Tuning across Universalities with a Driven Open Condensate

A. Zamora, L. M. Sieberer, K. Dunnett, S. Diehl, and M. H. Szymańska

1Department of Physics and Astronomy, University College London, Gower Street, London, WC1E 6BT, United Kingdom
2Department of Physics, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720, USA
3Institute of Theoretical Physics, University of Cologne, D-50937 Cologne, Germany
4Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-4030, USA

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Driven-dissipative systems in two dimensions can differ substantially from their equilibrium counterparts. In particular, a dramatic loss of off-diagonal algebraic order and superfluidity has been predicted to occur due to the interplay between coherent dynamics and external drive and dissipation in the thermodynamic limit. We show here that the order adopted by the system can be substantially altered by a simple, experimentally viable, tuning of the driving process. More precisely, by considering the long-wavelength phase dynamics of a polariton quantum fluid in the optical parametric oscillator regime, we demonstrate that simply changing the strength of the pumping mechanism in an appropriate parameter range can substantially alter the level of effective spatial anisotropy induced by the driving laser, and move the system into distinct scaling regimes. These include: (i) the classic algebraically ordered superfluid below the Berezinskii-Kosterlitz-Thouless (BKT) transition, as in equilibrium; (ii) the non-equilibrium, long-wave-length fluctuation dominated Kardar-Parisi-Zhang (KPZ) phase; and the two associated topological defect dominated disordered phases caused by proliferation of (iii) entropic BKT vortex-antivortex pairs or (iv) repelling vortices in the KPZ phase. Further, by analysing the renormalization group flow in a finite system, we examine the length scales associated with these phases, and assess their observability in current experimental conditions.

I. INTRODUCTION

The concept of universality permits to order and classify a great variety of different physical systems in terms of their common collective behaviour in the long-wavelength limit. While dynamical critical phenomena in equilibrium are by now quite well understood [1], the extension to non-equilibrium is a relatively new field. At the same time, due to an unprecedented experimental progress on a range of light-matter realisations [2] in recent years, there is a particular interest in collective behaviour of driven-dissipative quantum systems. Despite the fact that energy is not conserved, the detailed balance condition is broken and fluctuation-dissipation relations are not satisfied [3, 4], it has been shown that some three-dimensional driven-dissipative systems close to a critical point may show emergent fluctuation-dissipation relations and, therefore, universal asymptotic thermalisation [5–15]. This, however, was suggested not to be the case for some two dimensional systems, where the dissipation has a more profound qualitative effect, completely destroying the analogous equilibrium order, and bringing the system to a different universality class [16].

This finding was of particular importance in the context of driven-dissipative two-dimensional bosonic superfluids, such as for example exciton-polaritons in semiconductor microcavities, where collective phase fluctuations were found to preclude the algebraic order in the thermodynamic limit, leading to a stretched exponential decay of first order coherence characteristic of a Kardar-Parisi-Zhang phase (KPZ) [16]. Even if later estimates of the KPZ length scales for incoherently driven microcavities appeared to be beyond the reach of current experiments, and the presence of free vortices with screened repulsive interactions [17] might preclude the possibility of the KPZ phase [18, 19], the emerging order and the type of phase transition in these systems is still subject to an intense debate [20]. This is particularly true in light of the fact that exact stochastic simulations able to account for vortices [21], but also experiments [22], observed a clear transition from exponential decay of correlations to algebraic order but with an algebraic exponent \( \alpha \) as large as four times the equilibrium upper bound, when approaching the BKT transition, suggesting an “over-shaken” but a superfluid state [21].

In this work, investigating parametrically driven polaritons, we show that the type of order adopted is in fact not an intrinsic property of the system but can be strongly sensitive to the driving process able to tune the system between two different universality classes by only a relatively small change in the driving strength. The key feature we exploit here is the spatial anisotropy that is imprinted on the system by the wave vector of the driving laser. In the long-wavelength theory for parametrically driven polaritons, which we derive in Sec. II, the effective degree of anisotropy is measured by a single parameter \( \Gamma \). This quantity depends in a non-trivial way on the system parameters and, in particular, on the driving strength. In the region close to the optical parametric oscillator (OPO) upper threshold, but at lower powers, the system develops a steady state, which (if vortices remain bound) falls into the KPZ universality class [16, 23].
with a non-equilibrium fixed point [16, 24] and no counterpart in equilibrium systems. However, by increasing the strength of the external drive towards the OPO upper threshold, the effective anisotropy crosses a critical value and the properties of the system are governed by an equilibrium fixed point. The system thus falls into the Edwards-Wilkinson (EW) universality class [25], which captures the universal properties of many different equilibrium systems, particularly the low temperature spin-wave theory of the XY model [1], exhibiting a BKT transition to off-diagonal algebraic order ensuring superfluidity. Note, that the equilibrium fixed point is approached for larger driving strengths than the non-equilibrium one, suggesting that we are not simply observing an approach to equilibrium as the external dissipation diminishes, but rather a more profound interplay between drive, dissipation and spatial anisotropy.

The various universal scaling regimes that can be accessed with polaritons were first discussed in the context of incoherently driven systems in Ref. [16]. However, while in both driving schemes the effective long-wavelength theory takes the form of the (anisotropic) KPZ equation, which is the origin of the rich universal behaviour, the underlying physics is completely different. In the case of incoherent pumping, the KPZ equation follows from a standard hydrodynamic description of the dynamics of the polariton fluid, and governs fluctuations of the phase of the condensate. On the other hand, coherent laser driving pins the condensate phase at the pump of the phase of the condensate. In particular, if the laser frequency is chosen in the regime of strong coupling between excitons in semiconductors and a cavity photon mode [2, 29] (see Fig. 1). The coherent mixing between light and matter excitations results in the emergence of two bands (I) states while conserving energy and momentum. The phenomena we discuss here are fundamentally induced by strong fluctuations, making the mean field approach, that has been applied in most of the existing literature on polaritons in the OPO regime [26–28], insufficient. Much rather, the RG techniques we use are tailored to address universal behaviour that occurs on large length and time scales, beyond what is accessible with exact numerical methods [21].

By establishing the universal regimes that are accessible with parametrically driven polaritons, we take a major step towards understanding of phases and phase transitions in 2D driven-dissipative systems. In particular, we show that the universal physics in OPO polaritons is much richer than anticipated, and has surprising connections to seemingly remote fields such as collective behaviour in active systems [24], thus opening a whole new perspective on coherently driven polaritons.

II. SYSTEM AND THEORETICAL DESCRIPTION

Exciton-polaritons are bosonic quasi-particles emerging in the regime of strong coupling between excitons in semiconductors and a cavity photon mode [2, 29] (see Fig. 1). The coherent mixing between light and matter excitations results in the emergence of two bands in these systems, termed the upper and lower polariton. Due to mirror imperfections the lifetime of photons and hence polaritons is finite, necessitating continuous external laser driving to maintain their finite population. In the stationary state resulting from the compensation of gain and losses, detailed balance is violated and the system is therefore not in thermal equilibrium.

The properties of this non-equilibrium stationary state are vitally influenced by the implementation of the laser driving. In particular, if the laser frequency is chosen to resonantly populate highly excited states, the polaritons generated in this way undergo complex scattering before condensing in the lower polariton band. All co-
FIG. 2. Stability diagram. Regions of instability of the pump-only state towards an OPO solution (yellow and green). The simplest three-mode OPO state is stable for parameters marked by green, i.e., at $k_i$ around 0.1 for high $F_{pl}^2$ (region A and B) and over a more extended higher $k_i$ range at low $F_{pl}^2$ (region C). In the yellow region both the pump-only and the three mode ansatz are unstable. The red arrows indicate the direction of increasing pump power shown in Figs. 5, 4 and 6. Note that the pump intensity (vertical axis) is normalized to the lower threshold, $F_{pl}^2 \equiv (F_{pl}^2/F_p^0)^2$. Parameters are as in the text with zero detuning and $k_p=1.4$.

herence of the exciting laser is lost in these processes and not transferred to the lower polariton states. The dynamics of the incipient condensate under such incoherent pumping is commonly described phenomenologically in terms of a generalized Gross-Pitaevski equation [2]. In contrast to the incoherent pumping scheme, in the coherent scheme polaritons are excited with a monochromatic external laser acting resonantly on or close to the lower polariton dispersion [30]. The absence of complex scattering processes facilitates an ab initio rather than a phenomenological description as we detail below. As a consequence of coherent driving of lower polaritons, two symmetries which generically are present for incoherent pumping should be discussed in some more detail at this point: (i) The U(1) symmetry under rotations of the phase of the lower polariton field, and (ii) symmetry under spatial rotations.

The second point (ii) is addressed by specifying the coherent driving term for our problem, $f_p\psi_p + \text{h.c.}$ with external force $f_p = F_p e^{i(k_p \cdot r - \omega_p t)}$ and pump field $\psi_p$. Clearly, the directionality imprinted by the external driving field explicitly breaks the rotational symmetry of the problem on the microscopic level. It is a key point of this paper to elaborate on the consequences of this fact for the macroscopic observables.

Regarding (i), we need to specify the interaction term between the pump field $\psi_p$, and the signal and idler modes $\psi_s, \psi_i$, respectively. It describes the interconversion of two pump field photons into a pair of signal and idler photons (see Fig. 1), $\sim \psi_s^* \psi_i^* \psi_i^* \psi_s + \text{h.c.}$ To begin with, we thus have three phases of pump, signal and idler fields. However, the external coherent pump term locks the phase of the pump field $\psi_p$ via the coherent drive term, in turn locking the sum of phases of signal and idler fields $\psi_s$ and $\psi_i$ via the interaction term. On the other hand, their difference is not fixed by the dynamics of the system. Thus, there is one remaining U(1) phase rotation invariance left, which is generated by the transformation

$$
\begin{pmatrix}
\psi_s \\
\psi_i \\
\psi_p
\end{pmatrix} \mapsto
\begin{pmatrix}
e^{i\alpha} & 0 & 0 \\
0 & e^{-i\alpha} & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1
\end{pmatrix}
\begin{pmatrix}
\psi_s \\
\psi_i \\
\psi_p
\end{pmatrix}.
$$

The residual U(1) symmetry introduced in this way can be broken spontaneously, and is responsible for the existence of a gapless phase mode above the OPO threshold [13, 31–33], which in turn governs the long distance coherence behaviour of the OPO condensate to be investigated in this paper.

More precisely, in a coherently driven system, depending on the strength of the external pump power, we distinguish two different regimes: The pump-only state, with only one mode, $\psi_p$, substantially occupied (white region in Fig. 2). Such a state is characterized by a momentum $k_p$ and frequency $\omega_p$, which coincide with the momentum and frequency of the external pump. The phase of the pump-only state is locked by the external drive. However, in a certain pumping regime (green region in Fig. 2), pairs of polaritons scatter from the pump state into two new substantially occupied states, the signal $\psi_s$ and the idler $\psi_i$, with momentum $k_s$ and $k_i$ and frequencies $\omega_s$ and $\omega_i$, respectively (see Fig. 1). The scattering process is determined by the resonance conditions: $k_s + k_i = 2k_p$ and $\omega_s + \omega_i = 2\omega_p$. Thus, in the OPO regime, the lower polariton field $\psi_{LP}$ can be split into three contributions:

$$
\psi_{LP}(r,t) = \sum_{j=s,p,i} \psi_j(r,t) e^{i(k_j \cdot r - \omega_j t)}.
$$

In a mean-field treatment ignoring fluctuations, the amplitudes $\psi_j(r,t)$ are spatially homogeneous and time-independent. Below we study the influence of fluctuations on the spatial and temporal coherence properties of the lower polariton field.

The yellow region in Fig. 2 marks the range of parameters in which polaritons are parametrically scattered to more than two additional momentum states (i.e., there are additional satellite states or the signal mode extends over a ring in a momentum space). However, here we focus on the regime in which the three-mode ansatz (2) is stable.

As a short digression, it is interesting to note which kind of order is established upon crossing the OPO threshold. Assuming that the amplitudes in Eq. (2) are constants which we write in density-phase representation...
as \( \psi_j = \sqrt{p_j}e^{i\phi_j} \), the density of lower polaritons is given by

\[
|\psi_{\text{LP}}(r, t)|^2 = \sum_j \rho_j^2 + 2 \left( \sqrt{p_s p_p} \cos(\phi_s - \phi_p + (k_{si} \cdot r - \omega_{si} t)/2) \right) + \sqrt{p_s p_p} \cos(\phi_s - \phi_p - (k_{si} \cdot r - \omega_{si} t)/2) + \sqrt{p_s p_p} \cos(\phi_s + k_{si} \cdot r - \omega_{si} t), \tag{3}
\]

where we denote \( k_{si} = k_s - k_i \) and \( \omega_{si} = \omega_s - \omega_i \), and we used the resonance conditions stated above. Thus, at the mean-field level, the OPO regime is characterized by density-wave and time-crystal order, with base wave vector and frequency \( k_{si}/2 \) and \( \omega_{si}/2 \), respectively. The Goldstone mode alluded to above corresponds to fluctuations of the relative phase \( \phi_s - \phi_i \). These can be incorporated in Eq. (3) by replacing \( \phi_s \rightarrow \phi_s + \theta(r, t) \) and \( \phi_i \rightarrow \phi_i - \theta(r, t) \) (the analysis of fluctuations is carried out systematically below), which shows that the Goldstone mode is encoded in the phase of the spatiotemporally periodic order. In particular, topological defects in \( \theta(r, t) \) are dislocations in the combined density wave and time crystal. However, by filtering the lower polariton field in momentum space as is usually done in experiments \([34]\), it is possible to single out the signal and idler modes. Then, topological defects in \( \theta(r, t) \) appear as ordinary vortices. Using this approach, coherence of the OPO state can be quantified by measuring the two-point correlation function of the signal mode,

\[
g^{(1)}(r, t) = \langle \psi_s(r, t)\psi_s^*(0, 0) \rangle. \tag{4}
\]

In the following, we investigate how mean-field order is affected by fluctuations of the Goldstone mode.

### A. Keldysh field integral approach

As pointed out above, for coherently pumped polaritons it is possible to derive a microscopic description. A convenient framework is provided by the Keldysh field integral formalism (see \([4]\) for a recent review on applications to driven-dissipative systems). In this formalism, the coupled dynamics of excitons and photons under the influence of laser driving and cavity losses is encoded in a field integral \([35]\)

\[
Z = \int D[\psi_s, \psi_p, \bar{\psi}_s, \bar{\psi}_p] e^{iS_{\text{OPO}}}.
\]

which we write here already in terms of the three polariton modes introduced in Eq. (2). Since we are interested in the long range dynamics of the system, we neglect quartic terms involving more than a single quantum field. This semiclassical approximation is applicable in the long-wavelength limit and can be justified formally by canonical power counting, which shows that the neglected terms are irrelevant in the renormalisation group sense \([36]\). Thus, the action \( S_{\text{OPO}} \) becomes \( S_C \):

\[
S_C = \int dt dt' \left\{-f_p^* \psi_p^Q + f_p \psi_p^Q + \sum_{j=s,p,i} \left[ \frac{1}{X_j^2} (\overline{\psi_j^C \psi_j^Q})(0) \left[ D_0^{A^{-1}} j, \left[ D_0^{A^{-1}} j \right] \left( \psi_j^C \right) \right] - g_X \left( 2(\psi_j^C)^2 + (\psi_j^Q)^2 - (\psi_j^C)^2 \right) \psi_j^C \psi_j^Q + c.c. \right] \right. \\
- g_X \left( 2\psi_s^C \psi_i^C \psi_s^Q + (\psi_s^C)^2(\psi_i^C \psi_s^Q + \psi_i^C \psi_i^Q) \right) + c.c. \right\}, \tag{5}
\]

where \( \psi_{c,j} (\psi_{q,j}) \) is the classical (quantum) component of the field \( \psi_j \). The inverse advanced Green’s function reads \( \left[ D_0^{A^{-1}} j \right] = i\partial_t + \omega_j - \omega_{\text{LP}} (k_j - \nabla) - i\gamma_j \), from which the inverse retarded Green’s function can be obtained by using the relation \( \left[ D_0^{R^{-1}} j \right] = \left[ D_0^{A^{-1}} j \right] \); \( \gamma \) is the decay rate of the mode \( j \), and the lower polariton dispersion, in dimensionless units, \(^1\) is given by

\[
\omega_{\text{LP}}(q) = \frac{1}{2} q^2 + \delta_{\text{CX}} - \sqrt{\left( q^2 + \delta_{\text{CX}} \right)^2 + 4}, \tag{6}
\]

where \( \delta_{\text{CX}} \) is the detuning between cavity photons and excitons. A typical dispersion relation for zero detuning is shown in Fig. 1. The Keldysh part of the inverse Green’s function, \( \left[ D_0^{R^{-1}} j \right] = i\partial_t + \omega_j - \omega_{\text{LP}} (k_j - \nabla) - i\gamma_j \), stems from integrating out the bosonic decay bath fields in the Markovian approximation \([35]\). \( X_j \equiv X(k_j) \) is the excitonic Hopfield coefficient of the mode \( j \) with momentum \( k_j \) \([29]\), and \( g_X \) is the strength of the exciton-exciton interaction. Finally, the monochromatic external pump is, as mentioned previously, of the form \( f_p = f_p e^{i(k_p r - \omega_p t)} \), where \( f_p \) is taken to be a positive real number. Since the action \( S_C \) is only quadratic in quantum fields we can make use of Martin-Siggia-Rose formalism \([36-38]\) and map the functional integral to the set of coupled stochastic differential equations for the signal, idler, and pump modes, which determine the dynamics of the system:

\[
i\partial_t \psi_s = \Omega_s \psi_s - i\gamma_s + g_X \psi_p^2 \psi_s^* + \xi_s, \tag{7}
i\partial_t \psi_i = \Omega_i \psi_i - i\gamma_i + g_X \psi_p^2 \psi_i^* + \xi_i, \\
i\partial_t \psi_p = \Omega_p \psi_p - i\gamma_p + 2g_X \psi_s \psi_i \psi_p + f_p + \xi_p,
\]

where \( \overline{\psi} \equiv g_X X_s^2 X_i X_s, \psi_j \equiv \psi_j/X_j, \) we use the shorthand notation \([35]\)

\[
\Omega_j \equiv -\omega_j + \omega_{\text{LP}} (k_j - \nabla) + g_X X_j^2 (2(\bar{n}_s + \bar{n}_i + \bar{n}_j) - \bar{n}_j) \quad (\text{with} \quad \bar{n}_j = X^2_j |\psi_j|^2)
\]

\(^1\) Here and in the following we are using dimensionless units, measuring time, length, and energy in \( 2/\Omega_R, \sqrt{\hbar/\Omega_R m_C} \) and \( \Omega_R/2 \) respectively, where \( \Omega_R \) is the Rabi frequency of the exciton-photon coupling, and \( m_C \) is the cavity photon effective mass.
we redefine the external pump $X_p f_p \to f_p$. The terms $\xi_{x,i,p}$ are Gaussian noise sources which have vanishing expectation value, $\langle \xi_j(r,t) \rangle = 0$, and white spectrum, $\langle \xi_j(r,t) \xi_j^*(r',t') \rangle = 2 \gamma_j \delta(r-r') \delta(t-t') \delta_{jj'}$. Note that the dynamical equations (7) are invariant under the U(1) transformation expressed in (1).

B. Long-wavelength theory in the OPO regime: mapping to the anisotropic KPZ equation

The stochastic equations (7) for the signal, idler, and pump modes provide a convenient starting point for deriving the effective long wavelength theory for polaritons in the OPO regime. We follow the usual strategy of parametrizing fluctuations around the mean-field solution in the density-phase representation, i.e., we write the three modes as

$$\psi_j(r,t) = (\sqrt{\theta_j} + \pi_j(r,t)) e^{i(\phi_j + \theta_j(r,t))},$$

where $\sqrt{\theta_j}$ and $\phi_j$ are the homogeneous and stationary mean-field density and phase, respectively, obtained by solving Eq. (7) with $\xi_{x,i,p} \equiv 0$; fluctuations around the mean-field solution are encoded in the fields $\pi_j(r,t)$ and $\theta_j(r,t)$. The key point that allows us to considerably simplify the equations resulting from inserting the ansatz (8) in Eq. (7) is that fluctuations of the relative phase $\theta(r,t) = \theta_s(r,t) - \theta_i(r,t)$ of signal and idler modes, i.e., fluctuations of the Goldstone mode, are gapless, due to the U(1) symmetry expressed at (1), while fluctuations of all other are gapped. This implies that in the limit of long wavelength and low frequencies the latter fluctuations are small and the equations of motion can be linearised in these variables, which can then be eliminated. Details of this calculation are given in Appendix A. It results in a single stochastic equation for the Goldstone mode $\theta$, which takes the form of the anisotropic KPZ (aKPZ) [24, 39] equation with an additional drift term proportional to $\nabla \theta$:

$$\partial_t \theta = \sum_{i=x,y} D_i \partial_i^2 \theta + \frac{\lambda_i}{2} (\partial_i \theta)^2 + B \cdot \nabla \theta + \eta.$$  

The coefficients $D_{x,y}, \lambda_{x,y}$ and $B$ result from linear combinations of different parameters appearing in Eqs. (7) (see Appendix A for details). The Gaussian white noise term $\eta$ derives from the different noise terms $\xi_j$ and satisfies $\langle \eta(r,t) \rangle = 0$ and $\langle \eta(r,t) \eta(r',t') \rangle = 2 \Delta \delta(r-r') \delta(t-t')$, where the noise strength $\Delta$ is related to the decay rates $\gamma_j$. In addition to eliminating massive fluctuations as discussed above, to obtain Eq. (9) we also expanded the lower polariton dispersion (6) around each mode $j$ with momentum $k_j$ to second order in the gradient:

$$\omega_{LP}(k_j - i \nabla) \approx \omega_{LP}(k_j) - i \omega_{LP} \cdot \nabla - \nabla^T \omega_{LP} \cdot \nabla.$$  

This expression shows clearly that the finite value of the pump wave vector $k_p$ (and hence of the idler wave vector, and in some cases also of the signal wave vector) lies at the heart of the spatial anisotropy of the system, which leads in particular to the matrix $\omega_{LP}$ having two distinct eigenvalues, resulting in $D_x \neq D_y$ and $\lambda_x \neq \lambda_y$ in the effective long-wavelength description Eq. (9). This should be compared to incoherently pumped polaritons, for which the expansion of the lower polariton dispersion around zero momentum, $\omega_{LP}(-i \nabla) \approx \omega_{LP}(0) - \nabla^2/(2m_{LP})$, where $m_{LP}$ is the mass of lower polaritons, leads to the isotropic KPZ equation [16]. Below we show how the values $D_{x,y}$ and $\lambda_{x,y}$, and hence the effective degree of anisotropy, depend on system parameters such as pumping and detuning. Crucially, by tuning these parameters we can access different universal scaling regimes of Eq. (9).

We note that the drift term $B \cdot \nabla \theta$ can be eliminated from Eq. (9) by introducing a new variable $\theta'(r,t) = \theta(r + v_0 t, t)$, i.e., by transforming to a frame of reference that moves at a velocity $v_0$. For $v_0 = B$, the equation of motion of $\theta'$ is given by the aKPZ equation without the drift term. It is thus sufficient to consider the latter equation, and transform back to the laboratory frame of reference only for calculating observables in terms of the original variable $\theta$.

C. Scaling regimes of the anisotropic KPZ equation

In the previous section we showed that fluctuations around the three-mode OPO state (2) are governed by the anisotropic KPZ equation (9). What does this mean for the spatial and temporal coherence of the polariton condensate as measured by the first order coherence function Eq. (4)? There are three aspects which make the physics of Eq. (9) rich but also complex to analyse: (i) spatial anisotropy, (ii) the non-linear terms with coefficients $\lambda_{x,y}$, and (iii) the compactness of $\theta$, which implies that this field can contain topological defects. Approaching the problem analytically, difficulties (ii) and (iii) can be controlled perturbatively, if both the non-linearities $\lambda_{x,y}$ and the vortex fugacity $y$, which is a measure of the probability of vortex-antivortex pairs forming at a microscopic distance, are small parameters. Then, as we describe in the following, depending on (i) the strength of anisotropy quantified by the anisotropy parameter

$$\Gamma \equiv \lambda_y D_x / (\lambda_x D_y),$$  

based on the perturbative treatment we expect strikingly different behaviour in the weakly and strongly

\footnote{However, even in incoherently pumped polaritons some degree of anisotropy can be induced by the crystal structure and the splitting of transverse electric and transverse magnetic cavity modes [2, 40].}

\footnote{We note that $y$ depends on the physics on short scales (information which is not contained in the long-wavelength description Eq. (9)) but could in principle be calculated from the stochastic equations (7).}
anisotropic regimes, characterized by $\Gamma > 0$ and $\Gamma < 0$, respectively.

To understand why $\Gamma = 0$ separates these regimes, we first note that $D_{x,y} > 0$ is required for Eq. (9) to be dynamically stable; Therefore, $\Gamma < 0$ corresponds to $\lambda_x$ and $\lambda_y$ having opposite signs. If $\lambda_x$ and $\lambda_y$ have the same sign and hence $\Gamma > 0$, it does not make a difference whether $\lambda_{x,y}$ are both positive or negative. In fact, the former case is related to the latter by the transformation $\theta \to -\theta$ in Eq. (9) (after the drift term has been removed as described above). Thus, the physics can change qualitatively only when $\lambda_{x,y}$ have opposite sign and thus $\Gamma < 0$. This is indeed found to be the case in the RG analysis.

In the weakly anisotropic (WA) regime both the non-linear terms $\lambda_{x,y}$ [24, 39] and the fugacity $y$ [19] are relevant couplings, i.e., they grow under renormalisation. In the absence of vortices this would imply that the correlation function $g^{(1)}(r,t)$ takes the form of a stretched exponential with KPZ scaling exponents (see Eq. (14) below). This behaviour would be observable on length and time scales greater than $L_{KLPZ}$ and $t_{KLPZ}$, respectively, which mark the breakdown of the perturbative treatment in $\lambda_{x,y}$. However, eventually vortices might unbind at a scale $L_v$ and after a time $t_v$ [19], leading to exponential decay of correlations (and a absence of superfluid behaviour) beyond these scales. For a detailed discussion of the influence of vortices in this regime see Appendix B.

The physics is quite different in the strongly anisotropic (SA) regime: for $\Gamma < 0$, the non-linearities $\lambda_{x,y}$ are irrelevant and flow to zero. Then, the linearised version of Eq. (9) exhibits a BKT transition driven by the noise strength (which in turn depends on the loss rates and the external drive, see Appendix A), i.e., at low noise a superfluid phase with algebraic order is possible [16, 24] even in thermodynamic limit of an infinite system. Intriguingly, OPO polaritons allow to cross the boundary of the aKPZ equation and the two scaling regimes of the aKPZ equation.

The RG flow of the aKPZ equation in the absence of vortices was analysed in Refs. [24, 39]. It can be parameterized in terms of only two independent quantities, the anisotropy parameter $\Gamma$ introduced in Eq. (11), and the rescaled dimensionless non-linearity $g$ which is defined as

$$\quad g \equiv \lambda^2 x^2 \Delta / (D_x^2 \sqrt{D_x D_y}).$$

To leading order in $g$, the RG flow equations read:

$$\frac{dg}{dt} = \frac{g^2}{32\pi} (\Gamma^2 + 4\Gamma - 1),$$

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{dt} = \frac{\Gamma y}{32\pi} (1 - \Gamma^2).$$

As described above, depending on the value of $\Gamma$, we distinguish between WA and SA regimes. In the former case, $\lambda_x$ and $\lambda_y$ have the same sign (the coefficients $D_{x,y}$ have to be positive to ensure stability). Then, the non-linearity is marginally relevant, and the RG flow takes the system to a strong coupling fixed point at $g$, which is beyond the scope of the perturbative treatment. Moreover, $\Gamma \to 1$, i.e., at large scales rotational symmetry is restored and thus the system falls into the usual isotropic KPZ universality class.

On the other hand, in the SA regime with $\Gamma < 0$, which is realized when the coefficients $\lambda_x$ and $\lambda_y$ have opposite sign, the non-linearity $g$ is irrelevant and flows to zero. As a consequence, the aKPZ equation becomes a linear stochastic differential equation, which is governed by an equilibrium fixed point at $g = 0, \Gamma = -1$, and the system falls into the EW universality class [25].

Having discussed how the RG flow of the aKPZ equation is structured by different fixed points in the WA and SA regimes, it is natural to ask for observable consequences of these findings. Universal scaling behaviour leaves its mark in the long-time and long-range decay of correlations. Hence, in the following we discuss the form of the correlation function (4) implied by these results, and which modifications are to be expected due to the possible occurrence of vortices.

1. Weakly anisotropic regime

In the WA regime, the two point correlation function (4) $g^{(1)}(r,t) \propto e^{-C(r,t)/2}$ (this form assumes that density fluctuations are negligible as compared to fluctuations of the Goldstone mode, see Sec. II B), where $C(r,t) = ((\theta(r,t) - \theta(0,0))^2)$, shows a stretched exponential decay [41]:

$$\quad C(r,t) \sim \tilde{r}^2 \chi F_{\text{KLPZ}}(c_1 t/\tilde{r}^2) \sim \begin{cases} 
\tilde{r}^2 & \text{for } \tilde{r}^2 \gg c_1 t, \\
(2\chi/\tilde{r}^2) & \text{for } c_1 t \gg \tilde{r}^2,
\end{cases} \quad (14)$$

where $\tilde{r}^2 = (x/x_0)^2 + (y/y_0)^2$ encodes the anisotropy of the system and the parameter $c_1$ depends on the microscopic parameters. The limiting forms follow from the asymptotic behaviour of the scaling function, $F_{\text{KLPZ}}(w) \sim A_1$ for $w \to 0$ and $F_{\text{KLPZ}}(w) \sim A_2 w^{2\chi/\tilde{r}^2}$ for $w \to \infty$, with non-universal constants $A_1$ and $A_2$. In two spatial dimensions, the roughness exponent is $\chi \approx 0.39$ (see Refs. [42, 43] for recent numerical investigations of KPZ scaling and [44] for a functional RG analysis), and the dynamical exponent $z$ can be obtained from the exact scaling relation $\chi + z = 2$.

The scaling form Eq. (14) applies to the co-moving reference frame (see the discussion below Eq. (9)), in which the drift term $B \cdot \nabla \theta$ is absent. We can calculate $g^{(1)}(r,t)$
in the original frame simply by replacing \( r \mapsto r + Bt \) in Eq. (14), which yields

\[
C(r, t) \sim |r + Bt|^{2x} F_{\text{KPZ}}(c_1 t / |r + Bt|^z).
\] (15)

From this expression we explore the consequences of a non-vanishing drift term \( B \) on the correlations of the system for the KPZ scaling. In particular, we find for spatial correlations at equal times

\[
C'(r, 0) \sim \tilde{r}^{2x},
\] (16)

which coincides with the result for the case of vanishing drift term. However, temporal correlations are modified:

\[
C'(0, t) \sim (Bt)^{2x} F_{\text{KPZ}}(c_1 t / (Bt)^z) \sim \begin{cases} t^{2x/z} & \text{for } t \ll \tau_c, \\ t^{2x} & \text{for } t \gg \tau_c. \end{cases}
\] (17)

Hence, the system exhibits two different exponents, depending on the time scale. Initially, the correlator \( g^{(1)}(0, t) \) shows stretched exponential decay with exponent \( 2x/z \) characteristic of KPZ scaling. At longer times, the drift term causes the exponent to increase to \( 2x \), resulting in a faster decay of temporal correlations. The crossover time \( \tau_c \) at which the transition between the two regimes occurs can be obtained from: \( c_1 \tau_c \sim (B \tau_c)^z \), leading to \( \tau_c \sim (B^2/c_1)^{1/(1-z)} \). The scaling forms (16) and (17) are approached on certain length and time scales. For small KPZ non-linearity \( g \), the scale \( L_{\text{KPZ}} \) above which spatial correlations are expected to behave as (16) can in the isotropic case be estimated as

\[
L_{\text{KPZ}} = \xi_0 e^{8\pi/g},
\] (18)

and the corresponding time scale, after which scaling behaviour according to Eq. (17) sets in, follows from diffusive scaling and is given by [19] \( t_{\text{KPZ}} = L_{\text{KPZ}}^2 / D \). In Eq. (18), \( \xi_0 = \hbar / \sqrt{2m_L p g_x \hbar M} \) is the healing length of the system [45].

Finally, as we mentioned previously, taking into account the compactness of the phase in the KPZ equation in the WA regime, vortices have been predicted to unbind at a scale \( L_v \) [19]

\[
L_v = \xi_0 e^{2\lambda / \tilde{\lambda}},
\] (19)

leading to exponential decay of correlations beyond.\(^5\) Thus the algebraic or KPZ orders in the WA regime might appear only as a finite size or transient phenomena. We refer the reader to Appendix B for a detailed description of the physics of the vortices in the WA regime of the compact KPZ equation.

2. Strongly anisotropic regime

In the SA regime the RG flow equations (13) approach the fixed point at \( g = 0, \Gamma = -1 \), belonging to the EW universality class [25]. Then, for a zero drift term \( B \), the correlations decay as power laws both in space and time [46–48]:

\[
g^{(1)}(r, t) \sim \tilde{r}^{-\alpha} F_{\text{EW}}(\tilde{r}^{z'}/(c_2 t)) \sim \begin{cases} t^{-\alpha} & \text{for } \tilde{r}^{z'} \gg c_2 t, \\ t^{-\alpha/z'} & \text{for } c_2 t \gg \tilde{r}^{z'}, \end{cases}
\] (20)

where the parameter \( c_2 \) depends on microscopic parameters. The scaling function \( F_{\text{EW}}(w) \) behaves asymptotically as \( F_{\text{EW}}(w) \sim A_1' \) for \( w \to \infty \) and as \( F_{\text{EW}}(w) \sim A_2' w^{\alpha'/z'} \) for \( w \to 0 \), where \( A_1' \) and \( A_2' \) are non-universal constants. The exponents are \( z' = 2, \alpha = \kappa(\infty)/(4\pi) \), with the renormalized scaled noise

\[
\kappa(l) = \Delta(l) / \sqrt{D_x(l) D_y(l)},
\] (21)

evaluated from the RG flow equations for the aKPZ equation in the limit \( l \to \infty \) [24]. We obtain the correlations in the original frame of reference by reverting the coordinate transformation from the co-moving frame in which the drift term in Eq. (9) is absent. Replacing \( r \mapsto r + Bt \) in Eq. (20), yields

\[
g^{(1)}(r, t) \sim |r + Bt|^{-\alpha} F_{\text{EW}}(|r + Bt|^{z'}/(c_2 t)).
\] (22)

We examine the consequences of a non-vanishing drift term \( B \) on the correlations of the system. In particular, the spatial correlations at equal times behave as

\[
g^{(1)}(r, 0) \sim \tilde{r}^{-\alpha},
\] (23)

which coincides with the result for the case of vanishing drift term. However, as in the KPZ scaling regime, temporal correlations are modified:

\[
g^{(1)}(0, t) \sim (Bt)^{-\alpha} F_{\text{EW}}((Bt)^{z'}/(c_2 t)) \sim \begin{cases} t^{-\tilde{\alpha}} & \text{for } t \ll \tau_c', \\ t^{-\alpha} & \text{for } t \gg \tau_c'. \end{cases}
\] (24)

Thus, as in the WA regime, the system shows two different exponents, depending on the time scale. Initially, the correlator \( g^{(1)}(0, t) \) shows algebraic decay with the characteristic \(-\alpha/z'\) exponent. At longer times, however, the drift term causes the exponent to decrease to \(-\alpha\), resulting in a faster decay of temporal correlations. The crossover time at which the transition between the two regimes occurs is \( \tau_c' \sim (B^2/c_2)^{1/(1-z')} \).

We should note that the closed 2D bosonic system in thermal equilibrium, in the absence of drive and dissipation, reveals a slightly different behaviour. In such a
case the phase fluctuations obey the following equation:

\[ \partial_t^2 \theta = D_x \partial_x^2 \theta + D_y \partial_y^2 \theta, \]

where \( D_x, D_y \) are the squares of the \( x \) and \( y \)-component, respectively, of the speed of sound \([16, 37]\). In such a case, the two point correlation function shows an algebraic order with the same exponent \( \alpha \) for both space and time: \( g^{(1)}(r, t) \rightarrow \tilde{r}^{-\alpha}, t^{-\alpha} \) respectively, with \( \alpha > 0 \).[48] This is a consequence of the linear dispersion of the gapless Bogoliubov excitation in \( k, \omega \rightarrow 0 \) limit.

Including the compactness of the phase in the SA regime does not preclude algebraic order and superfluidity. It leads to a well-known BKT [24] transition between a quasi-ordered and a disordered phases mediated by the binding/unbinding of vortices. The system falls into the XY universality class, which is the extension of the EW universality class for compact variables. We can estimate the phase boundary for algebraic order by considering a simple argument presented in Ref. \([16, 24]\): we assume that vortices only become relevant at scales where \( g \) has flowed to nearly 0, and hence we can use the RG flow equations (13) even though they do not include vortices.\(^7\) In this scenario, the BKT transition is estimated to occur at \( \kappa(\infty) = \pi \), where \( \kappa(\infty) \) is the renormalized scaled noise (21) in the limit \( t \rightarrow \infty \). This condition defines the phase boundary \( \kappa_0 = \kappa_* \) between ordered and disordered phases which reads:

\[ \kappa_* = -\frac{4\pi\Gamma_0}{(1 - \Gamma_0)^2}, \]

where we have used the expression of \( \kappa(\infty) \) as a function of the bare parameters \( \kappa_0 \) and \( \Gamma_0 \).[24] Thus, when \( \kappa_0 < \kappa_* \), the system shows algebraic order, whereas if \( \kappa_0 > \kappa_* \), the algebraic order is destroyed by vortices resulting in exponential decay of correlations.

According to the above discussion, while incoherently pumped (and thus at best weakly anisotropic) 2D polaritons (or other photonic) systems are always disordered in the thermodynamic limit of infinite system size, and algebraic order or superfluidity can only be a finite size effect, the parametrically pumped polaritons are fundamentally different. The pumping process, which can be chosen at any wave-vector, can result in a high level of effective anisotropy, which allows us to enter the SA regime, governed by the XY equilibrium fixed point, thus ensuring algebraic order up to infinite distances in the thermodynamic limit. Such a high level of anisotropy would not be achievable by a crystal growth engineering aimed at creating different effective masses in perpendicular directions. Moreover, as we show below, the anisotropy can be changed simply by tuning experimental parameters such as the pump power or the detuning between the excitons and photons, allowing us to easily in one experiment move between different regimes.

### III. Exploring Scaling Regimes of OPO Polaritons

In this section we show that the OPO-polariton system can be driven from the non-equilibrium WA to an equilibrium-like SA regime by simply tuning the strength of the external pump power and the detuning between the cavity photons and excitons. We then consider implications for finite size systems. In general, polaritons in the OPO regime (or in the incoherently pumped scenario above condensation threshold) are characterised by a high degree of coherence. This is because the system size in experiments, due to intrinsic disorder in the samples limiting the spatial extent of useful regions, is rela-
tivity small in comparison to the relevant length scales of the decay of correlations, especially well above threshold where most experiments operate. Indeed, non-decaying spatial coherence, characteristic of BEC in 3D, was seen in most cases [49, 50], and even observation of the algebraic decay appeared challenging [22, 51, 52]. In order to minimise the influence of the finite size, which masks the underlying physics, we need to focus on samples and regimes, in which we have appreciable decay of coherence for the considered system size. In general, this would correspond to what we call bad samples, where the influence of dissipation is substantial but not strong enough to completely wash out any collective effects. In our opinion, the most promising microcavities are those used in early days of work on polariton condensation, where collective effects were already seen but the polariton lifetime and the Rabi splitting were quite small by current standards. Thus, we first focus on what we call a bad inorganic microcavity [21, 34], and in Sec. III E we compare this with better quality samples, characterised by longer lifetimes and larger Rabi splitting, used by most groups today, as well as with organic microcavities.

The bad microcavity is characterized by the following set of parameters: $\hbar\omega_R = 4.4$ meV, $\hbar\gamma_j = 0.1$ meV (corresponding to a lifetime of 6.6 ps); $m_C = 2.5 \cdot 10^{-5} m_0$, $g_X = 2 \mu$eV$\mu$m$^{-2}$. We choose the pump wave vector close to the inflection point of the lower polariton dispersion, $k_p = 1.4$, which corresponds to 1.61 $\mu$m$^{-1}$ in dimensional units for the bad cavity, and $\omega_p = \omega_p(\delta_k)$, as shown in Fig. 2. At the mean-field level, the system exhibits upper and lower thresholds for the OPO transition at pump powers indicated by $F^s_p$ and $F^w_p$ respectively. Solving numerically exactly the analogue of Eq. (7) for the exciton-photon model and the same set of parameters with zero-detuning shows that the system undergoes a BKT-type phase transition at a pump power $F^\text{BKT,}lo_p \approx 1.014 F^s_p$ and $F^\text{BKT,}up_p \approx 0.999 F^w_p$ [21]. The value of $k_s$ is not determined by the three-modes ansatz (7) [53]. However, the stability analysis shown in Fig. 2 suggests a value of $k_s \approx 0.11 \mu$m$^{-1}$ for intermediate and high values of $F_p$, whereas the system chooses bigger values of $k_s$ when approaching the lower threshold, i.e., $k_s \in [0.11 \mu$m$^{-1}, 0.7 \mu$m$^{-1}]$ (region C in Fig. 2).

### A. Infinite system: crossover between weakly and strongly anisotropic regimes

We first focus on the region with small $k_s$ (A and B in Fig. 2). The analysis of the anisotropy parameter $\Gamma$ for the bad cavity shows that the system falls into the WA regime, i.e., $\Gamma > 0$, at all pump powers when the detuning between the photons and the excitons fulfils $-1.07 < \delta_{CX}$. The expected scaling behaviour of correlations is discussed in Sec. II C 1. In particular, algebraic decay of correlations is ruled out in this regime. However, this picture changes drastically for lower values of the detuning. When $\delta_{CX} \leq -1.07$, we enter the SA regime, which is expected to have long-range properties which are qualitatively similar to an equilibrium system (see Sec. II C 2). For example, algebraic order can be destroyed by the proliferation of vortices as in the equilibrium BKT transition when the level of the effective noise is large, which is the case when the signal density is low. In Fig. 3 we show three characteristic cases of different detuning superimposed on the phase diagram generated by the relation (25) in the $\Gamma_0 - \kappa_0$ phase-space: i) For $\delta_{CX} = -1.07$ the system is always disordered. It crosses from the disordered non-equilibrium (WA) to the disordered equilibrium-like (SA) regime since $\kappa_0 > k_s$ for all values of $F_p$. ii) $\delta_{CX} = -1.075$ is the most interesting case. The system shows reentrant behaviour [16]: by increasing the pump power we move from the disordered WA to the disordered SA regime, then by increasing the pump power further we reach the BKT phase transition to the algebraically ordered phase, followed by a second BKT transition close to the OPO upper threshold back to the SA disordered phase. iii) For $\delta_{CX} = -1.08$ the stable three-mode solutions lie in the SA regime for all pump powers. For smaller values of $F_p$ the system is in the algebraically ordered phase, and it undergoes a BKT phase transition to a disordered phase by increasing $F_p$. As can be seen in the left panel of Fig. 4, all these three different cases show a nearly linear dependence of $\Gamma$ on the intensity $F^2_p$ of the external drive. Increasing detuning in the region close to the upper threshold (region A in Fig. 2) is one way to introduce a sufficient level of anisotropy to cross to the equilibrium-

![FIG. 4. Changing the effective anisotropy by tuning the driving strength. Left panel: Anisotropy parameter $\Gamma$ as a function of pump power $F^2_p$ (in the same range as region A in Fig. 2) for different detunings $\delta_{CX} = -1.06$ (blue), $\delta_{CX} = -1.07$ (red), $\delta_{CX} = -1.08$ (green) in the stable three-mode OPO regime. Parameters are as in Fig. 3. For $\delta_{CX} = -1.075$ the anisotropy parameter crosses zero (dotted red line). Note that the extent of region A, i.e., the range of pump powers for which the three-mode OPO ansatz is stable, depends on the value of the detuning. Right panel: Anisotropy parameter $\Gamma$ as a function of normalised pump power, where $F^s_p / F^w_p$, at zero detuning but close to the lower OPO threshold, indicated by the green vertical line. The pump and signal have large momenta $k_p \approx 1.84$ and $k_s = 1.0$. The dotted red line marks the $\Gamma = 0$ line. This case corresponds to region C in Fig. 2.](image-url)
like phase. However, there is also another source of anisotropy: the system can be driven to the SA regime by increasing the pump momentum, $k_p$, leading to an increase of the signal momentum, $k_s$, by tuning the pump power close to the lower OPO threshold (region C in Fig. 2). For example, for the bad cavity parameters with $\delta_{\text{CX}} = 0$ and $k_p = 2.11 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$ (1.84 in dimensionless units) we enter the SA regime for $k_s \approx 0.7 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$, as can be seen in the right panel of Fig. 4.

**B. Finite system: the length scales of the weakly anisotropic regime**

In this subsection, based on Eqs. (18) and (19), we estimate the relevant length scales of the WA regime to examine which phases can be seen in current semiconductor microcavities, and whether finite-size effects would hamper the underlying universal physics. We address, in particular, whether the non-equilibrium ordered KPZ phase can ever be seen in semiconductor microcavities. We focus here on our bad cavity parameters as the most promising to explore various phases.

We first explore the WA regime close to the upper threshold (region A in Fig. 2). The parameters of the aKPZ equation for this regime are shown in Fig. 10 in Appendix A. Most of the parameters are approximately constant as a function of the external pump strength, $F_p$. The drift term is non-zero only in the direction of the pump wave vector $k_p$, which we have chosen to be along the $x$-axis. The dimensionless non-linearity $g$ and the noise strength $\Delta$ asymptote to high values, which leads to a small value of $L_{\text{KPZ}}$ (see Eq. (18)), only very close to the upper threshold. As can be seen in Fig. 5, even for the most promising bad cavity parameters $L_{\text{KPZ}}$ is astronomically large at any reasonable distance from the upper threshold. It goes down to 100 $\mu$m, currently the upper bound for any experiments, only at around 0.999 of the upper threshold (see right panel of Fig. 5). However, this point is already above the BKT transition (green dashed line in Fig. 5), where proliferating vortex-antivortex pairs destroy the KPZ scaling. Additionally, $L_v \ll L_{\text{KPZ}}$ for all values of $F_p$ apart from those close to the upper threshold already beyond the BKT transition. (Also, note that as explained in Sec. II C 1 close to the upper threshold where fluctuations are strong the scale at which vortices unbind should be strongly renormalized and smaller than $L_v$ in Eq. (19).) Thus, we conclude that in this regime (region A in Fig. 2) KPZ scaling would either be overshadowed by the algebraic order at scales below $L_v$ due to the astronomically large length scales required, or destroyed by the BKT vortices resulting in an equilibrium-like behaviour in a finite system. The question remains: is there then no hope for the KPZ phase in microcavities in two dimensions and we are only left with equilibrium-like behaviour? We address this in the next section.

We should also comment that $L_v$ drops down to less then 100 $\mu$m for our bad cavity for some pump powers away from the BKT threshold — a scale which is quite realistic. This suggests that in such a case free vortices (not of BKT type) should destroy the algebraic order beyond this scale [19] (see Appendix B). However, exact simulations of stochastic dynamics for systems as large as 1000 $\mu$m [21] do not show any signs of this phase, even at very long times where a steady-state has clearly been reached, suggesting suppressed activation by e.g. an extremely small vortex mobility (Ref. [19] assumed instead a vortex mobility of the order of other scales in the problem), or that attractive interactions between vortex and antivortex at small distances may in reality prevent the free vortices from becoming relevant. It may also be that the rough formula for $L_v$ underestimates the real value.

**C. Finite system: searching for the KPZ phase**

Unlike the incoherently pumped case, our OPO system offers more possibilities for parameter tuning. Interestingly, as we can see in Fig. 6, the system shows a regime at intermediate pump powers, $3.1 < (F_p/F_{p0})^2 < 3.5$, where $g$ becomes large and so $L_{\text{KPZ}}$ is small (region B in Fig. 2). In fact, in some parts of this range $g > 1$, meaning that the KPZ phase is expected at all length scales beyond the healing length. Such a regime does not exist for incoherently driven microcavities. Its presence in the OPO configuration is due to the non-monotonic behaviour of KPZ parameters as a function of pump power, associated with underlying instabilities towards more complex spatial patterns in the system such as the satellites formation or ring OPOs [53]. However, we also find that $L_v \approx \xi_0$ (see right panel Fig. 6) and therefore in principle the vortex phase could destroy the KPZ physics. But, due to the suppressed activation observed in numerical studies, the free vortices may never appear. Testing the possibility of the KPZ phase in the middle of the OPO region using the exact stochastic dynamics, and hopefully experiments, would give the final word on this. Note, that the only experiment measuring spatial coherence in the OPO configuration focuses on a different regime of powers [50]. Our estimates show that using pump powers a few times the OPO threshold in good quality samples as far as spatial disorder is concerned, but with relatively short polariton lifetime, is the most promising regime to observe signatures of the KPZ physics.

**D. Finite system: crossover between weakly and strongly anisotropic regimes**

In Sec. III A we have shown that the infinite polariton system can be tuned between two different universality classes (non-equilibrium KPZ and equilibrium EW), with completely different large-scale behaviours, by changing the exciton-photon detuning, and the properties of the drive such as the pump power, $F_p$, and wave-vector $k_p$.
FIG. 5. Characteristic length scales in the WA regime. Left and right panels: Healing length $\xi_0$ (blue), length scale for the vortex-dominated disordered phase $L_v$ (brown), and the KPZ length scale $L_{KPZ}$ (red) as a function of the pump strength (normalised to the upper threshold, $F_{pu} \equiv F_p/F_p^{up}$). Vertical dotted (green) line indicates the BKT transition where V-AV pairs proliferate (taken from Ref. [21]) and the vertical solid (green) line the mean-field OPO threshold. Parameters as those discussed in the text for the bad microcavity at zero detuning $\delta_{CX} = 0$, $k_p = 1.4$ and $k_s = 0.1$. The two different panels correspond to two different ranges in pump strength. Central panel: logarithmic RG scale for the vortex-dominated phase ($\Delta l$) and for the KPZ-phase ($\Delta l_{KPZ}$) as a function of pump strength normalised to the pump at the upper threshold (vertical solid green line). Vertical dotted green line indicates the BKT transition. Note that $L_v$ is expected to be strongly renormalized close to the threshold as explained in Appendix B.

FIG. 6. Characteristic length scales in the WA regime at intermediate pump powers. Left panel: Non-linear parameter $g$ as a function of the pump strength normalised to the pump at the lower threshold for stable three-mode OPO solution with zero detuning. The vertical green lines indicate the lower and upper mean field thresholds, and the red dotted line marks the $g = 1$ border. These are the stable solutions at intermediate values of $F_p$ (region B in Fig. 2). Right panel: Characteristic length scales at the intermediate $F_p$ shown in the left panel. Healing length $\xi_0$ (blue), length scale for vortex dominated disordered phase $L_v$ (green) and the KPZ length scale $L_{KPZ}$ (red) as a function of pump strength normalised to the pump at the upper threshold. Note that to the left of the nearly vertical increase of $L_{KPZ}$ its value is indistinguishable from the healing length.

— easily realisable in current experiments. Here, we consider how this crossover is affected by the finite size.

We consider the case with detuning $\delta_{CX} = -1.07$ close to the upper OPO threshold (region A in Fig. 2). As we discussed, for this detuning the system can move from the non-equilibrium (WA) to an equilibrium-like (SA) regime by increasing the external pump power. If the system is infinite, for these parameters, it is in the disordered phase, characterised by the exponential decay of correlations, in both regimes. However, the system may show algebraic order up to certain length scale $L_{BKT}$ in the SA regime or $L_v, L_{KPZ}$ in the WA regime. In the first case, this would require $\kappa_a < \kappa(l) < \pi$ (see (25)), and $L_{BKT} \equiv \xi_0 e^{\Delta l_{BKT}}$ is obtained by considering the BKT-transition criterion: $\kappa(l_{BKT}) \sim \pi$. We calculate $L_{BKT}$ following Ref. [24] and the RG flow-equations (13), and the results are displayed in Fig. 7. We obtain that $L_{BKT}$ takes reasonable physical values for $\Gamma \approx -0.0145$. When $\Gamma > -0.0145$, $L_{BKT} \rightarrow \infty$ which indicates that the algebraic order appears at all realistic physical length scales; whereas when $\Gamma < -0.0145$, $L_{BKT} \sim \xi_0$, and so the system is in a disordered phase at all length scales beyond the healing length.

Considering this, we find that there are two interesting scenarios at intermediate length scales when driving the system from the WA to the SA regime, as indicated by double arrows $A$ and $B$ in Fig. 7. The first case, arrow $A$, shows a transition between the disordered phase in the non-equilibrium WA regime to the algebraically ordered phase in the equilibrium-like SA regime by increasing the pump power and, consequently, crossing $\Gamma = 0$. This phenomenon appears for $L$ such that $L_v < L < L_{BKT}$. In the second scenario (arrow $B$ in Fig. 7), the system can be driven from the WA to the SA regimes without changing the phase, i.e. maintaining the algebraic order in both cases. This situation occurs for $L$ fulfilling $L < L_v, L_{BKT}$. Scenario $A$ requires length scales of the order
of meters for our bad cavity parameters. Thus scenario B is more likely in current experiments. Realising scenario A would require increasing the dissipation in a controlled way so that not all the collective effects are washed out and the OPO survives.

Finally, we can ask whether a transition between WA ($\Gamma > 0$) and SA ($\Gamma < 0$) regimes is possible in conditions of strong KPZ non-linearity ($g > 1$) where KPZ scaling would show at all lengthscales beyond the healing length. This would mean crossing a phase with stretched exponential decay of correlations to a phase with algebraic order as in equilibrium systems below the BKT transition. We find that such KPZ to algebraic-order crossover as a function of pump power is indeed possible at finite detuning (see Fig. 8 for the bad cavity system).

E. Different experimental systems

In the previous section we studied in detail the bad cavity configuration characterised by relatively large photon decay rate with a polariton lifetime of $\tau \approx 6.6 \text{ ps}$, as the most promising for observation of different phases. However, current state-of-the-art inorganic microcavities are characterised by much longer polariton lifetimes. Indeed, typical inorganic cavities have polariton lifetimes of $\tau \approx 30 \text{ ps}$ [54], whereas the best cavities show polariton lifetimes $\tau \approx 150 \text{ ps}$ [52, 55]. We refer to the latter as good cavities. Most inorganic samples are characterised by Rabi splittings $\Omega_R$ and exciton-exciton interaction-strengths $g_X$ comparable to the ones used in the previous section for the bad cavity, i.e., $\hbar \Omega_R \approx 4.4 \text{ meV}$ and $g_X \approx 0.002 \text{ meV nm}^{-2}$, respectively. On the other hand, organic microcavities have extremely low photon lifetime, but high Rabi splittings and relatively small exciton-exciton interaction strength. Typical values for organic cavities are $\tau \approx 5.5 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ ps}$, $\hbar \Omega_R \approx 1000 \text{ meV}$ and $g_X \approx 10^{-6} \text{ meV nm}^{-2}$ [56].

In this section we present a comparison of the relevant length scales for these different cavities, i.e., the bad, typical, good and organic cavities with zero detuning between the cavity-photon and the excitons. We first focus on the OPO region at high pump powers (region A in Fig. 2). The results are listed in Table 1. The first four rows show: the length scale for the vortex dominated phase ($L_v$), the KPZ-phase ($L_{\text{KPZ}}$), the healing length ($\xi_0$), and the corresponding normalized pump power $F^2_{\text{pl}}$ at a point where the $L_v$ is smallest within stable three-mode OPO solutions (see left panel in Fig. 5 as example for the bad cavity). The estimate for $L_v$ is done using $\xi_0 \approx \xi_0$ (cf. the discussion around Eq. (19), which may not be realistic, so this information has to be taken with a grain of salt. In addition, we observe an $L_v$ which takes reasonable physical values for the bad cavity and organic samples, whereas the KPZ scale $L_{\text{KPZ}}$ is unreachable.
As we mentioned in the last section, close to the upper threshold, the KPZ length scale drops down significantly, reaching $\xi_0$ and $L_v$ (See right panel in Fig. 5 as an example for the bad cavity). Also, note that $L_v$ is expected to be strongly renormalized close to the threshold as explained in Appendix B.). The 5th, 6th and 7th rows show the values of $L_{KPZ}$, $\xi_0$ and $F_{iu}^2$ at this point. We obtain that only for the bad and typical configurations, this intersection point can be distinguished from the upper threshold. The last row shows the magnitude of the drift term of the aKPZ equation in dimensionless units for $k_p = 1.4$. The organic cavity has the highest values, whereas the typical configuration the lowest one. We can conclude that in the state-of-the-art microcavities near the OPO threshold the length scales associated with the KPZ or vortex dominated phases are absolutely unrealistic and the physics is dominated by the equilibrium-like BKT transition between disorder and algebraically ordered phases.

Finally, we examine whether the strong KPZ non-linearity, which would result in stretched exponential decay of correlations at all lengthscales beyond the healing length (cf. Sec. III C) is present also in other cavity configurations. We find that for longer lifetime cavities this regime moves to higher pump powers above the OPO threshold with respect to the bad cavity configuration. However, for all cavities other then the bad cavity this regime falls into a region, where the three mode ansatz is unstable towards more complex solutions. Examining whether the KPZ scaling persists beyond the three mode ansatz is beyond the scope of this work.

**F. Summary**

We explored the wealth of scaling regimes accessible with coherently driven microcavity polaritons. The basis of our analysis is a long-wavelength effective description of OPO polaritons in terms of the compact anisotropic KPZ equation (9). A key point is that while the dynamics of both incoherently and coherently driven polaritons can be mapped to the aKPZ equation, in the latter case a much wider range of parameters is accessible by tuning the pump strength, the exciton-photon detuning, and the pump wave vector. Ultimately, the reason for this high versatility of OPO polaritons is different physics leading to formally the same long-wavelength description. In particular, the strongly fluctuating Goldstone mode is the phase of the condensate in the case of incoherent pumping, while it is the relative phase of signal and idler modes for polaritons in the OPO regime. The crucial merit of this high tunability is that the rich scaling behaviour of the compact anisotropic KPZ equation becomes accessible in a single experimental platform.

Experimentally, the scaling regimes can be distinguished by measuring the spatial and temporal decay of the first order coherence function (4): in the WA regime, strongly non-linear fluctuations of the phase lead to stretched exponential decay of correlations, with exponents in the spatial and temporal “directions” given by the KPZ roughness and dynamical exponents. However, the non-linearity also leads to screening of the interactions of vortices which could result in their unbinding and thus preclude the observation of KPZ scaling as discussed in Appendix B. Either way, both effects are beyond the physics of 2D superfluids in equilibrium and it would be intriguing to see them in experiments. They occur beyond length and time scales that are exponentially large in the KPZ non-linearity. Thus, their observation is greatly facilitated in OPO polaritons, in which this non-linearity can become of order one. As the OPO threshold is approached in the WA regime, order on shorter scales is destroyed through the usual KT mechanism of vortex proliferation.

In the SA regime, the non-linearity is irrelevant, and the effective long-wavelength theory becomes linear as in thermal equilibrium. Thus, true algebraic order is possible. The effective renormalized noise level that determines whether the system is in the ordered or disordered phase depends in a non-trivial way on the pumping strength. In particular, it shows reentrant behaviour: upon increasing the driving strength the system can first

---

TABLE I. Comparison of different experimental microcavities. Each column contains details for one of the four different considered cavities: bad, typical, good and organic samples for $k_p = 1.4$ and $k_s = 0.1$. The first four rows indicate characteristic length scales for the vortex dominated phase ($L_v$), for the KPZ-phase ($L_{KPZ}$), the healing length ($\xi_0$), and normalized pump power ($F_{pu}^2$) at the point where $L_v$ reaches the minimum value in the stable three-mode OPO region close to the upper threshold (region A in Fig. 2). The 5th, 6th and 7th rows show $L_{KPZ}$, $\xi_0$ and $F_{pu}^2$ where $L_{KPZ} \approx L_v$, close to the upper threshold. The blank spaces for the good and the organic samples mean that this crossing point occurs practically at the upper threshold. The last row shows the values of the drift term $B_d$ in dimensional units, which is approximately constant for the different values of the external drive (see Fig. 10 for the bad cavity case). It is clear that the KPZ lengthscale is unrealistic in regions A and C of the phase diagram presented in Fig. 2, leaving region B as the only potentially promising regime.

| Name      | bad    | Typical | Good | Organic |
|-----------|--------|---------|------|---------|
| $L_v (\mu m)$ | $10^2$ | $10^8$  | $10^{27}$ | $2 \cdot 10^2$ |
| $L_{KPZ}(\mu m)$ | $10^{04}$ | $10^{04}$ | $10^{07}$ | $10^{09}$ |
| $\xi_0(\mu m)$ | $10$   | $10$    | $10$ | $1$     |
| $F_{pu}^2$ | 0.9    | 0.84    | 0.97 | 0.84    |
| $L_{KPZ}(\mu m)$ | $10^3$ | $10^{10}$ |        |         |
| $\xi_0(\mu m)$ | $60$   | $10^2$  |        |         |
| $F_{pu}^2$ | 0.9988 | 0.9999 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 |
| $B_d(\mu m/ps)$ | 0.30   | 0.18    | 0.30 | 2.69    |
we consider the three-mode ansatz is stable in shown region. In this plot lifetimes strong pumping is required. Our estimates for drive and dissipation, i.e., when polaritons have short its value is enhanced if the dynamics is dominated by non-linearity in turn reflects that the mere presence of non-linearity implies shorter crossover scales and is thus favourable for experimental observation. The strength of the non-linearity in the KPZ equation — in a sufficiently large system.

In our example, polaritons in the OPO regime, despite their intrinsic driven-dissipative nature and highly non-thermal occupations, can be driven to a phase, characterised by the equilibrium EW universality class, and thus become indistinguishable at asymptotic length scales from an equilibrium system, showing algebraic order and superfluidity even in the thermodynamic limit. This effect roots in the strong anisotropy that is feasible in the OPO configuration, and is in a stark contrast to, for example, incoherently driven polaritons, where algebraic order and superfluidity can only be a finite size effect, and will not survive in the thermodynamic limit. However, in the same OPO regime but at lower pump powers, the physics is governed by the non-equilibrium fixed point and KPZ universality class. Again, in con-

Enter the ordered phase and then leave it again.

The most intriguing prospect is thus to cross from the WA to the SA regime simply by tuning the pumping strength. Order is then established because of a change in the effective degree of anisotropy. This is shown to be in principle possible close to the upper OPO threshold for negative detuning (i.e. blue curve in Fig. 3). Then, as the pumping strength is increased, the system crosses from WA to SA, and within the SA regime from disordered to ordered and back. Another possibility to enter the SA regime close to the lower OPO threshold is to move between different phases with different universal properties.

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IV. CONCLUSIONS

Exploring a fruitful example of parametrically driven microcavity polaritons, we have shown that the underlying order in highly driven and dissipative conditions heavily depends on the details of the driving process. In particular, a subtle interplay between dissipation and spatial inhomogeneity, controlled externally, allows one to move between different phases with different universal properties.

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FIG. 9. Regions potentially exhibiting KPZ phase for different experimental microcavities. KPZ non-linearity parameter $g$ (in a region where $g > 1$) as a function of the normalized pump strength $F_{pl}^2$ for four different microcavities, bad (blue line), typical (red dots), good (black dots) and organic (green dots) cavities. We present the regions which potentially could show KPZ scaling at all lengthscales beyond the healing length, i.e. $g > 1$ and $\Gamma > 1$ (see Sec. III A). The dashed horizontal line marks the $g = 1$ border, whereas the dashed vertical line indicates the normalized lower mean field threshold, i.e. $F_{pl}^2 = 1$. Note that only for the bad cavity the three-mode ansatz is stable in shown region. In this plot we consider $k_p = 1.4$ and $k_s = 0.1$ for the bad and good cavities and $k_p = 1.6$ and $k_s = 0.06$ for the typical and organic cavities.
trast to incoherently pumped polaritons, in the middle region of the OPO phase diagram the KPZ length scales become small, up to the order of the healing length, suggesting that the KPZ order in a quantum system might indeed be observed in experiments on semiconductor microcavities. Our findings undoubtedly highlight the importance of the details of the driving mechanism in establishing the relevant order, applicable to a wide range of collective light-matter systems, and shine a new light on the ongoing debate about the nature of the polariton ordered phase in semiconductor microcavities.

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Appendix A: Mapping to the KPZ equation and numerical results

In this section, we consider in detail the mapping in the long-range limit between the stochastic equations (7), describing the dynamics of the OPO condensate, and the aKPZ equation (9). Firstly, as mentioned in Sec. II B, we introduce the hydrodynamic phase-amplitude representation (8) into the dynamical stochastic equations (7). In particular, considering the U(1) symmetry of the system (see Eq. (1)), it is convenient to change from the phase variables \{\theta_s, \theta_i\} to \{\theta_+, \theta\}:

\[
\begin{align*}
\theta_s &= \theta + \theta_+, & \theta &= \frac{1}{2}(\theta_s - \theta_i), \\
\theta_i &= -\theta + \theta_+, & \theta_+ &= \frac{1}{2}(\theta_s + \theta_i),
\end{align*}
\]

(A1)

where \theta indicates the phase difference between the signal and the idler states. Thus, we get the following set of coupled dynamical equations for the fluctuations:

\[
\begin{align*}
\partial_t \theta + D_s(\theta) + \partial_\theta (\theta) - i\pi_s / \sqrt{p_s} &= M_s \phi - \xi_s, \\
\partial_t \theta + D_i(\theta) + \partial_\theta (\theta) + i\pi_i / \sqrt{p_i} &= M_i \phi + \xi_i, \\
\partial_t (\theta_p - i\pi_p / \sqrt{p_p}) &= M_p \phi - \xi_p,
\end{align*}
\]

(A2)

where \xi_j = \xi_j / (\sqrt{p_j} e^{i\phi_j}), and we have introduced the phase variables \theta, \theta_+ in place of \theta_s, \theta_i according to (A1). The phase \theta is kept to all orders whereas the fluctuations grouped together under \phi^T = (\pi_s, \pi_i, \theta_+ , \theta_p) are considered up to linear order. \M_j is the mass matrix of the mode \j and its coefficients depend on the mean field parameters of the system. The operators \D_s(\theta) = -i\omega_1 \nabla \theta + i\nabla^2 \omega_2 \nabla \theta + i\nabla^3 \omega_3 \nabla \theta and \D_i(\theta) = -i\omega_1 \nabla \theta + i\nabla^2 \omega_2 \nabla \theta - i\nabla^3 \omega_3 \nabla \theta are obtained by considering the expansion of the polariton dispersion relation around \ke_s and \ke_i (see Eq. (10)).

Due to the U(1) symmetry of the system Eq. (1), the phase fluctuations \theta is a gapless mode (there is no ‘mass’ term for such a fluctuation), whereas the fluctuations grouped under \phi are all gapped. Note, that we neglect the following terms containing temporal and spatial derivatives: \pi_j \partial_j \theta, \nabla \cdot \omega_2 \nabla \theta, \pi_j \nabla \theta, \pi_j \nabla^2 \omega_2 \nabla \theta, \pi_j \nabla \theta_j, \pi_j \nabla \theta j and \pi_j \nabla \theta j \omega_2 \nabla \theta, which are small compared to the mass-like contributions in the long range limit of \pi_j. Applying the same criterion, we also omit the spatial derivatives of \theta_+ and \theta_p. The next step is to consider the real and imaginary parts of Eq. (A2), and neglect the time derivatives of the massive modes, since they are ‘slow’ variables [10]:

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
\partial_t \theta + \Re[D_s(\theta) + \xi_s] \\
\Im[D_s(\theta) + \xi_s] \\
\partial_t \theta + \Re[D_i(\theta) - \xi_i] \\
\Im[D_i(\theta) - \xi_i] \\
\Re[\xi_i] \\
\Im[\xi_i]
\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}
\Re[M_s] \\
\Im[M_s] \\
\Re[M_i] \\
\Im[M_i] \\
\Re[M_p] \\
\Im[M_p]
\end{pmatrix} \phi. \tag{A3}
\]

In (A3) the massive fluctuations can be eliminated, i.e. they can be expressed solely in terms of the spatial and time derivatives of \theta, and the noise terms. By considering the last five relations of (A3), we can express the gapped modes as:

\[
\phi^T = \phi^T (\partial_t \theta, \partial_\theta \theta, \partial_\theta \theta, \partial_\theta^2 \theta, \partial_\theta^2 \theta, \xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_p, \xi_\pi, \xi_p), \tag{A4}
\]

and substitute into the first equation of (A3) to obtain a single dynamical stochastic equation for the gapless \theta variable, which has a form of the KPZ equation with a drift term (Eq. (9)). The different KPZ coefficients in (9) read:

\[
\begin{align*}
D_m &= \alpha_1 \omega_{2s,mm} + \alpha_2 \omega_{2i,mm}, \\
\lambda_m &= \alpha_3 \omega_{2s,mm} + \alpha_4 \omega_{2i,mm}, \\
B_m &= \alpha_5 \omega_{1s,m} + \alpha_6 \omega_{1i,m}, \\
2\Delta &= (\beta_1^2 + \beta_2^2) \gamma_s + (\beta_3^2 + \beta_4^2) \gamma_i + (\beta_5^2 + \beta_6^2) \gamma_p 
\end{align*}
\]

(A5)

for \(m = x, y\). The \alpha and \beta coefficients come from (A4) while the \omega coefficients originate from the lower polariton dispersion (10): \omega_{1j}^T = (\omega_{1j,xx}, \omega_{1j,yy}) and

\[
\omega_{2j} = \begin{pmatrix}
\omega_{2j,xx} & 0 \\
0 & \omega_{2j,yy}
\end{pmatrix}. \tag{A6}
\]
FIG. 10. aKPZ coefficients for the bad cavity configuration with zero-detuning. Left panel: Diffusion coefficients ($D_x, D_y$), non-linearities ($\lambda_x, \lambda_y$), anisotropy parameter ($\Gamma$), and drift term $B_x$ as a function of the pump power normalised to the upper threshold. These parameters vary little with the external pump power. Right panel: Dimensionless non-linearity $g$ and noise parameter $\Delta$ as a function of the normalised pump power. We observe the asymptotic growth of these parameters close to the upper OPO threshold.

As an example, in Fig. 10, we show the numerical values of the different KPZ coefficients as a function of pump power close to the OPO upper threshold and at zero detuning for the set of parameters given in Sec. III characterising what we call a bad cavity. The system is WA in the region shown since $\lambda_x$ have the same sign. The drift term acts in the x-direction, due to the choice of the pumping wave-vector, i.e. $k_p = (k_p,0)$. In this WA regime, the KPZ coefficients do not vary excessively with respect to the external pump power apart from $g$ and $\Delta$ which asymptote to infinity at the upper mean-field OPO threshold.

Appendix B: Vortices in the compact KPZ equation in the WA regime

In thermal equilibrium, vortices of opposite charge attract each other with a force that falls off as $\sim 1/r$, like charges in a 2D Coulomb gas. This leads to the formation of closely bound dipoles at low temperatures, whereas at high temperatures the interaction is screened at large distances and the bound state of vortex-antivortex pairs is no longer stable. The fundamental qualitative modification in a driven-dissipative system is that due to the KPZ non-linearity the vortex interaction is screened even in the absence of noise-induced fluctuations [17] (a situation corresponding to zero temperature in an equilibrium problem). Therefore, even without noise there is a finite screening length beyond which the interaction is suppressed exponentially. For weak non-linearities, this length scale is given by expression (19).

As explained above, the screening of the interaction between vortices beyond the scale $L_v$ is solely due to the non-linear terms in the KPZ equation. At finite noise, when fluctuations lead to the creation of vortex-antivortex pairs, there is additional screening induced by the polarization of bound pairs (which leads to unbinding above the critical temperature in the usual equilibrium BKT problem). This effect can only be captured in a proper RG treatment [19] and is not incorporated in the estimate Eq. (19). Associated with $L_v$ is a time scale $t_v$ for vortices to escape the region of attractive interactions at distances below $L_v$. Then, a vortex-dominated regime characterized by exponential decay of correlations and in which superfluidity is destroyed should appear above the scales $L_v$ and $t_v$. If these scales are smaller than the corresponding KPZ scales defined above, then the scaling forms (16) and (17) will be completely masked by the vortex-induced exponential decay. Indeed, for weak KPZ non-linearities, some of us estimated that $L_v \ll L_{KPZ}$ and $t_v \ll t_{KPZ}$ [19]. The latter estimate for the time scales relies on the assumption that the mobility of vortices is not atypically small, i.e., not much smaller than the diffusion coefficients $D_{x,y}$ in the aKPZ equation (9), which are determined by the same microscopic physics.

Vortex unbinding induced by non-equilibrium conditions has so far remained elusive in experiments with incoherently pumped, and thus isotropic, polariton systems, as well as in in the stochastic simulations described in [21]. This could be ascribed to the limited length and time scales available to experiments and numerics, but it could also be taken as an indication that the time scale $t_v$ for vortices to unbind is indeed much larger than expected, thus leaving open the intriguing possibility to observe KPZ scaling if the system is initialized in a vortex-free state and parameters are chosen such that the dimensionless non-linearity $g$ is large (leading to small values of $t_{KPZ}$ and $L_{KPZ}$, see Eq. (18)). The most promising regime for observing KPZ physics is described in Sec. III C.
Appendix C: Effects of the exciton-exciton coupling strength

Throughout this paper we considered the exciton-exciton interaction strength to be $g_X = 2 \, \mu eV \, \mu m^{-2}$. However, the true value of $g_X$ is still subject of debates, and different values have been reported in literature (see for example [57]). We consider $g_X = 2 \, \mu eV \, \mu m^{-2}$ to be the lower bound, and the safe upper bound being 100 times this lower value. Thus, in this section we consider the effect of larger values of the exciton-exciton interaction constant, the system is characterised by detunings $\delta_{CX} = 0$ and $\delta_{CX} = -1.08$ in dimensionless units. We consider three different values for the exciton-exciton interaction: $g_X = 2 \, \mu eV \, \mu m^{-2}$, $10 \, 2 \, \mu eV \, \mu m^{-2}$, $100 \, 2 \, \mu eV \, \mu m^{-2}$. In Fig. 11 we show the nonlinear parameter $g$ as a function of the normalized external pump power (for zero detuning) and as a function of the anisotropy parameter $\Gamma$ (for finite detuning). We observe that, by increasing the exciton-exciton interaction constant, the system is characterised by larger values of the non-linear parameter $g$ for the same values of the external pump power (see left panel in Fig. 11). A similar phenomenon appears for finite detuning, where the value of $g$ also increases by increasing $g_X$ (see right panel in Fig. 11). The difference is, however, not large enough to alter the conclusions presented in the main text.
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