

Center for  
Electronic Correlations and Magnetism  
University of Augsburg

# Isosbestic Points and Kinks: Fingerprints of Electronic Correlations



Conference celebrating  
Elihu Abrahams' 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday;  
Rutgers University, April 20, 2007

**Dieter Vollhardt**

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*"Localization and Interactions in Impure Metals"; Aspen, July 1981*  
Elihu Abrahams, Patrick Lee



*Heavy Fermions and Valence Fluctuations/Glassy Dynamics; Aspen, July 1985*

Phil Anderson





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*Strongly Correlated Electron Systems; Aspen, July 1988*  
Ravin Bhatt, Steve Kivelson



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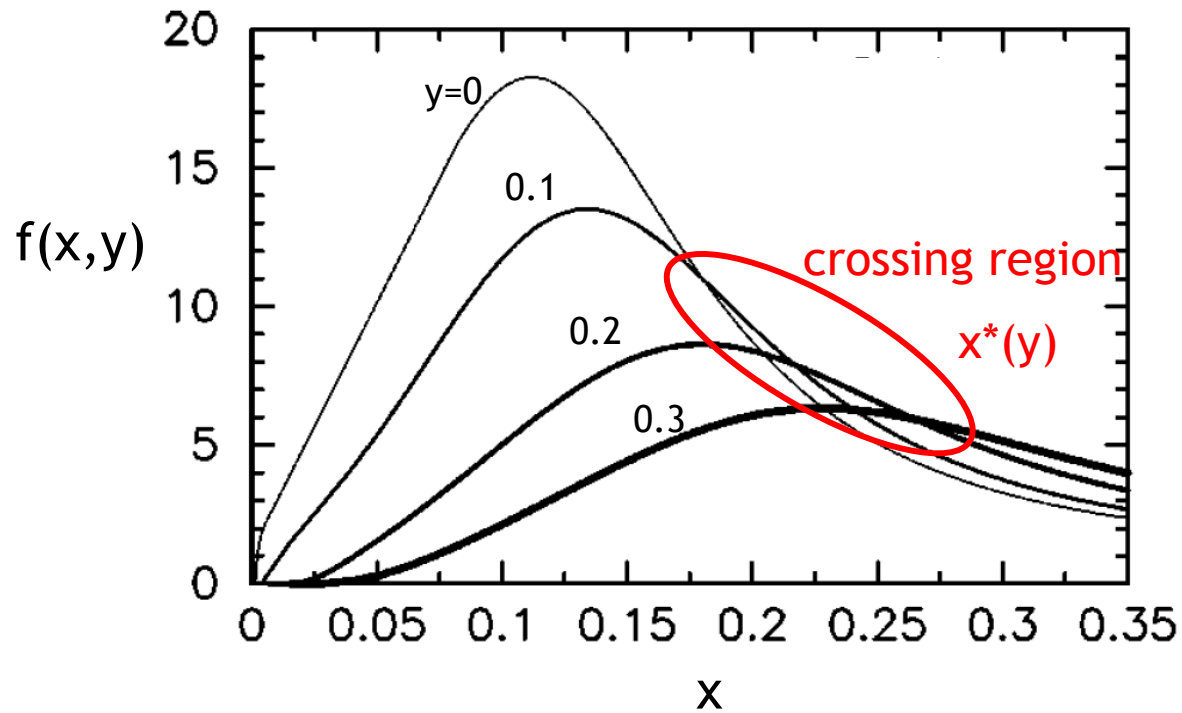
## Outline:

- Isosbestic points
- Kinks in the electronic dispersion

Characteristic energies/temperatures  
due to electronic correlations

# I. Sharp crossing ("isosbestic") points

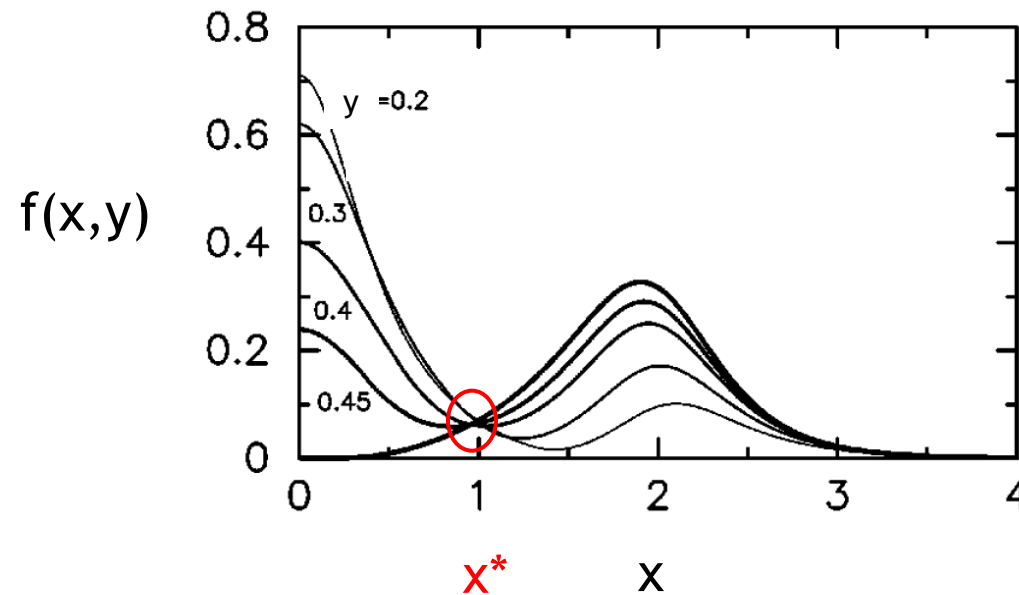
Eckstein, Kollar, DV (2007)



$$\left. \frac{\partial f(x,y)}{\partial y} \right|_{x^*(y)} = 0$$

# I. Sharp crossing ("isosbestic") points

Eckstein, Kollar, DV (2007)



$$\left. \frac{\partial f(x,y)}{\partial y} \right|_{x^*(y)} = 0, \quad x^*(y) = \text{const} \rightarrow \text{sharp crossing point}$$

"isosbestic" point

What do they tell us?



# 1) Isosbestic points in chemistry

Scheibe (1937)

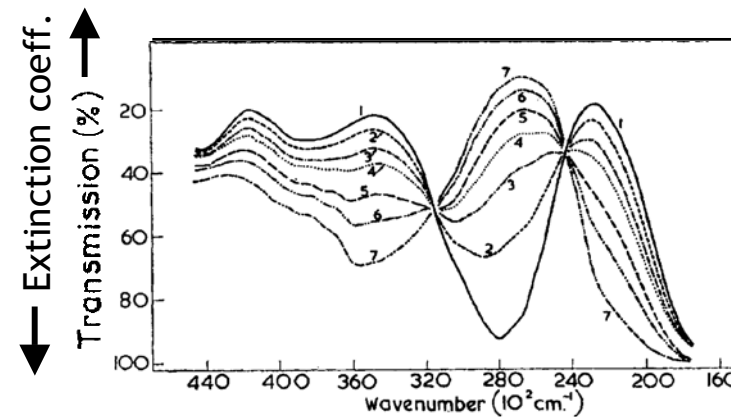
Cohen and Fischer (1962)

Isosbestic point: “Specific wavelength at which two (or more) chemical species have the same extinction coefficient.”

## Example:

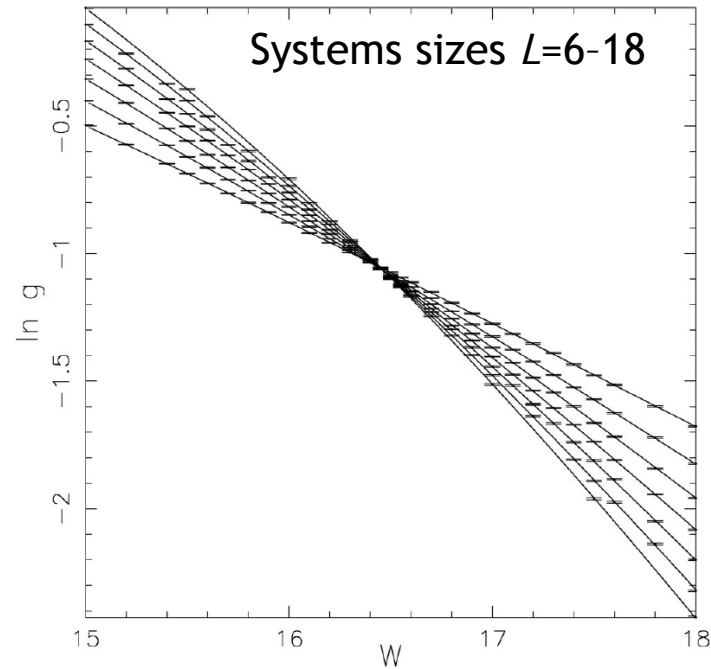
Solution of components A, B  
with concentrations  $n_A$ ,  $n_B$

A: 1,4-naphtaquinone diphenylhydrazone  
B: 4-dimethylaminoazobenzene



**Isosbestic**: from Greek *isos* “equal” + *sbestos*, verbal adj. from *sbennynai* “to quench, extinguish” = “**equal attenuation**”

## 2) Sharp crossing points in critical phenomena

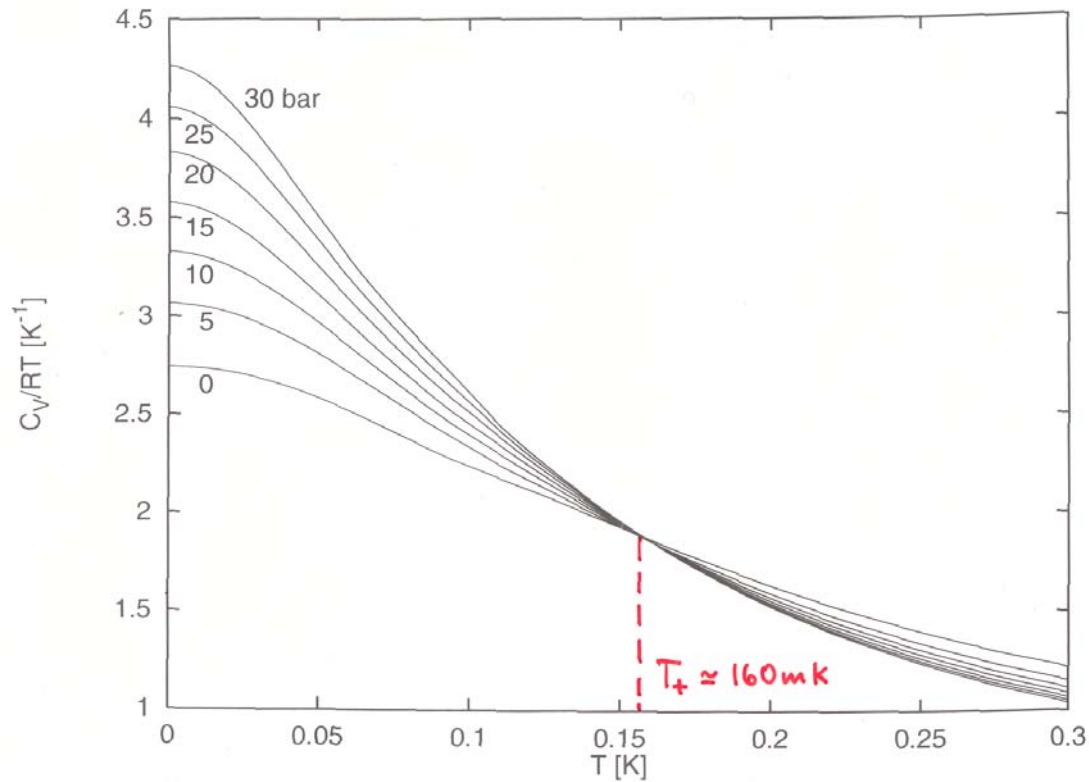


Slevin *et al.* (2003)

Conductance distribution near the Anderson localization transition

### 3) Sharp crossing points in the specific heat of Fermi systems

$^3\text{He}$



Greywall (1983)

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial P} > 0$$

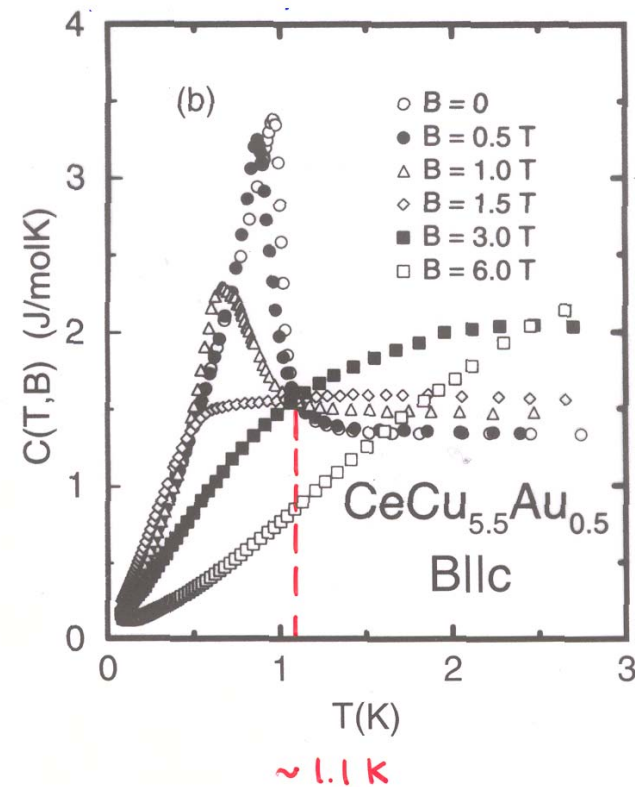
$$= 0$$

$$< 0$$



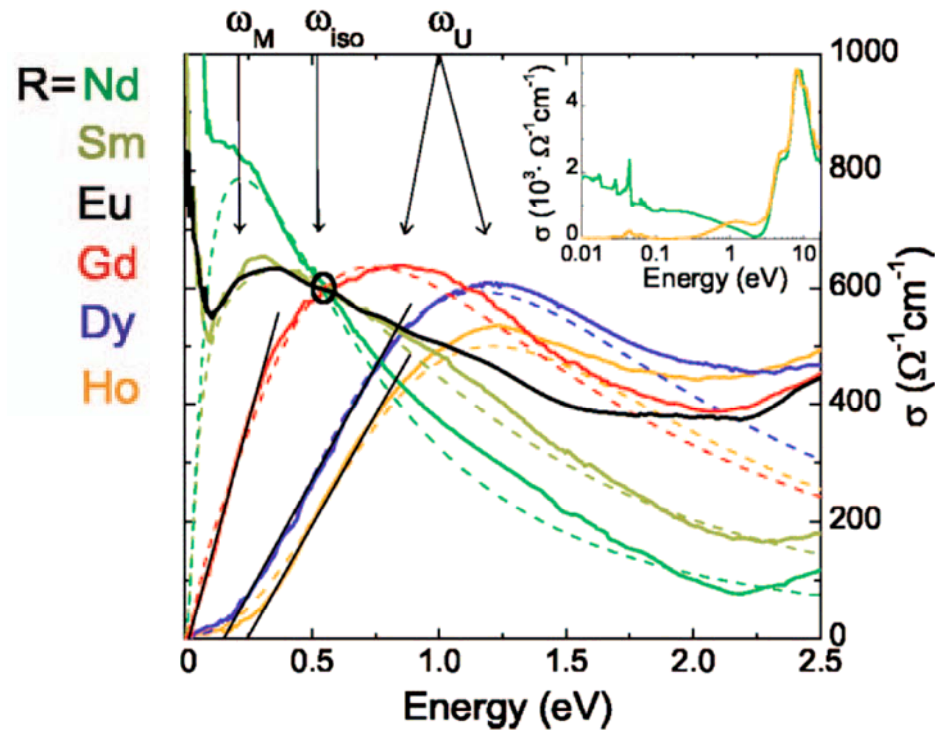
### 3) Sharp crossing points in the specific heat of Fermi systems

#### Heavy fermion systems



Schlager, Schröder, Welsch, v. Löhneysen (1993)

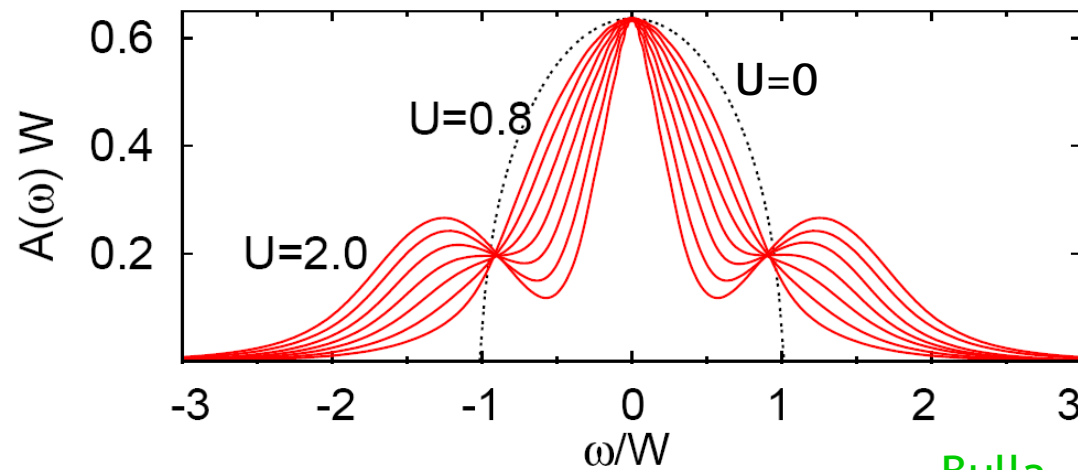
## 4) Sharp crossing points in the dynamical conductivity



$T=10$  K spectra of the  $R_2\text{Mo}_2\text{O}_7$  family

Kezsmarki *et al.* (2006)

## 5) Sharp crossing points in the spectral function



Hubbard model,  
 $n=1$ ,  $T=0$ ,  
Bethe-DOS,  
DMFT(NRG)

Bulla, Hewson, Pruschke (1998)



# Sharp crossing ("isosbestic") points:

Width of crossing regime?

DV (1997)

Eckstein, Kollar, DV (2007)

- Sharp:**
- Linear superposition of two quantities,
  - Two-fluid model
  - Scaling behavior

- Approximate:**
- Smallness of a susceptibility, e.g., compressibility
  - Existence of a small parameter ( $1/Z$ )
  - Shape of band edges of spectral function

## II. Kinks in the electronic dispersion

### a) Kinks

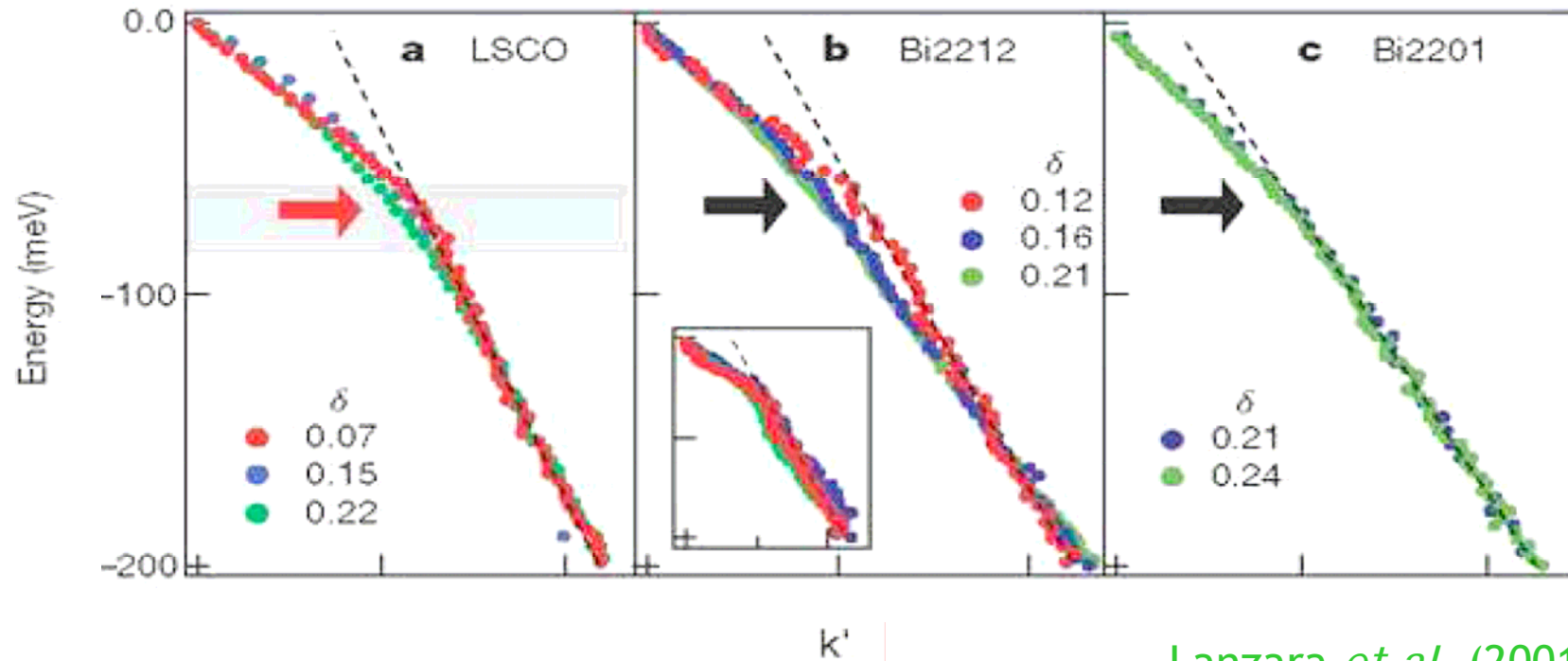


Byczuk, Kollar, Held, Yang, Nekrasov, Pruschke, DV; Nature Phys. (2007)

### b) Waterfalls

# Kinks: High- $T_c$ cuprates

Valla *et al.* (1999)  
Bogdanov *et al.* (2000)



Lanzara *et al.* (2001)

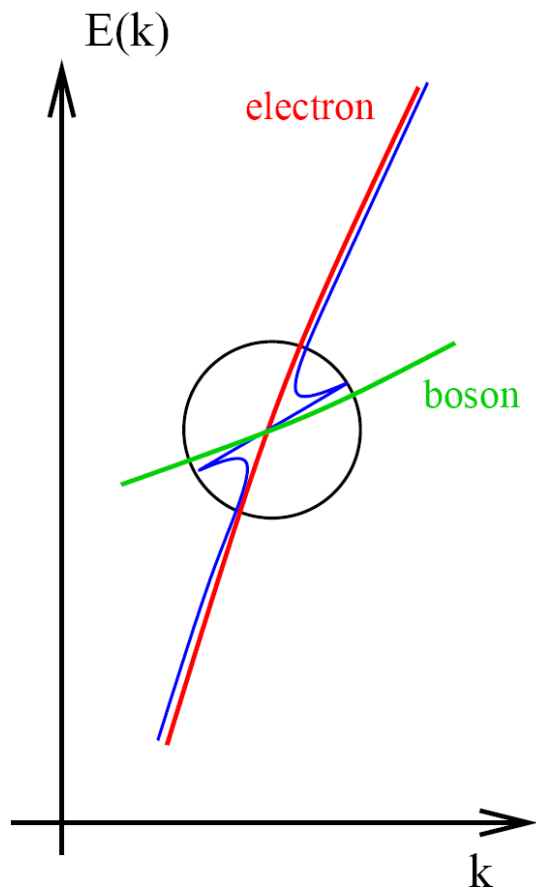
- Kinks at  $\omega_* = 40-70$  meV
- Coupling of electrons to **phonons** or **spin fluctuations** ?
- **Coulomb interaction** ?

Manske *et al.* (2001)

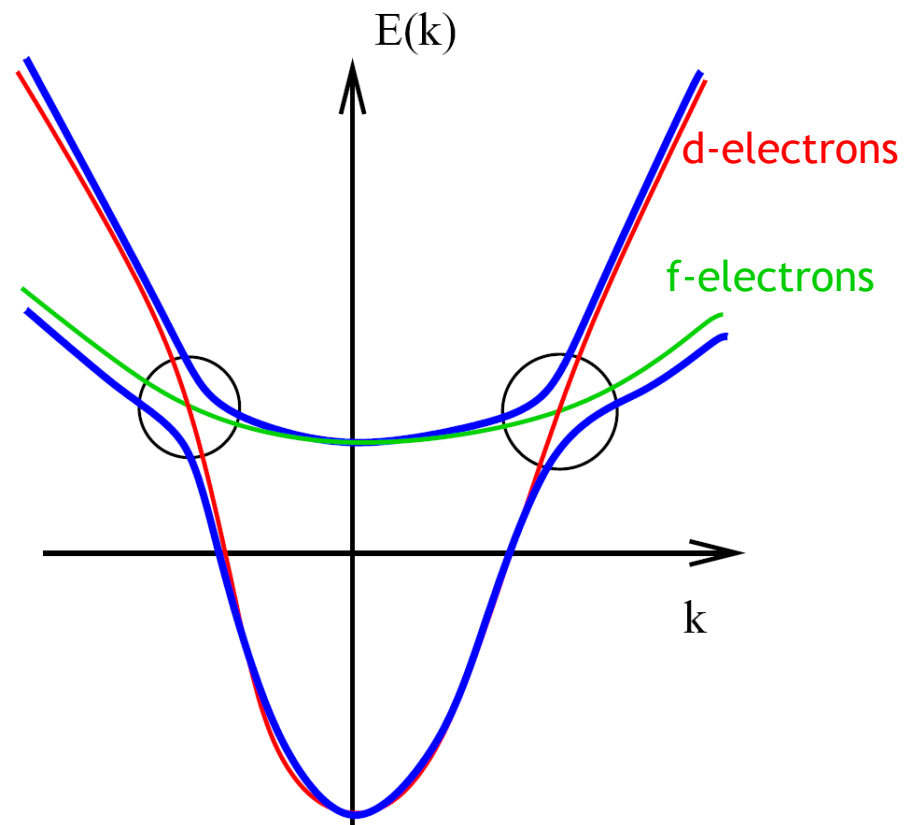
Kordyuk *et al.* (2004)

Randeria *et al.* (2004)

Takehashi, Fulde (2005)



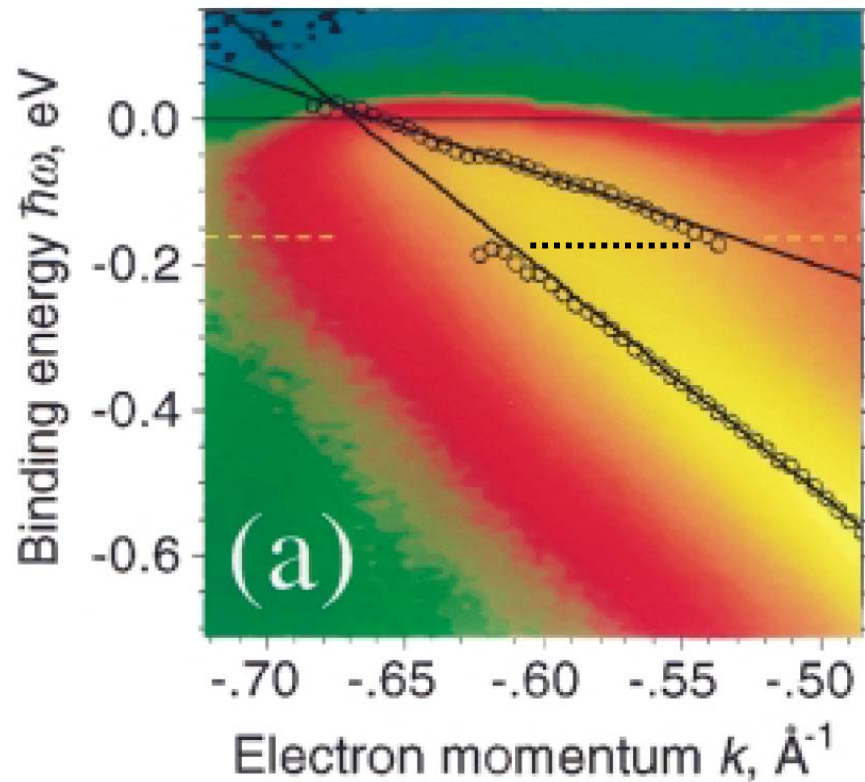
Kinks due to  
 electron-boson coupling



Kinks due to  
 electron-electron hybridization

## Kinks: Metal surfaces

Tungsten



$\omega_* = 160$  meV:  
Surface phonon

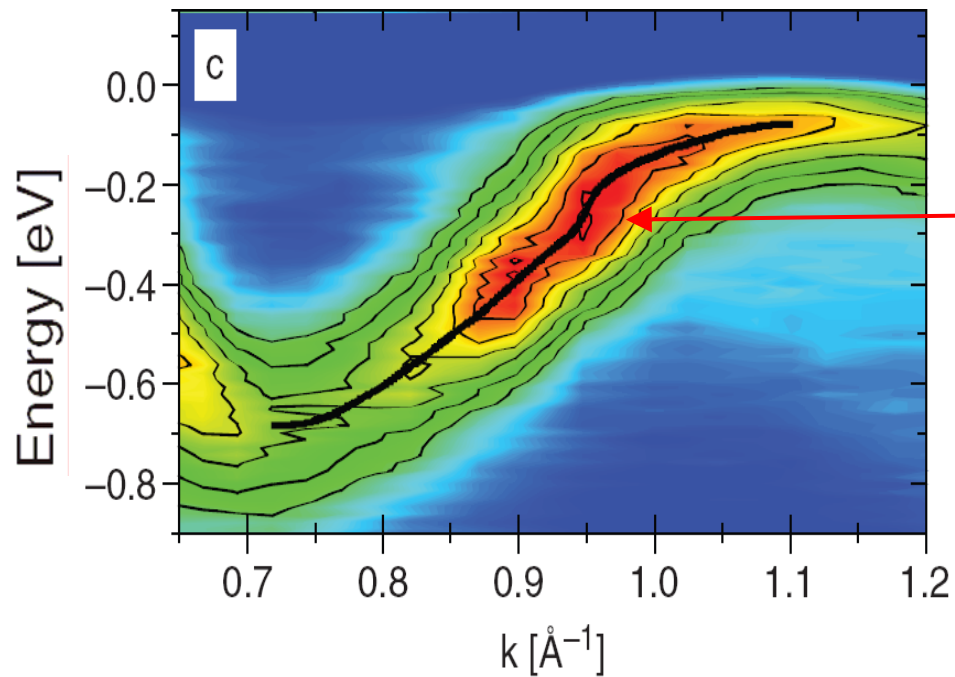
Rotenberg *et al.* (2000)

Kink due to **electron-phonon** coupling



## Kinks: Metal surfaces

PES of quasi-1D electronic structures on Platinum(110) surface



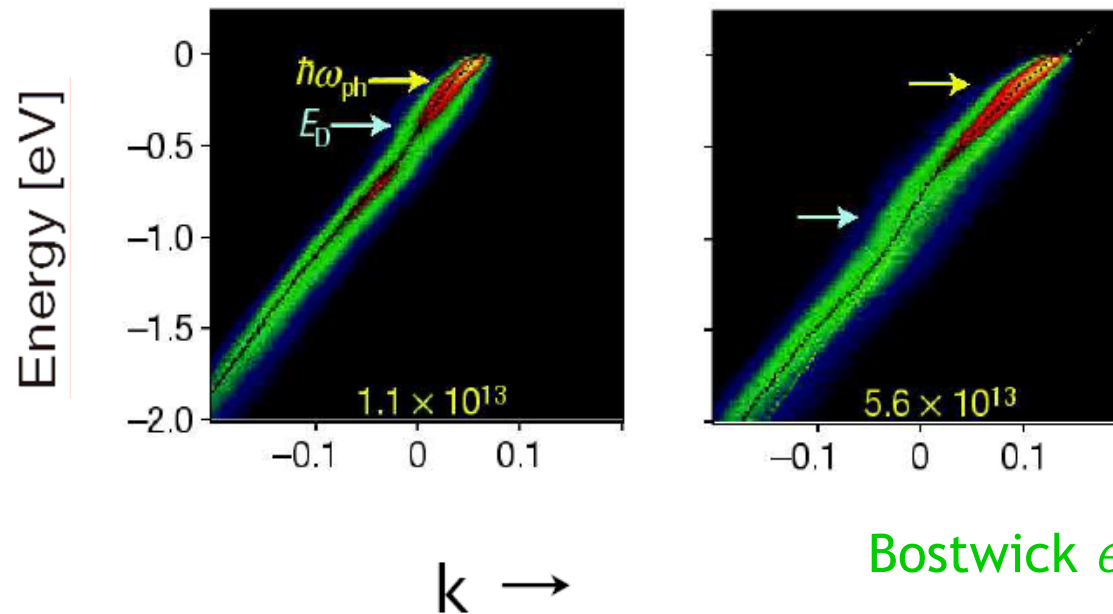
300meV: too high  
for phonons

Menzel *et al.* (2005)

Kinks due to coupling of electrons to what?

# Kinks: Graphene

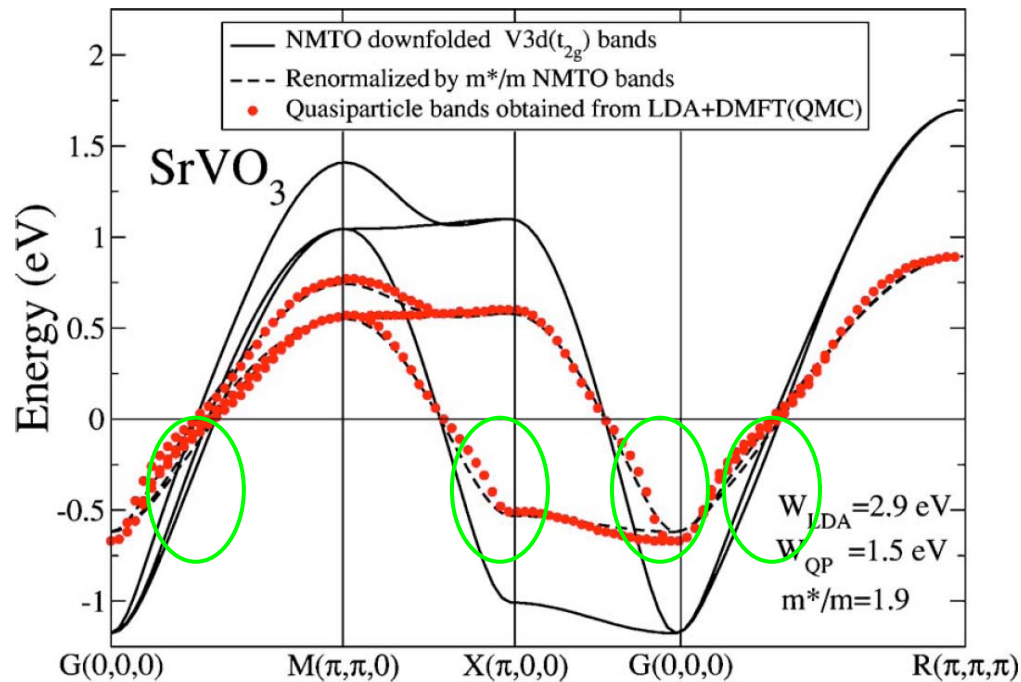
Doping by potassium adsorption



Bostwick *et al.* (2007)

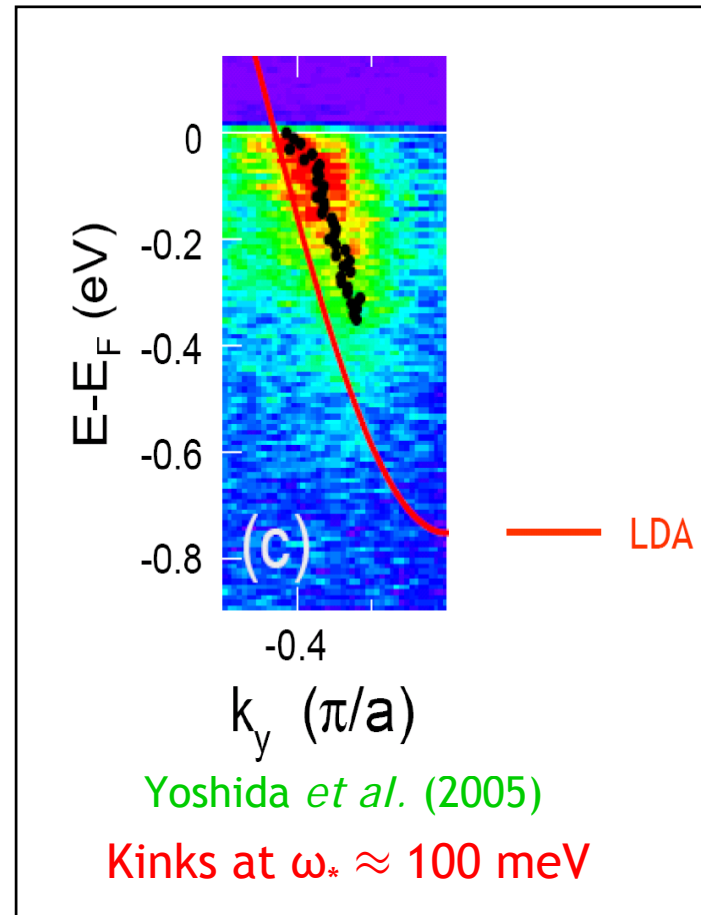
- “Low energy” kinks at 200 meV
- “High energy” kinks at 400-900 meV (near X-ing of Dirac branches,  $E_D$ )
- coupling of electrons to **plasmons** ?

# Purely electronic mechanism for kinks: Strong correlations



Ekaterinburg - Augsburg - Stuttgart collaboration,  
Nekrasov *et al.* (2004, 2006)

Renormalization of LDA-bands by self-energy



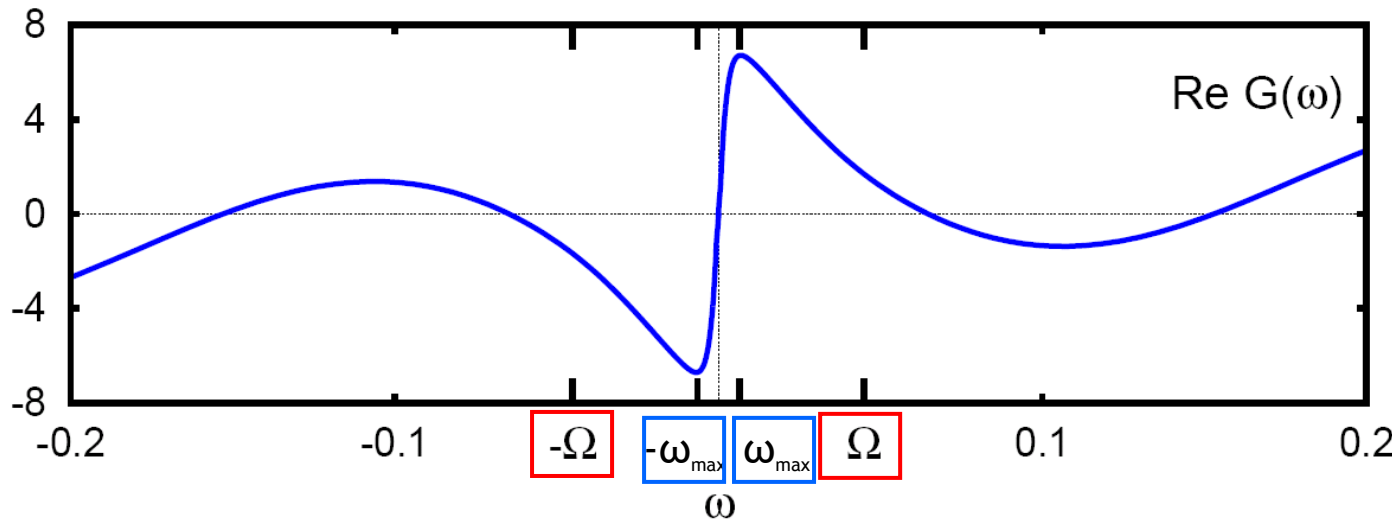
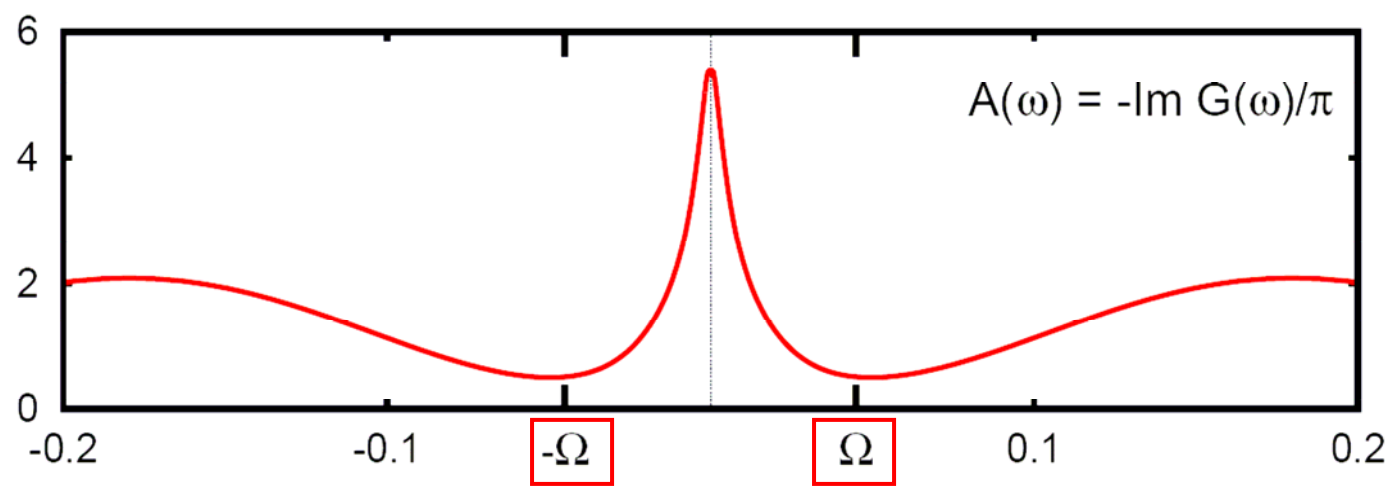
Yoshida *et al.* (2005)

Kinks at  $\omega_* \approx 100 \text{ meV}$

Kinks at  $|\omega_*| \approx 200 \text{ meV}$

Origin of kinks in a purely electronic theory with one type of electron ?

# Strongly correlated paramagnetic metal



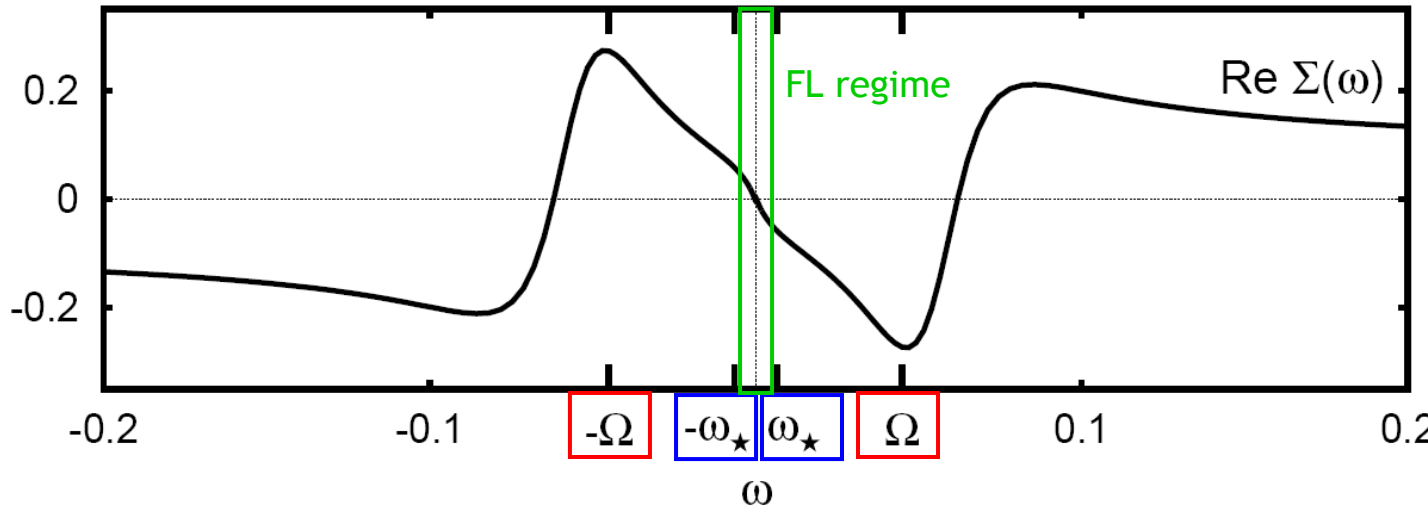
New energy scale ?

Byczuk, Kollar, Held, Yang, Nekrasov, Pruschke, DV; Nature Phys. (2007)

$$G(\omega) \xrightarrow{DMFT} \Sigma(\omega) = \underbrace{\left(\omega + \mu - \frac{1}{G(\omega)}\right)}_{\text{linear for } |\omega| \leq \Omega} - \underbrace{\Delta[G(\omega)]}_{\text{hybridization fct.}}$$

linear for  $|\omega| \leq \omega_*$   
 $\propto G + O(G^2)$

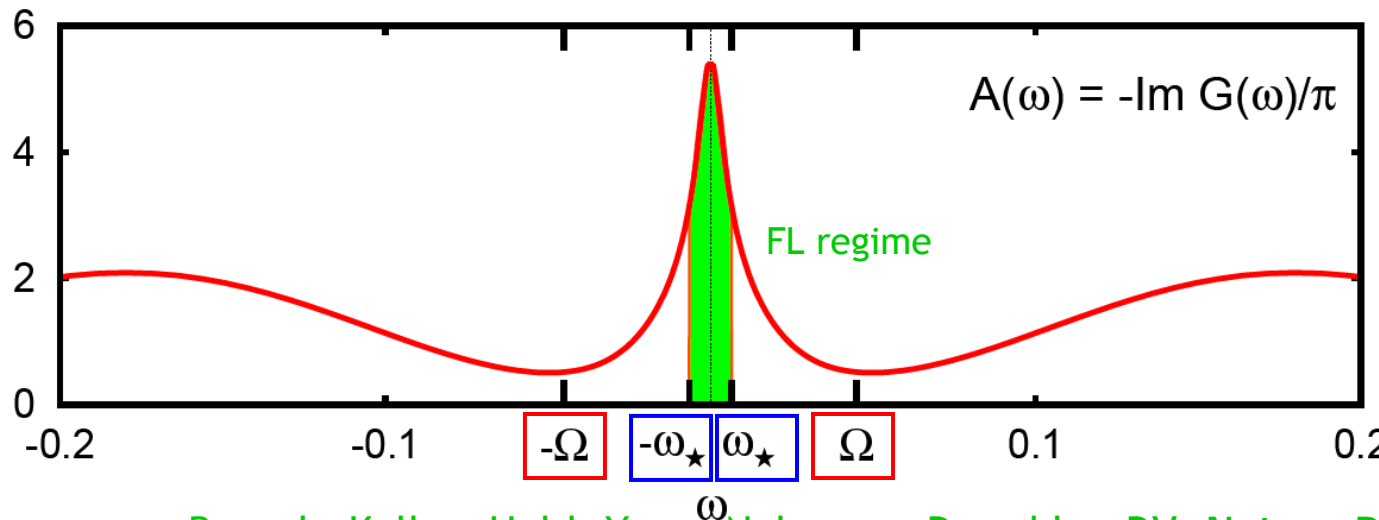
Oudovenko *et al.*  
(2006)



Fermi liquid regime restricted to  
 $|\omega| \leq \omega_* \propto Z_{FL}$

$$\omega_* = (\sqrt{2} - 1) Z_{FL} D_0$$

$$\Omega \sim \sqrt{Z_{FL}}$$



Electronic dispersion *outside* Fermi liquid regime?

Byczuk, Kollar, Held, Yang, Nekrasov, Pruschke, DV; Nature Phys. (2007)

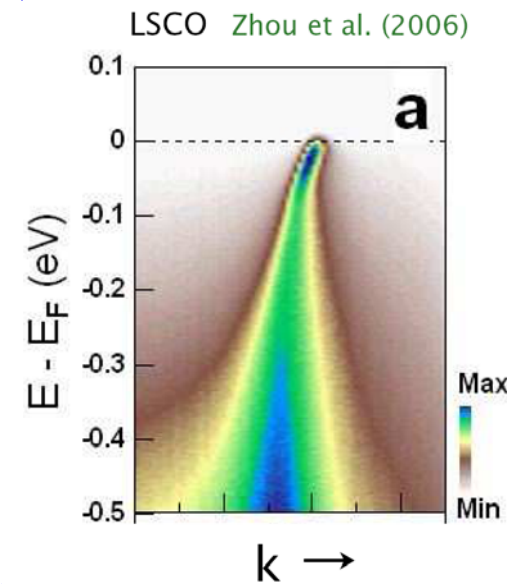


## Electronic dispersion

- Spectral function:  $A(\mathbf{k}, \omega) \propto \text{Im} \frac{1}{\omega + \mu - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} - \Sigma(\mathbf{k}, \omega)}$   
 $\propto$  # excitations with  $\mathbf{k}, \omega$

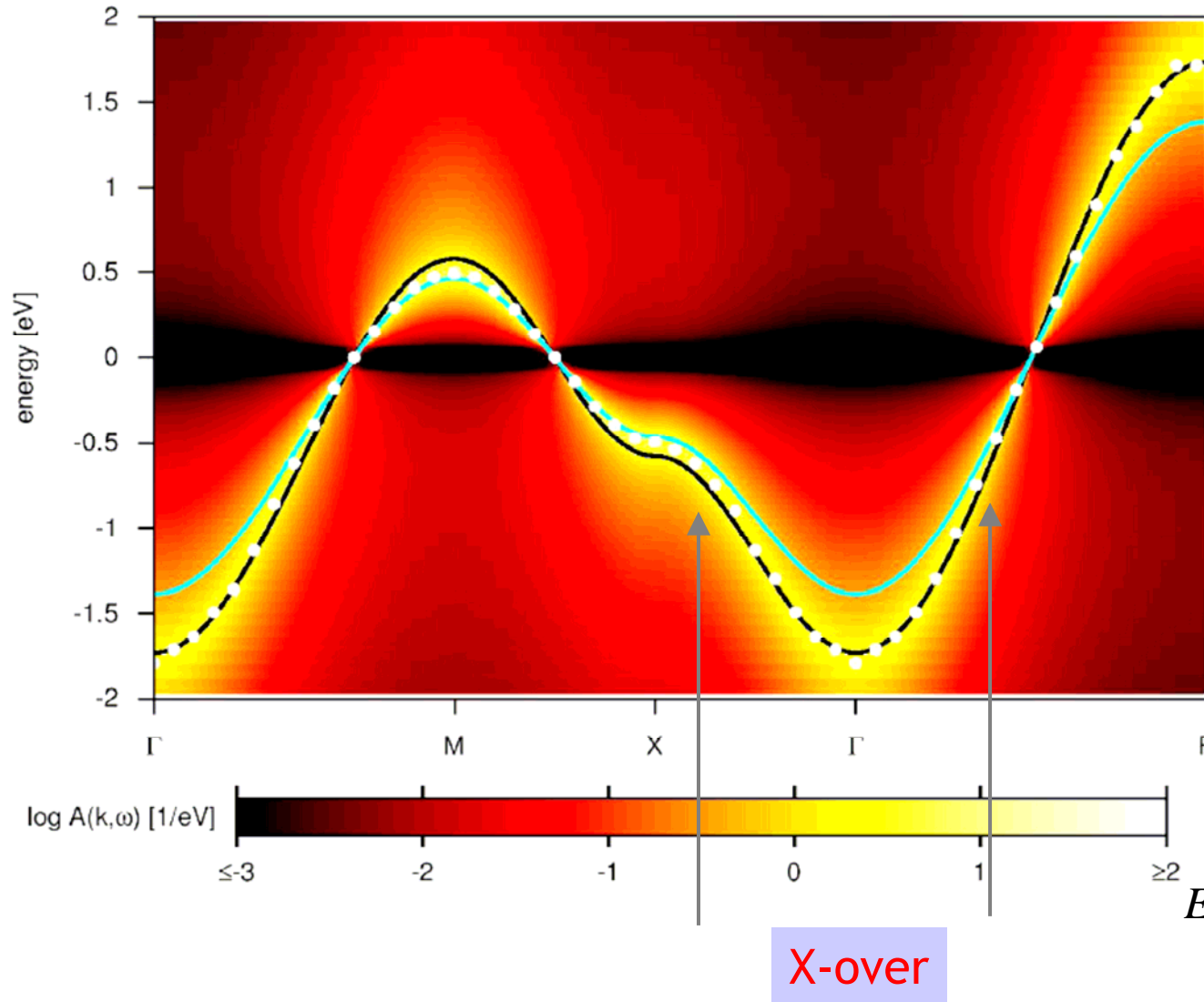
- $\rightarrow$  Dispersion relation:  $E_{\mathbf{k}} = \{ \omega | A(\mathbf{k}, \omega) = \max \}$

- Integrated spectral function:  $A(\omega) = \int d\mathbf{k} A(\mathbf{k}, \omega)$



# $E_k$ : Hubbard model, cubic lattice, DMFT(NRG)

1) Weak correlations:  $U=0.29W$ ,  $Z_{FL}=0.8$

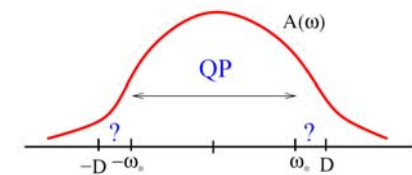


Fermi liquid dispersion

$$E_k = Z_{FL} E_k^0$$

Non-interacting dispersion

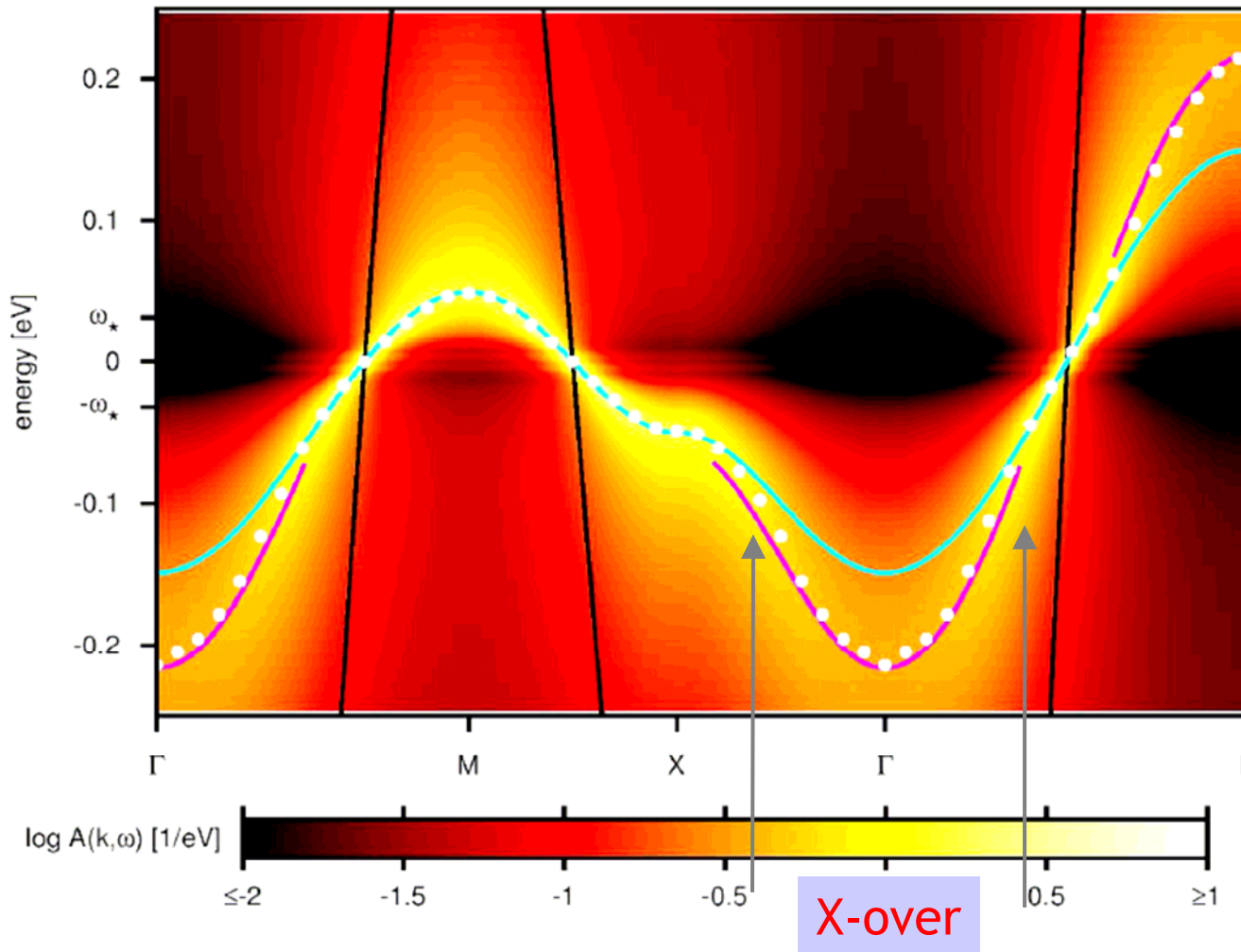
$$E_k^0$$



$$E_k = \begin{cases} Z_{FL} E_k^0; & |E_k| \leq \omega_* \\ E_k^0; & |E_k| \geq \omega_* \gg U \end{cases}$$

# $E_k$ : Hubbard model, cubic lattice, DMFT(NRG)

1) Strong correlations :  $U=0.96W$ ,  $Z_{FL}=0.086$



Non-interacting dispersion

$$E_{\mathbf{k}}^0$$

Fermi liquid dispersion

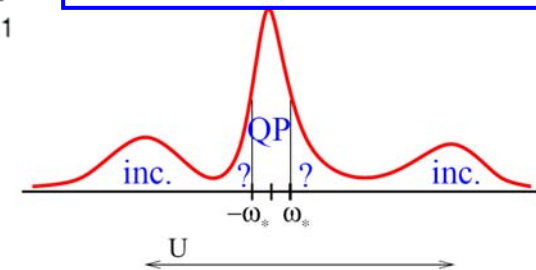
$$E_{\mathbf{k}} = Z_{FL} E_{\mathbf{k}}^0$$

Dispersion outside Fermi liquid regime

$$E_{\mathbf{k}} = Z' E_{\mathbf{k}}^0 + c$$

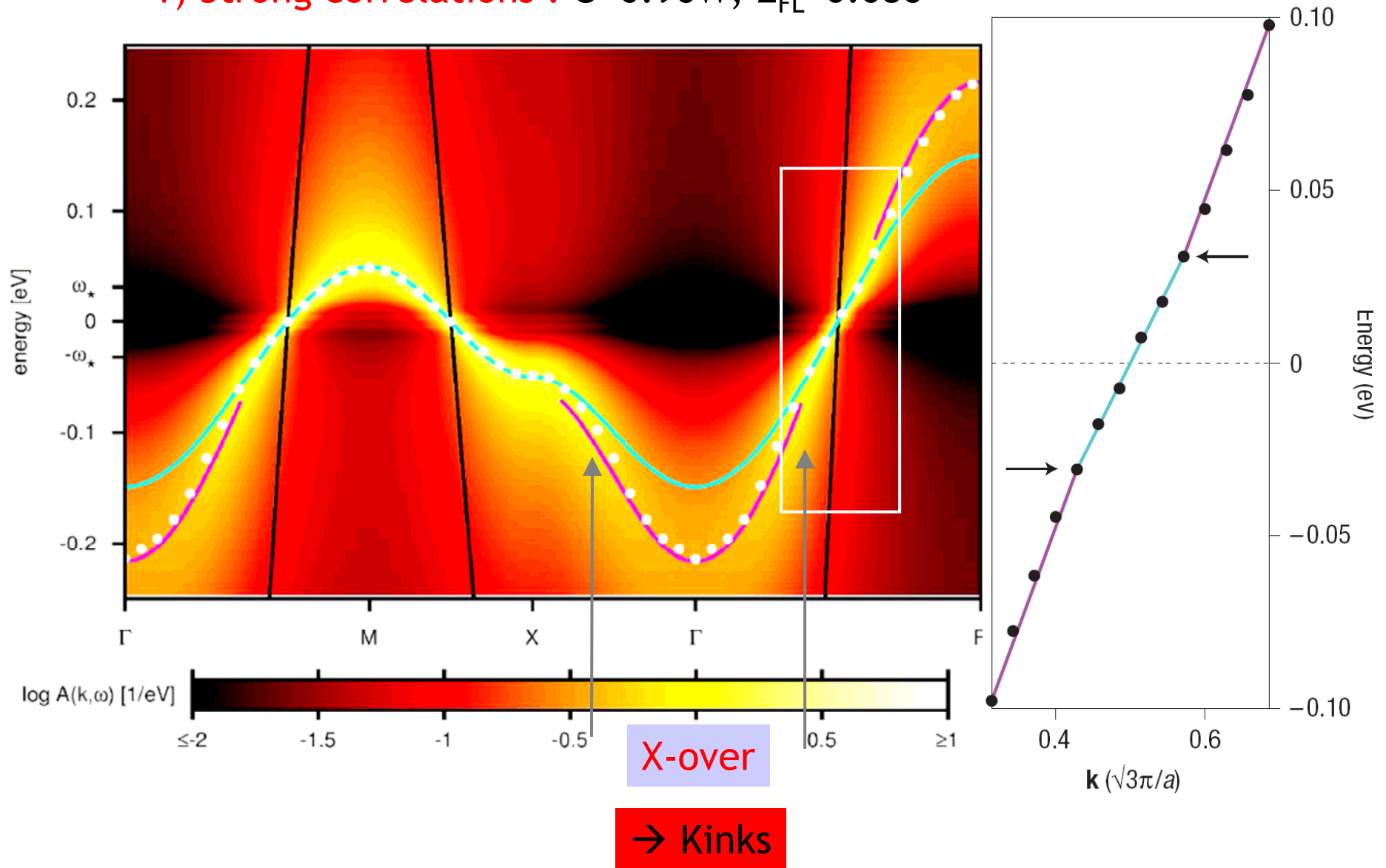
$$E_{\mathbf{k}} = \begin{cases} Z_{FL} E_{\mathbf{k}}^0 & ; |E_{\mathbf{k}}| \leq \omega_* \\ Z' E_{\mathbf{k}}^0 + c & ; |E_{\mathbf{k}}| \geq \omega_* \ll U \end{cases}$$

$A(\omega)$ : three-peak structure  
 $Z' =$  weight of central peak  $> Z_{FL}$   
 $= 0.135$  (moderately correlated)



# $E_k$ : Hubbard model, cubic lattice, DMFT(NRG)

1) Strong correlations :  $U=0.96W$ ,  $Z_{FL}=0.086$



# Properties of the kinks

E.g.: p-h symmetric case

- kink energy:

$$\omega_{\star} = (\sqrt{2} - 1) Z_{\text{FL}} \cdot \left[ \frac{\text{Im}(1/G_0)}{\text{Re}(G'_0/G_0^2)} \right]_{\omega=E_{\text{F}}^0} \quad \text{inside central peak}$$

- intermediate-energy regime:

$$Z' = Z_{\text{FL}} \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{\text{Re}(G'_0/G_0^2)} \right]_{\omega=E_{\text{F}}^0} = \text{weight of central peak in } A(\omega)$$

⇒ change in slope  $Z'/Z_{\text{FL}}$  **independent** of interaction strength

- curvature at the kink:  $\text{Im } \Sigma''(\omega_{\star}) \propto (Z_{\text{FL}})^2$

⇒ sharpness of kinks  $\propto (Z_{\text{FL}})^{-2}$

⇒ kinks get **sharper** with increasing interaction strength



# Conclusions

## Kinks in the electronic dispersion

- generic for strongly correlated electrons
- purely electronic mechanism
- three-peak  $A(\omega)$  sufficient
- new energy scale  $\omega_{\star}$  inside central peak
- kinks at end of FL regime:  $\omega_{\star} = Z_{\text{FL}} \cdot (\text{bare energy scale})$
- intermediate-energy regime with  $Z' > Z_{\text{FL}}$
- robust mechanism based on local physics
- valid beyond DMFT

