



# Quantum Phases of Dipolar Molecules



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Institute of Physics (Belgrade): July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011

# ZAHVALNOST

- ZELIM DA SE ZAHVALIM ANTUN BALAZ, STO MI JE OMOGUCIO DA ODRZIM PREDAVANJE NA INSTITUTU ZA FIZIKU U PRELEPOM BEOGRADU. IAKO BIH ZELEO DA MOGU DA ODRZIM PREDAVANJE NA SRPSKOM, MOJEZNANJE SRPSKOG JEZIKA JE NA ZALOST OGRANICENO, ZATO CU SADA MORATI DA SE PREBACIM NA ENGLESKI.

# Outline

- Introduction: heteronuclear molecules
- What are dipolar superfluids?
- Quantum phases of dipolar bosons in 2D.
- Conclusions.

# Conclusions

- The possible quantum phases of dipolar bosons in 2D include:
- Superfluid, Wigner crystal, and hexatic and normal liquid phases.
- Supersolid and hexatic superfluid.

# Some of our efforts on dipolar molecules.

PRL 103, 225301 (2009)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending  
27 NOVEMBER 2009

## Stability of Superfluid and Supersolid Phases of Dipolar Bosons in Optical Lattices

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(Received 3 April 2008; revised manuscript received 3 November 2009; published 24 November 2009)

## Time-Reversal-Breaking and *d*-Wave Superfluidity of Ultracold Dipolar Fermions in Optical Lattices

Li Han and C. A. R. Sá de Melo

*School of Physics, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia 30332, USA*

(Dated: June 11, 2010)

arXiv:1006.2072v1 [cond-mat.quant-gas] 10 Jun 2010

# Main References for Talk

PRL 99, 110402 (2007)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending  
14 SEPTEMBER 2007

## Ultracold Heteronuclear Molecules and Ferroelectric Superfluids

M. Iskin and C. A. R. Sá de Melo

*School of Physics, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia 30332, USA*

(Received 13 October 2006; revised manuscript received 19 April 2007; published 13 September 2007)

## Hexatic, Wigner Crystal, and Superfluid Phases of Dipolar Bosons

Kaushik Mitra, C. J. Williams and C. A. R. Sá de Melo

*Joint Quantum Institute, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742,  
and National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899*

(Dated: March 26, 2009)

arXiv:0903.4655v1 [cond-mat.other] 26 Mar 2009

+ UNPUBLISHED  
(in preparation 2011).

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# Introduction: Heteronuclear Molecules

$H_2$

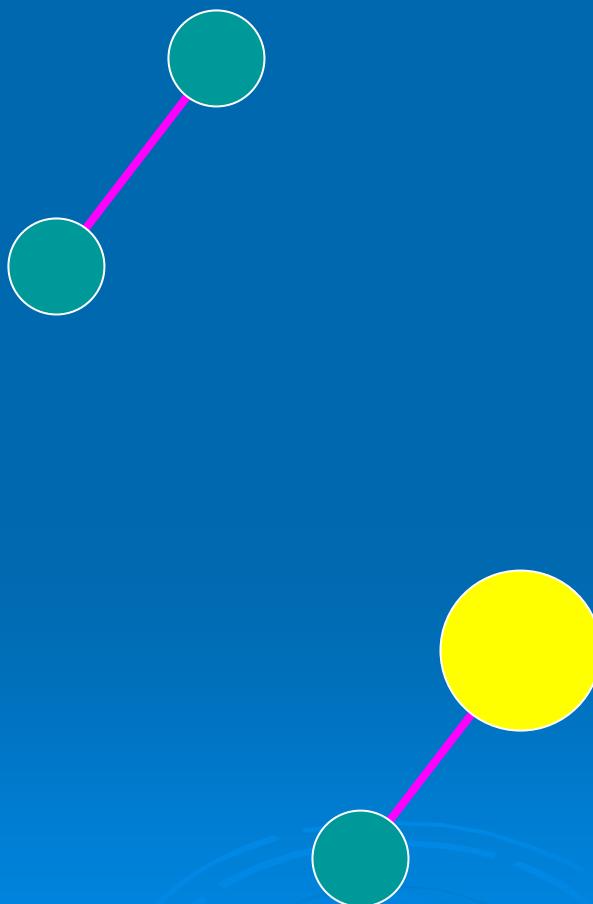
$Li_2$

$K_2$

$Na_2$

$Rb_2$

$Cs_2$



$H$

$Li$

$K$

$Na$

$Rb$

$Cs$

$H$

$Li$

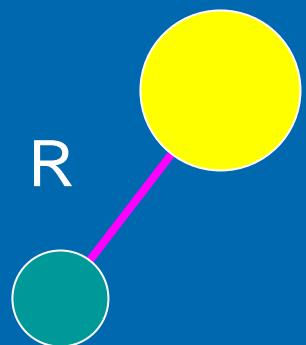
$K$

$Na$

$Rb$

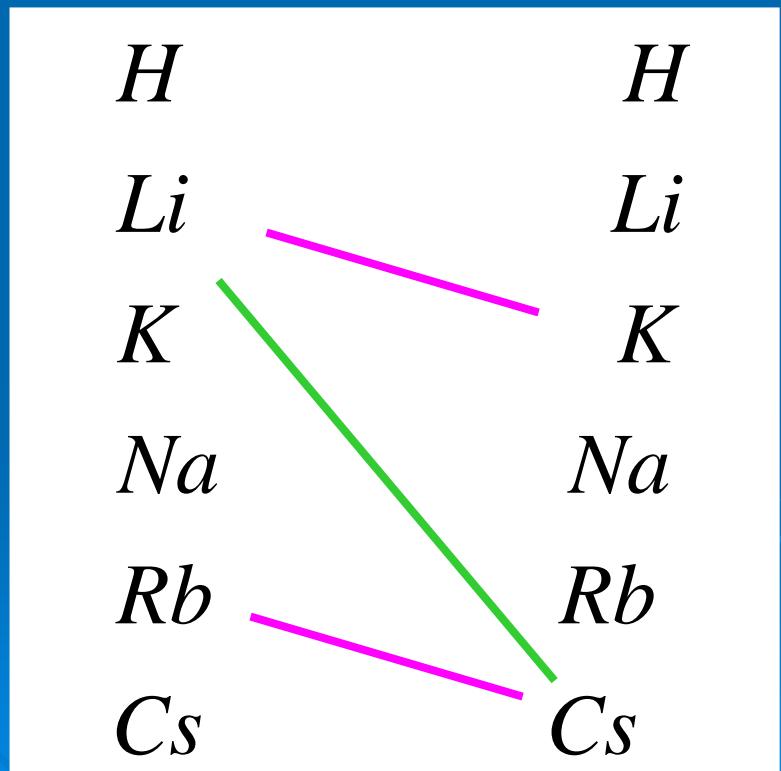
$Cs$

# Introduction: Dipole Moment of Heteronuclear Molecules

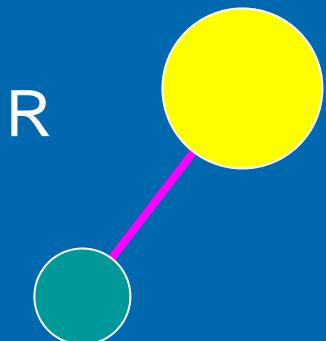


Rigid Quantum Rotor

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{L}^2}{2\mu R^2}$$



# Introduction: Dipole Moment of Heteronuclear Molecules



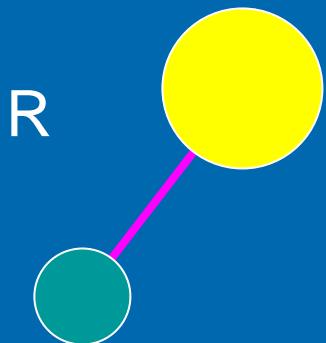
Eigenstates :

$$\frac{\hat{L}^2}{2\mu R^2} Y_{lm}(\theta, \varphi) = \frac{l(l+1)\hbar^2}{2\mu R^2} Y_{lm}(\theta, \varphi)$$

$$\Delta E_{10} = \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu R^2}$$



# Introduction: Dipole Moment of Heteronuclear Molecules

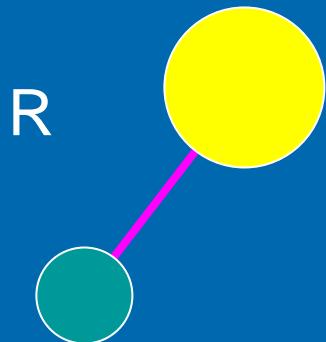


Eigenstates :

$$\frac{\hat{L}^2}{2\mu R^2} Y_{lm}(\theta, \varphi) = \frac{l(l+1)\hbar^2}{2\mu R^2} Y_{lm}(\theta, \varphi)$$

Spherical Harmonics have well defined parity, thus the expectation value of the dipole operator in any eigenstate (and in particular the ground state) is zero.

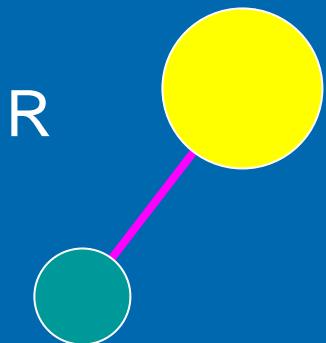
# Introduction: Dipole Moment of Heteronuclear Molecules



$$T \ll \Delta E_{10} = \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu R^2}$$

At low T there little admixture of states with different parity:  
need electric field!

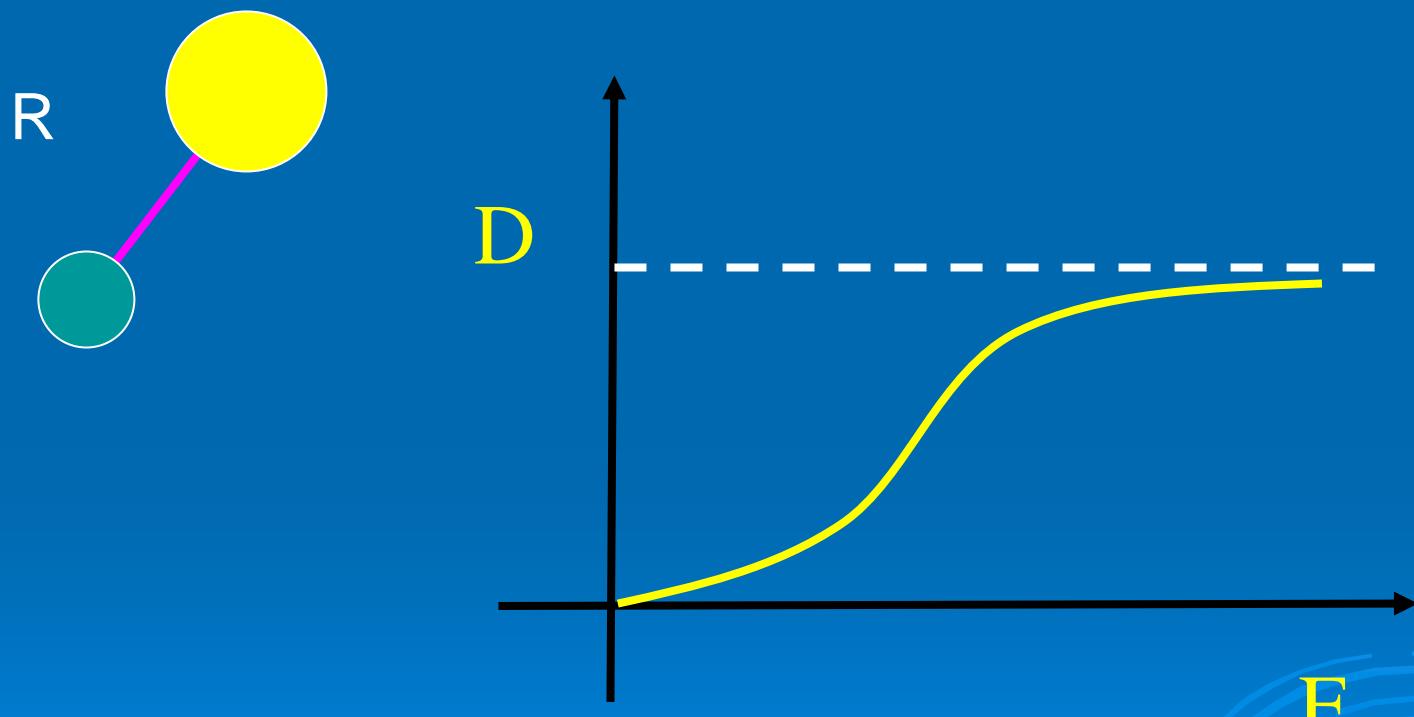
# Dipole Moment of Heteronuclear Molecules



Electric dipole moments of molecules at very low T are not intrinsic, as they would require spontaneous breaking of parity.

In contrast, magnetic dipolar moments associated with spin are intrinsic.

# Dipole Moment of Heteronuclear Molecules

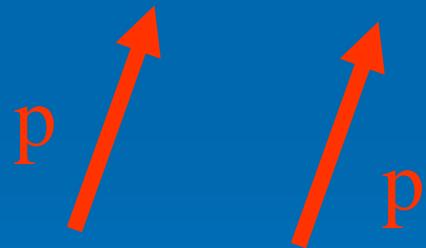


# Outline

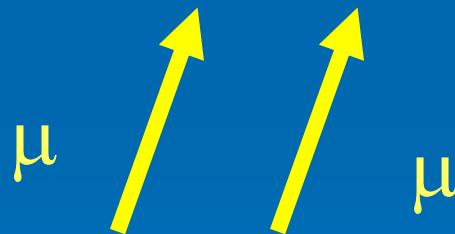
- Introduction: heteronuclear molecules
- What are dipolar superfluids?
- Quantum phases of dipolar bosons in 2D.
- Conclusions.

# What is a dipolar superfluid?

- A superfluid with dipolar internal degrees of freedom.



Electric Dipoles



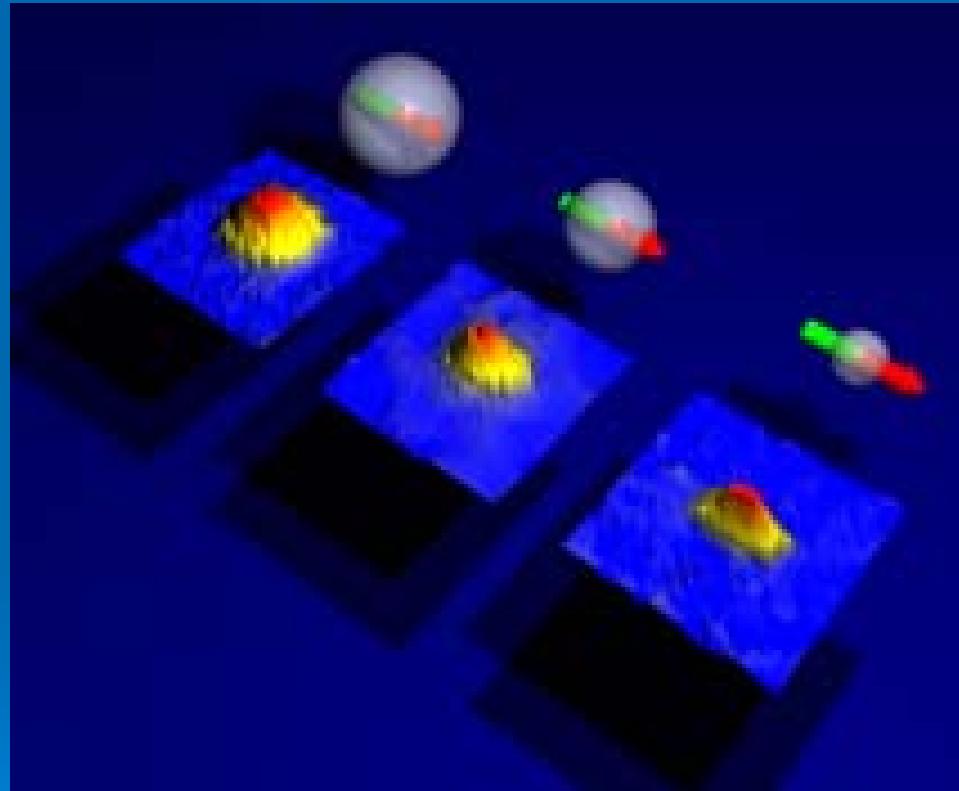
Magnetic Dipoles

# Candidates for dipolar superfluids

- Atoms with large magnetic dipole moments.
- Heteronuclear molecules with permanent electric dipole moments.
- Rydberg atoms with large electric dipole moments.

# Tuning the ratio of long-range to short-range interactions

Distortion  
of  $^{52}\text{Cr}$   
cloud via  
reduction of  
short range  
interactions



Th. Lahaye, T. Koch, B. Fröhlich, M. Fattori, J. Metz, A. Griesmaier, S. Giovanazzi, T. Pfau:  
“Strong dipolar effects in a quantum ferrofluid”, Nature **448**; 672 (2007).

# Dipolar Superfluids in 2D

$$H = T + V_{dipole} + V_{local} = - \sum_i \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla_i^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \left( \frac{D^2}{|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j|^3} + U \delta(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j) \right).$$

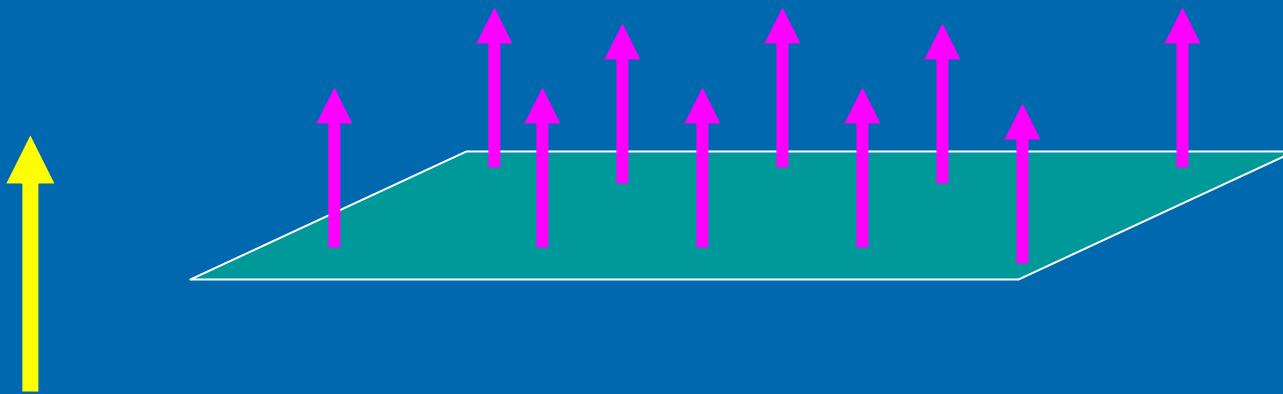
1<sup>st</sup> approximation: BKT Physics...

$$H = \int d^2r |\psi|^2 \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \theta(\vec{r}) + |\psi|^4 \int d^2r_1 d^2r_2 V(\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2)$$

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# Dipolar Bosons Continuum



$$H = T + V_{dipole} + V_{local} = - \sum_i \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla_i^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \left( \frac{D^2}{|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j|^3} + U \delta(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j) \right).$$

# Relevant Parameters and Ratios of Energies

$$K = \hbar^2/(2ma^2)$$

$$E_D = D^2/a^3 \sim D^2 \rho^{3/2}$$

$$E_U = U/a^2 \sim U\rho$$

$$r_D = E_D/K$$

$$r_D \sim 2mD^2 \rho^{1/2}/\hbar^2$$

$$r_D = 2mD/\hbar^2 a$$

$$r_U = 2mU/\hbar^2$$

Dipolar Superfluid expected for

$$r_D \ll 1$$

Dipolar Wigner Crystal expected for

$$r_D \gg 1$$

# Dipolar Superfluids in 2D: $r_D \ll 1$

$$r_D = E_D/K \ll 1$$

$$H = T + V_{dipole} + V_{local} = - \sum_i \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla_i^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \left( \frac{D^2}{|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j|^3} + U \delta(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j) \right).$$

For small dipolar interactions  
1<sup>st</sup> approximation: BKT Physics...

$$H = \int d^2 r |\psi|^2 \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \phi(\vec{r}) + |\psi|^4 \int d^2 r_1 d^2 r_2 V(\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2)$$

# First set $U = 0$ ( $r_U = 0$ )

Dipolar Wigner crystal  
expected for: small masses,  
large dipole moments and  
high densities. Notice that  
the dependence on density  
is the opposite for the 2D  
Coulomb-Wigner crystal.

$$K = \hbar^2 / (2ma^2)$$

$$r_s \sim \rho^{-1/2}$$

$$r_D = 2mD/\hbar^2 a$$

$$r_D \sim \rho^{1/2}$$

$$r_D \gg 1$$

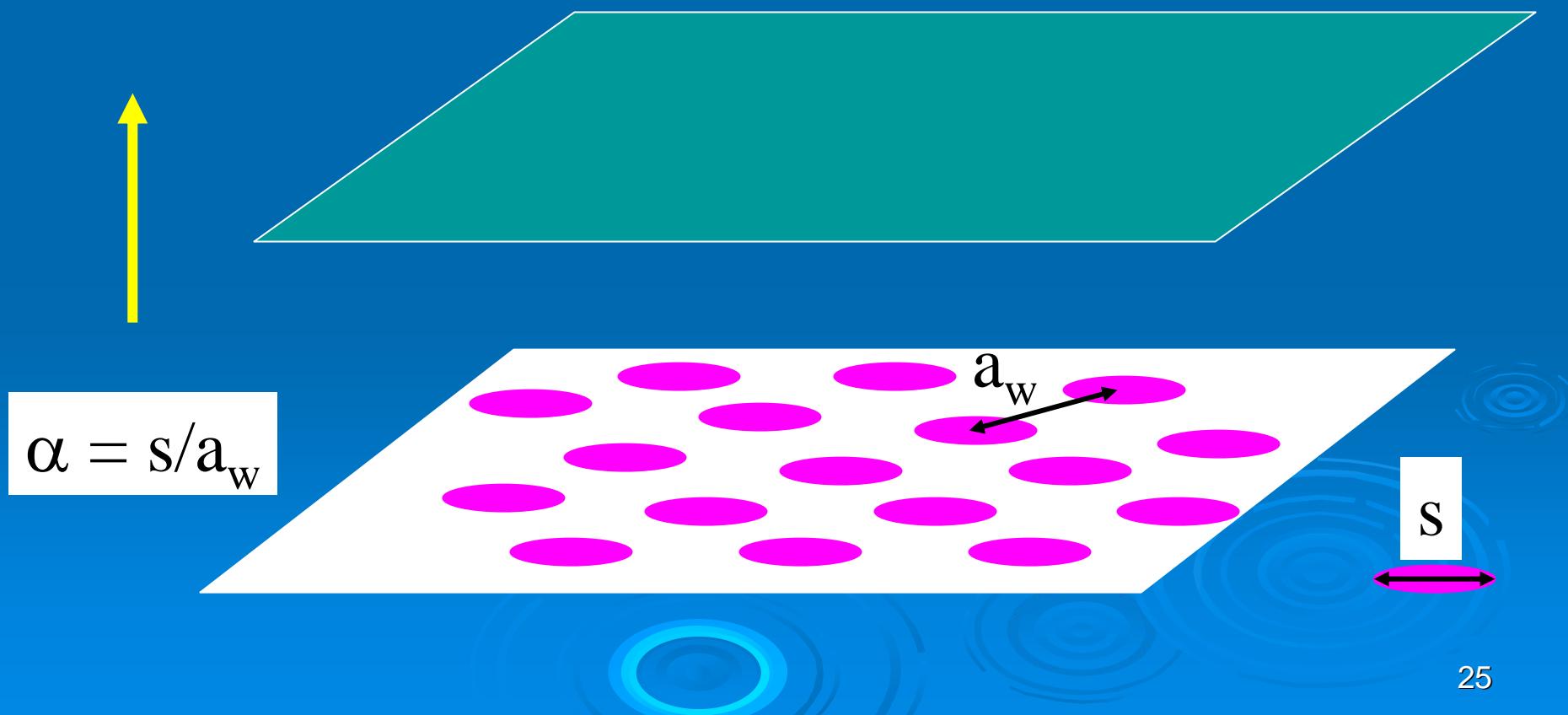
$$r_s \gg 1$$

$$E_c = C/a$$

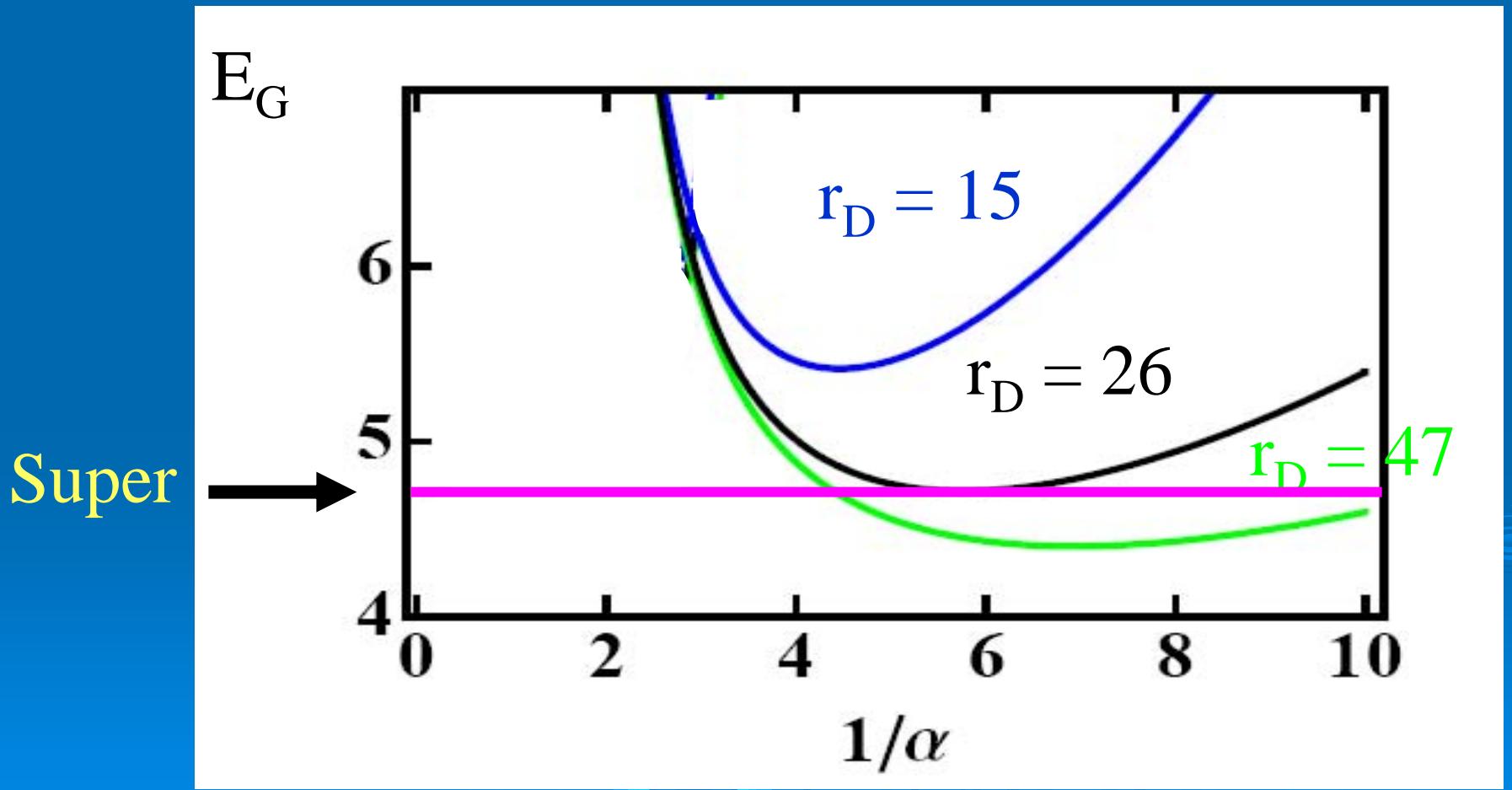
$$r_s = 2mCa/\hbar^2$$

Low densities

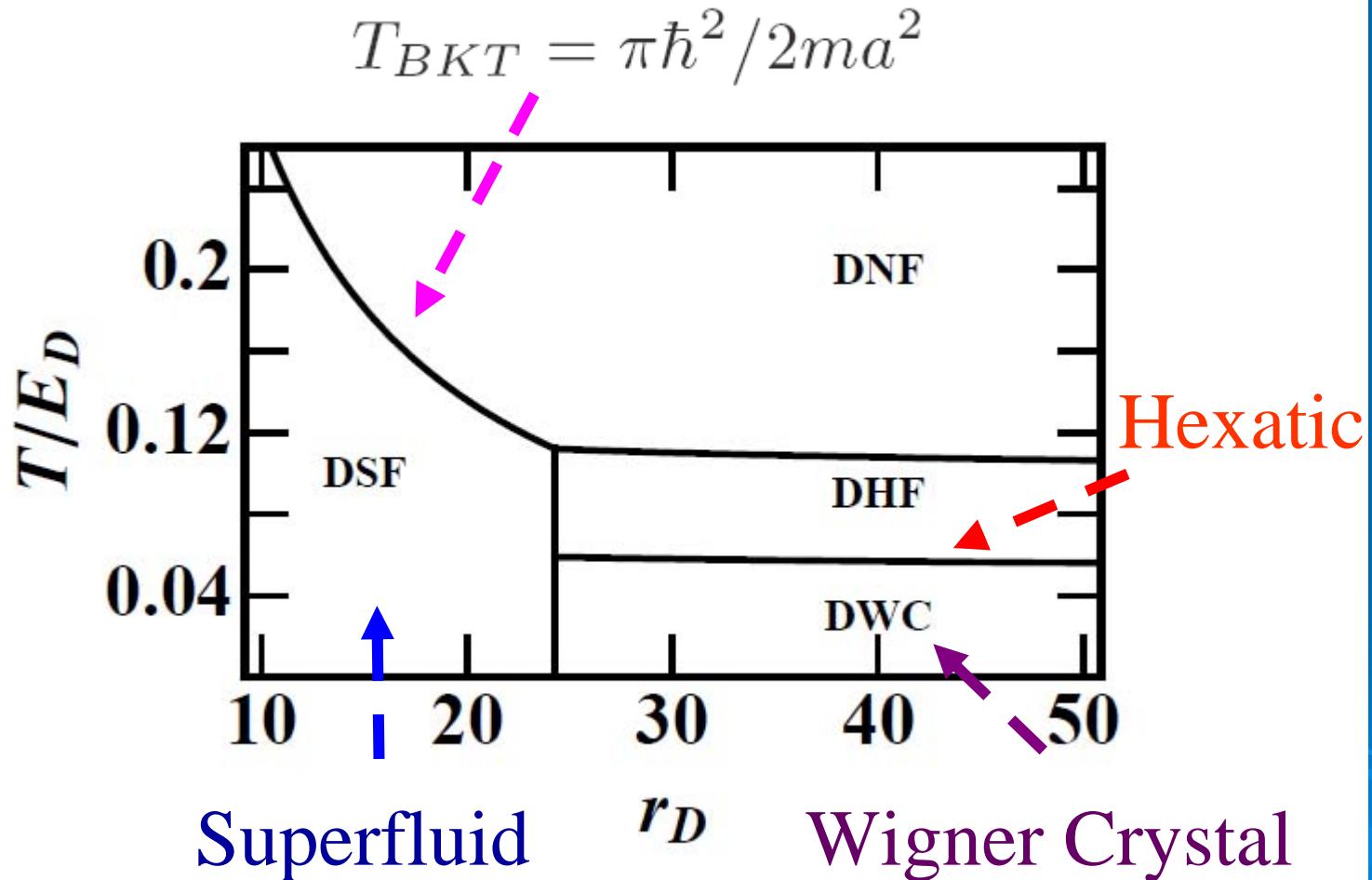
# Transition from superfluid to dipolar Wigner crystal ( $T = 0$ )



# Transition from Superfluid to dipolar Wigner crystal



# Phase Diagram



# Two-stage melting: emergence of the dipolar hexatic phase

Elastic energy

$$E_{\text{el}} = \frac{1}{2} \int d\mathbf{r} [2\mu\epsilon_{\alpha\beta}^2 + \lambda\epsilon_{\alpha\alpha}^2],$$

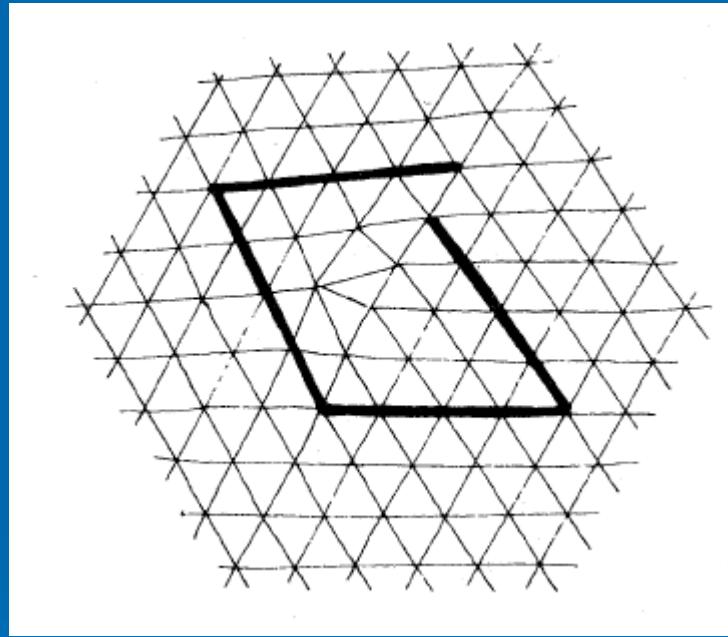
Lame coefficients

$$\mu = 15\sqrt{3}D/4a^5 \quad \lambda = 3\mu$$

Strain tensor

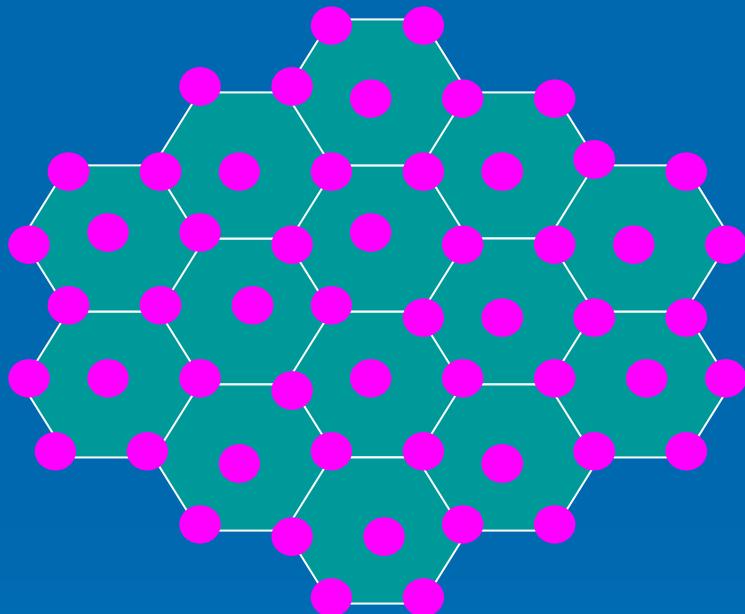
$$\epsilon_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{\partial u_\alpha(\mathbf{r})}{\partial \mathbf{r}_\beta} + \frac{\partial u_\beta(\mathbf{r})}{\partial \mathbf{r}_\alpha} \right]$$

# Dislocation mediated melting



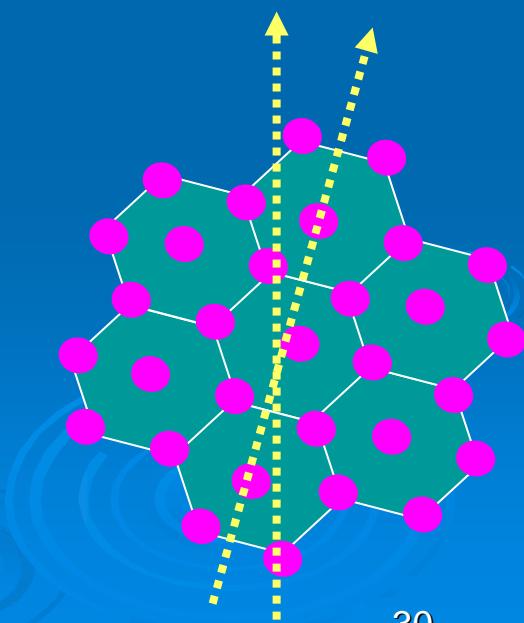
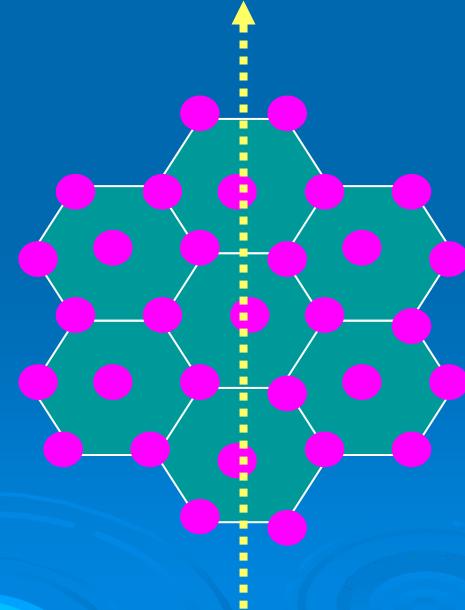
Elementary dislocation

# Translational versus orientational (Wigner crystal versus hexatic)



Wigner Crystal

Hexatic



# Two-stage melting: emergence of the normal phase

Bond angle field

$$\theta(\mathbf{r}) = [\partial_x u_y(\mathbf{r}) - \partial_y u_x(\mathbf{r})]/2$$

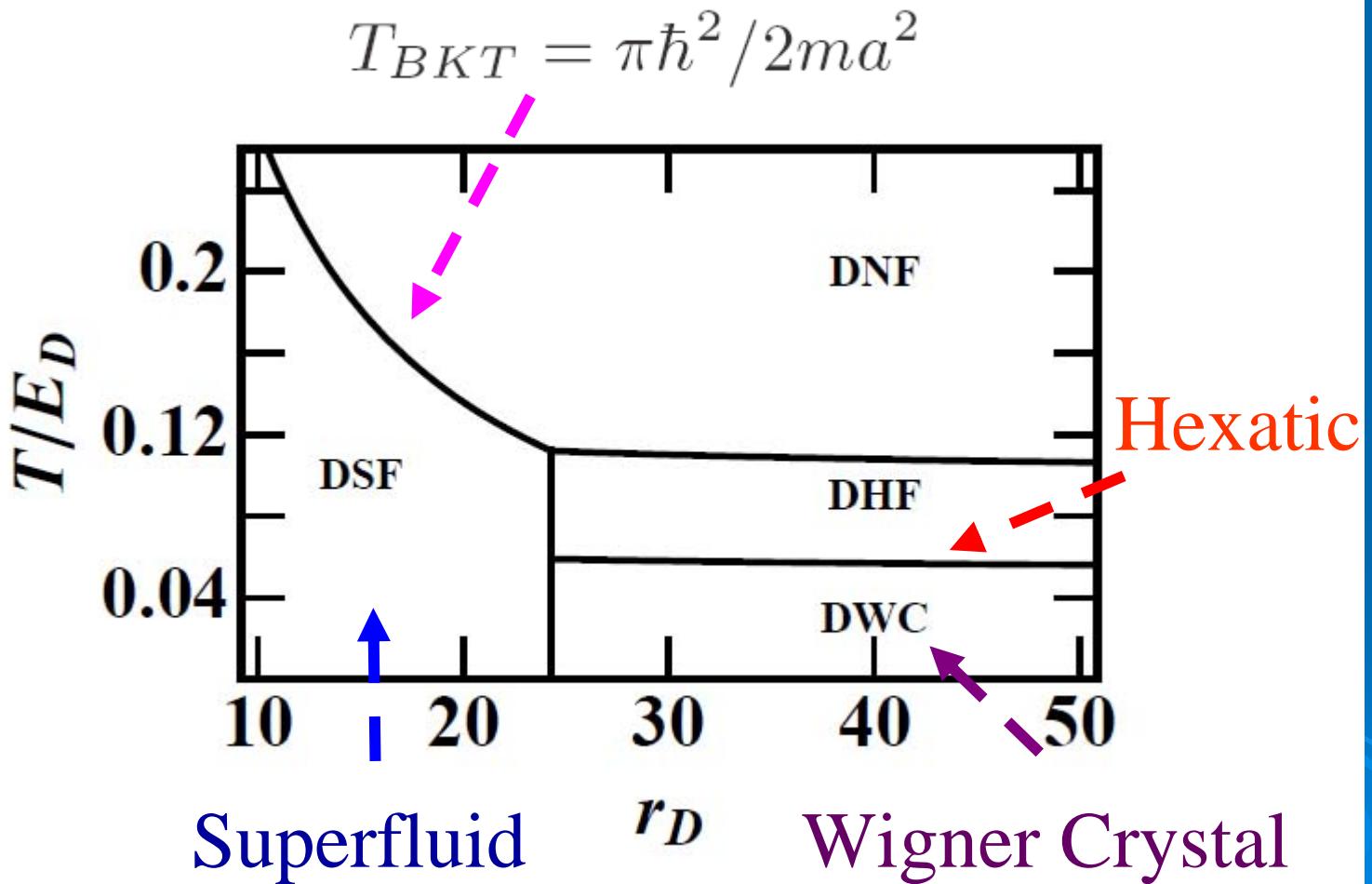
Energy

$$E_{\text{he}} = \frac{\Gamma_6}{2} \int \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{a^2} |\nabla \theta(\mathbf{r})|^2$$

Critical Temperature

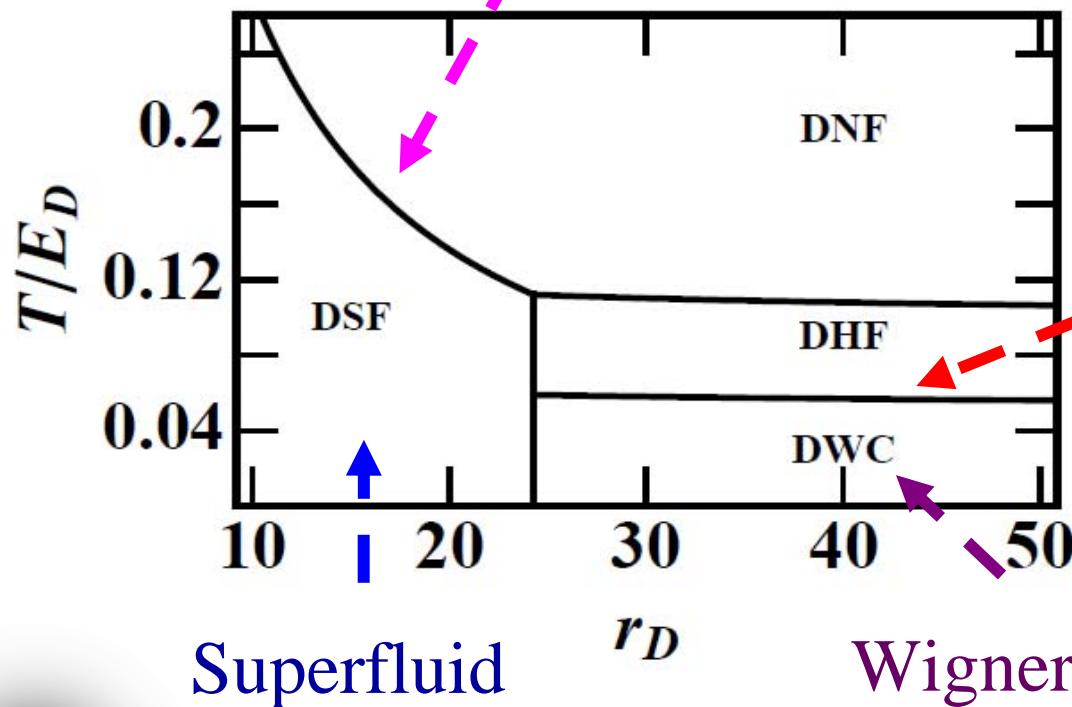
$$\Gamma_6(T_n) = 72T_n/\pi$$

# Two-stage melting: emergence of the normal phase



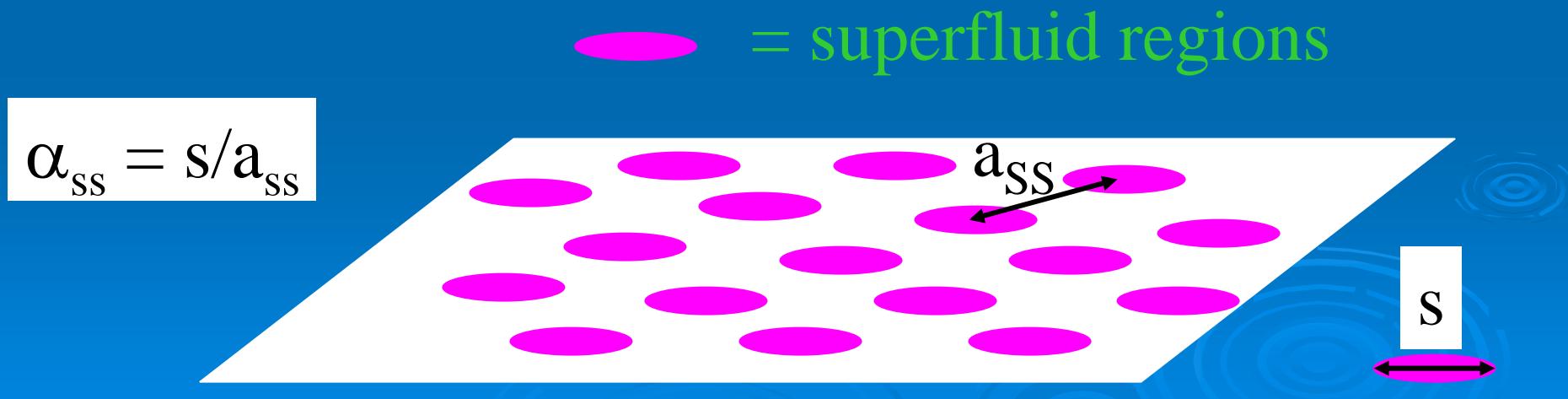
# Bragg Diffraction Patterns

$$T_{BKT} = \pi \hbar^2 / 2ma^2$$



# Are there any additional phases?

What about a supersolid phase:  
coexistence of superfluid order  
and density order, i.e.,  
superfluid density is modulated.

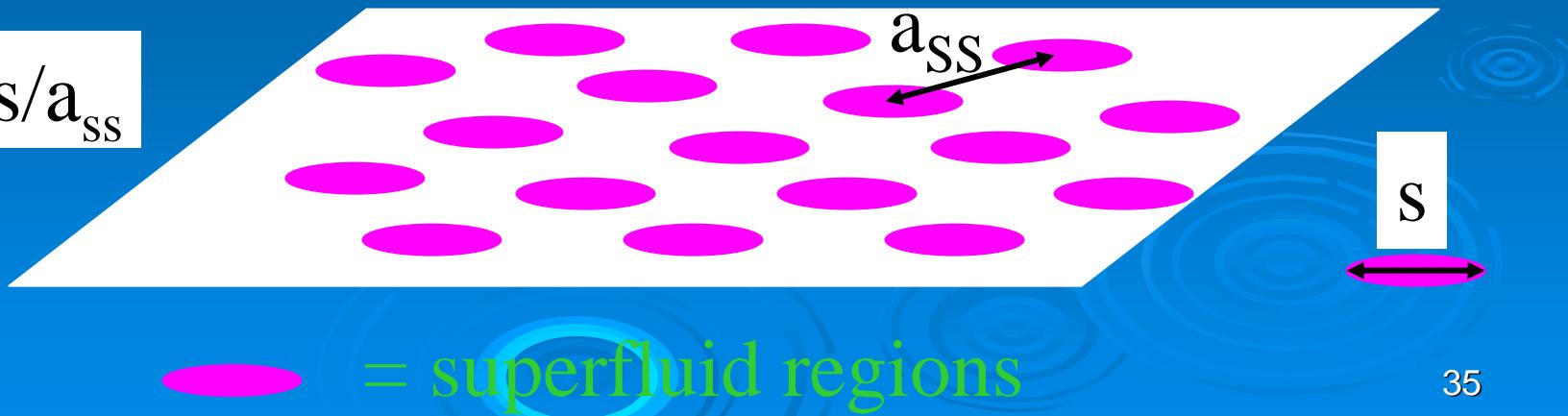


# Comparison with $^4\text{He}$

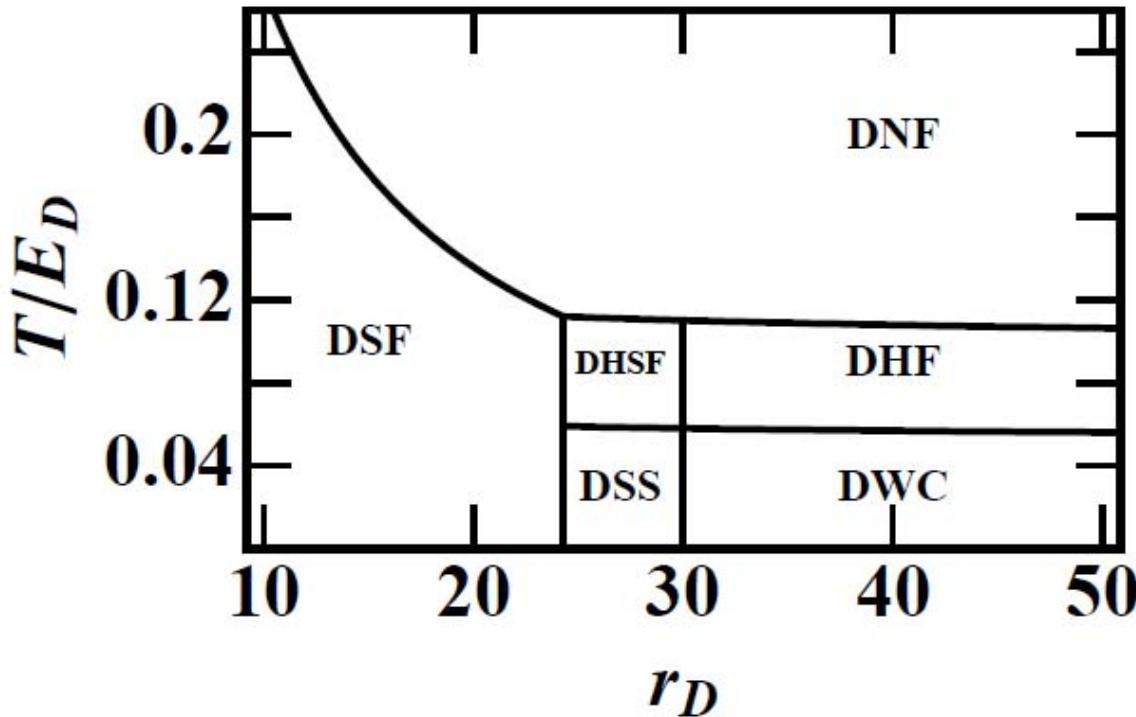
In  $^4\text{He}$  the system is in a solid phase and the superfluid component is due to defects.

In ultra-cold gases there is no solid phase, but instead the coexistence between superfluid order and discrete translational order.

$$\alpha_{ss} = s/a_{ss}$$



# Additional phases possible in continuum 2D dipolar problem.



DSS

DHSF

DSS = Dipolar Supersolid

DHSF = Dipolar Hexatic Superfluid

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- Supersolid and hexatic superfluid.

(HVALA NA PAZNJI)

# END OF TALK