

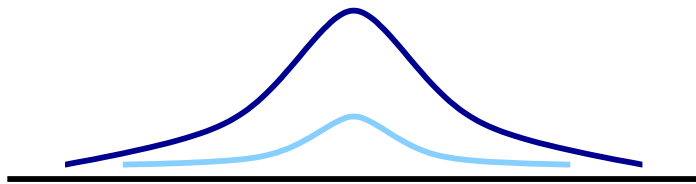
# Nearly Perfect Fluidity in Cold Atomic Gases

Thomas Schaefer, North Carolina State University

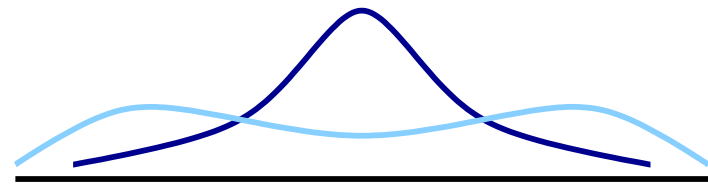


# Fluids: Gases, liquids, plasmas, ...

Hydrodynamics: Long-wavelength, low-frequency dynamics of conserved or spontaneously broken symmetry variables.



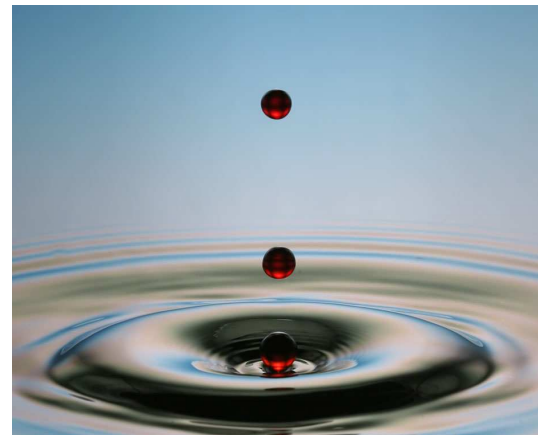
$$\tau \sim \tau_{micro}$$



$$\tau \sim \lambda$$

Historically: Water

$$(\rho, \epsilon, \vec{\pi})$$



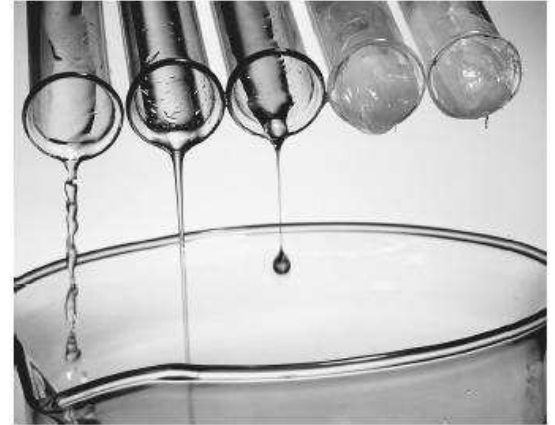
# Simple non-relativistic fluid

Simple fluid: Conservation laws for mass, energy, momentum

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\rho \vec{v}) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial t} + \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{j}^\epsilon = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\rho v_i) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \Pi_{ij} = 0$$



Constitutive relations: Energy momentum tensor

$$\Pi_{ij} = P\delta_{ij} + \rho v_i v_j + \eta \left( \partial_i v_j + \partial_j v_i - \frac{2}{3} \delta_{ij} \partial_k v_k \right) + O(\partial^2)$$

reactive

dissipative

2nd order

$$\text{Expansion } \Pi_{ij}^0 \gg \delta \Pi_{ij}^1 \gg \delta \Pi_{ij}^2$$

## Regime of applicability

Expansion parameter  $Re^{-1} = \frac{\eta(\partial v)}{\rho v^2} = \frac{\eta}{\rho L v} \ll 1$

$$Re^{-1} = \underbrace{\frac{\eta}{\hbar n}}_{\substack{\text{fluid} \\ \text{property}}} \times \underbrace{\frac{\hbar}{m v L}}_{\substack{\text{flow} \\ \text{property}}}$$

Consider  $m v L \sim \hbar$ : Hydrodynamics requires  $\eta/(\hbar n) < 1$

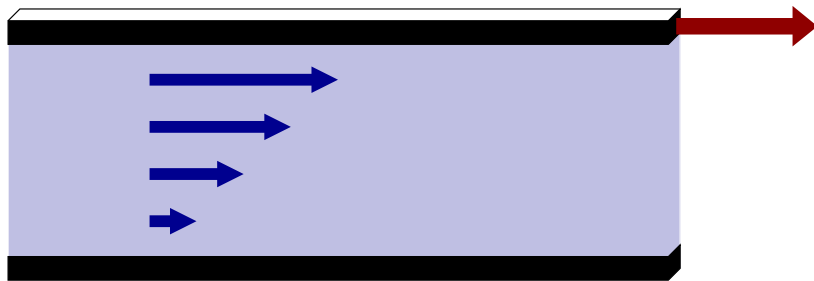
Kinetic theory estimate:  $\eta \sim n p l_{mfp}$

$$Re^{-1} = \frac{v}{c_s} Kn = Ma \cdot Kn \quad Kn = \frac{l_{mfp}}{L}$$

expansion parameter  $Kn \ll 1$

# Shear viscosity

Viscosity determines shear stress (“friction”) in fluid flow

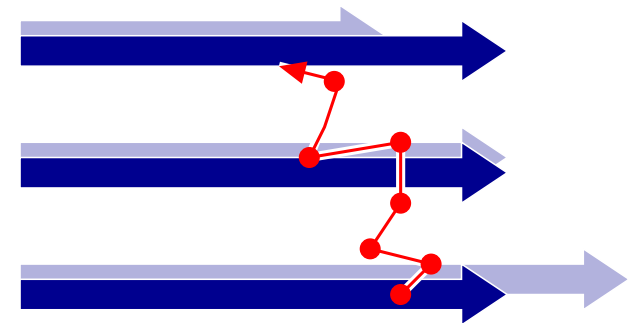


$$F = A \eta \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial y}$$

Kinetic theory: conserved quantities carried by quasi-particles

$$\frac{\partial f_p}{\partial t} + \vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}_x f_p + \vec{F} \cdot \vec{\nabla}_p f_p = C[f_p]$$

$$\eta \sim \frac{1}{3} n \bar{p} l_{mfp}$$



Dilute, weakly interacting gas:  $l_{mfp} \sim 1/(n\sigma)$

$$\eta \sim \frac{1}{3} \bar{p} \sigma$$

independent of density!

# Shear viscosity

non-interacting gas ( $\sigma \rightarrow 0$ ):

$$\eta \rightarrow \infty$$

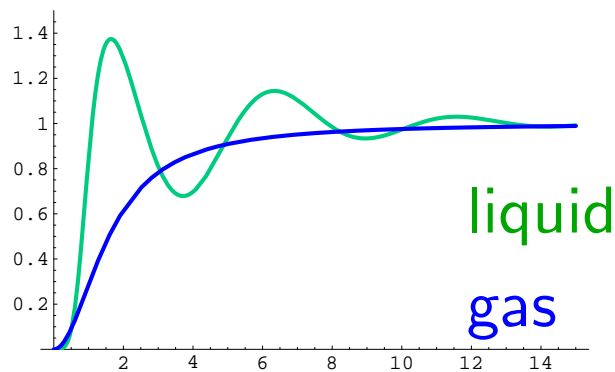
non-interacting and hydro limit ( $T \rightarrow \infty$ ) limit do not commute

strongly interacting gas:

$$\frac{\eta}{n} \sim \bar{p} l_{mfp} \geq \hbar$$

but: kinetic theory not reliable!

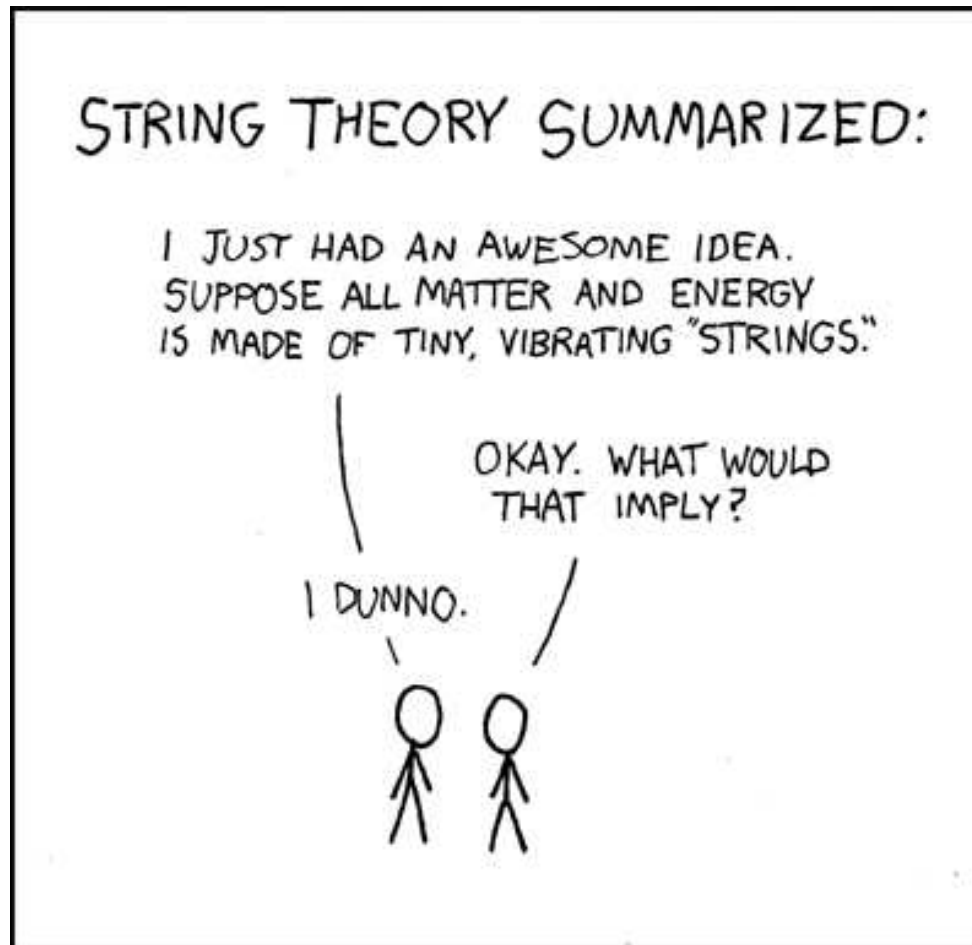
what happens if the gas condenses into a liquid?



Eyring, Frenkel:

$$\eta \simeq hn \exp(E/T) \geq hn$$

And now for something completely different ...



# Gauge theory at strong coupling: Holographic duality

The AdS/CFT duality relates

large  $N_c$  (conformal) gauge  
theory in 4 dimensions

correlation fcts of gauge  
invariant operators



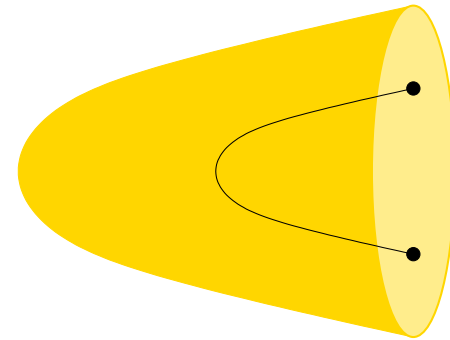
string theory on 5 dimensional  
Anti-de Sitter space  $\times S^5$



boundary correlation fcts  
of AdS fields

$$\langle \exp \int dx \phi_0 \mathcal{O} \rangle =$$

$$Z_{string}[\phi(\partial AdS) = \phi_0]$$



The correspondence is simplest at strong coupling  $g^2 N_c$

strongly coupled gauge theory  $\Leftrightarrow$

classical string theory

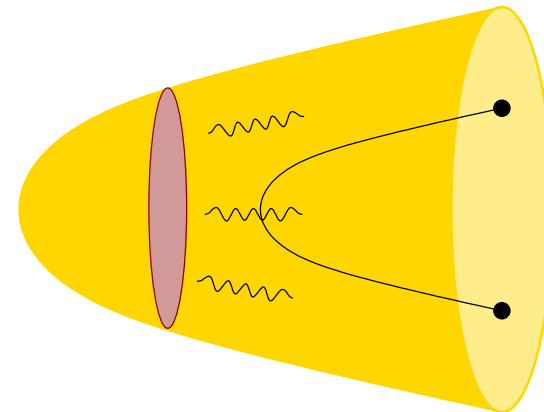
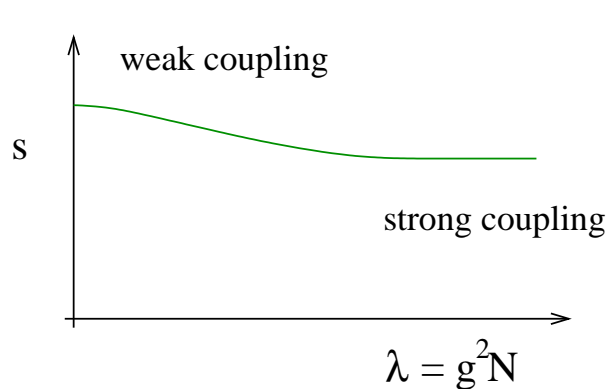


# Holographic duals at finite temperature

Thermal (conformal) field theory  $\equiv AdS_5$  black hole

CFT temperature  $\Leftrightarrow$  Hawking temperature of black hole

CFT entropy  $\Leftrightarrow$  Hawking-Bekenstein entropy  
 $\sim$  area of event horizon

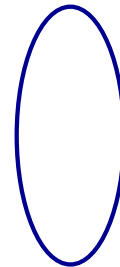
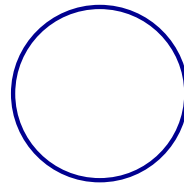
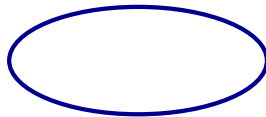
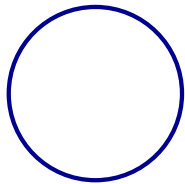


$$s(\lambda \rightarrow \infty) = \frac{\pi^2}{2} N_c^2 T^3 = \frac{3}{4} s(\lambda = 0)$$

# Holographic duals: Transport properties

Thermal (conformal) field theory  $\equiv$   $AdS_5$  black hole

$$T_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{-g}} \frac{\delta S}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}} \quad g_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu}^0 + \gamma_{\mu\nu}$$



CFT entropy



Hawking-Bekenstein entropy

$\sim$  area of event horizon

shear viscosity



Graviton absorption cross section

$\sim$  area of event horizon

# Holographic duals: Transport properties

Thermal (conformal) field theory  $\equiv AdS_5$  black hole

CFT entropy  $\Leftrightarrow$

Hawking-Bekenstein entropy

$\sim$  area of event horizon

shear viscosity  $\Leftrightarrow$

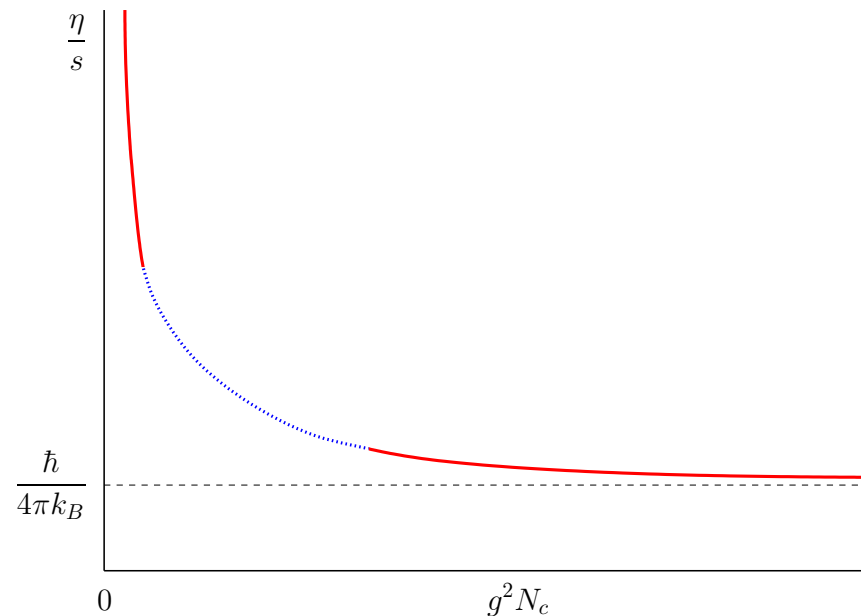
Graviton absorption cross section

$\sim$  area of event horizon

Strong coupling limit

$$\frac{\eta}{s} = \frac{\hbar}{4\pi k_B}$$

Son and Starinets (2001)



Strong coupling limit universal? Provides lower bound for all theories?

## Comment: Why $\eta$ ? Why $s$ ? Why $\eta/s$ ?

Everything is a fluid.

(Hydrodynamics is a general theory of long time behavior.)

At leading order, only need equation of state. But: EOS does not discriminate weakly and strongly interacting fluids.

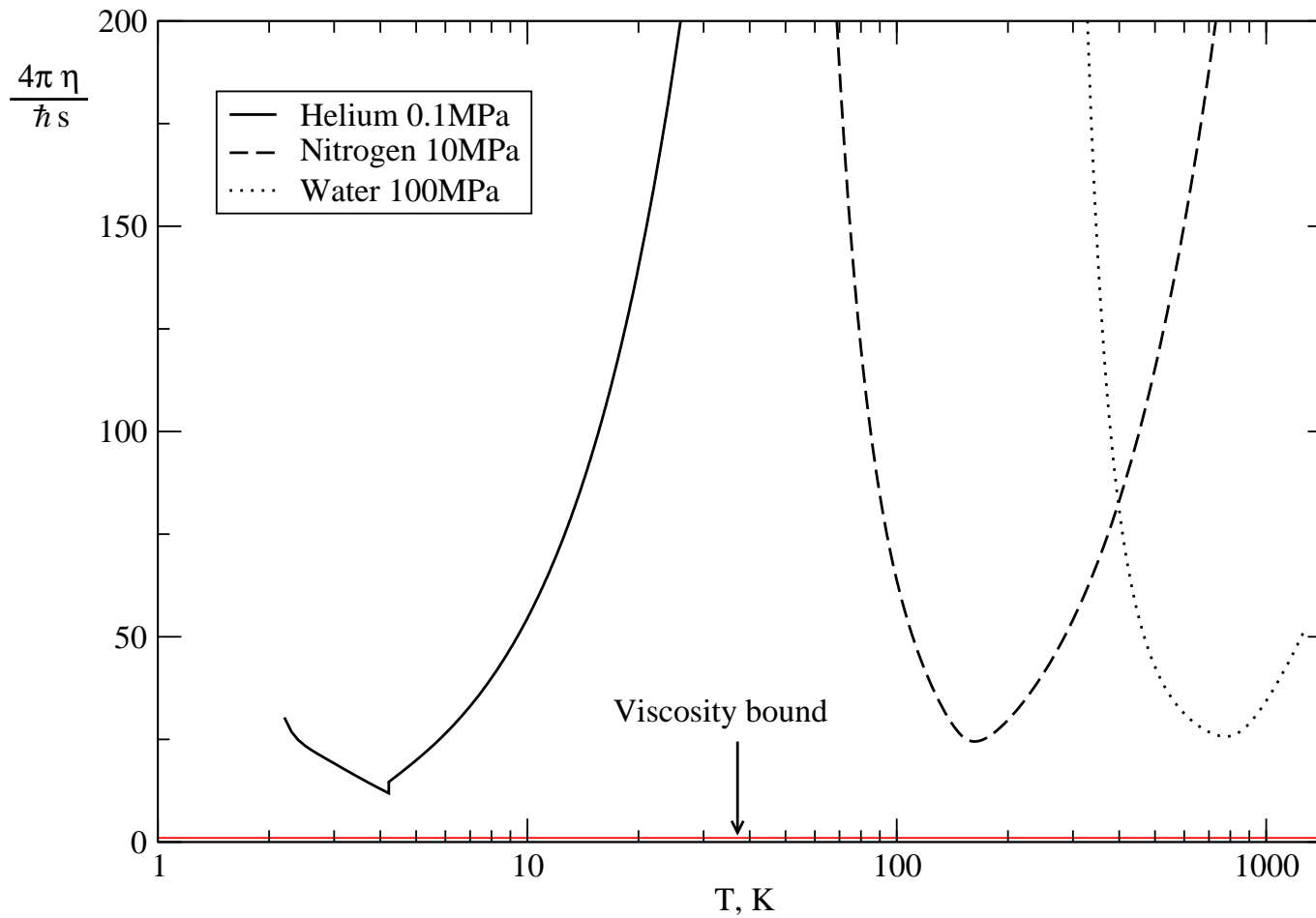
Every fluid has at least  $T_{ij}$ .

$\eta$  is the most basic transport coefficient.

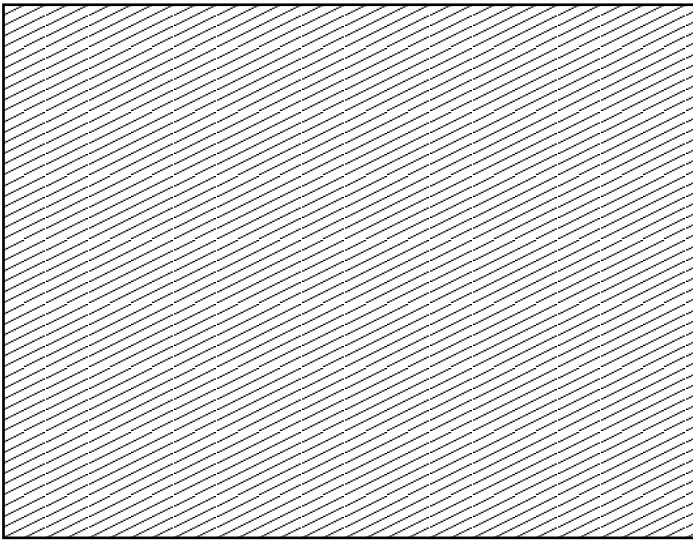
$s$  is the most basic density.

$\eta/s$  is the most universal measure of dissipation.

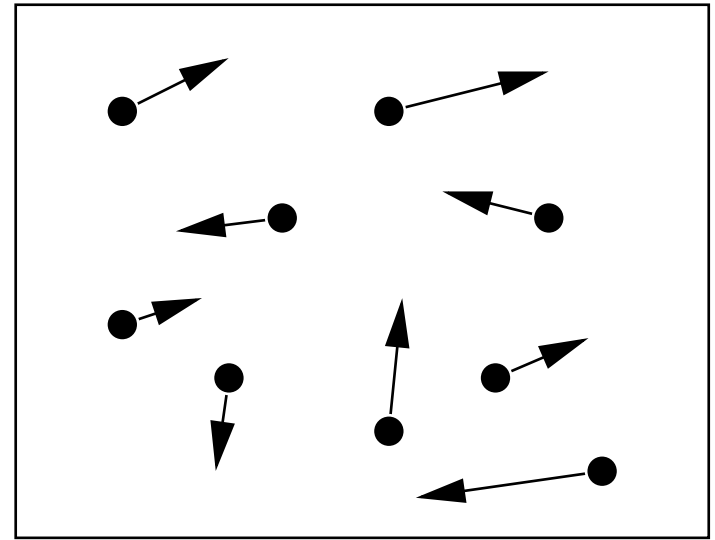
# Viscosity bound: Common fluids



## Kinetics vs no-kinetics



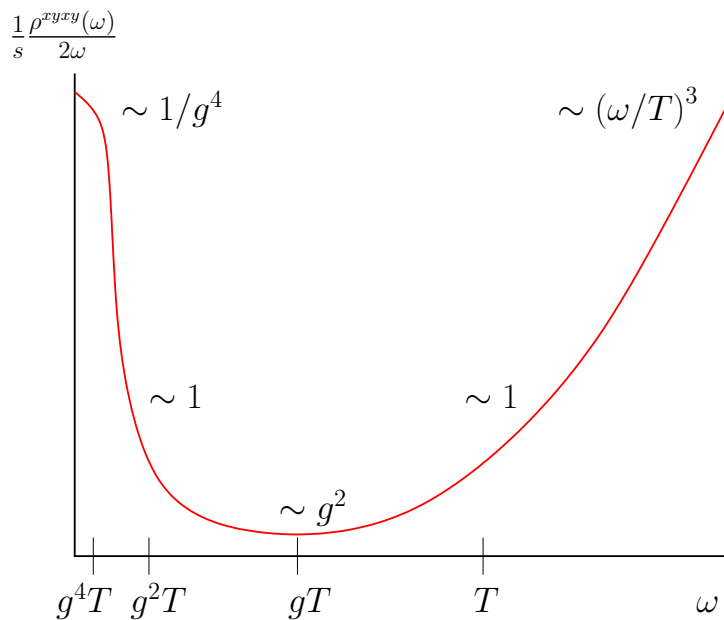
AdS/CFT low viscosity goo



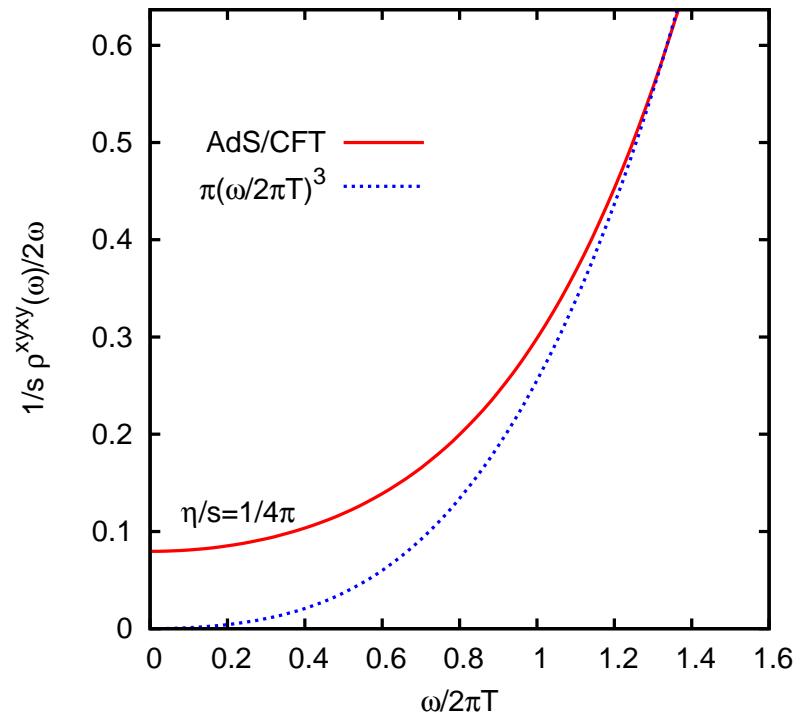
kinetic liquid

# Kinetics vs no-kinetics

Spectral function  $\rho(\omega) = \text{Im}G_R(\omega, 0)$  associated with  $T_{xy}$



weak coupling QCD



strong coupling AdS/CFT

transport peak vs no transport peak

## Perfect Fluids: How to be a contender?

Bound is quantum mechanical

need quantum fluids

Bound is incompatible with weak coupling and kinetic theory

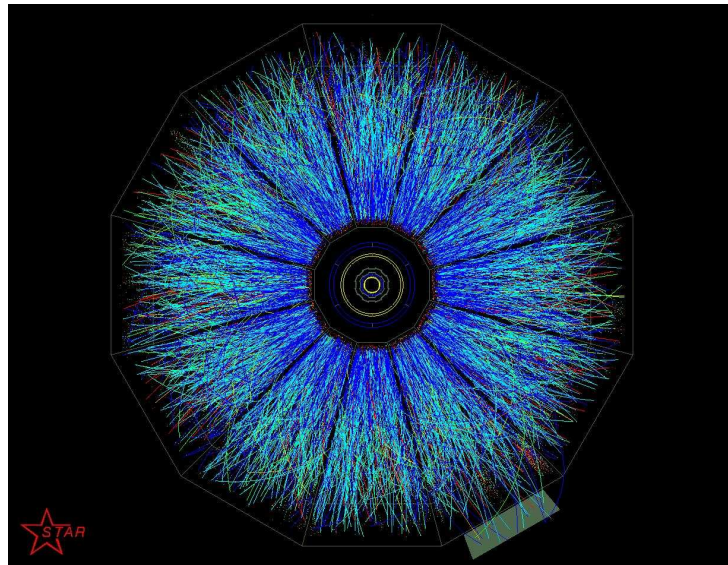
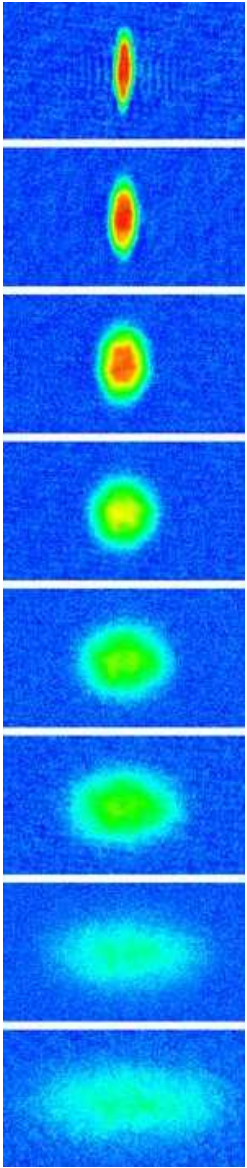
strong interactions, no quasi-particles

Model system has conformal invariance (essential?)

(Almost) scale invariant systems



# Perfect Fluids: The contenders



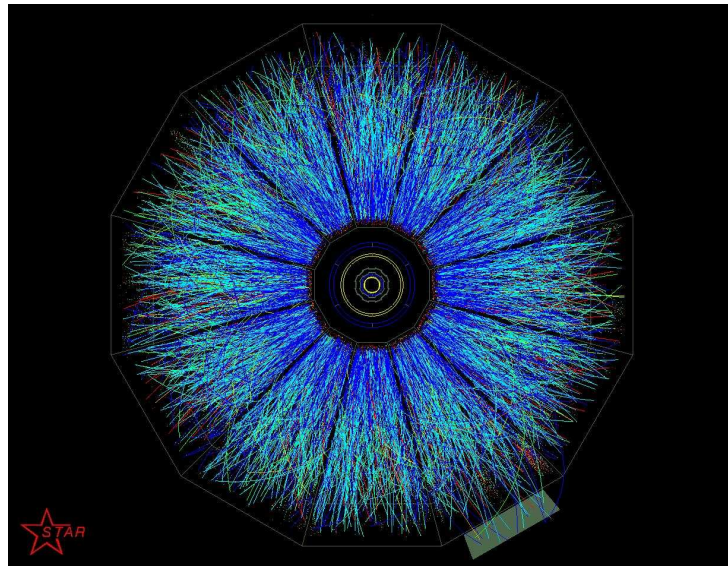
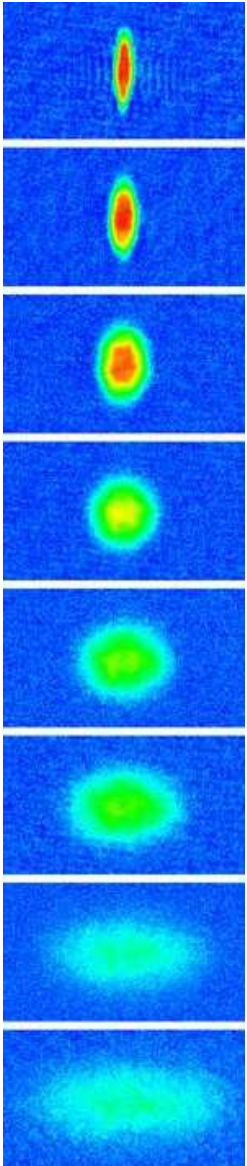
QGP ( $T=180$  MeV)

Trapped Atoms  
( $T=0.1$  neV)



Liquid Helium  
( $T=0.1$  meV)

# Perfect Fluids: The contenders



QGP  $\eta = 5 \cdot 10^{11} Pa \cdot s$

Trapped Atoms

$\eta = 1.7 \cdot 10^{-15} Pa \cdot s$



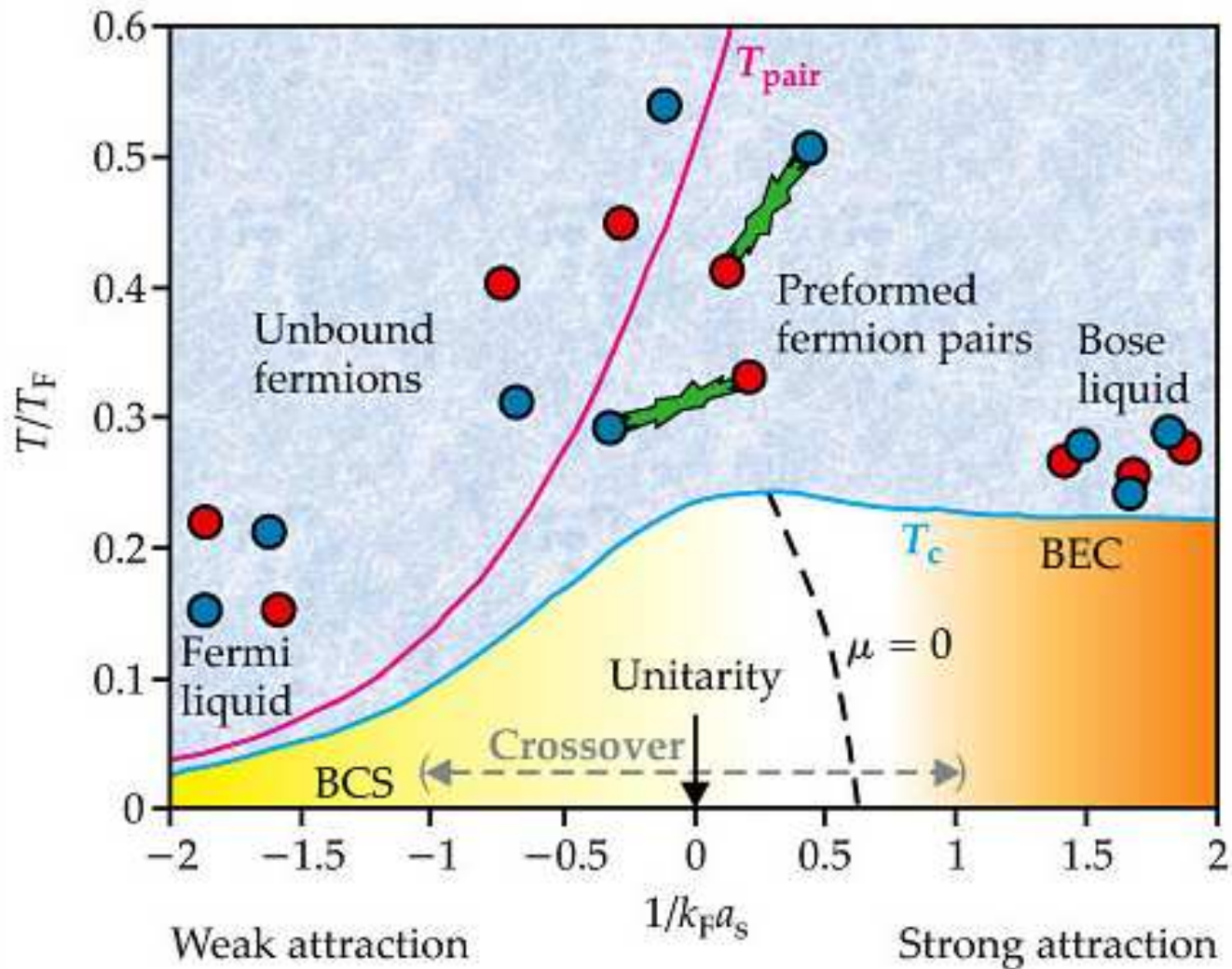
Liquid Helium

$\eta = 1.7 \cdot 10^{-6} Pa \cdot s$

Consider ratios

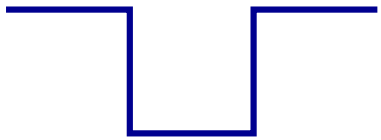
$\eta/s$

# Dilute Fermi gas: BCS-BEC crossover

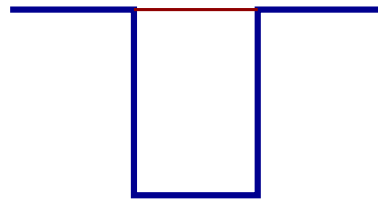


# Unitarity limit

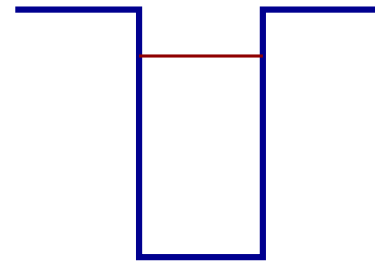
Consider simple square well potential



$$a < 0$$



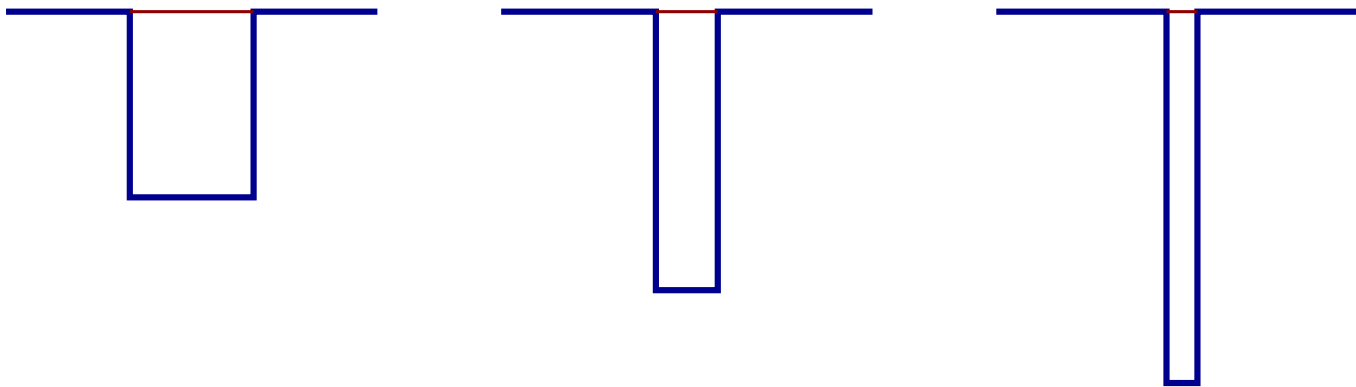
$$a = \infty, \epsilon_B = 0$$



$$a > 0, \epsilon_B > 0$$

## Unitarity limit

Now take the range to zero, keeping  $\epsilon_B \simeq 0$



Universal relations

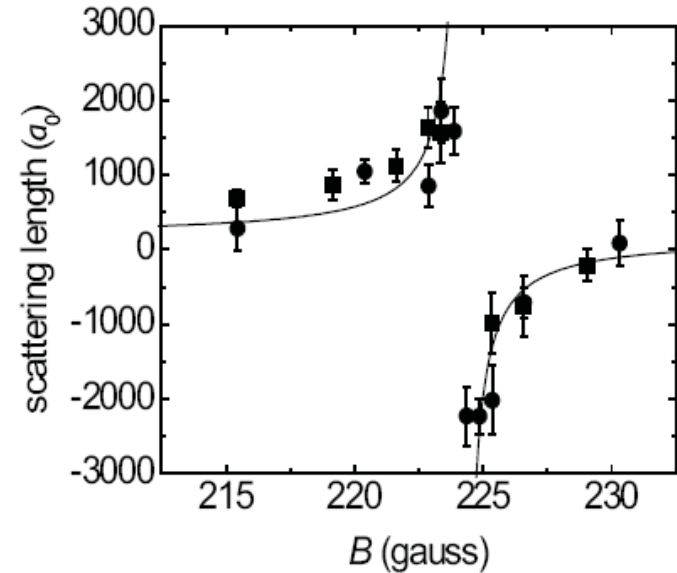
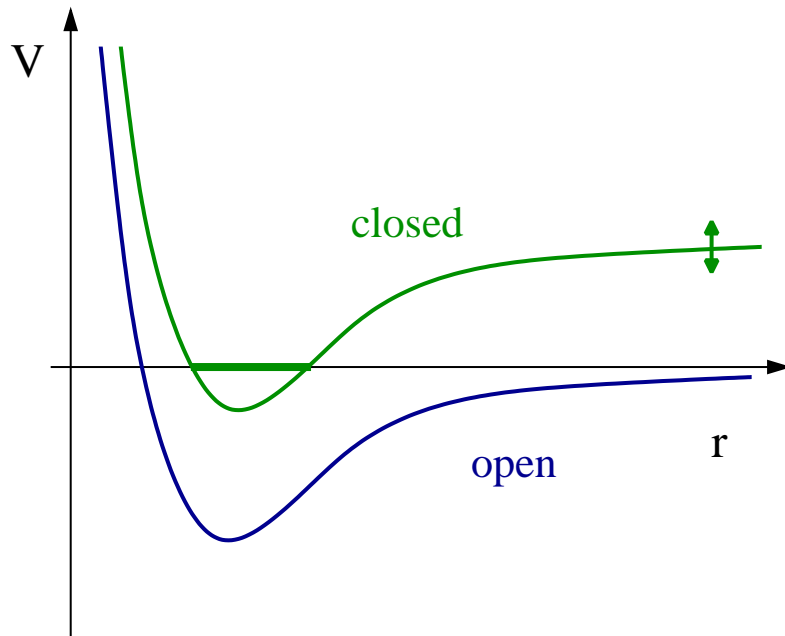
$$\mathcal{T} = \frac{1}{ik + 1/a}$$

$$\epsilon_B = \frac{1}{2ma^2}$$

$$\psi_B \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{ar}} \exp(-r/a)$$

# Feshbach resonances

Atomic gas with two spin states: “↑” and “↓”



Feshbach resonance

$$a(B) = a_0 \left( 1 + \frac{\Delta}{B - B_0} \right)$$

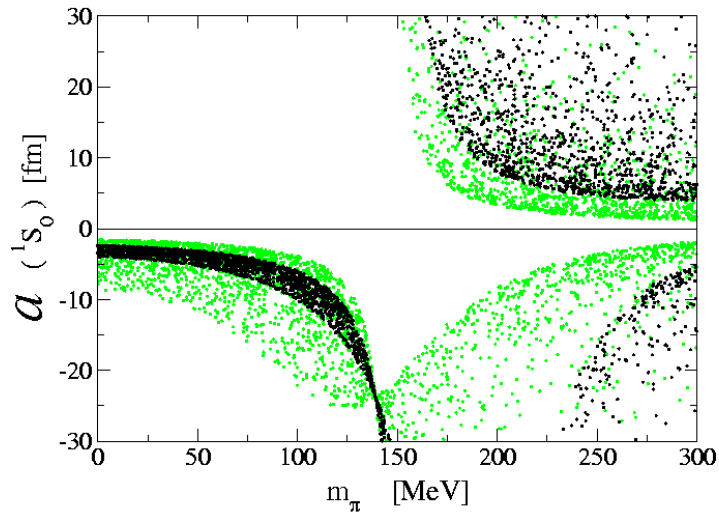
“Unitarity” limit  $a \rightarrow \infty$

$$\sigma = \frac{4\pi}{k^2}$$

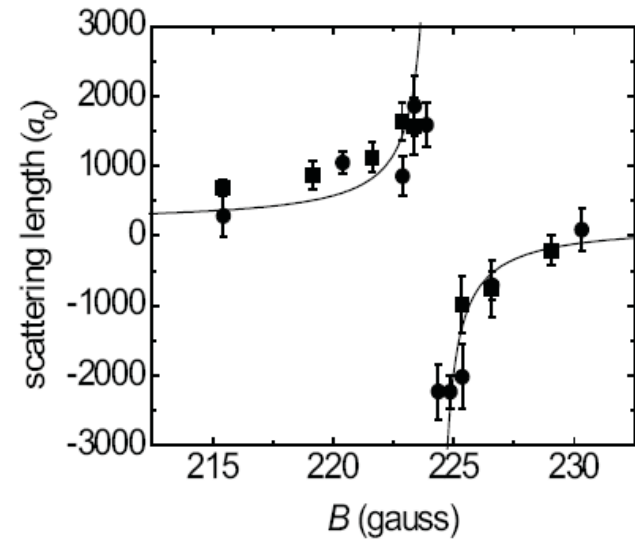


# Universality

## Neutron Matter



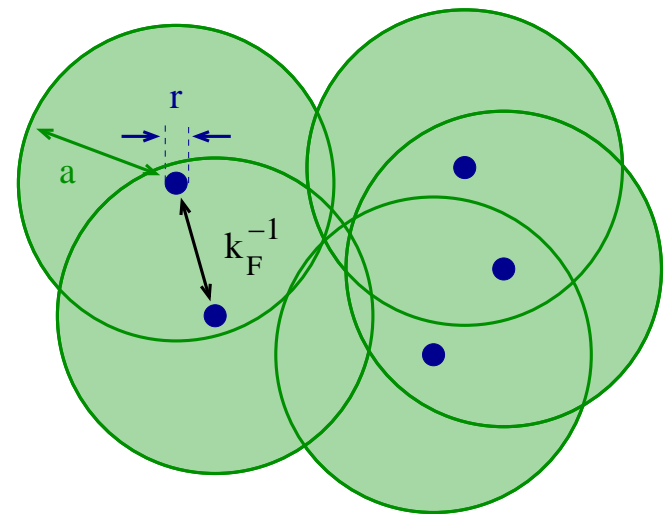
## Feshbach Resonance in ${}^6\text{Li}$



What do these systems have in common?

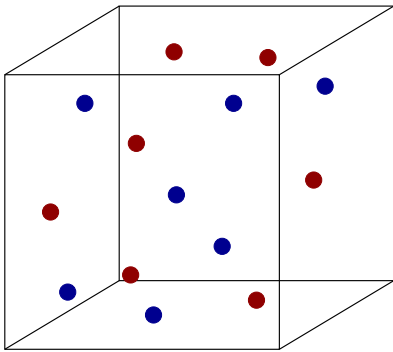
dilute:  $r\rho^{1/3} \ll 1$

strongly correlated:  $a\rho^{1/3} \gg 1$



## Universality: Many body physics

Free fermi gas at zero temperature



$$\frac{E}{N} = \frac{3}{5} \frac{k_F^2}{2m} \quad \frac{N}{V} = \frac{k_F^3}{3\pi^2}$$

Consider unitarity limit ( $a \rightarrow \infty, r \rightarrow 0$ )

$$\frac{E}{N} = \xi \frac{3}{5} \frac{k_F^2}{2m} \quad k_F \equiv (3\pi^2 N/V)^{1/3}$$

Prize problem (Bertsch, 1998): Determine  $\xi$



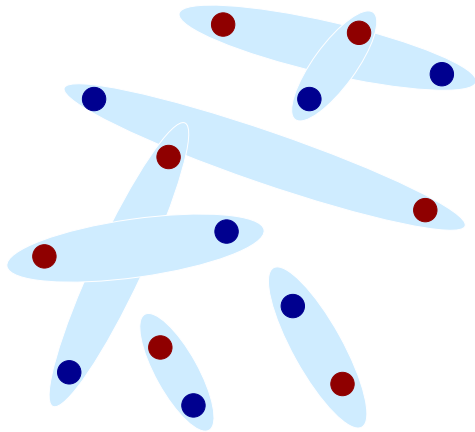
# Equation of state, pairing

Fermi gas at non-zero temperature

$$P(\mu, T) = P_0(\mu, T) f\left(\frac{\mu}{T}\right) \quad P_0(\mu, T) = -\frac{k_B T}{\lambda_{deB}^3} f_{5/2}\left(-e^{\mu/(k_B T)}\right)$$

Universal function  $f(z)$

Pairing:  $\langle \psi_{\downarrow} \psi_{\uparrow} \rangle \neq 0$



$$\Delta = \alpha \mu \quad k_B T_c = \beta \mu$$

Universal coefficients  $\alpha, \beta$

Scale invariant system with conserved charge:  $T_c \sim \mu$

## Dilute Fermi gas: field theory

Non-relativistic fermions at low momentum

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \psi^\dagger \left( i\partial_0 + \frac{\nabla^2}{2M} \right) \psi - \frac{C_0}{2} (\psi^\dagger \psi)^2$$

Unitary limit:  $a \rightarrow \infty, \sigma \rightarrow 4\pi/k^2$  ( $C_0 \rightarrow \infty$ )

This limit is smooth: HS-trafo,  $\Psi = (\psi_\uparrow, \psi_\downarrow^\dagger)$

$$\mathcal{L} = \Psi^\dagger \left[ i\partial_0 + \sigma_3 \frac{\vec{\nabla}^2}{2m} \right] \Psi + (\Psi^\dagger \sigma_+ \Psi \phi + h.c.) - \frac{1}{C_0} \phi^* \phi ,$$

Low  $T$  ( $T < T_c \sim \mu$ ): Pairing and superfluidity

## Many body methods

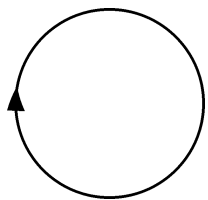
Large N:  $\psi_\alpha \rightarrow \psi_\alpha^A$  ( $A = 1, \dots, N$ )

$$\xi = 0.59 + O(1/N)$$

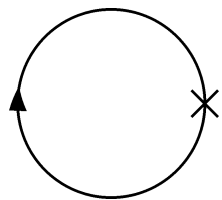
Bruckner theory (ladder diagrams, hole line expansion)

$$\xi = 0.24 + O(1/d)$$

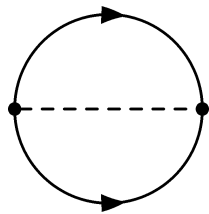
Epsilon expansion:  $d = 4 - \epsilon$  ( $d = 4$  non-interacting Bose gas)



$O(1)$



$O(1)$

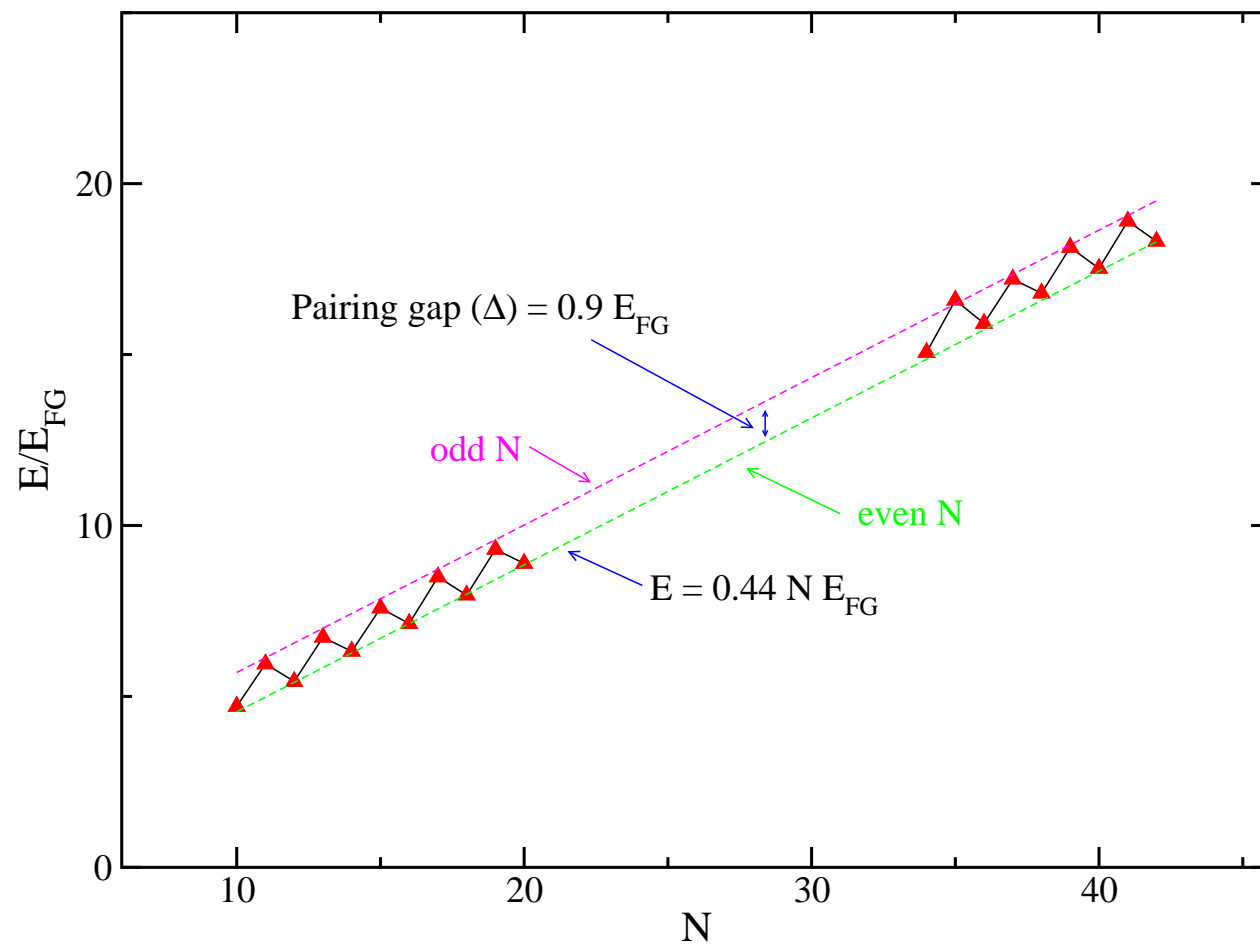


$O(\epsilon)$

$$\xi = \frac{1}{2}\epsilon^{3/2} + \frac{1}{16}\epsilon^{5/2} \ln \epsilon - 0.0246 \epsilon^{5/2} + \dots$$

$$\xi(\epsilon=1) = 0.475$$

# Green function MC

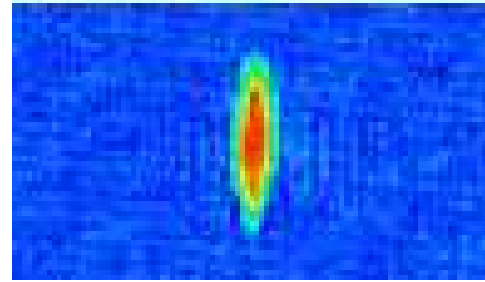


$\xi = 0.40-0.44$  (Carlson et al.)

# Experiment: Equation of state

Harmonic trap:  $\xi$  determined by cloud size (Virial theorem)

$$\langle \mathcal{E} \rangle = \frac{3}{2} m \omega_x^2 \langle x^2 \rangle$$

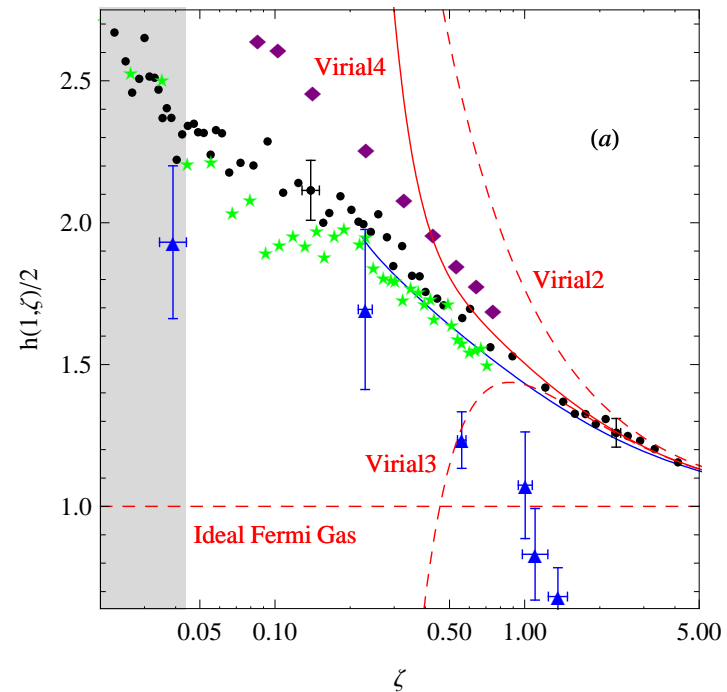


$\xi = 0.38(2)$  (Luo, Thomas)

Harmonic trap:  $f(z)$  determined by twice integrated column density (Gibbs-Duhem)

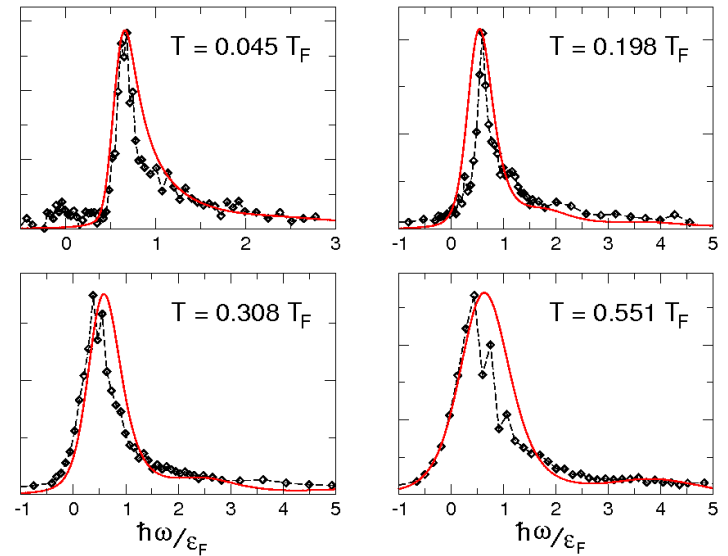
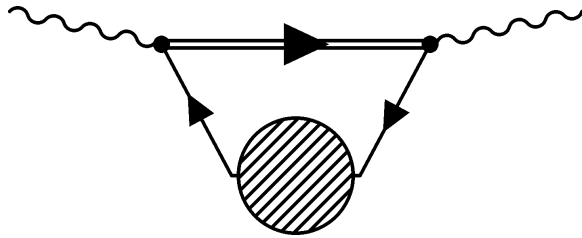
$$P(\mu(x), T) = \frac{m \omega_{\perp}^2}{\pi} \tilde{n}(x)$$

Nascimbene et al, Science (2010).

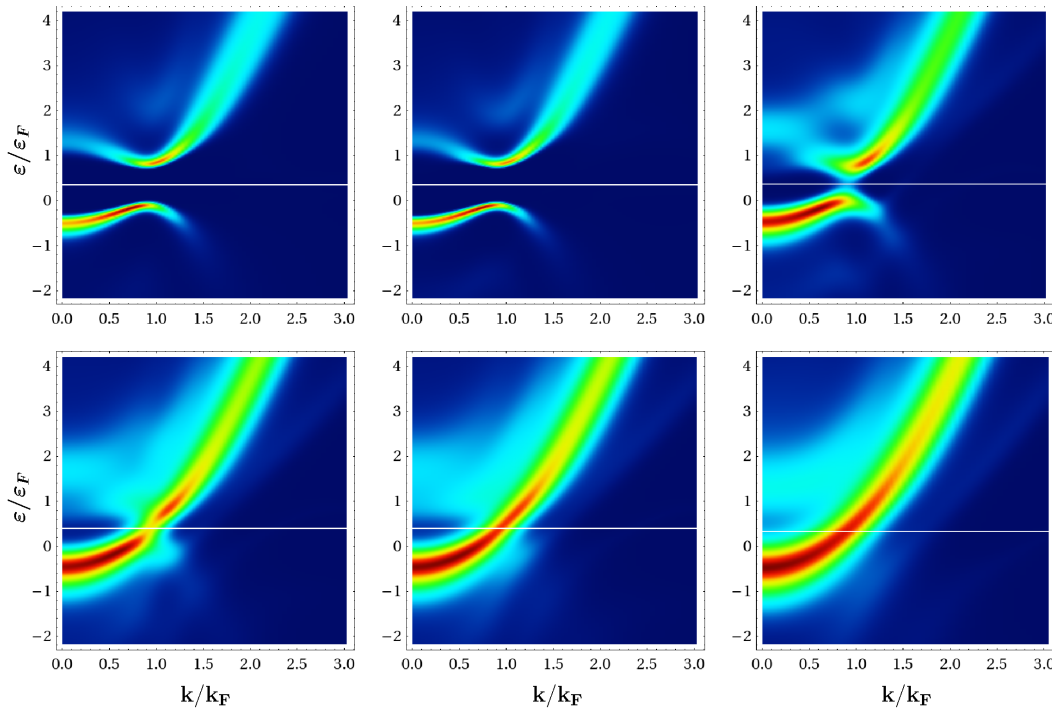


# RF spectroscopy

$$\Gamma(\omega) \sim \text{Im} \int dt d^3x e^{i\omega t} \langle \psi_1^\dagger \psi_3(x, t) \psi_3^\dagger \psi_1 \rangle$$



Schirotzek et al. (2008)



$T/T_F$

0.01, 0.06, 0.14

0.16, 0.18, 0.30

Zwinger et al. (2010)

## The Fermi gas in equilibrium: where are we?

Thermodynamics well under control (numerically and experimentally)

Theoretical approaches (BCS/BEC crossover, T-matrix, ERG, ...) “work”

Evidence for quasi-particles at large  $q$  and  $T$