

Theory of strongly correlated plasmas:

Phase transitions, transport, quantum and
magnetic field effects

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DAAD

DFG

HLRN

I. Structural properties and phase transitions

one-component plasma, dusty plasmas, coupling parameters

II. First principle results for transport properties

diffusion and heat conductivity

III. Correlations and strong magnetic fields

Collective modes, transport

IV. Quantum and spin effects

ab initio simulations. Quantum hydrodynamics

V. Conclusions

OCP → most basic system to theoretically study strong coupling effects

Classical coupling parameter

$$\Gamma = \frac{Q^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 a} \frac{1}{k_B T} > 1$$

a ~ Wigner-Seitz radius

$$\Gamma \ll 1$$

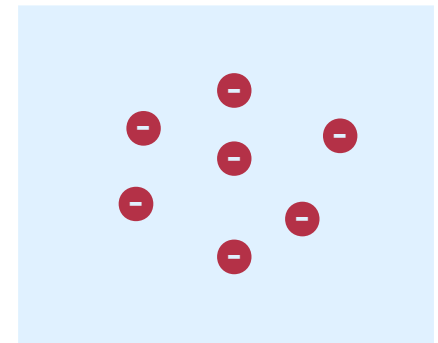
weakly coupled

$$\Gamma > 1$$

strongly coupled
liquid-like,

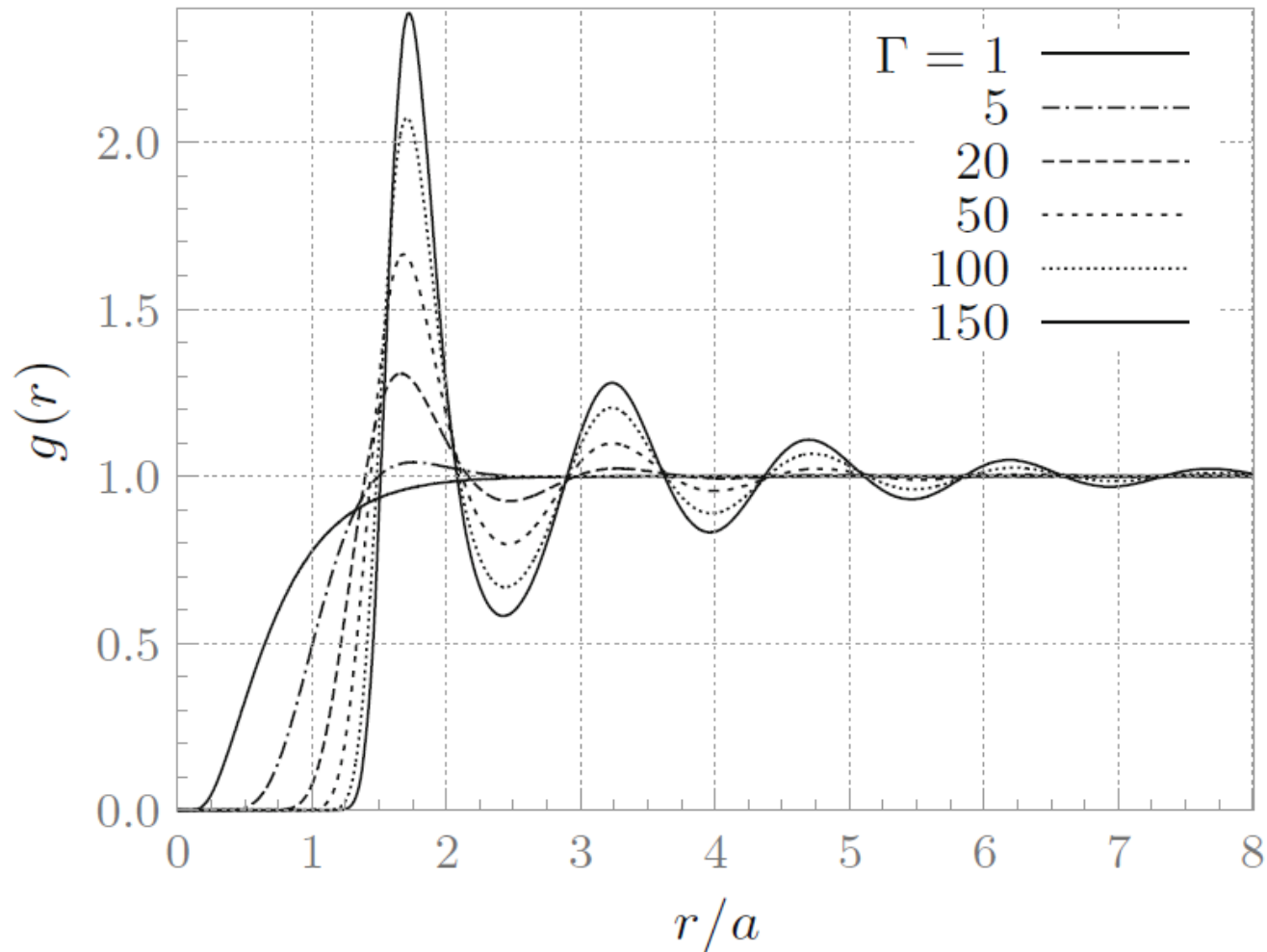
$$\Gamma \gg 1$$

Coulomb (Wigner) crystal



Note: Γ is only a qualitative measure for pure Coulomb systems

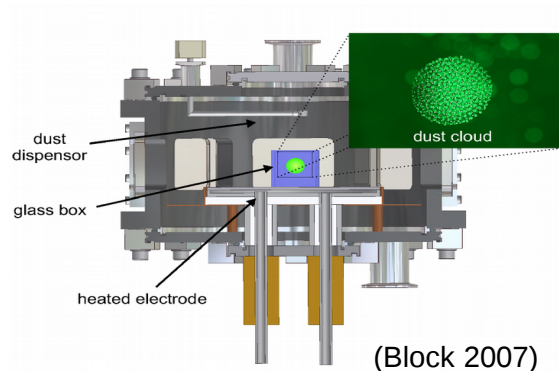
microscopic measure of strong coupling effects



$$\int_0^{\infty} dr r^2 g(r) = 1, \quad \text{for ideal plasma: } g(r) = 1$$

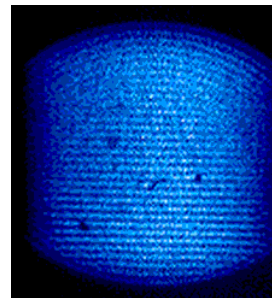
$$\Gamma = \frac{Q^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 a} \frac{1}{k_B T} > 1$$

Note: this applies only to classical plasmas



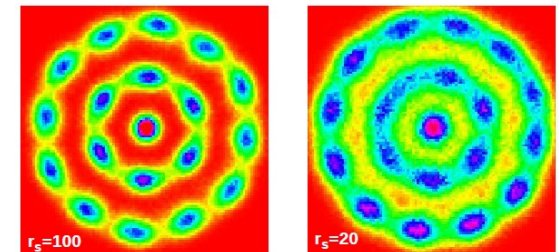
(Block 2007)

dusty plasmas



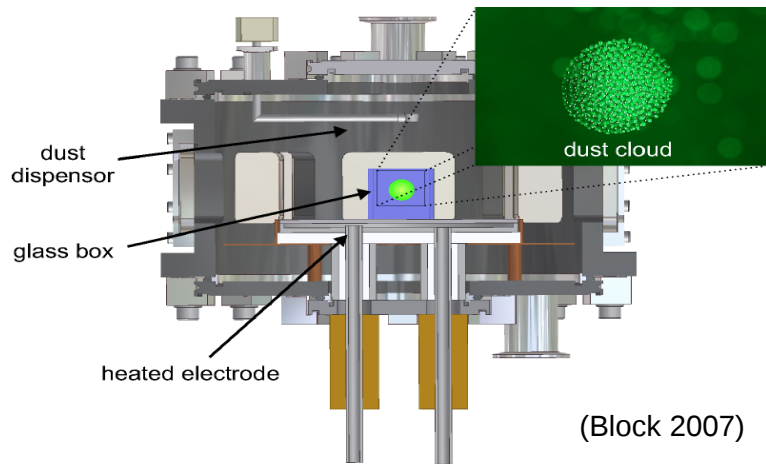
(Jensen 2004)

ultracold neutral plasmas



electrons in quantum dot

A. Filinov, M. Bonitz, and Yu.E. Lozovik, PRL 2001



Advantages:

- strongest correlations
- single-particle diagnostics

Dusty plasmas are complicated:

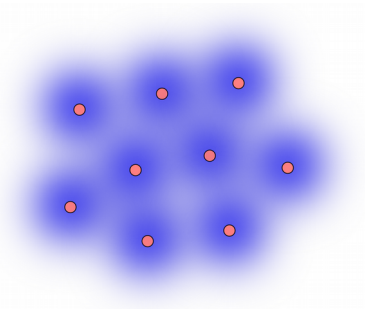
- multiple species: electrons, ions, neutrals, dust
- streaming components, electric field
- charge fluctuations



reasonable model [1]

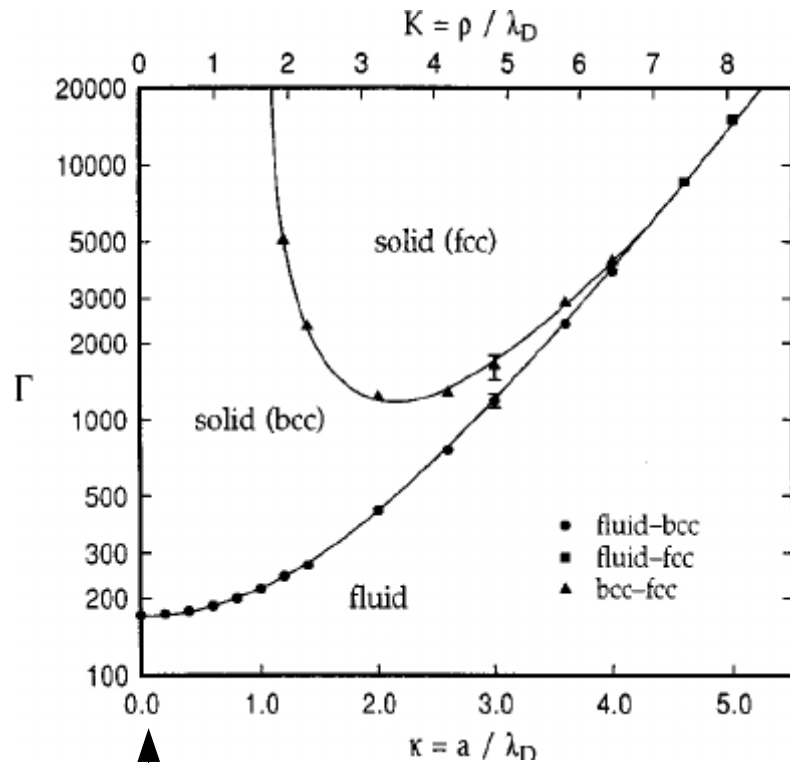
“Yukawa OCP”

2 independent parameters



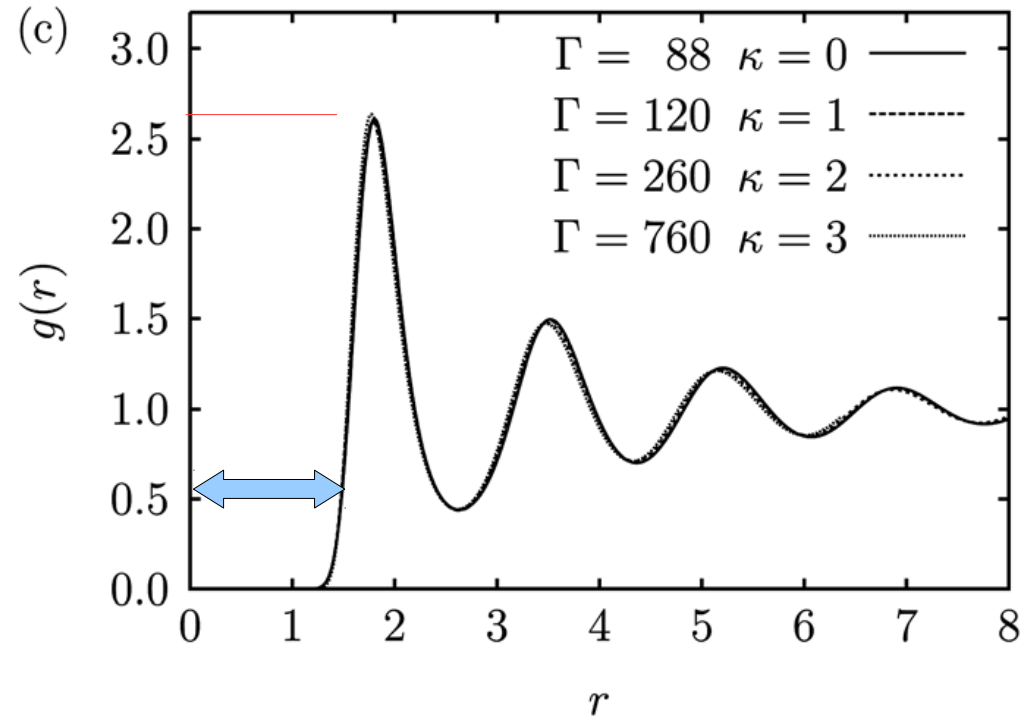
$$V(r) = \frac{Q^2}{r} e^{-\kappa r} \quad \kappa = a/\lambda_D \quad \Gamma = Q^2 / (ak_B T)$$

[1] M. Bonitz, et al., PRL (2006)



$$\Gamma = \frac{Q^2}{a k_B T}$$

Pair distribution function



accurate Yukawa coupling parameter from peak height and width of void of $g(r)$ [2, 3]

Particle coordinates directly accessible in experiments

[1] Hamaguchi, *et al.*, PRE (1997)

[2] Ott, Stanley, Bonitz, Phys. Plasmas (2011), [3] Ott, Bonitz, Stanton, Murillo, Phys. Plasmas (2014)

Mesoscopic Yukawa OCP in spherical trap [1]

- particles arranged on shells
- phase diagram N-dependent
- multi-stage melting:
 - radial (RM)
 - inter-shell (ISM)
 - intra-shell disordering (ID)
- Several quantities needed:
 - Pair distribution (PDF), $g(r_1, r_2)$
 - three-particle distribution (TPD)
 - center two-particle distrib (C2P)
 - reduced entropy
 - reduced specific heat
- rigorous derivation from reduced s-particle distribution functions
- particle coordinates directly accessible in dusty plasma experiments
- controlled melting via laser heating [2]

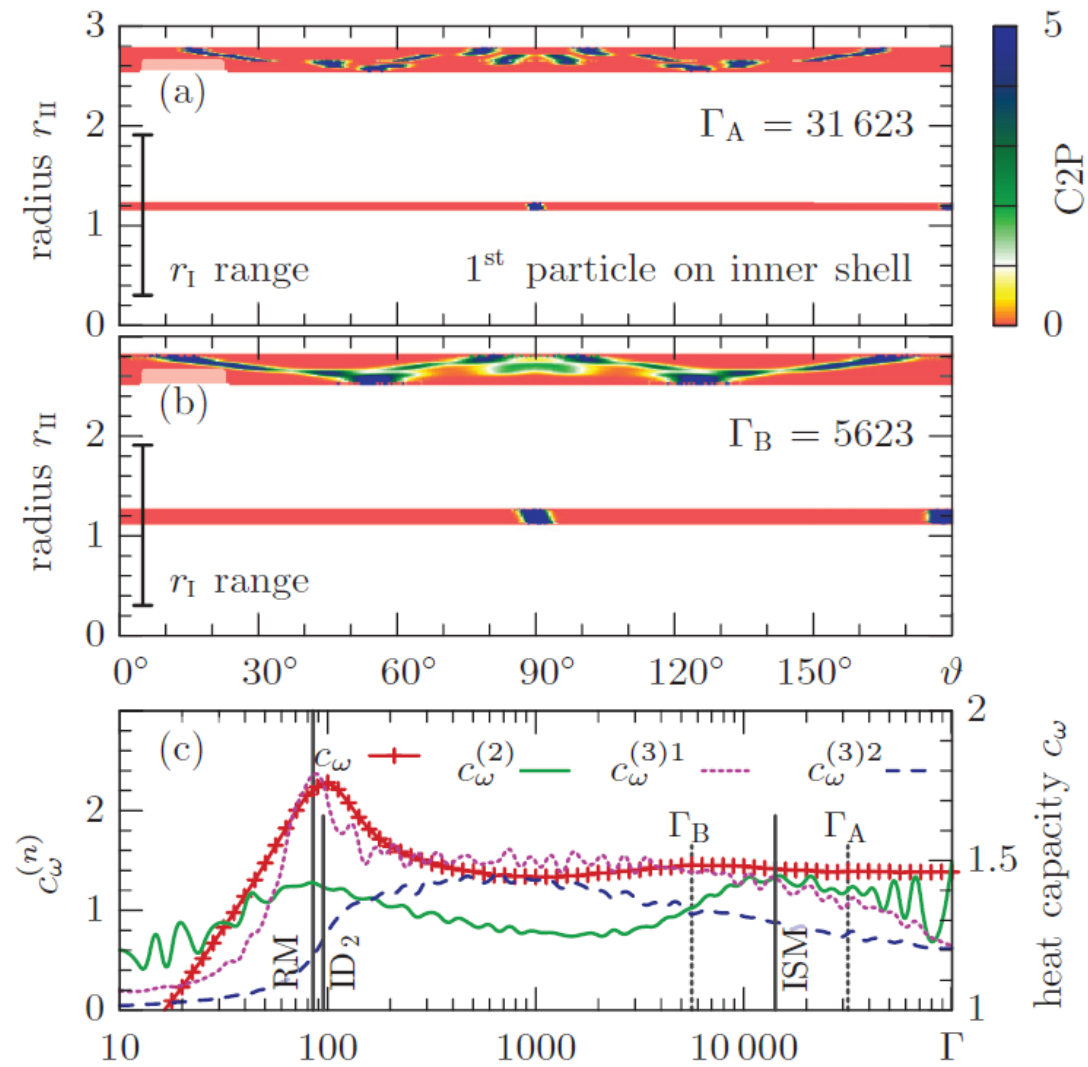


FIG. 6. (Color online) Intershell angular melting (ISM) in the spherical 3D Coulomb cluster with $N = 38$ particles. (a, b) C2P (the first particle radius is averaged over the inner shell) below (above) the melting temperature. The length scale is r_0 . (c) Specific heat and reduced specific heat vs Γ . While radial melting (RM) is seen in c_ω and $c_\omega^{(2)}$, ISM is clearly visible only in $c_\omega^{(2)}$, based on the C2P.

[1] Thomsen and Bonitz PRE (2015)

[2] Thomsen et al., J. Phys. D (2014)

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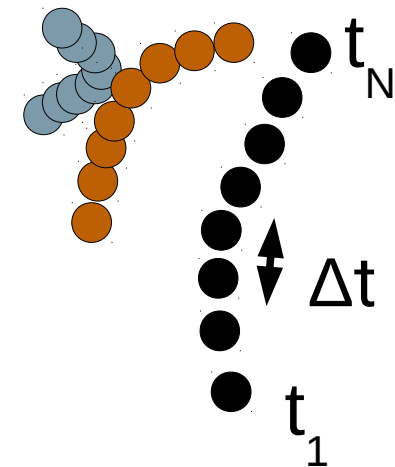
V. Conclusions

- ▶ solve equations of motion of N particles by time-discretization
- ▶ Newton's equations*:

$$m\ddot{\mathbf{r}}_i = \mathbf{F}_i + q\dot{\mathbf{r}}_i \times \mathbf{B}$$

$$\mathbf{F}_i = -\frac{q^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{j=1}^N{}' \left(\nabla \frac{e^{-r/\lambda_D}}{r} \right) \Big|_{\mathbf{r}=\mathbf{r}_i-\mathbf{r}_j}$$

$$\mathbf{B} = B \cdot \mathbf{e}_z$$



- ▶ Ewald summation for long-ranged forces
- ▶ exact incorporation of arbitrary magnetic fields in a quasi-symplectic scheme

Snapshot of trajectories

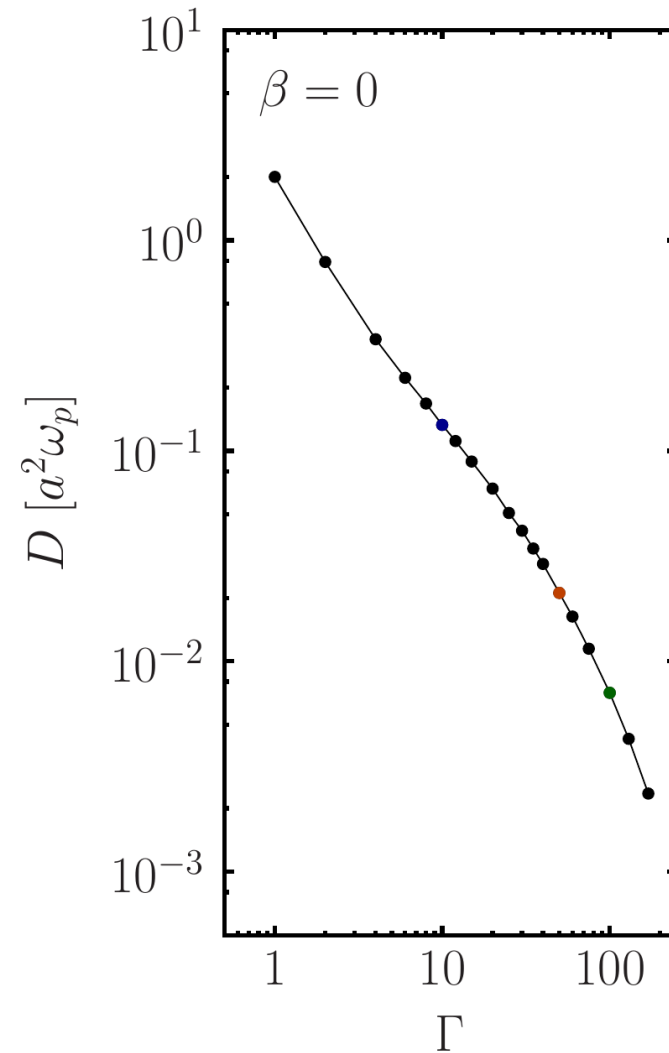
$\Gamma=2$ $\omega_p t=5$



$\Gamma=100$ $\omega_p t=50$

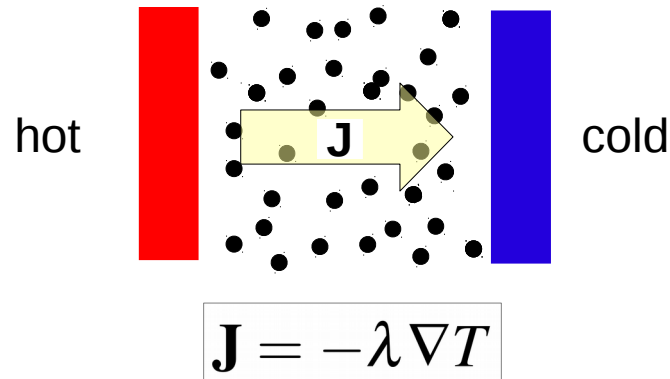


- ▶ D follows from velocity auto-correlation function (Green-Kubo relations)



Correlations dramatically reduce D

- ▶ λ follows from energy current auto-correlation function (Green-Kubo relations)

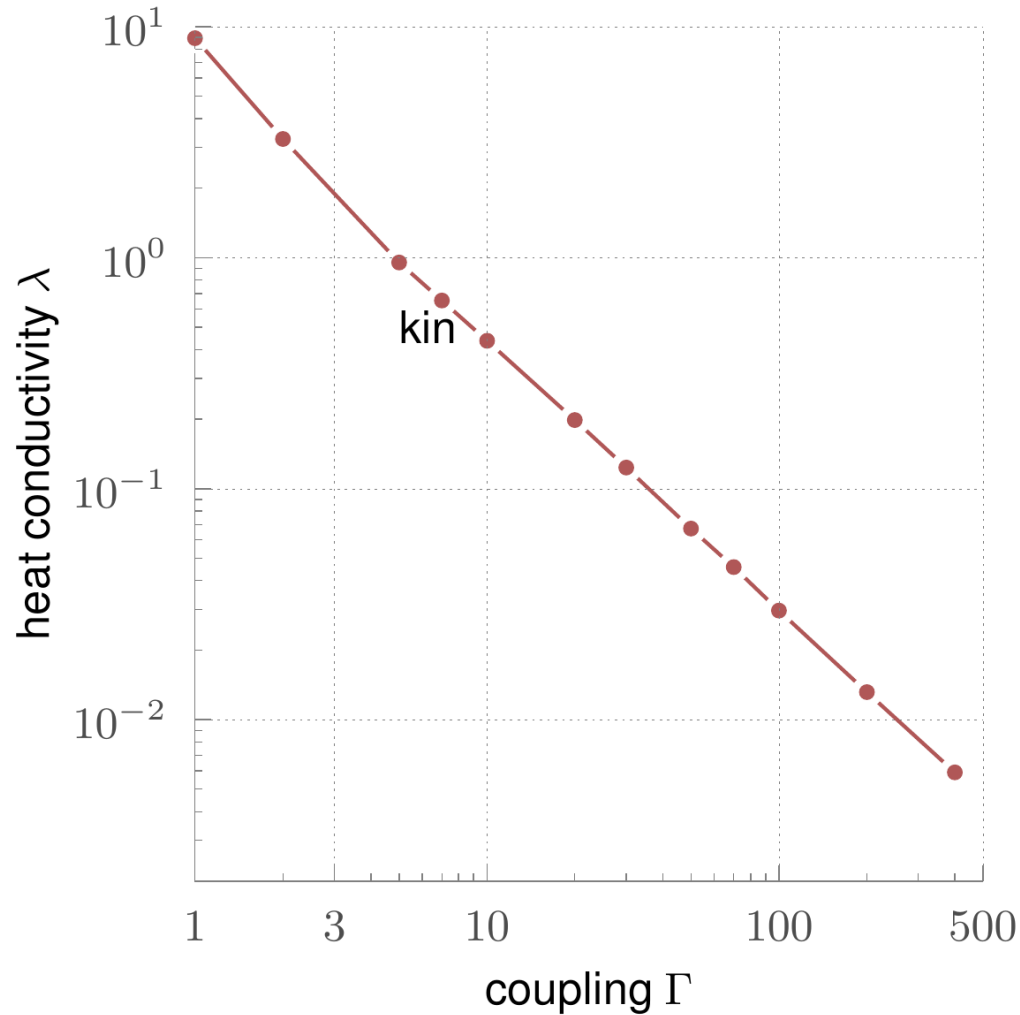


$$\lambda = \lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{V k T^2} \int_0^\tau \langle J_\alpha(t) J_\alpha(0) \rangle dt$$

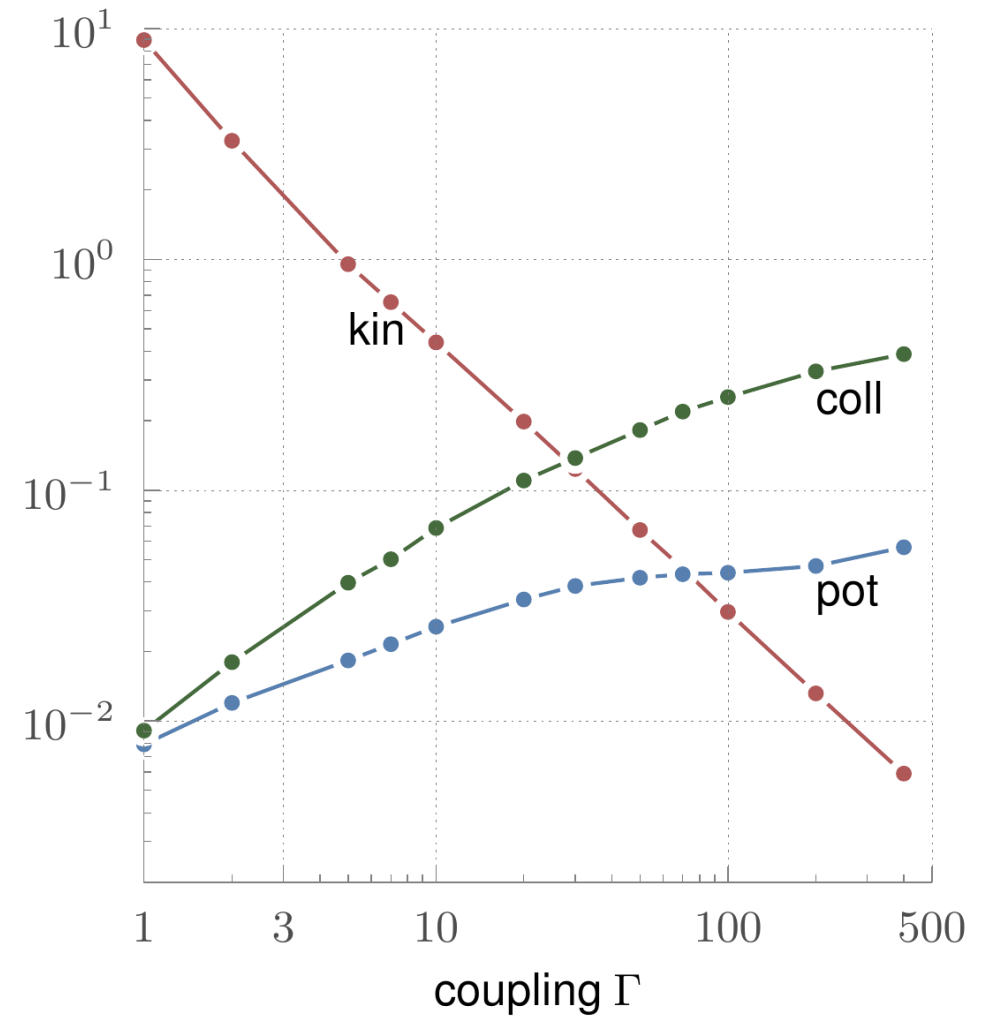
$$J_\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^N v_{i\alpha} \left[\underbrace{\frac{1}{2} m |\mathbf{v}_i|^2}_{\text{kinetic}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{j \neq i}^N \Phi(r_{ij})}_{\text{potential}} \right] - \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \neq i}^N (\mathbf{r}_i \cdot \mathbf{v}_i) \frac{\partial \Phi(r_{ij})}{\partial r_{ij}}}_{\text{collisional}}$$

1-particle terms
momentum exchange

reduction of mobility (D)



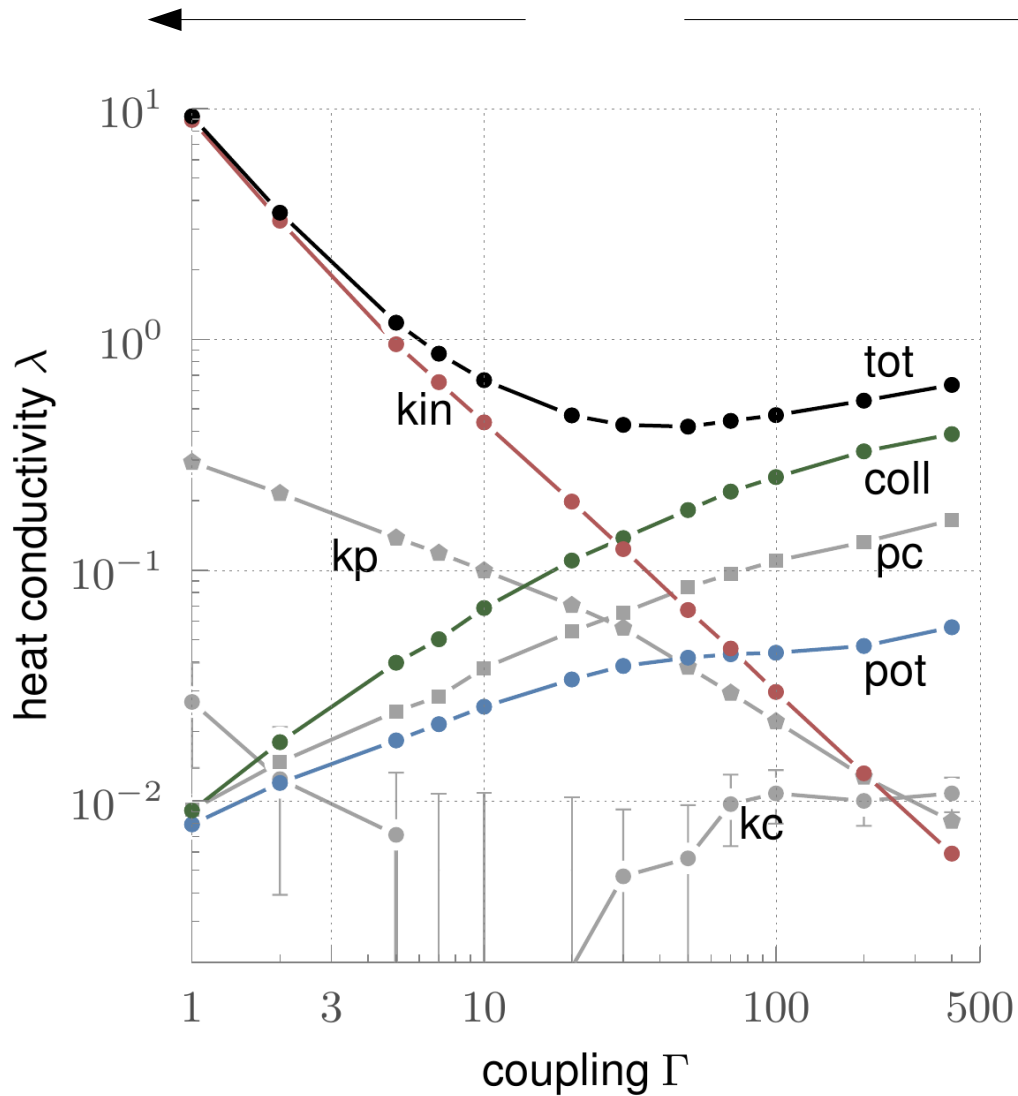
excitation of collective modes



Exact heat conductivity λ : nontrivial coupling dependence

Single-particle conductivity dominates

Many-particle conductivity dominates



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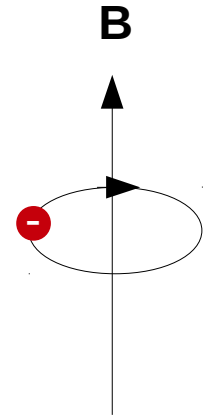
Magnetization and correlations (2D OCP)

One-component plasma in an external magnetic field

Three relevant parameters: Γ , κ , β

$$\beta = \frac{\omega_c}{\omega_p} \sim \frac{\lambda_D}{r_c}$$

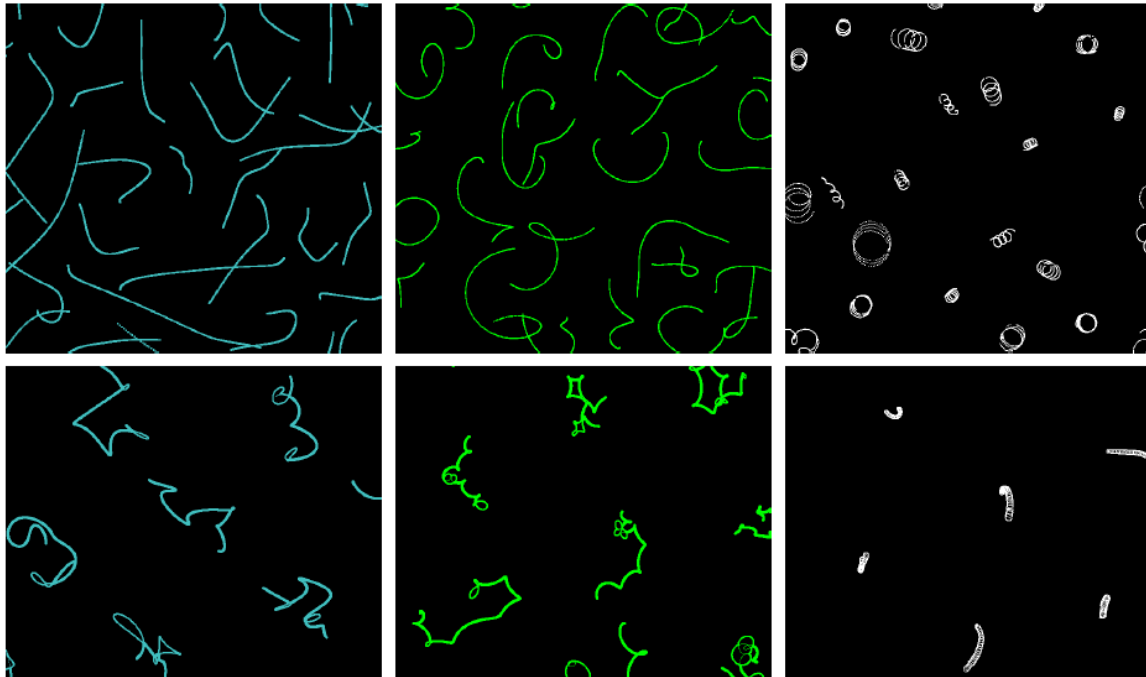
$$\omega_c = \frac{QB}{m}$$



$\beta=0$
unmagnetized

$\beta=1$

$\beta=4$
strongly magnetized

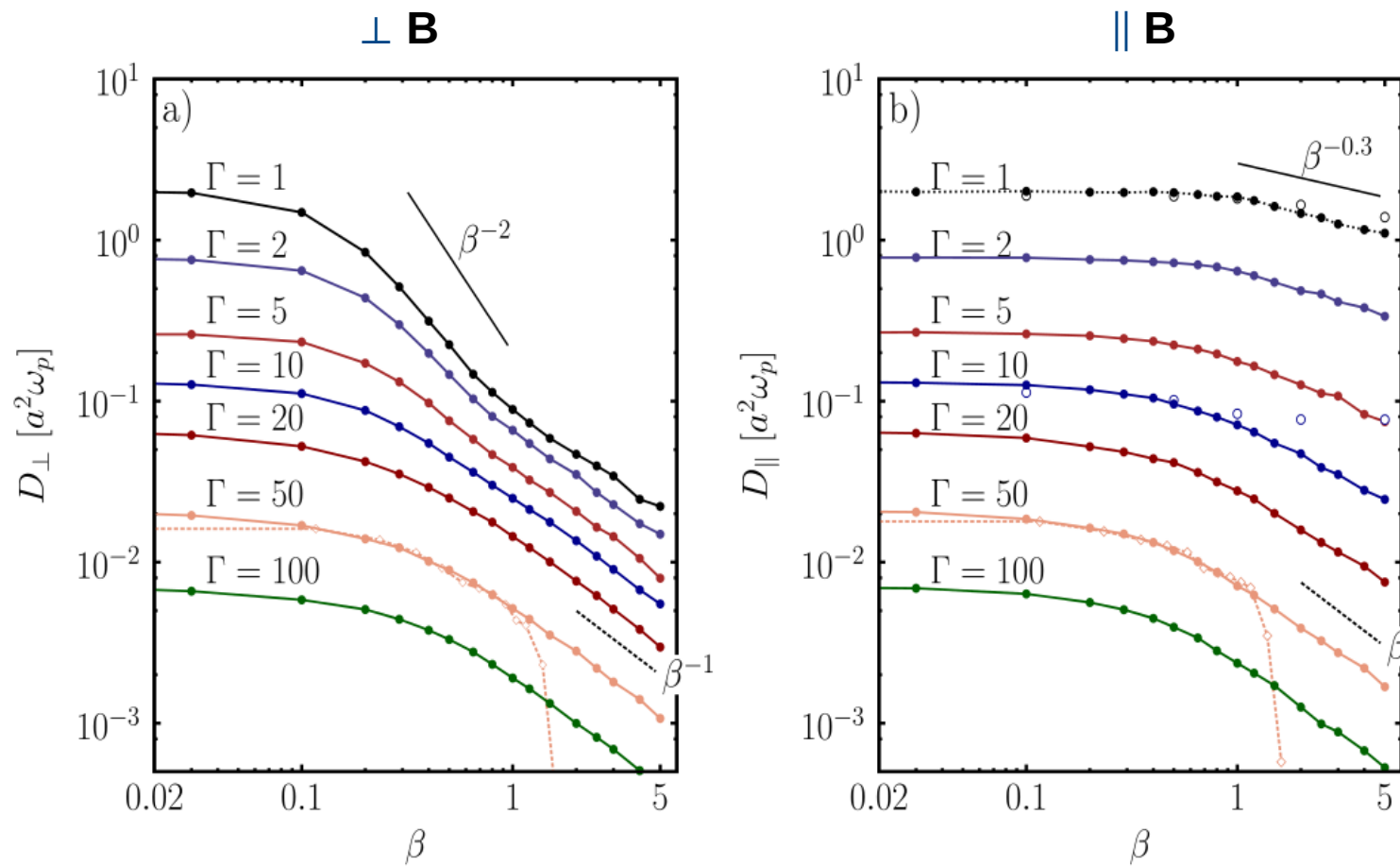


moderate coupling ($\Gamma = 2$)

strong coupling ($\Gamma = 100$)

Weak coupling (Braginskii 1965): quadratic reduction of $D \perp B$
no effect on $D \parallel B$

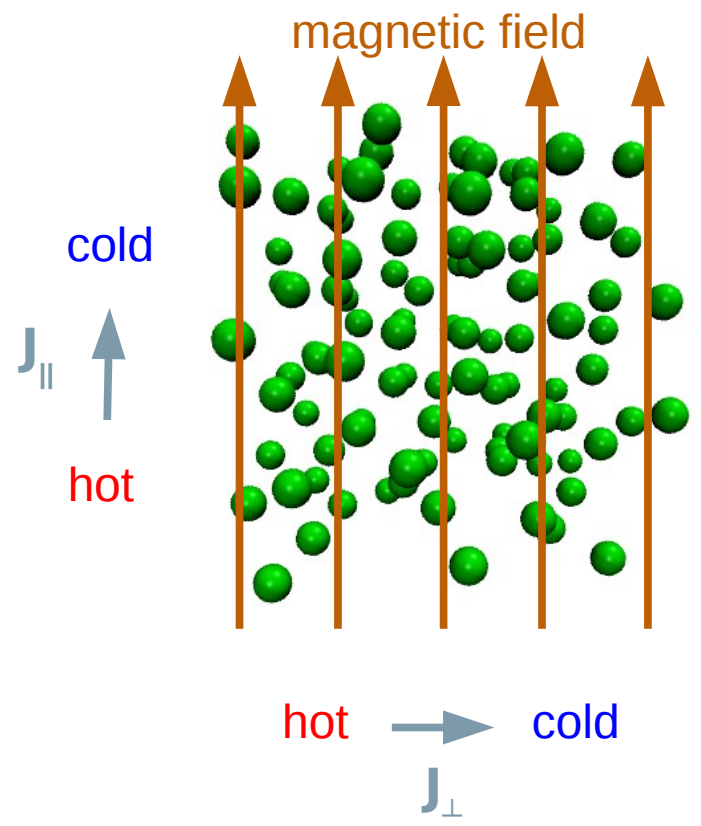
Strong magnetization [1]: - B inhibits diffusion, even along B
- at strong B : Bohm diffusion $\sim 1/B$



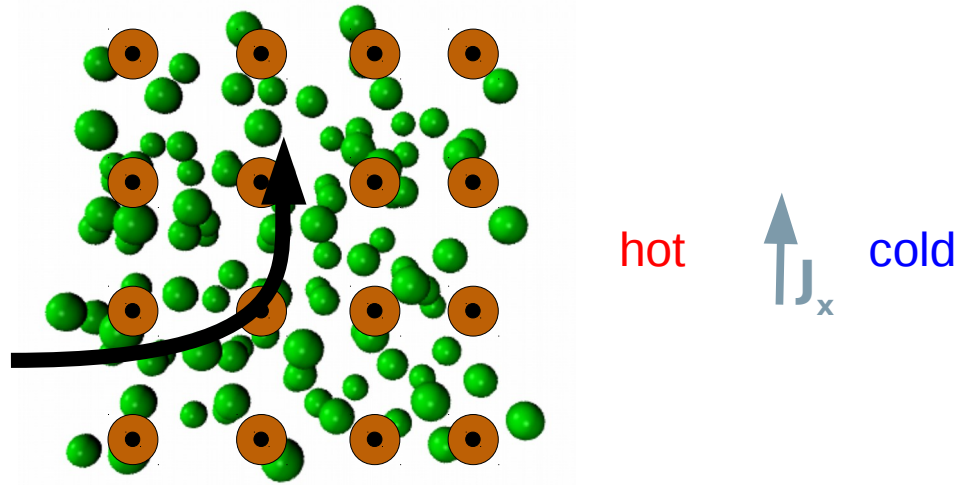
[1] T. Ott and M. Bonitz, PRL (2011)

extension to 2D and binary systems:
T. Ott, H. Löwen, and M. Bonitz, PRE (2014)

side view:



top view:



heat flux analogon of Hall effect:
Righi-Leduc effect

$$\mathbf{J} = -\lambda \nabla T$$

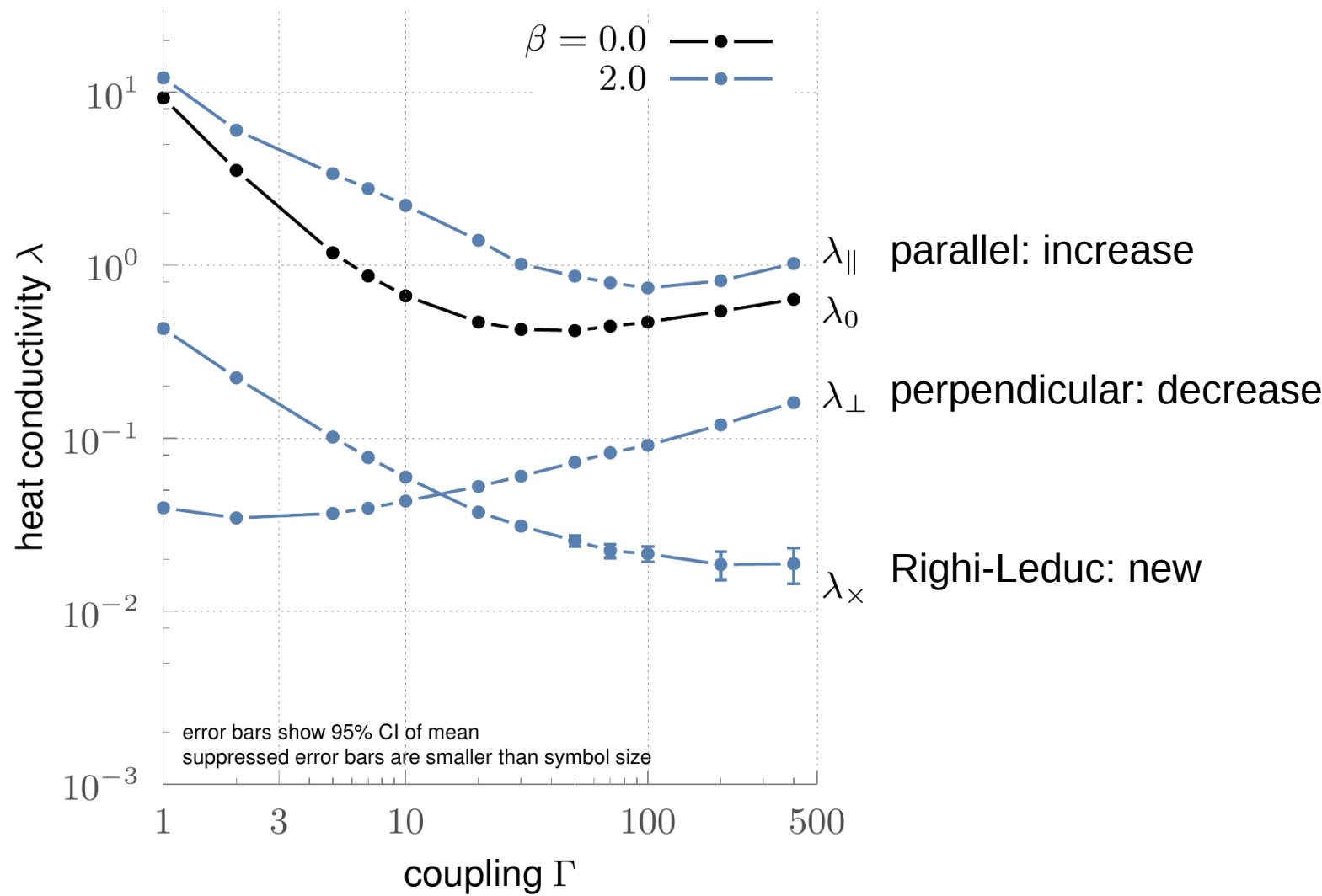


$$J_a = -\lambda_{ab} (\nabla T)_b$$

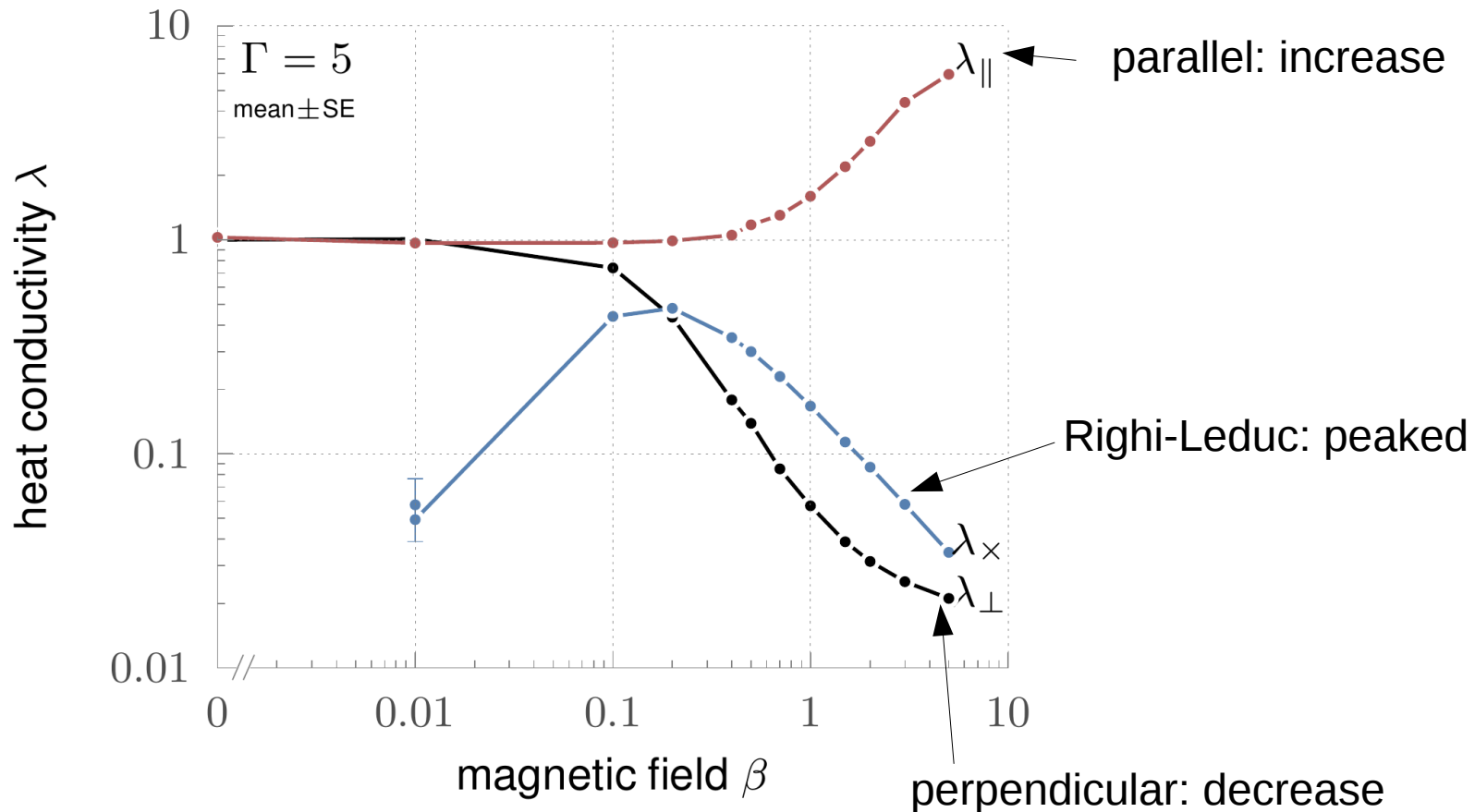
$$\underline{\underline{\lambda}} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{\perp} & \lambda_{\times} & 0 \\ -\lambda_{\times} & \lambda_{\perp} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_{\parallel} \end{pmatrix}$$

tensor

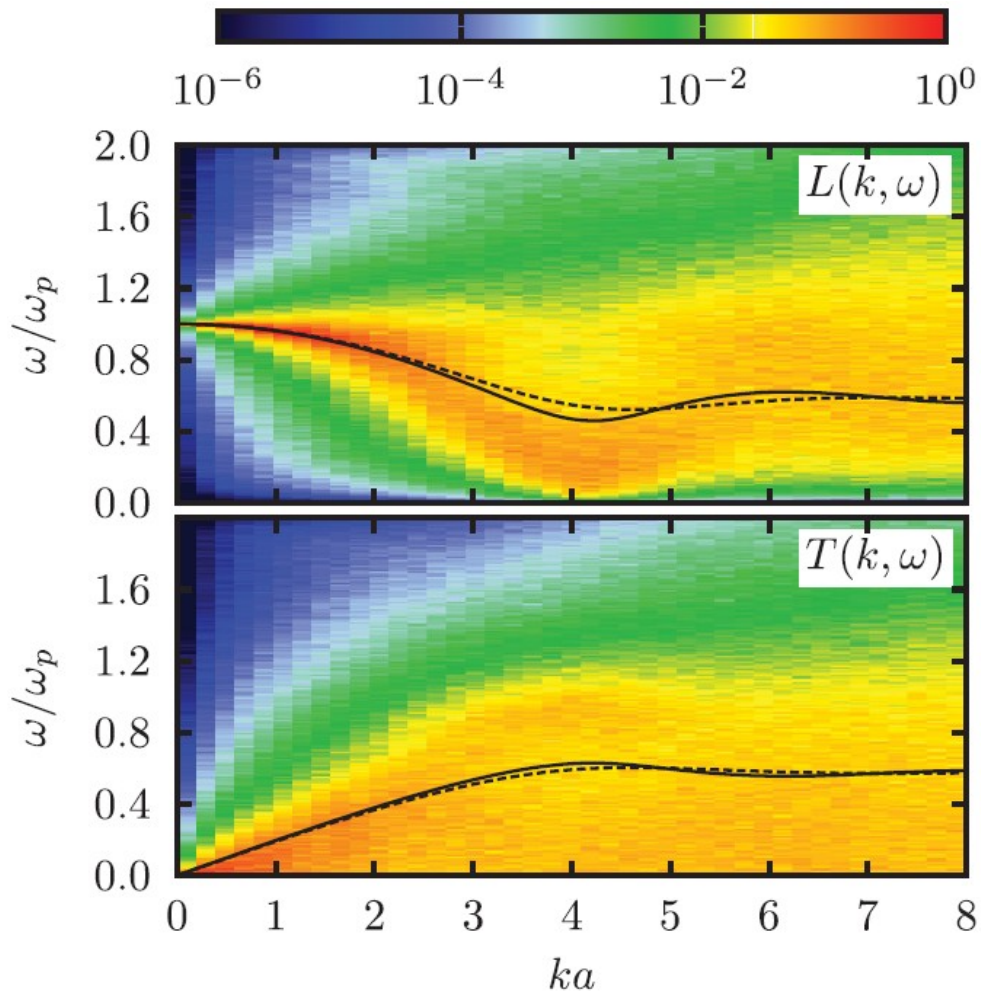
[1] Ott, Bonitz, Donko, Phys. Rev. E (2015)



[1] Ott, Bonitz, Donko, Phys. Rev. E (2015)



→ At strong coupling, B field can drastically **increase** transport coefficients



QLCA [1] vs. MD simulation at $\Gamma = 150$ [2]

Strong deviation from ideal plasmon spectrum

plasmon: $\omega_P(k) = \sqrt{\omega_p^2 + D_L(k)}$

One longitudinal mode: $\mathbf{q} \parallel \mathbf{k}$, \mathbf{q} : displacement

shear modes: $\omega_{OS}(k) = \sqrt{D_T(k)}$

two degenerate transverse modes: $\mathbf{q} \perp \mathbf{k}$

$D_L(k)$ and $D_T(k)$ from QLCA
input: pair distribution function $g(r)$

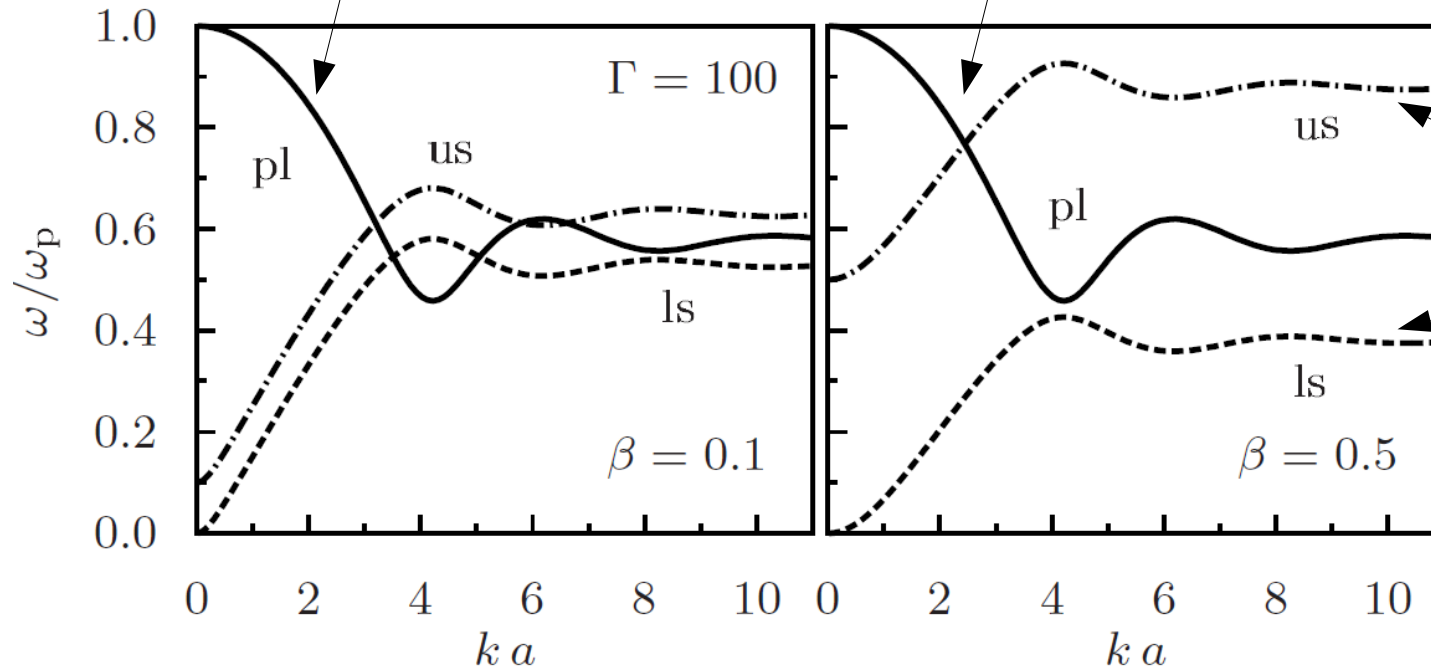
MD: compute longitudinal (L) and transverse (T) density response [2]

[1] K. I. Golden, G. J. Kalman, and P. Wyns, Phys. Rev. A **46**, 3454 (1992)

[2] T. Ott, H. Kählert, A. Reynolds, and M. Bonitz, Phys. Rev. Lett. (2012)

$k \parallel B$

plasmon (pl) unaffected by magnetic field ($\mathbf{q} \parallel \mathbf{B}$)



degeneracy of shear modes lifted

upper/lower shear (us, ls) circular polarization

$\mathbf{q} \perp \mathbf{B}$

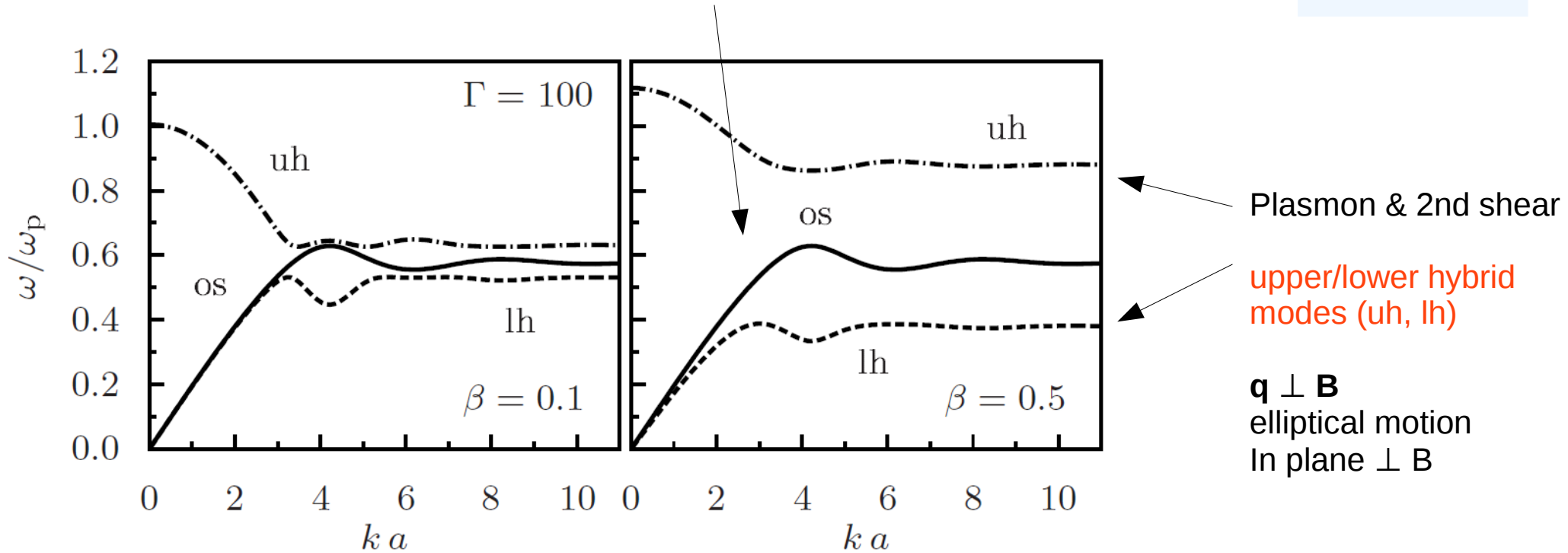
Dispersion relation

$$\omega_{\text{pl}}(k) = \sqrt{\omega_p^2 + D_L(k)}$$

$$\omega_{\text{us,ls}}(k) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\sqrt{\omega_c^2 + 4D_T(k)} \pm \omega_c \right]$$

$k \perp B$

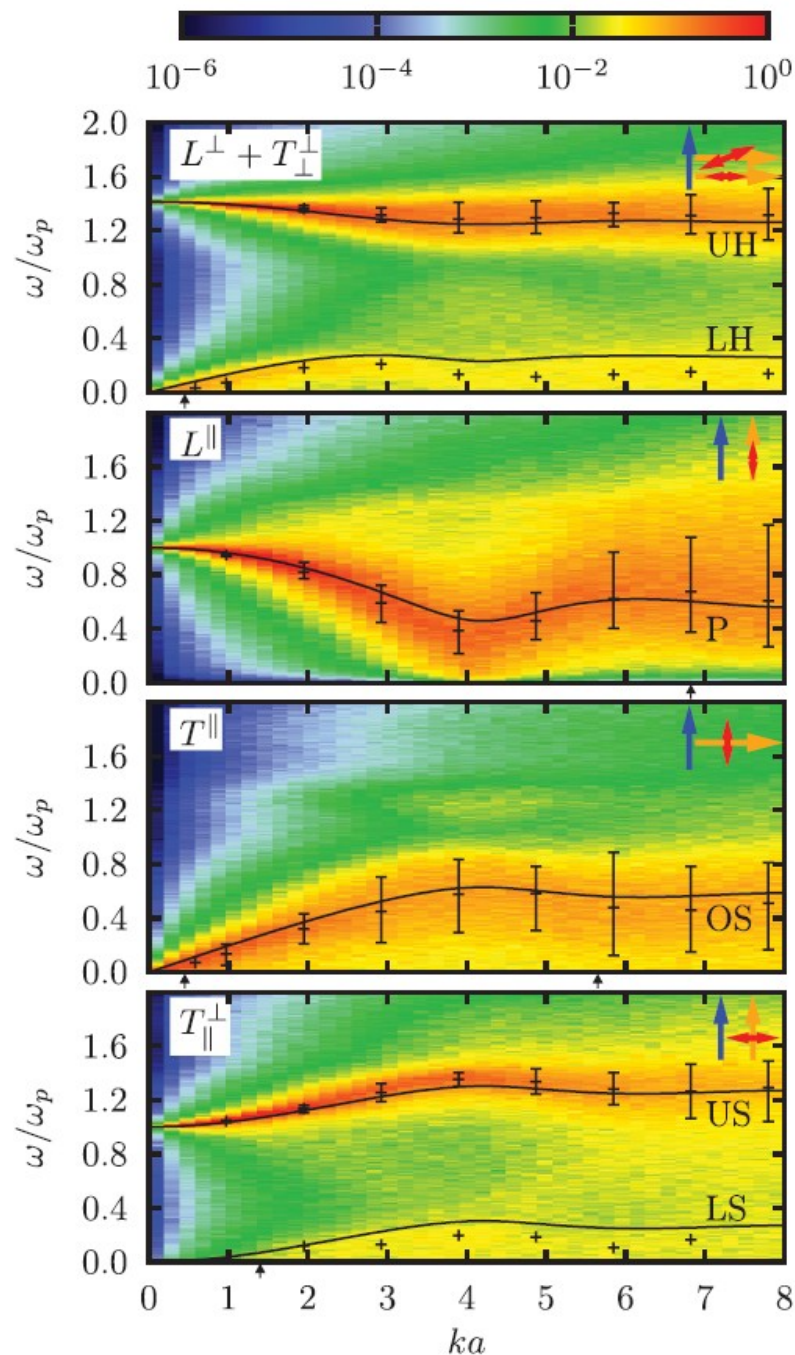
Ordinary shear mode (os) with $q \parallel B$ unaffected by magnetic field



Dispersion relation

$$\omega_{os}(k) = \sqrt{D_T(k)}$$

$$\omega_{uh, lh}(k) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [\omega_c^2 + \omega_p^2 + D_T(k) + D_L(k) \pm \tau(k)]^{1/2}$$



$$\Gamma = 100$$

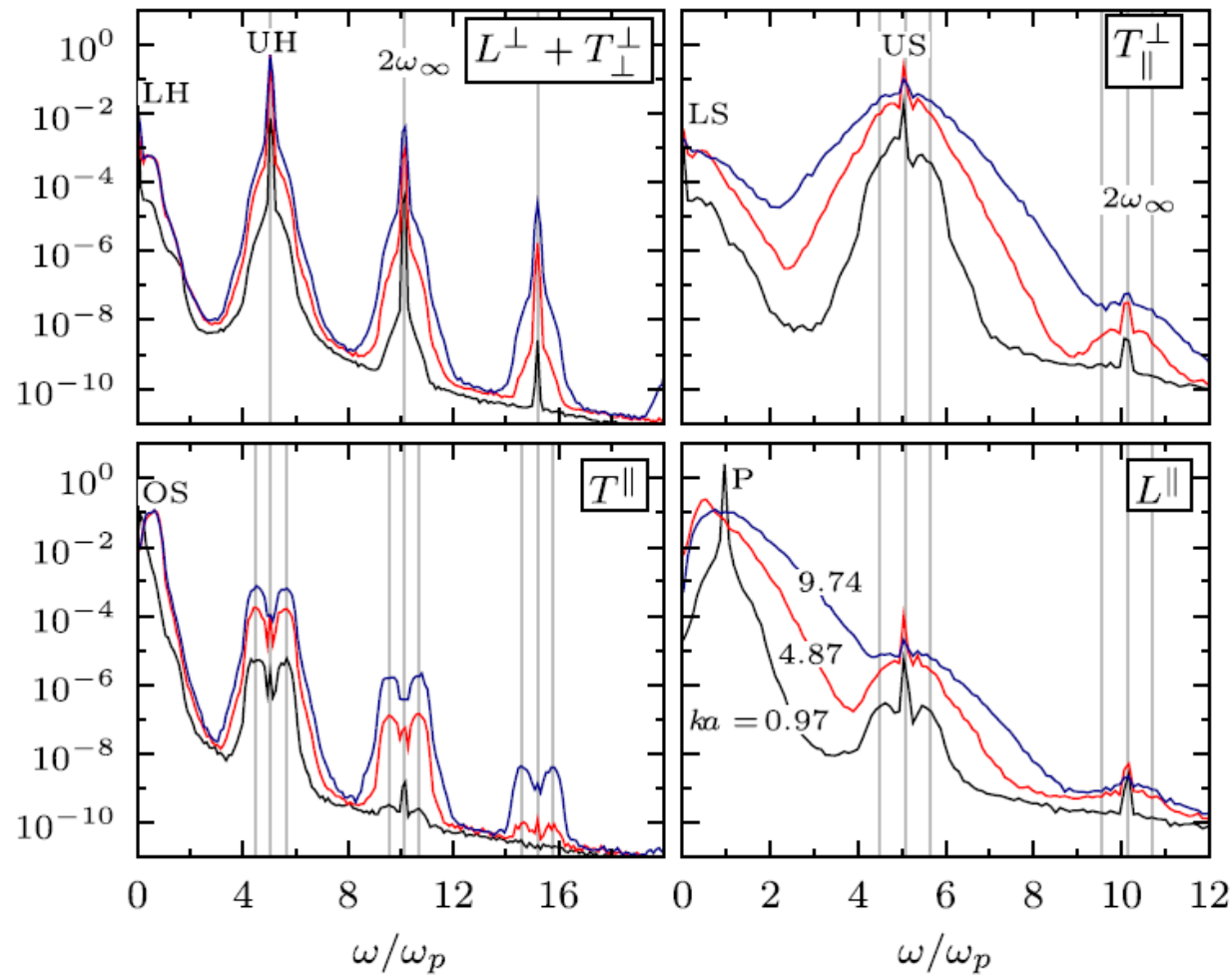
$$\beta = 1$$

magnetic field
wave vector
displacement

- QLCA frequencies in good agreement with MD
- damping of low-frequency shear modes not contained in QLCA formalism

[1] T. Ott, H. Kählert, A. Reynolds, and M. Bonitz, PRL (2012)

Extension to oblique angles: H. Kählert, T. Ott, A. Reynolds, G. J. Kalman, and M. Bonitz, Phys. Plasmas (2013)



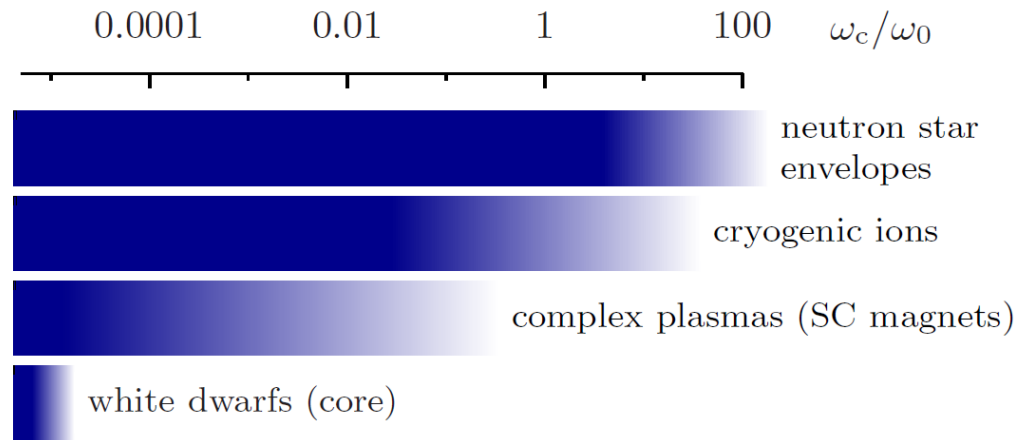
- left: $B_{\perp} k$
- right: $B_{\parallel} k$
- strong B field:
 $\beta = 5$

- higher harmonics of upper hybrid* (UH) and upper shear (US) mode
- appear also in other spectra, interact with ordinary shear mode (OS) and plasmon (P)

[1] T. Ott, H. Kählert, A. Reynolds, and M. Bonitz, PRL (2012)

Similar spectra in magnetized 2D Yukawa plasmas, M. Bonitz, Z. Donko, T. Ott, H. Kählert, and P. Hartmann, PRL (2010)

$$\beta = \frac{\omega_c}{\omega_p} \propto \frac{B}{\sqrt{m n}}$$



Dusty plasmas: magnetization of heavy particles difficult

- small particles carry less charge, not strongly coupled
- Superconducting magnets (B~4T): filamentation of discharge

Alternative ideas needed [1]

Consider a dusty plasma in a rotating gas flow (Langevin dynamics)

- harmonic confinement

$$V(\rho, z) = \frac{m}{2} (\omega_{\perp}^2 \rho^2 + \omega_z^2 z^2)$$

- uniformly rotating gas (rotation frequency Ω)

$$\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{r}) = (\Omega \hat{e}_z) \times \mathbf{r}$$

$$m\ddot{\mathbf{r}}_i = -\nabla_i V(\rho_i, z_i) + \sum_{j \neq i}^N \mathbf{F}_{ij}^{\text{int}} - \nu m [\dot{\mathbf{r}}_i - \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{r}_i)] + \mathbf{f}_i.$$

dust-dust
interaction

dust-neutral
friction coefficient

random force

Equation of motion in the rotating frame ($r \rightarrow \bar{r}$)

$$m\ddot{\bar{\mathbf{r}}}_i = -\bar{\nabla}_i \bar{V}(\bar{\rho}_i, \bar{z}_i) + \sum_{j \neq i}^N \bar{\mathbf{F}}_{ij}^{\text{int}} + \bar{\mathbf{F}}_{\text{Cor}}(\dot{\bar{\mathbf{r}}}_i) - \nu m \dot{\bar{\mathbf{r}}}_i + \bar{\mathbf{f}}_i$$

Centrifugal force

$$\bar{V}(\bar{\rho}, \bar{z}) = \frac{m}{2} (\bar{\omega}_{\perp}^2 \bar{\rho}^2 + \omega_z^2 \bar{z}^2)$$

$$\bar{\omega}_{\perp} = \sqrt{\omega_{\perp}^2 - \Omega^2}$$

Coriolis force

$$\bar{\mathbf{F}}_{\text{Cor}}(\dot{\bar{\mathbf{r}}}) = m \dot{\bar{\mathbf{r}}} \times (2\Omega \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z)$$

equivalent to Lorentz force
(Larmor theorem)

$$\mathbf{B}_{\text{eff}} = (2m\Omega/Q) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$$

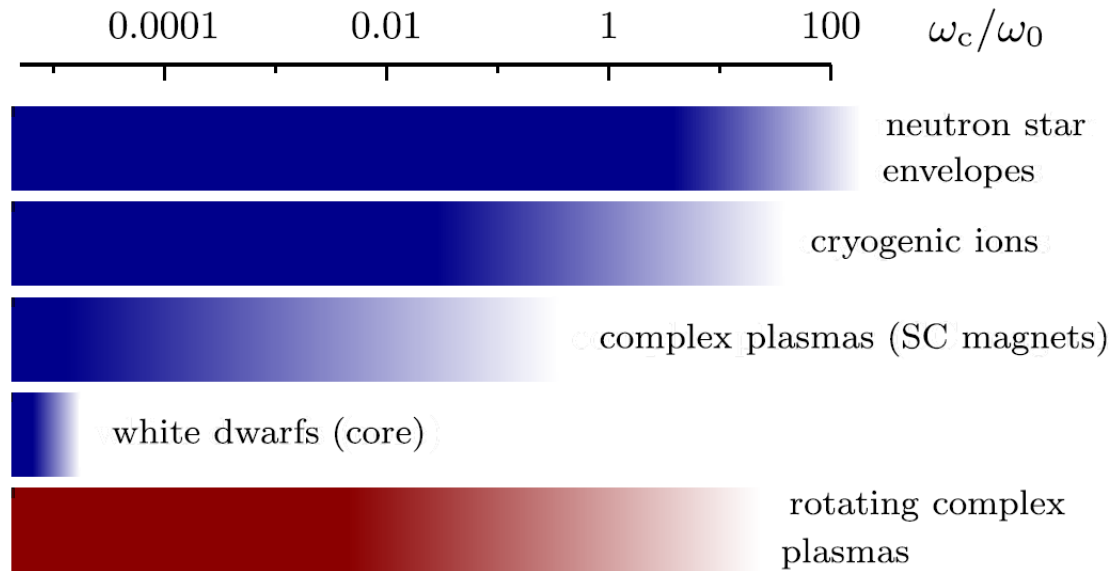
$$\omega_c = 2\Omega$$

“Quasi-magnetization” of the dust particles [1]

replace Lorentz force with Coriolis force
basically no effect on electrons and ions

$$\Omega \sim 10 \text{ Hz}, Q \sim 10^4 e, m \sim 10^{-12} \text{ kg}$$

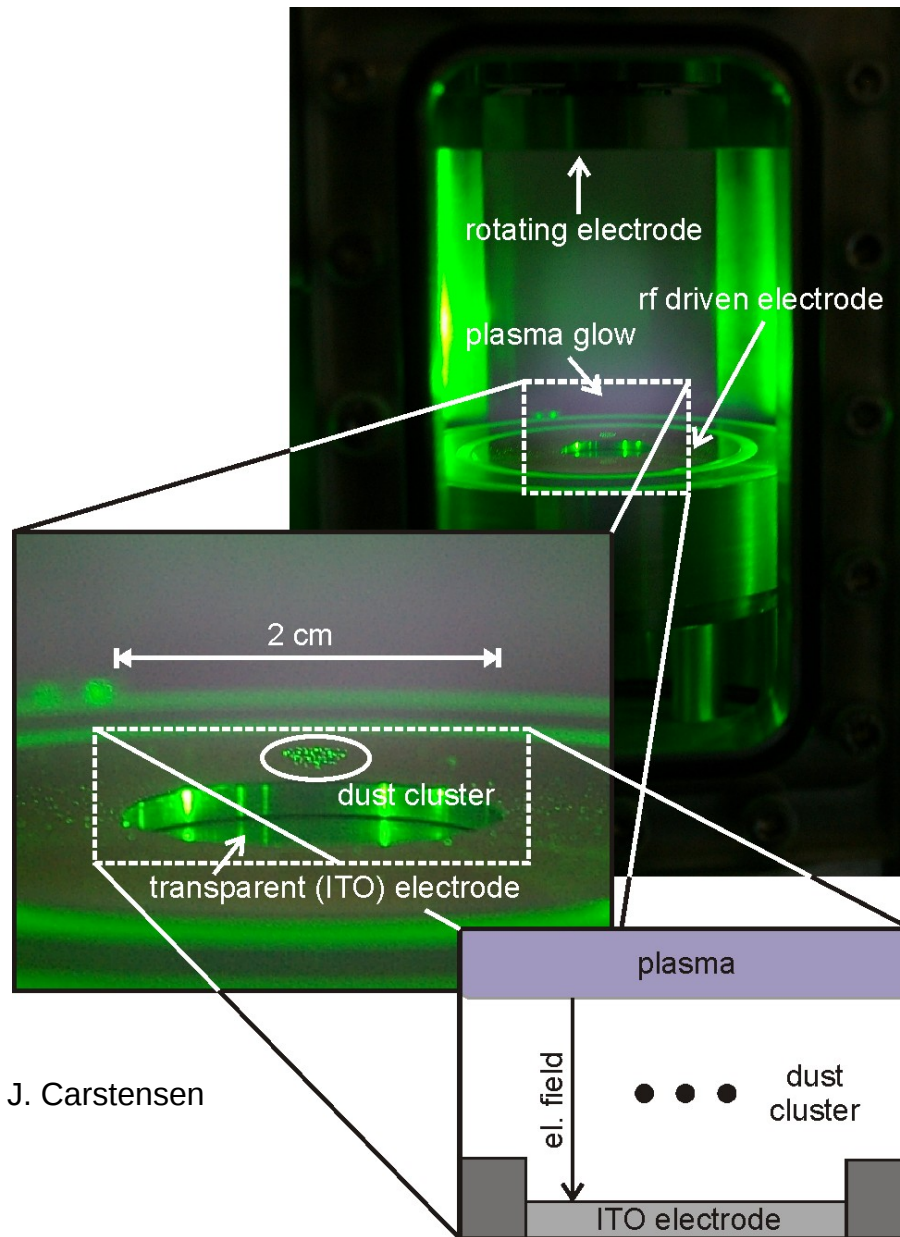
$$\longrightarrow B_{\text{eff}} \sim 10^4 \text{ T}$$



[1] H. Kählert *et al.*, PRL (2012); Bonitz, Kählert, Ott, Löwen, PSST (2013)

*) - similar concepts used in the context of cold quantum gases, e.g., P. Rosenbusch *et al.*, PRL **88**, 250403 (2002)
- vortex frequency in Penning traps, D. H. E. Dubin and T. M. O’Neil, Rev. Mod. Phys. **71**, 87 (1999)

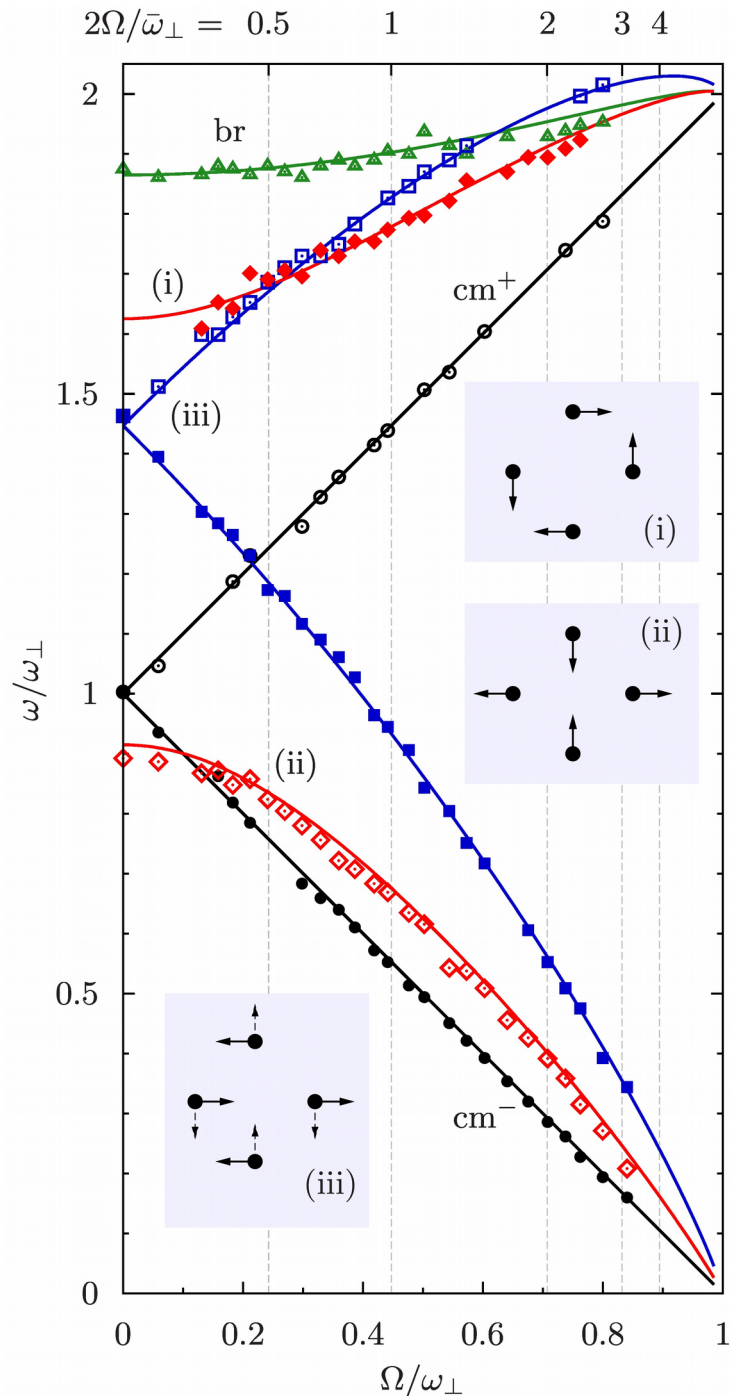
Experimental realization of dust “quasi-magnetization”



- Rotating electrode, introduced in

J. Carstensen, F. Greiner, L.-J. Hou, H. Maurer, and A. Piel, *Phys. Plasmas* **16**, 013702 (2009)

- vertically sheared rotation of neutral gas column
- uniform in-plane rotation



- Symbols: eigenmodes measured in rotating system [1]
- Lines: theory for magnetized plasma (non-rotating)

M. Kong, W. P. Ferreira, B. Partoens, and F. M. Peeters,
 IEEE Trans. Plasma Sci. **32**, 569 (2004)

[1] H. Kählert, J. Carstensen, M. Bonitz, H. Löwen, F. Greiner, and A. Piel, PRL (2012)

Second proof: *magnetoplasmons of macroscopic 2D Yukawa OCP*:
 Hartmann, Donko, Ott, Kählert, Bonitz, PRL (2013)

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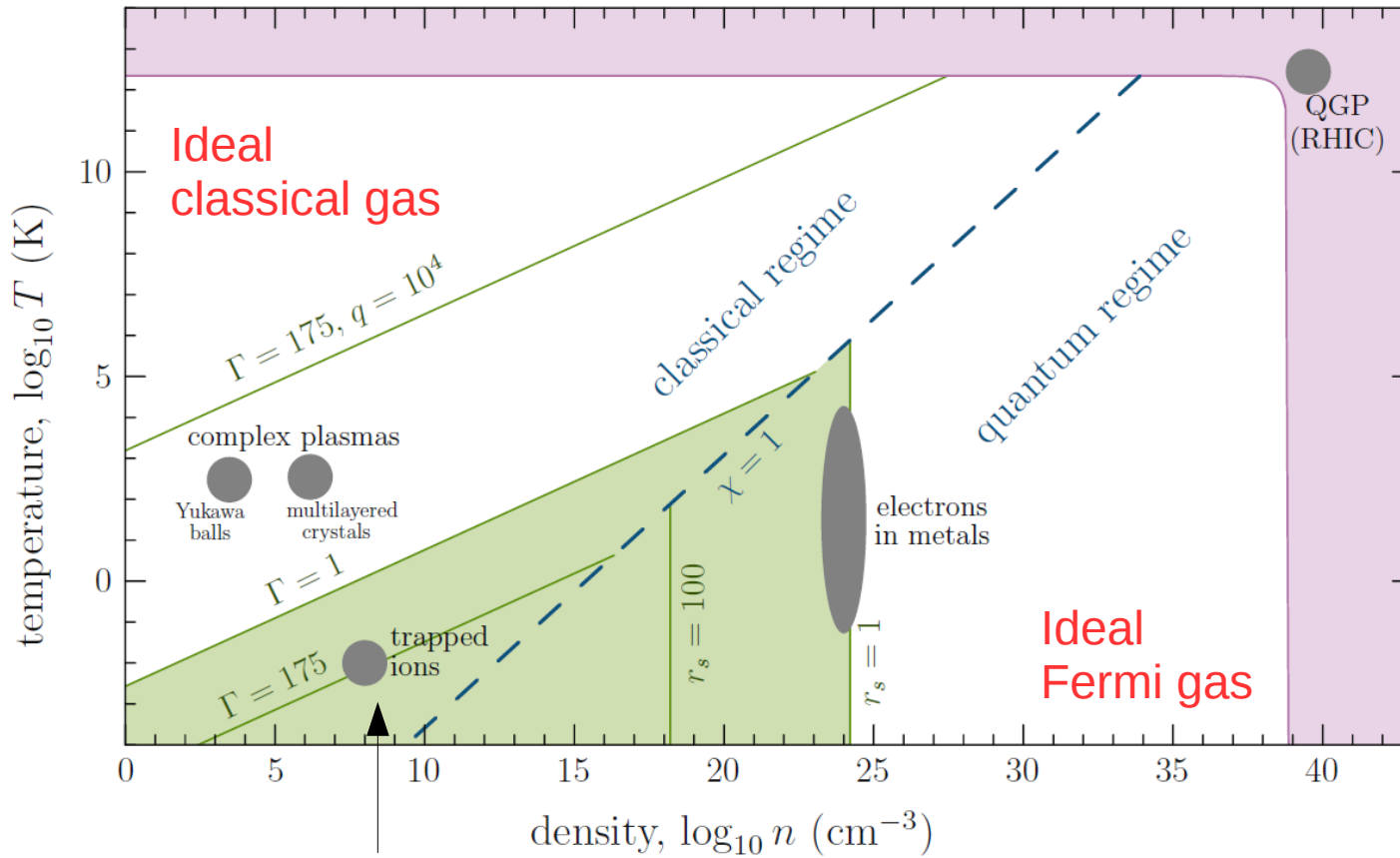
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Quantum effects:

- finite electron extension
- exchange effects
- Fermi statistics
- quantum correlations

quantum coupling parameter:

$$\Gamma_{qa} \equiv \left(\frac{\hbar \omega_{pa}}{E_{Fa}} \right)^2 \sim$$

$$r_s \equiv \frac{d_a}{a_B} \sim n_a^{-1/3}$$

Strong correlations

quantum degeneracy parameter

$$\chi_a = n_a \Lambda_a^3 \sim \left(\frac{\Lambda_a}{d} \right)^3 \sim \left(\frac{E_{Fa}}{k_B T} \right)^{3/2} \equiv \Theta_a^{-3/2}; \quad \Lambda_a^2 = \frac{h^2}{2\pi m_a k_B T}$$

DeBroglie wavelength, Fermi energy

Quantum chemistry (many-body Schrödinger eq.)

Density functional theory

Quantum kinetic theory [1]

Nonequilibrium Green functions [1]

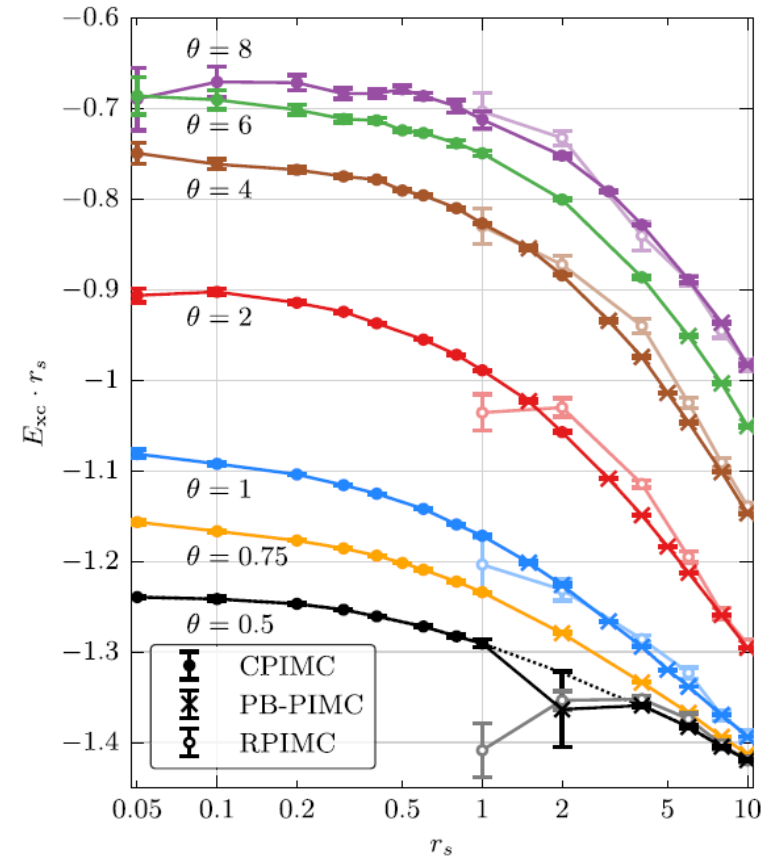
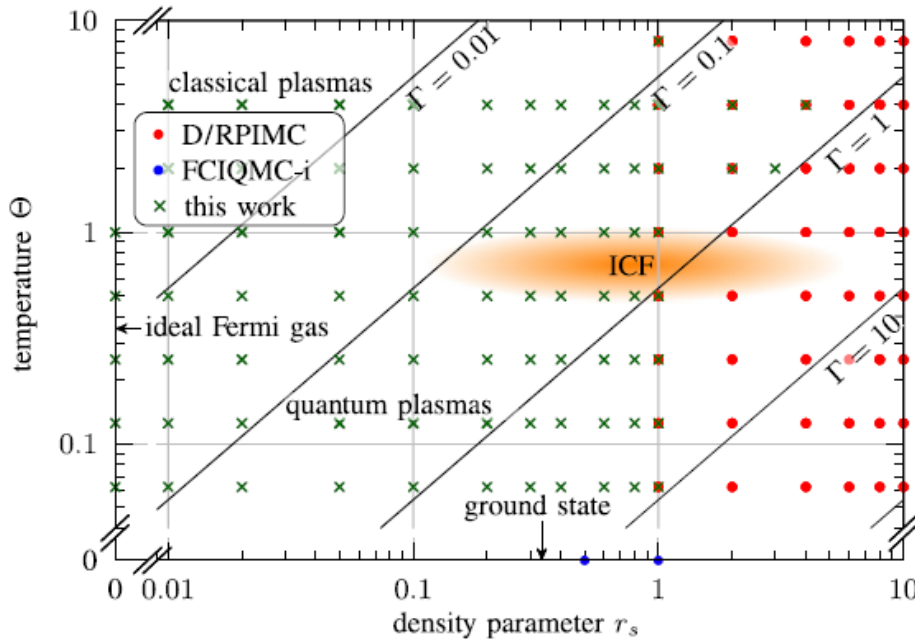
Quantum Monte Carlo [2]

.....

[1] M. Bonitz, *Quantum Kinetic Theory*, 2nd ed. (Springer 2016)

[2] M. Bonitz, J. Lopez, K. Becker, and H. Thomsen, *Complex Plasmas*, (Springer 2014)

- developed two novel Quantum Monte Carlo methods: CPIMC [1] and PB-PIMC [2]
- their combination allows to avoid the notorious fermion sign problem
- obtained the first complete *ab initio* thermodynamic results for the electron gas [3-5]
- key input for warm dense matter and DFT



[1] T. Schoof *et al.*, Contrib. Plasma Phys. (2011), [2] T. Dornheim *et al.*, New J. Phys. (2014)

[3] T. Schoof *et al.*, PRL (2015); [4] T. Dornheim *et al.*, PRL (2016); [5] S. Groth *et al.*, PRL (2017)

Madelung (1926), Bohm (1952): mapping of Schrödinger equation of **1 electron** on fluid equations

Gross, Pitaevskii (1961): mean field (fluid) form of **many-boson** dynamics in condensate

Manfredi, Haas (2001): QHD equations for many ideal fermions (derivation problematic [1])

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} n(\mathbf{r}, t) + \nabla \cdot [\mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}, t)] &= 0, \\ m \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}, t) - n(\mathbf{r}, t) e \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) &= -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{r}, t) \\ &\leftarrow \begin{aligned} -\nabla P_F[n(\mathbf{r}, t)] - n(\mathbf{r}, t) \nabla V_B[n(\mathbf{r}, t)] \\ \downarrow \\ \frac{\hbar^2}{8m} \left(\left| \frac{\nabla n}{n} \right|^2 - 2 \frac{\nabla^2 n}{n} \right) \end{aligned} \end{aligned}$$

classical fluid equations
with kinetic pressure

obtain QHD, by substituting
Fermi pressure, Bohm potential

1-electron expression
applies only in special case [2]

[1] Khan, Bonitz, in: *Complex Plasmas*, (Springer 2014)

[2] Moldabekov *et al.*, *Phys. Plasmas* (2015)

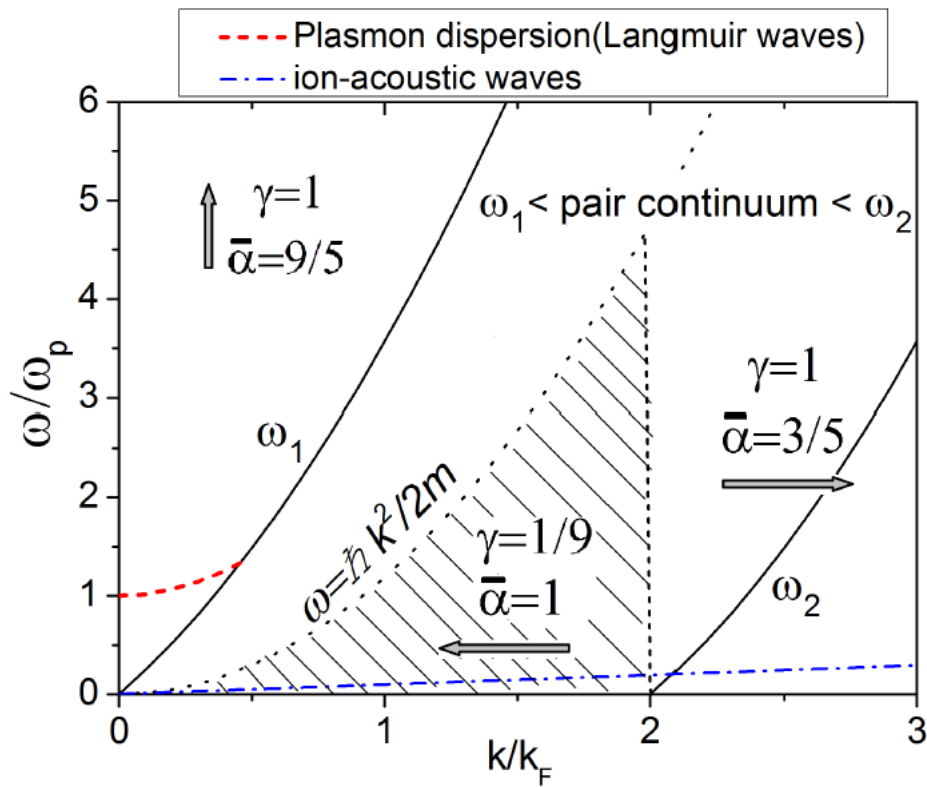
Improved quantum hydrodynamics for plasmas

extend QHD to finite temperature and exchange and correlation corrections [2]

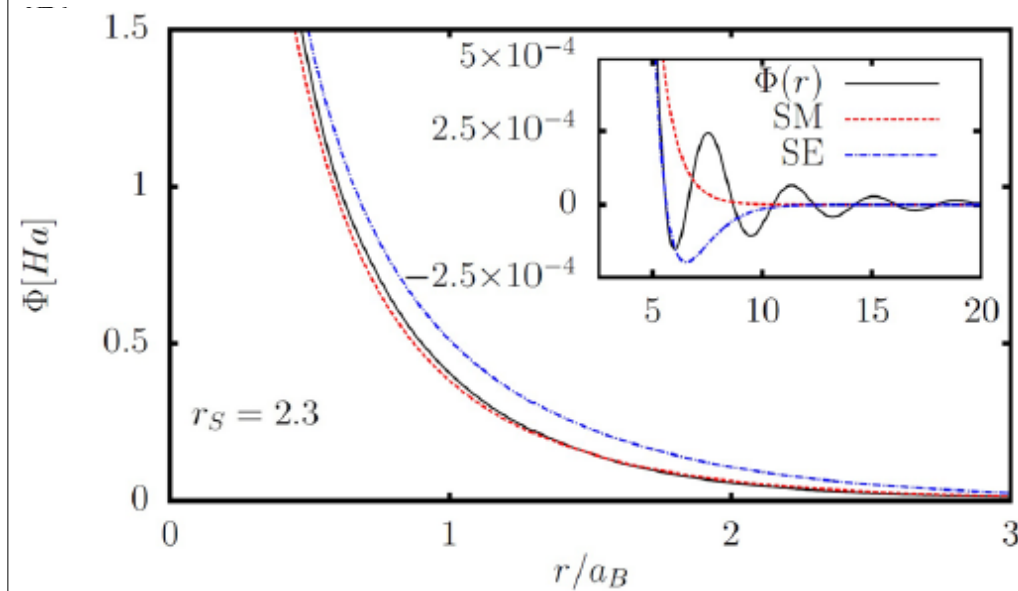
Starting point: free energy functional $F[n] = F_0[n] + \int dr a_2[n] |\nabla n(r)|^2 + F_{xc}[n]$

Fermi pressure $\sim \bar{\alpha} E_F = \frac{\delta F_0[n]}{\delta n}$

$$V_B(\omega, k) = \gamma(\omega, k) \frac{\hbar^2}{8m} \left(\left| \frac{\nabla n}{n} \right|^2 - 2 \frac{\nabla^2 n}{n} \right)$$



Screened ion potential (RPA, Friedel oscillations)
 SE: attraction [3] is artefact of wrong Bohm potential
 SM: correct prefactor 1/9 [1]

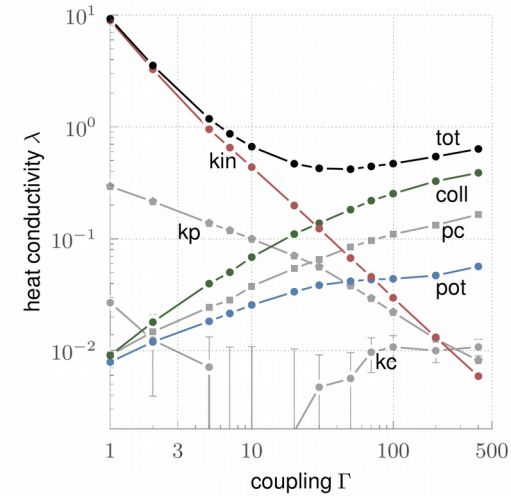
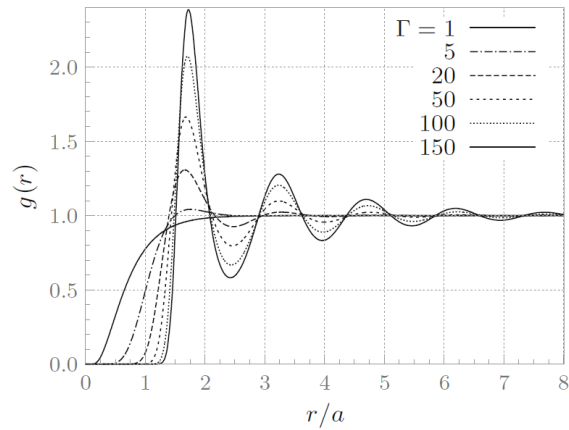


[1] Michta, Graziani, Bonitz, Contrib. Plasma Phys. (2015)

[3] Shukla, Eliasson, PRL (2012)

[2] Moldabekov et al., Phys. Plasmas (2017), arxiv:1709.02196

[4] Bonitz, Pehlke, Schoof, PRE (2013) 37



**Structure
phase transitions**

**Transport
ab initio results**

**Strongly coupled
plasmas**

**Magnetization
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