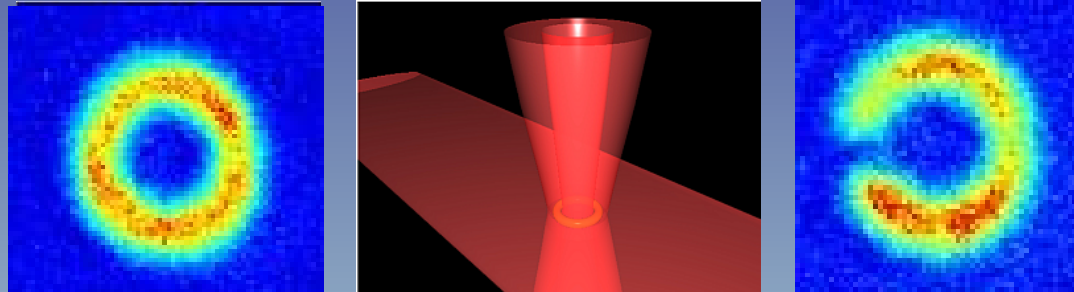


Atom Circuits

Pt I: Persistent Currents in a Toroidal BEC



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KITP

September 21, 2010



NIST



BEC and topology?

Reduced dimensionality or topological constraints can give rise to different collective phenomena

Interesting effects in toroidal traps

- Soliton propagation and collisions
- Superfluidity
- Superflow (persistent current)
hallmark of superfluidity and superconductivity
- Superpositions of macroscopic flow
SQUID analog (weak-link, Josephson junction)
- Interferometry/Sensors

Superfluidity vs Superconductivity

- Hallmark of both is persistent flow (current).
- Vorticity and vortex lattices are closely related to persistent current, but flow in a multiply-connected region (e.g., a torus) is a qualitatively different situation.
- We intend to study non-trivial circuits of superfluid in toroidal geometries to better understand:

analogies to superconductors

the nature of superfluidity

dynamic control of circuit parameters

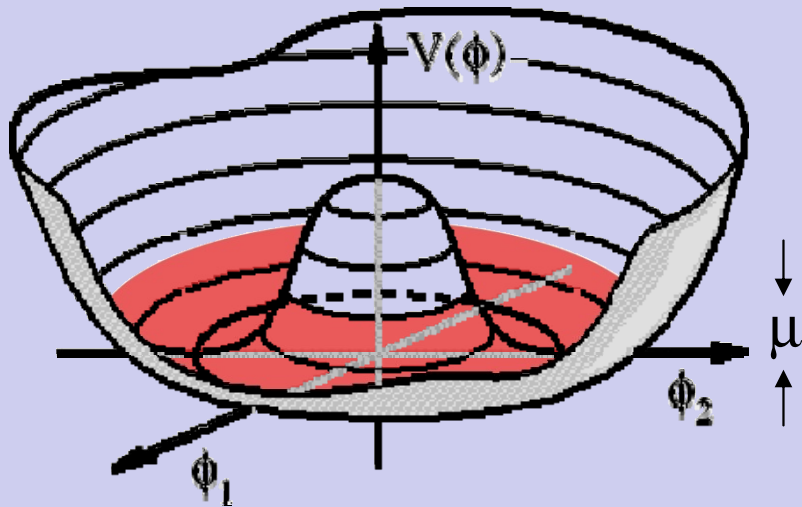
vortex tunneling and other vortex behavior

...

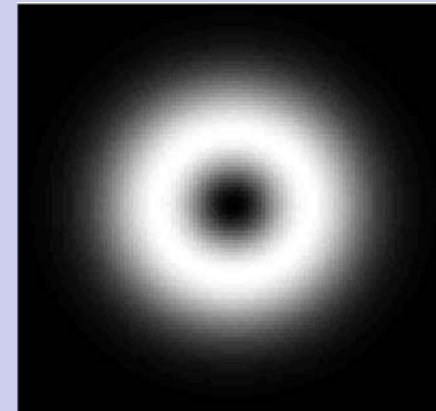
Toroidal or Ring-shaped Traps

Example:

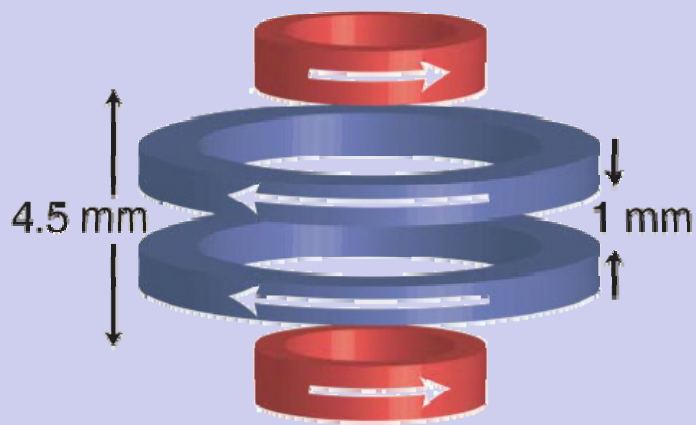
Mexican hat potential



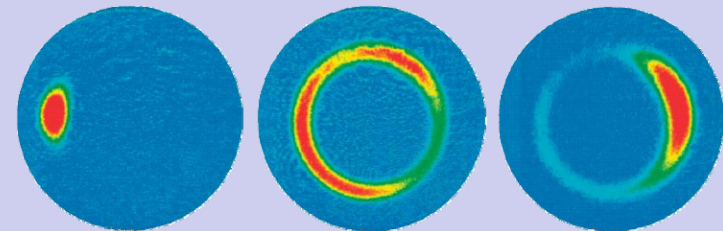
with Laguerre-Gaussian
or Bessel beams



Wright, Arlt, Dholakia, PRA 63, 013608 (2001)



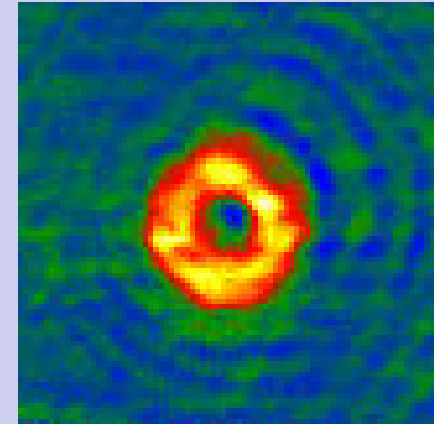
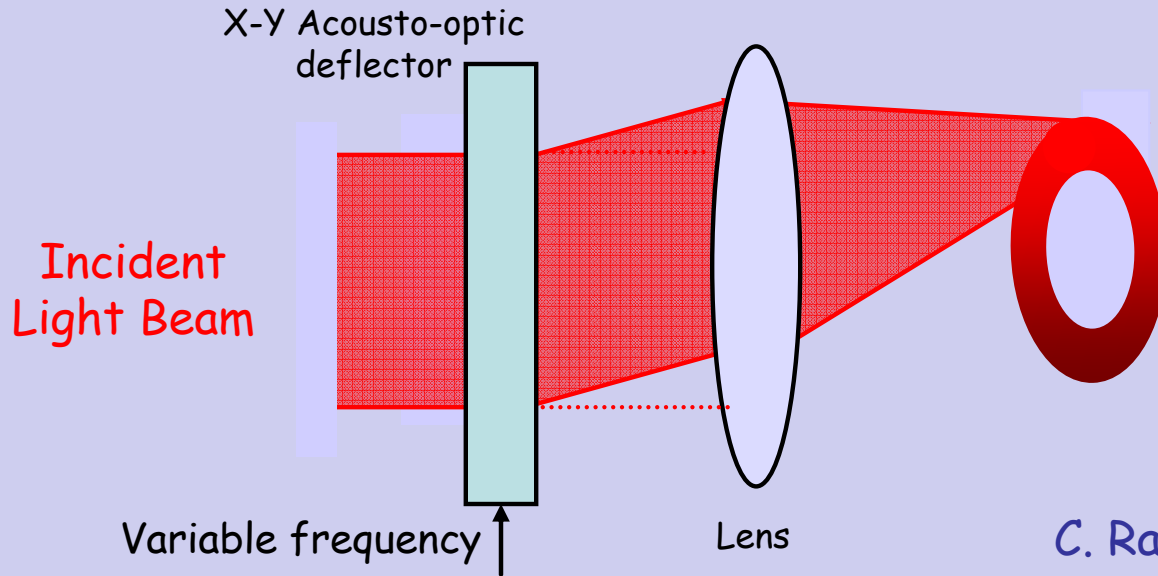
TORT



UC Berkeley - S. Gupta *et al.*, PRL 95, 143201 (2005)
U. Strathclyde- A. S. Arnold *et al.*, PRA 73, 041606(R) (2006)

More toroidal traps

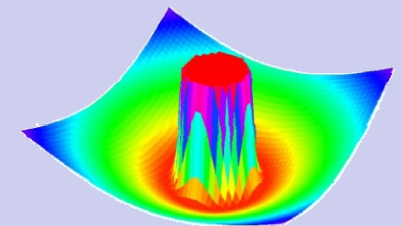
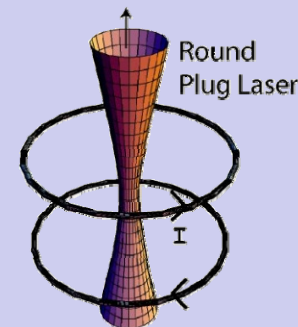
Time averaged potential by rapidly scanning a laser beam



C. Raman and S. R. Muniz - GeorgiaTech

Another approach - plug magnetic trap with blue-detuned laser beam

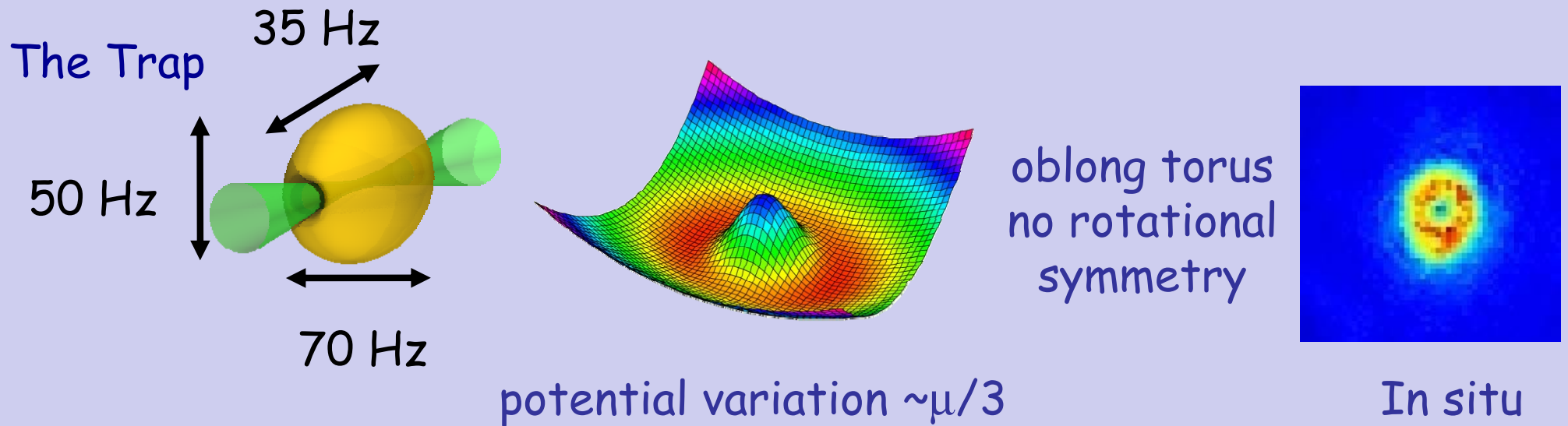
Quadrupole magnetic trap (linear potential) and focused Gaussian laser beam



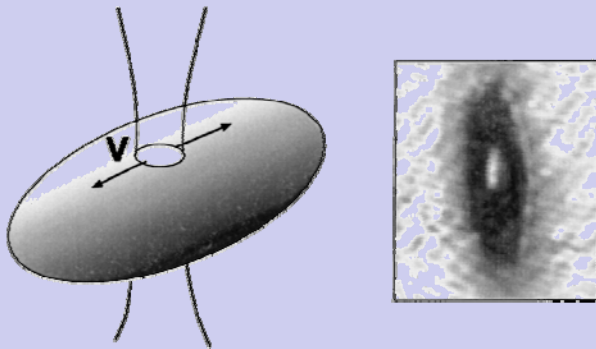
K.B. Davis *et al.*, PRL 75, 3969 (1995)

D.S. Naik and C. Raman, PRA 71, 033617 (2005)

BEC in a toroidal shaped trap



Earlier realization used to measure onset of dissipationless flow



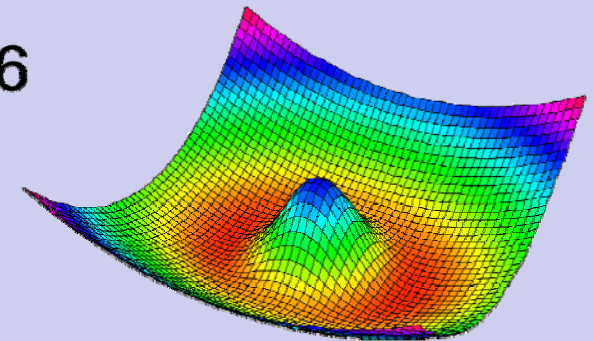
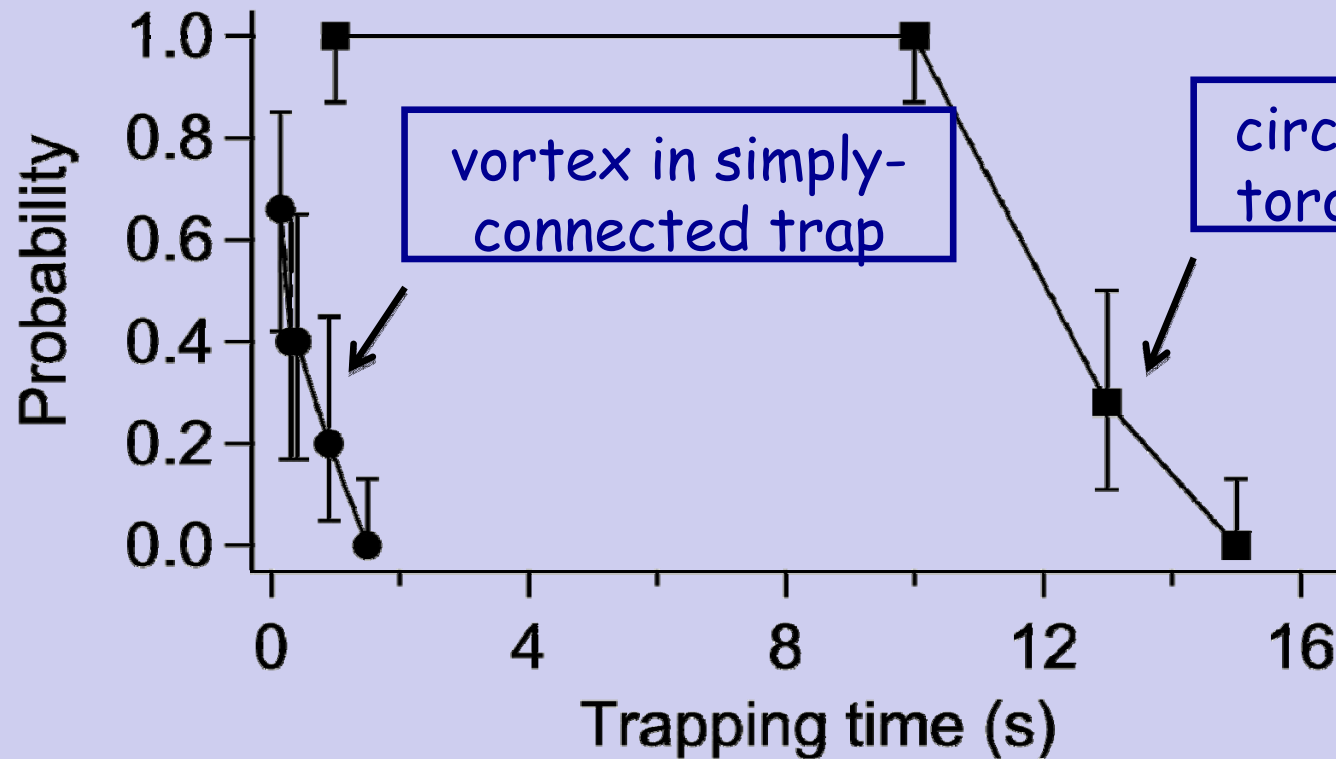
C. Raman *et al.* PRL 83, 2502 (1999).

R. Onofrio *et al.* PRL 85, 2228 (2000).

We generate flow by transferring the orbital angular momentum of light to the atoms

Vortex stability

Apply LG-G Bragg pulse to generate rotation (100% efficient)

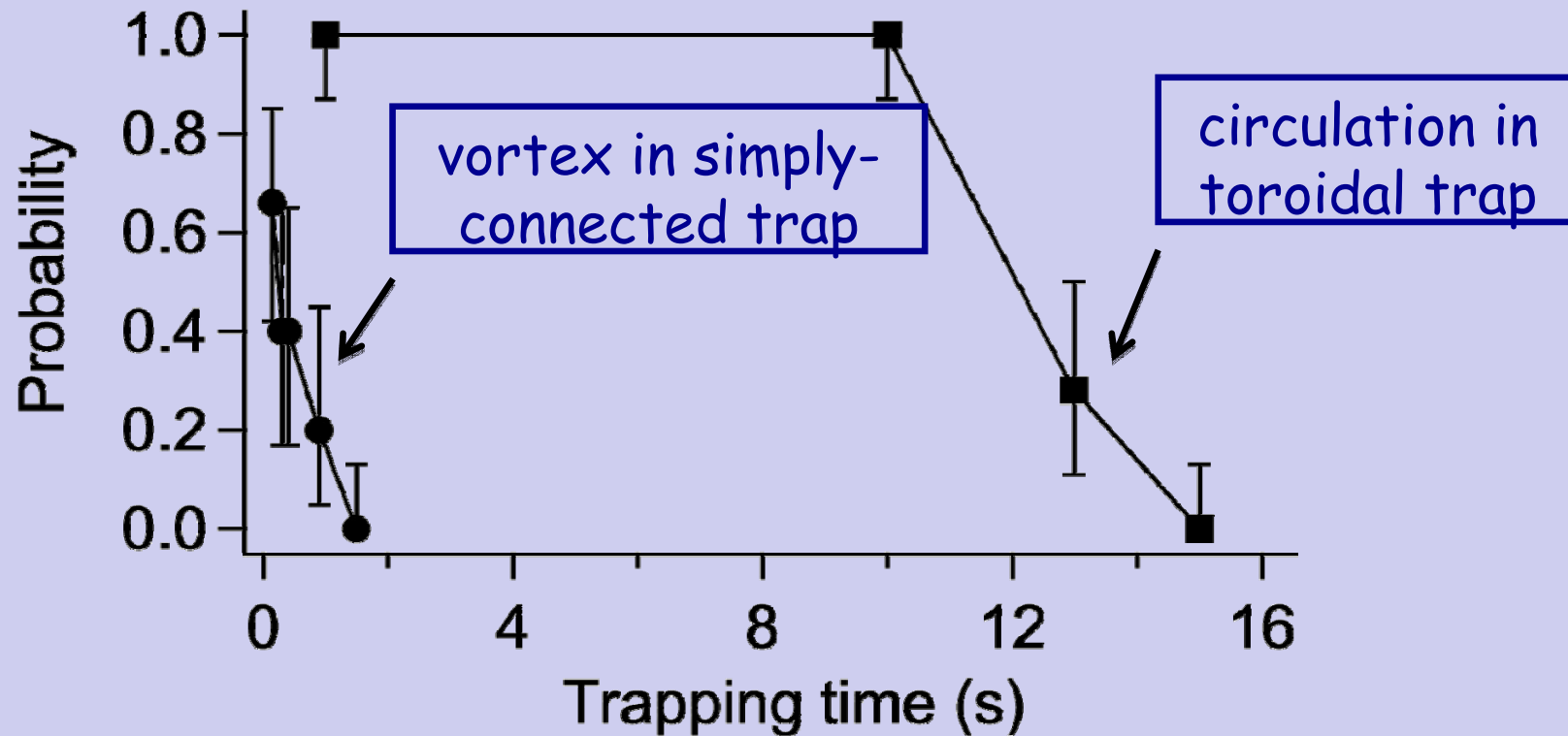


optically pierced magnetic trap

- Direct evidence of superflow lasting 10 seconds
- Flow lifetime limited by technical reasons

Vortex stability

Apply LG-G Bragg pulse to generate rotation (100% efficient)



For better stability: all-optical trap design.



In a toroid, we can introduce circuit elements, like Josephson junctions.

New NIST all-optical toroidal trap for BEC

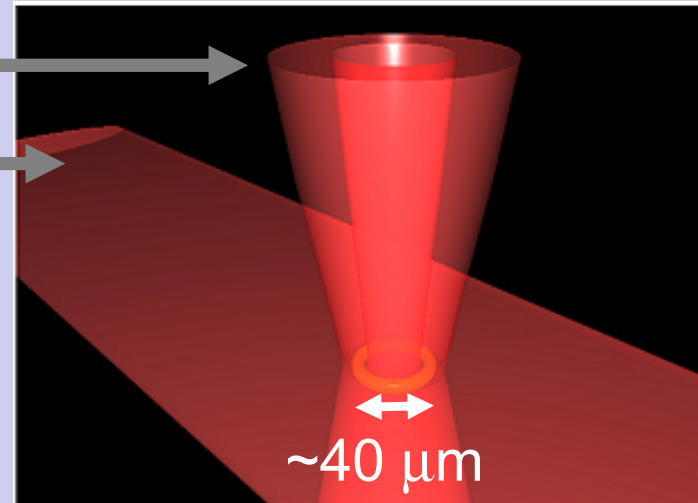
LG₀₁ 'Ring' beam

'Sheet' beam

Uniform to:

< 0.5% of typical depth

< 10% of typical μ



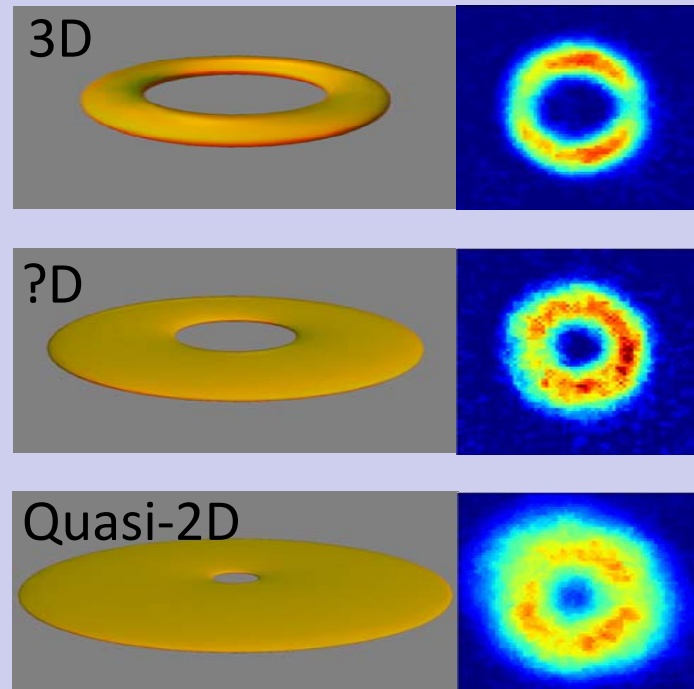
ω_z : 500-2000 Hz

ω_R : 20-160 Hz

$N \sim 1.5 \times 10^5$ atoms

$\mu \sim 50$ nK (1 kHz)

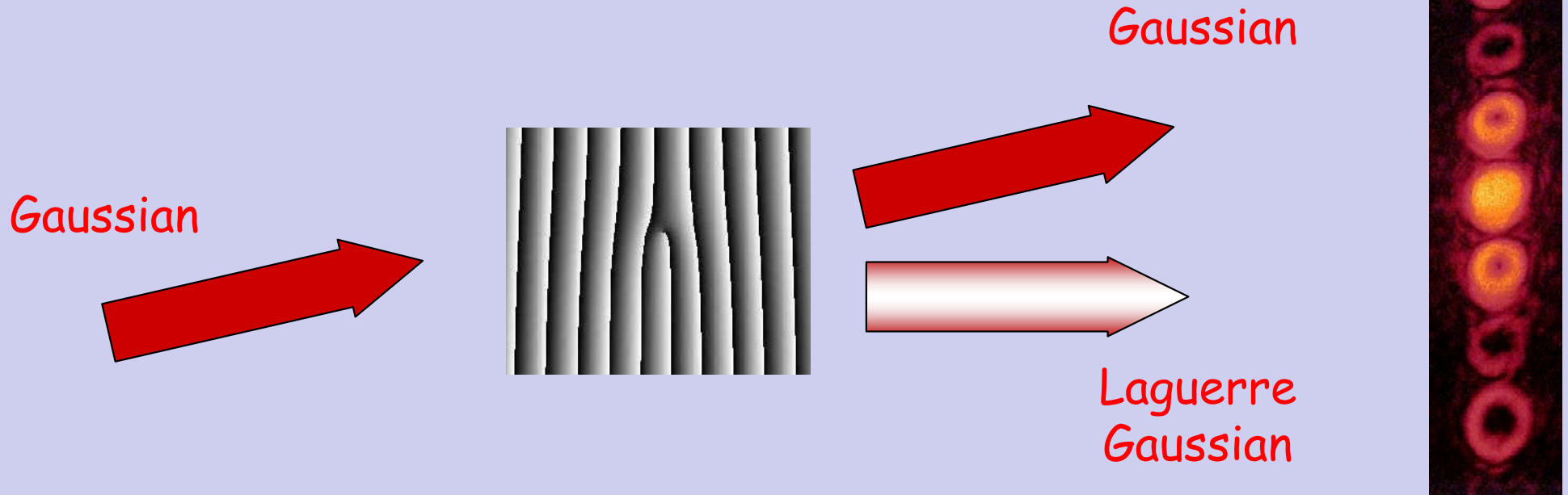
$T < 40$ nK



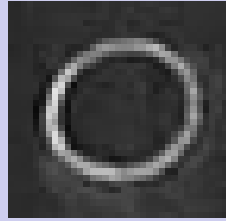
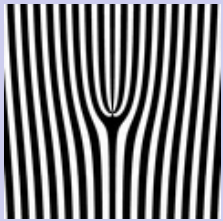
Generation of Laguerre-Gaussian beams

Diffraction gratings with phase singularities

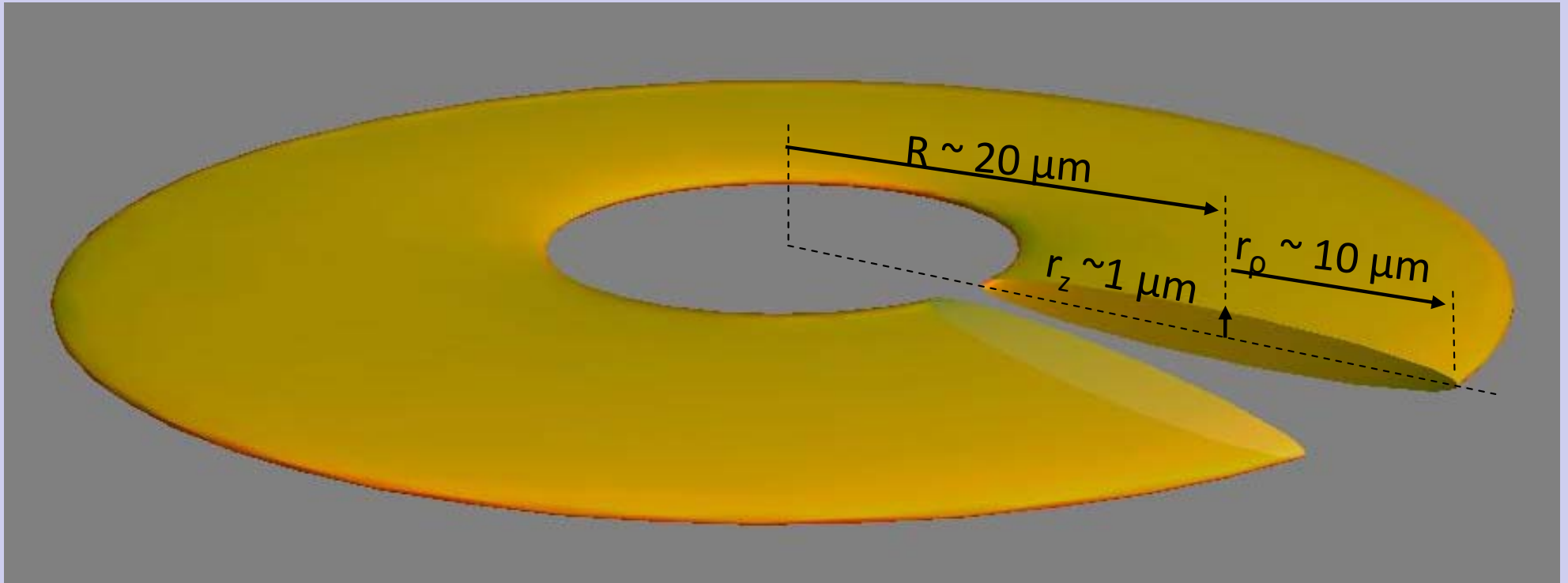
Computer generated holograms, SLM



$l = 4$



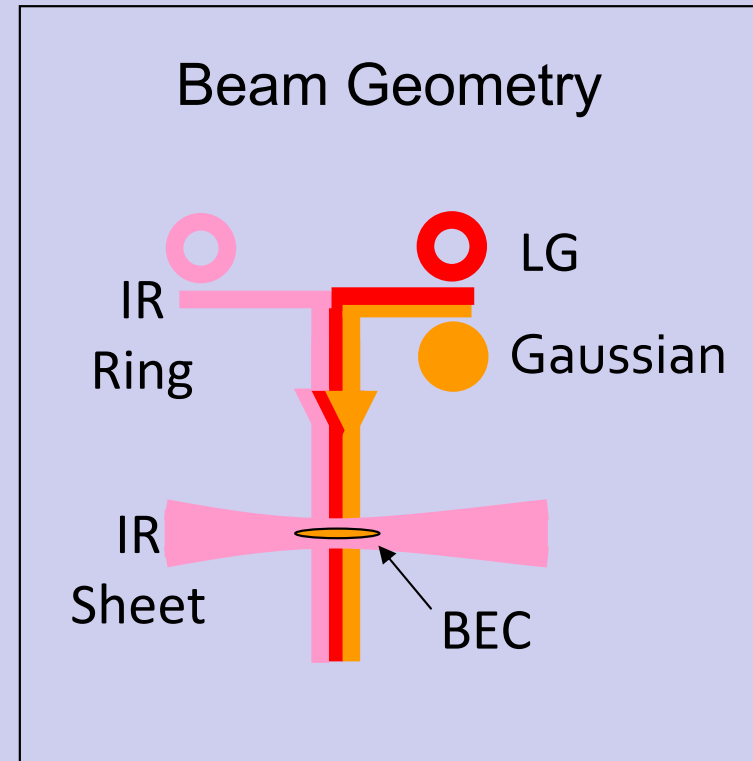
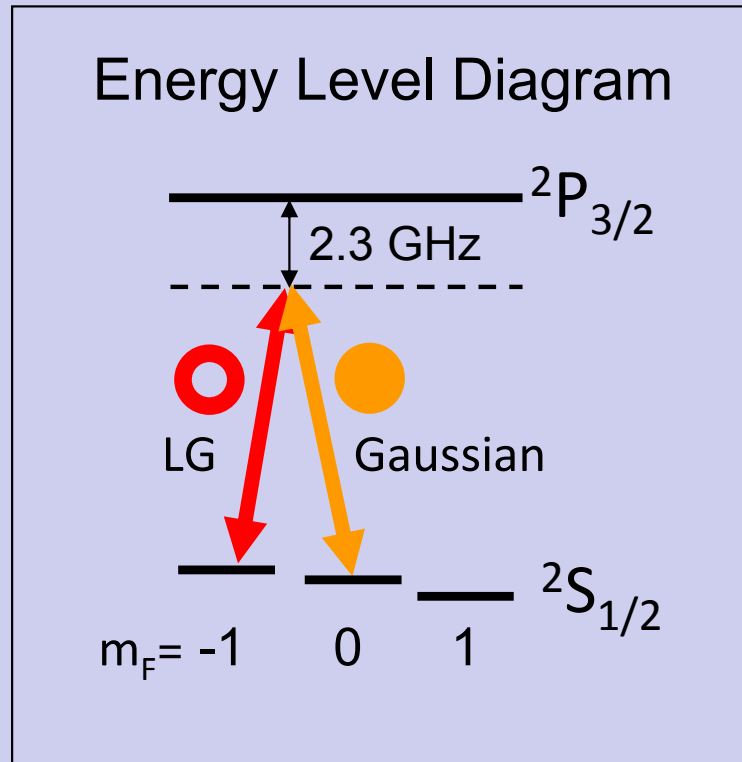
Typical Trap (BEC) Geometry



Vertical trap frequency $\sim 500 \text{ Hz}$
'Radial' trap frequency $\sim 100 \text{ Hz}$
 $T < 40 \text{ nK}$

$N \sim 1.5 \times 10^5 \text{ atoms}$
 $\rho \sim 5 \times 10^{13} \text{ atoms/cm}^3$
 $\mu \sim 1 \text{ kHz}$

Inducing Circulation with OAM Beams

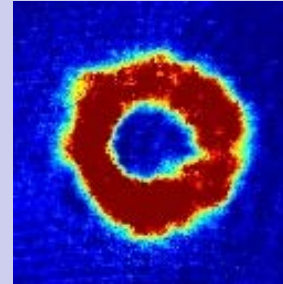


- Raman transfer (angular momentum only!)
- > 90% to final (circulating) state
- Negligible radial excitation of BEC
- Higher circulation states & circulating spin mixtures

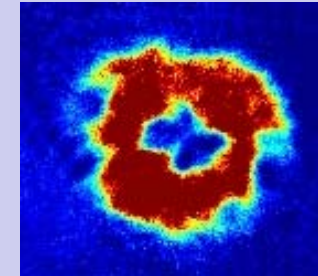
First attempts at persistent current

Sequence:

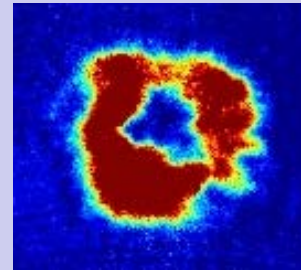
- Start with BEC
- Transfer rotation
- hold 1-20 ms
- 4 ms time-of-flight.
- Image



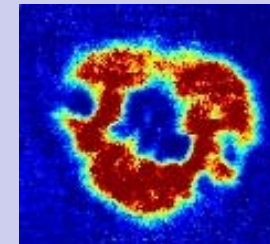
1 ms



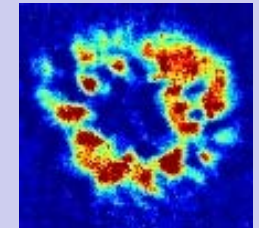
3 ms



5 ms



10 ms

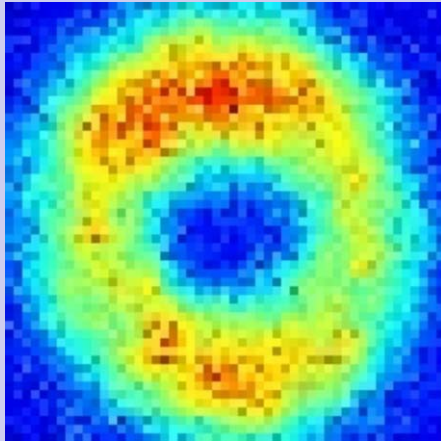


20 ms

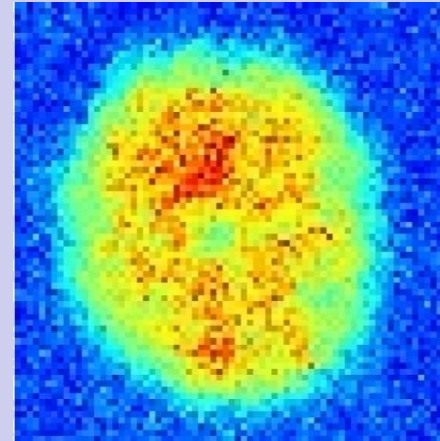
- High-spatial-frequency creates non-uniformities in the potential
- In time-of flight: variations in mean-field energy produce spatial phase fluctuations.

All optical trap: take two

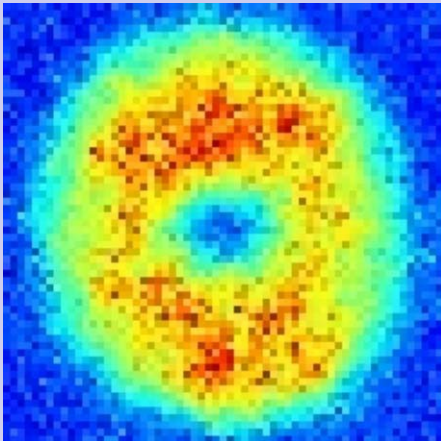
In-Situ



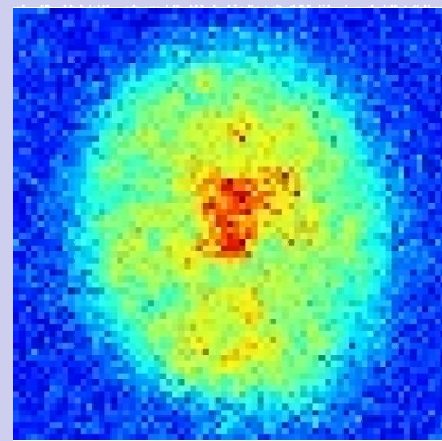
4ms tof



2ms tof

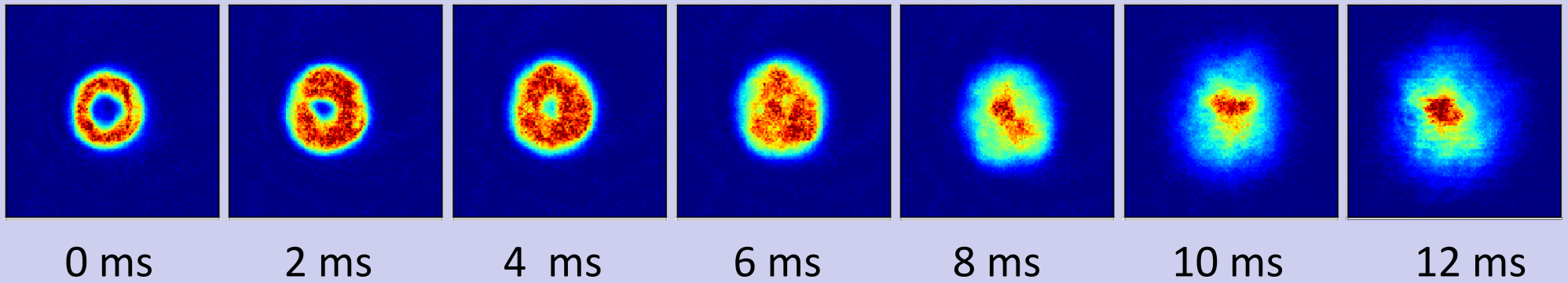


6ms tof

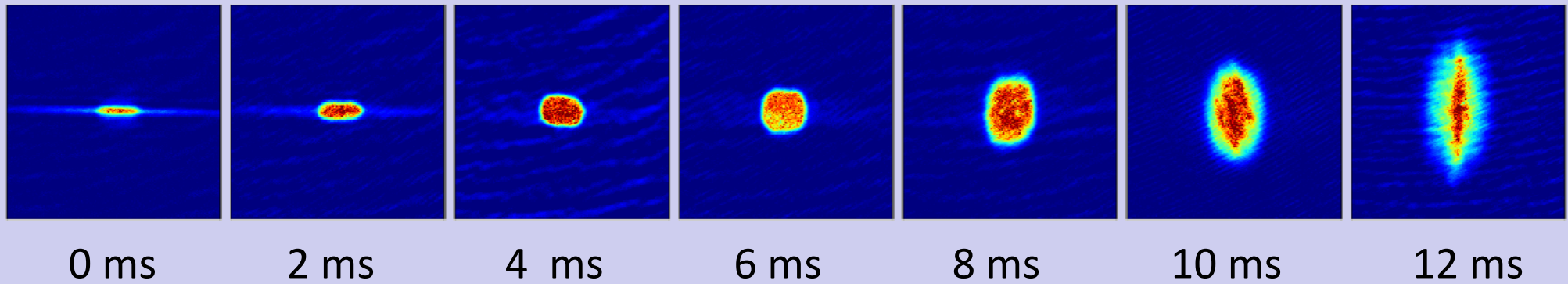


TOF Expansion of the Ring

Top View



Side View



Detecting Circulation in TOF

Ring
Beam
Power

0 ms

2 ms

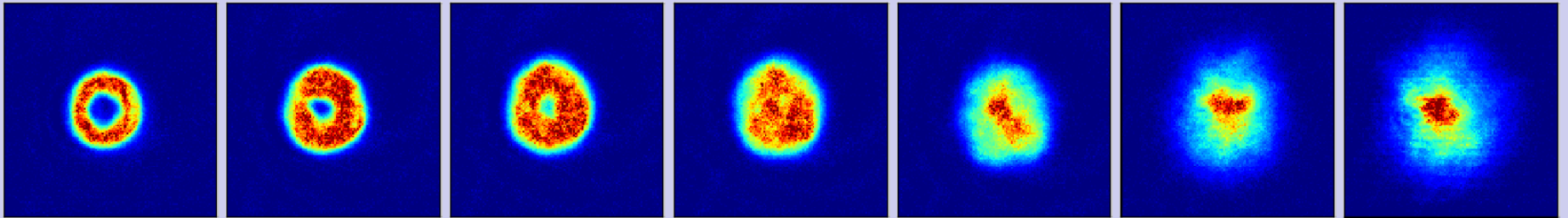
3 ms

4 ms

6 ms

10 ms

12 ms



Hold at
77mW
(100%)

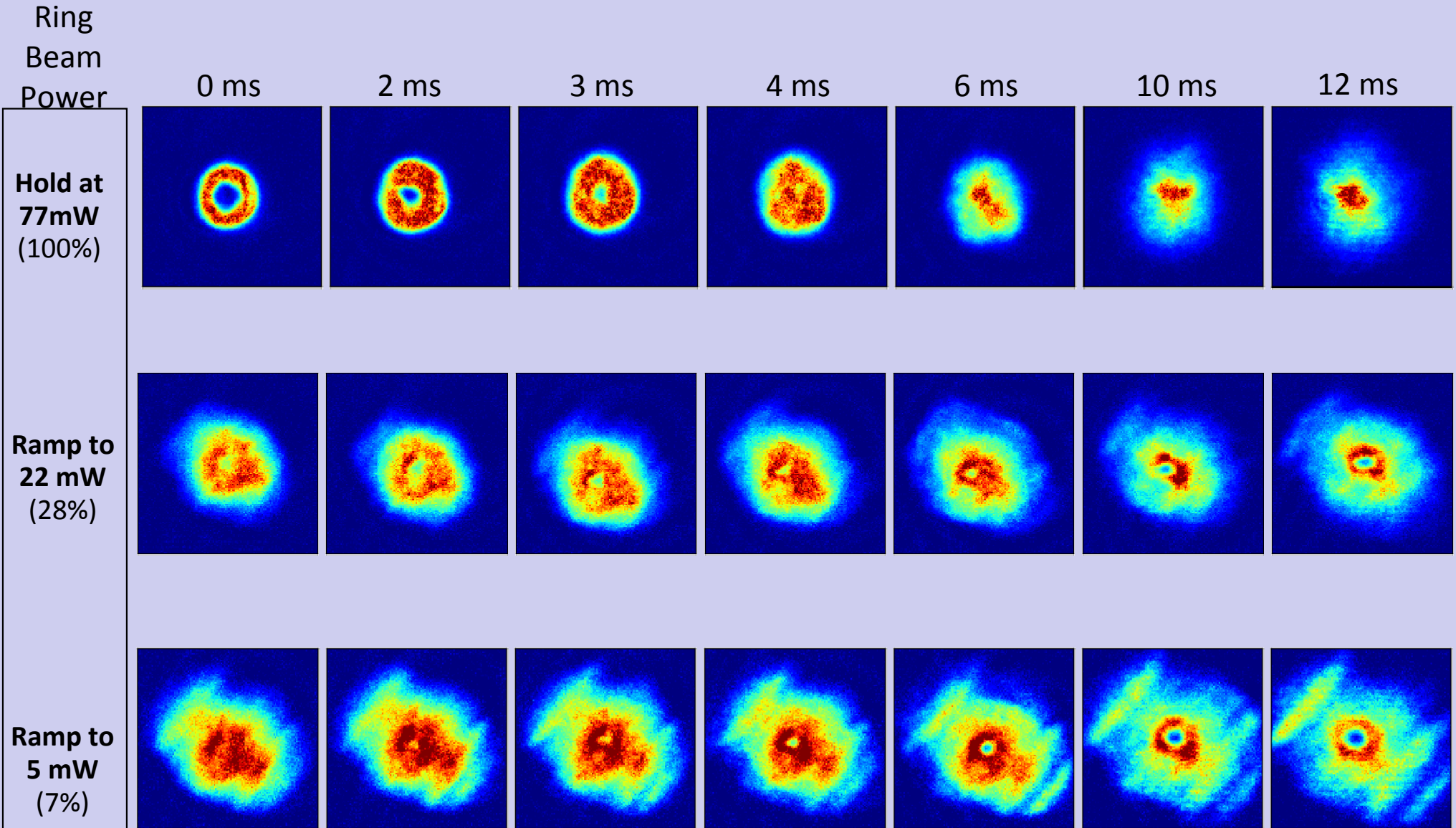
Detecting Circulation: Radial Relaxation and TOF Expansion



Finite-element 2D GPE simulation
with scaled interaction strength

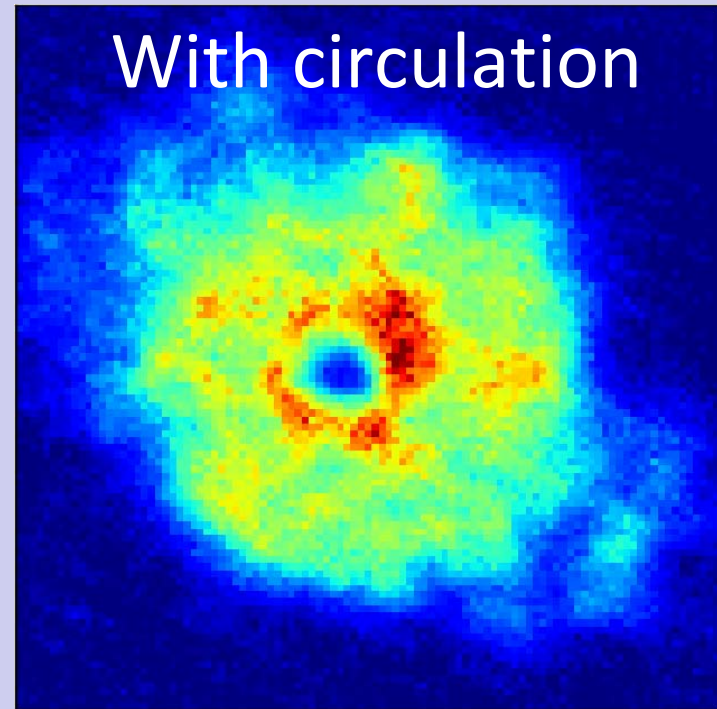
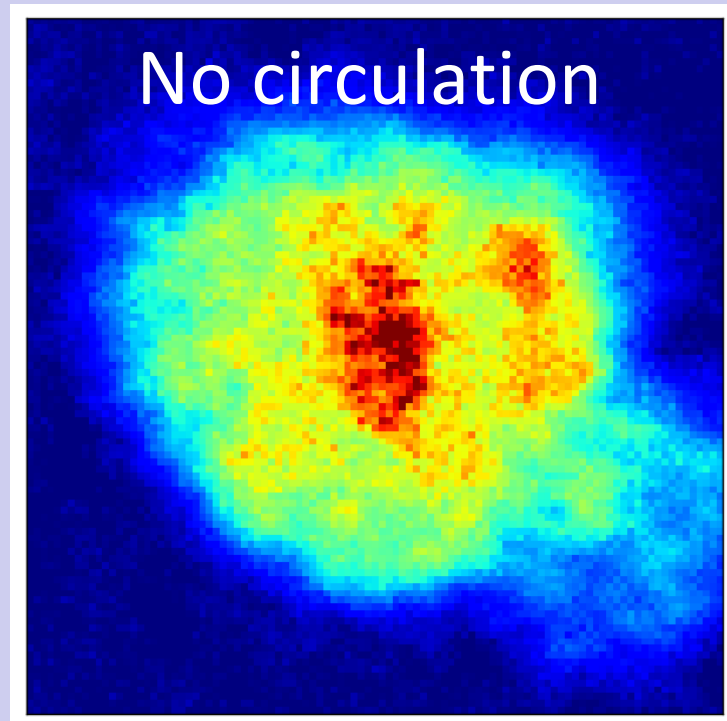
Detecting Circulation in TOF

Ramp down the radial confinement over 50 ms before release



Detecting Circulation in TOF

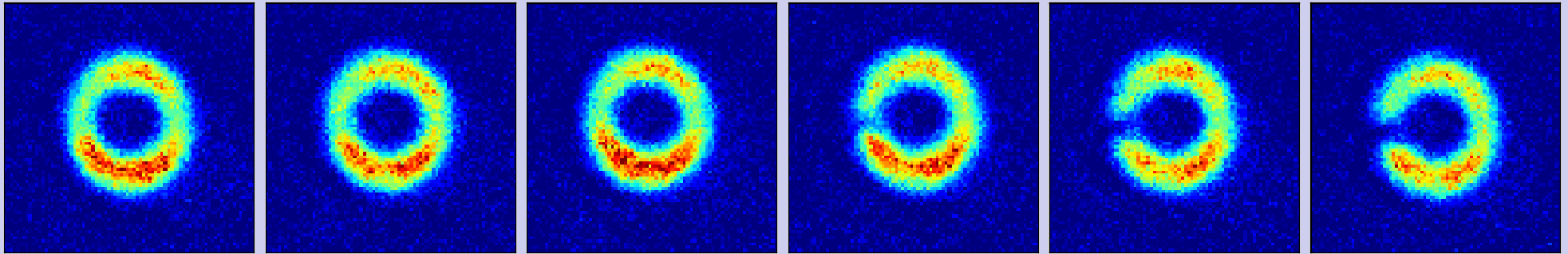
(Images taken after 10 ms expansion)



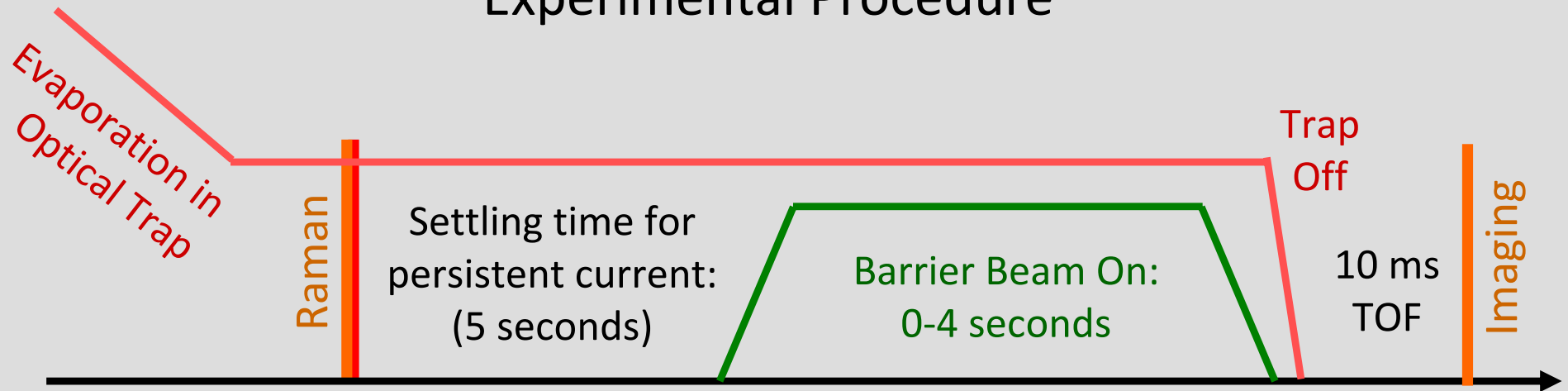
*Circulation is robust for up to **40 seconds***

Limited by: Vacuum (~30 sec. BEC lifetime)
Trap nonuniformity (<5 nK)

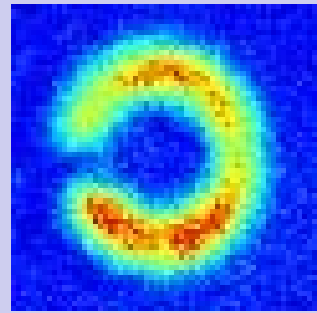
Breaking the Flow With a Barrier



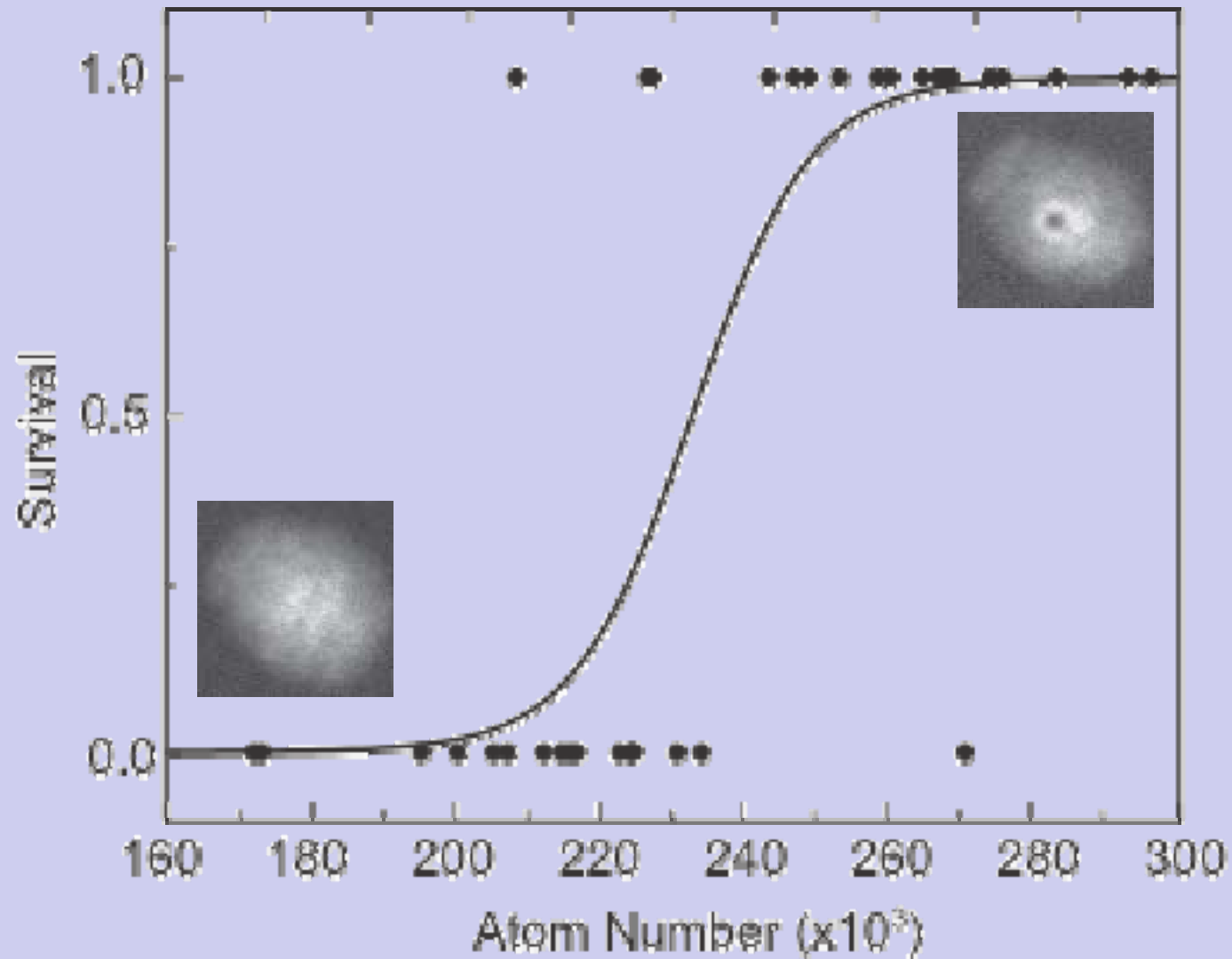
Experimental Procedure



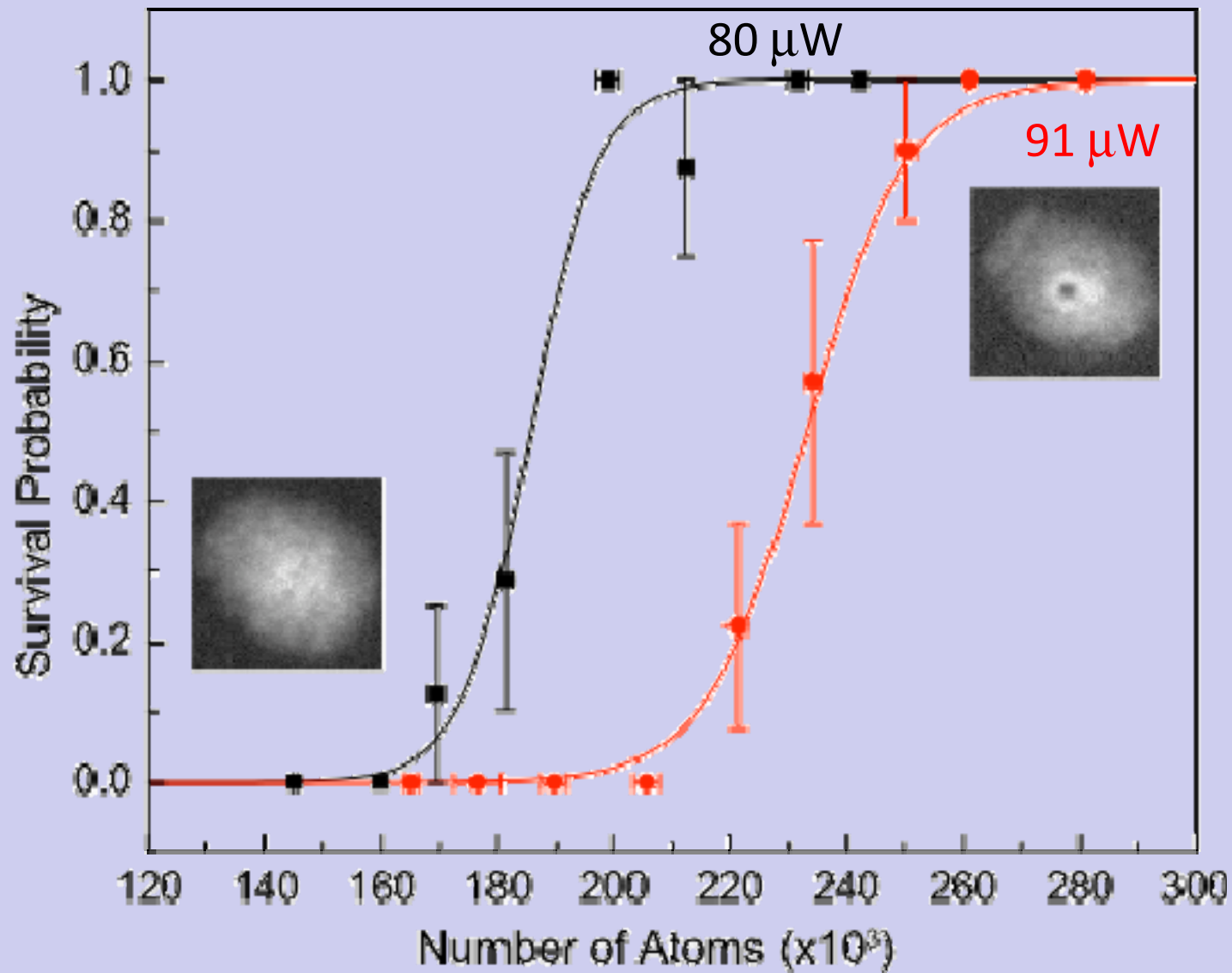
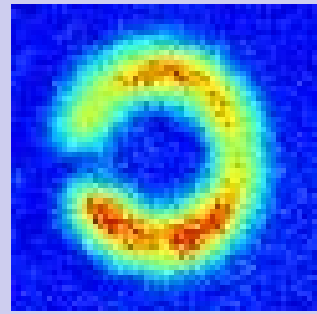
Critical Velocity for superfluid flow



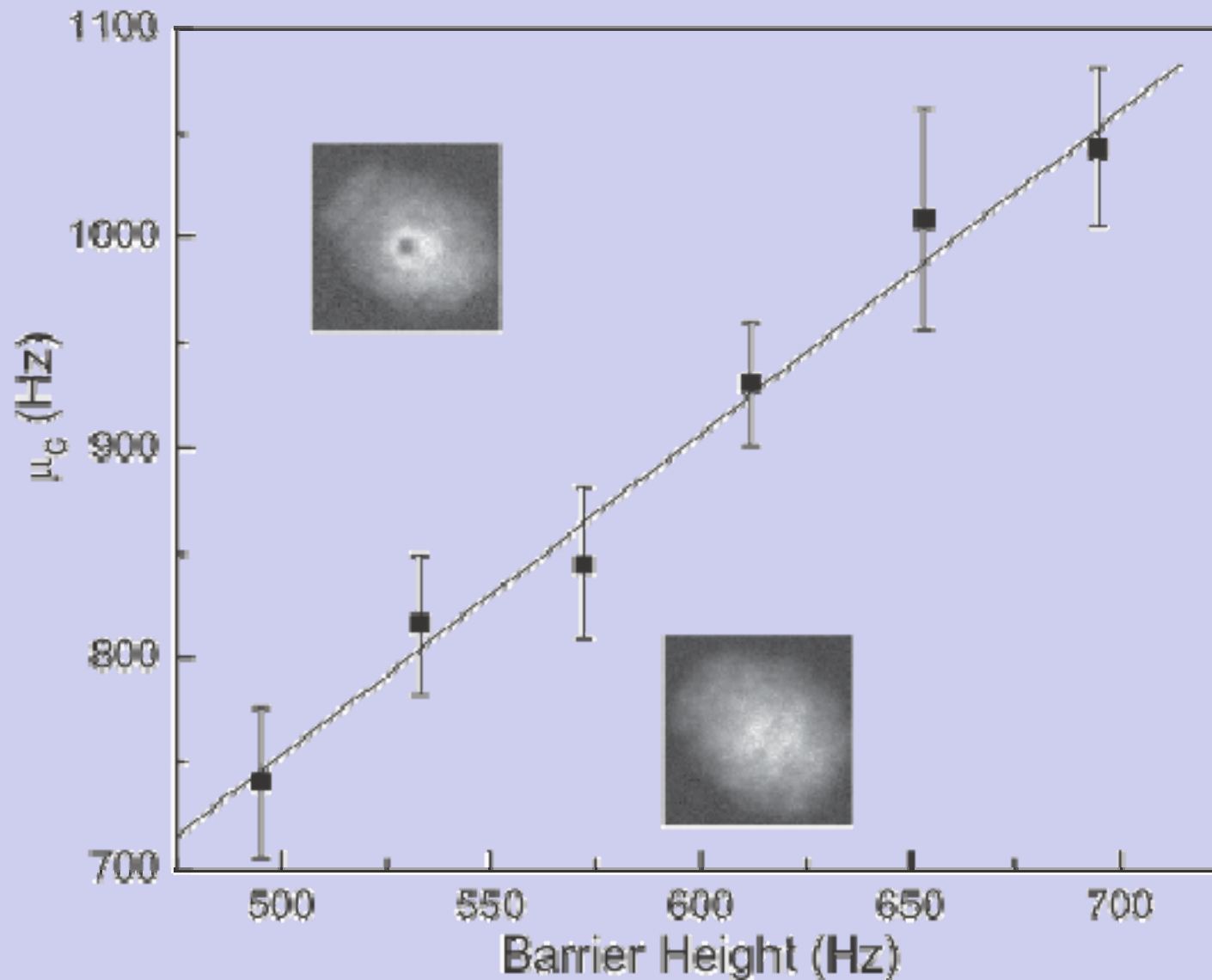
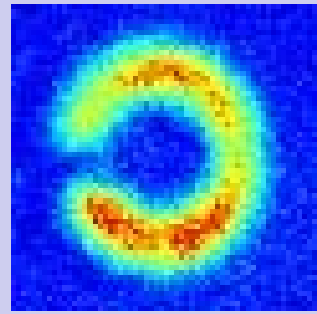
Constant barrier, vary atom number:



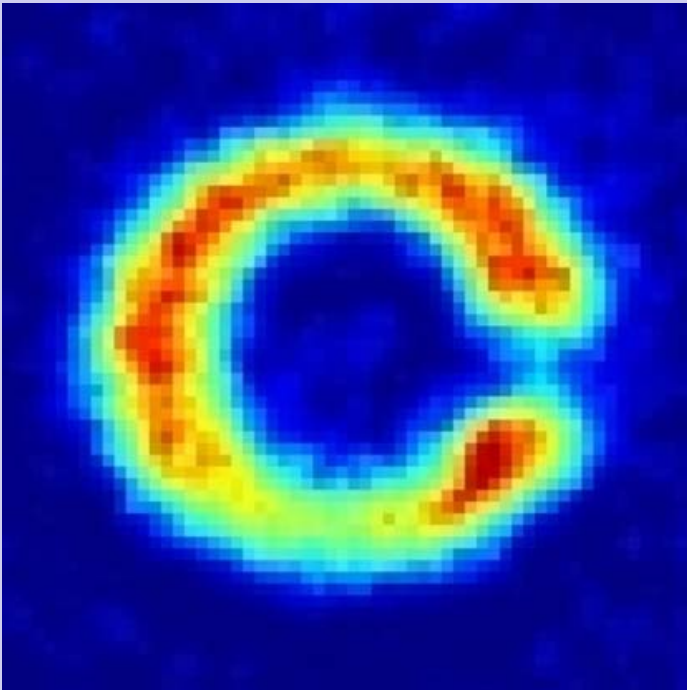
Critical Velocity for superfluid flow



Critical Velocity for superfluid flow



Calculating the critical velocity



Diameter of Ring: $\sim 40 \mu\text{m}$
Annular width of ring: $\sim 5 \mu\text{m}$
Width of barrier: $\sim 5 \mu\text{m}$
Healing Length: $\sim 1 \mu\text{m}$

Constraints:

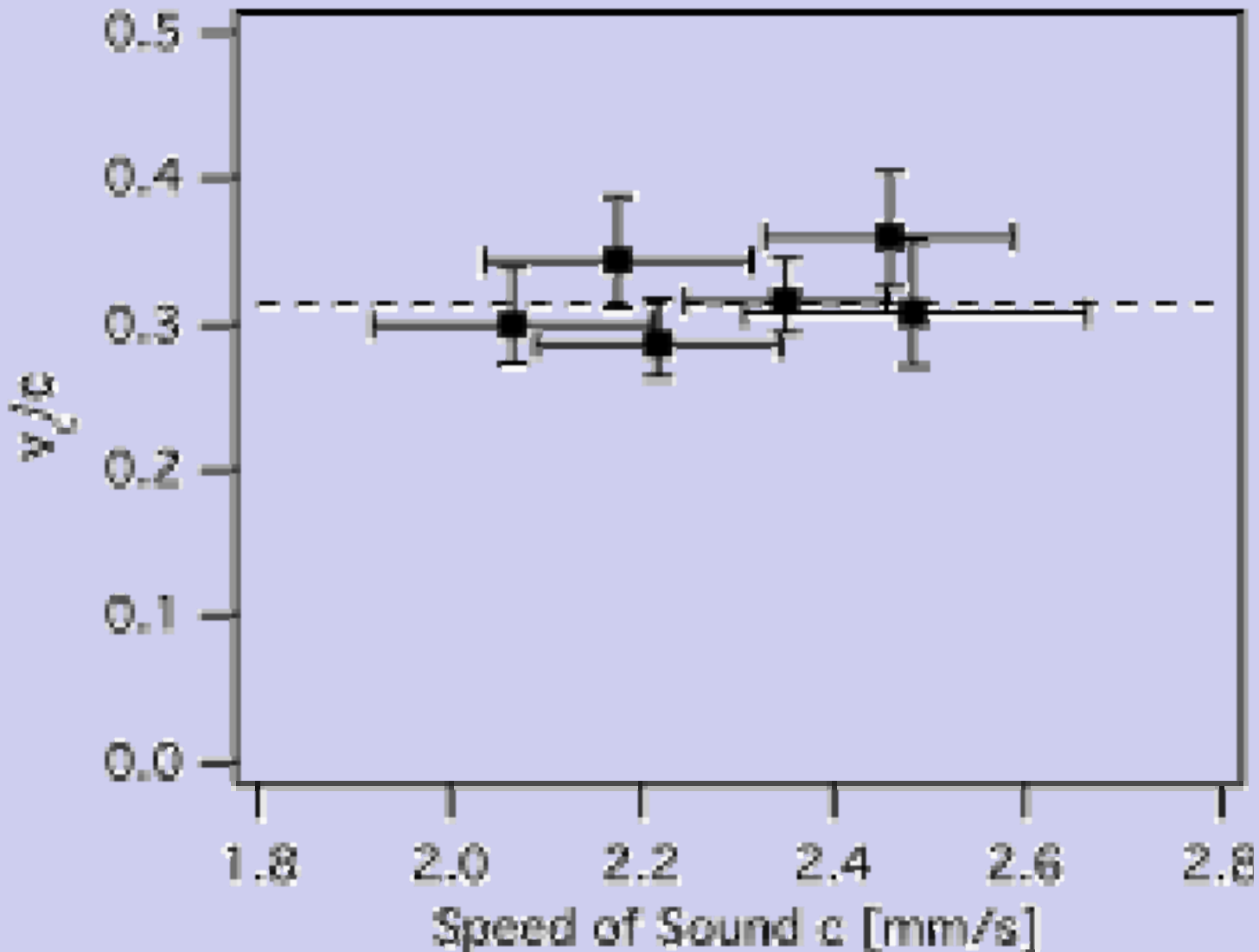
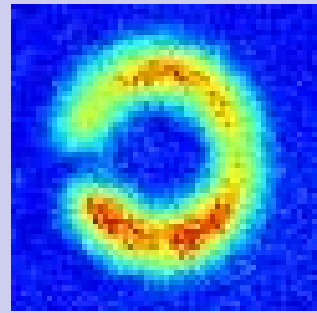
2π phase winding-sets velocity

But....

Velocity in barrier region higher than
bulk velocity

Bumpy potential, varies phase
gradient.

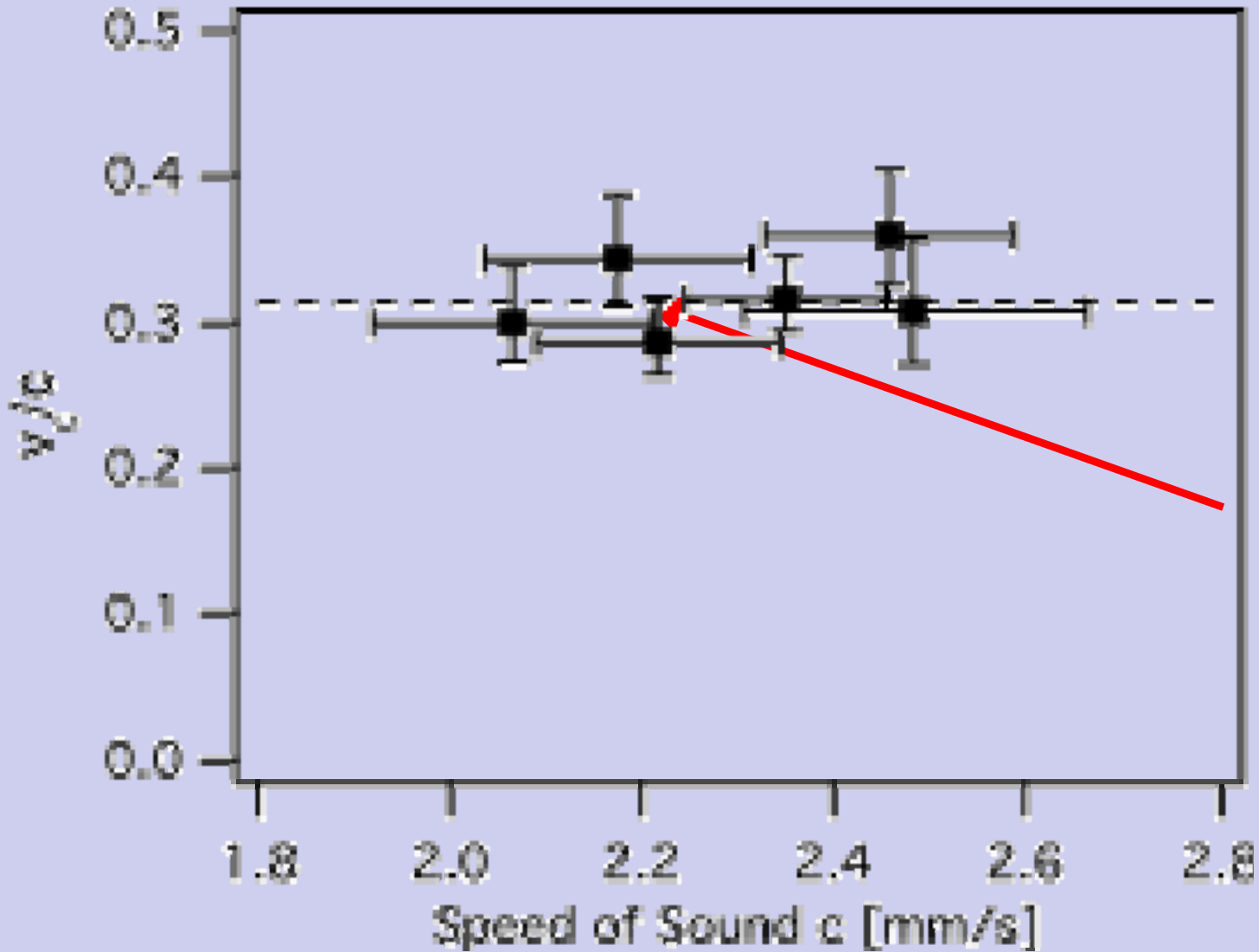
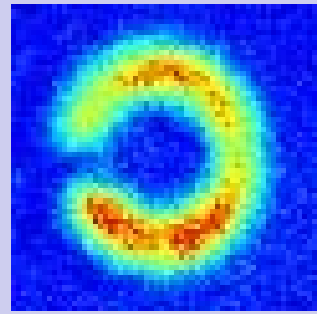
Critical Velocity for superfluid flow



We find the critical velocity $v_{cr} = 0.33(5)c$

c = speed of sound

Feynman Critical Velocity



d = width of channel
 $\sim 5 \mu\text{m}$
 ξ = size vortex core
 $\sim 1.3 \mu\text{m}$

Superconductors and Superfluids in Mean Field Theory

Ginzburg-Landau for superconductors:

$$F - F_{\text{no}} = \int \left[\alpha |\psi|^2 + \frac{\beta}{2} |\psi|^4 + \frac{1}{2m^*} \left| \left(\frac{\hbar}{i} \nabla - \frac{e^*}{c} \mathbf{A} \right) \psi \right|^2 + \frac{B^2}{8\pi} \right] d\mathbf{r}$$

Gross-Pitaevskii for interacting Bosons:

$$E = \int \left[V(\mathbf{r}) |\psi|^2 + \frac{g}{2} |\psi|^4 + \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} |\nabla \psi|^2 \right] d\mathbf{r}$$

- Formally equivalent except for charge/magnetic field.
- In the frame rotating frame of a barrier moving around a toroidal superfluid an effective magnetic field () appears.
- $V(\mathbf{r})$ and g experimentally controllable; α_0 and β determined by material
[where $\alpha = \alpha_0(T_c - T)/T_c$]

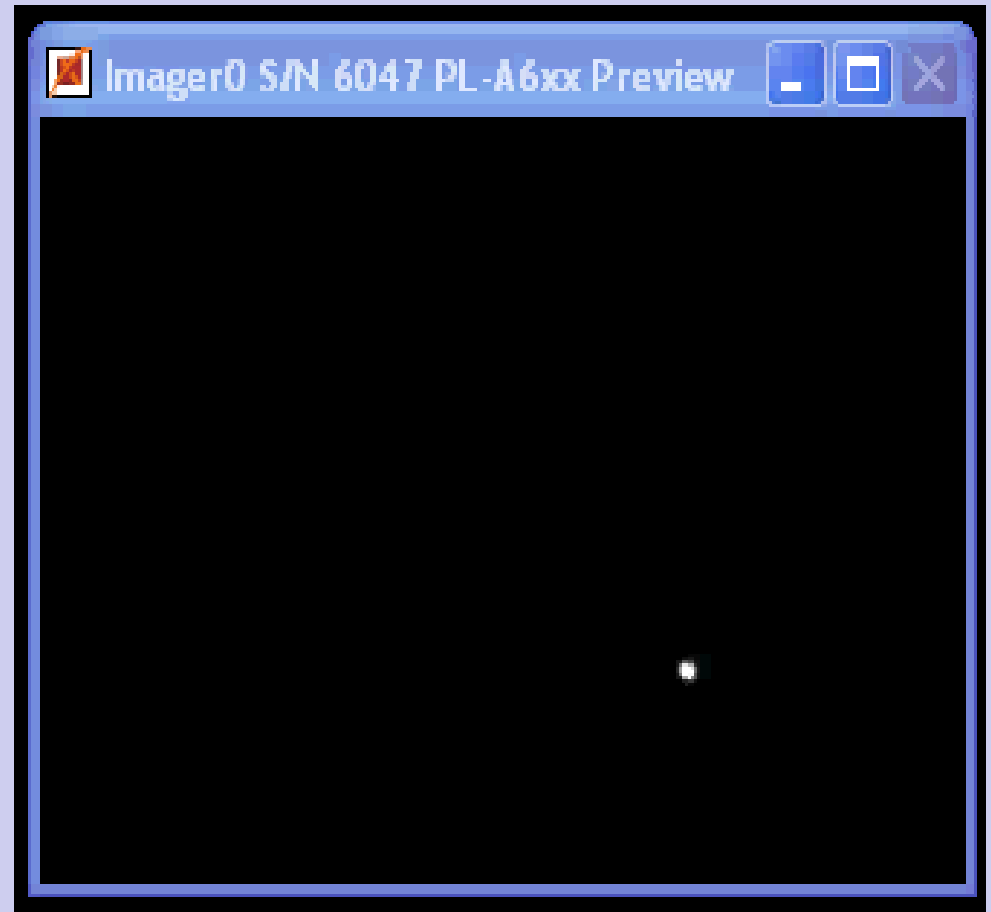
Superfluid jumps

- Superconducting Josephson junction analog
- Changing the rotation velocity is like changing the applied field to a SQUID.
- What happens if you stir slower than one quantum?
- How fast can you stir?

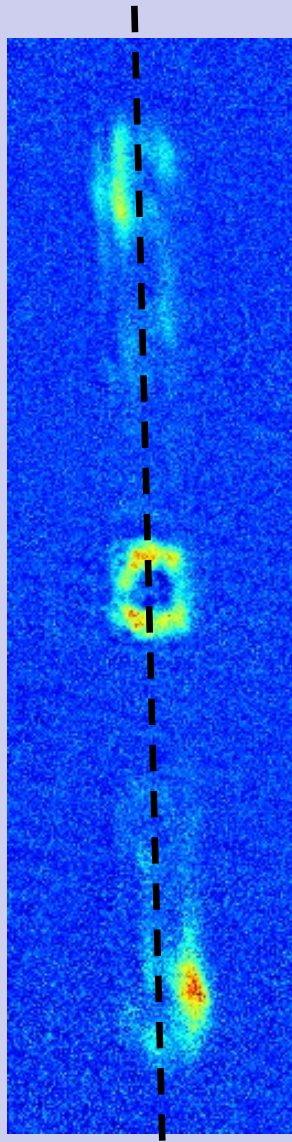


Superfluid jumps

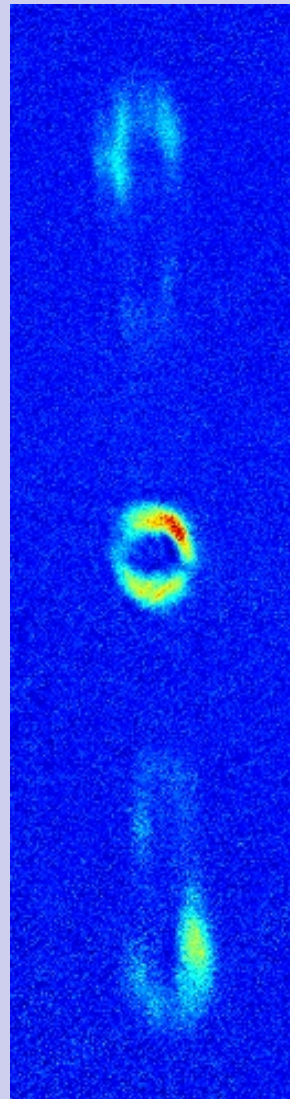
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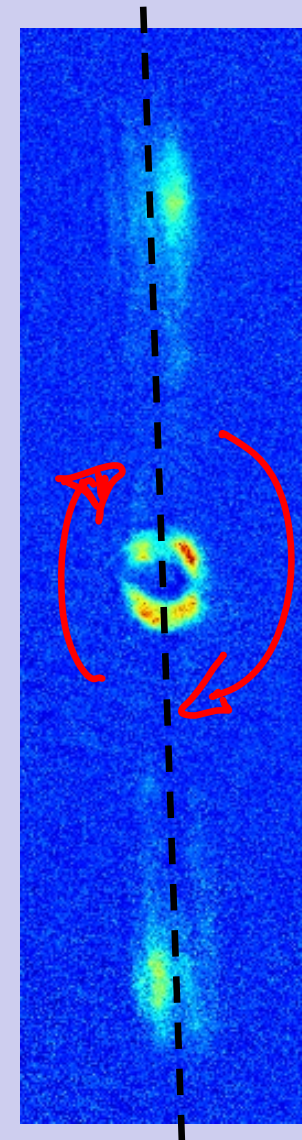
High-resolution Velocity-Spatial Mapping



100.8 KHz



100.5 KHz

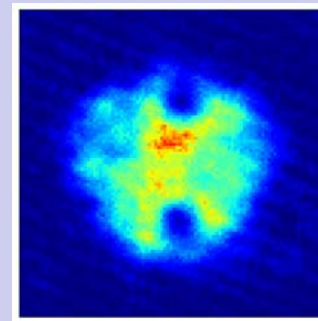
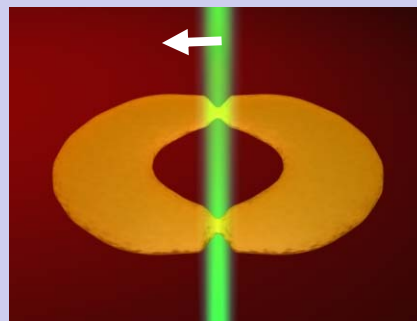
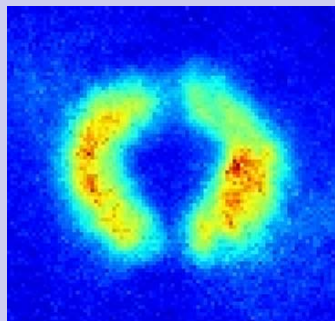


99.9 KHz

*Sense of
rotation*

Present & Future Activities

- Systematic measurements of the critical velocity v.s.
 - Trap geometry, barrier geometry, temperature, density...
- Direct observation of decay dynamics
- Flow with a moving barrier
Combine with artificial fields?
- Josephson-like effects in a BEC circuit
 - Movable double-barrier: analogous to biased DC SQUID
- Higher circulation states (observed!)

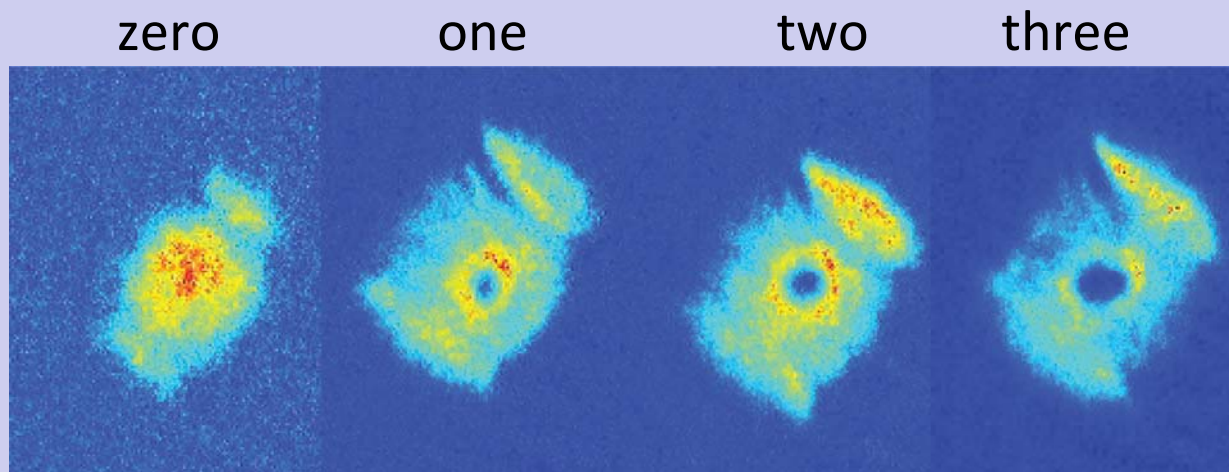


Present & Future Activities

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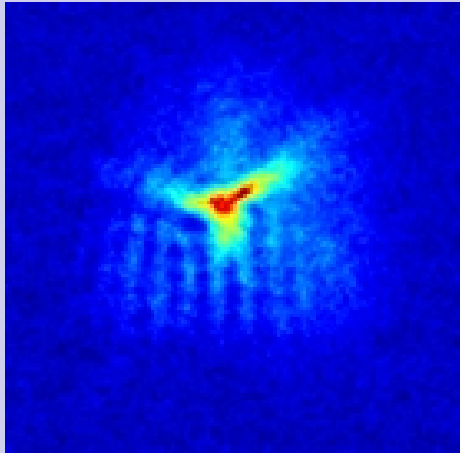
Combine with artificial fields?

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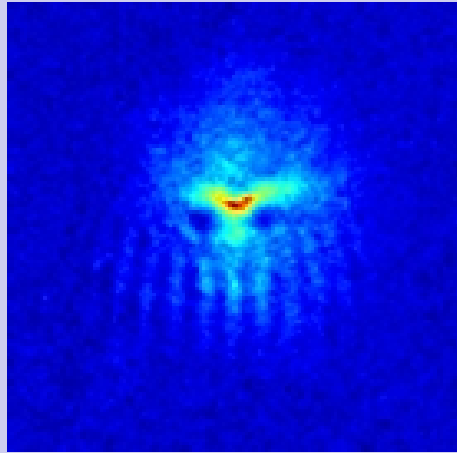


Solitons?

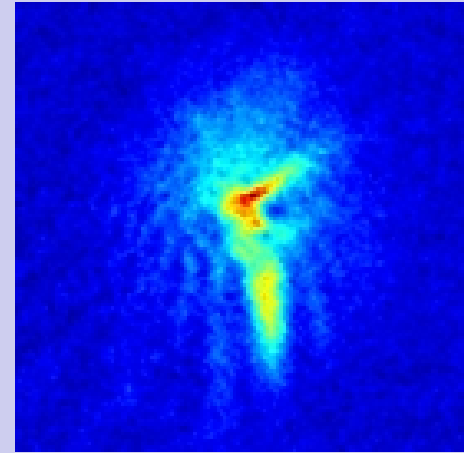
Hold atoms in trap after removing barrier, then release for 10 ms TOF



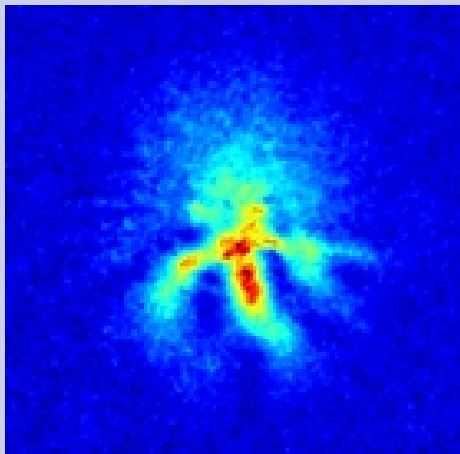
10 μ s



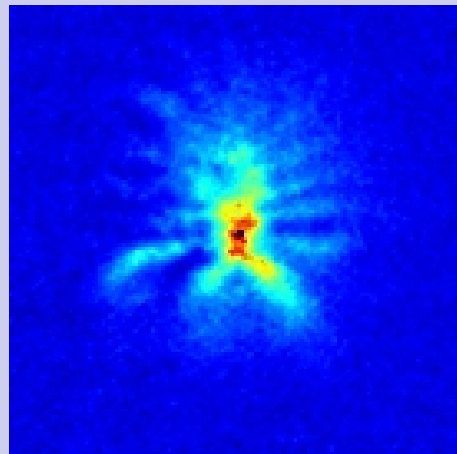
2 ms



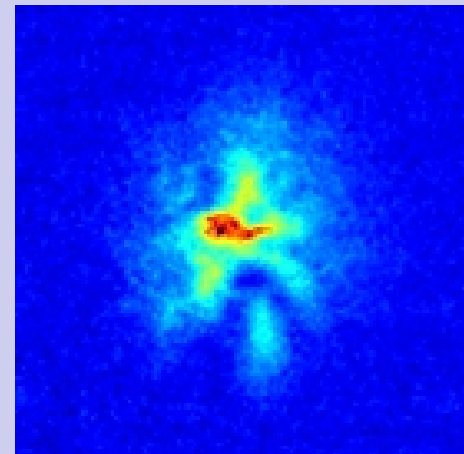
4 ms



10 ms

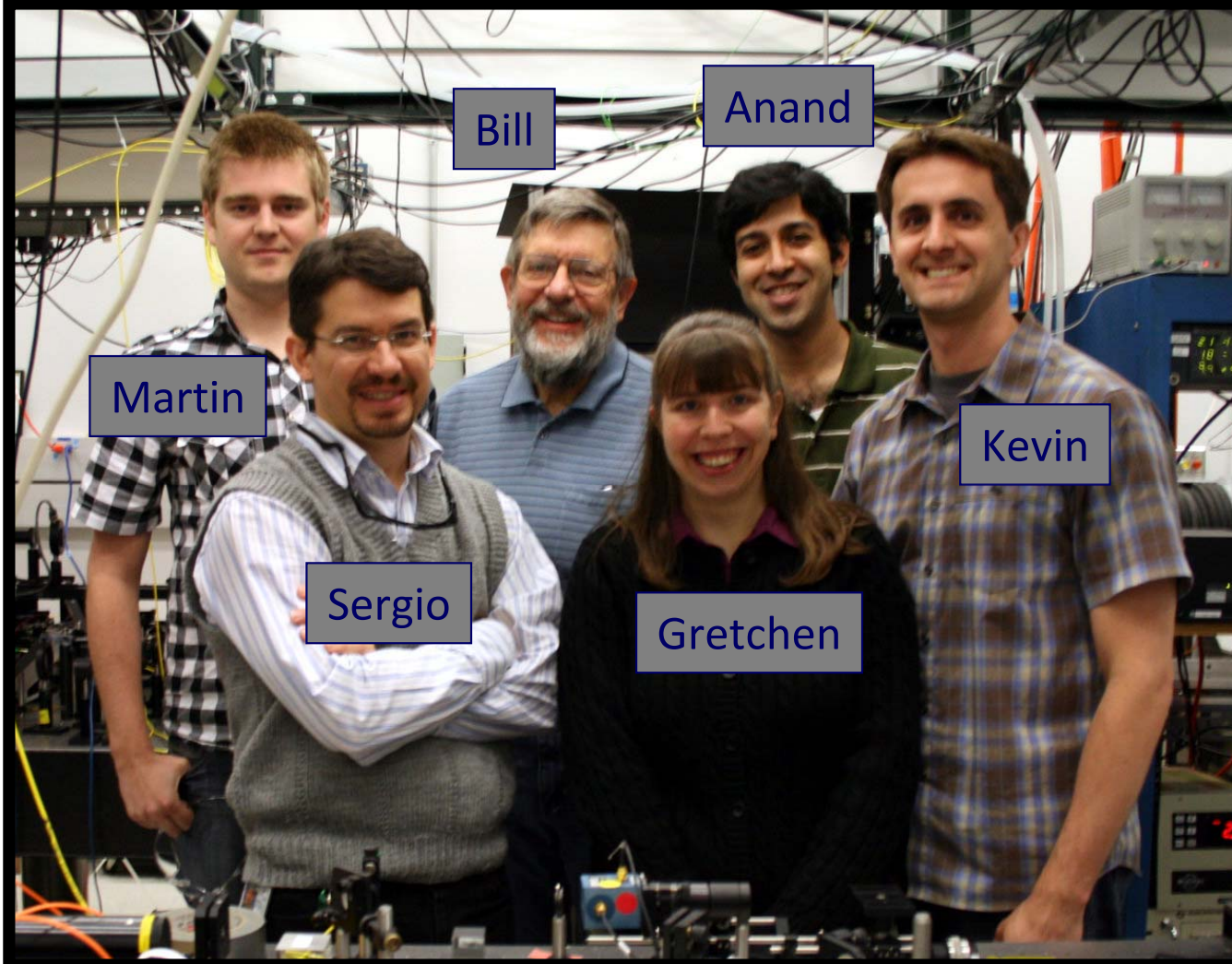


15 ms

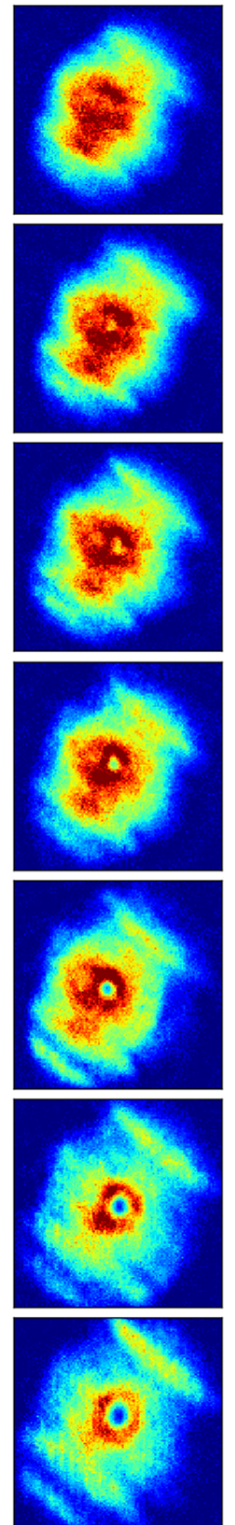
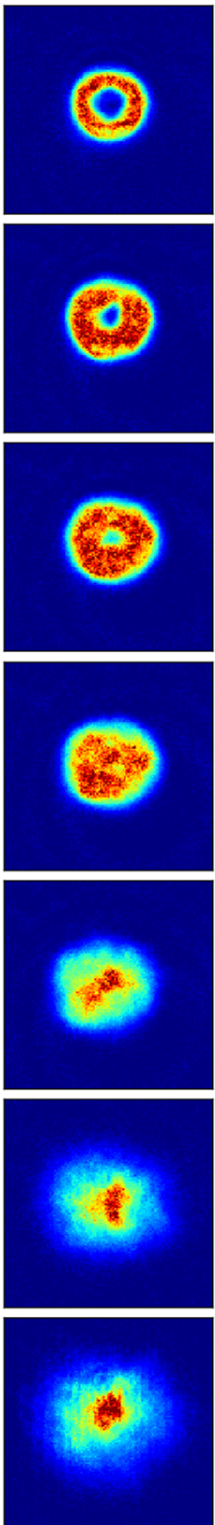


50 ms

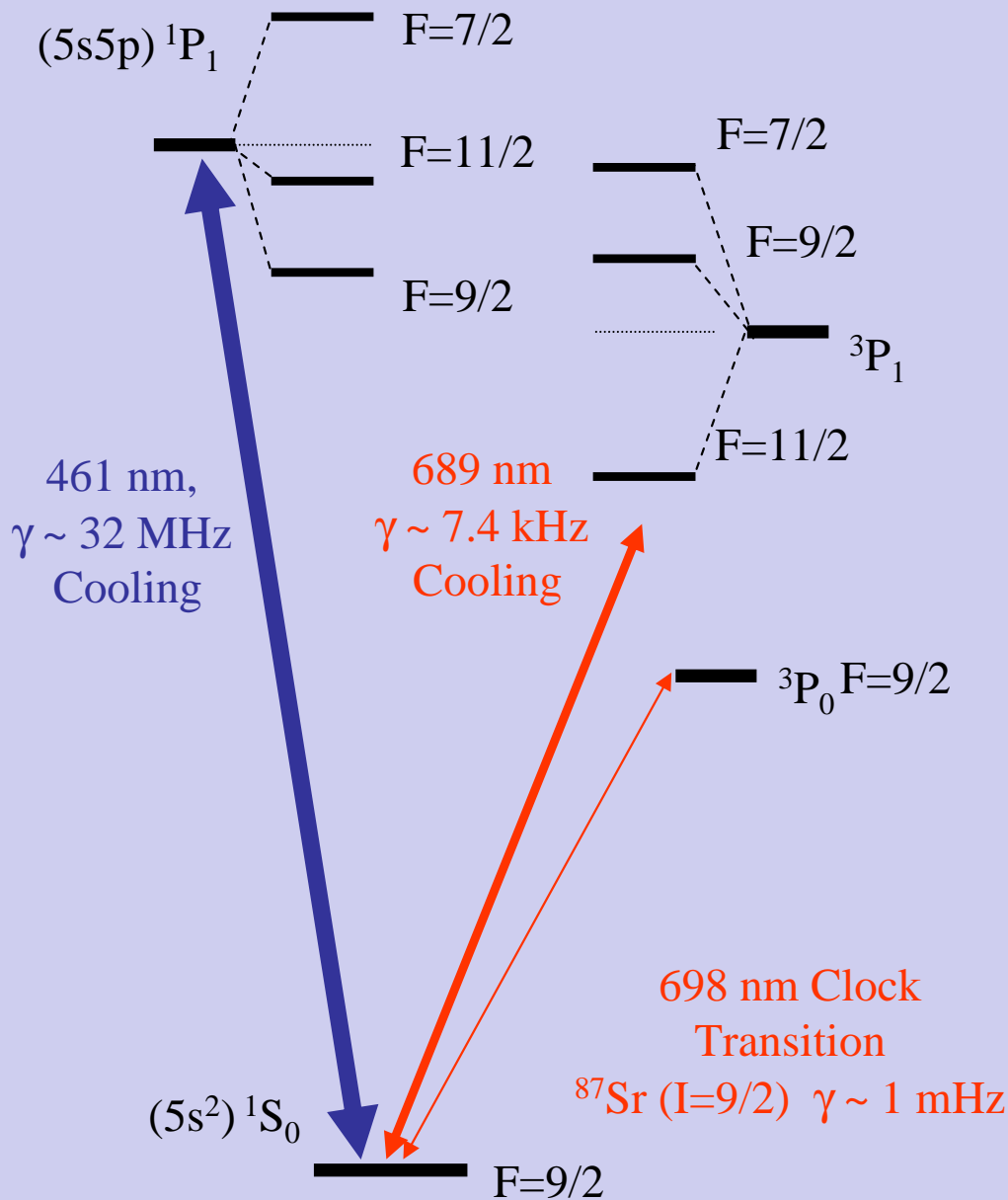
The NIST Ring BEC Team



“One ring to rule them all...”



Alkaline earth atoms

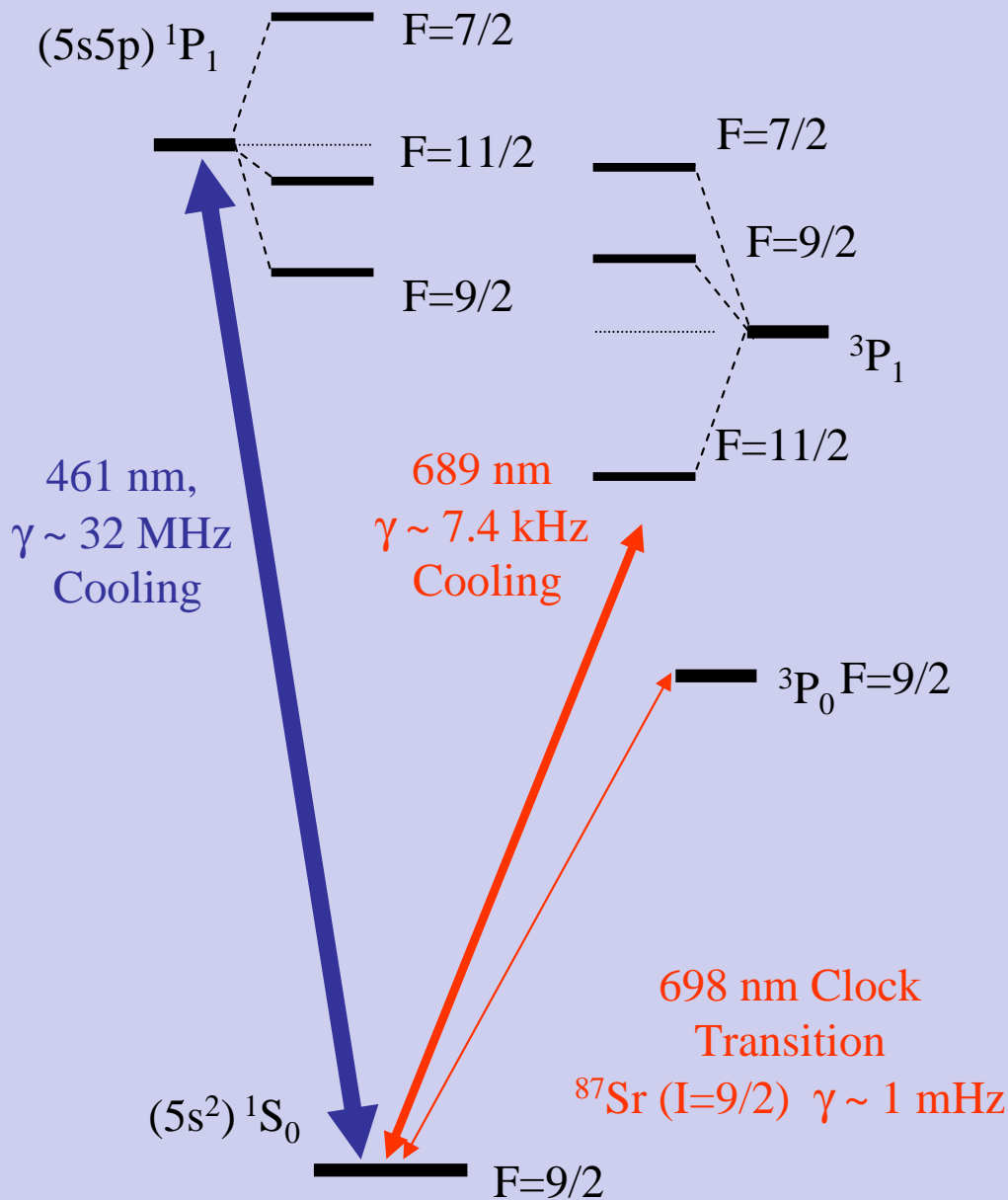


Strontium		
^{84}Sr	0.56%	$I=0$
^{86}Sr	9.9%	$I=0$
^{87}Sr	7.0%	$I=9/2$
^{88}Sr	82.6%	$I=0$

Clocks, Quantum Optics, CMP

Interferometry

Alkaline earth atoms



Strontium		
^{84}Sr	0.56%	$I=0$
^{86}Sr	9.9%	$I=0$
^{87}Sr	7.0%	$I=9/2$
^{88}Sr	82.6%	$I=0$

**SU(10)
Fermi
System**

