PRECISION MEASUREMENT OF ATOM-DIMER INTERACTION IN A UNIFORM PLANAR BOSE GAS



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Cold molecules and interactions

challenging experiments

- many degrees of freedom
- moderately degenerate gases of molecules but no BEC yet
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motivations

- Bose-Einstein condensation
- cold polar molecules with strong dipole-dipole interactions
- cold chemistry, quantum simulation, sensitive probe...



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first theoretical predictions for $|a| \to +\infty$

fermions: determination of $a_{\rm ad}$ and $a_{\rm dd}$

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interaction between a **dimer** and an **atomic bath** in a mean field framework



2. Creation of dimers from a cold atomic bath

3. Precise measurement of the atom-dimer scattering length

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the experiment:

- preparation of a 3D BEC
- loading in a single node of an optical lattice
- tunable hard-wall box potential (DMD)
- uniform density



single atom energy diagram

single atom energy diagram



single atom energy diagram

two atoms energy diagram $\ell=0$











Least-bound state

in real life \rightarrow hyperfine structure, singlet-triplet coupling, Zeeman diagram: simple model $\ell=0$

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precise measurement:

- T = 0: no kinetic broadening
- uniform surface density
- magnetic-insensitive line

Density dependence of the atom-dimer line

initial atomic gas:

- zero temperature
- uniform surface density $n_{\rm a}$



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atom-dimer line shift

$$\Delta \nu / n_{\rm a} = h\nu - h\nu_0 = -7.3(3) \,\mathrm{Hz}/\mathrm{\mu m}^{-2} \qquad \rightarrow \mathrm{gives} \ a_{\rm ad}$$

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photoassociation resonance:

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 $-h\nu_0$

 $h
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photoassociation resonance:

$\begin{array}{l} - h\nu_0 \\ - 2\mu_{\rm a} \\ - E_{\rm dimer,bath} = \frac{2\pi\hbar^2}{M_{\rm r}} a_{\rm ad} \int \rho_{\rm a} f_{\rm d} \, {\rm d}z \end{array}$

 $\begin{array}{l} \rho_{\rm a}\text{: atomic density profile, } \int \rho_{\rm a}\,{\rm d}z=n_{\rm a}\\ f_{\rm d}\text{: dimer distribution function, } \int f_{\rm d}\,{\rm d}z=1 \end{array}$

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homogeneous planar gas

 $\rightarrow E_{\rm dimer, bath}$ determined by the vertical overlap of the atoms and dimer distributions

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$$\Delta \nu/n_{\rm a} = h\nu - h\nu_0 = -7.3(3) \,\mathrm{Hz/\mu m^{-2}} \longrightarrow \mathrm{gives} \ a_{\rm ad}$$



homogeneous planar gas

 $\rightarrow E_{\rm dimer, bath}$ determined by the vertical overlap of the atoms and dimer distributions

 \rightarrow experimental determination of an atom-dimer scattering length

 $a_{\rm ad} = 184(2) a_0$

see also R. Wynar et al. Science, 287 (2000) error bar ~ signal















 \rightarrow linear shifts





 \rightarrow linear shifts

same dimer, different atomic bathdifferent dimer, same atomic bath $M_1:$ $a_{ad} = 184(2) a_0$ $M_2:$ $a_{ad} = 21(7) a_0$ $M_{1_b}:$ $a_{ad} = 165(7) a_0$ \rightarrow large difference of a_{ad}





 \rightarrow linear shifts

same dimer, different atomic bath $M_1: \quad a_{ad} = 184(2) a_0$ $M_{1_b}: \quad a_{ad} = 165(7) a_0$ $\rightarrow similar a_{ad}$ $a \leftrightarrow a_{ad}$? van der Waal universality ? P. M. A. Mestrom PRA (2017)

different dimer, same atomic bath

$$M_2: \quad a_{ad} = 21(7) a_0$$

 \rightarrow large difference of $a_{\rm ad}$

Conclusion

 \rightarrow first quantitative measurement of the atom-dimer scattering length



is there universality for the least bound states? $C_6 \rightarrow a \rightarrow a_{ad}$



Thank you!



Contributors

Brice Bakkali Hassani Guillaume Chauveau Franco Rabec

Jérôme Beugnon Sylvain Nascimbène Jean Dalibard

C. Maury et al. Physical Review Research, 5 L012020 (2023)

Photoassociation



Line width and scaling



Atomic losses



Least vibrational state spectroscopy



simple model for a weakly bound state $A_{\rm st} \ll A_{\rm hfs}$:

$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_{\rm hfs} + \hat{H}_{\rm Z} + \hat{H}_{\rm st}$$
$$\hat{H}_{\rm st} = A_{\rm st} \hat{\boldsymbol{s}}_1 \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{s}}_2$$

$$\begin{split} n &= -1; \\ E_0 &= -h \cdot 24.985(1) \; \mathrm{MHz} \\ A_{\mathrm{st}} &= h \cdot 2.875(5) \; \mathrm{MHz} \\ n &= -2; \\ E_0 &= -h \cdot 642.219(1) \; \mathrm{MHz} \\ \mathrm{van} \; \mathrm{der} \; \mathrm{Waals}; \\ n &= -1 \to \sim 1 \; \mathrm{kHz}, \\ n &= -2 \to \sim 11 \; \mathrm{kHz} \end{split}$$

Density dependence of the atom-dimer lines

