

# Rydberg atoms in ultracold gases – from electron to ion impurities

Quantum 2021: Dynamics and local control  
of impurities in complex quantum environments

September 14th, 2021

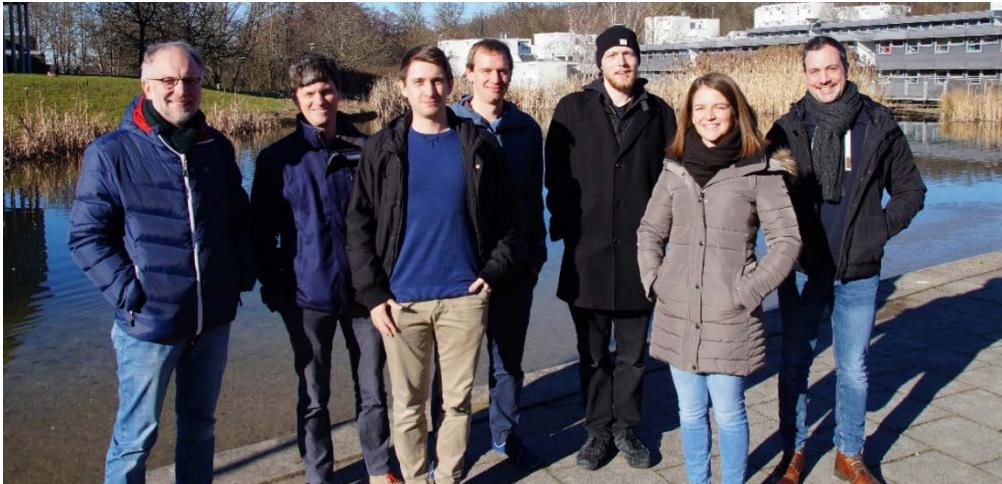
Florian Meinert

5. Physikalisches Institut, Universität Stuttgart



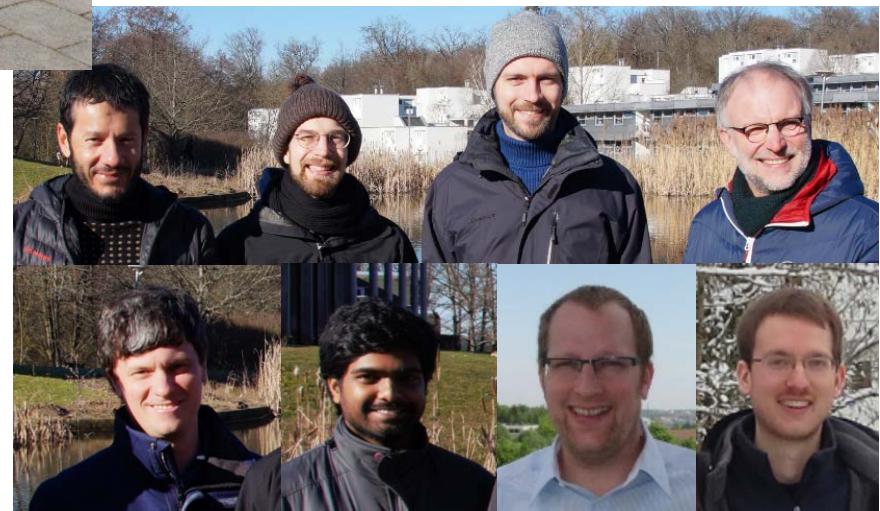
CarlZeiss Stiftung





(from left to right) Tilman Pfau, Florian Meinert, Thomas Dieterle, Moritz Berngruber, Christian Hözl, Muamera Basic, Felix Engel

## Our Rydberg Teams

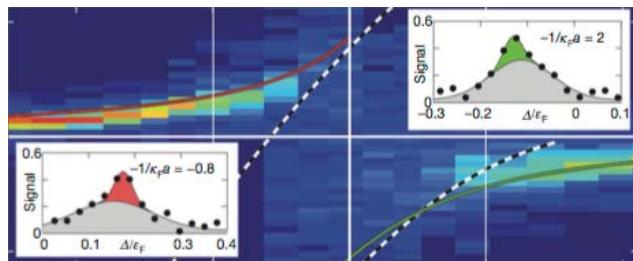


(from left to right) Oscar Herrera-Sancho, Christian Veit, Nicolas Zuber, Tilman Pfau, Florian Meinert, Viraatt Anasuri, Robert Löw, Thomas Schmid



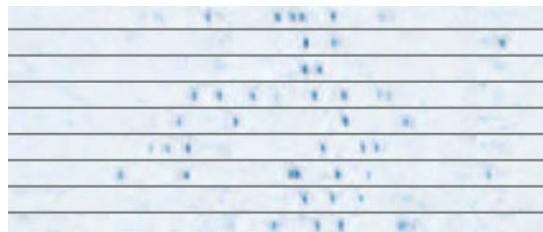
# Single impurities immersed in ultracold gases ...

... ensembles of neutral impurities in BEC/Fermi gases



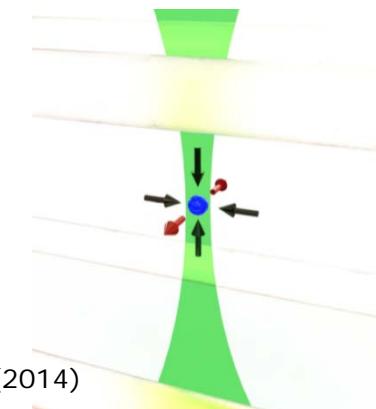
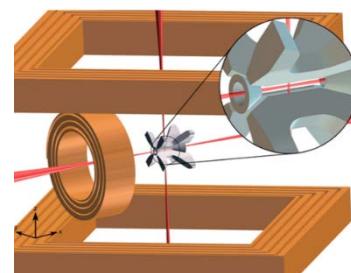
Schirotzek *et al.*, PRL 102, 230402 (2009)  
Kohstall *et al.*, Nature 485, 615 (2012)  
Jorgensen *et al.*, PRL 117, 055302 (2016)  
Hu *et al.*, PRL 117, 055301 (2016)

... single spin impurities in lattice and bulk systems



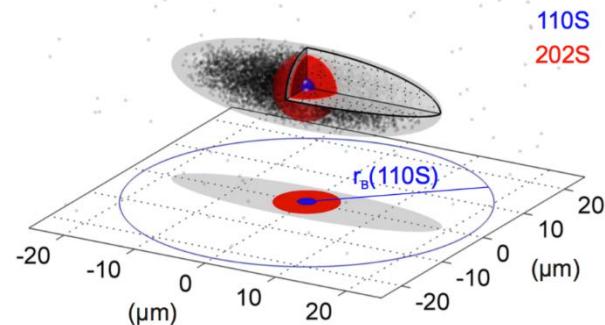
Fukuhara *et al.*, Nat. Phys. 9, 235 (2013)  
Hohmann *et al.*, PRL 118, 263401 (2017)  
Schmidt *et al.*, PRL 121, 130403 (2018)

... charged impurities (ions)



Zipkes *et al.*, Nature 464, 388 (2010)  
Schmidt *et al.*, PRL 105, 133202 (2010)  
T. Huber *et al.*, Nat. Commun. 5, 5587 (2014)  
...

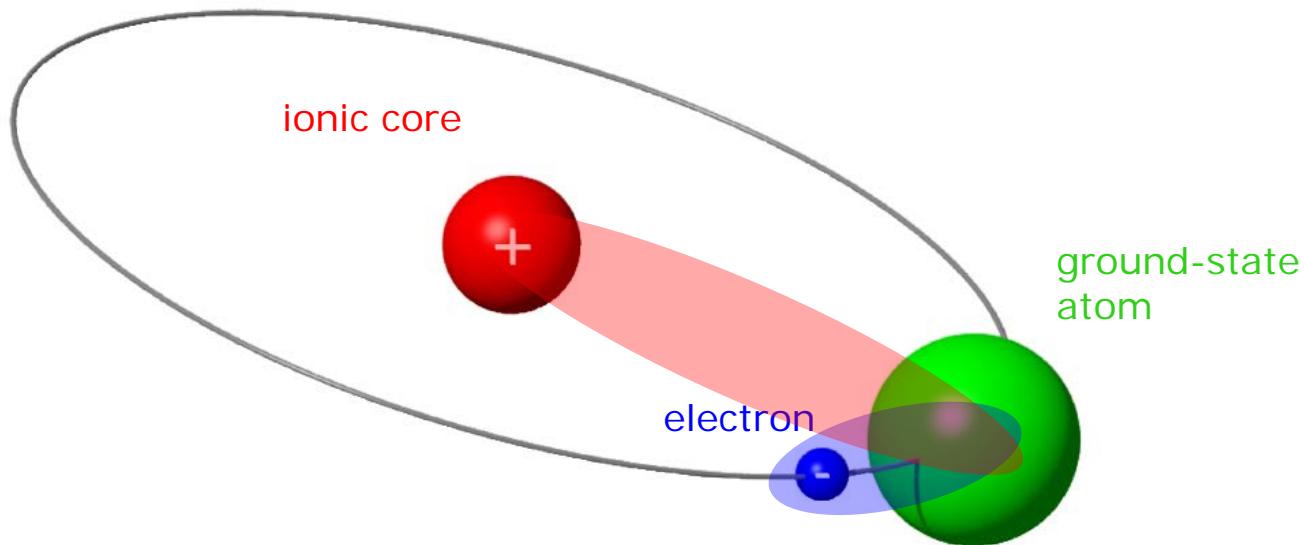
... mesoscopic Rydberg impurities



Balewski *et al.*, Nature 502, 664 (2013)  
Camargo *et al.*, PRL 120, 083401 (2018)



## Electron-atom and ion-atom interaction



perturbative electron-atom  
Born-Oppenheimer potential  
(e.g. for isolated S-states)

$$U_e(R) = \langle \Psi_e | V_e | \Psi_e \rangle \\ = 2\pi a_s(k) |\Psi_e(R)|^2$$

ion-atom polarization potential

$$U_i(R) = -\frac{C_4}{2R^4}$$

V. Bendkowsky et al., Nature 458, 1005 (2009)  
C.H. Greene et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 85, 2458 (2000)



# Electron-atom and ion-atom interaction

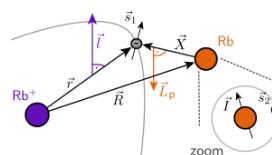
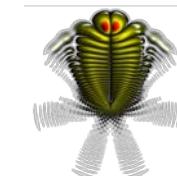
ionic core

state

K. S. Kleinbach, F. Meinert, F. Engel, W. J. Kwon, R. Löw, T. Pfau, and G. Raithel,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **118**, 223001 (2017).

F. Engel, T. Dieterle, F. Hummel, C. Fey, P. Schmelcher, R. Löw, T. Pfau, and F. Meinert,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **123**, 073003 (2019).

M. Deiß, S. Haze, J. Wolf, L. Wang, F. Meinert, C. Fey, F. Hummel, P. Schmelcher  
and J. Hecker Denschlag,  
Phys. Rev. Research **2**, 013047 (2020).



perturb  
Born-Oppenheimer  
(e.g. for

in collaboration with P. Schmelcher group

tential

$$U_e(R) = \langle \Psi_e | V_e | \Psi_e \rangle$$
$$= 2\pi a_s(k) |\Psi_e(R)|^2$$

$$U_i(R) = -\frac{C_4}{2R^4}$$

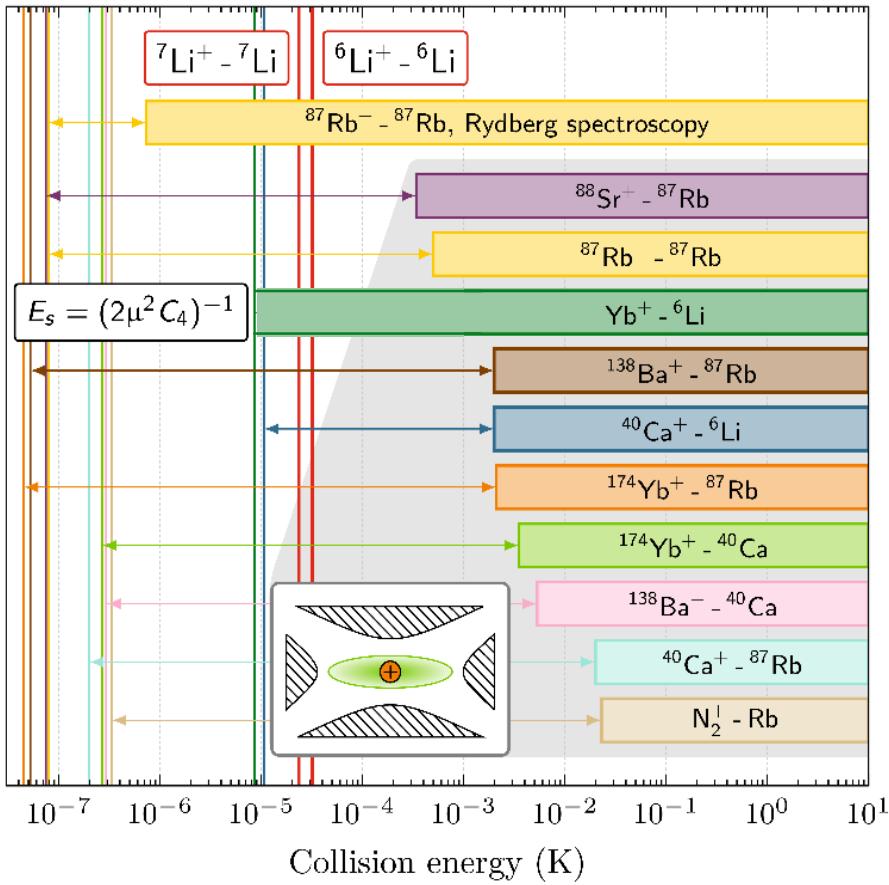
V. Bendkowsky et al., Nature 458, 1005 (2009)  
C.H. Greene et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 85, 2458 (2000)



# Cold ion-atom interaction – State of the art

$$E^* \sim (2\mu^2 C_4)^{-1}$$

s-wave limit



T. Schmid et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 153401 (2018)

## Cold Langevin collisions in hybrid traps

- micromotion in Paul traps
- $\sim mK$  collision energies
- lower  $E^*$  with light atoms

M. Tomza et al., Rev. Mod. Phys. 91, 035001 (2019)  
M. Cetina et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 109, 253201 (2009)

J. Joger et al., Phys. Rev. A 96, 030703 (2017)  
T. Feldker et al., Nat. Phys. 16, 413 (2020)

R. Saito et al., Phys. Rev. A 95, 032709 (2017)

## Optical traps for ions

A. Lambrecht et al., Nat. Photonics 11, 704 (2017)

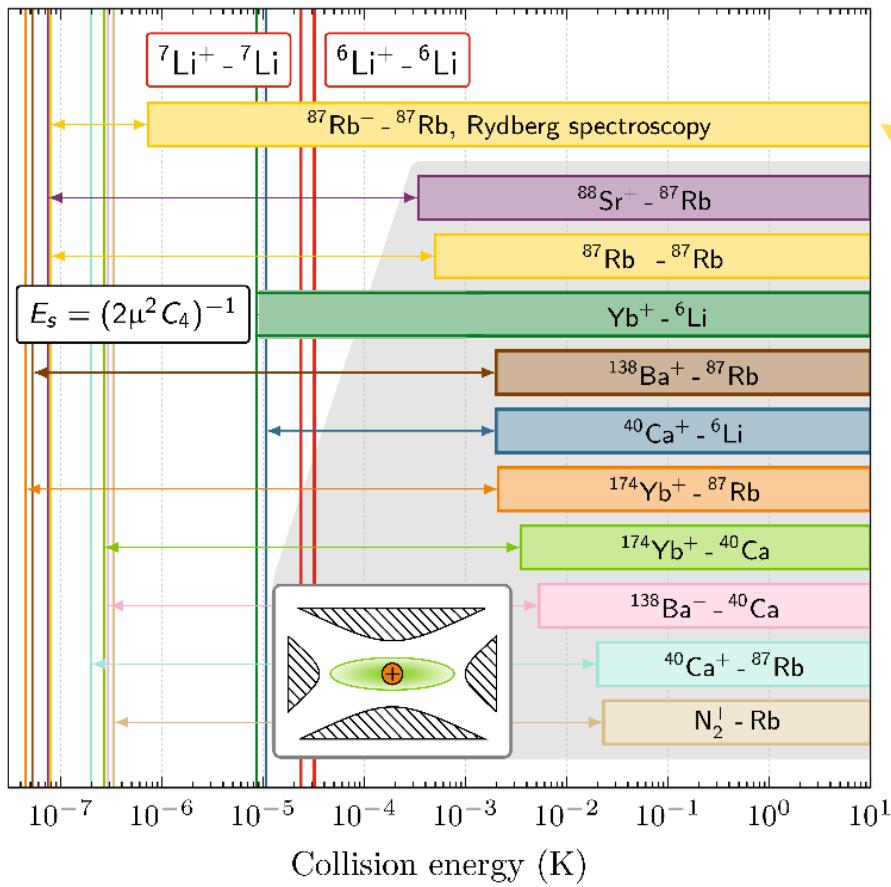
## Light Ion-Molecule Collisions ( $H_2$ )

P. Allmendinger et al., J. Chem. Phys. 145, 244316 (2016)



# Cold ion-atom interaction – State of the art

$$E^* \sim (2\mu^2 C_4)^{-1} \quad \text{s-wave limit}$$



T. Schmid et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 153401 (2018)

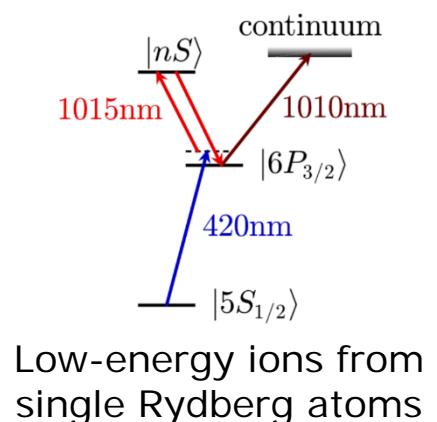
190S

Ion-atom interaction  
inside a Rydberg orbit  
at sub- $\mu$ K temperatures

K. S. Kleinbach, F. Engel, T. Dieterle, R. Löw,  
T. Pfau, and F. Meinert  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 193401 (2018)



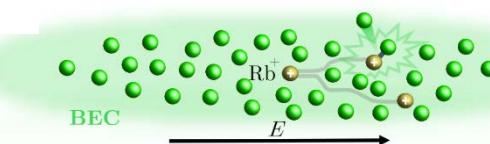
# Rydberg impurities ... from electrons to ions



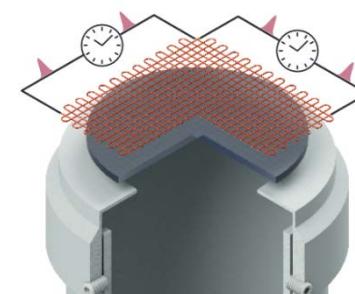
C. Veit, N. Zuber, O. A. Herrera-Sancho, V. S. V. Anasuri, T. Schmid, F. Meinert, R. Löw, and T. Pfau  
Phys. Rev. X **11**, 011036 (2021)

T. Dieterle, M. Berngruber, C. Hözl, R. Löw, K. Jachymski, T. Pfau, and F. Meinert  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **126**, 033401 (2021)

## Ionic transport through a BEC

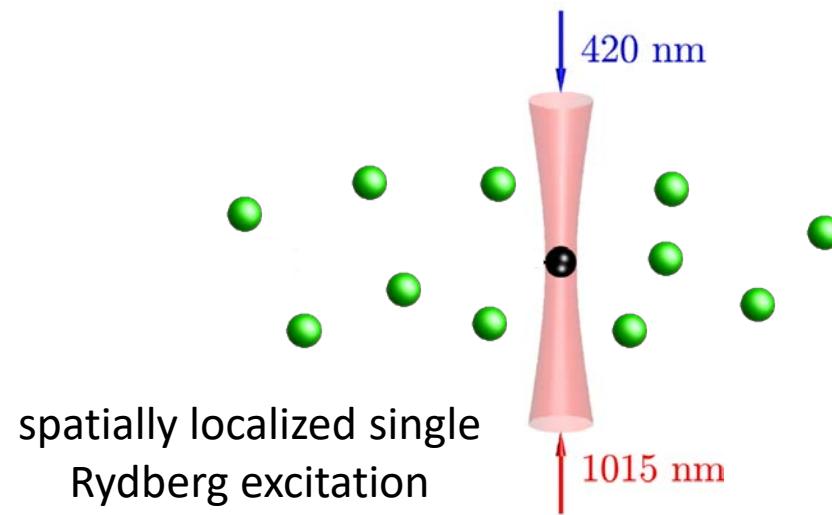
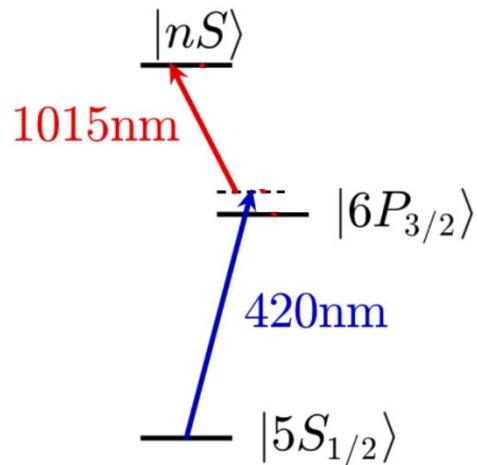


## High-resolution imaging



# Low-energy ions from single Rydberg atoms

Making a single slow ion from  
an ultracold gas

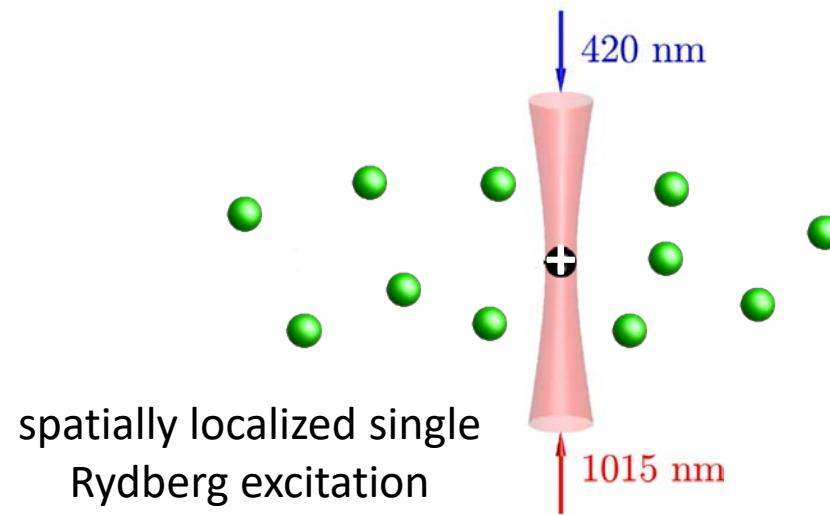
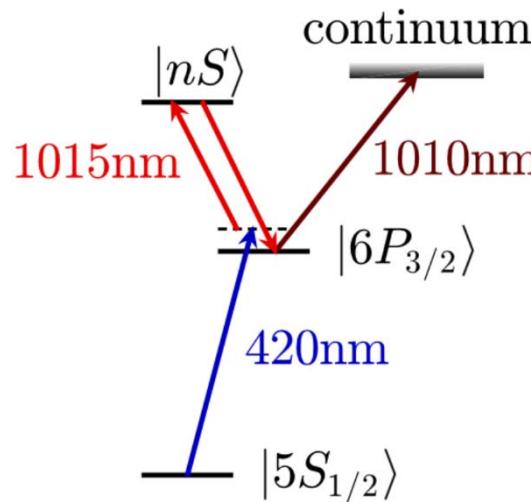


rapid near-threshold „V-type“  
two-photon ionization  
(excess energy < 10  $\mu\text{K}$ )

F. Engel, T. Dieterle, T. Schmid, C. Tomschitz, C. Veit,  
N. Zuber, R. Löw, T. Pfau, and F. Meinert,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 121, 193401 (2018)

# Low-energy ions from single Rydberg atoms

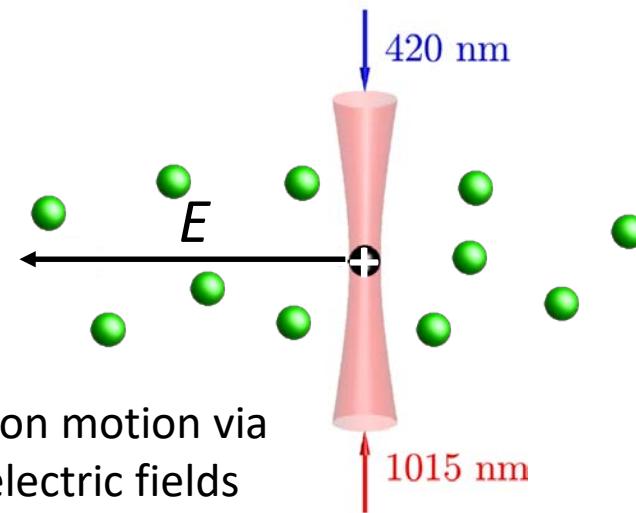
Making a single slow ion from  
an ultracold gas



rapid near-threshold „V-type“  
two-photon ionization  
(excess energy < 10  $\mu\text{K}$ )

F. Engel, T. Dieterle, T. Schmid, C. Tomschitz, C. Veit,  
N. Zuber, R. Löw, T. Pfau, and F. Meinert,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 121, 193401 (2018)

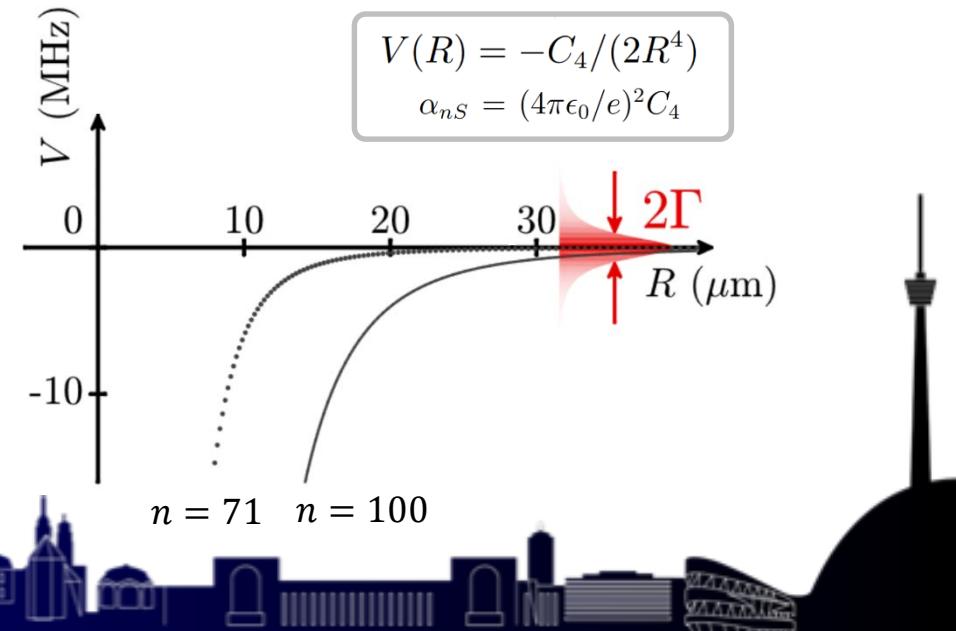
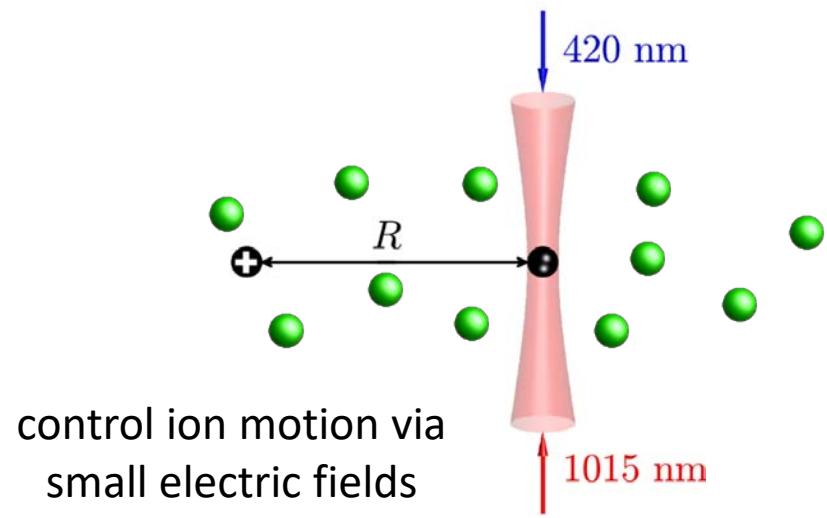
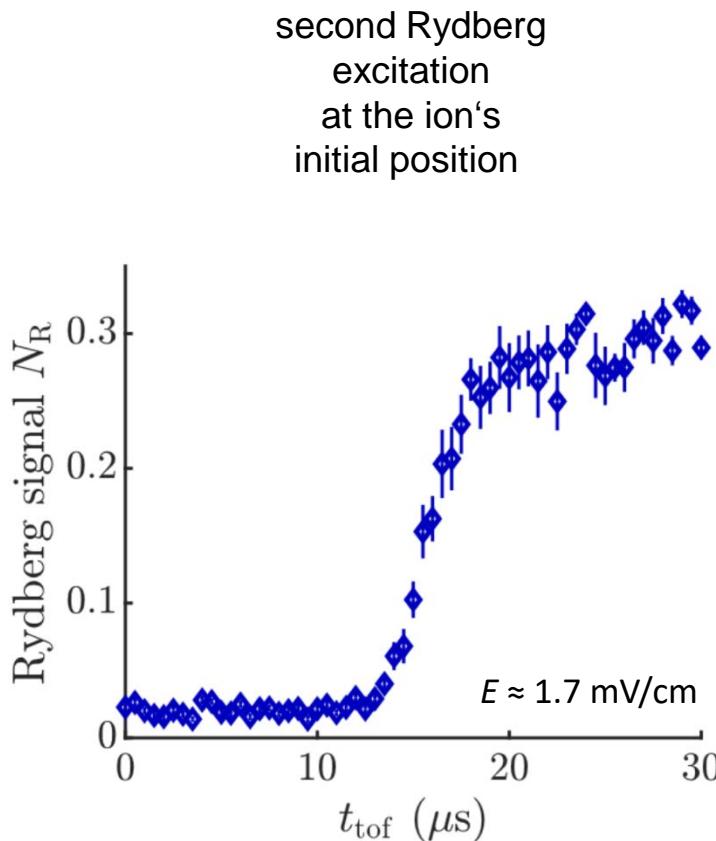
## Probing the ion motion via Rydberg blockade



F. Engel, T. Dieterle, T. Schmid, C. Tomschitz, C. Veit,  
N. Zuber, R. Löw, T. Pfau, and F. Meinert,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 121, 193401 (2018)



# Probing the ion motion via Rydberg blockade

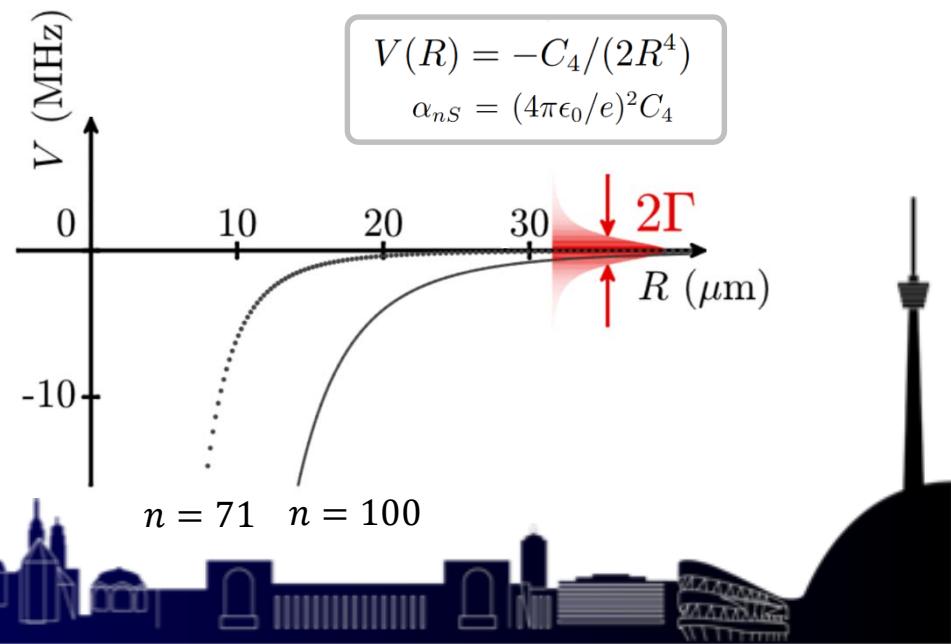
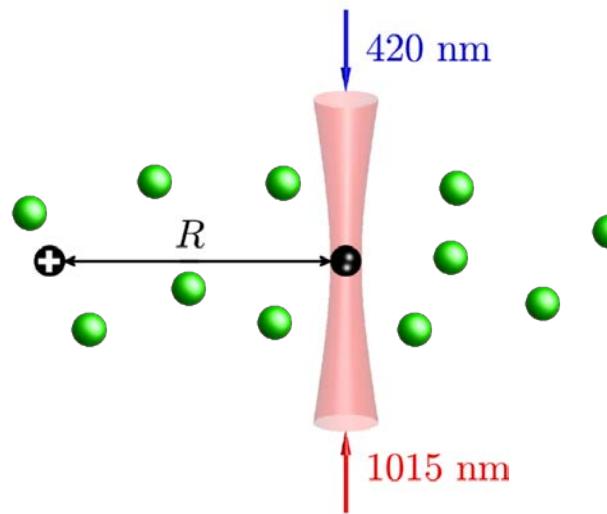
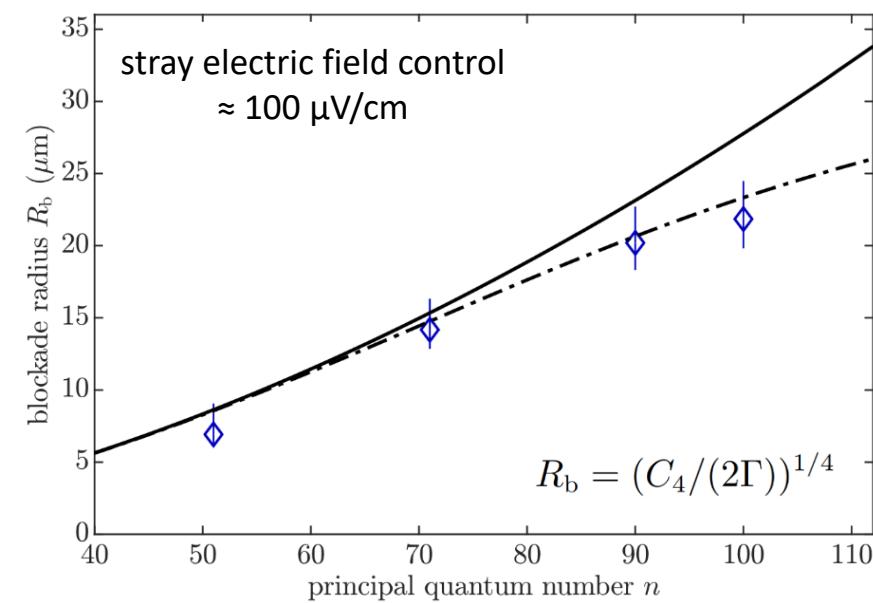


F. Engel, T. Dieterle, T. Schmid, C. Tomschitz, C. Veit, N. Zuber, R. Löw, T. Pfau, and F. Meinert, Phys. Rev. Lett. 121, 193401 (2018)



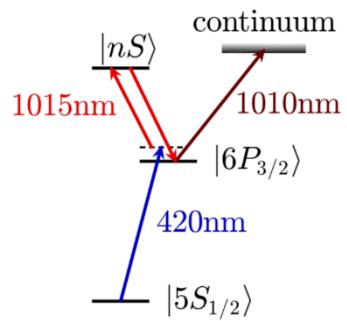
# Probing the ion motion via Rydberg blockade

## Blockade radius of a single ion



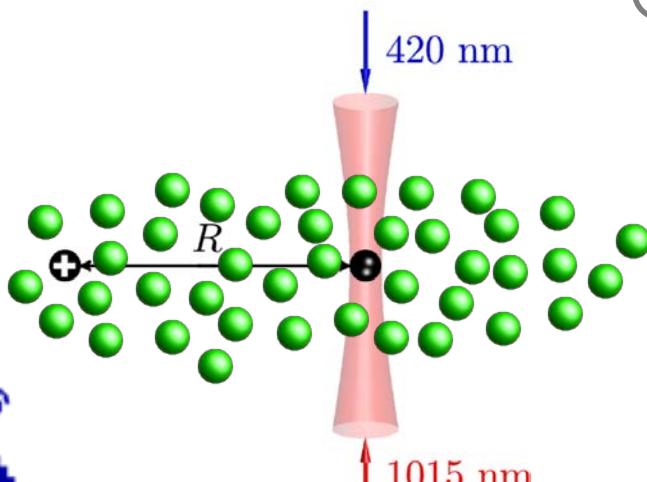
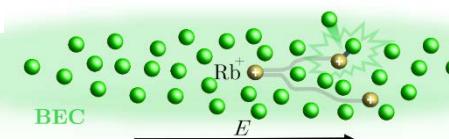
F. Engel, T. Dieterle, T. Schmid, C. Tomschitz, C. Veit, N. Zuber, R. Löw, T. Pfau, and F. Meinert, Phys. Rev. Lett. 121, 193401 (2018)

# Rydberg impurities ... from electrons to ions

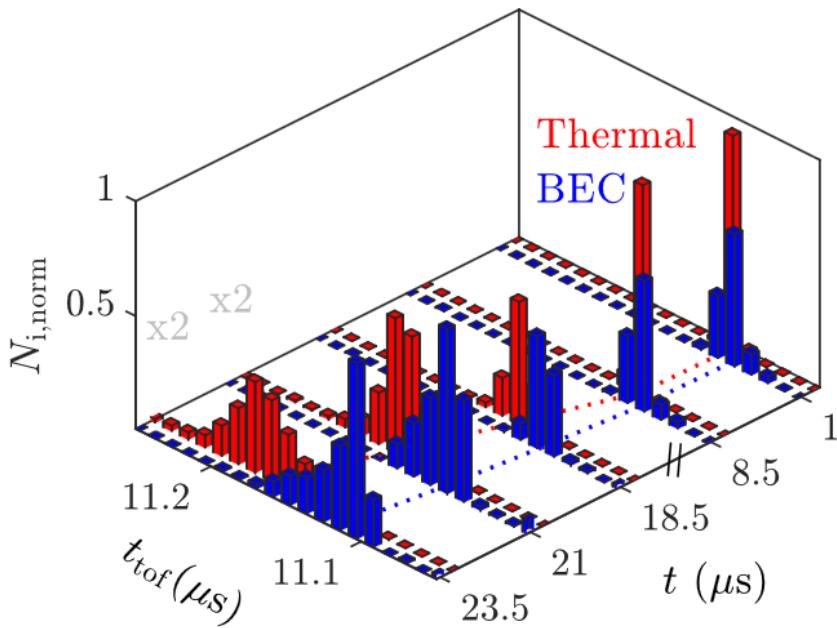
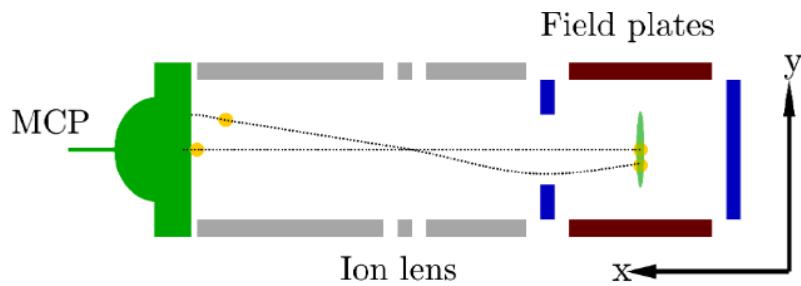


Low-energy ions from single Rydberg atoms

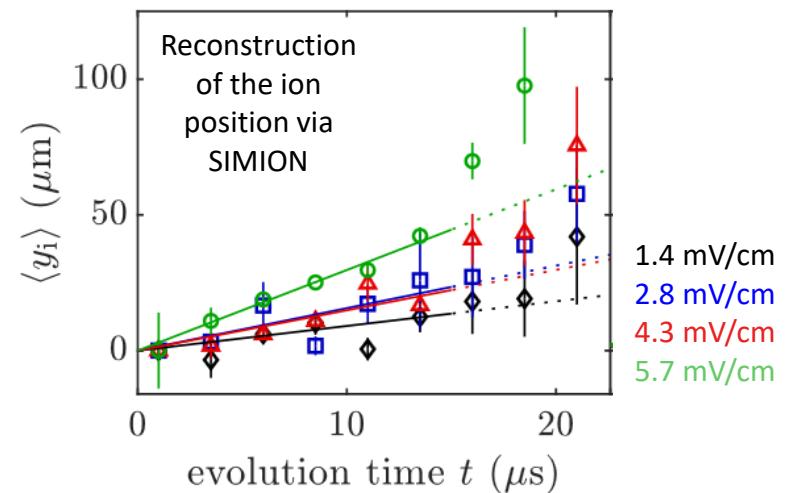
Ionic transport through a BEC



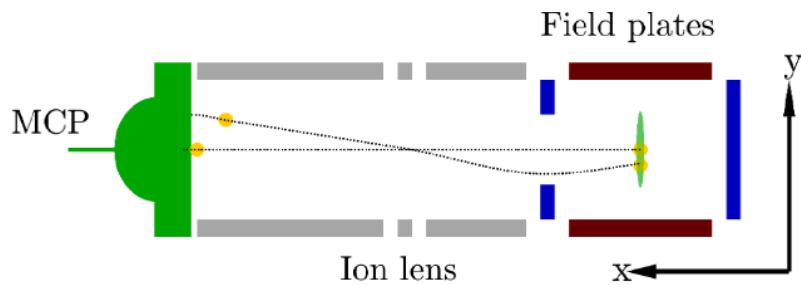
# Ionic transport through a BEC



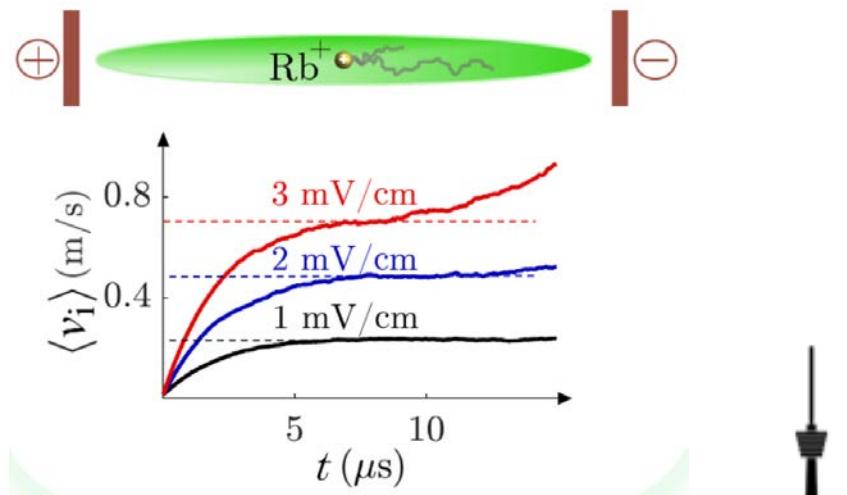
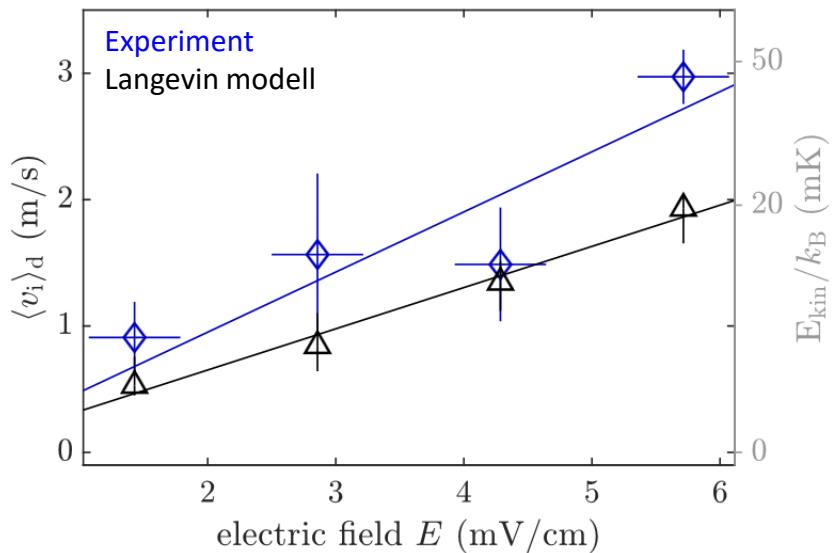
Delay in the time-of-flight to  
the detector signifies  
frequent ion-atom collisions



# Ionic transport through a BEC



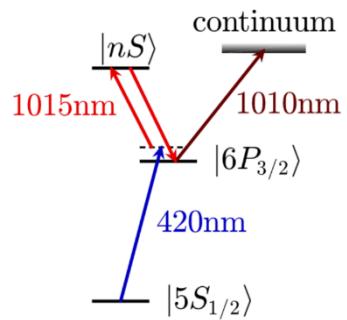
## Diffusive transport and ion mobility



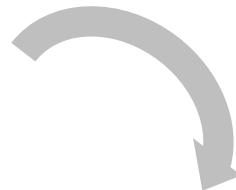
T. Dieterle, M. Berngruber, C. Hözl, R. Löw, K. Jachymski,  
T. Pfau, and F. Meinert  
arXiv: 2007.00309 (2020)



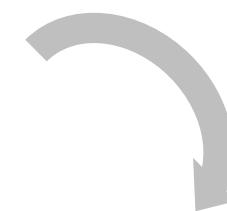
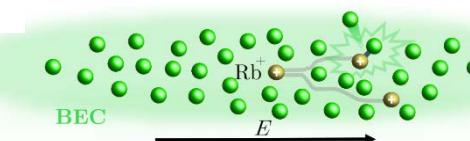
# Rydberg impurities ... from electrons to ions



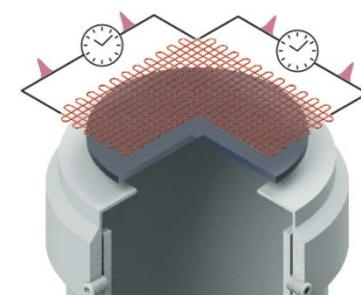
Low-energy ions from single Rydberg atoms



## Ionic transport through a BEC



## High-resolution imaging



T. Dieterle, M. Berngruber, C. Hözl, R. Löw, K. Jachymski,  
T. Pfau, and F. Meinert  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **126**, 033401 (2021)

C. Veit, N. Zuber, O. A. Herrera-Sancho, V. S. V. Anasuri,  
T. Schmid, F. Meinert, R. Löw, and T. Pfau  
Phys. Rev. X **11**, 011036 (2021)



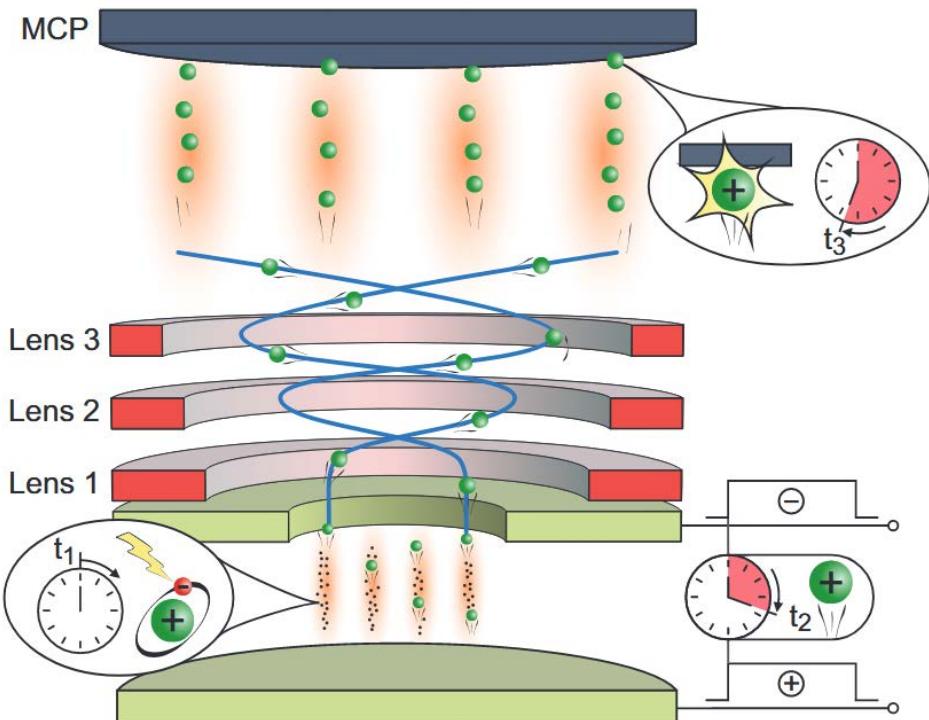
# A new quantum gas microscope our pulsed ion microscope

## Benefits of ion microscope to observe and control single atoms

- imaging of ground state atoms,  
Rydbergs & (ultracold) ionic impurities
- High time resolution (<100 nsec)
- High spatial resolution (<200nm)
- probing of dynamic processes
- 3D-imaging (large depth of field)
- Very good E-Field control: **free cold ions**

### See also

Nat. Phys. **4**, 949 (2008, Ott)  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **107**, 103001 (2011, Raithel)  
New J. Phys. **19**, 043020 (2017, Fortágh/Günther)  
arxiv:2008.08512 (2020)

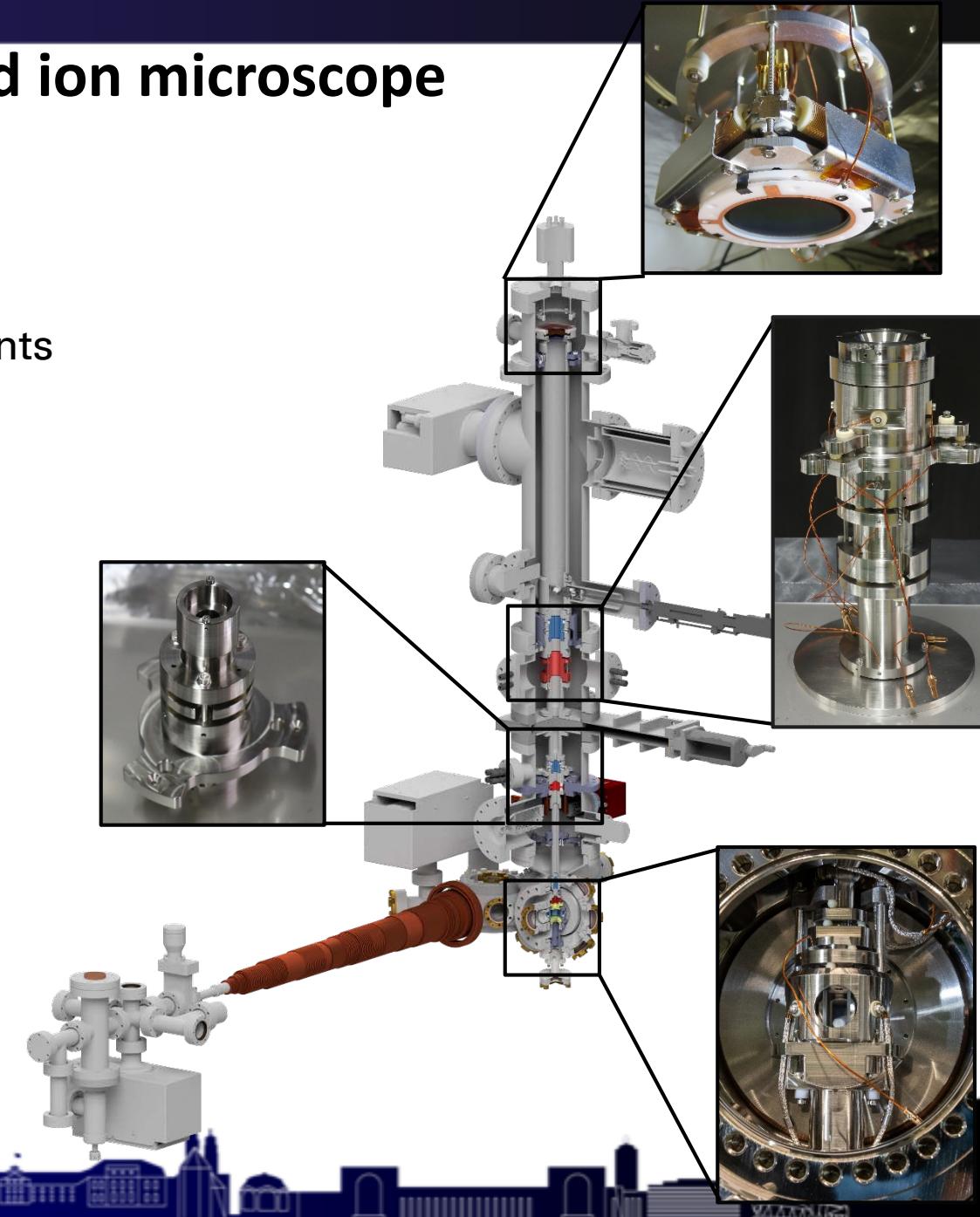
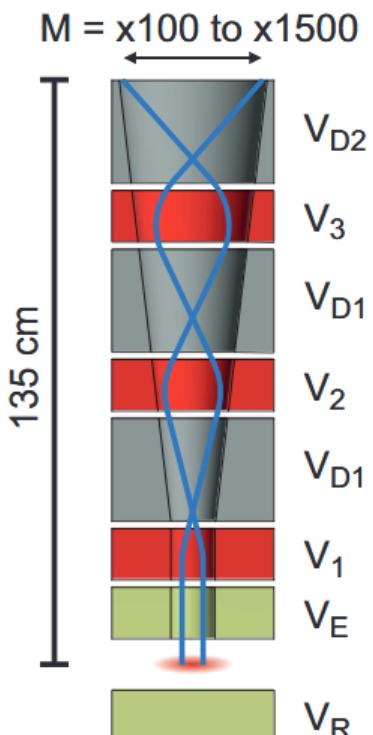


C. Veit et al. Phys. Rev. X **11**, 011036 (2021)



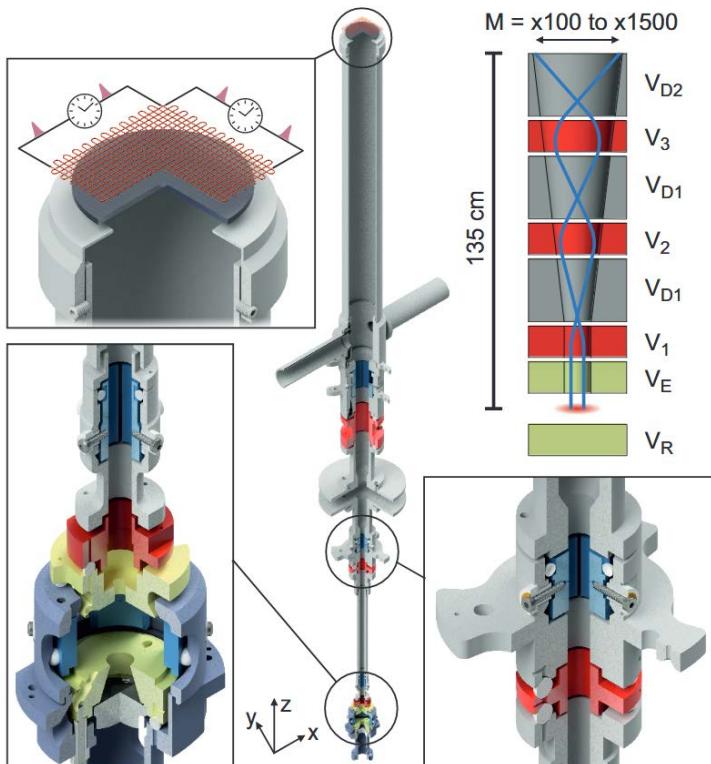
# Pulsed ion microscope

- E-field control
- 3 electro-static lenses
- quadrupole deflector elements
- delay-line detector + MPC



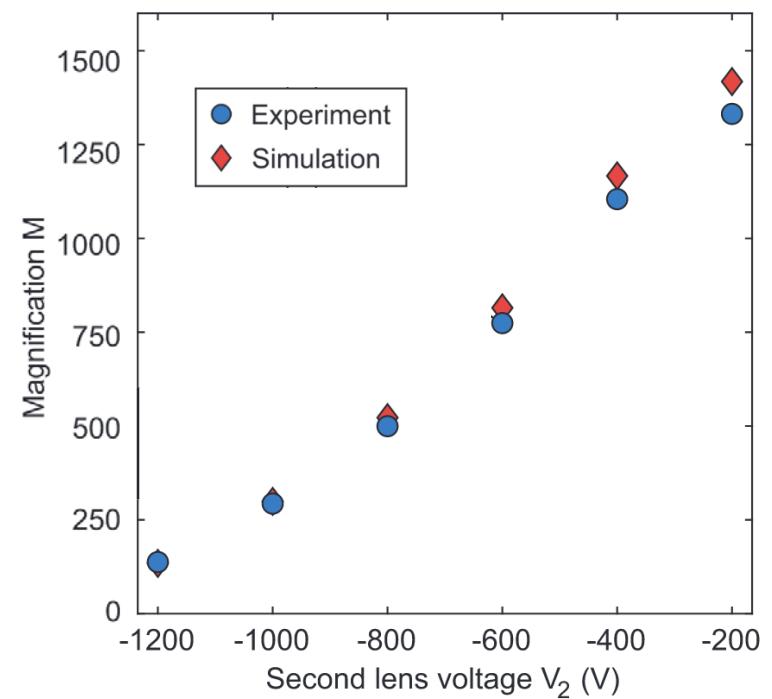
# Ion optics

- E-field control + 3 electro-static lenses
- delay-line detector

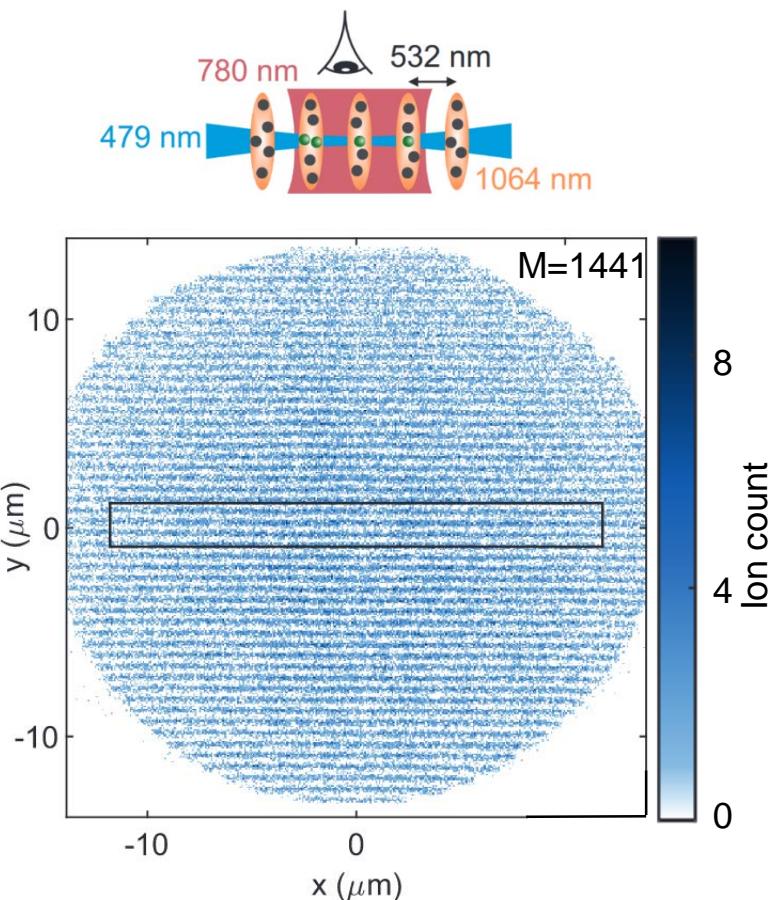


# Magnification

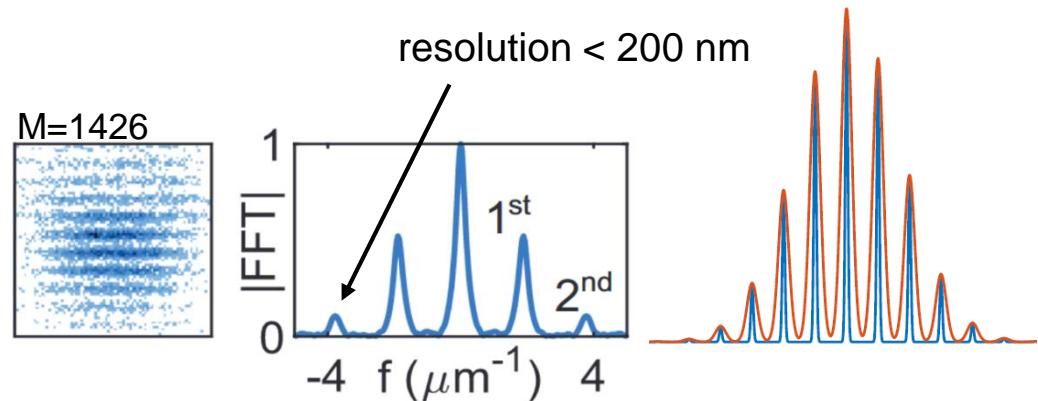
- tuning of  $M$  via lens voltages



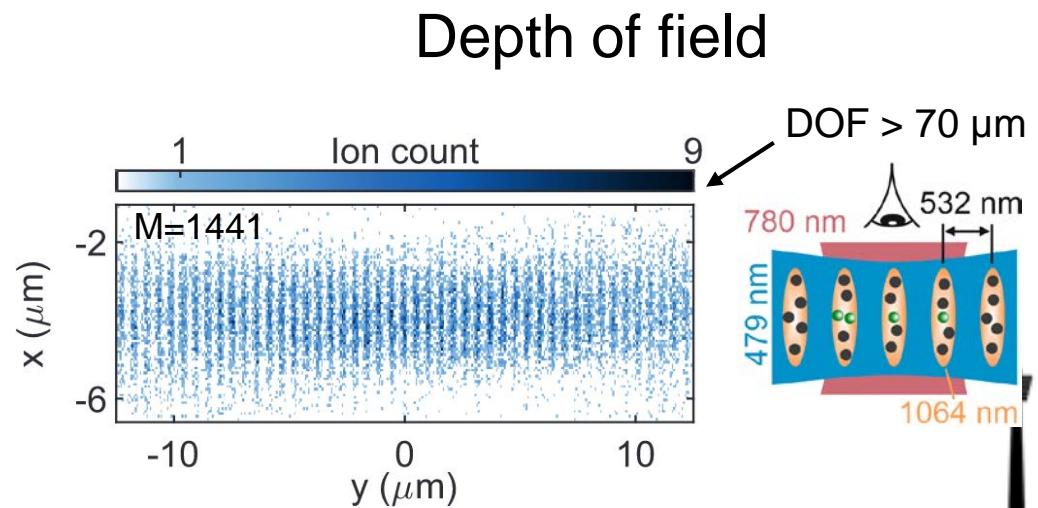
## Field of view



## Resolution



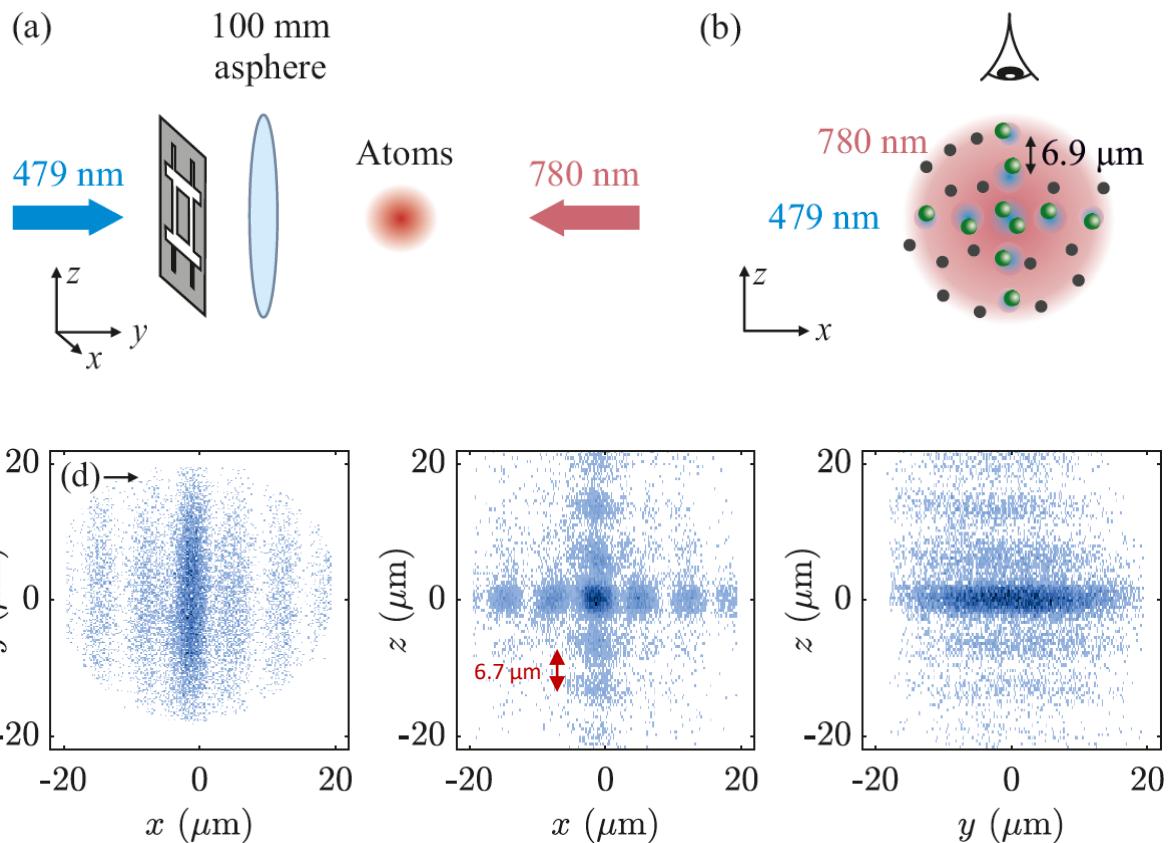
## Depth of field



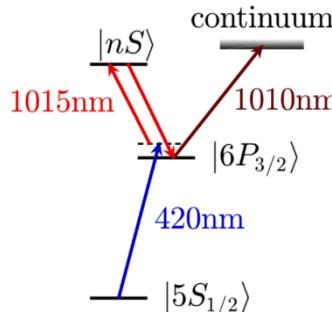
C. Veit, N. Zuber, O. A. Herrera-Sancho, V. S. V. Anasuri, T. Schmid,  
F. Meinert, R. Löw, and T. Pfau  
*Phys. Rev. X* **11**, 011036 (2021)

# 3D imaging – pulsed operation mode

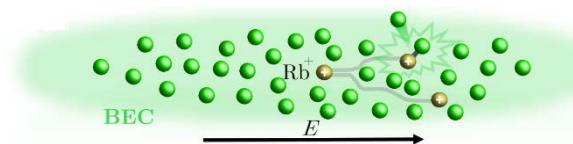
- 3D imaging via TOF information
- 2D-diffraction pattern
- expected achievable resolution  $<1\mu\text{m}$



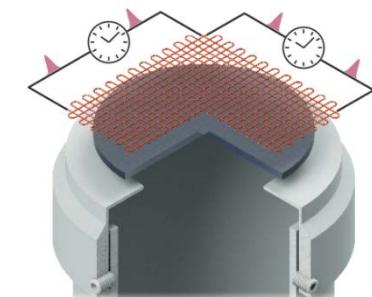
C. Veit, N. Zuber, O. A. Herrera-Sancho, V. S. V. Anasuri, T. Schmid,  
F. Meinert, R. Löw, and T. Pfau  
*Phys. Rev. X* **11**, 011036 (2021)



Single  
low-energy ions



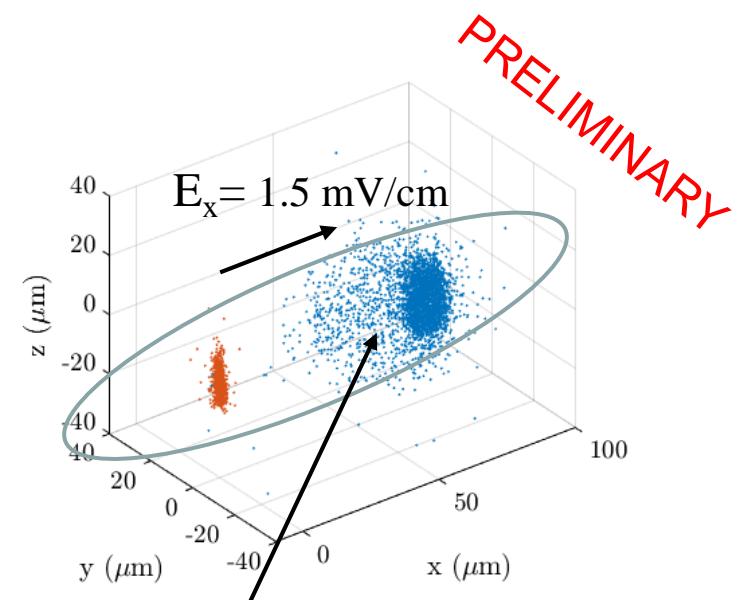
Diffusive ion transport  
in a BEC



Ion microscopy

## What's next?

- microscopy of ionic transport
- quantum regime of ion-atom scattering
- ionic polarons
- bosonic and fermionic bath
- ...



Scattering halo of a single Langevin collision  
under the microscope  
(30  $\mu s$  TOF)

