

Abstract Submitted
for the MAR17 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

**Trapping Centers at the SuperfluidMott-insulator Criticality:
Transition between Charge-quantized States**¹ KUN CHEN, YUAN HUANG,
University of Massachusetts at Amherst, YOUJIN DENG, University of Science and
Technology of China, BORIS SVISTUNOV, University of Massachusetts at Amherst
— Under the conditions of superfluid–Mott-insulator criticality in two dimensions,
the trapping centers—*i.e.*, local potential wells and bumps—are generically char-
acterized by an integer charge corresponding to the number of trapped particles
(if positive) or holes (if negative). Varying the strength of the center leads to a
transition between two competing ground states with charges differing by ± 1 . The
hallmark of the transition scenario is a splitting of the number density distortion,
 $\delta n(r)$, into a half-integer core and a large halo carrying the complementary charge
of $\pm 1/2$. The sign of the halo changes across the transition and the radius of the
halo, r_0 , diverges on the approach to the critical strength of the center, $V = V_c$, by
the law $r_0 \propto |V - V_c|^{-\tilde{\nu}}$, with $\tilde{\nu} \approx 2.33(5)$.

¹This work was supported by the National Science Foundation under Grant No.
PHY-1314735, the MURI Program New Quantum Phases of Matter from the
AFOSR, and the National Natural Science Foundation of China under Grant No.
11275185 and No. 11625522.

Kun Chen
University of Massachusetts at Amherst

Date submitted: 10 Nov 2016

Electronic form version 1.4