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## Supplementary Materials for

### **Synthetic dissipation and cascade fluxes in a turbulent quantum gas**

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#### **This PDF file includes:**

Supplementary Text

Figs. S1 to S3

References and Notes

## Calibration of the shaking force and the resonant driving frequency

The shaking force is produced by coils that create a magnetic field gradient. We calibrate its magnitude  $F$  (for a given voltage applied to the coils) by switching off the box trap, immediately pulsing the force for a time  $\delta t$ , and measuring the resulting velocity kick  $\delta v = F\delta t/m$ ; to determine  $\delta v$  we measure the position of the cloud's centre of mass,  $x_{\text{CoM}}$ , after a time of flight  $t_{\text{ToF}}$ .

Due to the optical resolution of the system used to create the box trap, the trap walls are not perfectly sharp [26], and consequently the frequency of the lowest axial sound mode,  $\omega_{\text{res}}$ , slightly depends on  $U_D$ . To ensure that the gas is always driven on resonance, we measure  $\omega_{\text{res}}(U_D)$ . We perform stroboscopic modulation spectroscopy by applying the driving force  $F_0 \sin(\omega_s t)$  for  $t_s = 2$  s, with  $F_0 L \approx k_B \times 2.5$  nK, and then releasing the cloud and measuring  $x_{\text{CoM}}$  after  $t_{\text{ToF}} = 140$  ms. Choosing discrete values of  $\omega_s$  such that  $\omega_s t_s = 2\pi j + \pi/2$ , where  $j$  is an integer, the resulting  $x_{\text{CoM}}$  has an absorptive shape and we fit it with the function

$$x_{\text{CoM}} \propto \frac{\omega_s^2}{(\omega_s^2 - \omega_{\text{res}}^2)^2 + \Gamma^2 \omega_s^2}, \quad (\text{S1})$$

where  $\Gamma$  is the linewidth. In Fig. S1 we show such line shapes for two different  $U_D$ , and the plot of  $\omega_{\text{res}}$  versus  $U_D$ .

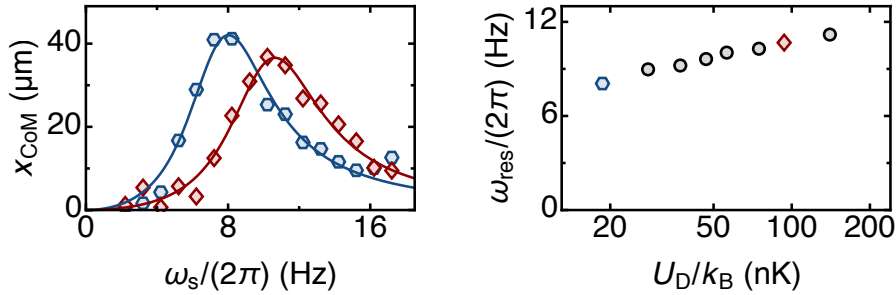


Figure S1: **The resonant drive frequency.** Left: Resonance measurements for  $U_D/k_B = 19$  nK (blue) and 94 nK (red); solid lines are fits based on Eq. (S1). Right:  $\omega_{\text{res}}$  versus  $U_D$ .

## Numerical simulations

### Gross-Pitaevskii simulations with dissipation

The starting point for our simulations is the Gross-Pitaevskii equation (GPE) for the classical field  $\psi(\mathbf{r}, t)$ :

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + V(\mathbf{r}, t) + g|\psi|^2 \right) \psi, \quad (\text{S2})$$

where  $g = 4\pi\hbar^2 a_s/m$  and  $a_s$  is the  $s$ -wave scattering length. If  $V(\mathbf{r}, t) \in \mathbb{R}$ , the evolution of the GPE conserves the total particle number  $N = \int |\psi|^2 d\mathbf{r}$ . Introducing dissipation in the GPE is a subtle problem [41-44]. We introduce a phenomenological term in  $V(\mathbf{r}, t)$  that closely resembles the dissipation process in our experiment. We write:

$$V(\mathbf{r}, t) = V_{\text{box}}(\mathbf{r}) + V_{\text{osc}}(\mathbf{r}, t) - iV_{\text{diss}}(\mathbf{r}),$$

where  $V_{\text{box}}$  is the box potential,  $V_{\text{osc}}$  is the forcing potential, and  $iV_{\text{diss}}$  is an imaginary ‘sponge’ potential that ‘absorbs’ particles with sufficiently high energy to leave the trap and removes them from the system. More precisely:

$$V_{\text{box}}(\mathbf{r}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |x| \leq \frac{L}{2}, \sqrt{y^2 + z^2} \leq R \\ U_D & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

$$V_{\text{osc}}(\mathbf{r}, t) = Fx \sin(\omega_{\text{res}} t),$$

and

$$V_{\text{diss}}(\mathbf{r}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |x| \leq \frac{L+2\delta}{2}, \sqrt{y^2 + z^2} \leq R + \delta \\ V_D & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The phenomenological parameter  $\delta$ , the spatial offset between the edge of the box and the sponge, is introduced because even if all particles are trapped, for a non-infinite  $U_D$  an evanescent component of  $\psi(\mathbf{r}, t)$  exists outside the box. We have verified that for a wide range of  $V_D$  and  $\delta$  our results do not depend on their exact values (see Fig. S2 below).

We numerically solve Eq. (S2) using a pseudo-spectral method with the fourth-order Runge-Kutta time evolution. In simulations  $L = 27 \mu\text{m}$ ,  $R = 16 \mu\text{m}$ , and the initial atom number is  $N_0 = 1.2 \times 10^5$ , corresponding to chemical potential  $\mu = gn_0 = k_B \times 2.0 \text{ nK}$ , where  $n_0 = N_0/(\pi R^2 L)$ . The size of our whole numerical grid is  $40 \xi \times 40 \xi \times 40 \xi$ , where  $\xi = \hbar/\sqrt{2mgn_0} = 1.2 \mu\text{m}$  is the healing length. The spatial and temporal resolutions are  $\frac{40}{128}\xi$  and  $10^{-3}\hbar/\mu = 3.7 \mu\text{s}$  respectively.

The initial  $\psi(\mathbf{r}, t = 0)$  is determined by calculating the ground state in the static trap ( $F = 0$  and  $V_D = 0$ ), using imaginary-time evolution of the GPE. The resonant driving frequency  $\omega_{\text{res}}$  is then determined by numerically solving the Bogoliubov equations on  $\psi(\mathbf{r}, 0)$ . For all experimentally explored  $U_D$  we get  $\omega_{\text{res}} \approx 2\pi \times 8.8 \text{ Hz}$ , with variations of  $< 3\%$ . Finally, to simulate the shaking experiments, we solve the real-time GPE with the forcing amplitude  $F = F_0 = 1.22 \mu/L$  and nonzero  $V_D$ . Our results are based on a single run using the same deterministic initial condition  $\psi(\mathbf{r}, 0)$ .

### Atom-loss dynamics

In Fig. S2 we show simulated atom loss  $N_0 - N(t_s)$ , where  $N(t_s) = \int |\psi(\mathbf{r}, t_s)|^2 d\mathbf{r}$ , for  $U_D = k_B \times 25 \text{ nK}$  and various combinations of the dissipation parameters  $V_D$  and  $\delta$ . In all cases we see curves similar to the experimental ones shown in Fig. 2 in the main paper (and for the results shown in the main paper we analyze them in the same way as the experimental data). For a fixed  $V_D = 5\mu$ , we get essentially indistinguishable results for any  $\delta \gtrsim 7/k_D$ . Qualitatively,  $\delta$  needs to be sufficiently larger than  $1/k_D$  for the probability of absorbing (on a timescale  $t_s$ ) particles with energies below  $U_D$  to be vanishingly small; otherwise we remove too many particles. For a fixed  $\delta = 10.5/k_D$  we get essentially the same results for any  $V_D \gtrsim \mu$ .

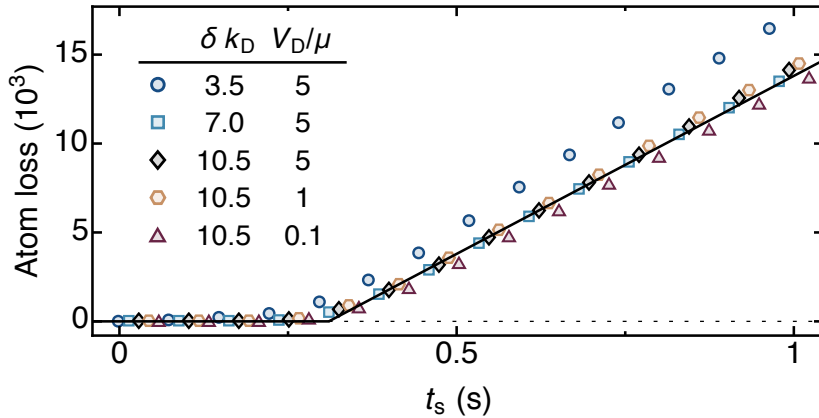


Figure S2: **Atom-loss dynamics in numerical simulations.** Atoms lost versus shaking time for  $U_D = k_B \times 25 \text{ nK}$  and various combinations of the dissipation parameters  $V_D$  and  $\delta$ . The solid black line is a piece-wise linear fit to the numerical data for  $\delta = 10.5/k_D$  and  $V_D = 5\mu$ , from which  $t_d$  and  $\Pi_n$  are extracted (see main text). For clarity only a subset of  $t_s$  values are plotted.

### Fourier-space dynamics

We also compute the evolution of the momentum distribution in the presence of shaking and dissipation, supporting the qualitative picture outlined in Fig. 4A in the main paper. The momentum distributions are averaged over spherical shells to obtain  $n(k)$ , and normalised such that  $\sum_k 4\pi k^2 n(k) \delta k = N$ , where  $\delta k = \frac{\pi}{20\xi}$  is the grid resolution in  $k$  space. In Fig. S3A we show  $n(k)$  for  $U_D = k_B \times 130 \text{ nK}$  and various shaking times  $t_s$ . The power-law distribution  $n(k) \sim k^{-\gamma}$  (with  $\gamma \approx 3.5$ ) develops in the wake of the cascade front, and as the cascade front propagates with  $k_{\text{cf}}(t_s) \propto t_s^{1/(2\beta)}$  the momentum distribution  $n(k)$  evolves in a self-similar way. As shown in Fig. S3B, this self-similarity is revealed by the collapse of the curves shown in Fig. S3A for  $t \lesssim t_d$  when plotting  $n(k, t_s)$  in the rescaled form  $(t_s/t_{\text{ref}})^a n((t_s/t_{\text{ref}})^{-b} k, t_s)$ , with  $b = 1/(2\beta) = 1/(5 - \gamma) = 0.67$ ,  $a = b\gamma = 2.33$ , and setting arbitrarily  $t_{\text{ref}} = 1\text{s}$ . Note that the successful collapse of the curves for these values of  $a$  and  $b$  also confirms our assumption that the energy input rate is time independent. Once the cascade front reaches the dissipation scale  $k_D$  (for  $t_s > t_d$ ) a steady state is established over the entire inertial range.

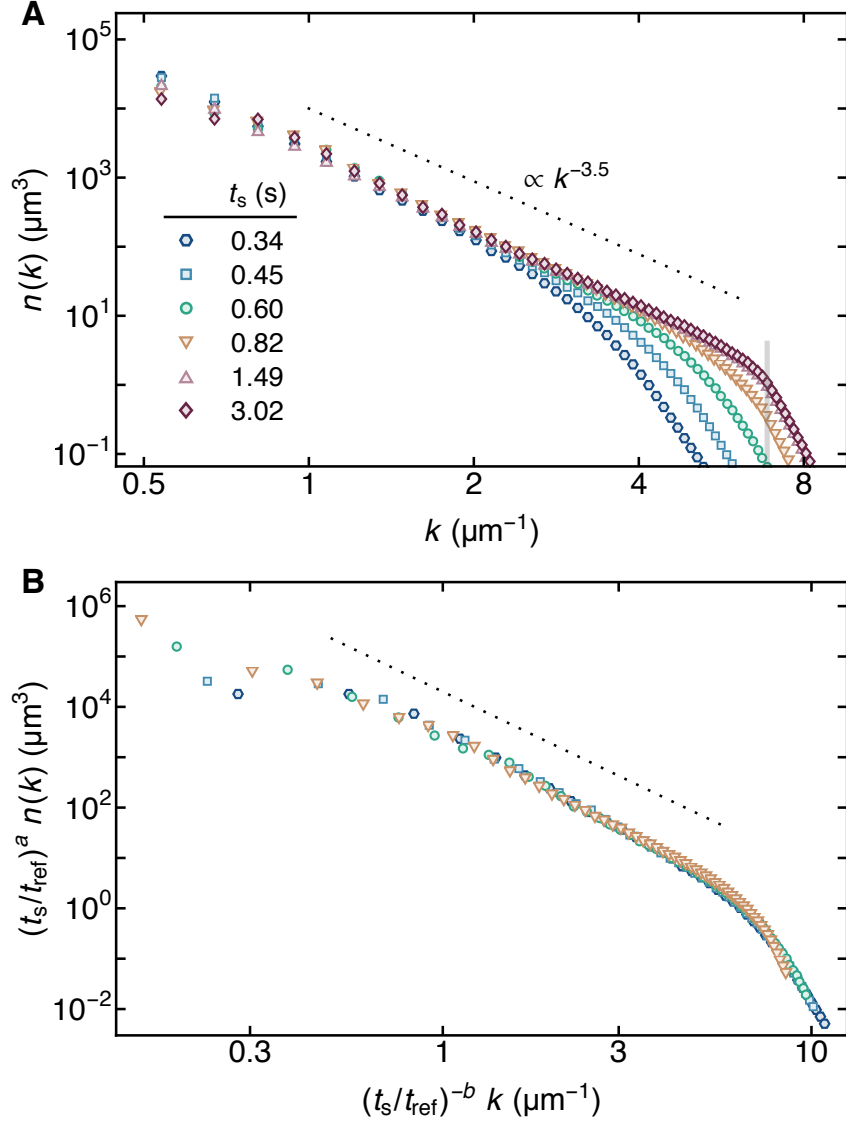


Figure S3: **Momentum-space dynamics in numerical simulations.** (A)  $n(k)$  computed for  $U_D = k_B \times 130$  nK and various shaking times  $t_s$ . The power-law momentum distribution  $n(k) \sim k^{-\gamma}$ , with  $\gamma \approx 3.5$ , develops in the wake of the cascade front. A steady state is established once the cascade front reaches  $k_D$ ; in this example  $k_D = 8/\xi$ , indicated by the vertical grey band. (B) The momentum distributions from (A) with  $t_s \lesssim t_d \approx 1.0$  s rescaled with  $a = \gamma/(5 - \gamma) = 2.33$ ,  $b = 1/(5 - \gamma) = 0.67$ , and  $t_{\text{ref}} = 1$  s (see text) collapse onto a single curve, indicating self-similar behavior.

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27. See supplementary materials.
28. The exponent  $\gamma \approx 3.5$  is close to the Kolmogorov-Zakharov prediction for (compressible) weak-wave turbulence in three dimensions,  $\gamma = 3$ , and in agreement with numerical simulations of the Gross-Pitaevskii equation (9), as well as with a scaling analysis of kinetic equations (29).
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31. Note that the lowest  $U_D$  we explore corresponds to  $U_D/\mu \approx 10$ ,  $U_D/(F_0 L) \approx 8$  and  $k_D/k_F \approx 23$ .
32. Note that it is the total radial flux  $\Pi_n$ , rather than  $|\Pi_n|$ , that is  $k$ -independent in the inertial range.
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34. For incompressible flows, the Kolmogorov dissipation lengthscale, analogous to our  $1/k_D$ , depends on the viscosity of the fluid (as  $\propto \nu^{3/4}$ ).
35. In most familiar systems, like the damped harmonic oscillator, the rate at which the system absorbs energy in steady state depends on both the driving and the dissipation.
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