

# *Probing Many-Body Localisation with Ultracold Atoms*

Michael Schreiber, Henrik Lüschen, Pranjal Bordia  
Sean Hodgman, Ulrich Schneider

Sebastian Hild, Jae-Yoon Choi,  
Johannes Zeiher, Tarik Yefsah, Christian Gross

## **Humboldt Research Awardees:**

E. Demler, C. Chin, N. Cooper, C. Salomon, W. Ketterle

**Max-Planck-Institut für Quantenoptik  
Ludwig-Maximilians Universität**

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# Outline

## 1 Many-Body Localisation

- ▶ MBL of Interacting Fermions in Quasi-Random Potentials
- ▶ Coupling of 1D MBL systems - Anderson vs MBL
- ▶ **Anderson & MBL under Light Scattering (Henrik)**
- ▶ **Anderson & MBL in Driven Systems (Henrik)**

## 2 Signatures of MBL in 2d ?

- ▶ Probing MBL transition using domain wall dynamics

# Many-Body Localisation using Ultracold Atoms

M. Schreiber et al. *Science* **349**, 842 (2015)  
P. Bordia et al. arXiv 1509.00478



E. Altman



R. Vosk



M. Fischer

## Thermalization

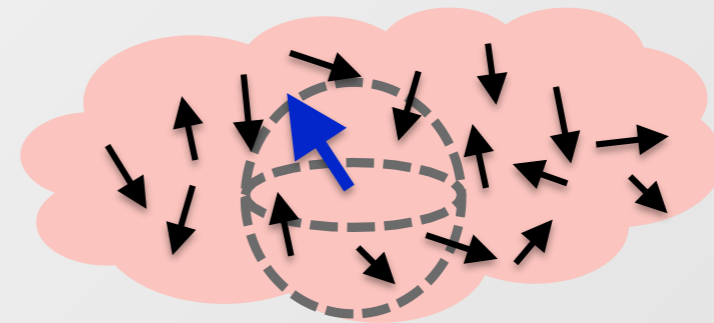


Quantum correlations in local d.o.f are rapidly lost as these get entangled with the rest of the system.



**Classical** hydro description of remaining slow modes (conserved quantities, and order parameters).

## Many-body localization



Local quantum information persists indefinitely.



Need a fully **quantum** description of the long time dynamics!



The many-body localization transition



elusive interface between quantum and classical worlds

Approaching Many-Body Localization from Disordered Luttinger Liquids  
C. Karrasch, J. E. Moore  
Subjects: Strongly Correlated Electrons (cond-mat.str-el)  
28. arXiv:1506.00592 [pdf, other]  
Protection of topological order by symmetry and many-body localization  
Andrew C. Potter, Ashvin Vishwanath  
Comments: 17 pages, 4 figures  
Subjects: Disordered Systems and Neural Networks (cond-mat.dis-nn)  
29. arXiv:1505.07089 [pdf, other]  
Dynamics of many-body localisation in a translation invariant quantum system  
Merlijn van Horssen, Emanuele Levi, Juan P. Garrahan  
Comments: 5 pages, 4 figures  
Subjects: Statistical Mechanics (cond-mat.stat-mech); Quantum Physics (quant-ph)  
30. arXiv:1505.06343 [pdf, ps, other]  
Many-body ground state localization and coexistence of localized and delocalized states  
Yucheng Wang, Haiping Hu, Shu Chen  
Comments: 5 pages, 6 figures  
Subjects: Disordered Systems and Neural Networks (cond-mat.dis-nn)  
31. arXiv:1505.05386 [pdf, other]  
Revisiting Many-body Localization with Random Networks of Tight-binding States  
Benoît Descamps, Frank Verstraete  
Comments: 3 figures  
Subjects: Quantum Physics (quant-ph)  
32. arXiv:1505.05147 [pdf, other]  
Many-Body Localization of Symmetry Protected Topological States  
Kevin Slagle, Zhen Bi, Yi-Zhuang You, Cenke Xu  
Comments: 5 pages 2 figures

**Pioneering work:**  
**D. M. Basko, I. L. Aleiner, B. L. Altshuler, Ann. Phys. (2006).**

**Good review/intro:**  
**D.A. Huse, R. Nandkishore, V. Oganesyan, Annu. Rev. Cond. Mat. 6, 15 (2015)**

**R. Vosk & E. Altman, Annu. Rev. Cond. Mat. 6, 383 (2015)**

**No Experiments!**

33. arXiv:1505.04900 [pdf, other]  
Out-of-time-ordered correlators and quantum chaos  
L. D'Alessio, M. Rigol  
Comments: 10 pages, 1 figure  
Subjects: Quantum Physics (quant-ph)  
34. arXiv:1505.04900 [pdf, other]  
Total time-averaged entanglement entropy in a quantum system  
J. Goold, C. Gogolin, S. R. Clark, J. Eisert, A. Scardicchio, A. Silva  
Comments: Slight Restructuring of the manuscript and additional analysis performed

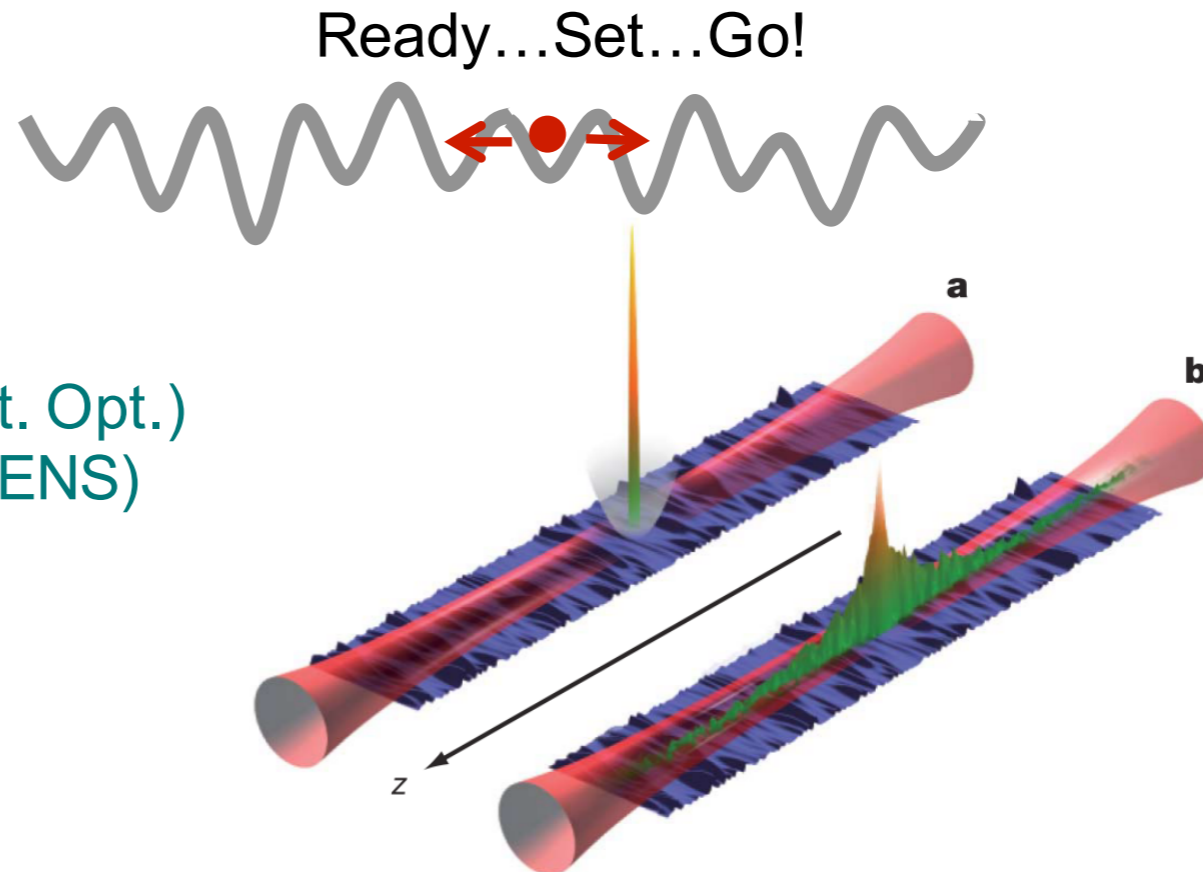
**Two Experiments!**  
**ultracold atoms & ions (see C. Monroe group)**

35. arXiv:1505.04900 [pdf, other]  
Many-body localization in a quantum system with a conserved quantity  
Xiacheng Yu, Robert Nandkishore, David Huse  
Comments: 10 pages, 1 figure  
Subjects: Quantum Physics (quant-ph)  
36. arXiv:1505.04900 [pdf, other]  
Random matrix theory and many-body localization  
Comments: 10 pages, 1 figure  
Subjects: Statistical Mechanics (cond-mat.stat-mech); Strongly Correlated Electrons (cond-mat.str-el)  
37. arXiv:1505.04900 [pdf, other]  
Localization of wave functions in a quantum system  
Alexander L. Burin  
Comments: Modified version after review  
Subjects: Disordered Systems and Neural Networks (cond-mat.dis-nn)  
38. arXiv:1503.06147 [pdf, other]  
Many-body localization characterized from a one-particle perspective

Quantum Physics (quant-ph)  
Statistical Mechanics (cond-mat.stat-mech); Strongly Correlated Electrons (cond-mat.str-el)  
Disordered Systems and Neural Networks (cond-mat.dis-nn)  
One-particle and many-body problems

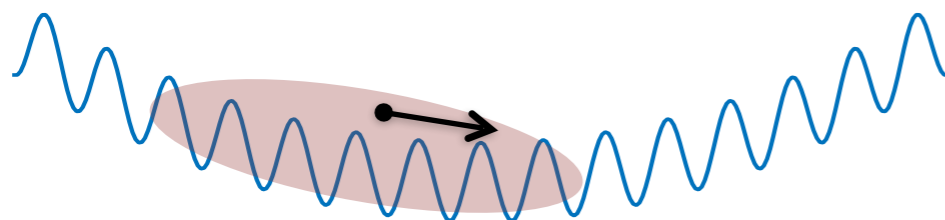
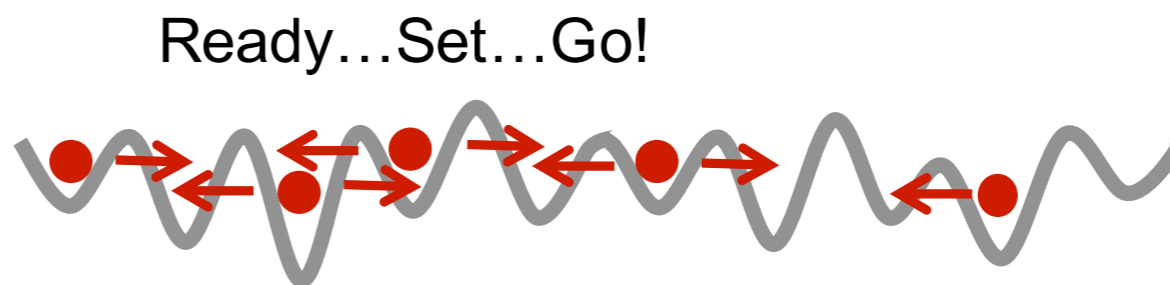
## Anderson localization:

J. Billy et. al. Nature 2008 (Inst. Opt.)  
 G. Roati et. al. Nature 2008 (LENS)



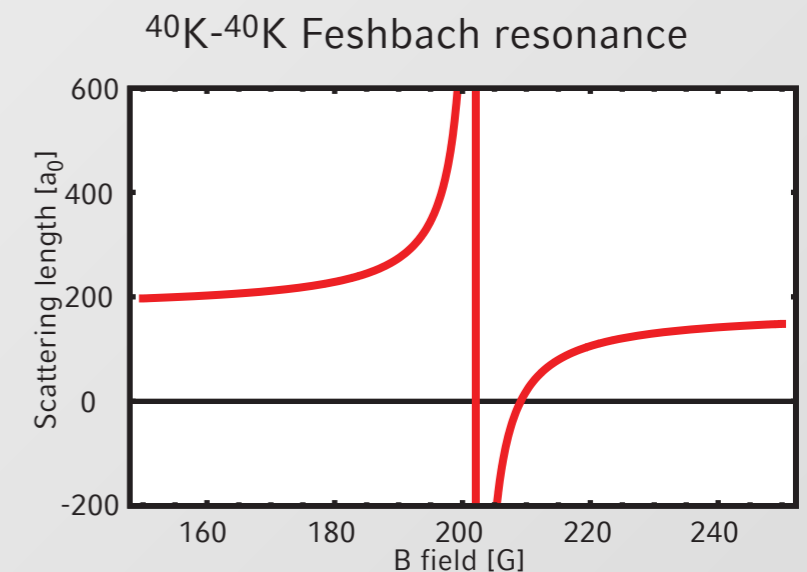
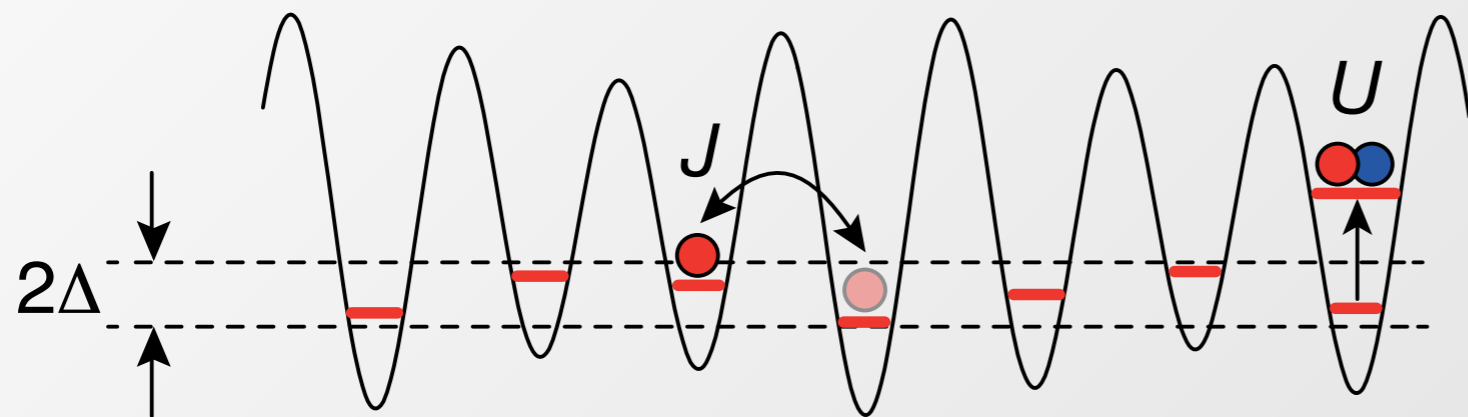
## Many-body localization:

**Fastest timescale: local probe!**



**Slowest timescale: global probe**

$$H = -J \sum_{i,\sigma} \left( \hat{c}_{i,\sigma}^\dagger \hat{c}_{i+1,\sigma} + H.c. \right) + \Delta \sum_{i,\sigma} \sin(2\pi\alpha i + \phi) \hat{c}_{i,\sigma}^\dagger \hat{c}_{i,\sigma} + U \sum_i \hat{n}_{i,\uparrow} \hat{n}_{i,\downarrow}$$

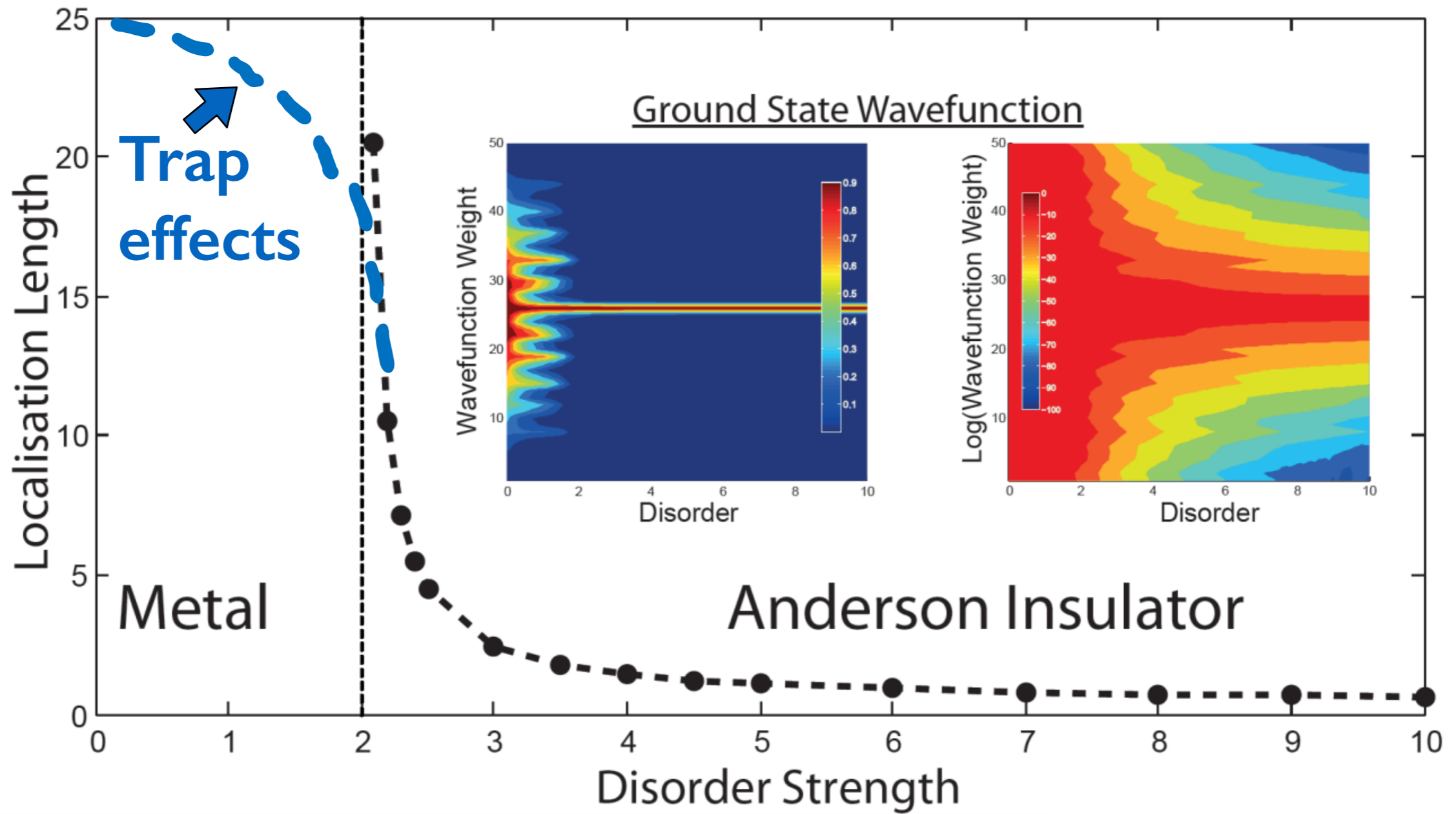


Without interactions  $U=0$  : **Aubry-André model**

- Homogenous tunneling but quasi-random onsite energies
- $\alpha$  is the incommensurability ratio, irrational, in the experiment  $\approx 0.721$

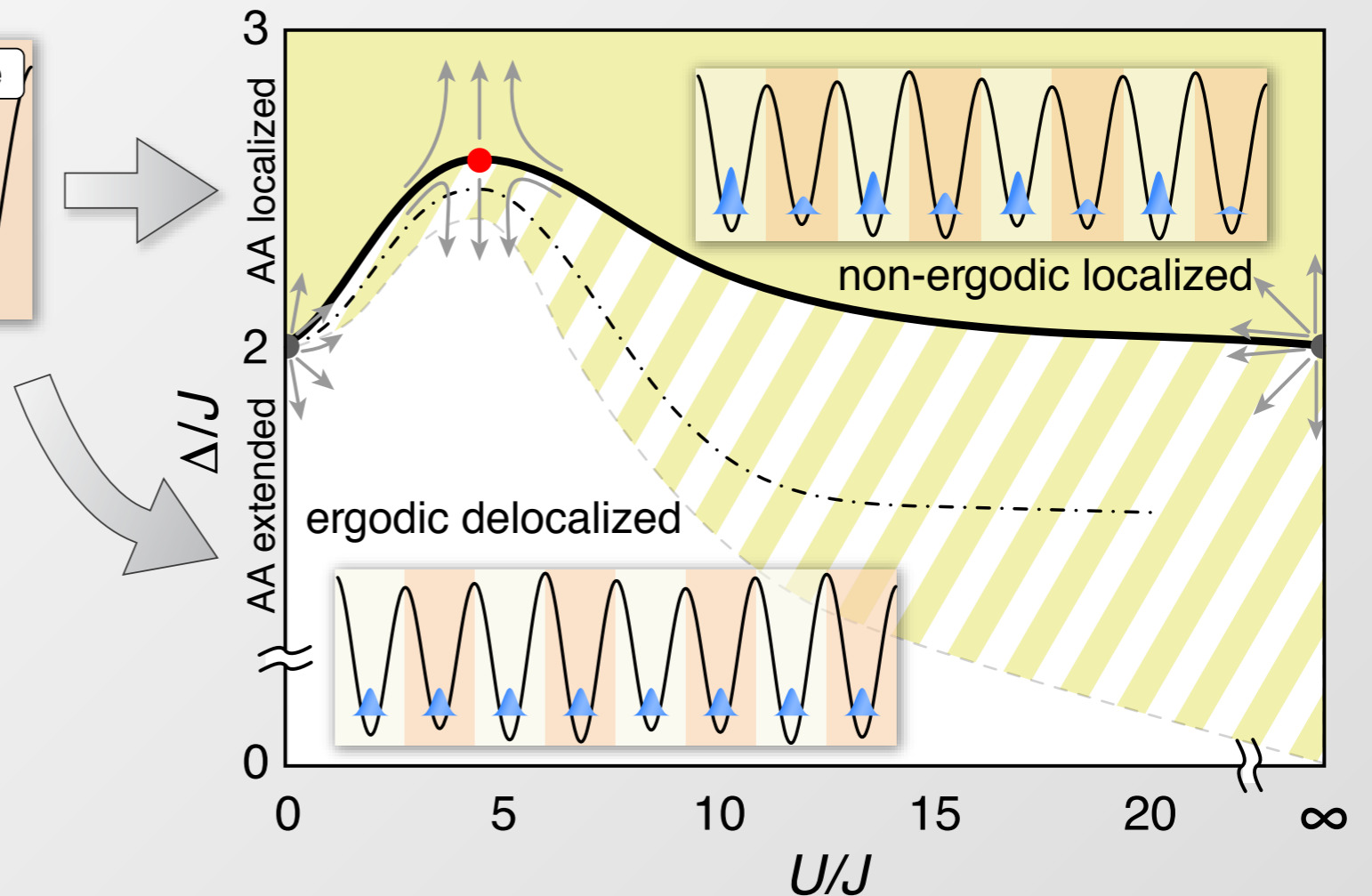
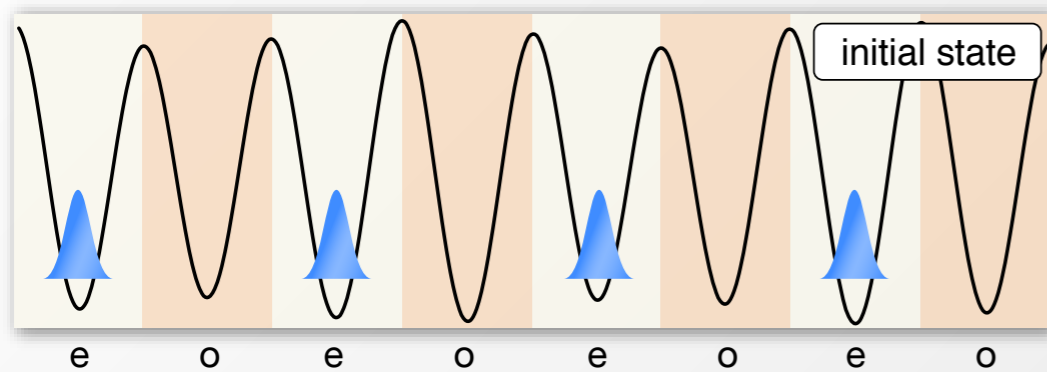
All eigenstates extended for  $\Delta/J < 2$

All eigenstates exponentially localised for  $\Delta/J > 2$



$$\xi_{sp} = \ln^{-1}(\Delta/2J)$$





### Three Step Procedure

- 1) Prepare CDW (with different doublon densities)
- 2) Evolve in disorder
- 3) Readout CDW (disorder averaged)

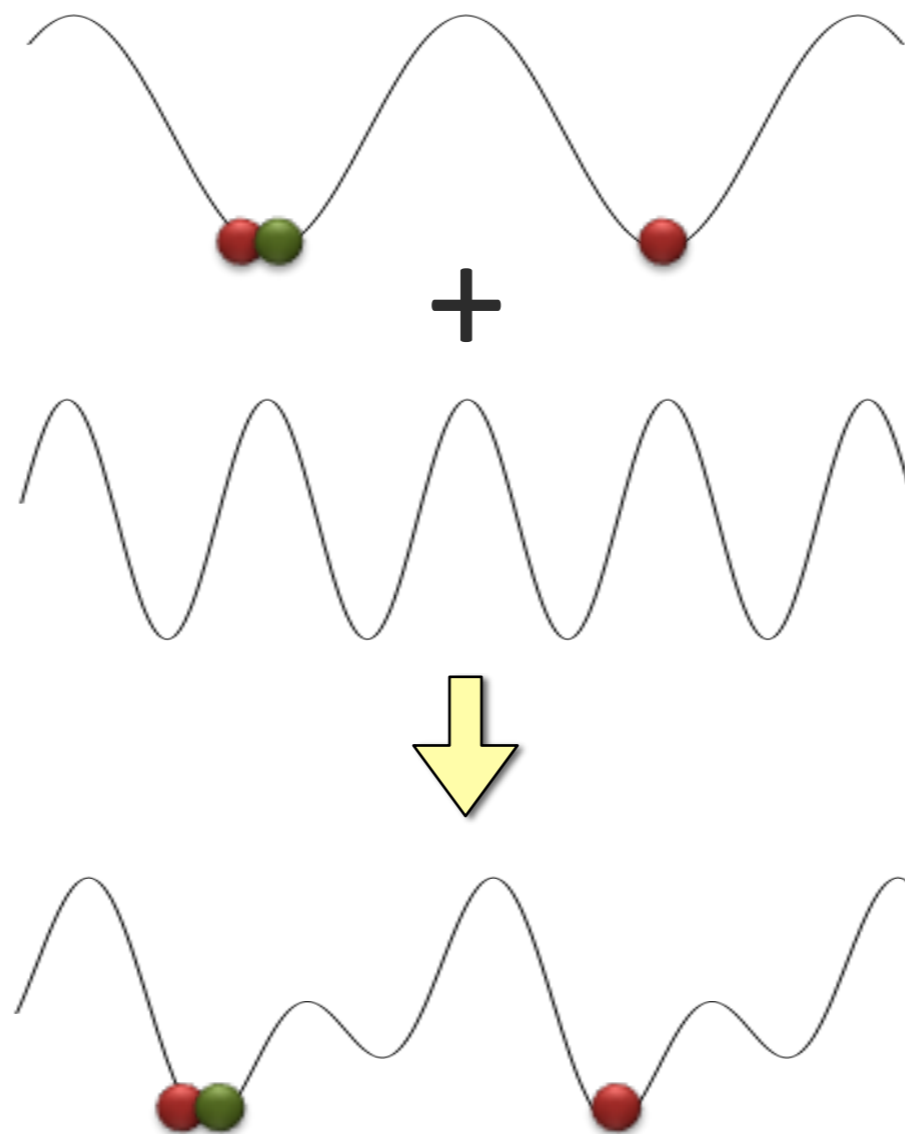
Main Observable: **Imbalance**  $I = \frac{N_e - N_o}{N_e + N_o}$

### Hamming Distance

$$D(t) = \frac{N}{2} [1 - I(t)]$$

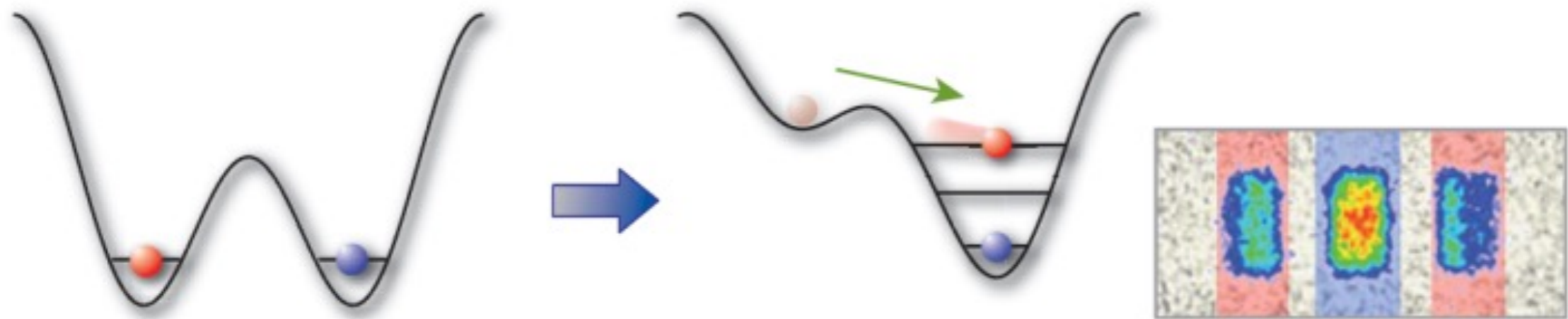
(see P. Hauke & M. Heyl, PRB 2015)

Superimpose two lattices, with:  $\lambda_l = 2\lambda_s$  (here 532 nm & 1064 nm)

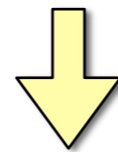


Adiabatic ramp-up  
with correct relative  
phase

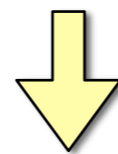
All particles localised  
on even sites  $>95\%$



Merge wells in presence of tilt

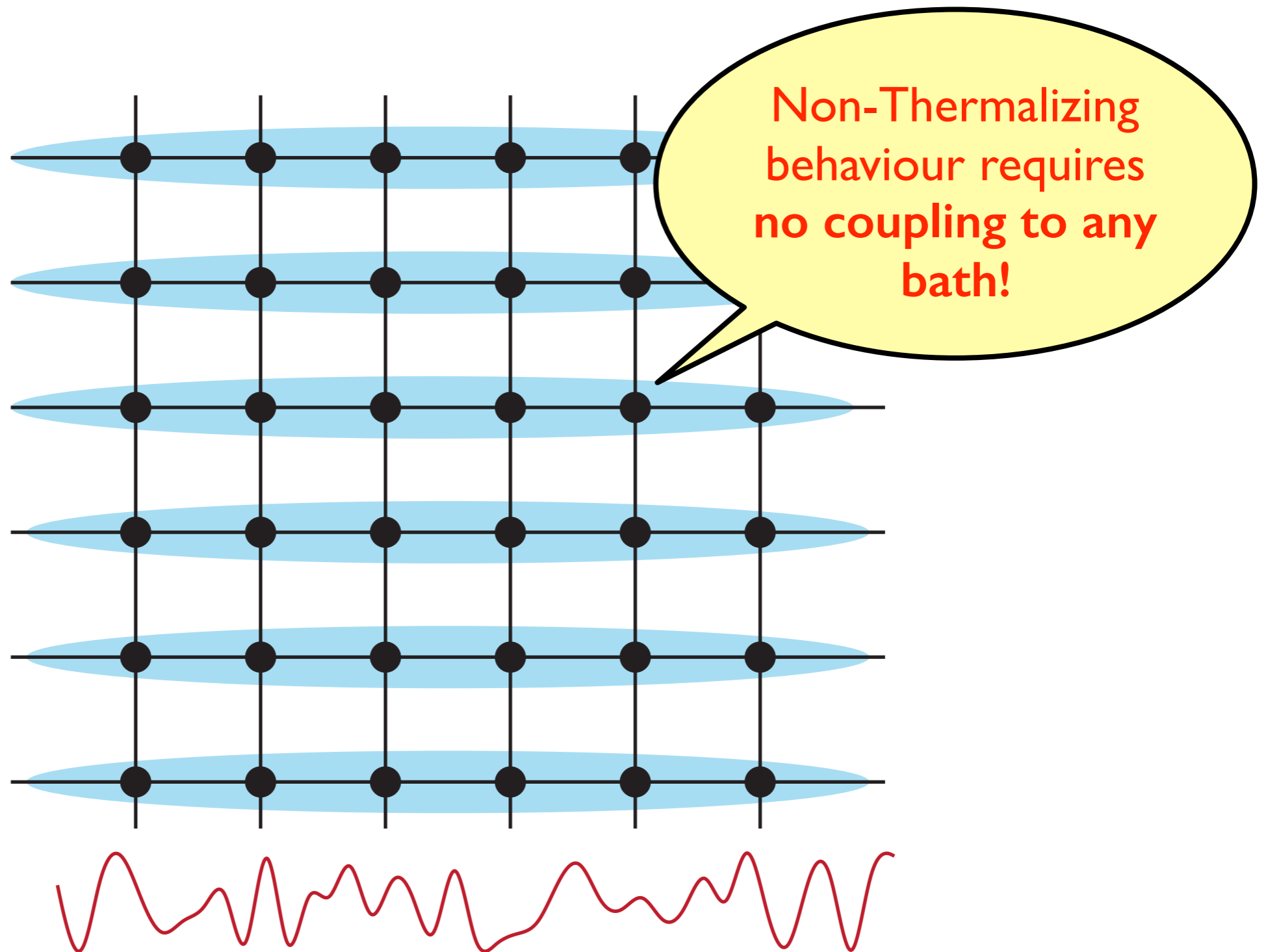


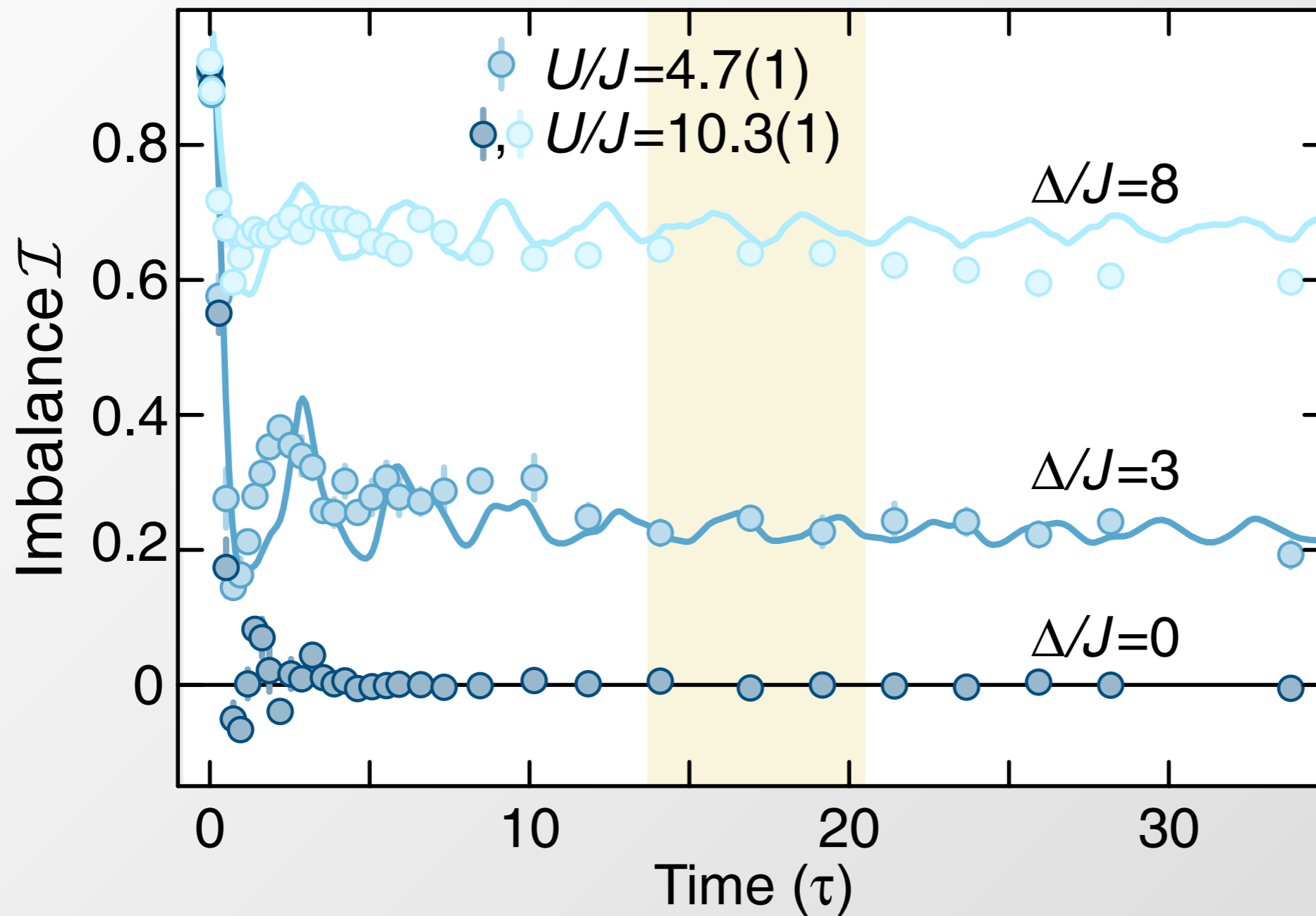
Band mapping



Absorption imaging after TOF

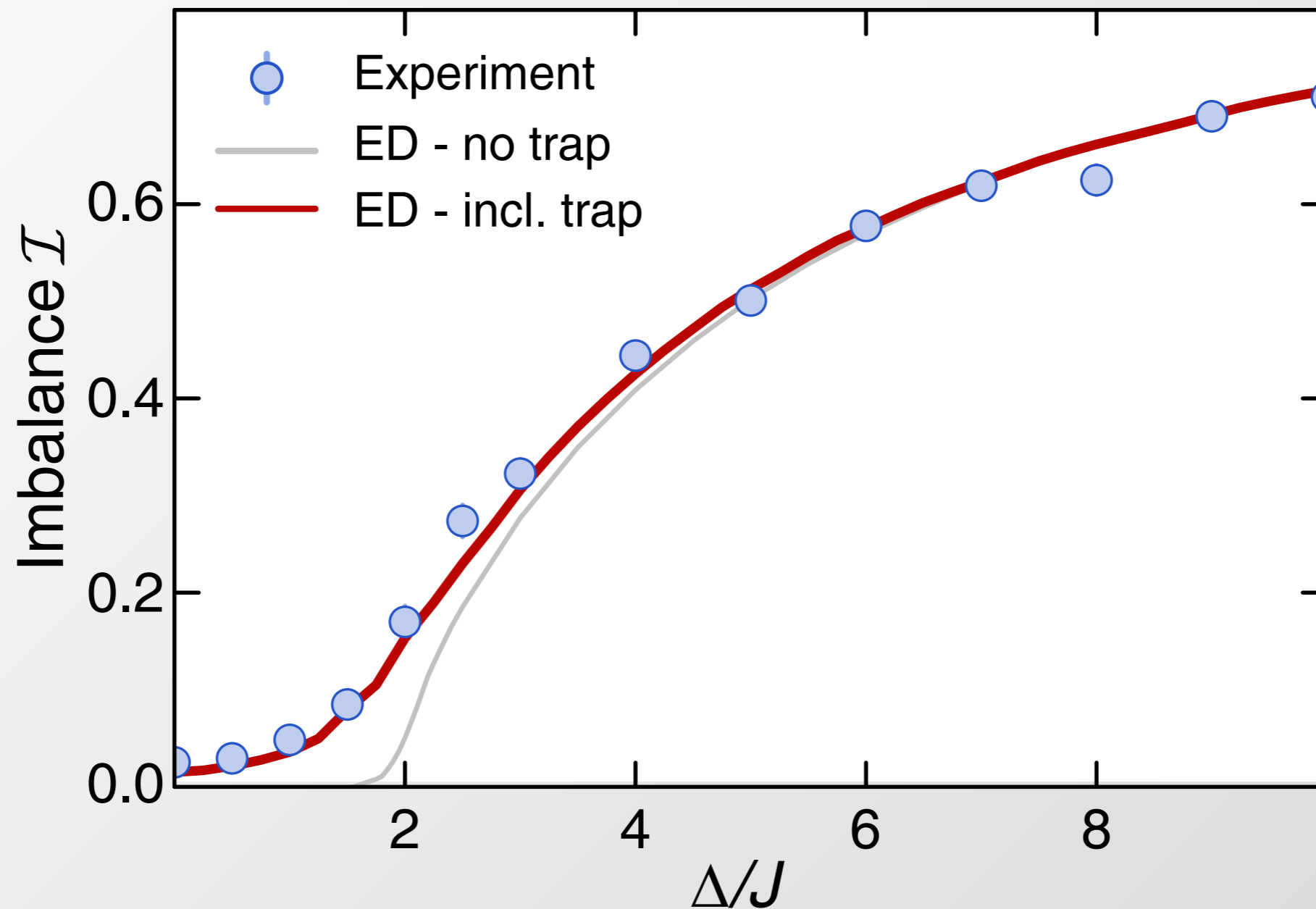
$$I = \frac{N_e - N_o}{N_e + N_o}$$

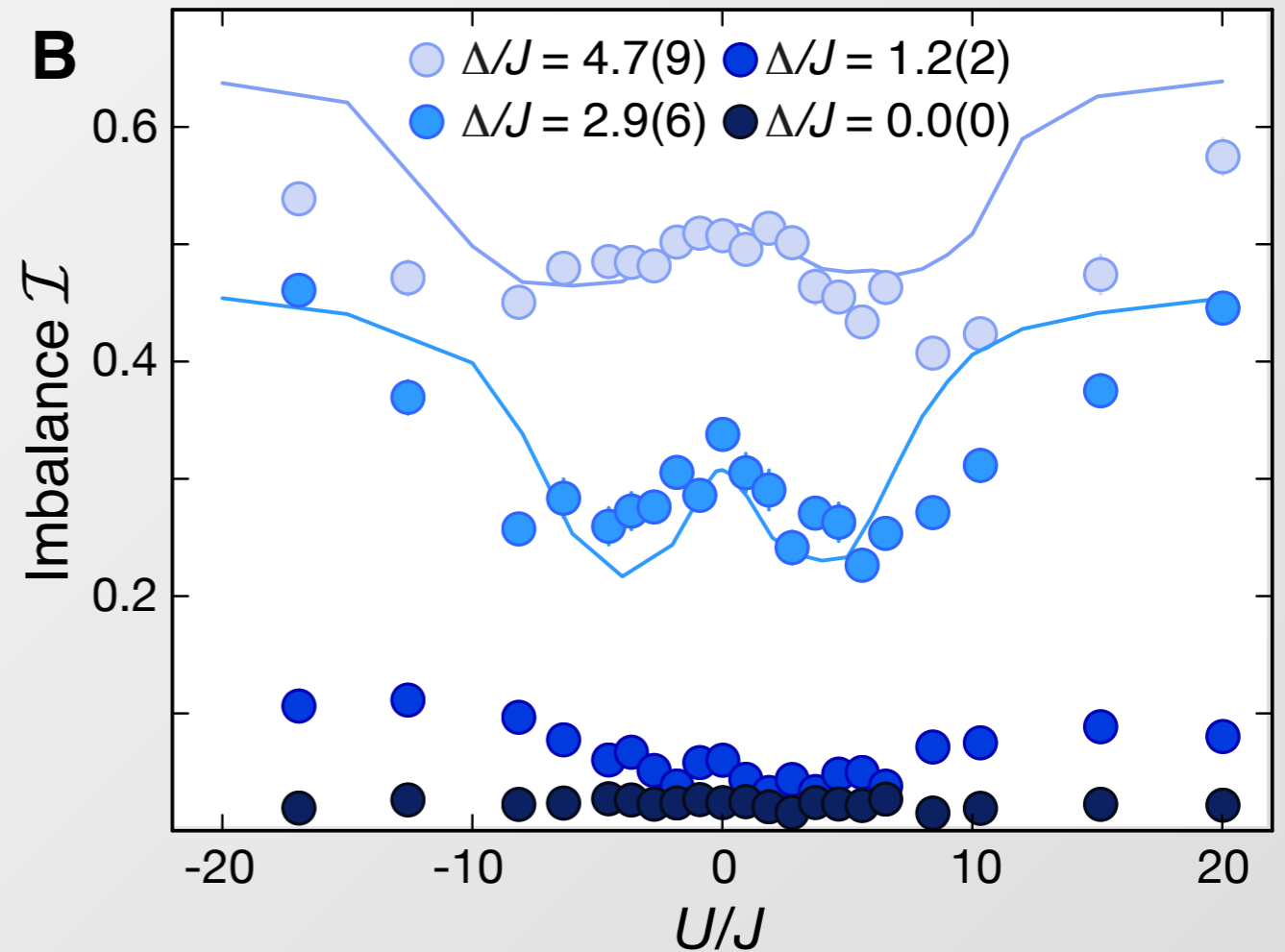
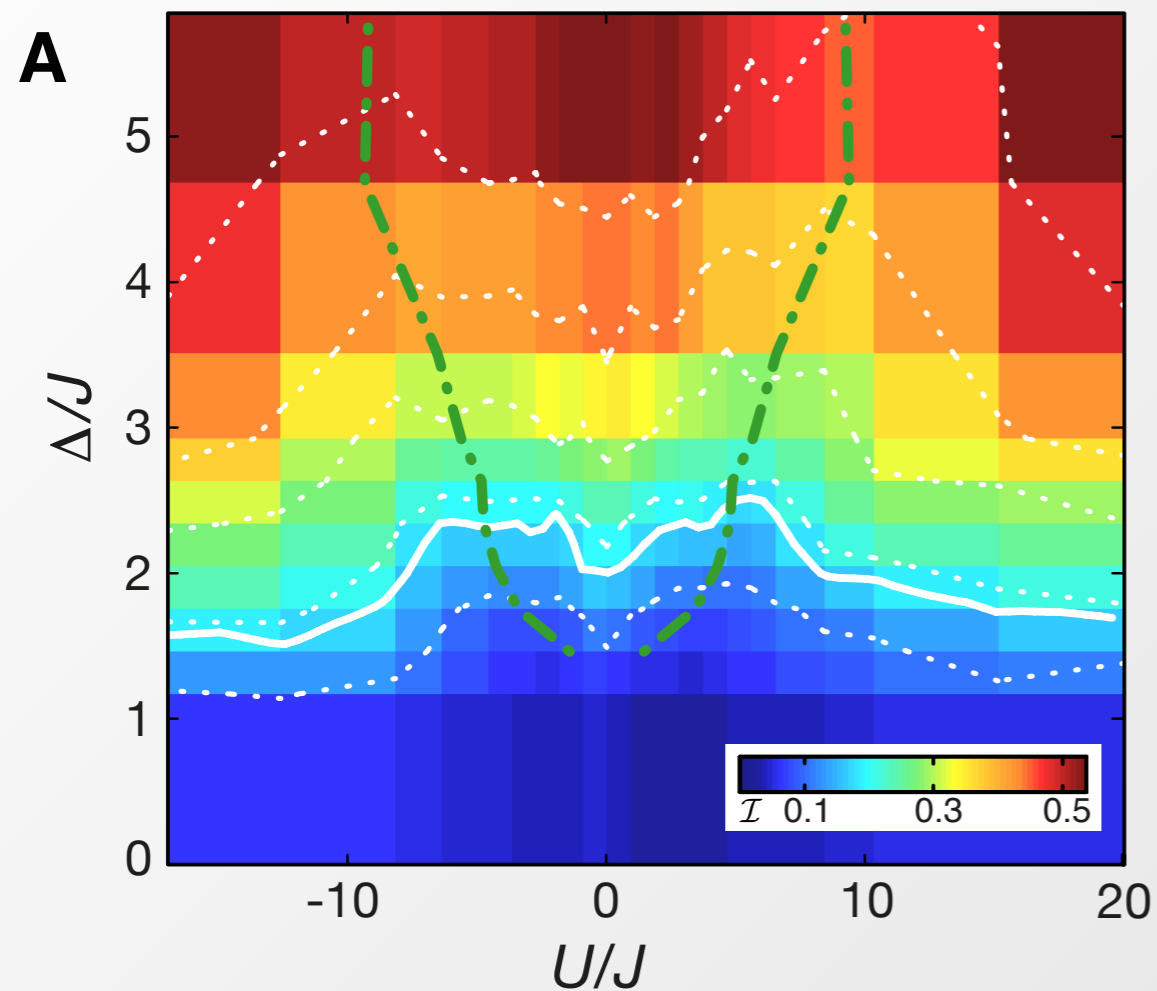




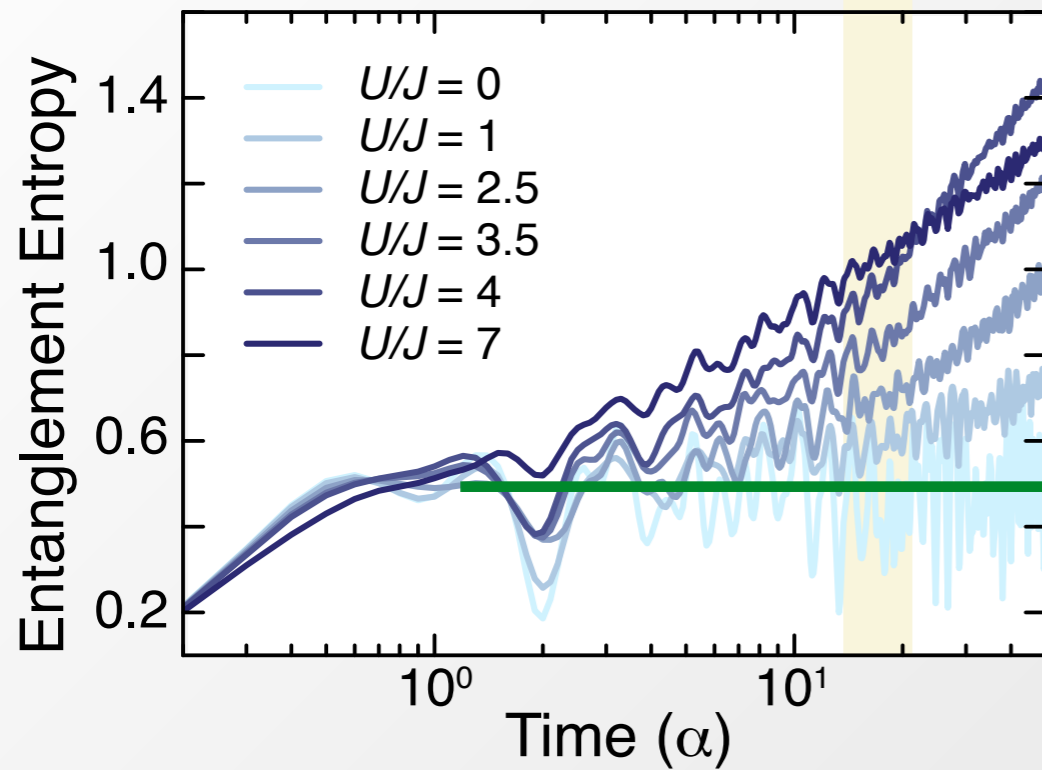
Non-ergodic, non-thermalizing quantum evolution !



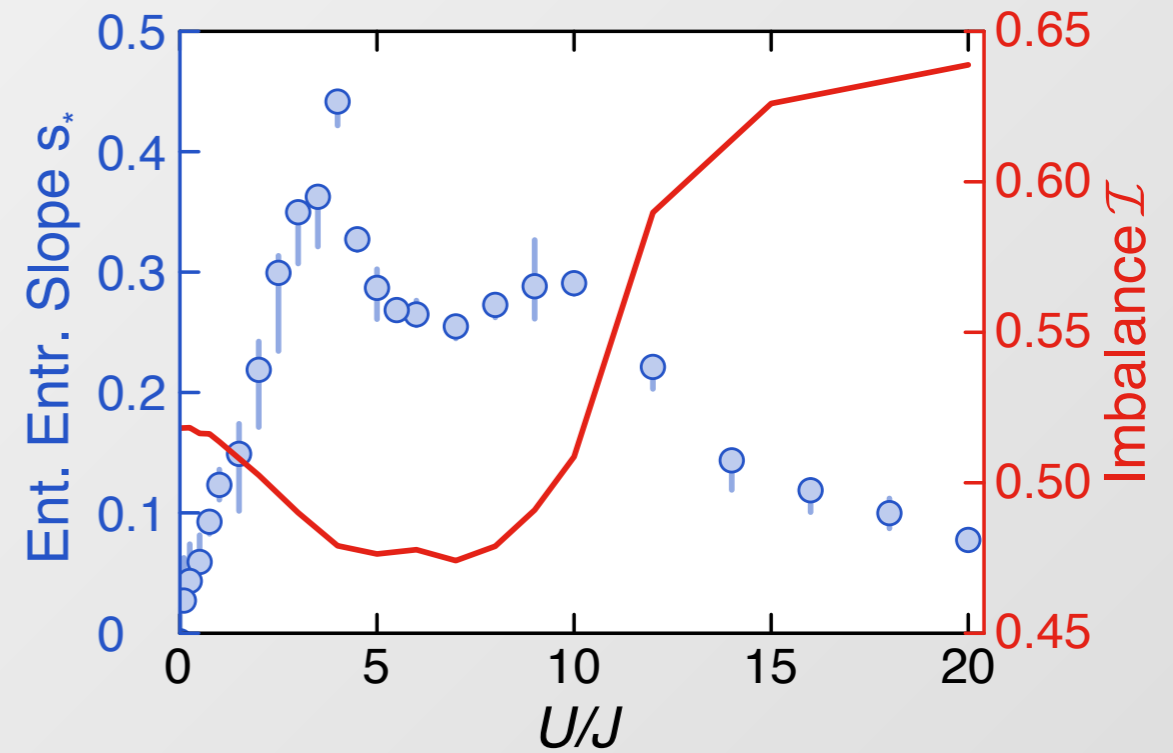




- 1) Localisation for all Interactions
- 2) Characteristic W-shape
- 3) Dynamical  $U$  vs  $-U$  symmetry



Characteristic  $\log(t)$   
entanglement entropy growth



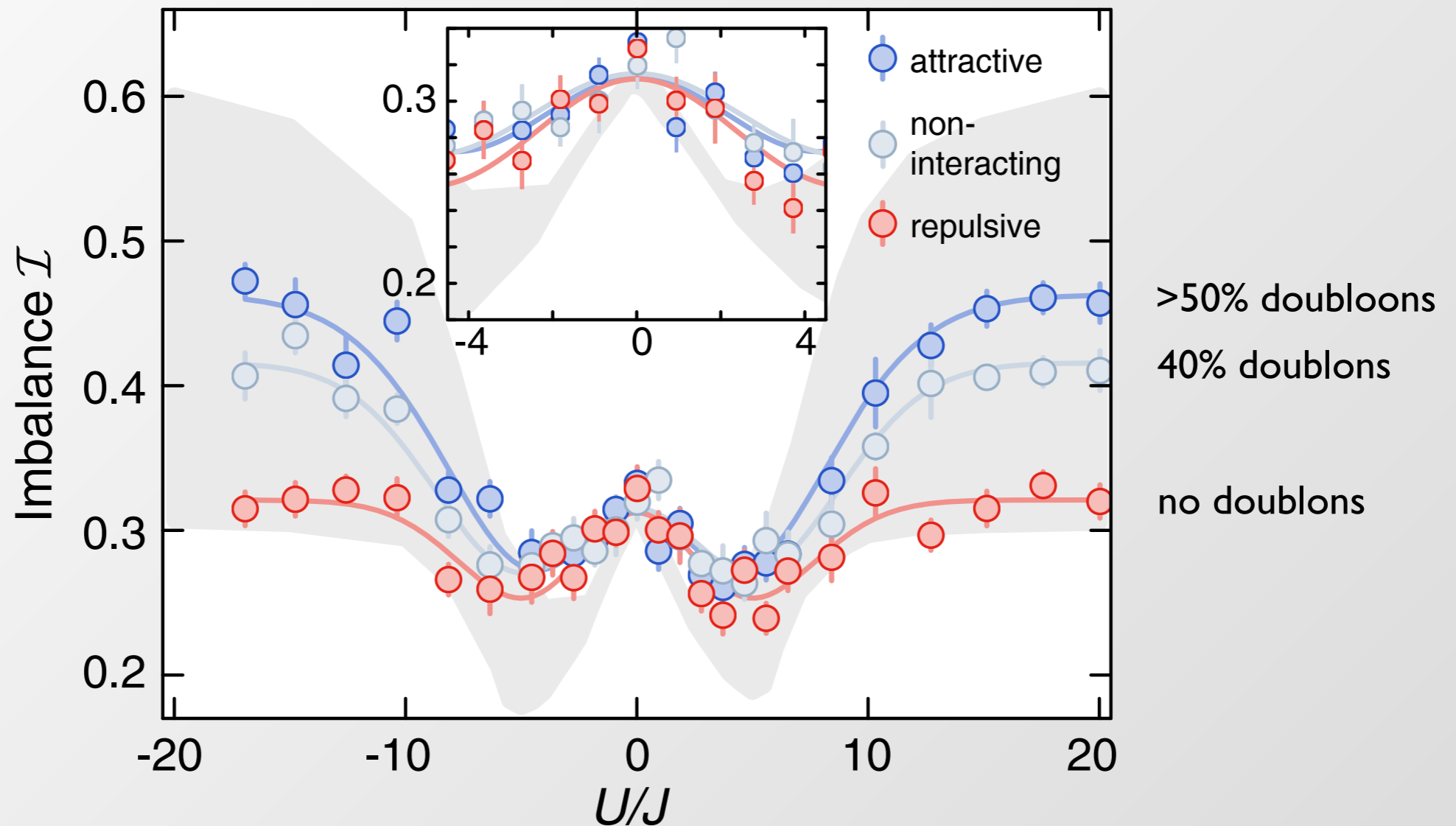
Maximum in entanglement entropy slope  
connected to minimum of imbalance

DMRG Simulations  $\Delta/J = 5$

$$S = s_0 + s^* \log(t/\tau)$$



# Influence of Initial Doublon Fraction



Kinetic energy of doublons for large U

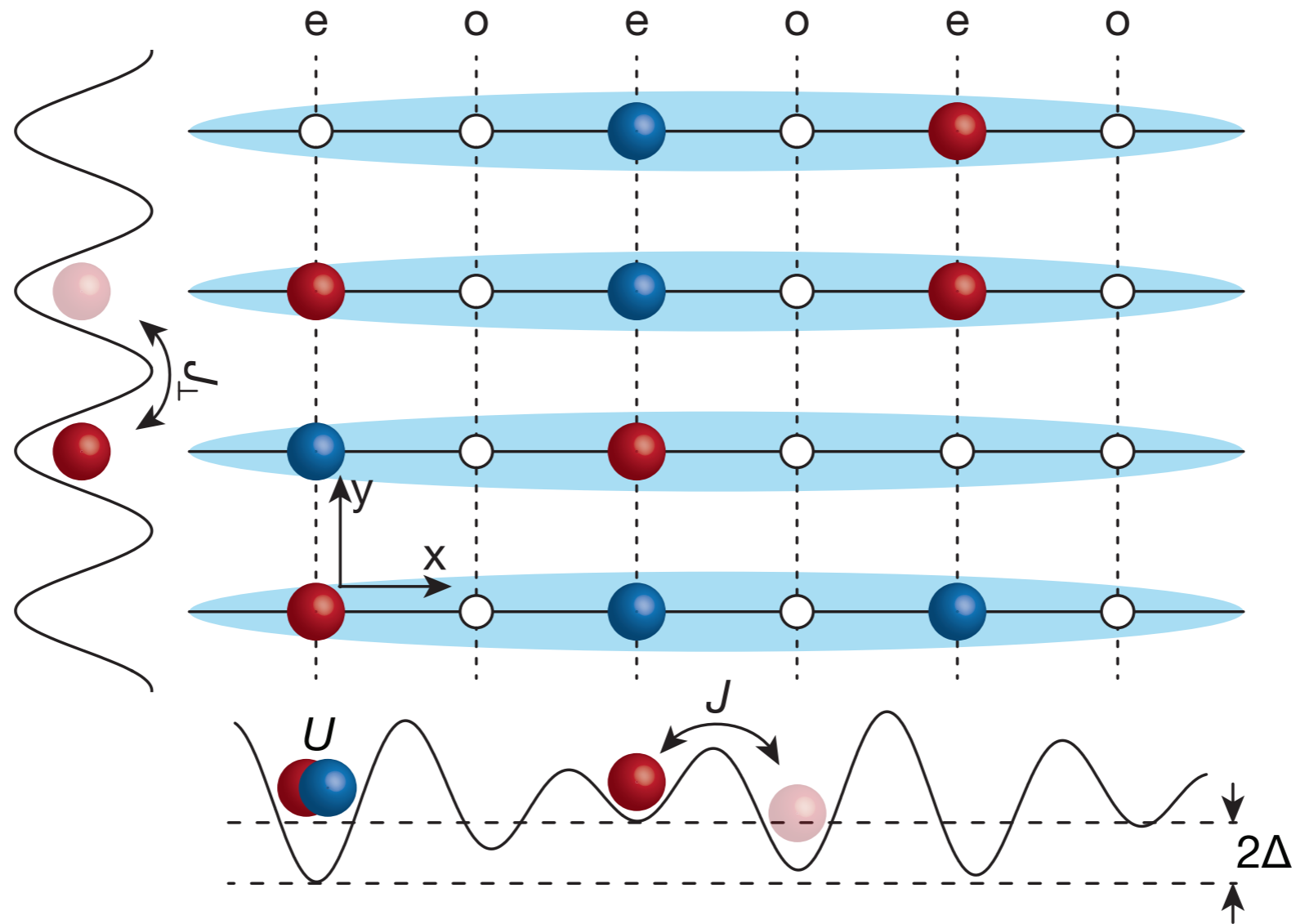
$$J_{\text{dbl}} = J^2 / U$$

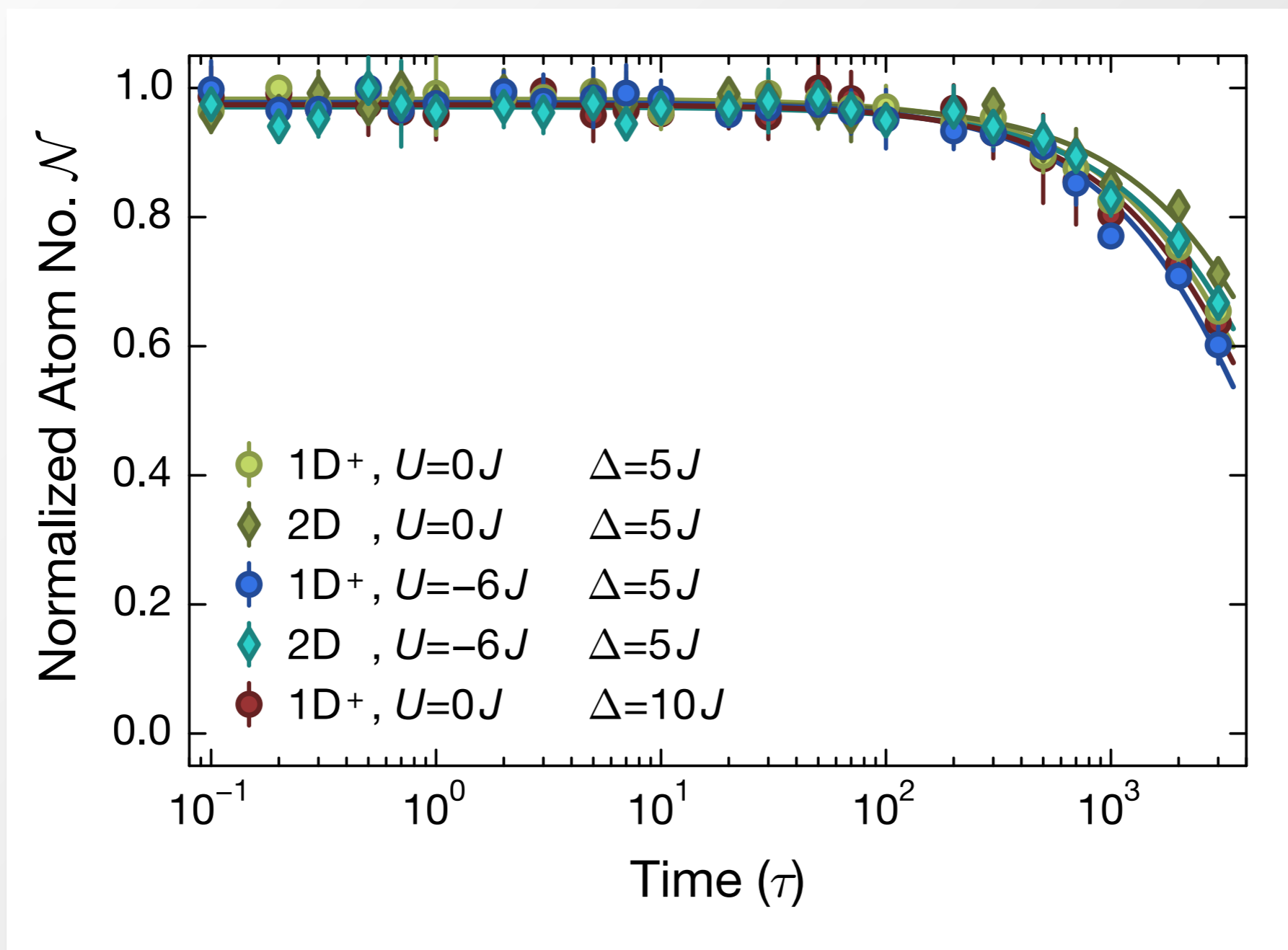
Doublons see effectively larger disorder

$$\frac{J_{\text{dbl}}}{\Delta} \ll \frac{J}{\Delta}$$



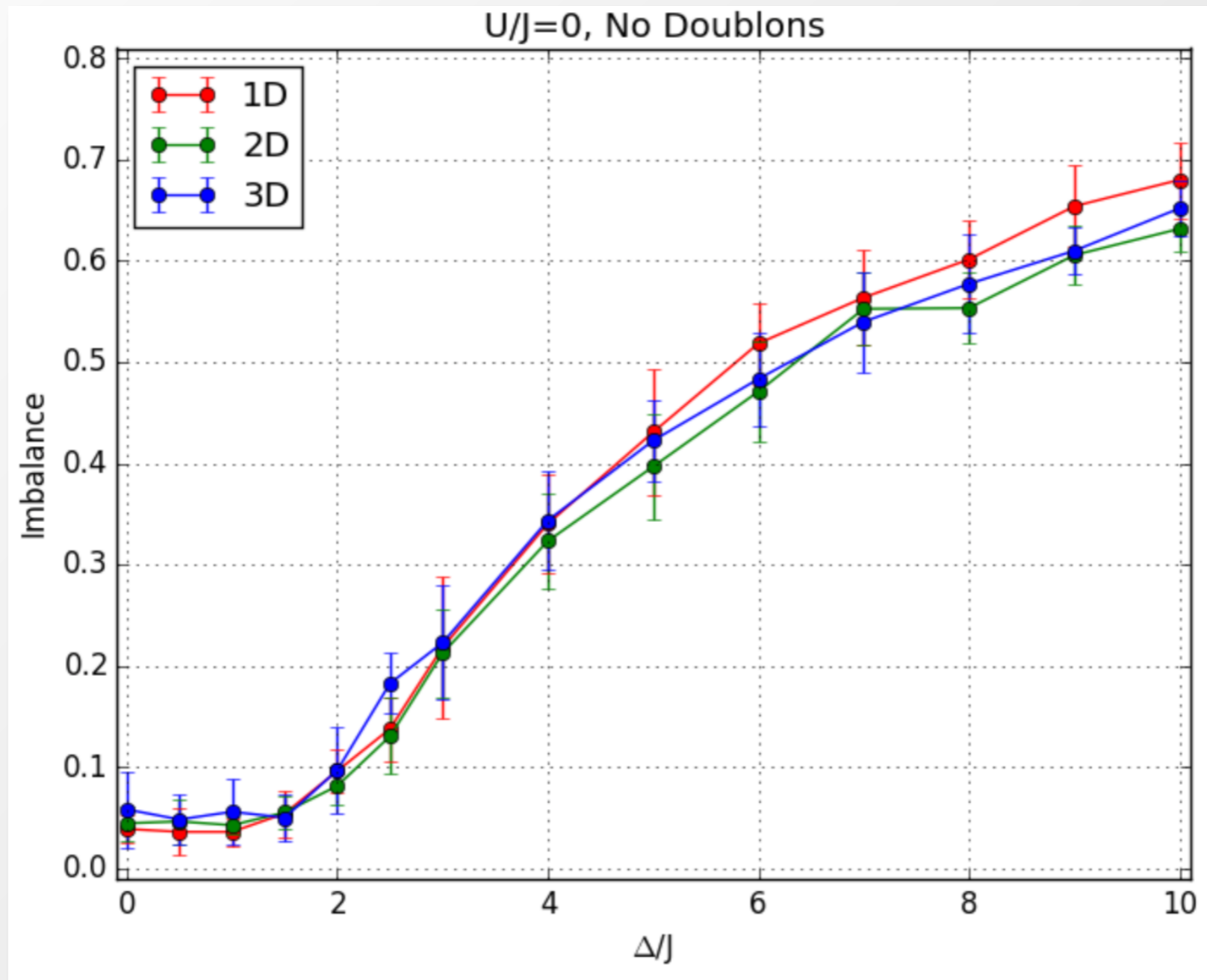
# **Changing Dimensionality & Very Long Time Behaviour**



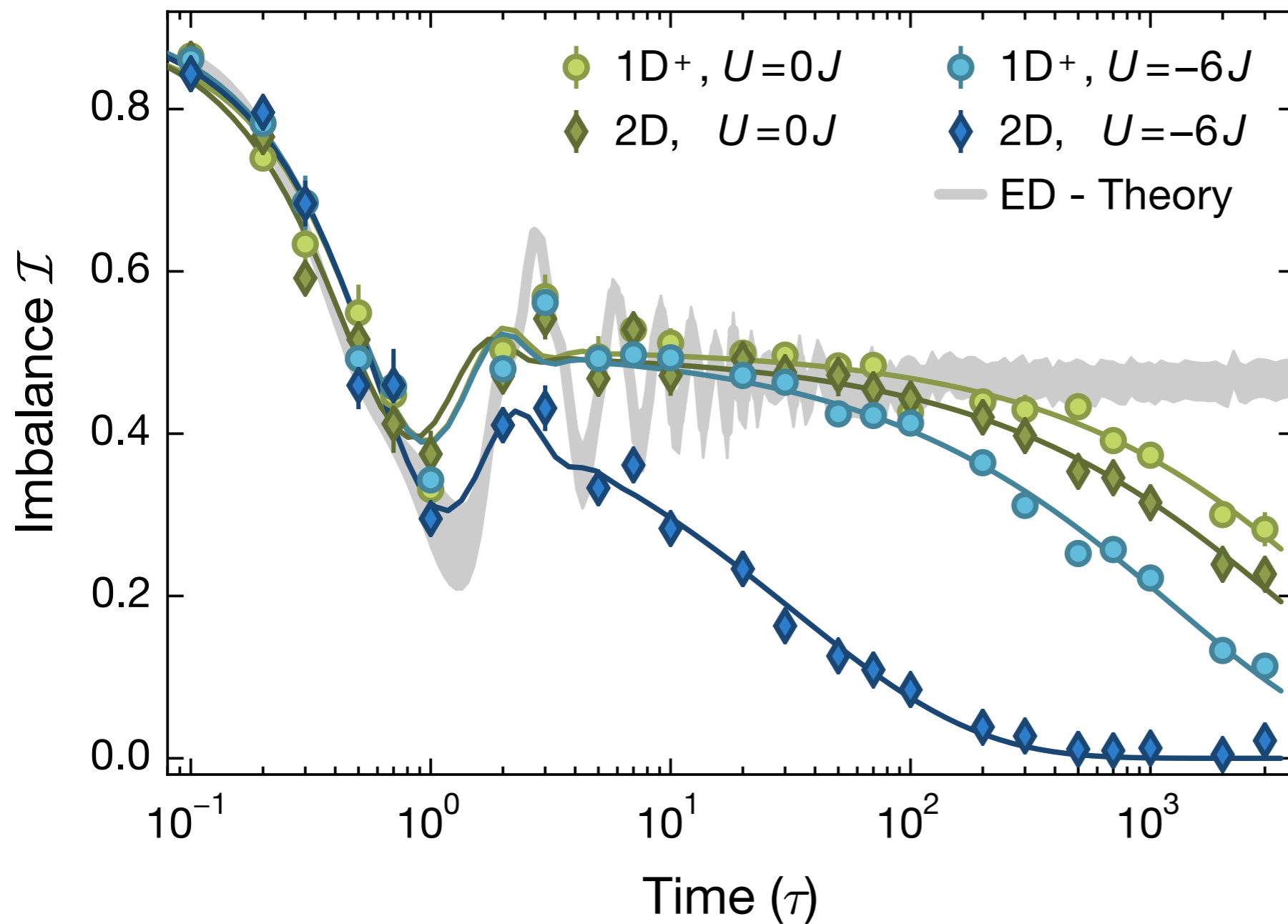


Atom lifetime enables us to **observe dynamics** up to **2000-4000  $\tau$**  !

# U=0 - Dimensionality



1d Quasiperiodic Disorder - different couplings along y & z

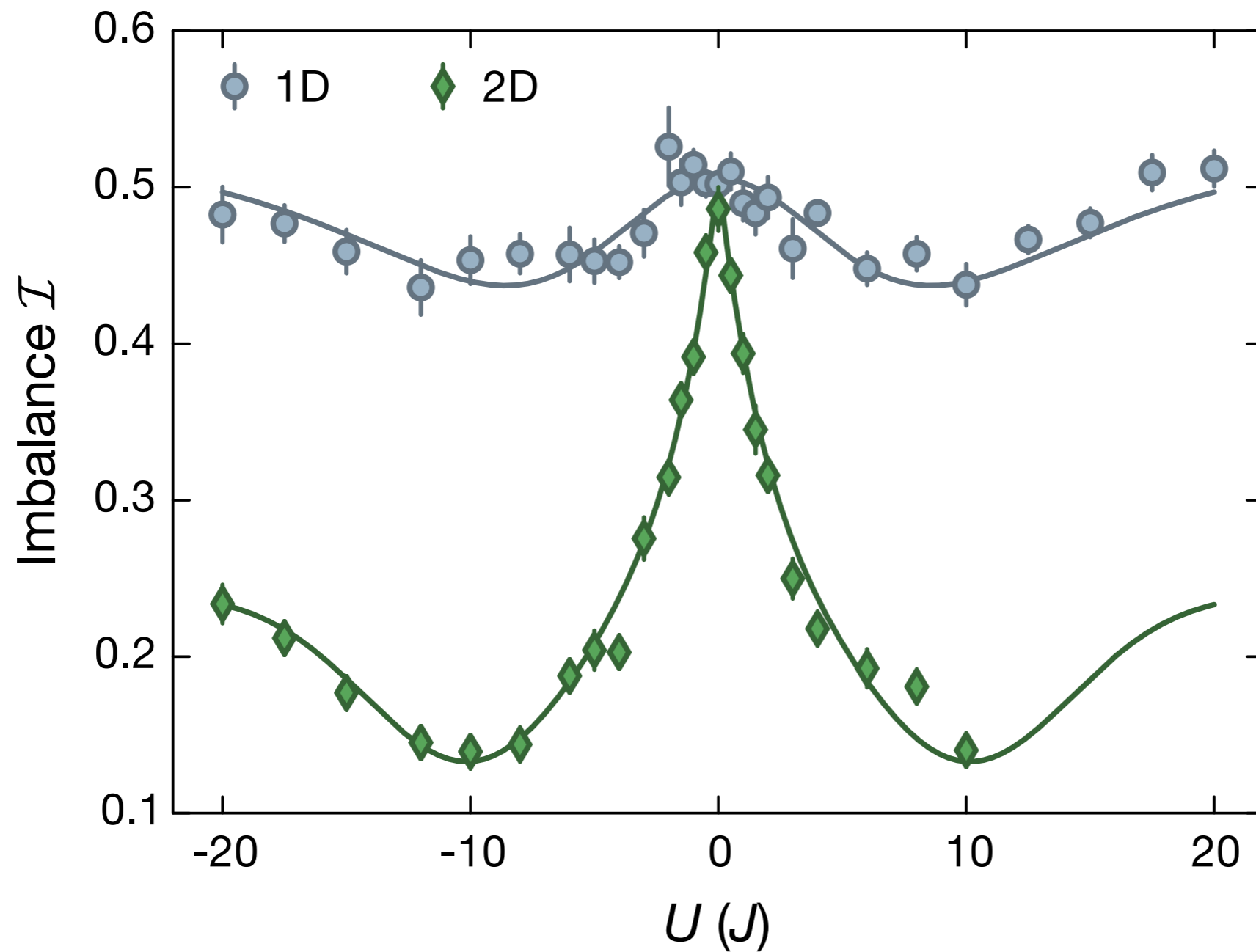


Long time decay fit

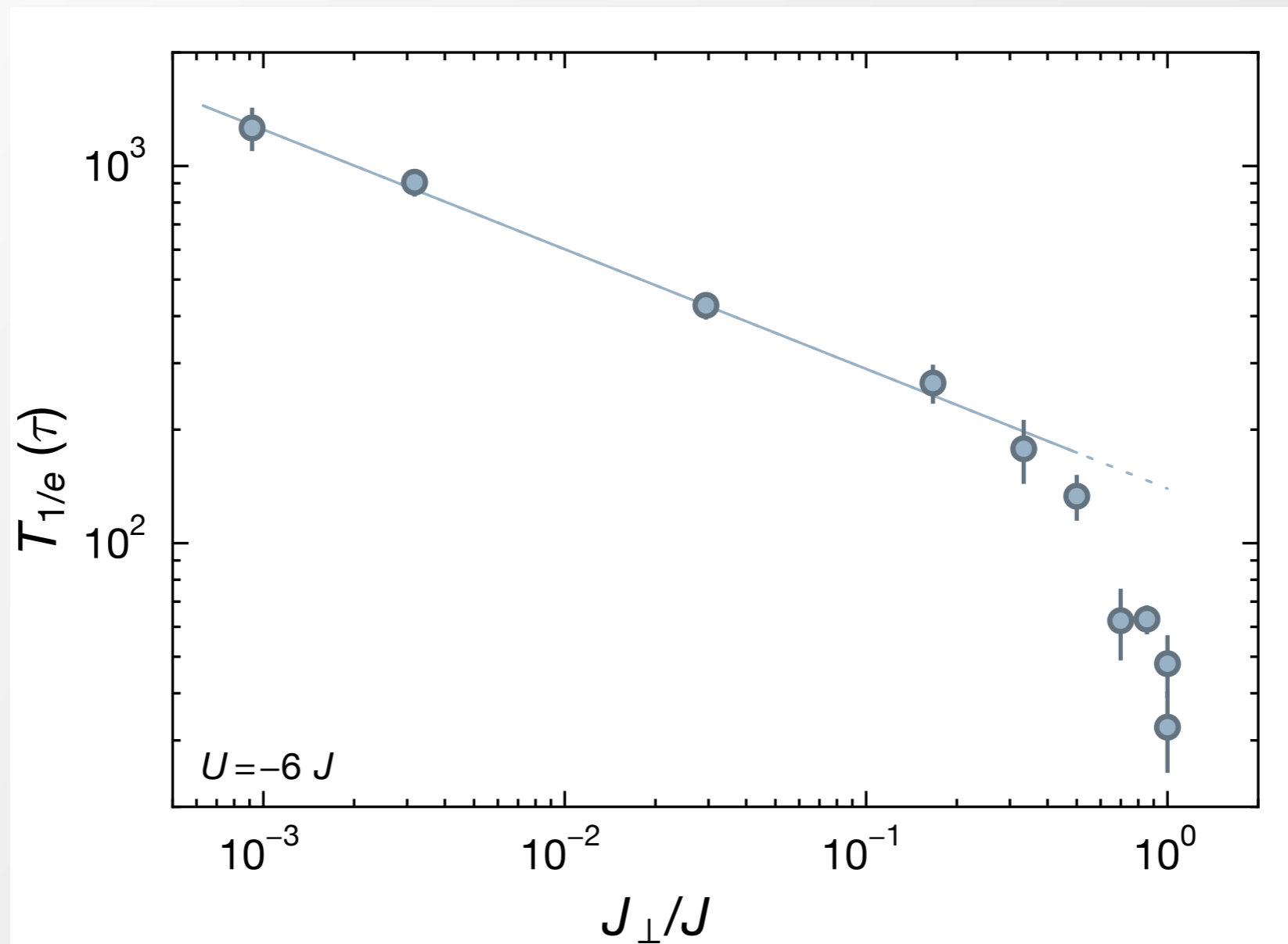
$$o \cdot e^{(-t/\tau)^\alpha}$$

- ▶ MBL unstable for coupling between tubes
- ▶ Fundamental difference between Anderson and MBL!

# Destruction of MBL in Higher Dimensions



1d Quasiperiodic Disorder - different couplings along y & z

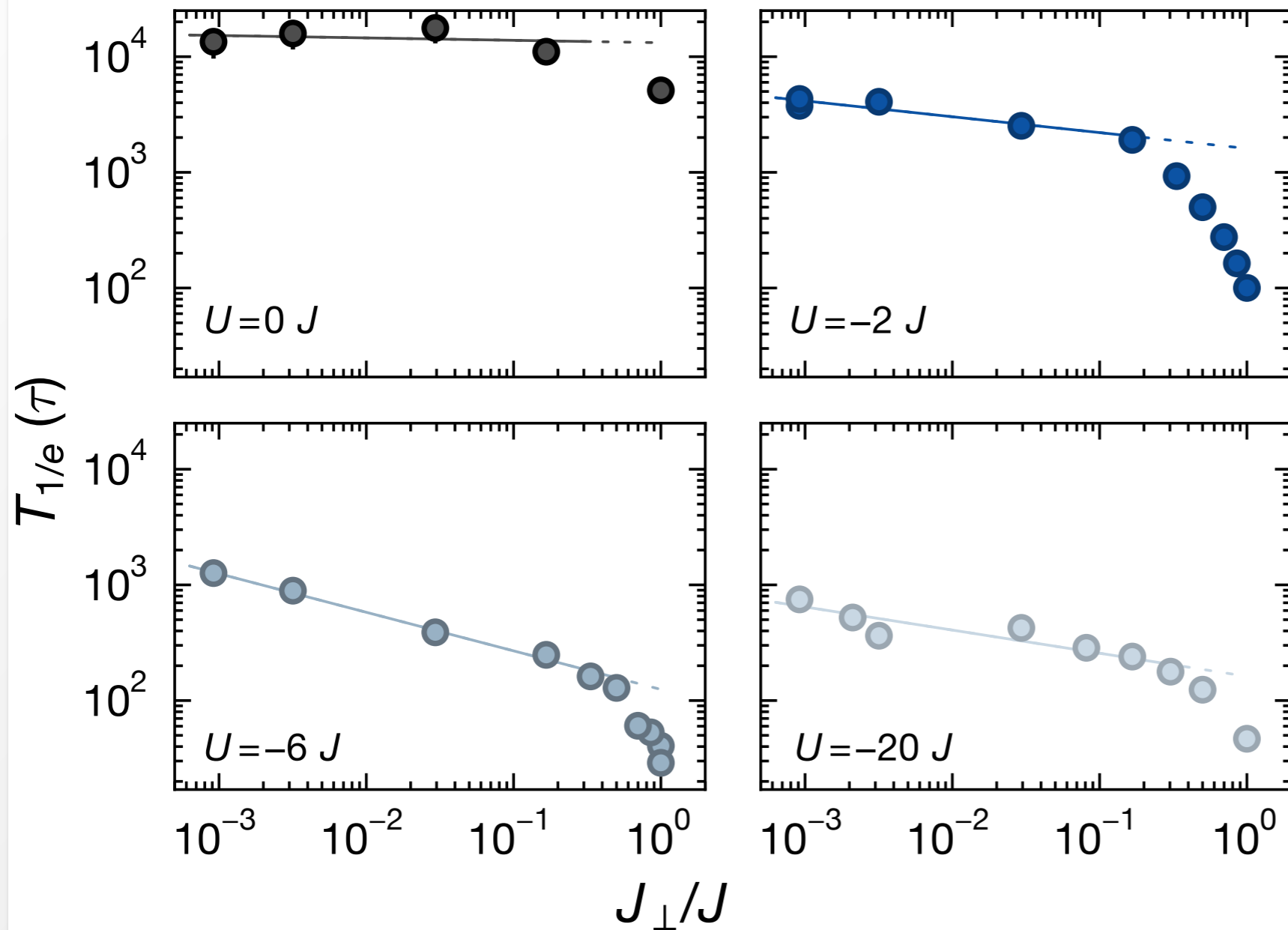


$$\Delta = 5J$$

MBL lifetime limited only by residual transverse coupling.





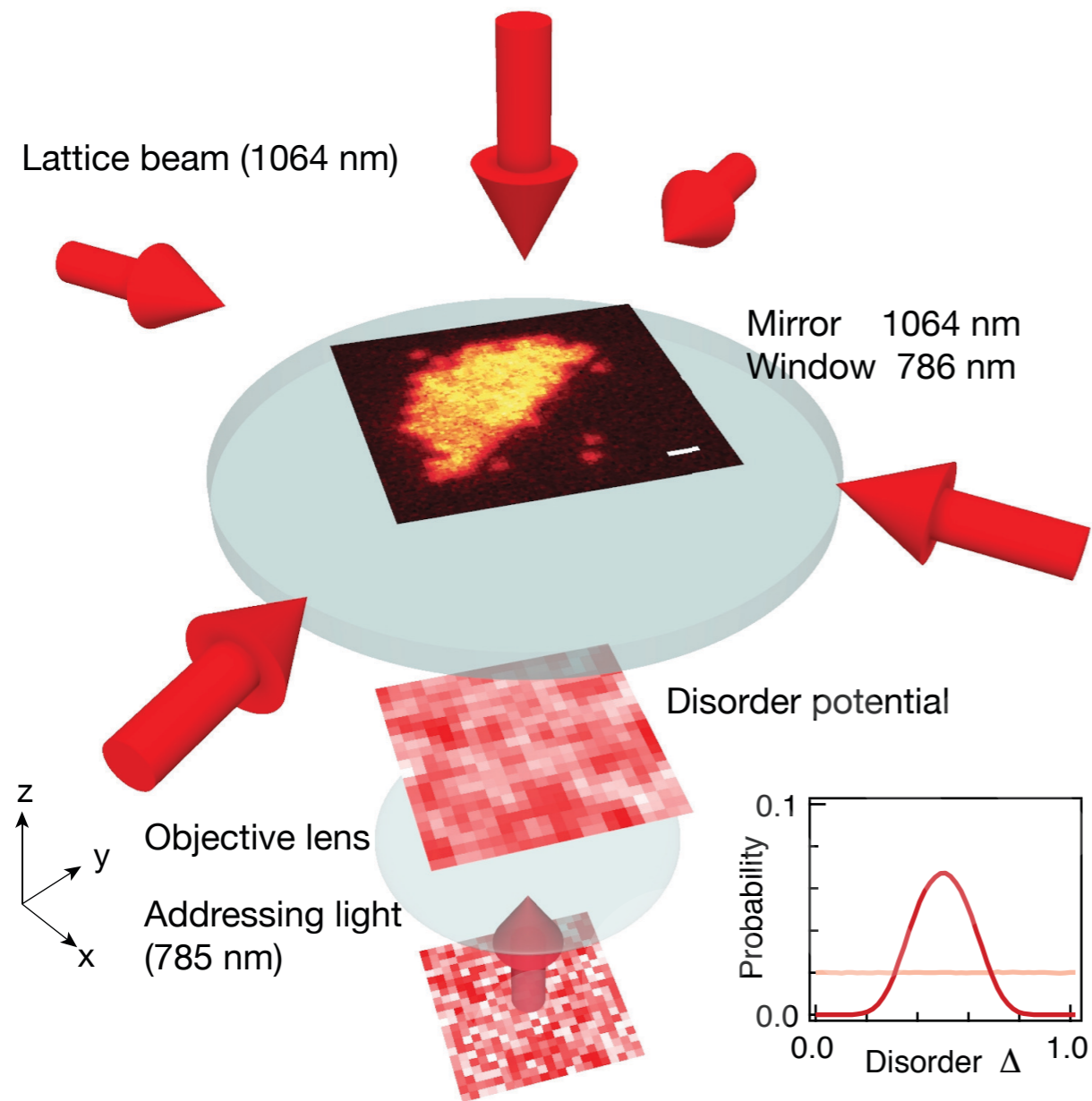


Disorder strength  $\Delta = 5J$



# Probing the MBL Transition via Domain Wall Dynamics

Preliminary

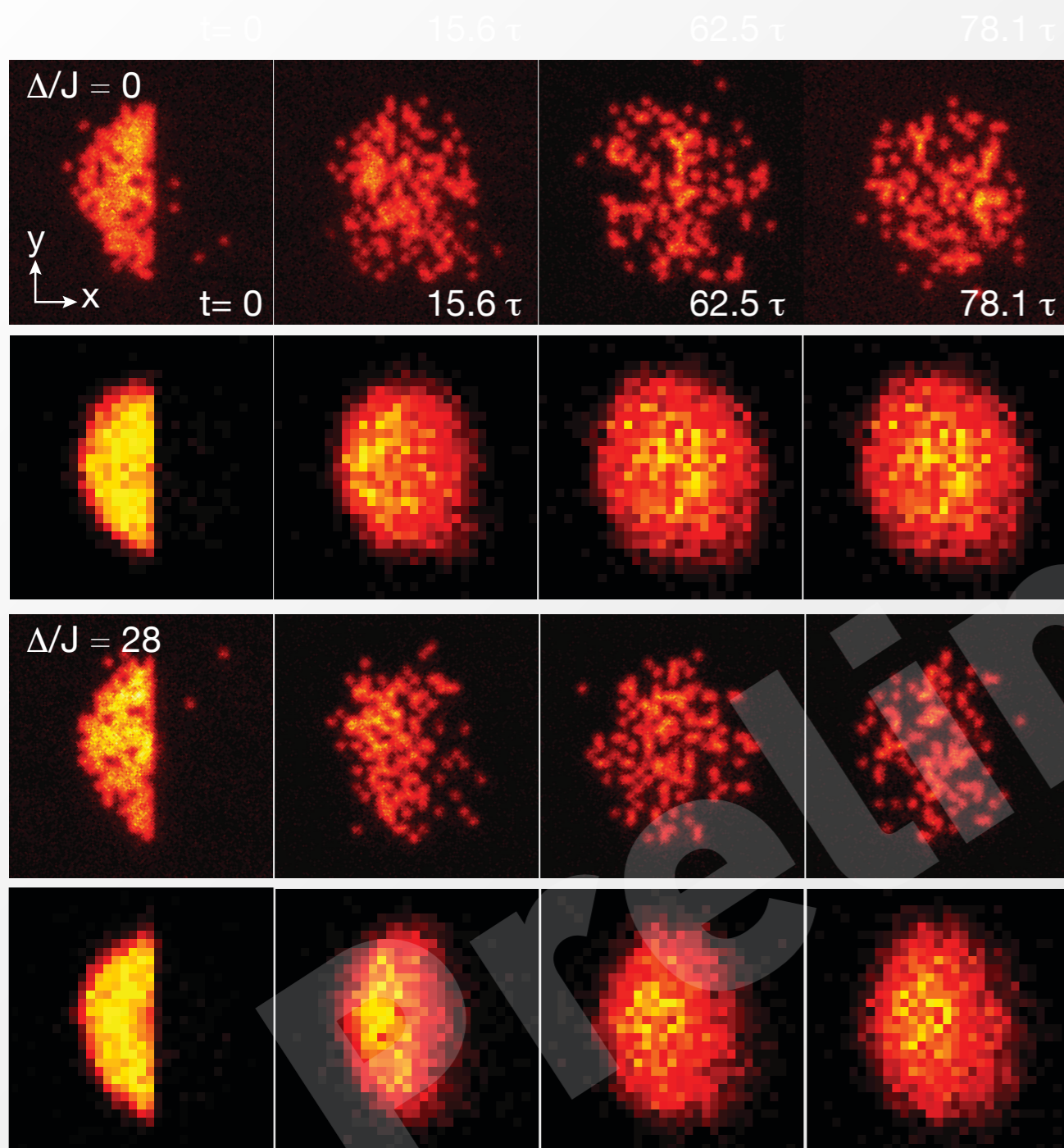


**2D interacting bosons in disorder**

**Parameters:  $U/J \sim 20$**

**true 2D (correlated) disorder**

## Time Evolution of Domain Wall in Disorder



$$\Delta/J = 0$$

System spreads over entire system size  
(thermalizing)

$$\Delta/J = 28$$

Domain wall gets stuck!  
(non-thermalizing)

So far: good qualitative and in parts quantitative understanding!

- ▶ **MBL for different dimensionalities?** 1D/2D/3D - Disorder Dimension
- ▶ **Coupling to outside world** - Photon Scattering destruction of MBL?
- ▶ **Optical Conductivity** - Ergodic vs MBL phase
- ▶ **Local fluctuation** measurements with Quantum Gas Microscopes
- ▶ Measuring **localization length**? dynamical (domain walls)? impurities?
- ▶ **Critical slowing down?**
- ▶ **Entanglement Entropy growth?**
- ▶ **MBL in driven systems**



