

# **Multi-hadron observables from spectral functions**

**Maxwell T. Hansen**

**March 12th, 2021**

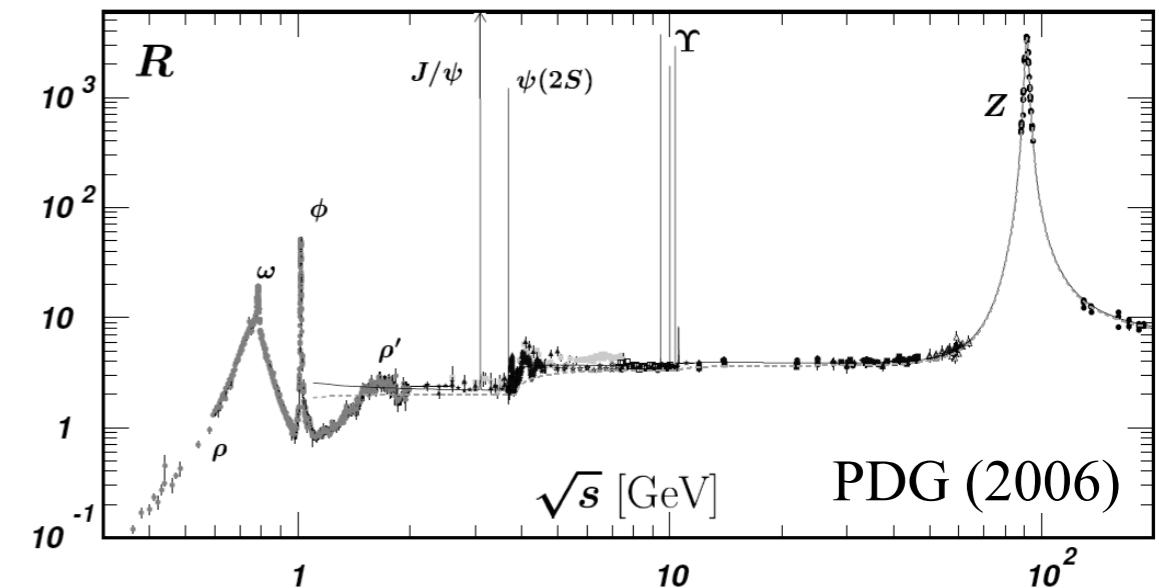


**THE UNIVERSITY  
*of* EDINBURGH**

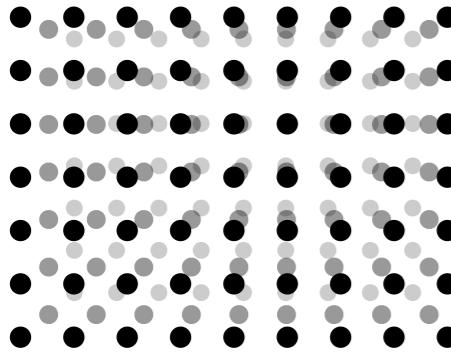
# Invitation

- R-ratio based ( $g-2$ ) determination

$$a^{\text{HVP,LO}}(m_\mu) = \int_{4M_\pi^2}^\infty ds K(m_\mu, s) R(s)$$



- Integral can be Wick rotated to Euclidean signature... but ignore this



$$\longrightarrow G(\tau) = \int_{4M_\pi^2}^\infty ds g(\tau, s) R(s) \quad g(\tau, s) \propto \sqrt{s} e^{-\sqrt{s}\tau}$$

- Can we find a function  $\mathcal{K}(m_\mu, \tau)$ ? such that...

$$\int_0^\infty d\tau \mathcal{K}(m_\mu, \tau) g(\tau, s) = K(m_\mu, s) \quad \longrightarrow \quad a^{\text{HVP,LO}}(m_\mu) = \int_0^\infty d\tau \mathcal{K}(m_\mu, \tau) G(\tau)$$

*Of course this defines the standard kernel*

# General idea

we want...

$$\hat{\rho}(\bar{\omega}) \equiv \int_0^\infty d\omega \hat{\delta}_\Delta(\bar{\omega}, \omega) \rho(\omega)$$

we try to construct

$$\int_0^\infty d\tau \mathcal{K}(\bar{\omega}, \tau) e^{-\omega\tau} = \hat{\delta}_\Delta(\bar{\omega}, \omega)$$

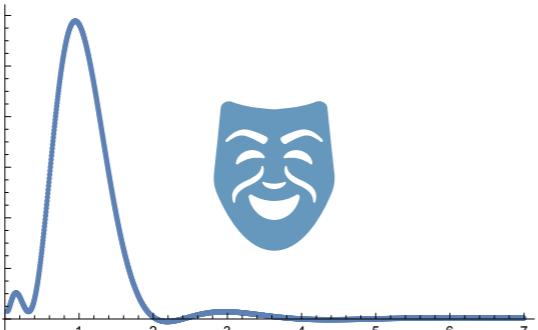
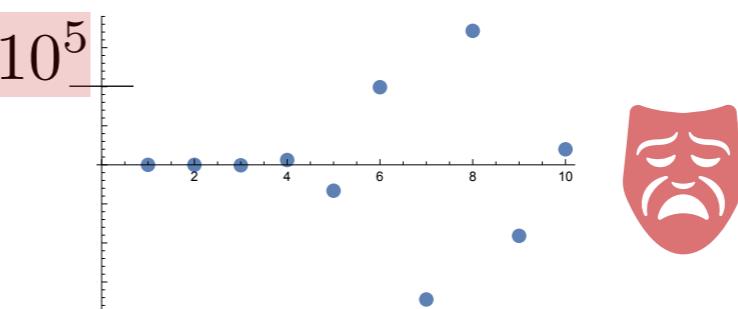
we have...

$$G(\tau) = \int d\omega e^{-\omega\tau} \rho(\omega)$$

it then follows that

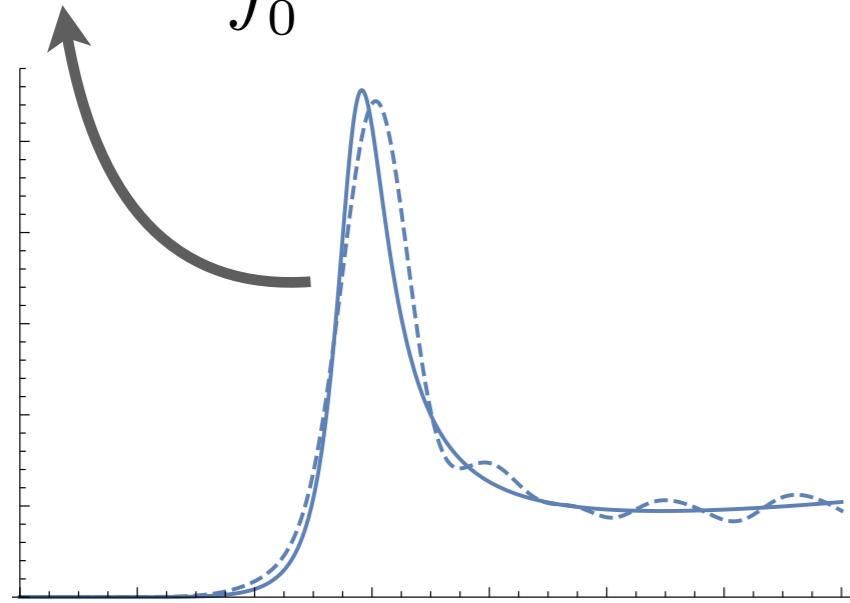
$$\hat{\rho}(\bar{\omega}) = \int_0^\infty d\tau \mathcal{K}(\bar{\omega}, \tau) G(\tau)$$

some examples...

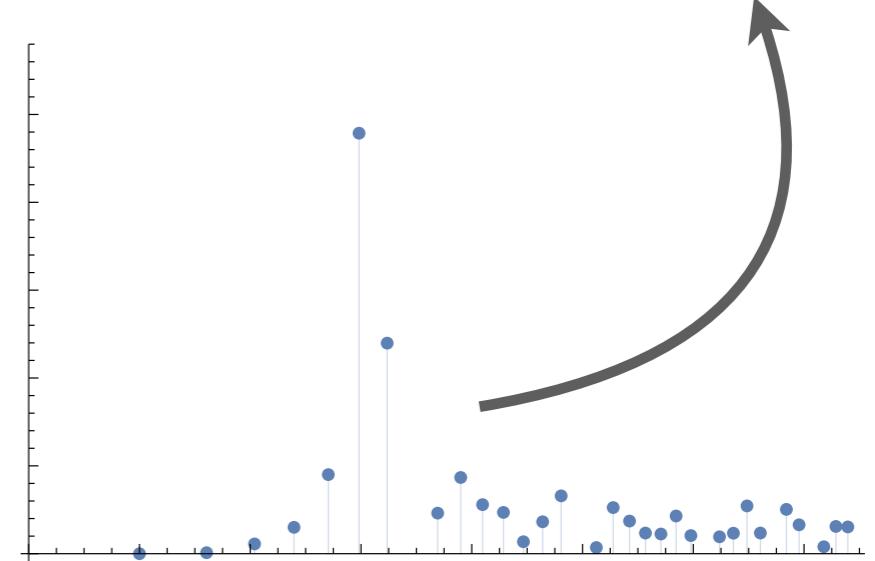
$\hat{\delta}_\Delta(\bar{\omega}, \omega)$	$\mathcal{K}(\bar{\omega}, \tau)$
$e^{-\omega/\bar{\omega}}$ $\frac{1}{\bar{\omega} - \omega}$ 	$\delta(\bar{\omega} - 1/\tau)$ $e^{\bar{\omega}\tau}$ 

# Role of the finite volume

$$\hat{\rho}_L(\bar{\omega}) \equiv \int_0^\infty d\omega \hat{\delta}_\Delta(\bar{\omega}, \omega) \rho_L(\omega)$$



$$G_L(\tau) = \int d\omega e^{-\omega\tau} \rho_L(\omega)$$



- Any reconstructed spectral function that  $\neq$  forest of deltas...  
*contains implicit smearing (or else  $L \rightarrow \infty$ )*

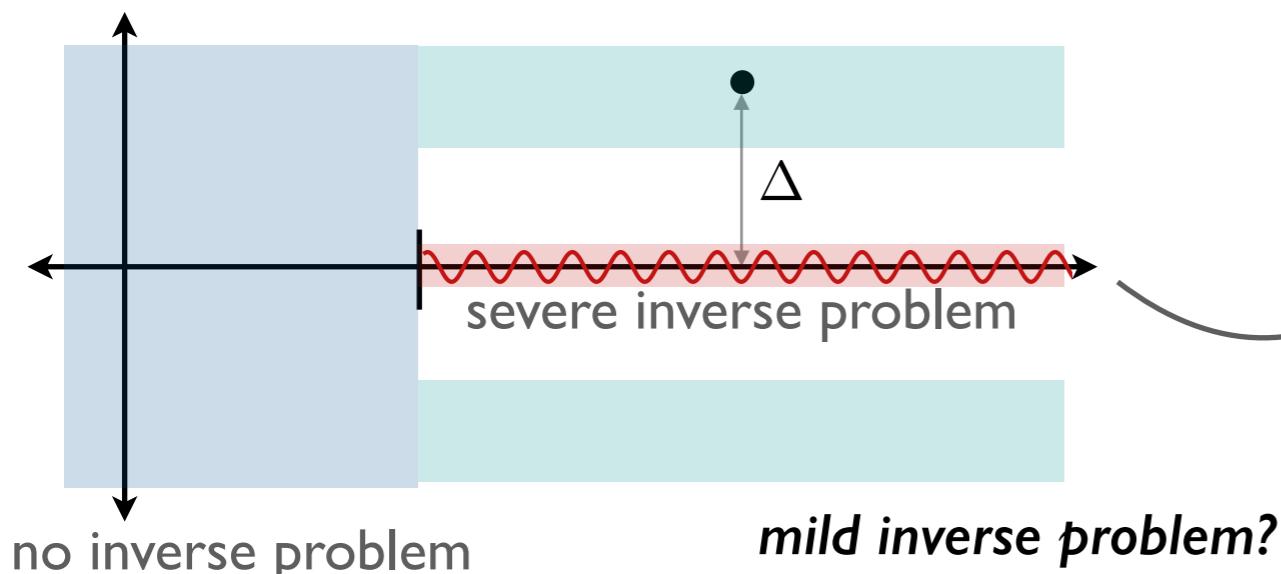
We require...

$$1/L \ll \Delta \ll \mu_{\text{physical}}$$

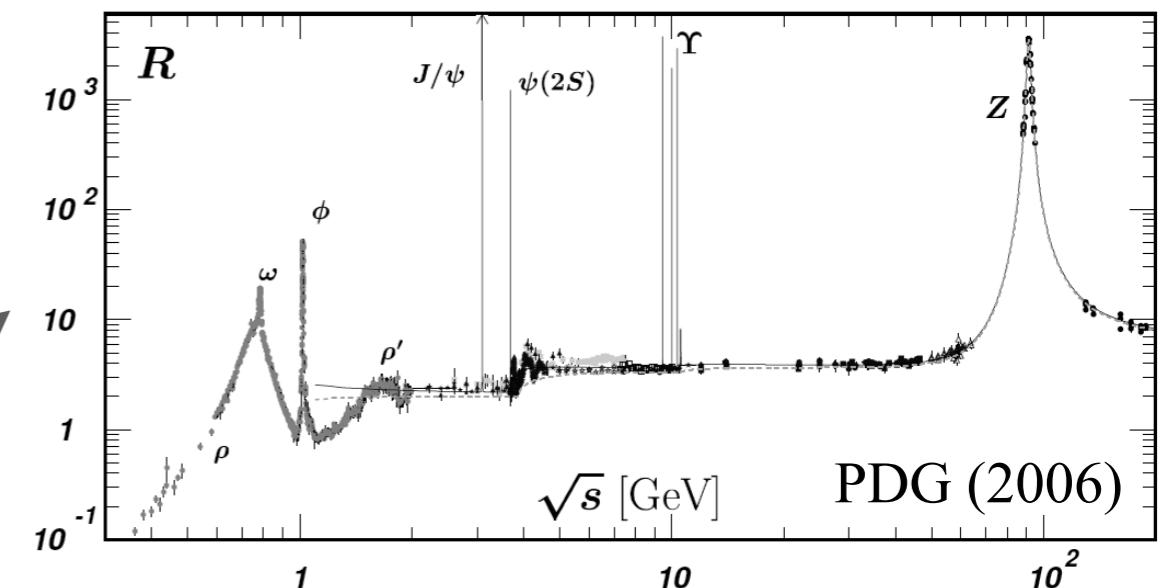
smearing function  
covers many delta peaks

smearing does not overly  
distort observable

*R* ratio



*Hashimoto*



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### Smearing method in the quark model\*

E. C. Poggio, H. R. Quinn,<sup>†</sup> and S. Weinberg

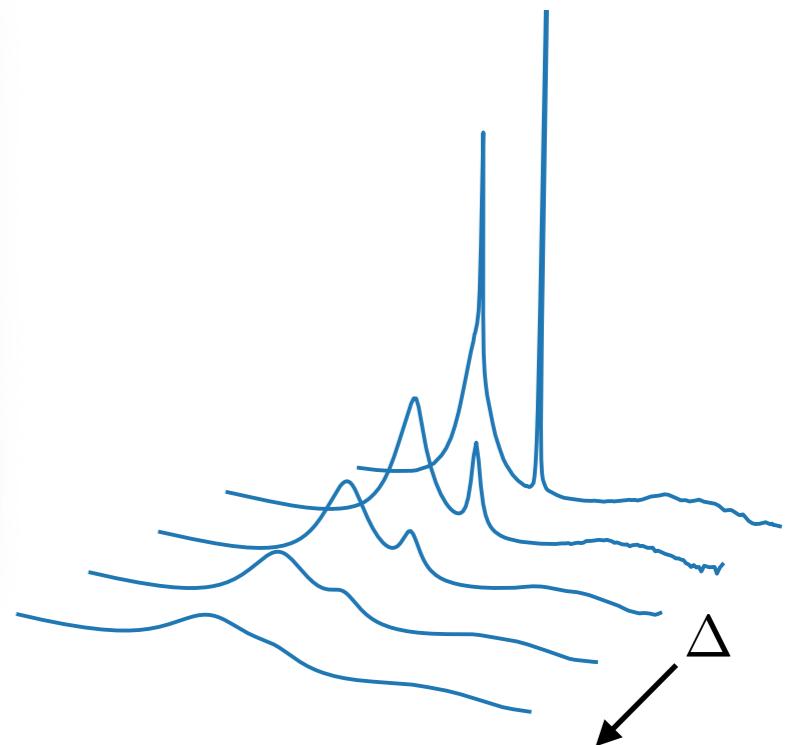
Lyman Laboratory of Physics, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

(Received 8 December 1975)

We propose that perturbation theory in a gauge field theory of quarks and gluons can be used to calculate physical mass-shell processes, provided that both the data and the theory are smeared over a suitable energy range. This procedure is explored in detail for the process of electron-positron annihilation into hadrons. We show that a smearing range of  $3 \text{ GeV}^2$  in the squared center-of-mass energy should be adequate to allow the use of lowest-order perturbation theory. The smeared data are compared with theory for a variety of models. It appears to be difficult to fit the present data with theory, unless there is a new charged lepton or quark with mass in the region 2 to 3 GeV.

$$\hat{R}_\Delta(s) = \frac{\Delta}{\pi} \int_0^\infty ds' \frac{R(s')}{(s' - s)^2 + \Delta^2}$$

into the complex plane!



courtesy of M. Bruno  
(using F. Jegerlehner's *alphaQED*)

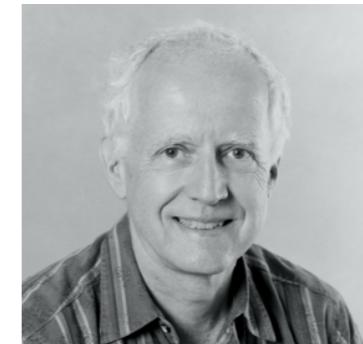
# Backus-Gilbert

- Developed by geophysicists Backus and Gilbert in 1967

## The Resolving Power of Gross Earth Data

George Backus and Freeman Gilbert

(Received 1968 February 12)



- Linear, model-independent → smeared solution with a *known resolution function*

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\tau} \mathcal{K}(\bar{\omega}, \tau) G(\tau) &= \sum_{\tau} \mathcal{K}(\bar{\omega}, \tau) \int d\omega e^{-\omega\tau} \rho(\omega) \\ &= \int d\omega \left[ \sum_{\tau} \mathcal{K}(\bar{\omega}, \tau) e^{-\omega\tau} \right] \rho(\omega) \\ &= \int d\omega \widehat{\delta}_{\Delta}(\bar{\omega}, \omega) \rho(\omega) \end{aligned}$$

BG optimizes  $K$

$\delta$  is exactly known

- The correlation matrix is used to stabilize the inverse
- The quality of the data determines the *resolution*

# Backus-Gilbert (details)

## □ Un-stabilized inverse

*Without uncertainties*, minimize the functional...

$$A[\mathcal{K}] \equiv \int_0^\infty d\omega (\bar{\omega} - \omega)^2 \hat{\delta}_\Delta(\bar{\omega}, \omega)^2 = \int_0^\infty d\omega (\bar{\omega} - \omega)^2 \left[ \sum_\tau \mathcal{K}_\tau e^{-\omega\tau} \right]^2$$

with unit area constraint on  $\delta$

## □ Stabilized inverse

*With uncertainties*, instead minimize...

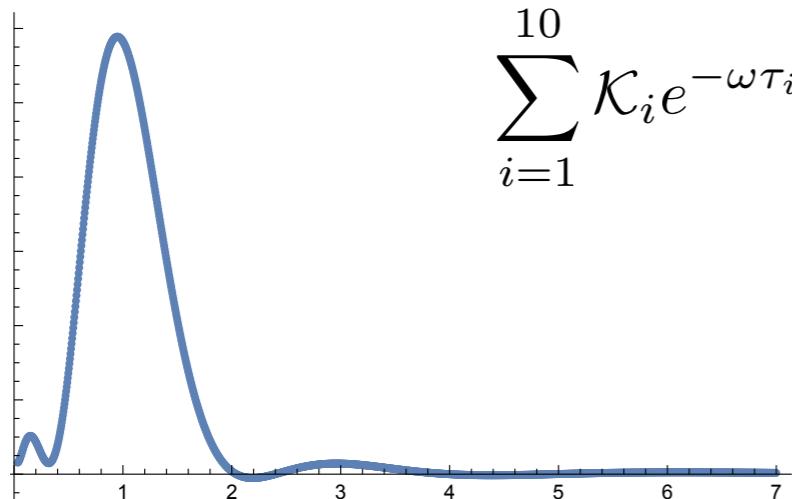
$$W_\lambda[\mathcal{K}] \equiv (1 - \lambda)A[\mathcal{K}] + \lambda \frac{\mathcal{K} \cdot \text{COV} \cdot \mathcal{K}}{\mathcal{N}}$$

wants oscillating  $K$       wants well-behaved  $K$

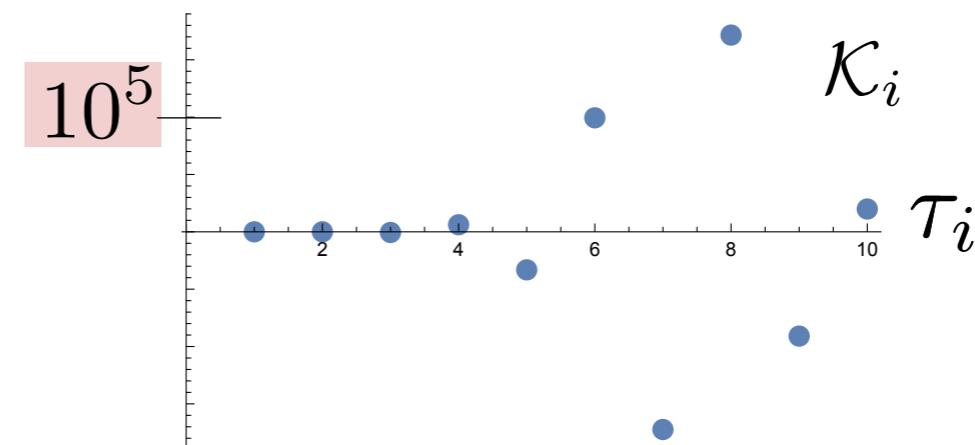
$\lambda$  parametrizes the tradeoff between *final resolution* and *final uncertainty*

# Backus-Gilbert example

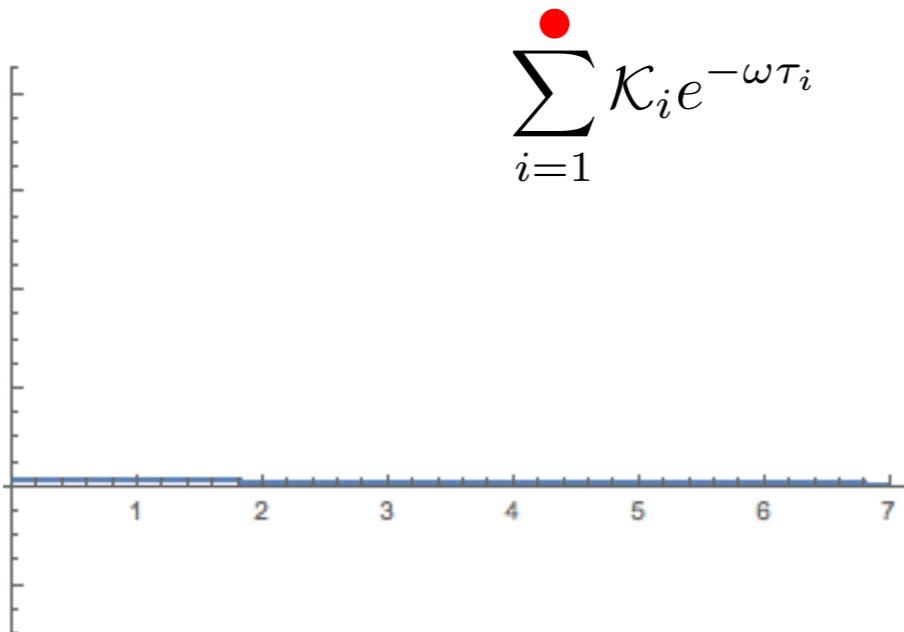
## □ Un-stabilized inverse



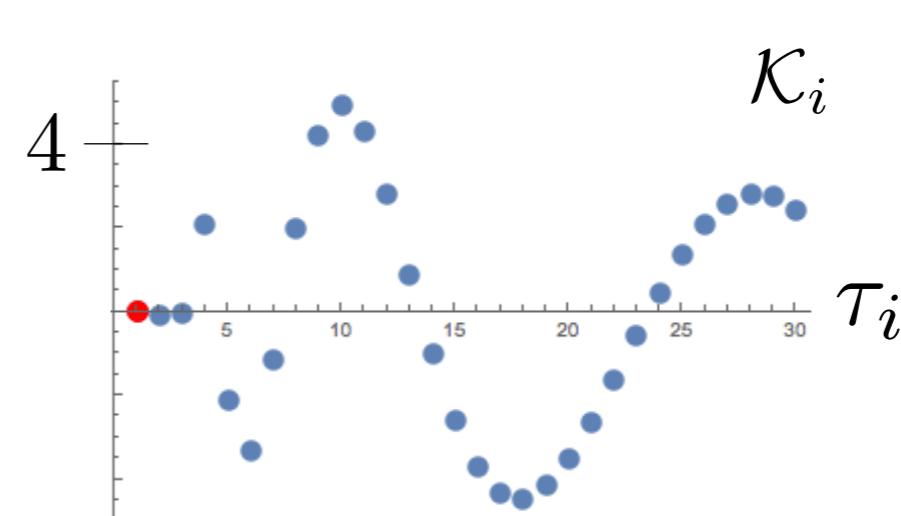
$$\sum_{i=1}^{10} \mathcal{K}_i e^{-\omega \tau_i}$$



## □ Stabilized inverse

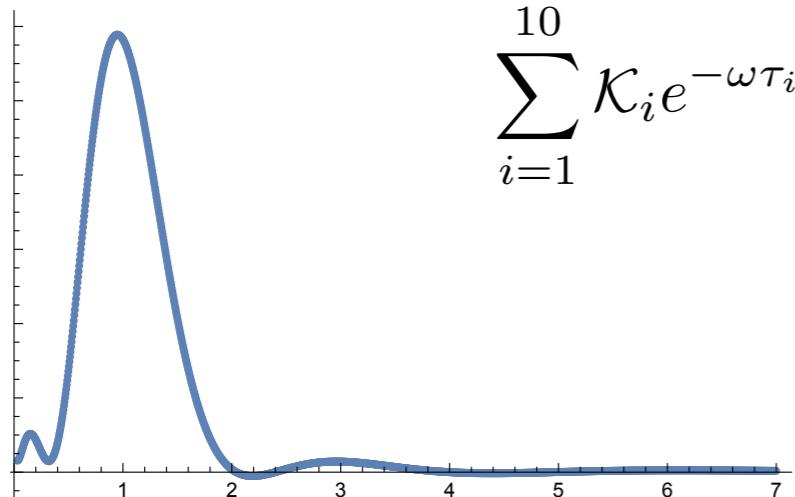


$$\sum_{i=1}^{10} \mathcal{K}_i e^{-\omega \tau_i}$$

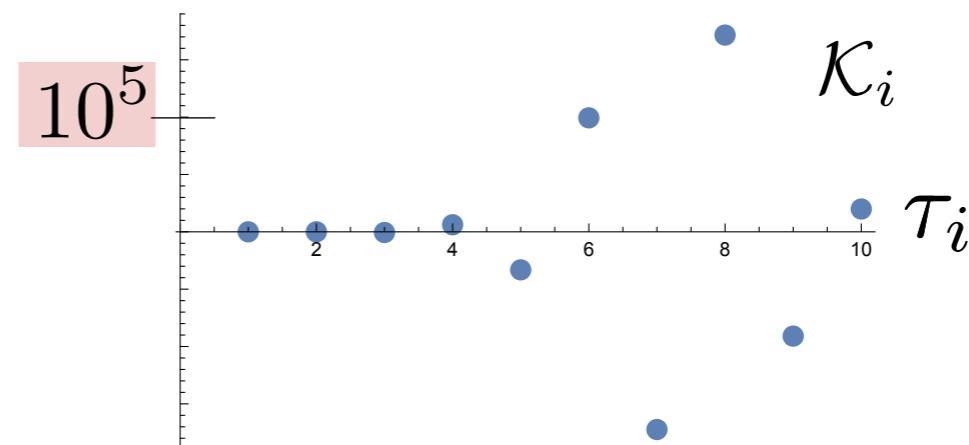


# Backus-Gilbert example

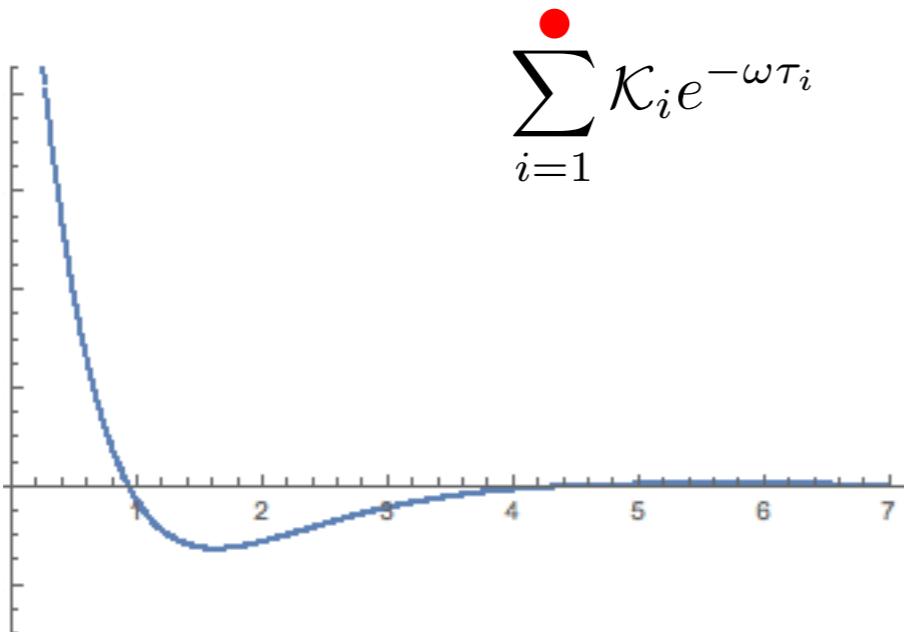
## □ Un-stabilized inverse



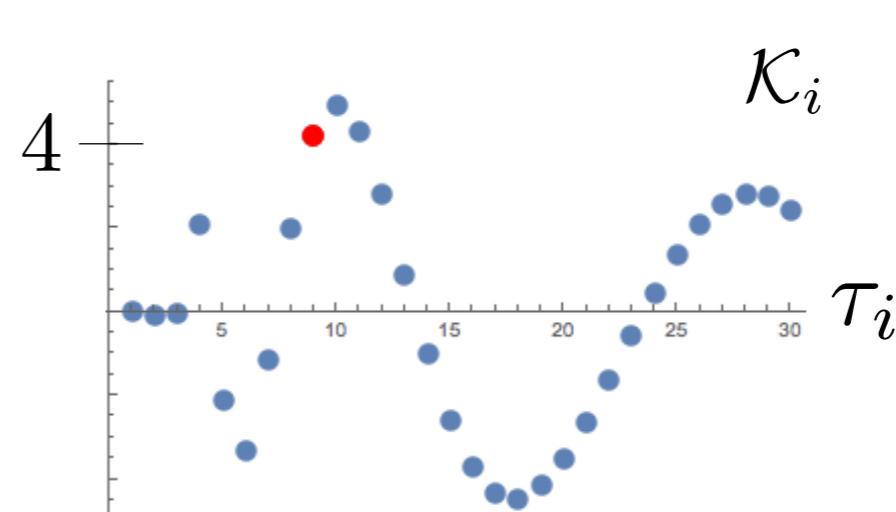
$$\sum_{i=1}^{10} \mathcal{K}_i e^{-\omega \tau_i}$$



## □ Stabilized inverse



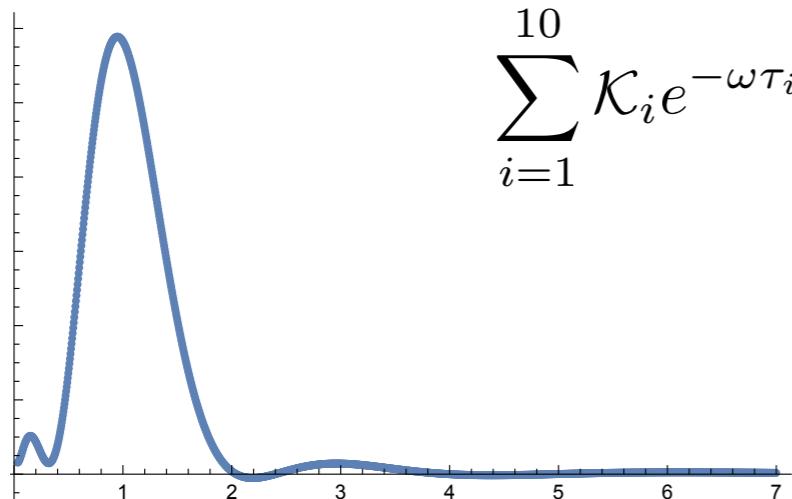
$$\sum_{i=1}^{10} \mathcal{K}_i e^{-\omega \tau_i}$$



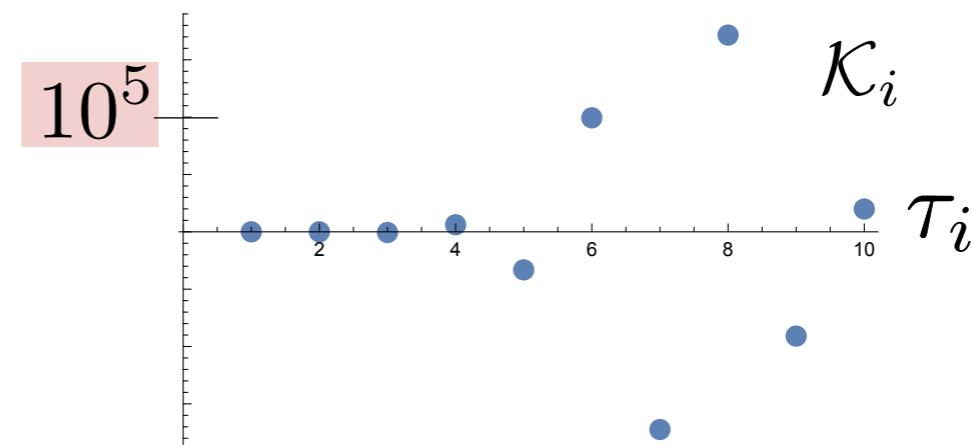
$$\mathcal{K}_i$$
  
$$\tau_i$$

# Backus-Gilbert example

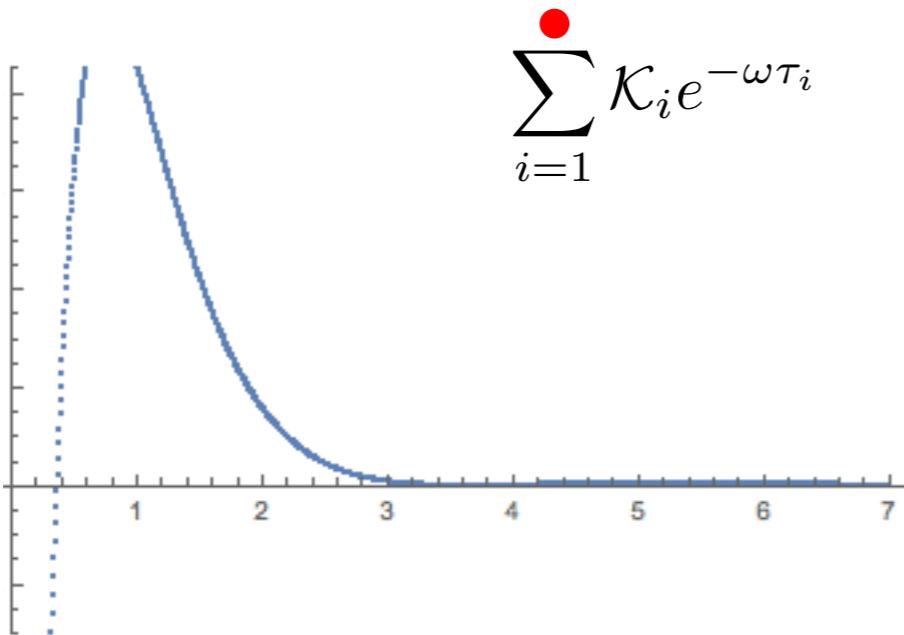
## □ Un-stabilized inverse



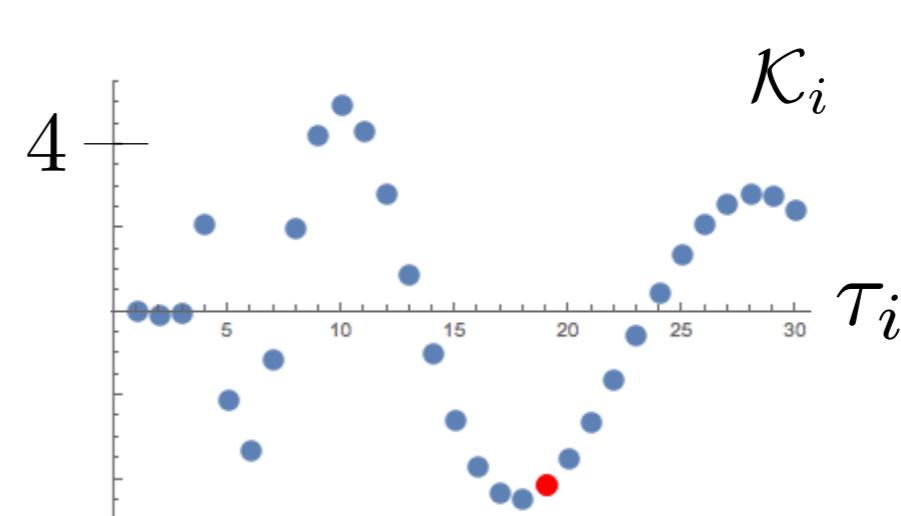
$$\sum_{i=1}^{10} \mathcal{K}_i e^{-\omega \tau_i}$$



## □ Stabilized inverse

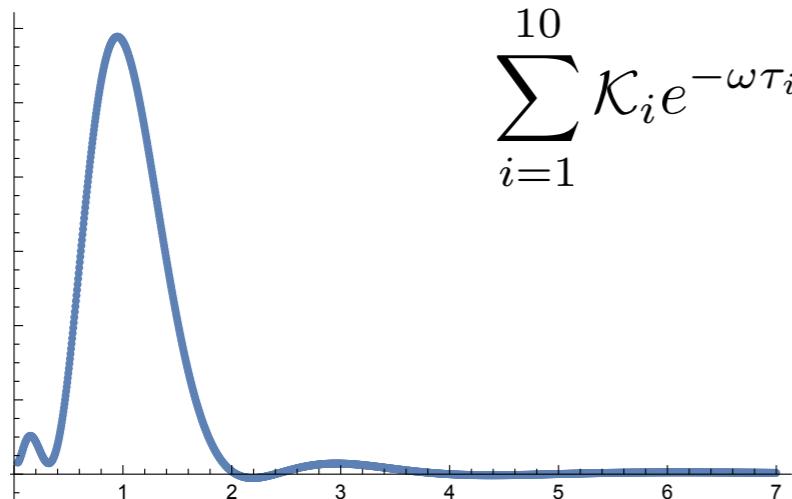


$$\sum_{i=1}^{10} \mathcal{K}_i e^{-\omega \tau_i}$$

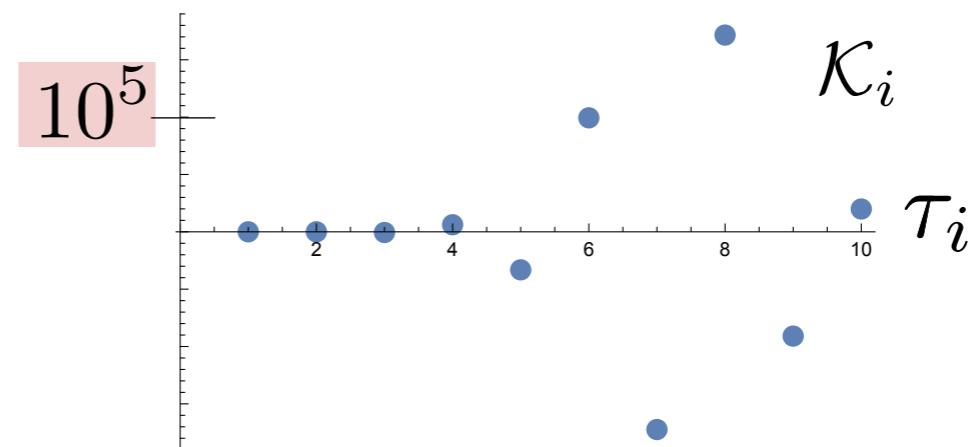


# Backus-Gilbert example

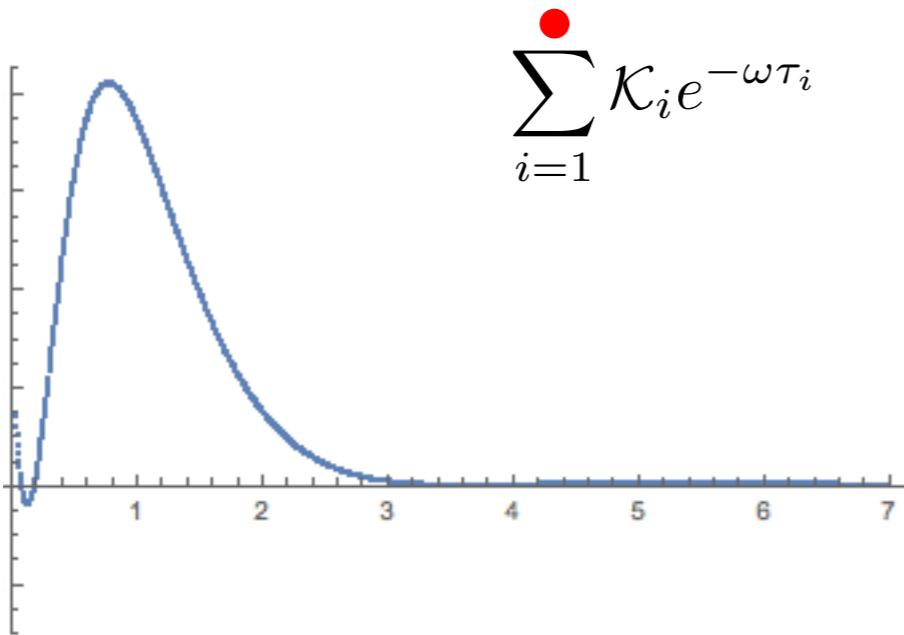
## □ Un-stabilized inverse



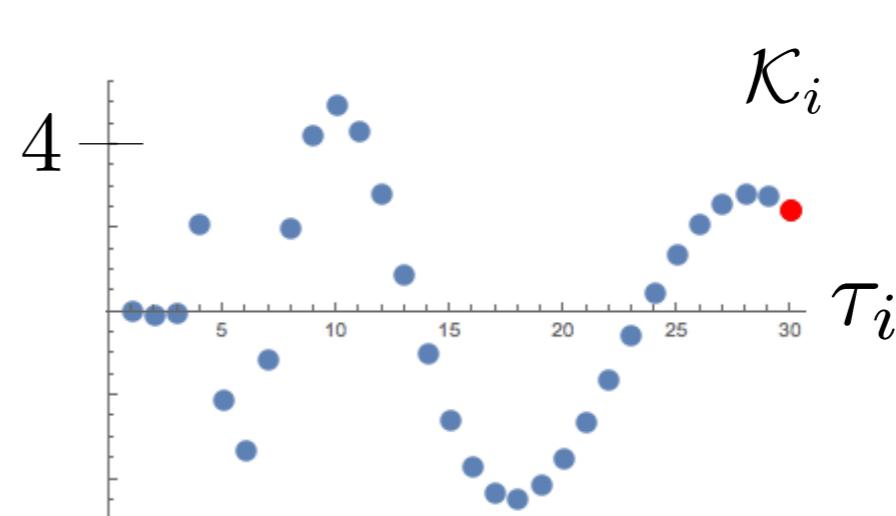
$$\sum_{i=1}^{10} \mathcal{K}_i e^{-\omega \tau_i}$$



## □ Stabilized inverse



$$\sum_{i=1}^{10} \mathcal{K}_i e^{-\omega \tau_i}$$



# Extended Backus Gilbert

- Important generalization from *Martin Hansen, Lupo, Tantalo*
- Addressed two limitations...

Shape and width of  $\delta$  depends  
on data quality

No clear way to set  $\lambda$

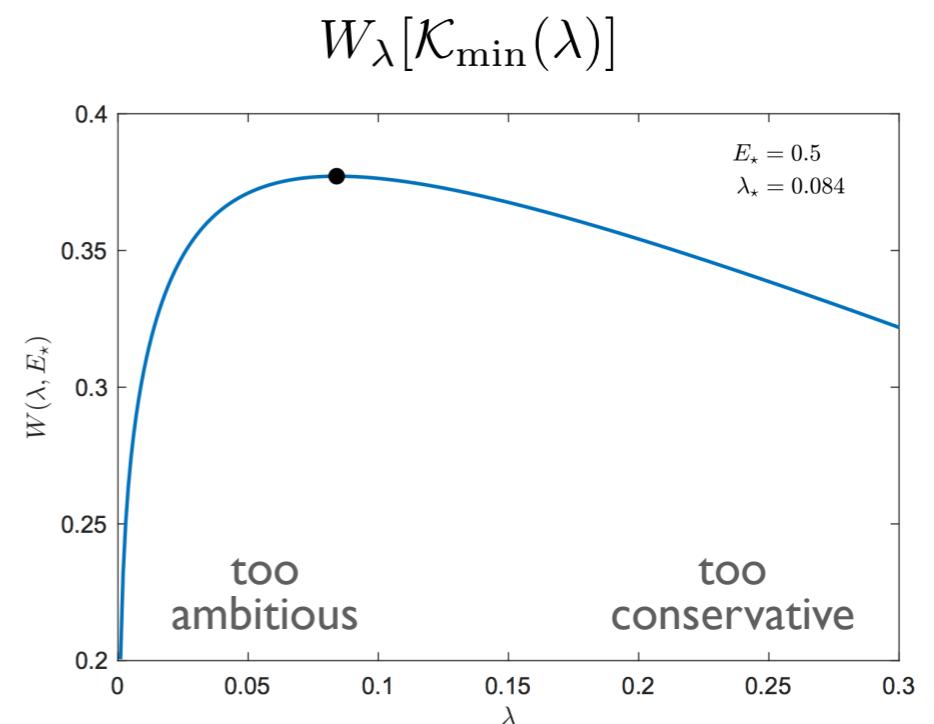
$$W_\lambda[\mathcal{K}] \equiv (1 - \lambda)A[\mathcal{K}] + \lambda \frac{\mathcal{K} \cdot \text{COV} \cdot \mathcal{K}}{\mathcal{N}}$$

Change minimizing functional

$$A[\mathcal{K}] \equiv \int_0^\infty d\omega (\bar{\omega} - \omega)^2 \hat{\delta}_\Delta(\bar{\omega}, \omega)^2$$

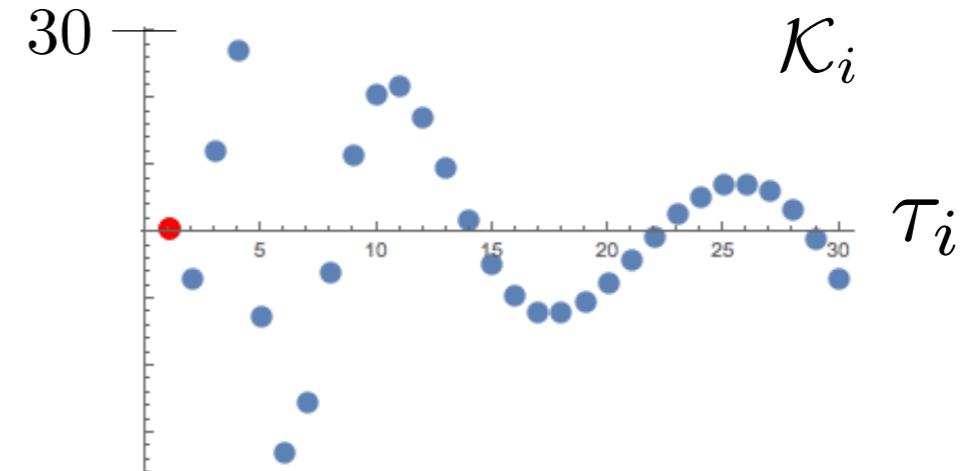
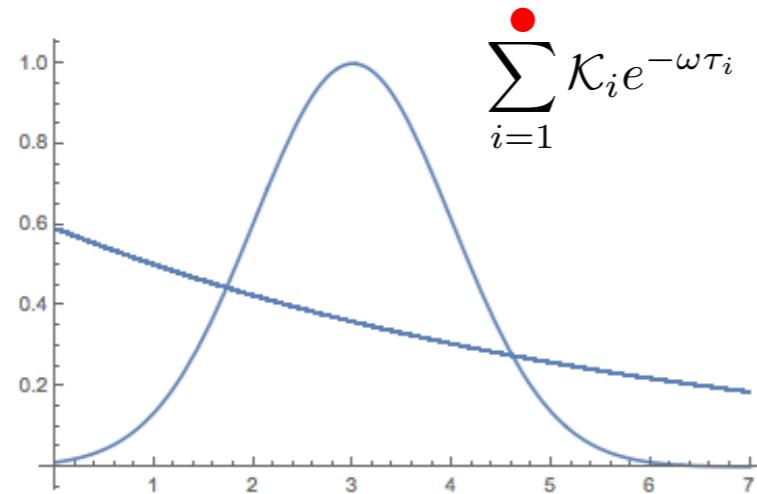
$$\tilde{A}[\mathcal{K}] \equiv \int_0^\infty d\omega \left[ \hat{\delta}_\Delta^{\text{target}}(\bar{\omega}, \omega) - \hat{\delta}_\Delta(\bar{\omega}, \omega) \right]^2$$

Extremize  $W$  w.r.t.  $\lambda$



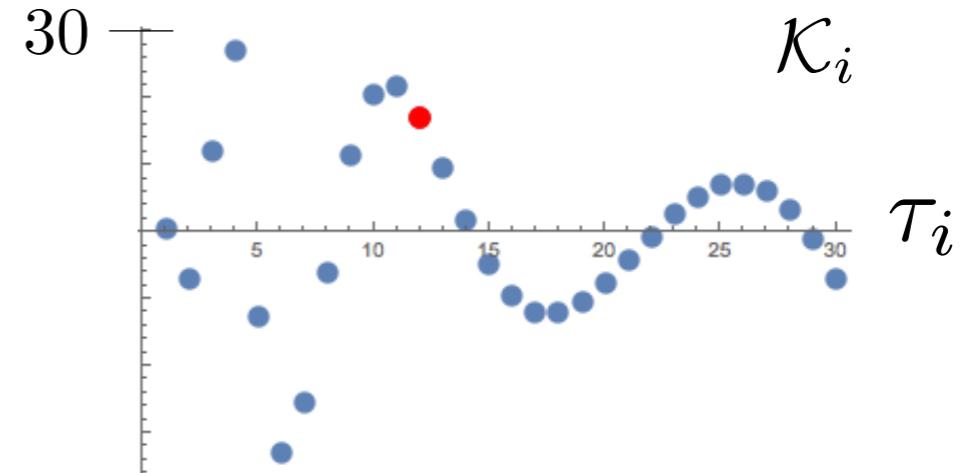
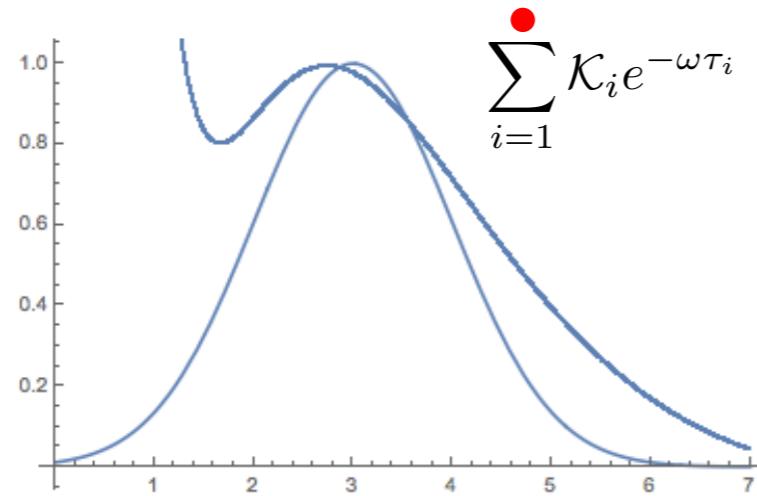
# Extended Backus Gilbert example

☐ e.g. target a Gaussian



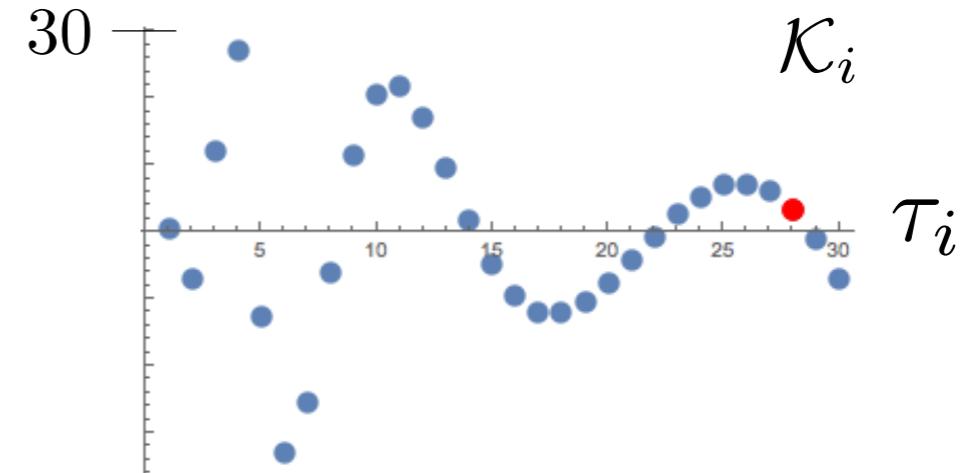
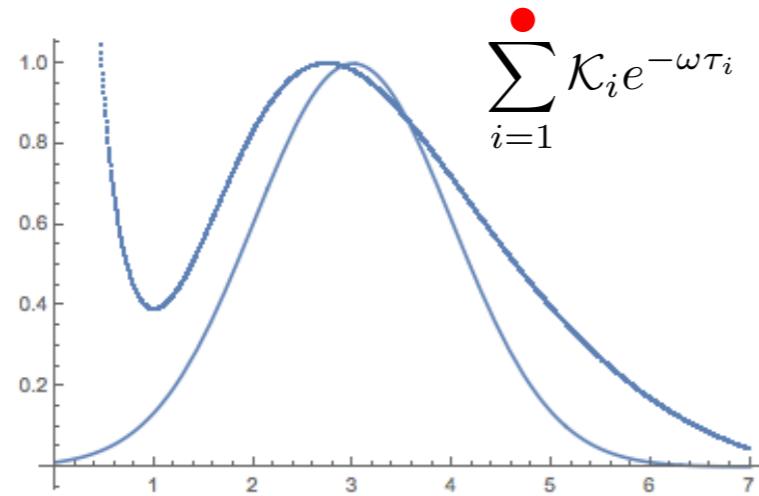
# Extended Backus Gilbert example

☐ e.g. target a Gaussian



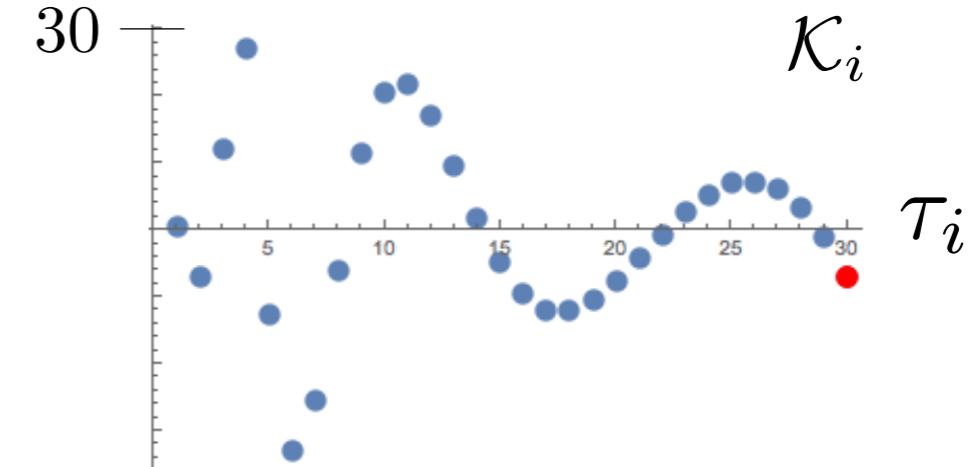
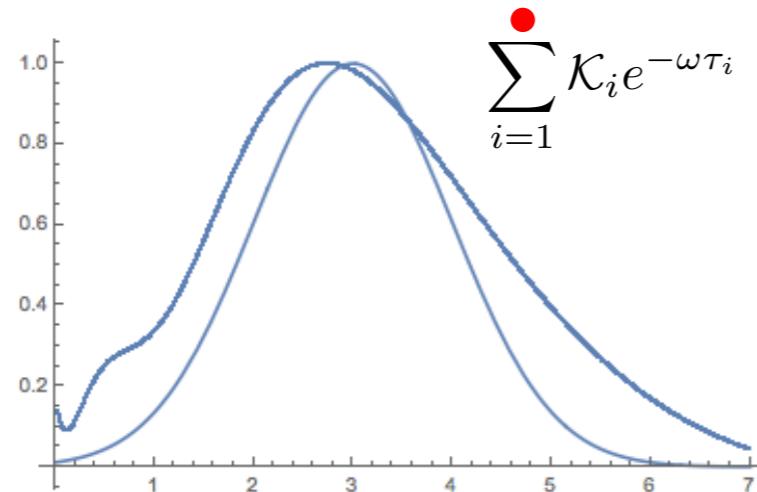
# Extended Backus Gilbert example

- e.g. target a Gaussian

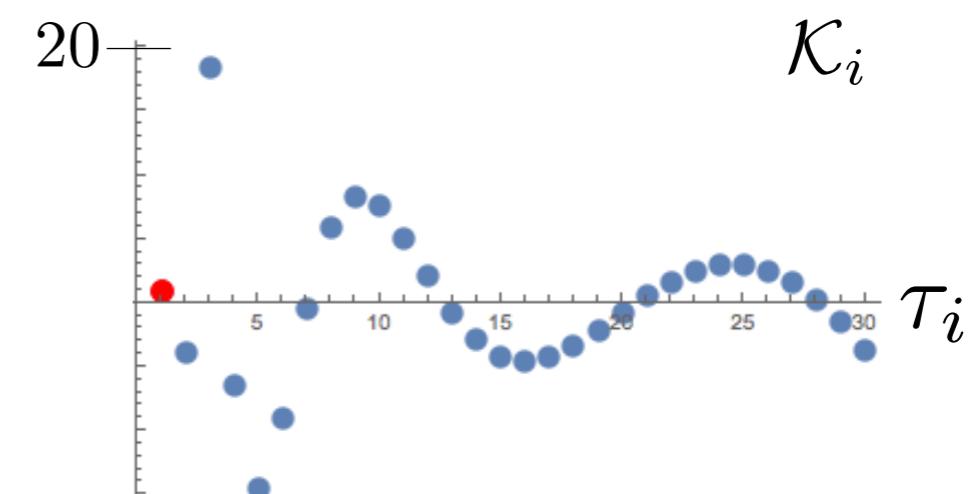
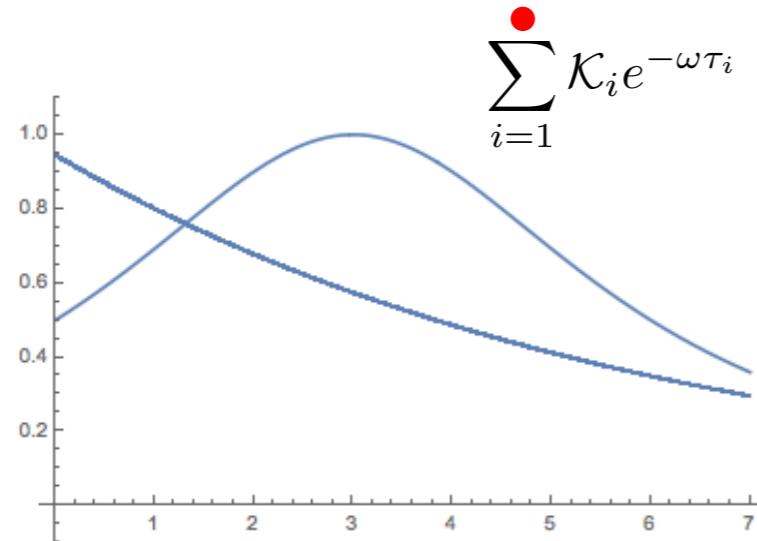


# Extended Backus Gilbert example

- e.g. target a Gaussian

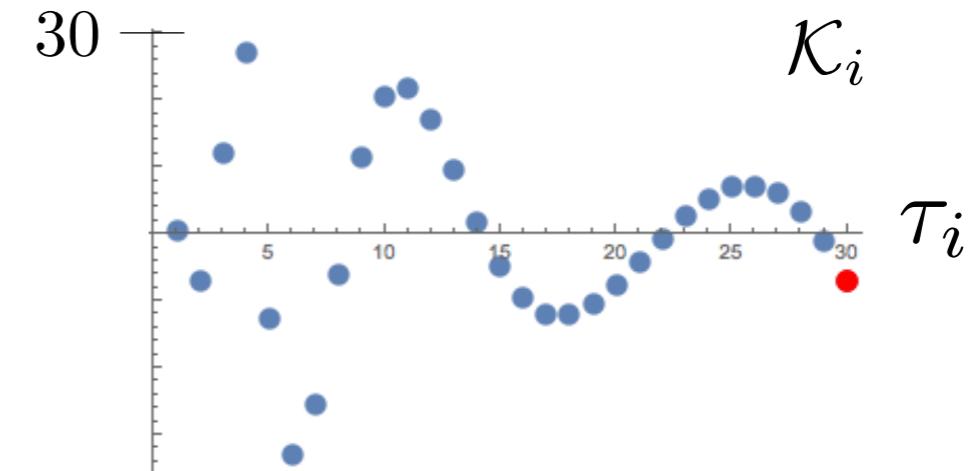
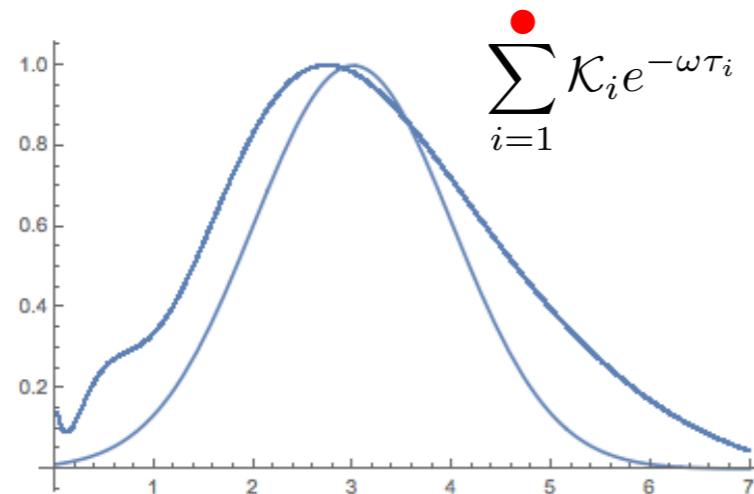


- ... or a Breit Wigner

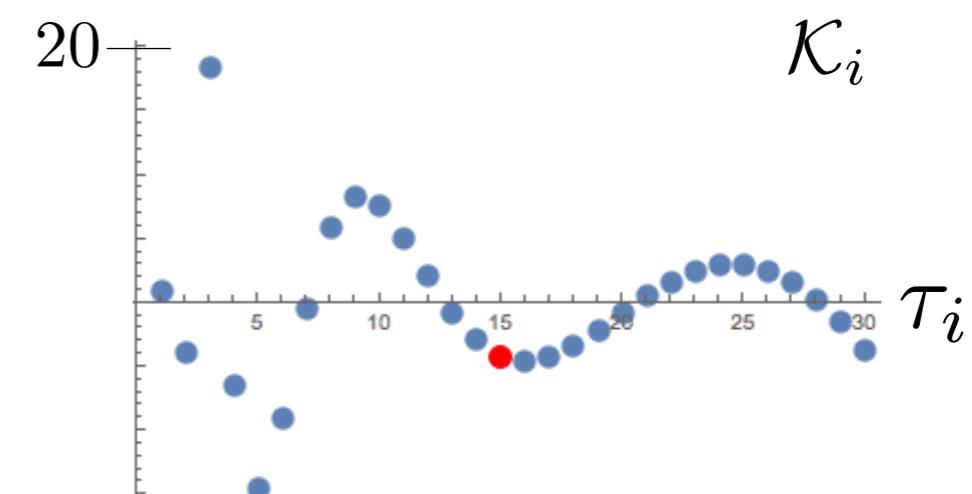
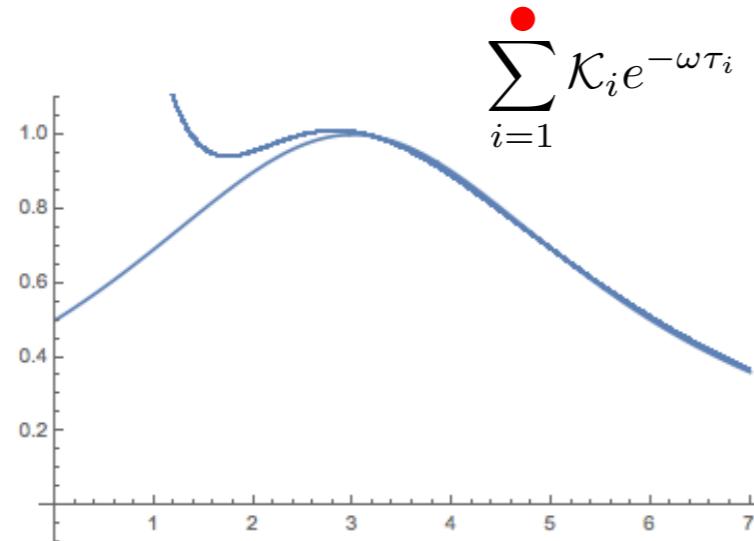


# Extended Backus Gilbert example

- e.g. target a Gaussian

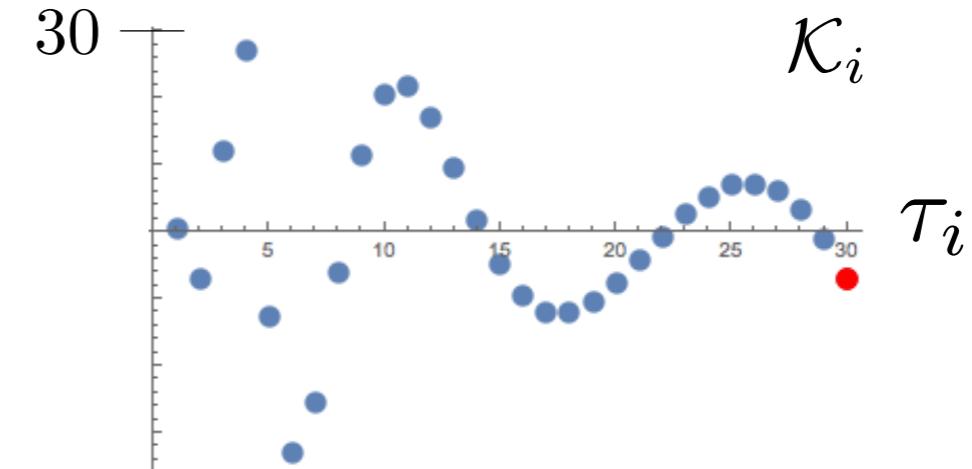
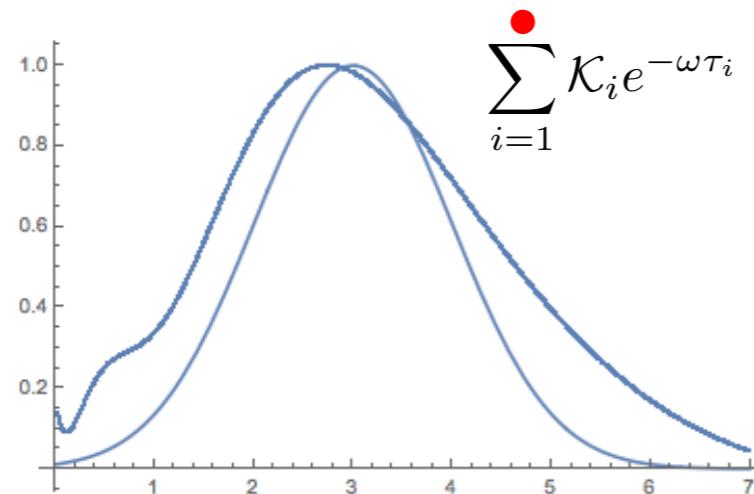


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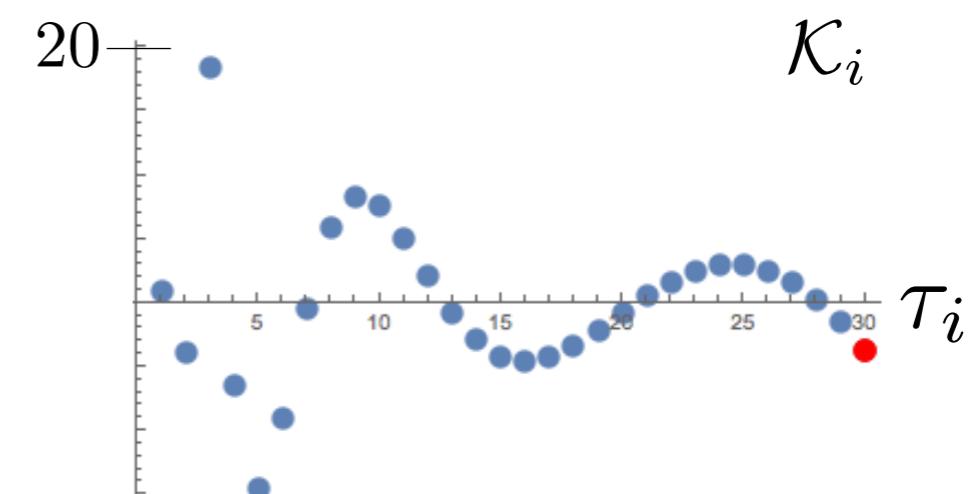
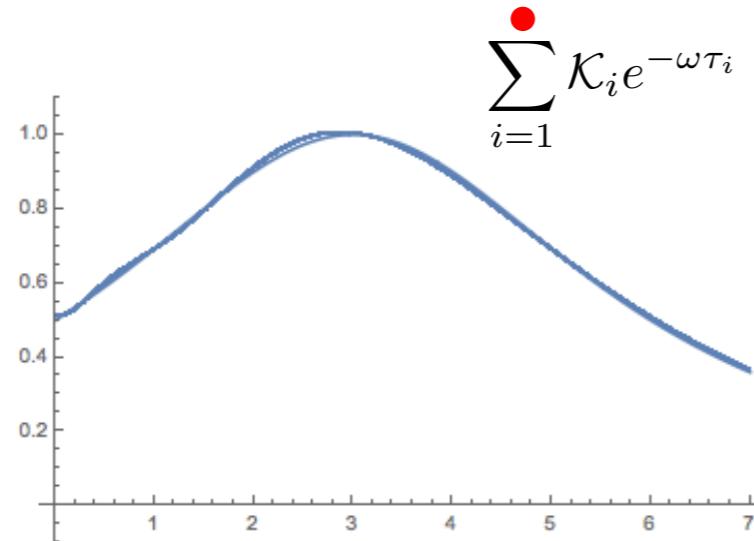


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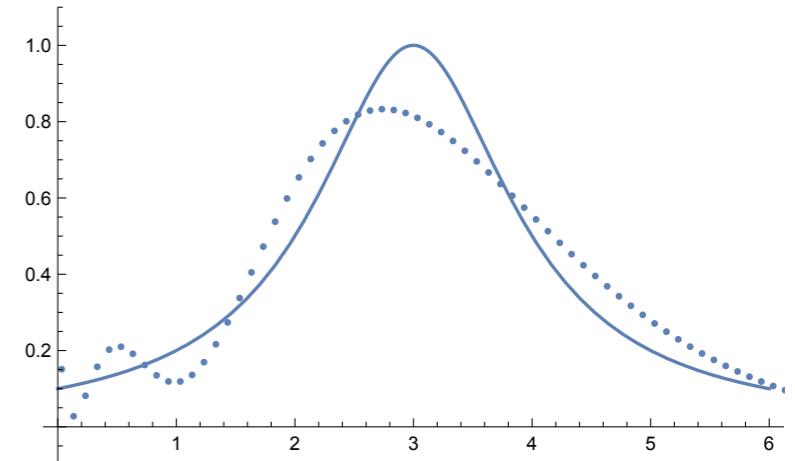
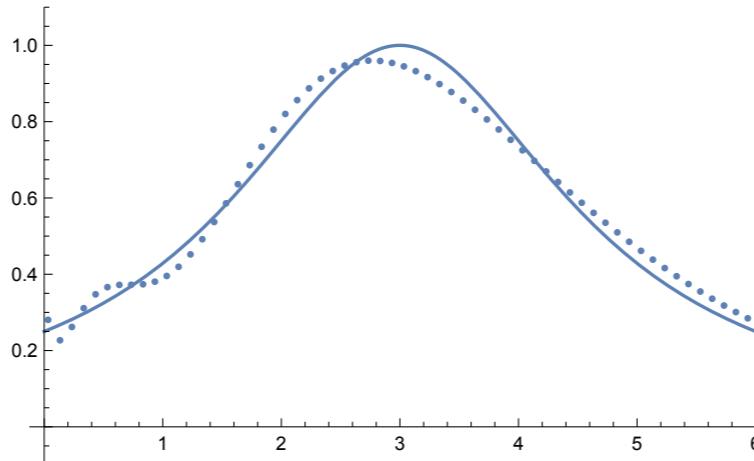
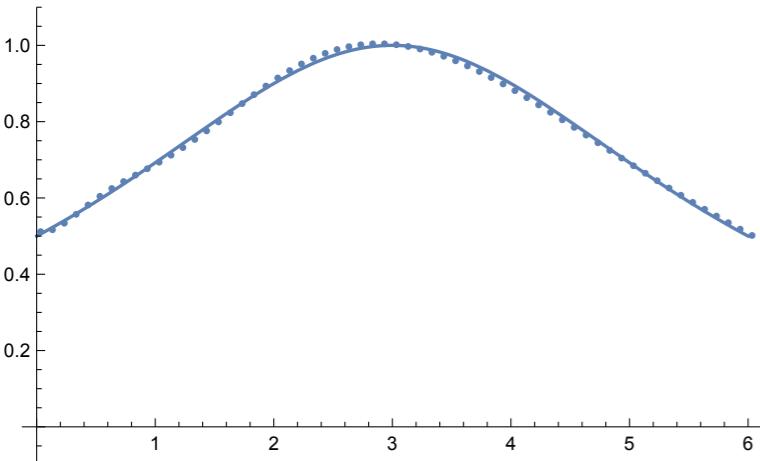
- ... or a Breit Wigner



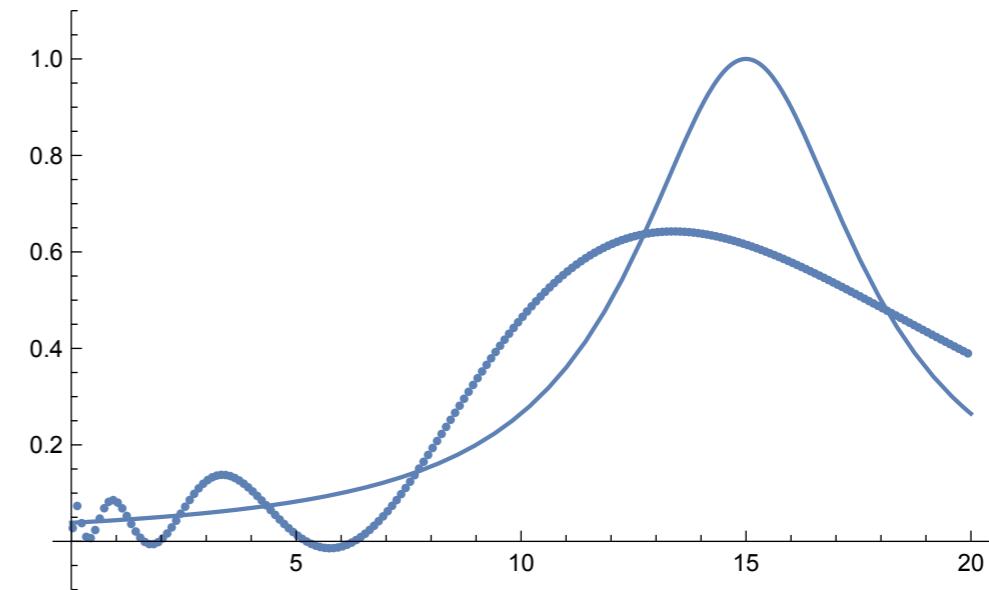
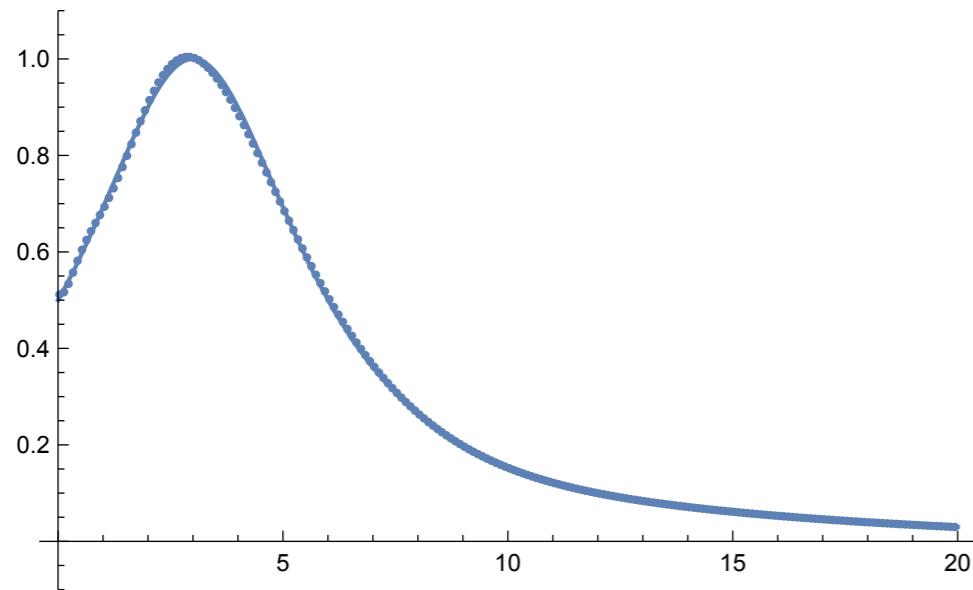
# Conservation of evil

Method will always fail if one tries to...

make the resolution function too narrow



move the resolution too high in energy



# Hybrid approach

- We do have a robust method to solve the inverse problem... **GEVP**
- Suggests a separation of low-lying states

$$G^{\text{GEVP}}(\tau) = \sum_n^{E_n < 6M_\pi} c_n(L) e^{-E_n(L)\tau} \quad G(\tau) = \sum_n^{\infty} c_n(L) e^{-E_n(L)\tau} = \int_{2M_\pi}^{\infty} d\omega \rho(\omega) e^{-\omega\tau}$$

$$\begin{aligned} G^{\text{sub}}(\tau) &\equiv G(\tau) - G^{\text{GEVP}}(\tau) = \sum_n^{E_n > 6M_\pi} c_n(L) e^{-E_n(L)\tau} \\ &= \int_{6M_\pi}^{\infty} d\omega \rho(\omega) e^{-\omega\tau} \end{aligned}$$

- Suppose we want  $\hat{\rho}(\omega = 8M_\pi)$

resolution from

$$G^{\text{sub}}(\tau)$$

at  $\omega = 8M_\pi$

resolution from

$$G(\tau)$$

at  $\omega = 4M_\pi$

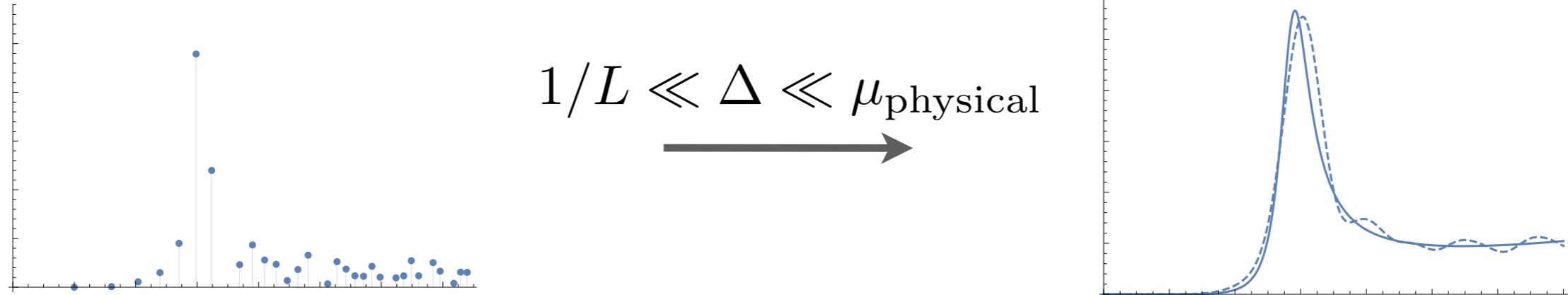
resolution from

$$G(\tau)$$

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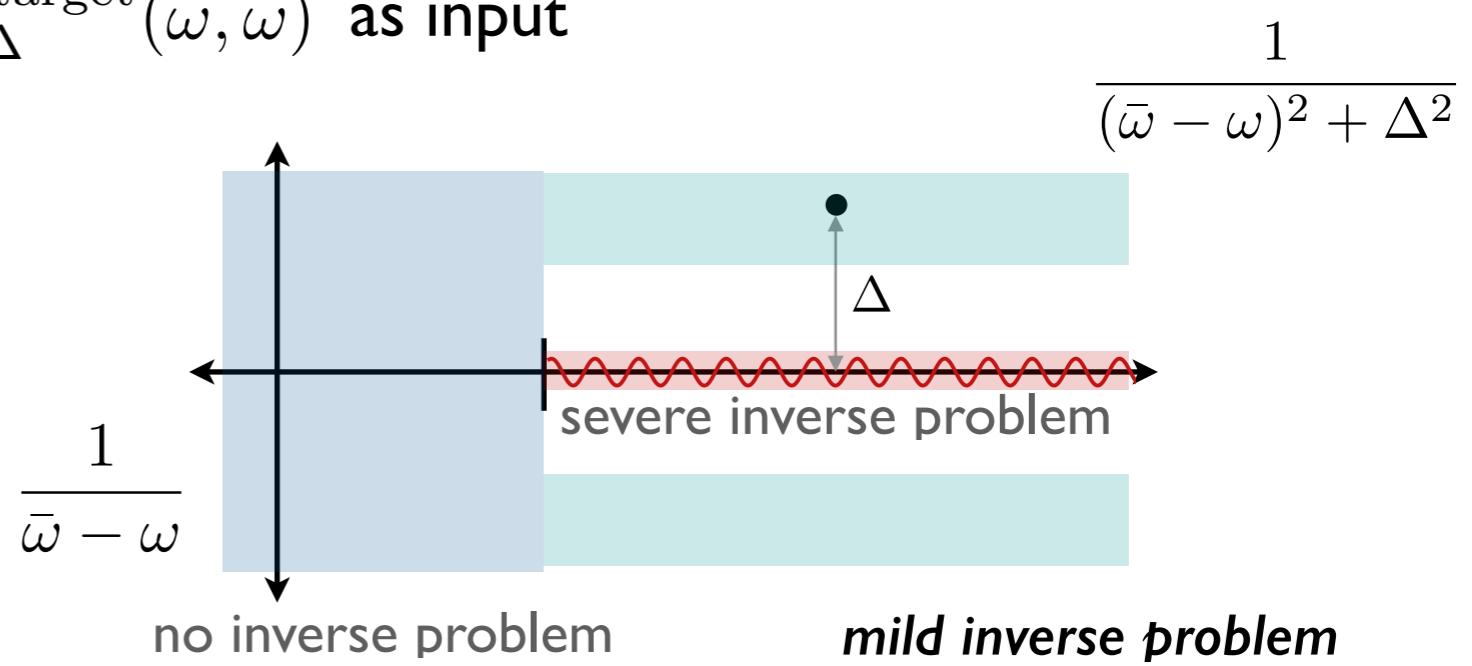
# Intermediate summary

- Cannot solve the inverse problem, we can get  $\hat{\rho}_{L,\Delta}(\bar{\omega}) \equiv \int_0^\infty d\omega \hat{\delta}_\Delta(\bar{\omega}, \omega) \rho_L(\omega)$
- Smearing is needed anyway to *suppress volume effects*



- Generalized Backus-Gilbert takes  $\hat{\delta}_\Delta^{\text{target}}(\bar{\omega}, \omega)$  as input

defines a continuum of inverse-problem severity

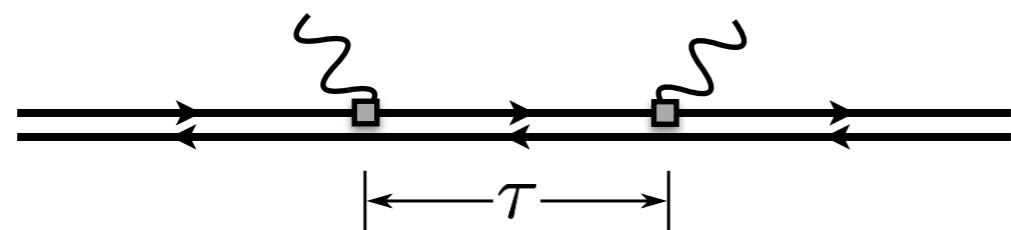


- Remove low lying states → start BG when states are dense

# Total rate based applications

## □ Hadronic tensor, heavy flavor lifetimes

$$W_{\mu\nu}(p, q) \equiv \int d^4x e^{iqx} \langle \pi, p | \mathcal{J}_\mu^\dagger(x) \mathcal{J}_\nu(0) | \pi, p \rangle$$
$$\propto \int d\Phi \left| \text{Diagram with 2 blue vertices and 2 outgoing lines} \right|^2 + \int d\Phi \left| \text{Diagram with 2 blue vertices and 3 outgoing lines} \right|^2 + \int d\Phi \left| \text{Diagram with 1 blue vertex and 2 red vertices} \right|^2 + \dots$$


$$= \int_0^\infty d\omega e^{-\omega\tau} W_{\mu\nu}(p, q)_{\omega=p^0+q^0}$$

$$W_{\mu\nu} = \lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0} \lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \widehat{W}_{\mu\nu; \Delta, L}$$

## □ What about *scattering* and *transition amplitudes*?

# Amplitudes from spectral functions

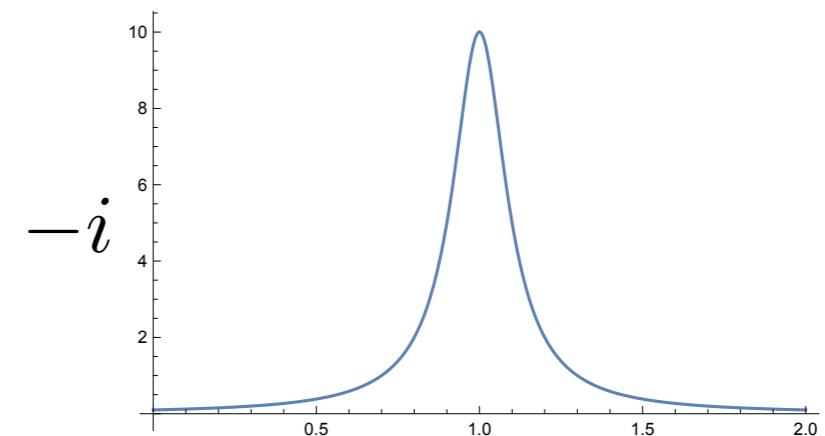
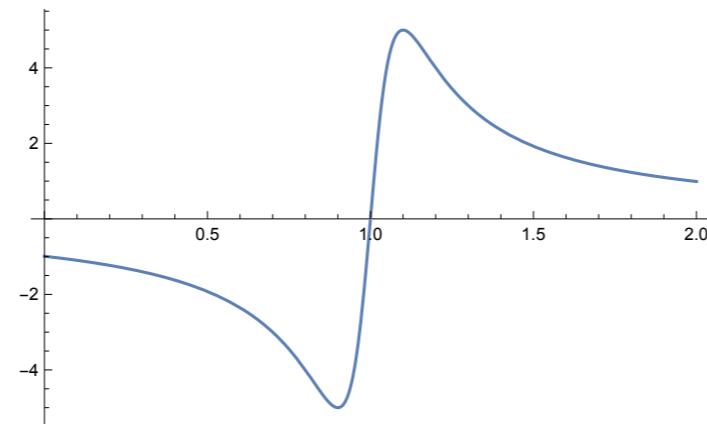
□ First define the Euclidean correlator

$$G_L(\tau) = \langle \pi_{\mathbf{p}_4} | \pi(\tau_3, \mathbf{p}_3) \pi(0) | \pi_{\mathbf{p}_1} \rangle_L = \int_0^\infty dE_3 \rho(E_3) e^{-E_3 \tau_3}$$

and the smeared spectral function

$$\hat{\rho}_{\mathbf{p}_4 \mathbf{p}_1}^{L,\epsilon}(q_3) = \int_0^\infty dE_3 \frac{1}{q_3^0 - E_3 + i\epsilon} \rho(E_3) = \int_0^\infty dE_3 \hat{\delta}_\epsilon(q_3^0, E_2) \rho(E_3)$$

$$\frac{1}{q_3^0 - E_3 + i\epsilon} =$$



# Amplitudes from spectral functions

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$$\hat{\rho}_{\mathbf{p}_4 \mathbf{p}_1}^{L,\epsilon}(q_3) = \int_0^\infty dE_3 \frac{1}{q_3^0 - E_3 + i\epsilon} \rho(E_3) = \int_0^\infty dE_3 \hat{\delta}_\epsilon(q_3^0, E_2) \rho(E_3)$$

- Next project on shell at finite  $\epsilon$

$$\mathcal{M}_c^{L,\epsilon}(p_4 p_3 | p_2 p_1) \equiv \frac{2E(\mathbf{p}_3)}{Z^{1/2}(\mathbf{p}_3)} \frac{2E(\mathbf{p}_2)}{Z^{1/2}(\mathbf{p}_2)} \epsilon^2 \hat{\rho}_{\mathbf{p}_4 \mathbf{p}_1}^{L,\epsilon}(E(\mathbf{p}_3), \mathbf{p}_3)$$

- Finally project out the *scattering amplitude*

$$\mathcal{M}_c(p_4 p_3 | p_2 p_1) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{M}_c^{L,\epsilon}(p_4 p_3 | p_2 p_1)$$

# Some comments

□ Derivation based in modified LSZ + *signature-independence* of  $\rho(E)$

□ Holds when LSZ holds

$$\langle m, \text{out} | n, \text{in} \rangle$$

$$\langle m, \text{out} | \mathcal{J}(0) | n, \text{in} \rangle$$

□ Very challenging... but systematic

for some (unknown) volume + correlator quality, we can get  $D \rightarrow \pi\pi, K\bar{K}$

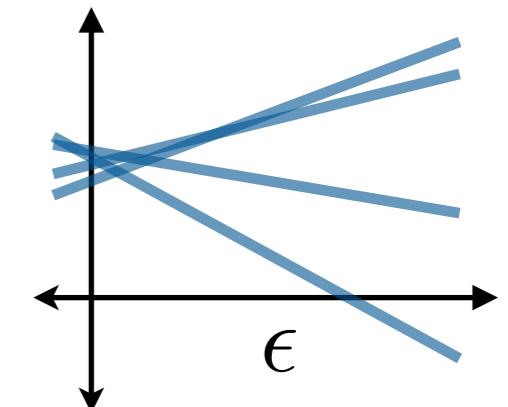
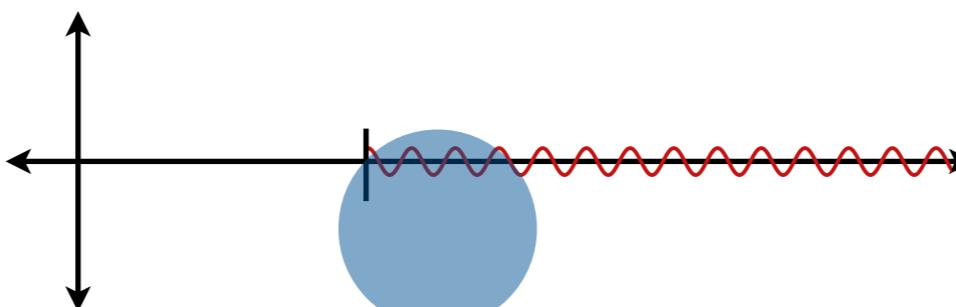
□ Some nice features...

GEVP-like operator freedom

$$G_L^{[ab]}(\tau) = \langle \pi_{\mathbf{p}_4} | \pi^a(\tau_3, \mathbf{p}_3) \pi^b(0) | \pi_{\mathbf{p}_1} \rangle_L \longrightarrow \mathcal{M}^{[ab], \epsilon, L}$$

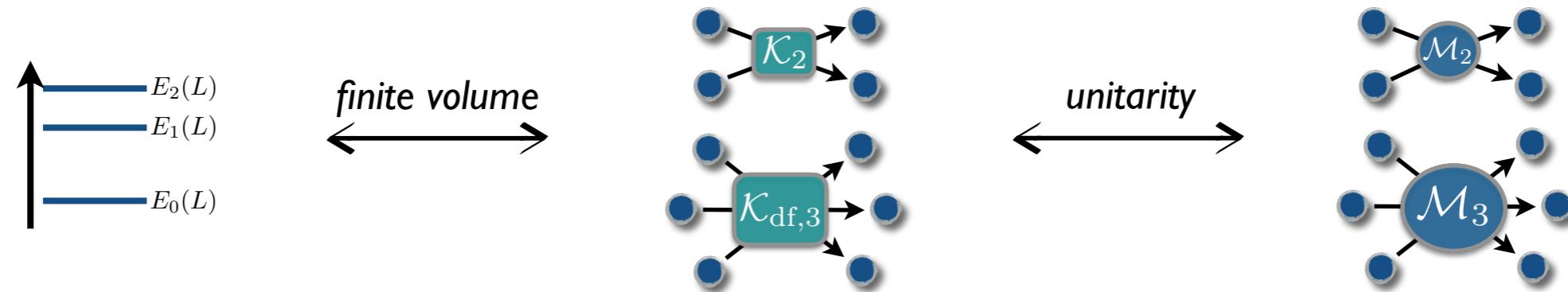
Finite range of analyticity in  $\epsilon$

Uses overlaps



# Interlude...

- This is an alternative to finite-volume methods



- Proven very powerful and are here to stay
- Spectral function methods will be most competitive in multi-channel regime
- Biggest impact may be lower-precision long distance effects  
e.g. *QED corrections of D decays with multi-hadron intermediate states*
- Spectral function methods use **matrix elements** and **energies**

Huang, Yang (1958) • Lüscher (1986, 1991) • Rummukainen, Gottlieb (1995)  
Kim, Sachrajda, Sharpe (2005) • Christ, Kim, Yamazaki (2005) • He, Feng, Liu (2005)  
Leskovec, Prelovsek (2012) • Bernard *et. al.* (2012) • MTH, Sharpe (2012) • Briceño, Davoudi (2012)  
Li, Liu (2013) • Briceño (2014) • Briceño, Davoudi (2015) • Mai, Döring • Hansen, Sharpe

# Perturbative study...

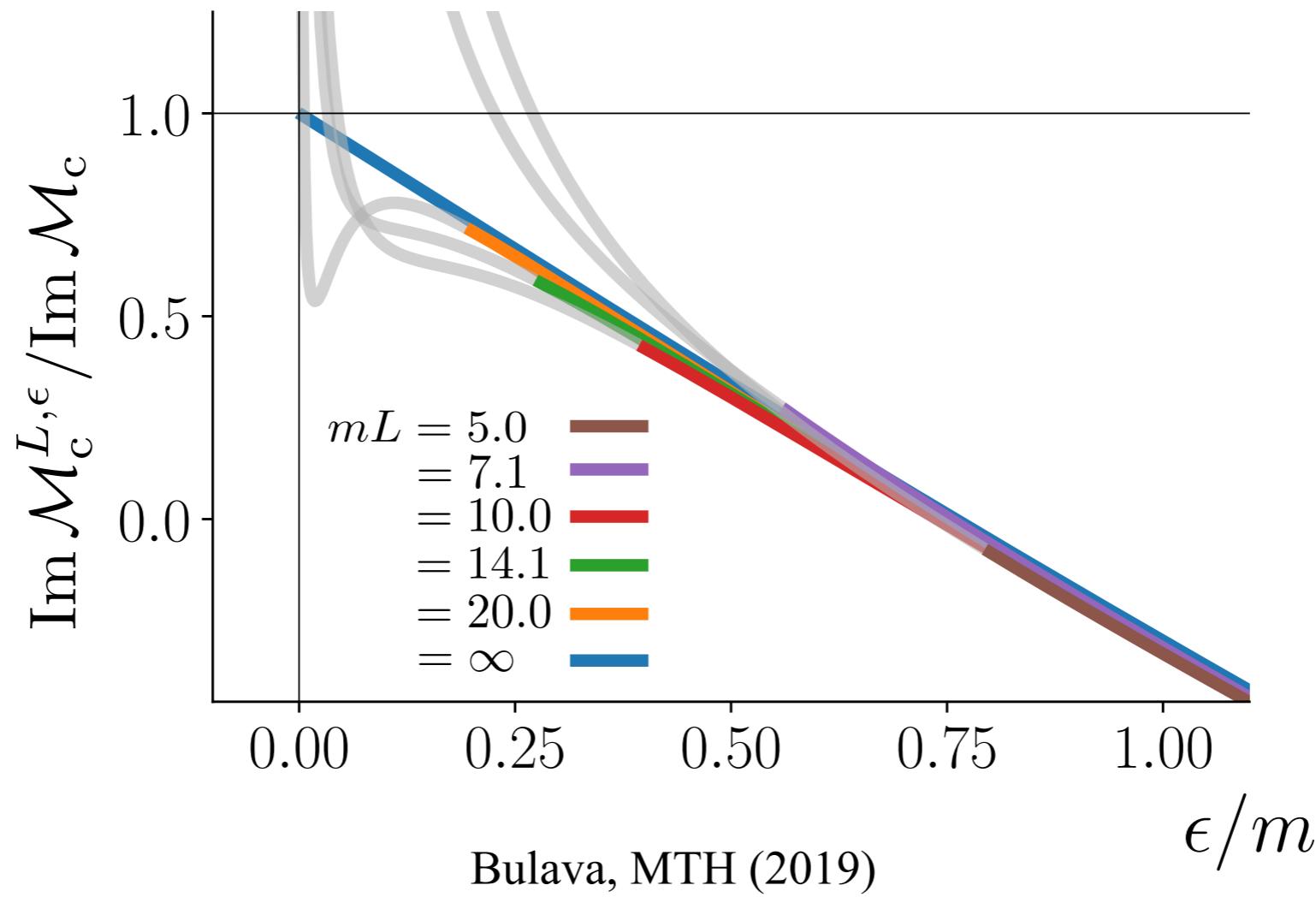
Calculate in PT

$$G_L(\tau) = \langle \pi_{\mathbf{p}_4} | \pi(\tau_3, \mathbf{p}_3) \pi(0) | \pi_{\mathbf{p}_1} \rangle_L$$

Convert to this

$$\mathcal{M}_c^{L,\epsilon}(p_4 p_3 | p_2 p_1)$$

$$\text{Im } \mathcal{M}_c^{L,\epsilon}(p_4 p_3 | p_2 p_1) = \frac{\lambda^2}{2} \frac{1}{L^3} \sum_{\mathbf{k}'}^{\Lambda} \frac{1}{(2E(\mathbf{k}'))^2} \text{Im} \left\{ \frac{1}{(E_{\text{cm}} - 2E(\mathbf{k}') + i\epsilon)} \left[ 1 - \frac{\epsilon^2}{4E(\mathbf{k}')^2} - \frac{\epsilon(\epsilon + 2iE(\mathbf{k}'))}{E_{\text{cm}} E(\mathbf{k}')} \right] \right\}$$



# Perturbative study...

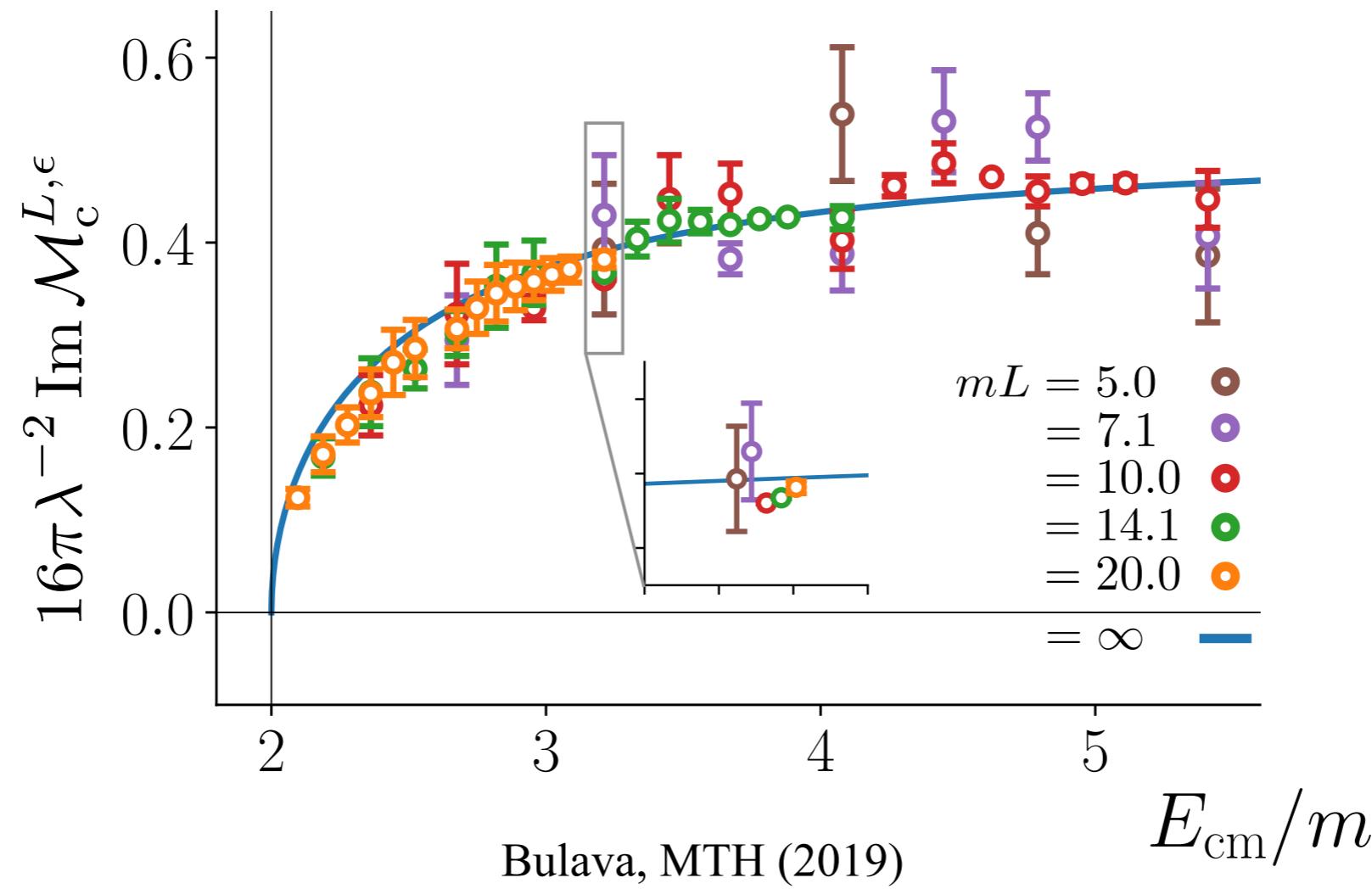
Calculate in PT

$$G_L(\tau) = \langle \pi_{\mathbf{p}_4} | \pi(\tau_3, \mathbf{p}_3) \pi(0) | \pi_{\mathbf{p}_1} \rangle_L$$

Convert to this

$$\mathcal{M}_c^{L,\epsilon}(p_4 p_3 | p_2 p_1)$$

$$\text{Im } \mathcal{M}_c^{L,\epsilon}(p_4 p_3 | p_2 p_1) = \frac{\lambda^2}{2} \frac{1}{L^3} \sum_{\mathbf{k}'}^{\Lambda} \frac{1}{(2E(\mathbf{k}'))^2} \text{Im} \left\{ \frac{1}{(E_{\text{cm}} - 2E(\mathbf{k}') + i\epsilon)} \left[ 1 - \frac{\epsilon^2}{4E(\mathbf{k}')^2} - \frac{\epsilon(\epsilon + 2iE(\mathbf{k}'))}{E_{\text{cm}} E(\mathbf{k}')} \right] \right\}$$



# Connection to Maiani-Testa

- Maiani and Testa considered correlators of the form

$$G_{[\mathbf{p}]}(\tau) = \langle \pi_{-\mathbf{p}} | \pi_{\mathbf{p}}(\tau) J(0) | 0 \rangle$$

- And showed two key points

$$G_{[\mathbf{0}]}(\tau) = \frac{\sqrt{Z_\pi}}{2M_\pi} e^{-M_\pi \tau} f(4M_\pi^2) \left[ 1 - a_{\pi\pi} \sqrt{\frac{m_\pi}{\pi\tau}} + O(\tau^{-3/2}) \right]$$

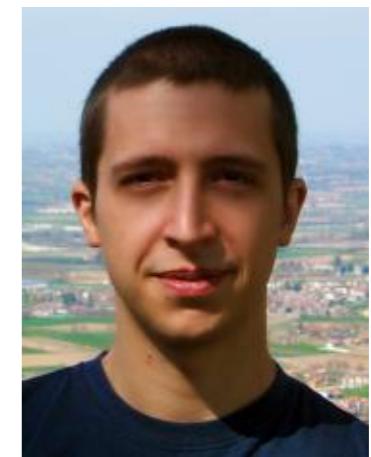
$G_{[\mathbf{p} \neq \mathbf{0}]}(\tau)$  is plagued by un-physical (operator dependent) contributions

- Recent work with M. Bruno connects this story to spectral function amplitudes

Variations on the Maiani-Testa approach and the inverse problem

M. Bruno<sup>a</sup> and M. T. Hansen<sup>b</sup>

arXiv: 2012.11488

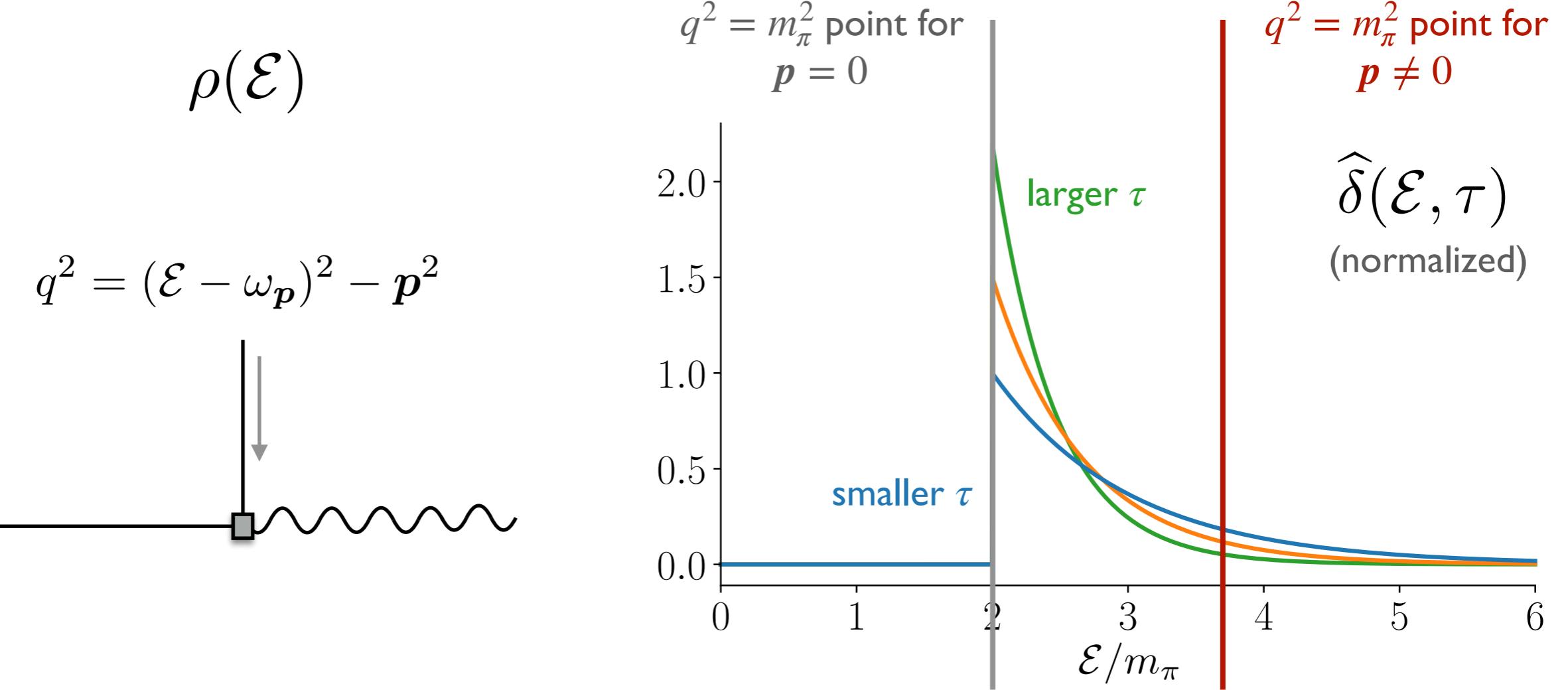


# $G$ is a smeared spectral function

- Correlator can be viewed as a smeared spectral function

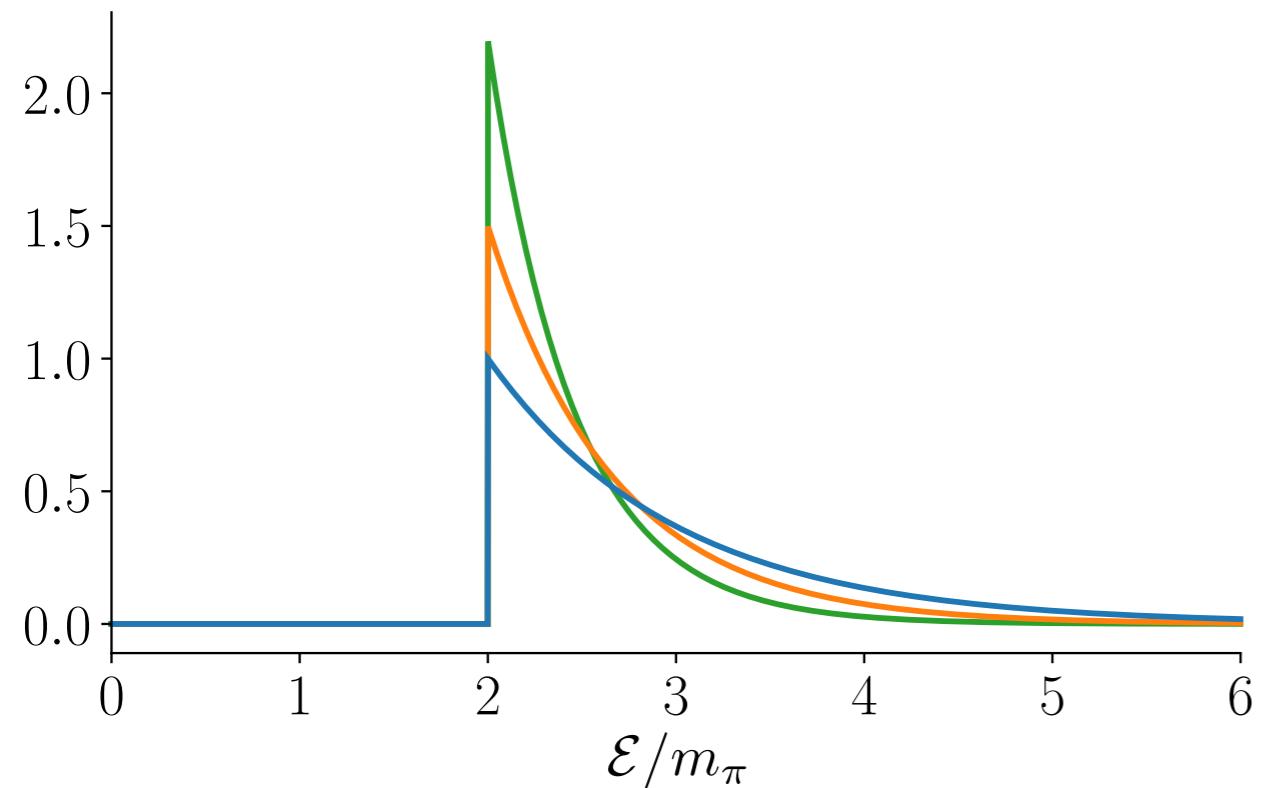
$$G_{[\mathbf{p}]}(\tau) = \int_0^\infty d\mathcal{E} \rho(\mathcal{E}) \hat{\delta}(\mathcal{E}, \tau)$$

$$\hat{\delta}(\mathcal{E}, \tau) = \theta(\mathcal{E} - 2m_\pi) \exp[-\mathcal{E}\tau]$$

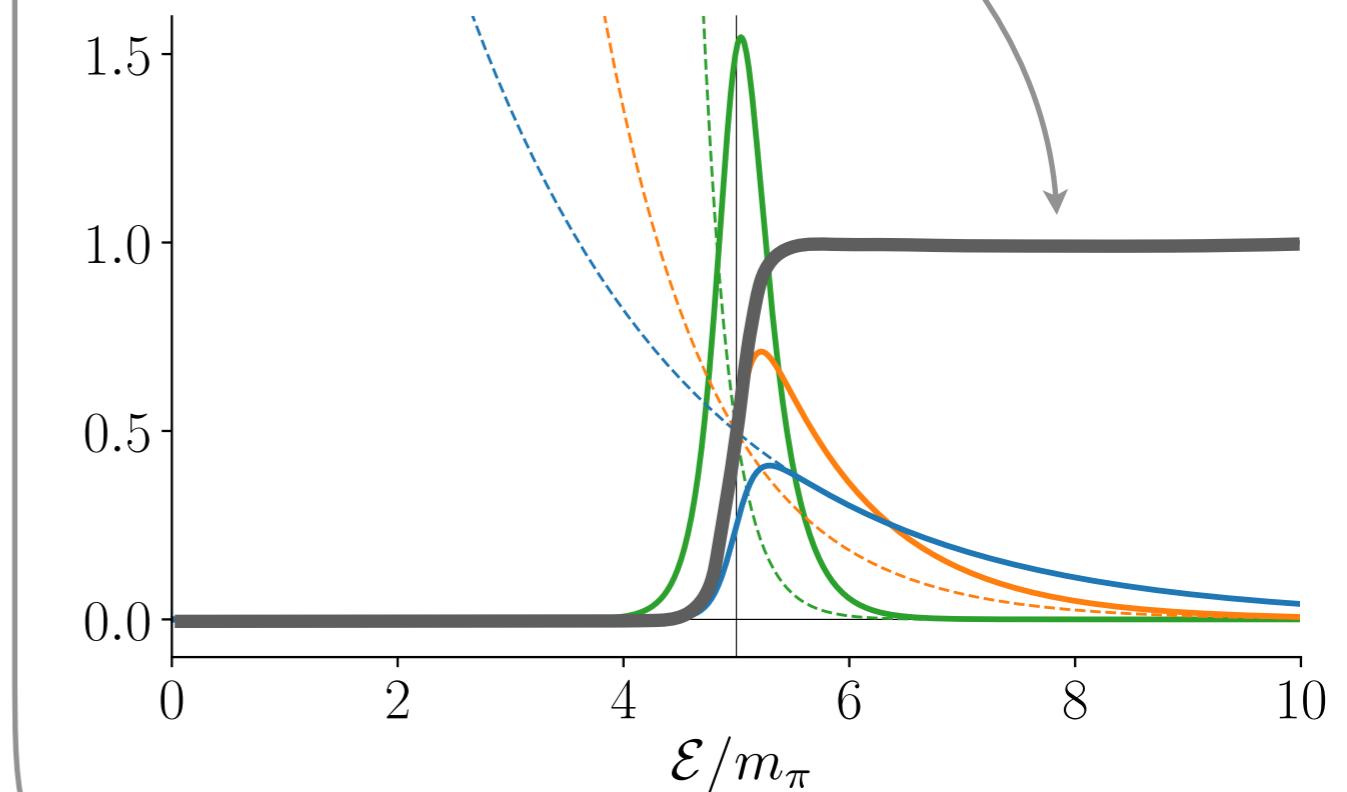


# Shift the peak!

$$\hat{\delta}(\mathcal{E}, \tau) = \theta(\mathcal{E} - 2m_\pi) \exp[-\mathcal{E}\tau]$$



$$\hat{\delta}^\Theta(\mathcal{E}, \tau) = \Theta(\mathcal{E} - 2m_\pi, \Delta) \exp[-\mathcal{E}\tau]$$



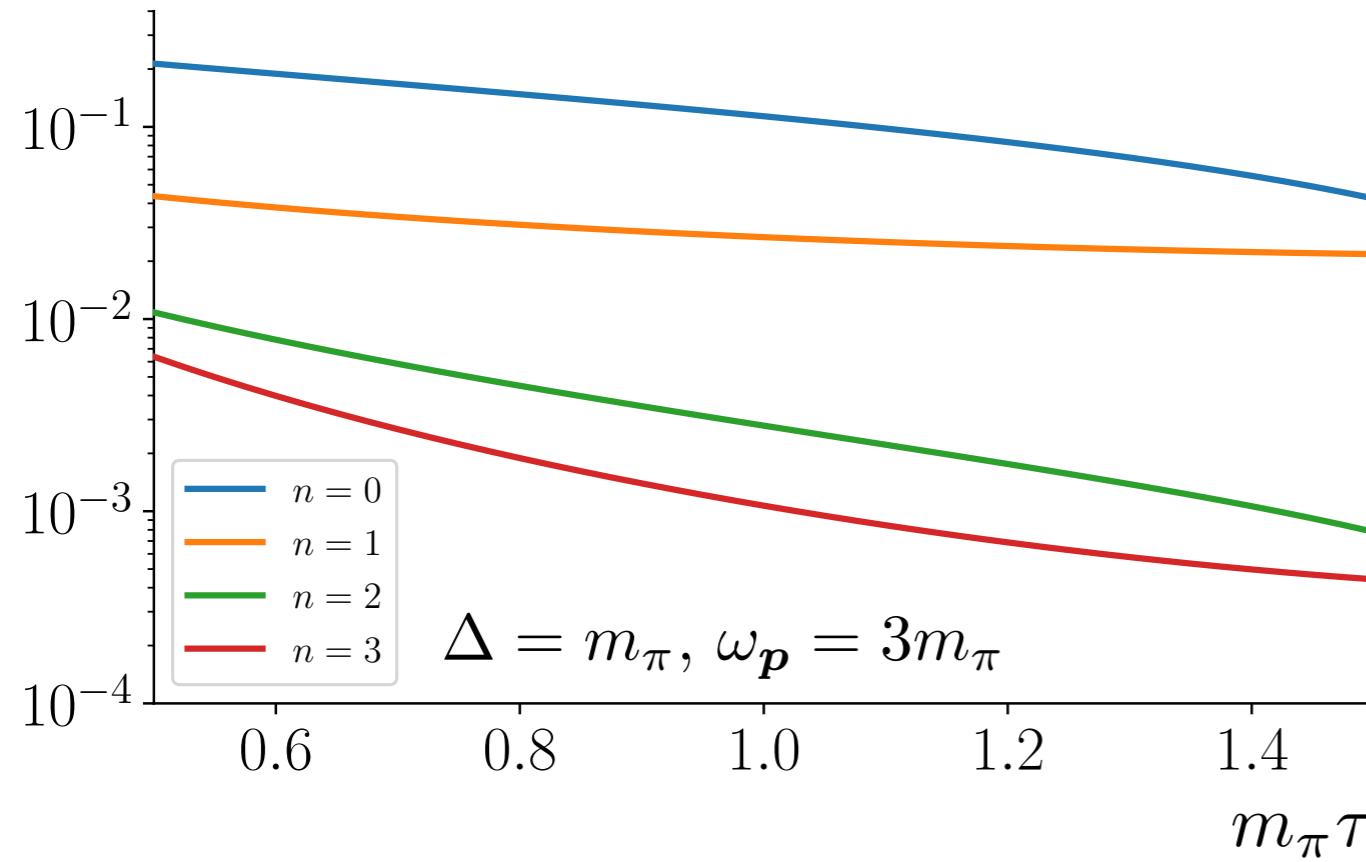
# Reaching above threshold

- So the Maiani and Testa correlator becomes

$$G_{[\mathbf{p}]}^{\Theta}(\tau) = \langle \pi_{-\mathbf{p}} | \pi_{\mathbf{p}}(\tau) \Theta(\hat{H} - 2\omega_{\mathbf{p}}, \Delta) J(0) | 0 \rangle$$

- Now separating the fields gives something useful above threshold

$$G_{[\mathbf{p}]}^{\Theta}(\tau) = \frac{\sqrt{Z_{\pi}}}{2\omega_{\mathbf{p}}} e^{-\omega_{\mathbf{p}}\tau} \left[ \Theta(0, \Delta) \text{Ref}(4\omega_{\mathbf{p}}^2) - 2\mathcal{J}^{(0)}(\tau, \Delta) \text{Imf}(4\omega_{\mathbf{p}}^2) + \dots \right]$$



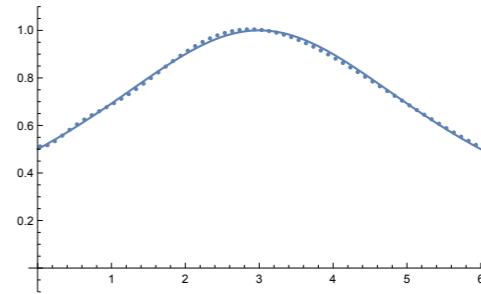
Hierarchy of  $\mathcal{J}^{(n)}$  provides a useful fit function

known functional forms =  
distinction from the work with Bulava

# Constructing the $\Theta$ correlator

$$G_{[\mathbf{p}]}^{\Theta}(\tau) = \langle \pi_{-\mathbf{p}} | \pi_{\mathbf{p}}(\tau) \Theta(\hat{H} - 2\omega_{\mathbf{p}}, \Delta) J(0) | 0 \rangle$$

- Two main methods:
  - Backus-Gilbert and HLT method
  - GEVP



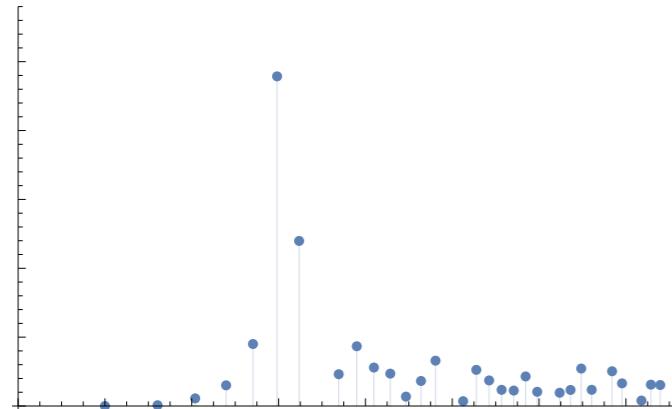
$$G_{[\mathbf{p}]}^{\Theta}(\tau) = \sum_n \Theta(E_n - 2\omega_{\mathbf{p}}, \Delta) e^{-(E_n - \omega_{\mathbf{p}})\tau} \langle \pi_{-\mathbf{p}} | \pi_{\mathbf{p}}(0) | n \rangle \langle n | J(0) | 0 \rangle$$

combine finite-volume energies and matrix elements

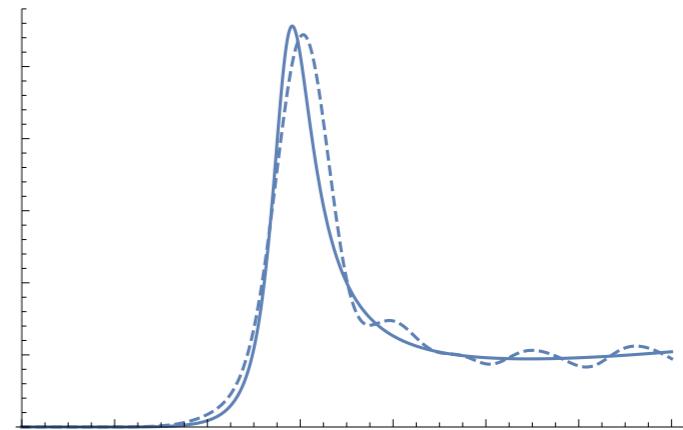
- Volume effects?... Suppressed as  $e^{-\Delta L}$ , but more investigation is needed

# Conclusions

- Cannot solve the inverse problem, we can get  $\hat{\rho}_{L,\Delta}(\bar{\omega}) \equiv \int_0^\infty d\omega \hat{\delta}_\Delta(\bar{\omega}, \omega) \rho_L(\omega)$
- Smearing is needed anyway to *suppress volume effects*



$$1/L \ll \Delta \ll \mu_{\text{physical}}$$



- Generalized Backus-Gilbert takes  $\hat{\delta}_\Delta^{\text{target}}(\bar{\omega}, \omega)$  as input
- Recent work has connected this to the work of Maiani and Testa

This has unlocked a *playground* of calculations that we *just beginning* to explore

**Thanks!**

