

Synthetic gauge fields and topological effects in optics

From superfluid light towards quantum Hall liquids

Iacopo Carusotto

INO-CNR BEC Center and Università di Trento, Italy

Tomoki Ozawa

Hannah Price

Grazia Salerno

Marco Cominotti (now Grenoble)

Onur Umucalilar (now Antwerp)

In collaboration with:

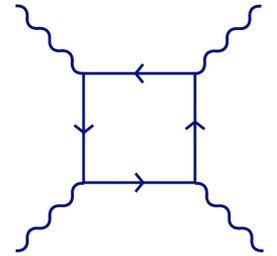
- C. Ciuti (MPQ, Paris 7)
- M. Wouters (Univ. Antwerp)
- A. Amo, J. Bloch, T. Jacqmin, H.-S. Nguyen, V. G. Sala (LPN, Marcoussis)
- A. Bramati, E. Giacobino (LKB, Paris)
- T. Volz (now Macquarie), M. Kroner, A. Imamoglu (ETHZ)
- D. Gerace (Univ. Pavia)

Why not hydrodynamics of light ?

Light field/beam composed by a huge number of photons

- in vacuo photons travel along straight line at c
- (practically) do not interact with each other
- in cavity, collisional thermalization slower than with walls and losses

=> optics typically dominated by single-particle physics



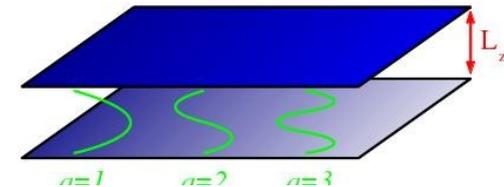
$$\sigma \sim \alpha^4 \frac{\hbar^2}{m^2 c^2} \left(\frac{\hbar \omega}{mc^2} \right)^6$$

In photonic structure:

$\chi^{(3)}$ nonlinearity \rightarrow photon-photon interactions

Spatial confinement \rightarrow effective photon mass

=> collective behaviour of a quantum fluid

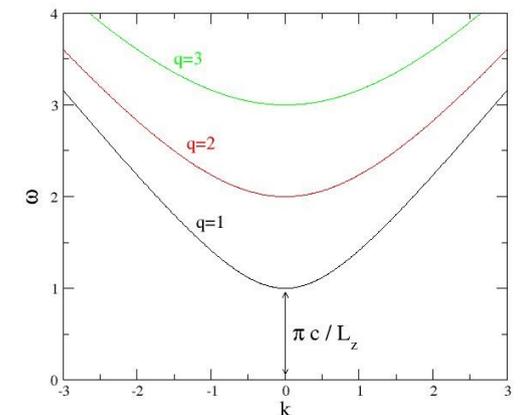


Many experiments so far:

BEC of photons, superfluid light, synthetic gauge fields, topologically protected edge states

In this talk:

\rightarrow Towards fractional Quantum Hall liquid of light



Standing on the shoulders of giants

Laserlight — First Example of a Second-Order Phase Transition Far Away from Thermal Equilibrium*

R. GRAHAM and H. HAKEN

I. Institut für theoretische Physik der Universität Stuttgart

Received April 23, 1970

We solve the functional Fokker-Planck equation established in a previous paper in the vicinity of laser threshold. The stationary solution is obtained explicitly in the form $P = N \exp[-\varphi(\{\bar{u}, \bar{u}^*\})]$. φ has exactly the same form as the Ginzburg-Landau expression for the free energy of a superconductor, if the pair wave function is replaced by the electromagnetic field amplitude \bar{u} . This gives us the key for a thermodynamic reinterpretation of all laser phenomena.

In particular the laser threshold appears as a second-order phase transition in all details. It is indicated that our theory provides a new formalism also for the Ginzburg-Landau theory.

VOLUME 67, NUMBER 27

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

30 DECEMBER 1991

Vortices and Defect Statistics in Two-Dimensional Optical Chaos

F. T. Arecchi,^(a) G. Giacomelli, P. L. Ramazza, and S. Residori

Istituto Nazionale di Ottica, Largo E. Fermi, 6, 50125 Firenze, Italy

(Received 1 April 1991)

We present the first direct experimental evidence of topological defects in nonlinear optics. For increasing Fresnel numbers F , the two-dimensional field is characterized by an increasing number of topological defects, from a single vortex, up to a large number of vortices with zero net topological charge. At variance with linear scattering from a fixed phase plate, here the defect pattern evolves in time according to the nonlinear dynamics. We assign the scaling exponents for the mean number of defects, their mean separation, and the charge unbalance as functions of F , as well as the correlation time of the defect pattern.

PHYSICAL REVIEW A

VOLUME 54, NUMBER 1

JULY 1996

Hydrodynamic phenomena in laser physics: Modes with flow and vortices behind an obstacle in an optical channel

M. Vaupel, K. Staliunas, and C. O. Weiss

Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt, 38116 Braunschweig, Germany

(Received 16 February 1995; revised manuscript received 20 February 1996)

The transverse patterns of an active resonator with cylindrical optics are investigated. This resonator configuration corresponds to a "channel" form of the potential for the "photon fluid." Simultaneous emission of different transverse modes along the channel, periodic nucleation of vortices in the form of a vortex street (vortices of alternating senses of rotation appearing in a flow behind an obstacle), accelerated flow in a "tilted channel," and destabilization of the one-directional flow in the channel are demonstrated and interpreted in terms of tilted waves and beating of channel modes, as well as in fluid terms, illustrating the fluid dynamics correspondence of class-A lasers. [S1050-2947(96)02407-9]

And of course many others:

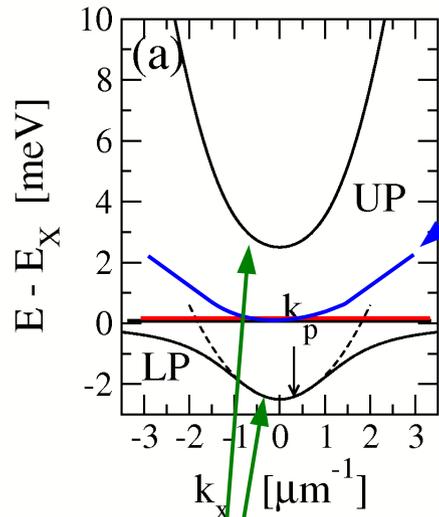
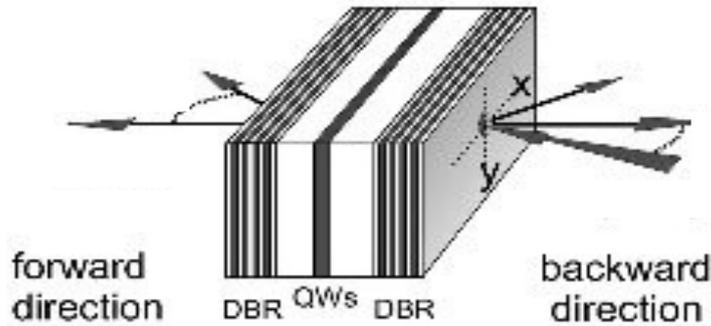
Coulet, Gil, Rocca, Pomeau,
Rica, Brambilla, Lugiato...

Part I:

BEC and superfluidity

in semiconductor microcavities

Planar DBR microcavity with QWs



Photon

- **DBR**: stack $\lambda/4$ layers (e.g. GaAs/AlAs)
- Cavity layer \rightarrow **confined photonic mode**, **delocalized** along 2D plane:

$$\omega_c(\mathbf{k}) = \omega_c^0 \sqrt{1 + \mathbf{k}^2 / k_z^2}$$

Exciton

- e-h pair in QW: sort of H atom. **Exciton**
- **bosons** for $n_{\text{exc}} a_{\text{Bohr}}^2 \ll 1$ (verified by QMC)
- Excitons **delocalized** along cavity plane.
Flat exciton dispersion $\omega_x(\mathbf{k}) \approx \omega_x$
- Optical $\chi^{(3)}$ from exciton collisions

Polaritons

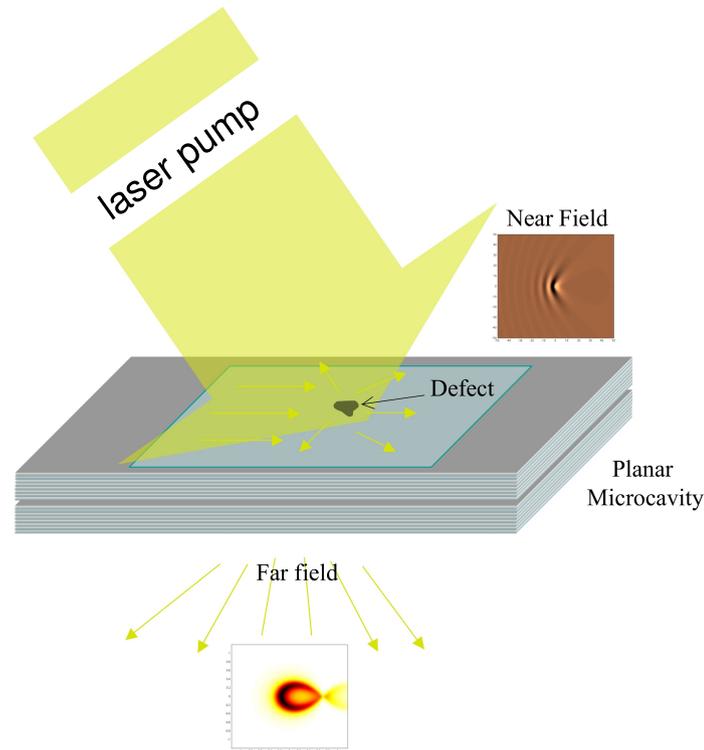
Exciton radiatively coupled to cavity photon **at same in-plane k**
Bosonic superpositions of **exciton** and **photon**, called **polaritons**

Two-dimensional gas of polaritons

Small effective mass $m_{\text{pol}} \approx 10^{-4} m_e \rightarrow$ originally promising for BEC studies

Exciton \rightarrow interactions. **Photons** \rightarrow radiative coupling to external world

How to create and detect the photon gas?



Pump needed to compensate losses: stationary state is **NOT** thermodynamical equilibrium

- Coherent laser pump: directly injects photon BEC in cavity, may lock BEC phase
- Incoherent (optical or electric) pump: BEC transition similar to laser threshold
spontaneous breaking of U(1) symmetry

Classical and quantum correlations of in-plane field directly transfer to emitted radiation

Mean-field theory: generalized GPE

$$i \frac{d\psi}{dt} = \left(\omega_0 - \frac{\hbar \nabla^2}{2m} + V_{ext} + g |\psi|^2 + \frac{i}{2} \left(\frac{P_0}{1 + \alpha |\psi|^2} - \gamma \right) \right) \psi + F_{ext}$$

Time-evolution of **macroscopic wavefunction** ψ of **photon/polariton condensate**

- standard terms: kinetic energy, external potential V_{ext} , interactions g , **losses** γ
- under **coherent pump**: **forcing term**
- under **incoherent pump**: polariton-polariton scattering from **thermal component** give **saturable amplification term** as in semiclassical theory of laser

=> a sort of **Complex Landau-Ginzburg equation**

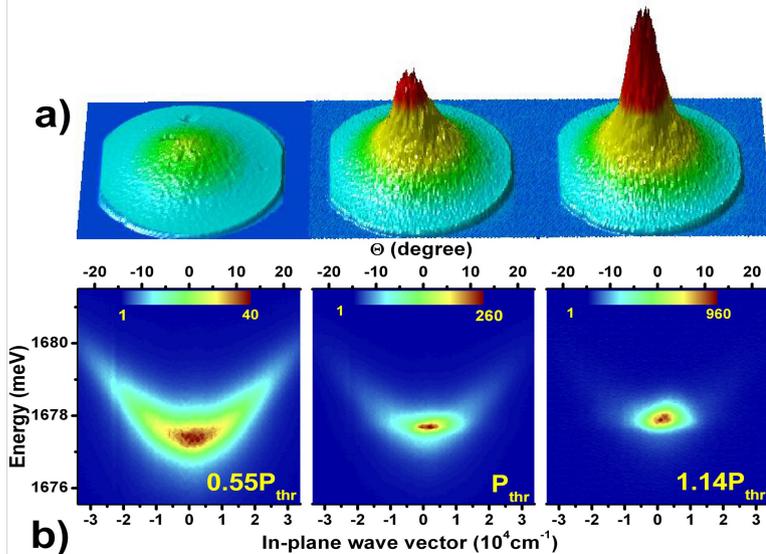
To go **beyond mean-field theory**:

- Wigner representation; exact diagonalization; Keldysh diagrams; functional renormalization...

Interaction constant g :

- not known exactly.
- Bosonic picture initially questioned, but fully confirmed by Monte Carlo (Astrakharchik et al., '14)
- **biexciton Feshbach resonance** (Theory: Wouters, PRB '07; IC et al., EPL '10. Expt @ EPFL, '14)

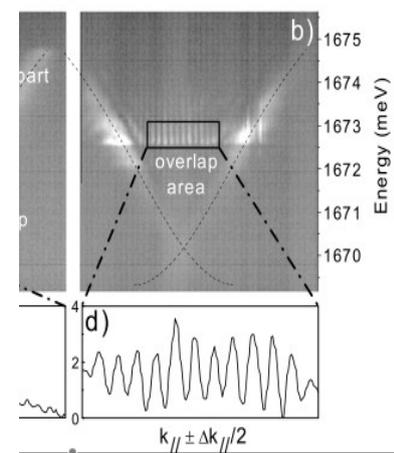
2006 - Photon/polariton Bose-Einstein condensation



Momentum distribution

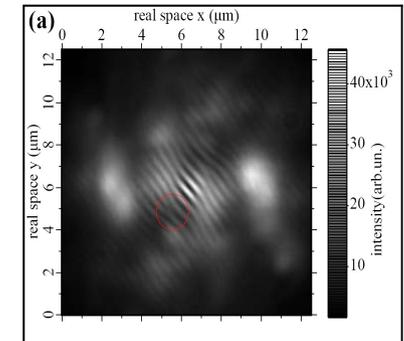
Kasprzak et al., Nature **443**, 409 (2006)

Many features very similar to atomic BEC



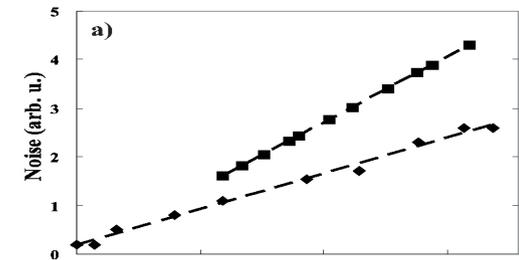
Interference

Richard et al., PRL **94**, 187401 (2005)



Quantized vortices

K. Lagoudakis et al.
Nature Physics **4**, 706 (2008).



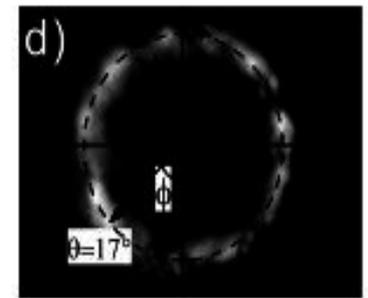
Suppressed fluctuations

A. Baas et al., PRL **96**, 176401 (2006)

But also differences due to non-equilibrium:

- BEC @ $k \neq 0$ → volcano effect
- T-reversal broken → $n(k) \neq n(-k)$
- interesting questions about thermalization

Photon/polariton BEC closely related to laser operation in VCSELs



BEC on k-space ring

M. Richard et al.,
PRL **94**, 187401 (2005)

2008 - Superfluid light

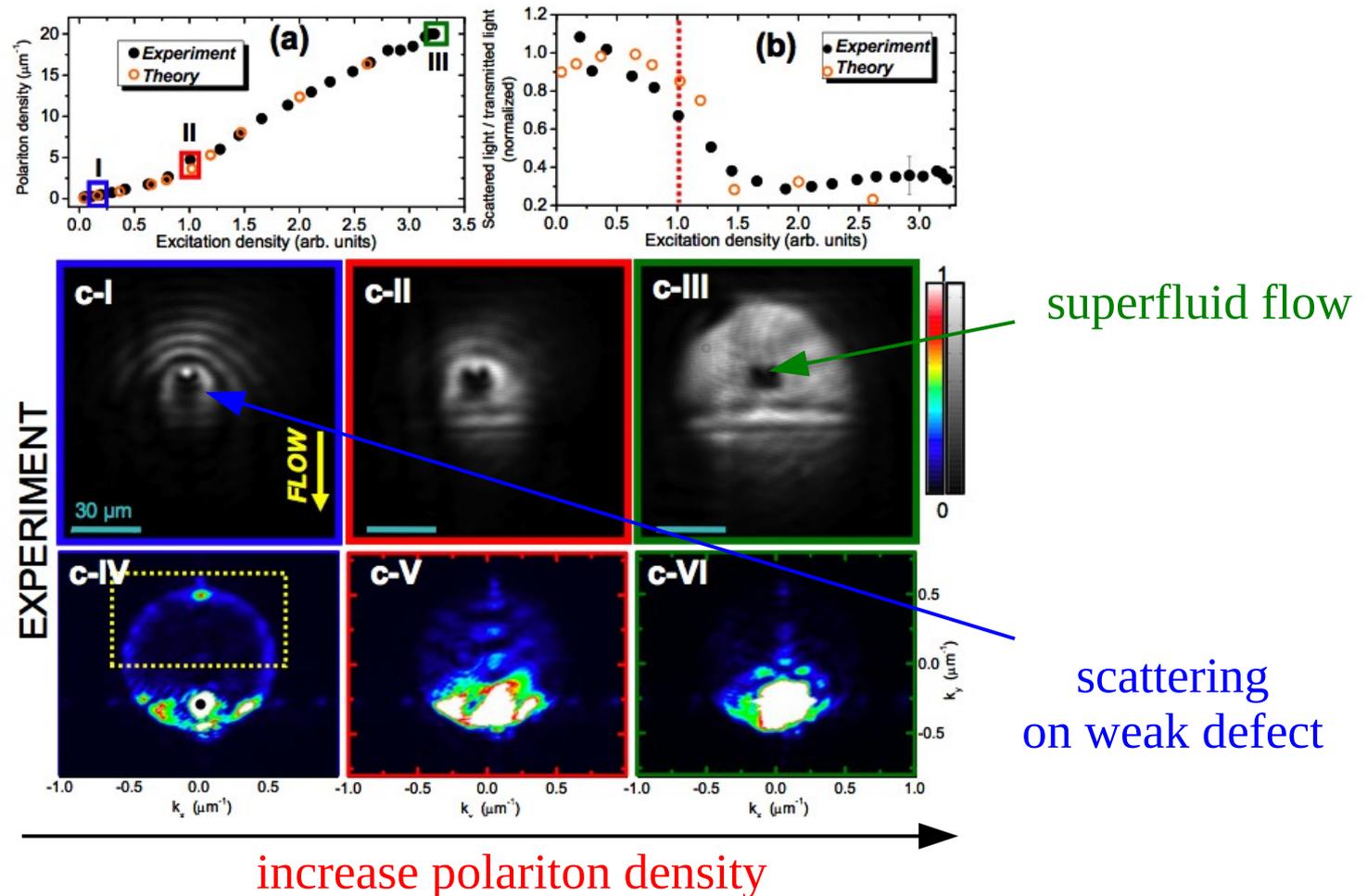


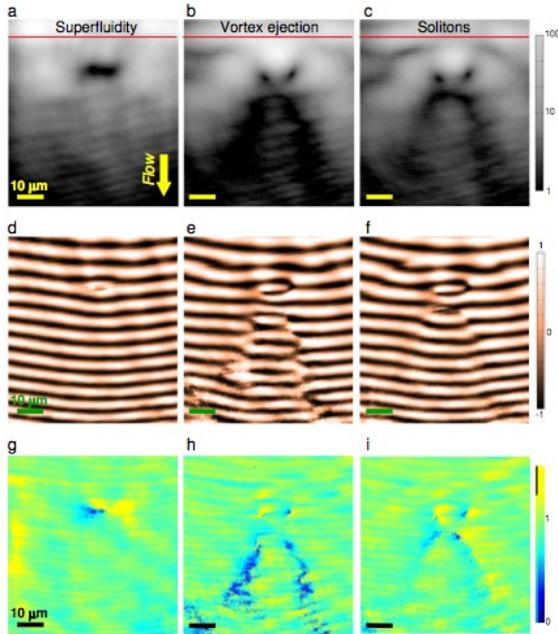
Figure from LKB-P6 group:

J.Lefrère, A.Amo, S.Pigeon, C.Adrados, C.Ciuti, IC, R. Houdré, E.Giacobino, A.Bramati, *Observation of Superfluidity of Polaritons in Semiconductor Microcavities*, Nature Phys. 5, 805 (2009)

Theory: IC and C. Ciuti, PRL 93, 166401 (2004).

2009-10 - Superfluid hydrodynamics

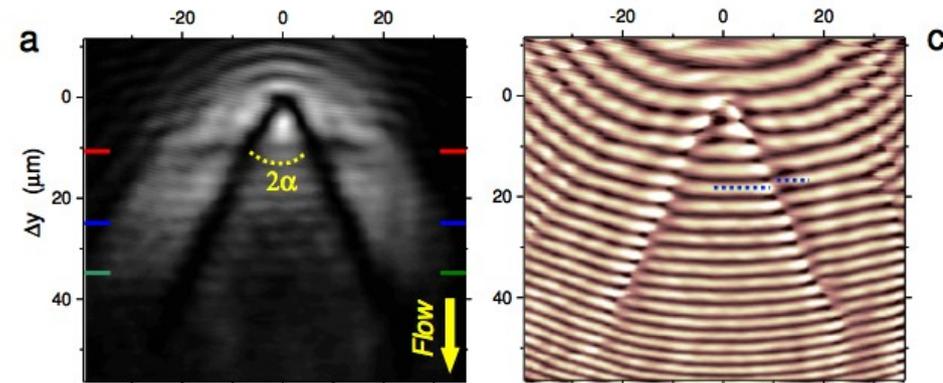
Oblique dark solitons →



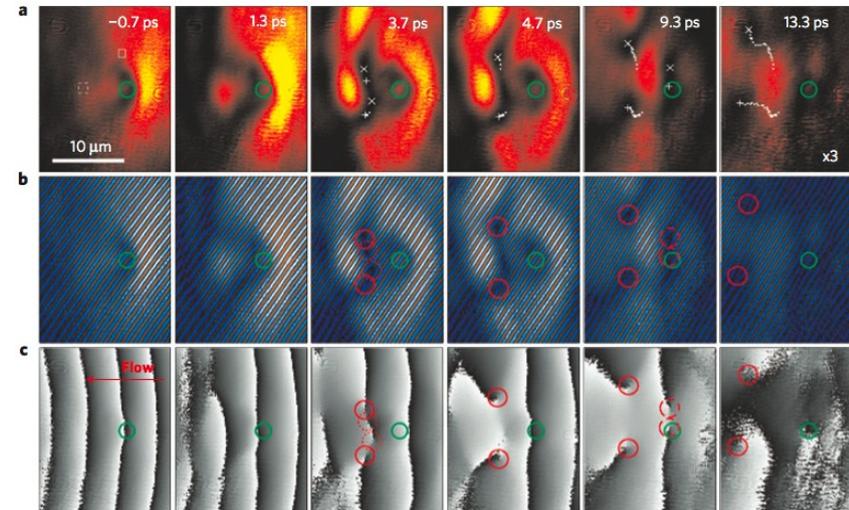
A. Amo, et al., Science 332, 1167 (2011)

← Turbulent behaviours

Hydrodynamic
nucleation →
of vortices



A. Amo, et al., Science 332, 1167 (2011)



Nardin et al., Nat. Phys. 7, 635 (2011)

Role of interactions crucial in determining regimes as a function of v/c_s

Part I-2

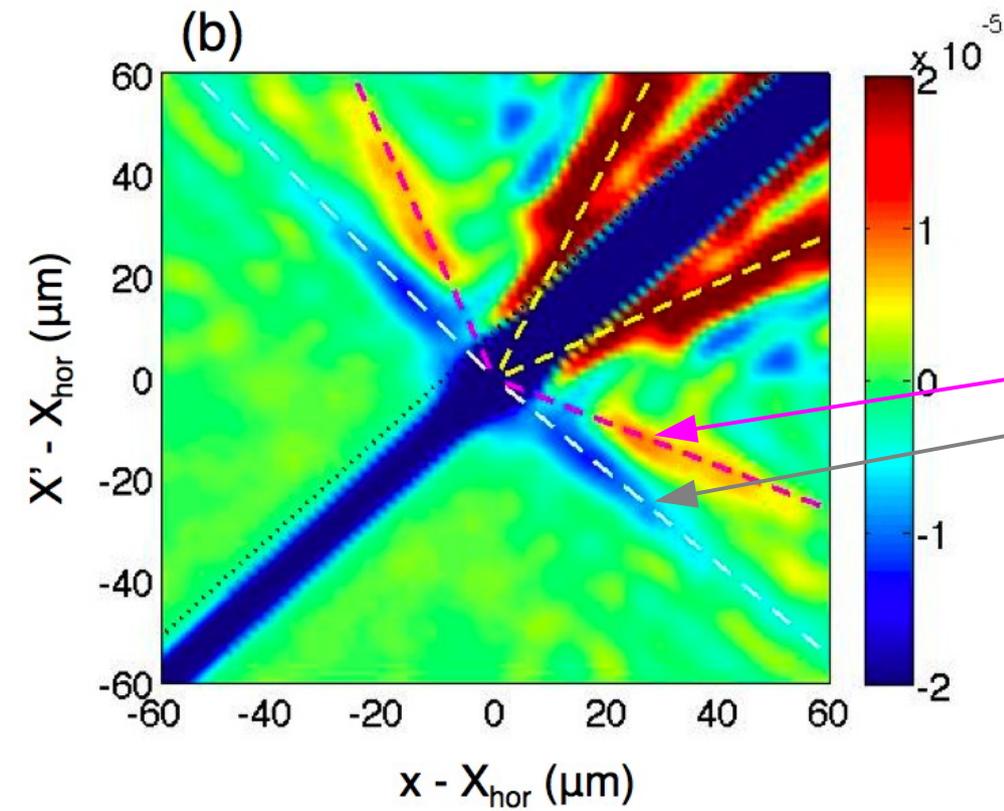
Quantum hydrodynamics

Beyond mean-field: quantum hydrodynamics

Quantum fluctuations of hydrodynamical variables

Most fascinating prediction → analog Hawking radiation of phonons from trans-sonic interfaces (so-called analog black holes)

Cond-mat analog models → Unruh PRL '81. Optical BH's → F. Marino, PRA 78, 063804 (2008)



Wigner-QMC calculation

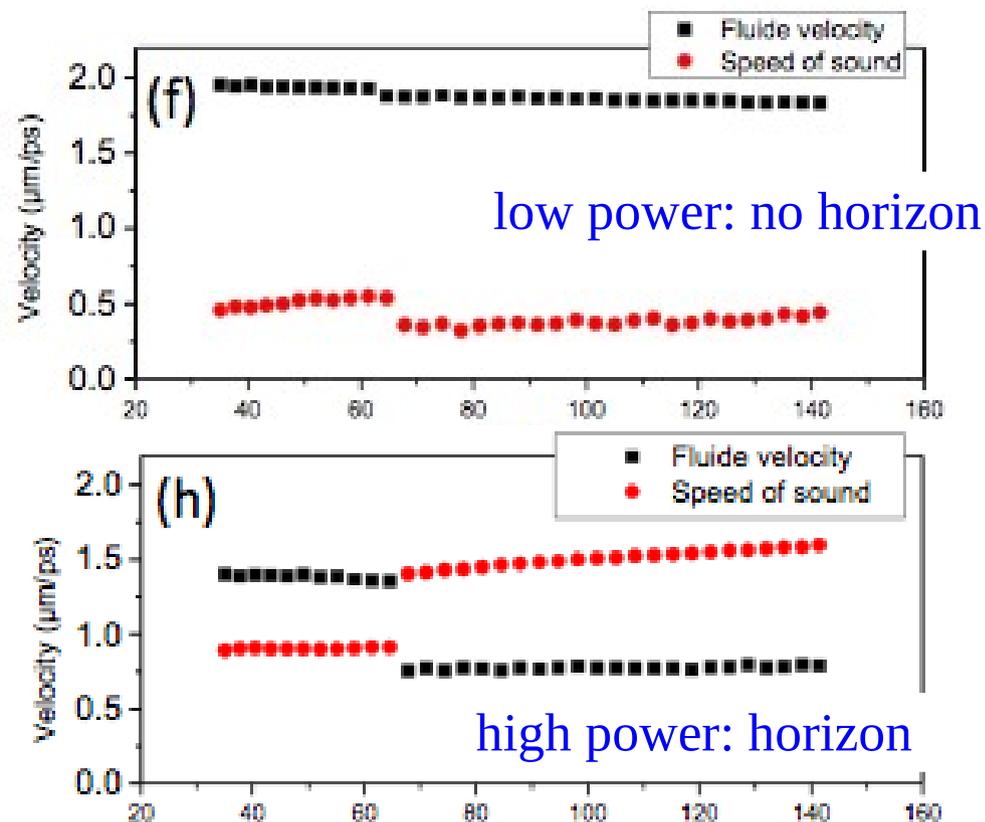
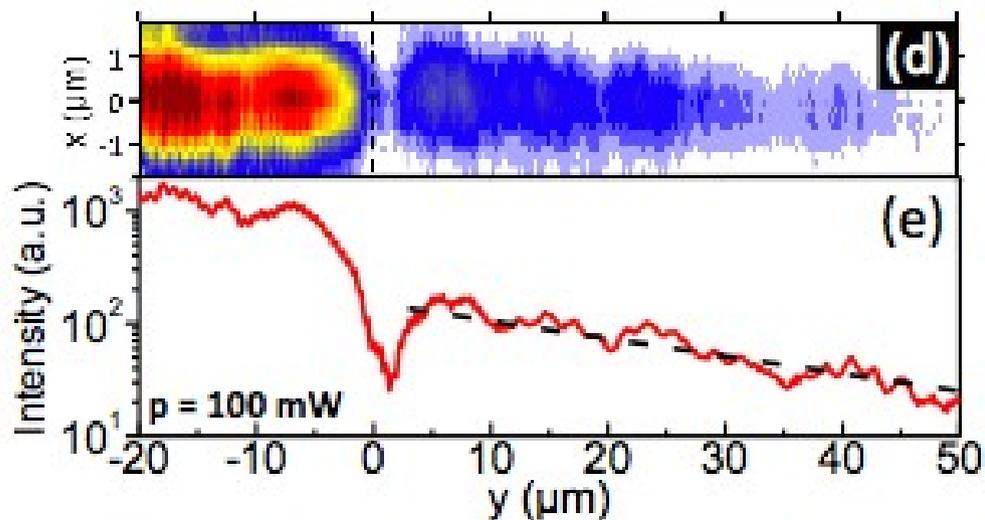
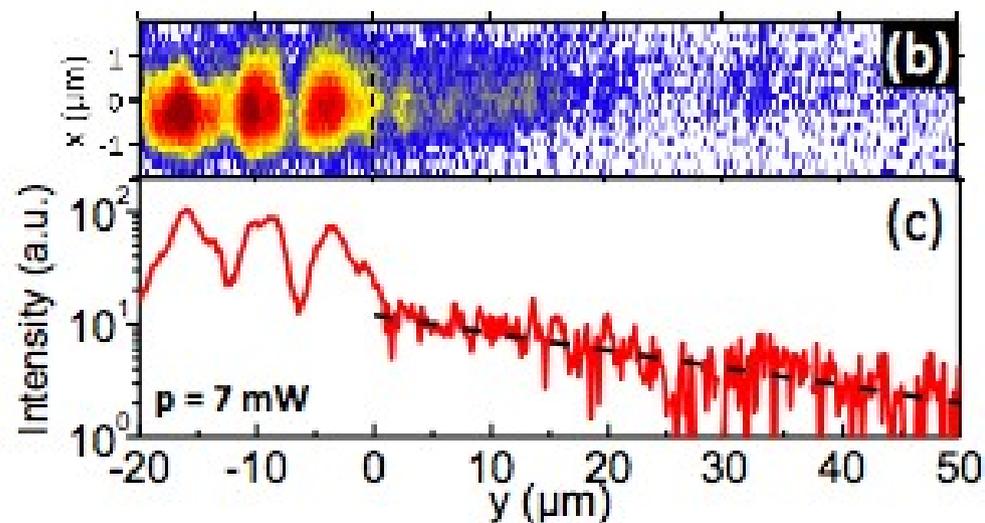
Signature of Hawking radiation
in correlation function of
intensity noise of emission

Parametric emission of
entangled pairs of Bogoliubov quanta
Flow+horizon play role of pump

D. Gerace and IC, PRB 86, 144505 (2012)

Non-separability features of HR discussed in Busch, Parentani, IC, PRA 2014; Finazzi-IC, arXiv 1309.3414

Very recent experimental results @ LPN



BH created! The hunt for Hawking radiation is now open!!

H.-S. Nguyen, Gerace, IC, *et al.*, to appear

Other (not fully conclusive) experiments for HR in artificial BH's: Weinfurter *et al.*, PRL 2011; Rubino *et al.* PRL 2010.

Part II:

Synthetic gauge fields and Chern insulators for photons

First expt: photonic (Chern) topological insulator

MIT '09, Soljacic group

Original proposal Haldane-Raghu, PRL 2008

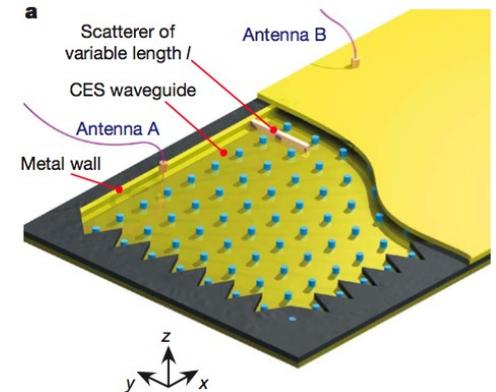
Magneto-optical photonic crystals for μ -waves

T-reversal broken by magnetic elements

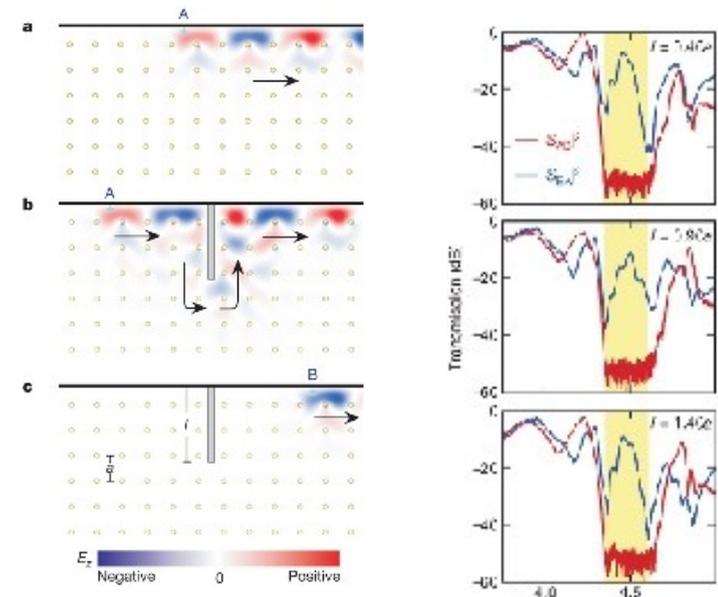
Band with non-trivial Chern number:

→ chiral edge states within gaps

- unidirectional propagation
- immune to back-scattering by defects



Wang et al., Nature 461, 772 (2009)



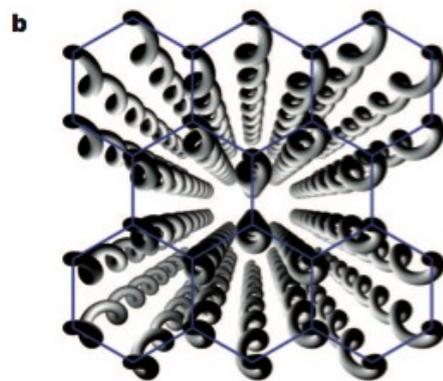
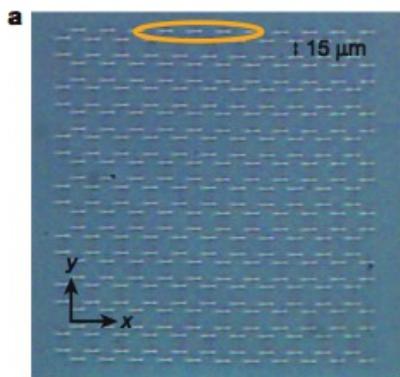
Wang et al., Nature 461, 772 (2009)

Synthetic gauge fields for photons

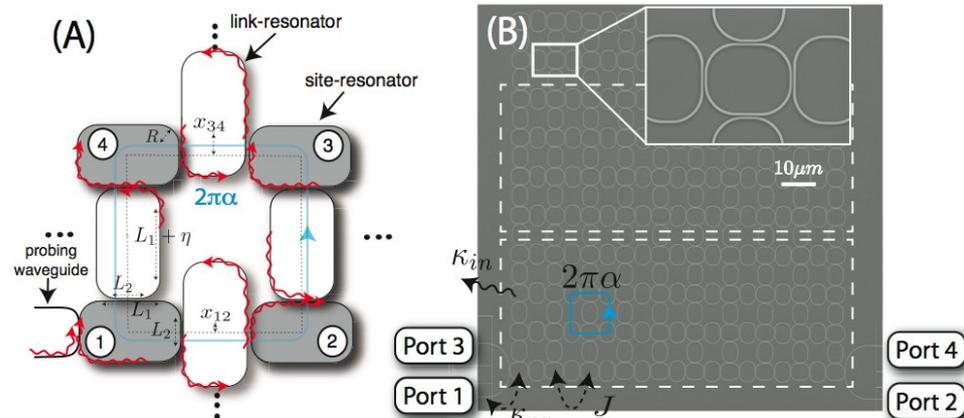
2D lattice of coupled cavities with tunneling phase

$$H = \sum_i \hbar\omega_0 \hat{a}_i^\dagger \hat{a}_i - \hbar J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{a}_i^\dagger \hat{a}_j e^{i\phi_{ij}} + \sum_i \left[\hbar F_i(t) \hat{a}_i^\dagger + \text{h.c.} \right]$$

- Floquet bands in helically deformed waveguide lattices → Segev (Technion)
- silicon ring cavities → Hafezi/Taylor (JQI)
- electronic circuits with lumped elements → J. Simon (Chicago)



Rechtsman, Plotnik, et al., Nature 496, 196 (2013)



Hafezi et al., Nat. Phot. 7, 1001 (2013)

Lattice periodicity: magnetic Brillouin zone

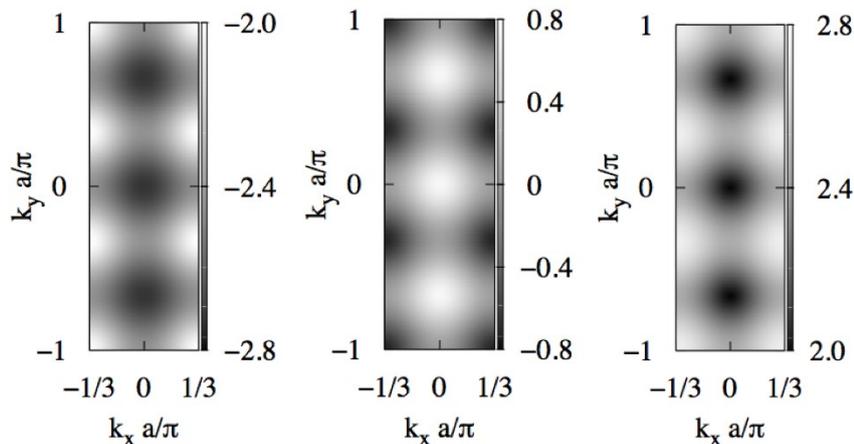
$$H = \sum_i \hbar \omega_0 \hat{a}_i^\dagger \hat{a}_i - \hbar J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{a}_i^\dagger \hat{a}_j e^{i\phi_{ij}}$$

Under a magnetic flux $\alpha = p / q$ per lattice plaquette:

- Translational symmetry reduced to q sites.
More complex magnetic translation group
- q -times smaller magnetic Brillouin zone
- non-trivial Berry connection $A_{n,k} = i \langle u_{n,k} | \nabla_k u_{n,k} \rangle$

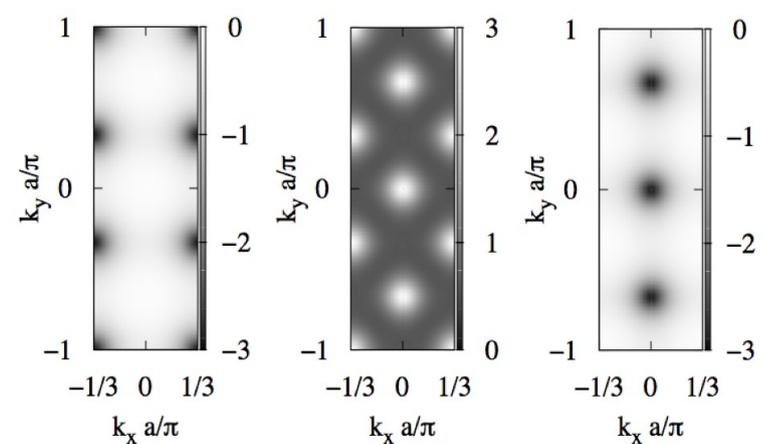
$\alpha = 1/3$

Band dispersion



Berry curvature

$$\Omega_n(\mathbf{k}) = \nabla_{\mathbf{k}} \times \mathcal{A}_{n,\mathbf{k}} = \nabla_{\mathbf{k}} \times [i \langle u_{n,\mathbf{k}} | \nabla_{\mathbf{k}} u_{n,\mathbf{k}} \rangle]$$

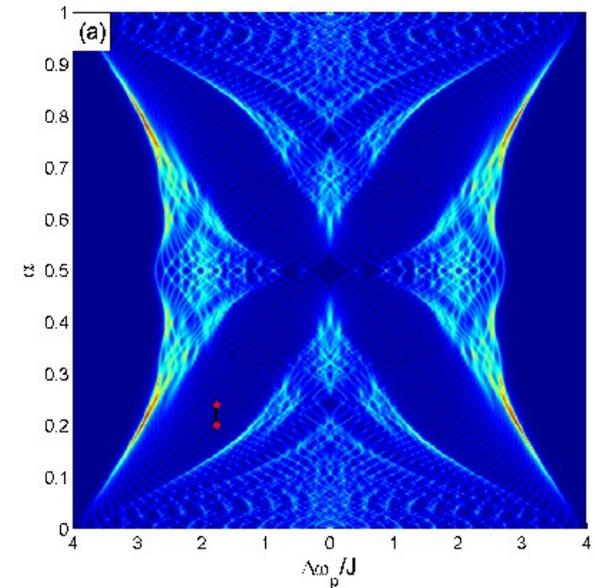


Hofstadter butterfly and chiral edge states

Square lattice of coupled cavities
at large magnetic flux

- eigenstates organize in **bulk Hofstadter bands**

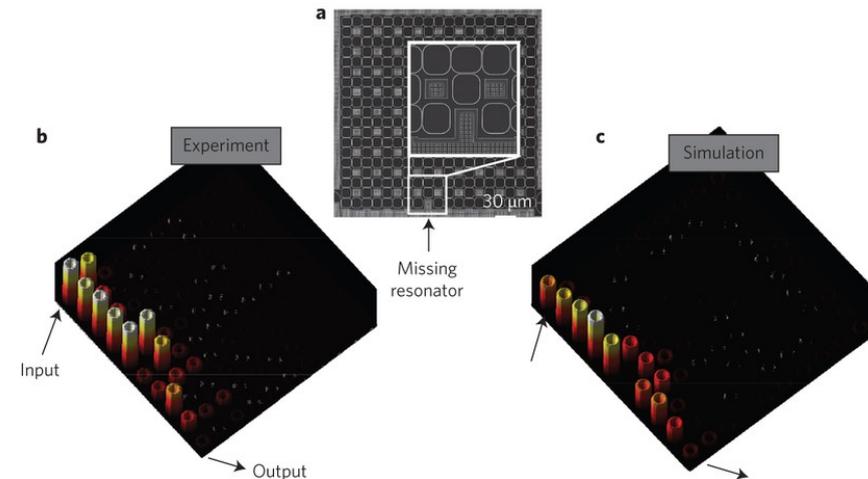
- **Berry connection in k-space:** $A_{n,k} = i \langle u_{n,k} | \nabla_k u_{n,k} \rangle$



Bulk-edge correspondance:

$A_{n,k}$ has non-trivial **Chern number**
→ **chiral edge states** within gaps

- unidirectional propagation
- (almost) immune to scattering by defects
- T-reversal not broken, 2x pseudo-spin bands with opposite Chern

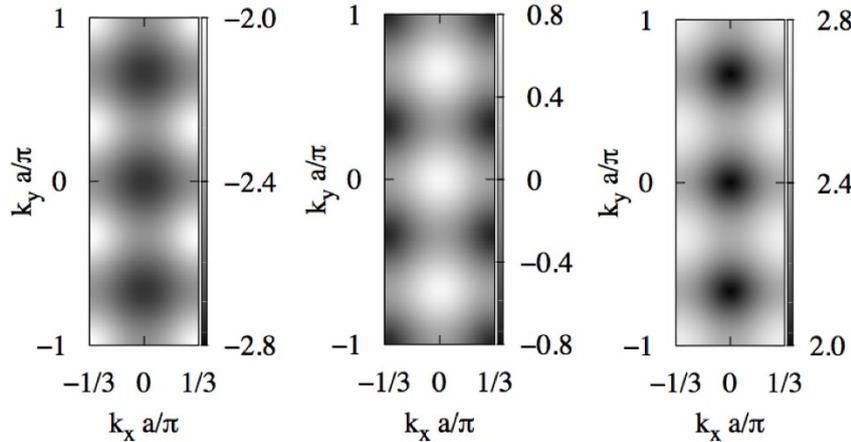


Hafezi et al., Nat. Phot. 7, 1001 (2013)

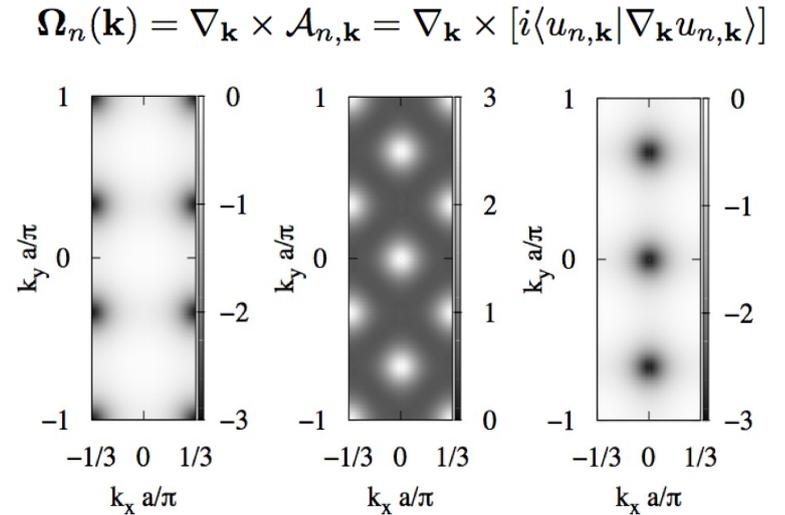
How to observe topological properties of bulk?

Lattice at strong magnetic flux, e.g. $\alpha = 1/3$

Band dispersion



Berry curvature



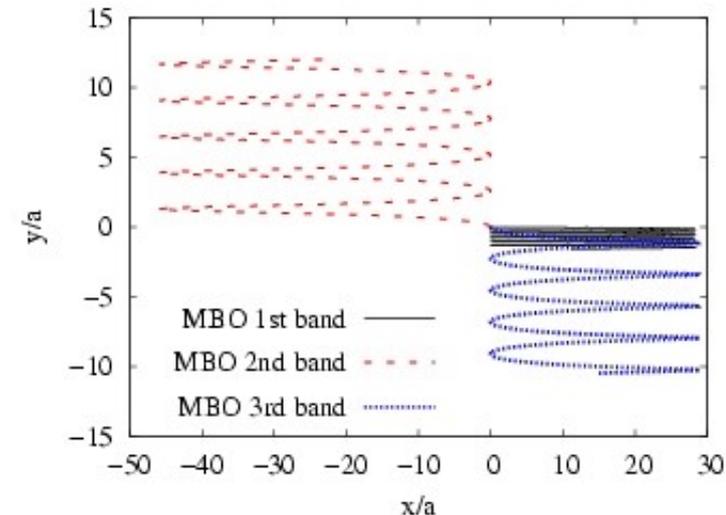
Semiclassical eqs. of motion:

$$\hbar \dot{\mathbf{k}}_c(t) = e\mathbf{E},$$

$$\hbar \dot{\mathbf{r}}_c(t) = \nabla_{\mathbf{k}} \mathcal{E}_{n,\mathbf{k}} - e\mathbf{E} \times \boldsymbol{\Omega}_n(\mathbf{k})$$

Magnetic Bloch oscillations display a net lateral drift

- Initial photon wavepacket injected with laser pulse
- spatial gradient of cavity frequency \rightarrow uniform force



Figures from Cominotti-IC, EPL **103**, 10001 (2013).

First proposal in Dudarev, IC et al. PRL **92**, 153005 (2004). See also Price-Cooper, PRA **83**, 033620 (2012).

Array of many dissipative cavities

Cavity lattice geometry → promising in view of interacting photon gases, but radiative losses.

Short time to observe BO's, but experiment @ non-eq steady state even better

Coherent pumping $H_d = \sum_i F_i(t) \hat{b}_i + F_i^*(t) \hat{b}_i^\dagger$ + losses at rate γ

Pump spatially localized on central site only:

- couples to all \mathbf{k} 's within Brillouin zone
- resonance condition selects specific states

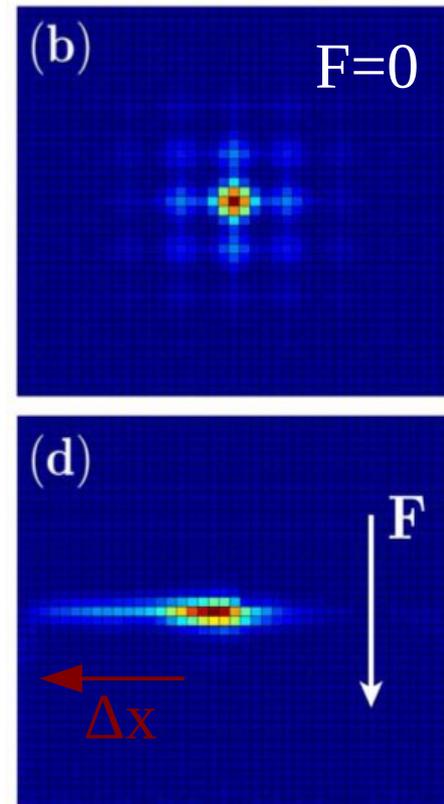
In the presence of force F :

motion in BZ → lateral drift in real space by Berry curvature

$$\hbar \dot{\mathbf{k}}_c(t) = e\mathbf{E},$$

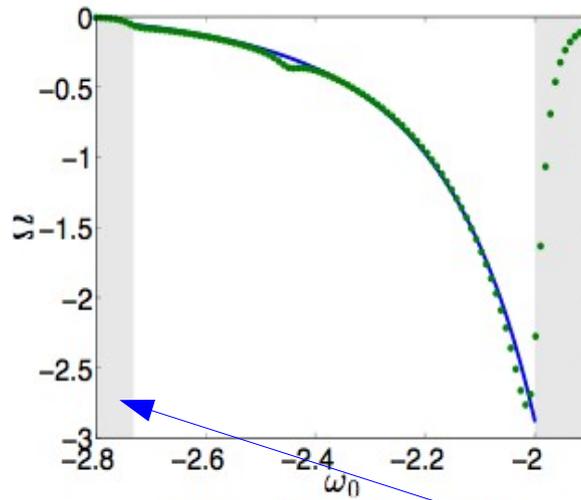
$$\hbar \dot{\mathbf{r}}_c(t) = \nabla_{\mathbf{k}} \mathcal{E}_{n,\mathbf{k}} - e\mathbf{E} \times \boldsymbol{\Omega}_n(\mathbf{k})$$

Detectable as lateral shift of intensity distribution by Δx perpendicular to F

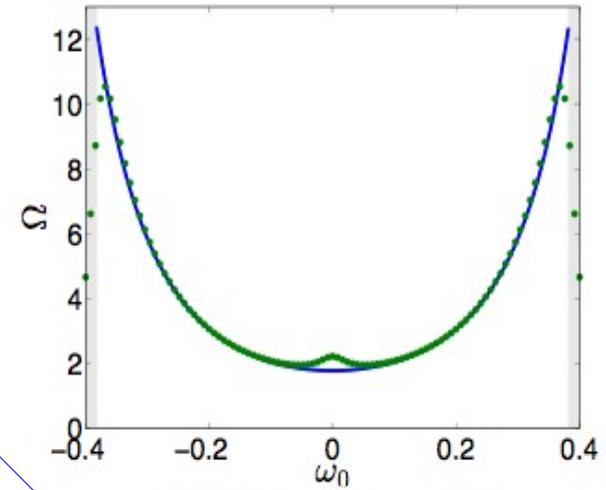


More quantitatively

		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
$\alpha = \frac{1}{3}$	\mathcal{C}	-1	+2	-1			
	\mathcal{C}_n	-0.91	-	-0.91			
$\alpha = \frac{1}{5}$	\mathcal{C}	-1	-1	+4	-1	-1	
	\mathcal{C}_n	-0.97	-0.66*	-	-0.66*	-0.97	
$\alpha = \frac{1}{6}$	\mathcal{C}	-1	-1	+2	+2	-1	-1
	\mathcal{C}_n	-0.96	-1.06	-	-	-1.06	-0.96
$\alpha = \frac{3}{7}$	\mathcal{C}	+2	-5	+2	+2	+2	-5
	\mathcal{C}_n	2.05	-	-	2.01	-	-
$\alpha = \frac{4}{9}$	\mathcal{C}	+2	+2	-7	+2	+2	+2
	\mathcal{C}_n	1.96	-	-	2.02	1.92	2.02
$\alpha = \frac{5}{11}$	\mathcal{C}	+2	+2	-9	+2	+2	+2
	\mathcal{C}_n	1.92	1.88	-	-	2.06	1.91



(a) Lowest band of $\alpha = 1/3$



(b) Middle band of $\alpha = 1/5$

band gap

Low loss ($\gamma < \text{bandwidth}$)

$$\rightarrow \Delta x = F \Omega(k_0) / 2\gamma \quad (\text{anomalous Hall eff.})$$

Large loss ($\text{bandwidth} < \gamma < \text{bandgap}$)

$$\rightarrow \Delta x = q \text{Chern} / 2 \pi \gamma \quad (\text{integer-QH})$$

Integer quantum Hall effect for photons (in spite of no Fermi level)

Photon phase observable \Rightarrow expts sensitive to gauge-variant quantities!!

Part II-2:

From traps to

Landau levels on a torus

Berry curvature & quantum mechanics

Chang-Niu's semiclassical equations of motion:

$$\begin{aligned}\hbar\dot{\mathbf{k}}_c(t) &= e\mathbf{E}, \\ \hbar\dot{\mathbf{r}}_c(t) &= \nabla_{\mathbf{k}}\mathcal{E}_{n,\mathbf{k}} - e\mathbf{E} \times \boldsymbol{\Omega}_n(\mathbf{k})\end{aligned}$$

Can be derived from quantum Hamiltonian

$$H = E_n(\mathbf{p}) + W[\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{A}_n(\mathbf{p})] \quad \text{with} \quad W(\mathbf{r}) = -e\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{r}$$

Similar to minimal coupling $H = e\Phi(\mathbf{r}) + [\mathbf{p} - e\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r})]^2 / 2m$ with $\mathbf{r} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{p}$ exchanged

Physical position $\mathbf{r}_{\text{ph}} = \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{A}_n(\mathbf{p}) \quad \leftrightarrow \quad$ physical momentum $\mathbf{p} - e\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r})$

Berry connection $\mathbf{A}_n(\mathbf{p}) \quad \leftrightarrow \quad$ magnetic vector potential $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r})$

Berry curvature $\boldsymbol{\Omega}_n(\mathbf{p}) = \text{curl}_{\mathbf{p}} \mathbf{A}_n(\mathbf{p}) \quad \leftrightarrow \quad$ magnetic field $\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}) = \text{curl}_{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r})$

band dispersion $E_n(\mathbf{p}) \quad \leftrightarrow \quad$ scalar potential $e\Phi(\mathbf{r})$

trap energy $W(\mathbf{r}) \quad \leftrightarrow \quad$ kinetic energy $\mathbf{p}^2/2m$

Harper-Hofstadter model + harmonic trap

Magnetic flux per plaquette $\alpha = 1/q$:

- for large q , bands almost flat $E_n(p) \approx E_n$
- lowest bands have $C_n = -1$ and almost uniform Berry curvature $\Omega_n = a^2/2\pi\alpha$

Within single band approximation:

Momentum space magnetic Hamiltonian $H = E_n(p) + k[r + A_n(p)]^2/2$
equivalent to quantum particle in constant B: $H = e\Phi(r) + [p - eA(r)]^2/2m$

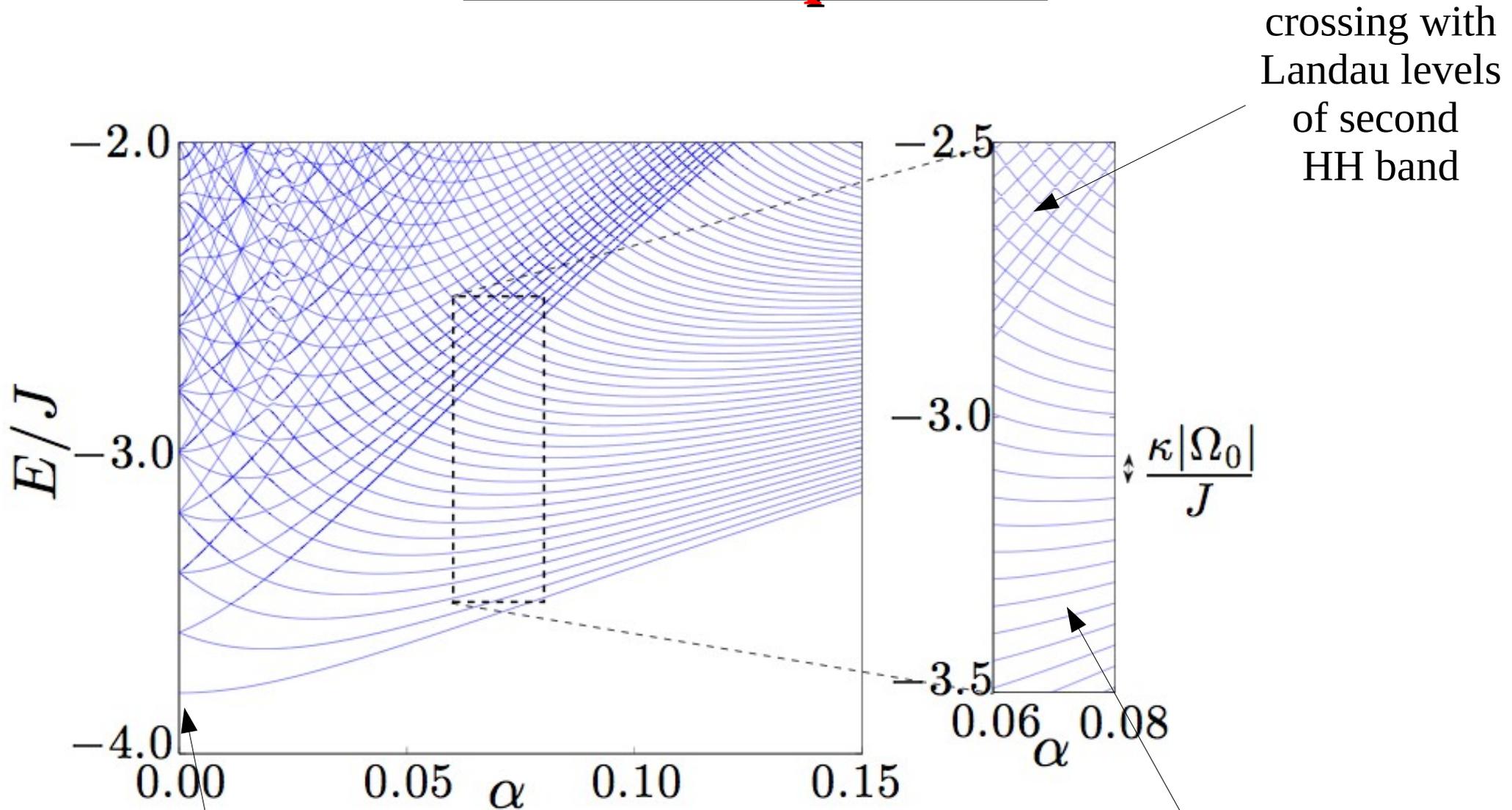
Mass fixed by harmonic trap strength k

- Landau Levels spaced by “cyclotron” $\rightarrow k|\Omega_n|$
- And global (toroidal) topology of FBZ matters!! Degeneracy of LLs reduced to $|C_n|$

Of course, if:

- Too small α / too strong trap \rightarrow band too close for single band approx
- Too large α / too weak trap \rightarrow effect of $E_n(p)$ important

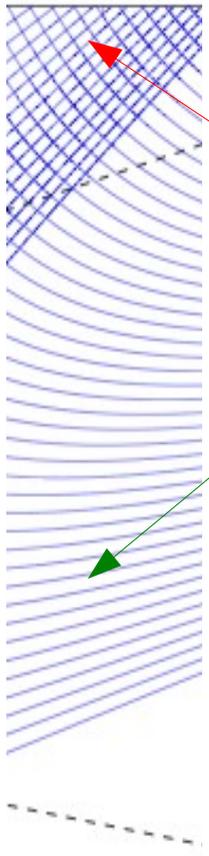
Numerical spectrum



$\alpha \rightarrow 0$ harmonic trap states
(band gap too small)

Landau levels of lowest HH band

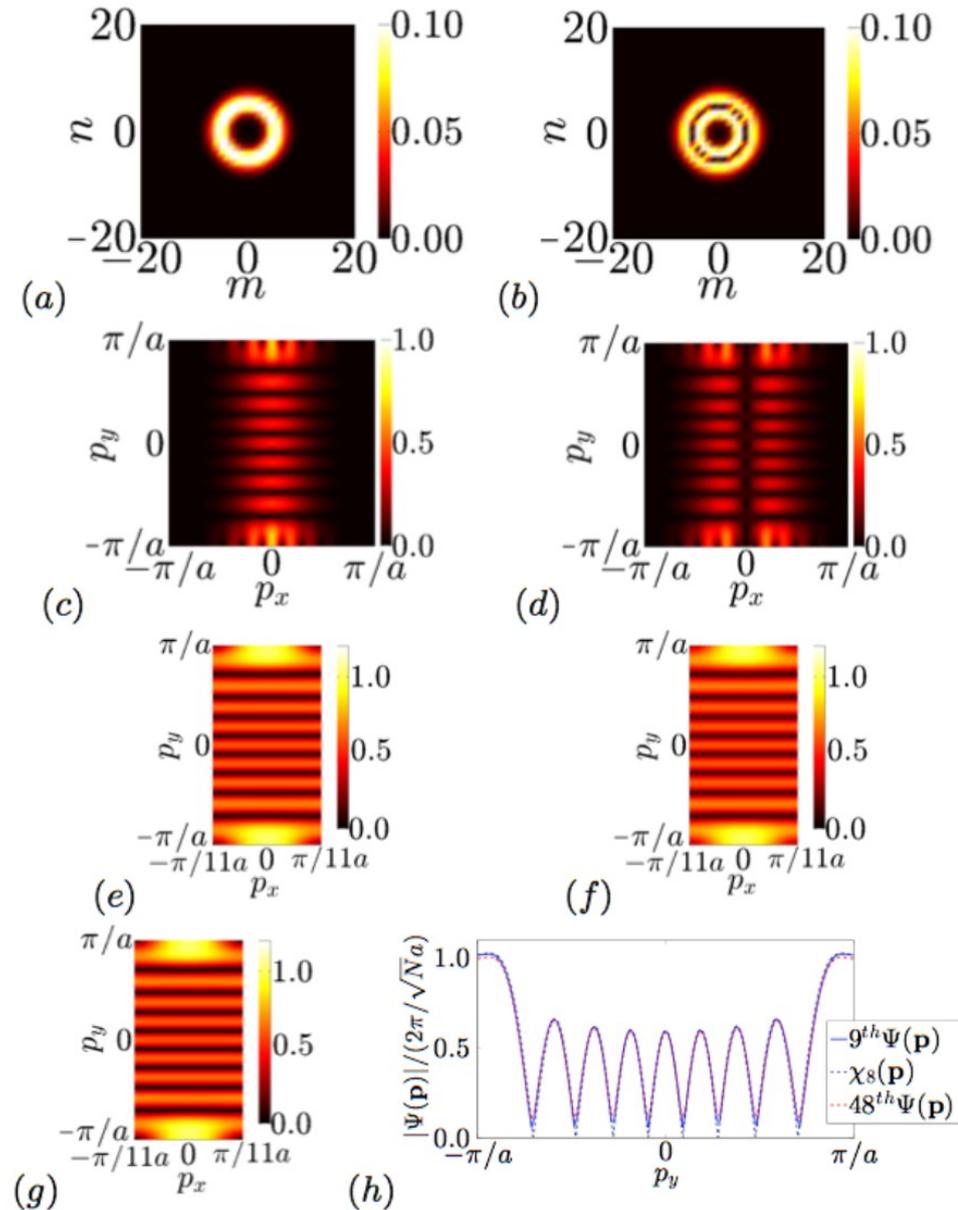
Numerical eigenstates



9th and 48th state for $\alpha = 1/11$

eigen-functions recover
 $\beta=8$ Landau level on torus
 for 1st and 2nd HH bands.

Only difference is Bloch function

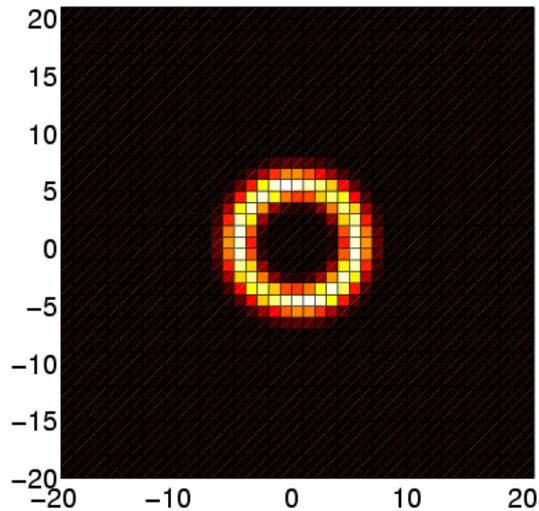
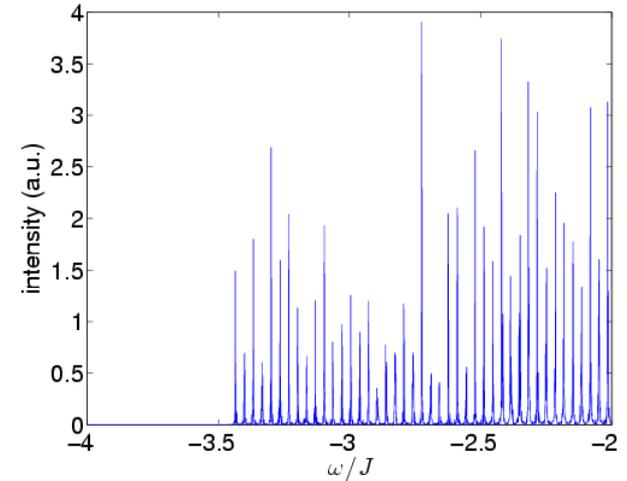


How to observe and characterize these states?

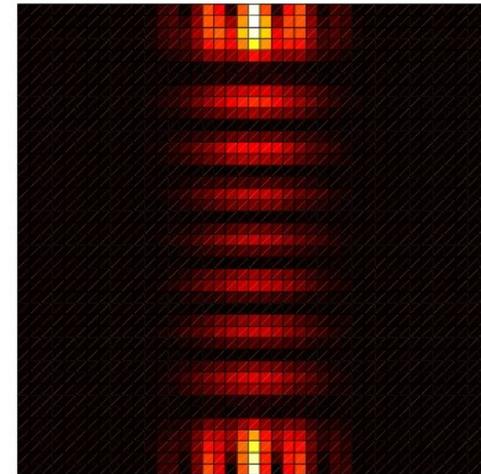
Does not seem trivial in atomic gases...

Straightforward in optics under **coherent pump**:

- each absorption peak \rightarrow an eigenstate
- coherent pump frequency selects a single state
 - **Near-field image** \rightarrow real-space eigenfunction
 - **far-field emission** \rightarrow k-space eigenfunction



near field



far field

Part II-3:

Photons in honeycomb lattices

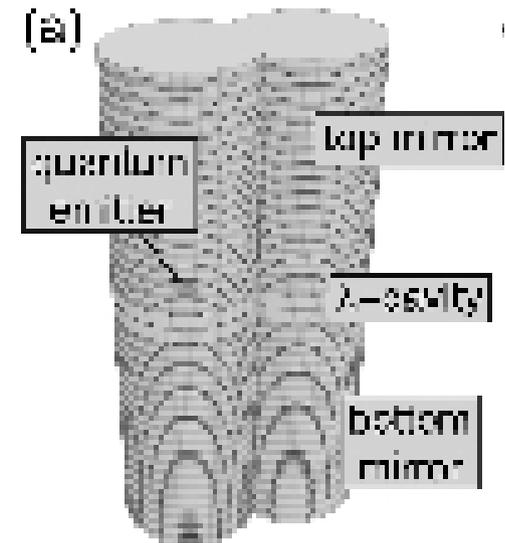
(a kind of photonic graphene)

Arrays of micropillars

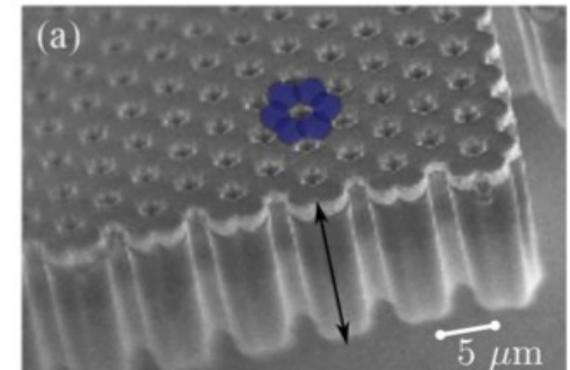
Many ways to create lattice:

- lateral patterning during growth (EPFL)
- surface acoustic waves
- metallic electrodes (Stanford)
- mechanical deformation (Pittsburgh)
- here → Lateral confinement by **etching cavity**
All 2D lattice geometries possible
with suitable etching masks

Honeycomb lattice of pillars
→ polariton “graphene”

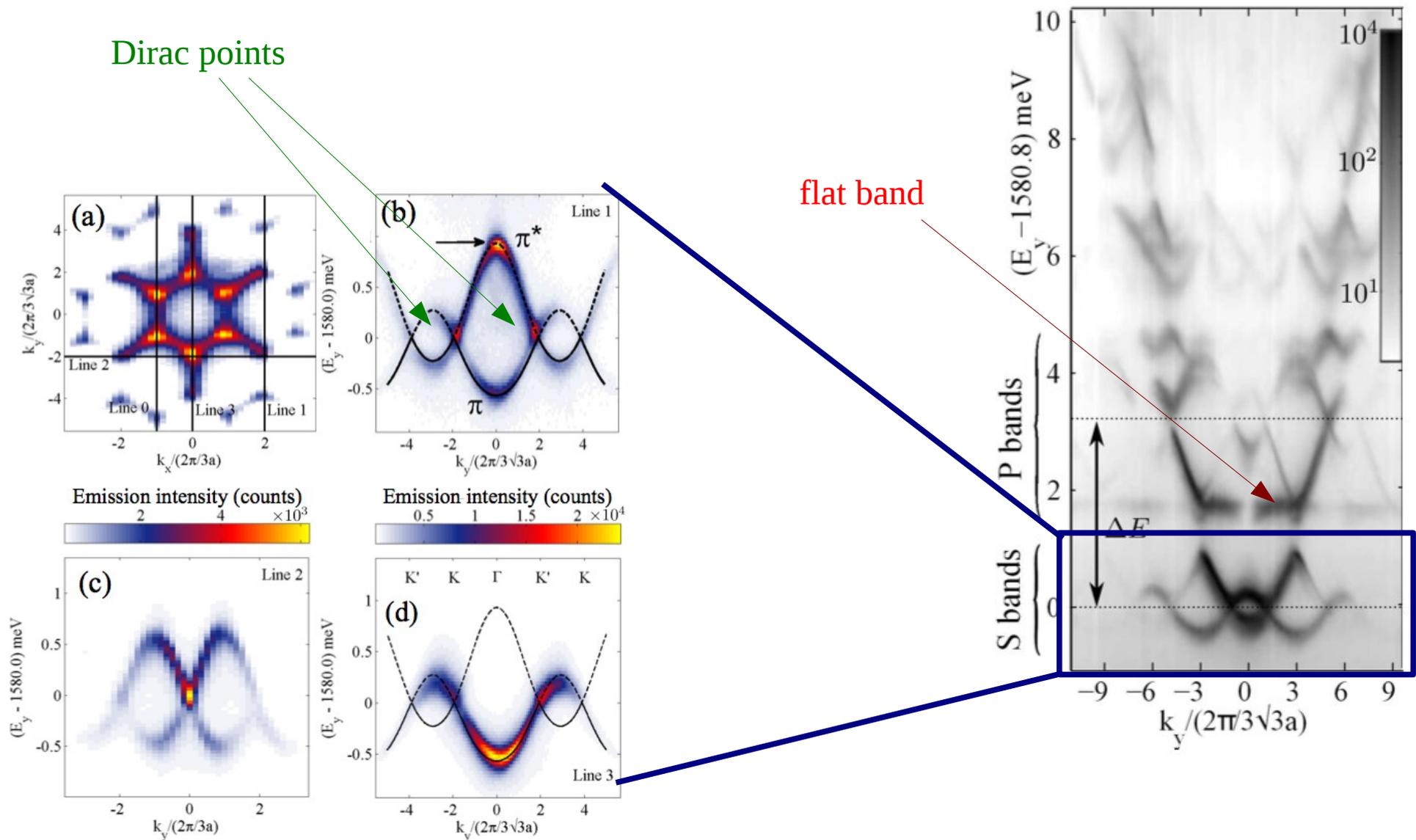


Coupled micropillars
de Vasconcellos et al., APL 2011



Band dispersion

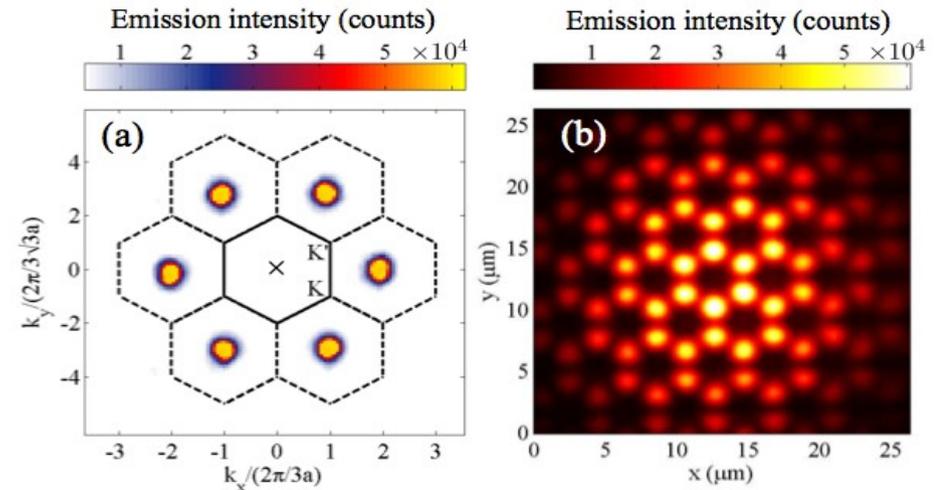
Reconstructed from energy- and angle-resolved photoluminescence



Non-equilibrium BEC

Strong pump, honeycomb lattice:

- photon/polariton BEC at top of band
- kept together by repulsion and $m^* < 0$ as in **gap solitons**
- similar behaviour also in 1D lattices



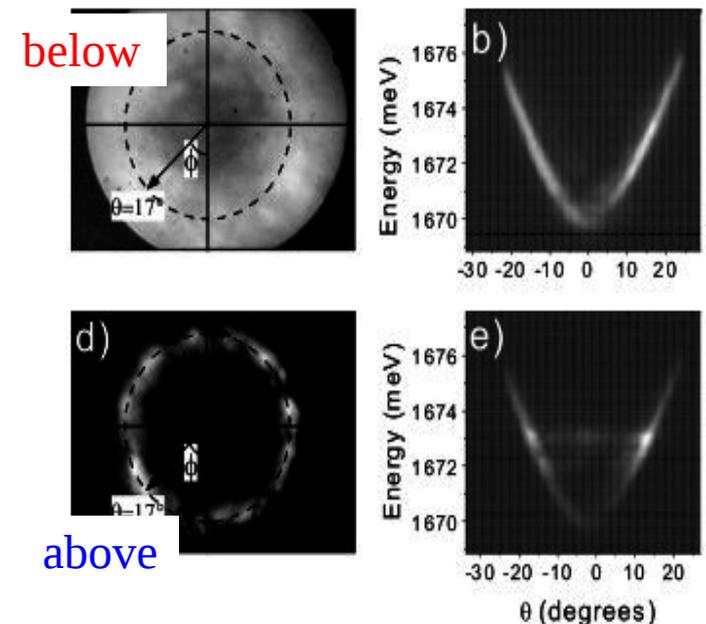
Jacqmin, IC, et al., PRL (2014)

Planar geometry, $m^* > 0$:

- BEC on **k-space ring** for small pump spot
- first observed in Grenoble '05

Generally:

- **no thermodynamical need** for **BEC at $k=0$** !!
- free energy **not involved** in mode-selection
- as in lasers, mode with **strongest amplification** is typically selected



M. Richard et al., PRL **94**, 187401 (2005)

Theory: Wouters, IC, Ciuti, PRB **77**, 115340 (2008)

What new physics with it?

Dirac waves instead of Schroedinger ones

- Klein tunneling → suppressed reflection at barrier
- negative refraction
- Goos-Haenchen lateral shift

Spin-orbit coupling:

- light polarization ↔ spin degree of freedom
- flat bands originate from P orbitals

Nonlinear effects:

- new kinds of solitons and vortices
- flat bands enhance effect of nonlinearity

Topological wave propagation

- effect of Berry curvature on linear and nonlinear waves

Spin-orbit coupling observed in “photonic benzene”

6 pillars geometry

- orbital momentum → inter-pillar tunneling energy
- visible in incoherent photo-luminescence

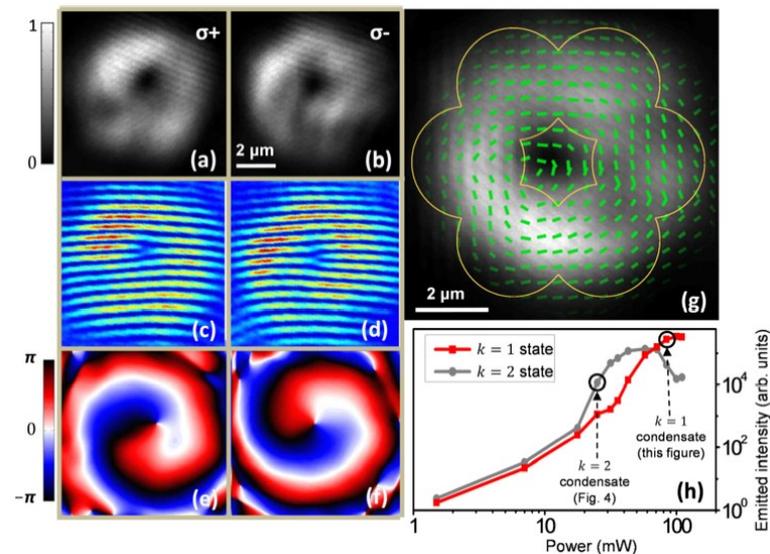
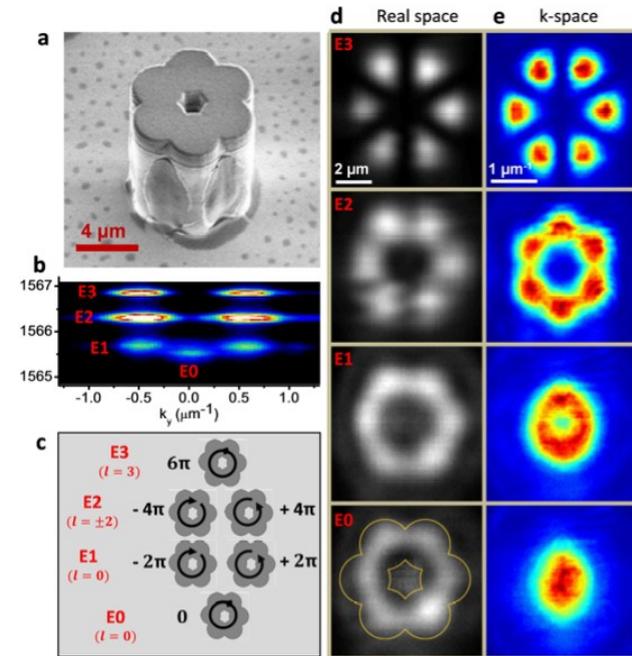
Spin-orbit coupling only apparent in BEC:

- linewidth narrows down
- mode competition strongly selective

→ BEC in $l=1$ mode with azimuthal polarization:

- opposite vortices in σ_{\pm} polarizations
- radial polariz. if BEC in $l=2$ mode (occurs at higher power)

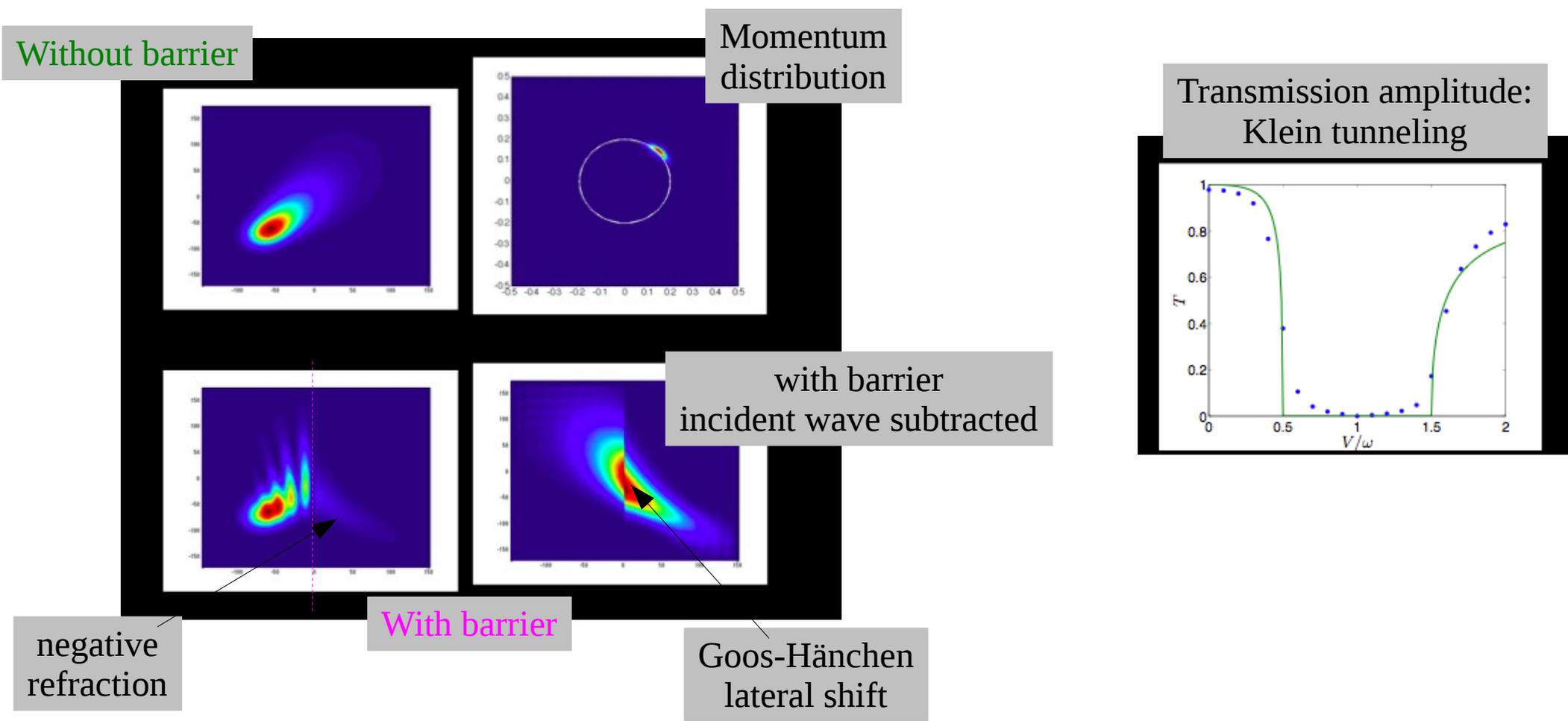
Effect in graphene geometry under study



Simulations of Klein tunneling

Honeycomb photons propagating against potential step

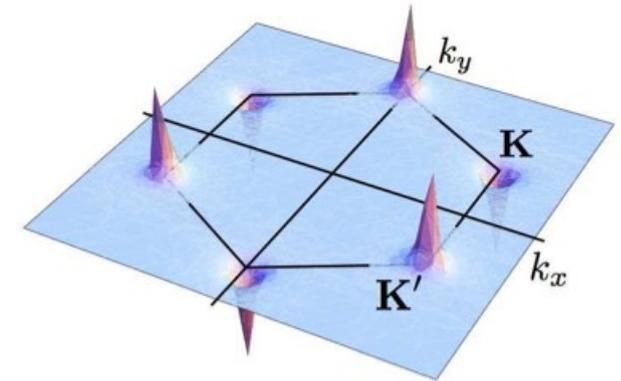
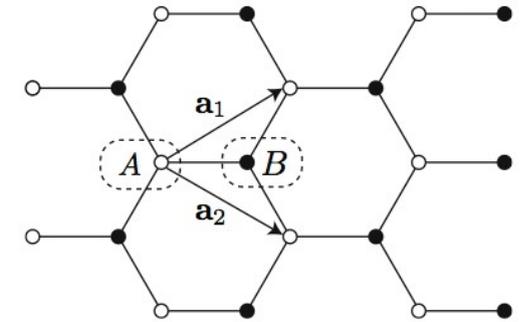
Direct access to **real space (near field)** and **momentum (far field)** distributions



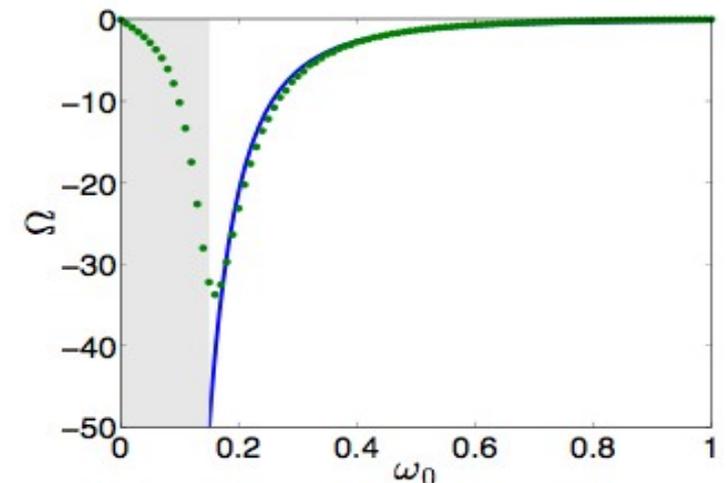
Berry connection in “gapped” honeycomb

Adding **site asymmetry**:

- gap opens at Dirac points
- strong **Berry curvature** Ω at band edges
- Ω has opposite signs at K/K' points
→ Chern number vanishes



Using **momentum-selective pump**
one can extract
Berry curvature around Dirac point
from **lateral shift of wavepacket**



Part III:

The future:

Strongly interacting photons

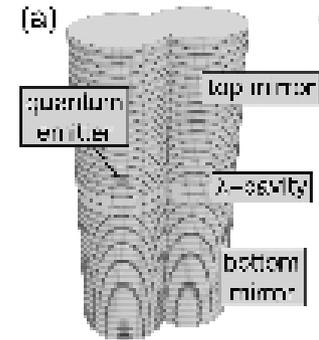
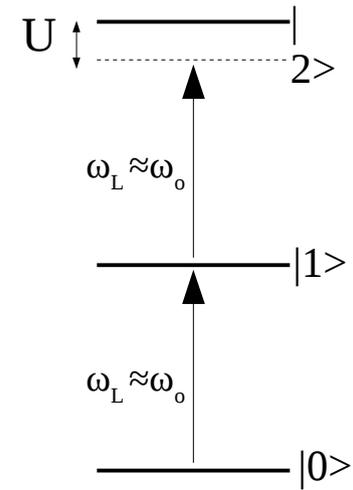
Photon blockade

Full 3D confinement: microcavity + in-plane confinement

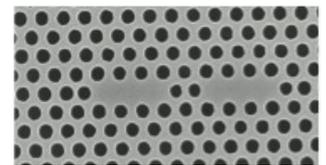
Bose-Hubbard model:

$$H_0 = \sum_i \hbar\omega_0 \hat{b}_i^\dagger \hat{b}_i - \hbar J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{b}_i^\dagger \hat{b}_j + \hbar \frac{U}{2} \sum_i \hat{n}_i (\hat{n}_i - 1)$$

- single-mode cavities at ω_0 . Tunneling coupling J
- Polariton interactions: on-site repulsion U
- Incident laser: coherent external driving $H_d = \sum_i F_i(t) \hat{b}_i + h.c.$
- If $U \gg \gamma, J$, coherent pump resonant with $0 \rightarrow 1$ transition, but not with $1 \rightarrow 2$ transition. **Effectively impenetrable photons**
- Weak losses $\gamma \ll J, U \rightarrow$ Lindblad terms in master eq. determine non-equilibrium steady-state
- Strong number fluctuations \rightarrow **dramatic effect** on MI, but....



Coupled micropillars
de Vasconcelos et al.,
APL 2011

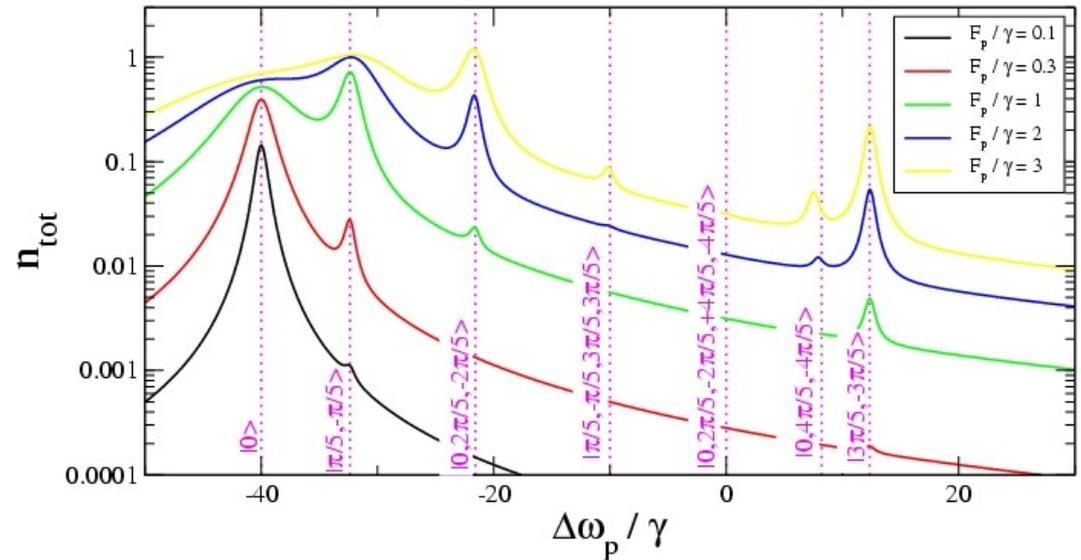


Photonic crystal
Cavities
Majumdar et al.,
arXiv:1201.6244

Impenetrable “fermionized” photons in 1D necklaces

Many-body eigenstates of
Tonks-Girardeau gas
of impenetrable photons

Coherent pump
selectively addresses
specific many-body states



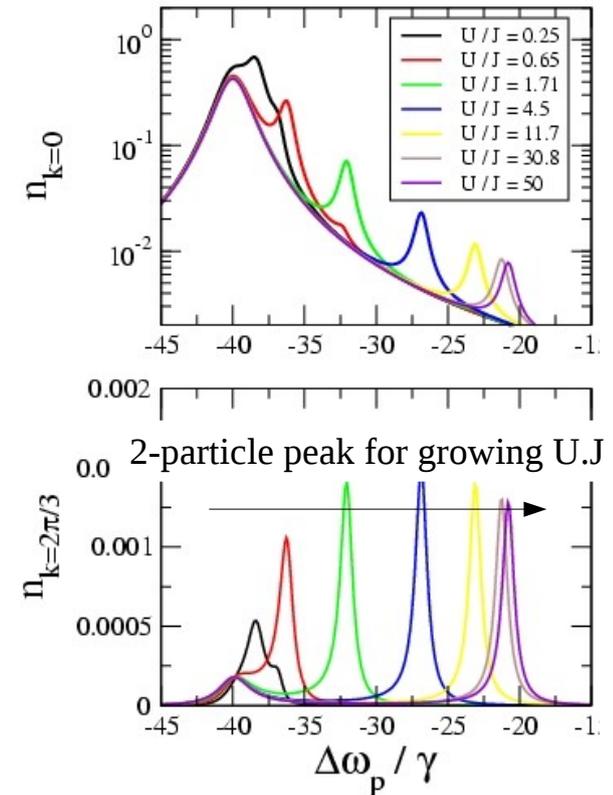
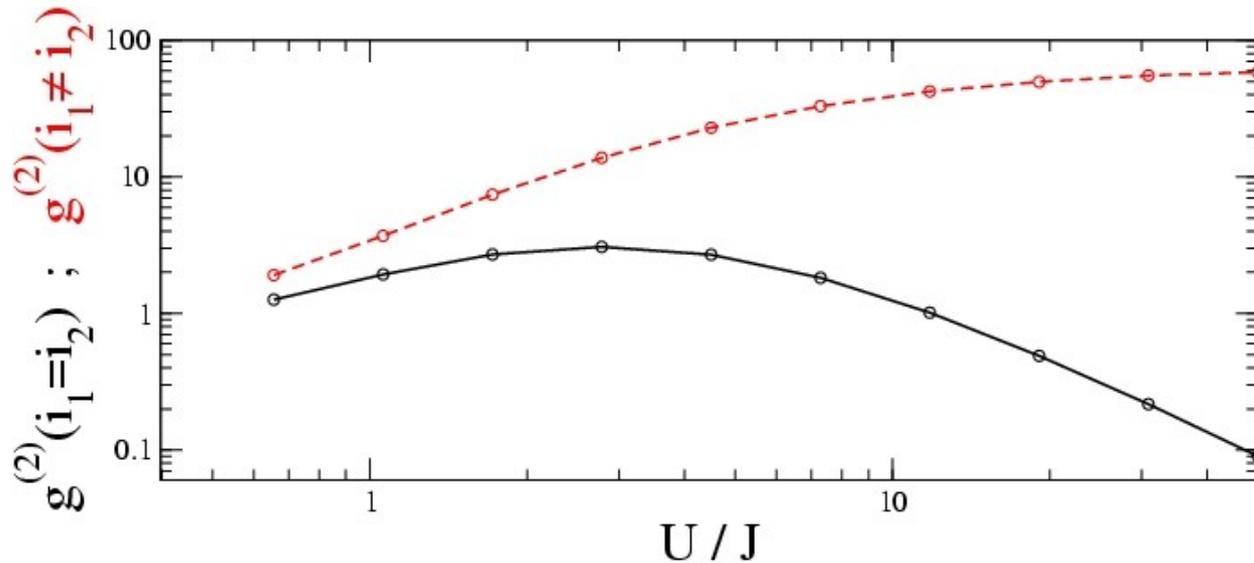
Transmission spectrum as a function pump frequency for fixed pump intensity:

- each peak corresponds to a Tonks-Girardeau many-body state $|q_1, q_2, q_3, \dots\rangle$
- q_i quantized according to PBC/anti-PBC depending on $N=\text{odd/even}$
- $U/J \gg 1$: efficient photon blockade, impenetrable photons.

N -particle state excited by N photon transition:

- Plane wave pump with $k_p=0$: selects states of total momentum $P=0$
- Monochromatic pump at ω_p : resonantly excites states of many-body energy E such that $\omega_p = E / N$

State tomography from emission statistics



Finite U/J , pump laser tuned on two-photon resonance

- intensity correlation between the emission from cavities i_1, i_2
- at large U/γ , larger probability of having $N=0$ or 2 photons than $N=1$
 - low $U \ll J$: bunched emission for all pairs of i_1, i_2
 - large $U \gg J$: antibunched emission from a single site
positive correlations between different sites
- Idea straightforwardly extends to more complex many-body states.

Part III-2:

Fractional quantum Hall effect for photons

Photon blockade + synthetic gauge field = QHE for light

Bose-Hubbard model:

$$H_0 = \sum_i \hbar\omega_0 \hat{b}_i^\dagger \hat{b}_i - \hbar J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{b}_i^\dagger \hat{b}_j e^{i\varphi_{ij}} + \hbar \frac{U}{2} \sum_i \hat{n}_i (\hat{n}_i - 1)$$

gauge field gives phase in hopping terms

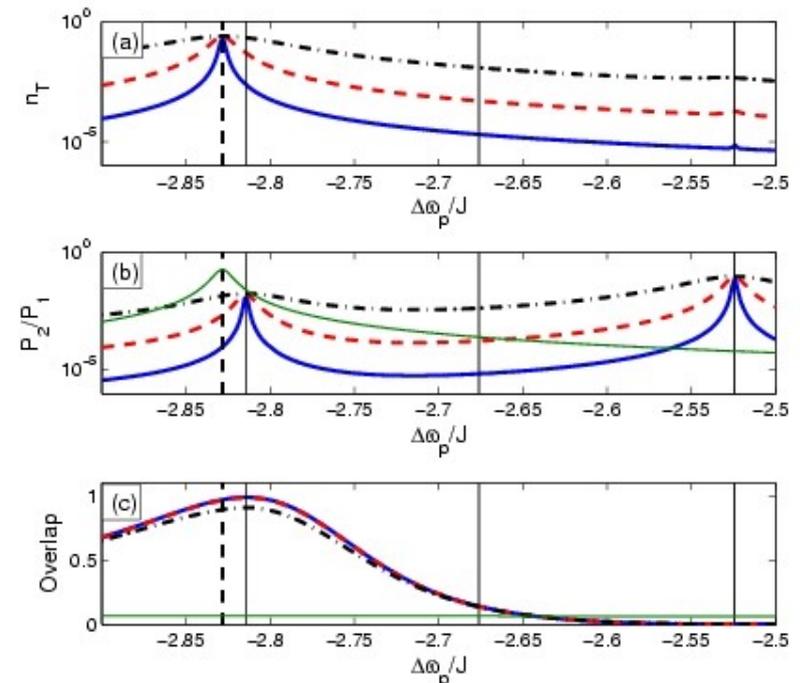
with usual coherent drive and dissipation → look for non-equil. steady state

Transmission spectra:

- peaks correspond to many-body states
- comparison with eigenstates of H_0
- good overlap with Laughlin wf (with PBC)

$$\psi_l(z_1, \dots, z_N) = \mathcal{N}_L F_{\text{CM}}^{(l)}(Z) e^{-\pi\alpha \sum_i y_i^2} \times \prod_{i < j} \left(\vartheta \left[\begin{matrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{matrix} \right] \left(\frac{z_i - z_j}{L} \middle| i \right) \right)^2$$

- no need for adiabatic following, etc....

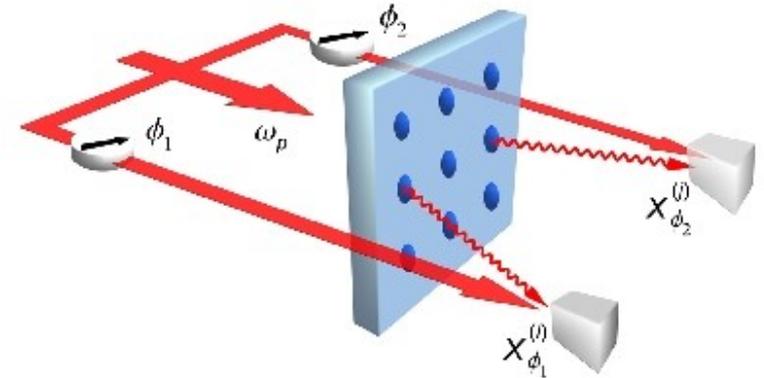


Tomography of FQH states

Homodyne detection of secondary emission

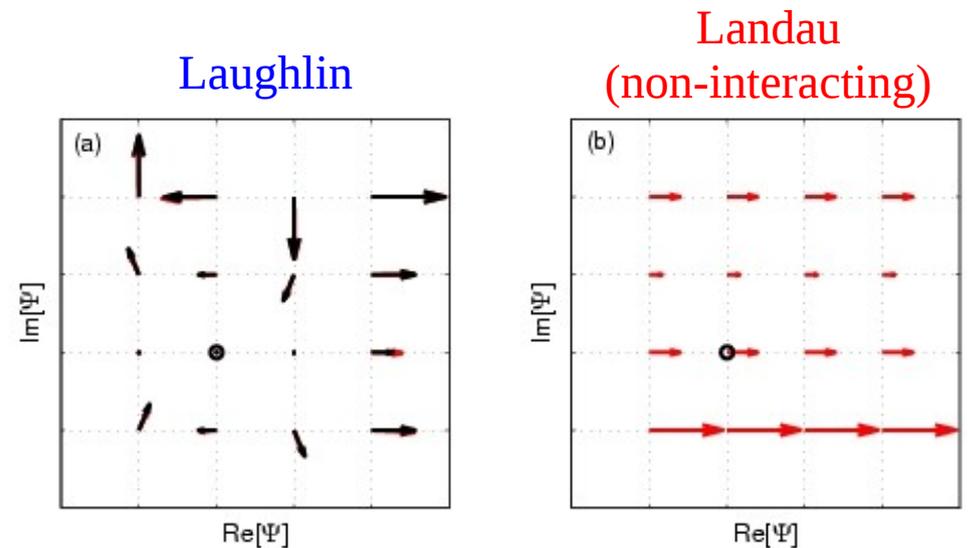
→ info on many-body wavefunction

$$\langle \hat{b}_i \hat{b}_j \rangle = \langle X_0^{(i)} X_0^{(j)} \rangle - \langle X_{\pi/2}^{(i)} X_{\pi/2}^{(j)} \rangle + i \langle X_0^{(i)} X_{\pi/2}^{(j)} \rangle + i \langle X_{\pi/2}^{(i)} X_0^{(j)} \rangle$$



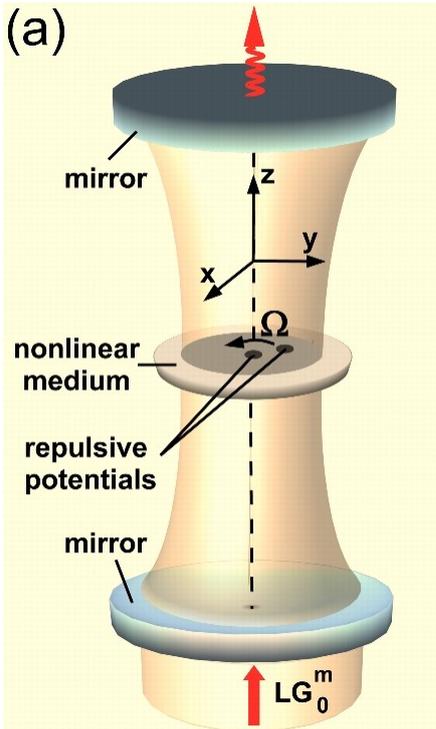
Note: optical signal gauge dependent,
optical phase matters !

Non-trivial structure of Laughlin state
compared to non-interacting photons



A simpler design: rotating photon fluids

Rotating system at angular speed Ω



same form \rightarrow Coriolis $F_c = -2m\Omega \times v$
 \rightarrow Lorentz $F_L = e v \times B$

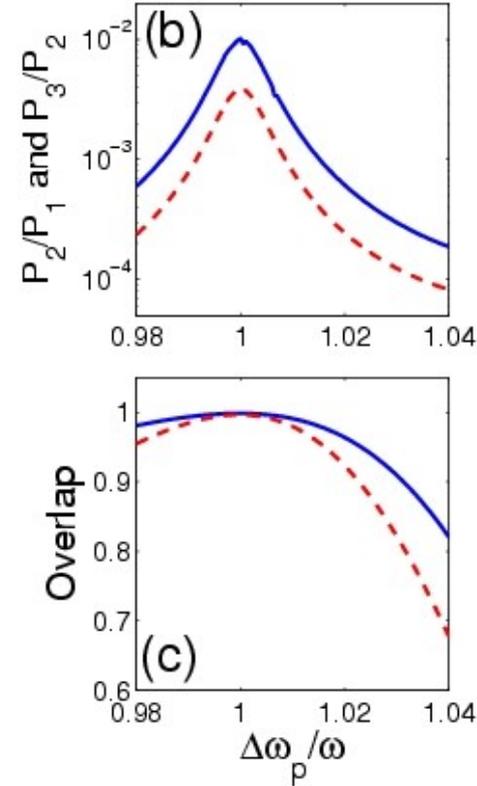
Rotating photon gas injected by LG pump
 with finite orbital angular momentum

Resonant peak in transmission due to Laughlin state:

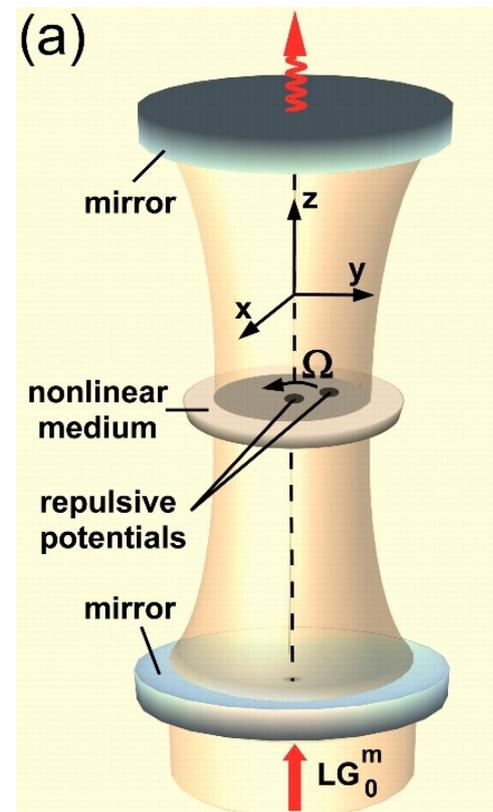
$$\psi(z_1, \dots, z_N) = e^{-\sum_i |z_i|^2 / 2} \prod_{i < j} (z_i - z_j)^2$$

Overlap measured from quadrature noise of transmitted light

$$\langle \hat{b}_i \hat{b}_j \rangle = \langle X_0^{(i)} X_0^{(j)} \rangle - \langle X_{\pi/2}^{(i)} X_{\pi/2}^{(j)} \rangle + i \langle X_0^{(i)} X_{\pi/2}^{(j)} \rangle + i \langle X_{\pi/2}^{(i)} X_0^{(j)} \rangle$$

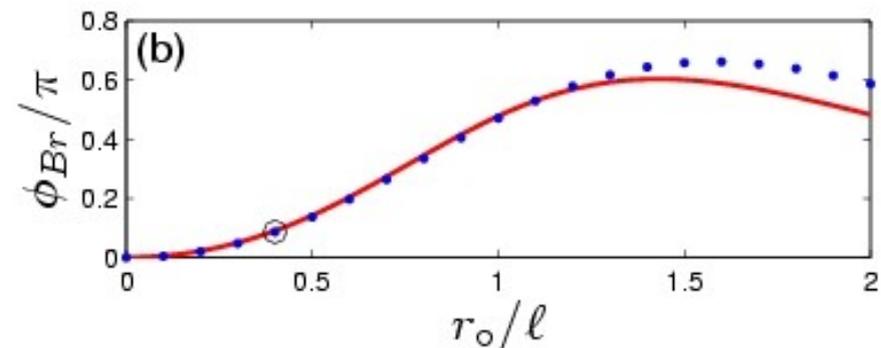
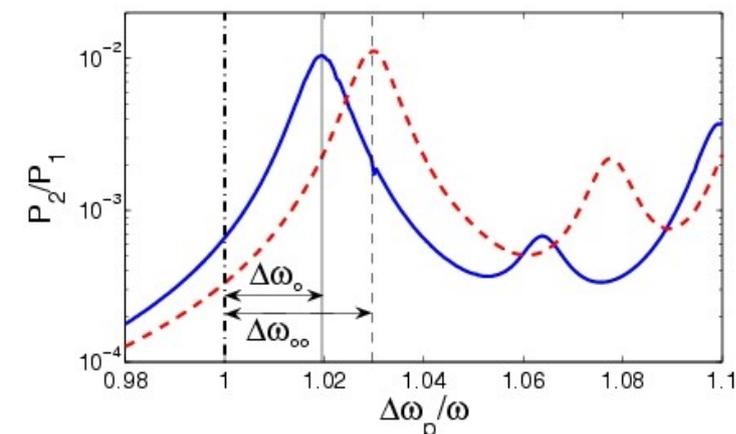


Anyonic braiding phase



- LG pump to create and maintain quantum Hall liquid
- Localized repulsive potentials in trap:
 - create quasi-hole excitation in quantum Hall liquid
 - position of holes adiabatically braided in space
- Anyonic statistics of quasi-hole: many-body Berry phase ϕ_{Br} when positions swapped during braiding
- Berry phase extracted from shift of transmission resonance while repulsive potential moved with period T_{rot} along circle

$$\phi_{Br} \equiv (\Delta\omega_{oo} - \Delta\omega_o) T_{rot} [2\pi]$$
- so far, method restricted to low particle number



Conclusions

Dilute photon gas

GP-like equation

2000-6 → BEC in exciton-polaritons gas in semiconductor microcav.

2008-10 → superfluid hydrodynamics effects observed

2009-13 → synthetic gauge field for photons and topologically protected edge states observed.

Take-home message:

Optical systems are (almost) unavoidably lossy → driven-dissipative, non-equilibrium dynamics
not always a hindrance for many-body physics, but can be turned into great advantage!

Many questions still open:

- quantum hydrodynamics, e.g. analog Hawking radiation in acoustic black holes
- critical properties of BKT transition in 2D – peculiar non-equilibrium features anticipated
- topological effects with spin-orbit couplings; non-Abelian synthetic gauge fields

Challenging perspectives on a longer run:

- strongly correlated photon gases → Tonks-Girardeau gas in 1D necklace of cavities
- with synthetic gauge field → Laughlin states, quantum Hall physics of light
- Theoretical challenge → how to create and control strongly correlated many-photon states?
- more complex quantum Hall states: non-Abelian statistical phases.
An integrated platform for topologically protected states for QIP ??

If you wish to know more...

REVIEWS OF MODERN PHYSICS, VOLUME 85, JANUARY–MARCH 2013

Quantum fluids of light

Iacopo Carusotto*

INO-CNR BEC Center and Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Trento, I-38123 Povo, Italy

Cristiano Ciuti†

Laboratoire Matériaux et Phénomènes Quantiques, Université Paris Diderot-Paris 7 et CNRS, Bâtiment Condorcet, 10 rue Alice Domon et Léonie Duquet, 75205 Paris Cedex 13, France

(published 21 February 2013)

I. Carusotto and C. Ciuti, *Reviews of Modern Physics* **85**, 299 (2013)

CIRCUMNAVIGATING AN OCEAN OF INCOMPRESSIBLE LIGHT

A JOURNEY ACROSS THE EXCITING PERSPECTIVES OF
QUANTUM FLUIDS OF LIGHT

IACOPO CARUSOTTO

INO-CNR BEC Center and Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Trento, Povo, Italy

I. Carusotto, *Il Nuovo Saggiatore* – SIF magazine (2013)

Jan. 12th – 23th, 2015 @ ECT*, Trento
school & workshop on
*Strongly correlated quantum fluids
of light and matter*

Organizers: IC, C.Ciuti, A.Imamoglu, R. Fazio