Part II

New challenges in quantum many-body theory: non-equilibrium coherent dynamics

Non-equilibrium dynamics of many-body systems of ultracold atoms

- 1. Dynamical instability of strongly interacting bosons in optical lattices
- 2. Adiabaticity of creating many-body fermionic states in optical lattices
- 3. Dynamical instability of the spiral state of F=1 ferromagnetic condensate
- 4. Dynamics of coherently split condensates
- 5. Many-body decoherence and Ramsey interferometry
- 6. Quantum spin dynamics of cold atoms in an optical lattice

Dynamical Instability of the Spiral State of F=1 Ferromagnetic Condensate

Ref: R. Cherng et al, arXiv:0710.2499





F=1 condensates

$$\begin{split} & \text{Spinor order parameter} \\ & \text{Vector representation} \\ & \vec{\Psi} = \begin{pmatrix} \Psi_x \\ \Psi_y \\ \Psi_z \end{pmatrix} \\ & \text{Ferromagnetic State} \\ & S_x = \cos \phi \quad S_y = \sin \phi \\ & \vec{\Psi} = \frac{\Psi_0}{\sqrt{2}} \times \begin{pmatrix} i \sin \phi \\ i \cos \phi \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ & \text{Polar (nematic) state} \\ & \vec{\Psi} = \Psi_0 \times \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ & \mathcal{H} = \frac{1}{2m} \nabla \Psi_{\alpha}^{\dagger} \nabla \Psi_{\alpha} + q F_z^2 + \frac{g_0}{2} \Psi_{\alpha}^{\dagger} \Psi_{\beta}^{\dagger} \Psi_{\beta} \Psi_{\alpha} + \frac{g_s}{2} \Psi_{\alpha}^{\dagger} \Psi_{\alpha}^{\dagger} \Psi_{\beta} \Psi_{\beta} \end{split}$$

Ferromagnetic state realized for $g_S > 0$

Spiral Ferromagnetic State of F=1 condensate

Gross-Pitaevski equation

$$\begin{split} i\frac{\partial\Psi_{\alpha}}{\partial t} &= -\frac{\nabla^2}{2m}\Psi_{\alpha} + g_0\Psi_{\beta}^{\dagger}\Psi_{\beta}\Psi_{\alpha} + g_s\Psi_{\alpha}^{\dagger}\Psi_{\beta}\Psi_{\beta}\\ \end{split} \label{eq:phi}$$
 Mean-field spiral state

The nature of the mean-field state depends on the system preparation.

Sudden twisting

Adiabatic limit: θ determined from the condition of the stationary state.

$$\Psi(x,t) = \Psi_0 \begin{pmatrix} i \cos qx \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} e^{-i\omega_1 t} \\ i \sin qx \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} e^{-i\omega_1 t} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} e^{-i\omega_2 t} \end{pmatrix} \qquad \vec{\Psi}(x) = \Psi_0 \begin{pmatrix} i \cos qx \cos \theta \\ i \sin qx \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta \end{pmatrix} e^{-i\mu t}$$

Instabillities can be obtained from the analysis of collective modes

Collective modes



Instabilities of the spiral state



Mean-field energy



Inflection point suggests instability

Negative value of $\partial^2 E_{\rm MF} / \partial q^2$ shows that the system can lower its energy by making a non-uniform spiral winding





Non-uniform spiral



Instabilities of the spiral state



Beyond mean-field: thermal and quantum phase slips?

Dynamics of coherently split condensates. Interference experiments

Refs: Bistrizer, Altman, PNAS 104:9955 (2007) Burkov, Lukin, Demler, Phys. Rev. Lett. 98:200404 (2007)

Interference of one dimensional condensates

Experiments: Schmiedmayer et al., Nature Physics (2005,2006)



Studying dynamics using interference experiments



Prepare a system by splitting one condensate

Take to the regime of zero tunneling

Measure time evolution of fringe amplitudes

Finite temperature phase dynamics

 ϕ_2

 ϕ_1

$$\mathcal{H}_{0} = \int dx \, \left[g \, n_{1}^{2}(x) + \rho \, (\partial_{x} \phi_{1})^{2} \right] \, + \, \int dx \, \left[g \, n_{2}^{2}(x) + \rho \, (\partial_{x} \phi_{2})^{2} \right]$$

Temperature leads to phase fluctuations within individual condensates

Interference experiments measure only the relative phase

$$\phi_{av} = \frac{\phi_1 + \phi_2}{2} \qquad \qquad \phi = \phi_1 - \phi_2$$

Relative phase dynamics



Hamiltonian can be diagonalized in momentum space

A collection of harmonic oscillators with $\omega_q = \sqrt{g\rho} |q|$

Initial state $\phi_q = 0$

Need to solve dynamics of harmonic oscillators at finite T

Coherence $\langle \Psi(t) | e^{i\phi} | \Psi(t) \rangle = e^{-\frac{1}{2}\sum_{q} \langle \phi_q^2(t) \rangle}$



Relative phase dynamics

High energy modes, $\hbar \omega_{osc} > k_{\rm B} T$, quantum dynamics Low energy modes, $\hbar \omega_{osc} < k_{\rm B} T$, classical dynamics

Combining all modes

$$t < \frac{h}{k_{\rm B} T}$$

Quantum dynamics

$$t > \frac{h}{k_{\rm B}T}$$

Classical dynamics



For studying dynamics it is important to know the initial width of the phase



Long Phase Coherence Time and Number Squeezing of two Bose-Einstein Condensates on an Atom Chip

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> M. Vengalattore, M. Prentiss MIT-Harvard Center for Ultracold Atoms, Jefferson Laboratory, Physics Department, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA (Dated: August 27, 2006)

Relative phase dynamics



 $\mathcal{H} = \frac{U}{2} (\Delta n)^2 - J \cos \phi$ $J(t) = J_0 e^{-t/\tau_s}$

Separating condensates at finite rate

Instantaneous Josephson frequency

$$\omega_{\rm J} = \sqrt{U J}$$

Adiabatic regime $\,\dot{\omega}_{
m J}\,<\,\omega_{
m J}^2$

Instantaneous separation regime $~\dot{\omega}_{
m J}>\omega_{
m J}^2$ Adiabaticity breaks down when $~\omega_{
m J}\sim~1/ au_{
m s}$

Charge uncertainty at this moment

$$U \, \delta N^2 \sim \omega_{\rm J} \sim 1/\tau_{\rm s}$$

Squeezing factor

$$\frac{\delta N}{\sqrt{N}} \sim \sqrt{\frac{1}{N U \tau_{\rm s}}} \sim \sqrt{\frac{1}{\mu \tau_{\rm s}}}$$

Relative phase dynamics

Bistrizer, Altman, PNAS (2007) Burkov, Lukin, Demler, PRL (2007)



 $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{Quantum regime} & \frac{h}{\mu} < t < \frac{h}{k_{\rm B} T} \\ \mbox{1D systems} & \left\langle e^{i\phi(t)} \right\rangle \sim e^{-\frac{\mu t^2}{2N\tau_{\rm s}}} e^{-t/2\pi K\tau_{\rm s}} \\ \mbox{2D systems} & \left\langle e^{i\phi(t)} \right\rangle \sim e^{-\frac{\mu t^2}{2N\tau_{\rm s}}} \left(\frac{t_0}{t}\right)^{1/16T_{KT}\tau_{\rm s}} \end{array}$

Different from the earlier theoretical work based on a single mode approximation, e.g. Gardiner and Zoller, Leggett

Classical regime $t > \frac{h}{k_{\rm T}T}$

1D systems
$$\langle e^{i\phi(t)} \rangle \sim e^{-(\frac{t}{t_{\rm T}})^{2/3}}$$

 $t_{\rm T} \, \sim \, \frac{\mu \, K}{T^2}$

2D systems $\langle e^{i\phi(t)} \rangle \sim \left(\frac{t_0}{t}\right)^{\frac{T}{8T_{KT}}}$

1d BEC: Decay of coherence

Experiments: Hofferberth, Schumm, Schmiedmayer, Nature (2007)



get t_0 from fit with fixed slope 2/3 and calculate T from

$$t_0 = 2.61 \pi K/T^2$$

 $T_5 = 110 \pm 21 \text{ nK}$ $T_{10} = 130 \pm 25 \text{ nK}$ $T_{15} = 170 \pm 22 \text{ nK}$

Dynamics of partially split condensates. From the Bethe ansatz solution of the quantum Sine-Gordon model to quantum dynamics

Refs:

Gritsev, Demler, Lukin, Polkovnikov, Phys. Rev. Lett. 99:200404 (2007) Gritsev, Polkovnikov, Demler, Phys. Rev. B 75:174511 (2007)

Coupled 1d systems

$$\mathcal{H}_{0} = \int dx \, \left[g \, n_{1}^{2}(x) + \rho \, (\partial_{x} \phi_{1})^{2} \right] \, + \, \int dx \, \left[g \, n_{2}^{2}(x) + \rho \, (\partial_{x} \phi_{2})^{2} \right]$$

Interactions lead to phase fluctuations within individual condensates

$$\mathcal{H}_{tun} = -J\int dx\,\cos(\phi_1-\phi_2)$$

Tunneling favors aligning of the two phases

Interference experiments measure only the relative phase

$$\phi_{av} = \frac{\phi_1 + \phi_2}{2} \qquad \qquad \phi = \phi_1 - \phi_2$$

Coupled 1d systems ϕ_2 ϕ_1 **∢**....> Conjugate variables $\phi = \phi_1 - \phi_2$ $\Delta n = (n_1 - n_2)/2$ Particle number Relative phase imbalance $\left[\Delta n(x_1), \phi(x_2)\right] = -i\,\delta(x_1 - x_2)$

$$\mathcal{H}[\phi] = \int dx \, d\tau \left[\frac{1}{2K} (\Delta n)^2 + \frac{K}{2} \left(\partial_x \phi \right)^2 \right] - J \int dx \, d\tau \, \cos \phi$$

Small K corresponds to strong quantum fluctuations

Quantum Sine-Gordon model

Hamiltonian

$$\mathcal{H}[\phi] = \int dx \, d\tau \left[\frac{1}{2K} (\Delta n)^2 + \frac{K}{2} \, (\partial_x \phi)^2 \right] \, - \, J \int \, dx \, d\tau \, \cos \phi$$

Imaginary time action

$$\mathcal{S}[\phi] = \frac{K}{2} \int dx \, d\tau \left[(\partial_\tau \phi)^2 + (\partial_x \phi)^2 \right] + J \int dx \, d\tau \, \cos \phi$$

Quantum Sine-Gordon model is exactly integrable

Excitations of the quantum Sine-Gordon model



Dynamics of quantum sine-Gordon model

Hamiltonian formalism

$$\mathcal{H}[\phi] = \int dx \, d\tau \left[\frac{1}{2K} (\Delta n)^2 + \frac{K}{2} \, (\partial_x \phi)^2 \right] \, - \, J \int dx \, d\tau \, \cos \phi$$

Initial state $\phi(t=0) = 0$

Quantum action in space-time

$$\mathcal{S}[\phi] = \frac{K}{2} \int dx \, d\tau \left[(\partial_\tau \phi)^2 + (\partial_x \phi)^2 \right] + J \int dx \, d\tau \, \cos \phi$$

Initial state provides a boundary condition at t=0

Solve as a boundary sine-Gordon model

Boundary sine-Gordon model

Exact solution due to Ghoshal and Zamolodchikov (93) Applications to quantum impurity problem: Fendley, Saleur, Zamolodchikov, Lukyanov,...

$$S = \int_{x\tau} \left[\frac{K}{2} (\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \tau})^2 + \frac{K}{2} (\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x})^2 - m \cos \phi \right] - M \int_{\tau} \cos \frac{\phi(x=0)}{2}$$

Limit $M \to \infty$ enforces boundary condition $\phi(x=0) = 0$



Boundary sine-Gordon model

Initial state is a generalized squeezed state

$$|\psi(t=0)\rangle = e^{\{\sum_{\gamma} g_{\gamma} A_{\gamma}^{\dagger}(\theta=0) + \sum_{\alpha\beta} \int_{\theta} K_{\alpha\beta}(\theta) A_{\alpha}^{\dagger}(-\theta) A_{\beta}^{\dagger}(\theta)\}} |\operatorname{vac}\rangle$$

 $A^{\dagger}_{lpha}(heta)$ creates solitons, breathers with rapidity $_{ heta}$

 $A^{\dagger}_{\gamma}(\theta=0)$ creates even breathers only

Matrix $K_{\alpha\beta}(\theta)$ and g_{γ} are known from the exact solution of the boundary sine-Gordon model

Time evolution $A^{\dagger}_{\alpha}(\theta,t) = A^{\dagger}_{\alpha}(\theta) e^{-iE_{\alpha}(\theta)t}$

Coherence $\langle \psi(t) | e^{i\phi} | \psi(t) \rangle$

Matrix elements can be computed using form factor approach Smirnov (1992), Lukyanov (1997)

Quantum Josephson Junction

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{g}{2} n^2 - J \cos \phi$$
Limit of quantum sine-Gordon model when spatial gradients are forbidden
$$|\psi(t=0)\rangle = \sum_n C_{2n} |2n\rangle$$

Eigenstates of the quantum Jos. junction Hamiltonian are given by Mathieu's functions

Time evolution
$$| \psi(t) \rangle = \sum_{n} C_{2n} e^{-iE_{2n}t} | 2n \rangle$$

Coherence $\langle \psi(t) | e^{i\phi} | \psi(t) \rangle$

Dynamics of quantum Josephson Junction

Power spectrum
$$P(\omega) = |\int_t e^{i\omega t} \langle \psi(t) | e^{i\phi} | \psi(t) \rangle |^2$$



Main peak $\,\omega\,=\,E_2\,-\,E_0$

"Higher harmonics" $\omega = E_4 - E_0, E_6 - E_0, \ldots$

Smaller peaks $\omega = E_{2n+2} - E_{2n}, E_{2n+4} - E_{2n}, \dots$

Dynamics of quantum sine-Gordon model

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = e^{\{\sum_{\gamma} g_{\gamma} A_{\gamma}^{\dagger}(\theta=0) + \sum_{\alpha\beta} \int_{\theta} K_{\alpha\beta}(\theta) A_{\alpha}^{\dagger}(-\theta) A_{\beta}^{\dagger}(\theta)\}} |\operatorname{vac}\rangle$$

Coherence
$$\langle \psi(t) | e^{i\phi} | \psi(t) \rangle$$

Main peak $\int_{\theta} \langle \operatorname{vac} | e^{i\phi} | B_1(\theta) B_1(-\theta) \rangle$
"Higher harmonics" $\int_{\theta} \langle \operatorname{vac} | e^{i\phi} | B_n(\theta) B_n(-\theta) \rangle$
Smaller peaks $\int_{\theta\theta'} \langle B_m(\theta') B_m(-\theta') | e^{i\phi} | B_n(\theta) B_n(-\theta) \rangle$

Sharp peaks $\langle \operatorname{vac} | e^{i\phi} | B_{2n}(\theta = 0) \rangle$

Dynamics of quantum sine-Gordon model



Many-body decoherence and Ramsey interferometry

Ref:

Widera, Trotzky, Cheinet, Fölling, Gerbier, Bloch, Gritsev, Lukin, Demler, arXiv:0709.2094

Ramsey interference





Working with *N* atoms improves the precision by \sqrt{N} . Need spin squeezed states to improve frequency spectroscopy

Squeezed spin states for spectroscopy

Motivation: improved spectroscopy, e.g. Wineland et. al. PRA 50:67 (1994)

Generation of spin squeezing using interactions. Two component BEC. Single mode approximation



In the single mode approximation we can neglect kinetic energy terms

$$\mathcal{H}_{\rm SMA} = \frac{g_s}{V} \left(N_1 - N_2 \right)^2$$

Interaction induced collapse of Ramsey fringes



Spin echo. Time reversal experiments

Single mode approximation

$$\mathcal{H}_{SMA} = \frac{g_s}{V} (N_1 - N_2)^2$$
$$g_s = \frac{g_{11} - g_{12}}{2}$$

The Hamiltonian can be reversed by changing a₁₂



Spin echo. Time reversal experiments

Expts: A. Widera, I. Bloch et al.



No revival?

 $a_s \rightarrow -a_s$



Experiments done in array of tubes. Strong fluctuations in 1d systems. Single mode approximation does not apply. Need to analyze the full model

$$\mathcal{H} = \int dx \left[g_c \left(n_1 + n_2 \right)^2 + g_s (n_1 - n_2)^2 + \frac{|\nabla \Psi_1|^2}{2m} + \frac{|\nabla \Psi_2|^2}{2m} \right]$$

Interaction induced collapse of Ramsey fringes. Multimode analysis

Low energy effective theory: Luttinger liquid approach

Luttinger model

$$S^{+}(x,t) \sim e^{i\phi_{s}(x,t)}$$
 $[S^{z}(x),\phi_{s}(x')] = -i\delta(x-x')$

$$\mathcal{H}_s = \int_0^L dx \, \left[g_s (S^z)^2 \, + \, \frac{\rho}{2m} (\nabla \phi_s)^2 \right]$$

Changing the sign of the interaction reverses the interaction part of the Hamiltonian but not the kinetic energy

$$\mathcal{H}_s = \sum_q \left[g_s(t) S_q^z S_q^{z*} + \frac{\rho q^2}{m} \phi_{sq} \phi_{sq}^* \right]$$

 $\left[S_{q'}^z,\phi_{sq}\right] = -i\delta_{qq'}$

Т

Time dependent harmonic oscillators can be analyzed exactly

Time-dependent harmonic oscillator

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{p^2}{2m(t)} + k \frac{q^2}{2}$$

See e.g. Lewis, Riesengeld (1969) Malkin, Man'ko (1970)

Explicit quantum mechanical wavefunction can be found

$$\psi(p,t) = \frac{\Phi(\frac{p}{c(t)})}{\sqrt{c(t)}} e^{i\alpha(t)p^2 + i\gamma(t)}$$

From the solution of classical problem

$$\ddot{c} + \omega^2(t) c = \frac{\omega_c^2}{c^3}$$

We solve this problem for each momentum component

$$\mathcal{H}_s = \sum_q \left[g_s(t) S_q^z S_q^{z*} + \frac{\rho \, q^2}{m} \phi_{sq} \phi_{sq}^* \right]$$

Interaction induced collapse of Ramsey fringes in one dimensional systems



Only q=0 mode shows complete spin echo Finite q modes continue decay

The net visibility is a result of competition between q=0 and other modes

Fundamental limit on Ramsey interferometry

Quantum spin dynamics of cold atoms in an optical lattice

Two component Bose mixture in optical lattice

Example: 87 Rb. Mandel et al., Nature 425:937 (2003)



Two component Bose Hubbard model

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H} &= - t_{\uparrow} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} b_{i\uparrow}^{\dagger} b_{j\uparrow} - t_{\downarrow} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} b_{i\downarrow}^{\dagger} b_{j\downarrow} + U_{\uparrow\uparrow} \sum_{i} n_{i\uparrow} (n_{\uparrow} - 1) \\ &+ U_{\downarrow\downarrow} \sum_{i} n_{i\downarrow} (n_{\downarrow} - 1) + U_{\uparrow\downarrow} \sum_{i} n_{i\uparrow} n_{\downarrow} \end{aligned}$$

Quantum magnetism of bosons in optical lattices



Duan, Demler, Lukin, PRL 91:94514 (2003)

$$\mathcal{H} = J_z \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z + J_\perp \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \left(\sigma_i^x \sigma_j^x + \sigma_i^y \sigma_j^y \right)$$

$$J_{z} = \frac{t_{\uparrow}^{2} + t_{\downarrow}^{2}}{2U_{\uparrow\downarrow}} - \frac{t_{\uparrow}^{2}}{U_{\uparrow\uparrow}} - \frac{t_{\downarrow}^{2}}{U_{\downarrow\downarrow}} \qquad \qquad J_{\perp} = - \frac{t_{\uparrow}t_{\downarrow}}{U_{\uparrow\downarrow}}$$

- Ferromagnetic
- Antiferromagnetic

$$\begin{split} U_{\uparrow\downarrow} >> U_{\uparrow\uparrow}, \ U_{\downarrow\downarrow} \\ U_{\uparrow\downarrow} << U_{\uparrow\uparrow}, \ U_{\downarrow\downarrow} \end{split}$$



Kinetic energy dominates: antiferromagnetic state



Coulomb energy dominates: ferromagnetic state



Two component Bose mixture in optical lattice. Mean field theory + Quantum fluctuations



Superexchange interaction in experiments with double wells

Refs:

Theory: A.M. Rey et al., arXiv:0704.1413 Experiment: S. Trotzky et al., arXiv:0712.1853

Observation of superexchange in a double well potential

Theory: A.M. Rey et al., arXiv:0704.1413



Use magnetic field gradient to prepare a state $|\downarrow\uparrow\rangle$

Observe oscillations between $|\downarrow\uparrow\rangle$ and $|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle$ states



Preparation and detection of Mott states of atoms in a double well potential





Comparison to the Hubbard model

Experiments: I. Bloch et al.



$$\hbar\omega_{1,2} = \frac{U}{2} \left(\sqrt{\left(\frac{4J}{U}\right)^2 + 1} \pm 1 \right)$$



Beyond the basic Hubbard model



$$+ U_{\mathrm{LR}} \sum_{\sigma \neq \sigma'} \left(\hat{n}_{\sigma \mathrm{L}} \hat{n}_{\sigma' \mathrm{R}} + \hat{a}^{\dagger}_{\sigma \mathrm{L}} \hat{a}^{\dagger}_{\sigma' \mathrm{R}} \hat{a}_{\sigma' \mathrm{L}} \hat{a}_{\sigma \mathrm{R}} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{1}{2} \hat{a}^{\dagger}_{\sigma \mathrm{L}} \hat{a}^{\dagger}_{\sigma' \mathrm{L}} \hat{a}_{\sigma' \mathrm{R}} \hat{a}_{\sigma \mathrm{R}} + \frac{1}{2} \hat{a}^{\dagger}_{\sigma \mathrm{R}} \hat{a}^{\dagger}_{\sigma' \mathrm{R}} \hat{a}_{\sigma' \mathrm{L}} \hat{a}_{\sigma \mathrm{L}} \right) ,$$

Beyond the basic Hubbard model



Connecting double wells ...



Spin Dynamics of an isotropic 1d Heisenberg model

Initial state: product of triplets







Conclusions

Experiments with ultracold atoms provide a new perspective on the physics of strongly correlated many-body systems. This includes analysis of high order correlation functions, non-equilibrium dynamics, and many more