

# THE UNITARY GAS

## OUTLINE:

I. Simple facts

II. How to model the interaction

III. Dynamical scaling invariance in a trap

# I. SIMPLE FACTS

## WHAT IS THE UNITARY GAS ?

A gas...

- a dilute system with respect to interaction range:

$$nb^3 \ll 1$$

- Scattering amplitude  $f_k$  matters rather than  $V(r)$

...at unitary limit:

- For relevant relative momentum  $k$ ,  $f_k$  reaches maximal modulus: **maximally interacting gas**

$$f_k = -\frac{1}{ik}$$

- From optical theorem indeed:

$$\text{Im } f_k = k |f_k|^2 \Rightarrow f_k = -\frac{1}{u(k) + ik}, \quad u(k) \text{ real}$$

## WHAT THIS IMPLIES FOR AN ATOMIC GAS

S-wave low  $k$  expansion of scattering amplitude:

$$u(k) = \frac{1}{a} - \frac{1}{2}k^2 r_e + \dots$$

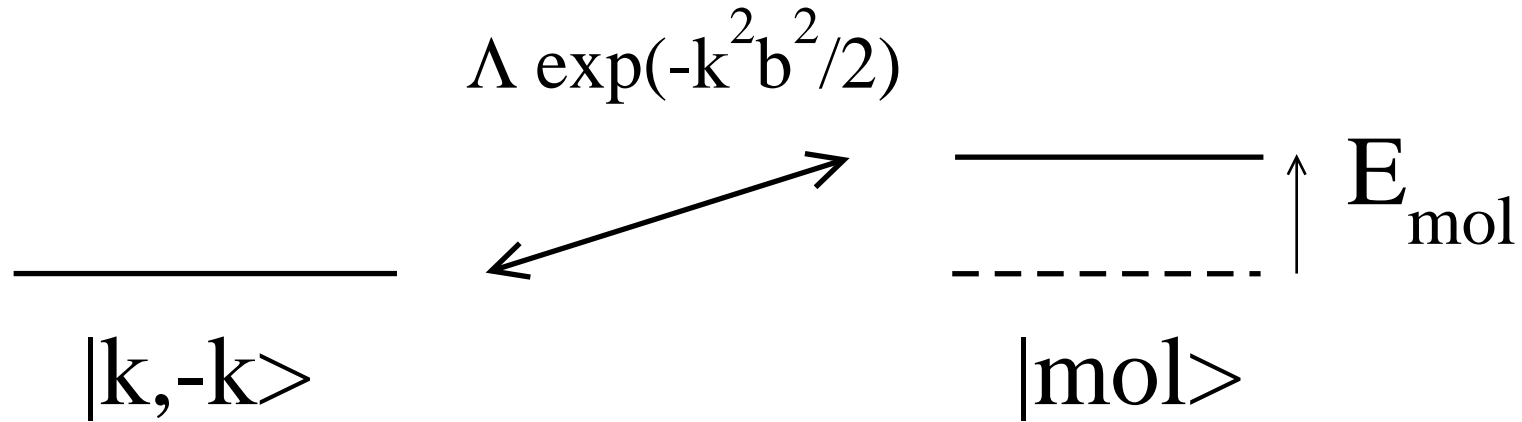
- $a$  is scattering length
- $r_e$  is effective range
- ... assumed negligible for  $kb \ll 1$

Unitary gas as a double limit:

- (1) zero range limit  $kb \ll 1, k|r_e| \ll 1$
- (2) infinite scattering length limit:  $k|a| \gg 1$ 
  - If one assumes  $k \sim n^{1/3}$  double limit achieved in present experiments on **broad** Feshbach resonances ( $|r_e| \sim b$ ).
  - Assumption  $k \sim n^{1/3}$  not necessarily true (effective three-body Efimov attraction, bosons or large mass ratio fermions)

CAN ONE HAVE  $r_e$  NON ZERO WITH  $b \rightarrow 0$

Yes, simple two-channel model of Feshbach resonance:



- Tune  $E_{mol}$  to have  $|a| = \infty$
- Then effective range

$$r_e = \frac{4b}{\pi^{1/2}} - \frac{8\pi\hbar^4}{m^2\Lambda^2}$$

## WHY IS THE UNITARY GAS FASCINATING ?

### Universality:

- no parameter left describing the interaction
- eigenenergies  $E_i$  depend on  $\hbar^2/m$  and on shape of container  $U(\vec{r})$ : unit of length set by the container!

### Spatial scaling invariance:

- Remains unitary if one changes volume of container.
- Not true for fixed finite value of  $a$ :  $n^{1/3}a$  changes.
- If one applies to container a similarity of factor  $\lambda$ :

$$E_i \rightarrow \frac{E_i}{\lambda^2}$$
$$\psi_i(\vec{X}) \rightarrow \frac{\psi_i(\vec{X}/\lambda)}{\lambda^{3N/2}}$$

## DIRECT CONSEQUENCES

In harmonic isotropic trap:

$$\frac{E_i}{\hbar\omega} = \text{function}_i(N).$$

In free space:

- No bound state can be at unitarity.

In a box at thermodynamic limit:

- Assume that  $E_0/N = e_0$ ,  $F/N = f$  are intensive.

$$e_0(n/\lambda^3) = e_0(n)/\lambda^2 \rightarrow e_0(n) = \eta e_0^{\text{ideal Fermi gas}}(n).$$

$$f(n/\lambda^3, T/\lambda^2) = f(n, T)/\lambda^2.$$

- Taking the derivative in  $\lambda = 1$ :

$$\frac{5}{3}E - \mu N = TS \quad (\text{Zwinger})$$

# IS THERE UNITARITY IN LOWER DIMENSIONS ?

## In 1D:

- Tonks-Girardeau Bose gas.
- Mappable to an ideal Fermi gas.

## In 2D:

- Low- $k$  scattering characterized by  $a_{2D}$ :

$$-\frac{1}{f_k} = -\ln(ka_{2D}/2) - \gamma + i\pi/2 + \dots$$

$$\psi_0(r) = \ln(r/a_{2D}) \quad \text{for } r > b.$$

- No scale invariance for finite  $a_{2D}$ .
- $a_{2D} \rightarrow +\infty$ : ideal gas.
- Have  $n^{1/2}a_{2D} \sim 1$  to maximize interactions.



# IS THERE UNITARITY IN OTHER PARTIAL WAVES ?

P-wave interaction for fully polarized fermions:

$$u(k) = \frac{1}{k^2 \mathcal{V}_s} + \alpha + \dots$$

- Tune  $\mathcal{V}_s$  to infinity with Feshbach resonance.
- Can one have  $\alpha = 0$  at resonance ?
- Lower bound for compact support potential of radius  $b$ :

$$\alpha_{\text{res}} b \geq 1. \quad (\text{Pricoupenko})$$

- For  $\mathcal{V}_s$  large and negative,  $|u(k)| \ll k$  around

$$k_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha |\mathcal{V}_s|}}.$$

# IS THE UNITARY GAS ATTRACTIVE OR REPULSIVE ?

## Common sayings:

- $a > 0$ : effective repulsive interaction.
- $a < 0$ : effective attractive interaction.
- $|a| = \infty$ : gas properties do not depend on the sign of  $a$ .

## Naive way out of this paradox: (Kokkelmans)

- mean field with  $k$ -dependent coupling constant  $-\text{Re } f_k$
- unitary gas would then be non-interacting.

# IS THE UNITARY GAS ATTRACTIVE OR REPULSIVE ?

Answer to paradox in short:

- Start from weakly interacting gas.
- Two adiabatic procedures

$$a = 0^+ \rightarrow a = +\infty \quad \text{and} \quad a = 0^- \rightarrow a = -\infty$$

lead to different states, that is they follow different branches.

Illustration on a toy model for fermions (Pricoupenko, Castin):

- A matter wave in hard wall spherical cavity of radius  $R$

$$\phi(R) = 0 \quad R \sim n^{-1/3}$$

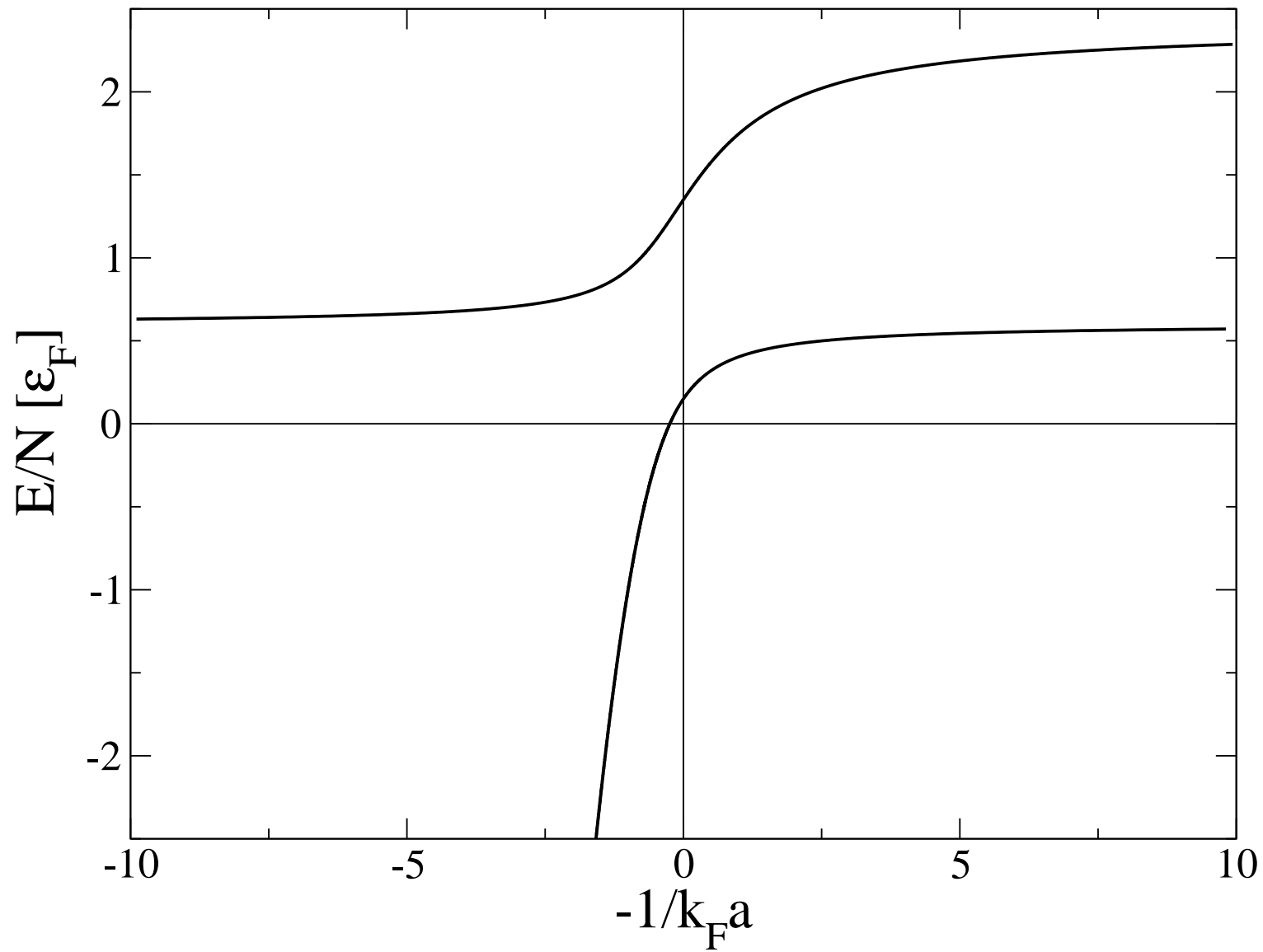
to mimick Pauli exclusion principle.

- In presence of a scattering center at the origin:

$$\phi(r) = A \left( \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{a} \right) + o(1).$$

to mimick nearest neighbour interaction.

# THE LOWEST ENERGY BRANCHES OF TOY MODEL



## II. HOW TO MODEL THE INTERACTION

## APPROACH 1

### A finite range model:

- potential with finite range  $b$  and infinite  $a$
- calculate eigenenergies, thermodynamic properties, ...
- go to  $b = 0$  limit at the end of the calculation

### Non-trivial question: universality

- Eigenstate universal, i.e. reaches unitary limit, if  $(E_i, \psi_i)$  converge for  $b \rightarrow 0$ .
- Typical non-universal state:  $E_i \rightarrow -\infty$
- To use  $\rho = \exp(-\beta H)$ , avoid models with non-universal states: negative  $V(r)$  not good for large  $N$  (Seiringer, Lobo)
- Favor models solvable by Quantum Monte Carlo.

## APPROACH 2

Replace interaction by Bethe-Peierls contact conditions:

- Hamiltonian is the one of the ideal gas

$$H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\Delta_{\vec{X}} + \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 X^2$$

- The domain  $D(H)$  is not the ideal gas one!
- Contact cond. for  $r_{ij} \rightarrow 0$  at fixed centroid  $\vec{R}_{ij} \neq \vec{r}_k$ :

$$\psi(\vec{X}) = A_{ij}(\vec{R}_{ij}; \{\vec{r}_k, k \neq i, j\}) \left[ \frac{1}{r_{ij}} - \frac{1}{a} \right] + o(1)$$

- Scale invariance of  $D(H)$  to ensure universality

if  $\psi \in D(H)$ ,  $\psi_\lambda \in D(H) \forall \lambda > 0$  with  $\psi_\lambda(\vec{X}) = \psi(\vec{X}/\lambda)$ .

NB. Here we exclude  $\vec{r}_i = \vec{r}_j$ . Otherwise a regularized delta interaction pseudo-potential appears.

## REMINDER: DOMAIN OF A HAMILTONIAN

### Practical definition:

- $D(H)$  is the set of wave functions over which the action of Hamiltonian is represented by differential operator  $H$ .
- If one does not care, paradoxes ... due to errors.

### Simple example:

- One particle in 1D in a box:

$$H = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2}{dx^2}$$

with boundary conditions  $\psi(0) = \psi(1) = 0$ .

- A wavefunction in the domain:

$$\psi(x) = x(1 - x).$$

$$\langle H \rangle_\psi = 5 \quad ; \quad \langle H^2 \rangle_\psi = 0?!$$

This last result is wrong:  $H\psi \notin D(H)$ . Right value: 30.



## NON-TRIVIAL QUESTION IN APPROACH 2

Is the Hamiltonian self-adjoint ?

- This amounts to proving the unitarity of the gas.
- For  $N = 2$ : answer is yes. (book by Albeverio)
- For  $N = 3$  bosons: no. See later.
- For  $N = 3$  equal mass fermions: probably yes.
- For  $N \geq 4$  equal mass fermions: ?

Partial universality:

- Restrict  $H$  to subspace where it is hermitian.
- This means: A non-complete family of universal states.
- For  $N = 3$  bosons: all universal states determined. See later. (Jonsell, Heiselberg and Pethick; Werner and Castin)

- For arbitrary number  $N$  of bosons, trivial universal states (common to ideal gas) with  $A_{ij} \equiv 0$ :

$$\psi(\vec{X}) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{for} \quad r_{ij} \rightarrow 0.$$

- These trivial states dominate the ideal gas density of states at high energy. (Werner and Castin)

## A TRIVIAL QUESTION IN APPROACH 2

I see no interaction energy in  $H$ , is the energy of kinetic nature only ?

**Answer: no.**

$$E_{\text{kin}} = \int \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} |\partial_{\vec{X}} \psi|^2 = +\infty.$$

$$E_{\text{kin}} + E_{\text{int}} = - \int \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \psi^* \Delta_{\vec{X}} \psi.$$

## OUR CANDIDATE FOR APPROACH 1

A Hubbard-type lattice model (here for spin 1/2 fermions):

- cubic lattice of step  $b$ .
- “tunneling”: one-body eigenstates are plane waves with dispersion relation  $\epsilon_k$

$$\vec{k} \in \mathcal{D} \equiv \left[ -\frac{\pi}{b}, \frac{\pi}{b} \right]^3 \quad \text{and} \quad \epsilon_k = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m}$$

- on-site interaction with coupling constant  $g_0$

$$H = \sum_{\vec{k} \in \mathcal{D}} \sum_{\sigma = \uparrow, \downarrow} \epsilon_k a_{\vec{k}, \sigma}^\dagger a_{\vec{k}, \sigma} + g_0 \sum_{\vec{r}} b^3 \hat{\psi}_\uparrow^\dagger(\vec{r}) \hat{\psi}_\downarrow^\dagger(\vec{r}) \hat{\psi}_\downarrow(\vec{r}) \hat{\psi}_\uparrow(\vec{r})$$

- Field commutation relations mimicking continuous space ones:

$$\{\hat{\psi}_\sigma(\vec{r}), \hat{\psi}_{\sigma'}^\dagger(\vec{r}')\} = \delta_{\sigma\sigma'} \frac{\delta_{\vec{r}, \vec{r}'}}{b^3}.$$

## HOW TO CHOOSE THE COUPLING CONSTANT $g_0$

To have the correct scattering length: (Mora, Castin)

- scattering of two particles in the infinite lattice
- for a zero total momentum:

$$H_{\text{rel}} = \frac{p^2}{m} + V \quad \text{with} \quad V = g_0 |\vec{r} = \vec{0}\rangle \langle \vec{r} = \vec{0}|$$

- calculate the  $T$ -matrix on the grid

$$T(E + i0^+) = V + V G_{\text{rel}}(E + i0^+) V$$

- expand at low energy, setting  $E = \hbar^2 q^2 / m$ ,  $q \geq 0$ :

$$\langle \vec{k} | T(E + i0^+) | \vec{k}' \rangle = \frac{4\pi \hbar^2 / m}{a^{-1} + iq + O(q^2 b)}$$

## HOW TO CHOOSE THE COUPLING CONSTANT $g_0$ (2)

Result and discussion:

$$g_0 = \frac{4\pi\hbar^2 a/m}{1 - Ca/b} \quad \text{with} \quad C = 2.442\,749\dots$$

- Born regime:  $|a| \ll b$
- impenetrable regime:  $g_0 = +\infty$  gives  $a = b/C$
- infinite scattering length:

$$g_0 = -\frac{4\pi\hbar^2 b}{C m}$$

so an attractive Hubbard-type model with  $g_0 \rightarrow 0^-$  in unitary limit.

## ADVANTAGES OF THIS LATTICE MODEL

For fermions, link with condensed matter physics:

- Unitary limit = zero filling factor limit of Hubbard model with

$$\frac{U}{J} = \frac{g_0/b^3}{\hbar^2/(2mb^2)} = \text{well chosen constant}$$

- Quantum Monte Carlo possible with no sign problem:

$$T_c^{\text{Svistunov}} \simeq 0.15T_F \quad T_c^{\text{Bulgac}} \simeq 0.2T_F$$
$$\eta \simeq 0.44 \quad \text{and gap } \Delta \simeq 0.44E_F \quad (\text{Juillet})$$

From a theoretical point of view:

- no tricky  $D(H)$ , standard variational methods apply:

$$\eta \leq \eta_{\text{BCS}} = 0.5906 \dots \quad (\text{Randeria})$$

From an experimental point of view in a lattice:

- For bosons:  $|a| = \infty$  without a Feshbach resonance

**$b \rightarrow 0$  LATTICE MODEL  $\iff$  BETHE-PEIERLS ?**  
(Pricoupenko, Castin)

**Case of two particles:**

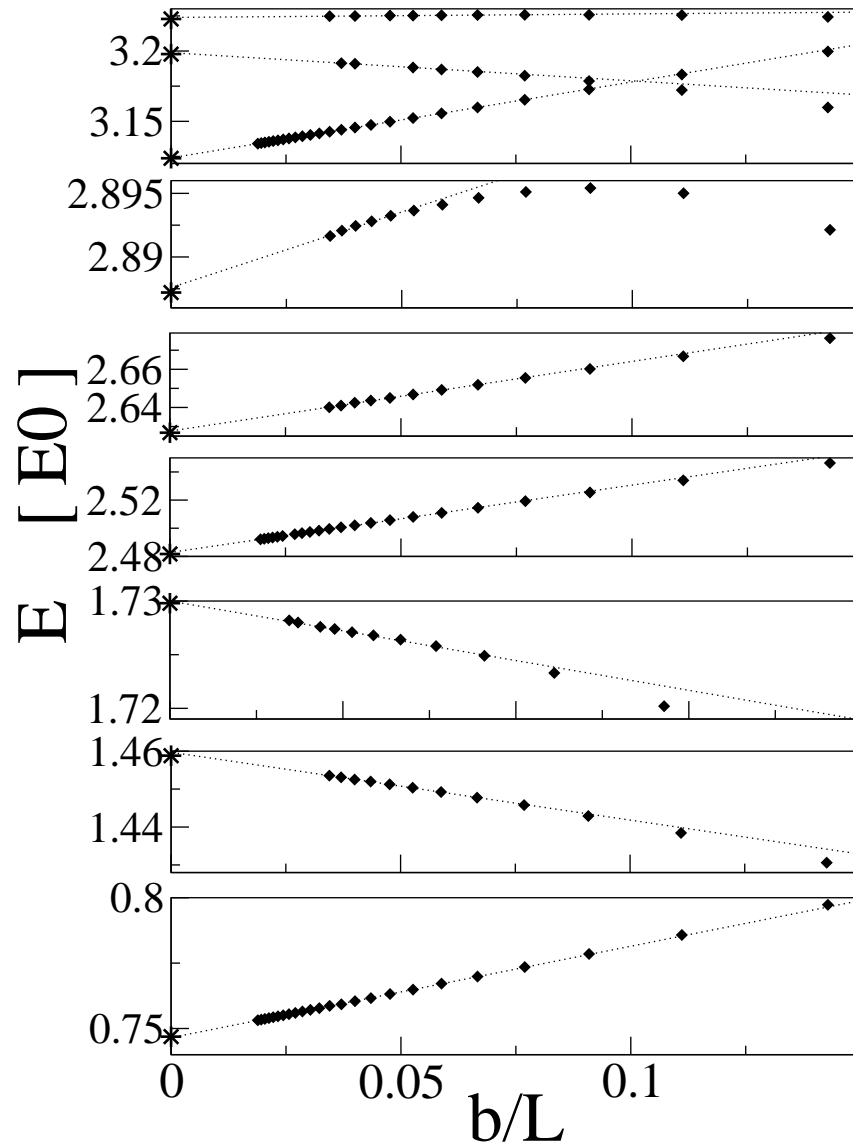
- Proof of equivalence for the eigenenergies  $E_i$

**Case of three equal mass fermions:**

- numerically, coincidence.
- analytically: if finite limit of  $E_i(b)$  exists, coincidence.
- all  $E_i > 0$  checked up to  $b/L = 1/81$  (diagonalisation of a matrix  $531\,441 \times 531\,441$ )



# THE TWO MODELS FOR 3 EQUAL MASS FERMIONS



## CASES OF $b \rightarrow 0$ LATTICE MODEL $\neq$ BETHE-PEIERLS

Case of  $|a| = \infty$  bosons:

- Variational calculation with  $|N : \vec{r} = \vec{0}\rangle$

$$E_0(b) \leq g_0 N [N - 2.92] / (2b^3) \xrightarrow{b \rightarrow 0} -\infty.$$

- Approaches 1 and 2 are then not equivalent.

Same result for 2 massive fermions and a light particle:

- Variational calculation with the 2 fermions localized on neighboring sites:

$$E_0(b) \leq -0.2 \frac{\hbar^2}{mb^2} \left( 1 - 42 \frac{m}{M} \right)$$

- For a large enough mass ratio  $M/m$ , Pauli principle not sufficient to prevent 3-body deeply bound states (see lecture by Petrov).

### III. DYNAMICAL SCALING INVARIANCE IN A TRAP

## FIRST MOMENT OF THE TRAPPING ENERGY: VIRIAL THEOREM

We consider a normalized eigenstate of  $H$ :

$$H\psi = E\psi$$

then one has the virial theorem: (exp. check: Thomas)

$$\langle \psi | H | \psi \rangle = 2 \langle \psi | H_{\text{trap}} | \psi \rangle$$

with  $H_{\text{trap}} = \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 X^2$ .

**Proof:** for a Hermitian  $H$ , an eigenstate is a stationary point of the mean energy

$$E(\lambda) \equiv \frac{\langle \psi_\lambda | H | \psi_\lambda \rangle}{\langle \psi_\lambda | \psi_\lambda \rangle} = \lambda^{-2} \langle \psi | H - H_{\text{trap}} | \psi \rangle + \lambda^2 \langle \psi | H_{\text{trap}} | \psi \rangle.$$

$$\left( \frac{dE}{d\lambda} \right) (\lambda = 1) = 0.$$

# SCALING SOLUTION IN A TIME DEPENDENT TRAP

Isotropic trap is time dependent for  $t > 0$ :

- Free Schrödinger equation over manifold  $r_{ij} \neq 0$ :

$$i\hbar\partial_t\psi = \left[ -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\Delta_{\vec{X}} + \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2(t)X^2 \right] \psi$$

- plus contact conditions for  $r_{ij} \rightarrow 0$ :

$$\psi(\vec{r}_1, \dots, r_{\vec{N}}) = \frac{A_{ij}(\vec{R}_{ij}, \{r_{\vec{k}}, k \neq i, j\})}{r_{ij}} + o(1).$$

- Initially, stationary state in static trap  $\omega(t = 0) = \omega$  with energy  $E$ .
- Relevant for experiments: time of flight, collective modes.

**Ansatz: gauge plus scaling transform:**

$$\psi(\vec{X}, t) = \frac{e^{-i\theta(t)}}{\lambda^{3N/2}(t)} \exp \left[ \frac{im\dot{\lambda}}{2\hbar\lambda} X^2 \right] \psi(\vec{X}/\lambda(t), 0).$$

- scaling preserves contact conditions
- gauge transform preserves contact conditions:

$$r_i^2 + r_j^2 = 2R_{ij}^2 + \frac{1}{2}r_{ij}^2.$$

- solves Schrödinger equation if

$$\ddot{\lambda} = \frac{\omega_0^2}{\lambda^3} - \omega^2(t)\lambda$$

$$\theta(t) = E \int_0^t \frac{d\tau}{\hbar\lambda^2(\tau)}.$$

Y. Castin, *Comptes Rendus Physique* 5, 407 (2004).

## PRACTICAL INTEREST OF SCALING SOLUTION

Ballistic expansion is a perfect lens:

- For mean density  $n(\vec{r}, t) = \frac{1}{\lambda^3(t)} n_0[\vec{r}/\lambda(t)]$
- but also for higher order density correlation functions:

$$g^{(2)}(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2, t) = \frac{1}{\lambda^6(t)} g_0^{(2)}[\vec{r}_1/\lambda(t), \vec{r}_2/\lambda(t)].$$

- Applies even at  $T > T_c$  and for all gas polarisations.
- But requires  $|a| = \infty$  and an isotropic harmonic trap.

Can one relax these two conditions ?

- At first sight, no:
  - finite  $|a|$  breaks scaling invariance.
  - anisotropic trap expected to lead to anisotropic expansion, but anisotropic scaling does not preserve  $D(H)$

- However there is a clever way to lift the two conditions  
(Lobo).



## APPLICATION: RAISING/LOWERING OPERATORS

Gedanken experiment: weak change of  $\omega$  for  $0 < t < t_f$ :

- Resulting change for the scaling parameter:

$$\lambda(t) - 1 = \epsilon e^{-2i\omega t} + \epsilon^* e^{2i\omega t} + O(\epsilon^2).$$

An undamped mode of frequency  $2\omega$  (Pitaevskii, Rosch).

- Resulting change for the wavefunction:

$$\psi(\vec{X}, t) = \left[ e^{-iEt/\hbar} - \epsilon e^{-i(E+2\hbar\omega)t/\hbar} L_+ + \epsilon^* e^{-i(E-2\hbar\omega)t/\hbar} L_- \right] \psi(\vec{X}, 0) + O(\epsilon^2)$$

- Raising and lowering operators:

$$L_{\pm} = \pm \left[ \frac{3N}{2} + \vec{X} \cdot \partial_{\vec{X}} \right] + \frac{H}{\hbar\omega} - m\omega X^2/\hbar$$

- Repeated action of  $L_{\pm}$ : ladder of eigenenergies with equal spacing  $2\hbar\omega$ .

## LINK WITH SO(2,1) LIE ALGEBRA (Pitaevskii, Rosch)

Trapped unitary gas has SO(2,1) hidden symmetry:

- Energy ladders directly from commutation relations:

$$[H, L_{\pm}] = \pm 2\hbar\omega L_{\pm} \quad [L_+, L_-] = -4H/(\hbar\omega)$$

- Do not forget to check that  $L_{\pm}$  preserve domain.
- Introduce what will be the generators of the group:

$$T_1 \pm iT_2 = \frac{L_{\pm}}{2} \quad T_3 = \frac{H}{2\hbar\omega}$$

- Then commutation relations of SO(2,1) Lie algebra:

$$[T_1, T_2] = -iT_3 \quad [T_2, T_3] = iT_1 \quad [T_3, T_1] = iT_2$$

- Casimir operator, which commutes with all the elements of the algebra

$$C = -4 \left[ T_1^2 + T_2^2 - T_3^2 \right] = H^2 - (\hbar\omega)^2 (L_+L_- + L_-L_+)/2$$

# EXISTENCE OF A BOSONIC DEGREE OF FREEDOM

Key point: the ladders are semi-infinite

- Virial theorem:  $E \geq 3\hbar\omega/2$ . Action of  $L_-$  terminates:

$$L_- \psi_g = 0,$$

so one can define the ground energy step operator  $H_g$ .

- In terms of Casimir operator:

$$C = H_g(H_g - 2\hbar\omega) \quad \text{so that} \quad H_g = \hbar\omega + \left[ C + (\hbar\omega)^2 \right]^{1/2}.$$

- From  $SO(2,1)$  algebra to creation/annihilation operators

$$b = [2(H + H_g)/\hbar\omega]^{-1/2} L_-, \quad b^\dagger = L_+ [2(H + H_g)/\hbar\omega]^{-1/2}$$
$$[b, b^\dagger] = 1.$$

- Unitary gas has a decoupled bosonic degree of freedom, the breathing mode:

$$H = H_g + 2\hbar\omega b^\dagger b \quad \text{with} \quad [b, H_g] = 0.$$

## SECOND MOMENT OF THE TRAPPING ENERGY

In principle, fluctuations of trapping energy  $H_{\text{trap}} = m\omega^2 X^2/2$  are measurable:

- At thermal equilibrium in canonical ensemble:

$$4\langle H_{\text{trap}}^2 \rangle = \langle H^2 \rangle + \langle H \rangle \hbar\omega \left[ 2\langle b^\dagger b \rangle + 1 \right].$$

- Proof:

$$H_{\text{trap}} = \frac{1}{2}H - \frac{\hbar\omega}{4}(L_+ + L_-)$$

$$H_{\text{trap}} = \frac{\hbar\omega}{2}A^\dagger A \quad \text{with} \quad A = \left[ \frac{H_g}{\hbar\omega} + b^\dagger b \right]^{1/2} - b.$$

$$\langle H_g b^\dagger b \rangle = \langle H_g \rangle \langle b^\dagger b \rangle.$$

- Thermometry: measuring fluctuations of the breathing mode of the unitary gas

# SEPARABILITY IN HYPERSPHERICAL COORDINATES

- Hyperspherical coordinates  $(X, \vec{n} \equiv \vec{X}/X)$

- Integrate  $L_- \psi_g = 0$ :

$$[3N/2 + X \partial_X + E_g/(\hbar\omega) - m\omega X^2/\hbar] \psi_g(\vec{X}) = 0.$$

$$\psi_g(\vec{X}) = e^{-m\omega X^2/2\hbar} X^{E_g/(\hbar\omega) - 3N/2} f(\vec{n}).$$

- Mapping to scale invariant zero energy free space eigenstates (Tan)
- Gives excited ladders in terms of Laguerre polynomials.
- The hyperangular problem was solved by Efimov for  $N = 3$ .
- This gives the solution to the trapped 3-body unitary problem (Werner, Castin).

## MORE DETAILS ON SEPARABILITY FOR $N > 2$

Form of the  $N$ -body wavefunction:

$$\psi(\vec{X}) = \psi_{CM}(\vec{C}) \phi(\vec{\Omega}) R^{(5-3N)/2} F(R)$$

- uses separability of the center of mass  $\vec{C}$
- uses separability in internal spherical coordinates  $(R, \vec{\Omega})$
- contact conditions put a constraint on  $\phi(\vec{\Omega})$  only, for Laplacian on unit sphere of dimension  $3N - 4$ :

$$\Delta_{\vec{\Omega}} \phi = -\Lambda \phi.$$

- Effective 2D Schrödinger equation for the radial part:

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \Delta_{2D} F(R) + \left( \frac{\hbar^2 s^2}{2mR^2} + \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 R^2 \right) F(R) = E_{\text{int}} F(R)$$

with  $s^2 = \Lambda + [(3N - 5)/2]^2$ .

## PHYSICAL DISCUSSION FOR $N = 3$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\Delta_{2D}F(R) + \left( \frac{\hbar^2 s^2}{2mR^2} + \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 R^2 \right) F(R) = E_{\text{int}}F(R)$$

Efimov:  $s$  is a root of transcendental equations.

**A good case: equal mass fermions**

- Proof that all  $s^2 \geq 0$ . (Werner and Castin)
- Then one chooses  $s \geq 0$ . Numerically  $s > 1$ .
- Spectrum  $E = (s + 1 + 2q)\hbar\omega$ ,  $q \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**A bad case: bosons**

- There is a negative  $s^2$ :  $s_0 = i \times 1.00624\dots$  then Whittaker functions are square integrable solutions  $\forall E_{\text{int}} \in \mathbb{R}$ : Hamiltonian not hermitian.
- Proof that all other  $s^2$  are  $\geq 0$ . (Werner and Castin)

## SUGGESTIONS OF EXPERIMENTS

### For fermions:

- measure gap  $\Delta$
- check/use of scaling transform: breathing mode, measure  $g^{(2)}$
- mixture of fermions with different masses

### For bosons:

- 3-body universal states for  $|a| = \infty$  at the node of an optical lattice
- $|a| = \infty$  bosons in an optical lattice far from a Feshbach resonance.