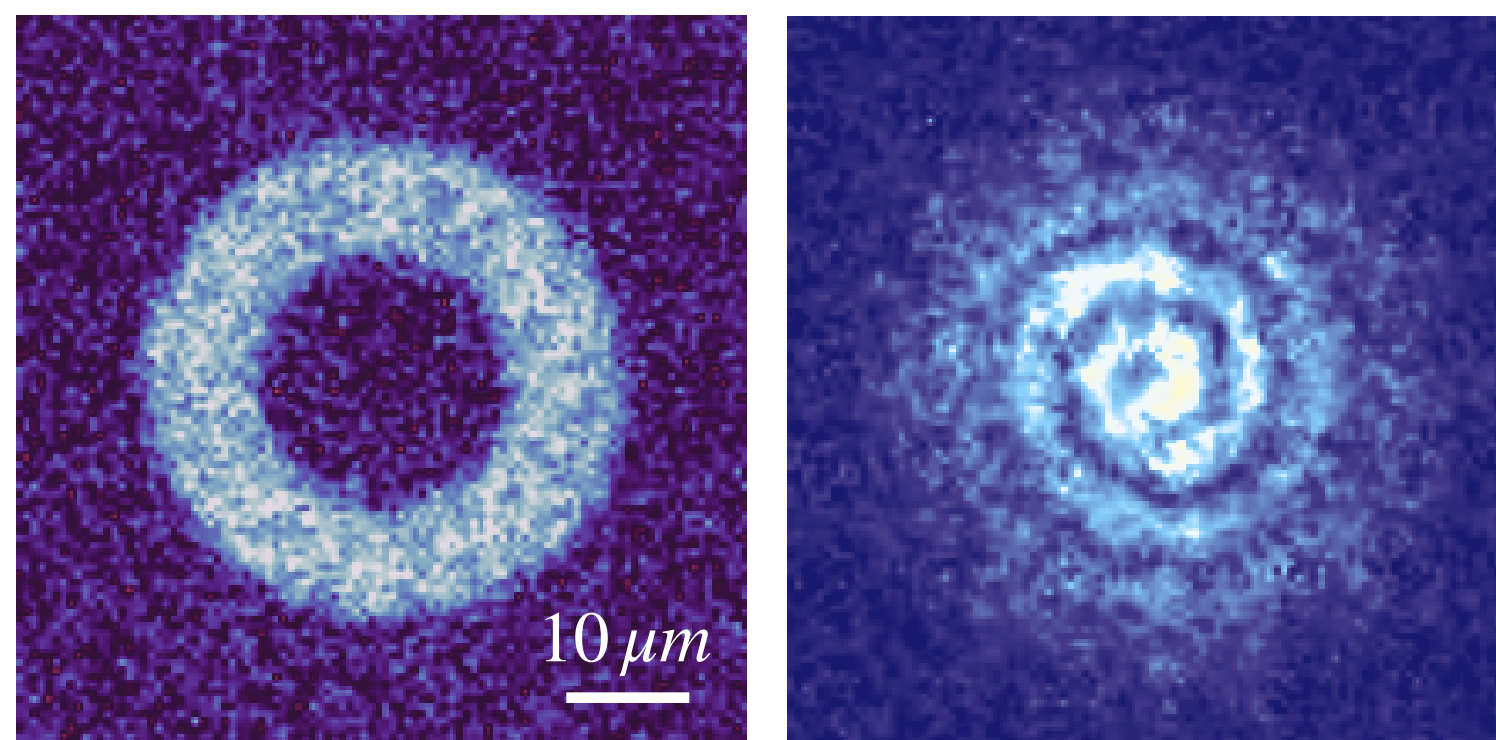


ATOMIC SYSTEMS: PERSISTENT CURRENTS IN ATOMIC SUPERFLUID RINGS

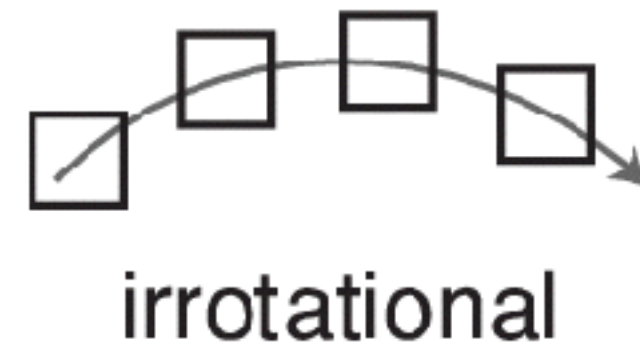
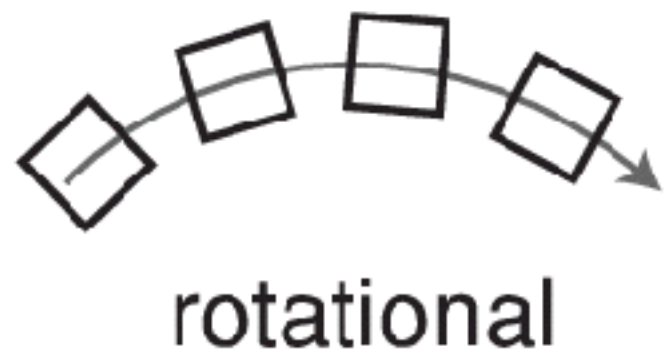
Giulia Del Pace

University of Florence



G. Del Pace, et al., 'Imprinting Persistent Currents in Tunable Fermionic Rings' Phys. Rev. X **12**, 041037 (2022)

SUPERFLOW UNDER ROTATION



Classical fluid



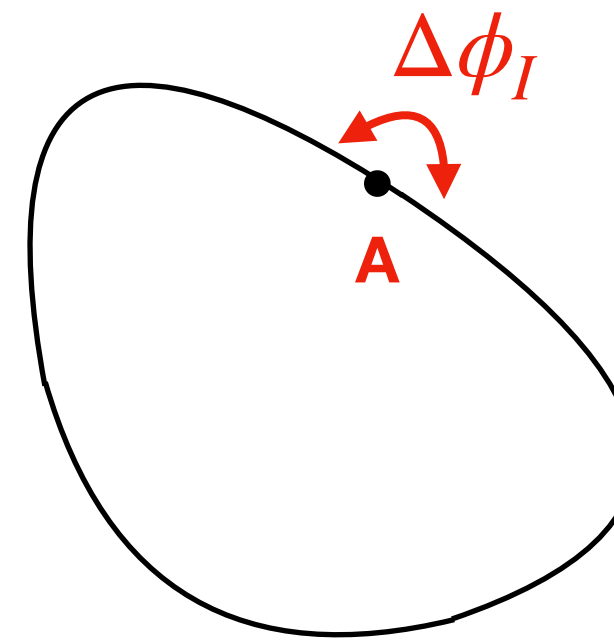
Superfluid

The motion of an inviscid fluid is **irrotational**

$$\nabla \times v = 0$$

Why irrotational?

$$v = \frac{\hbar}{m} \nabla \phi \rightarrow \nabla \times v \sim \nabla \times \nabla \phi = 0$$



Quantized circulation

$$\Gamma = \oint v \cdot dl = \frac{\hbar}{m} \Delta \phi = \frac{\hbar}{m} 2\pi w$$

For a superfluid:

$$v = \frac{\hbar}{m} \nabla \phi$$

$$\Delta \phi = 2\pi w \rightarrow \text{single-valuedness of wavefunction}$$

$w \rightarrow$ winding number

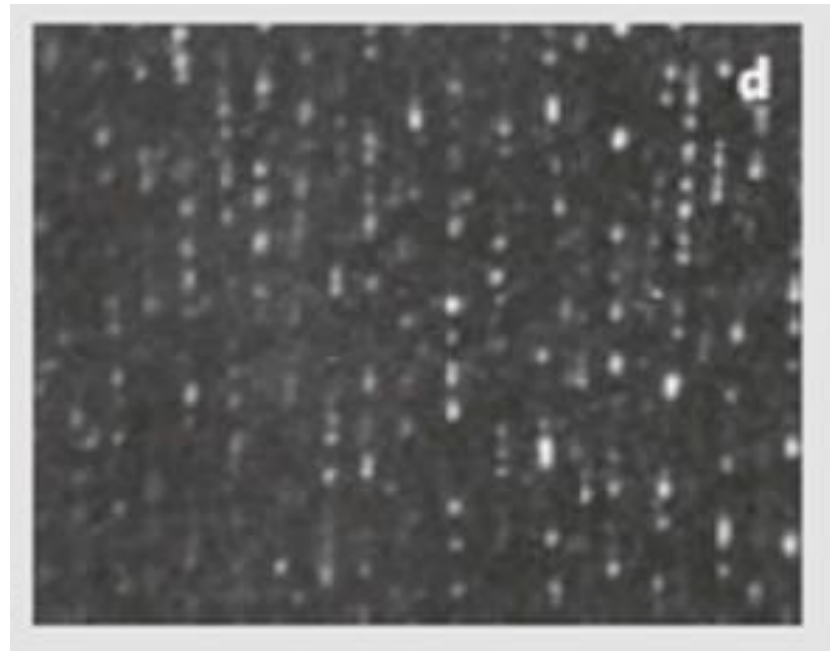
For $w \neq 0 \rightarrow n(r=0) = 0$: the density vanishes at the center

Topological excitations in a multiply-connected geometry
Vortices, (meta)stable currents in rings

EXCITATIONS AT FINITE CIRCULATION

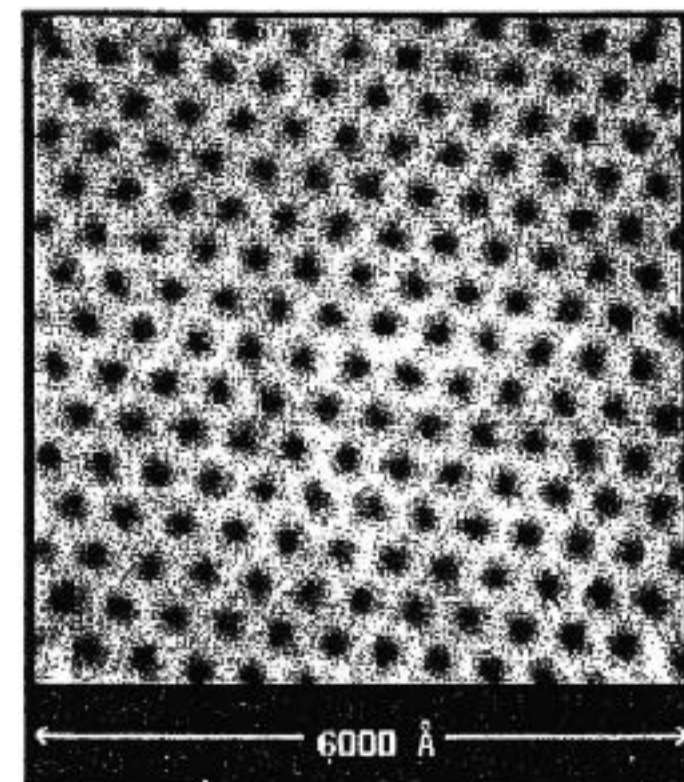
Quantized vortices in superfluids

Helium



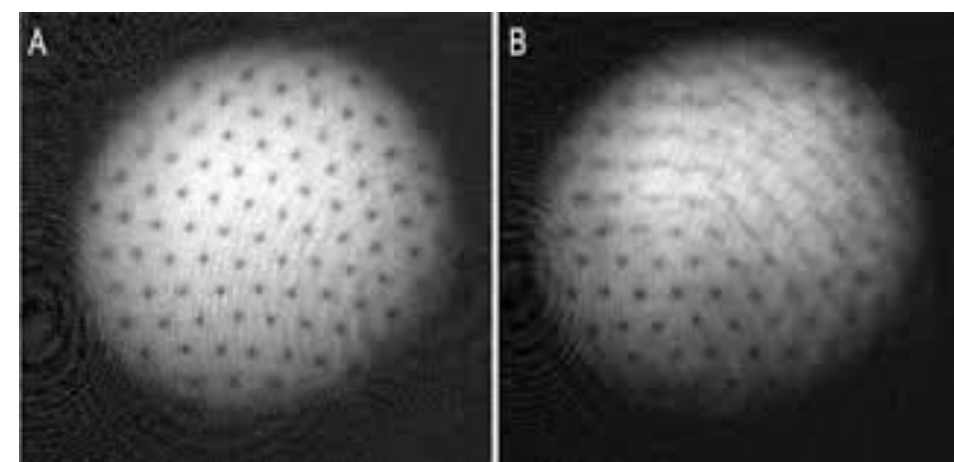
From: G. Bewley, et al., *Nature* 441, 588 (2006).

Superconductors



From: A. Abrikosov, *Nobel Lecture*, 2003: 254.

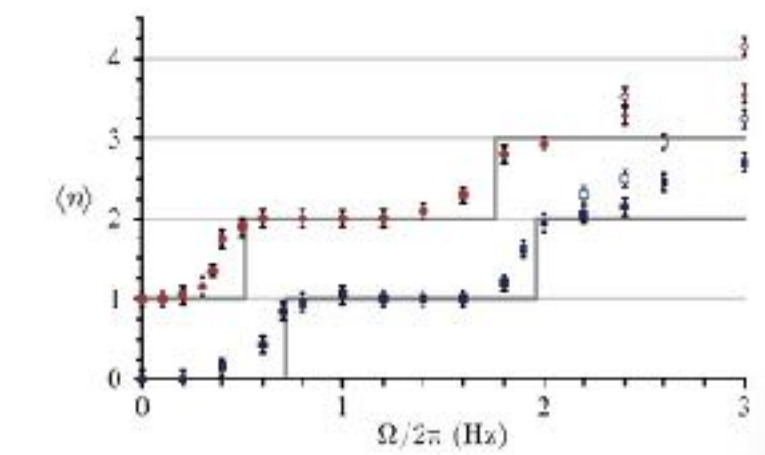
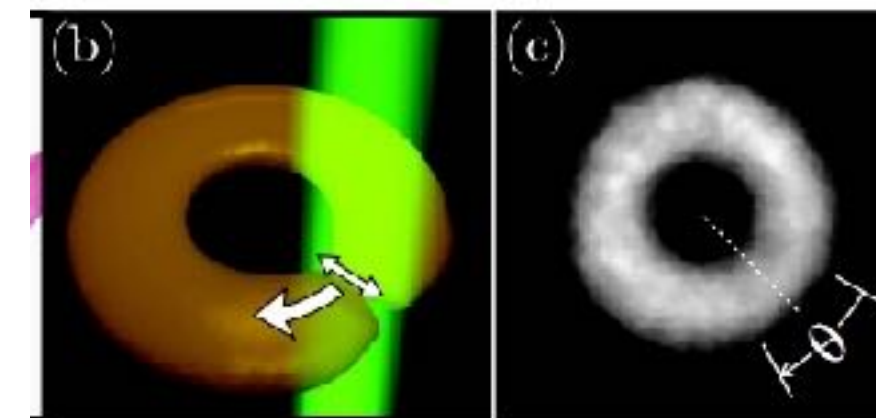
Atomic condensates



From: J. R. Abo-Shaeer, et al., *Science* 292, Issue 5516, pp. 476-479 (2001)

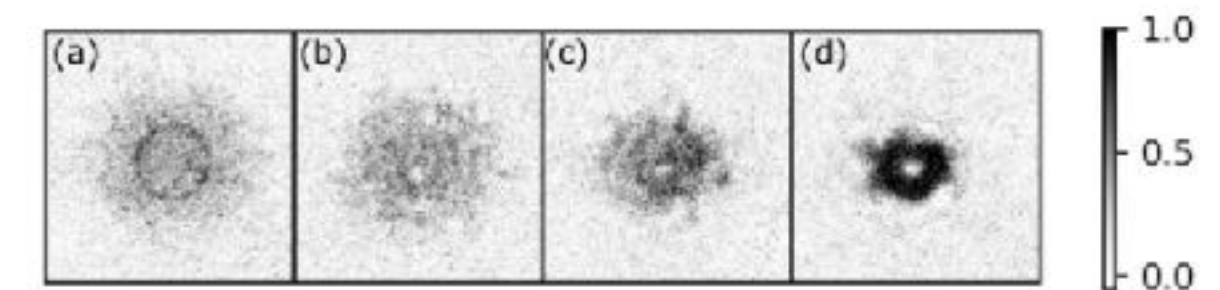
Quantized circulation in ring geometry

BEC



From: K. Wright, et al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 110.2 (2013)
Campbell group (NIST)
Dalibard group (ENS)
Perrin group (Sorbonne- CNRS)

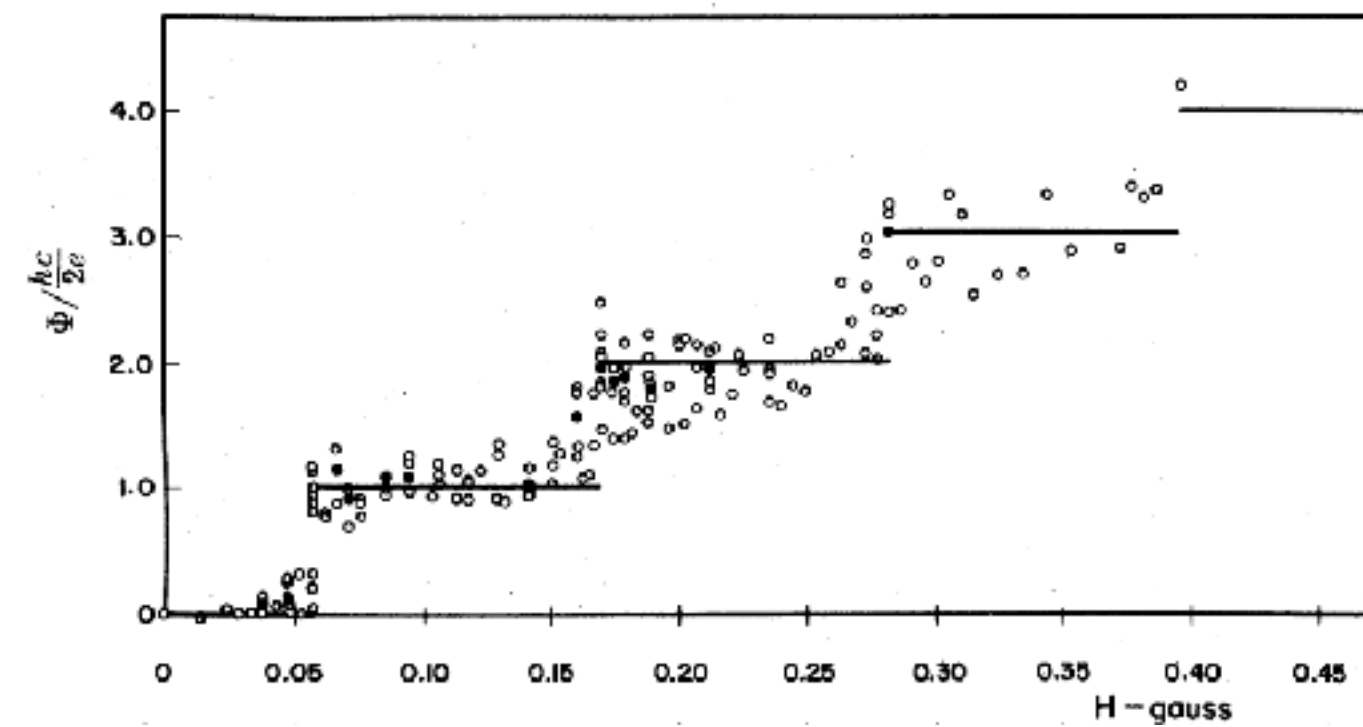
Fermionic superfluids



Y. Cai, et al., *PRL* 128, 150401 (2022).

PERSISTENT CURRENTS

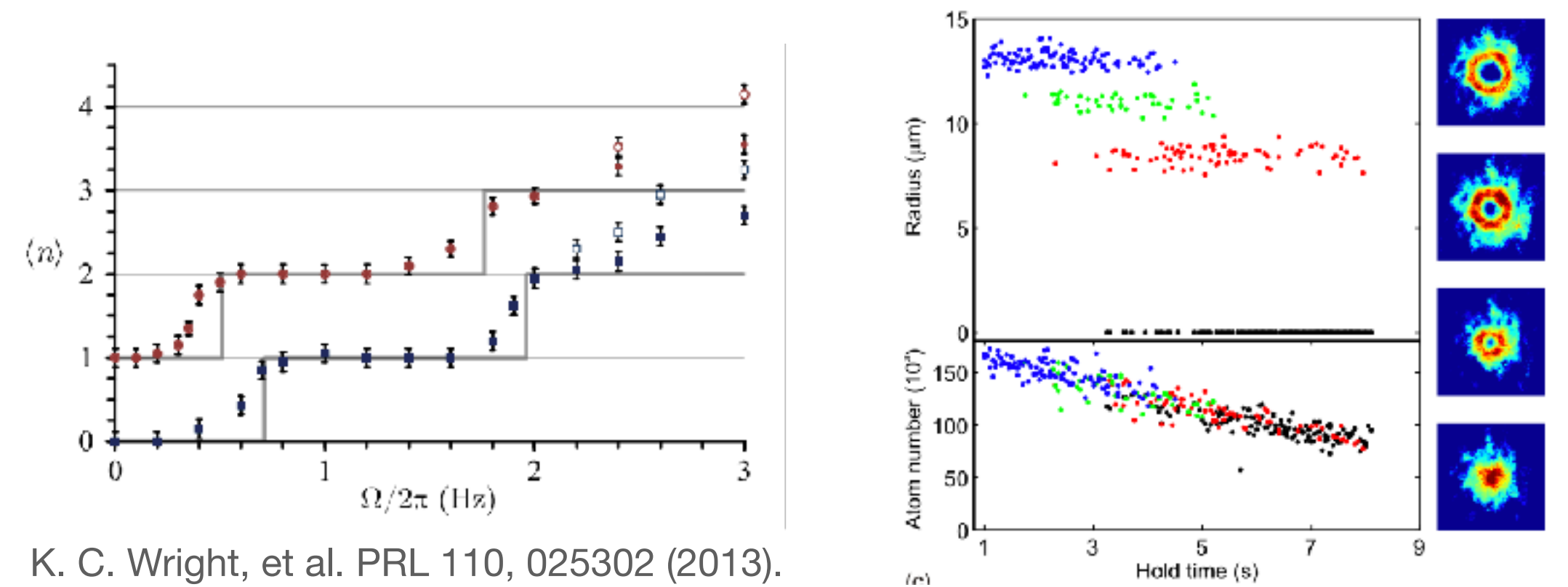
Superconducting ring pierced by magnetic field



B. S. Deaver and W. M. Fairbank PRL 7, 43 (1961)

Persistent currents = **ground state** in the presence of the magnetic field

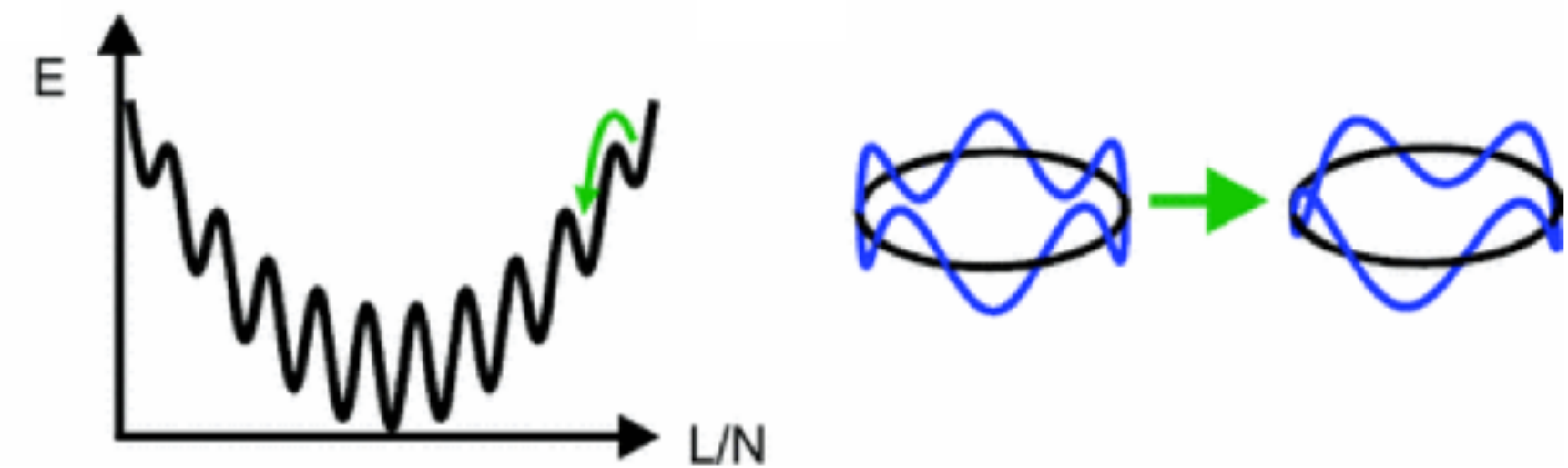
Rotating neutral superfluid ring



K. C. Wright, et al. PRL 110, 025302 (2013).

Fermions: Y. Cai, et al., PRL 128, 150401 (2022). S. Moulder, et al., PRA 86, 013629 (2012).

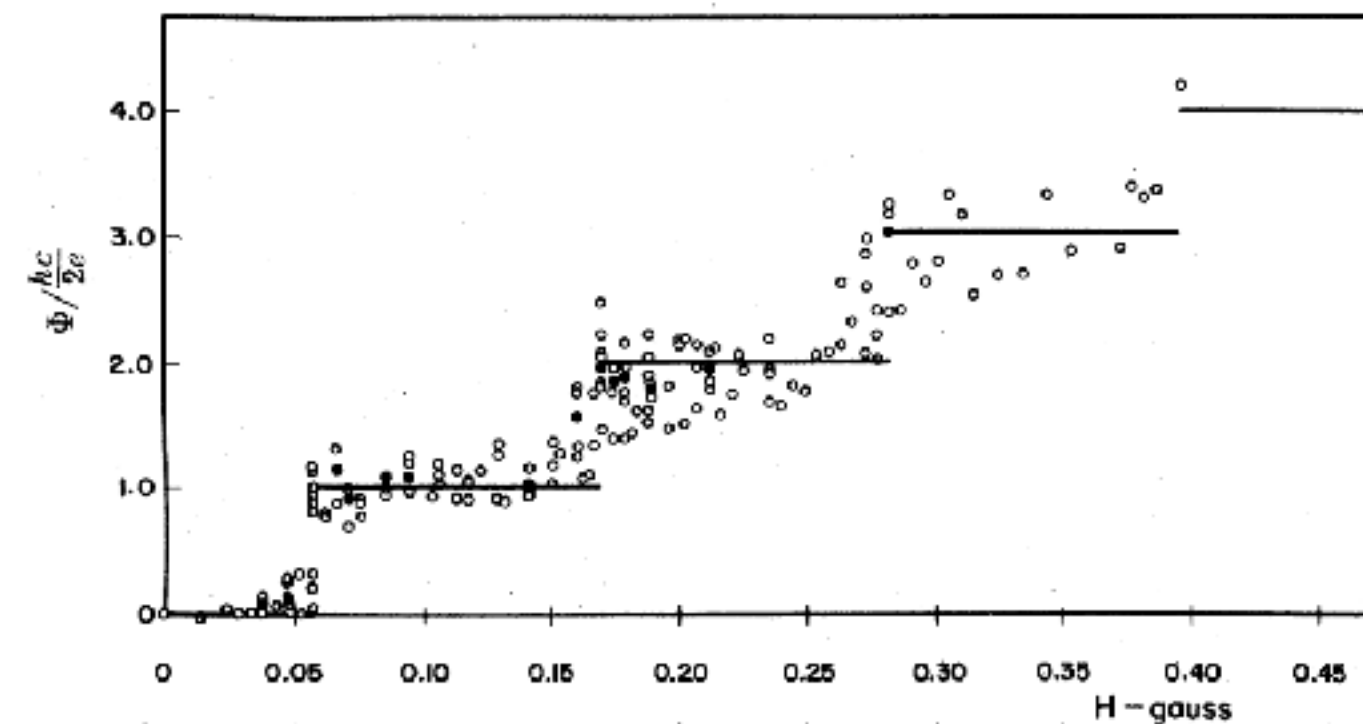
Persistent currents = **metastable** states



Picture taken from: S. Moulder, et al., PRA 86, 013629 (2012).

PERSISTENT CURRENTS

Superconducting ring pierced by magnetic field



B. S. Deaver and W. M. Fairbank PRL 7, 43 (1961)

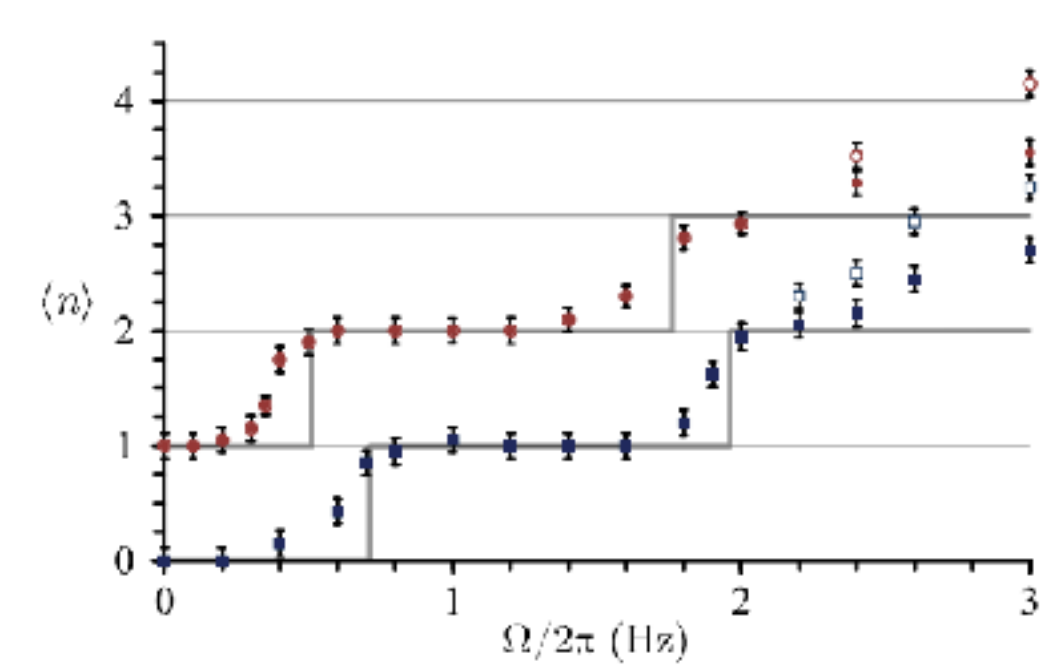
Persistent currents = **ground state** in the presence of the

Persistent currents in ring atomic condensate

Manifestation of the **macroscopic phase coherence**, and of great interest for **quantum technologies**

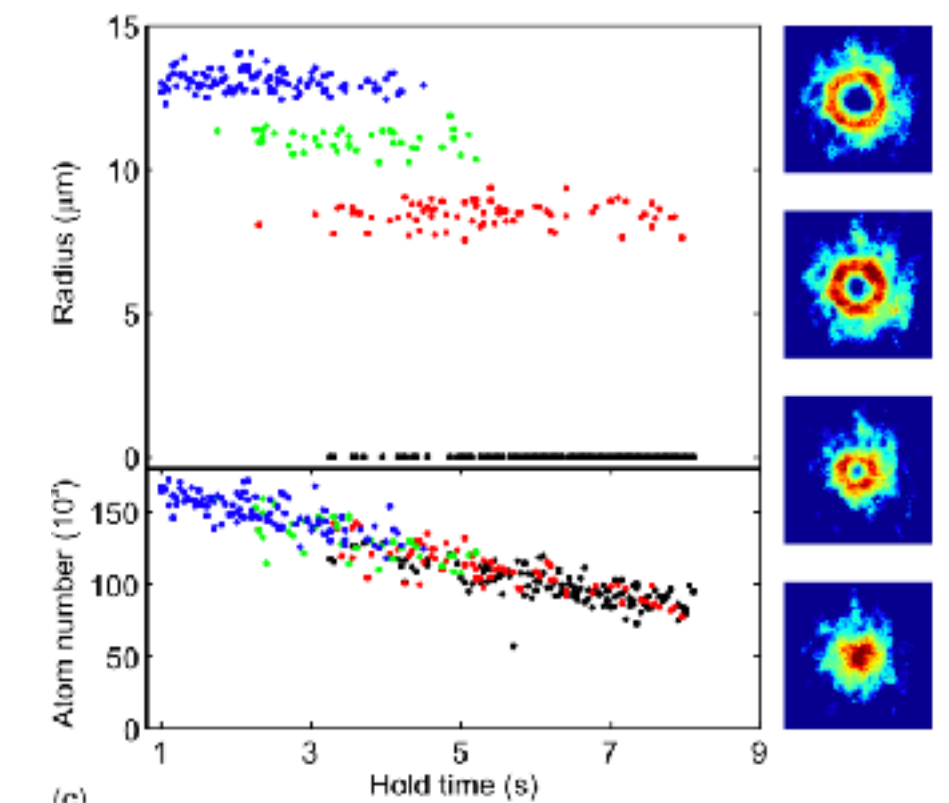
Review on atomtronics: L. Amico, et al., *Roadmap on Atomtronics: State of the art and perspective*, AVS Quantum Science 3, 039201 (2021).

Rotating neutral superfluid ring

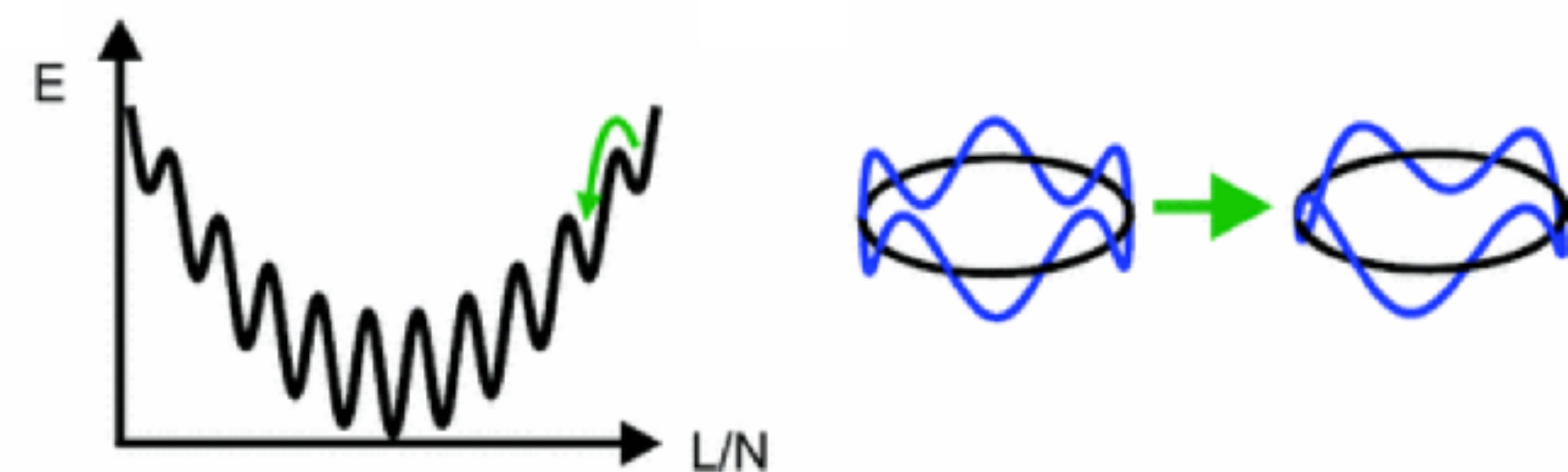


K. C. Wright, et al. PRL 110, 025302 (2013).

Fermions: Y. Cai, et al., PRL 128, 150401 (2022). S. Moulder, et al., PRA 86, 013629 (2012).



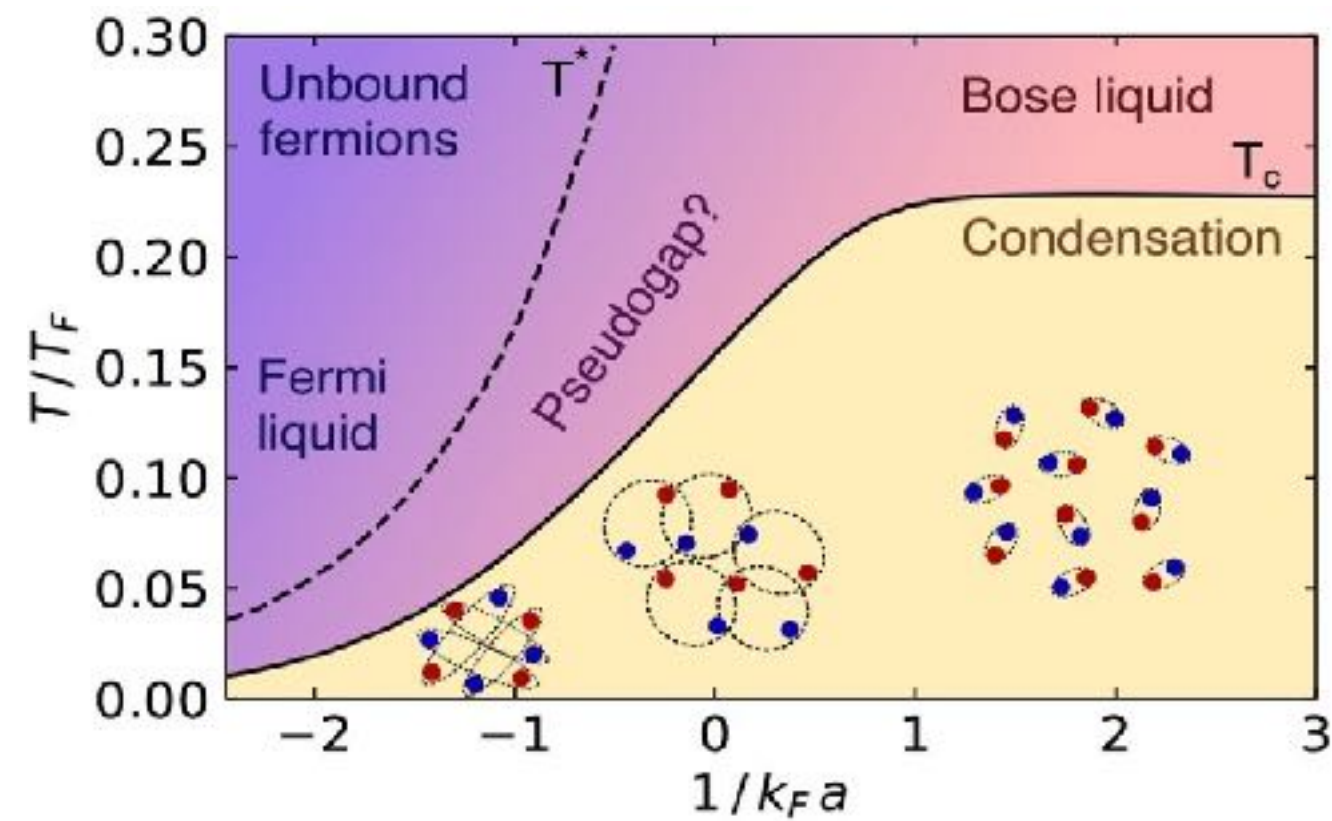
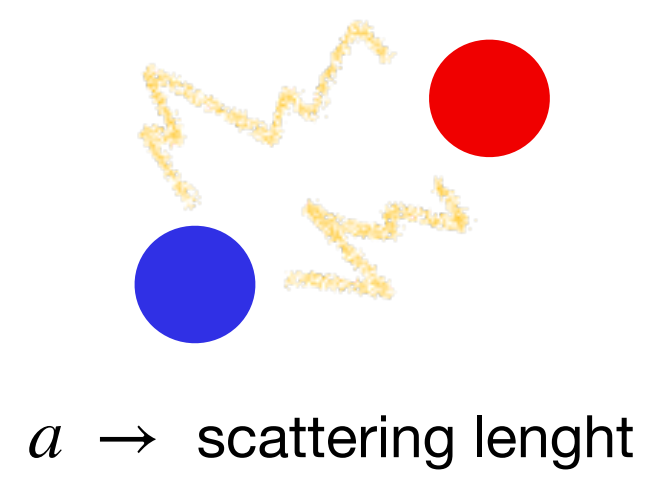
Persistent currents = **metastable** states



Picture taken from: S. Moulder, et al., PRA 86, 013629 (2012).

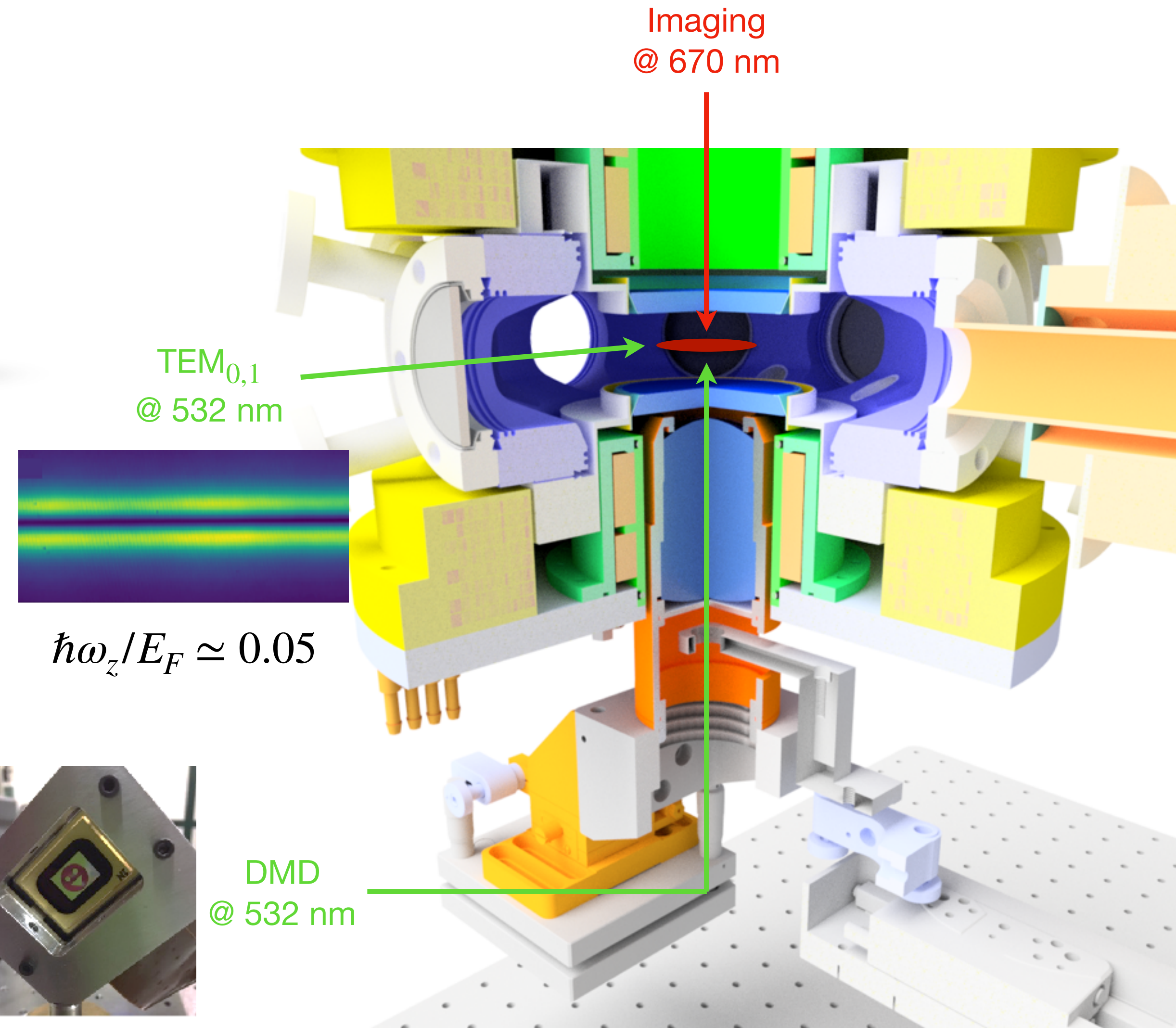
TUNABLE FERMIONIC RINGS

BEC-BCS crossover

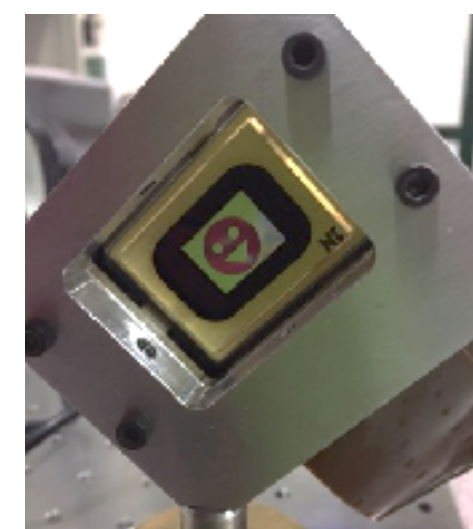


- BEC $1/k_F a = 3.6$
- UFG $1/k_F a = 0$
- BCS $1/k_F a = -0.4$

Arbitrary optical potential on a micron scale

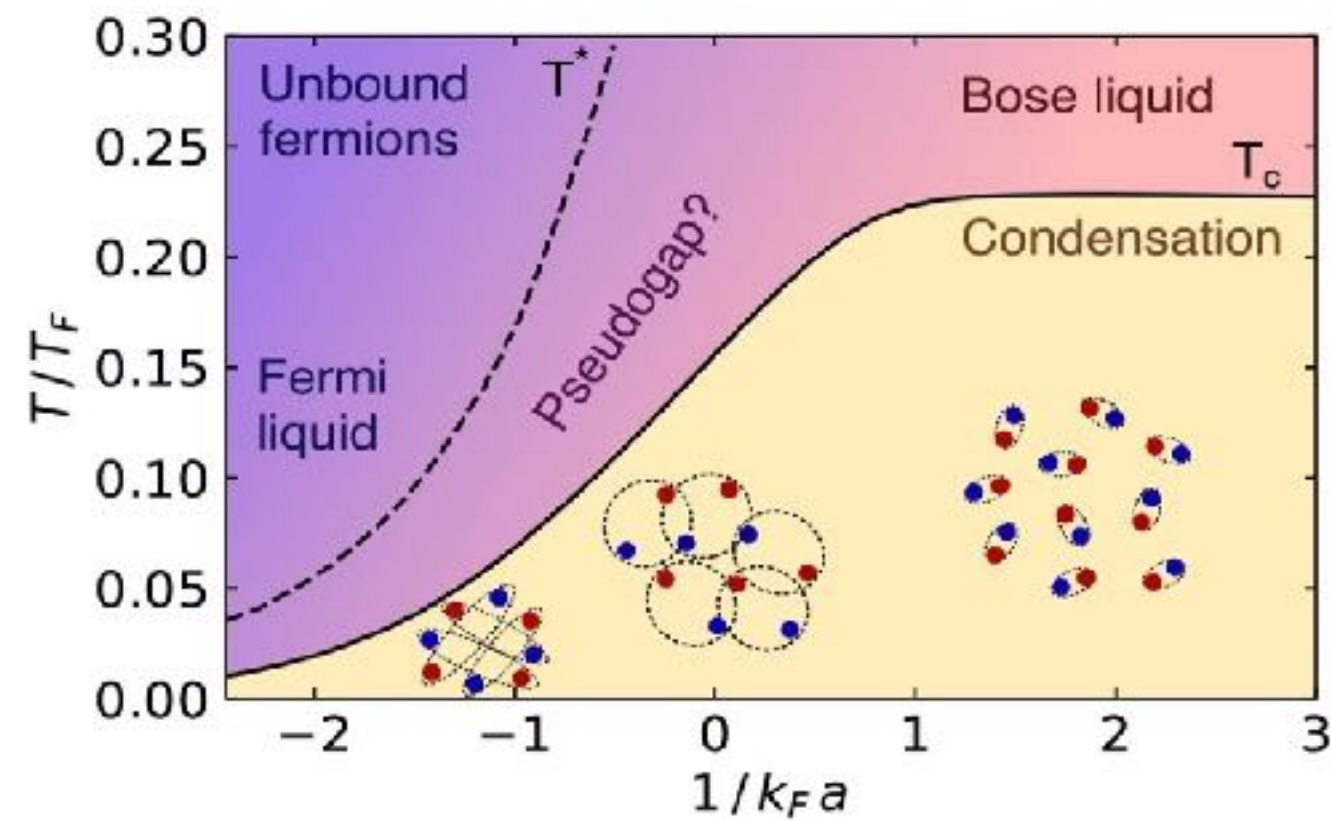
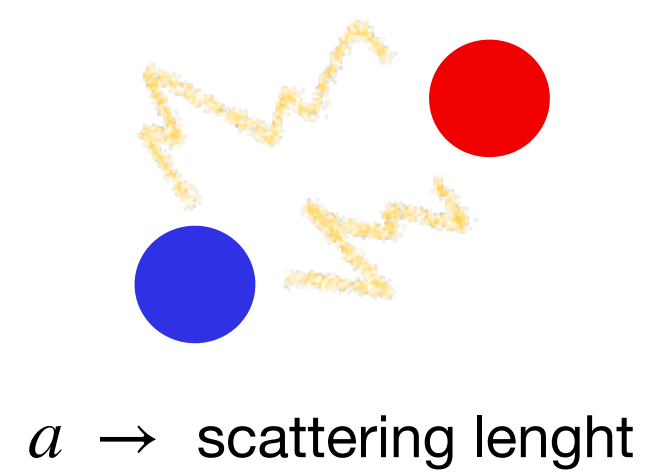


$$\hbar\omega_z/E_F \simeq 0.05$$



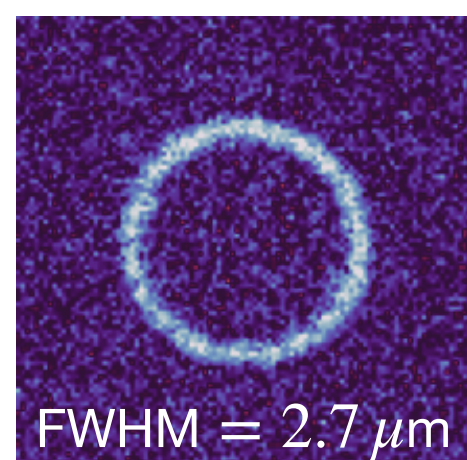
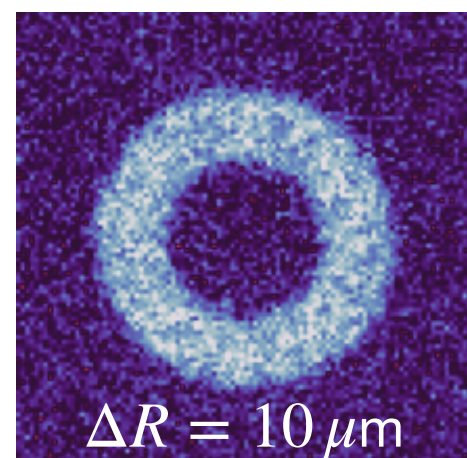
TUNABLE FERMIONIC RINGS

BEC-BCS crossover

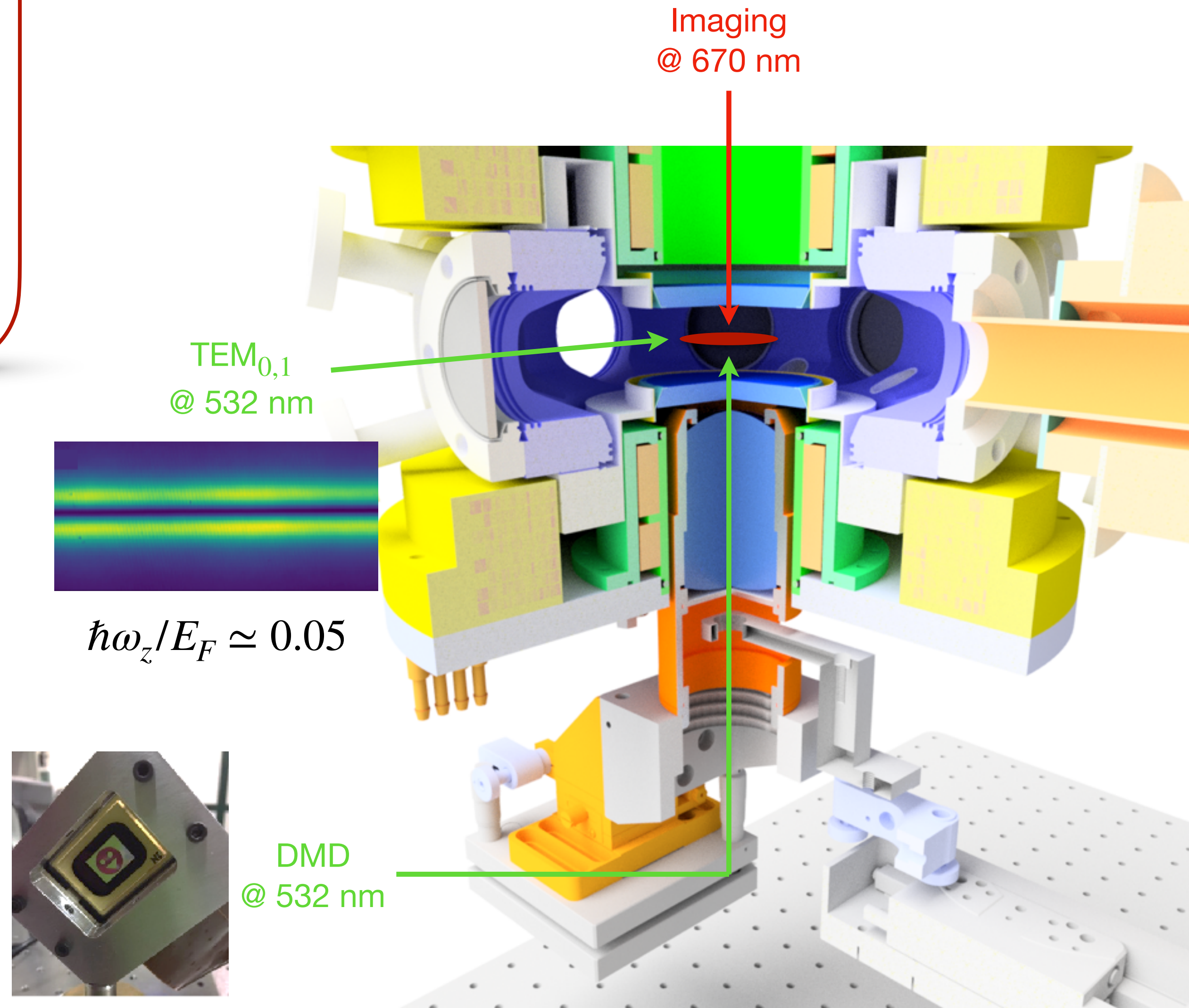
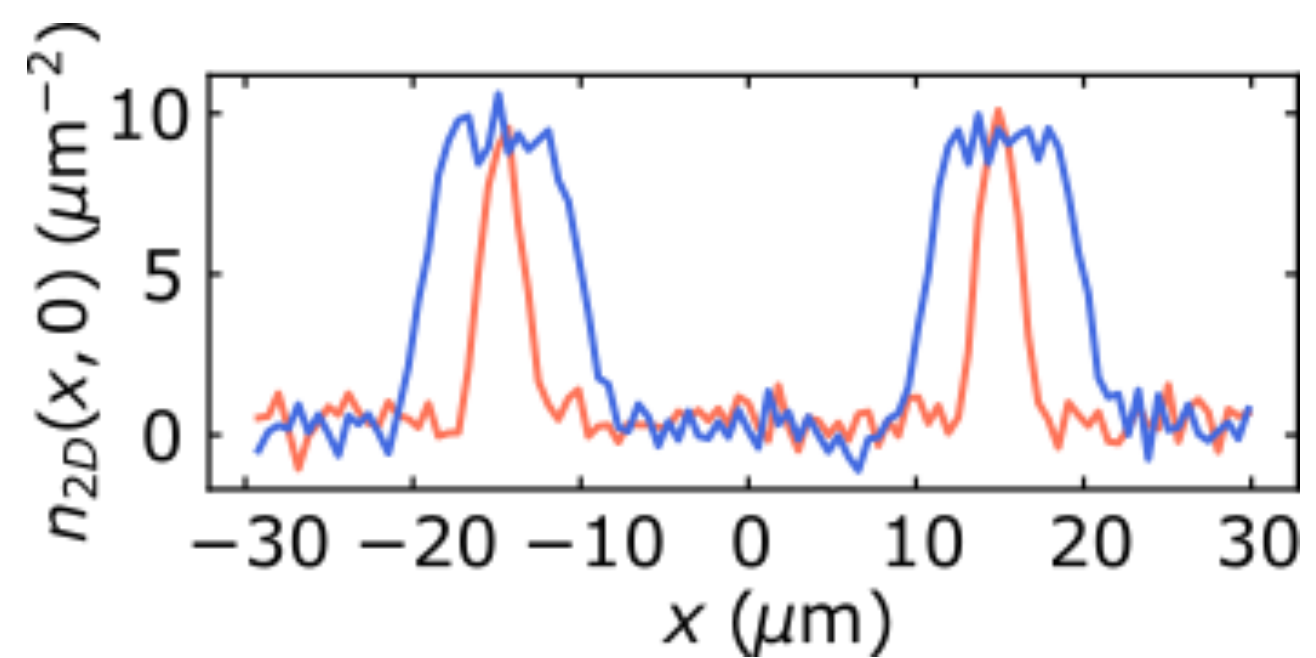


BEC
 $1/k_F a = 3.6$
UFG
 $1/k_F a = 0$
BCS
 $1/k_F a = -0.4$

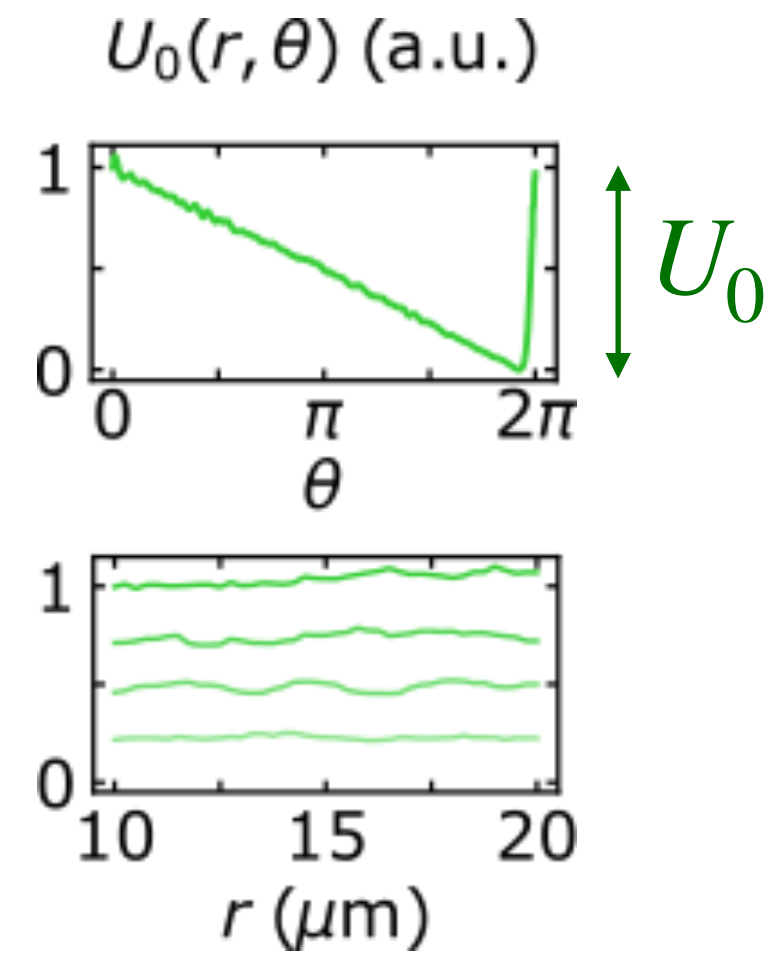
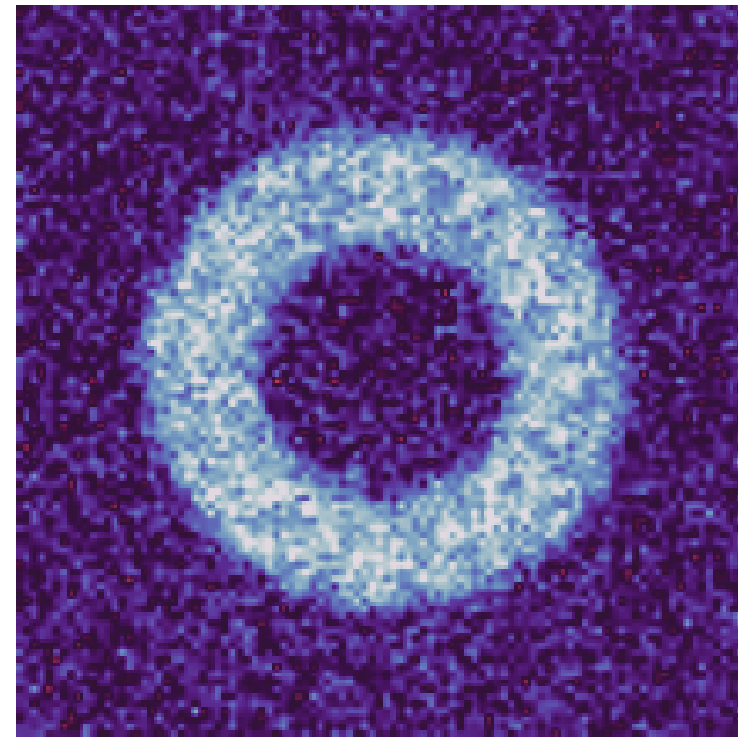
Tunable fermionic rings



$N = 7.5 \times 10^3$ $E_F/2\pi\hbar \simeq 9 \text{ kHz}$
 $T = 0.4 T_c \simeq 60 \text{ nK}$ $\hbar\nu/E_F \simeq 0.05$



PHASE IMPRINTING OF PERSISTENT CURRENTS



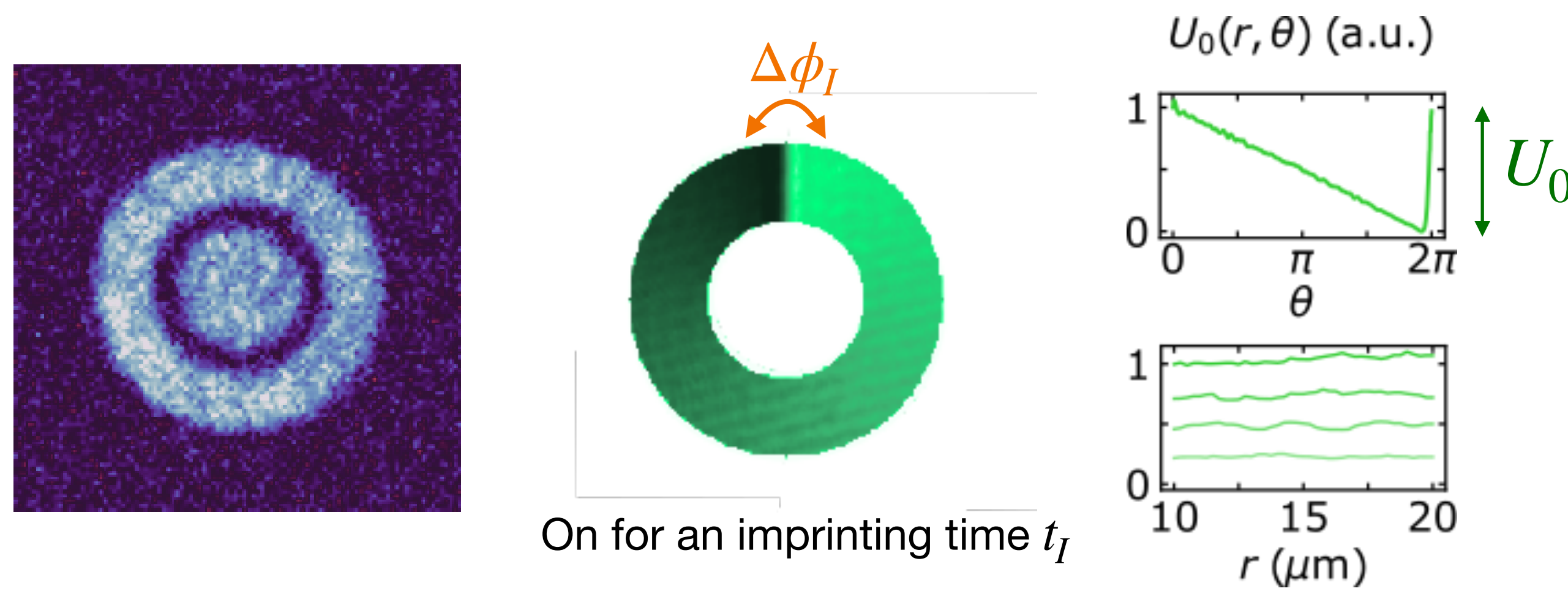
Phase imprinting for $t_I < \hbar/\mu$:

$$\phi(r, \theta) = U_0(r, \theta) t_I$$

The imprinted phase at the gradient discontinuity is:

$$\Delta\phi_I = U_0 t_I$$

PHASE IMPRINTING OF PERSISTENT CURRENTS



Phase imprinting for $t_I < \hbar/\mu$:

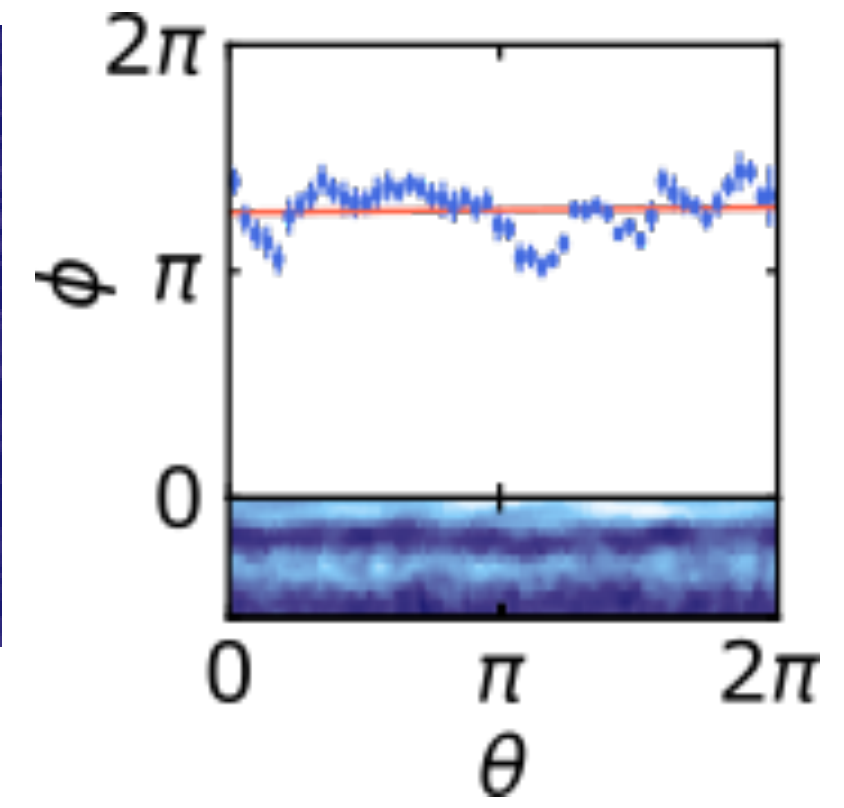
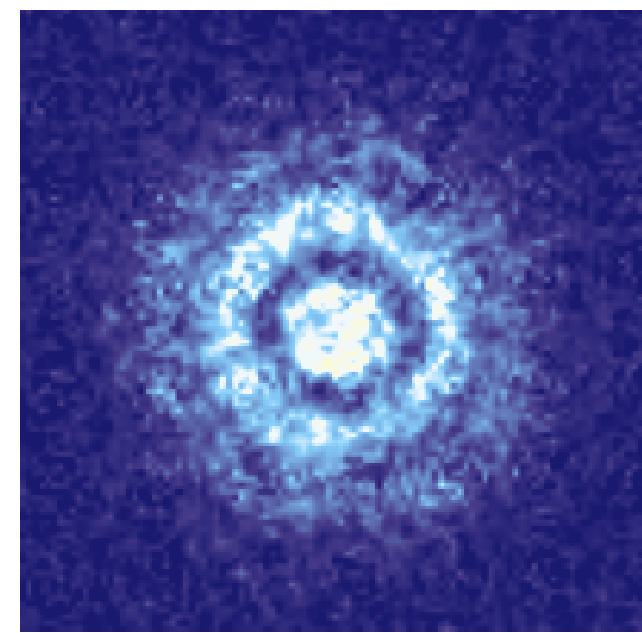
$$\phi(r, \theta) = U_0(r, \theta) t_I$$

The imprinted phase at the gradient discontinuity is:

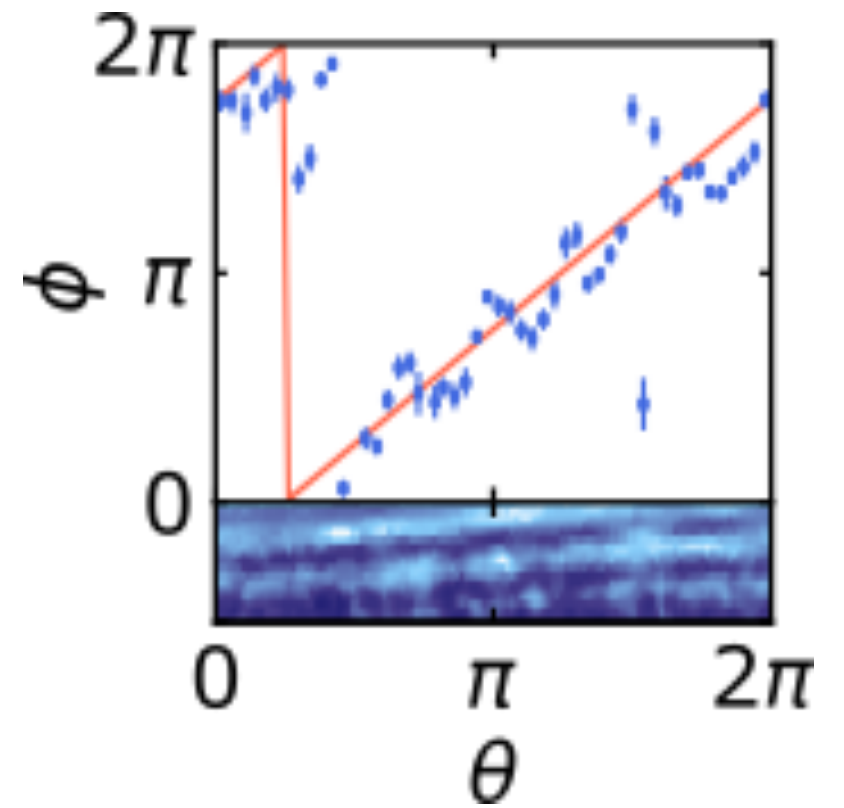
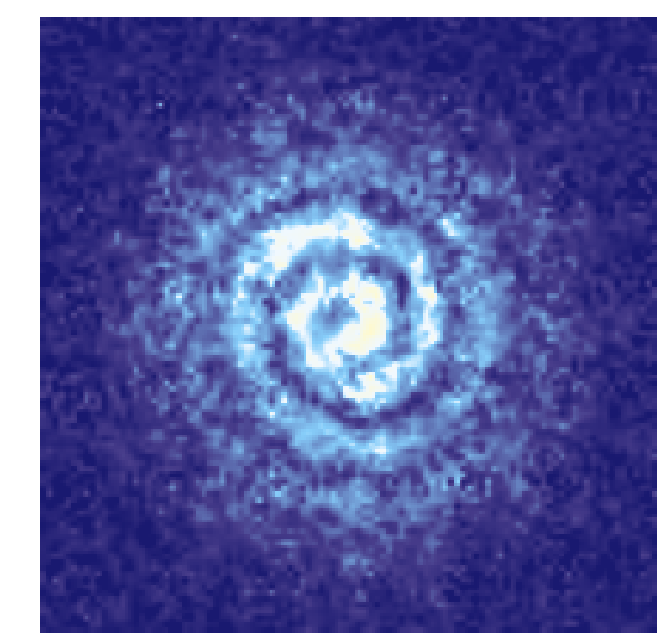
$$\Delta\phi_I = U_0 t_I$$

Interferograms after a time of flight expansion

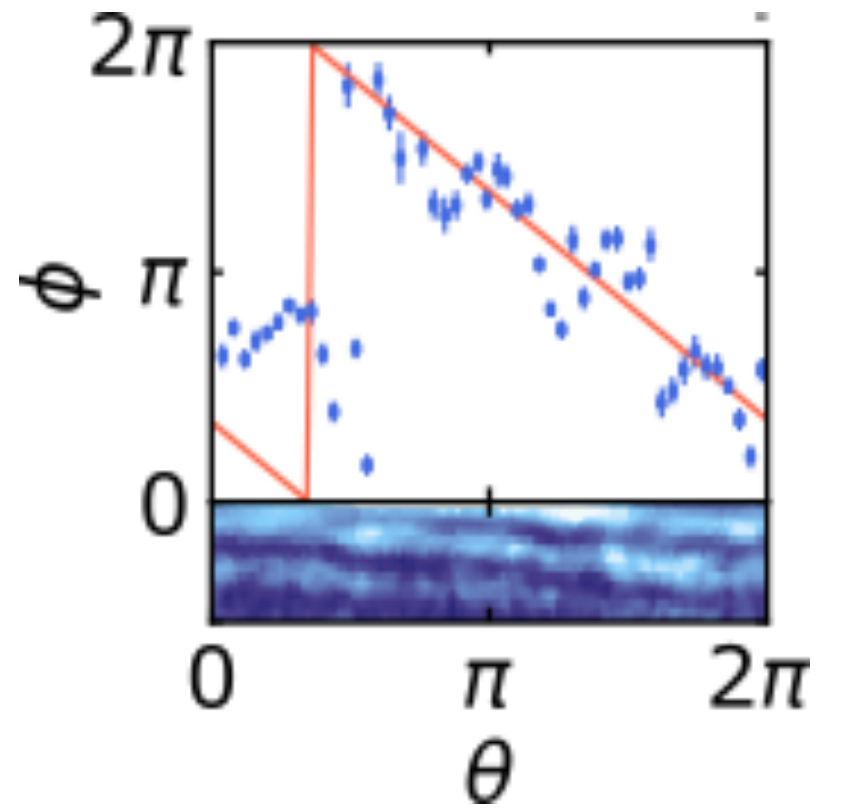
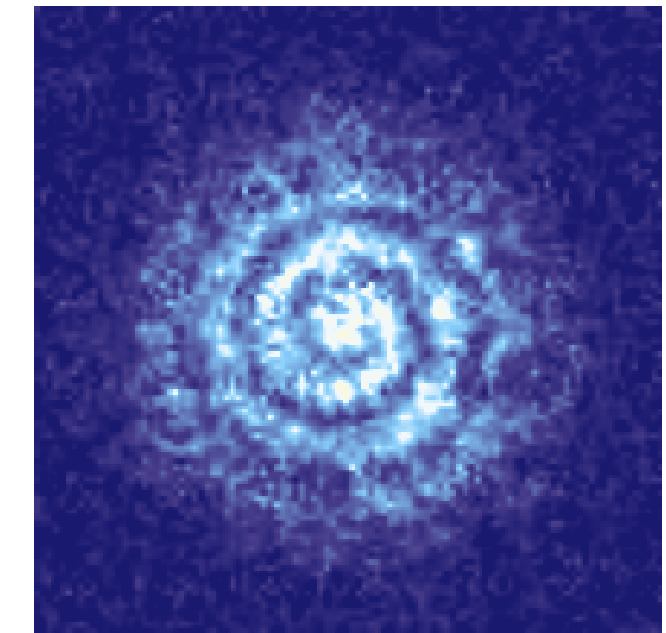
$\Delta\phi_I = 0$



$\Delta\phi_I = 2\pi$

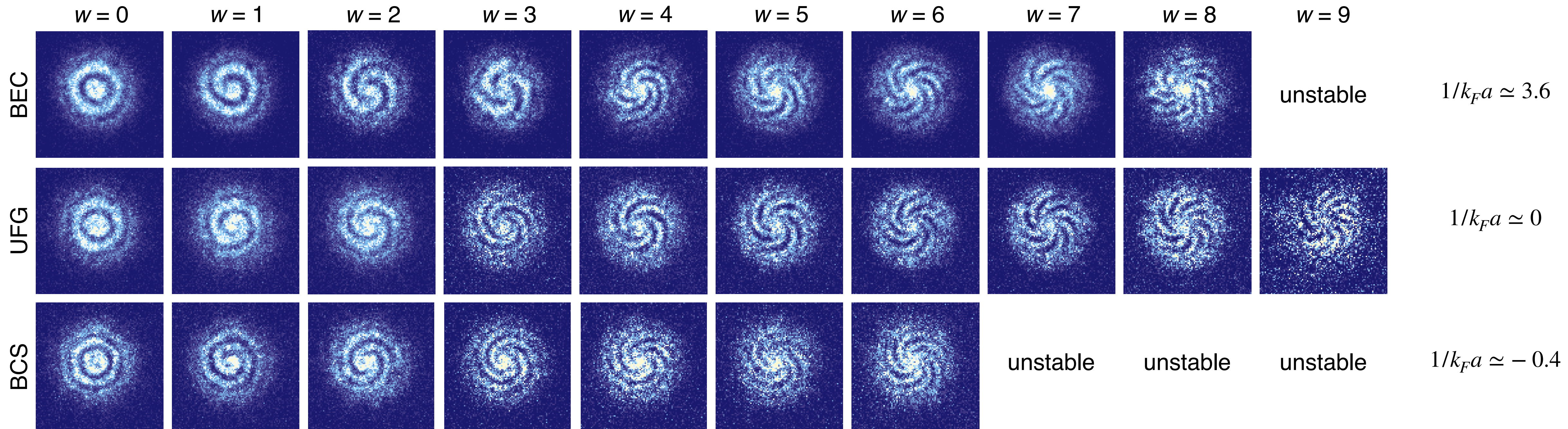


$\Delta\phi_I = -2\pi$

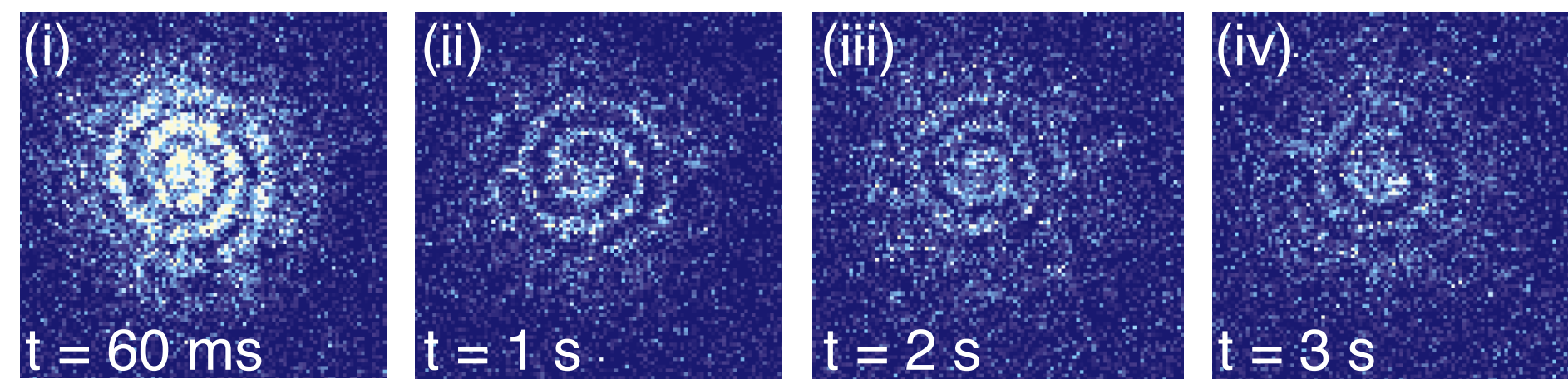


A. Kumar, et al., *Producing superfluid circulation states using phase imprinting*, Phys. Rev. A 97, 043615 (2018).
 S. Eckel, et al., *Interferometric measurement of the current-phase relationship of a superfluid weak link*, Phys. Rev. X 4, 031052 (2014).
 L. Corman, et al., *Quench-induced supercurrents in an annular Bose gas*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 113, 135302 (2014).

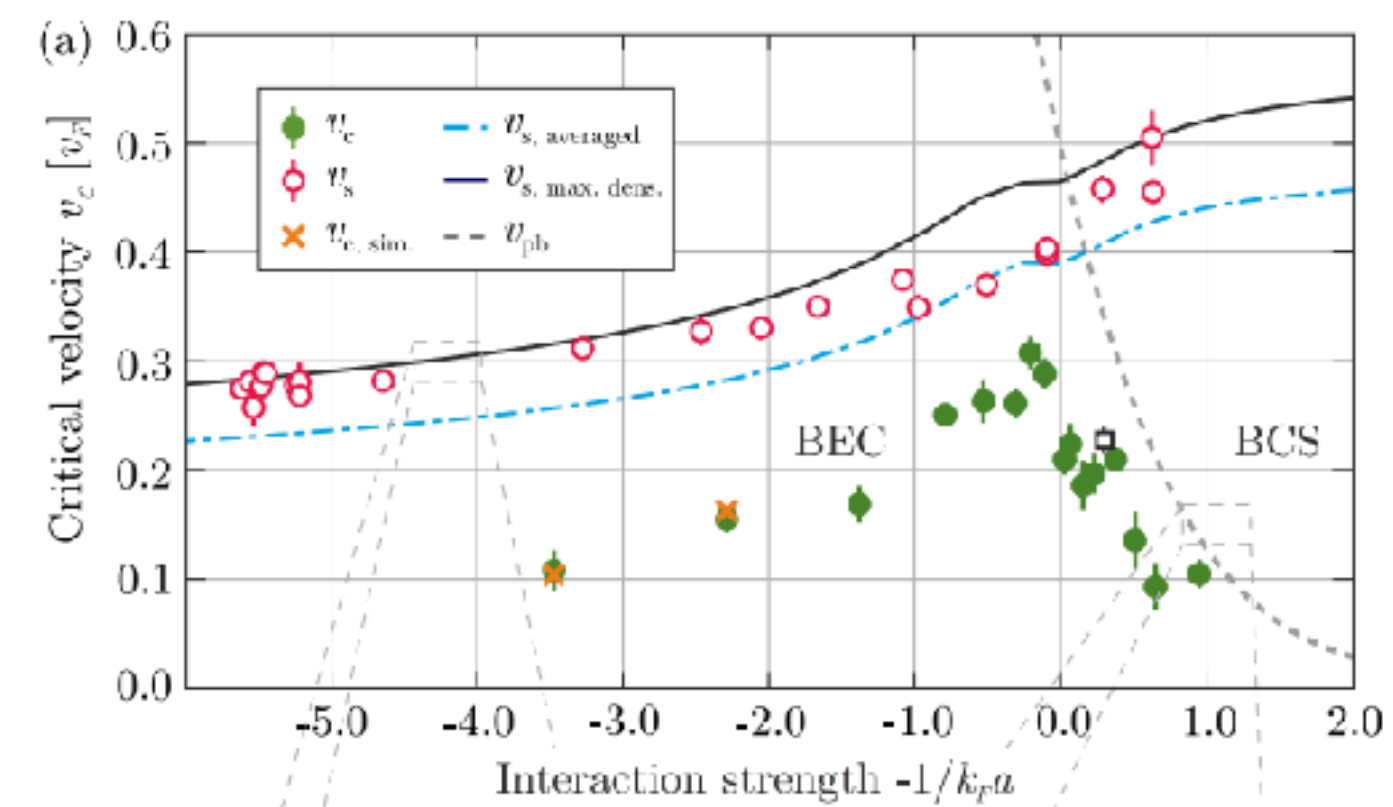
PERSISTENT CURRENTS IN ATOMIC FERMI SUPERFLUIDS



Current Lifetime



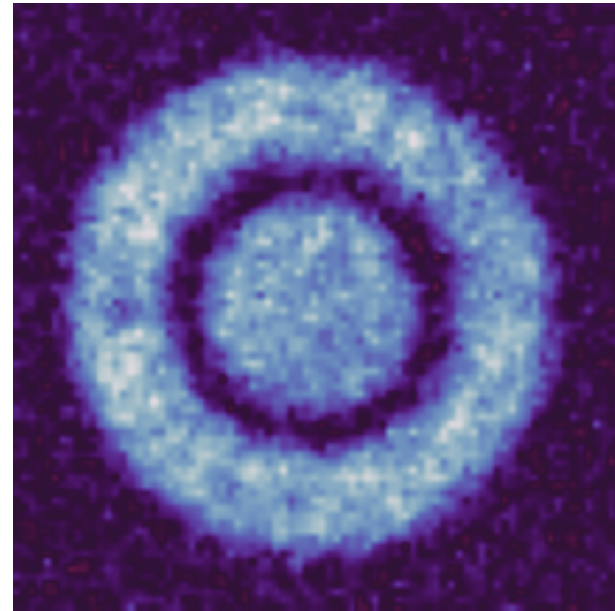
Long-lived and robust against particle-losses



Compatible with the critical velocity measurement in the BEC-BCS crossover.

W. Weimer et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 114.9 095301 (2015)

CURRENT STABILITY IN THE PRESENCE OF A DEFECT



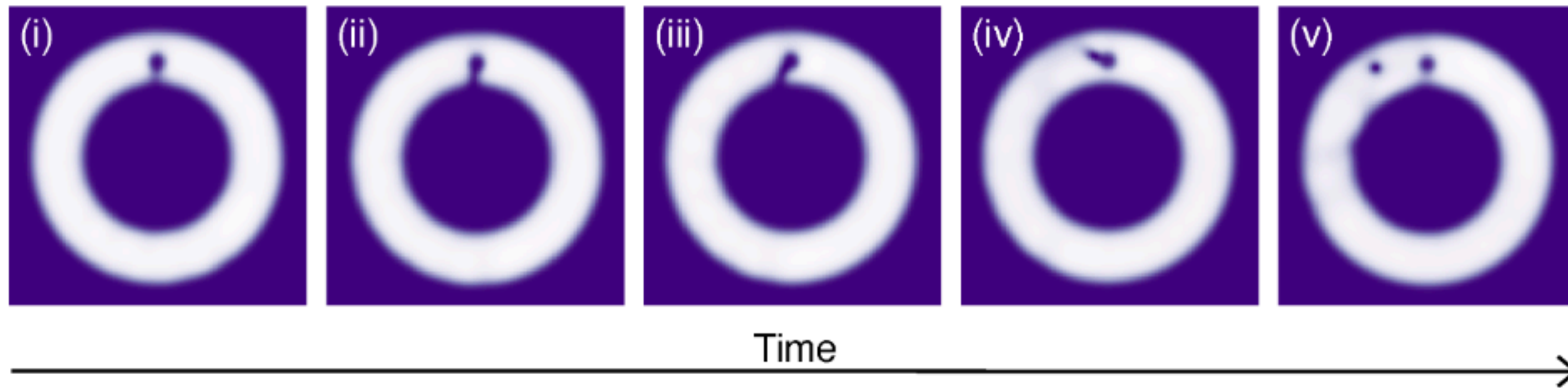
To investigate the interplay between the current instability and the emission of vortices, we trigger the current decay with a defect.

Localized Gaussian obstacle:

FWHM = $1.6 \mu\text{m}$

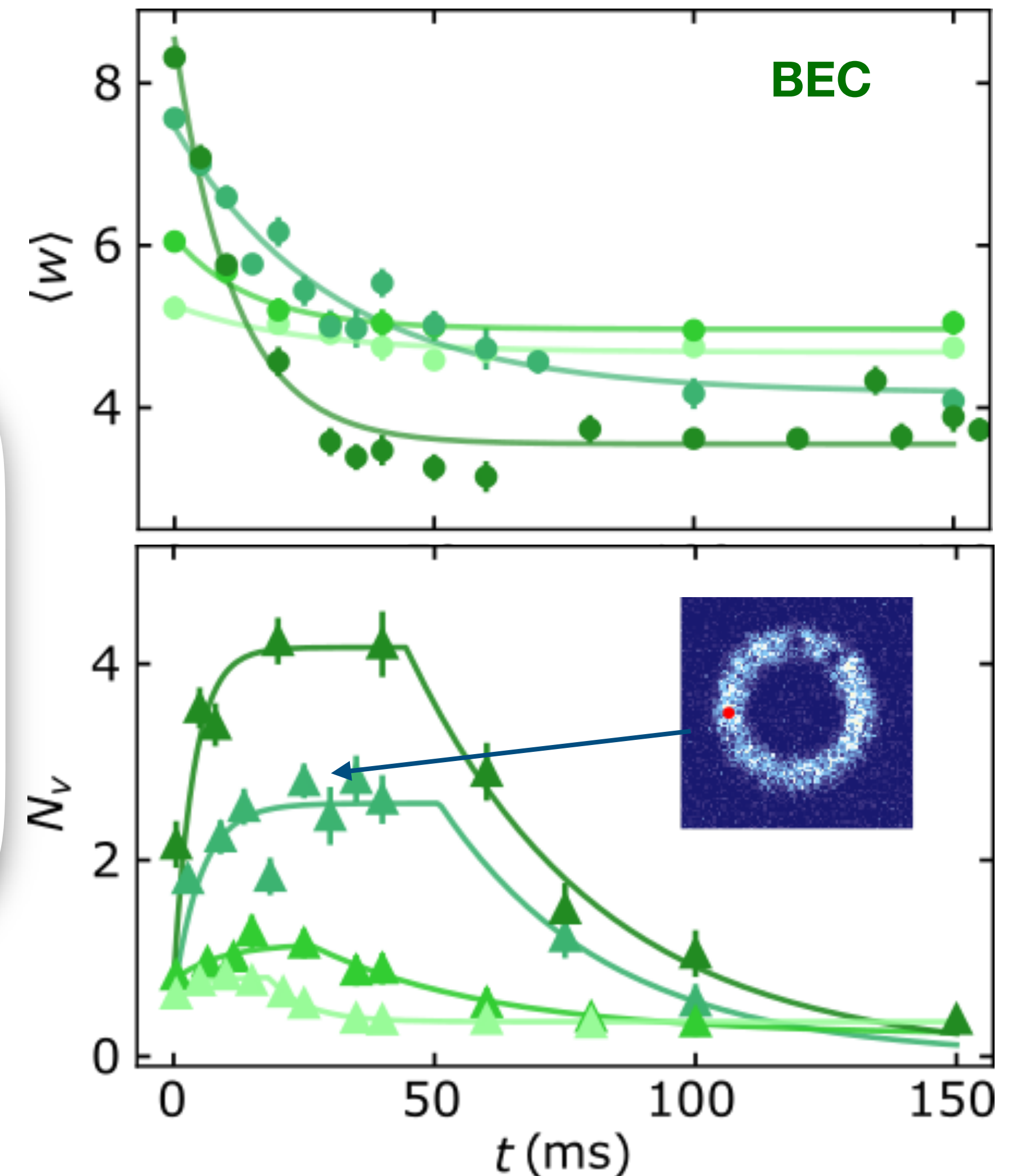
$V_0/E_F = 0.1$ @ BEC

Microscopic vortex emission process



K. Khani, et al., *Atoms* **2023**, 11(8), 109

The global current in the ring decays **via the emission of a vortex** in the bulk superfluid, bringing away one quantum of circulation

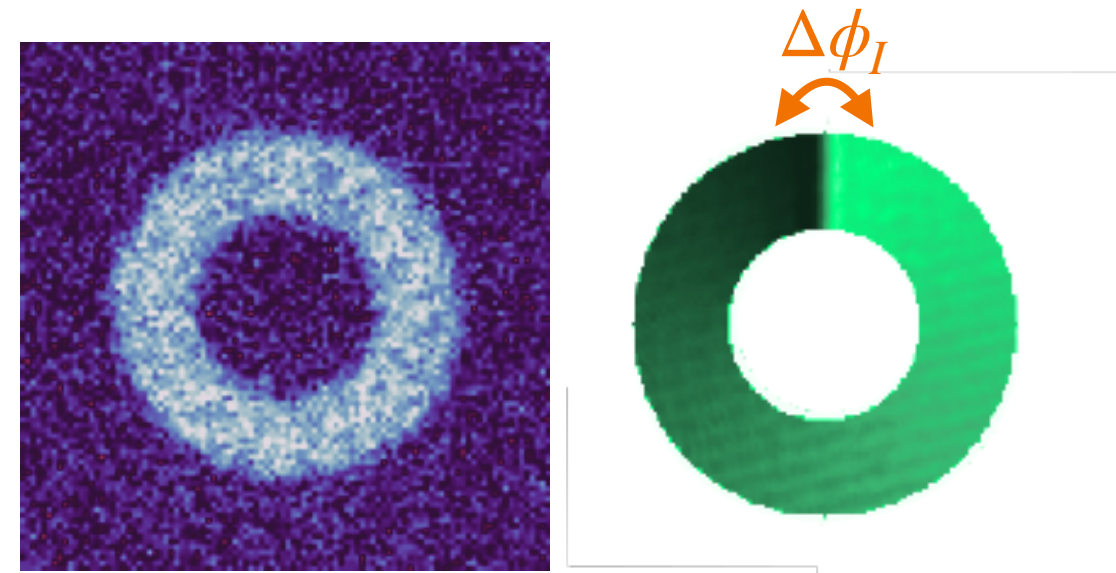


CONCLUSIONS

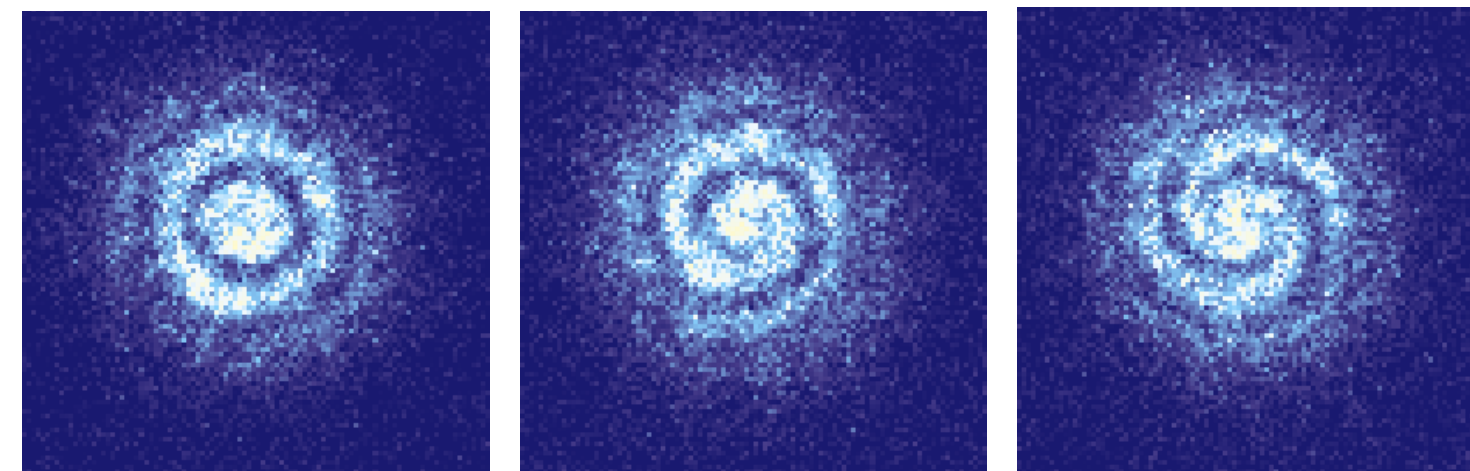
G. Del Pace, et al., 'Imprinting Persistent Currents in Tunable Fermionic Rings' Phys. Rev. X **12**, 041037 (2022)



Phase imprinting to inject a controlled current of finite w in the ring



Interferometric probe to detect the current in the ring

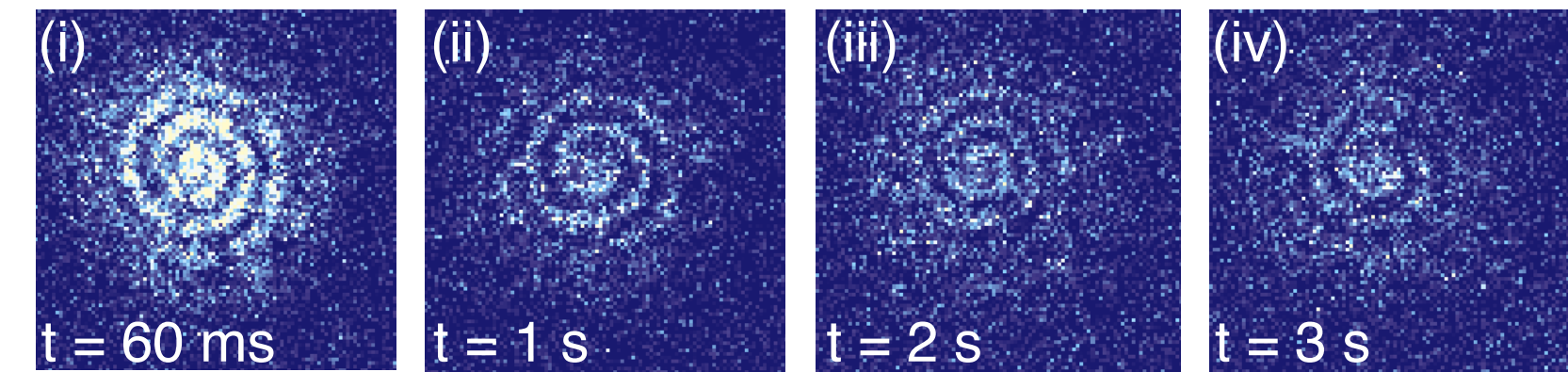


Quantum technologies

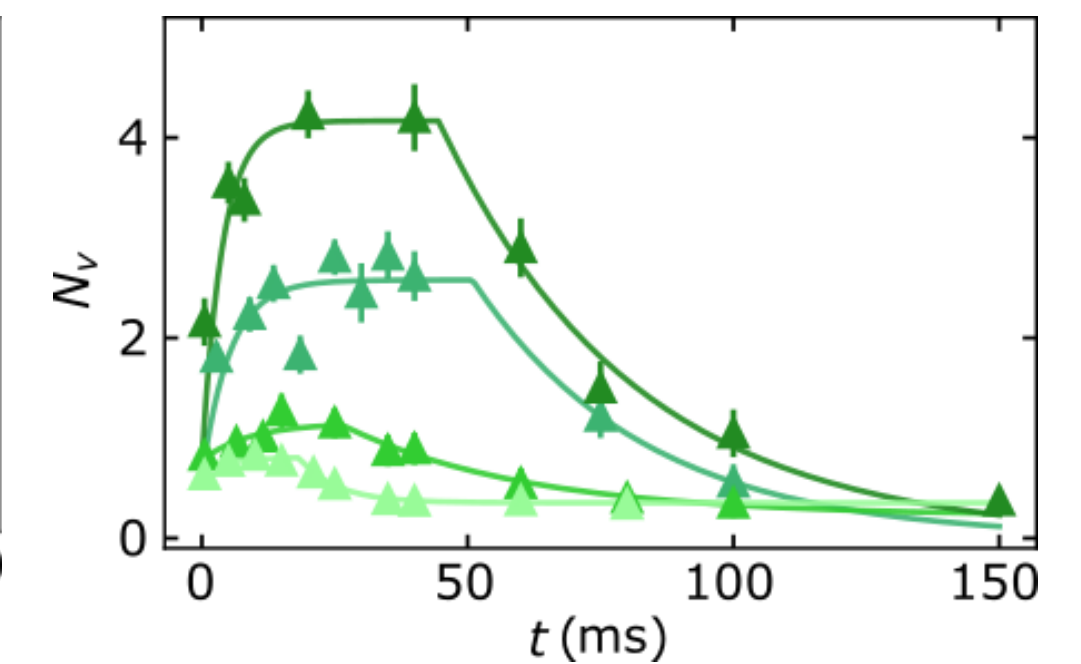
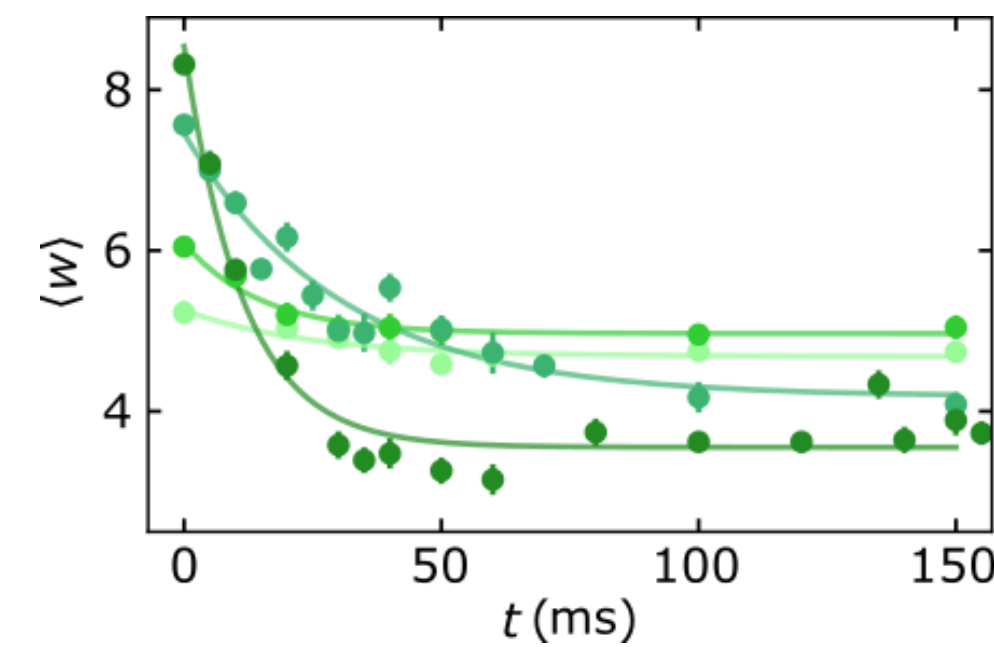
- Fast production of on-demand circulation state
- Reliable read-out of the current
- Control of the current stability in the presence of obstacles



We detect **persistent current** in fermionic superfluid ring



We connect the **current decay** to **vortex emission**, excitations that share the same topological nature



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Massimo Inguscio, INO-CNR, Florence

Our website:



Thank You!