

Title: Colloquium - TBA

Speakers: Svitlana Mayboroda

Series: Colloquium

Date: May 15, 2024 - 2:00 PM

URL: <https://pirsa.org/24050059>

Abstract: Abstract TBA

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Zoom link

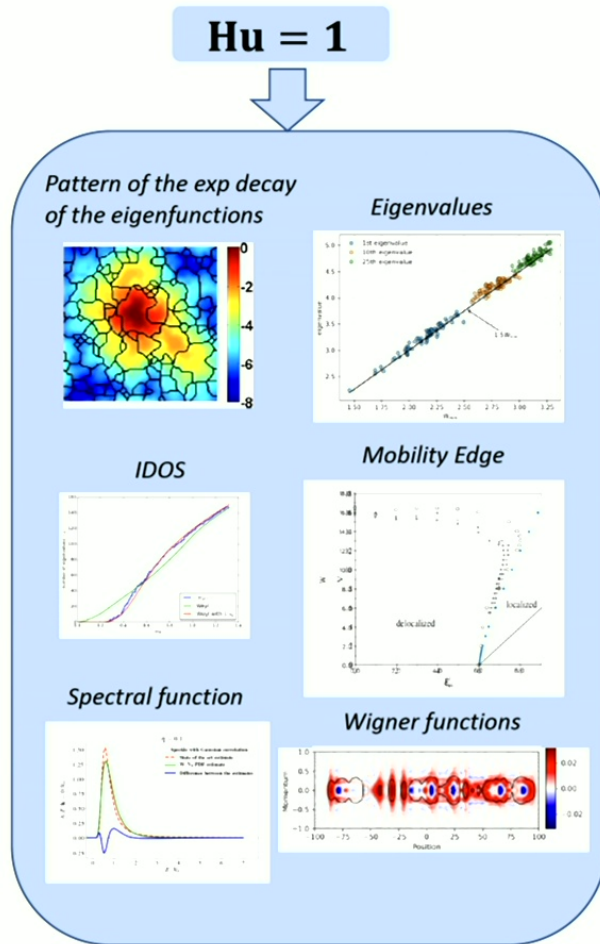
# Wave localization

Svitlana Mayboroda  
ETH & University of Minnesota

May 2024



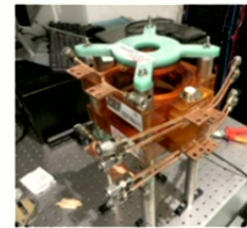
$$Hu = 1$$



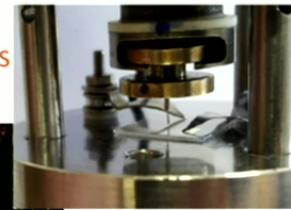
Very few believed [localization] at the time, and even fewer saw its importance; among those who failed to fully understand it at first was certainly its author. *It has yet to receive adequate mathematical treatment, and one has to resort to the indignity of numerical simulations to settle even the simplest questions about it.*

- Philip W. Anderson, Nobel Lecture, 8 December 1977

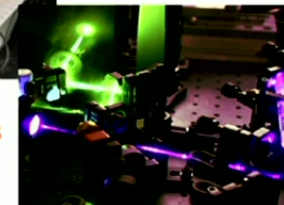
GaN semiconductors



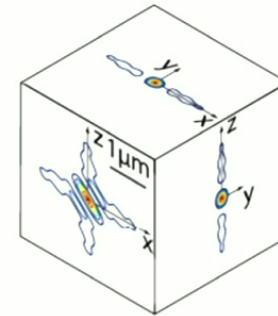
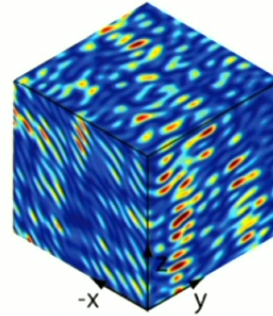
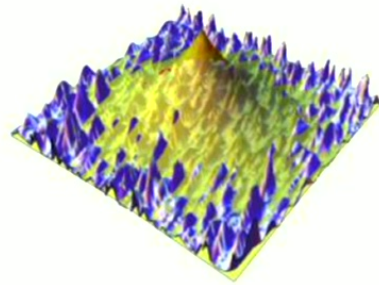
Organic semiconductors



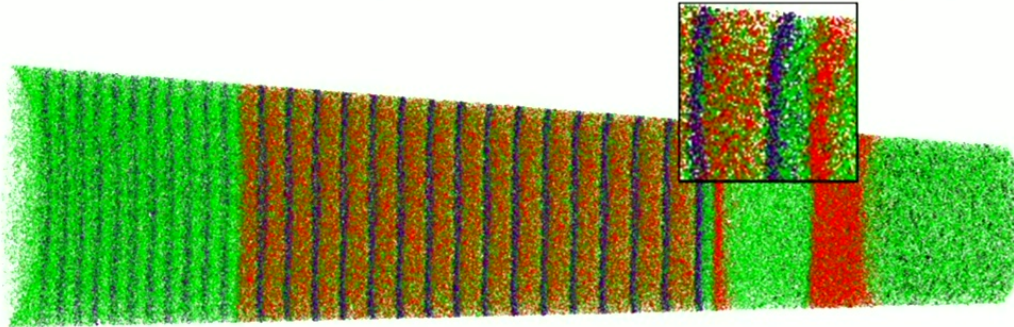
Ultra cold atoms



## ... technology reveals disorder

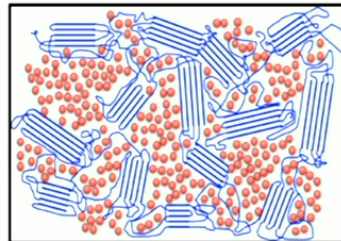


Anderson localization in Bose-Einstein condensate [Aspect lab]

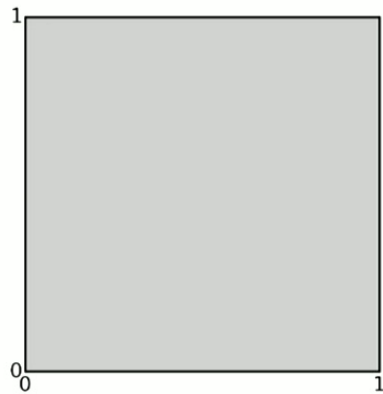


Atomic map of  
InGaN  
semiconductor  
[Speck lab]

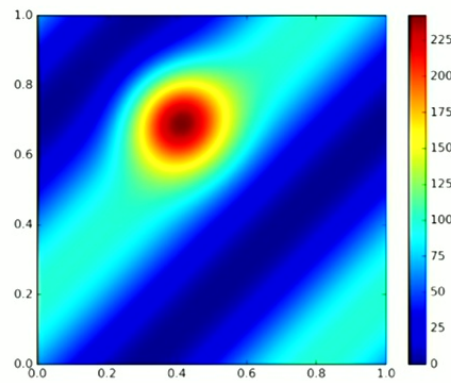
Mixed donor-acceptor  
morphology in an organic  
solar cell [Friend lab]



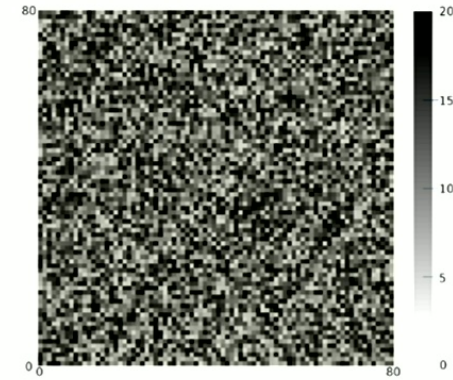
# Smooth versus disordered potential in Schrödinger equation



no potential



smooth potential



random potential

Disorder changes everything!



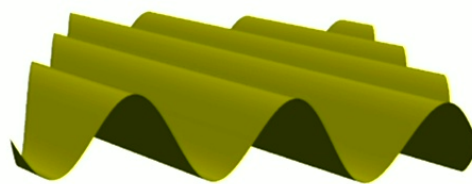
fundamental mode



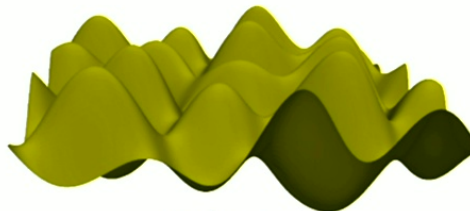
fundamental mode



fundamental mode



57th mode



57th mode



57th mode



## Anderson localization

The localization of Schrödinger eigenfunctions with random potential was discovered by Philip Anderson in his **Nobel-prize-winning work** of 1958.



*Unfortunately, electron localization was devilishly hard to confirm... experimental observations are sparse and covered with disputes and controversies.*

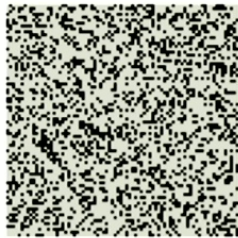
– Lagendijk, van Tiggelen, Wiersma, *50 Years of Anderson Localization*, 2009

*Most theoretical work [7-9] predicts [the critical exponent]  $\mu = 1$ , but there is also a prediction of  $\mu = 1/2$  [10]. Numerical simulation [11] gives  $\mu = 2/3$ ...*

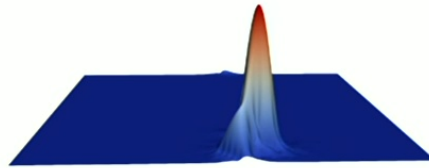
– I. Shlimak, *Is Hopping a Science?*, 2015

*Mathematical proofs (Frohlich-Spencer, Aizenman-Molchanov) are in extreme regimes (1D, edge of the spectrum, or strong potential).*

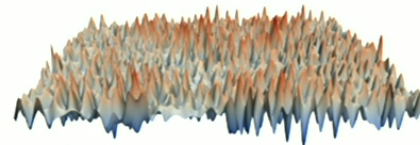
## Waves in disordered media



Potential



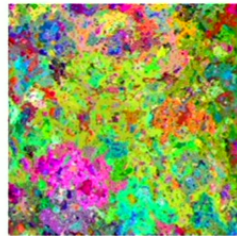
Eigenmodes



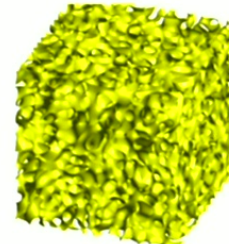
In a disordered environment,  
waves localize  
... or not ...



Spherical harmonics (SH)



Nodal domains of random SH



Sarnak and  
Bogomolny-Schmit  
percolate in 3D  
... not in 2D ...

### DOE Energy Savings Forecast of Solid State Lighting in the US, 2017–2035:

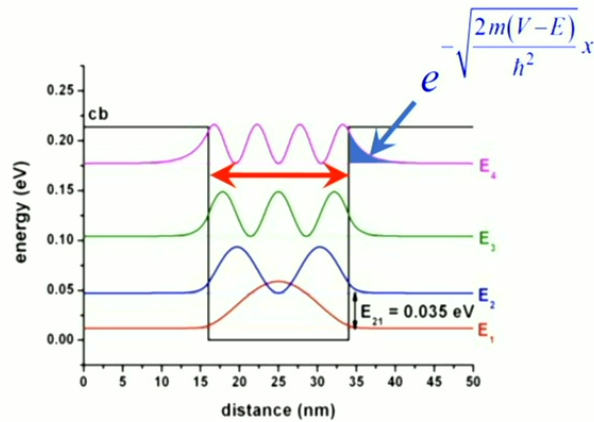


- Goal: **50% improvement** in LED efficiency
- Energy savings: **more than 92 1GW power plants**
- Cumulative US cost savings: **\$890 billion**
- Obstacles: **Green Gap, efficiency droop at high currents, lack of accurate computations/modeling**

# Particle vs. wave localization

**Waves go where particles don't go**

The quantum well

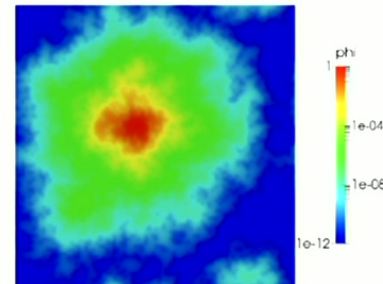


**We see the classical potential**

**Waves see “something different”**

**Waves don't go where particles go**

Boolean potential (60% of 0, 40% of 1)



Fundamental quantum state ( $E > 0$ )



## Take on the perspective of a wave

A hidden landscape that waves recognize and obey

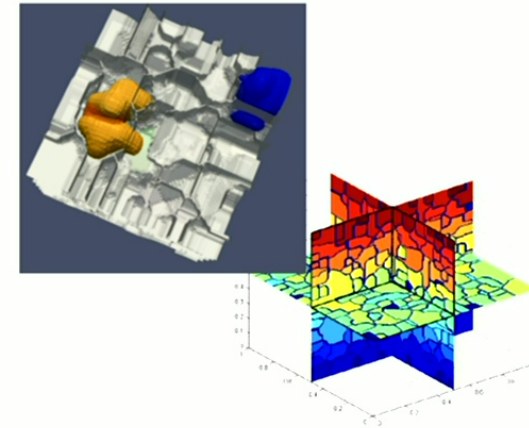
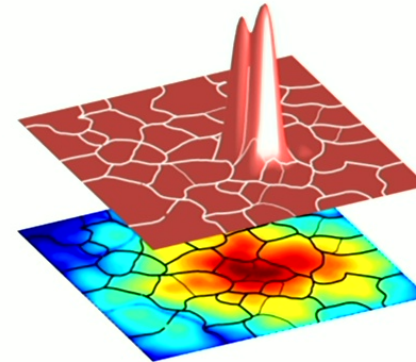
- born of the equation but invisible to the naked eye
- contains both spatial and spectral information

The goal is to

Discover and master this landscape in order to

- understand
- predict
- manipulate
- govern
- and, ultimately, design matter waves

The main hero:  
**THE LANDSCAPE**



Curves/surfaces of the  
landscape vs. eigenfunctions

# Landscape theory

## Geometry (spacial info):

- exp decay:  $1/u$  as an effective potential
- level sets/free boundary
- random monochromatic waves
- sharp characterizations of the boundary impact (rectifiability)

## Spectrum (energy info):

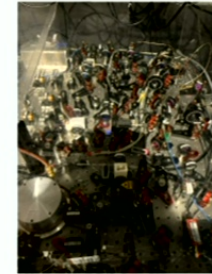
- spectrum via  $\min \frac{1}{u}$
- the new Weyl law
- the new Uncertainty principle
- the Landscape Law: the first non-asymptotic prediction of IDOS

## Wigner-Weyl (quantum observables):

- general scheme
- spectral function
- absorption

## Cold atoms:

- experimental set-up for Mobility Edge
- landscape percolation vs ME
- Spectral function



## Semiconductors:

- 33% improvement of green LEDs (Green Gap)
- 1000x faster computations: from 1D to 3D



## Organics:

- transporting energy 10 times further than in photosynthesis
- high efficiency perovskite-based green LEDs



## A different perspective: the effective potential

Arnold, David, Filoche, Jerison, Mayboroda, PRL 2016: a new idea

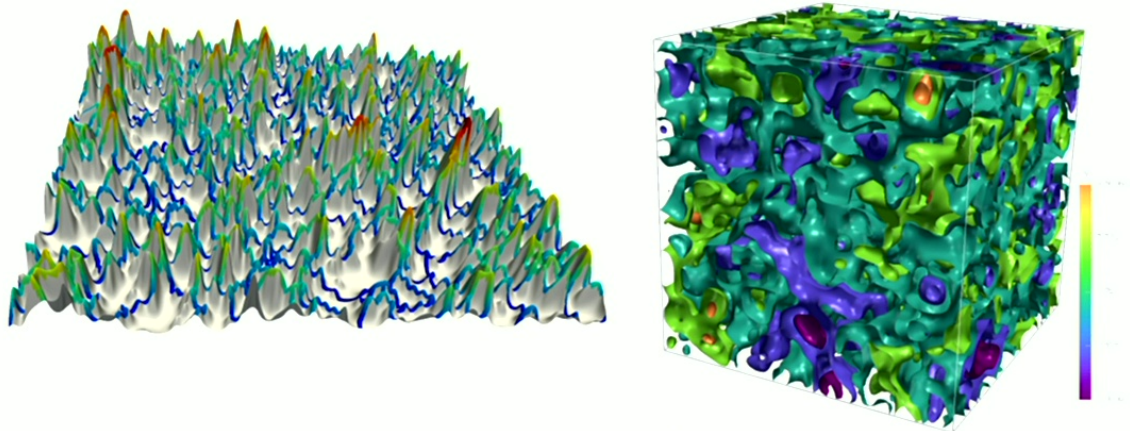
linear equation  $\implies$  nonlinear control

$\frac{1}{u}$  is an *effective potential* which is often confining.

$$-\Delta\psi + V\psi = E\psi \iff -\frac{1}{u^2}\nabla \cdot (u^2\nabla\phi) + \frac{1}{u}\phi = E\phi$$

– exactly the same eigenvalues! ( $\psi = u\phi$ )

$Hu = 1 \implies$  enhanced *Agmon-type distance*  $\rho_{1/u} \implies$  exp decay



2D and 3D effective potential  $\frac{1}{u}$  for Bernoulli  $V$

## Exponential decay: $\frac{1}{u}$ is an effective potential

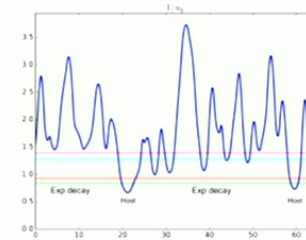
Theorem (Arnold, David, Filoche, Jerison, Mayboroda, 2018)

Let  $L = -\operatorname{div}A\nabla + V$ ,  $0 \leq V(x) \leq \bar{V}$ , on  $M$ , a Lipschitz domain on a compact  $C^1$  manifold,  $L\psi = \lambda\psi$ , and  $Lu = 1$  on  $M$ , Neumann BC. Let

$$E(\lambda + \delta) = \{x \in M : 1/u(x) \leq \lambda + \delta\}, \quad \delta > 0,$$

(collection of  $1/u$ -wells). Define

$$\rho_{1/u}(x, y) = \inf_{\gamma(x, y)} \int \left( (1/u - \lambda)_+ + b_{ij} \dot{\gamma}_i(t) \dot{\gamma}_j(t) \right)^{1/2} dt$$



where the infimum is taken over all absolutely continuous paths  $\gamma$  from  $x$  to  $y$ , and  $B = \{b_{ij}\} = A^{-1}$ . Then

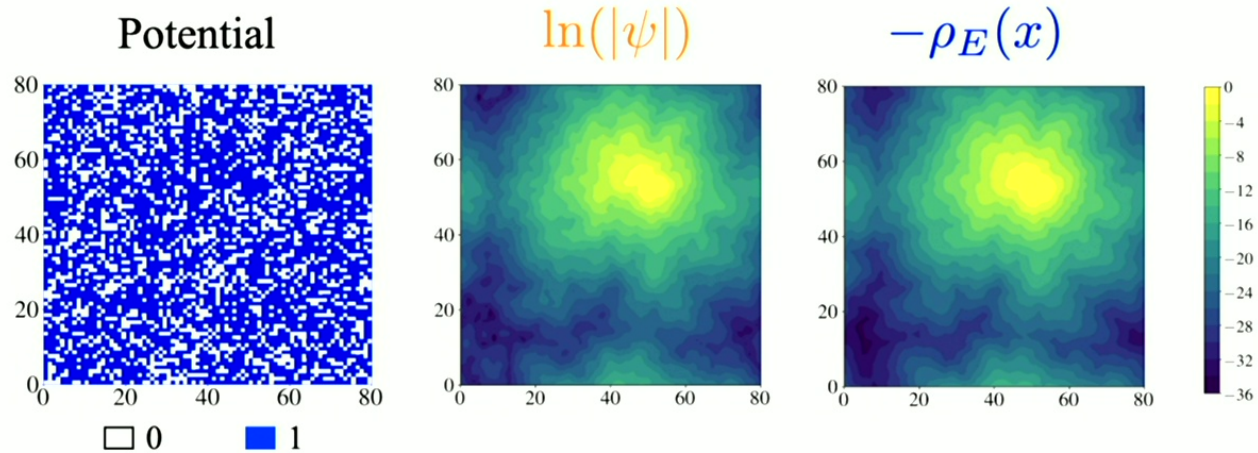
$$\int_{\{\rho_{1/u}(x, E(\lambda+\delta)) \geq 1\}} e^{\rho_{1/u}(x, E(\lambda+\delta))} (|\nabla\psi|^2 + \bar{V}\psi^2) dx \leq C \int \bar{V}\psi^2 dx$$

Roughly speaking,  $\psi(x) \sim e^{-\rho_{1/u}(x, E(\lambda+\delta))}$  away from the  $1/u$ -wells.



# Exponential decay: $\frac{1}{u}$ is an effective potential

$$|\psi(x)| \approx e^{-\rho(x_0, x)} \quad \rho(x_0, x) := \inf_{\gamma} \int_{\gamma} \left( \frac{1}{u} - \lambda \right)_+ ds$$



Numerical computations: D. Arnold, 2019



# Uncertainty principle

The landscape concisely encodes **precise spectral and spatial information** in one structure, and is easily computable, but it **does not lose information**.

$$E = \underbrace{\langle \nabla \psi, \nabla \psi \rangle}_{\text{kinetic energy}} + \underbrace{\langle \psi | V | \psi \rangle}_{\text{potential energy}} = \underbrace{\langle u \nabla \left( \frac{\psi}{u} \right), u \nabla \left( \frac{\psi}{u} \right) \rangle}_{\text{reduced kinetic energy}} + \underbrace{\langle \psi | \frac{1}{u} | \psi \rangle}_{\text{effective pot. energy}}$$

small and positive

infinite quantum well (Dirichlet problem) lhs 100%+0%; rhs 4%+96%

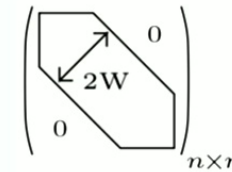
- at the first approximation, we get a new **Uncertainty Principle**.
- in some sense,  $1/u$  seems to translate interferencial effects into a confinement picture viewed by the eigenmode

# Localization for $M$ -matrices

Theorem (M. Filoche, S.M., T. Tao, 2021)

Let  $A$  be a symmetric  $n \times n$   $M$ -matrix with at most  $W_c$  non-zero entries in every row. Let

$$u = A^{-1}\mathbf{1}, v_i = \left(\frac{1}{u_i} - E\right)_+, \text{ and}$$

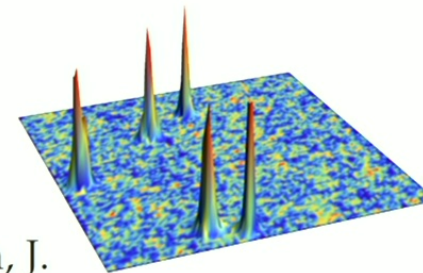


$$\rho(i, j) = \inf_{L \geq 0} \inf_{\substack{i_0, \dots, i_L: \\ i_0 = i, i_L = j}} \sum_{\ell=0}^L \ln \left( 1 + \sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{v_{i_\ell} v_{i_{\ell+1}}}}{|a_{i_\ell i_{\ell+1}}|}} \right).$$

Then

$$\sum_k \varphi_k^2 e^{\frac{2\rho(k,K)}{\sqrt{W_c}}} \left(\frac{1}{u_k} - E\right)_+ \leq W_c \max_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} |a_{ij}|.$$

- **Many-body systems** and statistical physics:  
S. Balasubramanian, Y. Liao, V. Galitski, 2020  
Collaboration with Simons Collaboration on  
**Ultra-Quantum Matter**
- localization for **Dirac fermions**:  
G. Lemut, M. J. Pacholski, O. Ovdad, A. Grabsch, J.  
Tworzydło, C. W. J. Beenakker, 2019



# Assessing Anderson localization in BEC of cold atoms

**Nobel Prize 2001:** Bose-Einstein condensation



Eric A. Cornell



Wolfgang Ketterle

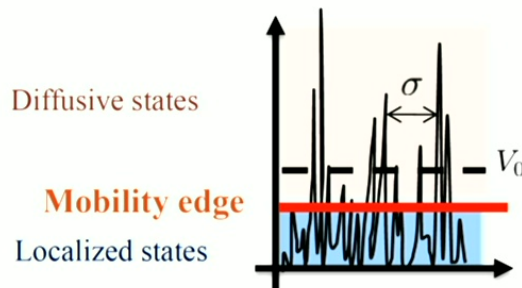


Carl E. Wieman

- Outstandingly clean system
- Pure potentials (no absorption)
- Controllable dimensionality: 1D, 2D, 3D
- Controllable wavelength, 1 nm to 10  $\mu\text{m}$
- Controllable disorder (laser speckle)
- High temporal resolution

A. Aspect's group achieved the *first direct observation* of a localized wave function in Bose-Einstein condensate of cold atoms in 1D in 2008, 3D in 2012.

**Mobility edge:**



**Nobel Prize 2022:** testing Bell inequalities



Alain Aspect



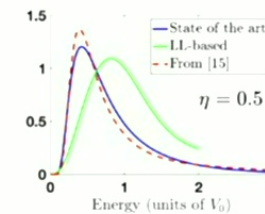
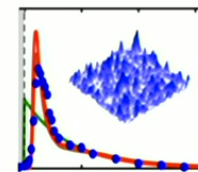
John F. Clauser



Anton Zeilinger

**Spectral functions:**

Spectral functions exhibit a very peculiar behavior in laser speckle potentials. Recent work have shown that the Landscape theory provides an accurate prediction.

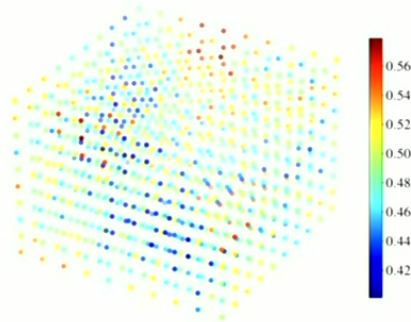


# Anderson transition: the mobility edge

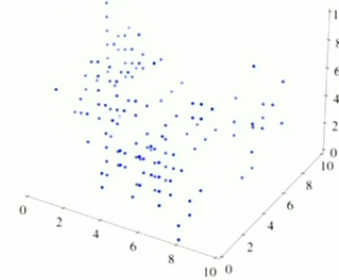
The mobility edge in tight binding models is directly related to the percolation threshold of the landscape-based effective potential.

$$Hu = 1$$

Effective potential  
 $\frac{1}{u}$

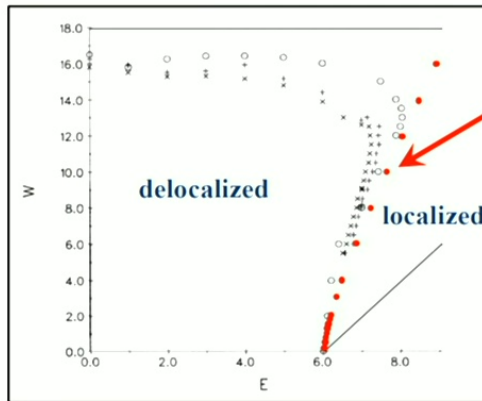


$$(H\psi)_n = -t \sum_{|m-n|=1} (\psi_m - \psi_n) + V_n \psi_n$$

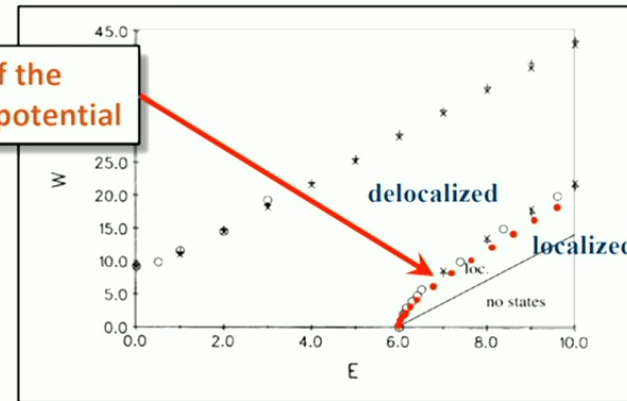


sites s.t.  $\frac{1}{u} < 0.45$

Anderson uniform



Anderson binary



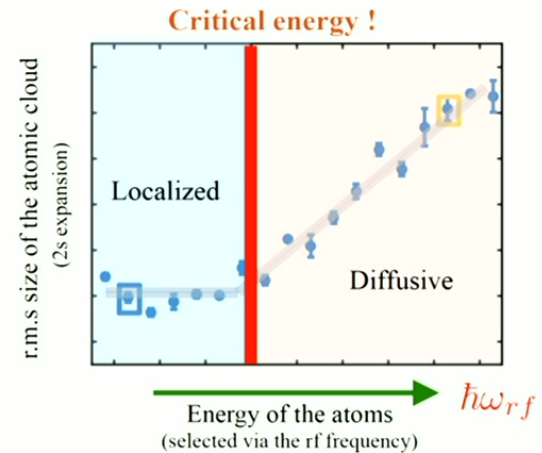
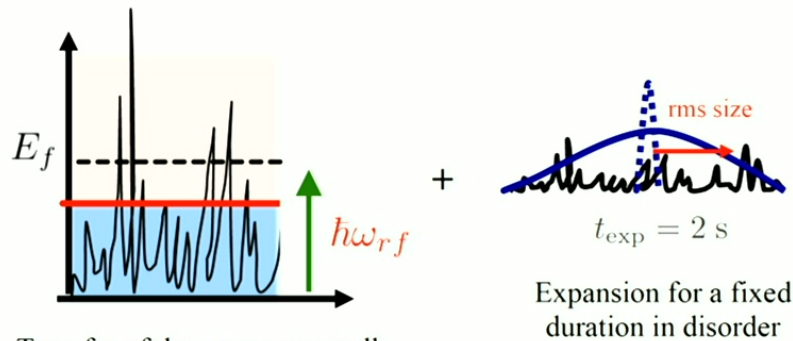
Percolation of the landscape-based potential

Comparison with the computed mobility edge from Grussbach & Schreiber, *Phys. Rev. B* (1995)

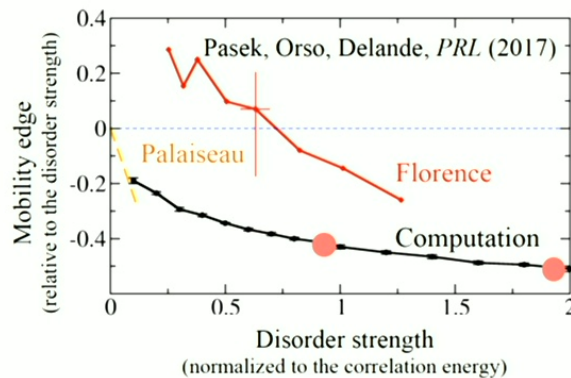


# 2023: experimental observation of the mobility edge

## Direct signature of a critical energy



## Comparison with numerical prediction of the mobility edge



Excellent agreement without any adjustable parameter !

Working progress to span various disorder strength (from quantum to classical regime)



# Anderson transition: the mobility edge

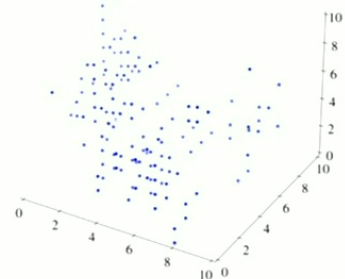
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Effective potential  
 $\frac{1}{u}$

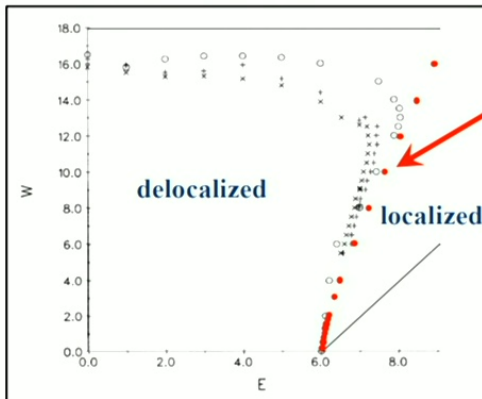


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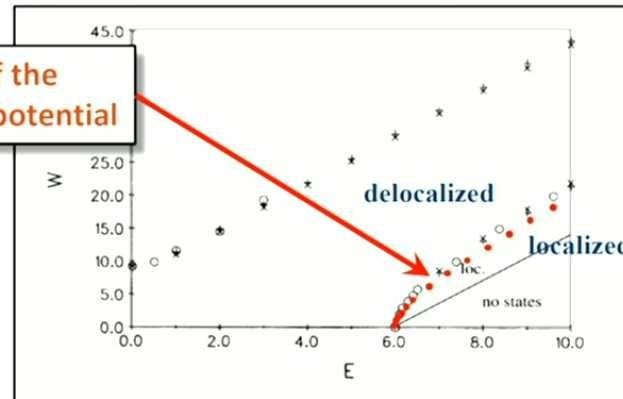


sites s.t.  $\frac{1}{u} < 0.45$

Anderson uniform



Anderson binary



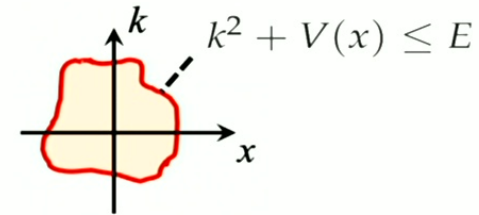
Percolation of the landscape-based potential

Comparison with the computed mobility edge from Grussbach & Schreiber, *Phys. Rev. B* (1995)

# Landscape-based Weyl law

## Weyl's asymptotic law

$$\text{IDOS}(E) = \#\{E_i \leq E\} \approx \frac{1}{(2\pi)^d} \iint_{k^2 + V(x) \leq E} dx dk$$



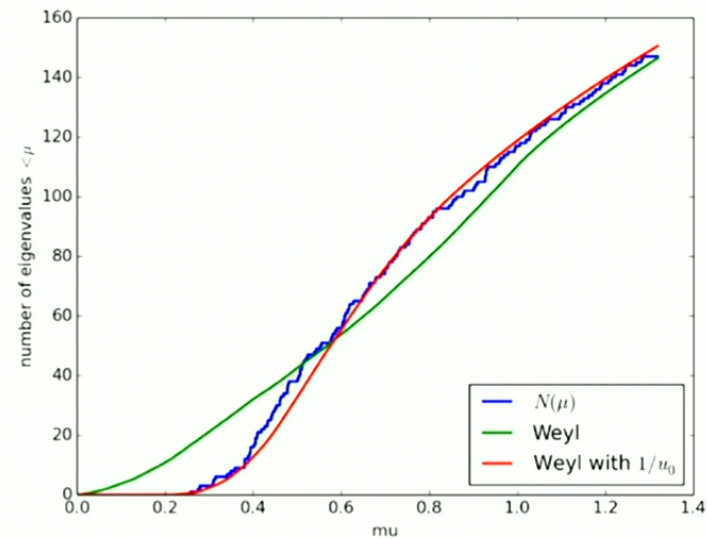
Counting eigenvalues below  $E$



Counting volume in phase space

## Landscape-based Weyl law

$$\text{IDOS}(E) \approx \frac{1}{(2\pi)^d} \iint_{k^2 + \frac{1}{u(x)} \leq E} dx dk$$

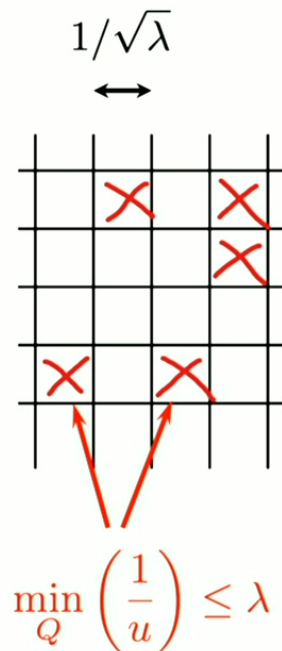


Blue: reality; green: old Weyl; red: new Weyl

## Eigenvalue count: the Landscape Law

New counting function:  $H = -\Delta + V, Hu = 1$

$$N_u(\lambda) := \left\{ \# \text{ of cubes of sidelength } \lambda^{-1/2} : \min_Q \frac{1}{u} \leq \lambda \right\}$$



Theorem (G. David, M. Filoche, S. M., 2019 for continuous;  
D. Arnold, M. Filoche, S.M., W. Wang, S. Zhang 2020 for  
tight-binding)

There exist constants  $C_i$  depending on the dimension only, such that

$$C_1 \alpha^d N_u(C_2 \alpha^{d+2} \mu) - C_3 N_u(C_2 \alpha^{d+4} \mu) \leq N(\mu) \leq N_u(C_4 \mu)$$

for every  $\alpha < 2^{-4}$  and every  $\mu > 0$ .

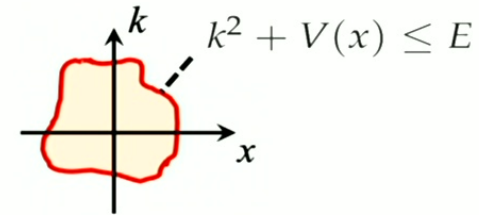
If, in addition,  $u^2$  is a doubling weight or  $V$  is a disordered potential, then

$$N_u(C_5 \mu) \leq N(\mu) \leq N_u(C_4 \mu) \text{ for every } \mu > 0.$$

# Landscape-based Weyl law

## Weyl's asymptotic law

$$\text{IDOS}(E) = \#\{E_i \leq E\} \approx \frac{1}{(2\pi)^d} \iint_{k^2 + V(x) \leq E} dx dk$$



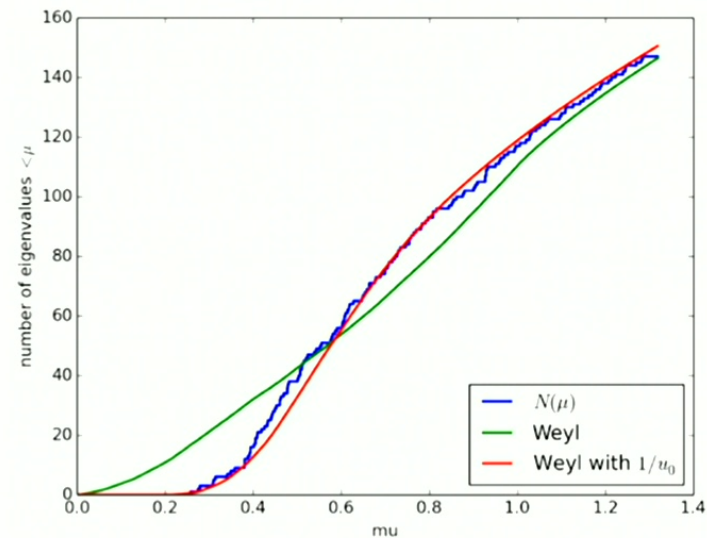
Counting eigenvalues below  $E$



Counting volume in phase space

## Landscape-based Weyl law

$$\text{IDOS}(E) \approx \frac{1}{(2\pi)^d} \iint_{k^2 + \frac{1}{u(x)} \leq E} dx dk$$



Blue: reality; green: old Weyl; red: new Weyl