



**BEC**  
BOSE EINSTEIN CONDENSATION



European  
Commission

Horizon 2020  
European Union funding  
for Research & Innovation

**PhoQuS**  
Photons for Quantum Simulation

**Superfluids of atoms and of light as  
analog models of gravity:  
a fruitful synergy of gravity and quantum optics**

Iacopo Carusotto

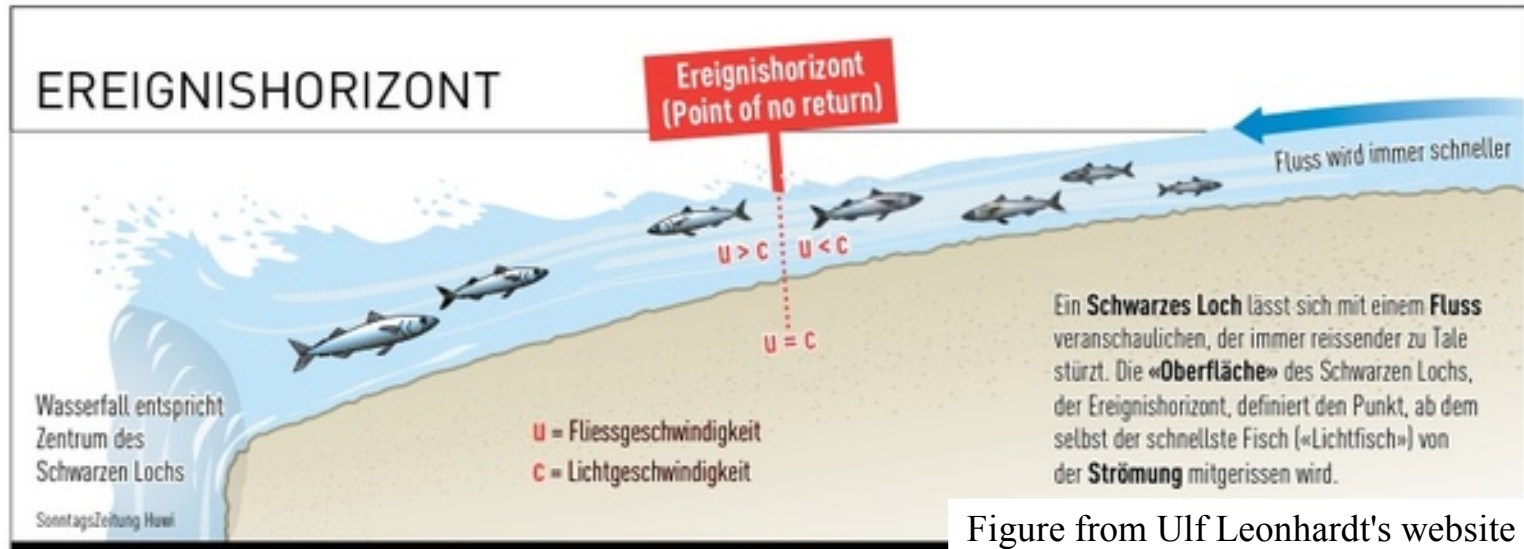
*INO-CNR BEC Center and Università di Trento, Italy*

# Part 1

## Basics of analog models

analog Hawking radiation in atomic superfluids

# Fishic black hole horizon



Excitations (i.e. fish) propagate (i.e swim) at  $v = c_s \pm v_{\text{flow}}$

- **Horizon region** separating **sub-fishic** flow (upstream) from **super-fishic** flow (downstream)
- **Fish** in super-fishic region **can not swim back** through **fishic horizon**
- So, what happens with **quantum fish** ? **Hawking radiation of fish** ?

Behavior analogous to **astrophysical black hole horizon**

# Acoustic Black Hole horizon

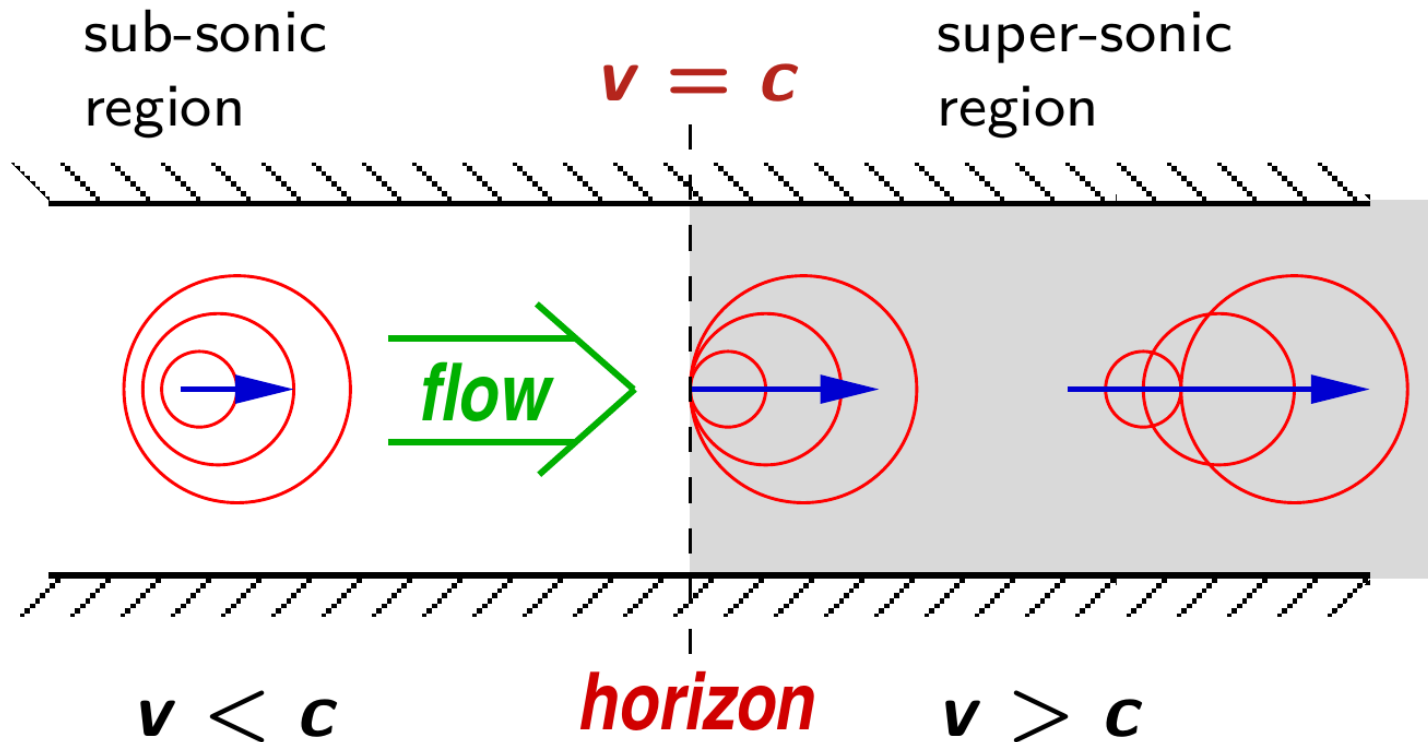


Figure from N. Pavloff's website

- Sound emitted in super-sonic region is **dragged** by the flow in the downstream direction
- **Excitations** in super-sonic region **can not travel back** through **horizon**
- What happens with **quantized radiation field** ? **Hawking radiation** of **sound** ?

# Mathematical framework

Superfluid hydrodynamics of dilute BEC, e.g. ultracold atomic gas

Gross-Pitaevskii equation for BEC order parameter  $\Psi(x,t)$ :

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial t} = \frac{-\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \Psi(x,t) + V(x) \Psi + g |\Psi(x,t)|^2 \Psi(x,t)$$

Modulus-phase picture  $\Psi(x,t) = n(x)^{1/2} e^{i\Phi(x,t)}$  gives hydrodynamic equations

Sonic dispersion of low-k phonons  $\omega = c |k|$ .

Doppler shifted  $\omega = c |k| - v \cdot k$  in moving fluid at  $v$

Relativistic eq for phase in inhomogeneous, moving BEC:  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{-G}} \partial_\mu [\sqrt{-G} G^{\mu\nu} \partial_\nu] \phi(x,t) = 0$

Equivalent to light propagation in curved space-time metric

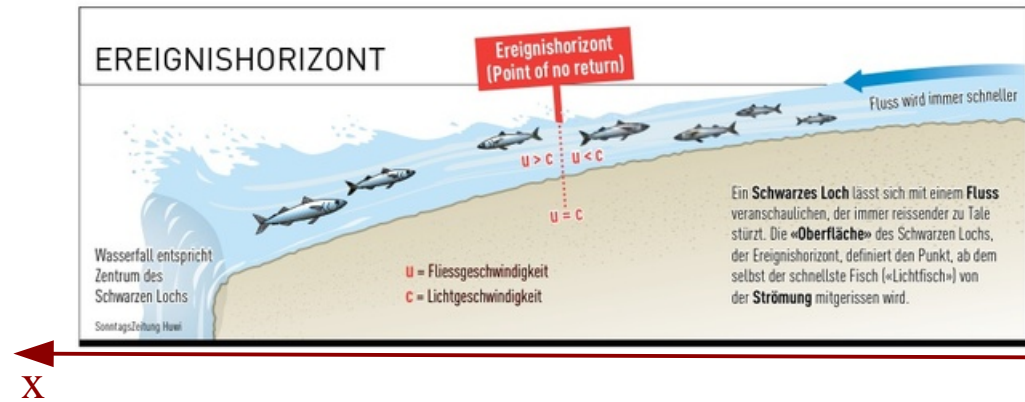
$$ds^2 = G_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu = \frac{n(x)}{c_s(x)} \left[ -c_s(x)^2 dt^2 + (d\vec{x} - \vec{v}(x) dt)(d\vec{x} - \vec{v}(x) dt) \right]$$

Once quantized  $\rightarrow$  quantum field theory in a curved space time  $\rightarrow$  Hawking emission?

# Acoustic Black Hole

Simplest analog black hole geometry:

- one-dimensional geometry
- flow in the +x direction
- $v(x)/c_s(x)$  increases along +x direction
- horizon where  $v(x_H) / c_s(x_H) = 1$



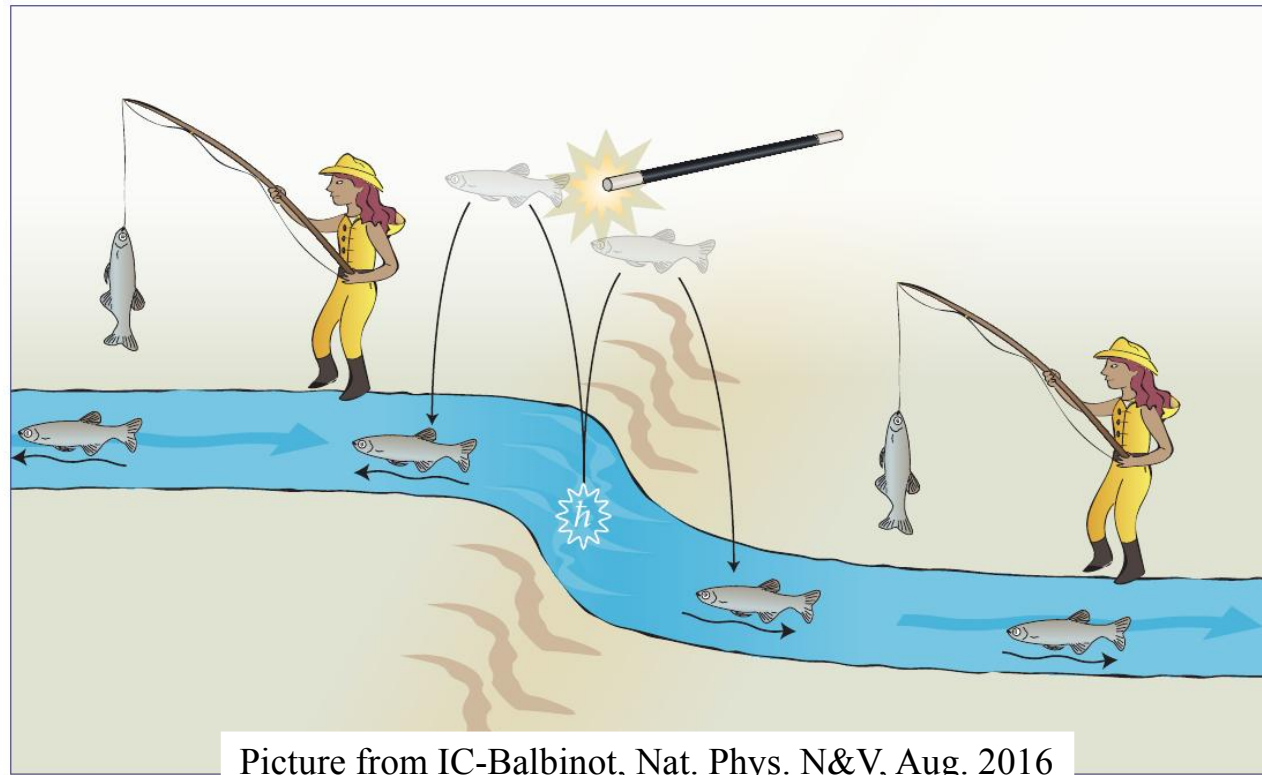
Astrophysical black holes → Hawking emission at  $T_H = \frac{\hbar c^3}{8\pi k_B G M}$

- $\approx$  fraction of  $\mu\text{K}$  for solar mass BHs, even lower for supermassive BH
- to be compared to 2.7K of Cosmic Microwave Background

Analog models → Hawking emission of sound at  $T_H = \frac{\hbar}{4\pi k_B v} \left. \frac{d}{dx} (c_s^2 - v^2) \right|_{x=x_h}$

- $T_H \sim \text{nK}$ , to be compared with  $T_{\text{BEC}} \sim \text{nK}$  as well
- but also something new and exciting...

# How to detect Hawking radiation?



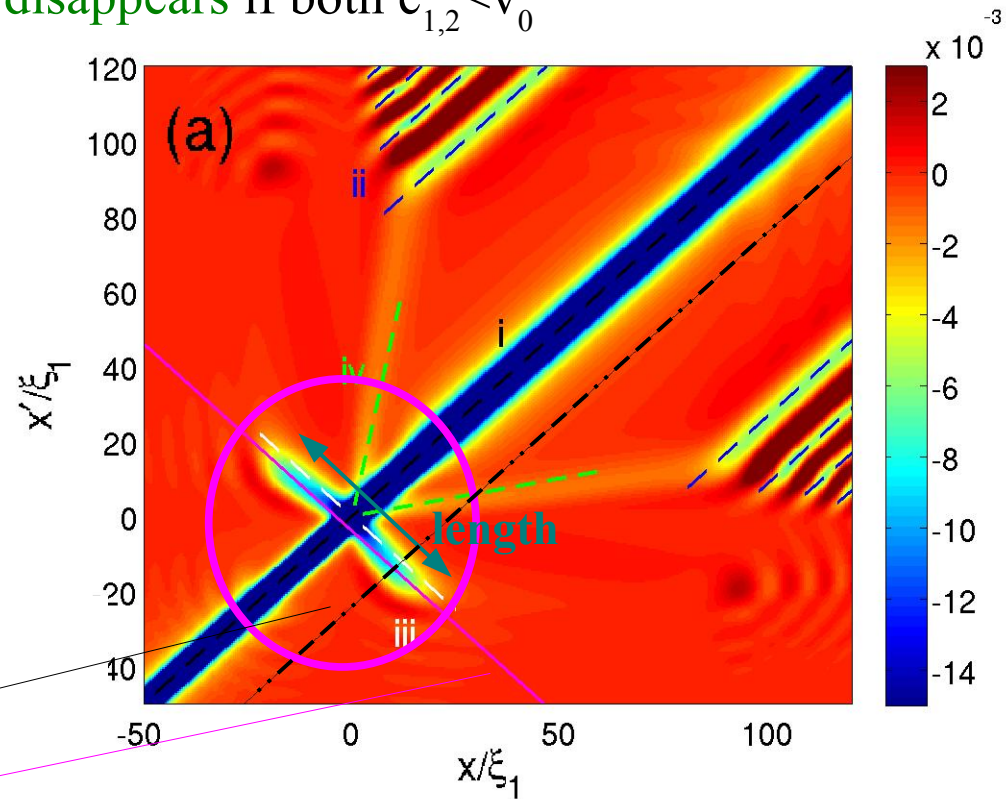
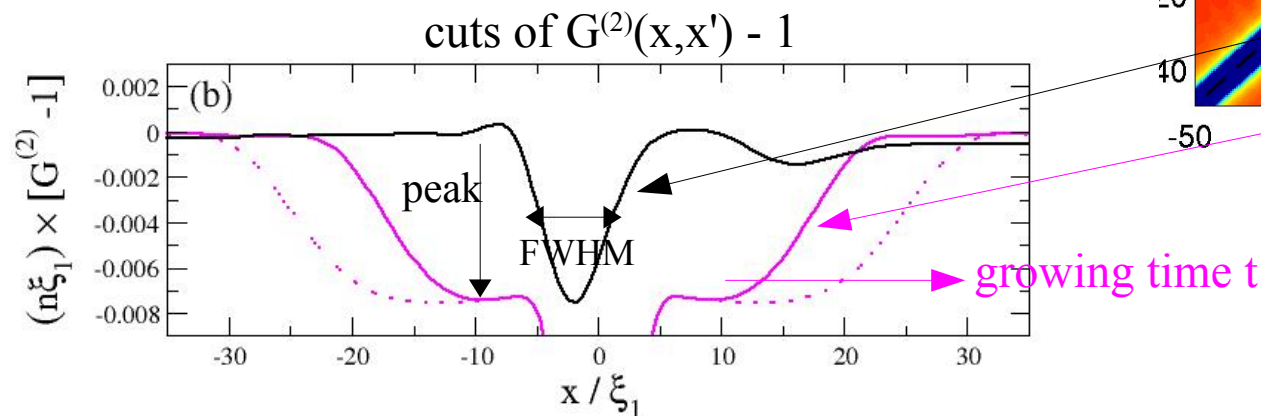
- Hawking radiation → **correlated pairs** generated simultaneously at the horizon
- Of course **not detectable in astrophysics**
- In analog models, HR isolated from background of thermal and noise phonons by measuring **correlations on opposite sides of horizon**
- **In the picture: Hawking fish are caught simultaneously by the two fisherwomen!**

# The Hawking signal: theoretical prediction

Wigner Monte Carlo simulations of the quantum fluctuations

Negative correlation tongue extending from the horizon  $x=x'=0$

- long-range in/out density correlation which disappears if both  $c_{1,2} < v_0$
- length grows linearly in  $t$
- peak height, FWHM constant in  $t$
- slope  $\frac{v_0 - c_2}{v_0 - c_1}$  agrees with theory
  - pairs emitted at all  $t$  from horizon
  - propagate at sound speed



Numerics in: IC, S.Fagnocchi, A.Recati, R.Balbinot, A.Fabbri, New J. Phys. 10, 103001 (2008)

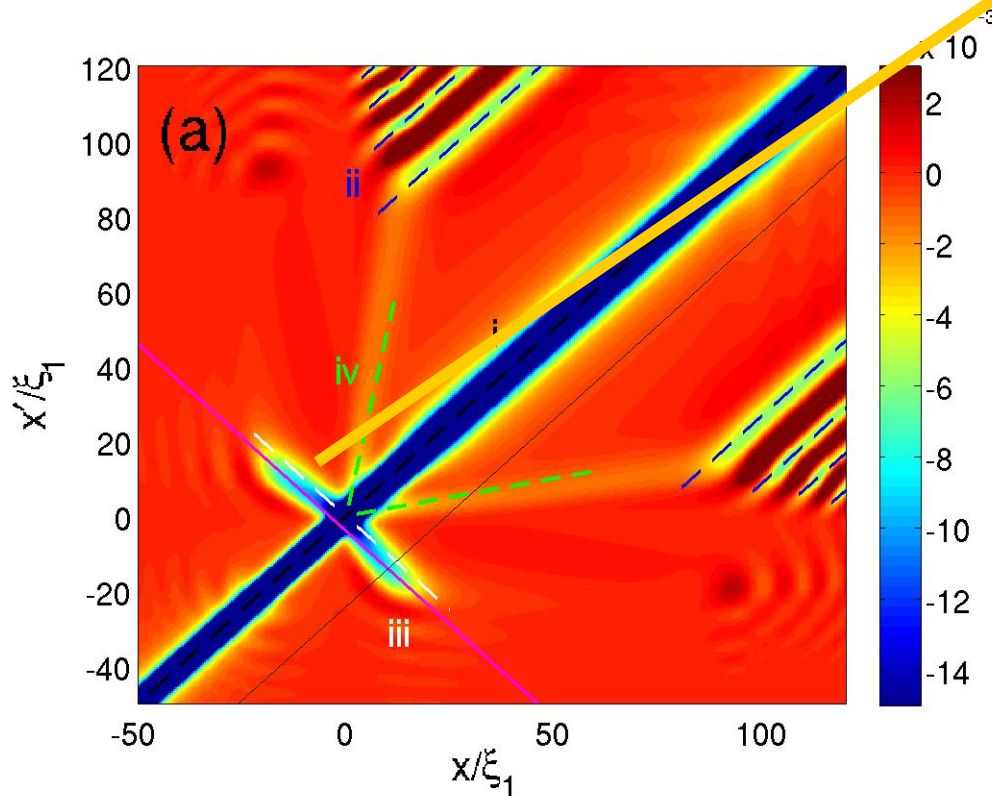
In agreement with theory in: R. Balbinot, A. Fabbri, S. Fagnocchi, A. Recati, IC, PRA 78, 021603 (2008).



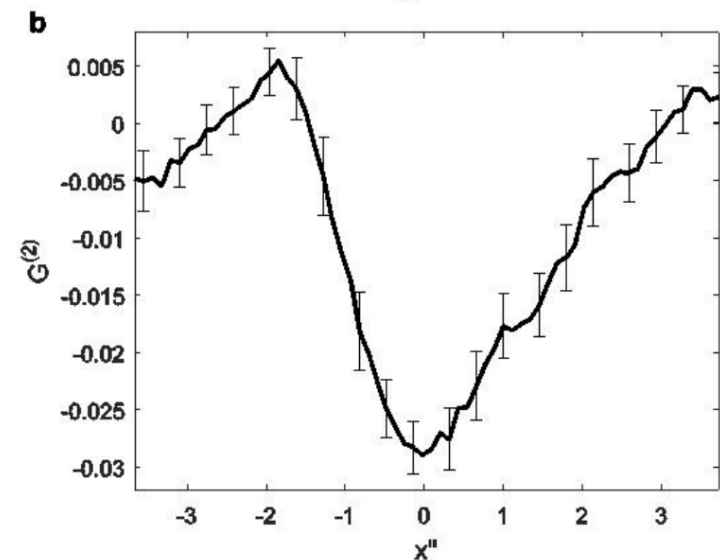
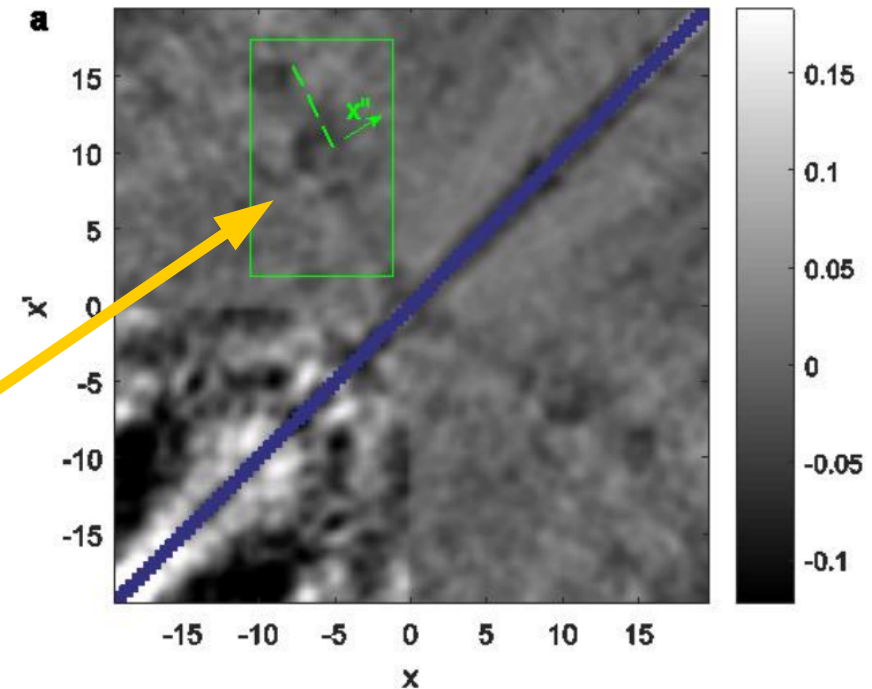
# Analog Hawking radiation detected in the lab!

Analog black hole configuration obtained by sending 1D atomic BEC against optical potential

Experimental evidence of HR based on **Balbinot-Fabbri moustache** in correlation function of density fluctuations



Theory: IC et al., NJP 2008



Expt: Steinhauer Nat. Phys. '16

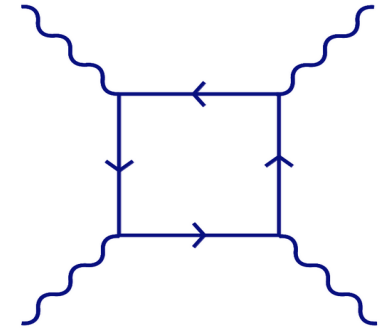
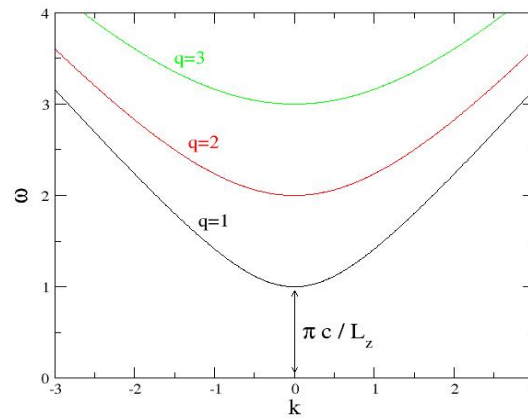
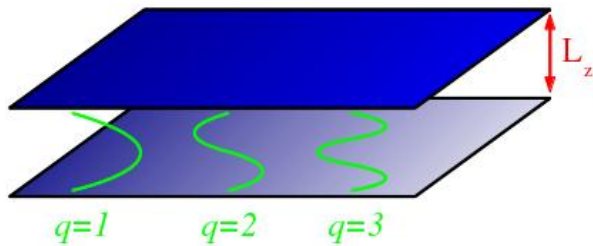
New (better) pictures from De Nova et al., Nature '19

## Part 2

# Analog Hawking radiation in quantum fluids of light

An unexpected discovery  
on quasi-normal modes

# What are quantum fluids of light ?



- Photons **confined along  $z$  by mirrors**; free to propagate along  $xy$  plane  
→ relativistic dispersion: **rest mass  $\omega_0$**  & **effective mass  $m_0$**
- **Optical nonlinearity** of medium provides **binary interactions**  
→ **collective behaviour as a quantum fluid of light**
- Laser pump coherently injects photons:  
→ radiative losses determine non equilibrium steady state  
→ coherence of polariton fluid guaranteed by coherent pump
- All properties of in-cavity photon fluid transferred to secondary emitted light

# Experimental observation of superfluid behaviour

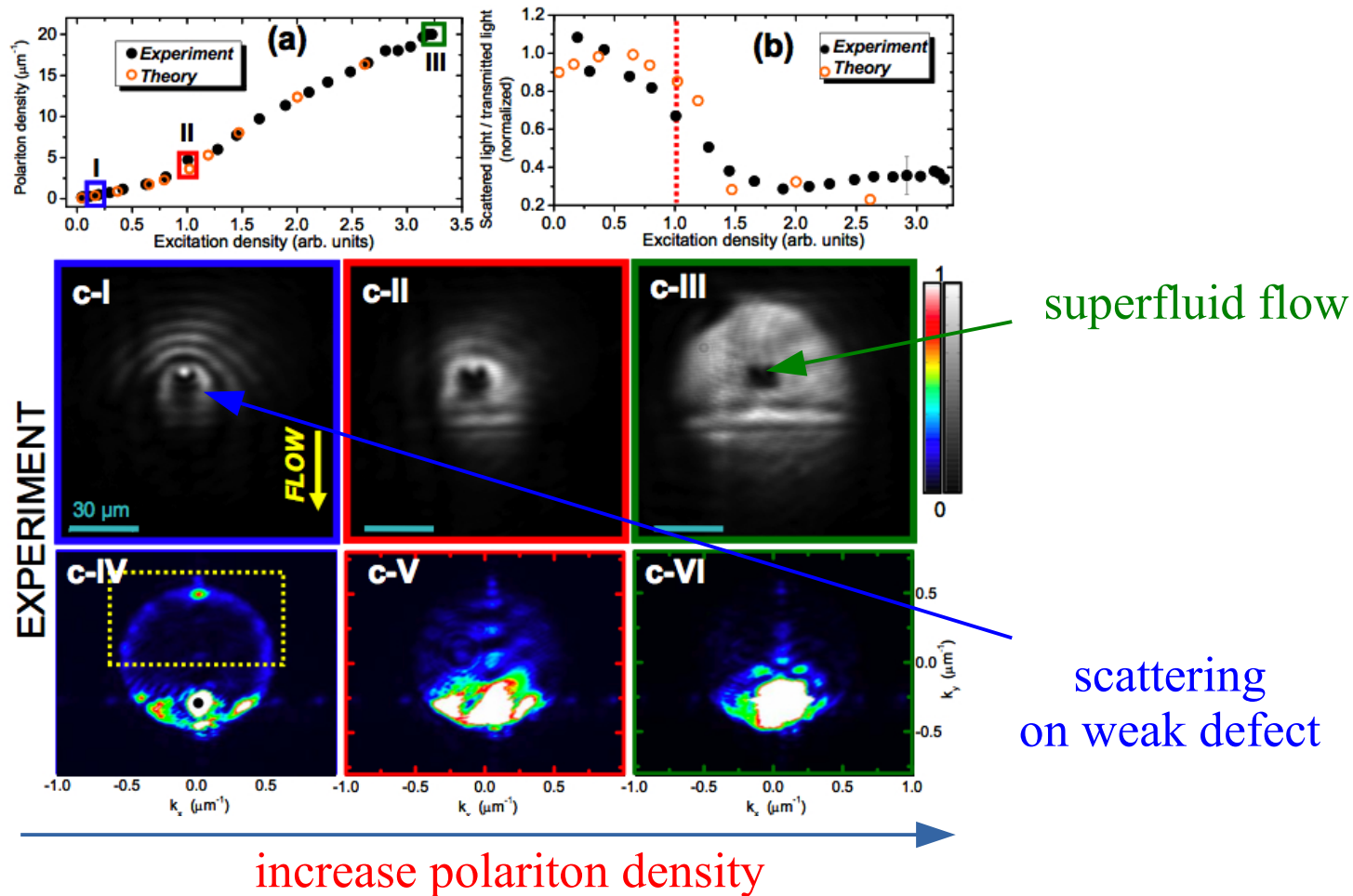


Figure from LKB-P6 group:

A.Amo, J.Lefrère, 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)

# Acoustic horizons in fluid of light

## Photon-photon interactions

- Bogoliubov phonon dispersion on top of photon fluid

## Pump at an angle

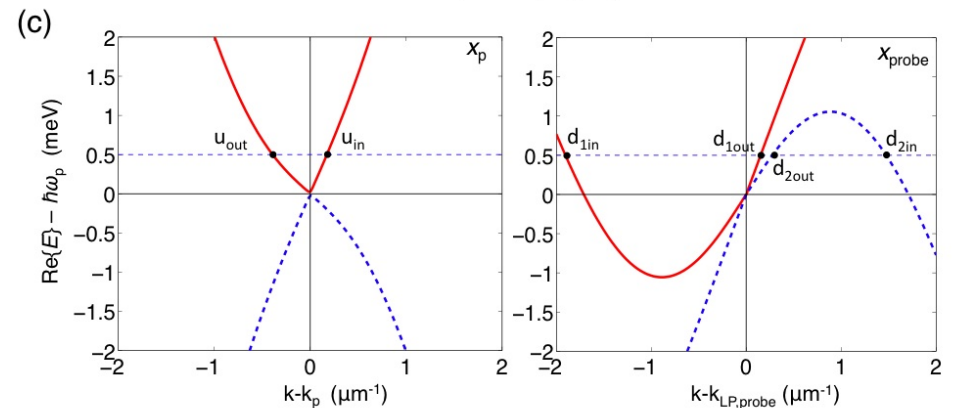
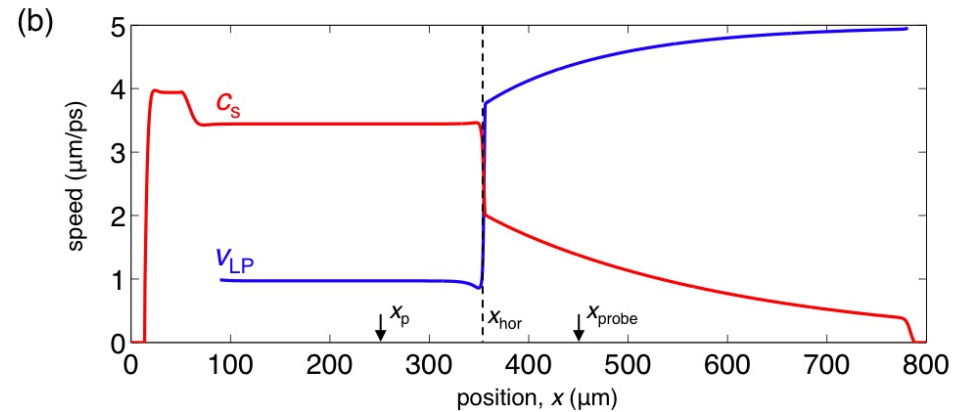
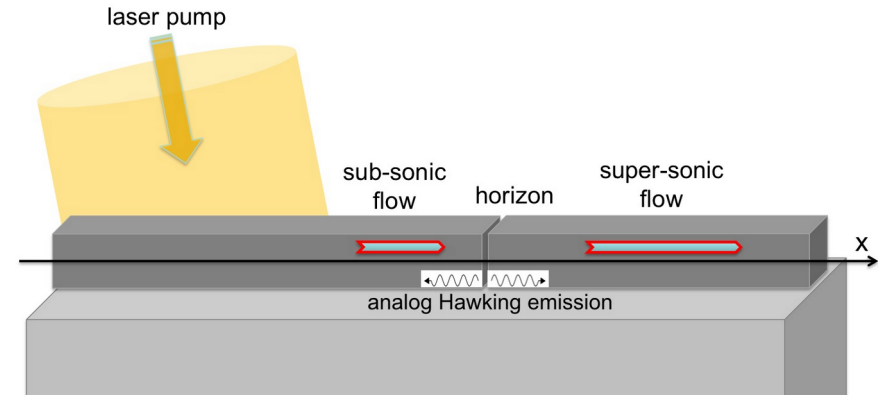
- finite in-plane wavevector, so condensate is flowing

## Tailored pump spot + Defect

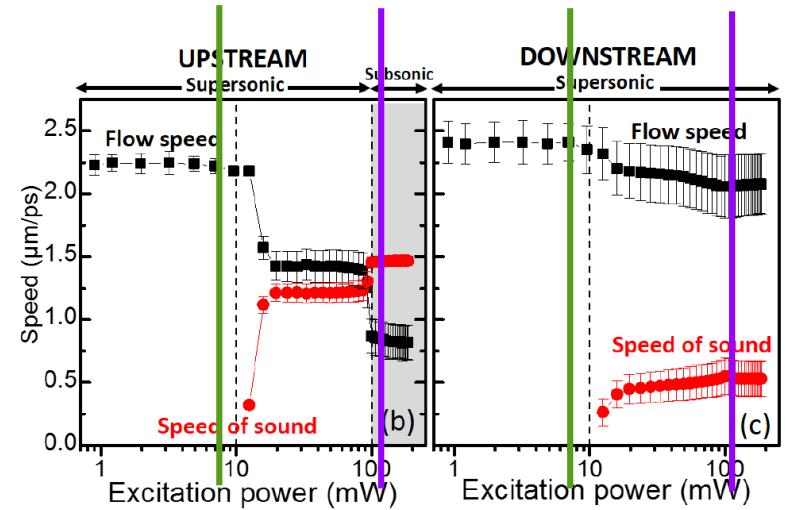
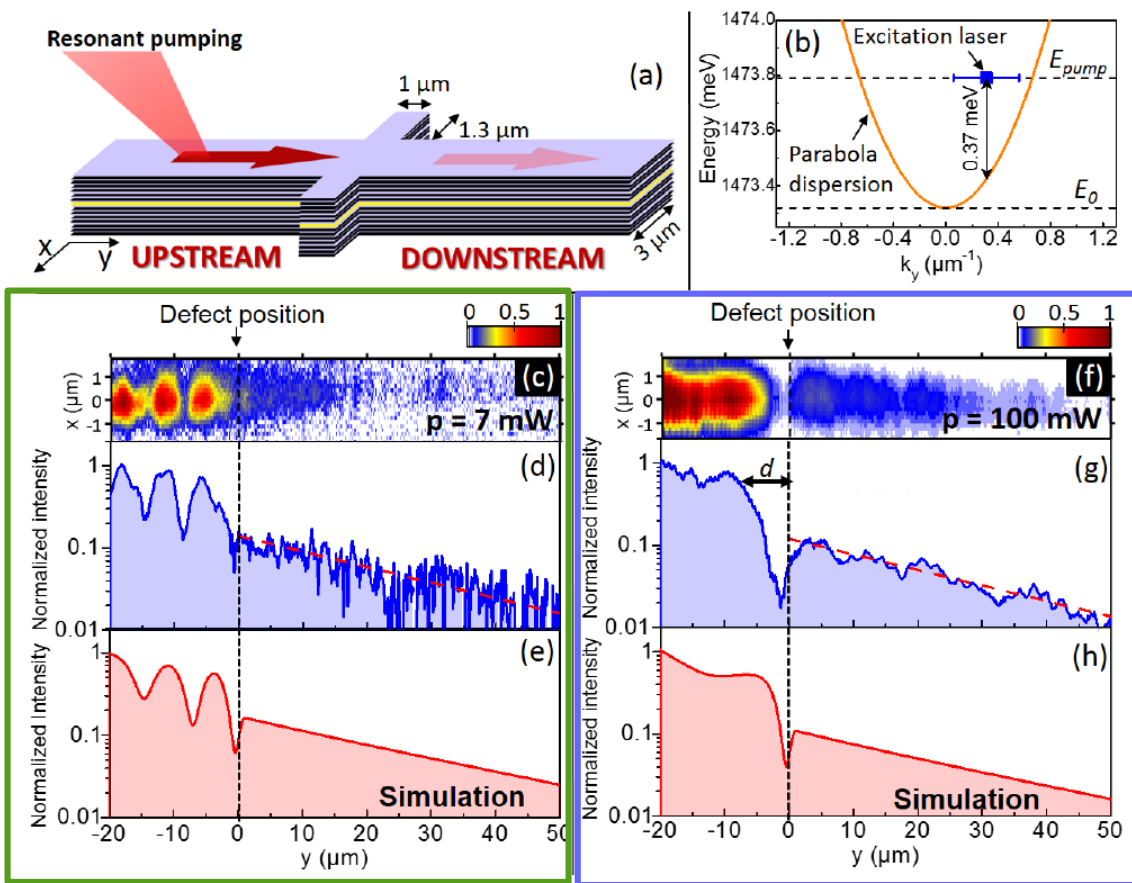
- Horizon with large surface gravity

## Hawking emission

- phonons on photon fluid
- correlations of emitted light
- much higher  $T_H$  thanks to small photon mass first proposed by F. Marino, PRA **78**, 063804 (2008)



# Experimental results @ LPN (now C2N)



**BH created!**

The hunt for  
Hawking radiation  
is now open!!

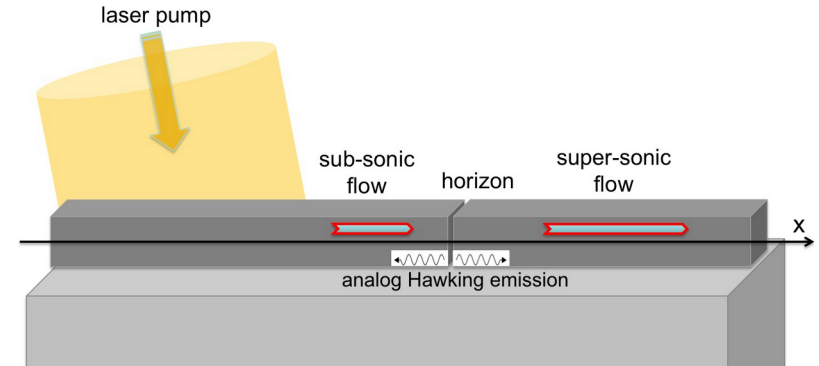
# Hawking emission in photon fluids

- Wigner-MC simulation with driving/losses:

$$i dE = \left\{ \omega_o - \frac{\hbar \nabla^2}{2m} + V_{ext} + g |E|^2 - \frac{i}{2} \gamma \right\} E dt + F_{ext}(x, t) dt + dW$$

- Near-field emission pattern from wire :  
Correlation function of intensity noise  
at different positions  $(x, x')$

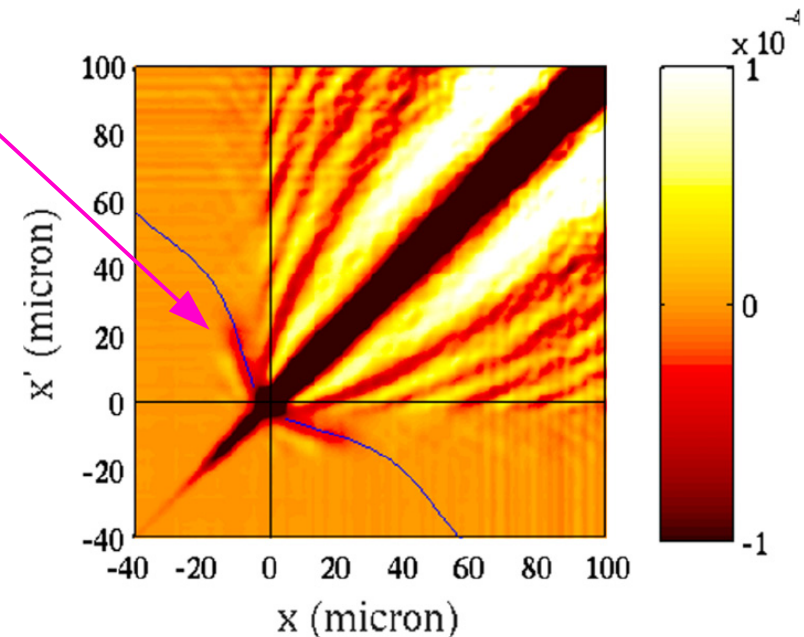
- Signature of Hawking radiation processes:  
“Balbinot-Fabbri” correlation tongues  
Conversion of zero-point fluctuations  
into correlated pairs of Bogoliubov phonons  
propagating away from horizon



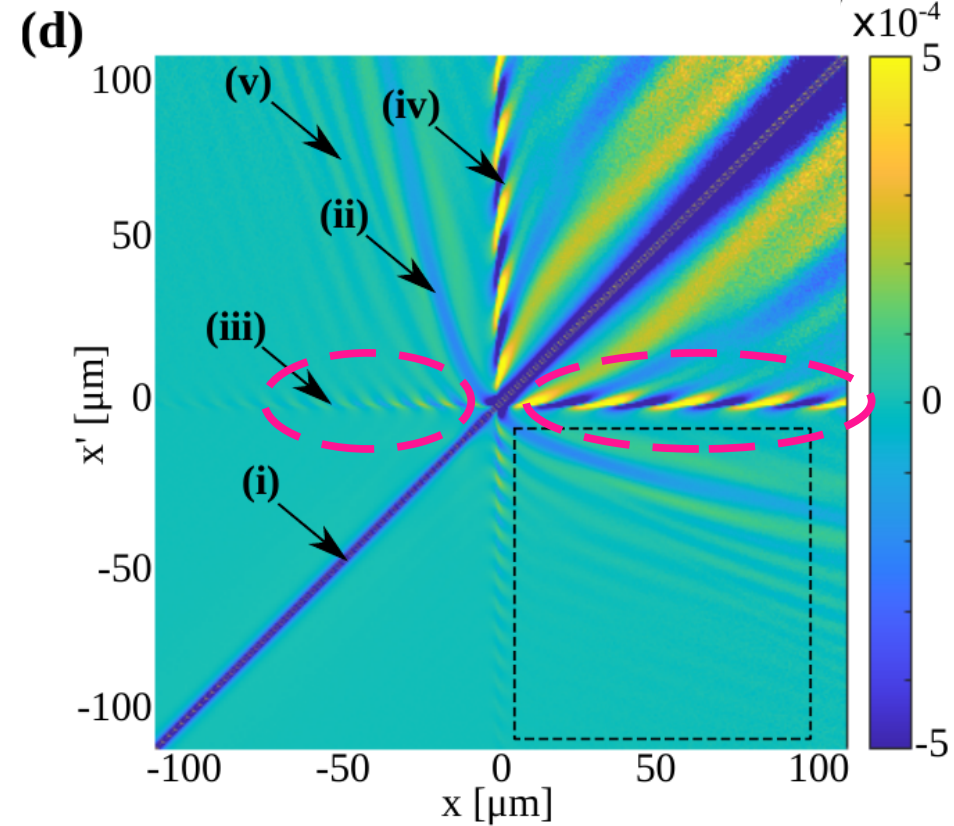
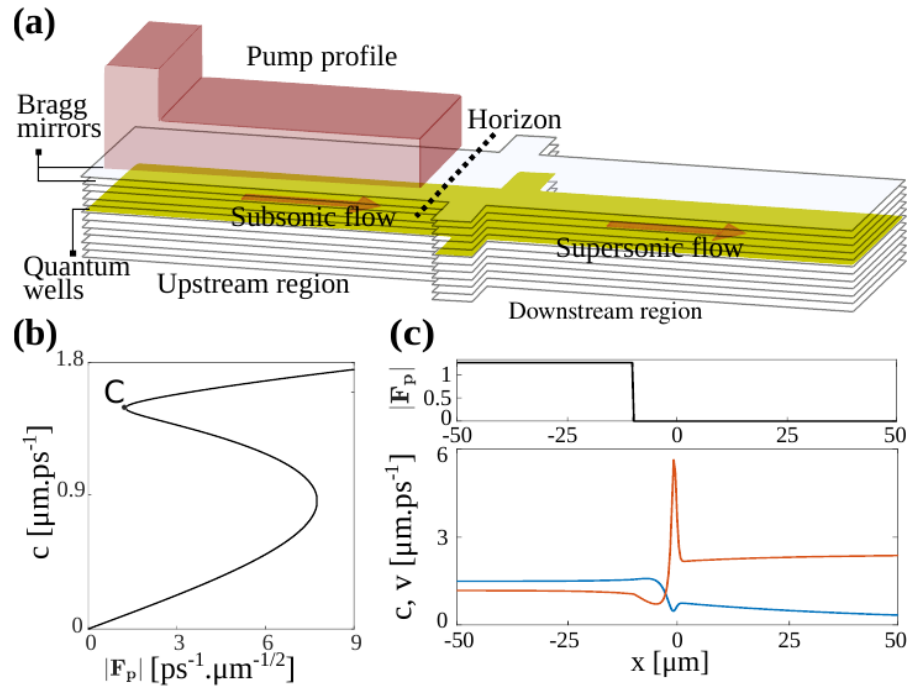
- In optics language:  
parametric emission of entangled photons  
flow+horizon play role of pump  
photons dressed by fluid into phonons

- Proposed experiment:

- steady state under cw pumping
- collect near-field emission
- measure intensity noise
- integrate over long time to extract signal out of shot noise



# An unexpected surprise



A (slightly) different pump configuration:

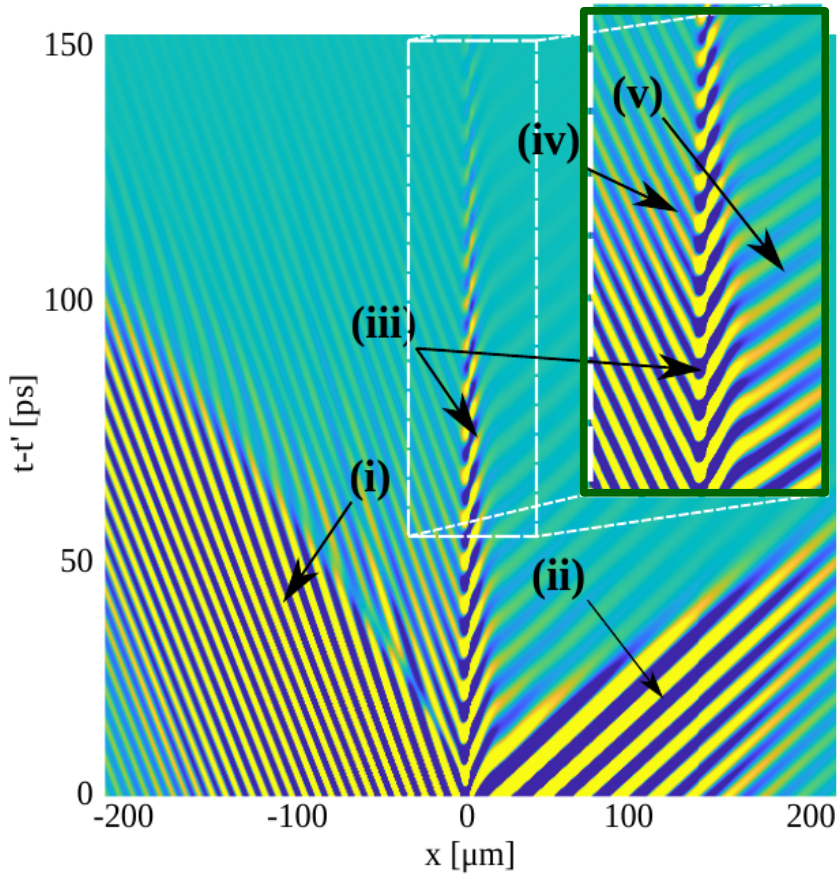
- Flat-top intensity profile
- Next to sonic point C in upstream region

... for a much richer correlation pattern:

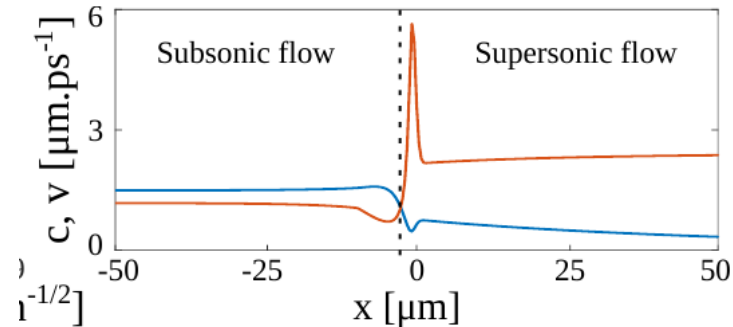
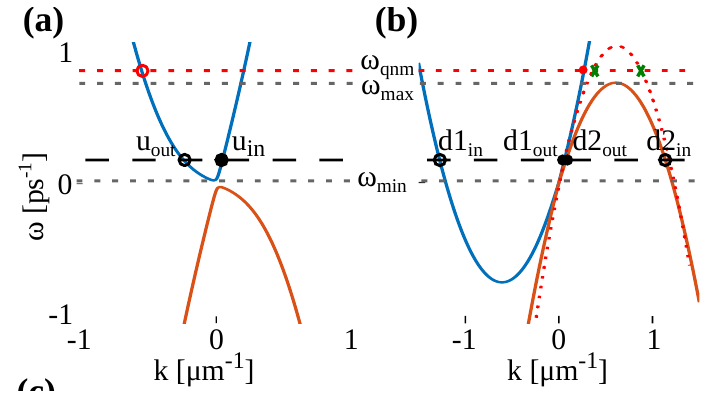
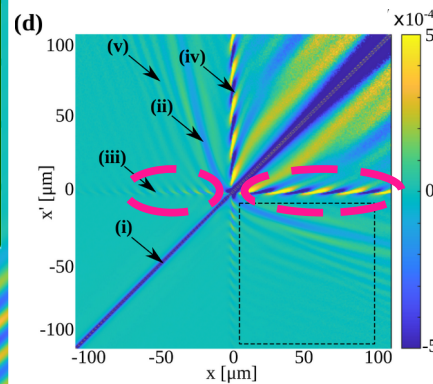
- **Striped features** along  $x=0$  (and symmetrically  $x'=0$ ) line
- Indicates **correlation between horizon region & emitted radiation**



# Localized quasi-normal mode next to horizon



Localized features in  $g^{(2)}(x, x')$  suggest the presence of localized mode next to horizon  
 $\rightarrow$  quasi-normal mode of black-hole



To verify this:

- Classical dynamics after classical incident wavepacket show **localized long-lived mode**: (i) reflected; (ii) transmitted; (iii) quasi-normal mode.
- QNM radiatively decays in both directions (iv,v)

Physical origin:

- strongly supersonic region  $\rightarrow$  attractive potential for negative-norm mode  $\rightarrow$  localized state

# What can we learn about astrophysical BHs ?

## Theory of photon-based analog model

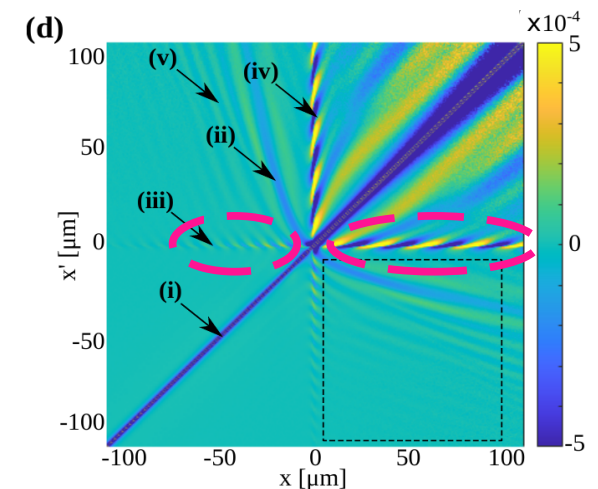
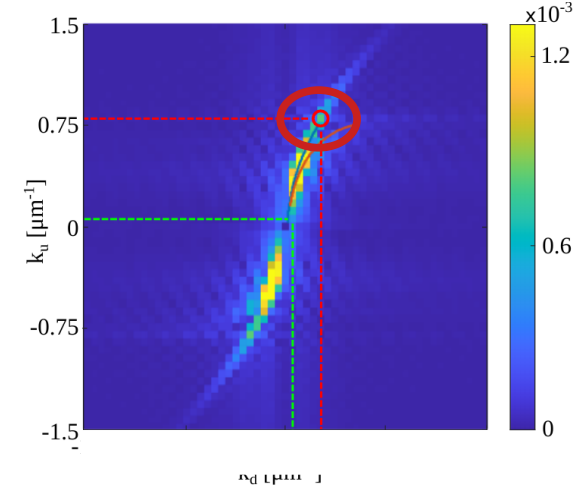
- features a **localized QNM**
- spontaneous Hawking-like emission displays **peak @ QNM**
- hosts finite **zero-point quantum excitation** by same mechanism responsible of Hawking emission
- correlation between emission and QNM excitation
- result generic applies to other analog models

## QNMs are common feature of astrophysical BHs

- decaying eigenmodes of BH dynamics; classically excited during astrophysical processes, e.g. mergers
- radiatively decay into emitted gravitational waves

## So... what we may dare to learn about general BHs?

- Not only BHs are not fully “black” because they emit Hawking radiation...
- ...but also **their shape “fluctuates”** under the effect of zero-point fluctuations of space-time

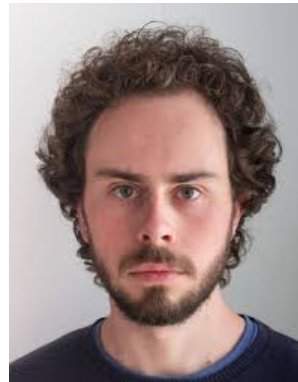


# Part 3

## Superradiance

how a naive quantum optician understands it  
and how analog models could give further insight  
on fundamental gravitational processes

- L. Giacomelli & IC, *Understanding superradiant phenomena with synthetic vector potentials in atomic BECs*, PRA 2021
- L. Giacomelli & IC, *Spontaneous quantum superradiant emission in atomic BECs subject to a synthetic vector potential*, PRA 2021
- L. Giacomelli & IC, *Interplay of Kelvin-Helmholtz and superradiant instabilities of an array of quantized vortices in a 2D BEC*. arXiv:2110.10588

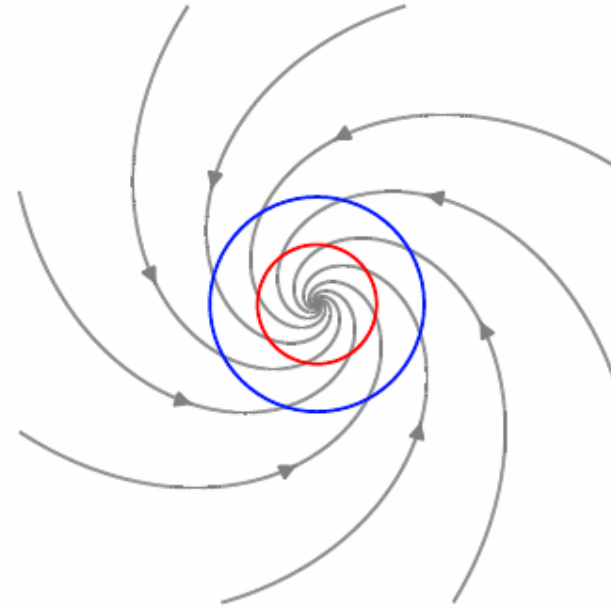


# New geometries and new curved space-time effects

Rotating BH in inspiralling 2D vortex

$$\mathbf{v} = \frac{A}{r} \hat{r} + \frac{B}{r} \hat{\theta}$$

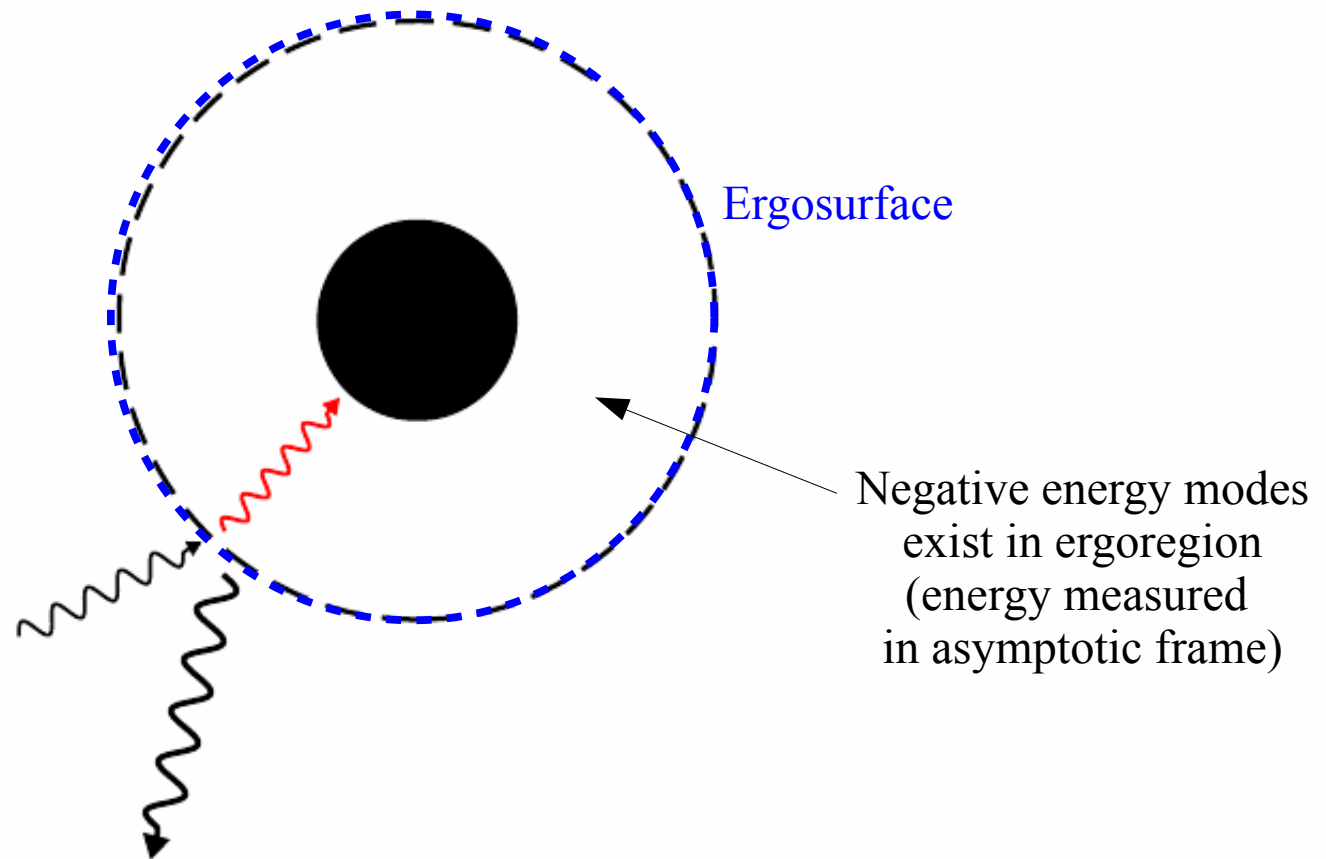
$$g_{\mu\nu} \propto \begin{bmatrix} -\left(c_s^2 - \frac{A^2+B^2}{r^2}\right) & 0 & -B \\ 0 & \frac{r^2 c_s^2}{r^2 c_s^2 - A^2} & 0 \\ -B & 0 & r^2 \end{bmatrix}$$



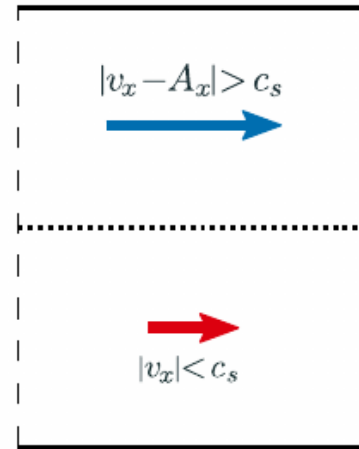
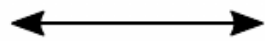
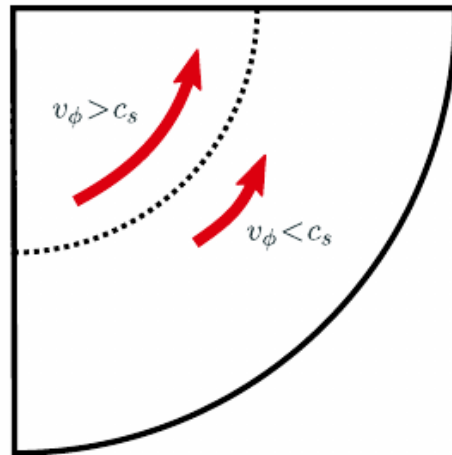
- **Acoustic horizon:**  $r_H^2 = \frac{A^2}{c_s^2}$   $v_r = c_s$  No way of escaping!
- **Ergosurface:**  $r_E^2 = \frac{A^2 + B^2}{c_s^2}$   $|v| = c_s$  No way of staying at rest (in asymptotic frame)

# Superradiance

- Amplified reflection by transmission of negative energy



# A toy model to understand superradiance (I)



Translational invariance

Arbitrary y-dependence of  $v_x$  by removing irrotationality constraint

- Can we really do this?

$$\mathbf{v} = \frac{\hbar \nabla \Theta}{M} \implies \nabla \times \mathbf{v} = 0$$

- We can play with synthetic gauge fields:

$$\mathbf{v} = \frac{\hbar \nabla \Theta - \mathbf{A}}{M}$$

For us it is a trick to get rotational flow.

For an introduction Dalibard et al. RMP 2011

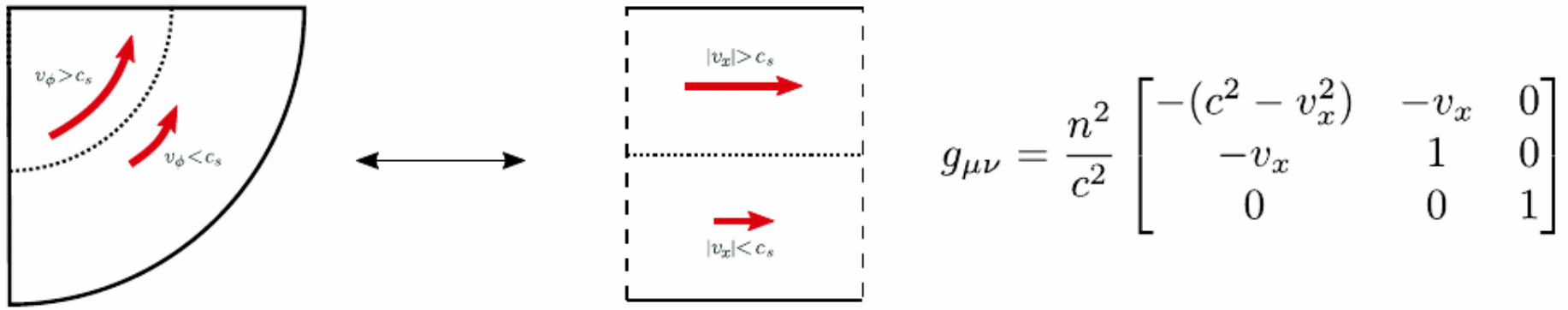
Ozawa et al., RMP 2019

## Experimental platforms:

- modulated waveguides in atomic gas
- strained honeycomb lattices
- magnetic polaritons
- ...

Similar (yet richer) physics if  $A_x$  replaced by string of vortices

# A toy model to understand superradiance (II)



- Translational invariance along  $x$ :  $\phi(t, x, y) = e^{ik_x x} \phi(t, y)$

- Klein-Gordon equation becomes:

$$-\left(\frac{1}{c}\partial_t + i\frac{v_x}{c}k_x\right)^2 \phi + \partial_y^2 \phi - k_x^2 \phi = 0$$

- KG for a charged field in an electrostatic potential:

$$-\left(\frac{1}{c}\partial_t + \frac{ie}{\hbar c}A_0\right)^2 \phi + \nabla^2 \phi - \frac{m^2 c^2}{\hbar^2} \phi = 0$$

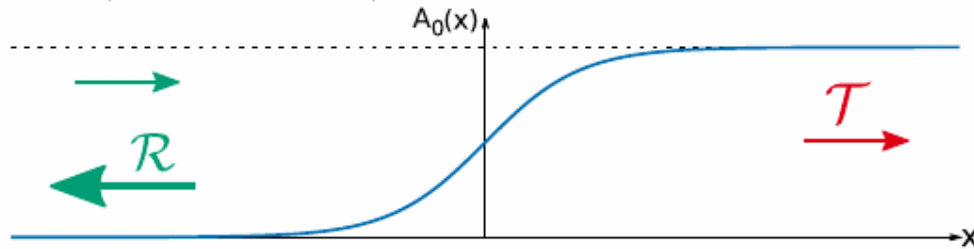
$$m^2 \longleftrightarrow \hbar^2 k_x^2 / c^2 \quad eA_0 \longleftrightarrow \hbar k_x v_x$$

Ref: Fulling (1989). Aspects of QFT in curved spacetime, Cambridge University Press

Reduced  
to 1D problem

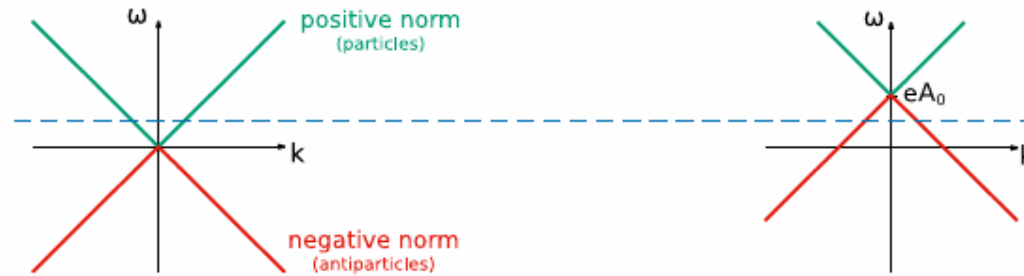
# The bosonic Klein paradox

$$-\left(\frac{1}{c}\partial_t + \frac{ie}{c}A_0\right)^2 \phi + \partial_x^2 \phi - \frac{m^2 c^2}{\hbar^2} \phi = 0$$



Transmission of negative norm particles gives amplified reflection

- Massless case:



$$\mathcal{R} > 1$$

for

$$\omega < eA_0$$

- Massive case:



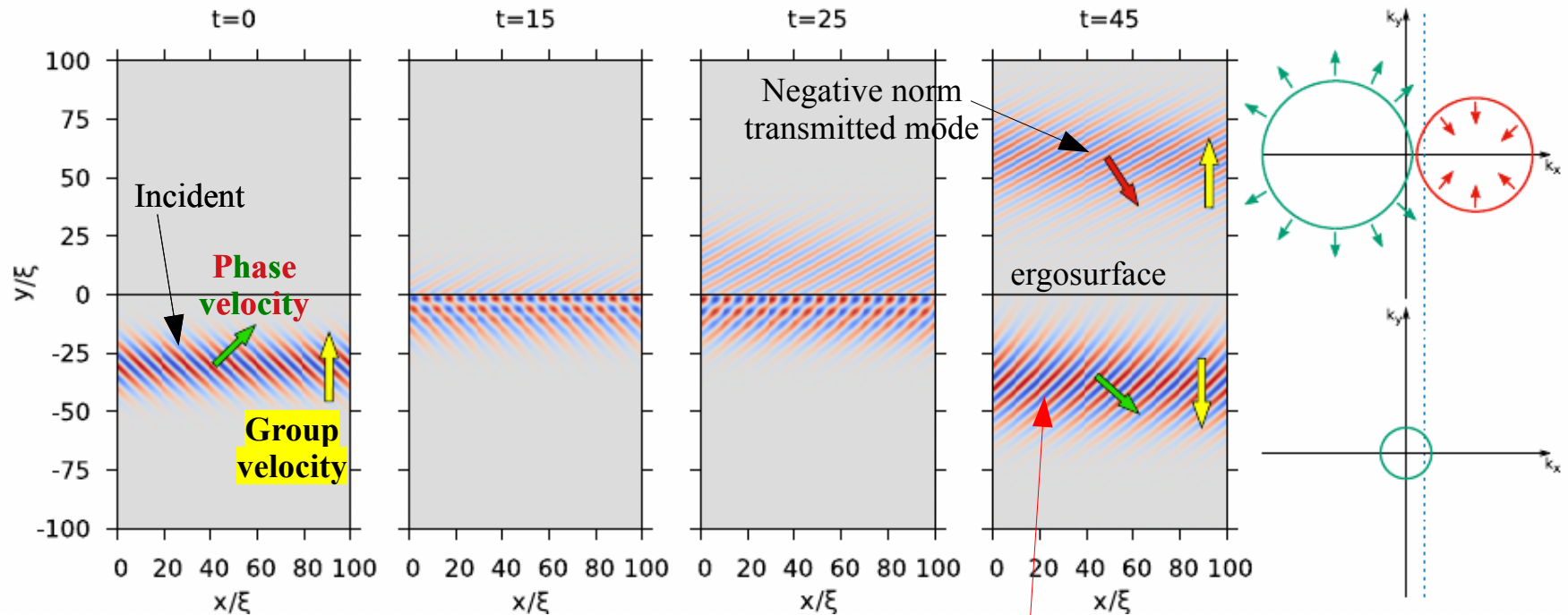
$$eA_0 > 2mc^2$$

- In our 2D configuration with  $A_x(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } y < 0 \\ A_x & \text{for } y > 0 \end{cases} \implies |A_x| > 2Mc_s$

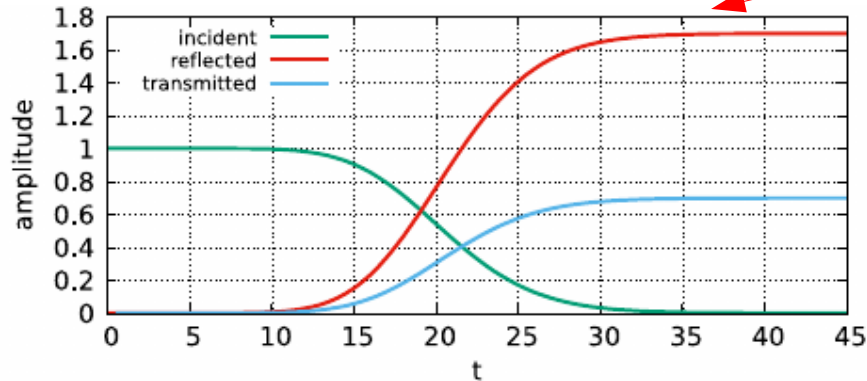


# 2D GPE simulations for atomic superfluids...

$$i\hbar\partial_t\Psi = \left[ \frac{(-i\hbar\nabla - \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}))^2}{2M} + V(\mathbf{r}) + g\Psi^2 \right] \Psi ; \quad A_x(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } y < 0 \\ A_x & \text{for } y > 0 \end{cases} ; \quad V(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } y < 0 \\ -\frac{A_x^2}{2M} & \text{for } y > 0 \end{cases}$$



Superradiance: amplified reflection of sound scattering onto ergo-surface



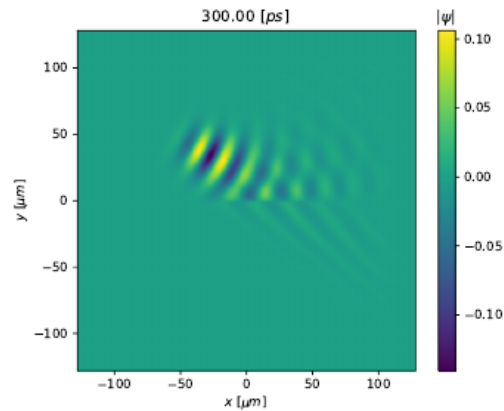
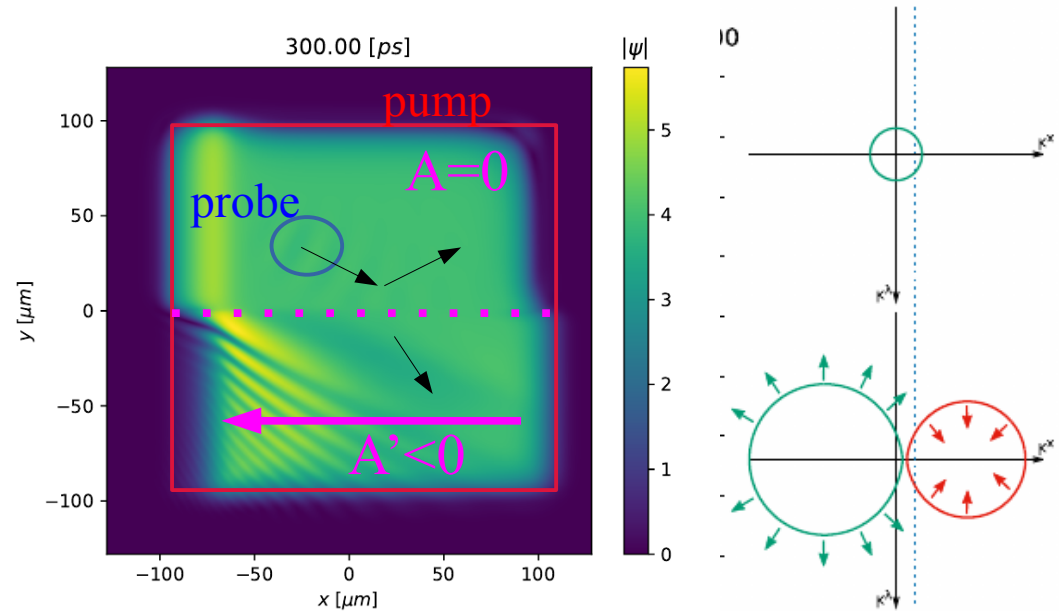
Immediate to build scattering matrix theory linking out- to in-going modes with positive/negative norms (à la Pavloff-Recati-IC, PRA 2009)

# ...and for polariton fluids (preliminary data by Alberto & Luca)

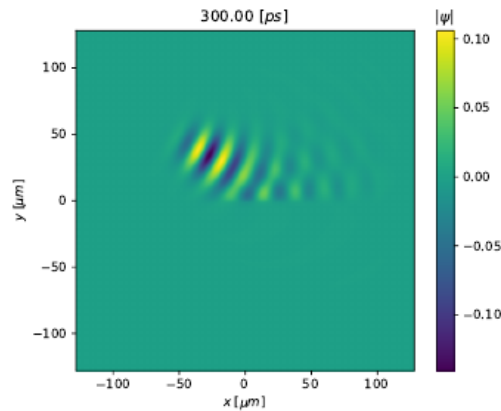


Step-shaped synthetic vector potential  
(e.g. via crossed E-B fields → Atac's talk)

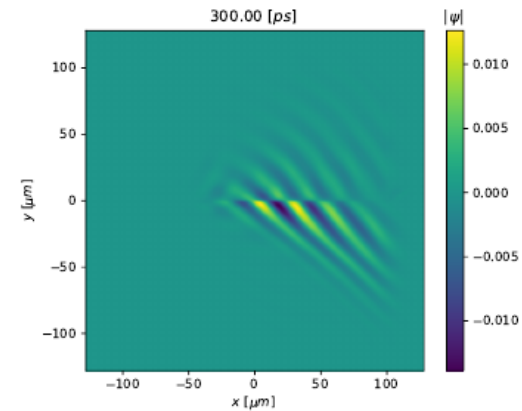
- Positive-norm incident wavepacket
- Amplified positive-norm reflection
- Negative-norm transmission (with unusual phase velocity)



Density perturbation  
with synth-A



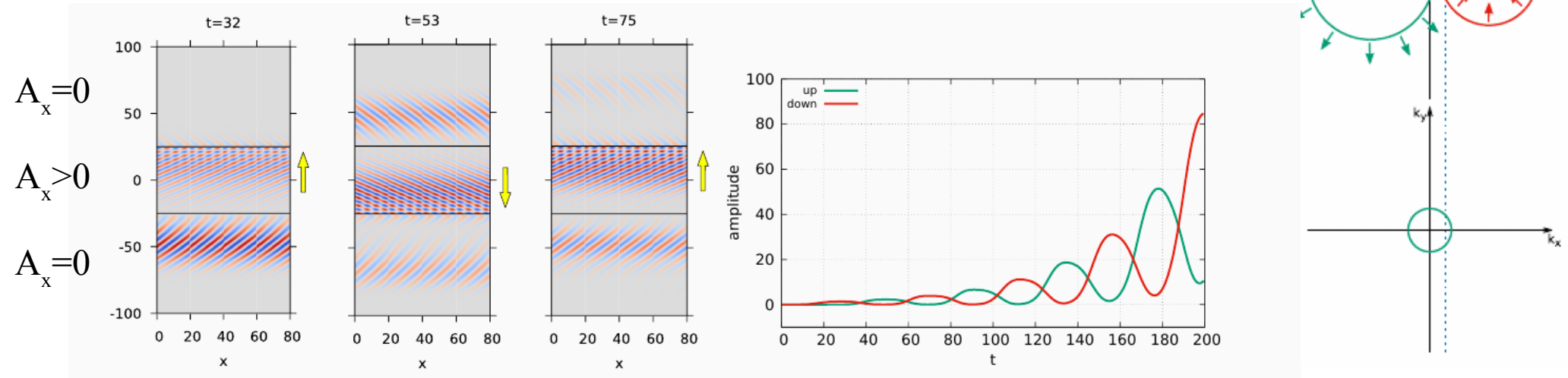
Density perturbation  
without synth-A



Difference gives  
evidence for superradiance

# Turning superradiance into an instability

- Add second interface
- Negative norm wave continues to bounce in between the interfaces
- Amplification at each bounce

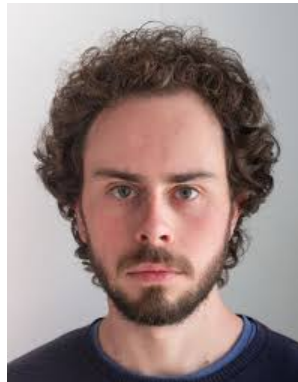


- Negative-norm mode gets dynamically unstable
- Perturbation keeps growing in between interfaces while emitting waves outside
- Similar to lasing and BH lasing
- info on stability & existence of astrophysical objects, bounds on dark matter etc.

# Part 4:

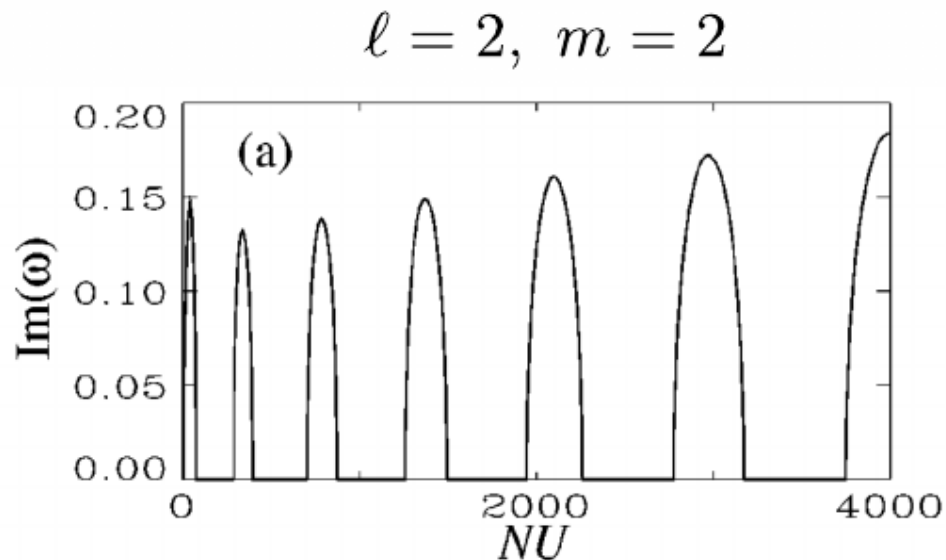
## (In)stability of quantized vortices

how superradiance allows to understand  
a classical problem in quantum fluids



# (In)stabilities of quantized vortices in *trapped* fluids

- Multiply charged vortices are energetically unstable
- A trapped singly charged vortex is energetically unstable but dynamically stable  
[Rokhsar (1997) PRL, 79(12), 2164]
- Trapped multiply charged vortices can be dynamically unstable  
[Pu et al. (1999) PRA, 59(2), 1533]



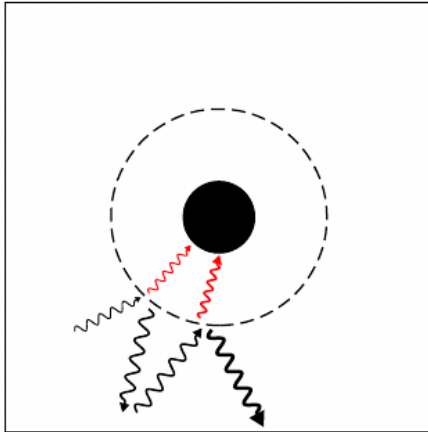
Study the spectrum as

$$\Psi_0(r, \theta) = e^{i\ell\theta} f(r)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \delta\psi(r, \theta) \\ \delta\psi^*(r, \theta) \end{pmatrix} = e^{im\theta} \begin{pmatrix} e^{i\ell\theta} \phi(r) \\ e^{-i\ell\theta} \phi^*(r) \end{pmatrix}$$

- What is the mechanism for the instability of multiply quantized vortices?
- Are multiply quantized vortices unstable in spatially infinite geometries?
- What is role of supersonic flow in the vicinity of the vortex core?

# Some space-time instabilities

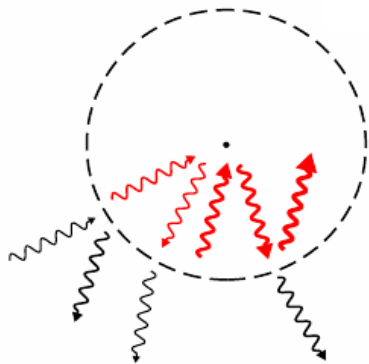


Black hole bomb

Hawking radiation from BH horizon:

- reflected at large distance
- cavity between horizon and external confinement  
→ self-amplifying radiation

In astrophysics: Hawking emission of light massive particles  
(Damour-Desruelle-Ruffini, 1976)



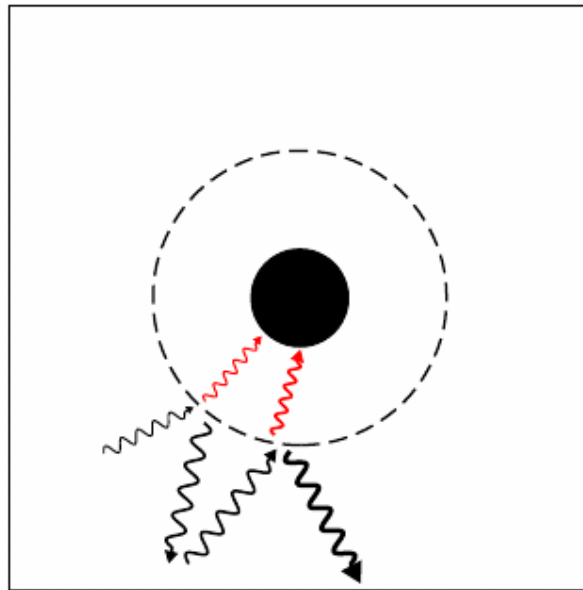
Ergoregion instability

Superradiance at ergosurface:

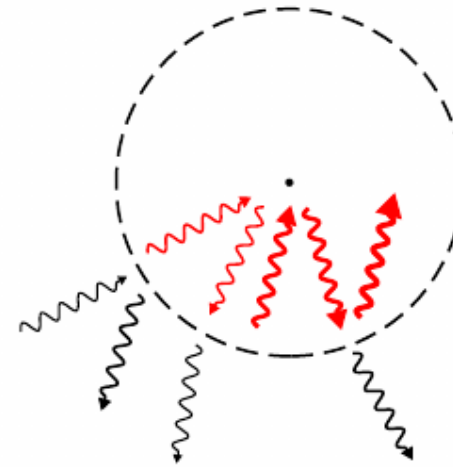
- partner wave does not escape from inner region
- stimulates further superradiance
- laser cavity formed within ergosurface

In astrophysics: compact (non-BH) stellar objects  
(Friedman 1973)

# (In)stabilities of quantized vortices



Black hole bomb



Ergoregion instability

In analogues:  
Oliveira et al. PRD 2014

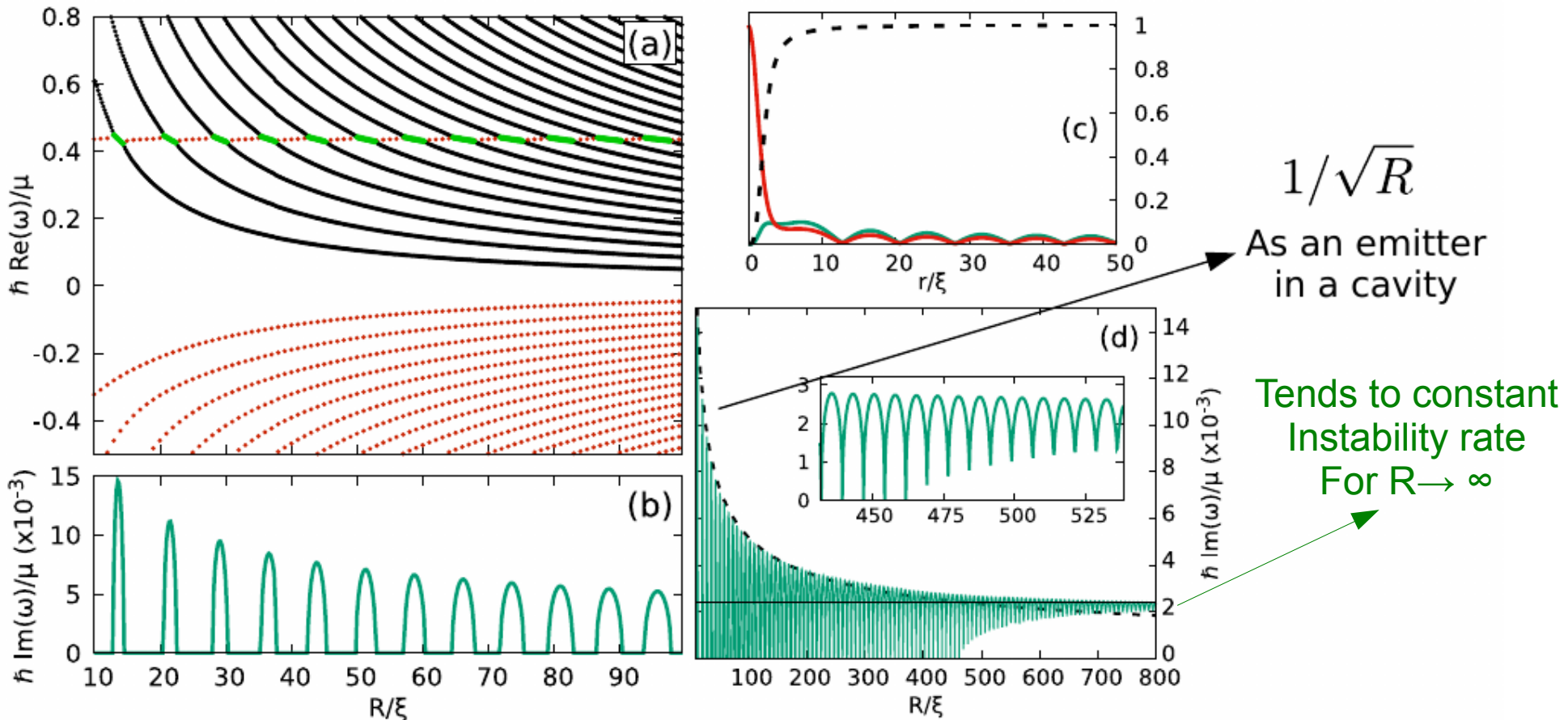
Complex combination of effects:

- In a BEC quantized vortex of charge  $l$  ergoregion at  $r_E \sim l\xi$
- A trap gives a reflecting boundary condition
- Hydrodynamic approximation does not hold!

# Large (but finite) system size limit $R \rightarrow \infty$

- Ground state of the radial GPE with Neumann BC at some  $r=R$
- Diagonalize the Bogoliubov problem varying  $R$  at fixed  $m$

$$\ell = 2, m = 2$$





# Spatially infinite fluid with a vortex

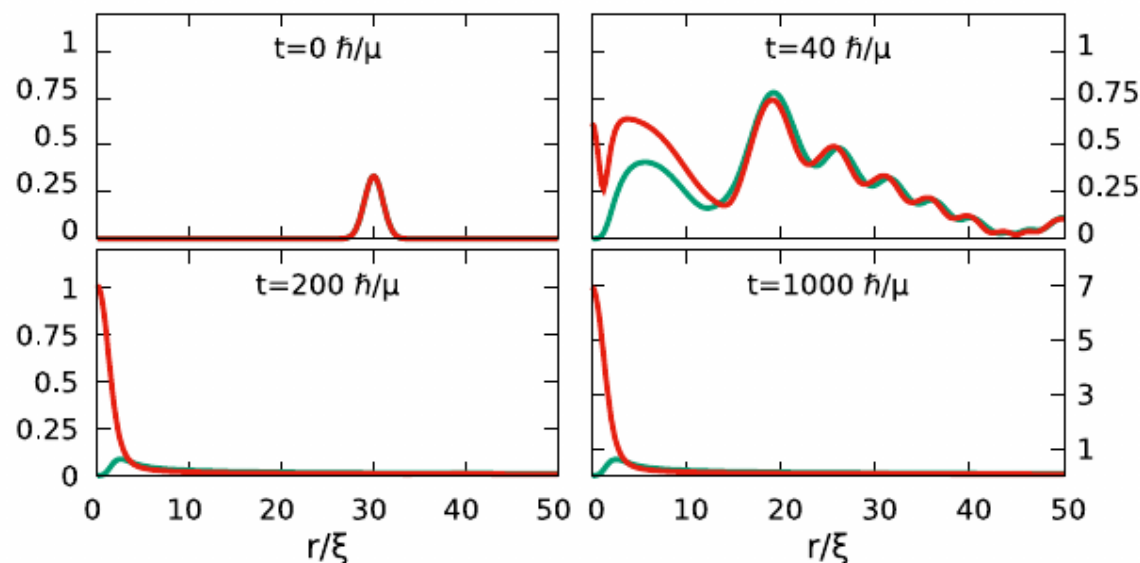
Impose absorbing boundary conditions at large  $r$ : direct simulation of untrapped fluid

In-going phonons: naturally part of stationary waves eigenmodes for finite  $R$ , removed with ABC

Time-dependent study of Bogoliubov problem with ABC:

- incident wavepacket scatters on vortex
- triggers dynamical instability of charge-2 vortex

$$\ell = 2, m = 2$$



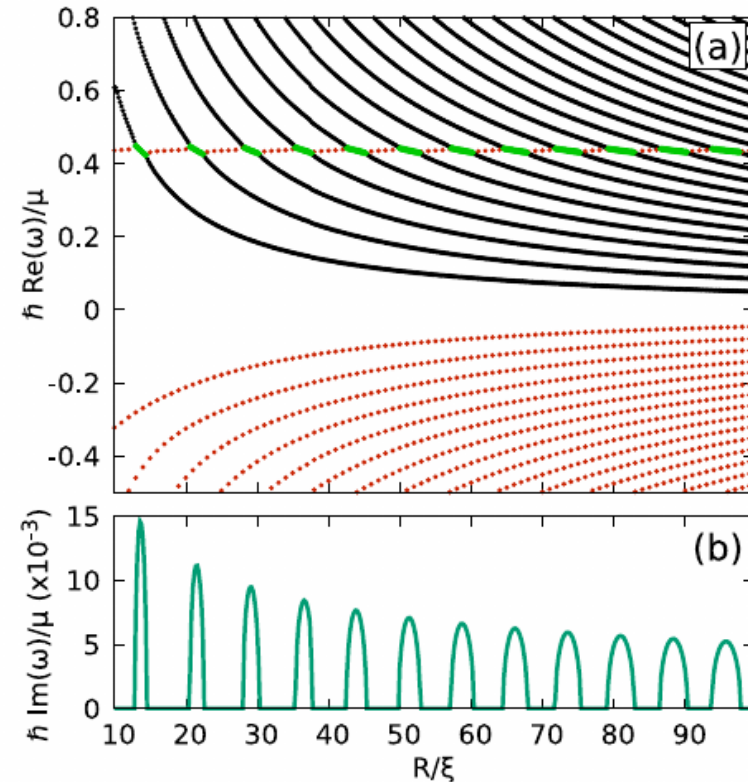
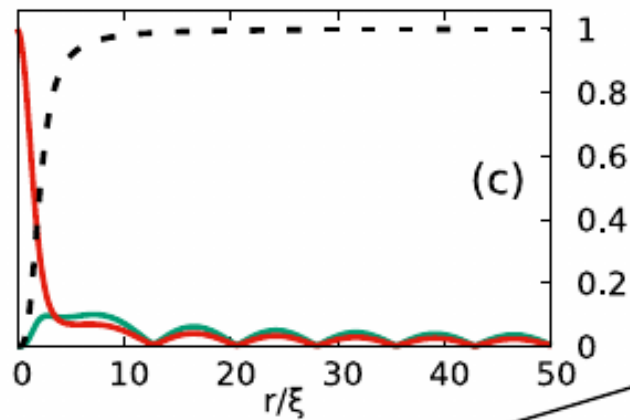
Dynamic instability of a charge 2 vortex is intrinsic and not related to boundary conditions  
Ergoregion instability of central core region

# Physical interpretation

Positive frequency, negative norm mode dual to negative frequency, positive norm mode

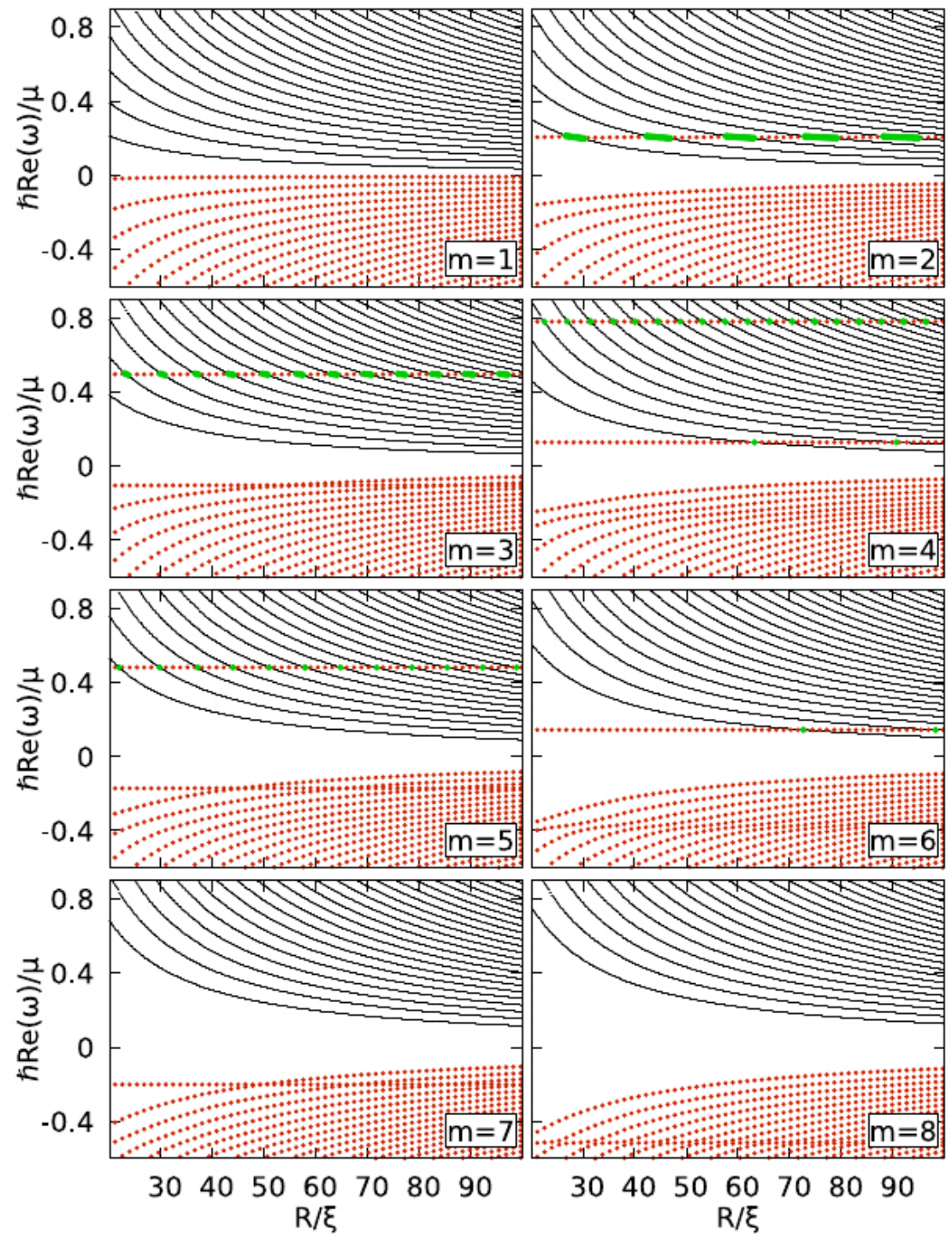
(Quasi)-bound mode in the core region:

- negative frequency, independent of  $R$
- wavefunction localized in in ergoregion
- mathematically equiv to harmonic oscillator with  $m < 0$  and  $k < 0$



- Localized mode mixed with opposite norm scattering modes
- Band-sticking at every intersection → dynamical instability
- Emission of pairs stimulated by (negative) energy accumulated in ergoregion  
→ **ergoregion instability**
- Instability possibly quenched by destructive interference in spatially finite systems

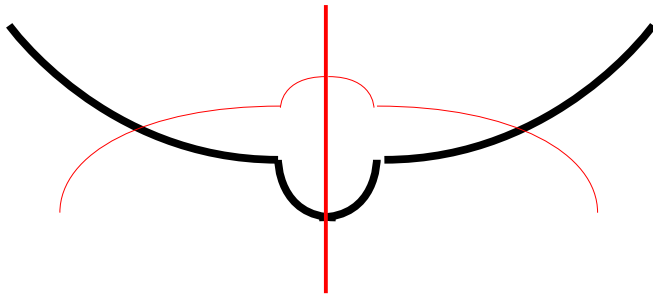
# Higher-charge vortex with $l=4$



# Back to *singly-charged vortex*: always stable?

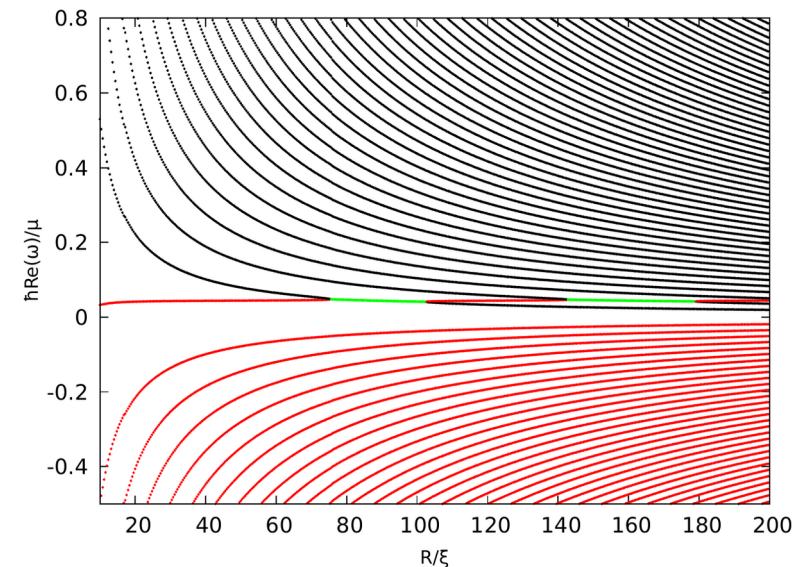
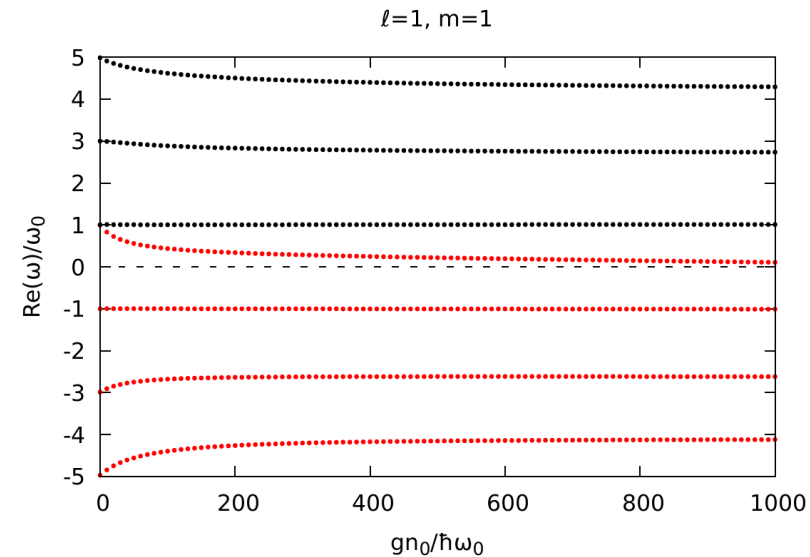
## Harmonically confined cloud

- Same trap frequency  $\omega_0$  sets frequency of **localized mode** and of (discrete) collective excitations
- No intersection  $\rightarrow$  energetic but not dynamic instability
- **Is this result fully general ??**



## Harmonic trap plus localized energy minimum:

- Quasi-continuum of phonon-like collective excitations
- Intersect with localized mode  $\rightarrow$  dynamic instability
- Physically: vortex spirals out while radiating phonons



# Part 5:

The new frontier:  
back-reaction effects

towards BH evaporation

# The little I understand about back-reaction in astrophysics, cosmology & quantum gravity

What is the long-term fate of a BH ?

HR carries away energy, so BH horizon must (slowly) shrink to conserve energy/mass

- What is left once BH evaporated?
- Is there any remnant of what has fallen into the BH ?

From cosmology/particle physics perspective:

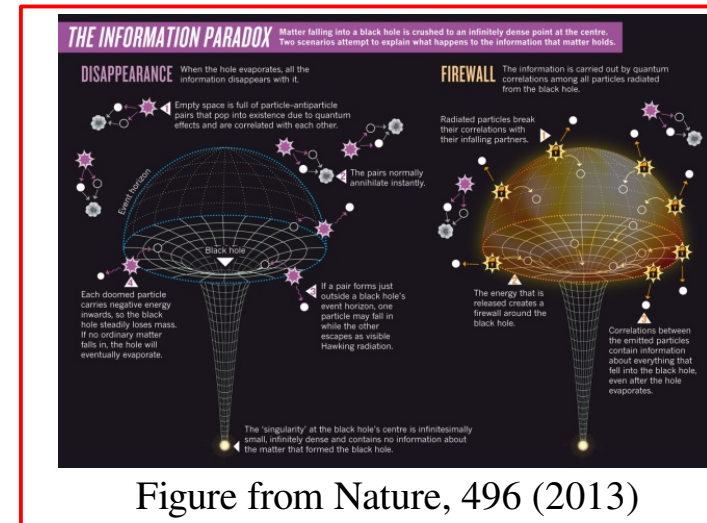
- what basic physics learnt from BH instabilities?
- BH hairs stabilized by backreaction?  
What GW emission can be observed?

Our approach:

- Analog models simulate QFT on curved space-time...
- ...but Einstein eqs. (coupling of matter/energy to metric) not implemented

Still, any hint from higher order couplings of quantum fluctuations to macroscopic flow?

What can a quantum optician's point of view teach on this physics?



# A simplified model: back-reaction of quantum emission onto breathing mode of elongated BEC

Preliminary results, to appear soon as

S. G. Butera - IC, *Backreaction in an analog model of pre-heating* (2022)

## Previous related works on back-reaction in circuit-QED:

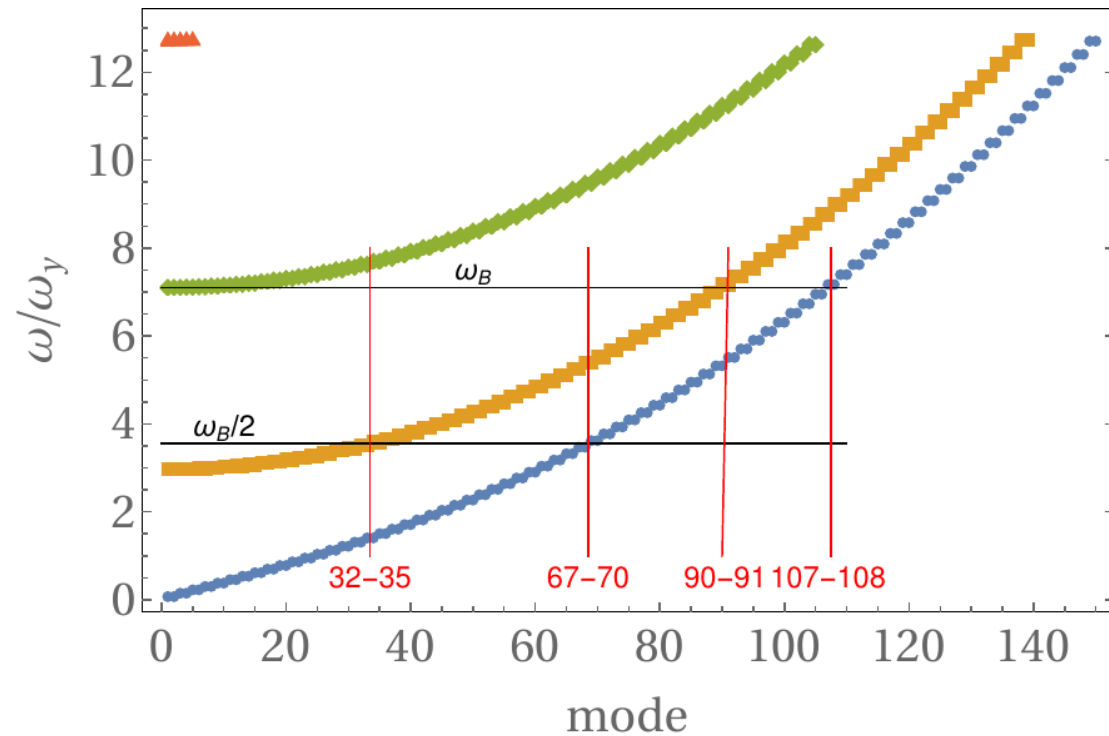
- S. G. Butera & IC, *Mechanical back-reaction effect of the dynamical Casimir emission*, Phys.Rev. A 99, 053815 (2019)
- S. G. Butera & IC, *Quantum fluctuations of the friction force induced by the dynamical Casimir emission*, EPL 128, 24002 (2020)



# Excitation modes of an elongated BEC

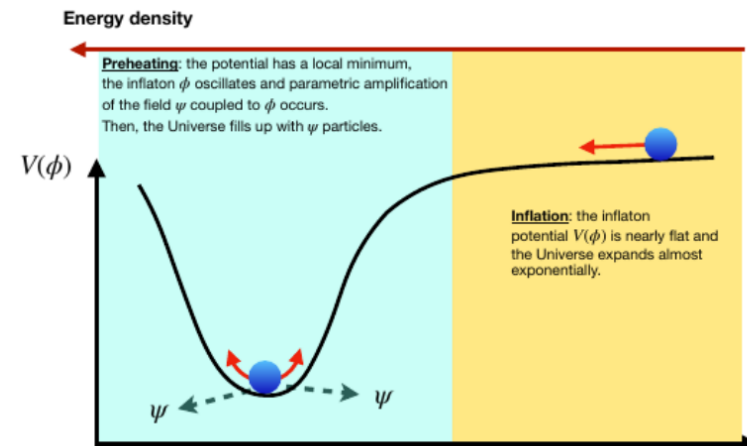
Elongated BEC with  $\omega_{xy} \gg \omega_z$

- **Breathing mode:**  
Cylindrically symmetric around axis
- **Dipole mode:**  
Lateral displacement of BEC
- **Goldstone zero-sound mode:**  
Slow axial twist of BEC phase



Each mode  $\rightarrow$  well-defined  $k_z$  under PBC

Analog model of **cosmological pre-heating**:  
**Inflaton (breathing mode)** oscillates around potential minimum, decays via emission of pairs of particles (**entangled pair of dipole excitations**)



Inspired to: Robertson, Michel, Parentani, *Nonlinearities induced by parametric resonance in effective 1D atomic BECs*, Phys. Rev. D 98, 056003 (2018)



# Our numerical simulations

Simplifying assumptions:

- effective 1+1D model
- untrapped BEC with periodic boundary conditions along  $z$

Truncated Wigner approximation for dynamics:

→ GPE with stochastic initial conditions

Start from  $T=0$  ground state

Around  $t=t_0$ : kick  $\omega_{xy}$  → excite breathing mode @  $k_z=0$

Observe evolution of population in different modes

Bogoliubov collective eigenmodes

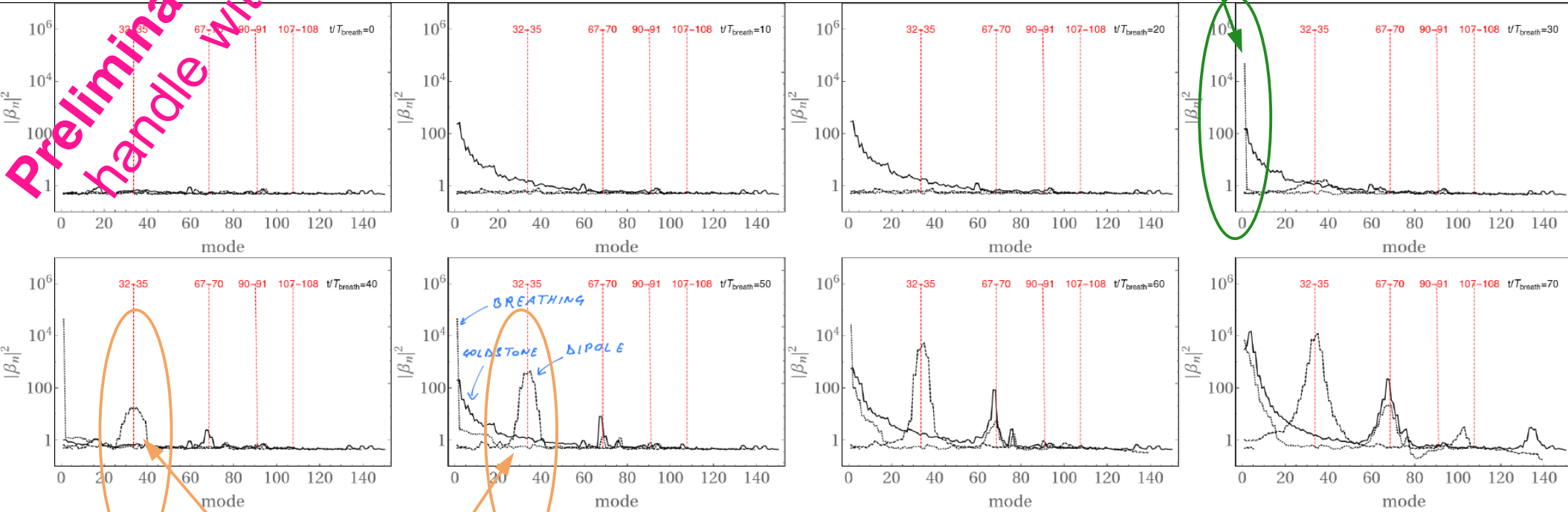
- nonlinear terms give inter-mode coupling
- can be triggered by zero-point quantum fluctuations

# Parametric excitation of dipole mode

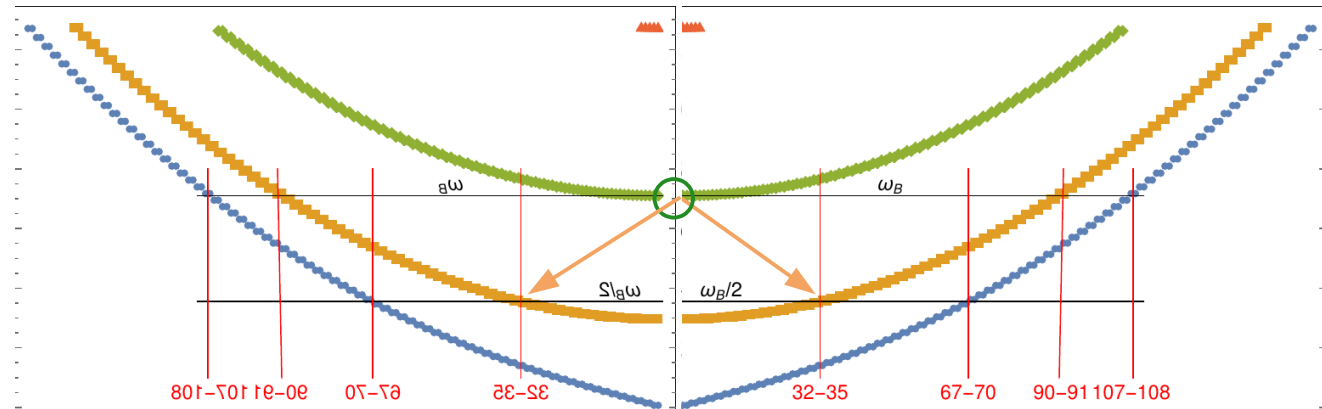
At  $t = t_0$ : Excitation of  $k_z = 0$  breathing mode

Initial state: BEC at T-0

Preliminary results  
handle with care



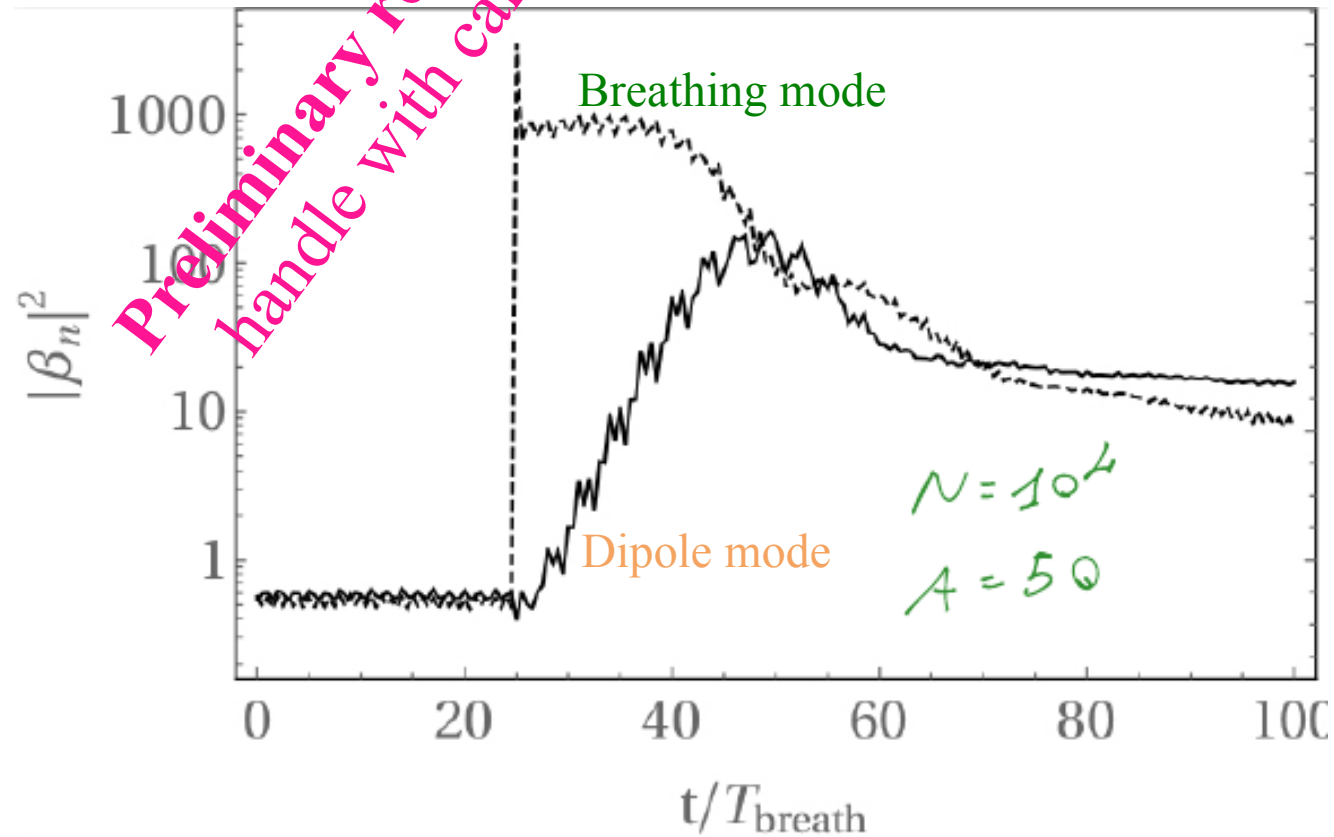
Growing excitation of dipole mode  
finite window of  $k_z$  modes excited



# Backreaction on breathing mode

- Breathing mode slowly decays
- Dipole mode stops growing
- (quasi-) periodic exchange of energy

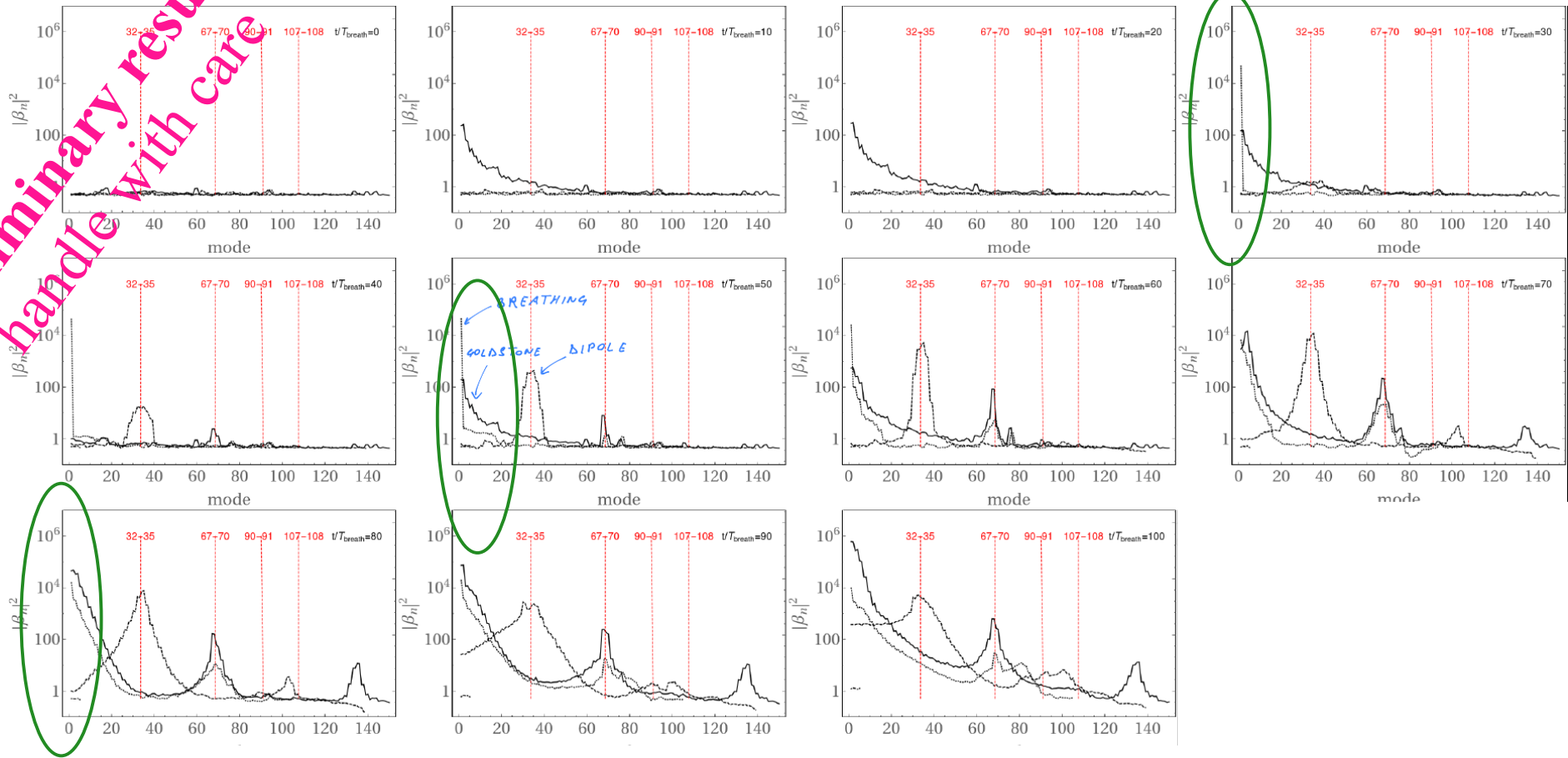
Backreaction of dipole mode  
on breathing mode



Quantum emission of dipole excitation induces effective friction force on the breathing mode

# A subtle feature of backreaction 1/2

Preliminary results  
handle with care

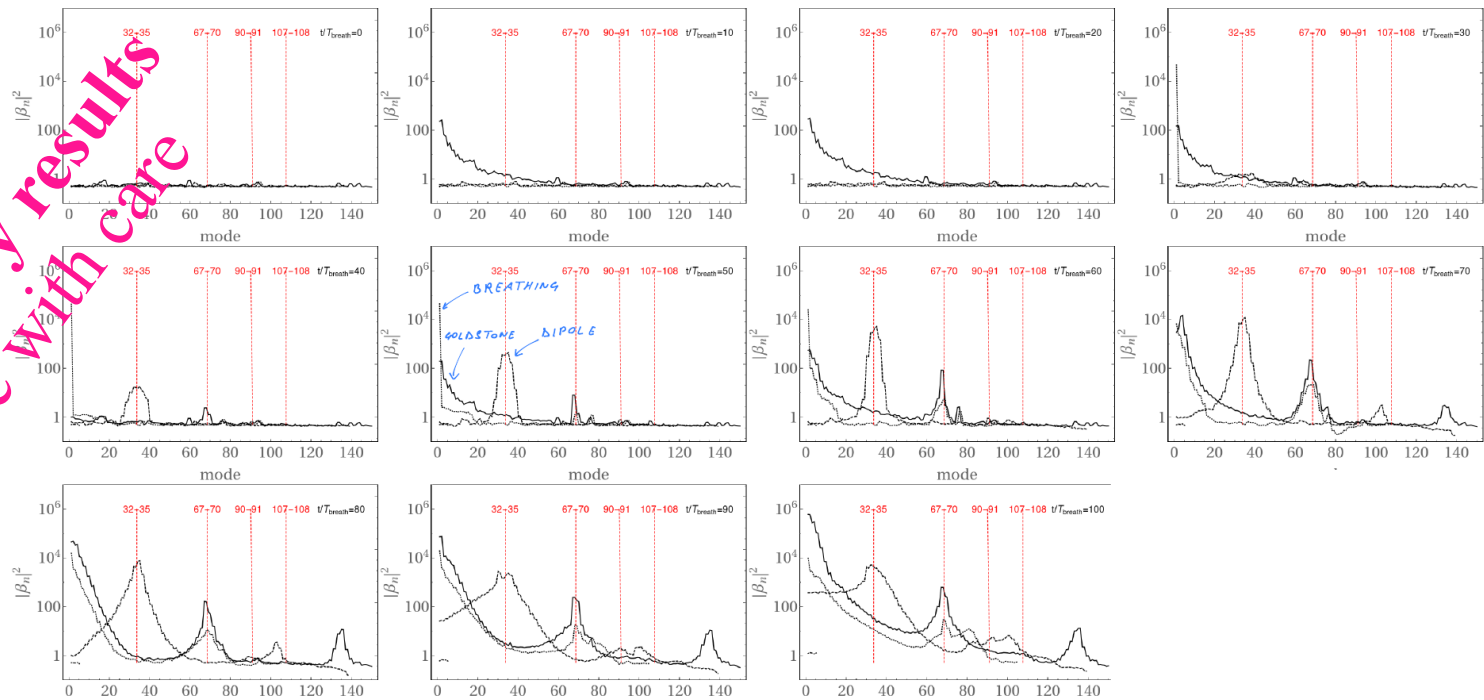


## Breathing mode distribution along $k_z$ :

- initially,  $\delta$ -like excitation, uniform along whole system
- then, loses coherence and acquires strong fluctuations

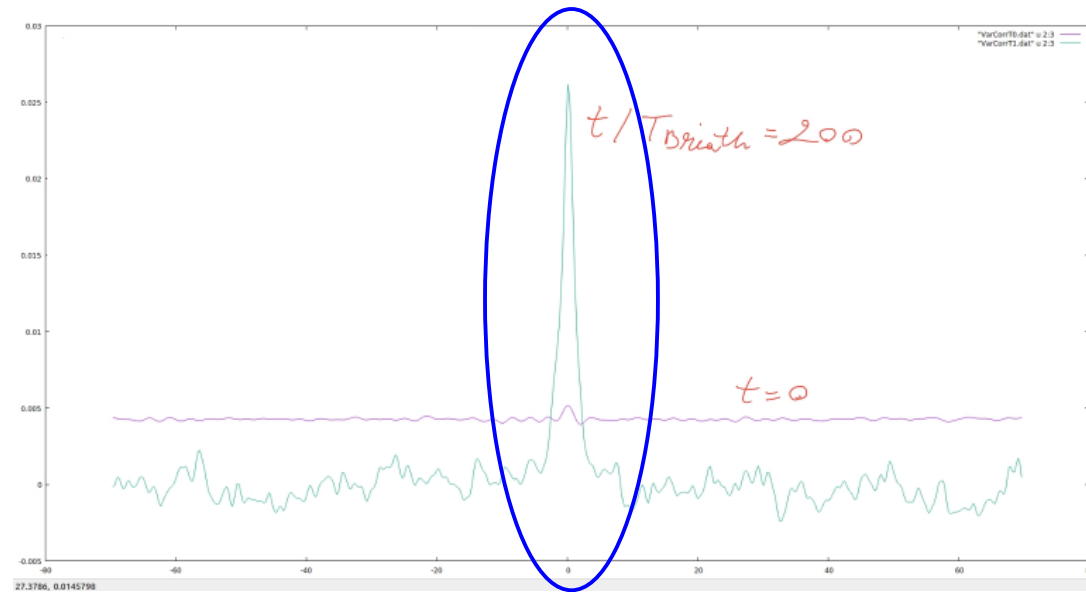
# A subtle feature of backreaction 2/2

Preliminary results  
handle with care



Breathing mode distribution along  $k_z$ :

- initially,  $\delta$ -like excitation, uniform along whole system
- then, loses coherence and acquires strong fluctuations
- Mechanism goes beyond standard picture of backreaction  $R_{\mu\nu} - R g_{\mu\nu} / 2 = 8 \pi G \langle T_{\mu\nu} \rangle / c^4$  where only average value of quantum field stress-energy tensor matters



- What are consequences for gravity and cosmology?

# Conclusions & perspectives

superfluids of ultracold atoms & light  $\leftrightarrow$  gravitational phenomena

a fruitful and bidirectional synergy !

## Hawking radiation from Black Holes:

- Original theoretical predictions +  $g^{(2)}(x, x')$  correlations  $\rightarrow$  experimentally observed
- On-going challenge  $\rightarrow$  robust evidence of quantum correlations in HR  $\rightarrow$  *quantum hydrodynamics*  
"The tale of Navier and Stokes meeting Heisenberg at Hawking's place"

## Superradiance:

- Analog models provide microscopic understanding of superradiant emission & instabilities in gravity
- Gravity shines light on classical superfluid hydrodynamics problem of vortex stability

## Quantum back-reaction:

- Elongated BEC simulates cosmological dynamics. Back-reaction  $\rightarrow$  friction of transverse modes

## Astrophysical/cosmological/quantum gravity consequences:

- Cosmological pre-heating  $\rightarrow$  quantum fluctuation of inflaton field. Observable in CMB ?
- Analog Hawking radiation from BHs  $\rightarrow$  intrinsic fluctuations of space-time around BH ?

We acknowledge generous financial support from:



PROVINCIA AUTONOMA DI TRENTO

**JSF** Julian Schwinger Foundation



European Commission

Horizon 2020  
European Union funding  
for Research & Innovation

**Pho**  **uS**  
Photons for Quantum Simulation

**If you wish to know more...**

## Superradiant phenomena

Lessons from and for Bose–Einstein condensates

Luca Giacomelli

Ph.D. thesis submitted to Dipartimento di Fisica  
Università degli studi di Trento

Under the supervision of  
Dr. Iacopo Carusotto  
Prof. Massimiliano Rinaldi

[Living Reviews in Relativity](#)

December 2011, 14:3 | [Cite as](#)

## Analogue Gravity

Authors

[Authors and affiliations](#)

Carlos Barceló , Stefano Liberati, Matt Visser

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First Online: 11 May 2011

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Don't hesitate contacting me!  
[iacopo.carusotto@unitn.it](mailto:iacopo.carusotto@unitn.it)

news & views

QUANTUM HYDRODYNAMICS

## Acoustic Hawking radiation

A milestone for quantum hydrodynamics may have been reached, with experiments on a black hole-like event horizon for sound waves providing strong evidence for a sonic analogue of Hawking radiation.

Iacopo Carusotto and Roberto Balbinot

Nat. Phys., Aug.15h, 2016



Come and visit us in Trento!

# Dedicated to a friend and a master



Renaud Parentani, July 31, 1962 - May 20, 2020



# Part 5.a

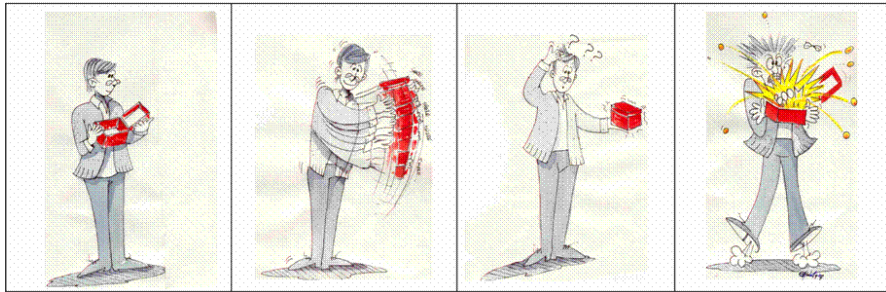
## A simplest toy model: *Dynamical Casimir Emission* in single-mode cavity

S. G. Butera & IC, *Mechanical back-reaction effect of the dynamical Casimir emission*, Phys.Rev. A 99, 053815 (2019)

S. G. Butera & IC, *Quantum fluctuations of the friction force induced by the dynamical Casimir emission*, EPL 128, 24002 (2020).



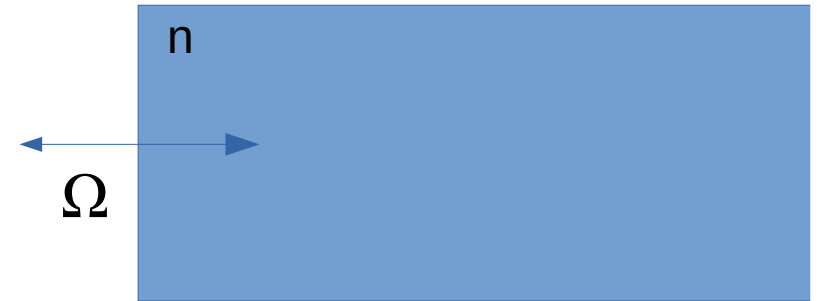
# Back-reaction effect of dynamical Casimir emission



Take an optical cavity  
in the e.m. vacuum state

Mechanically  
shake it very fast

Beware when you open it again:  
(a few) photons may burn you !!



## Simplest configuration:

- Half-space slab of refractive index  $n$  and mass  $M$
- Mechanically oscillating at frequency  $\Omega$
- Prediction for the **dissipated energy** within 1D scalar model:

$$Q^{-1} = \frac{\tau}{2\pi E_{osc}} \frac{dE_{diss}}{dt} = \frac{1}{6} \left( \frac{n-1}{n} \right)^2 \frac{\hbar \Omega}{Mc^2}$$

(from Barton and Eberlein, Ann. Phys. 227, 222 (1993))

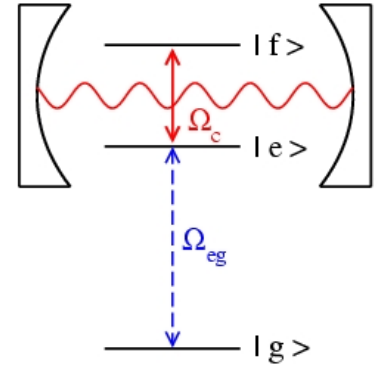
- value is **ridiculously small**
- experimental observation by mechanical means with bulk objects appears hopeless, but quantum optics gives new hopes...

# All-optical back-reaction effect

PHYSICAL REVIEW A 85, 023805 (2012)

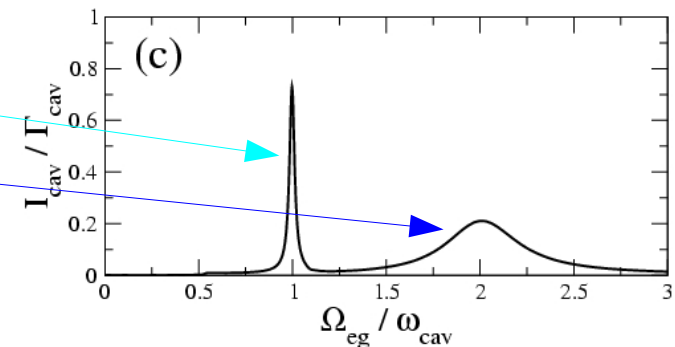
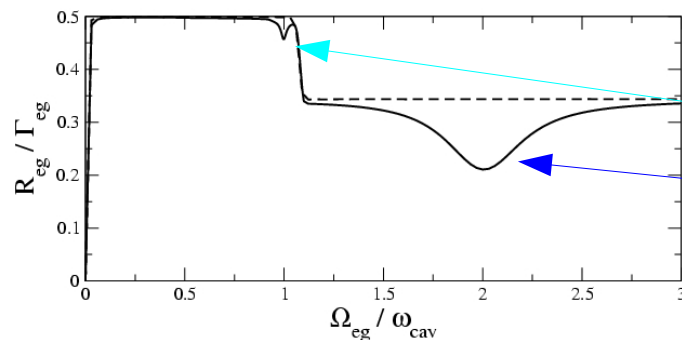
## Back-reaction effects of quantum vacuum in cavity quantum electrodynamics

I. Carusotto,<sup>1,\*</sup> S. De Liberato,<sup>2</sup> D. Gerace,<sup>3</sup> and C. Ciuti<sup>2</sup>



## Coherently-driven 3-level emitter embedded in optical cavity

- **Drive laser** on  $g \leftrightarrow e$  transition  $\rightarrow$  Rabi oscillations at  $\Omega_R$ , cavity periodically modulated
- **Generates DCE emission**, strongest when  $\Omega_R$  resonant with cavity
- **Absorption of drive laser**:  $R_{eg} = 2\Omega_{eg} \text{Im}\{\text{Tr}[\hat{c}_{eg}^\dagger \rho_{ss}]\}$ .
- **Peaks in DCE** give **dip in absorption**: stronger “friction” reduces absorption rate



- Feasible with optical or  $\mu$ -wave (circuit-QED) techniques

# An even simpler toy-model

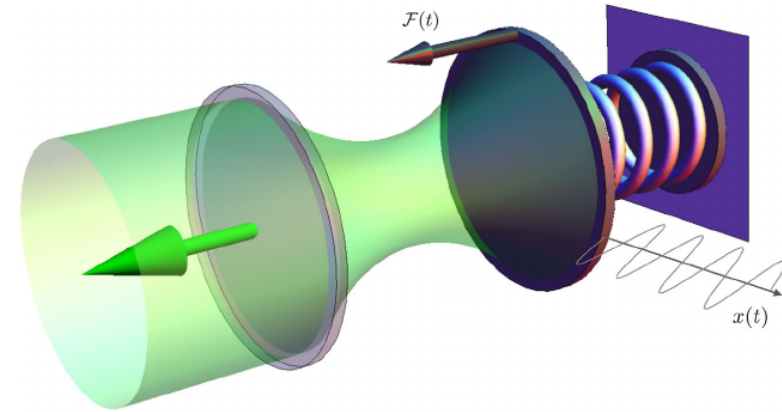
Single-mode optical cavity  $a$

Mirror mounted on mechanically moving part  
with harmonic restoring force  $b$

Opto-mechanical coupling via radiation pressure  
on mirror or length-dependent shift of cavity resonance

$$\hat{H} = \hbar\omega_0 \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + \hbar\omega_b \hat{b}^\dagger \hat{b} + \hbar\omega_c (\hat{a} + \hat{a}^\dagger)^2 (\hat{b} + \hat{b}^\dagger)$$

If  $\omega_b \sim 2\omega_a$ , dynamical Casimir emission (with time-indep. H)  
energy transferred from mechanical to optical field



Simple on paper, a bit harder in experiment:

- generally mechanical frequencies  $\ll$  optical frequencies
- **appears feasible in  $\mu$ -waves with recent GHz acoustics experiments**  
(e.g. Schoelkopf's group, Science 2017)

---

PHYSICAL REVIEW X **8**, 011031 (2018)

**Nonperturbative Dynamical Casimir Effect in Optomechanical Systems:  
Vacuum Casimir-Rabi Splittings**

Vincenzo Macrì,<sup>1,2</sup> Alessandro Ridolfo,<sup>2</sup> Omar Di Stefano,<sup>2</sup> Anton Frisk Kockum,<sup>2</sup> Franco Nori,<sup>2,3</sup> and Salvatore Savasta<sup>1,2</sup>

# Circuit-QED observation of DCE

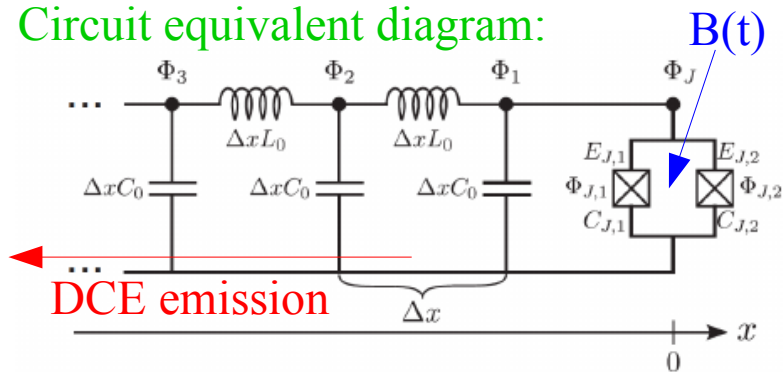
## LETTER

doi:10.1038/nature10561

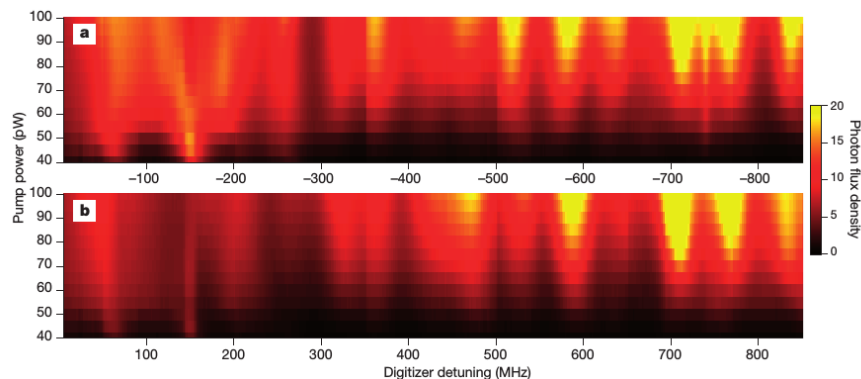
### Observation of the dynamical Casimir effect in a superconducting circuit

C. M. Wilson<sup>1</sup>, G. Johansson<sup>1</sup>, A. Pourkabirian<sup>1</sup>, M. Simoen<sup>1</sup>, J. R. Johansson<sup>2</sup>, T. Duty<sup>3</sup>, F. Nori<sup>2,4</sup> & P. Delsing<sup>1</sup>

Circuit equivalent diagram:



- Co-planar waveguide (CPW) for microwaves terminated on SQUID
- Effective mirror position controlled via B-field threaded through SQUID
- Modulation of B(t) leads to DCE
- Observed in radiation that propagates along CPW, quantum correlations established
- When waveguide closed by second mirror, hard to observe DCE:
  - quickly above parametric threshold (Wilson et al., PRL 2010)
  - classical emission loses quantum features



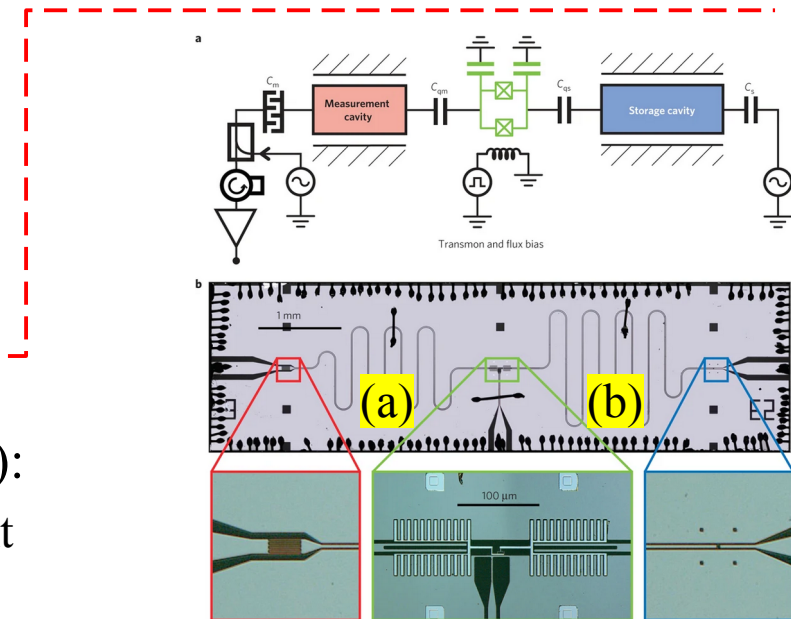
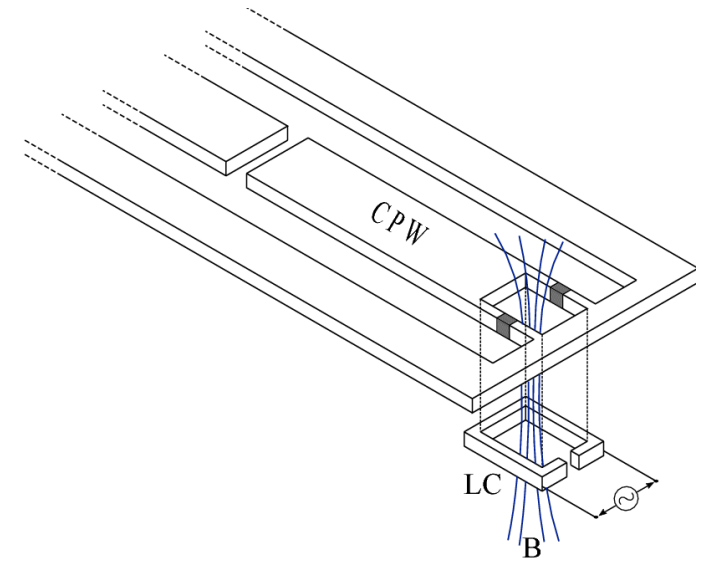
# The mirror as an independent DoF

## B-field generated by LC circuit concatenated to SQUID

- LC circuit → mechanical oscillator
- DCE effect → coplanar waveguide

## To enhance DCE & back-reaction effect:

- close CPW with second mirror to create cavity and resonantly enhance DCE
- Back-reaction of DCE expected to be visible as additional dissipation on LC circuit
- To be electronically probed on the LC dynamics
- Estimated single-quantum coupling  $\sim 10\text{kHz}$ , not far from typical decay

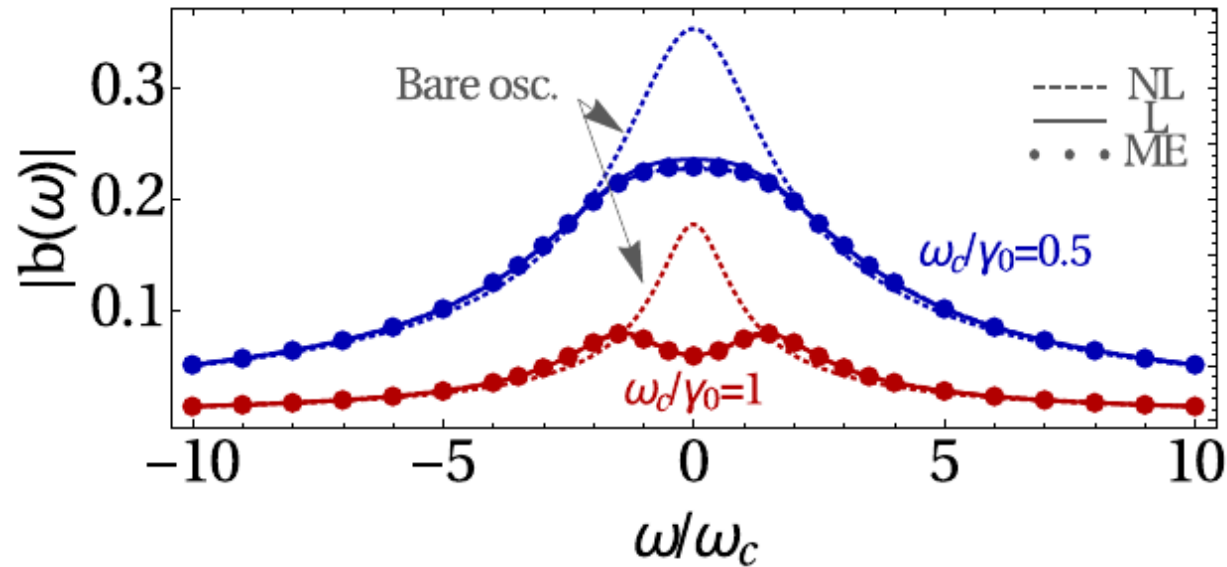


Sketch from Johnson et al, Nat. Phys. 2010

## Another useful configuration (to exploit 2<sup>nd</sup>-hand samples):

- Two (a,b) cavities, connected by cross-Kerr Josephson element
- Send  $\mu\text{w}$ 's into (b) to modulate effective length of (a)
- Watch DCE emission into (a), backreaction in (b)

# Response of LC to external monochromatic drive



DCE results in broadened resonance by  $\gamma_{\text{DCE}} \sim 2 \omega_c^2 / \gamma$

Strong DCE coupling  $\omega_c > \gamma$  gives nonlinear Rabi splitting of resonance

$$\hat{H} = \hbar\omega_0 \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + \hbar\omega_b \hat{b}^\dagger \hat{b} + \hbar\omega_c \left( \hat{b}^\dagger \hat{a}^2 + \hat{b} (\hat{a}^\dagger)^2 \right)$$

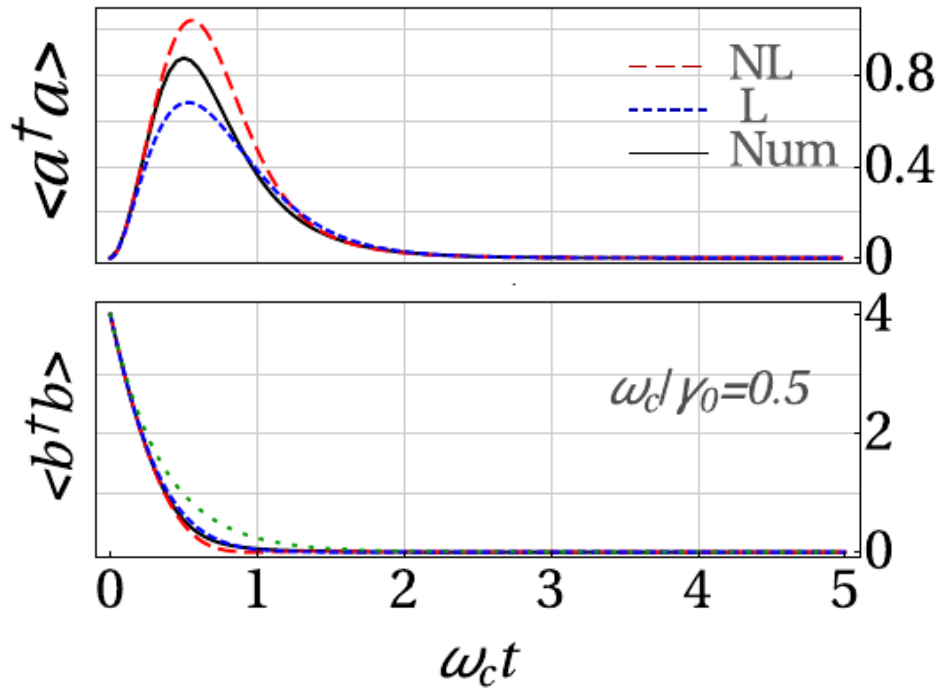
Next steps:

- extend the calculation to open CPW where DCE is broadband and no resonant enhancement of DCE
- design optimal set-up and try the experiment

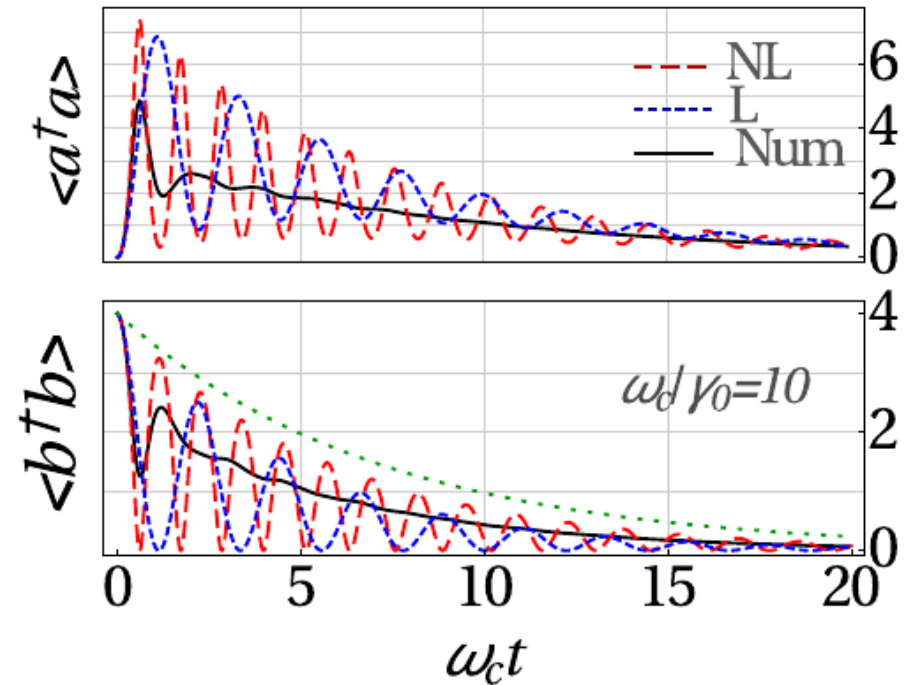
(Q@TN collab. A. Vinante, B. Margesin, P. Falferi, G. Casse -Trento)



# Free evolution after initial kick of LC



Weak DCE coupling  
reinforced decay due to DCE emission



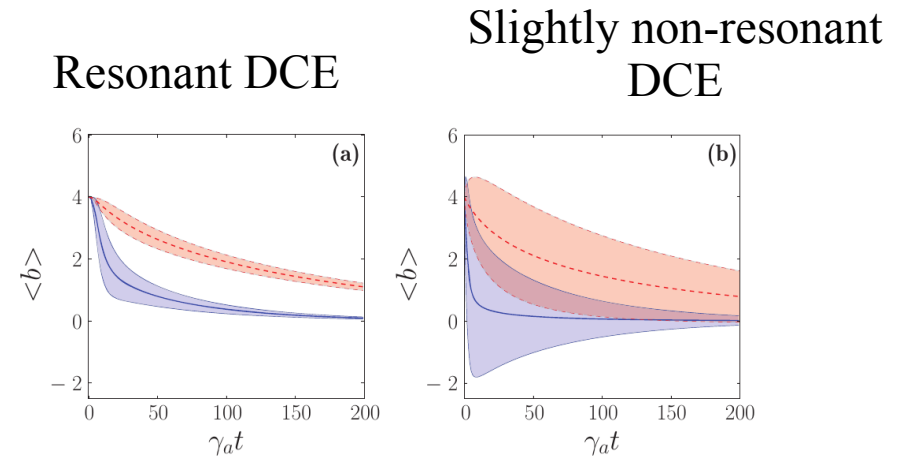
Strong DCE coupling  
periodic exchange of energy  
[also in Macrì et al., PRX 2018]



# Quantum fluctuation effects

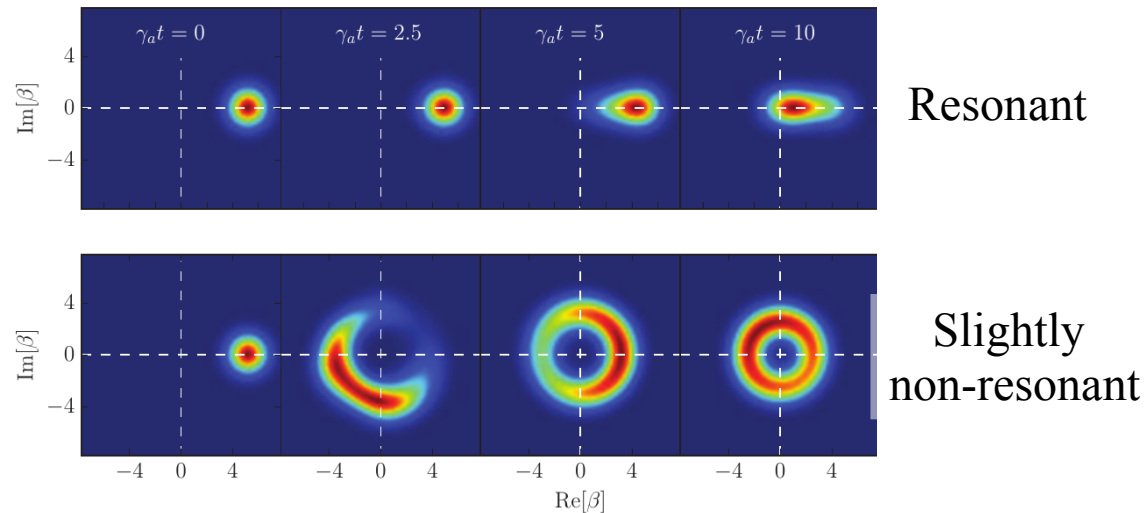
## Numerical integration of Master Equation

- Temporal decay of the mechanical oscillations by DCE friction
- Quantum fluctuations (shading) much larger in non-resonant case



### Phase space interpretation:

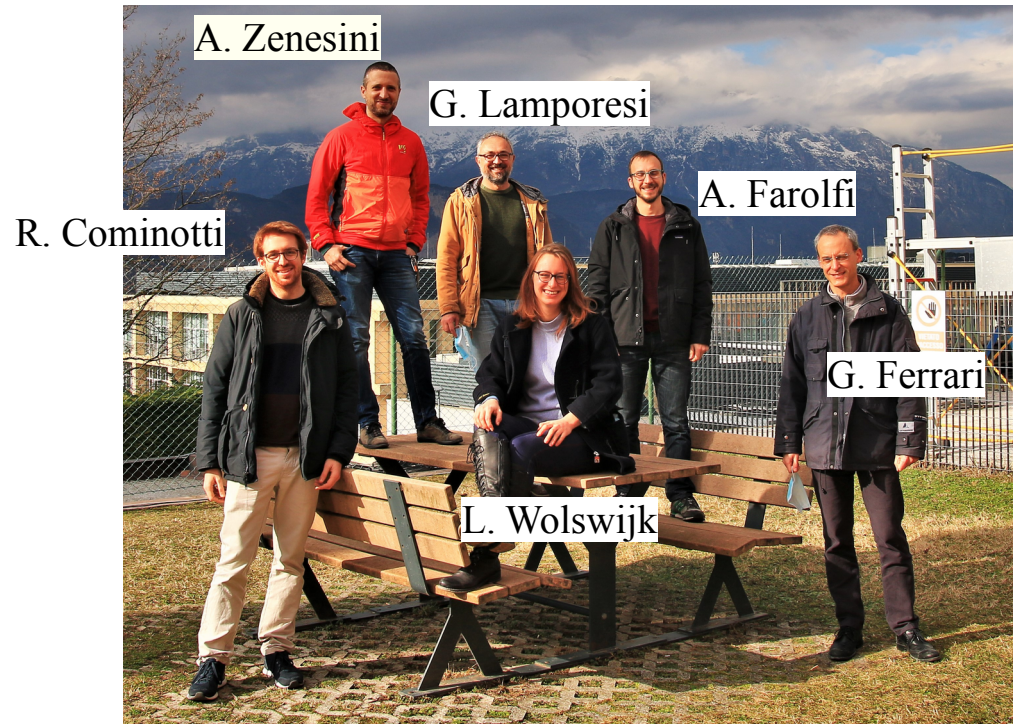
- Resonant  $\rightarrow$  fluctuations in DCE damping force
- Non-resonant  $\rightarrow$  fluctuations in DCE frequency shift



Fluctuations are experimentally accessible in circuit-QED by measuring quantum state of LC circuit

# Part 4:

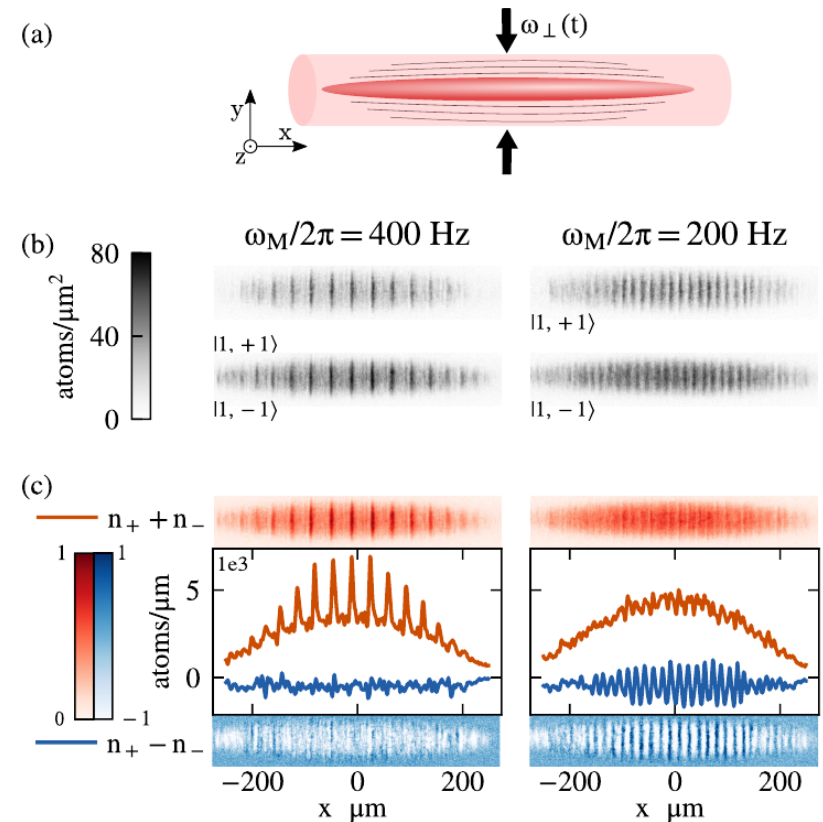
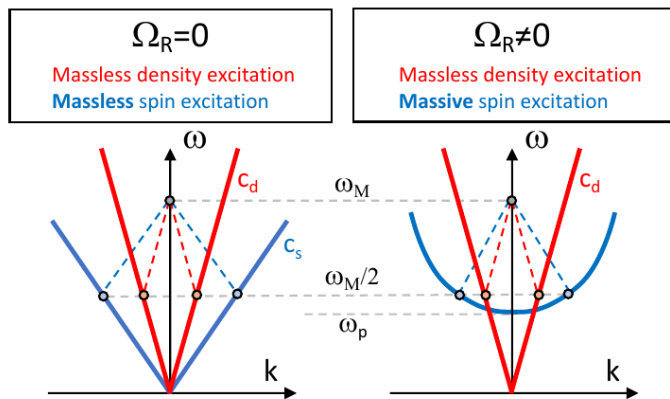
## On-going experiments in Trento



# On-going experiments in Trento (I)

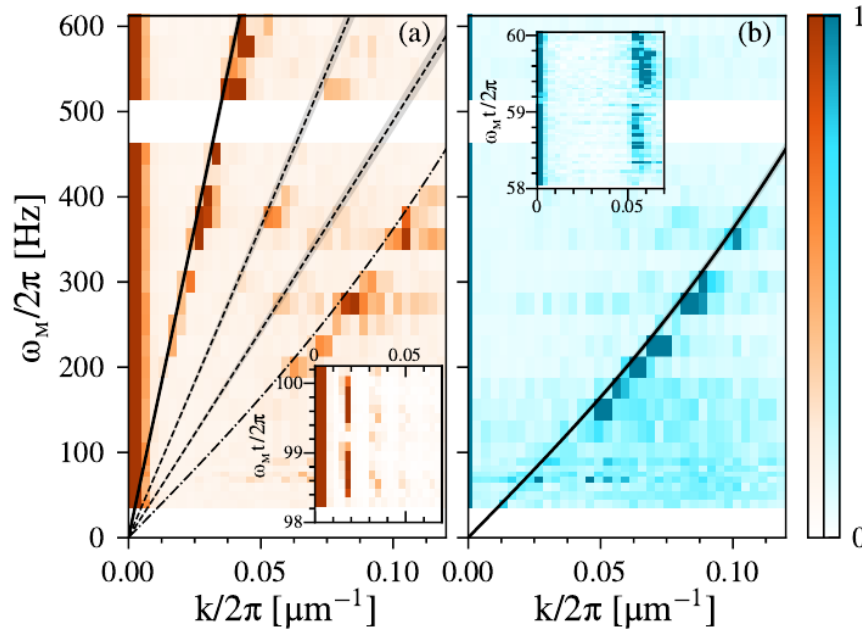
## Spinor BEC of Na atoms:

- density and spin modes:
- different sound speeds
- spin mode gapped with  $\mu\text{w}$  coupling  $\Omega_R$
- excited by shaking radial confinement, emission of Faraday waves
- measured in density/magnetization

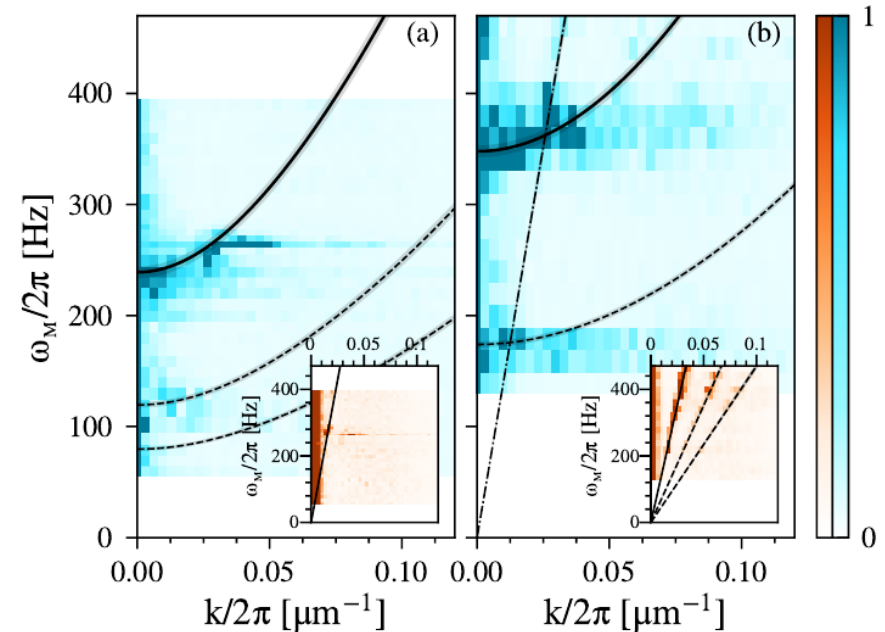


# On-going experiments in Trento (II)

No coherent coupling  $\Omega_R=0$   
massless spin mode



Coherent coupling  $\Omega_R \neq 0$   
massive spin mode



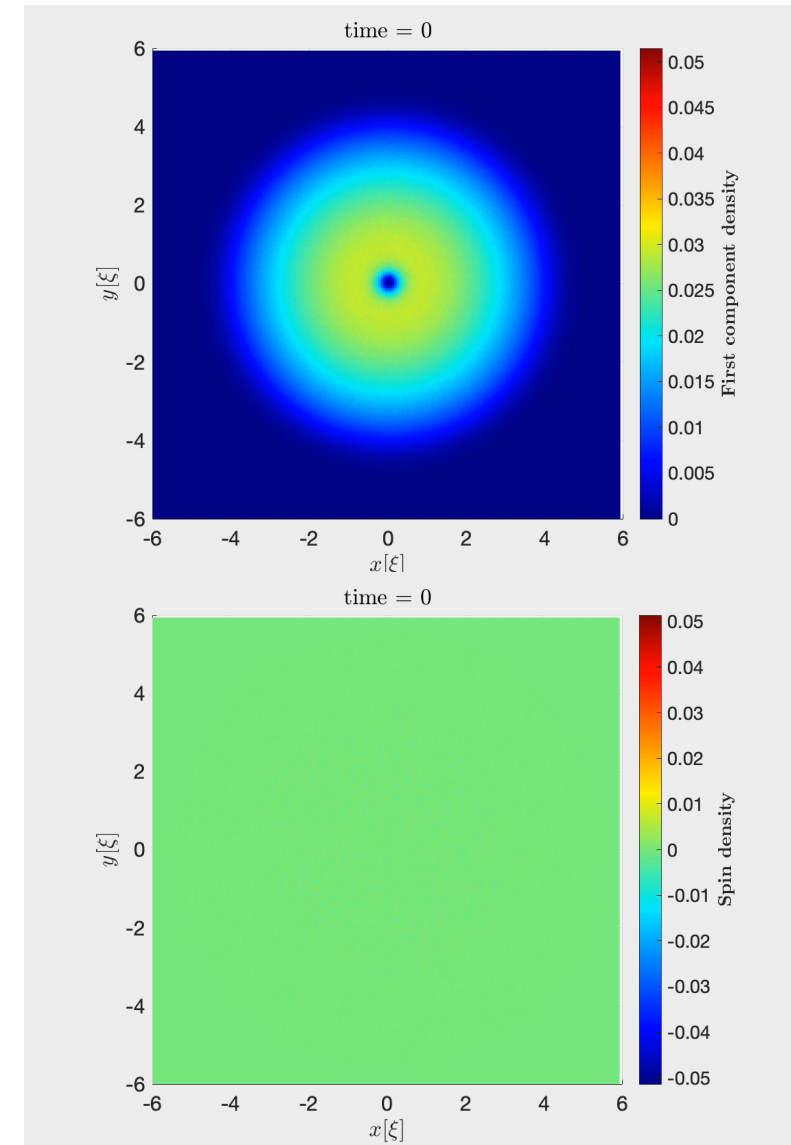
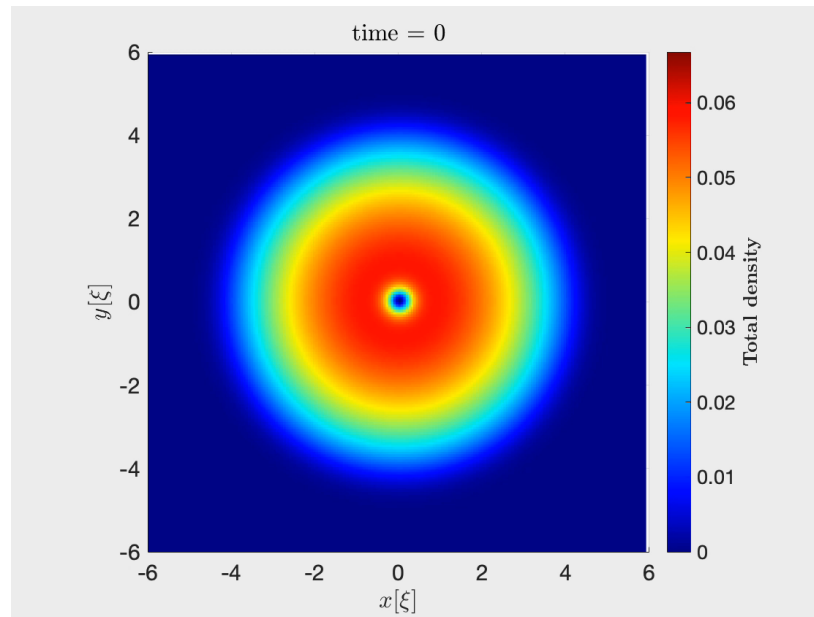
Density- and spin-mode dispersions measured via response to transverse shaking

Next steps: quantum features in parametric emission, ergoregion instability of vortices

# Ergoregion instability of vortices in spinor BEC



Anna Berti



## Numerical solution of time-dependent GPE:

- Two-component BEC
- Density-sound faster than spin-sound
- Spin-ergoregion  $\gg$  vortex core  
→ ergoregion instability of spin modes
- $Q=1$  vortex splits into a pair of vortices, one per spin component

# I can not refrain myself... quasi-BEC & KPZ effects in non-eq BEC

## Quasi-condensation features:

Hohenberg-Mermin-Wagner theorem:

- at equilibrium, no BEC in  $d < 3$

Non-equilibrium condensation or lasing:

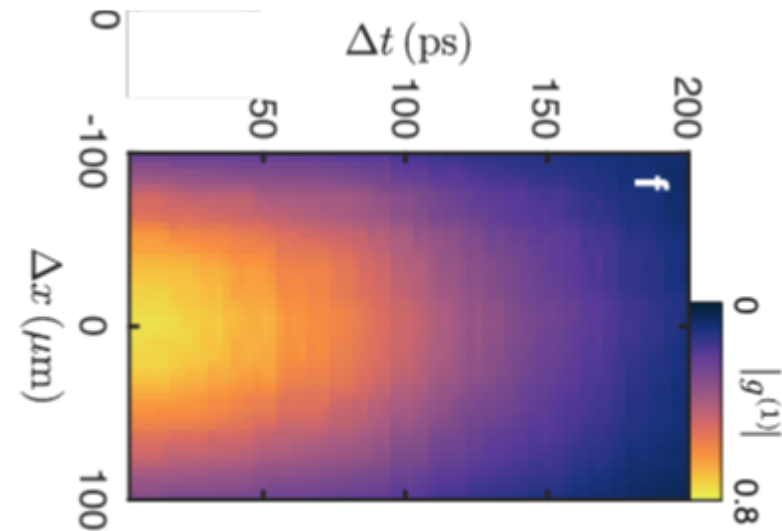
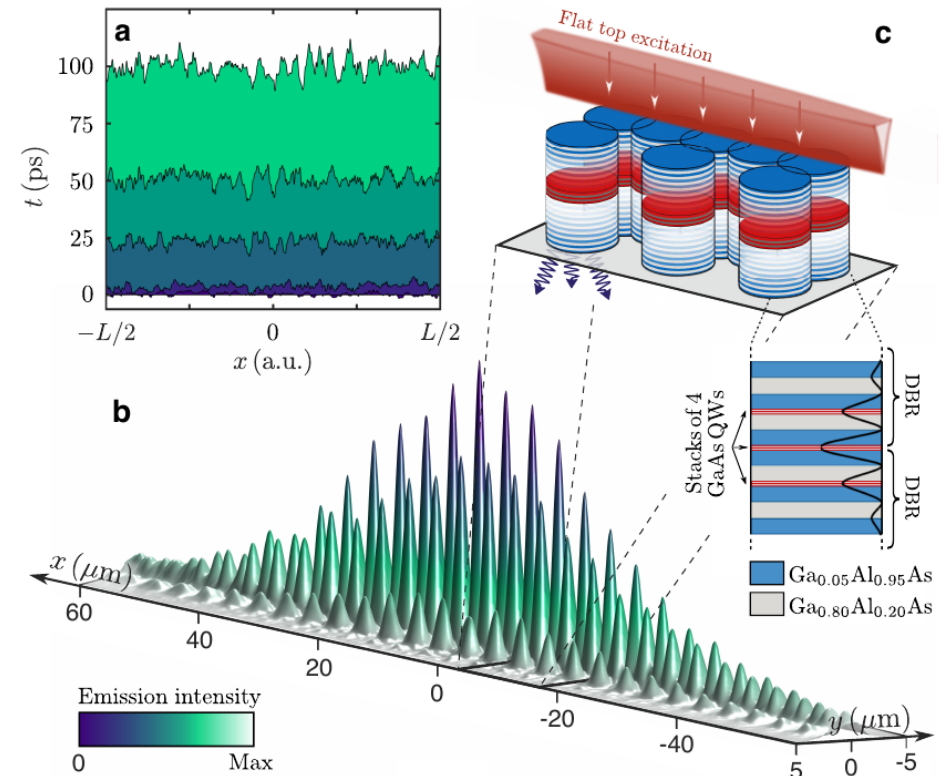
- no BEC in 1D: exponential decay of  $g^{(1)}(x)$  (Graham-Haken, 1970; Wouters-IC, PRB 2006)
- debate in 2D: KPZ nonlin. destroy BKT phase? (Dagvadorj et al., PRX 2015; Altman et al., PRX 2015; Zamora et al., PRX 2017)

## Experiment @ C2N Palaiseau:

- 1D lattice with array of semiconductor micropillars
- measure space-time coherence function  $g^{(1)}(\Delta x, \Delta t)$
- Coherence only in limited space/time, then smoothly decays  $\rightarrow$  **quasi-BEC effect**

Fontaine, Squizzato, Baboux, Amelio, Lemaître, Morassi, Sagnes, Le Gratiet, Harouri, Wouters, IC, Amo, Richard, Minguzzi, Canet, Ravets, Bloch, *Observation of KPZ universal scaling in a*

*1D polariton condensate*, arXiv:2112.09550, accepted for publication on Nature



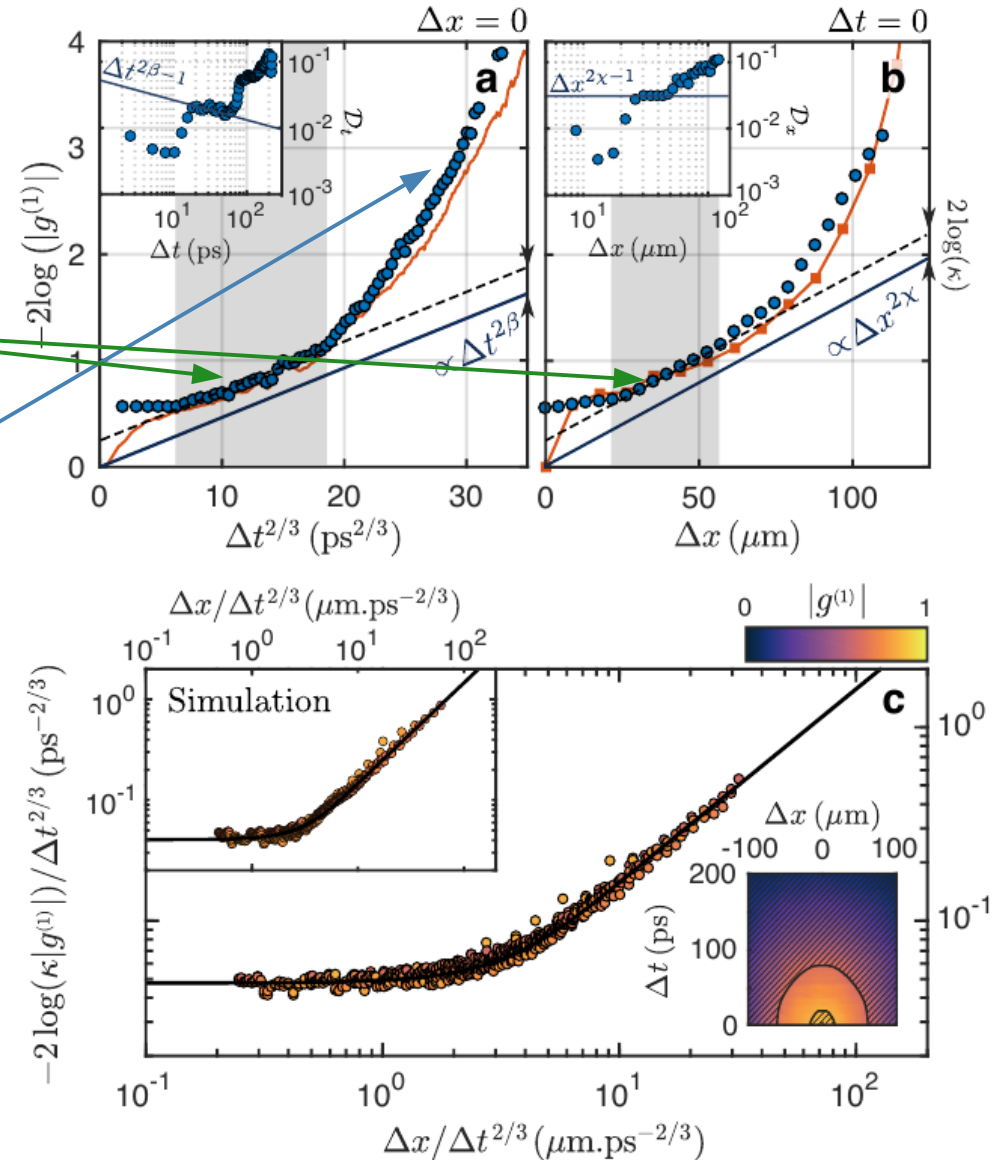
# KPZ features

Power laws in the decay of  $g^{(1)}(\Delta x, \Delta t)$

KPZ exponent

Schawlow-Townes-like decay

Collapse of cuts of  $g^{(1)}(\Delta x, \Delta t)$   
on Kardar-Parisi-Zhang universal curve



→ Quasi-BEC dynamics involves **non-equilibrium** effects & interactions between Bogoliubov excitations





## Part 4:

# Analog two-level emitters in curved space-time QFTs

impurity atoms in flowing BECs

# Dressed two-level atom interacting with BEC

Curved space-time  $\rightarrow$  inhomogeneous flow of BEC

Quantum field  $\rightarrow$  phonons on top of BEC

Two-level atom:

- Coherent resonant dressing  $|g\rangle \leftrightarrow |e\rangle$   
Rabi freq.  $\Omega_R$
- Dressed eigenstates split by  $\Omega_R$

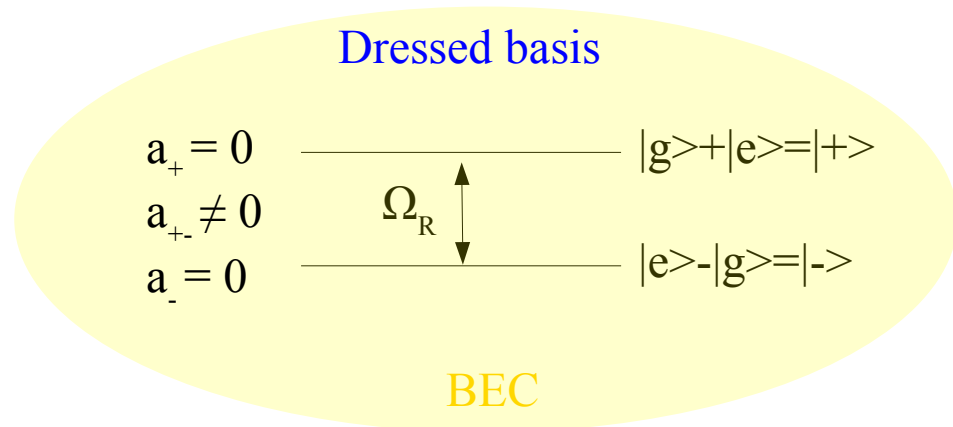
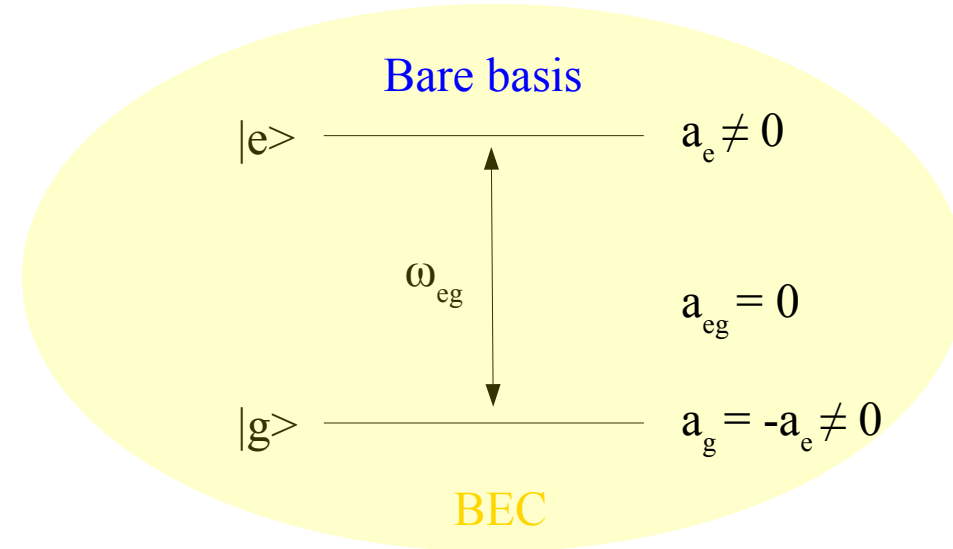
Ground  $|g\rangle$  and excited  $|e\rangle$  states  
with opposite interaction with BEC  $a_g = -a_e$ .

In dressed eigenstate basis:

- No diagonal coupling to BEC
- Off-diagonal coupling to density fluctuations  $\delta\rho(\mathbf{r})$ :

$$H_A = \hbar\Omega_R \sigma_z + a_{\pm} \delta\rho(\mathbf{r}) \sigma_x$$

$\rightarrow$  simulates electric-dipole coupling  $-d E(\mathbf{r})$   
of 2-level atom to e.m. field



Motion of atom  $\rightarrow$  ultrarelativistic (and beyond)

# Ginzburg emission from moving atoms in ground state

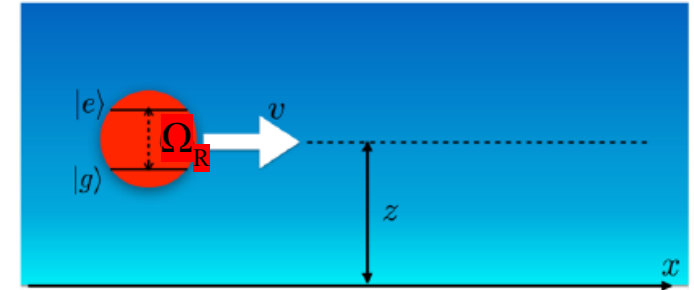
Atom moving supersonically across BEC

Prepared in lower state  $|-\rangle$

Phase space opens for **Ginzburg process**

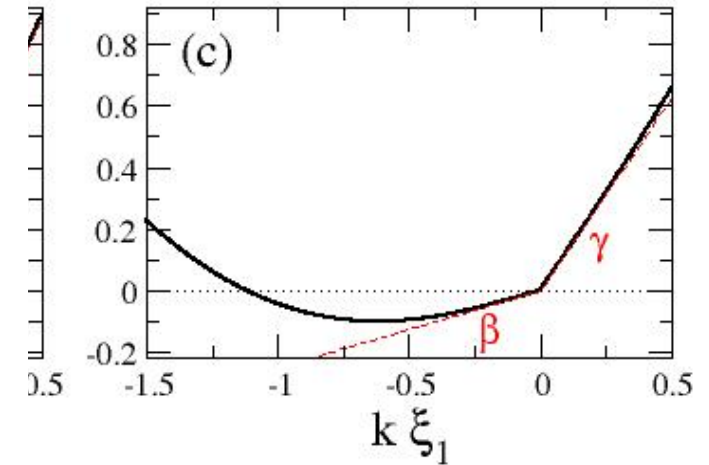
$|-\rangle \rightarrow |+\rangle + \text{phonon } k$

$$\hbar\Gamma^g = 2\pi g^2 \rho_0 \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} (u_k + v_k)^2 \delta(\hbar\omega_0 + \hbar\Omega_R - \hbar\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v})$$



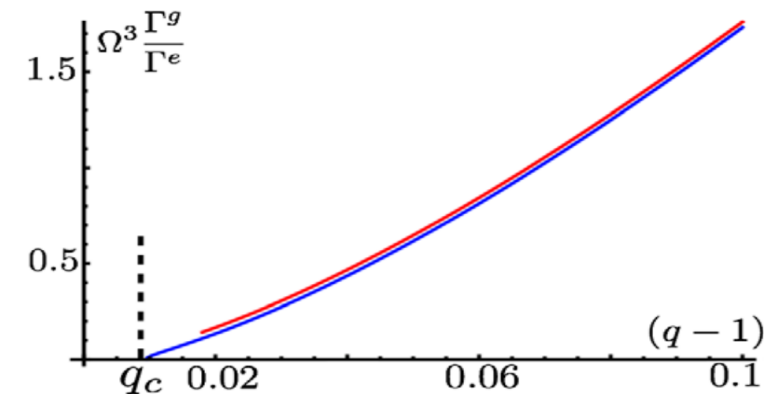
## Physical interpretation:

- Doppler shift by supersonic speed gives negative-energy phonon modes
- Emission + excitation conserve energy/momentum
- Different from Cherenkov emission by charge: here “neutral” object, spontaneous dipole emission



## Many other complex phenomena (J. Marino):

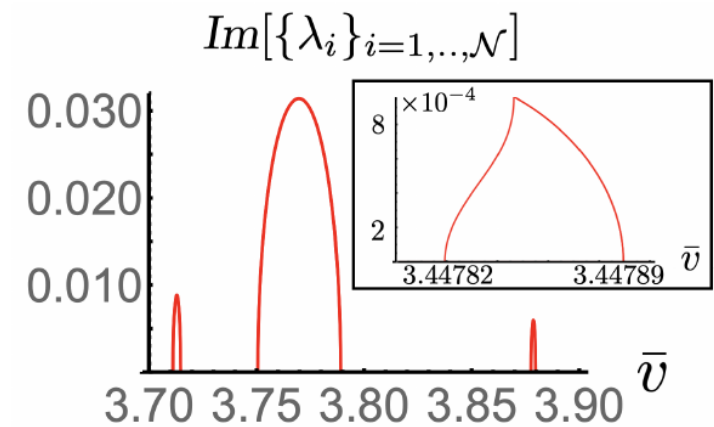
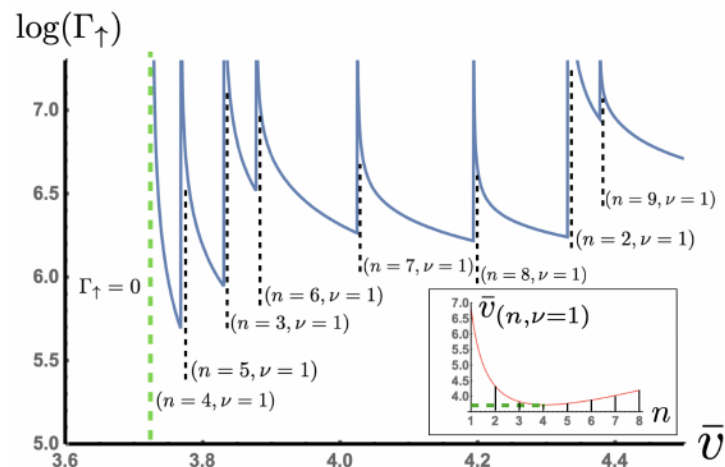
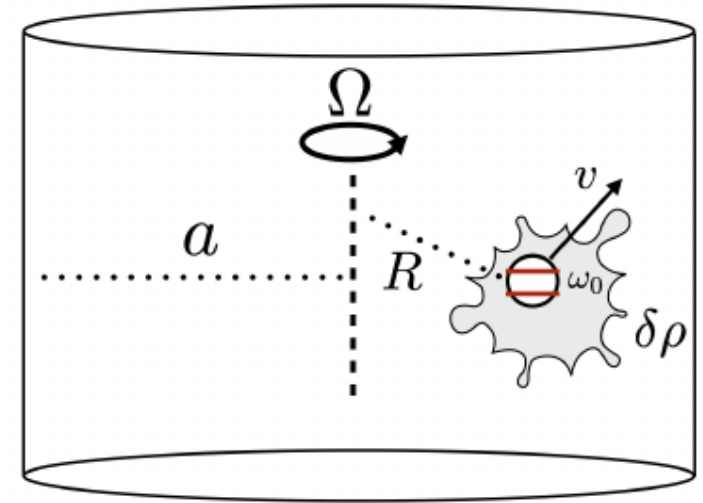
- Casimir forces via 0-point fluctuations of phonons
- Unruh effect: accelerated particle feels finite-T bath
- Peculiar out-of-time order correlations



# Impurity in circular motion: superradiance effects

## Two level atom in circular motion in BEC at rest

- Spontaneous transition ground  $\rightarrow$  excited state via emission of phonons into Bogoliubov modes
- Energy conservation imposes  $(\Omega - m \omega_0) < 0$  for Bogo mode of angular momentum  $m$
- Geometric suppression if  $v = \Omega R < c_s$
- Superradiant instability for fully confined modes and “harmonic” atom



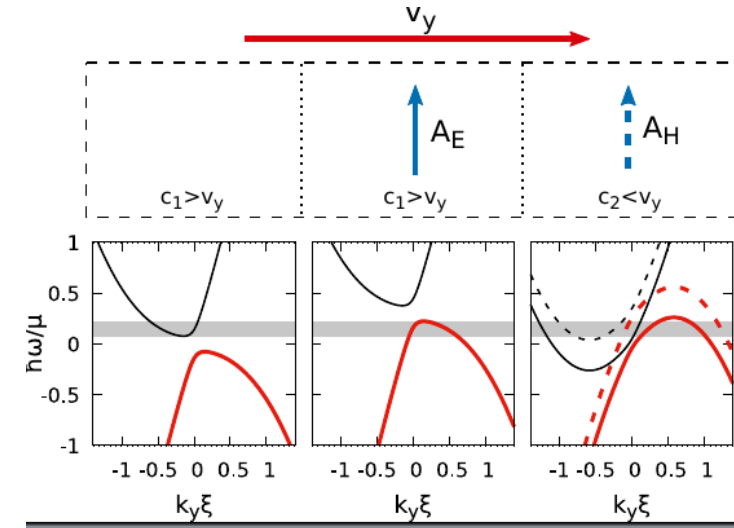
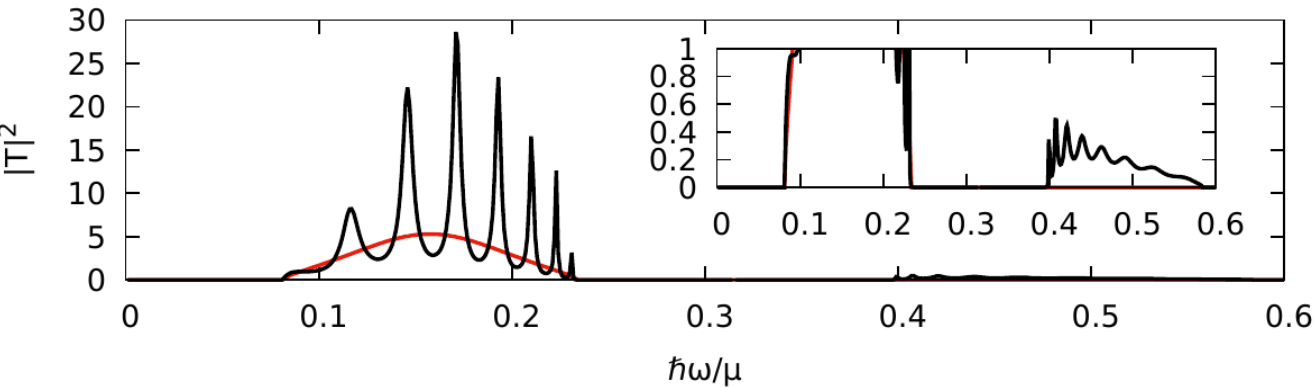
## Part 3:

**Quasi-Normal modes**  
**their impact on quantum emission**  
**and on BH entropy**

# Emission spectrum from complex BH configurations

## Hawking emission spectrum:

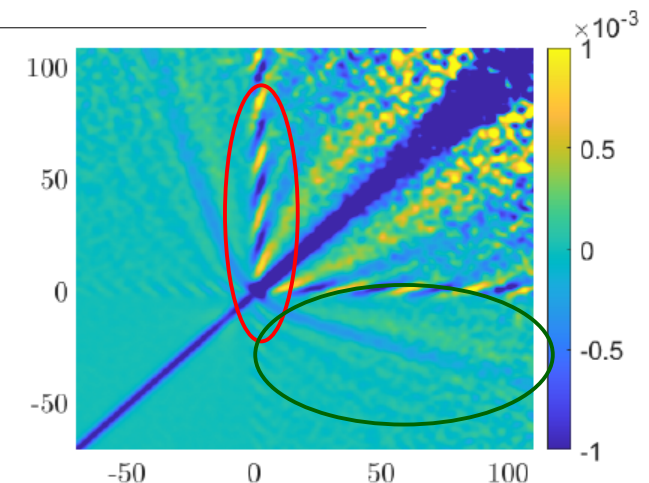
- discrete peaks related to quasi-normal modes
- corresponding features in correlation functions
- are they populated by Hawking processes?
- General question: do they have a role in BH entropy?



L. Giacomelli, in preparation 2021

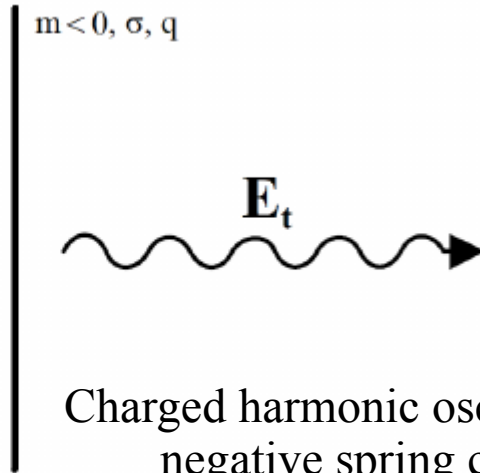
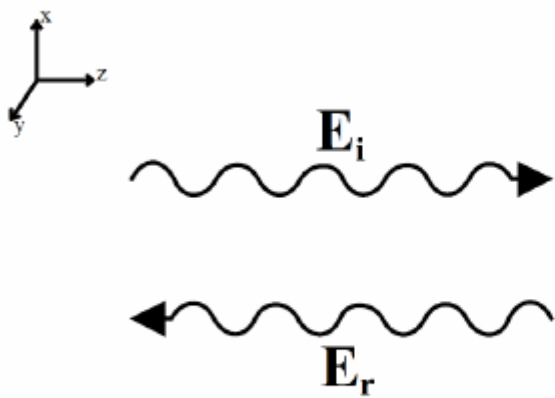
## Numerics for BH in polariton fluid:

- **Hawking** signal in intensity correlations
- **New feature** along vertical/horizontal: correlation between inner and horizon regions
- is it related to QNMs ??
- does it signal some population of them?



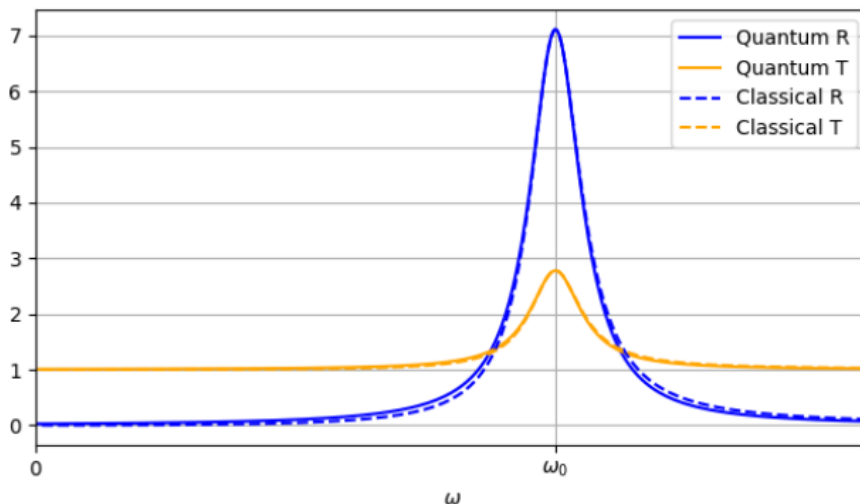
Numerical simulations @ LKB  
Malo Joly + Maxime Jacquet

# A simple model for superradiance (I)



Charged harmonic oscillator with negative mass and negative spring constant  $\rightarrow$  negative energy mode (sort of population-inverted atom)

Can emit/scatter e.m. waves by reducing its energy



E.m. scattering calculation:  
amplified reflection and transmission

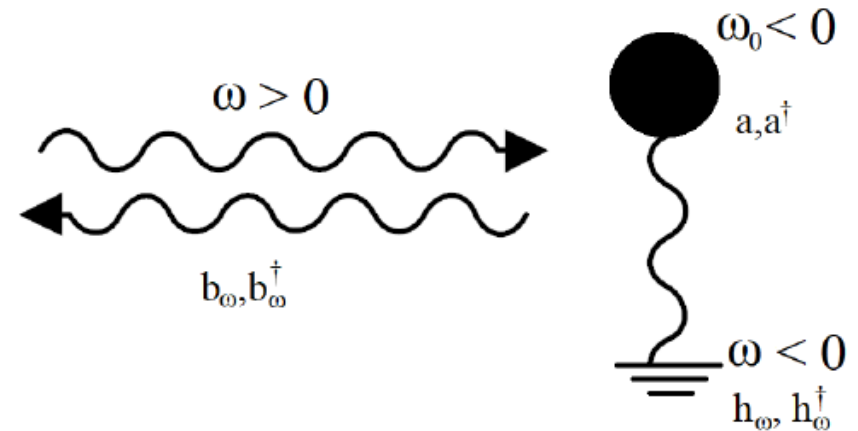
# A simple model for superradiance (II)

## Quantum description:

- Harmonic oscillator  $\omega_0 < 0$
- Coupled to  $\omega > 0$  radiative bath
- Coupled to  $\omega < 0$  non-radiative bath

Input-output theory recovers classical calculation of reflection/transmission amplitudes

Quantum emission peaked at  $\omega \sim |\omega_0|$

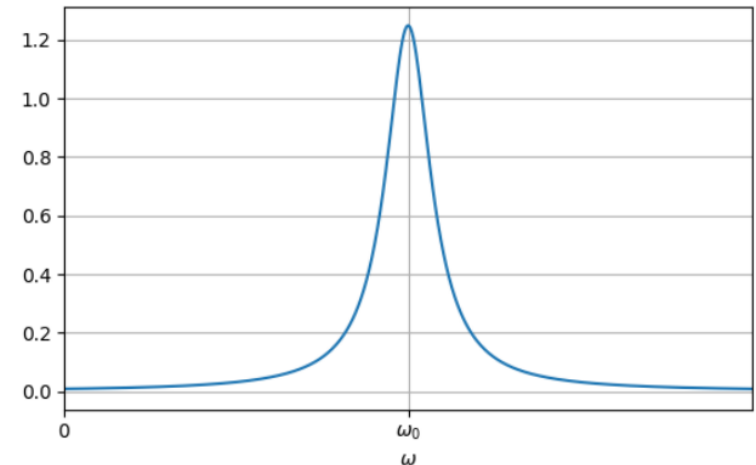


Stationary quantum state  $\rho_{ss} = \left(1 - \frac{\beta}{\alpha}\right) \left(\frac{\beta}{\alpha}\right)^{a^\dagger a}$

- finite population of h.o. & finite entropy

$$S = -k_B \left( \log \left( 1 - \frac{\gamma^R}{\gamma^{NR}} \right) + \frac{1}{1 - \frac{\gamma^R}{\gamma^{NR}}} \log \left( \frac{\gamma^R}{\gamma^{NR}} \right) \right)$$

- Mechanism different from back-reaction



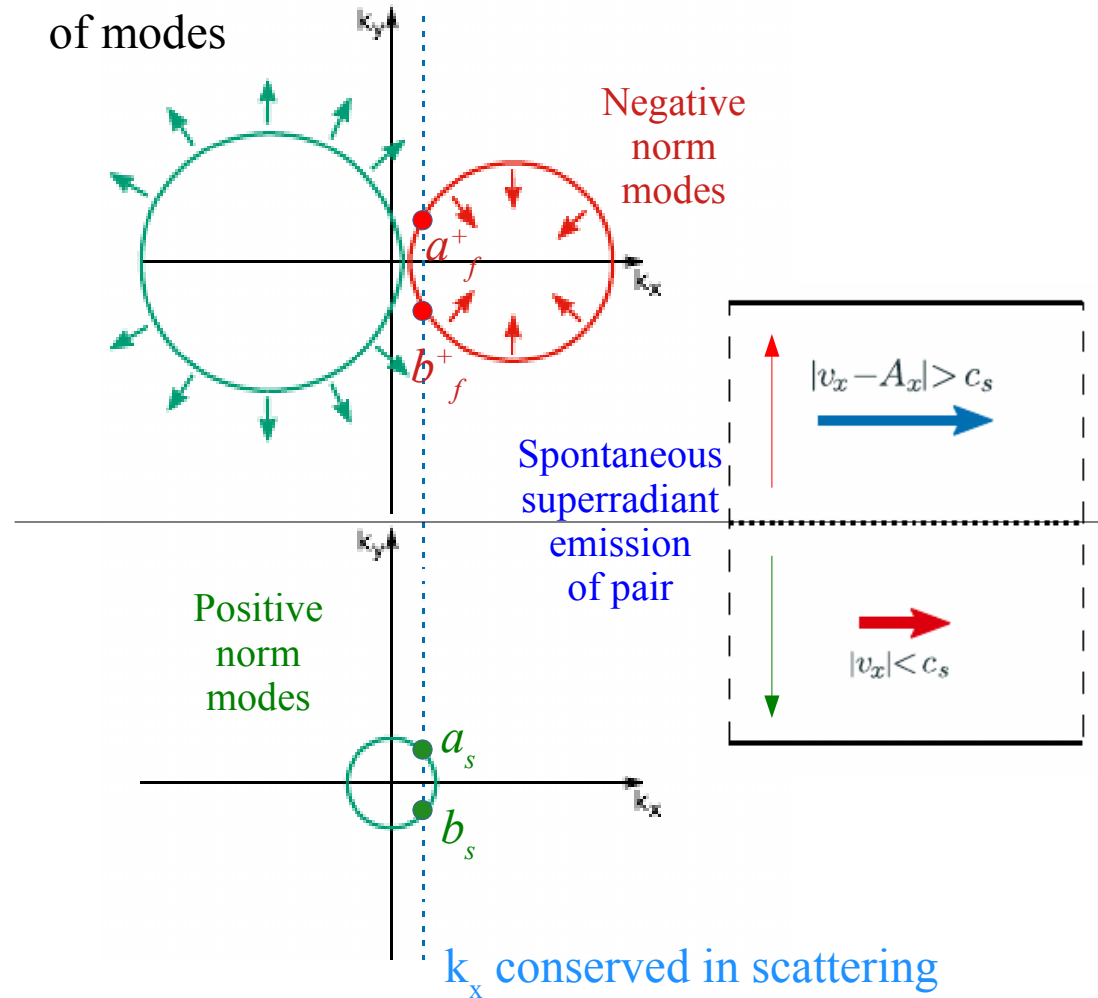
What does this entropy means in astrophysics???

Calculation for BHs full of technical issues... but no surrender, Luca is brave...



# Quantum superradiant emission

Fixed- $\omega$  loci of modes



$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{b}_s(k_x, \omega) \\ \hat{b}_f^\dagger(k_x, \omega) \end{pmatrix} = S(k_x, \omega) \begin{pmatrix} \hat{a}_s(k_x, \omega) \\ \hat{a}_f^\dagger(k_x, \omega) \end{pmatrix}$$

- 2 x 2 scattering matrix mixes creation/destruction operators
- Pair of positive/negative norm modes on opposite sides
- Superradiant process seeded by zero-point fluctuations
- Zero-point emission similar to Hawking emission
- Interpreted as positive/negative energy quanta emitted on opposite sides
- Only possible if ergoregion present

