

# Strongly Correlated Ultracold Quantum Gases

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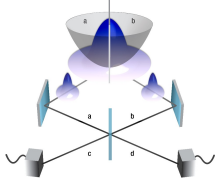
# University College Cork

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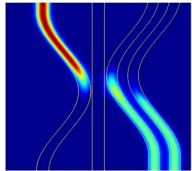
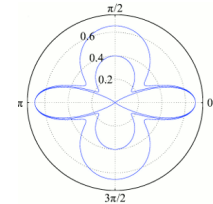
# Ultracold Quantum Gases

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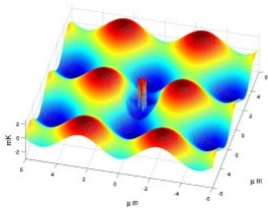
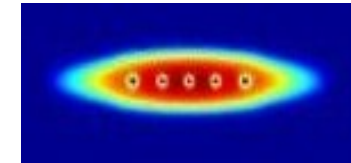
**Quantifying entanglement** in strongly correlated quantum gases

**Non-classical light sources** in degenerate Fermi gases



**Single particle engineering** using adiabatic methods

**Long-lived vortex flux qubits** in superfluid BECs



**Sub-micron fibres in optical lattices**  
for global access quantum computing



Dr. Thomas Busch



John Goold



Suzanne McEndoo



Brian O'Sullivan

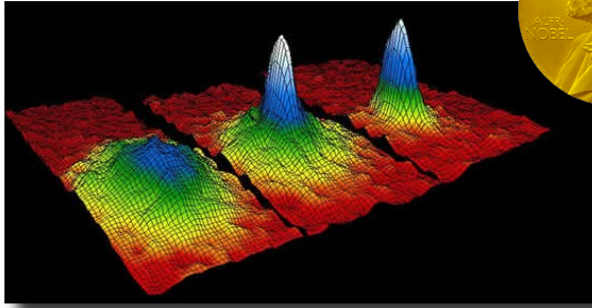


Tara Hennessy

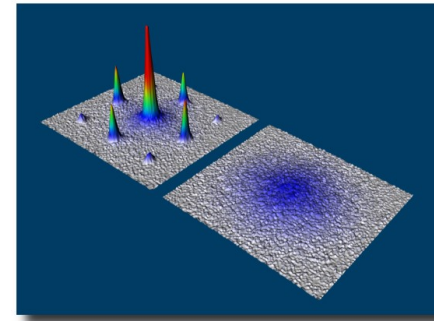
# Motivation

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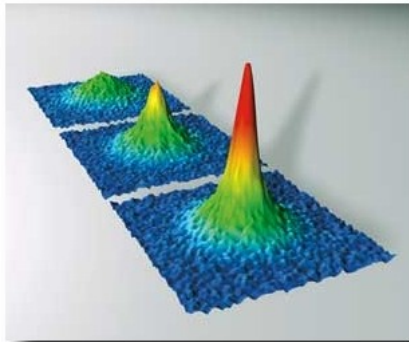
New states of matter:



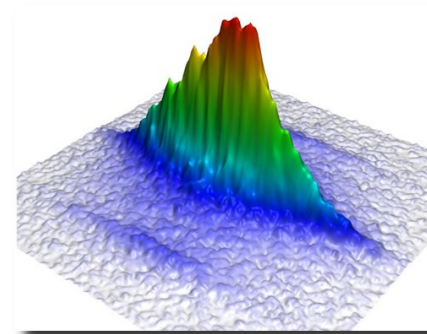
1995 - Bose-Einstein Condensation



2002 - Mott Transitions



2004 – Fermionic Condensates



2004 – Tonks Gas



# Outline

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## 1. Introduction into cold atoms

*Brief*

## 2. When Bosons and Fermions become alike:

*Tonks-Girardeau gas*

## 3. Interesting Dynamics:

*Tonks-Girardeau gas in a double well*

## 4. Applications in Quantum Information:

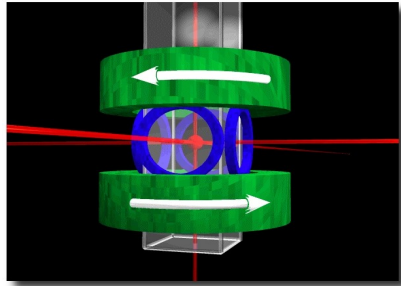
*Entanglement of modes*

## 5. Experimental Systems:

*Atom-Ion Gases*

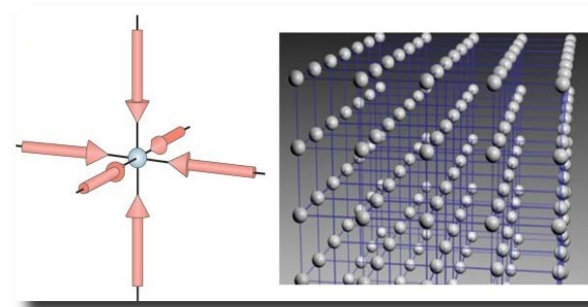
# Trapping

Magneto Optical Trap

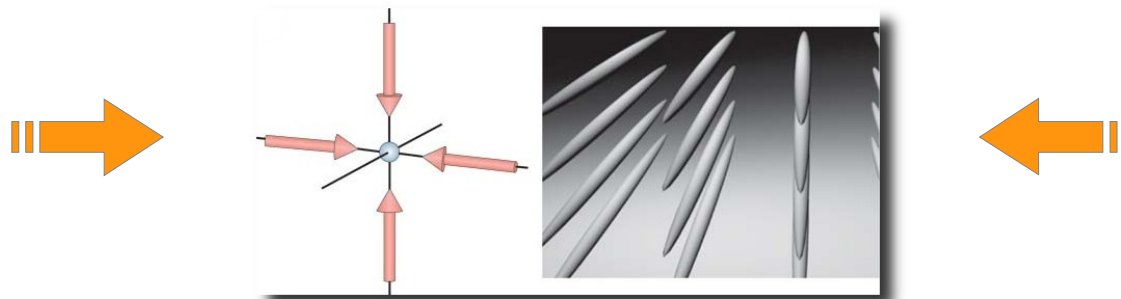


$$a_0 = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{m\omega}} \sim \mu m$$

Optical Lattices



$$a_0 \approx \frac{\lambda}{2} \sim nm$$



effectively lower dimensional system

$$k_B T \ll \hbar \omega_T$$



transverse dynamics can be frozen out!

# Quantum Statistics

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## Bosons (integer spin):

Bose-condensation in three dimensions is very well described by mean field theory using the NLSE.

→ due to the interparticle interaction these systems are *non-linear*

## Fermions (half-integer spin):

Two fermions do not have s-wave scattering due to symmetry reasons and at low temperature higher order amplitudes become very small

→ systems can be described as *ideal* gases

# One-dimensional Systems (Bosons only)

---

High Density Limit:

Non-linear Schrödinger Equation can be exactly solved for  $V(x) = 0$

$$E\psi(x) = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\nabla^2\psi(x) + V(x)\psi(x) + \underline{g|\psi|^2\psi(x)}$$

→ Dark and bright soliton solutions

Low Density Limit:

Bosonic gas of interacting particles: Tonks gas

$$E\Psi = \sum_{n=1}^N \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_n^2} + \frac{1}{2} m\omega^2 x_n^2 \right) \Psi + \underline{\sum_{i<j} U(|x_i - x_j|) \Psi}$$

→ Bosons become indistinguishable from fermions



# Bose-Fermi Mapping

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1.  $N$  neutral, bosonic atoms with point-like interactions

$$H_0 = \sum_{j=1}^N -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx_j^2} + V(x_1, \dots, x_N, t) + a \sum_{i < j}^N \delta(|x_i - x_j|)$$

2. assume  $a \rightarrow \infty$  and replace the interaction term by a constraint

$$\Psi = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad |x_i - x_j| = 0 \quad i \neq j$$

3. equivalent to the Pauli exclusion principle!

⇒ *Solve fermionic problem and symmetrise!*

# Bose-Fermi Mapping

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So, we need:

1. a system where the single particle eigenfunctions are known (and where they are *nice!*)

→ free space, box, harmonic oscillator,...

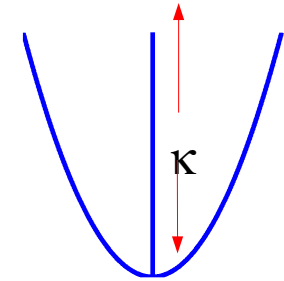
2. a system where the Slater determinant can be calculated (analytically)

→ probably best if eigenfunctions were polynomials

# The $\delta$ -split Harmonic Oscillator

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$$H_0 = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 x^2 + \kappa \delta(x)$$



- the *odd* eigenfunctions of the HO are still good eigenfunctions!
- the *even* ones have to be found

Scaling all quantities:  $a_0 = \sqrt{\hbar/2m\omega}$   $\epsilon_0 = \hbar\omega$  for  $\kappa = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \left( -\frac{d^2}{dx^2} + \frac{1}{4} x^2 + \tilde{\kappa} \delta(x) + \epsilon_n \right) \phi_n(x) = 0$$

For  $x > 0$  this is Whittakers equation!

# The $\delta$ -split Harmonic Oscillator

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$x > 0$

$$U(\epsilon_n, x) = \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\pi\epsilon_n}{2}\right) Y_1 - \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\pi\epsilon_n}{2}\right) Y_2$$
$$Y_1 = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_n\right)}{\sqrt{\pi} 2^{\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_n}} e^{\frac{1}{4}x^2} M\left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_n, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}x^2\right)$$
$$Y_2 = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_n\right)}{\sqrt{\pi} 2^{-\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_n}} e^{-\frac{1}{4}x^2} x M\left(\frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_n, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2}x^2\right)$$

for any value of  $\kappa$ !

$x < 0$  since we are looking for the even eigenfunctions

$$\phi_n(x) = CU(\epsilon_n, |x|)$$

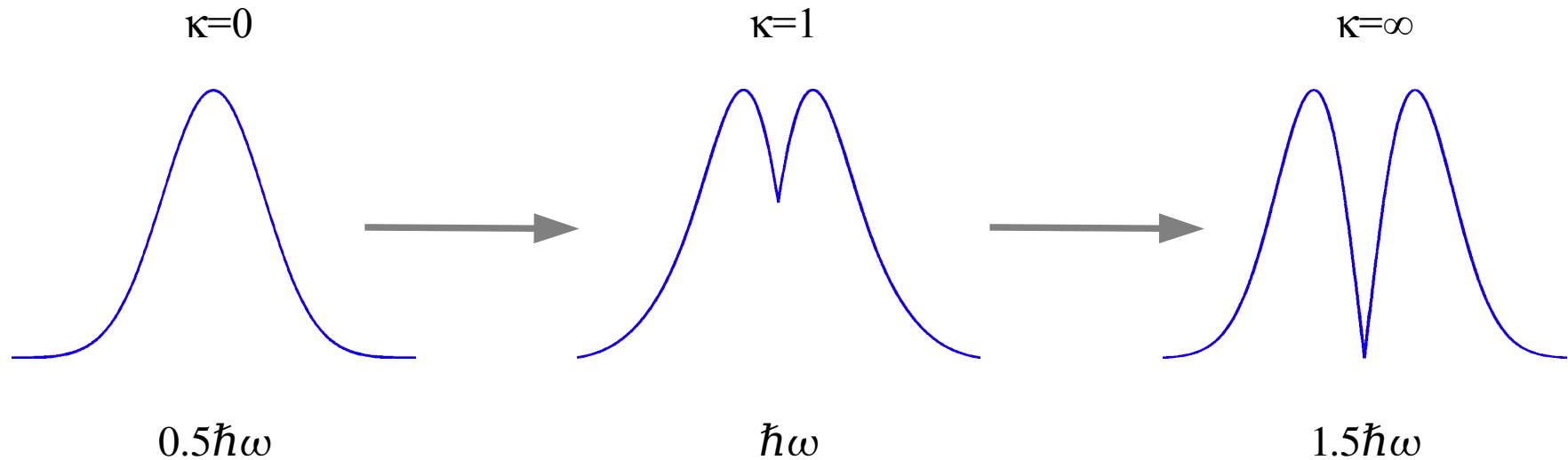
$x = 0$  evaluate the continuity condition:

$$\frac{d}{dx}\phi_n(0^+) - \frac{d}{dx}\phi_n(0^-) = \tilde{\kappa}\phi_n(0)$$

# Ground State Eigenfunction

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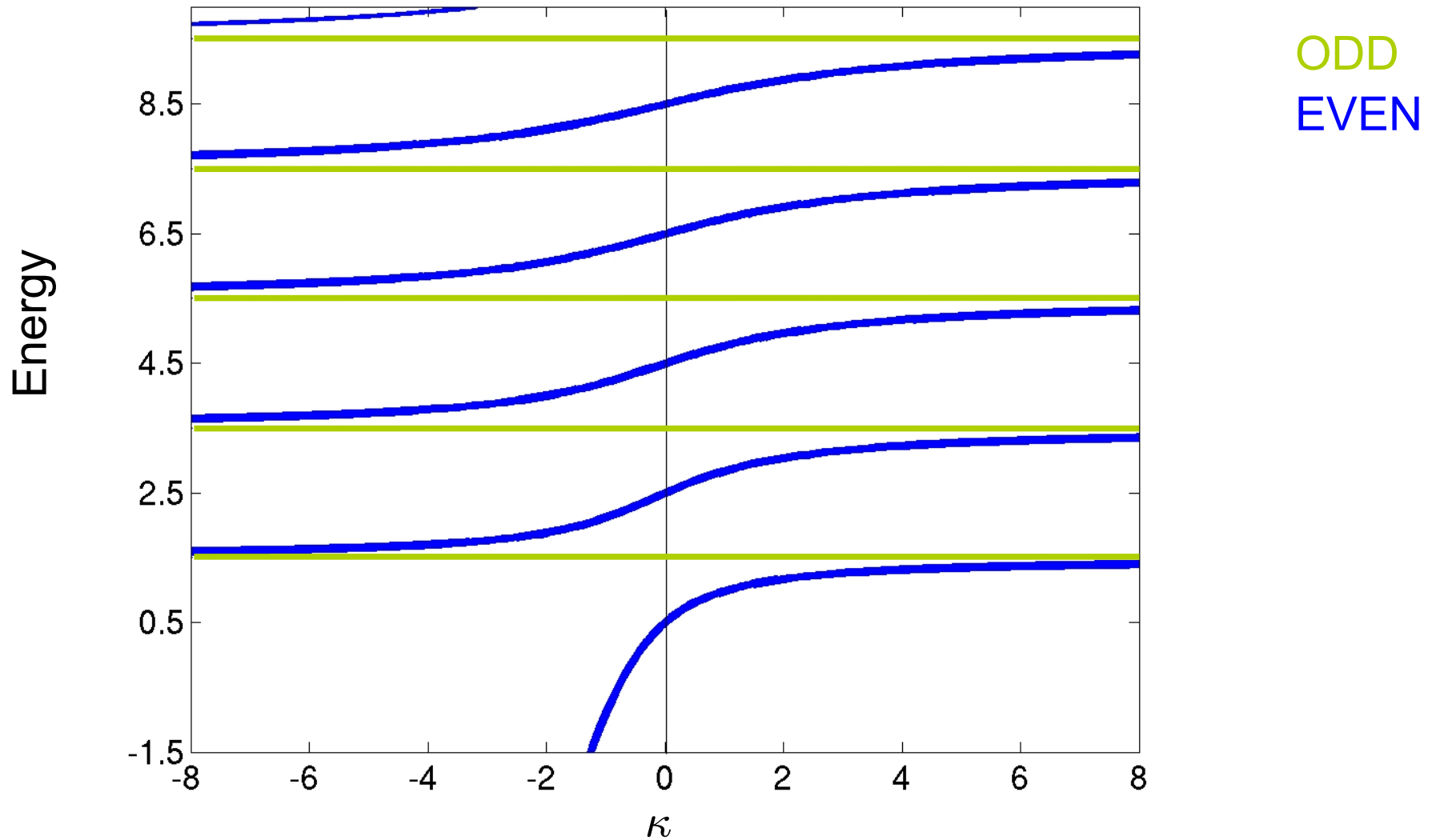
With increasing central potential height the magnitude at the centre of the even eigenfunctions decreases:



- ⇒ same functional behaviour for all other even states
- ⇒ for  $\kappa = \infty$  even and odd states become degenerate

# Eigenvalues

$$\frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_n\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_n\right)} = -\tilde{\kappa}$$





# Many Particles in a $\delta$ -split trap

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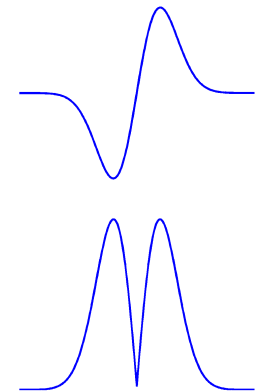
Next: calculate the Slater determinant...

$$\psi_F(x_1, \dots, x_N) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N!}} \det_{(n,j)=(0,1)}^{N-1,N} \phi_n(x_j)$$

**Example:** infinitely high barrier ( $\kappa \rightarrow \infty$ )

$$\psi_n(x) = C_n e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} H_n(x) \quad \text{for } n \text{ odd}$$

$$\psi_n(x) = C_{n+1} e^{-\frac{|x|^2}{2}} H_{n+1}(|x|) \quad \text{for } n \text{ even}$$



$$C_n = (\sqrt{\pi} a_0 2^n n!)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

# Many Particles in a $\delta$ -split trap

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Exact many particle wavefunction can be derived:

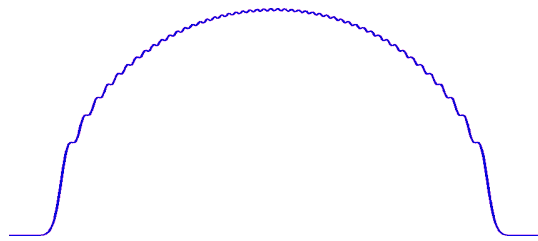
$$\psi_F(x_1, \dots, x_N) \propto 2^{\frac{N^2}{8}} \left[ \prod_j^{N/2} x_j \right] \prod_{(j,k)=(1,j+1)}^{(N/2,N/2)} (x_j^2 - x_k^2)$$

Because we know the ground state is real:

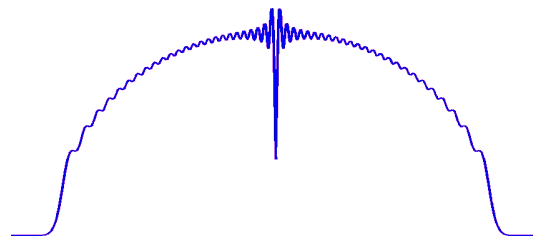
$$\Rightarrow \psi_B(x_1, \dots, x_N) = |\psi_F(x_1, \dots, x_n)|$$

$$\Rightarrow \rho_B(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \rho_F(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

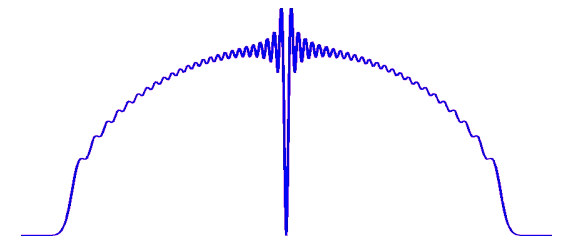
**Bosons and fermions become indistinguishable!**



$$\kappa = 0$$



$$\kappa = 3$$



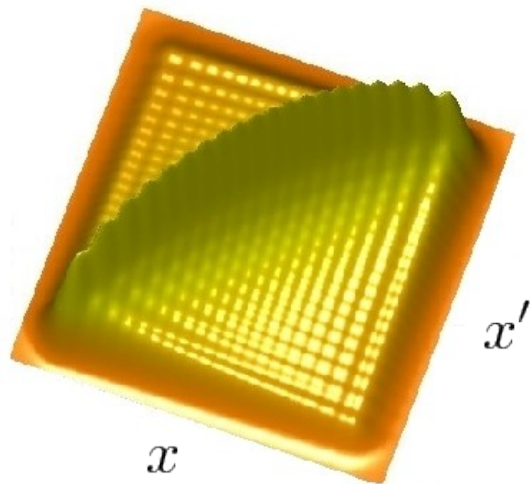
$$\kappa = \infty$$

# Reduced Single Particle Density Matrix

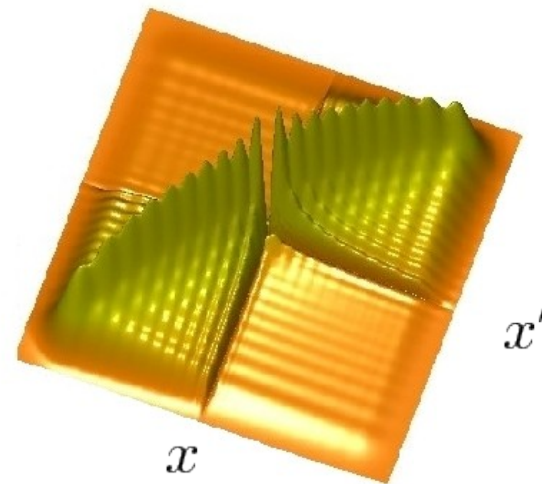
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The self correlations are given by:

$$\rho(x, x') = \int \psi_B(x, x_2, \dots, x_N) \times \psi_B(x', x_2, \dots, x_n) dx_2 \dots dx_N$$



no barrier

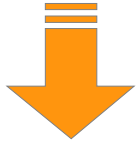


high barrier

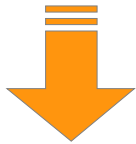
classical result:  $\rho(x, x') = \delta(x - x')$

# Coherences

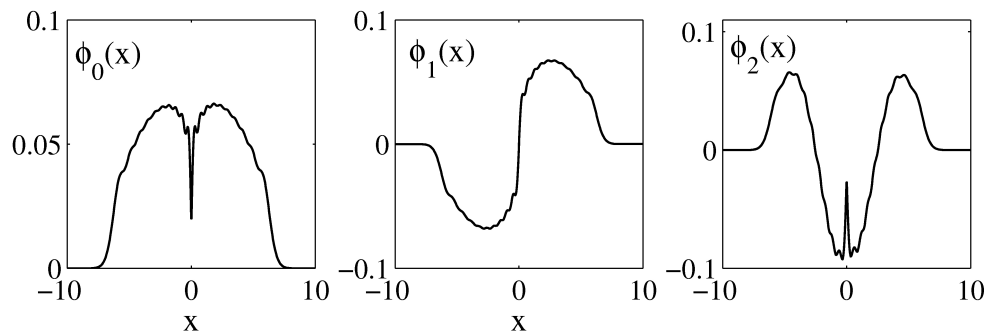
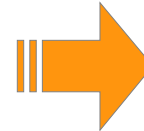
low dimension & strong interaction



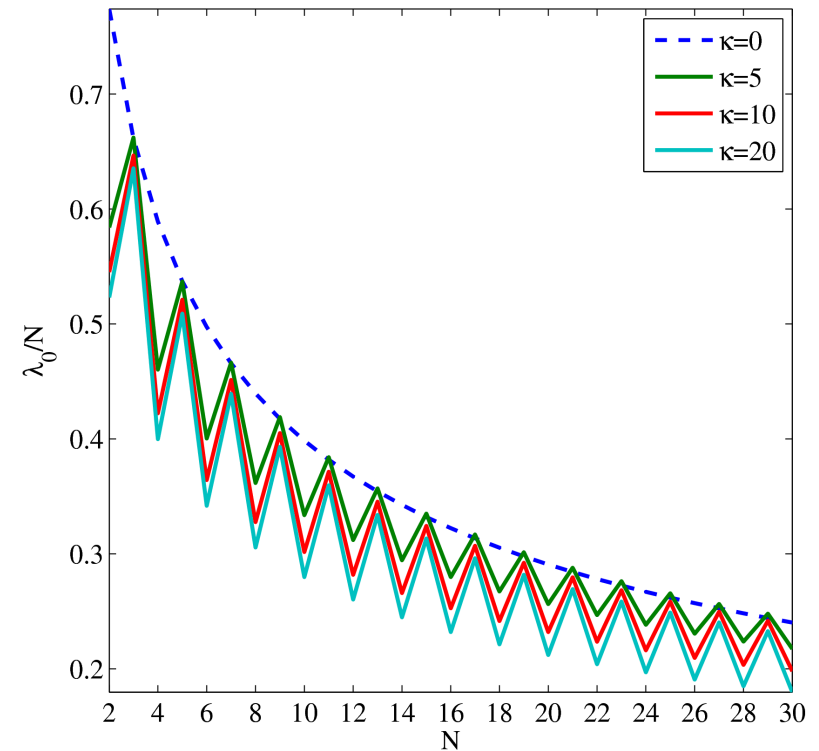
Tonks gas is not Bose condensed!



change of basis by diagonalising  
reduced single particle density matrix



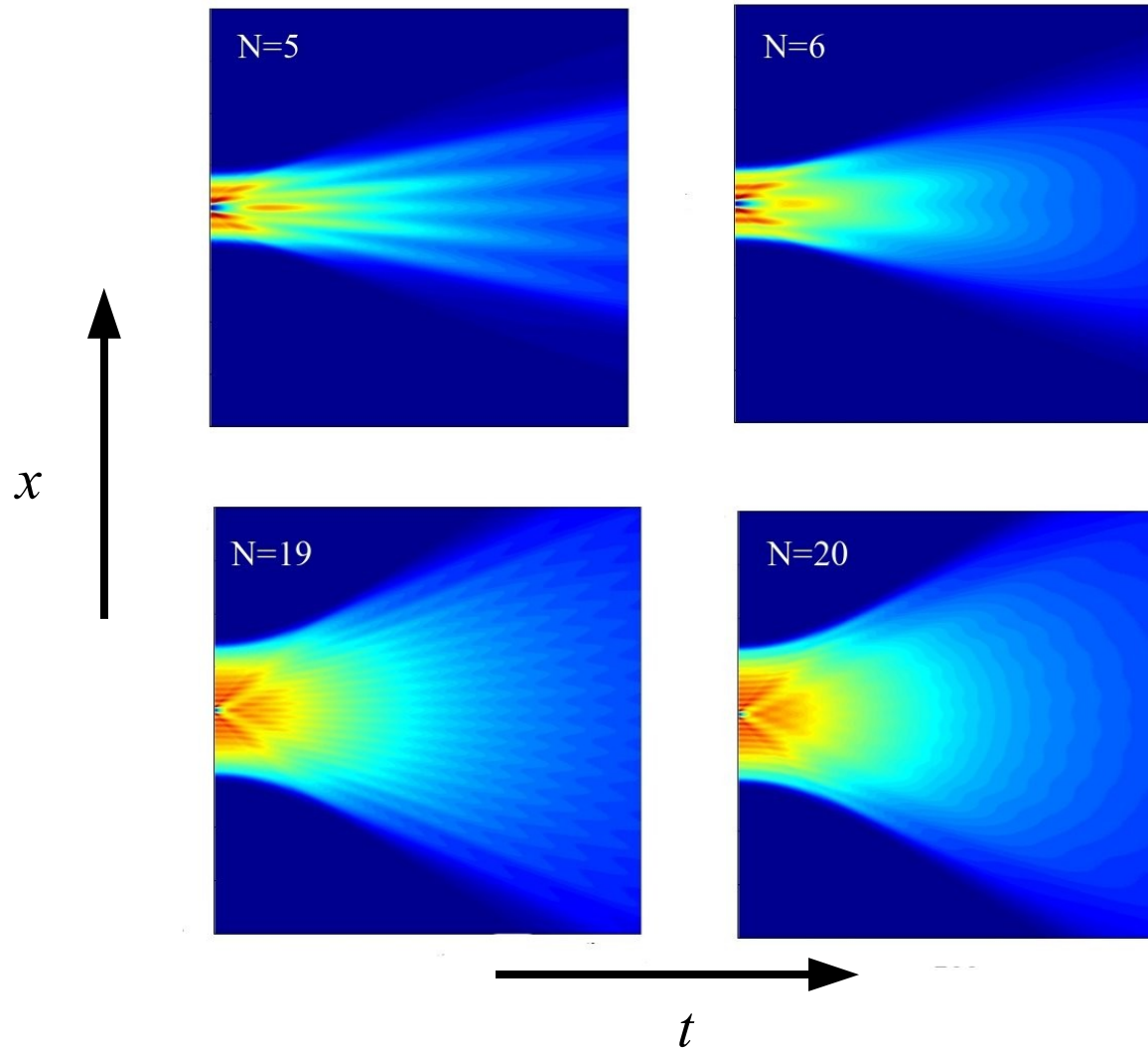
ground state occupation / coherences



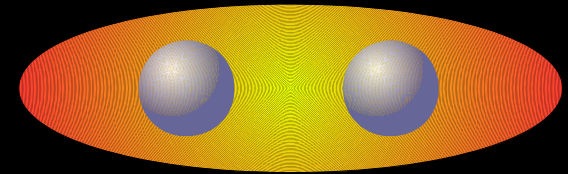
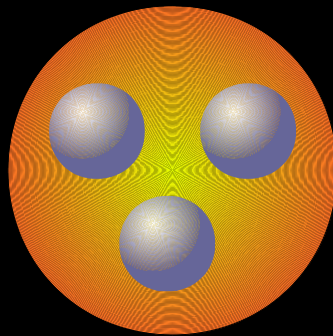
# Interferences

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Switch all trapping potentials off:



# Entanglement in Ultracold Gases



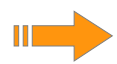


# Why is this all interesting?

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Cold atoms are a well suited system to do quantum information:

well isolated but also highly  
controllable!



Tonks gas, as an exactly solvable model, lets us calculate many of the properties of interest in quantum information

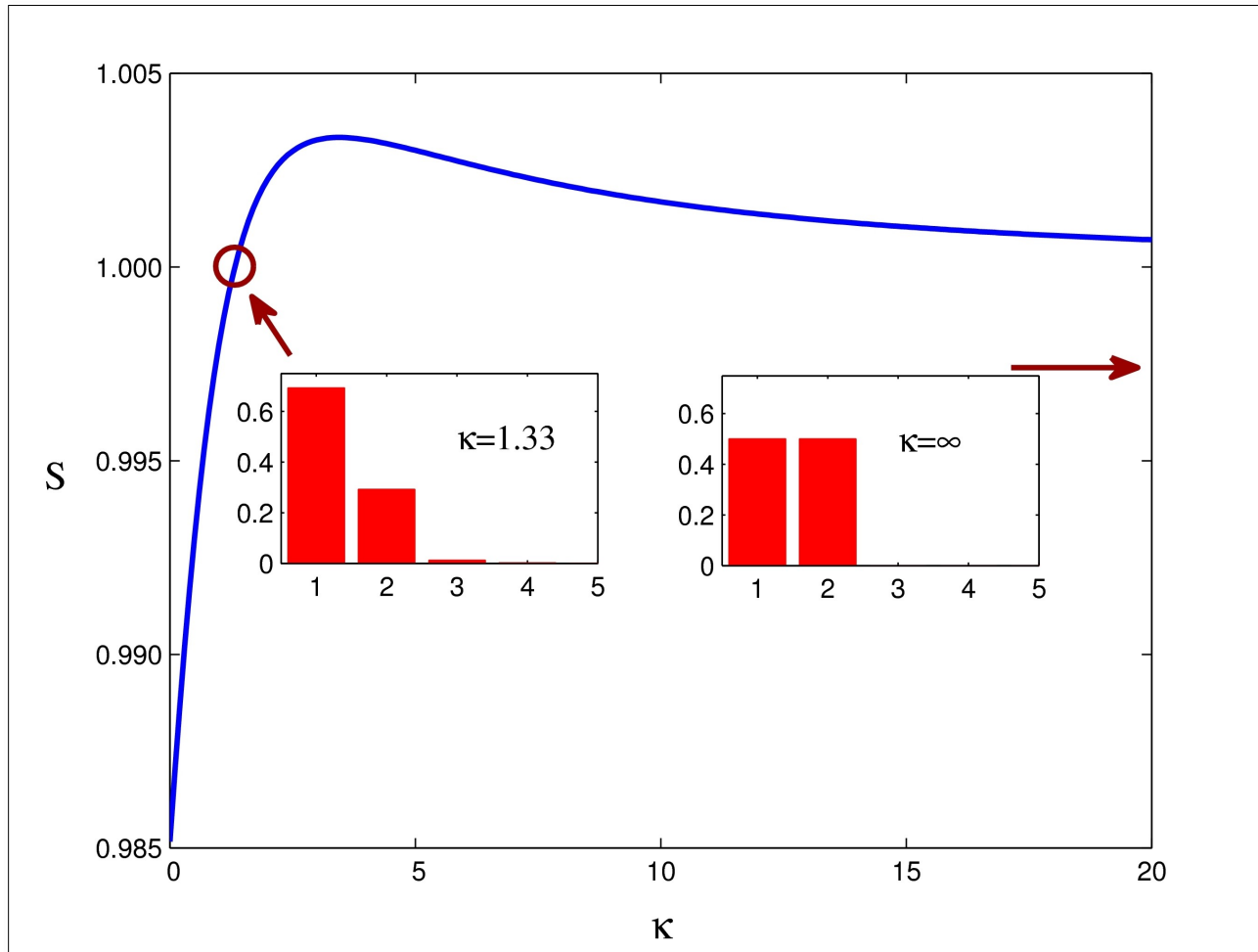
**Example:** Entanglement

$$S(\rho) = -\text{Tr}(\rho \ln \rho) \quad \text{von Neumann entropy}$$

(only for a two particle system though...)

# Two Particle Entanglement

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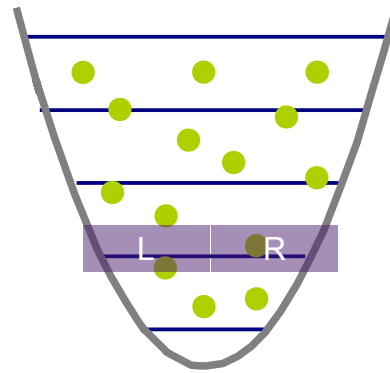


**Indistinguishability?**

# How about many particle entanglement?

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Idea:



- let two particles interact with the gas in two different regions of the trap
- in second quantisation the regions can be described as modes

$$|\phi_G\rangle \sim |L\rangle + |R\rangle \quad \longrightarrow \quad |\phi_{LR}\rangle \sim |10\rangle + |01\rangle$$

- calculate the entanglement of the state of the two sensors

Why is that interesting?

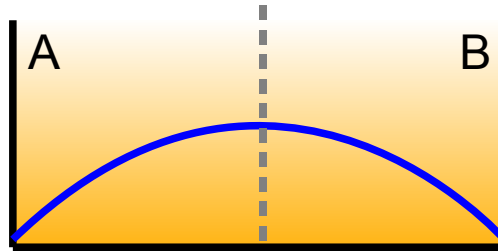
For ideal Bose gas:

increase in entanglement  $\longleftrightarrow$  BEC transition temperature

# Spatial Mode Entanglement

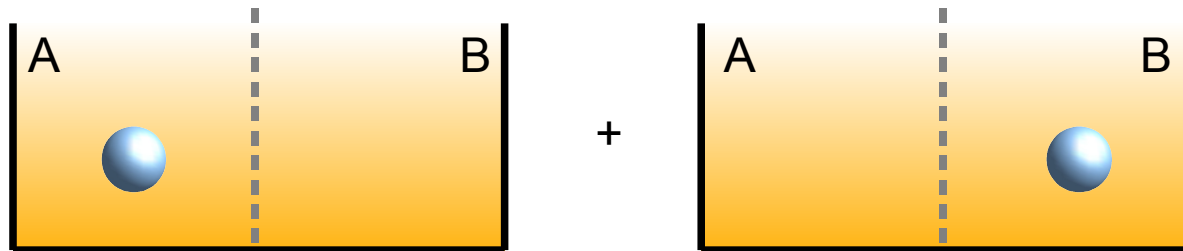
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1<sup>st</sup> Quantisation



Single particle is in a superposition between left and right

2<sup>nd</sup> Quantisation



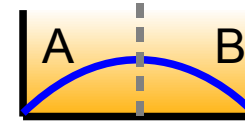
non-local particle number entanglement between modes A and B

$$|\psi\rangle_{AB} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|1\rangle_A|0\rangle_B + |0\rangle_A|1\rangle_B)$$

# Spatial Mode Entanglement

Language: non-relativistic quantum field theory

→ construct mode operators



$$\hat{\psi}_{A,B}^\dagger = \int_{A,B} dx g(x) \hat{\psi}^\dagger(x) \quad \text{bosonic quantum field operator}$$

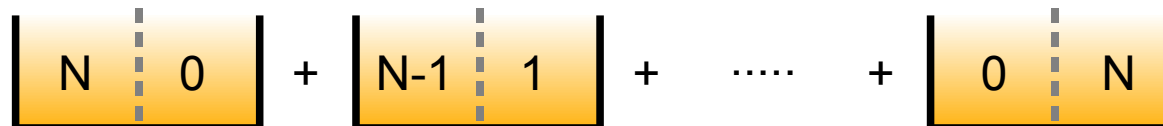
mode function

$$\int |g(x)|^2 = 1 \quad [\hat{\psi}_i, \hat{\psi}_j^\dagger] = \delta_{ij}$$

→ number of particles in the gas  $N = \text{tr} [\hat{\psi}_A^\dagger \hat{\psi}_A \rho] + \text{tr} [\hat{\psi}_B^\dagger \hat{\psi}_B \rho]$

→ N particle BEC split in the middle is described therefore as

$$|\Psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N!}} \left( \frac{\hat{\psi}_A^\dagger}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{\hat{\psi}_B^\dagger}{\sqrt{2}} \right)^N |0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2^N}} \sum_{n=0}^N \frac{\sqrt{N!}}{\sqrt{n!(N-n)!}} |n, N-n\rangle$$

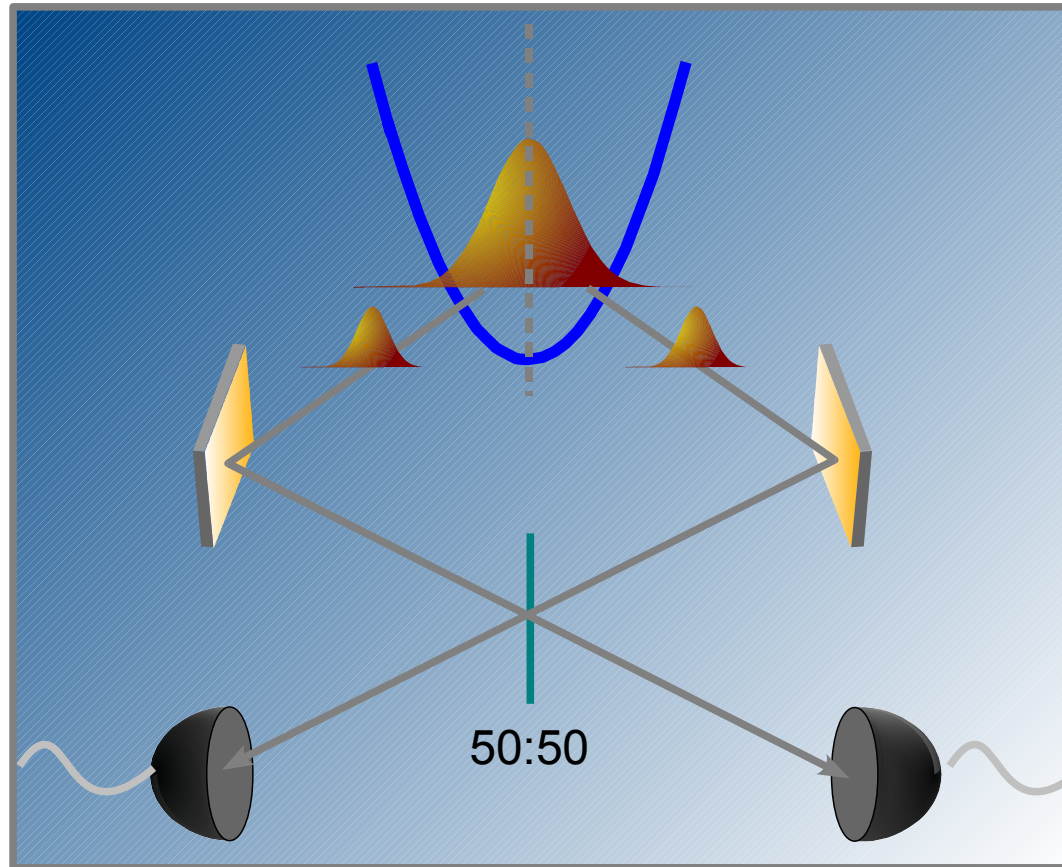


# Interference Detection Scheme

joint measurement  
of the two modes

$$\hat{\psi}_C^\dagger = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\hat{\psi}_A^\dagger + \hat{\psi}_B^\dagger)$$

$$N_C = \text{tr} [\hat{\psi}_C^\dagger \hat{\psi}_C \rho]$$



$$\hat{\psi}_D^\dagger = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\hat{\psi}_A^\dagger - \hat{\psi}_B^\dagger)$$

$$N_D = \text{tr} [\hat{\psi}_D^\dagger \hat{\psi}_D \rho]$$

assume a fixed total particle number

➡ pure, separable state cannot show total destructive interference



# Interference Detection Scheme

→ Calculate detector outcomes:

$$N_C = \text{tr} [\hat{\psi}_C^\dagger \hat{\psi}_C \rho] = \frac{1}{2} \left( \text{tr}[\hat{\psi}_A^\dagger \hat{\psi}_A \rho] + \text{tr}[\hat{\psi}_B^\dagger \hat{\psi}_B \rho] + 2\text{tr}[\hat{\psi}_A^\dagger \hat{\psi}_B \rho] \right) = \frac{N}{2} + \epsilon_{AB}$$

$$N_D = \text{tr} [\hat{\psi}_D^\dagger \hat{\psi}_D \rho] = \frac{1}{2} \left( \text{tr}[\hat{\psi}_A^\dagger \hat{\psi}_A \rho] + \text{tr}[\hat{\psi}_B^\dagger \hat{\psi}_B \rho] - 2\text{tr}[\hat{\psi}_A^\dagger \hat{\psi}_B \rho] \right) = \frac{N}{2} - \epsilon_{AB}$$

$$\epsilon_{AB} = \int_A dx \int_B dx' g(x)g(x') \rho^{(1)}(x, x')$$

reduced single particle density matrix

→ fully separable state:  $\rho_{\text{sep}} = \sum_i p_i |n_i\rangle\langle n_i|_A \otimes |N - n_i\rangle\langle N - n_i|_B$

$$\epsilon_{AB} = 0$$

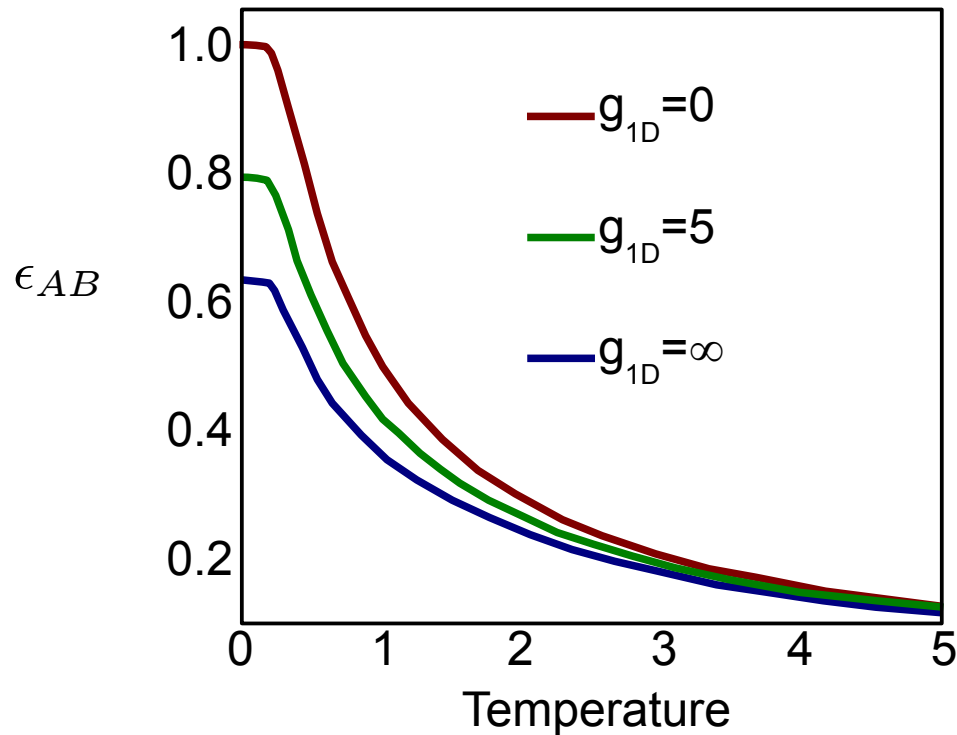
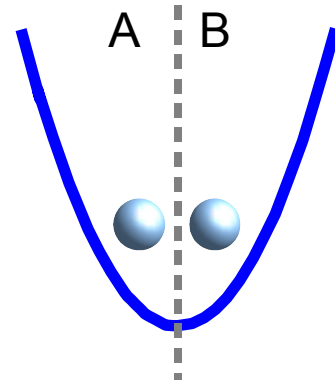
→ general state (of **fixed** N):  $\epsilon_{AB} \neq 0$

→ measure of spatial coherence → good measure for entanglement for N=2

# Cold Boson Pair

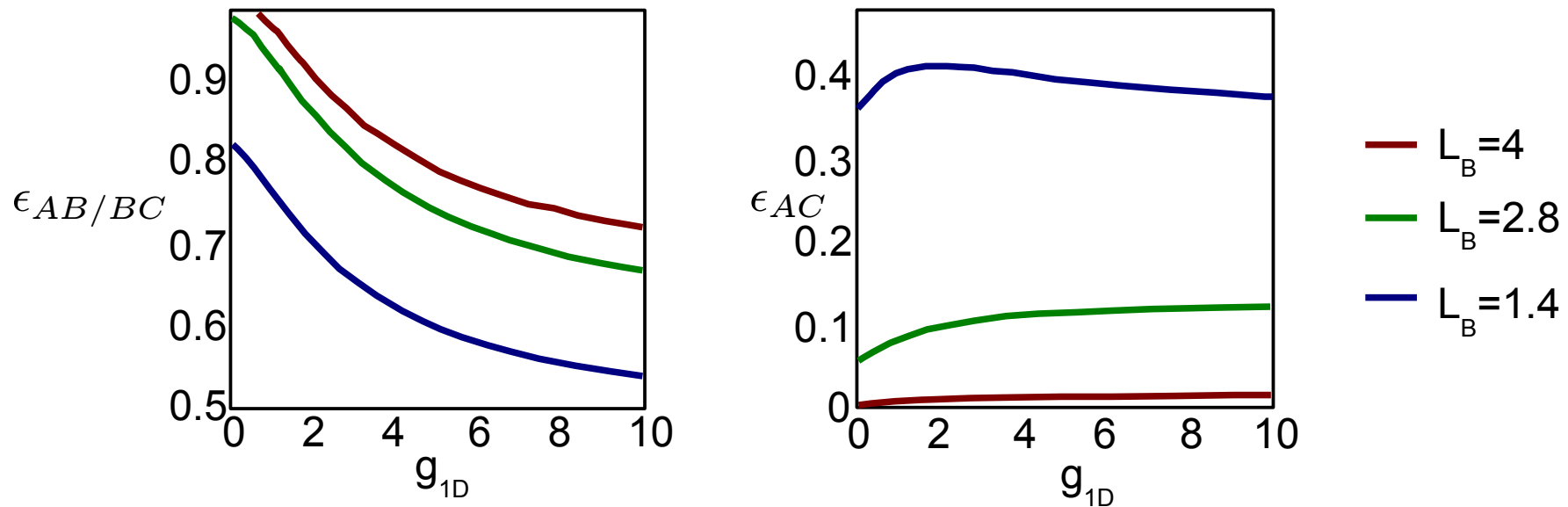
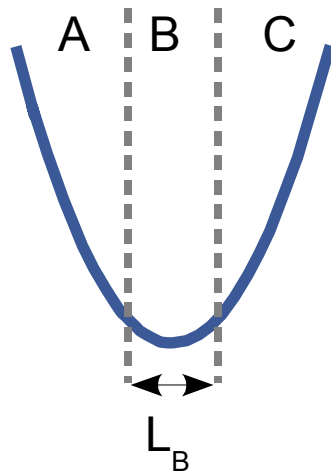
Boson pair Hamiltonian (1D)

$$H = \sum_{i=1}^2 \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx_i^2} + \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 x_i^2 \right) + g_{1D} \delta(|x_i - x_j|)$$



entanglement finite even  
at strong interactions

# Cold Boson Pair

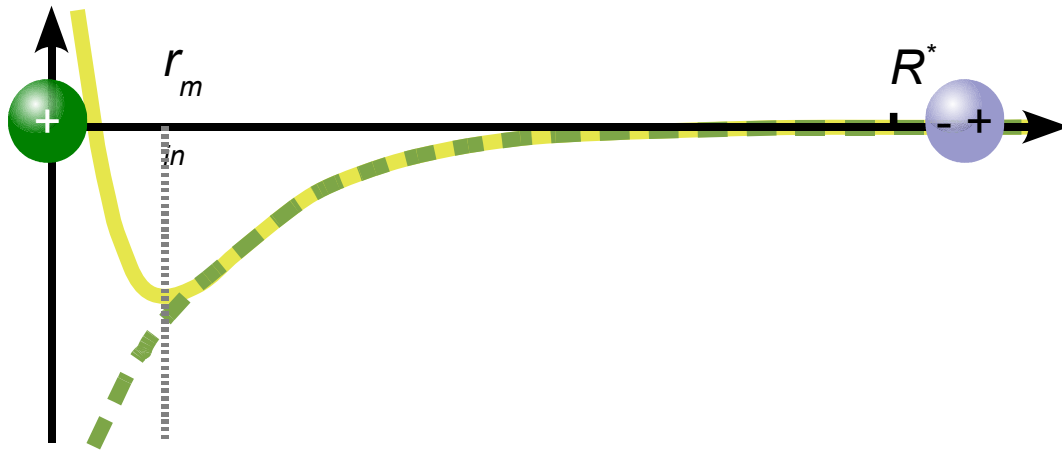


➡ tuning the interaction parameter modifies the distribution of entanglement

# Ultracold Ions in Tonks Gases



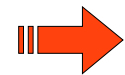
# Born-Oppenheimer polarization potential



$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} V(r) = \frac{-\alpha e^2}{2r^4}$$

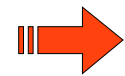
Characteristic scales:

$$\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu(R^*)^2} = \frac{\alpha e^2}{2(R^*)^4}$$



Polarisation length

$$R^* = \sqrt{\frac{2\mu\alpha e^2}{\hbar^2}}$$



Polarisation energy

$$E^* = \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu(R^*)^2}$$

# Atom-Ion Hamiltonian

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Consider the idealised situation where an atom and an ion sit in the same isotropic 3D harmonic trap

$$\mathcal{H}_{ia} = \sum_{\nu=i,a} \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_\nu} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mathbf{r}_\nu^2} + \frac{1}{2} m_\nu \omega_\nu^2 \mathbf{r}_\nu^2 \right) + V_{int}(|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_a|)$$

→ ramp up transverse trapping frequencies  $\omega_\perp \gg \omega_\parallel$

→ for low energies the problem becomes one-dimensional

$$\Psi(r_i, r_a) = \psi_\perp(\rho_i, \rho_a) \psi_\parallel(x_i, x_a)$$

→ go to relative and centre of mass co-ordinates:

$$\mathcal{H}_{rel} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{1}{2} \mu \omega^2 x^2 - \frac{\alpha e^2}{2x^4}$$

# Quantum Defect Theory

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the interaction potential deviates from the  $1/r^4$  law at short distance, which diverges towards  $-\infty$

→ quantum defect theory (neglect harmonic potential)

$$\left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\alpha e^2}{2x^4} \right) \psi_n(x) = E_n \psi_n(x)$$

$$\psi_n^e \rightarrow |x| \sin \left( \frac{R^*}{|x|} + \underline{\phi_e} \right)$$

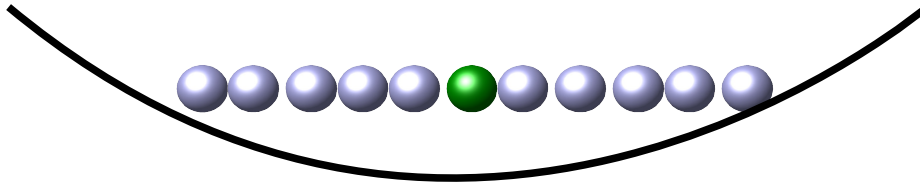
$$\psi_n^o \rightarrow x \sin \left( \frac{R^*}{|x|} + \underline{\phi_o} \right)$$

quantum defect parameters are energy independent short range phases

→ related to s- and p-wave scattering lengths via  $a_{1D}^{e,o} = -\cot(\phi_{e,o})$

→ not known for current systems → numerical solution using the iterative Numerov method

# Ion in Tonks Gas

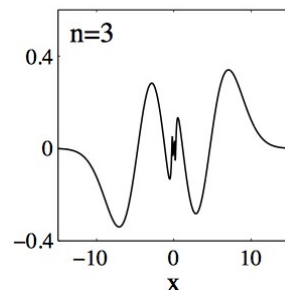
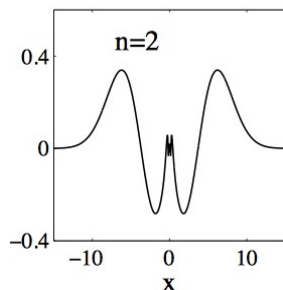
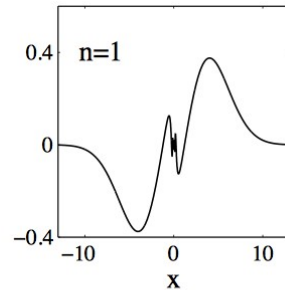
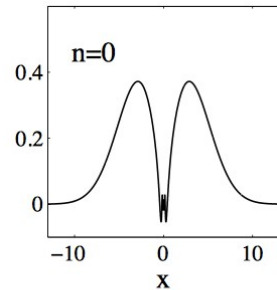


$$H = \sum_{n=1}^N \left( -\frac{d^2}{dx_n^2} + \xi x_n^2 - \frac{1}{x_n^4} \right) + g_{1D} \sum_{i < j} \delta(|x_i - x_j|)$$

single particle problem

atom-atom interaction

$$\xi = \left( \frac{R^*}{a_0} \right)^4$$



Fermi-Bose Mapping  
(as before)

$$\phi_e = -\frac{\pi}{4} \quad \phi_o = \frac{\pi}{4}$$

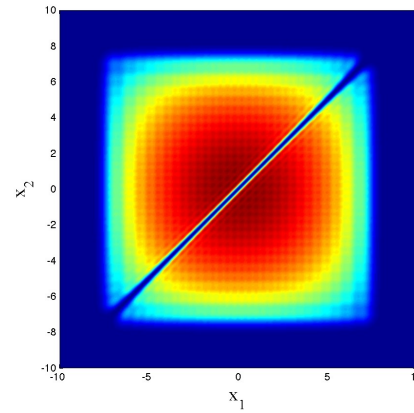


# Molecular Atom-Ion States?

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→ access to bound states requires three body collisions

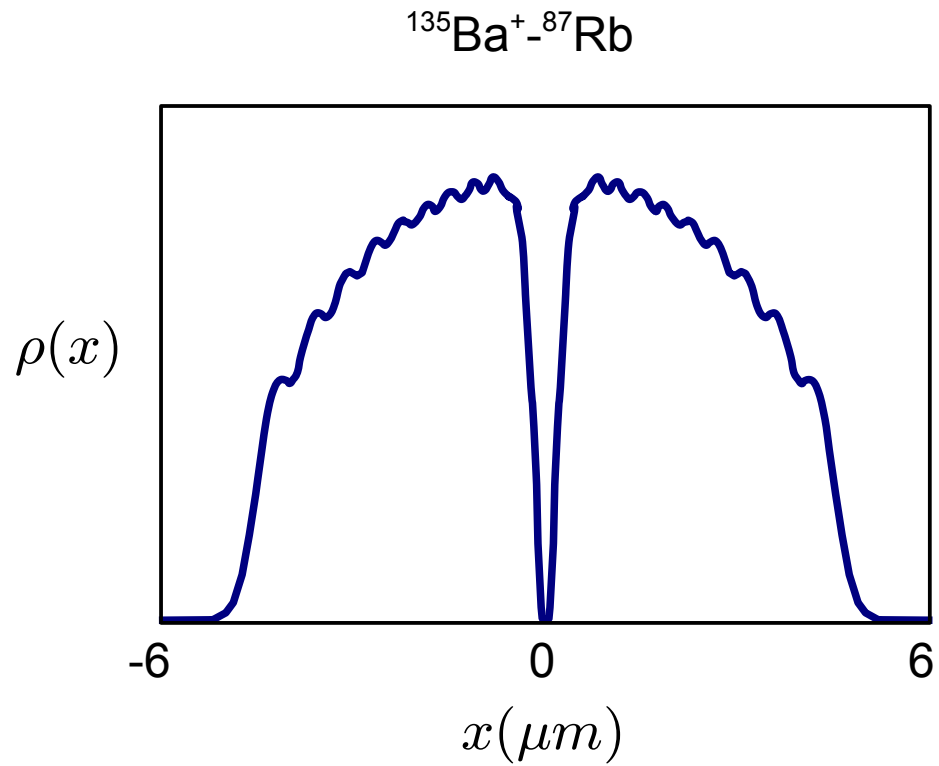
→ but, in Tonks limit the *second order correlation function* shows that its diagonal elements are suppressed



→ in one dimension the system has no access to the bound states!

# Tonks Gas Density

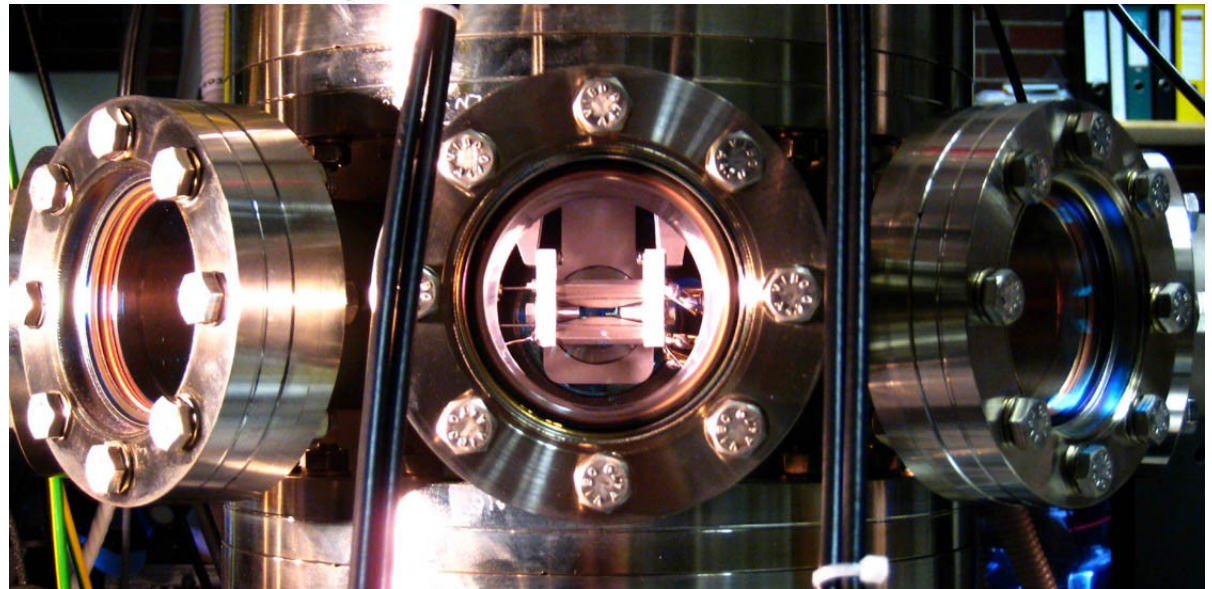
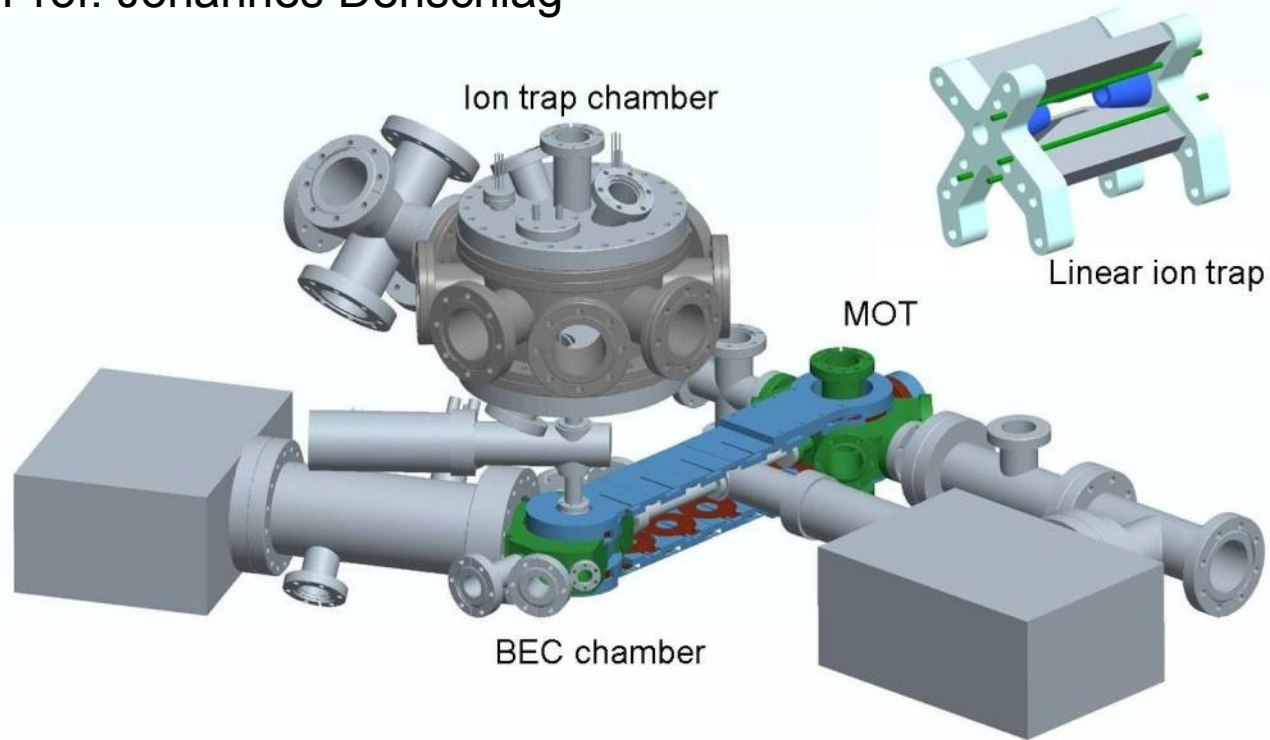
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→ density dip in centre, despite attractive interaction!

# Experiment Innsbruck

Prof. Johannes Denschlag



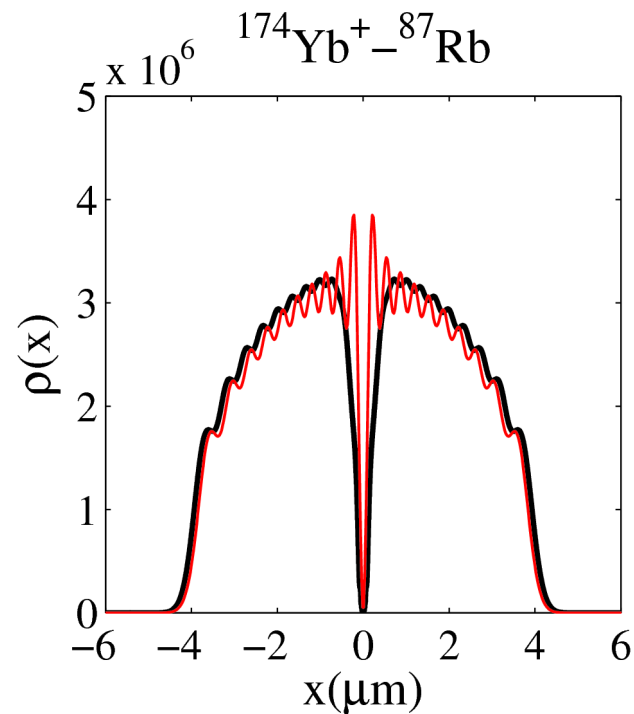
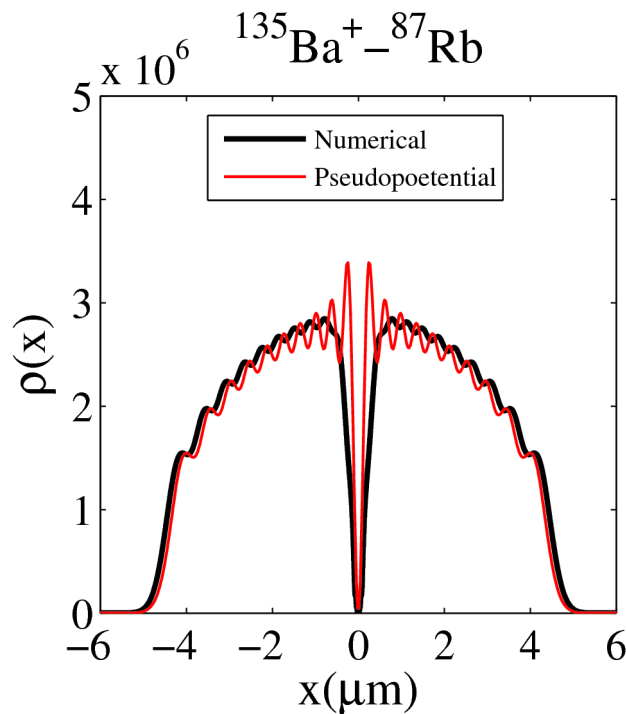
also: Dr. M. Köhl,  
Cambridge

# Pseudo-Potential Approximation

$$H = \sum_{n=1}^N \left( -\frac{d^2}{dx_n^2} + \xi x_n^2 - \frac{1}{x_n^4} \right) + g_{1D} \sum_{i<j} \delta(|x_i - x_j|)$$

vs.

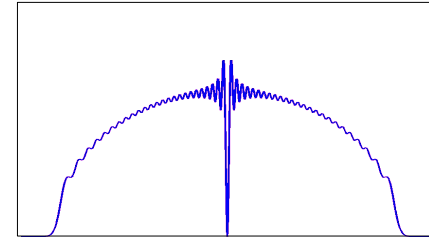
$$H = \sum_{n=1}^N \left( -\frac{d^2}{dx_n^2} + \frac{1}{2} x_n^2 + \kappa \delta(x) \right) + g_{1D} \sum_{i<j} \delta(|x_i - x_j|)$$



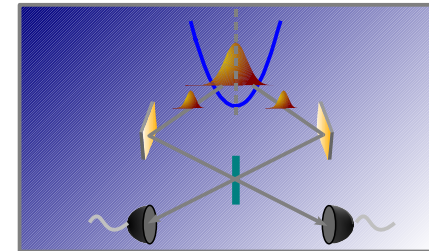
# Conclusion

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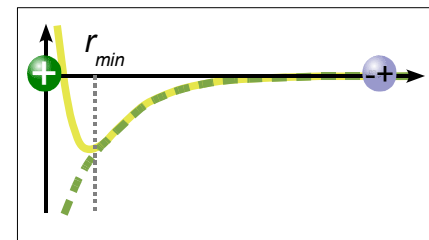
Tonks gas can be solved in a double well trap.



Mode- Entanglement properties can be calculated exactly



One-dimensional atom-ion systems can be treated in quantum defect and TG formalism



# Co-workers

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John Goold

PhD student



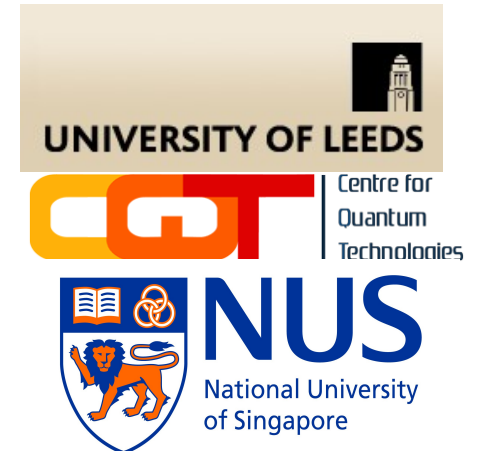
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Jim McCann

PhD student QUB (now Citi)



Libby Heaney  
Vlatko Vedral

PhD student (now Oxford)



Hauke Doerk-Bending  
Tommaso Calarco

PhD student (now Munich)

