

# ab initio Green-Kubo simulation of heat transport in liquids and glasses

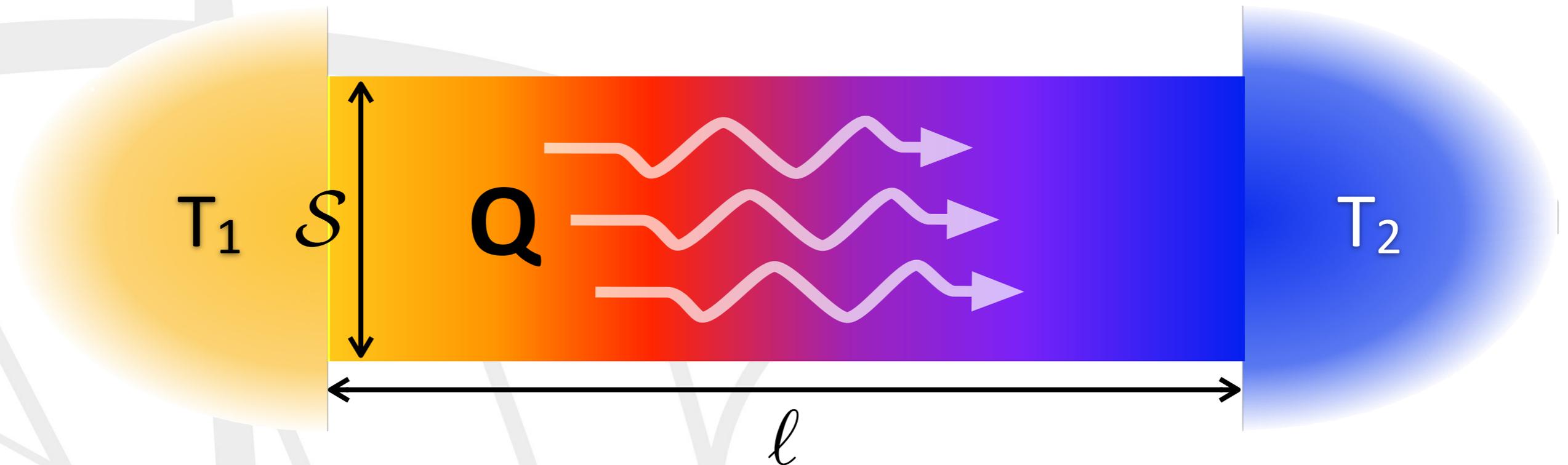
*a challenge for theoretical physics, data analysis, and information technology*

Stefano Baroni

Scuola Internazionale Superiore di Studi Avanzati, Trieste

talk given at the MAX Conference on Materials Design Ecosystem at the Exascale  
the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics, Trieste January 29-31, 2018

# what heat transport is all about



$$\frac{1}{S} \frac{dQ}{dt} = -\kappa \frac{(T_2 - T_1)}{l}$$

heat flows from the warm to the cool  
as time flows from the past to the future

$$\mathbf{j}_Q(\mathbf{r}, t) = -\kappa \nabla T(\mathbf{r}, t)$$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{\kappa}{\rho c_p} \Delta T$$

# why should we care?

- energy saving and heat dissipation
- heat management in devices
- heat shielding
- energy conversion
- earth and planetary sciences
- ...

# why should we care?



- ... because it is important and poorly understood

# Green-Kubo theory

$$\kappa = \frac{1}{3V k_B T^2} \int_0^\infty \langle \mathbf{J}_q(t) \cdot \mathbf{J}_q(0) \rangle dt$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{J}_q(t) &= \int \mathbf{j}_q(\mathbf{r}, t) d\mathbf{r} \\ &= \int \mathbf{r} \dot{e}(\mathbf{r}, t) d\mathbf{r} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{j}_q(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{j}_e(\mathbf{r}, t) - \cancel{(p + \langle e \rangle) \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r}, t)}$$

$$\dot{e}(\mathbf{r}, t) + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}_e(\mathbf{r}, t) = 0$$

# Green-Kubo theory

$$\kappa = \frac{1}{3V k_B T^2} \int_0^\infty \langle \mathbf{J}_q(t) \cdot \mathbf{J}_q(0) \rangle dt$$

$$\mathbf{J}_q(t) = \int \mathbf{r} \dot{e}(\mathbf{r}, t) d\mathbf{r}$$

# the classical MD ansatz

$$e(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{t}) = \sum_I \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_I(\mathbf{t})) \epsilon_I(\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{t}), \mathbf{V}(\mathbf{t}))$$

$$\epsilon_I(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{V}) = \frac{1}{2} M_I \mathbf{V}_I^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{J \neq I} v(|\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J|)$$

$$\mathbf{J}_e = \sum_I \epsilon_I \mathbf{V}_I + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{I \neq J} (\mathbf{V}_I \cdot \mathbf{F}_{IJ})(\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J)$$

# hurdles towards an ab initio Green-Kubo theory

PRL 104, 208501 (2010)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending  
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sensitive to the form of the potential. The widely used Green-Kubo relation [14] does not serve our purposes, because in first-principles calculations it is impossible to uniquely decompose the total energy into individual contributions from each atom.

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ulations: Because of the limited time scales accessible in aiMD runs, thermodynamic fluctuations dominate the HFACF, which in turn prevents a reliable and numerically stable assessment of the thermal conductivity via Eq. (2).

# insights from classical mechanics

$$E = \sum_I \epsilon_I(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{V})$$
$$= \text{cnst}$$

$$\epsilon_I(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{V}) = \frac{1}{2} M_I \mathbf{V}_I^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{J \neq I} v(|\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J|)$$

$$\mathbf{J}_e = \sum_I \epsilon_I \mathbf{V}_I + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{I \neq J} (\mathbf{V}_I \cdot \mathbf{F}_{IJ})(\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J)$$

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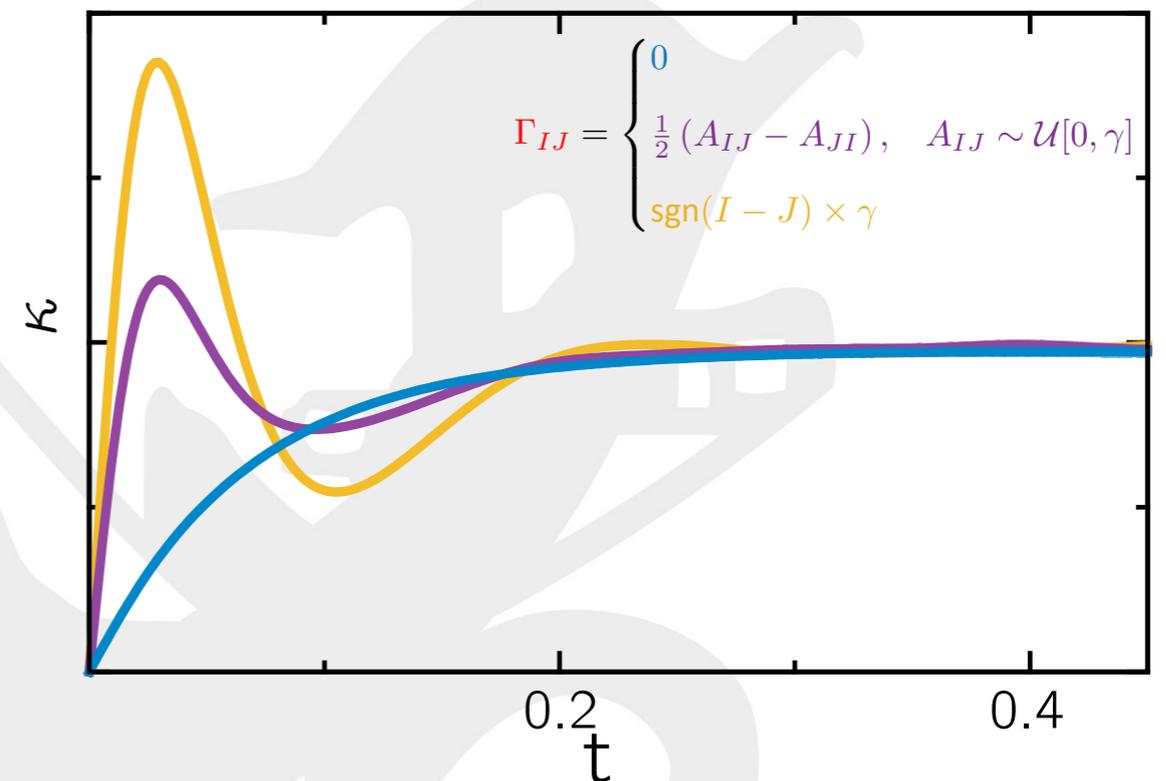
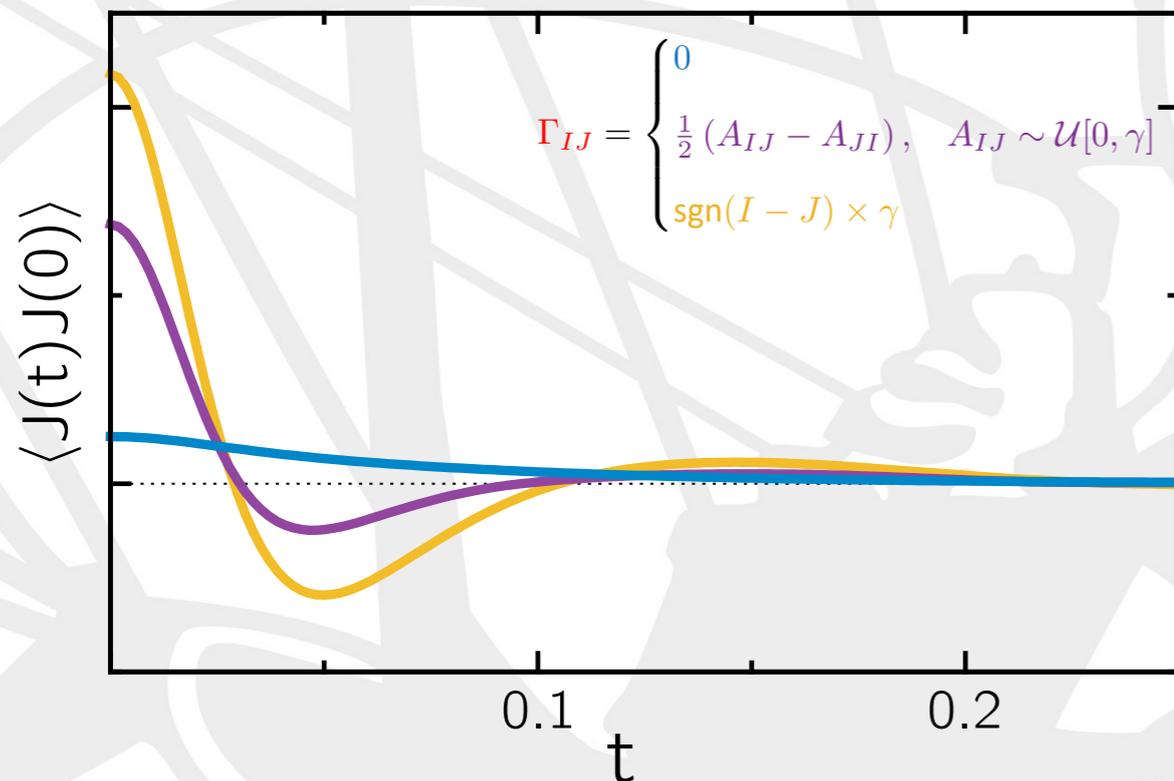
$$\sum_I \epsilon_I(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{V}) = \text{cnst}$$

$$\epsilon_I(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{V}) = \frac{1}{2} M_I \mathbf{V}_I^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{J \neq I} v(|\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J|) (1 + \Gamma_{IJ})$$

$$\mathbf{J}_e = \sum_I \epsilon_I \mathbf{V}_I + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{I \neq J} (\mathbf{V}_I \cdot \mathbf{F}_{IJ}) (\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J) \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{I \neq J} \Gamma_{IJ} [\mathbf{V}_I v(|\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J|) + (\mathbf{V}_I \cdot \mathbf{F}_{IJ}) (\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_I)]$$

# insights from classical mechanics

$$\mathbf{J}_e = \sum_I \epsilon_I \mathbf{v}_I + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{I \neq J} (\mathbf{v}_I \cdot \mathbf{F}_{IJ}) (\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J) \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{I \neq J} \Gamma_{IJ} [\mathbf{v}_I v(|\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J|) + (\mathbf{v}_I \cdot \mathbf{F}_{IJ}) (\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J)]$$



# insights from classical mechanics

$$\mathbf{J}_e = \sum_I \epsilon_I \mathbf{v}_I + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{I \neq J} (\mathbf{v}_I \cdot \mathbf{F}_{IJ}) (\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J) \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{I \neq J} \Gamma_{IJ} [\mathbf{v}_I v(|\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J|) + (\mathbf{v}_I \cdot \mathbf{F}_{IJ}) (\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J)]$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{p}} = \frac{d}{dt} \frac{1}{4} \sum_{I \neq J} \Gamma_{IJ} v(|\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J|) (\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J)$$

# insights from classical mechanics

$$\mathbf{J}' = \mathbf{J} + \dot{\mathbf{P}}$$

$$\int_0^\infty \langle \mathbf{J}'(t) \cdot \mathbf{J}'(0) \rangle dt = \int_0^\infty \langle \mathbf{J}(t) \cdot \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle dt$$

$$+ \int_0^\infty \left( \langle \mathbf{P}(t) \cdot \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle + \langle \dot{\mathbf{P}}(-t) \cdot \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle \right) dt$$

$$+ \int_0^\infty \langle \mathbf{P}(t) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{P}}(0) \rangle dt$$

$$\begin{aligned} &+ \langle \mathbf{P}(\infty) \cdot \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle - \langle \mathbf{P}(0) \cdot \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle \\ &+ \langle \mathbf{P}(0) \cdot \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle - \langle \mathbf{P}(-\infty) \cdot \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle \\ &+ \langle \mathbf{P}(\infty) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{P}}(0) \rangle - \langle \mathbf{P}(0) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{P}}(0) \rangle \end{aligned}$$

# insights from classical mechanics

$$\mathbf{J}' = \mathbf{J} + \dot{\mathbf{P}}$$

$$\int_0^\infty \langle \mathbf{J}'(t) \cdot \mathbf{J}'(0) \rangle dt = \int_0^\infty \langle \mathbf{J}(t) \cdot \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle dt$$

$$+ \int_0^\infty \langle \mathbf{P}(t) \cdot \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle + \langle \dot{\mathbf{P}}(-t) \cdot \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle dt$$

$$+ \int_0^\infty \langle \mathbf{P}(t) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{P}}(0) \rangle dt$$

$$\kappa' = \kappa$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \mathbf{J}(0) \cdot \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle - \langle \mathbf{P}(0) \cdot \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle \\ & + \langle \mathbf{J}(0) \cdot \mathbf{P}(0) \rangle - \langle \mathbf{P}(-\infty) \cdot \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle \\ & + \langle \mathbf{P}(\infty) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{P}}(0) \rangle - \langle \mathbf{P}(0) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{P}}(0) \rangle \end{aligned}$$

# gauge invariance

any two energy densities that differ by the divergence of a (bounded) vector field are physically equivalent

$$E[\Omega_1 \cup \Omega_2] = E[\Omega_1] + E[\Omega_2] + W[\partial\Omega]$$
$$\stackrel{?}{=} \mathcal{E}[\Omega_1] + \mathcal{E}[\Omega_2]$$

$$\mathcal{E}'[\Omega] = \mathcal{E}[\Omega] + \mathcal{O}[\partial\Omega]$$

the corresponding energy fluxes differ by a total time derivative, and the heat transport coefficients coincide

$$\mathbf{J}'(t) = \mathbf{J}(t) + \dot{\mathbf{P}}(t)$$

# density-functional theory

$$\begin{aligned} E_{DFT} = & \frac{1}{2} \sum_I M_I V_I^2 + \frac{e^2}{2} \sum_{I \neq J} \frac{Z_I Z_J}{R_{IJ}} \\ & + \sum_v \epsilon_v - \frac{1}{2} E_H + \int (\epsilon_{XC}(\mathbf{r}) - \mu_{XC}(\mathbf{r})) \rho(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r} \end{aligned}$$

# the DFT energy density

$$E_{DFT} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_I M_I V_I^2 + \frac{e^2}{2} \sum_{I \neq J} \frac{Z_I Z_J}{R_{IJ}} \\ + \sum_v \epsilon_v - \frac{1}{2} E_H + \int (\epsilon_{XC}(\mathbf{r}) - \mu_{XC}(\mathbf{r})) \rho(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r}$$

$$e_{DFT}(\mathbf{r}) = e_0(\mathbf{r}) + e_{KS}(\mathbf{r}) + e_H(\mathbf{r}) + e_{XC}(\mathbf{r})$$

$$e_0(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_I \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_I) \left( \frac{1}{2} M_I V_I^2 + w_I \right)$$

$$e_{KS}(\mathbf{r}) = \text{Re} \sum_v \varphi_v^*(\mathbf{r}) (\hat{H}_{KS} \varphi_v(\mathbf{r}))$$

$$e_H(\mathbf{r}) = -\frac{1}{2} \rho(\mathbf{r}) v_H(\mathbf{r})$$

$$e_{XC}(\mathbf{r}) = (\epsilon_{XC}(\mathbf{r}) - v_{XC}(\mathbf{r})) \rho(\mathbf{r})$$

# the DFT energy current

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{J}_{DFT} &= \int \mathbf{r} \dot{e}_{DFT}(\mathbf{r}, t) d\mathbf{r} \\ &= \mathbf{J}_{KS} + \mathbf{J}_H + \mathbf{J}'_0 + \mathbf{J}_0 + \mathbf{J}_{XC}\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{J}_{KS} = \sum_v \left( \langle \varphi_v | \mathbf{r} \hat{H}_{KS} | \dot{\varphi}_v \rangle + \varepsilon_v \langle \dot{\varphi}_v | \mathbf{r} | \varphi_v \rangle \right)$$

$$\mathbf{J}_H = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int \dot{v}_H(\mathbf{r}) \nabla v_H(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r}$$

$$\mathbf{J}'_0 = \sum_{v,I} \langle \varphi_v | (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_I) (\mathbf{v}_I \cdot \nabla_I \hat{v}_0) | \varphi_v \rangle$$

$$\mathbf{J}_0 = \sum_I \left[ \mathbf{v}_I e_I^0 + \sum_{L \neq I} (\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_L) (\mathbf{v}_L \cdot \nabla_L w_I) \right]$$

$$\mathbf{J}_{XC} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{(LDA)} \\ - \int \rho(\mathbf{r}) \dot{\rho}(\mathbf{r}) \partial \epsilon_{GGA}(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r} & \text{(GGA)} \end{cases}$$

# the DFT energy current

$$\mathbf{J}_{DFT} = \int \mathbf{r} \dot{e}_{DFT}(\mathbf{r}, t) d\mathbf{r}$$

$$= \mathbf{J}_{KS} + \mathbf{J}_H + \mathbf{J}'_0 + \mathbf{J}_0 + \mathbf{J}_{XC}$$

$$\mathbf{J}_{KS} = \sum_v \left( \langle \dot{\varphi}_v | \mathbf{r} \hat{H}_{KS} | \dot{\varphi}_v \rangle + \varepsilon_v \langle \dot{\varphi}_v | \mathbf{r} | \varphi_v \rangle \right)$$

$$\mathbf{J}_H = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int \dot{v}_H(\mathbf{r}) \nabla v_H(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r}$$

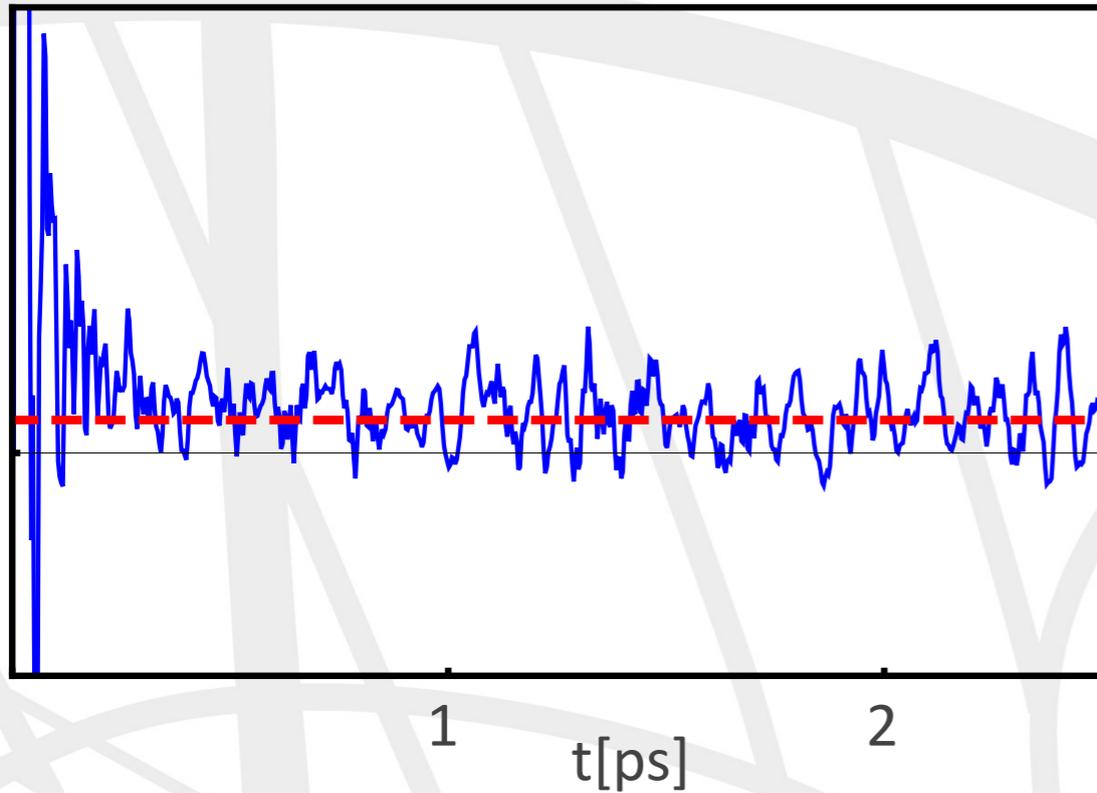
- $|\dot{\varphi}_v\rangle$  and  $\hat{H}_{KS}|\dot{\varphi}_v\rangle$  orthogonal to the occupied-state manifold

- $\hat{P}_c \mathbf{r} |\varphi_v\rangle$  computed from standard DFPT

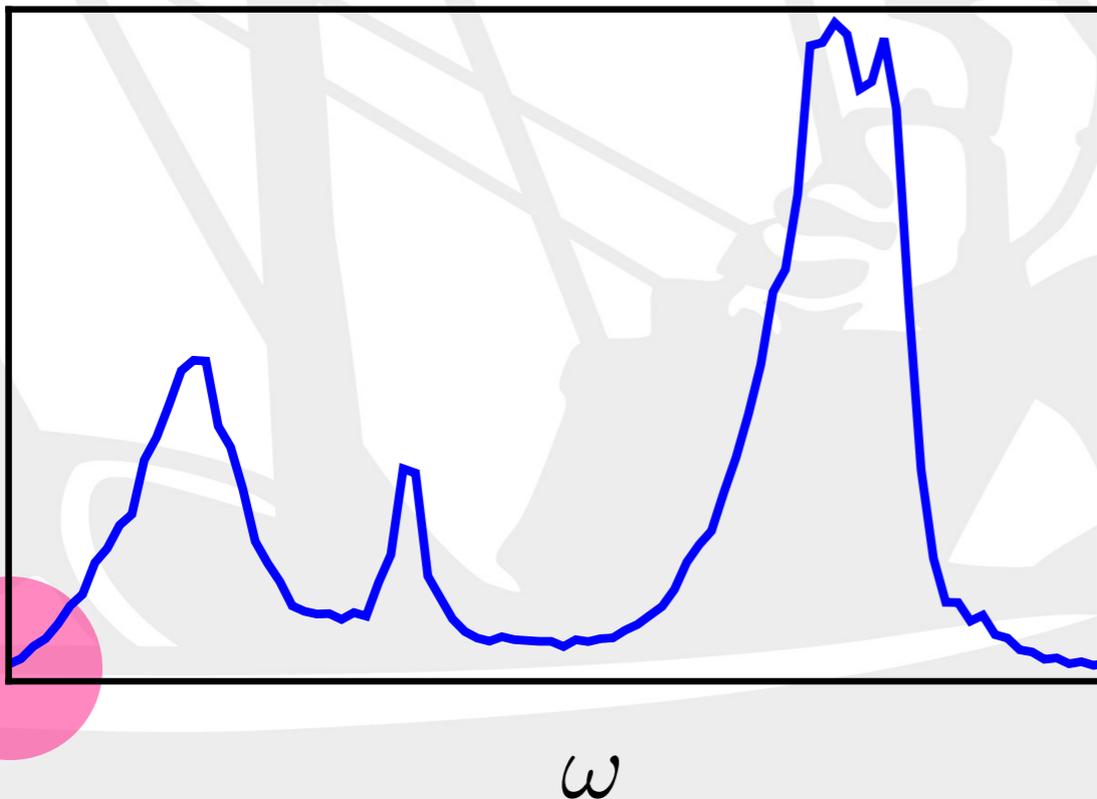
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# liquid (heavy) water

64 molecules, T=385 K  
expt density @ac



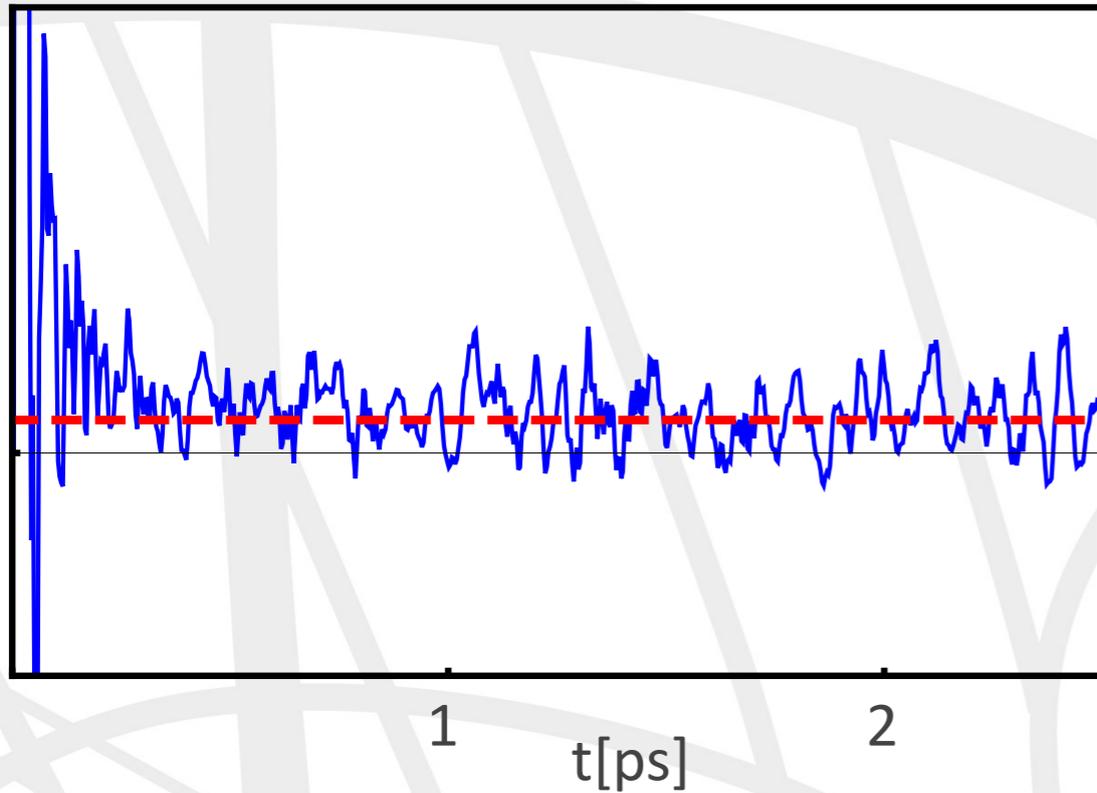
$$\frac{1}{3V k_B T^2} \int_0^t \langle \mathbf{J}(t') \cdot \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle dt'$$



$$S(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \langle \mathbf{J}(t) \cdot \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle e^{i\omega t} dt$$

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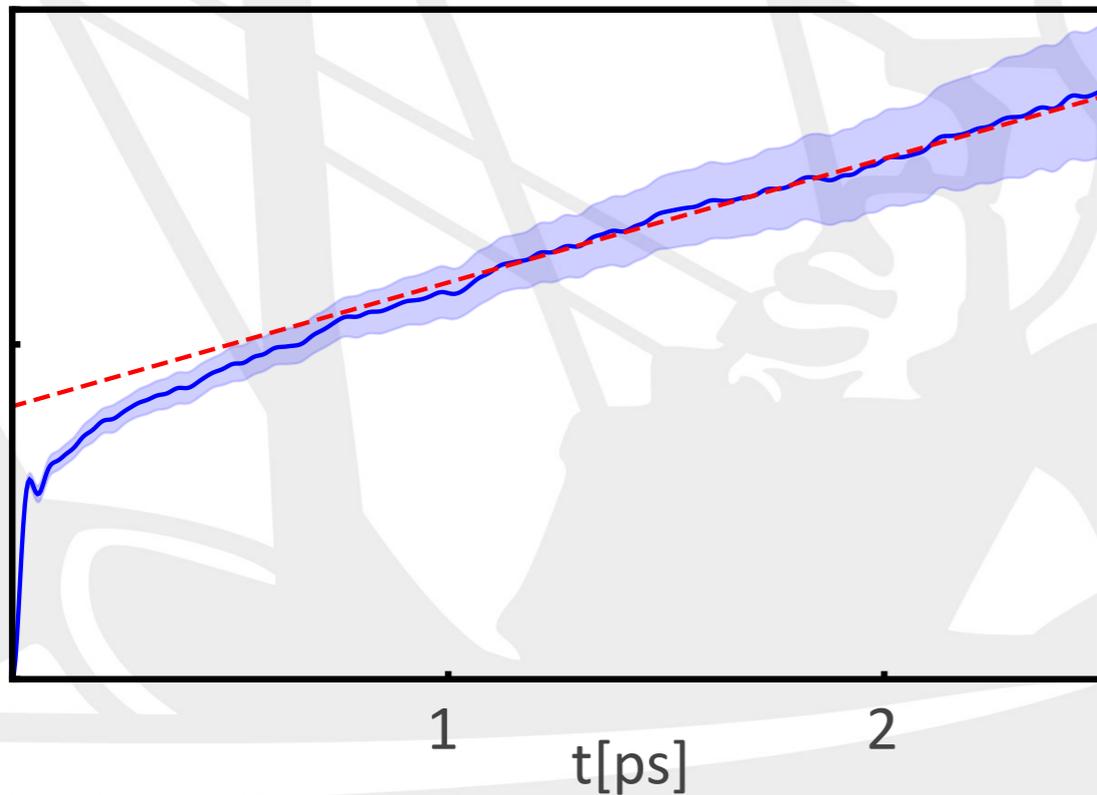
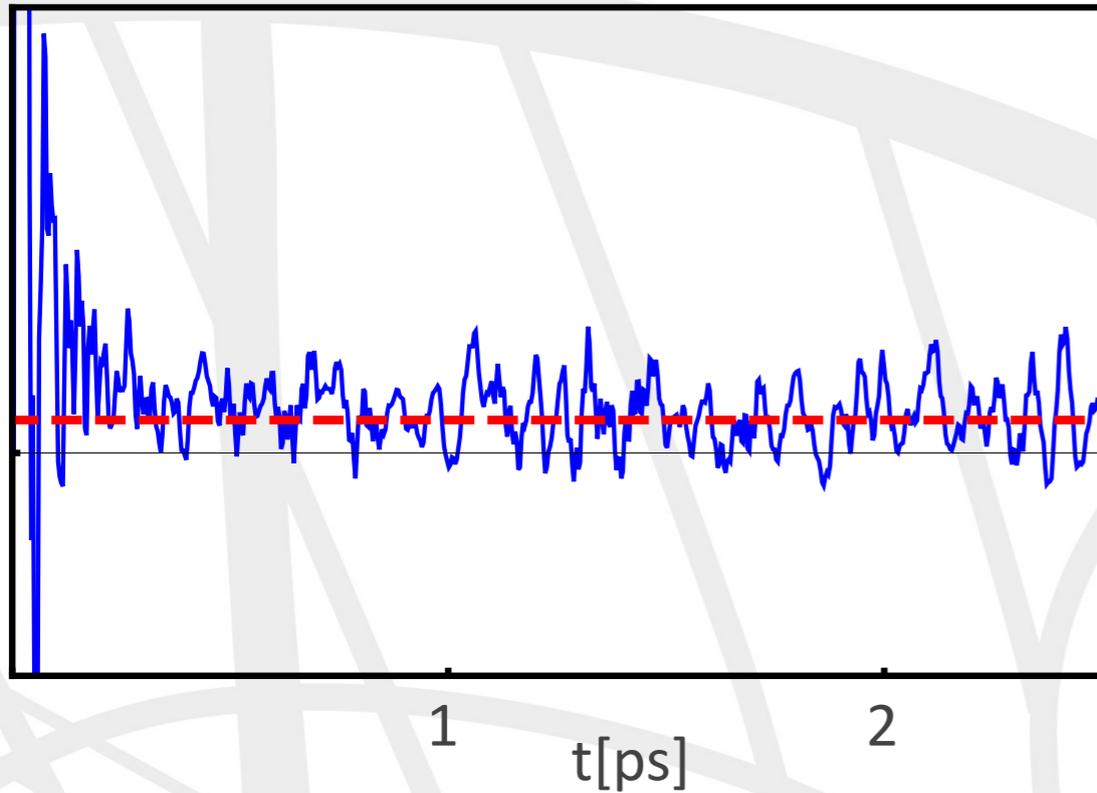
$$\frac{1}{3V k_B T^2} \int_0^t \langle \mathbf{J}(t') \cdot \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle dt'$$

Einstein's relation

$$\frac{t}{3V k_B T^2} \int_0^t \langle \mathbf{J}(t') \cdot \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle dt' \approx \frac{1}{6V k_B T^2} \left\langle \left| \int_0^t \mathbf{J}(t') dt' \right|^2 \right\rangle$$

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64 molecules, T=385 K  
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$$\frac{1}{3V k_B T^2} \int_0^t \langle \mathbf{J}(t') \cdot \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle dt'$$

$$\kappa_{\text{DFT}} = 0.74 \pm 0.12 \text{ W}/(\text{mK})$$

$$\kappa_{\text{expt}} = 0.60$$

$$\frac{1}{6V k_B T^2} \left\langle \left| \int_0^t \mathbf{J}(t') dt' \right|^2 \right\rangle$$

# hurdles towards an ab initio Green-Kubo theory

PRL **104**, 208501 (2010)

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ulations: Because of the limited time scales accessible in aiMD runs, thermodynamic fluctuations dominate the HFACF, which in turn prevents a reliable and numerically stable assessment of the thermal conductivity via Eq. (2).



# separating wheat from chaff

$$\kappa \propto \int_0^{\infty} C(t) dt$$

$$C(t) = \langle J(t)J(0) \rangle$$

$$\kappa \propto S(\omega = 0)$$

$$S(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} C(t)e^{-i\omega t} dt$$

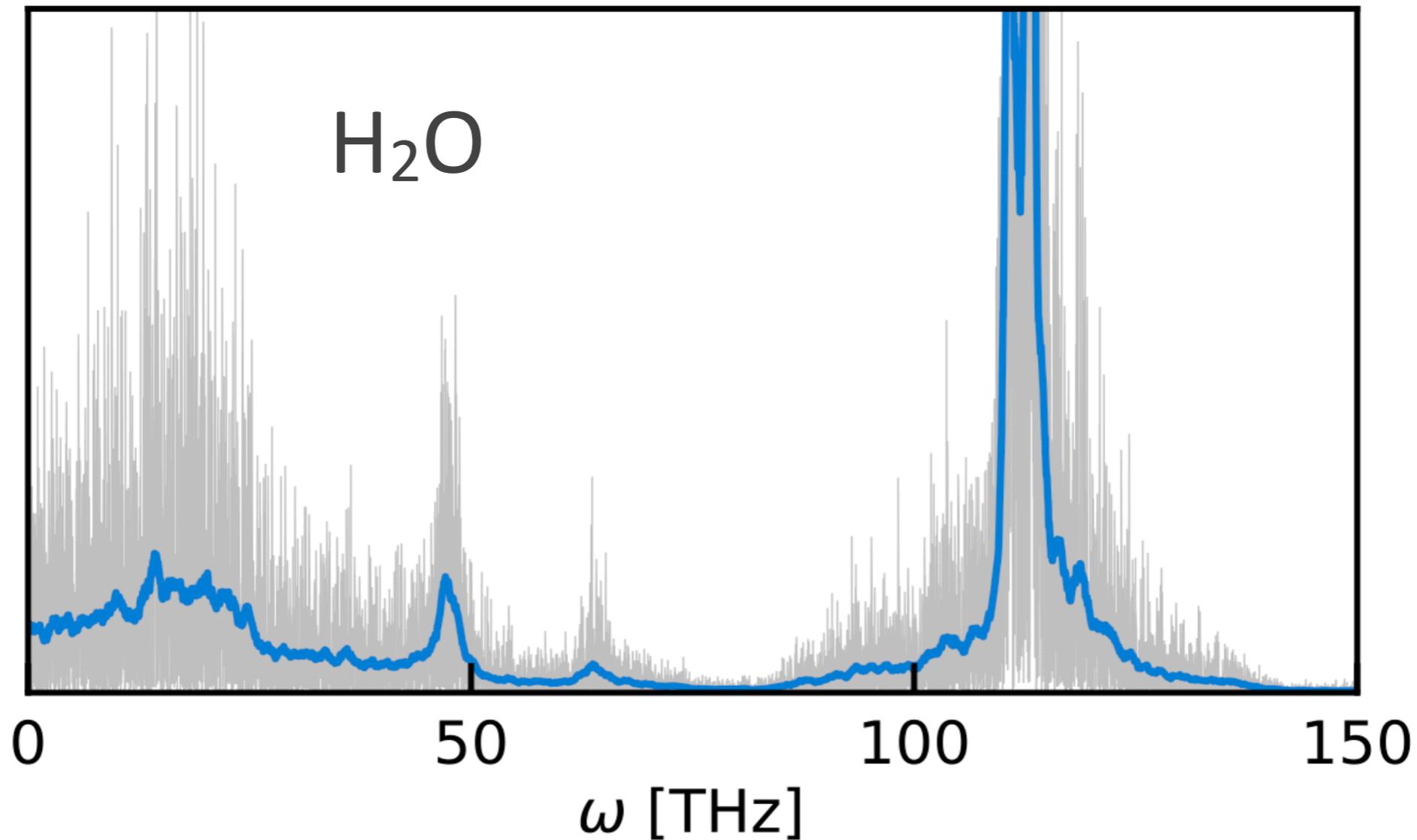
the Wiener-Kintchine theorem

$$S\left(k \frac{2\pi}{N\epsilon}\right) = \frac{\epsilon}{N} \langle |\tilde{J}_k|^2 \rangle$$

$$\tilde{J}_k = \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} J_m e^{-i \frac{2\pi nk}{N}}$$

# separating wheat from chaff

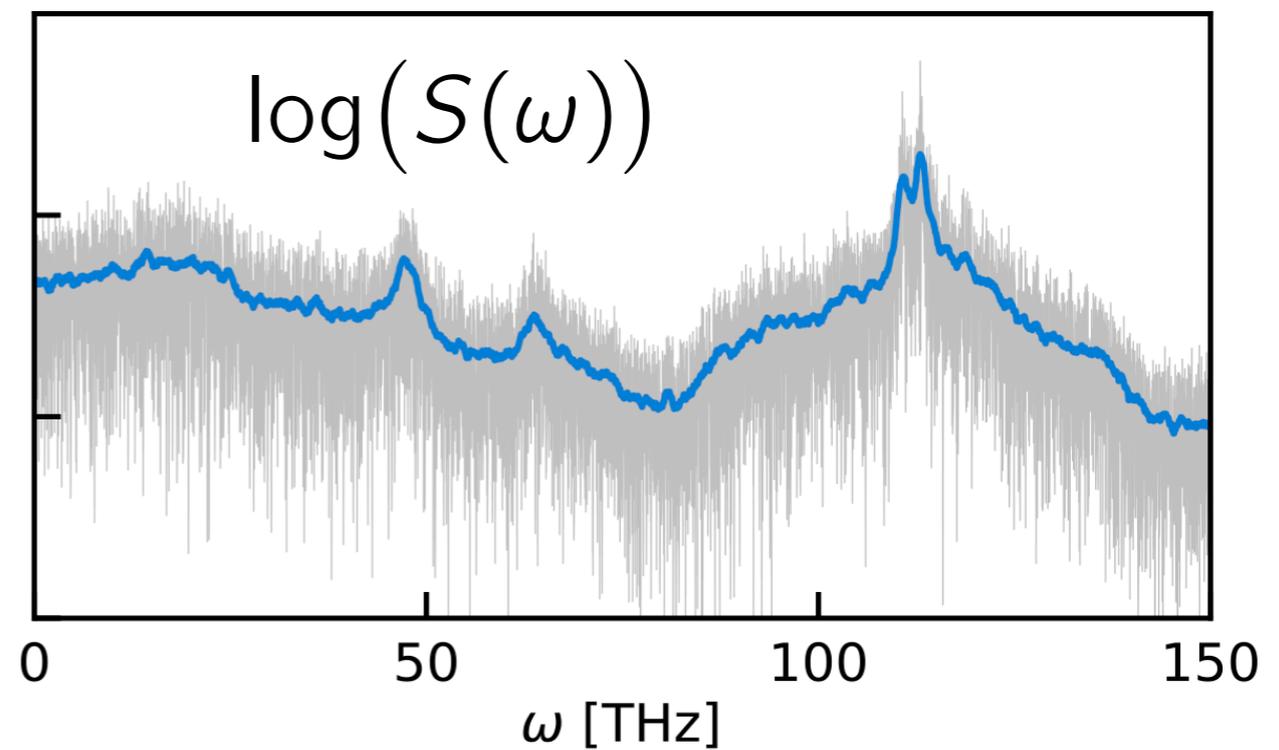
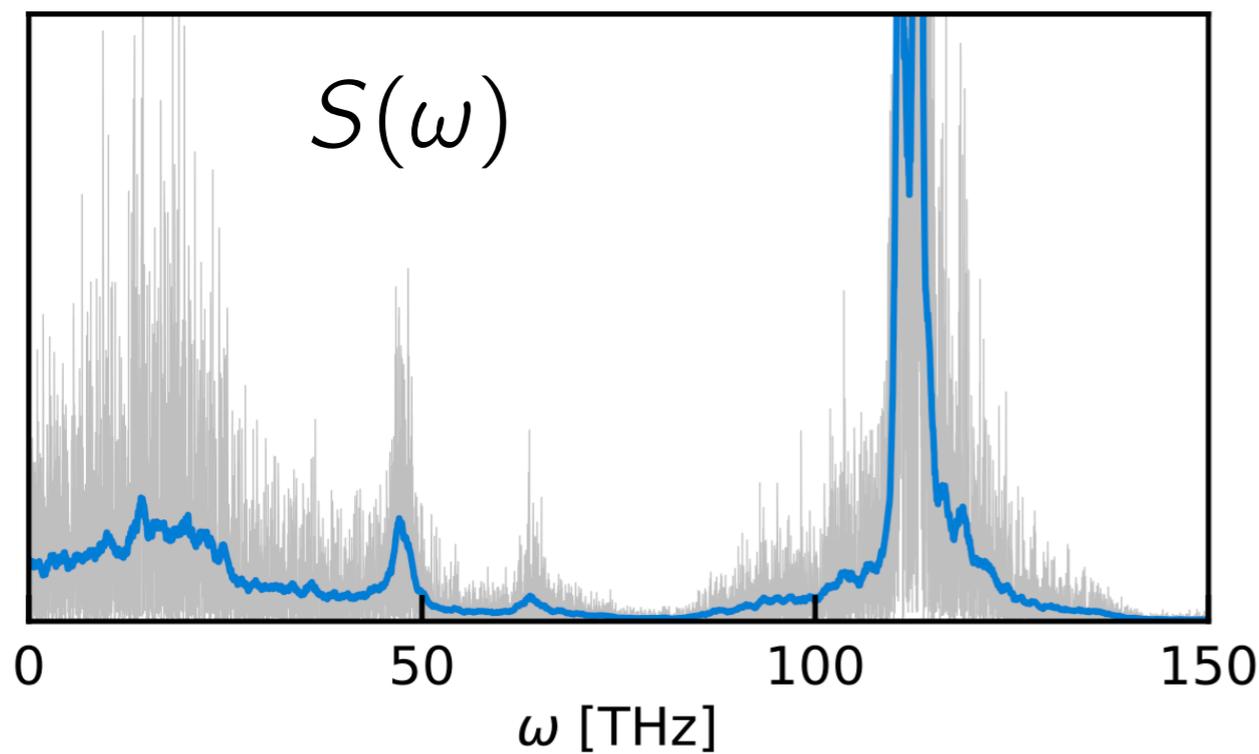
$$\begin{aligned}\hat{S}(k) &= \frac{\epsilon}{N} |\tilde{J}(k)|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} S(\omega_k) \times \chi_2^2\end{aligned}$$



# separating wheat from chaff

$$\hat{S}(k) = S(\omega_k) \hat{\xi}_k$$

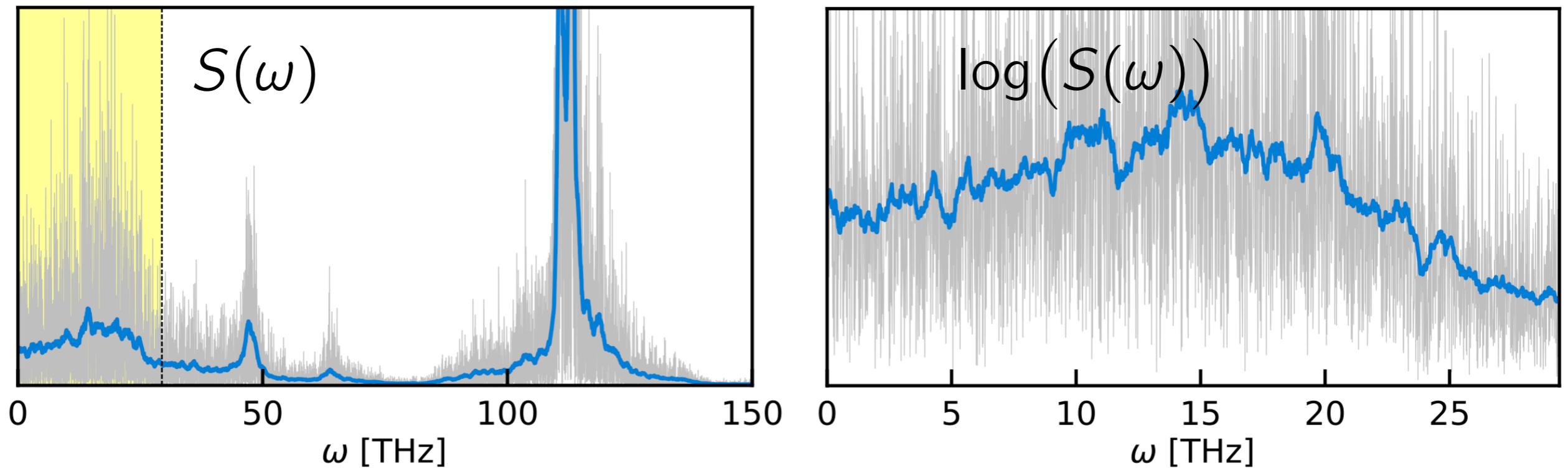
$$\log(\hat{S}(k)) = \log(S(\omega_k)) + \log(\hat{\xi}_k)$$



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$$\hat{S}(k) = S(\omega_k) \hat{\xi}_k$$

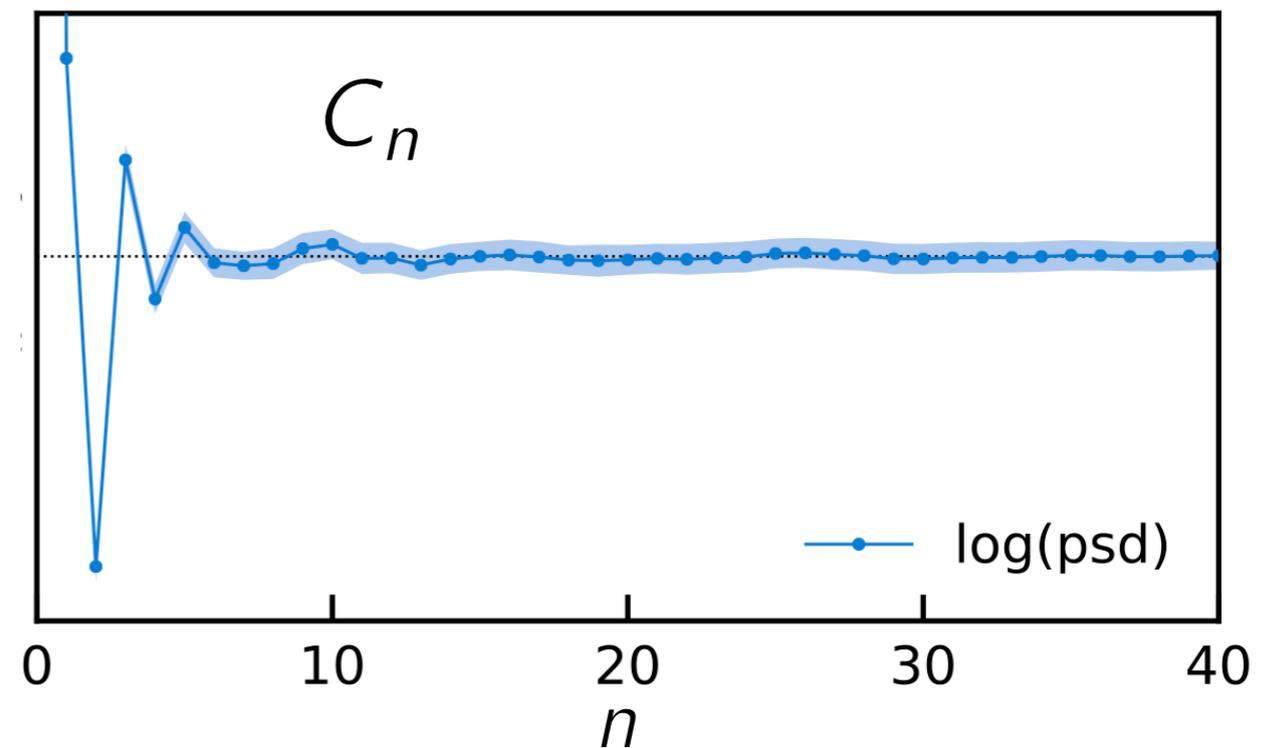
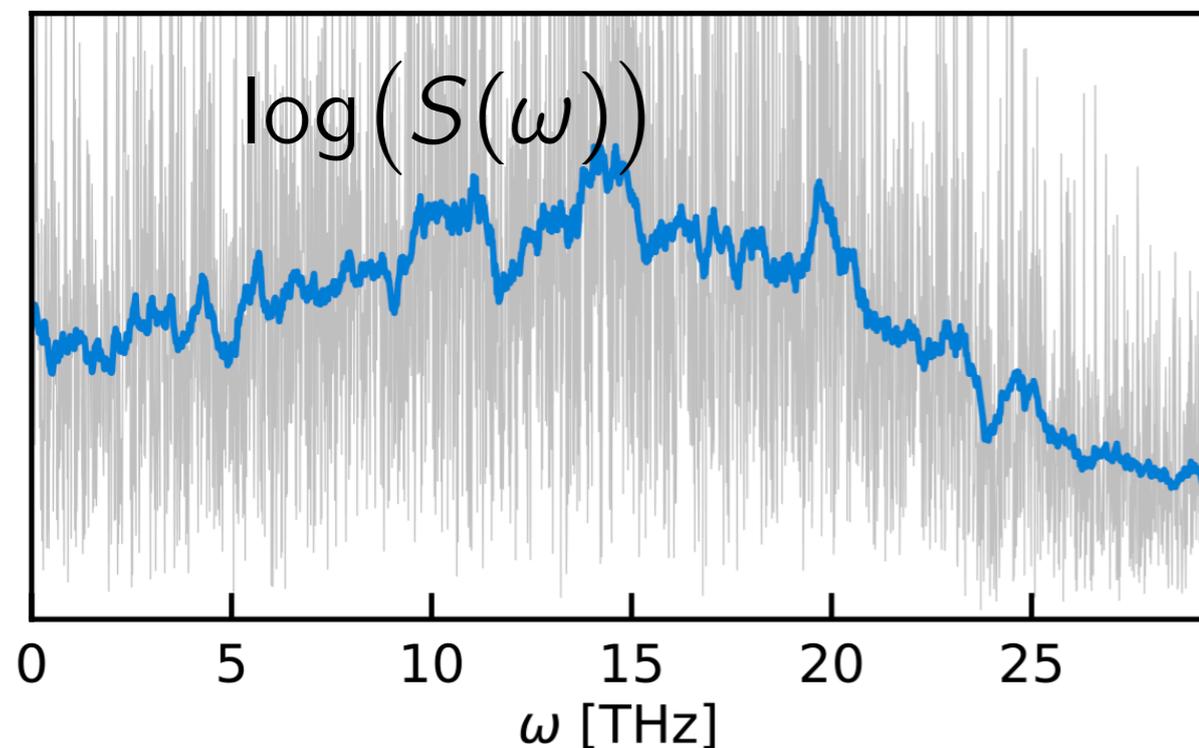
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# separating wheat from chaff

$$\log(\hat{S}(k)) = \log(S(\omega_k)) + \log(\hat{\xi}_k)$$

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \log(\hat{S}(k)) e^{-i \frac{2\pi kn}{N}} = C_n + \text{white noise}$$

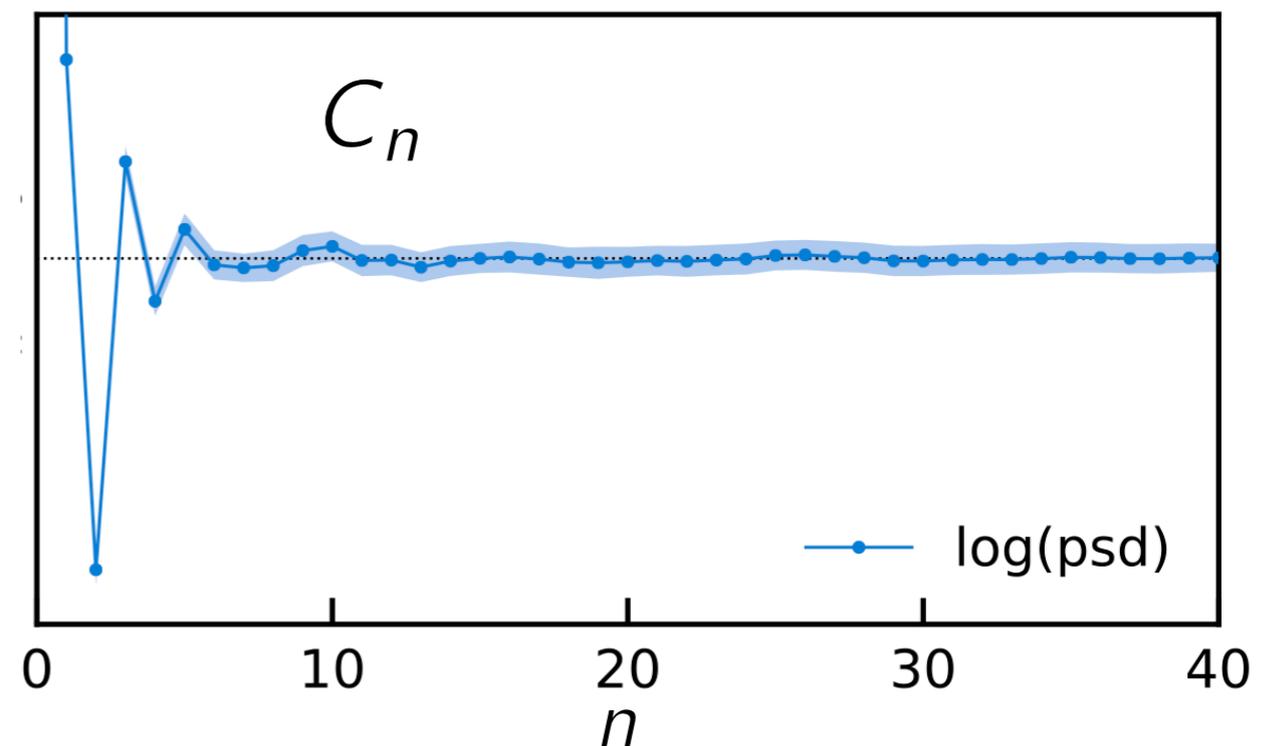
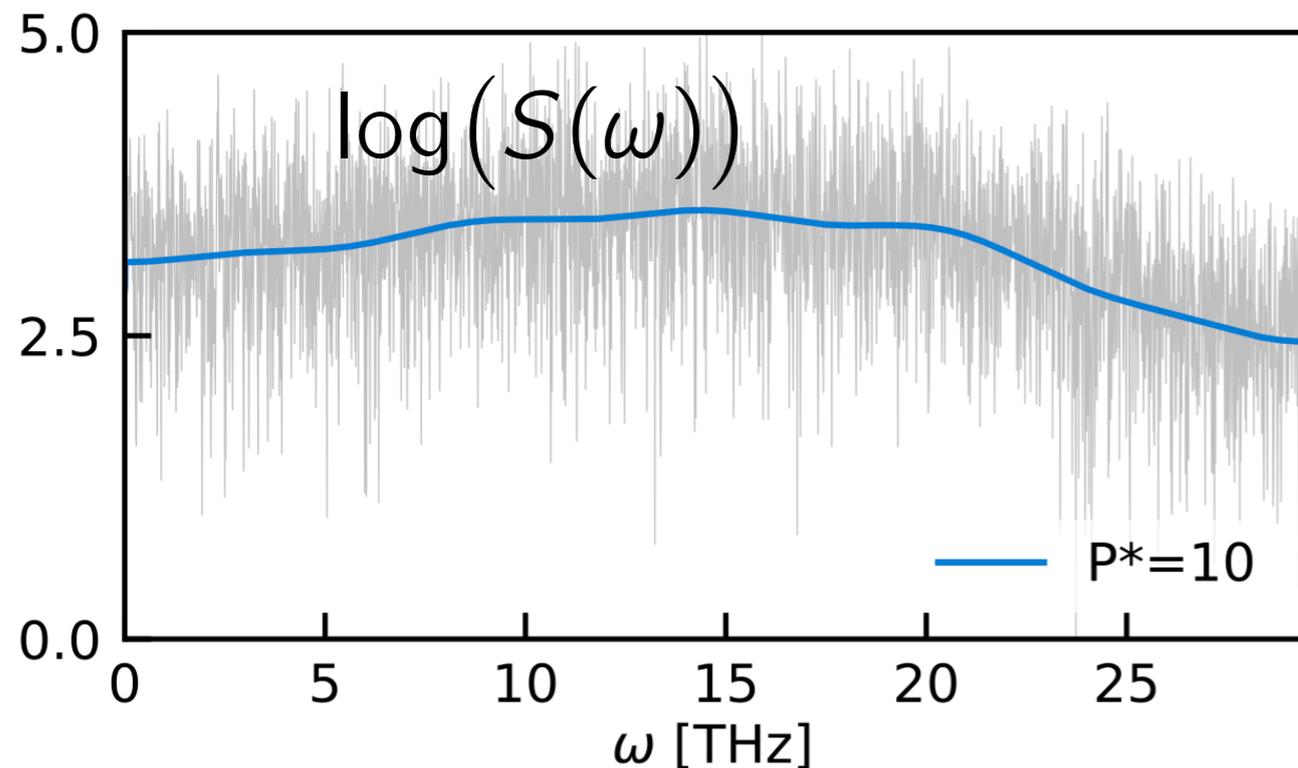


# separating wheat from chaff

$$\log(\hat{S}(k)) = \log(S(\omega_k)) + \log(\hat{\xi}_k)$$

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \log(\hat{S}(k)) e^{-i \frac{2\pi kn}{N}} = C_n + \text{white noise}$$

$$\log(S(\omega_k)) = \sum_{n=0}^{P^*-1} C_n e^{i \frac{2\pi kn}{N}} + \text{less noise}$$



# separating wheat from chaff

$$\log(S(\omega_k)) = \sum_{n=0}^{P^*-1} C_n e^{i\frac{2\pi kn}{N}} + \text{less noise}$$

optimal number of coefficients, to be determined

$$\log(\kappa) = \lambda + C_0 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{P^*-1} C_n \pm \sigma \sqrt{\frac{4P^* - 2}{N^*}}$$

constants independent of the time series being sampled

$$\frac{\Delta\kappa}{\kappa} = \begin{cases} \text{Ar} & (100 \text{ ps}) & 10 \% \\ \text{H}_2\text{O} & (100 \text{ ps}) & 5 \% \\ \text{a-SiO}_2 & (100 \text{ ps}) & 12 \% \\ \text{c-MgO} & (500 \text{ ps}) & 15 \% \end{cases}$$

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# a heavy workflow

$$\mathbf{J}_{KS} = \sum_v \left( \langle \varphi_v | \mathbf{r} \hat{H}_{KS} | \dot{\varphi}_v \rangle + \varepsilon_v \langle \dot{\varphi}_v | \mathbf{r} | \varphi_v \rangle \right)$$

$$\mathbf{J}_{KS} = \sum_v \left( \langle \varphi_v | \mathbf{r} \hat{H}_{KS} | \dot{\varphi}_v \rangle + \varepsilon_v \langle \dot{\varphi}_v | \mathbf{r} | \varphi_v \rangle \right)$$

$$= \sum_v \langle \bar{\varphi}_v | (\hat{H}_{KS} + \varepsilon_v) | \dot{\varphi}_v \rangle$$

$$(\hat{H}_{KS} - \varepsilon_v) \bar{\varphi}_v = \hat{P}_c[\hat{H}_{KS}, \mathbf{r}] \varphi_v$$

density-functional perturbation theory

# a heavy workflow

## density-functional perturbation theory

$$(\hat{H}_{KS} - \epsilon_v)\bar{\varphi}_v = \hat{P}_c[\hat{H}_{KS}, \mathbf{r}]\varphi_v$$

estimator evaluation (almost) as heavy as configuration sampling

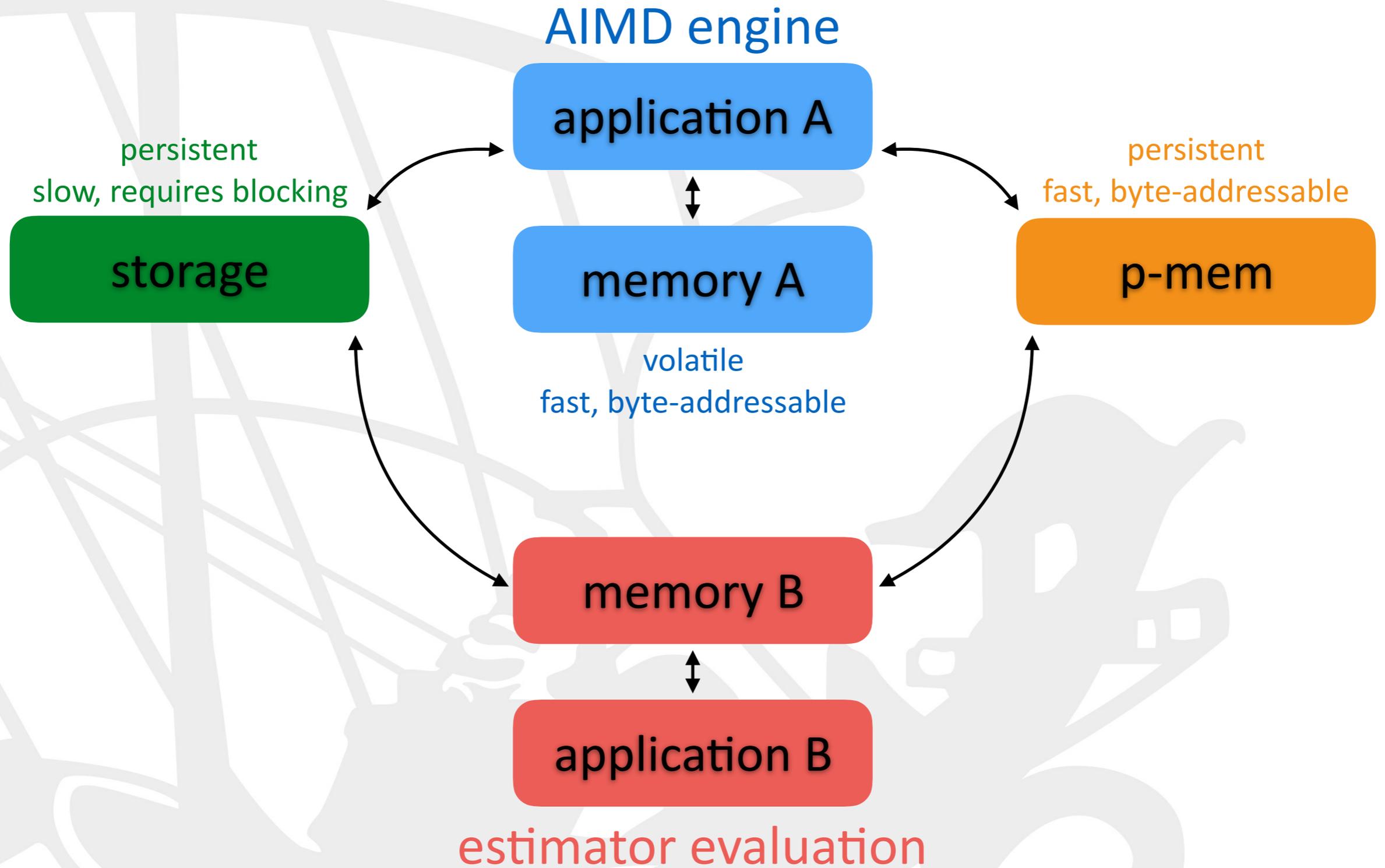
### two approaches:

- evaluate estimators in post-processing mode **expensive**
- integrate estimator evaluation in ab initio MD codes **unwieldy**

### third way:

- share big data amongst executable through *persistent memory*

# persistent memory



# summary

- heat currents are intrinsically ill-defined at the atomic scale;
- a *gauge invariance* principle exists, making heat transport coefficients independent of such and indeterminacy and computable within Green-Kubo AIMD;
- the statistical theory of time series can be leveraged to estimate and significantly improve the accuracy of the transport coefficients computed from MD;
- when stretched to extreme-scale simulations, the resulting computational workflow sets considerable challenges to IT; persistent memory may be an asset to win the challenge.

# thanks to:



Loris Ercole, SISSA



Aris Marcolongo, SISSA  
now @EPFL



Federico Grasselli, SISSA



Riccardo Bertossa, SISSA

thanks to:



# Microscopic theory and quantum simulation of atomic heat transport

Aris Marcolongo<sup>1</sup>, Paolo Umari<sup>2</sup> and Stefano Baroni<sup>1\*</sup>

J Low Temp Phys (2016) 185:79–86  
DOI 10.1007/s10909-016-1617-6



## Gauge Invariance of Thermal Transport Coefficients

Loris Ercole<sup>1</sup> · Aris Marcolongo<sup>2</sup> ·  
Paolo Umari<sup>3</sup> · Stefano Baroni<sup>1</sup>

# SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

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## Accurate thermal conductivities from optimally short molecular dynamics simulations

Received: 14 August 2017

Accepted: 2 November 2017

Published online: 20 November 2017

Loris Ercole<sup>1</sup>, Aris Marcolongo<sup>2</sup> & Stefano Baroni<sup>1</sup>

these slides shortly at <http://talks.baroni.me>