

# Entanglement growth in the disordered Fermi-Hubbard model

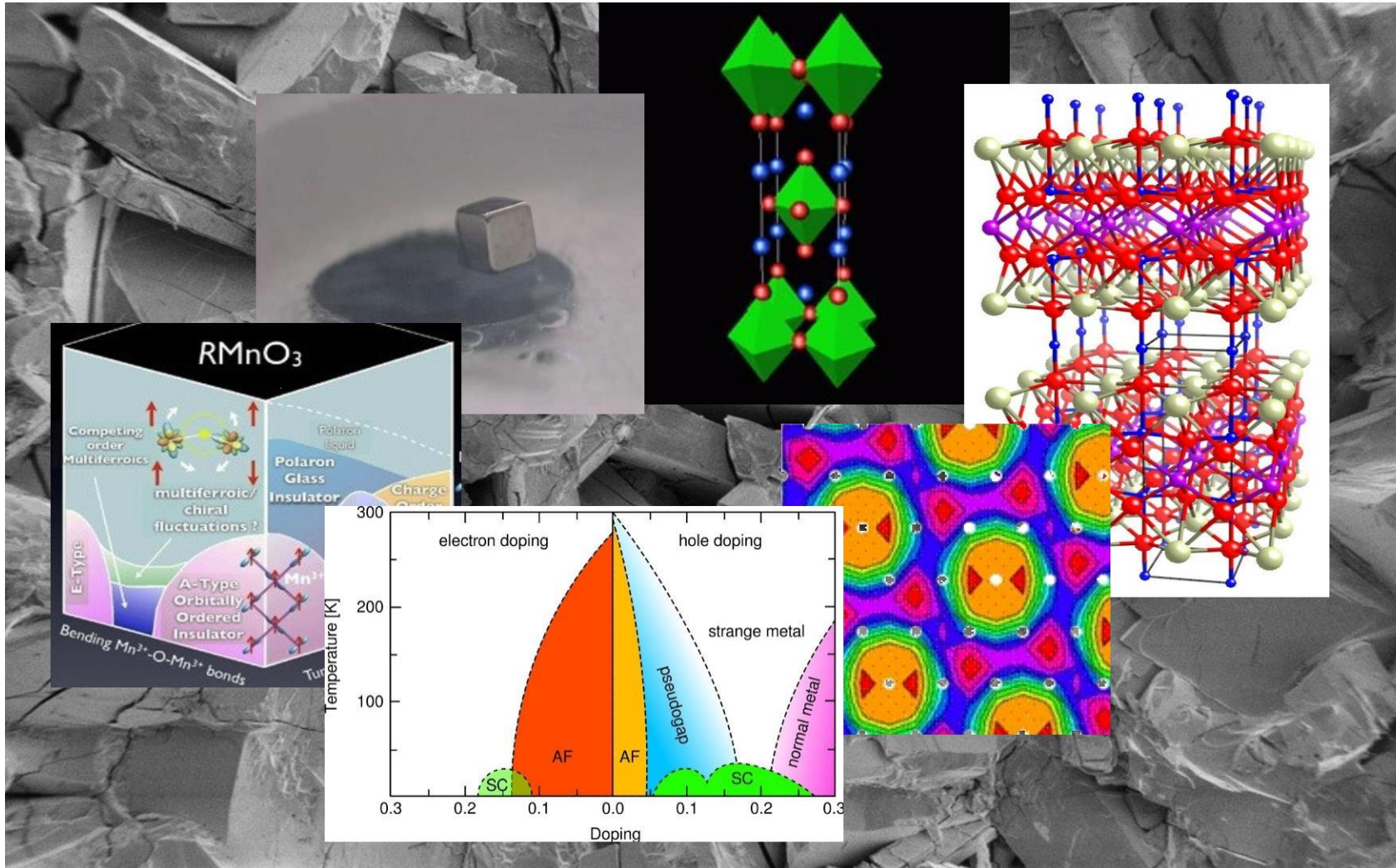
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Ahad Nokhostin Helm



Brandon Leipner-Johns





~~What does disorder do to strongly correlated systems?~~

What do interactions do to disordered systems?

## Outline

equilibrium in closed systems

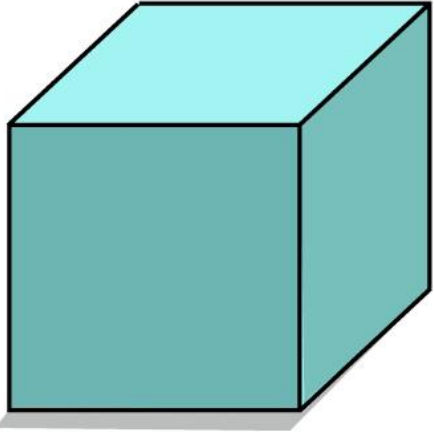
What is it? How is it reached?

systems which don't equilibrate

the Fermi Hubbard model with disorder

# equilibrium, classical

## What is it?



properties uniform in  
space and time



time average = ensemble average

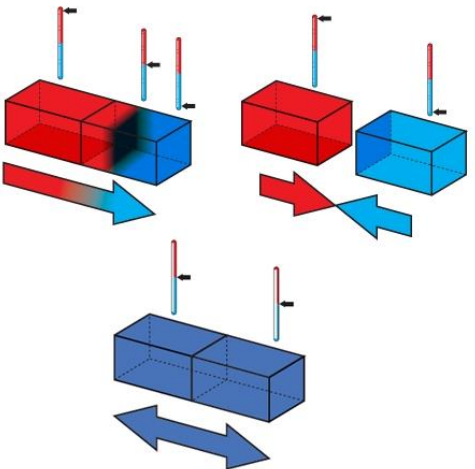


# equilibrium, classical

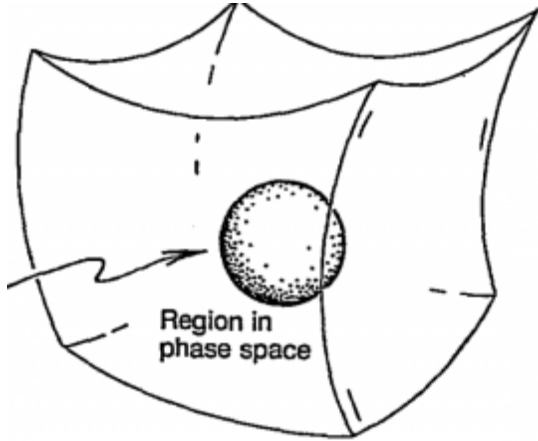
## How is it reached?



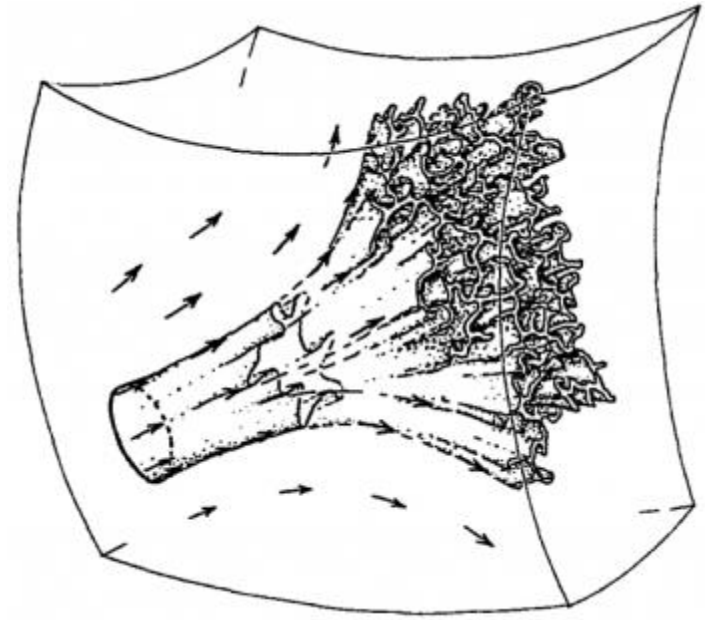
just wait



# Hamiltonian dynamics



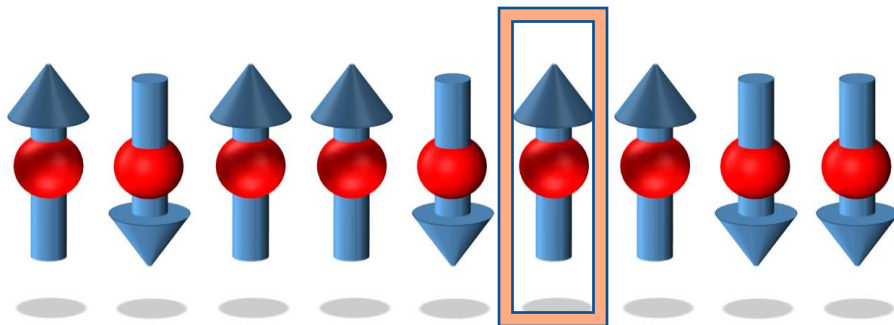
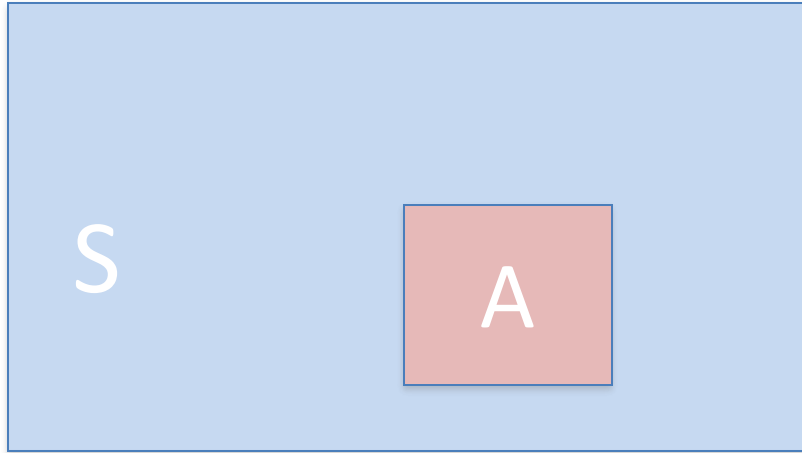
Liouville's theorem: phase space volume is conserved



Liouville equation: in chaotic system, divergence of trajectories such that original volume enters any region of phase space you choose

# equilibrium, quantum

## What is it?



System S is in a single eigenstate with energy  $E_\alpha$

$$P_{Ai} \propto e^{-\epsilon_{Ai}/k_B T}$$

$T$  comes from  $E_\alpha$

If the system were in contact with a thermal bath, what temperature of the bath would make the *average* energy of S equal to ?  $E_\alpha$

The rest of the system acts as a thermal bath for the subsystem.

# equilibrium, quantum

## How is it reached?

If system starts in an eigenstate, there is no time dependence.

If system starts in a superposition of eigenstates, does it evolve toward equilibrium?

eigenstate thermalization hypothesis

$$\langle \hat{O} \rangle_{time} = \langle \hat{O} \rangle_{ensemble}$$

$$\langle \hat{O} \rangle = \langle \Psi(t) | \hat{O} | \Psi(t) \rangle = \sum_{\alpha, \beta} C_{\alpha}^{*} C_{\beta} O_{\alpha\beta} e^{-i(E_{\beta} - E_{\alpha})t/\hbar}$$

$$\langle \hat{O} \rangle_{time} = \lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\tau} \int_0^{\tau} \langle \hat{O} \rangle dt = \sum_{\alpha} |C_{\alpha}|^2 O_{\alpha\alpha}$$

$$\langle \hat{O} \rangle_{ensemble} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{\nu \text{ in energy window}} O_{\nu\nu}$$

## Outline

equilibrium in closed systems

systems which don't equilibrate

classical -> quantum single-ptcle -> quantum many-body

the Fermi Hubbard model with disorder

# equilibrium, classical

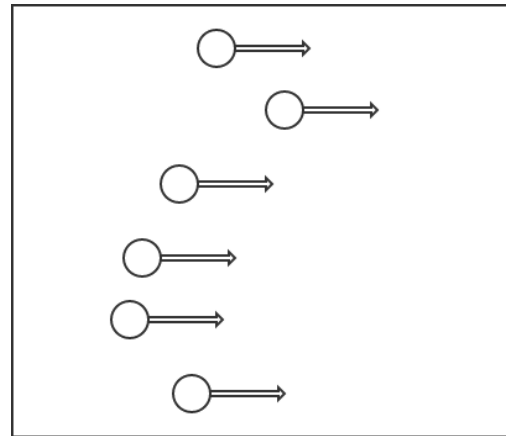
## What systems don't equilibrate?



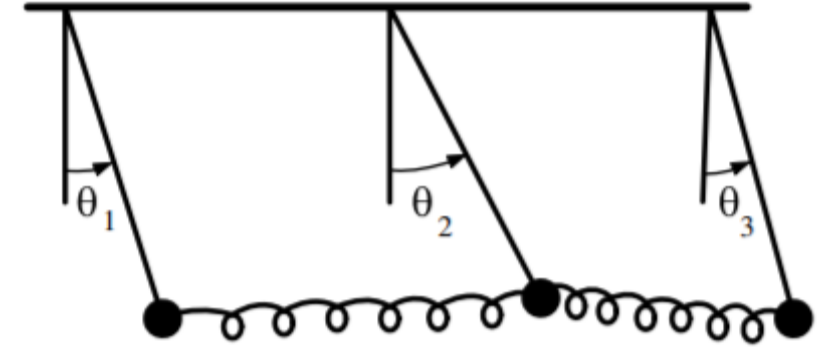
classical confinement



glassy



addition conserved quantities  
(macroscopic number)  
fine tuning



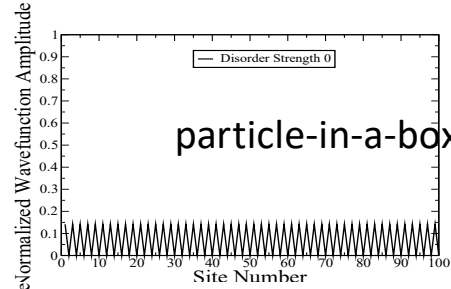
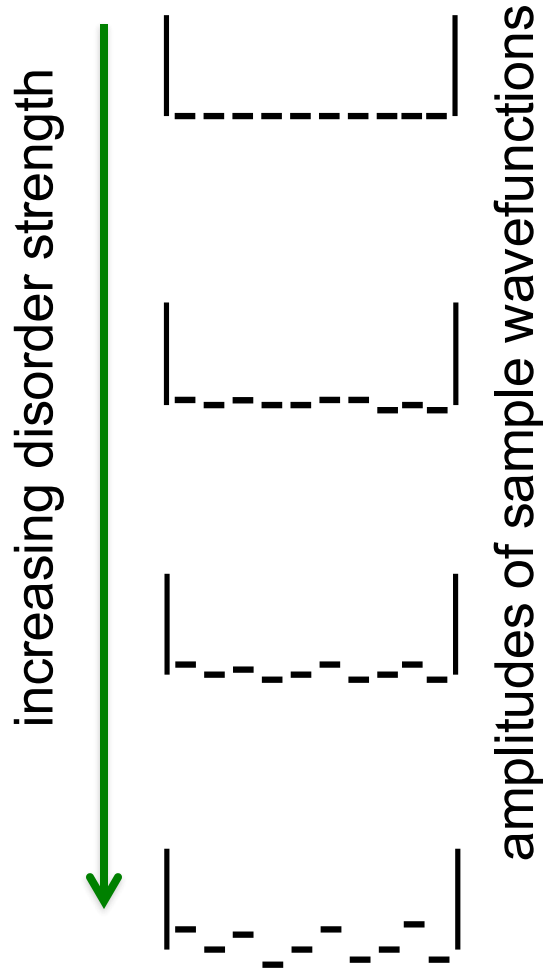
linearly coupled oscillators:  
normal modes

non-ergodicity can persist for  
sufficiently small  
nonlinearities!  
(KAM theorem)

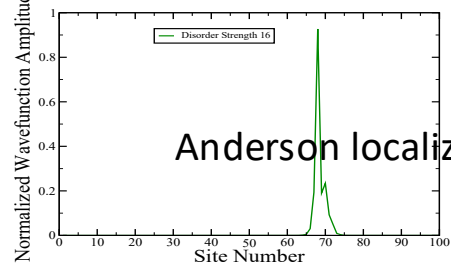
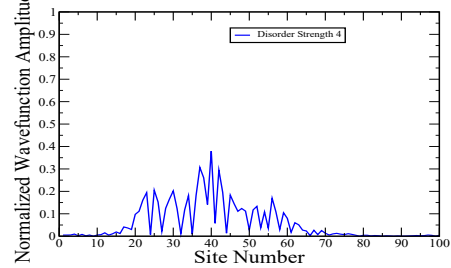
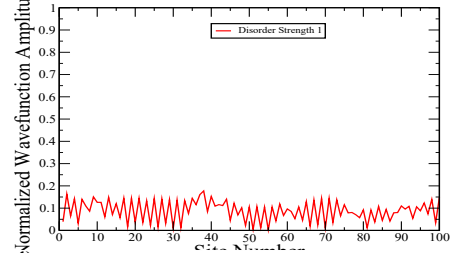
What about quantum systems?

# blocking equilibration with disorder

non-interacting particles



particle-in-a-box/extended states



Anderson localized states

$$H = -t_h \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} (c_i^\dagger c_j + c_j^\dagger c_i) + \sum_i \epsilon_i n_i$$

$$H = \sum_i h_i \tau_i^z$$

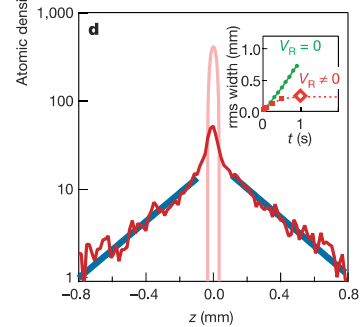
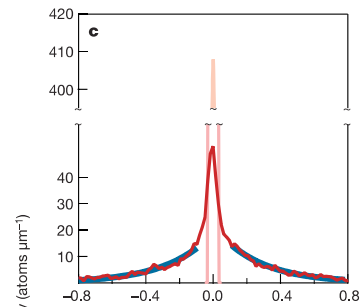
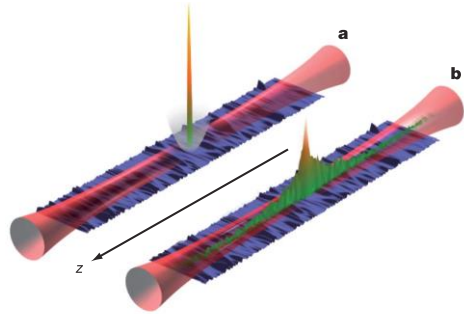
*Absence of diffusion in certain random lattices*  
P.W. Anderson, Phys. Rev. **109**, 1492 (1958)

*Scaling Theory of Localization: Absence of Quantum Diffusion in Two Dimensions*

E. Abrahams, P. W. Anderson, D. C. Licciardello, and T. V. Ramakrishnan  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **42**, 673 (1979)

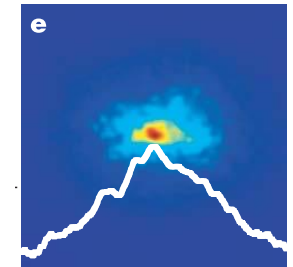
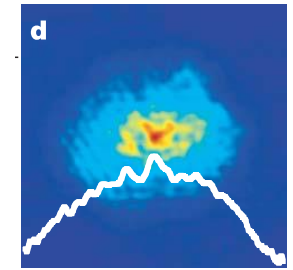
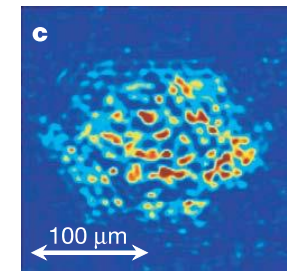
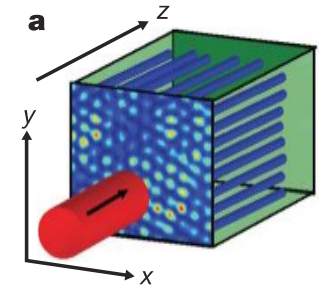
## Anderson localization

# Anderson localization



cold atoms

Billy, et al, Nature  
**453** 891 (2008)



light

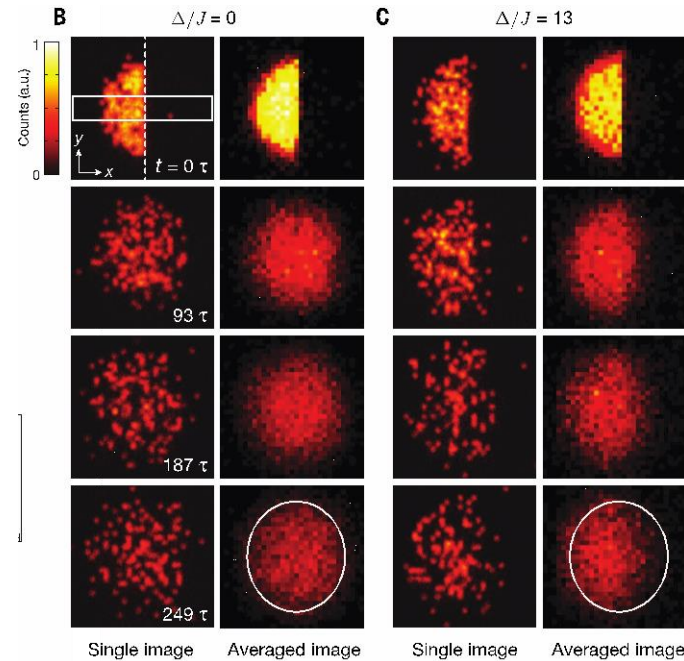
Schwartz, et al, Nature  
**446** 52 (2007)

# What does localization mean in an interacting system?

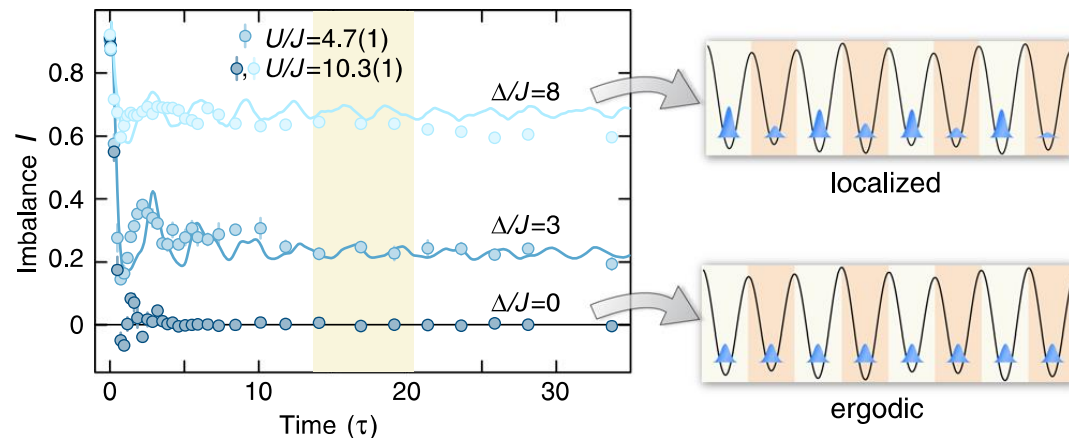
precursors: Fleishman & Anderson (1980); Finkelstein (1983); Giamarchi & Schulz (1988)

early work: Gornyi, Mirlin, & Polyakov (2005); Basko, Aleiner, & Altshuler (2006,2007)

reviews: Nandkishore & Huse, Annual Review of Cond. Matt. Phys. **6**, 15 (2015); Abanin, Altman, Bloch, & Serbyn, Rev. Mod. Phys. **91** 021001 (2019)



Choi, et al., Science **352** 1547 (2016)



Schreiber, et al., Science **349** 6250 (2015)

lack of transport

memory of initial conditions

lack of thermalization

macroscopic number of local conserved quantities

Poisson statistics of level spacing

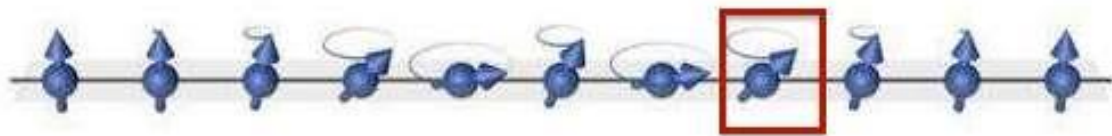
discrete local spectrum

entanglement entropy area law and logarithmic time dependence

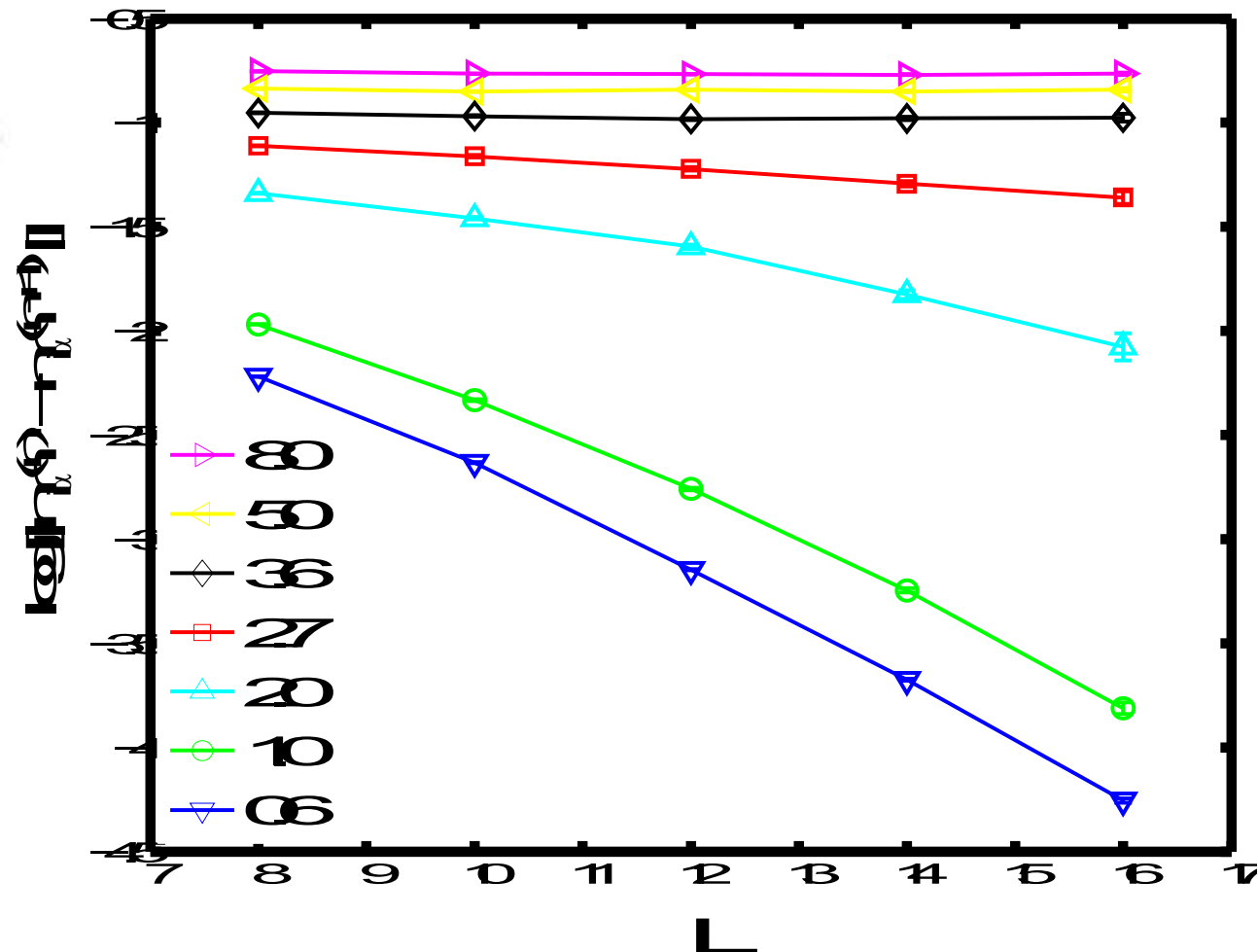
not just ground state property

# What does localization mean in an interacting system?

Pal & Huse, PRB **82** 174411 (2010)



lack of thermalization: many-body localized system does not act as a thermal bath for a subsystem.



# What does localization mean in an interacting system?

Hamiltonian in terms of local integrals of motion

$$H = \sum_i h_i \tau_i^z + \sum_{i,j} J_{ij} \tau_i^z \tau_j^z + \dots$$

Huse, Nandkishore and Oganesyan, PRB **90**, 174202 (2014)

$$\tau_i^z$$

local integral of motion

# questions

Is many-body localization stable in the thermodynamic limit?

What is the nature of the transition? Is there an intermediate phase? A mobility edge?

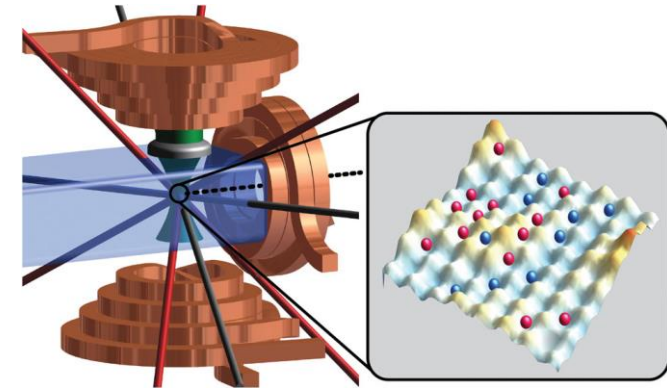
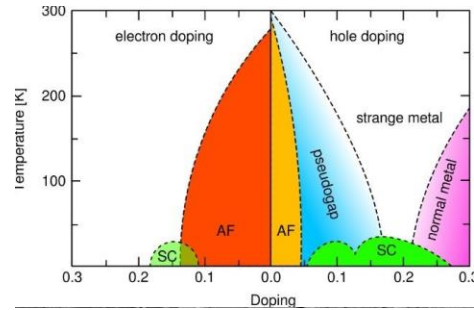
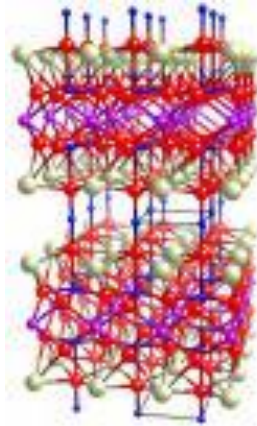
Is there localization for  $d > 1$ ?

Can localization persist in the presence of external coupling?

What novel nonequilibrium states might arise?

Can the local memory retention be used in quantum computing?

What new aspects of localization arise in multi-component systems?



Kondov PRL 2015

# Fermi-Hubbard model with charge and spin disorder

$$H = -t_h \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle, \sigma} \left( c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} + c_{j\sigma}^\dagger c_{i\sigma} \right) + U \sum_i n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow} + \sum_i \epsilon_i d_i + \sum_i h_i m_i$$

charge density

$$d_i = n_{i\uparrow} + n_{i\downarrow}$$

magnetization

$$m_i = n_{i\uparrow} - n_{i\downarrow}$$

charge disorder

$$\epsilon_i \in (-W_{ch}, W_{ch})$$

spin disorder

$$h_i \in (-W_{sp}, W_{sp})$$

## Outline

equilibrium in closed systems

systems which don't equilibrate

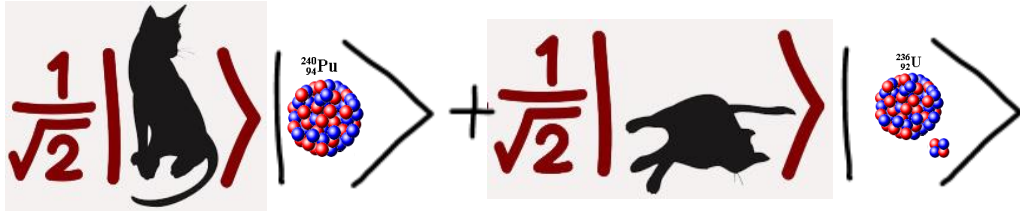
the Fermi Hubbard model with disorder

How does the entanglement grow with time?

What are the contributions of charge and spin to this growth?

How might disorder in charge and spin be used to control this growth?

# Why study entanglement?



- Identifying distinct phases of matter
- Controlling entanglement for quantum computation
- Understanding how quantum systems approach thermal equilibrium

How to quantify entanglement?  
entanglement entropy



$$\rho_A = \text{Tr}_B \rho$$

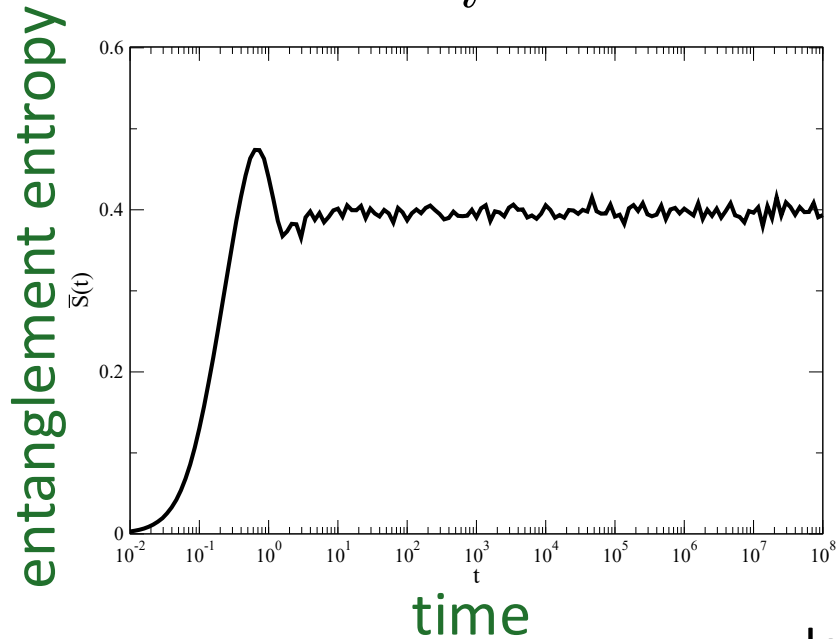
$$S = -\text{Tr}_A (\rho_A \ln \rho_A)$$

next:  $S(t)$  in noninteracting system  $\rightarrow S(t)$  in interacting system  
 $\rightarrow$  understanding charge and spin contributions

# Disorder impedes entanglement growth and equilibration

non-interacting tight-binding + disorder

$$H = \sum_i h_i \tau_i^z$$

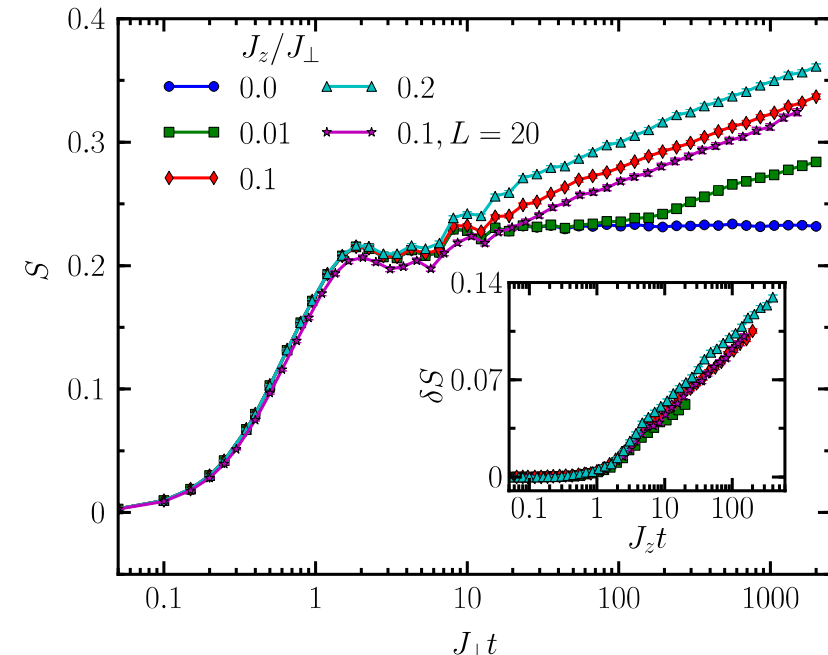


$$\tau_i^z$$

local integral of motion

interacting spinless Fermions + disorder

$$H = \sum_i h_i \tau_i^z + \sum_{i,j} J_{ij} \tau_i^z \tau_j^z + \dots$$



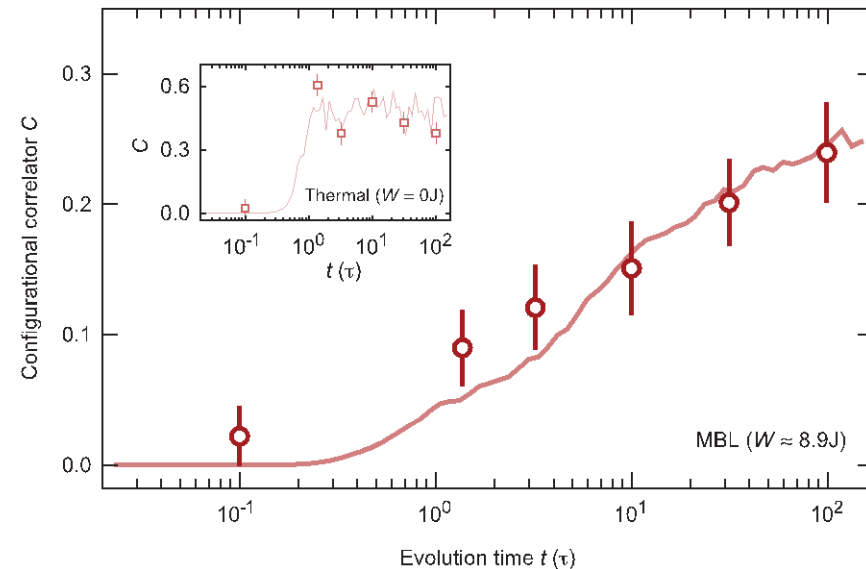
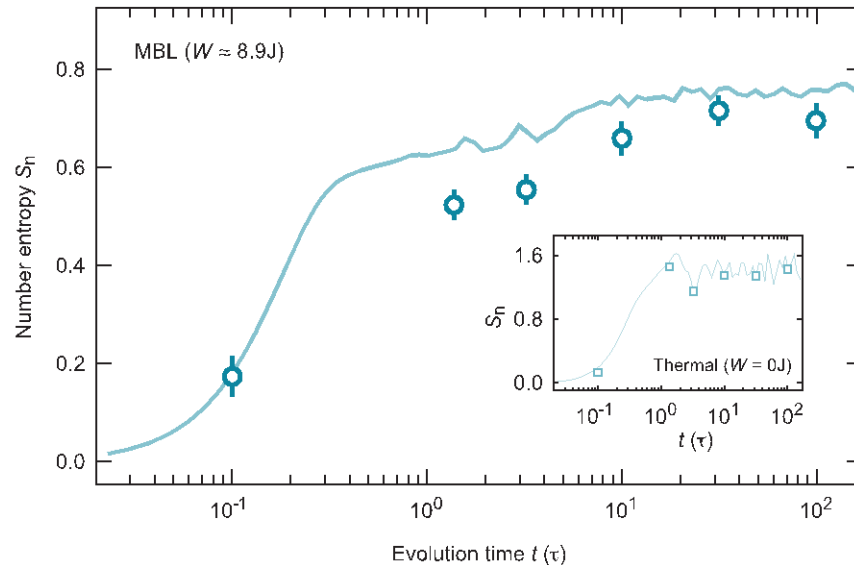
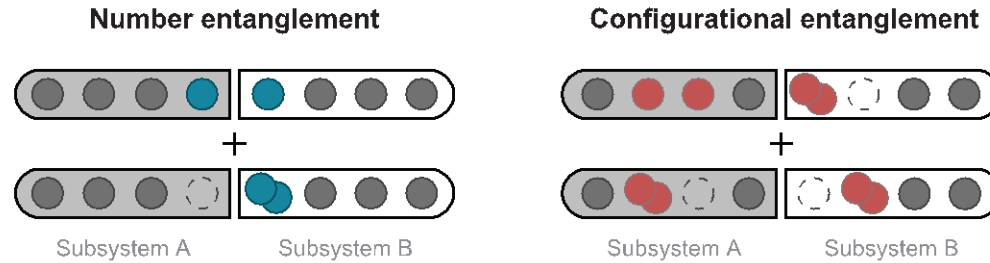
Bardarson, Pollmann, & Moore, PRL **109** 017202 (2012)

Huse & Oganesyan, PRB **90** 174202 (2014)

Serbyn & Abanin, PRL **110** 260601 (2013)

# Experiments in cold-atom systems

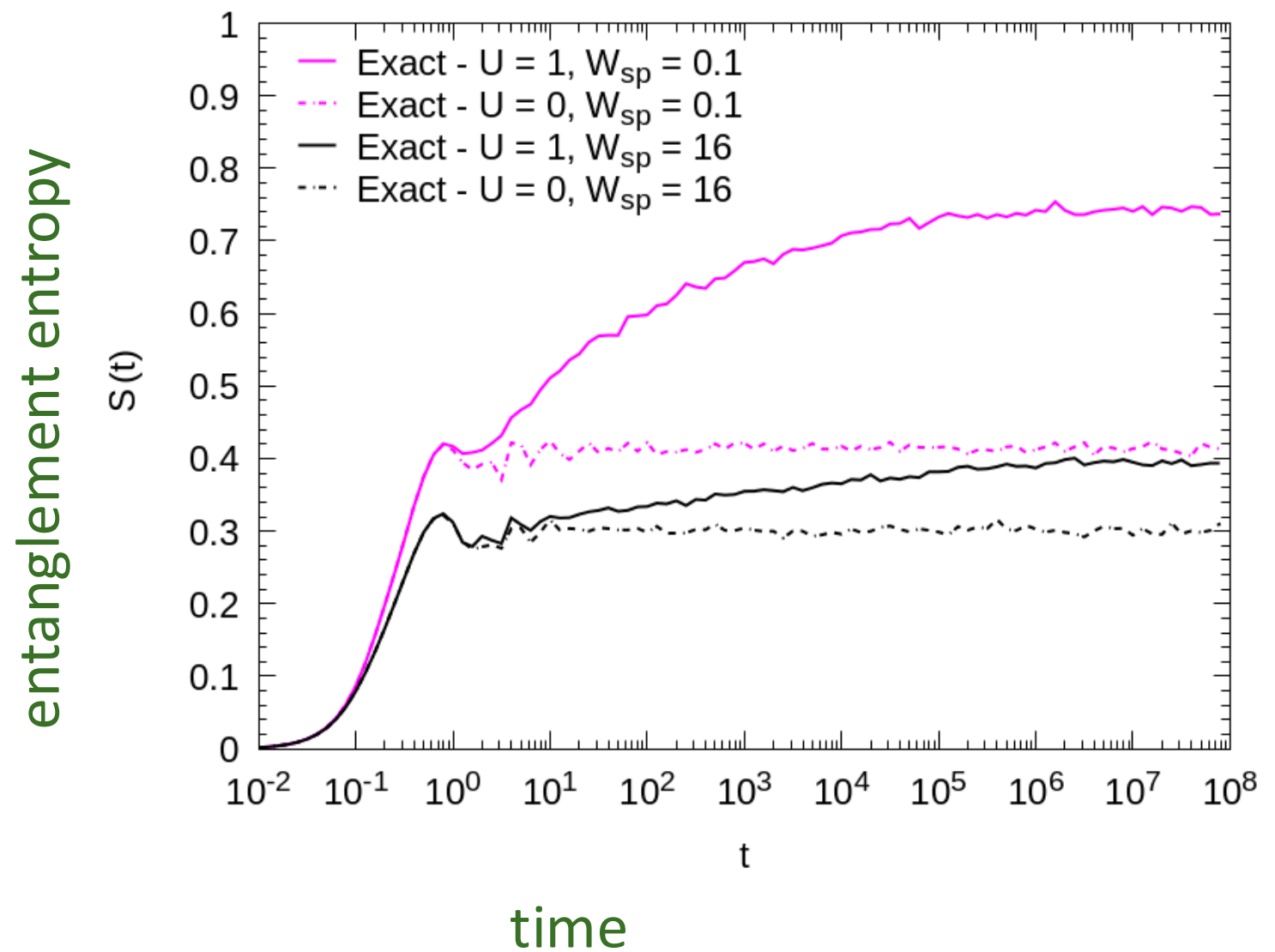
## Bose-Hubbard model



Lukin, Rispoli, Schittko, Tai, Kaufman, Choi, Khemani, Leonard, Greiner  
Science **364** 256 (2019)

# Entanglement growth in disordered Fermi-Hubbard model

comparing  $W_{ch}=16, W_{sp}=16$  with  $W_{ch}=16, W_{sp}=0.1$



Lower  $W_{sp}$  causes small increase for  $U=0$  but a large increase for  $U=1$

# Expressing the disordered Fermi-Hubbard model in terms of local integrals of motion

Hamiltonian in the usual form:

$$H = -t_h \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle, \sigma} \left( c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} + c_{j\sigma}^\dagger c_{i\sigma} \right) + U \sum_i n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow} + \sum_i \epsilon_i d_i + \sum_i h_i m_i$$

Originally proposed Hamiltonian in terms of local integrals of motion:

$$H = \sum_i h_i \tau_i^z + \sum_{i,j} J_{ij} \tau_i^z \tau_j^z + \dots$$

Our version with **charge** and **spin** specific local integrals of motion:

$$H = J_0 I + \sum_i (J_i^c \mathfrak{d}_i + J_i^s \mathfrak{m}_i) + \sum_{ij} (J_{ij}^{cc} \mathfrak{d}_i \mathfrak{d}_j + J_{ij}^{cs} \mathfrak{d}_i \mathfrak{m}_j + J_{ij}^{ss} \mathfrak{m}_i \mathfrak{m}_j) + \dots$$

# Charge and spin-specific local integrals of motion

## making integrals of motion

Huse (2014); Chandran (2015)

Eigenstates of  $H \rightarrow Q$  such that  $Q^\dagger H Q$  is diagonal.

If  $A$  is diagonal in Fock basis, then  $Q A Q^\dagger$  diagonal in energy basis.

## making them local

Leipner-Johns (2019)

Choose local  $A$ , e.g.  $n_{i\sigma}$

Choose  $Q$  close to the identity

$$Q = \left( \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{blue} \\ \hline \text{green} \\ \hline \text{blue} \\ \hline \text{light blue} \\ \hline \text{green} \\ \hline \end{array} \right)$$

## charge and spin character

Leipner-Johns (2019)

Construct from local charge  
and magnetization operators

$$d_i = n_{i\uparrow} + n_{i\downarrow}$$

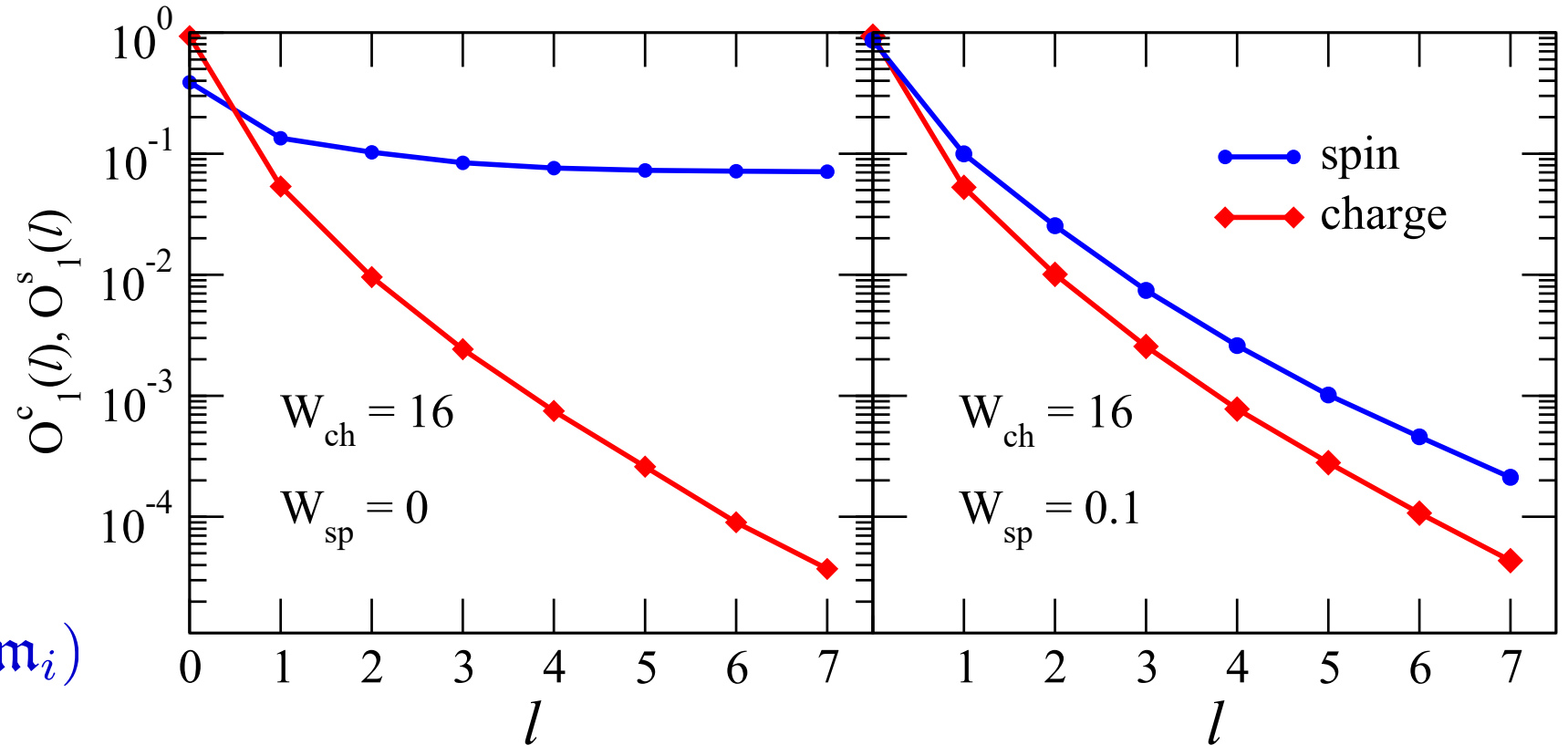
$$m_i = n_{i\uparrow} - n_{i\downarrow}$$

$$\mathfrak{d}_i = Q \tilde{d}_i Q^\dagger$$

$$\mathfrak{m}_i = Q \tilde{m}_i Q^\dagger$$

# Locality of integrals of motion

Phys. Rev. B **100**, 125132 (2019)



overlap vs distance

$$O_i^s(l) = \frac{1}{N} \text{Tr}(\tilde{m}_{i \pm l} \mathbf{m}_i)$$

$$O_i^c(l) = \frac{1}{N} \text{Tr}(\tilde{d}_{i \pm l} \mathbf{d}_i)$$

Zero spin disorder:  
No localization of spin

Very weak spin disorder:  
Localization of spin is almost as  
strong as that of charge

# The Hamiltonian written in terms of LIOMs

$$H = J_0 I + \underbrace{\sum_i (J_i^c \mathfrak{d}_i + J_i^s \mathfrak{m}_i)}_{\text{1st-order terms}} + \underbrace{\sum_{ij} (J_{ij}^{cc} \mathfrak{d}_i \mathfrak{d}_j + J_{ij}^{cs} \mathfrak{d}_i \mathfrak{m}_j + J_{ij}^{ss} \mathfrak{m}_i \mathfrak{m}_j)}_{\text{2nd-order terms}} + \dots$$

Next:

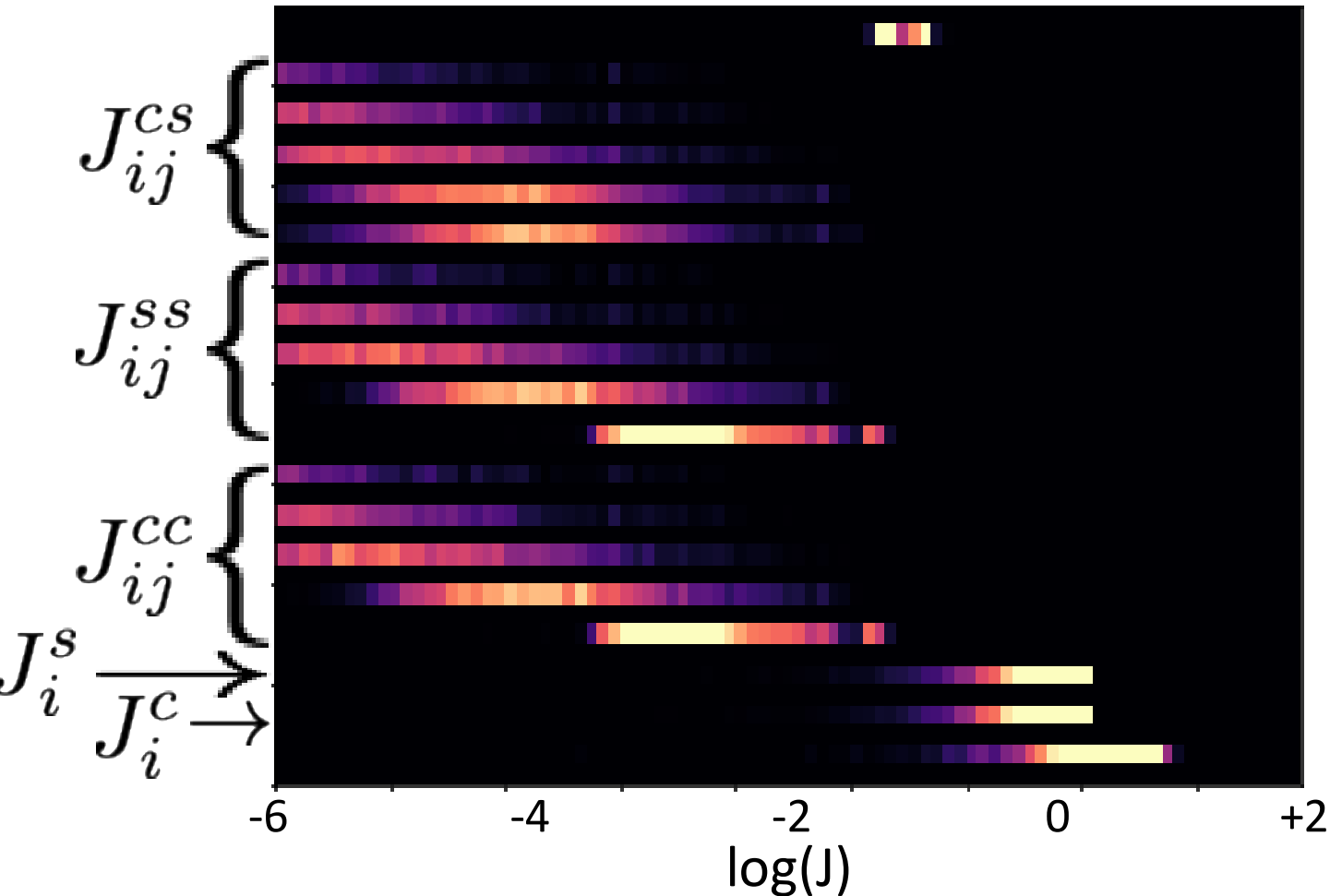
Results: distribution of J values  $\rightarrow$  entanglement entropy

(1)  $W_{sp} = W_{ch}$  (2)  $W_{sp} \ll W_{ch}$

## Distribution of coefficients in the LIOM Hamiltonian

$$H = J_0 I + \sum_i (J_i^c \mathfrak{d}_i + J_i^s \mathfrak{m}_i) + \sum_{ij} (J_{ij}^{cc} \mathfrak{d}_i \mathfrak{d}_j + J_{ij}^{cs} \mathfrak{d}_i \mathfrak{m}_j + J_{ij}^{ss} \mathfrak{m}_i \mathfrak{m}_j) + \dots$$

$$W_{sp} = W_{ch} = 16$$



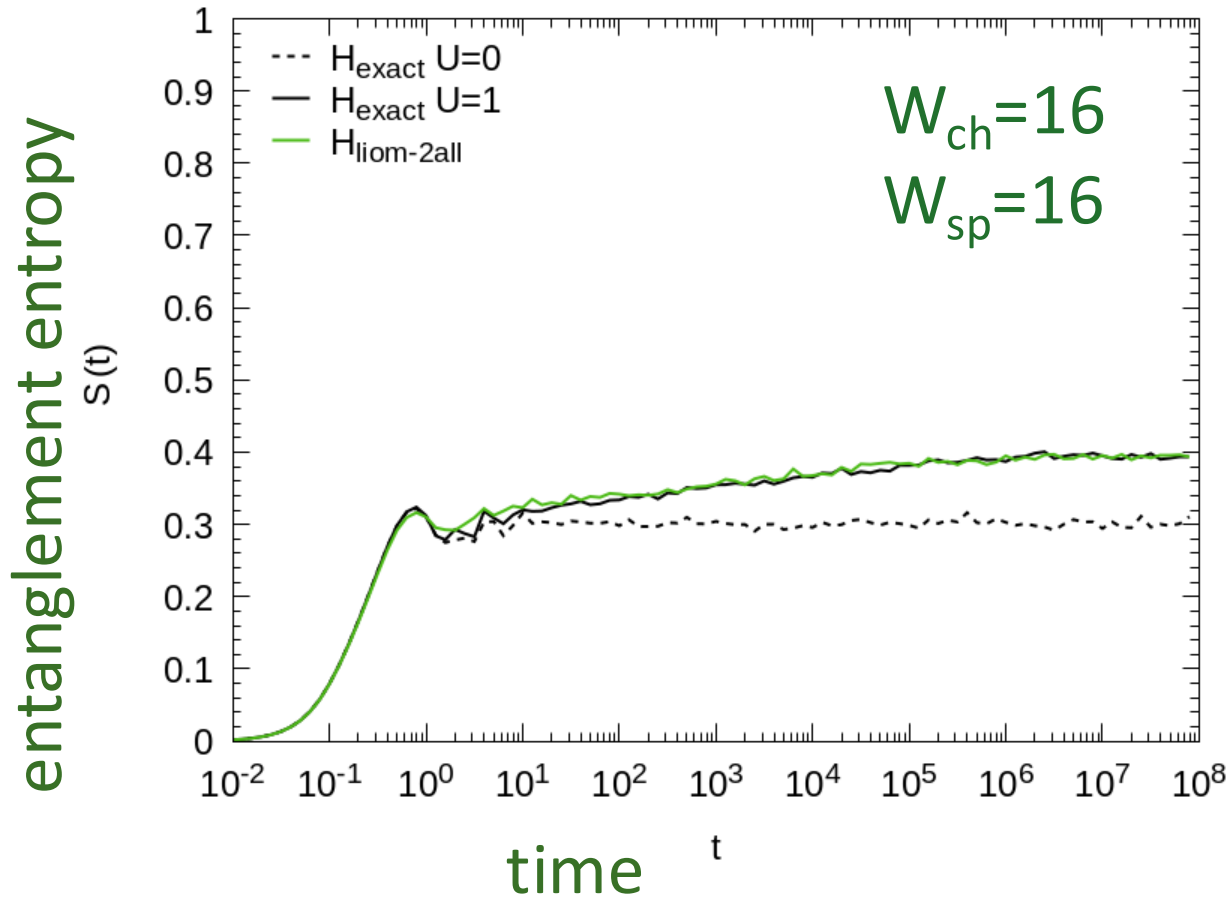
Charge and spin values the same

2<sup>nd</sup>-order coefficients decay with distance

Charge-spin coupling 10x smaller than charge-charge or spin-spin

# Entanglement growth in disordered Fermi-Hubbard model

comparing exact with up to 2<sup>nd</sup>-order terms in LIOM Hamiltonian



2<sup>nd</sup>-order terms in the LIOM Hamiltonian capture most of the physics

log(t) growth same as seen in single-component systems

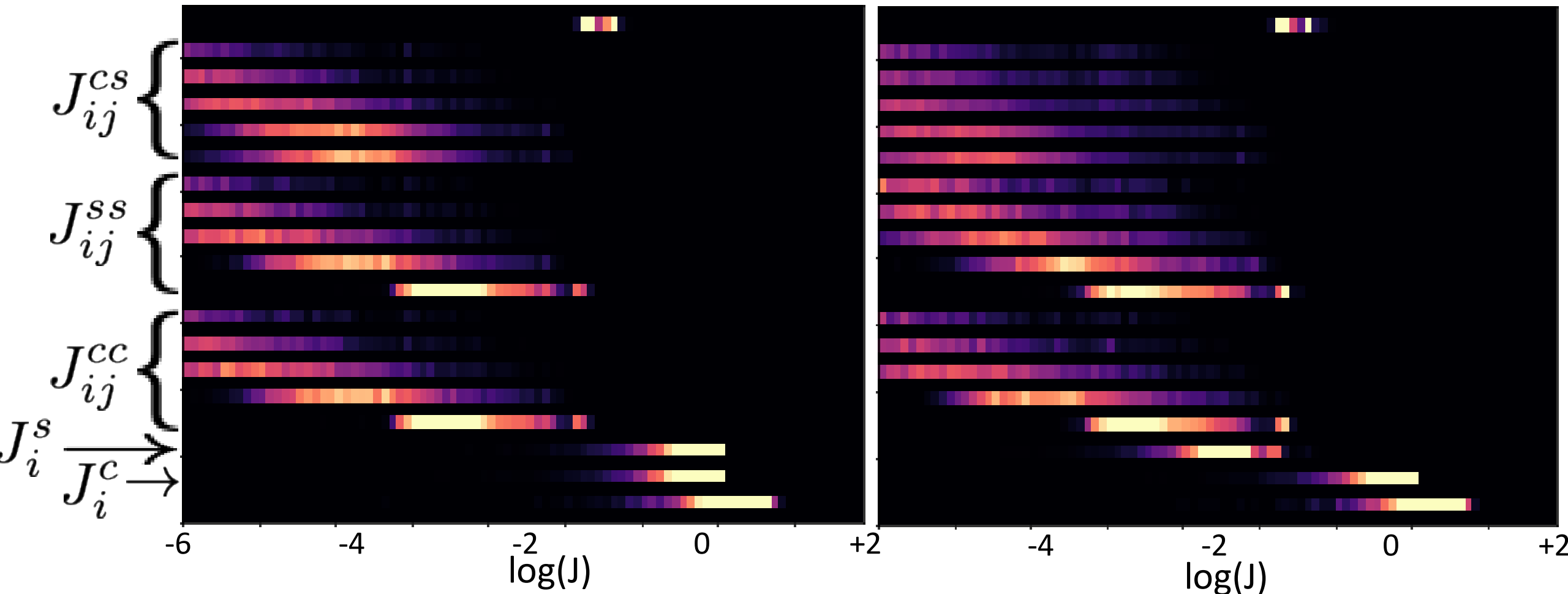
weak coupling between charge and spin not apparent

## Distribution of coefficients in the LIOM Hamiltonian

$$H = J_0 I + \sum_i (J_i^c \mathfrak{d}_i + J_i^s \mathfrak{m}_i) + \sum_{ij} (J_{ij}^{cc} \mathfrak{d}_i \mathfrak{d}_j + J_{ij}^{cs} \mathfrak{d}_i \mathfrak{m}_j + J_{ij}^{ss} \mathfrak{m}_i \mathfrak{m}_j) + \dots$$

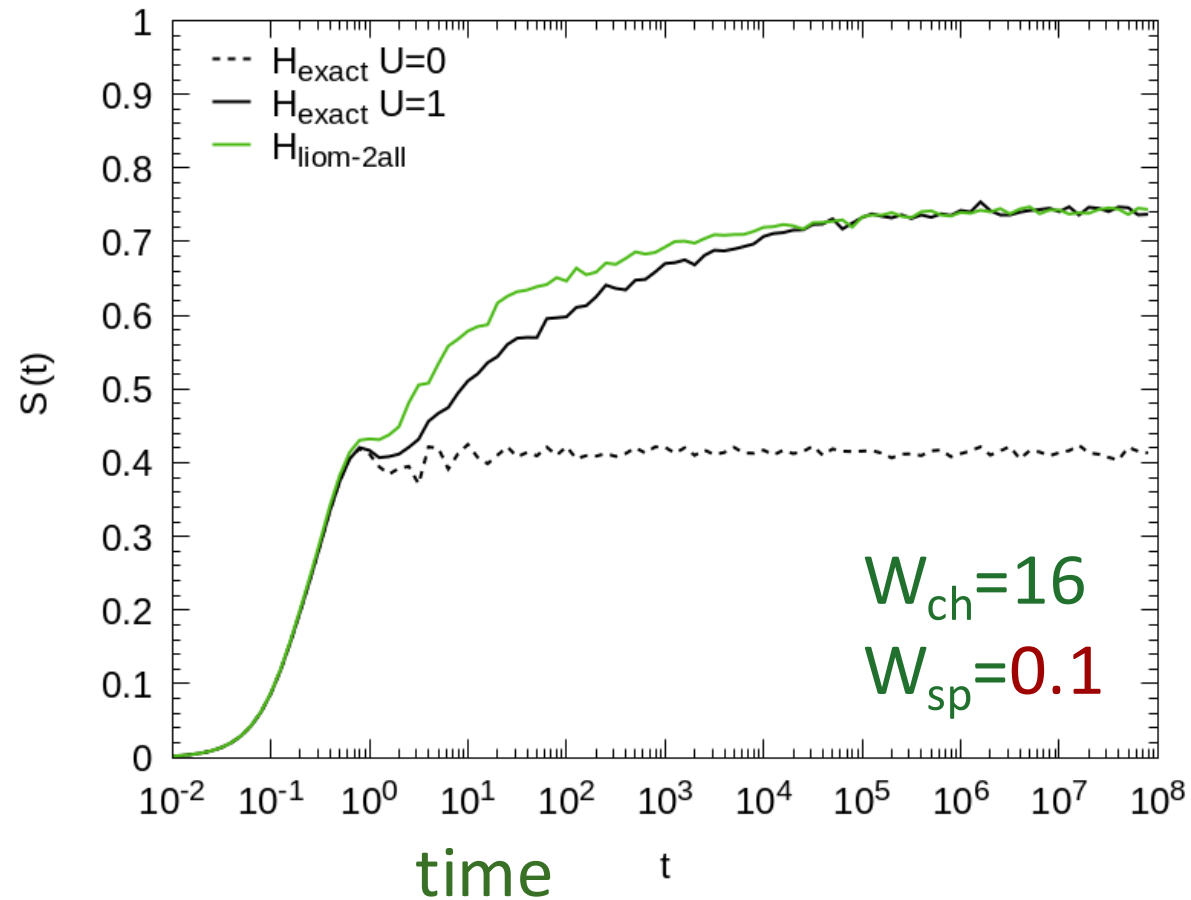
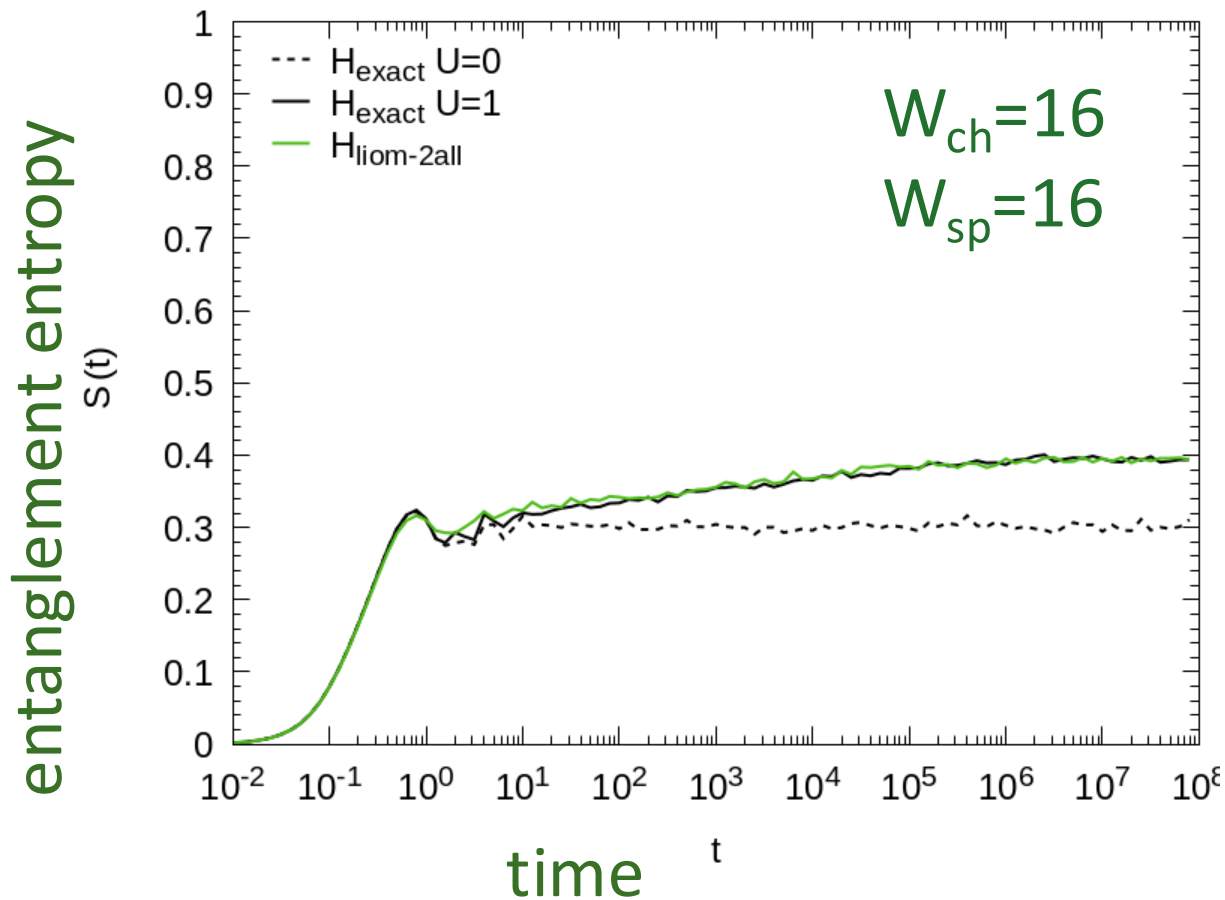
$W_{sp} = W_{ch} = 16$

$W_{sp} = 0.1 \ll W_{ch} = 16$



# Entanglement growth in disordered Fermi-Hubbard model

comparing exact with up to 2<sup>nd</sup>-order terms in LIOM Hamiltonian

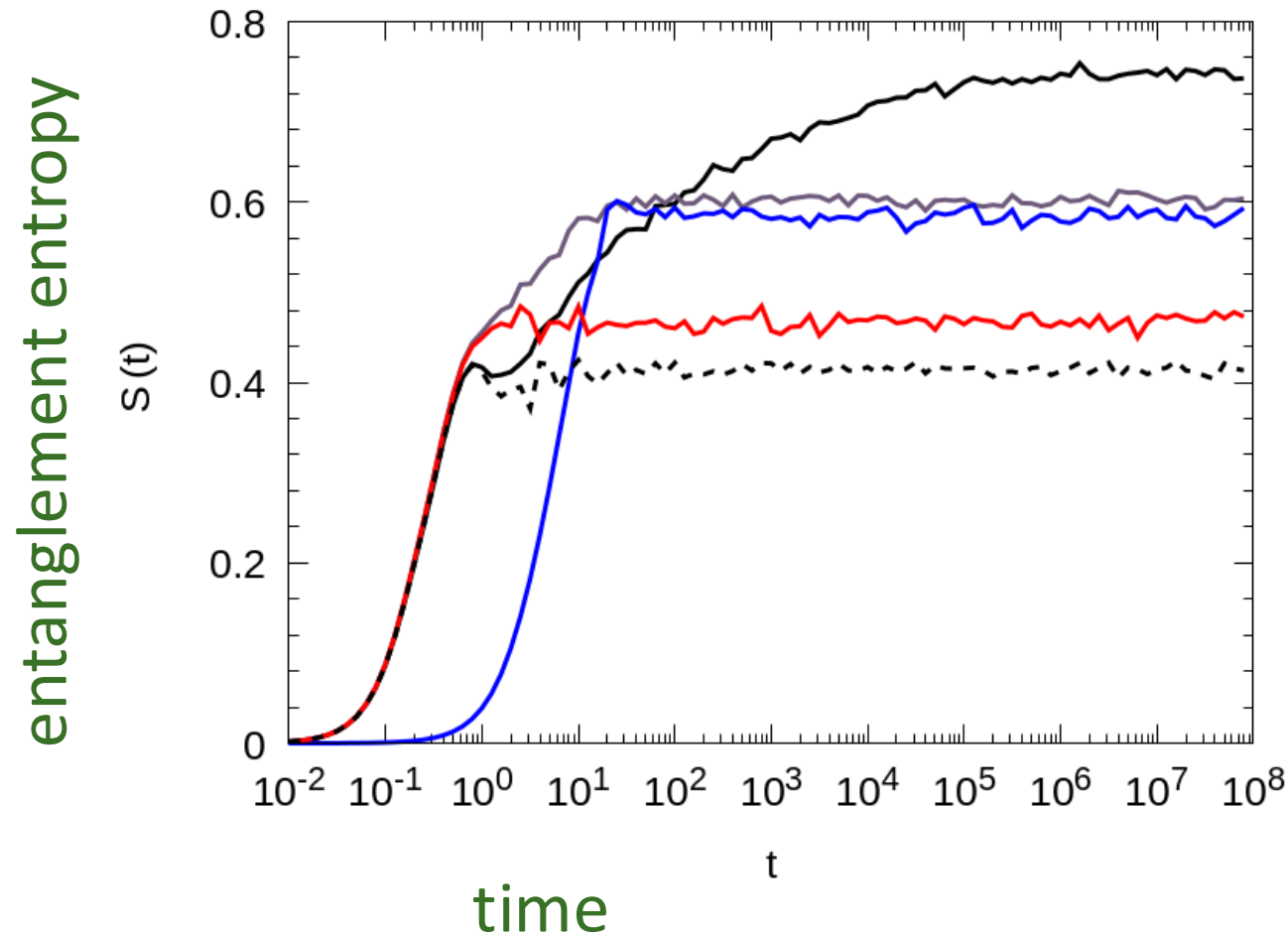


$W_{\text{sp}} \ll W_{\text{ch}}$ : long-term growth no longer  $\log(t)$

2<sup>nd</sup>-order terms still capture most physics, but not quite as well

# Entanglement growth in disordered Fermi-Hubbard model separating 1<sup>st</sup>-order terms into charge and spin

$$W_{\text{ch}}=16$$
$$W_{\text{sp}}=0.1$$



exact

all 1<sup>st</sup> order

1<sup>st</sup>-order spin only

1<sup>st</sup>-order charge only

origin of two-stage rise:

$W_{\text{ch}} > W_{\text{sp}} \rightarrow$

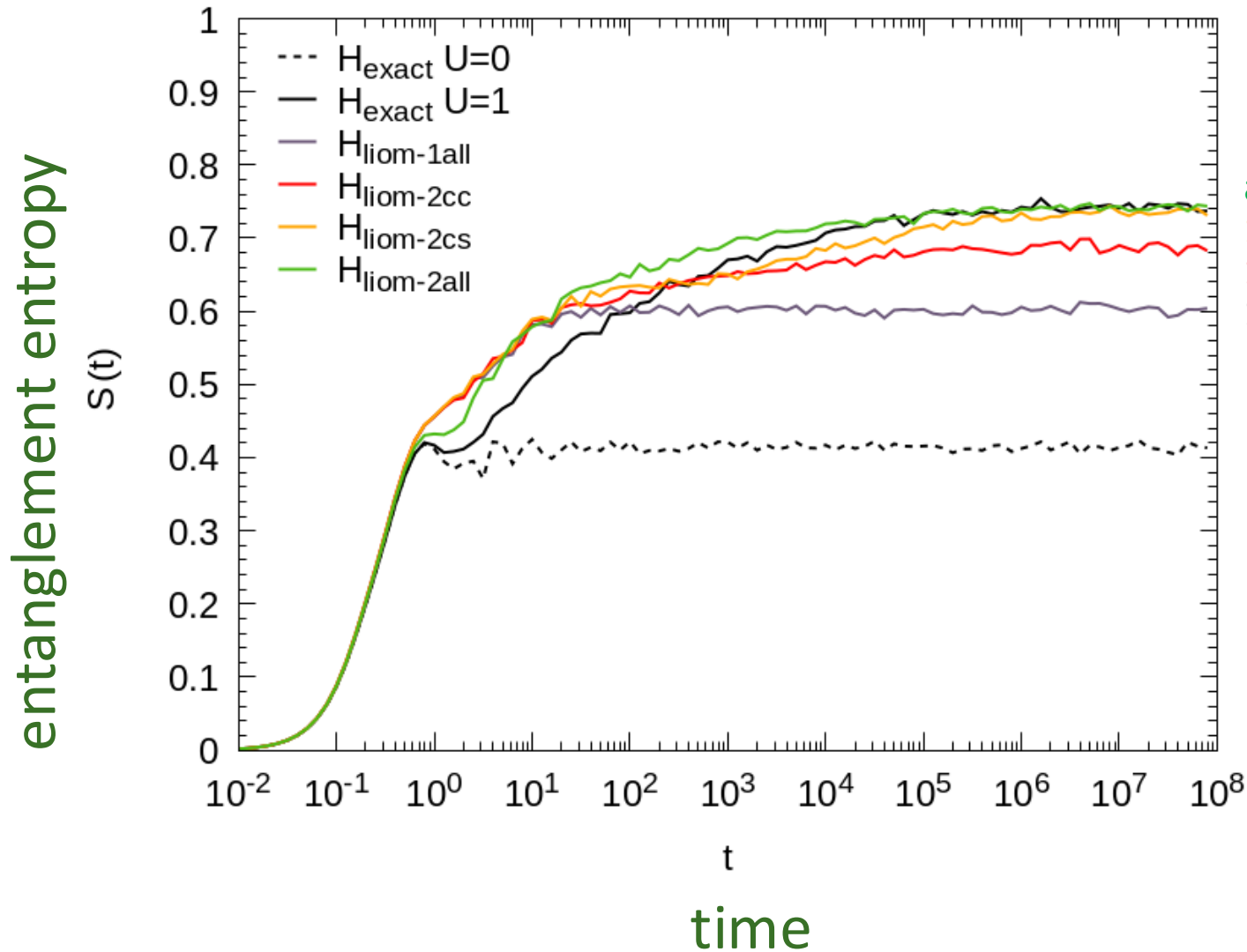
localization length charge < spin

$\rightarrow$  charge entangles faster  
to lower saturation value

# Entanglement growth in disordered Fermi-Hubbard model

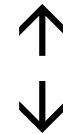
## contributions of different 2<sup>nd</sup>-order terms

$W_{ch}=16$   
 $W_{sp}=0.1$



all 2<sup>nd</sup>-order  
 1st + charge-spin  
 1st + charge-charge  
 1<sup>st</sup> order only

charge-spin coupling contributes  
 at later times than charge-charge  
 and spin-spin



average charge-spin coupling  
 strength is much less than  
 average charge-charge and spin-  
 spin coupling strength

# Summary

Disorder can prevent equilibration

The Fermi-Hubbard model can have disorder in charge and spin

Localization in spin depends on disorder in both spin and charge

We study entanglement growth, distinguishing the contributions from charge and from spin by expressing the Hamiltonian in terms of optimally local charge and spin integrals of motion

The Hamiltonian truncated at 2<sup>nd</sup> order captures most of the physics

Charge-charge and spin-spin coefficients decay exponentially with distance

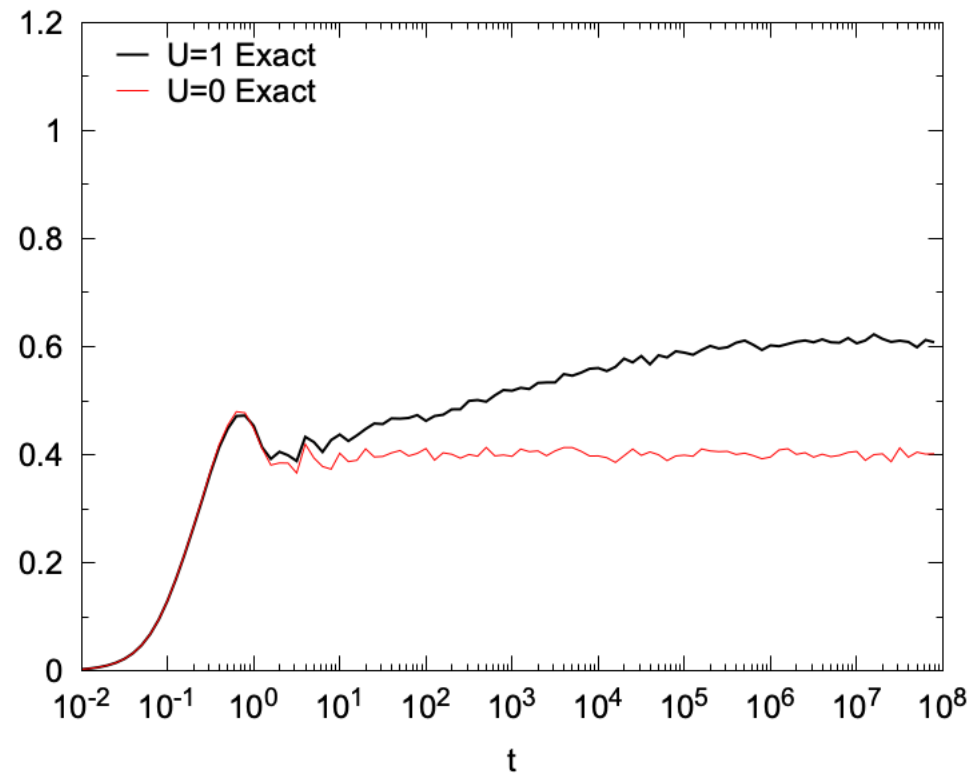
Charge-spin coupling is much weaker than charge-charge or spin-spin

[rwortis@trentu.ca](mailto:rwortis@trentu.ca)

# Entanglement growth in disordered Fermi-Hubbard model

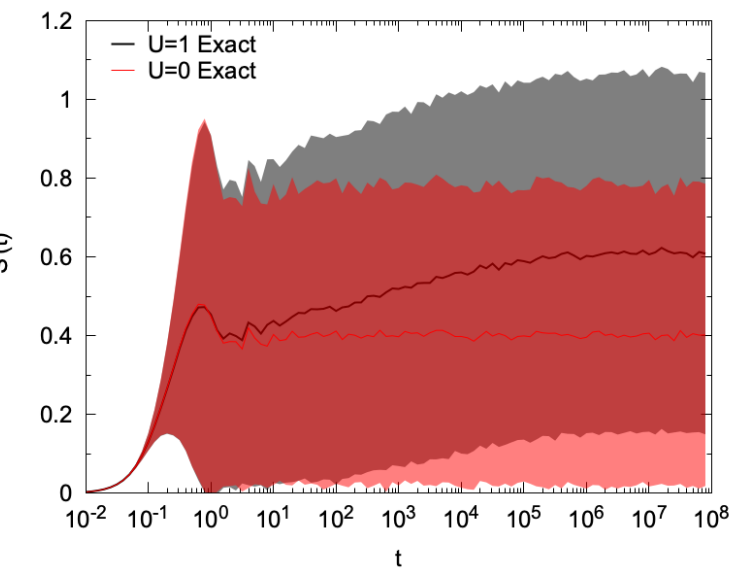
strong disorder in both charge and spin

entanglement entropy  $S(t)$

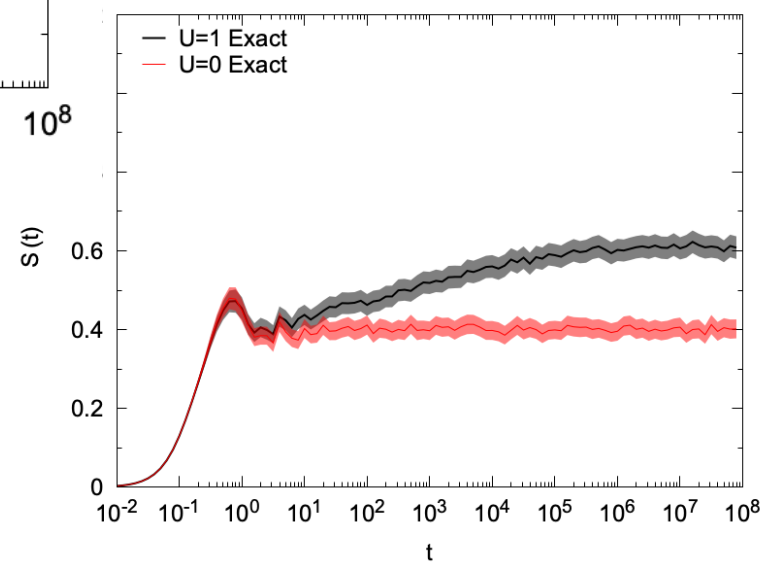


time

standard deviation

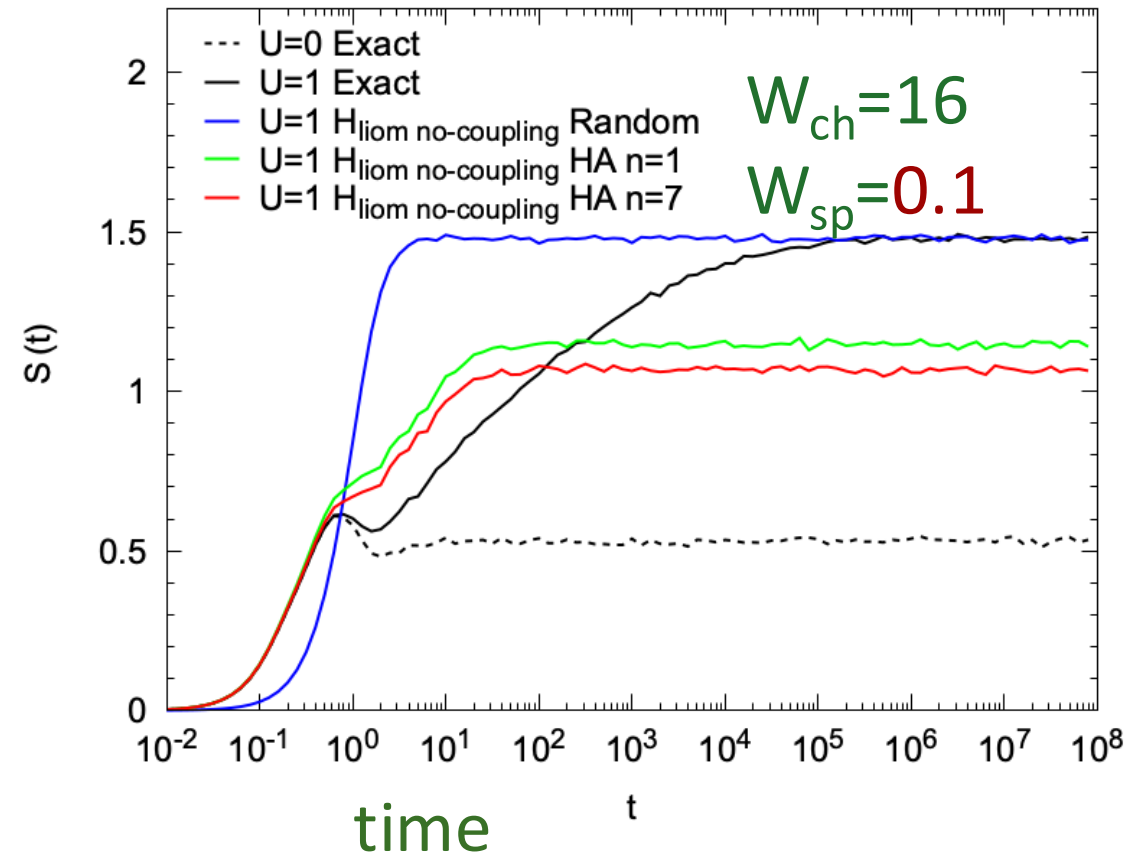
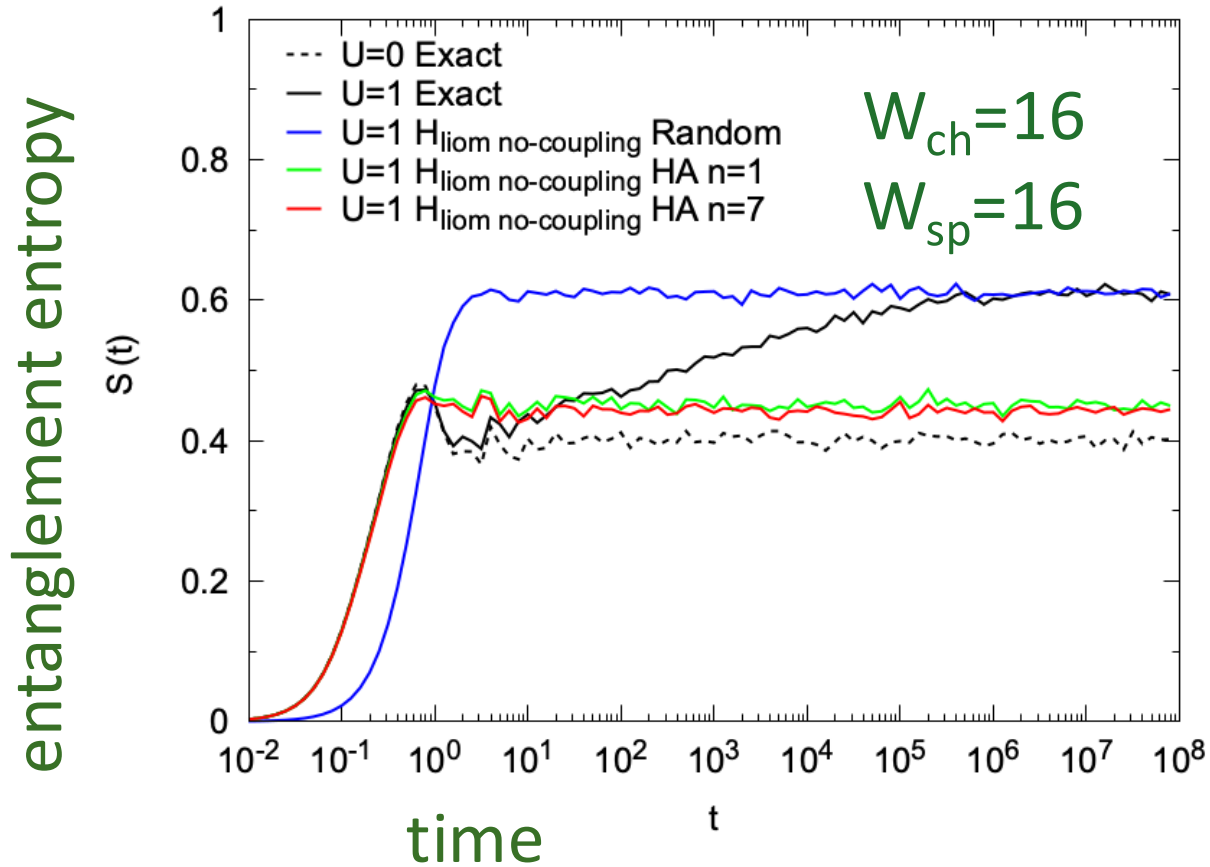


standard error of the mean

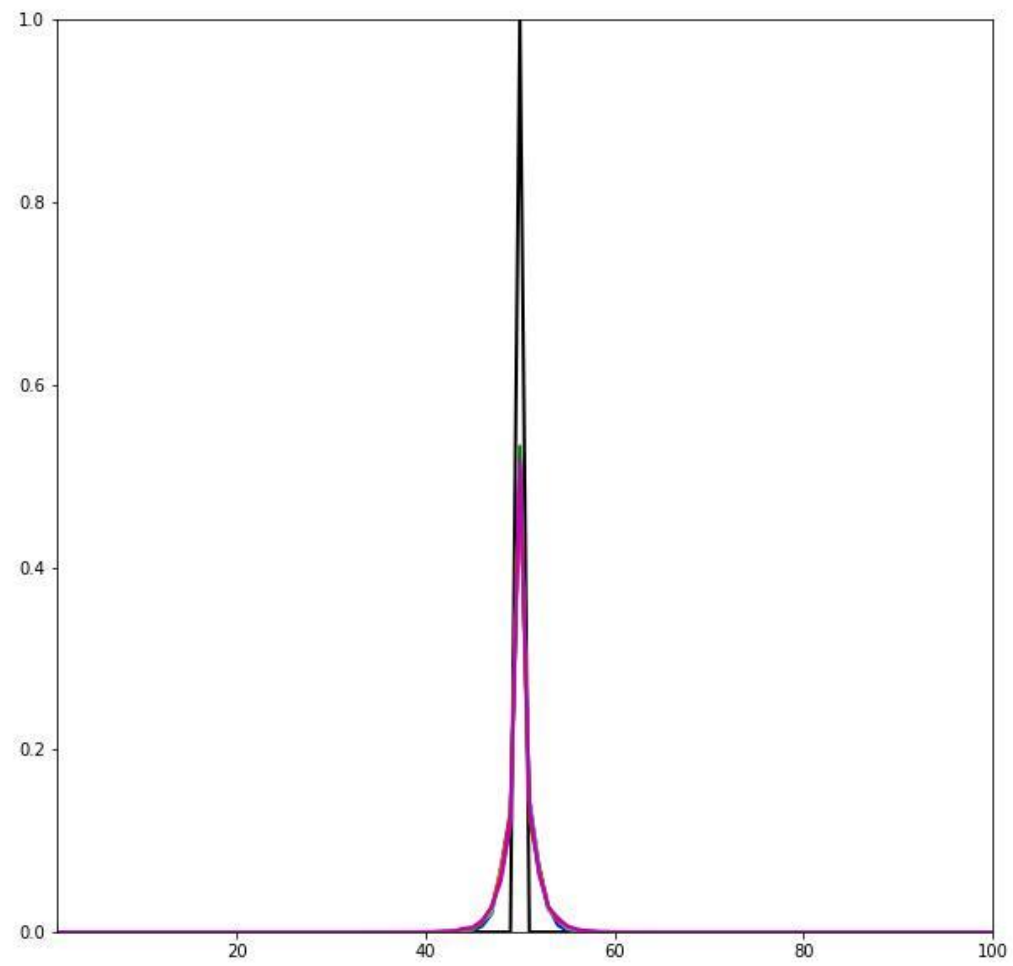
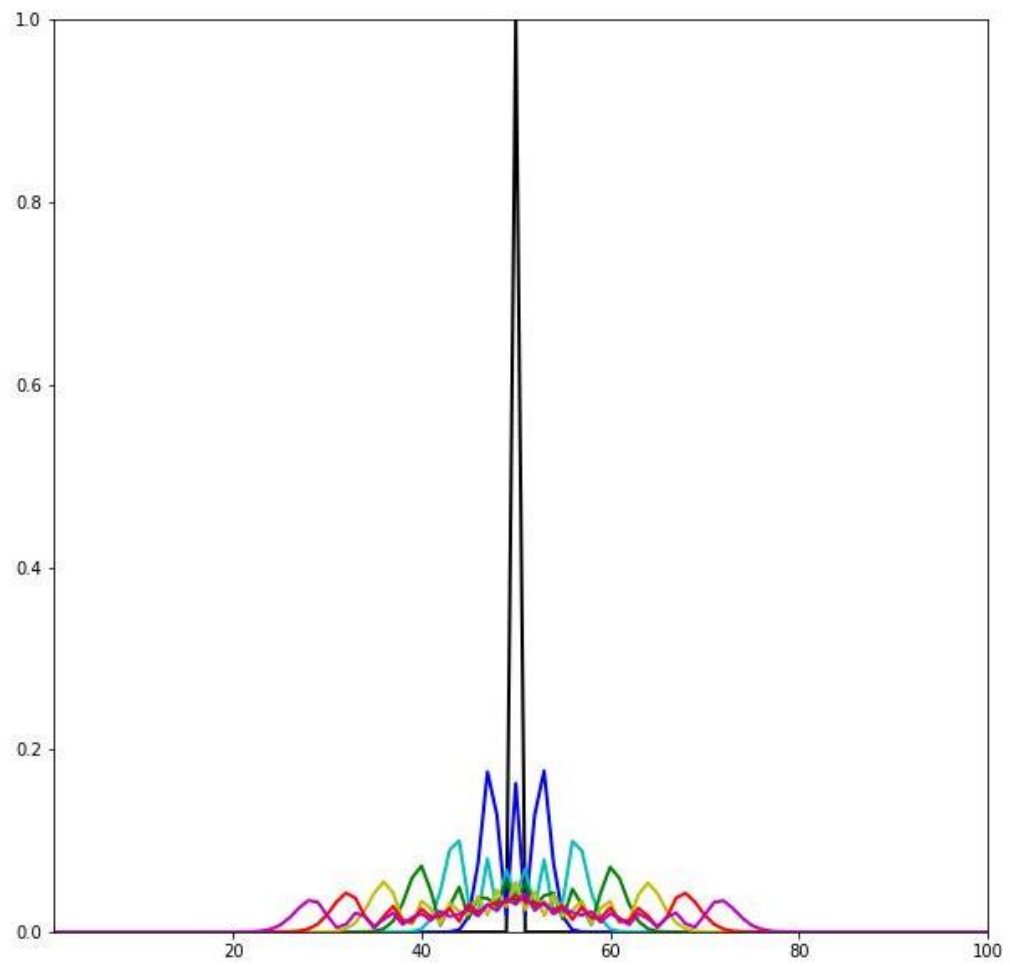


# Entanglement growth in disordered Fermi-Hubbard model

Does optimizing locality of integrals of motion make a difference?



Optimizing the locality of the LIOMs is making a difference;  
but with  $W_{sp}=0.1$  extra entanglement remains



# Strong disorder in both channels not required for localization

