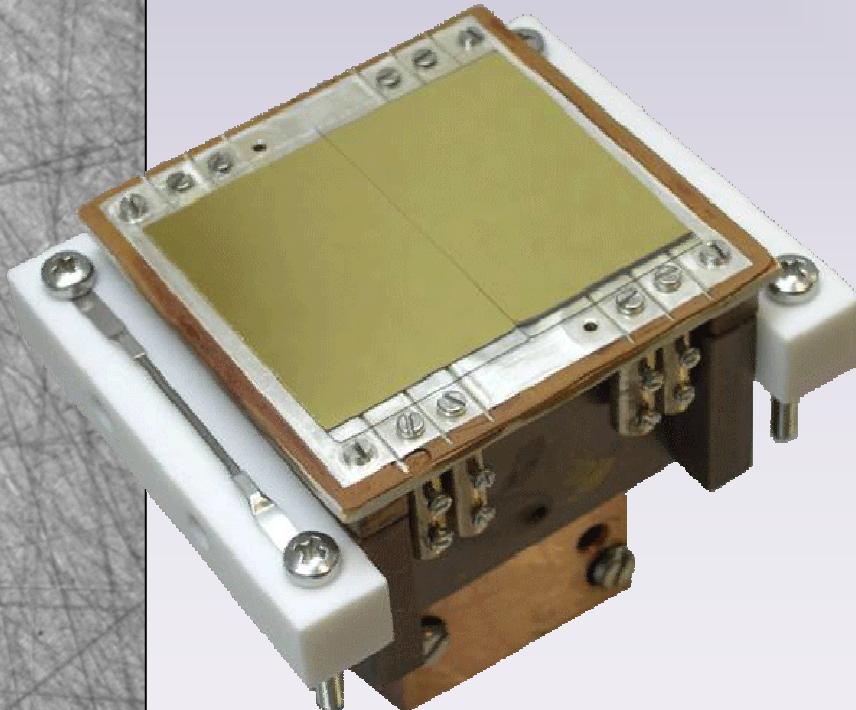




# Magnetic field topology with ultra-cold atoms

*Brenton Hall  
Shannon Whitlock  
Russell Anderson  
Peter Hannaford  
Andrei Sidorov*



# » Atom chips and BEC

» »

## Advantages of using atom chips

### Tight, stable and small trapping potentials.

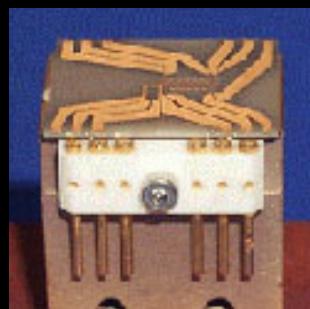
- High elastic collision rates for evaporative cooling.
- 1 dimensional physics, (*Lamb-Dicke regime, Tonks-Girardeau regime*)
- Small structures of order  $\lambda_{\text{DB}}$ , (*tunnelling, quantum reflection, Josephson oscillation, Anderson localisation, etc*)

### Interactions with surfaces.

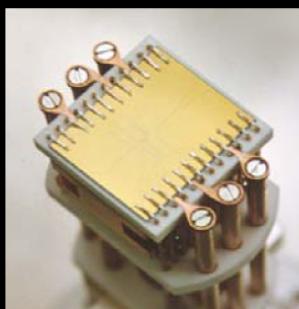
- Precise control over cloud position, *surface tomography, magnetometry*.
- Casimir Polder interactions.
- Mechanisms for decoherence, *coupling to environment, atom loss, heating, etc...*

### Integrated atom optics. *Waveguides, beam splitters, interferometers, atom sources, detection*

Active BEC on a chip experiments currently include: *Munich, Tübingen, Heidelberg, London, Stanford, Boston, Paris/Orsay, Boulder, Brisbane, Swinburne, Tokyo, Toronto ....*



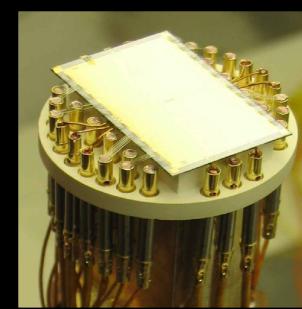
MPQ  
(1999)



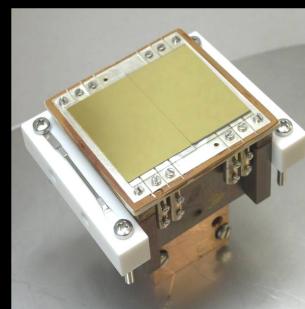
Universität Heidelberg  
(2002)



University of Queensland  
(2004)



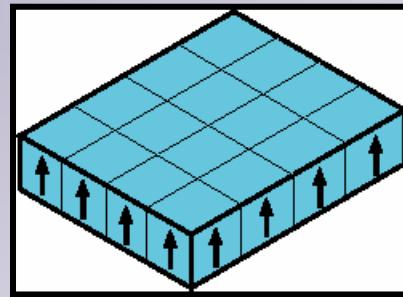
Universiteit van Amsterdam  
(2005)



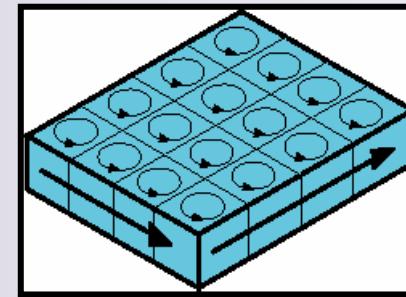
Swinburne University  
(2005)

# » The Swinburne atom chip ————— » »

How to trap using permanent magnetic films ?



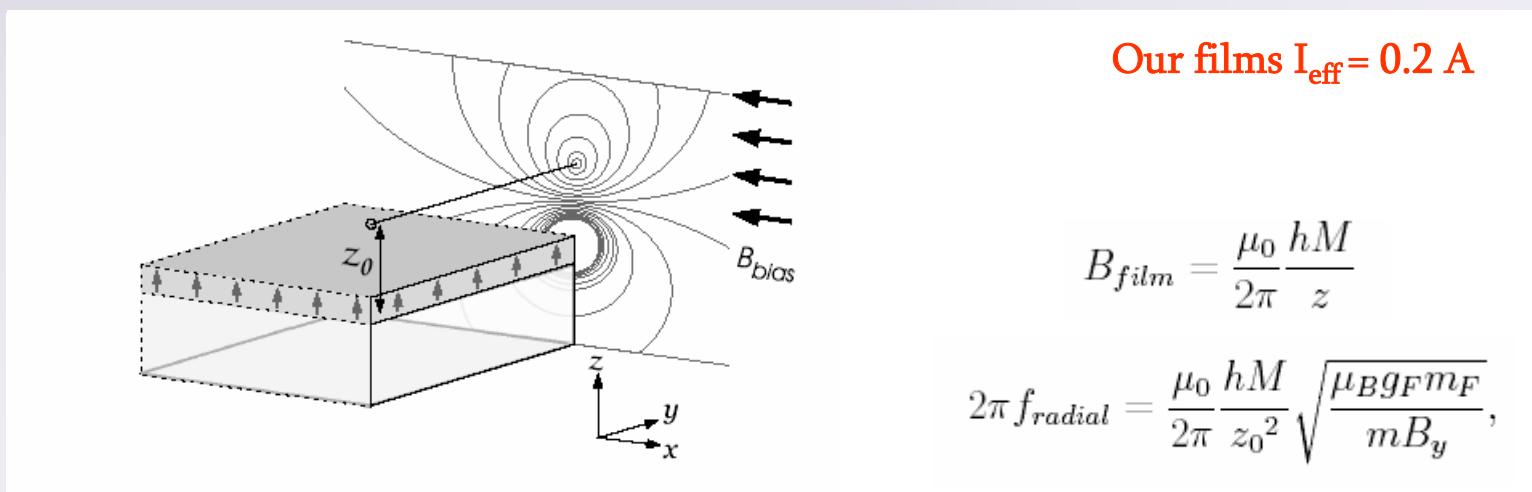
$h$  =



*Remanent magnetisation  $M$*

*Perimeter current  $I_{eff}$*

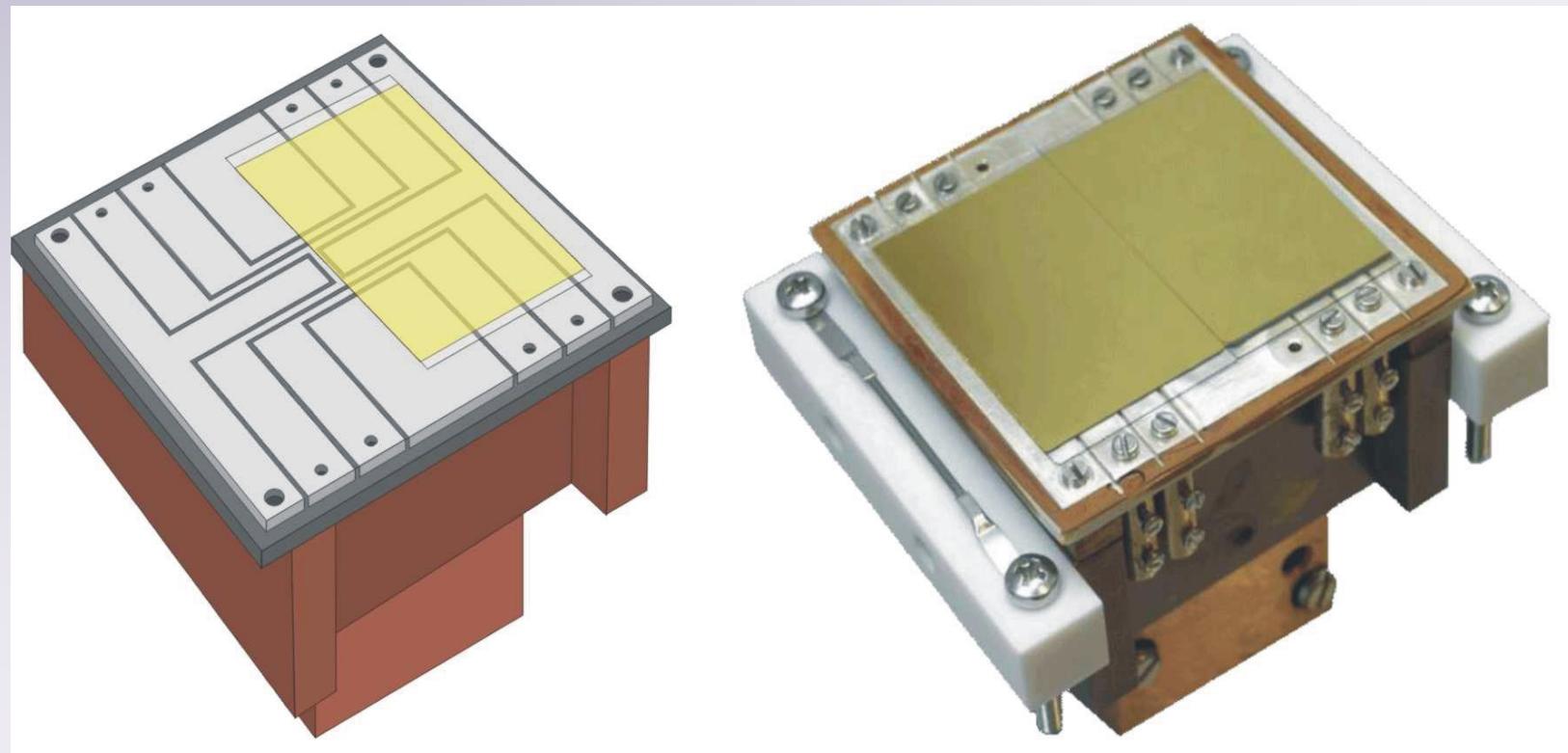
$M \times h$  is an “effective current”  $I_{eff}$



## » The Swinburne atom chip ————— » »

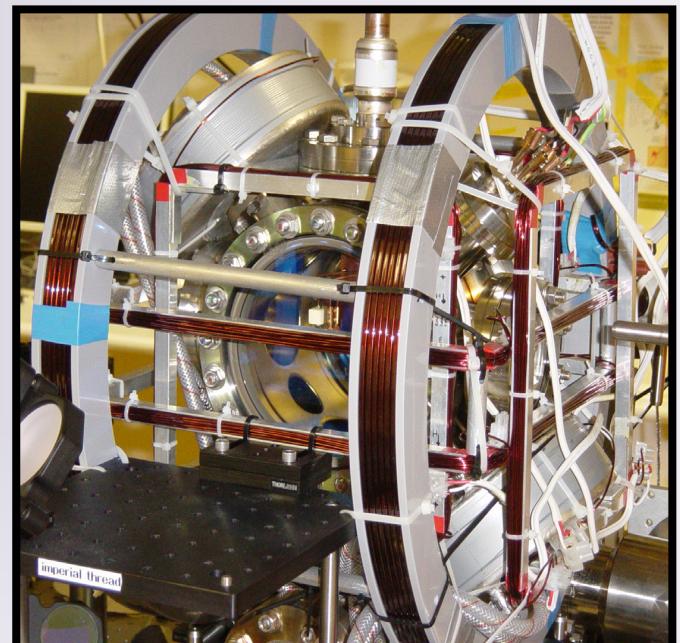
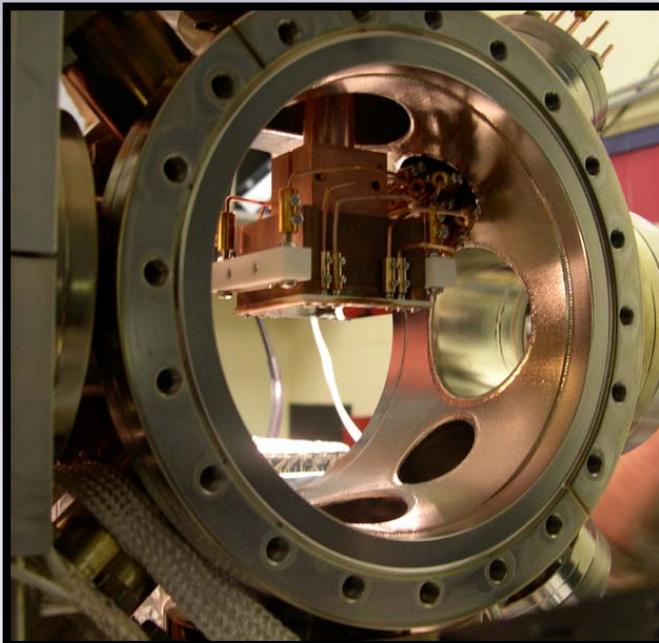
### Atom chip concept

A hybrid design atom chip incorporating a permanent magnetic film (GdTbFeCo) and a current carrying 'H' wire structure.



# » The Swinburne atom chip ————— » »

Single chamber vacuum system



# » The Swinburne atom chip — » »

## Sequence of events

100 ms      Destroy MOT / start clean cycle

9000 ms      Pulse Rb dispenser at 6.5A

15000 ms      Rb vapour decays

20 ms      Transfer to U-MOT

2 ms      Polarisation gradient cooling

1 ms      Transfer to magnetic Z trap

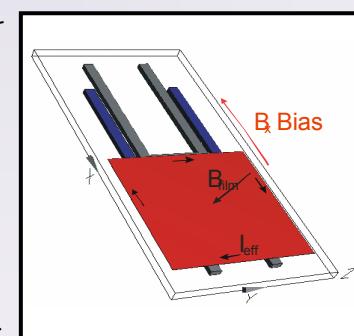
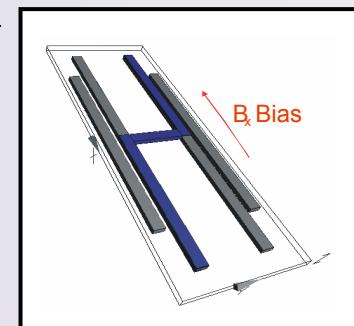
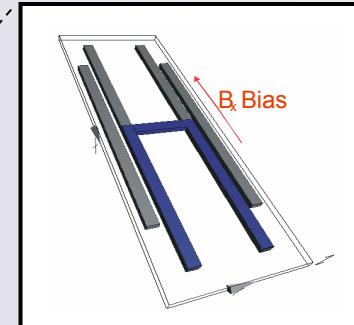
100 ms      Adiabatic compression of Z trap

8800 ms      Initial RF evaporation

150 ms      Transfer to magnetic film

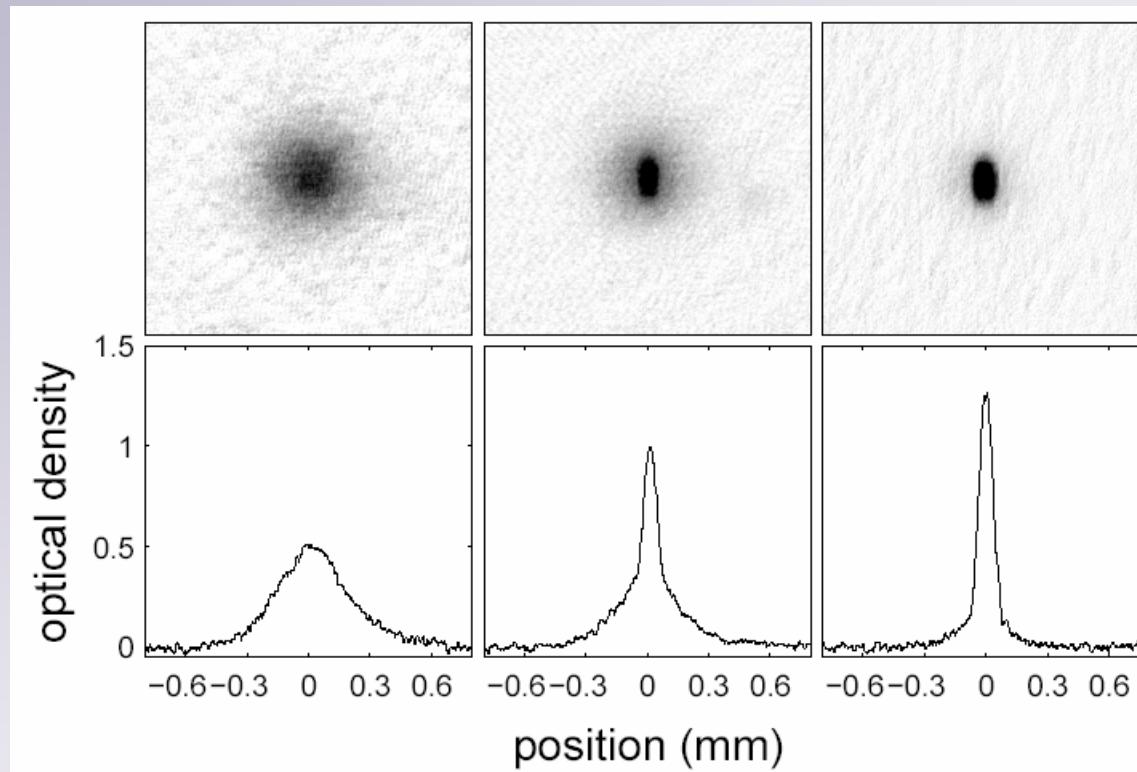
1000 ms      Final RF evaporation

100 ms      Imaging



## » The Swinburne atom chip — » »

Crossing the BEC critical temperature

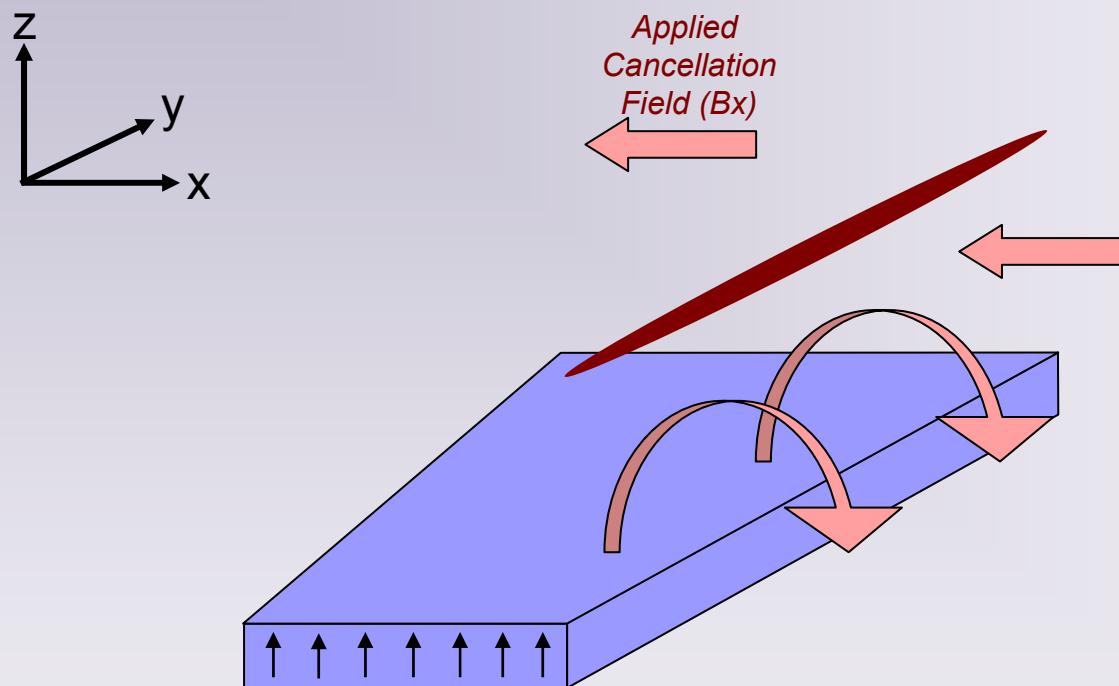


**Figure 5.** Typical absorption images and optical density profiles of a ballistically expanded atom cloud. Each image is a single realization of the experiment where evaporation is performed in the permanent magnetic film potential. After truncating the evaporation ramp, atoms are held for 150 ms and ballistically expanded for 30 ms before imaging. (a)  $RF_{final}=804$  kHz - thermal cloud, (b)  $RF_{final}=788$  kHz - partially condensed cloud, (c)  $RF_{final}=760$  kHz - an almost pure condensate.

# » BEC Experiments

» »

Characterization of the magnetic film potential



Permanent magnetic film 'side-guide'

## » BEC Experiments

» »

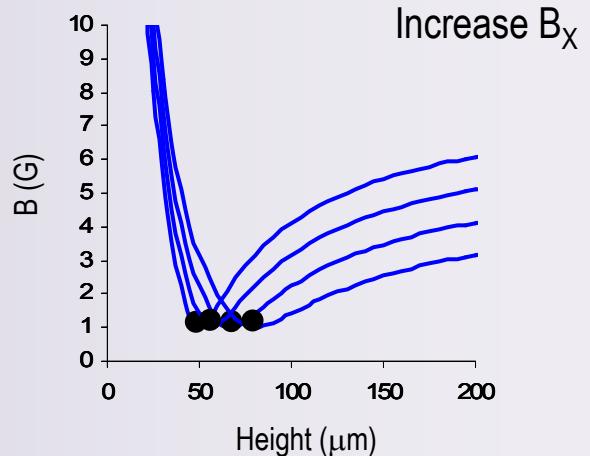
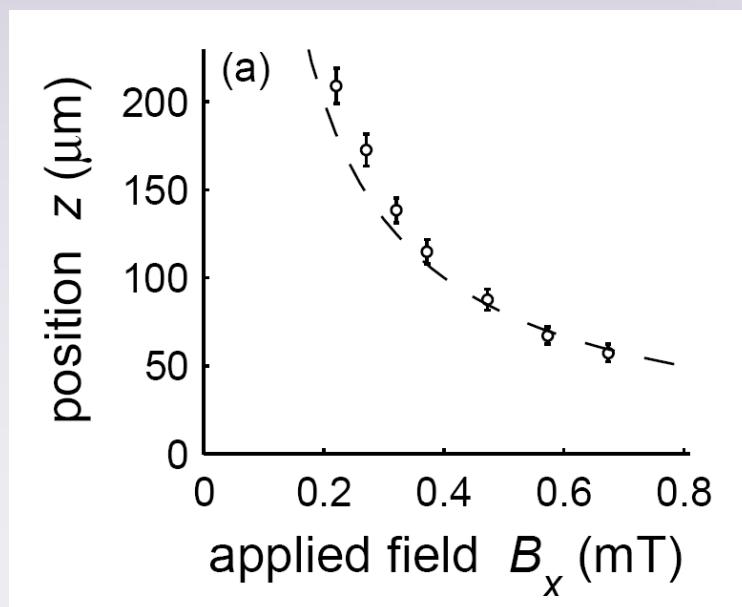
Characterization of the magnetic film potential

Measure the magnetic field of the film versus height.

Trap is formed when:

$$B_{film} = \frac{\mu_0}{2\pi} \frac{hM_R}{z} = -B_X$$

Can measure position accurately (CCD image)



However: need to have accurate knowledge of  $B_x$

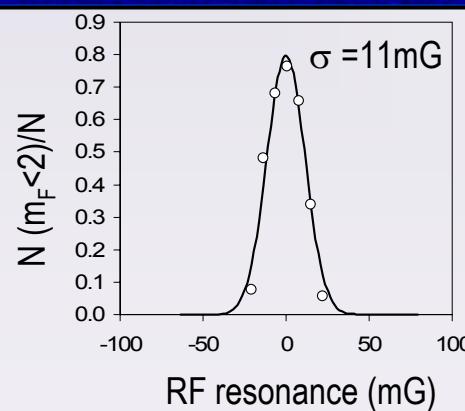
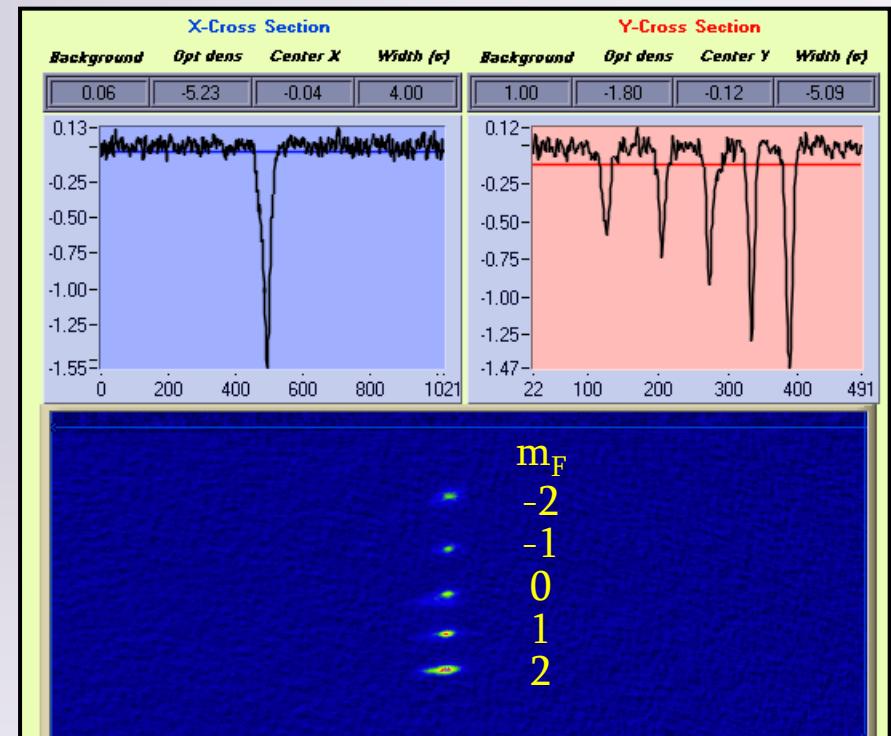
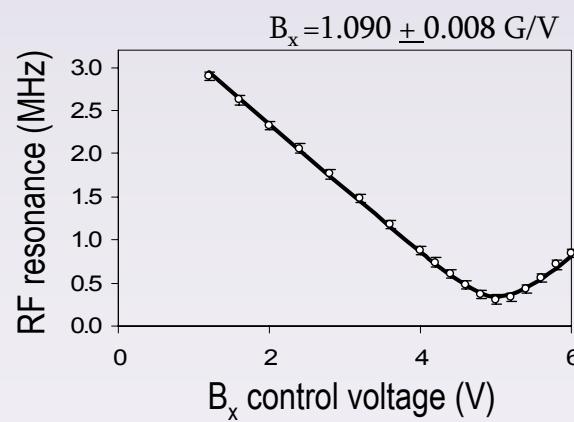
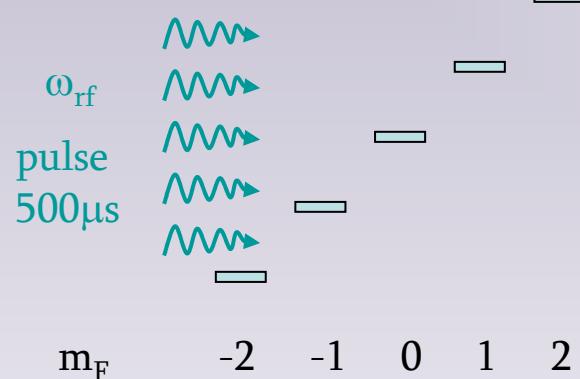
# » BEC Experiments

» »

BEC, RF transitions and an in-situ Stern Gerlach magnetometer

Zeeman splitting of hyperfine substates

$$\hbar \omega_{\text{rf}} = \Delta m_F g_F \mu_b B_x$$



## » BEC Experiments

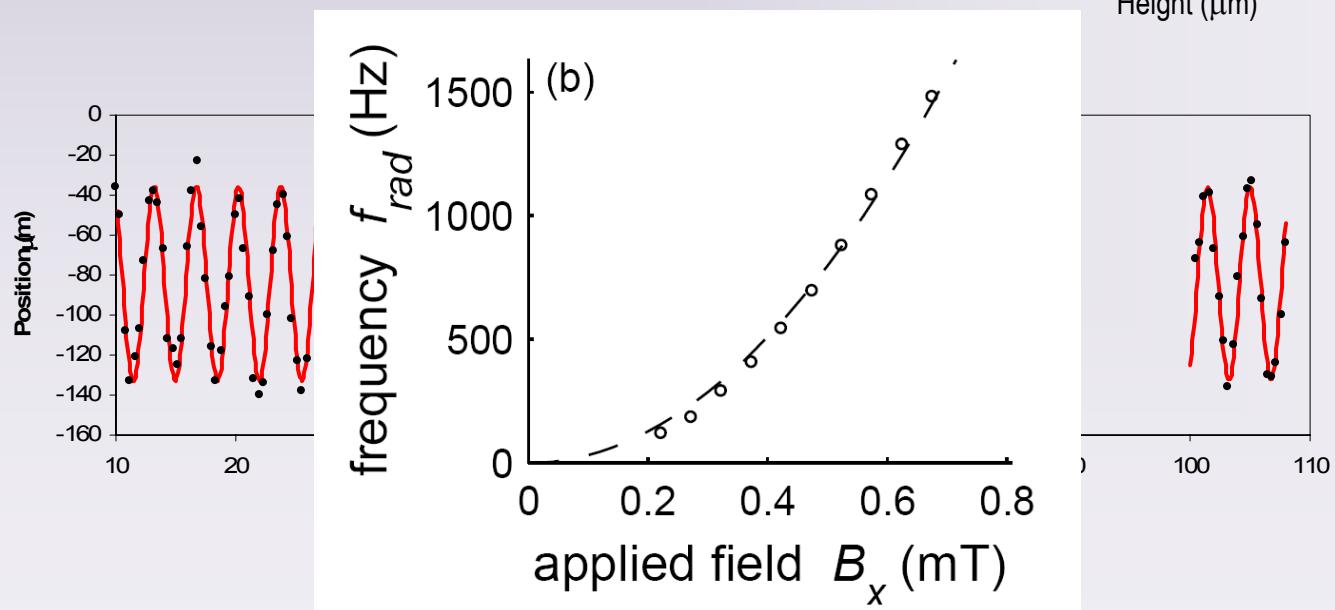
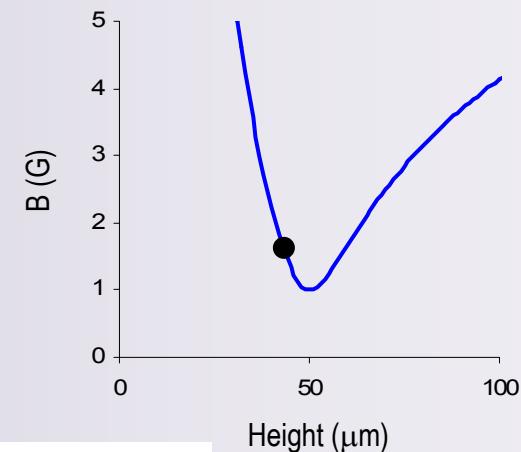
### BEC as a high Q resonator



For small amplitude oscillations, have a harmonic trap

$$2\pi f_{rad} = \frac{\mu_0}{2\pi} \frac{hM_R}{z_0^2} \sqrt{\frac{\mu_B g_F m_F}{mB_y}},$$

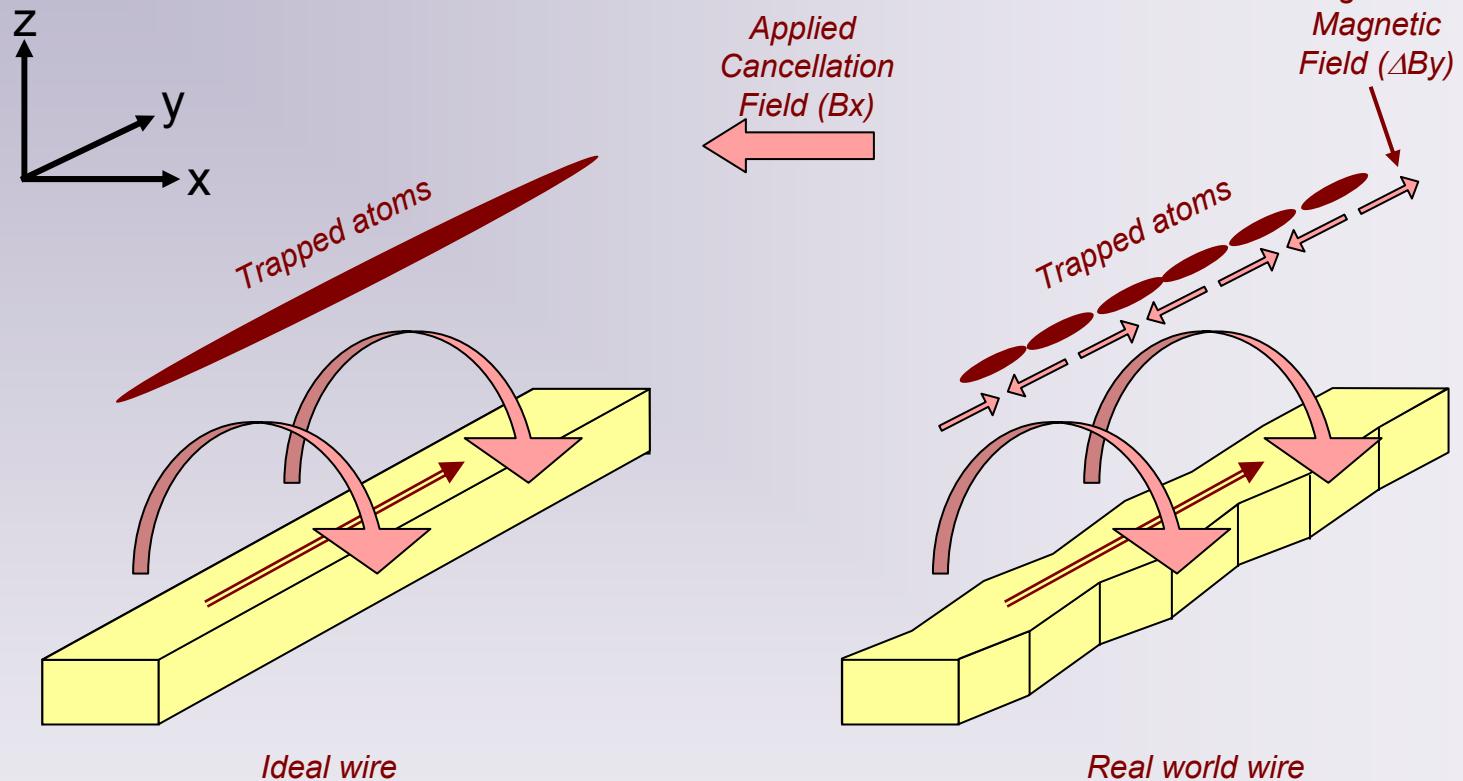
Can measure  $B_y$  (to 1mG or <0.07%) via RF output coupling  
Can measure  $f_{rad}$  to < 0.3% accuracy



# » BEC Experiments

»»

Fragmentation from conducting wires



Observed with ultracold atoms ( $1 \mu\text{K} = 1.5 \mu\text{T}$ )

Fortagh *et al* Phys.Rev.A **66** 041604 (2002); Jones *et al* J.Phys.B:At.Mol.Opt.Phys. **37**, L15–L20 (2004)

Attributed to edge roughness from manufacturing process.

Esteve *et al* Phys Rev A **70** 043629 (2004); Wang *et al* Phys.Rev.Lett. **92** 076802-1 (2004)

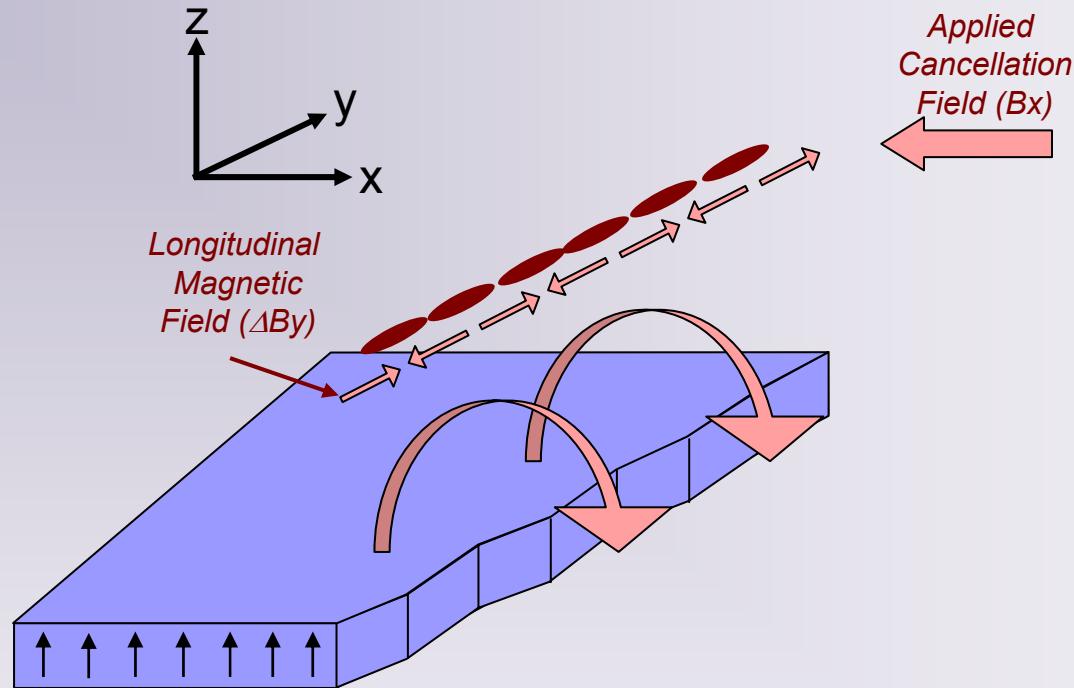
Best process to date: electron beam mask/gold evaporation lift-off technique < 100nm roughness

Kruger *et al* arXiv:cond-mat/0504686 (2005)

# » BEC Experiments

Fragmentation from magnetic films

» »



*Fragmentation due to edge roughness*

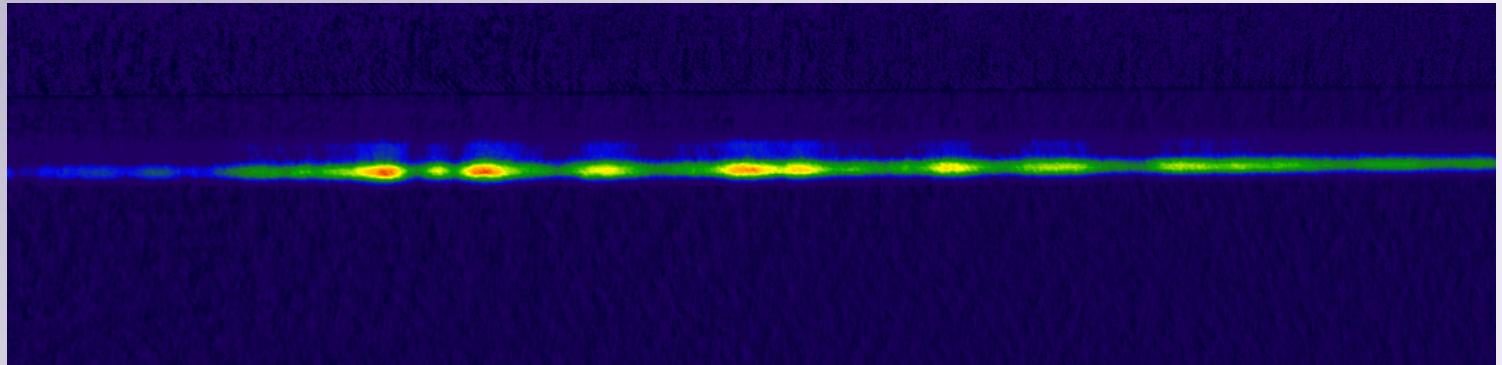
Magnetic film follows substrate edge topology

Glass slide was polished prior to deposition.

## » BEC experiments



Standard method for measuring fragmentation



Assume thermal equilibrium and use Boltzmann law

$$V(y) = -k_b T \ln [n(y)]$$

$n(y)$  density distribution of thermal cloud of temperature  $T$ .

### Disadvantages

Not very well suited to measuring over large region of the surface

Depends on accurate calibration of cloud temperature

Cannot ensure thermal equilibrium when fragmentation is large

Does not discriminate between magnetic, gravitational and optical potentials

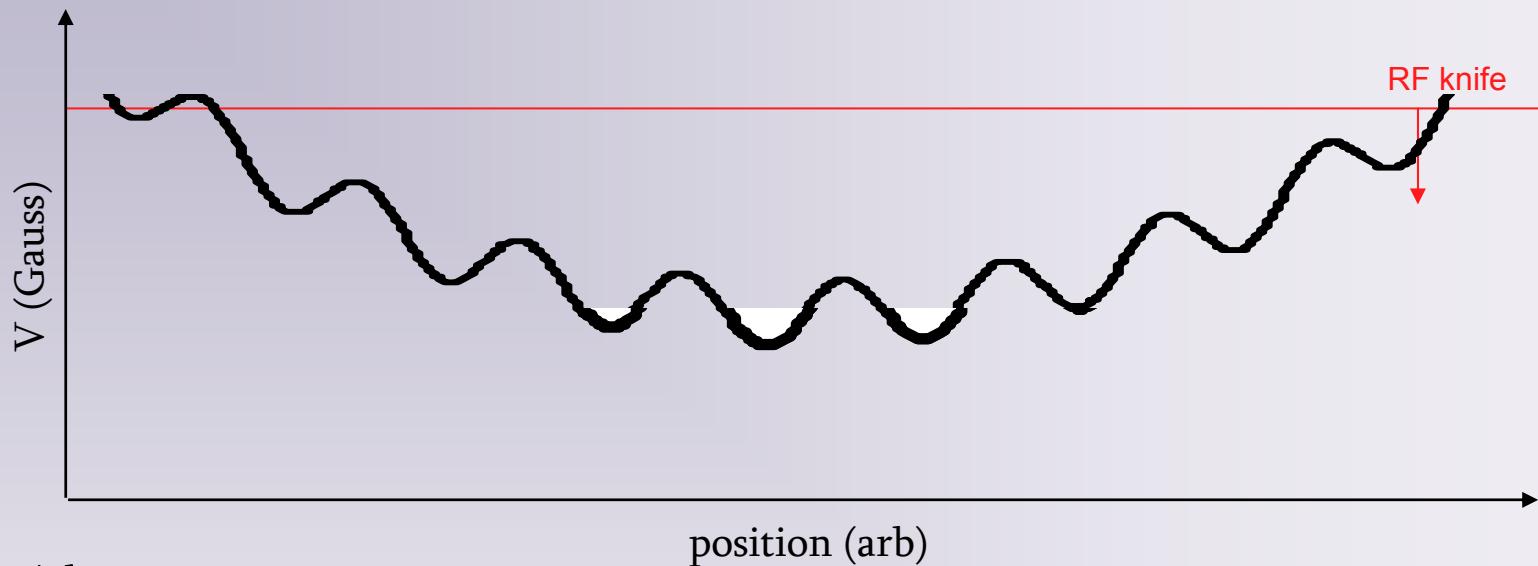
Jones *et al* J.Phys.B:At.Mol.Opt.Phys. **37**, L15–L20 (2004)

Esteve *et al* Phys Rev A **70** 043629 (2004):

## » BEC experiments

» »

Determine absolute magnetic field using RF output coupling



### Advantages

Sensitivity ( $\sim T$ ) increases when measuring near bottom of the trap because of continuous evaporative cooling.

Provides an absolute measurement of magnetic field (can discriminate against gravity)

Independent of temperature or thermal equilibrium

Works best with weak confinement (decouple confining potential to fragmentation)

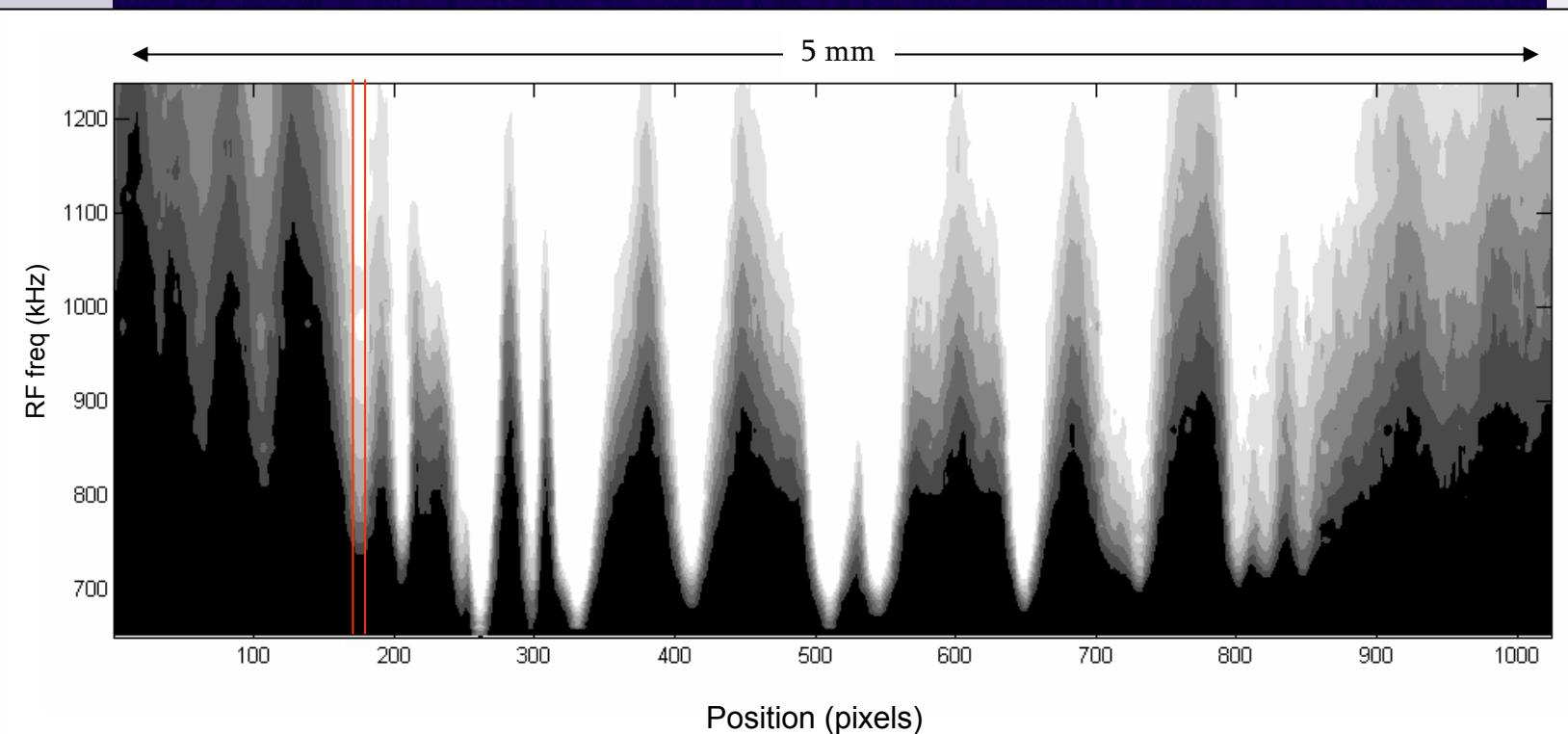
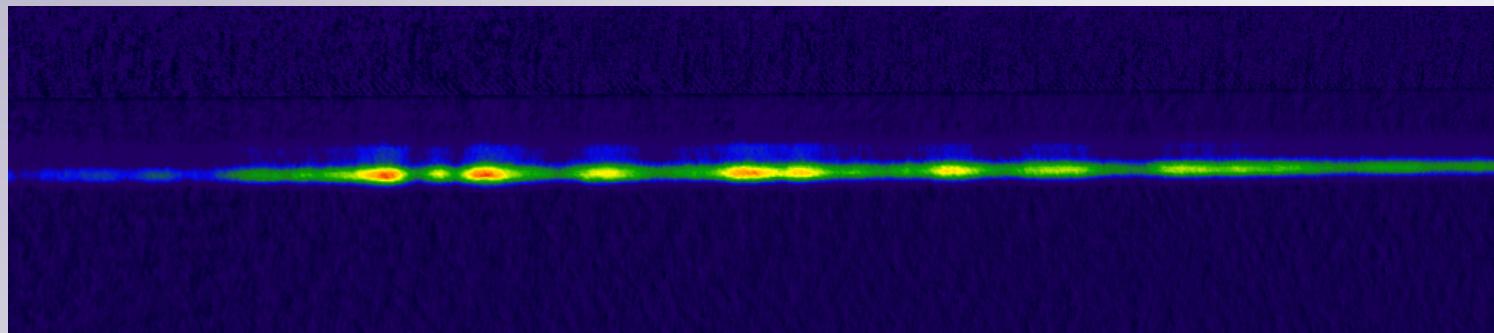
# » BEC experiments

*Example measurement*



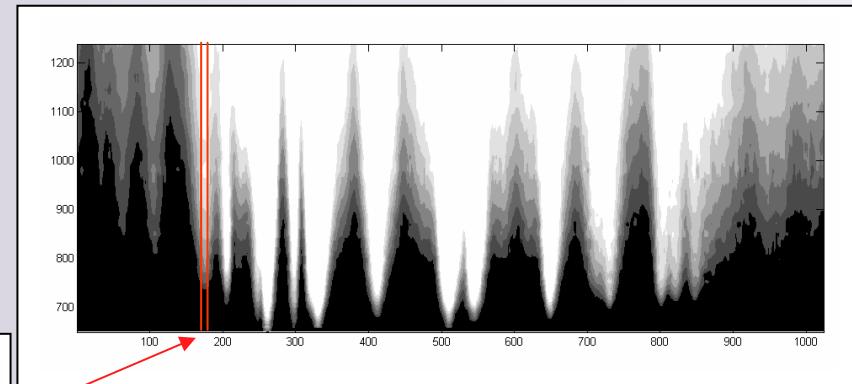
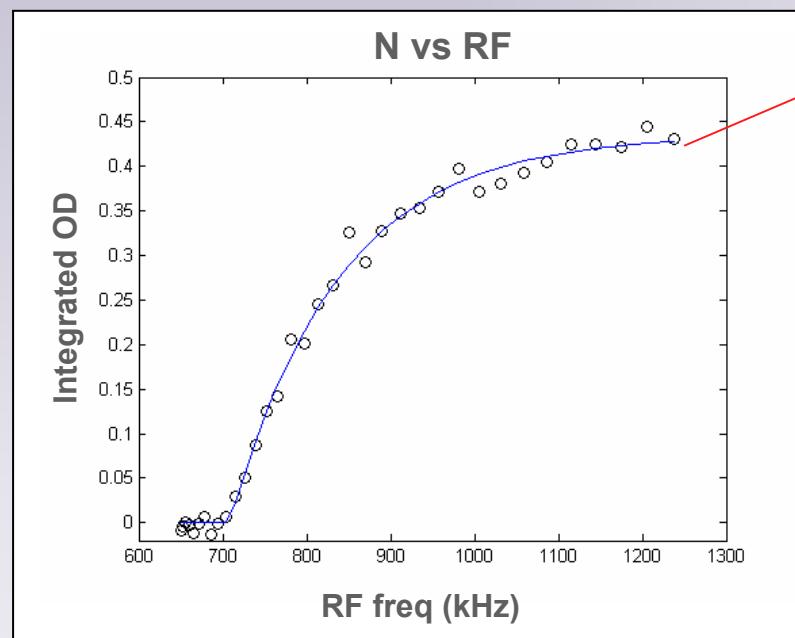
RF frequency logarithmic sweep from 1240 kHz to 650 kHz

$z = 65 \mu\text{m}$



# » BEC experiments

Extracting absolute field



Fit form (for  $OD > 0$ ) :

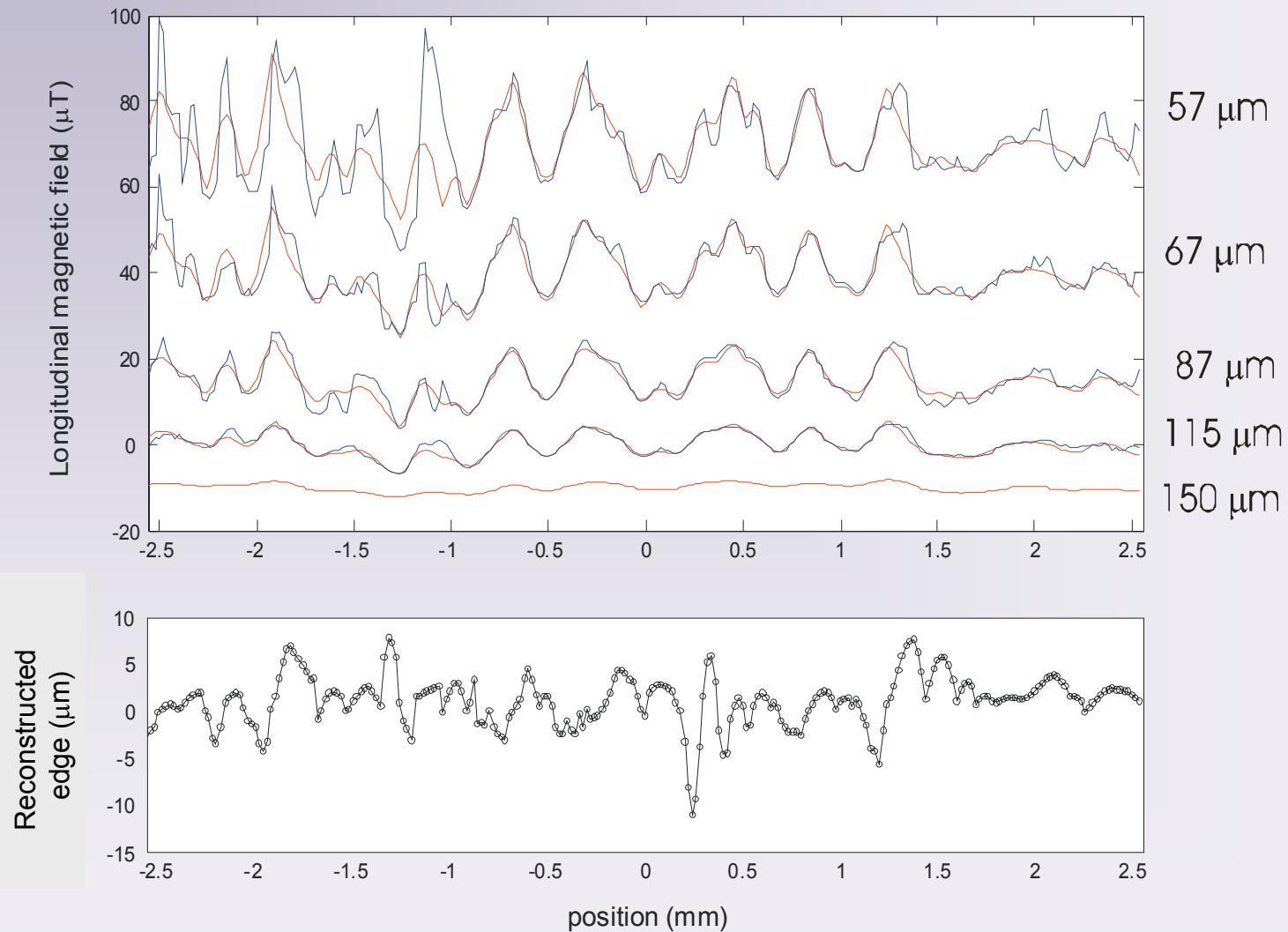
$$OD = A0 \left( 1 - e^{-A1(Rf - A2)} \right) + A3(Rf - A2)$$

Where  $A2$  = RF frequency for  $OD \rightarrow 0$ .

## » BEC experiments

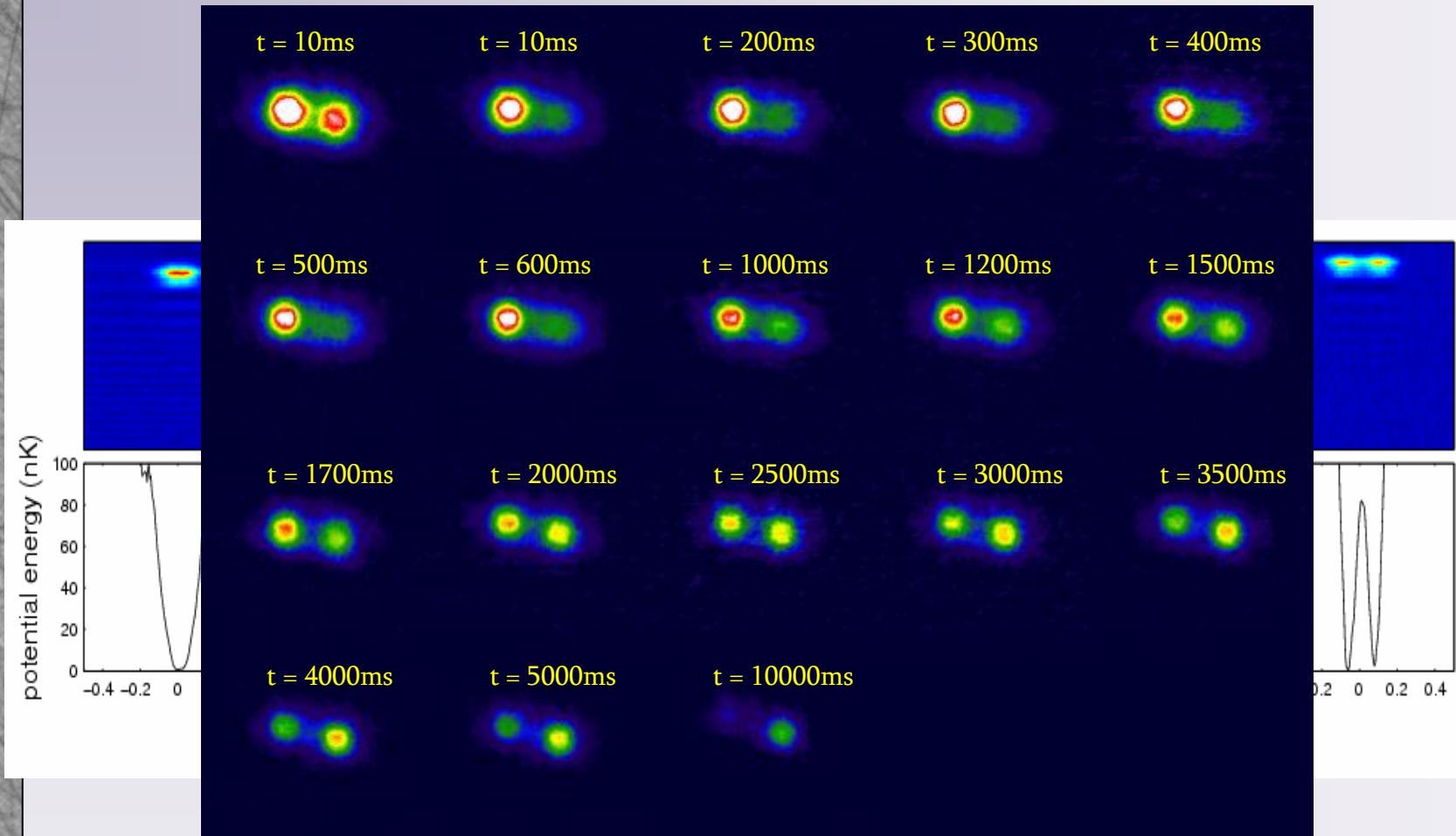
» »

Measurement (blue) and theory (red) of corrugated potential



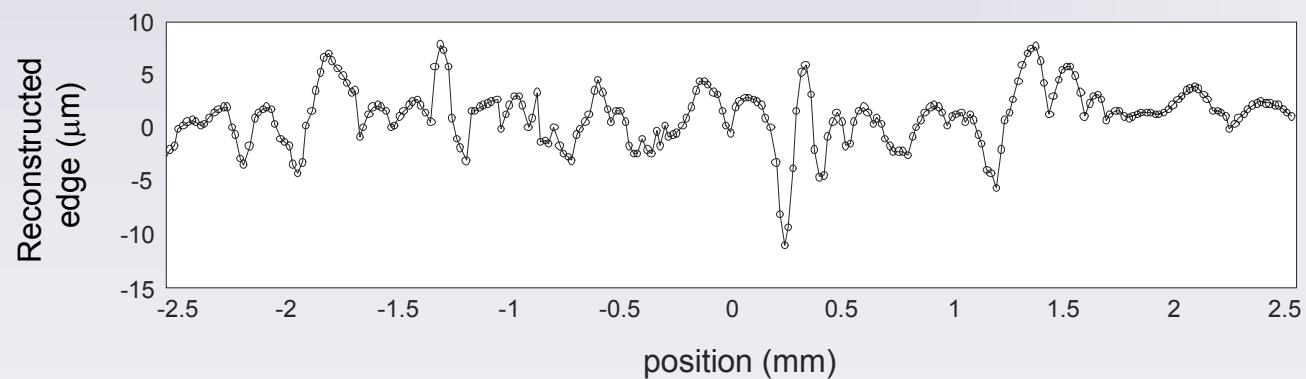
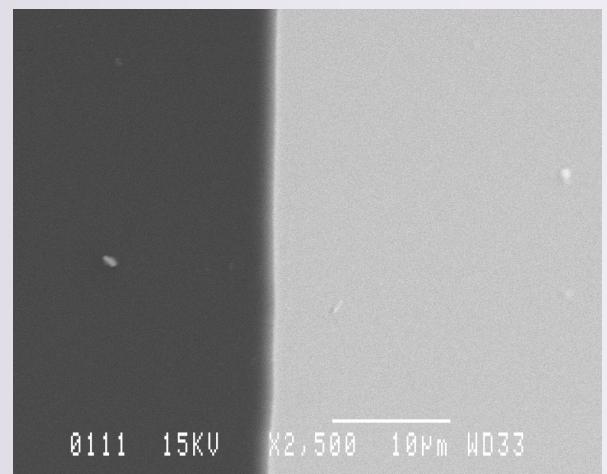
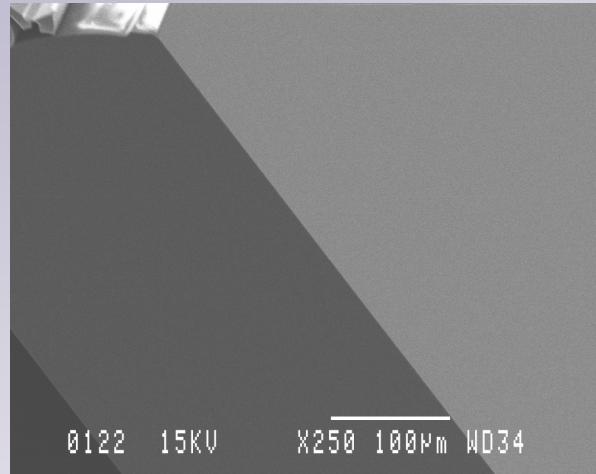
## » BEC experiments

»»



## » BEC experiments

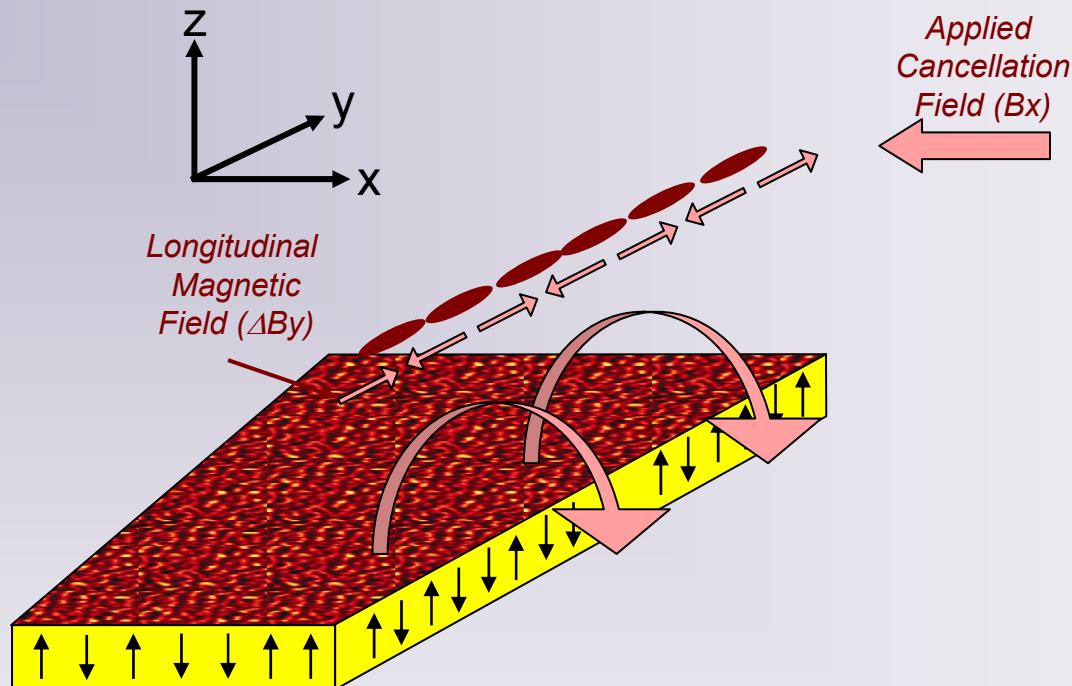
*SEM images of similarly prepared edge*



## » BEC experiments

» »

Another source of fragmentation – demagnetization of film

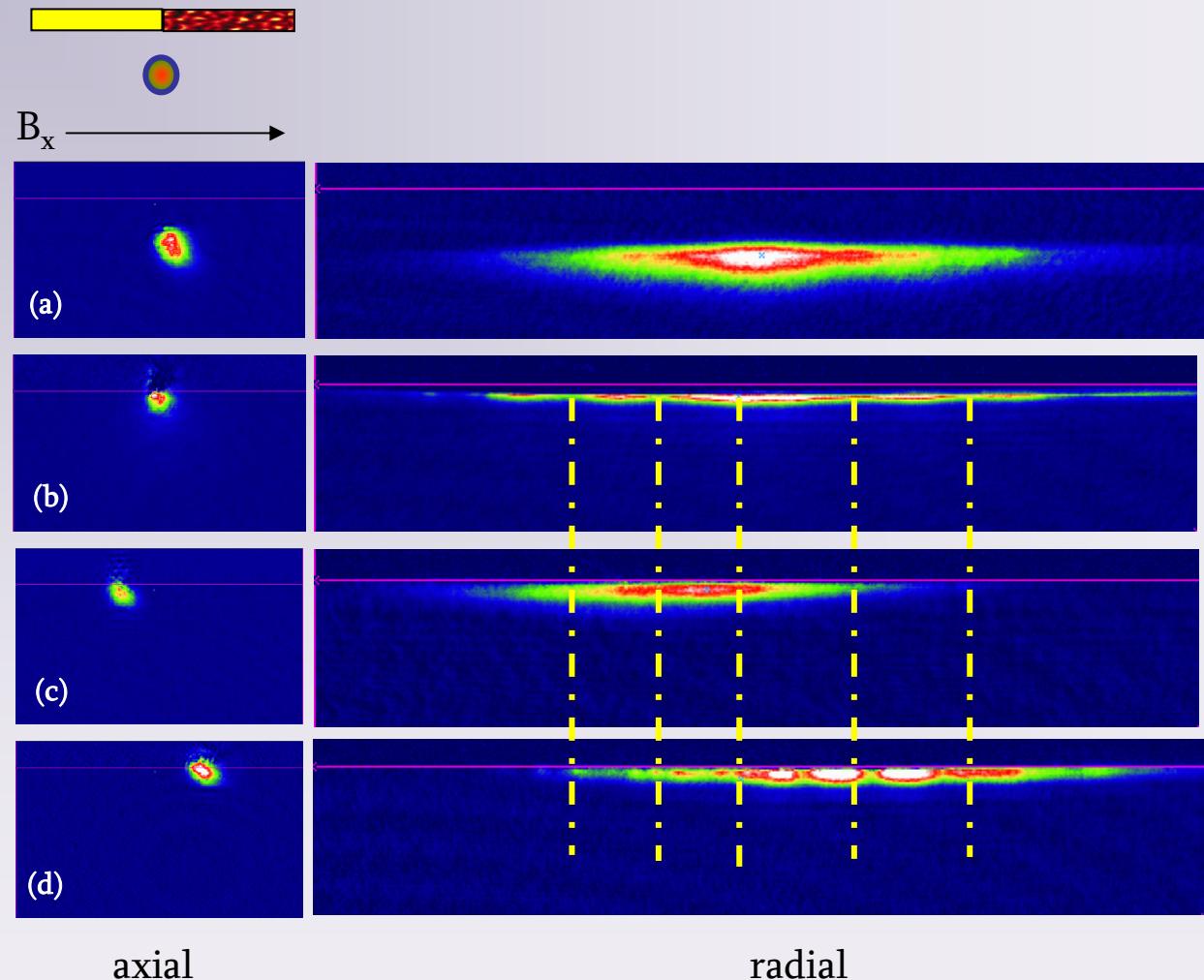


*Fragmentation due to magnetic field inhomogeneity*

## » BEC experiments

» »

Probe either side of 'edge' at a radius where fragmentation is small



## » In the Future



### Current objectives

*TbGdFeCo - magnetic field inhomogeneity*

- o Quantify amount
- o Investigate likely source
- o Identify likely fundamental limits over material specific limits
- o Other materials/compositions of interest (RE-FeCo, multilayer PtCo, FePt)

*Permanent magnetic material traps.*

- o Investigate heating mechanisms, condensate lifetime, heating rates....  
(Russell Anderson Poster)
- o Double well experiments: condensate distillation, role of adiabaticity in splitting...

## » People to thank

CAOUS

Node Director: Prof. Peter Hannaford

### Coherence of BEC on a Chip

CI: Prof. Andrei Sidorov

Staff: Prof. Russell McLean

Prof. Tien Kieu

Assoc.Prof. Bryan Dalton

Postdoc: Dr Brenton Hall

PhD: Shannon Whitlock, Falk Scharnberg,  
Holger Wolf, Russell Anderson.

Additional Support : David Gough, James Wang, Martin Lowe, Mark Kivenin and Tatiana Tchernova.

