

# Supersoidity of alpha cluster structure in nuclei

S. Ohkubo 大久保茂男

Research Center for Nuclear Physics, (RCNP), Ibaraki,  
Japan

# 田中一先生 (1924-2021) (北大名誉教授 湯川研)

## 1. 日本のクラスター研究の父 クラスター研究の開拓者



図1 1987年11月6日北大核理論研究室でのセミナーの後、田中教授室で。田中一先生（左）と筆者（大久保茂男）。



図2 2005年基研シンポジウムで一緒に写った田中一先生（3列目中央）と筆者（大久保茂男）（3列目右端）。前列には今はなき林忠四郎（1920-2010）、南部陽一郎（1921-2015）、益川敏英（1940-2021）の諸先生。



図3 2005年基研シンポジウム懇親会の田中一先生。左より堀内昶、国広悌二、早川尚男、田中一、大久保茂男

### 1987 北大

1. 「クラスター構造研究のfp殻への展開」素粒子論研究
2. 玉垣先生追悼文 原子核研究 2016年
3. 学問の系譜 「クラスターモデルの展開」2005 素粒子論研究

2023/2/11

2023Feb クラスター階層8回研究会

RCNP

# David M Brink博士(1930-2021) 追憶



1985 Brink 邸  
Oxford , Northmoor  
Road

大久保 Brink夫人 Brink

- 共著論文
- S. Ohkubo and D. M. Brink Phys. Rev. 36, 966 (1987)  
Internal and barrier wave interpretation of the oscillations of the fusion excitation functions
- S. Ohkubo and D. M. Brink Phys. Rev. 36, 1375 (1987)
- Origin of the oscillations in the  $^{12}\text{C}+^{12}\text{C}$  excitation function in terms of internal and barrier waves



1993 Brink 邸  
Oxford Minister Road



2006イタリア  
Cortina 国際  
会議



# What is a cluster?

- 1988 5<sup>th</sup> Cluster conference, Kyoto
- H. special session What is a cluster?
- いまやこのような問いを発する人はいない？
- 有馬朗人 A. Arima [Shell model もクラスターをある確率で含む  $^8\text{Be}$ ]
- R. R. Betts 英語辞書には「a group of the same or similar elements gathered or occurring closely together」  
→ What is **not** a cluster?
- 池田清美 K. Ikeda 「spatially localized subsystem composed of strongly correlated nucleons」.

# New picture of **alpha** clusters

- **Geometrical** configuration with **superfluidity**  
— —  $\rightarrow$  supersolidity
- **Duality 粒子性と波動性** geometrical structure & condensate
- SSB (Spontaneous symmetry breaking) of **rotational invariance** due to geometrical configuration and **Global phase symmetry in gauge space**

# organization of this talk

1. Introduction
2. Duality of Brink alpha cluster model:  
crystallinity and condensation
3. Alpha cluster model with order parameter based on  
effective field theory
4. Result: Supersolidity of alpha cluster structure
5. Summary

# Introduction: purpose

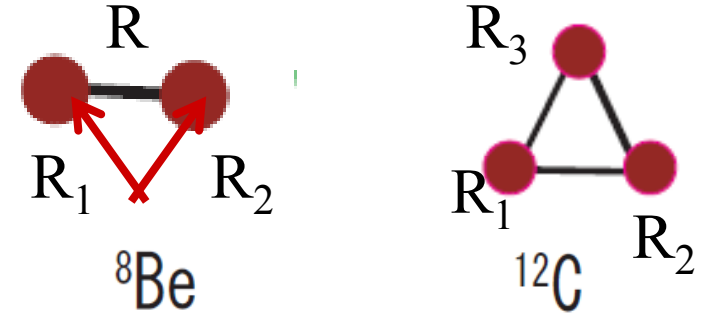
A supersolid is a **solid** that exhibits the property of **superfluidity**.

- *$\alpha$  cluster structure* has the **simultaneous** properties of **crystallinity and superfluidity**. That is, the  **$\alpha$  cluster structure is a stable supersolid**

## II. Duality of Brink alpha cluster model: crystallinity and condensation



## II. THE DUALITY OF THE $\alpha$ CLUSTER STRUCTURE: CRYSTALLINITY AND CONDENSATION



### Brink wave function

$$\Phi_{n\alpha}^B(\mathbf{R}_1, \dots, \mathbf{R}_n) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(4n)!}} \det[\phi_{0s}(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{R}_1)\chi_{\tau_1, \sigma_1}] \cdots \phi_{0s}(\mathbf{r}_{4n} - \mathbf{R}_n)\chi_{\tau_{4n}, \sigma_{4n}}, \quad (1)$$

where  $\mathbf{R}_i$  is a parameter that specifies the center of the  $i$ -th  $\alpha$  cluster

$$\phi_{0s}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}) = \left(\frac{1}{\pi b^2}\right)^{3/4} \exp\left[-\frac{(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R})^2}{2b^2}\right], \quad (2)$$

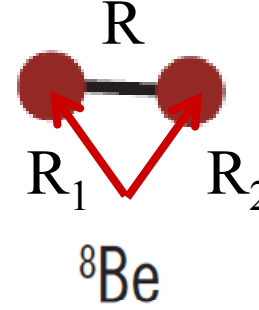
$$\Phi_{n\alpha}^B(\mathbf{R}_1, \dots, \mathbf{R}_n) = \mathcal{A} \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n \exp\left\{-2\frac{(\mathbf{X}_i - \mathbf{R}_i)^2}{b^2}\right\} \phi(\alpha_i) \right], \quad (3)$$

generator coordinate wave function  $\Psi_{n\alpha}^{GCM}$  based on the geometrical configuration of the Brink wave function is given by

$$\Psi_{n\alpha}^{GCM} = \int d^3\mathbf{R}_1 \cdots d^3\mathbf{R}_n f(\mathbf{R}_1, \dots, \mathbf{R}_n) \Phi_{n\alpha}^B(\mathbf{R}_1, \dots, \mathbf{R}_n). \quad (4)$$

cluster structure of  ${}^8\text{Be}$

$$\mathbf{R}_1 = \mathbf{R}_G + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{R}, \quad \mathbf{R}_2 = \mathbf{R}_G - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{R}. \quad (5)$$



We take  $\mathbf{R}_G=0$  to remove the spurious center-of-mass motion and use the notation  $\Phi_{2\alpha}^B(\mathbf{R})$  for  $\Phi_{2\alpha}^B(\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{R}, -\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{R})$ . Thus Eq. (4) is written as

$$\underline{f(\mathbf{R})} = \int_0^\infty d\mu_x \int_0^\infty d\mu_y \int_0^\infty d\mu_z \exp [-(\mu_x R_x^2 + \mu_y R_y^2 + \mu_z R_z^2)] \underline{g(\boldsymbol{\mu})}, \quad (7) \quad (6)$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\mu} = (\mu_x, \mu_y, \mu_z)$ . Then Eq.(6) reads

$$\Psi_{2\alpha}^{GCM} = \int d^3\boldsymbol{\mu} g(\boldsymbol{\mu}) \left[ \int d^3\mathbf{R} \exp \{-(\mu_x R_x^2 + \mu_y R_y^2 + \mu_z R_z^2)\} \Phi_{2\alpha}^B(\mathbf{R}) \right]. \quad (8)$$

$$\Phi_{2\alpha}^{PCM}(\boldsymbol{\mu}) \equiv \int d^3\mathbf{R} \exp \left[ -(\mu_x R_x^2 + \mu_y R_y^2 + \mu_z R_z^2) \right] \Phi_{2\alpha}^B(\mathbf{R}), \quad (9)$$

**Nonlocalized  
Cluster**

$$\propto \mathcal{A} \left[ \prod_{i=1}^2 \exp \left\{ -2 \left( \frac{X_{ix}^2}{B_x^2} + \frac{X_{iy}^2}{B_y^2} + \frac{X_{iz}^2}{B_z^2} \right) \right\} \phi(\alpha_i) \right], \quad (10)$$

where **Model**

$$B_k = \sqrt{b^2 + \mu_k^{-1}} \quad (k = x, y, z). \quad (11)$$

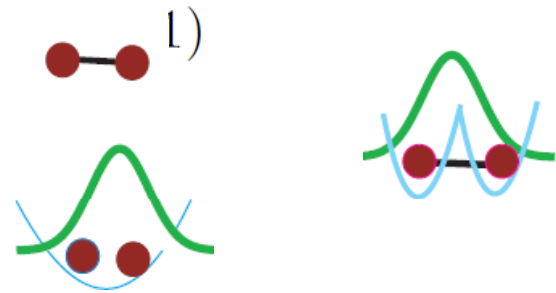
with  $B_k = \sqrt{b^2 + \mu_k^{-1}}$  ( $k = x, y, z$ ), Eq.(8) reads

**Coherent  
wave picture**

$$\Psi_{2\alpha}^{GCM} = \int d^3\mu g(\mu) \Phi_{2\alpha}^{PCM}(\mu)$$

**Crystallinity  
picture**

$$\Psi_{2\alpha}^{GCM} = \int d^3\mathbf{R} f(\mathbf{R}) \Phi_{2\alpha}^B(\mathbf{R}).$$



**Represented well by a single wave function**

**Duality**

$$\Phi_{2\alpha}^B(\mathbf{R}). \quad \Phi_{2\alpha}^{PCM}(\mu).$$

The above discussion for the simplest two  $\alpha$  cluster system can be generalized to the  $n$ - $\alpha$  cluster system. The Laplace transformation relation is generalized to

$$f(\mathbf{R}_1, \dots, \mathbf{R}_n) = \int_0^\infty \overline{d\mu} \exp \left[ - \sum_{i=1}^n (\mu_x R_{ix}^2 + \mu_y R_{iy}^2 + \mu_z R_{iz}^2) \right] g(\mu). \quad (12)$$

$$\Phi_{n\alpha}^{PCM}(\boldsymbol{\mu}) = \int d^3\mathbf{R}_1 \cdots d^3\mathbf{R}_n \exp \left[ - \sum_{i=1}^n (\mu_x R_{ix}^2 + \mu_y R_{iy}^2 + \mu_z R_{iz}^2) \right] \Phi_{n\alpha}^B(\mathbf{R}_1, \dots, \mathbf{R}_n), \quad (13)$$

$$\propto \mathcal{A} \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n \exp \left\{ -2 \left( \frac{X_{ix}^2}{B_x^2} + \frac{X_{iy}^2}{B_y^2} + \frac{X_{iz}^2}{B_z^2} \right) \right\} \phi(\alpha_i) \right].$$

**Nonlocalized  
Cluster  
Model**

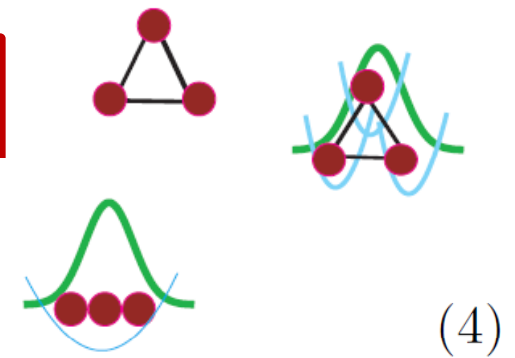
Similar to Eq.(11) one gets

**Coherent  
wave picture**

**Crystallinity  
picture**

$$\Psi_{n\alpha}^{GCM} = \int d^3\boldsymbol{\mu} g(\boldsymbol{\mu}) \Phi_{n\alpha}^{PCM}(\boldsymbol{\mu}).$$

$$\Psi_{n\alpha}^{GCM} = \int d^3\mathbf{R} f(\mathbf{R}) \Phi_{n\alpha}^B(\mathbf{R}).$$



Thus from Eq.(4) and Eq.(15) it is found generally that the  $n$ - $\alpha$  cluster wave function in the geometrical cluster model picture has the property of condensation. This shows generally that the GCM  $n$ - $\alpha$  cluster wave function has the duality of crystallinity and condensation independent of the Hamiltonian used.



# III. Alpha cluster model with order parameter based on effective field theory

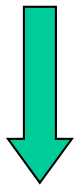
PHYSICAL REVIEW C **94**, 014314 (2016)

# Traditional cluster models for $^{12}\text{C}$ without order parameter

1. GCM : Uegaki et al
2. RGM: Kamimura et al
3. OCM: Kurokawa et al
4. Boson model: Matsumura et al
5. Local potential model : Buck et al

Particle picture

No concept of Vacuum



A theory with order parameter

6. Effective field theory :

**superfluid cluster model (SCM)**

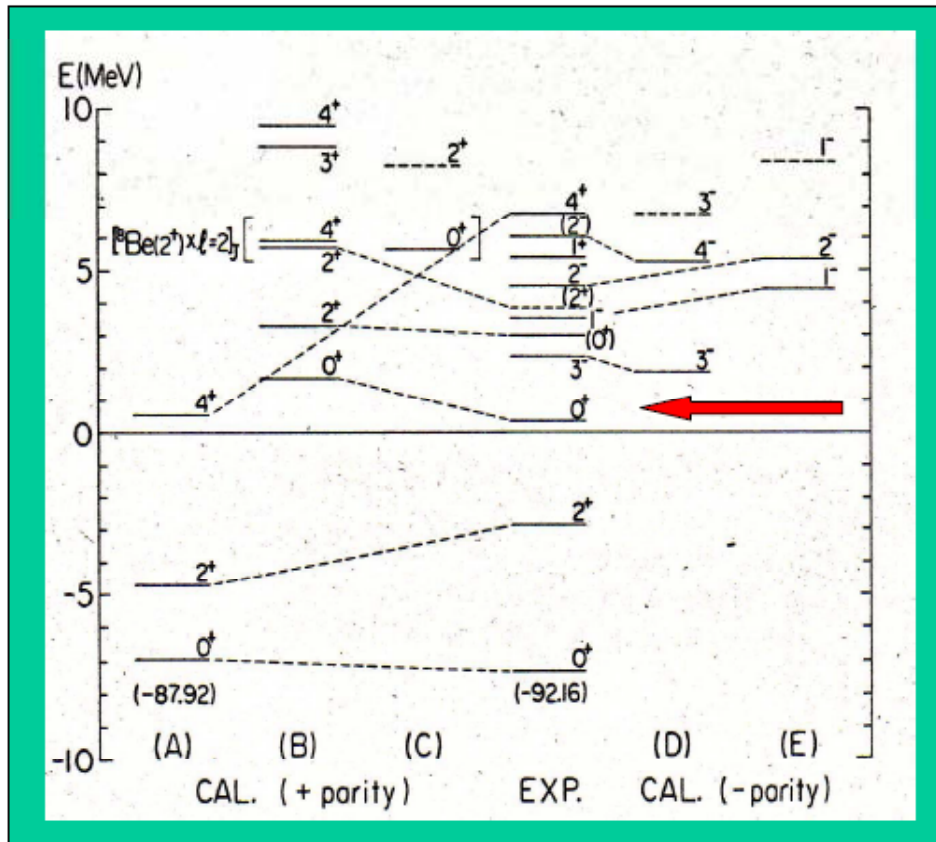
Uegaki et al **1977**

$^{12}\text{C}$  **gas-like alpha-cluster states** "new phase"

1977

Uegaki 3 alpha cluster model

Energy level  $^{12}\text{C}$  (PTP 57,1262(1977) GCM



**Pointed out for the first time  
the existence of 3 alpha gas  
state**

3  $\alpha$  Hoyle  
state

Uegaki et al  
gas state of  $\alpha$  particles  
PTP 57,1262(1977)

Tohsaki et al  
condensate PRL 87,  
192501(2001)

$\alpha$  condensate  
No order parameter

Letter

# Supersolidity of the $\alpha$ cluster structure in the nucleus $^{12}\text{C}$

S. Ohkubo<sup>1,\*</sup>, J. Takahashi<sup>2</sup>, and Y. Yamanaka<sup>2</sup>

## alpha field and the model



$$\begin{aligned}
 H = & \int d^3x \left[ \psi_\alpha^\dagger(x) \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 - \mu + V_{\text{ext}}(x) \right) \psi_\alpha(x) \right] \\
 & + \frac{1}{2} \int \int d^3x d^3x' \psi_\alpha^\dagger(x) \psi_\alpha^\dagger(x') V(|x - x'|) \psi_\alpha(x') \psi_\alpha(x)
 \end{aligned}$$

(b)  
 $^{12}\text{C}$

$$V(r) = V^{\text{Nucl}}(r) + V^{\text{Coulomb}}(r)$$



# The Heisenberg equation

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi_\alpha(x) = \left( -\frac{2m}{\hbar^2} \nabla^2 - \mu + V_{\text{ext}}(x) \right) \psi_\alpha(x) + \int d^3x' \psi_\alpha^\dagger(x') V(|x-x'|) \psi_\alpha(x') \psi_\alpha(x)$$

canonical commutation relation for  $t=t'$

$$[\psi_\alpha(x, t), \psi_\alpha^\dagger(x', t)] = \delta(x - x')$$

For stationary system ( independent of  $t$ )

Here	$\psi_\alpha(x) = \xi(x) + \varphi_\alpha(x)$	
	$\xi(x)$	condensate
	$\varphi_\alpha(x)$	operator for excitation field

$$[\varphi_\alpha(x, t), \varphi_\alpha^\dagger(x', t)] = \delta(x - x') \quad \Big|$$

Goldstone theorem (Ward Takahashi identity) is respected.

From the condition  $H_1 = 0$   $\langle \varphi_\alpha \rangle = 0$

the Gross-Pitaevski equation is derived as follows:

$$\left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + V_{\text{ext}}(x) + \int d^3x' |\xi(x')|^2 V(|x - x'|) \right) \xi(x) = \mu \xi(x)$$

If we take the unperturbed Hamiltonian  $H_0 = H_2$  in the **interaction picture**, the **equation of motion for the field operator** is given in the matrix form as follows:

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Phi_\alpha(x) = (\mathcal{T} \Phi_\alpha)(x)$$

where

$$\Phi_\alpha(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_\alpha(x) \\ \varphi_\alpha^\dagger(x) \end{pmatrix}$$
$$(\mathcal{T} \Phi_\alpha)(x) = \int d\mathbf{y} T(x, \mathbf{y}) \Phi_\alpha(\mathbf{y})$$

**2x2 matrix** is given by

$$T_{11}(x, y) = \left\{ -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 - \mu + V_{\text{ext}}(x) + \int d^3x' |\xi(x')|^2 V(|x - x'|) \right\} \delta(x - y) \\ + \xi^*(y) V(|x - y|) \xi(x)$$

$$T_{12}(x, y) = V(|x - y|) \xi(x) \xi(y)$$

$$T_{21}(x, y) = -\xi^*(x) \xi^*(y) V(|x - y|)$$

$$T_{22}(x, y) = - \left\{ -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 - \mu + V_{\text{ext}}(x) + \int d^3x' |\xi(x')|^2 V(|x - x'|) \right\} \delta(x - y) \\ - \xi^*(x) V(|x - y|) \xi(y)$$

To solve the equation we expand the field operator in the complete set

$$\underline{\varphi_{\alpha}(x) = \sum_n a_n(t) w_n(x)}$$

The complete set wave functions satisfy the following completeness condition

$$\sum_n w_n(x) w_n(x') = \delta(x - x')$$

From the canonical commutation relations

$$[a_n(t), a_{n'}^\dagger(t)] = \delta_{nn'}$$

The eigenvalue equation of Bogoliubov-de-Gennes is given by

$$(\mathcal{T}Y_n)(\mathbf{x}) = \varepsilon_n Y_n(\mathbf{x}), \quad Y_n = \begin{pmatrix} u_n \\ v_n \end{pmatrix}$$

From the symmetry property of the eigenvalue equation,  
the following function

$$Z_n(\mathbf{x}) = \sigma_1 Y_n^*(\mathbf{x}) \quad \sigma_1: \text{Pauli matrix}$$

is also an eigenfunction with  $-\varepsilon_n$

For the zero mode with  $\varepsilon_n = 0$

we can define the function  $Y_{-1}(x)$

$$(\mathcal{T}Y_0)(\mathbf{x}) = IY_{-1}(\mathbf{x}) \quad (I = \text{constant})$$

The completeness condition is given by

$$Y_0(x)Y_{-1}^\dagger(x') + Y_{-1}(x)Y_0^\dagger(x') + \sum_{n \neq 0} \{Y_n(x)Y_n^\dagger(x') - Z_n(x)Z_n^\dagger(x')\} = \sigma_3 \delta(x - x')$$

By using the complete set  $\{Y_0, Y_{-1}, Y_n, Z_n\}$

the wave function  $\Phi_\alpha$

is expanded as follows;

$$\Phi_\alpha(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_\alpha(x) \\ \varphi_\alpha^\dagger(x) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Phi_\alpha(x) = -iq(t)Y_0(x) + p(t)Y_{-1}(x) + \sum_{n \neq 0} \{b_n(t)Y_n(x) + b_n^\dagger(t)Z_n(x)\}$$

for  $n=0$  we used  $q(t)$  and  $p(t)$  instead of  $b_0$  and  $b_0^\dagger$

From the canonical commutation relation for  $\varphi_\alpha(x)$

the operators  $\{q(t), p(t), b_n(t), b_n^\dagger(t)\}$  satisfy

$$[q(t), p(t)] = i, \quad [b_n(t), b_{n'}^\dagger(t)] = \delta_{nn'}$$

By putting  $\Phi_\alpha(x)$  into the Hamiltonian,

we obtain the diagonalized Hamiltonian  $H_0$  as follows:

$$H_0 = \frac{I}{2} p^2(t) + \sum_{n \neq 0} \varepsilon_n b_n^\dagger(t) b_n$$

Goldstone theorem is respected

The vacuum for the operator  $b_n$  is defined by  $b_n |0\rangle = 0$

$$|0\rangle = |\Psi\rangle \otimes |0\rangle_b, \Psi(q) = \langle q | \Psi \rangle$$

**Bogoliubov-de-  
Genne mode**

**Now the non-perturbative field operator, the vacuum, non-perturbative hamiltonian and the interaction potential hamiltonian are given.**

**NG mode sector is modified to include higher power terms of NG quantum coordinate  $p, q$**

# Zero mode equation (NB mode)

$$\boxed{H_u^{QP} |\Psi_\nu\rangle = E_\nu |\Psi\rangle \quad \nu : (n, \ell, m)}$$

**Modes due to SSB**

- $\alpha$ – $\alpha$  nuclear interaction

**Ali-Bodmer potential** : determined from  $\alpha$ – $\alpha$  scattering to fit the s-wave phase shift fit potential

$$V^{nucl}(r) = V_r \exp[-\mu_r^2 r^2] + V_a \exp[-\mu_a^2 r^2]$$

$$V_r = 500 \text{ MeV}, \mu_r = 0.7 \text{ fm}^{-1}, V_a = -130 \text{ MeV}, \mu_a = 0.474 \text{ fm}^{-1}$$

(610 MeV for  $^{12}\text{C}$  and 591 MeV for  $^{40}\text{Ca}$ )

- $\alpha$ – $\alpha$  Coulomb interaction :

$\alpha$ – $\alpha$  folding potential

$$V_{\alpha-\alpha}^{\text{Coul}}(r) = (4e^2/r) \text{erf}(\sqrt{3}r/2b)$$

size parameter of the  $\alpha$  particle  $b$  is 1.44 fm

- Number of  $\alpha$  clusters:  $N_0$   $\int d^3x |\xi(r)|^2 = N_0$ .

- External field potential: **harmonic oscillator**

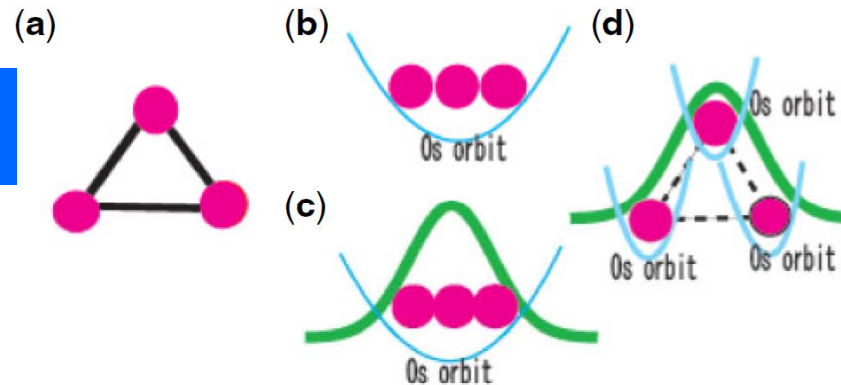
$$V_{\text{ex}}(r) = m\Omega^2 r^2 / 2 \quad (4.093 \text{ MeV for } ^{12}\text{C} \text{ and } 2.97 \text{ MeV for } ^{40}\text{Ca})$$

$\Omega$  : parameter



THSR, Nonlocalized  
Cluster Model (NCM):  
No order parameter

Geometrical picture



Supersolid picture with  
Duality  
crystallinity & coherent  
wave

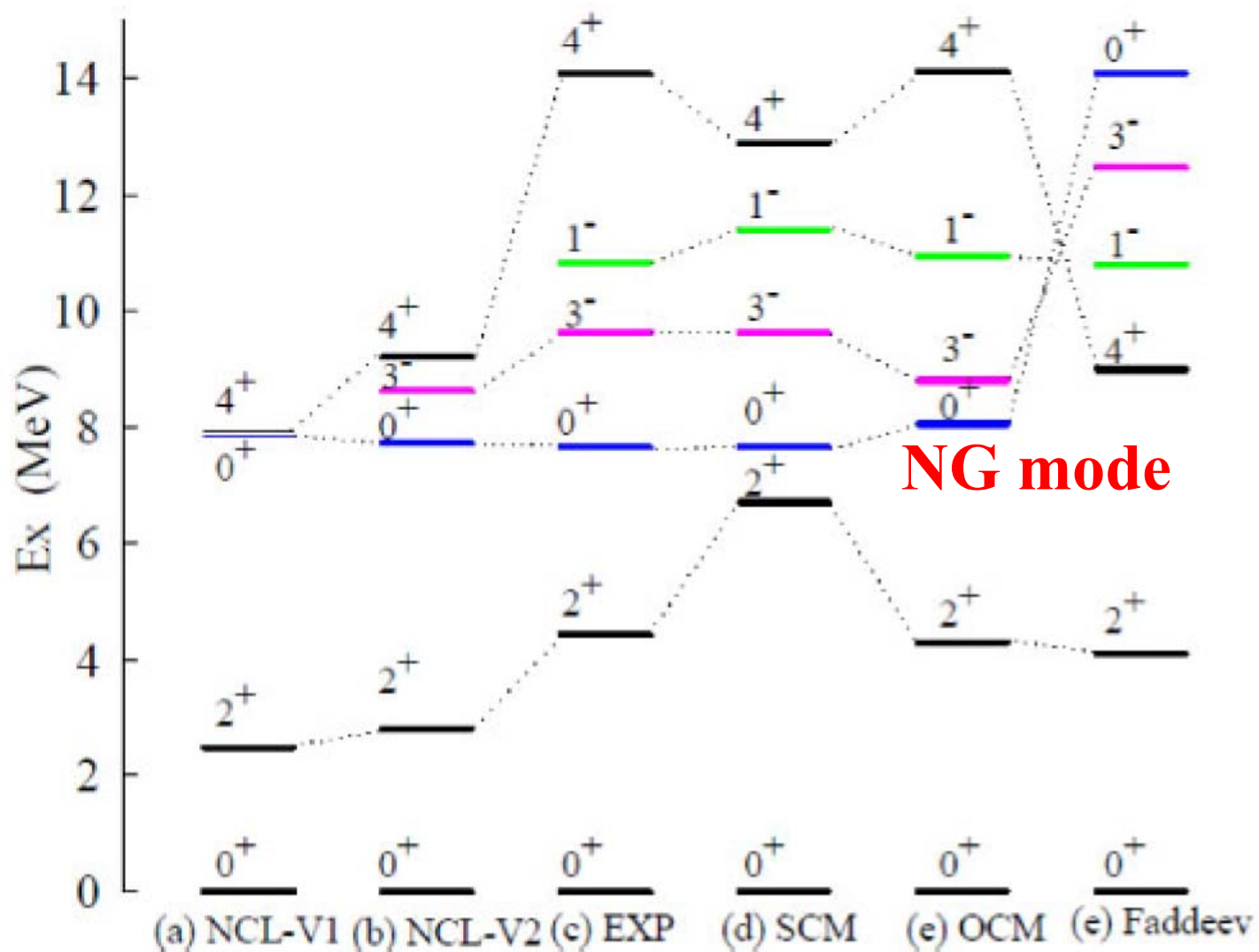
Superfluid cluster  
Model (SCM) :  
with order parameter

**Fig. 1.** Illustrative pictures of the  $\alpha$  cluster structure in  $^{12}\text{C}$ . (a) Geometrical crystalline picture of the three  $\alpha$  clusters. (b) Nonlocalized cluster picture of the three  $\alpha$  clusters in the same 0s orbit of the potential. (c) Superfluid cluster model picture of the  $\alpha$  clusters trapped in the potential with the associated coherent wave (broad curve). (d) Supersolid picture of the crystalline  $\alpha$  clusters trapped in the distinct (due to the Pauli principle) 0s orbit of each potential associated with the coherent wave (broad curve).

# IV. Result

## Supersolidity of alpha cluster structure

# Results and comparison with other models

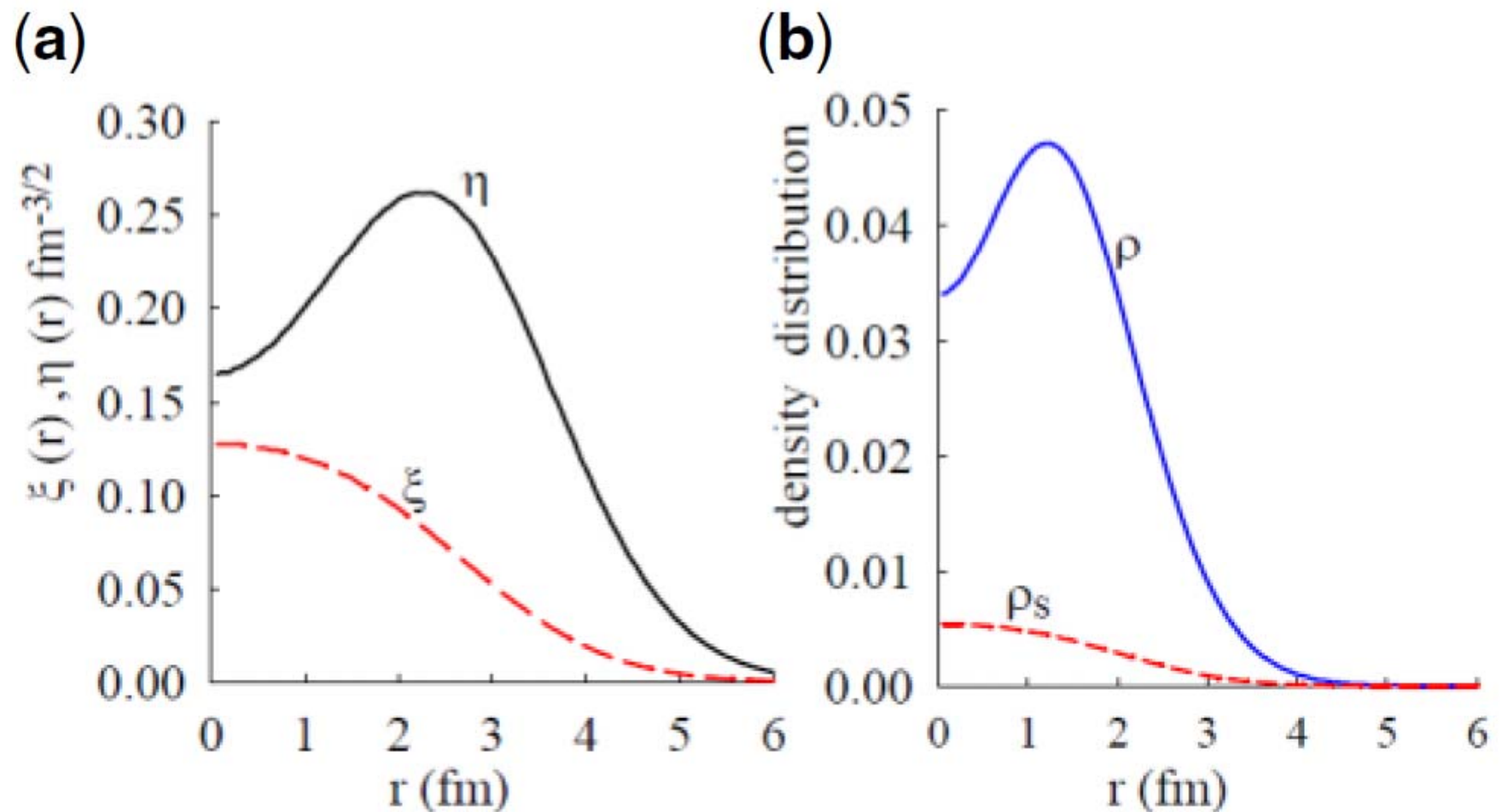


**Particle picture**

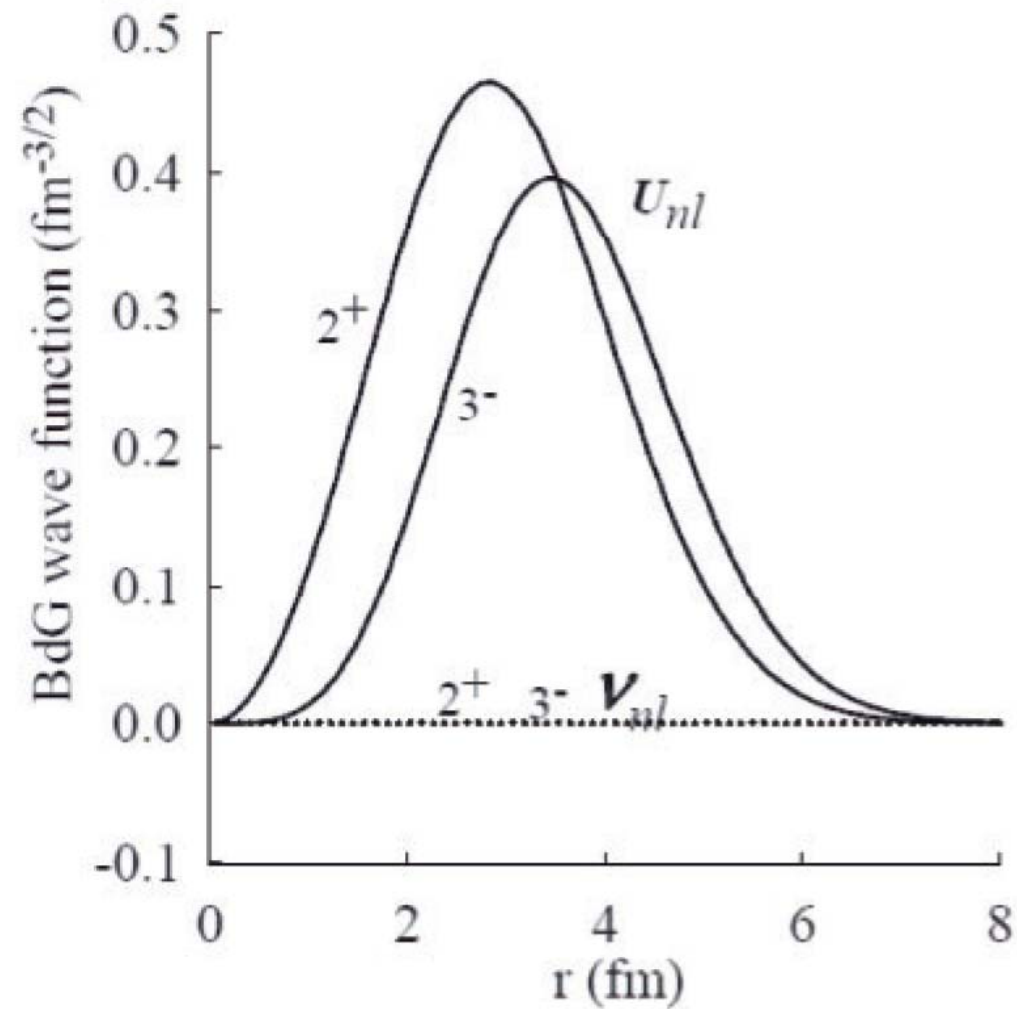
**Superfluid picture**

**Particle picture**

# Density distributions of the ground state ( $^{12}\text{C}$ )

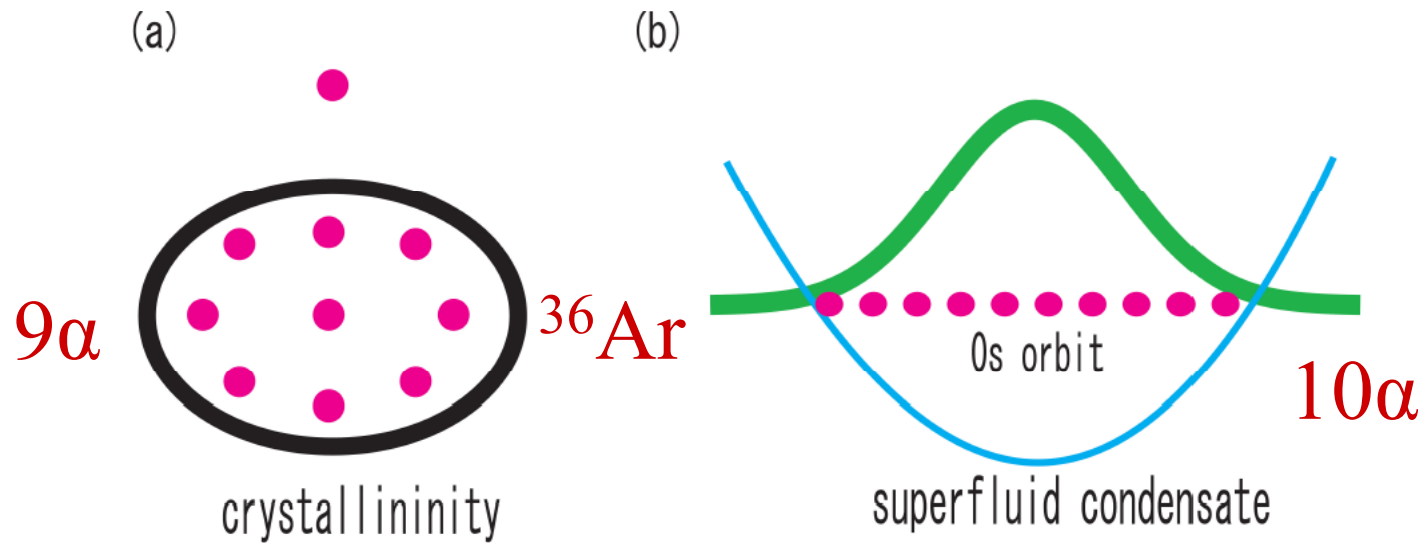


# BdG Wave function ( $^{12}\text{C}$ )



# $^{40}\text{Ca}$

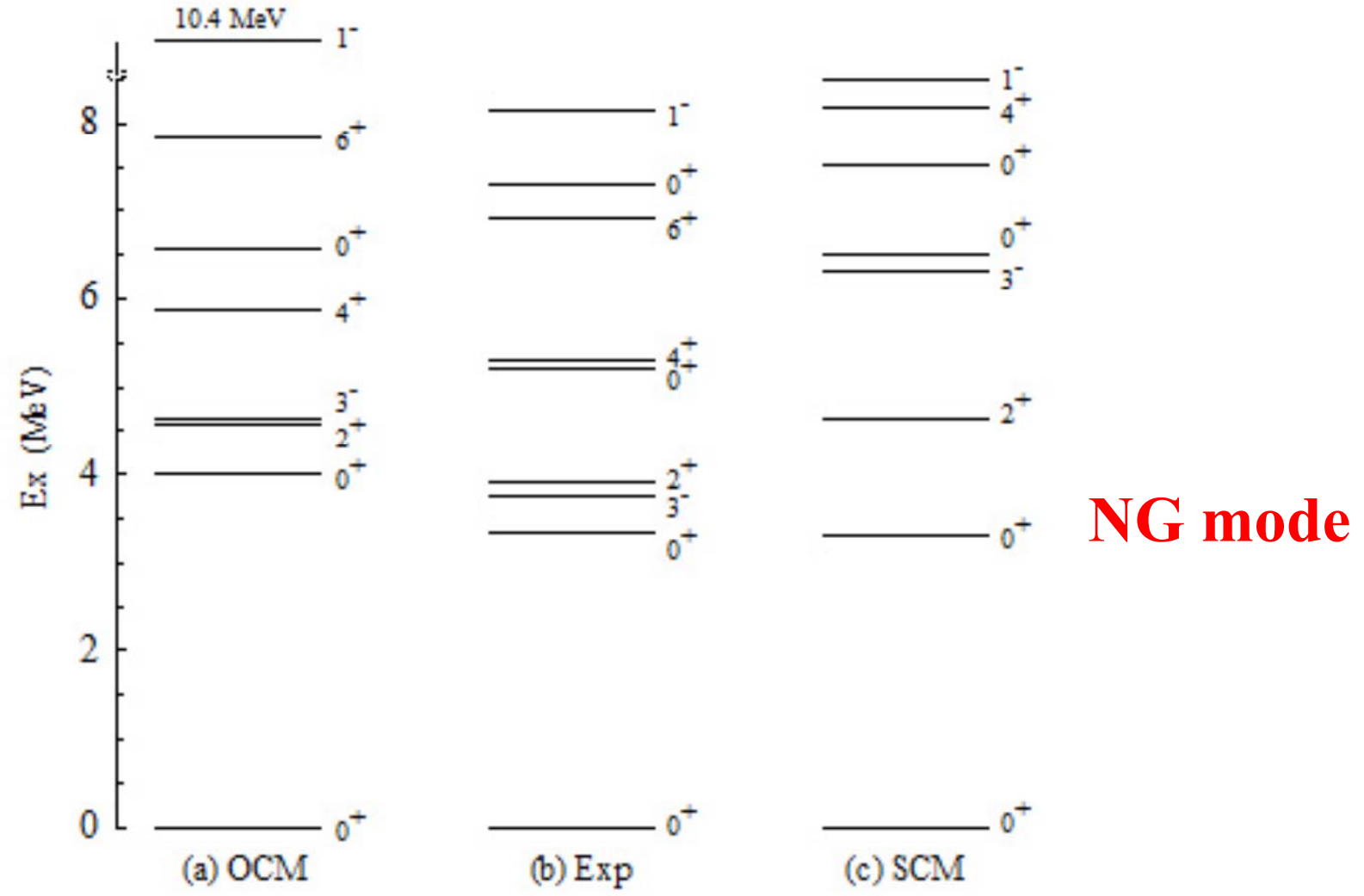
SO Phys. Rev. 106, 034324 (2022)



## $^{36}\text{Ar} + \alpha$ model

Sakuda and Ohkubo, PTP Suppl. 132, 103 (1998)

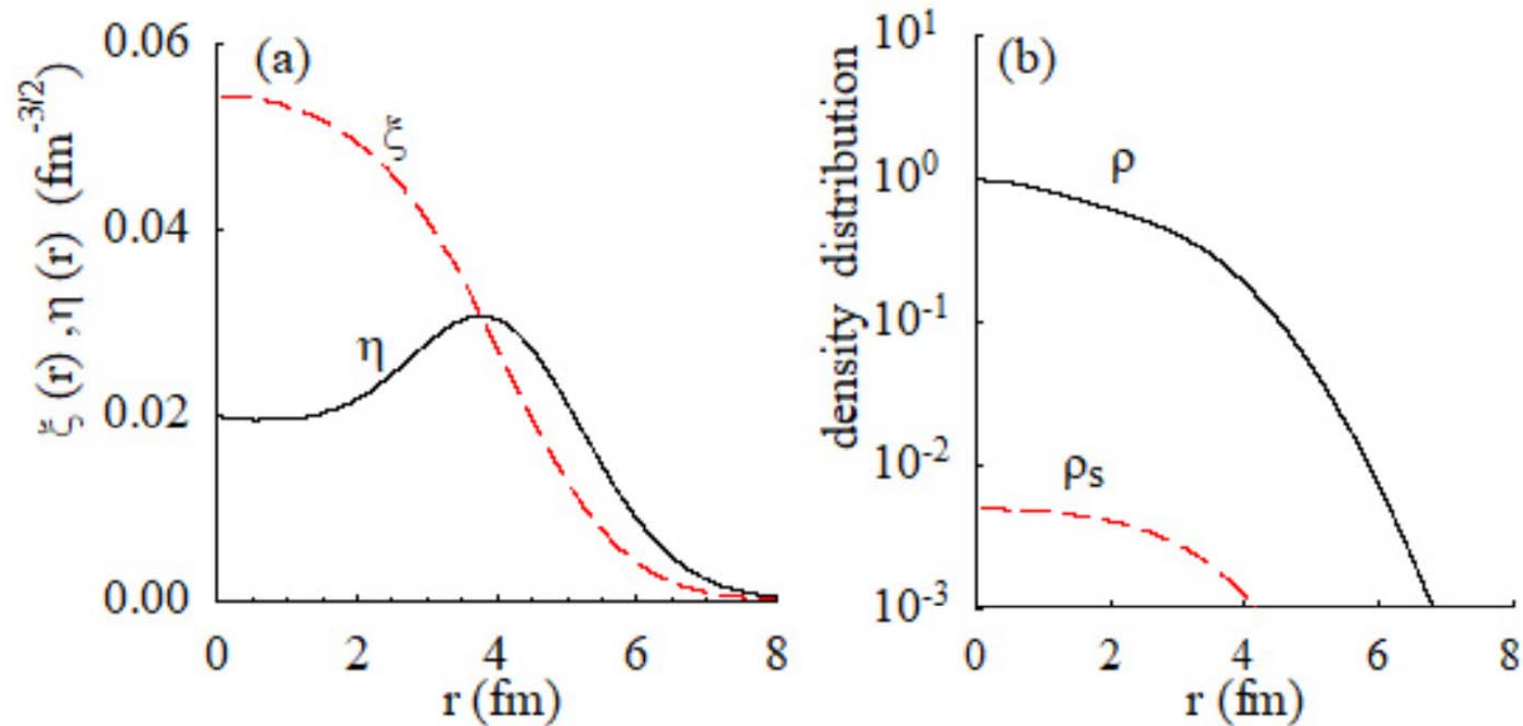
# Results and comparison with other model



**Particle picture**

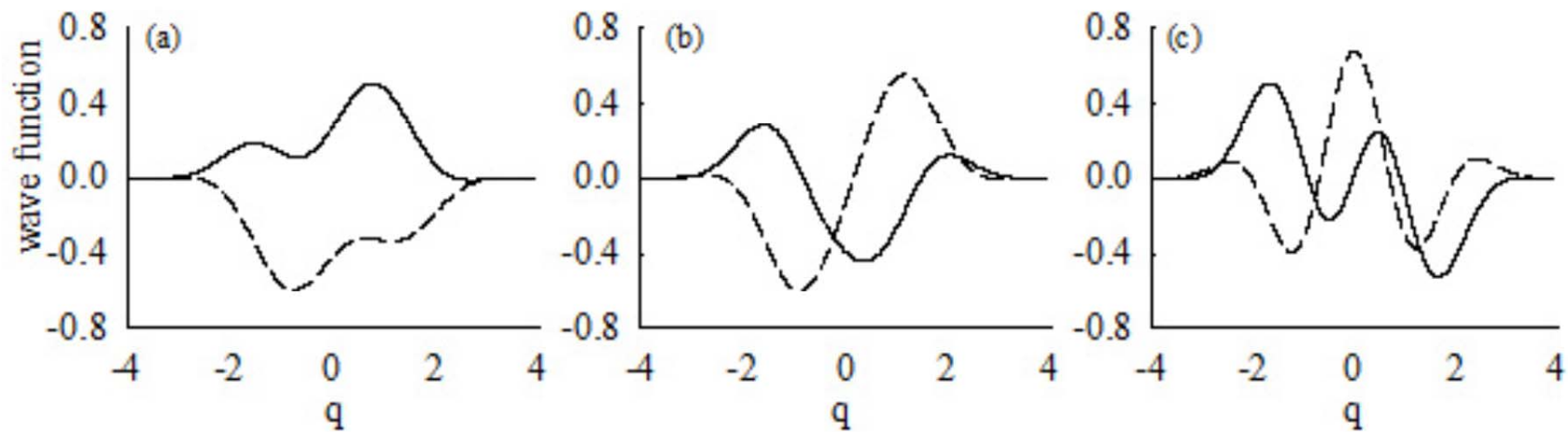
**Superfluid picture**

# Density distributions of the ground state





# NG mode wave functions



# Summary

1. **Duality** of alpha cluster structure: **crystallinity** and **condensation: supersolidity**
2. Superfluid alpha cluster model (SCM) with order parameter **treating Nambu-Goldstone mode rigorously** is presented and applied to  $^{12}\text{C}$  and  $^{40}\text{Ca}$  :  
 $^{12}\text{C}$ ,  $^{40}\text{Ca}$  :alpha cluster structure is understood by the superfluid cluster model
3. **The emergence of the mysterious  $0^+$  state** is understood to be **a manifestation of Nambu-Goldstone mode**