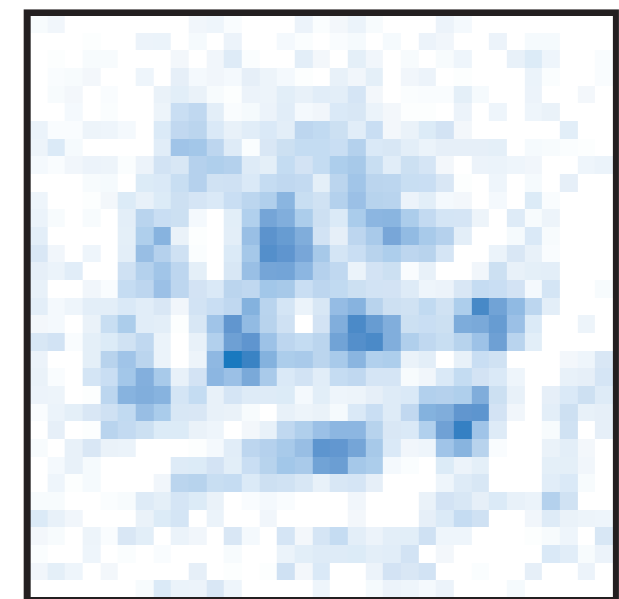
Observing the Rosensweig instability of a quantum ferrofluid

Holger Kadau, Matthias Schmitt, Matthias Wenzel, Clarissa Wink, Thomas Maier, Igor Ferrier-Barbut & Tilman Pfau

Nature 530, 194–197 (11 February 2016)



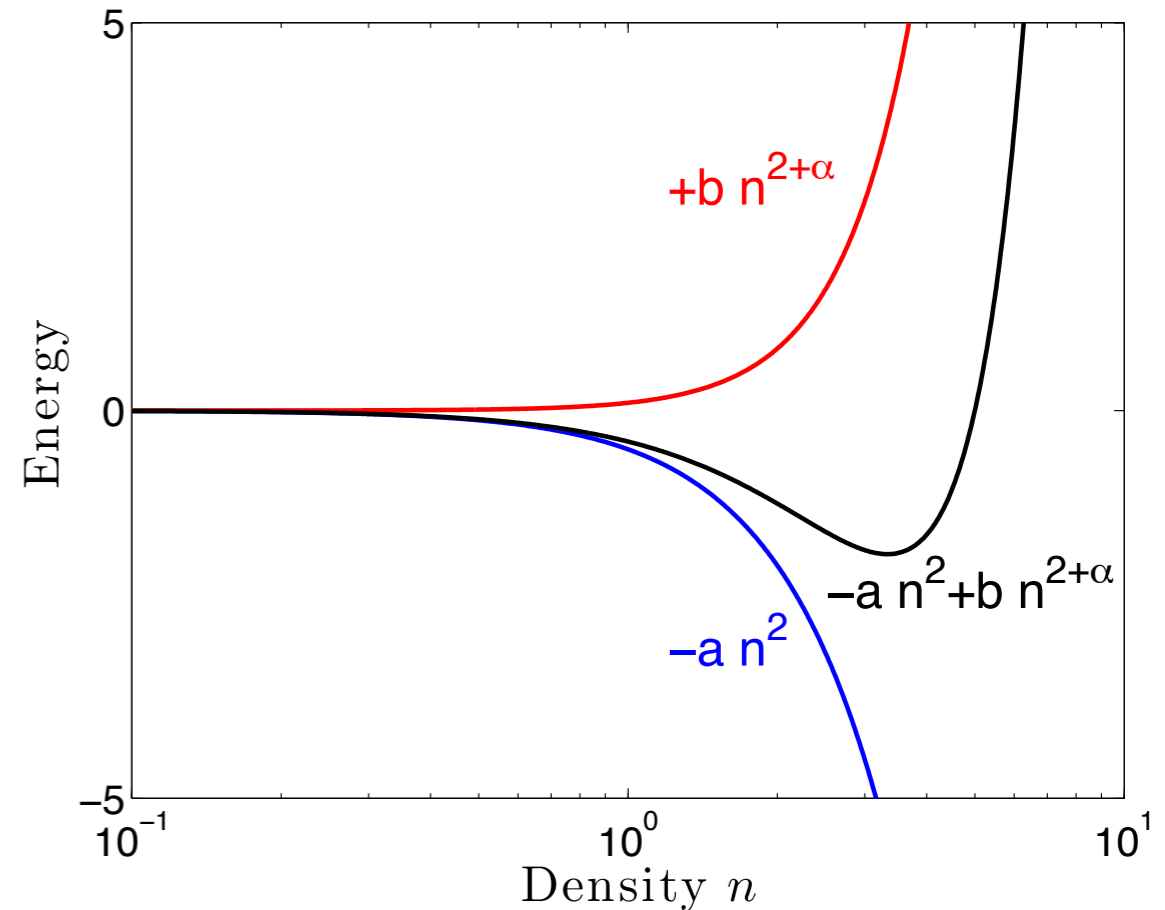
supersolid?



Rosensweig instability of a ferrofluid

Arrested by Higher Order Interaction

Competition between interactions



attractive (collapsing)
2-body interaction

$$n^2$$

vs.

$$n^{2+\alpha}$$

repulsive (stabilizing)
“(2+ α)-body” interaction

density

(similar ideas discussed in He droplets, nuclear physics...)

(Petrov, Liu *et al.*, Xi *et al.*, Wachtler *et al.*, Bisset *et al.*,
Lima *et al.*, Bulgac *et al.*, Ferrier-Barbut *et al.*,....)

Quantum Fluctuations

mean-field energy

$$\frac{E}{V} = \frac{1}{2} g_s n^2 \left[1 + \frac{128}{15\sqrt{\pi}} \sqrt{na_s^3} \right]$$



L



H



Y

leading order quantum corrections
... the "LHY" corrections

T. D. Lee and C. N. Yang, Phys. Rev. 105, 1119 (1957).

T. D. Lee, K. Huang, and C. N. Yang, Phys. Rev. 106, 1135 (1957)

LHY Corrections

- Are **small** for a dilute gas: $na_s^3 \ll 1$

typical BEC $na_s^3 \sim 10^{-5} - 10^{-4}$

liquid He $na_s^3 \sim 1$

- First quantified in 2010 with Fermi gas on the BCS-BEC crossover measuring the equation of state

Solomon Group, Science **328**, 729 (2010)
(regime: *weakly bound molecular bosons*)

Generalised mean field theory for dipolar BEC

DDI correction valid for $\epsilon_{\text{dd}} \sim 1$

LHY for a dipolar condensate:
$$\Delta E_{\text{LHY}} = V \frac{64}{15} g_s \sqrt{\frac{a_s^3}{\pi}} \left(1 + \frac{3}{2} \epsilon_{\text{dd}}^2 \right) n^{5/2}$$

Chemical potential correction:
$$\Delta \mu_{\text{LHY}} = \frac{\partial \Delta E_{\text{LHY}}}{\partial N} = \gamma_{\text{QF}} n^{3/2}$$

$\gamma_{\text{QF}} = \frac{32}{3} g_s \sqrt{\frac{a_s^3}{\pi}} \left(1 + \frac{3}{2} \epsilon_{\text{dd}}^2 \right)$

local density approximation $n^{3/2} \rightarrow |\psi|^3$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = \left[H_{\text{sp}} + \int d\mathbf{r}' U(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') |\psi(\mathbf{r}')|^2 + \gamma_{\text{QF}} |\psi|^3 \right] \psi,$$

single particle physics

$$H_{\text{sp}} = -\frac{\hbar^2 \nabla^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} m (\omega_\rho^2 \rho^2 + \omega_z^2 z^2),$$

two-body interactions

$$U(\mathbf{r}) = g\delta(\mathbf{r}) + \frac{\mu_0 \mu^2}{4\pi} \frac{1 - 3 \cos^2 \theta}{r^3},$$

Dipolar LHY theory:

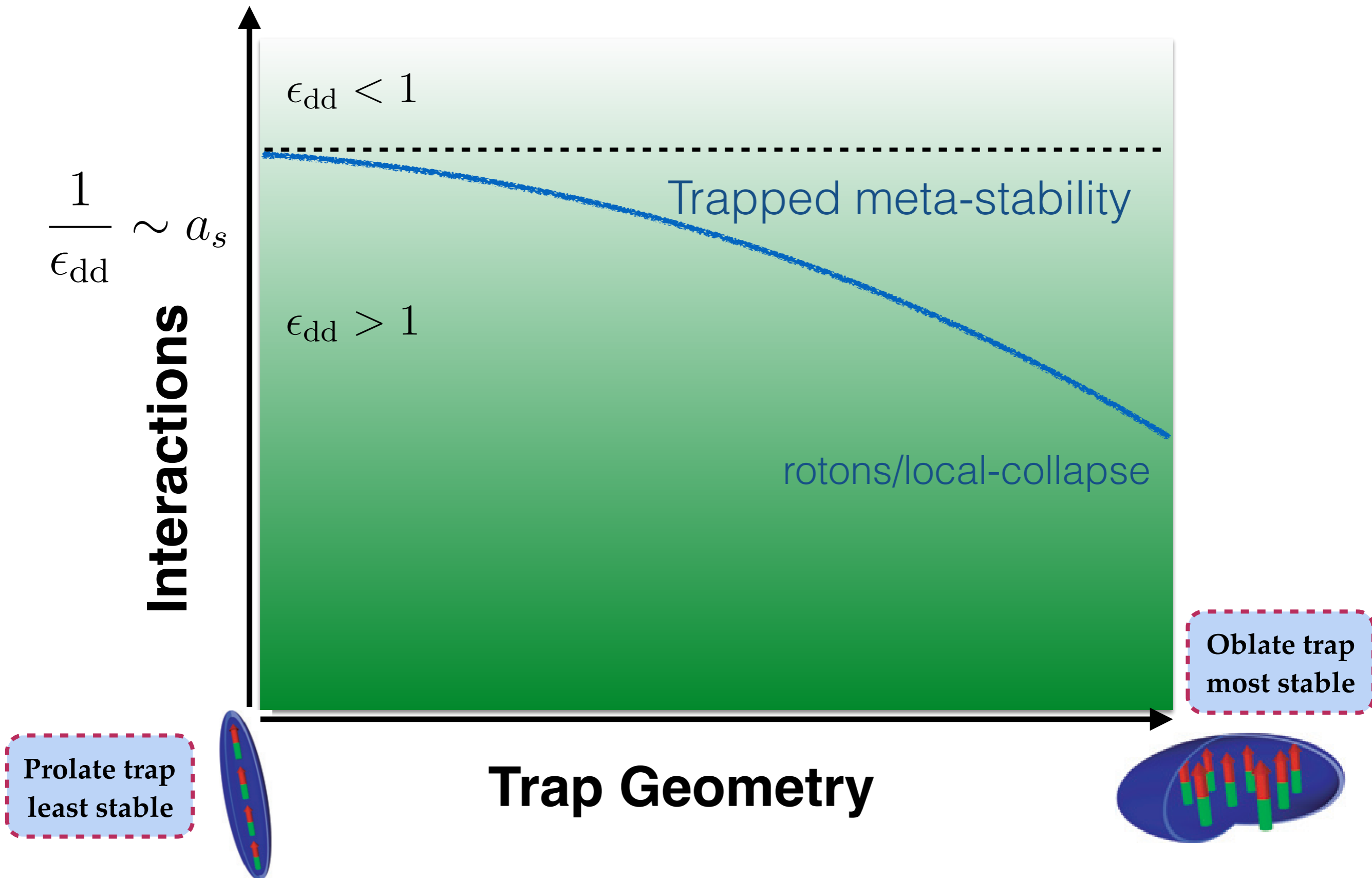
Lima and Pelster, [PRA 84, 041604 \(2011\)](#).

Lima and Pelster, [PRA 86, 063609 \(2012\)](#).

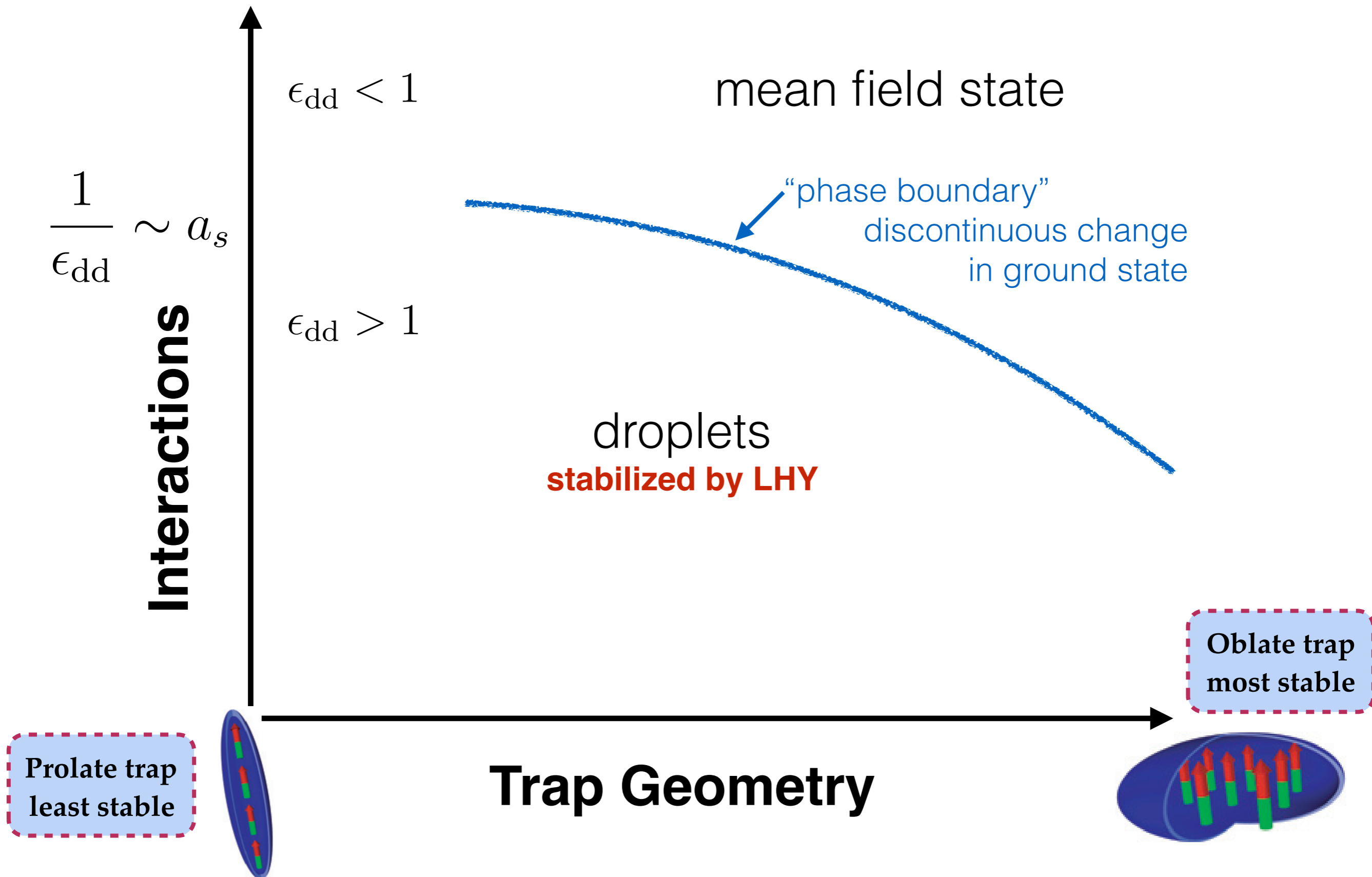
Path-integral Monte Carlo calculations show good agreement with generalised GPE

[H. Saito, J. Phys. Soc. of Jap. **85**, 053001 (2016)]

mean field phase diagram

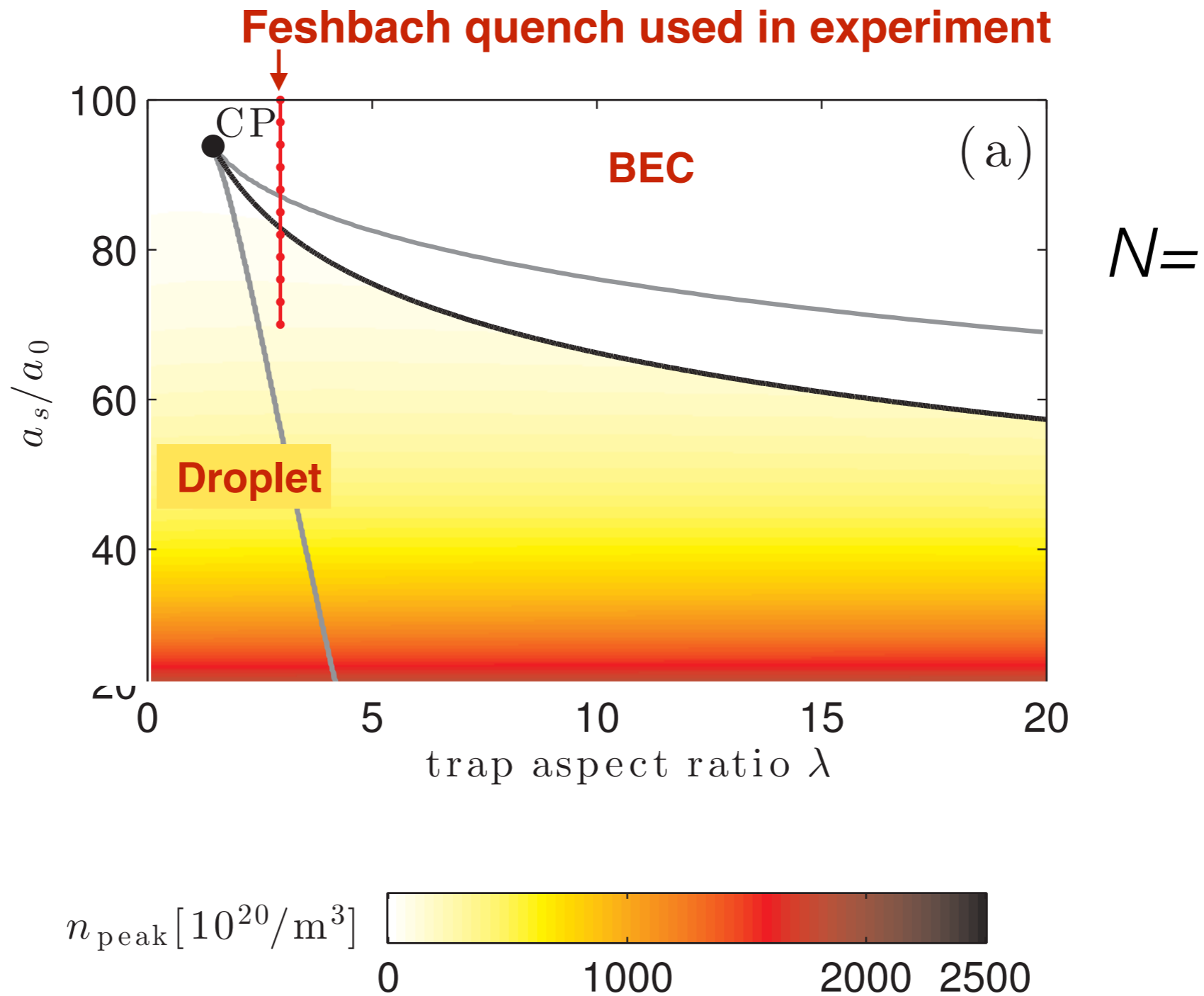


mean field phase diagram **with LHY**



Modeling the Stuttgart Experiment

Dy-164
parameters
 $a_{\text{dd}} = 130 a_0$

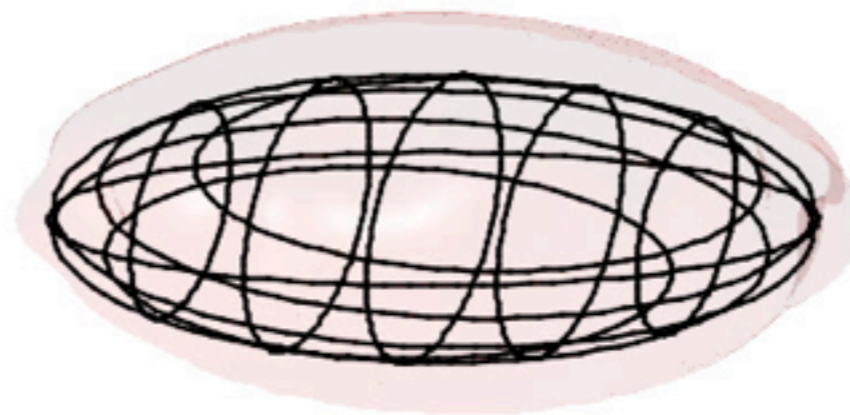


Bisset *et al.*, Phys. Rev. A **94**, 033619 (2016)

Phase diagram depends on N ,
results here for $N = 15000$, $\bar{\omega}/2\pi = 64.6$ Hz.

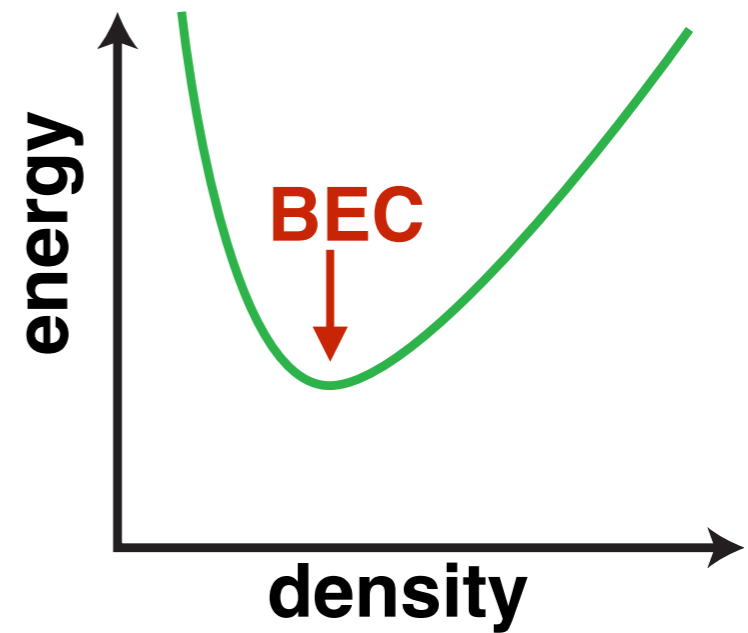
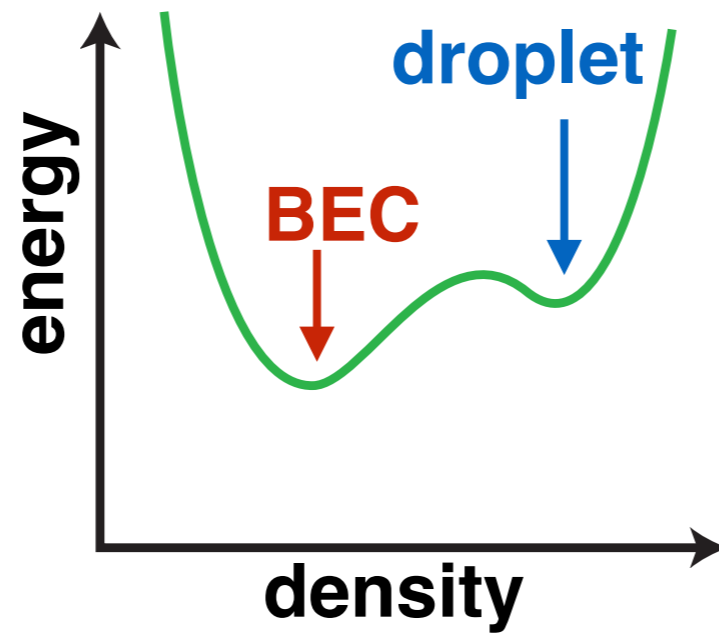
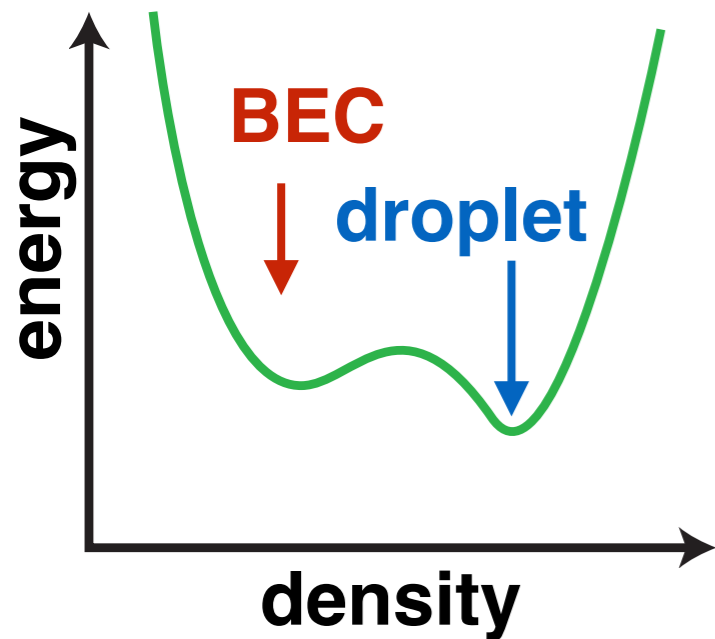
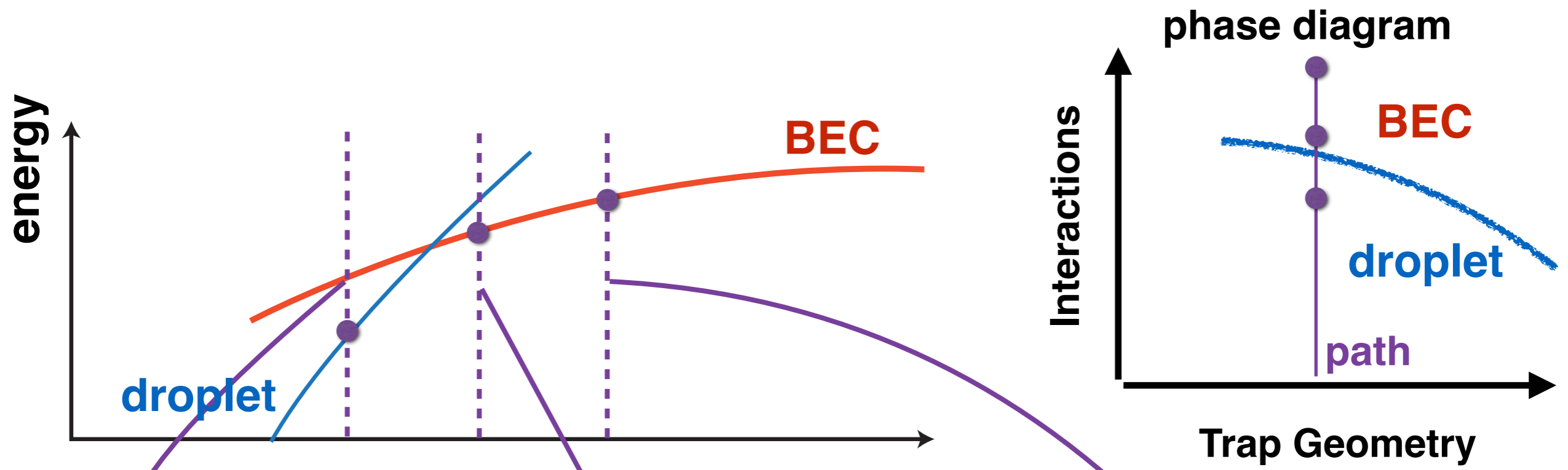
Simulation of Stuttgart Experiment

$$t = 0 \text{ms}$$
$$a_s = 130a_0$$



Generalised GPE dynamics. Noise added to initial condensate
Scattering length quenched in 0.5 ms, trap left on

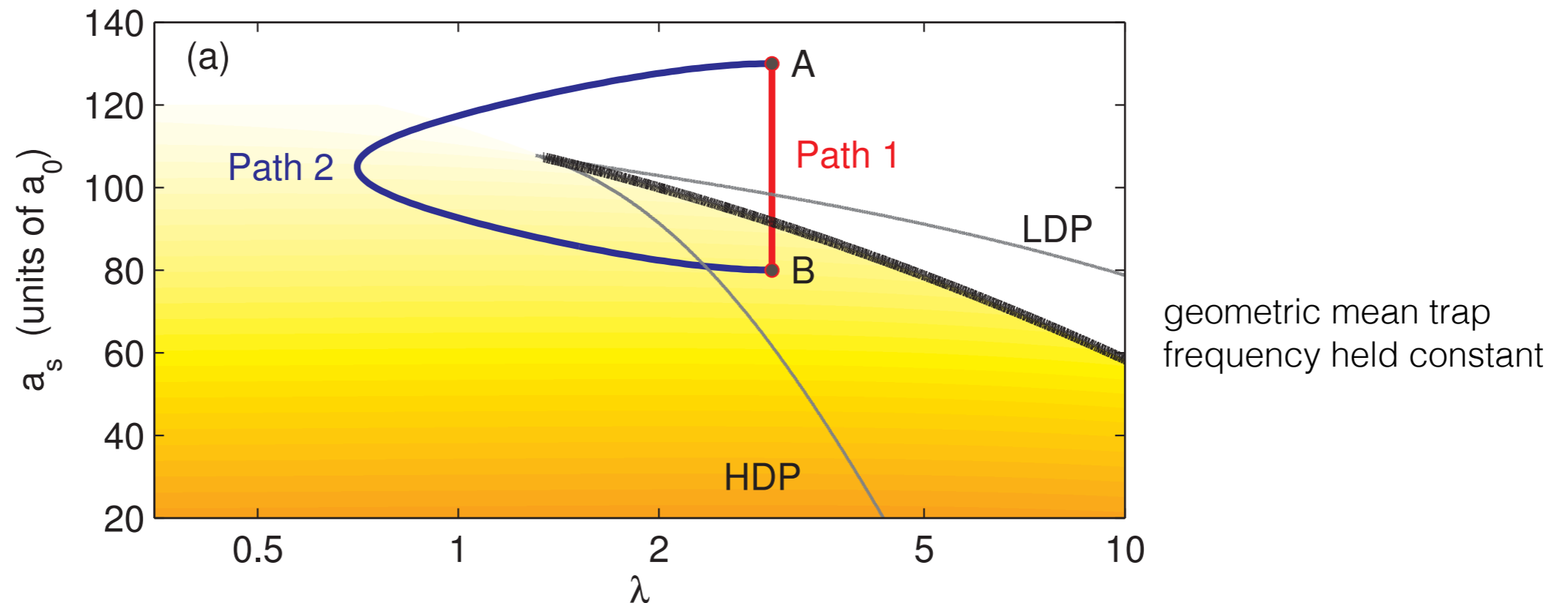
Discontinuous change in oblate trap



Droplet “crystal”

- Generalised GPE suggests droplets not phase coherent with each other (i.e. not a super-solid)
- Nucleation-like formation process.
- Size and properties of droplets in crystal not yet quantitatively understood (inter-droplet interactions important?)

path dependence?



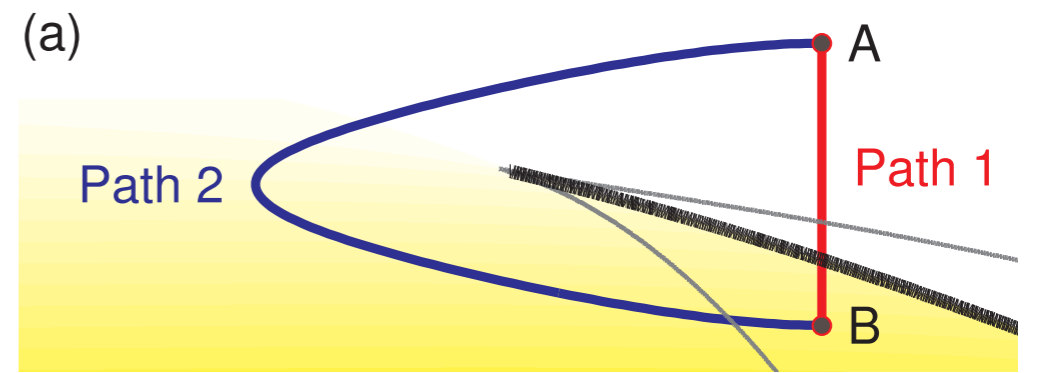
- Path 1 is that considered in experiments
- Path 2 goes around the critical point
- Here use long quench time:

$$t_Q = 30 \text{ ms}, \quad \text{cf} \quad T_{\text{trap}} = \frac{2\pi}{\bar{\omega}} = 16 \text{ ms}$$

- Perform 3D solutions including higher order term, thermal & quantum initial noise $T = 20 \text{ nK}$ ($N = 15 \times 10^3$, $T_c \sim 70 \text{ nK}$)

Path 1

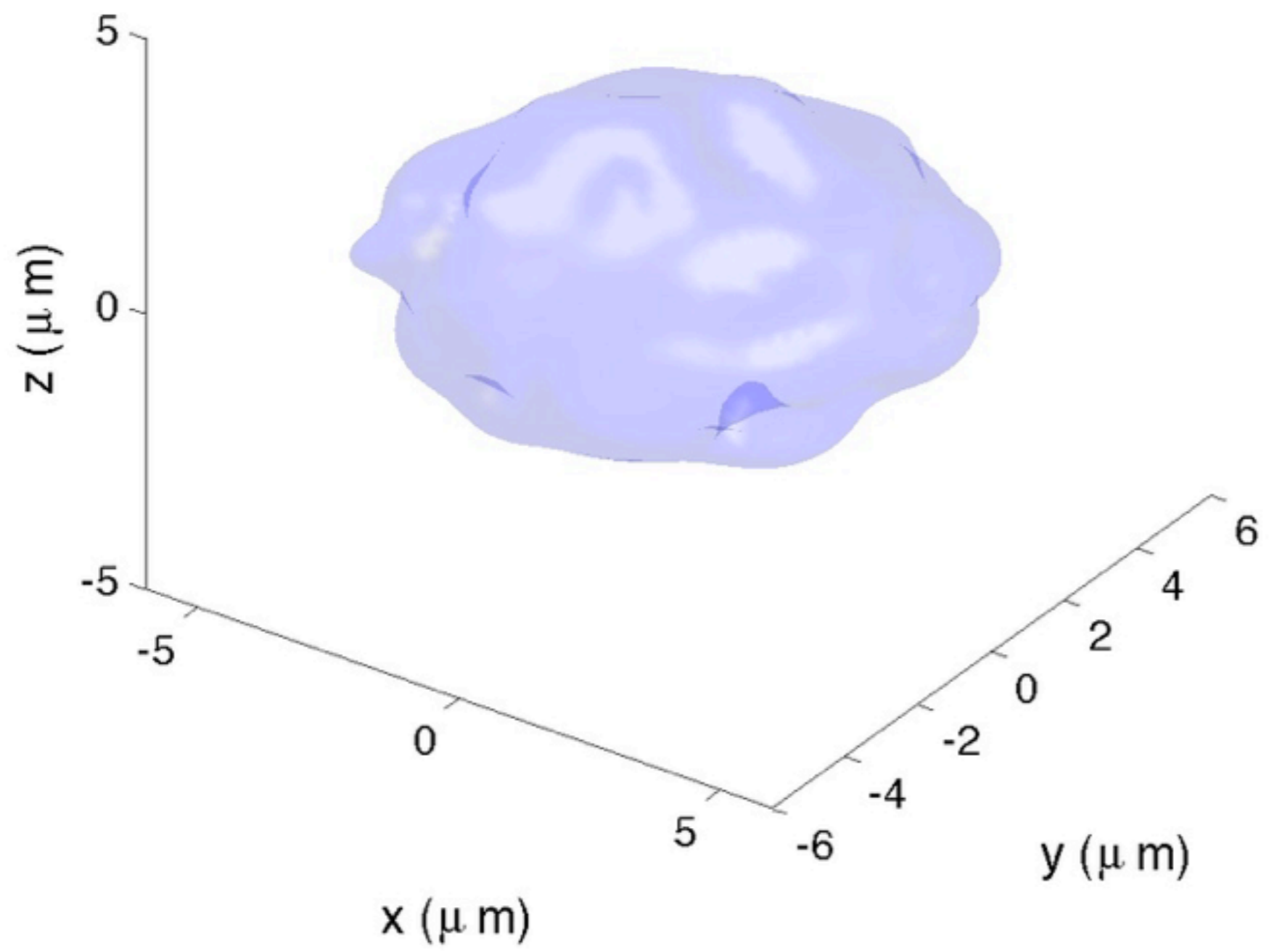
t=0ms



$t_Q = 30 \text{ ms}$

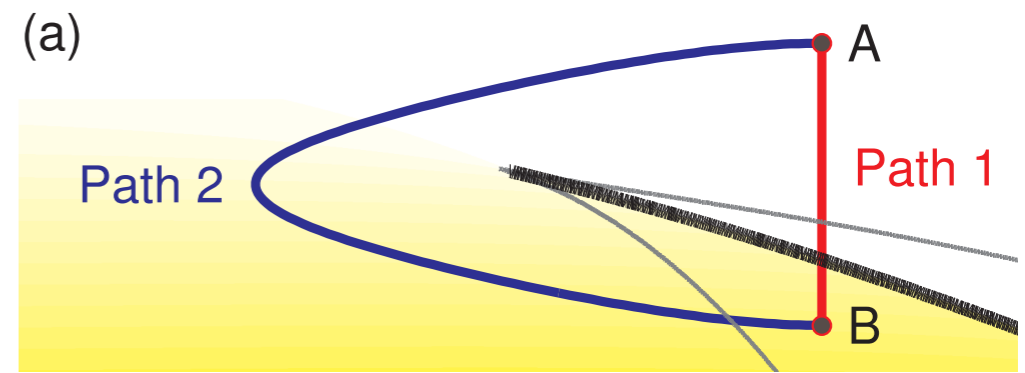
blue density isosurface
 $n = 2 \times 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$

red density isosurface
 $n = 2 \times 10^{20} \text{ m}^{-3}$



Path 2

t=0ms



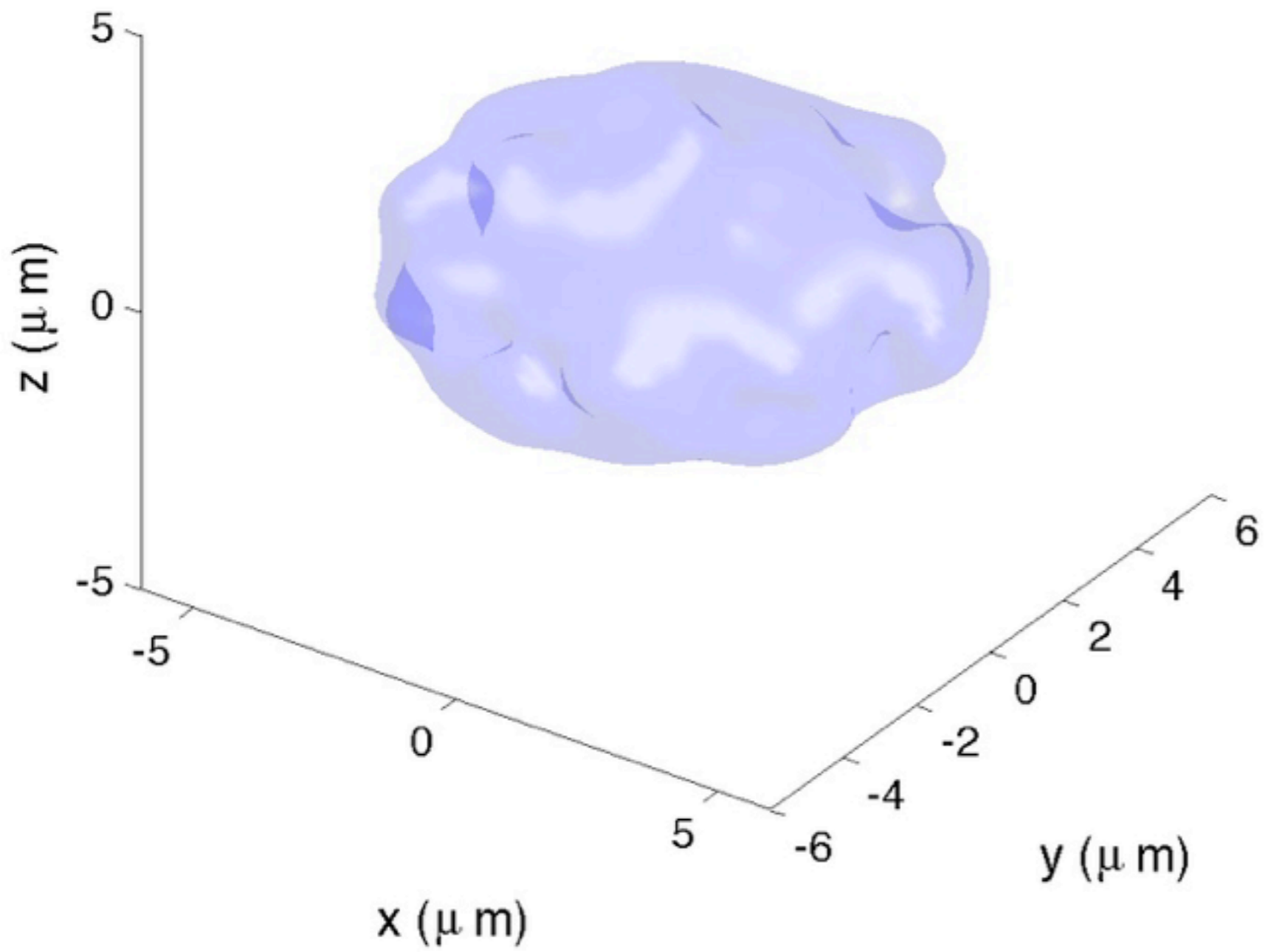
$$t_Q = 30 \text{ ms}$$

blue density isosurface

$$n = 2 \times 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$$

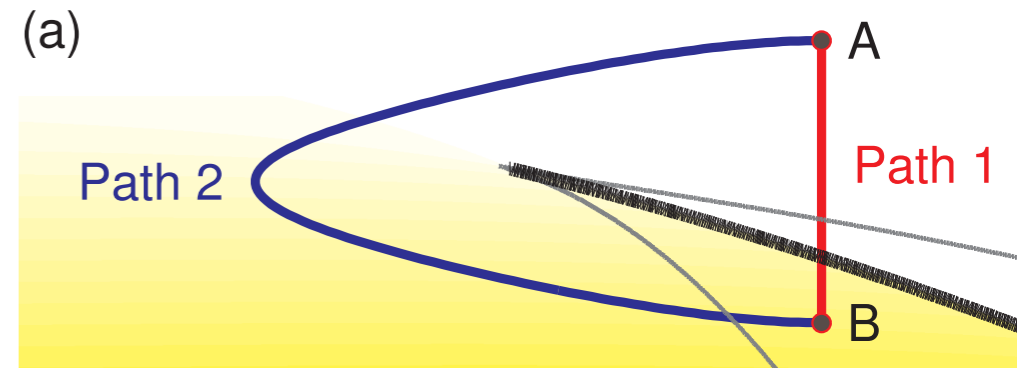
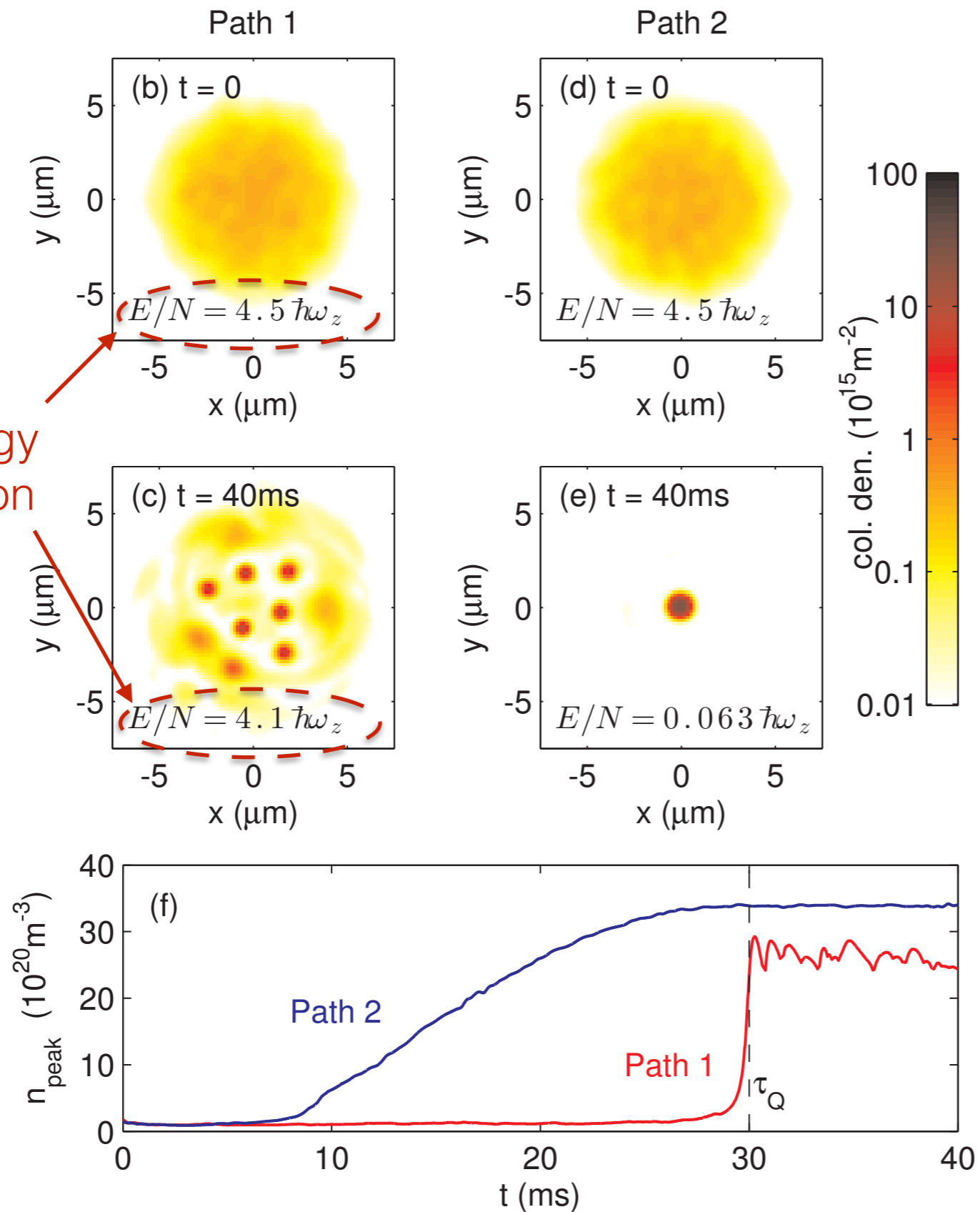
red density isosurface

$$n = 2 \times 10^{20} \text{ m}^{-3}$$

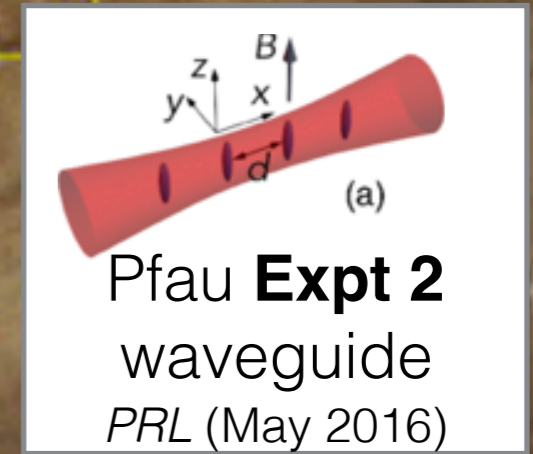
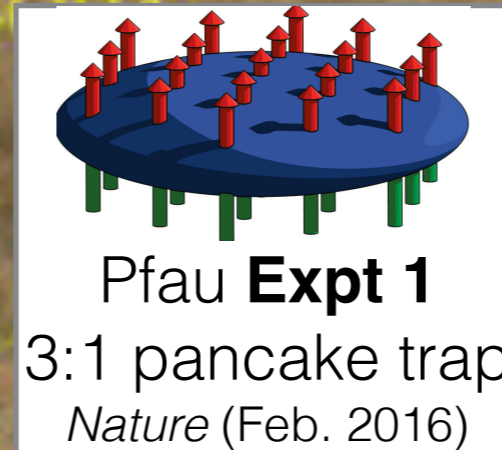
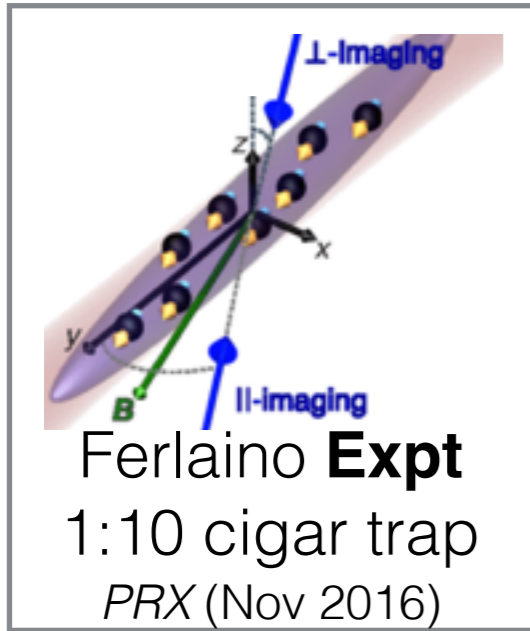


Path summary

quasi-energy conservation



Getting around the wall



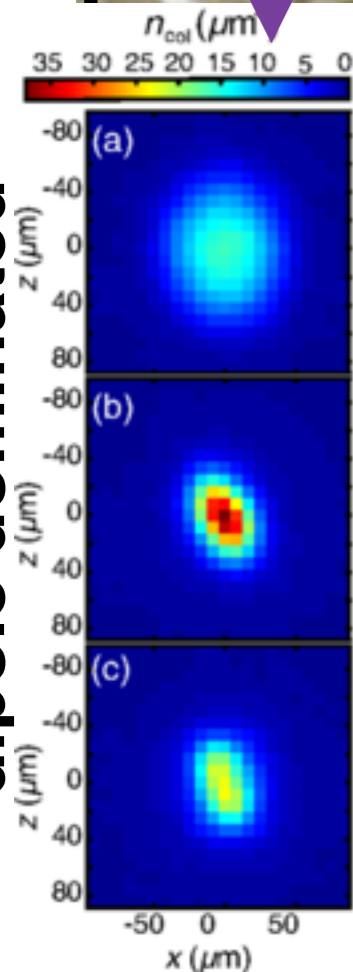
$1/\epsilon_{dd}$

Quench

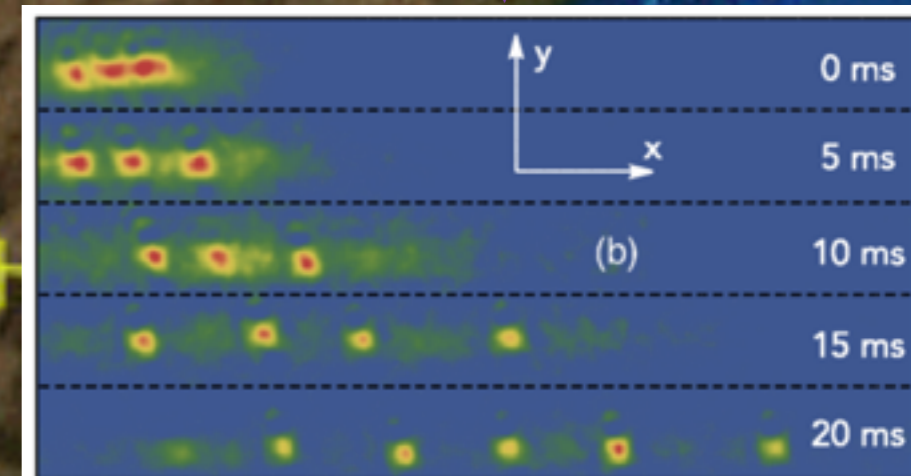
Quench

Quench

dipole dominated

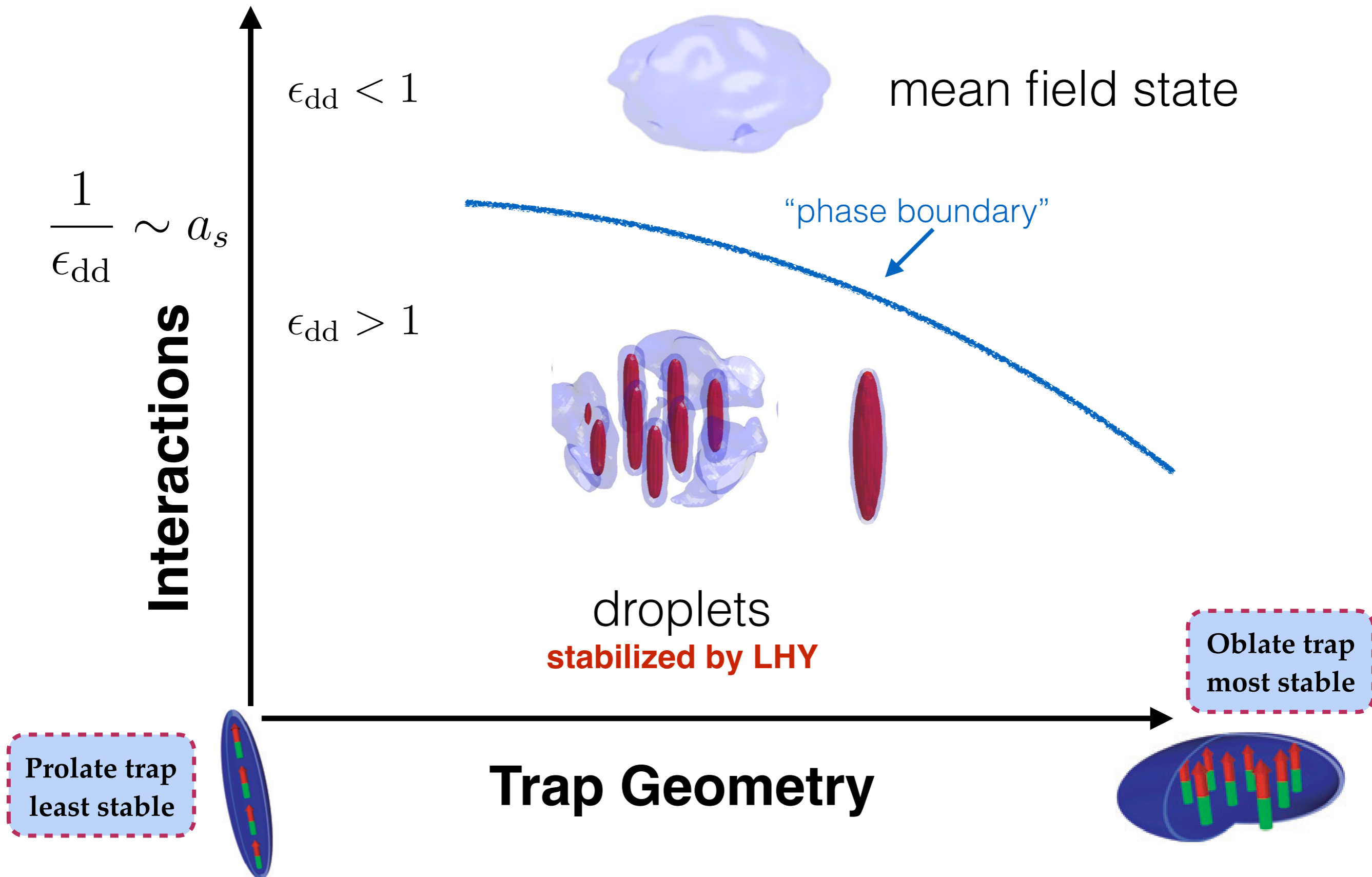


BEC to 'macrodroplet'
cross-over



Trap anisotropy

mean field phase diagram **with LHY**



Do we need a trap?

In the absence of a trap and for fixed atomic number N there is a trivial uniform solution for the condensate wavefunction:

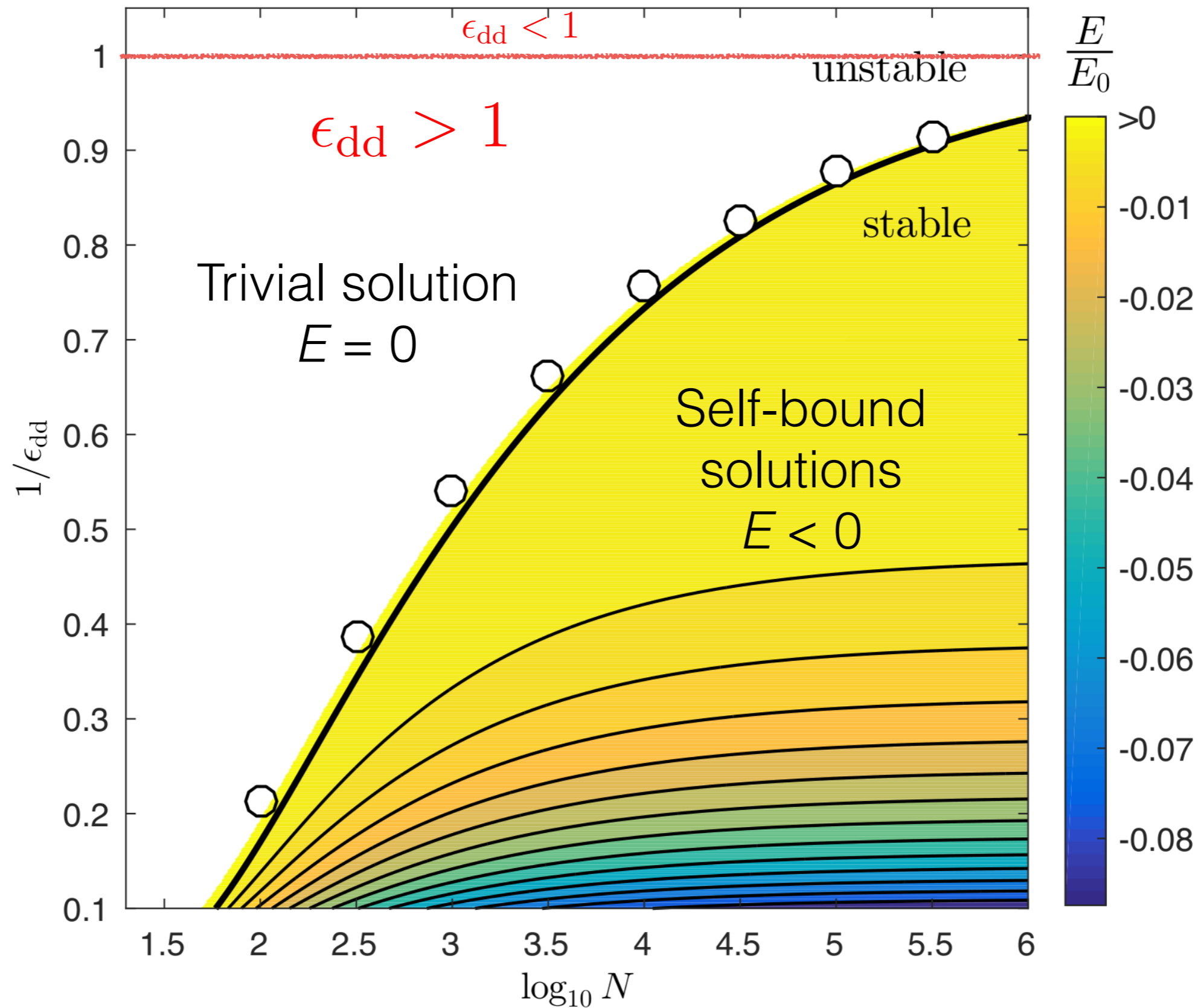
$$\psi \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{with} \quad E = 0$$

trivial 'dispersed' solution

Can we find *self-bound* localised solutions with

$$E < 0 \quad ?$$

Self-bound droplet phase diagram



self-bound droplet production

time sequence in **prolate** trap:



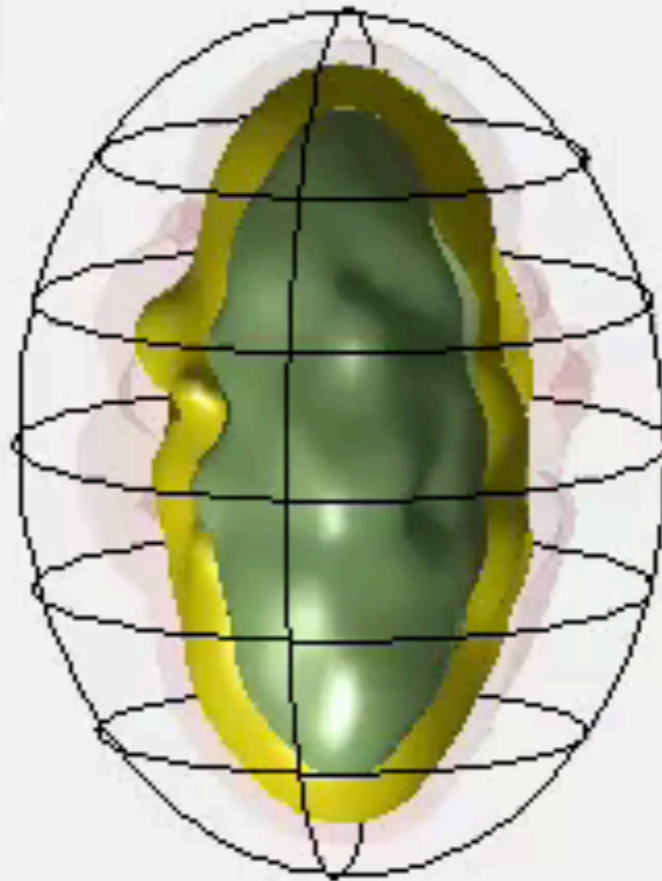
Dominant loss mechanism:
three-body recombination

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = \left[-\frac{\hbar^2 \nabla^2}{2m} + \frac{m}{2} (\omega_\rho^2 \rho^2 + \lambda^2 z^2) + gn + \Phi_{\text{dd}}(\mathbf{r}) + \gamma_{\text{QF}} n^{3/2} + \frac{i\hbar}{2} L_3 n^2 \right] \psi$$

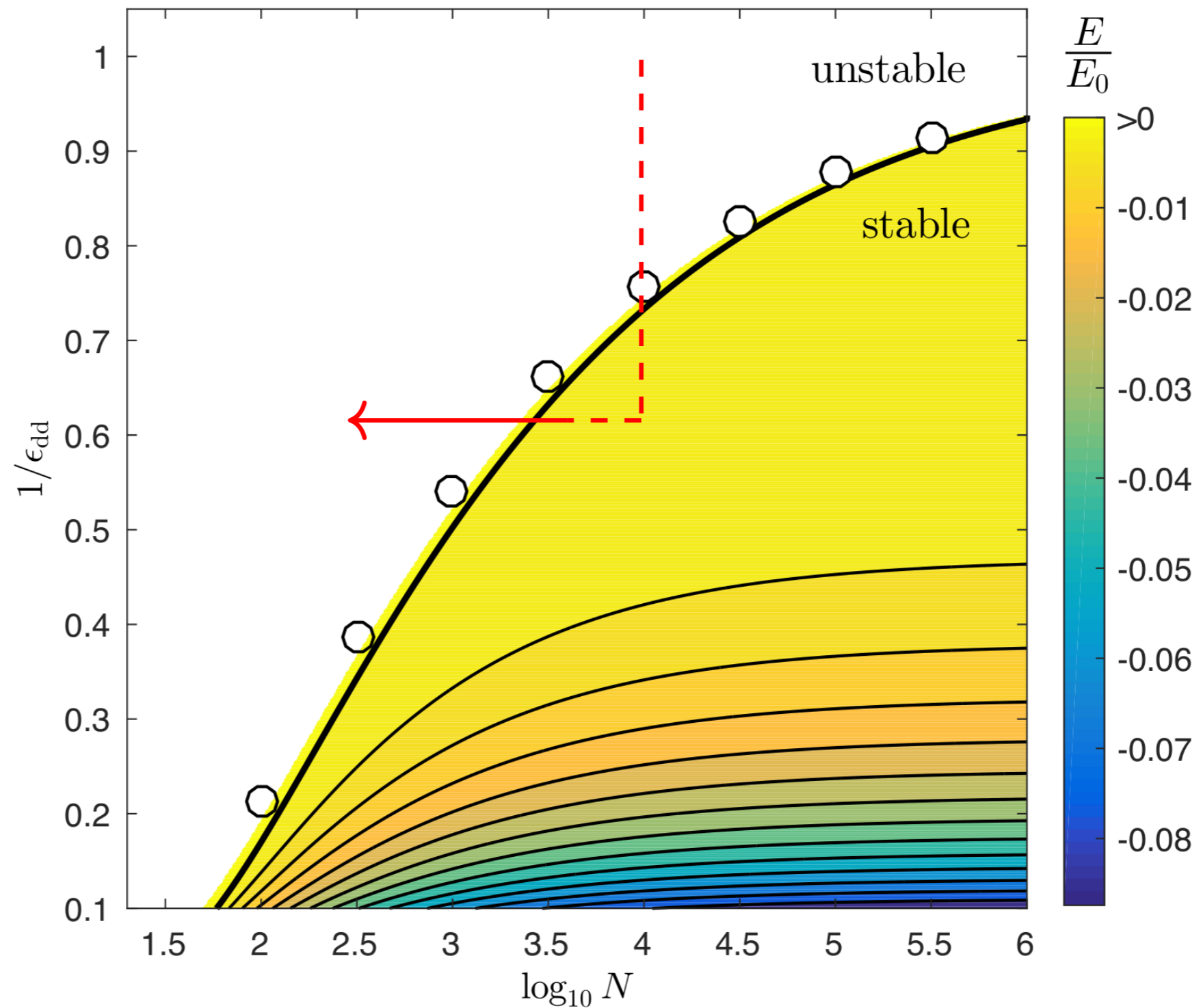
Generalised dipolar GPE including 3-body loss
3-body loss rate relatively low for Dy and Er

Quench to $a_s = 80a_0$ and trap removal $(\epsilon_{dd} \approx 1.6)$

$t = 0\text{ms}$
 $a_s = 130a_0$

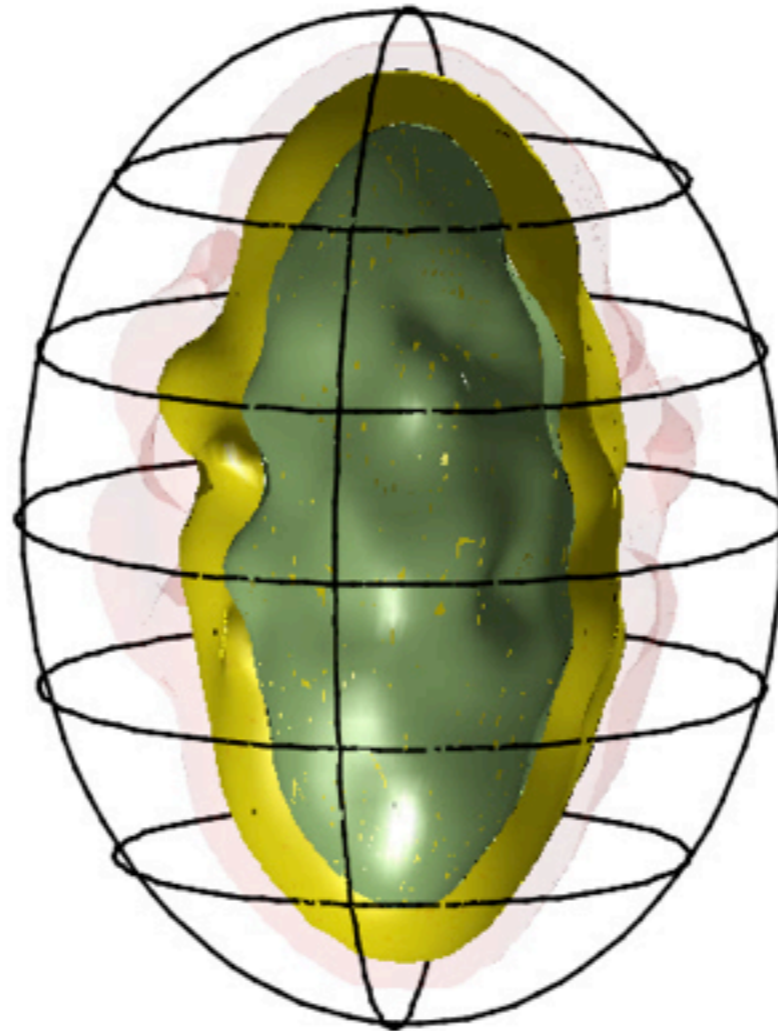


Phase diagram path: a_s quench and trap removal

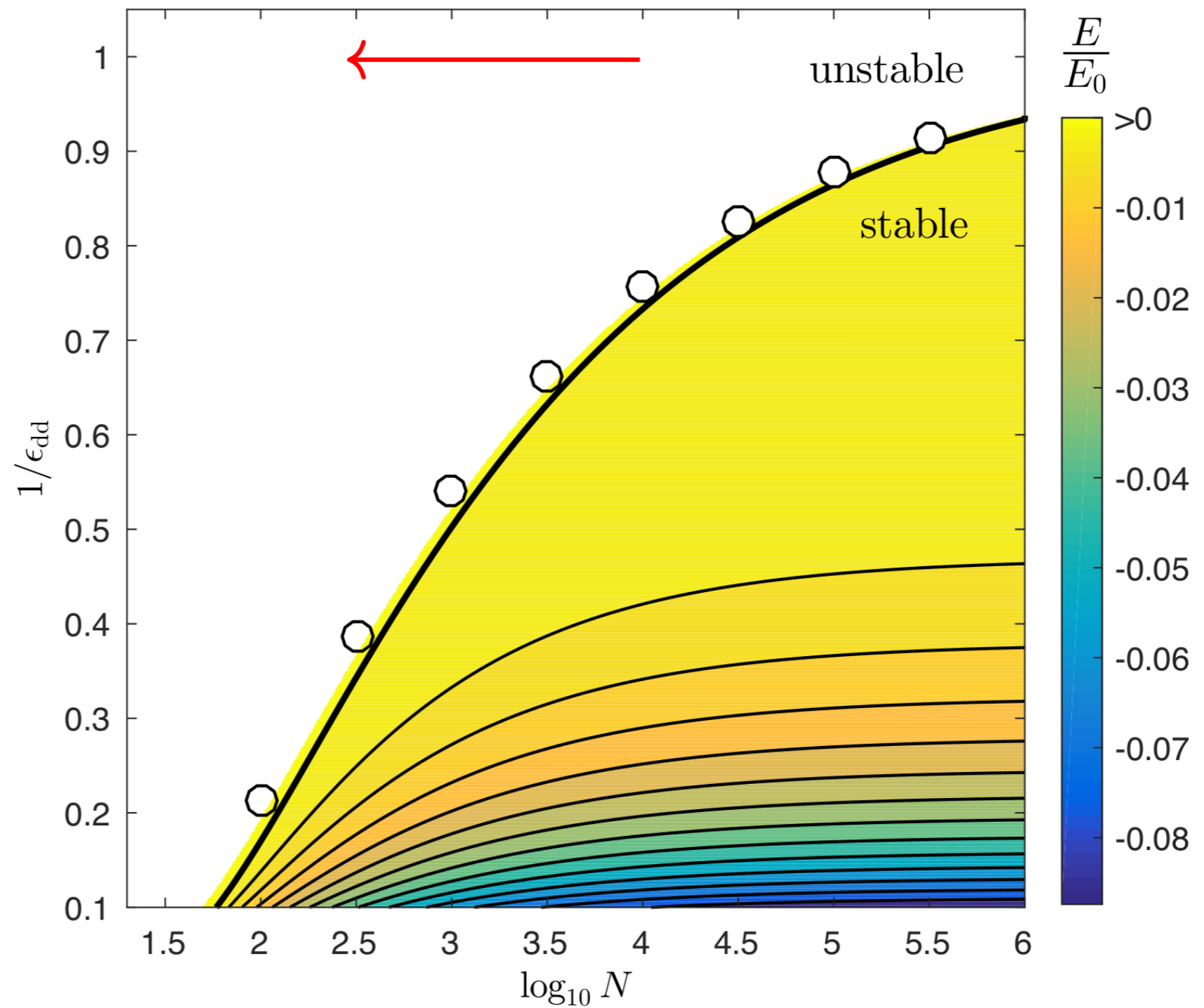


Comparison: **no** a_s quench, **just** trap removal

$t = 0\text{ms}$
 $a_s = 130a_0$



Phase diagram path: **no** a_s quench, **just** trap removal



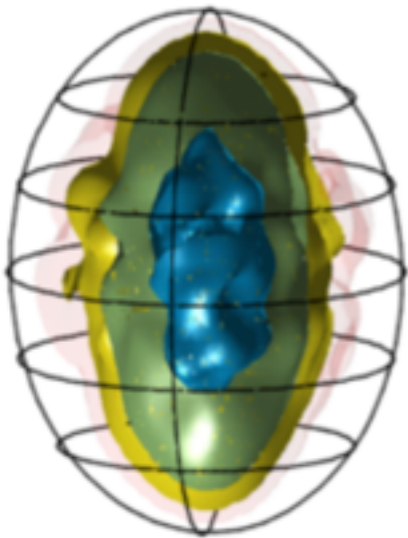
Editors' Suggestion

Rapid Communication

Self-bound dipolar droplet: A localized matter wave in free space

D. Baillie, R. M. Wilson, R. N. Bisset, and P. B. Blakie

Phys. Rev. A **94**, 021602(R) (2016) – Published 11 August 2016

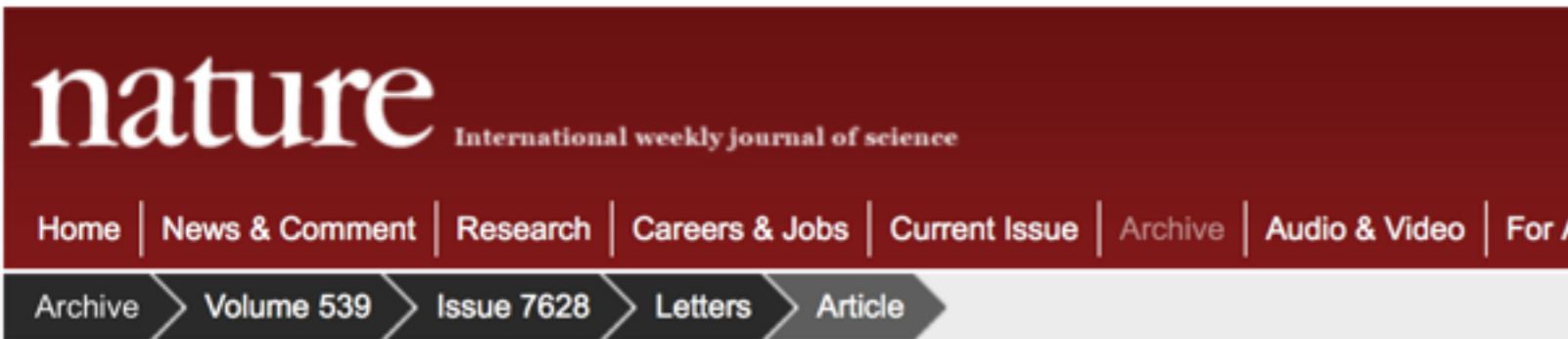


A liquid droplet is a self-bound phase of matter that holds itself together in the absence of a container. Without a container a gas will normally expand to fill space. A method is proposed to produce a self-bound dilute quantum gaseous dipolar Bose-Einstein condensate.

[Show Abstract +](#)

Experiments

- Pfau Group in Stuttgart



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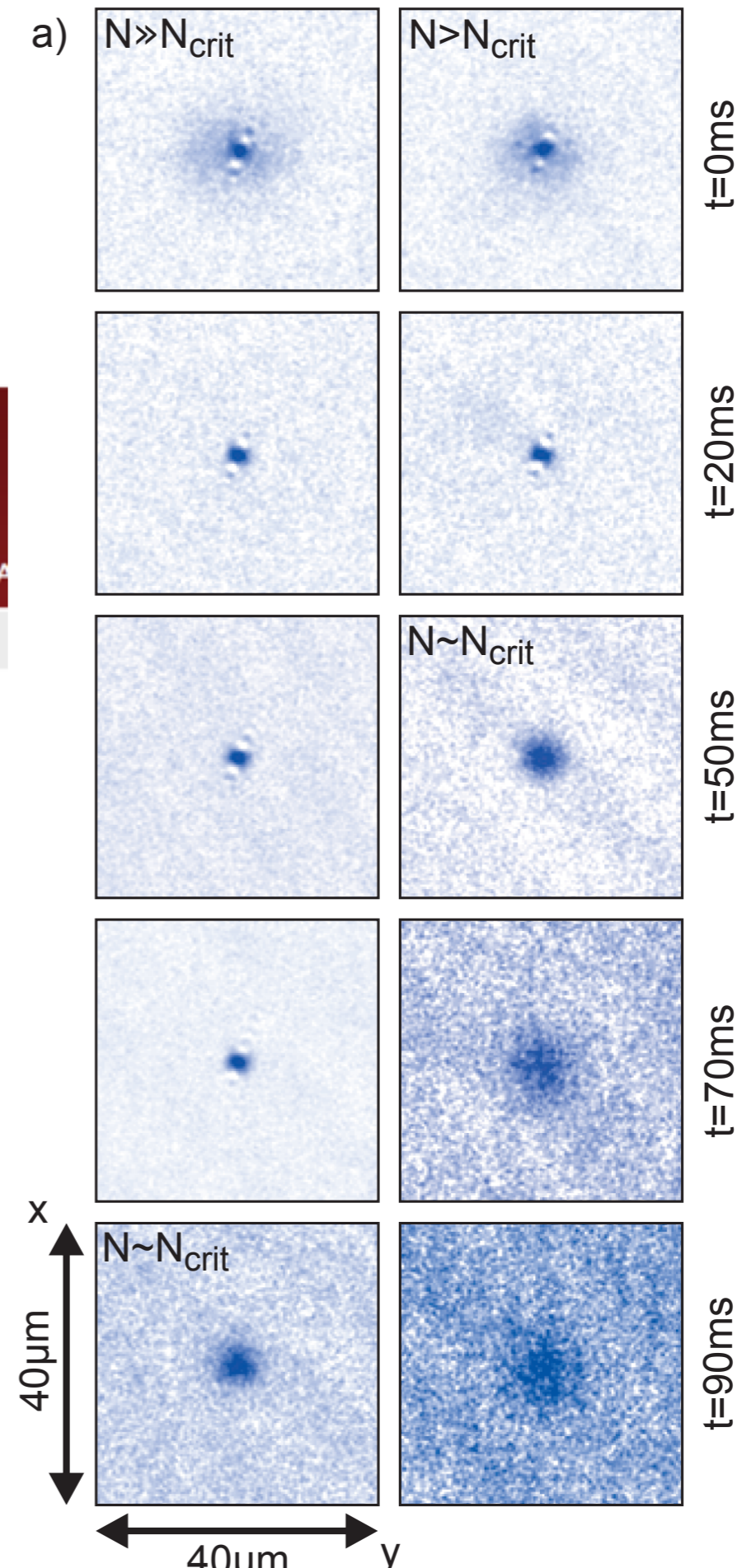
Self-bound droplets of a dilute magnetic quantum liquid

Matthias Schmitt, Matthias Wenzel, Fabian Böttcher, Igor Ferrier-Barbut & Tilman Pfau

[Affiliations](#) | [Contributions](#) | [Corresponding authors](#)

Nature 539, 259–262 (10 November 2016) | doi:10.1038/nature20126

Received 25 July 2016 | Accepted 29 September 2016 | Published online 09 November 2016



Excitations

Mostly for self-bound droplets

Initial work: shape oscillations

PHYSICAL REVIEW X **6**, 041039 (2016)

Quantum-Fluctuation-Driven Crossover from a Dilute Bose-Einstein Condensate to a Macrodroplet in a Dipolar Quantum Fluid

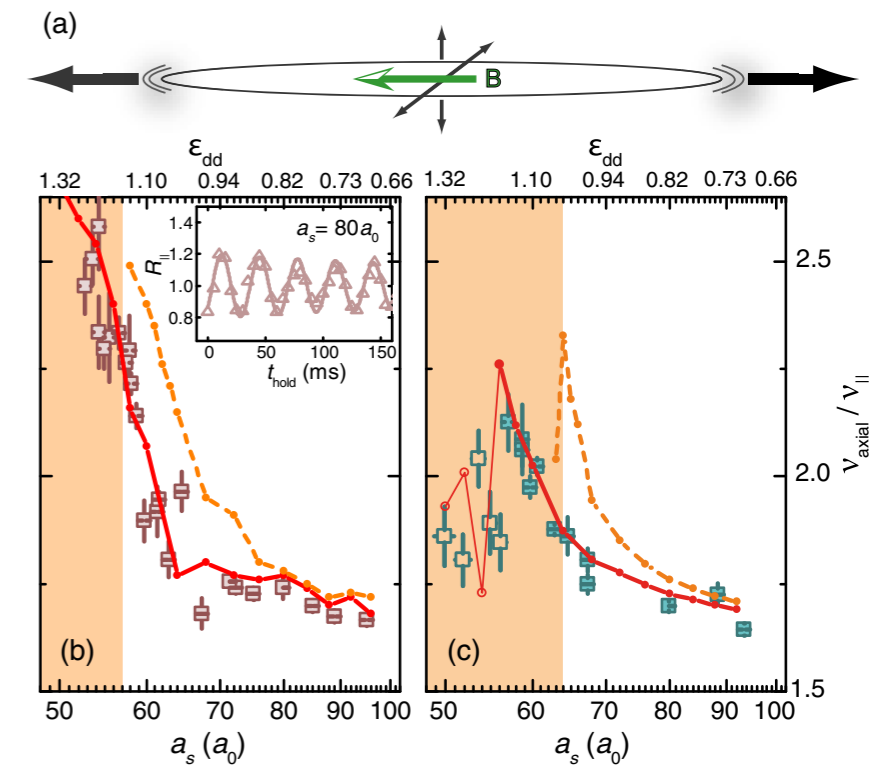
L. Chomaz,¹ S. Baier,¹ D. Petter,¹ M. J. Mark,^{1,2} F. Wächtler,³ L. Santos,³ and F. Ferlaino^{1,2,*}

¹*Institut für Experimentalphysik, Universität Innsbruck, Technikerstraße 25, 6020 Innsbruck, Austria*

²*Institut für Quantenoptik und Quanteninformation, Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften, 6020 Innsbruck, Austria*

³*Institut für Theoretische Physik, Leibniz Universität Hannover, Appelstrasse 2, 30167 Hannover, Germany*

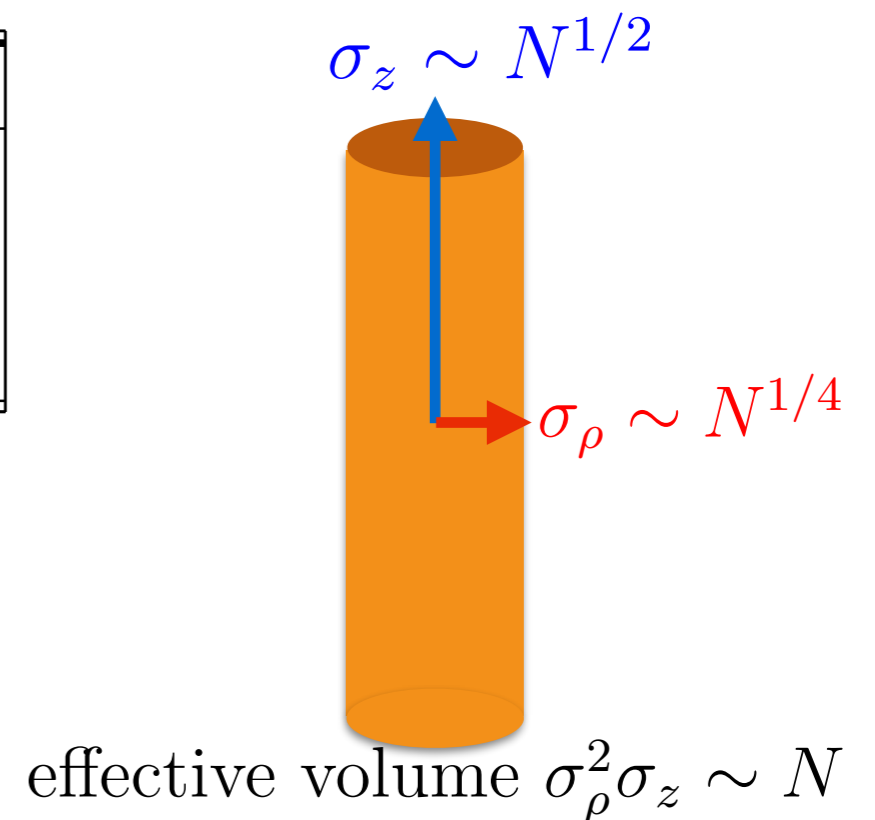
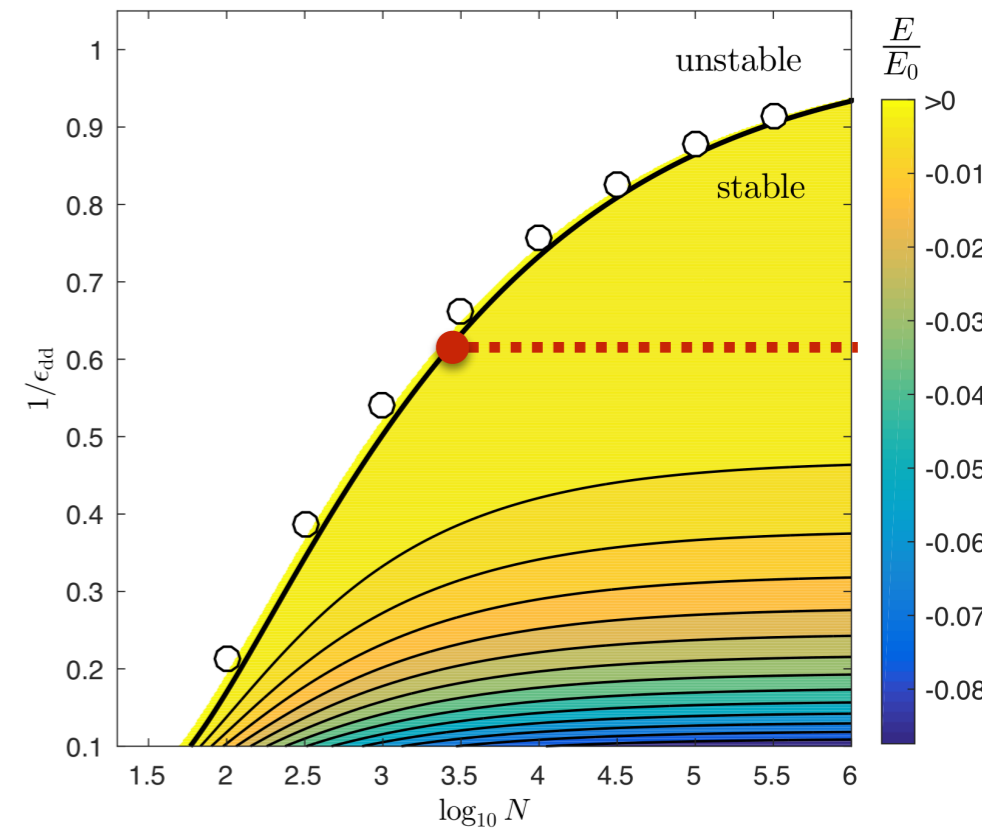
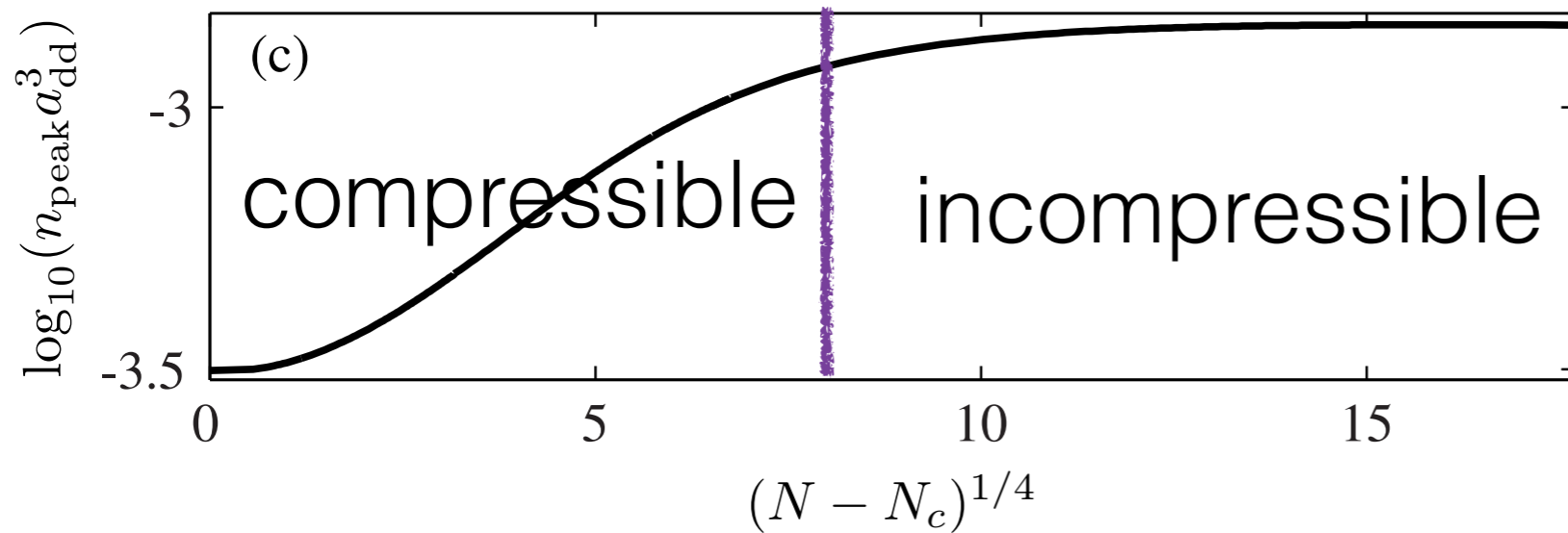
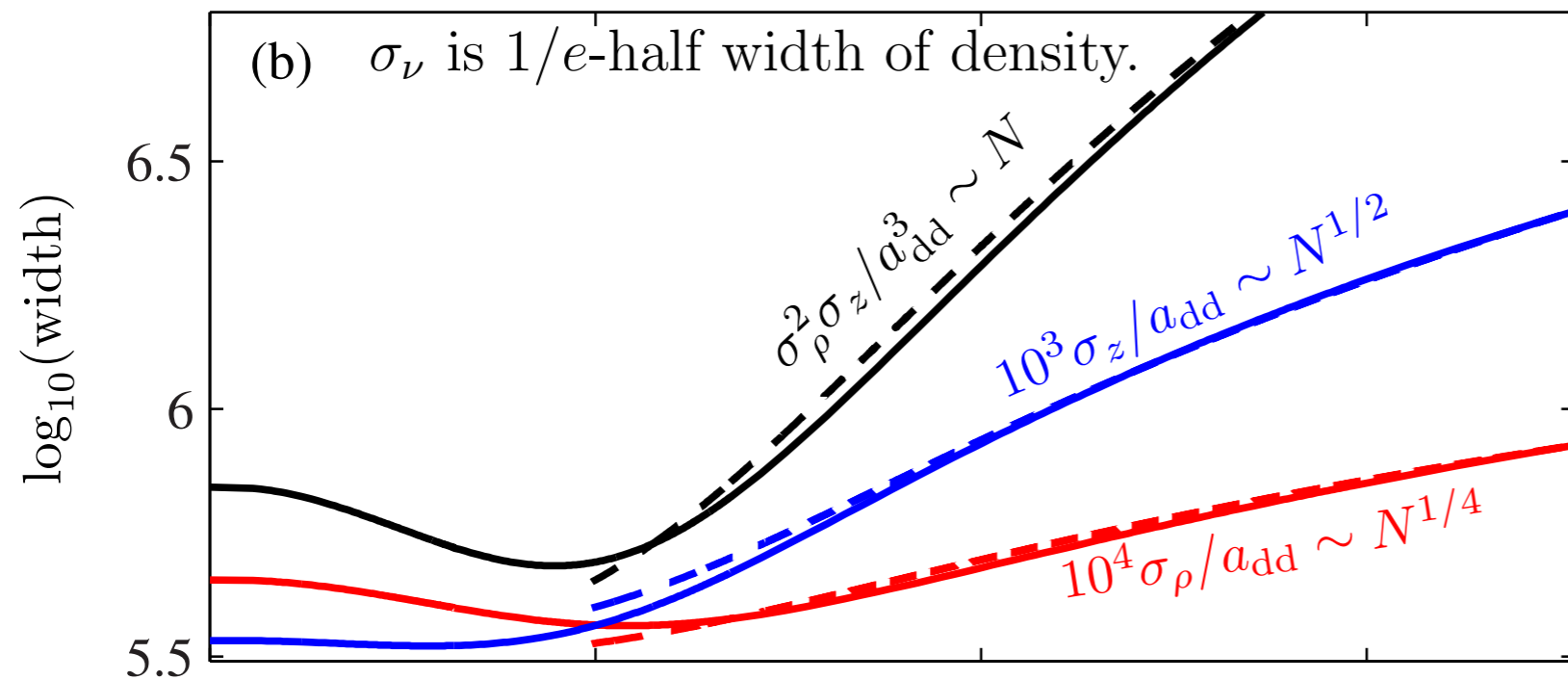
(Received 22 July 2016; revised manuscript received 15 September 2016; published 22 November 2016)



“axial” shape mode

Compressible to Incompressible

^{164}Dy atoms with $a_s = 80 a_0$ ($\epsilon_{\text{dd}} = 1.6$), $N_c = 1899$



Excitations

- Linearize GPE $i\hbar\dot{\psi} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{GP}}\psi$ about droplet:

$$\psi = e^{-i\mu t/\hbar} \left[\psi_0 + \sum_{\nu} \left(\lambda_{\nu} u_{\nu} e^{-i\epsilon_{\nu} t/\hbar} - \lambda_{\nu}^* v_{\nu}^* e^{i\epsilon_{\nu} t/\hbar} \right) \right]$$

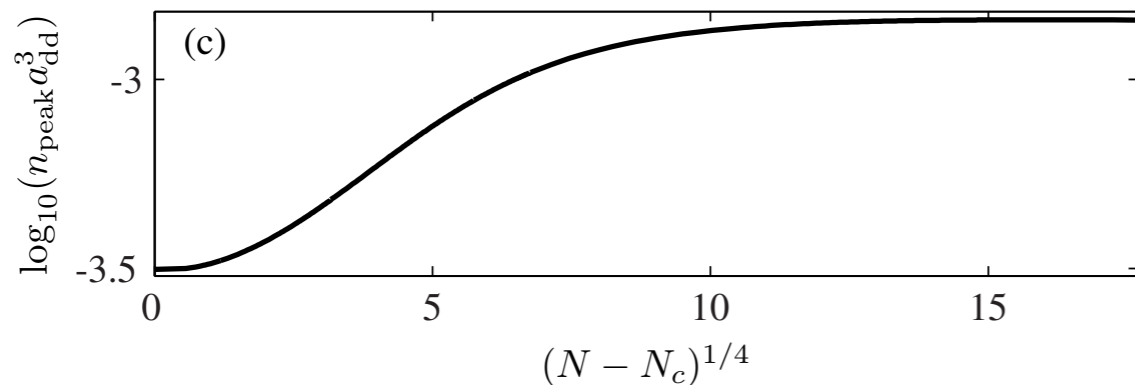
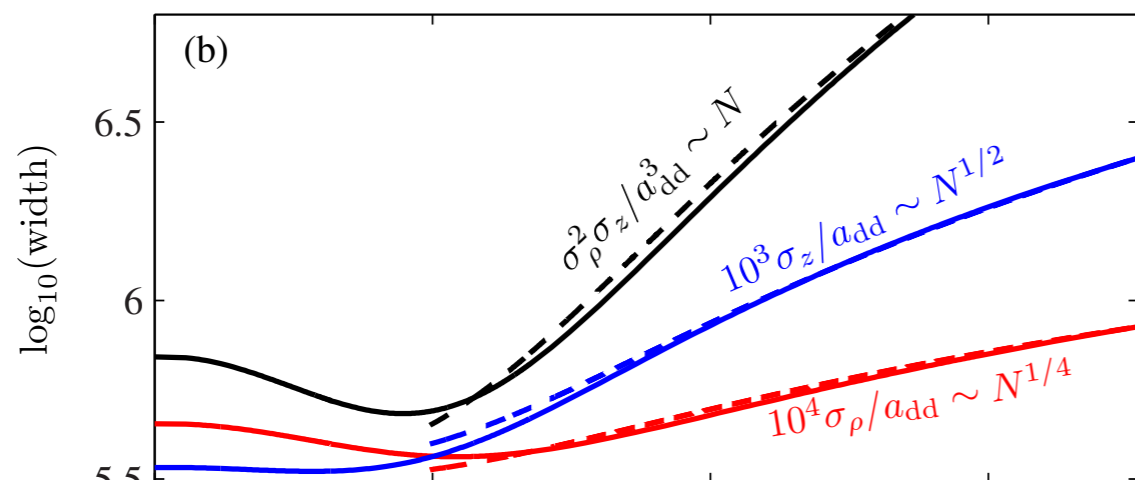
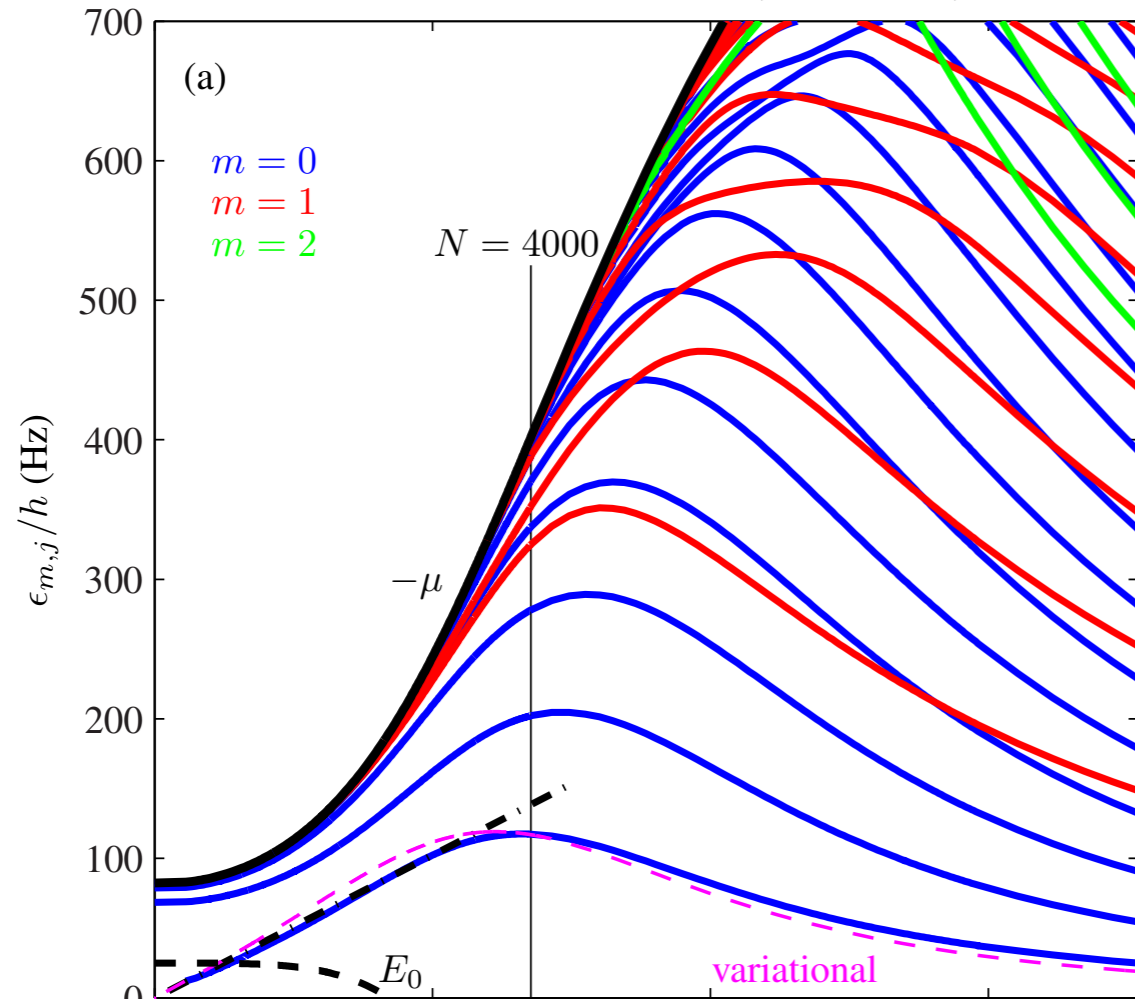
- Excitations satisfy Bogoliubov-de Gennes equations

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{L}_{\text{GP}} - \mu + X & -X \\ X & -(\mathcal{L}_{\text{GP}} - \mu + X) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u_{\nu} \\ v_{\nu} \end{pmatrix} = \epsilon_{\nu} \begin{pmatrix} u_{\nu} \\ v_{\nu} \end{pmatrix}$$

Exchange operator:

$$Xf \equiv \psi_0 \int d\mathbf{x}' U(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}') f(\mathbf{x}') \psi_0^*(\mathbf{x}') + \frac{3}{2} \gamma_{\text{QF}} |\psi_0|^3 f.$$

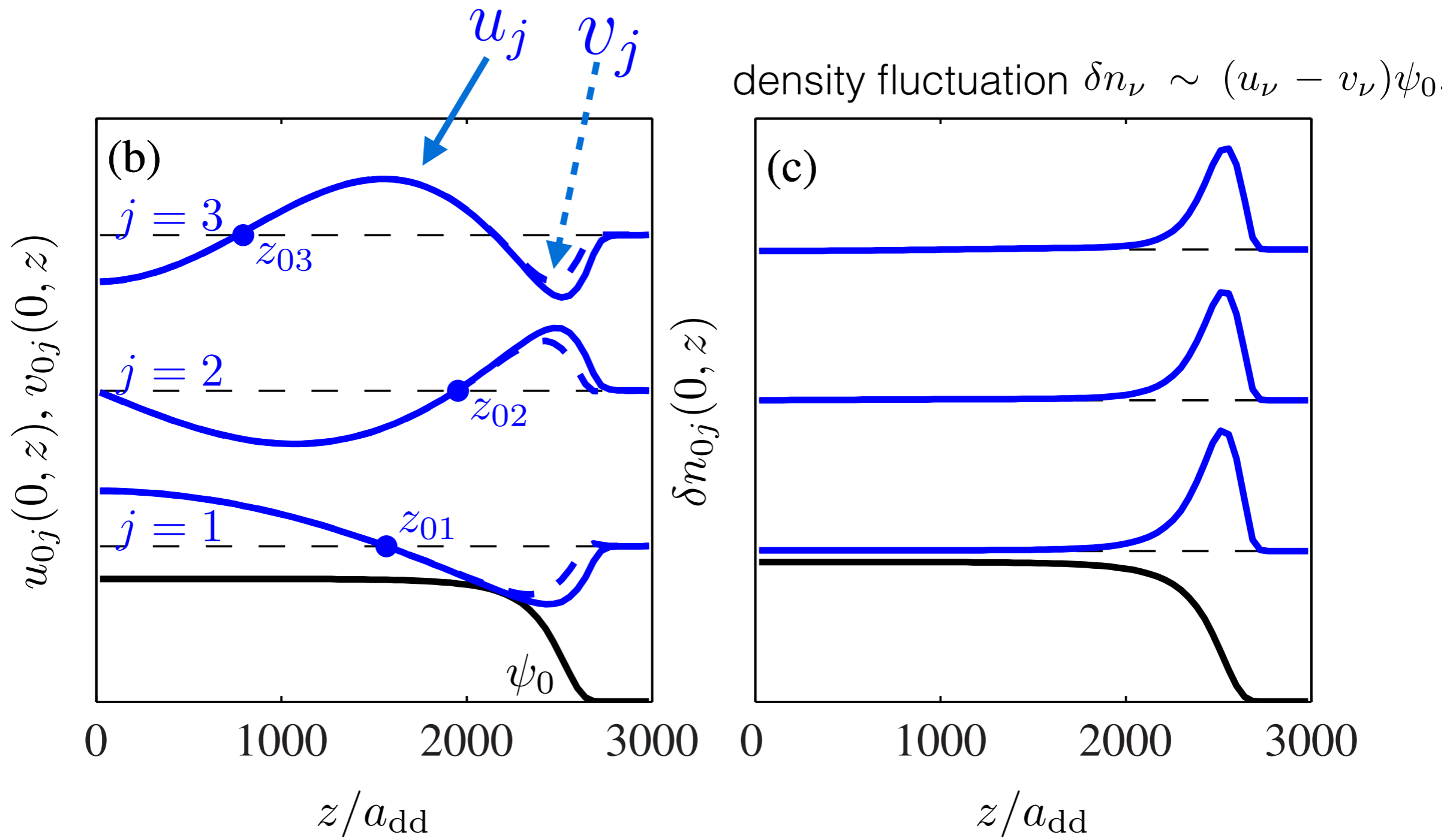
^{164}Dy atoms with $a_s = 80 a_0$ ($\epsilon_{\text{dd}} = 1.6$), $N_c = 1899$



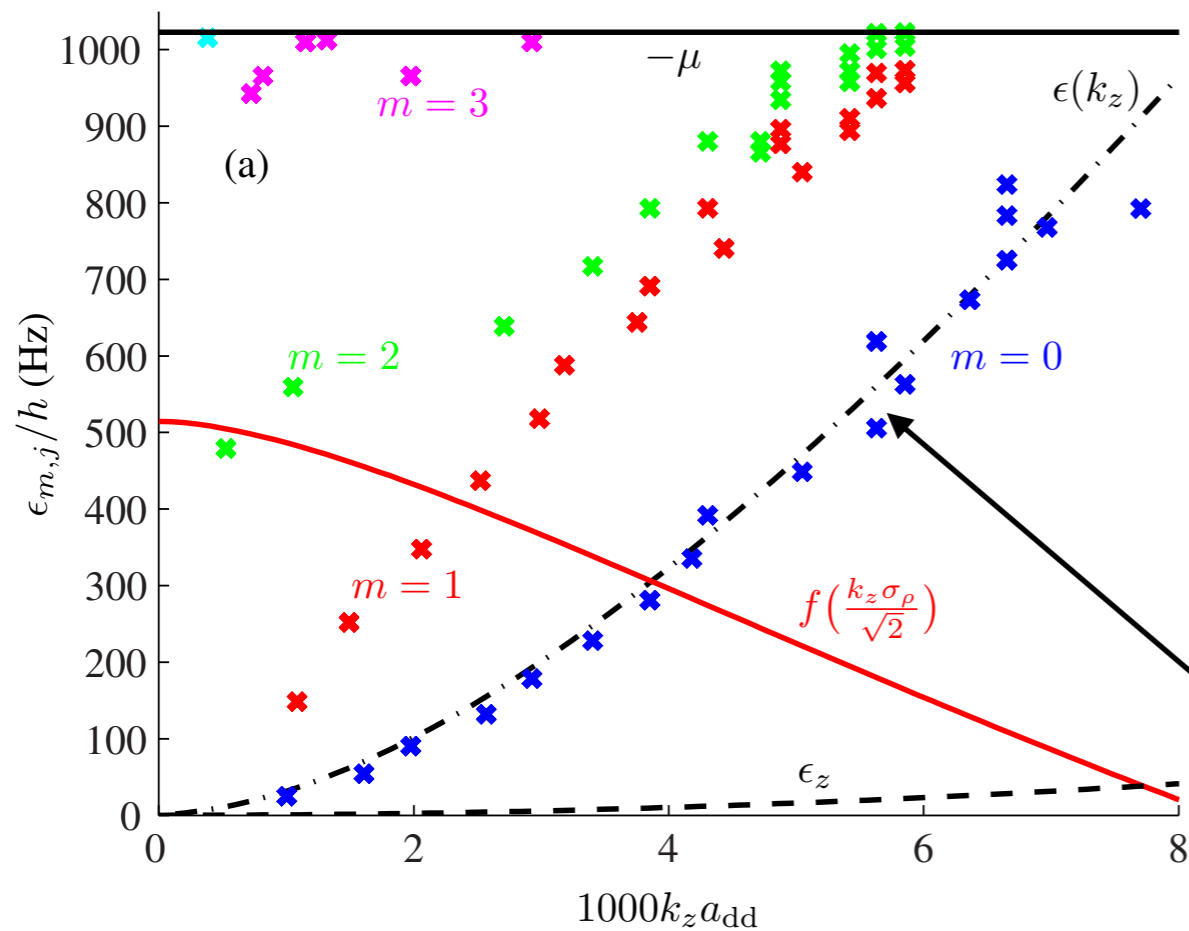
Excitations

- Excitations bound by condensate $-\mu$ i.e. $\epsilon_j - \mu < 0$
- Condensate energy can be positive (metastable)
- Lowest mode monopole-like near N_c
- Quadrupole-like for $N \gtrsim 4 \times 10^3$
- **Ladder** of excitations for each angular momentum

Density and excitation profiles



Droplet as a phonon waveguide



Dispersion mapping

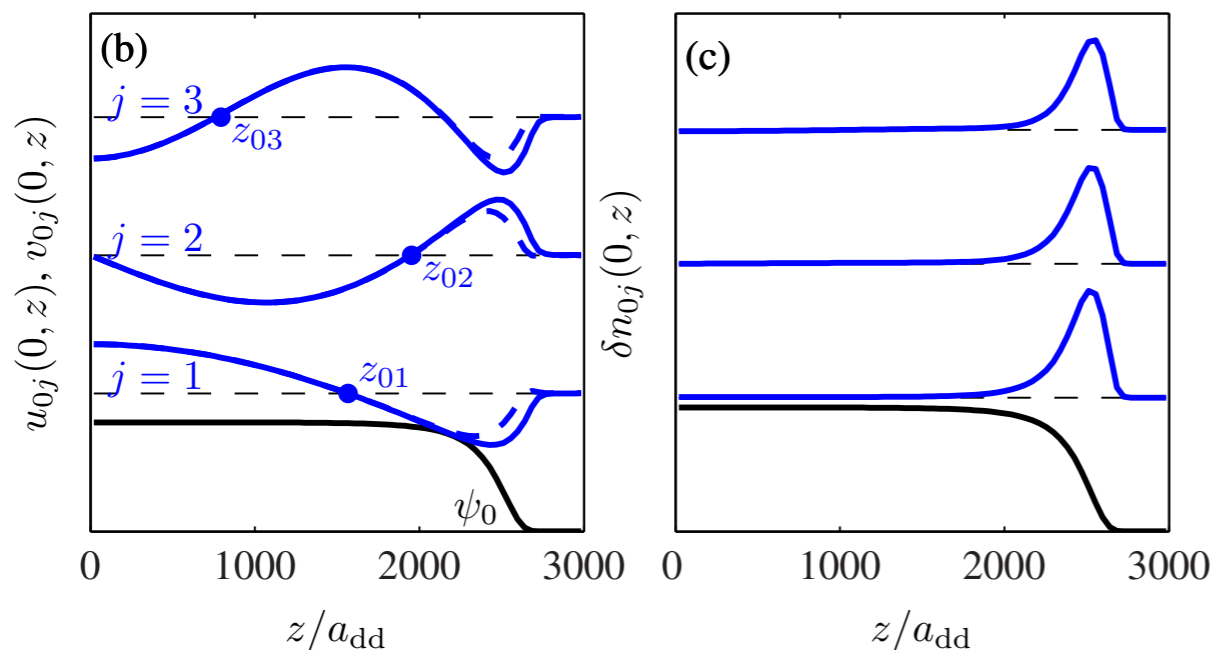
$$k_z = \pi/2z_\nu$$

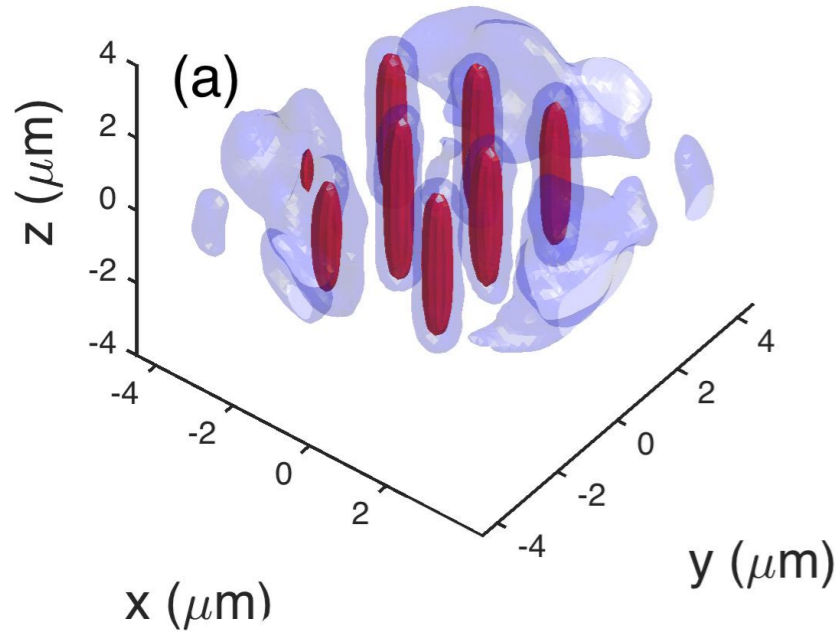
Analytic result

$$\epsilon(k_z) = \sqrt{\epsilon_z^2 + 2\epsilon_z n_{\text{peak}} \left[\frac{g_s}{2} - \frac{g_{\text{dd}}}{2} f\left(\frac{k_z \sigma_\rho}{\sqrt{2}}\right) + \frac{3}{5} \gamma_{\text{QF}} n_{\text{peak}}^{1/2} \right]},$$

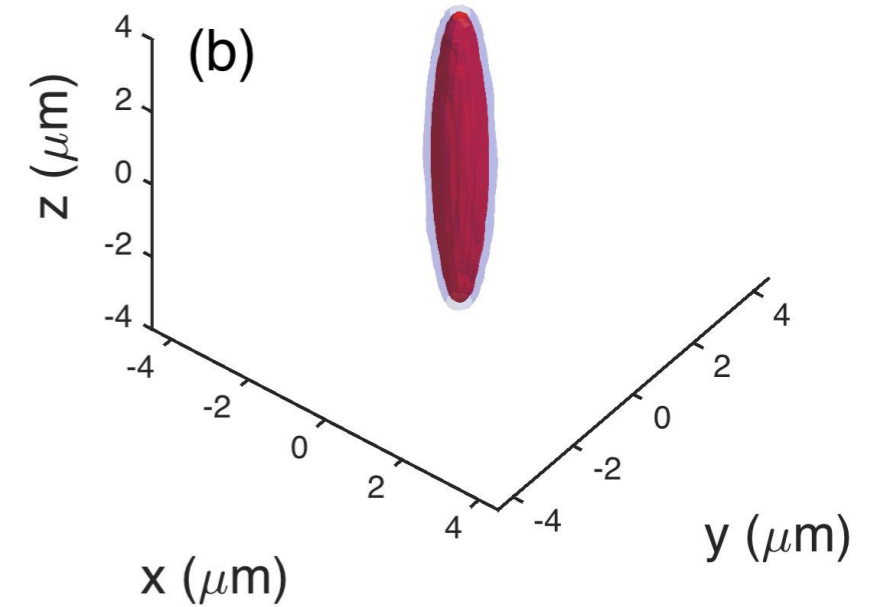
$$\epsilon_z = \hbar^2 k_z^2 / 2M \quad f(q) = 1 + 3q^2 e^{q^2} \text{Ei}(-q^2)$$

Assuming Gaussian radial profile of the condensate and excitations with width σ_ρ





Summary



- The LHY corrections stabilise a new *droplet* phase in dipolar condensates
- Stable self-bound droplets in absence of trapping potentials
- Liquid-like incompressible behaviour and droplets act as a waveguide for the phonon excitations