

# Localization at large disorder

Recall:

last time we introduced

## Random Schrödinger Operators

$$H_\lambda(\omega) := -\Delta + \lambda V_\omega \quad \text{on } \ell^2(\mathbb{Z}^d)$$

where  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  is a coupling

and  $V_\omega = \{v(x, \omega)\}_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d}$  is a sequence of i.i.d. random variables

$\mathcal{N} = (X, [a, b])$  and  $dP_{\text{tot}} = \prod_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} dP_x$

$$\int_a^b p(x) dx = 1$$

We stated a theorem which said:

Fix  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

For  $\mathbb{P}$ -a.e.  $\omega \in \mathcal{N}$

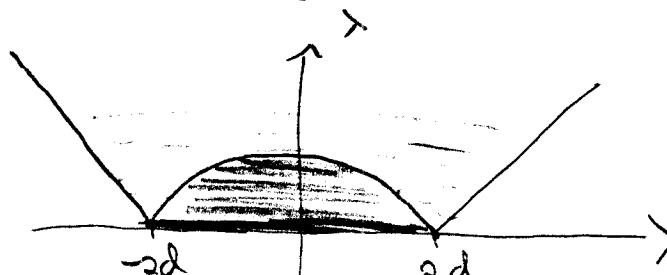
$$\sigma(H_\lambda(\omega)) = \sum \lambda$$

$$\sigma_{pp}(H_\lambda(\omega)) = \sum_{pp} \lambda$$

$$\sigma_{ac}(H_\lambda(\omega)) = \sum_{ac} \lambda$$

$$\sigma_{sc}(H_\lambda(\omega)) = \sum_{sc} \lambda$$

For  $d \geq 3$  and  $p$  the uniform distribution on  $[-1, 1]$ .



Phase Transition

$\lambda = 0$

$$\sigma(H_0) = [-2d, 2d]_{ac}$$

→ increase

$\lambda \gg 1$

$$\sigma(H_\lambda(\omega)) = [-2d + \lambda, 2d + \lambda]_{pp}$$

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Some background info.

Suppose  $g: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a continuous function which is a.s. non-constant i.e.  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$

$$|\{x \in [a, b] : g(x) = x\}| = 0$$

Consider the operator  $M_g: L^2([a, b]) \rightarrow L^2([a, b])$  given by  $(M_g f)(x) = g(x)f(x)$ .

- This operator is clearly symmetric and self-adjoint.
- Since it is self-adjoint it has a spectral resolution:  
Define  $\forall t \in \mathbb{R} \quad A_g(t) := \{x \in [a, b] : g(x) \leq t\}$

$$E(t) := \chi_{A_g(t)}$$

It is easy to see that this is the spectral resolution corresponding to  $M_g$ .

• For any  $f \in L^2([a, b])$

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_f(t) &:= \langle E(t)f, f \rangle = \int \chi_{A_g(t)} |f(x)|^2 dx \\ &= \int_{A_g(t)} |f(x)|^2 dx \end{aligned}$$

non-dec. right-cont. function.

(3)

Thus For any  $[c, d] \subset [a, b]$

$$d\mathcal{P}_f([c, d]) := \mathcal{P}_f(d) - \mathcal{P}_f(c)$$

left and right  
do not matter

$$= \int_{A_f(d)} |f(x)|^2 dx - \int_{A_f(c)} |f(x)|^2 dx$$

$$= \int_{g^{-1}([c, d])} |f(x)|^2 dx$$

$\Rightarrow$  Spectral measure is concentrated on the range  
of  $f$  and if  $N \subset \mathbb{R}$  with  $|N| = 0$   
Then

$$d\mathcal{P}_f(N) = 0$$

i.e. Spectral measures are absolutely continuous.

Thus  $\Gamma(M_f) = \Gamma_{\text{ac}}(M_f) = \{g(x) : x \in [a, b]\}$

(4)

Lemma:

Consider

$$H_0 = -\Delta \quad \text{on } L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$$

Then

$$\Gamma(H_0) = \Gamma(-\Delta) = \Gamma_{ac}(-\Delta) = [-2d, 2d].$$

pf:Set  $d=1$ 

Denote by

$$F: L^2(0, 2\pi) \rightarrow L^2(\mathbb{Z})$$

$$(Ff)(k) := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) e^{-ikx} dx$$

Observe that for any  $f \in L^2(0, 2\pi)$  and  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ 

$$\begin{aligned} [H_0(Ff)](k) &= (Ff)(k+1) + (Ff)(k-1) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \left\{ e^{-i(k+1)x} + e^{-i(k-1)x} \right\} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} 2\cos(x) f(x) e^{-ikx} dx \\ &= [F(M_g f)](k) \end{aligned}$$

where  $g(x) = 2\cos(x)$ 

$$\Rightarrow H_0 F = F M_g \Leftrightarrow F^{-1} H_0 F = M_g \quad \checkmark$$

①

Localization for the Anderson Model at large disorder:

The Aizenman-Molchanov Approach:

Ch. 13 Trace Ideals by Barry Simon

Theorem: Consider

$$H_\lambda(\omega) := -\Delta + \lambda V_\omega$$

where  $V_\omega = \{\omega_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^d}$  is a multiplication operator by a sequence of i.i.d. random variables. (For simplicity we assume each  $\omega_n$  is uniformly distributed on  $[0, 1]$ .)

There exists  $K > 0$  s.t. if  $|\lambda| > Kd^2$ , then

$$\sigma(H_\lambda(\omega)) = \sigma_{pp}(H_\lambda(\omega)) = [-2d, 2d + \lambda] \quad \text{a.s.}$$

$$\text{(i.e. } \sigma_{ac}(H_\lambda(\omega)) = \sigma_{sc}(H_\lambda(\omega)) = \emptyset \quad \text{a.s.)}$$

pf: Basic idea of the proof:

• Average over the randomness at a single site ( $n=0$  e.g.)

• Write

$$H_\lambda(\omega) = -\Delta + \lambda V_\omega = -\Delta + \lambda \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \omega_n \langle \delta_n, \cdot \rangle \delta_n$$

$$= \tilde{H}_\lambda(\omega) + \lambda \omega_0 \langle \delta_0, \cdot \rangle \delta_0$$

↑

↑

Rank 1 perturbation

independent of  
the randomness at  $n=0$ .

1st Task:

Study Rank one  
perturbation Theory!

- What quantity to average?  
The Green's function

$$G_w(n, 0, E + i0) := \langle \delta_n, (H_{\lambda(w)} - E + i0)^{-1} \delta_0 \rangle$$

Why?

- exponential decay of Green's function  
 ⇒ exponential decay of solutions to e-value equation  
 ⇒ solutions in  $l^2(\mathbb{Z}^d)$  i.e. eigenfunctions  
 ⇒ point spectrum

arrogant statement

A consequence of Rank One perturbation Theory is the Simon-Wolff criterion:

"square summability of the Green's function on an interval  $I$   
 ⇒ only pure point spectrum on  $I$ ".

- Problem: The average Green's function is not square summable:

$$|E \langle \delta_n, (H_{\lambda(w)} - E + i0)^{-1} \delta_0 \rangle|^2$$

This function has singularities

$$\frac{1}{x - E} \quad \text{for all eigenvalues } E \text{ of } H_{\lambda(w)}$$

However, if  $2 < s < \infty$  then  $|G_w(n, 0, E + i0)|^s$  is summable! This is the fractional moment method

# Rank-1 Perturbation Theory

(1)

Let  $A$  be a non-negative, <sup>self-adjoint</sup> operator on a separable Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  (complex).  
 Let  $\phi \in \mathcal{H}$  and define for any  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$

$$A_\alpha := A + \alpha \langle \phi, \cdot \rangle \phi$$

a family of Rank-1 perturbations of  $A$  parametrized by  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ .

For  $z \in \mathbb{C}^+$ , define

$$F_\alpha(z) := \langle \phi, (A_\alpha - z)^{-1} \phi \rangle$$

$$= \int \frac{d\mu_\alpha(\lambda)}{\lambda - z}$$

see 11.2 for a rigorous discussion.

Some Formalities

Borel Transform of  $\mu_\alpha$

$$A - A_\alpha = -\alpha \langle \phi, \cdot \rangle \phi$$

(e.)

$$(A - z) - (A_\alpha - z) = -\alpha \langle \phi, \cdot \rangle \phi$$

$(A - z)^{-1} \rightarrow$

$\leftarrow (A_\alpha - z)^{-1}$

$$\Rightarrow (A_\alpha - z)^{-1} - (A - z)^{-1} = -\alpha \langle (A_\alpha - z)^{-1} \phi, \cdot \rangle (A - z)^{-1} \phi$$

Take  $\langle \cdot, \phi \rangle$

$$F_\alpha(z) - F_0(z) = -\alpha F_\alpha(z) F_0(z)$$

$$\Rightarrow F_\alpha(z) = \frac{F_0(z)}{1 + \alpha F_0(z)}$$

if  $\alpha \neq -\frac{1}{F_0(z)}$

□ □

(2)

Moreover, applying  $\phi$  to (□) and using (□□) we have that

$$\begin{aligned}
 (A_\alpha - z)^{-1} \phi &= (A - z)^{-1} \phi - \alpha F_\alpha(z) (A - z)^{-1} \phi \\
 &= \frac{[1 - \alpha F_\alpha(z)] (A - z)^{-1} \phi}{1 + \alpha F_0(z)}
 \end{aligned}$$

Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned}
 1 - \alpha F_\alpha &= 1 - \alpha \frac{F_0}{1 + \alpha F_0} = \frac{1 + \alpha F_0 - \alpha F_0}{1 + \alpha F_0} \\
 &= \frac{1}{1 + \alpha F_0}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow (A_\alpha - z)^{-1} \phi = \frac{(A - z)^{-1} \phi}{1 + \alpha F_0}$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$\langle \eta, (A_\alpha - z)^{-1} \phi \rangle = \frac{a}{\alpha + b}$$

a crucial Formula!

$$a = \frac{\langle \eta, (A - z)^{-1} \phi \rangle}{F_0(z)}$$

$$b = \frac{1}{F_0(z)}$$

both independent of  $\alpha$ !

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## A Theorem of 2

Consider

$$A_\alpha = A + \alpha \langle \phi, \cdot \rangle \phi$$

on a separable Hilbert space  $H$  with orthonormal basis  $\{\delta_n\}$ . For convenience, take  $\phi = \delta_0$  i.e.  $\|\phi\| = 1$ .

We have defined

$$F_\alpha(z) = \langle \delta_0, (A_\alpha - z)^{-1} \delta_0 \rangle$$

consider also the function

$$G(x) := \int \frac{d\mu(y)}{(x-y)^2} \quad \text{which takes values in } (0, \infty].$$

Theorem: let  $0 < \alpha < \infty$

Define

$$P_\alpha := \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R} : F_\alpha(x+i0) = -\frac{1}{\alpha} \text{ and } G(x) < \infty \right\},$$

and

$$L := \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R} : \text{Im}[F_\alpha(x+i0)] \neq 0 \right\}.$$

Then

(i)  $P_\alpha$  is the set of eigen values for  $A_\alpha$  i.e.

$$(d\mu_\alpha)_{pp}(x) = \sum_{x_n \in P_\alpha} \frac{1}{\alpha^2 G(x_n)} \delta(x-x_n)$$

(ii)  $(d\mu_\alpha)_{ac}$  is supported on  $L$ .

Not ind. of  $\alpha$ !

Much more is true!

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Theorem: For each  $E \in \mathbb{R}$

$$G(E) = \lim_{\epsilon \downarrow 0} \sum_n | \langle \delta_n, (A - E - i\epsilon)^{-1} \delta_0 \rangle |^2.$$

lastly Simon-Wolff criterion.

Theorem: Fix  $[a, b] \subset \mathbb{R}$ .

TFAE.

a)  $G(E) < \infty$  for a.e.  $E$  in  $[a, b]$  (w.r.t. 1.1)

b) For a.e.  $\alpha$  (w.r.t. 1.1),  $A_\alpha$  has only pure point spectrum in  $[a, b]$ .

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## Some of the Basics:

Lemma (Fractional Moments)

If  $s > 1$ , then for  $\{x_n\}_{n=1}^N$  all positive  $n=1, 2, \dots, N$

$$\sum_{n=1}^N x_n^s \leq \left( \sum_{n=1}^N x_n \right)^s$$

If  $0 < s < 1$ , then

$$\sum_{n=1}^N x_n^s \geq \left( \sum_{n=1}^N x_n \right)^s$$

pf:

If  $s > 1$ , then for any  $x_j \in \{x_n\}_{n=1}^N$

$$x_j \leq \sum_{n=1}^N x_n$$

as  $s-1 > 0$

$$\Rightarrow x_j^{s-1} \leq \left( \sum_{n=1}^N x_n \right)^{s-1}$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$x_j^s = x_j \cdot x_j^{s-1} \leq x_j \left( \sum_{n=1}^N x_n \right)^{s-1}$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^N x_j^s \leq \sum_{j=1}^N x_j \left( \sum_{n=1}^N x_n \right)^{s-1} = \left( \sum_{n=1}^N x_n \right)^s \quad \checkmark$$

If  $0 < s < 1$ , then  $s-1 < 0$

$$x_j^{s-1} \geq \left( \sum_{n=1}^N x_n \right)^{s-1}$$

and one may repeat the above proof!

Take  $s = 1/4$ , then

$$\left( \sum_n |G_w(n, 0, \varepsilon + i\varepsilon)|^2 \right)^{1/4} \leq \sum_n |G_w(n, 0, \varepsilon + i\varepsilon)|^{1/2}$$

Thus if we can prove that

$$\sum_n \mathbb{E} (|G_w(n, 0; \varepsilon + i\varepsilon)|^{1/2}) < \infty \quad \text{a.e. } \varepsilon \in [a, b]$$

Then  $\sum_n |G_w(n, 0, \varepsilon + i0)|^2 < \infty$  for a.e.  $(\varepsilon, w)$ !  
↑ unit. in  $\varepsilon$ !

Lemma:  $\exists C_0 > 0$  s.t. for all  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$

$$\int_0^1 \frac{|x - \alpha|^{1/2}}{|x - \beta|^{1/2}} dx \geq C_0 \int_0^1 \frac{1}{|x - \beta|^{1/2}} dx$$

Pf.

Note:  $|x - \alpha| = \sqrt{(x - \operatorname{Re}(\alpha))^2 + \operatorname{Im}(\alpha)^2} \geq |x - \operatorname{Re}(\alpha)|$

Moreover, if  $\alpha \notin [0, 1]$ , then  $|x - \alpha| \geq |x - \alpha^*|$

where  $\alpha^*$  is the nearest point to  $\alpha$  in  $[0, 1]$ .

Thus we assume  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ .

We prove the result for  $\alpha \in [0, 1/2]$

If  $\alpha \in (1/2, 1]$  use the symmetry  $x \rightarrow 1/2 - x$

i.e. if  $\alpha \in (1/2, 1] \rightarrow \tilde{\alpha} := \alpha - 1/2 \in [0, 1/2]$

$$\int_0^1 \frac{|x - 1/2 - (\alpha - 1/2)|^{1/2}}{|x - \beta|^{1/2}} dx = \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \frac{|y - \tilde{\alpha}|^{1/2}}{|y - \beta + 1/2|^{1/2}} dy$$

$y = x - 1/2$

Suppose  $\alpha \in (0, 1/2]$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 \frac{|x-\alpha|^{1/2}}{|x-\beta|^{1/2}} dx &\geq \int_{3/4}^1 \frac{|x-\alpha|^{1/2}}{|x-\beta|^{1/2}} dx \\ &\geq \sqrt{\frac{1}{4}} \int_{3/4}^1 \frac{1}{|x-\beta|^{1/2}} dx \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$h(\beta) := \frac{\int_{3/4}^1 \frac{1}{|x-\beta|^{1/2}} dx}{\int_0^1 \frac{1}{|x-\beta|^{1/2}} dx}$$

$\alpha \rightarrow 1/2$

This is a continuous function on  $\mathbb{C}$ .

It does not vanish. Thus on every compact subset of  $\mathbb{C}$

$$\inf_{\beta \in K} h(\beta) > 0.$$

Moreover,

$$\lim_{\beta \rightarrow \infty} h(\beta) = \lim_{\beta \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{\beta}}}{\frac{1}{\sqrt{\beta}}} \cdot \frac{\int_{3/4}^1 \frac{1}{|1-\frac{x}{\beta}|^{1/2}} dx}{\int_0^1 \frac{1}{|1-\frac{x}{\beta}|^{1/2}} dx} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4}$$

Thus  $\inf_{\beta \in \mathbb{C}} h(\beta) > 0$ . ✓

Lemma:

a) Let  $f, g \in l^\infty(\mathbb{Z}^d)$  be non-negative and suppose that

$$(1 - aH_0)f \leq g$$

for some  $0 < a < \frac{1}{2d}$  then

$$f \leq (1 - aH_0)^{-1}g$$

b) If  $0 < a < \frac{1}{2d}$ , then

$$(1 - aH_0)^{-1}(i, j) \leq (2da)^{|j-i|} (1 - 2da)^{-1}$$

pf:  $\|H_0\| = 2d$  so

$$(1 - aH_0)^{-1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (aH_0)^n \quad \text{if } 2ad < 1$$

$$f = (1 - aH_0)^{-1}(1 - aH_0)f$$

$$\leq (1 - aH_0)^{-1}g$$

since  $\nearrow$  positivity preserving.

clearly

$$(1 - aH_0)^{-1}(i, j) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \langle \delta_i, (aH_0)^n \delta_j \rangle$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_n} \langle \delta_i, (aH_0)^n \delta_{i_n} \rangle \leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (2da)^n$$

Proof of Theorem:

Fix  $z \in \mathbb{C}^+ = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \text{Im}[z] > 0\}$ ,

let

$$g_\omega(n) := G_\omega(n, 0; z)$$

$$\text{and } K(n) := \mathbb{E}(|g_\omega(n)|^{1/2})$$

Claim:

$$* \quad K(n) \leq (C_0 \lambda^{1/2})^{-1} \left[ \left( \sum_{|j|=1} K(n+j) \right) + \delta_0(n) \right]$$

Pf:

Clearly

$$(H_\lambda(\omega) - z)(H_\lambda(\omega) - z)^{-1} = I$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle \delta_n, (\ ) (\ ) \delta_0 \rangle = \delta_0(n)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{|j|=1} g_\omega(n+j) + (\lambda \omega_n - z) g_\omega(n) = \delta_0(n)$$

Lemma

$\Rightarrow$

$$|\lambda \omega_n - z|^{1/2} |g_\omega(n)|^{1/2} \leq \delta_0(n) + \sum_{|j|=1} |g_\omega(n+j)|^{1/2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{E}(|\lambda \omega_n - z|^{1/2} |g_\omega(n)|^{1/2}) \leq \delta_0(n) + \sum_{|j|=1} K(n+j)$$

Fix  $\{\omega_m\}_{m \neq n}$ . Then by Rank 1 Theory

$$* \quad g_n(s) = \frac{c}{\lambda \omega_n + d} \quad \text{with } c \neq 0 \text{ and } c, d \text{ functions of } \{\omega_m\}_{m \neq n}$$

Thus averaging over  $\omega_n$  we find

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^1 |\lambda \omega - z|^{1/2} \left| \frac{c}{\lambda \omega + d} \right|^{1/2} d\omega \\ &= |\lambda|^{1/2} \frac{|c|^{1/2}}{|\lambda|^{1/2}} \int_0^1 \frac{|\omega - \frac{z}{\lambda}|^{1/2}}{|\omega + \frac{d}{\lambda}|^{1/2}} d\omega \\ &\geq |c|^{1/2} c_0 \int_0^1 \frac{1}{|\omega + \frac{d}{\lambda}|^{1/2}} d\omega \\ &= c_0 |\lambda|^{1/2} \int_0^1 \left| \frac{c}{\lambda \omega + d} \right|^{1/2} d\omega \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$E(|\lambda \omega_n - z|^{1/2} |g_n(s)|^{1/2}) \geq c_0 |\lambda|^{1/2} K(n)$$

This proves (\*)!

(\*) may be rewritten as

$$(1 - (c_0 |\lambda|^{1/2})^{-1} H_0) K \leq \left( c_0 |\lambda|^{1/2} \right)^{-1} \sum_{(n)} \delta_0$$

Since  $z \in \mathbb{C}^+$ ,  $|g_w(n)| \leq \frac{1}{|\operatorname{Im} z|^{1/2}}$

$$\Rightarrow K \in l^\infty(\mathbb{Z}^d)$$

Applying the Lemma we have that

$$\text{if } \frac{1}{c_0 |\lambda|^{1/2}} < \frac{1}{(2d)} \quad \text{i.e. } \lambda > -\frac{(2d)^2}{c_0}$$

Then

$$K \leq \left( c_0 |\lambda|^{1/2} \right)^{-1} \left( 1 - \left( c_0 |\lambda|^{1/2} \right)^{-1} H_0 \right)^{-1} \delta_0$$

$$\Rightarrow K(n) \leq \left( c_0 |\lambda|^{1/2} \right)^{-1} \left( 1 - \left( c_0 |\lambda|^{1/2} \right)^{-1} H_0 \right)^{-1} (0, n)$$

$$\leq \left( c_0 |\lambda|^{1/2} \right)^{-1} \left[ \frac{2d}{c_0 |\lambda|^{1/2}} \right]^{|n|} \left( 1 - \frac{2d}{c_0 |\lambda|^{1/2}} \right)^{-1}$$

Thus

$\sum_n K(n)$  is bounded uniformly in  $z$

$$\Rightarrow \sup_z \mathbb{E} \left( \left( \sum_n |G_w(n, 0; z)|^2 \right)^{1/2} \right) \text{ is bounded uniformly in } z$$