



Crossover between strongly coupled and weakly coupled exciton superfluids

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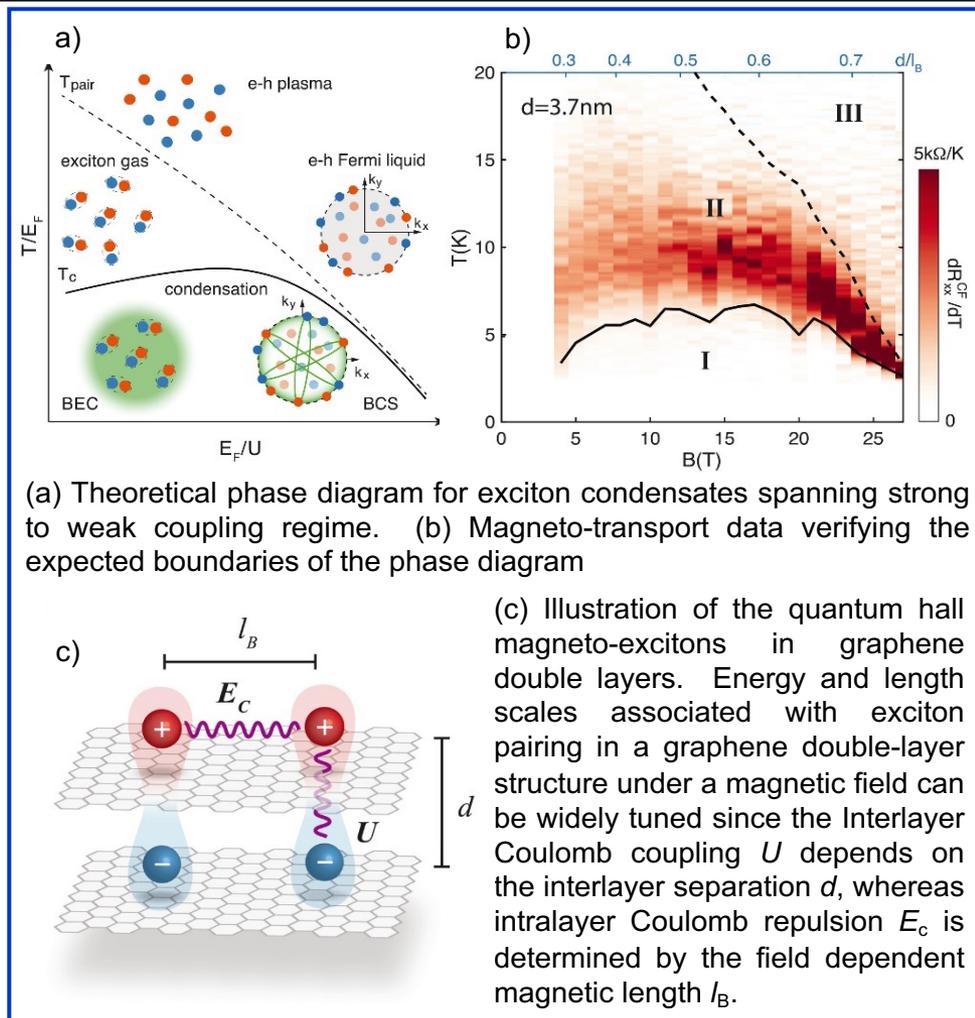
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Condensation of paired fermions into a quantum ground state represents one of the most spectacular many-body effects in strongly interacting systems. Depending on the strength of the interactions, the paired fermions can be tightly bound – as in a Bose-Einstein Condensate (BEC) - or can be so large as to overlap with other pairs – as in Bardeen Cooper Schrieffer (BCS) pairing. Understanding that these two BEC and BCS pairing limits represent a continuum in a single phase diagram is one of the great theoretical achievements over the past century. Although well established in ultracold Fermi gas experiments, observation of BEC-BCS crossover in electronic systems has remained challenging owing to the limited ability to tune electron interactions in solid state materials.

MagLab users studied graphene double layers separated by an atomically thin insulator. Under applied magnetic field, electrons and holes couple across the barrier to form bound magneto-excitons. Using temperature-dependent Coulomb drag and counterflow current measurements in bilayer graphene, researchers were able to continuously tune the magneto-exciton condensate through the entire phase diagram from strong to weak coupling. This tunability of fermion pairing in a solid-state device enables the investigating of fermion condensates of various pairing strengths and may lead to an improved understanding of the connection between the BEC-BCS crossover and unconventional superconductivity.



(a) Theoretical phase diagram for exciton condensates spanning strong to weak coupling regime. (b) Magneto-transport data verifying the expected boundaries of the phase diagram

(c) Illustration of the quantum hall magneto-excitons in graphene double layers. Energy and length scales associated with exciton pairing in a graphene double-layer structure under a magnetic field can be widely tuned since the Interlayer Coulomb coupling U depends on the interlayer separation d , whereas intralayer Coulomb repulsion E_c is determined by the field dependent magnetic length l_B .

Facilities and instrumentation used: DC Magnet Facility, 31T resistive magnet

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