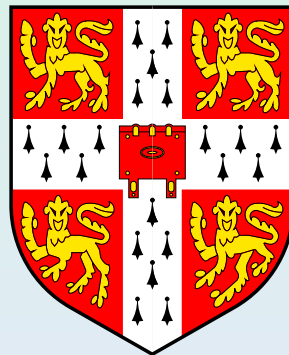


# BCS-BEC crossover in a system of microcavity polaritons

Jonathan Keeling, P. R. Eastham, M. H. Szymanska, P. B. Littlewood  
*Theory of Condensed Matter, Cambridge*

October 19, 2005



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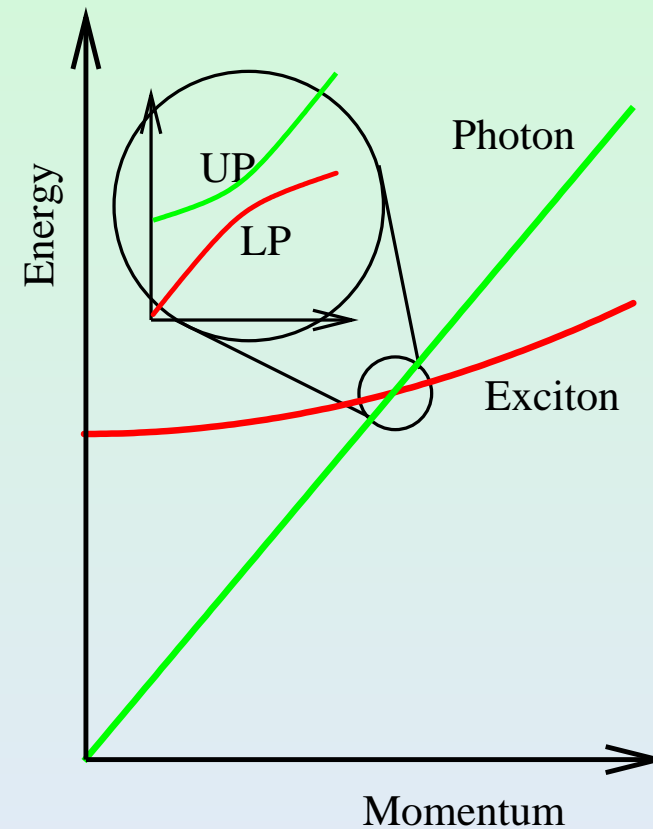
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- Summary of results from mean field theory.
- **Diversion**: Atomic gases near Feshbach resonance – analogies
- Fluctuations in two dimensions; fluctuations with condensate
- Consider crossover between “B.E.C.” and “B.C.S.-like” transition.

## Exciton Polaritons

- Strong coupling of photons to excitons



[Pekar, *JETP* **6** 785 (1958)]

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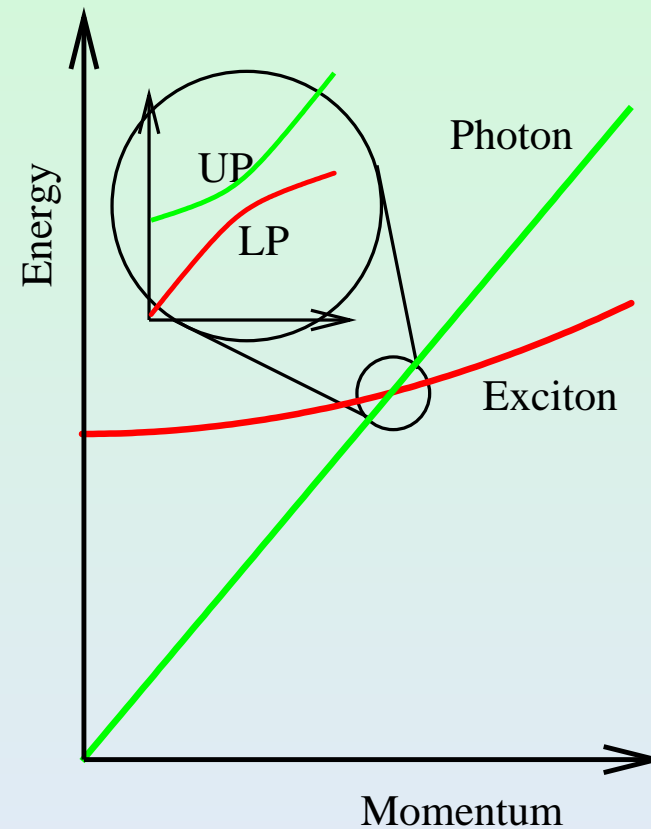


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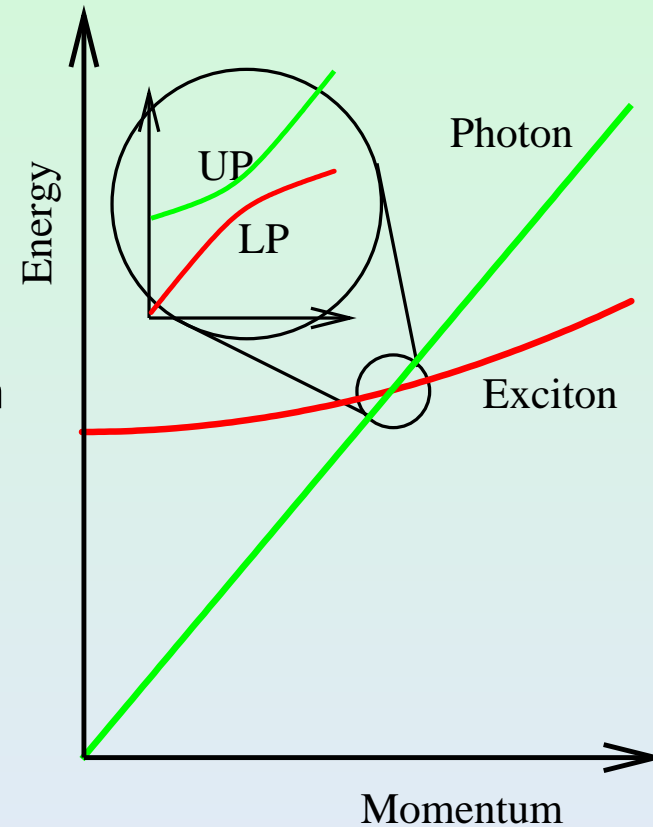


## Exciton Polaritons

- Strong coupling of photons to excitons
- Anti-crossing – form two new modes
- No condensation – can relax to photon mode.

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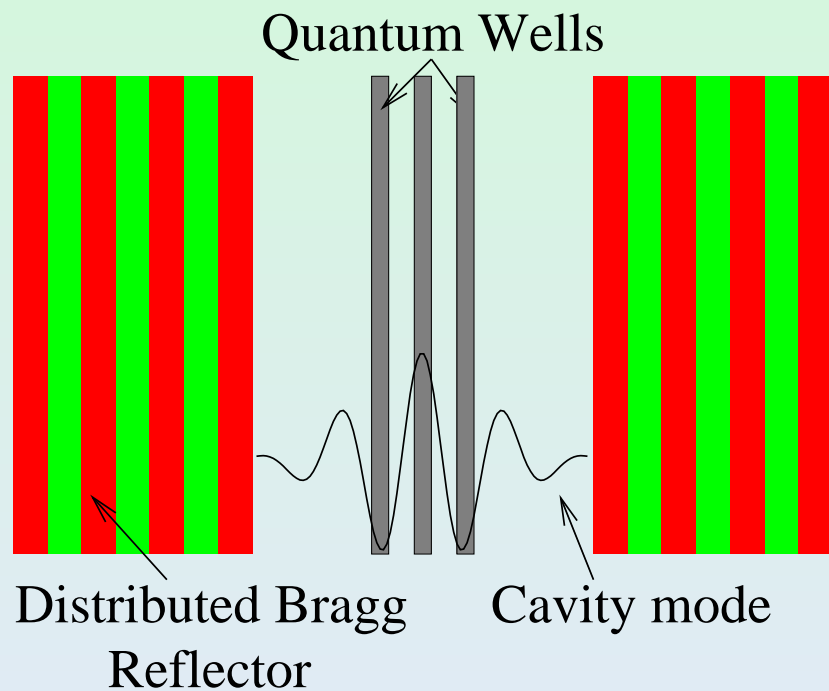
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Quantum well excitons coupled to photons confined in a microcavity.

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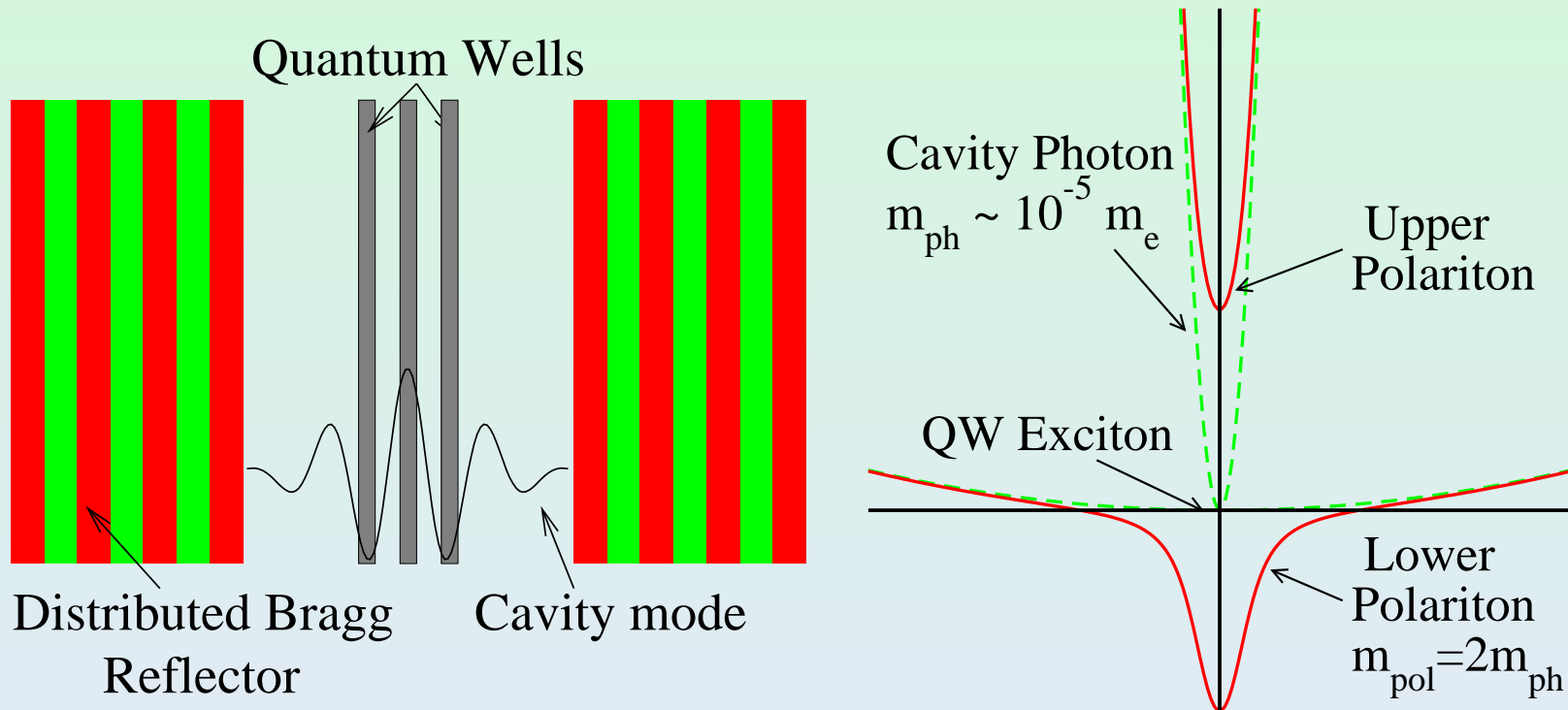
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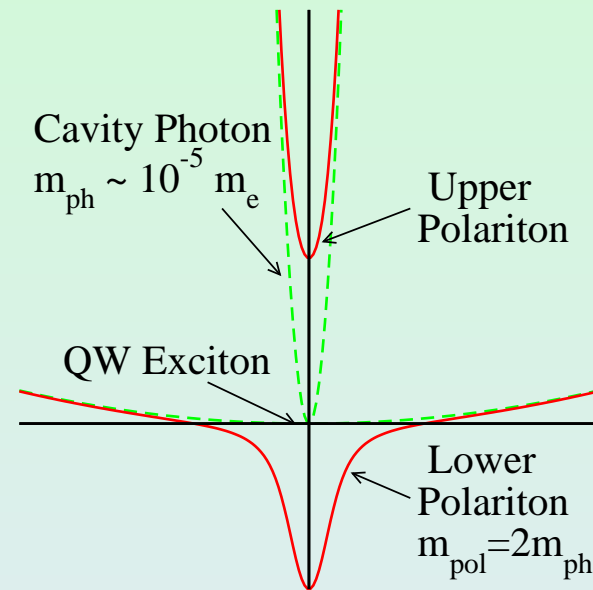
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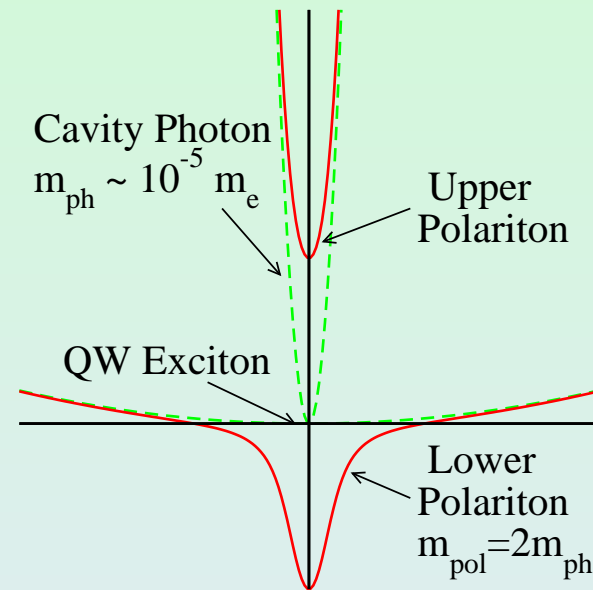
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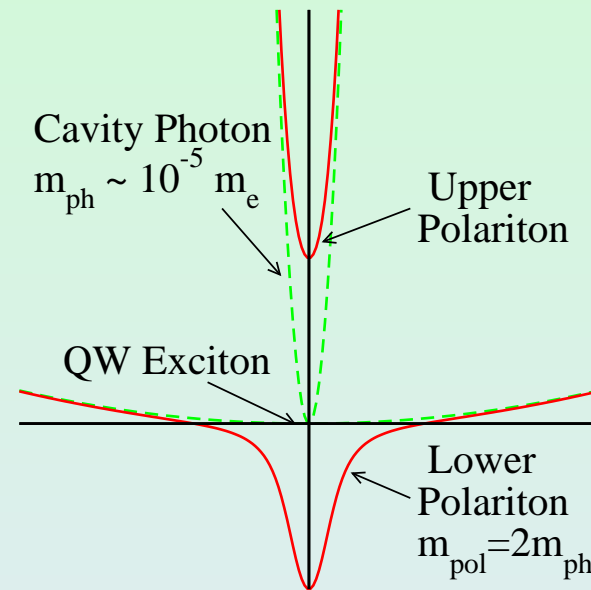
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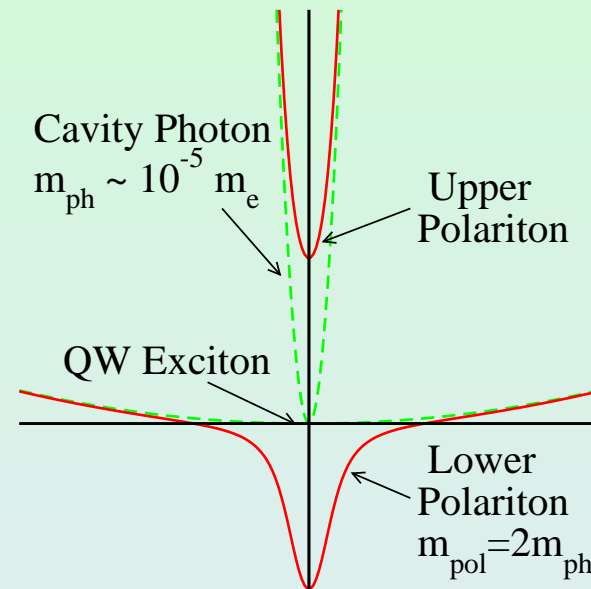




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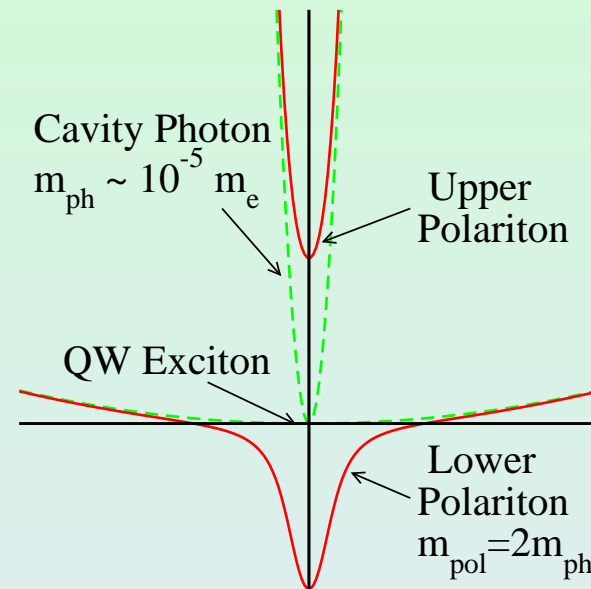
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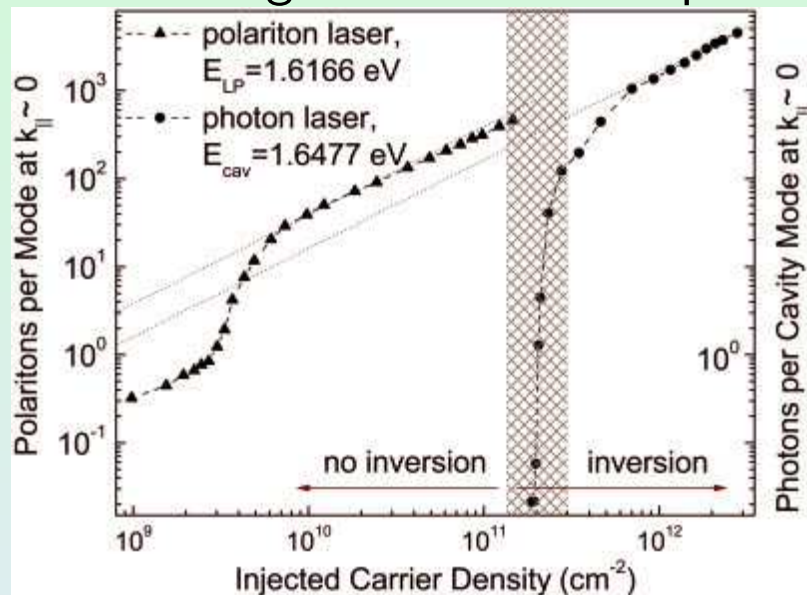
Problems?

- Cavity lifetime is short (ps), hard to thermalise.



## Polariton Experiments

Non-linear ground state occupation.

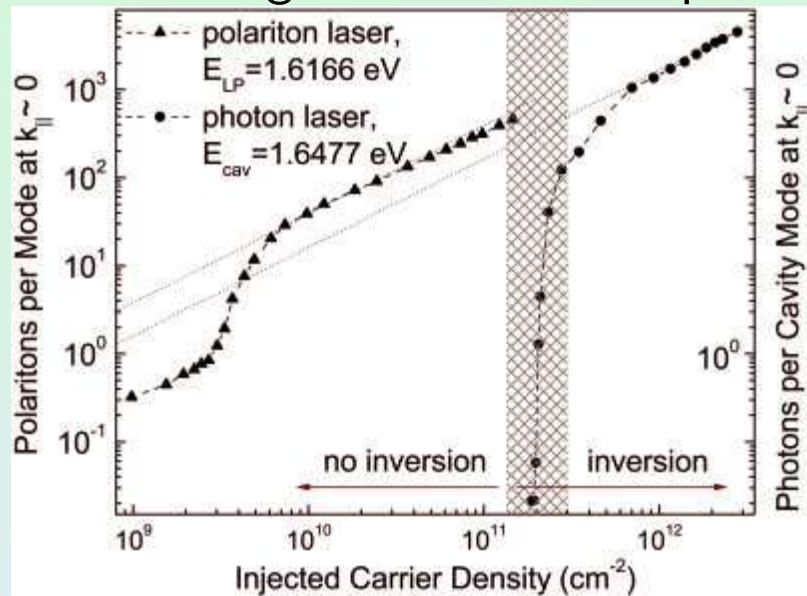


[*Deng et al.* Science **298** 199 (2002)]

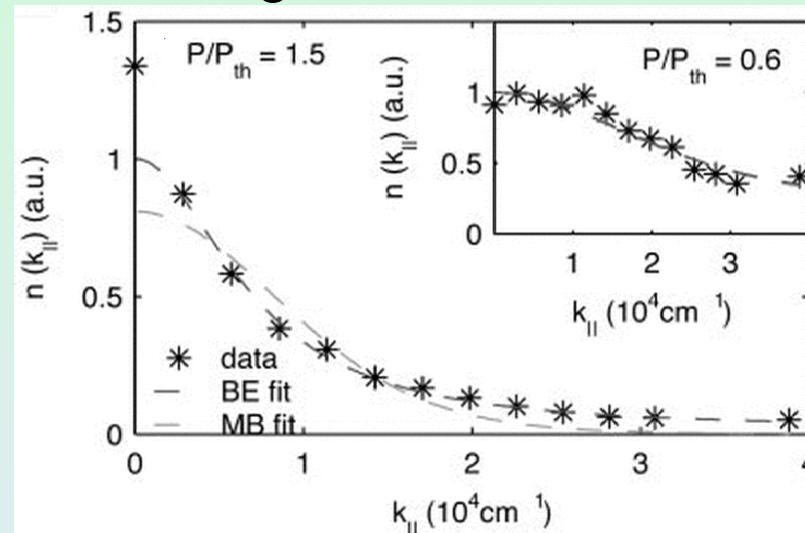
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Peak in angular distribution.

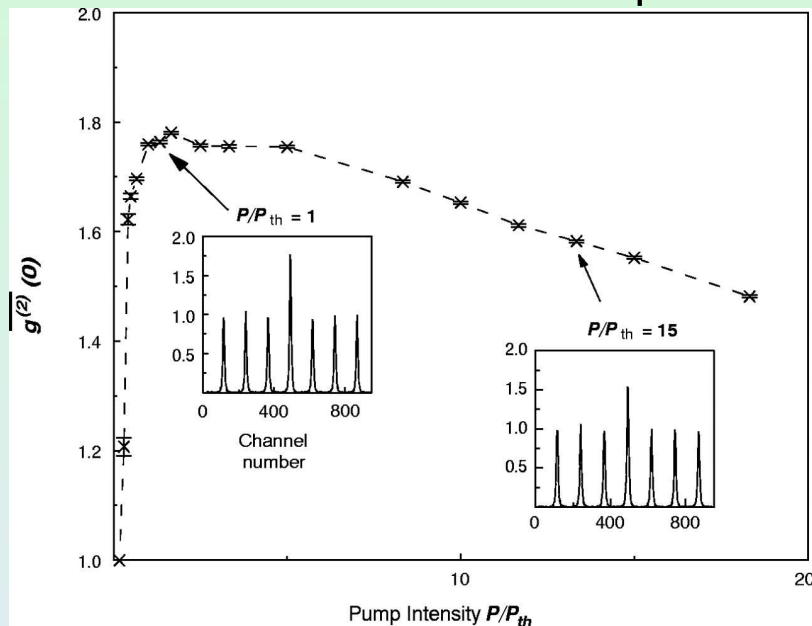


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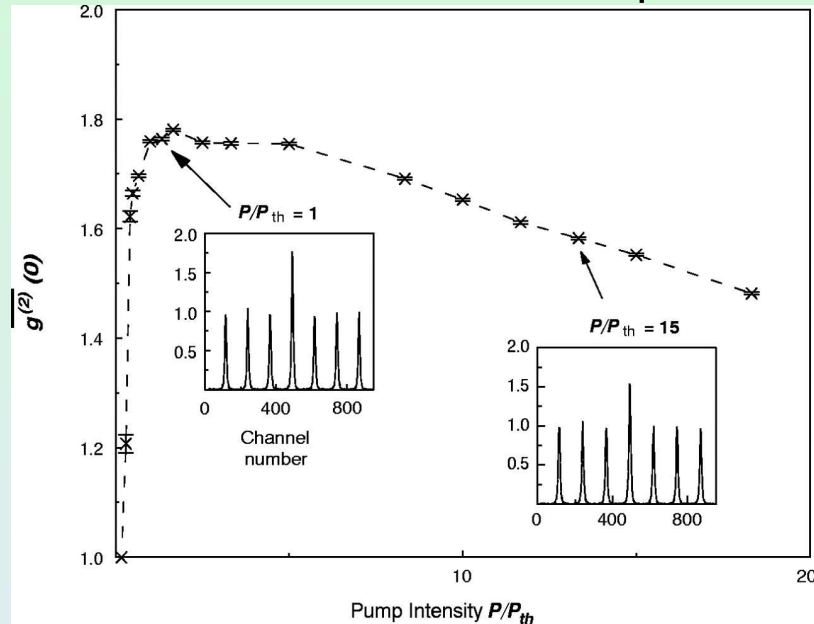
Second order coherence of photons.



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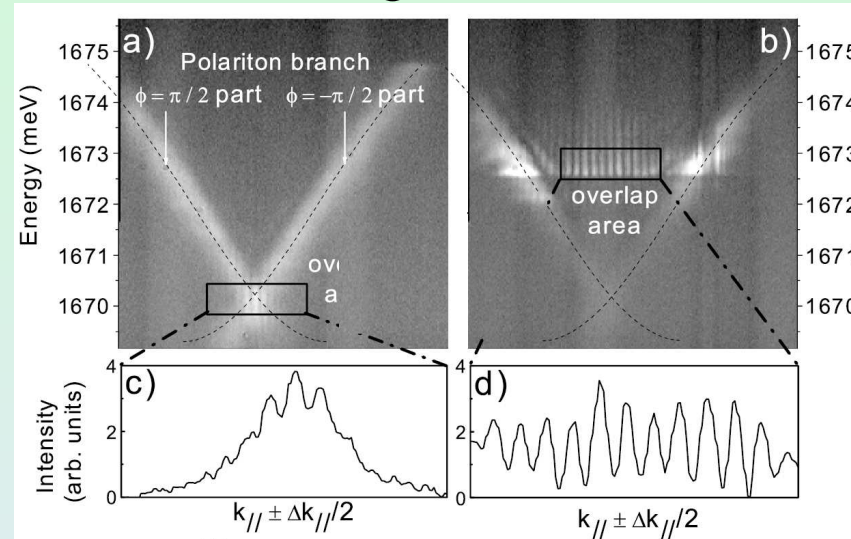
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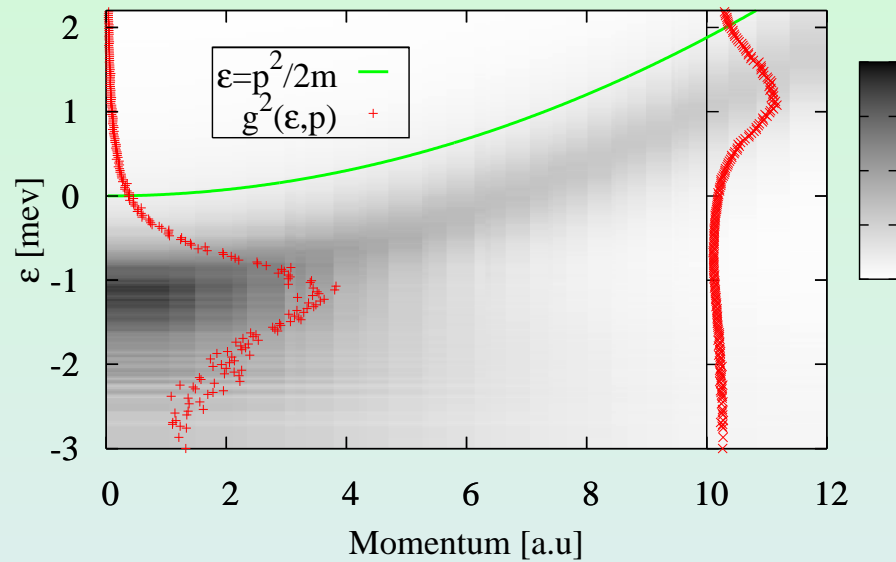
Interference fringes:



[Richard *et al.* Phys. Rev. Lett. **94** 187401 (2005)]

## Localised two level systems

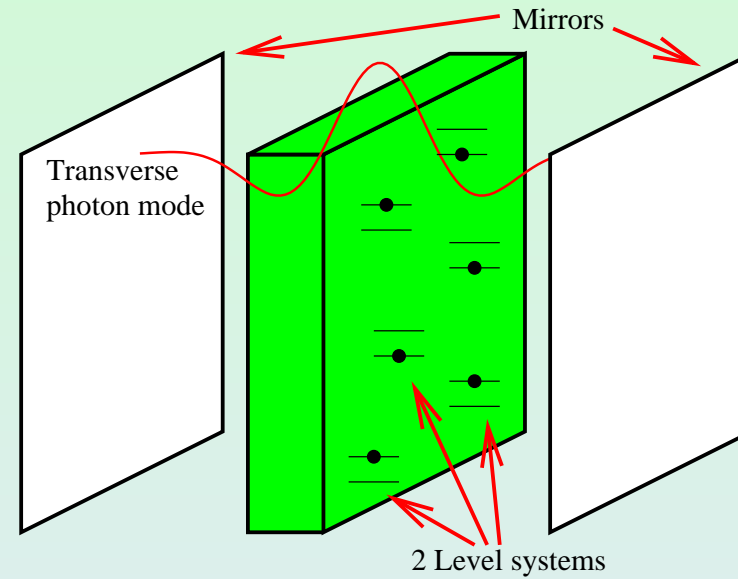
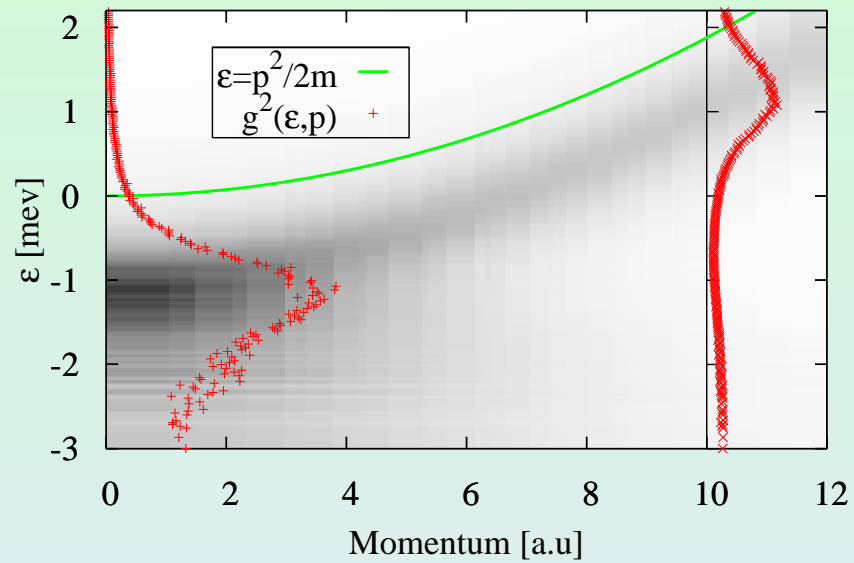
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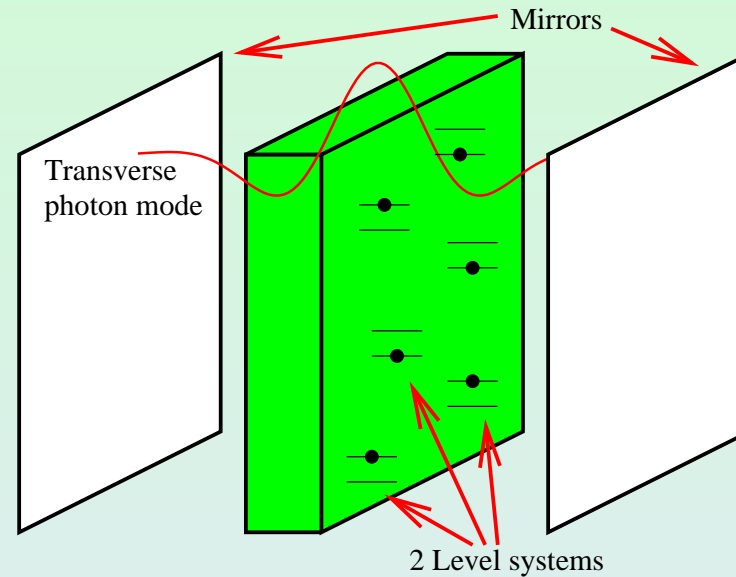
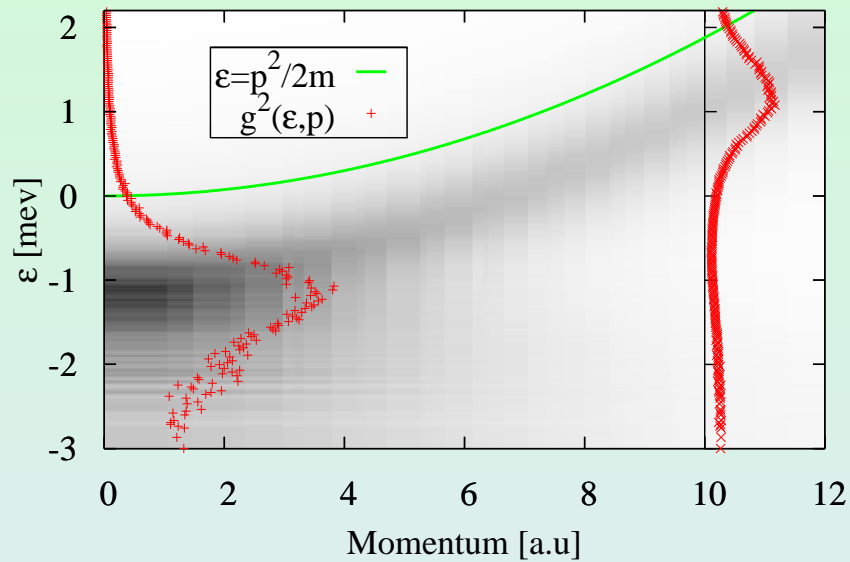


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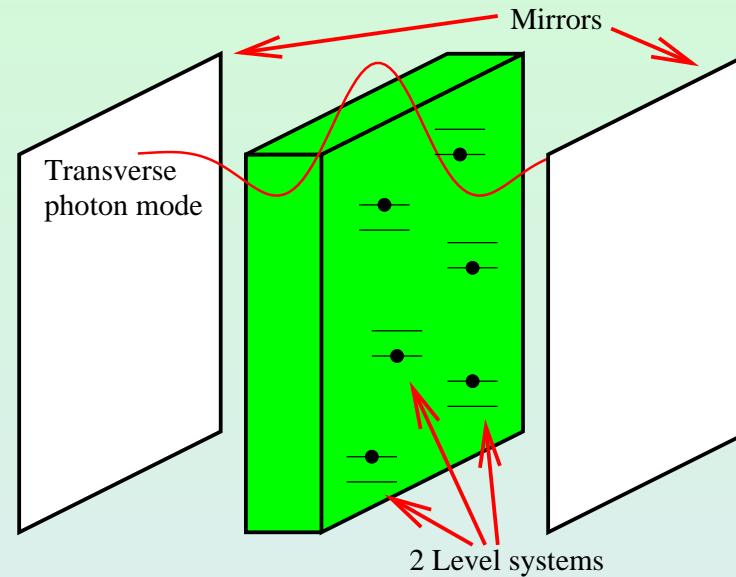
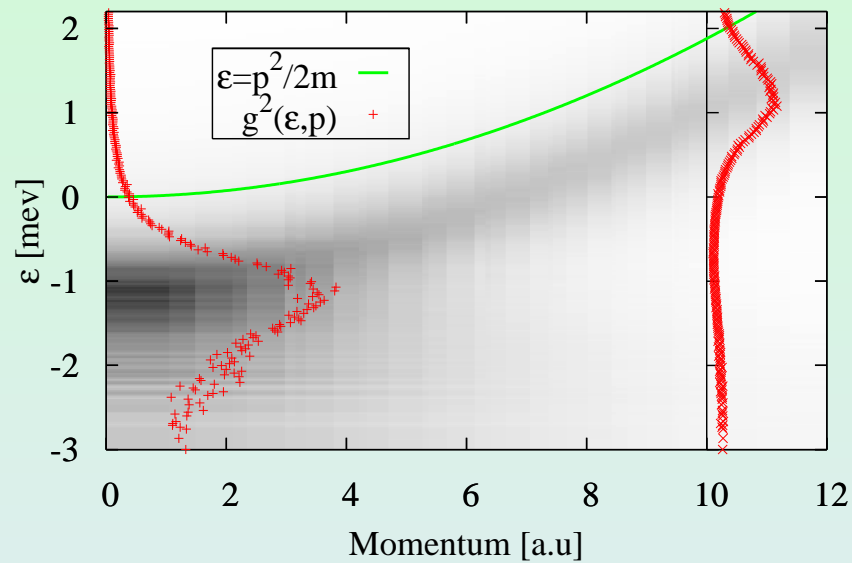


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Coupling to light:



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BCS-BEC crossover in a system of microcavity polaritons

## The Dicke Model Hamiltonian

$$H = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{\alpha=nA} \epsilon (b_{\alpha}^{\dagger} b_{\alpha} - a_{\alpha}^{\dagger} a_{\alpha})$$

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Assume thermal equilibrium with fixed number of excitations,  $\tilde{H} = H - \mu N$

$$N = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{\alpha=nA} \frac{1}{2} (b_{\alpha}^{\dagger} b_{\alpha} - a_{\alpha}^{\dagger} a_{\alpha} + 1) + \sum_{k=l/\sqrt{A}} \psi_k^{\dagger} \psi_k.$$



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## Mean field theory

At zero temperature, BCS-like ansatz is exact minimum

$$|\Psi\rangle = e^{\lambda(\psi_0^\dagger + \sum_{\alpha} X_{\alpha} b_{\alpha}^\dagger a_{\alpha})} \prod_{\alpha} a_{\alpha}^\dagger |0\rangle$$

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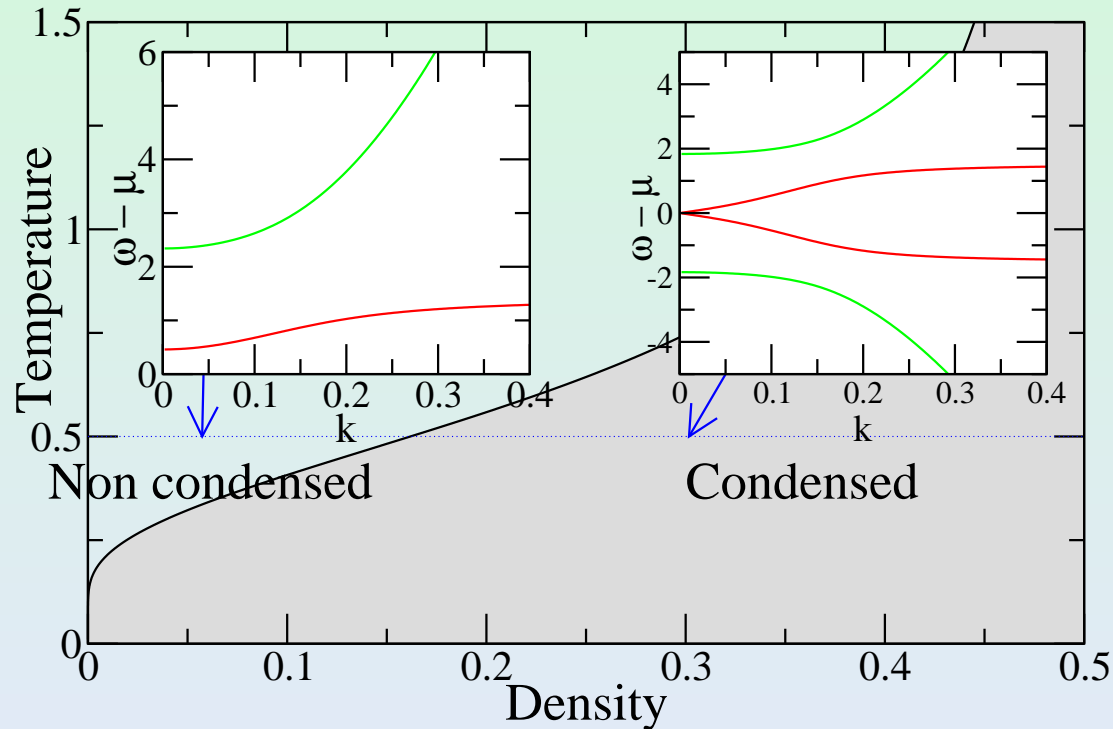
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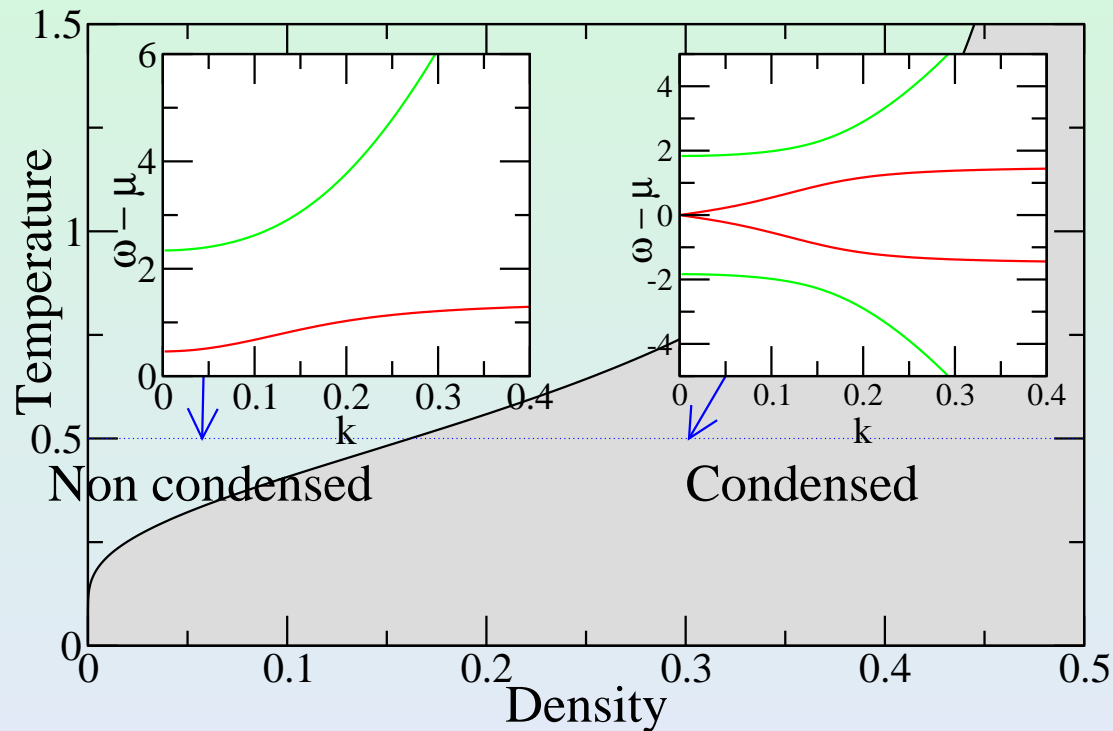
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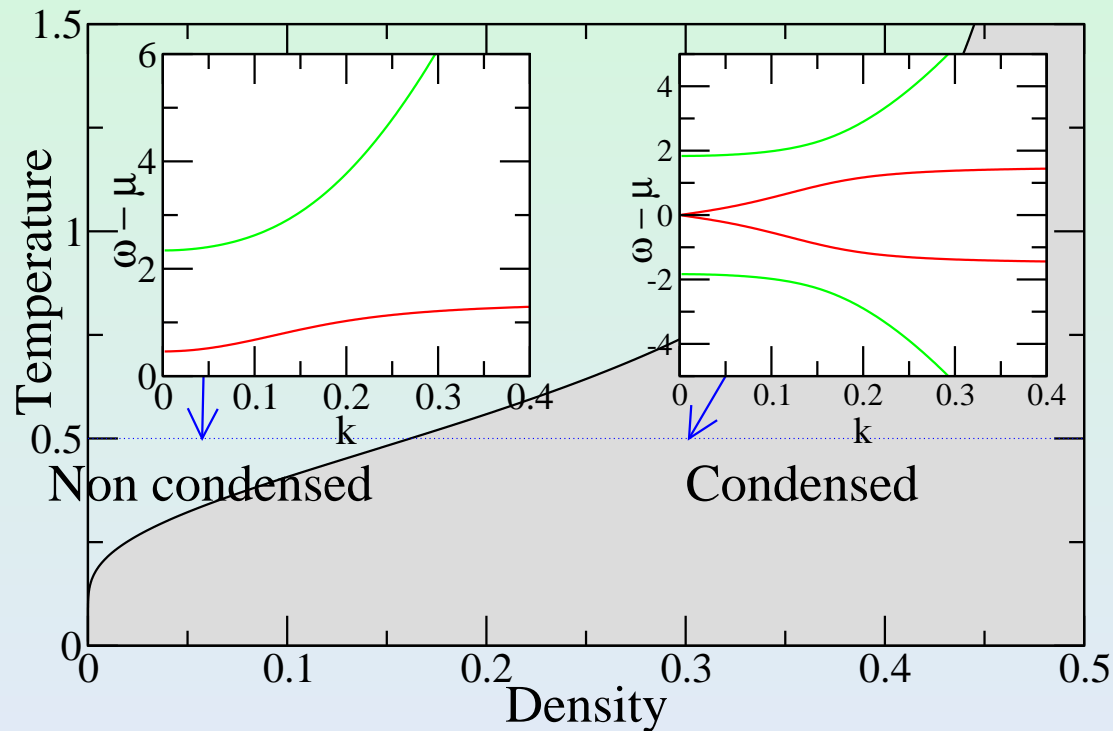
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At large  $k$ , recover bare exciton/photon spectra.

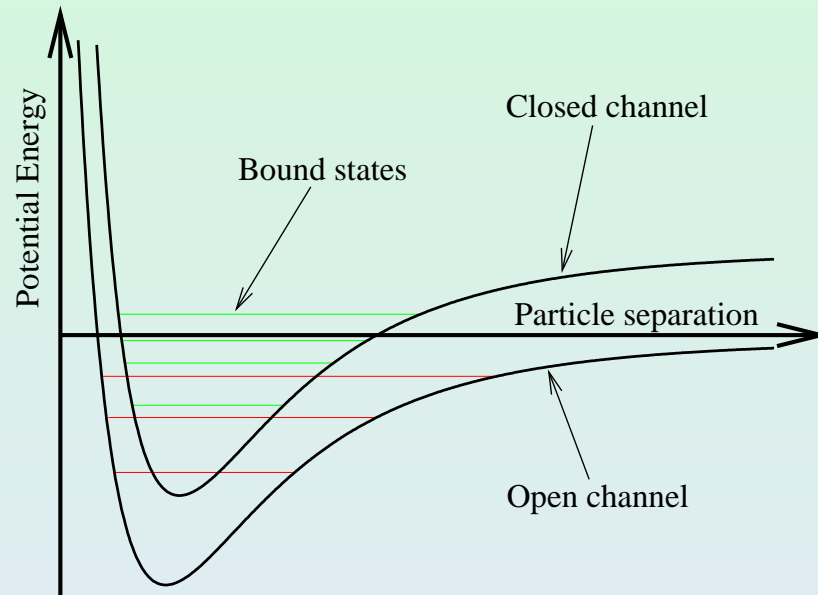
BCS-BEC crossover in a system of microcavity polaritons

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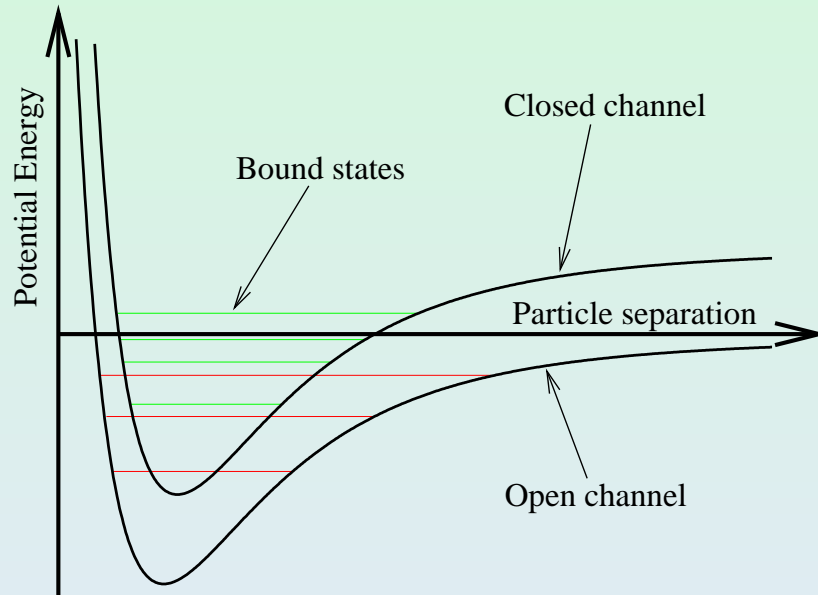
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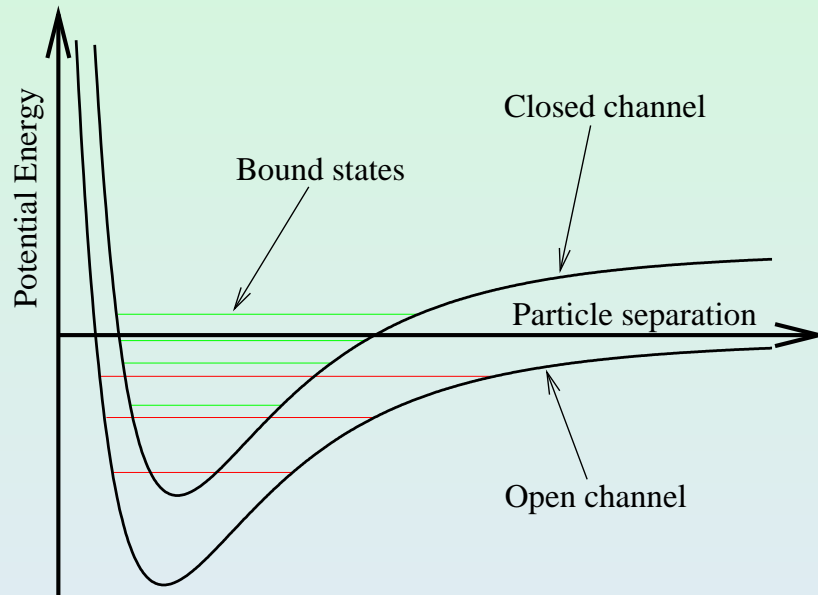
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- At resonance, “strong-coupling” of atoms and molecule: 
- Detuning gives crossover from BCS of atoms to BEC of molecules.

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## **Diversion: Analogies and differences**

Comparison of physical systems:

**Feshbach resonance**  $\iff$  **Microcavity Polaritons**

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## Comparing mean field theories

**General form**

$$\frac{1}{U_{\text{eff}}} = \int \nu_s(\epsilon) \frac{\tanh(\beta(\epsilon - \mu))}{\epsilon - \mu} d\epsilon$$

**BCS superconductor**

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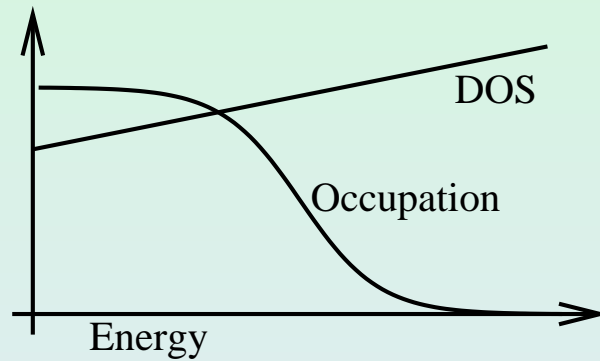
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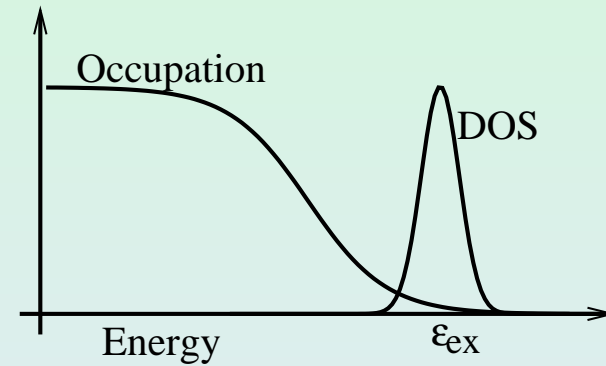
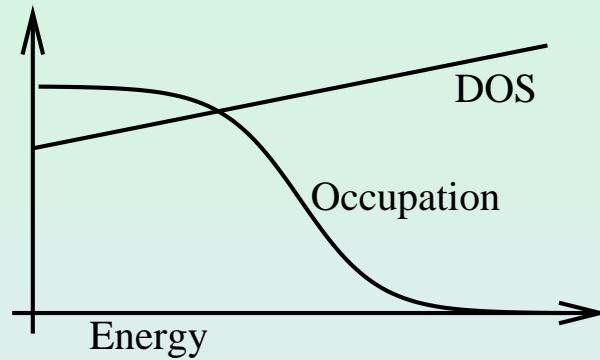
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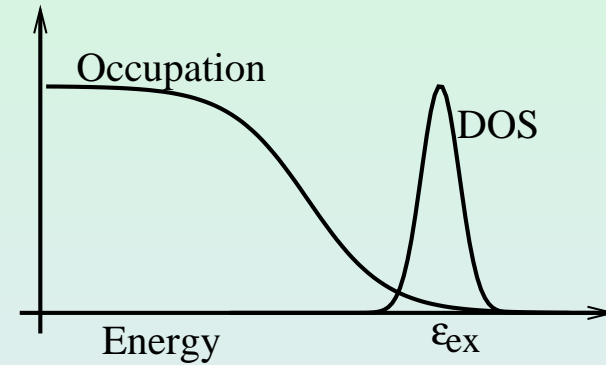
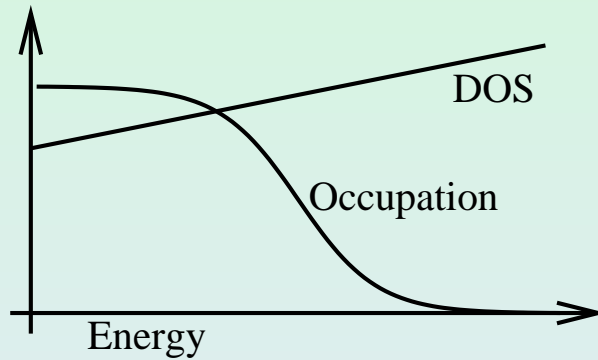
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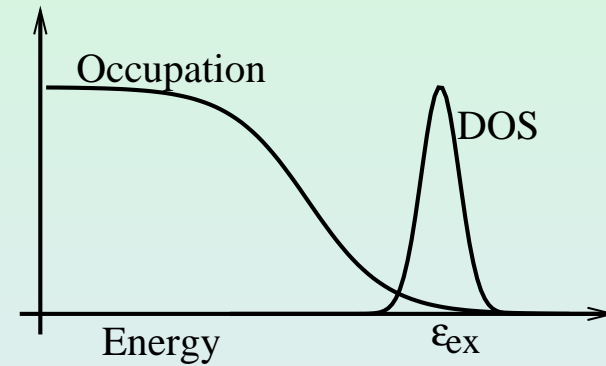
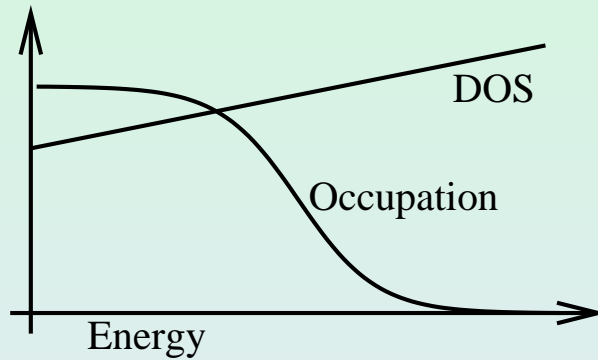
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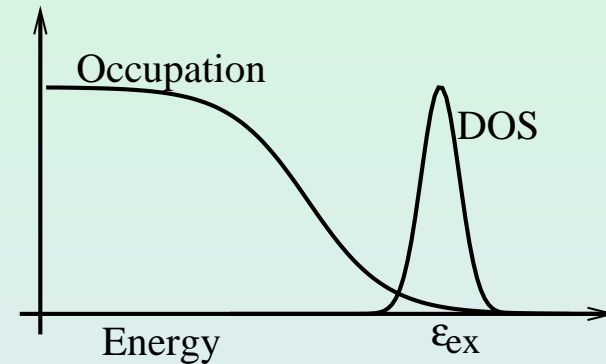
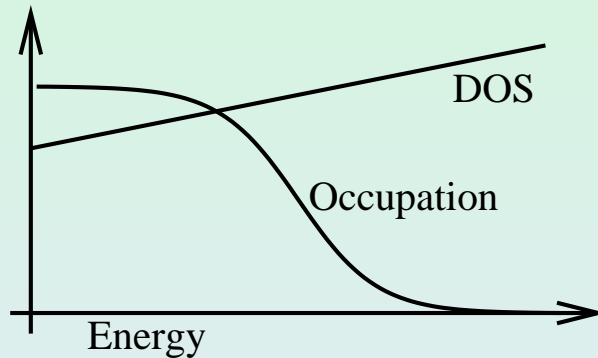
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BCS-BEC crossover in a system of microcavity polaritons

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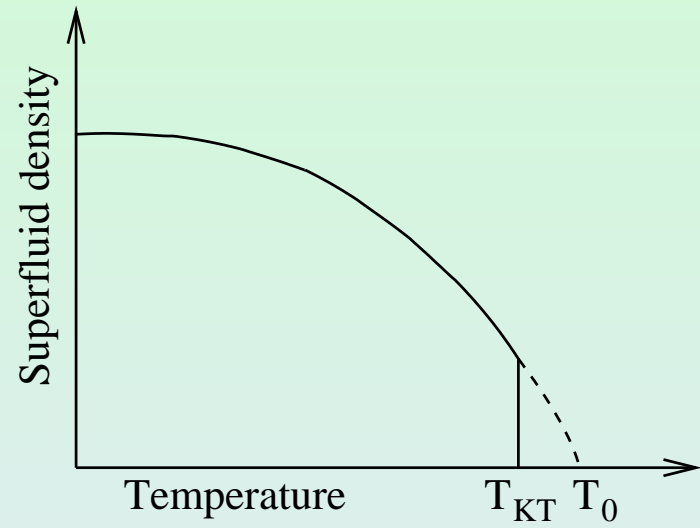
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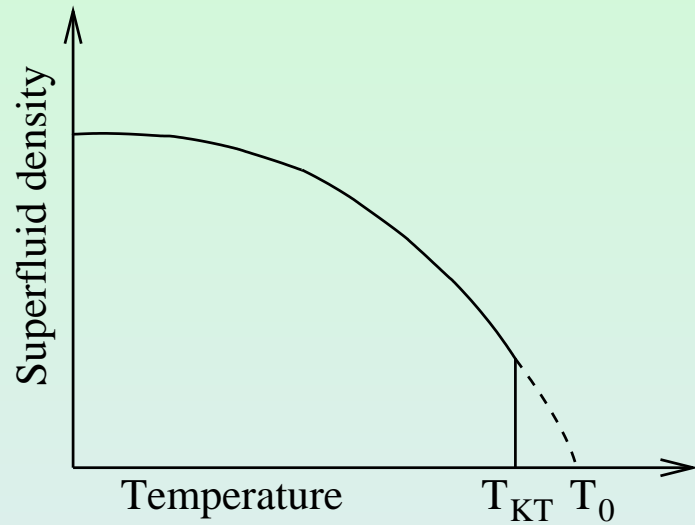
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BCS-BEC crossover in a system of microcavity polaritons

## Fluctuations in 2d



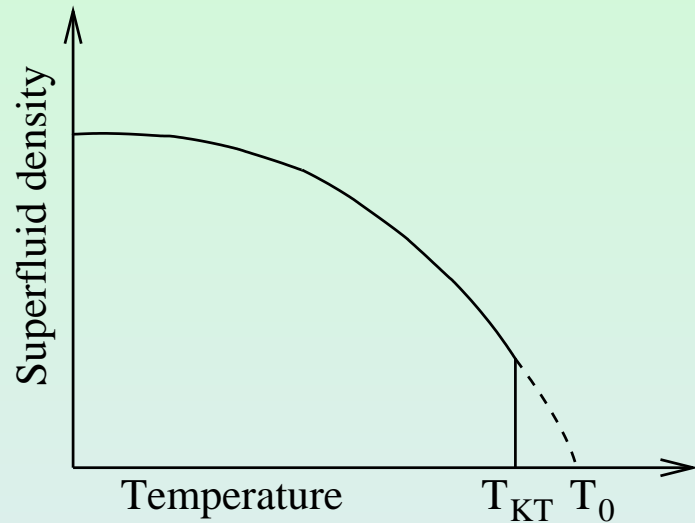
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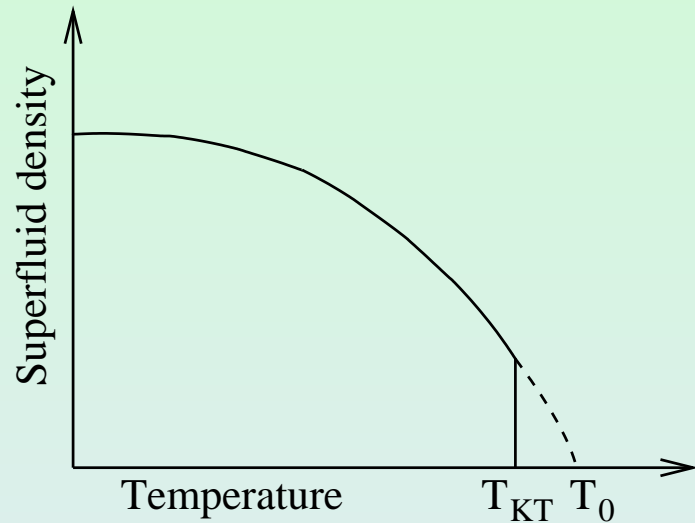
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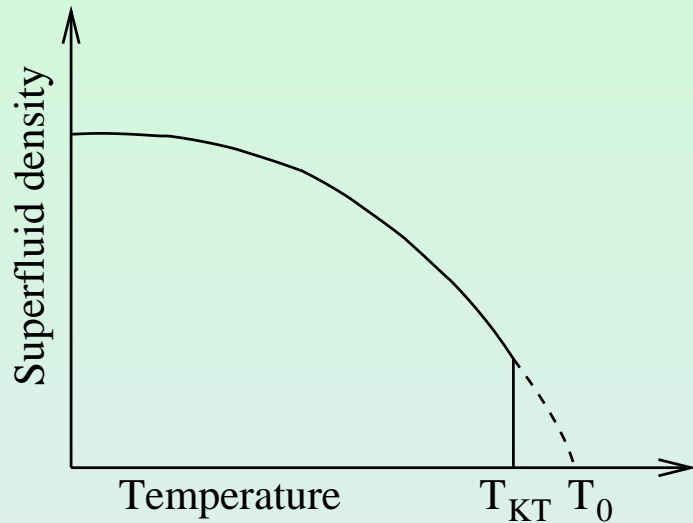
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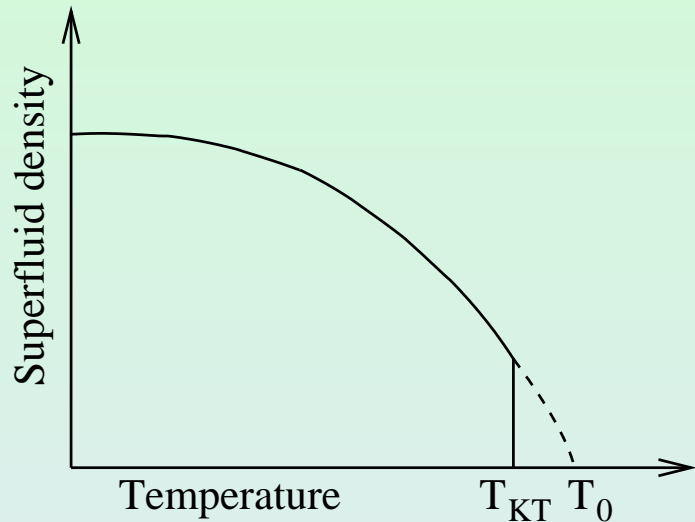
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Thus, need to find:  $\rho_{\text{total}}$  in presence of condensate.

BCS-BEC crossover in a system of microcavity polaritons

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Condensate depletion changes critical chemical potential.

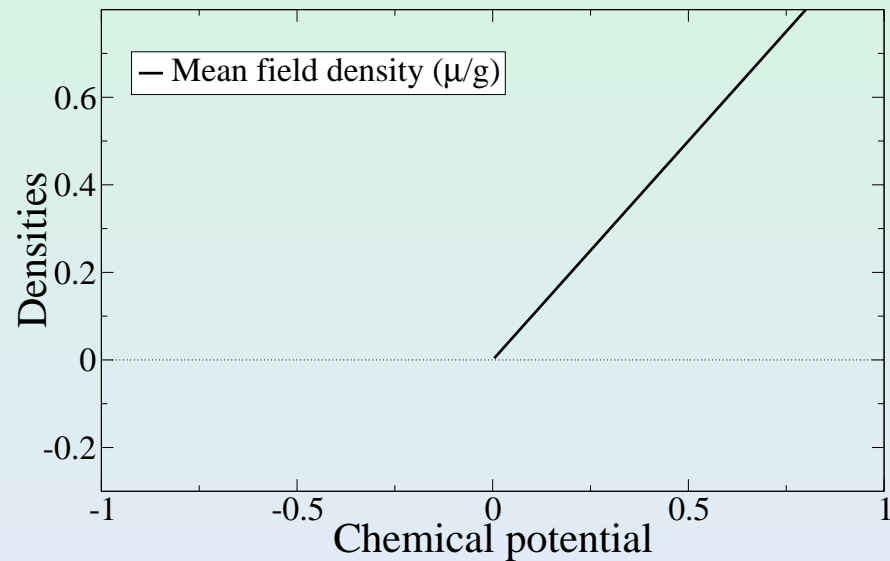
BCS-BEC crossover in a system of microcavity polaritons

## Simple example: Weakly interacting Bose gas

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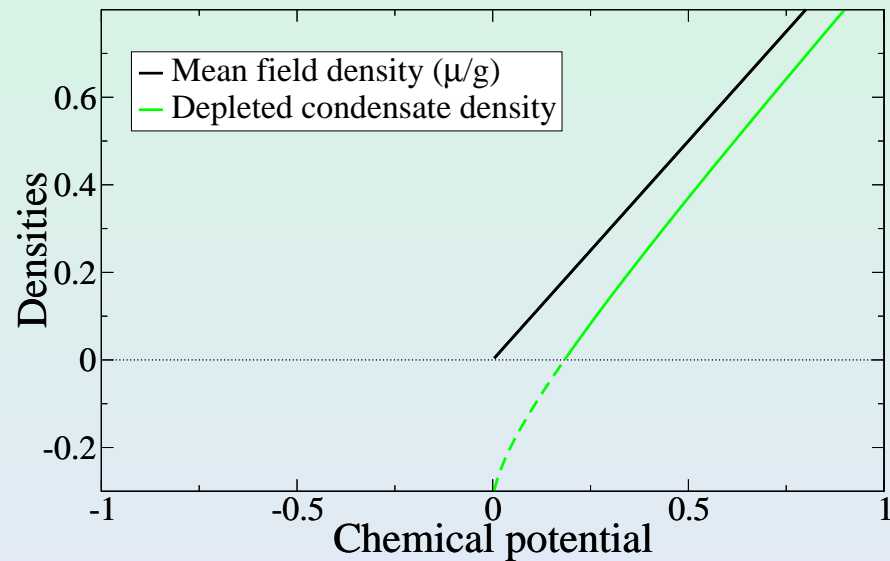
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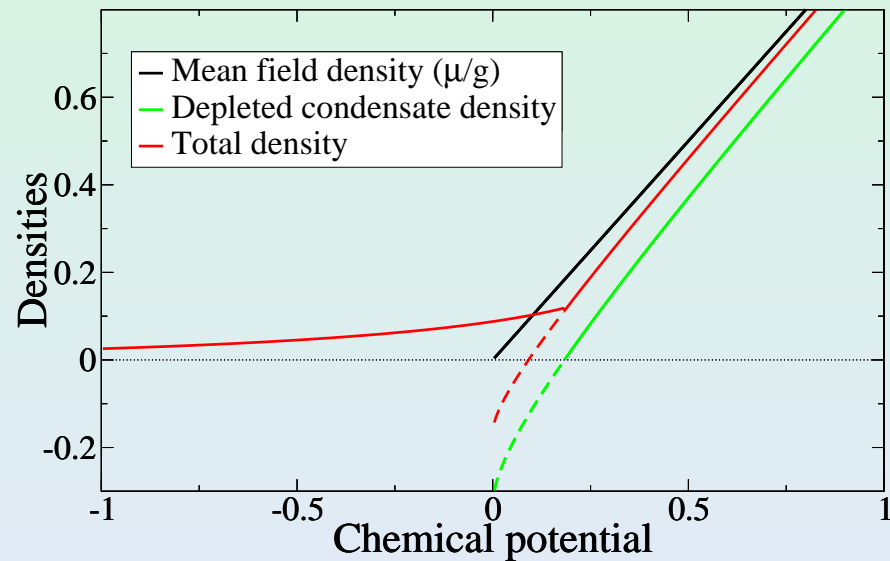
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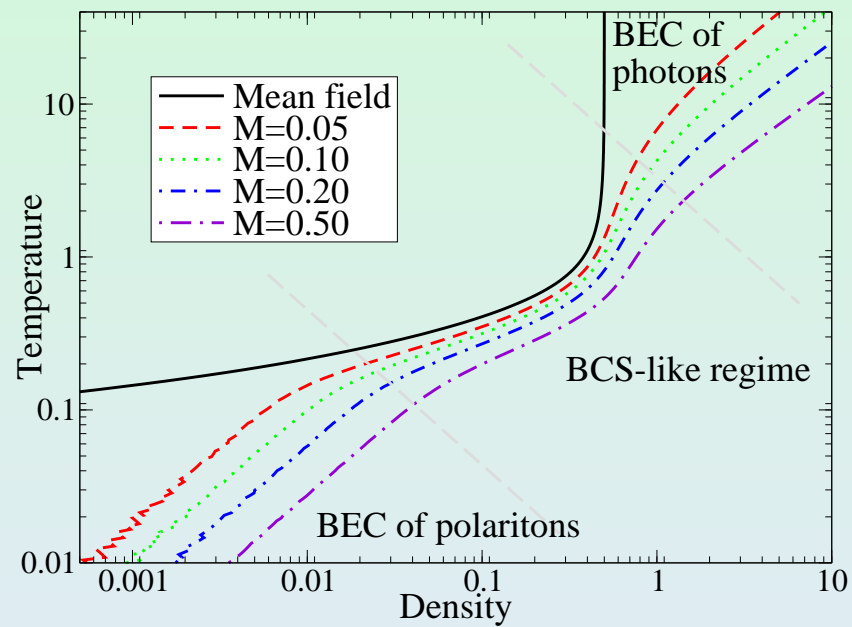
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Normal state exists for  $\mu > 0$ :  
Need self energy.

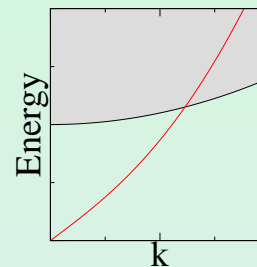
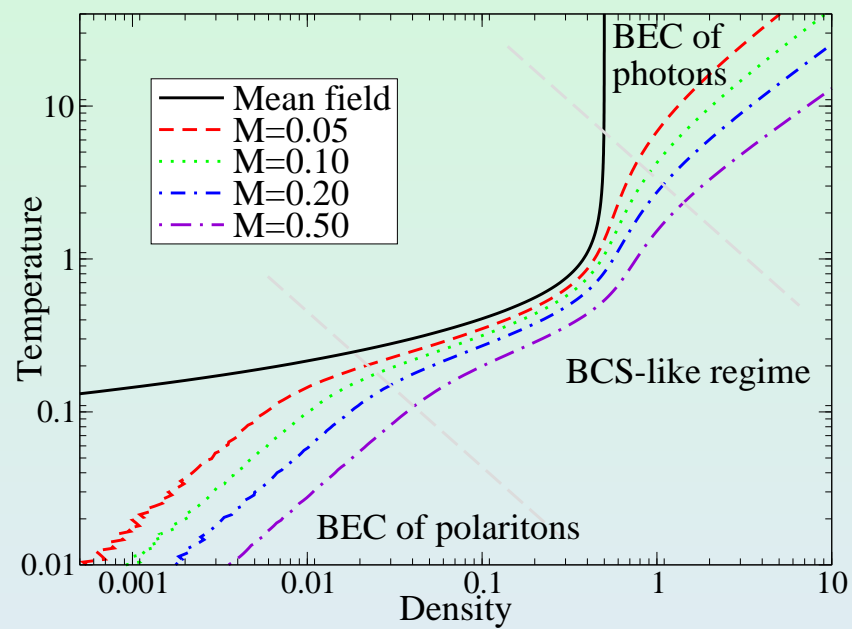
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Calculate density where  $\rho_{\text{superfluid}} = 0$ .



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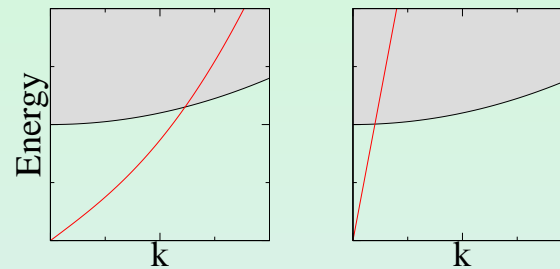
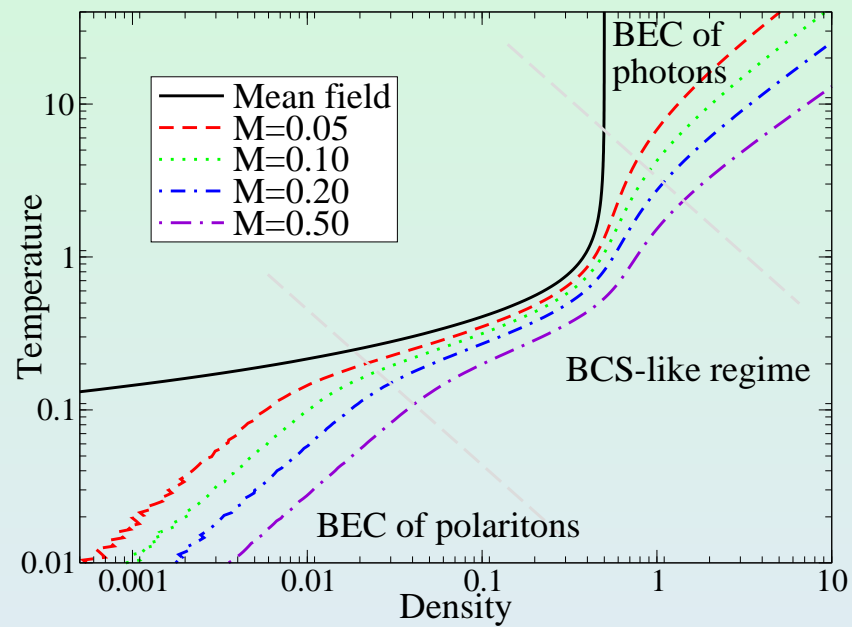
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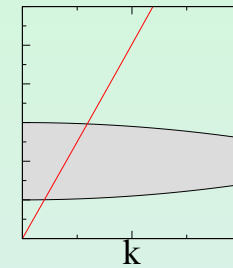
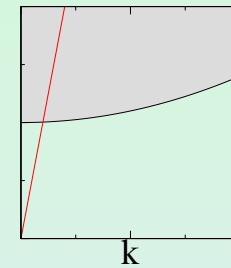
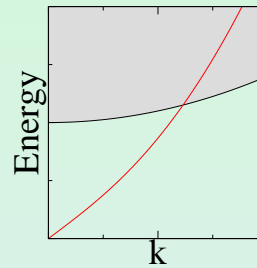
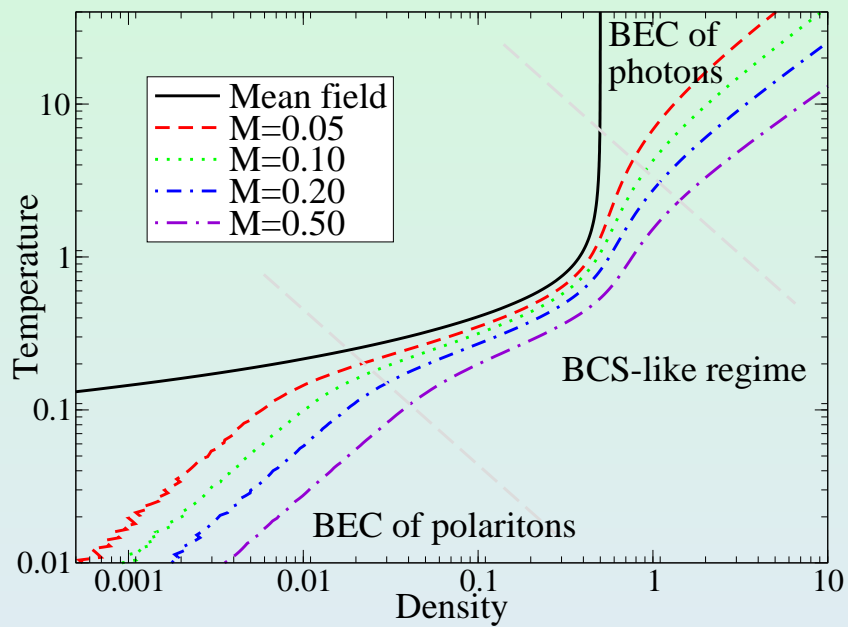
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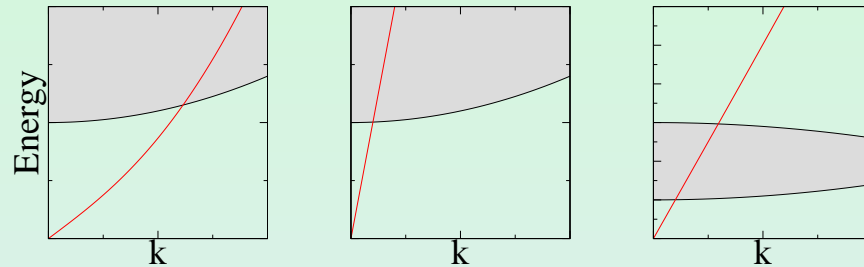
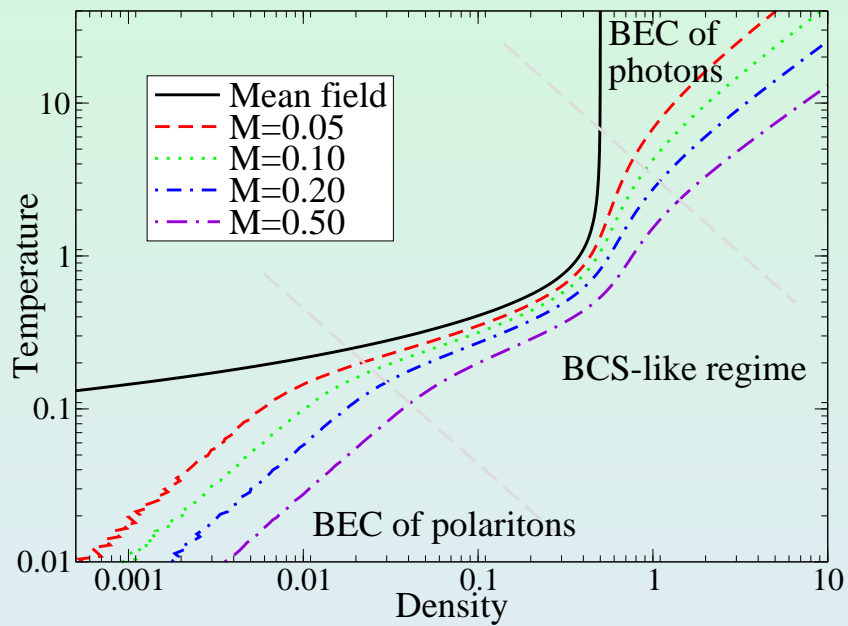
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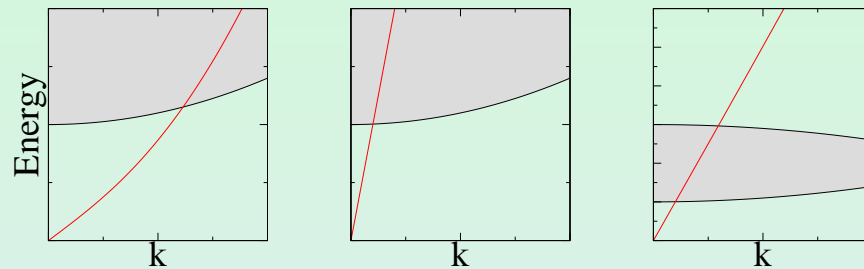
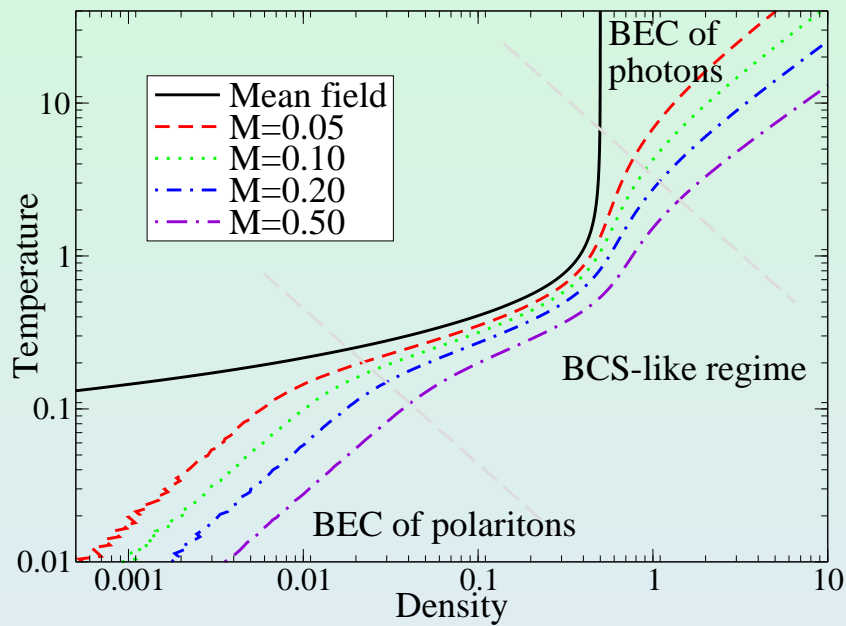


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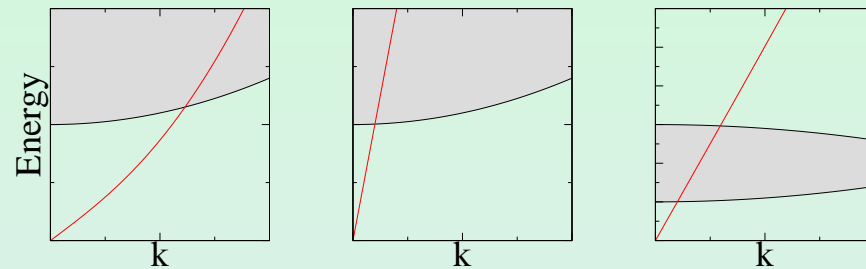
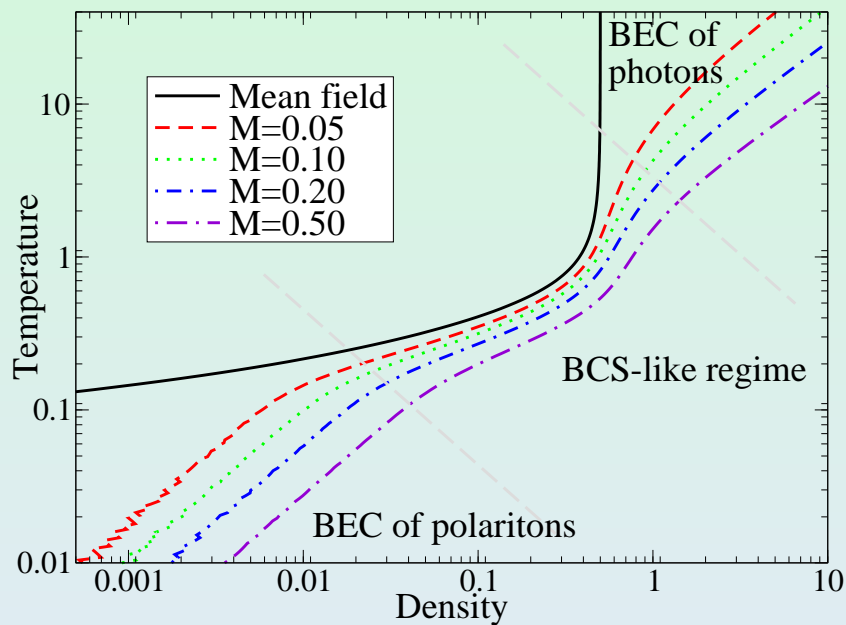


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Current experiments in BCS-like regime:  $\rho_{\text{crossover}}/n \approx mg/\sqrt{n} \approx 10^{-3}$ , experiments around  $\rho/n \approx 0.01$ .

## Conclusions

- Including fluctuations, B.E.C. transition at low density, internal structure matters at higher densities.

[*Keeling et al., Phys. Rev. Lett.* **93** 226403 (2004)]

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BCS-BEC crossover in a system of microcavity polaritons

# Supplementary material

BCS-BEC crossover in a system of microcavity polaritons

## Experimental signatures: $N(k)$

From spectrum find:

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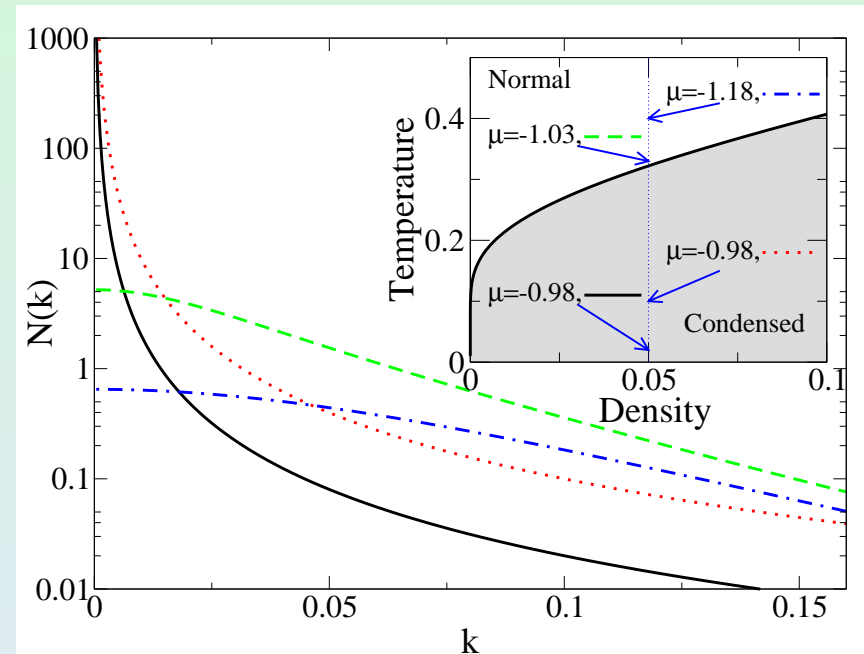
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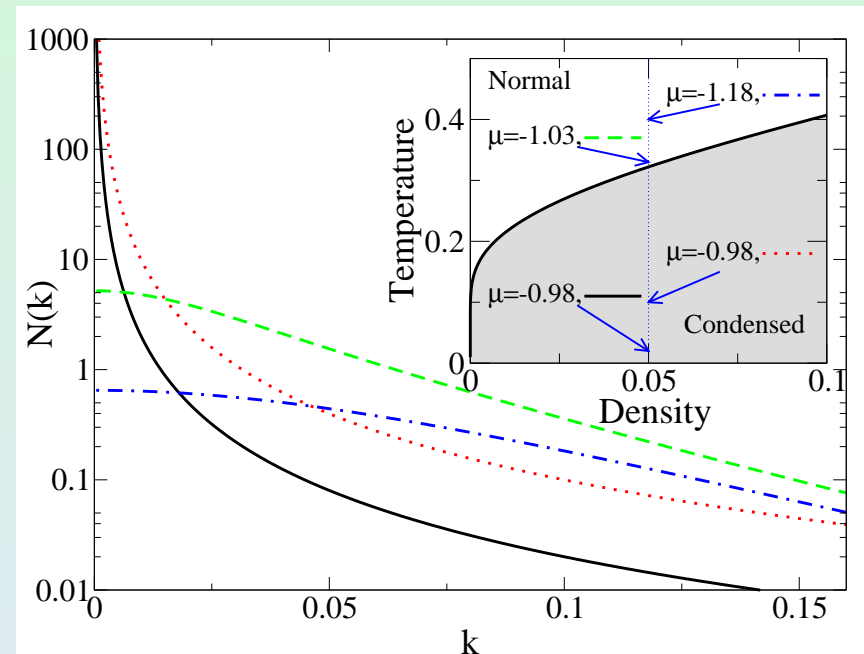
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Universal form:

$$N(p) \propto \rho_0 \frac{\xi_T^\eta}{p^{2-\eta}}, \quad \eta = \frac{m}{2\pi\beta\rho_0\hbar^2}$$



BCS-BEC crossover in a system of microcavity polaritons

## Inhomogeneous broadening — spectral weight

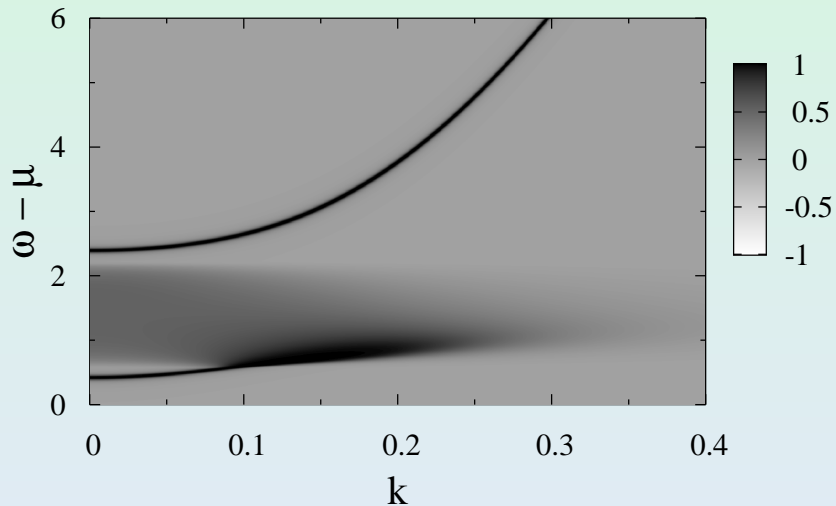
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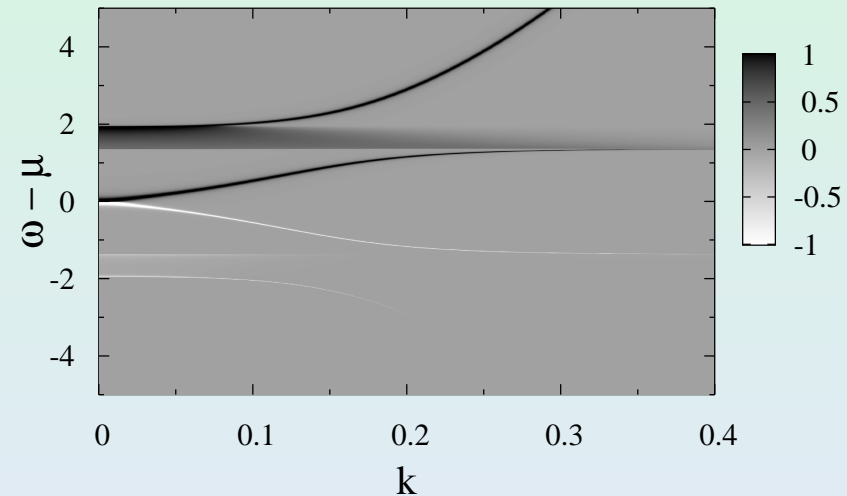
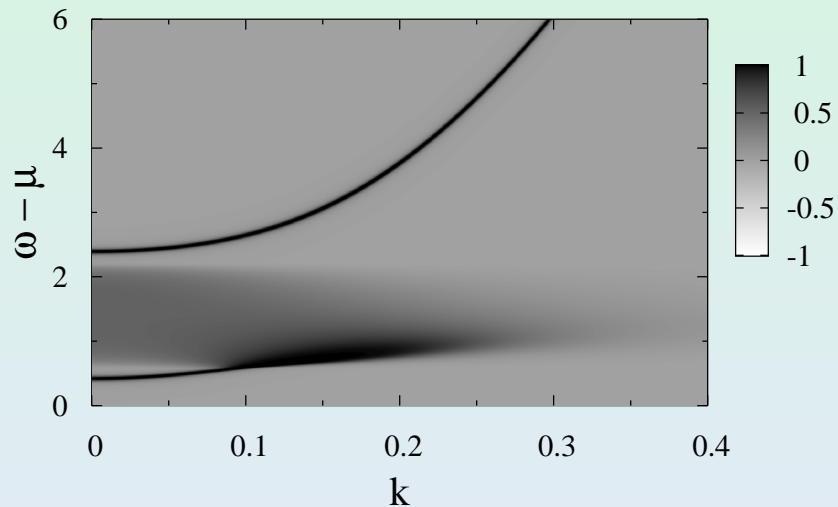




## Inhomogeneous broadening — spectral weight

With inhomogeneous broadening of exciton energies, lines become broadened.

Can plot  $\Im \mathcal{G}(i\omega = z + i\eta)$ , absorption coefficient. Figures for broadening,  $0.3g\sqrt{n}$  other parameters as previously.



Note Goldstone mode is not broadened.

## Inhomogeneous broadening: What the spectrum means

Absorption probability is:

$$P_{\text{absorb}}(x) = \sum_{n,m} |\langle m | \psi^\dagger | n \rangle|^2 e^{\beta(F-E_n)} \delta(x - E_{mn}) = (1 + n_B(x)) \rho_L(x).$$

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Where  $\rho_L$ , the difference is given by:

$$\rho_L(x) = \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0} \Im \mathcal{G}(i\omega = x + i\eta) = P_{\text{absorb}}(x) - P_{\text{emit}}(x).$$

## Inhomogeneous broadening — Emission probability

Alternative plots:  $P_{\text{emit}}$  Figures for broadening,  $0.1g\sqrt{n}$  other parameters as previously.

