

Phases and dynamics of a unitary Fermi gas in a high-finesse cavity

Jean-Philippe Brantut  
EPFL



## Fermi gas lab

V. Helson (now CSEM)  
T. Zwettler  
G. Del Pace  
T. Bühler  
A. Fabre

## Microscope lab

N. Sauerwein  
F. Orsi  
E. Fedotova  
R. Bhatt



**Swiss National  
Science Foundation**

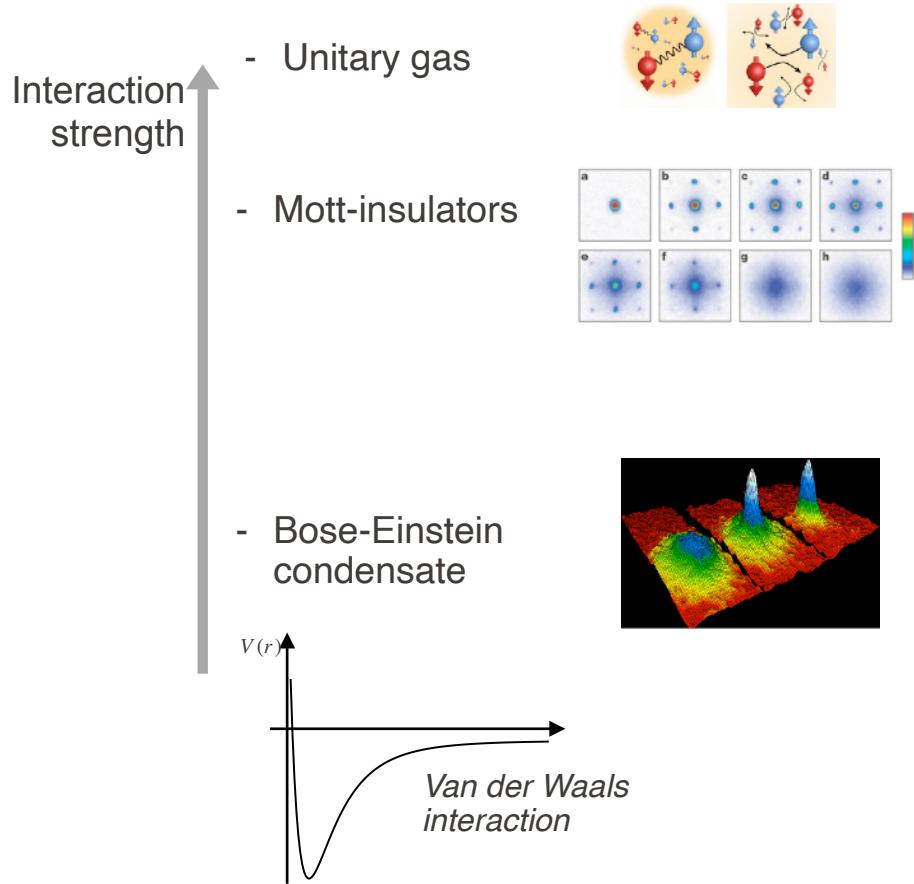


Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

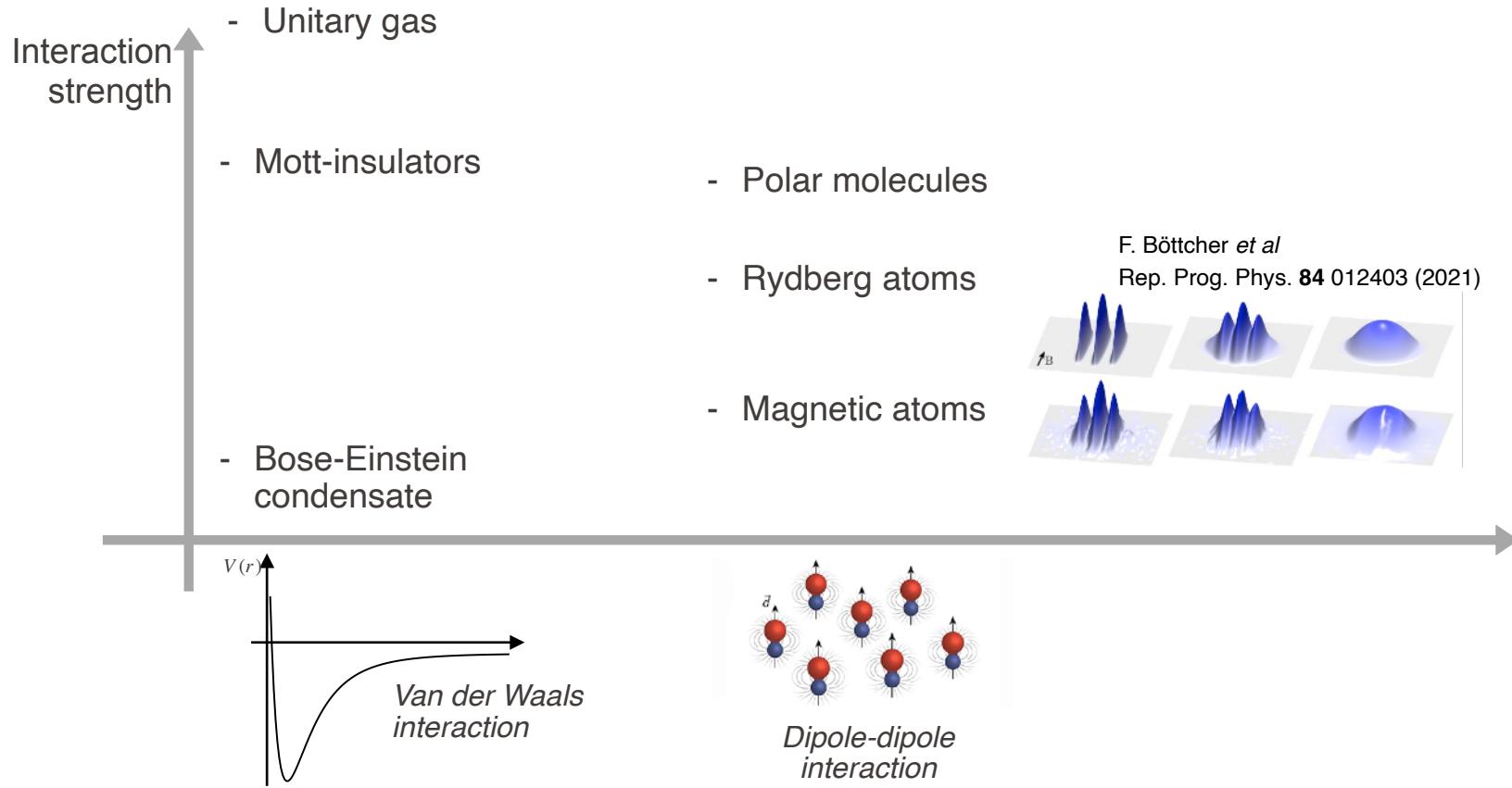
## Theory collaborations:

S. Uchino (JAEA), H. Ritsch (Innsbrück), P. Hauke  
(Trento), G. Pupillo (Strasbourg), J. Sonner (Geneva),  
T. Giamarchi (Geneva), E. Demler (ETHZ)...

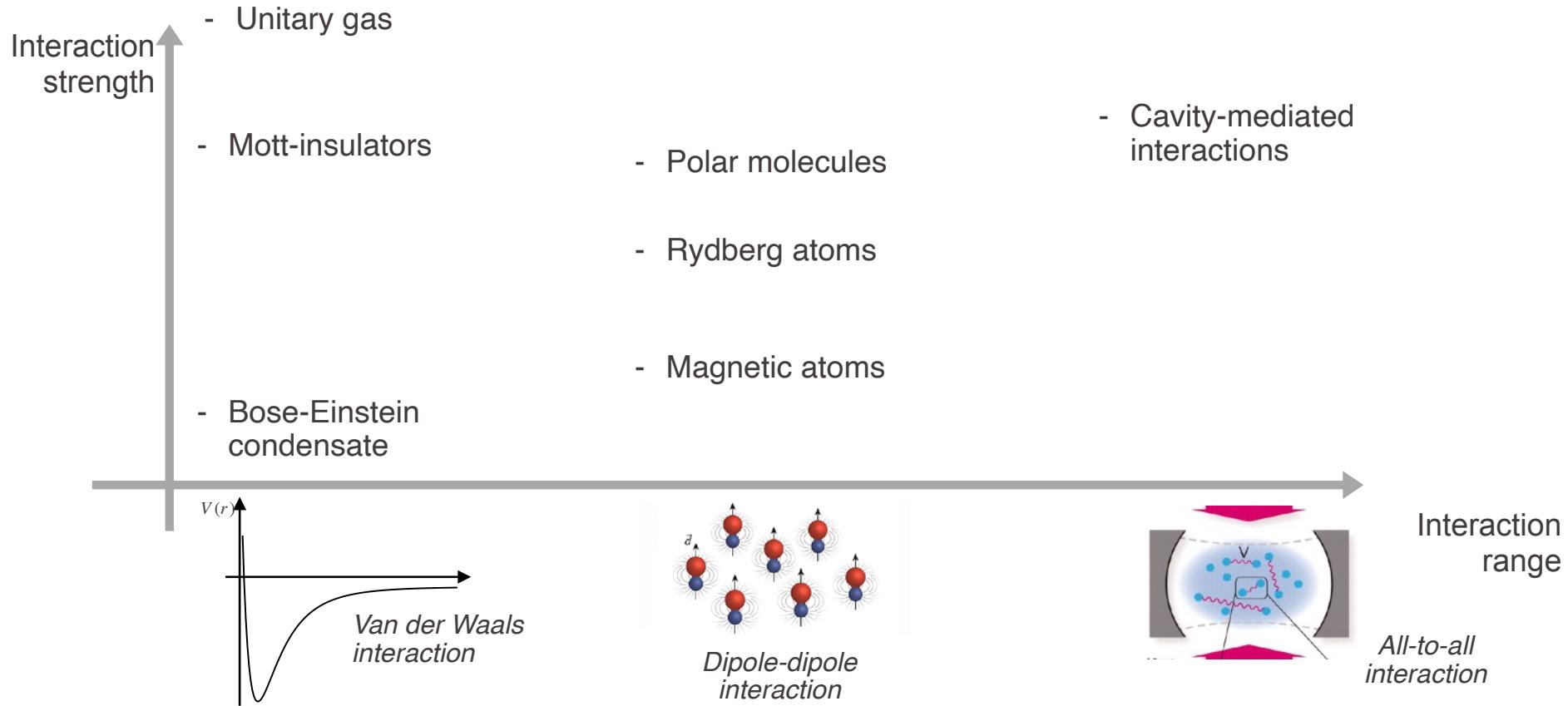
# Synthetic quantum systems



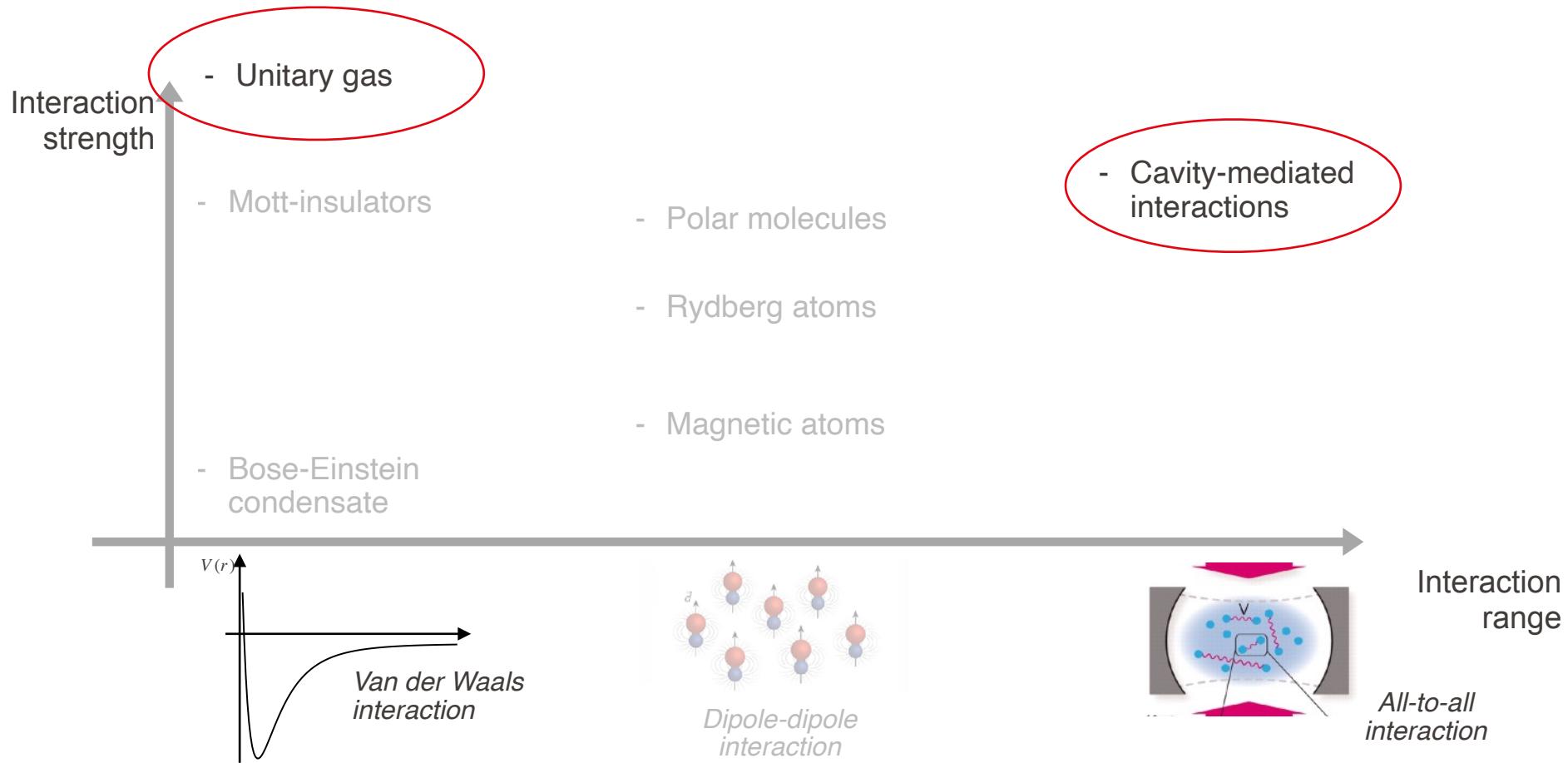
# Synthetic quantum systems



# Synthetic quantum systems



# Synthetic quantum systems



# Photon-induced interactions



*Long-range spin-exchange:*

- spin-squeezing
- Dynamical phase transitions
- Synthetic geometry

MIT, Berkeley, Hamburg,  
ETHZ, Stanford, JILA,  
Singapour, Shanghai,  
Vienna...

A. Periwal *et al.* *Nature* **600**, 630–635 (2021).

*Quantum gases*

- Dicke phase transition
- Topological pump
- Time-crystals
- Supersolid and ‘elastic’ solid
- Self-organized Fermi gases

D. Dreon *et al.* *Nature* **608**, 494 (2022)

P. Kongkhambut *et al.* *Science* **377** 670 (2022)

Y. Guo *et al.* *Nature* **599**, 211 (2021)

Xiaotian Zhang *et al.* *Science* **373** 1359 (2021)

...

# Photon-induced interactions



Dispersive light-matter  
interaction

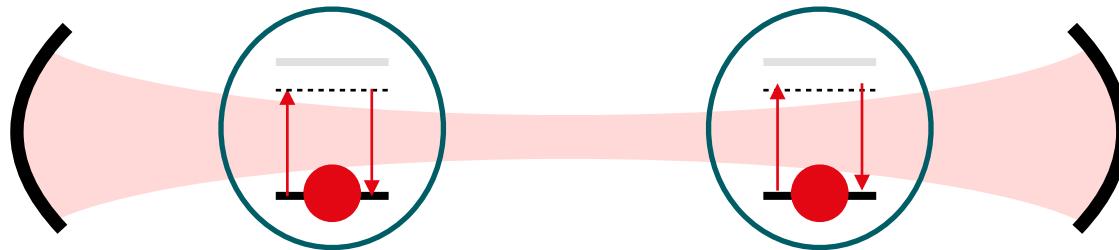
$$\hat{H}_{\text{light-matter}} = - \Delta_c \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + \int d\mathbf{r} \hat{n}(\mathbf{r}) \hat{\phi}^\dagger \hat{\phi}(\mathbf{r})$$

# Photon-induced interactions



Dispersive light-matter  
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$$\hat{H}_{\text{light-matter}} = - \Delta_c \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + \int d\mathbf{r} \hat{n}(\mathbf{r}) \hat{\phi}^\dagger \hat{\phi}(\mathbf{r})$$



Rayleigh scattering channelled into the cavity mode:

$$\text{Cooperativity } \eta = \frac{24\mathcal{F}}{\pi k^2 w^2} = \frac{4g_0^2}{\kappa\Gamma}$$



Interaction mediated by  
cavity photons :

$$V_{\text{cav}} = \frac{g_0^2}{\Delta_a} \frac{\alpha^2}{\Delta_a} \frac{1}{\Delta_c} \int d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}' \hat{n}(\mathbf{r}) \hat{n}(\mathbf{r}') g_p(\mathbf{r}) g_c(\mathbf{r}) g_p(\mathbf{r}') g_c(\mathbf{r}')$$

P. Münstermann *et al*, PRL **84** 4068 (2000)

Review: F. Mivehvar, F. Piazza, T. Donner and H. Ritsch, Advances in Physics **70** 1-153 (2021)



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$$U_0 = \frac{g_0^2}{\Delta_a}$$

Cavity dispersive coupling

Pump dipole potential  $\frac{\alpha^2}{\Delta_a} = V_0$

P. Münstermann *et al*, PRL **84** 4068 (2000)

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Cavity  
detuning

P. Münstermann *et al*, PRL **84** 4068 (2000)

Review: F. Mivehvar, F. Piazza, T. Donner and H. Ritsch, Advances in Physics **70** 1-153 (2021)



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Pump and cavity modes

P. Münstermann *et al*, PRL **84** 4068 (2000)

Review: F. Mivehvar, F. Piazza, T. Donner and H. Ritsch, Advances in Physics **70** 1-153 (2021)



Interaction mediated by  
cavity photons :

Infinite-range, all-to-all  
'Local in  $k$  space'

$$V_{\text{cav}} = D_0 \int d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}' \hat{n}(\mathbf{r}) \hat{n}(\mathbf{r}') g_p(\mathbf{r}) g_c(\mathbf{r}) g_p(\mathbf{r}') g_c(\mathbf{r}')$$

$$g_{p,c}(\mathbf{r}) = \cos(\mathbf{k}_{p,c} \cdot \mathbf{r})$$

Pump and cavity modes

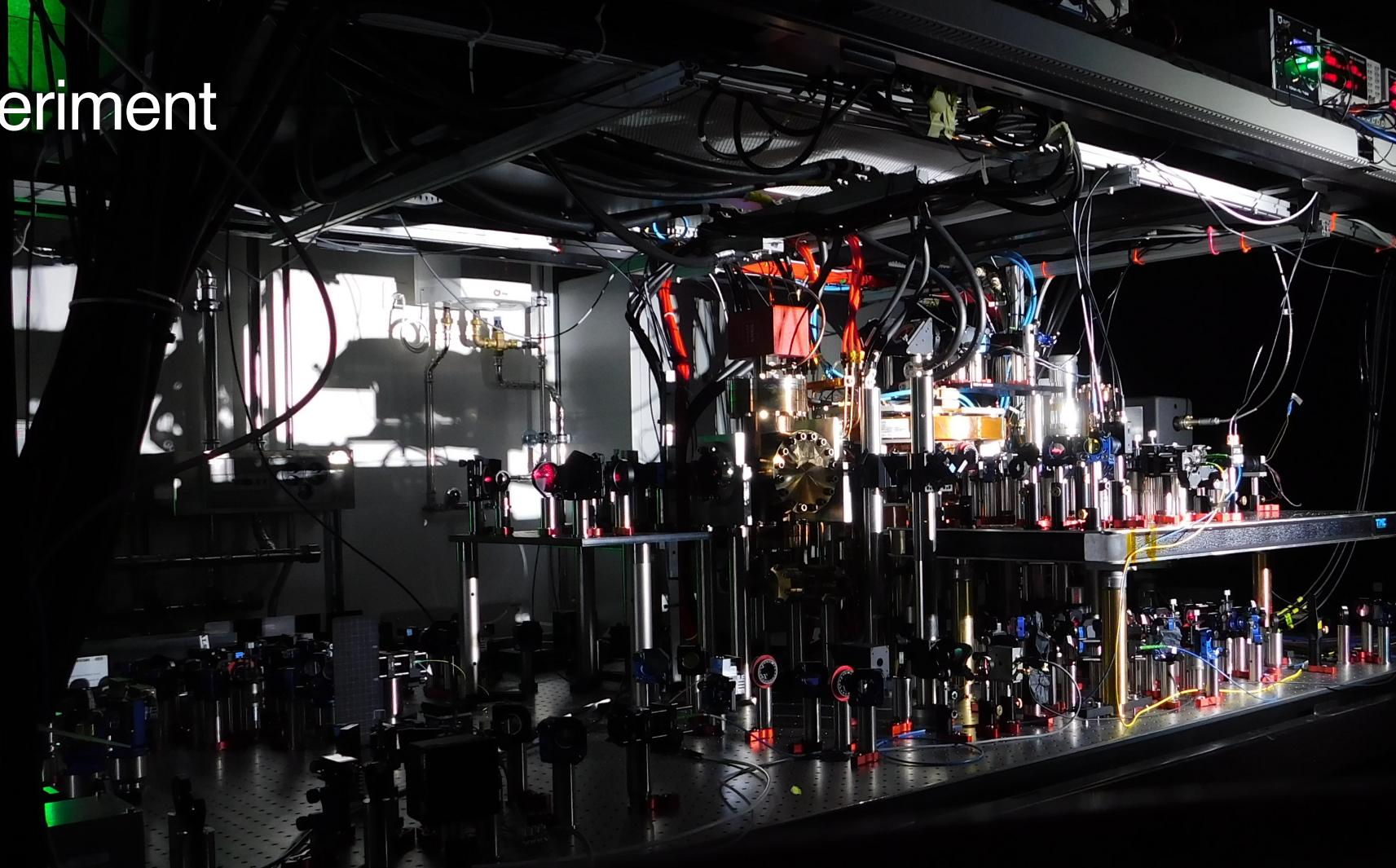
# Combined cavity-QED and unitary gas setup

## Density-wave ordering induced by photon-mediated interactions

V. Helson, T. Zwettler, E. Collela, F. Mivhevar, K. Roux, H. Konishi, H. Ritsch and JPB  
Nature **618**, 716 (2023)

## Universal dynamics at the transition

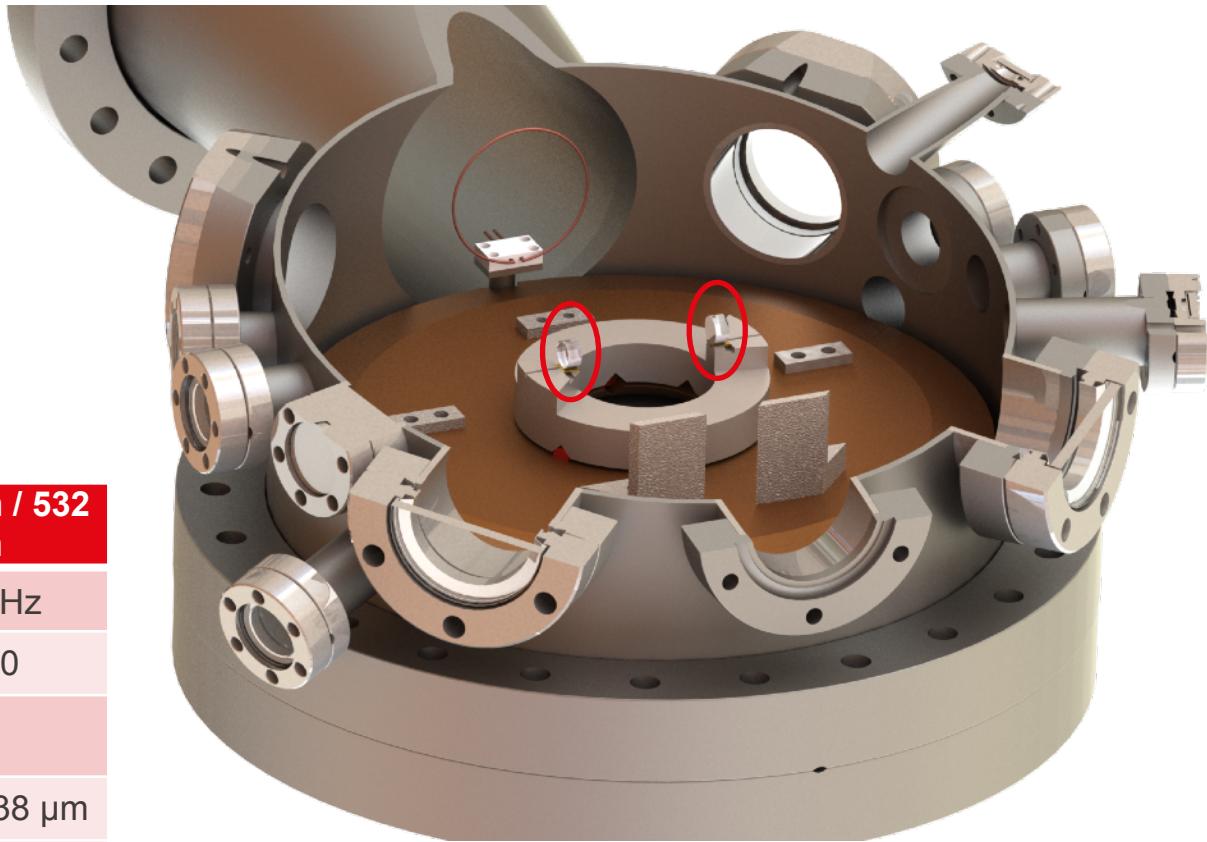
# Experiment



# Experiment

## High-finesse cavity

	671 nm	1064 nm / 532 nm
Linewidth	77 kHz	1.4 MHz
Finesse	47'000	2'800
Cooperativity	2.02	
Waist	45 µm	50 µm / 38 µm
g	0.479 MHz	

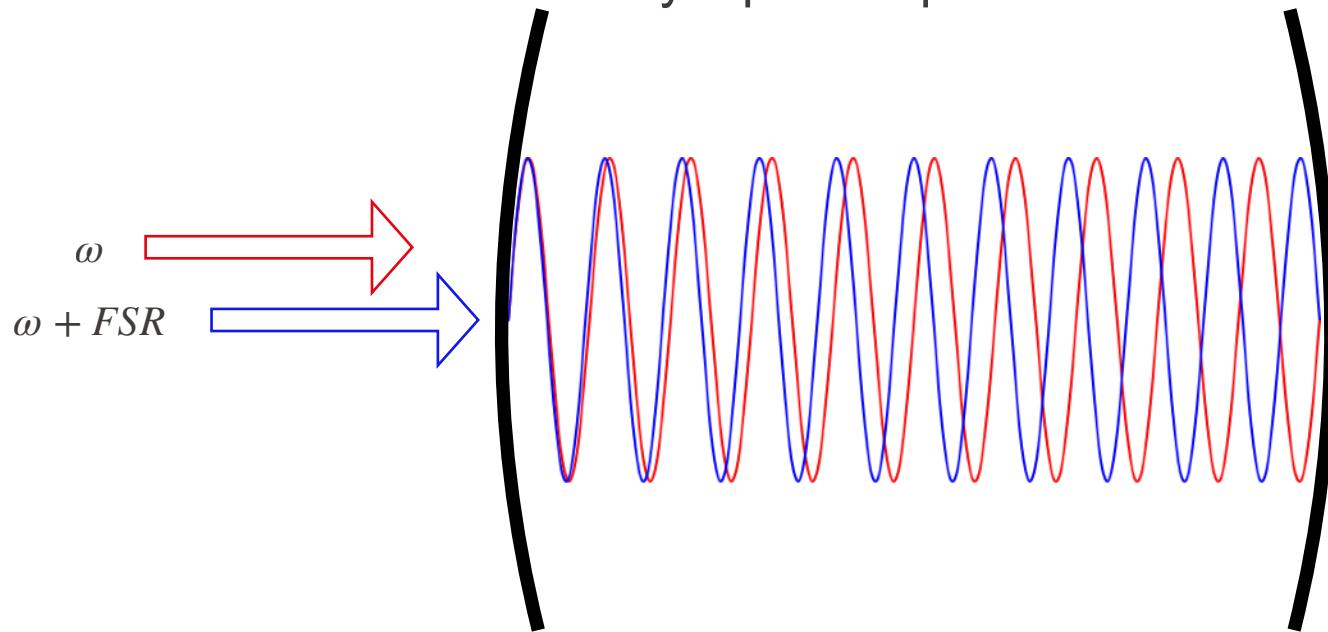


K. Roux, V. Helson , H. Konishi and JPB, New J. Phys. **23** 043029 (2021)

K. Roux, H. Konishi, V. Helson and JPB, Nature Communications **11** 2974 (2020)

# Experiment

- Lattice-cancelled cavity dipole trap

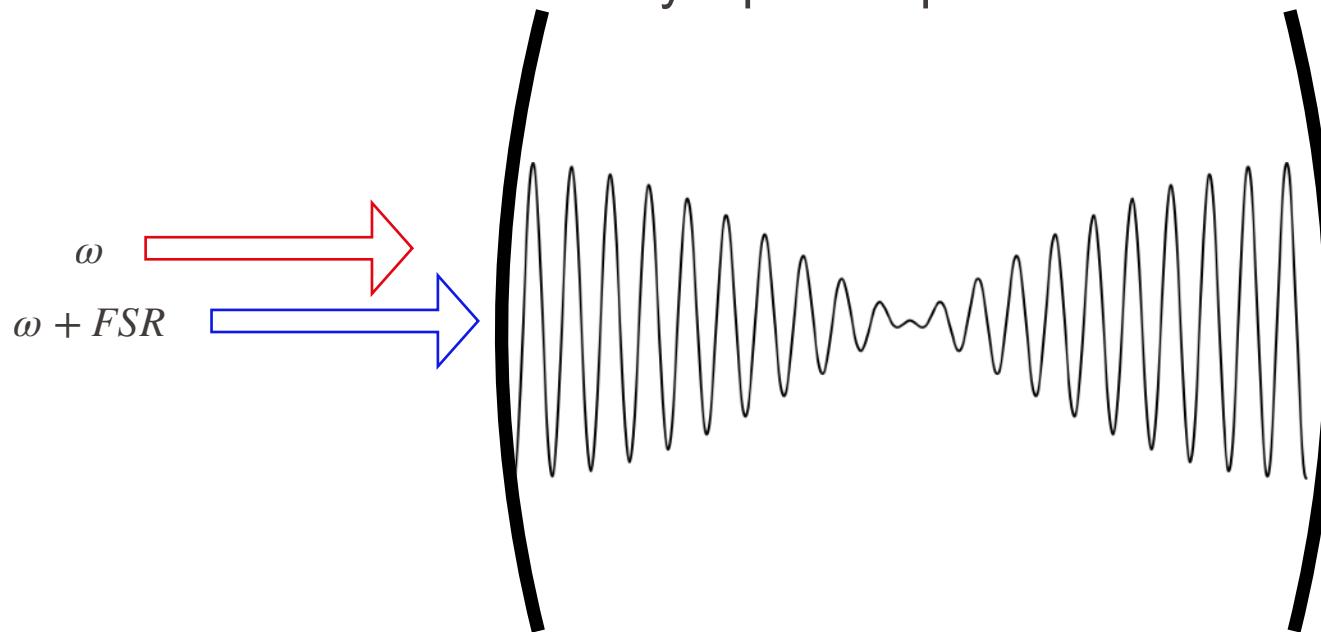


K. Roux, V. Helson , H. Konishi and JPB, New J. Phys. **23** 043029 (2021)

A. Mosk, S. Jochim, H. Moritz, Th. Elsässer, M. Weidemüller and R. Grimm, Optics Letters 26 1837 (2001)

# Experiment

- Lattice-cancelled cavity dipole trap



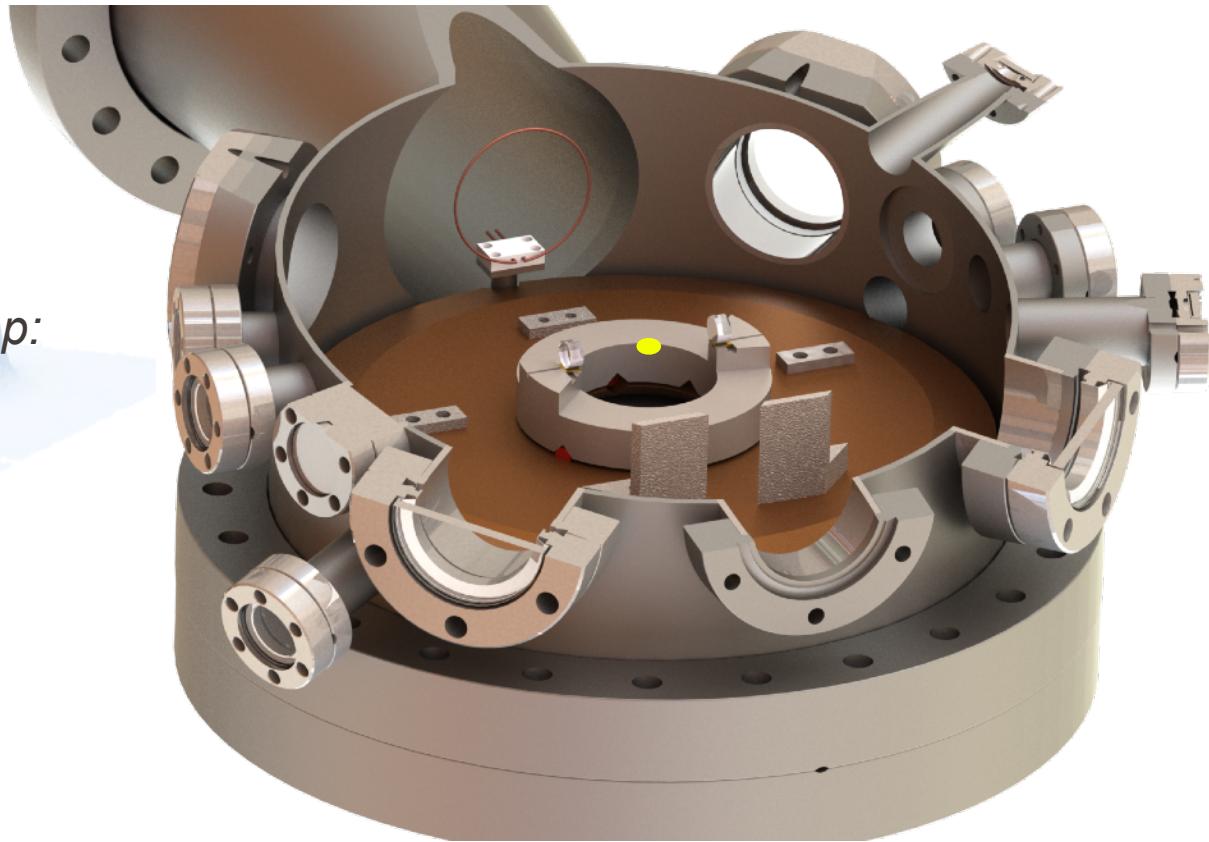
# Experiment

*Single cavity-based dipole trap:*

- <1W laser power

Unitary Fermi gas

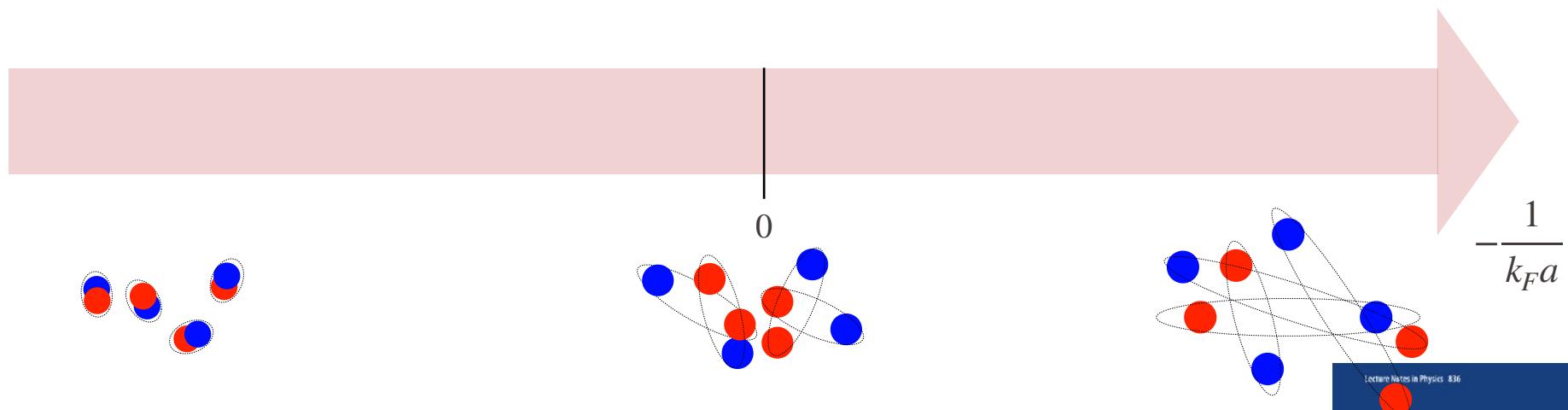
- 300'000  ${}^6\text{Li}$  atoms
- $T = 0.1 T_F$



K. Roux, V. Helson , H. Konishi and JPB, New J. Phys. **23** 043029 (2021)

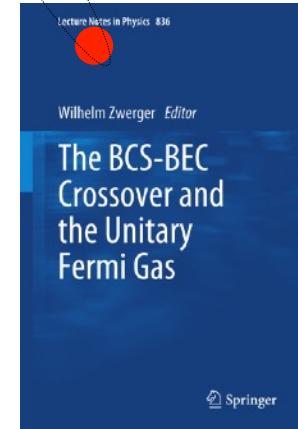
K. Roux, H. Konishi, V. Helson and JPB, Nature Communications **11** 2974 (2020)

# Fermi gas in the BEC-BCS crossover



- Cooper pairing and superfluidity
- Universal short-range physics

Fully controlled quantum material



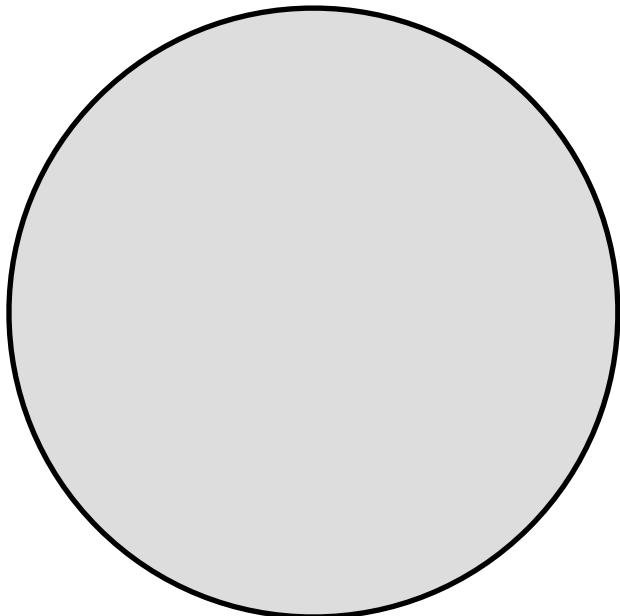
# Combined cavity-QED and unitary gas setup

## Density-wave ordering induced by photon-mediated interactions

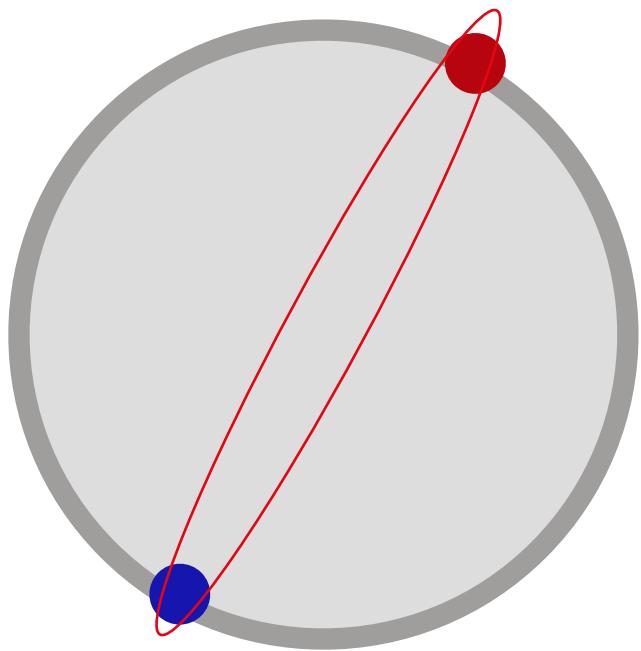
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## Universal dynamics at the transition

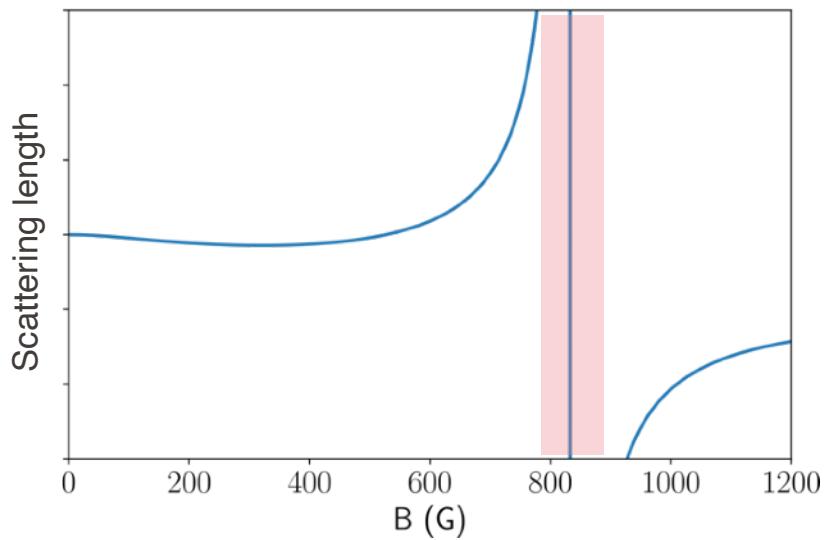
# Doubly tunable Fermi gas



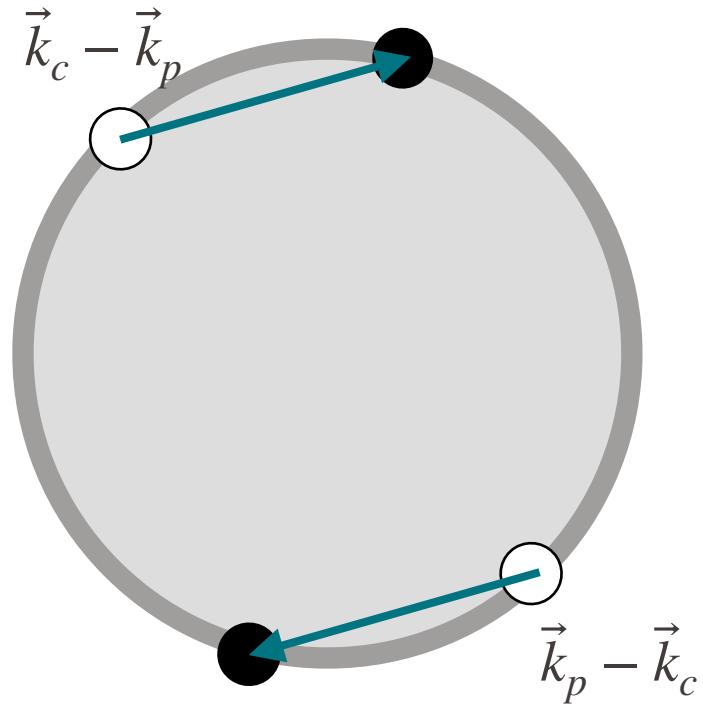
# Doubly tunable Fermi gas



s-wave  
contact interaction

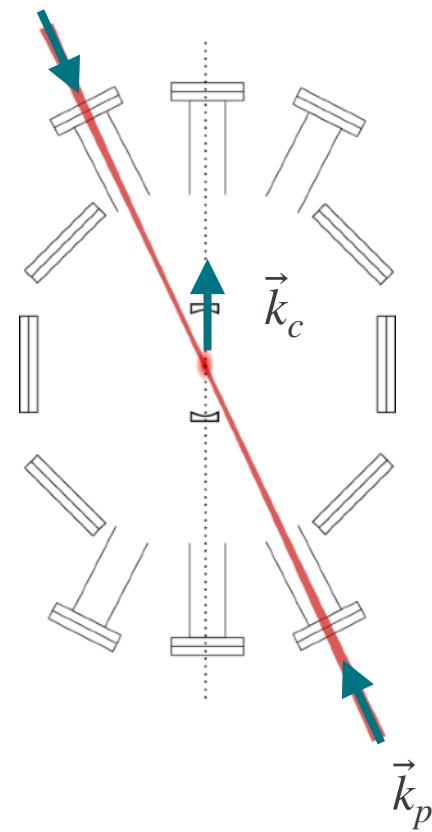


# Doubly tunable Fermi gas



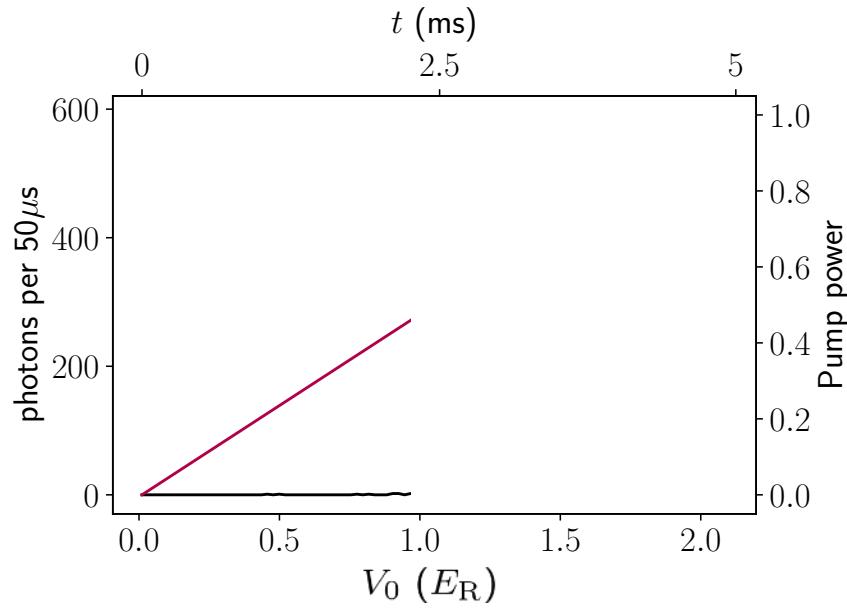
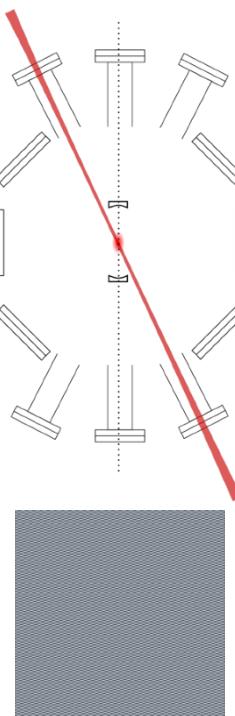
Contribution from  $\vec{k}_c + \vec{k}_p$  negligible

## Photon-induced interaction



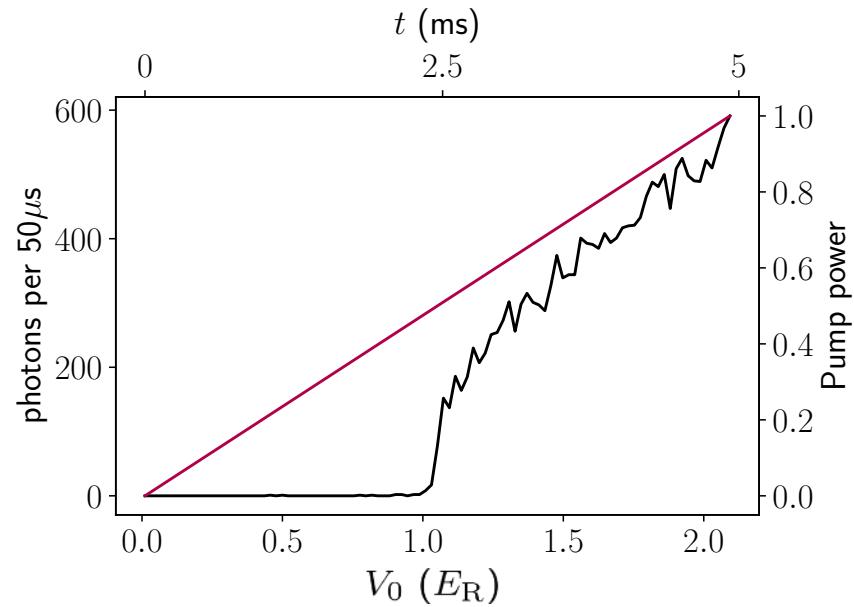
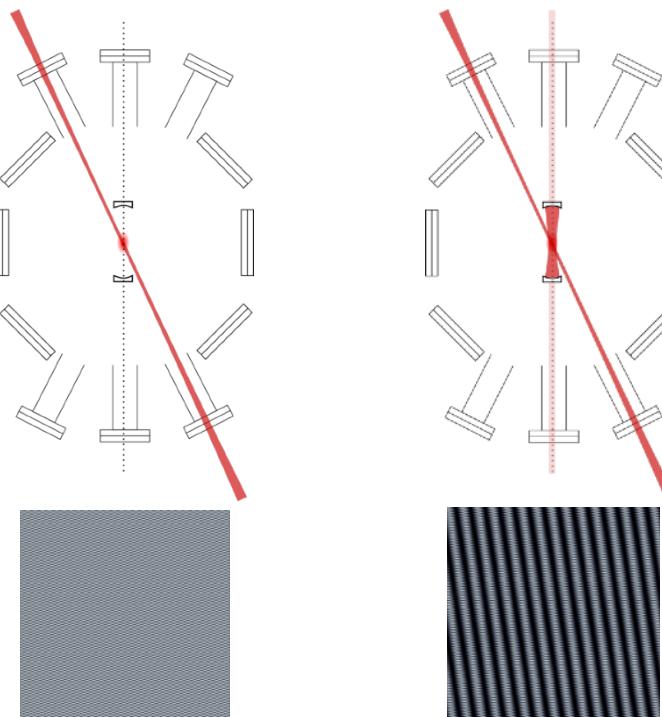
# Self-organization transition

Uniform unitary gas  $\longrightarrow$  uniaxial “charge” Density Wave Order



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Uniform unitary gas  $\longrightarrow$  uniaxial "charge" Density Wave Order

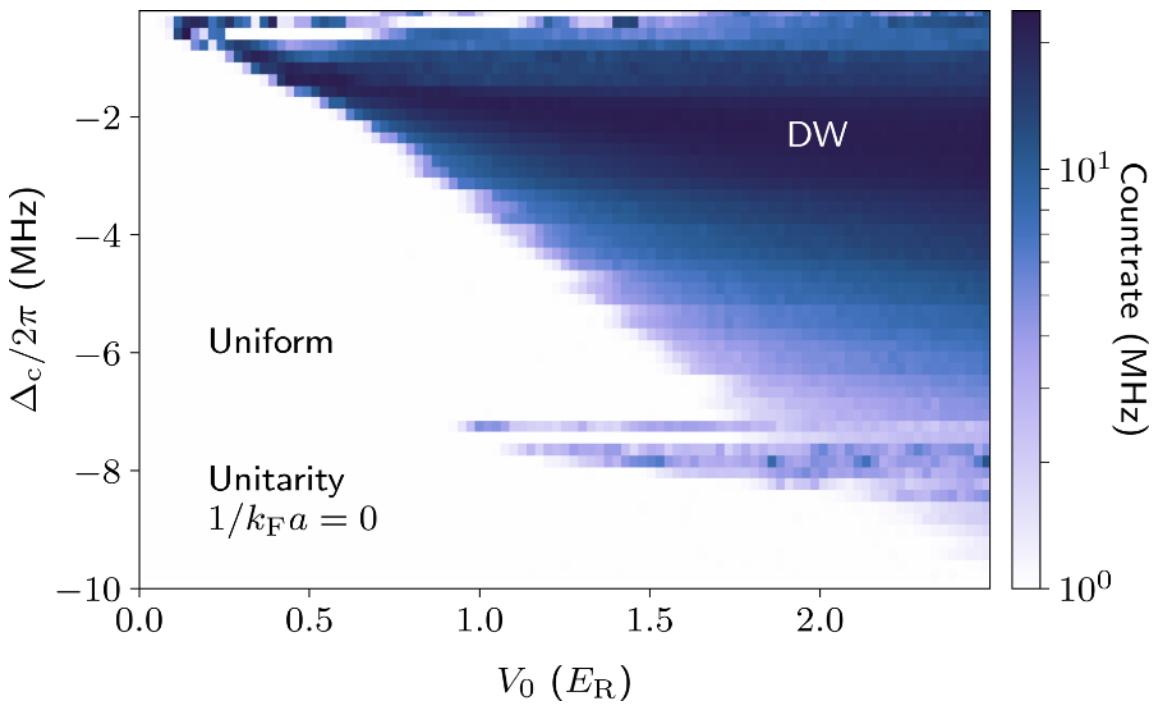


Thermal atoms : A.T. Black *et al*, PRL **91** 203001 (2003)

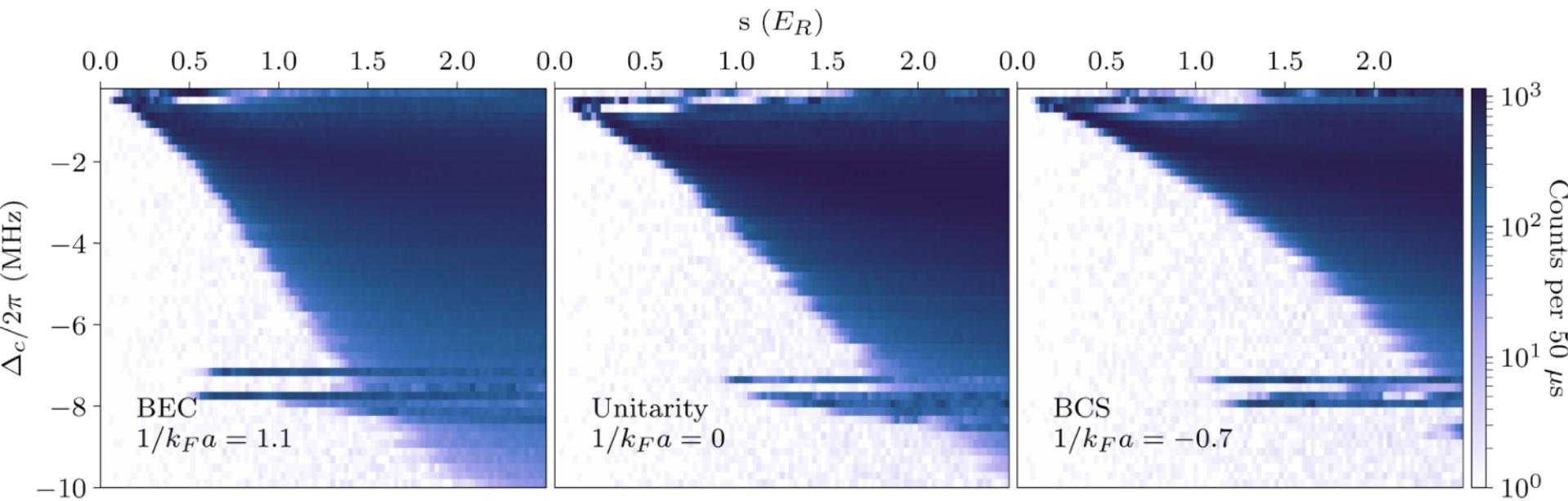
BEC : K. Baumann *et al*, Nature **464** 1301 (2010)

Non-interacting Fermi gases: X. Zhang *et al*, Science **373** 1359 (2021)

# Phase diagram



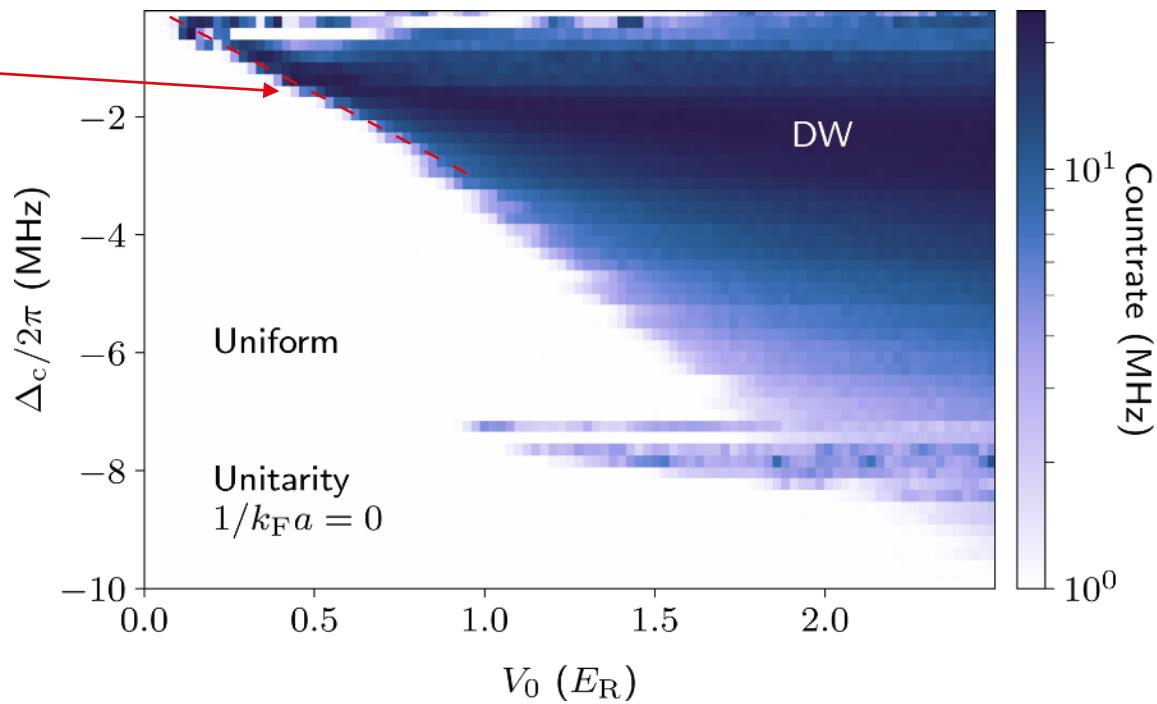
# Phase diagram



# Phase diagram

$V_{0C} = U_0 \Delta_c$

Critical photon-induced interaction  $D_{0C}$



# Short + long-range interactions



Theory: E. Collela, F. Miehvevar  
and H. Ritsch (Innsbrück)

RPA theory for the density-wave ordering transition

$$D_{0C} = -\frac{1}{2\chi_0}$$

DW susceptibility for  $D_0 = 0$

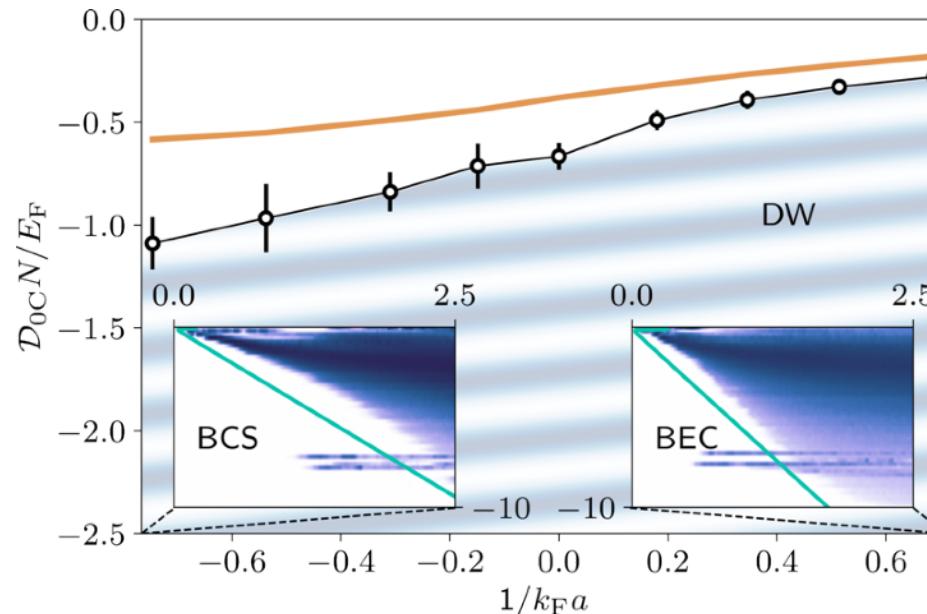
Density response function

$$\chi_0 = \frac{1}{8} \chi_{nn}^R(k_-) \sim \frac{1}{8} \chi_{nn}^R(0) \propto \kappa_T$$

Compressibility from equation of state + trap averaging

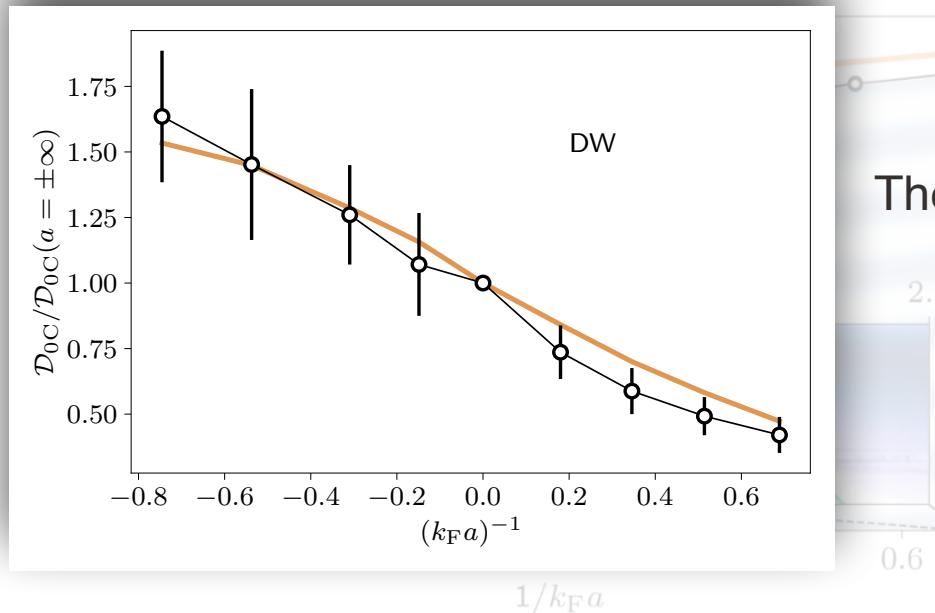
# Short + long-range interactions

Phase diagram in the  $D_0$  –  $a$  plane



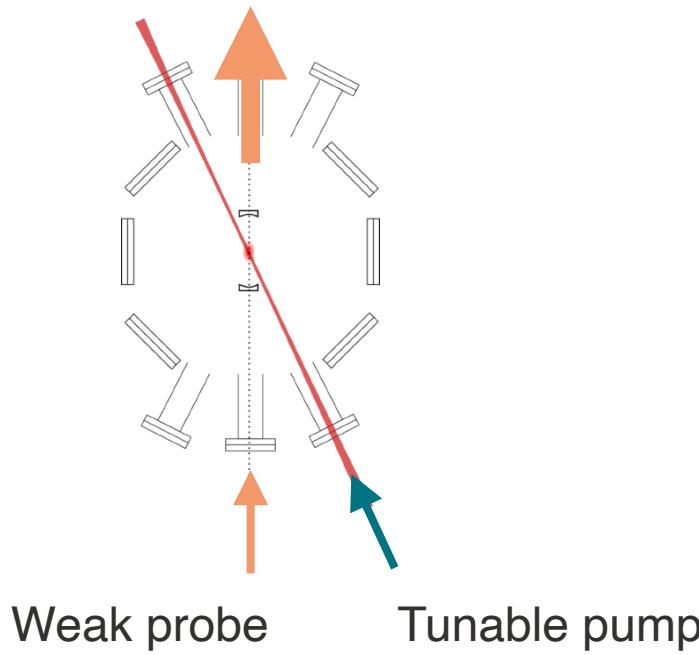
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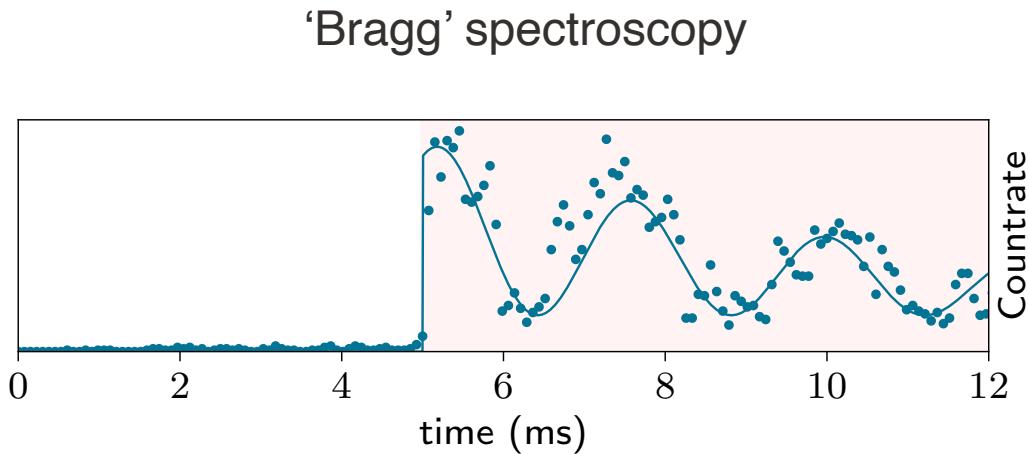
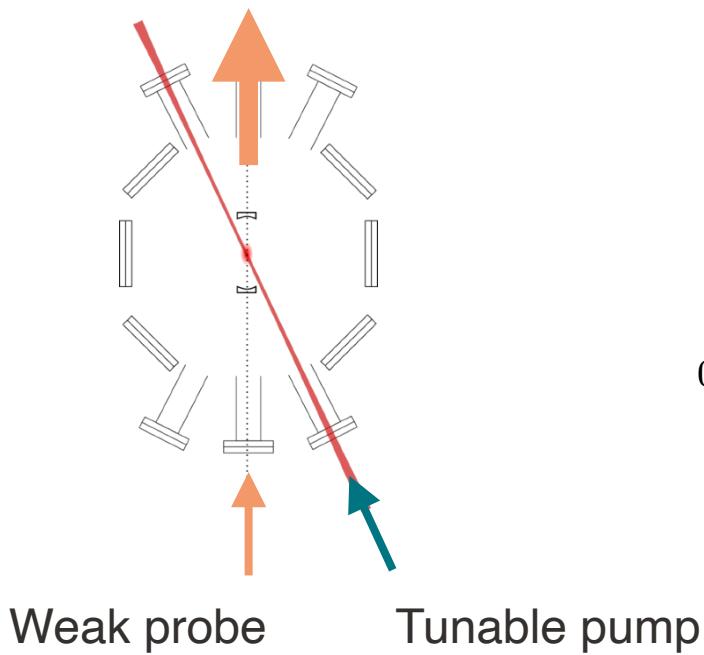


Theory predicts the scaling

# Density-wave susceptibility

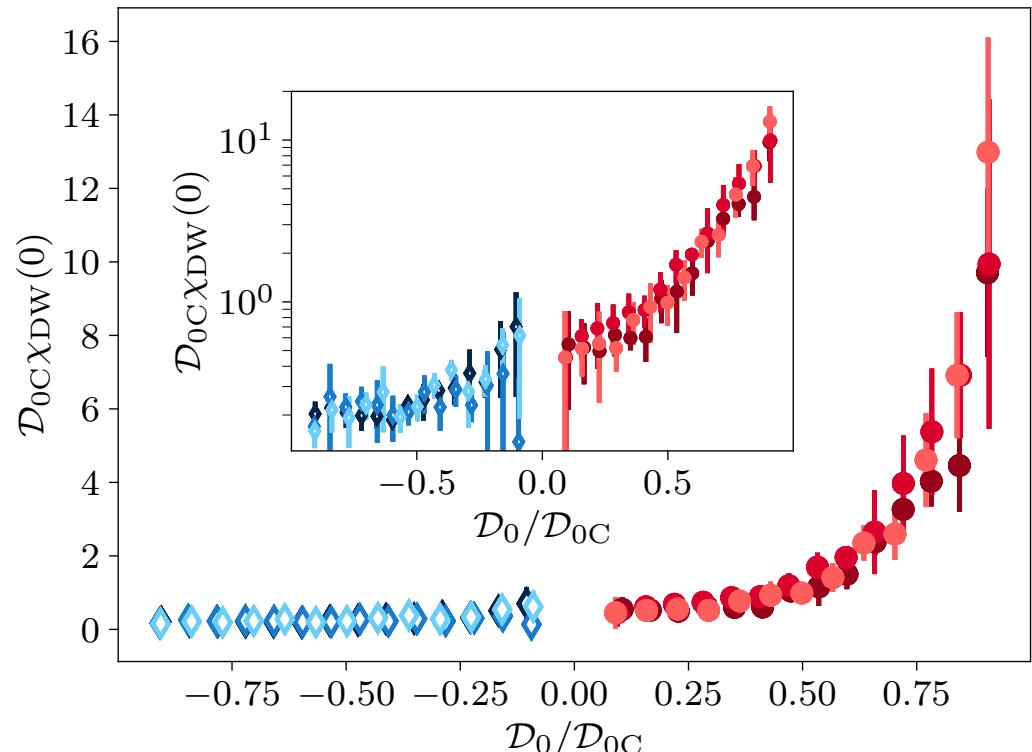
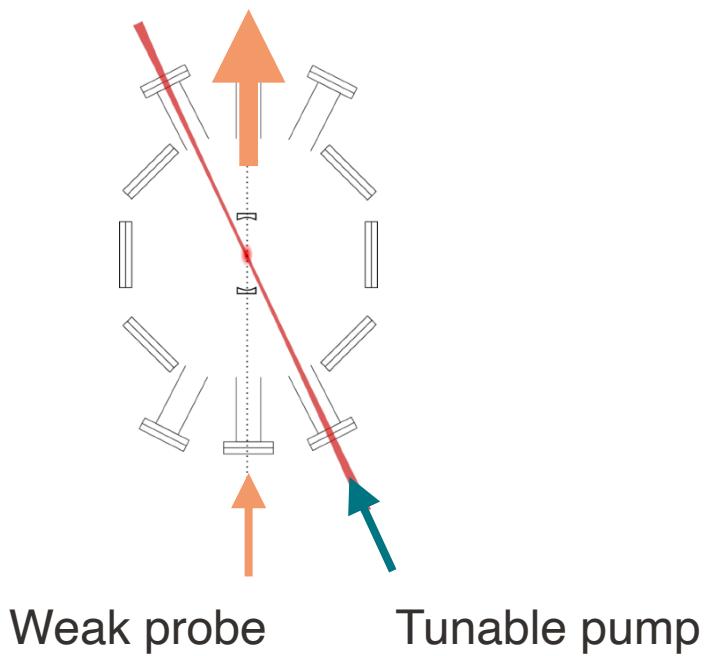


# Density-wave susceptibility



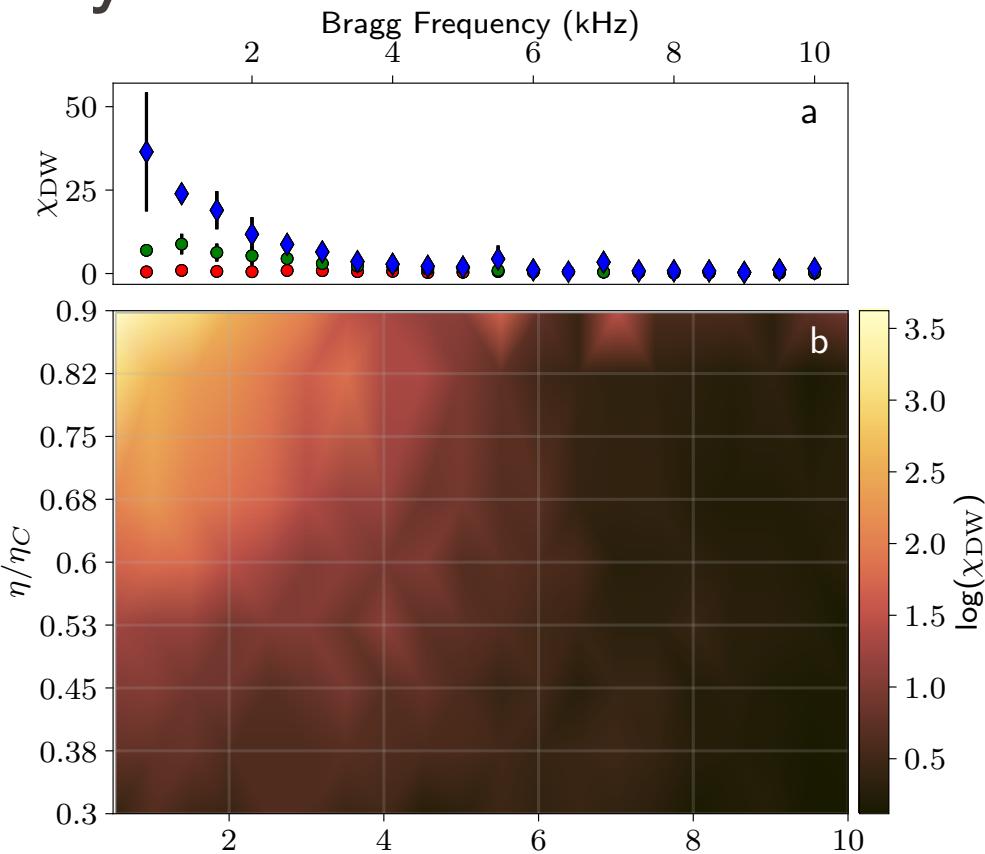
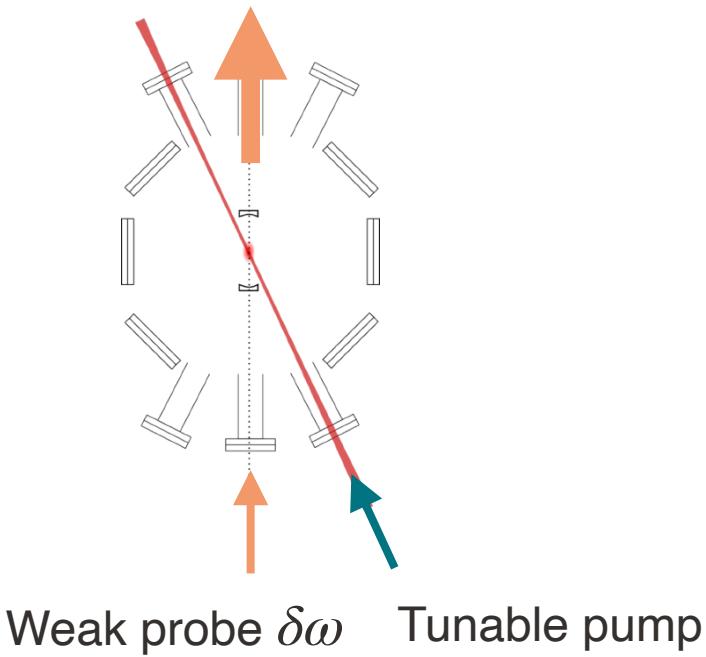
Weak pump-probe detuning:  
→  
adiabatic response at  $\vec{k}_-$

# Density-wave susceptibility



# Density-wave susceptibility

Response at finite frequency



# Combined cavity-QED and unitary gas setup

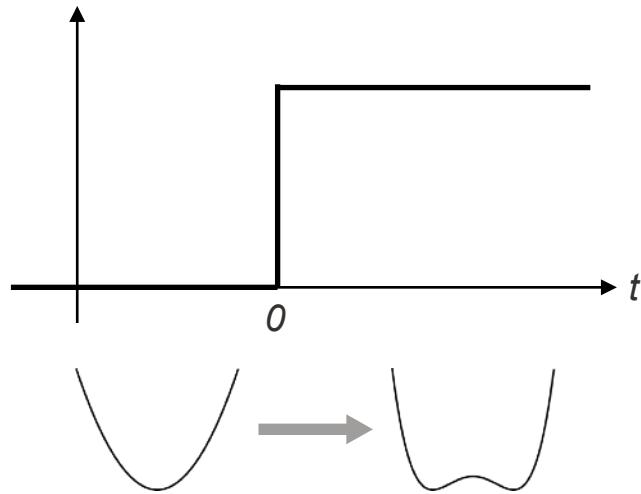
## Density-wave ordering induced by photon-mediated interactions

V. Helson, T. Zwettler, E. Collela, F. Mivhevar, K. Roux, H. Konishi, H. Ritsch and JPB  
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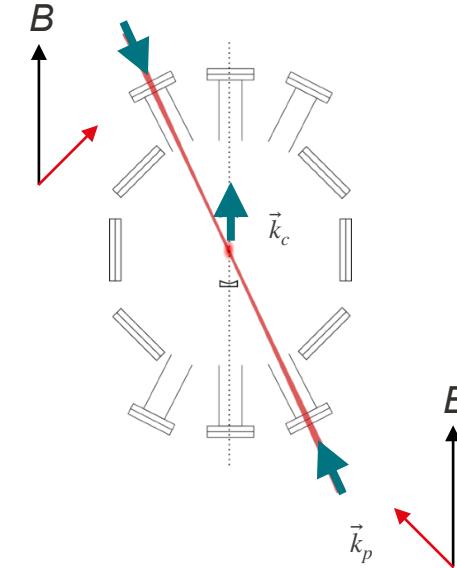
## Universal dynamics at the transition

# Universal dynamics

- Instantaneous quench across the transition

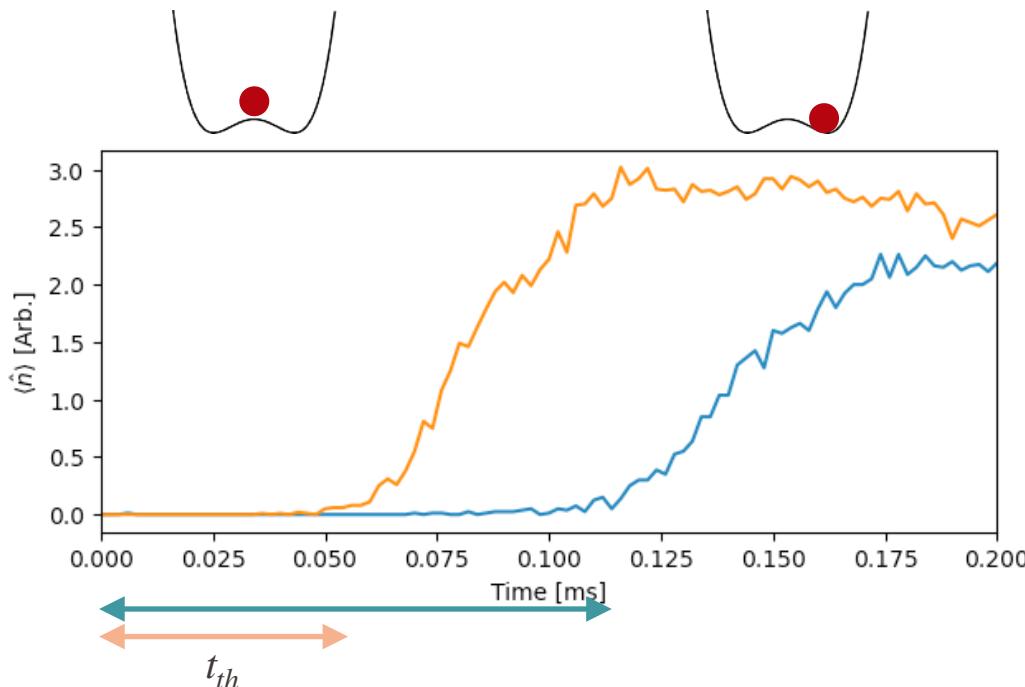


- Crossed-polarized pump for lattice cancelation



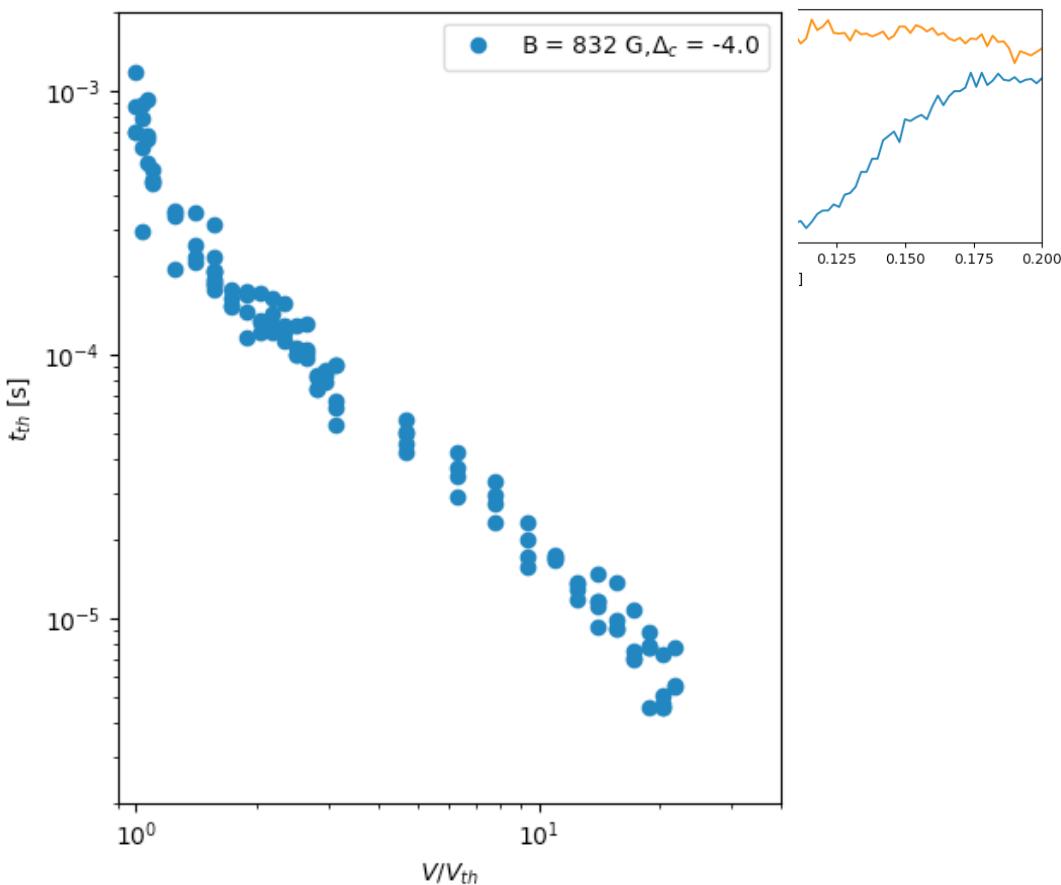
# Universal dynamics

Instantaneous quench of the pump laser to variable strength



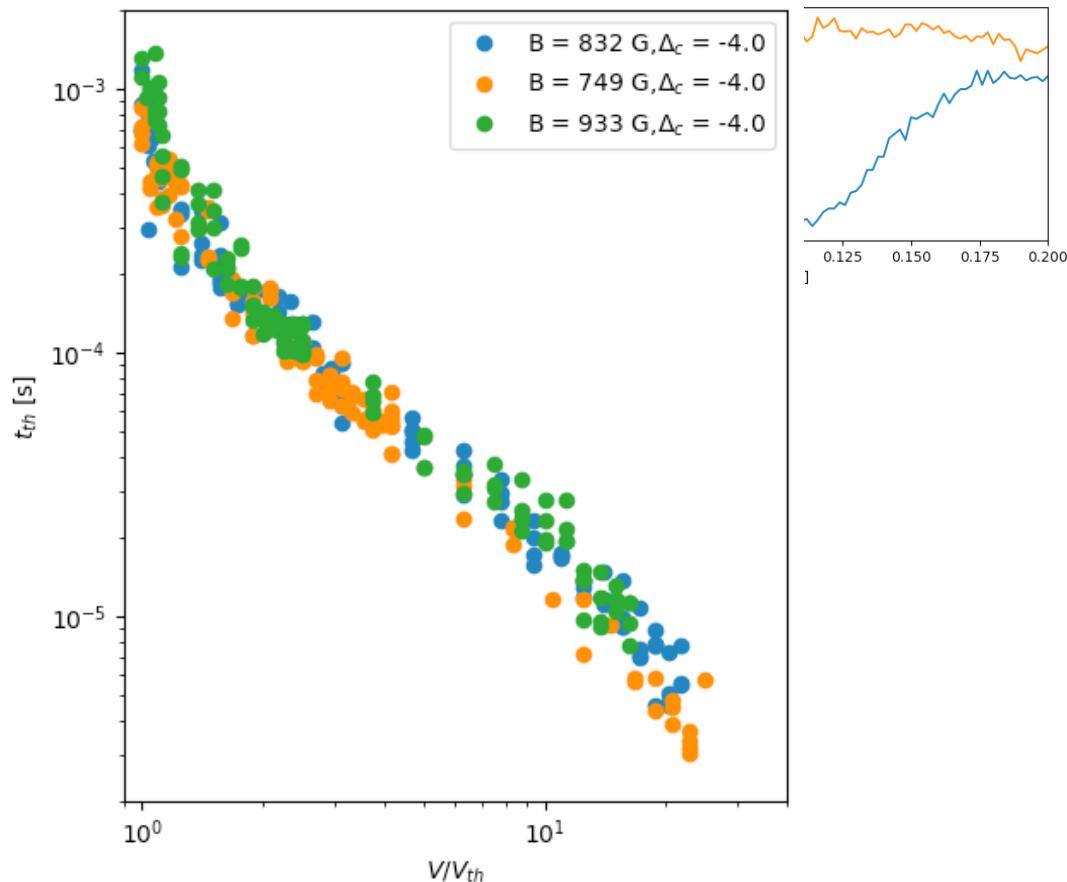
# Universal dynamics

- Onset time of the order parameter
- Unitary Fermi gas



# Universal dynamics

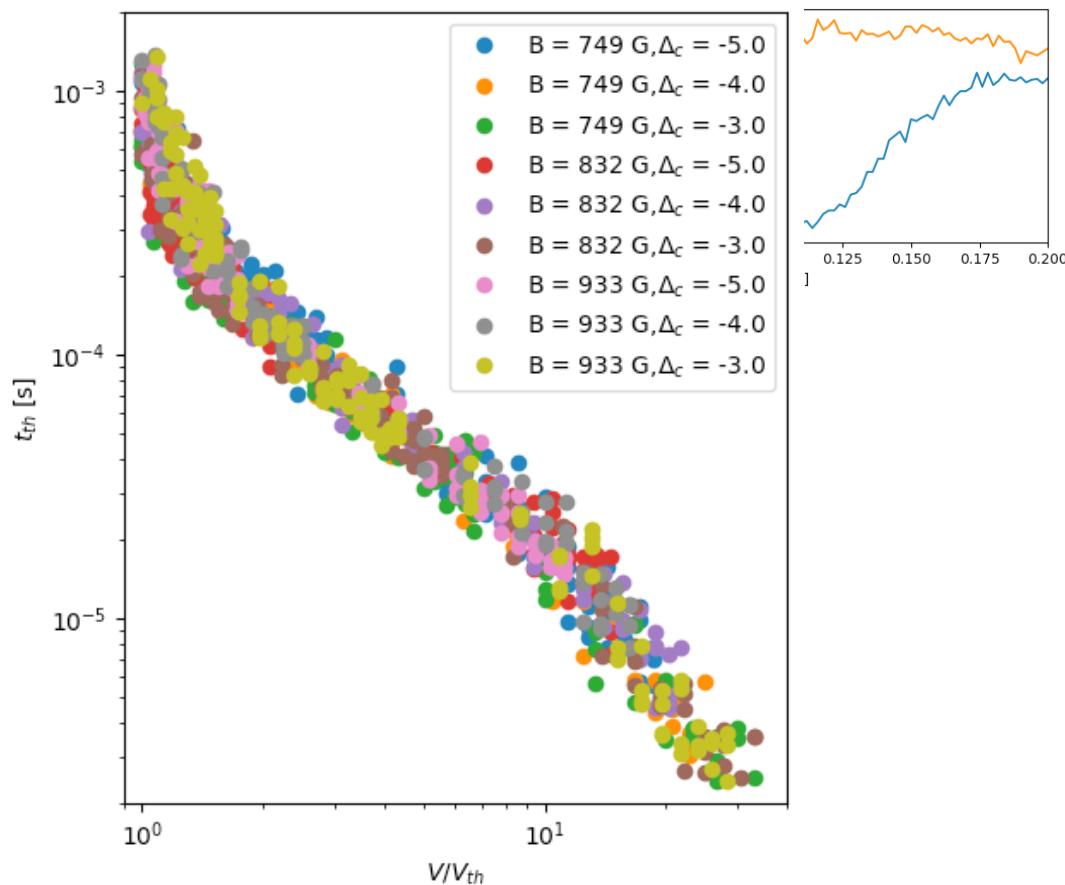
- Onset time of the order parameter
- Varying interactions



# Universal dynamics

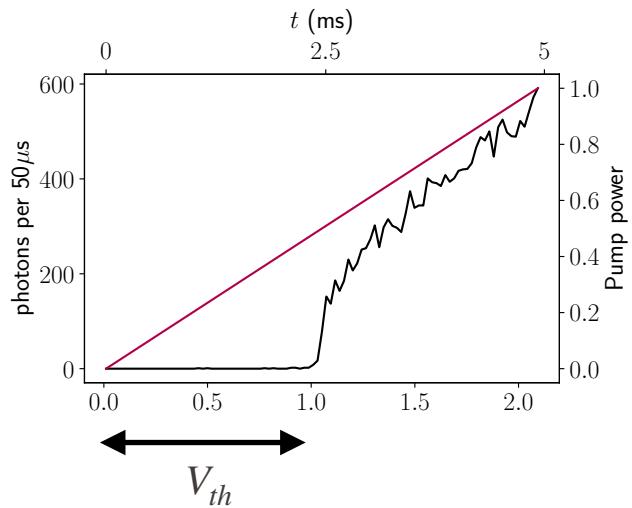
- Onset time of the order parameter
- Varying interactions
- Varying detunings

*Universal scaling over 3 orders of magnitude in time*



# Universal dynamics

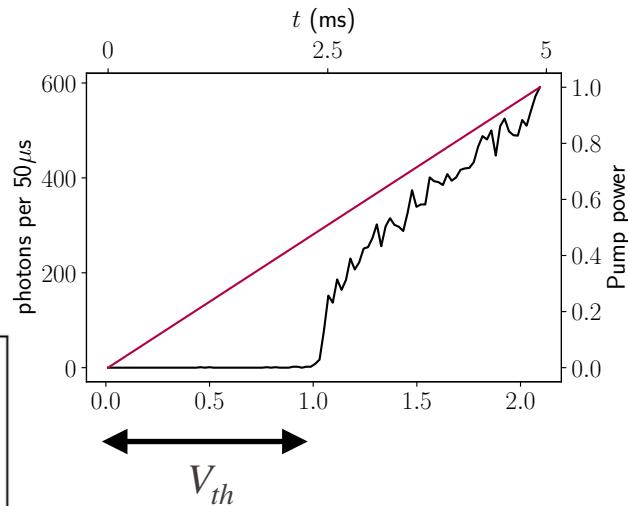
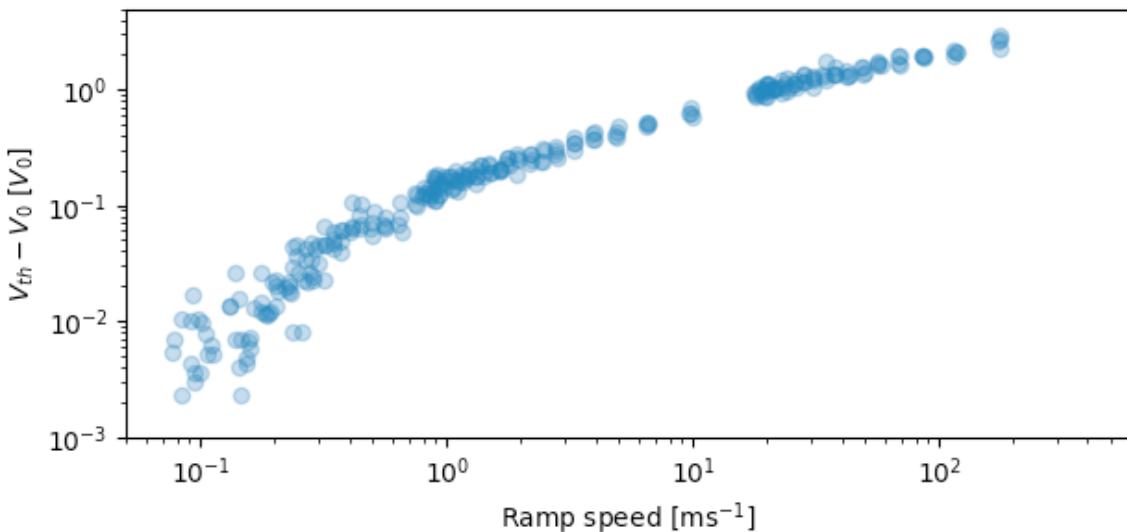
Ramp dynamics through the transition



# Universal dynamics

Ramp dynamics through the transition

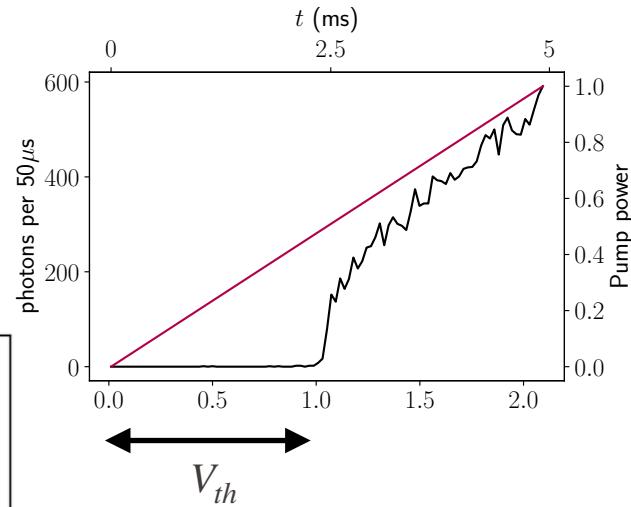
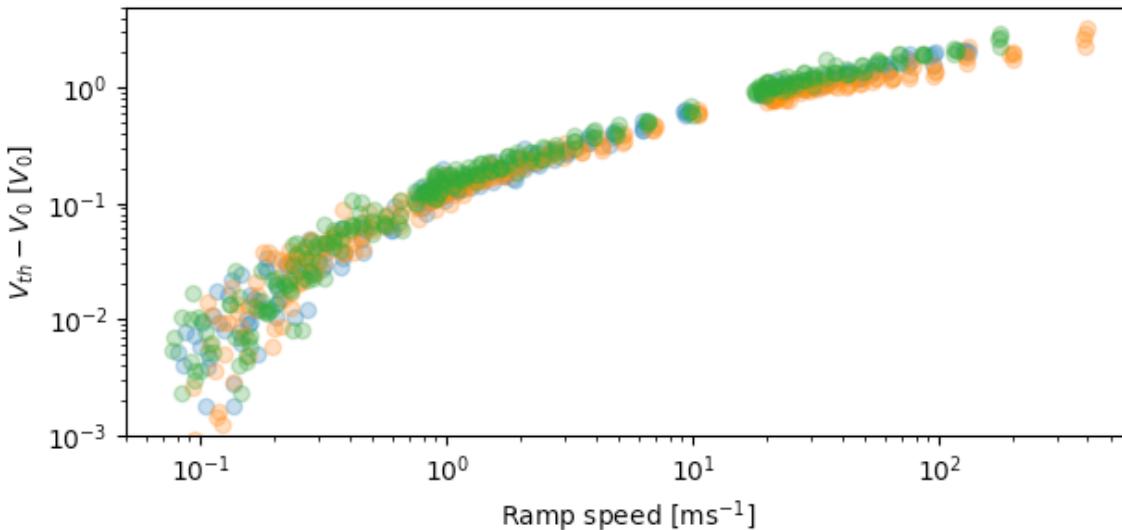
- Unitary gas



# Universal dynamics

Ramp dynamics through the transition

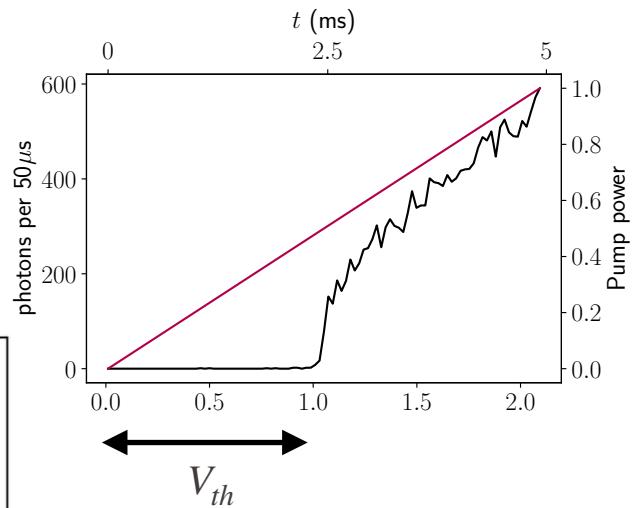
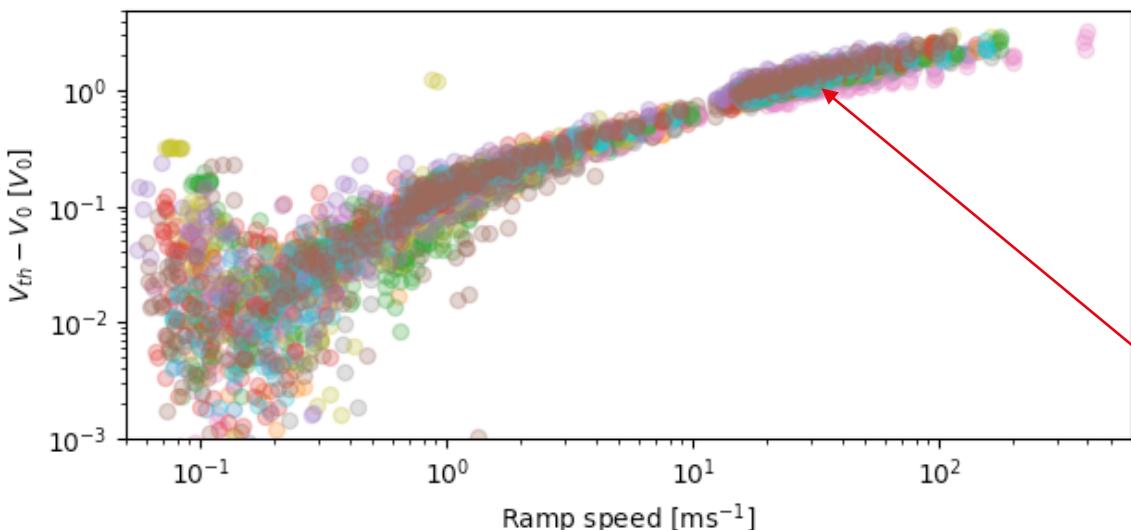
- Varying interactions



# Universal dynamics

Ramp dynamics through the transition

- Varying interactions and detunings



*Universal scaling in speed  
Power-law behavior*

# Perspectives

- Comparison with theory for the dynamics: time dependent mean-field and full numerical calculation on a small system
- Competition between charge order and superfluidity

High-T<sub>c</sub> superconductors: E. Fradkin, S.A. Kivelson and J.M. Tranquada, RMP **87** 457 (2015)

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- Comparison with theory for the dynamics: time dependent mean-field and full numerical calculation on a small system

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High-Tc superconductors: E. Fradkin, S.A. Kivelson and J.M. Tranquada, RMP **87** 457 (2015)

- Coupling to pairs close to a photo-association transition

H. Konishi, K. Roux, V. Helson and JPB, Nature **596** 509 (2021)

- In-situ imaging and local manipulation



- Doubly tunable Fermi gas: simultaneous and independent control over short and photon-induced interactions

V. Helson, T. Zwettler, F. Mivhevar, E. Collela, K. Roux, H. Konishi, H. Ritsch and JPB  
Nature **618**, 716 (2023)

- Universal quantum dynamics