Momentum signatures of the 3D Anderson metal-insulator transition

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Overview

1. Motion in disordered media (crash course)

- a) From Diffusion to Weak and Strong localization
- b) One-parameter hypothesis and finite size scaling

2. Localization signatures in momentum space

- a) Numerical scenario
- b) CBS & CFS peaks

3. Critical properties of the 3D Anderson transition

- a) Width of the CBS peak
- b) Contrast of the CFS peak (smoking gun of AT)

4. Perspectives (multi-fractality)

5. Summary

Pinball Wizard

In a *disordered* landscape, particles do not move along straight lines, but experience a *series of scatterings off obstacles sitting at random positions*.

Pinball game: the particle undergoes a *random walk* and its large-scale motion is *diffusive* rather than ballistic. Very intuitive behavior.

 Drude model for a Metal
 Conductance g ~ 1/L (Ohm's law) L = sample size











Pinball game with Waves: Interference!

Conductance G between A and $B \sim$ probability P to propagate from A to B.

Classical physics assumes that this probability is just the *sum of the probabilities of all possible paths connecting the two points*. Wave physics tells us to sum up **amplitudes**!



No difference between particles and waves !?



Weak localization is due primarily to (quasi) self-intersecting scattering paths (loops).



1-loop effect: diffusion is maintained but diffusion constant D *decreases*



Coherent Backscattering Effect (CBS)



Light scatterers

Spatial average do scramble interference between different scattering paths

... but cannot scramble interference originating from reversed paths

(Cf. loop interference)

Cf Young slits with separation d.



The larger d, the smaller the interfringe.

Angular intensity distribution of far-field *multiply* scattered light



Speckle pattern

Disorder average

Angular intensity distribution of configuration-averaged speckle patterns



Backscattering direction

CBS Peak

Sure plays mean Pinball... Anderson localization!

Absence of diffusion for certain random lattices, Anderson ('58)

Self-consistent Localization Theory (Vollardt-Wölfle, mean-field)



Cumulative effect of nested loop interference can bring diffusive transport to a halt! D=0.

> Eigenfunctions are no longer extended but localised

Anderson localization (AL) is the *complete suppression* of *diffusion* of waves in a *disordered* medium due to *destructive interference between the many scattering amplitudes*.

One-parameter hypothesis (Gang of 4)

How does the dimensionless conductance g change when the system size L increases?

• One-parameter scaling hypothesis:

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial \ln g}{\partial \ln L} = \beta(L, E, \ell_s, ...) \equiv \beta(g) = \frac{d \ln g}{d \ln L}} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{scaling} \\ \text{function} \end{array}$$

• Equivalently:

$$g(L, E, \ell, ...) \equiv F\left[\frac{L}{\xi_{cor}(E, \ell, ...)}\right]$$

For *L* large enough

All microscopic lengths subsumed into a single correlation length

Scaling function in metallic and localized regimes

Dimensionless conductance g and $\beta(g)$

Anderson Metal-Insulator transition

$$g(L,E,\ell,\ldots) \equiv F\Big[\frac{L}{\xi_{cor}(E,\ell,\ldots)}$$

For *L* large enough

Any critical physical observable $\Lambda(E,L,...)$ is a function of $x = L/\xi_{cor}$ alone around the mobility edge with same critical exponents.

How to construct the scaling function?

 $\ln(\xi_{cor}/L) = \ln(1/L) + \ln(\xi_{cor})$

Translation by $\ln(\xi_{cor})$

• How to compute ξ_{cor} ? Quasi-1D: all states are localized. Extrapolate to 3D.

$$\frac{1}{\lambda(E,M)} = -\lim_{L \to \infty} \frac{1}{2L} \ln \operatorname{Tr}[G_L^{\dagger}(E,M)G_L(E,M)]$$
Lyapunov exponent *via* Transfer-Matrix method
Localized side: $\lambda(E,M) \to \xi(E)$ 3D localization length
Mobility edge: $\lambda(E,M) \to \chi(E)$ 3D localization length
Metallic side: $\lambda(E,M) \to \chi(E)$ 3D localization length
Metallic side: $\lambda(E,M) \to \chi(E)$ 3D localization length
Increase transverse
size M
Diffusion constant
Metallic side: $\lambda(E,M) \to (\# \text{ tranverse channels}) \times \xi_{1D}(E) = 2\pi \hbar \overline{\rho}(E)D(E)M^2$
Av-DoS per unit volume
$$1\text{-parameter hypothesis} \Rightarrow \Lambda = \frac{\lambda(E,M)}{M} \text{ is a scaling quantity} \Rightarrow \Lambda \equiv \Lambda(x) \qquad x = \frac{M}{\xi_{cor}(E)}$$
By identification:
Localized side $\xi_{cor}(E) \propto \xi(E) \sim (E_c - E)^{-\nu}$ near the critical point
Metallic side $\xi_{cor}(E) \propto \frac{1}{2\pi \hbar \overline{\rho}(E)D(E)} \sim (E - E_c)^{-s}$ near the critical point
Wegner's scaling law
 $s = (d-2)\nu = \nu$ (3D)
$$\xi_{cor}(E) \sim |E - E_c|^{-\nu}$$
critical
exponent
mobility edge

Extracting the mobility edge and critical exponents

Localization in spatial disorder: momentum space signatures

Anderson localization with cold atoms so far: real-space signatures

Momentum distribution easily measurable for cold atom experiments *Are there any signatures of Anderson localization in momentum space?*

Numerical road map to the momentum distribution

2D numerical experiment: What do we see?

• "Early times" (in units of the correlation time)

Time = 4

Time = 1

Isotropization and CBS

O CBS is a 2-path interference effectO Signature of phase coherence

CBS starts to appear at $-{f k}_0$

Time = 20

CBS peak on top of diffusive background

N. Cherroret et al., PRA **85**, 011604(R) (2012) F. Jendrzejewski et al., PRL **109,** 195302 (2012) G. Labeyrie et al., EPL **100**, 66001 (2012)

An important object: the spectral function

Is that ALL? Coherent Forward Scattering peak!

• Dynamics at "Long times"

A pleasant surprise! **New peak** emerges at +**k**₀

T. Karpiuk et al., PRL **109**, 190601 (2012) K. L. Lee et al., PRA **90**, 043605 (2014) S. Ghosh et al., PRA **90**, 063602 (2014)

Relevant time scale is the Heisenberg time

$$\tau_H = 2\pi\hbar\,\overline{\rho}(E)\,\xi^3(E)$$

CFS is a genuine signature of Anderson localization in the bulk!

For time-reversal invariant systems (GOE), CBS and CFS become **twin peaks** in the long-time limit (localized regime).

$$n_E(\mathbf{k}_0, t) = \int \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} e^{-i\omega t} \overline{\rho(\mathbf{k}_0, E)\rho(\mathbf{k}_0, E - \hbar\omega)}$$
$$\rho(\mathbf{k}_0, E) = 2\pi \sum_n |\psi_n(\mathbf{k}_0)|^2 \ \delta(E - \epsilon_n) \quad \text{LDOS in momentum space (aka spectral function)}$$

CFS related to LDOS-LDOS correlations in momentum space

Critical properties of the 3D AT from CBS & CFS

CBS & CFS arise because of interference mechanisms leading ultimately to localization: *they must be sensitive to the nature, localized or extended, of the eigenstates:*

CLAIM

The critical properties of the 3D Anderson transition are encoded in:

1) Dynamics of the CBS width

2) Dynamics of the CFS contrast

- How to prove this?
- How to extract critical quantities?

(3D Anderson lattice model)

Show that CBS width and CFS contrast satisfy the 1-parameter scaling > hypothesis

Use finite time scaling to extract the mobility edge and critical exponent 20

3D CBS peak width reveals the Anderson transition

Speckle at fixed disorder strength W, tuning parameter = E

Finite time scaling of the CBS width

S. Ghosh et. al. PRL 115, 200602 (2015)

TM method: $E_c = -0.478 \pm 7.10^{-4}$ and $\nu = 1.62 \pm 0.03$. Delande & Orso (PRL, 2014): $E_c \approx -0.43$

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CFS dynamics across the Anderson transition

3D cubic lattice Model:

$$H = -J\sum_{\langle i,j\rangle} \left(C_i^{\dagger}C_j + C_j^{\dagger}C_i \right) + \sum_i W_i C_i^{\dagger}C_i$$

 W_i : onsite *i.i.d.* random potentials, uniformly distributed in [-W/2, +W/2].

Phase diagram 24 Localized $W_c \approx 16.5$ W, Disorder strength 16 \downarrow E=1 8 Extended No No States States -6 $E, En \stackrel{0}{\text{ergy}}$ 6

• We choose E=1.• W is the tuning parameter.

Smoking gun of 3D AT!

- Jumps from 0 to 1 across the transition.
- * Crossing locates ME.

S. Ghosh et al., PRA 95, 041602 (R) (2017)

Finite time scaling of the CFS contrast

Choose $\Lambda(W, t) \equiv \Lambda(W, L) = CFS$ contrast as the scaling quantity $t = 2\pi \hbar \overline{\rho} L^3$

"Best" TM results (Slevin & Ohtsuki, NJP, 2014): $\nu = 1.573$ $W_c = 16.536$

Perspectives: CFS and multi-fractality

Momentum Space

Multi-fractal nature of eigenstates at the critical point

 $\chi = 2\pi\hbar L^d \overline{\rho}(E) K_E(t \to 0)$ Spectral Compressibility

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• Spectral decomposition:

• Momentum distribution in the forward direction:

 $K_E(\omega) = \frac{\overline{\rho(E)\rho(E-\hbar\omega)}}{\overline{\rho}^2(E)} - 1$ DOS-DOS correlator

Multi-fractal signatures in CFS

Localized side: $\Lambda(t) = 2\pi\hbar L^d \,\overline{\rho}(E) \, K_E(t)$

At the MIT point $\Lambda_c = C^{te} \equiv 2\pi\hbar L^d \overline{\rho}(E) K_E(t \to 0)$

Spectral compressibility at ME

The CFS contrast at the critical point seems to be robust against disorder Bogolmony-Giraud conjecture in 3D:

$$\chi_c = 1 - D_1/3$$

Information dimension

$$\sum_{j=0}^{N} |\psi_j|^2 \ln |\psi_j|^2 \sim D_1 \ln N$$

Combining with $\ \ \Lambda_c = \chi_c$

$$D_1 = 3(1 - \Lambda_c)$$

Our work: $\Lambda_c \approx 0.329 \Rightarrow D_1 \approx 2.013$

To be compared to: $D_1 \approx 1.97$ as found from L. J. Vasquez, PhD thesis (2010)

The CFS contrast at critical point seems to be a measure of multi-fractal character of the eigenstates.

Summary (take-home messages)

• CBS width and CFS contrast obey the one-parameter hypothesis (scaling). The critical properties of the transition are encoded in their time dynamics.

(Already observed for CBS in acoustic experiments by John Page's group and collaborators)

- CFS is *robust*: it exists in other symmetry classes than just GOE.
- CFS contrast jumps from zero to a finite value across the Anderson transition point: measurable *critical quantity* of ATs.
- CFS contrast at critical point encodes valuable information on the *multi-fractal* properties of the eigenstates.
- Pending: How to observe it for classical waves?

My Precíous Collaborators

- S. Ghosh (PhD)
- B. Grémaud

N. Cherroret

D. Delande

T. Karpiuk

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David Guéry-Odelin

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Our papers on the subject

N. Cherroret, T. Karpiuk, C.A. Müller, B. Grémaud, C. Miniatura PRA **85**, 011604 (2012)

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G. Lemarié, C. A. Mueller, D. Guéry-Odelin, and C. Miniatura, PRA 95, 043626 (2017)

Appendix

Waves in disordered media in a nutshell

Random Walk

• Pinball Wizard

Discard interference Drude/Boltzmann model Large-scale motion = Diffusion Conductance $g=\sigma L^{d-2}$ (Ohm's law), L = sample size.

LOOPS

• There has to be a twist

Interference DO play a role (quasi) loops

Coherent backscattering (CBS) Weak localization corrections

• Sure plays mean pinball

Interference breaks transport Strong localization Disorder-driven Metal-Insulator transition

Ladder

Maximally-Crossed

Milestones:

Anderson Localization (58) Scaling Theory of Localization (79)

Negative/positive magneto-resistance experiments (Bergmann, 1984)

2D photonic band gap material (2013)

0 s

• t=20 • t=40

• t=80 • t=160

20

-10

 $\Pi(p,t)$

0.05

• t=20 • t=40

t=80 t=120 t=160

 ${0 \over p/t^{1/3}}$

-20

-10 ${0 \over p/t^{1/2}}$ 10 2 s

6 s

4 s

A scaling function β (g) for CFS contrast

Define effective dimensionless conductance (with $\Lambda(W, t) \equiv \Lambda(W, L) = CFS$ contrast)

Localized side

Diffusive side (Ohm's law)

 $g(W,L) \propto L$

 $g(W,L) \to 0$

$$g(W,L) = \Lambda^{-2/3} - 1$$

Compute (numerically): $\beta(W, L) = \frac{d \ln g}{d \ln L}$

Extracted critical exponent: $\nu = 1.51 \pm 0.07$

(inverse of the slope at origin)