



UNIVERSITÉ  
DE GENÈVE

# Quantum transport in many-body localized systems

Phys. Rev. B 94, 201112(R) (2016)

*Michele Filippone*

*Dahlem Center for Complex Quantum Systems*

Freie Universität



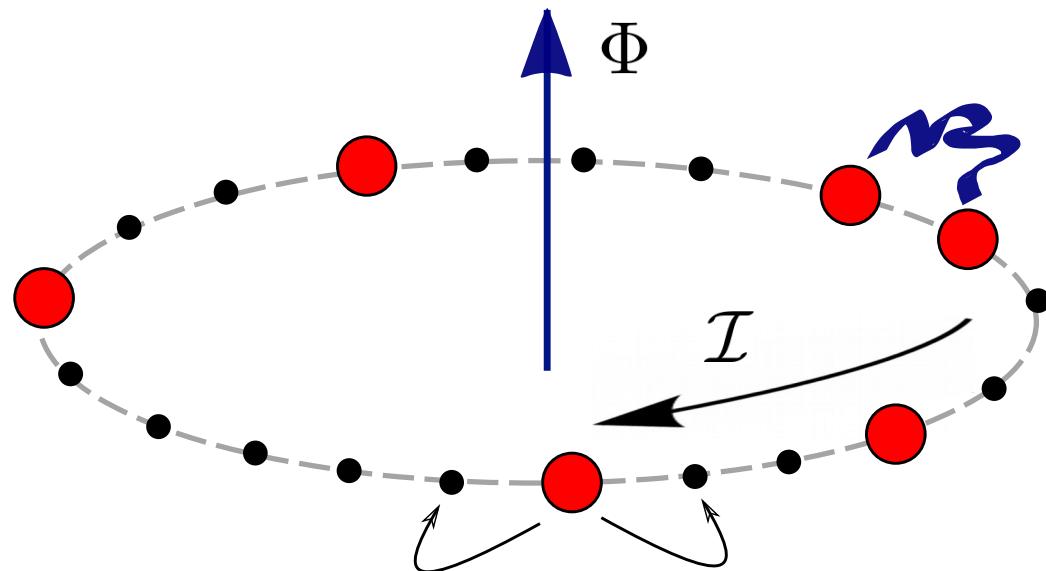
Berlin



Alexander von Humboldt  
Stiftung / Foundation

# Message

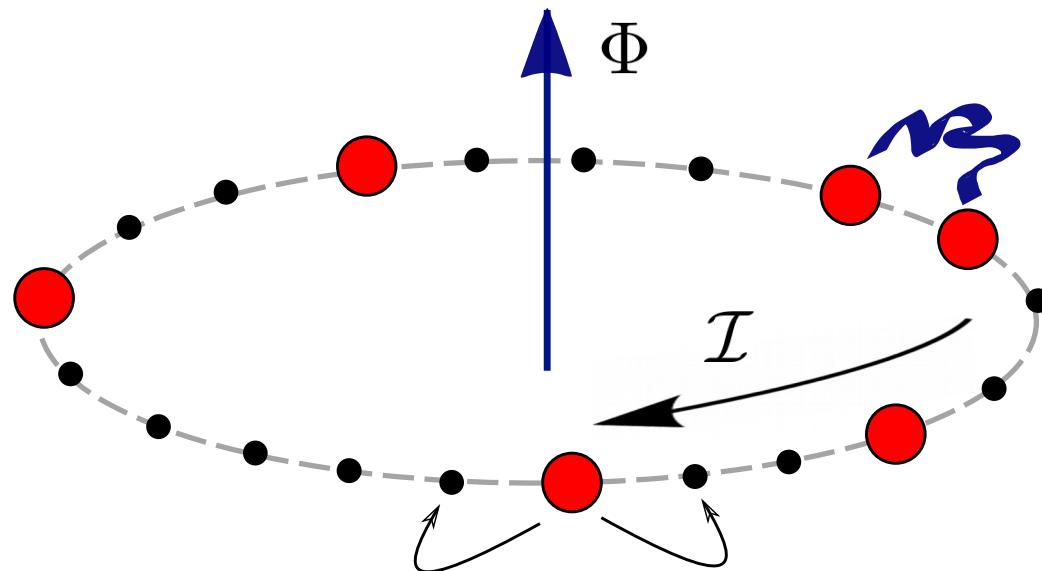
*Persistent currents are induced by a magnetic flux  $\Phi$  in metallic rings ...*



# Message

*Persistent currents are induced by a magnetic flux  $\Phi$  in metallic rings ...*

*... and they actually are a spectral property*

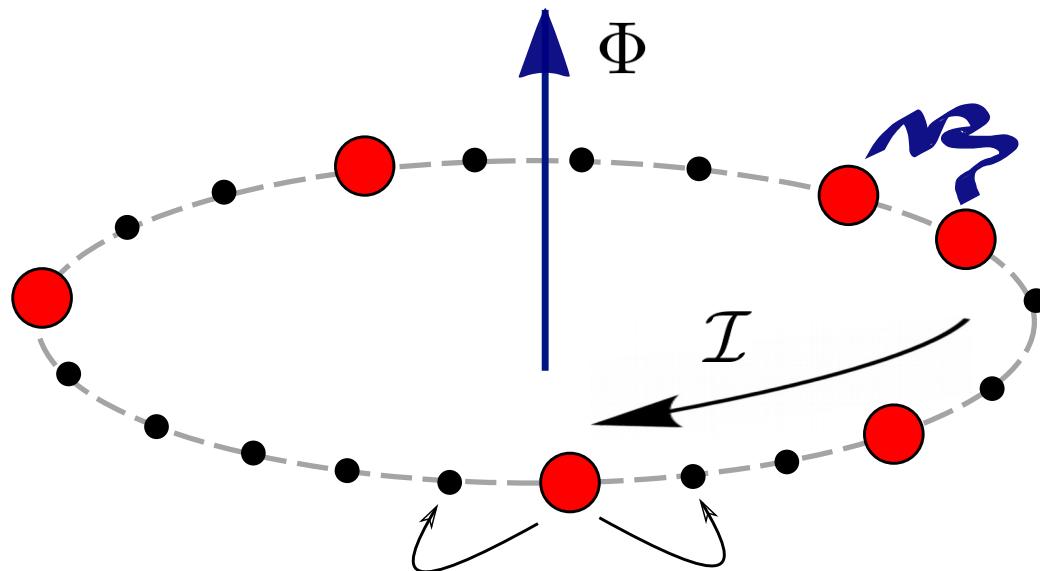


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**DRUDE WEIGHT DISTRIBUTION :**

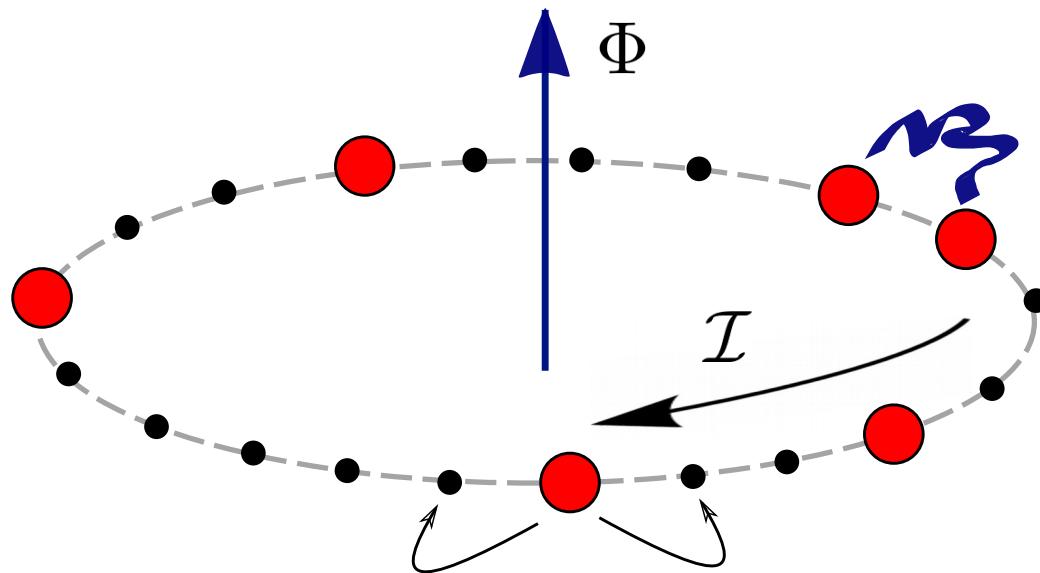
*a*

*probe of Many-body localization  
based on transport properties*

$$\mathcal{D}_n = \frac{L}{2} \left. \frac{\partial^2 E_n}{\partial \Phi^2} \right|_{\phi=0}$$

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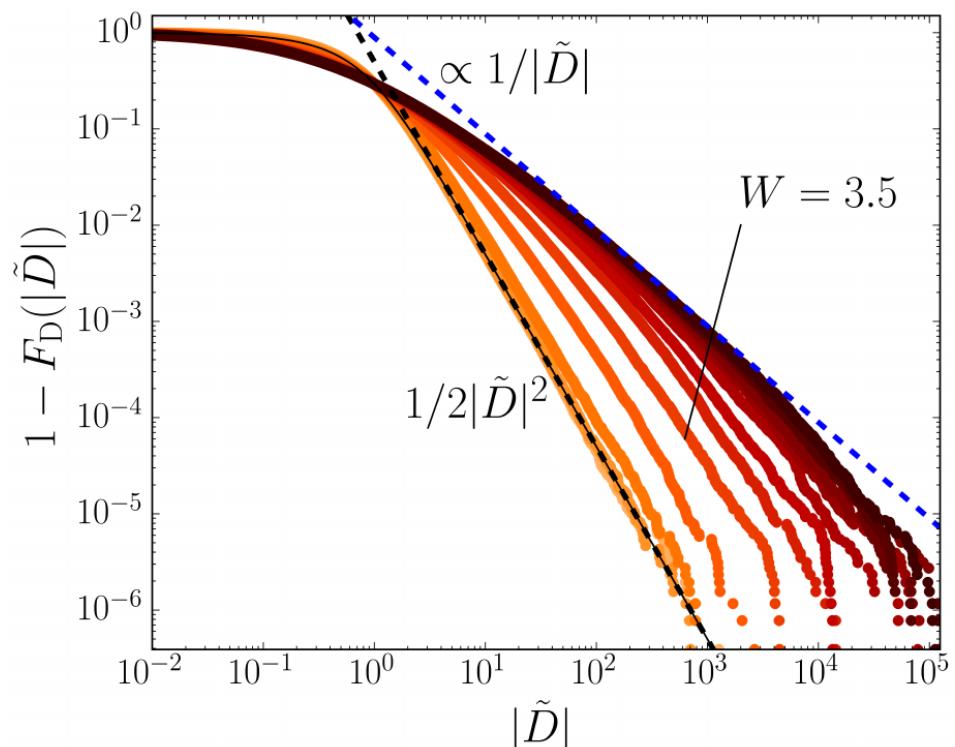


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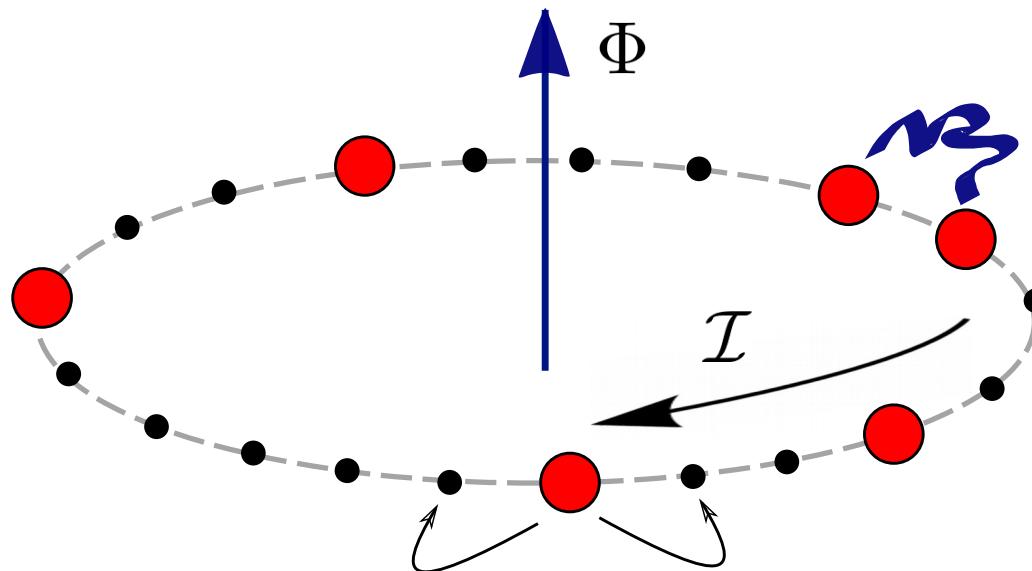
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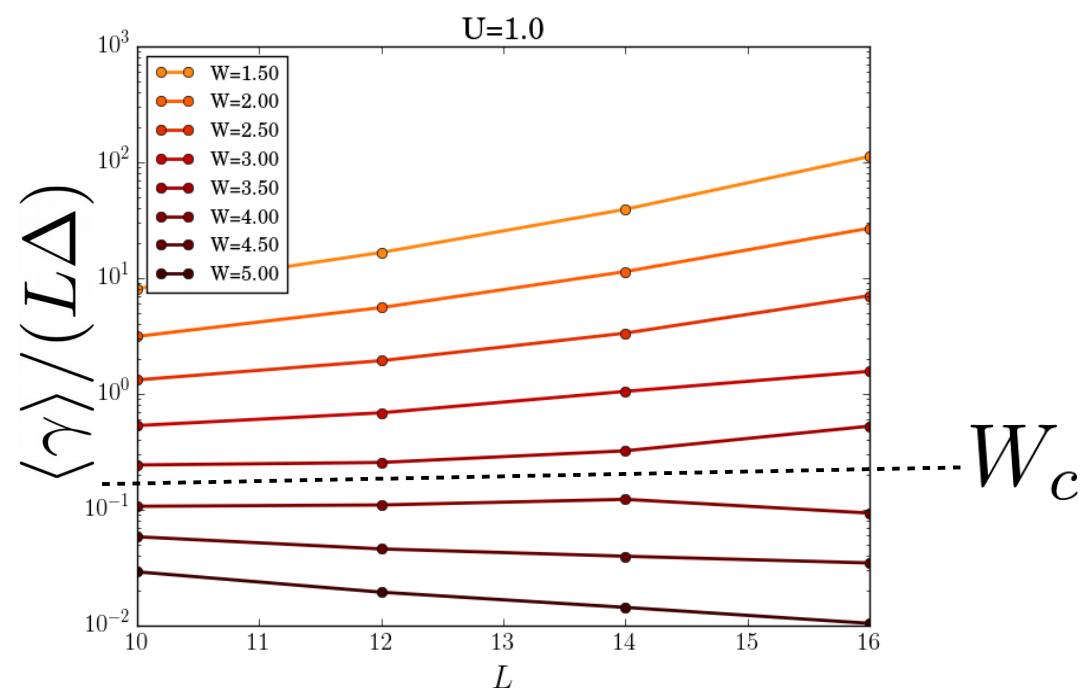


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*Felix von Oppen*



**Jens Eisert**



**Alexander von Humboldt**  
Stiftung/Foundation



**Piet Brouwer**



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# Anderson Localization

*Disorder potential*



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*Exponential suppression of the transmission probability*

$$T(\varepsilon) \rightarrow 0$$

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*Quantum interference leads to particle localization...*

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*Landauer Formula :*

$$G = \frac{e^2}{h} T$$

# Anderson Localization

*Disorder potential*



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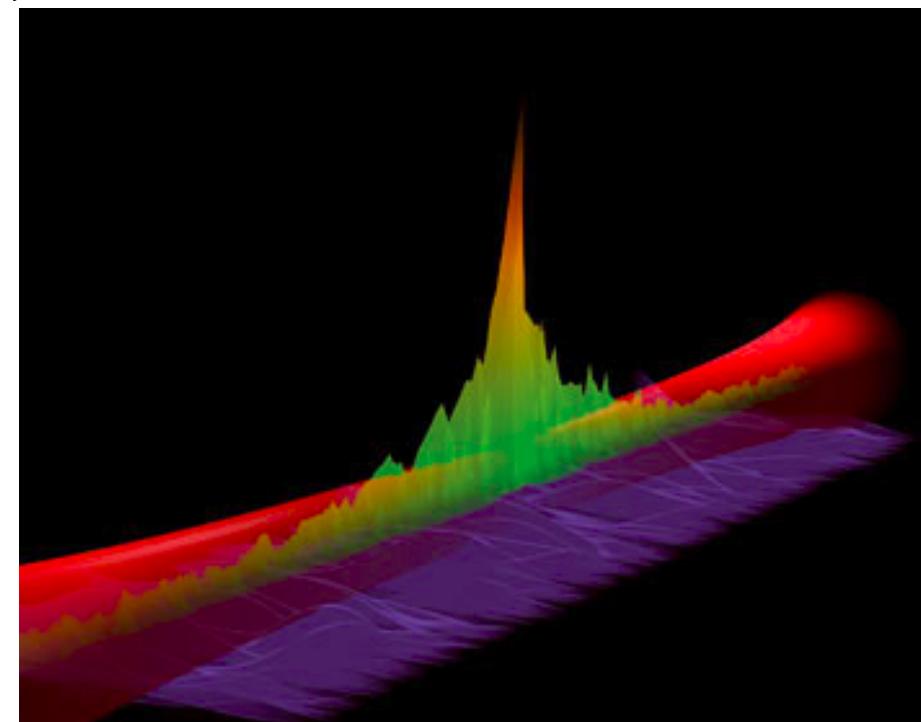
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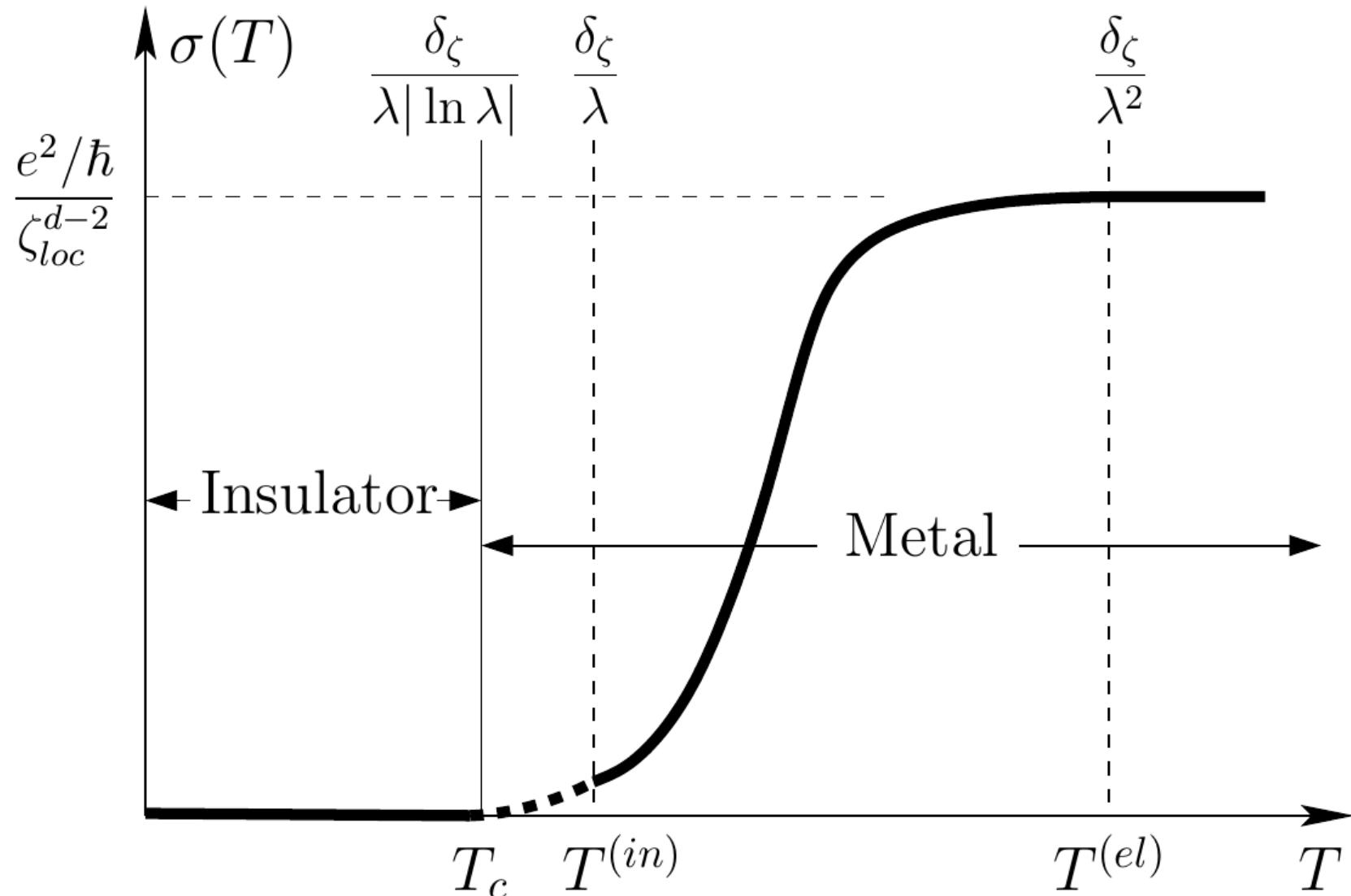
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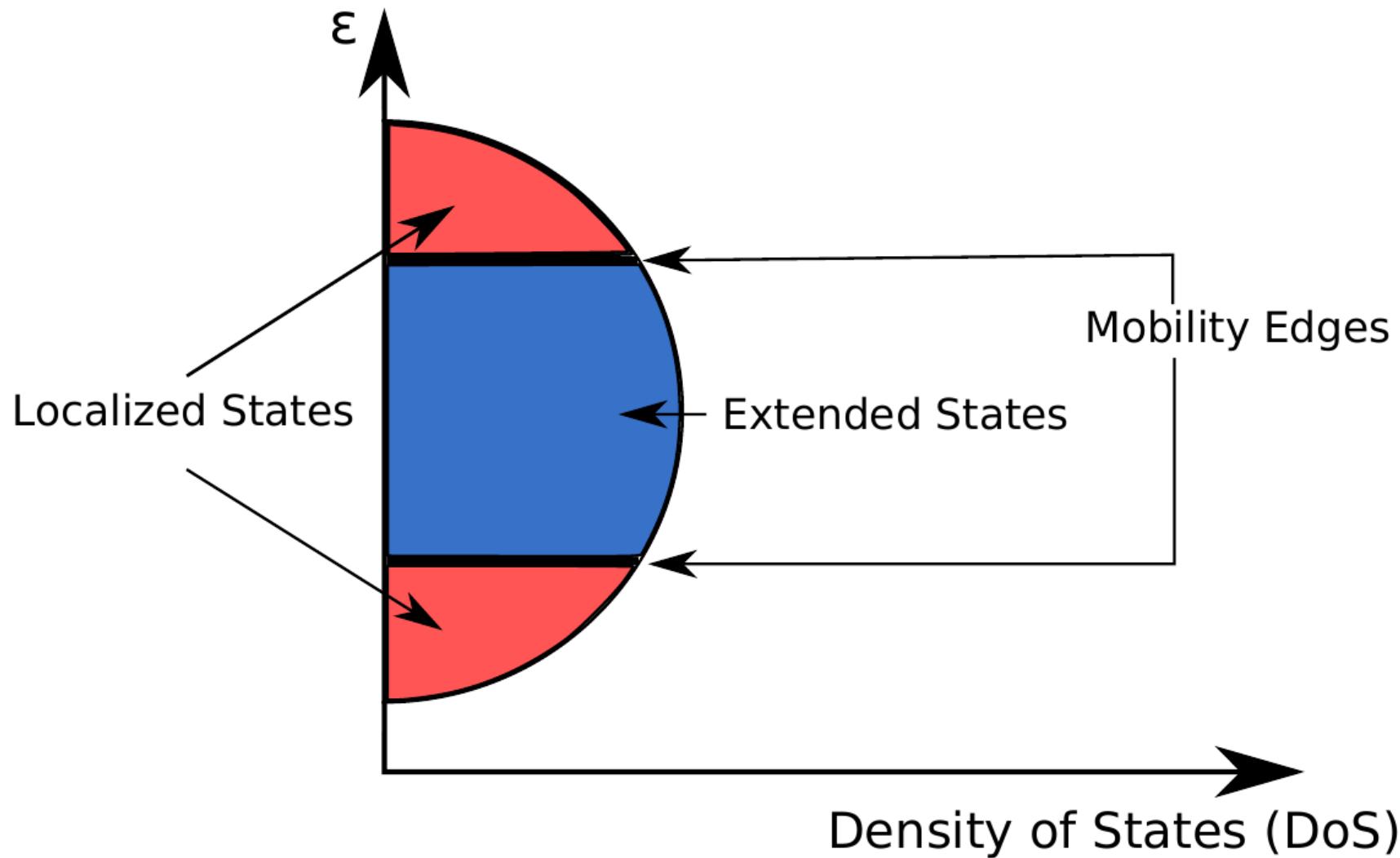
J.Billy et al., 'Direct observation of Anderson localization of matter waves in a controlled disorder', *Nature* **453**, 891 (2008)

# Many-Body Localization

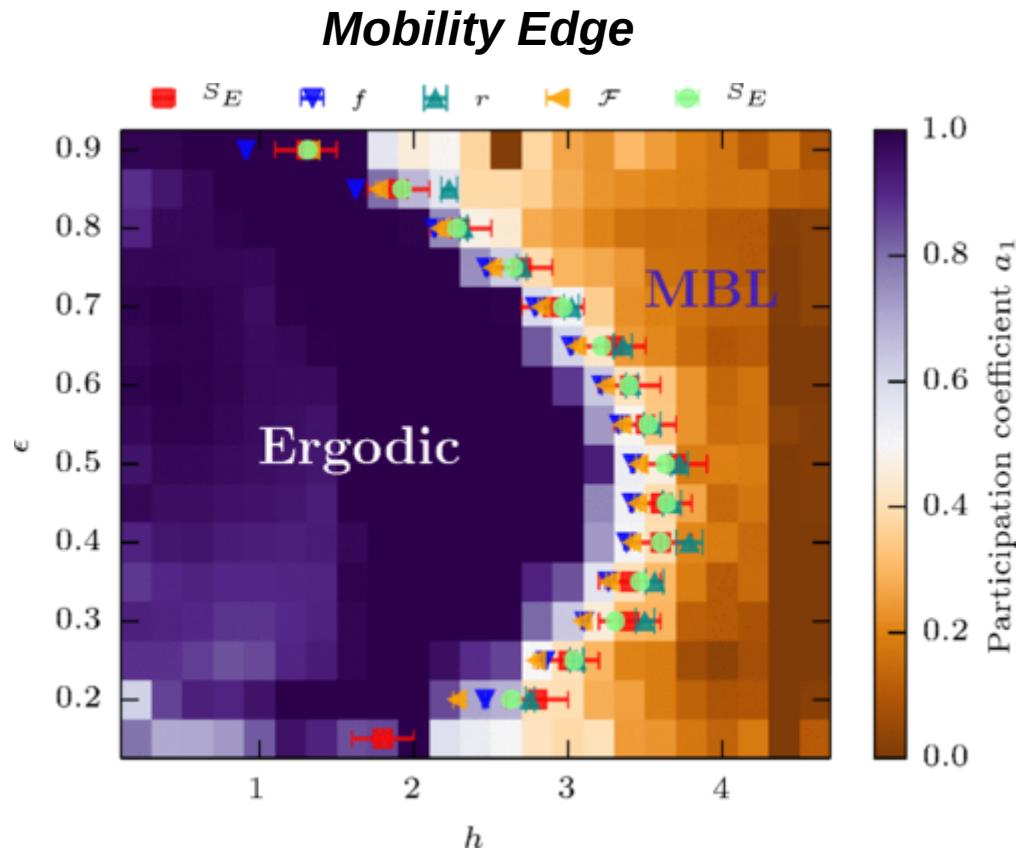


D. Basko, I. Aleiner, and B. Altshuler, *Annals of physics* 321, 1126 (2006)  
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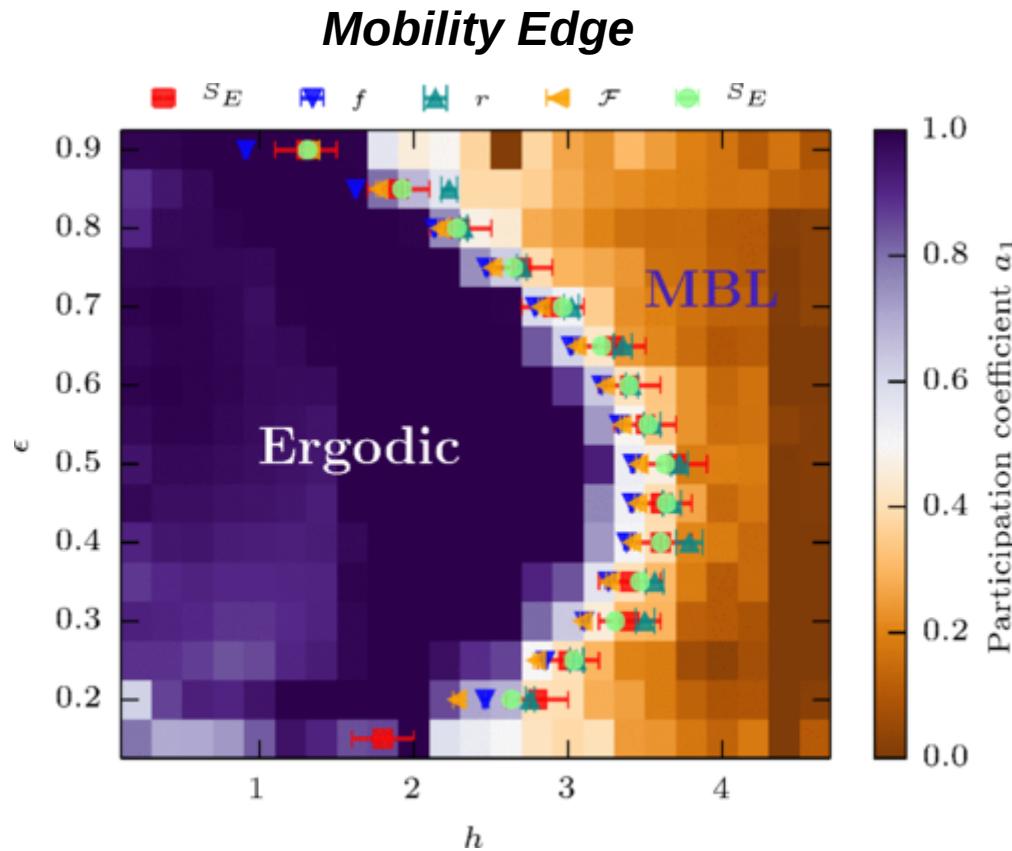
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**Phys. Rev. B** **91**, 081103(R) (2015)

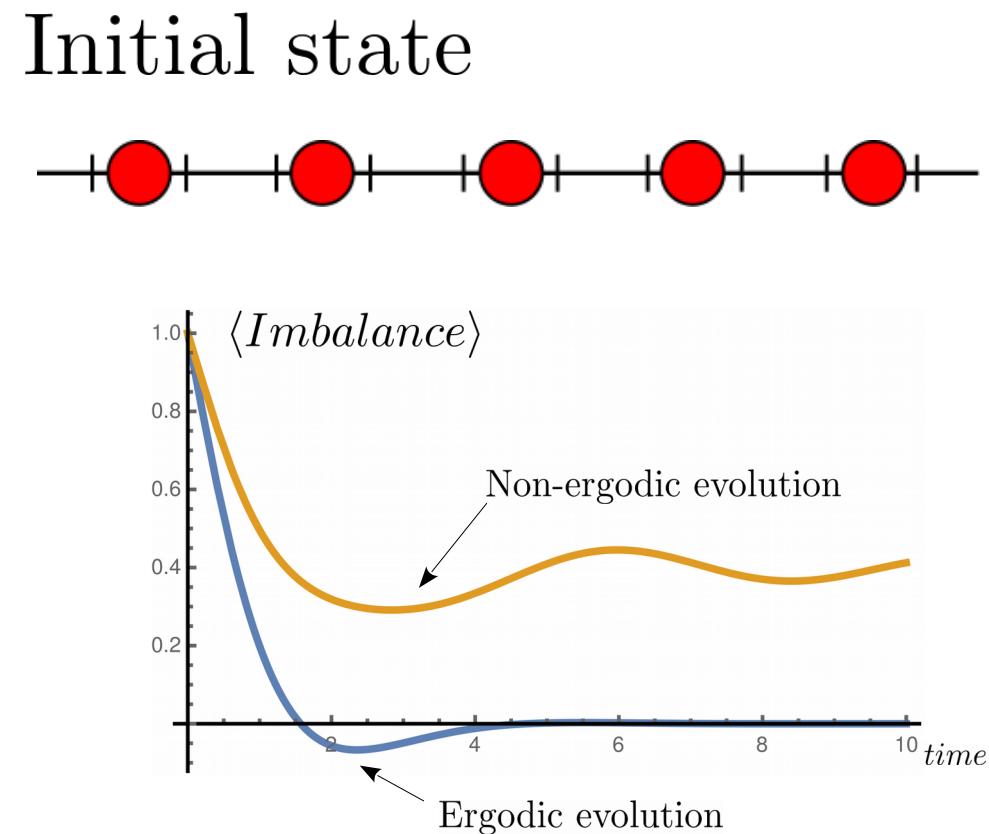
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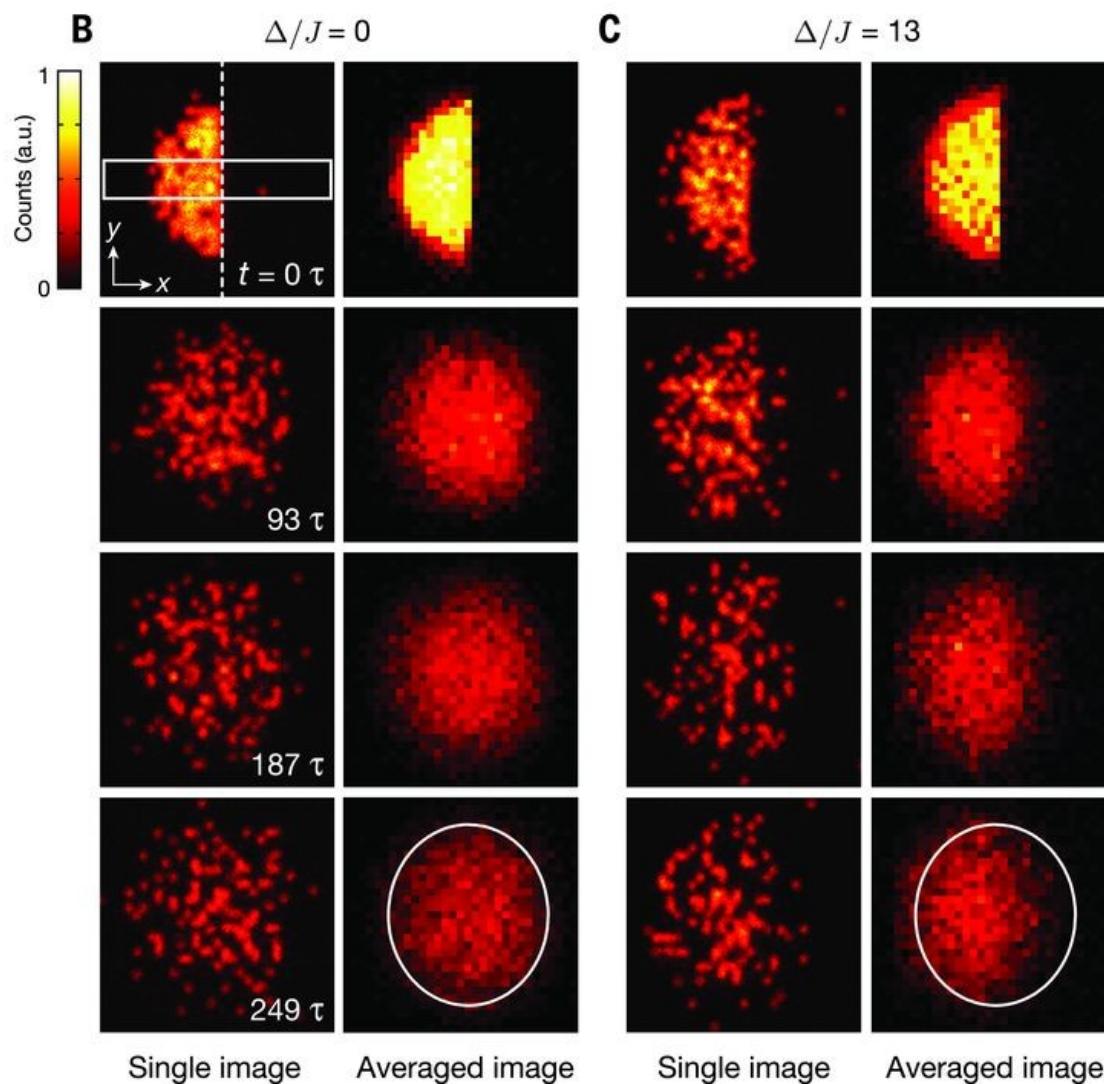
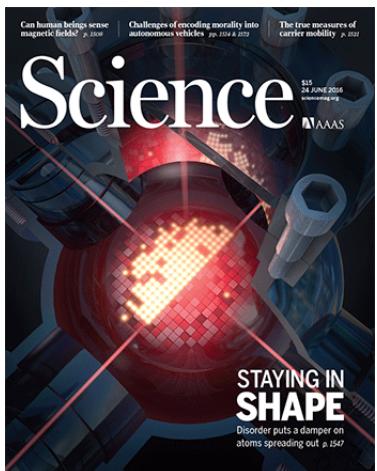


# Experiments



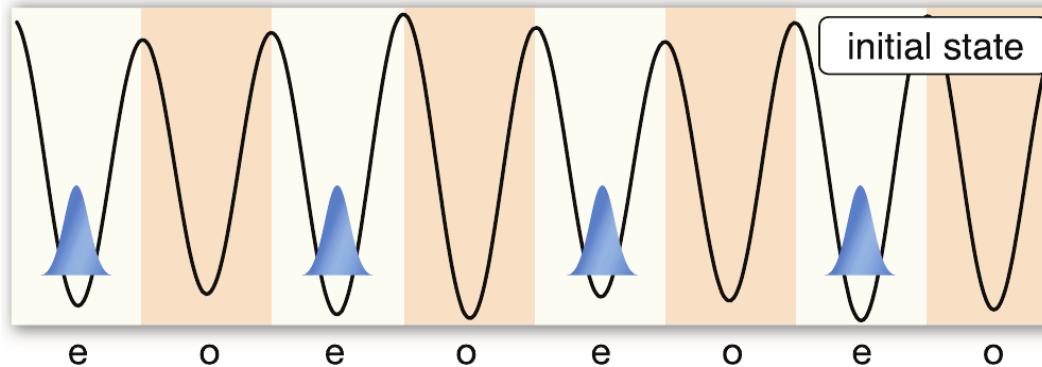
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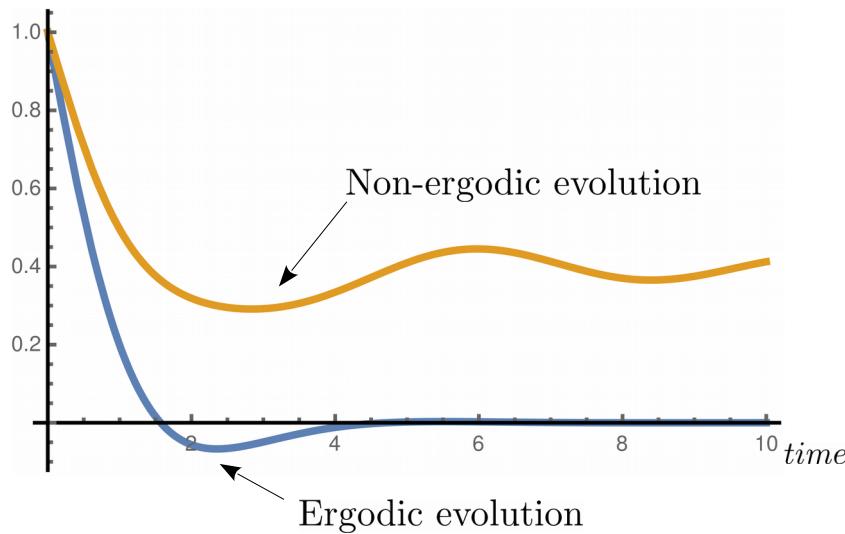


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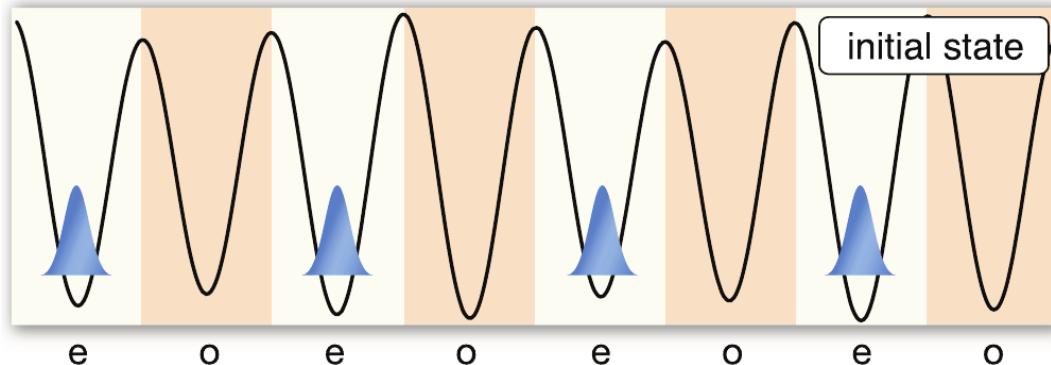
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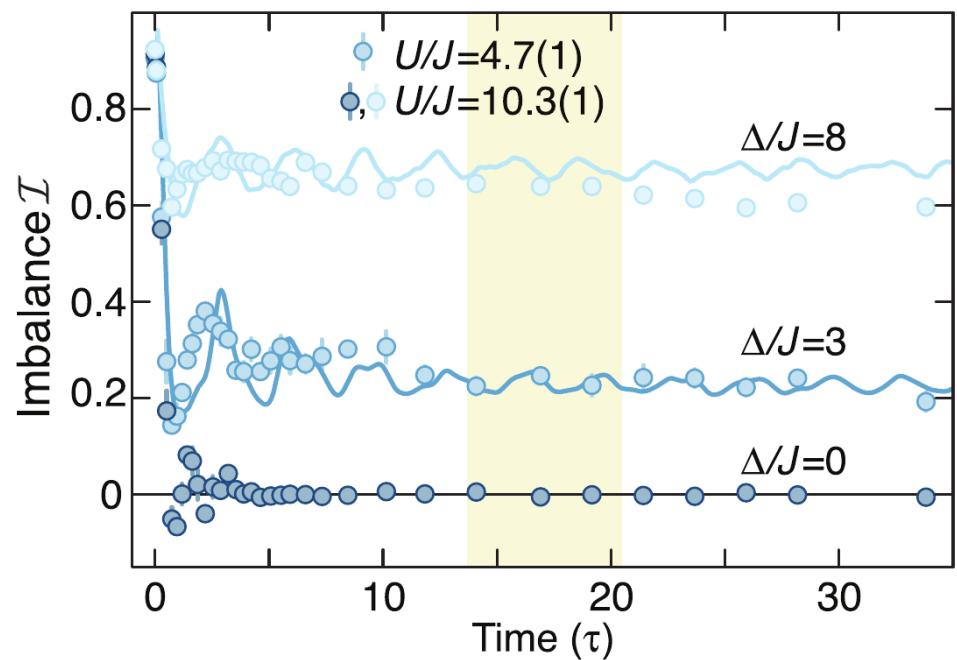
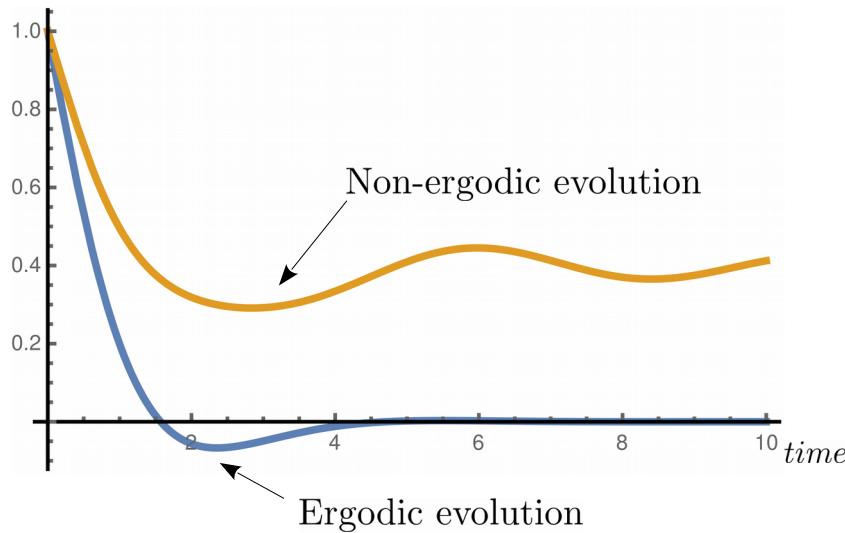
*Some generic evolution*



# Experiments

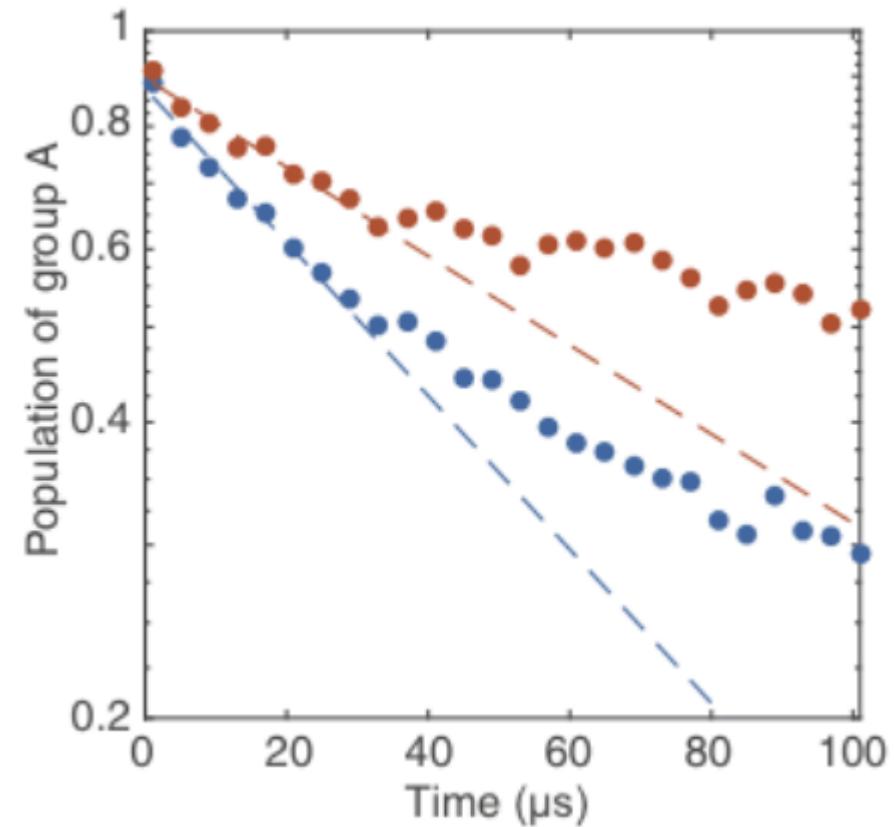
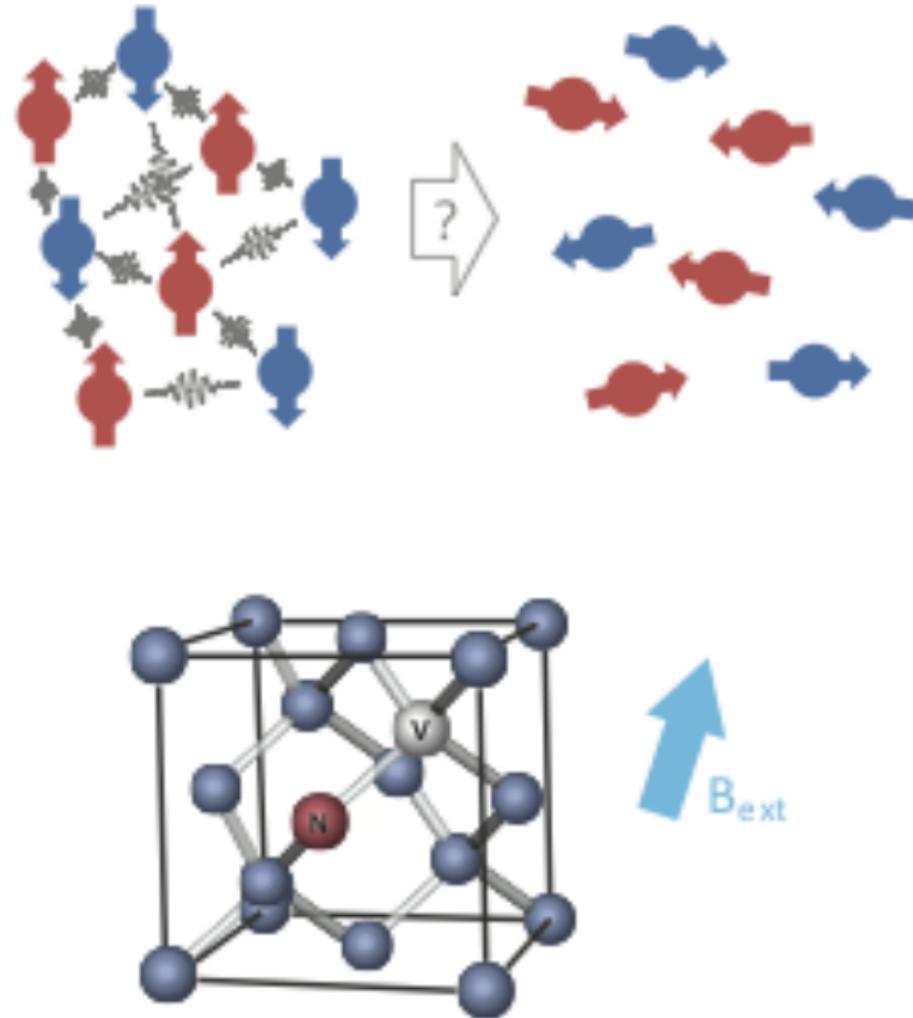


## Some generic evolution



# Experiments

## Many-Body Localization with Nitrogen Vacancies (NV) in diamonds



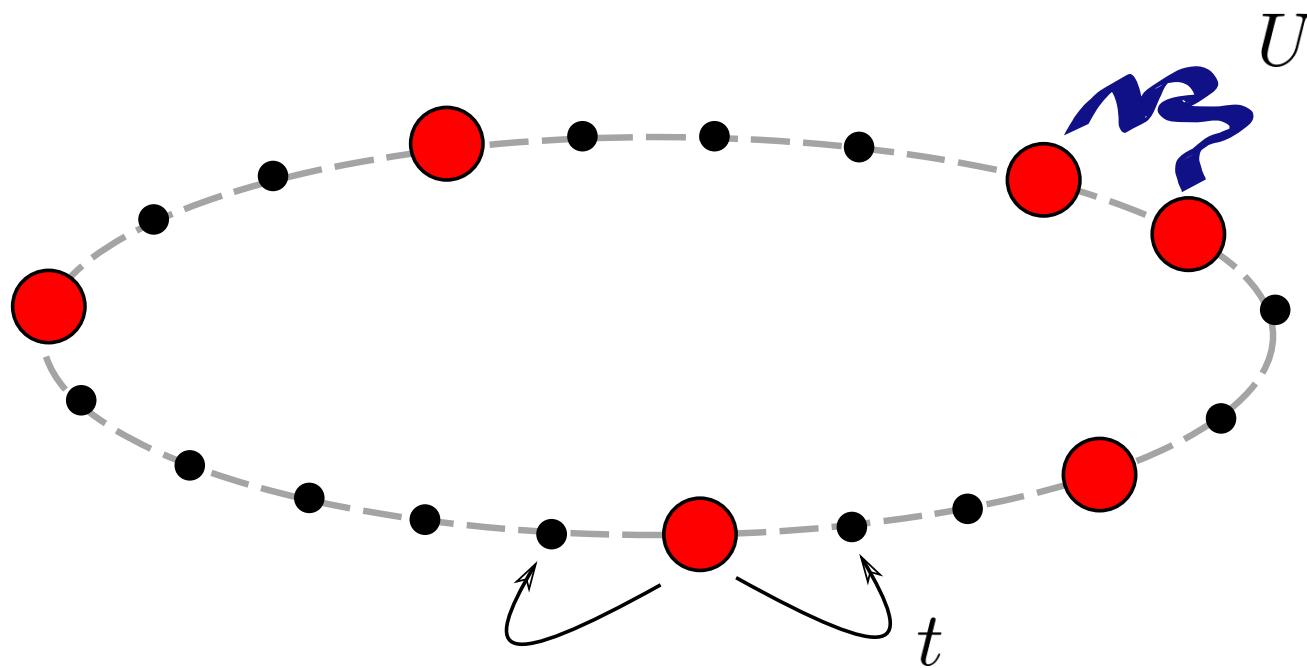
N. Y. Yao, C. R. Laumann, S. Gopalakrishnan, M. Knap, M. Müller, E. A. Demler, and M. D. Lukin, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **113**, 243002 (2014)

Georg Kucsko, Soonwon Choi, Joonhee Choi, Peter C. Maurer, Hitoshi Sumiya, Shinobu Onoda, Junich Isoya, Fedor Jelezko, Eugene Demler, Norman Y. Yao, Mikhail D. Lukin, [arXiv:1609.08216](https://arxiv.org/abs/1609.08216)

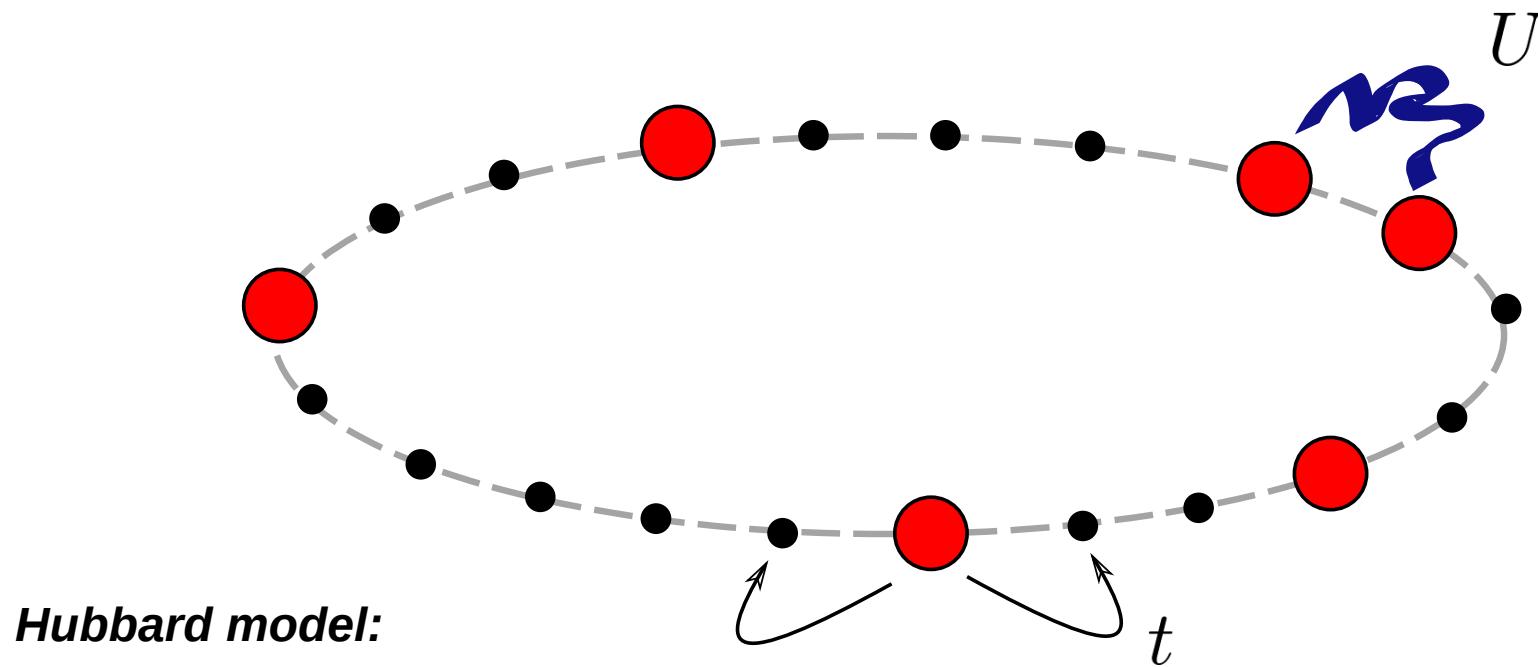
# **What about transport ??**

*(persistent currents)*

# Persistent currents



# Persistent currents



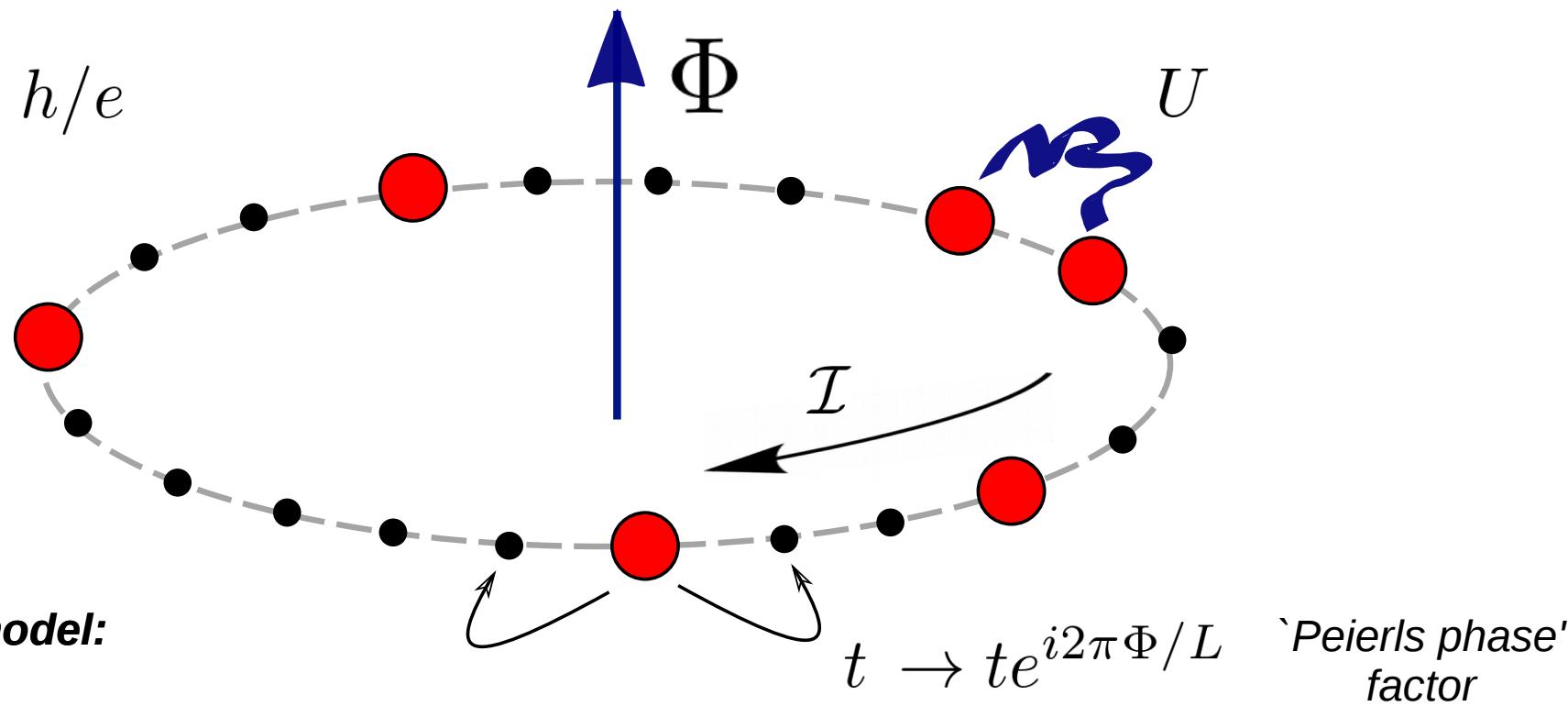
$$\mathcal{H} = -\frac{t}{2} \sum_{j=1}^L [c_j^\dagger c_{j+1} + c_{j+1}^\dagger c_j] + U \sum_{j=1}^L n_j n_{j+1}$$

**Periodic boundary conditions :**  $c_j = c_{j+L}$

# Persistent currents

Flux quantum

$$[\Phi] = \Phi_0 = h/e$$



Hubbard model:

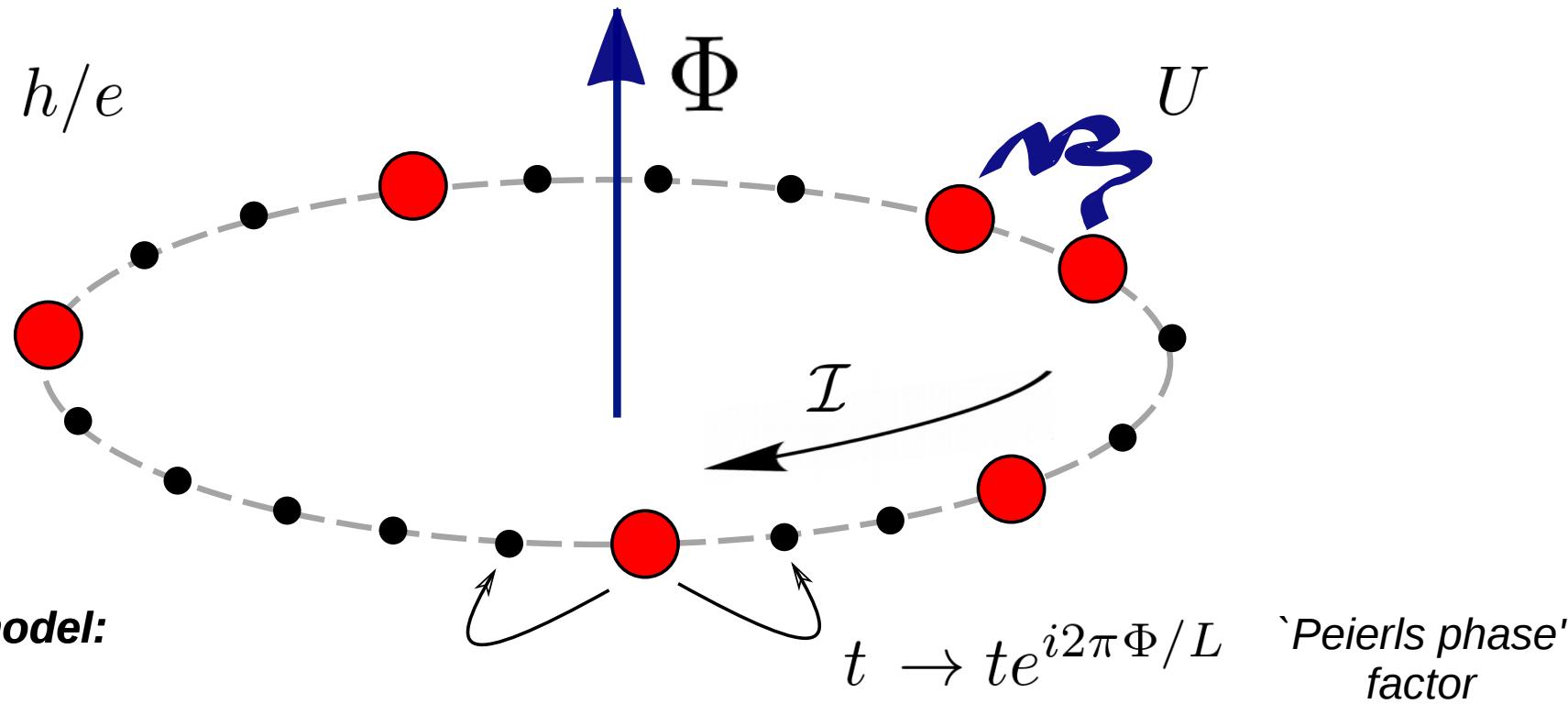
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*Current operator*

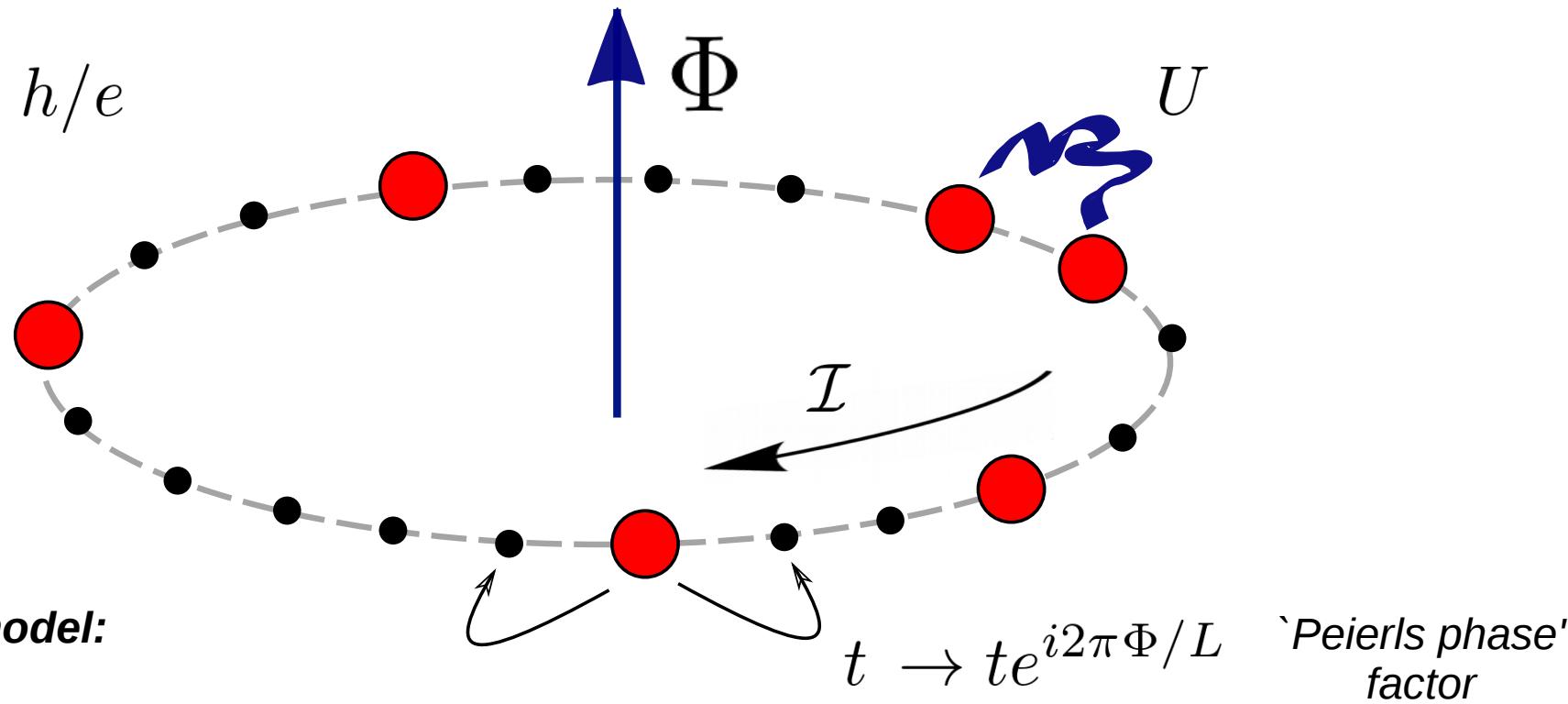
$$\mathcal{I} = \frac{it}{2L} \sum_{j=1}^L [e^{i2\pi\Phi/L} c_j^\dagger c_{j+1} - e^{-i2\pi\Phi/L} c_{j+1}^\dagger c_j]$$

$$\langle \mathcal{I} \rangle = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{\partial \langle H \rangle}{\partial \Phi}$$

# Persistent currents

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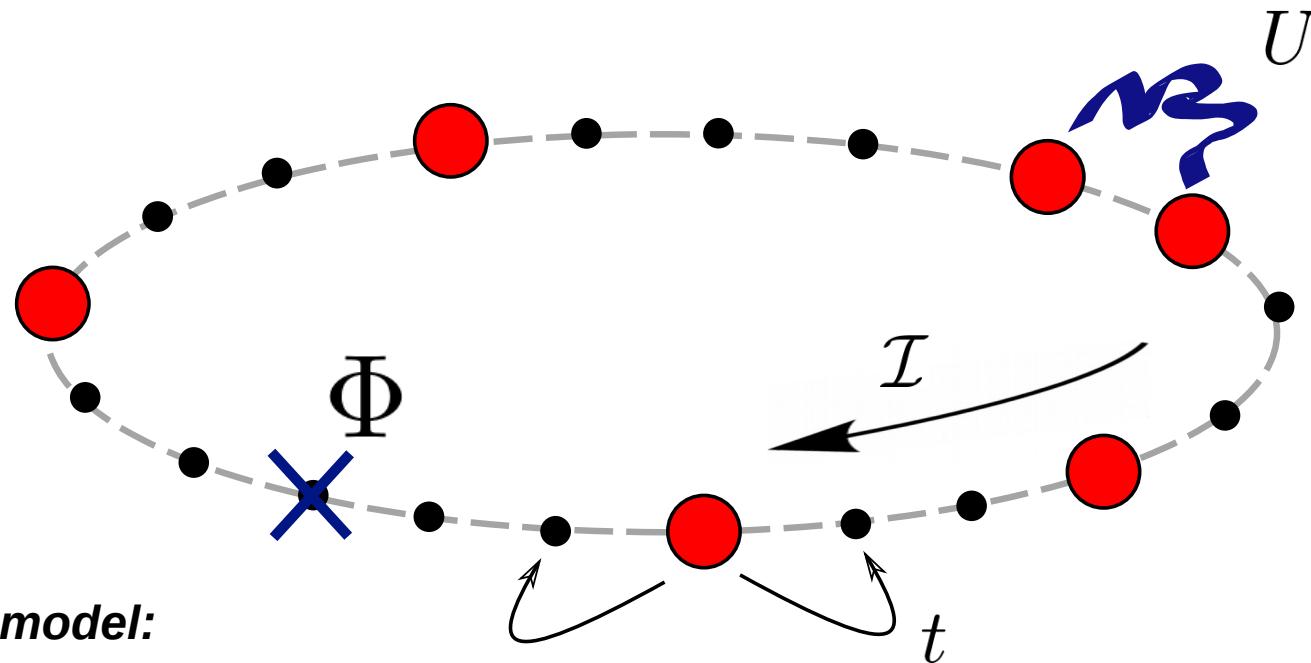


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Gauge transformation :  $c_j \rightarrow c_j e^{-i2\pi\Phi j / L}$

# Persistent currents

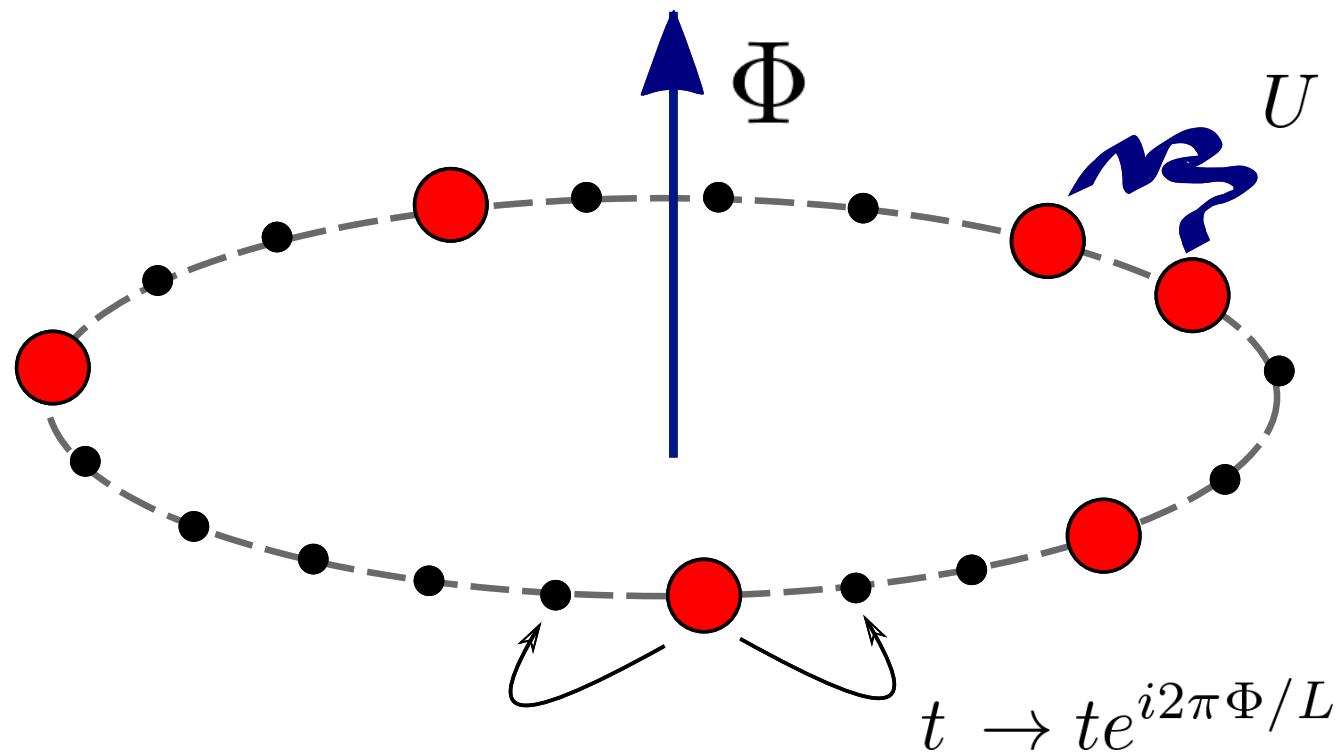


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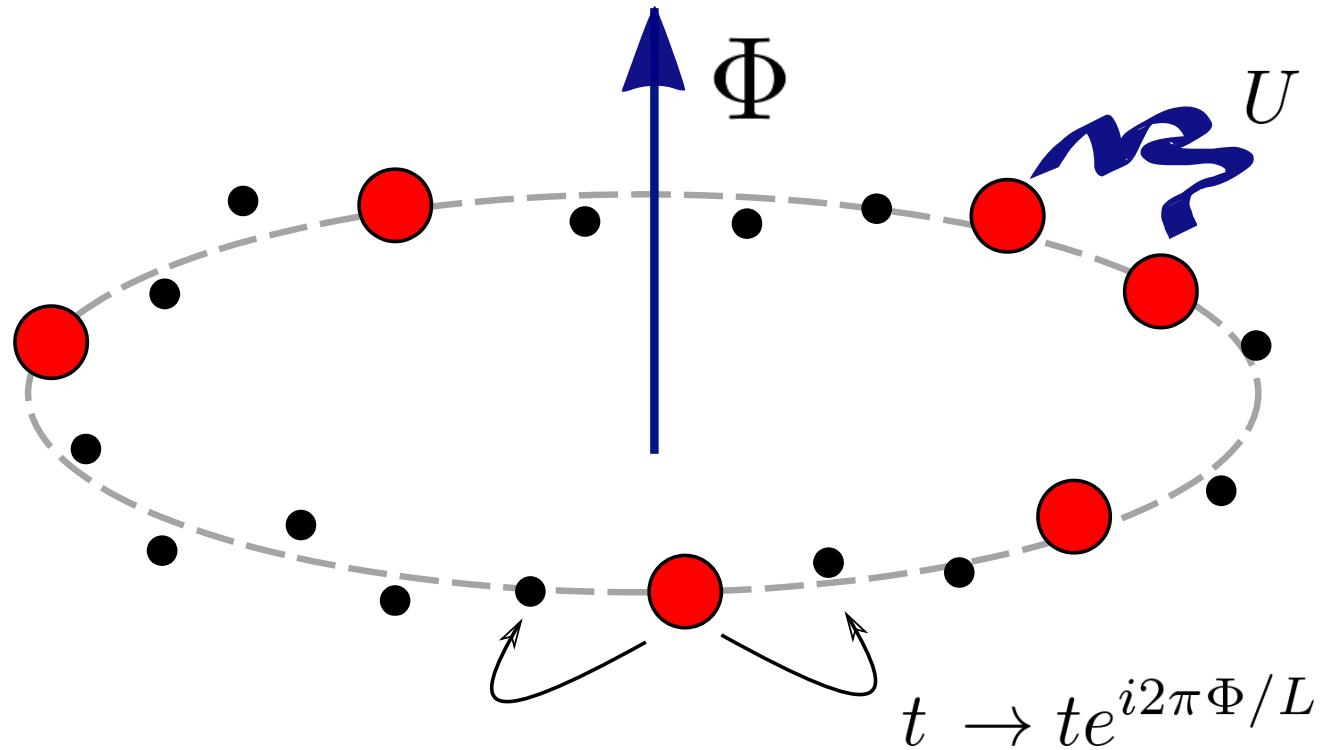
**Gauge transformation :**  $c_j \rightarrow c_j e^{-i2\pi\Phi j/L}$

**Twisted boundary condition :**  $c_j = c_{j+L} e^{-i2\pi\Phi}$

# Disorder



# Disorder



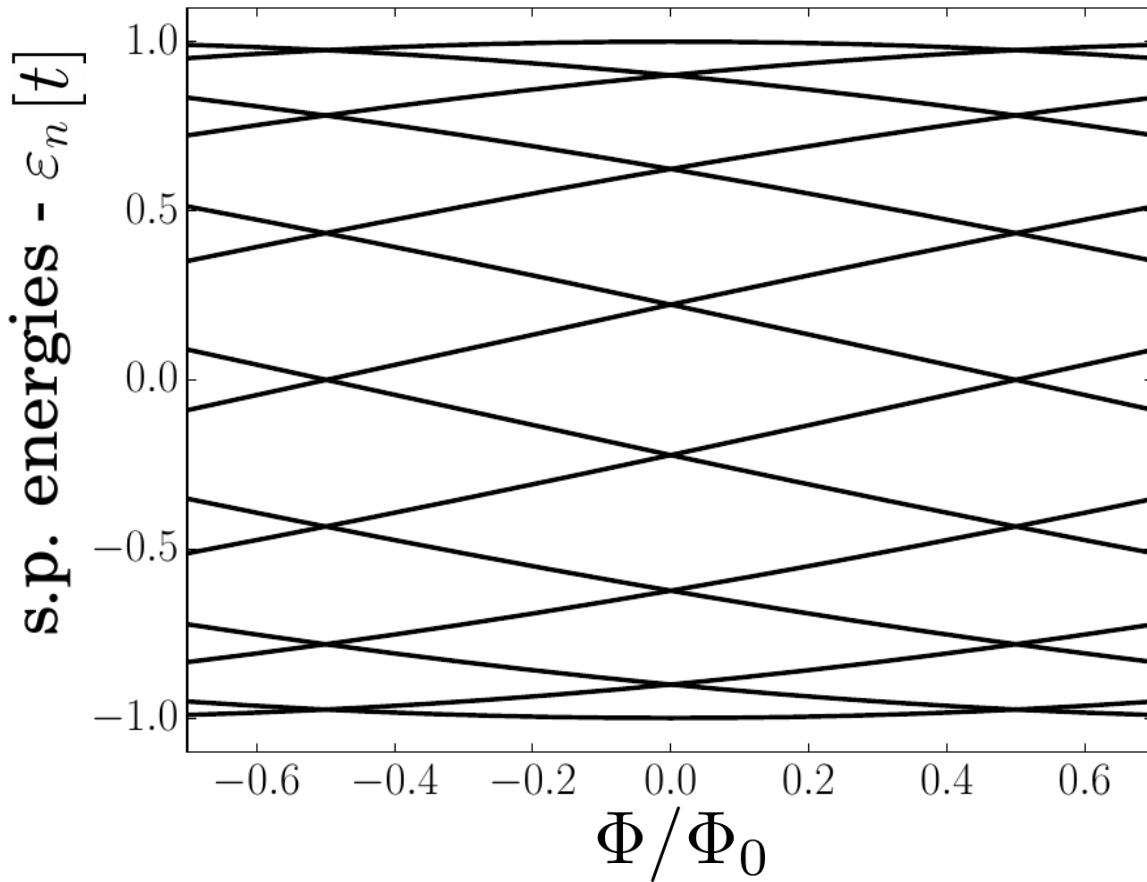
*On site disorder*

$$\mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H} + \mathcal{H}_D$$

$$\mathcal{H}_D = \sum_{j=1}^L \varepsilon_j n_j \quad \varepsilon_j \in [-W, W]$$

# Persistent currents

*Single particle spectrum*

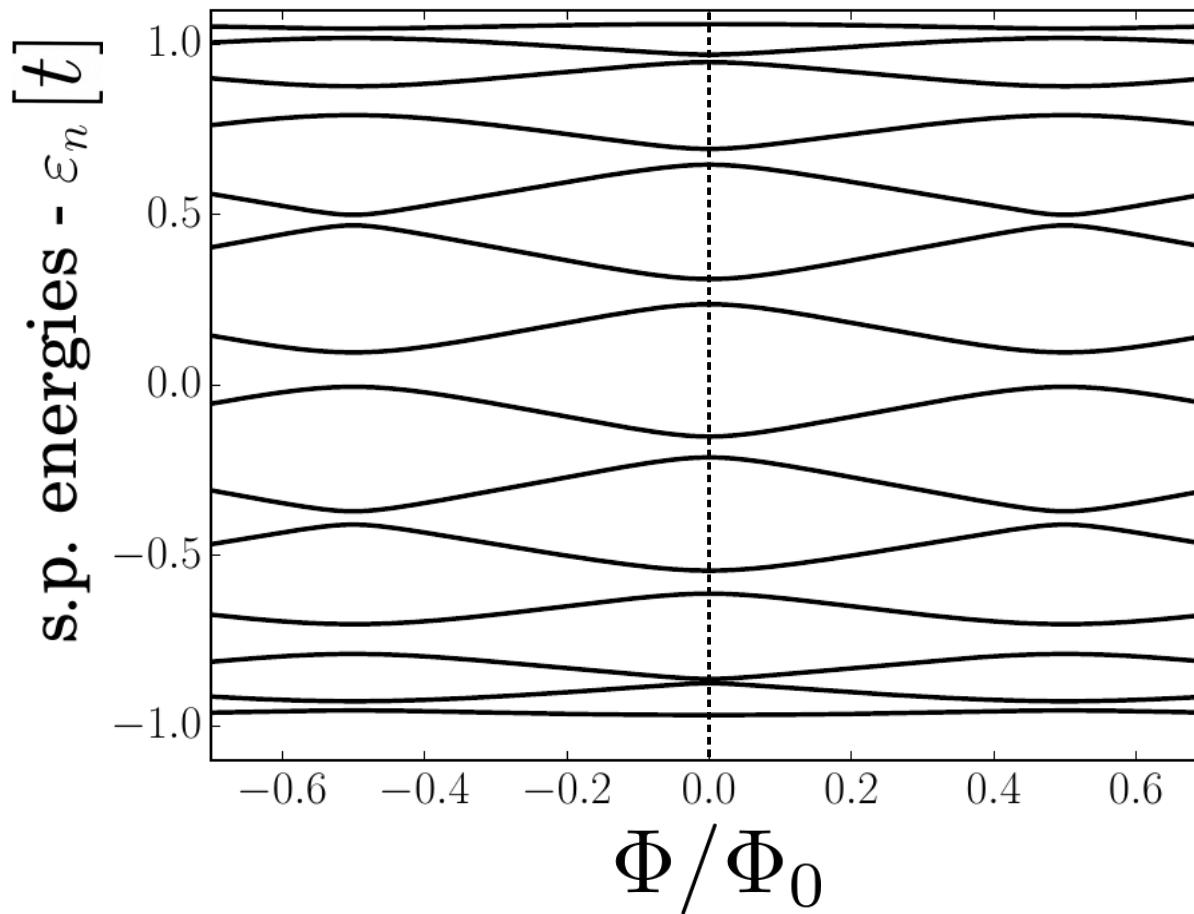


$$\varepsilon_n = -t \cos \left( \frac{2\pi n}{L} + \frac{2\pi\Phi}{L} \right)$$

$$i_n = \frac{e}{h} \frac{t}{L} \sin \left( \frac{2\pi n}{L} + \frac{2\pi\Phi}{L} \right)$$

# Disorder

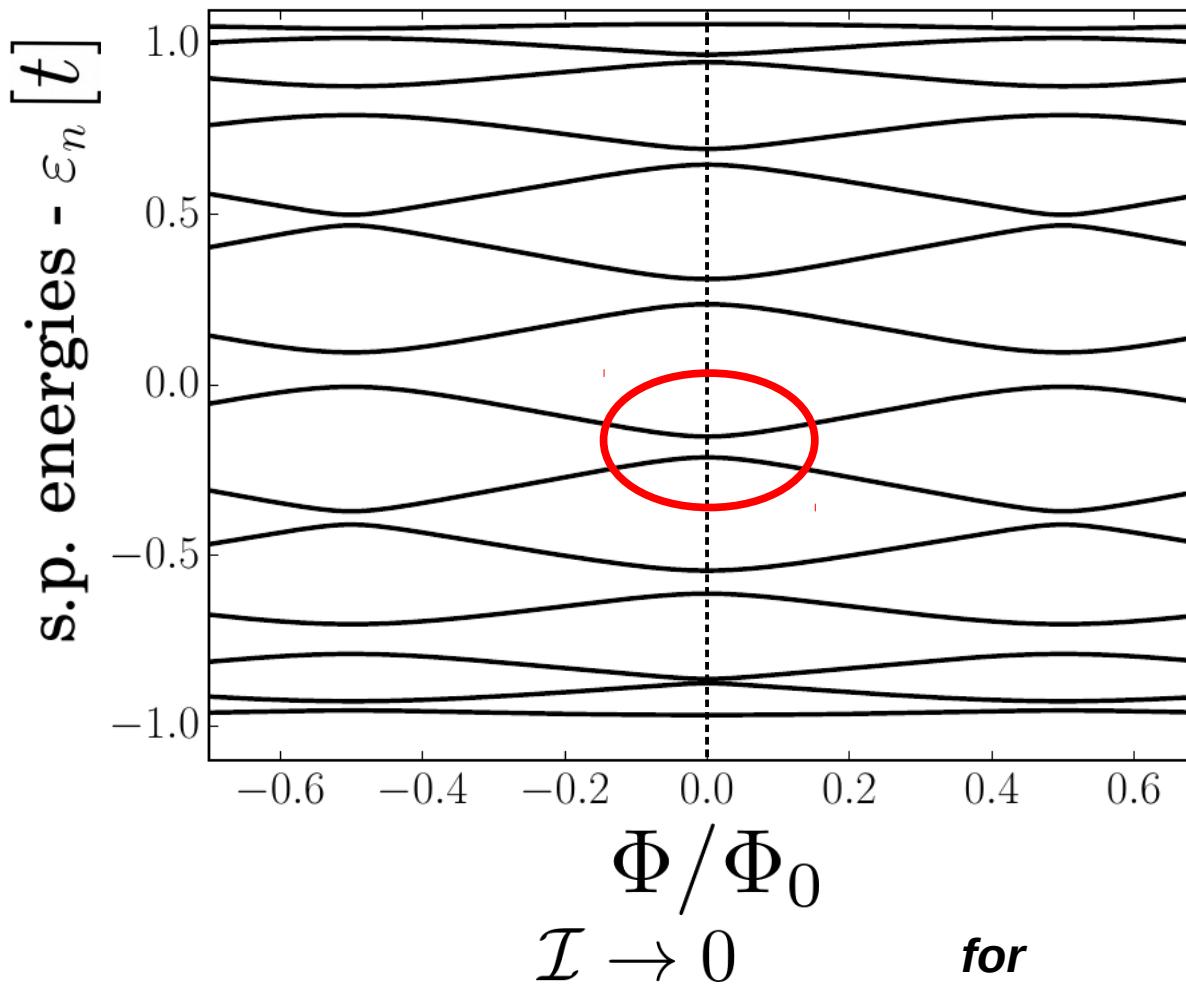
*Single particle spectrum*



$$W = 0.25t$$

# Disorder

*Single particle spectrum*



$$W = 0.25t$$

$$\mathcal{I} \sim \Phi \left. \frac{\partial \mathcal{I}}{\partial \Phi} \right|_{\Phi=0}$$
$$\left. \frac{\partial \mathcal{I}}{\partial \Phi} \right|_{\Phi=0} \neq 0$$

# Drude weights

$$\mathcal{D}_n = \frac{L}{2} \left. \frac{\partial^2 E_n}{\partial \Phi^2} \right|_{\phi=0}$$

# Drude weight and zero $\Phi$ limit

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*localization*  
 $D \rightarrow 0$

- W. Kohn, *Theory of the Insulating State*, **Physical Review** **133**, A171 (1964)  
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*localization*  
 $D \rightarrow 0$   
*delocalization*  
 $D \rightarrow \frac{\rho}{m^*}$

$\rho$  : *density*

$m^*$  : *effective mass*

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# Drude weight and zero $\Phi$ limit

**Hubbard Model :**

$$\mathcal{H}(\Phi) = -\frac{t}{2} \sum_{j=1}^L [e^{i2\pi\Phi/L} c_j^\dagger c_{j+1} + e^{-i2\pi\Phi/L} c_{j+1}^\dagger c_j] + U \sum_{j=1}^L n_j n_{j+1}$$

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**Small flux expansion :**

$$\mathcal{H}(\Phi) = \mathcal{H}(0) - \frac{2\pi\Phi}{L} j$$

# Drude weight and zero $\Phi$ limit

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**Small flux expansion :**

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**Current density:**

$$j = \frac{it}{2} \sum_{j=1}^L [c_j^\dagger c_{j+1} - c_{j+1}^\dagger c_j]$$

# Drude weight and zero $\Phi$ limit

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---

**Small flux expansion :**

$$\mathcal{H}(\Phi) = \mathcal{H}(0) - \frac{2\pi\Phi}{L} j - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{2\pi\Phi}{L} \right)^2 \mathcal{T} + O(\Phi^3)$$

---

**Current density:**

$$j = \frac{it}{2} \sum_{j=1}^L [c_j^\dagger c_{j+1} - c_{j+1}^\dagger c_j]$$

**Kinetic energy :**

$$\mathcal{T} = -\frac{t}{2} \sum_{j=1}^L [c_j^\dagger c_{j+1} + c_{j+1}^\dagger c_j]$$

# Drude weight and zero $\Phi$ limit

***Energy correction to second order :***

$$E_n(\Phi) - E_n(0) = \frac{\Phi^2}{e^2 L} D_n$$

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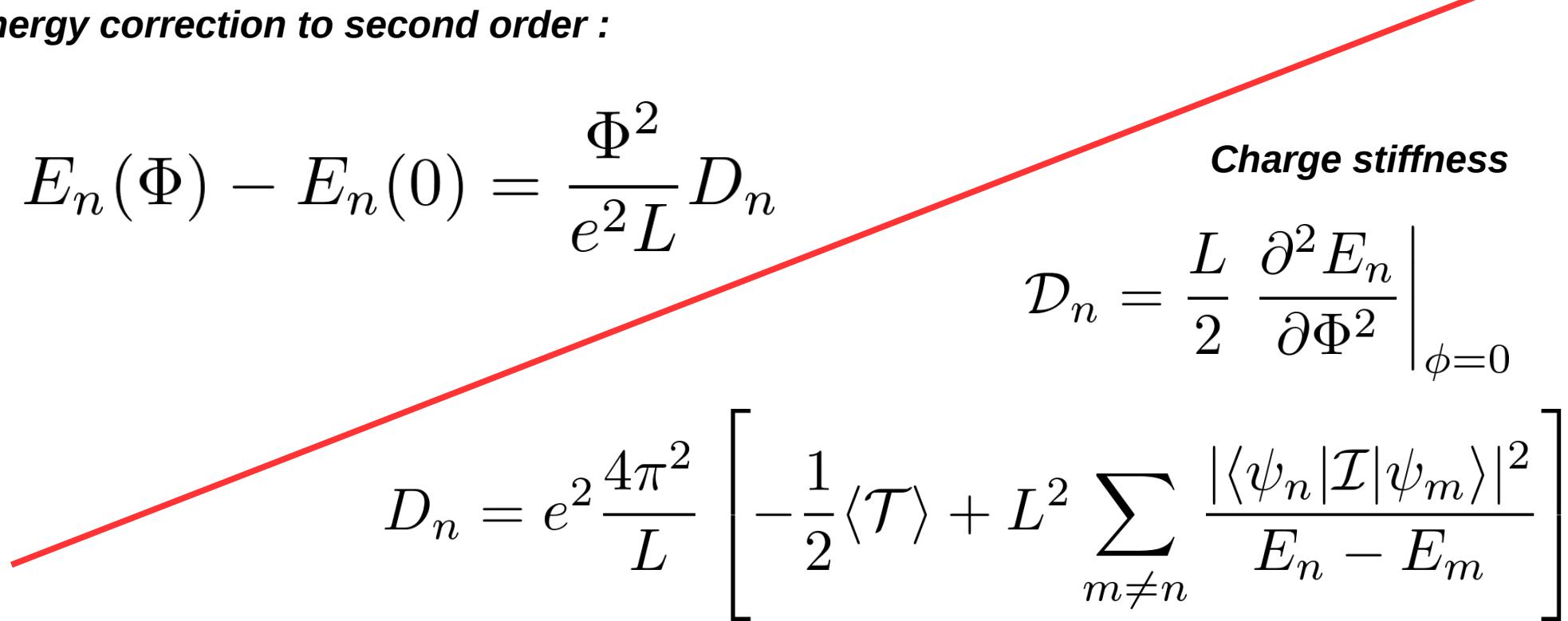
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**Charge stiffness**

$$\mathcal{D}_n = \frac{L}{2} \left. \frac{\partial^2 E_n}{\partial \Phi^2} \right|_{\phi=0}$$


$$D_n = e^2 \frac{4\pi^2}{L} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \langle \mathcal{T} \rangle + L^2 \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{|\langle \psi_n | \mathcal{I} | \psi_m \rangle|^2}{E_n - E_m} \right]$$

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**Kubo Formula :**

$$\mathcal{I}_n(\omega) = \sigma_n(\omega) E(\omega)$$

$$\text{Re}[\sigma_n(\omega)] = D_n \delta(\omega) + \sigma_{n,\text{reg}}$$

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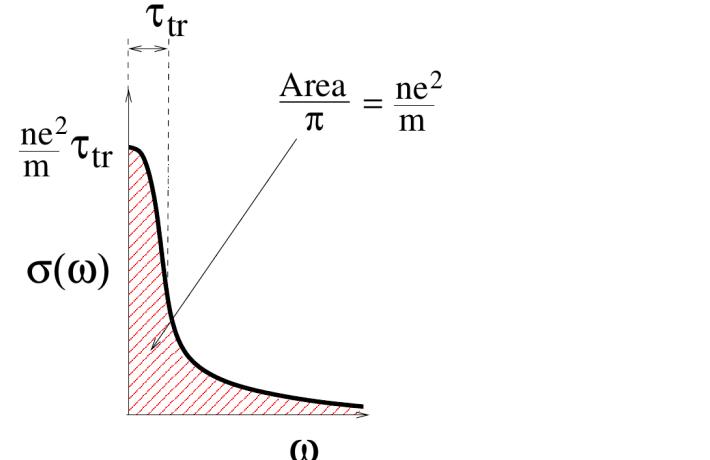
$$\mathcal{D}_n = \frac{L}{2} \left. \frac{\partial^2 E_n}{\partial \Phi^2} \right|_{\phi=0}$$

$$D_n = e^2 \frac{4\pi^2}{L} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \langle \mathcal{T} \rangle + L^2 \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{|\langle \psi_n | \mathcal{I} | \psi_m \rangle|^2}{E_n - E_m} \right]$$

**Kubo Formula :**

$$\mathcal{I}_n(\omega) = \sigma_n(\omega) E(\omega)$$

$$\text{Re}[\sigma_n(\omega)] = D_n \delta(\omega) + \sigma_{n,\text{reg}}$$



# Drude weights and Thouless Conductance

J. Edwards and D. J. Thouless, **J. Phys. C: Sol. State Phys.** **5**, 807 (1972)  
D. J. Thouless, **Phys. Rep.** **13**, 93 (1974)

# Thouless' conjecture

$$D_n = e^2 \frac{4\pi^2}{L} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \langle \mathcal{T} \rangle + L^2 \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{|\langle \psi_n | \mathcal{I} | \psi_m \rangle|^2}{E_n - E_m} \right]$$

**Thouless conductance (single particle !!!) :**

$$\langle \sigma_{Thouless} \rangle = \frac{1}{\Delta} \left\langle \left| \frac{\partial^2 \varepsilon_n}{\partial \phi^2} \right| \right\rangle$$

$\Delta$  : Average level spacing

$\varepsilon_n$  : single particle spectrum

# Curvature distributions

$$D_n = e^2 \frac{4\pi^2}{L} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \langle \mathcal{T} \rangle + L^2 \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{|\langle \psi_n | \mathcal{I} | \psi_m \rangle|^2}{E_n - E_m} \right]$$

**For large value of  $D$  :**

$$D \propto \frac{1}{s} \quad s : \text{level spacing}$$

$$P(D \rightarrow \infty) dD = P(s \rightarrow 0) ds$$

$$\left| \frac{ds}{dD} \right| = \frac{1}{D^2}$$

# Curvature distributions

$$D_n = e^2 \frac{4\pi^2}{L} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \langle \mathcal{T} \rangle + L^2 \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{|\langle \psi_n | \mathcal{I} | \psi_m \rangle|^2}{E_n - E_m} \right]$$

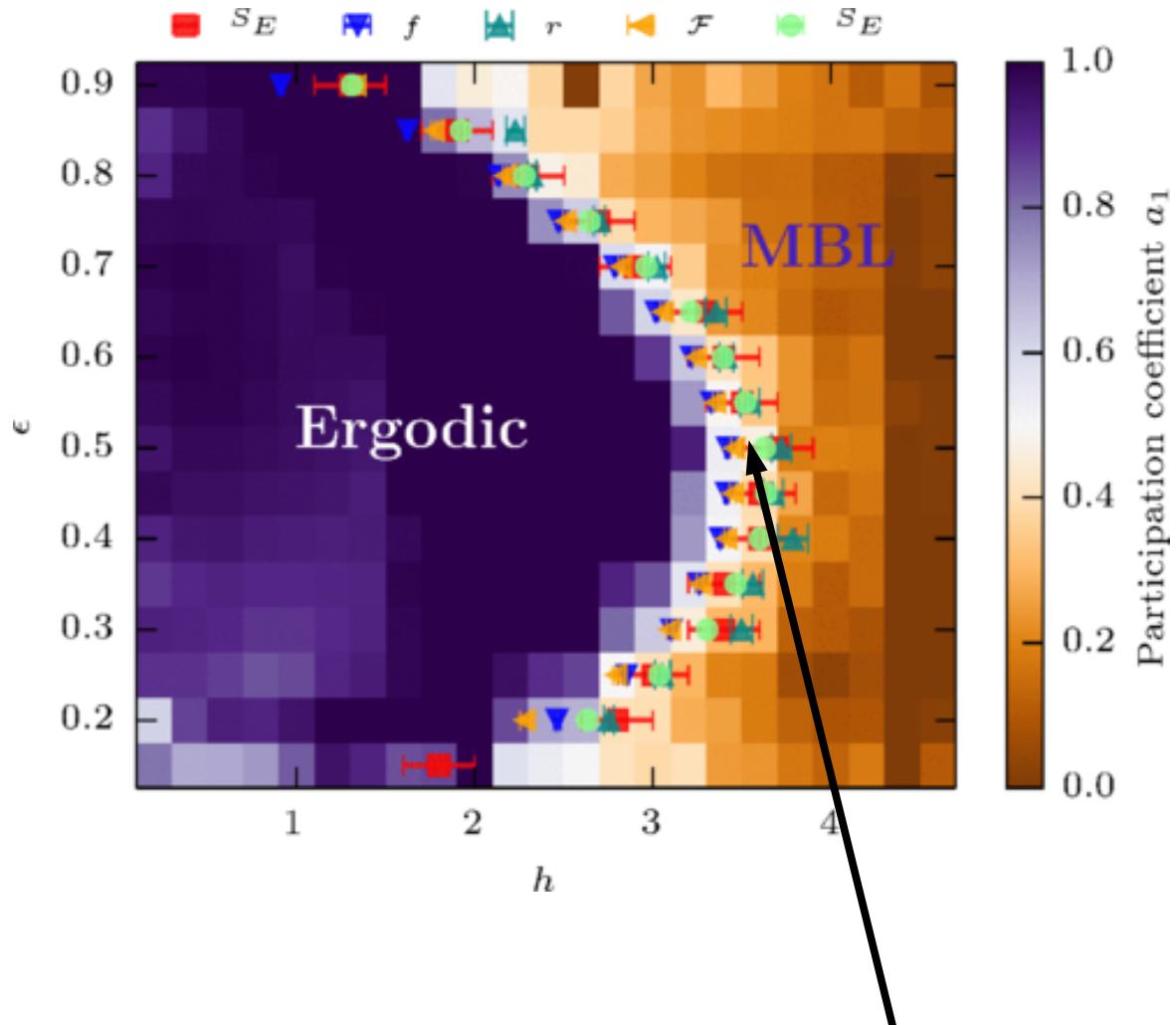
**For large value of  $D$  :**

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$$P(D \rightarrow \infty) = \frac{1}{D^2} P(s \rightarrow 0)$$

$$\left| \frac{ds}{dD} \right| = \frac{1}{D^2}$$

# Curvature distributions

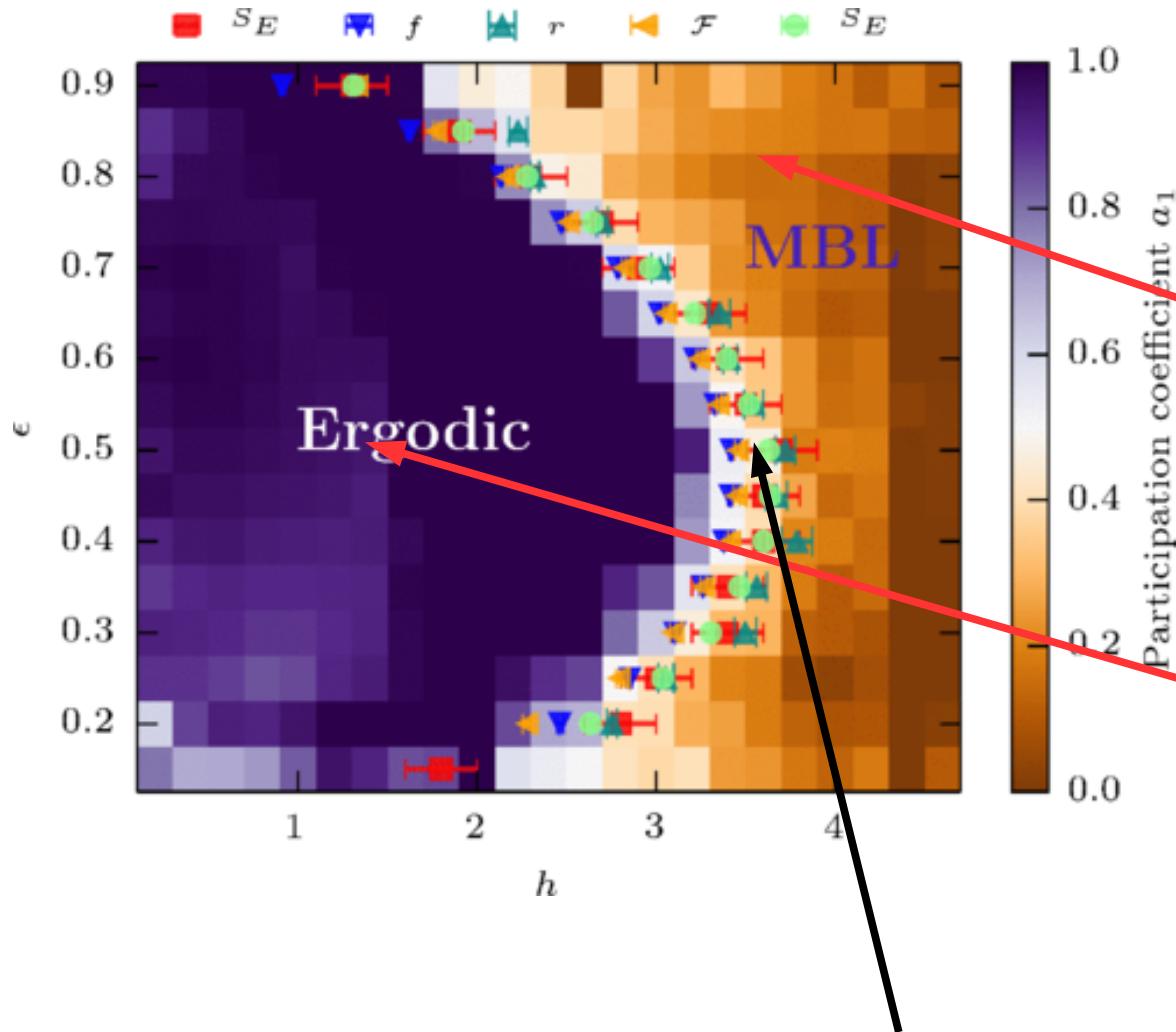


$$W_c = 3.6t$$

D. Luitz, N. Laflorencie and F. Alet,  
Phys. Rev. B 91, 081103(R) (2015)

M. Serbyn, Z. Papic and D. Abanin,  
Phys. Rev. X 5, 041047 (2015)

# Curvature distributions



*Uncorrelated spectrum*

*Poissonian statistics*

$$P(s) = \frac{1}{\Delta} e^{-s/\Delta}$$

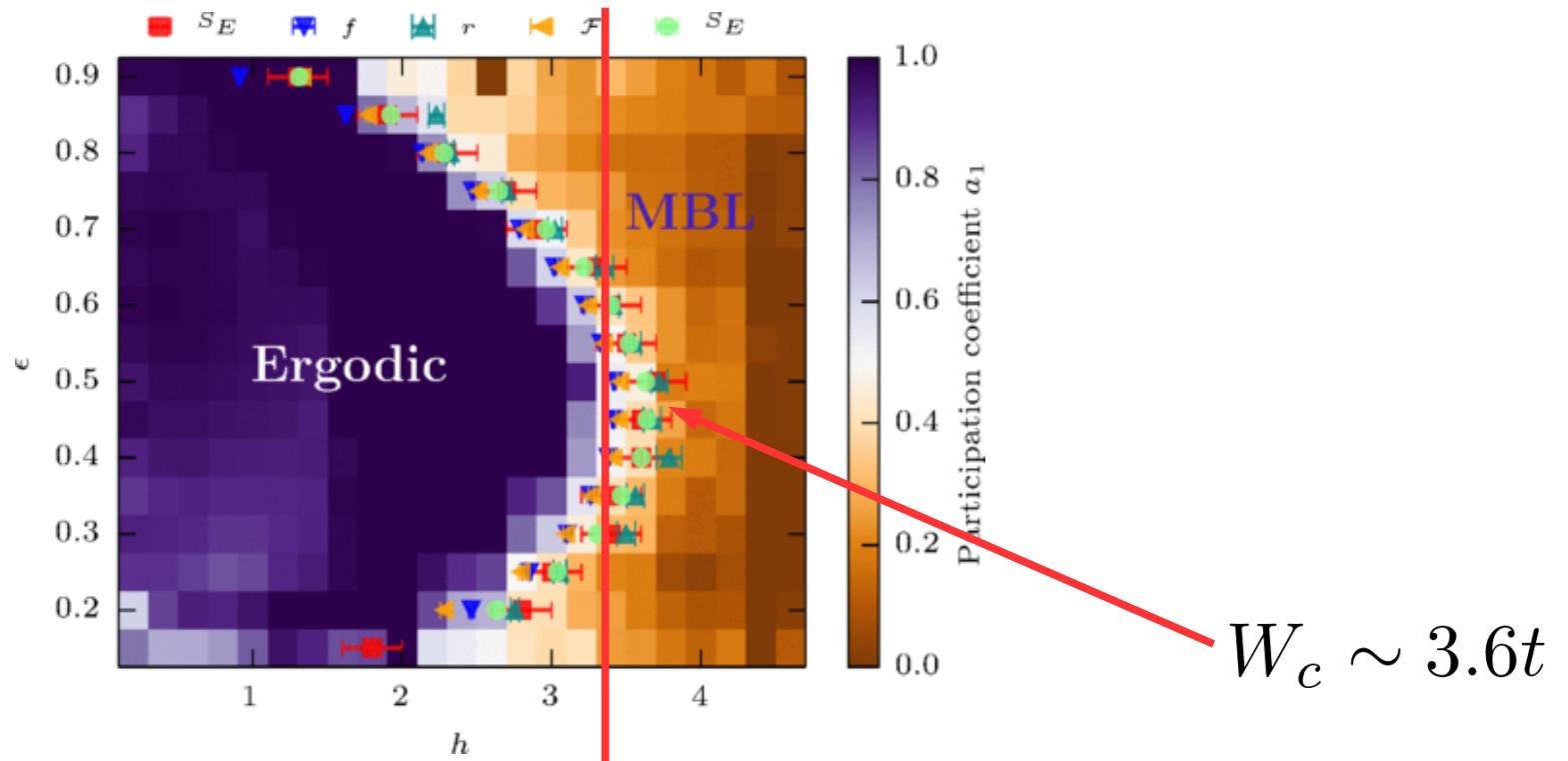
*Correlated spectrum*

*Wigner-Dyson statistics*

$$P(s) = \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{s}{\Delta} e^{-\frac{\pi s^2}{4\Delta^2}}$$

**What we expect ...**

# What we expect ...



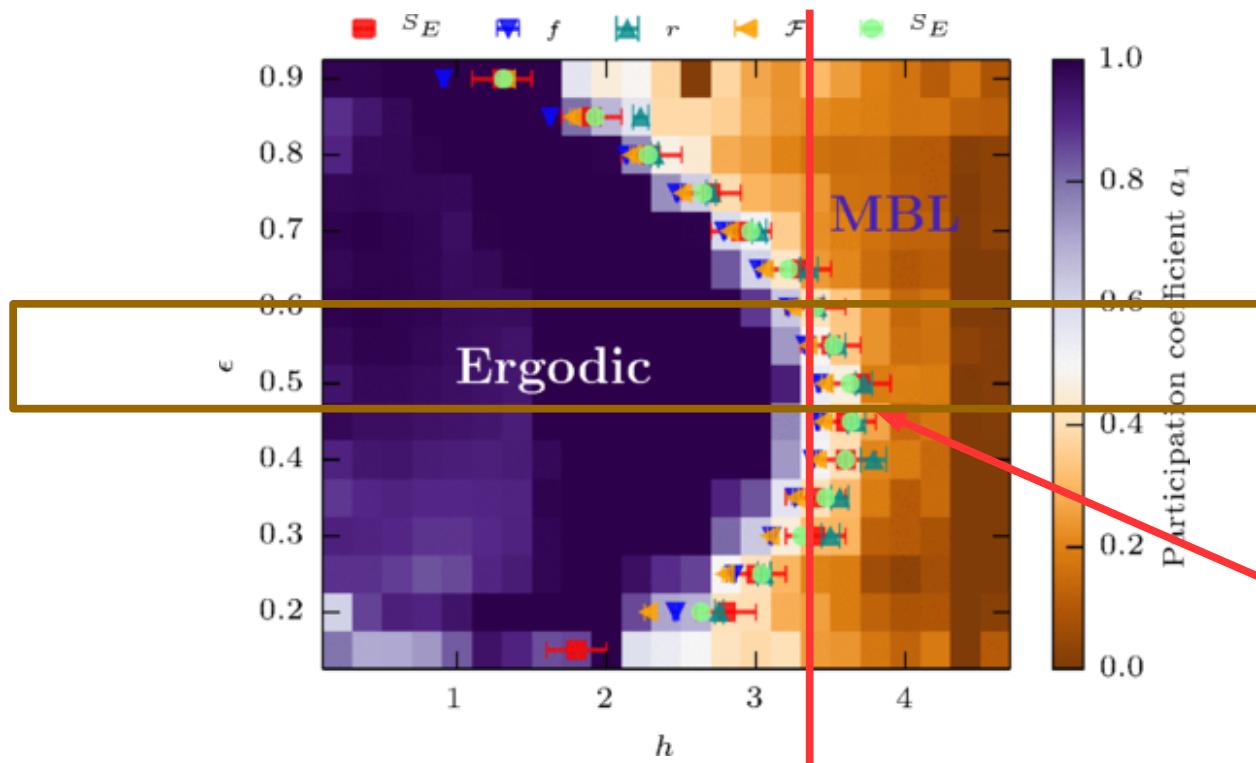
**Levy distribution**

$$P(D) = \frac{\gamma^2}{(\gamma^2 + D^2)^{3/2}} \xrightarrow{D \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{D^3}$$

**Cauchy distribution**

$$P(D) = \frac{\gamma/\pi}{(\gamma^2 + D^2)} \xrightarrow{D \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{D^2}$$

# What we expect ...



$$L = 16$$

$$N = 8$$

I consider  
2554 states  
in the middle of  
the many-body spectrum

**Levy distribution**

$$P(D) = \frac{\gamma^2}{(\gamma^2 + D^2)^{3/2}} \xrightarrow{D \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{D^3}$$

**Cauchy distribution**

$$P(D) = \frac{\gamma/\pi}{(\gamma^2 + D^2)} \xrightarrow{D \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{D^2}$$

# Technical note

*Cumulative distribution functions*

$$F_D(D) = \int_{-|D|}^{|D|} dx P_D(x)$$

*Levy distribution*

$$F_{D,RMT}(D) = \frac{|D|}{\sqrt{\gamma^2 + D^2}} \xrightarrow{D \rightarrow \infty} 1 - \frac{\gamma^2}{2D^2}$$

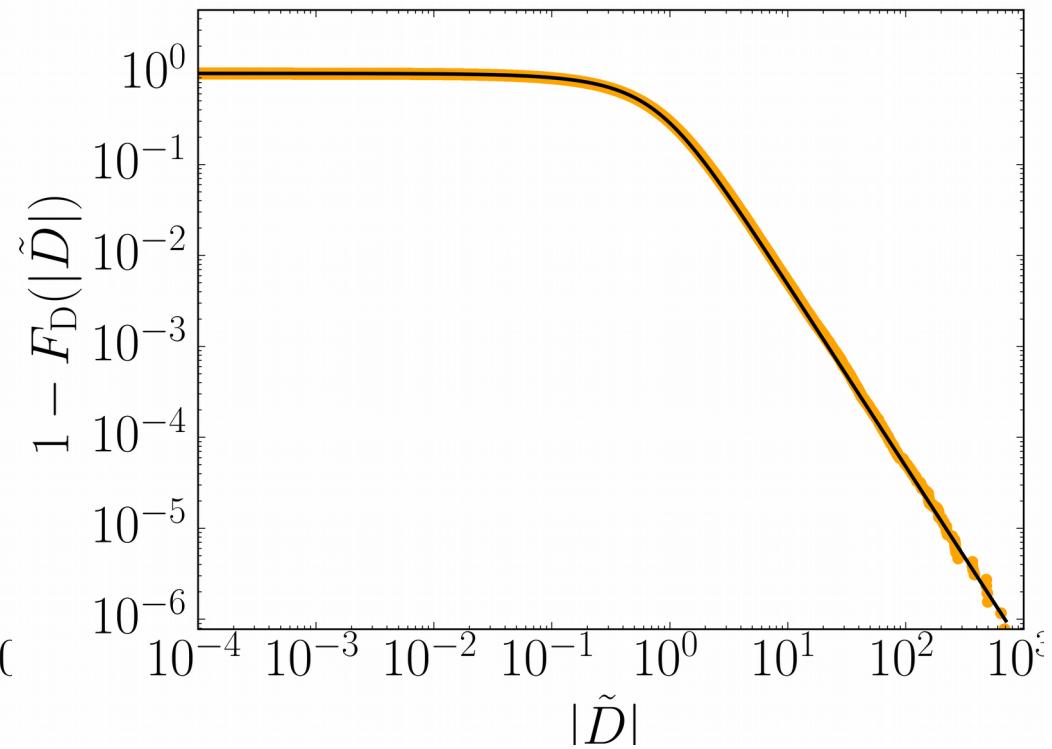
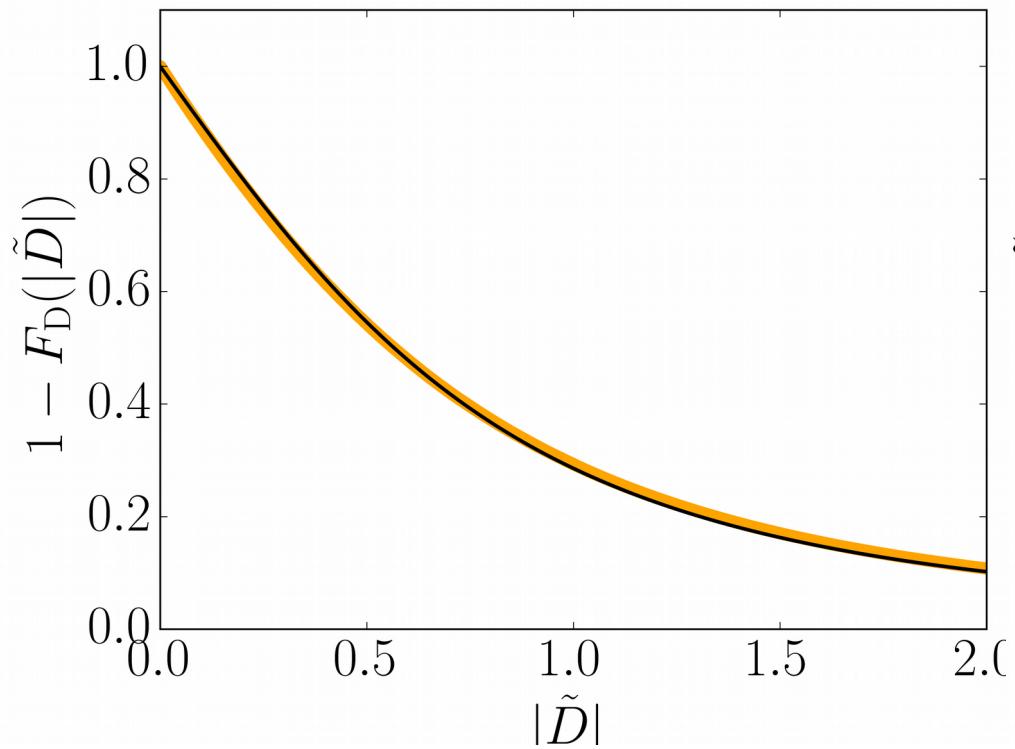
*Cauchy distribution*

$$F_{D,Cauchy}(D) = \frac{2}{\pi} \arctan \left( \frac{D}{\gamma} \right) \xrightarrow{D \rightarrow \infty} 1 - \frac{2\gamma}{\pi D}$$

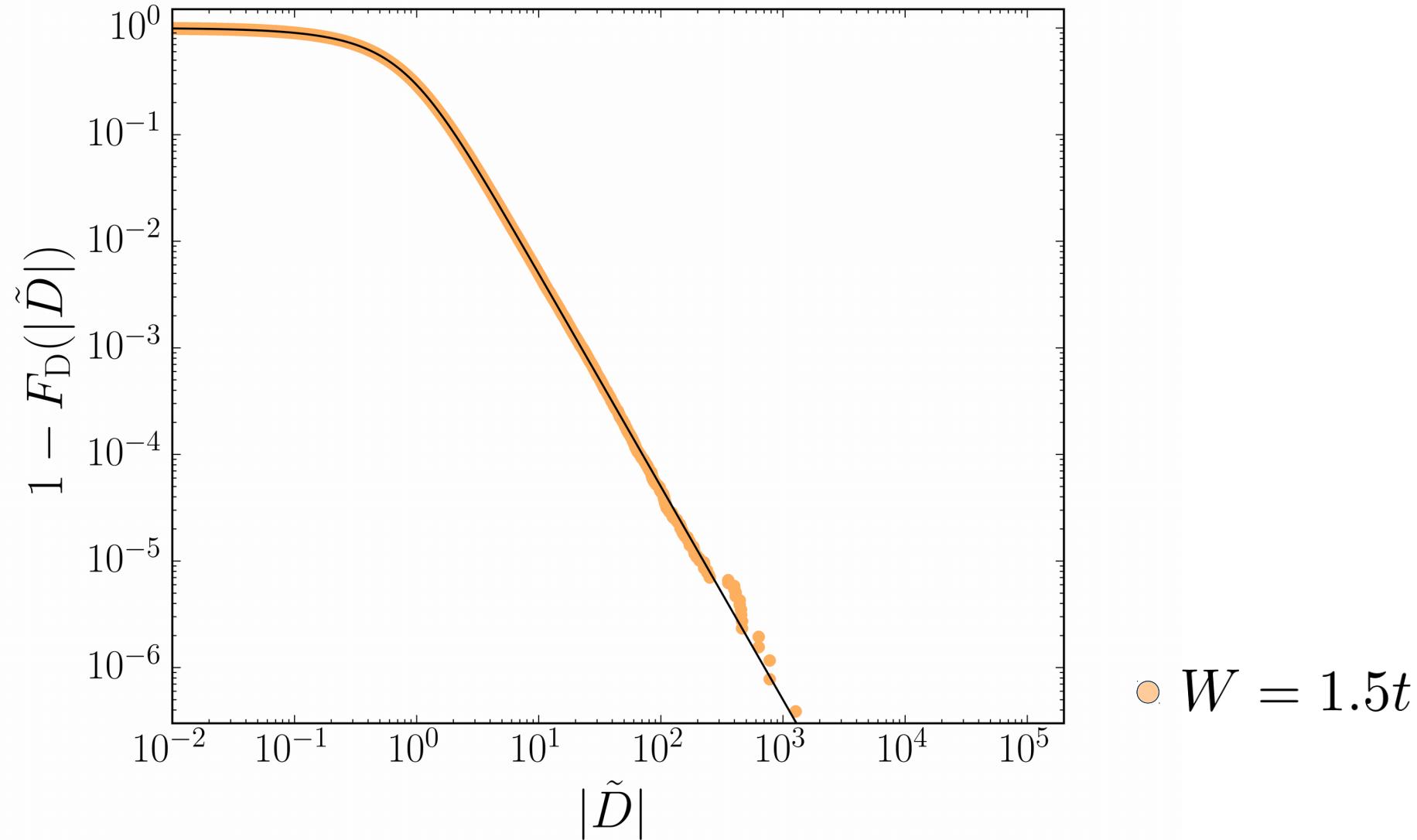
# Rescaling

*Delocalized phase*

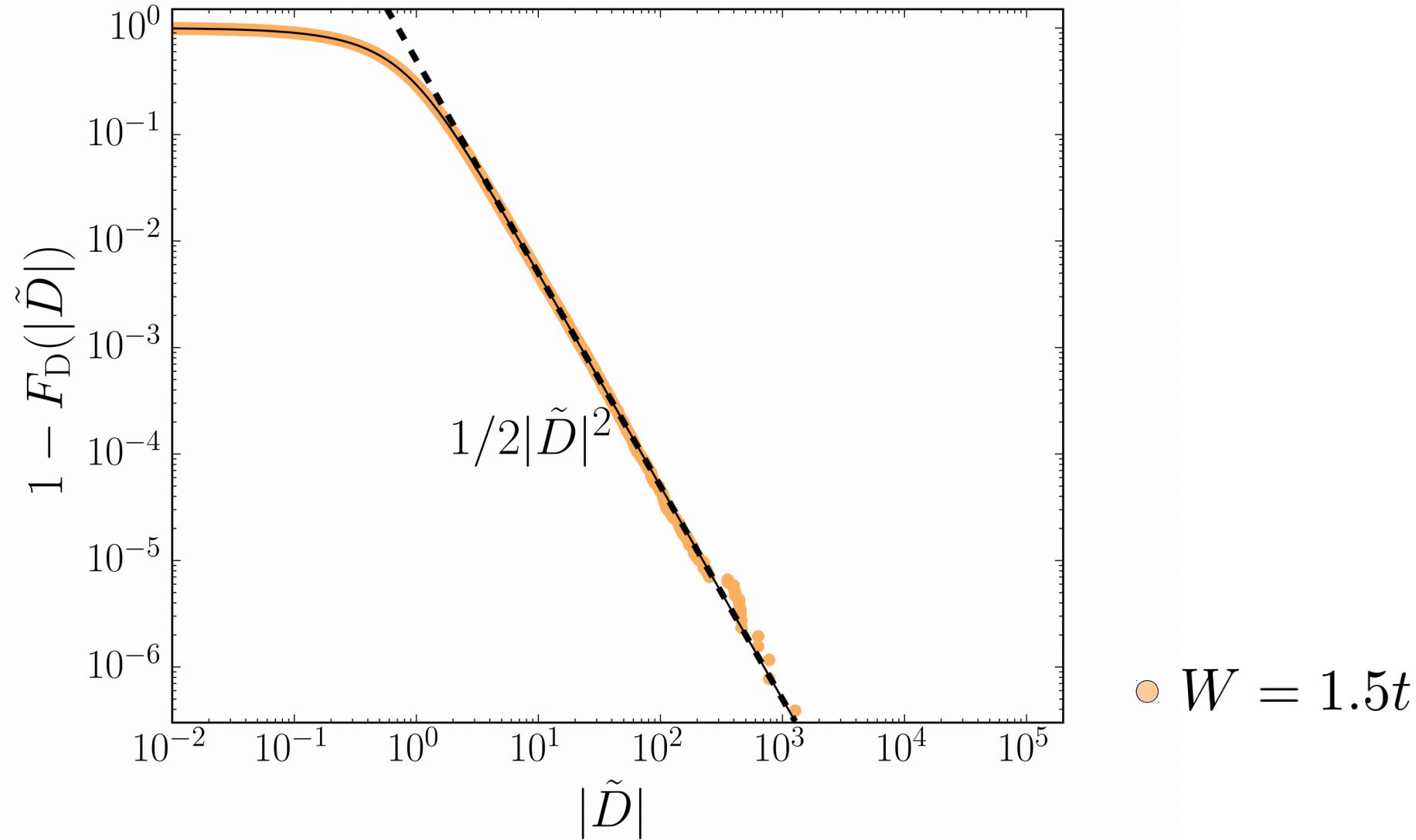
$W = 2.0t$



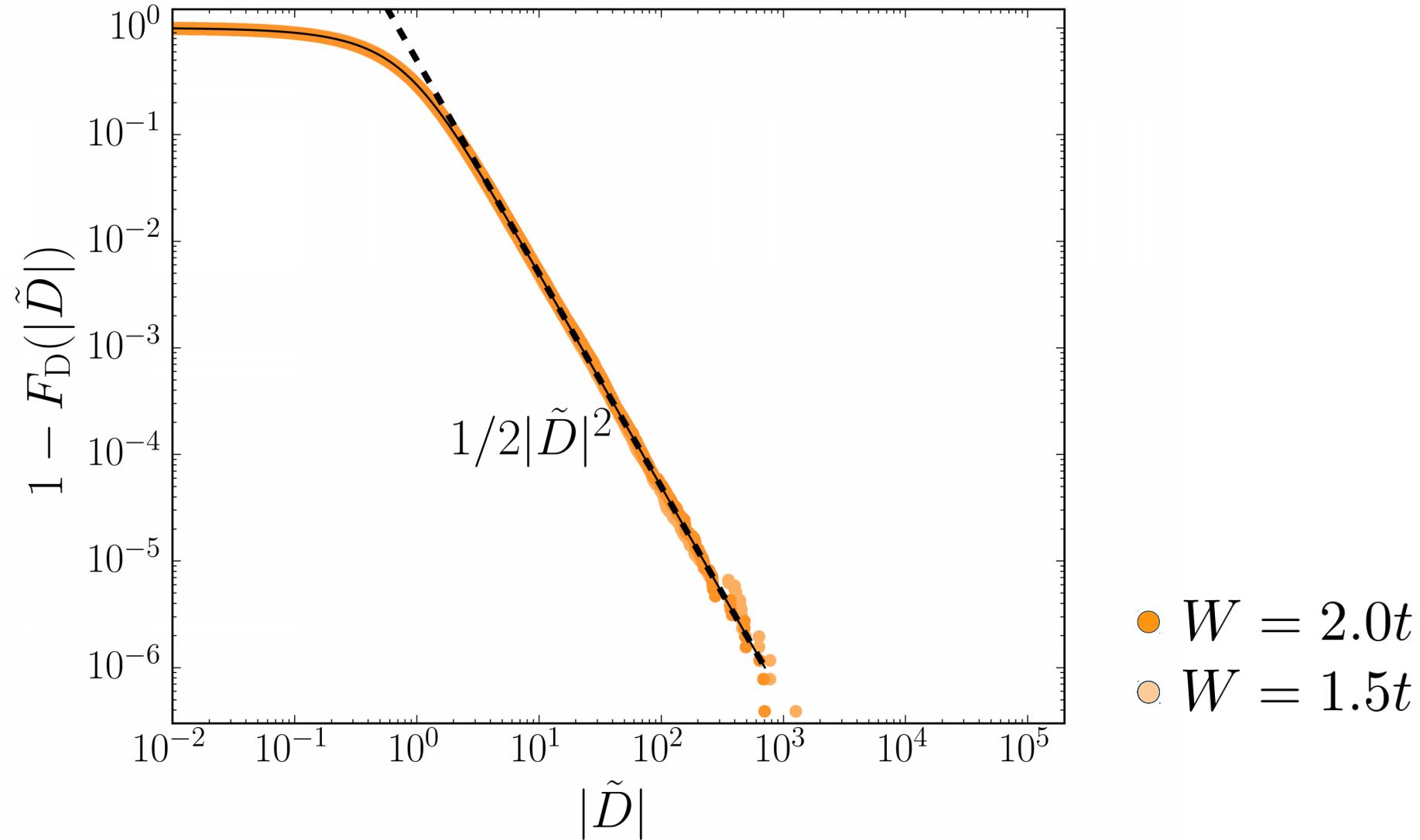
# Distribution across the MBL transition



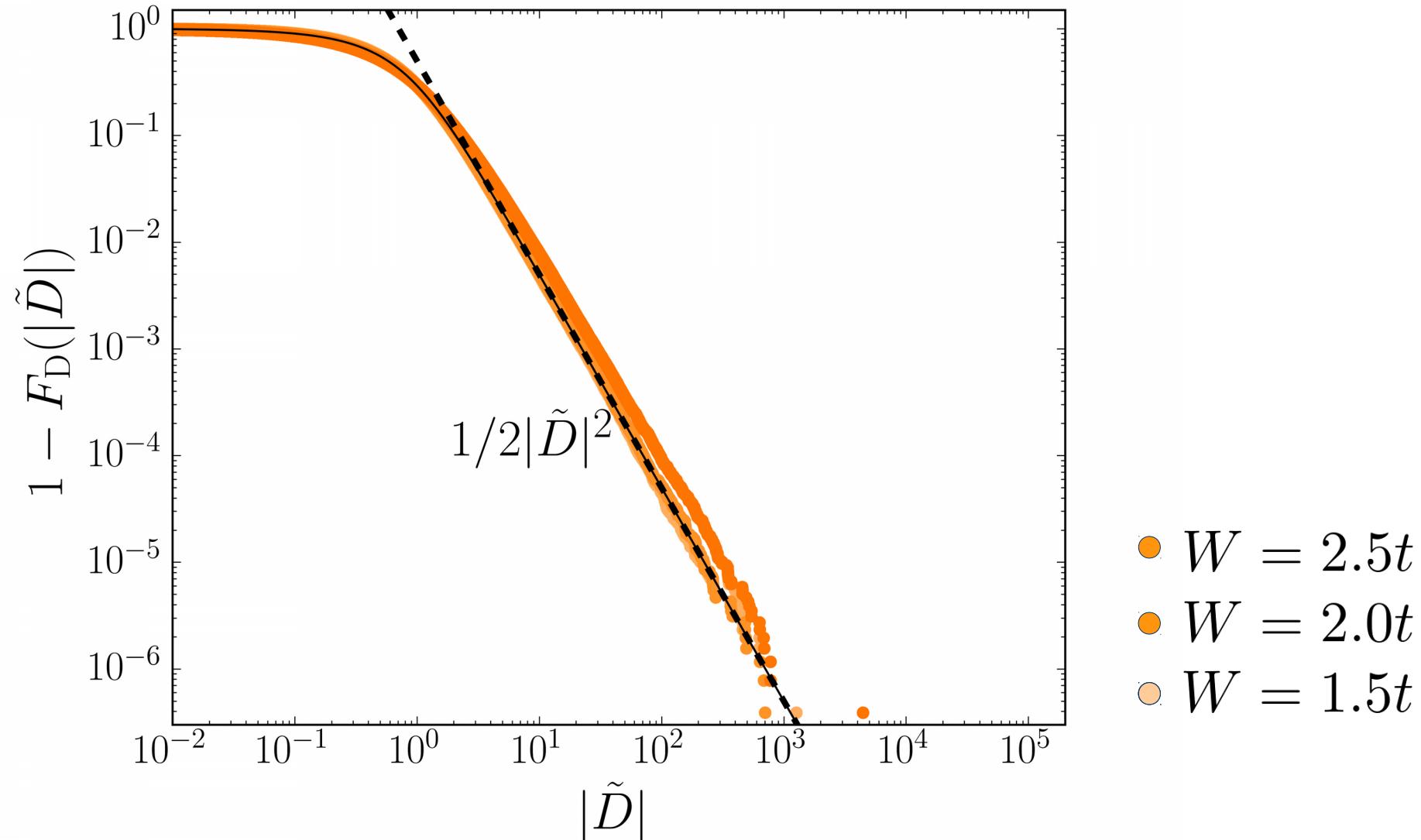
# Distribution across the MBL transition



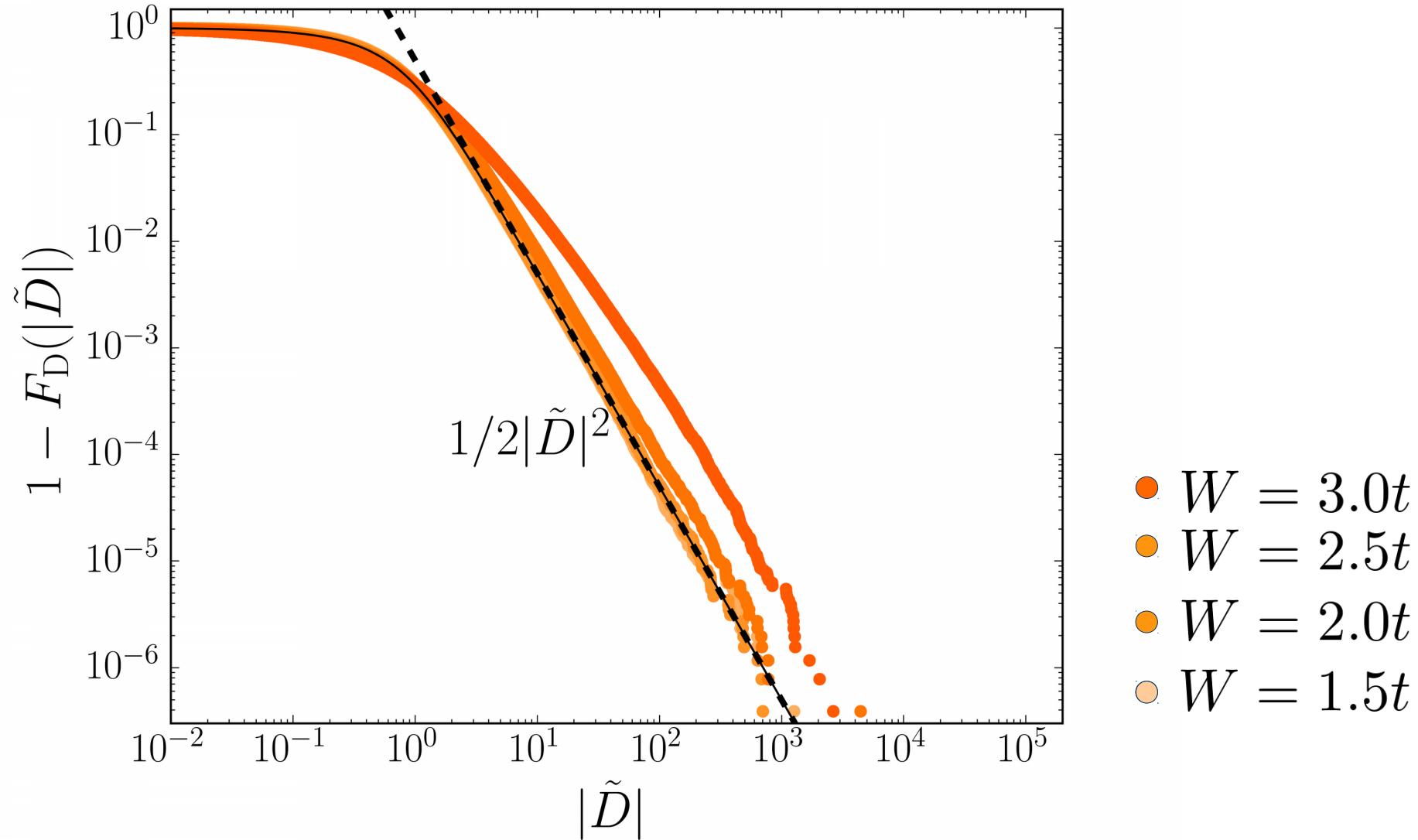
# Distribution across the MBL transition



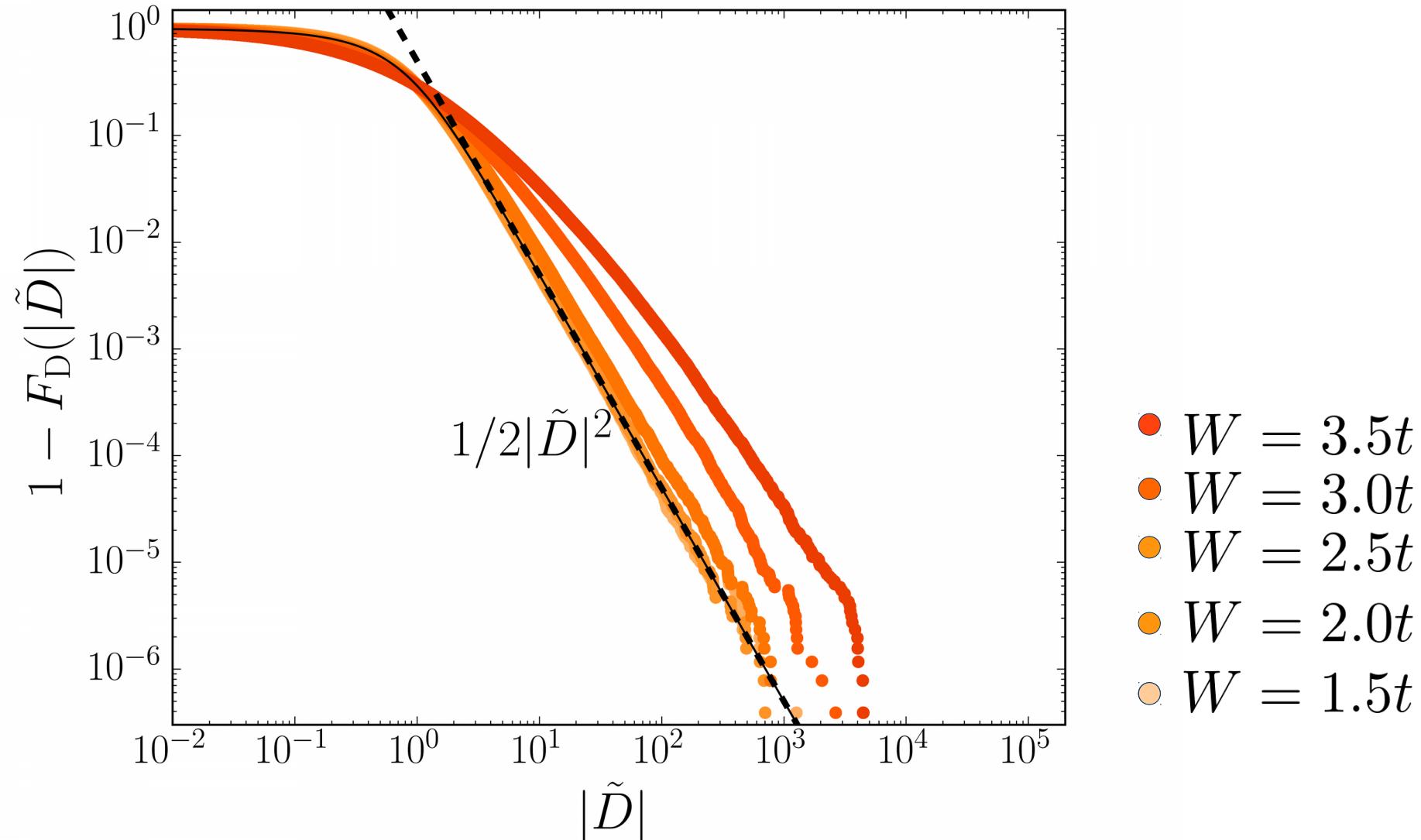
# Distribution across the MBL transition



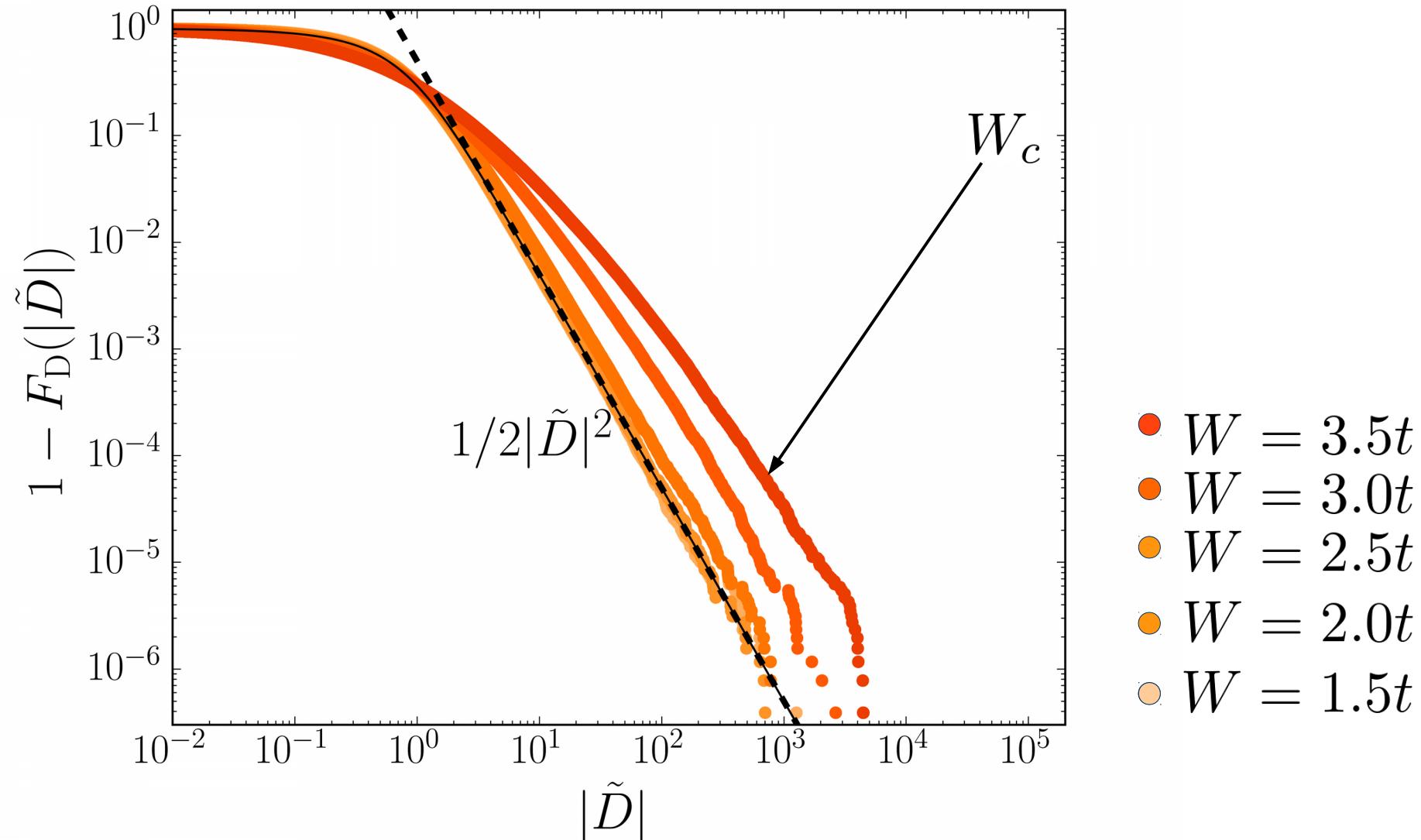
# Distribution across the MBL transition



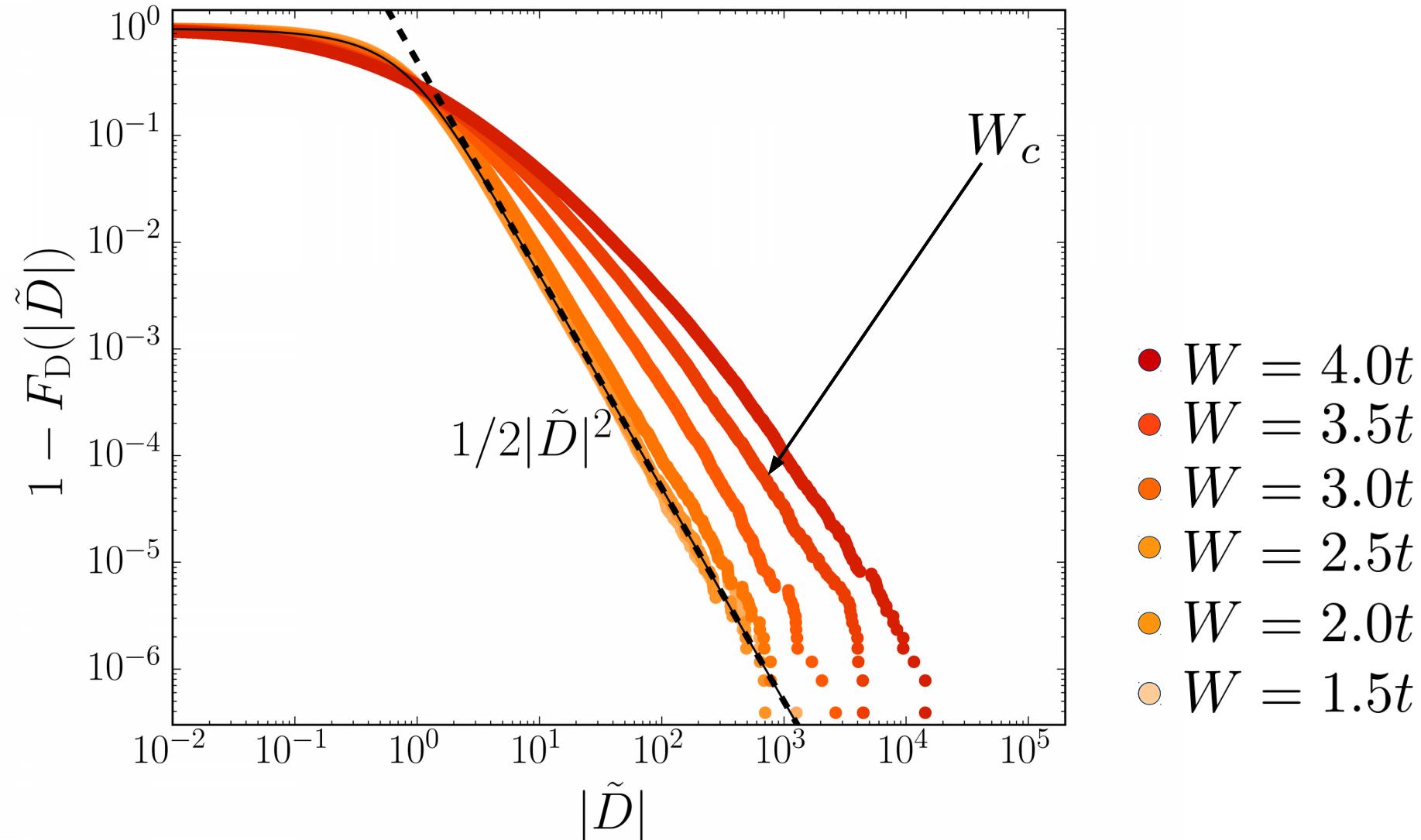
# Distribution across the MBL transition



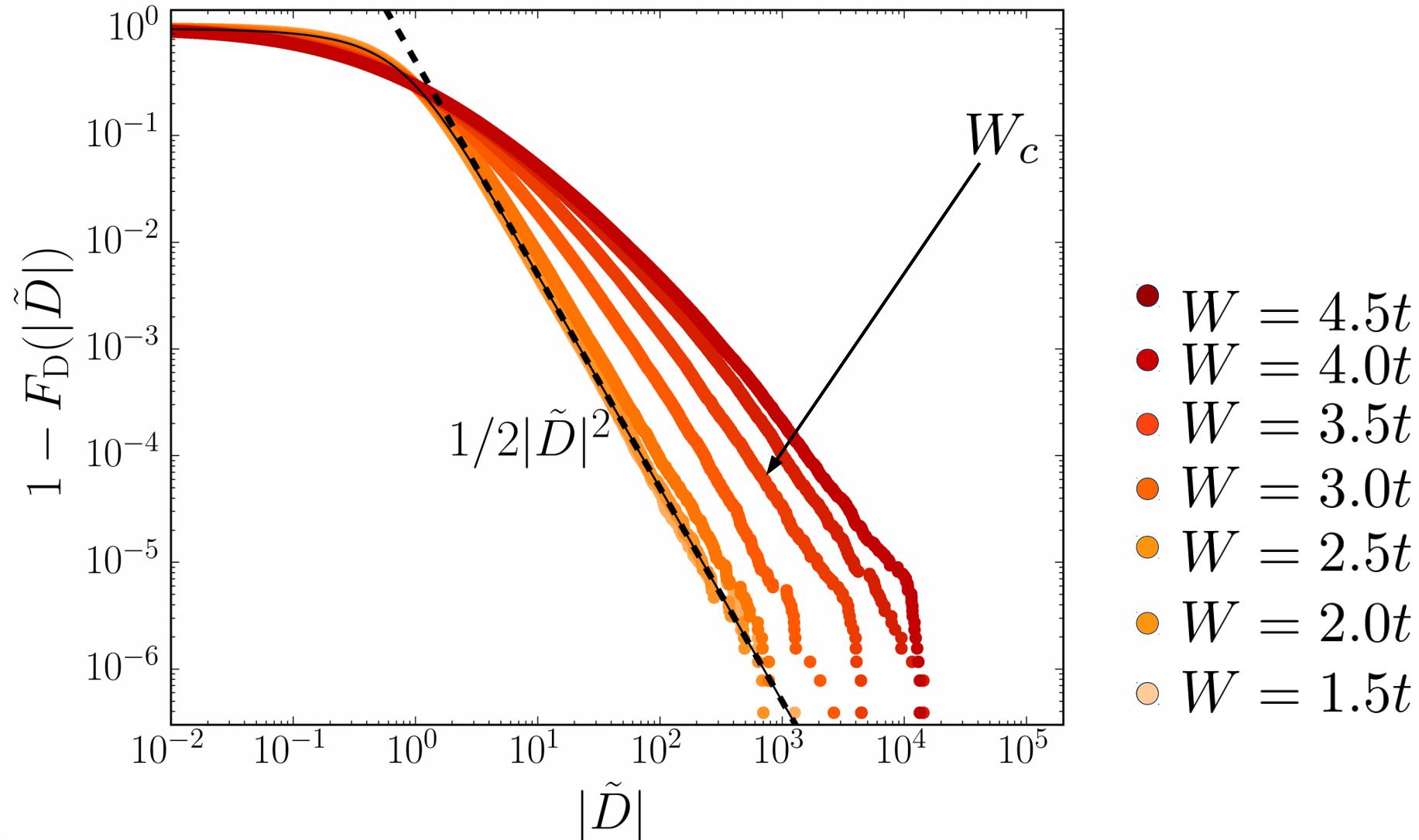
# Distribution across the MBL transition



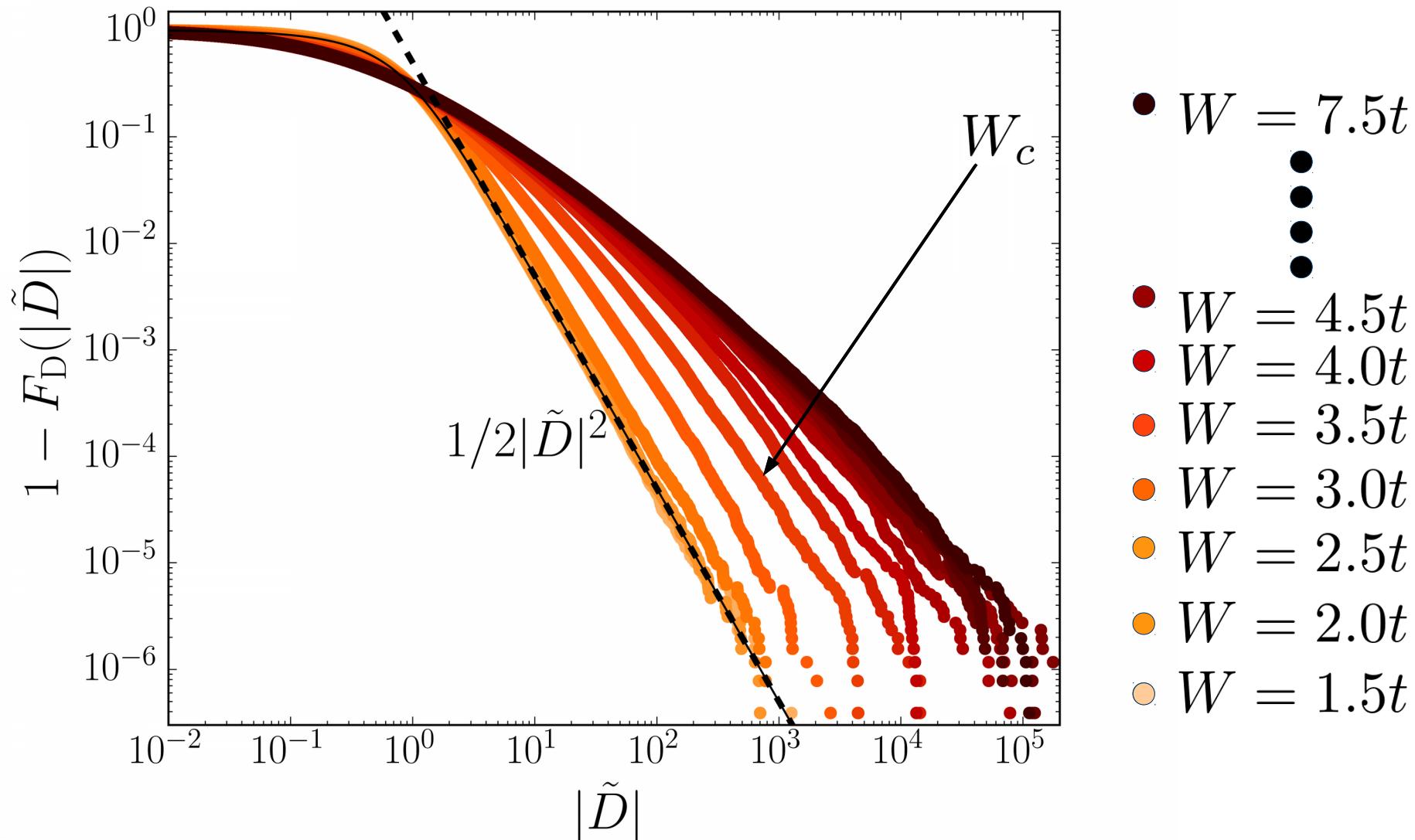
# Distribution across the MBL transition



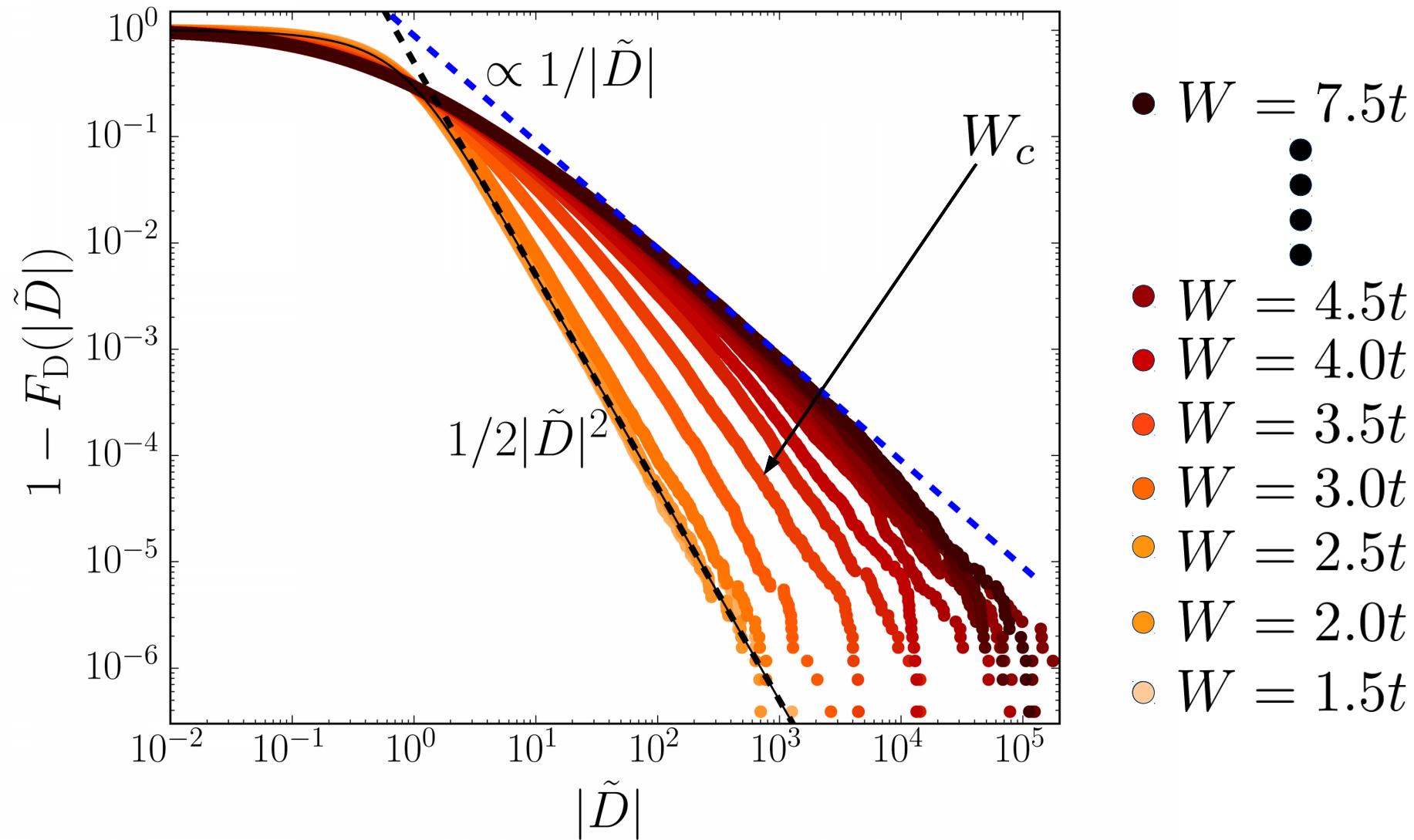
# Distribution across the MBL transition



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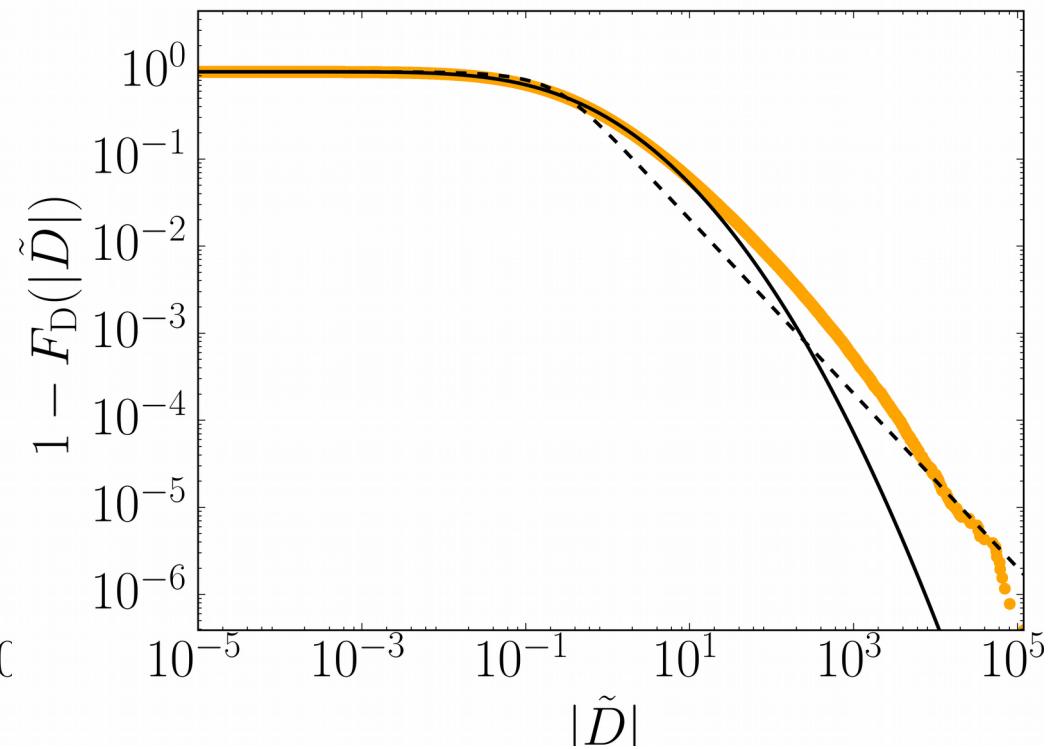
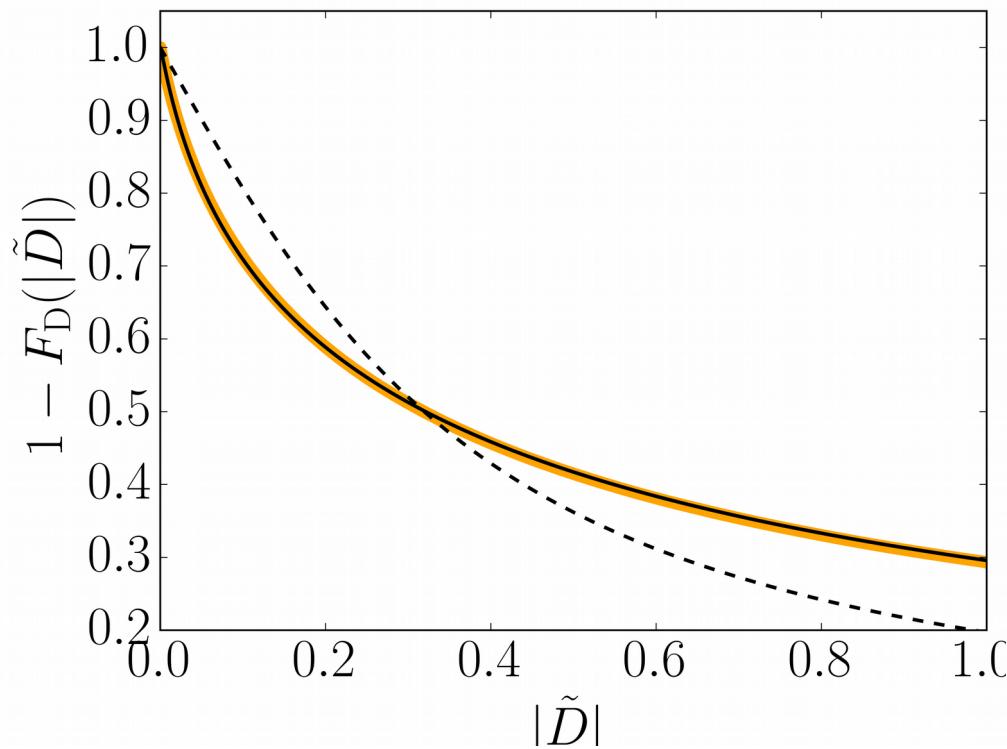


# Distribution across the MBL transition



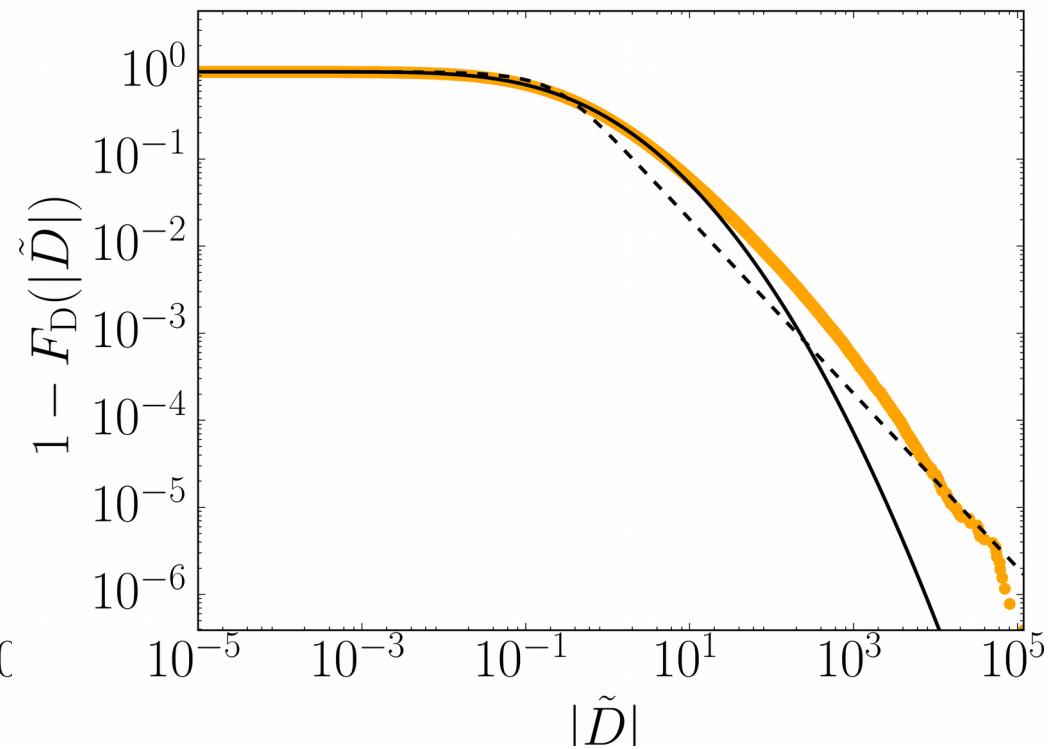
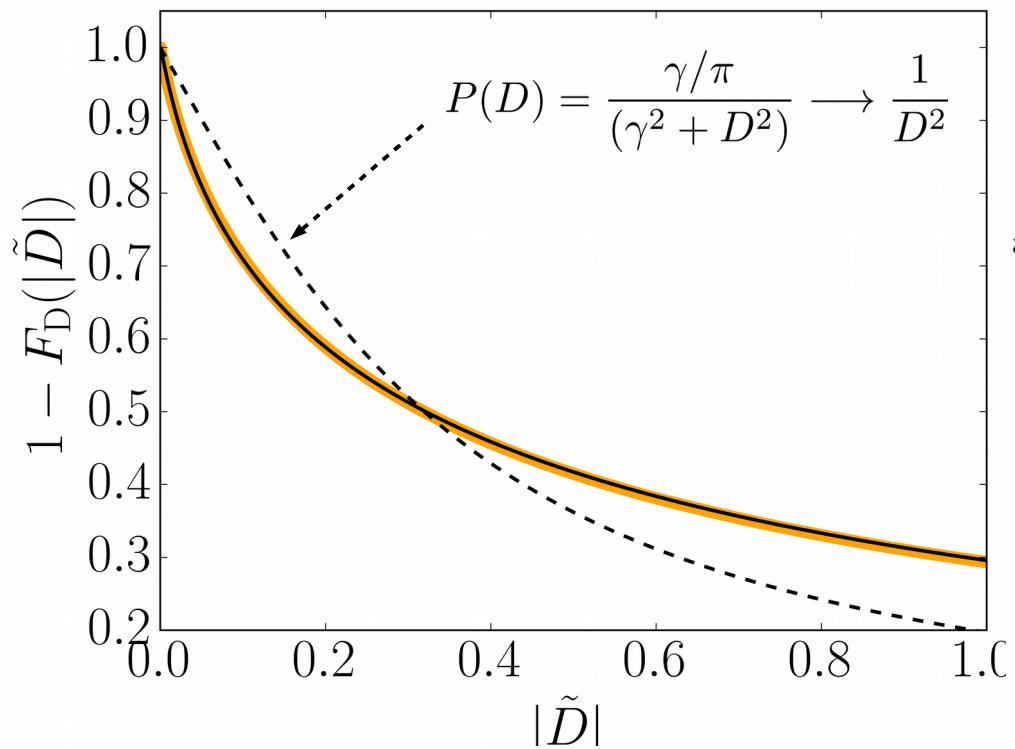
# Distribution deep in the MBL phase

$W = 5.5t$



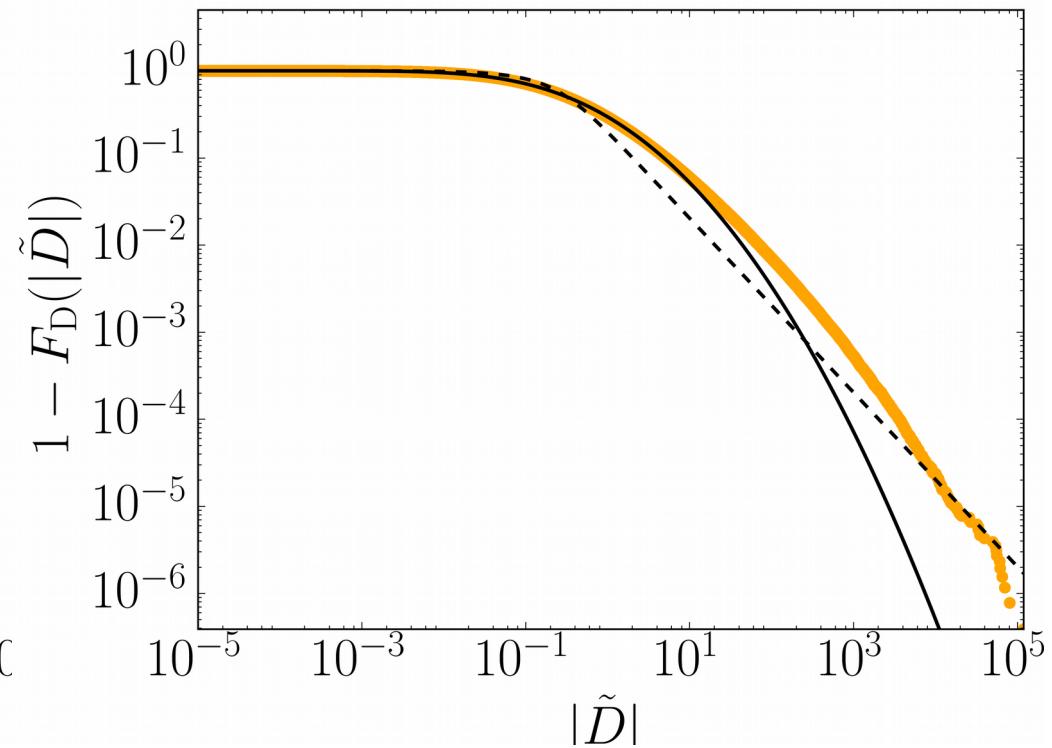
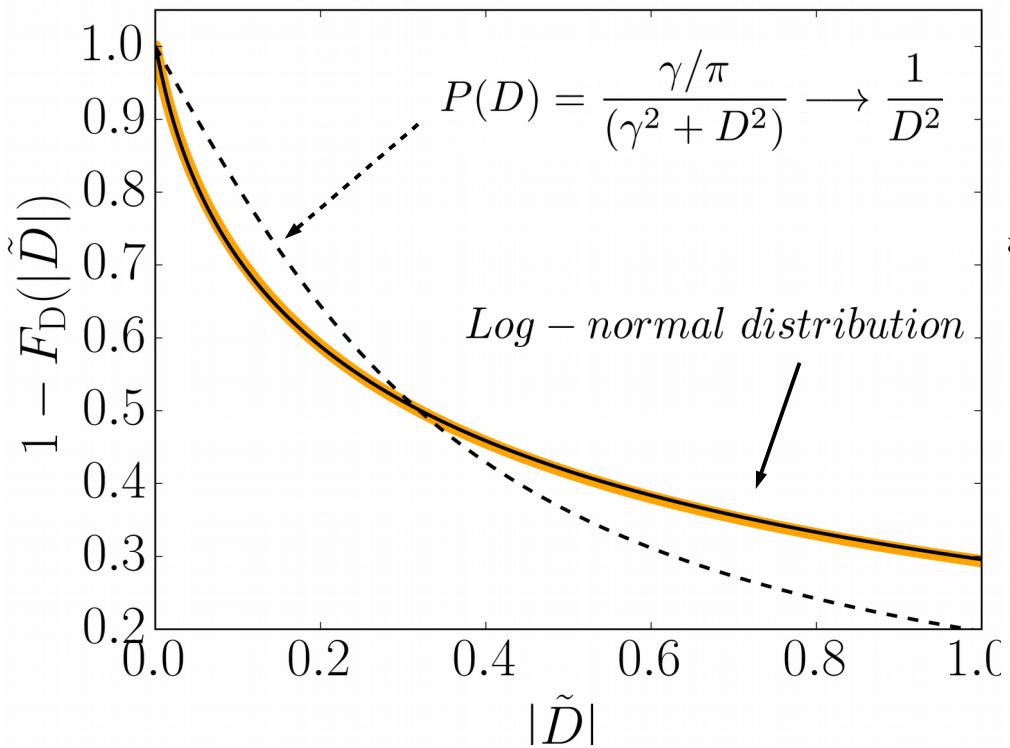
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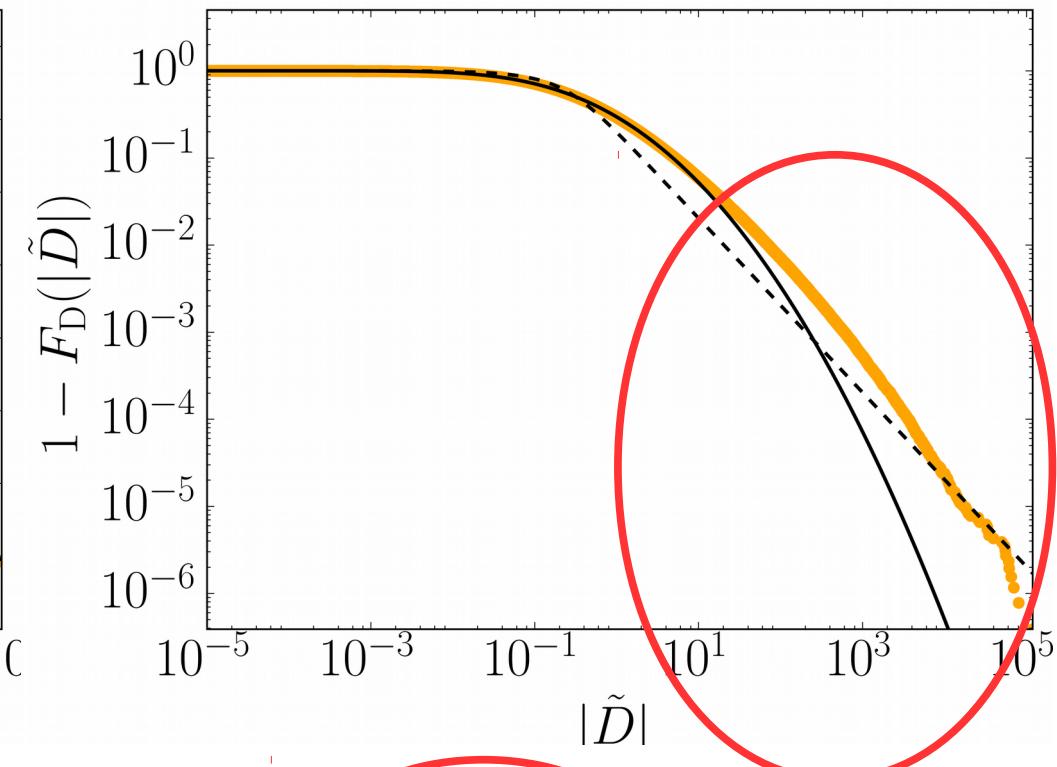
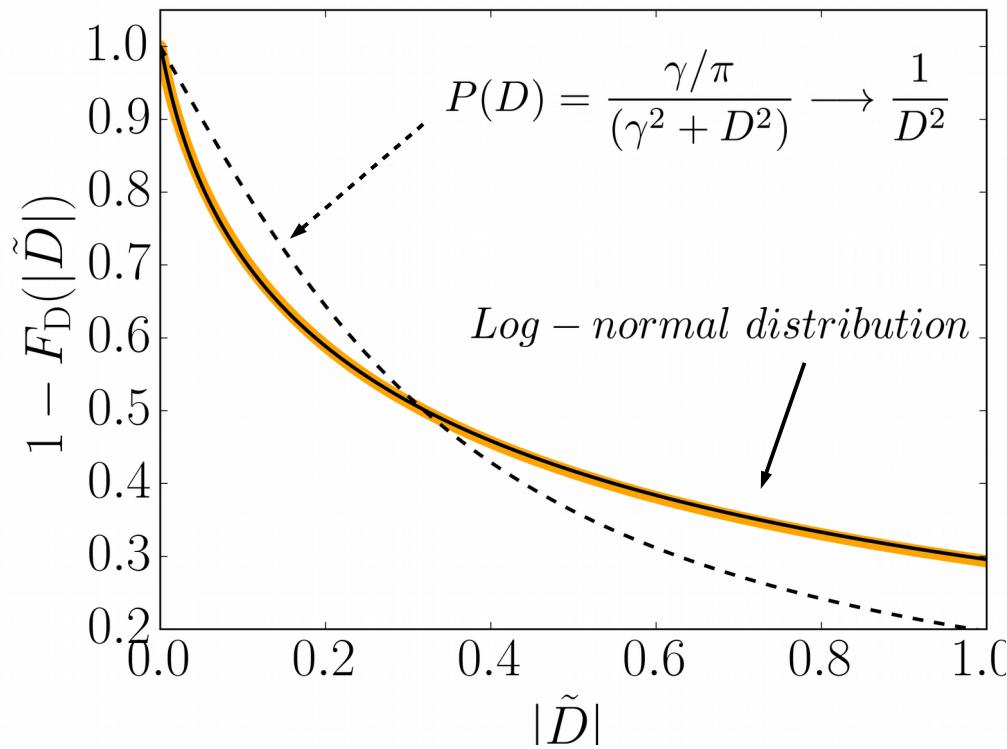
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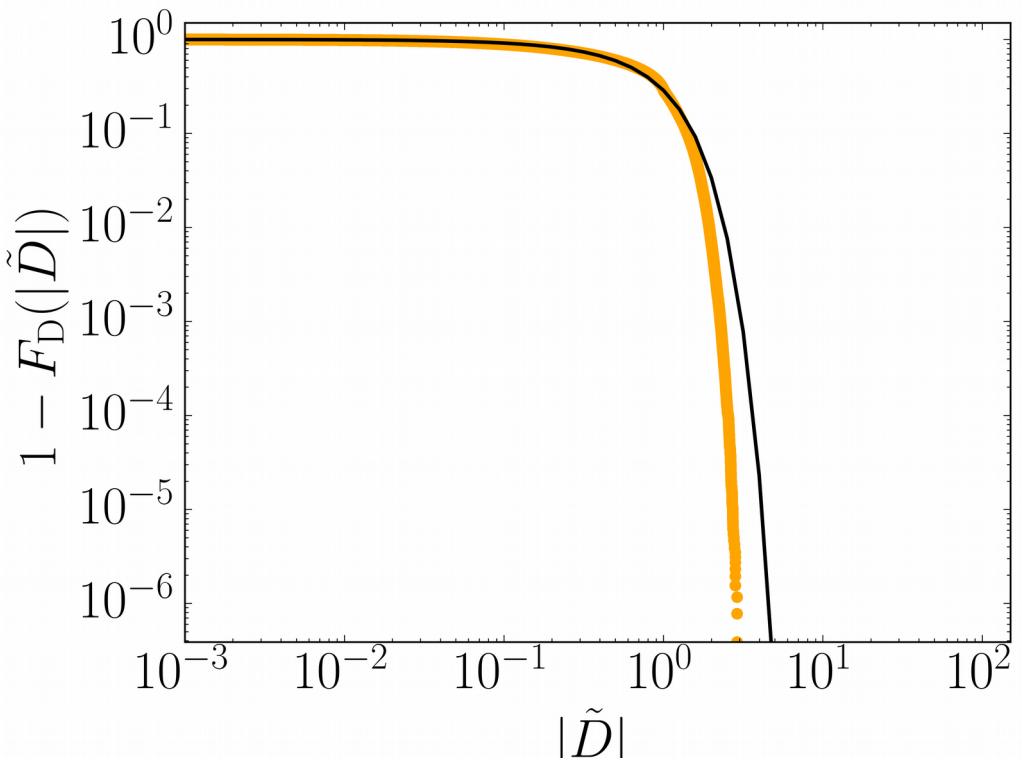
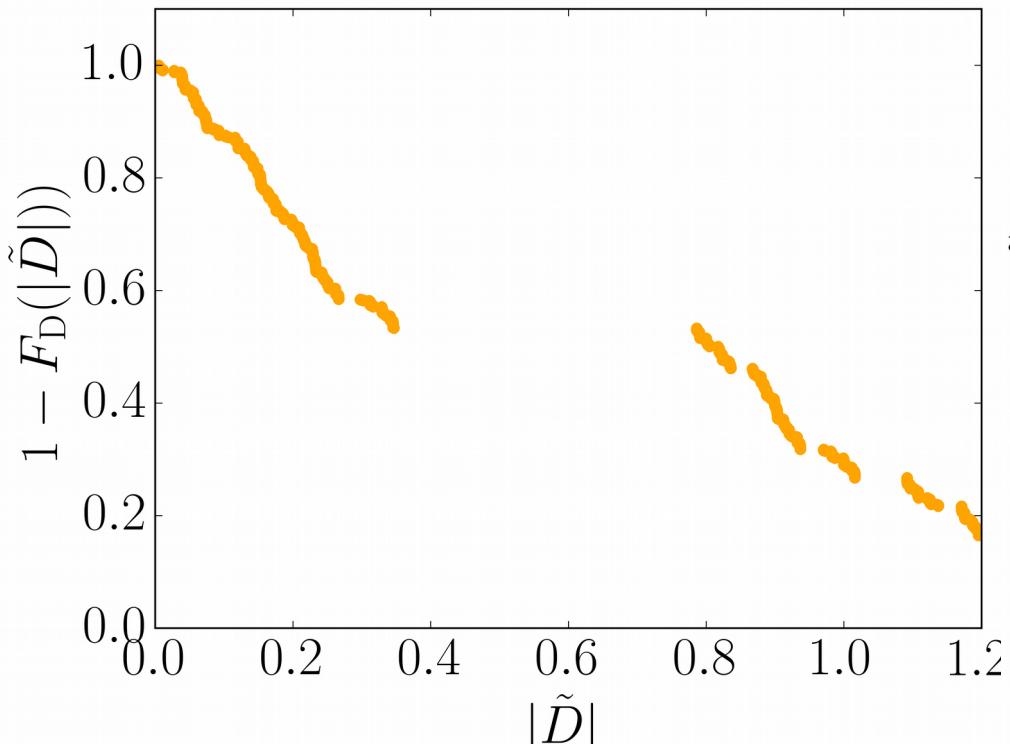
$W = 5.5t$



$$D_n = e^2 \frac{4\pi^2}{L} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \langle \mathcal{T} \rangle + L^2 \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{|\langle \psi_n | \mathcal{I} | \psi_m \rangle|^2}{E_n - E_m} \right]$$

# Anderson localization

$$W = 2.0t$$



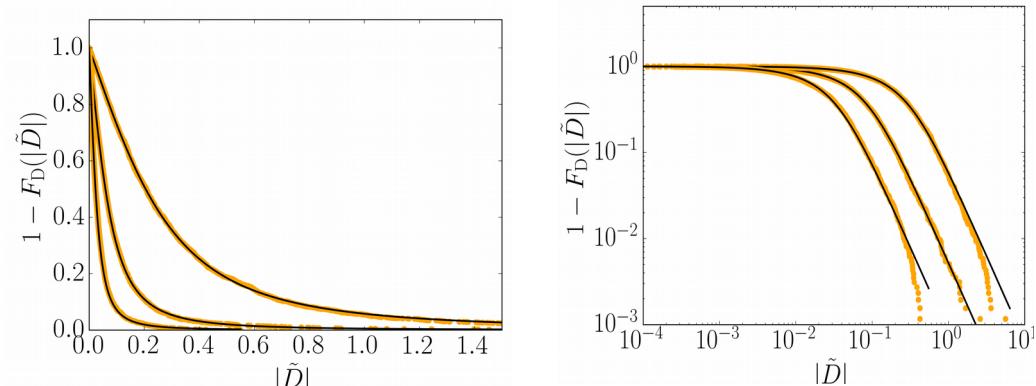
$$D_n = \sum_n d_n$$

$d_n$  : single particle curvatures

$\sim 16$  for MB state

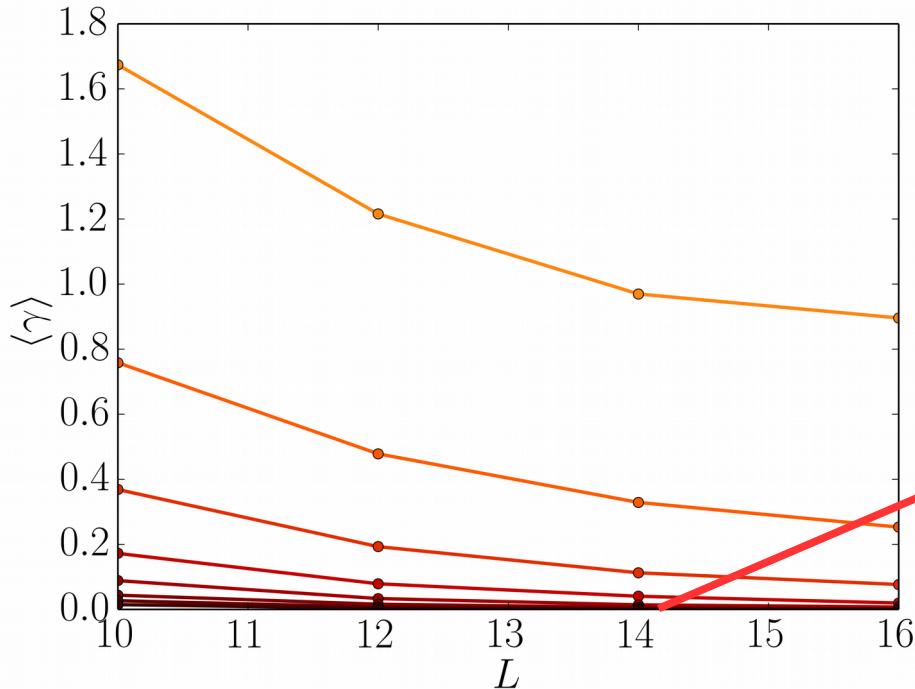
# A scaling order parameter for the MBL transition

# A scaling order parameter for the MBL transition



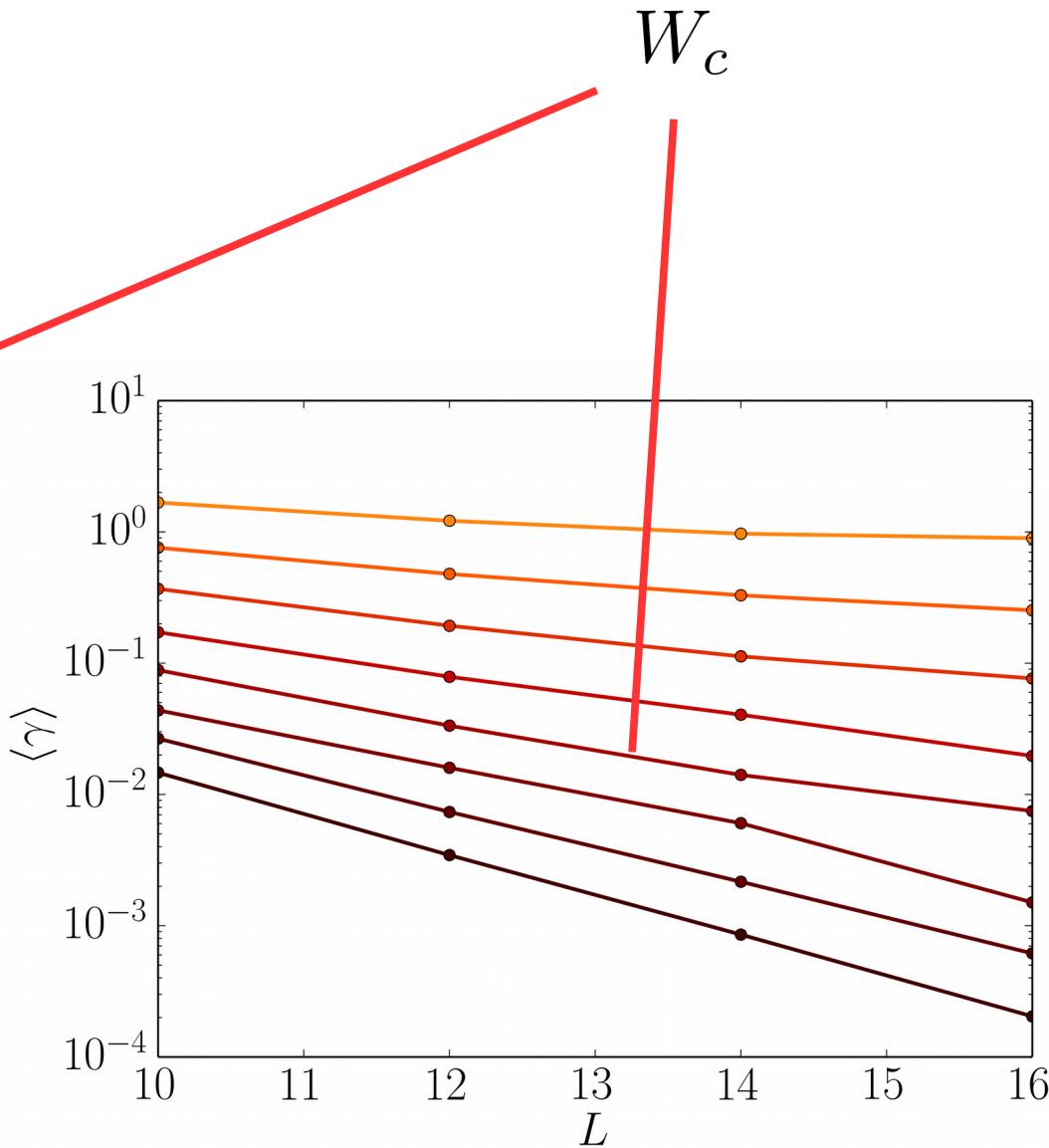
$$F_{D,RMT}(D) = \frac{|D|}{\sqrt{\gamma^2 + D^2}} \rightarrow 1 - \frac{\gamma^2}{2D^2}$$

# Width scaling with systems size



*Exponential decay for  $W > W_c$*

$$\gamma \simeq L \left\langle \left| \frac{\partial E_n}{\partial \Phi} \right| \right\rangle$$



# An order parameter for the transition

*The dimensionless “Thouless” conductance ...*

$$\sigma = \frac{\langle \gamma \rangle}{L\Delta}$$

*... nicely detects the MBL transition*

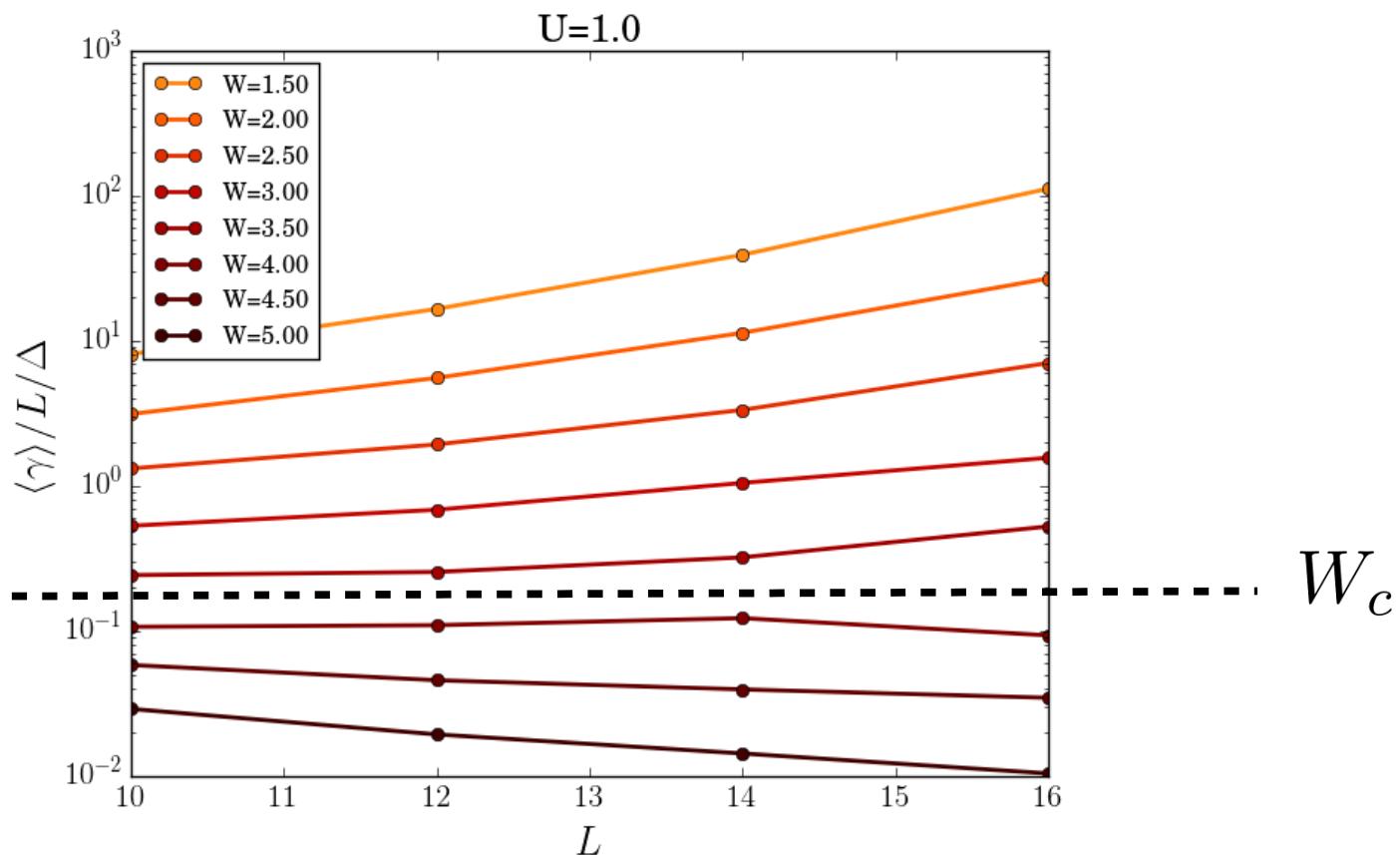
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The dimensionless “Thouless” conductance ...

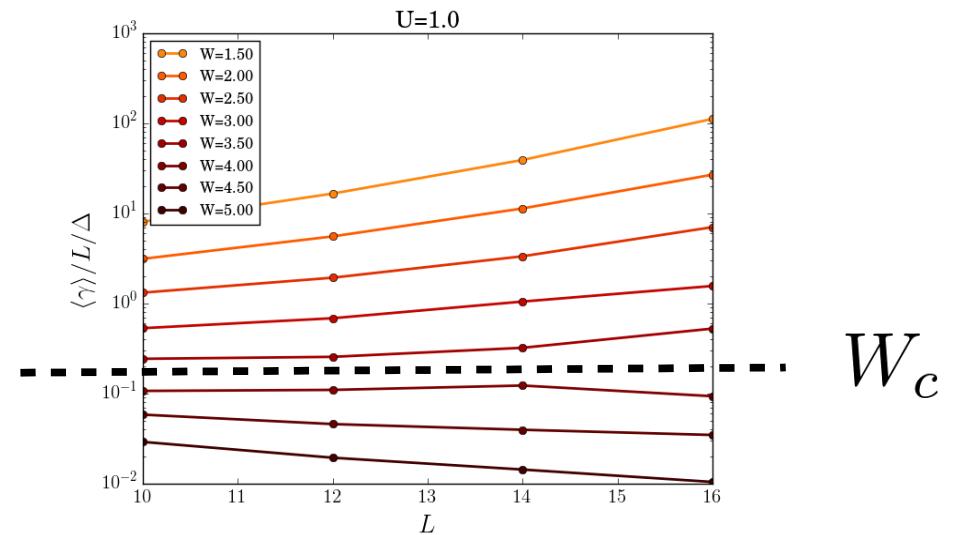
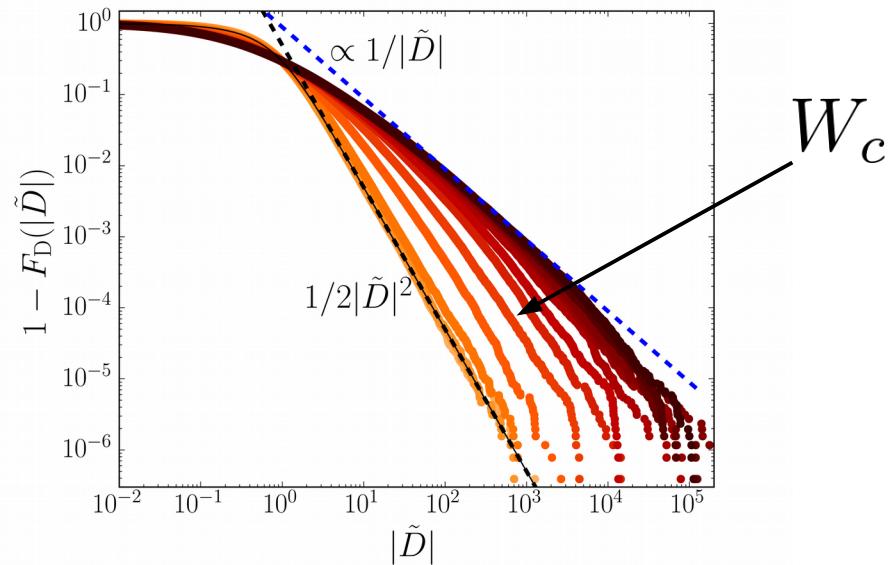
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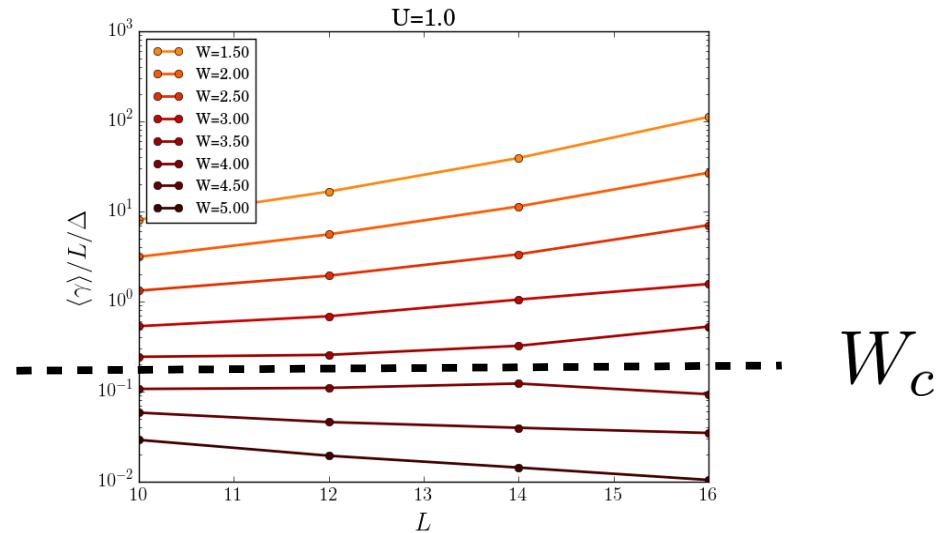
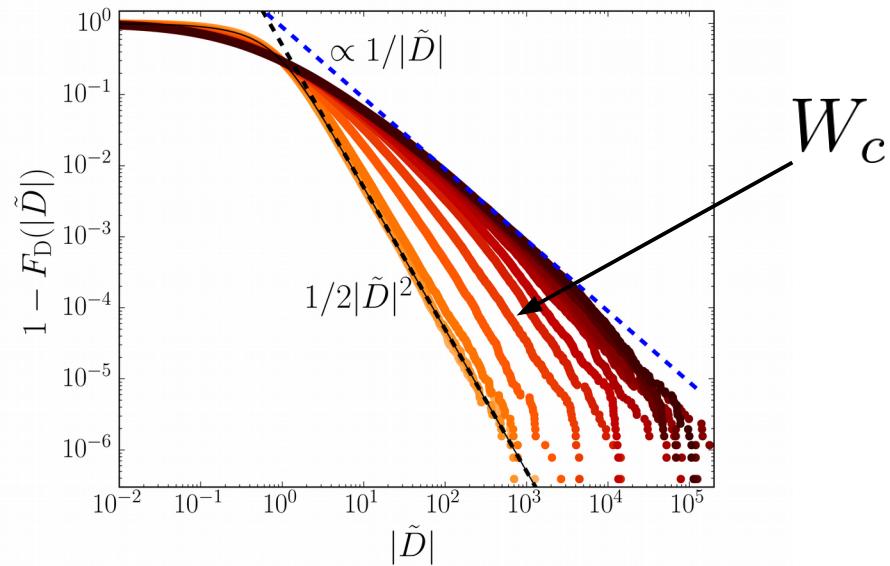
# Conclusions

**Level curvatures are a reliable tool to study transport in equilibrium MBL systems**



# Conclusions

**Level curvatures are a reliable tool to study transport in equilibrium MBL systems**



- *Bigger system sizes and analytical tools are needed*
- *Interaction increase the localization length of Many-Body systems*
- *Study mobility edge and the transition*

**Thank you for your attention !!!**