

Dynamics of Pairing and Molecule Formation in Ultracold Quantum Gases

Thorsten Köhler

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Outline

- Ultracold Feshbach molecules

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- Diatomic dynamics

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- Pairing in Bose-Einstein condensates

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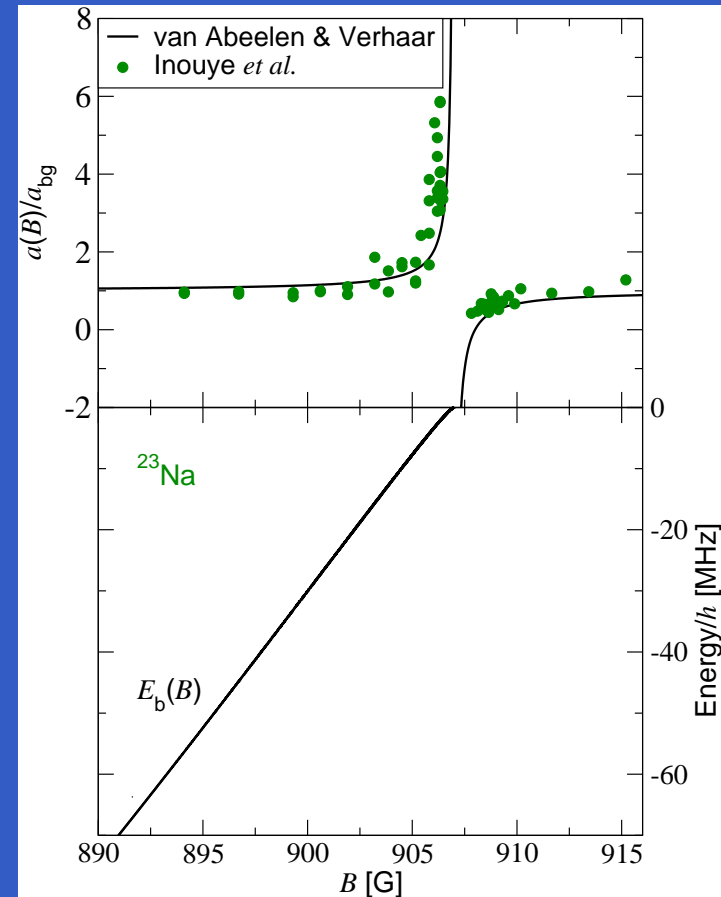
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- Diatomic dynamics
- Pairing in Bose-Einstein condensates
- Atom-molecule coherence

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- Pairing in Bose-Einstein condensates
- Atom-molecule coherence
- Outlook: Pairing in correlated gases

Ultracold Feshbach molecules

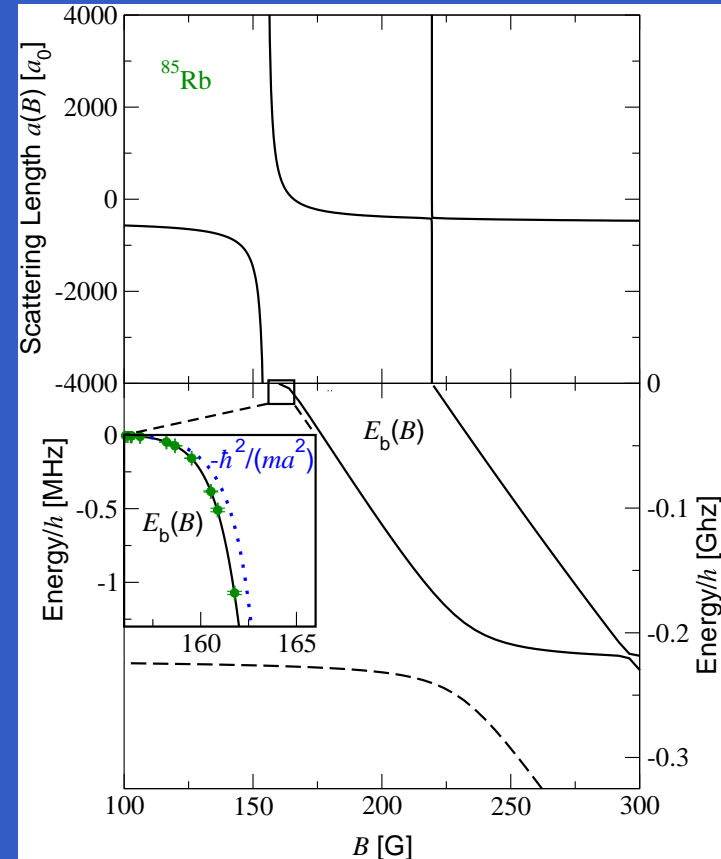
- A singularity of the scattering length indicates emergence of a new vibrational bound state at the collision threshold.



Theory: E. Tiesinga *et al.*, PRA **47**, 4114 (1993)
Experiment: S. Inouyé *et al.*, Nature **392**, 151 (1998)

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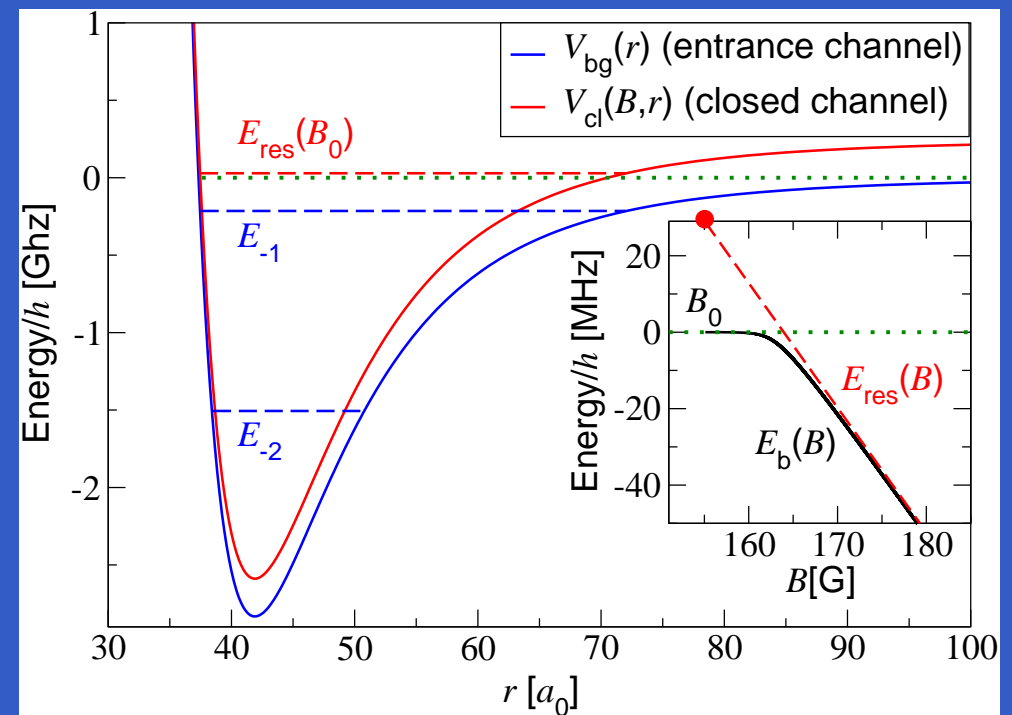
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N.R. Claussen *et al.*, PRA **67**, 060701(R) (2003)

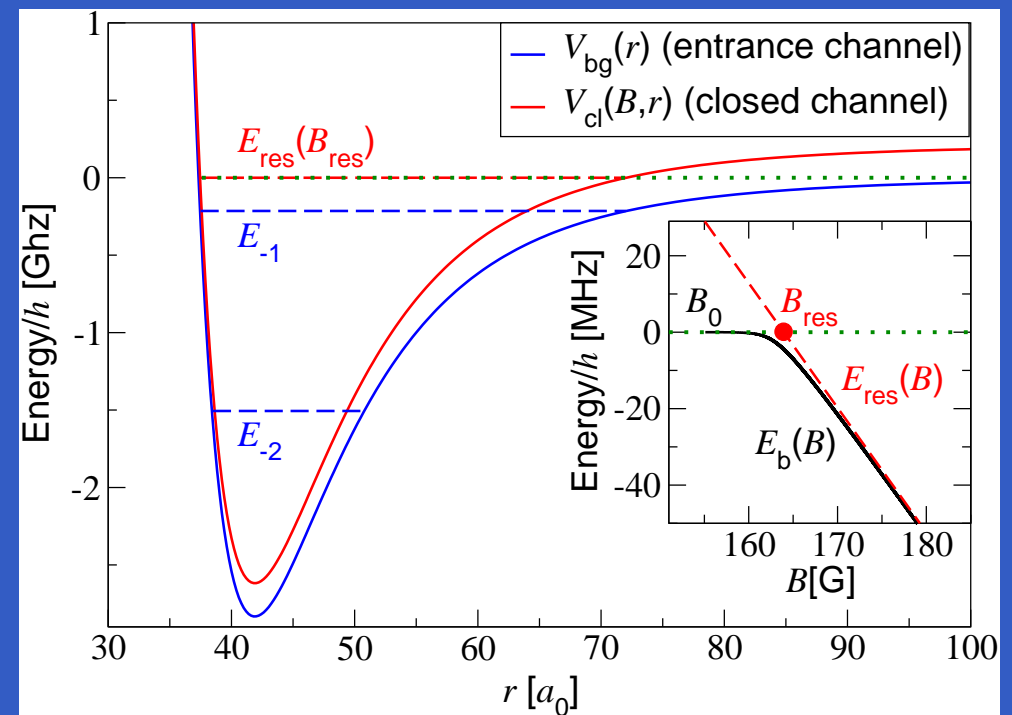
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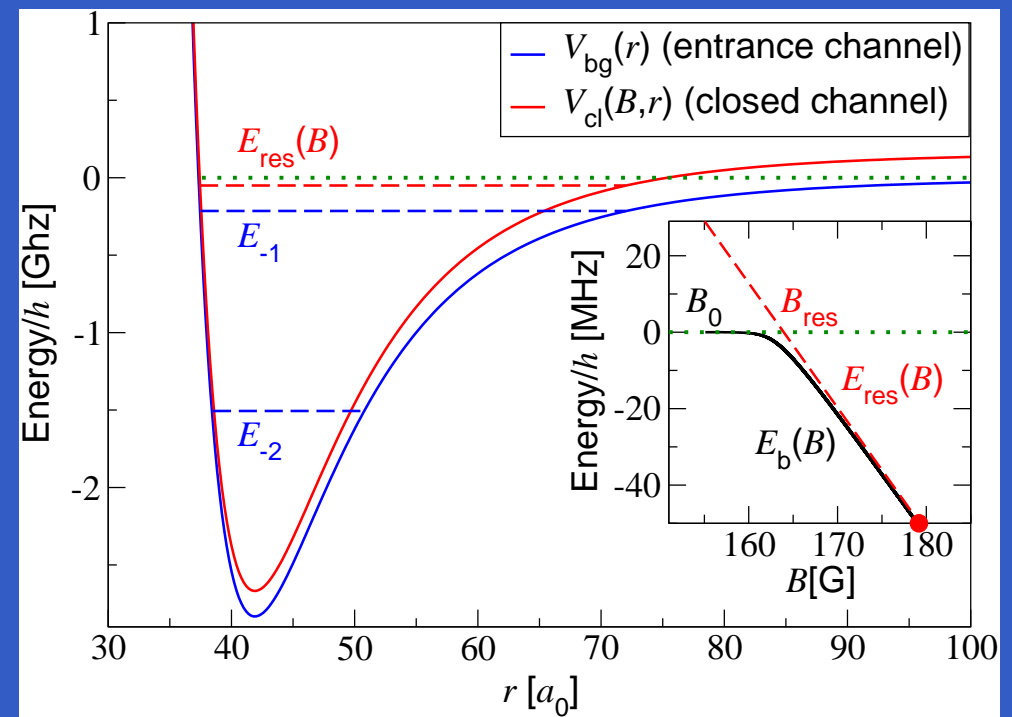
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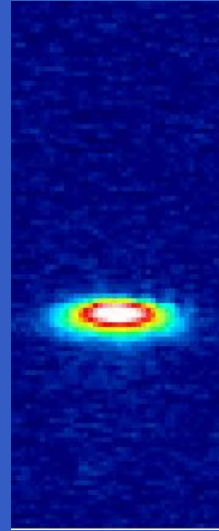
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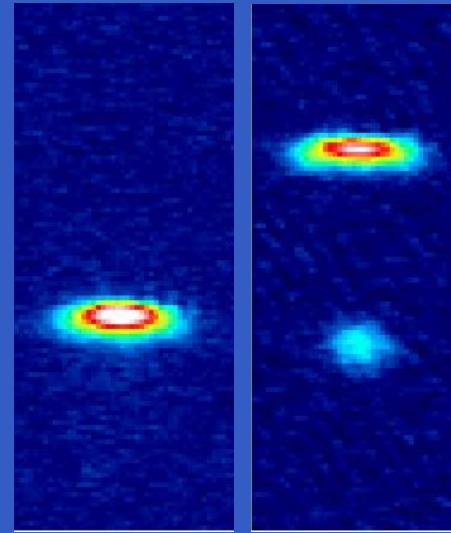
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Adapted from: J. Herbig *et al.*, *Science* **301**, 1510 (2003)

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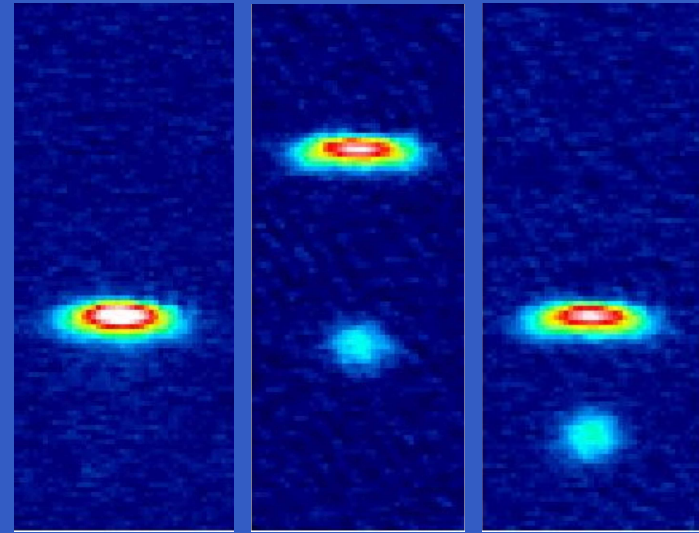
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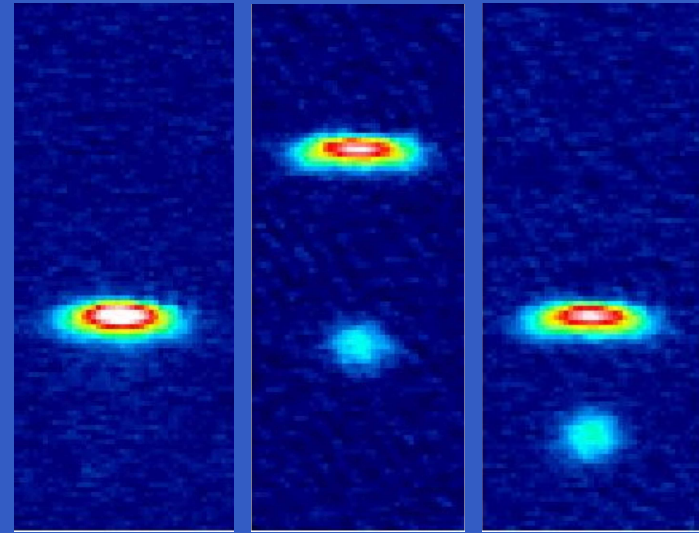
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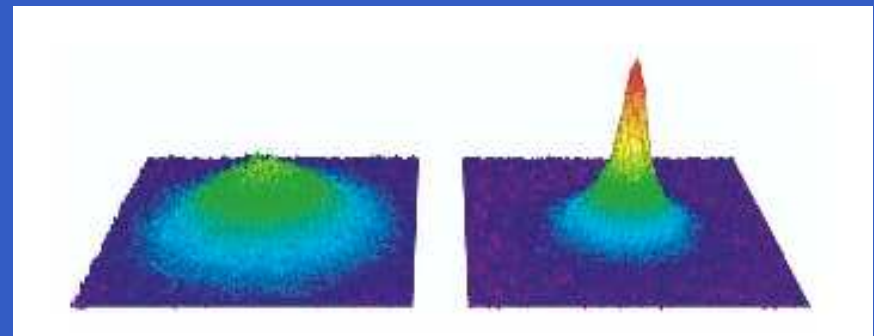
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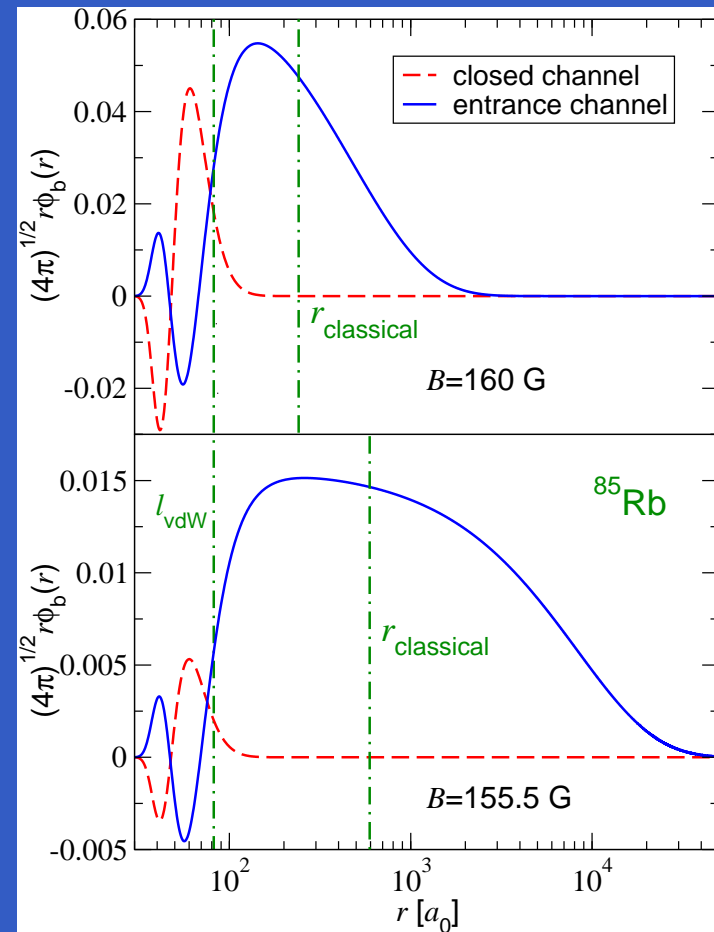
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Adapted from: M. Greiner *et al.*, Nature **426**, 537 (2003)

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- **Near-resonant Feshbach molecules are halo states.**

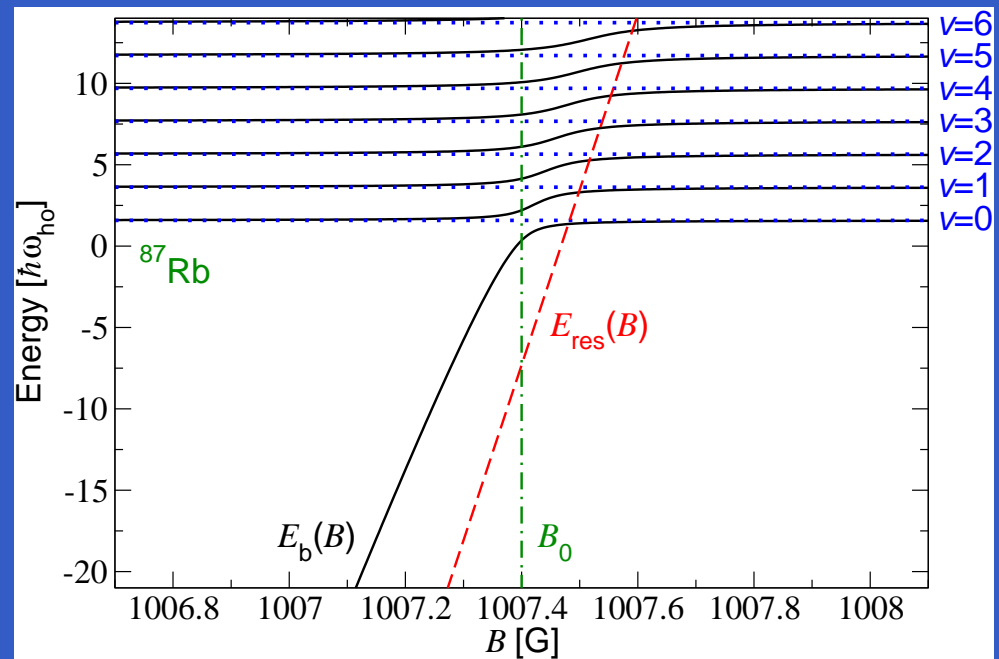


Diatomic dynamics

Association of two atoms in an optical-lattice site

Magnetic-field variation:

$$B(t) = B_0 + \dot{B}(t - t_0)$$



Experiment: G. Thalhammer, K. Winkler, F. Lang, S. Schmid, R. Grimm, and J. Hecker-Denschlag,
PRL **96**, 050402 (2006)

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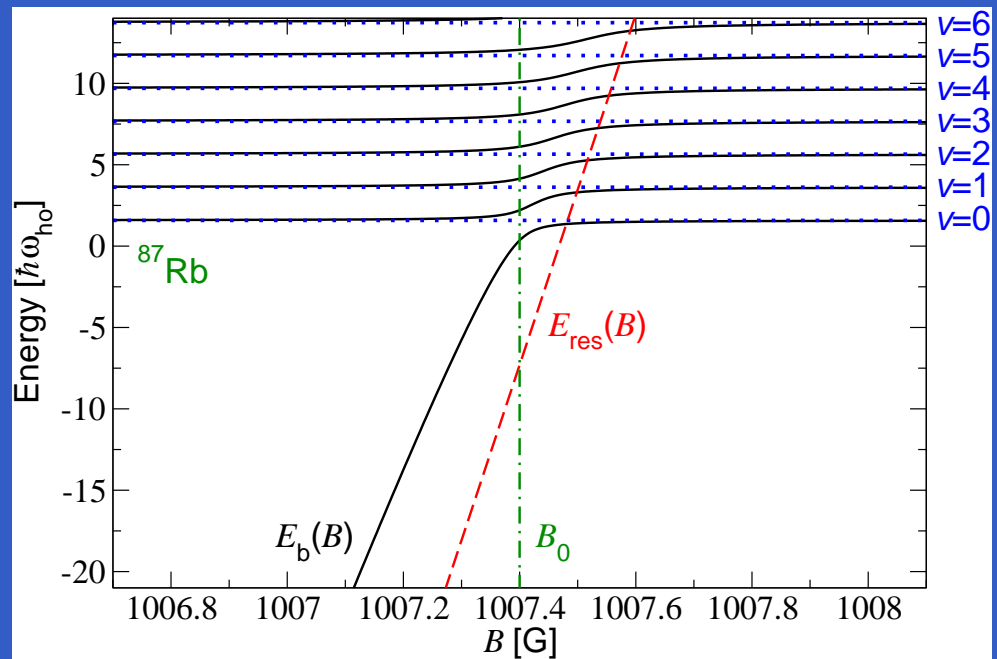
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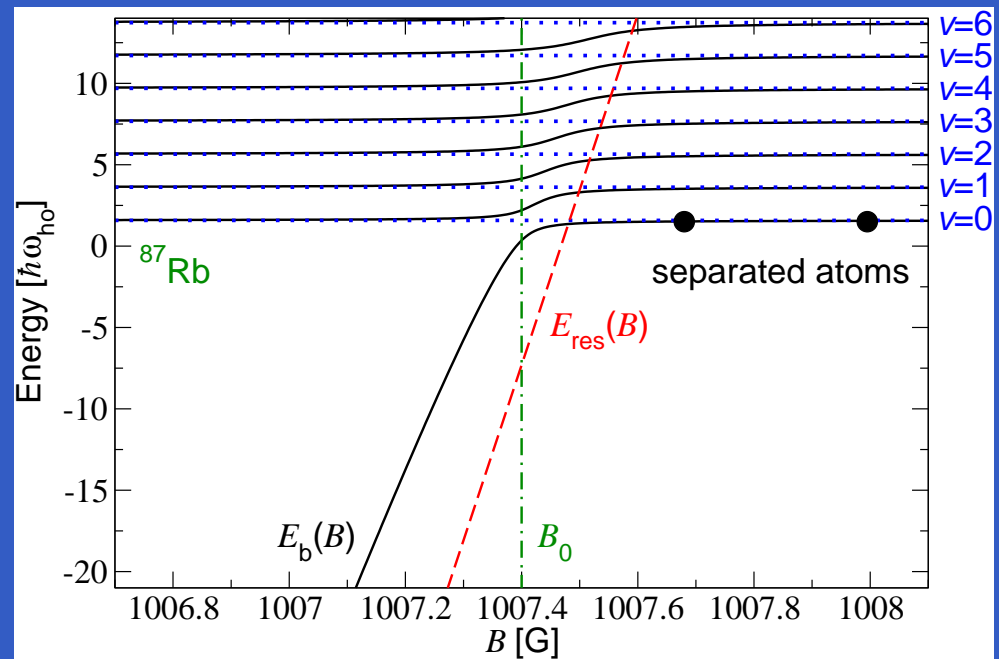
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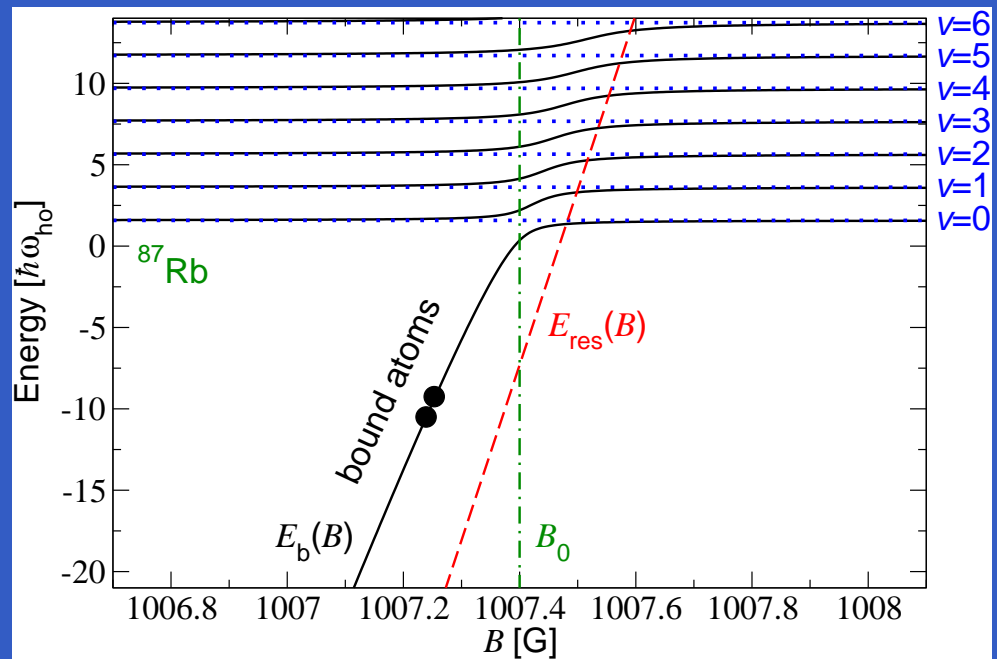
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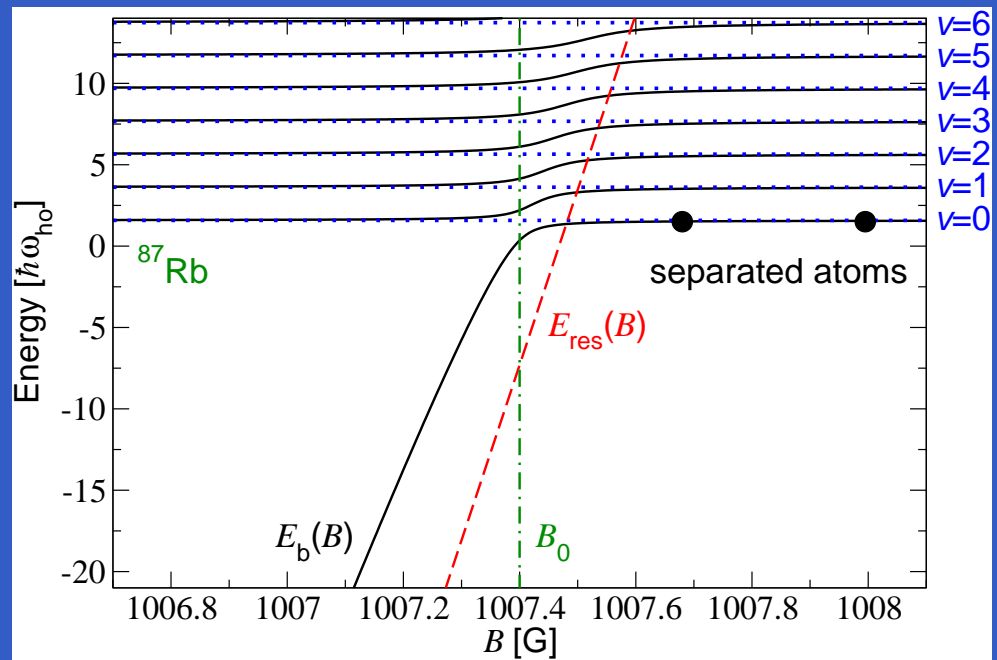
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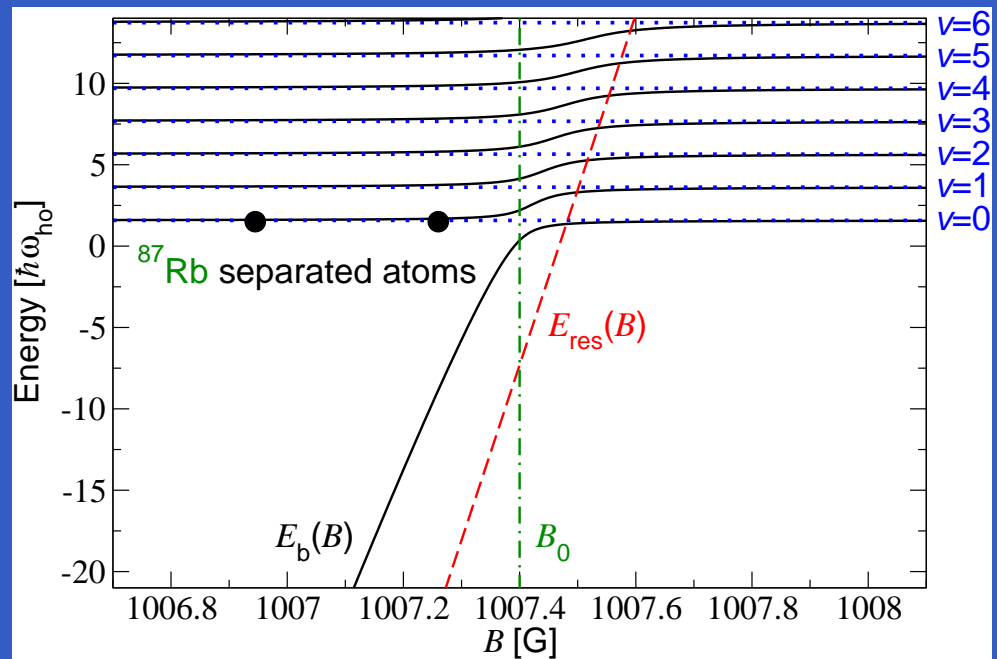
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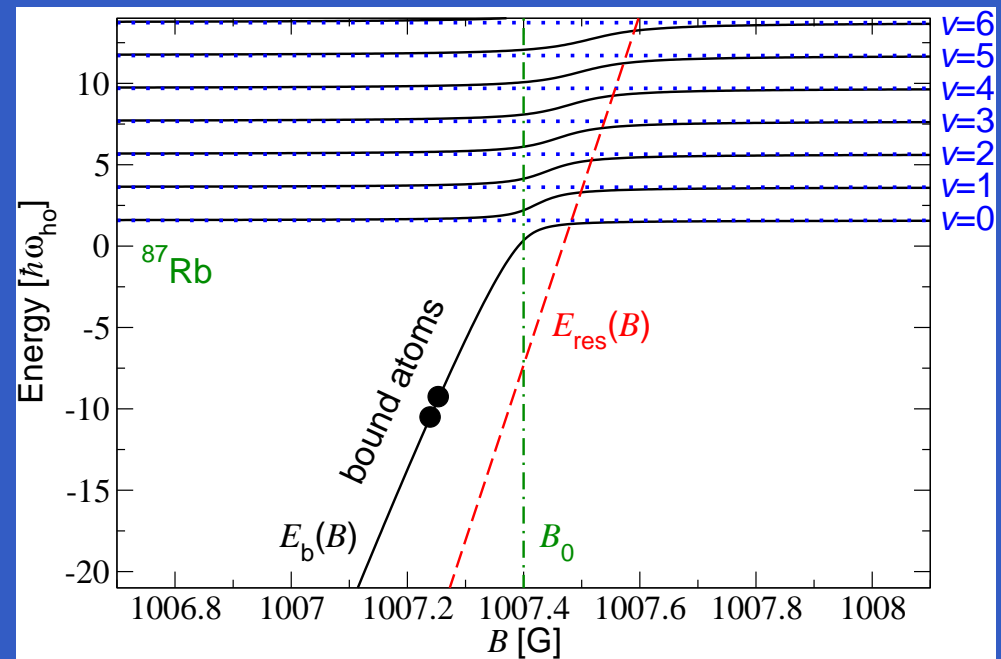
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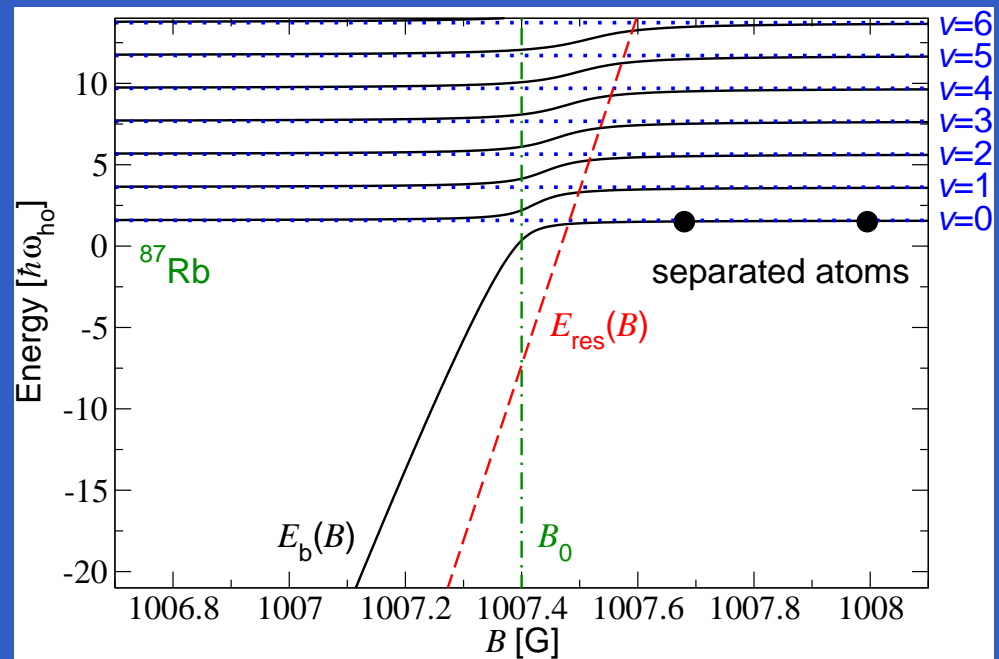
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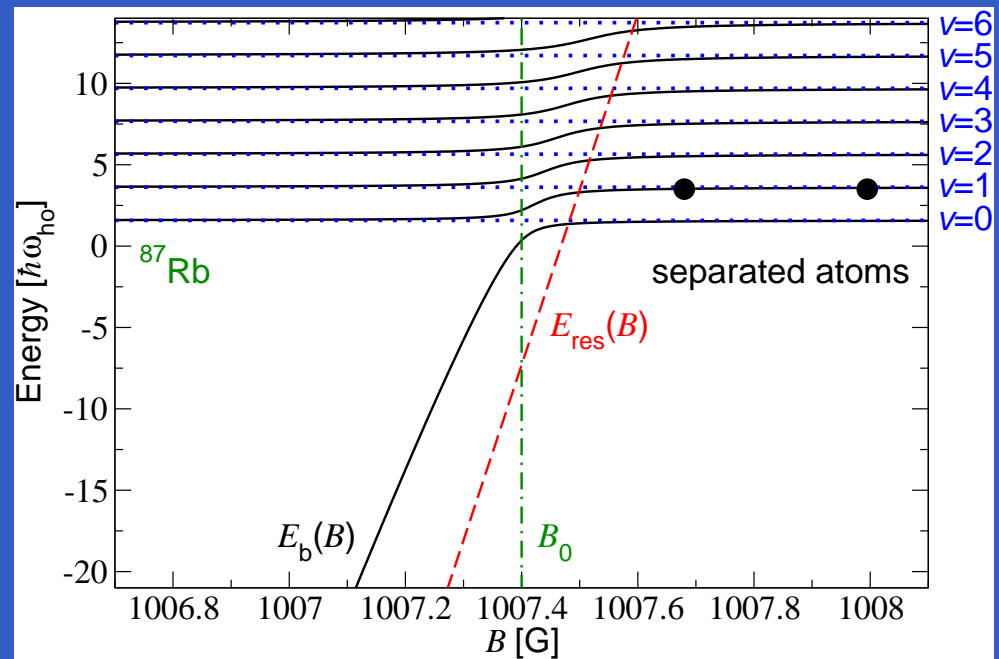
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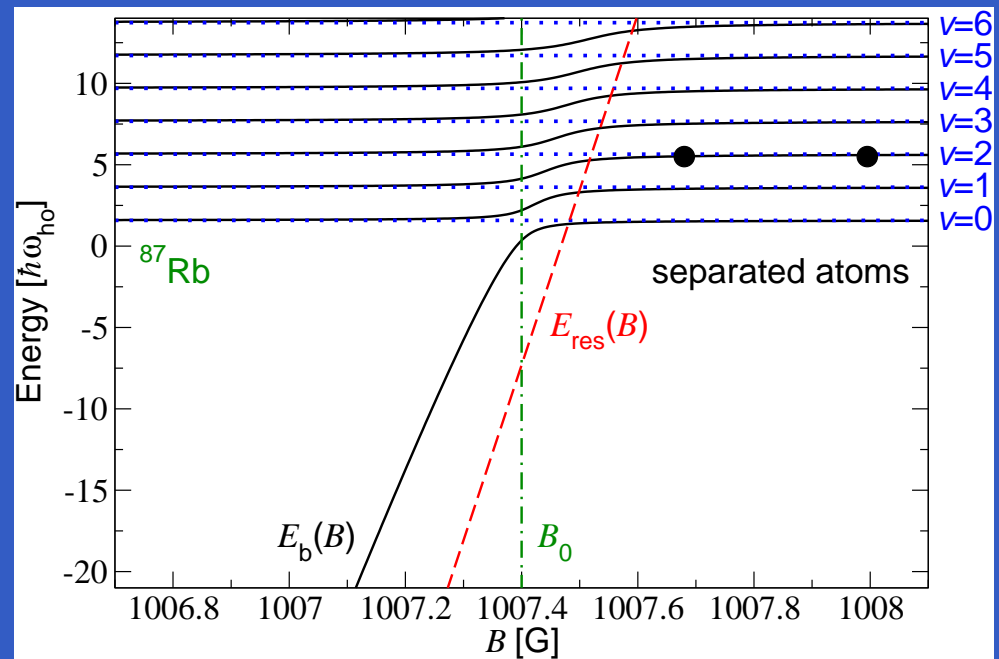
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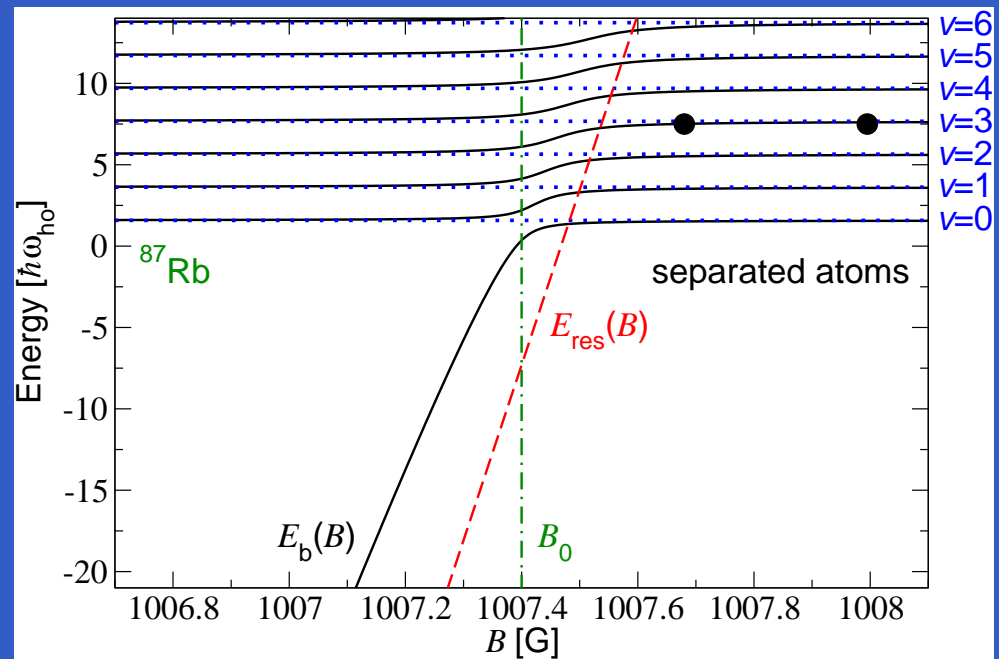
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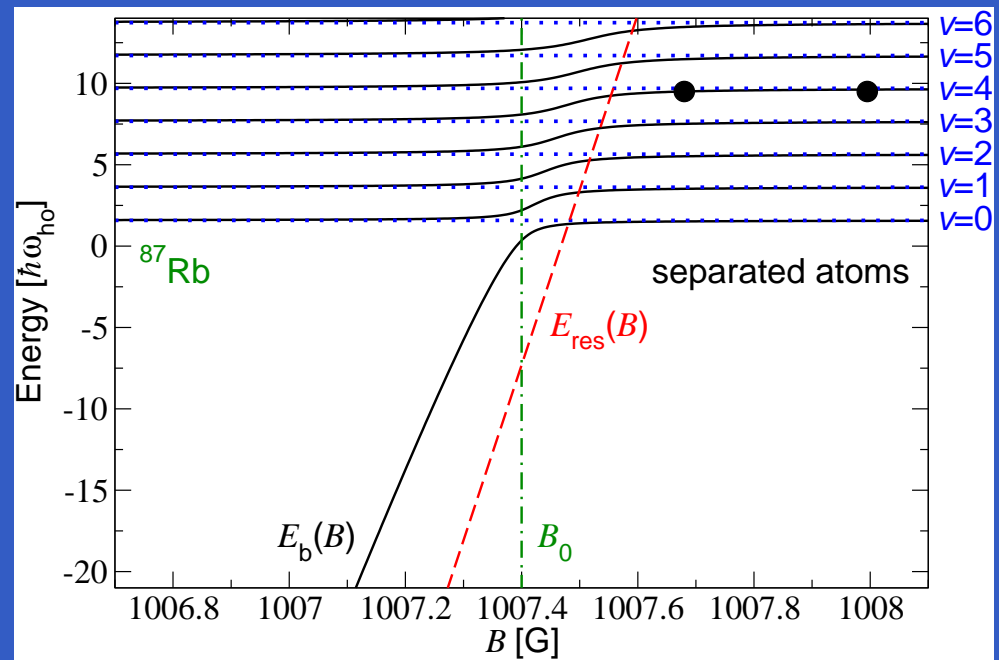
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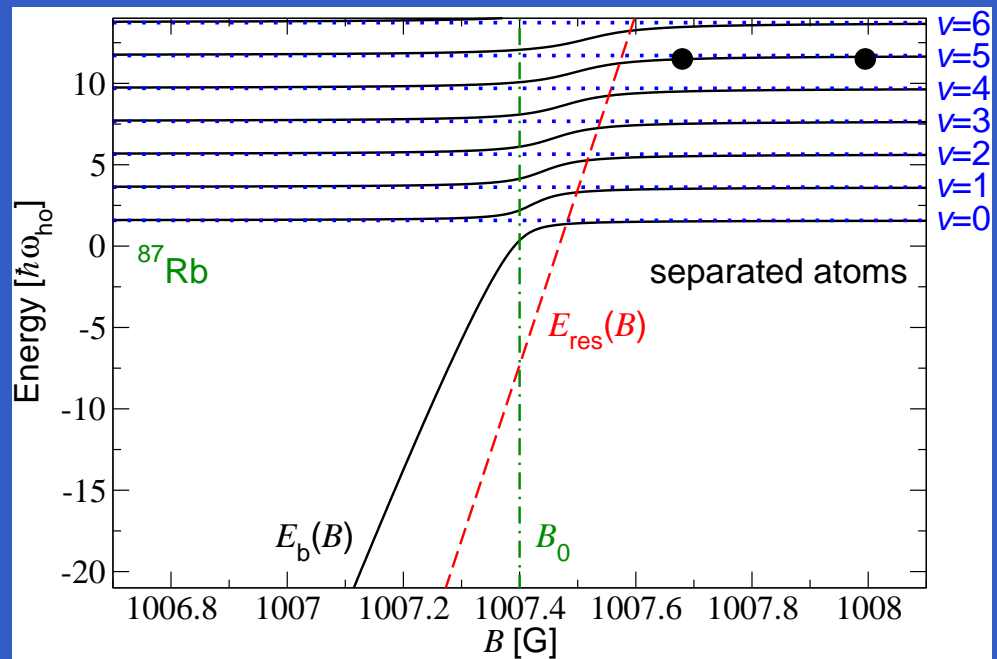
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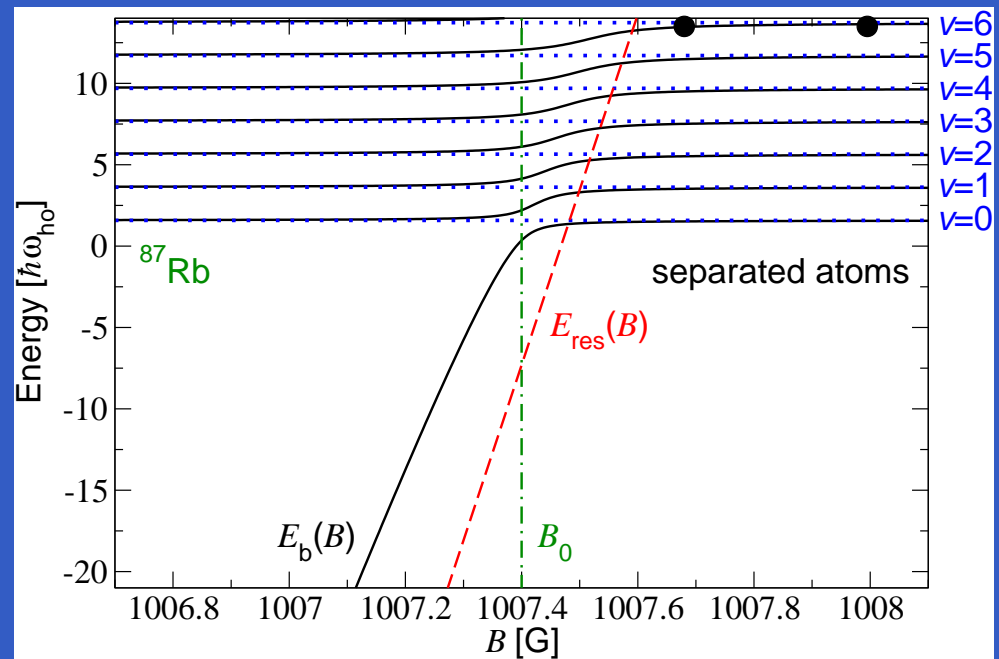
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- Landau-Zener formulae:

$$\lim_{\substack{t_i \rightarrow -\infty \\ t_f \rightarrow \infty}} p_{0,0} = e^{-2\pi\delta_{LZ}}$$

L.D. Landau, Phys. Z. Sowjetunion **2**, 46 (1932)
C. Zener, Proc. R. Soc. London, Ser. A **137**, 696 (1932)

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Y.N. Demkov and V.I. Osherov, Sov. Phys. JETP **26**, 916 (1968)
F.H. Mies, E. Tiesinga, and P.S. Julienne, PRA **61**, 022721 (2000)

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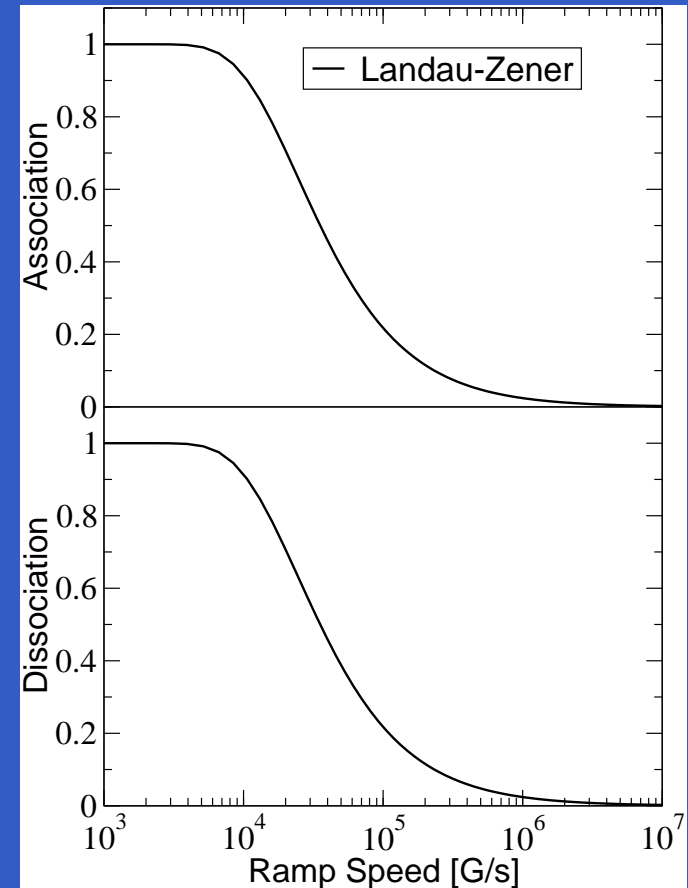
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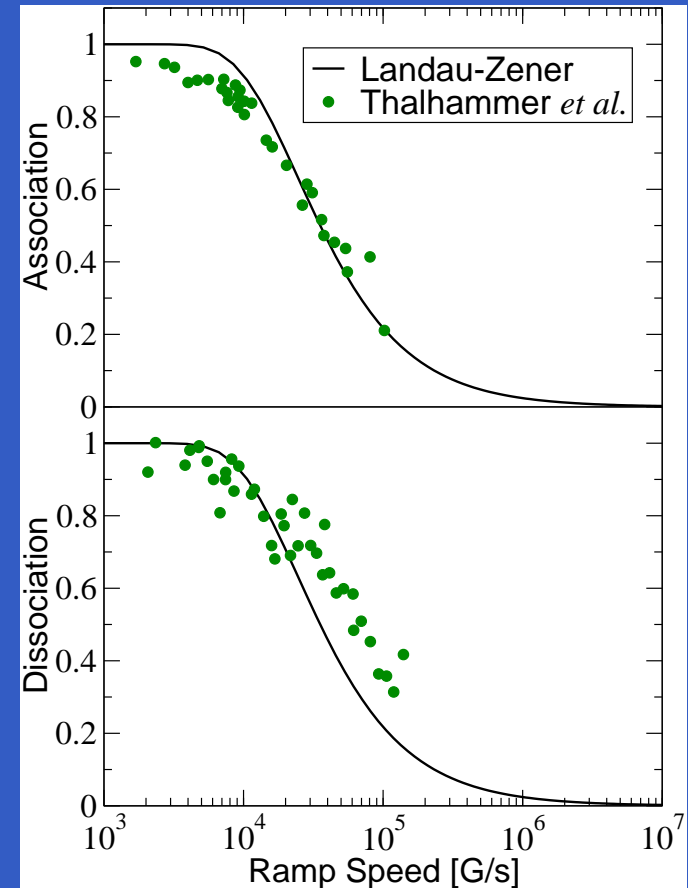
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Dissociation-energy spectrum

● Closed-channel dominance
(^{87}Rb at $B_0 = 685 \text{ G}$):

$$\eta = \frac{E_{\text{vdW}}}{\Gamma_{\text{res}}(E_{\text{vdW}})} = 463$$

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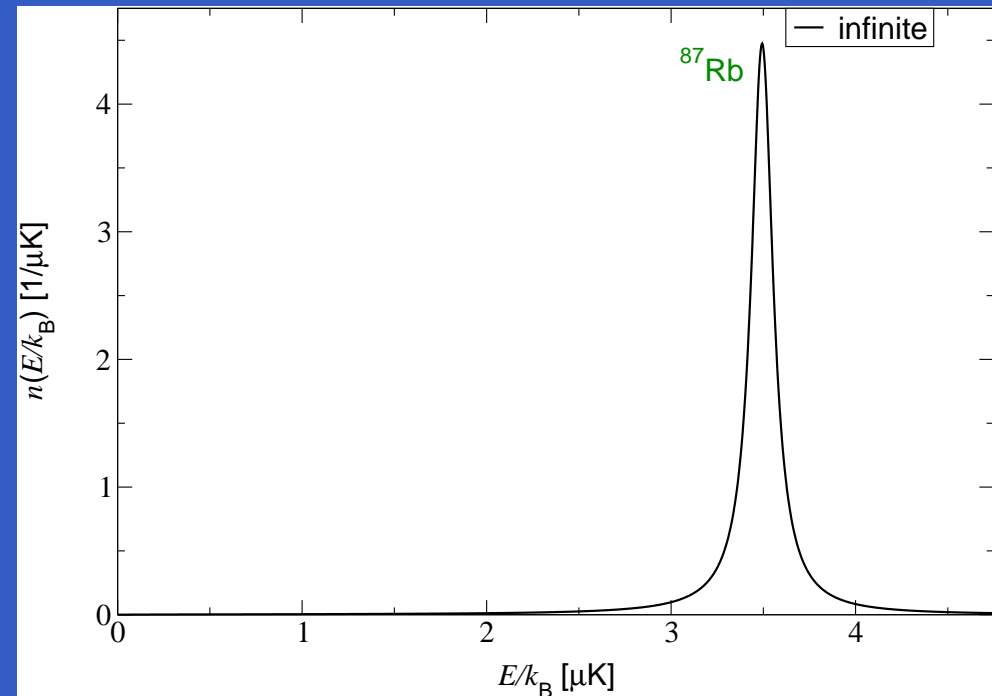
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This experiment: S. Dürr, T. Volz, and G. Rempe, PRA **70**, 031601 (2004)

This calculation: T.M. Hanna, K. Góral, E. Witkowska, and TK, PRA **74**, 023618 (2006)

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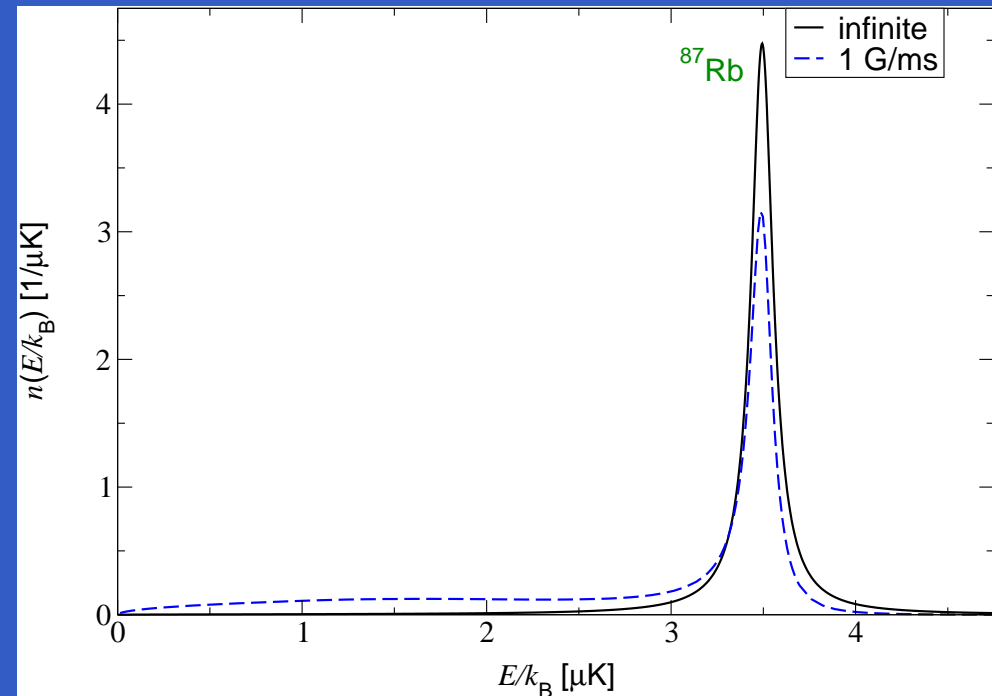
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This calculation: T.M. Hanna, K. Góral, E. Witkowska, and TK, PRA **74**, 023618 (2006)

Diatomic dynamics

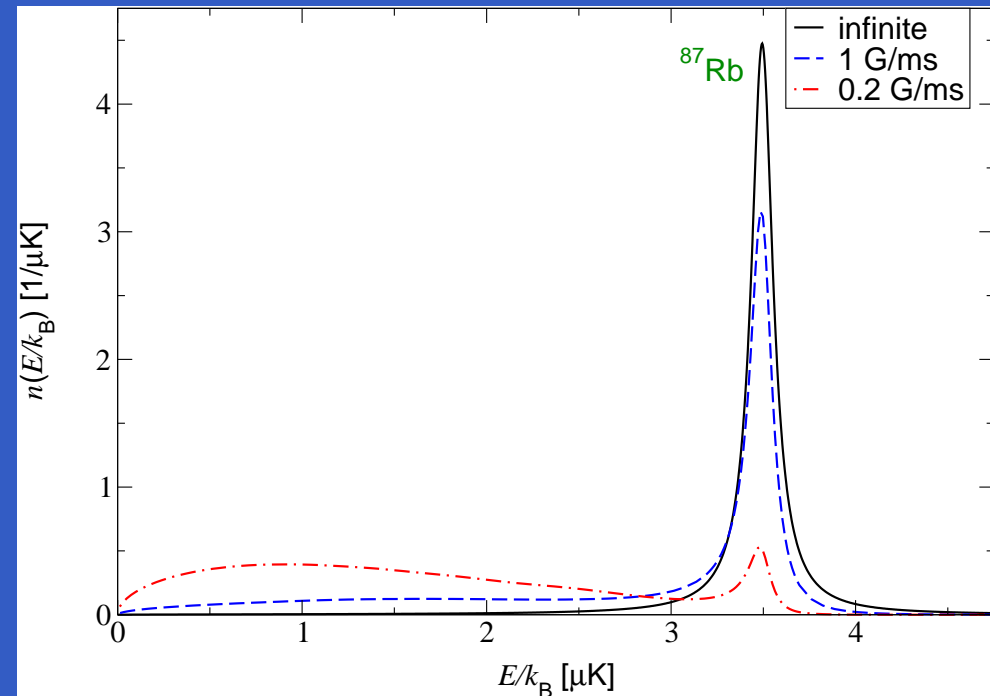
Dissociation-energy spectrum

● Closed-channel dominance
(^{87}Rb at $B_0 = 685 \text{ G}$):

$$\eta = \frac{E_{\text{vdW}}}{\Gamma_{\text{res}}(E_{\text{vdW}})} = 463$$

● Energy spectrum for an instantaneous switch from B_i to B_f across B_0 :

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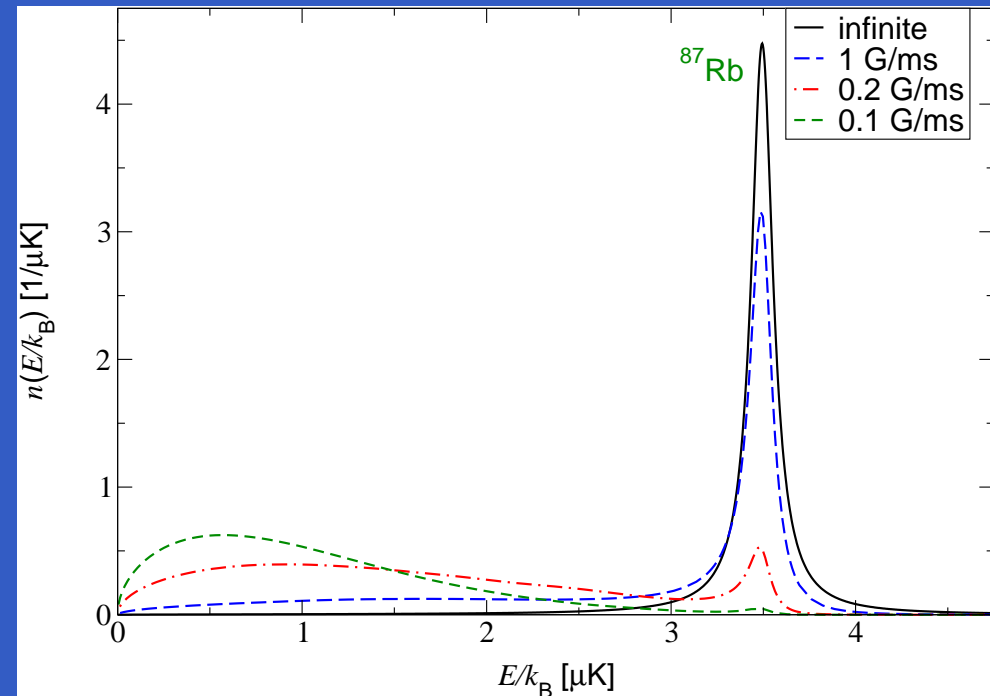
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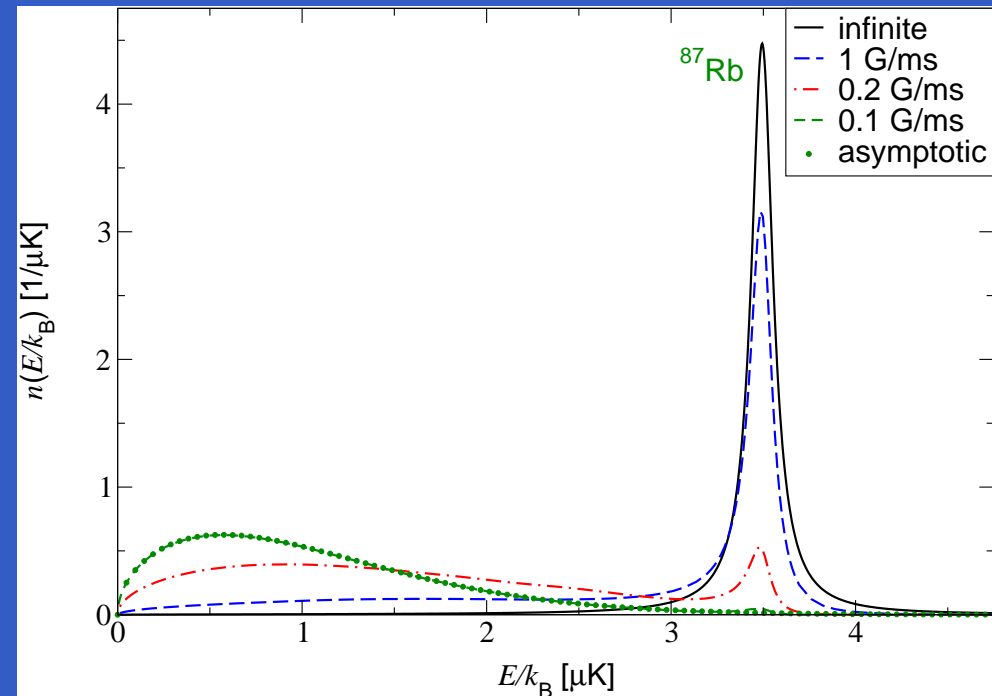
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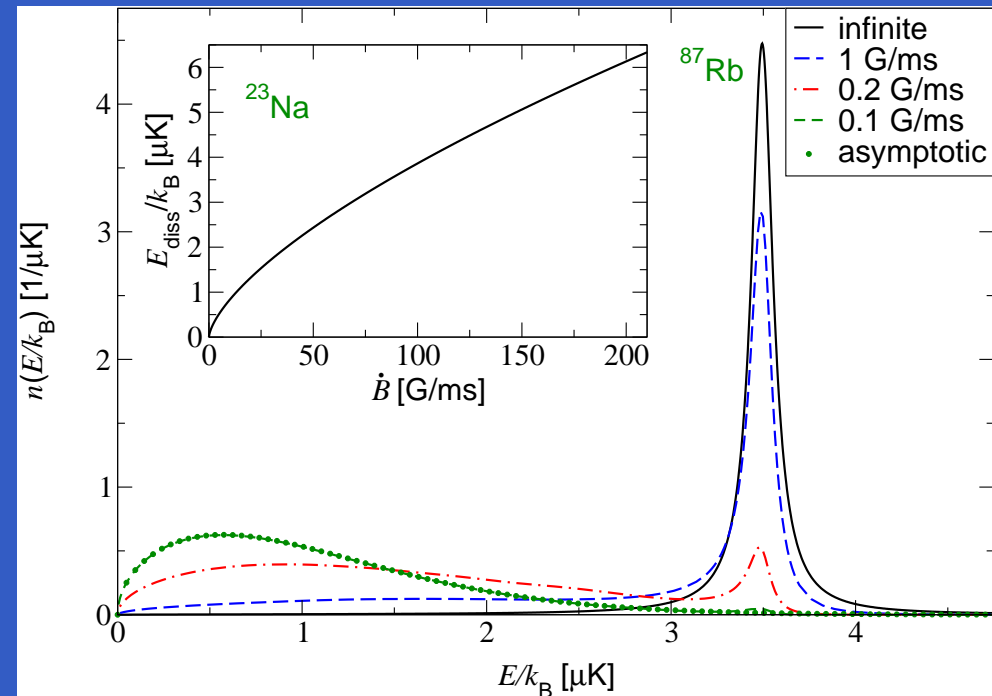
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T. Mukaiyama, J.R. Abo-Shaeer, K. Xu, J.K. Chin, and W. Ketterle, PRL **92**, 180402 (2004)
P.S. Julienne (unpublished)

Diatomic dynamics

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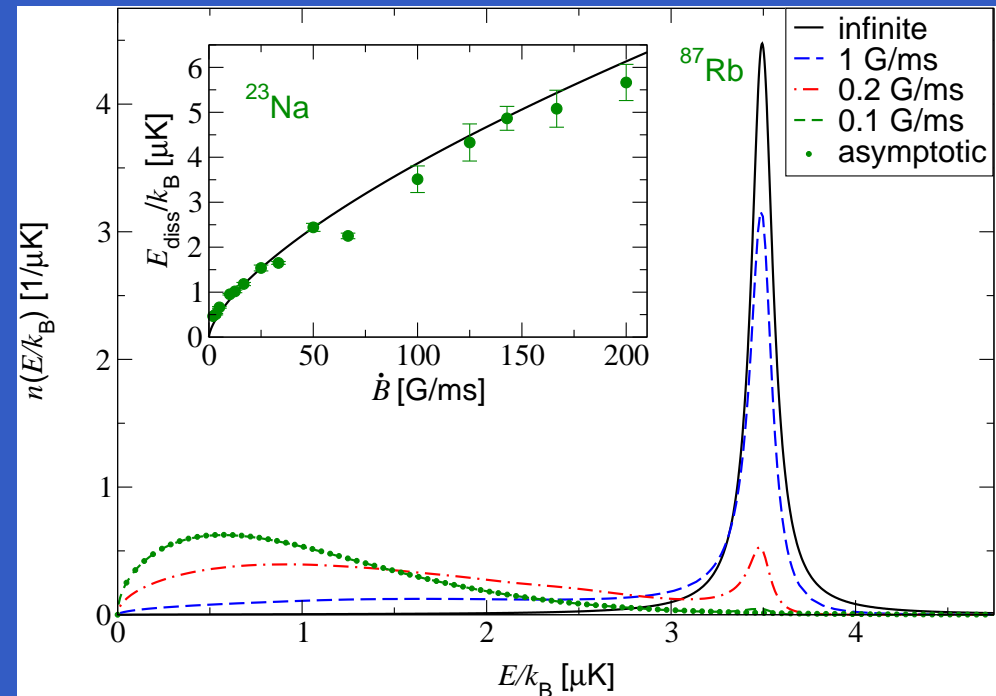
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Diatomic dynamics

Association of atom pairs in a periodic box

- Transition probability:

$$p_{0,b} = \frac{(2\pi\hbar)^3}{\mathcal{V}} |\langle \phi_{b,f} | U_{2B}(t_f, t_i) | 0 \rangle|^2$$

Diatomic dynamics

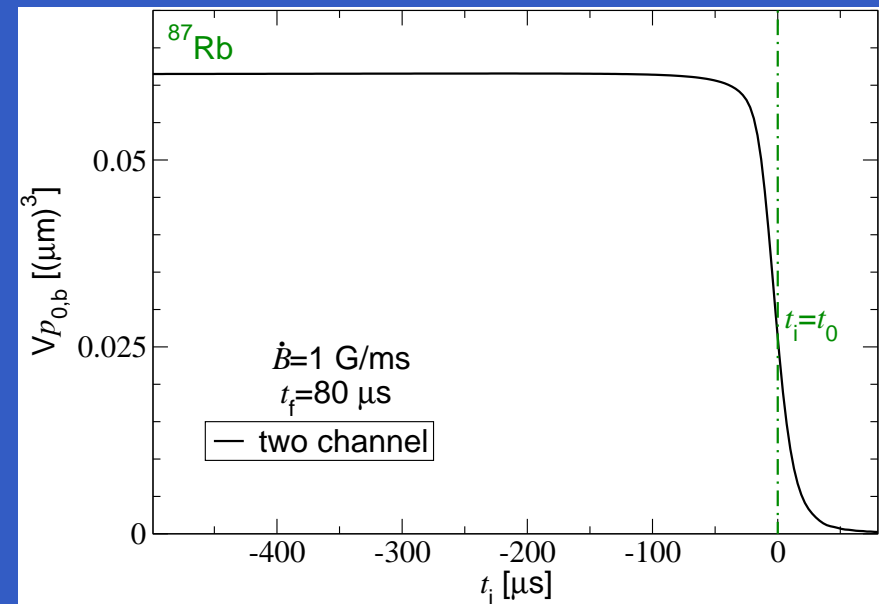
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$$E_{\text{res}}(t) = \mu_{\text{res}} [B(t) - B_{\text{res}}]$$



This calculation: K. Góral, TK, S.A. Gardiner, E. Tiesinga, and P.S. Julienne, J. Phys. B **37**, 3457 (2004)

Diatomic dynamics

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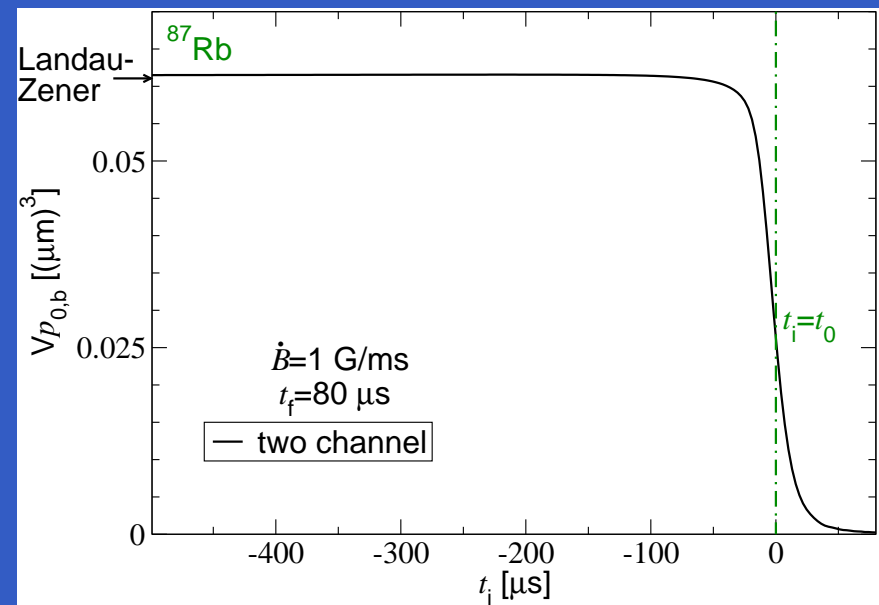
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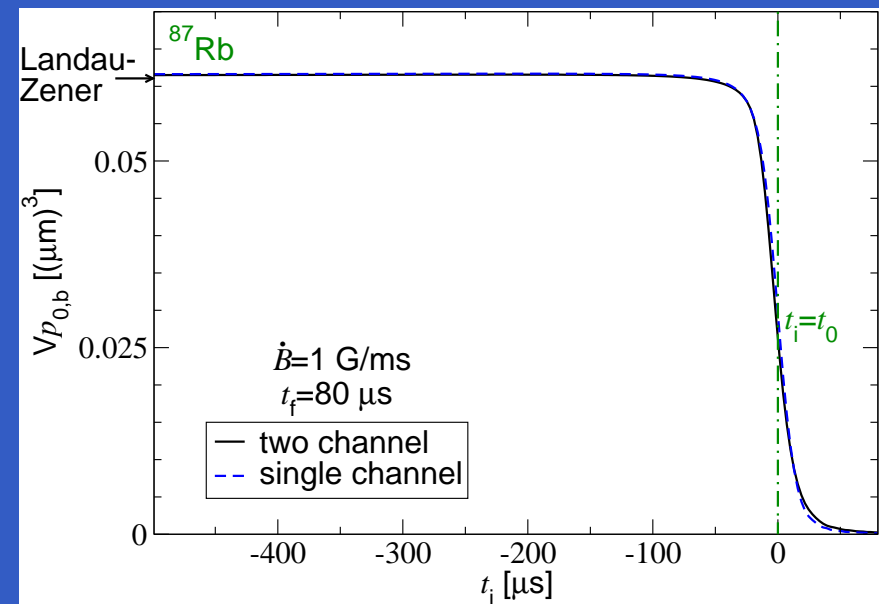
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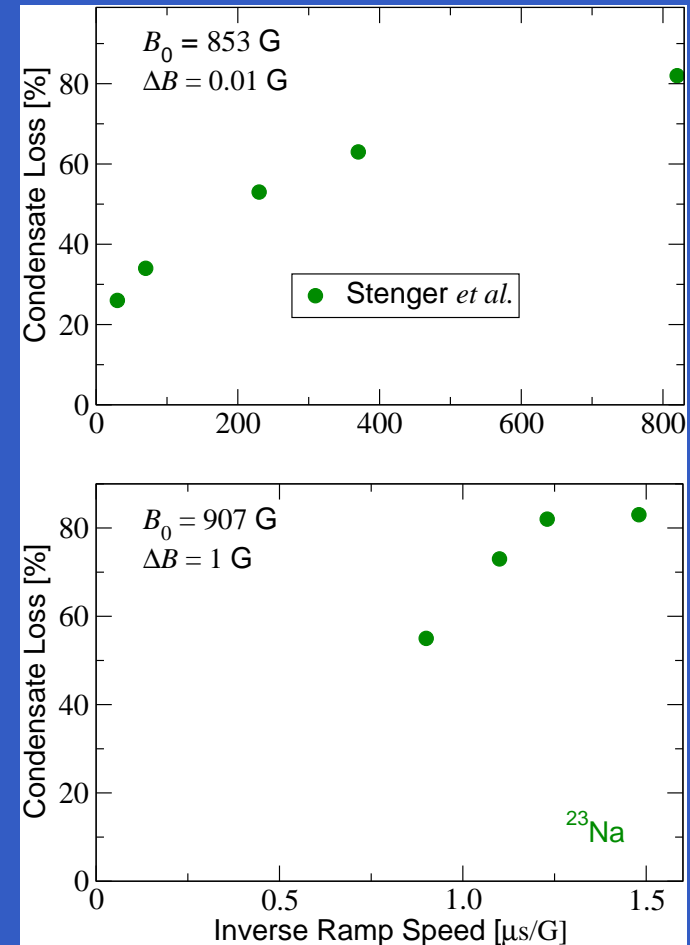
$$a(t) = a_{\text{bg}} \left[1 - \frac{\Delta B}{B(t) - B_0} \right]$$



See also: T.M. Hanna, K. Góral, E. Witkowska, and TK, PRA 74, 023618 (2006)

Pairing in Bose-Einstein condensates

Linear magnetic-field sweeps in a Bose-Einstein condensate



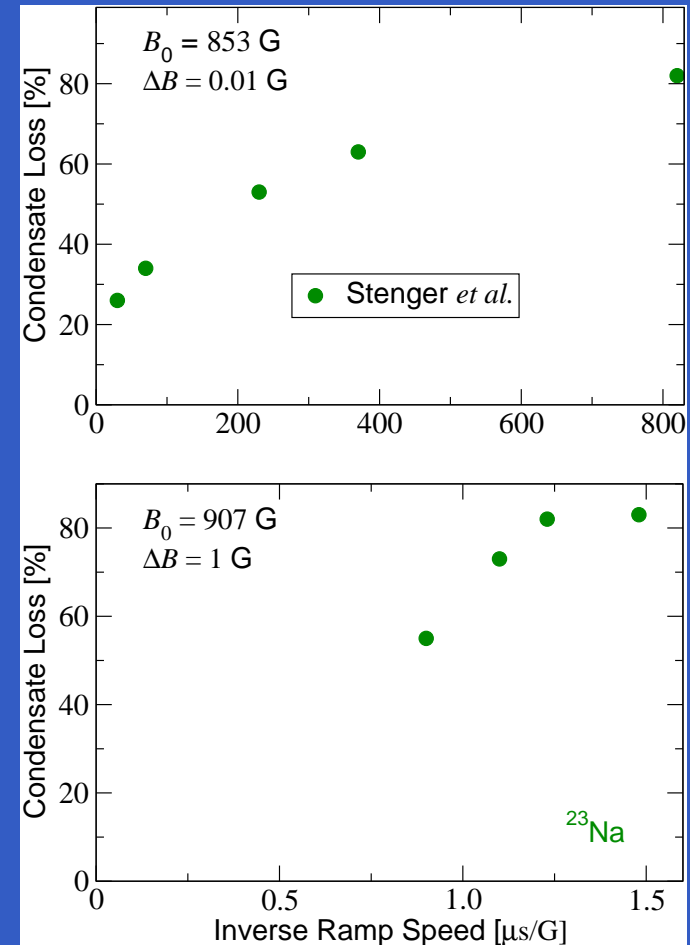
This experiment: J. Stenger *et al.*, PRL **82**, 2422 (1999)

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Linear magnetic-field sweeps in a Bose-Einstein condensate

Number of pairs in a gas of N atoms:

$$\binom{N}{2} \approx N^2/2$$



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Pairing in Bose-Einstein condensates

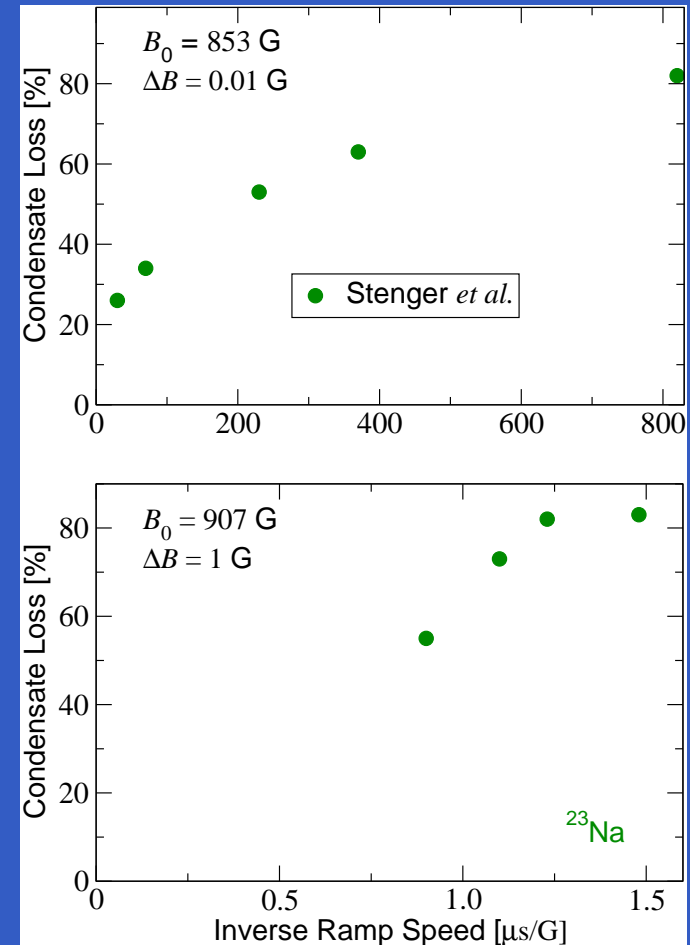
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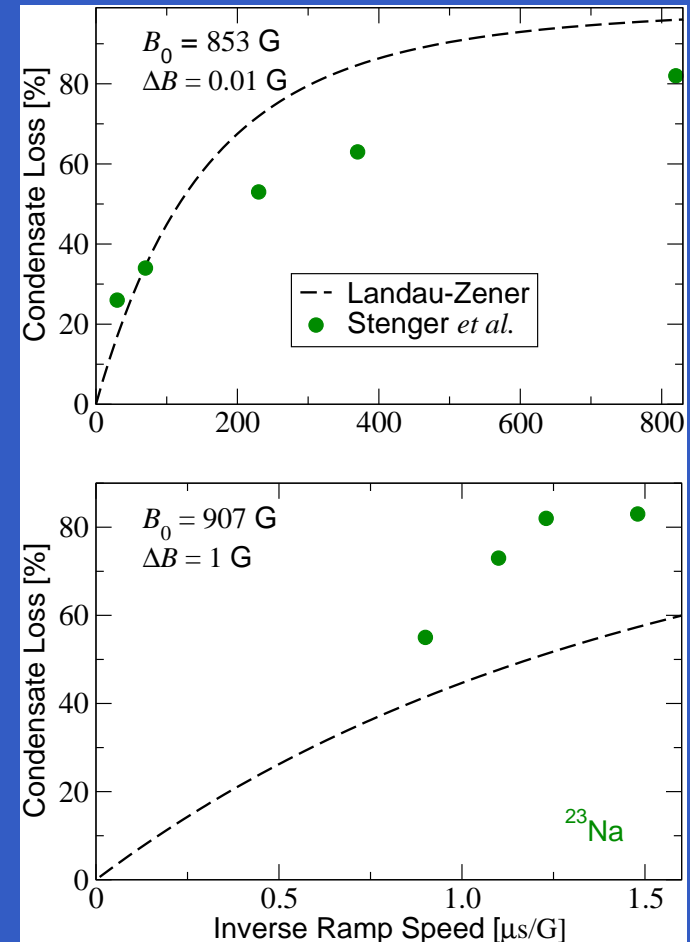
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General idea: F.H. Mies, E. Tiesinga, and P.S. Julienne, PRA **61**, 022721 (2000)

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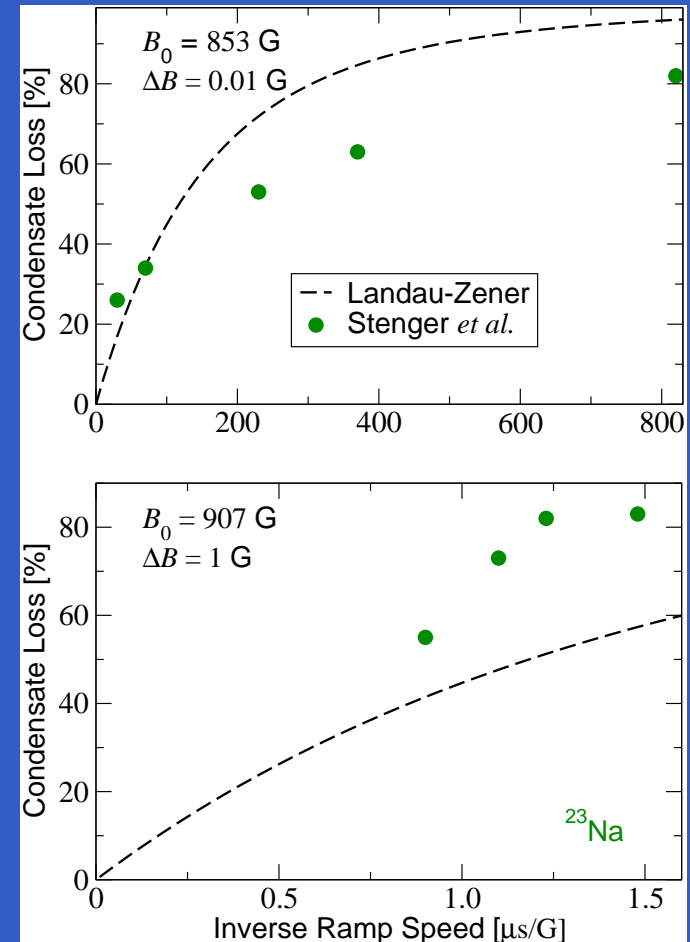
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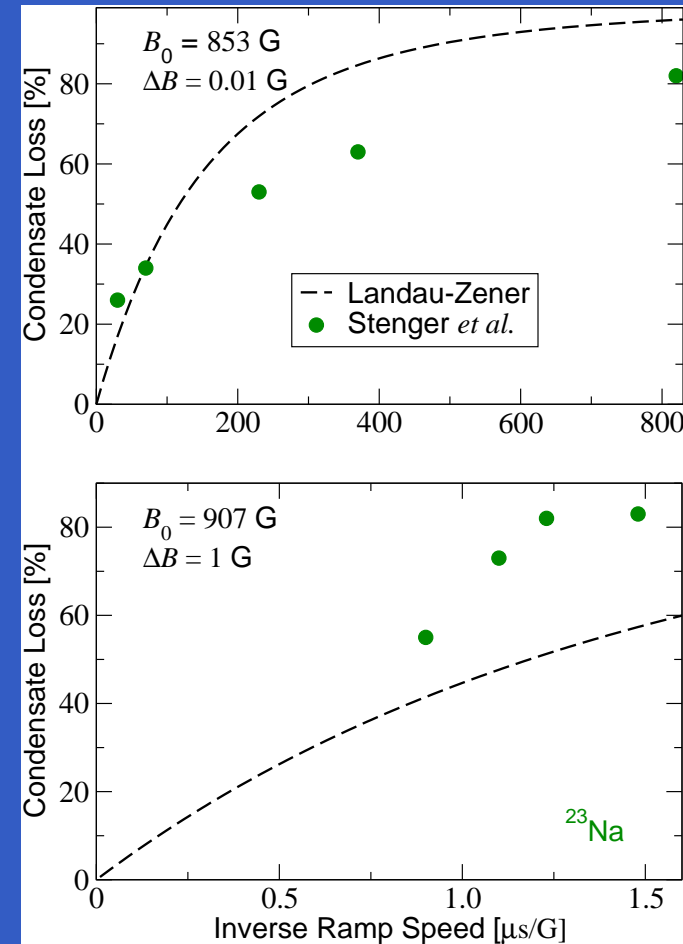
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Pairing in Bose-Einstein condensates

Many-particle formulation

Many-particle Hamiltonian:

$$H = H_0 + H_{\text{int}}$$



A.L. Fetter and J.D. Walecka, *Quantum Theory of Many-Particle Systems* (MacGraw-Hill, New York, 1971)

Pairing in Bose-Einstein condensates

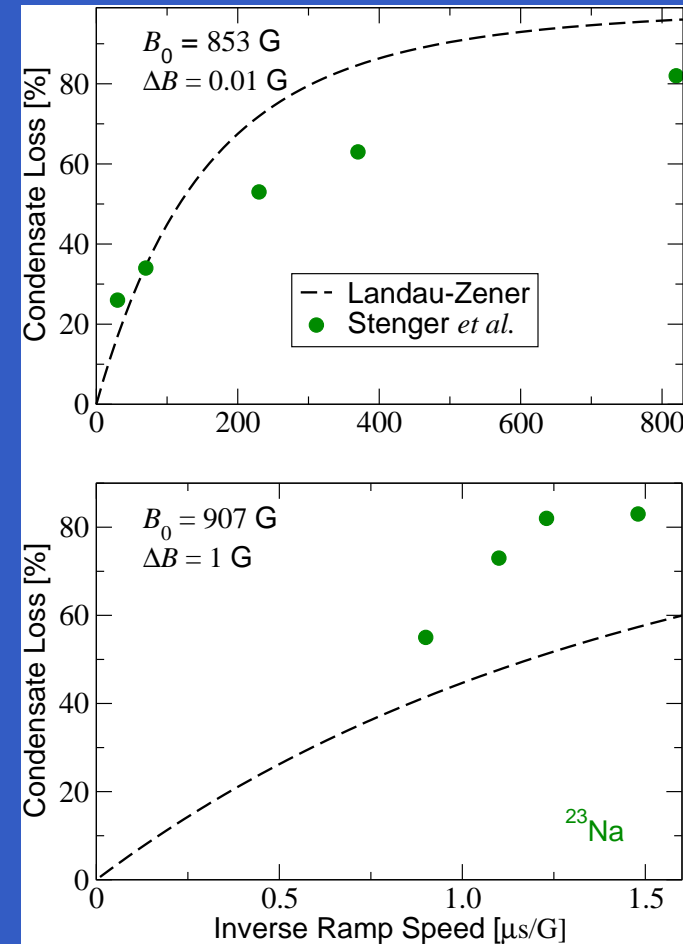
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Free Hamiltonian:

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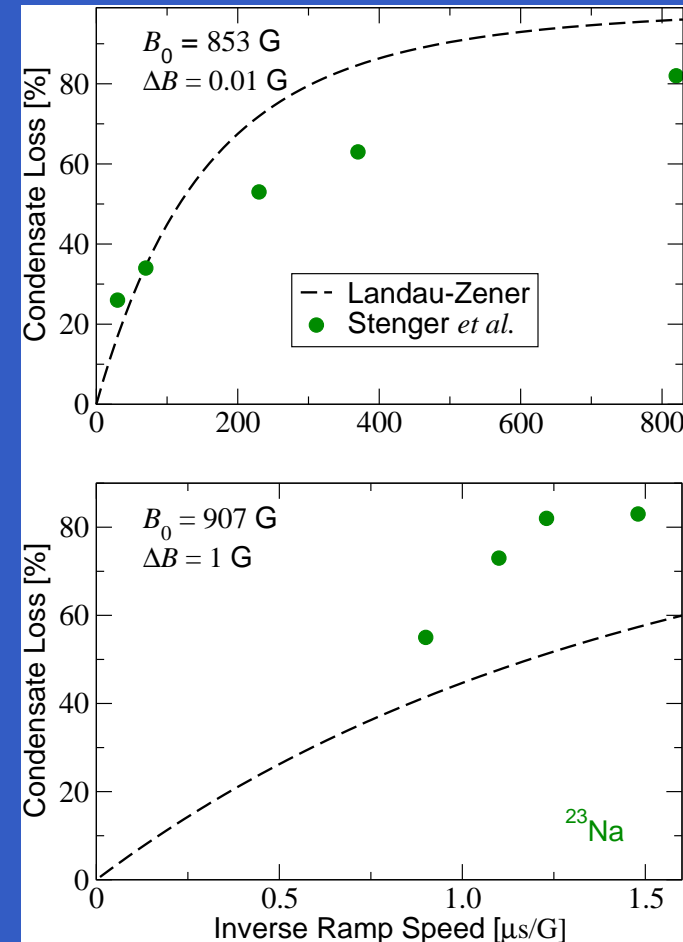
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Interaction Hamiltonian:

$$H_{\text{int}} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha\beta, \alpha'\beta'} \int d\mathbf{x} \int d\mathbf{y} V_{\alpha\beta, \alpha'\beta'}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \times \psi_{\alpha}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{x}) \psi_{\beta}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{y}) \psi_{\beta'}(\mathbf{y}) \psi_{\alpha'}(\mathbf{x})$$



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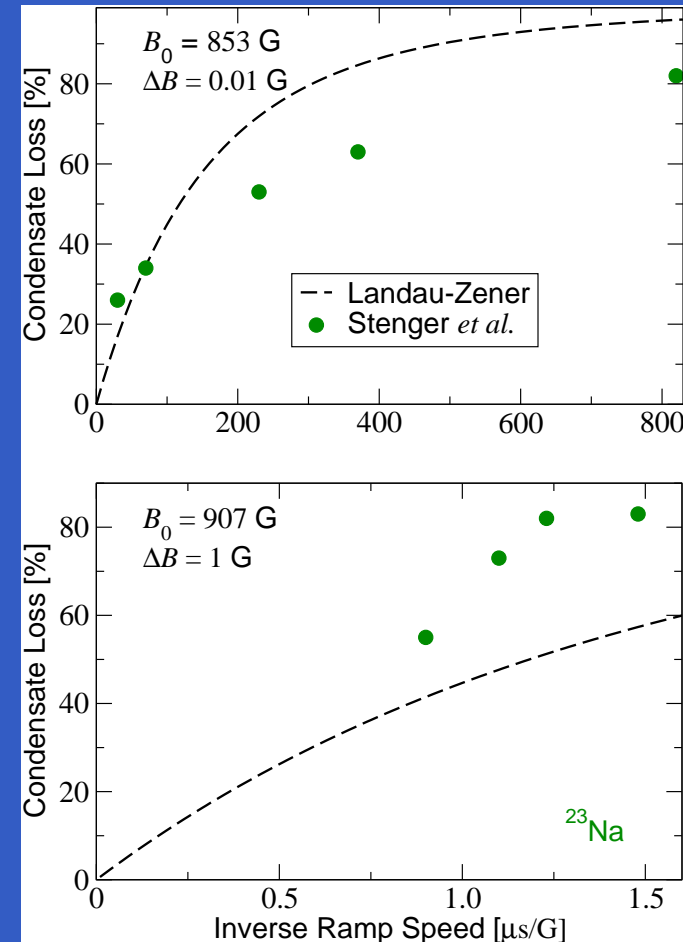
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Bose commutation relations:

$$\psi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}) \psi_{\beta}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{y}) - \psi_{\beta}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{y}) \psi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}) = \delta_{\alpha\beta} \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$$

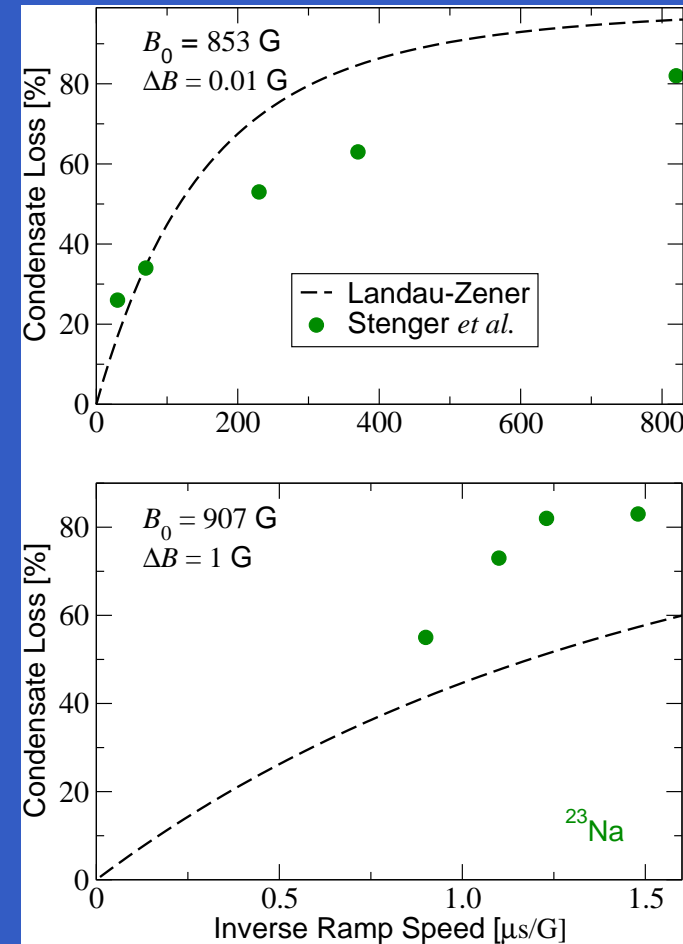


Pairing in Bose-Einstein condensates

Dynamical theory

Schödinger equation:

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \langle \psi_{\beta}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{y}) \cdots \psi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_t = \langle [\psi_{\beta}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{y}) \cdots \psi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}), H] \rangle_t$$



See, e.g.: J. Fricke, Ann. Phys. (N.Y.) **252**, 479 (1996)
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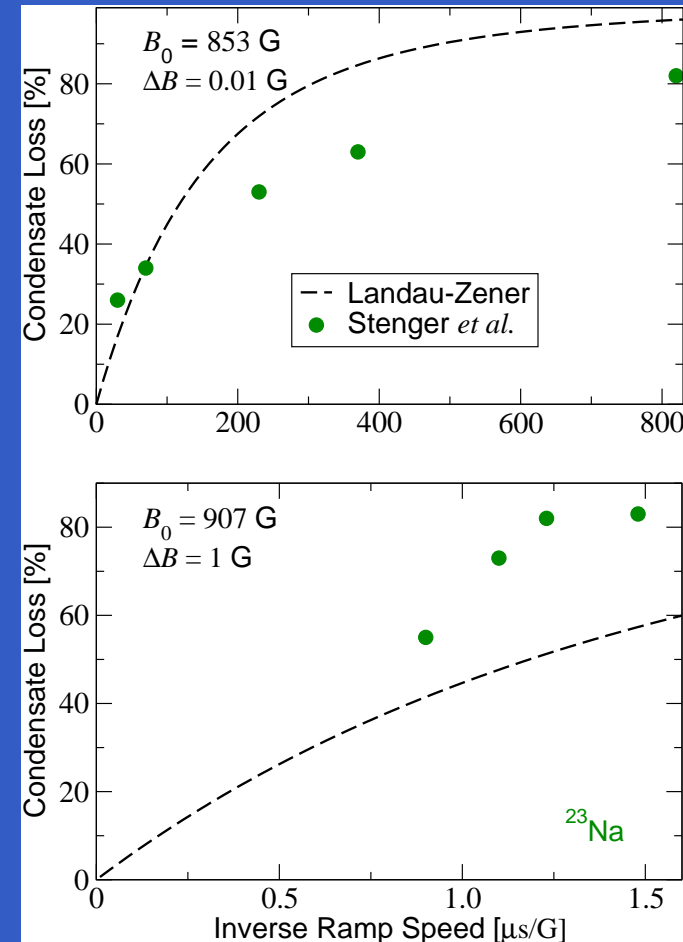
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$$\Psi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \langle \psi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_t$$



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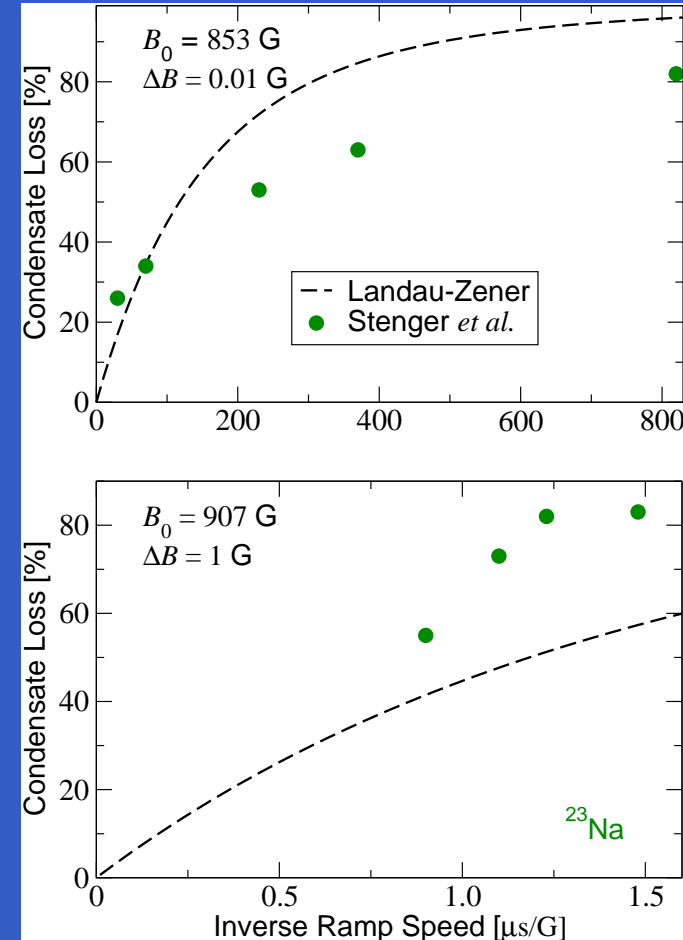
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Pair function:

$$\Phi_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, t) = \langle \psi_{\beta}(\mathbf{y}) \psi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_t - \Psi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}, t) \Psi_{\beta}(\mathbf{y}, t)$$



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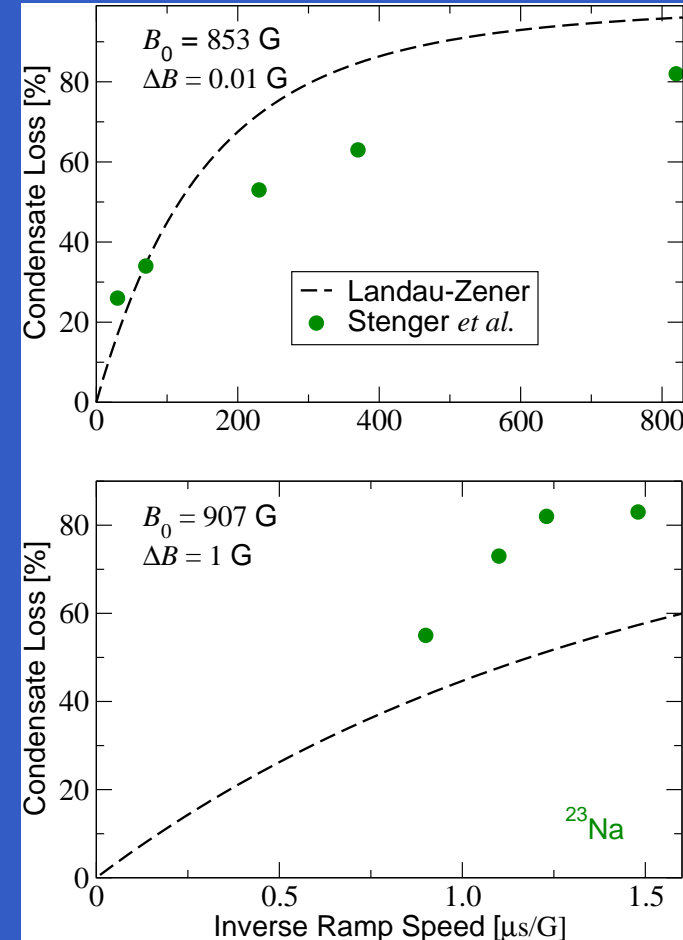
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Density matrix of non-condensed atoms:

$$\Gamma_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, t) = \langle \psi_{\beta}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{y}) \psi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_t - \Psi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}, t) \Psi_{\beta}^*(\mathbf{y}, t)$$

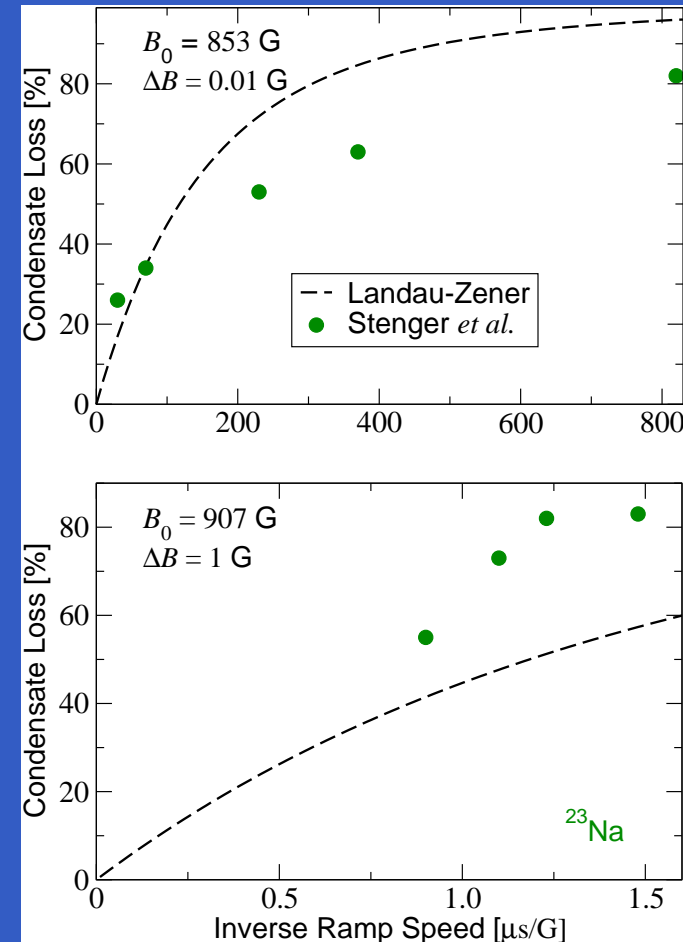


Pairing in Bose-Einstein condensates

Cumulant method for Bose-Einstein condensates

Dynamical equation for the condensate mean field:

$$i\hbar\dot{\Psi}_\alpha(\mathbf{x}, t) = H_\alpha^{1B}\Psi_\alpha(\mathbf{x}, t) + \sum_{\alpha', \beta\beta'} \int d\mathbf{y} V_{\alpha\beta, \alpha'\beta'}(\mathbf{r}) \\ \times \Psi_\beta^*(\mathbf{y}, t) \langle \psi_{\beta'}(\mathbf{y}) \psi_{\alpha'}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_t$$



Pairing in Bose-Einstein condensates

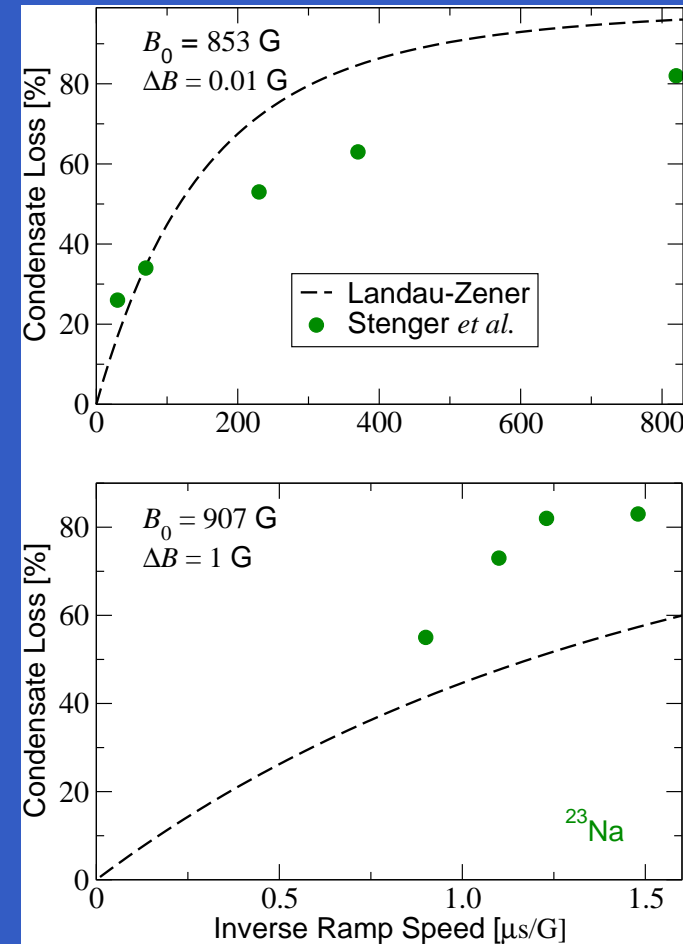
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Dynamical equation for the pair function:

$$i\hbar\dot{\Phi}_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, t) = \sum_{\alpha'\beta'} [H_{\alpha\beta, \alpha'\beta'}^{2B} \Phi_{\alpha'\beta'}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, t) + V_{\alpha\beta, \alpha'\beta'}(\mathbf{r}) \Psi_{\alpha'}(\mathbf{x}, t) \Psi_{\beta'}(\mathbf{y}, t)]$$



Pairing in Bose-Einstein condensates

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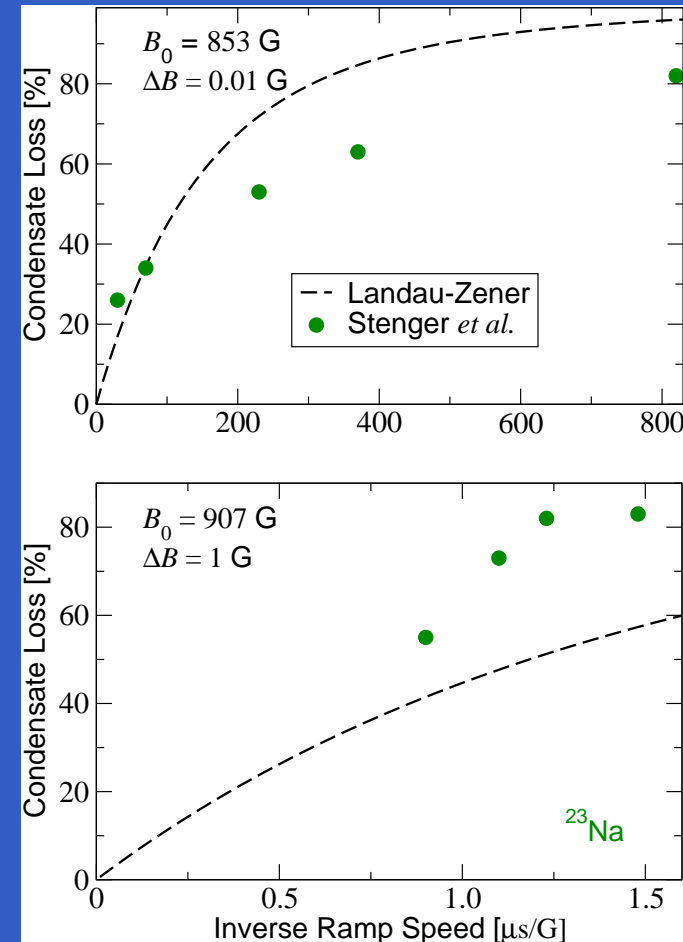
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Positivity of the one-body density matrix:

$$\Gamma_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, t) = \sum_\gamma \int d\mathbf{z} \Phi_{\alpha\gamma}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}, t) [\Phi_{\beta\gamma}(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}, t)]^*$$

This method: TK and K. Burnett, PRA **65**, 033601 (2002)

TK, T. Gasenzer, and K. Burnett, PRA **67**, 013601 (2003)



Pairing in Bose-Einstein condensates

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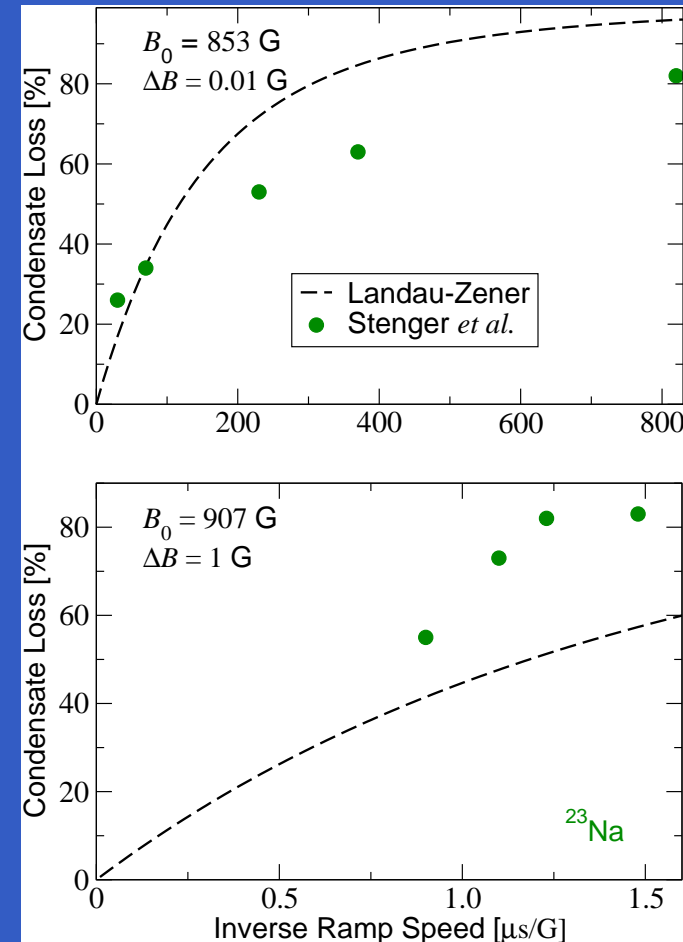
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Number conservation:

$$\sum_\alpha \int d\mathbf{x} [|\Psi_\alpha(\mathbf{x}, t)|^2 + \Gamma_{\alpha\alpha}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}, t)] = N$$



This method: TK and K. Burnett, PRA **65**, 033601 (2002)

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Pairing in Bose-Einstein condensates

Gross-Pitaevskii limit

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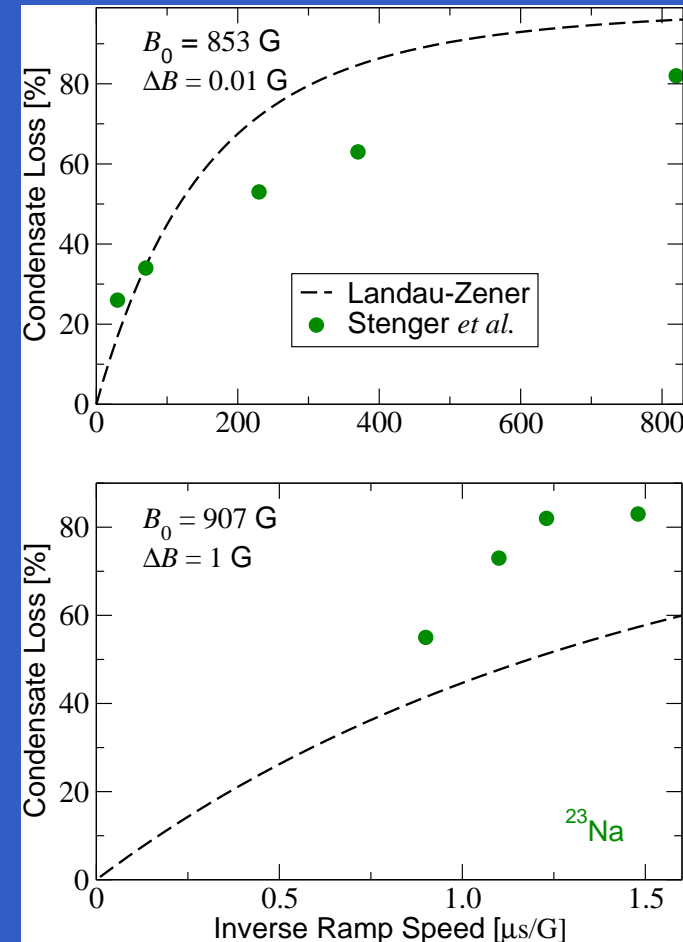
$$i\hbar\dot{\Psi}_\alpha(\mathbf{x}, t) = H_\alpha^{1B}\Psi_\alpha(\mathbf{x}, t) + \sum_{\alpha', \beta\beta'} \int d\mathbf{y} V_{\alpha\beta, \alpha'\beta'}(\mathbf{r}) \times \Psi_\beta^*(\mathbf{y}, t) \langle \psi_{\beta'}(\mathbf{y}) \psi_{\alpha'}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_t$$

Dynamical equation for the pair function:

$$i\hbar\dot{\Phi}_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, t) = \sum_{\alpha'\beta'} [H_{\alpha\beta, \alpha'\beta'}^{2B} \Phi_{\alpha'\beta'}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, t) + V_{\alpha\beta, \alpha'\beta'}(\mathbf{r}) \Psi_{\alpha'}(\mathbf{x}, t) \Psi_{\beta'}(\mathbf{y}, t)]$$

One-component Bose-Einstein condensate:

$$\Psi_\alpha(\mathbf{x}, t) = \Psi(\mathbf{x}, t)$$



E.P. Gross, Nuovo Cimento **20**, 454 (1961)

L.P. Pitaevskii, Sov. Phys. JETP **13**, 451 (1961)

Pairing in Bose-Einstein condensates

Molecular mean-field approach

Dynamical equation for the condensate mean field:

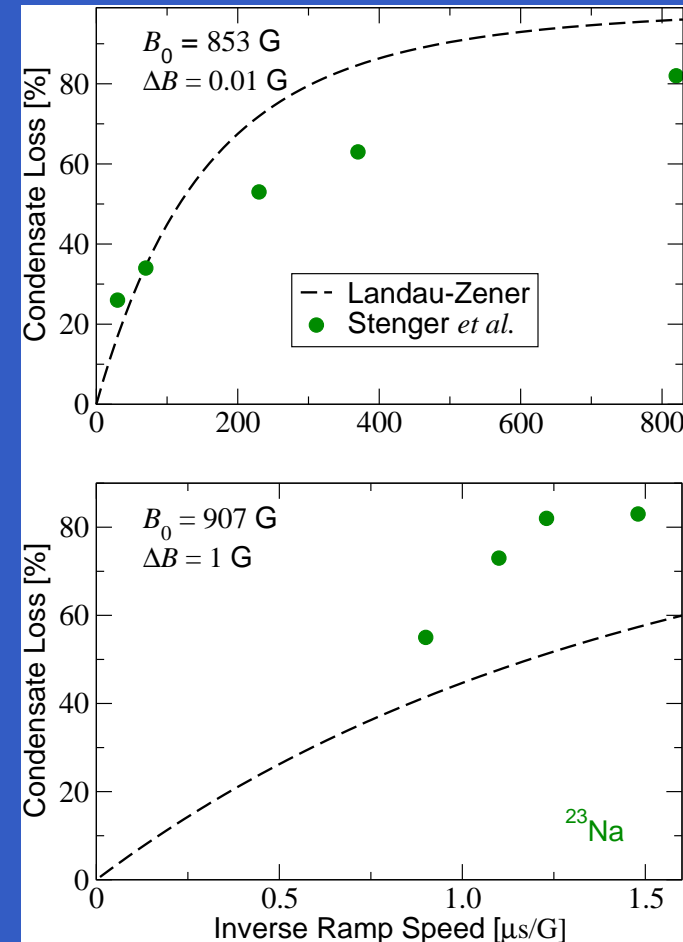
$$i\hbar\dot{\Psi}_\alpha(\mathbf{x}, t) = H_\alpha^{1B}\Psi_\alpha(\mathbf{x}, t) + \sum_{\alpha', \beta\beta'} \int d\mathbf{y} V_{\alpha\beta, \alpha'\beta'}(\mathbf{r}) \times \Psi_\beta^*(\mathbf{y}, t) \langle \psi_{\beta'}(\mathbf{y}) \psi_{\alpha'}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_t$$

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Closed-channel molecules:

$$\Phi_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, t) = \Phi_{\text{cl}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, t) = \Psi_{\text{res}}(\mathbf{R}, t) \phi_{\text{res}}(\mathbf{r})$$



E. Timmermans, P. Tommasini, M. Hussein, and A. Kerman, Phys. Rep. **315**, 199 (1999)

P.D. Drummond, K.V. Kheruntsyan, and H. He, PRL **81**, 3055 (1998)

Pairing in Bose-Einstein condensates

Molecular mean-field approach

Dynamical equation for the condensate mean field:

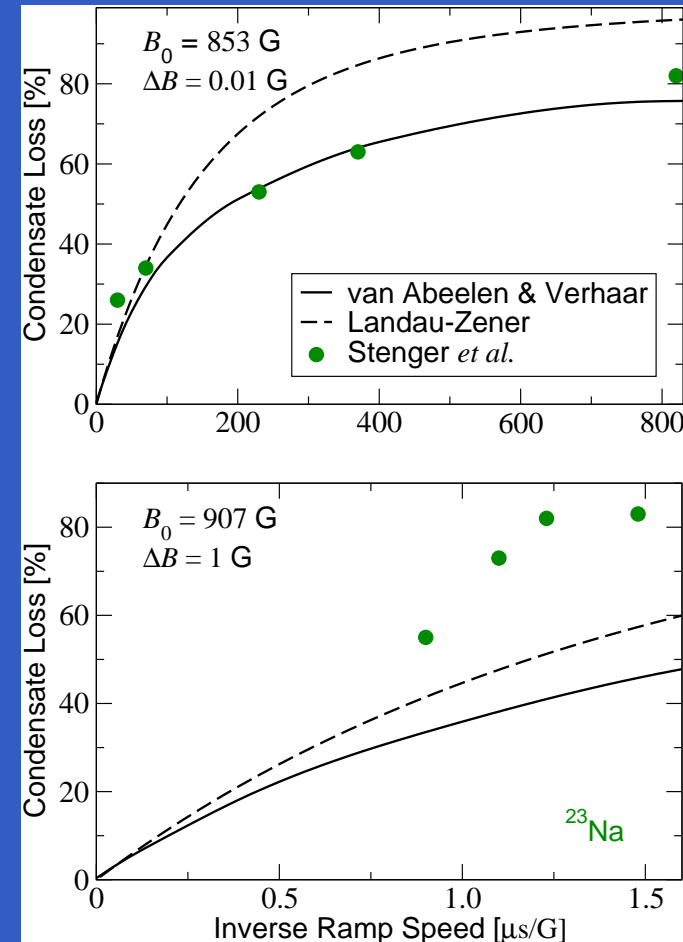
$$i\hbar\dot{\Psi}_\alpha(\mathbf{x}, t) = H_\alpha^{1B}\Psi_\alpha(\mathbf{x}, t) + \sum_{\alpha', \beta\beta'} \int d\mathbf{y} V_{\alpha\beta, \alpha'\beta'}(\mathbf{r}) \times \Psi_\beta^*(\mathbf{y}, t) \langle \psi_{\beta'}(\mathbf{y}) \psi_{\alpha'}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_t$$

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Closed-channel molecules:

$$\Phi_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, t) = \Phi_{cl}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, t) = \Psi_{res}(\mathbf{R}, t) \phi_{res}(\mathbf{r})$$



F.A. van Abeelen and B.J. Verhaar, PRL **83**, 1550 (1999)

Pairing in Bose-Einstein condensates

Inclusion of the entrance-channel pair function

Dynamical equation for the condensate mean field:

$$i\hbar\dot{\Psi}_\alpha(\mathbf{x}, t) = H_\alpha^{1B}\Psi_\alpha(\mathbf{x}, t) + \sum_{\alpha', \beta\beta'} \int d\mathbf{y} V_{\alpha\beta, \alpha'\beta'}(\mathbf{r}) \times \Psi_\beta^*(\mathbf{y}, t) \langle \psi_{\beta'}(\mathbf{y}) \psi_{\alpha'}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_t$$

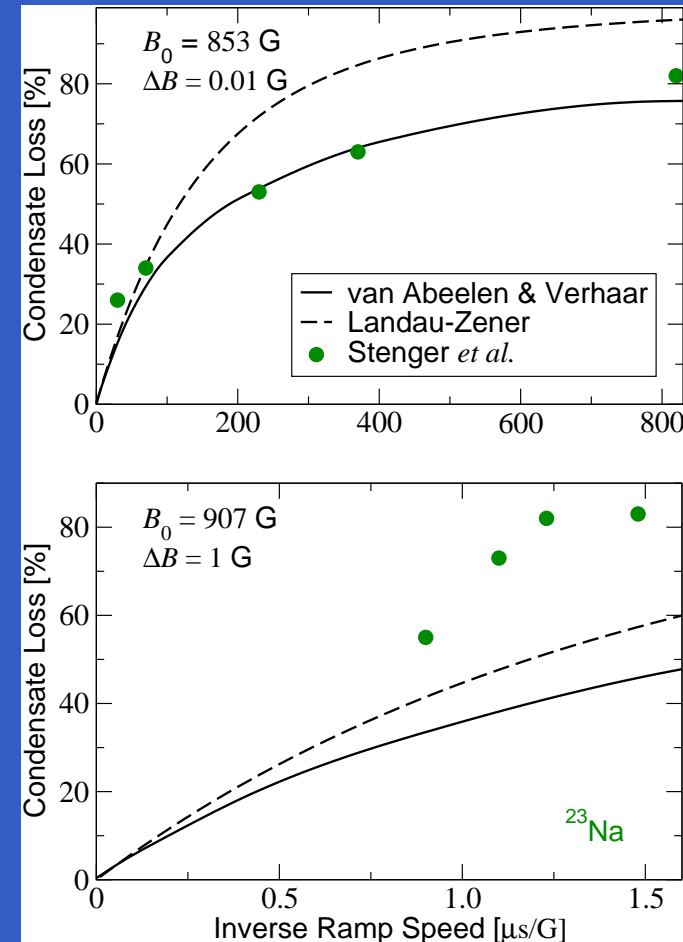
Dynamical equation for the pair function:

$$i\hbar\dot{\Phi}_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, t) = \sum_{\alpha'\beta'} [H_{\alpha\beta, \alpha'\beta'}^{2B} \Phi_{\alpha'\beta'}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, t) + V_{\alpha\beta, \alpha'\beta'}(\mathbf{r}) \Psi_{\alpha'}(\mathbf{x}, t) \Psi_{\beta'}(\mathbf{y}, t)]$$

Complete pair function:

$$\sum_{\alpha\beta} |\alpha\beta\rangle \Phi_{\alpha\beta} = |\text{bg}\rangle \Phi_{\text{bg}} + |\text{cl}\rangle \Phi_{\text{cl}}$$

HFB approach: M. Holland, J. Park, and R. Walser, PRL **86**, 1915 (2001)



Pairing in Bose-Einstein condensates

Entrance-channel pair correlations interfere away!

Dynamical equation for the condensate mean field:

$$i\hbar\dot{\Psi}_\alpha(\mathbf{x}, t) = H_\alpha^{1B}\Psi_\alpha(\mathbf{x}, t) + \sum_{\alpha', \beta\beta'} \int d\mathbf{y} V_{\alpha\beta, \alpha'\beta'}(\mathbf{r}) \times \Psi_\beta^*(\mathbf{y}, t) \langle \psi_{\beta'}(\mathbf{y}) \psi_{\alpha'}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_t$$

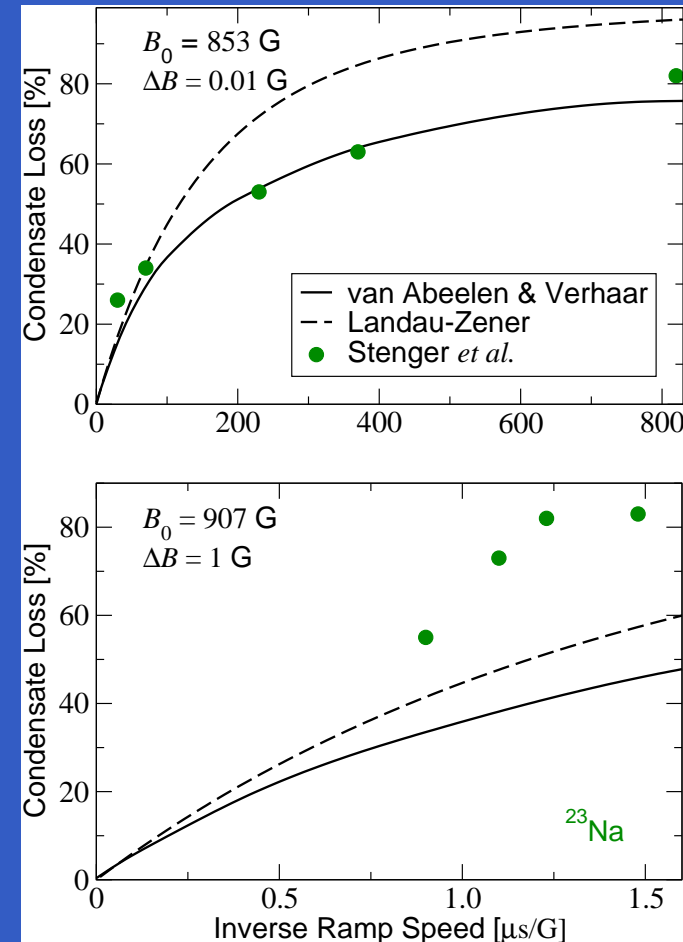
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$$\sum_{\alpha\beta} |\alpha\beta\rangle \Phi_{\alpha\beta} = |\text{bg}\rangle \Phi_{\text{bg}} + |\text{cl}\rangle \Phi_{\text{cl}}$$

K. Góral, TK, S.A. Gardiner, E. Tiesinga, and P.S. Julienne, J. Phys. B **37**, 3457 (2004)



Pairing in Bose-Einstein condensates

Feshbach molecules decay due to collisional relaxation!

Dynamical equation for the condensate mean field:

$$i\hbar\dot{\Psi}_\alpha(\mathbf{x}, t) = H_\alpha^{1B}\Psi_\alpha(\mathbf{x}, t) + \sum_{\alpha', \beta\beta'} \int d\mathbf{y} V_{\alpha\beta, \alpha'\beta'}(\mathbf{r}) \times \Psi_\beta^*(\mathbf{y}, t) \langle \psi_{\beta'}(\mathbf{y}) \psi_{\alpha'}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_t$$

Dynamical equation for the pair function:

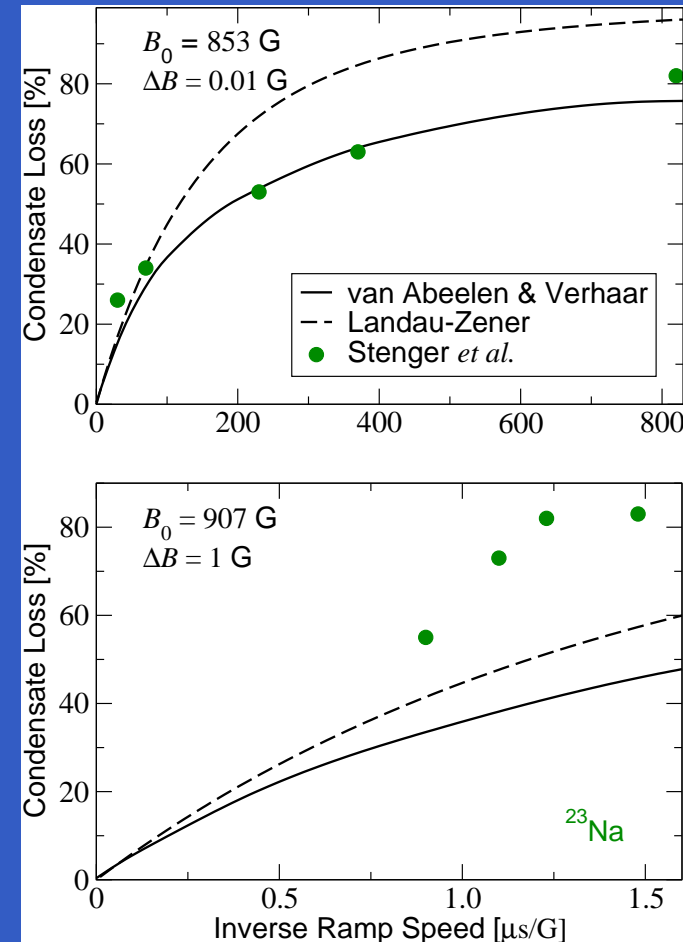
$$i\hbar\dot{\Phi}_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, t) = \sum_{\alpha'\beta'} [H_{\alpha\beta, \alpha'\beta'}^{2B} \Phi_{\alpha'\beta'}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, t) + V_{\alpha\beta, \alpha'\beta'}(\mathbf{r}) \Psi_{\alpha'}(\mathbf{x}, t) \Psi_{\beta'}(\mathbf{y}, t)]$$

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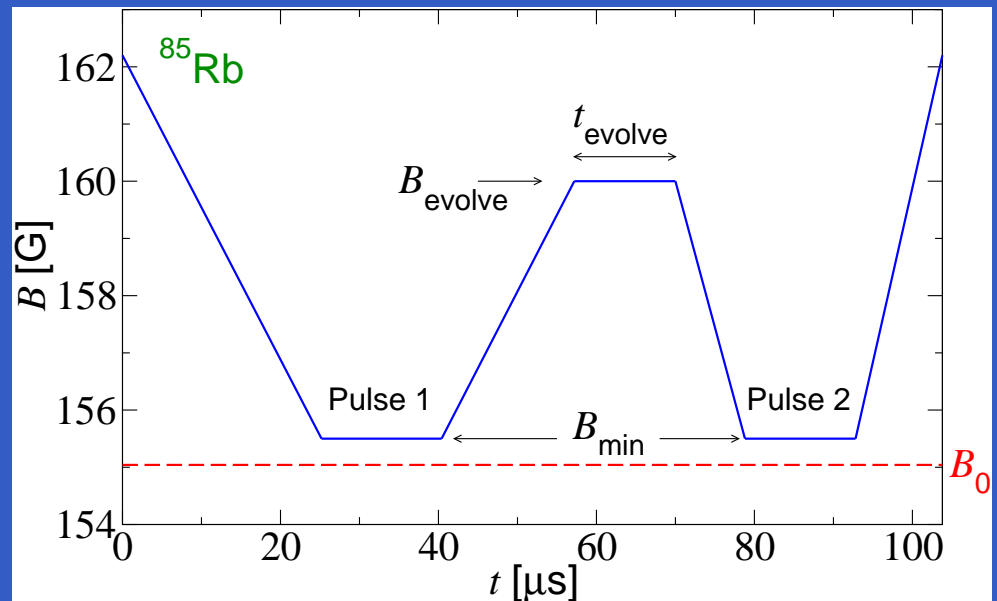
P. Soldán, M.T. Cvitaš, J.M. Hutson, P. Honvault, and J.-M. Launay, PRL **89**, 153201 (2002)

V.A. Yurovsky, A. Ben-Reuven, P.S. Julienne, and C.J. Williams, PRA **62**, 043605 (2000)



Atom-molecule coherence

Magnetic-field pulse sequence



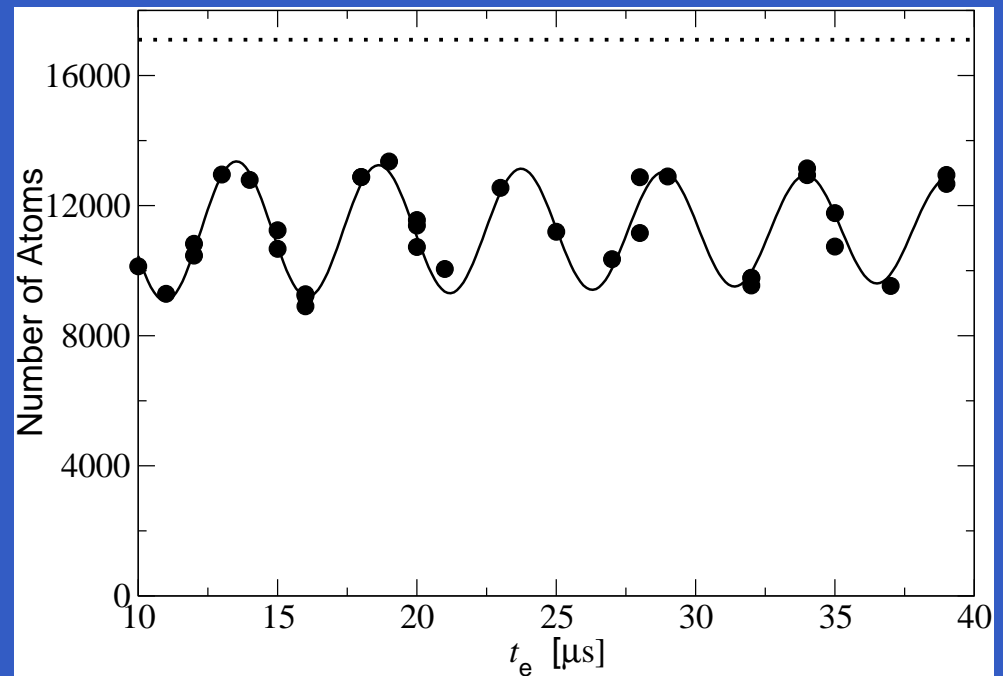
E.A. Donley, N.R. Claussen, S.T. Thompson, and C.E. Wieman, Nature **412**, 295 (2002)

Atom-molecule coherence

Experimental observations

Interference fringes in:

- a remnant Bose-Einstein condensate



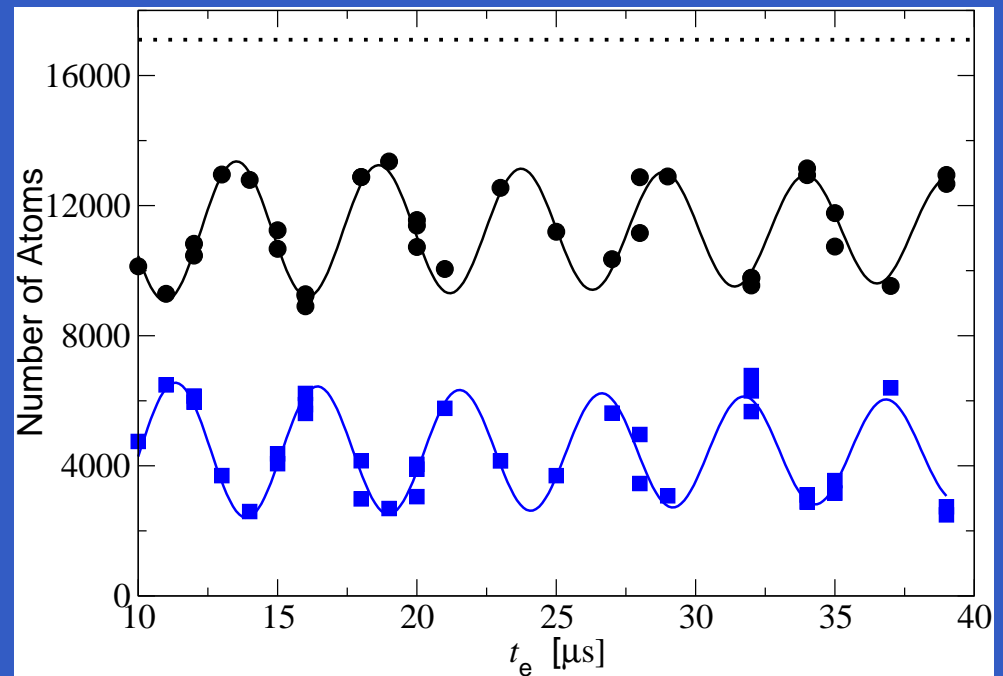
E.A. Donley, N.R. Claussen, S.T. Thompson, and C.E. Wieman, *Nature* **412**, 295 (2002)

Atom-molecule coherence

Experimental observations

Interference fringes in:

- a remnant Bose-Einstein condensate
- a “burst” of correlated atom pairs



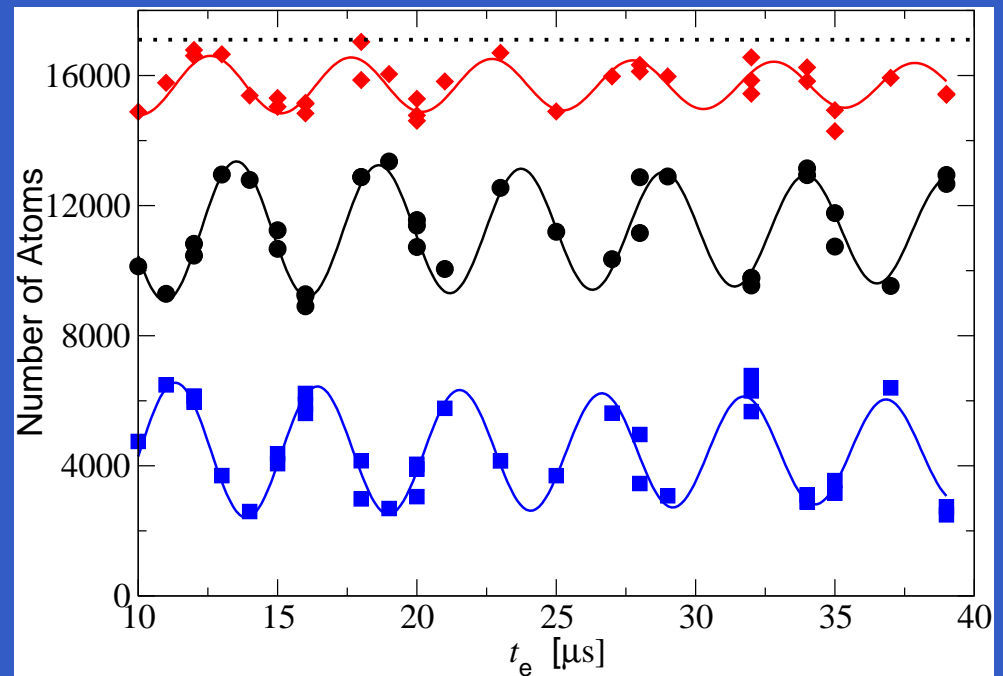
E.A. Donley, N.R. Claussen, S.T. Thompson, and C.E. Wieman, *Nature* **412**, 295 (2002)

Atom-molecule coherence

Experimental observations

Interference fringes in:

- a remnant Bose-Einstein condensate
- a “burst” of correlated atom pairs
- a component of undetected “missing atoms”



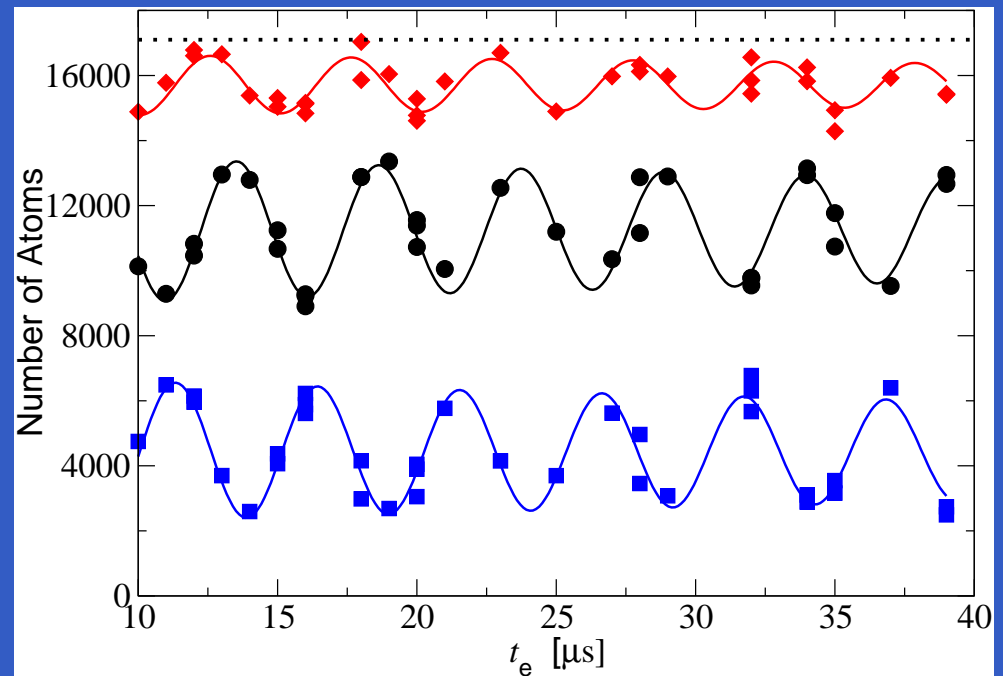
E.A. Donley, N.R. Claussen, S.T. Thompson, and C.E. Wieman, *Nature* **412**, 295 (2002)

Atom-molecule coherence

Experimental observations

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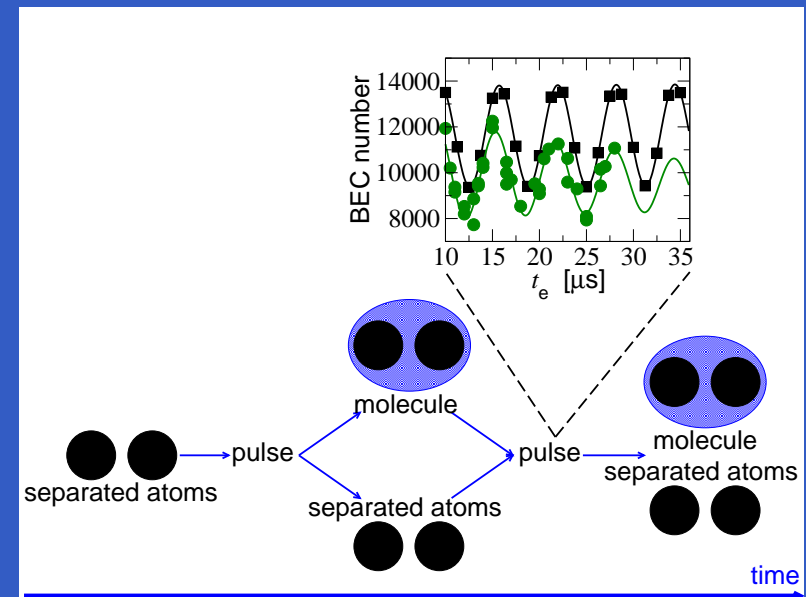
- a remnant Bose-Einstein condensate
- a “burst” of correlated atom pairs
- a component of undetected diatomic Feshbach molecules?



E.A. Donley, N.R. Claussen, S.T. Thompson, and C.E. Wieman, Nature **412**, 295 (2002)

Atom-molecule coherence

Ramsey interferometry with atoms and Feshbach molecules



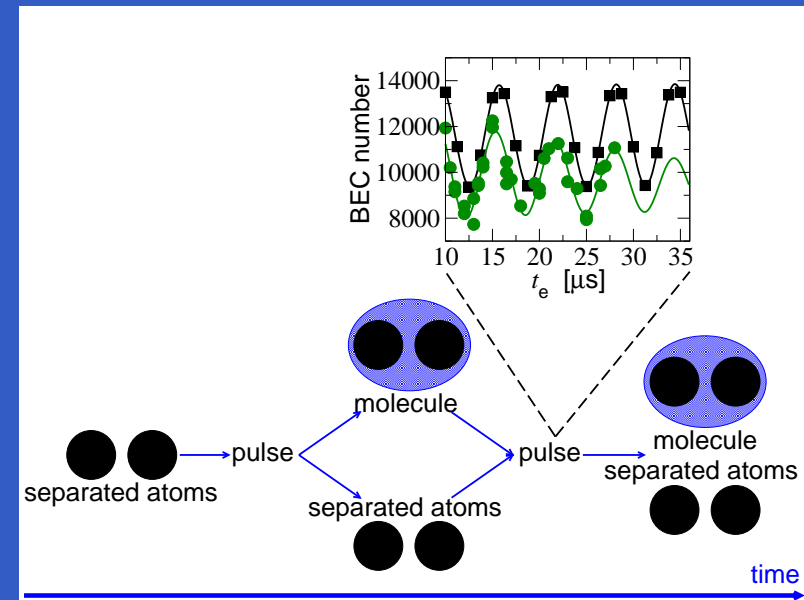
E.A. Donley *et al.*, Nature 412, 295 (2002)
P. Zoller, Nature 417, 493 (2002)

Atom-molecule coherence

Explanation in terms of diatomic dynamics

Time-evolution operator:

$$i\hbar\frac{\partial}{\partial t}U_{2B}(t, t_i) = H_{2B}(t)U_{2B}(t, t_i)$$



E.A. Donley *et al.*, Nature 412, 295 (2002)

P. Zoller, Nature 417, 493 (2002)

Atom-molecule coherence

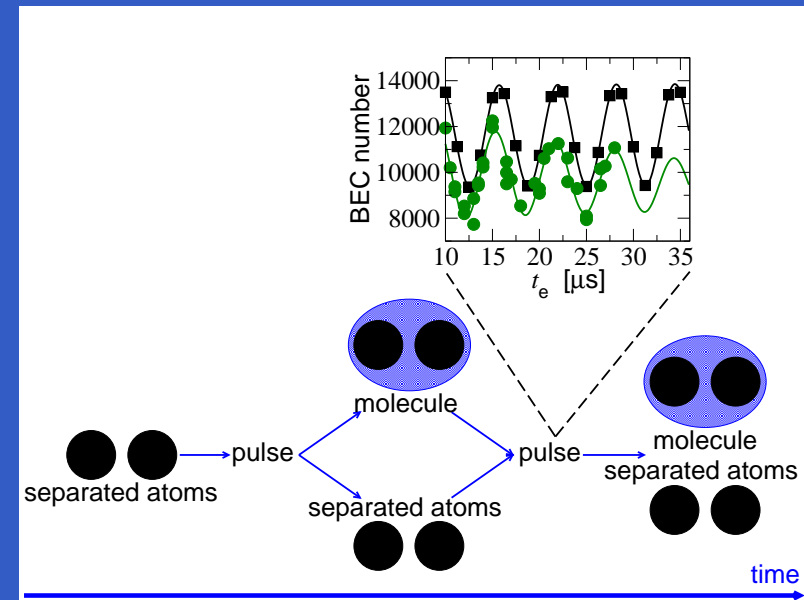
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Factorisation:

$$U_{2B}(t_f, t_i) = U_2(t_f, t_2) U_e(t_e) U_1(t_1, t_i)$$



E.A. Donley *et al.*, Nature **412**, 295 (2002)

P. Zoller, Nature **417**, 493 (2002)

Atom-molecule coherence

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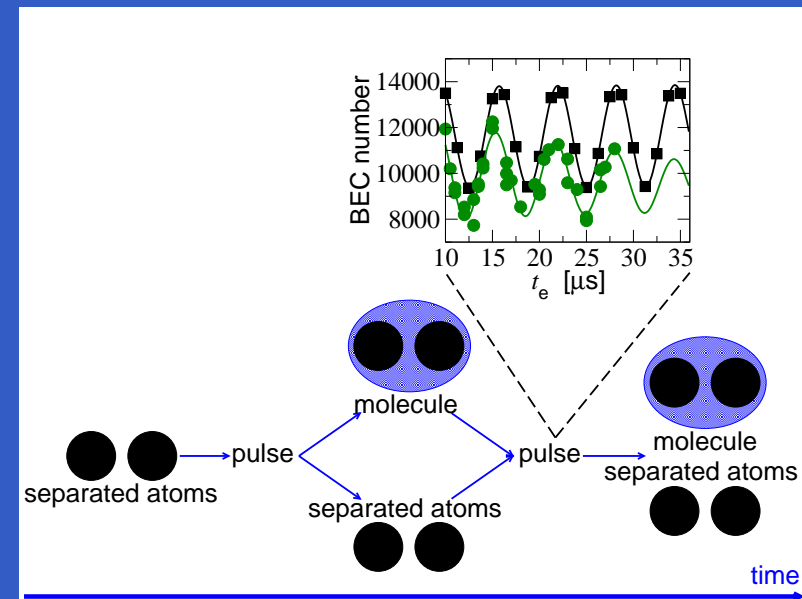
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Spectral decomposition ($\omega_{-1} = E_b/\hbar$):

$$U_e(t_e) = \sum_{v=-1}^{\infty} |\phi_v^e\rangle e^{-i\omega_v^e t_e} \langle \phi_v^e|$$



E.A. Donley *et al.*, Nature **412**, 295 (2002)

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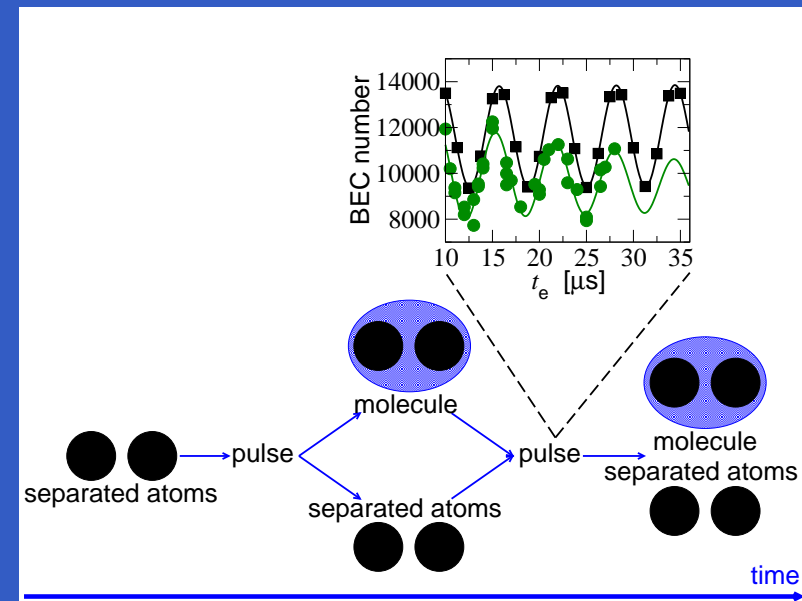
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Transition amplitude:

$$\langle \phi_0^f | U_{2B}(t_f, t_i) | \phi_0^i \rangle = D(t_e) + A e^{-i\omega_{-1}^e t_e}$$



E.A. Donley *et al.*, *Nature* **412**, 295 (2002)
 P. Zoller, *Nature* **417**, 493 (2002)

Atom-molecule coherence

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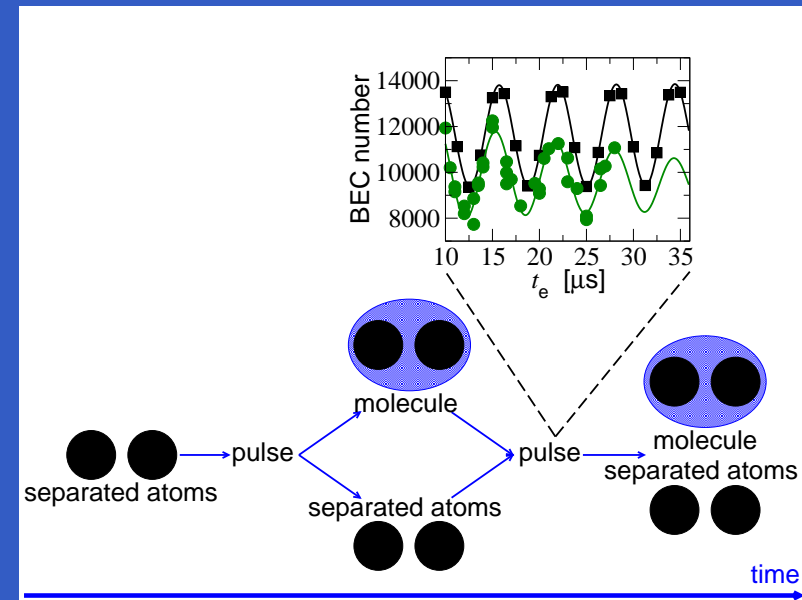
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Transition probability:

$$p_{0,0} = |D(t_e)|^2 + |A|^2 + 2|D(t_e)||A| \sin(\omega_{-1}^e t_e + \varphi)$$



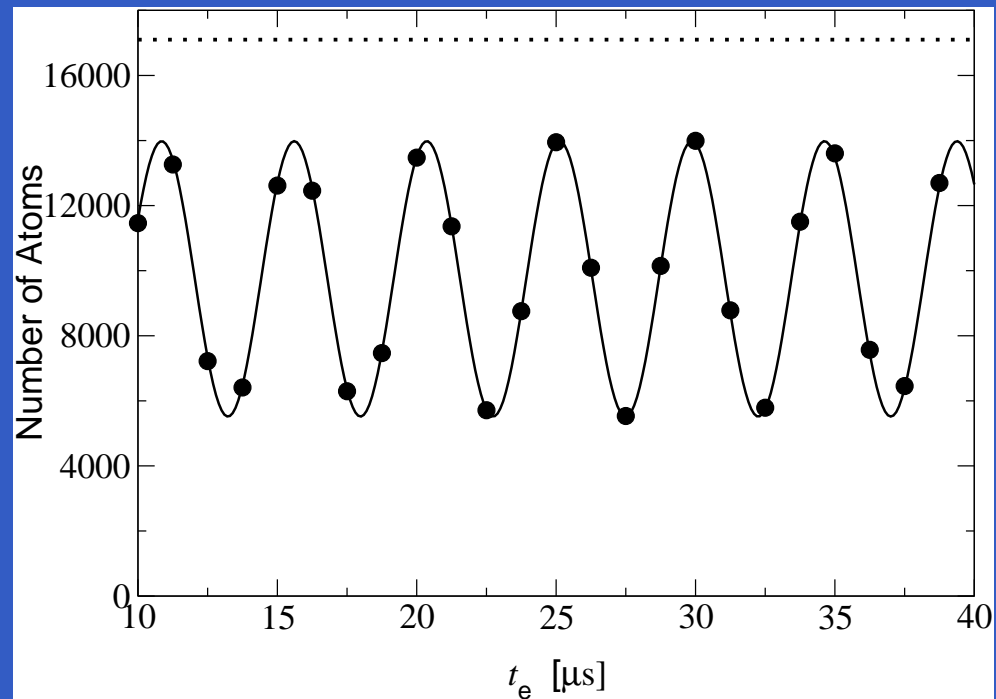
E.A. Donley *et al.*, *Nature* **412**, 295 (2002)
P. Zoller, *Nature* **417**, 493 (2002)

Atom-molecule coherence

Three-component Ramsey fringes

Remnant Bose-Einstein condensate:

$$p_{0,0} = |\langle \phi_0^f | U_{2B}(t_f, t_i) | \phi_0^i \rangle|^2$$



This calculation: K. Góral, TK, and K. Burnett, PRA **71**, 023603 (2005)
See also: B. Borca, D. Blume, and C.H. Greene, New J. Phys. **5**, 111 (2003)

Atom-molecule coherence

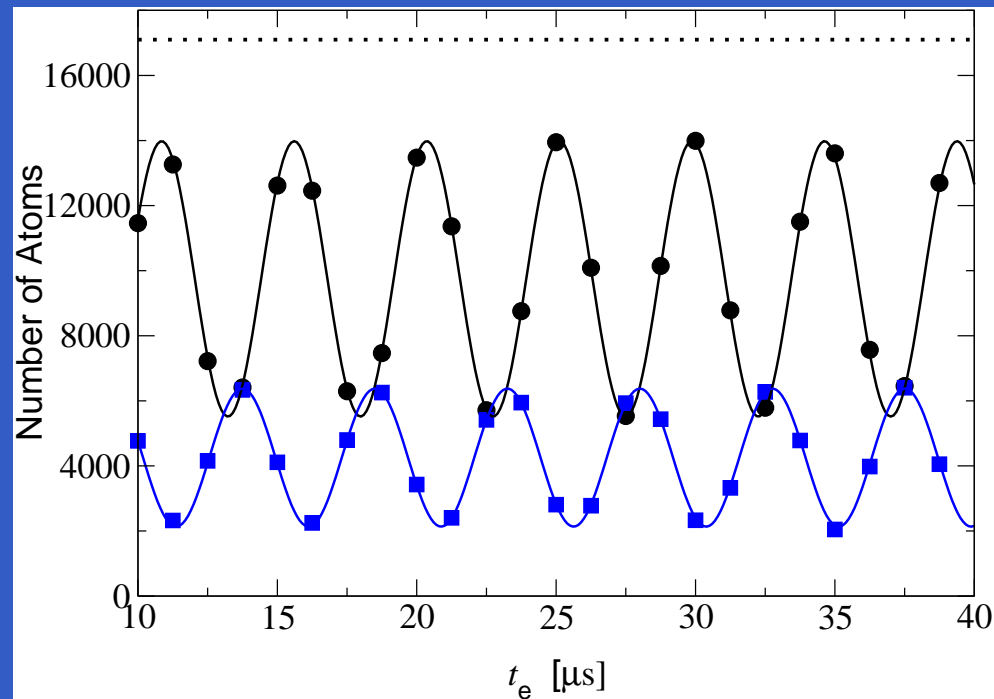
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“Burst” of correlated atom pairs:

$$\sum_{v=0}^{\infty} p_{0,v} = \sum_{v=0}^{\infty} |\langle \phi_v^f | U_{2B}(t_f, t_i) | \phi_0^i \rangle|^2$$



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Atom-molecule coherence

Three-component Ramsey fringes

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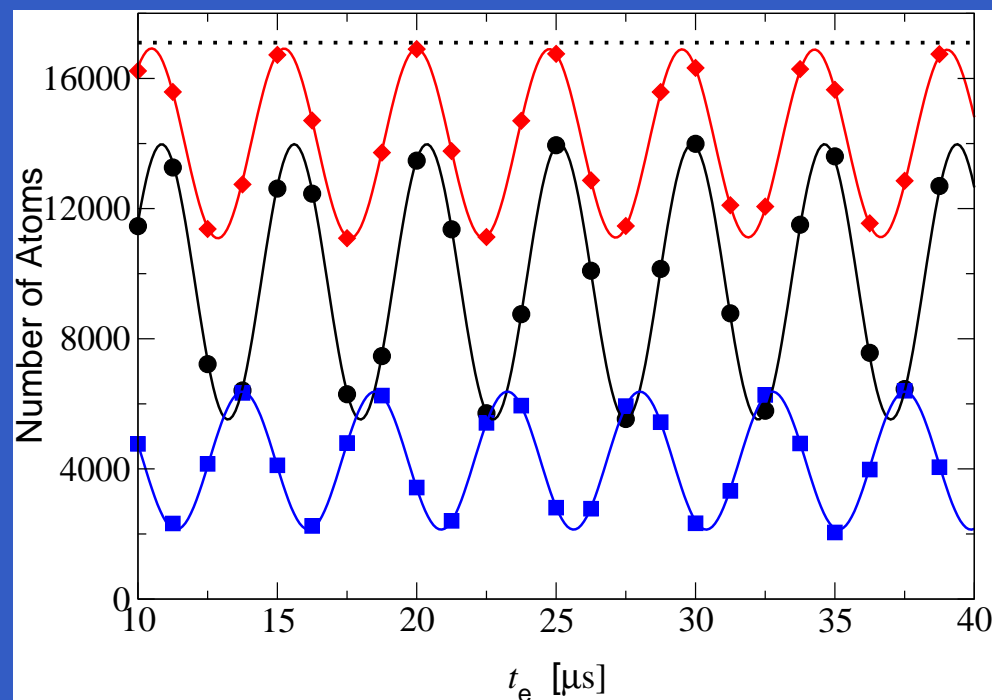
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“Burst” of correlated atom pairs:

$$\sum_{v=0}^{\infty} p_{0,v} = \sum_{v=0}^{\infty} |\langle \phi_v^f | U_{2B}(t_f, t_i) | \phi_0^i \rangle|^2$$

Component of diatomic Feshbach molecules:

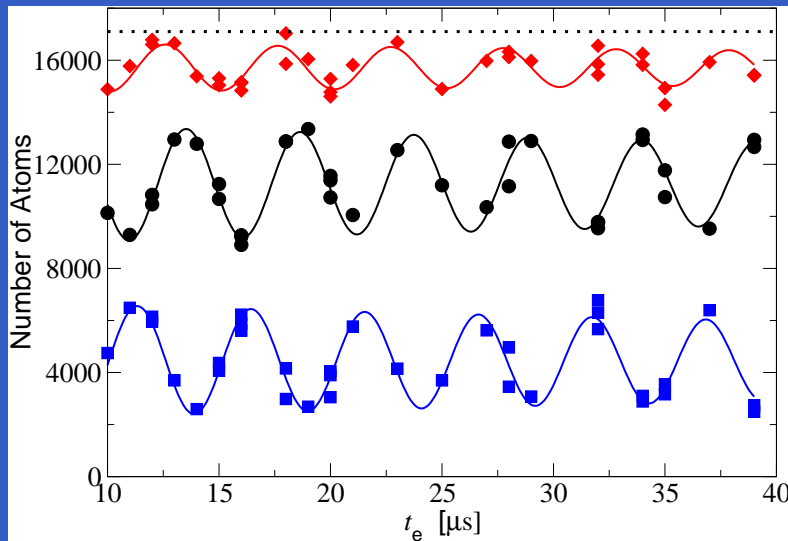
$$p_{0,b} = |\langle \phi_b^f | U_{2B}(t_f, t_i) | \phi_0^i \rangle|^2$$



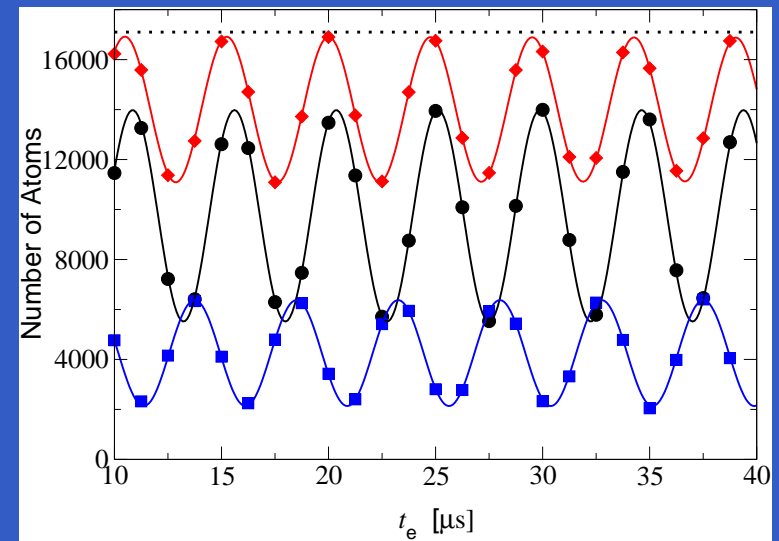
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Atom-molecule coherence

Three-component Ramsey fringes



E.A. Donley *et al.*, Nature **412**, 295 (2002)

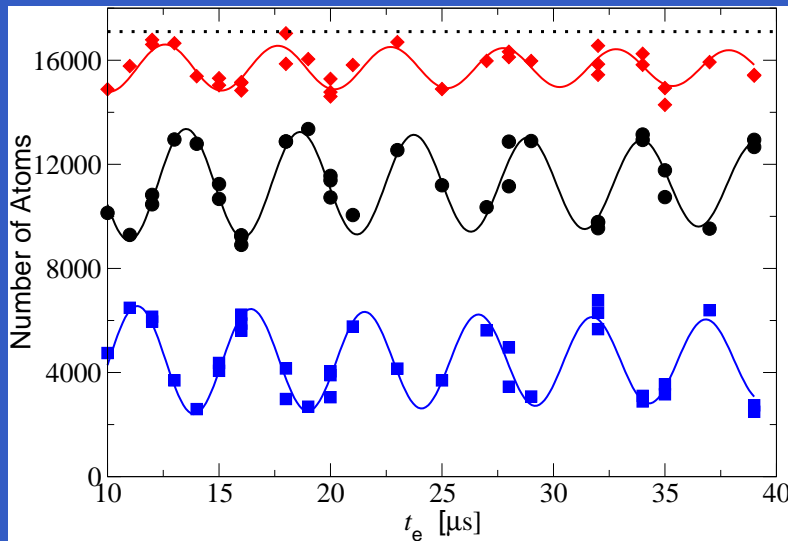


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PRA **71**, 023603 (2005)

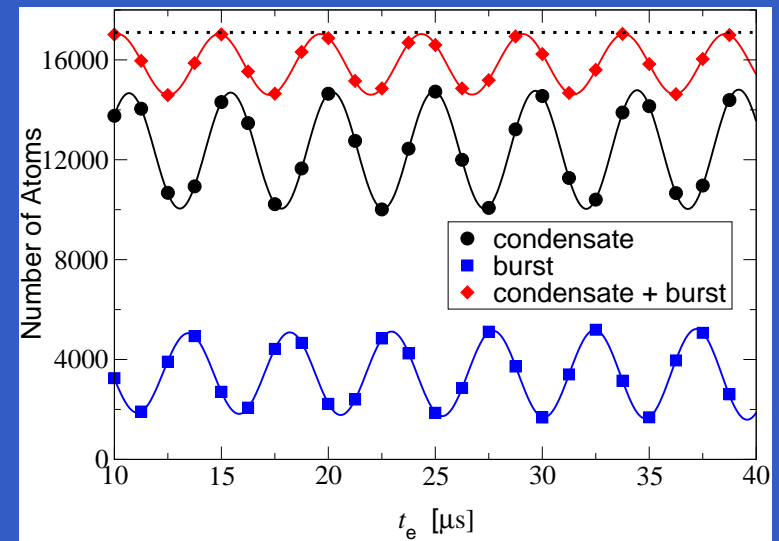
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New J. Phys. **5**, 111 (2003)

Atom-molecule coherence

Three-component Ramsey fringes



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This calculation: K. Góral, TK, and K. Burnett,
PRA **71**, 023603 (2005)

See also: S.J.J.M.F. Kokkelmans and M.J. Holland,
PRL **89**, 180401 (2002)

M. Mackie, K.-A. Suominen, and J. Javanainen,
PRL **89**, 180403 (2002)

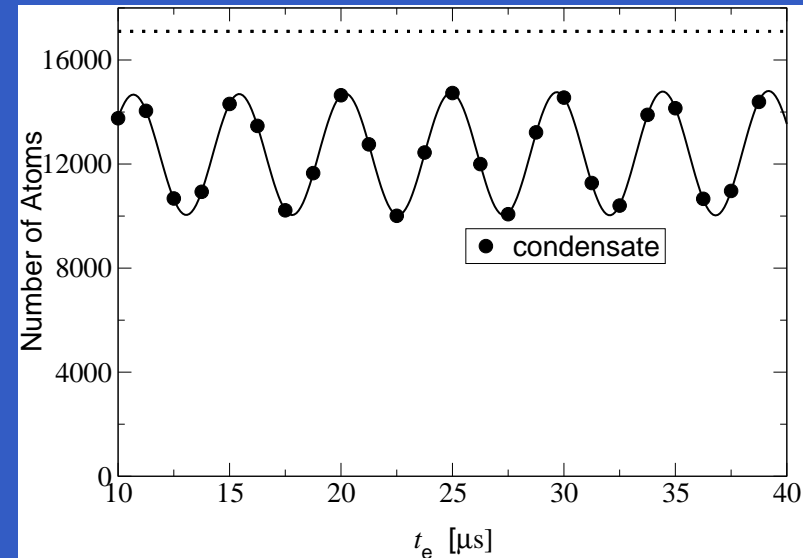
TK, T. Gasenzer, and K. Burnett,
PRA **67**, 013601 (2003)

Atom-molecule coherence

Remnant Bose-Einstein condensate

Non-linear Schrödinger equation:

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi(\mathbf{x}, t) = \left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + V_{\text{trap}}(\mathbf{x}) \right] \Psi(\mathbf{x}, t) - \Psi^*(\mathbf{x}, t) \int_{t_i}^{\infty} d\tau \Psi^*(\mathbf{x}, \tau) \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} h(t, \tau)$$



Atom-molecule coherence

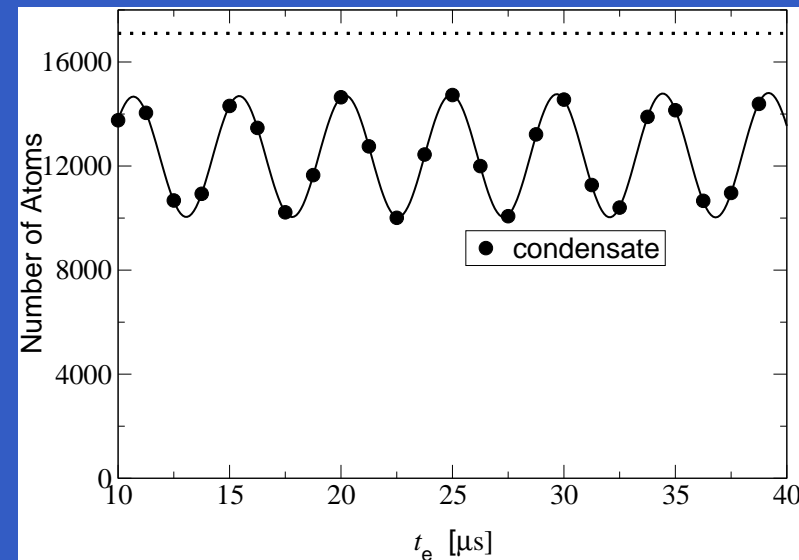
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Diatomic time evolution:

$$h(t, \tau) = (2\pi\hbar)^3 \theta(t - \tau) \langle 0 | V(t) U_{2B}(t, \tau) | 0 \rangle$$

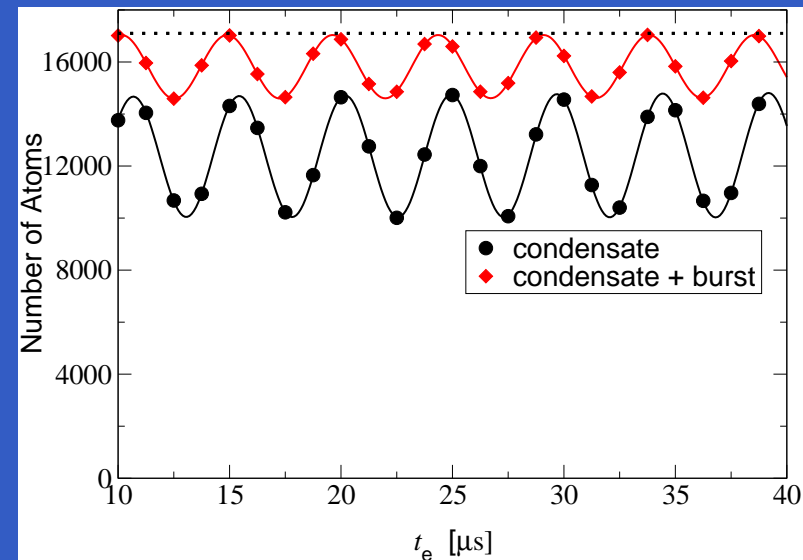


Atom-molecule coherence

Number of diatomic molecules in a gas

Number operator:

$$N_b = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\substack{i,j=1 \\ i \neq j}}^N |\phi_{ij}^b\rangle \langle \phi_{ij}^b|$$



Atom-molecule coherence

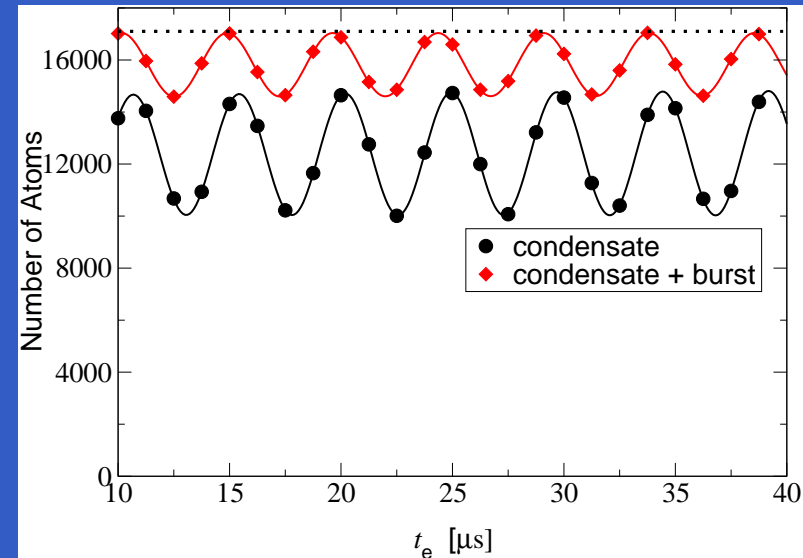
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Two-body correlation function:

$$G^{(2)}(\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{y}'; \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \psi^\dagger(\mathbf{x}') \psi^\dagger(\mathbf{y}') \psi(\mathbf{y}) \psi(\mathbf{x}) \rangle$$



Atom-molecule coherence

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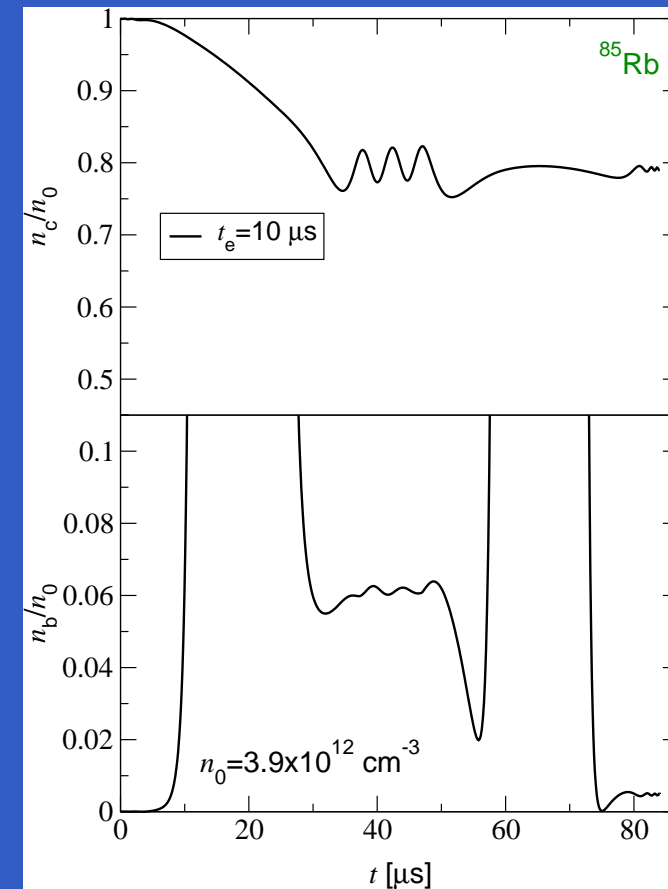
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Number of diatomic molecules:

$$N_b = \frac{1}{2} \int d\mathbf{r}' \int d\mathbf{r} \int d\mathbf{R} \phi_b(\mathbf{r}') \phi_b^*(\mathbf{r}) \\ \times G^{(2)}(\mathbf{R} + \mathbf{r}'/2, \mathbf{R} - \mathbf{r}'/2; \mathbf{R} + \mathbf{r}/2, \mathbf{R} - \mathbf{r}/2)$$



Atom-molecule coherence

Number of diatomic molecules in a gas

Number operator:

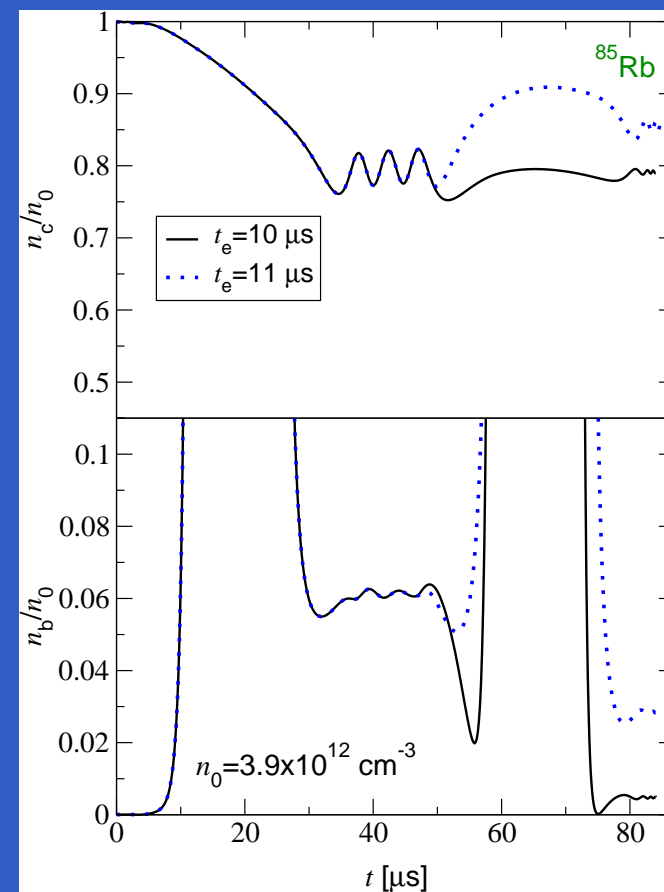
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Number of diatomic molecules:

$$N_b = \frac{1}{2} \int d\mathbf{r}' \int d\mathbf{r} \int d\mathbf{R} \phi_b(\mathbf{r}') \phi_b^*(\mathbf{r}) \\ \times G^{(2)}(\mathbf{R} + \mathbf{r}'/2, \mathbf{R} - \mathbf{r}'/2; \mathbf{R} + \mathbf{r}/2, \mathbf{R} - \mathbf{r}/2)$$



Atom-molecule coherence

Number of diatomic molecules in a gas

Number operator:

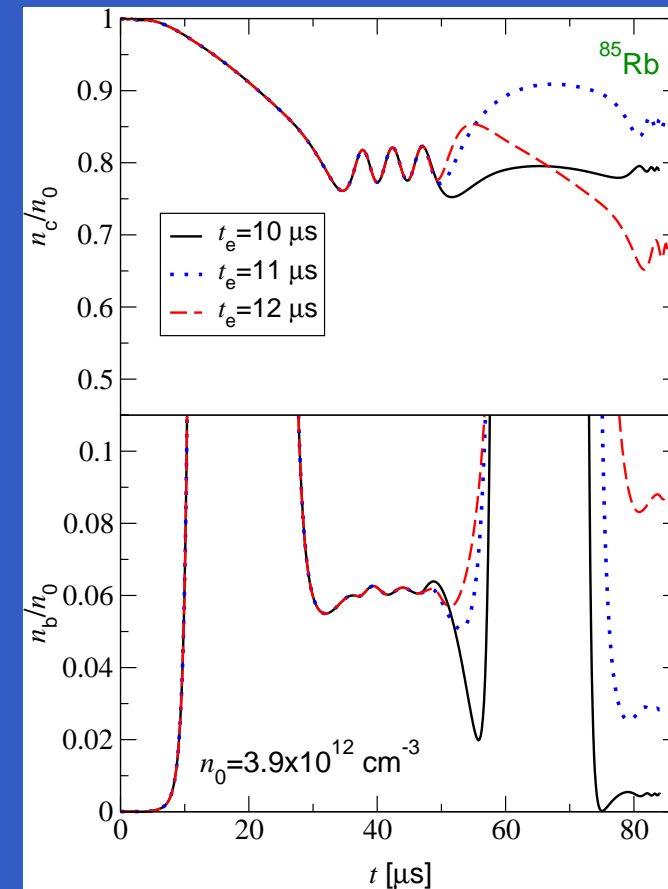
$$N_b = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\substack{i,j=1 \\ i \neq j}}^N |\phi_{ij}^b\rangle \langle \phi_{ij}^b|$$

Two-body correlation function:

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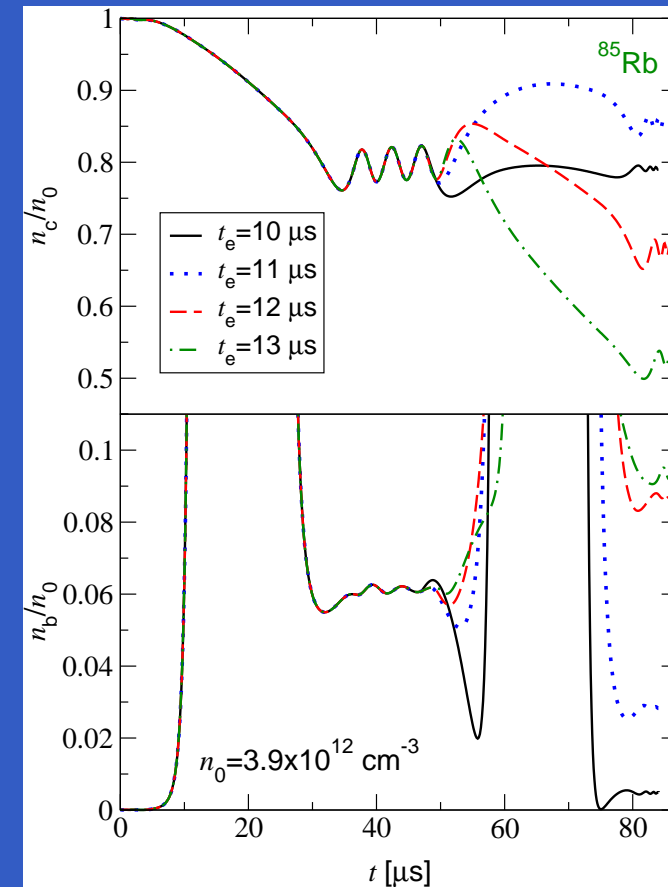
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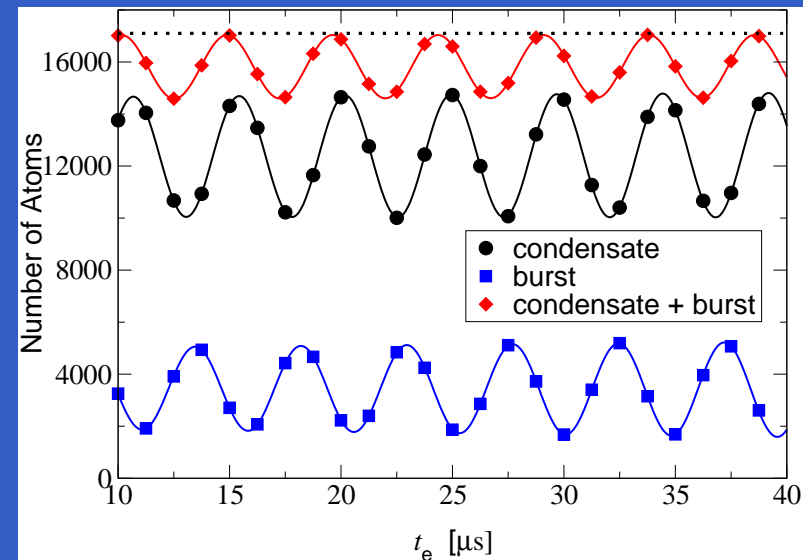


Atom-molecule coherence

Burst of atoms

Number of non-condensed atoms:

$$\begin{aligned} N_{\text{nc}}(t) &= \int d\mathbf{x} \Gamma(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}, t) \\ &= \int d\mathbf{x} \int d\mathbf{y} |\Phi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, t)|^2 \end{aligned}$$



Atom-molecule coherence

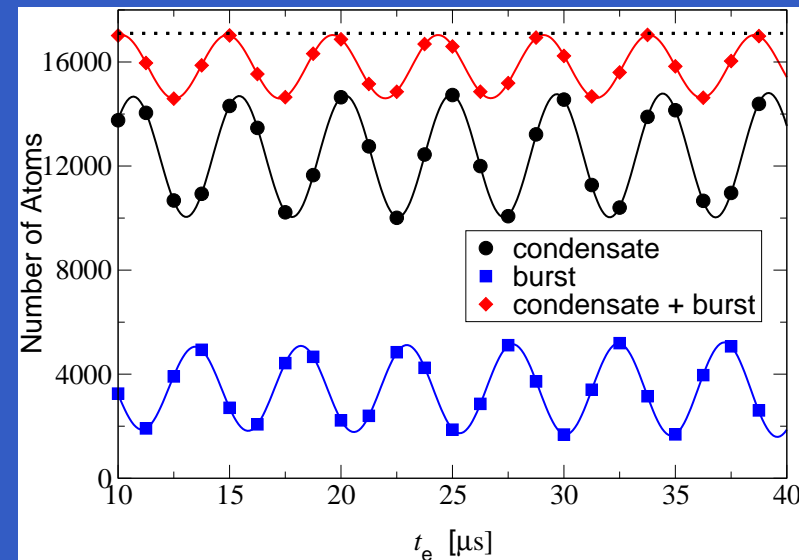
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Total number of atoms:

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Atom-molecule coherence

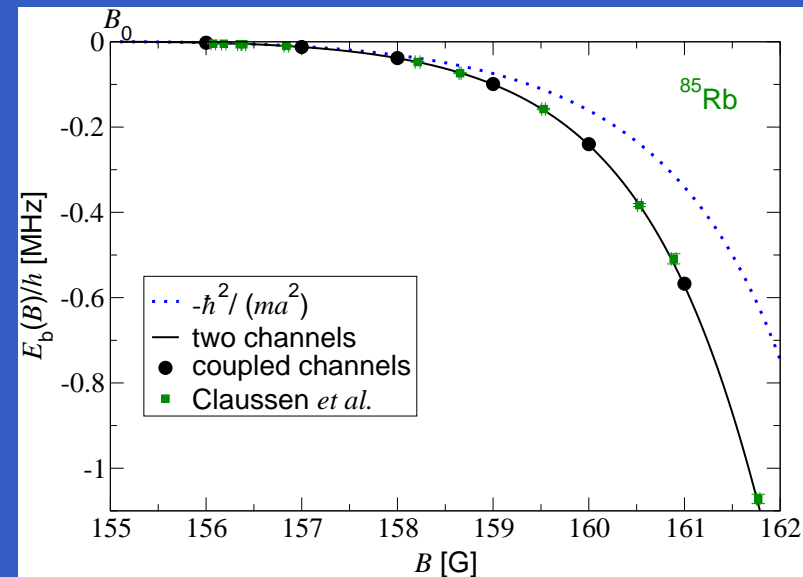
Oscillation frequencies determine bound-state energies!

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N.R. Claussen, S.J.J.M.F. Kokkelmans, S.T. Thompson, E.A. Donley, E. Hodby, and C.E. Wieman,
PRA **67**, 060701(R) (2003)

Atom-molecule coherence

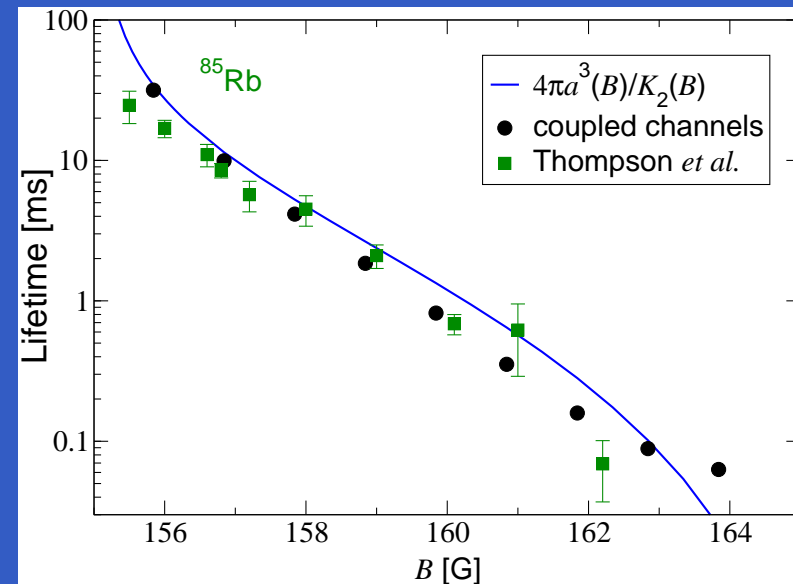
Why are the Feshbach molecules undetectable?

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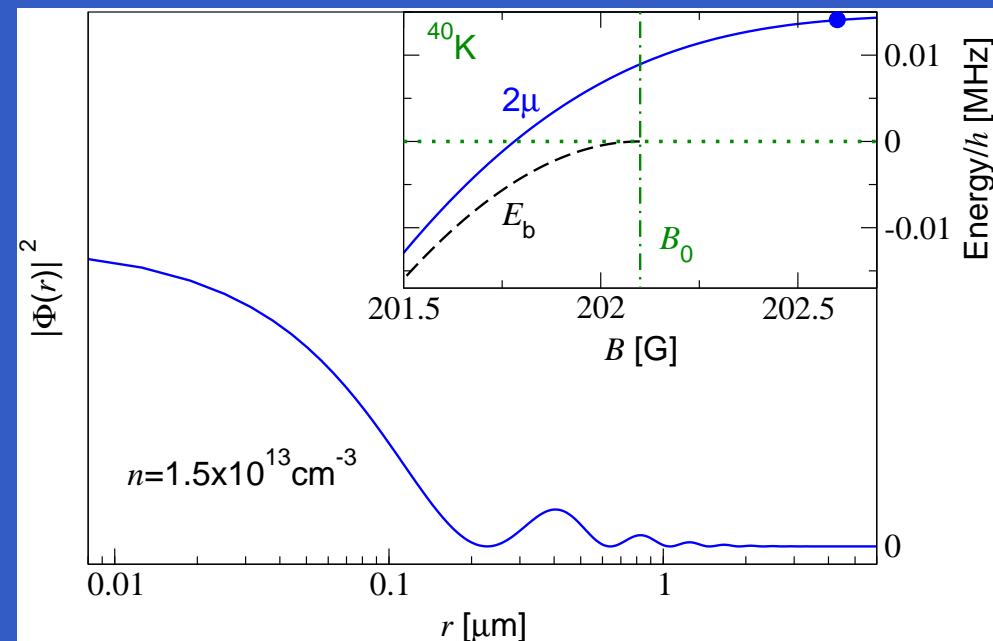
Experiment: S.T. Thompson, E. Hodby, and C.E. Wieman, PRL **94**, 020401 (2005)

Theory: TK, E. Tiesinga, and P.S. Julienne, PRL **94**, 020402 (2005)

Outlook: Pairing in correlated gases

Pairing in two-spin-component Fermi gases

- Twice the chemical potential, 2μ , approaches E_b , as the magnetic-field strength B crosses the resonance position, B_0 .
- The pair function is transferred smoothly into the Feshbach molecule.

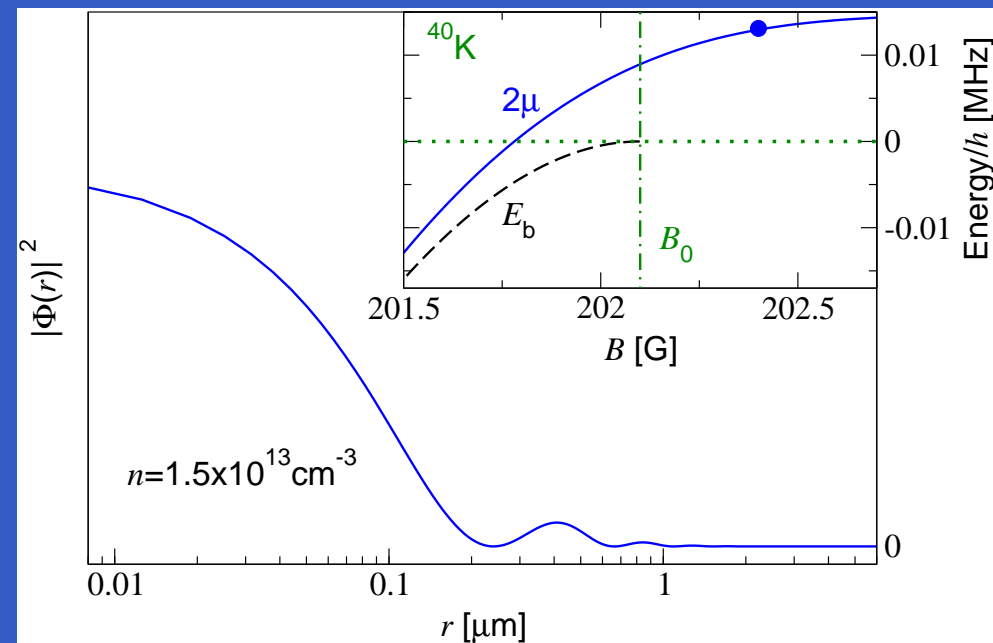


This calculation: M.H. Szymańska, K. Góral, TK, and K. Burnett, PRA **72**, 013610 (2005)
See also: M.H. Szymańska, B.D. Simons, and K. Burnett, PRL **94**, 170402 (2005)

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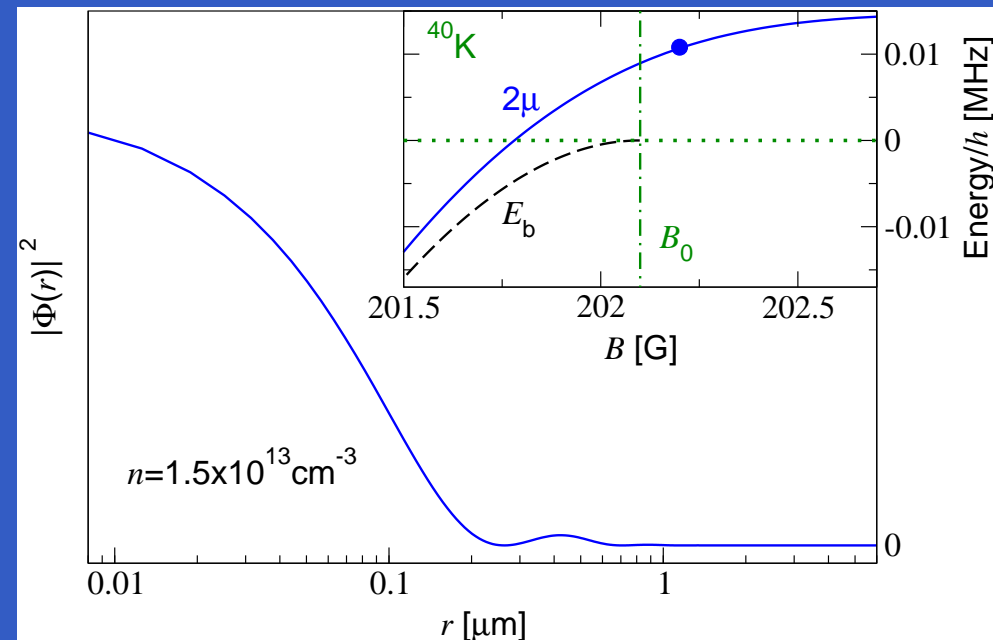
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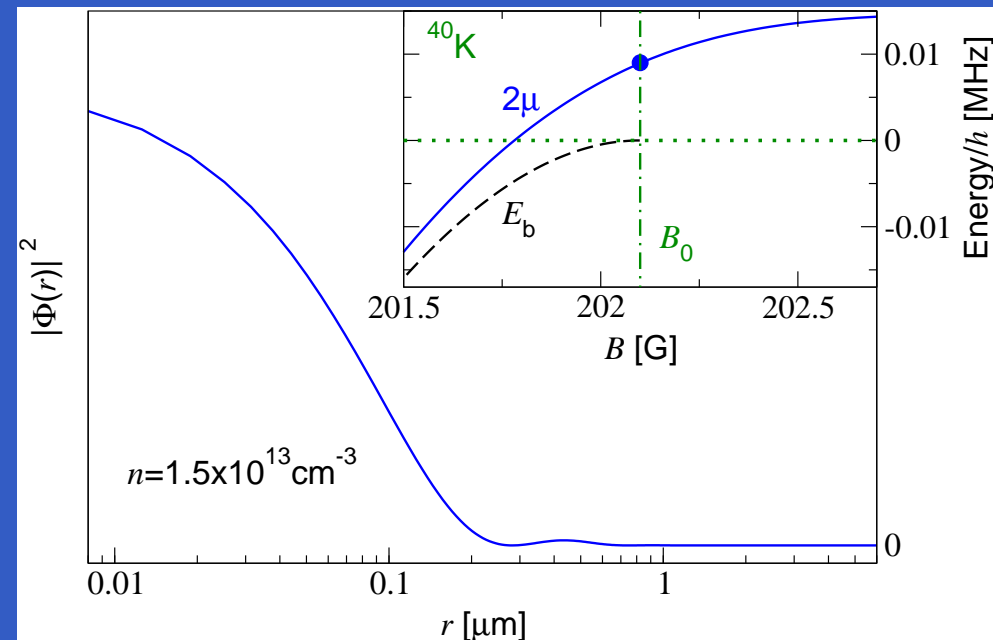


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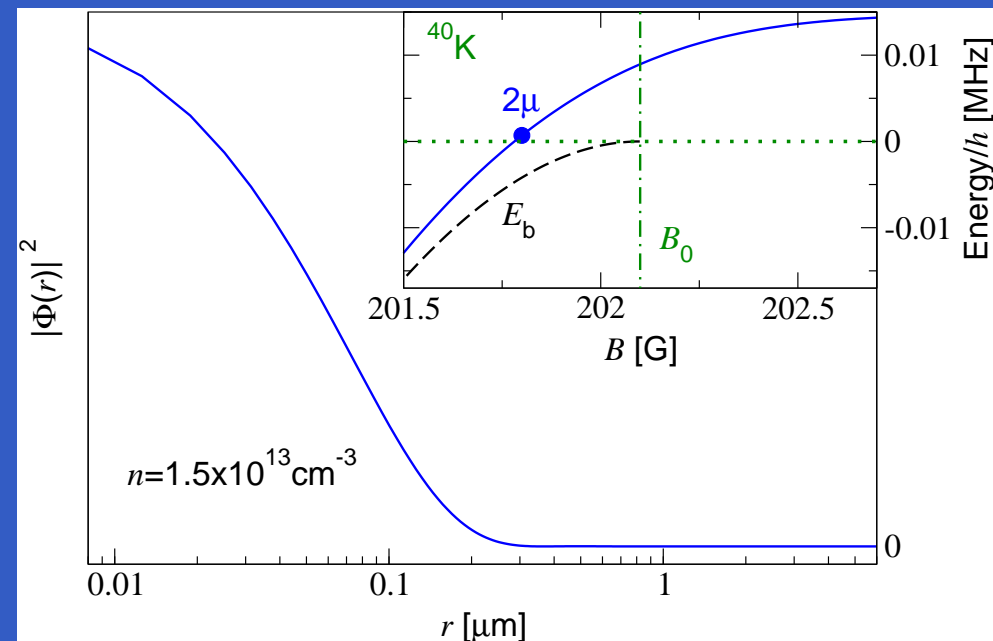


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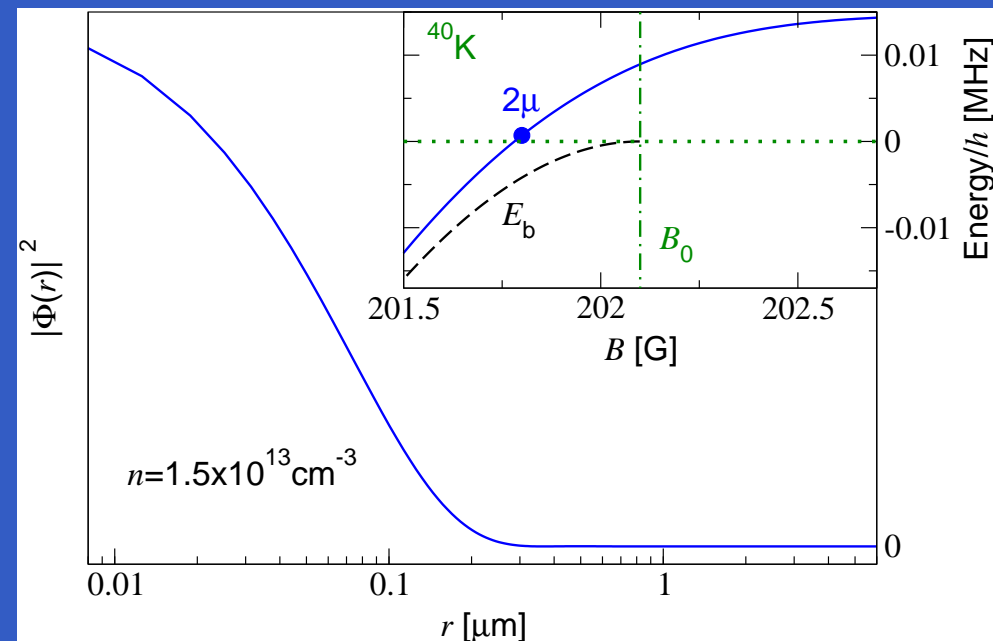


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- In the mean-field approximation at zero temperature an atomic gas is converted adiabatically into a molecular Bose-Einstein condensate.



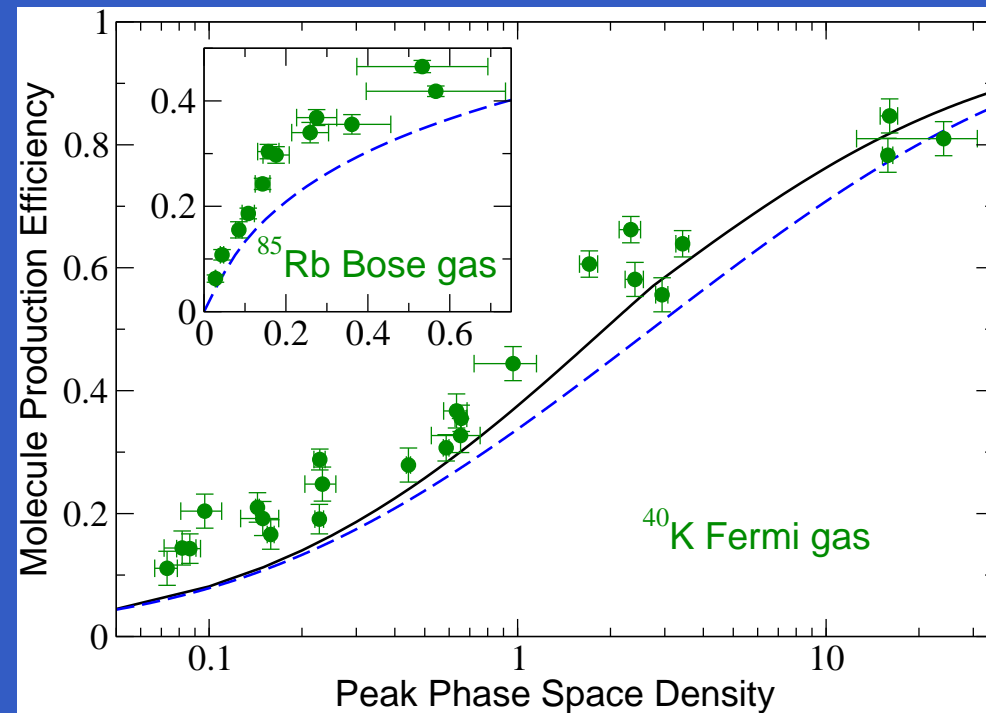
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This experiment: E. Hodby *et al.*, PRL **94**, 120402 (2005)

This theory: J.E. Williams, N. Nygaard, and C.W. Clark, New J. Phys. **8**, 150 (2006)

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