

# BOSE-EINSTEIN CONDENSATION OF QUANTUM MIXTURES

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Gabriele Spada

*University of Camerino*

Universal themes in Bose-Einstein Condensation  
ECT\* Trento, 2024-11-07

Based on:

› SG, Pilati & Giorgini. Attractive Solution of Binary Bose Mixtures: Liquid-Vapor Coexistence and Critical Point. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **131**, 173404 (2023)



› SG, Pilati & Giorgini. Quantum Droplets in Two-Dimensional Bose Mixtures at Finite Temperature. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **133**, 083401 (2024)



Sebastiano Pilati  
University of Camerino

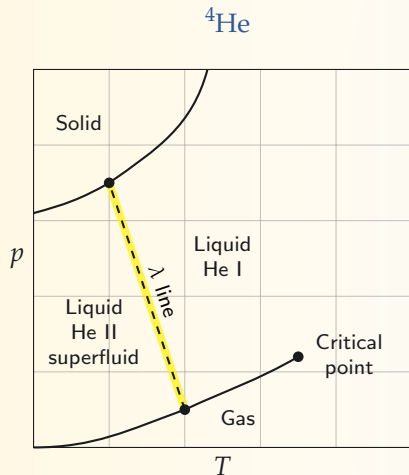


Stefano Giorgini  
University of Trento

# Introduction 1

States of matter for 3D quantum systems

# States of matter for 3D quantum systems



► Liquid at  $T = 0$

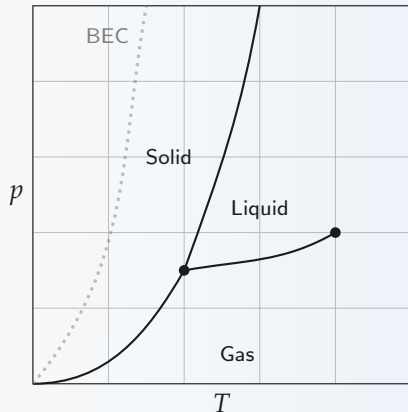
► BEC phase is in true equilibrium \*

\* Another such case is obtained for  $H$  atoms in a strong magnetic field (parallel electronic spins)

# States of matter for 3D quantum systems

- No thermodynamically stable BEC phase
  - Three-body recombination events  
Molecules  $\Rightarrow$  **Solid**

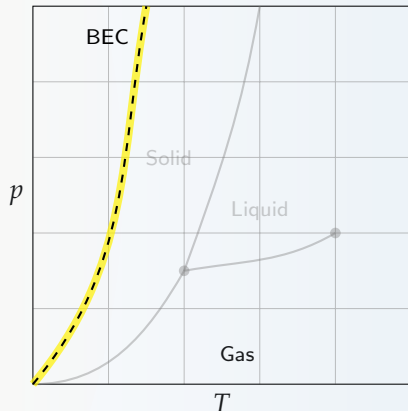
Other atomic systems



# States of matter for 3D quantum systems

- No thermodynamically stable BEC phase
  - Three-body recombination events  
Molecules  $\Rightarrow$  **Solid**
- BEC phase in **metastable** conditions
  - Low density (rare three-body collisions)
  - Gas distant from walls

Other atomic systems

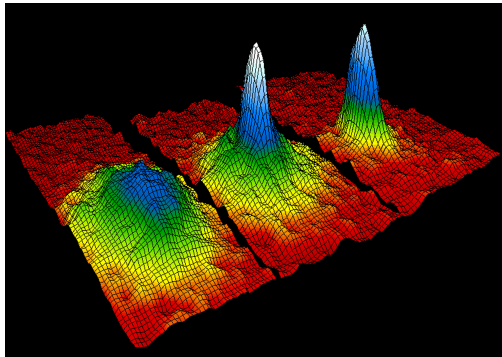


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**Very dilute, cold gas in magnetic trap**

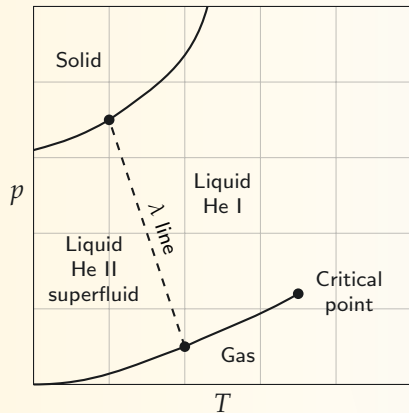
## Other atomic systems



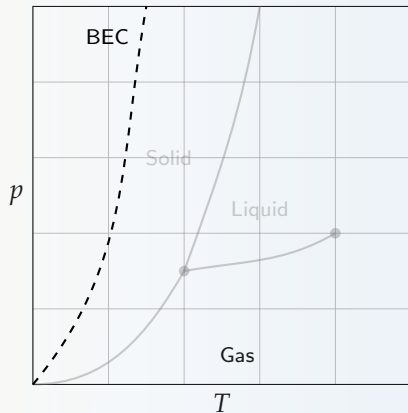
Velocity distribution of  $^{87}\text{Rb}$  atoms (Anderson et. al., 1995)

# States of matter for 3D quantum systems

$^4\text{He}$



Other atomic systems





## Introduction 2

Mean-field analysis of Liquid-Gas transitions

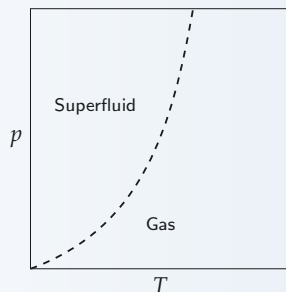
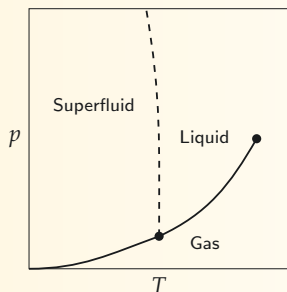
# Mean-field analysis of quantum Liquid-Gas transitions

Landau's theory for helium-like system

$$\Omega(\phi, |\psi|) = \frac{t}{2}\phi^2 + \frac{u}{4}\phi^4 - h\phi + (t + \tilde{m})|\psi|^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2}|\psi|^4 - \phi|\psi|^2$$

liquid-gas order parameter (real),  $Z_2$

condensate order parameter (complex),  $U(1)$



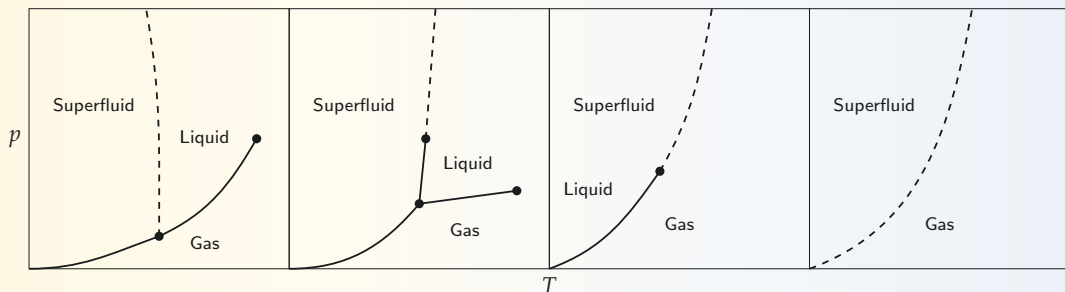
# Mean-field analysis of quantum Liquid-Gas transitions

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liquid-gas order parameter (real),  $Z_2$

condensate order parameter (complex),  $U(1)$



confirmed by numerical simulations [Kora, Boninsegni, Son & Zhang, PNAS \(2020\)](#)

# Mean-field analysis of quantum Liquid-Gas transitions

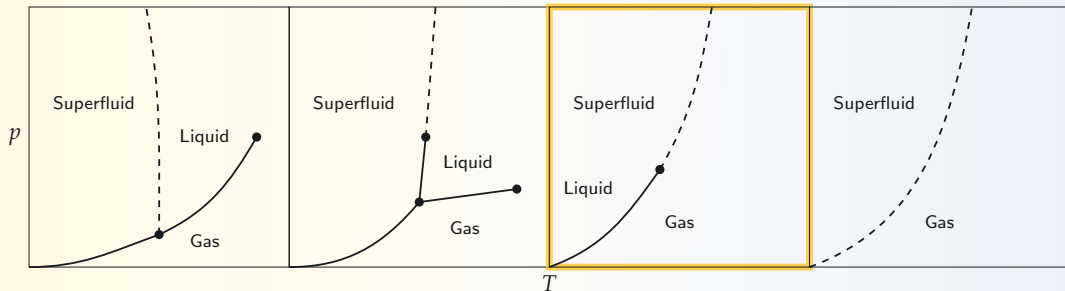
Landau's theory for helium-like system

$$\phi_0 = \sqrt{-t/u}$$

effective potential for condensate

$$V_{\text{eff}}(\psi) = (\tilde{m} + t - \phi_0)|\psi|^2 + \left(\frac{\lambda}{2} - \frac{1}{4(-t)}\right)|\psi|^4 + \frac{u\phi_0}{8(-t)^3}|\psi|^6 + O(|\psi|^8)$$

$$\text{Tricritical point } t = -\frac{1}{2\lambda}, \tilde{m}_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\lambda u}} + \frac{1}{2\lambda}$$



# Introduction 3

Binary Bose mixtures

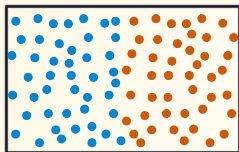
# Binary Bose mixtures



$$H = \int d\mathbf{r} \left[ \sum_{i=1,2} \left( -\frac{\hbar}{2m_i} \psi_i^\dagger \nabla_i^2 \psi_i + \frac{g_{ii}}{2} |\psi_i|^4 \right) + g_{12} |\psi_1|^2 |\psi_2|^2 \right]$$

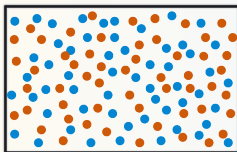
## MF prediction

$$g_{12} > \sqrt{g_{11}g_{22}}$$



immiscible

$$|g_{12}| < \sqrt{g_{11}g_{22}}$$



miscible

$$g_{12} < -\sqrt{g_{11}g_{22}}$$



collapse

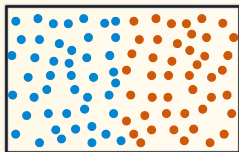
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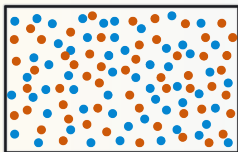
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immiscible

$$|g_{12}| < \sqrt{g_{11}g_{22}}$$



miscible

$$g_{12} < -\sqrt{g_{11}g_{22}}$$



collapse

# Stabilization of attractive mixtures: $T = 0$

Symmetric

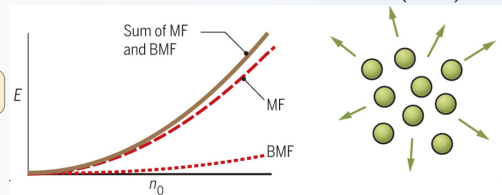
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{couplings} \\ g_{11} = g_{22} = g \\ \text{masses} \\ m_1 = m_2 = m \\ \text{densities} \\ n_1 = n_2 = n/2 \end{array} \right.$$

Attractive  $g_{12} < 0$

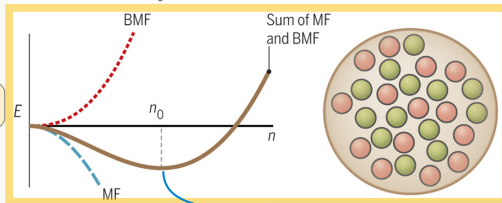
$$\frac{E}{N} = \frac{1}{4}n(g + g_{12}) + \frac{8}{15\pi^2} \frac{m^{3/2}g^{3/2}}{\hbar^3} n^{3/2}$$

$$|g_{12}| < g$$

Credits: Ferrier-Barbut & Pfau, *Science* (2018)



$$|g_{12}| > g$$

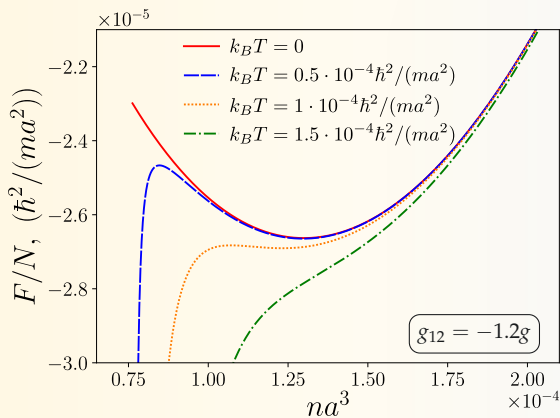


Stable finite-density state  $\Rightarrow$  **Liquid**



# Liquid droplets at low T

► BMF theories: imaginary dispersion of density waves → *thermodynamics?*



Low  $T$  description

$$\frac{F}{N} = \frac{E}{N} - \frac{\pi^2}{90} \frac{(k_B T)^4}{n \hbar^3} \left( \frac{1}{c_d^3} + \frac{1}{c_s^3} \right)$$

$$c_d^2 \simeq \frac{n}{2m} \left[ \delta g + g \sqrt{na^3} \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left( 1 - \frac{g_{12}}{g} \right)^{5/2} \right]$$

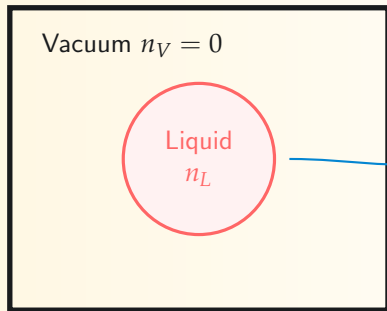
$$c_s^2 \simeq \frac{n}{2m} (g - g_{12}) \left[ 1 - \frac{\delta g}{g_{12}} \sqrt{na^3} \frac{8\sqrt{2}}{3\sqrt{\pi}} \left( 1 - \frac{g_{12}}{g} \right)^{3/2} \right]$$

$$\delta g = g + g_{12}$$

Droplet destabilized by temperature

Ota & Astrakharchik, *SciPost Phys.* (2020)  
Wang, Hu & Liu, *New Journal of Physics* (2020)

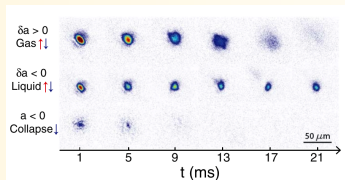
## Summary: droplets at low temperature



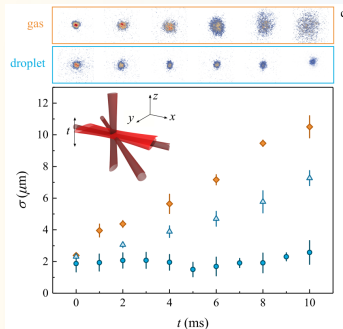
Droplet in equilibrium at  $p = 0$

- stable at  $T = 0$
- metastable at  $0 < T < T^*$

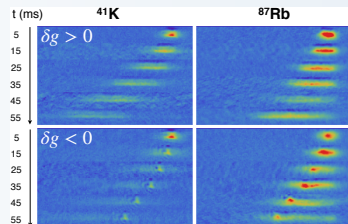
# Experiments



ICFO  
homonuclear  $^{39}\text{K}$



LENS  
homonuclear  $^{39}\text{K}$



LENS  
heteronuclear  $^{41}\text{K} + ^{87}\text{Rb}$

- Cabrera, Tanzi, Sanz, *et al.*, *Science* (2018)  
 Semeghini, Ferioli, Masi, *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2018)  
 D'Errico, Burchianti, Prevedelli, *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Res.* (2019)

## 3D Bose mixtures at finite temperature

# Bose mixtures at $T > 0$

Path Integral Monte Carlo (PIMC) simulations from microscopic Hamiltonian

$$H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \sum_{i=1}^{N_1} \nabla_i^2 - \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \sum_{i'=1}^{N_2} \nabla_{i'}^2 + \sum_{i < j}^{N_1} v(|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|) + \sum_{i' < j'}^{N_2} v(|\mathbf{r}_{i'} - \mathbf{r}_{j'}|) + \sum_{i, i'}^{N_1, N_2} v_{12}(|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_{i'}|)$$

Hard sphere with range  $a$

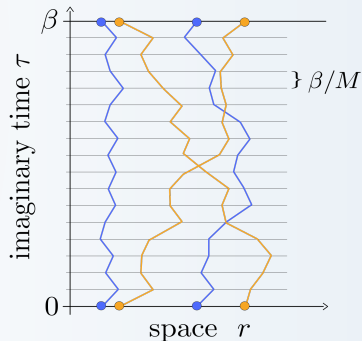
Zero-range with scattering length  $a_{12} < 0$

Partition function: high- $T$  expansion

$$\begin{aligned} Z &= \text{tr} e^{-\beta H} = \frac{1}{N!} \sum_{\mathbf{P}} \int d\mathbf{R} \rho(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{P}\mathbf{R}, \beta) \\ &= \frac{1}{N!} \sum_{\mathbf{P}} \int d\mathbf{R} d\mathbf{R}_2 \cdots d\mathbf{R}_M \rho(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{R}_2, \frac{\beta}{M}) \cdots \rho(\mathbf{R}_M, \mathbf{P}\mathbf{R}, \frac{\beta}{M}) \end{aligned}$$

Expectation values

$$\langle O \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \frac{1}{N!} \sum_{\mathbf{P}} \int d\mathbf{R} O(\mathbf{R}) \rho(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{P}\mathbf{R}, \beta)$$

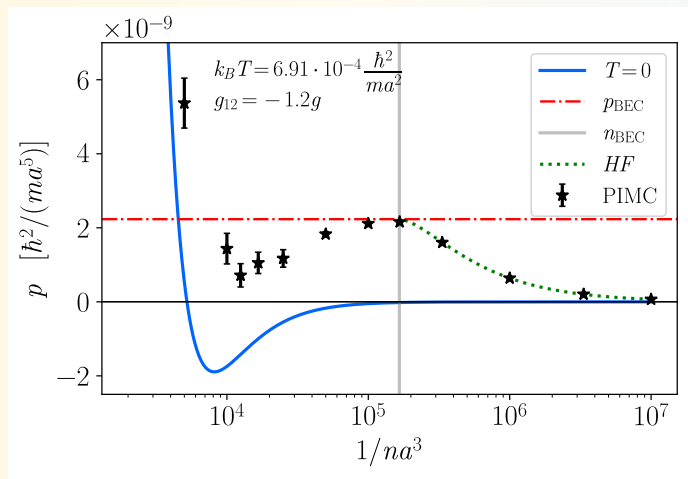


Ceperley, *Rev. Mod. Phys.* (1995), Boninsegni, Prokof'ev & Svistunov, *Phys. Rev. E* (2006)  
SG, Giorgini & Pilati, *Condensed Matter* (2022)

# Pressure along isothermal lines ( $T = \text{const}$ )

$$\text{pressure } p = - \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial V} \right)_T = k_B T \left( \frac{\partial \log Z}{\partial V} \right)_T$$

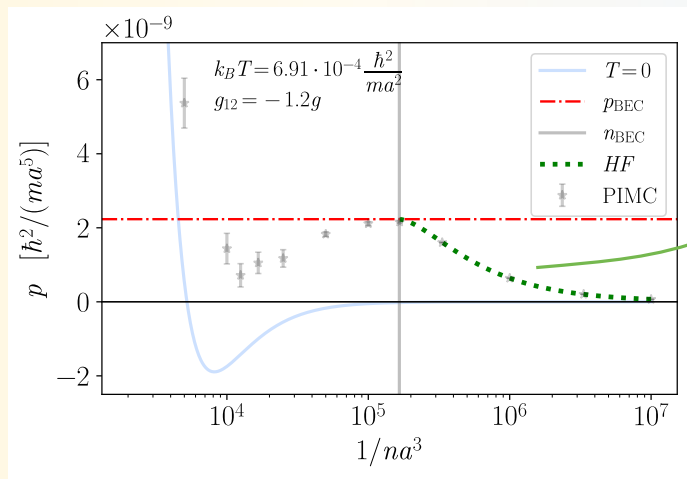
$$\text{compressibility } \kappa_T = - \left[ V \left( \frac{\partial p}{\partial V} \right)_T \right]^{-1}$$



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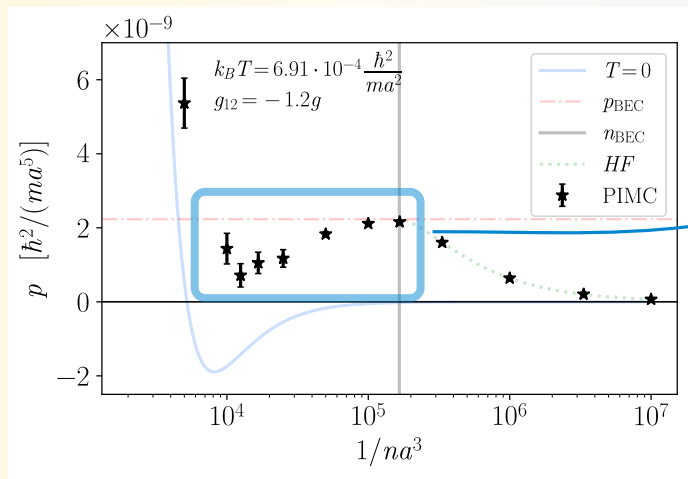
Normal phase ( $n < n_{\text{BEC}}$ )

$$p_{\text{HF}} = \frac{m^{3/2} (k_B T)^{5/2}}{\sqrt{2} \pi^{3/2} \hbar^3} g_{5/2}(e^{\beta \bar{\mu}}) + \frac{1}{4} n^2 (2g + g_{12})$$

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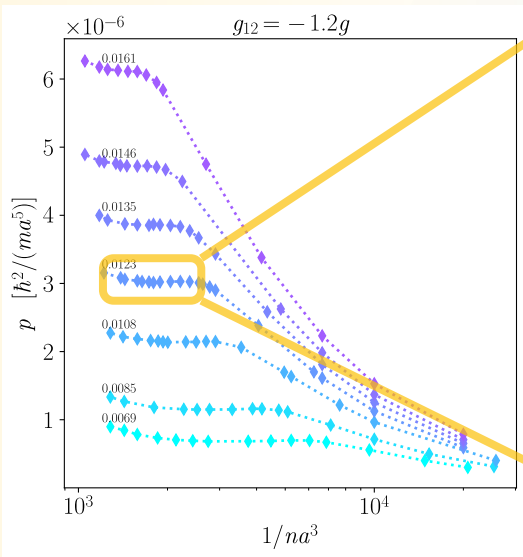
$$\text{compressibility } \kappa_T = - \left[ V \left( \frac{\partial p}{\partial V} \right)_T \right]^{-1}$$



- ▶ PIMC  $p > 0$   
⇒ no minimum in  $F/N$
- ▶ Finite  $N$   
⇒ S-like shape  
in the coexistence region

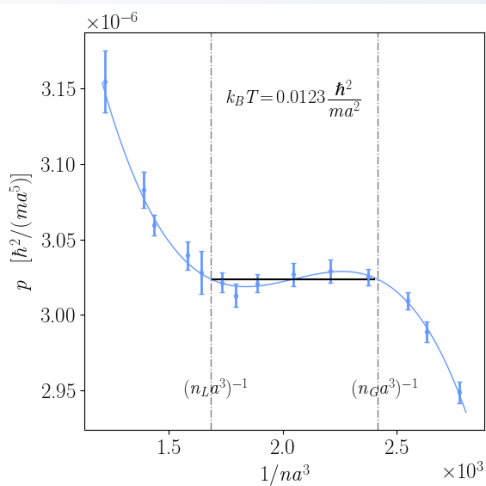


# Liquid-gas coexistence region



Equilibrium

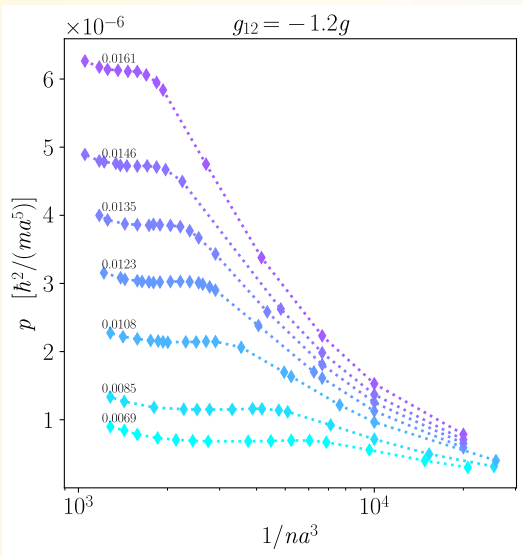
$$p(n_L) = p(n_G), \quad \mu(n_L) = \mu(n_G)$$



Maxwell construction

$$\int_{n_G^{-1}}^{n_L^{-1}} p \, d(1/n) = 0$$

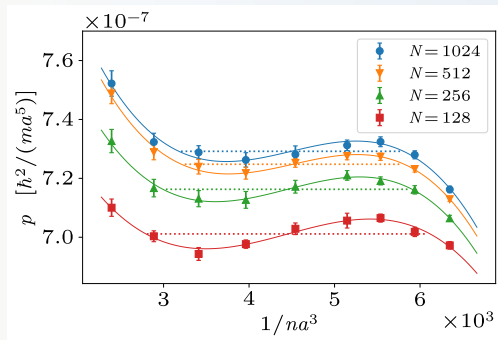
# Liquid-gas coexistence region



Equilibrium

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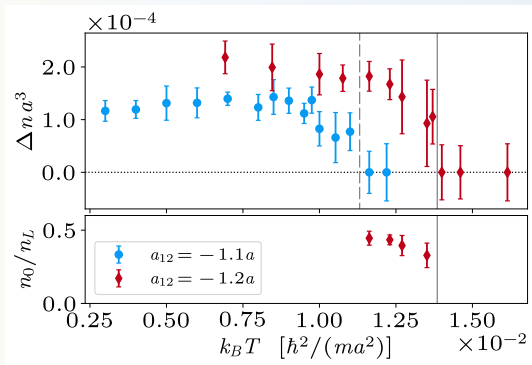
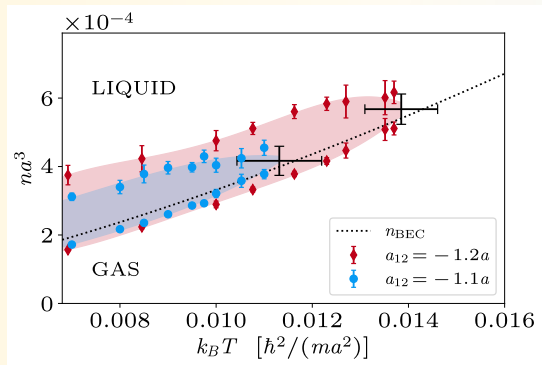
Scaling with  $N$



Maxwell construction

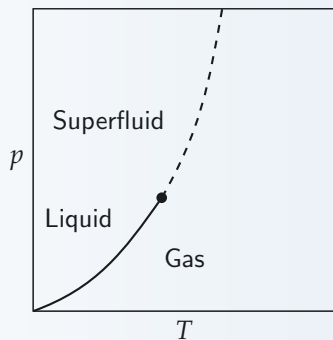
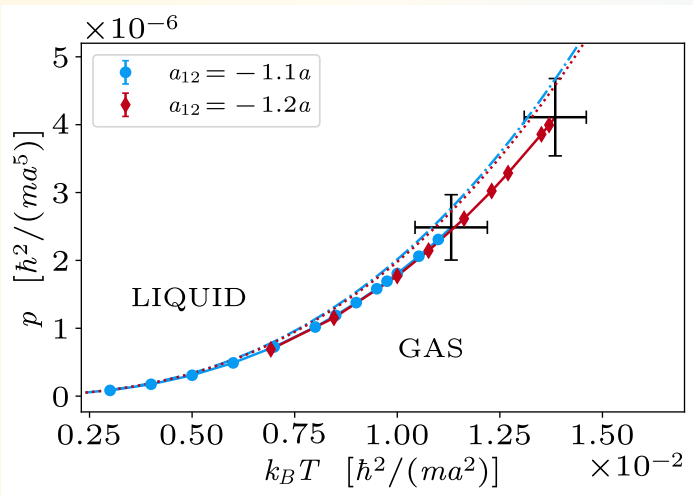
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# Phase diagram and critical point



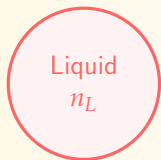
- Jump in the condensate fraction (first-order transition)
- Tricritical point estimated from  $\Delta n = n_L - n_G \rightarrow 0$

## Phase diagram and critical point



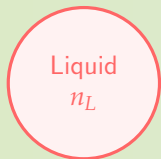
# Liquid-gas coexistence

Vacuum  $n_V = 0$



Droplet in equilibrium at  $p = 0$   
➤ stable at  $T = 0$   
➤ metastable at  $0 < T < T^*$

Gas  $n_G > 0$



Liquid and gas in equilibrium at  $p > 0$   
 $T^* < T < T_C$

# Experimental signatures

Trapping potential (e.g. harmonic  $V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) = m\omega^2\mathbf{r}^2/2$ )

Local Density Approximation

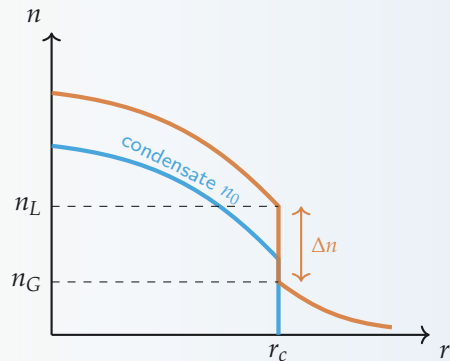
$$\mu_{\text{local}}(\mathbf{r}) + V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) = \mu$$

Jump  $\Delta n = n_L - n_G$  at the critical chemical potential

$$\mu_c = \mu_L(n_L) = \mu_G(n_G)$$

Observed at the position  $\mathbf{r}_c$

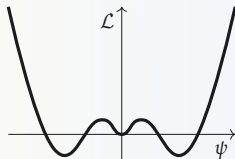
$$\mu_c + V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_c) = \mu$$



# Landau's functional

Qualitative description near the tricritical point

$$\mathcal{L}(|\psi|) = \alpha|\psi|^2 + \beta|\psi|^4 + \gamma|\psi|^6$$



## Three-body interaction terms

›  $Gn_i^3$  for  $i = 1, 2$

›  $\tilde{G}(n_1n_2^2 + n_1^2n_2)$

› Irrelevant at  $T = 0$

› Small shift of  $n_L$

› Dominant at large  $n$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{H} &= \sum_{i=1,2} \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_i} \psi_i^\dagger \nabla^2 \psi_i - \mu_i \psi_i^\dagger \psi_i \right) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} g_{ij} \psi_i^\dagger \psi_j^\dagger \psi_j \psi_i \\ &+ \frac{1}{6} \sum_{i=1,2} G_{ii} \psi_i^\dagger \psi_i^\dagger \psi_i^\dagger \psi_i \psi_i \psi_i + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} G_{ij} \psi_i^\dagger \psi_i^\dagger \psi_j^\dagger \psi_j \psi_i \psi_i \end{aligned}$$

## 2D Bose mixtures at finite temperature



# Berezinskii-Kosterlitz-Thouless transition

## Mermin-Wagner Theorem

No spontaneous breaking of continuous symmetries in 2D at finite temperature

- thermal fluctuations destroy BEC
- one-body density matrix vanishes according to a power law  $n^{(1)}(r) \propto r^{-\nu}$

## Berezinskii-Kosterlitz-Thouless (BKT) transition

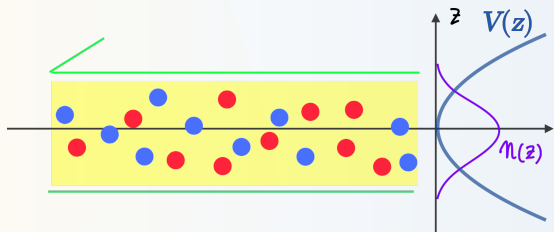
From bound vortex-antivortex pairs at low temperatures to unpaired vortices and anti-vortices above the critical temperature

$$T_{\text{BKT}} = \frac{\pi}{2k_B} \rho_s \frac{\hbar^2}{m^2}$$
$$n_{\text{BKT}} = \frac{mk_B T}{2\pi\hbar^2} \log \frac{\zeta}{g_0}, \quad \zeta \approx 380$$

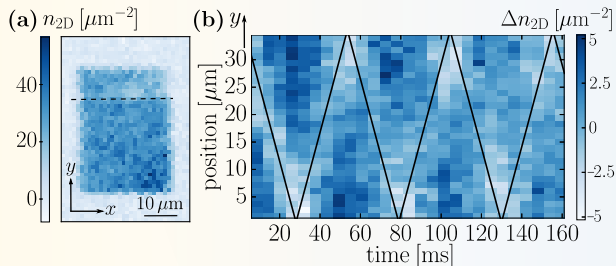
# Strong transverse confinement: from 3D to 2D

Harmonic confinement

$$V(z) = \sum_i \frac{1}{2} m \omega_z^2 z_i^2$$



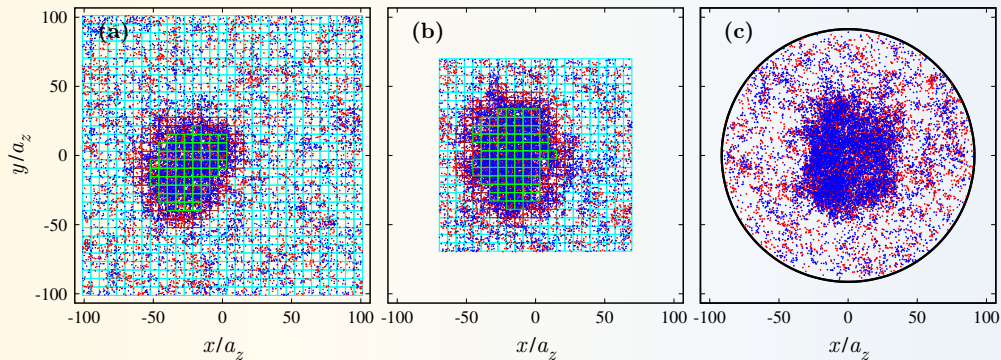
**Quasi-2D** kinematic conditions  $k_B T \ll \hbar \omega_z$ ,  $a_{3D} \ll a_z = \sqrt{\hbar / m \omega_z}$



Ville, Saint-Jalm, Le Cerf, *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2018)

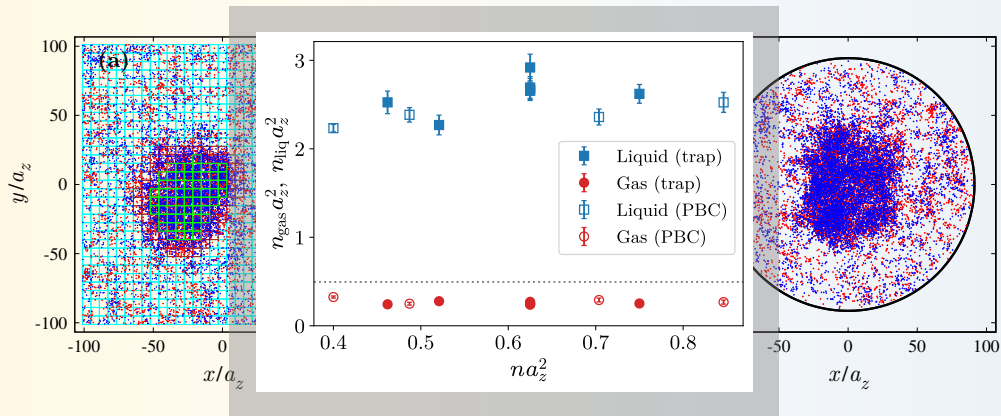
# Bose mixtures: from 3D to 2D

3D simulations with harmonic confinement: Attractive mixtures form droplets



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3D simulations with harmonic confinement: Attractive mixtures form droplets

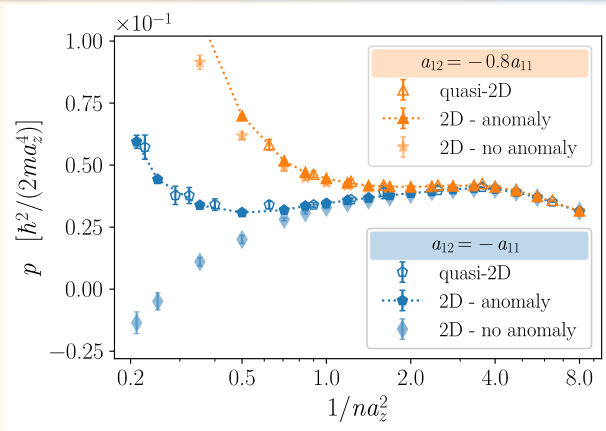


# Bose mixtures: from 3D to 2D

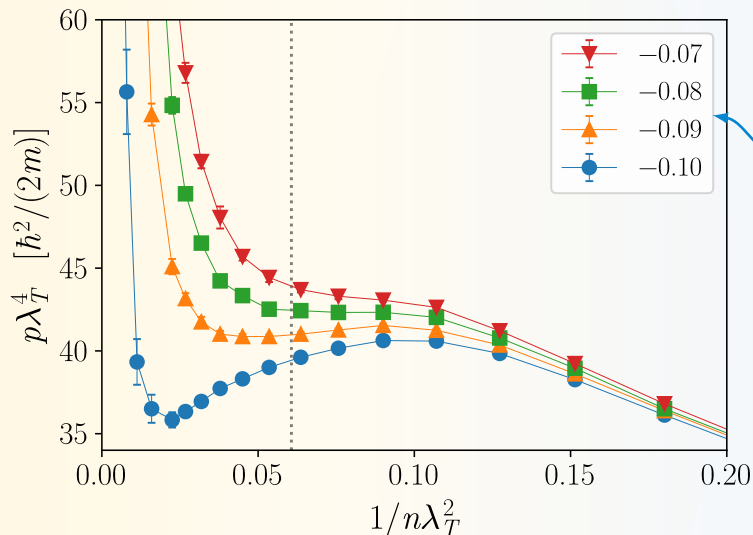
Pure 2D simulations: the role of quantum anomaly

## Density-dependent 2D interaction

$$g = \frac{g_0}{1 + \frac{g_0}{4\pi} \log(A/na_z^2)}, \quad g_0 = \sqrt{8\pi}a_{3D}/a_z, \quad A \approx 0.2284$$



# Pure-2D mixtures at $T > 0$



Repulsive **intra**-species coupling  $g_0 = 0.1$

Scan in the **inter**-species coupling  $(g_{12})_0$

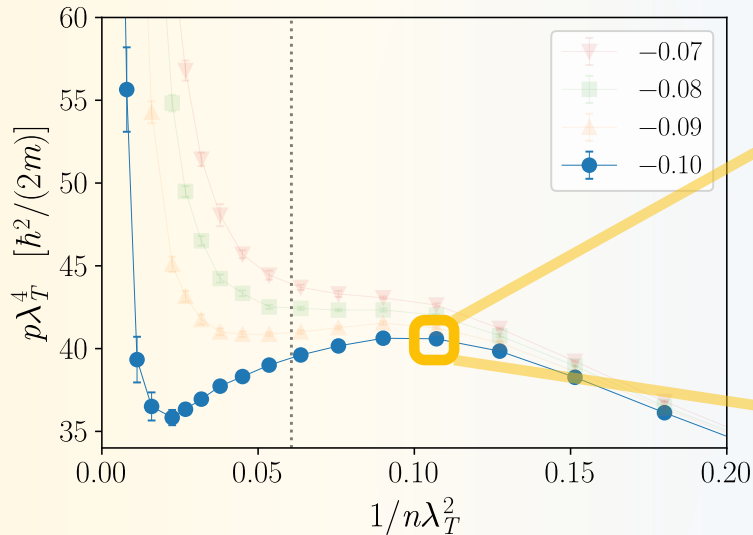
weak breaking of the scale invariance



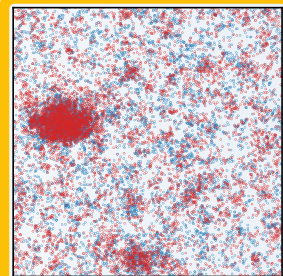
almost universal scaling with  $T$

$$\lambda_T = \sqrt{2\pi\hbar^2 / (mk_B T)}$$

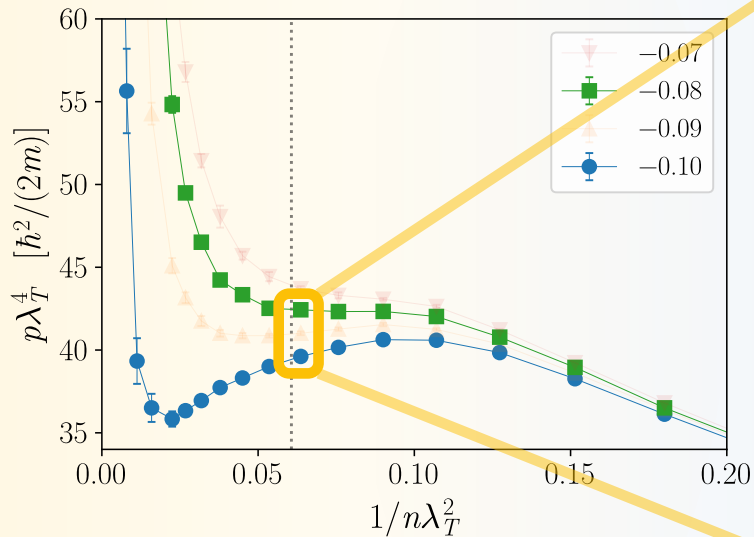
## Pure-2D mixtures at $T > 0$



Droplet in **large-scale**  
PIMC simulations

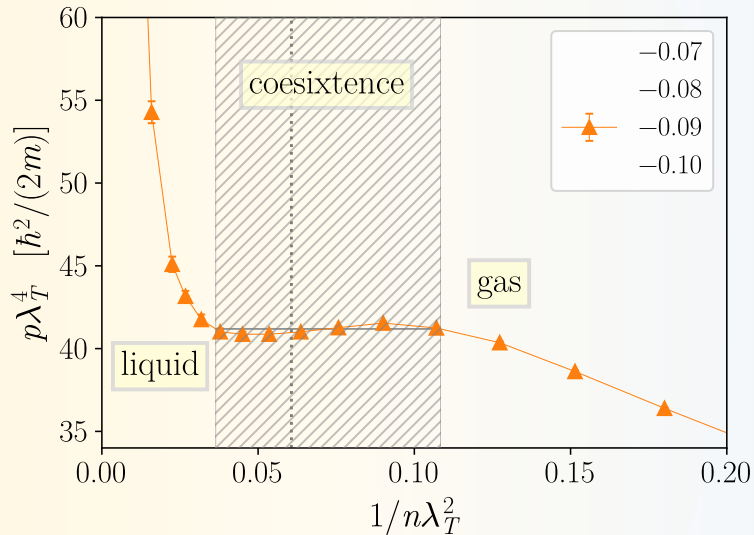


## Pure-2D mixtures at $T > 0$



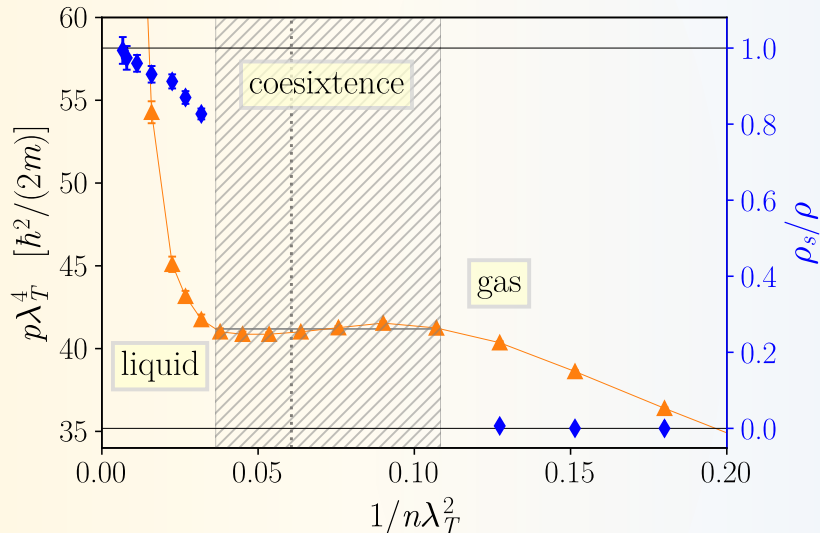


## Pure-2D mixtures at $T > 0$



**Coexistence region**  
from  
Maxwell construction

# Pure-2D mixtures at $T > 0$



## Superfluid fraction

$$\frac{\rho_s}{\rho} = \frac{mk_B T}{2N\hbar^2} \langle \mathbf{W}^2 \rangle$$

from winding

$$\mathbf{W} = \sum_{i=1}^N [\mathbf{r}_i(\beta) - \mathbf{r}_i(0)]$$

# Complex Quantum Matter @ UNICAM

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<https://cqm.unicam.it/>

Left to right: Giovanni Midei, Victor Velasco, Luis Ardila, Sebastiano Pilati, Andrea Perali, Nicola Pinto, Simone Cantori, Luca Brodoloni, Andrea Della Valle and Verdiana Piselli. CQM-Unicam, May 30 2024.  
Not Included: Carlo Lucheroni, Filippo Pascucci, Meenakshi Sharma and Gabriele Spada.

Thank you