Exploring new phases of cold atomic matter with or without an optical lattice

W. Vincent Liu

University of Pittsburgh -- http://www.pitt.edu/~wvliu/

Two topics:

- Unconventional vortex properties of a (gapless) breached pair Α. superfluid [with M. Forbes, E. Gubankova, Y. B. Kim, V. M. Stojanovic, **F. Wilczek**, P. Zoller]
- Orbital order of *p*-band bosons in the optical lattice [with S. Das **B**. Sarma, J. Moore, C. Wu]

Support from

Thank Funding > ORAU (Oakridge) 2006-2007 ARO (Army research office) 2007-2010

Topic A. Breached pair superfluidity (BP)

Collaborators:

- M. Forbes (MIT graduate; now postdoc at UW Seattle)
- E. Gubankova (MIT postdoc)
- Y. B. Kim (U of Toronto)
- F. Wilczek (MIT)
- V. Stojanovic (Carnegie-Mellon student)
- P. Zoller (Innsbruck)

News story: "Odd particle out", *Phys. Rev. Focus* (January 5, 2005; story 1)

publications

- A. PRL **90**, 047002 (2003)
- B. PRL 91, 032001(2003)
- C. PRA 70, 033603 (2004)
- D. PRL 94, 017001 (2005)
- E. cond-mat/0611295

Physical Review

Previous Story / Next Story / January - June 2005 Archive

Phys. Rev. Lett. 94, 017001 (issue of 14 January 2005) Title and Authors

5 January 2005

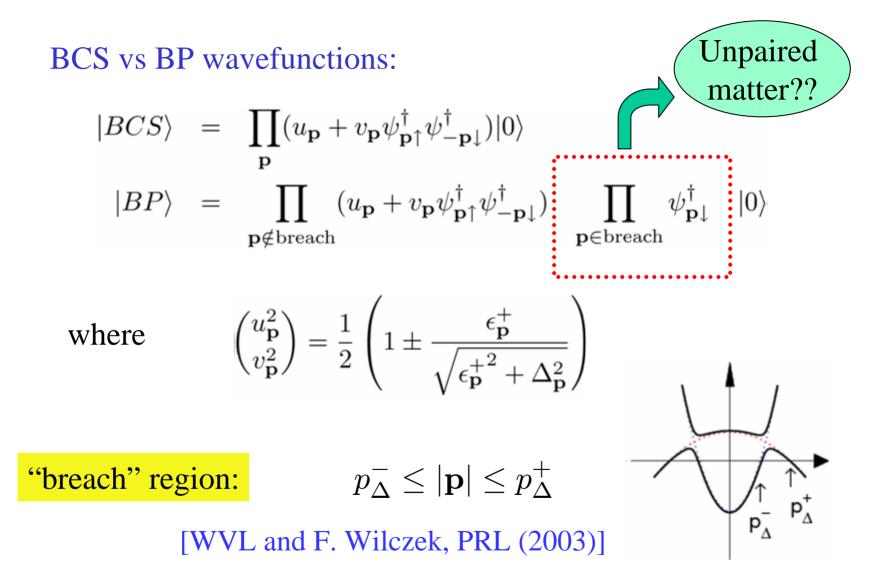
Odd Particle Out

A new state of matter that combines the properties of a superfluid and a regular fluid may be within experimental reach. Critics have argued that this theoretical state is unstable, but researchers report in the 14 January *PRL* that it can exist if the forces holding the particles together have the right properties, which might happen in clumps of



Part A.1.A brief remark on Breached Pair Superfluidity (BP state)

Why called Breached Pair



Essential Difference: Sarma vs Breached Pair

Sarma [J. Phys. Chem. Solids (1963)]

- 1. Equal masses only.
- 2. Used Debye-like energy cutoff ω_D for interaction.
- 3. Did not pay attention to the new possibility of $\delta k_F > \omega_D/v_F$.
- 4. Correctly concluded an unstable (now known as) Sarma state.

WVL-Wilczek [PRL 2003a] (see also our [PRL 2005])

- 1. Re-discover the interest of mismatched Fermi surfaces.
- 2. First time introduced the effect of unequal masses.
- 3. Used momentum cutoff λ .
- 4. First recognized the interest of $\delta k_F > \lambda$.
- 5. Stable breached pair (BP) state.

My mistake: The conclusion of [Gubankova-WVL-Wilczek, PRL 2003b].

How stable?

The stability of BP criticized by:

- 1. Shin-Tza Wu, Sungkit Yip, PRA (2003)
- 2. P. F. Bedaque, H. Caldas, G. Rupak, PRL (2003); Caldas, PRA (2004)

Both are correct, but are done for a short-range delta-interaction. [WVL-Wilczek, PRL 2003] is valid and correct.

The stability issue was clarified and examined in:

[Forbes, Gubankova, WVL, Wilczek, PRL 94, 017001 (2005)]

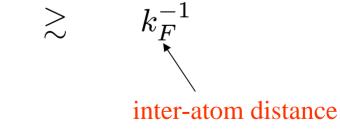
Stable for interaction of

• a finite or long range;

<u>or</u>

• *a momentum cutoff*

n f effective range



Effective range in real atomic gases

From <u>D. Petrov</u>, talk given at KITP Conference: Quantum gases

	R_{e} [Å]	$B_0[G]$	$\Delta_{B}[G]$	$\partial E_{res}/\partial B$	a_{bg} [Å]	<i>R</i> * [Å]
6Li	30	543.25	0.1	$2\mu_B$	32	19000
²³ Na	45	907	1	$3.7\mu_B$	33	260
⁸⁷ Rb	85	1007.4	0.17	$2.5\mu_B$	60	320
^{133}Cs	100	19.8	0.005	$0.55 \mu_B$	160	13000

[http://online.itp.ucsb.edu/online/gases_c04/petrov/]

Gas density:
$$n \sim 10^{14} \text{cm}^{-3} \Rightarrow k_F^{-1} \sim 1.0 \mu \text{m}$$

Summary of Stability Criteria of BP

Two essential/necessary conditions (for weak coupling):

- Unequal masses
- Momentum dependent interaction: either a finite or long range or a momentum cutoff

Clarified in [Forbes, Gubankova, WVL, Wilczek, PRL 2005]

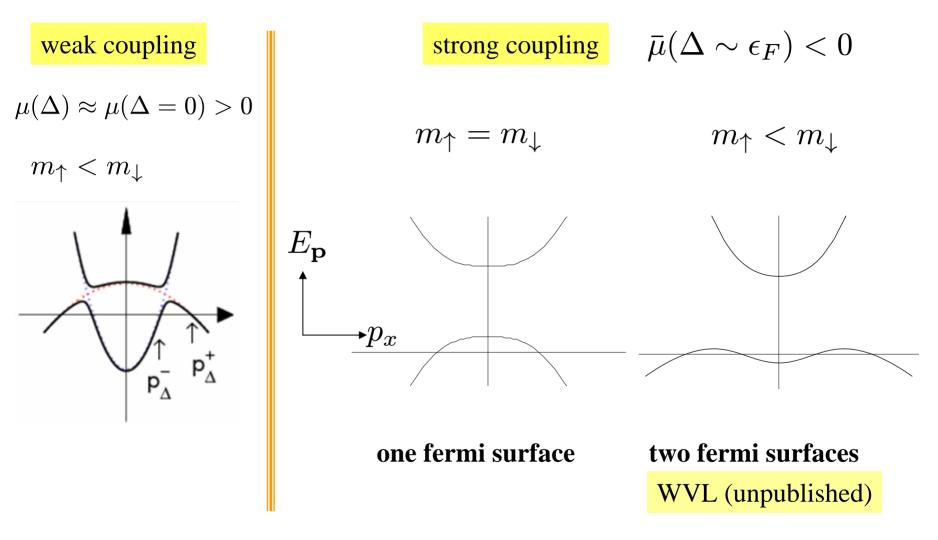
Part. A.2 Strong coupling imbalanced superfluid Focus on the following case:

Strong interaction, wide Feshbach resonance

- There is a long list of papers before the phase-separation experiments of imbalanced fermi gases [M.. Zwierlein, W. Ketterle et al. *Science* (2006); G. Partridge, R. Hulet et al., *Science* (2006)] --- (it seems) in part stimulated by our work.
- There is even a longer list of papers after the experiments (>150?? as based on the **citation record** of [WVL and F. Wilczek PRL 2003])

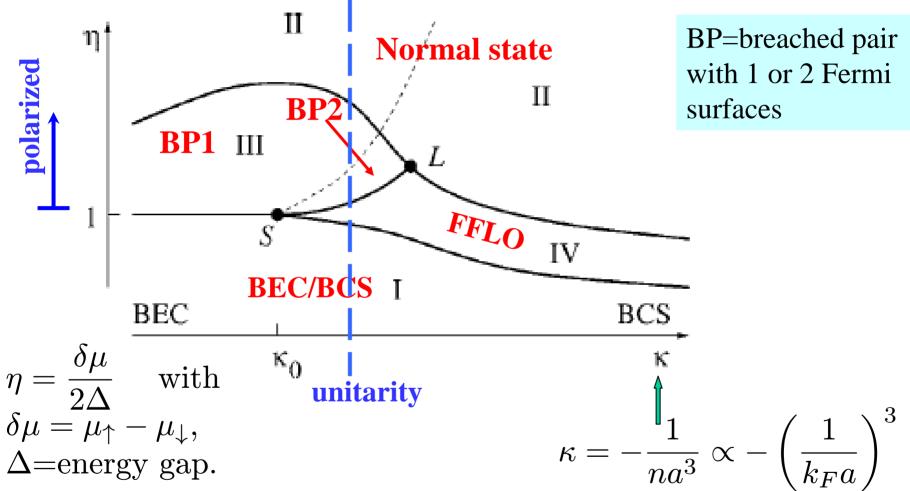
BP states of one or two fermi surfaces: BP2 vs BP1

quasiparticle spectrum



Spin imbalanced Fermi gas: phase diagram

[D.T.Son, M.A.Stephanov, cond-mat/0507586, Phys. Rev. A 2006]



Many other versions of phase diagram (see next slide).

BP1 (Breached pairing with 1 Fermi surface)

[same as 'magnetized' superfluid of Sheehy-Radzihovsky]

Found in the homogenous space by:

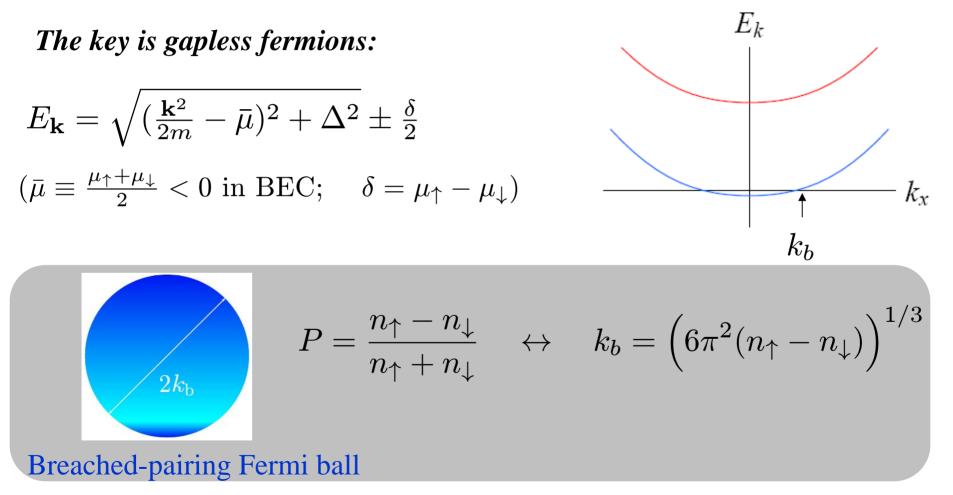
- 1. C. H. Pao, S.-T. Wu, and S. K. Yip, *Phys. Rev. B* 73 (2006) 132506.
- 2. D. E. Sheehy and L. Radzihovsky, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **96** (2006) 060401.
- 3. D. T. Son and M. A. Stephanov, *Phys. Rev. A* **74** (2006) 013614.
- 4. M. Iskin and C. A. R. Sá de Melo, Phys. Rev. Lett. 97 (2006) 100404.
- 5. P. Nikolic and S. Sachdev, cond-mat/0609106.
- 6. Y. Nishida and D. T. Son, cond-mat/0607835.

Correspondingly, a superfluid-normal mixture phase found in a trap:

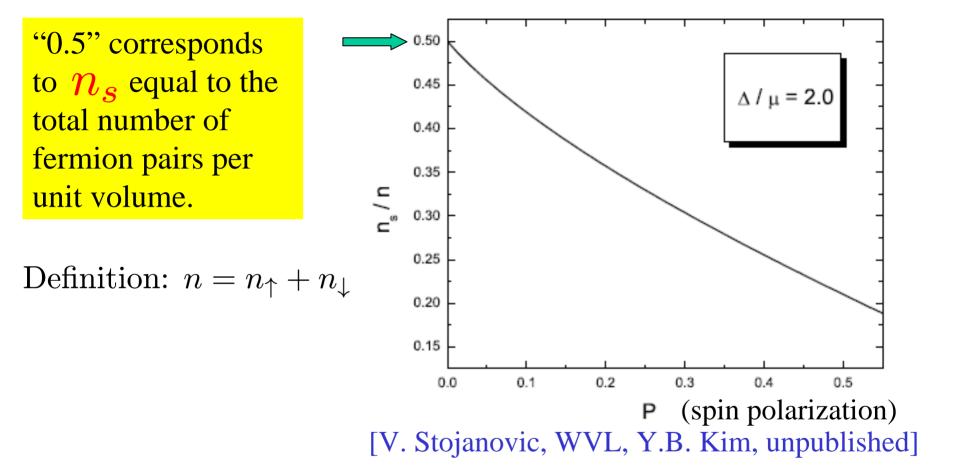
- 1. P. Pieri and G. C. Strinati, *PRL* **96** (2006) 150404.
- 2. W. Yi and L. M. Duan, *Phys. Rev. A* **73** (2006) 031604.
- 3. T. N. De Silva and E. J. Mueller, *Phys. Rev. A* **73** (2006) 051602.
- 4. W. Yi and L. M. Duan, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **97** (2006) 120401.
- 5. C. H. Pao and S. K. Yip, J. Phys.: Cond. Matt. 18 (2006) 5567.

BP1 is predicted to be on the molecular (BEC) side of the Feshbach resonance, but not in the unitary regime!

Unconventional vortex interactionin a 'polarized' homogeneous gapless (BP1) superfluid.[V. M. Stojanovic, WVL and Y. B. Kim, cond-mat/0611295]



Check BP1 stability: superfluid density



Note: Used the method of L. He, M. Jin, P. Zhuang [Phys. Rev. B. (2006)] originally derived for computing superfluid density for BP2.

Vortex-vortex interaction

Conventional superfluid (s-wave BCS-like):

$$V_{
m vortex}({f r}) \propto -\ln rac{r}{\xi}$$

(strictly repulsive 2D Coulomb potential)



Vortex lattice is **triangular**.

Question arises for BP1 phase:

What is the effect (if any) of those gapless fermions around the surface the 'breach' Fermi ball ?

Properties and assumptions of BP1

- The ground state is **ASSUMED**, not derived, to be superfluid!
- One superfluid phase (Goldstone) mode --- θ
- One gapless branch of fermionic quasiparticles ---- ψ Low energy modes
- Continuous symmetries are: two global U(1) ("charge" and "spin") + Galilei invariance

Effective field theory of the polarized fermionic superfluid

Effective Lagrangian

[extension of Son-Stephanov's to the case of arbitrary polarization]

$$\mathcal{L} = \psi^* [\partial_\tau + \varepsilon(-i\nabla)] \psi + c_1 (\partial_\tau \theta)^2 + c_2 (\nabla \theta)^2 + c_3 \psi^* \psi \Big[i \partial_\tau \theta + \frac{1}{2m_p} (\nabla \theta)^2 \Big] + \nabla \theta \cdot \mathbf{j} + \cdots$$

Coefficients C_1, C_2, C_3 are NOT universal but determined phenomenologically/experimentally:

 $c_1 = \frac{\partial n}{\partial \mu}$

$$4mc_2 + c_3(n_{\uparrow} - n_{\downarrow}) = n_s$$

Unit coefficient and the form of composite objects in the [...] all dictated by Galilei invariance [Greiter, Wilczek, and Witten (1989)]

Outline of Method

Task: Study the problem of parallel vortex lines pointing to the z-direction, say, generated by rotation.

phase = "spin wave" part + singular vortex part $\theta = \phi + \theta_v$

Vortex gauge field: $\mathbf{a} = -\nabla \theta_v \implies \nabla \theta = \nabla \phi - \mathbf{a}$ *Standard relation between vortex charge density and* \mathbf{a}

$$\rho(\mathbf{x}) = 2\pi \sum_{\alpha} \delta^{(2)}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_{\alpha}), \quad \nabla \times \mathbf{a} = -\frac{\pi\hbar}{m} \rho(\mathbf{x}) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$$

- Integrate out gapless quasi-particle fermions.
- Integrate out the regular part of the phase field, ϕ
- Retain effective action for vortices \rightarrow effective vortex interaction

Effective vortex interaction (momentum space)

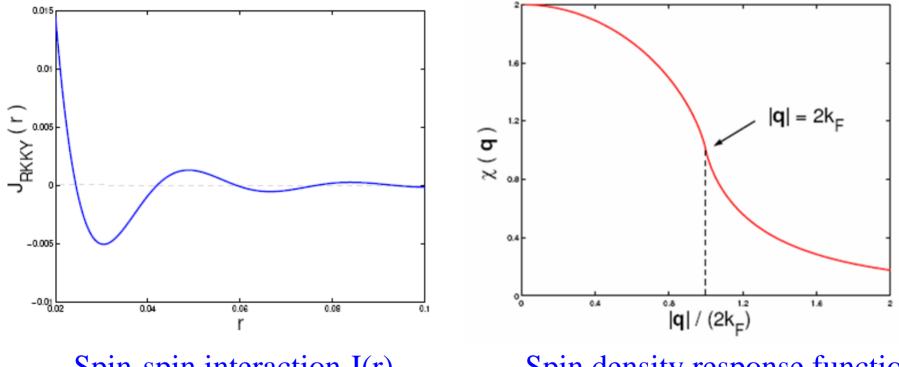
 $V_{\rm eff} = V_0 + V_{\rm ind}$

$$V_0 \propto \frac{n_s}{4m} \frac{1}{\mathbf{q}^2}$$
 2D Coulomb potential
 $V_{\text{ind}} \propto \frac{P_{\mathbf{q}}^0}{\mathbf{q}^2}$ fermion-induced potential

 $P^0_{\mathbf{q}} \longrightarrow$ zero-temperature static limit of the transverse current-current correlator

Recall RKKY (Ruderman-Kittel-Kasuya-Yosida) in metals

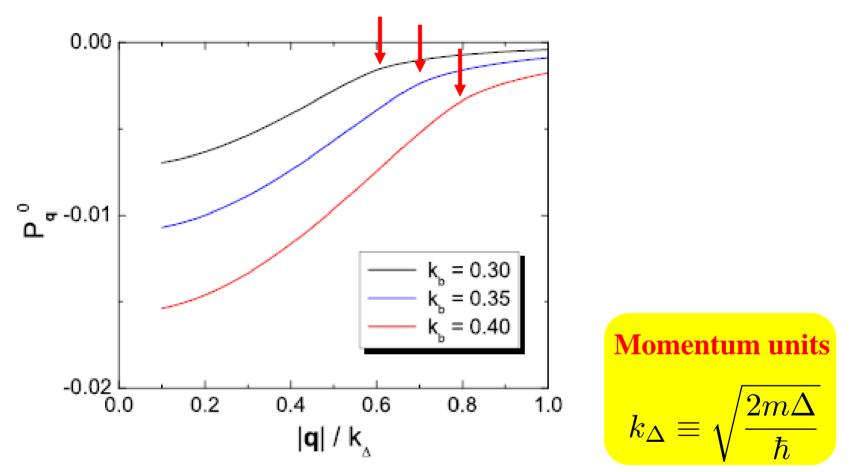
Classic result: Indirect exchange interaction between magnetic impurities (mediated by the conduction electrons) in non-magnetic metals (1950's)



Spin-spin interaction J(r)

Spin density response function

Analogue of RKKY oscillation in BP1

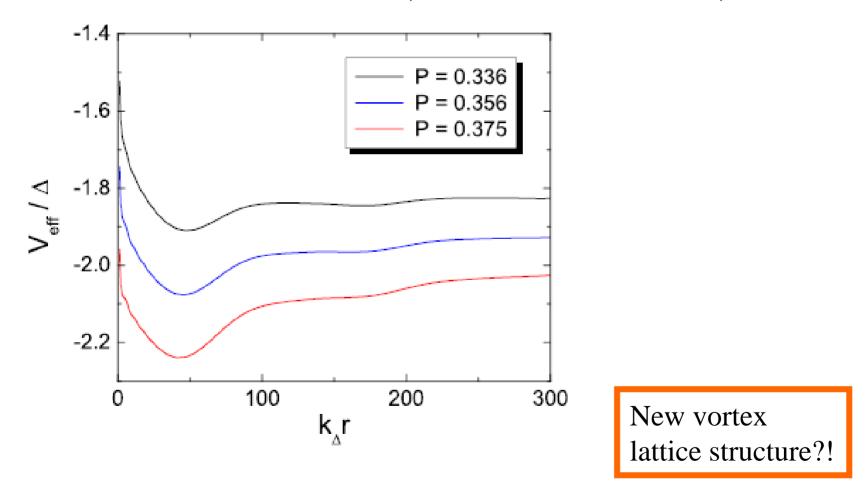


The transverse current-current correlation, $P_{\mathbf{q}}$, has a knee at $|{\bf q}| = 2k_b$. (Recall k_b is the gapless Fermi wavevector.) KITP Santa Barbara 8 May 2007

Effective potential in real space (I)

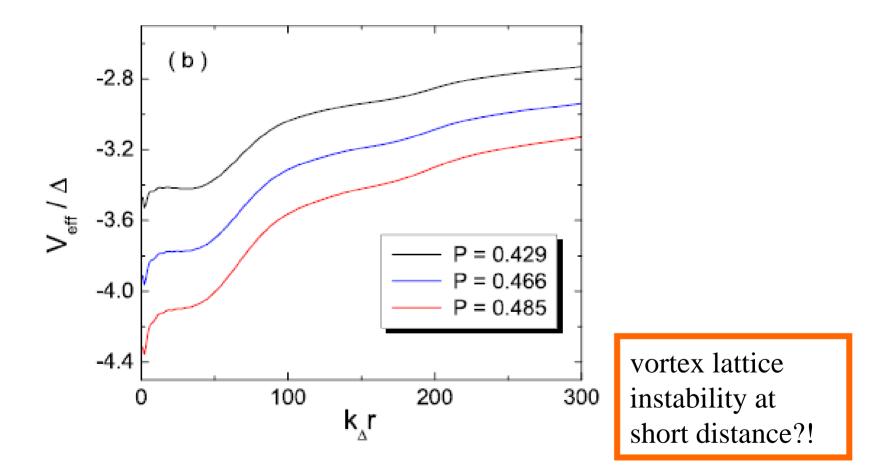
Intermediate polarization:

 $P_{c1} \le P \le P_{c2}$ ($P_{c1} \sim 0.2; P_{c2} \sim 0.4$)



Effective potential in real space (II)

High spin polarization: $P \ge P_{c2}$, $(P_{c2} \sim 0.4)$



KITP Santa Barbara 8 May 2007

Related recent studies

- Non-monotonic (as a function of distance) interaction between vortices in a multi-component superconductor [Babaev & Speight, PRB 72, 180502(R) (2005)]
- Nodal-quasiparticle mediated interaction between vortices in a d-wave superconductor [Nikolic & Sachdev, PRB 73, 134511 (2006)]

Summary of New Results for the first topic

New results (to the best of our knowledge) are:

- First find that vortex interaction is not strictly repulsive due to gapless fermions!
- It has RKKY-like oscillating character!
- After the Friedel oscillation (charge sector) and the RKKY (spin sector), oscillating behavior is first shown to occur in the vortex sector !

Future:

- What is the form of the resulting vortex lattice in the BP1 state ?
- Will the new form of vortex interaction change the Kosterlitz-Thouless transition in 2D? How?

Topic B. Bosonic atoms in the *p-orbital* band of an optical lattice

Collaborators:Congjun Wu (KITP)Joel Moore (UC Berkeley)Sankar Das Sarma (U Maryland)

Our work:

- WVL and C. Wu, cond-mat/0601432, *Phys. Rev. A* (2006)
- C. Wu, WVL, J. Moore and S. Das Sarma, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2006)

Other related theoretical studies

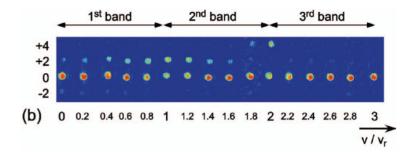
- V. W. Scarola and S. Das Sarma, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 65, 33003 (2005).
- A. Isacsson and S. Girvin, *Phys. Rev. A* 72, 053604 (2005).
- A. B. Kuklov, *PRL* 97, 110405 (2006)
- C. Xu et al., cond-mat/0611620.
- C. Wu, D. Bergman, L. Balents, and S. Das Sarma, condmat/0701788.

Motivations:

- Look beyond s-band; Beyond cold atom models of spins.
- Explore orbital degeneracy and symmetries, and <u>new</u> aspects of strong correlation [those <u>not</u> well studied in usual condensed matter systems]
- Anisotropy is not a problem, but a new feature.
- Possible quantum (cold atoms) simulation of the difficult orbitalrelated problems [as observed in electronic materials, e.g., transition-metal oxides]?
- New experiments on *p-band* at NIST [A. Browaeys, et al, PRA (2005); J.J. Sebby-Strabley, Porto, et al., PRA (2006)] and Mainz [T. Mueller and I. Bloch et al., Mueller thesis (2006); T. Mueller, I. Bloch, et al, arXiv:0704.2856]

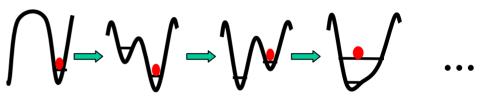
Preparation of p-band bosons: three experiment groups

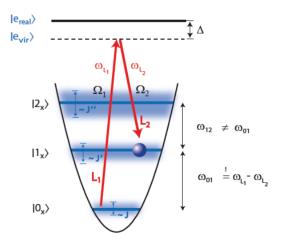
By moving lattice [A. Browaeys, W. D. Phillips, et al, PRA **72**, 053605 (2005)]



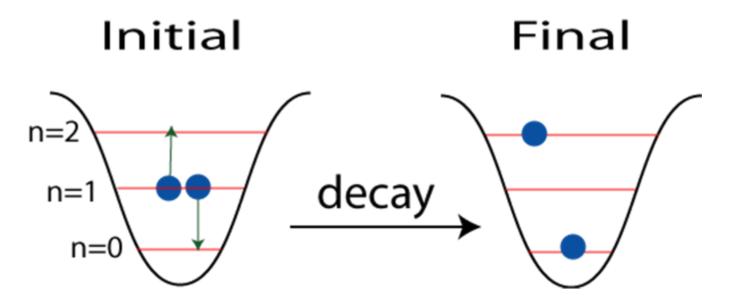
Dynamically deforming the double-well lattice [M. Anderlini, J. V. Porto, et al., J. Phys. B 39, S199 (2006)]

Pumping bosons by Raman transition [T. Mueller, I. Bloch et al., thesis of Mueller (2006); arXiv:0704.2856]



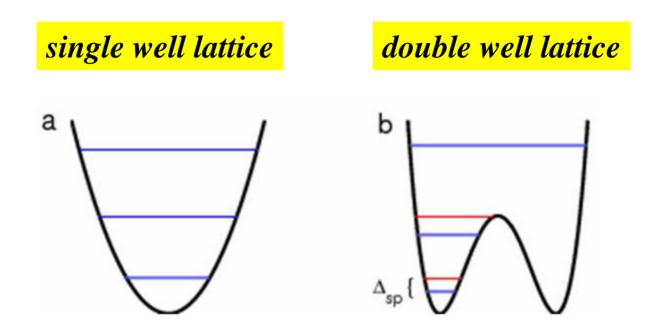


The decay problem of p-orbital bosons



The decay process where two p-bosons collide, promoting one to the 2nd excited band and bringing one down to the s-band. [Studied by Isacsson and Girvin (2005).]

"Energy-blocking" mechanism to suppress the decay

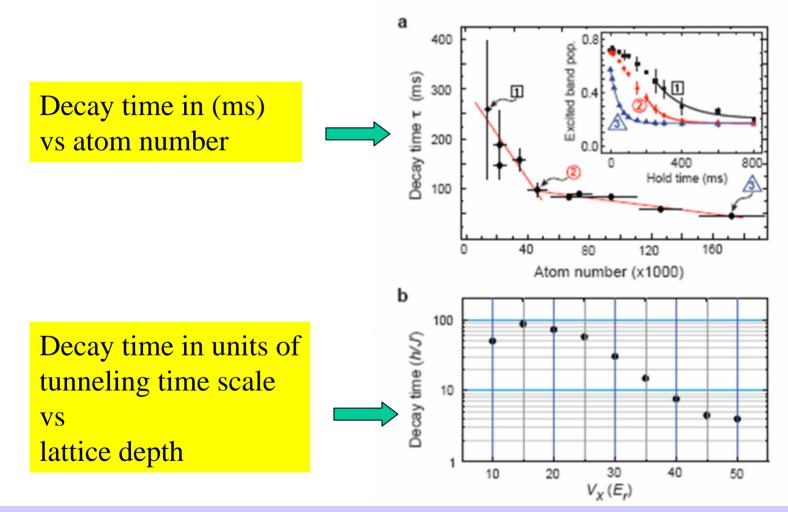


Low energy motion of bosons is an effective two-band model;
 p-orbital bosons cannot decay to the "s" by energy conservation.

[WVL and C. Wu, PRA (2006)]

p-band decay time measured by the Mainz group

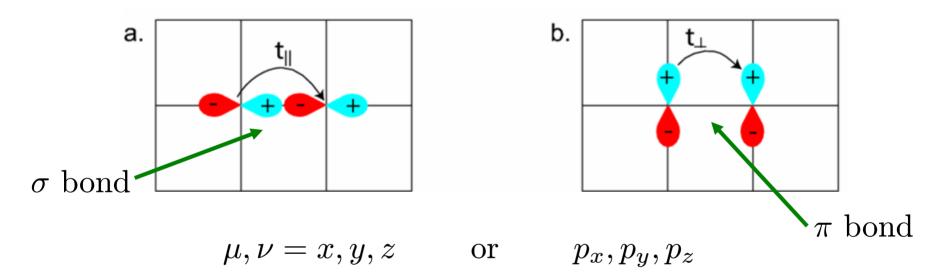
[T. Mueller, I. Bloch, et al, arXiv:0704.2856]



A key to slow decay as explained by Bloch et al: anharmonicity

p-orbital Bose-Hubbard model: 3D cubic lattice

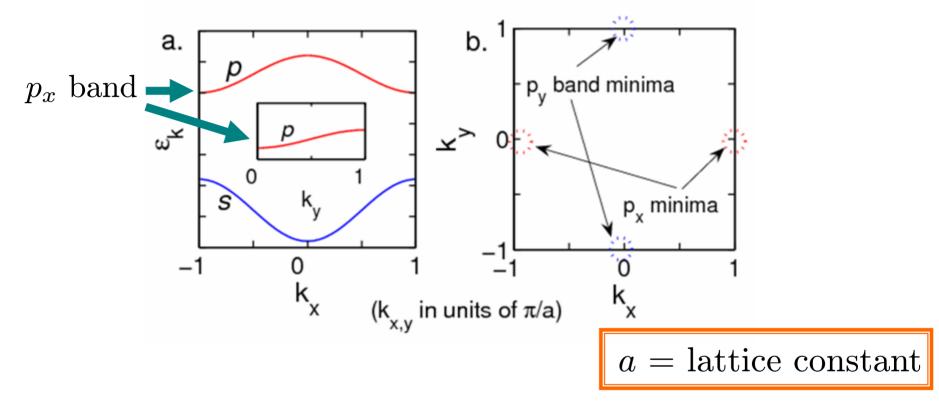
$$H = \sum_{\mathbf{r}\mu} [t_{\parallel} \delta_{\mu\nu} - t_{\perp} (1 - \delta_{\mu\nu})] \left(b_{\mu,\mathbf{r}+a\mathbf{e}_{\nu}}^{\dagger} b_{\mu\mathbf{r}} + h.c. \right) + \frac{1}{2} U \sum_{\mathbf{r}} \left[n_{\mathbf{r}}^{2} - \frac{1}{3} \mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{r}}^{2} \right]$$



Density field operator $n_{\mathbf{r}} = \sum_{\mu} b^{\dagger}_{\mu \mathbf{r}} b_{\mu \mathbf{r}}$

Angular momentum operator: $L_{\mu \mathbf{r}} = -i \sum_{\nu \lambda} \epsilon_{\mu \nu \lambda} b^{\dagger}_{\nu \mathbf{r}} b_{\lambda \mathbf{r}}$

p-band minima in momentum space (k-space)



Bose-Einstein condensation (BEC) of

 p_x, p_y , and p_z orbital atoms occurs at finite momenta:

$$\mathbf{Q}_x = \left(rac{\pi}{a}, 0, 0
ight), \ \mathbf{Q}_y = \left(0, rac{\pi}{a}, 0
ight), \ \mathbf{Q}_z = \left(0, 0, rac{\pi}{a}
ight)$$

The p-orbital BEC (p-OBEC)

Parameterization of Order parameter:

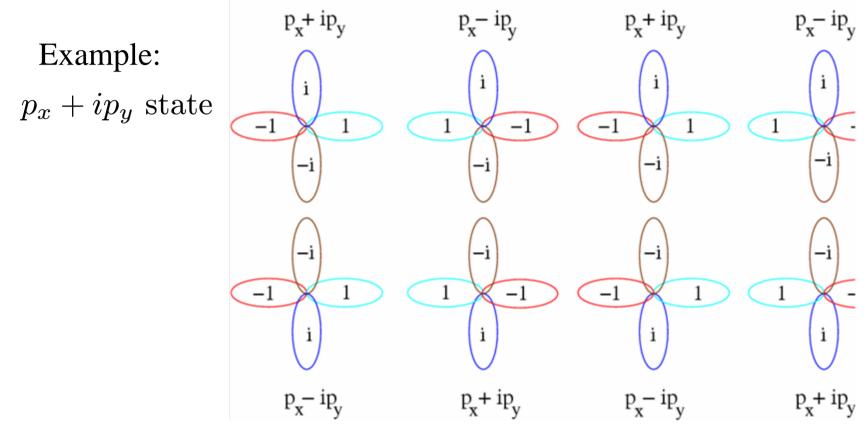
[T's are three 3x3 matrices]

For a dilute lattice gas of U>0, the condensate is found to be:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \langle b_{x\mathbf{k}=\mathbf{Q}_x} \rangle \\ \langle b_{y\mathbf{k}=\mathbf{Q}_y} \rangle \\ \langle b_{z\mathbf{k}=\mathbf{Q}_z} \rangle \end{pmatrix} = \sqrt{\frac{\text{Vol.} \times n_0^b}{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \pm i \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

It is also an order of ...

Transversely Staggered Orbital Current (TSOC)



Quantitative Description of TSOC:

$$\langle L_{x\mathbf{r}} \rangle = \langle L_{y\mathbf{r}} \rangle = 0, \langle L_{z\mathbf{r}} \rangle = n_0^b(-)^{\frac{x+y}{a}}$$

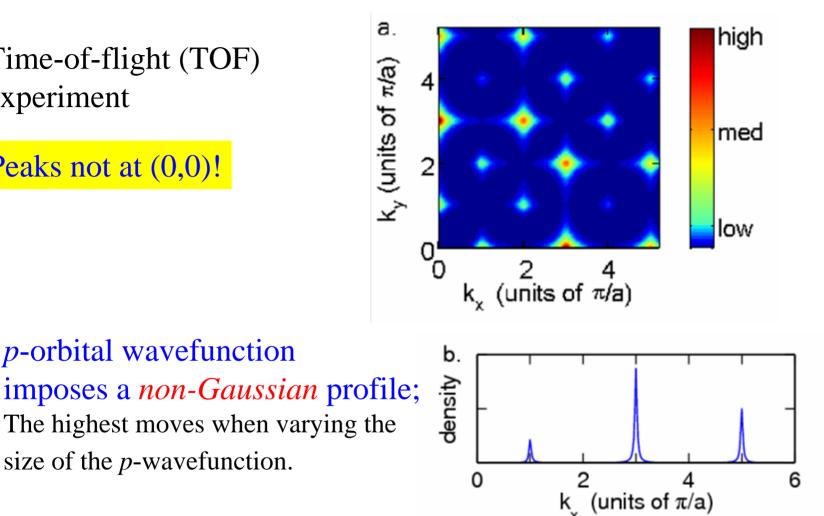
Prediction: non-zero momentum BEC of *p*-orbital atoms

Time-of-flight (TOF) experiment

Peaks not at (0,0)!

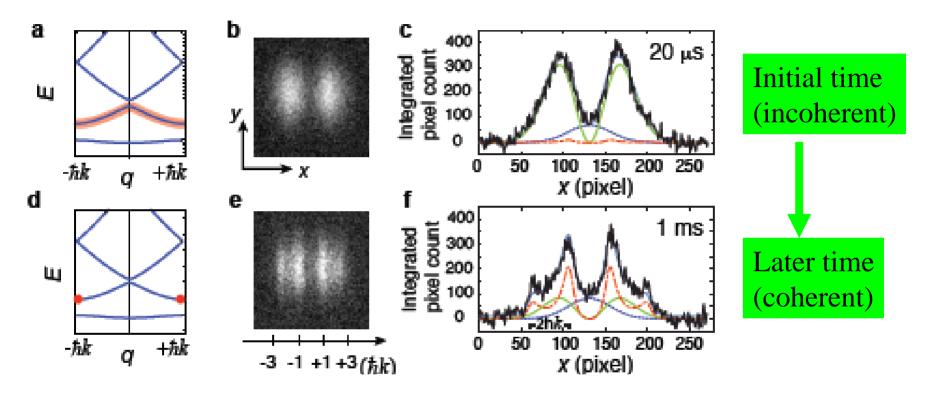
p-orbital wavefunction

size of the *p*-wavefunction.



[Related results independently by: A. Isacsson, S. Girvin, PRA (2005); A. B. Kuklov, PRL 97, 110405 (2006)]

Experimental discovery of the Mainz group

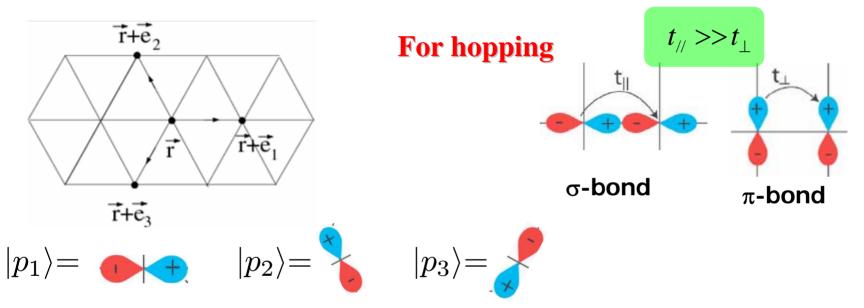


Confirms our prediction!

p-band bosons in a triangular lattice

[C. Wu, WVL, J. Moore, and S. Das Sarma, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2006).]

$$H = t_{\parallel} \sum_{\mathbf{r}} \sum_{i=1,2,3} \left[b_i^{\dagger}(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{e}_i) b_i(\mathbf{r}) + h.c. \right] + \frac{1}{2} U \sum_{\mathbf{r}} \left[n_{\mathbf{r}}^2 - \frac{1}{3} L_{z\mathbf{r}}^2 \right]$$

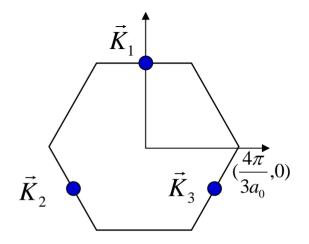


For
interactionNumber density $n_{\mathbf{r}} = \sum_{\mu} b^{\dagger}_{\mu \mathbf{r}} b_{\mu \mathbf{r}}$ Angular momentum $L_{z\mathbf{r}} = -i \sum_{\mu\nu} \epsilon_{\mu\nu} b^{\dagger}_{\mu \mathbf{r}} b_{\nu \mathbf{r}}$ (with $\mu, \nu = x, y$ for p_x, p_y)

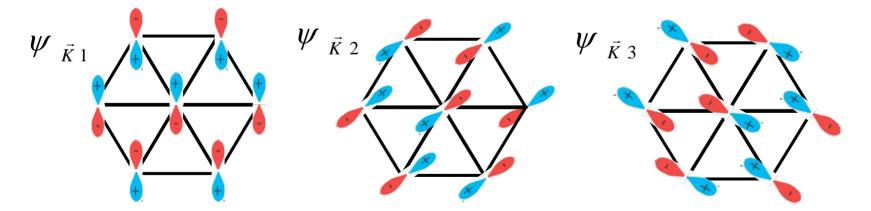
Band structure

 $\vec{K}_{1,2,3}$ lowest energy states in the 1st Brillouin zone

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 K_1 &=& \left(0, \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{3}a_0}\right) \\
 K_2 &=& \left(\frac{\pi}{a_0}, \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{3}a_0}\right) \\
 K_3 &=& \left(-\frac{\pi}{a_0}, \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{3}a_0}\right)
 \end{array}$$

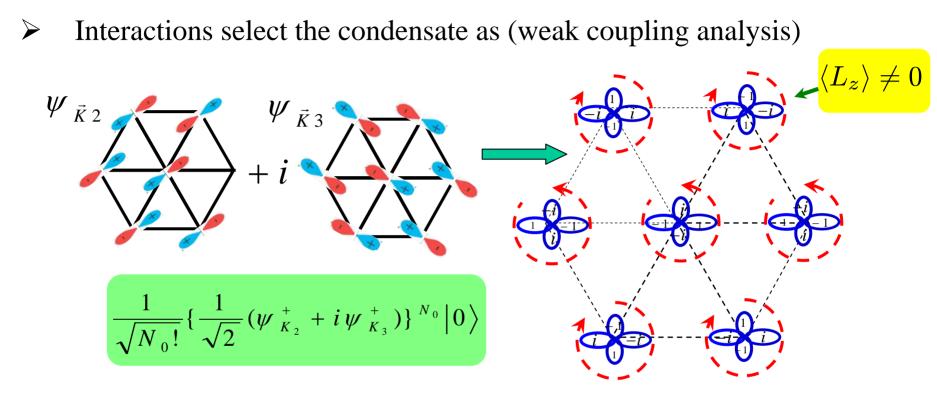


Real space configurations of the three states

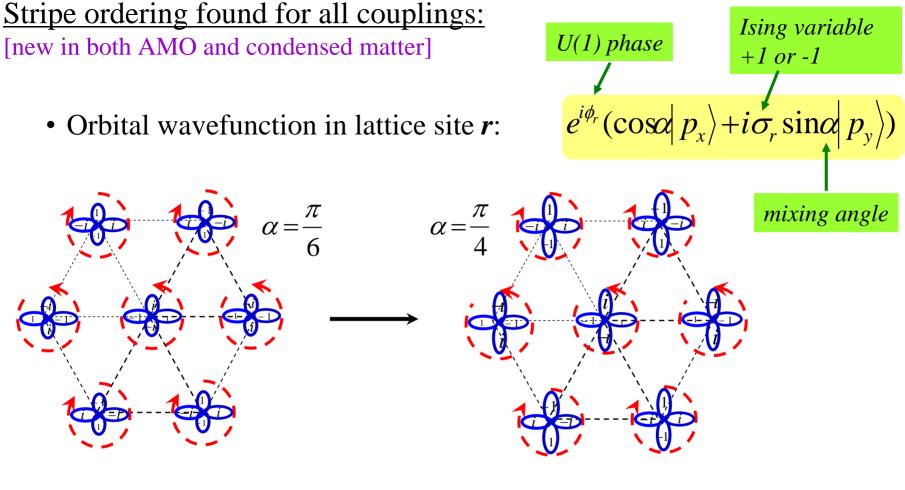


Note: For lowering kinetic energy, any superposition of the three equally works.

Stripe ordered superfluidity



- > Time-reversal, translational, and rotational symmetries are broken.
- c.f. charge stripe orderings in electronic solids (e.g., high Tc cuprates, quantum Hall systems): long range Coulomb interactions, fermionic.



weak coupling

strong coupling

• c.f. strong coupling results also apply to the $p_x + ip_y$ Josephson junction array systems (e.g. Sr_2RuO_4).

Effective gauge theory for strong coupling SF

$$H_{\text{eff}} = -\frac{1}{2}nt_{\parallel} \sum_{\langle \vec{r_1}, \vec{r_2} \rangle} \cos\left\{\phi_{\vec{r_1}} - \phi_{\vec{r_2}} - A_{\vec{r_1}, \vec{r_2}}(\sigma_{\vec{r_1}}, \sigma_{\vec{r_2}})\right\} + \frac{1}{3}U\sum_{\vec{r}} n_{\vec{r}}^2$$

The gauge field (as an "external flux" for ϕ)

External flux in a triangular plaquette:

$$\Phi = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{\langle r, r' \rangle} A_{r, r'} = \frac{1}{6} (\sigma_{\vec{r_1}} + \sigma_{\vec{r_2}} + \sigma_{\vec{r_3}}) \mod 1 \quad \text{must be} \quad \pm \frac{1}{6}$$

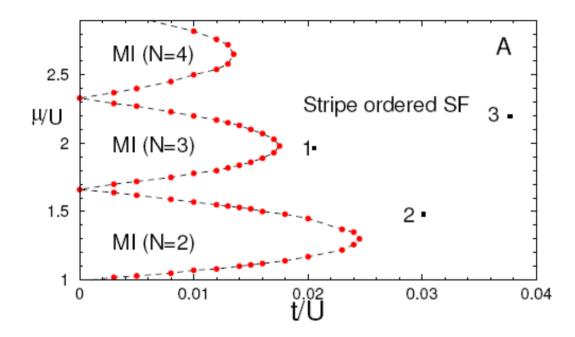
Require minimum flux in each plaquette [as shown, e.g., by Moore and Lee (2004) for a Josephson array of superconductors].

U(1) vortex theory: Duality mapping to a lattice Coulomb gas



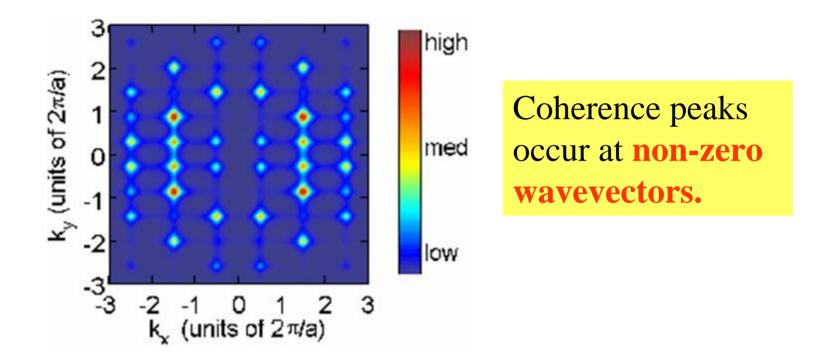
Staggered fluxes (stripe order)

Gutzwiller mean field phase diagram for the p-band bosons in a triangular lattice



Note: Stripe ordering even persists into Mott-insulating states without phase coherence!

Prediction: Time-of-flight experiment



Predicted TOF density distribution for the stripe-ordered porbital superfluid [C. Wu, WVL, J. Moore, and S. Das Sarma, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2006)]

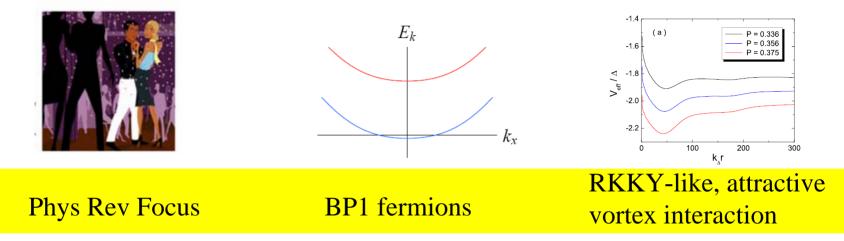
Novelty of lattice p-band Bose gases

- Non-zero momentum BEC---defying the paradigm: predicted in theory, and discovered in experiments (for square lattice).
- Quantum orbital stripe order in a triangular lattice, in both the superfluid and Mott insulator phase.
- A rich set of broken symmetries: time reversal (T), orbital unitary transformation, space rotation and translation, and U(1).
- Different than He-3 superfluid: p-wave of the center-ofmass motion vs p-wave of the relative motion as in He-3.
- Future: novel excitations, topological defects, and topologically bound states?

Summary and Conclusion

Topic A: Breached Pair (without lattice)

[with Forbes, Gubankova, Kim, Stojanovic, Wilczek, Zoller]



Topic B: lattice p-band bosons [with Das Sarma, Moore, Wu]

