



False-color images display the velocity distribution of the cloud of rubidium atoms at (a) just before the appearance of the Bose-Einstein condensate, (b) just after the appearance of the condensate and (c) after further evaporation left a sample of nearly pure condensate. The field of view of each frame is 200 x 270 micrometers, and corresponds to the distance the atoms have moved in about 1/20 of a second. The color corresponds to the number of atoms at each velocity, with red being the fewest and white being the most. Areas appearing white and light blue indicate lower velocities. From NIST/Boulder