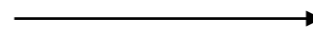


Complexity of real-time Gaussian environments

Zhen Huang

with Zhiyan Ding, Ke Wang, Jason Kaye, Xiantao Li and Lin Lin

Department of Mathematics,
University of California, Berkeley

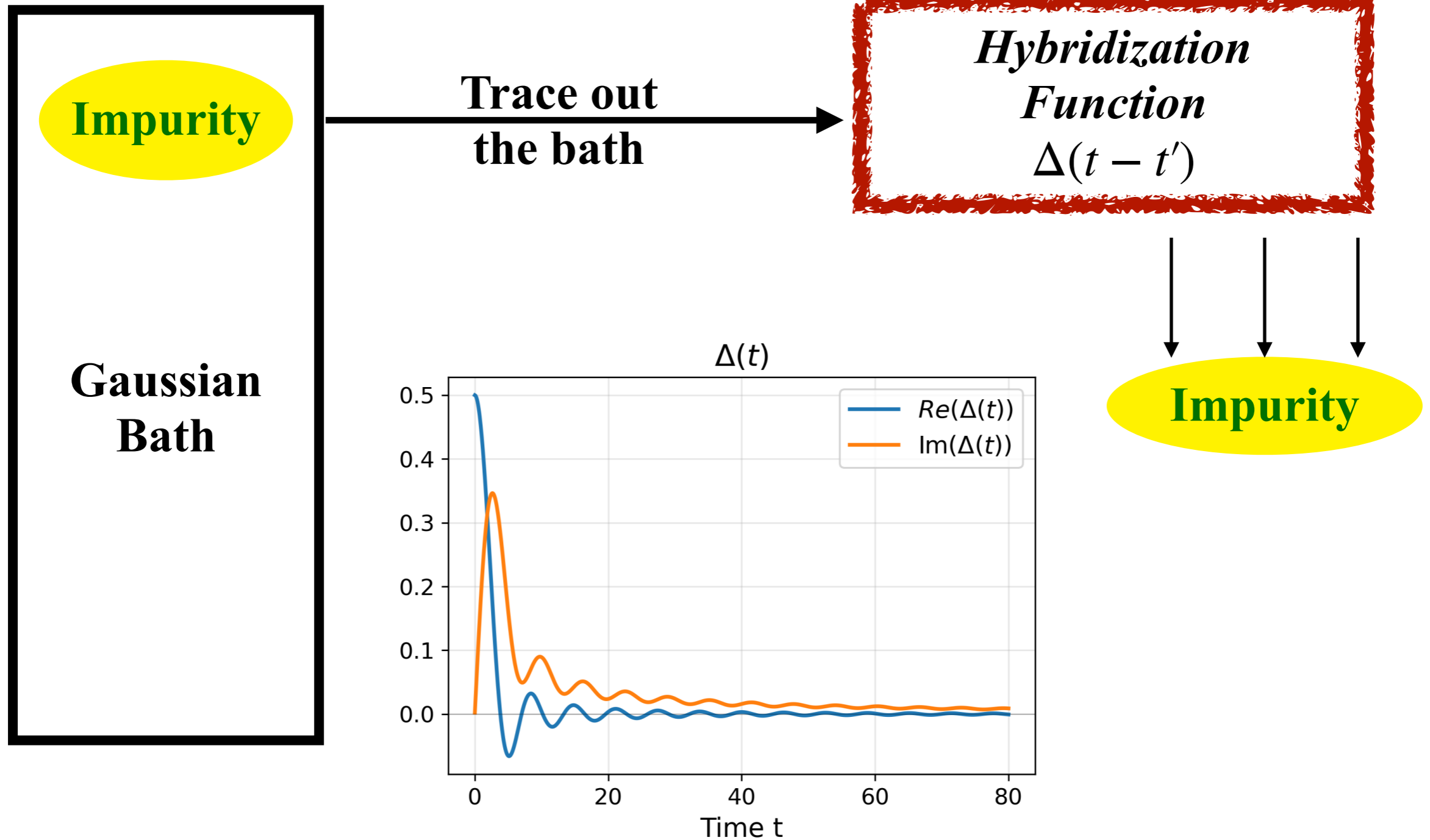


CCM & CCQ,
Flatiron institute

math.berkeley.edu/~hertz

Mar 18, 2026 @ Precision many body physics, APS Global Summit

Gaussian bath and hybridization functions



Applications

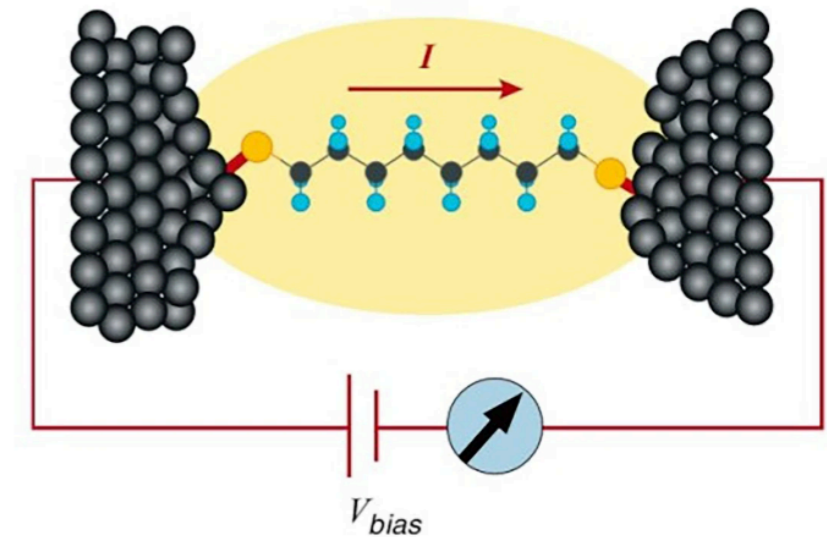
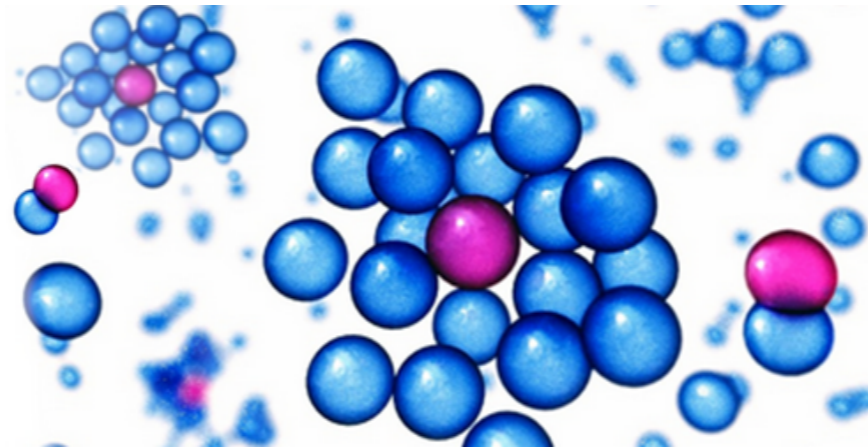
Light-matter coupling

Quantum impurities

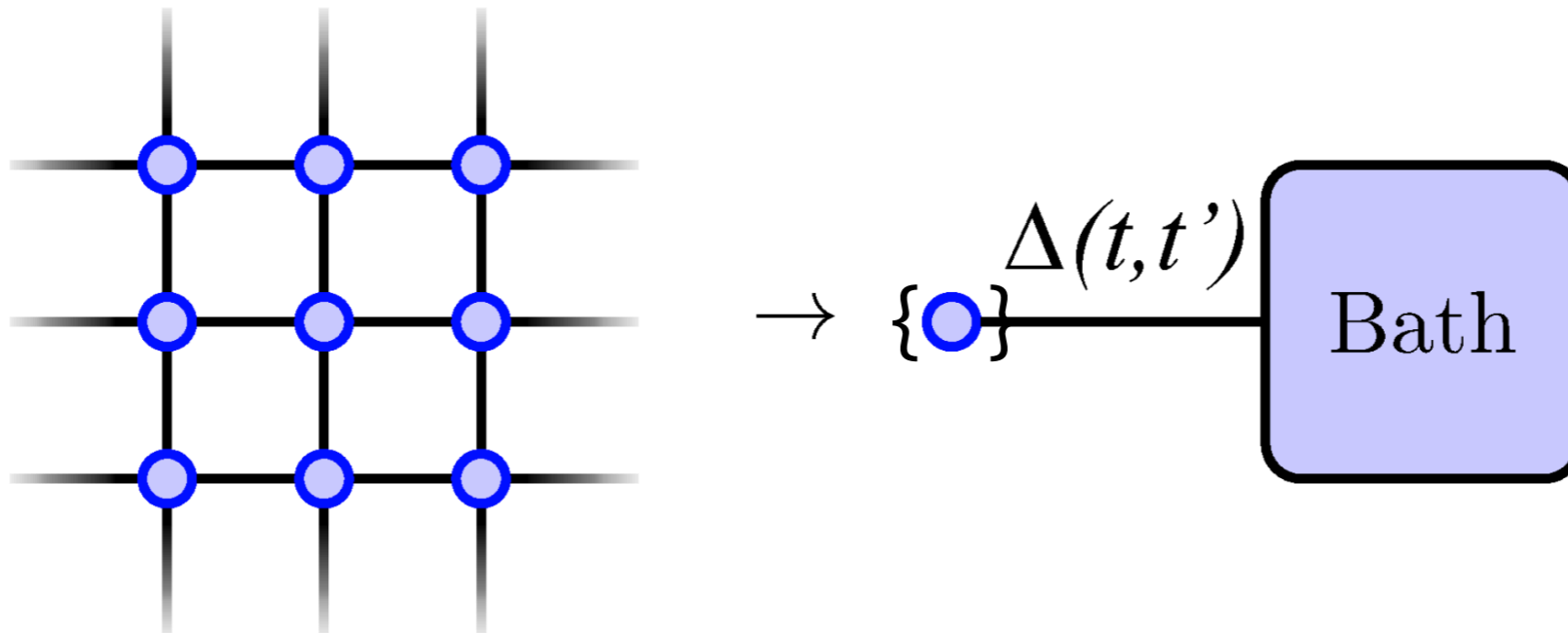
Molecular junctions

How strong is your light-matter coupling?

- $g > (\gamma + \kappa)/4$ **Strong**
- $g > 0.1\omega_0$ **Ultrastrong**
- $g > \omega_0$ **Deep Strong**
- $g > \Delta\omega$ **Superstrong**
- $g > Ry^*$ **Very Strong**
- ...



Dynamical mean-field theory (DMFT)



The problem of real-time bath fitting

Find w_k and z_k such that:

$$\Delta(t) \approx \sum_{k=1}^N w_k e^{-iz_k t}, \quad w_k, z_k \in \mathbb{C}, \text{ with accuracy } \varepsilon \text{ on } [0, T].$$

Question:

How many terms is needed? (What is N ?)

a.k.a.

How complicated is my Gaussian bath?

Or

How complicated could a sum-of-exponential problem be?

Recall known results on imaginary-time hybridization functions

$$\Delta(\tau) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} K_{\beta}(\tau, \omega) J(\omega) d\omega, \quad \tau \in [0, \beta], \quad K_{\beta}(\tau, \omega) = \frac{e^{-\tau\omega}}{1 + e^{-\beta\omega}}.$$

Exponentially decaying kernel in imaginary time.

Compared to $K(t, \omega) = e^{-i\omega t}$ in real-time. Oscillatory.

Fri. March 20, 8:36 — 8:48 a.m.

📍 Convention Center,
Meeting Room 605

Block-sparse evaluation of imaginary-time strong-coupling Feynman diagrams

Part of [MAR-Y45 Precision Many-Body Physics V: Techniques in Precision Many-body Physics](#)

We present an algorithm for the evaluation of imaginary-time Feynman diagrams in the strong-coupling expansion of the Anderson impurity model that makes use of sparse linear algebra to accelerate existing deterministic methods. A symmetry i...

Authors: Francisco Rilloraza (presenter), Jason Kaye, Hugo Strand, Zhen Huang, Denis Golez

Fri. March 20, 8:48 — 9:00 a.m.

📍 Convention Center,
Meeting Room 605

The TRIQS arbitrary X-Crossing Approximation impurity solver (triqs_xca)

Part of [MAR-Y45 Precision Many-Body Physics V: Techniques in Precision Many-body Physics](#)

The triqs_xca solver is the latest quantum impurity solver addition to the Toolbox for Research on Interacting Quantum Systems (TRIQS) based on the bold hybridization expansion, a.k.a. the X:th order Crossing Approximation (XCA). Using the sum-of...

Authors: Hugo Strand (presenter), Paco Rilloraza, Zhen Huang, Nils Wentzell, Denis Golez, Jason Kaye

- IR, DLR, modified AAA. **See also talks Friday Room 605 8:36am - 9am.**

Exciting progress in imaginary-time multi-orbital impurity solvers.

Recall known results on imaginary-time hybridization functions

$$\Delta(\tau) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} K_{\beta}(\tau, \omega) J(\omega) d\omega, \quad \tau \in [0, \beta], \quad K_{\beta}(\tau, \omega) = \frac{e^{-\tau\omega}}{1 + e^{-\beta\omega}}.$$

Exponentially decaying kernel in imaginary time.

Compared to $K(t, \omega) = e^{-i\omega t}$ in real-time. **Oscillatory.**

• Imaginary-time bath fitting: $\Delta(\tau) \approx \sum_{k=1}^N w_j e^{-z_j \tau}, z_j \in \mathbb{R},$

• $N \sim O(\log(\beta W/\epsilon)).$

• Efficient algorithms:

Kaye, **Huang**, Strand, Golež, Physics Review X, 14, 031034 (2024)

Huang, Golež, Strand, Kaye, SciPost Phys. 19, 121 (2025)

• IR, DLR, modified AAA. **See also talks Friday Room 605 8:36am - 9am.**

• Additional constraints on $\omega_j \geq 0$ for causality. **Huang**, Gull, Lin, Phys. Rev. B 107, 075151 (2023)

What could be the contributing factors to complexity of real-time bath fitting?

$$\Delta(t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} J(\omega) f_{FD}(\omega) e^{-i\omega t} d\omega, \quad f_{FD}(\omega) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\beta(\omega - \mu)}}.$$

- Accuracy ε ?
- Maximum time T ?
- Temperature β ? Bandwidth W ?
- Smoothness of J ?
- Previous analysis:
 - Strong assumptions on analyticity of J . Showing $N \sim \log^2(T/\varepsilon)$.

Singularities of spectral density

- Generally unreasonable to assume analyticity in practice!

PHYSICAL REVIEW

VOLUME 89, NUMBER 6

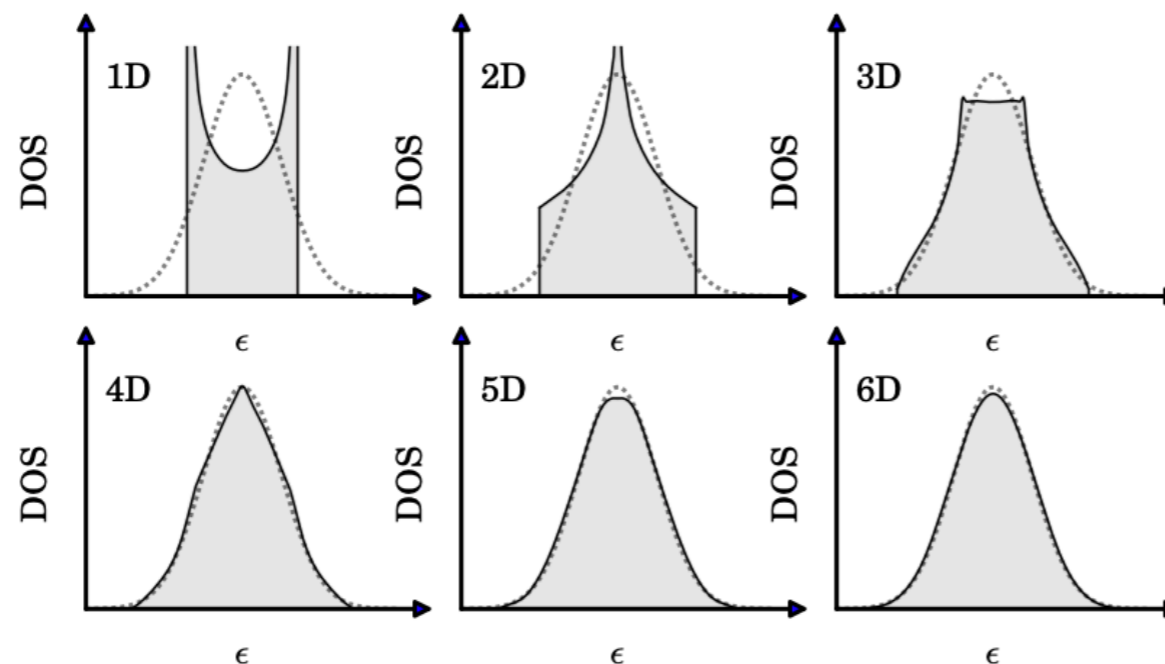
MARCH 15, 1953

The Occurrence of Singularities in the Elastic Frequency Distribution of a Crystal

LÉON VAN HOVE

Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey

(Received December 5, 1952)



Define singularity order α :
 $J(\omega) \sim (\omega - \omega_0)^\alpha$

Figure 2.2: Density of states for the square lattice in 1 to 6 dimensions (solid lines and gray shaded areas) compared with the infinite dimensional limit (gray dotted line), inspired by [17].

Our result: clarifying the origin of the T dependence

Huang, Ding, Wang, Kaye, Li, Lin, in preparation, 2026

Define singularity order α :

$$J(\omega) \sim (\omega - \omega_0)^\alpha$$

- Informal statement of our theorem:
 - If the effective spectral density is continuous ($\alpha > 0$), then $N \sim O(\log^2(1/\varepsilon_1))$
Independent of T .
 - If the effective spectral density is discontinuous ($\alpha \leq 0$) in ω , then:
 - $N \sim O(\log^2(T/\varepsilon_1))$ for $\alpha < 0$;
 - $N \sim O(\log(T/\varepsilon_1)\log((\log T)/\varepsilon_1))$ for $\alpha = 0$.
- In all cases, **independent of β !**
- A square-root singularity is **not STRONG enough** to create a T dependence.

Physical implications (1): bosons

Sub-ohmic, ohmic and super-ohmic baths

- For bosonic bath, $J(\omega) \sim \omega^\gamma$ near $\omega = 0$. $\gamma > 0$.
- Finite temperature (fixed accuracy):

$$0 < \gamma < 1$$

$$\gamma = 1$$

$$\gamma > 1$$

Sub Ohmic	Ohmic	Super Ohmic
$N \sim O(\log^2 T)$	$O(\log T \log \log T)$	$N \sim O(1)$

- Zero temperature:
 - $N \sim O(1)$.
- Qualitative differences!

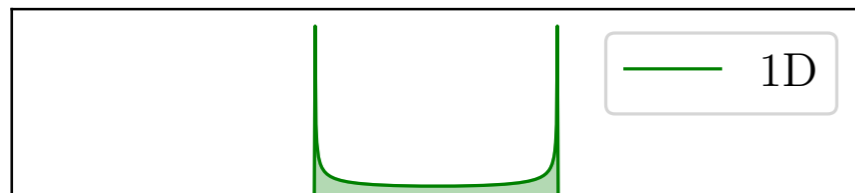
Physical implications (2)

Van Hove singularities

DOS

Singularity

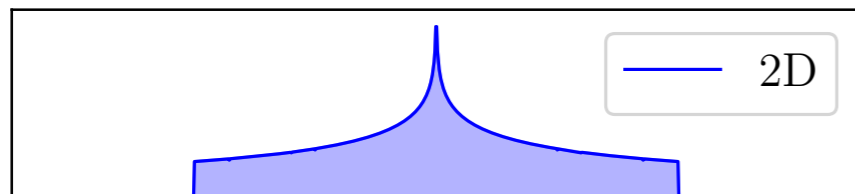
N v.s. T



Inverse square root

$$\alpha = -\frac{1}{2}$$

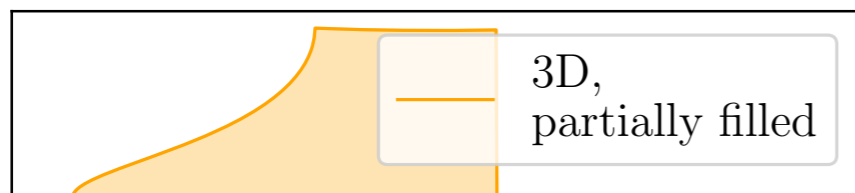
$$O(\log^2 T)$$



Logarithmic

$$\alpha = 0$$

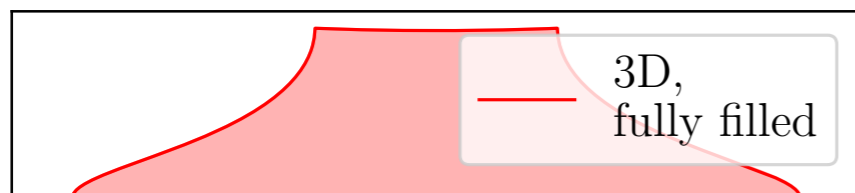
$$O(\log T \cdot \log \log T)$$



Step discontinuity

$$\alpha = 0$$

$$O(\log T \cdot \log \log T)$$



Continuous
(Non-smooth)

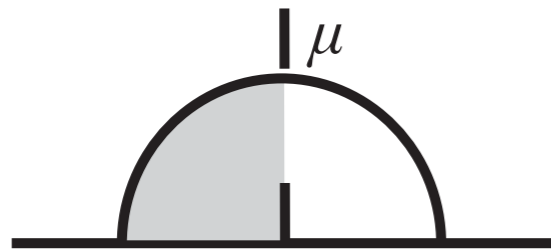
$$\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$O(1)$$

Physical implications (3)

Gapped v.s. gapless baths

DOS



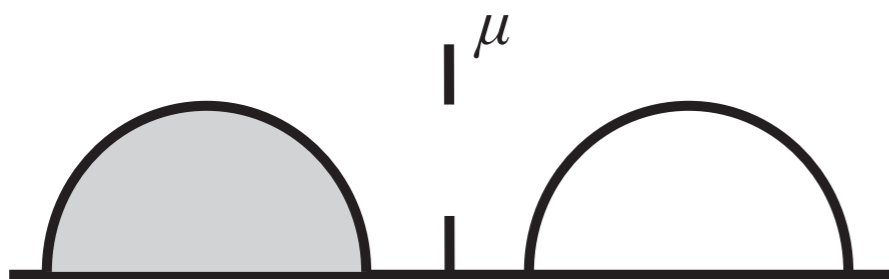
Singularity

$$\alpha = 0$$

Step
discontinuity

N v.s. T

$$O(\log T \cdot \log \log T)$$

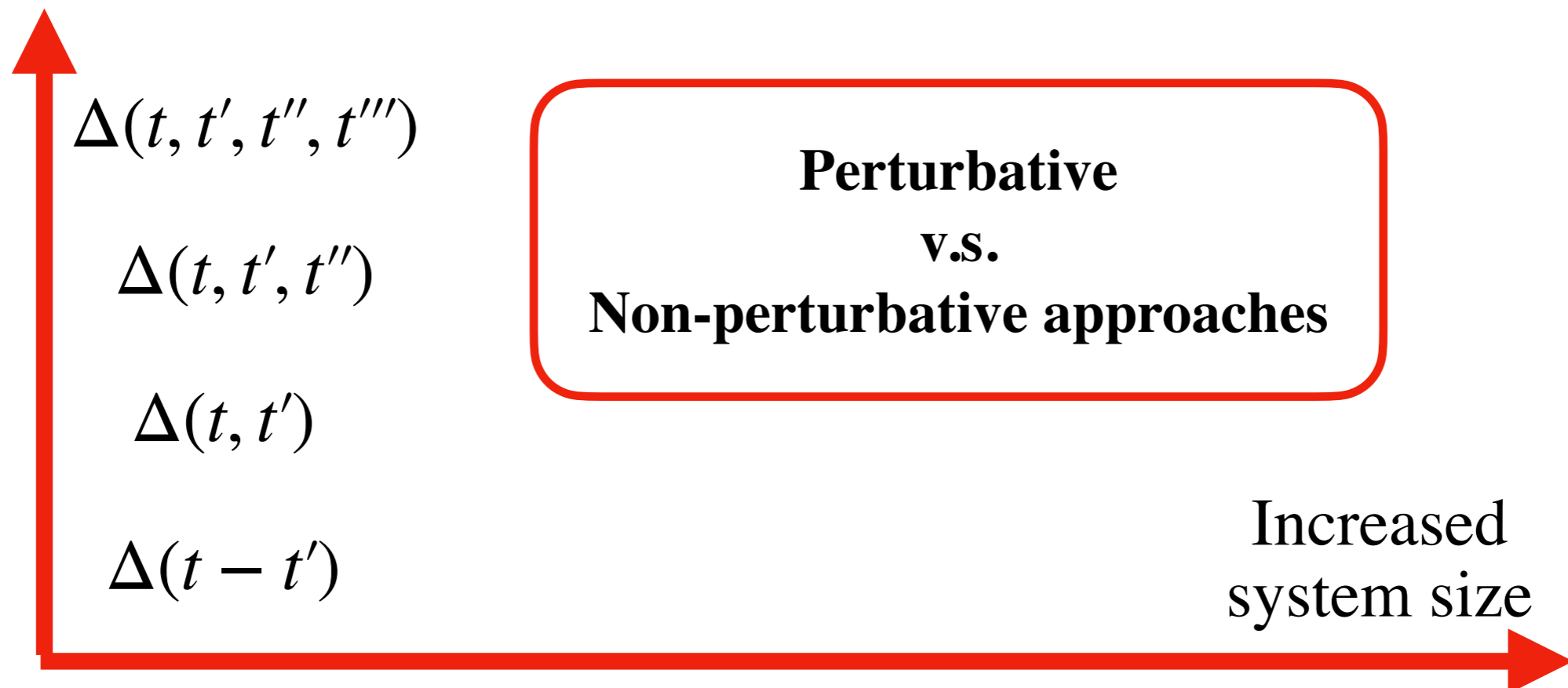


Continuous
(Non-smooth)

$$\alpha > 0$$

$$O(1)$$

- “When can we stop worrying about bath fitting, and focus on *real physics*?” — Informal comment from someone in this room, May 2025.
- For real-time bath fitting, now we know both **how to** (previous works) and **how good it is** (this work).
 - Efficiency: quasi-Lindblad. Park, **Huang**, Zhu, Yang, Chan, Lin, *Phys. Rev. B* 110, 195148 (2024)
 - Efficiency + physicality guarantee: coupled-Lindblad.
- What’s next? **Huang**, Park, Chan, Lin, *Phys. Rev. Letter* 136, 090403 (2026)



Thank you for your attention!

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