

# Measuring Scale Invariance and Viscosity in Fermi Gases

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# Outline



## Introduction

- *Optically trapped Fermi gases:*
  - Creating strong interactions
- *Universal Regime:*
  - Thermodynamics, Quantum viscosity, String theory conjecture

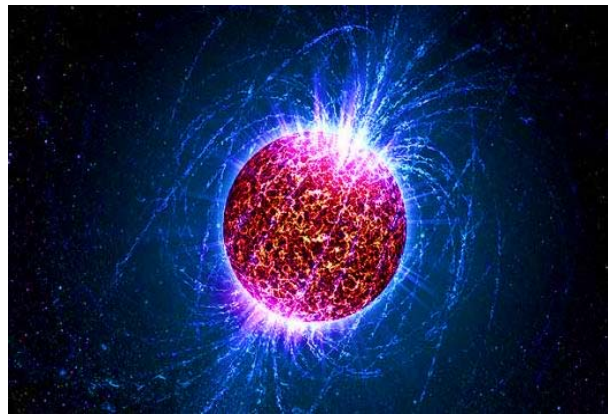
## Topics

- *Scale Invariance in Expanding Fermi gases:*
  - Scale invariance: *Ballistic* expansion of a *hydrodynamic* gas
- *Viscosity measurement on/off resonance*
  - Minimum on the BEC side of resonance
  - Measurements at constant  $S$

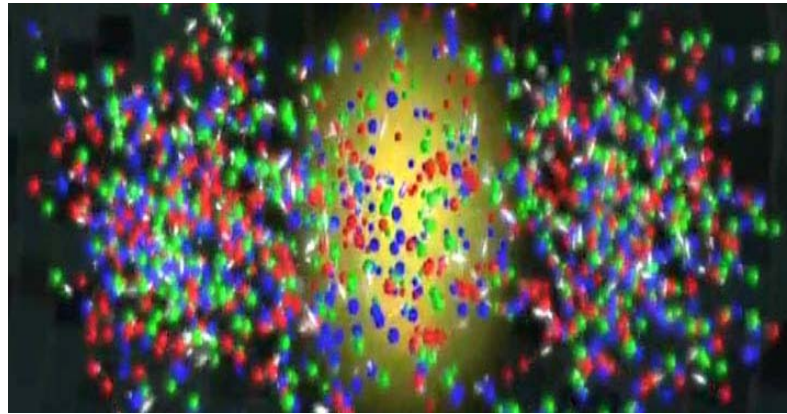
# Why Study Strongly Interacting Fermi Gases?



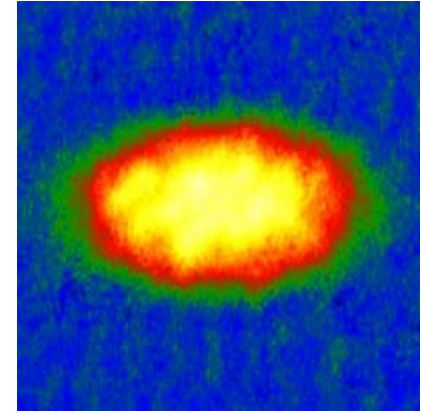
## Strongly Interacting Fermionic Systems



**Neutron  
Star**



**Quark Gluon Plasma**

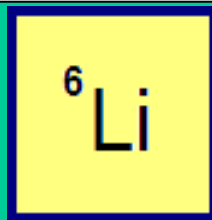


**Ultra-Cold  
Fermi Gas**

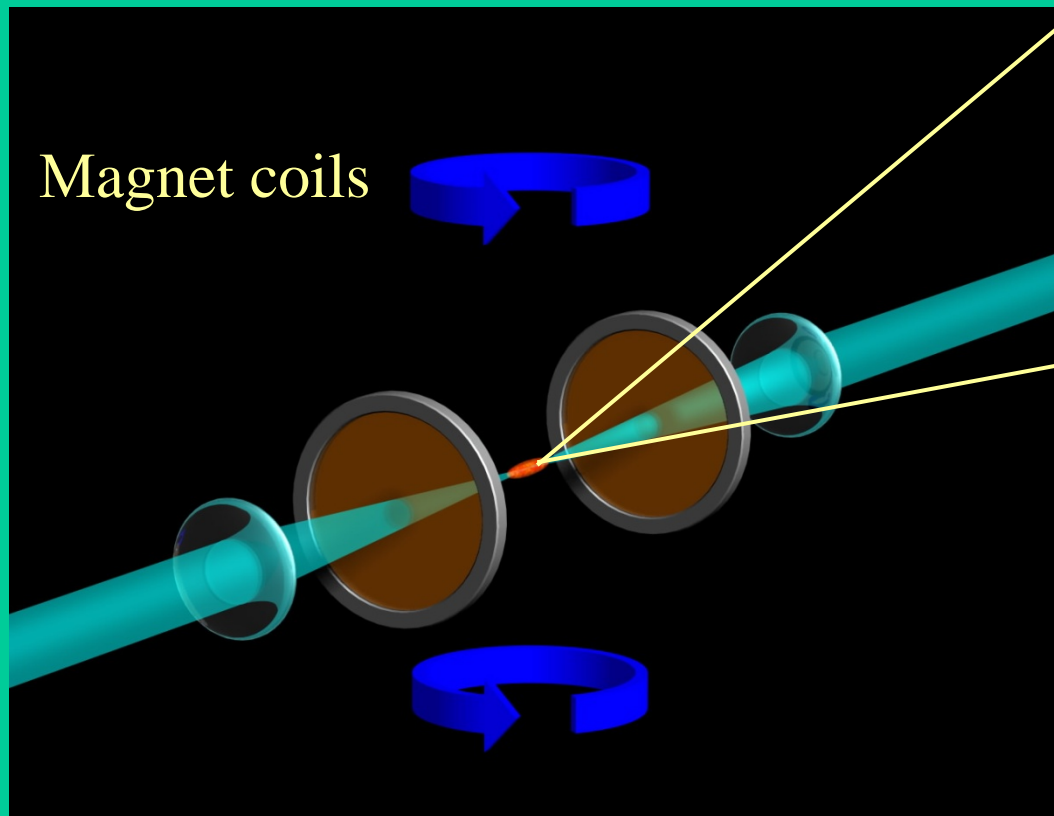
**High Temperature Superconductors**

# Optically Trapped Fermi Gas

Our atom: Fermionic



Magnet coils



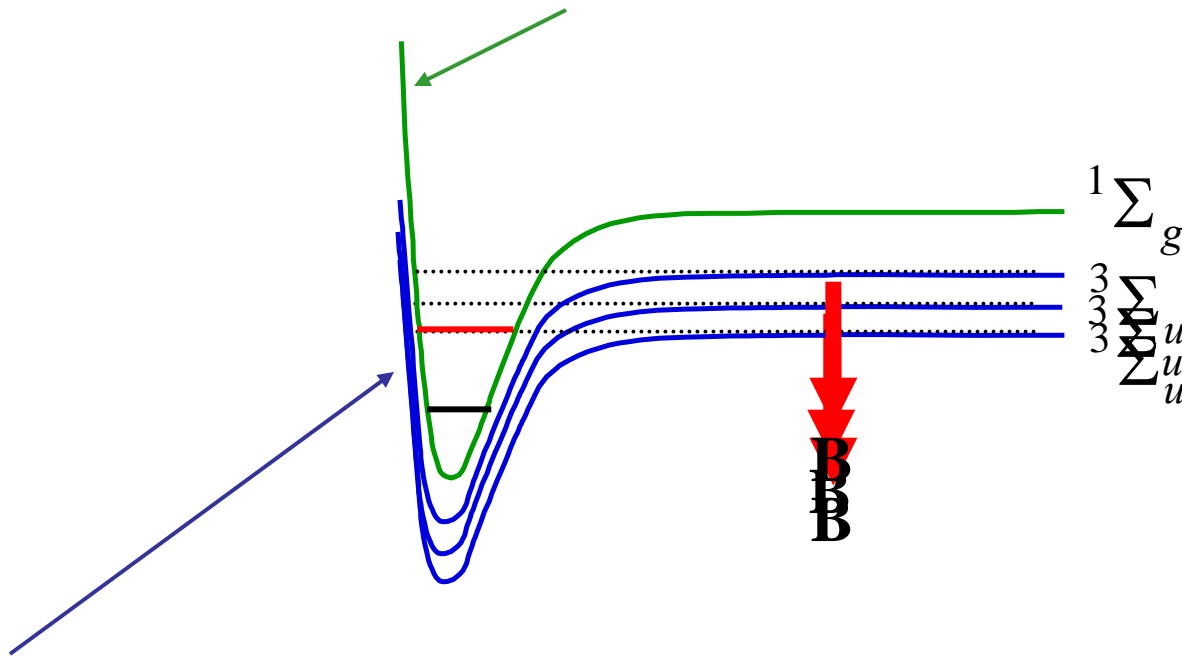
$$|\uparrow\rangle = \left| -\frac{1}{2}, 1 \right\rangle \quad |\downarrow\rangle = \left| -\frac{1}{2}, 0 \right\rangle$$

electron  $S_z$ , nuclear  $I_z$

# Feshbach Resonance

## Resonant Coupling between Colliding Atom Pair – Bound Molecular State

Singlet Diatomic Potential: Electron Spins Anti-Parallel

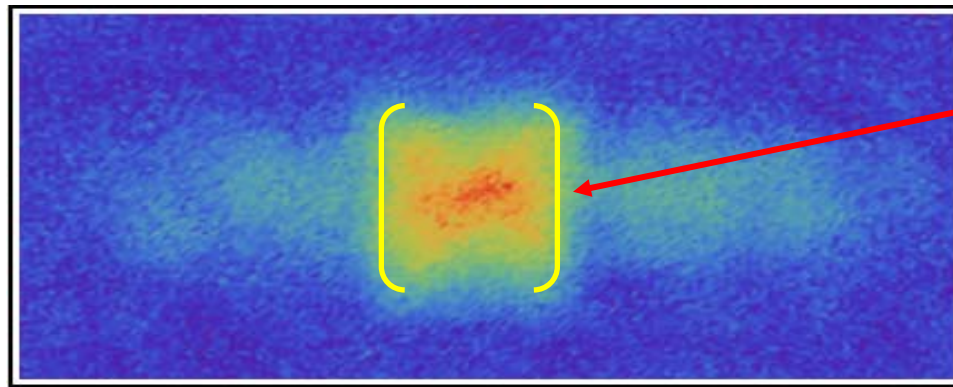


Triplet Diatomic Potential: Electron Spins *Parallel*

832 G-Resonant Scattering

# *Strong Interactions:* *Shock waves* in Fermi gases

- Trapped gas is divided into **two** clouds with a repulsive optical potential.
- The repulsive potential is **extinguished**, the two clouds accelerate towards each other and collide.

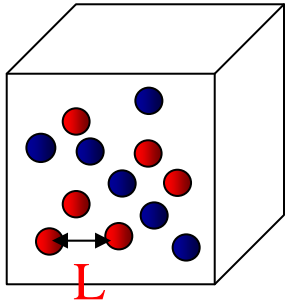


Shock  
Fronts

Really strong interactions!

# Universal Regime: Natural Units

Universal Regime: For *resonant* scattering, the scattering cross section is the square of the **de Broglie wavelength**, which is **independent** of the details of the collisional interactions!



Atom spacing **L**  
becomes the *only* length scale.

*Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle:*  $\Delta x \Delta p \approx \hbar$        $\Delta p \approx p \approx \frac{\hbar}{L}$

Physical Properties, like Energy and Temperature have *Natural Units* determined by **L**.

Fermi Energy:  $\frac{\hbar^2}{2mL^2}$



# Universal Thermodynamics



When the interparticle spacing sets the scale of energy and temperature, the **pressure**  $p$  is a function only of density  $n$  and temperature  $T$ :

$$p(n, T)$$

Using elementary thermodynamics, one then can show that

$$p = \frac{2}{3} \varepsilon$$

$\varepsilon$  = energy density

(Ho, 2004)

This elementary result has several **amazing** consequences.

# Global energy $E$ measurement

*Universal* Gas obeys the **Virial Theorem**

Thomas (2005)

Castin (2004)

Werner and Castin (2006)

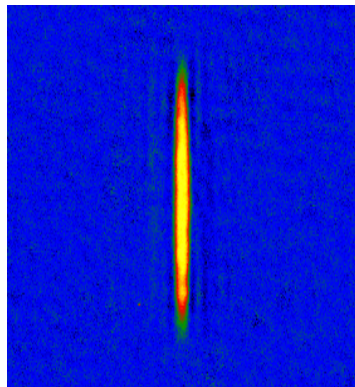
Son (2007)

In a HO potential:  $E = 2\langle U \rangle$



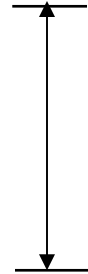
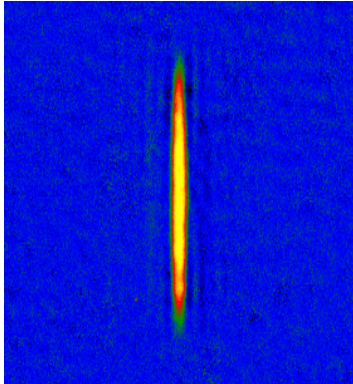
Energy per particle

$$E = 3m\omega_z^2 \langle z^2 \rangle$$



For a *universal* quantum gas,  
the energy  $E$  is determined  
by the *cloud size*

# Measuring the Energy $E$ and Entropy $S$



For a *universal* quantum gas, the energy  $E$  is determined by the *cloud size*

For a *weakly interacting* quantum gas the entropy  $S$  can always be determined from the *cloud size* (textbook problem)

## Experiment



**Start**  
**Universal**  
**Strongly interacting**

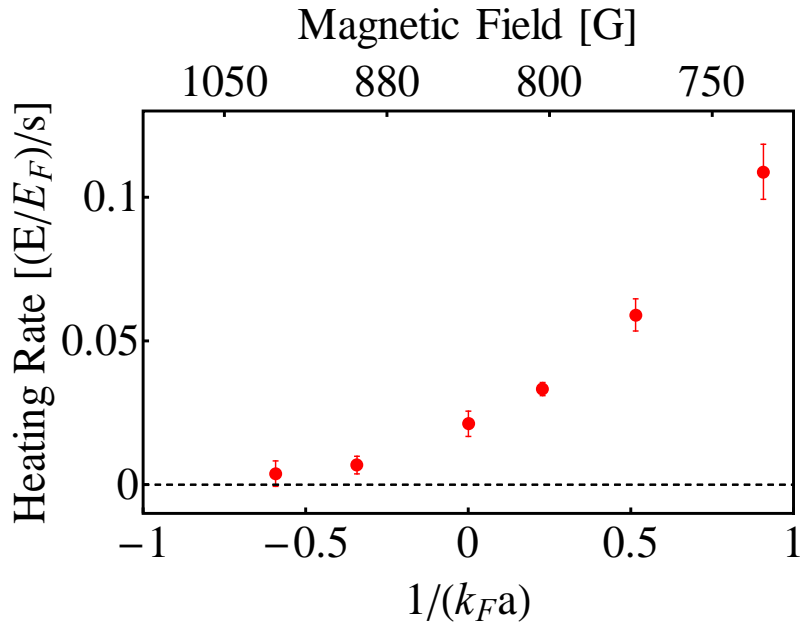


*Sweep* magnetic field

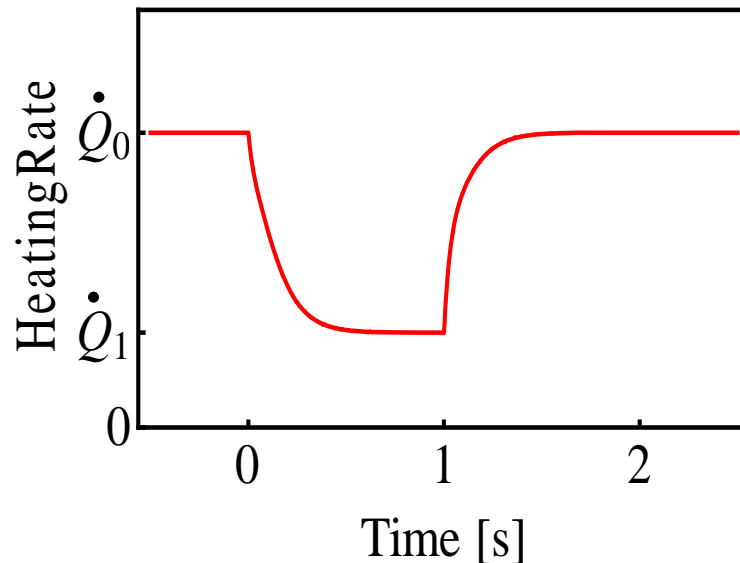
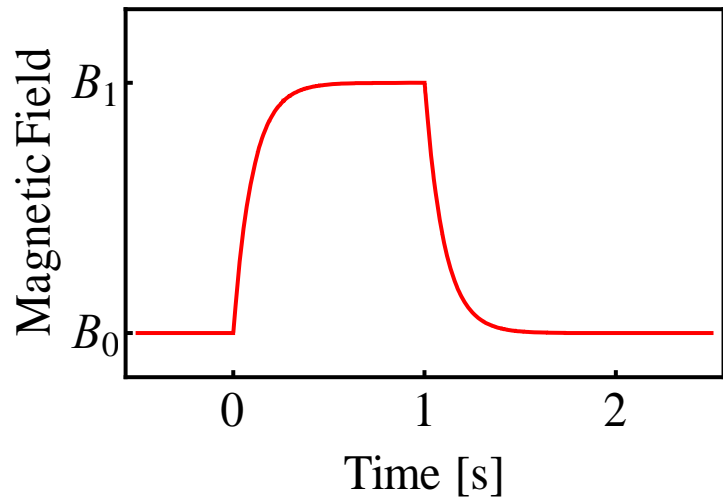


**End**  
**Weakly interacting**

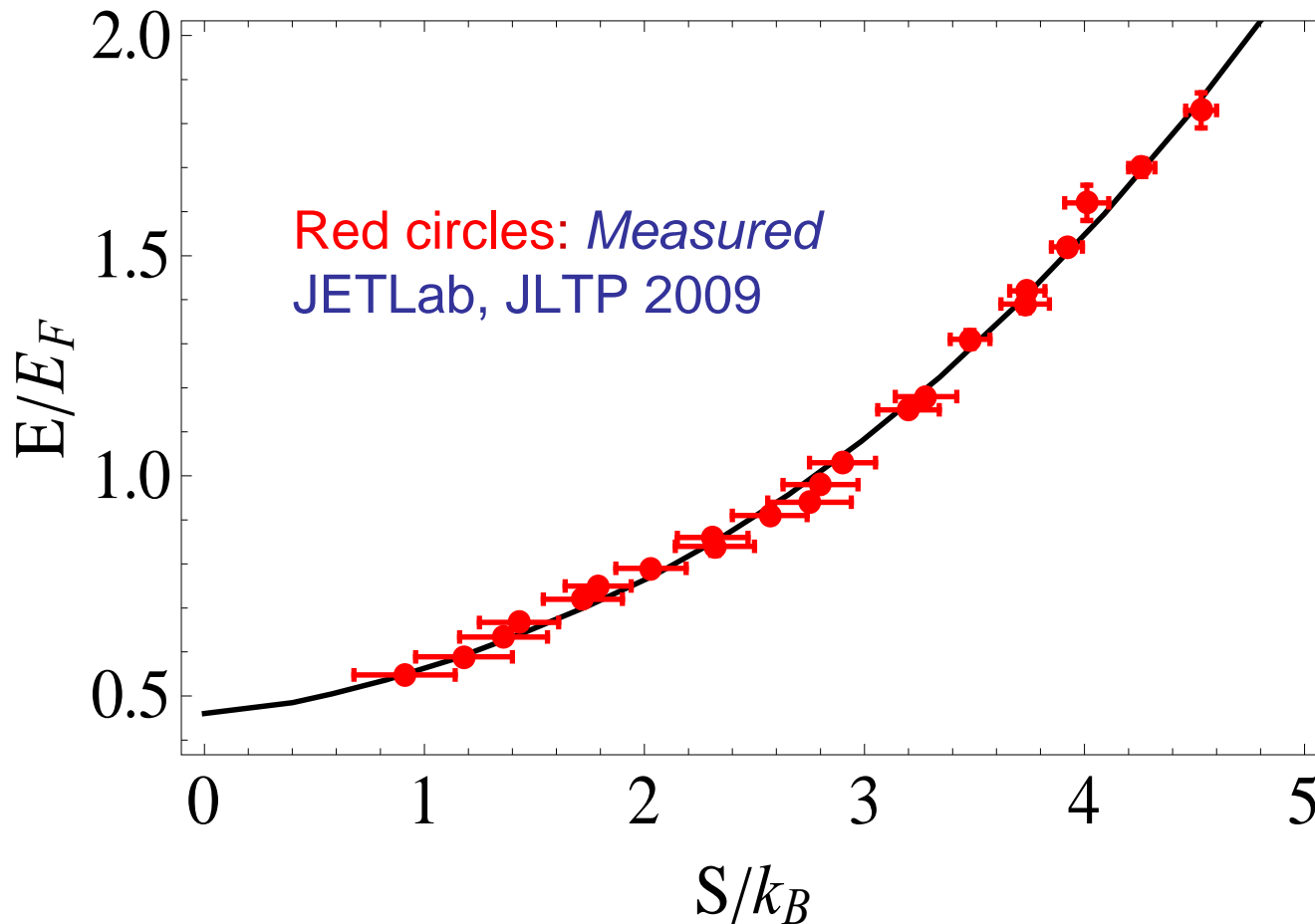
# Is the B-Field Sweep Adiabatic?



$B_0$	$B_1$	$\Delta E$ measured	$\int \dot{Q} dt$
832 G	770 G	0.081(8)	.077
832 G	800 G	0.053(6)	.054
832 G	900 G	0.028(3)	.029



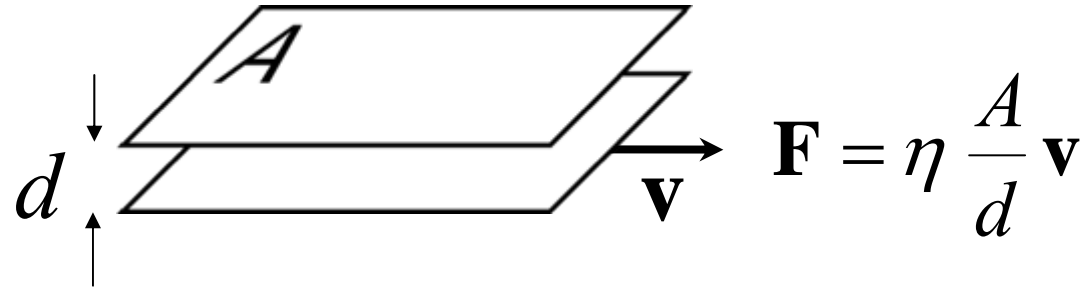
# Energy per particle versus Entropy per Particle



Solid line—from measured equation of state: Ku et al., *Science*, 2012

# Universal Regime: Viscosity Scale

Shear forces:



Viscosity scale:

$$\eta \approx \frac{p}{A} \quad p \approx \frac{\hbar}{L} \quad A \approx L^2$$


$$\eta \approx \frac{\hbar}{L^3} = \hbar n$$

$n$  = density

*Quantum* scale—requires Planck's constant!

# Quantum Viscosity

Viscosity:  $\eta = \alpha \hbar n$        $n = \text{density ( particles/cc)}$

 dimensionless parameter

Water:       $n = 3.3 \times 10^{22}$        $\eta = 300 \hbar n$

Air:       $n = 2.7 \times 10^{19}$        $\eta = 6000 \hbar n$

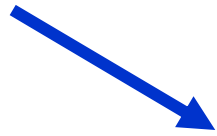
Fermi gas:       $n = 3.0 \times 10^{13}$        $\eta = 0.4 \hbar n$

Quark Gluon Plasma:       $n = 3.0 \times 10^{38}$        $\eta = ? \hbar n$

# Minimum Viscosity Conjecture

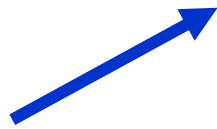
## *Experimentalist's* Approach!

Viscosity  $\hbar n$  — Hydrodynamics



$$\frac{\eta}{s} \geq \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{\hbar}{k_B}$$

Kovtun et al.,  
PRL 2005



Entropy density  $k_B n$  — Thermodynamics

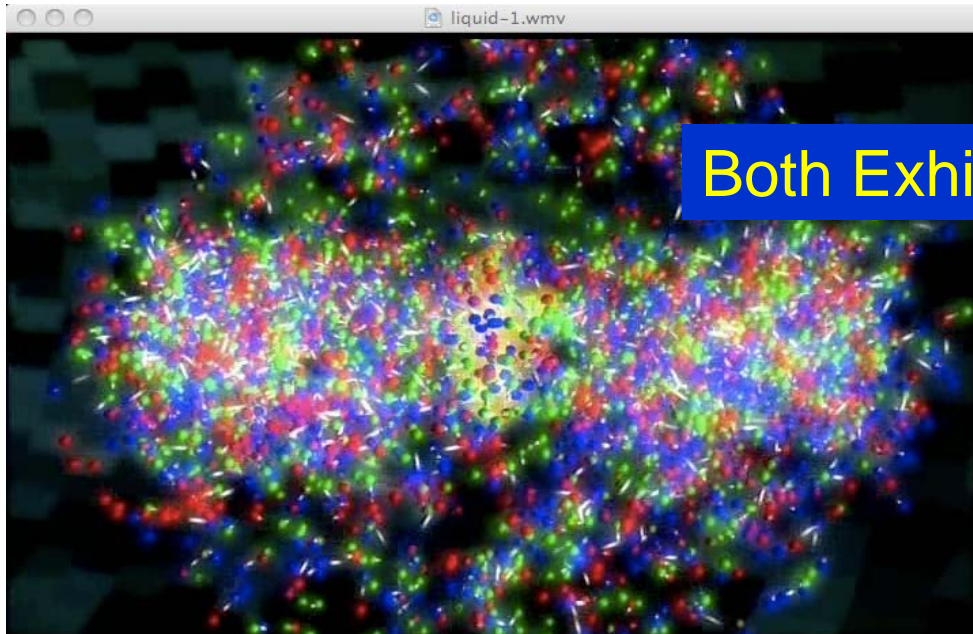
Minimum defines a *Perfect* normal fluid

In a  ${}^6\text{Li}$  gas we can *measure*  $\eta$  and  $s$ .



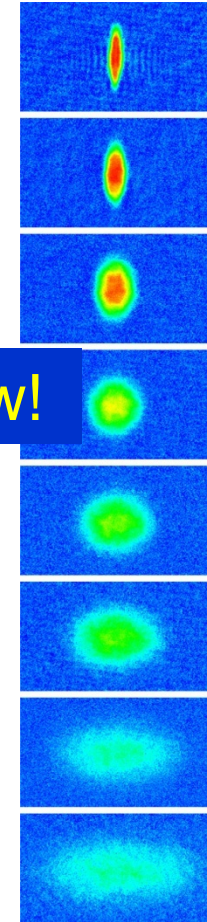
# Perfect Fluidity—Viscosity

Quark-Gluon Plasma:  $T = 10^{12}$  K



Both Exhibit Elliptic Flow!

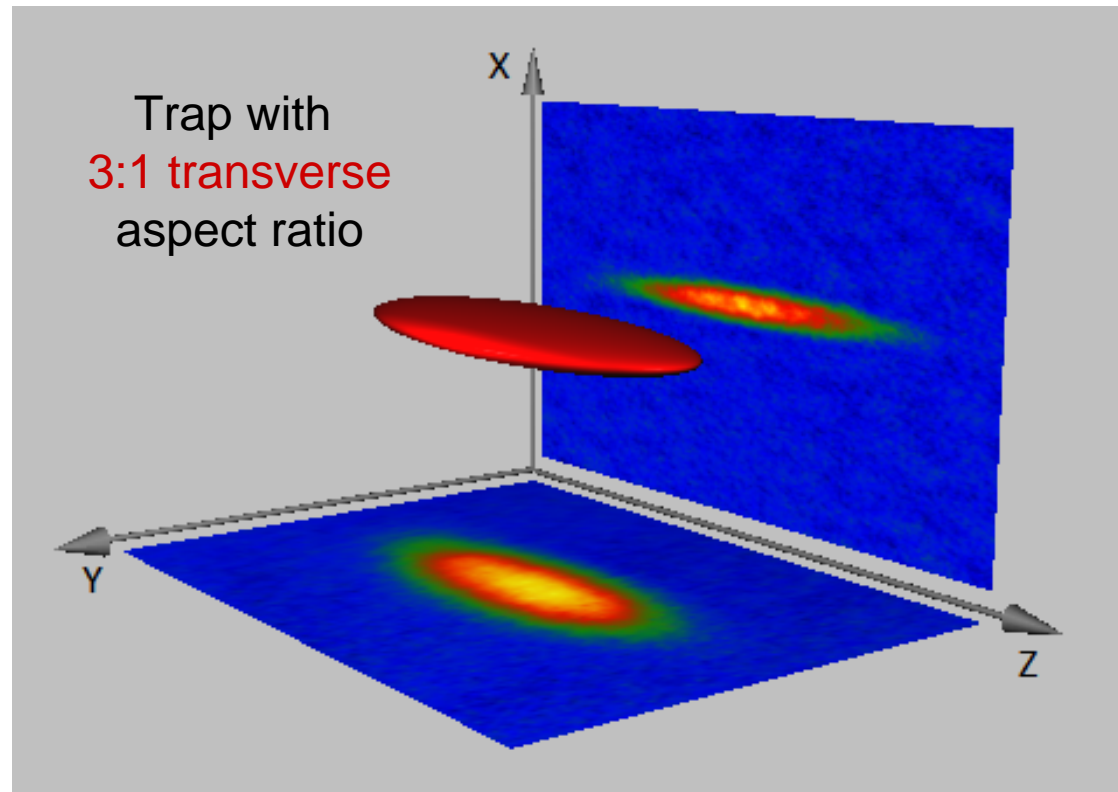
Computer simulation of RHIC collision  
**BIG BANG**



JETLab  
2002

Ultra-cold Atomic  
Fermi gas:  $T = 10^{-7}$  K

# Measuring Viscosity in 3D



- Measure *all three* cloud radii using two cameras.

# Hydrodynamic Expansion



From the **Navier-Stokes** and **continuity** equations, it is easy to show that a single component fluid obeys:

Pressure    Trap potential

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} \frac{m \langle x_i^2 \rangle}{2} = m \langle v_i^2 \rangle + \frac{1}{N} \int d^3 \mathbf{r} p - \langle x_i \partial_i U \rangle - \hbar \langle \alpha_S \sigma_{ii} + \alpha_B \sigma' \rangle$$

Stream KE

Shear and Bulk Viscosity

Equilibrium:     $\frac{3}{N} \int d^3 \mathbf{r} p_0 = \langle \mathbf{r} \cdot \nabla U \rangle_0 \equiv \tilde{E}$     **Measured** from the cloud profile and trap parameters

Need to find the volume integral of the pressure:

# Energy Conservation

For a temporally constant potential energy  $U$ ,  
 the **internal energy** change during expansion is:  $dE_{\text{int}} = dQ - pdV$

$$\longrightarrow \dot{E}_{\text{int}} = \dot{Q} - p\dot{V}$$

The local volume dilates at a rate:  $\dot{V} = d^3\mathbf{r} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}$

$$E_{\text{int}} = \int d^3\mathbf{r} \varepsilon$$

energy density

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int d^3\mathbf{r} \varepsilon = \dot{Q} - \int d^3\mathbf{r} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) p$$

$$p = \frac{2}{3} \varepsilon + \Delta p$$

$\Delta p = 0$  for resonantly interacting gas

Easy to solve in **scaling** approximation:

$\Gamma(t)$  = volume scale factor

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = \dot{\Gamma} / \Gamma$$

# Scaling Approximation

$$n(x, y, z, t) = \frac{n_0(x/b_x, y/b_y, z/b_z)}{\Gamma} \quad \Gamma = b_x b_y b_z$$

Volume scale factor

$$v_i = x_i \dot{b}_i / b_i$$

Velocity field is **linear** in the spatial coordinates

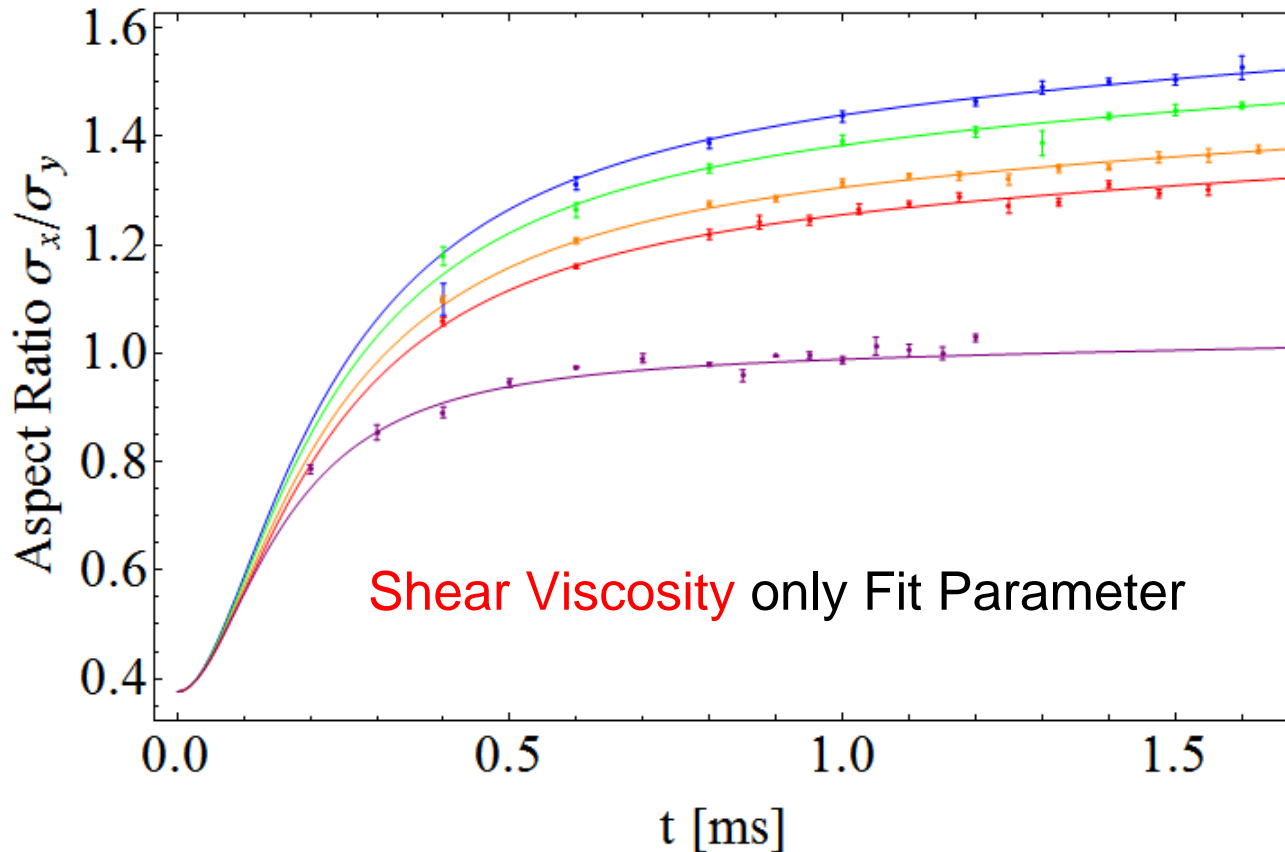
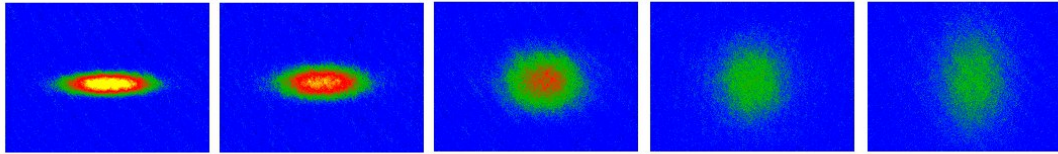
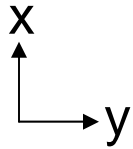
$$\langle x_i^2 \rangle = \langle x_i^2 \rangle_0 b_i^2(t) \quad \overline{\omega_i^2} \equiv \frac{\langle \mathbf{r} \cdot \nabla U \rangle_0}{3m \langle x_i^2 \rangle_0} \quad \sigma_{ii} = 2 \frac{\dot{b}_i}{b_i} - \frac{2}{3} \frac{\dot{\Gamma}}{\Gamma}$$

$$\langle v_i^2 \rangle = \langle x_i^2 \rangle_0 \dot{b}_i^2(t)$$

Cloud-averaged shear viscosity coefficient

$$\ddot{b}_i = \frac{\overline{\omega_i^2}}{\Gamma^{2/3} b_i} \left[ 1 + C_Q(t) + C_{\Delta p}(t) \right] - \frac{\hbar \langle \alpha_S \rangle \sigma_{ii}}{m \langle x_i^2 \rangle_0 b_i} - \omega_{imag}^2 b_i$$

# Aspect Ratio versus Expansion Time



- $E/E_F=0.52$
- $E/E_F=0.75$
- $E/E_F=1.22$
- $E/E_F=1.69$

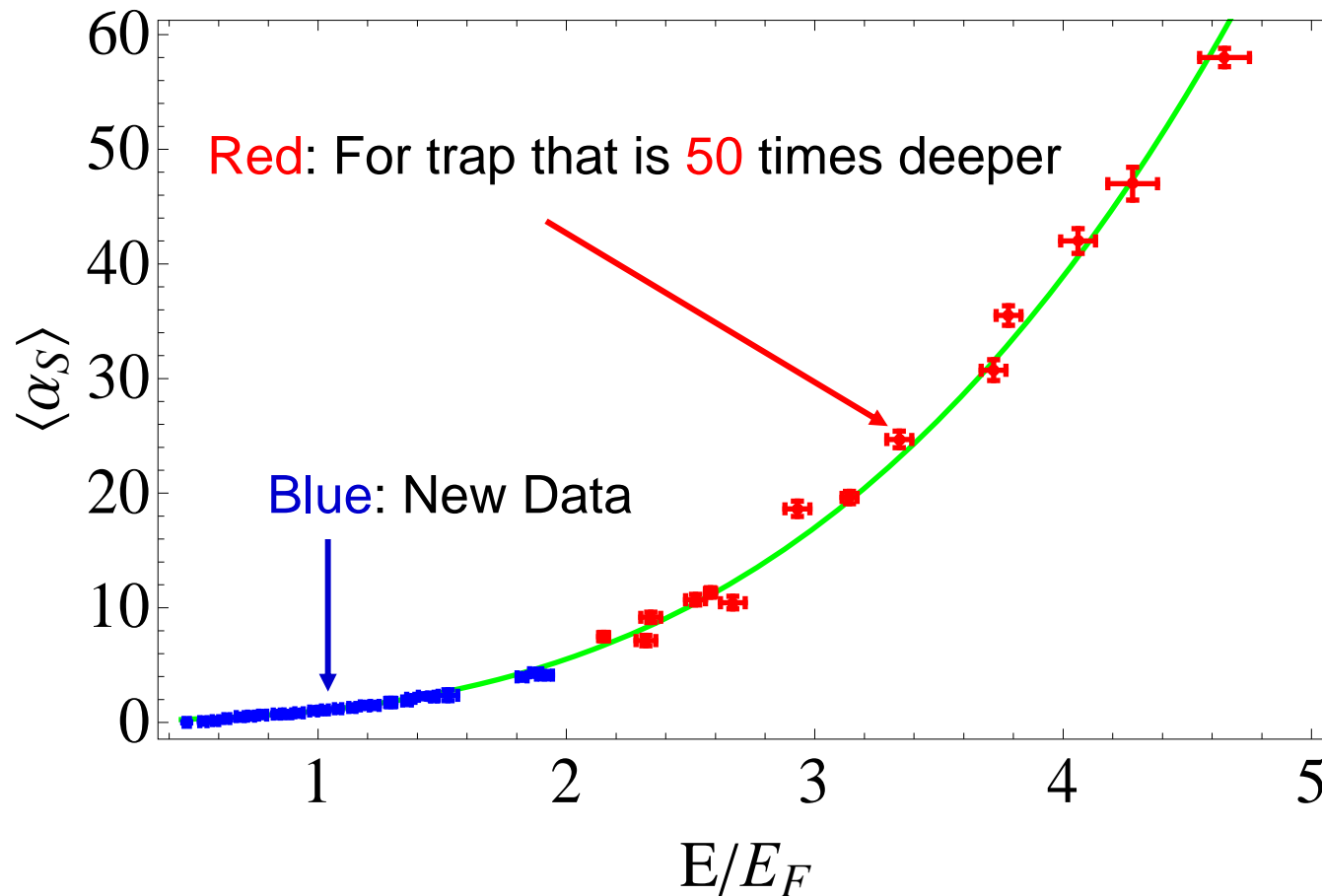
832 G

- *Ballistic*
- 527.5 G

$$\frac{\sigma_x}{\sigma_y} = \frac{\omega_y b_x(t)}{\omega_x b_y(t)}$$

# Shear Viscosity: Universal Scaling

$$\eta = \alpha_s \hbar n$$

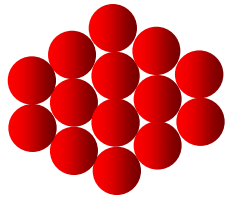


JETLab,  
*Science* **331**,  
58 (2011)

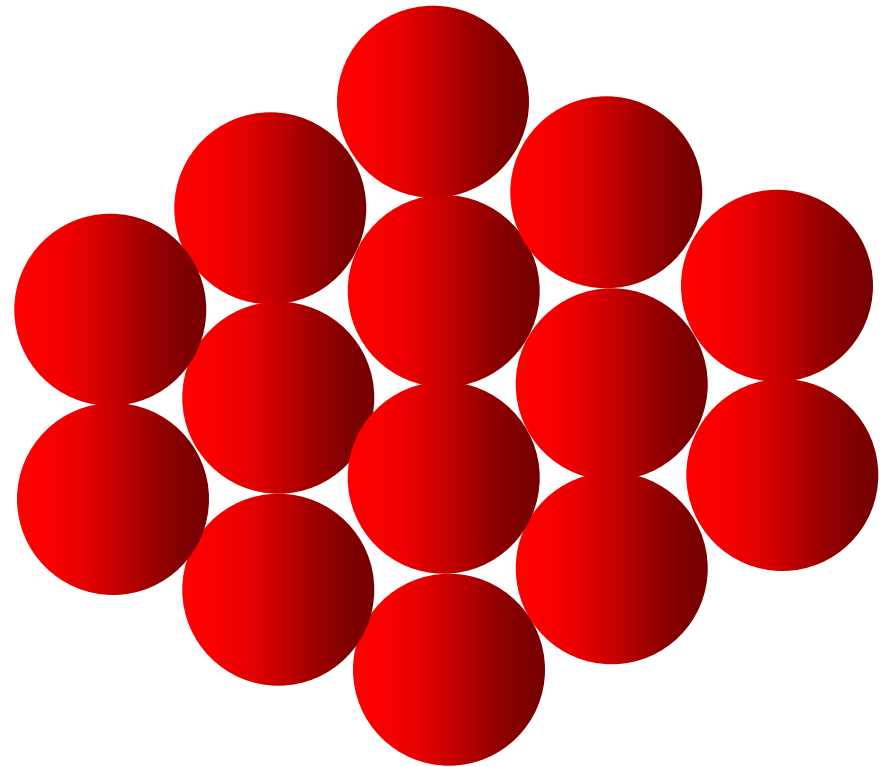
# Scale-Invariance

in Expanding *Universal* Fermi Gases

PHYSICS



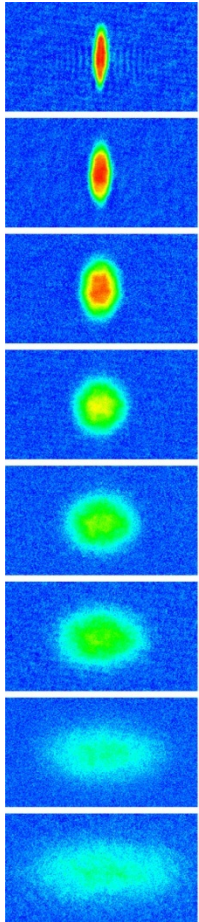
Compressed  
“Balloons”



Expanded “Balloons”



# Scale-invariance: Connecting *Strongly* to *Weakly* Interacting



- **Anti-de Sitter-Conformal Field Theory Correspondence:** Connects **strongly** interacting fields in 4-dimensions to **weakly** interacting gravity in 5-dimensions.
- Can we connect **elliptic flow** in 2D to the **ballistic flow** of an *ideal* gas in 3D?

For both, the pressure is 2/3 of the energy density:

$$\Delta p \equiv p - \frac{2}{3} \varepsilon = 0$$

Scale Invariant?

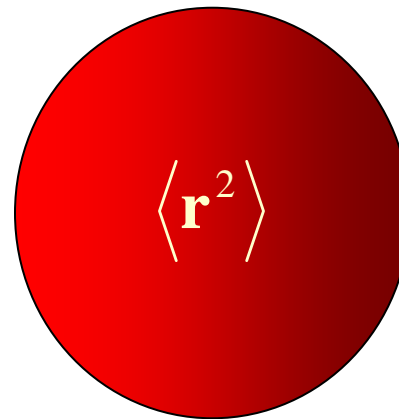
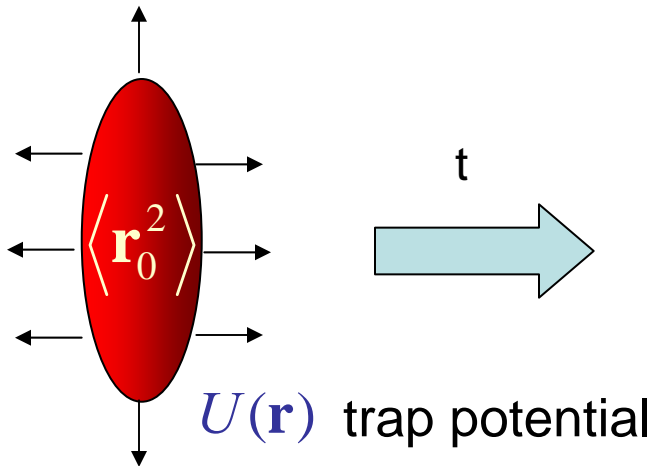
Elliptic Flow: Observe 2 dimensions + time

# Scale Invariance: Ideal Gas

Ideal gas:

$$\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}_0 + \mathbf{v}t$$

Ballistic flow



$$\langle \mathbf{r}^2 \rangle = \langle \mathbf{r}^2 \rangle_0 + t^2 \langle \mathbf{v}^2 \rangle_0$$

Cloud average

How does the *mean square radius* evolve in time?  $\langle \mathbf{r}^2 \rangle = \langle x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \rangle$

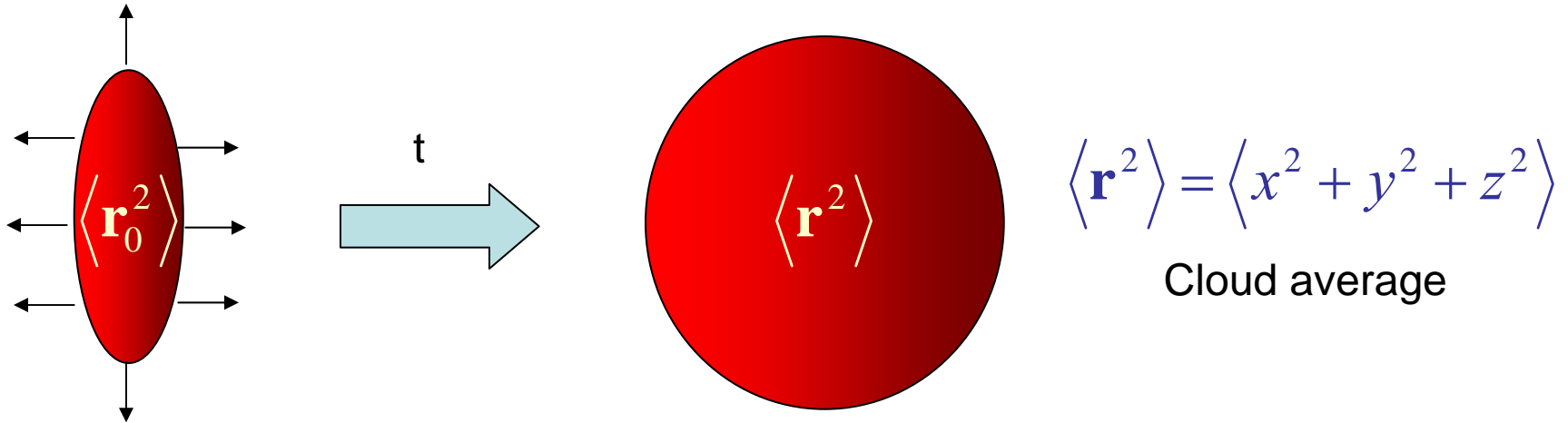
Virial Theorem:

$$m \langle \mathbf{v}^2 \rangle = \langle \mathbf{r} \cdot \nabla U \rangle_0$$

$$\langle \mathbf{r}^2 \rangle = \langle \mathbf{r}^2 \rangle_0 + \frac{t^2}{m} \langle \mathbf{r} \cdot \nabla U \rangle_0$$

Ballistic Flow

# Scale Invariance: Ideal Gas



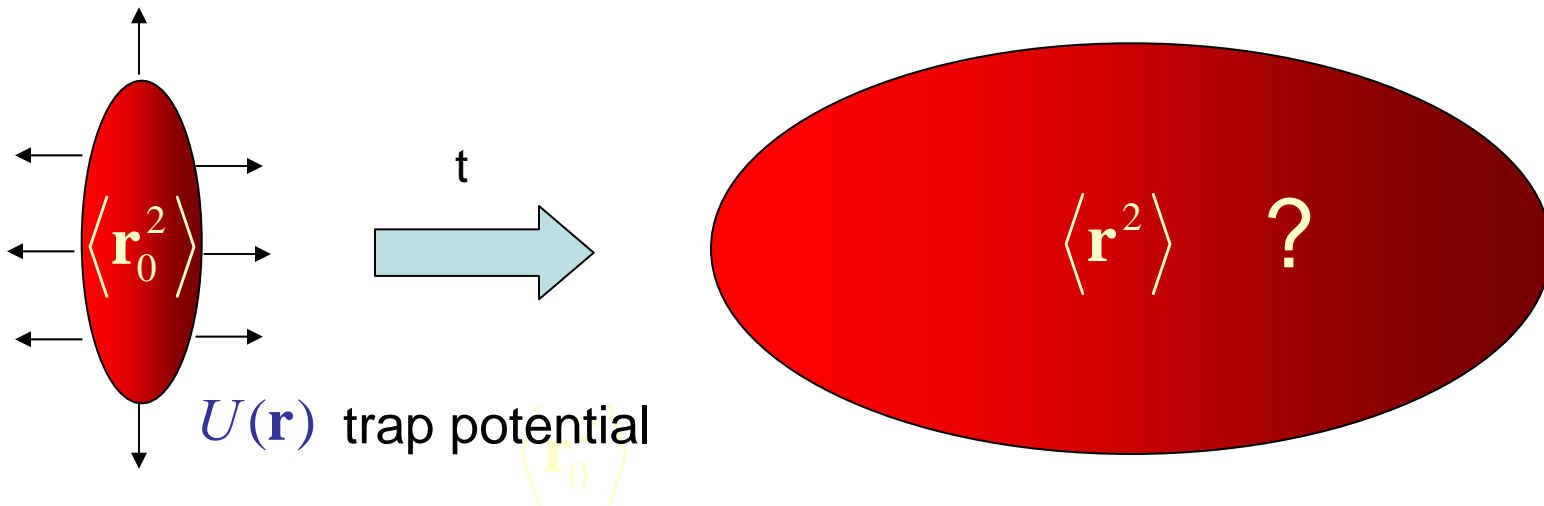
$$\frac{m(\langle \mathbf{r}^2 \rangle - \langle \mathbf{r}^2 \rangle_0)}{\langle \mathbf{r} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{U} \rangle_0} = t^2$$

t = expansion time

Defines Scale Invariant Flow!

# Scale Invariance: Resonant Gas

Hydrodynamic gas: Elliptic flow



How does the *mean square radius* evolve in time?  $\langle \mathbf{r}^2 \rangle = \langle x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \rangle$

# Global Energy Conservation



Just **after** the optical trap is abruptly extinguished\*:  $t = 0^+$ :

Stream KE (t)

Internal Energy (t = 0<sup>+</sup>)

$$\frac{1}{N} \int d^3 \mathbf{r} \mathcal{E} + \frac{m}{2} \langle \mathbf{v}^2 \rangle + \langle U \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \int d^3 \mathbf{r} \mathcal{E}_0 + \langle U \rangle_0$$

Internal Energy (t)

Potential Energy (t)

Potential Energy (t = 0<sup>+</sup>)

**\*Note:** for  $t > 0^+$ ,  $U = U_{\text{mag}}$  arises from **curvature** in the bias magnetic field

# Scale Invariant Expansion

Using the hydrodynamic equations for  $\langle x_i^2 \rangle$  and global energy conservation it is easy to obtain the exact result:

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} \frac{m \langle \mathbf{r}^2 \rangle}{2} = \langle \mathbf{r} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{U} \rangle_0 + \frac{3}{N} \int d^3 \mathbf{r} (\Delta p - \Delta p_0) - \frac{3}{N} \int d^3 \mathbf{r} \zeta_B \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}$$

Initial trap potential  
 $= \tilde{E}$

*Conformal symmetry  
breaking  $\Delta p$*

Bulk viscosity

$$\Delta p \equiv p - \frac{2}{3} \varepsilon$$

# Scale Invariance!

Resonant gas  $\Delta p \equiv p - \frac{2}{3} \varepsilon = 0$

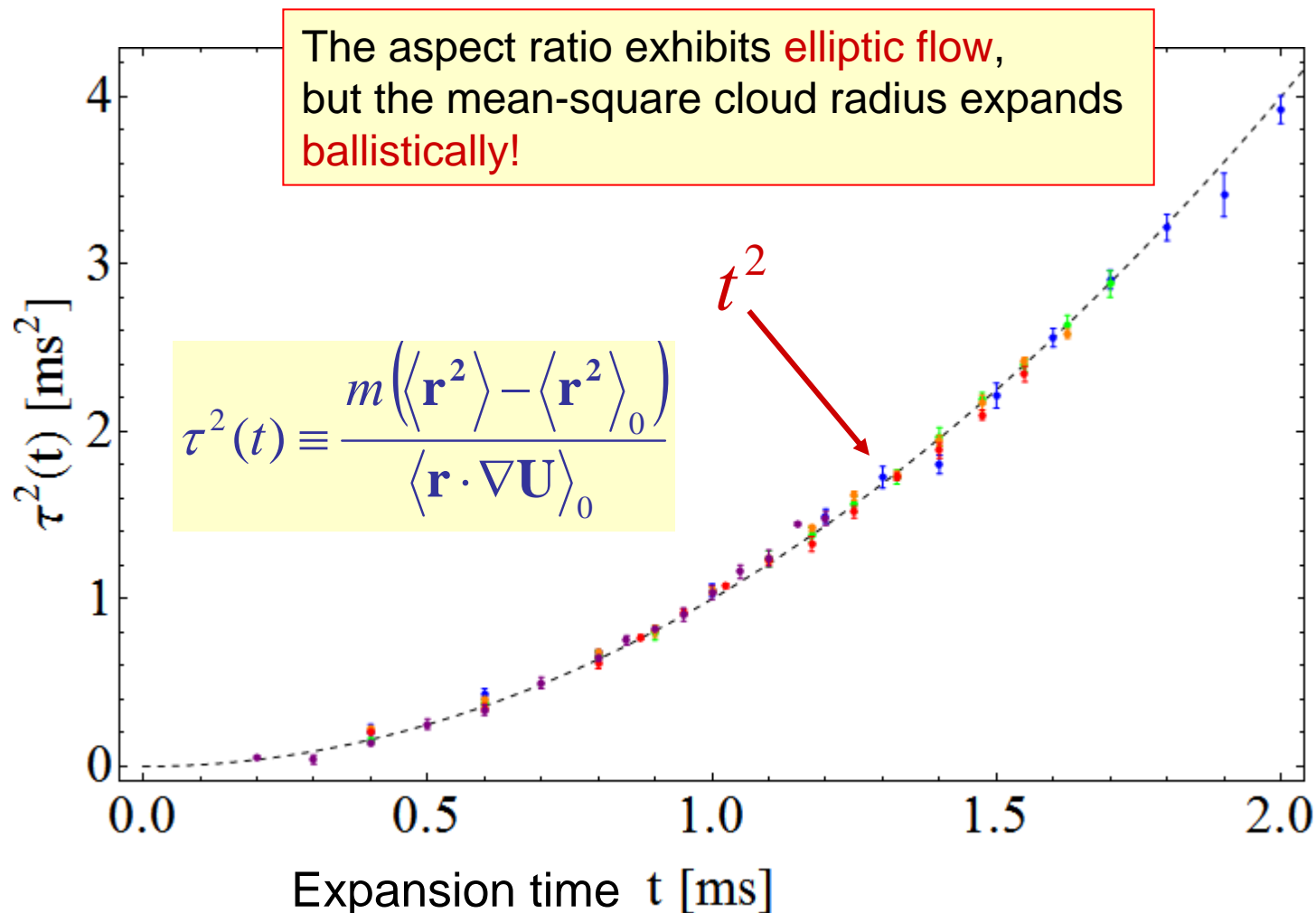
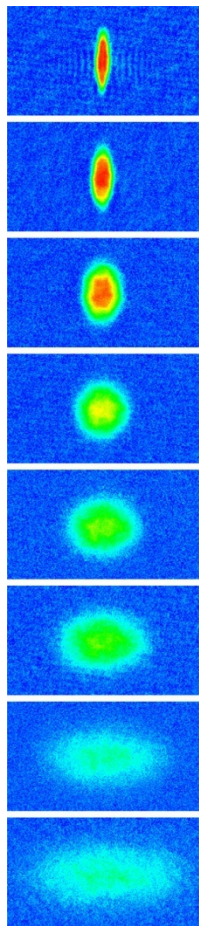
The bulk viscosity also vanishes so

$$\langle \mathbf{r}^2 \rangle = \langle \mathbf{r}^2 \rangle_0 + \frac{t^2}{m} \langle \mathbf{r} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{U} \rangle_0$$

Ballistic Flow!

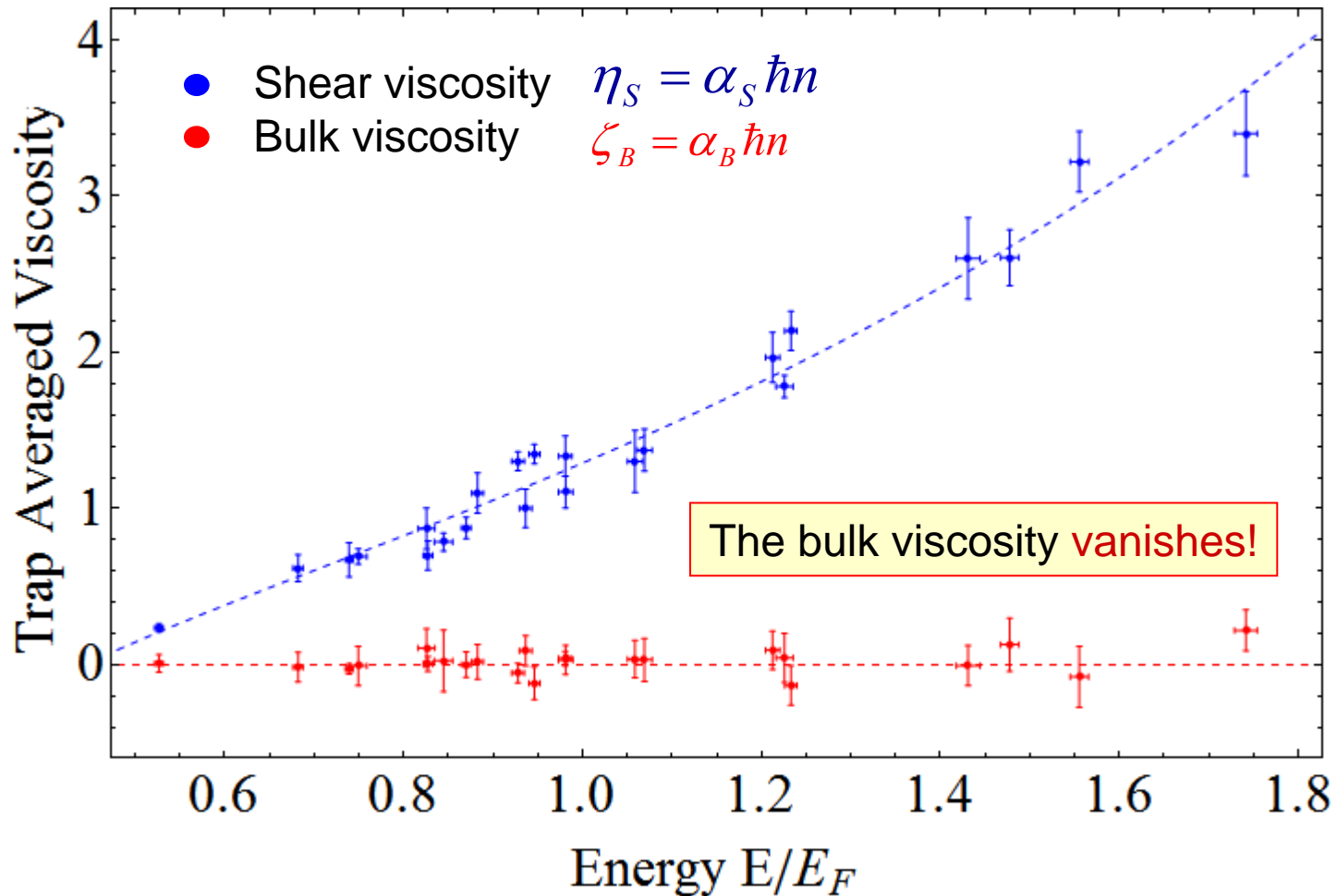
Can we observe *ballistic* flow of an *elliptically* expanding gas?

# Scale-invariant “Ballistic” Expansion of a Resonant Fermi gas

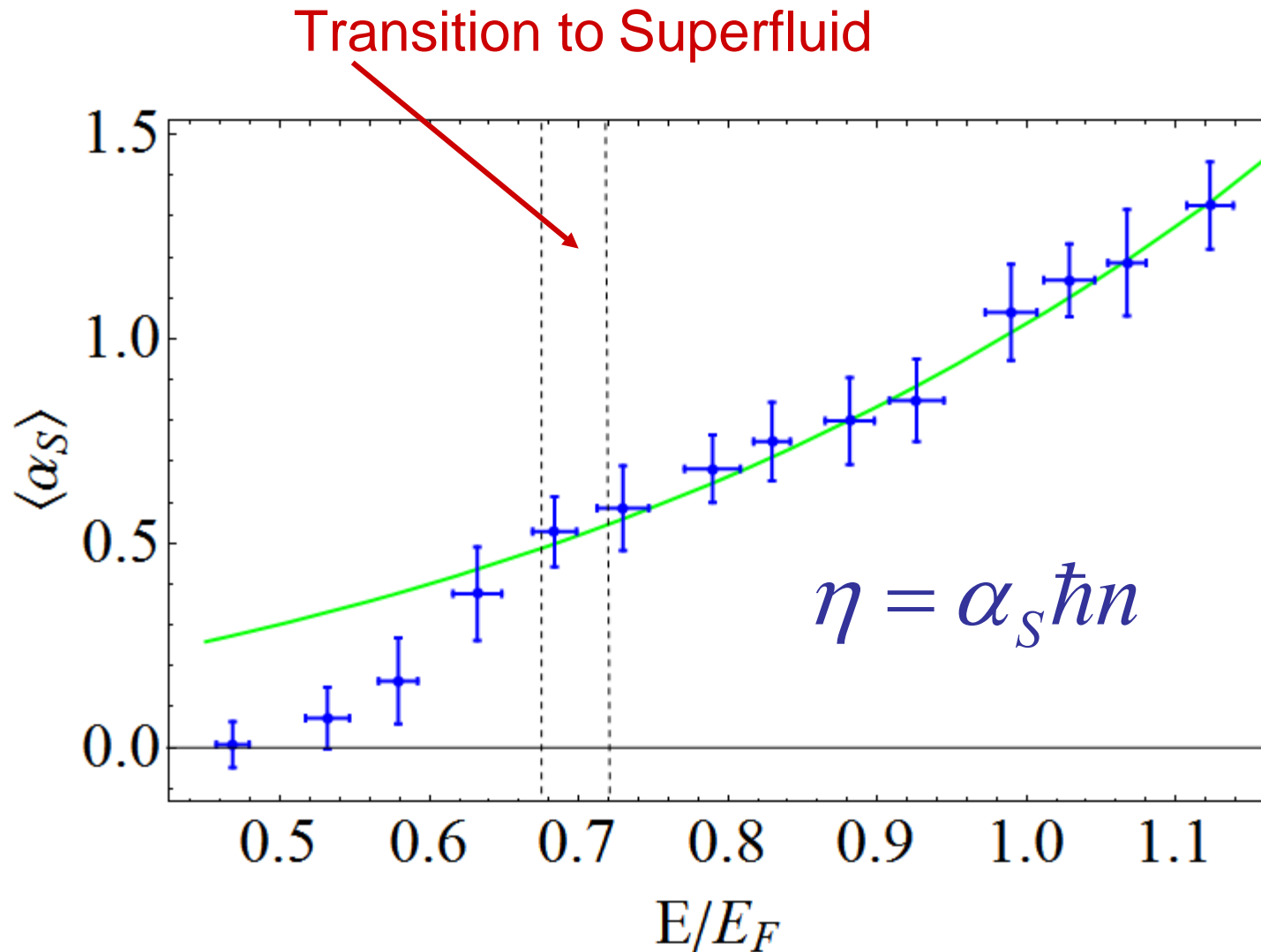




# Vanishing Bulk Viscosity: Unitary Fermi Gas

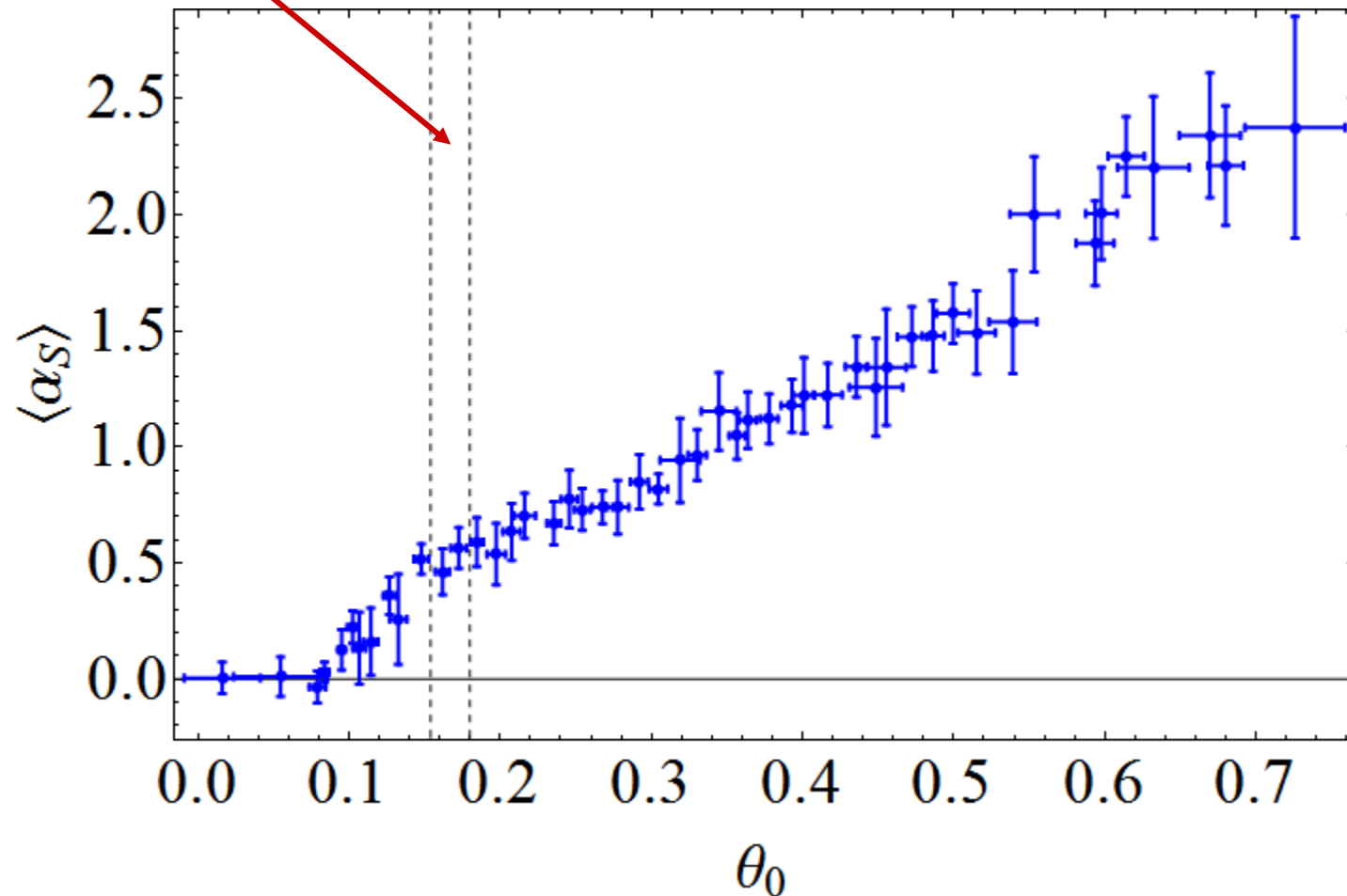


# Shear Viscosity at Resonance versus Energy

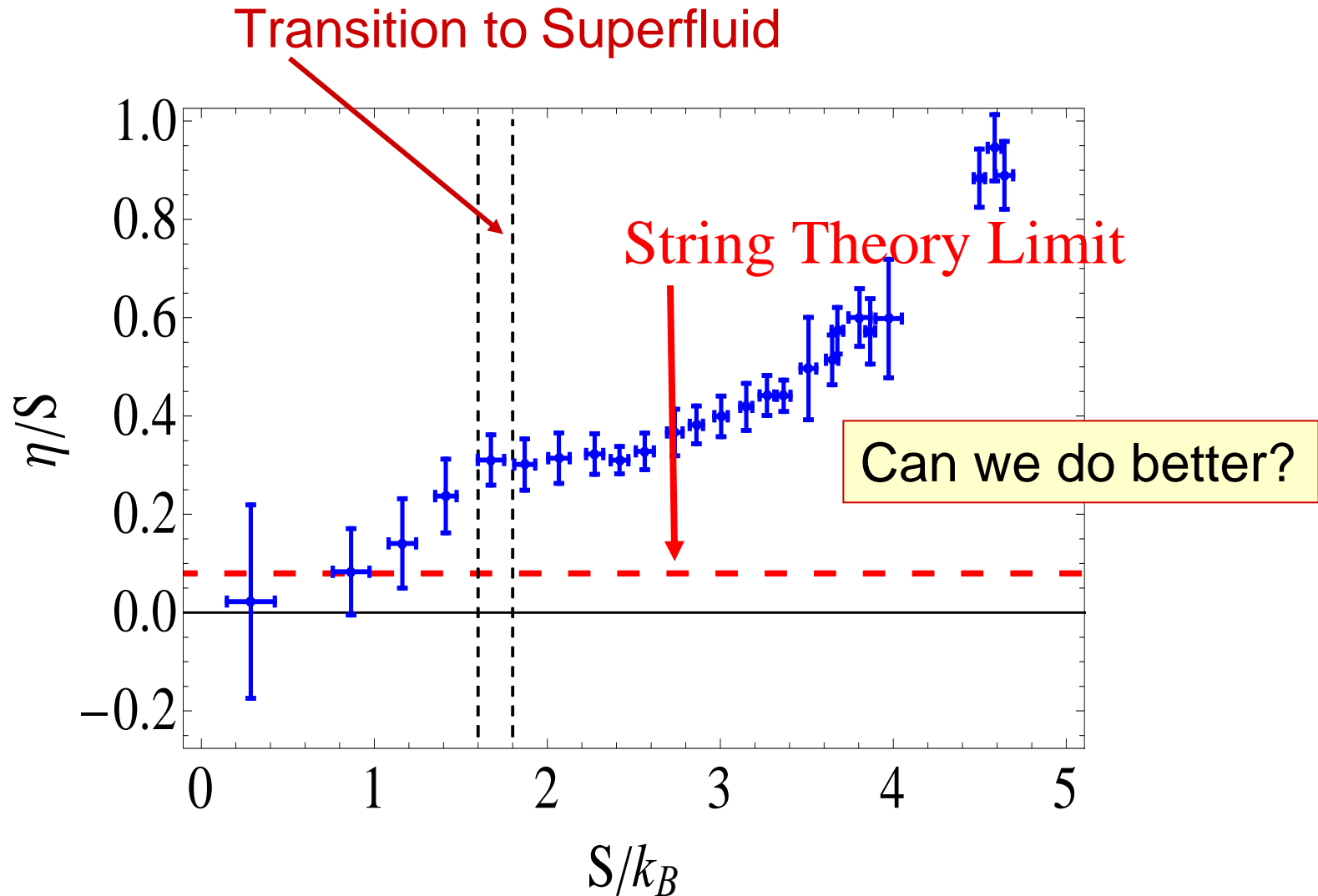


# Shear Viscosity at Resonance versus Reduced Temperature

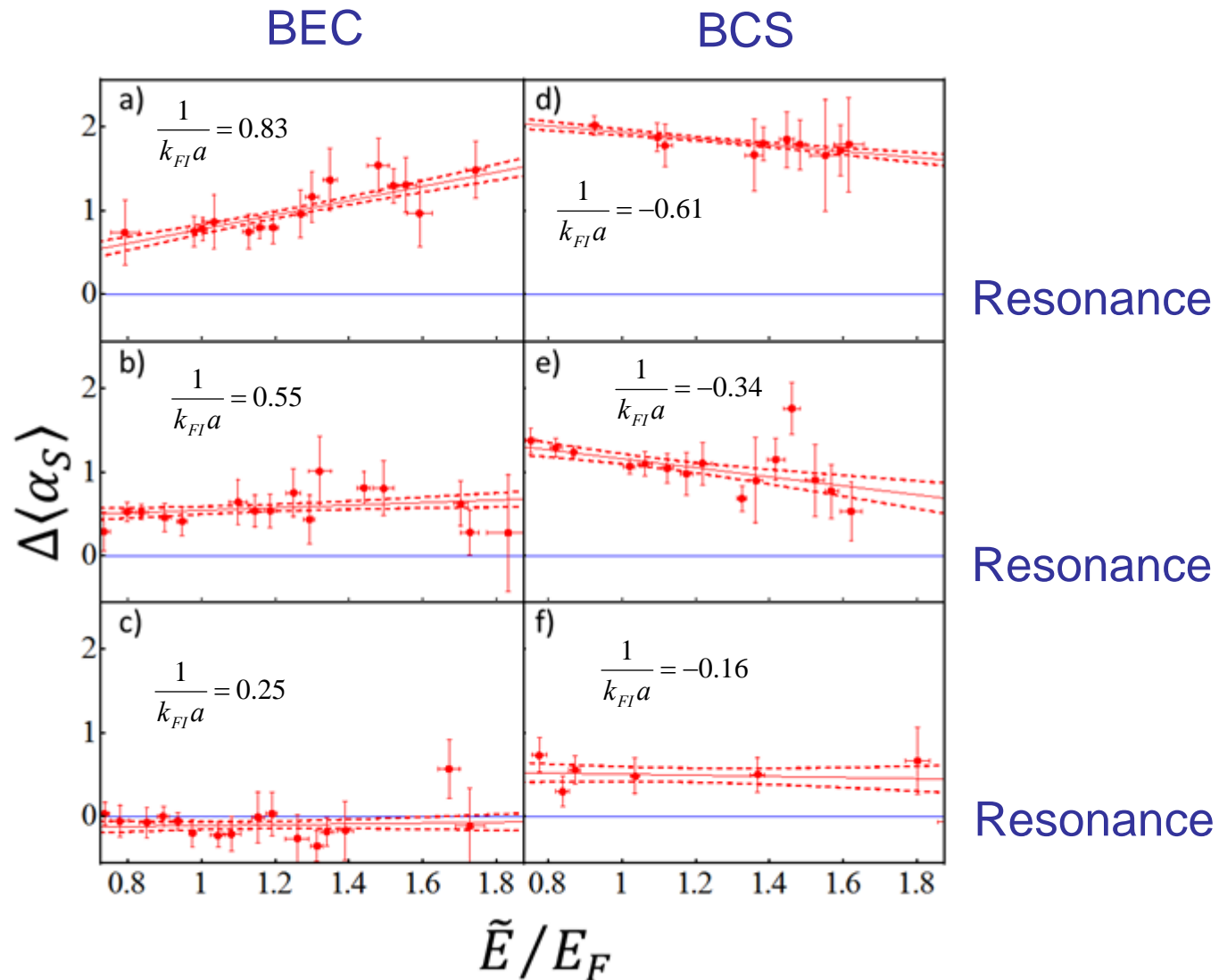
Transition to Superfluid



# Ratio of the Shear Viscosity to the Entropy Density: Resonance

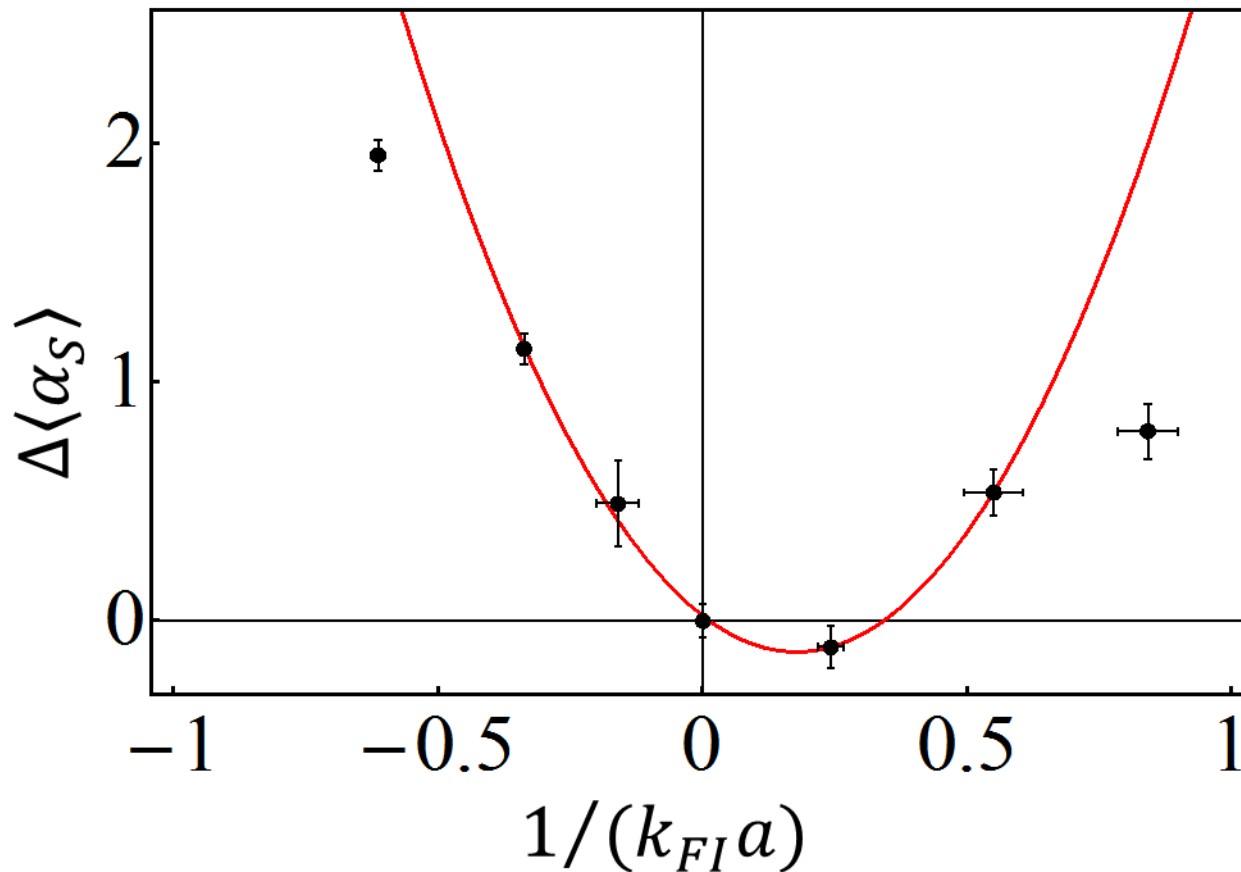


# Change in Shear Viscosity at fixed Interaction Strength vs Energy



# Change in Shear Viscosity versus Interaction Strength

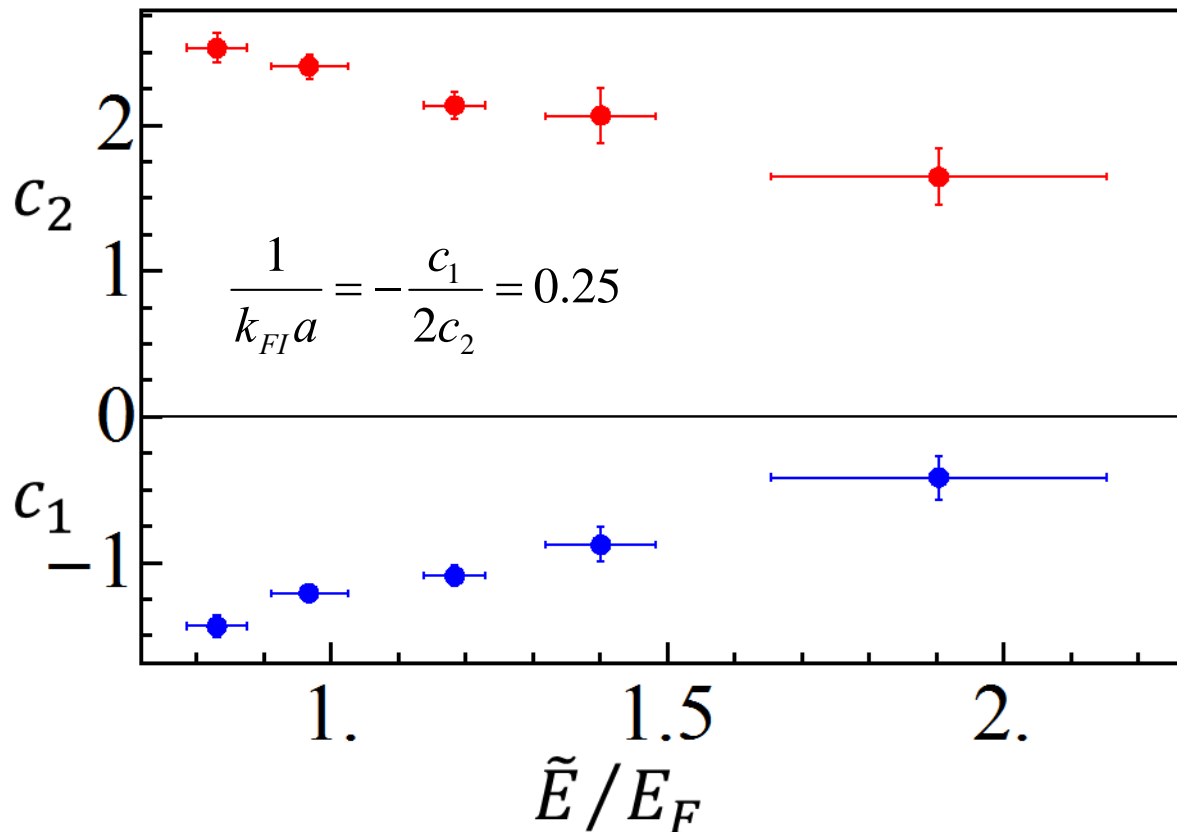
$$\tilde{E} / E_F = 1.0$$



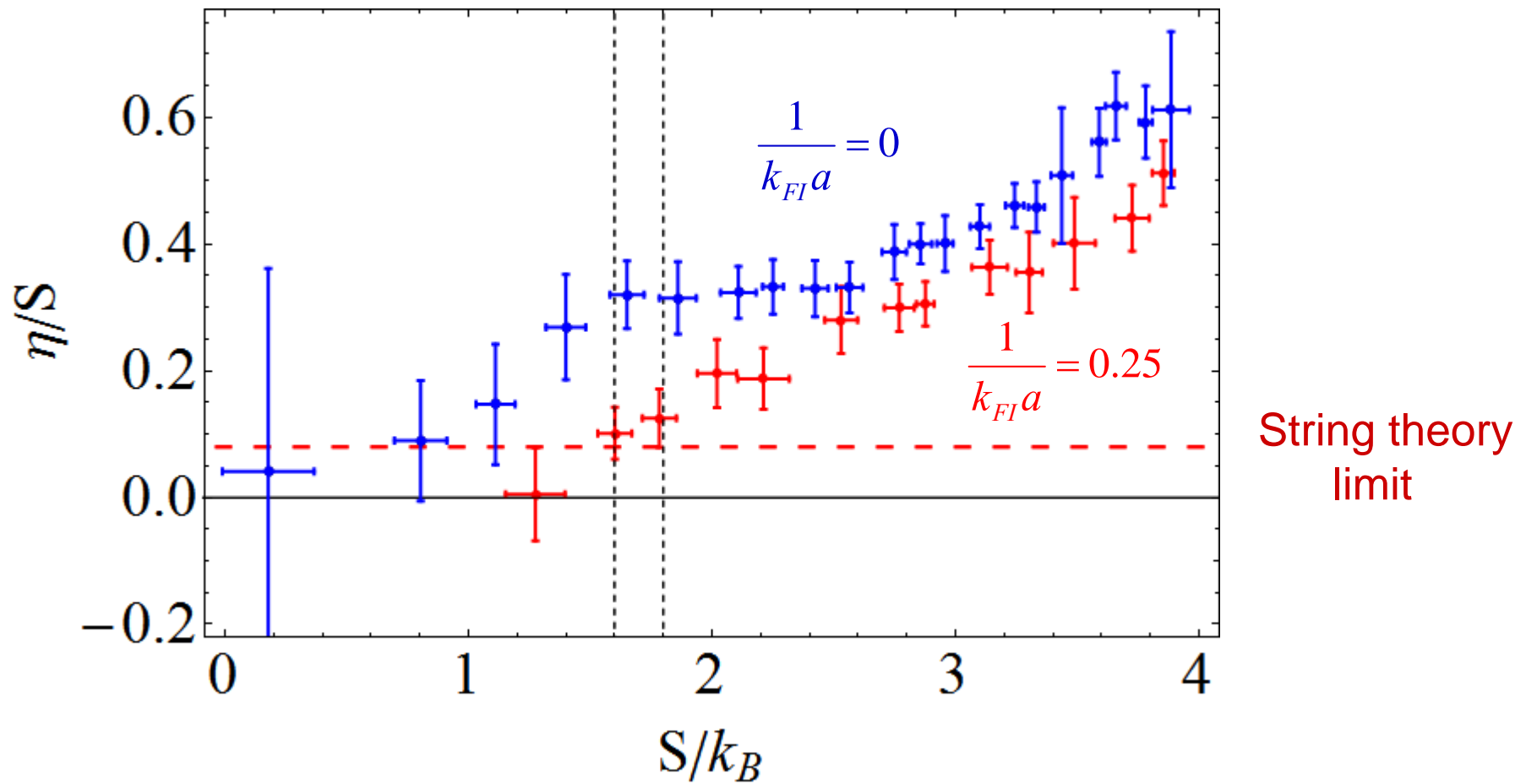
Resonance

# Shear Viscosity versus Interaction Strength

$$\langle \alpha_S \rangle = \langle \alpha_S \rangle_0 + \frac{c_1 \Gamma^{1/3}(t)}{k_{FI} a} + \frac{c_2 \Gamma^{2/3}(t)}{(k_{FI} a)^2}$$



# Shear Viscosity/Entropy versus Entropy: Perfect Fluid?





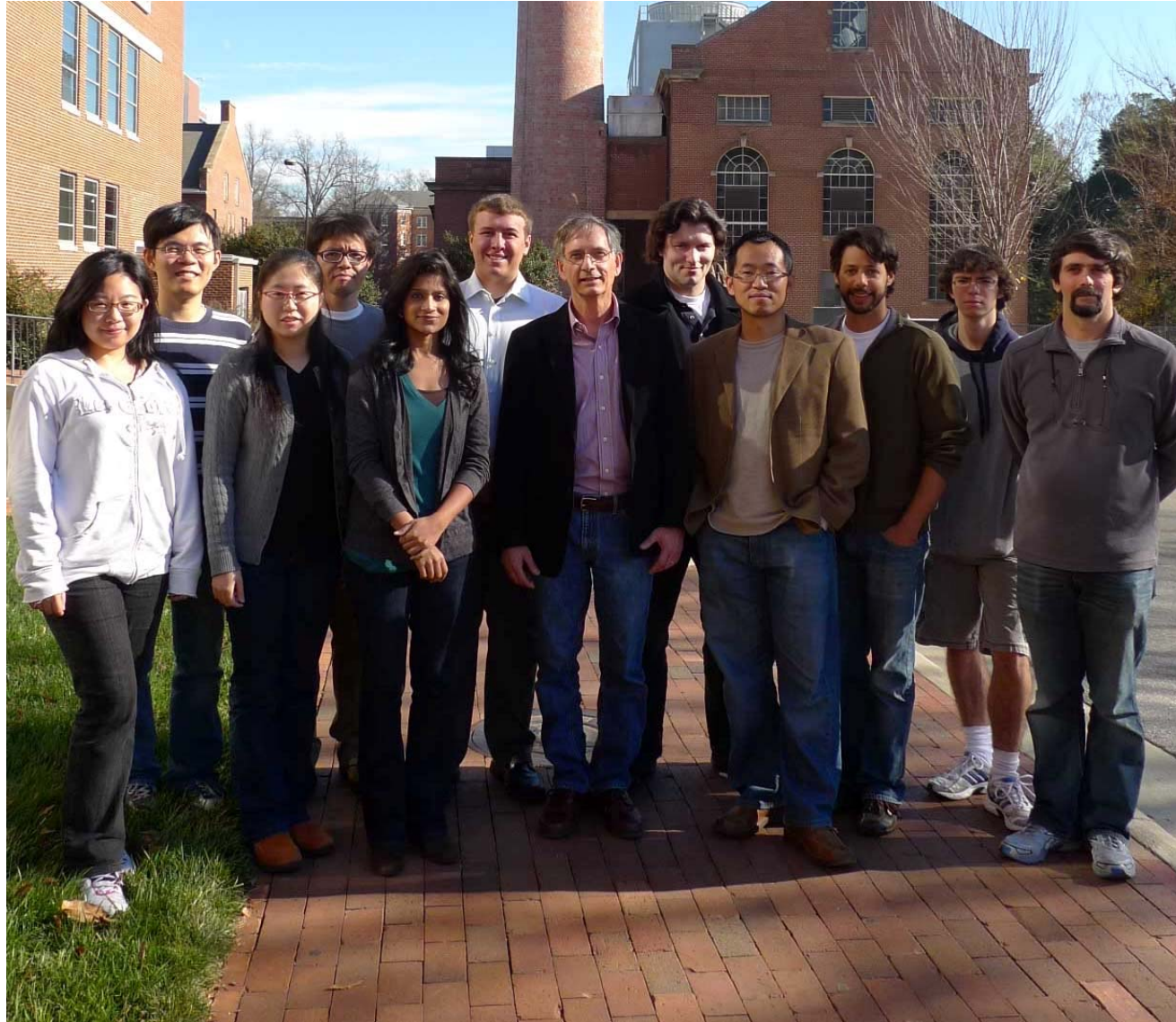
# Summary



- **Scale invariance in expanding Fermi gases:**
  - Ballistic flow of resonant, hydrodynamic gas
  - Bulk viscosity vanishes
  
- **Shear viscosity:**
  - Shows phase transition below  $T_c$  on resonance
  - Minimum on BEC side of resonance
  - Origin of shift? Pauli blocking/atom pairs?
  - More perfect fluids?

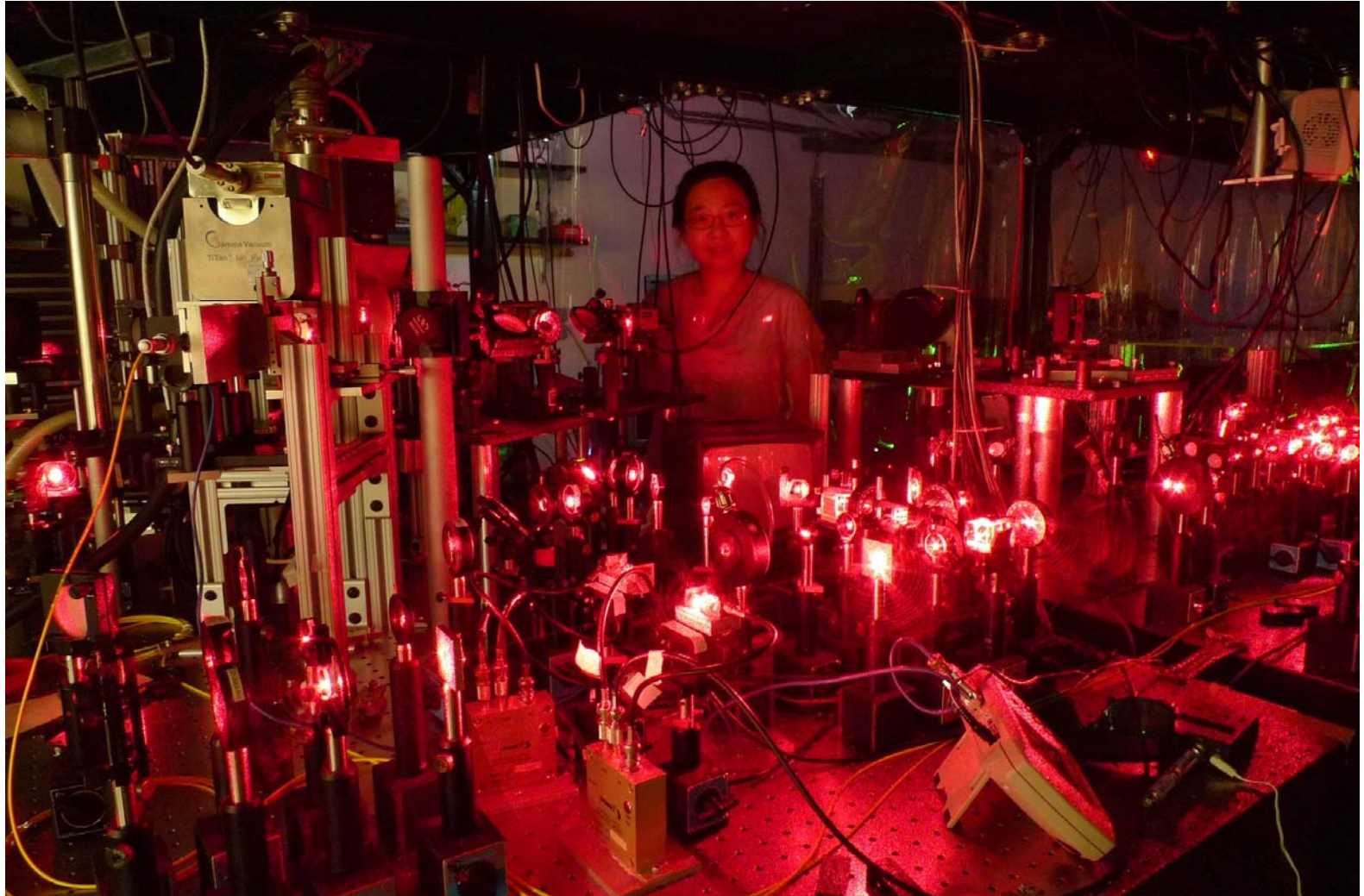
# JETLAB—NCSU Team

PHYSICS



# Atom Cooling Lab

PHYSICS



December 2010 Celebration!

PHYSICS

