

US-Japan Seminar, Breckenridge, Aug23-25, 2006

# **Superradiant light scattering from condensed and non-condensed atoms**

Aug 23, 2006

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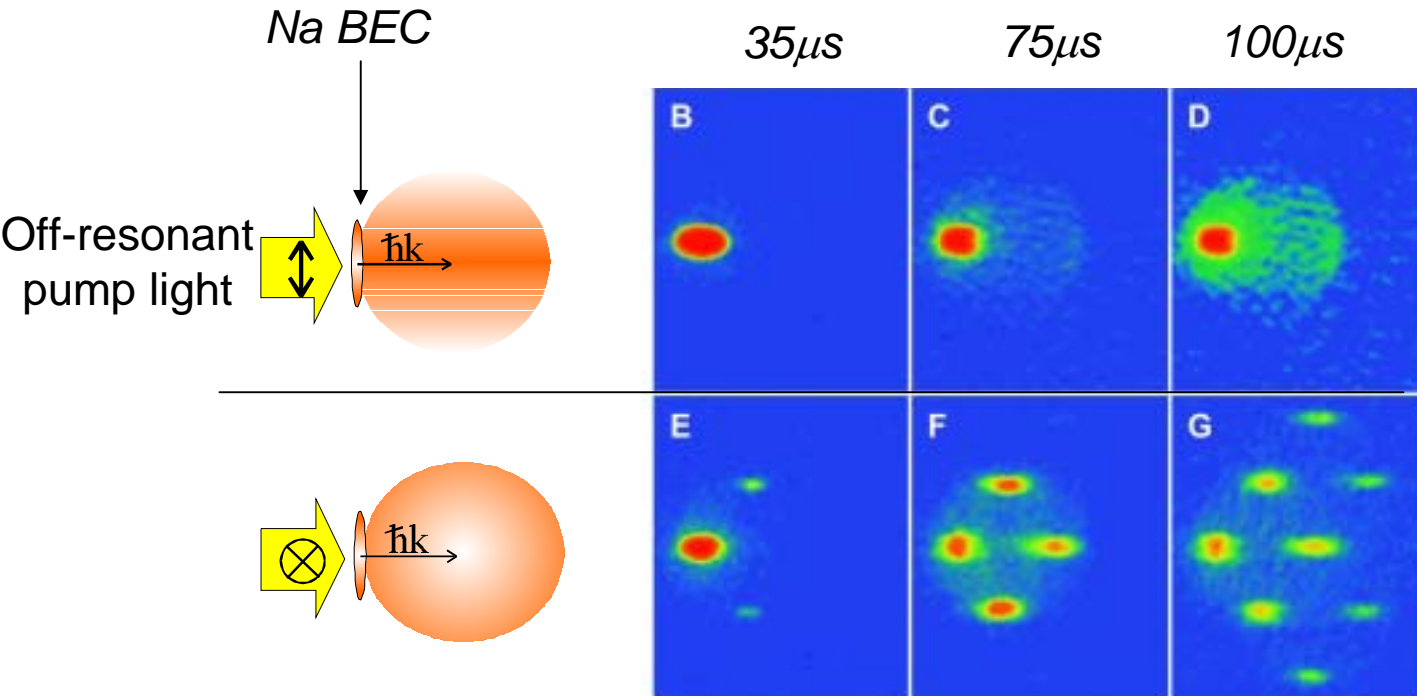
Institute of Physics, University of Tokyo, Komaba

# Outline

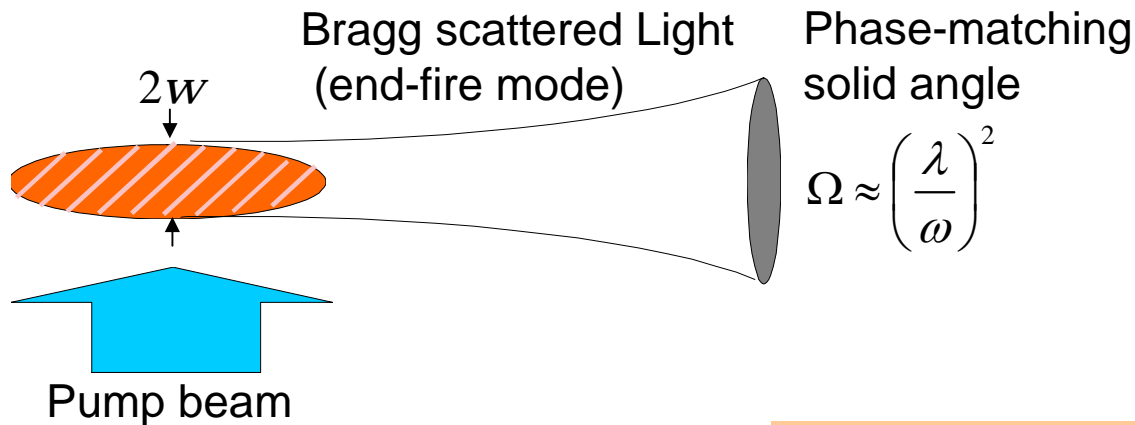
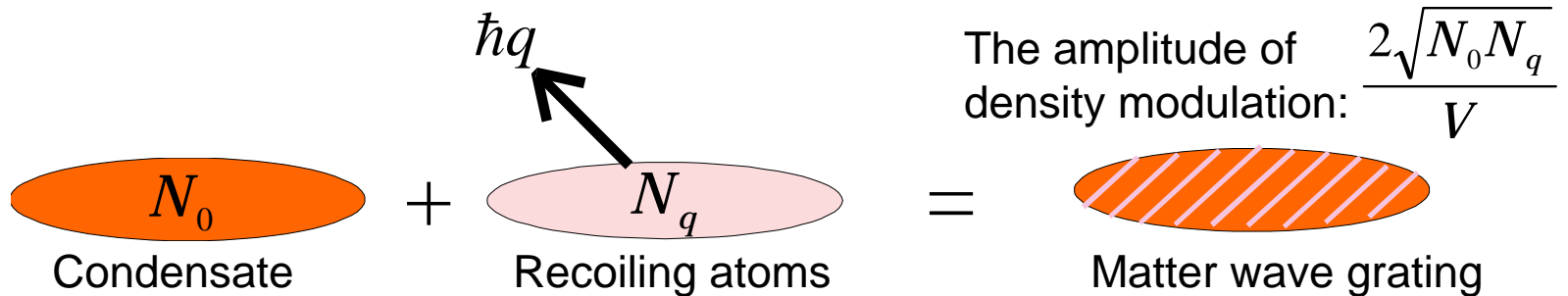
- Review of superradiance in a BEC (MIT99)
- Superradiance in the short and strong pulse regime (MIT03)
- Raman superradiance (Tokyo04, MIT04)
- Superradiance in a thermal atom cloud (Tokyo05)

# Superradiant Rayleigh scattering from a Bose-Einstein condensate

S. Inouye, et. al., Science **285**, 571 (1999)



# Semi-classical explanation



Power in the end-fire mode

$$P = \hbar\omega \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{8\pi/3} R N_0 N_q \Omega$$

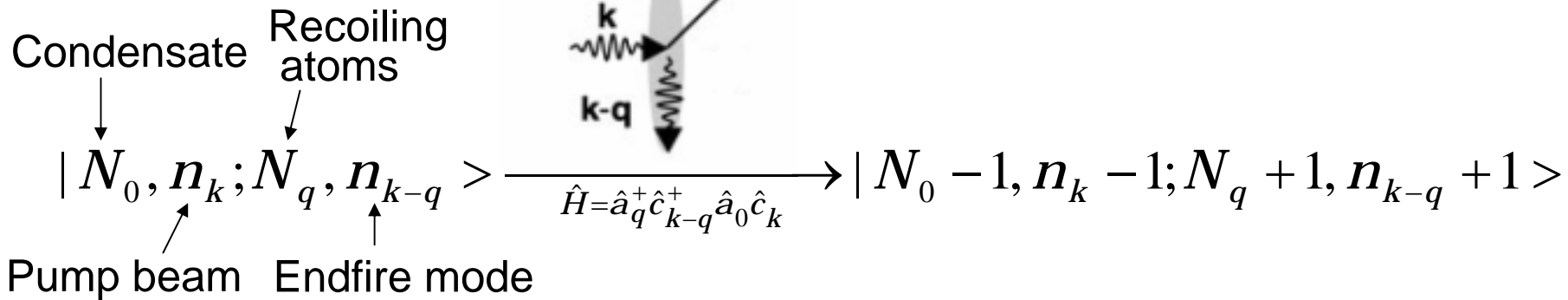


$$\dot{N}_q = R \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{8\pi/3} N_0 N_q \Omega$$

$R$  : single-atom Rayleigh scattering rate

# Fully-quantum picture (Fermi's Golden Rule)

Scattering process:



Scattering rate:

$$W \propto |\langle N_0 - 1, n_k - 1; N_q + 1, n_{k-q} + 1 | \hat{H} | N_0, n_k; N_q, n_{k-q} \rangle|^2$$

$$= N_0 n_0 (N_q + 1) \cancel{(n_{k-q} + 1)} \xrightarrow{\text{Summing over } \Omega} \dot{N}_q = R \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{8\pi/3} N_0 (N_q + 1) \Omega$$

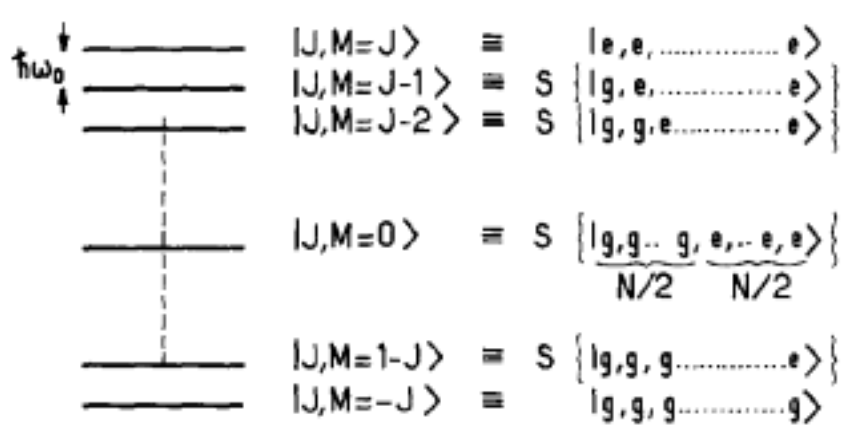
neglect

Stimulated scattering  
(Bosonic enhancement)

Spontaneous  
scattering

# Dicke's picture

N-atom system      N spin-1/2 system with the total spin  $J = N/2$   
 (assumption: *Indiscernability* of the atoms with respect to photon emission)



R. H. Dicke, Phys. Rev. **93**, 99 (1954)  
 M. Gross and S. Haroche, Phys. Rep. **93**, 301 (1982)

Spontaneous emission rate

$$\begin{aligned}
 W_N &= \Gamma \langle J, M | J_+ J_- | J, M \rangle \\
 &= \Gamma (J + M)(J - M + 1) \\
 &= \Gamma N_e (N_g + 1)
 \end{aligned}$$

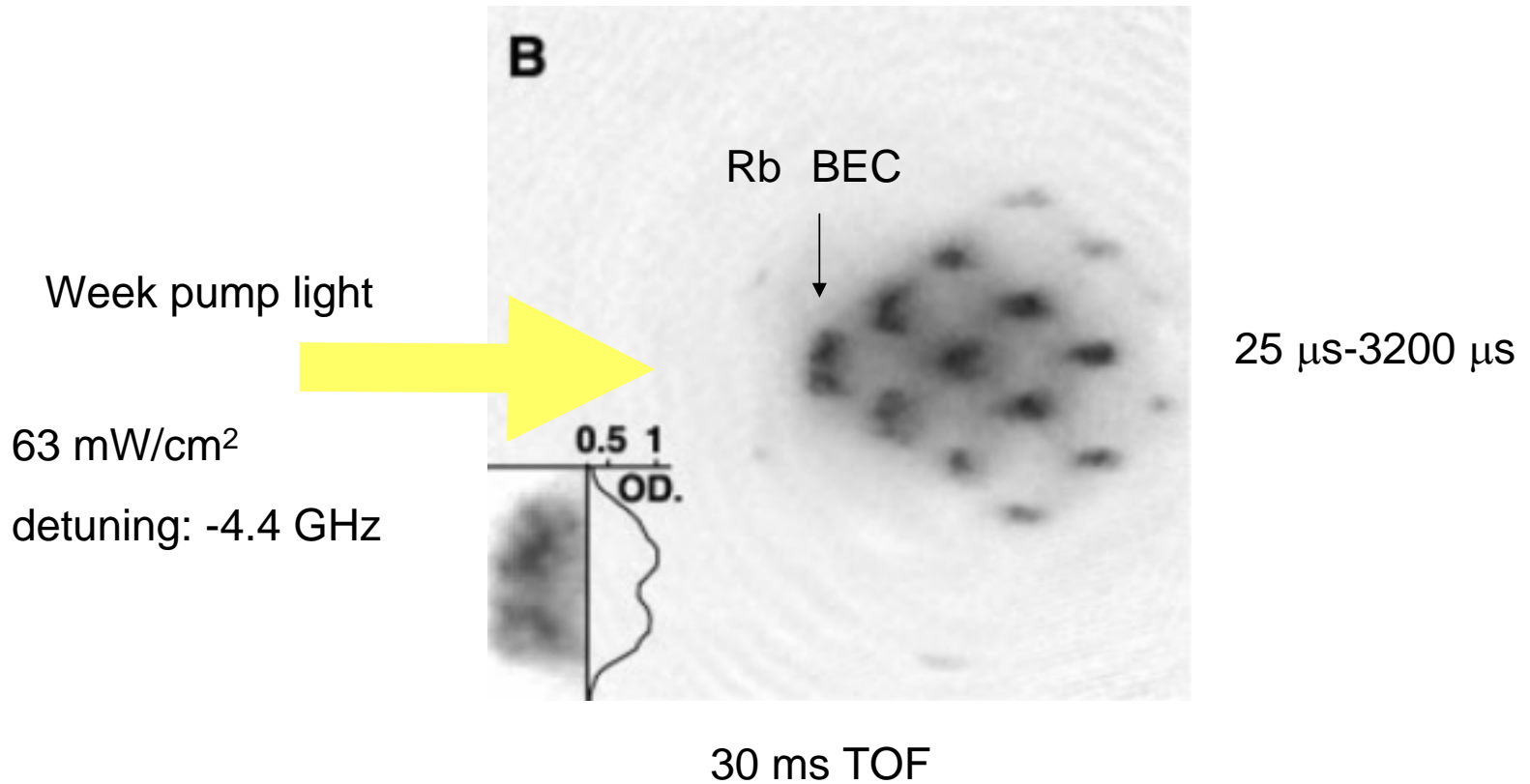
$$\Gamma \rightarrow R \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{8\pi/3} \Omega \quad \downarrow \quad \begin{aligned} N_g &= N_0 \\ N_e &= N_q \end{aligned}$$

$$\dot{N}_j = R \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{8\pi/3} N_0 (N_q + 1) \Omega$$

# Three different pictures for superradiance in a BEC

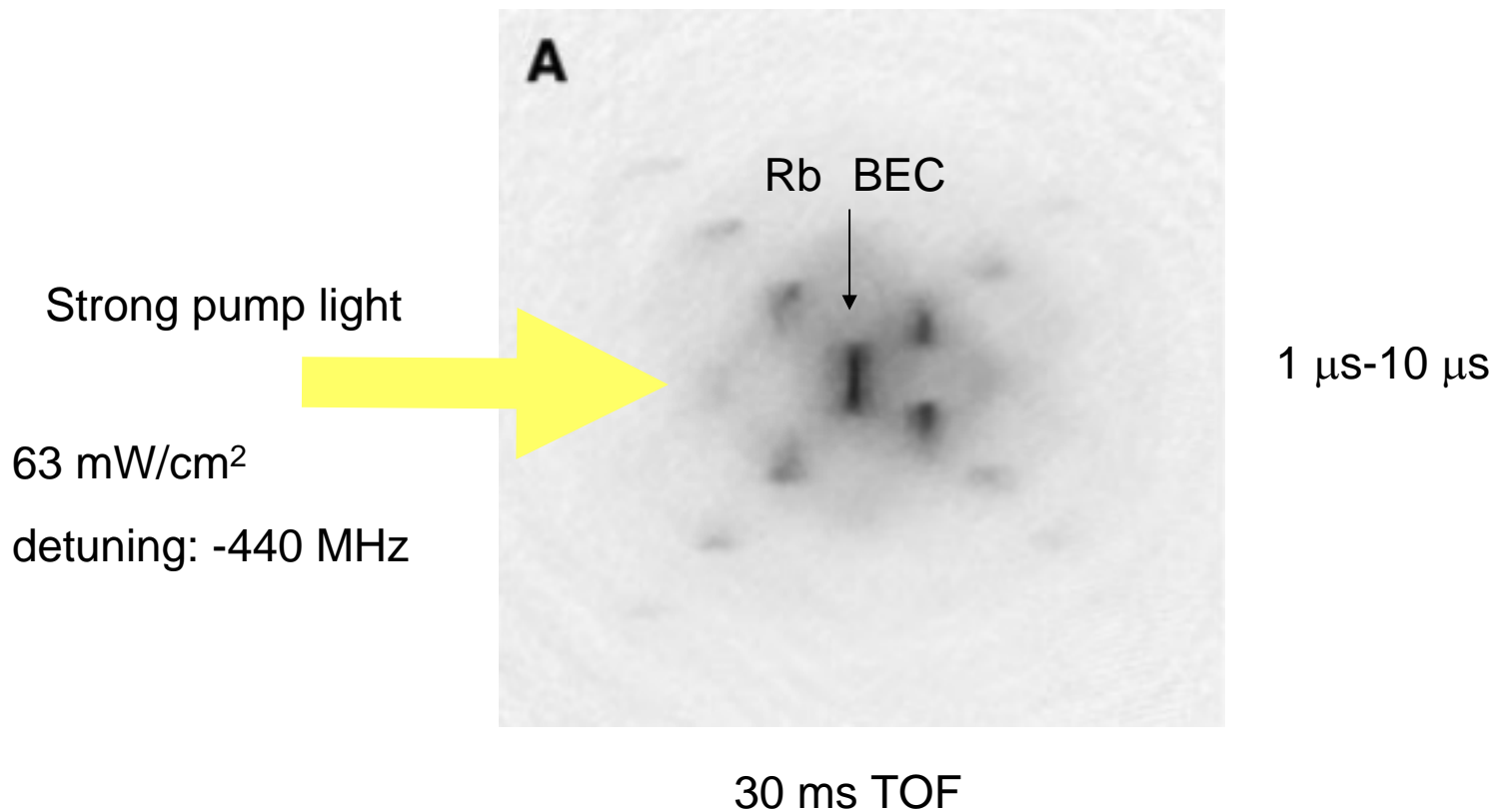
- Semi-classical picture (Bragg diffraction of a pump beam off a matter wave grating)
- Full-quantum picture (Bosonic enhancement by the recoiling atoms)
- Dicke's picture (enhanced radiation from a symmetric cooperative state )

# Superradiant Rayleigh scattering in a Rb BEC

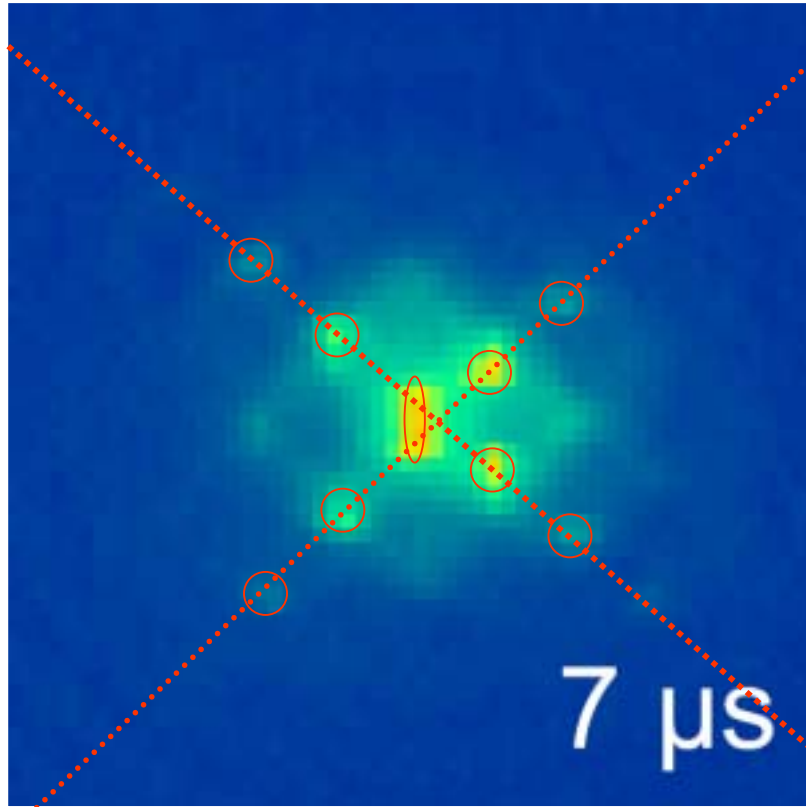




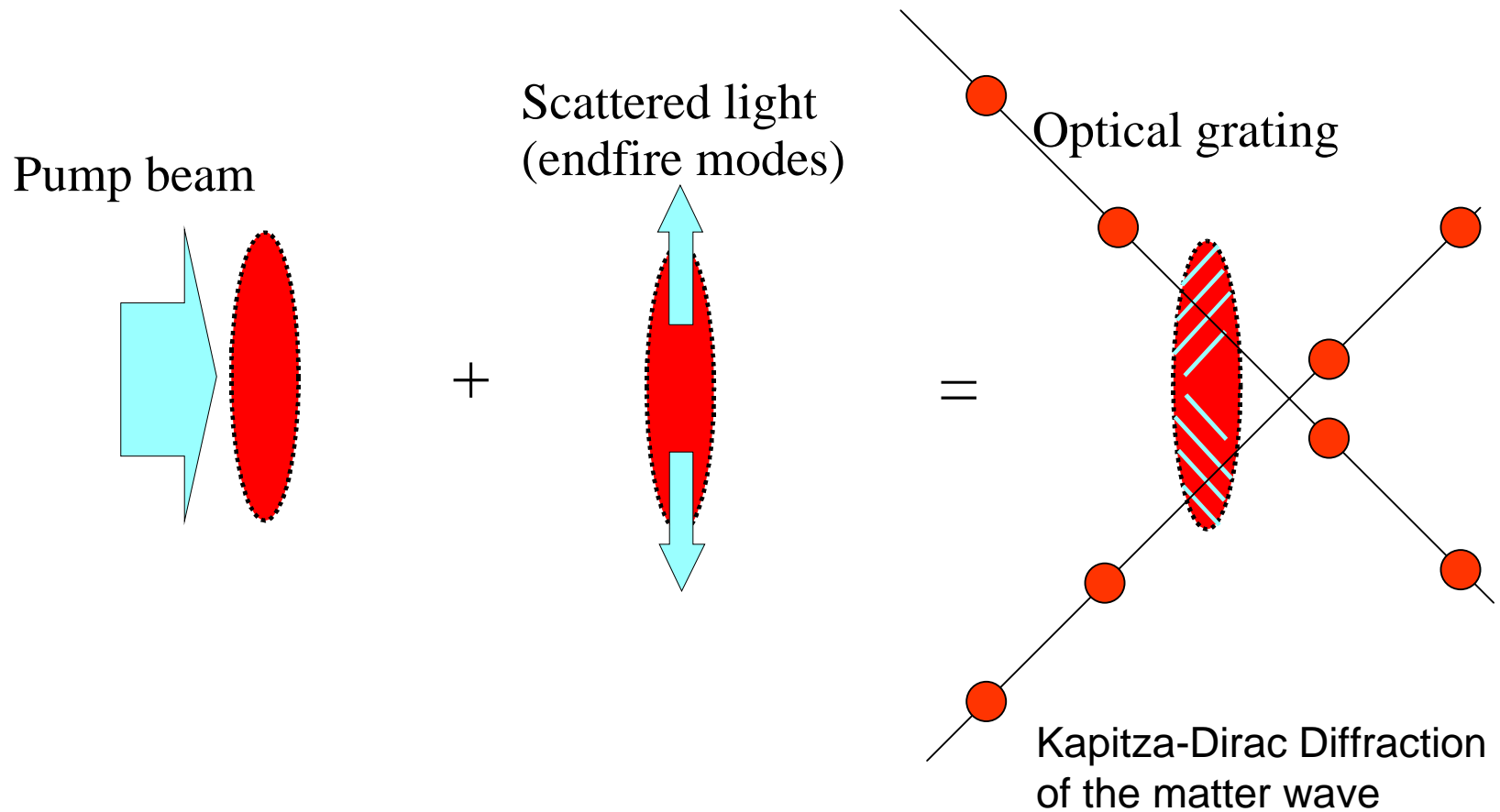
# Superradiant Rayleigh scattering in the short (strong) pulse regime



# Asymmetry of the X-shaped pattern

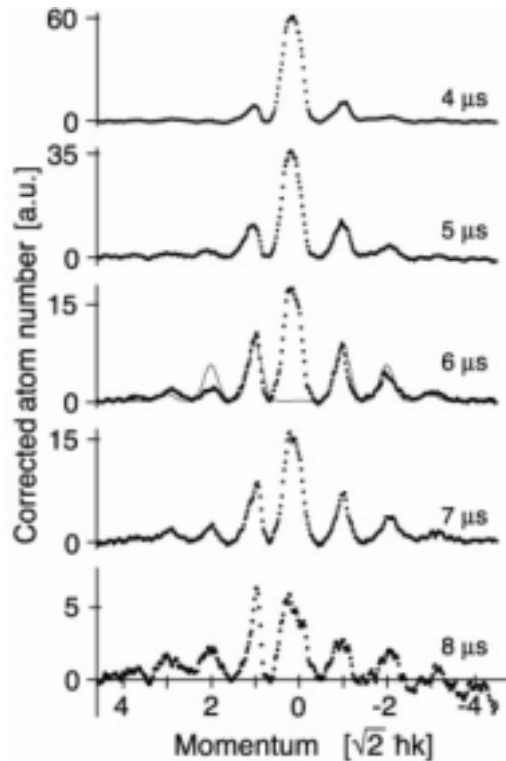


# Explanation for the asymmetric X-shape

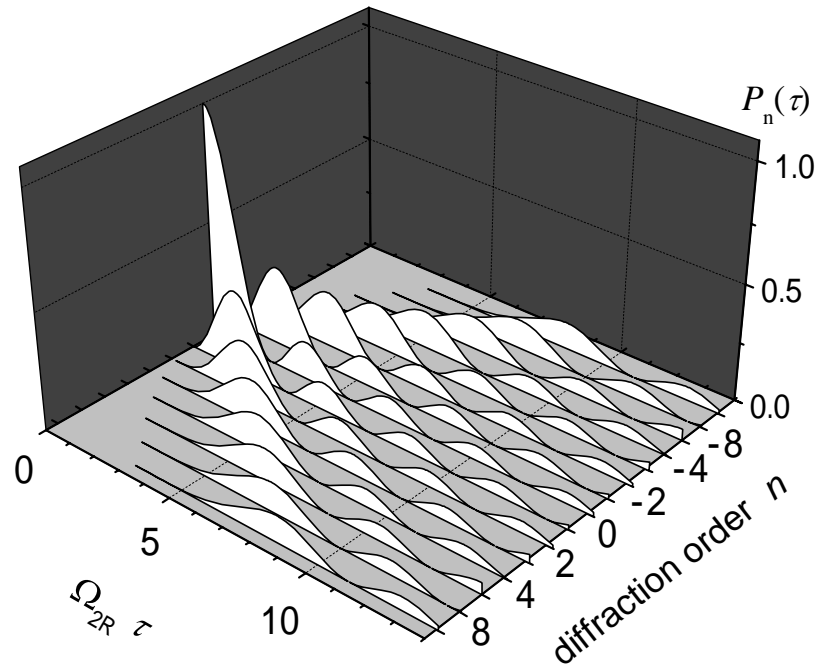


# Intensity of the endfire mode

experiment



theory



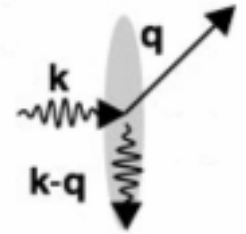
$$P_n(\tau) = J_n^2(\Omega_{2R}\tau), \quad \Omega_{2R} = \frac{\Omega_p \Omega_e}{2\Delta}$$

Intensity of the Endfire mode  $I_e = 2 \frac{\Omega_e^2}{\Gamma^2} I_s = 0.8 \text{ mW/cm}^2 \left( I_s = 1.6 \text{ mW/cm}^2 \right)$

# Scattering rate when the endfire photon $n_{k-q} \gg 1$

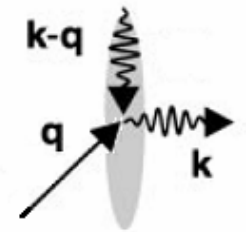
Scattering process:

$$|N_0, n_k; N_p, n_{k-q}\rangle \rightarrow |N_0 - 1, n_k - 1; N_p + 1, n_{k-q} + 1\rangle$$



Reverse scattering process:

$$|N_0, n_k; N_p, n_{k-q}\rangle \rightarrow |N_0 + 1, n_k + 1; N_p - 1, n_{k-q} - 1\rangle$$



Net scattering rate:

$$\begin{aligned} W &\propto N_0 n_k (N_q + 1)(n_{k-q} + 1) - N_q n_{k-q} (N_0 + \cancel{1})(n_k + \cancel{1}) \\ &= N_0 n_k (N_q + n_{k-q} + 1) \end{aligned}$$

Bosonic stimulation by the *sum* (not the product) of  $N_q$  and  $n_{k-q}$

Bosonic stimulation by the recoiling atoms  $N_q$  or the endfire photon  $n_{k-q}$ ?

$$W \propto N_0 n_0 (N_q + n_{k-q} + 1)$$

$$n_{k-q} \ll 1$$

$$N_q \ll 1$$

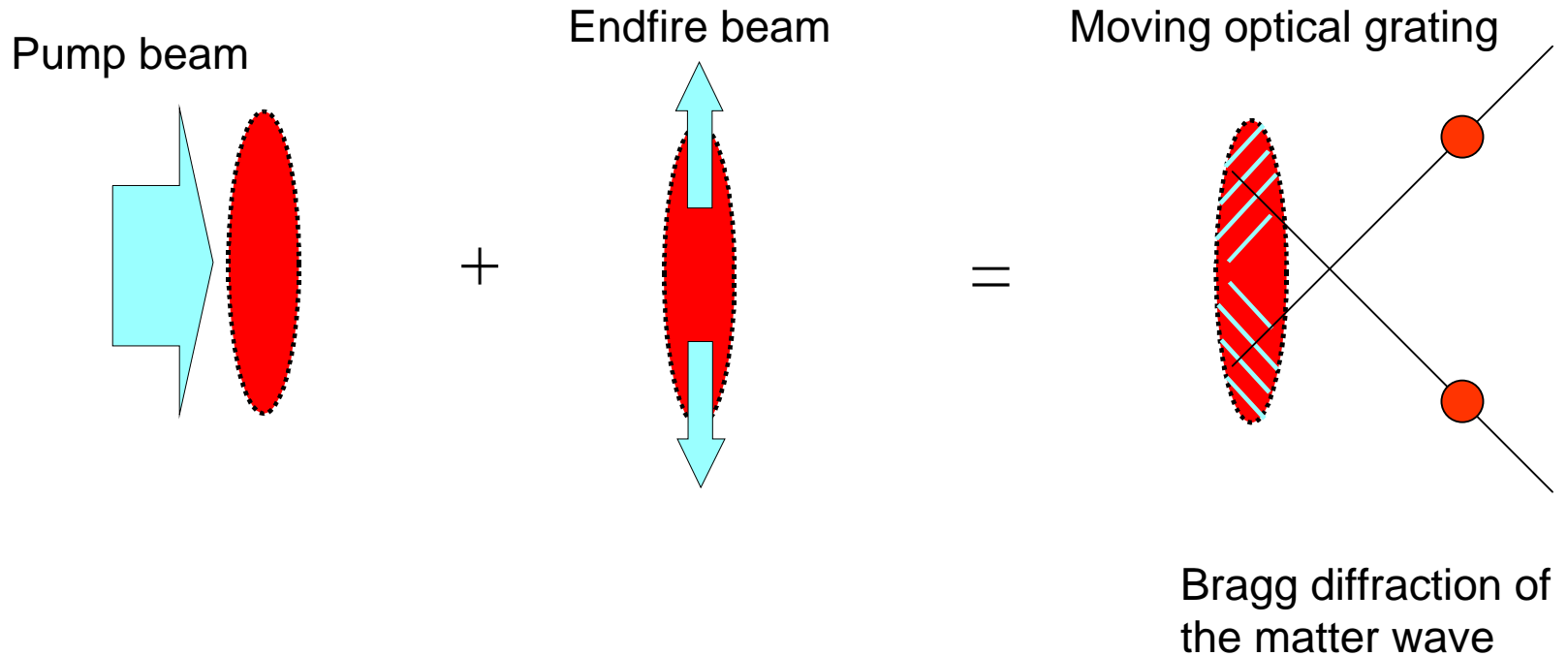
$$W \propto N_0 n_0 (N_q + 1) \longleftrightarrow_{n_{k-q} = N_q} W \propto N_0 n_0 (n_{k-q} + 1)$$

Stimulation by  $N_q$  (atom)

Stimulation by  $n_{k-q}$  (photon)

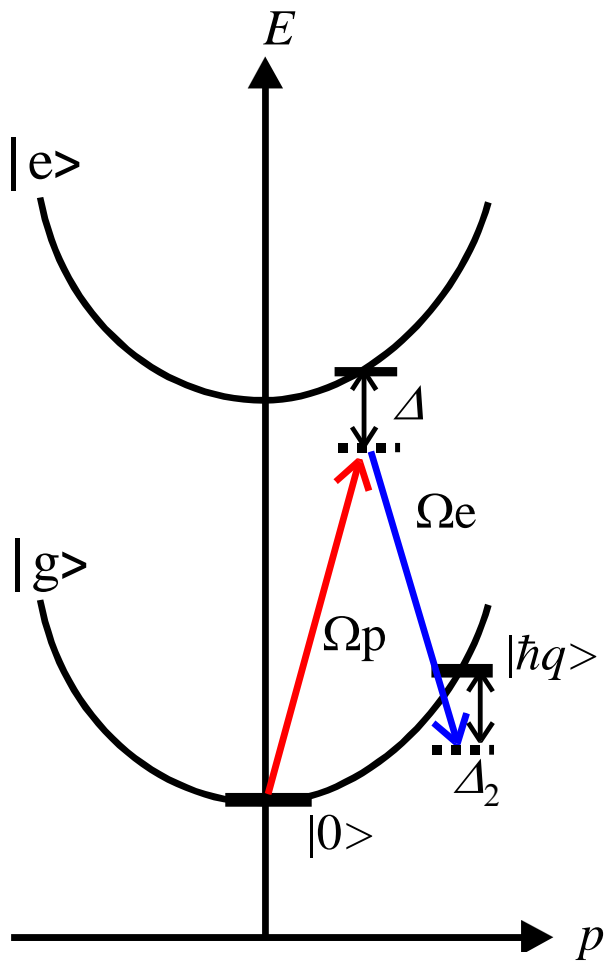
Both pictures would give the same scattering rate!

# New interpretation of superradiance (in the long pulse regime)



Superradiant Rayleigh scattering regarded as (self-stimulated) Bragg diffraction of a matter wave off a moving optical grating

# Semi-classical derivation of the Bragg scattering rate



Fermi's Golden Rule

$$W = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar^2} \left| \hbar\Omega_{2R} / 2 \right|^2 \delta(\Delta_2)$$

Normalized Lorentzian  $\frac{(\Gamma_2 / 2) / \pi}{\Delta_2^2 + (\Gamma_2 / 2)^2}$

$\Gamma_2 \equiv 1 / \tau_c$  Width of the two-photon (Bragg) resonance

↑  
Coherence time of the condensate

At two-photon resonance ( $\Delta_2=0$ )

$$W = N_0 \Omega_{2R}^2 / \Gamma_2 = N_0 \frac{\Omega_p^2 \Omega_e^2}{4\Delta^2} / \Gamma_2$$



# How to express the rate $W$ in terms of $R$ and $n_{k-q}$ ?

$$W = N_0 \frac{\Omega_p^2 \Omega_e^2}{4\Delta^2} / \Gamma_2$$

Single-atom Rayleigh scattering rate:

$$R = \Gamma \rho_{ee} \cong \Gamma \cdot \frac{1}{2} s_0 \frac{1}{(2\Delta/\Gamma)^2} = \Gamma \frac{\Omega_p^2}{4\Delta^2} \quad \left( s_0 \equiv \frac{2\Omega_p^2}{\Gamma^2} \right)$$

Intensity of the endfire mode:

Saturation parameter  
of the pump beam

$$I_e = I_s \frac{2\Omega_e^2}{\Gamma^2} \quad \left( I_s \equiv \frac{\pi \hbar \omega \Gamma}{3\lambda^2} \right) \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Saturation intensity} \\ (I_s = 1.6 \text{ mW/cm}^2 \text{ for Rb D}_2 \text{ line}) \end{array}$$


Number of photons emitted in the coherence time  $\tau_c = 1/\Gamma_2$ :

$$n_{q-k} = \frac{I_e A \tau_c}{\hbar \omega} = \frac{2\pi A}{3\lambda^2} \frac{\Omega_e^2}{\Gamma \Gamma_2}$$

...continued

$$\Omega_p^2 = R \frac{4\Delta^2}{\Gamma} \quad \Omega_e^2 = n_{k-q} \frac{3\lambda^2}{2\pi A} \Gamma \Gamma_2$$

$$W = N_0 \frac{\Omega_p^2 \Omega_e^2}{4\Delta^2} / \Gamma_2 = R \frac{3\lambda^2}{2\pi A} N_0 n_{k-q}$$


$$\Omega \approx \left( \frac{\lambda}{w} \right)^2 \approx \frac{\lambda^2}{A}$$

Semi-classical expression based on the matter wave grating

$$W = R \frac{3}{2\pi} N_0 n_{k-q} \Omega \quad \approx$$

$$\dot{N}_j = R \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{8\pi/3} N_0 N_q \Omega$$

# Four different pictures for superradiance in a BEC

- Semi-classical picture (Bragg diffraction of a pump beam off a matter wave grating)
- Full-quantum picture (Bosonically enhanced scattering by the recoiling atoms)
- Dicke's picture (enhanced radiation from a symmetric cooperative state )
- self-stimulating Bragg diffraction of the matter wave off the optical grating

# Analysis including propagation effects

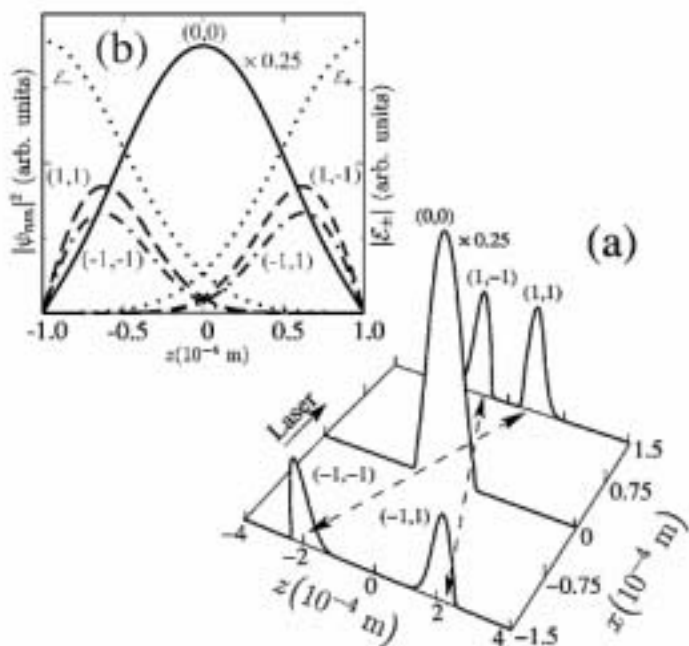


FIG. 1. Strong-pulse regime. (a) Spatial distribution of the first-order forward  $(1, \pm 1)$  and backward  $(-1, \pm 1)$  atomic side modes, after applying a laser pulse of duration  $t_f = 14 \mu\text{s}$  and strength  $g = 2 \times 10^6 \text{ s}^{-1}$  to the condensate followed by a free propagation for a time  $t_p = 25 \text{ ms}$ . (b) Spatial distributions of the atomic side modes and the optical endfire modes ( $\mathcal{E}_{\pm}$ ), at time  $t_f$ . For the sake of illustration the BEC population  $(0, 0)$  has been divided by 4.

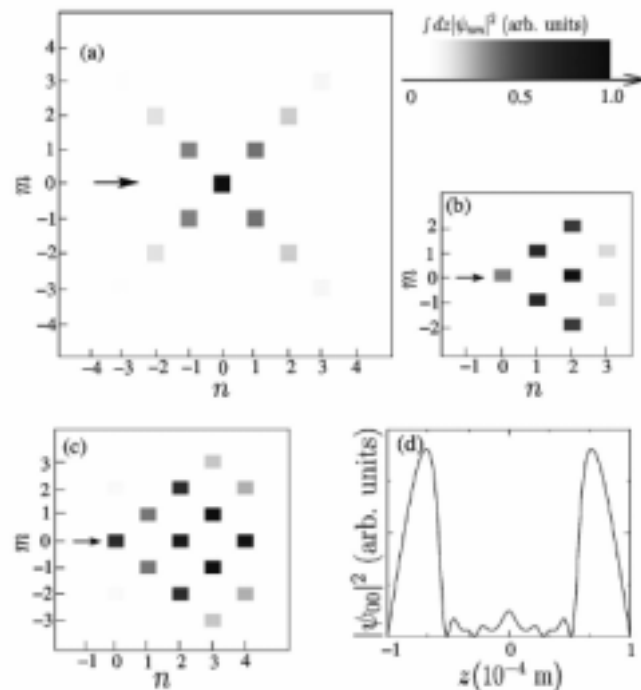
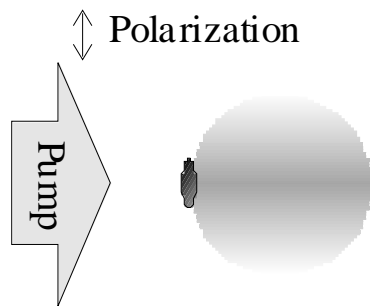
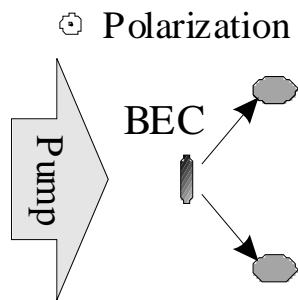
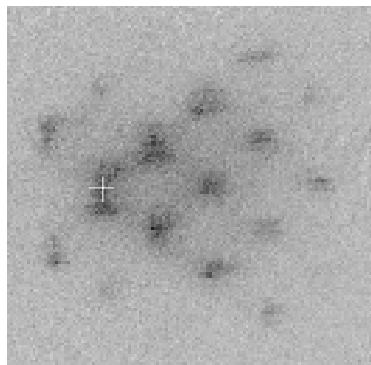


FIG. 2. Atomic side-mode distributions. Each square represents an integrated probability  $p_{nm} = \int dz |\psi_{nm}(z, t)|^2$ . (a) Strong-pulse regime:  $t_f = 10.6 \mu\text{s}$  and  $g = 2.6 \times 10^6 \text{ s}^{-1}$ . (b) Weak-pulse regime:  $t_f = 232 \mu\text{s}$  and  $g = 5.0 \times 10^5 \text{ s}^{-1}$ . (c) Weak-pulse regime:  $t_f = 291 \mu\text{s}$  and  $g = 6.5 \times 10^5 \text{ s}^{-1}$ . (d) Spatial distribution of the condensate along the axis  $z$  corresponding to (c).

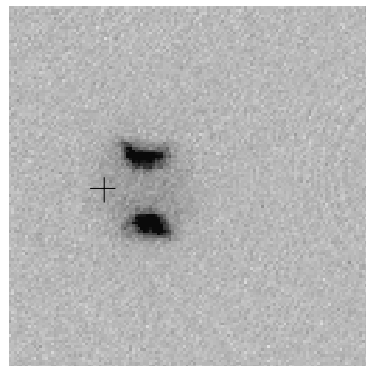
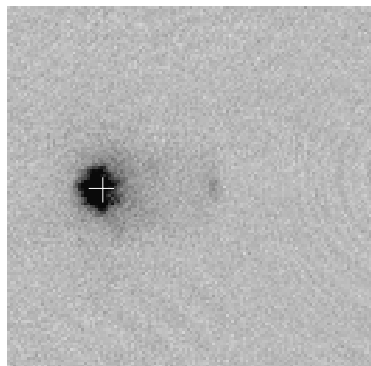
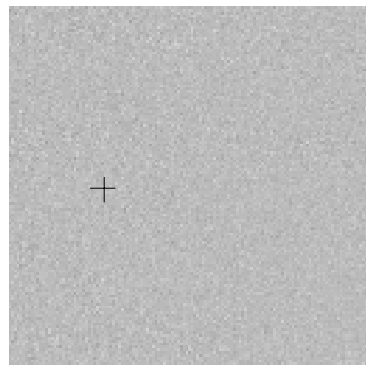
# Changing the polarization of the pump beam



$F=2$



$F=1$



Detuning: -2.6 GHz  
Intensity: 40 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>  
Pulse duration: 100  $\mu$ s

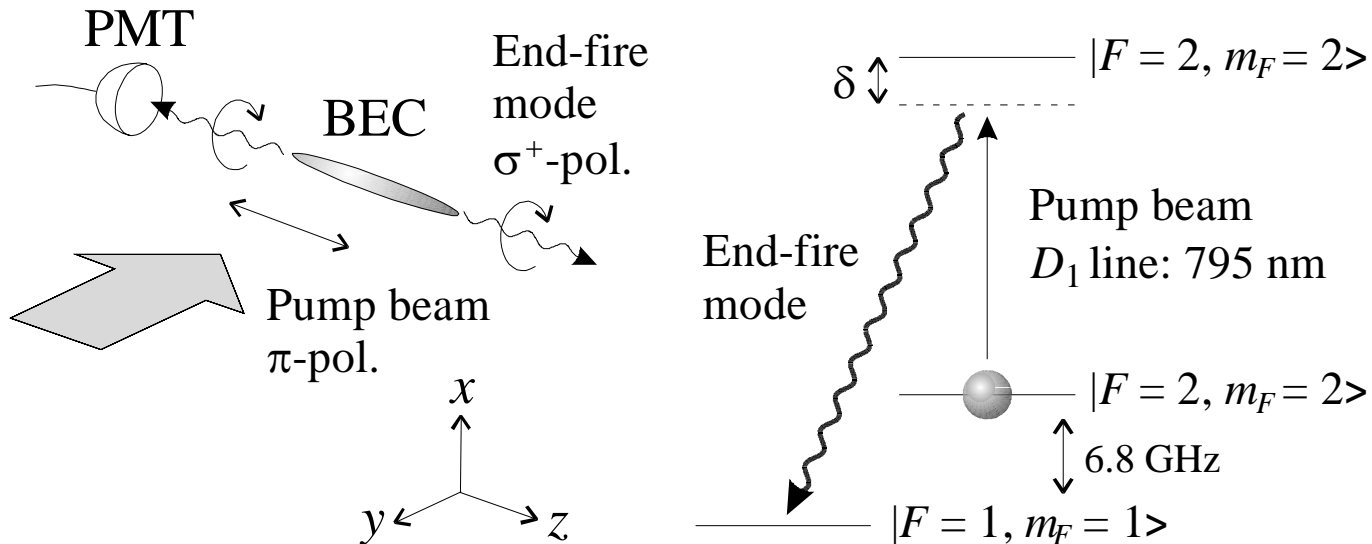
Y. Yoshikawa, *et al.*, PRA **69** 041603 (2004)  
D. Schneble, *et al.*, PRA **69** 041601 (2004)

# Raman superradiance

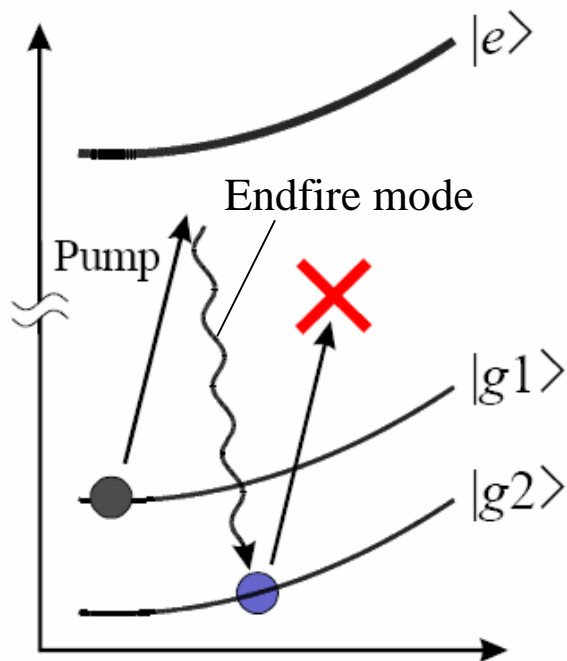
The only condition for Raman superradiance:

Raman scattering gain > Rayleigh scattering gain

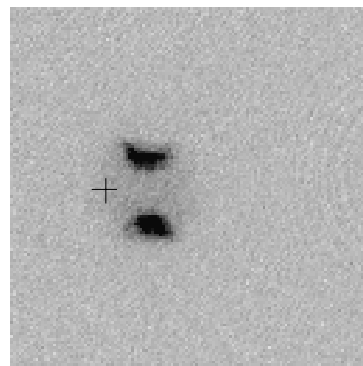
$$R_{\text{Raman}} \frac{3}{16\pi(1 + \cos^2 \theta)} > R_{\text{Rayleigh}} \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{8\pi/3}$$



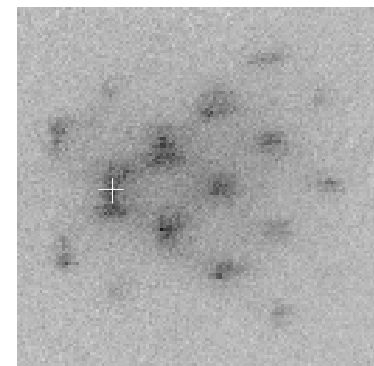
# Merits of Raman superradiance over Rayleigh superradiance



Raman

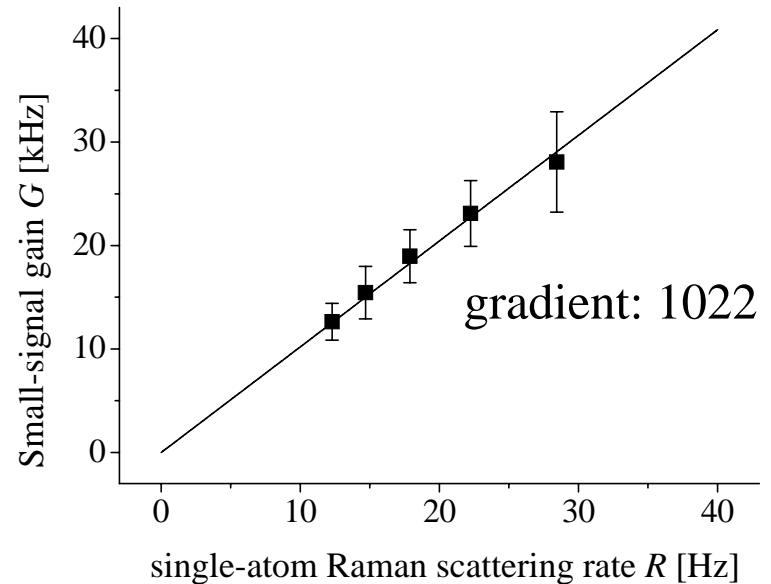
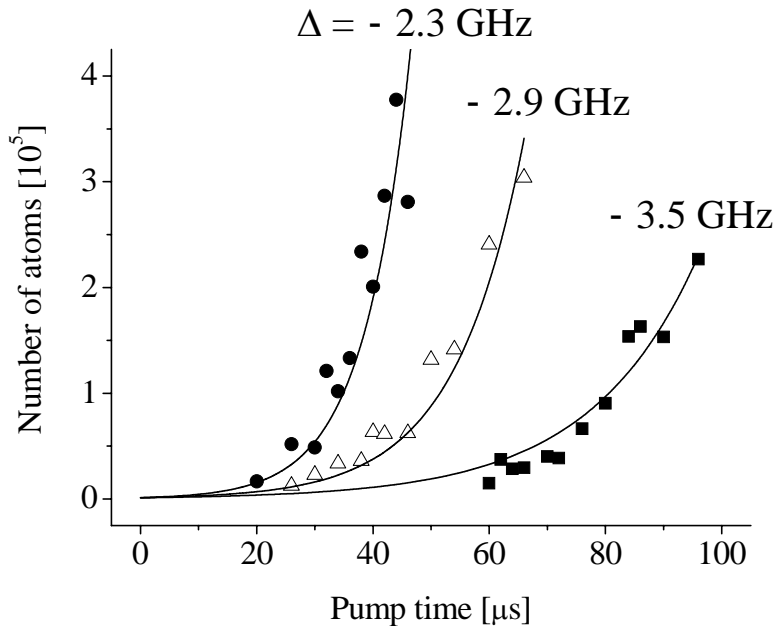


Rayleigh



- No backward scattering (K-D scattering)
- No interaction with the pump beam once scattered

# Exponential growth of the Raman scattered atoms



$$\dot{N}_q \approx \frac{3}{8\pi} R N_0 N_q \Omega \xrightarrow{N_0 \ll N_q} N_q \approx e^{Gt}$$

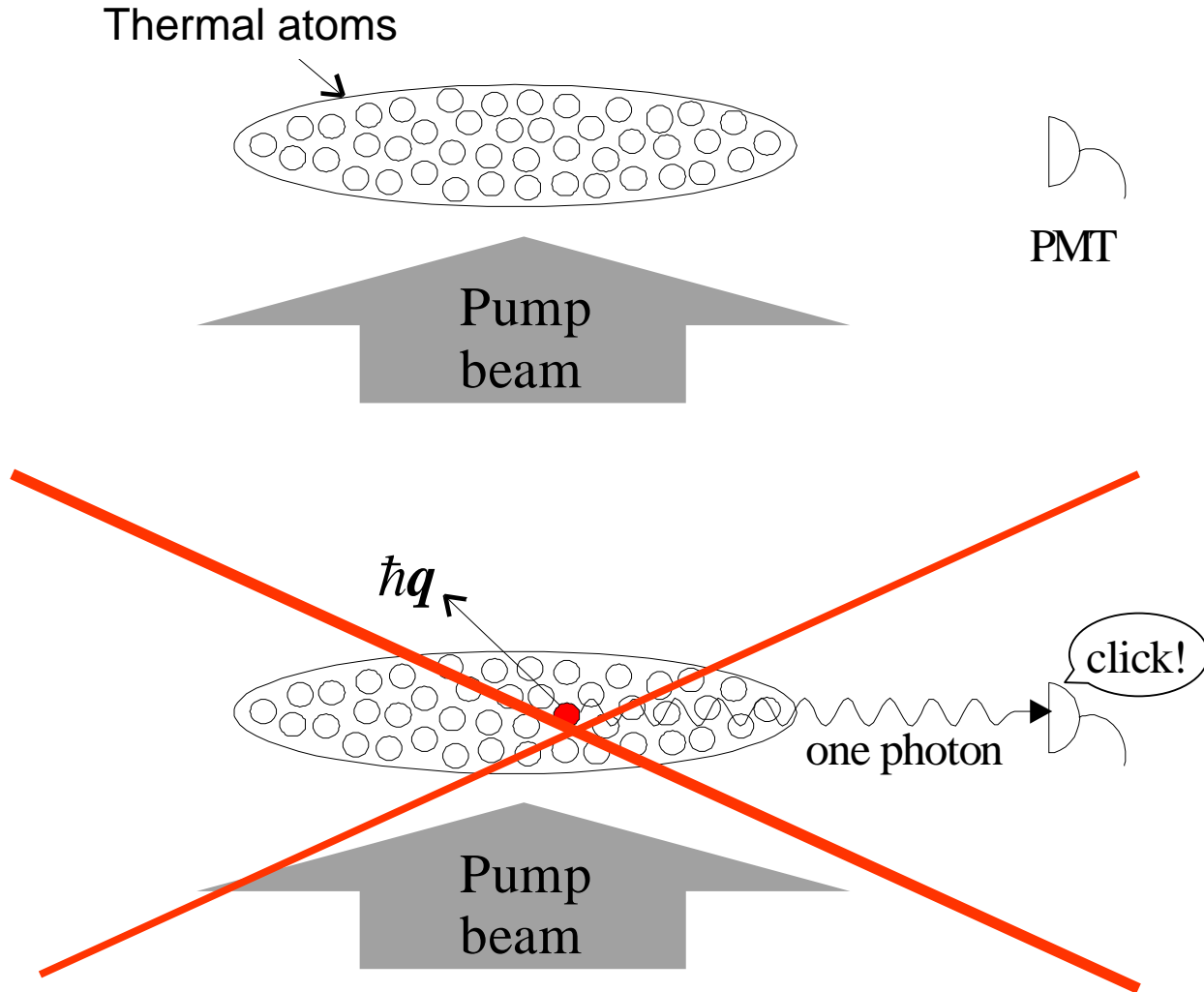
Small-signal gain:

$$G = \frac{3}{8\pi} R N_0 \Omega = 890 R$$

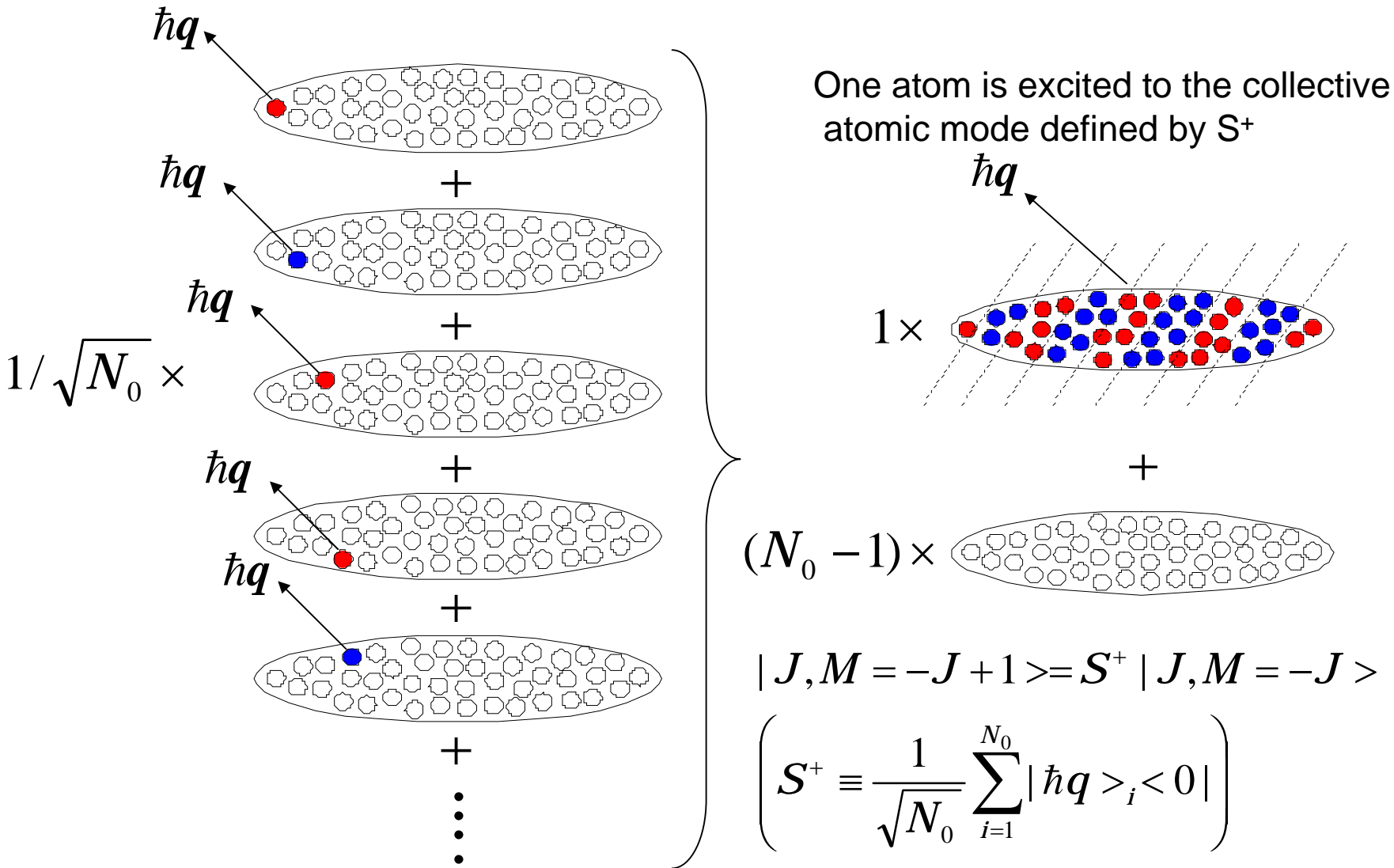
$R$ : single-atom Raman scattering rate



# Where is a grating?

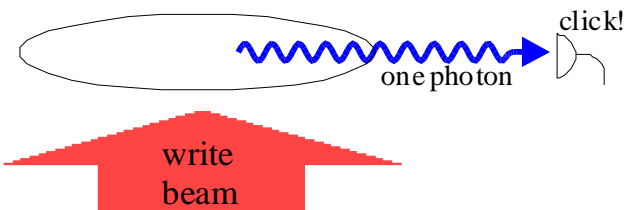


# The origin of a grating (Collective mode excitation)



# Writing, storing, and reading of a single photon

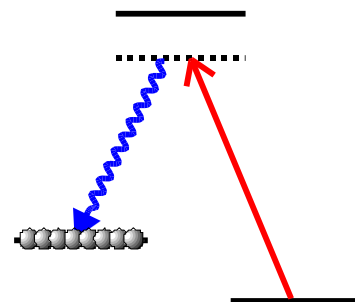
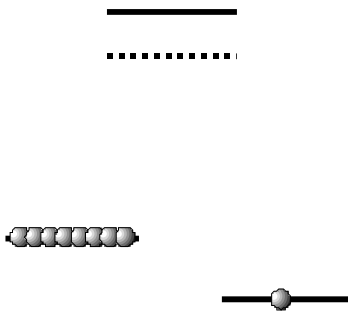
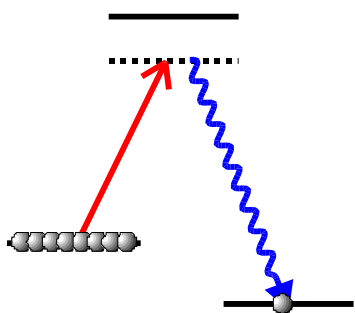
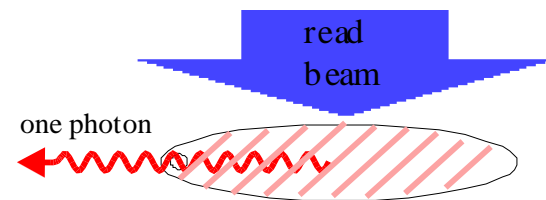
writing



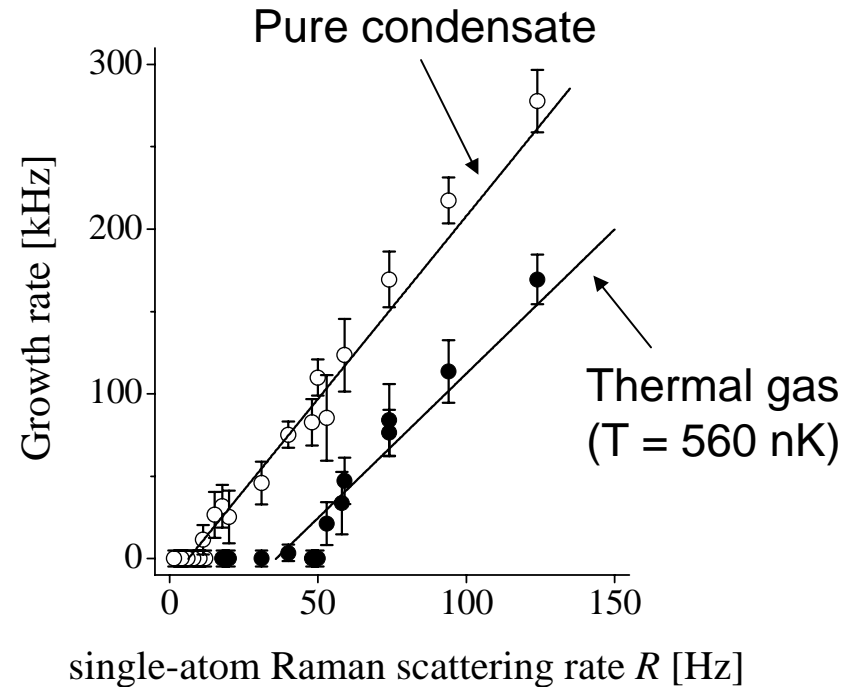
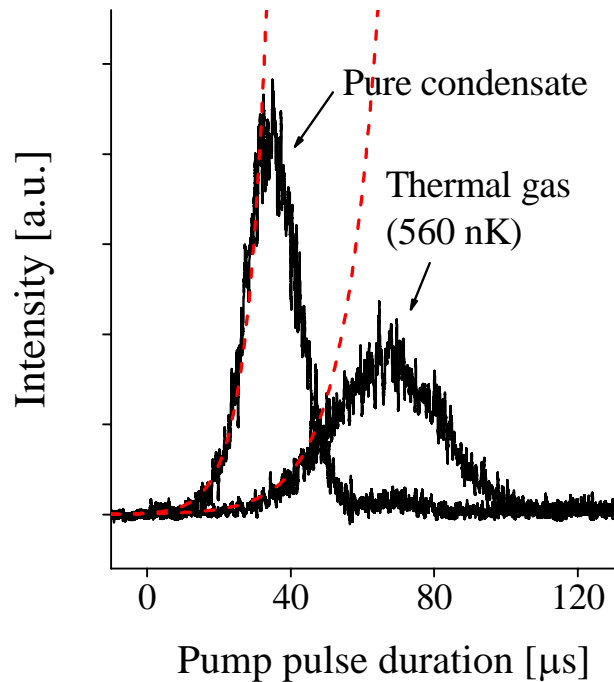
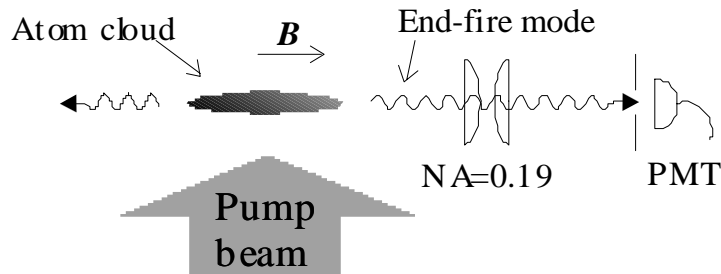
storing



reading



# Superradiance in a Thermal gas



# The origin of the threshold

Loss term

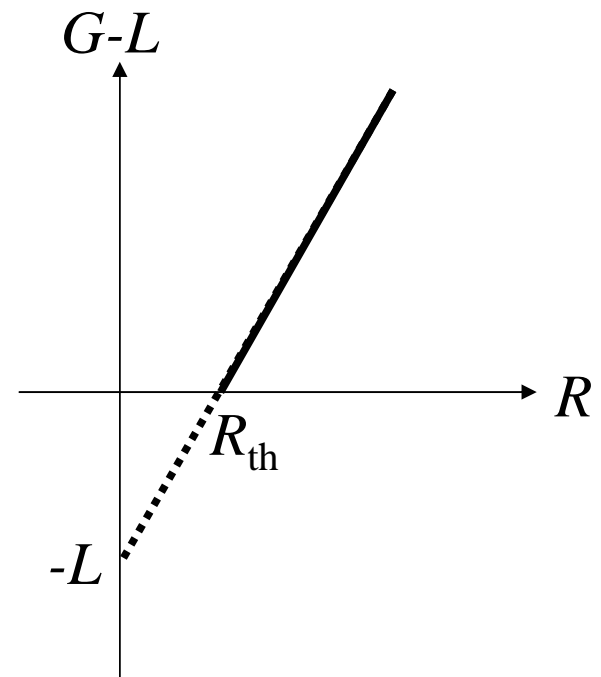
$$\dot{N}_q = (G - L)N_q \rightarrow N_q \propto e^{(G-L)t}$$

$L > G$  : No exponential growth

$G > L$  : exponential growth with  
a growth rate of  $G-L$

$$L = 1/\tau_c$$

coherent time of the system



# What determines the coherence time?

a) The endfire mode

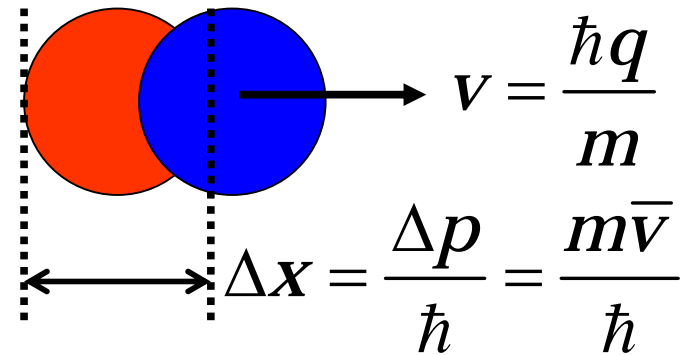
Doppler width:

$$\Delta\omega_D = q\bar{v} \quad \left( \bar{v} = \sqrt{\frac{k_B T}{m}} \right)$$

RMS velocity

$$\tau_c = \frac{1}{\Delta\omega_D} = \frac{1}{q\bar{v}}$$

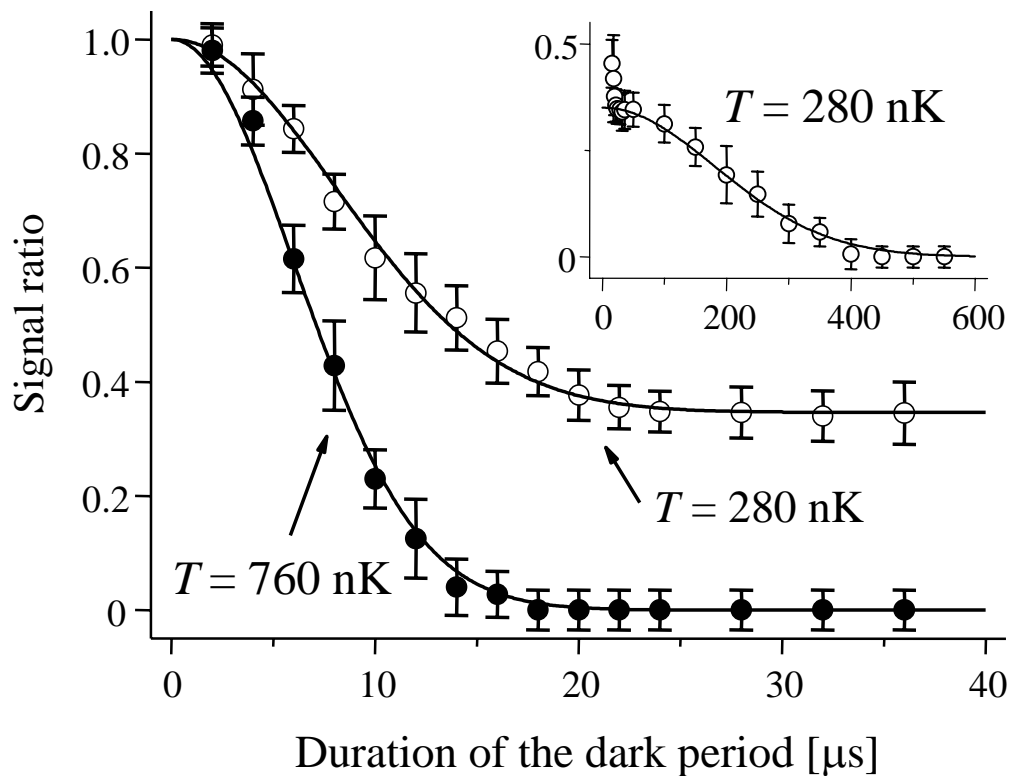
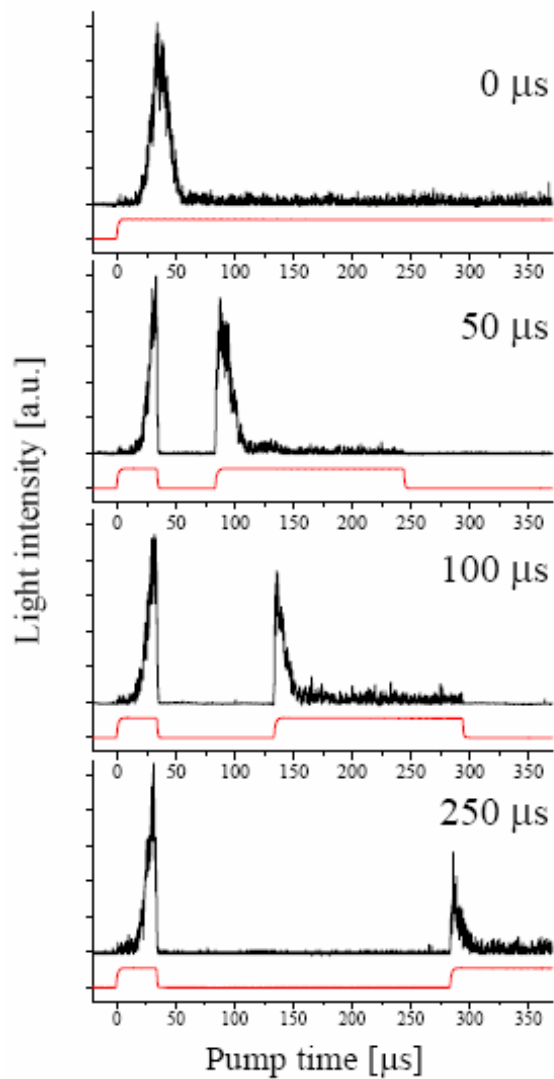
b) matter wave grating  
(overlap of the wave packets)



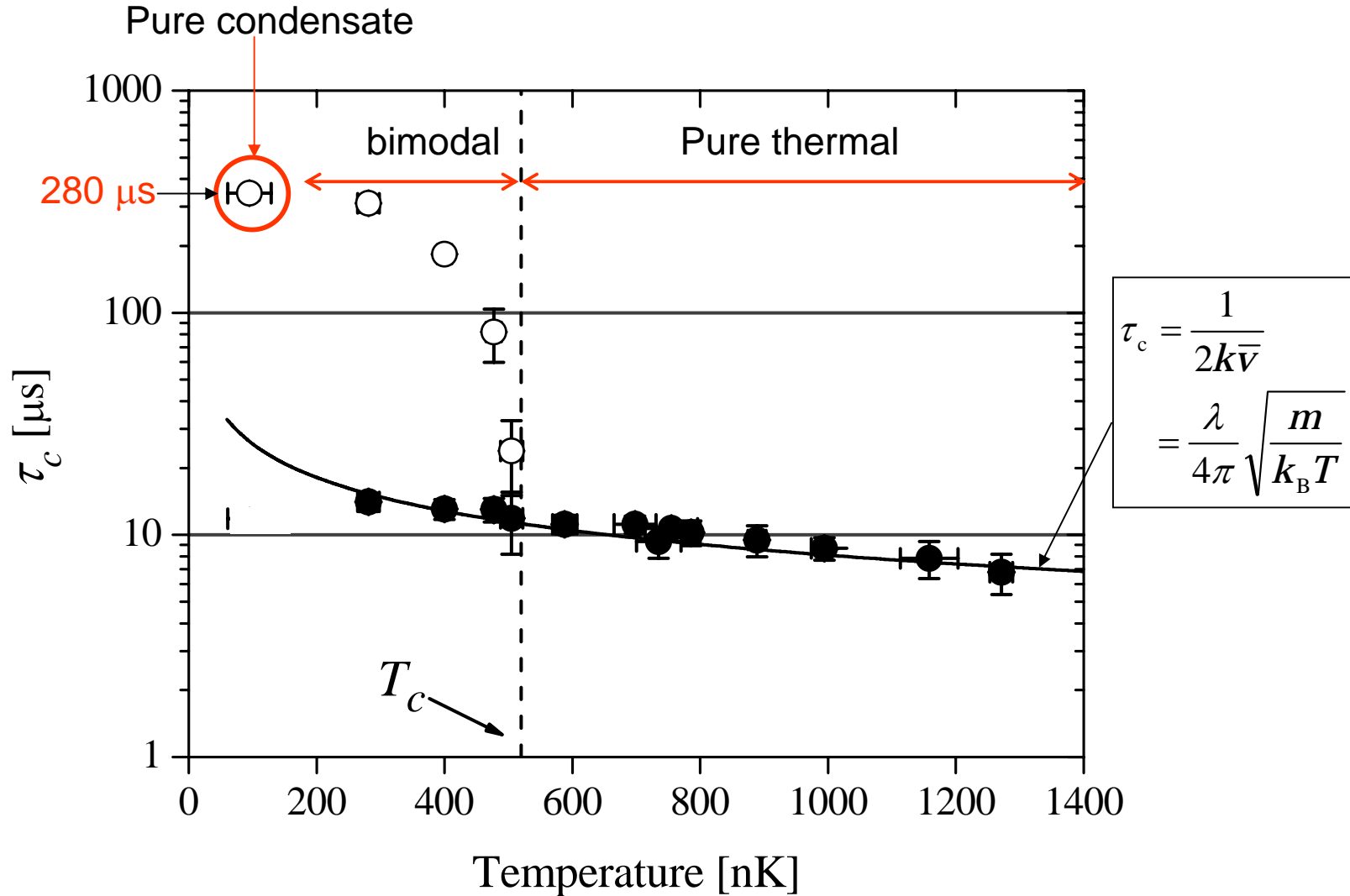
$$\tau_c = \frac{\Delta x}{v} = \frac{1}{q\bar{v}}$$

Coherence time is given by the inverse of the Doppler width

# Measurement of the coherence time



# Coherence time vs. temperature





# Conclusion

- The behavior of superradiance in the short and strong pulse regime has led to a new picture of superradiance (optical stimulation)
- The study of superradiance in a thermal gas showed that a thermal gas will act as a pure condensate within a time scale shorter than the coherence time, which is determined by the Doppler effect.