

Wave-packet and entanglement
dynamics in a non-Hermitian system

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Since I am not really from this community...

Let me first introduce myself:

I have been working on

✓ quantum Hall edge states

✓ quantum dots/wires

✓ graphene

✓ topological insulators

mesoscopic systems

focusing mainly on

transport properties

Recently,

✓ non-Hermitian quantum systems

Maybe, in the near future,

✓ machine/deep learning, etc.



Dynamics Days Asia Pacific 13 / YKIS2024

Yukawa Institute for Theoretical Physics, Kyoto University, Japan

July 1st - 5th, 2024

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Dynamics Days Asia Pacific 13 will be held as YKIS2024 at Kyoto University.

Scope

Dynamics Days meetings are international meetings which launched in 1980 with focus on the nonlinear dynamics. Dynamics Days Asia Pacific started in 1999 in Hong Kong, and are moved to Hangzhou (2002), Singapore (2004), Pohang (2006), Nara (2008), Sydney (2010), Taipei (2012), Chennai (2014), Hong Kong (2016), Xiamen (2018), Singapore (2020) and Daejeon (2022). Now, DDAP13 will be held in Kyoto, Japan on July 1st-5th as a part of the long-term workshop. Topics include

- Dynamics of complex systems
- Dynamics of nonequilibrium systems
- Dynamics of quantum systems
- Dynamics of condensed matter and photonics
- Dynamics of active and biological systems
- Dynamics of earth climate
- Dynamics of machine learning

The meeting will offer invited talks without any parallel sessions. The meeting is supposed to be hybrid, but participants are strongly encouraged to come to the YITP which is the meeting place.

Since 1987, Yukawa Institute for Theoretical Physics (YITP) has hosted an international research meeting known as the Yukawa International Seminar (YKIS). This is a five-day international symposium held jointly with the Yukawa Memorial Foundation.

Past YKISes



dynamics



non-equilibrium



quantum



CM & photonic

Important Dates

July 1st — August 2nd, 2024:
Workshop

March 31st, 2023: Website open



Frontiers in Non-equilibrium Physics 2024

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Scope

In thermal equilibrium, Gaussian fluctuations play a decisive role, and their behavior is well understood. However, the statistical mechanics in non-equilibrium systems is characterized by non-Gaussian fluctuations. One of the milestones is to establish the framework of stochastic thermodynamics, which is relatively new. Such a framework is relevant to describe fluctuating motion in small systems. Nevertheless, we still do not know how relaxation processes are affected by non-equilibrium fluctuations, topological constraints, and quantum effects. Thus, we invite researchers in this field from all over the world. Moreover, non-Gaussian features in non-equilibrium systems require a new framework of statistical physics. Indeed, there is no reciprocal theorem for strongly non-equilibrium systems associated with a non-reciprocal phase transition. Such non-reciprocal relations can be observed in active matter systems easily. Classical densely packed systems exhibit different behavior from usual systems: thermal fluctuations do not significantly affect the motion of individual elements like colloids, powders, and bubbles when these constituents are random and large. To describe their dynamics, we require a distinct logic. Thus, a new branch of non-equilibrium statistical physics is essential to understand and describe these dynamic, self-driven systems.

There is a worldwide momentum for discussion on these topics, and this week of the workshop is dedicated to a relatively large international workshop (DDAP13), the Yukawa International Seminar (YKIS2024). The second week will focus on stochastic thermodynamics. The fourth week will focus on active matter, non-reciprocal transitions, and the Mpemba effect. The fifth week of the conference will focus on jamming and rheology of dense

- ✓ (emergent) gaussian fluctuation/diffusion
- ✓ non-reciprocal (hopping)

- ✓ (non-)gaussian
- ✓ (non-)reciprocal

As the 3rd speaker of the workshop,

Conjecture:

This talk merges the ideas of the 1st and 2nd speakers

cf. in the Hermitian case: ETH vs. MBL

- ETH: eigenstates thermalizes themselves in the presence of interaction at sufficiently weak disorder

The interaction also tends to delocalize the wave function

- MBL: a counter example

What about the non-Hermitian case?

In this talk, we aim at addressing the questions such as:

- Do eigenstates still thermalize also in the non-Hermitian delocalized regime?

Possibly, a related question:

- What is the (analogue of) ground state in the non-Hermitian delocalized regime?

Non-Hermitian quantum mechanics

In quantum mechanics, textbooks say

Hamiltonian must be (?) Hermitian in a *closed* system

- real eigenvalues
- probability conservation

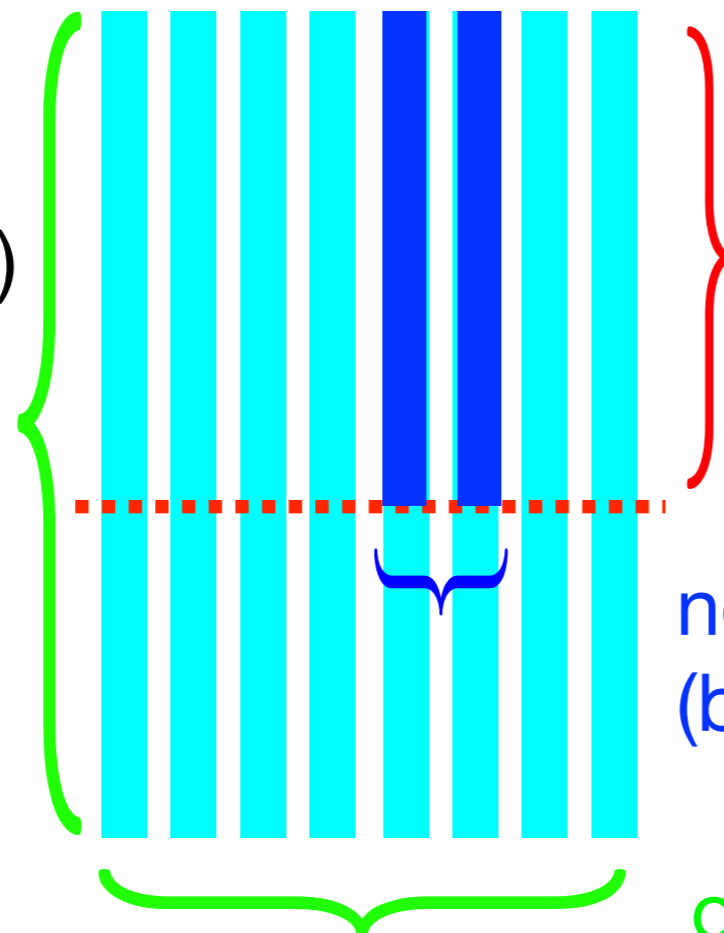
cf. von Neumann, C. Bender,...

Here, we consider *open* quantum systems

= system + environment
reservoirs/leads

Eigenstates:
(eigenvectors)

system
+ environment
= Hermitian



system

$$H|n_R\rangle = E_n|n_R\rangle$$

$$\langle n_L|H = E_n\langle n_L|$$

$$\langle n_L| \neq |n_R\rangle^\dagger \quad \langle m_R|n_R\rangle \neq \delta_{mn}$$

$$\langle m_L|n_R\rangle = \delta_{mn}$$

no longer orthogonal
(bi-orthogonal: left/right eigenstates)

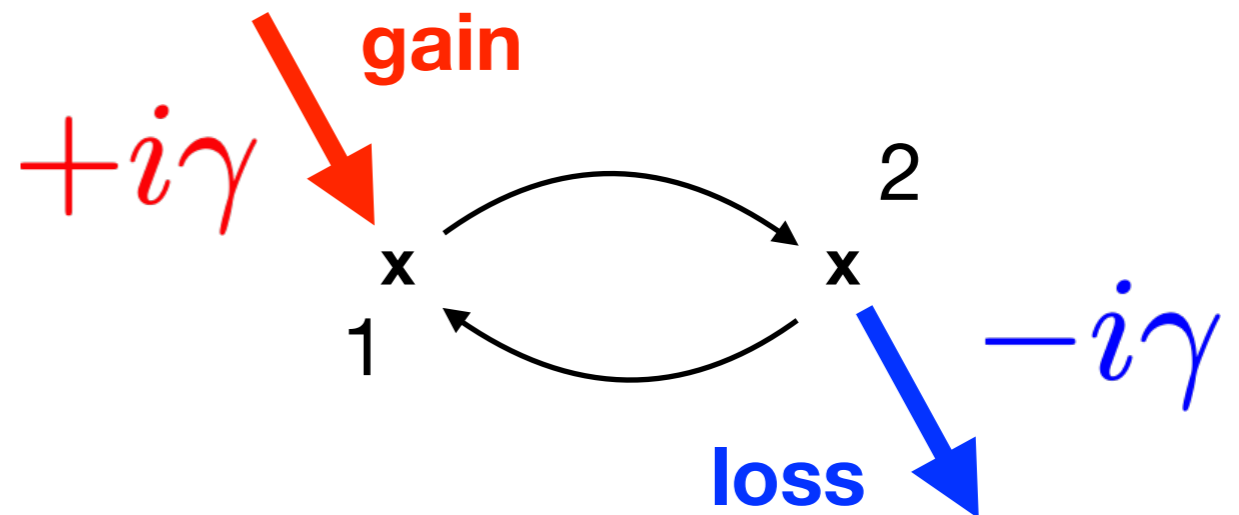
orthogonal (unitary)

Typical examples of a non-Hermitian Hamiltonian

1) Gain vs. loss type : (sometimes) *PT* symmetric \longrightarrow next speaker

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} i\gamma & t \\ t & -i\gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

Bender & Boettcher, PRL 1998;
Guo et al. PRL 2009

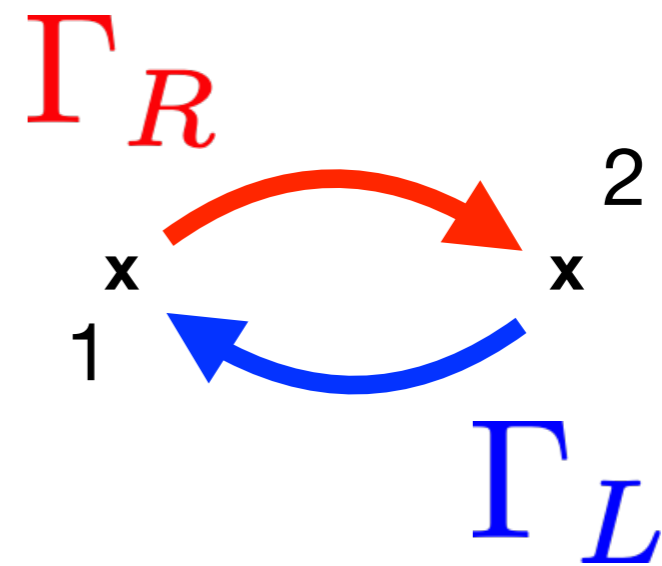


2) Non-reciprocal hopping type
(*asymmetric*)

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \Gamma_L \\ \Gamma_R & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Hatano & Nelson, PRL 1996; PRB 1998
Yao & Wang, PRL 2018;

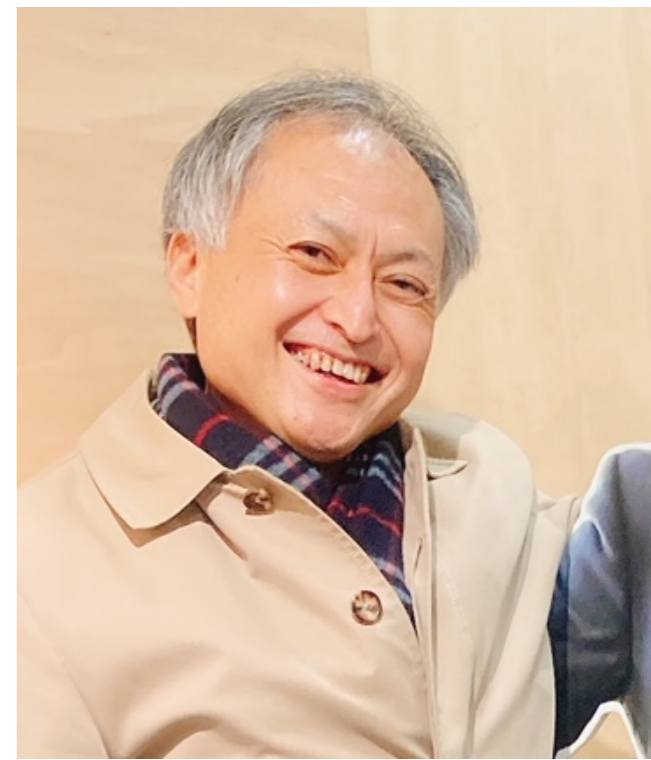
The Hatano-Nelson type



$$\Gamma_L \neq \Gamma_R$$

The Hatano-Nelson model:

Hatano & Nelson,
PRL 1996; *PRB* 1998



A 1D tight-binding model with asymmetric/non-reciprocal hopping:

$$H_{\text{HN}} = \sum_j (\Gamma_R |j+1\rangle\langle j| + \Gamma_L |j\rangle\langle j+1| + W_j |j\rangle\langle j|)$$

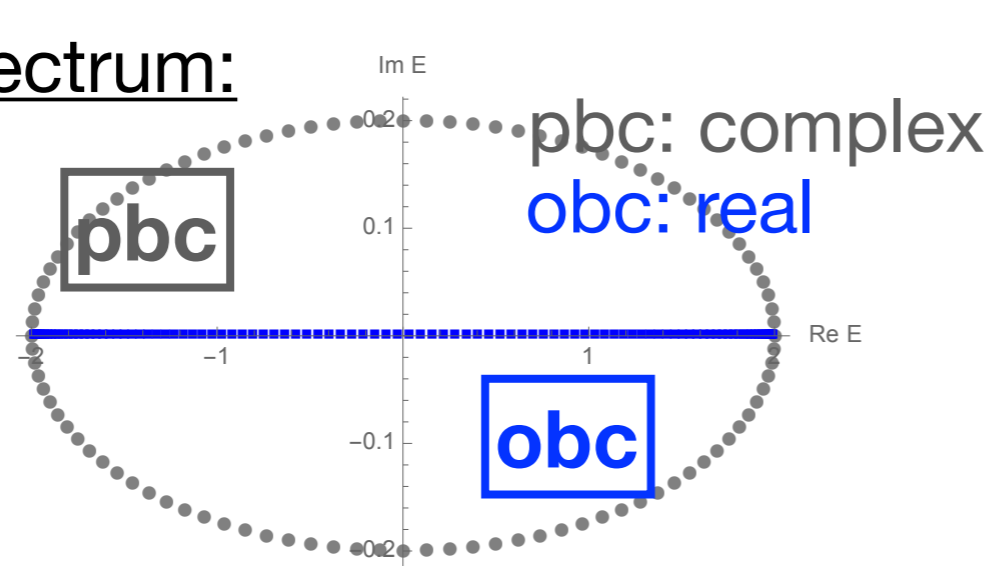
$$\Gamma_R = e^{-g}\Gamma_0, \Gamma_L = e^g\Gamma_0$$

$g \neq 0 \longrightarrow$ asymmetry/non-reciprocity in hopping

Basic (static) properties:

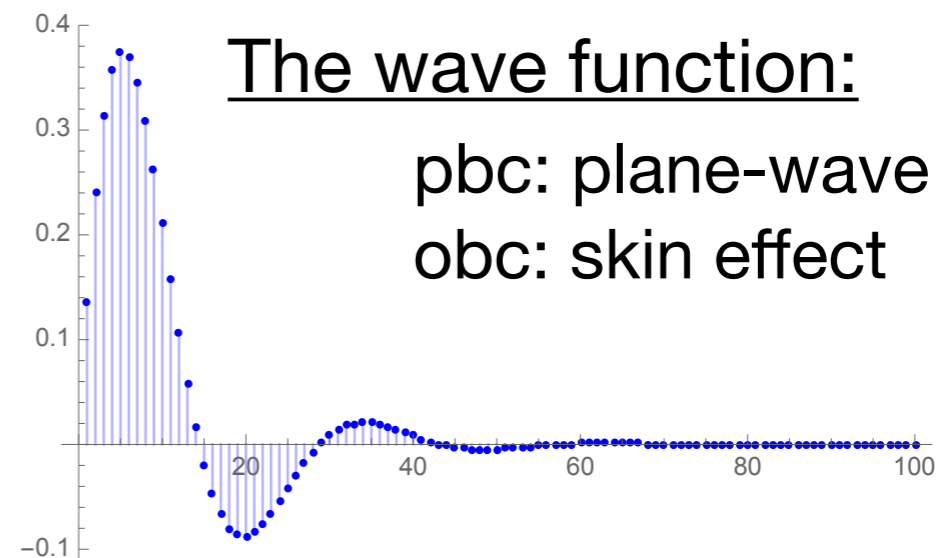
In the clean limit: complex spectrum (pbc), skin effect (obc), and the sensitivity to the boundary condition

The spectrum:



The wave function:

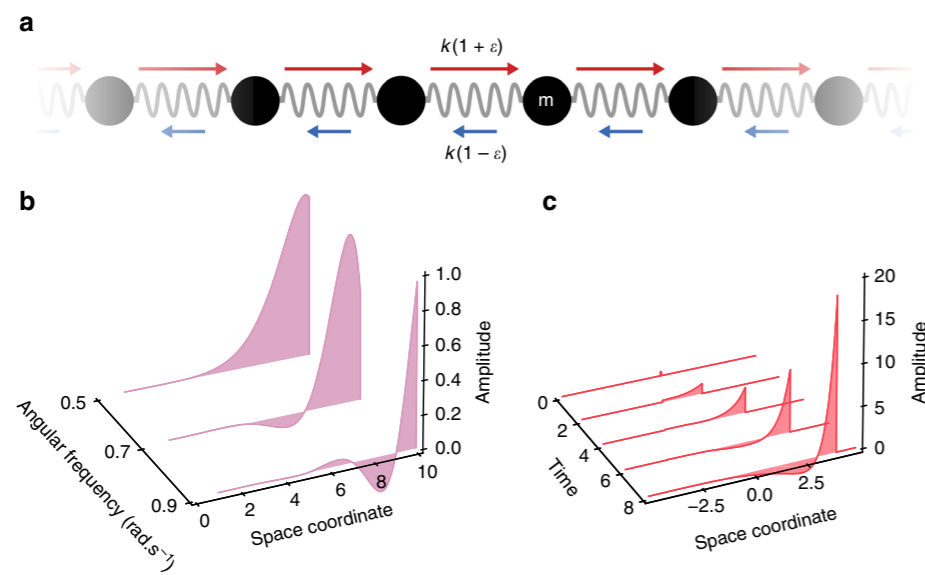
pbc: plane-wave like
obc: skin effect



Experimental realizations

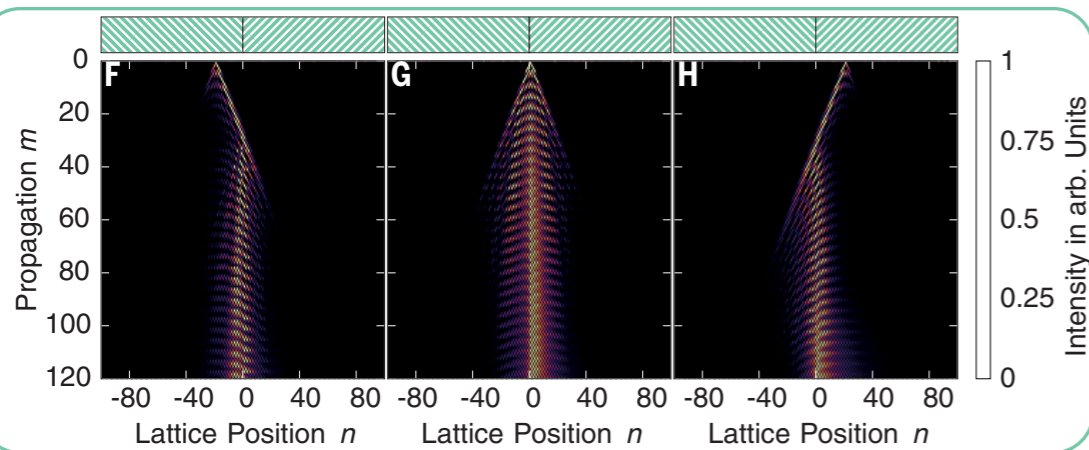
of the “effective” Hatano-Nelson models

- mechanical material



Brandenbourger et al., Nat. Commun. 2019

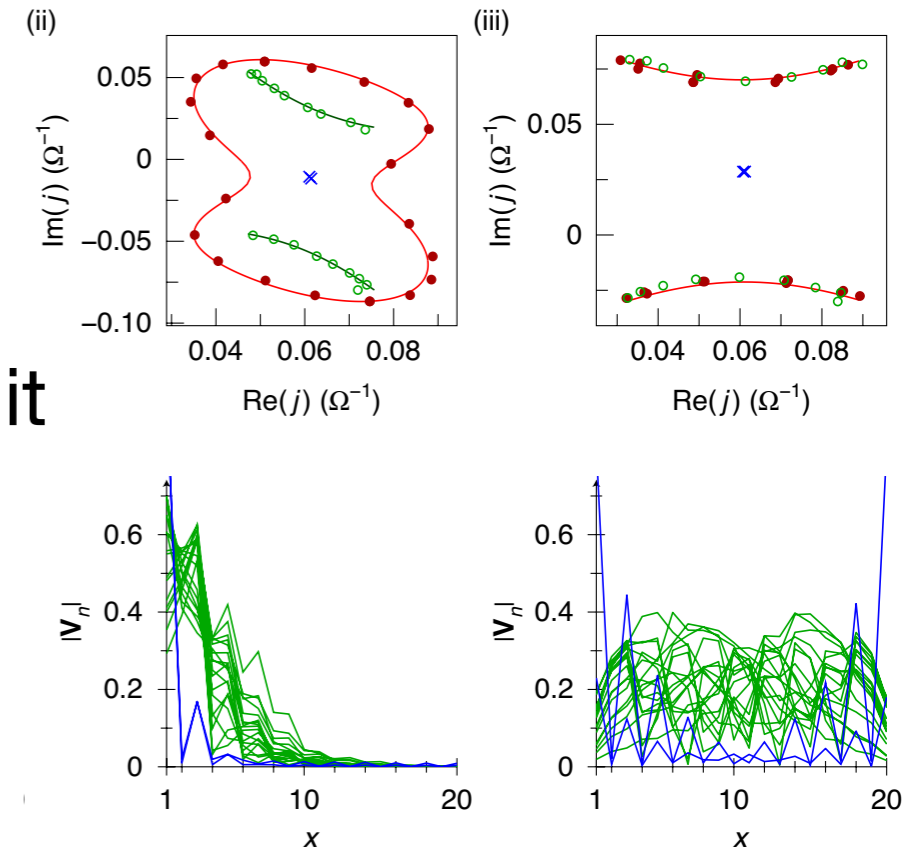
- photonic lattice



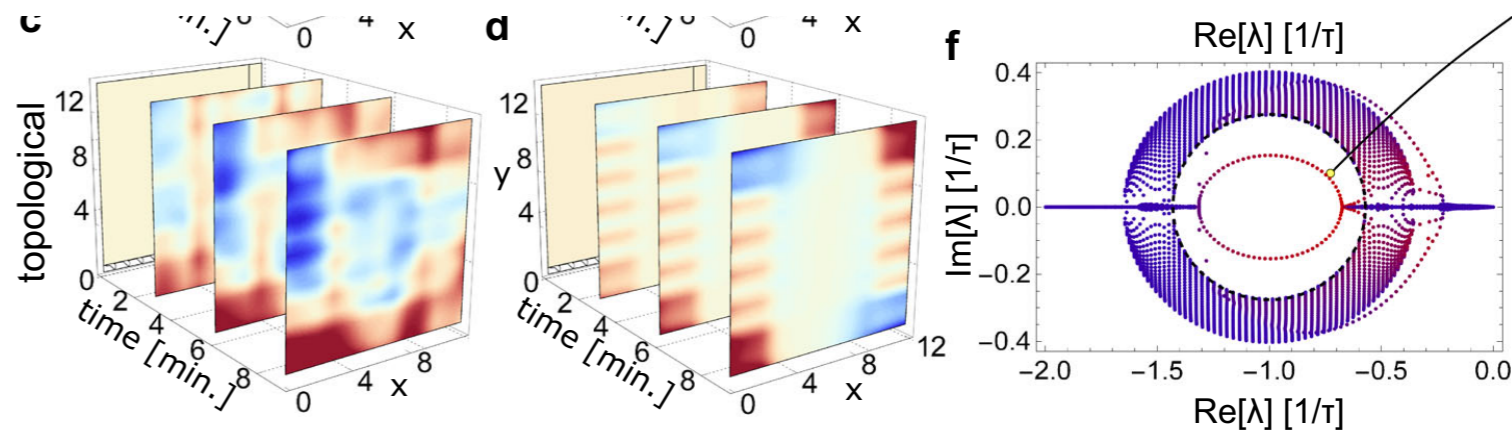
Weidemann et al., Science 2020

- electric circuit

Helbig et al.,
Nat. Phys.
2020



- active matter



Palacios et al., Nat. Commun. 2021

skin effect/open boundary

- Disordered case: localization-delocalization transition

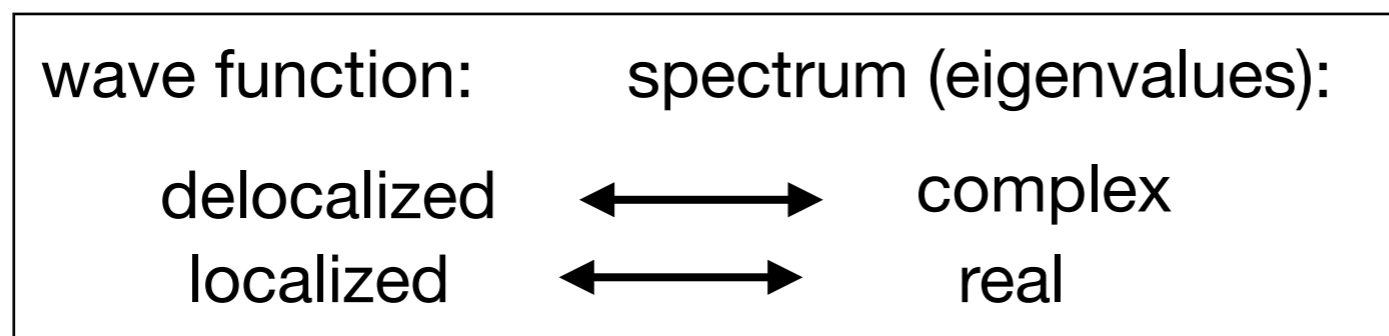
Non-Hermiticity tends to delocalize the wave function

The (on-site) disorder potential: $W_j \in [-W/2, W/2]$
 (in the original work of Hatano & Nelson) (uncorrelated disorder)

Here, we consider the case of quasi-periodic disorder (Aubry-Andre model) $W_j = W \cos(2\pi\theta j + \theta_0)$, *Aubry & Andre, AIPS '80*

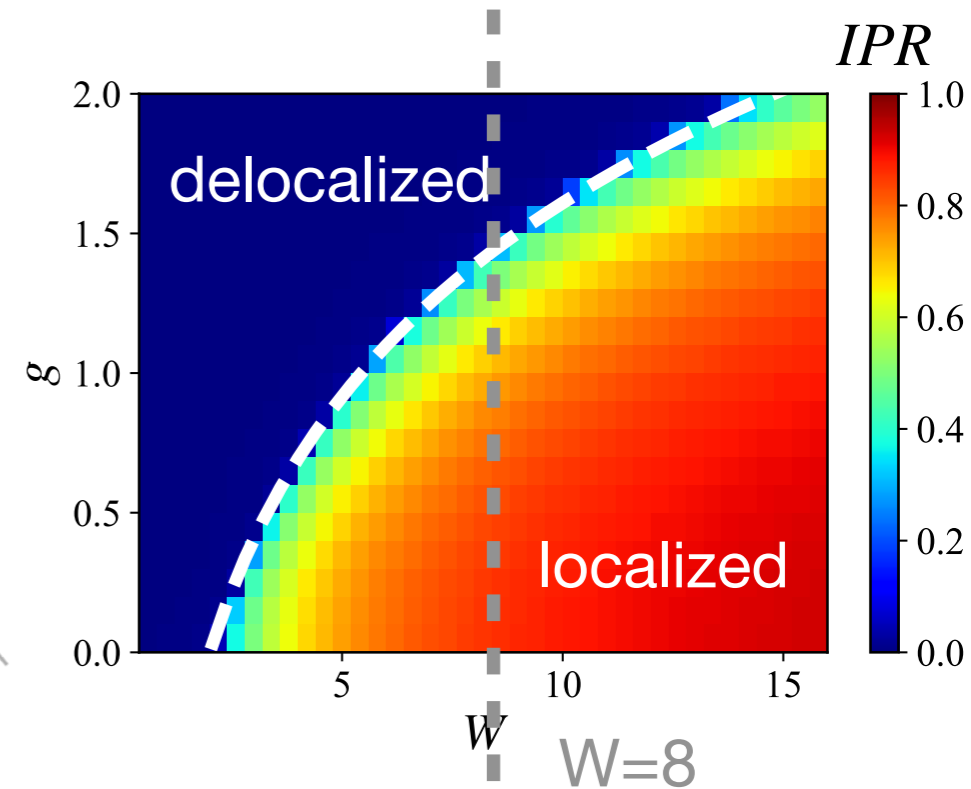
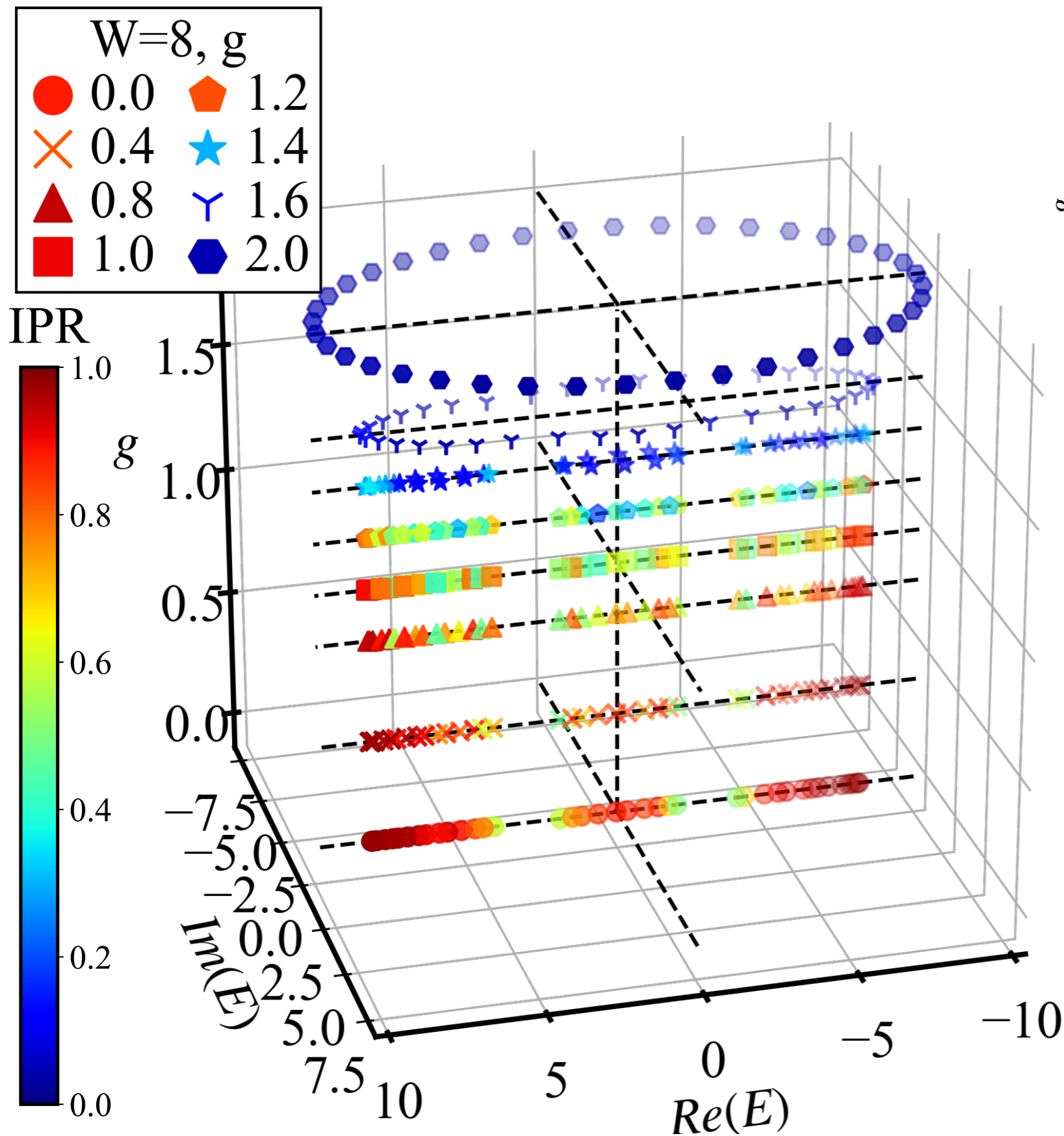
θ : an irrational constant e.g., (chosen typically to be) $\theta = \frac{\sqrt{5} - 1}{2}$

θ_0 : disorder configuration \longrightarrow sample average



*Hatano & Nelson,
PRL '96*

cf. in 1D all the states are localized in a Hermitian disordered system (Anderson '58)



IPR: inverse participation ratio

$$\text{IPR} = \int |\psi|^4 dx$$

- in the localized regime:
 $\psi(x) \simeq \delta(x) \quad \text{IPR} \simeq 1$

- in the delocalized regime:
 $\psi(x) \simeq \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}} e^{ikx}$

$$\text{IPR} \simeq \frac{1}{L^2} \times L = \frac{1}{L} \rightarrow 0$$

Wave-packet dynamics

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\psi(t)\rangle &= \sum_j \psi_j(t) |j\rangle \\
 &= \sum_n c_n e^{-i\epsilon_n t} |n\rangle,
 \end{aligned}$$

- initial wave packet:

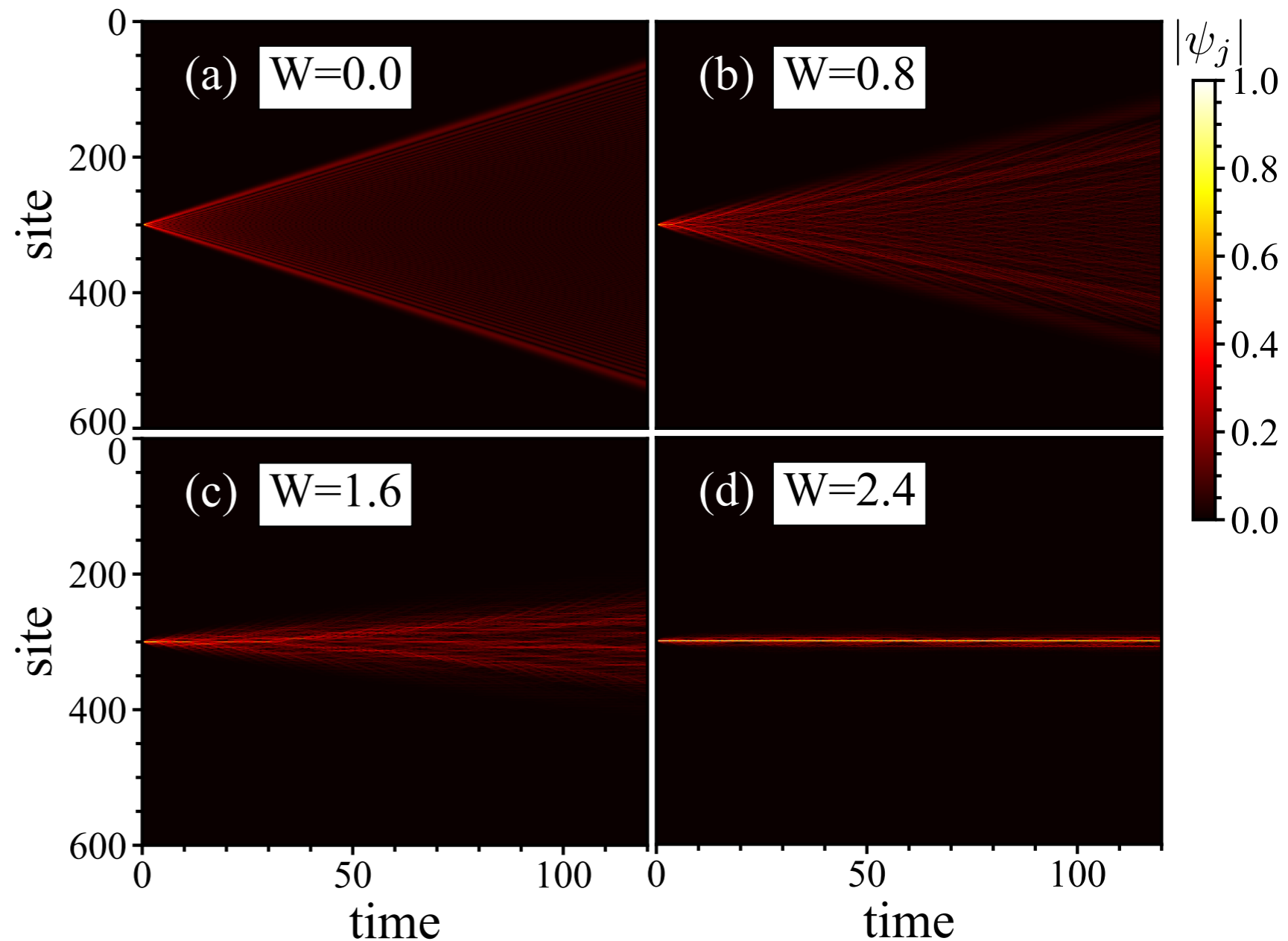
$$|\psi(t=0)\rangle = |j_0\rangle$$

localized at a single site

- Mechanism underlying the spreading of wave packet:

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\psi(t)\rangle &= \sum_k e^{-i\epsilon_k t} |k\rangle \langle k|j_0\rangle \left(\equiv \sum_k \psi_k(t) |k\rangle \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}} \sum_j \sum_k e^{-i\epsilon_k t + ik(j_0-j)} |j\rangle,
 \end{aligned}$$

Hermitian case : disorder *suppresses* spreading of the wave packet



The stationary phase condition:

$$2\Gamma_0 \sin \bar{k} t = j - j_0.$$

location of wave front: “light cone”
cf. Lieb-Robinson bound

Wave-packet dynamics

(on-Hermitian case)

A caveat:

Specificity of the non-unitary time evolution:

Hamiltonian: non-Hermitian
time evolution: non-unitary

$\langle \Psi(t) | \Psi(t) \rangle$ is not conserved

- in the expansion:

complex: $\text{Im } E_\alpha \neq 0$

$$|\Psi(t)\rangle = \sum_{\alpha} c_{\alpha}(t) |\alpha\rangle, \quad c_{\alpha}(t) = c_{\alpha}(0) e^{-i \underline{E_{\alpha}} t}$$

eigenstates $|c_{\alpha}(t)|^2 \neq |c_{\alpha}(0)|^2$ are no longer constants

→ we focus on the relative importance of $c_{\alpha}(t)$

by rescaling/(re)normalizing the wave function as:

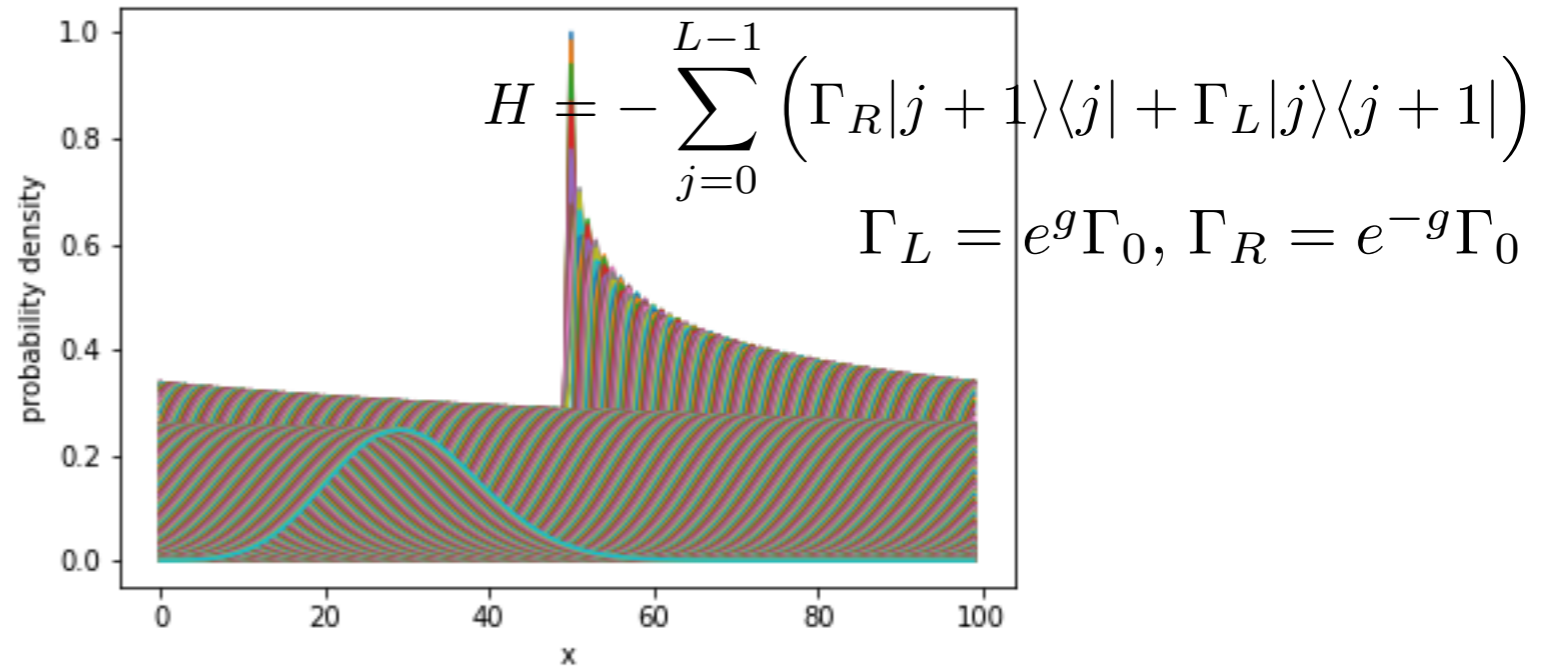
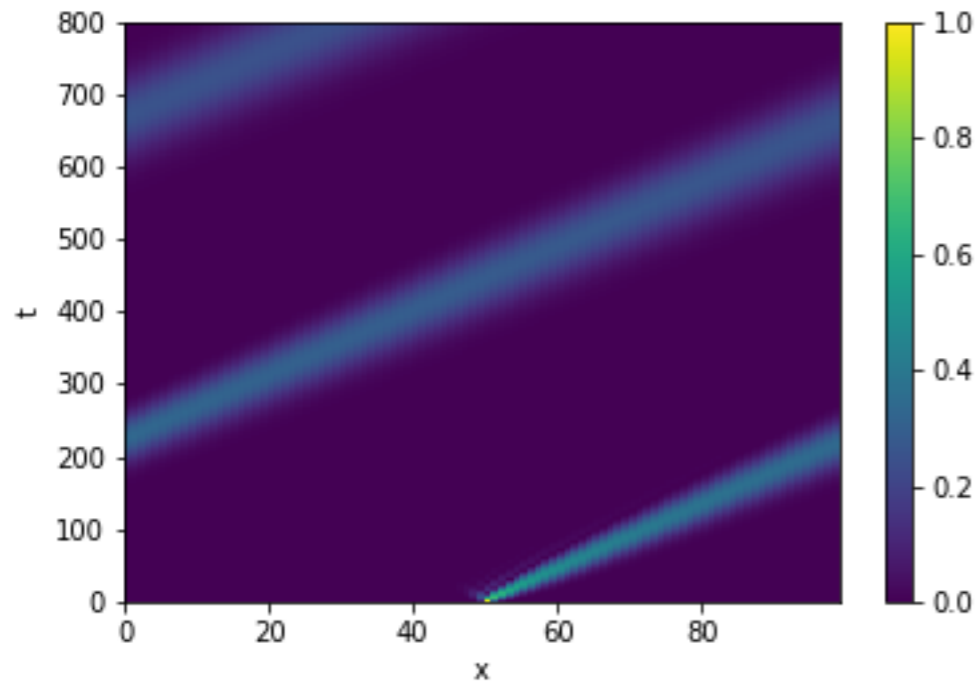
$$|\Psi(t)\rangle \rightarrow |\tilde{\Psi}(t)\rangle = \frac{|\Psi(t)\rangle}{\sqrt{\langle \Psi(t) | \Psi(t) \rangle}}$$

Simulation of the wave-packet dynamics:

(b) non-Hermitian case

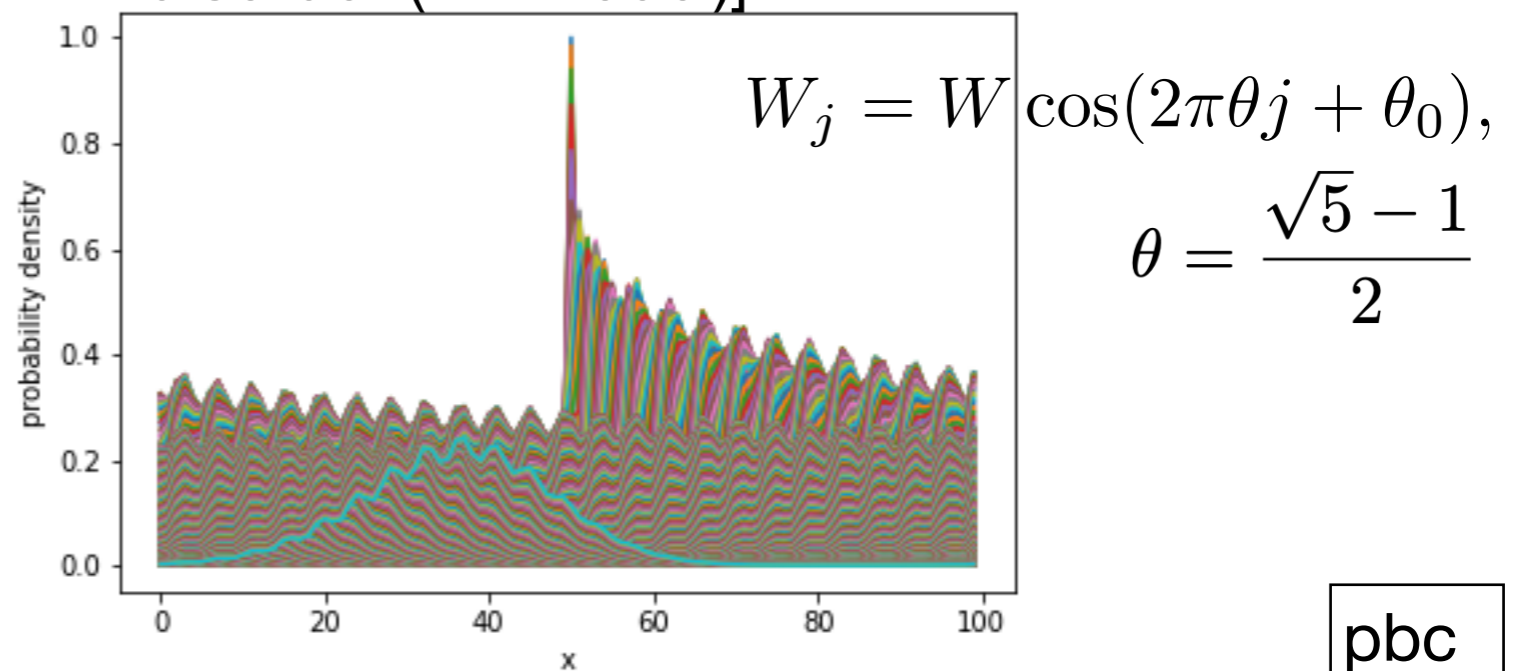
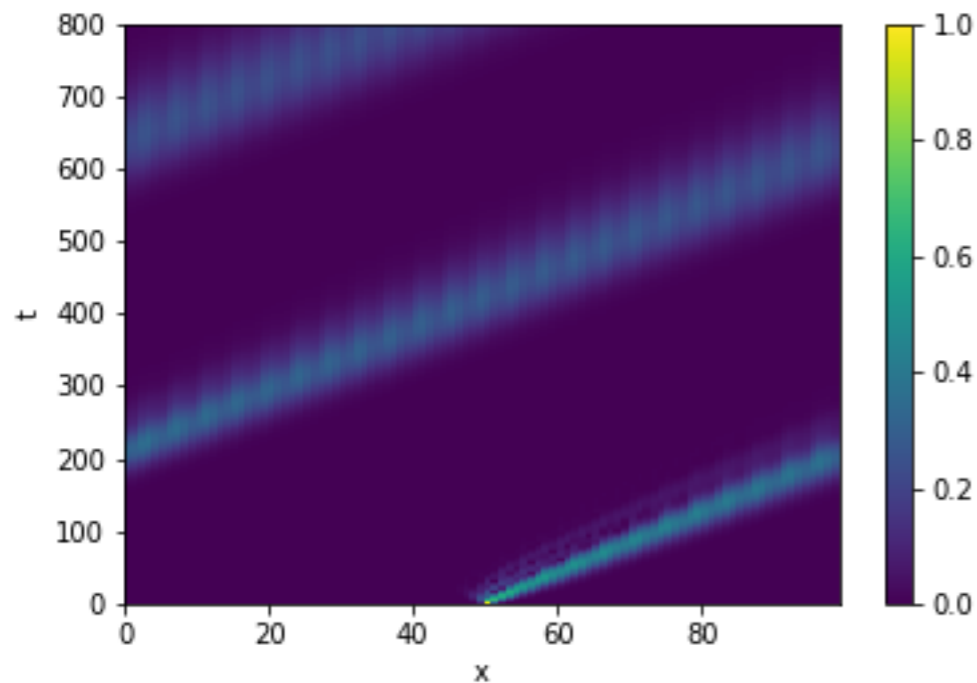
model: Hatano-Nelson \times
Aubry-Andre model;

- clean limit: $W=0$



- (weakly) disordered case: $W=1.0$

[type of disorder: quasi-periodic potential disorder (AA model)]



pbcc

periodic boundary condition

Non-Hermitian case

wave-packet dynamics

- Disorder *enhances* spreading of the wave packet

- in the superposition:

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\psi(t)\rangle &= \sum_k e^{-i\epsilon_k t} |k\rangle \langle k|j_0\rangle \left(\equiv \sum_k \psi_k(t) |k\rangle \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}} \sum_j \sum_k e^{-i\epsilon_k t + ik(j_0-j)} |j\rangle,
 \end{aligned}$$

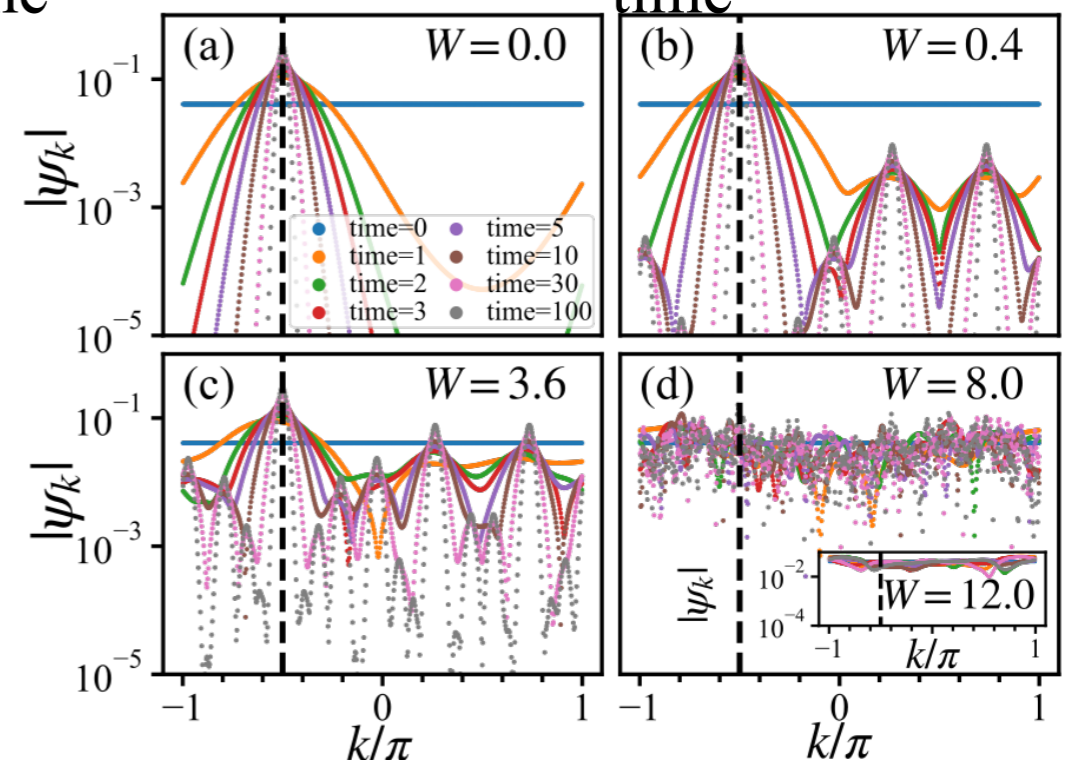
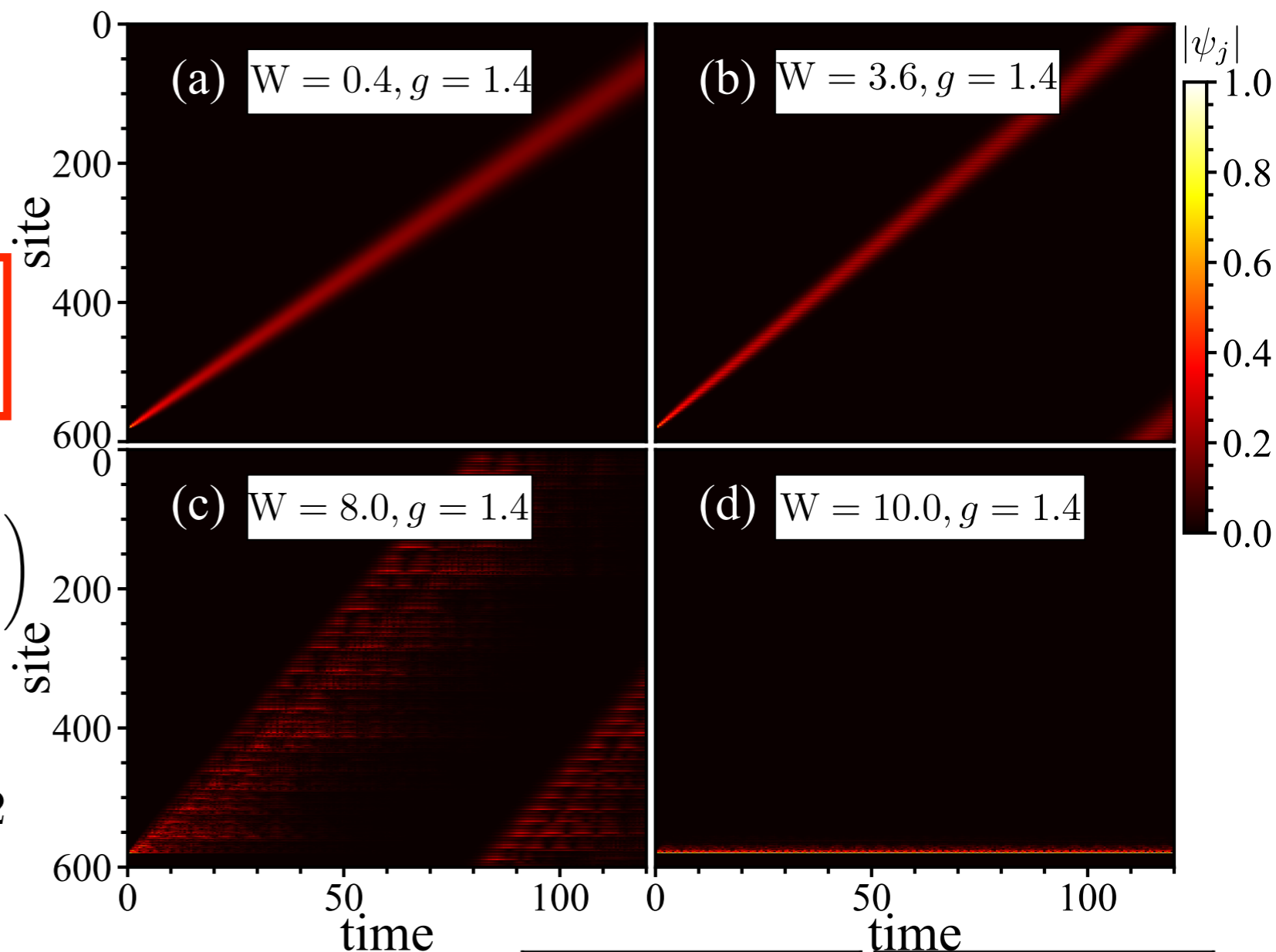
contribution from $k = k_0 = -\pi/2$ predominates:
 $\text{Max Im } \epsilon_k$

As a result, (in the clean limit)

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\psi(t)\rangle &\simeq \sum_j |j\rangle \exp\left(-\frac{((j_0 - j) + 2(\cosh g)t)^2}{4(\sinh g)t}\right) \\
 &\quad \times e^{2(\sinh g)t} / \sqrt{4(\sinh g)t},
 \end{aligned}$$

Emergent gaussian diffusion!

Orito & Imura, *Phys. Rev. B* **105**, 024303 (2022)



Finally, statement of the problem!

cf. in the Hermitian case: ETH vs. MBL

- ETH: eigenstates thermalizes themselves in the presence of interaction at sufficiently weak disorder

The interaction also tends to delocalize the wave function

- MBL: a counter example

What about the non-Hermitian case?

In this talk, we aim at addressing the questions such as:

- Do eigenstates still thermalize also in the non-Hermitian delocalized regime?

Possibly, a related question:

- What is the (analogue of) ground state in the non-Hermitian delocalized regime?

Hermitian case: ETH vs. MBL

In the regime of sufficiently weak disorder,

interactions tend to mediate eigenstates to thermalize

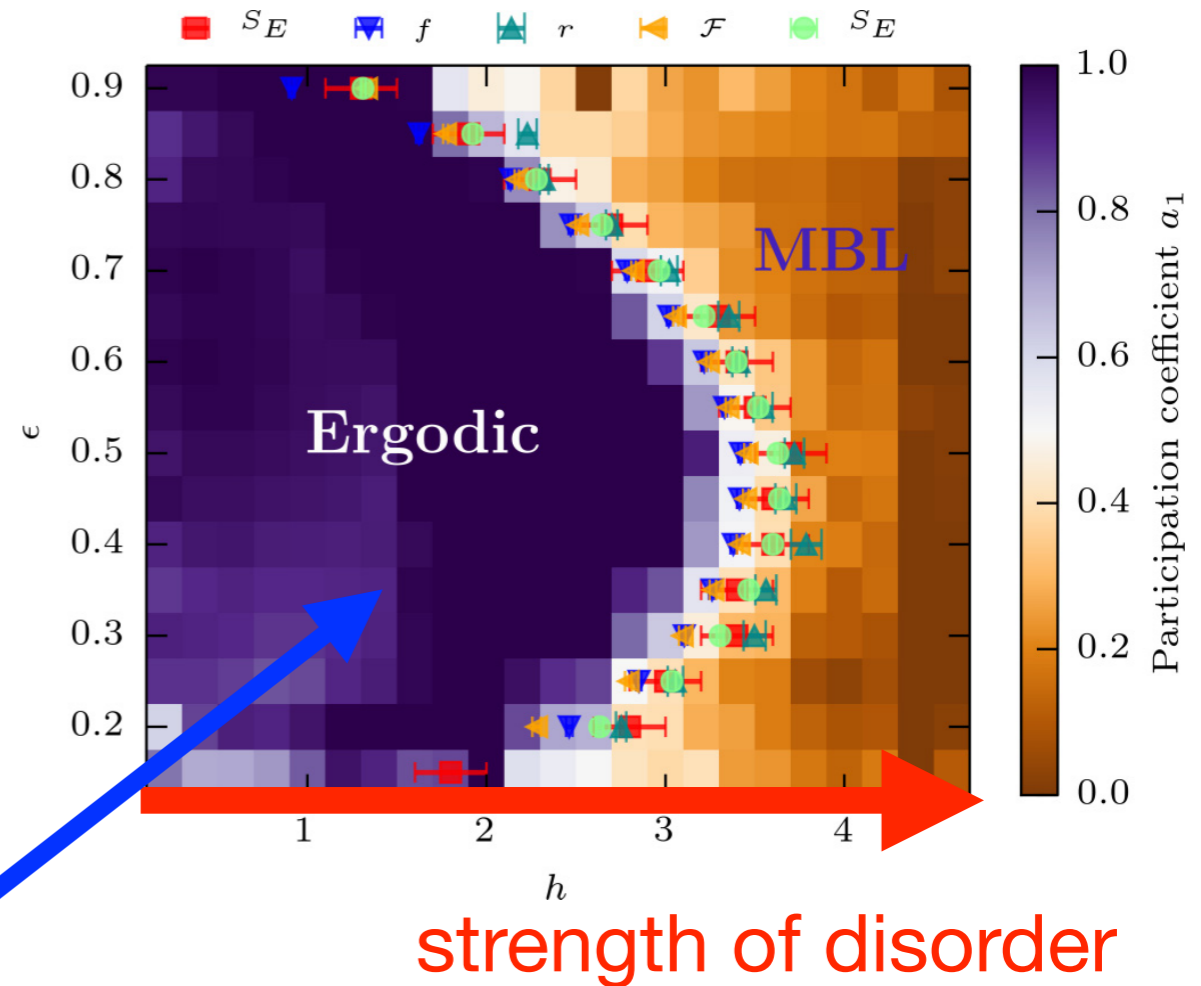


Eigenstate thermalization

cf. ETH: eigenstate thermalization hypothesis

ETH

Luitz et al, PRB '15



Still many open issues on the ETH-MBL transition/crossover; KT-like?

Oganeysyan & Huse, PRB '07; Pal & Huse, PRB '10; Luitz et al, PRB '15

Thiery et al., PRL '18; Goremykina et al., PRB '19; Morningstar & Huse, PRB '19

Remarks:

- inter-particle interactions included
- focus on the scaling of entanglement entropy

volume vs. area law

The interaction (Hermitian case)

- delocalize the wave function
- thermalizes the eigenstates

Non-Hermiticity also?

In the wave-packet and entanglement dynamics of a non-Hermitian system

we will see an emergence of non-equilibrium steady state in the asymptotic long time regime

Is this non-equilibrium steady state an analogue of the ground state in a Hermitian quantum mechanics?

A non-Hermitian version of Fermi sea?

The entanglement dynamics:

(Hermitian case, $g=0$)

Non-interacting case: $V=0$

Definitions:

- The bipartite entanglement entropy:

$$\begin{aligned} S_A(t) &= -\text{Tr} \Omega_A(t) \log \Omega_A(t), \\ &= -\sum_{\alpha} \lambda_{\alpha}(t) \log \lambda_{\alpha}(t). \end{aligned}$$

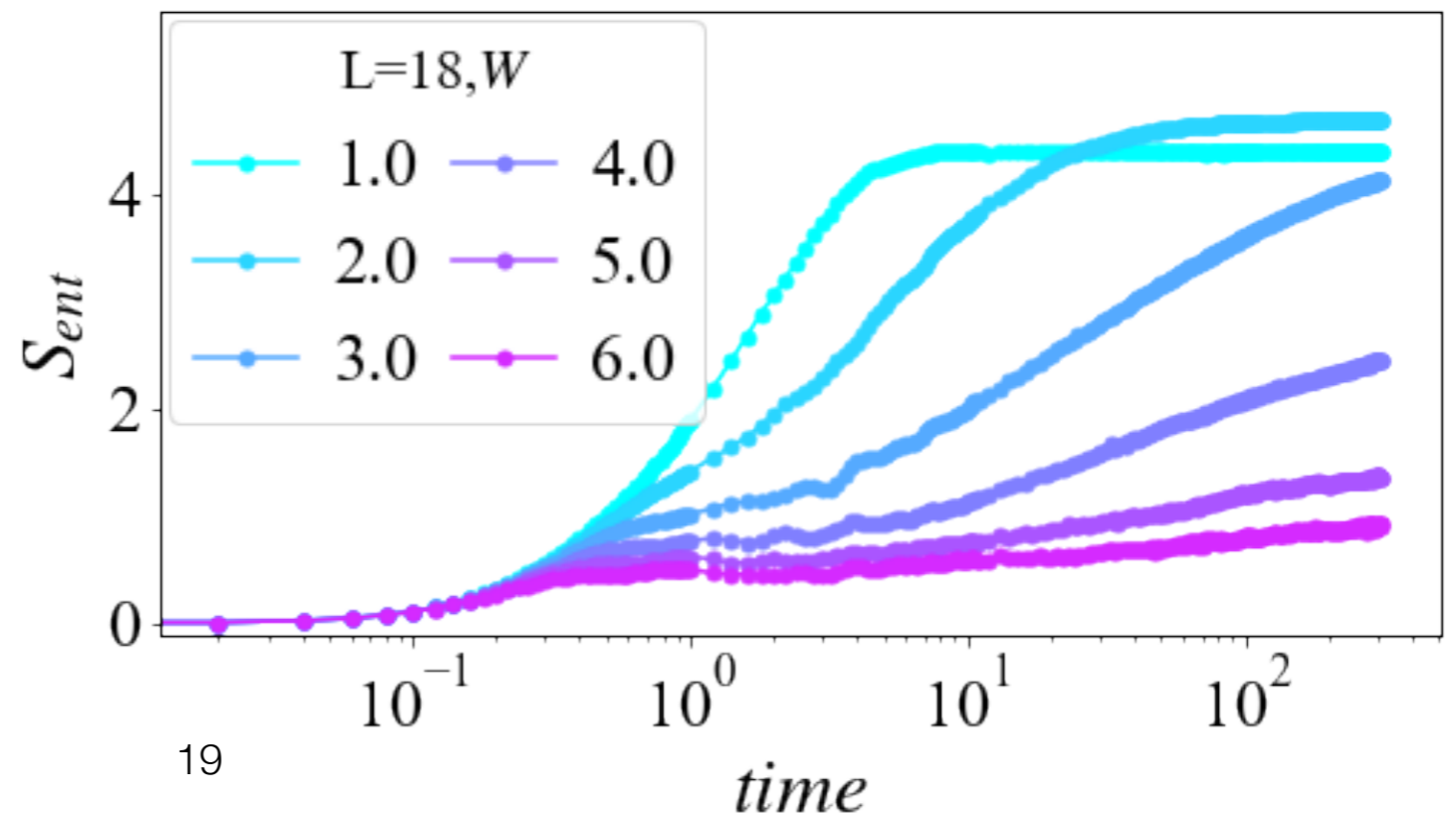
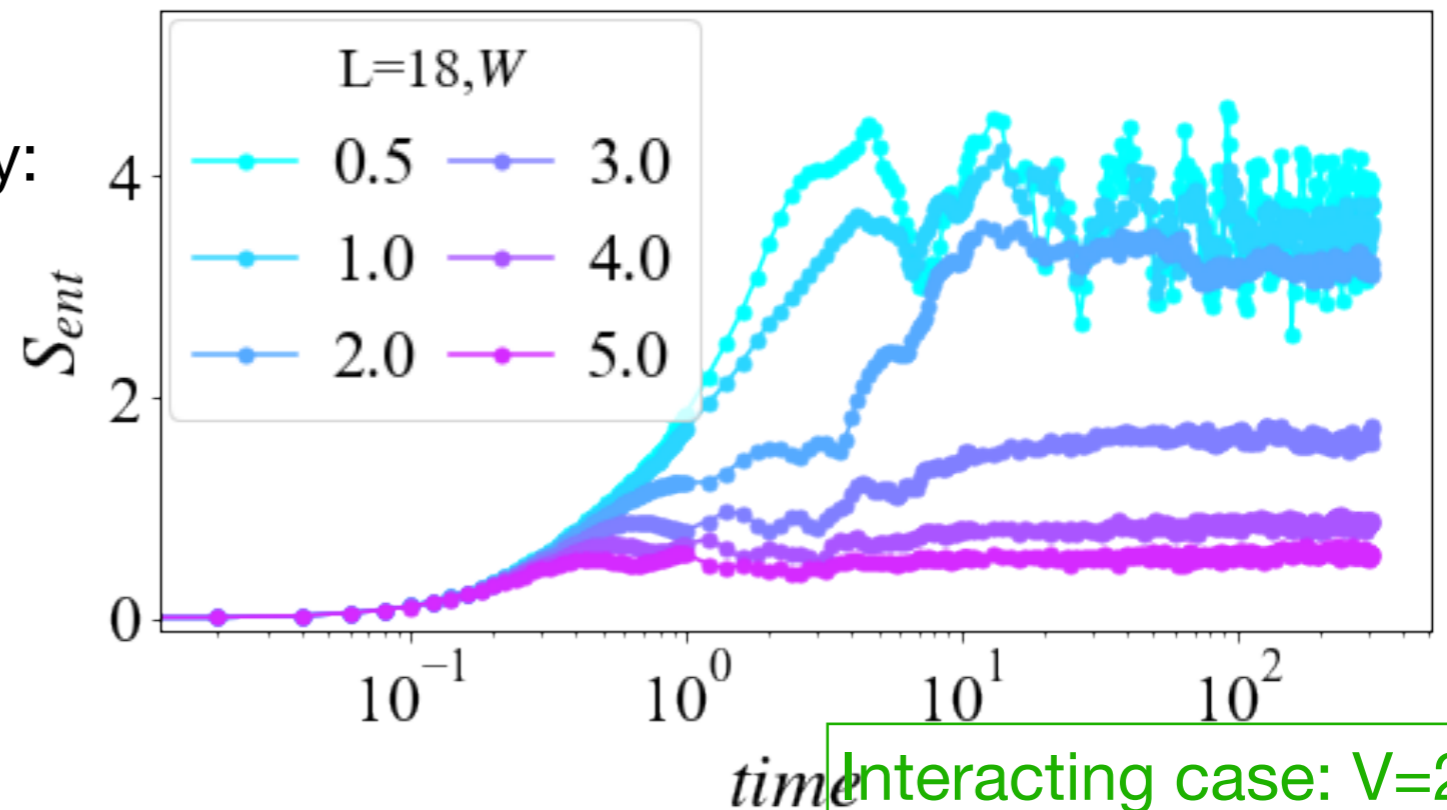
- The reduced/full density matrix:

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_A(t) &= \text{Tr}_B \Omega(t), \\ \Omega(t) &= |\Psi(t)\rangle\langle\Psi(t)|. \end{aligned}$$

- Disorder *suppresses* the entanglement growth

- Interacting case: *logarithmic* growth in the localized (MBL) regime

Znidaric, et al. PRB '08; Bardarson et al., PRL '12; Serbyn et al., PRL '13



Nature of MBL (many-body localization)

Gornyi et al., PRL '05; Basko et al., AP '06

- LIOM: quasi-local integrals of motion

$$H = \sum_i h_i \tau_i^z + \sum_{i,j} J_{ij} \tau_i^z \tau_j^z + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i,j,\{k\}} K_{i\{k\}j}^{(n)} \tau_i^z \tau_{k_1}^z \cdots \tau_{k_n}^z \tau_j^z,$$

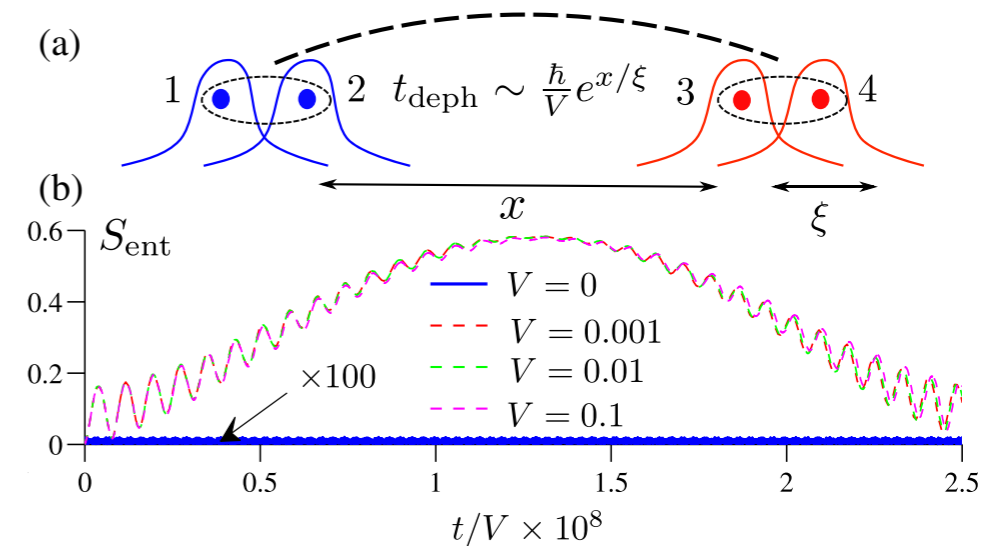
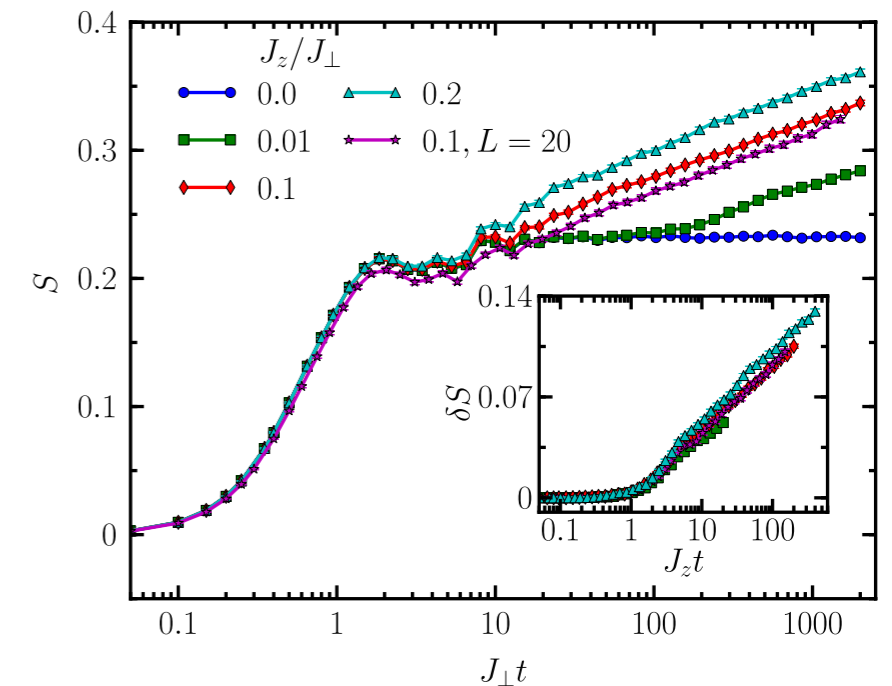
Bardarson et al.,
PRL '12

Ros & Mueller, NPB '12; Serbyn, et al, PRL, '13; Huse et al., PRB '14; Imbrie et al., AdP '17

- Logarithmic growth of the entanglement entropy in the MBL phase:

- dephasing
- manifestation of the many-body nature

Znidaric, et al. PRB '08; Bardarson et al., PRL '12;
Serbyn et al., PRL '13



Serbyn et al., PRL '13

The entanglement dynamics:

(non-Hermitian case, $g=0.5$)

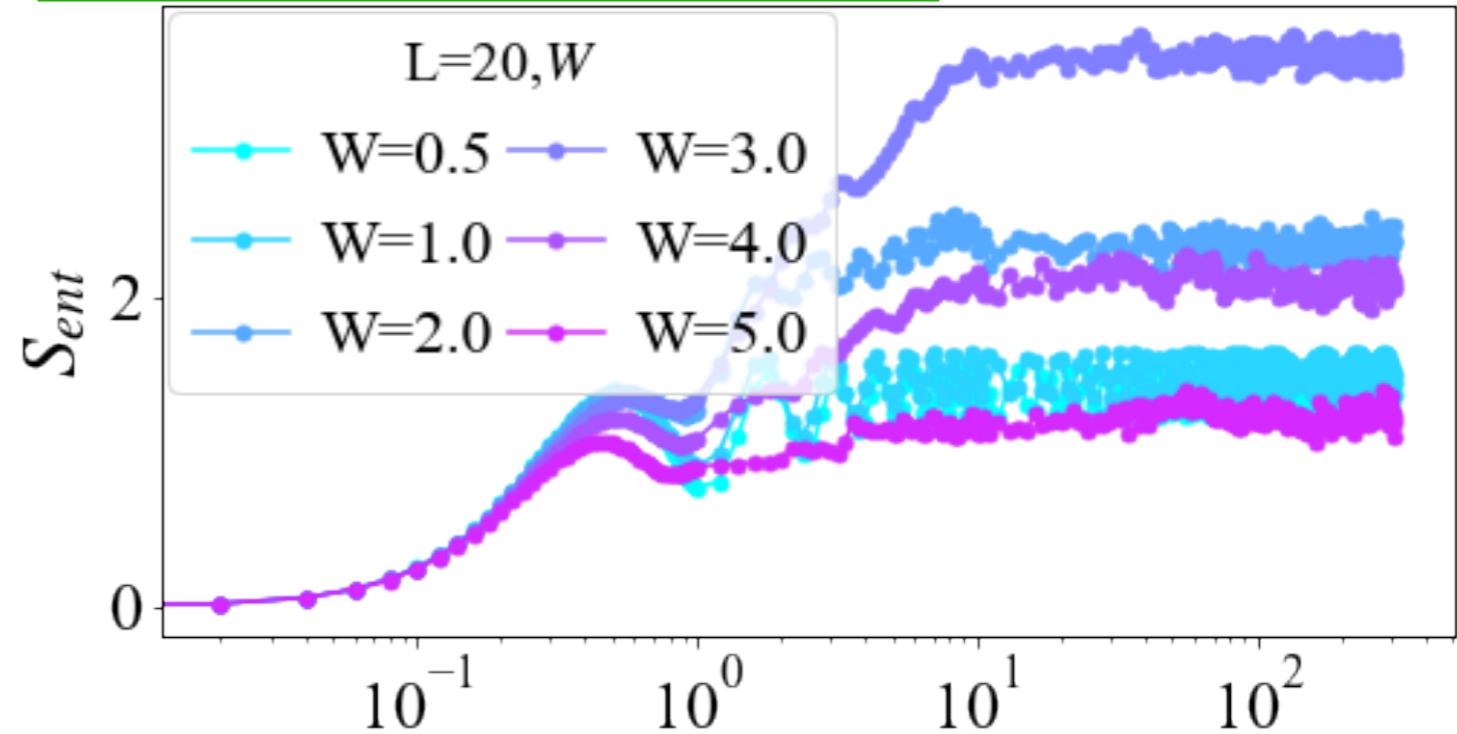
Non-interacting case: $V=0$

Two very characteristic features!

1) As opposed to the Hermitian case

disorder enhances the entanglement growth

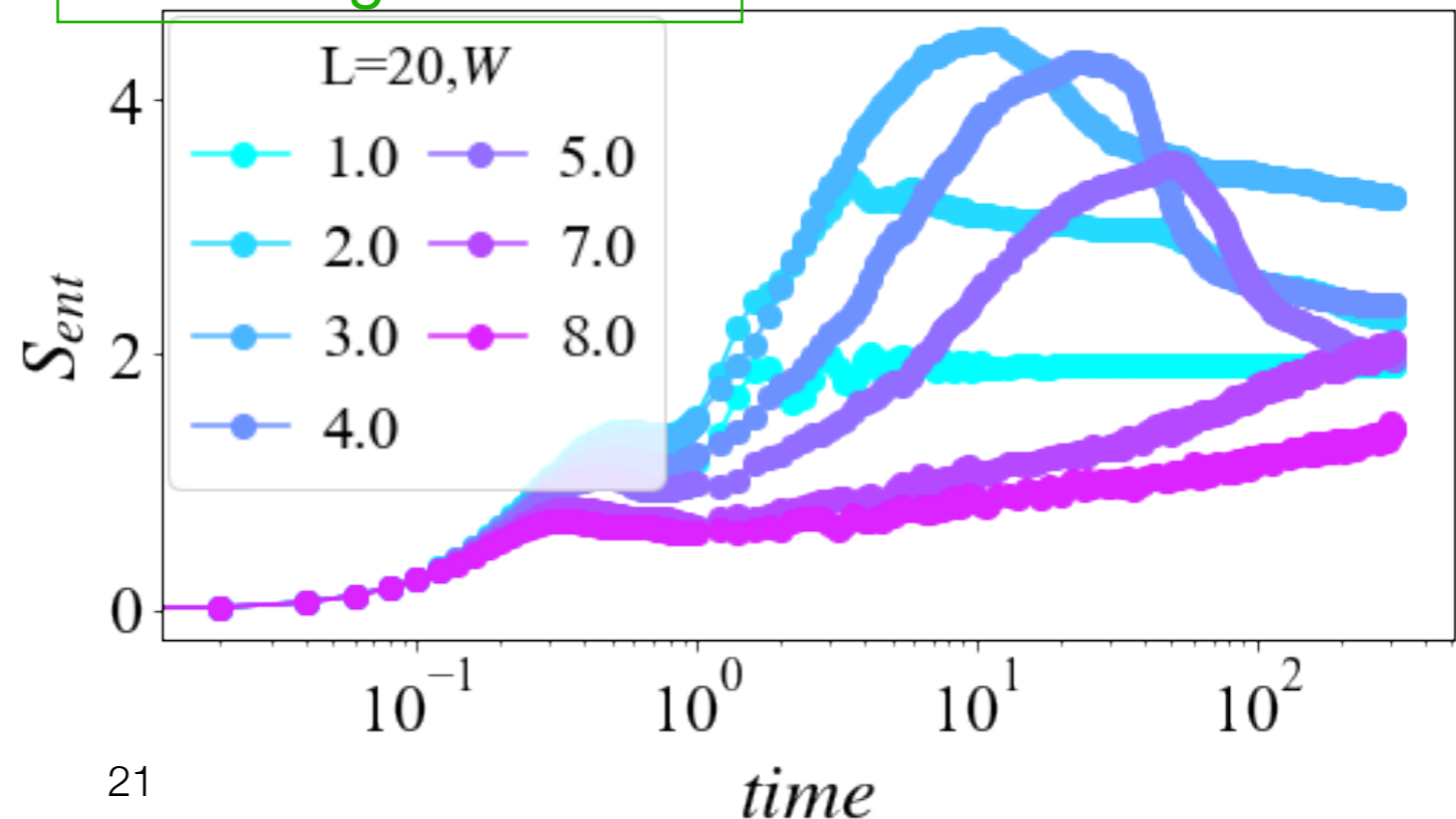
in the delocalized regime (small $W < W_c$), then it suppresses the entanglement entropy ($W > W_c$)



Interacting case: $V=2$

2) Non-monotonic time evolution of the entanglement entropy in the regime of intermediate disorder

interacting case
 $V \neq 0$



Nature of the non-monotonic time evolution:

Hamiltonian: non-Hermitian
time evolution: non-unitary

collapse of the superposition *in the initial state in the course of non-unitary time evolution*

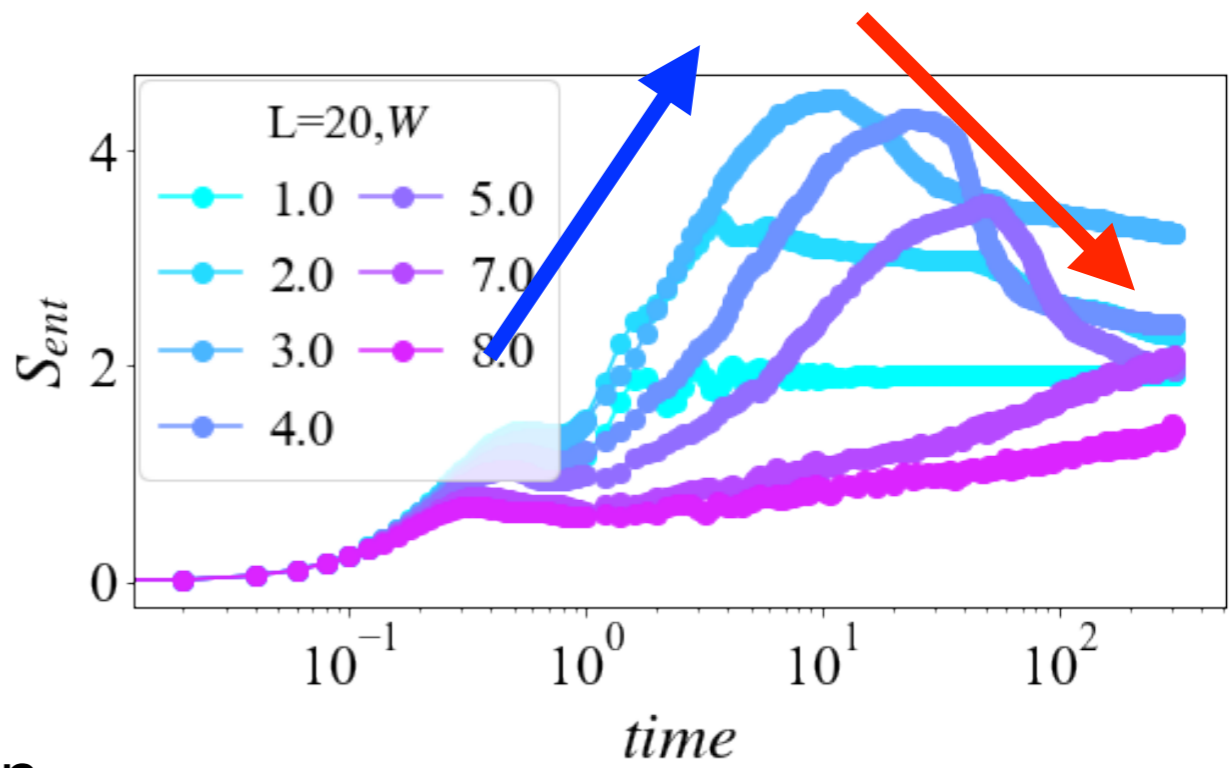
- in the expansion:

$$|\Psi(t)\rangle = \sum_{\alpha} c_{\alpha}(t) |\alpha\rangle, \quad \text{eigenstates}$$

$$c_{\alpha}(t) = c_{\alpha}(0) e^{-iE_{\alpha}t} \quad \text{complex: } \text{Im } E_{\alpha} \neq 0$$

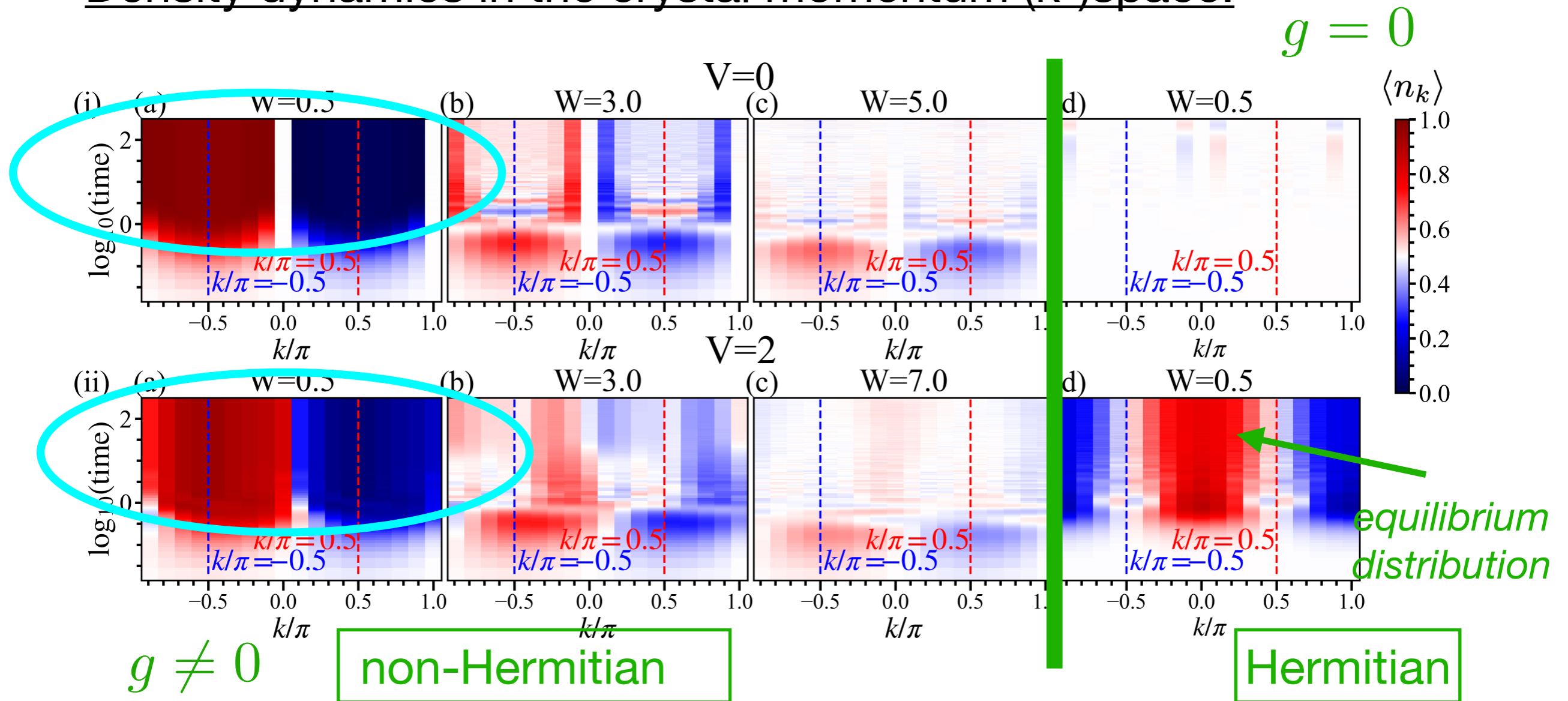
If $\text{Im}(E_{\alpha_1}) > \text{Im}(E_{\alpha_2}) > \dots$
 $|c_{\alpha_1}(t)|^2 \gg |c_{\alpha_2}(t)|^2 \gg \dots$

→ collapse of the superposition, evolution to a single eigenstate: $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} |\tilde{\Psi}(t)\rangle \sim |\alpha_1\rangle$



Competition between
spreading of the density/information vs. collapse of the superposition
 → non-monotonic time evolution of entanglement entropy

Density dynamics in the crystal momentum (k-)space:

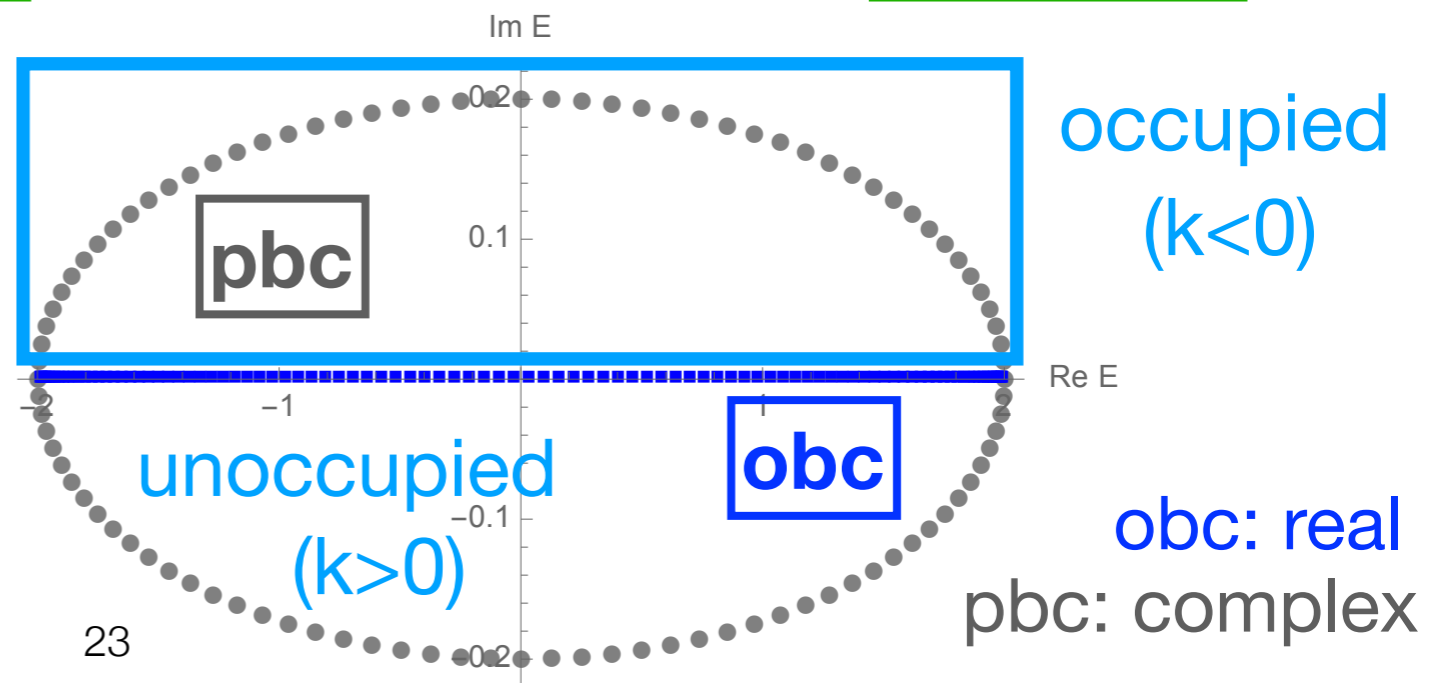


Recall the (one-body) spectrum:

$$\epsilon_k = -2\Gamma_0 \cos(k - ig),$$

$$\left(\frac{\text{Re } \epsilon_k}{\Gamma_0 \cosh g} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\text{Im } \epsilon_k}{\Gamma_0 \sinh g} \right)^2 = 1.$$

(periodic boundary condition)



Logarithmic scaling of the entanglement entropy

in the asymptotic regime

- in the asymptotic regime: $t \rightarrow \infty$

$$|\Psi(t \rightarrow \infty)\rangle \sim e^{-iE_{\alpha_0}t} \left(\prod_{k<0} c_k^\dagger \right) |0\rangle \equiv e^{-iE_{\alpha_0}t} |\alpha_0\rangle$$

(non-interacting case,
clean limit: $V=0, W=0$)

Analogy with the Fermi-sea ground state:

$$|\Psi_G\rangle = \left(\prod_{k \text{ s.t. } |k| < k_F} c_k^\dagger \right) |0\rangle$$

$$\rho_G(k) = \theta(\epsilon_F - \epsilon_k) = \begin{cases} 1 & (\text{for } \epsilon_k - \epsilon_F) \\ 0 & (\text{for } \epsilon_k - \epsilon_F) \end{cases}$$

→ *Logarithmic scaling of the entanglement entropy*

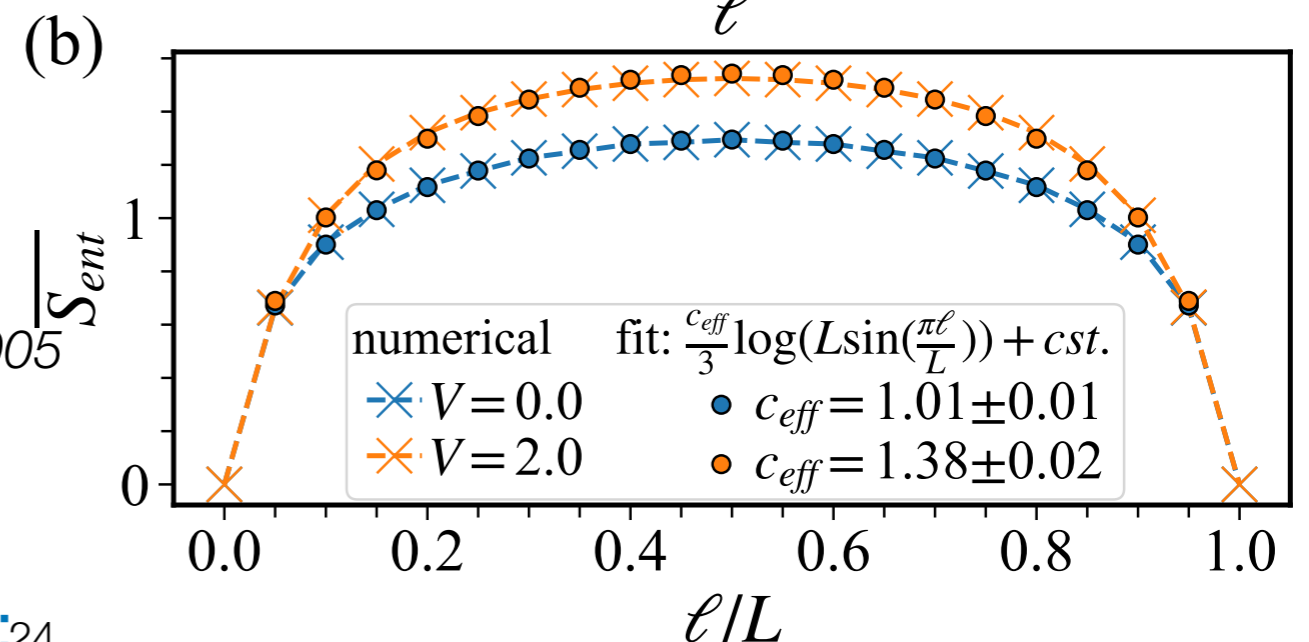
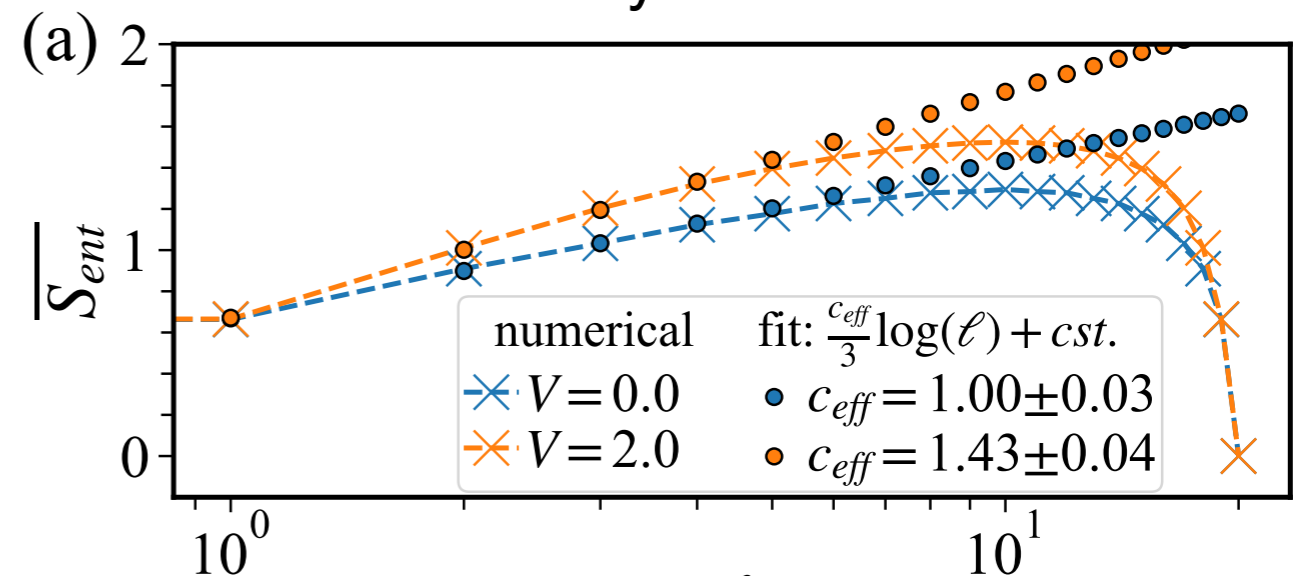
$$S = \frac{c}{3} \log x + cst.$$

cf. Carabrese & Cardy, 2005

$$S = \frac{1}{3} \log \left(\underline{2L \sin \frac{\pi x}{L}} \right) + cst.$$

chord distance: 24

ℓ : subsystem size



Conclusions

1) (Non-Hermitian) wave-packet dynamics

- robust uni-directional dynamics
- (Unlike in the Hermitian case) disorder *enhances* spreading of the wave packet

2) Entanglement dynamics

- Non-monotonic time evolution of entanglement entropy

spreading of information vs. collapse of the superposition

evolution to a single eigenstate with maximal $\text{Im } E$

quasiparticle picture

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} |\tilde{\Psi}(t)\rangle \sim |\alpha_1\rangle$$

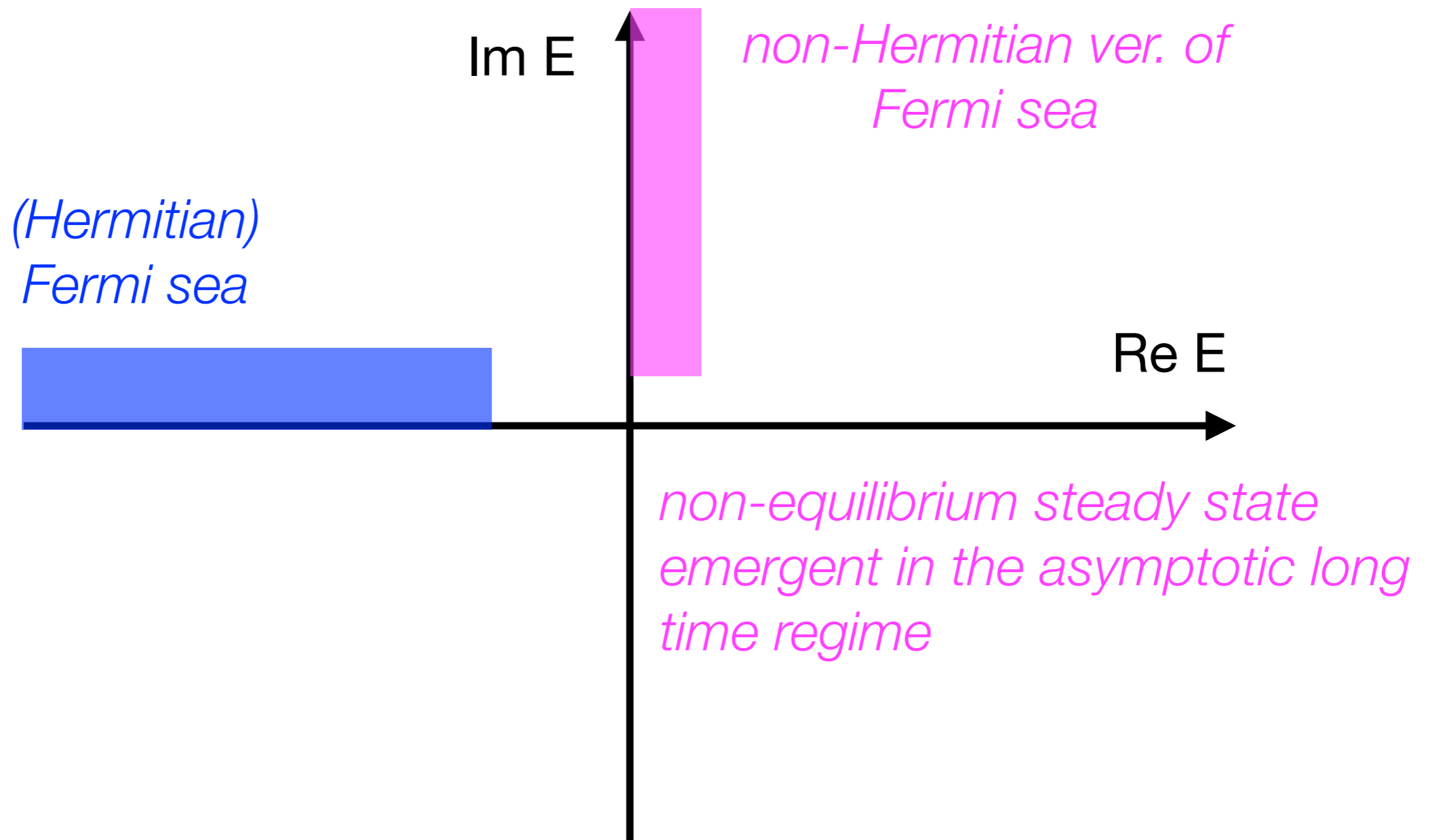
- *Logarithmic scaling* in the asymptotic regime: $t \rightarrow \infty$

↔ analogy with a Fermi sea (many-body) ground state

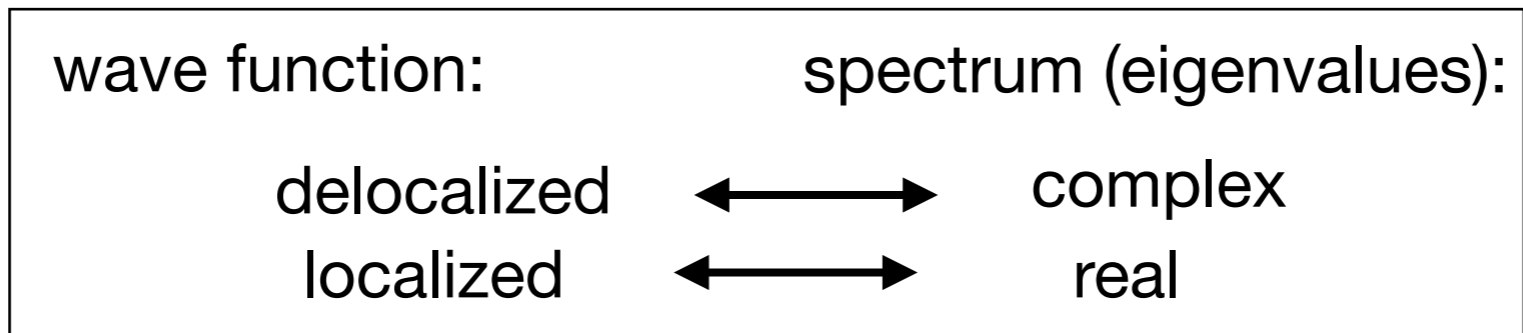
- (particle-hole/bosonic) excitations: conformal field theory at $c=1$
- interacting case: *effective central charge?*

Orito & Imura, Phys. Rev. B **108, 214308 (2023)**

Take-home message



Localization-delocalization transition in the Hatano-Nelson×Aubry-Andre model



*Hatano & Nelson,
PRL '96*

- Localization length in the Aubry-Andre model: $\xi^{-1} \simeq \log \frac{W}{2\Gamma}$

*in the Hermitian case: $\xi \rightarrow \infty$ at $W = W_c \longrightarrow \frac{W_c}{2\Gamma_0} = 1.$

- in the Non-Hermitian case:

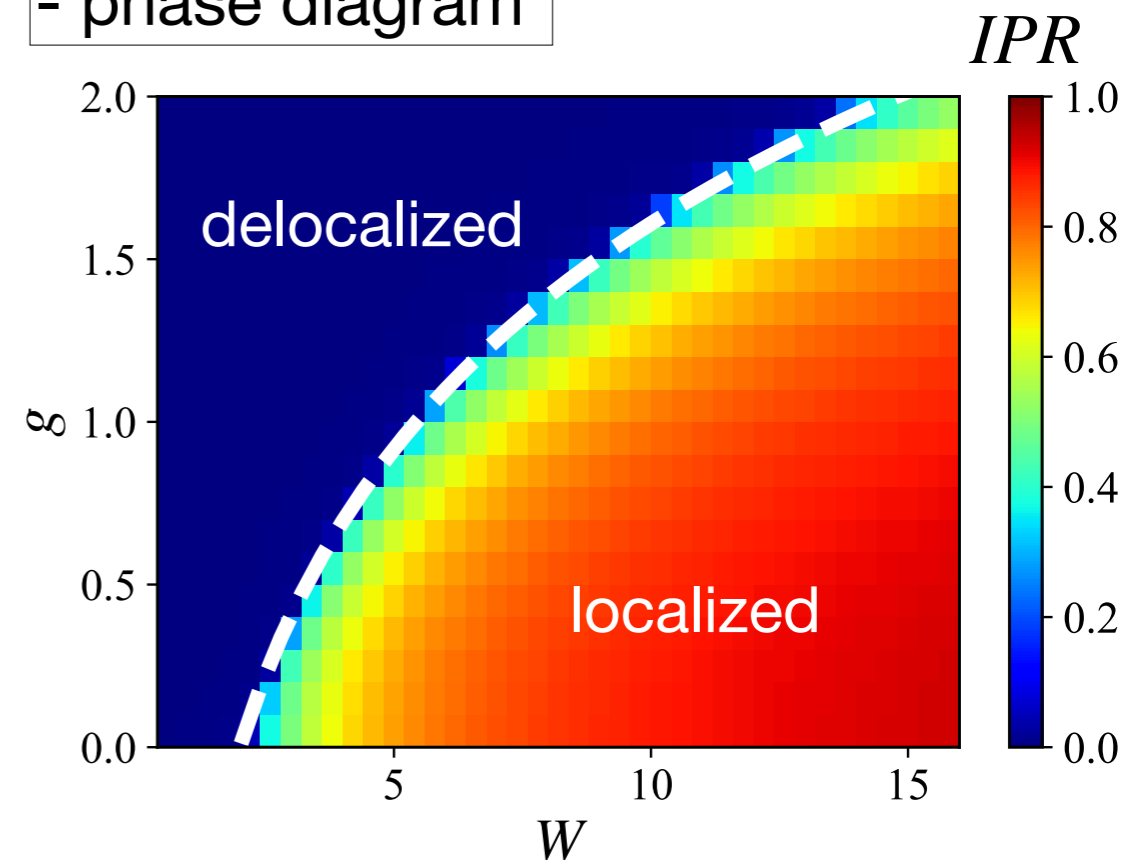
$$\psi^{L,R}(x) \sim \exp\left(-\frac{|x - x_c|}{\xi} \mp g(x - x_c)\right),$$

delocalization point: $\xi^{-1} = g > 0.$

→ $W = W_c = 2\Gamma_0 e^g = 2\Gamma_L$

$$g = \log \frac{W}{2}$$

- phase diagram



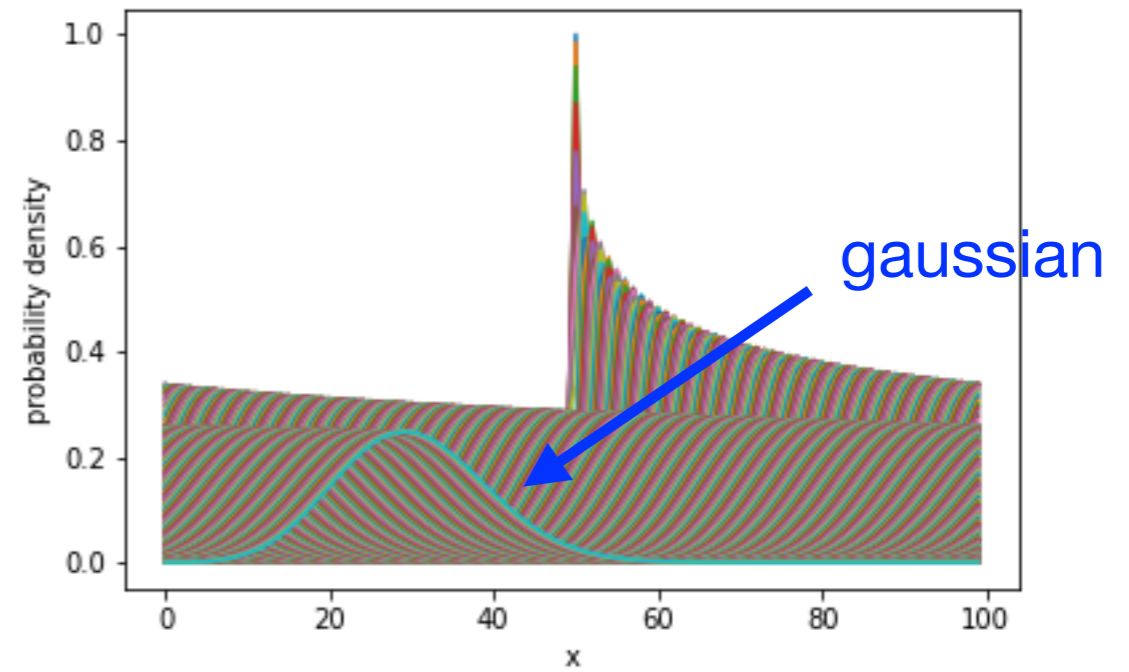
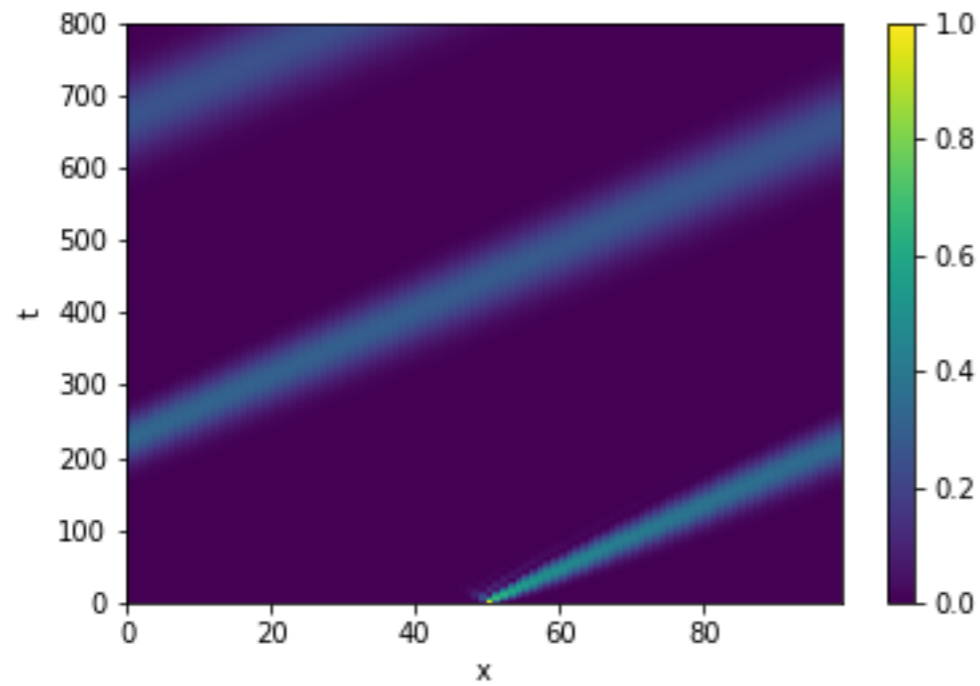
IPR: inverse participation ratio

Comparison of periodic vs. open boundary conditions

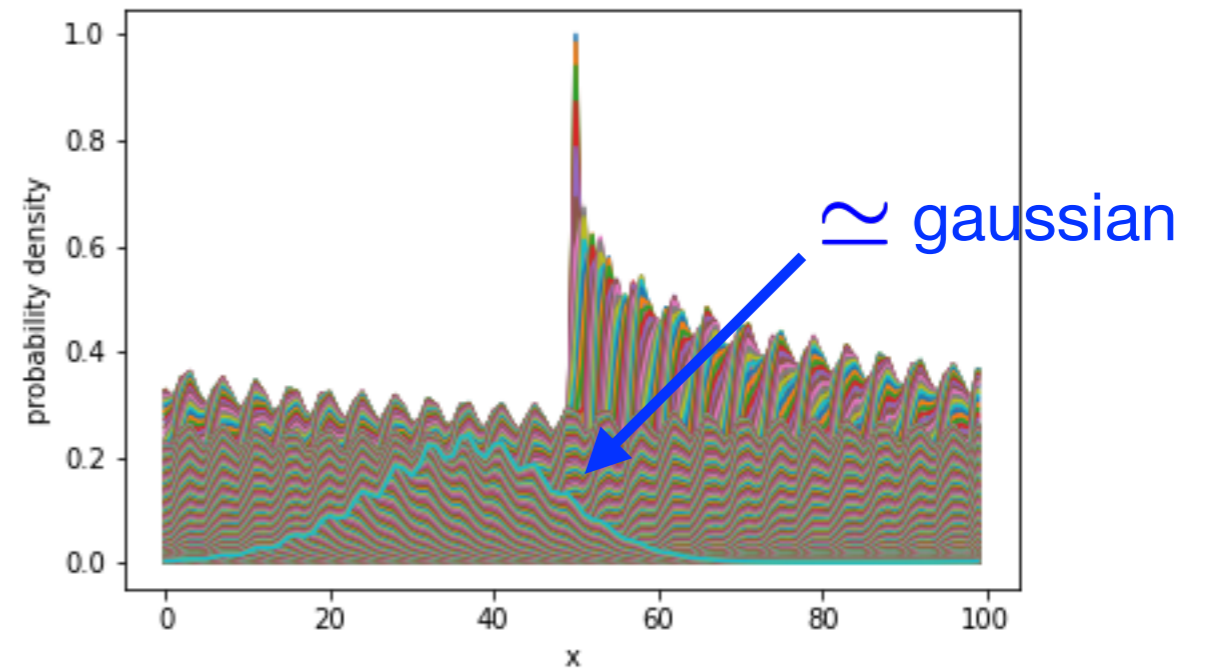
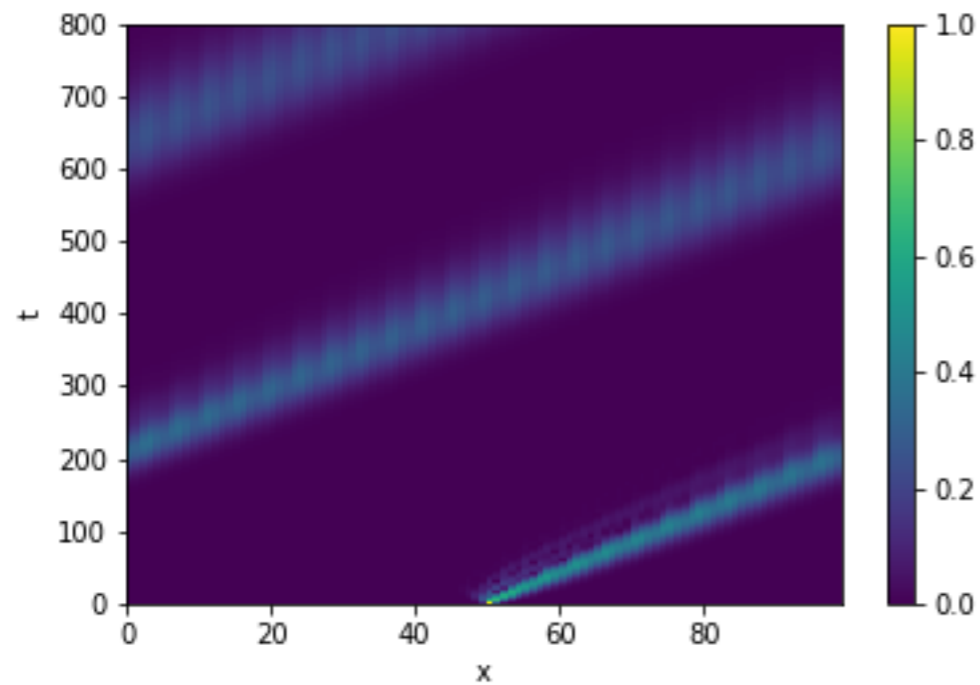
case of pbc:
the *periodic* boundary conditions

Simulation of the wave-packet dynamics:
(b) non-Hermitian case

- clean limit: $W=0$



- case of weak disorder: $W=1.0$

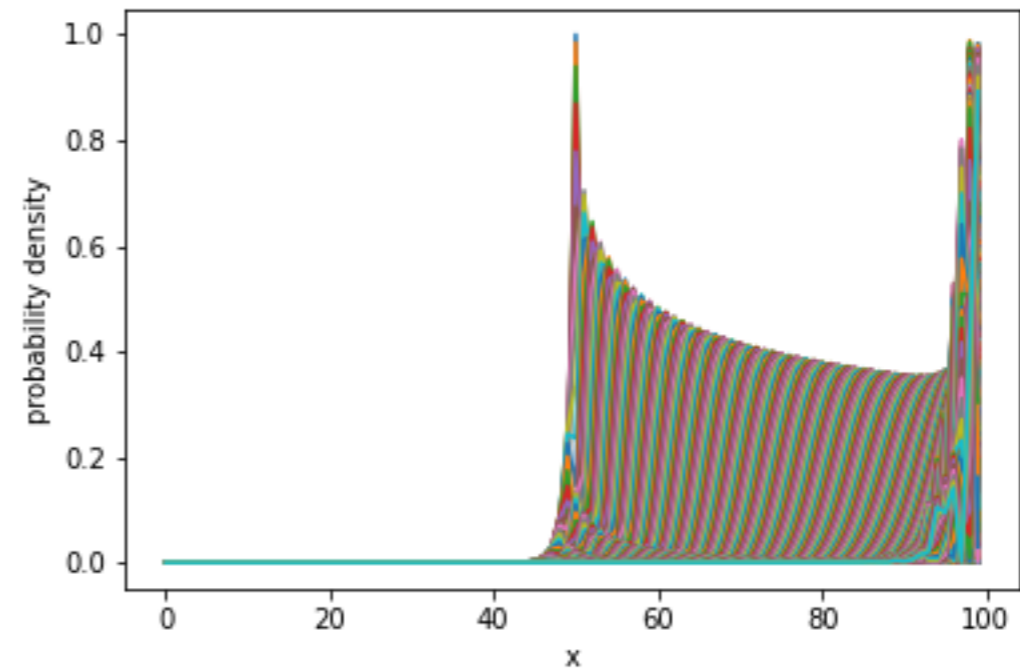
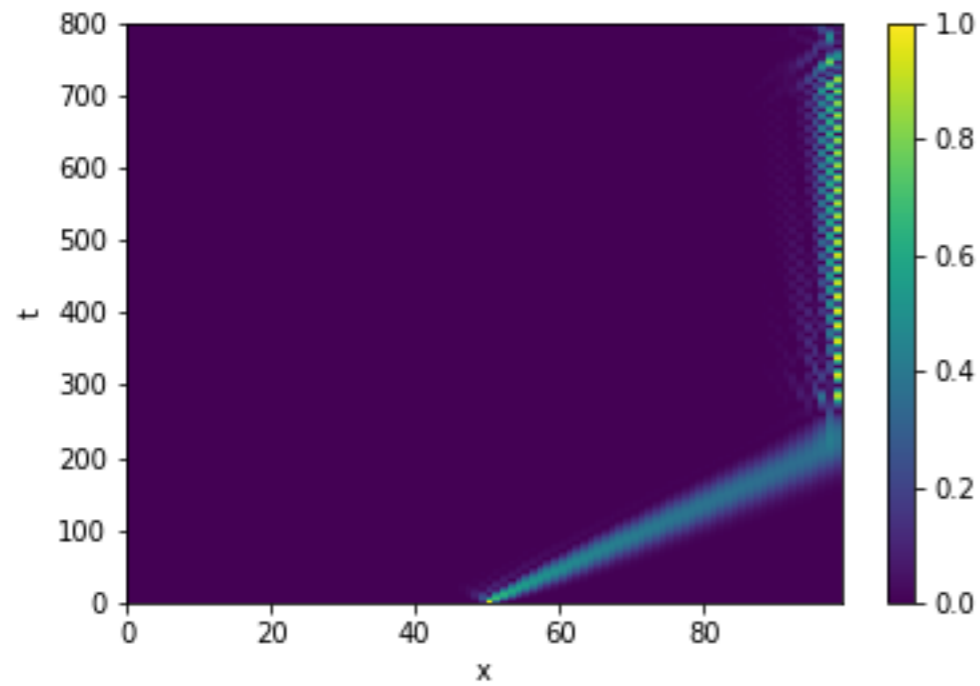


Comparison of periodic vs. open boundary conditions

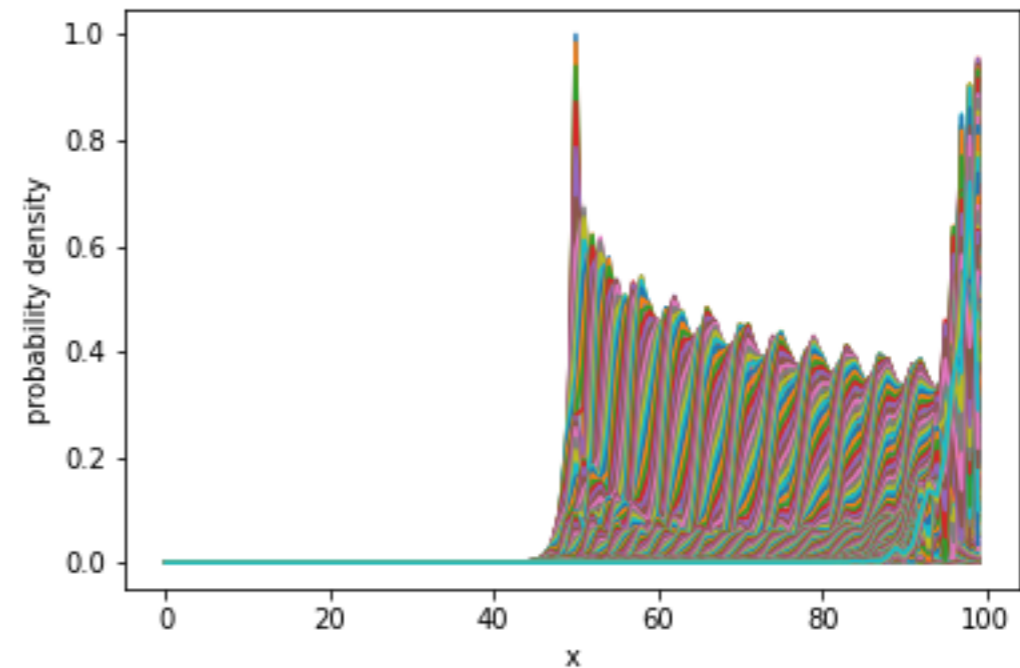
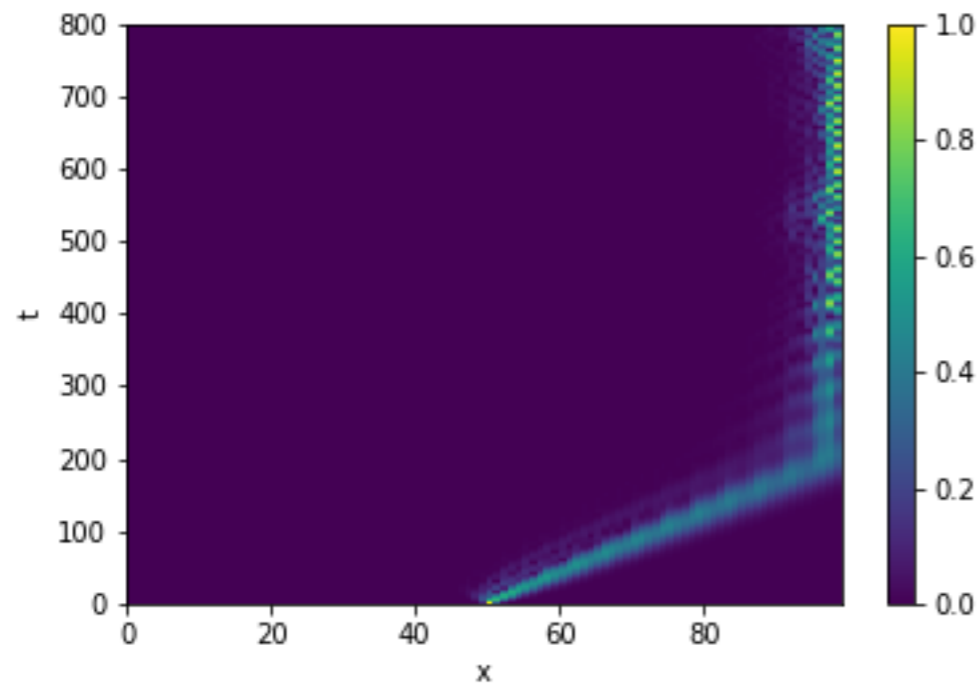
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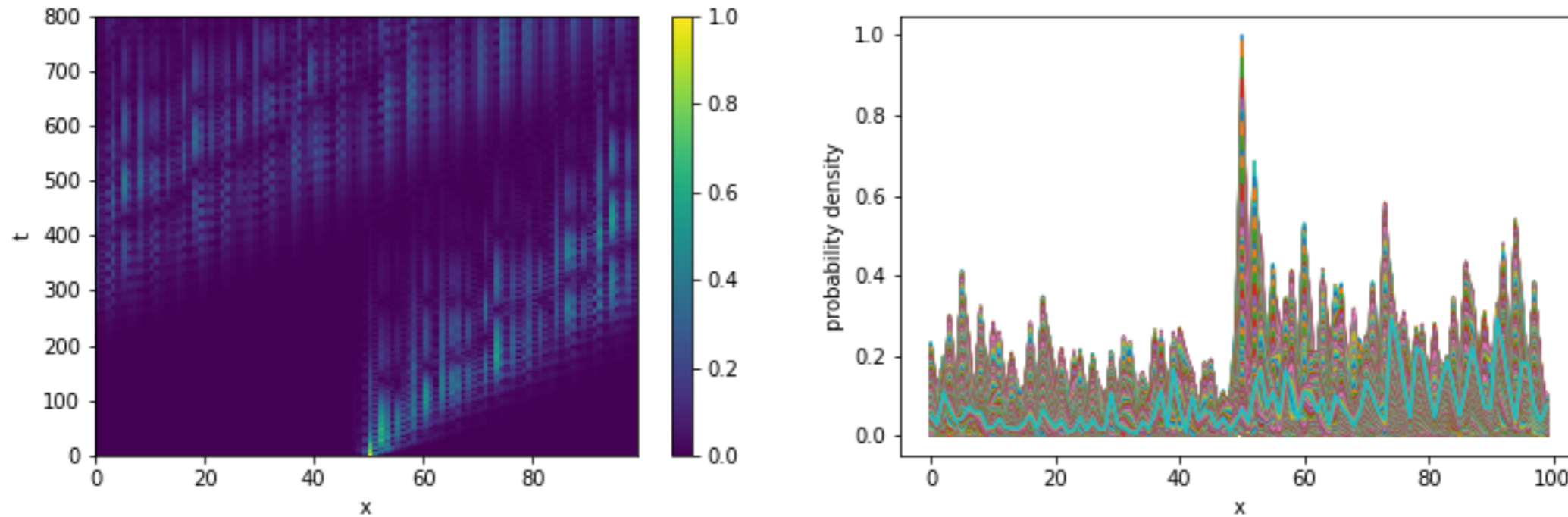
Simulation of the wave-packet dynamics:

pbcc vs. obc
(continued)

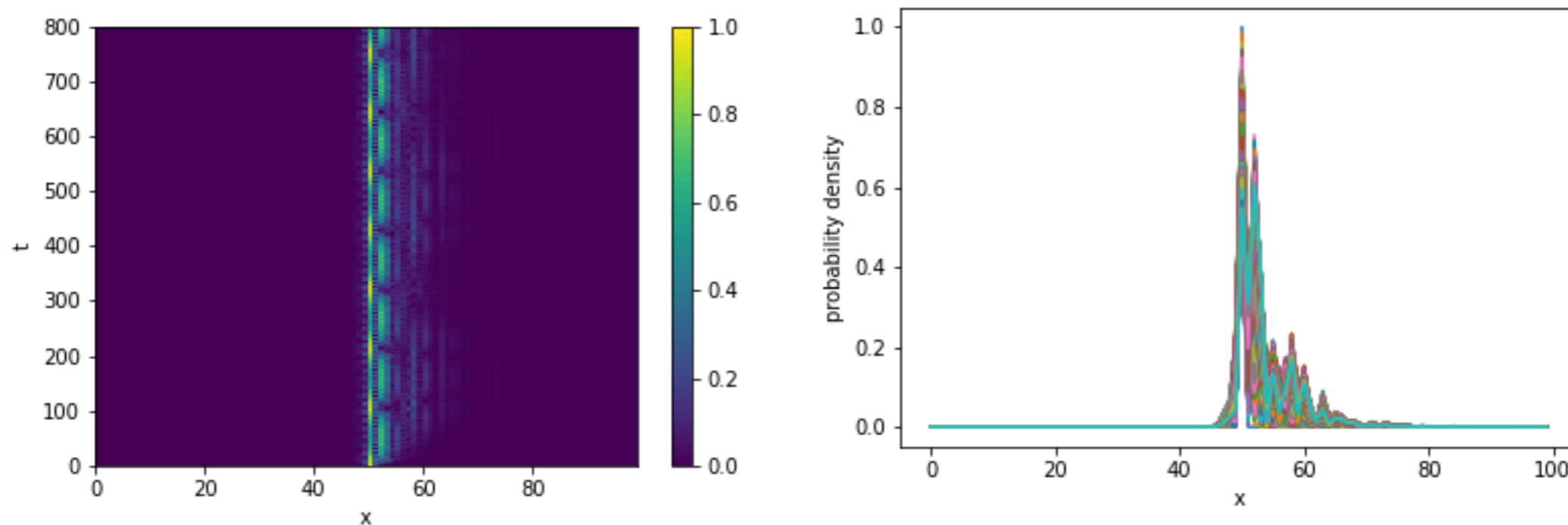
case of pbcc:
the *periodic* boundary conditions

(b) non-Hermitian case

- Case of stronger disorder: $W=3.0$ (still in the extended phase)



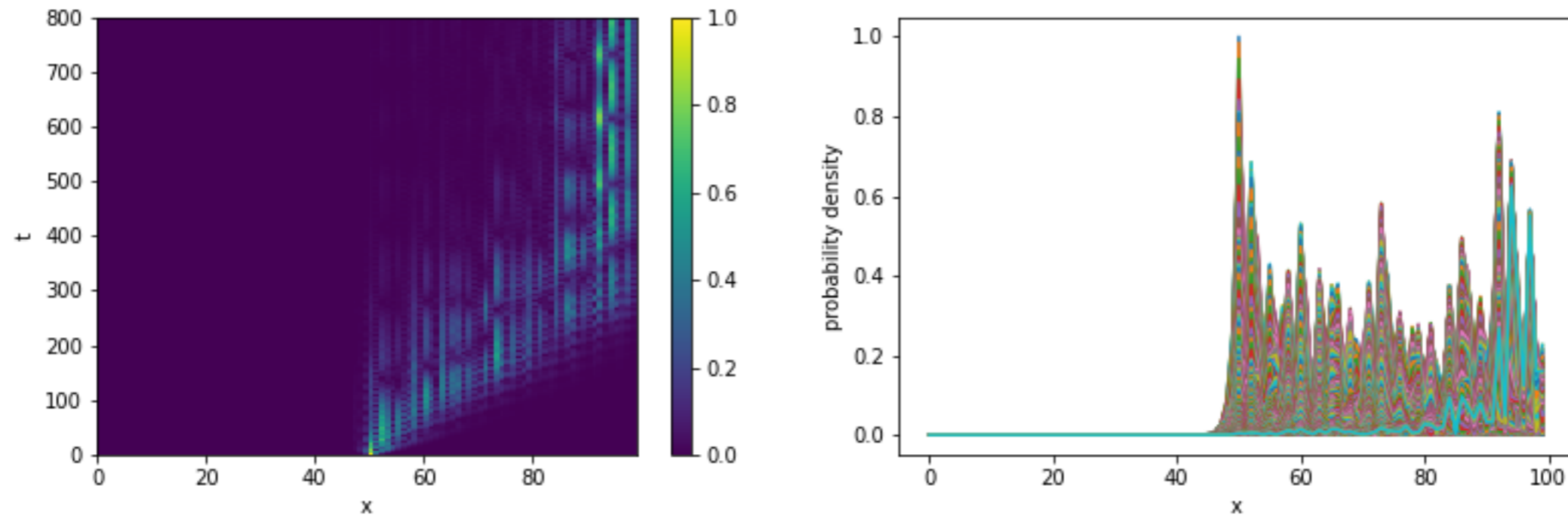
- Case of even stronger disorder: $W=4.0$ (localized phase)



pbcc vs. obc
(continued)

case of obc:
the *open* boundary conditions

- Case of stronger disorder: $W=3.0$ (still in the extended phase)



- Case of even stronger disorder: $W=4.0$ (localized phase)

