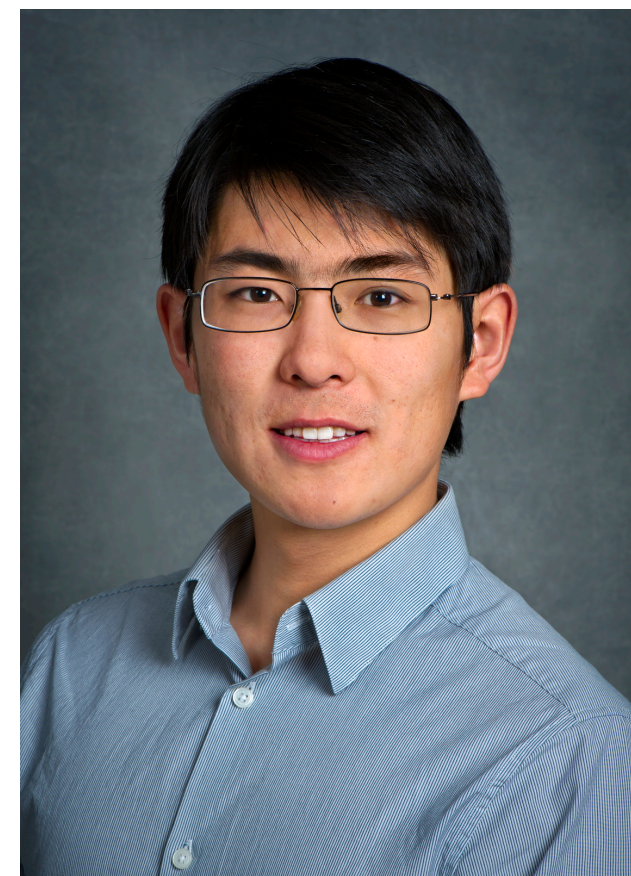


# PES: Robust Analytic Continuation Methods for Green's Functions

**P**rojection, **E**stimation  
and **S**emidefinite relaxation

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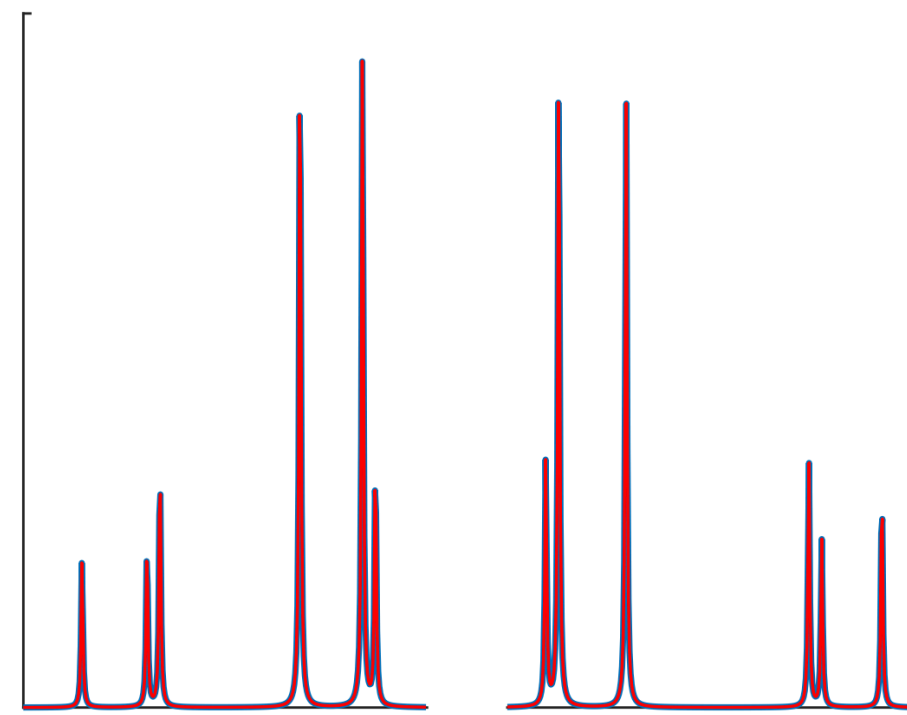


**Lin Lin (UC Berkeley)**

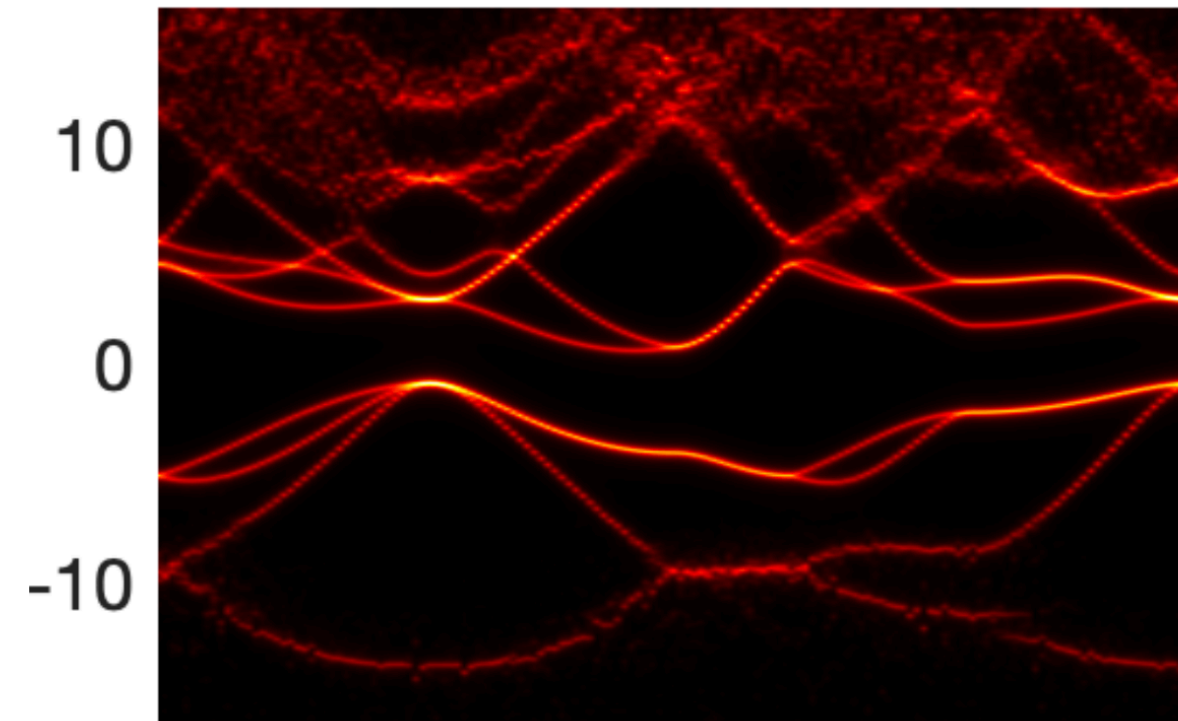


**Emanuel Gull (U Michigan)**

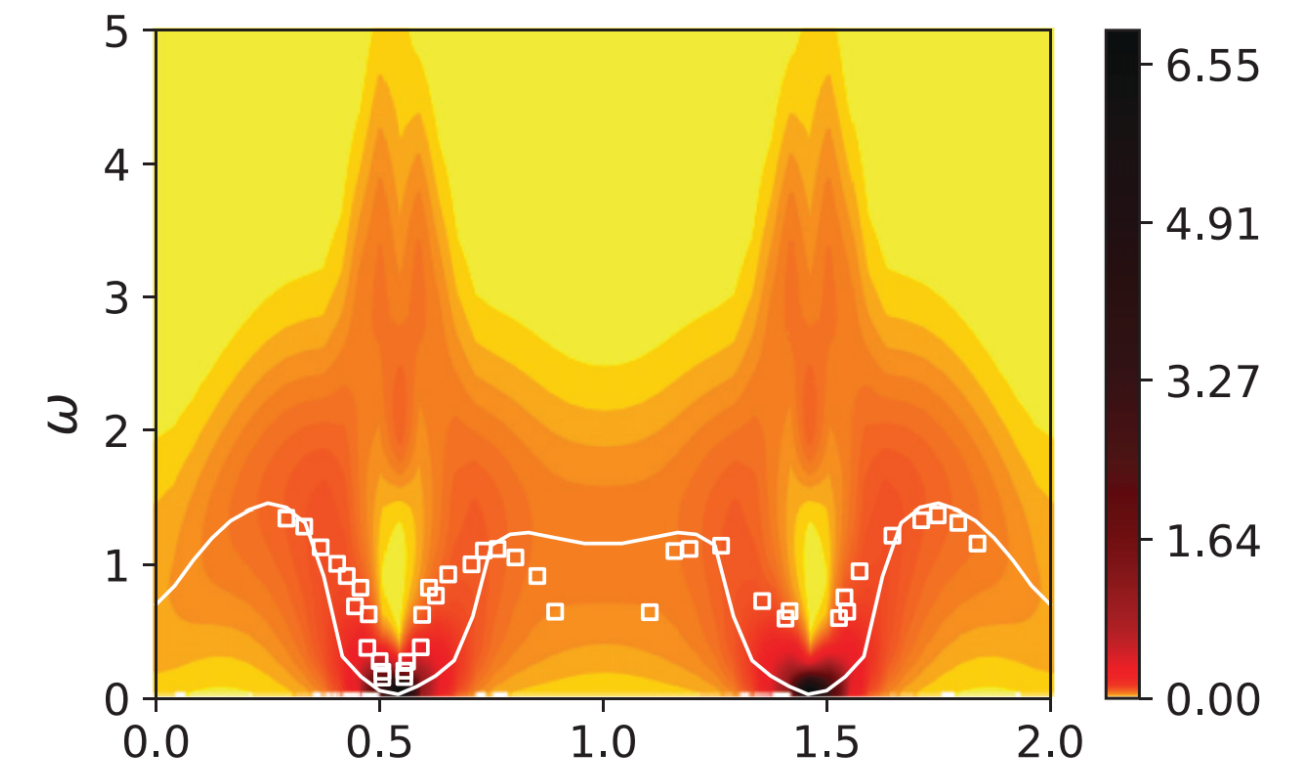
# Why Analytic Continuation?



Spectral functions



$k$  resolved spectral functions

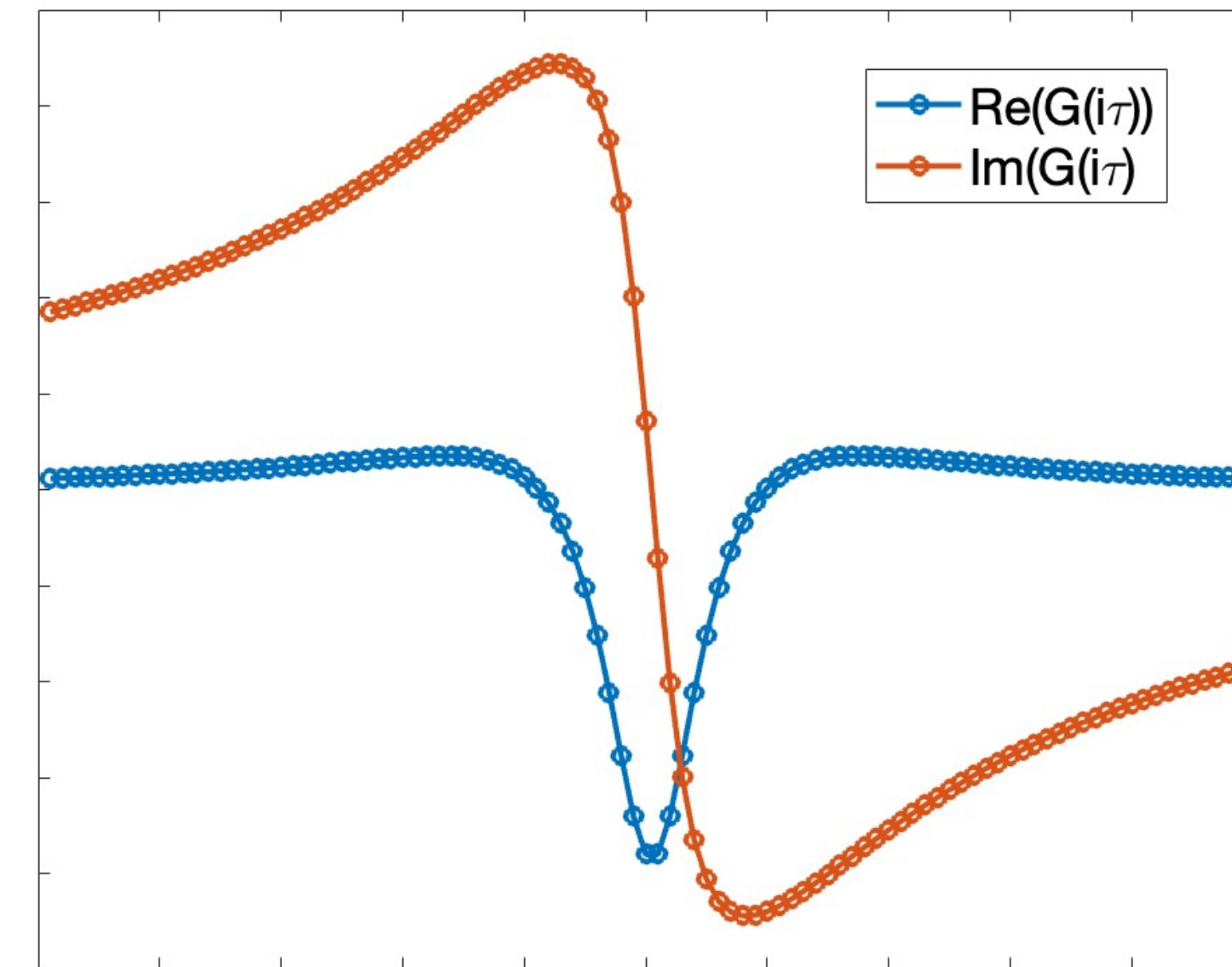
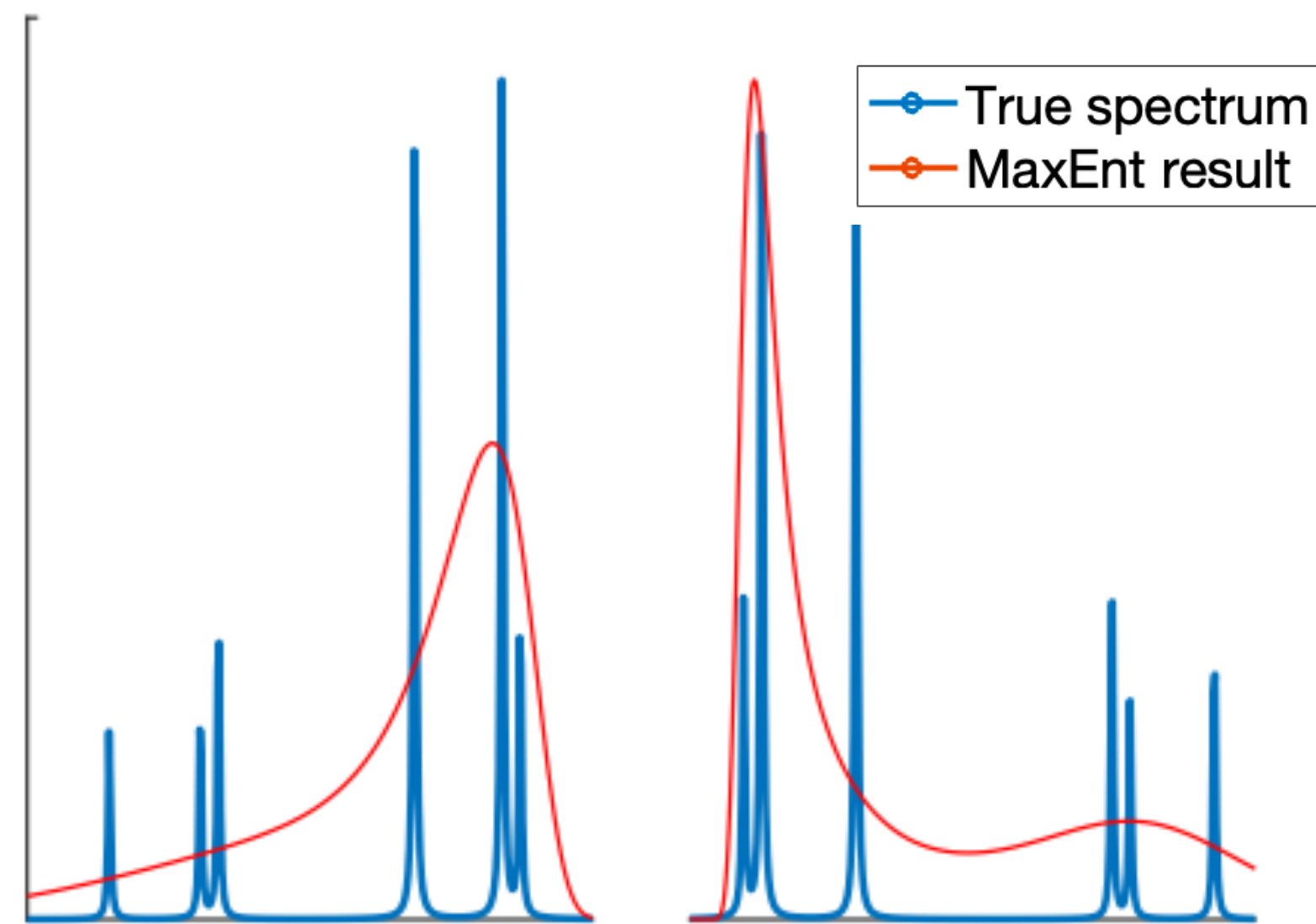


Susceptibility

- Analytic continuation has wide applications in studying strongly correlated systems.
- Instead of doing *expensive real-time* calculations, ...
- We do *imaginary-time* calculations, ...
- Then perform *analytic continuation* from *imaginary* to *real* axis.

- Previous methods:
  - **Padé approximants** (Baker et al, 1996; Schott et al, 2016; ...)
  - **Maximum entropy (MaxEnt)** (Bryan, 1990; Asakawa et al 2001; Levy et al, 2017; ...)
  - **Stochastic analytic continuation and its variants** (Sandvik, 1998; Vafayi et al 2007; ...)
  - **Sparse modeling** (Otsuki, 2017; Yoshimi, 2019; ...)
  - **Machine learning approaches** (Yoon, 2018; Fournier, 2020; ...)

# Shortcomings of Analytic Continuation Approach

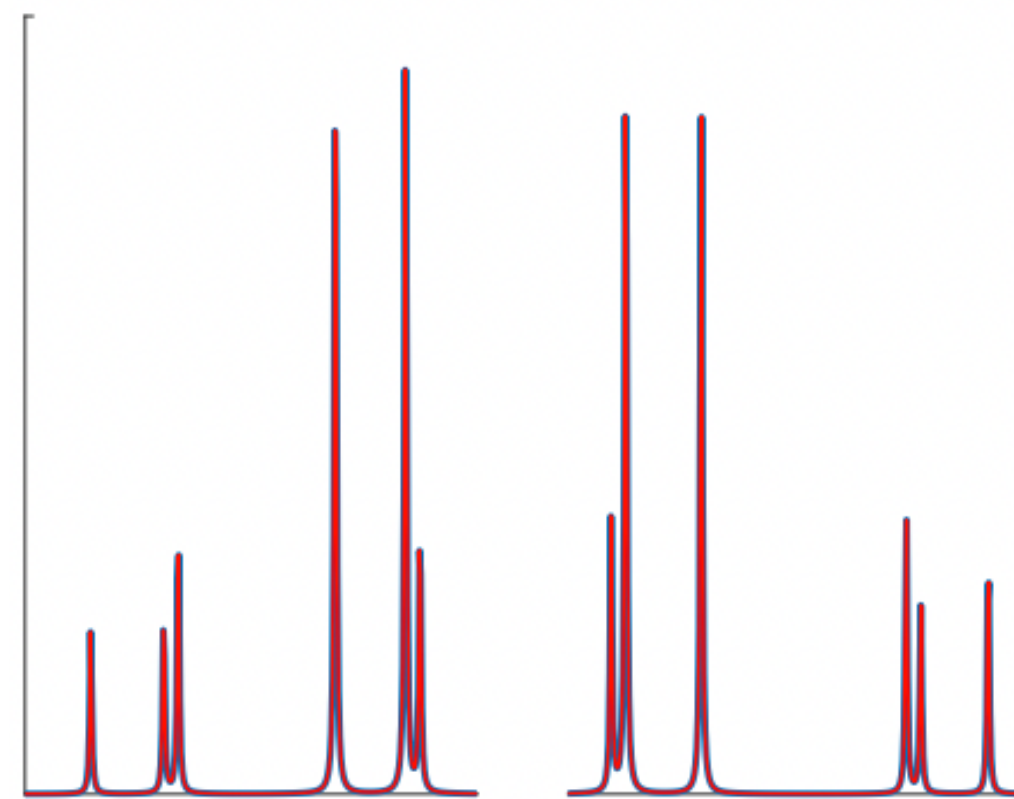


- **Imaginary-time** data  $\longrightarrow$  **Real-time** data: **ill-posed!**
  - Solutions **non-unique!** (But only one of them is true.)
  - e.g. **Maximum entropy** loses sharp features, loses multiple features, loses high frequency information.
- Obtaining imaginary-time data might be easier, but analytic continuation is hard. There is **NO** free lunch!

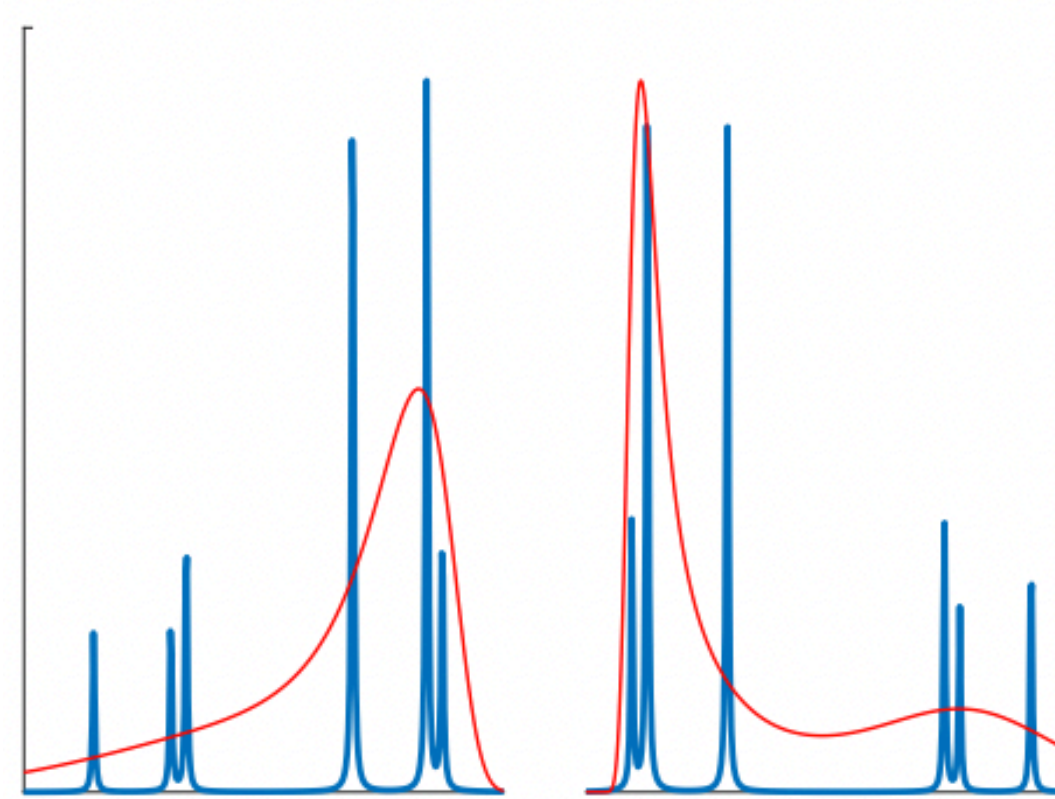
# Nevanlinna/Carathéodory Continuation

- Observation: not all complex functions could be Green's functions!
- Green's functions are *Herglotz-Nevanlinna* functions.  
Based on this *analytic* structure, **Nevanlinna** and **Carathéodory** methods are proposed.
- A huge improvement over previous methods!

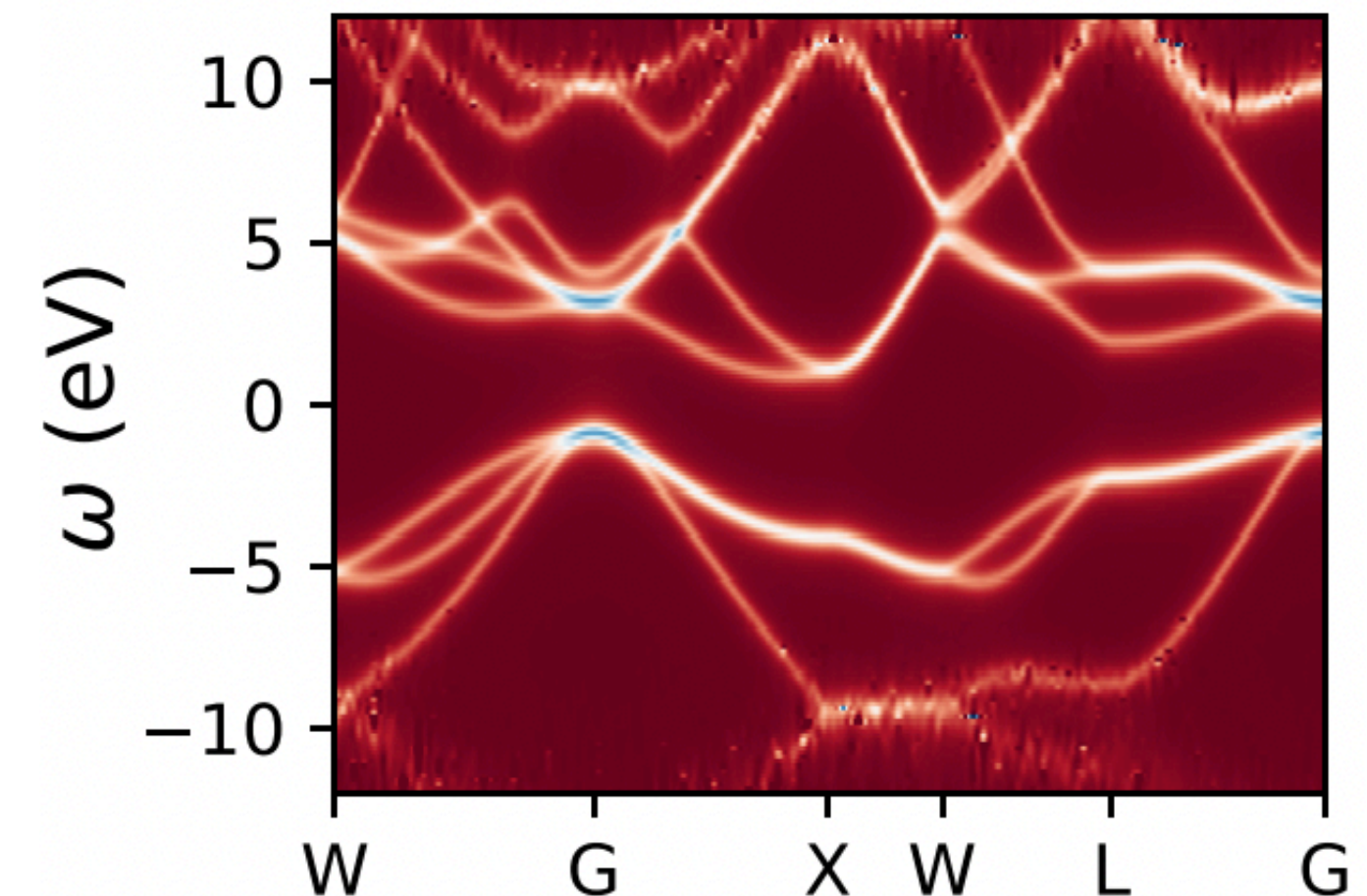
Nevanlinna for Hubbard dimer



MaxEnt for Hubbard dimer

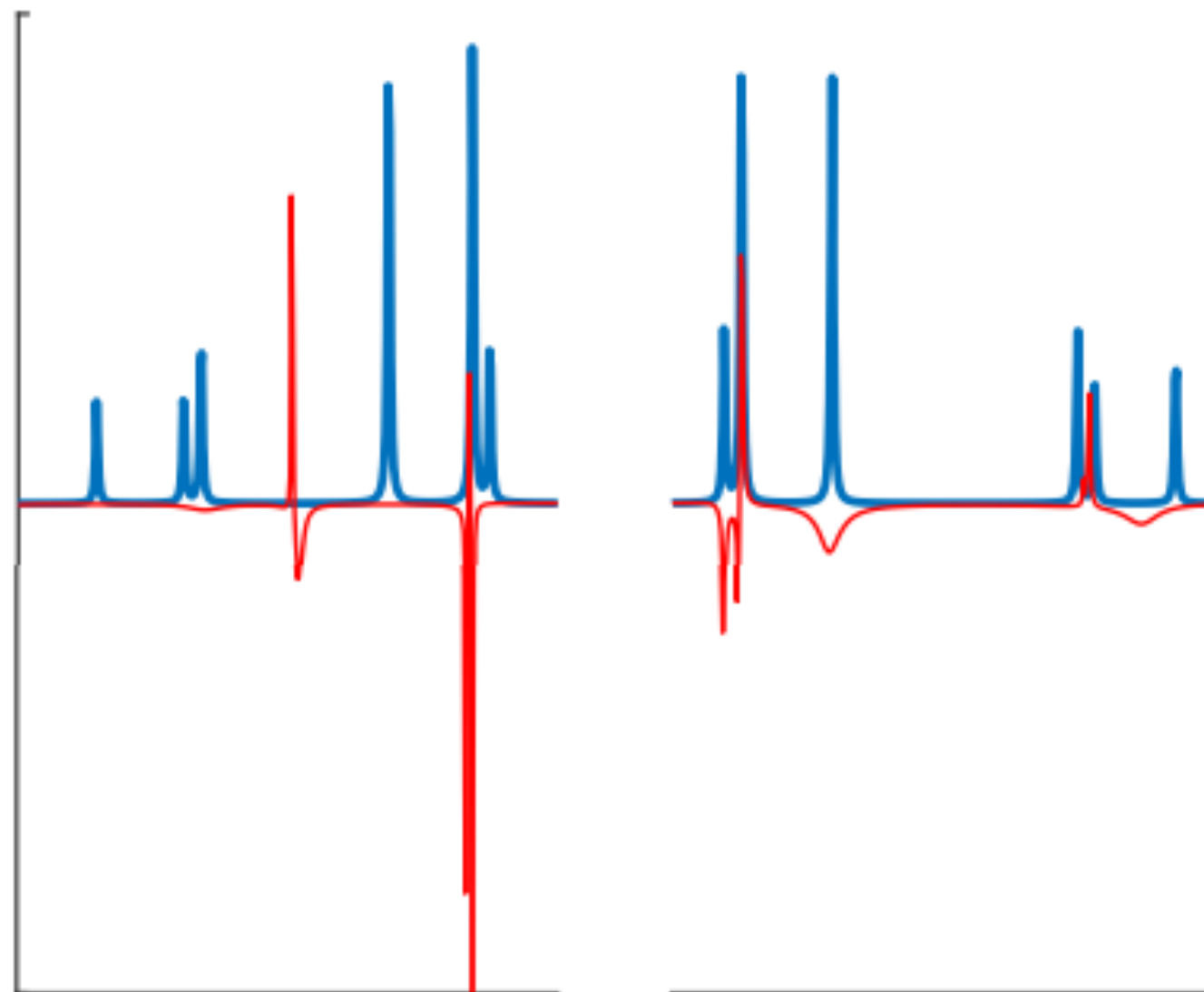


Silicon band structure



# Numerical instability of Nevanlinna/Carathéodory

Carathéodory method for Hubbard dimer data with noise level  $4e-6$



Noncausality  
(negative spectral functions)

Problematic for **noisy** data!

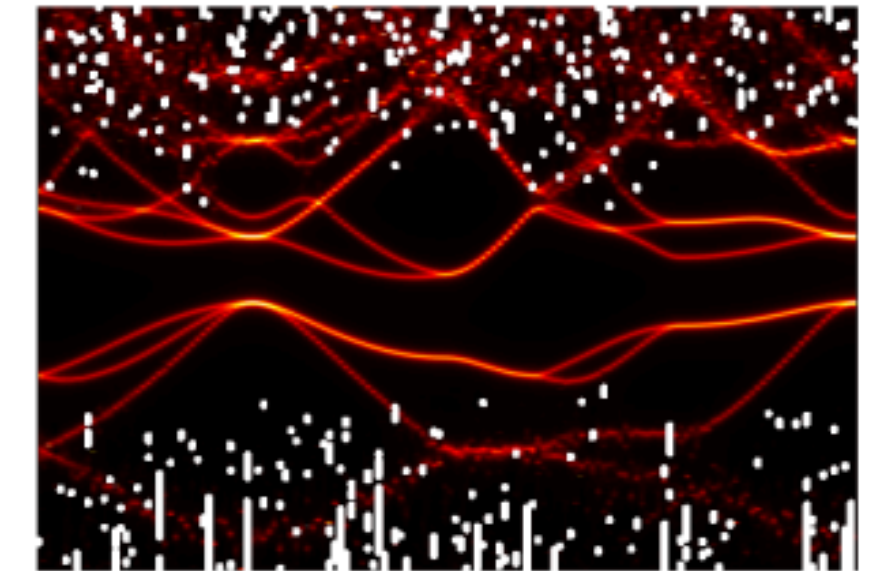
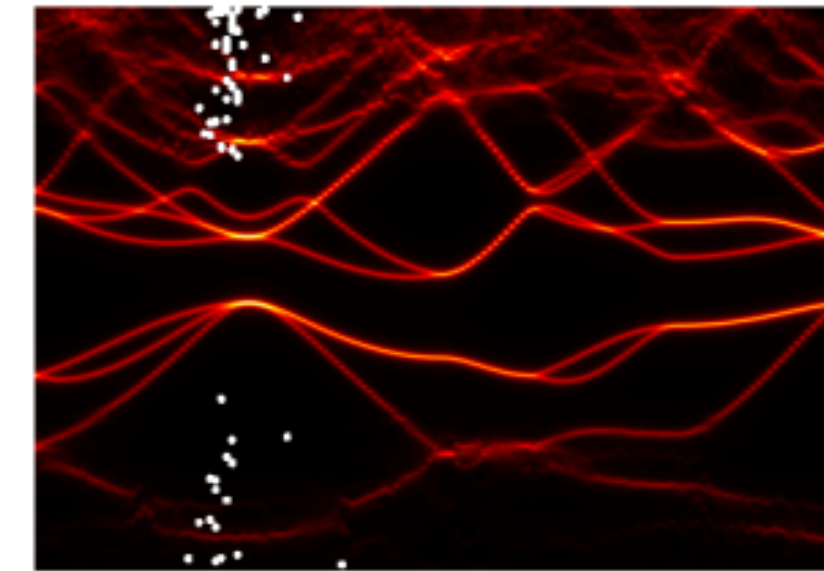
Extended arithmetic required

Band structure from Nevanlinna

Noise level

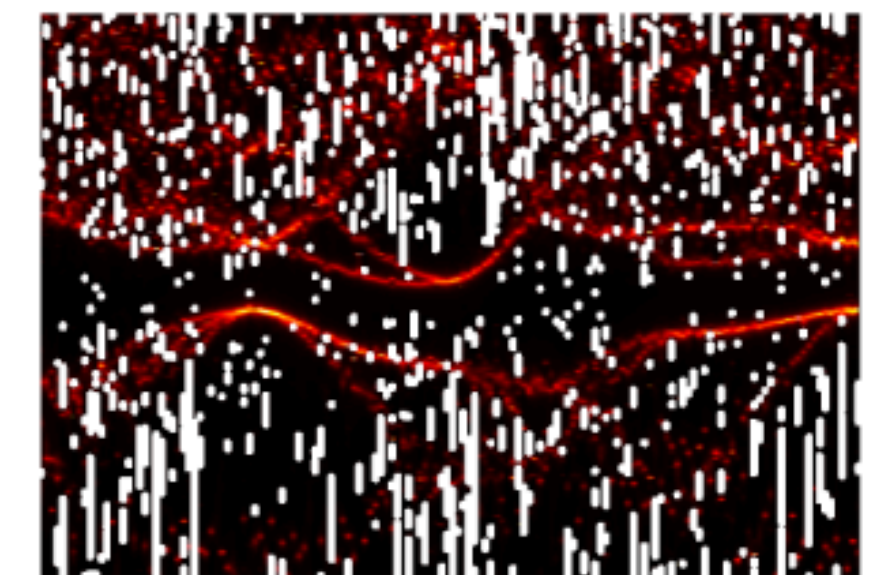
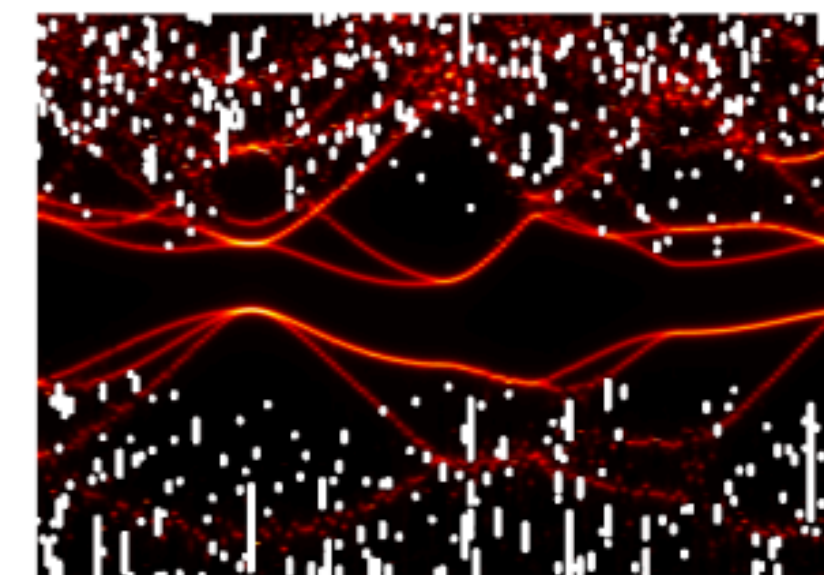
0

$4e-6$



$2.56e-4$

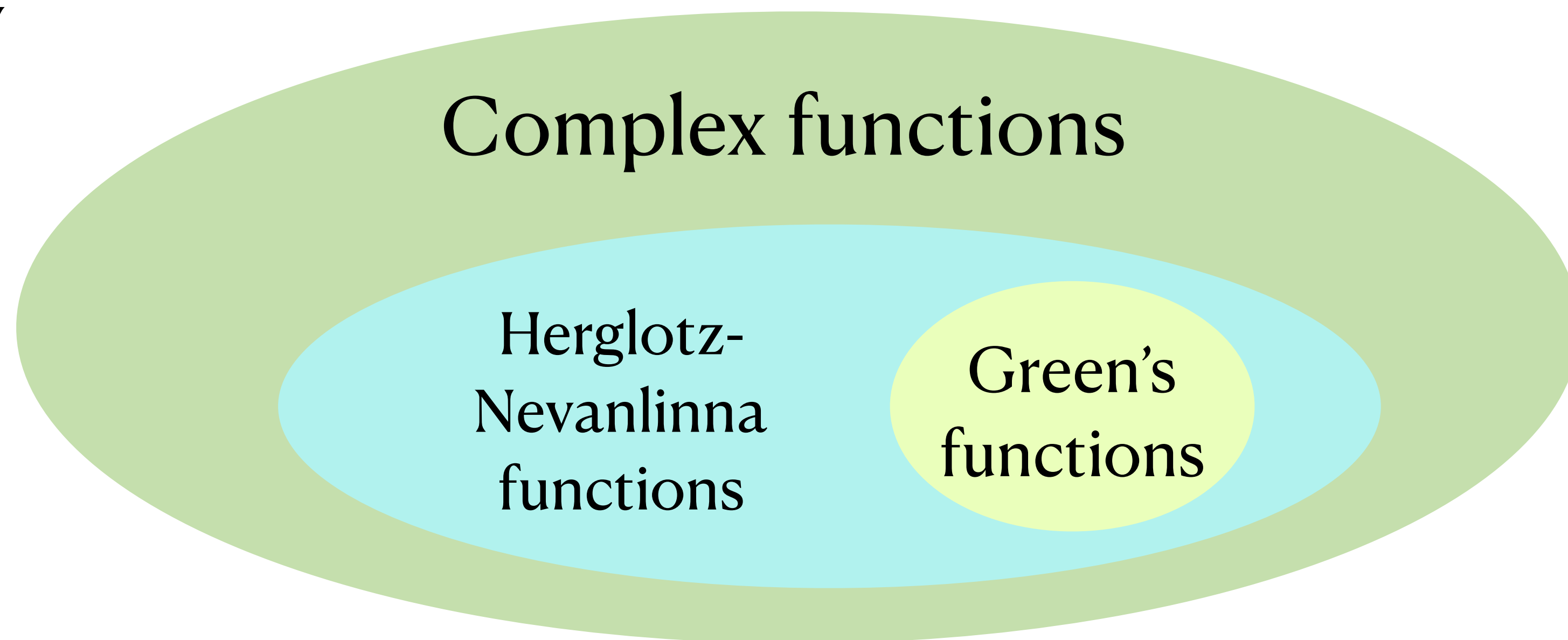
$1.6384e-2$



White markers correspond to a negative value of spectral function.

# Our approach: make **full** use of the **causal space**

- Green's functions are Herglotz-Nevanlinna functions.
- Not **all** Herglotz-Nevanlinna functions are Green's functions!
- Key: making **full** use of the **causal space** of Green's functions.
- Nevanlinna/Caratheodory outperforms previous methods because they make *some* use of the **causal space**.



# How to make make **full** use of the **causal space**?

- What is causal space?
- $G(z)$  is in the **causal space** if it has the following structure:

$$\mathbb{G}(z) = \sum_{l=1}^{N_p} \frac{\mathbb{X}_l}{z - \lambda_l}$$

- $\{\lambda_l\}_{l=1}^{N_p}$  are real-valued poles;
- $\{\mathbb{X}_l\}_{l=1}^{N_p}$  are **rank-1 semidefinite** matrices.
- This structure could be directly derived from **Lehmann's representation**.
- **Semidefinite relaxation (SDR)**: drop rank-1 constraint. **Only** require  $\mathbb{X}_l$  to be semidefinite.
- **Semidefinite programming (SDP)**: if given  $\{\lambda_l\}_{l=1}^{N_p}$ ,  $\mathbb{X}_l$  could be found from SDP solvers.
- This approach was used previously in DMFT calculations.



# How to make make **full** use of the **causal space**?

- To kick off the **semidefinite relaxation step**, we need a very accurate initial estimate of poles in practice.
- Hence we need an **estimation step** of poles. We use AAA algorithm to do this.

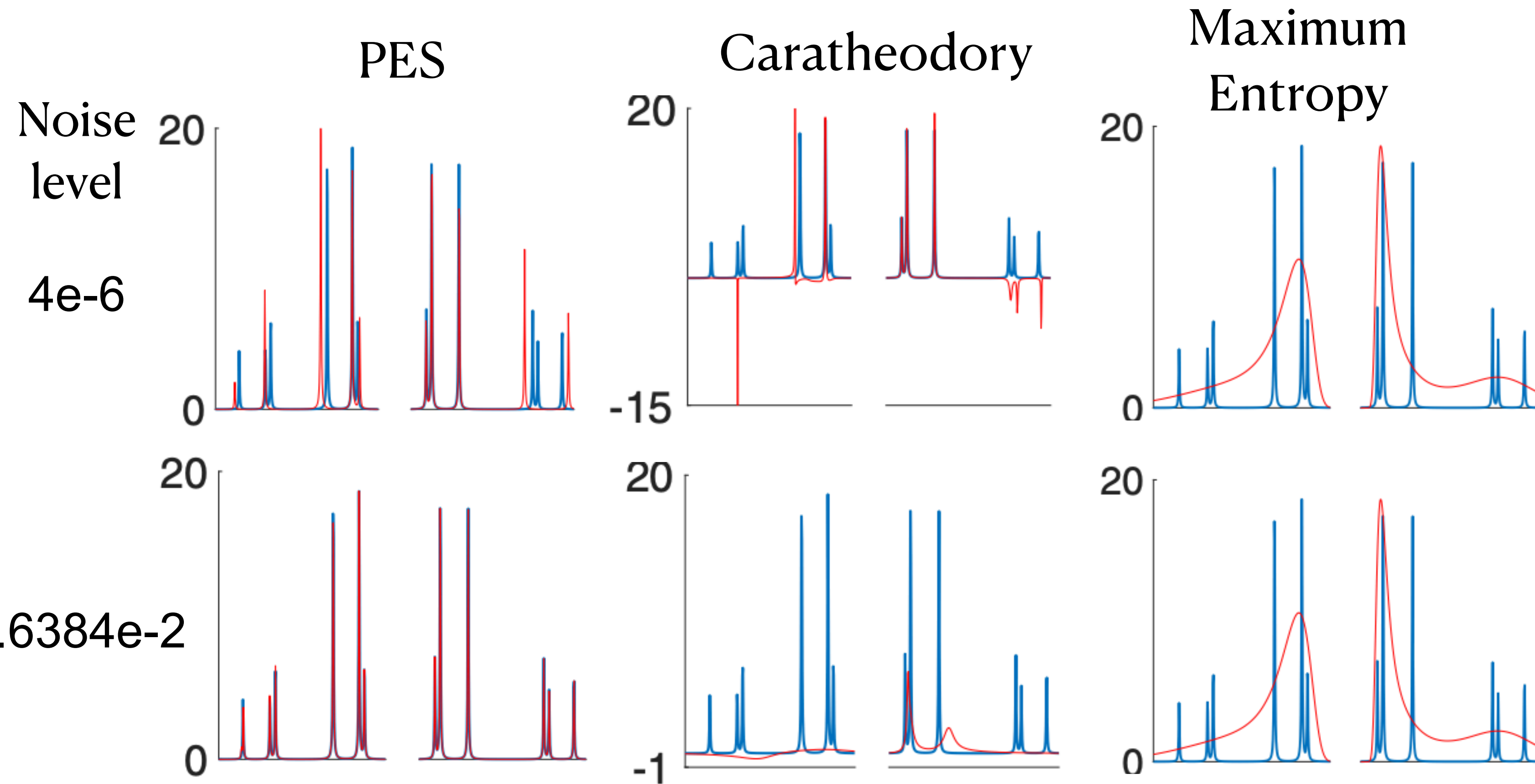
Y. Nakatsukasa, O. Sète, and L. Trefethen. The AAA algorithm for rational approximation. *SIAM J. Sci. Comput* 40.3, 2018

- How to deal with noisy data?
- Noisy data do not belong in the causal space.
- Hence the **projection step**, which projects the noisy data onto the causal space.
- Combining all, we have PES method for analytic continuation:
  - **Projection onto causal space** + **Estimation of poles** + **Semidefinite relaxation**

Z. Huang, E. Gull, L. Lin, Robust analytic continuation of Green's functions via projection, pole estimation, and semidefinite relaxation, *Phys. Rev. B*, 107, 075151, 2023

# Results: Hubbard-dimer

## Spectral functions

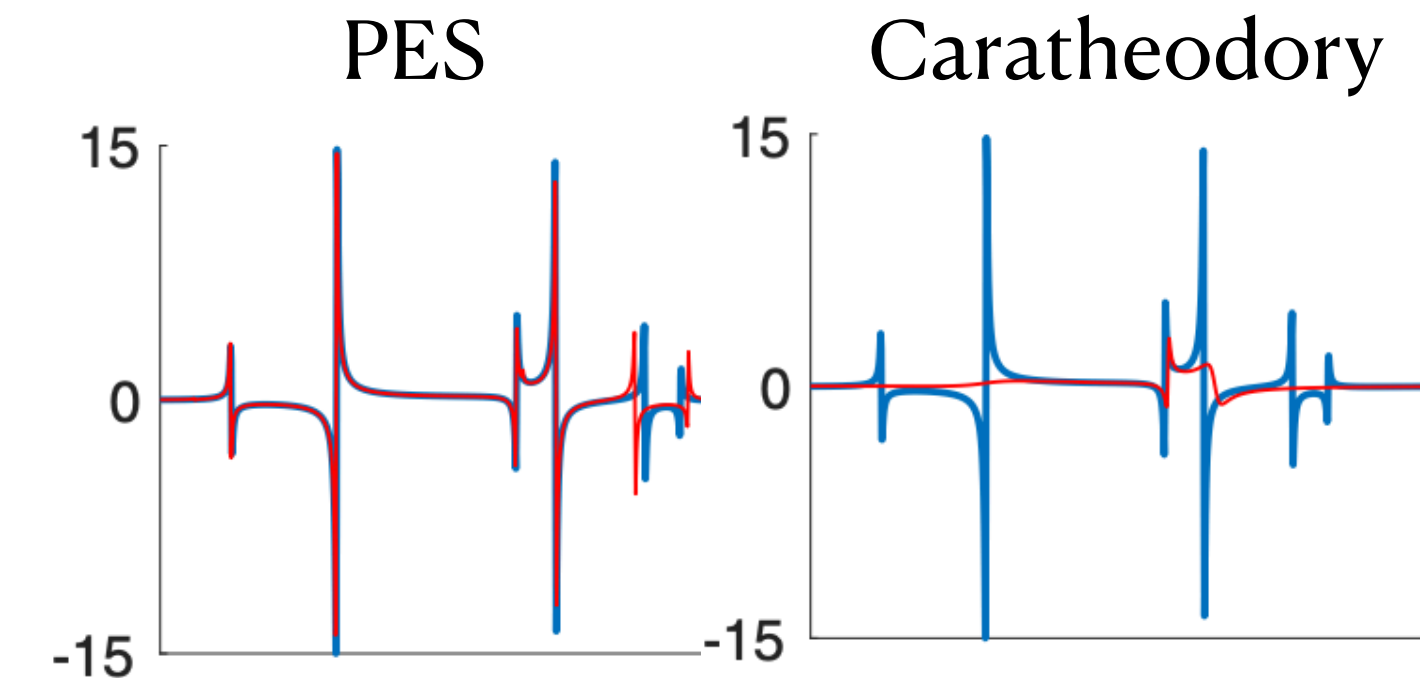


Small noise: almost **exactly recover**.

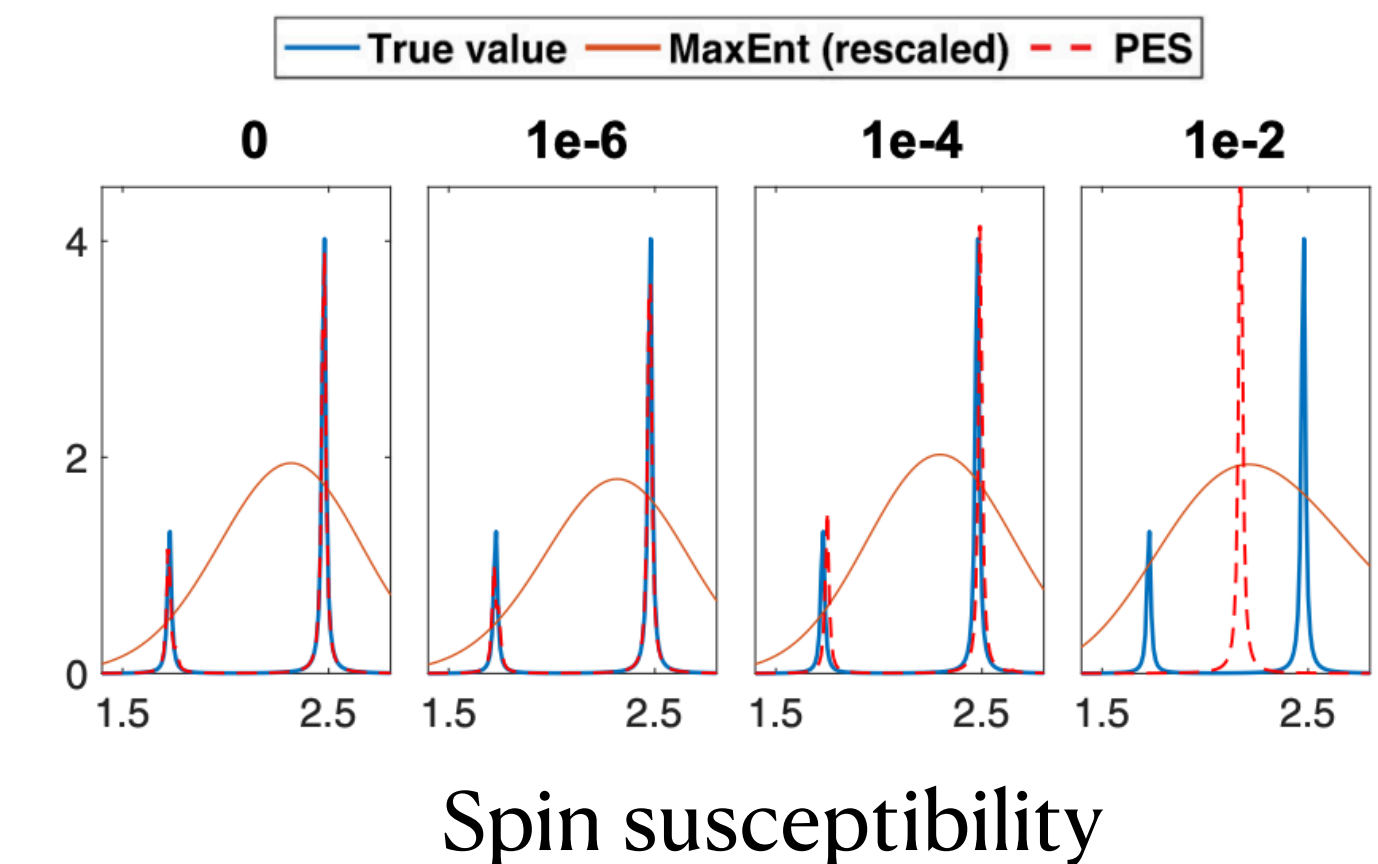
Large noise: correct **band gaps** and low energy information.

blue line: true value  
red line: results from analytic continuation

**Nondiagonal** elements also available!

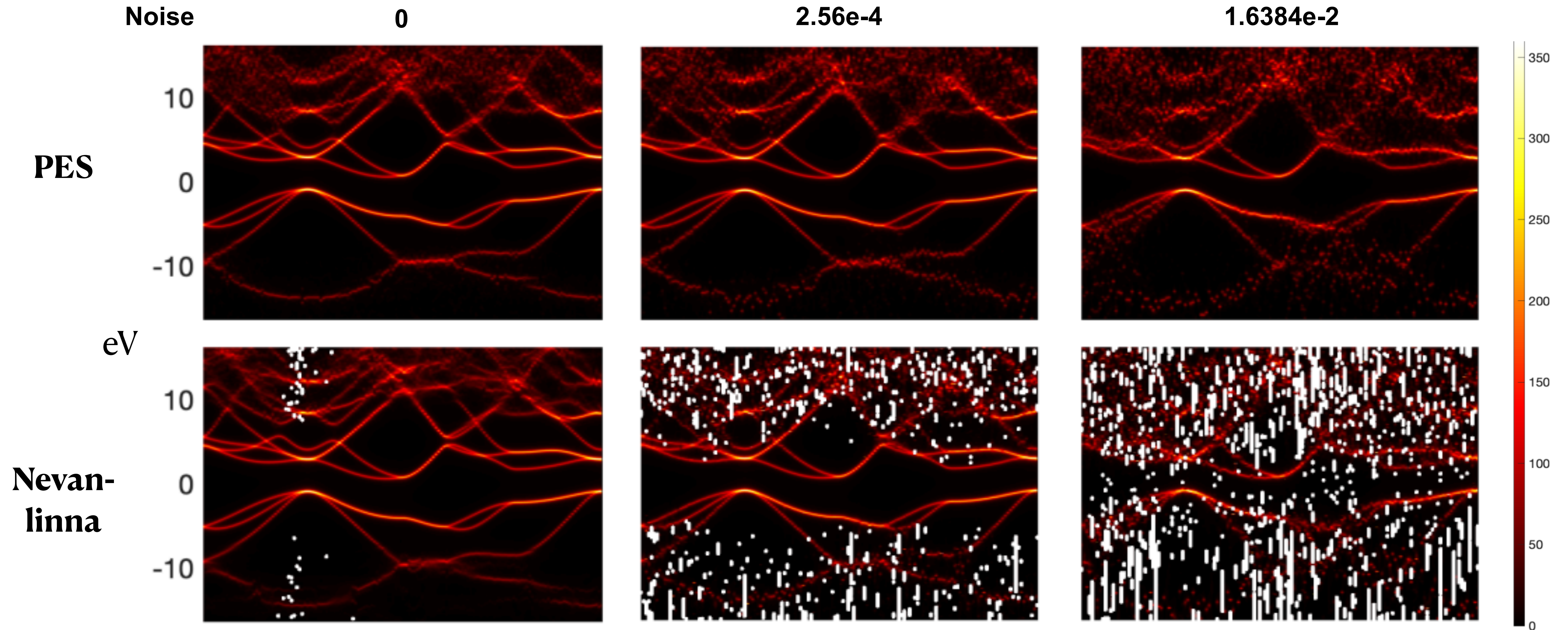


**Bosonic** functions also applicable!



# Band structures, to test the method for complicated cases

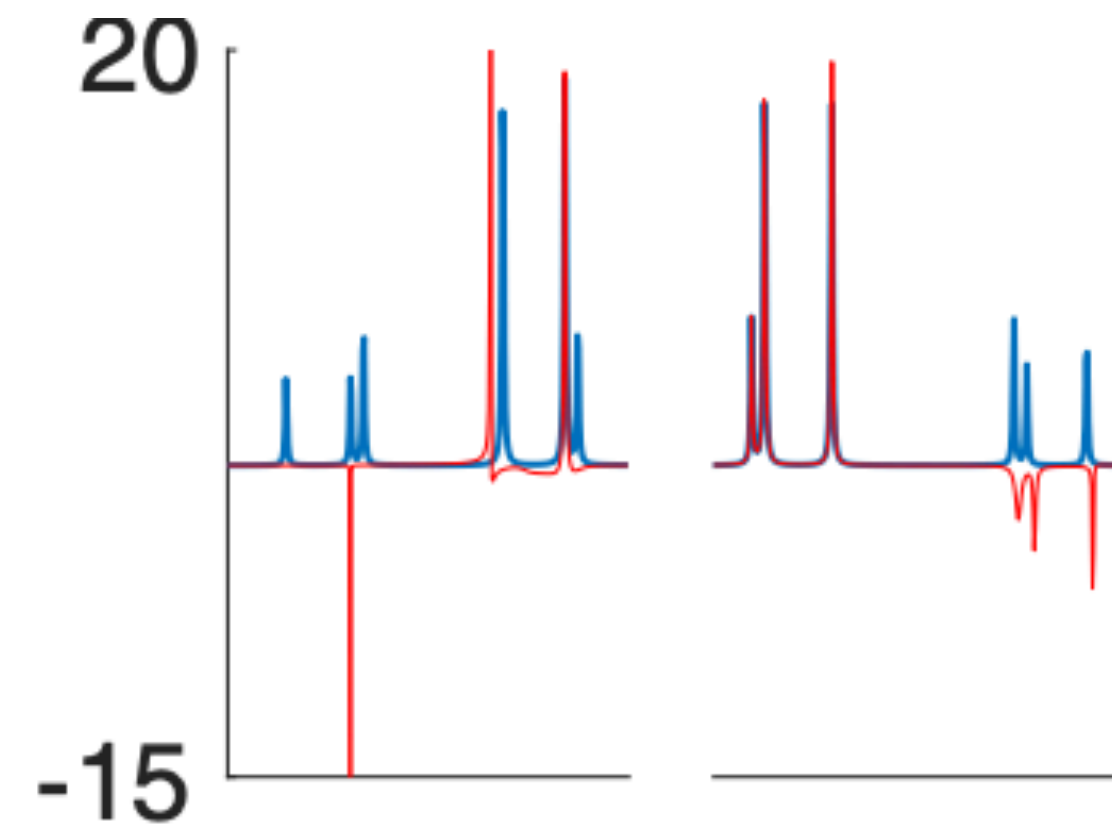
## Silicon



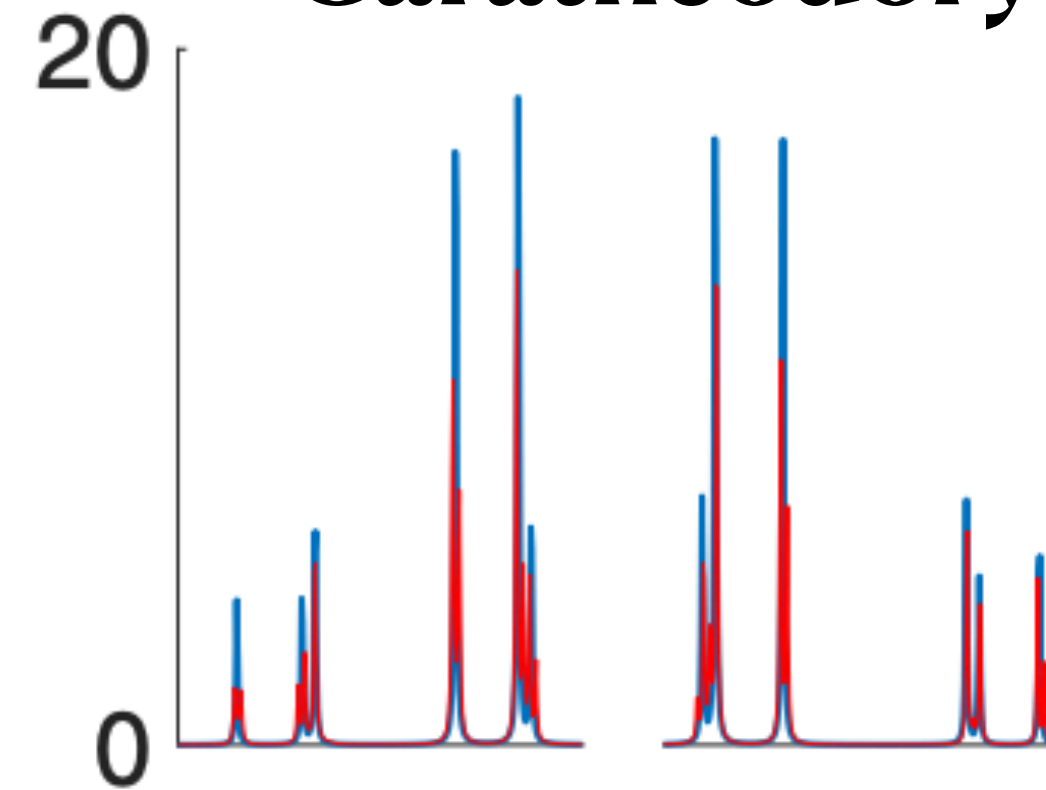
Z. Huang, E. Gull, L. Lin, Robust analytic continuation of Green's functions via projection, pole estimation, and semidefinite relaxation, **Phys. Rev. B**, 107, 075151, 2023

We also find a way to *systematically* improve the numerically unstable methods: applying them on *projected* data instead of *noisy* data!

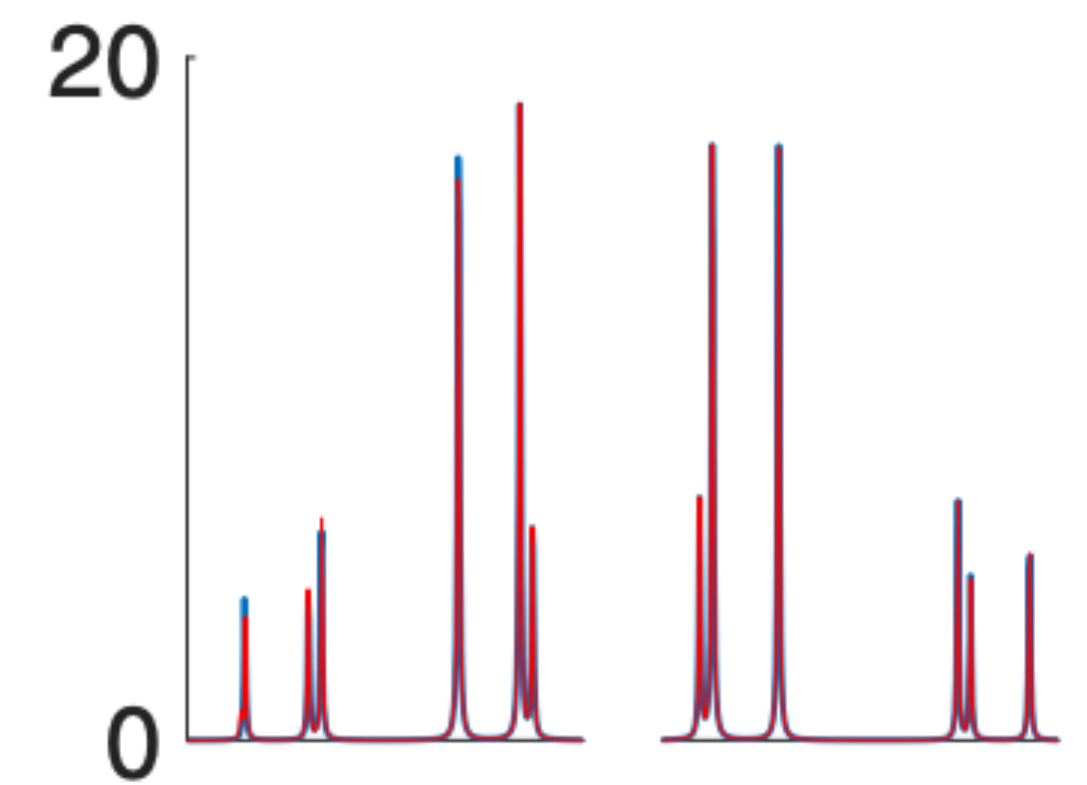
**Caratheodory**



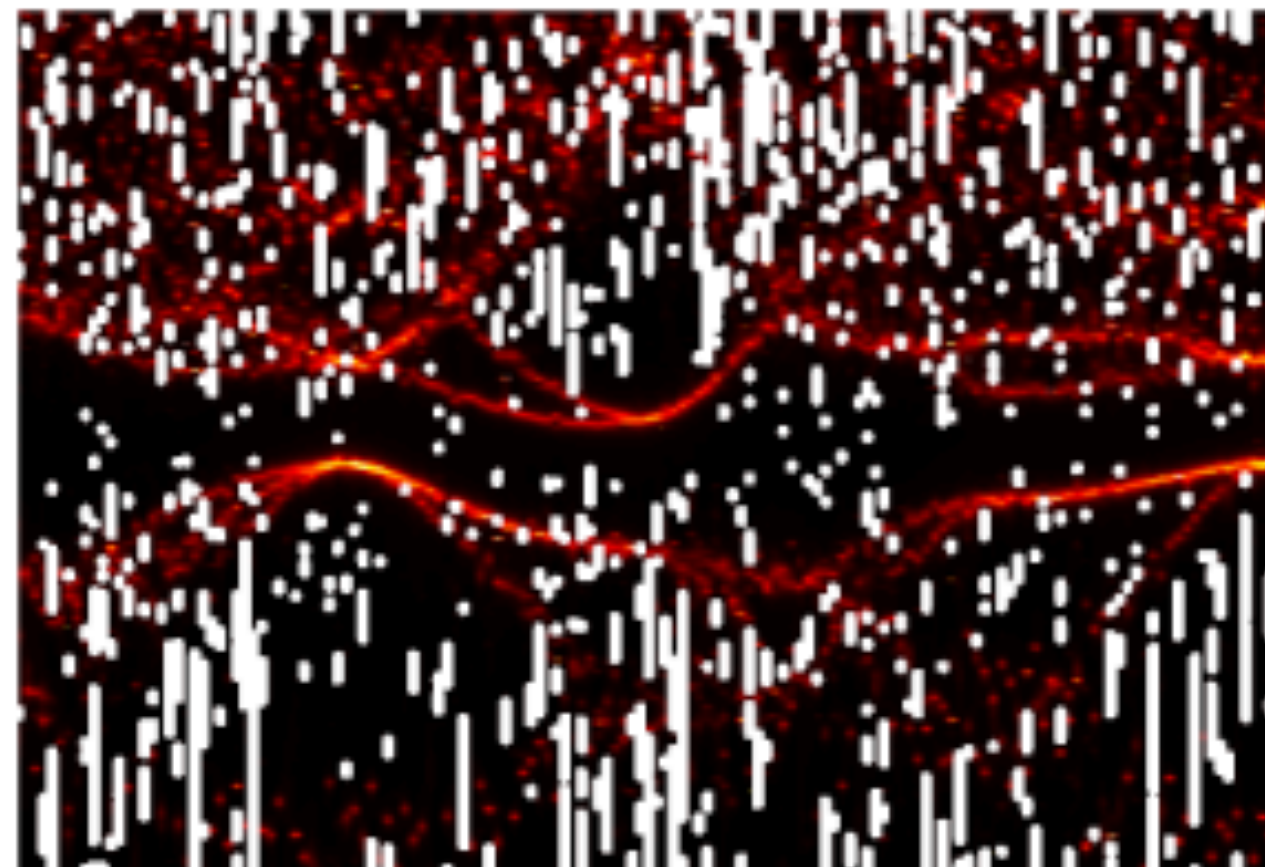
**Projection+  
Caratheodory**



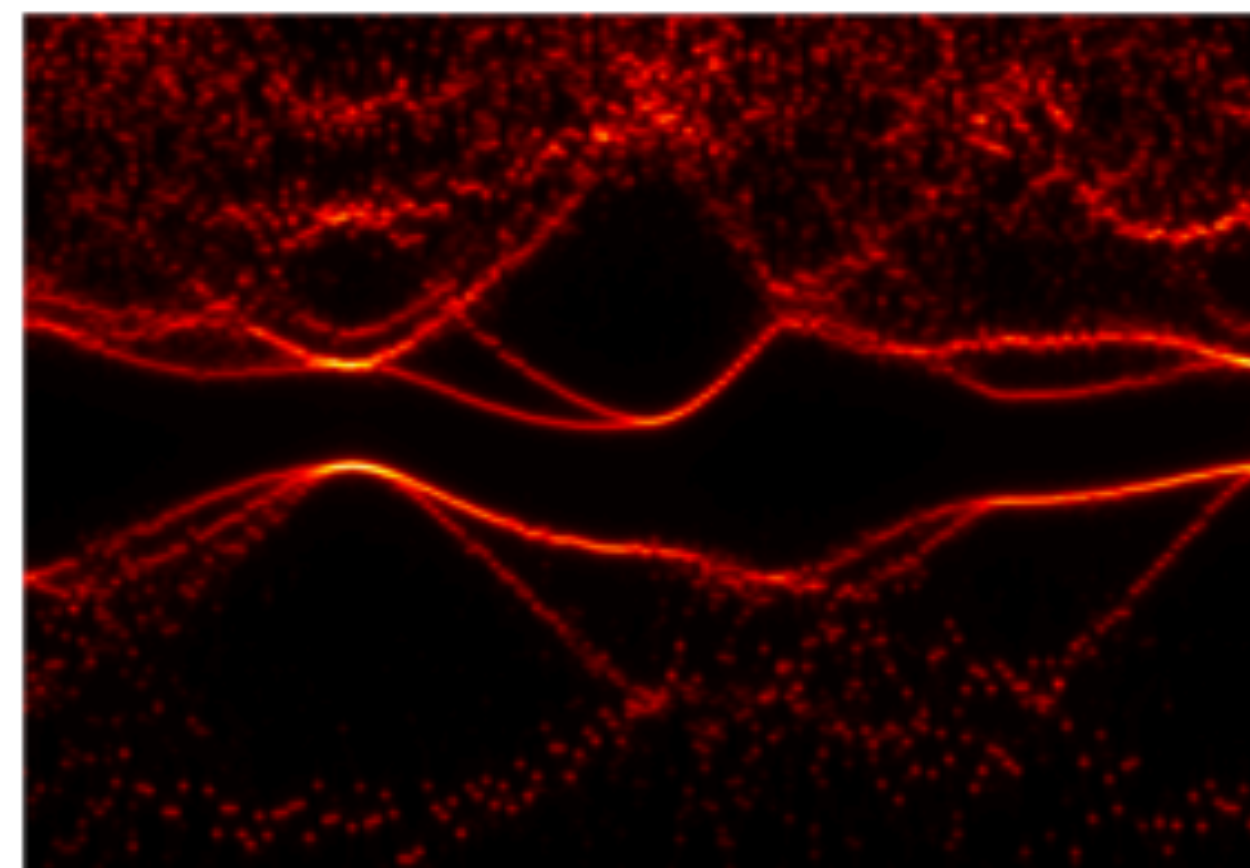
**PES**



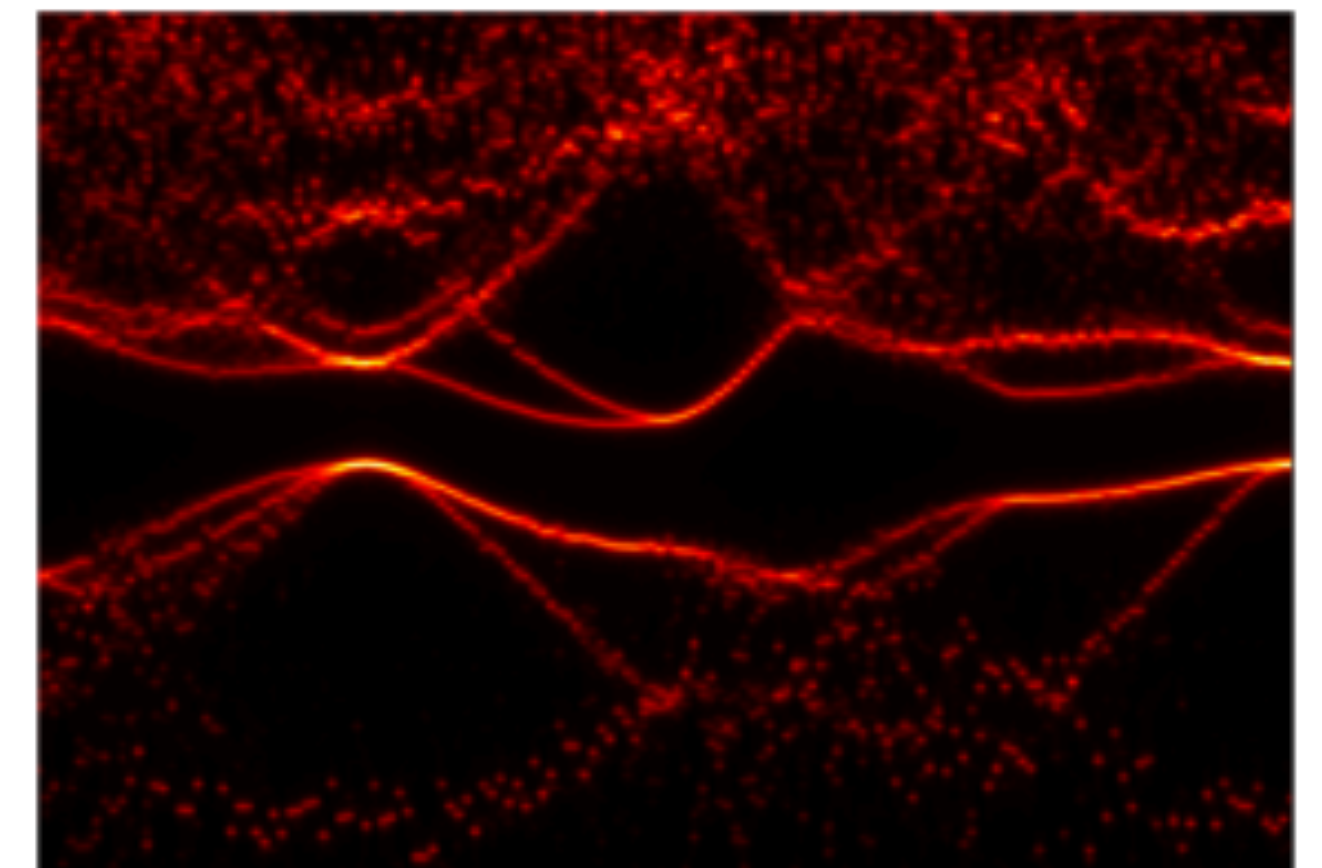
**Nevanlinna**



**Projection+  
Nevanlinna**



**PES**



# Conclusion

Method	Noise robustness	Calculation precision requirement	Sharp features	Causality
This paper	✓	Double	✓	✓
Nevanlinna and Carathéodory	✗	Extended	✓	✓ if clean ✗ if noisy
MaxEnt	✓	Double	✗	✓
Padé	✗	Extended	✓	✗

- **Z. Huang**, E. Gull, L. Lin, Robust analytic continuation of Green's functions via projection, pole estimation, and semidefinite relaxation, **Phys. Rev. B**, 107, 075151, 2023
- Software available on **GitHub**: <https://github.com/Hertz4/PES>
- Software also available as **supplementary material** on PRB website.
- Contact me at [hertz@berkeley.edu](mailto:hertz@berkeley.edu) !