

# Equilibrium and non-equilibrium properties of quantum impurities: Insight from diagrammatic Monte Carlo methods on the real-time contour



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Andrew J. Millis, David R. Reichman

[Phys. Rev. B 82, 075109 \(2010\)](#)

[Phys. Rev. B 84, 085134 \(2011\)](#)

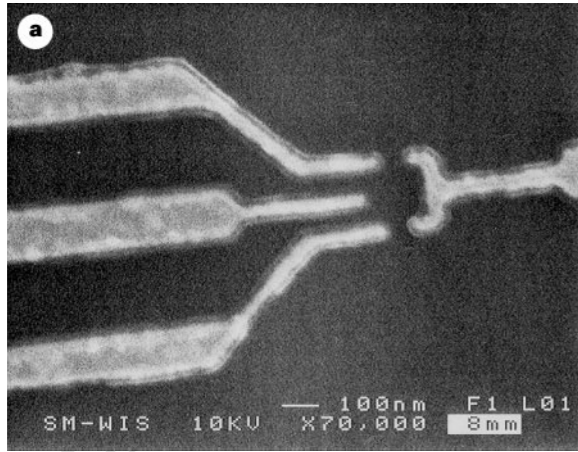
[Rev. Mod. Phys 83, 349 \(2011\)](#)

[Phys. Rev. B 87, 195108 \(2013\)](#)

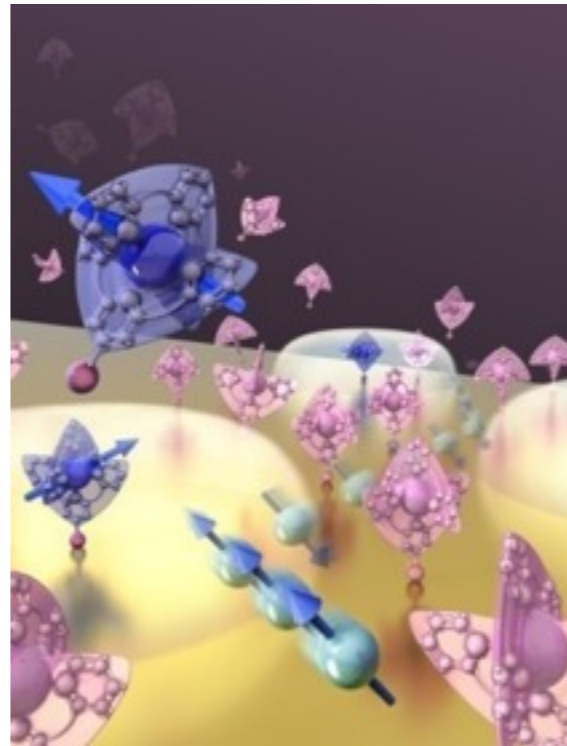
[Phys. Rev. B 89, 115139 \(2014\)](#)

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 112, 146802 \(2014\)](#)

# The non-equilibrium Kondo problem

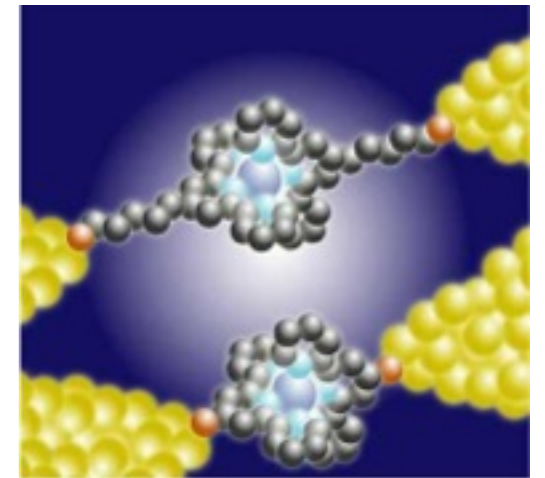


Kondo effect in a single-electron transistor, D. Goldhaber-Gordon et al, Nature 391, 156 (1998)

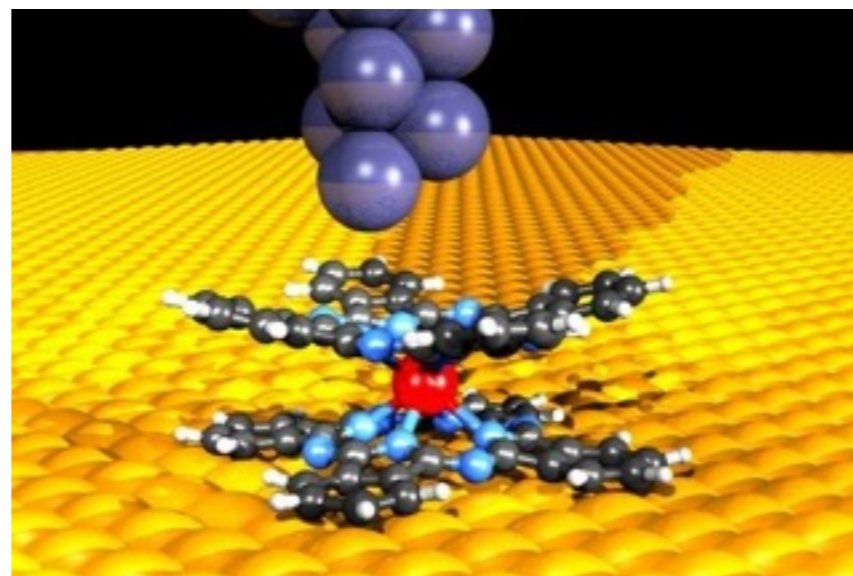


Magnetic impurities in non-magnetic bulk

Coulomb blockade and the Kondo effect in single-atom transistors, Park et al, Nature 416, 722 (2002)

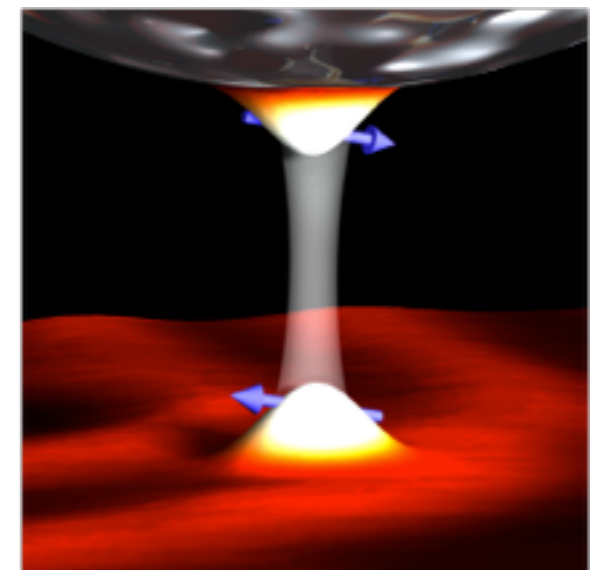


Double quantum dots



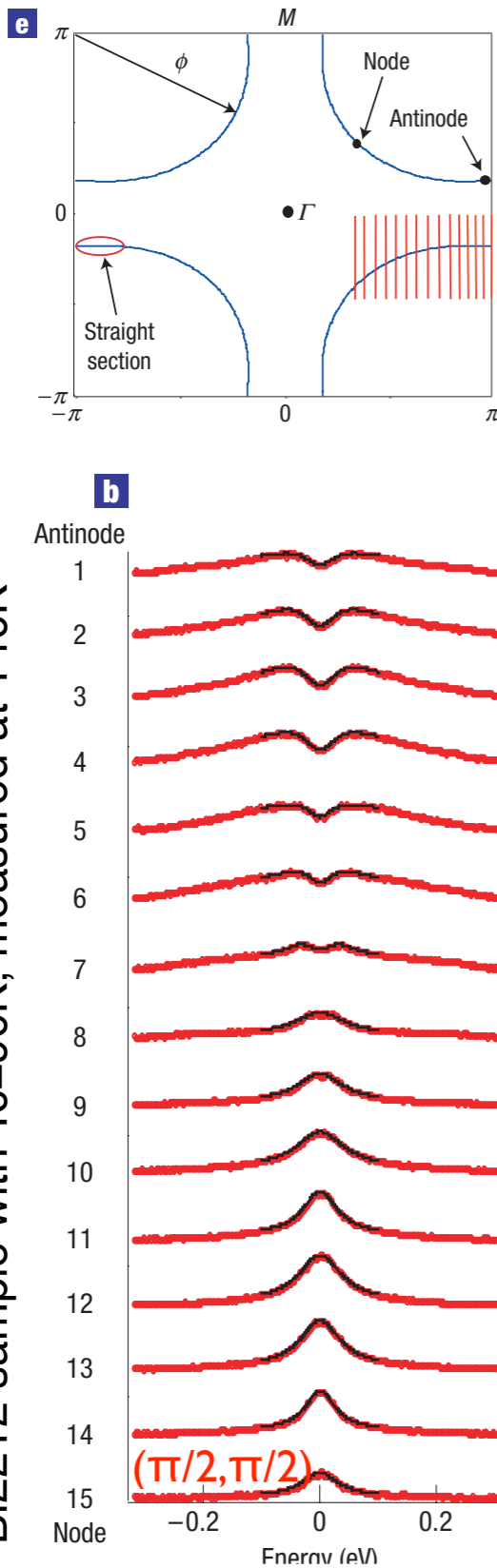
Magnetic molecules adsorbed on surfaces, e.g. Fahrenedorf et al, Nature Communications 4, 2425

Two-impurity Kondo systems in atomic point contacts: Bork et al, Nat. Phys. 7, 901 (2011)



# ARPES: Spectral function of solids

ARPES: Kanigel *et al.*, Nature Physics 2, 447 - 451 (2006).  
Bi2212 sample with  $T_c=90\text{K}$ , measured at 140K



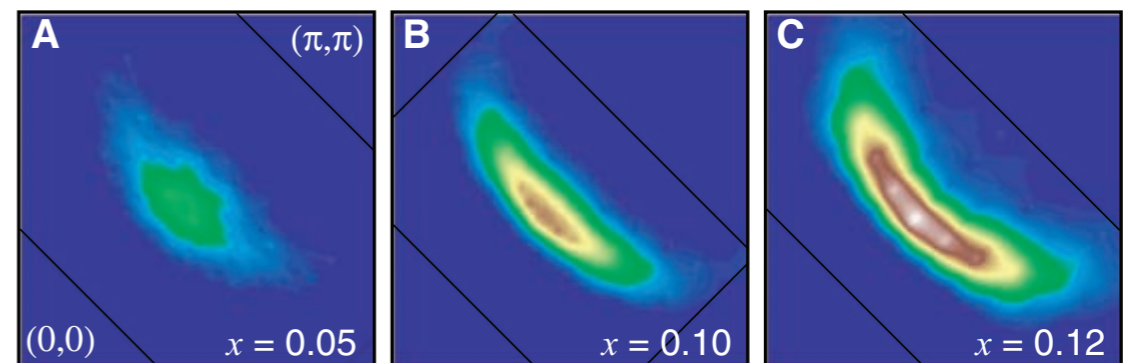
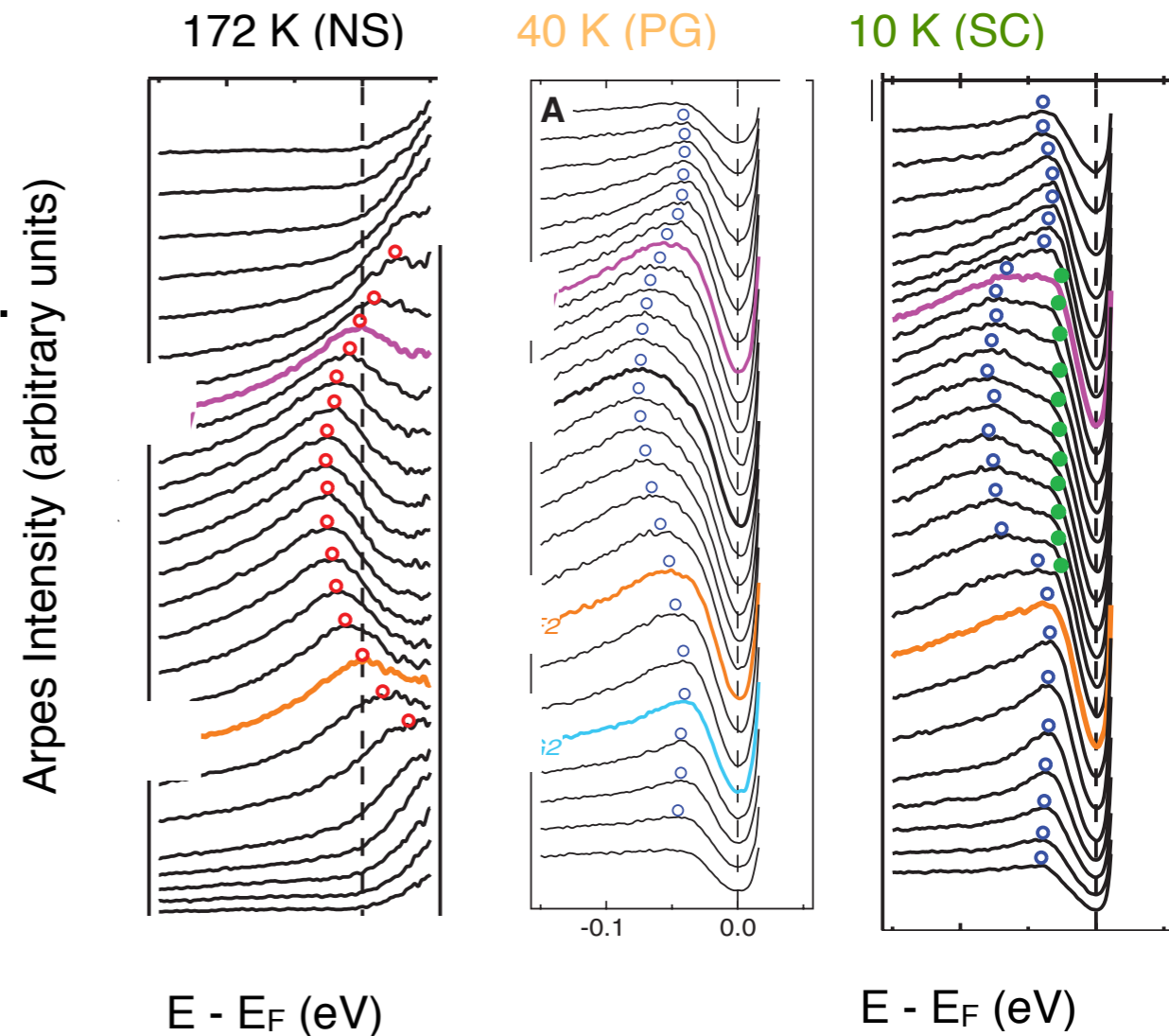
in high- $T_c$  materials:  
Electronic spectral function is **suppressed along the BZ face**, but not along **zone diagonal**.

Key physics dependence on momentum around Fermi surface, Difference of spectral function around Fermi surface.

Doping dependence of region with quasiparticles

ARPES: Shen *et al.*, Science 307, 901 (2005)

He *et al.*, Science 331, 1579 (2011)



# Question to theory

Can we say something about non-equilibrium correlation physics?

Can we say something about spectral functions of interacting materials?

Can we make these statements robust and reliable? (and what does that even mean?)

Does a voltage split the Kondo peak?

How well does  $dI/dV$  measure  $A(\omega)$ ?

.....we will present a potential answer in this talk.....

# Theory: Anderson Impurity Model

Quantum dot coupled to a non-interacting environment ('leads' or 'bath'):

$$H_{\text{loc}} = \sum_{\sigma} \epsilon_{0\sigma} n_{\sigma} + U n_{\uparrow} n_{\downarrow}$$

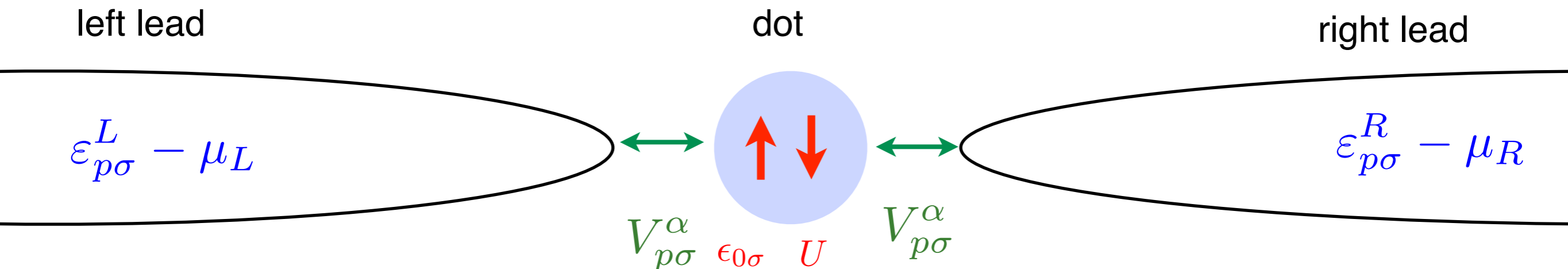
$$H_{\text{bath}} = \sum_{\alpha=L,R} \sum_{p\sigma} (\epsilon_{p\sigma}^{\alpha} - \mu_{\alpha}) c_{p\sigma}^{\alpha\dagger} c_{p\sigma}^{\alpha}$$

$$H_{\text{hyb}} = \sum_{\alpha=L,R} \sum_{p\sigma} V_{p\sigma}^{\alpha} c_{p\sigma}^{\alpha\dagger} d_{\sigma} + h.c.$$

Impurity described by **Coulomb interaction U**, **level energies  $\epsilon_{0\sigma}$** .

Leads described by **bath dispersion**, **chemical potential**, non-interacting.

Coupling of dot to lead via **'hybridization strength' V**.



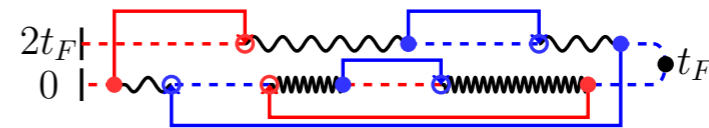
How much of the physics on the previous slides can we address with this setup?

# Technique: Perturbation theory

Interaction representation:

$$H = H_a + H_b$$

Perturbation theory, **Diagrammatic** expansion:

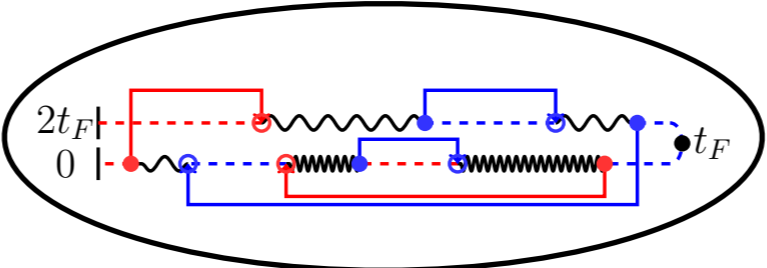


Diagrams on the real-time contour.

Prep the system in an initial state, let go & simulate transients and steady state

**Finite (low) order perturbative expansions, performed analytically**

**Semi-analytic infinite partial summations**



**‘Diagrammatic’ or ‘Continuous-Time’ quantum Monte Carlo methods**

# 'Traditional' techniques

## Finite order perturbative expansions

- Obvious advantage where higher order terms are small.
- **Simple**, but
- **Not able to capture a 'correlated' regime**

## Semi-analytic infinite partial summations

Partial summation of **infinite series** of terms (diagrams) of a certain type.

- Good answers (hopefully) where resummed diagrams are **relevant**.
- Comparatively cheap to compute
- In wide use: RPA, non-crossing approximation, FLEX, GW, ...
- However: **Uncontrolled!**

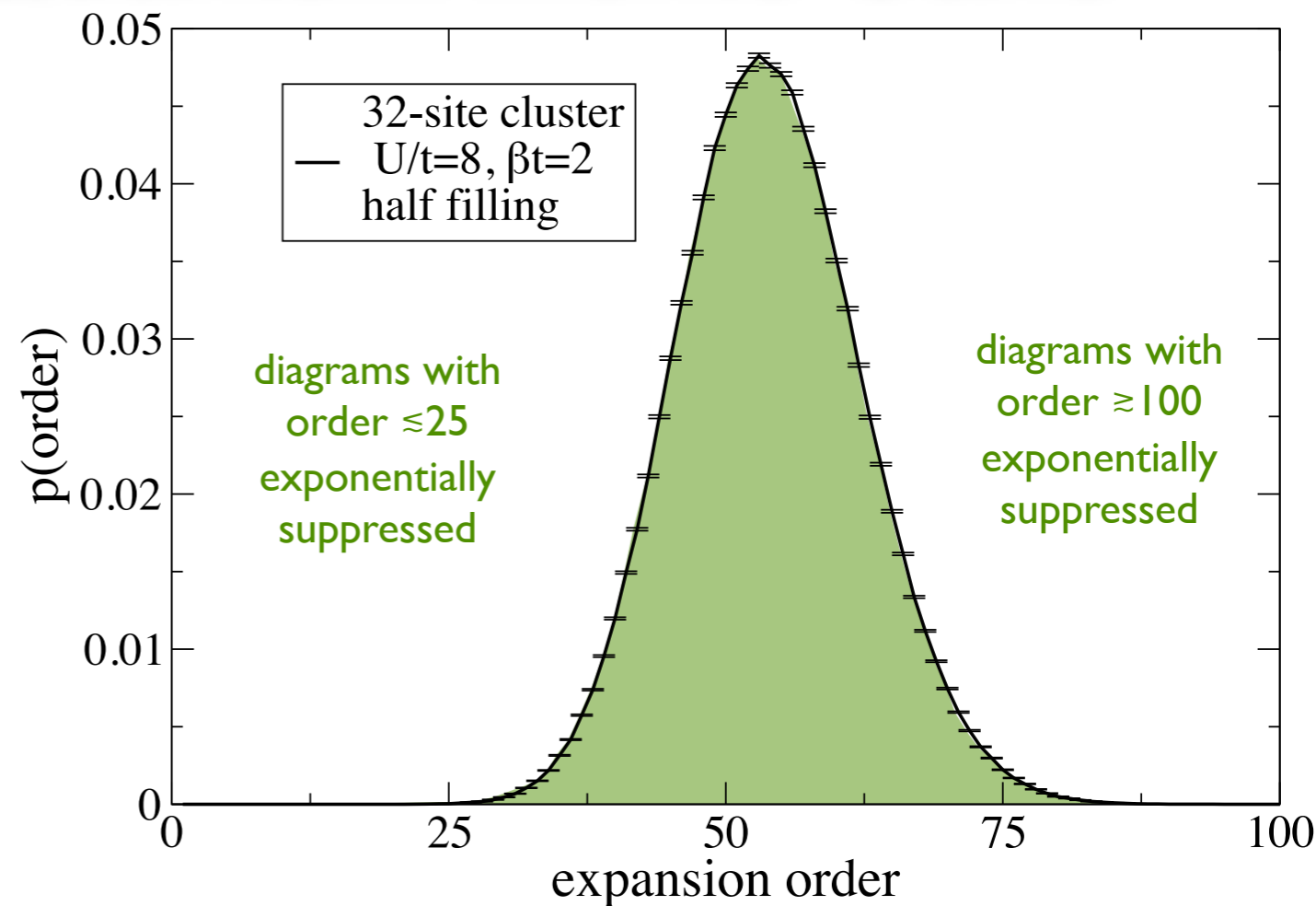
# Continuous-Time Quantum Monte Carlo

## General idea:

- Identify a convergent diagrammatic expansion.
- Realize that it is just a high order integral.
- Define a Monte Carlo importance sampling procedure for diagrams.
- Sample **all** diagrams stochastically.

## Advantages:

- As long as all diagrams are sampled, the only error is a stochastic sampling error.
- Stochastic sampling errors converge like  $1/\sqrt{N}$
- Perfect control over results.



## Perceived limitation:

- There are very many diagrams and an infinite dimensional space?
- Luckily the dimensionality of the space does not enter Monte Carlo estimates.

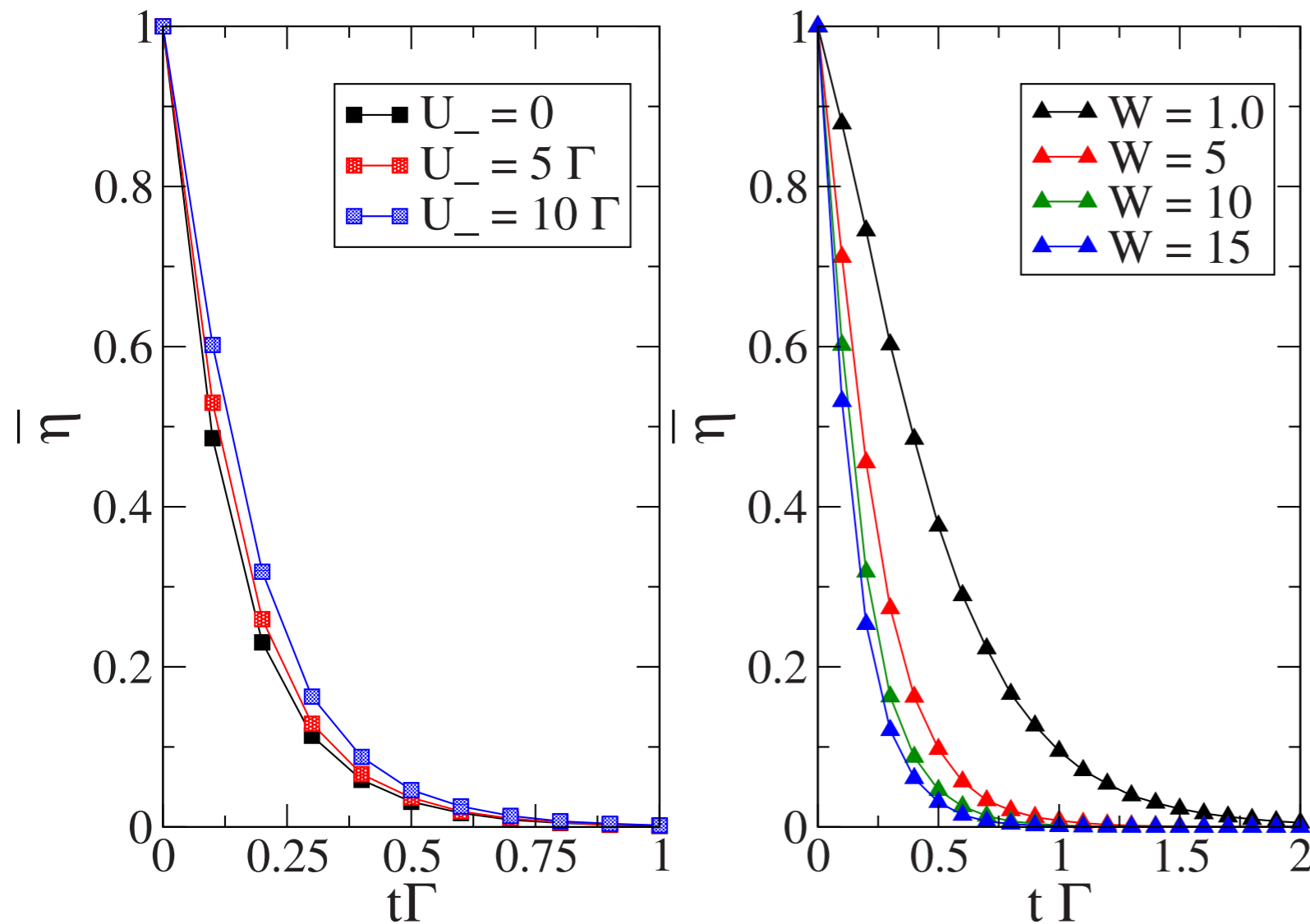
## Actual Limitation:

- Sampling in diagram space may be inefficient ('sign/phase problem').



# Limitations of CT-QMC out of equilibrium – Motivation for diagrammatic bold-line MC

Limiting factor with CT-QMC out of equilibrium: Complex sign (phase) problem!



*Dynamic sign problem:  
direct consequence of oscillation of  
real time propagation*

‘bare’ CT-QMC: average sign  
decays exponentially as a function  
of real time.

Hard cutoff in times that can be  
reached, exponential cost for longer  
times

Marco Schiro  
Phys. Rev. B 81, 085126 (2010)

[Mühlbacher, Rabani, Phys. Rev. Lett. 100, 176403 \(2008\)](#)

[Werner, Oka, Millis, Phys. Rev. B 79, 035320 \(2009\)](#)

# Bold-line Monte Carlo

Semi-analytic infinite partial summation



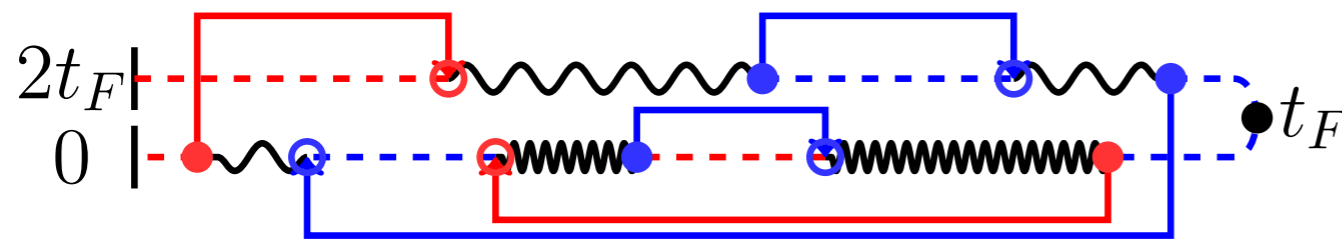
'Diagrammatic' or 'Continuous-Time' quantum Monte Carlo methods

General idea:

- Two-step procedure
  - First step: run a semi-analytic infinite partial summation
  - Second step: Stochastically sample all corrections to the partial summation

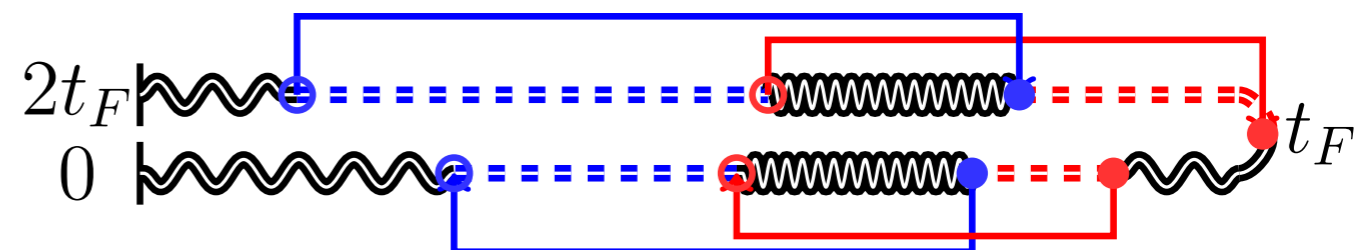
Consequences:

- Numerically exact! (all diagrams are considered)
- Closer starting guess reduces sign problem, size of relevant configuration space
- Observable estimates more precise.



'bare' diagram

'bold' diagram



# Bold Expansion

In this talk:

- Underlying partial summation: **Non-crossing approximation (NCA)**.
  - See Martin Eckstein's talk later today
- Bold-line Monte Carlo expansion: **BoldNCA method based on the non-crossing approximation**

Summing up all 'crossing' corrections stochastically makes the method **numerically exact**.

# Bold Diagrammatics – Bold NCA

Semianalytic infinite partial summations

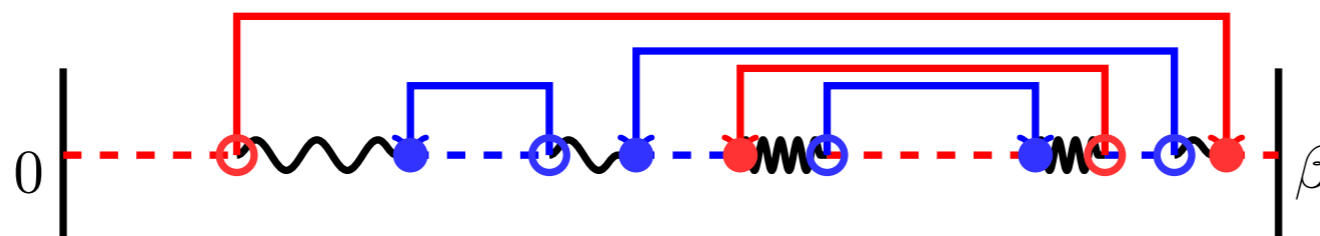


‘Diagrammatic’ or ‘Continuous-Time’ quantum Monte Carlo methods

1. Use the **non-crossing approximation** to sum up **all non-crossing hybridization lines** (using coupled integral equations)

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_{|0\rangle}(\tau) &= G_{|\uparrow\rangle}(\tau)\Delta_{\uparrow}(\tau) + G_{|\downarrow\rangle}(\tau)\Delta_{\downarrow}(\tau), \\ \Sigma_{|\sigma\rangle}(\tau) &= G_{|0\rangle}(\tau)\Delta_{\sigma}(-\tau) + G_{|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle}(\tau)\Delta_{-\sigma}(\tau), \\ \Sigma_{|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle}(\tau) &= G_{|\uparrow\rangle}(\tau)\Delta_{\downarrow}(-\tau) + G_{|\downarrow\rangle}(\tau)\Delta_{\uparrow}(\tau). \\ G_{|j\rangle} &= G_{|j\rangle}^0 + G_{|j\rangle}^0 \Sigma_{|j\rangle} G_{|j\rangle} \end{aligned}$$

Obtain NCA propagators and self-energies.



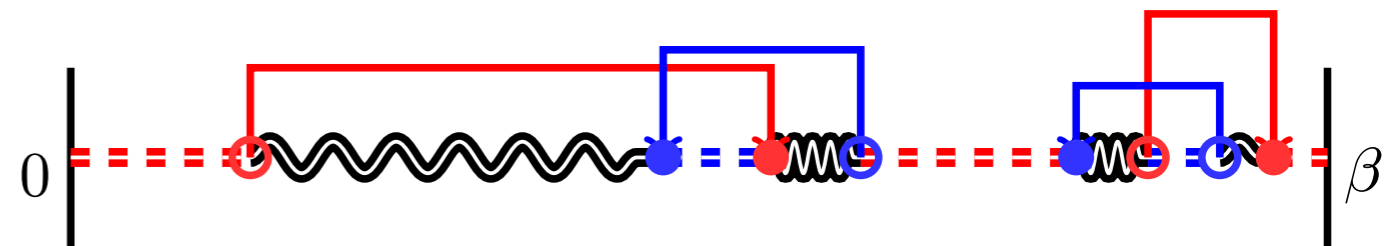
# Bold Diagrammatics – Bold NCA

Semianalytic infinite partial summations



‘Diagrammatic’ or ‘Continuous-Time’ quantum Monte Carlo methods

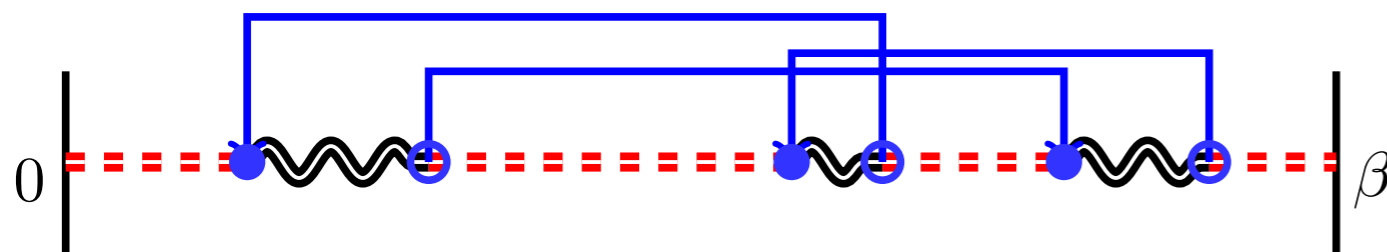
2. Use a continuous-time quantum Monte Carlo algorithm to sum up all crossing terms stochastically, **replacing bare propagators with NCA propagators**



Bold NCA propagator: stands for:



Includes all non-crossing diagrams (to all orders)



Each bare diagram uniquely associated with a diagram that contains only crossing parts. All these crossing diagrams summed up stochastically.

Perform continuous-time QMC algorithm: Insert / remove hybridization lines, measure Green’s functions,...

# Bold Diagrammatics – Bold NCA

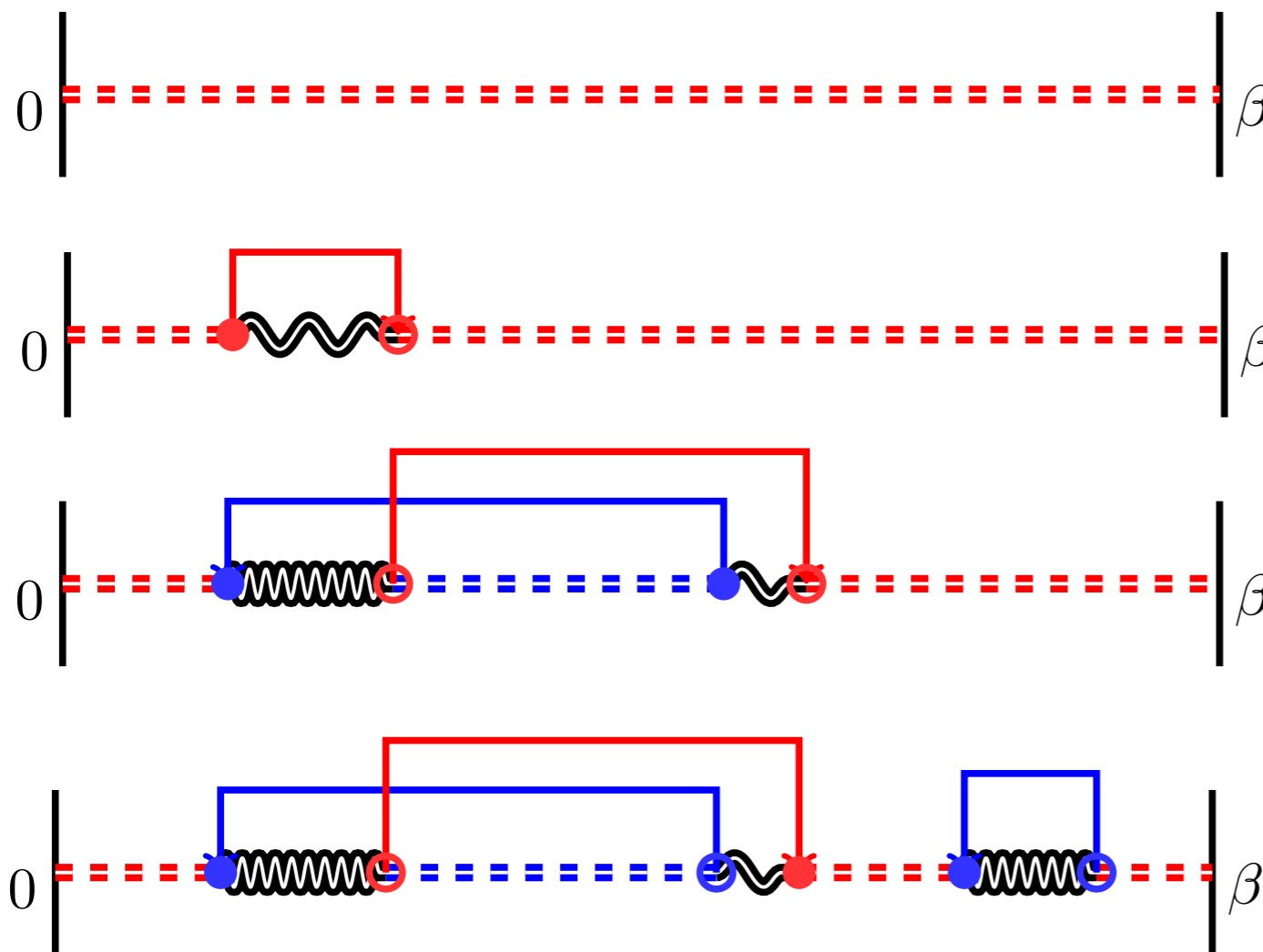
Semianalytic infinite partial summations



'Diagrammatic' or 'Continuous-Time' quantum Monte Carlo methods

Diagrams

weight



$$G_{|\uparrow\rangle}(\beta)$$

NCA propagator for 'up' state, for time  $\beta$

$$0$$

Contained in NCA, diagram rejected

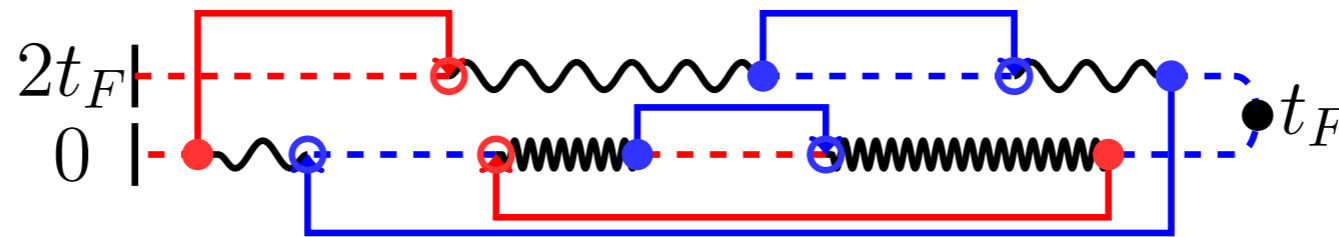
$$G_{|\uparrow\rangle}(\tau_1)G_{|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle}(\tau_2 - \tau_1)G_{|\downarrow\rangle}(\tau_3 - \tau_2)G_{|0\rangle}(\tau_4 - \tau_3)G_{|\uparrow\rangle}(\beta - \tau_4) \times \Delta_{\downarrow}(\tau_3 - \tau_1)\Delta_{\uparrow}(\tau_4 - \tau_2)$$

$$0$$

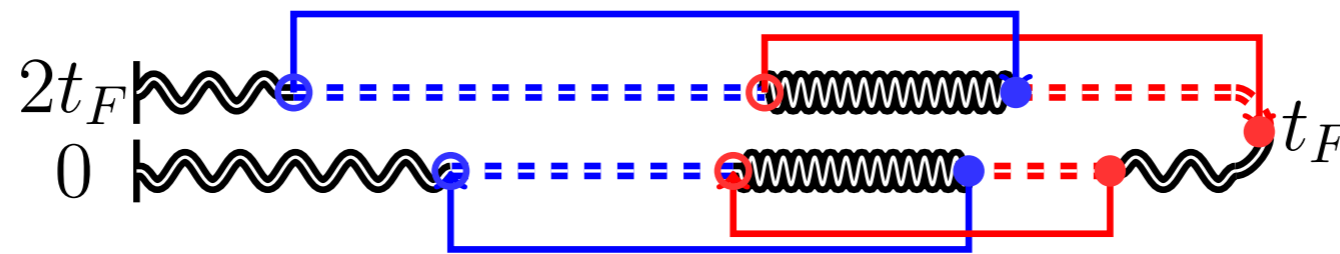
Contains a non-crossing part, diagram rejected

Perform random walk in bold diagram space. Exact: each bare diagram can be uniquely decomposed into crossing and non-crossing parts. Diagrams that contain crossings are not sampled.

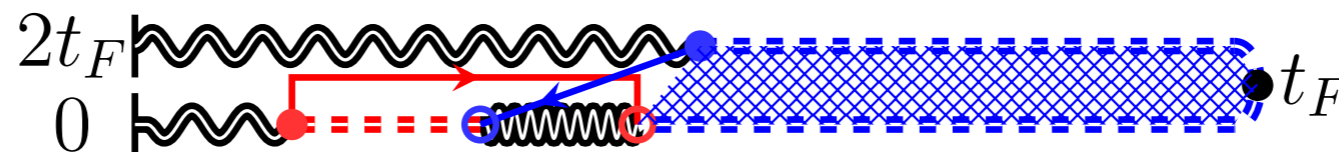
# Bold NCA – The Keldysh Contour



NCA equations in real time sum up non-crossing diagrams on double contour.

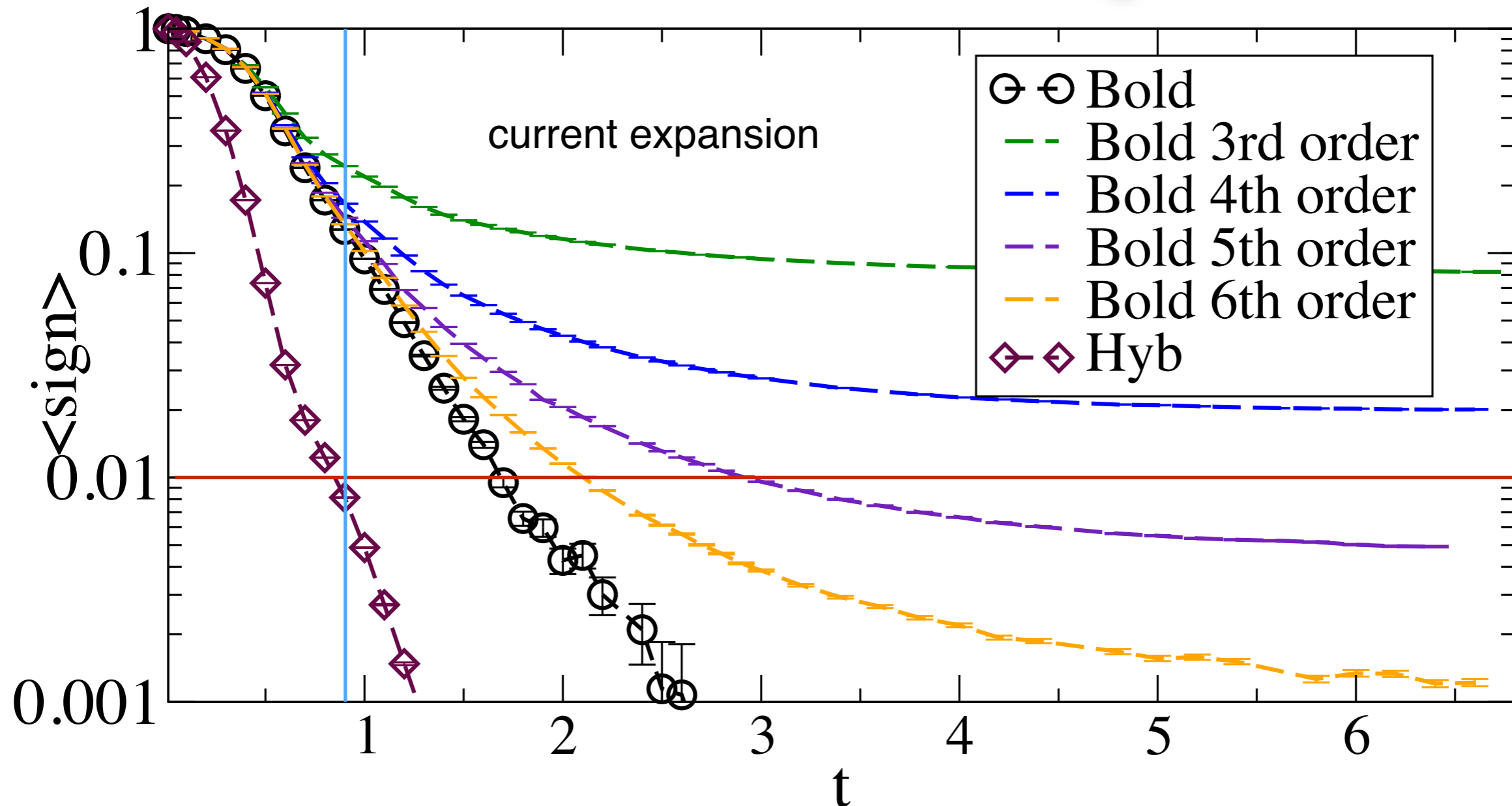


Bold Method sums up terms not treated by the NCA, replaces bare by bold propagators.



Consider analytically computed vertex functions to sum additional diagrams connecting upper and lower contour.

# Real Time Bold NCA – Sign Problem

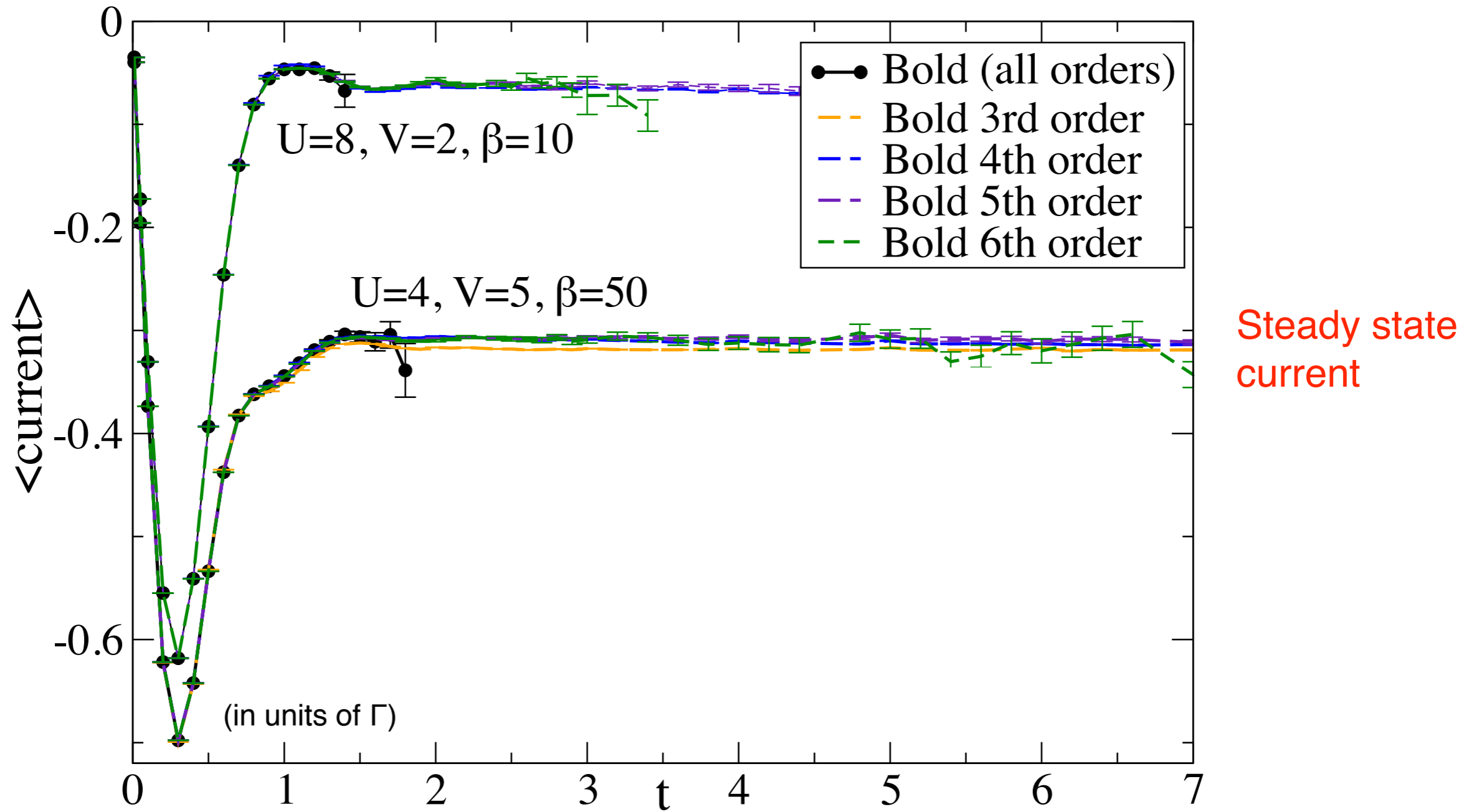


Bold vs bare:

- Sign better by order of magnitude (blue line).
- For same sign: twice longer time accessible (red line).
- If bold expansion is truncated at a fixed order (3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th order): sign problem plateau, arbitrarily long times accessible if converged.

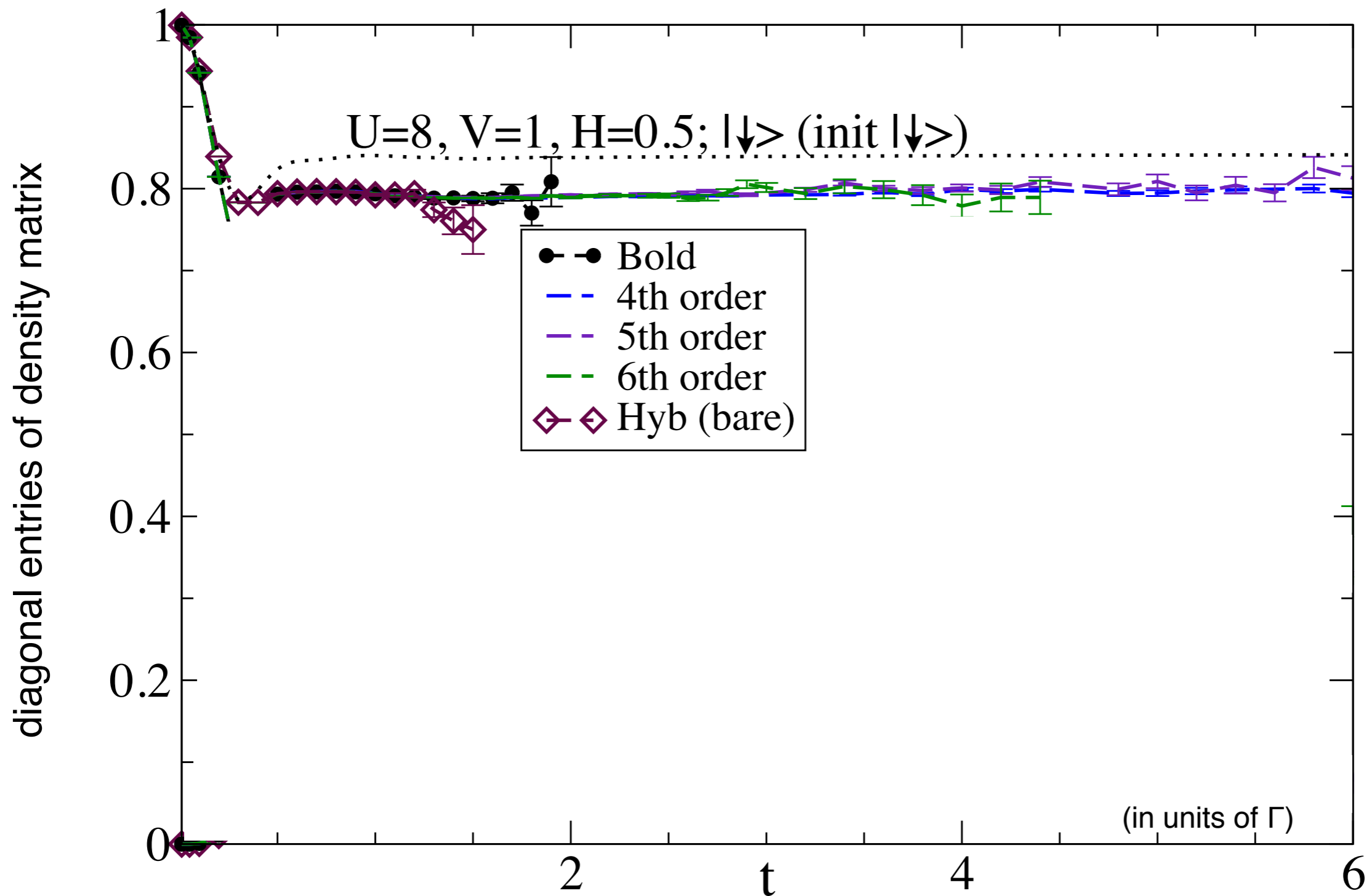


# Real Time Bold NCA – Current



Current as a function of time, starting from the empty dot  $\hat{\rho}_0 = |0\rangle\langle 0|$ . Inset: starting from an NCA density matrix  $\hat{\rho}_{\text{NCA}}$ .

# Real Time Bold NCA – Density Matrix



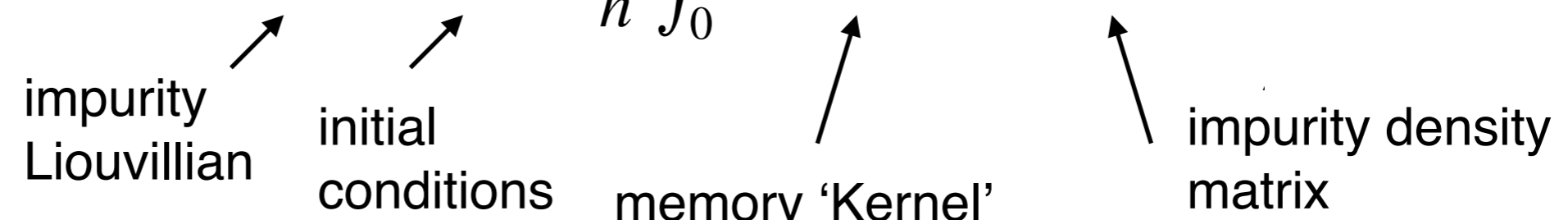
Spin- and charge relaxation for various systems and initial conditions: longer times accessible, steady state reachable.

# Combination with Memory Function Methods

Monte Carlo:

- extremely precise answers for short  $t$
- exponential cost for long  $t$
- Can we use short- $t$  knowledge to obtain long- $t$  behavior?

(exakt) Nakajima Zwanzig Mori equation:

$$i\hbar \frac{d\sigma(t)}{dt} = \mathcal{L}_{H_S} \sigma(t) + \vartheta(t) - \frac{i}{\hbar} \int_0^t d\tau \kappa(\tau) \sigma(t - \tau).$$


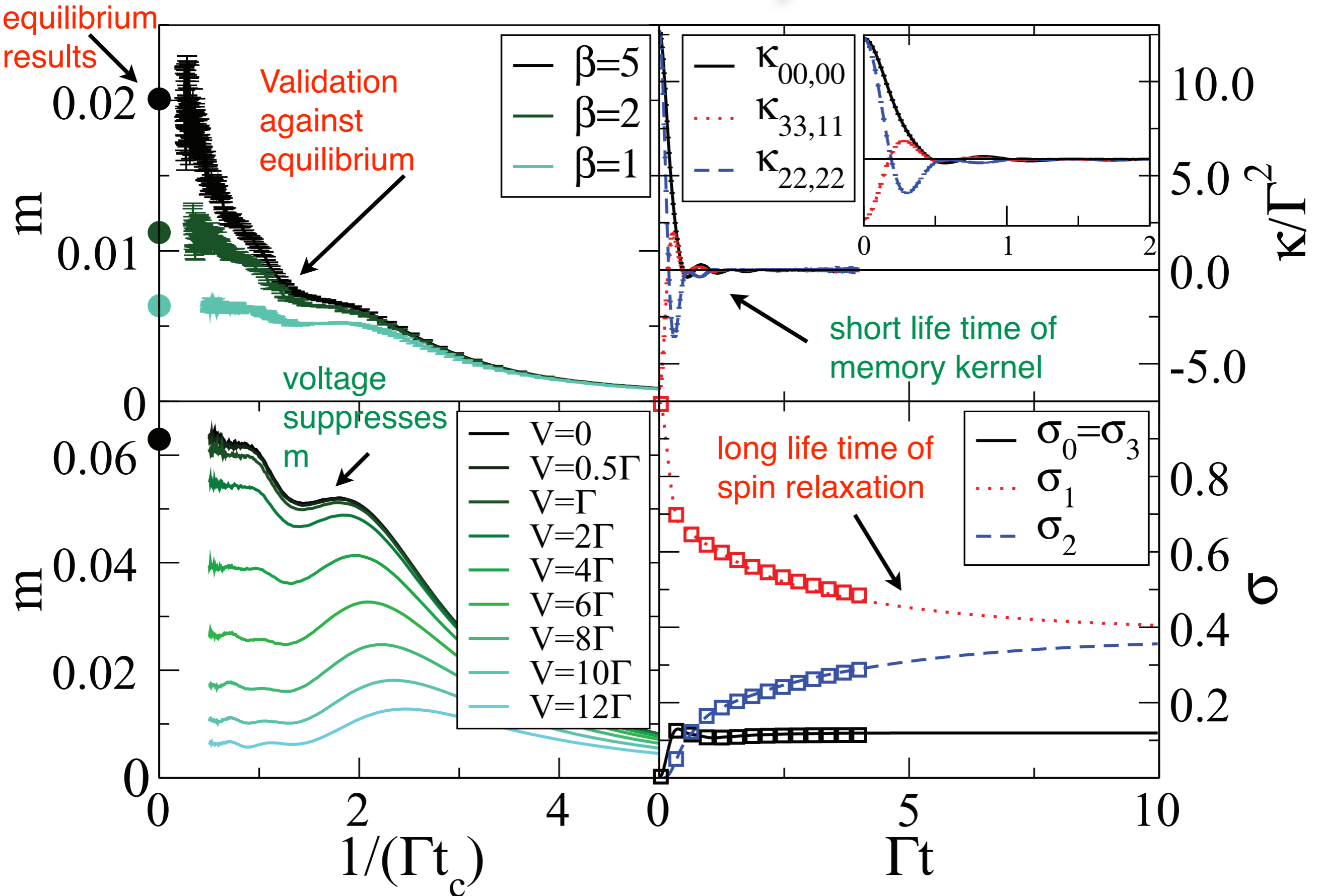
impurity Liouvillian      initial conditions      memory 'Kernel'      impurity density matrix

This implies:

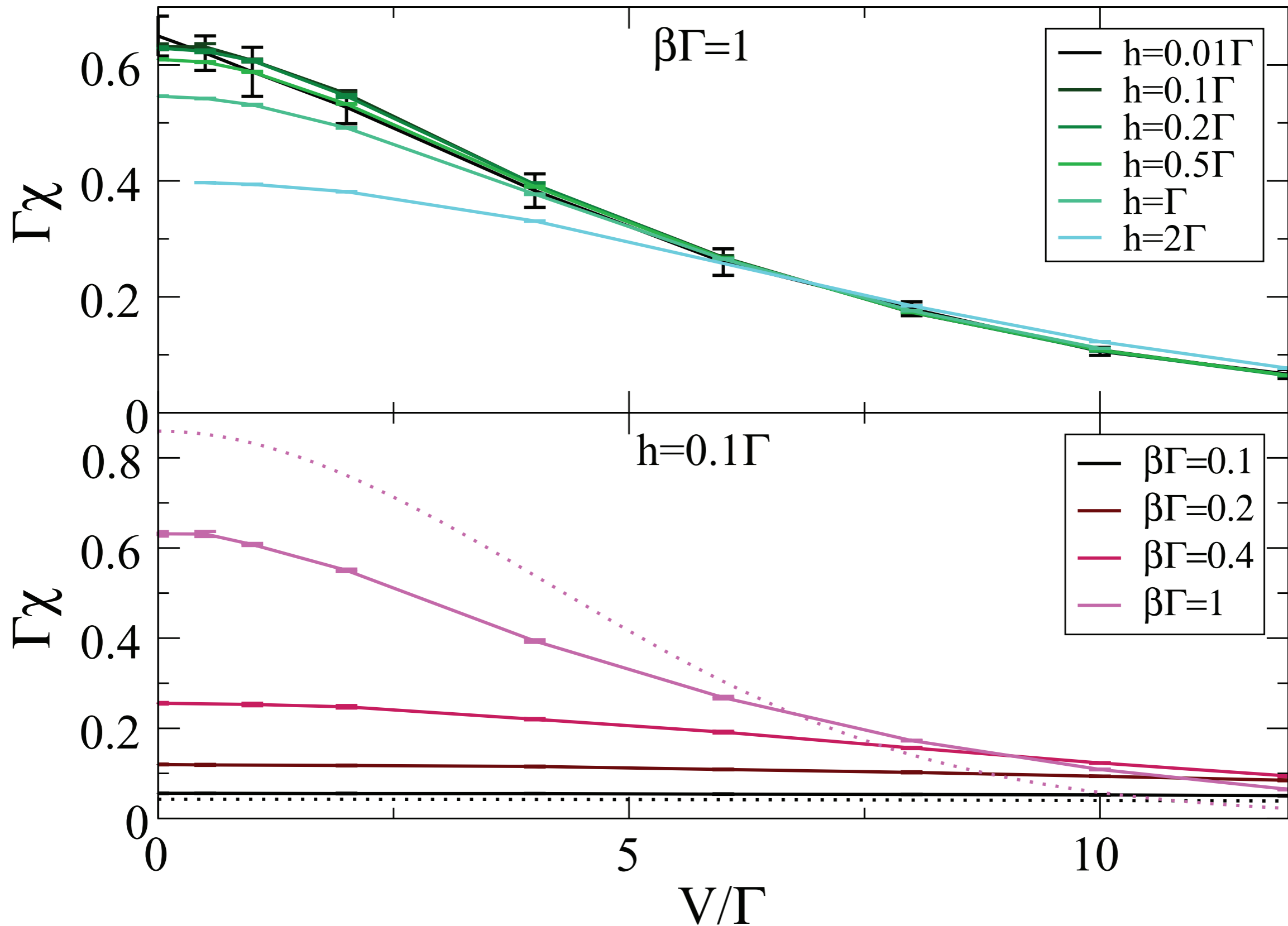
- obtain exact impurity density matrix IF memory kernel is accessible for all times
- If memory kernel goes to zero in short time: obtain exact impurity density matrix for all times using short time simulation
- Memory kernel is a function of current observables – straightforwardly accessible

Plan: Check if memory kernel converges within simulation time, use it to propagate density matrix to steady state: Numerically exact results in the Kondo regime.

# Combination with Memory Function Methods



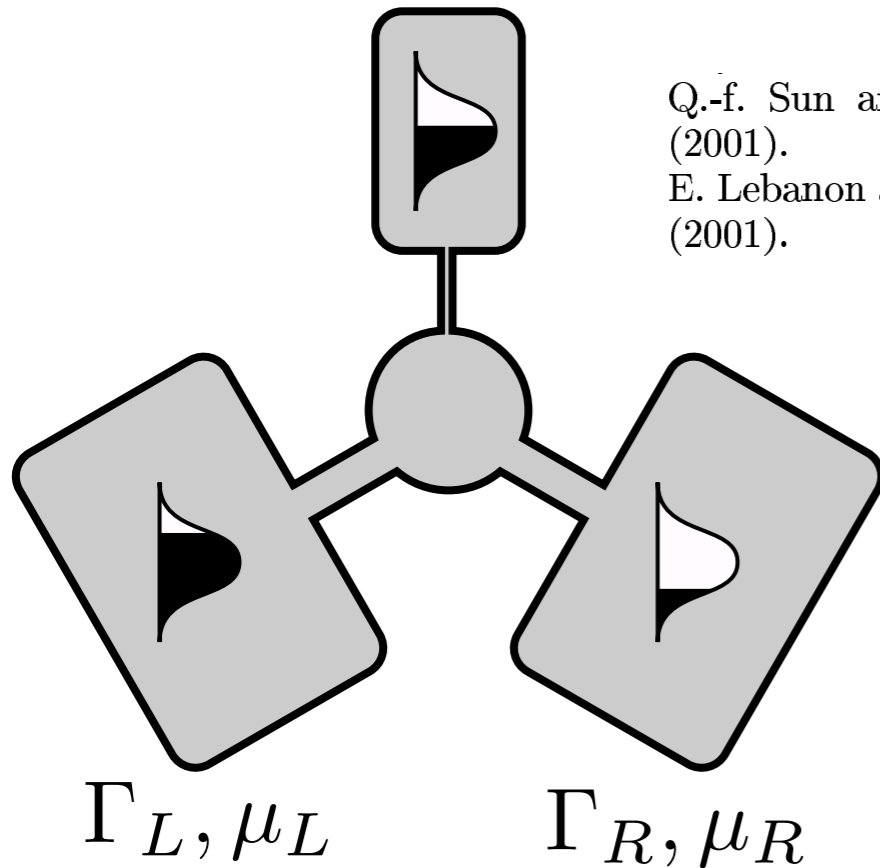
# Combination with Memory Function Methods



# Obtaining spectral functions from QMC

$$\Gamma_A, \mu_A = \omega$$

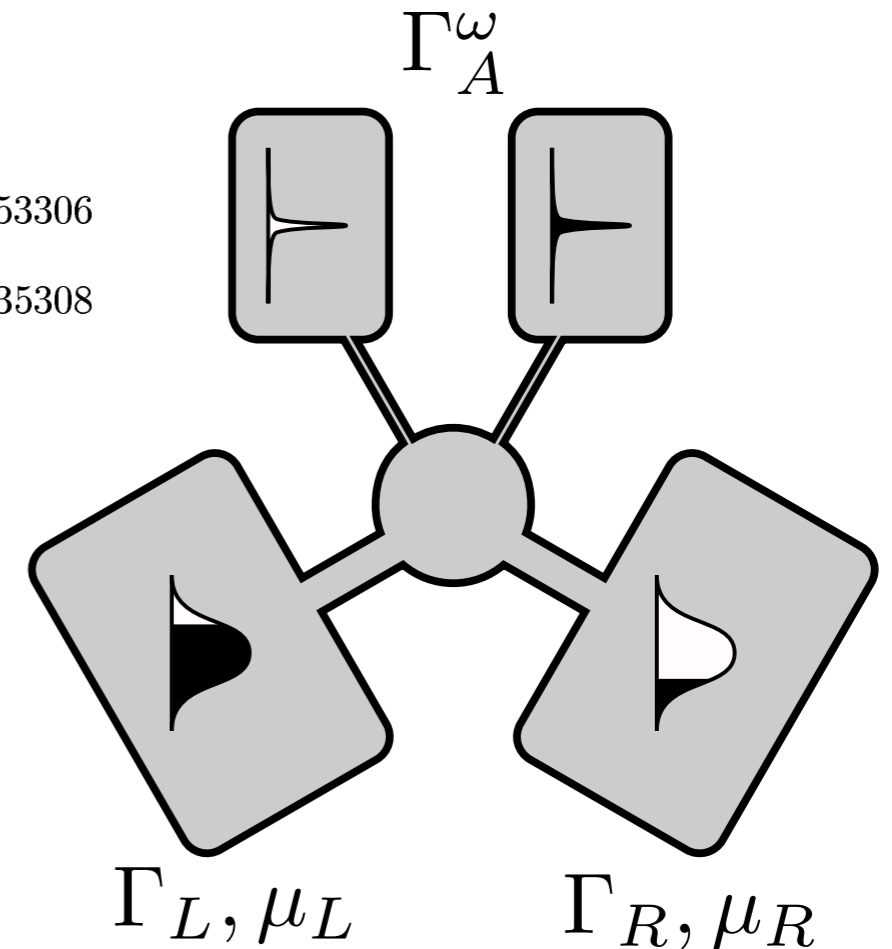
Q.-f. Sun and H. Guo, Physical Review B **64**, 153306 (2001).  
 E. Lebanon and A. Schiller, Physical Review B **65**, 035308 (2001).



Quantum impurity coupled to two baths, weakly coupled to an 'auxiliary probe lead'.

Express spectral function as a current difference

$$A(\omega) = \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0} -\frac{2h}{e\pi\eta} [I_A^1(\omega) - I_A^0(\omega)].$$



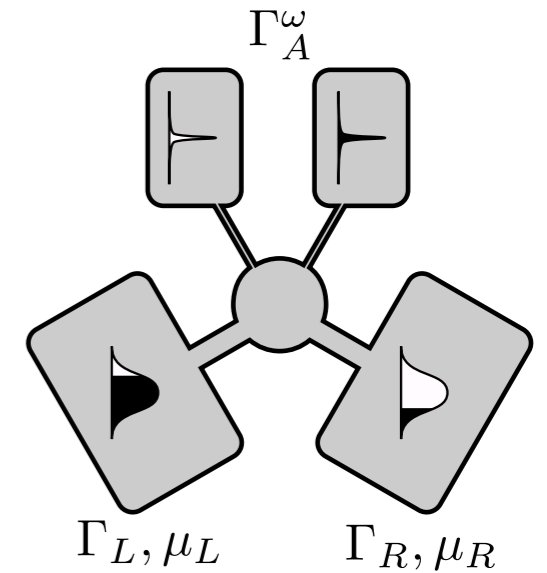
Actual QIM setup: symmetrical with empty and filled lead

# Obtaining spectral functions from QMC

$$A(\omega) = \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0} -\frac{2h}{e\pi\eta} [I_A^1(\omega) - I_A^0(\omega)].$$



We have error bars on the currents...

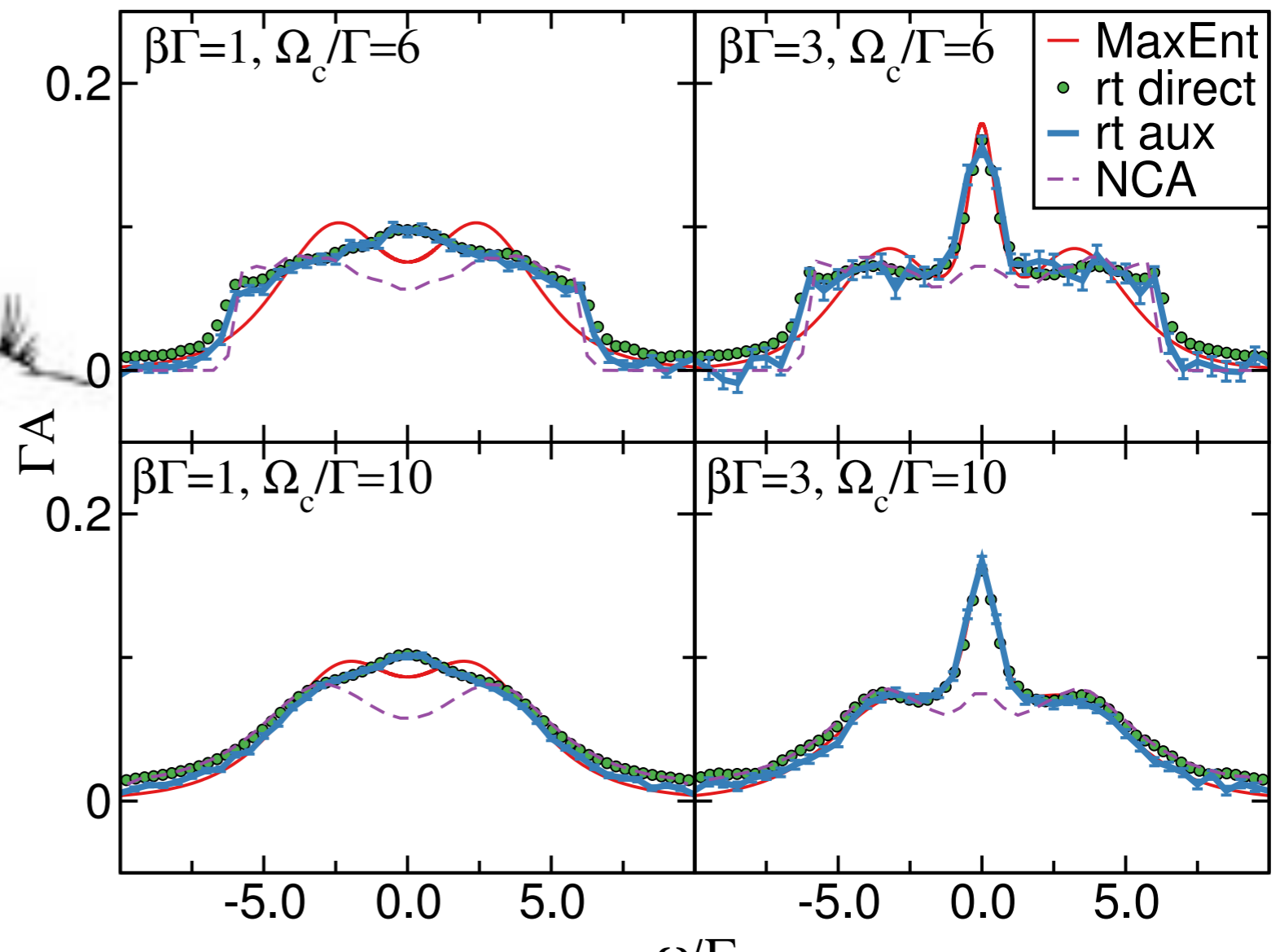


...and that implies we have error bars on the spectral functions!

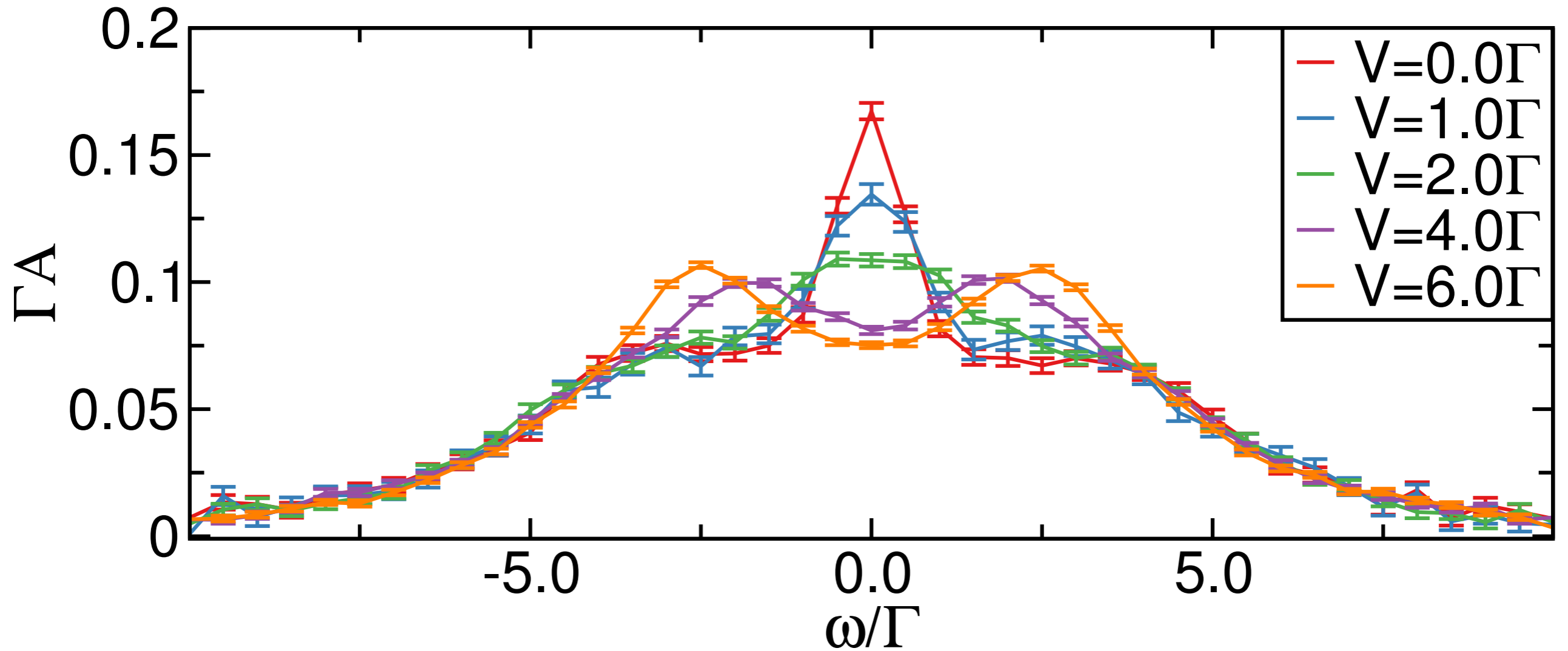


Limitation: have to reach equilibrium current, i.e. long-time behavior!

Convergence to steady state slow in the Kondo regime & at low T -> exponential sign problem barrier



# Non-equilibrium spectral functions from QMC



Parameters:

Voltage  $V$

$U/\Gamma=6$

$\beta\Gamma=3$

flat band (width  $10\Gamma$ ) with soft cutoff



# Non-equilibrium spectral functions from QMC

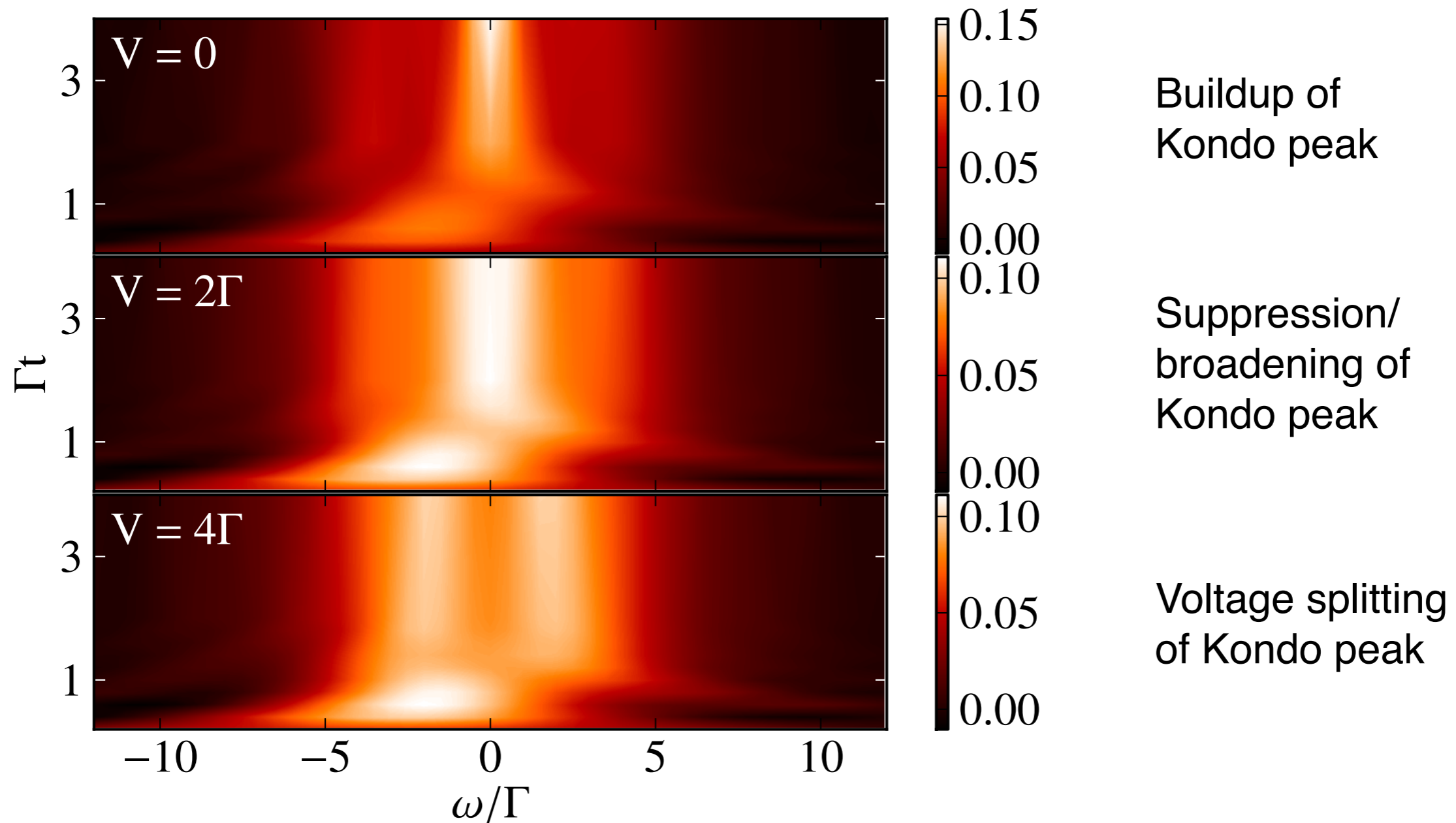


Figure 2. The time evolution of the spectral function  $A_{aux}(\omega)$  shown at several voltages, obtained from bold-CTQMC using the double-probe auxiliary lead formalism.

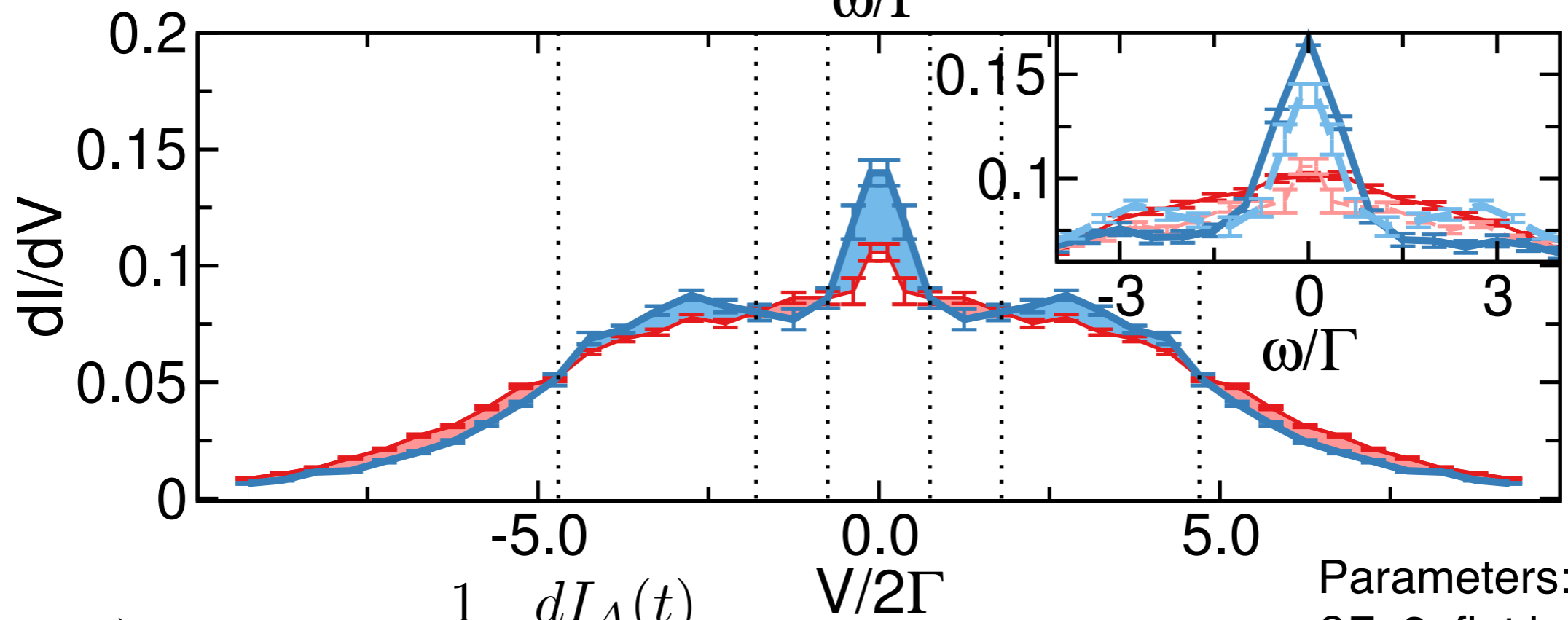
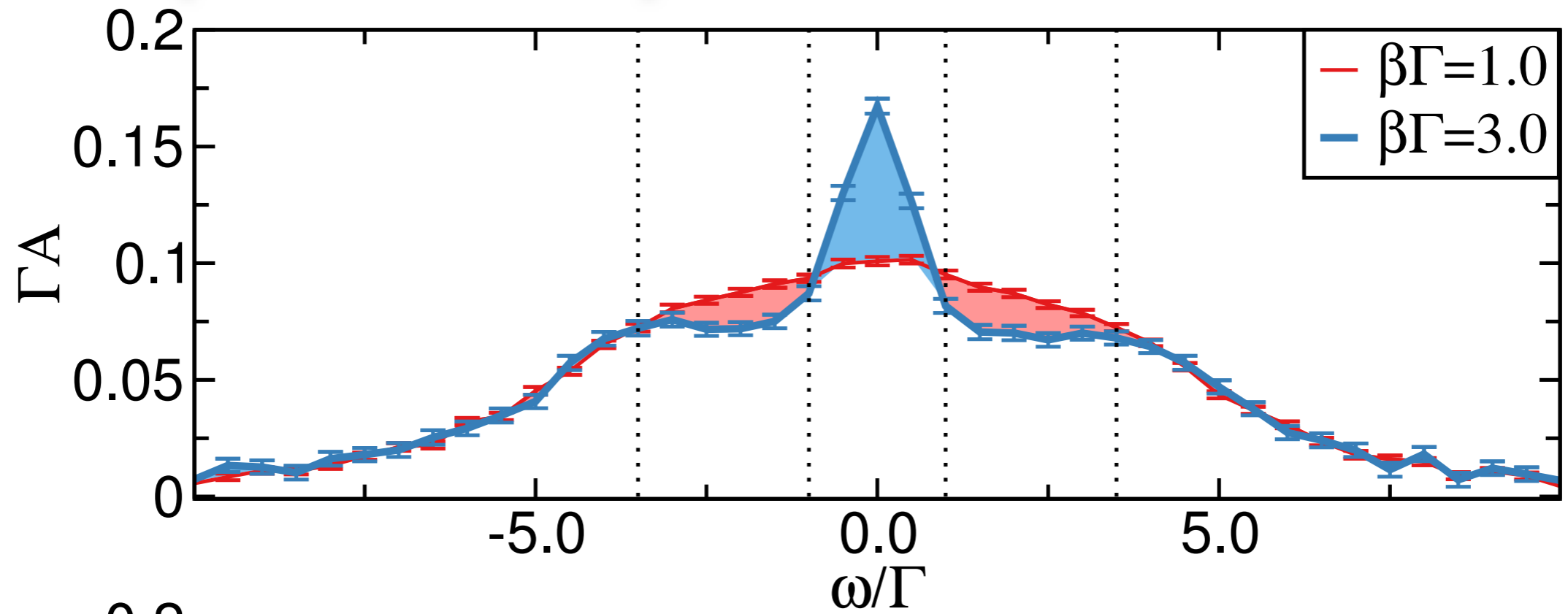
Parameters:

$U/\Gamma=6$

$\beta\Gamma=3$

flat band (width  $10\Gamma$ ) with soft cutoff

# Non-equilibrium spectral functions from QMC

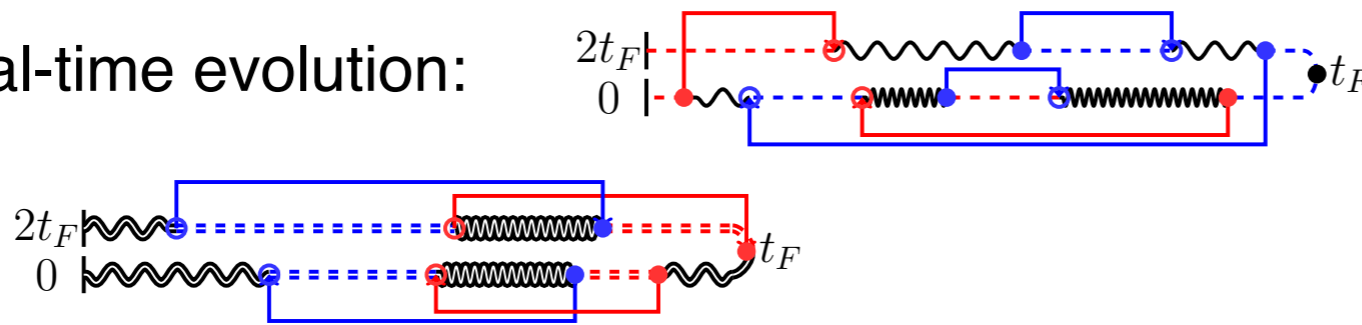


$$A_{aux}(V_A, t) \underset{\Gamma_A \rightarrow 0}{=} -\frac{1}{\Gamma_A \pi} \frac{dI_A(t)}{dV_a}.$$

Parameters:  $U/\Gamma=6$ ,  $\beta\Gamma=3$ , flat band (width  $10\Gamma$ ) with soft cutoff

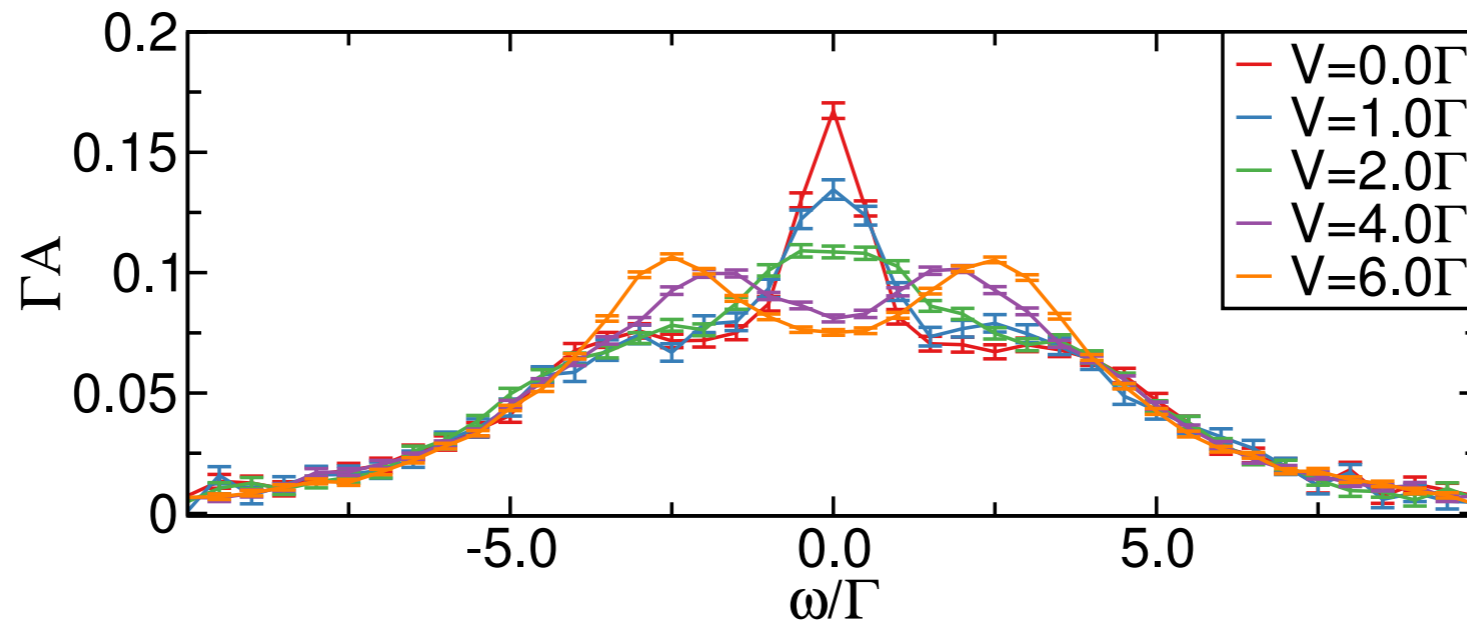
# Conclusions

QMC for real-time evolution:

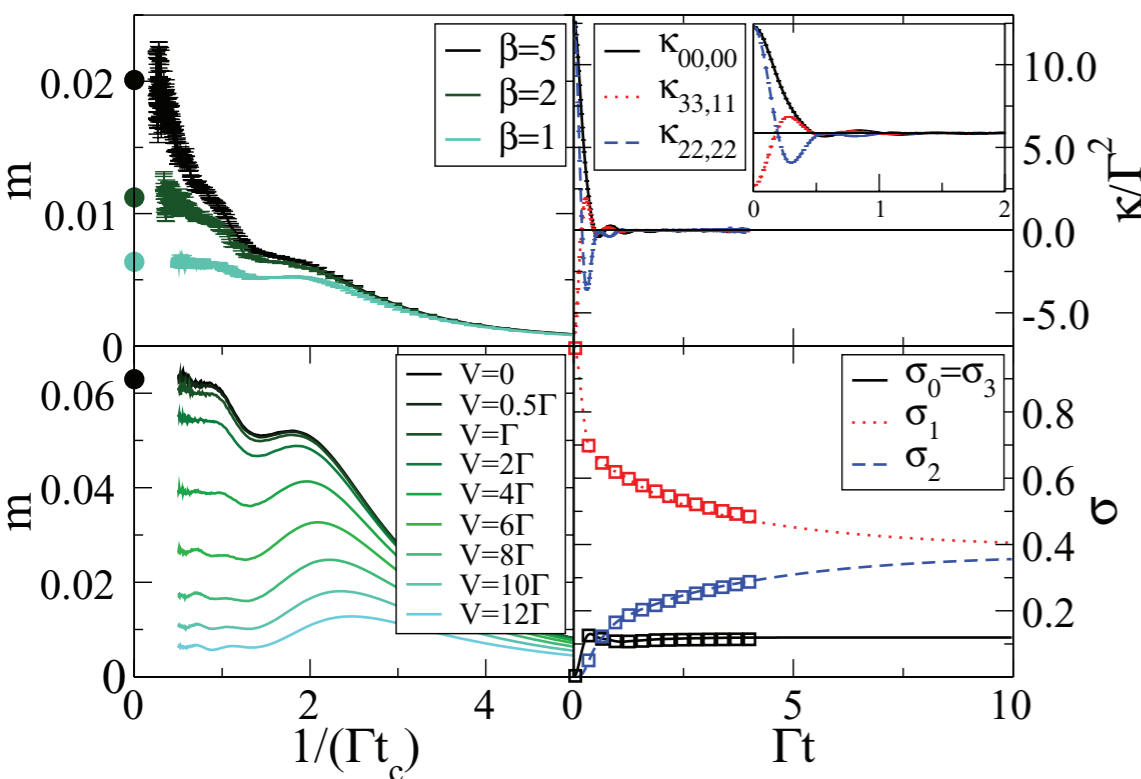


need to combine analytics with numerics to be competitive

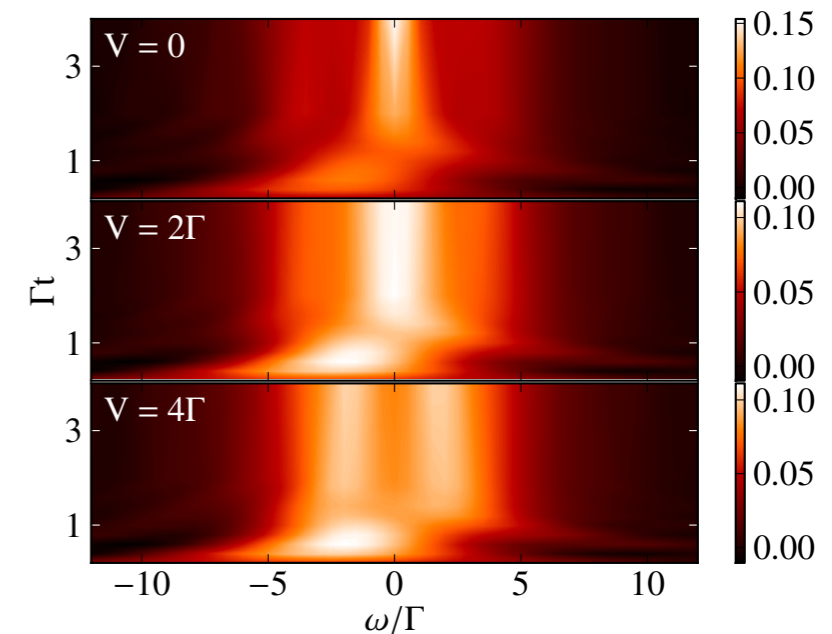
Memory kernel methods: spin and charge relaxation



'true' nonequilibrium spectral functions



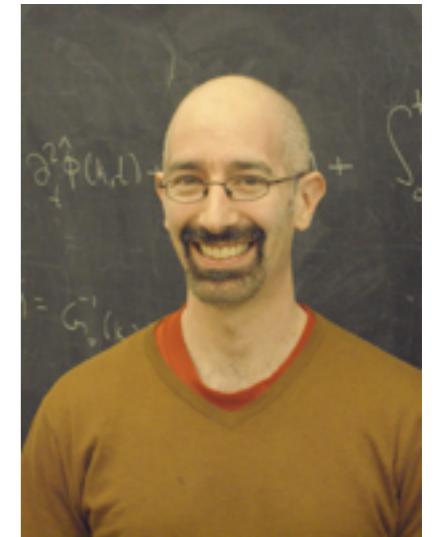
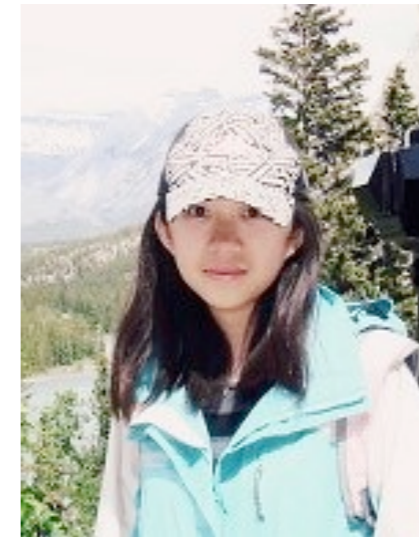
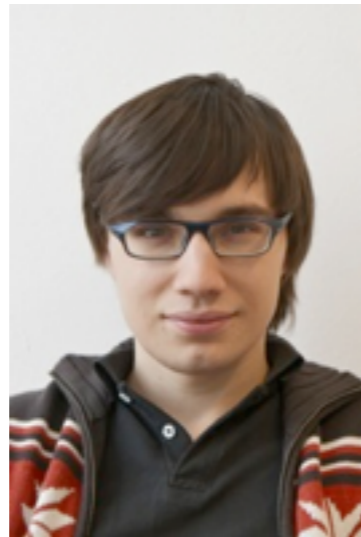
equilibrium /steady state spectral functions



# Acknowledgments



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provided by DOE  
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Andrey Antipov and Qiaoyuan Dong**

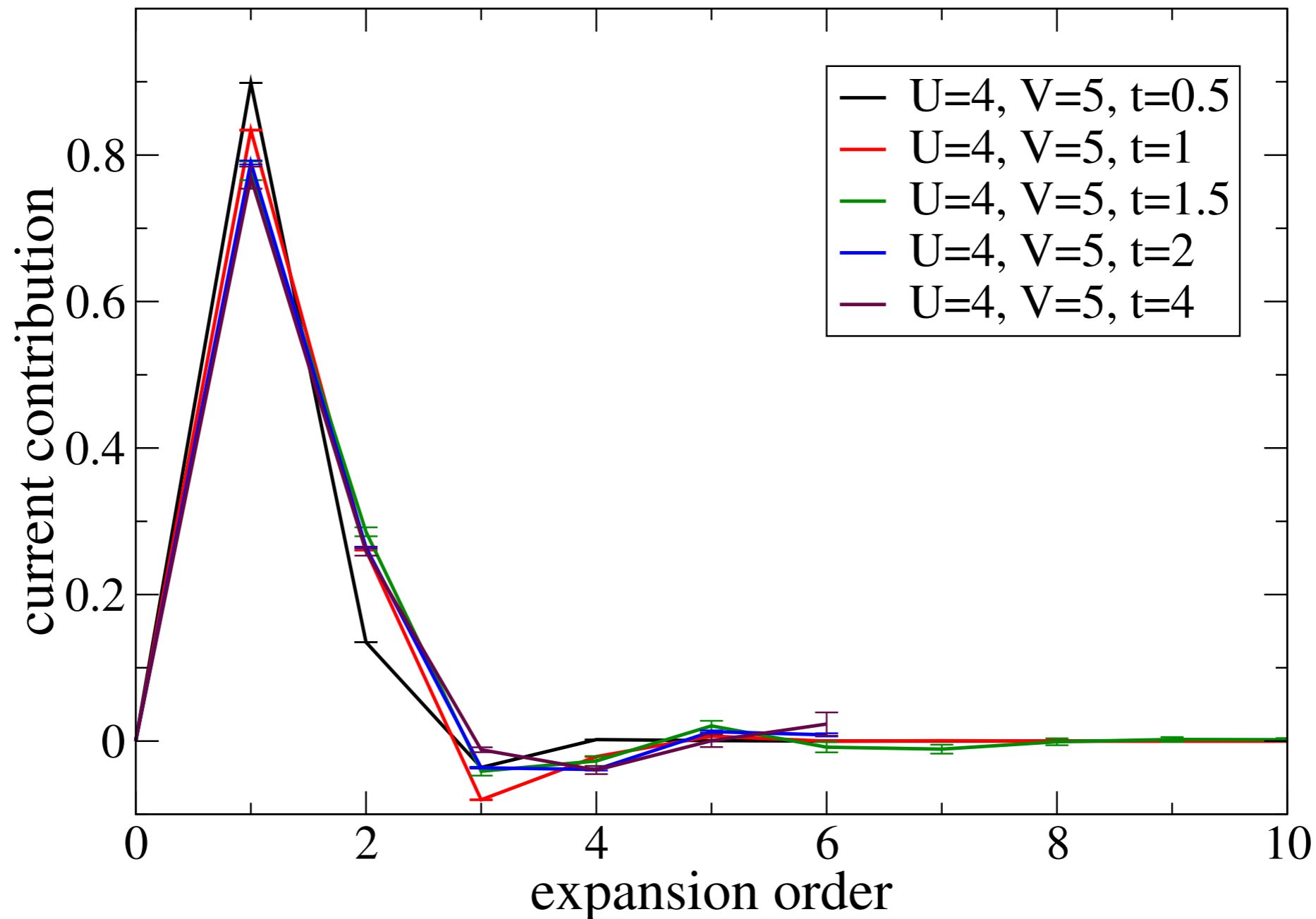
[Phys. Rev. B 82, 075109 \(2010\)](#)  
[Phys. Rev. B 84, 085134 \(2011\)](#)  
[Rev. Mod. Phys 83, 349 \(2011\)](#)

[Phys. Rev. B 87, 195108 \(2013\)](#)  
[Phys. Rev. B 89, 115139 \(2014\)](#)  
[Phys. Rev. Lett. 112, 146802 \(2014\)](#)

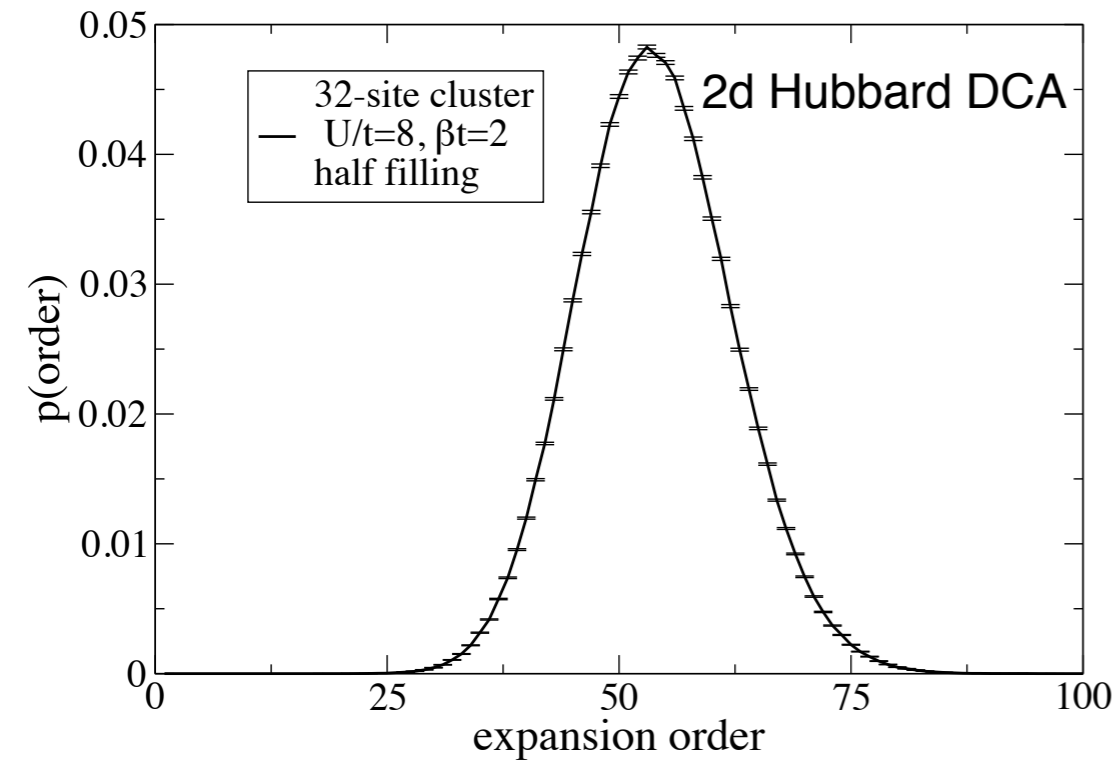


# Real Time Bold NCA – Order Contribution

Contribution to the current as a function of expansion order:

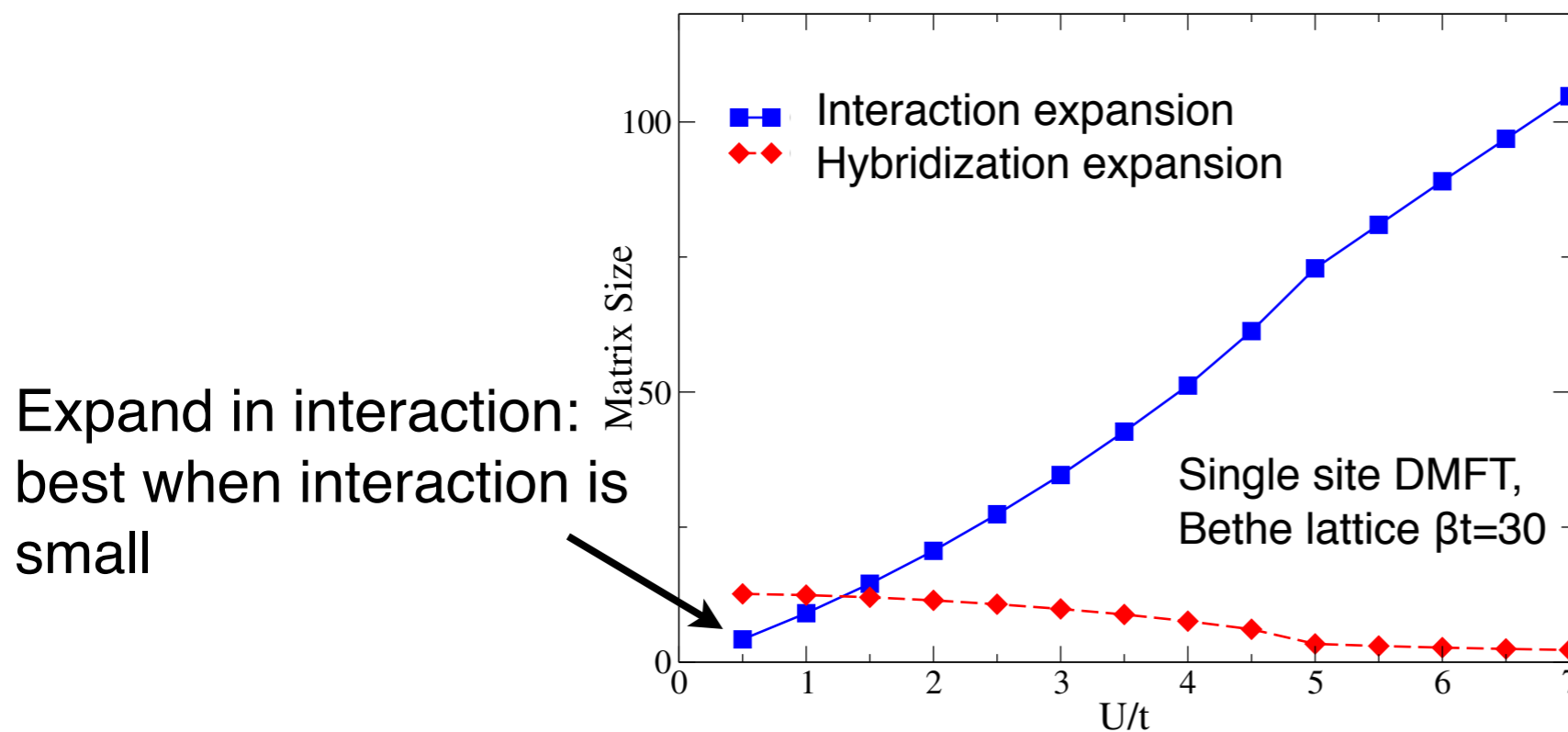


# 'Bare' Continuous-Time algorithms



Expansion order histogram

expansion is convergent, peaked at typical expansion order.



Average expansion order as a function of interaction

Expand in hybridization: best in insulating phase (few hybridization processes)

Expand in interaction: best when interaction is small