

# Dynamical imaginary time correlations from Auxiliary Fields Quantum Monte Carlo

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## Projection onto the Ground State

$$U(\tau) |\psi_\tau\rangle \xrightarrow{\tau \rightarrow +\infty} |\Psi_0\rangle$$

Static properties:  $E_0$ ,  
 $g(r)$ ,  $S(q)$ , ...

$$U(\tau) = \exp(-\tau(\hat{H} - E_0))$$

T=0 QUANTUM  
MONTE CARLO

Imaginary time correlation functions

$$\langle \Psi_0 | \hat{A} U(\tau) \hat{B} | \Psi_0 \rangle$$

Dynamical properties:  
 $\omega(q)$ ,  $S(q, \omega)$ ,  $\chi(q)$ , ...

## In Auxiliary Fields Quantum Monte Carlo methods

$$U(\tau) = \exp(-\tau(\hat{H} - E_0))$$

is dealt with in the abstract Hilbert Space of the physical system, relying on the single-particle formalism

The starting point is an interacting hamiltonian:

$$H = \sum_i T_i a_i^\dagger a_i + \sum_{i,j,k,l} V_{ijkl} a_i^\dagger a_j^\dagger a_k a_l$$

written in second quantization formalism, relying on a finite one particle basis:

$$\{|i\rangle\}_{i=1,\dots,M}$$

Equivalent expression:

$$H = H_0 + \sum_{\alpha} A_{\alpha}^2 \quad H_0, A_{\alpha} \quad \text{One particle operators}$$

Trotter decomposition:

$$U(\tau) = \left( U(\delta\tau) \right)^n, \quad \tau = n \delta\tau$$

AUXILIARY FIELDS  
QUANTUM  
MONTE CARLO

Primitive approximation:

$$U(\delta\tau) \cong \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \delta\tau H_0\right) \prod_{\alpha} \exp\left(-\delta\tau A_{\alpha}^2\right) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \delta\tau H_0\right)$$

TWO-BODY PROPAGATOR

$$U(\delta\tau) = \int d\eta g(\eta) G(\eta)$$

HUBBARD-  
STRATONOVICH  
TRANSFORMATION

$$g(\eta) = \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} |\eta|^2\right)}{(2\pi)^{M^2}}$$

$2M^2$  dimensional standard normal  
probability density

AUXILIARY FIELDS  
QUANTUM  
MONTE CARLO

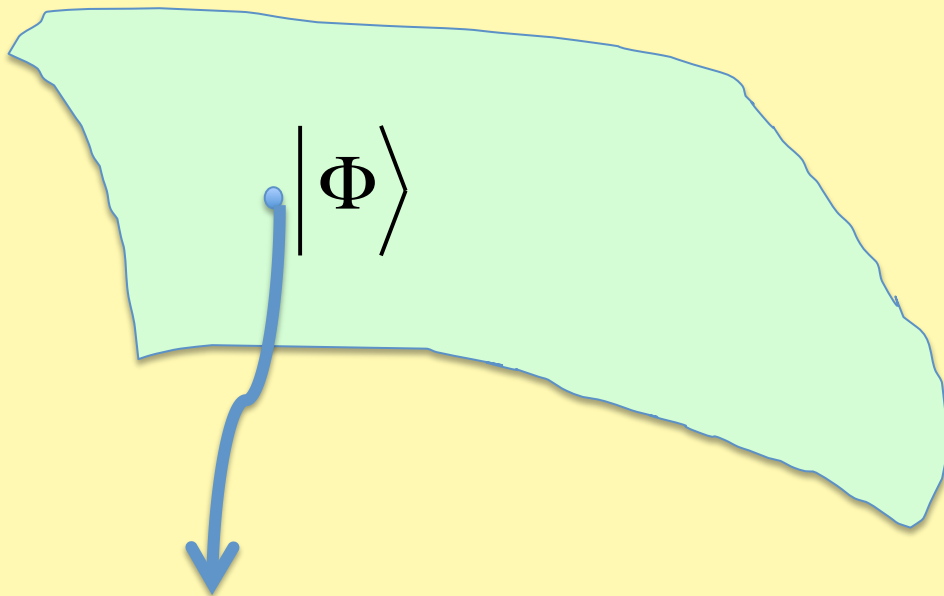
$$G(\eta) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \delta\tau H_0\right) \prod_{\alpha} \exp(i\sqrt{\delta\tau} \eta_{\alpha} A_{\alpha}) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \delta\tau H_0\right)$$

ONE BODY PROPAGATOR

# N fermions, Slater determinants

One particle  
wave functions

$$|\Phi\rangle = \frac{1}{N!} \sum_{\sigma \in S(N)} (-1)^\sigma |\varphi_{\sigma(1)}\rangle \otimes \dots \otimes |\varphi_{\sigma(N)}\rangle$$



AUXILIARY FIELDS  
QUANTUM  
MONTE CARLO

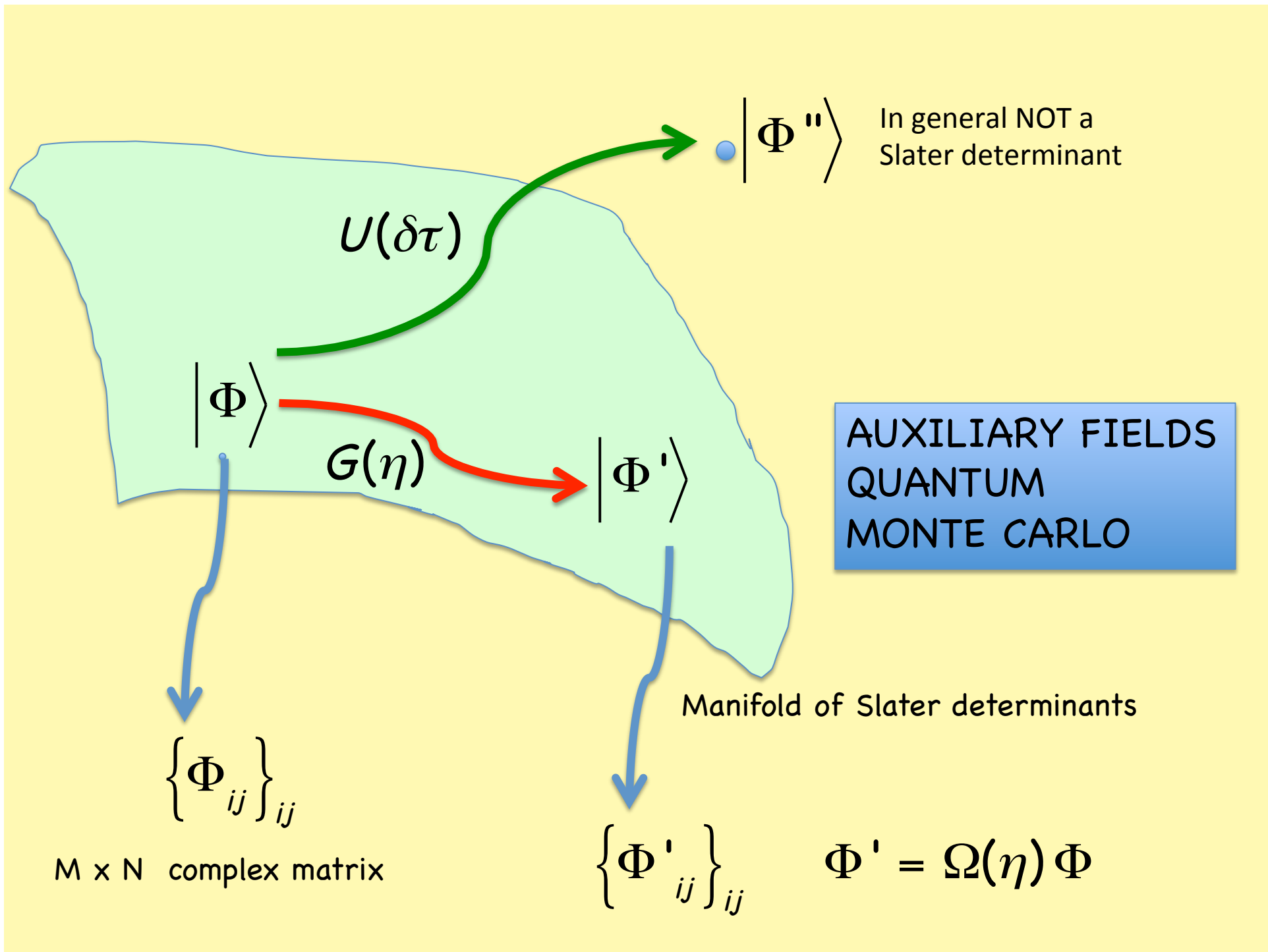
Manifold of Slater determinants

$$\left\{ \Phi_{ij} = \langle i | \varphi_j \rangle \right\}_{ij}$$

M x N complex matrix

BASIS LABEL

PARTICLE LABEL





$$G(\eta) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \delta\tau H_0\right) \prod_{\alpha} \exp\left(i\sqrt{\delta\tau} \eta_{\alpha} A_{\alpha}\right) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \delta\tau H_0\right)$$

$$H_0 = \sum_i (H_0)_i a_i^+ a_i$$

$$A_{\alpha} = \sum_{ij} (A_{\alpha})_{ij} a_i^+ a_j$$

AUXILIARY FIELDS  
QUANTUM  
MONTE CARLO

$|\Phi\rangle$

$G(\eta)$

$|\Phi'\rangle$

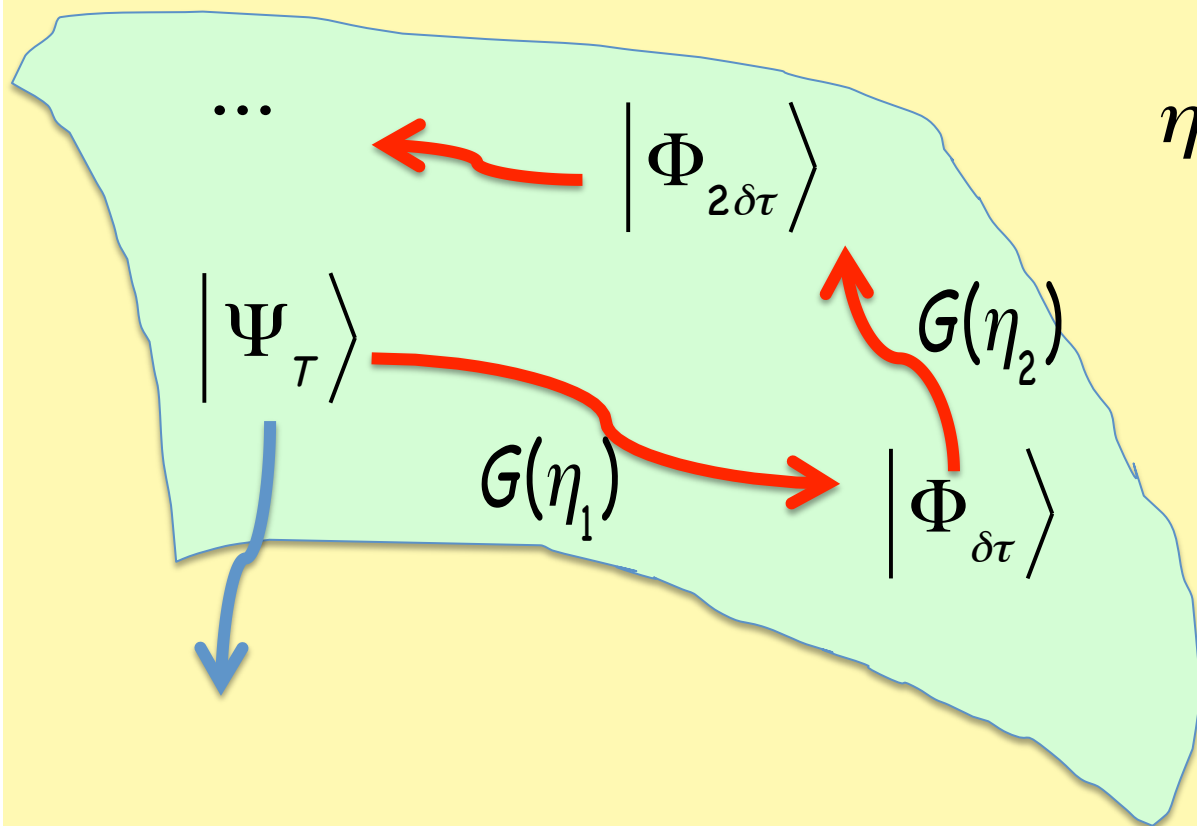
$\{\Phi_{ij}\}_{ij}$

$\{\Phi'_{ij}\}_{ij}$

$$\Phi' = \Omega(\eta) \Phi$$

$$(\Omega(\eta))_{ij} = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \delta\tau (H_0)_i\right) \left( \exp\left(\sum_{\alpha} i\sqrt{\delta\tau} \eta_{\alpha} A_{\alpha}\right) \right)_{ij} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \delta\tau (H_0)_j\right)$$

EXPONENTIALS OF COMPLEX MATRICES



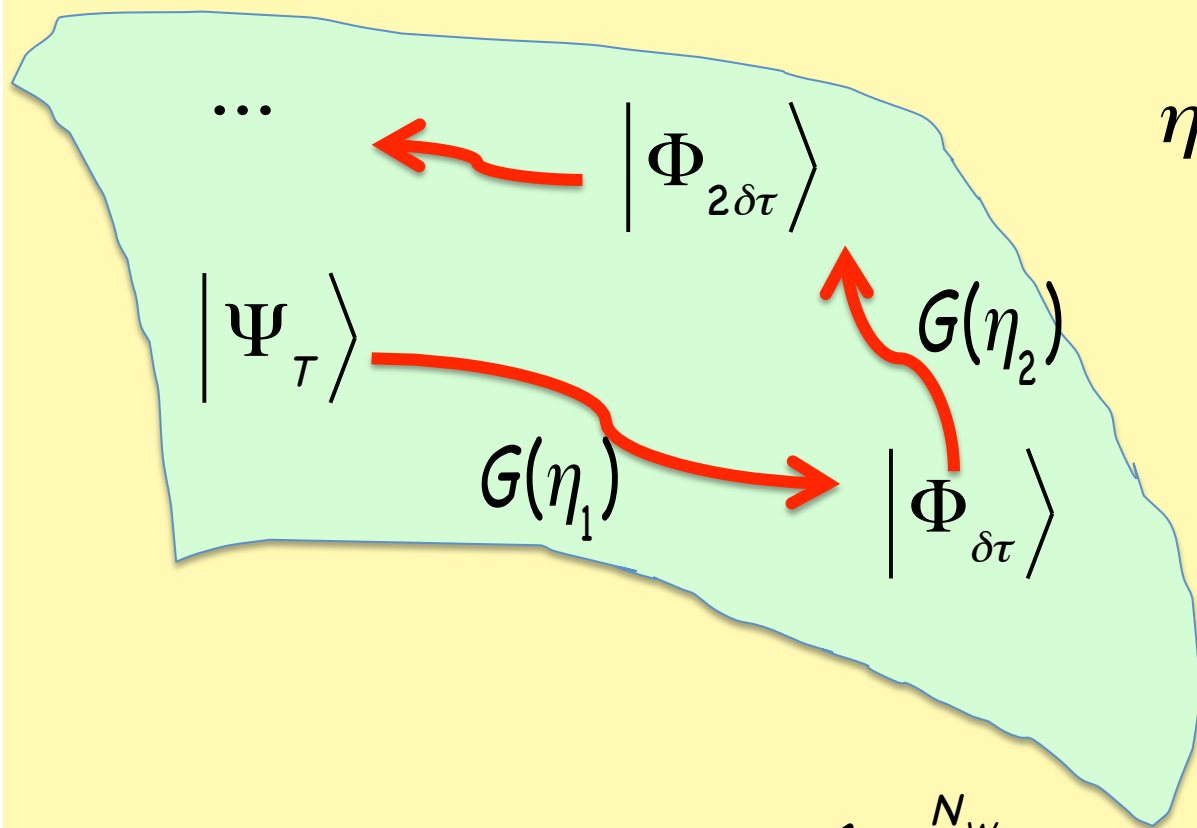
$\eta_i$  realizations of standard independent Normal random variable

**AUXILIARY FIELDS  
QUANTUM  
MONTE CARLO**

Starting point: for example, Hartree-Fock solution

$$|\Psi_0\rangle \cong \int d\eta_1 \dots d\eta_L g(\eta_1 \dots \eta_L) \prod_{i=1}^L G(\eta_i) |\Psi_\tau\rangle = L \text{ big enough}$$

$$= \langle \Phi_{L\delta\tau} | \text{auxiliary fields } \eta_1 \dots \eta_L$$



$\eta_i$  realizations of standard independent Normal random variable

AUXILIARY FIELDS  
QUANTUM  
MONTE CARLO

$$|\Psi_0\rangle \cong \langle \Phi_{L\delta\tau} \rangle_{\substack{\text{auxiliary} \\ \text{fields} \\ \eta_1 \dots \eta_L}} \approx \frac{1}{N_W} \sum_{w=1}^{N_W} |\Phi_{L\delta\tau}^w\rangle$$

RANDOM WALK ON THE SLATER DETERMINANTS MANIFOLD

$N_W$  independent samplings of the auxiliary fields configurations

# Quantum Monte Carlo method using phase-free random walks with Slater determinants

Shiwei Zhang and Henry Krakauer

*Department of Physics, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA 23187-8795*

(Dated: February 1, 2008)

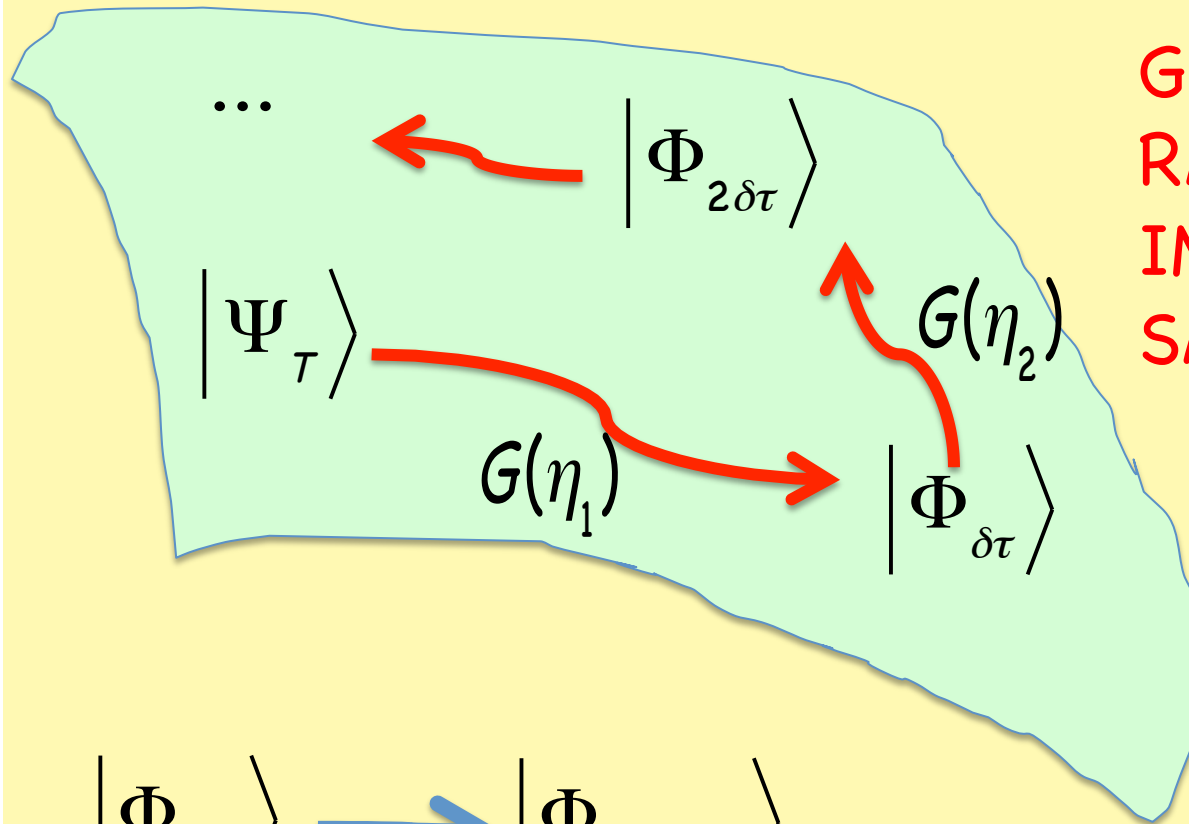
We develop a quantum Monte Carlo method for many fermions that allows the use of *any* one-particle basis. It projects out the ground state by random walks in the space of Slater determinants. An approximate approach is formulated to control the phase problem with a trial wave function  $|\Psi_T\rangle$ . Using plane-wave basis and non-local pseudopotentials, we apply the method to Si atom, dimer, and 2, 16, 54 atom (216 electrons) bulk supercells. Single Slater determinant wave functions from density functional theory calculations were used as  $|\Psi_T\rangle$  with no additional optimization. Calculated binding energy of  $\text{Si}_2$  and cohesive energy of bulk Si are in excellent agreement with experiments and are comparable to the best existing theoretical results.

PACS numbers: 02.70.Ss, 71.15.-m, 31.25.-v

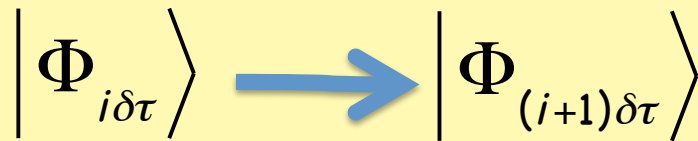
AUXILIARY FIELDS  
QUANTUM  
MONTE CARLO

We follow the algorithm invented  
by Shiwei Zhang ....

GUIDING THE  
RANDOM WALK ...  
IMPORTANCE  
SAMPLING



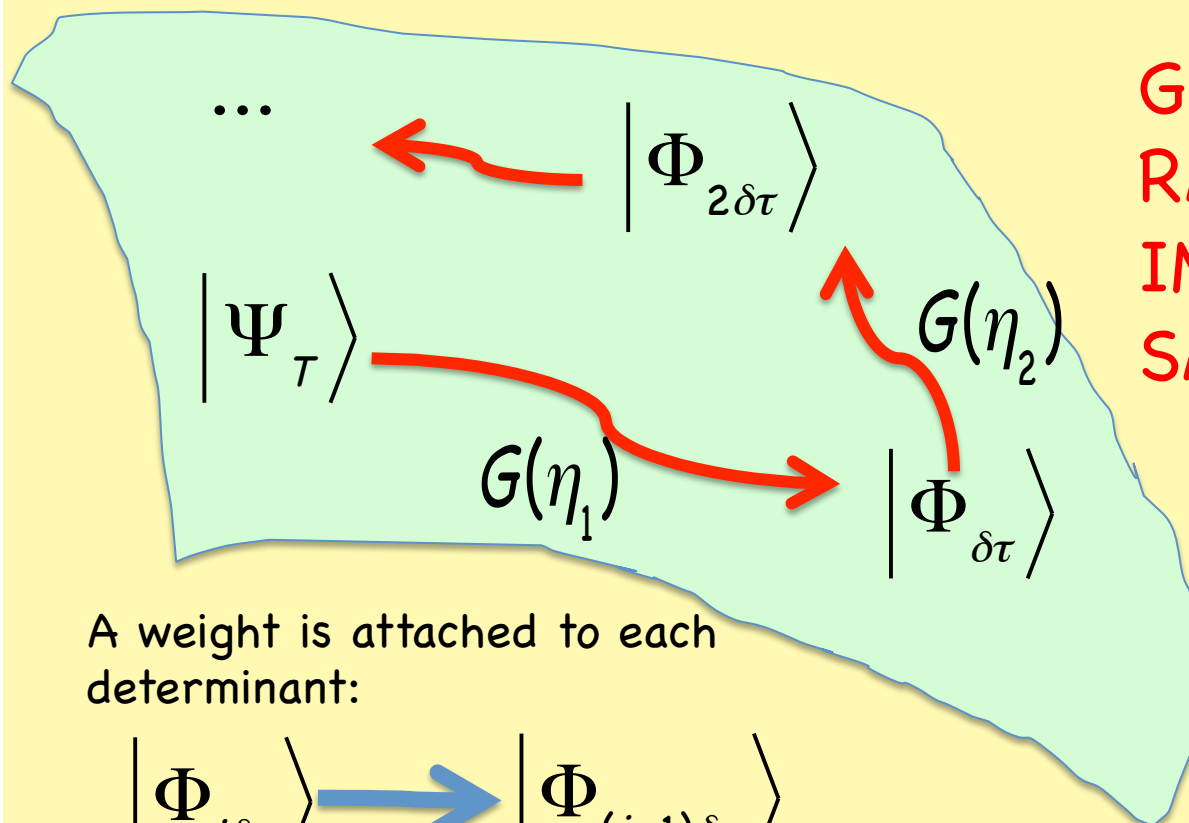
AUXILIARY FIELDS  
QUANTUM  
MONTE CARLO



$G(\eta - \xi(\Phi_{i\delta\tau}))$  SHIFT PARAMETER

The precise expression  
(chosen to minimize some  
fluctuations) is ...

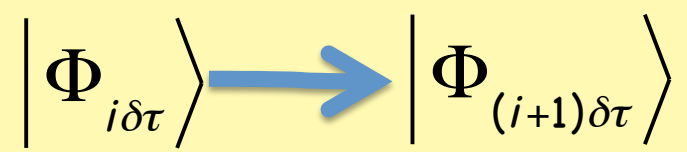
$$\xi_\alpha = -i\sqrt{\delta\tau} \frac{\langle \Psi_\tau | A_\alpha | \Phi_{i\delta\tau} \rangle}{\langle \Psi_\tau | \Phi_{i\delta\tau} \rangle}$$



GUIDING THE  
RANDOM WALK ...  
IMPORTANCE  
SAMPLING

AUXILIARY FIELDS  
QUANTUM  
MONTE CARLO

A weight is attached to each determinant:



$$w_{(i+1)\delta\tau} = f \exp(-\delta\tau E_{local}(\Phi_{i\delta\tau})) w_{i\delta\tau}$$

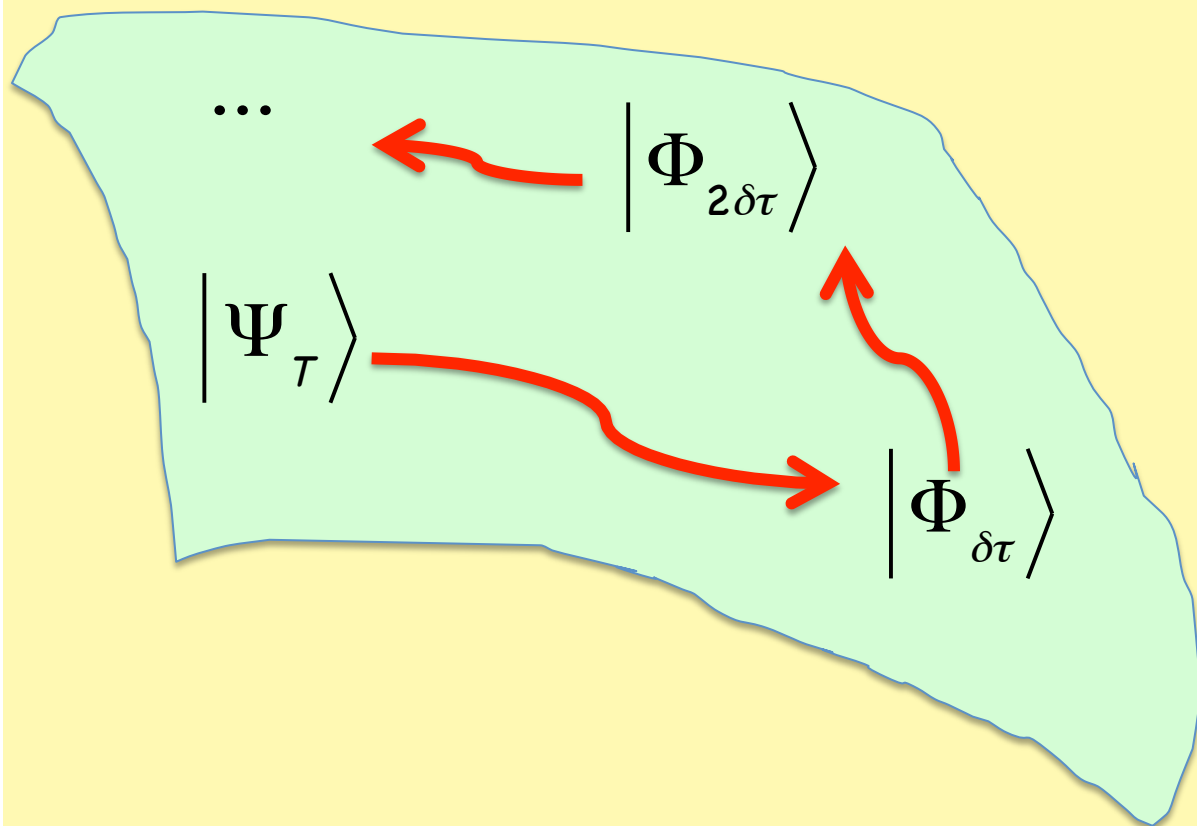
REAL LOCAL ENERGY  
APPROXIMATION

PHASE CONTROL

$$f = \max(0, \cos(\Delta\theta))$$

Flip of the phase of the determinant

$$E_{local} = \Re \frac{\langle \Psi_\tau | H | \Phi_{i\delta\tau} \rangle}{\langle \Psi_\tau | \Phi_{i\delta\tau} \rangle}$$

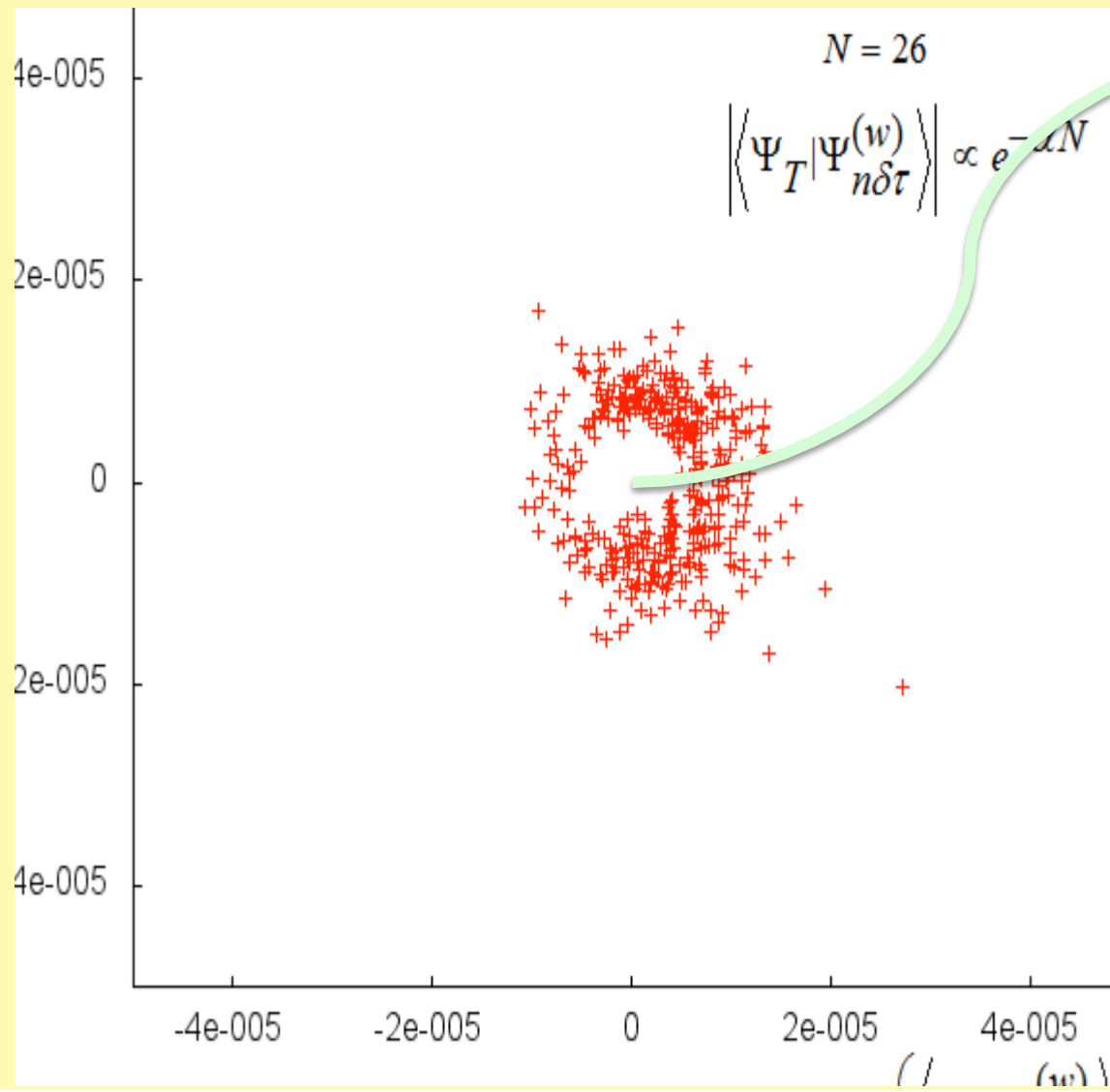


PHASELESS  
AUXILIARY FIELDS  
QMC

$$|\Psi_0\rangle \approx \frac{1}{N_W} \sum_{w=1}^{N_W} w_{L\delta\tau}^w \frac{|\Phi_{L\delta\tau}^w\rangle}{\langle \Psi_T | \Phi_{L\delta\tau}^w \rangle}$$

$$|\Psi_0\rangle \approx \frac{1}{N_W} \sum_{w=1}^{N_W} w_{L\delta\tau}^w \frac{|\Phi_{L\delta\tau}^w\rangle}{\langle \Psi_T | \Phi_{L\delta\tau}^w \rangle}$$

ZEROS IN THE  
COMPLEX PLANE  
ARE AVOIDED



$$\langle \Psi_T | \Phi^w \rangle$$

SIGN PROBLEM  
AND  
IMPORTANCE  
SAMPLING



$$\frac{\langle \Psi_T | A | \Psi_0 \rangle}{\langle \Psi_T | \Psi_0 \rangle} \approx \frac{\sum_{w=1}^{N_W} w_{L\delta\tau}^w \langle \Psi_T | A | \Phi_{L\delta\tau}^w \rangle}{\sum_{w=1}^{N_W} w_{L\delta\tau}^w}$$

Such estimations provide Ground State expectations if

$$[A, H] = 0$$

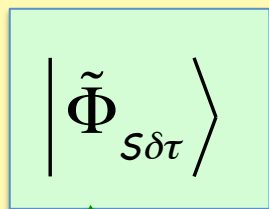
MIXED ESTIMATES

To compute these matrix elements we perform linear algebra operations on the matrices of  $\Psi_T$ ,  $\Phi$  and  $A$

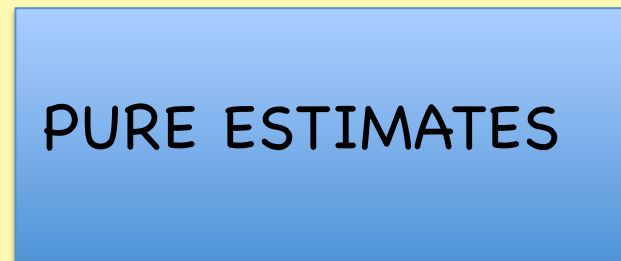
$$\frac{\langle \Psi_T | U(S\delta\tau) A | \Psi_0 \rangle}{\langle \Psi_T | U(S\delta\tau) | \Psi_0 \rangle} \approx \frac{\sum_{w=1}^{N_w} w^w_{(L+S)\delta\tau} \frac{\langle \tilde{\Phi}_{S\delta\tau}^w | A | \Phi_{L\delta\tau}^w \rangle}{\langle \tilde{\Phi}_{S\delta\tau}^w | \Phi_{L\delta\tau}^w \rangle}}{\sum_{w=1}^{N_w} w^w_{(L+S)\delta\tau}}$$

$$|\tilde{\Phi}_{S\delta\tau}\rangle \equiv \left(G(\eta_{L+S}) \dots G(\eta_{L+1})\right)^+ |\Psi_T\rangle$$

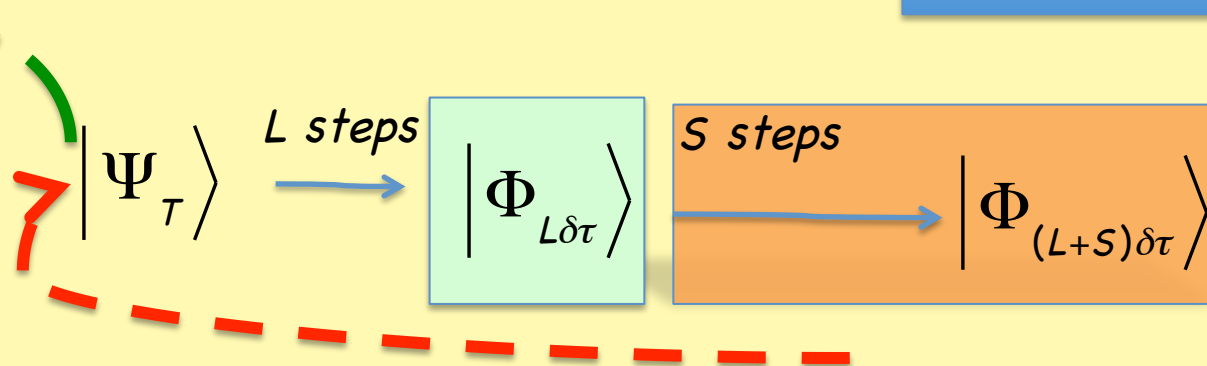
$$[A, H] \neq 0$$



BACK PROPAGATION  
TECHNIQUE



$S$  back steps



For the evaluation of imaginary time correlation functions, we start from the following work ...

PHYSICAL REVIEW B, VOLUME 63, 073105

**Efficient calculation of imaginary-time-displaced correlation functions in the projector auxiliary-field quantum Monte Carlo algorithm**

M. Feldbacher and F. F. Assaad

*Institut für Theoretische Physik III, Universität Stuttgart, Pfaffenwaldring 57, D-70550 Stuttgart, Germany*

(Received 28 September 2000; published 29 January 2001)

The calculation of imaginary-time-displaced correlation functions with the auxiliary-field projector quantum Monte Carlo algorithm provides valuable insight (such as spin and charge gaps) into the model under consideration. One of the authors and M. Imada proposed a numerically stable method to compute those quantities [J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. **65**, 189 (1996)]. Although precise, this method is expensive in CPU time. Here we present an alternative approach which is an order of magnitude quicker, just as precise, and very simple to implement. The method is based on the observation that for a given auxiliary field the equal-time Green-function matrix  $G$  is a projector:  $G^2 = G$ .

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevB.63.073105

PACS number(s): 71.27.+a, 71.10.-w, 71.10.Fd

$$f_A(\tau) = \frac{\langle \Psi_0 | A U(\tau) A^\dagger | \Psi_0 \rangle}{\langle \Psi_0 | \Psi_0 \rangle}$$

$A = a_i$  Dynamical Green function ...

$A = \sum_{i,j} A_{ij} a_i^\dagger a_j$  Density-Density Response function ...

in general  $[A, G(\eta)] \neq 0$   
some  $G(\eta)$  remain "trapped"

$$G(\eta) = \exp(-\frac{1}{2} \delta\tau H_0) \prod_{\alpha} \exp(i\sqrt{\delta\tau} \eta_{\alpha} A_{\alpha}) \exp(-\frac{1}{2} \delta\tau H_0)$$

$$(\Omega(\eta))_{ij} = \exp(-\frac{1}{2} \delta\tau (H_0)_i) \left( \exp(i\sqrt{\delta\tau} \eta_{\alpha} A_{\alpha}) \right)_{ij} \exp(-\frac{1}{2} \delta\tau (H_0)_j)$$

**DYNAMICAL CORRELATIONS**

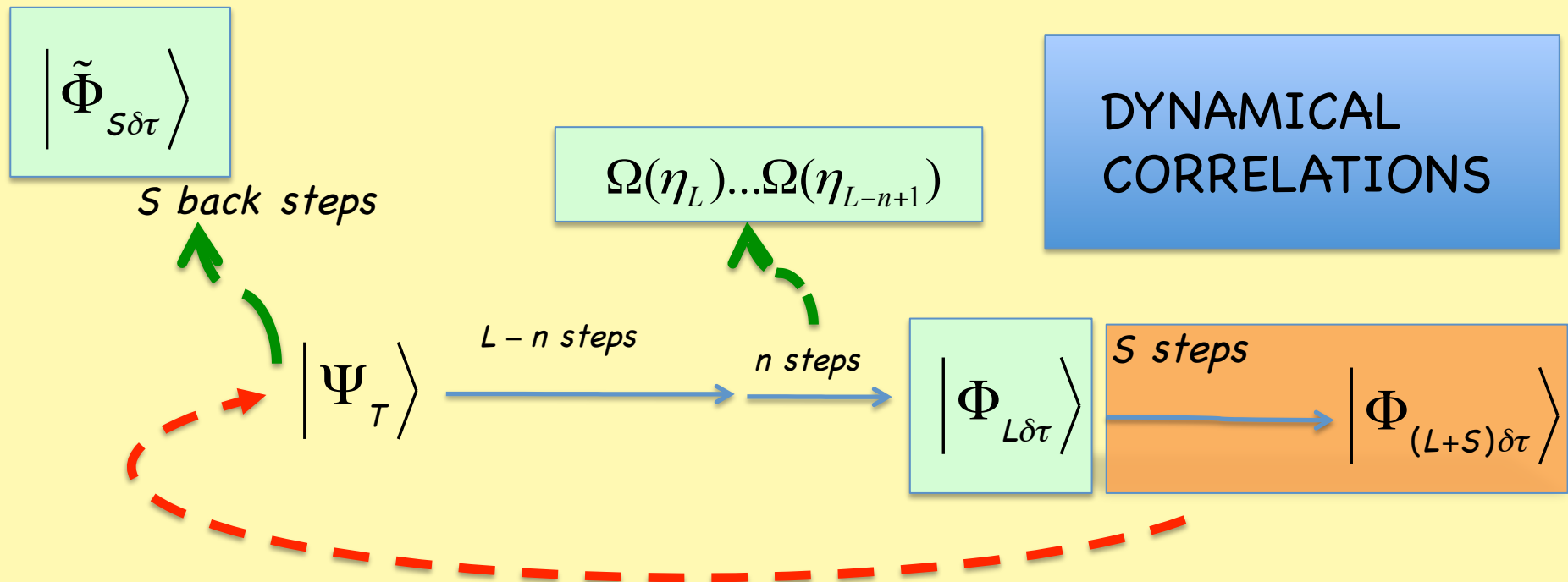
$$G(\eta_n) \dots G(\eta_1) a_i^\dagger a_j =$$

$$\sum_{kl} \left[ \Omega(\eta_n) \dots \Omega(\eta_1) \right]_{ki}^{-1} a_k^\dagger a_l \left[ \Omega(\eta_n) \dots \Omega(\eta_1) \right]_{jl} G(\eta_n) \dots G(\eta_1)$$

$$f_A(n\delta\tau) \approx \frac{\langle \Psi_T | U(S\delta\tau) A U(n\delta\tau) A^\dagger U((L-n)\delta\tau) | \Psi_0 \rangle}{\langle \Psi_T | U((S+L-n)\delta\tau) | \Psi_T \rangle} \approx$$

$$\frac{\sum_{w=1}^{N_W} w_{(L+S)\delta\tau}^w \sum_{kl=1}^M \frac{\langle \tilde{\Phi}_{S\delta\tau}^w | A a_k^\dagger a_l | \Phi_{L\delta\tau}^w \rangle}{\langle \tilde{\Phi}_{S\delta\tau}^w | \Phi_{L\delta\tau}^w \rangle} \left[ \left[ \Omega(\eta_L) \dots \Omega(\eta_{L-n+1}) \right]^{-1} A^\dagger \Omega(\eta_L) \dots \Omega(\eta_{L-n+1}) \right]_{kl}}{\sum_{w=1}^{N_W} w_{(L+S-n)\delta\tau}^w}$$

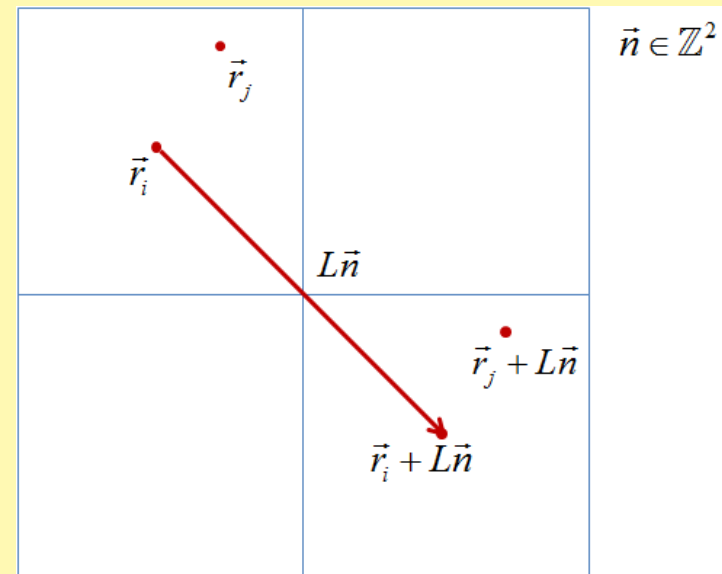
$$\sum_{w=1}^{N_W} w_{(L+S-n)\delta\tau}^w$$



# The algorithm at work ...

A test case .... The 2D Jellium model

$N$   $\frac{1}{2}$ -spin fermions interacting via an  $1/r$  pair potential:  
Electrons in a uniform background of positive charges, moving inside a 2D box of surface  $V$ , in periodic boundary conditions



$$H = \sum_{k\sigma} \frac{|k|^2}{2} a_{k\sigma}^+ a_{k\sigma} + \frac{N}{2} \xi + \frac{1}{2V} \sum_{kk'pp'\sigma\sigma'} \delta_{p-k, k'-p'} \phi_{k-p} a_{k\sigma}^+ a_{k'\sigma'}^+ a_{p'\sigma'} a_{p\sigma}$$

$$\phi_q = \begin{cases} 0 & q = 0 \\ \frac{2\pi}{|q|} & q \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

Coulomb potential

$$\xi = \frac{1}{L} \left[ \sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{\text{erfc}(\pi |n| / \alpha)}{|n|} + \frac{\text{erfc}(\alpha |n|)}{|n|} - \frac{2\alpha}{\sqrt{\pi}} - \frac{2\sqrt{\pi}}{\alpha} \right]$$

Ewald constant

2D JELLIUM

Energy in Hartree, length in Bohr radius units.

$$H = \sum_{\vec{k} \in B_K} \sum_{\sigma=\uparrow,\downarrow} \left( \frac{|\vec{k}|^2}{2} + \mu_{\vec{k}} \right) a_{\vec{k},\sigma}^+ a_{\vec{k},\sigma} + \frac{N}{2} \xi + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\vec{q} \in B_Q} \left( A_{1,\vec{q}}^2 + A_{2,\vec{q}}^2 \right)$$

Cutoff in Kinetic energy

$$\mu_{\vec{k}} = \frac{1}{2V} \sum_p \phi_{\vec{k}-p}$$

Transferred wave vectors

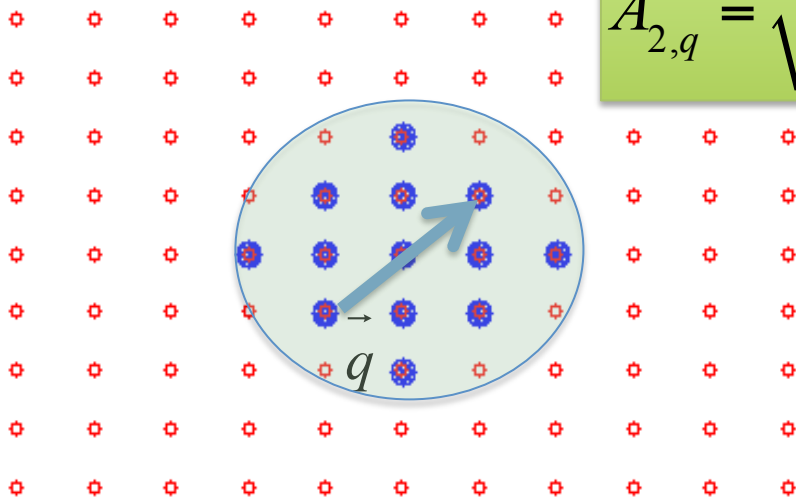
$$\rho_{\vec{q}} = \sum_{\vec{p},\sigma} a_{\vec{p}-\vec{q},\sigma}^+ a_{\vec{p},\sigma}$$

density fluctuation

$$A_{1,\vec{q}} = \sqrt{\frac{\phi_{\vec{q}}}{4V}} (\rho_{\vec{q}} + \rho_{-\vec{q}})$$

$$A_{2,\vec{q}} = \sqrt{\frac{\phi_{\vec{q}}}{4V}} (i\rho_{\vec{q}} - i\rho_{-\vec{q}})$$

2D JELLIUM





$$F(q, \tau) = \langle \Psi_0 | \rho_q U(\tau) \rho_{-q} | \Psi_0 \rangle$$

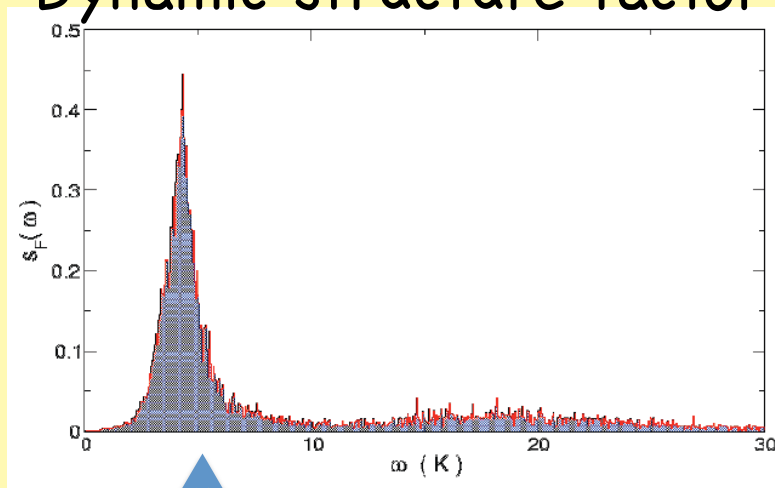
$$\rho_q = \sum_{k\sigma} a_{p-q\sigma}^+ a_{p\sigma}$$

$$F(q, \tau) = \int_0^\infty e^{-\tau\omega} S(q, \omega)$$

$$\int_0^\infty d\tau F(q, \tau) \propto \chi(q)$$

Density response function

Dynamic structure factor



$\omega(q)$

Excitation spectrum of the system

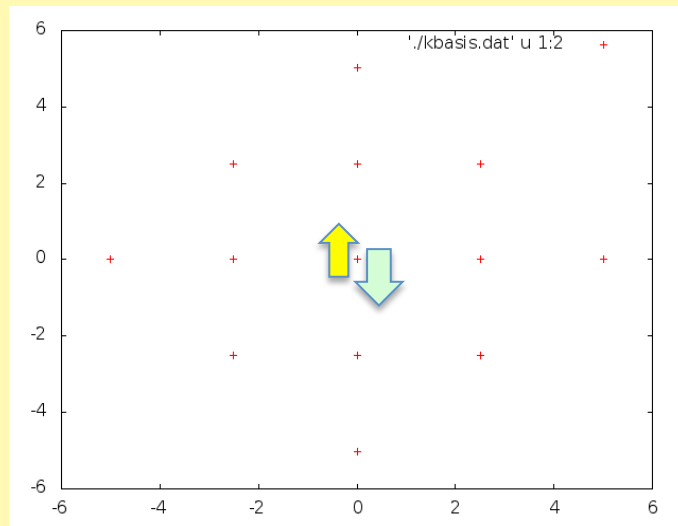
2D JELLIUM:  
DENSITY-DENSITY  
CORRELATION  
FUNCTION

# The algorithm at work ...

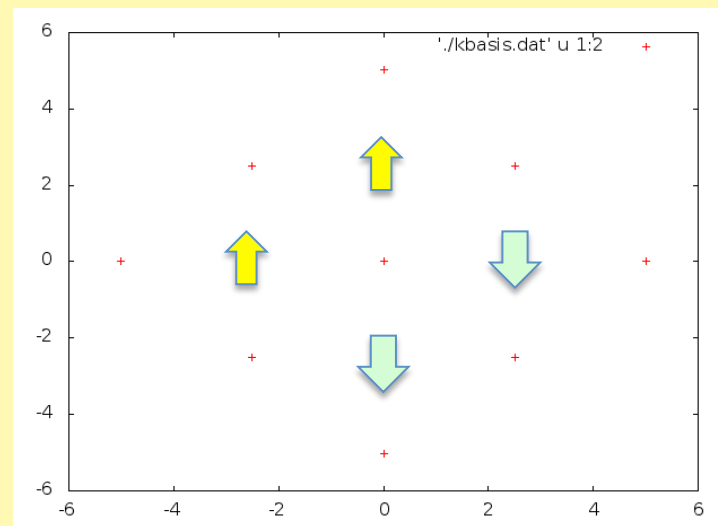
Simple situations: comparison  
between AFQMC and exact  
solutions

$N = 2$  electrons, “small” numbers of  
plane waves

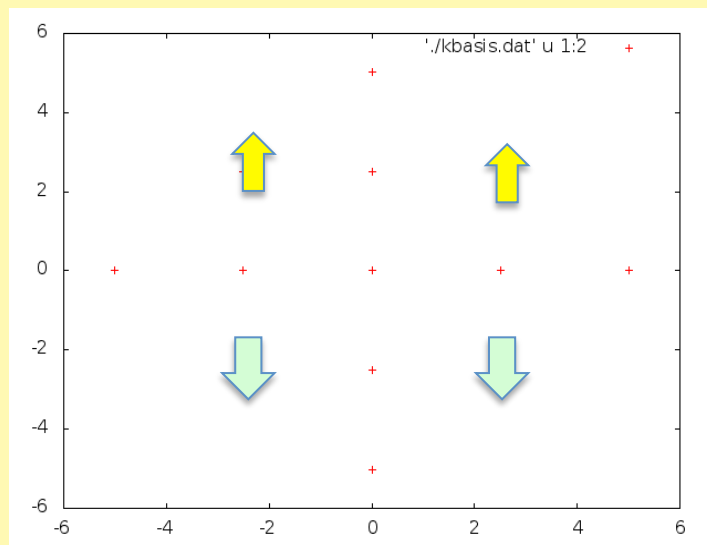
$$|\Psi_0\rangle = \alpha$$



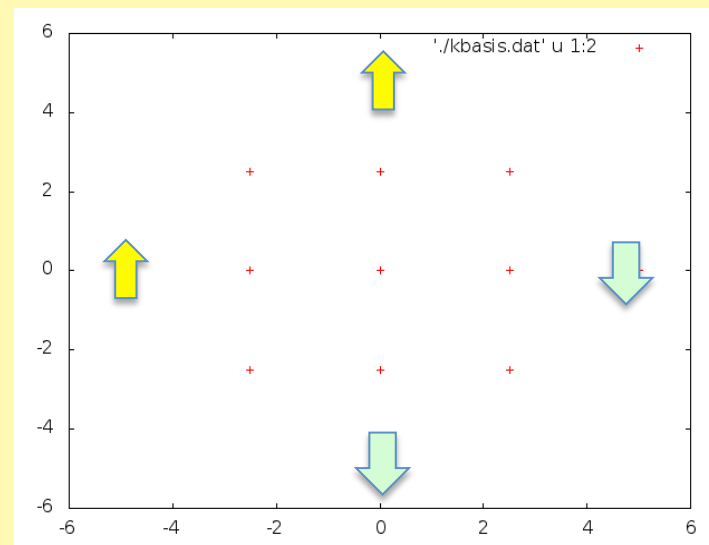
$+\beta$



$+\gamma$



$+\delta$

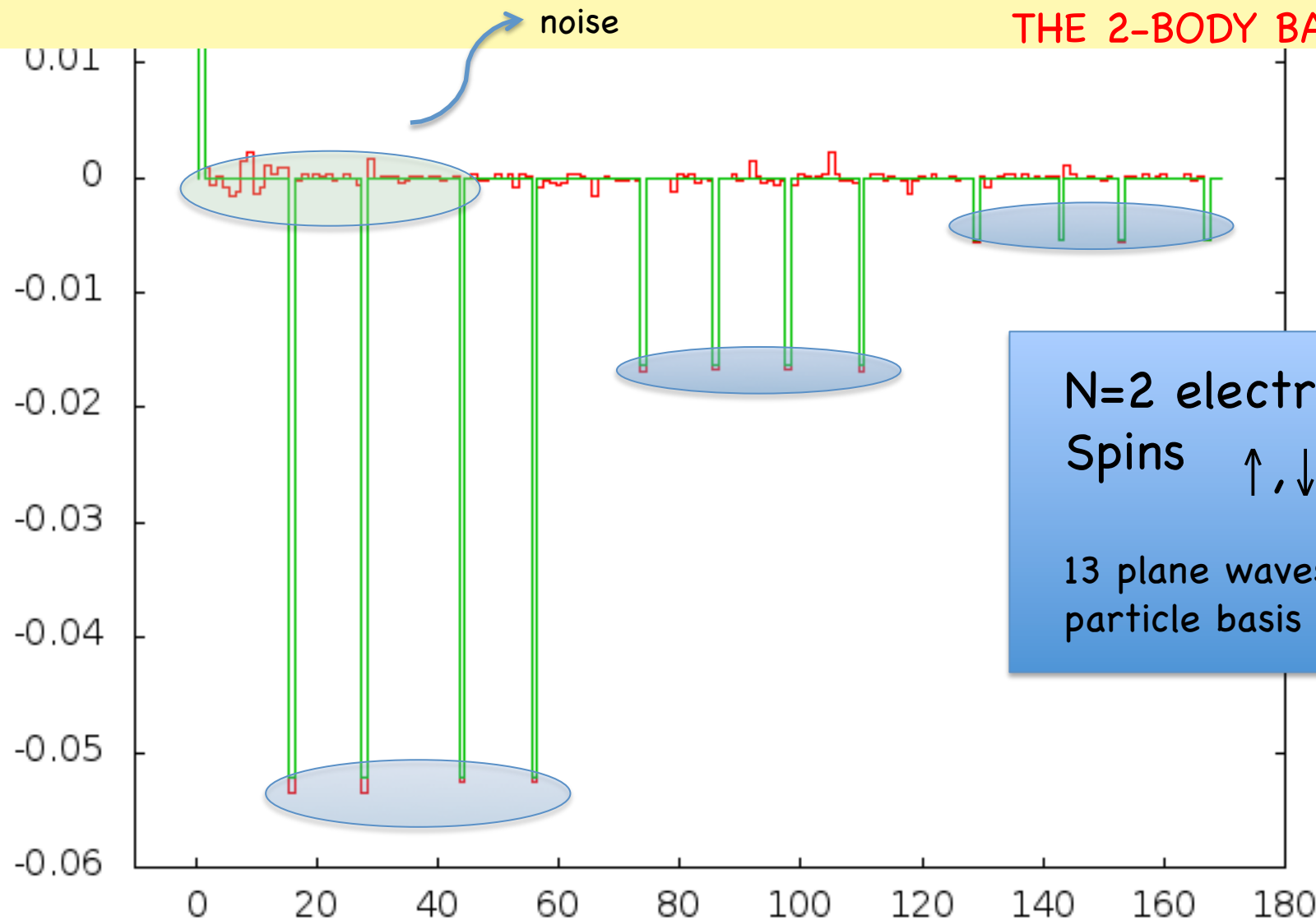


$$\alpha \approx 0.994 \quad \beta \approx -0.052 \quad \gamma \approx -0.016 \quad \delta \approx -0.005$$

$$|\Psi_0\rangle \approx \frac{1}{N_W} \sum_{w=1}^{N_W} w_{L\delta\tau}^w \frac{|\Phi_{L\delta\tau}^w\rangle}{\langle \Psi_T | \Phi_{L\delta\tau}^w \rangle}$$

$$\langle i_1 \uparrow, i_2 \downarrow | \Psi_0 \rangle$$

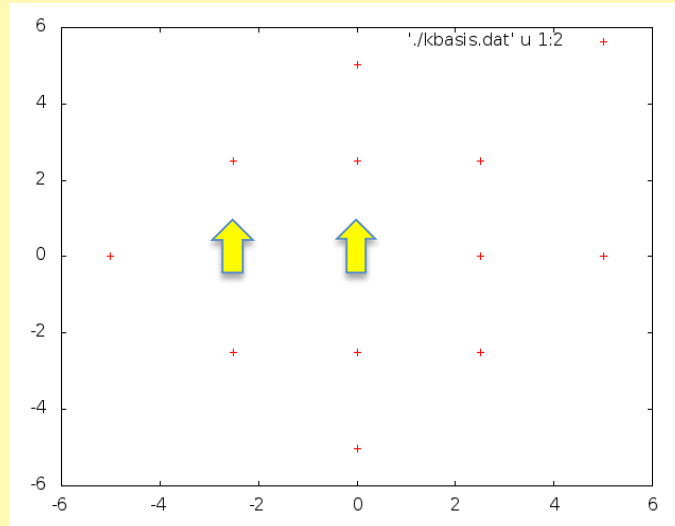
COMPONENTS OF THE  
GROUND STATE ON  
THE 2-BODY BASIS



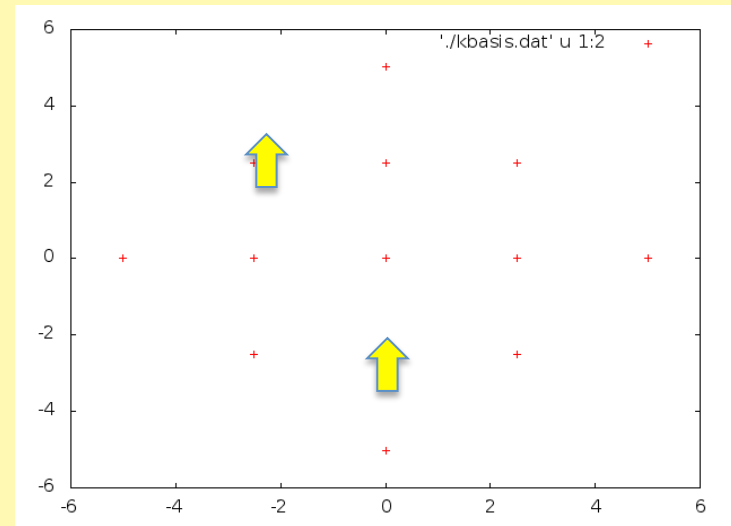
N=2 electrons, rs=1  
Spins  $\uparrow, \downarrow$

13 plane waves as one  
particle basis

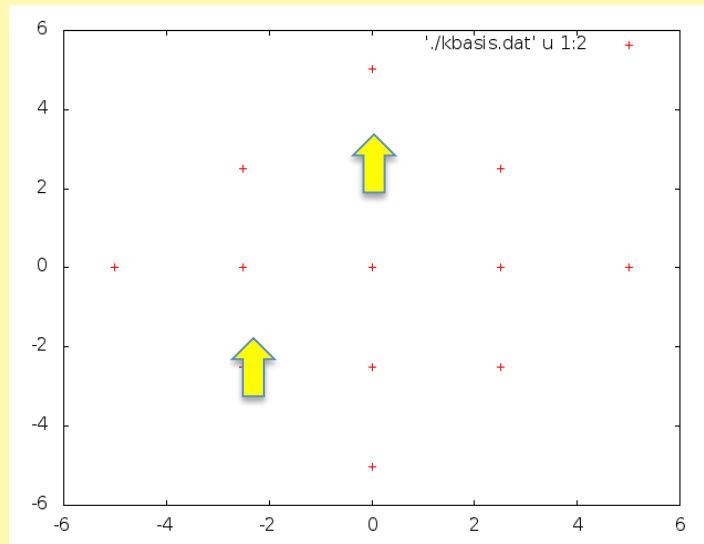
$$\left| \Psi_0^{(\vec{q})} \right\rangle = \alpha$$



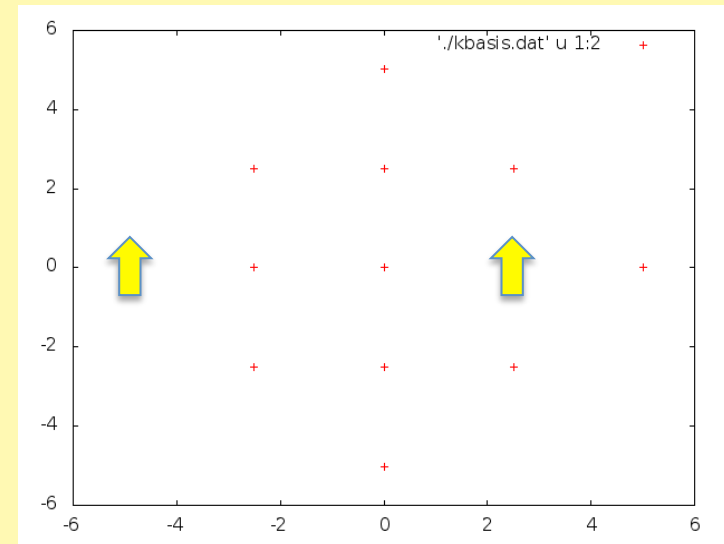
$+\beta$



$+\gamma$



$+\delta$



$$\alpha \approx 0.999$$

$$\beta \approx -0.018$$

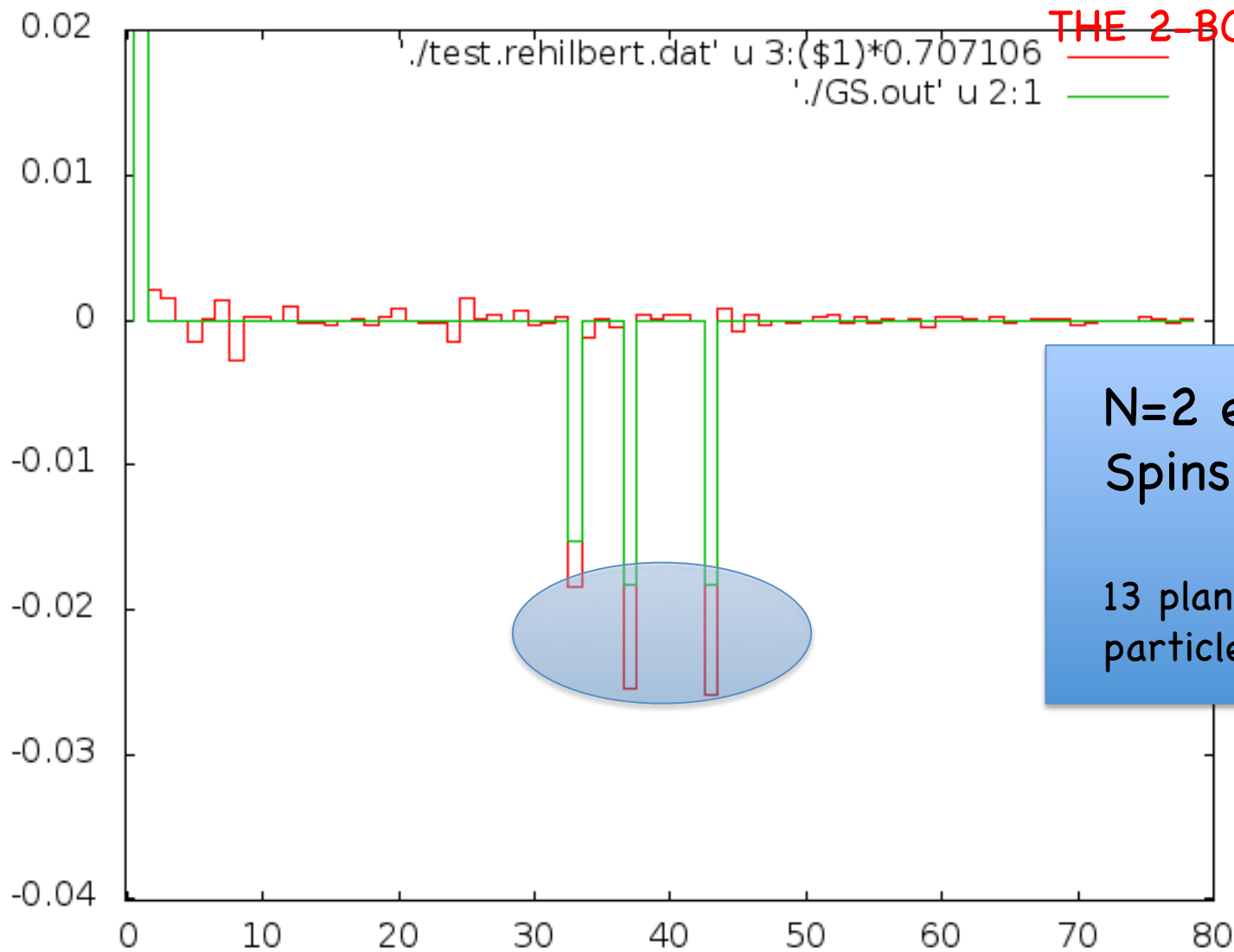
$$\gamma \approx -0.018$$

$$\delta \approx -0.015$$

$$|\Psi_0\rangle \approx \frac{1}{N_W} \sum_{w=1}^{N_W} w_{L\delta\tau}^w \frac{|\Phi_{L\delta\tau}^w\rangle}{\langle \Psi_T | \Phi_{L\delta\tau}^w \rangle}$$

$$\langle i_1 \uparrow, i_2 \uparrow | \Psi_0 \rangle$$

COMPONENTS OF THE  
GROUND STATE ON  
THE 2-BODY BASIS



N=2 electrons, rs=1  
Spins  $\uparrow, \uparrow$

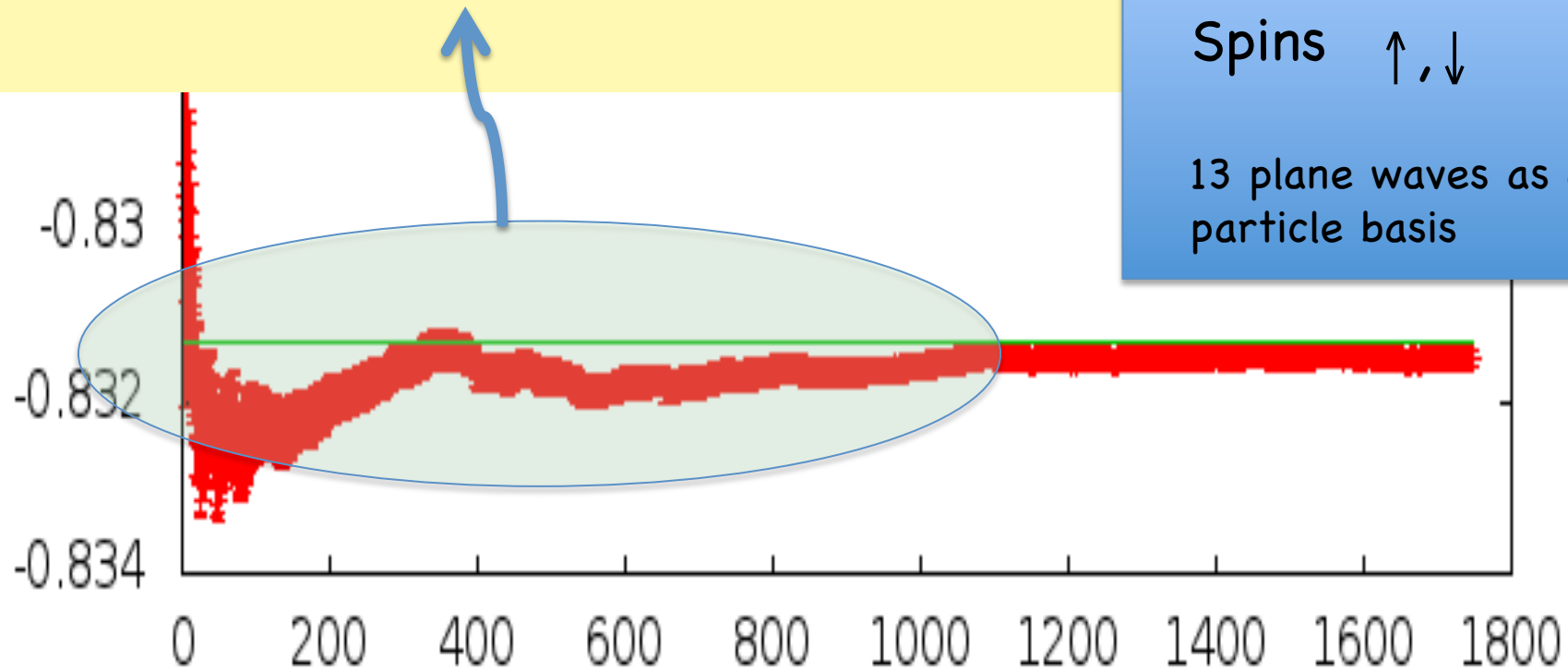
13 plane waves as one  
particle basis

$$|\Psi_0\rangle \approx \frac{1}{N_W} \sum_{w=1}^{N_W} w_{L\delta\tau}^w \frac{|\Phi_{L\delta\tau}^w\rangle}{\langle \Psi_T | \Phi_{L\delta\tau}^w \rangle}$$

$$\frac{\langle \Psi_T | H | \Psi_0 \rangle}{\langle \Psi_T | \Psi_0 \rangle}$$

MIXED ESTIMATION  
OF THE TOTAL ENERGY

equilibration



N=2 electrons, rs=1  
Spins  $\uparrow, \downarrow$

13 plane waves as one  
particle basis

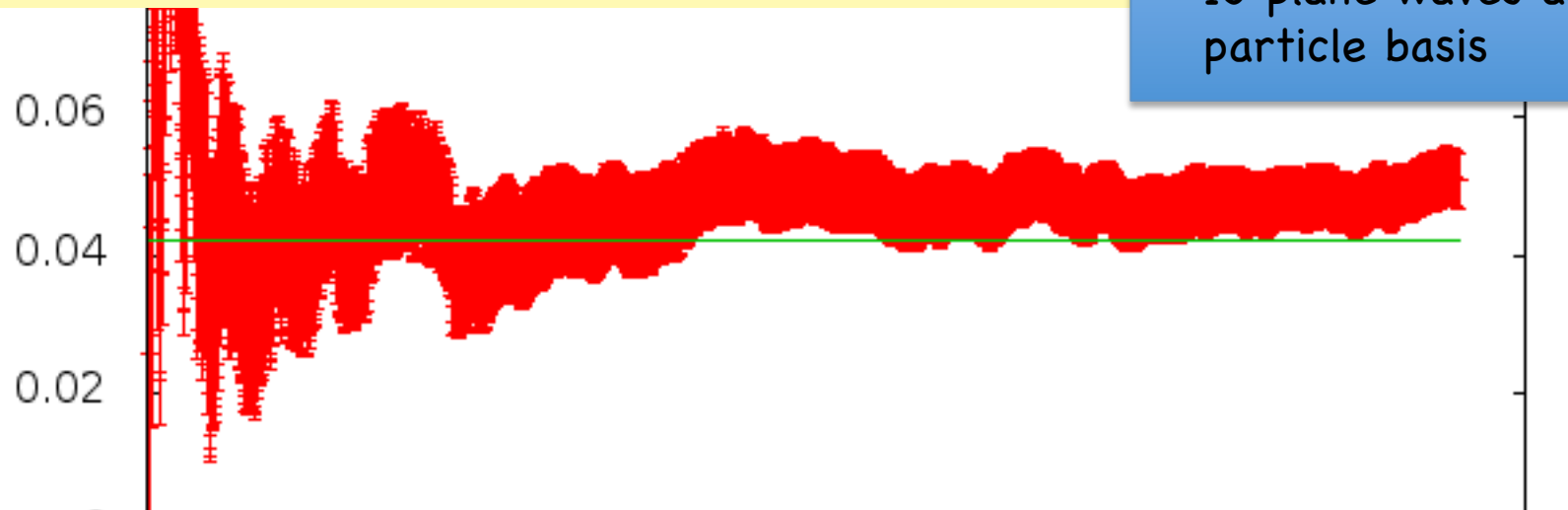
$$|\Psi_0\rangle \approx \frac{1}{N_W} \sum_{w=1}^{N_W} w_{L\delta\tau}^w \frac{|\Phi_{L\delta\tau}^w\rangle}{\langle \Psi_T | \Phi_{L\delta\tau}^w \rangle}$$

$$\frac{\langle \Psi_0 | \tau | \Psi_0 \rangle}{\langle \Psi_0 | \Psi_0 \rangle}$$

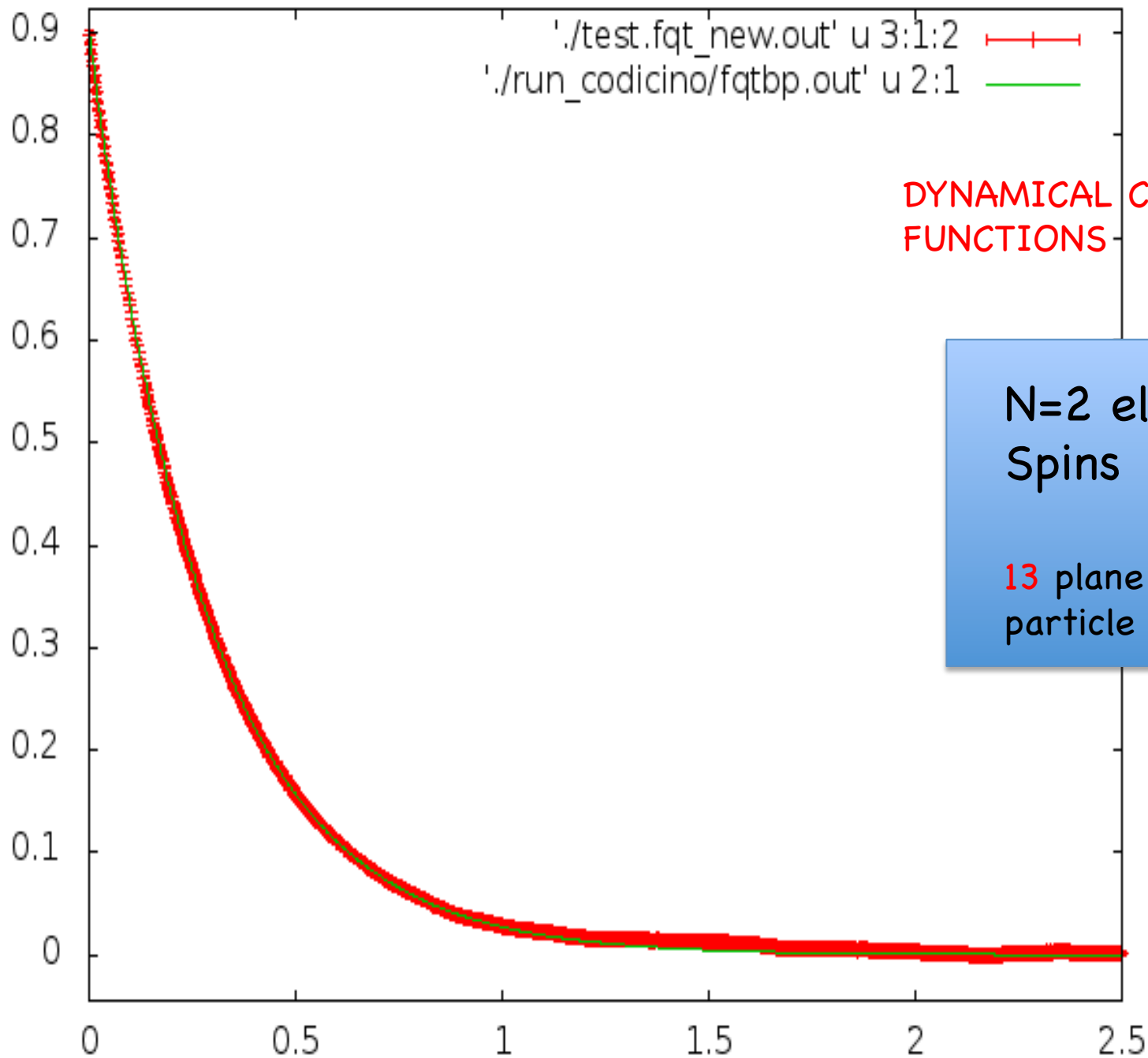
BACK-PROPAGATED ESTIMATION  
OF THE TOTAL ENERGY

N=2 electrons, rs=1  
Spins  $\uparrow, \downarrow$

13 plane waves as one  
particle basis





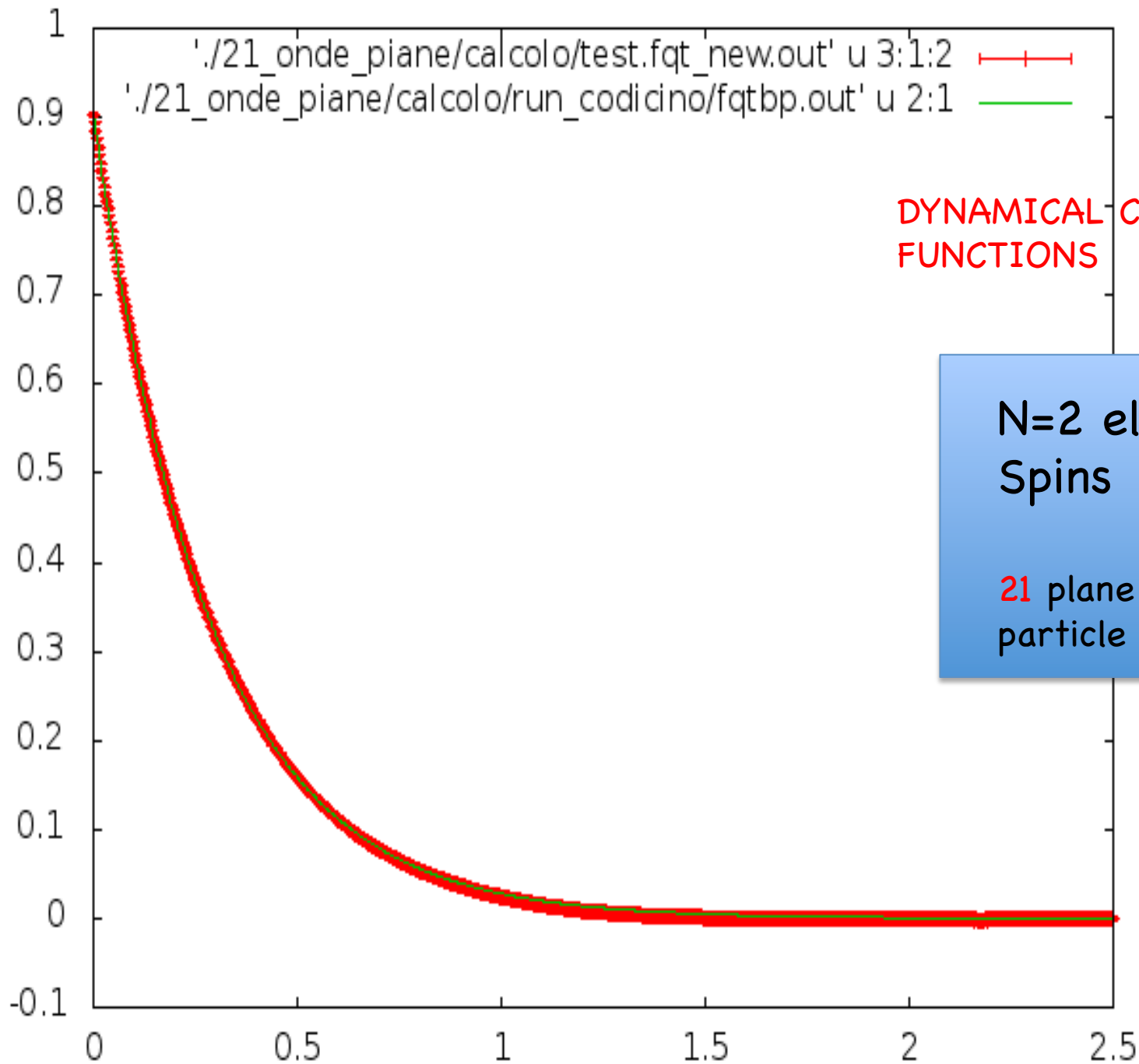


$F(q, \tau)$

DYNAMICAL CORRELATION  
FUNCTIONS

N=2 electrons,  $r_s=1$   
Spins  $\uparrow, \downarrow$   
13 plane waves as one  
particle basis

$qa_0 = 2.507$



$F(q, \tau)$

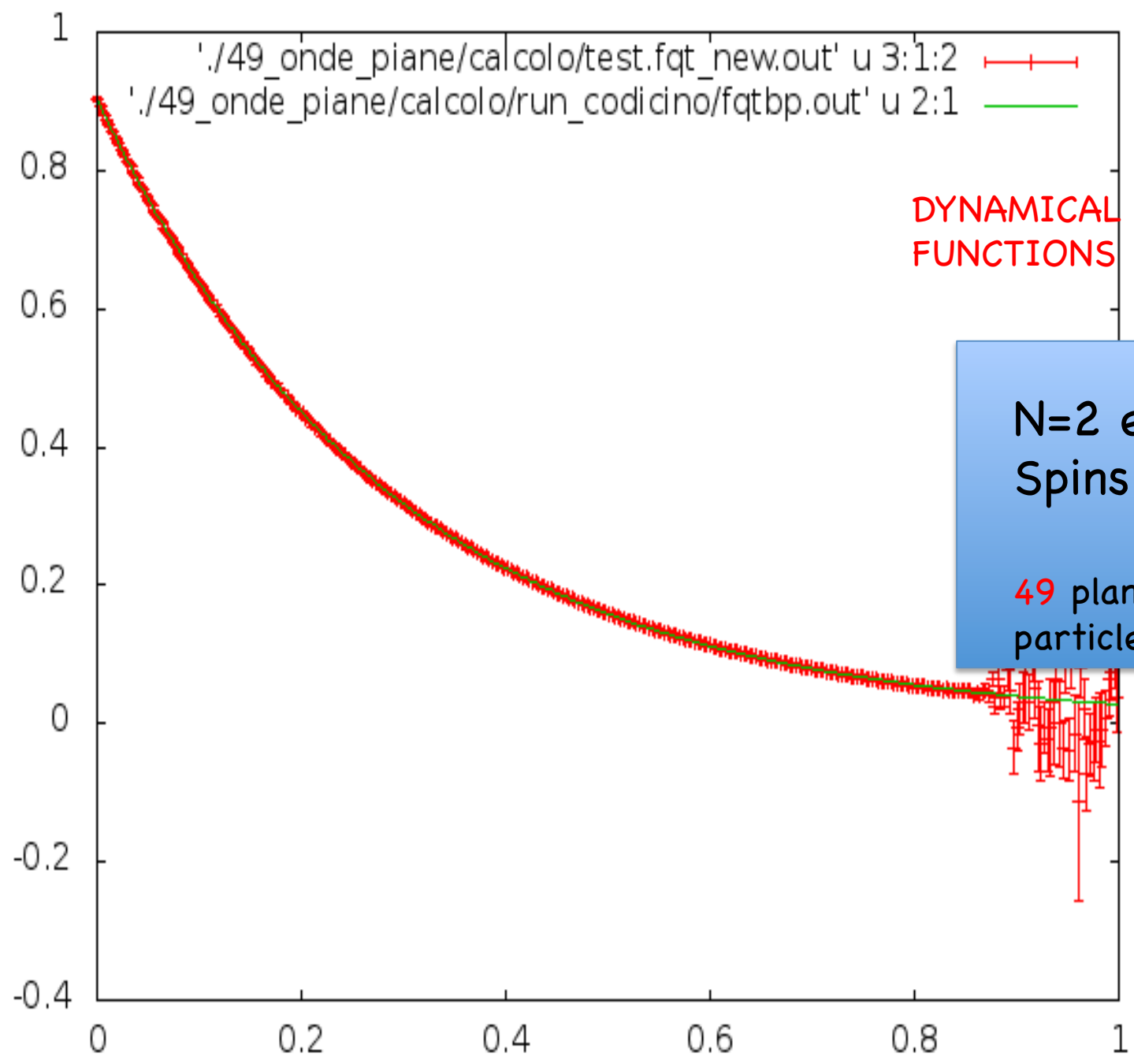
DYNAMICAL CORRELATION  
FUNCTIONS

N=2 electrons,  $r_s=1$   
Spins  $\uparrow, \downarrow$

21 plane waves as one  
particle basis

$qa_0 = 2.507$

$$F(q, \tau)$$



DYNAMICAL CORRELATION FUNCTIONS

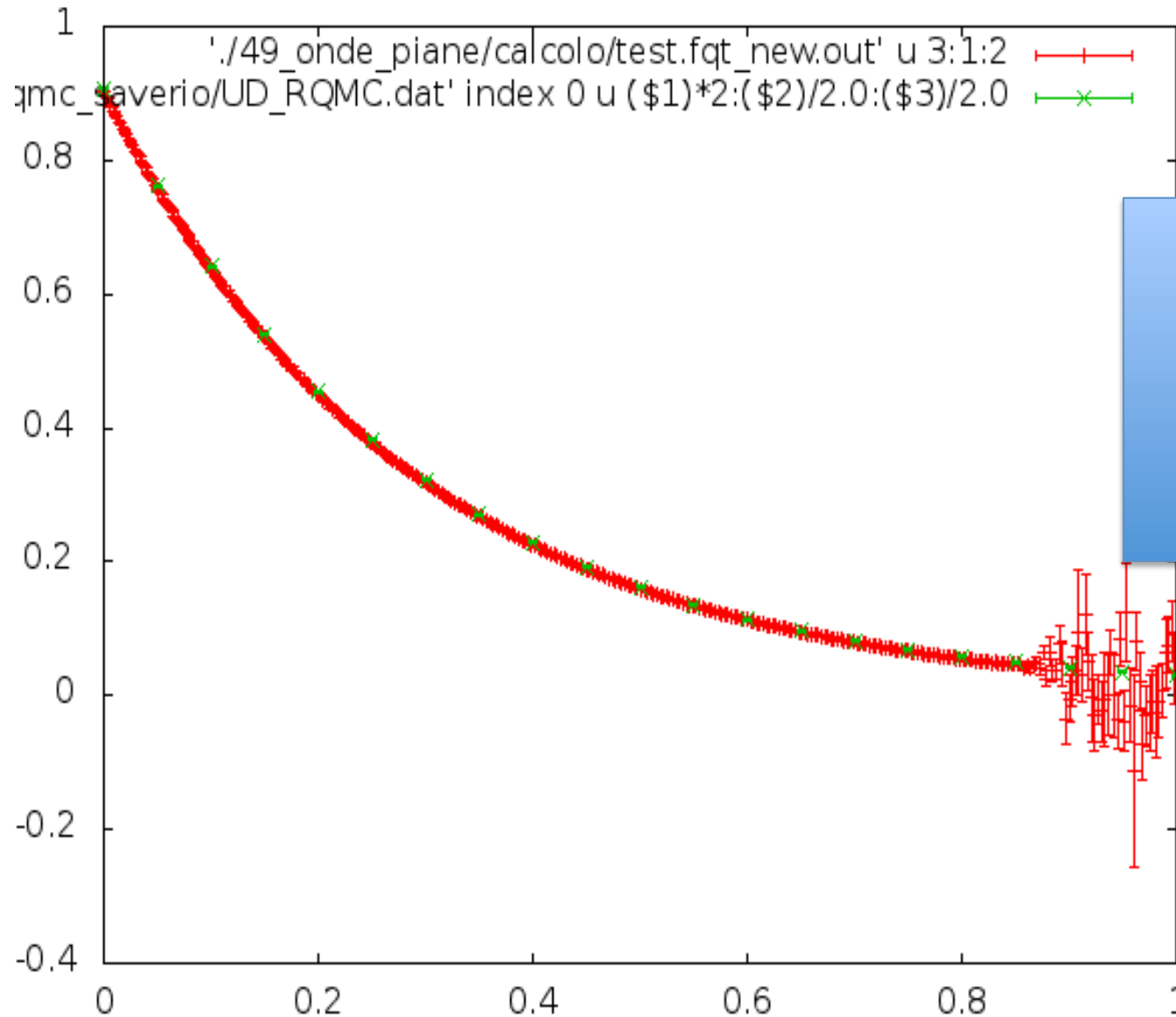
N=2 electrons,  $r_s=1$   
Spins  $\uparrow, \downarrow$   
49 plane waves as one particle basis

$$qa_0 = 2.507$$

# AFQMC vs PIGS

## DYNAMICAL CORRELATION FUNCTIONS

$$F(q, \tau)$$

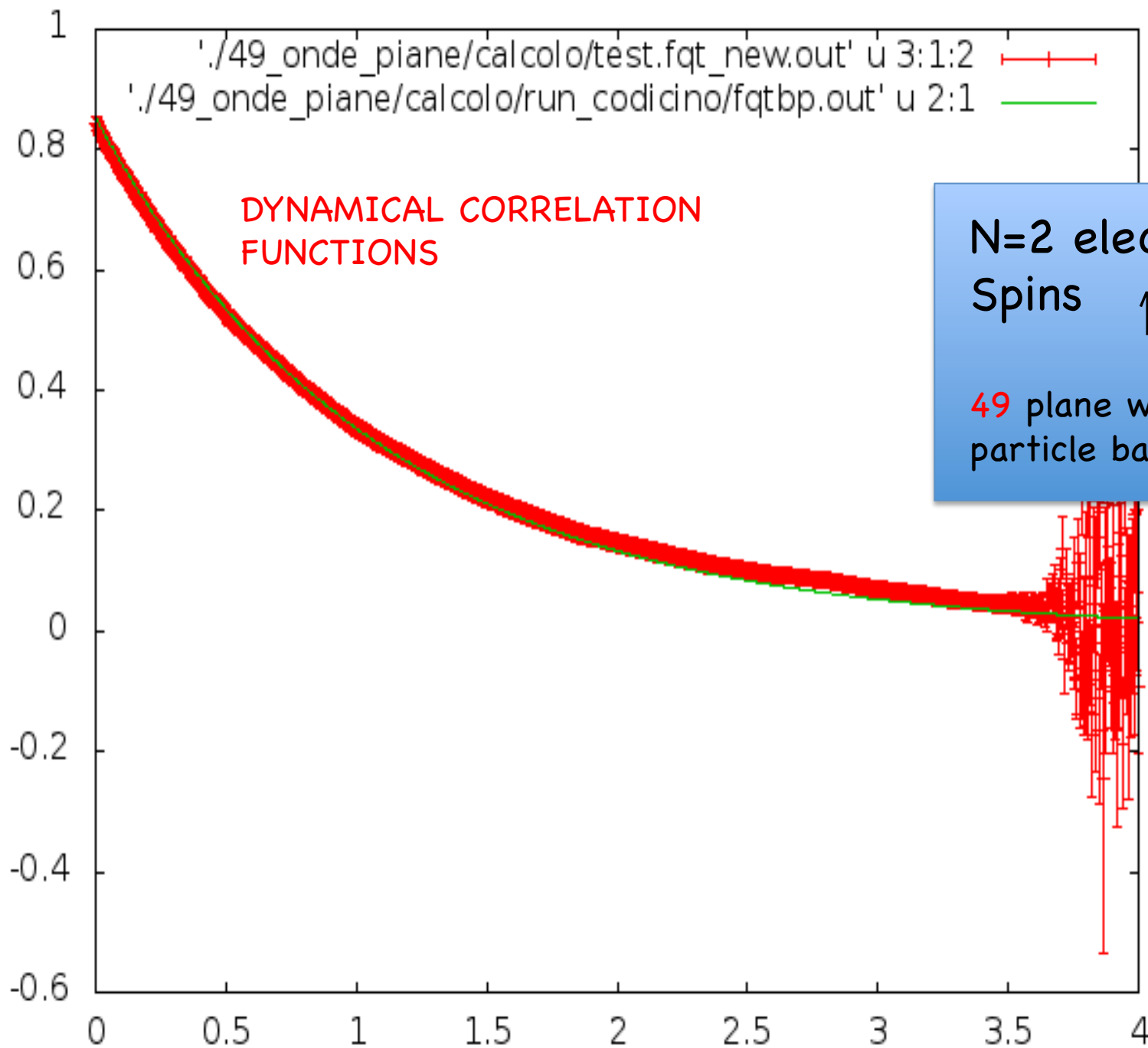


N=2 electrons,  $r_s=1$   
Spins  $\uparrow, \downarrow$

49 plane waves as one  
particle basis

$$qa_0 = 2.507$$

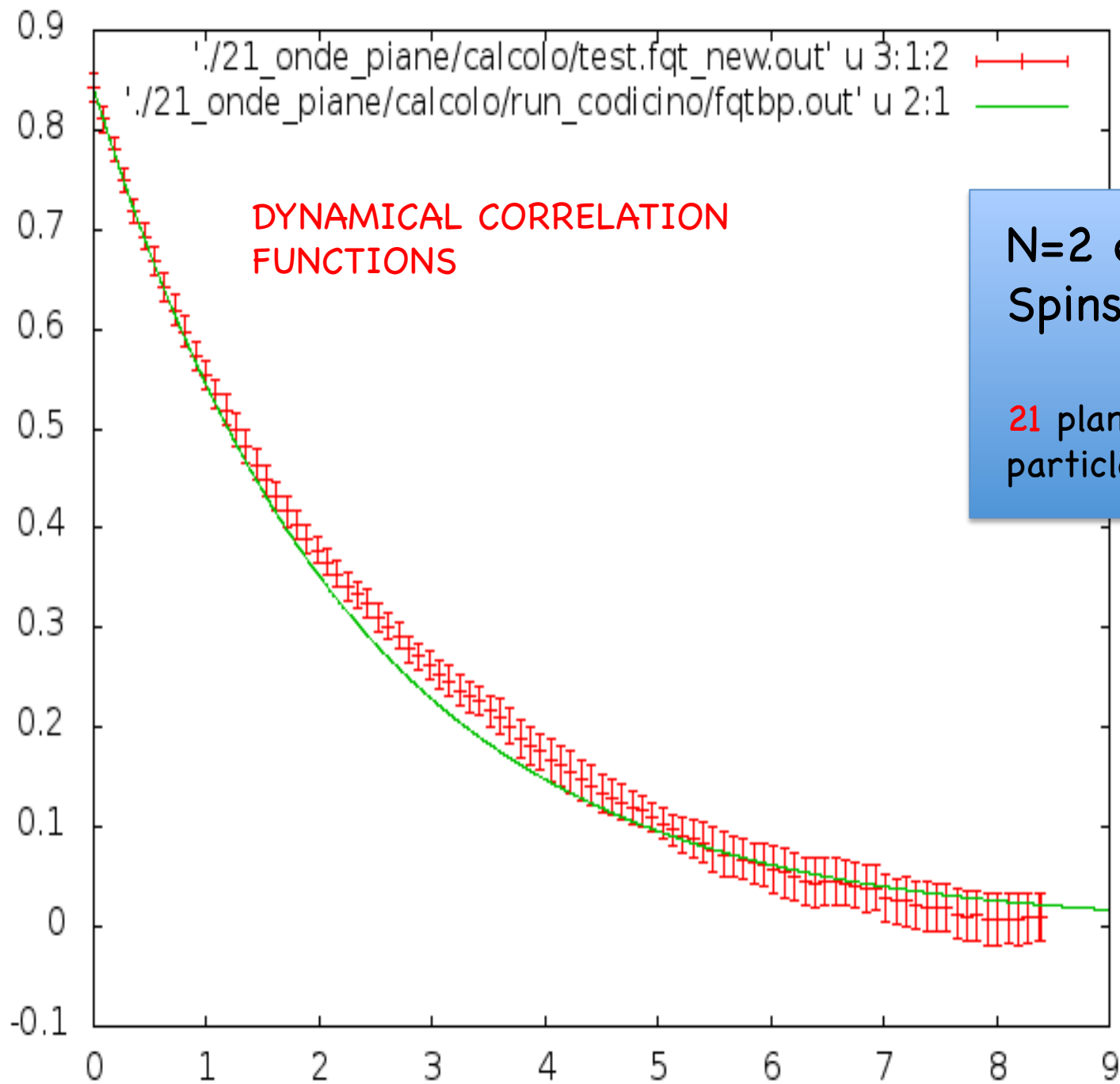
$F(q, \tau)$



N=2 electrons,  $r_s=2$   
Spins  $\uparrow, \downarrow$

49 plane waves as one  
particle basis

$qa_0 = 1.2533$

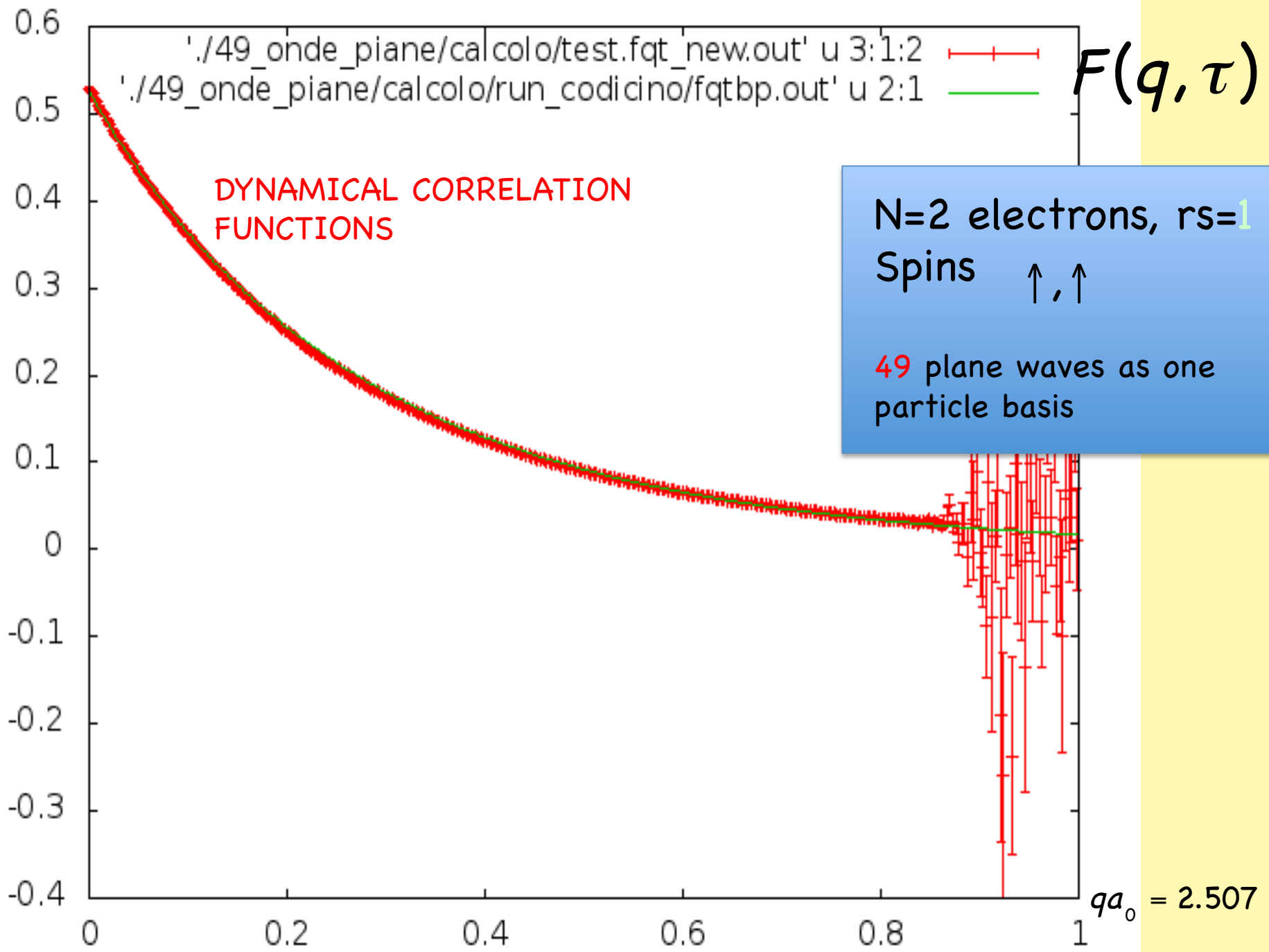


$$F(q, \tau)$$

N=2 electrons,  $r_s=3$   
 Spins  $\uparrow, \downarrow$

21 plane waves as one  
 particle basis

$$qa_0 = 0.8355$$



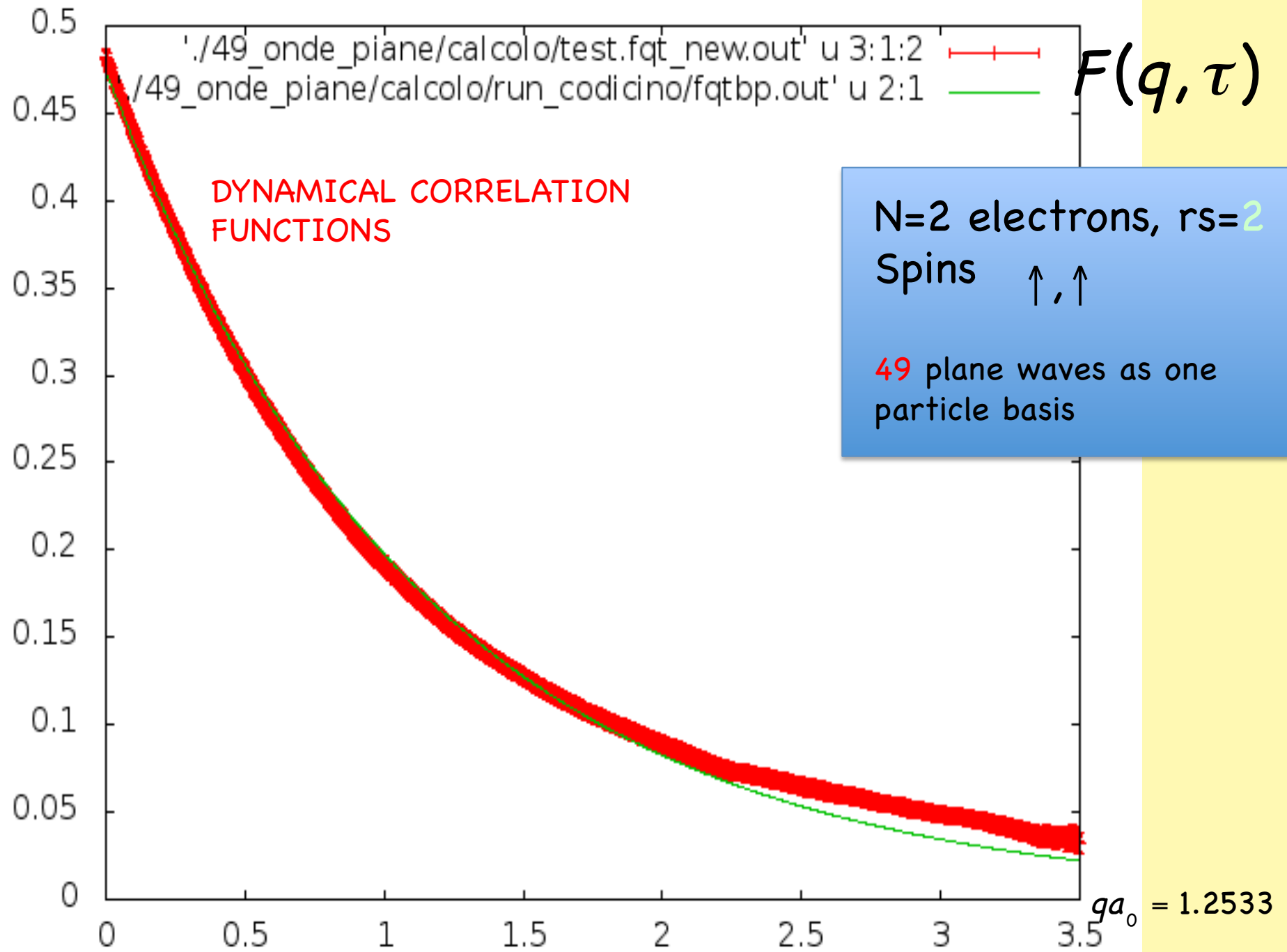
`./49_onda_piane/calcolo/test.fqt_new.out` u 3:1:2  
`./49_onda_piane/calcolo/run_codicino/fqtbp.out` u 2:1

$F(q, \tau)$

DYNAMICAL CORRELATION  
FUNCTIONS

N=2 electrons,  $r_s=1$   
Spins  $\uparrow, \uparrow$   
49 plane waves as one  
particle basis

$qa_0 = 2.507$



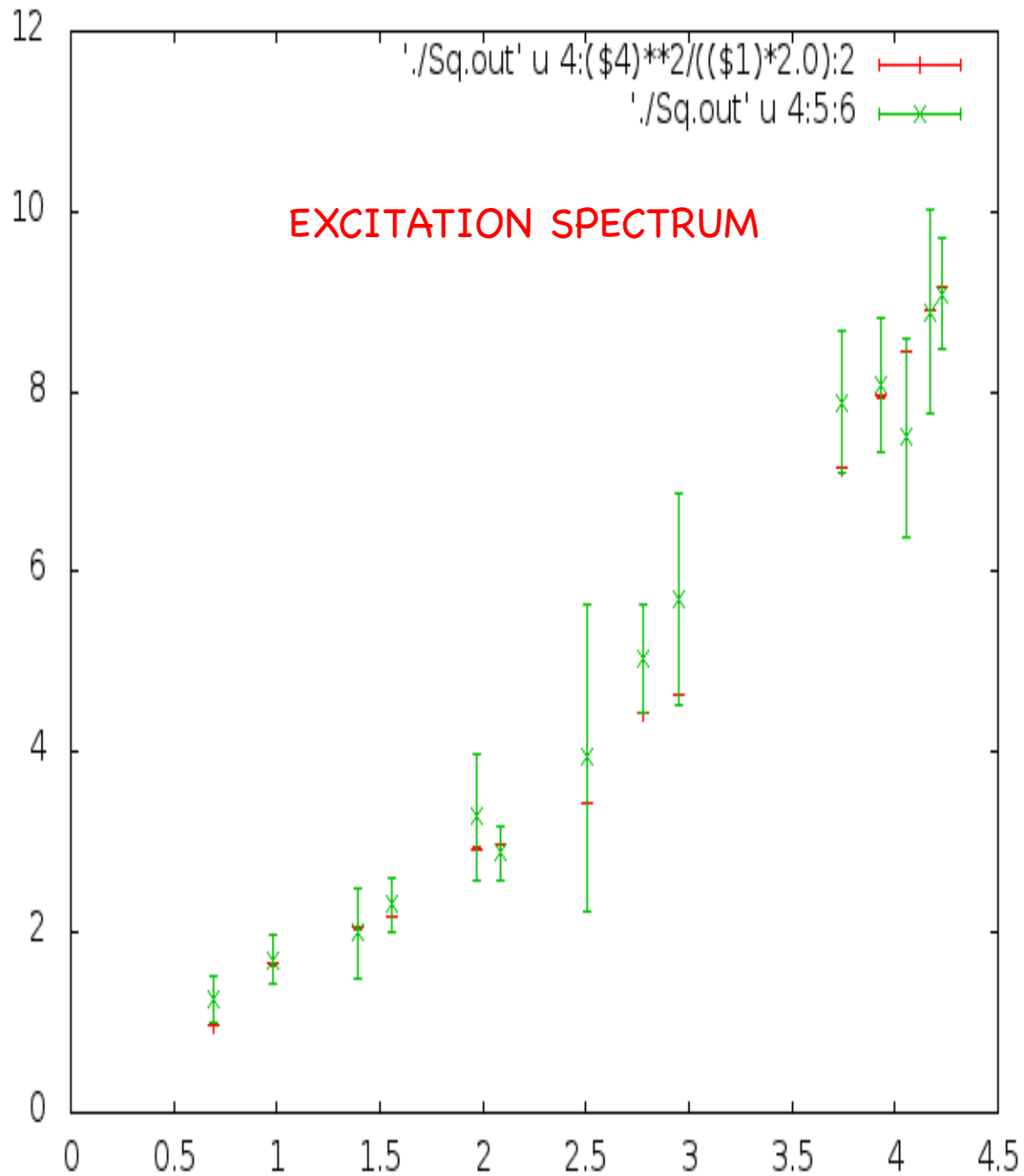


The algorithm at work ...

A test case ... The 2D Jellium model

$N = 26$  electrons,  $r_s = 1$

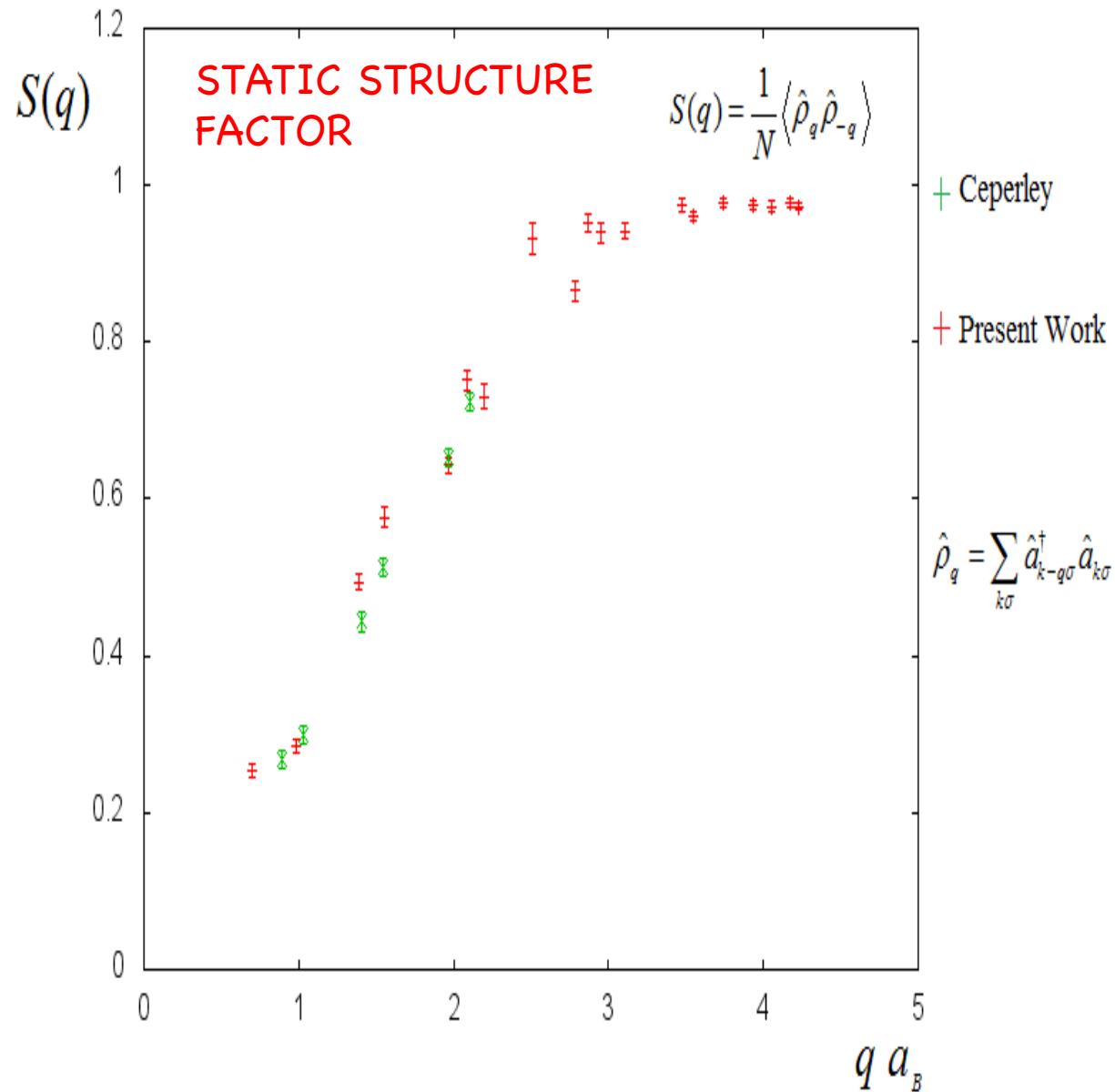
$$\omega(q)$$



N=26 electrons,  $r_s=1$   
paramagnetic

213 plane waves as one  
particle basis

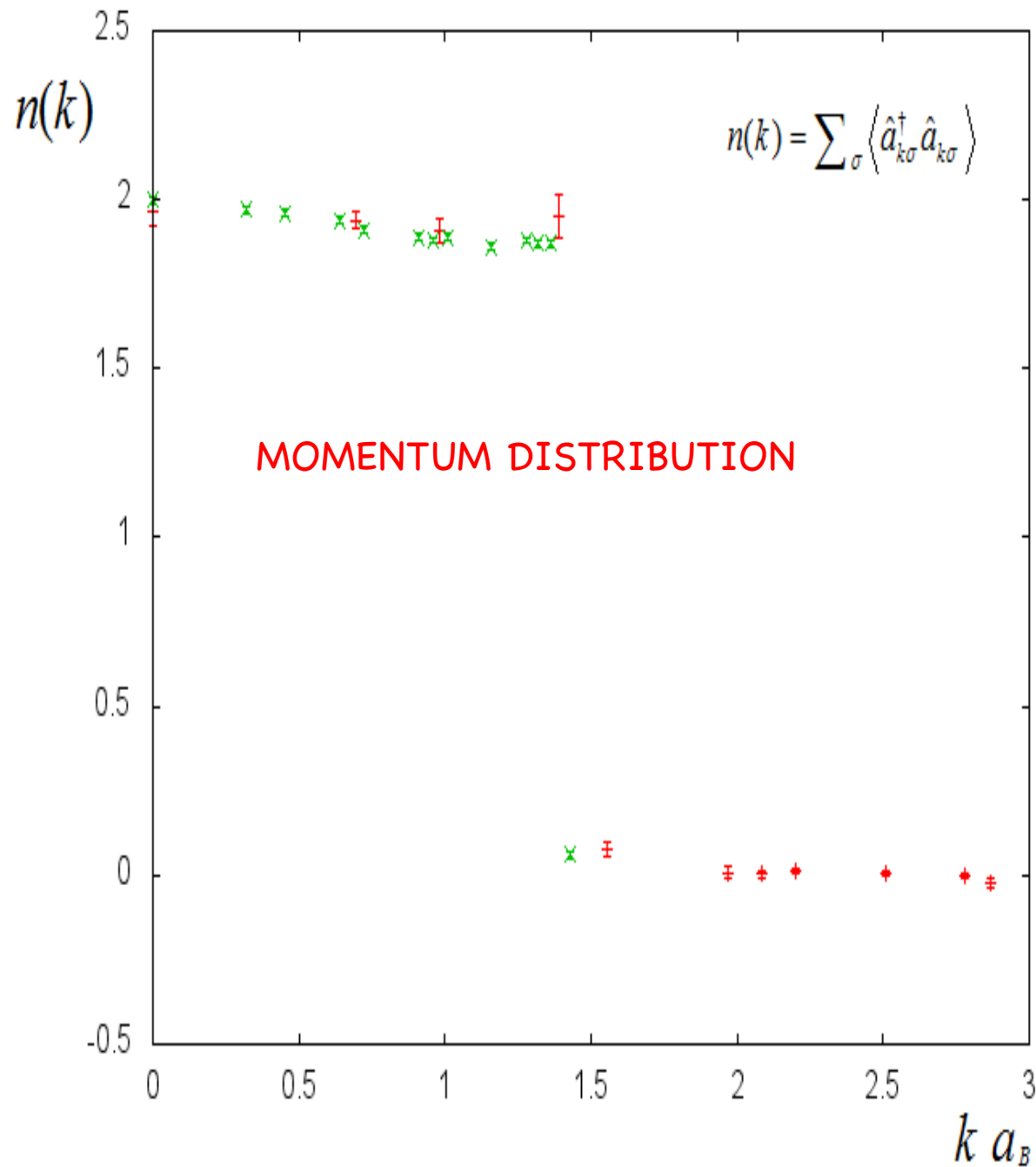
# $S(q)$



N=26 electrons,  $r_s=1$   
paramagnetic

213 plane waves as one  
particle basis

B. Tanatar and D. M. Ceperley  
PRB 39, 5005 (1989).



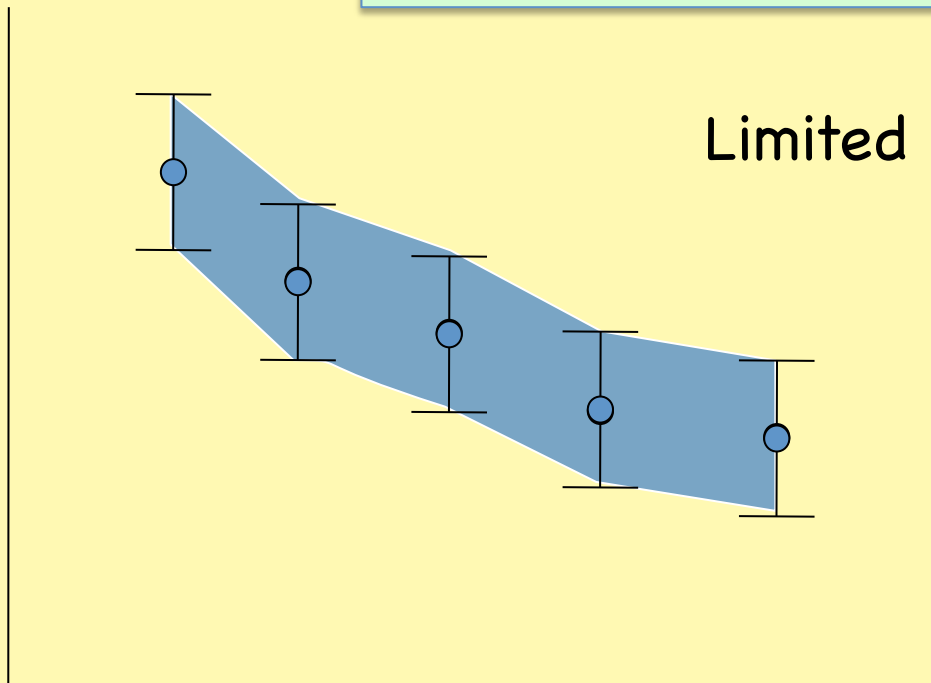
$n(k)$

N=26 electrons,  $r_s=1$   
paramagnetic

213 plane waves as one  
particle basis

B. Tanatar and D. M. Ceperley  
PRB 39, 5005 (1989).

$$f(\tau) = \int_0^{+\infty} d\omega \exp(-\tau\omega) s(\omega)$$



Limited and noisy data for f:

$f_1, \dots, f_L$

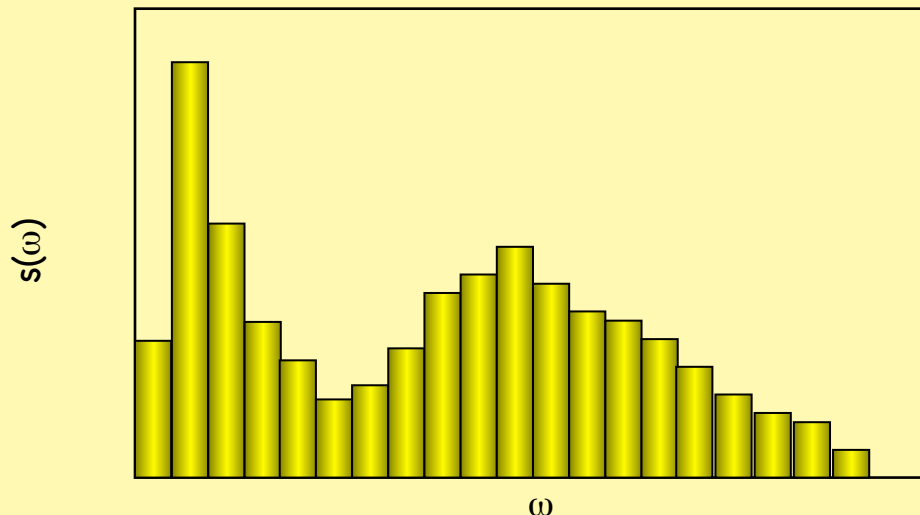
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via FALSIFICATION  
of THEORIES

How much information can we  
extract about s?

$$s(\omega) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_\omega} \frac{s_i}{M \Delta\omega} \underbrace{\chi_{[\omega_i, \omega_{i+1}]}(\omega)}_{\text{characteristic function}}$$

$$s_i \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$$

$$\int_0^{+\infty} d\omega s(\omega) = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^{N_\omega} s_i = 1$$



## SPACE OF MODELS

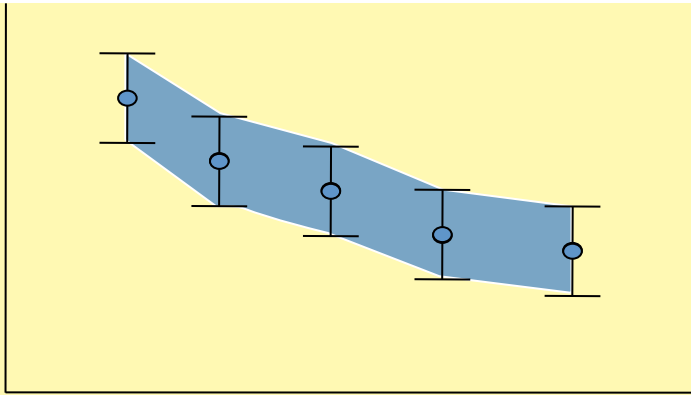
Sometimes some a priori knowledge is available ... e.g.

$$s(\omega) \geq 0, \quad \int_0^{+\infty} d\omega s(\omega) = 1,$$

$$\int_0^{+\infty} d\omega \omega^n s(\omega) = c_n$$

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**I**NVERSION  
via **F**ALSIFICATION  
of **T**HEORIES

## HOW GOOD IS A MODEL?



the “fitness” of one particular  $s(\omega)$  should be based on the noisy ‘measured’ set  $\{f_i\}$ .

Any set  $\{f_i^*\}$  compatible with  $\{f_i\}$  provides equivalent information to build a “fitness” function:

$$\varphi = -\alpha \sum_l \left[ f_l^* - \int_0^{+\infty} d\omega e^{-\omega\tau_l} s(\omega) \right]^2 - \sum_n \gamma_n \left[ c_n^* - \int_0^{+\infty} d\omega \omega^n s(\omega) \right]^2$$

adjustable parameters to make the two contributions of the same order of magnitude

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For each "realization"  $f^*$  .....

# GENETIC DYNAMICS

initial population: we construct a random collection of  $N \gg 1$  models  $s(\omega)$

generation: we replace the population with a new one in order to reach high fitness values.

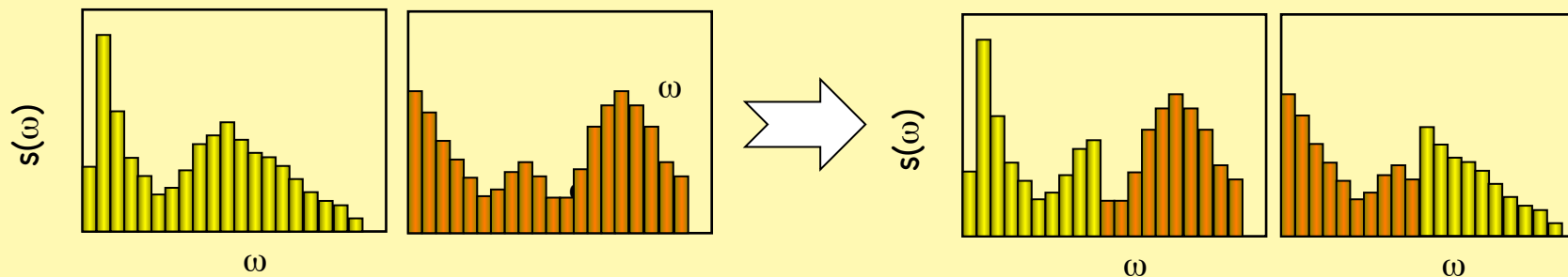
We use biological like processes:

selection: couples of individuals are selected for reproduction with a probability proportional to the fitness.

crossover: a fixed amount of spectral weight, left in the original intervals, is exchanged between two selected  $s(\omega)$

mutation: shift of a fraction of spectral weight between two intervals

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... at the end we average over the "realizations"  $f^*$



## *Ab initio* low-energy dynamics of superfluid and solid $^4\text{He}$

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(Received 3 March 2010; revised manuscript received 28 September 2010; published 15 November 2010)

We have extracted information about real time dynamics of  $^4\text{He}$  systems from noisy imaginary-time correlation functions  $f(\tau)$  computed via quantum Monte Carlo (QMC): production and falsification of model spectral functions  $s(\omega)$  are obtained via a survival-to-compatibility with  $f(\tau)$  evolutionary process, based on genetic algorithms. Statistical uncertainty in  $f(\tau)$  is promoted to be an asset via a sampling of equivalent  $f(\tau)$  within the noise, which give rise to independent evolutionary processes. In the case of pure superfluid  $^4\text{He}$  we have recovered from exact QMC simulations sharp quasiparticle excitations with spectral functions displaying also the multiphonon branch. As further applications, we have studied the impuriton branch of one  $^3\text{He}$  atom in liquid  $^4\text{He}$  and the vacancy-wave excitations in hcp solid  $^4\text{He}$  finding an unexpected rotonlike feature.

DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevB.82.174510](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevB.82.174510)

PACS number(s): 67.25.dt, 02.30.Zz, 67.60.G-, 67.80.di

### I. INTRODUCTION

The development of *ab initio* theoretical descriptions of low-energy dynamical behavior of quantum interacting systems is naturally a very important issue in a huge variety of physical studies, ranging from statistical physics to quantum field theory. In the realm of condensed-matter physics, it requires to start from the Hamiltonian operator  $\hat{H}$  of a  $N$ -body system and to investigate dynamical properties in the study of *spectral functions*,

$$s(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{dt}{2\pi} e^{i\omega t} \langle e^{i\hat{H}t} \hat{A} e^{-i\hat{H}t} \hat{B} \rangle, \quad (1)$$

tual measurements on an experimental system. In a QMC simulation it is still difficult to compare *observations*

$$\mathcal{F} \equiv \{f_c\}$$

which are estimations of intensities

$$f(\tau) = \langle e^{\hat{H}\tau} \hat{A} e^{-\hat{H}\tau} \hat{B} \rangle$$

in correspondence with a (unavoidably) finite number of imaginary-time values  $\{0, \delta\tau, 2\delta\tau, \dots, l\delta\tau\}$ ,  $\delta\tau$  being the time step of the QMC algorithm employed. In general

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AB INITIO LOW-ENERGY DYNAMICS OF...

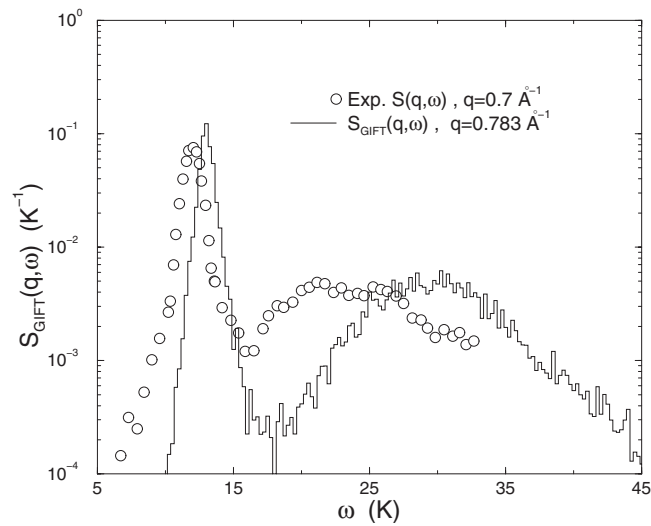
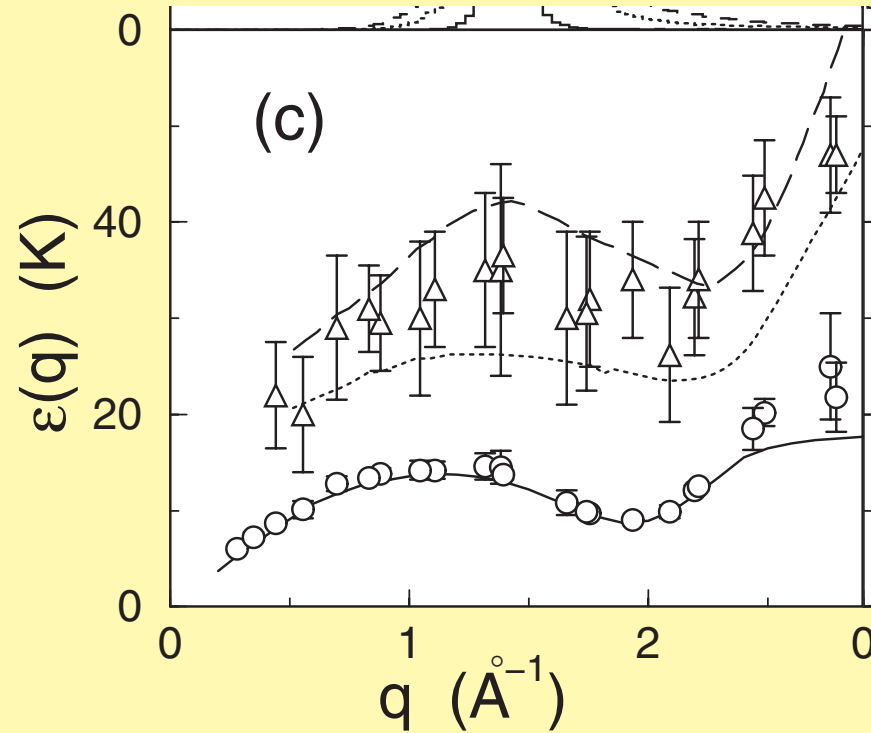


FIG. 1. (Line)  $S_{\text{GIFT}}(q, \omega)$  for  $q=0.783 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$  and  $\rho = 0.0218 \text{ \AA}^{-3}$ ; (open circles) observed (Ref. 24) dynamic structure factor  $S(q, \omega)$  in liquid  $^4\text{He}$  for  $q=0.7 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$  at saturated vapor pressure (SVP) and  $T=1.3 \text{ K}$ . Notice the logarithmic scale. Notice also the difference between the wave vector of  $S_{\text{GIFT}}(q, \omega)$  and the one of the experimental available (Ref. 24) dynamic structure factor; the experimental single particle peak position is known to increase by about  $0.8 \text{ K}$  in moving from  $q=0.7 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$  to  $q=0.783 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$ .



Liquid  $^4\text{He}$  at equilibrium density

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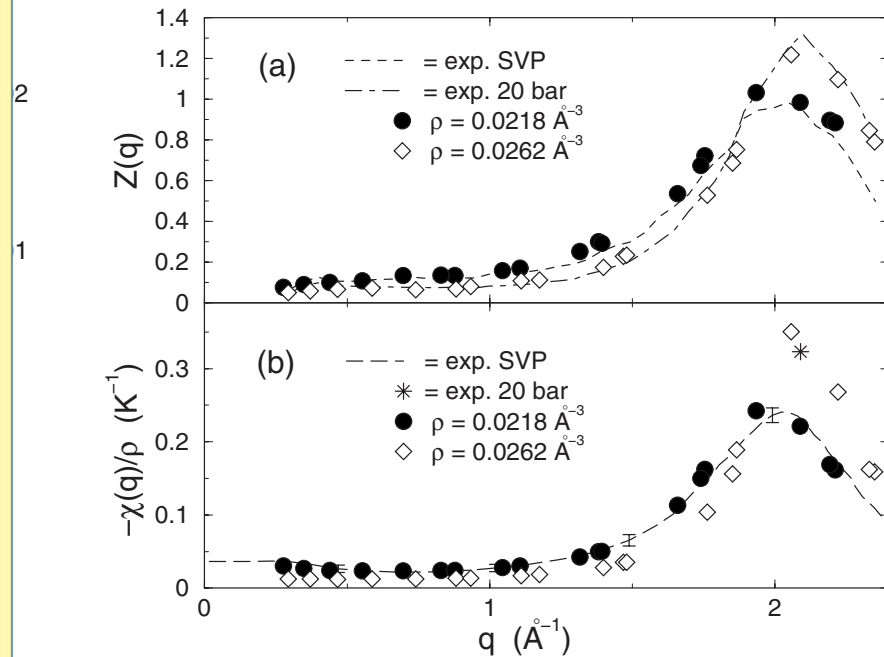


FIG. 5. (a) GIFT strength of the quasiparticle peak  $Z(q)$  as function of  $q$  at two densities and experimental data (Ref. 27). (b) GIFT Static density response function  $\chi(q)$  at two densities and experimental data (Refs. 25 and 28) Error bars of theoretical results are smaller than the symbol size.

Liquid  $^4\text{He}$ : density response function and strength of the quasi-particle peak

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J 17 May 2013

## Excitation spectrum in two-dimensional superfluid $^4\text{He}$

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(Dated: May 20, 2013)

In this work we perform an *ab-initio* study of an ideal two-dimensional sample of  $^4\text{He}$  atoms, a model for  $^4\text{He}$  films adsorbed on several kinds of substrates. Starting from a realistic hamiltonian we face the microscopic study of the excitation phonon-rotor spectrum of the system at zero temperature. Our approach relies on Path

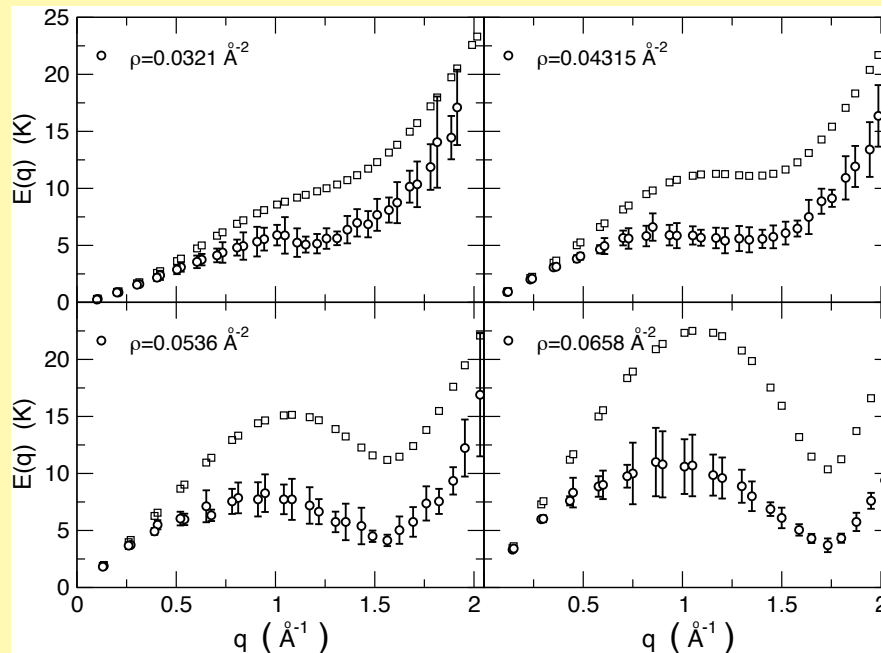


Figure 5: (circles) Excitation spectrum form GIFT reconstructions of SPIGS evaluations of imaginary time correlation functions in the liquid phase, together with Feynman spectrum (squares), at four densities as shown in the legends.

# OTHER APPLICATIONS

to evaluate ex-  
e, and this gives  
aining information  
( $t, \omega$ ). The actual  
orm in ill-posed  
sion of Theories

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## Dynamic structure factor for $^3\text{He}$ in two dimensions

M. Nava,<sup>1</sup> D. E. Galli,<sup>1,\*</sup> S. Moroni,<sup>2</sup> and E. Vitali<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Dipartimento di Fisica, Università degli Studi di Milano, via Celoria 16, 20133 Milano, Italy*

<sup>2</sup>*IOM-CNR DEMOCRITOS National Simulation Center and SISSA, via Bonomea 265, 34136 Trieste, Italy*

(Received 7 February 2013; revised manuscript received 11 March 2013; published 12 April 2013)

Recent neutron scattering experiments on  $^3\text{He}$  films have observed a zero-sound mode, its dispersion relation, and its merging with—and possibly emerging from—the particle-hole continuum [H. Godfrin *et al.*, *Nature* **483**, 576 (2012)]. Here we address the study of excitations in the system via quantum Monte Carlo methods: we suggest a practical scheme to calculate imaginary time correlation functions for moderate-size fermionic systems. Combined with an efficient method for analytic continuation, this scheme affords an extremely convincing description of the experimental findings.

DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevB.87.144506](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevB.87.144506)

PACS number(s): 67.30.ej, 67.30.em, 02.70.Ss

DYNAMIC STRUCTURE FACTOR FOR  $^3\text{He}$  IN TWO ...

PHYSICAL REVIEW B 87, 144506 (2013)

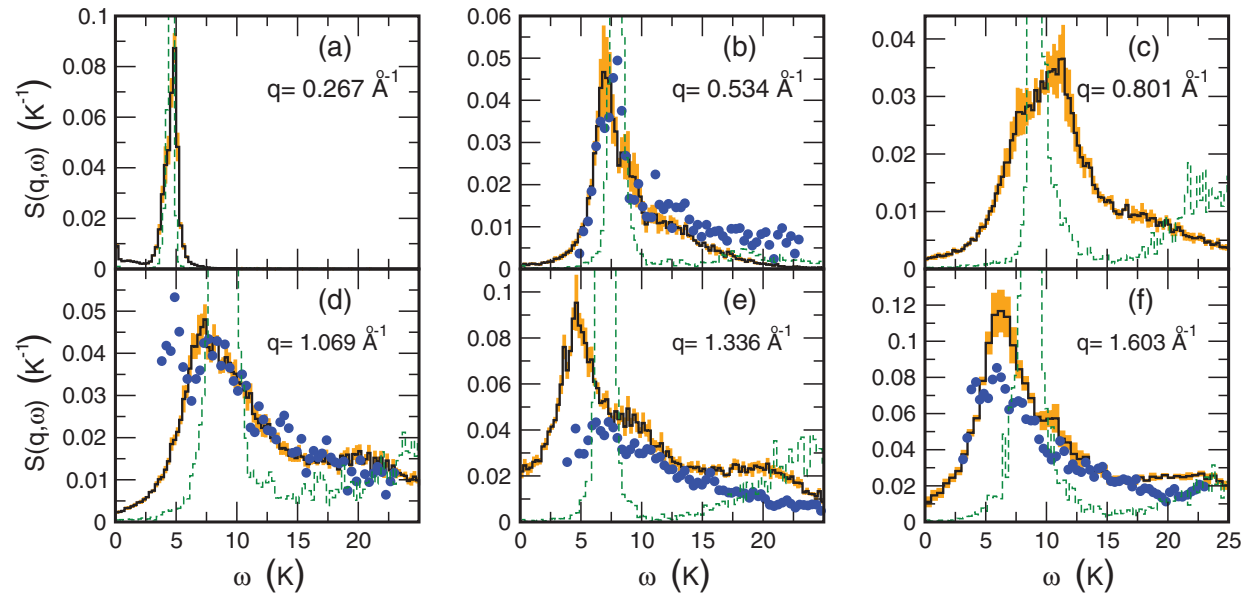


FIG. 2. (Color online) From left to right the coherent dynamic structure factor, obtained as an average of several independently extracted  $S_1(q, \omega)$ , for increasing wave vectors at  $\rho = 0.047 \text{ \AA}^{-2}$ . Orange shading represents statistical uncertainties and filled (blue) circles are the available experimental data from Refs. 3 and 4. The wave vectors shown are those accessible from our simulation; the experimental wave vectors are  $q = 0.55 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$  (b),  $q = 1.15 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$  (d),  $q = 1.25 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$  (e), and  $q = 1.65 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$  (f). We have used different scales in the panels to make the comparison with experimental data more easily visible. The dashed (green) line shows the dynamic structure factor of a fictitious system of bosons of mass  $m_3$ . The bosonic peaks in the roton region are five to nine times higher than the fermionic ones.

OTHER  
APPLICATIONS:  
FERMIONIC  
EXCITED  
STATES

## Dynamic structure factor for $^3\text{He}$ in two dimensions

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OTHER  
APPLICATIONS:  
FERMIONIC  
EXCITED  
STATES

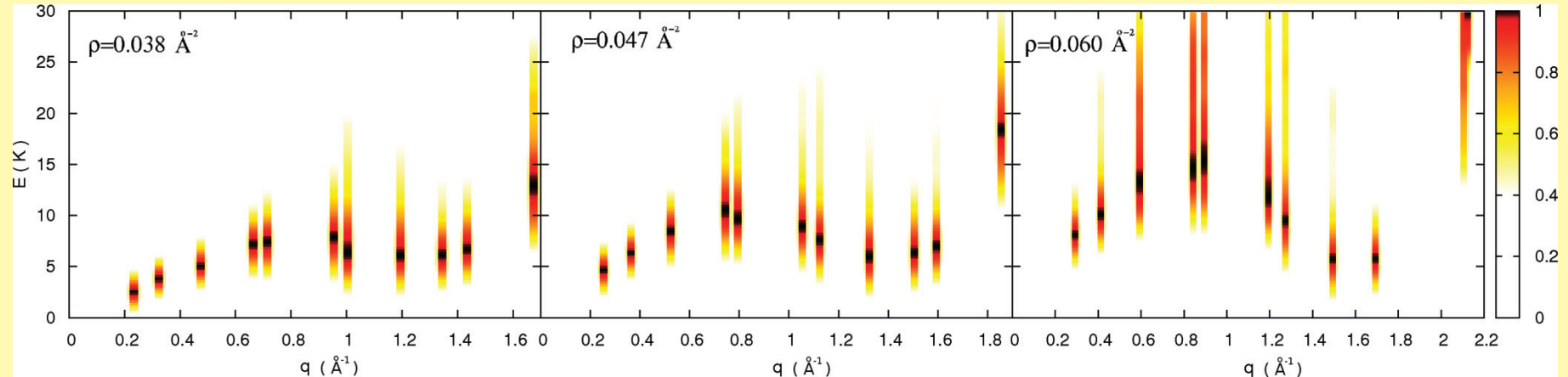


FIG. 3. (Color online) Color map of normalized  $S_2(q, \omega)$  for many wave vectors  $q$ . For better visibility, each  $S_2(q, \omega)$  for different  $q$  has been normalized in order to have their maximum value equal to 1. The vertical scale has been shifted by a quantity  $E_0^B - E_0^F$ , so that the excitation energies are measured with respect to the fermionic ground state.