

# Off-equilibrium infrared structure of self-interacting scalar fields

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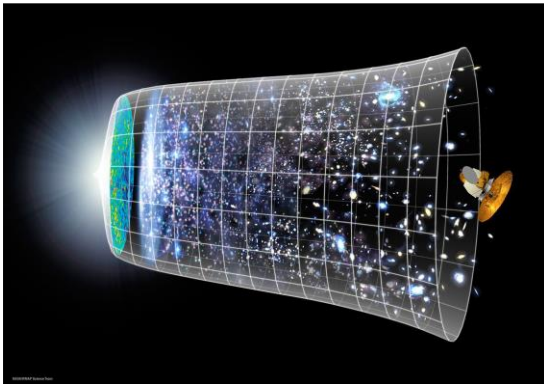
J. Deng, S. Sclichting, R. Venugopalan, Q. Wang,  
Phys. Rev. A97, 053606(2018); (arXiv:1801.06260)

ICTS seminar, May 31, USTC

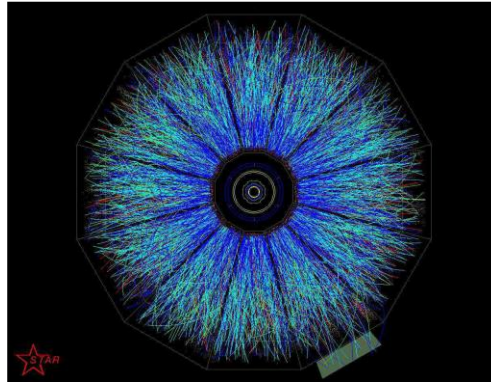
# Outline

- **Thermalization: big bang to HIC, cold atoms to dark matter**
- **Non-thermal fixed points: ultra-violet & infrared fixed points, effective kinetic description, defects**
- **Formal Map: From relativistic real scalar to non-relativistic complex field**
- **Simulations of relativistic scalar fields in 2D**

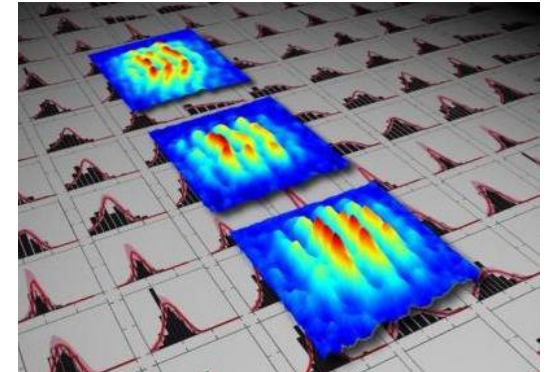
# Physical systems far from equilibrium at different scale



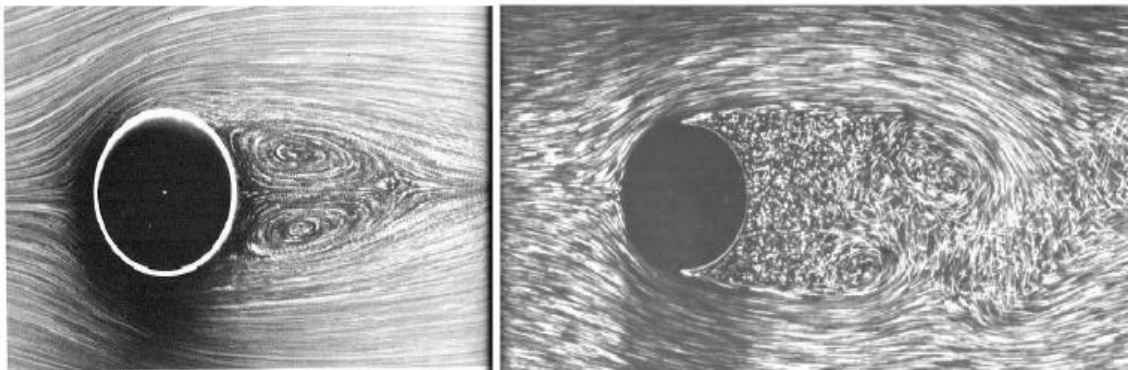
Inflationary cosmology



Heavy-ion collisions



Ultracold atoms



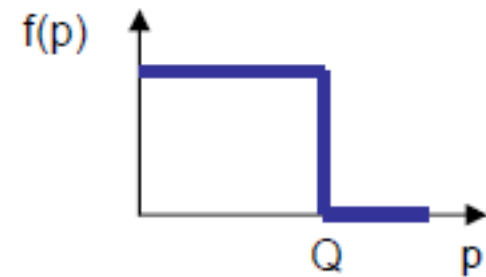
Classical and quantum fluids: Turbulence

**Questions:**

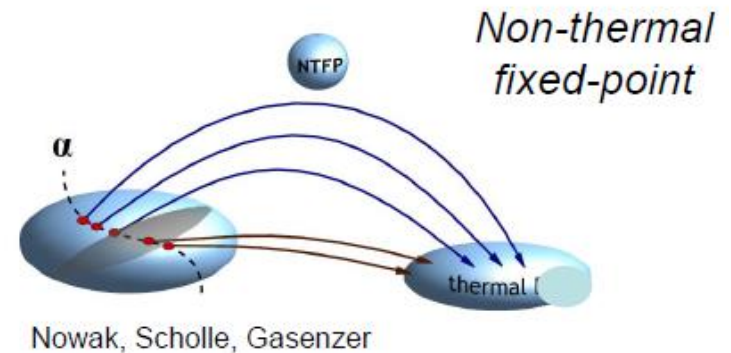
**Do they have common properties?**

# Physical systems far from equilibrium

- Heavy-ion collisions at early times with high energy and weak coupling  $g \ll 1$
- Highly correlated systems (color glass condensate)
- The system can take detour during thermalization



$$f(p \lesssim Q) \sim 1/g^2 \quad (\text{or } \langle A A \rangle \sim Q^2/g^2)$$



# Non-thermal fixed-points & universality classes

- **At a non-thermal fixed point**

- Memory loss of the details of the initial conditions;

- Self-similar evolution of distribution function  $f$   
(critical slowing down)

- With scaling behavior of typical scales  $f \sim t^\alpha$ ,  $p \sim t^{-\beta}$

$$f(p, t) = t^\alpha f_S(t^\beta p)$$

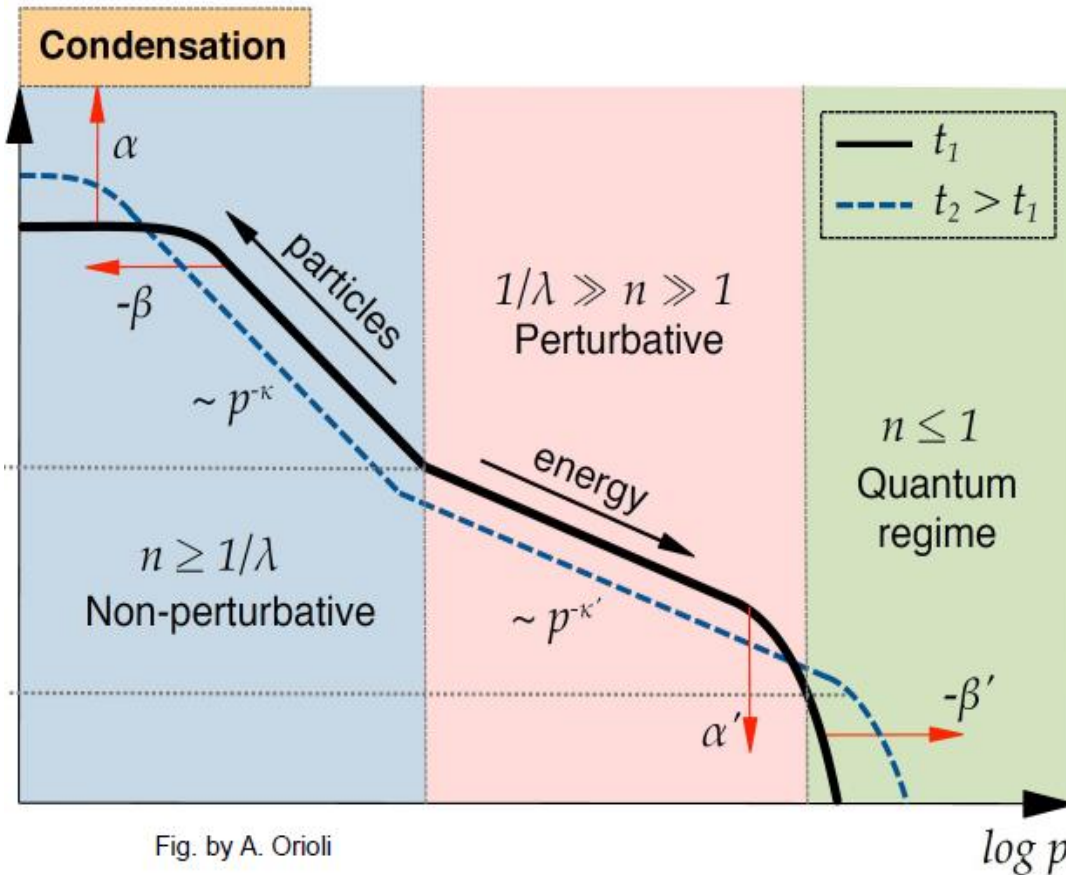
- Possible: several fixed-points in different momentum regimes  
(inertial range)

- Often connected to kinetic processes (e.g. turbulence) or  
topological defects

- **Classification: universality classes far from equilibrium**

- Non-thermal fixed-points, described by their dynamical  
exponents  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and the scaling function  $f_S(x)$ , may be classified  
in universality classes

# Dual cascade in scalar theory



## Self-similarity

$$f(p, t) = t^\alpha f_S(t^\beta p)$$

## Perturbative

Micha & Tkachev,  
PRL(2003), PRD(2004)

## Non-perturbative

Berges, Rothkopf & Schmidt,  
PRL (2008)

Nowak, Sexty & Gasenzer  
PRB(2011)

## Bose condensation

Berges & Sexty, PRL(2012)

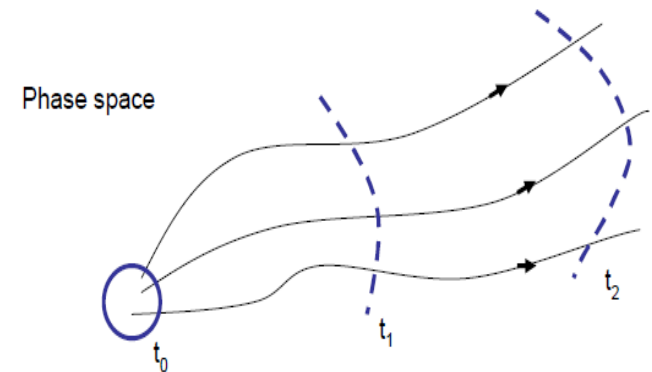
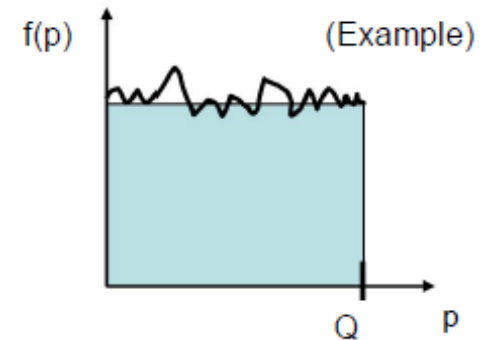
# Classical-statistical lattice simulations

- Start with fluctuating initial conditions at initial time  $t_0$
- Solve initial value problem on the lattice. Example: self-interacting scalars:

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \phi)(\partial^\mu \phi) - \frac{1}{2}m^2 \phi^2 - \frac{1}{4!}\lambda \phi^4$$

$$(\partial_\mu \partial^\mu + m^2)\phi + \frac{1}{6}\lambda \phi^3 = 0$$

- Evolve observable classically and average over set of initial conditions at time of interest  $t$



# Classical-statistical lattice simulations

- **Initial condition**

$$\phi(\mathbf{x}, t_0) = \phi(t_0) + \int [d^3 \mathbf{p}] \sqrt{f(\mathbf{p}, t_0) + \frac{1}{2}} \left[ \xi(\mathbf{p}, t_0) e^{i\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{x}} + \xi^*(\mathbf{p}, t_0) e^{-i\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{x}} \right]$$

Gaussian distributed  
complex random numbers

- **Distribution function**

$$f(\mathbf{p}, t) + \frac{1}{2} = \sqrt{F(\mathbf{p})F''(\mathbf{p}) - [F'(\mathbf{p})]^2}$$

Initial distribution

$$F(\mathbf{p}) = \langle |\phi(\mathbf{p})|^2 \rangle$$

$$F'(\mathbf{p}) = \text{Re} \langle \phi(\mathbf{p}) \partial_t \phi^*(\mathbf{p}) \rangle$$

$$F''(\mathbf{p}) = \langle |\partial_t \phi(\mathbf{p})|^2 \rangle$$

- **Range of validity: classicality condition**  $f(p) \gg 1$
- **Accurate low-energy description of quantum field theory!**

[Aarts & Berges, PRL 88, 041603 (2002); Jeon, PRC 72, 014907 (2005)]



# Relativistic vs non-relativistic fields

**Relativistic real scalar  
(heavy ion collision)**

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \phi)(\partial^\mu \phi) - \frac{1}{2}m^2 \phi^2 - \frac{1}{4!}\lambda \phi^4$$
$$(\partial_\mu \partial^\mu + m^2)\phi + \frac{1}{6}\lambda \phi^3 = 0$$

**Non-relativistic complex scalar  
(cold bosonic atoms)**

$$\mathcal{H} = -\frac{1}{2m}\psi^* \nabla^2 \psi + V|\psi|^2 + \frac{1}{2}g|\psi|^4$$
$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}i(\psi^* \dot{\psi} - \dot{\psi} \psi^*) - \mathcal{H}$$
$$i\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = \left(-\frac{1}{2m}\nabla^2 + V + g|\psi|^2\right)\psi$$

**Low-momentum universality class in scalar field theories**

**What is the connection between relativistic real scalar and non-relativistic complex scalar field theory**

# Formal Map: from $\Phi$ to $\Psi$

- Hamiltonian density, scalar field and its canonical momentum

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{1}{2}[\pi^2 + (\nabla\phi)^2 + m^2\phi^2] + \frac{1}{24}\lambda\phi^4$$

$$\phi(\mathbf{x}) = \int [d^3\mathbf{k}] \frac{1}{\sqrt{2E_k}} (a_{\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}} + a_{\mathbf{k}}^* e^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}})$$

$$\pi(\mathbf{x}) = -i \int [d^3\mathbf{k}] \sqrt{\frac{E_k}{2}} (a_{\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}} - a_{\mathbf{k}}^* e^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}})$$

all complex numbers

EOM in Poisson Brackets

- Hamiltonian in  $a_{\mathbf{k}}$  and  $a_{\mathbf{k}}^*$

$$H(a, a^*) = \int d^3\mathbf{x} \mathcal{H} = \int [d^3\mathbf{k}] E_k a_{\mathbf{k}} a_{\mathbf{k}}^*$$

$$i \frac{da_{\mathbf{p}}}{dt} = \{a_{\mathbf{p}}, H\}_a, \quad i \frac{da_{\mathbf{p}}^*}{dt} = \{a_{\mathbf{p}}^*, H\}_a$$

Resonant terms:  
equal number  
of  $a_{\mathbf{k}}$  and  $a_{\mathbf{k}}^*$

$$\begin{aligned} & + \frac{1}{24} \lambda \int [d^3\mathbf{k}][d^3\mathbf{k}_1][d^3\mathbf{k}_2][d^3\mathbf{k}_3] \frac{(2\pi)^3}{\sqrt{16E_k E_{k_1} E_{k_2} E_{k_3}}} \\ & [a_{\mathbf{k}} a_{\mathbf{k}_1} a_{\mathbf{k}_2} a_{\mathbf{k}_3} \delta(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_3) + 4a_{\mathbf{k}} a_{\mathbf{k}_1} a_{\mathbf{k}_2} a_{\mathbf{k}_3}^* \delta(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2 - \mathbf{k}_3) \\ & + 6a_{\mathbf{k}} a_{\mathbf{k}_1} a_{\mathbf{k}_2}^* a_{\mathbf{k}_3}^* \delta(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{k}_1 - \mathbf{k}_2 - \mathbf{k}_3) + 4a_{\mathbf{k}} a_{\mathbf{k}_1}^* a_{\mathbf{k}_2}^* a_{\mathbf{k}_3}^* \delta(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}_1 - \mathbf{k}_2 - \mathbf{k}_3) \\ & + a_{\mathbf{k}}^* a_{\mathbf{k}_1}^* a_{\mathbf{k}_2}^* a_{\mathbf{k}_3}^* \delta(-\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}_1 - \mathbf{k}_2 - \mathbf{k}_3)] \end{aligned}$$

# EOM and Poisson brackets

- EOM in Poisson brackets

$$i\frac{da_{\mathbf{p}}}{dt} = \{a_{\mathbf{p}}, H\}_a, \quad i\frac{da_{\mathbf{p}}^*}{dt} = \{a_{\mathbf{p}}^*, H\}_a$$

- Poisson brackets in the  $a_{\mathbf{p}}$  basis

$$\{F(\mathbf{p}), G(\mathbf{p}_1)\}_a = \int [d^3\mathbf{k}] \left[ \frac{\partial F(\mathbf{p})}{\partial a_{\mathbf{k}}} \frac{\partial G(\mathbf{p}_1)}{\partial a_{\mathbf{k}}^*} - \frac{\partial F(\mathbf{p})}{\partial a_{\mathbf{k}}^*} \frac{\partial G(\mathbf{p}_1)}{\partial a_{\mathbf{k}}} \right]$$

$$\{a_{\mathbf{p}}, a_{\mathbf{p}_1}^*\}_a = (2\pi)^3 \delta(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}_1)$$

$$\{a_{\mathbf{p}}, a_{\mathbf{p}_1}\}_a = \{a_{\mathbf{p}}^*, a_{\mathbf{p}_1}^*\}_a = 0$$

- Generally we can use any canonical variables  $(a_{\mathbf{k}}, a_{\mathbf{k}}^*) \rightarrow (b_{\mathbf{p}}, b_{\mathbf{p}}^*)$ , if  $(b_{\mathbf{p}}, b_{\mathbf{p}}^*)$  satisfy the same Poisson brackets in the  $a_{\mathbf{p}}$ -basis

$$\{b_{\mathbf{p}}, b_{\mathbf{p}_1}^*\}_a = (2\pi)^3 \delta(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}_1)$$

$$\{b_{\mathbf{p}}, b_{\mathbf{p}_1}\}_a = \{b_{\mathbf{p}}^*, b_{\mathbf{p}_1}^*\}_a = 0$$

# Canonical transformation

- Poisson brackets are invariant under the change of canonical basis, for example

$$i \frac{\partial b_{\mathbf{p}}}{\partial t} = \{b_{\mathbf{p}}, H\}_{\underline{a}} = \{b_{\mathbf{p}}, H\}_{\underline{b}}$$

- Canonical variable defined by time shift through  $H_{\text{aux}}(b_{\mathbf{p}}, b_{\mathbf{p}}^*)$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 b_{\mathbf{p}}(z) &= b_{\mathbf{p}} + z \left. \frac{db_{\mathbf{p}}(z)}{dz} \right|_{z=0} + \frac{1}{2} z^2 \left. \frac{d^2 b_{\mathbf{p}}(z)}{d^2 z} \right|_{z=0} + \frac{1}{6} z^3 \left. \frac{d^3 b_{\mathbf{p}}(z)}{d^3 z} \right|_{z=0} + \dots \\
 a_{\mathbf{p}} \equiv b_{\mathbf{p}}(z) &= b_{\mathbf{p}} - iz \{b_{\mathbf{p}}, H_{\text{aux}}\}_b + \frac{1}{2} (-iz)^2 \{ \{b_{\mathbf{p}}, H_{\text{aux}}\}_b, H_{\text{aux}} \}_b \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{6} (-iz)^3 \{ \{ \{b_{\mathbf{p}}, H_{\text{aux}}\}_b, H_{\text{aux}} \}_b, H_{\text{aux}} \}_b + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

$b_{\mathbf{p}} \equiv b_{\mathbf{p}}(0)$

$b_{\mathbf{p}}^* \equiv b_{\mathbf{p}}^*(0)$

z is auxiliary time

- One can prove that  $b_{\mathbf{p}}(z), b_{\mathbf{p}}^*(z)$  satisfy canonical relations in  $b_{\mathbf{p}}$  basis

$$\begin{aligned}
 \{a_{\mathbf{p}}, a_{\mathbf{p}1}^*\}_b &= (2\pi)^3 \delta(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}1) \\
 \{a_{\mathbf{p}}, a_{\mathbf{p}1}\}_b &= \{a_{\mathbf{p}}^*, a_{\mathbf{p}1}^*\}_b = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

# New canonical variable through $H_{\text{aux}}$

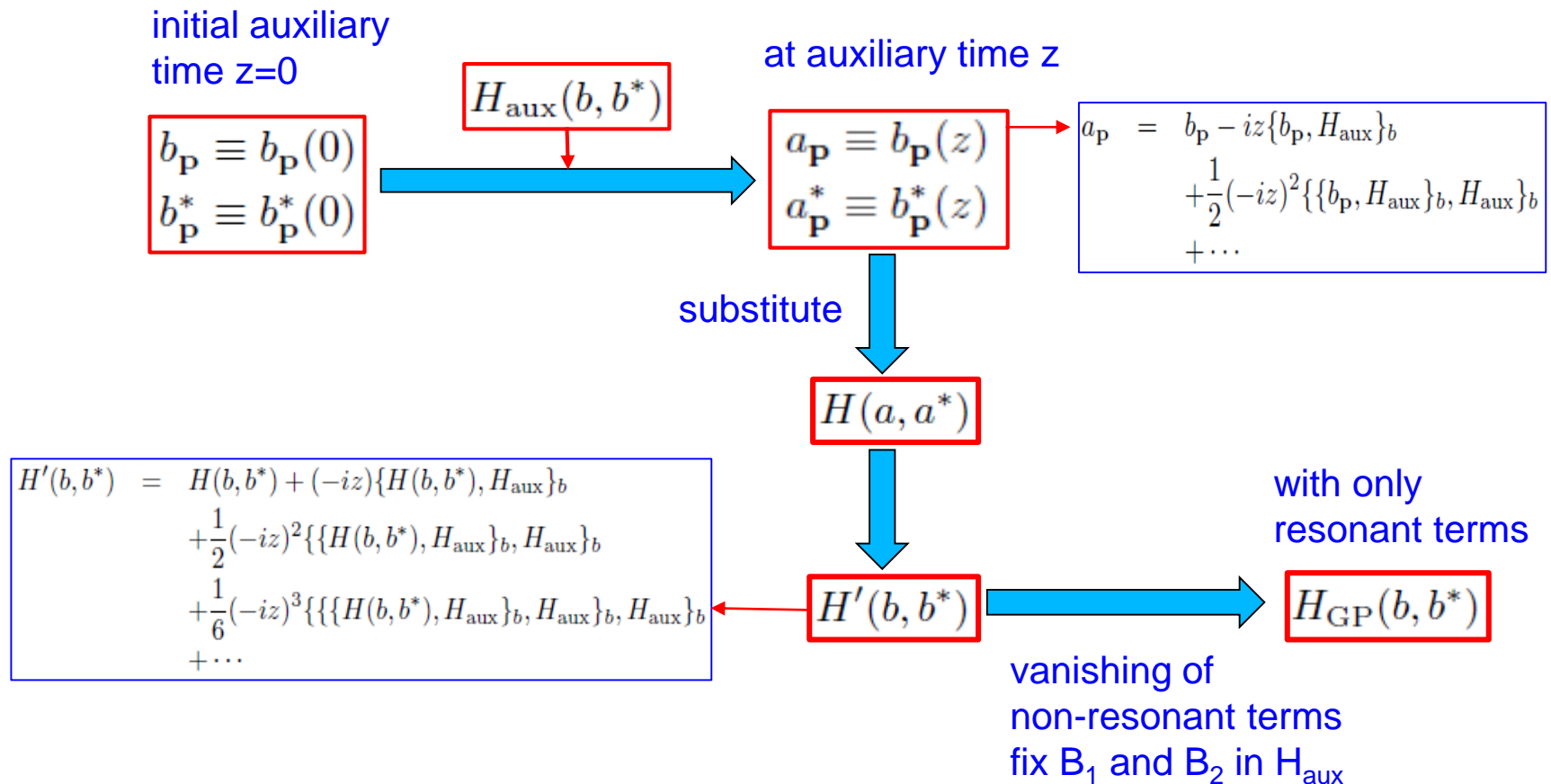
- **Auxiliary Hamiltonian**

$$\begin{aligned} H_{\text{aux}}(b, b^*) &= \int [d^3\mathbf{k}_1][d^3\mathbf{k}_2][d^3\mathbf{k}_3][d^3\mathbf{k}_4] \\ &\times \left\{ \frac{1}{24} [B_1(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3, \mathbf{k}_4) b_{\mathbf{k}_1} b_{\mathbf{k}_2} b_{\mathbf{k}_3} b_{\mathbf{k}_4} + \text{c.c.}] \right. \\ &\times \delta(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_3 + \mathbf{k}_4) \\ &+ \frac{1}{6} [B_2(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3; \mathbf{k}_4) b_{\mathbf{k}_1} b_{\mathbf{k}_2} b_{\mathbf{k}_3} b_{\mathbf{k}_4}^* + \text{c.c.}] \\ &\left. \times \delta(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_3 - \mathbf{k}_4) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

- **$B_1$  and  $B_2$  will be determined by removing non-resonant terms in the original Hamiltonian**

# Canonical transformation: derive $H_{GP}$

- New canonical variable by time shift through  $H_{aux}$



# Gross-Pitaevskii Hamiltonian

$$H_{\text{GP}}(b, b^*) \approx \int [d^3 \mathbf{p}] E_p b_{\mathbf{p}} b_{\mathbf{p}}^* + \frac{1}{16} \lambda \int \prod_{i=1}^4 [d^3 \mathbf{k}_i] \frac{1}{\sqrt{E_{k_1} E_{k_2} E_{k_3} E_{k_4}}} \\ \times b_{\mathbf{k}_1} b_{\mathbf{k}_2} b_{\mathbf{k}_3}^* b_{\mathbf{k}_4}^* (2\pi)^3 \delta(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2 - \mathbf{k}_3 - \mathbf{k}_4)$$

$$E_{\mathbf{k}} \approx m + \frac{\mathbf{k}^2}{2m}$$

$$\psi(\mathbf{x}) = \int [d^3 \mathbf{k}] b_{\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}}$$

$$H_{\text{GP}}(\psi, \psi^*) \approx m \int d^3 \mathbf{x} |\psi(t, \mathbf{x})|^2 + \int d^3 \mathbf{x} \psi^*(t, \mathbf{x}) \left( -\frac{1}{2m} \nabla^2 \right) \psi(t, \mathbf{x}) \\ + \frac{\lambda}{16m^2} \int d^3 \mathbf{x} |\psi(t, \mathbf{x})|^4$$

# Express $b_p$ as function of $a_p$

- Change the basis from  $b_p$  to  $a_p$  for all Poisson brackets

$$b_p = a_p + iz \{b_p, H_{\text{aux}}(b)\}_a - \frac{1}{2} (iz)^2 \{ \{b_p, H_{\text{aux}}(b)\}_a, H_{\text{aux}}(b) \}_a + \dots$$

- Perturbation to solve  $b_p$  as a function of  $a_p$

$$\begin{aligned} b_p^{(0)} &= a_p \\ b_p^{(1)} &= iz \{b_p, H_{\text{aux}}(b)\}_a |_{b \rightarrow a} \\ b_p^{(2)} &= -\frac{1}{2} (iz)^2 \{ \{b_p, H_{\text{aux}}(b)\}_a, H_{\text{aux}}(b) \}_a |_{b \rightarrow a} \\ &\quad + iz \{b_p, H_{\text{aux}}(b)\}_a |_{b \rightarrow a + b^{(1)}} \\ &\dots \quad \dots \quad \dots \end{aligned}$$

The order  
parameter:

$$\lambda \phi^2 / m^2$$



# Express $(\Psi, \Psi^*)$ as function of $(\phi, \pi)$

- Transform to space-time,

$$\psi(\mathbf{x}) = \int [d^3\mathbf{k}] b_{\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}}$$

- Express  $(\Psi, \Psi^*)$  as function of  $(\phi, \pi)$ . In the large mass limit, the zeroth order

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{(0)}(\mathbf{x}) &= \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} a_{\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{m}{2}} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{4m^2} \nabla_x^2 \right) \phi(x) + i \frac{1}{\sqrt{2m}} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{4m^2} \nabla_x^2 \right) \pi(x) \\ &\equiv \Phi + \Pi - \frac{1}{4} \Phi'' + \frac{1}{4} \Pi'' \end{aligned}$$

$\Phi \equiv \sqrt{\frac{m}{2}} \phi(x)$

$\Pi \equiv i \frac{1}{\sqrt{2m}} \pi(x)$

$O'' \equiv \frac{1}{m^2} \nabla_x^2 O$

# Express $(\Psi, \Psi^*)$ as function of $(\Phi, \pi)$

- The 1<sup>st</sup> order contribution

$$\begin{aligned}\psi_{(1)}(\mathbf{x}) = & -\frac{\lambda}{16m^3} \left[ -\frac{5}{6}\Phi^3 - \frac{7}{4}\Phi^2\Phi'' - \frac{27}{8}\Phi\Phi'\Phi' + \frac{5}{2}\Phi^2\Pi \right. \\ & + \frac{11}{8}\Pi\Phi'\Phi' + \frac{3}{2}\Phi\Pi\Phi'' + \frac{11}{4}\Phi\Phi'\Pi' + 3\Phi^2\Pi'' \\ & + \frac{3}{2}\Phi\Pi^2 + \frac{5}{4}\Pi^2\Phi'' + \frac{5}{4}\Pi\Phi'\Pi' + \frac{5}{8}\Phi\Pi'\Pi' \\ & \left. + 2\Phi\Pi\Pi'' - \frac{1}{2}\Pi^3 - \frac{21}{8}\Pi\Pi'\Pi' - 2\Pi^2\Pi'' \right]\end{aligned}$$

- An important application is in the study of axion as candidate for dark matter. Our approach has advantage over previous approaches by (1) A. Guth's group; (2) E. Braaten's group.

# Comparison with previous approaches

- Previous approaches:
- (1) Guth's group employ a different method from our work to remove nonresonant terms in the effective Lagrangian by exploiting its  $U(1)$  symmetry corresponding to the conservation of particle number. The nonresonant terms carry powers of the phase factor and are therefore dropped from the effective action.
- (2) Braaten's group construct an effective field theory for nonrelativistic complex scalar fields by including all terms that satisfy Gallilean invariance, with the coefficients of the EFT determined by matching to the underlying relativistic scalar field theory.
- Our approach: a rigorous map between relativistic real scalar field to non-relativistic complex scalar is constructed based on classical canonical transformation. The mapped relation can be derived order by order. **It is a non-relativistic effective field theory (NREFT)!**

# Numerical simulation of massive relativistic scalar fields in (2+1)D

- Solve classical EOM for  $\phi$  in real time lattice simulation

$$\partial_t \phi(t, \mathbf{x}) = \pi(t, \mathbf{x}),$$

$$\partial_t \pi(t, \mathbf{x}) = \partial_i \partial^i \phi(t, \mathbf{x}) - m^2 \phi(t, \mathbf{x}) - \frac{\lambda}{6} \phi(t, \mathbf{x})^3$$

- With initial condition

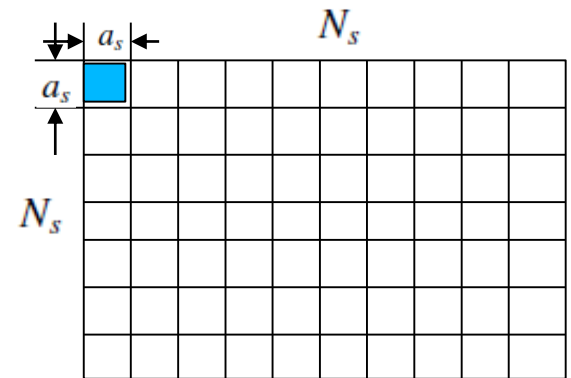
$$\phi_0(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{(N_s a_s)^2} \sum_{\mathbf{p}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2E_p}} [\alpha_{\mathbf{p}} e^{+i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}} + \alpha_{\mathbf{p}}^* e^{-i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}}],$$

$$\pi_0(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{(-i)}{(N_s a_s)^2} \sum_{\mathbf{p}} \sqrt{\frac{E_p}{2}} [\alpha_{\mathbf{p}} e^{+i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}} - \alpha_{\mathbf{p}}^* e^{-i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}}],$$

- Single particle distribution

$$f(t, p) = \frac{1}{(N_s a_s)^2} \sqrt{\langle |\tilde{\phi}(t, \mathbf{p})|^2 \rangle \langle |\tilde{\pi}(t, \mathbf{p})|^2 \rangle},$$

Fourier transform of  $\phi(t, \mathbf{x})$  and  $\pi(t, \mathbf{x})$



Sampled with Gaussian magnitude and uniform random-phase distribution

$$\langle \alpha_{\mathbf{p}} \alpha_{\mathbf{q}}^* \rangle = (N_s a_s)^2 \delta_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}} f(t = 0, p)$$

$$f(t = 0, p) = \frac{6n_0 Q}{\lambda} \theta(Q - p).$$

# Numerical results

- **Scaling solution for  $\phi$  :**

$$f(t, p) = t^\alpha f(t^\beta, p)$$

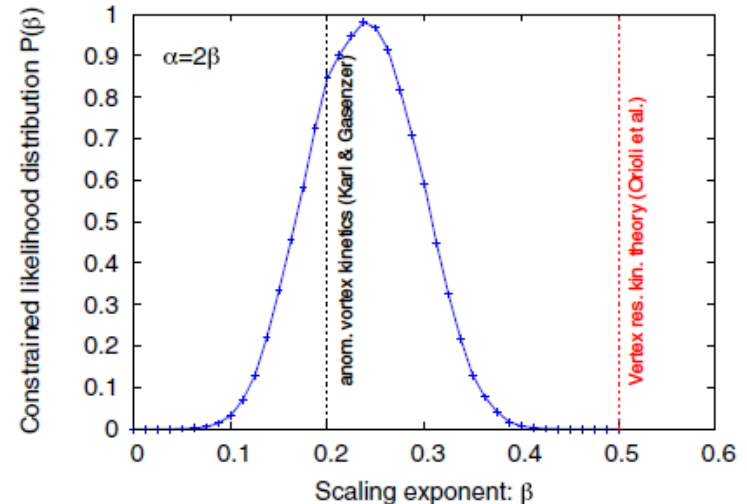
- **With exponents**

$$\beta = 0.24 \pm 0.08$$

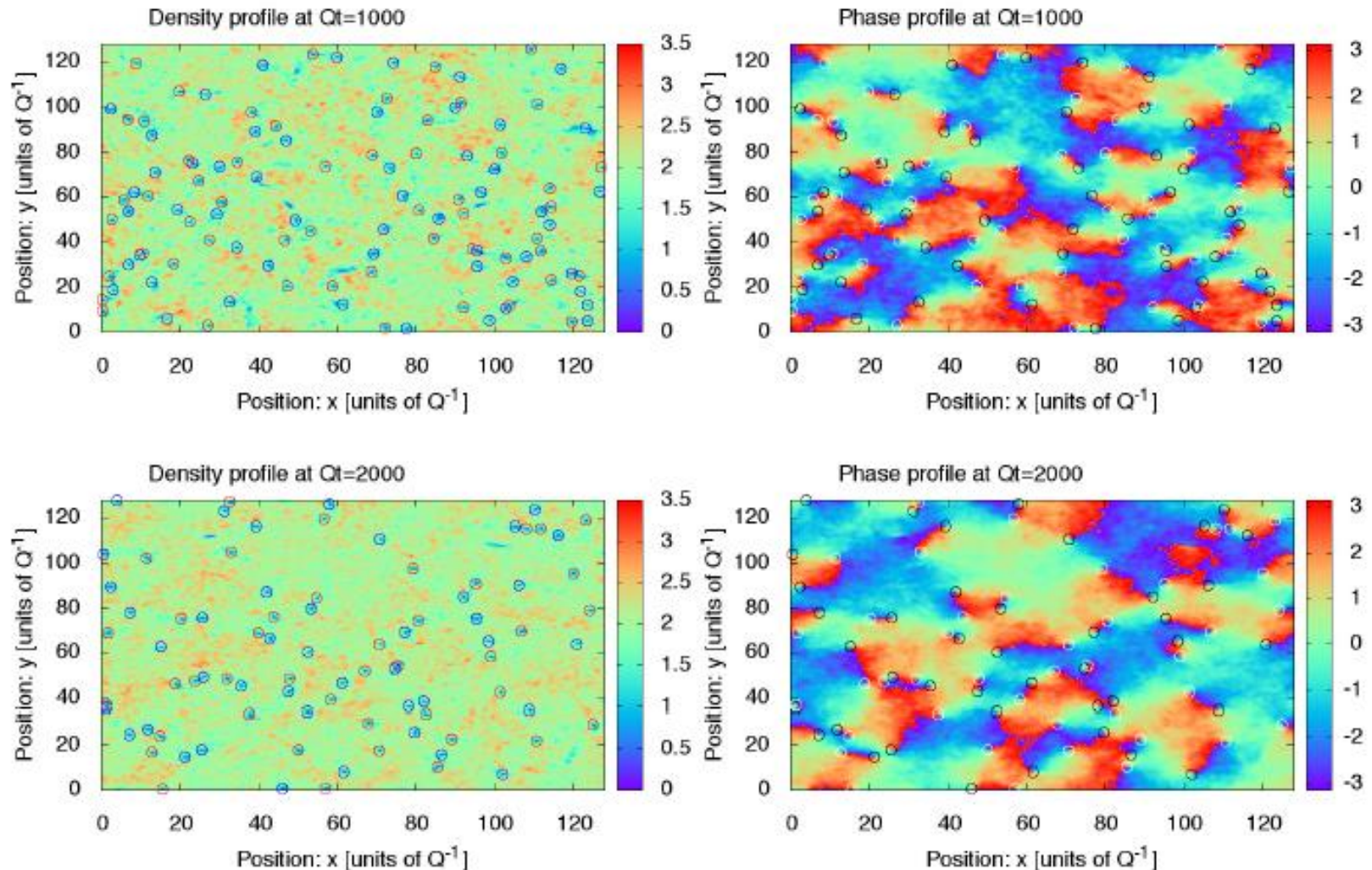
$$\alpha = 2\beta$$

- **Non-relativistic complex scalar  $\Psi$  constructed from  $\phi$ . We can draw density  $|\Psi(\mathbf{x})|^2$  and phase  $\theta(\mathbf{x})$**

$$\psi(\mathbf{x}) = \sqrt{\rho(\mathbf{x})} e^{i\theta(\mathbf{x})}$$

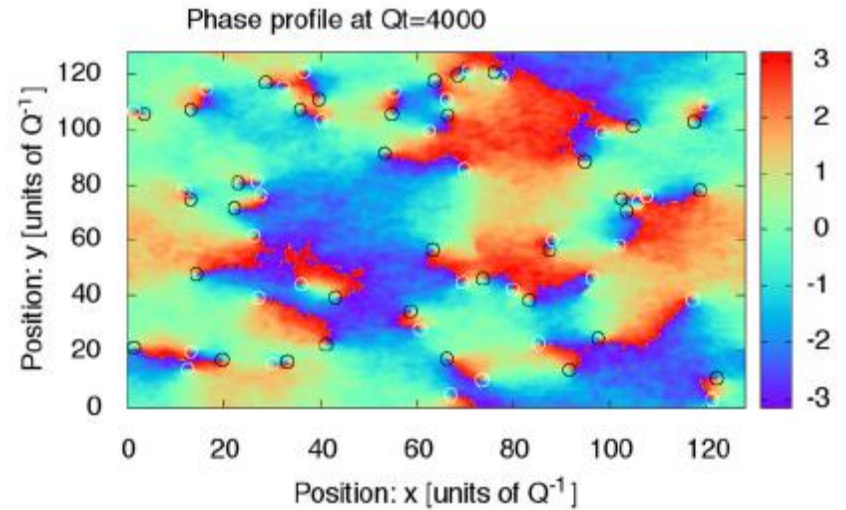
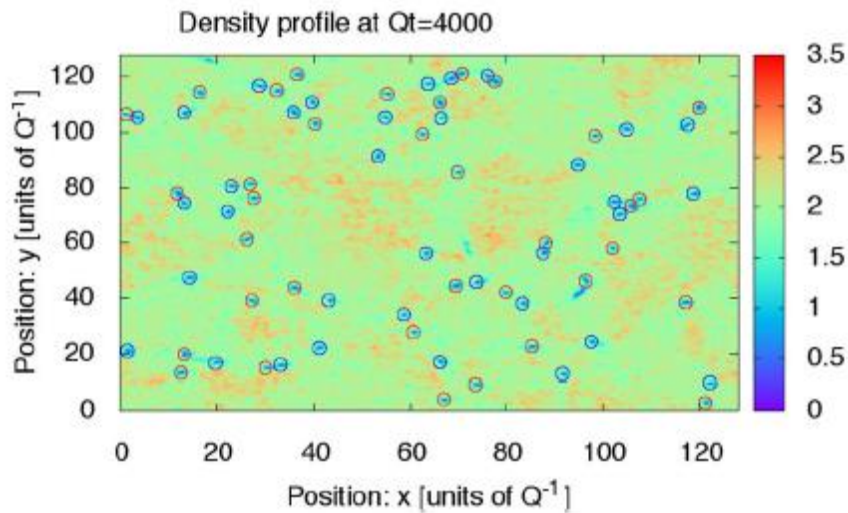


# Numerical results: density and phase of $\psi$

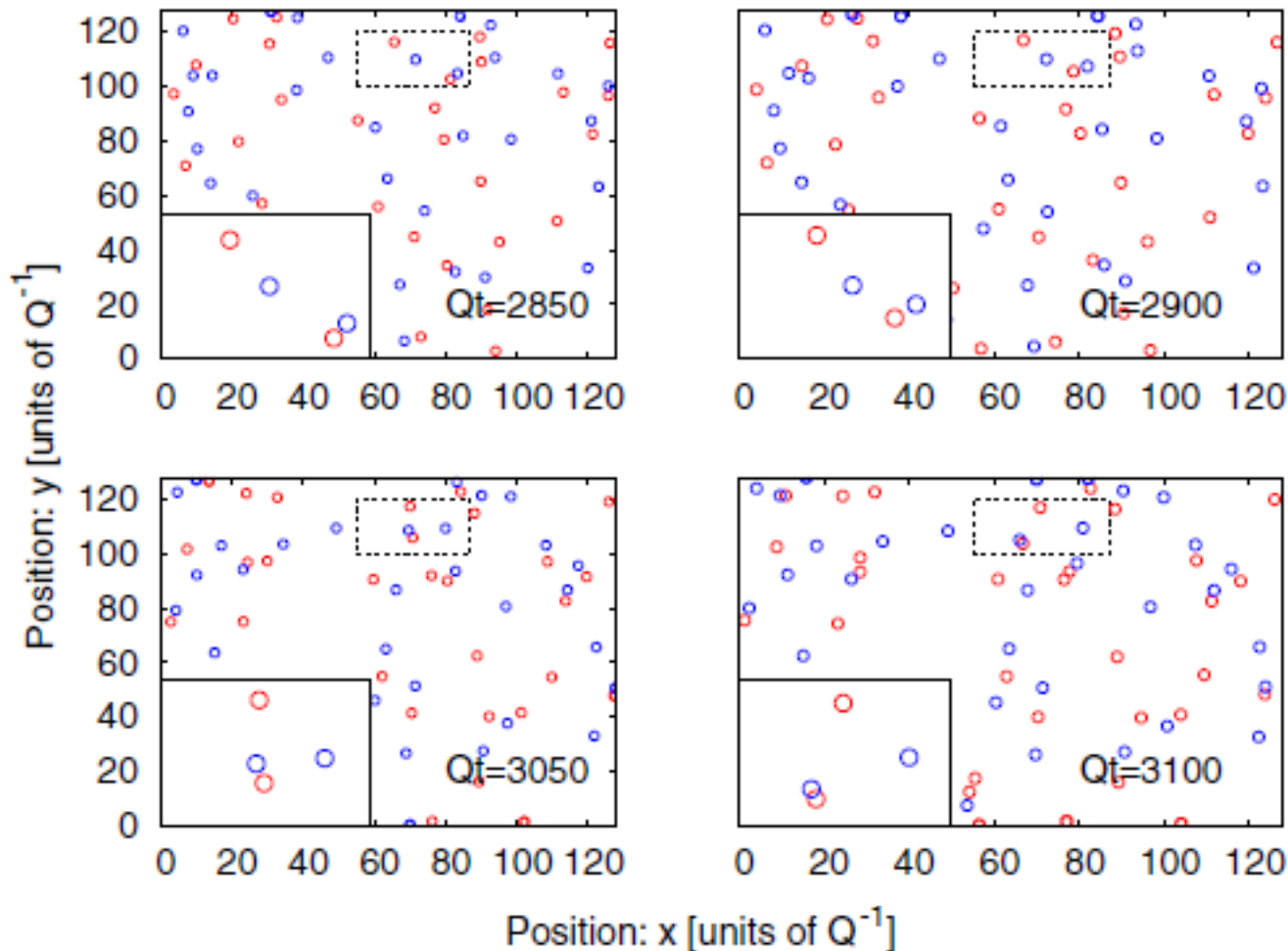




# Numerical results: density and phase of $\psi$



# Numerical results: evolution of vortex and anti-vortex

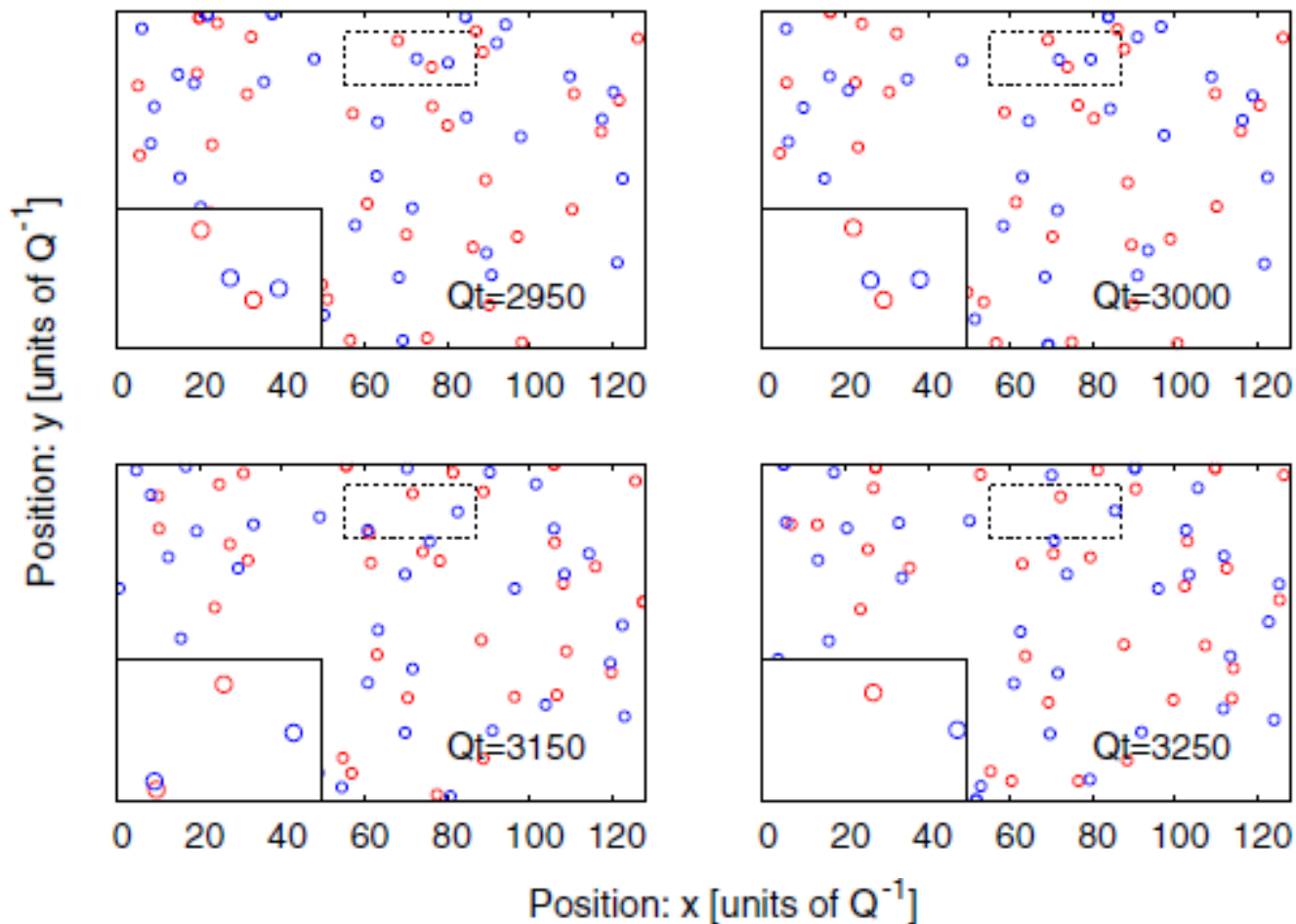


Non-equilibrium  
realization of  
Topological phase  
transition (KT  
transition):

Kosterlitz, Thouless,  
Nobel Prize 2016



# Numerical results: evolution of vertex and anti-vortex



# Summary

- We demonstrated a formal map between the infrared structure of an  $N=1$  relativistic self-interacting scalar field theory and the Gross-Pitaevskii (GP) theory for nonrelativistic fields, which is widely employed as a model theory describing the behavior of superfluids.
- This map is constructed by classical canonical transformation in a perturbation scheme. In this way, we build up **a non-relativistic effective field theory (NREFT)!**
- Many applications:
  - (1) axion as dark matter
  - (2) superfluids + superconductors
  - (3) turbulence
  - (4) polarization in fluids