

Polariton condensation — A Green's function approach

J. M. J. Keeling

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L'Aquila IP 2010



Acknowledgements

People:



Funding:

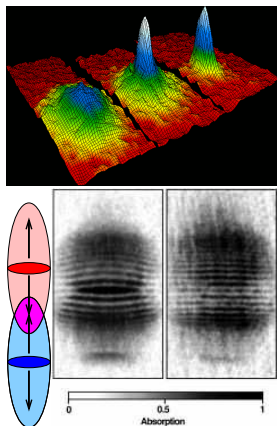
EPSRC Engineering and Physical Sciences
Research Council



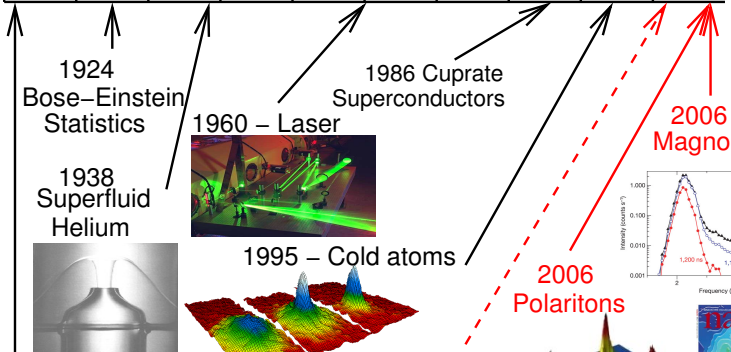
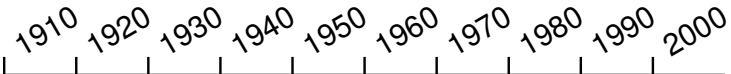
Pembroke College

Bose-Einstein condensation

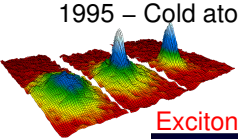
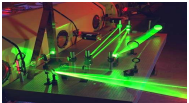
- Macroscopic occupation of ground state
 - ▶ Non-interacting bosons, $\mu \rightarrow 0$ at $T_c \propto n^{2/3}/m$.
- Macroscopic quantum coherence
 - ▶ No fragmentation
 - ▶ Macroscopic phase
- Superfluidity
 - ▶ Rigidity of wavefunction
 - ▶ New sound modes



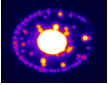
Condensation timeline



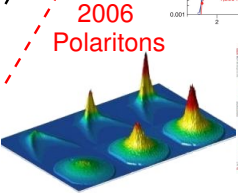
1911
Superconductivity



Excitons?

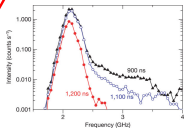


1986 Cuprate
Superconductors



2006
Polaritons

2006
Magnons



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- 3 Polariton models and of equilibrium results
 - Microscopic and WIDBG model
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 - Equilibrium mean field theory

Weakly Interacting Dilute Bose Gas model

Model for, e.g. dilute atomic systems

$$H - \mu N = \sum_k (\epsilon_k - \mu) \psi_k^\dagger \psi_k + \sum_{k,k',q} \frac{U}{2V} \psi_{k+q}^\dagger \psi_{k'-q}^\dagger \psi_{k'} \psi_k$$

- Mean-field theory: consider $|\Psi\rangle = (\psi_0^\dagger)^N |0\rangle$ or $|\Psi\rangle = e^{\lambda \psi_0^\dagger - \lambda^2/2} |0\rangle$
 - Demand state minimise $F = -k_B T \ln \text{Tr}(e^{-\beta H})$
Get: $N = \lambda^2 = \mu V/U$
 - Describes macroscopically occupied state, neglects fluctuations
 - Want: spectrum, temperature dependence, modified ground state.

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• Consider $\psi_k \rightarrow \lambda \psi_0 + \psi_k$

$$H_{\text{MF}} = \sum_k (\epsilon_k - \mu) \psi_k^\dagger \psi_k + \frac{U}{2V} \lambda^2 (\psi_0^\dagger \psi_0 + \psi_0^\dagger \psi_{-k} + \psi_0 \psi_{-k}^\dagger)$$

Weakly Interacting Dilute Bose Gas model

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 - ▶ Want: spectrum, temperature dependence, modified ground state.
 - ▶ Consider $\psi_k \rightarrow \lambda \delta_k + \psi_k$

$$H_{\text{fluct}} = \sum_k (\epsilon_k - \mu) \psi_k^\dagger \psi_k + \frac{U \lambda^2}{2V} \left(4 \psi_k^\dagger \psi_k + \psi_k^\dagger \psi_{-k}^\dagger + \psi_k \psi_{-k} \right),$$

WIDBG fluctuations

- Using $\lambda^2 = N = \mu V / U$,

$$H_{\text{fluct}} = \sum_k \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_k^\dagger & \psi_{-k} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon_k + \mu & \mu \\ \mu & \epsilon_k + \mu \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_k \\ \psi_{-k}^\dagger \end{pmatrix} - \frac{(\epsilon_k + \mu)}{2}.$$

- Diagonalise by $\phi_k = \cosh(\theta_k)\psi_k + \sinh(\theta_k)\psi_{-k}^\dagger$

- Find $H_{\text{fluct}} = \sum_k \xi_k \phi_k^\dagger \phi_k + \frac{1}{2}(\xi_k - \epsilon_k - \mu)$

$$\text{with: } \tanh(2\theta_k) = -\frac{\mu}{\epsilon_k + \mu}$$

$$\xi_k = \sqrt{\epsilon_k(\epsilon_k + 2\mu)}$$

- Features of fluctuation spectrum:
 - Spectrum is ξ_k , independent of temperature.

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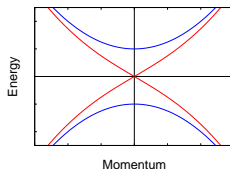
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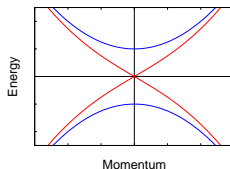
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 - ▶ Spectrum is ξ_k , independent of temperature.

▶ Ground state is not $\psi_k(\Omega) = 0$ but $\psi_k(\Omega) = 0$, find:

$$|\Omega\rangle = \prod_k \exp(-\tanh(\theta_k)\psi_k^\dagger \psi_{-k}^\dagger) |0\rangle.$$

WIDBG fluctuations

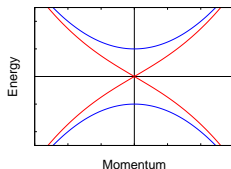
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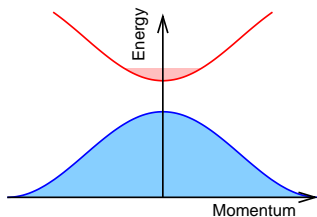
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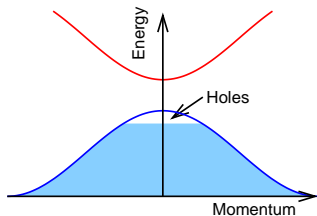
Excitons in semiconductors

Light quasiparticles with approximate Bose statistics.



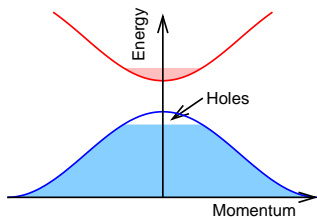
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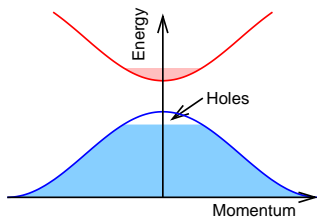
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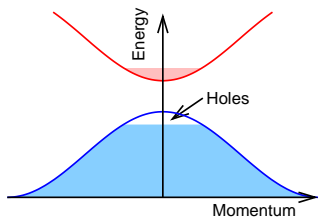
Light quasiparticles with approximate Bose statistics.



$$H = \sum_k \left[\epsilon_c(k) a_{ck}^\dagger a_{ck} + \epsilon_v(k) a_{vk}^\dagger a_{vk} \right] + \frac{1}{2} \sum_q \left[V_q^{ee} \rho_q^e \rho_{-q}^e + V_q^{hh} \rho_q^h \rho_{-q}^h - 2V_q^{eh} \rho_q^e \rho_{-q}^h \right]$$

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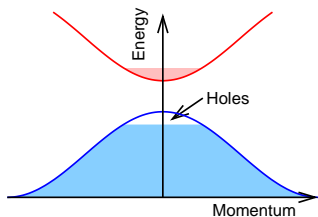
With parabolic dispersion:

$$\epsilon_c(k) = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m_c}, \quad \epsilon_v(k) = -E_g - \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2|m_v|}$$

$$\text{Coulomb interaction: } V(q) = \frac{e^2 4\pi}{\epsilon q^2}.$$

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Exciton state:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{V}} \sum_k \phi_{1s}(k) a_{ck}^\dagger a_{vk} |\Omega\rangle$$

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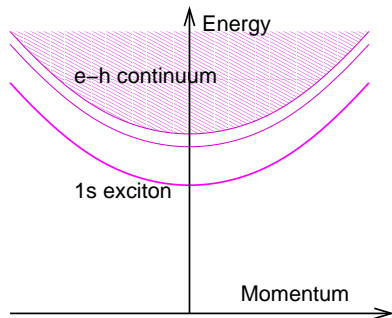
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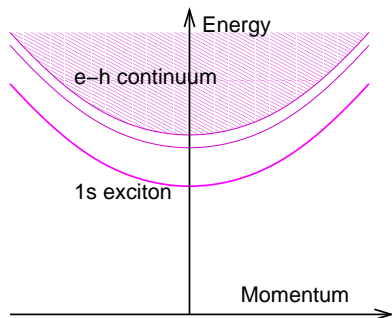
Quantum well excitons

- In GaAs $\mu = 0.1m^*$, $\epsilon_r = 13$, so
 - ▶ $\mathcal{R}_y = 5\text{meV}$ (13.6eV for H)
 - ▶ $a_B = 7\text{nm}$ (0.05nm for H)
 - ▶ $M_{\text{total}} \sim m^*$



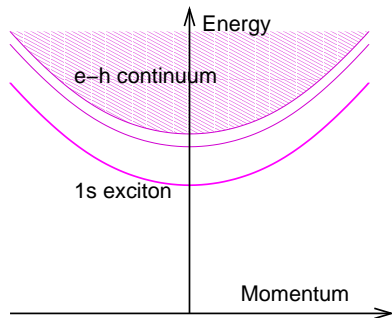
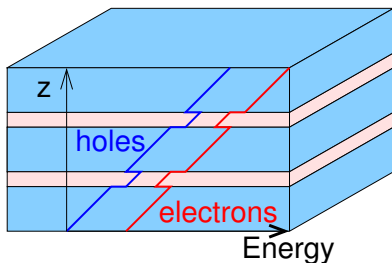
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- Strongly interacting dipoles — avoids bi-exciton formation.

Exciton condensation

- Single exciton state

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{V}} \sum_k \phi_{1s}(k) a_{ck}^\dagger a_{vk} |\Omega\rangle$$

- **Exciton condensate state:**

$$|\Psi_{Ec}\rangle = \mathcal{N} \exp\left(\sum_k \lambda_k a_{ck}^\dagger a_{vk}\right) |\Omega\rangle$$

- Low density: $v_k \simeq \lambda_k = \sqrt{N/V} \phi_{1s}(k)$
- High density: saturation, $v_k < 1$

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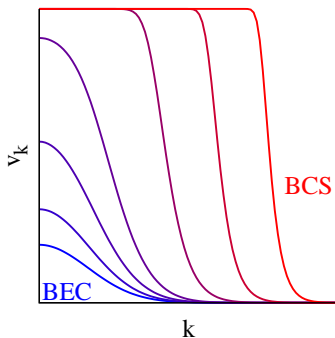
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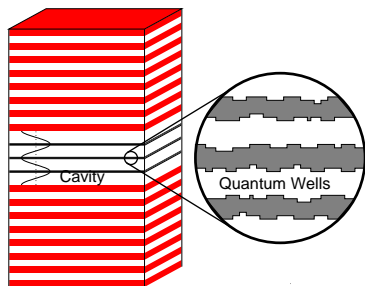
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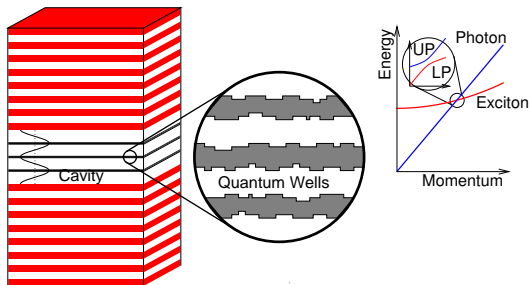
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Microcavity Polaritons



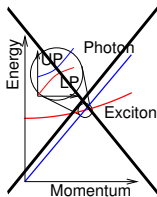
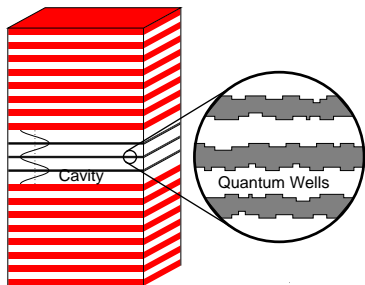
Microcavity Polaritons



[Pekar, JETP(1958)]

[Hopfield, Phys. Rev.(1958)]

Microcavity Polaritons



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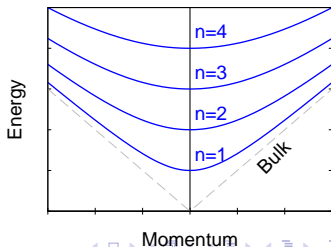
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Cavity photons:

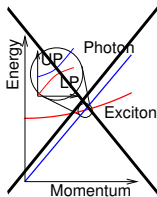
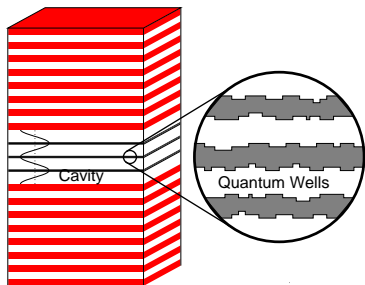
$$\omega_k = \sqrt{\omega_0^2 + c^2 k^2}$$

$$\simeq \omega_0 + k^2/2m^*$$

$$m^* \sim 10^{-4} m_e$$



Microcavity Polaritons



[Pekar, JETP(1958)]

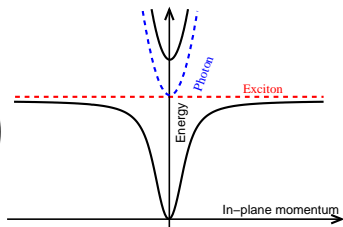
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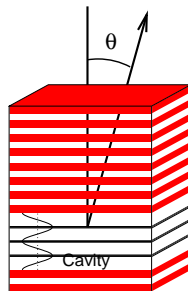
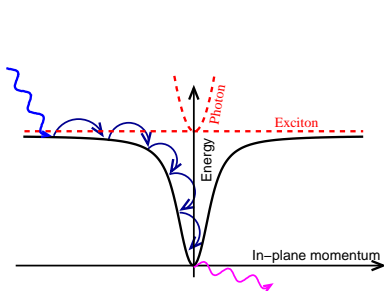
$$\begin{aligned}\omega_k &= \sqrt{\omega_0^2 + c^2 k^2} \\ &\simeq \omega_0 + k^2/2m^* \\ m^* &\sim 10^{-4} m_e\end{aligned}$$

Bosonic excitons D_k

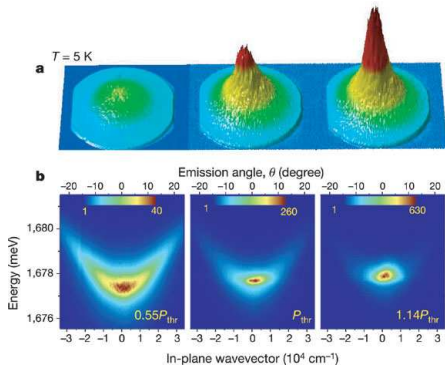
$$H = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_k^\dagger & D_k^\dagger \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \omega_k & \Omega_R/2 \\ \Omega_R/2 & \epsilon_k \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_k \\ D_k \end{pmatrix}$$



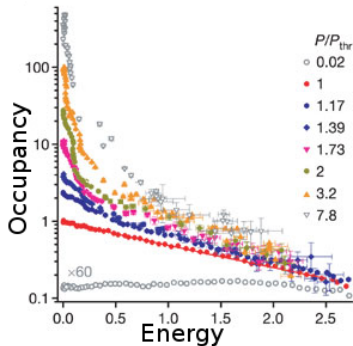
Non-equilibrium: flux and baths



Polariton experiments: Momentum/Energy distribution

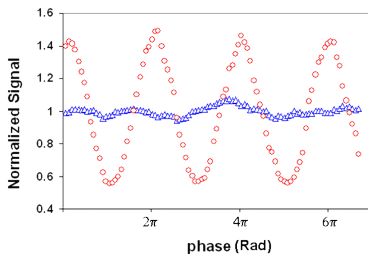
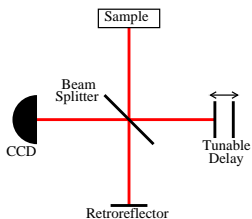


[Kasprzak, et al., Nature, 2006]

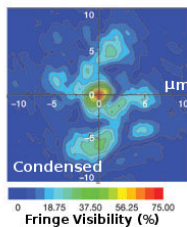
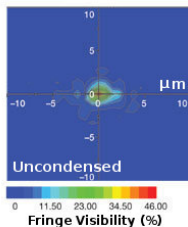
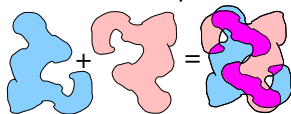


Polariton experiments: Coherence

Basic idea:



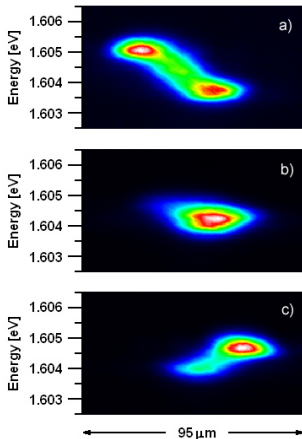
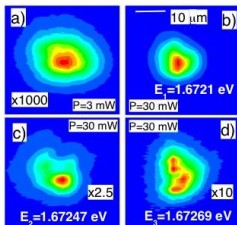
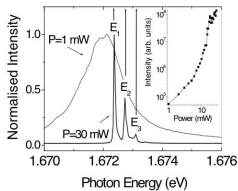
Coherence map:



[Kasprzak, et al., Nature, 2006]

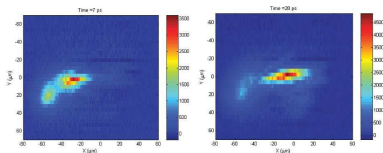
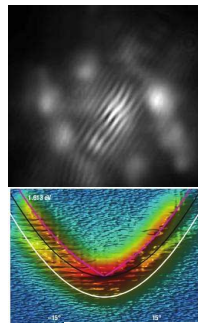
Other polariton condensation experiments

- Stress traps for polaritons [Balili *et al* Science 316 1007 (2007)]
- Temporal coherence and line narrowing [Love *et al* Phys. Rev. Lett. 101 067404 (2008)]



Other polariton condensation experiments

- Quantised vortices in disorder potential
[Lagoudakis *et al* Nature Phys. 4, 706 (2008)]
- Changes to excitation spectrum
[Utsunomiya *et al* Nature Phys. 4 700 (2008)]
- Soliton propagation
[Amo *et al* Nature 457 291 (2009)]
- Driven superfluidity
[Amo *et al* Nature Phys. (2009)]



Distinguishing features of polaritons

- Composite electron–hole–photon particle:
 - ▶ Similar energy scales
 - Naturally two-dimensional, but finite
 - ▶ Berezinskii-Kosterlitz-Thouless vs BEC
 - Short polariton lifetime
 - ▶ Non-equilibrium distributions
 - ▶ Relationship to Laser.

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	Lifetime	Thermalisation
Atoms	10s	10ms
Excitons ^a	50ns	0.2ns
Polaritons	5ps	0.5ps
Magnons ^b	1 μ s(??)	100ns(?)

^aCoupled quantum wells. [Hammack et al PRB 76 193308 (2007)]

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	Lifetime	Thermalisation	Linewidth	Temperature	
Atoms	10s	10ms	2.5×10^{-13} meV	10^{-8} K	10^{-9} meV
Excitons ^a	50ns	0.2ns	5×10^{-5} meV	1K	0.1meV
Polaritons	5ps	0.5ps	0.5meV	20K	2meV
Magnons ^b	$1\mu\text{s}(??)$	100ns(?)	2.5×10^{-6} meV	300K	30meV

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- 1 Introduction to BEC
- 2 Introduction to excitons and polaritons
 - Excitons and exciton condensates
 - Polaritons
- 3 Polariton models and of equilibrium results
 - Microscopic and WIDBG model
 - Disorder-localised exciton model
 - Equilibrium mean field theory

Models of polariton condensates

- Full model: $H = H_{\text{eh}} + H_{\text{coul}} + H_{\text{photon}} + H_{\text{dipole}} + H_{\text{disorder}}$
 - ▶ Include photonic & excitonic disorder
 - ✦ Model allows unnecessary high energy degrees of freedom
- Approximate model 1 — WIDBG

$$H = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger & D_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \omega_{\mathbf{k}} & \frac{1}{2}\Omega_R \\ \frac{1}{2}\Omega_R & \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_{\mathbf{k}} \\ D_{\mathbf{k}} \end{pmatrix} + \sum_{\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}', \mathbf{q}} \frac{U}{2} D_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^\dagger D_{\mathbf{k}'-\mathbf{q}}^\dagger D_{\mathbf{k}'} D_{\mathbf{k}} - \frac{\Omega_R}{2\rho_{\text{sat}}} \left(D_{\mathbf{k}'-\mathbf{q}}^\dagger D_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^\dagger D_{\mathbf{k}'} \psi_{\mathbf{k}} + \psi_{\mathbf{k}'-\mathbf{q}}^\dagger D_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^\dagger D_{\mathbf{k}} D_{\mathbf{k}'} \right)$$

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- ▶ At low densities, project to lower polariton

$$H_{\text{LP}} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^{\text{LP}} \psi_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger} \psi_{\mathbf{k}} + \sum_{\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}', \mathbf{q}} V_{\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}', \mathbf{q}}^{\text{LP}} \psi_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^{\dagger} \psi_{\mathbf{k}'-\mathbf{q}}^{\dagger} \psi_{\mathbf{k}'} \psi_{\mathbf{k}}$$

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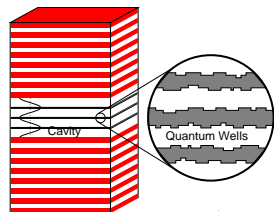
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Excitons in a disordered quantum well



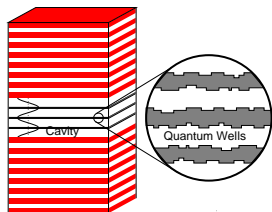
Exciton states in disorder:

$$\left[-\frac{\nabla_{\mathbf{R}}^2}{2m_{\chi}} + V(\mathbf{R}) \right] \Phi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{R}) = 2\epsilon_{\alpha} \Phi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{R})$$

$V(\mathbf{R})$ smoothed by exciton Bohr radius

[PRL 96 066405 (2006); PRB 76 115326 (2007)]

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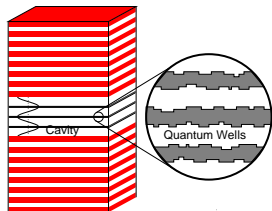
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Want: Energies ϵ_{α} Oscillator strengths: $g_{\alpha,\mathbf{p}} \propto \psi_{1s}(0)\Phi_{\alpha,\mathbf{p}}$

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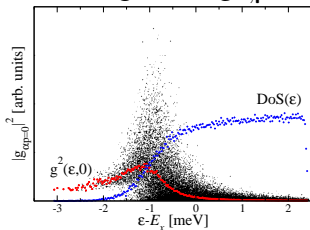


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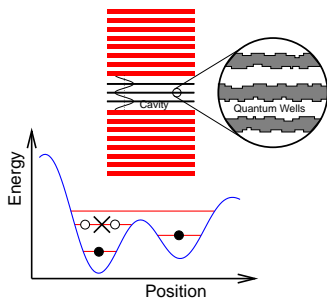


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Polariton system model

Polariton model

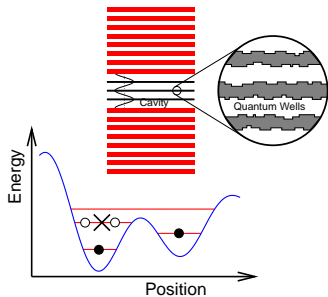
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- Treat disorder sites as two-level (exciton/no-exciton)
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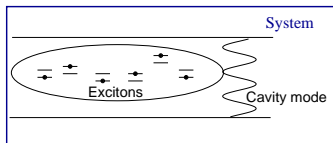
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$$H_{\text{sys}} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \omega_{\mathbf{k}} \psi_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger} \psi_{\mathbf{k}} + \sum_{\alpha} \left[2\epsilon_{\alpha} S_{\alpha}^z + \frac{g_{\alpha, \mathbf{k}}}{\sqrt{A}} \psi_{\mathbf{k}} S_{\alpha}^{+} + \text{H.c.} \right]$$



Equilibrium: Mean-field theory

Fermionic representation: $S^z \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} (b^\dagger b - a^\dagger a)$, $S^+ \rightarrow b^\dagger a$.

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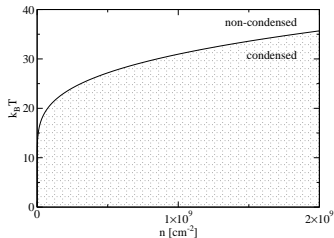
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Density

$$\rho = |\lambda|^2 + \frac{1}{2A} \sum_{\alpha} \langle b_{\alpha}^\dagger b_{\alpha} - a_{\alpha}^\dagger a_{\alpha} \rangle$$



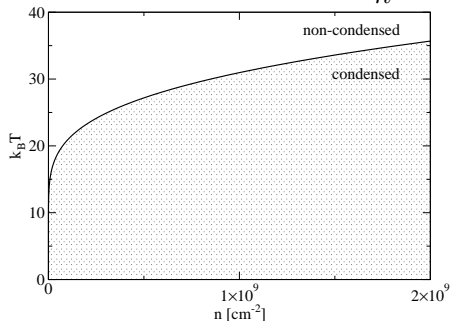
Fluctuation corrections to phase boundary

Fluctuation corrections to density

$$\rho \rightarrow \rho_0 + \sum_q \langle \delta\psi^\dagger \delta\psi \rangle$$

In 2D system: modified critical condition:

$$\rho_s = \rho - \rho_{\text{normal}} = \# \frac{2m^2}{\hbar} k_B T$$



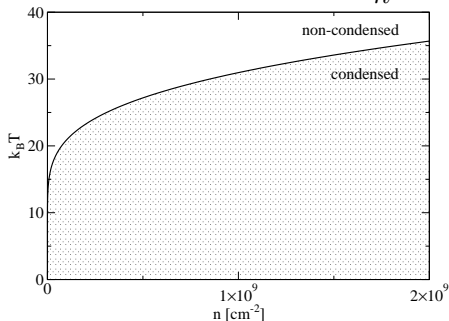
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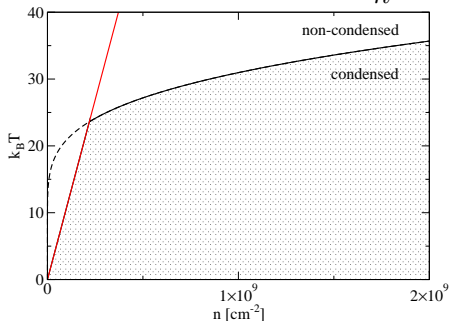
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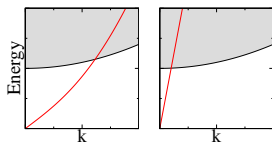
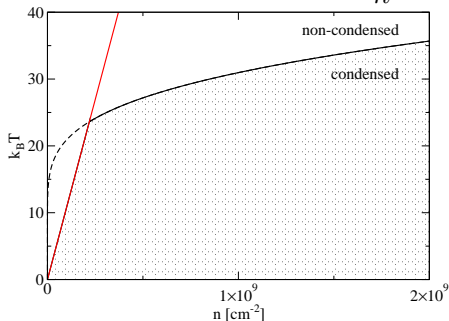
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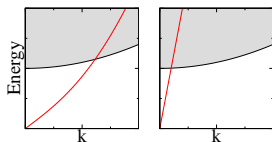
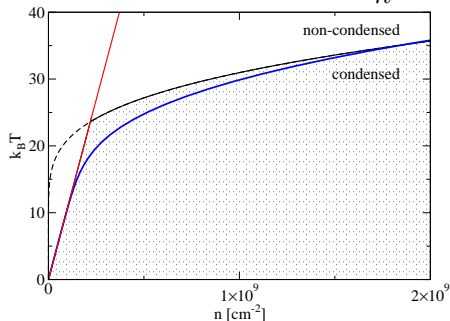
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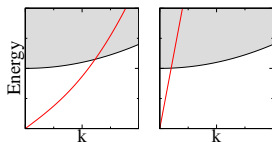
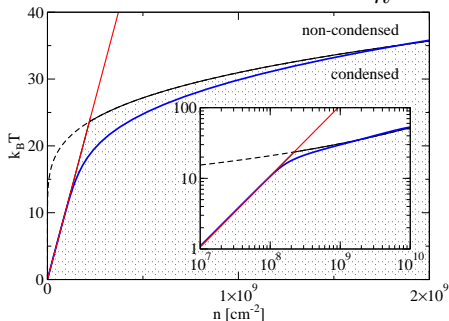
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Equilibrium: Recovering WIDBG at low density

Localised exciton model recovers WIDBG at low density.

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Writing:

$$S_{\alpha}^z = D_{\alpha}^{\dagger} D_{\alpha} - \frac{1}{2}, \quad S_{\alpha}^{+} = D_{\alpha}^{\dagger} \sqrt{1 - D_{\alpha}^{\dagger} D_{\alpha}}$$

Equilibrium: Recovering WIDBG at low density

Localised exciton model recovers WIDBG at low density.

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Writing:

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Get:

$$H = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \omega_{\mathbf{k}} \psi_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger} \psi_{\mathbf{k}} + \sum_{\alpha} 2\epsilon_{\alpha} D_{\alpha}^{\dagger} D_{\alpha} + \sum_{\alpha, \mathbf{k}} \left[\frac{g_{\alpha, \mathbf{k}}}{\sqrt{A}} \psi_{\mathbf{k}} D_{\alpha}^{\dagger} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2} D_{\alpha}^{\dagger} D_{\alpha} \right) + \text{H.c.} \right].$$

Equilibrium: Recovering WIDBG at low density

Localised exciton model recovers WIDBG at low density.

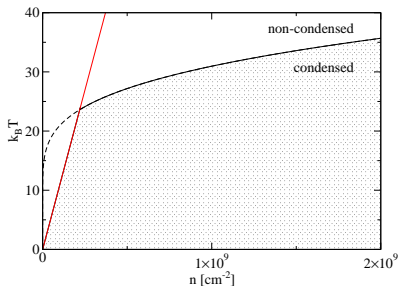
$$H = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \omega_{\mathbf{k}} \psi_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger} \psi_{\mathbf{k}} + \sum_{\alpha} \left[2\epsilon_{\alpha} S_{\alpha}^z + \frac{g_{\alpha, \mathbf{k}}}{\sqrt{A}} \psi_{\mathbf{k}} S_{\alpha}^{+} + \text{H.c.} \right]$$

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Conclusions: Theoretical aims of lectures

- Bose condensation via mean-field/fluctuations
- Localised exciton model of polaritons
- Green's function approach to condensation
 - ▶ Mean-field theory as basis
 - ▶ Equilibrium — thermal Green's function and spectrum.
- Consequences of non-equilibrium BEC
 - ▶ Decoherence; lasing
 - ▶ Strong coupling laser without inversion.