

# Transport and fractality in boundary driven chains

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# Outline

- Transport in (disordered) chains

Agarwal et al., *arXiv 1408.3413*  
Vosk-Altman-Huse, *arXiv 1412.3117*  
VKV et al., *arXiv 1511.09144*

- Lindblad boundary driving

Prosen-Znidaric, *JSTAT* (2009)

- Anomalous hydrodynamics in a ...

- Disordered + interacting chain

Znidaric-Scardicchio-VKV, *PRL* (2016)

- Quasidisordered + free chain

VKV-Pilati-Kravtsov, *PRB* (2016)

VKV-Mulatier-Znidaric, *arXiv* (2017)

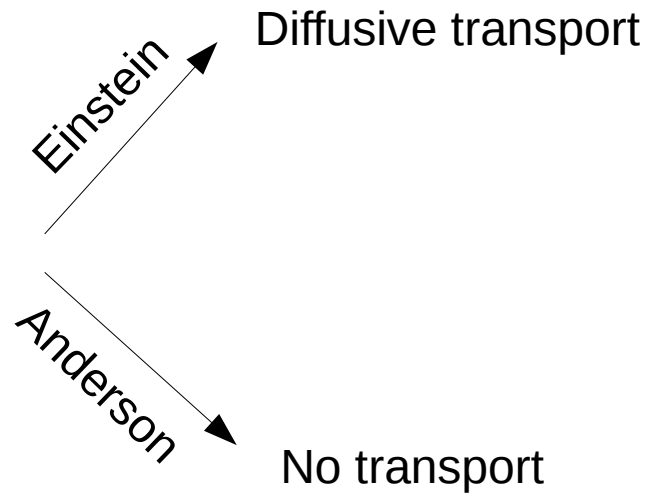
- Clean chain ( $\approx$  integrable)

Sanchez-VKV-Oganesyan, *soon* (2017)

# Transport (in disordered systems)

- Usually:

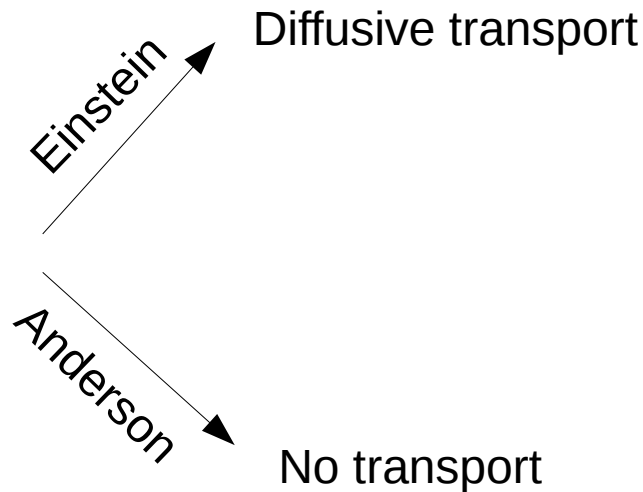
- Disordered system



# Transport (in disordered systems)

- Usually:

- Disordered system



$$\frac{\partial \phi(x, t)}{\partial t} = -\nabla \cdot \vec{j}(x, t)$$



Continuity equation (exact)

$$\vec{j}(x, t) = -\mathcal{D}_s \nabla \phi(x, t)$$



Fick's first law (assumption)

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial \phi(x, t)}{\partial t} = \mathcal{D}_s \Delta \phi(x, t)$$

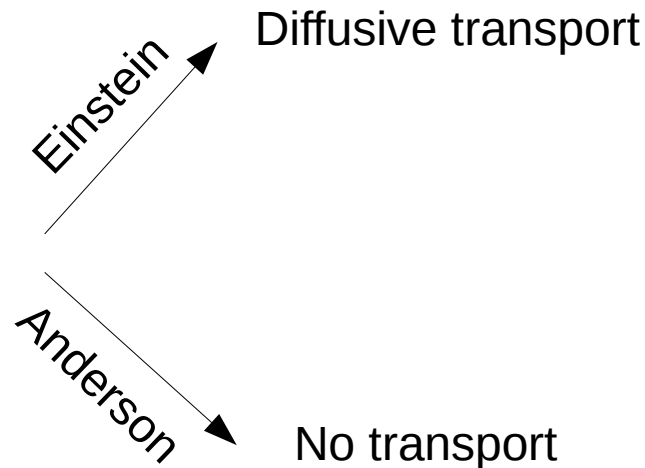


Transport equation (phenomenological)

# Transport (in disordered systems)

- Usually:

- Disordered system



- BUT it can be anomalous:

$$\frac{\partial \phi(x, t)}{\partial t} = \tilde{D} \nabla^{2+b} \phi(x, t),$$

$b > 0$  : subdiffusion

*Levy flights*: Derrida et al. (1982 - ...)

*Criticality*: Ohtsuki et al. (1997)

*Griffiths fractality*: Huse et al. (2016)

...

# Boundary driven chain

- Lindblad's master equation: driving by 2 “baths”

$$d\rho/dt = i[\rho, H] + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=1}^4 \left( [L_k \rho, L_k^\dagger] + [L_k, \rho L_k^\dagger] \right)$$



Unitary part



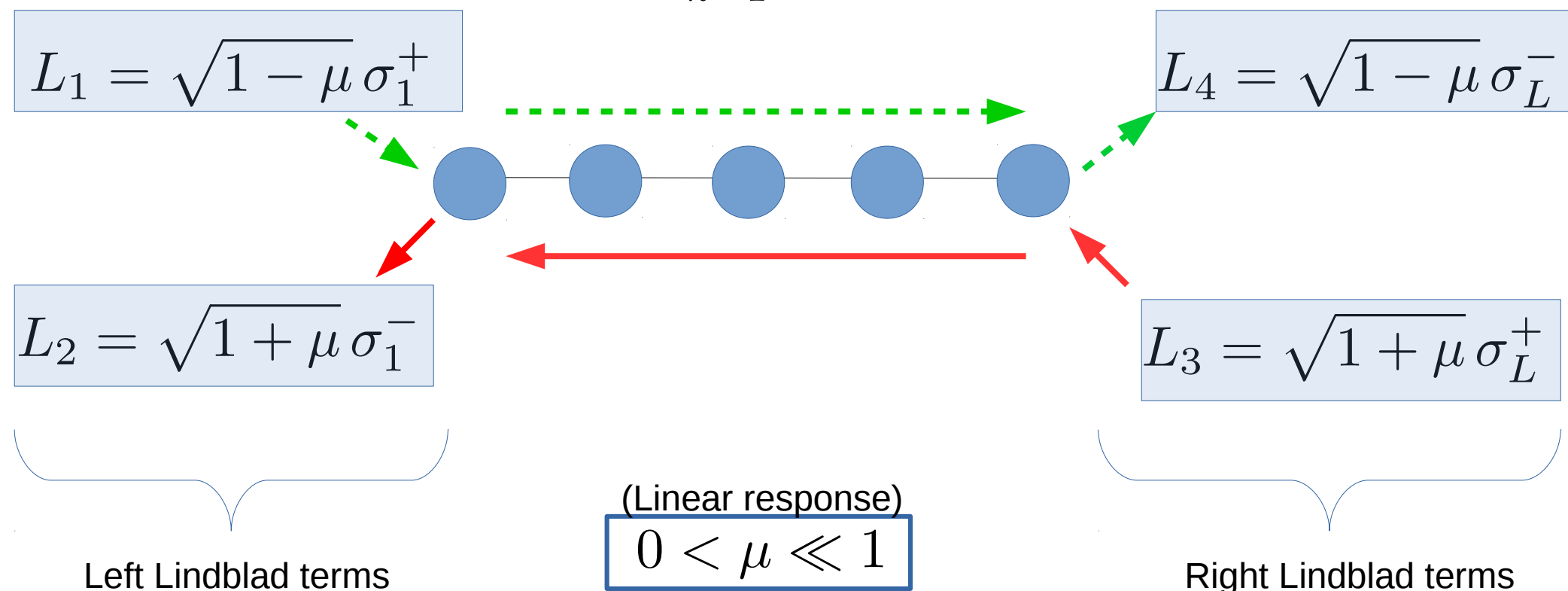
Dissipative part

See also: S. Weinberg, “The Trouble with QM”,  
*NY-Book Review* (2017)

# Boundary driven chain

- Lindblad's master equation: driving by 2 “baths”

$$d\rho/dt = i[\rho, H] + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=1}^4 \left( [L_k \rho, L_k^\dagger] + [L_k, \rho L_k^\dagger] \right)$$



# Steady state current

- Protocol

- Initialise density matrix  $\rho(0)$  (Infinite temperature)

- Evolve with t-DMRG:  $\rho_\infty = \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}}(\mathbb{1} + \mu \dots)$

- Measure final current:  $\text{tr}(j_k \rho_\infty) = \langle j_k \rangle$

$$j_k := i[s_k^z, H_{k,k+1}] = s_k^x s_{k+1}^y - s_k^y s_{k+1}^x$$



# Steady state current

- Scaling of steady state current

$$j \sim \frac{1}{L^\gamma} \sim D(L) \frac{\langle s_L^z \rangle - \langle s_1^z \rangle}{L}$$

- Spreading of spin excitations

$$x^2 \sim t^{2\beta} \sim D(t)t$$

$$\beta = \frac{1}{1 + \gamma}$$

Superdiffusion:  $1/2 < \beta < 1 \rightarrow 0 < \gamma < 1$

Diffusion:  $\beta = 1/2 \rightarrow \gamma = 1$

Subdiffusion:  $0 < \beta < 1/2 \rightarrow 1 < \gamma < \infty$

# Disordered Heisenberg model

- Standard model of 1D physics

$$H = \sum_{k=1}^{L-1} H_{k,k+1}$$

$$H_{r,p} = s_r^x s_p^x + s_r^y s_p^y + \Delta s_r^z s_p^z + \frac{h_r}{2} s_r^z + \frac{h_p}{2} s_p^z, \quad h_i \in [-h, h]$$

- (In)finite temperature quantum phase transition

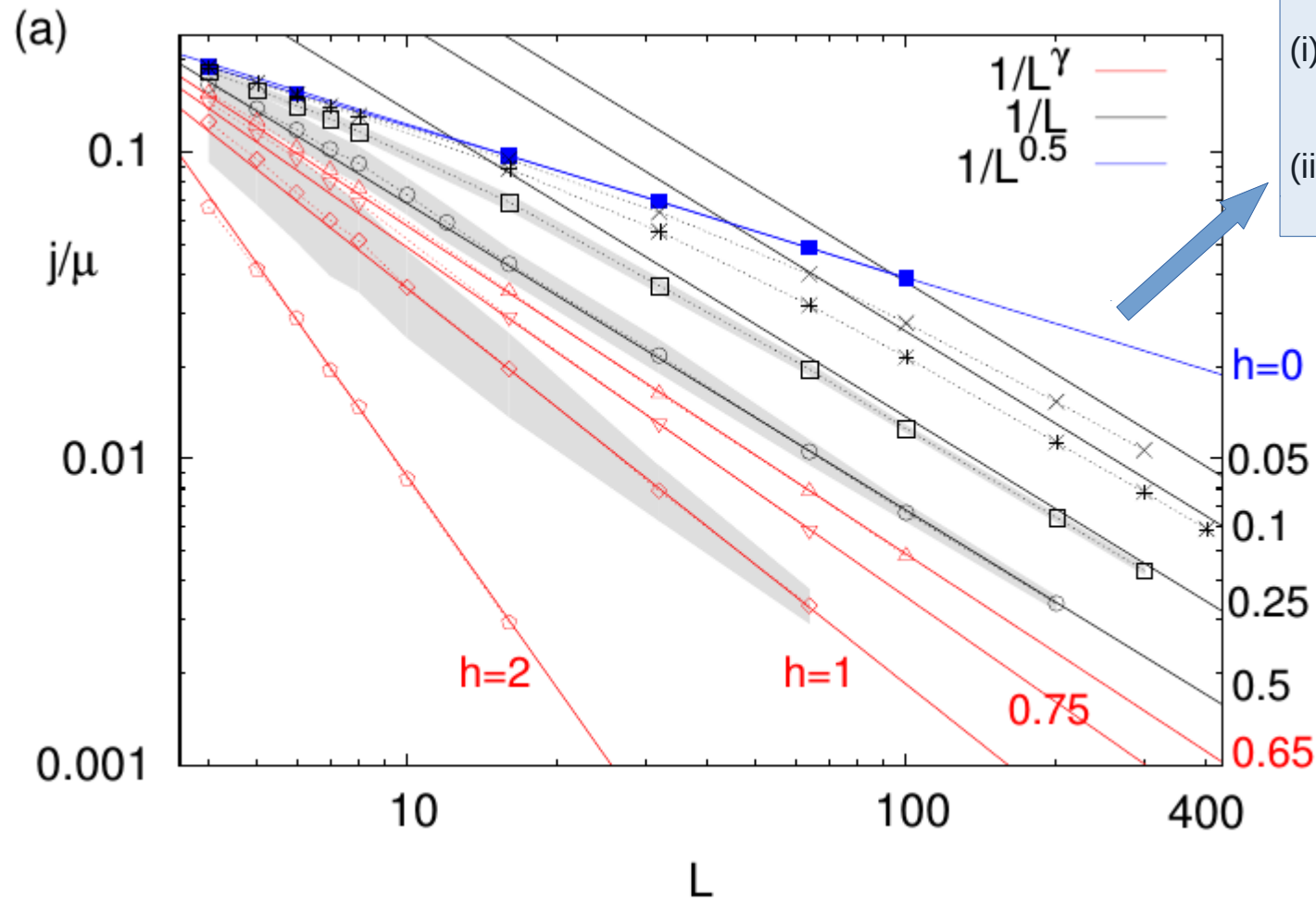
Thermal phase (ETH ✓)

Localised phase (ETH ✗)

Here dwell dragons

Disorder strength  $h$  

# Isotropic point: steady state current



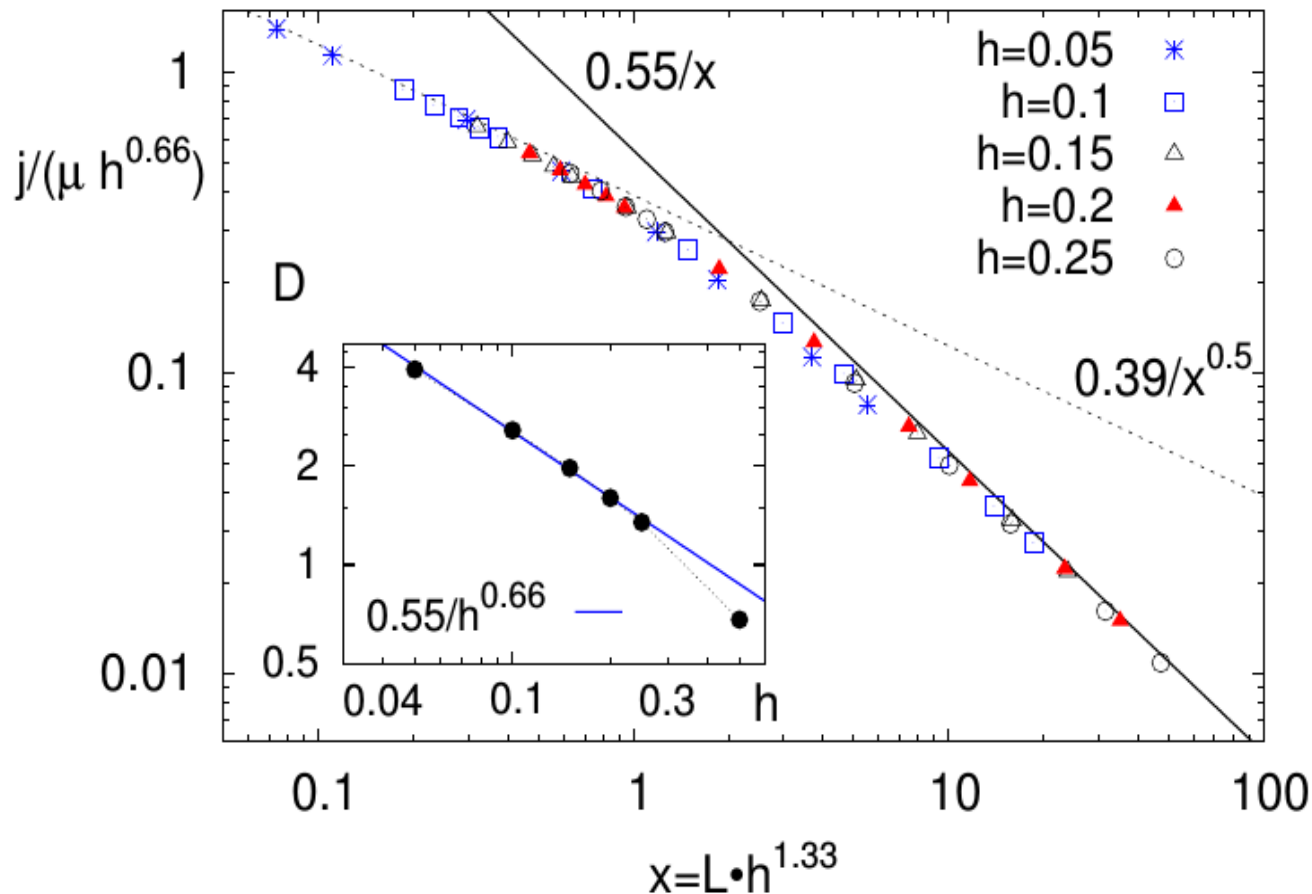
$h=0$  quantitatively agrees with:

(i) long-time ( $t \sim 150$ ) unitary t-DMRG  
Ljubotina et al., *Nat. Comm.* (2017)

(ii) memory function, and Kubo response  
Sanchez-VKV-Oganesyan, *soon* (2017)

UPSHOT: Critical length scale  $L^*$  below which disorder is irrelevant

# Isotropic point: scaling collapse



$$L_* \sim \frac{1}{h^{2\beta}}$$

Estimable from FGR

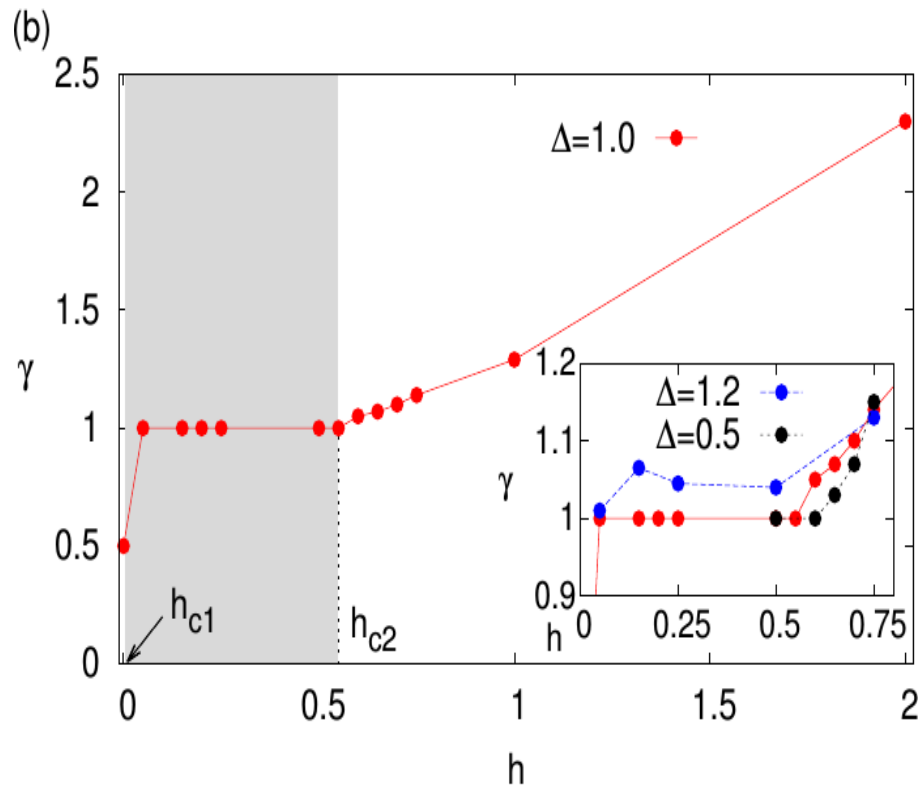


“Pretends” to be clean



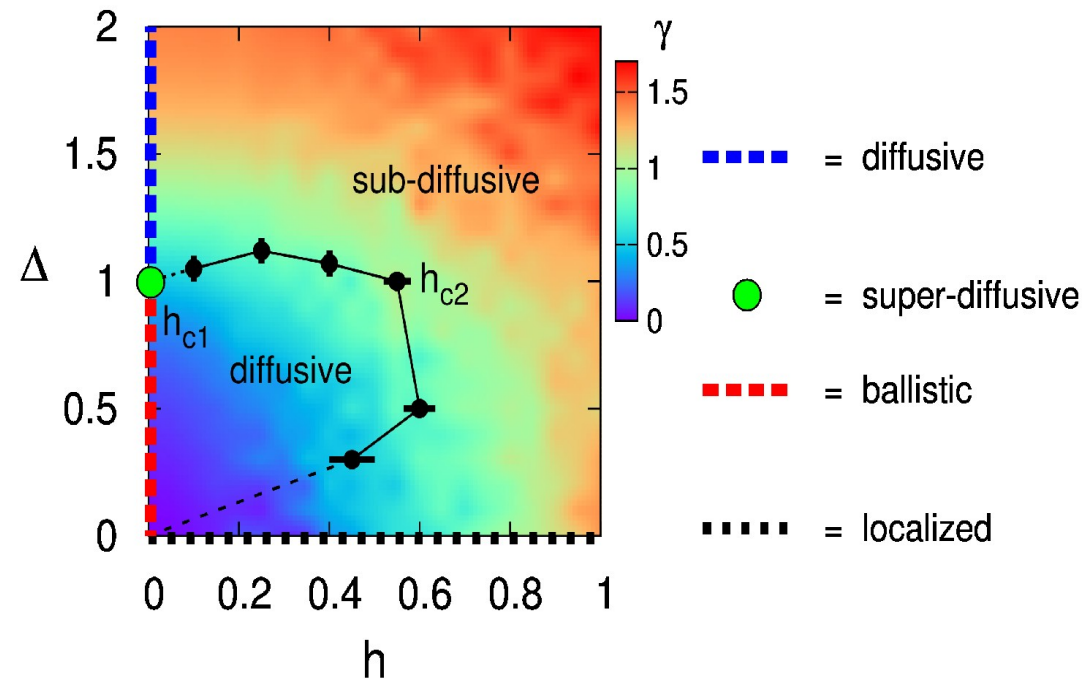
Disorder is felt

# Dynamical exponent



Diffusive

Subdiffusive



Dynamical phase diagram

## Similar (and more!) effects for energy:

VKV-Lerose-Pietracaprina-Goold-Scardicchio, *JSTAT* (2017)

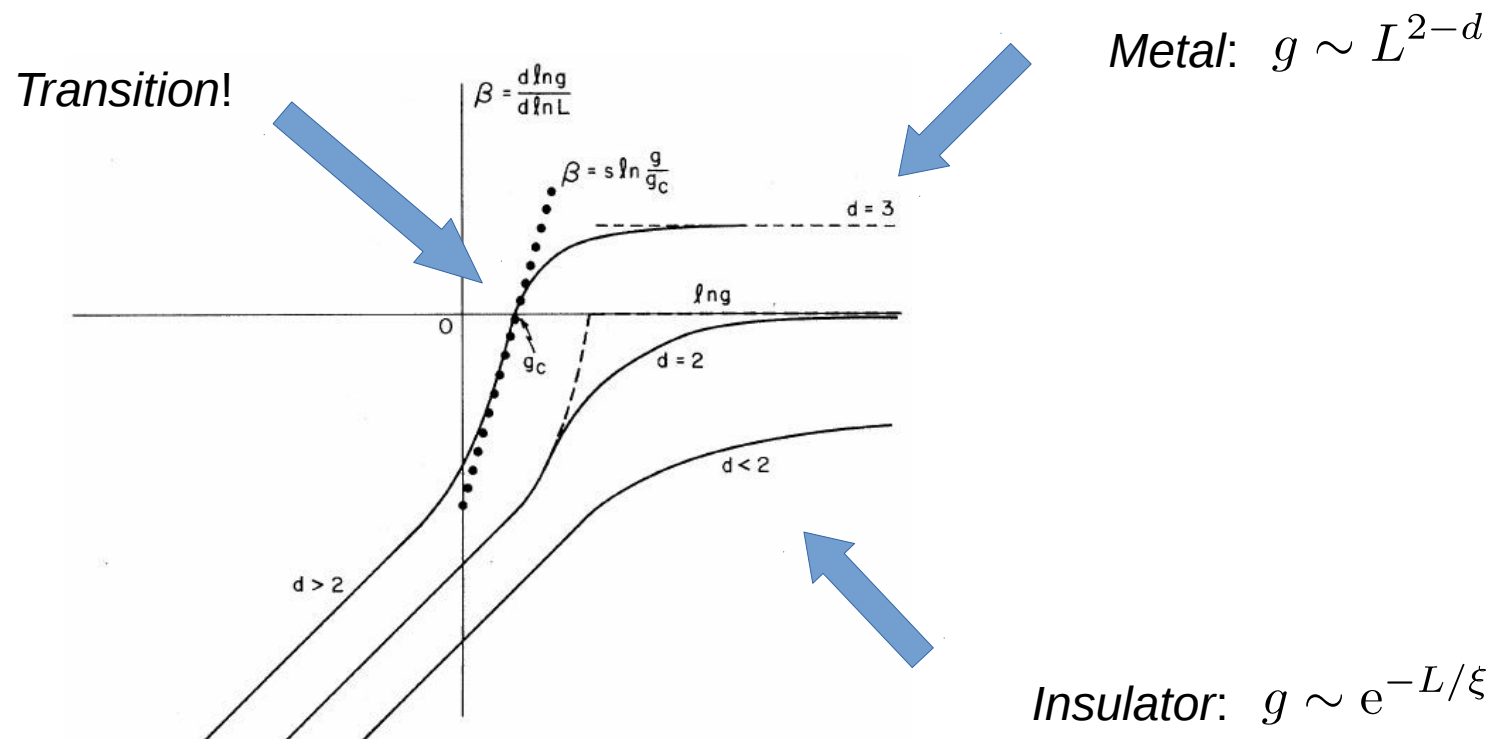
Arenas-Znidaric-VKV-Goold-Clark-Scardicchio, *soon(?)* (2017)

**Question**: since anomalous transport has long been seen in quasiperiodic systems (80's and 90's)\*, perhaps we should revisit it in this new light?

\* Hiramoto-Abe, *JPSJ* (1988)  
Piechon, *PRL* (1996)  
Ketzmerick et al., *PRL* (1997)

# Disordered systems

- Generically no localization transition in 1D





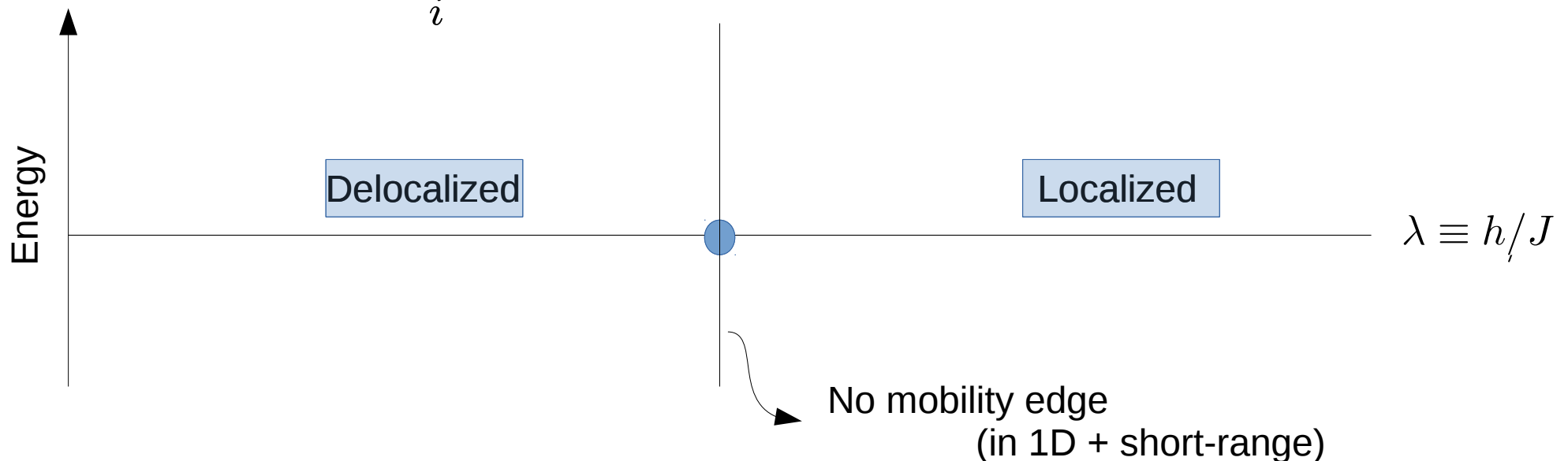
# Quasiperiodic systems

- Delocalizable even in 1D

$$\mathcal{H}_i = Js_i^x s_{i+1}^x + Js_i^y s_{i+1}^y + h \cos(2\pi gi + \phi) s_i^z$$

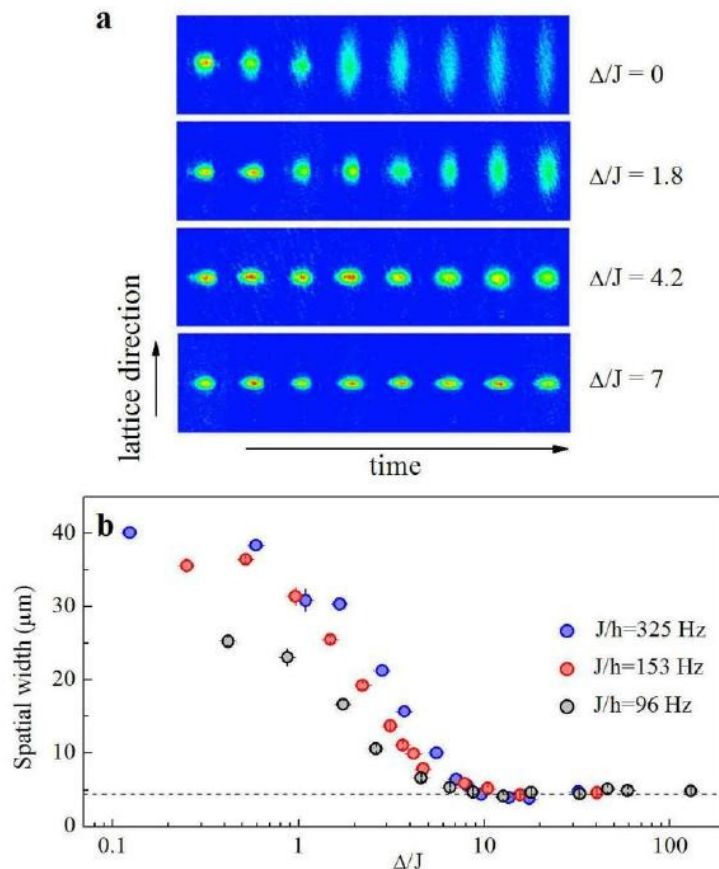
$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_i \mathcal{H}_i$$

Aubry and André (1980)



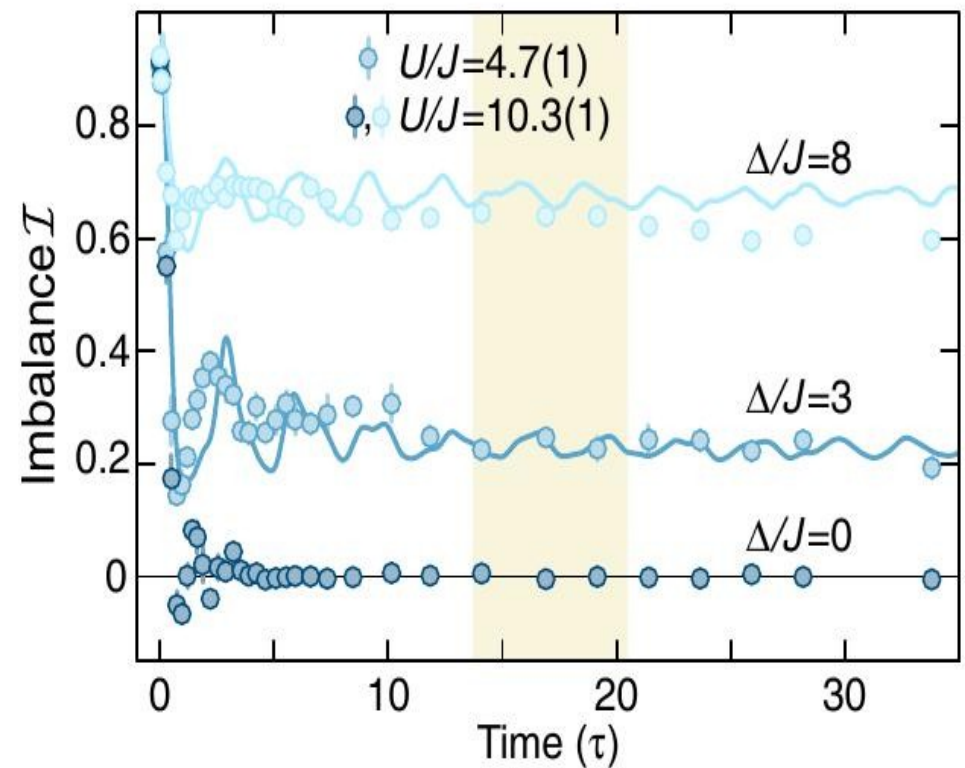
# Quasiperiodic systems

- Boson localization



*For atoms:* Roati et al. (Nature 2008)  
*For light:* Lahini et al. (PRL 2009)

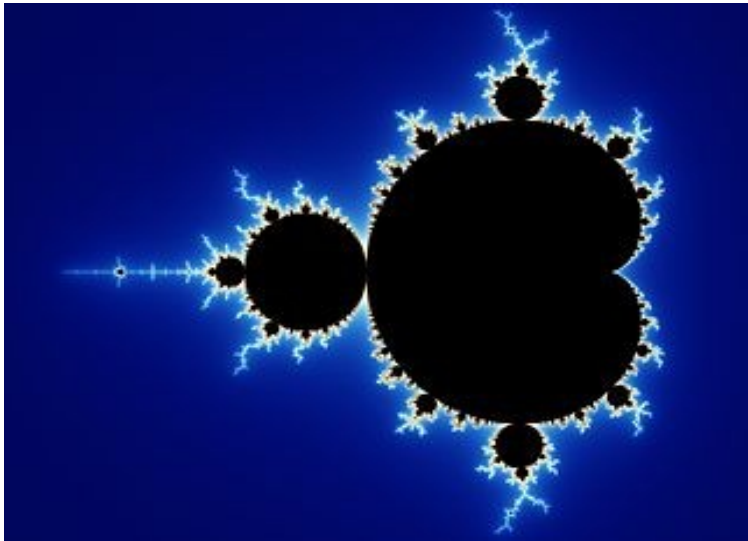
- Fermion localization



Schreiber et al. (Science 2015)

# Fractality

- Generic example



Benoit B. Mandelbrot set

Taylor et al., PLOS ONE (2017)

Ink blot



Computer generated

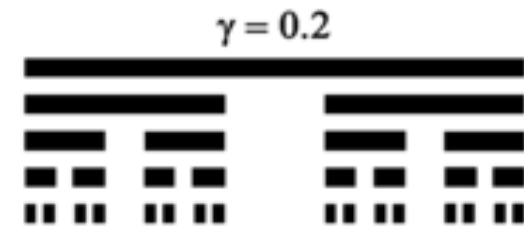


# Fractality

- Mathematics example

Generalized Cantor set

- Fractal dimension = function of  $\gamma$
- Spectra of quasiperiodic systems



Wikipedia



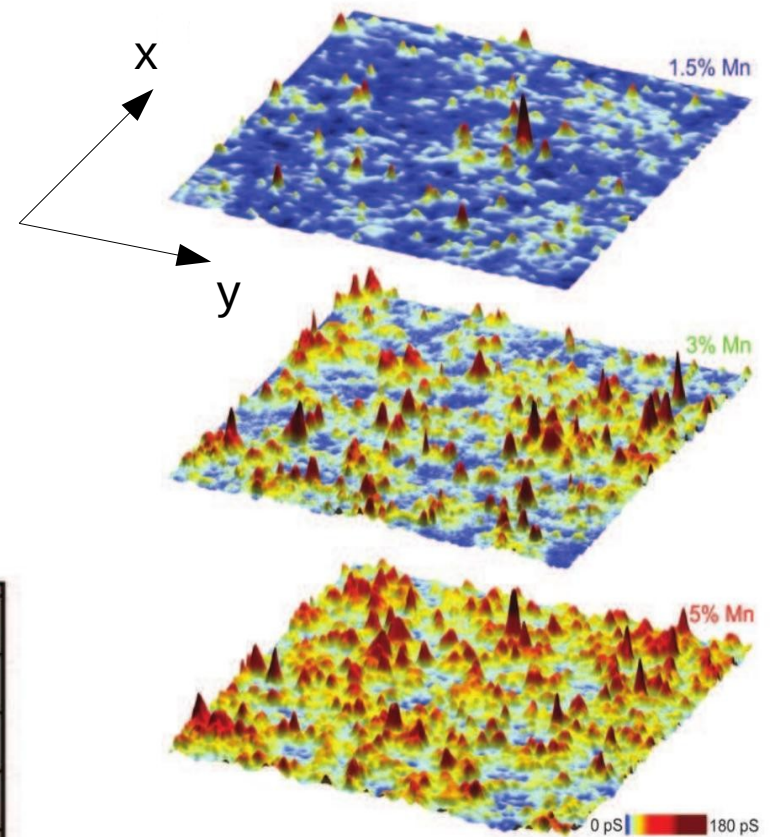
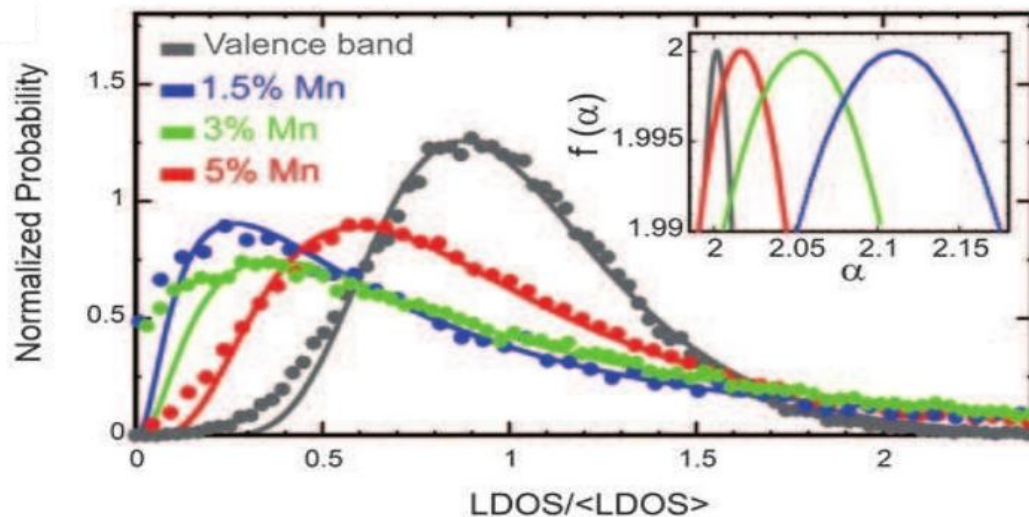
Avila, Fields Medal (2014)

# Fractality

- Physics example

Metal-insulator transitions

- Doped Gallium Arsenide
- LDOS at  $E_F$  using STEM



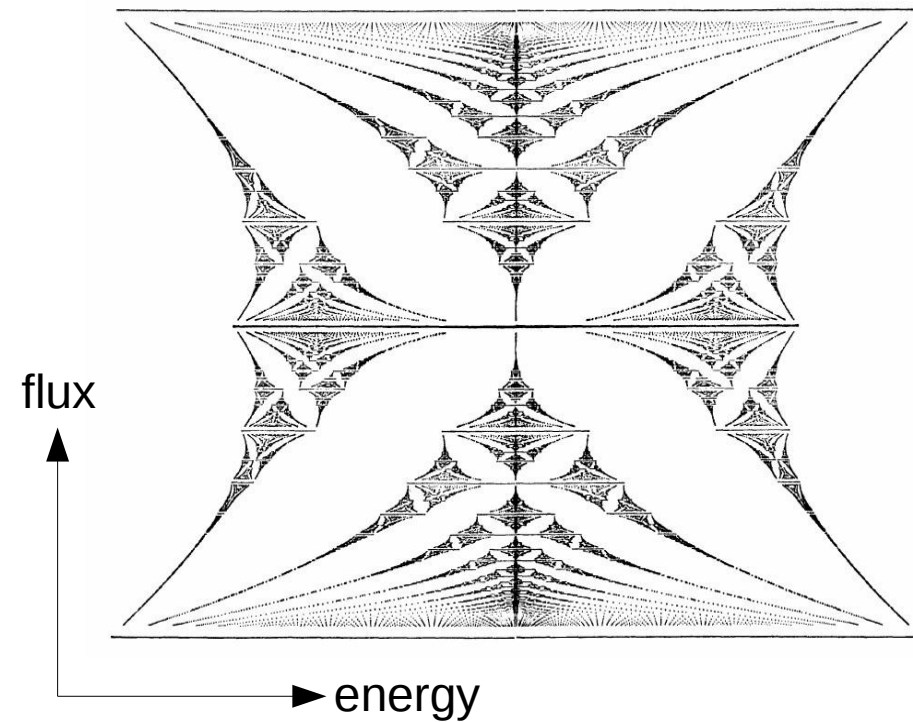
Richardella et al., Science (2010)

# Fractality

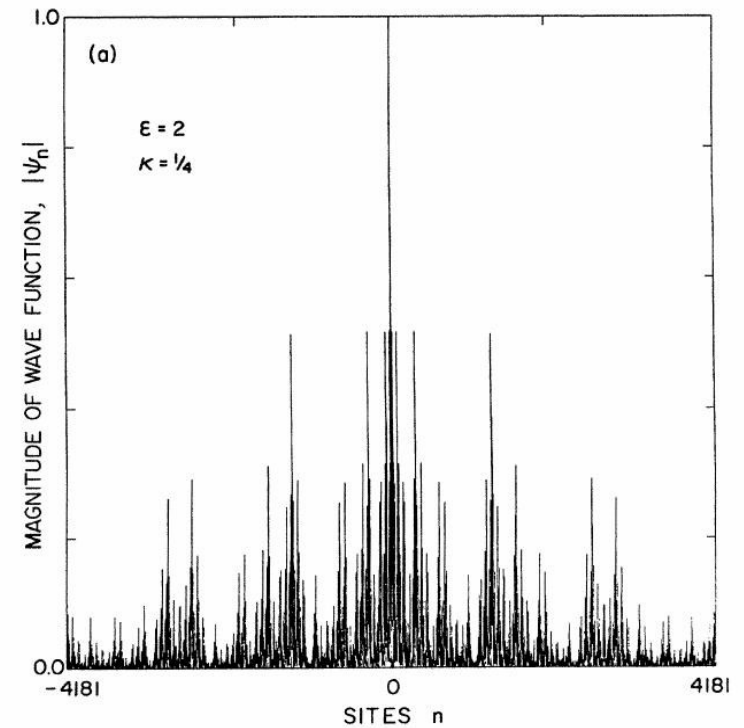
Fractal spectrum

vs.

Fractal eigenfunctions

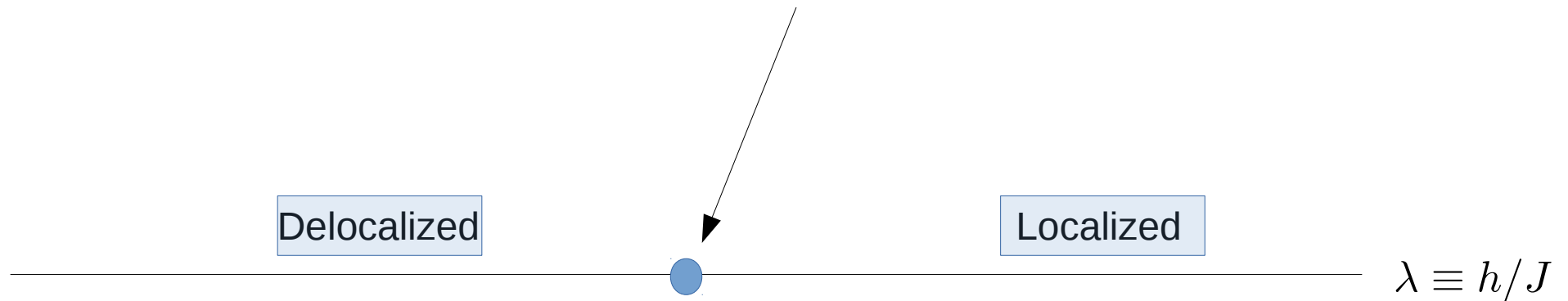


Hofstadter's butterfly (1976)



Ostlund and Pandit, PRB (1984)

**Question**: how stable are these fractal properties to driving at the transition?



# Exact NESS solution (or Why open $\neq$ closed?)

- NESS dependent on e-functions and e-values!

$$j = -16 \operatorname{Im} \left[ \sum_{j,k} \frac{1}{\lambda_j + \lambda_k^*} (\psi_1^{(Rj)})^2 (\psi_1^{(Rk)} \psi_2^{(Rk)})^* \right],$$

$$\langle \sigma_p^z \rangle = -1 + 4 \left[ \sum_{j,k} \frac{1}{\lambda_j + \lambda_k^*} (\psi_1^{(Rj)} \psi_p^{(Rj)}) (\psi_1^{(Rk)} \psi_p^{(Rk)})^* \right]$$

Eigenvalues

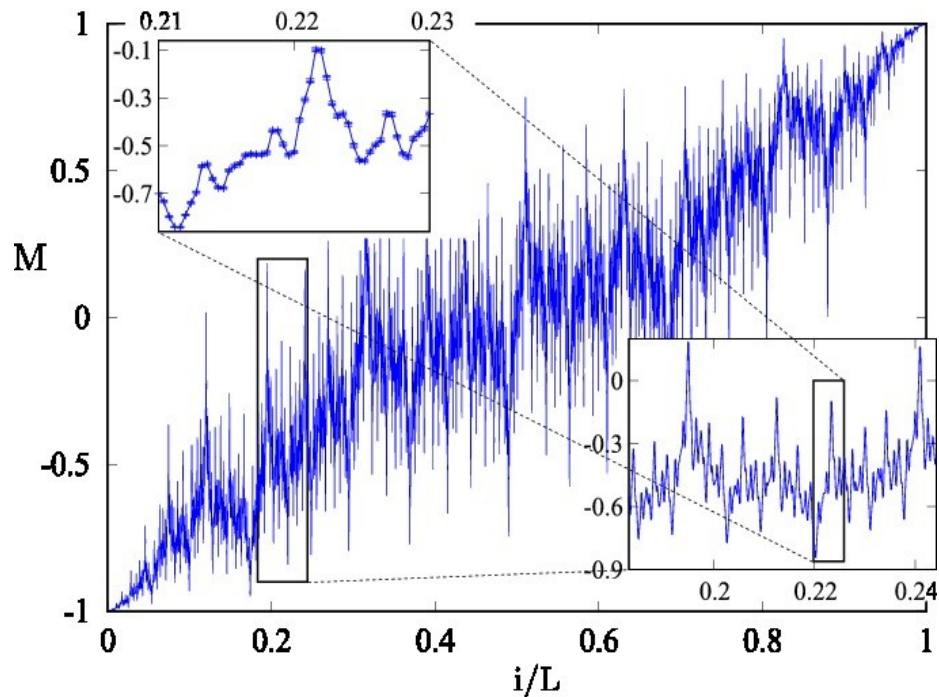
Eigenfunctions

RECALL: e-function fractality  $\neq$  e-value fractality

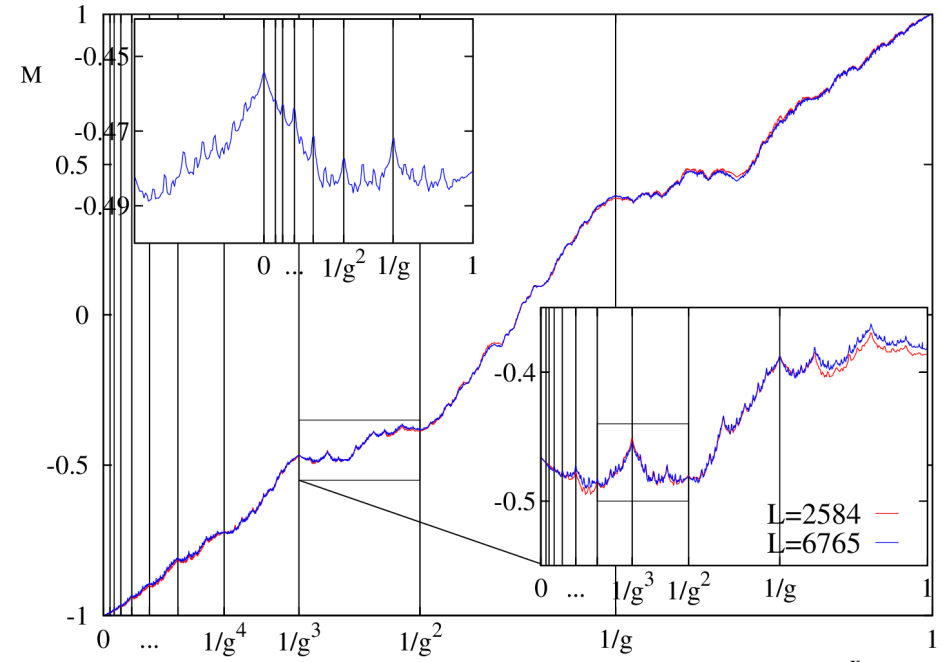


# Fractality in nonequilibrium steady states of quasiperiodic systems (I)

Steady state magnetization

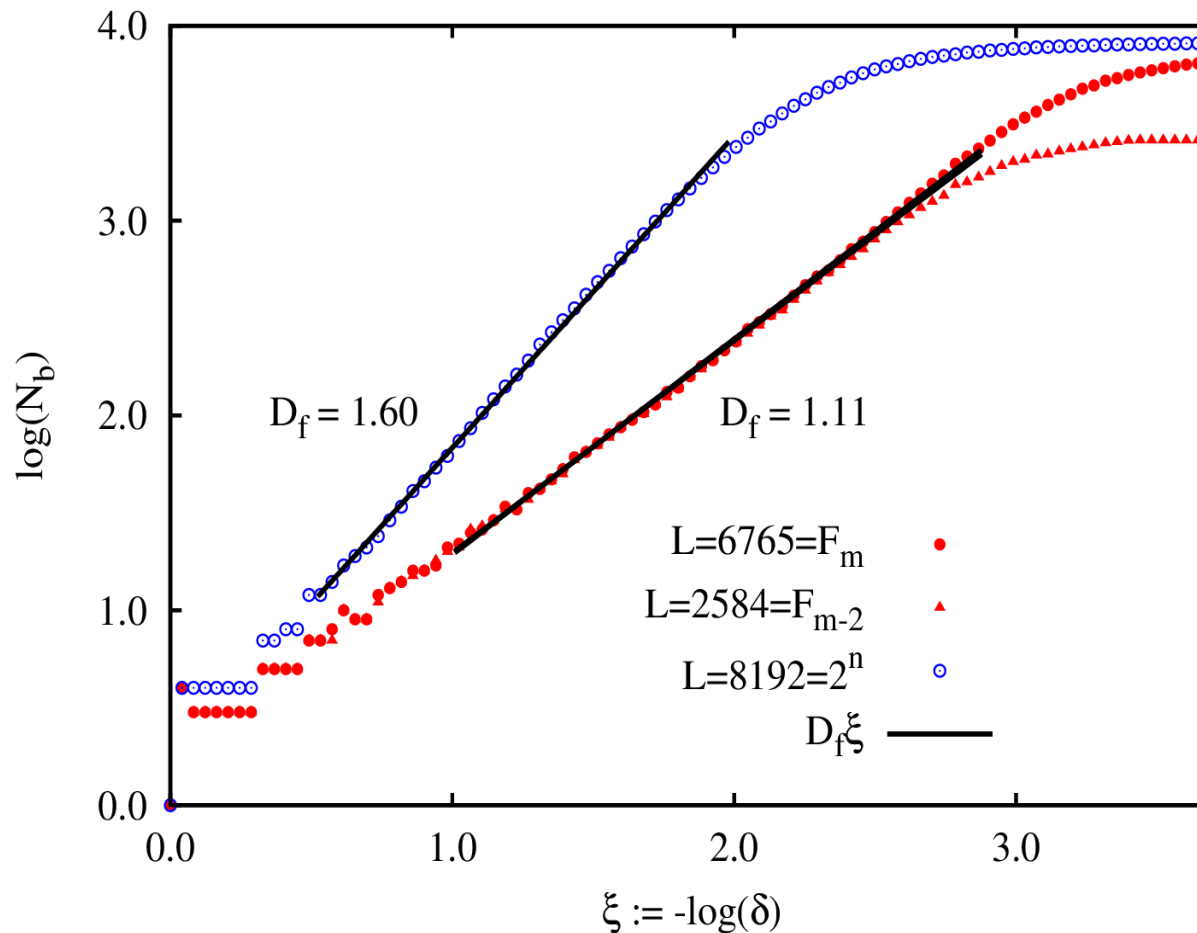


$L \neq F_n$



$L = F_n$

# Fractality in nonequilibrium steady states of quasiperiodic systems (II)



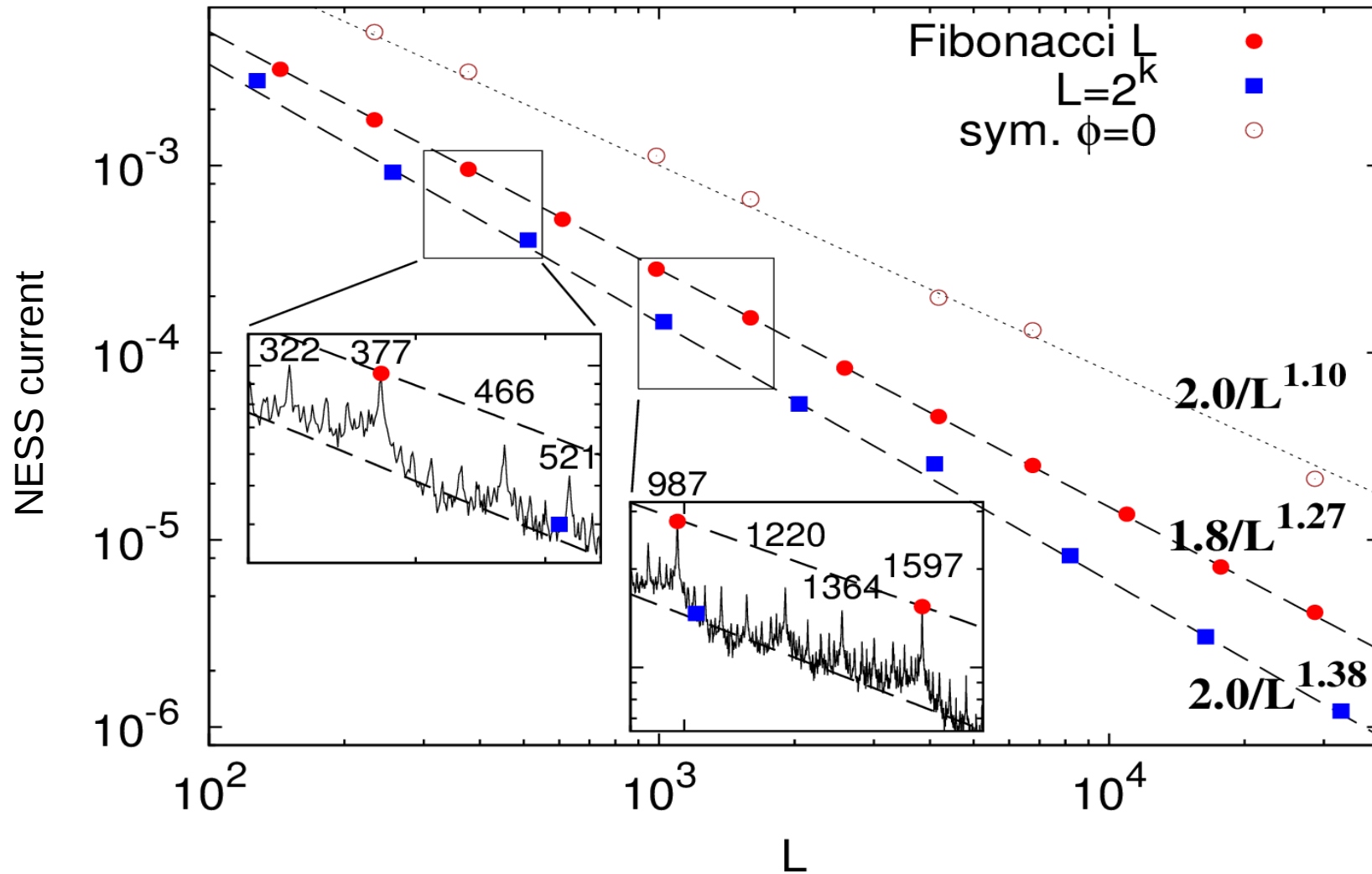
$$D_f = - \frac{\log N_b}{\log \delta}$$

# boxes  $\swarrow$

box size  $\nearrow$

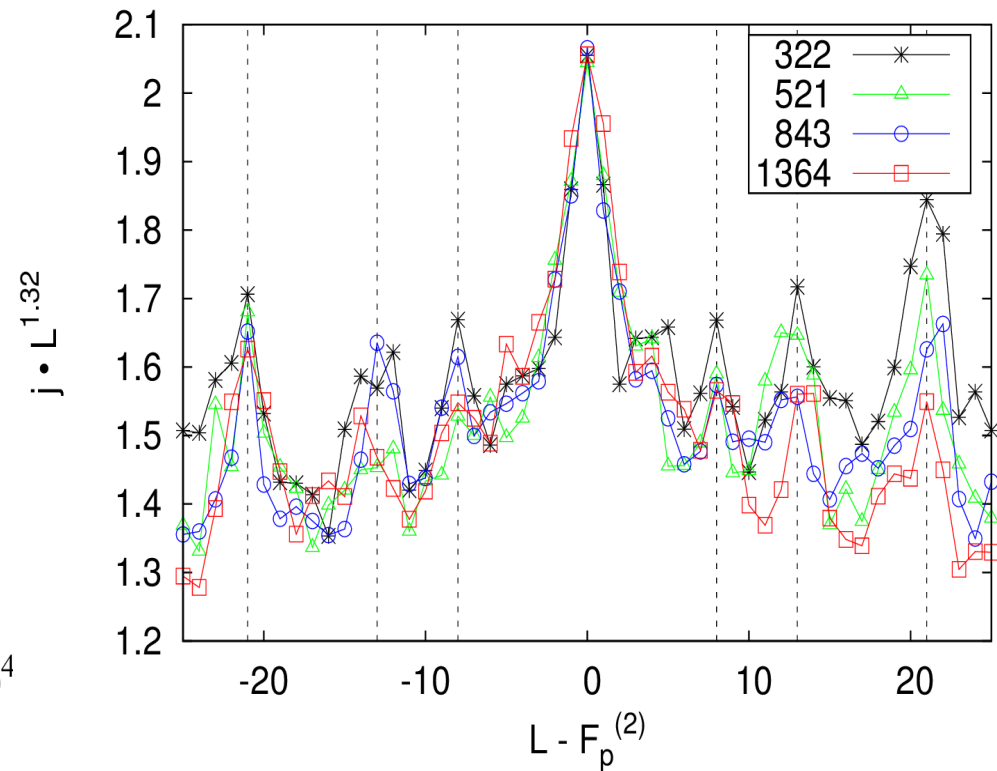
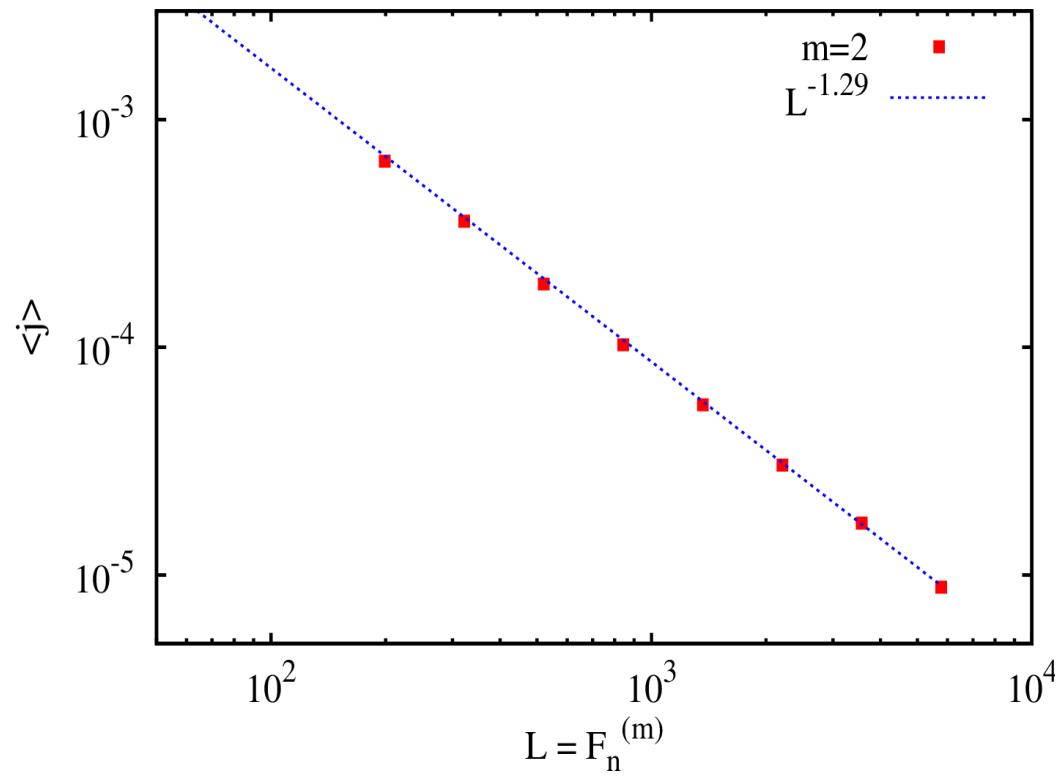
Box counting: fractal dimension

# Open system dynamics (I)



# Open system dynamics (II)

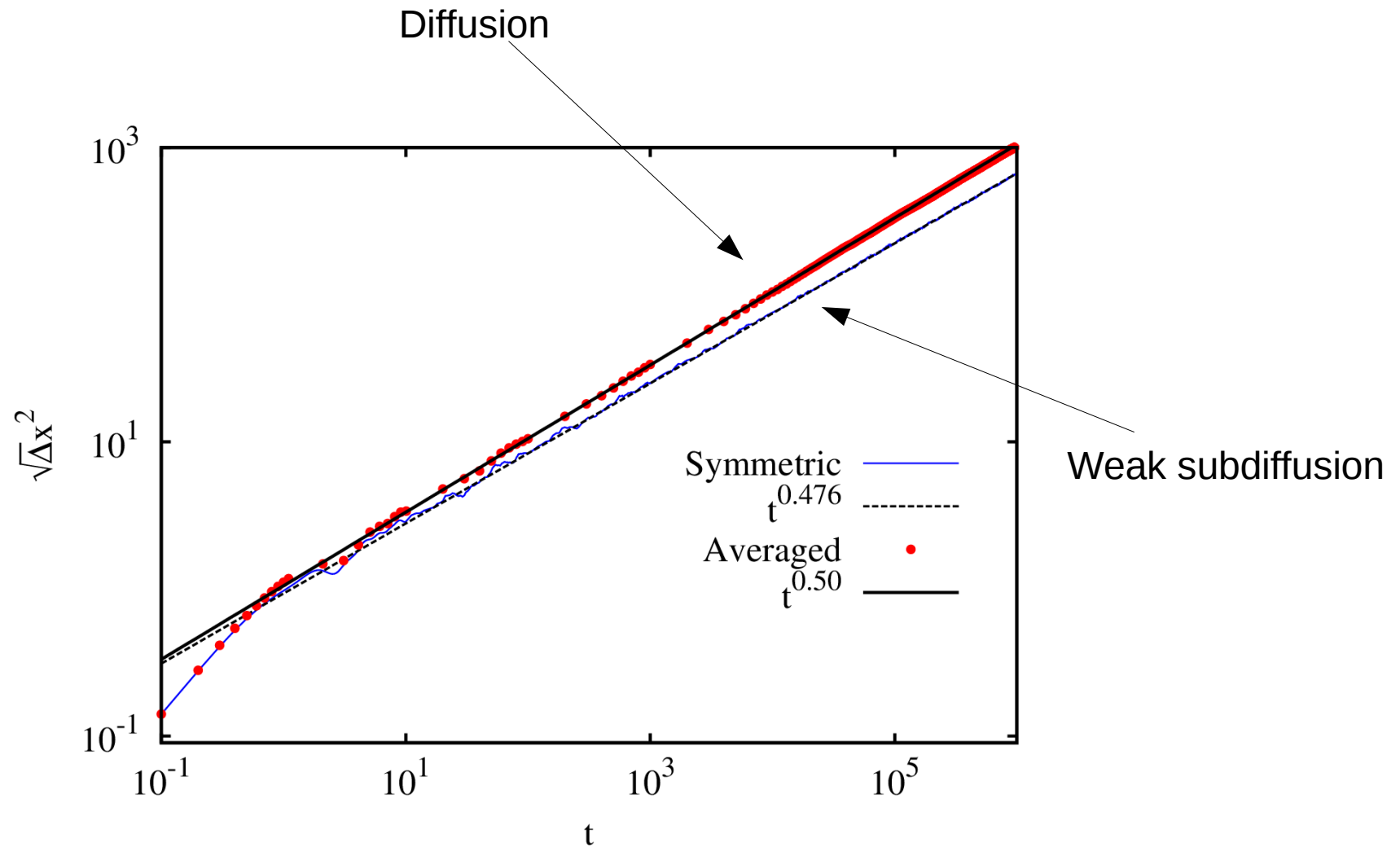
- Secondary resonances  $F_n^{(m)} = F_{n-1} + F_{n-m-1}$



# Closed system dynamics (I)

- Initialize wavepacket at chain centre
- Unitarily evolve:  $|\psi(t)\rangle = \exp(-itH)|\psi(0)\rangle$
- Measure its spread:  $\Delta x^2(t) = \left[ x - \frac{L}{2} \right]^2 |\langle x | \psi(t) \rangle|^2$

# Closed system dynamics (II)



# Conclusions

- Anomalous transport in Lindblad-driven
  - Interacting (+disordered) systems
  - Noninteracting (+quasidisordered) systems
- Nonequilibrium fractality