

# Fermi blockade of the strong electron-phonon interaction in optimally doped high temperature superconductors

Andrey Mishchenko (✉ [mishchenko@riken.jp](mailto:mishchenko@riken.jp))

RIKEN Center for Emergent Matter Science

Naoto Nagaosa

RIKEN Center for Emergent Matter Science

Nikolay Prokof'ev

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Igor Tupitsyn

University of Massachusetts Amherst

---

## Research Article

**Keywords:** electron-phonon interaction (EPI), Fermi, doped high temperature superconductors

**Posted Date:** April 2nd, 2021

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-353930/v1>

**License:**  This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License.

[Read Full License](#)

---

# Fermi blockade of the strong electron-phonon interaction in optimally doped high temperature superconductors.

Andrey S. Mishchenko<sup>\*1</sup>, Igor S. Tupitsyn<sup>2</sup>, Naoto Nagaosa<sup>1,3</sup>, and Nikolay Prokof'ev<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>RIKEN Center for Emergent Matter Science (CEMS), Wako, Saitama 351-0198, Japan

<sup>2</sup>Department of Physics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003, USA

<sup>3</sup>Department of Applied Physics, The University of Tokyo 7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-8656, Japan

**We study how manifestations of strong electron-phonon interaction (EPI) depend on the carrier concentration by solving the two-dimensional Holstein model for the spin-polarized fermions using an approximation free bold-line diagrammatic Monte Carlo (BDMC) method. We show that the strong EPI, obviously present at very small Fermion concentration, is masked by the Fermi blockade effects and Migdal's theorem to the extent that it manifests itself as moderate one at large carriers densities. Suppression of strong EPI fingerprints is in agreement with experimental observations in doped high temperature superconductors.**

Discussions on the role of the EPI in the physics of cuprate compounds with high superconducting transition temperatures (high  $T_c$ ) have been going for decades [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6] without resulting in a consensus opinion. While the role of EPI in superconductivity is still under debate, its strong manifestations were clearly observed in numerous other phenomena in high  $T_c$  materials [5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14]. The apparent puzzle is that strong EPI effects seen in spectroscopic data of undoped and weakly doped compounds become much less pronounced with hole doping [15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21]. Hence, having a clear picture of how the EPI effects change with the carrier concentration is of seminal importance for understanding the nature of unconventional superconductors where rigorous studies are hindered by the complexity of many-body fermion problem. Accurate results on the EPI in many-fermion systems may provide the way to reconcile the observed fingerprints of the strong EPI in the underdoped regime with successful descriptions of the strongly doped high  $T_c$  materials by models based on direct electron-electron interactions alone.

More generally, it is a long standing fundamental problem to reveal how the Migdal's theorem [22, 23] emerges at the large fermion concentration and eliminates the need for vertex corrections even for strong EPI, provided the Fermi-liquid state remains stable. Violations of the Migdal theorem in high temperature superconductors were discussed for decades [24]. Most studies [25, 26] only evaluate the lowest order corrections whereas our goal is to have a complete picture where all approximations, order-by-order, are compared to the exact answer as the fermion concentration approaches zero. The crossover between the two regimes is expected to take place at  $\omega_{\text{ph}} \sim \varepsilon_F$ , where  $\omega_{\text{ph}}$  is the phonon frequency and  $\varepsilon_F$  is the Fermi energy, and it can be addressed by the approximation free diagrammatic Monte Carlo methods [27, 28, 8, 29].

46 To this end, we consider a spin polarized (SP) two-dimensional (2D) lattice  
 47 system in order to avoid system instabilities that would be triggered by the strong  
 48 EPI in continuous and spin-balanced systems, such as structural transitions or a  
 49 singlet on-site bipolaron formation at  $\lambda \approx 0.5$  (in 2D) [30] with the concomitant  
 50 superconducting state. An essential feature of the SP Holstein model resembling  
 51 that of the  $t-J$  model near half-filling [31, 32] (which is prototypical for description  
 52 of high  $T_c$  superconductors) is that in both cases one can only create one hole  
 53 per site. Strong repulsive electron-electron interactions obviously play a key role  
 54 close to half-filling. However, our study is focused on the small density regime  
 55 where Hubbard-type interactions can be treated perturbatively (after strong on-site  
 56 repulsion is replaced with an exact solution of the two-body scattering problem)  
 57 and result only in weak renormalization of electron properties. When the electron-  
 58 phonon coupling is strong, repulsive electron-electron interactions are required for  
 59 system stabilization against the bi-polaron instability, but otherwise their effects  
 60 remain perturbative. This is precisely the situation that we are modeling at the  
 61 microscopic level in our work.

## 62 1. EXACT NUMERIC APPROACH

63 In this work we employ the BDMC technique developed for many-body systems  
 64 with EPI in Ref. [29]. For the same system parameters the determinant Monte  
 65 Carlo [33, 34, 35] method would suffer from a severe sign problem. The dynam-  
 66 ical mean-field method (DMFT) [36, 37], would be inadequate because the EPI  
 67 self-energy is strongly momentum dependent at low carrier concentration [29], in  
 68 violation of the key DMFT assumption. The BDMC technique is based on the  
 69 expansion of irreducible free-energy Feynman diagrams in terms of exact electron,  
 70  $G$ , and bare,  $D^{(0)}$ , phonon propagators and is free from the above limitations. We  
 71 consider phonon propagators  $D^{(0)}$  as exact, fully renormalized/dressed functions as  
 72 if they are already the result of an accurate ab-initio treatment [38, 39]. Thus, we  
 73 omit all diagrams that can be interpreted as the phonon proper self-energy inser-  
 74 tion; accounting for phonon renormalization would have no significant effect on our  
 75 results because we focus on the small carrier concentration limit. In more detail,  
 76 see Ref. [29], the electron self-energy  $\Sigma^{(m)}$  is expanded into the series of irreducible  
 77 skeleton graphs up to the largest order  $m$  defined by the number of  $D^{(0)}$  propaga-  
 78 tors, with self-consistency implemented by a feedback loop involving the solution  
 79 of the algebraic Dyson equation,  $[G(\mathbf{k}, \omega_\ell)]^{-1} = [\mathbf{G}^{(0)}(\mathbf{k}, \omega_\ell)]^{-1} - \Sigma^{(m)}(\mathbf{k}, \omega_\ell)$ , in  
 80 momentum,  $\mathbf{k}$ , and Matsubara frequency,  $\omega_\ell = 2\pi T(\ell + 1/2)$ , representation ( $\ell$  is  
 81 an integer).

## 82 2. MODEL

83 The 2D Holstein model on a square lattice reads:

$$(1) \quad H = -t \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} c_i^\dagger c_j + \omega_{\text{ph}} \sum_i b_i^\dagger b_i + g \sum_i c_i^\dagger c_i (b_i^\dagger + b_i),$$

84 where  $c_i^\dagger/b_i^\dagger$  are standard notations for electron/phonon creation operators,  $t$  is the  
 85 nearest neighbor hopping amplitude,  $\omega_{\text{ph}} = 0.5t$  is the energy of the local optical  
 86 mode, and  $g$  is the EPI coupling. The electron gas is spin-polarized and, hence, any  
 87 site can be occupied by no more than one electron. It is standard to characterize  
 88 the strength of the EPI by a dimensionless coupling constant  $\lambda = g^2/(4\omega_{\text{ph}}t)$ . The

89 lattice constant  $a$ , amplitude  $t$ , and Planck's constant  $\hbar$  are used to set units of  
 90 length, energy, and time, respectively. In this study we chose  $\lambda = 1.07$  beyond  
 91 the crossover from weak- to strong-coupling regimes for single polarons and the  
 92 threshold for the singlet bipolaron formation. For convenient systematic error-  
 93 free handling of the data in momentum space we perform simulations for finite  
 94 systems with  $16 \times 16$  sites, large enough to reproduce the infinite system results  
 95 with high accuracy (see Supplemental Material [40]). The temperature is set to  
 96  $T = t/20$ , which is an order of magnitude smaller than all energy scales of the  
 97 model parameters. In the zero-density limit an alternative exact (numerically)  
 98 diagrammatic Monte Carlo (DMC) approach for single polarons [27, 28] provides  
 99 reference values for the ground state energy,  $E_1 = -4.891$ , and the quasiparticle  
 100 (QP) residue,  $Z_1 = 0.238$ .

### 101 3. RESULTS

102 Our main results are presented in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. Figure 1 shows the de-  
 103 pendence of the QP residue on the adiabaticity ratio  $\gamma = \varepsilon_F/\omega_{\text{ph}}$ . One can see  
 104 in Fig. 1 that at large  $\gamma \geq 3$  the Migdal's theorem ensures that vertex corrections  
 105 are small and the lowest-order  $m = 1$  skeleton diagram for self-energy (also known,  
 106 depending on the context, as the non-crossing, the self-consistent Born, and the  
 107 Eliashberg approximations) well describes the EPI renormalization even at strong  
 108 coupling. In contrast, for smaller values of  $\gamma$  one has to account for high-order  
 109 vertex corrections; up to order  $m = 7$  at  $\gamma = 1$  and all the way to  $m > 20$  for  $\gamma \rightarrow 0$   
 110 with extrapolation to the infinite diagram-order limit. An immediate conclusion is  
 111 that EPI strongly suppresses the QP residue to values smaller than 0.5 (indicative  
 112 of strong coupling) only at a rather small filling factor when  $\gamma < 1$ .

113 In Fig. 2(a) we further quantify the role of vertex corrections at low and high  
 114 carrier density (or occupation number per site),  $\delta$ , in both adiabatic and anti-  
 115 adiabatic regimes. Vertex corrections become important at  $\gamma < 3$ , and at low  
 116 values of  $\gamma$  and  $\delta$  it is not sufficient to take into account just  $m = 2$ , or even  $m = 3$   
 117 contributions; in this parameter regime the convergence is reached only for  $m \geq 16$   
 118 in the skeleton expansion, see Fig. 2(a)). Figure 2(b) is complementary to Fig. 1  
 119 by presenting the data as a function of the carrier concentration  $\delta$  instead of  $\gamma$ .  
 120 Signatures of strong EPI are observed only at  $\delta < 0.1$  that roughly corresponds to  
 121  $\gamma \approx 1$ , which can be interpreted as the "Fermi blockade" of EPI manifestations at  
 122 large concentration by the Pauli exclusion principle.

123 The key conclusion that clear signatures of strong EPI are limited to small doping  
 124 is consistent with experimental findings for high  $T_c$  superconductors [15, 19, 20, 21].  
 125 It is not restricted to specific model features or choice of parameters. For example,  
 126 smaller values of the phonon frequency lead to sharper crossover between the weak  
 127 and strong coupling regimes for single Holstein polarons (see Supplemental Material  
 128 [40]). Therefore, the crossover presented in Figs. 1 and 2 will be more pronounced  
 129 for smaller phonon frequencies. Besides, similar results are obtained for the spin-  
 130 balanced case when the bi-polaron instability is prevented by adding an on-site  
 131 Hubbard repulsion,  $H_{\text{Hub}} = \sum_i U n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow}$  with  $n_{i\sigma} = c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{i\sigma}$ , to the Hamiltonian  
 132 (see Supplemental Material [40]). [The corresponding simulations are far more  
 133 demanding.]

134 One evidence for Fermi blockade of the EPI with doping comes from angle re-  
 135 solved photoemission experiments [15]. It was shown that the ratio  $v_{\text{high}}/v_{\text{low}}$

136 between the phase velocities of the dispersion relation above and below the De-  
 137 bye frequency, decreases with doping. Our simulations reveal a similar trend, see  
 138 Fig. 3. The QP dispersion relation  $\omega(\mathbf{k})$  was obtained from the energy of the lowest  
 139 peak in the Lehmann spectral function, see Fig. 4, extracted from the imaginary  
 140 time Matsubara Green function  $G(\tau)$  by the stochastic optimization with consistent  
 141 constraints method of analytic continuation [28, 41].

142 Calculations of the frequency dependent optical conductivity [19] and angle re-  
 143 solved photoemission spectra [21] in the low-concentration limit (one hole) of the  
 144  $t - J$ -Holstein model revealed that the experimental dependence of both quantities

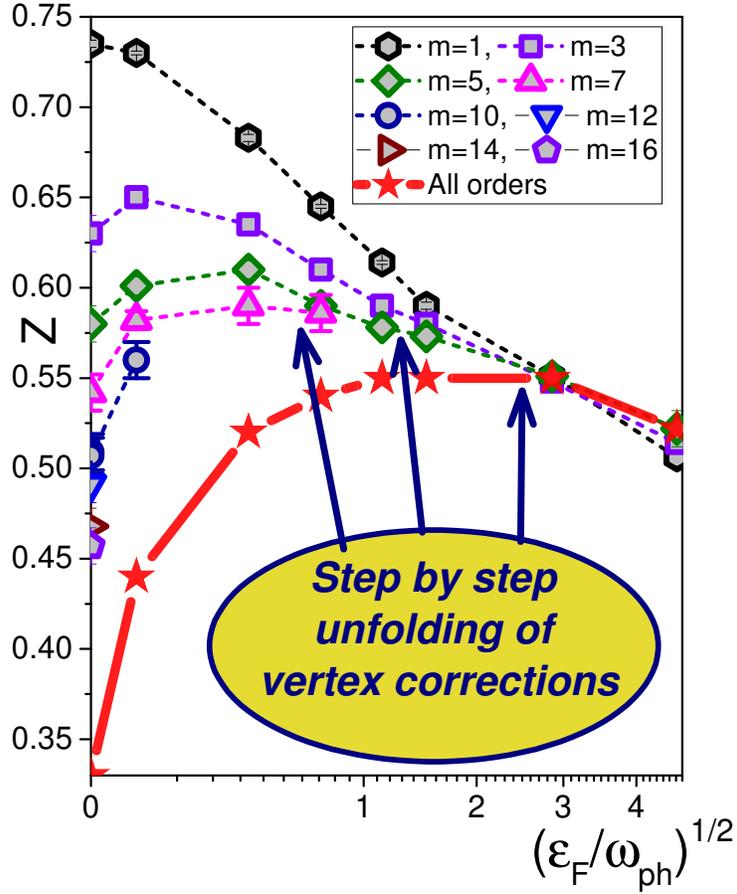


FIGURE 1. Quasi-particle residue at the Fermi (FS) as a function of ratio between the Fermi energy and phonon frequency without ( $m = 1$ ) and with vertex corrections ( $m > 1$ ). Symbols and dashed lines represent data obtained by skeleton expansions truncated at some finite order  $m$ . The solid red line with stars is obtained by extrapolation to the infinite diagram-order limit  $m \rightarrow \infty$ . The errorbars, if not visible, are smaller than the symbol sizes.

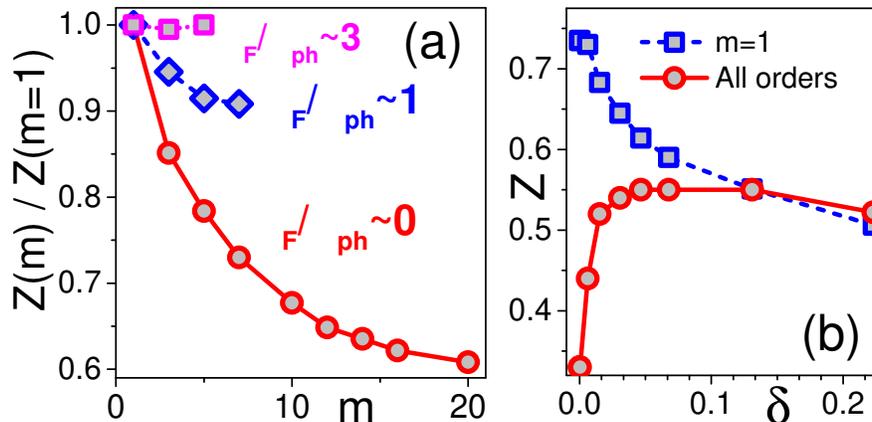


FIGURE 2. (a) Ratio between the quasi-particle residue deduced from diagrams up to order  $m$  and  $m = 1$  (neglecting vertex corrections). Circles, diamonds, and squares stand for  $\gamma \rightarrow 0$  ( $\delta = 3.8 \times 10^{-4}$ ),  $\gamma = 0.71$  ( $\delta = 0.0308$ ), and  $\gamma = 2.86$  ( $\delta = 0.131$ ), respectively. (b) Quasi-particle residue at the Fermi (FS) as a function of carrier concentration  $\delta$  (circles, infinite diagram-order limit) in comparison with the  $m = 1$  result (squares), see also Fig. 1.

145 on  $\delta$  can be reproduced theoretically if one introduces effective EPI coupling constant  
 146  $\lambda^e(\delta)$  that decreases with doping. It can be deduced from the photoemission  
 147 spectra using scaling relation [21]

$$(2) \quad \lambda^e = \sqrt{\frac{v_{\text{high}} - v_{\text{low}}}{20v_{\text{low}}}},$$

148 derived from nonperturbative calculations for the  $t - J$ -Holstein model, where  $v_{\text{low}}$   
 149 ( $v_{\text{high}}$ ) is the velocity above (below) the kink energy  $\omega_{\text{ph}}$ .

150 Kinks in the photoemission spectra are experimentally observed on the side of the  
 151 Fermi surface where the electron (or hole) bandwidth exceeds the phonon frequency.  
 152 Additional spectral features (rather typical in the small density limit when the  
 153 Fermi energy is smaller than  $\omega_{\text{ph}}$ ) are associated with the phonon sidebands [42].  
 154 Approximation free studies of the kink phenomenon show [21] that, in general, the  
 155 kink coexists with the phonon sidebands and only poor resolution or additional  
 156 damping mechanisms smear out the sidebands [43, 21] leading to a prototypical  
 157 picture of a sudden velocity change. Note, at least one phonon sideband, seen  
 158 as the doubling of the spectral peak around the kink energy, is present in most  
 159 theoretical calculations [7, 43, 44, 21] and this is precisely what we see in Fig. 3 at  
 160  $\omega/\omega_{\text{ph}} \approx 1$  and small momentum  $k < 1$ .

161 We compare  $\lambda^e(\delta)$  deduced from experimental data of Ref. [21] with our theoret-  
 162 ical analysis in the inset of Fig. 3, dashed versus solid line. To have a meaningful  
 163 quantitative comparison we also need to account for the difference between the  
 164 non-degenerate spectrum of the spin-polarized Holstein model and fourfold degener-  
 165 erate ground state minimum of the experimental system. To this end we re-plot

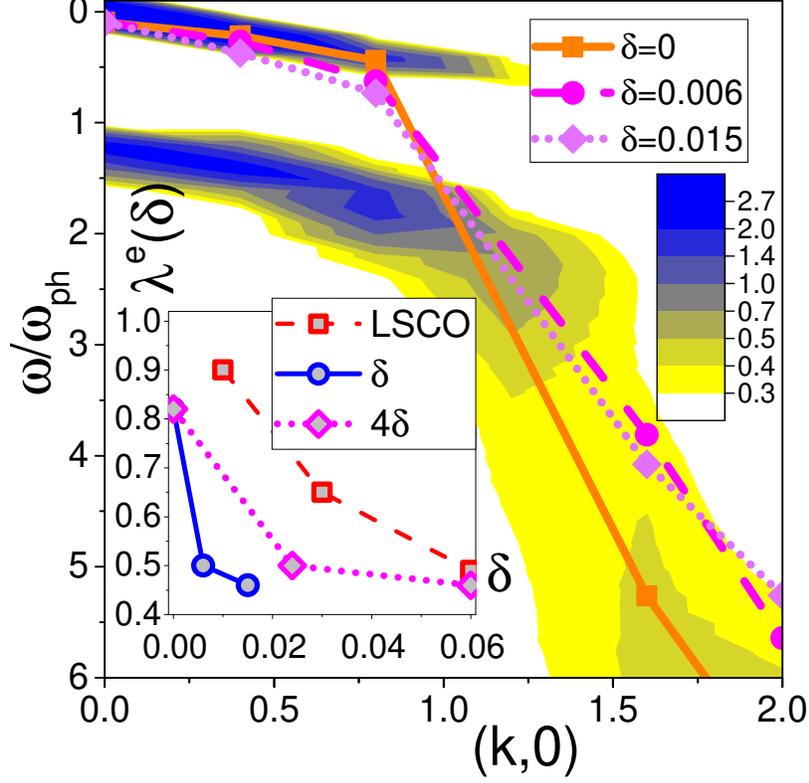


FIGURE 3. Contour plot of the spectral function intensity at  $\delta = 3.8 \times 10^{-4}$  with blue/yellow color used for the large/small intensity. Symbols connected with lines mark locations of the spectral density maxima, see also Fig. 4, for:  $\delta = 3.8 \times 10^{-4}$  (squares connected by the solid line),  $\delta \approx 0.006$  (circles connected by the dashed line), and  $\delta \approx 0.015$  (diamonds connected by the dotted line). In the inset we present the effective coupling constant  $\lambda^e$  deduced from the scaling relation (2) using experimental data for LSCO [21] (squares connected by a dashed line) and locations of theoretical spectral density maxima in Fig. 4 (circles connected by a solid line). We also re-plot the same theoretical data by using  $4\delta$  for the horizontal axis (diamonds connected by a dotted line). Spectral densities were computed for self-energies evaluated up to order  $m = 16$  ( $\delta = 3.8 \times 10^{-4}$ ),  $m = 7$  ( $\delta = 0.006$ ), and  $m = 5$  ( $\delta = 0.015$ ). These expansion orders are enough to have converged results for the corresponding carrier density (see Supplemental Material [40], Table I). Prepared by OriginPro 2016, <http://OriginLab.com>.

166 theoretical data using  $4\delta$  for the carrier concentration (dotted line). We observe  
 167 semi-quantitative agreement between the theory and experiment despite a number  
 168 of significant differences between the real systems and SP Holstein model at the  
 169 microscopic level.

170

#### 4. DISCUSSION

171 The violation of Migdal's theorem for  $T = 0$  is apparent in Fig. 1 for all filling fac-  
 172 tors except the two largest ones. At the lowest carrier concentrations the condition  
 173  $\varepsilon_F \gg T$  does not hold any more, but this fact is barely relevant for the discus-  
 174 sion because the theorem is severely violated well before that, at  $\varepsilon_F \sim \omega_{\text{ph}} \gg T$ .  
 175 Thus, our finite temperature results are still valid for interpretation of the EPI  
 176 suppression in high  $T_c$  materials, which is observed from low to room temperatures  
 177 [15, 19, 20, 21].

178 The suppression of the EPI effects considered here is not related to the weakening  
 179 of the EPI due to screening at larger doping, see e.g. [47, 48], because we do not  
 180 change the coupling strength  $\lambda$  and the phonon propagator with doping. In addition  
 181 to the discussed EPI mechanism of how electronic properties are renormalized in  
 182 cuprates, one has to consider electron-electron interactions and the emergent strong  
 183 spin-fluctuations, see, e.g. discussions in Refs. [49, 50]. However, these additional  
 184 important considerations are most relevant at large electron concentration close to  
 185 half-filling, while the doping dependence discussed in this work takes place in the  
 186 opposite limit.

187

#### 5. CONCLUSIONS

188 We obtained approximation-free results for the concentration dependence of the  
 189 quasiparticle residue  $Z$  and kink caused by the strong electron-phonon interaction  
 190 in the spin-polarized two-dimensional Holstein model on the square lattice. We  
 191 demonstrated that clear signatures of strong electron-phonon coupling at small car-  
 192 rier concentration are quickly suppressed for Fermi energies exceeding the phonon  
 193 frequency. Our results provide detailed account for importance of high-order vertex  
 194 corrections across the adiabatic crossover and demonstrate that Fermi blockade of  
 195 the electron-phonon interaction and irrelevance of vertex corrections both proceed  
 196 in agreement with the Migdal's theorem. This picture explains experimental re-  
 197 sults reporting radical weakening of the electron-phonon coupling effects in lightly  
 198 doped high temperature superconductors. The Fermi blockade phenomenon is not  
 199 restricted to high temperature superconductors and has to be observed in any ma-  
 200 terial showing strong electron-phonon effects at small electron concentration.

## 6. METHODS

201

202 All data for the QP residues at the FS, also denoted as  $Z_{FS}$ , were deduced from  
 203 the Fermi-liquid relation,  $Z_{FS} = [1 + d]^{-1}$ , with  $d = \partial \text{Re}[\Sigma(k_F, \omega)] / \partial \omega|_{\omega=0}$ . In  
 204 the low-temperature limit, the self-energy derivative at zero frequency is accurately  
 205 obtained from the ratio  $-\text{Im}[\Sigma(k_F, \ell)] / \omega_\ell$  at the lowest Matsubara frequencies. As  
 206 expected, this procedure works perfectly at large carrier concentration. However, in  
 207 the zero density limit the Fermi surface shrinks to a point at zero momentum, and  
 208 the entire protocol becomes questionable. Spectral density offers an alternative way  
 209 of computing the QP residue from the integrated weight of the lowest frequency peak  
 210 (we denote it as  $Z_{GF}$ ), see Fig. 4. Somewhat surprisingly, we find that even in  
 211 the zero-density limit both procedures produce consistent results at any expansion  
 212 order  $m$ , see inset in Fig. 4. At small, but finite concentration  $\delta = 0.01526$  (or  
 213  $\gamma = 0.334$ ), with Fermi-momentum  $k_F \approx \pi/8$  the agreement is even more precise:  
 214 at order  $m = 5$  we find that  $Z_{FS} = 0.605$  and  $Z_{GF}(k_F = \pi/8) = 0.611$ .

215 As already mentioned in connection with Figs. 1 and Fig. 2(a), at small doping  
 216 the skeleton expansion needs to go beyond  $m = 16$  in order to obtain correct results  
 217 for the QP residue. However, both  $Z$  and the polaron energy  $E$  at the FS accurately  
 218 follow an empirical scaling relation,  $a + b/\sqrt{m}$ , at any carrier concentration  $\delta$ , see  
 219 Fig. 5. This allows us to perform an extrapolation to the infinite-order limit to  
 220 eliminate the remaining systematic error as shown in Figs. 1-2. The extrapolation  
 221 procedure is validated by an excellent agreement between the BDMC result for the  
 222 ground state energy of single-polarons,  $E(m \rightarrow \infty) = -4.89$  and the DMC bench-  
 223 mark  $E_1 = -4.891$ . The single polaron zero temperature residue  $Z_1 = 0.238$  is  
 224 renormalized to  $Z_1(\beta = 20) \approx 0.31$  due to finite temperature projection of the low  
 225 energy self-trapping states [45, 46] (see Supplemental Material [40]) which is also  
 226 consistent with extrapolated value  $Z(m \rightarrow \infty) \approx 0.33$ .

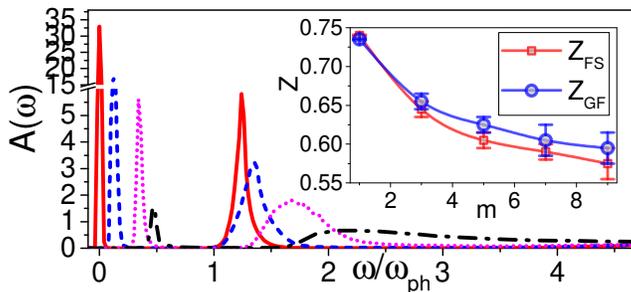


FIGURE 4. Spectral functions  $A(\omega)$  at different momenta for  $\delta = 3.8 \times 10^{-4}$  from  $m = 16$  simulations:  $q = (0, 0)$  (red solid line),  $q = (\pi/8, 0)$  (blue dashed line),  $q = (2\pi/8, 0)$  (magenta dotted line), and  $q = (3\pi/8, 0)$  (black dash-dotted line). Energy zero was set at the value of the QP dispersion relation at  $q = 0$ . Inset: Order-by-order comparison between the two alternative procedures for computing the quasi-particle residue at  $q = 0$ : (i) using standard Fermi liquid relations at the Fermi surface,  $Z_{FS}$ , and (ii) from the lowest-frequency peak in the spectral function,  $Z_{GF}$ .

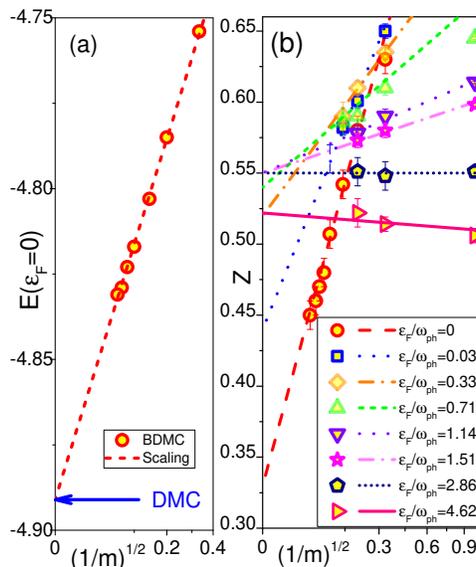


FIGURE 5. Finite expansion-order corrections to the polaron energy (a) and QP residue (b) revealing linear scaling with  $m^{-1/2}$ . (a) BDMC data (circles) and the scaling law  $a + b/\sqrt{m}$  (dashed line) for the ground state energy at  $\delta = 3.8 \times 10^{-4}$ . The DMC result at  $\delta = 0$  is shown by the blue arrow. (b) BDMC data (symbols) and the scaling laws  $a + b/\sqrt{m}$  (lines) for the quasi-particle residue.

227

## 7. DATA AVAILABILITY

228 The data presented are available from the corresponding authors upon reasonable  
 229 request

230

## REFERENCES

- 231 [1] Anderson, P. W. *The Theory of Superconductivity in the High- $T_c$  Cuprate Superconductors*.  
 232 (University Press, Princeton, 1997)
- 233 [2] Alexandrov, A. S. Bipolaron anisotropic flat bands, Hall mobility edge, and metal-  
 234 semiconductor duality of overdoped high- $T_c$  oxides. *Phys. Rev. B*. **53**, 2863–2869 (1996).
- 235 [3] Anderson, P. W. Is There Glue in Cuprate Superconductors? *Science*. **316**, 1705–1707 (2007).
- 236 [4] Alexandrov, A. S. Bose-Einstein condensation of strongly correlated electrons and phonons  
 237 in cuprate superconductors. *Journal of Physics: Condensed Matter*. **19**, 125216 (2007).
- 238 [5] Gunnarsson, O & Rösch, O. Interplay between electron-phonon and Coulomb interactions in  
 239 cuprates. *Journal of Physics: Condensed Matter*. **20**, 043201 (2008).
- 240 [6] Mishchenko, A. S. Electron-phonon coupling in underdoped high-temperature superconduc-  
 241 tors. *Physics-Uspekhi*. **52**, 1193-1212 (2009).
- 242 [7] Rösch, O. & Gunnarsson, O. Electron-Phonon Interaction in the  $t$ - $J$  Model. *Phys. Rev. Lett.*  
 243 **92**, 146403 (2004).
- 244 [8] Mishchenko, A. S. & Nagaosa, N. Electron-Phonon Coupling and a Polaron in the  $t$ - $J$  Model:  
 245 From the Weak to the Strong Coupling Regime. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **93**, 036402 (2004).
- 246 [9] Rösch, O., et al. Polaronic Behavior of Undoped High- $T_c$  Cuprate Superconductors from  
 247 Angle-Resolved Photoemission Spectra. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **95**, 227002 (2005).

- 248 [10] Cataudella, V., De Filippis, G., Mishchenko, A. S. & Nagaosa, N. Temperature Dependence  
249 of the Angle Resolved Photoemission Spectra in the Undoped Cuprates: Self-Consistent  
250 Approach to the  $t$ - $J$  Holstein Model. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **99**, 226402 (2007).
- 251 [11] De Filippis, G., Cataudella, V., Mishchenko, A. S. & Nagaosa, N. Nonlocal Composite Spin-  
252 Lattice Polarons in High Temperature Superconductors. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **99**, 146405 (2007).
- 253 [12] De Filippis, G. et al. Quantum Dynamics of the Hubbard-Holstein Model in Equilibrium  
254 and Nonequilibrium: Application to Pump-Probe Phenomena. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **109**, 176402  
255 (2012).
- 256 [13] Novelli, F. et al. Witnessing the formation and relaxation of dressed quasi-particles in a  
257 strongly correlated electron system. *Nature Communications* **5**, 5112 (2014).
- 258 [14] Farina, D. et al. Electron-phonon coupling in the undoped cuprate  $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_6$  estimated  
259 from Raman and optical conductivity spectra. *Phys. Rev. B*, **98**, 121104 (2018).
- 260 [15] Lanzara, A. et al. Evidence for ubiquitous strong electron-phonon coupling in high-  
261 temperature superconductors. *Nature* **412**, 510-514 (2001).
- 262 [16] Johnson, P. D. et al., Doping and Temperature Dependence of the Mass Enhancement Ob-  
263 served in the Cuprate  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Sr}_2\text{CaCu}_2\text{O}_{8+\delta}$ . *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **87**, 177007 (2001).
- 264 [17] Shen K. M. et al., Missing Quasiparticles and the Chemical Potential Puzzle in the Doping  
265 Evolution of the Cuprate Superconductors. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **93**, 267002 (2004).
- 266 [18] Zhou X. J. et al., Multiple Bosonic Mode Coupling in the Electron Self-Energy of  
267  $(\text{La}_{2-x}\text{Sr}_x)\text{CuO}_4$ . *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **95**, 117001 (2005).
- 268 [19] Mishchenko, A. S. et al. Charge Dynamics of Doped Holes in High  $T_c$  Cuprate Superconduc-  
269 tors: A Clue from Optical Conductivity. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **100**, 166401 (2008).
- 270 [20] Carbone, F, Yang, D.-S., Giannini, E., & Zewail, A. H. Direct role of structural dynamics in  
271 electron-lattice coupling of superconducting cuprates. *PNAS* **105**, 20161–20166 (2008).
- 272 [21] Mishchenko, A. S., Nagaosa, M. Shen, N., K., Shen, Z.-X., Zhou, X. J., & Devereaux, T. P.  
273 Polaronic metal in lightly doped high- $T_c$  cuprates. *EPL* **95**, 57007 (2011).
- 274 [22] Migdal, A. B. Interaction between electrons and lattice vibrations in a normal metal. *J. Exptl.*  
275 *Theoret. Phys.* **34** 1438-1446 (1958) [*Sov. Phys. JETP* **7**, 996-1001 (1958)].
- 276 [23] Husanu, M.-A. et al. Electron-polaron dichotomy of charge carriers in perovskite oxides.  
277 *Communications Physics* **3**, 62 (2020).
- 278 [24] Ummarino, G. A. & Gonnelli, R. S. Breakdown of Migdal’s theorem and intensity of electron-  
279 phonon coupling in high- $T_c$  superconductors. *Phys. Rev. B* **56**, R14279-R14282 (1997).
- 280 [25] C. Grimaldi, C., Pietronero, L., & Strassler, S. Nonadiabatic Superconductivity: Electron-  
281 Phonon Interaction Beyond Migdal’s Theorem. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **75**, 1158-1161 (1995).
- 282 [26] Schrodri, F., Oppeneer P. M., & Aperis, A. Full-bandwidth Eliashberg theory of superconduct-  
283 ivity beyond Migdal’s approximation. *Phys. Rev. B* **102**, 024503 (2020).
- 284 [27] Prokof’ev, N. V. & Svistunov, B. V. Polaron Problem by Diagrammatic Quantum Monte  
285 Carlo. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **81**, 2514-2517 (1998).
- 286 [28] Mishchenko, A. S., Prokof’ev, N. V., Sakamoto, A. & Svistunov, B. V. Diagrammatic quan-  
287 tum Monte Carlo study of the Fröhlich polaron. *Phys. Rev. B* **62**, 6317-6336 (2000).
- 288 [29] Mishchenko, A. S., Nagaosa, N. & Prokof’ev, N. Diagrammatic Monte Carlo Method for  
289 Many-Polaron Problems. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **113**, 166402 (2014).
- 290 [30] Macridin, A., Sawatzky, G. A. & Jarrell, M. Two-dimensional Hubbard-Holstein bipolaron.  
291 *Phys. Rev. B* **69**, 245111 (2004).
- 292 [31] Kane, C. L., Lee, P. A. & Read, N. Motion of a single hole in a quantum antiferromagnet.  
293 *Phys. Rev. B* **39**, 6880-6897 (1989).
- 294 [32] Dagotto, E. Correlated electrons in high-temperature superconductors. *Rev. Mod. Phys.* **66**,  
295 763-840 (1994).
- 296 [33] Blankenbecler, R., Scalapino, D. J. & Sugar, R. L. Monte Carlo calculations of coupled  
297 boson-fermion systems. I. *Phys. Rev. D* **24**, 2278-2286 (1981).
- 298 [34] White, S. R., Scalapino, D. J., Sugar R. L., Loh E. Y., Gubernatis J. E., & Scalettar R. T.  
299 Numerical study of the two-dimensional Hubbard model. *Phys. Rev. B* **40**, 506 (1989).
- 300 [35] Noack, R. M. & Scalapino, D. J. Green’s-function self-energies in the two-dimensional Holstein  
301 model. *Phys. Rev. B* **47**, 305-308 (1993).
- 302 [36] Georges, A., Kotliar, G., Krauth, W. & Rozenberg, M. J. Dynamical mean-field theory of  
303 strongly correlated fermion systems and the limit of infinite dimensions. *Rev. Mod. Phys.* **86**,  
304 13-125 (1996).

- 305 [37] Bauer, J., Han, J. E. & Gunnarsson, O. Quantitative reliability study of the Migdal-  
 306 Eliashberg theory for strong electron-phonon coupling in superconductors. *Phys. Rev. B* **84**,  
 307 184531 (2011).
- 308 [38] Brovnan, E. G. & Kagan, Yu. The Phonon Spectrum of Metals. *J. Exptl. Theoret. Phys.*  
 309 **52** 557-574 (1967) [*Sov. Phys. JETP* **25**, 365-376 (1967)].
- 310 [39] Tupitsyn, I. S., Mishchenko, A. S., Nagaosa, N. & Prokof'ev, N. Coulomb and electron-phonon  
 311 interactions in metals. *Phys. Rev. B* **94**, 155145 (2016).
- 312 [40] See supplemental material.
- 313 [41] Goulko, O., Mishchenko, A. S., Pollet, L., Prokof'ev, N. & Svistunov, B. Numerical analytic  
 314 continuation: Answers to well-posed questions. *Phys. Rev. B* **95**, 014102 (2017).
- 315 [42] Krsnik, J., Strocov, V. N., Nagaosa, N., Barišić, O. S., Rukelj, Z., Yakubeny, S. M., &  
 316 Mishchenko, A. S. Manifestations of the electron-phonon interaction range in angle-resolved  
 317 photoemission spectra. *Phys. Rev. B* **102**, 121108(R) (2020).
- 318 [43] Devereaux, T. P., Cuk, T., Shen, Z.-X. & Nagaosa, N. Anisotropic Electron-Phonon Interaction  
 319 in the Cuprates. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **93**, 117004 (2004).
- 320 [44] Veenstra, C. N., Goodvin, G. L., Berciu, M. & Damascelli, A. Elusive electron-phonon cou-  
 321 pling in quantitative analyses of the spectral function. *Phys. Rev. B* **82**, 012504 (2010).
- 322 [45] Bonča, J. and Trugman, S. A. & Batistić I. Holstein polaron. *Phys. Rev. B* **60**, 1633-1642  
 323 (1999).
- 324 [46] Mishchenko, A. S., Nagaosa, N., Prokof'ev, N. V., Sakamoto, A. & Svistunov, B. V. Self-  
 325 trapping of polarons in the Rashba-Pekar model. *Phys. Rev. B* **66**, 020301 (2002).
- 326 [47] Sherman, E. Ya. & Ambrosch-Draxl C. Multiband electron-phonon coupling in the cuprates:  
 327 Raman scattering and charge fluctuations, *Phys. Rev. B* **62**, 973 (2000).
- 328 [48] Johnston S., Vernay, F., Moritz B., Shen, Z.-X., Nagaosa, N., Zaanen J., & Devereaux T.  
 329 P. Systematic study of electron-phonon coupling to oxygen modes across the cuprates. *Phys.*  
 330 *Rev. B* **82**, 064513 (2010).
- 331 [49] Dahm, T., Hinkov, V., Borisenko, S. V., Kordyuk, A. A., Zabolotnyy, V. B., Fink, J., Buchner,  
 332 B., Scalapino, D. J., Hanke, W. & Keimer, B. Strength of the spin-fluctuation-mediated  
 333 pairing interaction in a high-temperature superconductor. *Nature Phys.*, **5**, 217-221 (2009).
- 334 [50] Anzai, H., Arita, M., Namatame, H., Taniguchi, M., Ishikado, M., Fujita, K., Ishida, S.,  
 335 Uchida, S. & Ino, A. A New Landscape of Multiple Dispersion Kinks in a High- $T_c$  Cuprate  
 336 Superconductor. *Sci. Rep.* **7**, 4830 (2017).

## 337 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

338 N.N. and A.S.M acknowledge support by JST CREST Grant Number JPMJCR1874,  
 339 Japan, N.P. acknowledges support by the National Science Foundation under the  
 340 grant DMR-2032077, and I.S.T. acknowledges support by the Simons Collaboration  
 341 on the Many Electron Problem.

## 342 9. AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

343 A.S.M., I.S.T., and N.P. developed Diagrammatic Monte Carlo codes. A.S.M.  
 344 and N.N. conceived the idea of calculations. A.S.M. performed calculations and  
 345 wrote the manuscript. All authors discussed the results, interpretations, and scien-  
 346 tific concepts.

## 347 10. COMPETING INTERESTS

348 The authors declare no competing interests.

## 349 11. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

350 Supplementary information is available for this paper at <https://?????>

351 Correspondence and requests for materials should be addressed to A.S.M.

# Figures

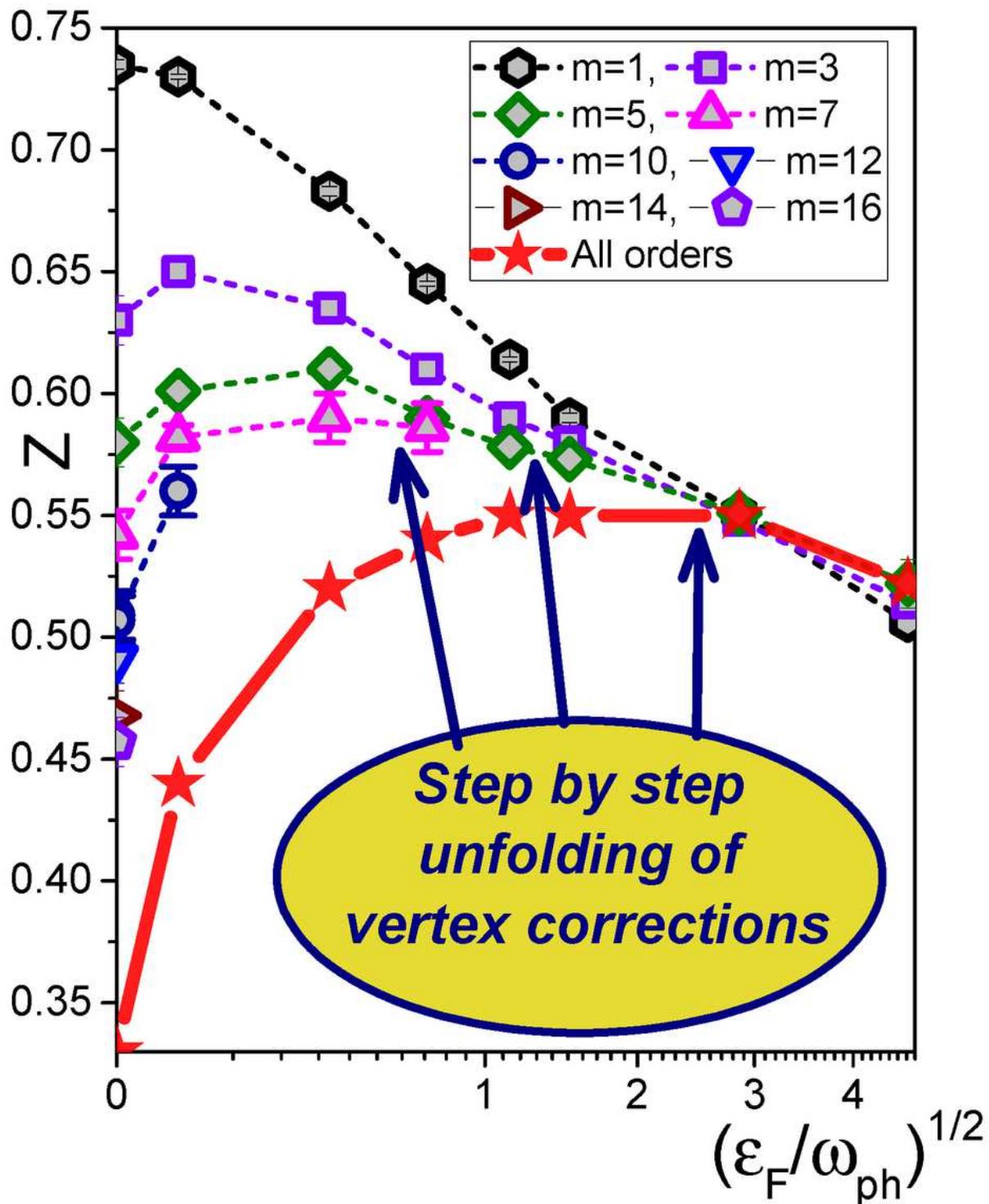


Figure 1

Quasi-particle residue at the Fermi (FS) as a function of ratio between the Fermi energy and phonon frequency without ( $m = 1$ ) and with vertex corrections ( $m > 1$ ). Symbols and dashed lines represent data obtained by skeleton expansions truncated at some finite order  $m$ . The solid red line with stars is

obtained by extrapolation to the infinite diagram-order limit  $m \rightarrow \infty$ . The error bars, if not visible, are smaller than the symbol sizes.

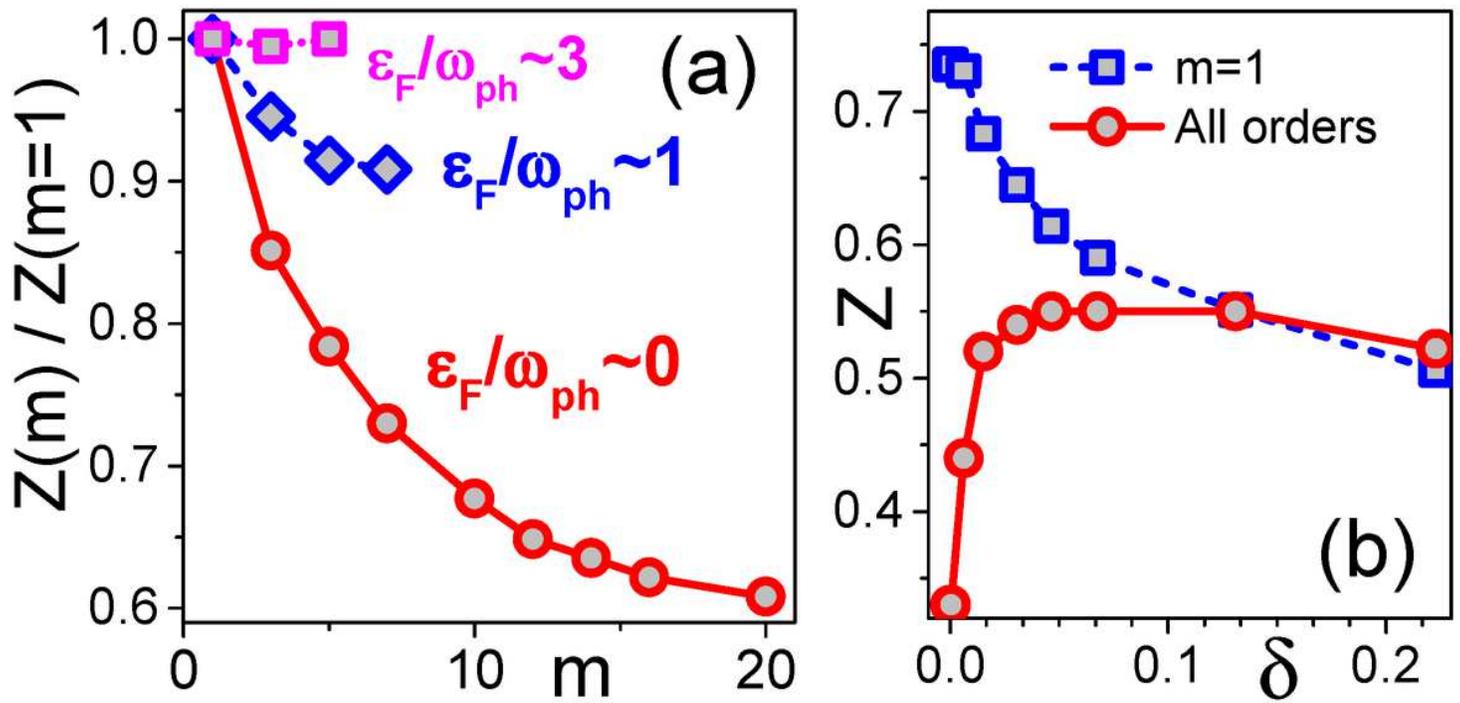


Figure 2

Please see the Manuscript PDF file for the complete figure caption.

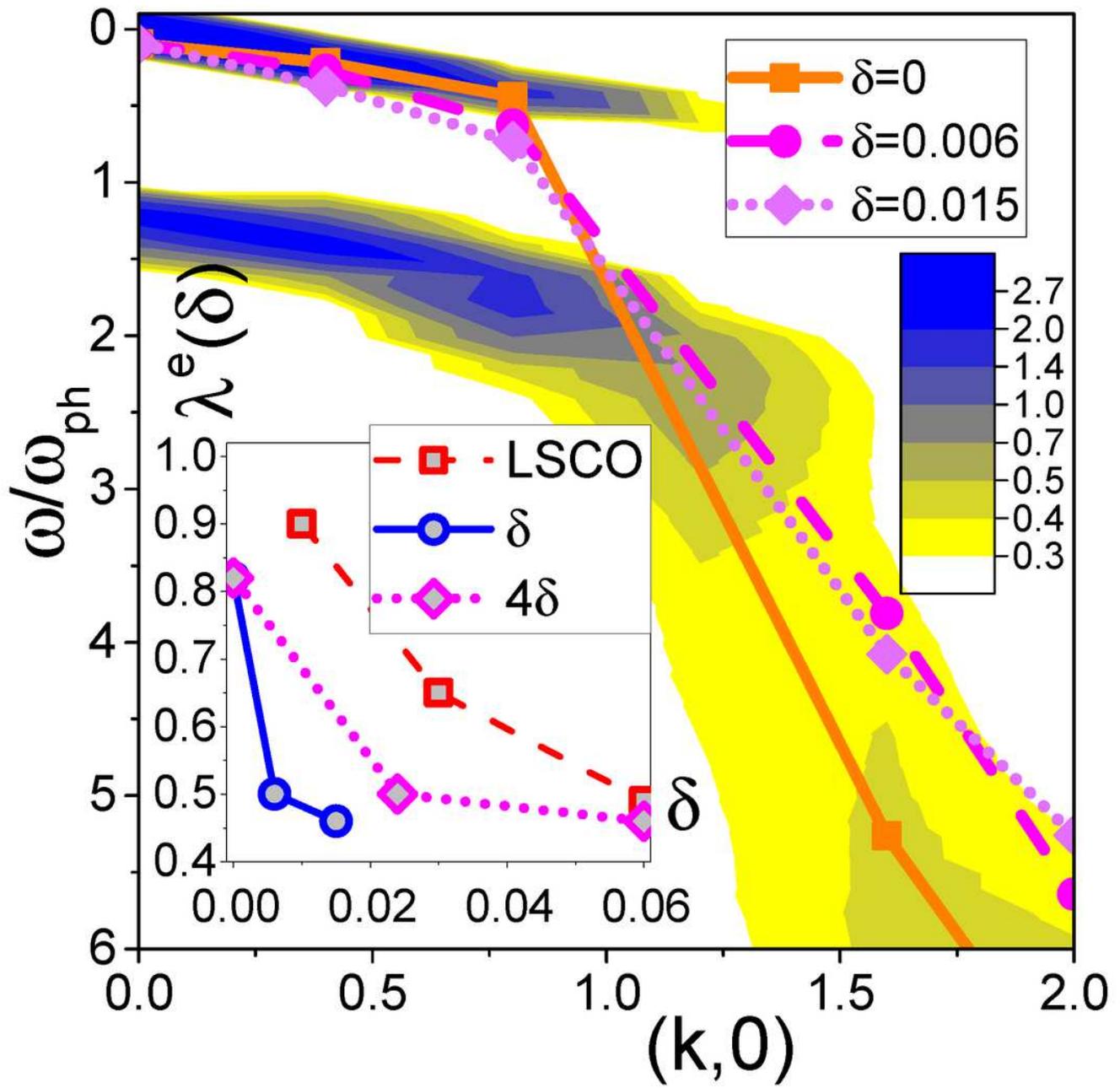


Figure 3

Please see the Manuscript PDF file for the complete figure caption.

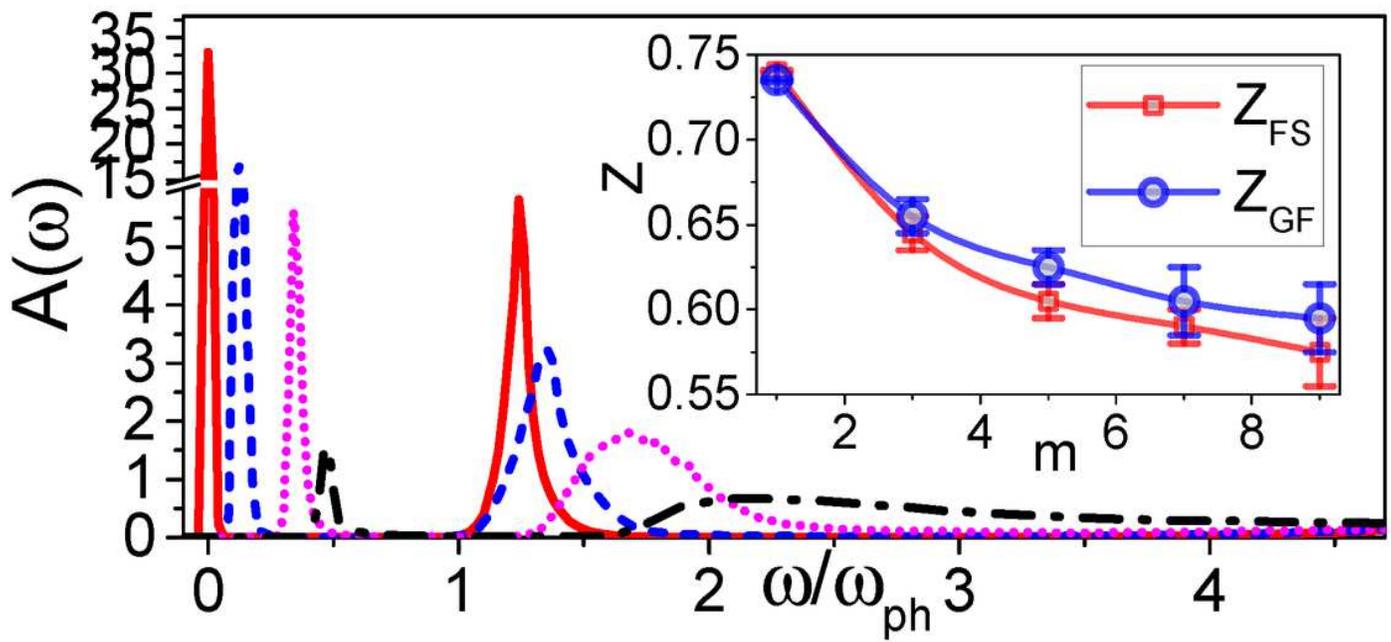


Figure 4

Please see the Manuscript PDF file for the complete figure caption.

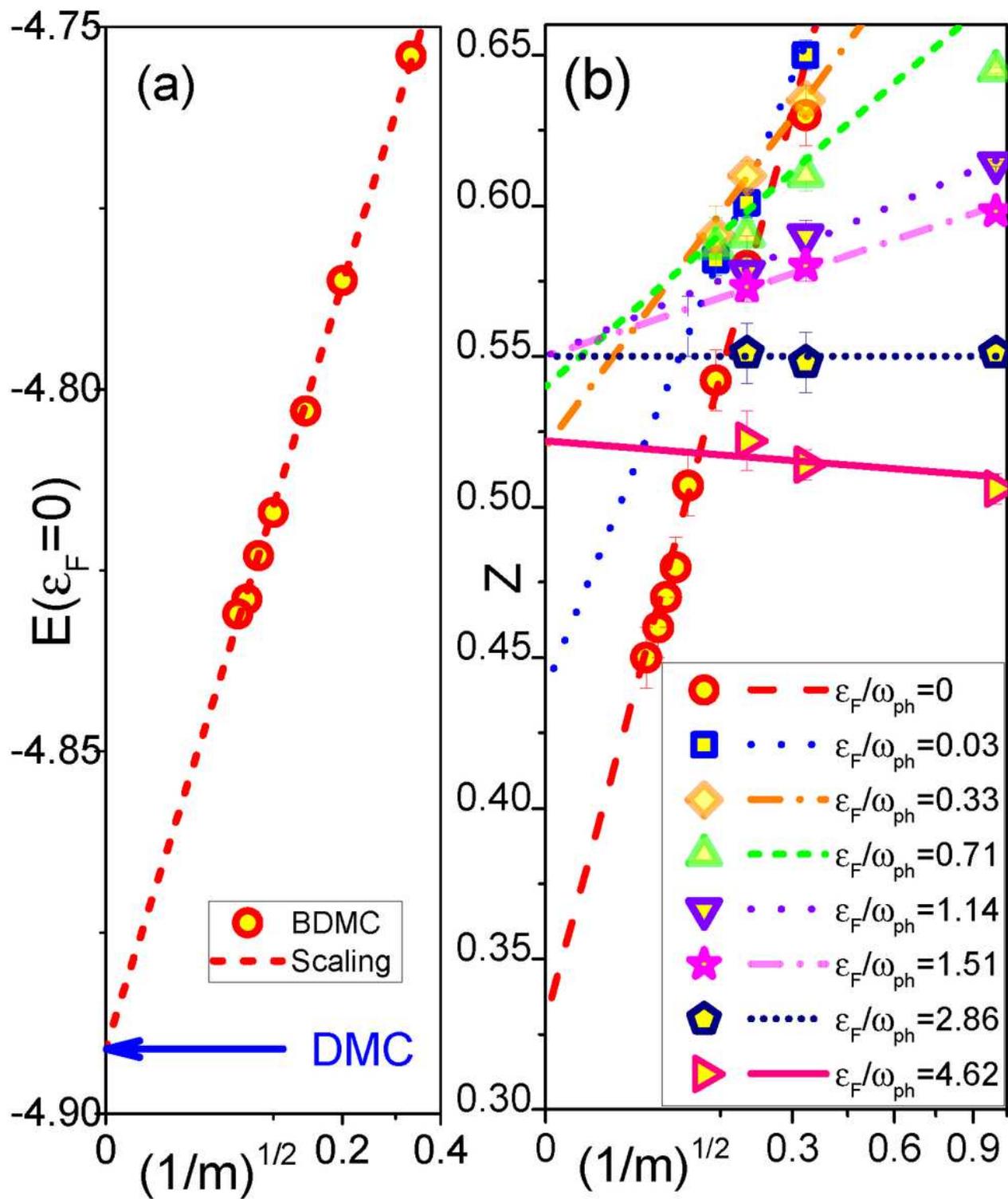


Figure 5

Please see the Manuscript PDF file for the complete figure caption.

## Supplementary Files

This is a list of supplementary files associated with this preprint. Click to download.

- [supplement05.pdf](#)