

---

# Mean-Field Dynamics of the Bose-Hubbard Model in High Dimension

---

[1]

Denis Périce

Joint work with: Shahnaz Farhat & Sören Petrat  
Constructor university Bremen



Mathematical Challenges in Quantum Mechanics  
Gran Sasso Science Institute, L'Aquila

11/02/2025

# 1 Motivations

Usual many-body  $N \rightarrow \infty$  mean field:

$$H_N := \sum_{i=1}^N (-\Delta_i) + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq N} w(X_i - X_j)$$

## Our goal

- Mean field limit as  $d \rightarrow \infty$
- Describe a phase transition
- Strong particle interactions

**Model:** interacting bosons on a lattice

- Simple mathematical description
- Great success in physics:  
Mott-insulator \ Superfluid phase transition
- Mean field justified when  $d \rightarrow \infty$   
and effective in  $d = 3$

**Result:** convergence of the many-body dynamics to the mean field dynamics when  $d \rightarrow \infty$

Quantum phase transition from a superfluid to a Mott insulator in an ultracold gas of atoms

M. Greiner<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, O. Mandel<sup>a,b</sup>, T. Rom<sup>a,b</sup>, A. Altmeppen<sup>a,b</sup>, A. Widera<sup>a,b</sup>,  
T.W. Hänsch<sup>a,b</sup>, I. Bloch<sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Sektion Physik, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Schellingstr. 4/III, D-80799 Munich, Germany  
<sup>b</sup>Max-Planck-Institut für Quantenoptik, D-85748 Garching, Germany

---

### Abstract

A quantum phase transition from a superfluid to a Mott insulating ground state was observed in a Bose-Einstein condensate stored in a three-dimensional optical lattice potential. With this experiment a new field of physics with ultracold atomic quantum gases is entered. Now interactions between atoms dominate the behavior of the many-body system, such that it cannot be described by the usual theories for weakly interacting Bose gases anymore.  
© 2003 Published by Elsevier Science B.V.

## Experimental observation of the phase transition [2]

PHYSICAL REVIEW B

VOLUME 40, NUMBER 1

1 JULY 1989

### Boson localization and the superfluid-insulator transition

Matthew P. A. Fisher

IBM Research Division, Thomas J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, New York 10598

Peter B. Weichman

Condensed Matter Physics 114-36, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California 91125

G. Grinstein

IBM Research Division, Thomas J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, New York 10598

Daniel S. Fisher

Joseph Henry Laboratory of Physics, Juddwin Hall, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey 08544

## Theoretical description of the mean field theory [3]

## 2 Bose-Hubbard model

**Lattice:**  $\Lambda := (\mathbb{Z}/L\mathbb{Z})^d$  with  $d, L \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $d, L \geq 2$  of volume  $|\Lambda| = L^d$

**One-lattice-site Hilbert space:**  $\ell^2(\mathbb{C})$  of canonical basis  $|n\rangle := (0, \dots, 0, \underbrace{1}_{n^{\text{th index}}, 0, \dots}), n \in \mathbb{N}$

**2<sup>nd</sup> quantization:** creation and annihilation operators:

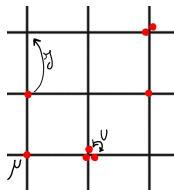
$$a|0\rangle := 0 \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}^*, \quad a|n\rangle := \sqrt{n}|n-1\rangle, \quad (1)$$

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \quad a^\dagger|n\rangle := \sqrt{n+1}|n+1\rangle \quad (2)$$

$$[a, a^\dagger] = 1 \quad (\text{CCR})$$

**Particle number:**  $\mathcal{N} := a^\dagger a$

**Fock space:**  $\ell^2(\mathbb{C})^{\otimes |\Lambda|} \cong \mathcal{F}_+(L^2(\Lambda, \mathbb{C})) := \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{N}} L^2(\Lambda, \mathbb{C})^{\otimes n}$  (3)



**Bose-Hubbard** hamiltonian of parameters  $J, \mu, U \in \mathbb{R}$ :

$$H_d := -\frac{J}{2d} \sum_{\substack{x,y \in \Lambda \\ x \sim y}} \overbrace{a_x^\dagger a_y}^{\mathcal{O}(2d|\Lambda|)} + (J - \mu) \sum_{x \in \Lambda} \mathcal{N}_x + \frac{U}{2} \sum_{x \in \Lambda} \mathcal{N}_x(\mathcal{N}_x - 1) \quad (4)$$

**Dynamics for  $\gamma_d \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+, \mathcal{L}^1(\ell^2(\mathbb{C})^{\otimes |\Lambda|}))$ :**

$$i\partial_t \gamma_d(t) = [H_d, \gamma_d(t)] \quad (\text{B-H})$$

**First reduced one-lattice-site density matrix:**

$$\gamma_d^{(1)} := \frac{1}{|\Lambda|} \sum_{x \in \Lambda} \text{Tr}_{\Lambda \setminus \{x\}}(\gamma_d) \quad (5)$$

### 3 Mean field theory

Mean field hamiltonian for  $\varphi \in \ell^2(\mathbb{C})$ :

$$h^\varphi := -J(\overline{\alpha_\varphi} a + \alpha_\varphi a^\dagger - |\alpha_\varphi|^2) + (J - \mu)\mathcal{N} + \frac{U}{2}\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{N} - 1) \quad (6)$$

with the order parameter

$$\alpha_\varphi := \langle \varphi | a \varphi \rangle$$

**Phase transition:** Decompose

$$\varphi =: \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \lambda_n |n\rangle \implies \alpha_\varphi = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \sqrt{n+1} \overline{\lambda_n} \lambda_{n+1}$$

- Mott Insulator (MI):  $\alpha_\varphi = 0$
- Superfluid (SF):  $\alpha_\varphi > 0$

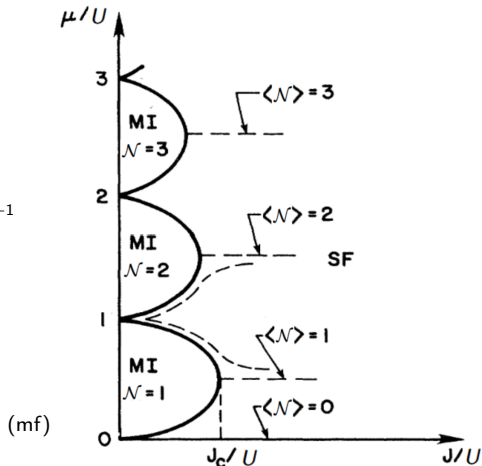
**Dynamics**

For  $\varphi \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+, \ell^2(\mathbb{C}))$ ,

$$i\partial_t \varphi(t) = h^{\varphi(t)} \varphi(t)$$

Corresponding projection

$$p_\varphi := |\varphi\rangle \langle \varphi|$$



Mott insulator \ Superfluid phase diagram obtained  
(7) by minimizing  $\varphi \mapsto \langle \varphi | h^\varphi \varphi \rangle$  [3]

## 4 Main result

### Recap

$$\gamma_d^{(1)} := \frac{1}{|\Lambda|} \sum_{x \in \Lambda} \text{Tr}_{\Lambda \setminus \{x\}} (\gamma_d) \quad i\partial_t \gamma_d = \left[ -\frac{J}{2d} \sum_{\substack{x,y \in \Lambda \\ x \sim y}} a_x^\dagger a_y + (J - \mu) \sum_{x \in \Lambda} \mathcal{N}_x + \frac{U}{2} \sum_{x \in \Lambda} \mathcal{N}_x (\mathcal{N}_x - 1), \gamma_d \right] \quad (\text{B-H})$$

$$\alpha_\varphi := \langle \varphi | a \varphi \rangle \quad i\partial_t \varphi = \left( -J(\alpha_\varphi a + \overline{\alpha_\varphi} a^\dagger - |\alpha_\varphi|^2) + (J - \mu)\mathcal{N} + \frac{U}{2}\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{N} - 1) \right) \varphi \quad (\text{mf})$$

### Theorem: S.Farhat D.P S.Petrat 2025

Assume

- $\gamma_d$  solves (B-H) with  $\gamma_d(0) \in \mathcal{L}^1(\ell^2(\mathbb{C})^{\otimes |\Lambda|})$  such that  $\text{Tr}(\gamma_d(0)) = 1$
- $\varphi$  solves (mf) with  $\varphi(0) \in \ell^2(\mathbb{C})$  such that  $\|\varphi\|_{\ell^2} = 1$
- $\exists c_1, c_2 > 0$  such that  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\text{Tr}(p_\varphi(0) \mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{N}=n}) \leq c_1 e^{-\frac{n}{c_2}} \quad \text{Tr}(\gamma_d^{(1)}(0) \mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{N}=n}) \leq c_1 e^{-\frac{n}{c_2}}. \quad (8)$$

Then  $\exists C := C(J, c_1, c_2, \text{Tr}(p_\varphi(0)\mathcal{N})) > 0$  such that  $\forall t \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ,

$$\left\| \gamma_d^{(1)}(t) - p_\varphi(t) \right\|_{\mathcal{L}^1} \leq C e^{Cte^{Ct} \sqrt{\ln(d)}} \left( \left\| \gamma_d^{(1)}(0) - p_\varphi(0) \right\|_{\mathcal{L}^1} + \frac{1}{d\sqrt{\ln(d)}} \right) \quad (9)$$

If  $\left\| \gamma_d^{(1)}(0) - p_\varphi(0) \right\|_{\mathcal{L}^1} = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{d}\right)$ , then  $\forall t \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ,

$$\left\| \gamma_d^{(1)}(t) - p_\varphi(t) \right\|_{\mathcal{L}^1} \lesssim e^{Cte^{Ct} \sqrt{\ln(d)} - \ln(d)} \xrightarrow{d \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

# Thank you for your attention

## References

- [1] S.Farhat D.Périce S.Petrat. "Mean-Field Dynamics of the Bose-Hubbard Model in High Dimension". In: (2025). DOI: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2501.05304>.
- [2] M.Greiner O.Mandel T.Rom A.Altmeyer A.Widera T.W.Hänsch I.Bloch. "Quantum phase transition from a superfluid to a Mott insulator in an ultracold gas of atoms". In: *Physica B: Condensed Matter* (2003). DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0921-4526\(02\)01872-0](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0921-4526(02)01872-0).
- [3] M.P.A. Fisher P.B.Weichman G.Grinstein D.S.Fisher. "Boson localization and the superfluid-insulator transition". In: *Phys. Rev. B* (1989). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevB.40.546>.