

# Anderson localization of light and inference???

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## Absence of Diffusion in Certain Random Lattices

P. W. ANDERSON

*Bell Telephone Laboratories, Murray Hill, New Jersey*

(Received October 10, 1957)

This paper presents a simple model for such processes as spin diffusion or conduction in the "impurity band." These processes involve transport in a lattice which is in some sense random, and in them diffusion is expected to take place via quantum jumps between localized sites. In this simple model the essential randomness is introduced by requiring the energy to vary randomly from site to site. It is shown that at low enough densities no diffusion at all can take place, and the criteria for transport to occur are given.

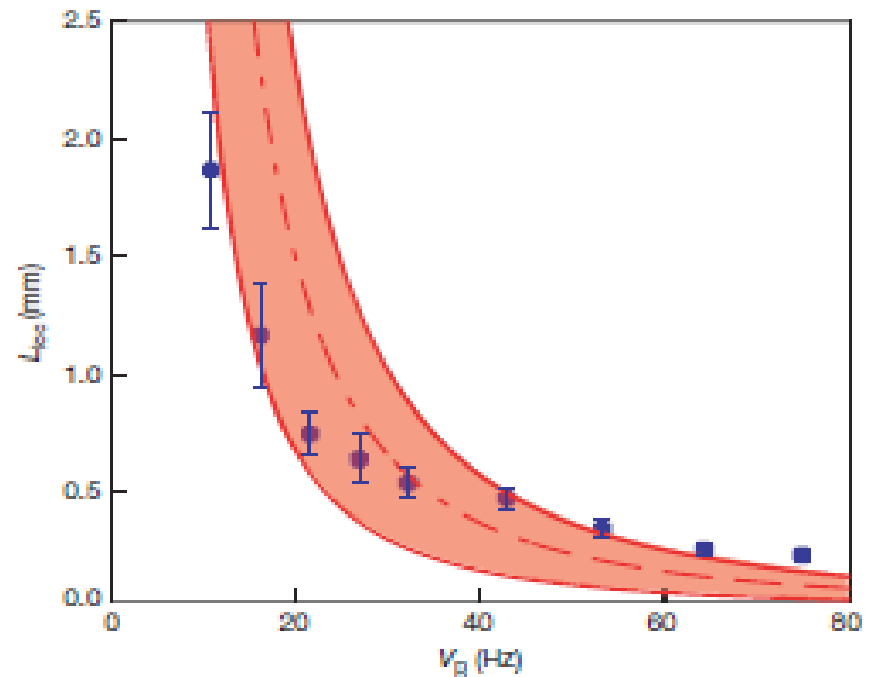
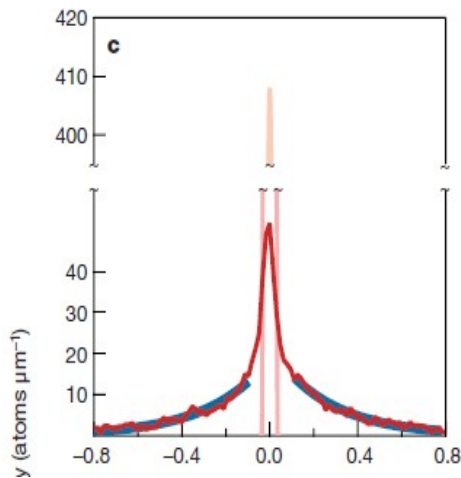
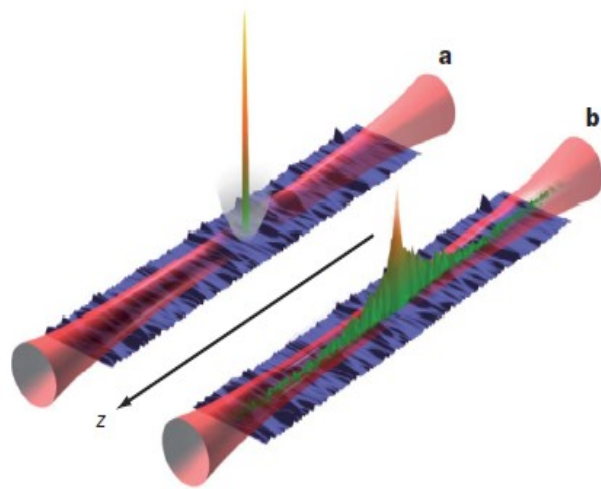
- Above a certain amount of disorder no transport is possible „Anderson localization“
- The reason: localized states due to disorder

# Literature

- Observation of Anderson localization in
  - Nonlinear Optics
    - Y. Lahini et al. PRL 100, 013806 (2008)
    - T. Schwartz, G. Bartal, S. Fishman, M. Segev, Nature 446, 52 (2007)
  - Bose-Einstein condensation
    - J. Billy et al. Nature 453, 891 (2008)
    - G. Roati et al. Nature 453, 895 (2008)
    - S. S. Kondov, Science 66, 334 (2011)
  - Linear disordered media (optics)
    - M. Storzer, P. Gross, C. M. Aegerter, G. Maret, PRL 96, 063904 (2006)
    - A. A. Chabanov, M. Stoytchev, A. Z. Genack, Nature 404, 850 (2000)
    - T. Sperling et al, Nature Photonics 7, 48 (2013)

# 1D Bosons (BEC)

- Billy et Nature 2008

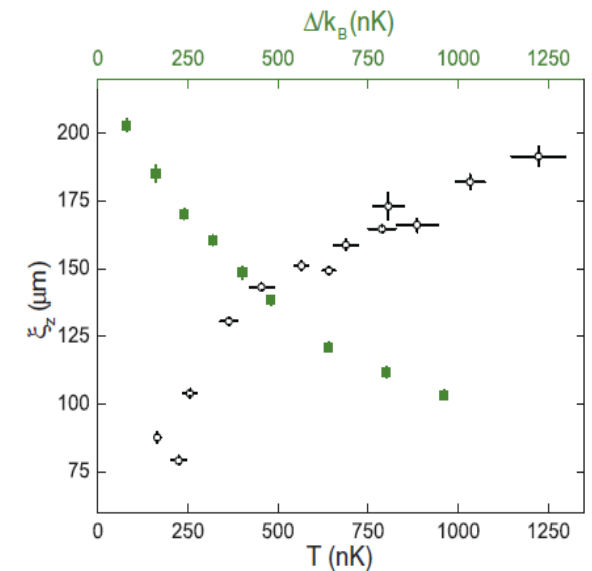
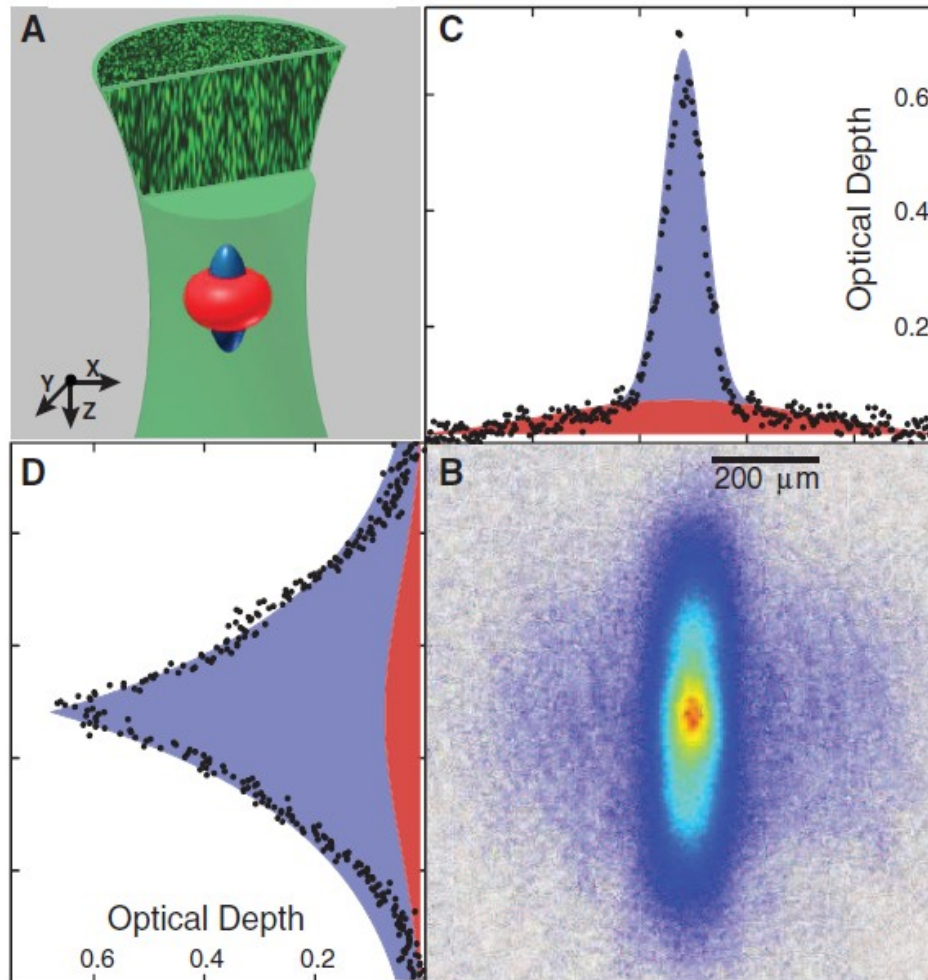


Localization length versus strength of disorder

# 3D Fermions (BEC)

- Kondov et al. Science 2011

**Fig. 1.** (A) Ultracold gas expanding into an optical speckle field (green) and separating into localized (blue) and mobile (red) components. (B) The measured optical depth, proportional to the atomic density integrated through  $y$ , is shown in false color. The image depicts a 480-nK gas that has expanded for 20 ms through the disordered potential with  $\Delta = k_B \times 240$  nK. All images shown in this manuscript are averaged over at least five experimental realizations. Slices are shown through the image along  $x$  (C) and  $z$  (D). The filled curves are fits to independent mobile (red) and localized (blue) components.



Localization length  
Versus disorder

# 3D Photon

- Sperling et al.

Nature Photonics 2013

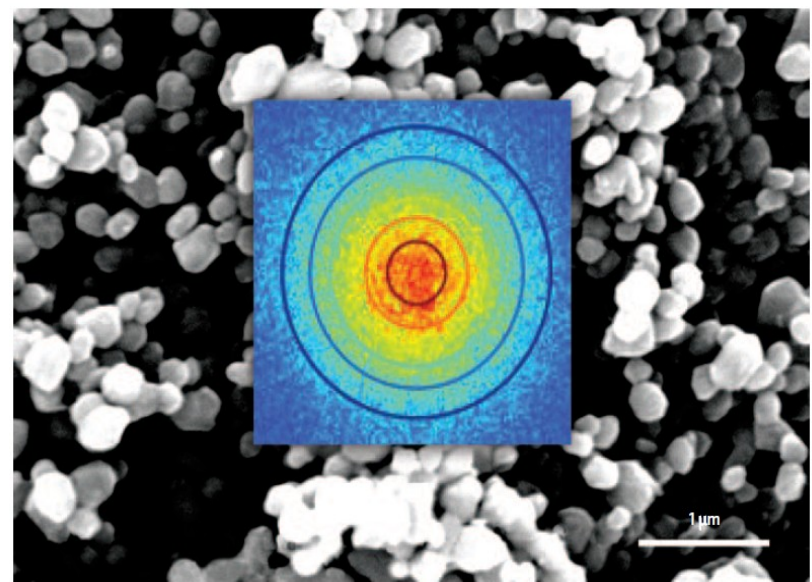


Figure 1 | Light at the onset of the Anderson localization superimposed over a scanning electron microscopy image of a disordered sample.

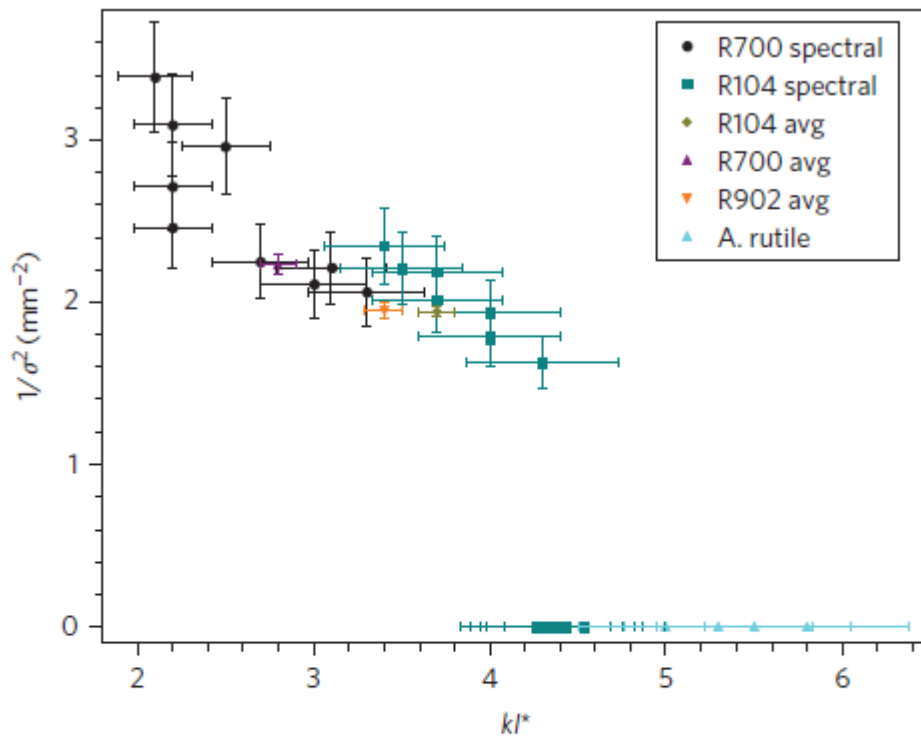
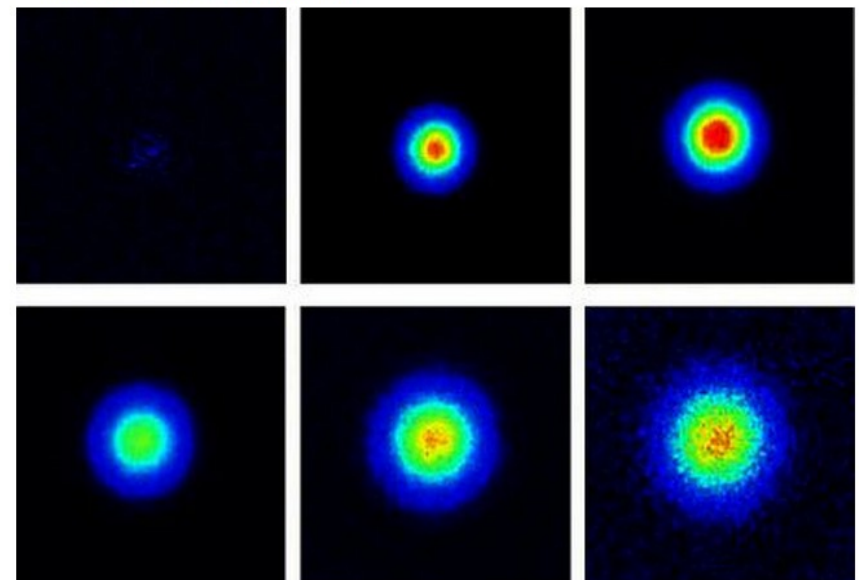


Figure 4 | Inverse of the mean-square width  $\sigma_{\infty}^2$  of the plateau versus  $kl^*$  for different samples. As can be seen, the width (corresponding to the localization length) diverges at  $l^* \approx 4.5$ , indicating the transition from a localized to a non-localized state. The increase of the localization length approaching the critical turbidity can also be used to estimate the critical exponent. All error bars correspond to systematic errors.

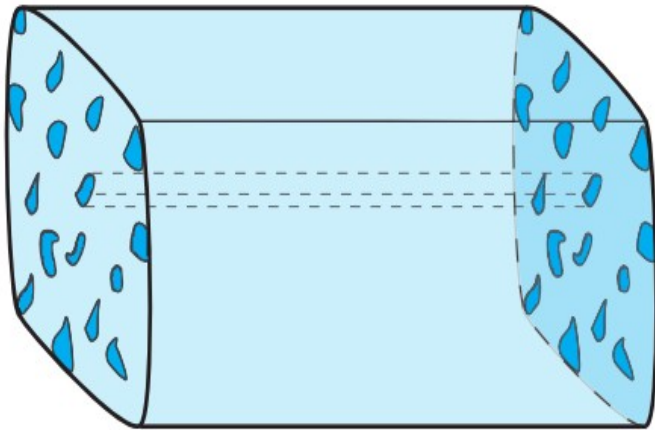


Diffusion of light in a disordered, cloudy medium at intervals of 1 ns. After about 4 ns, the light stops spreading any further. (Courtesy of the University of Zurich)

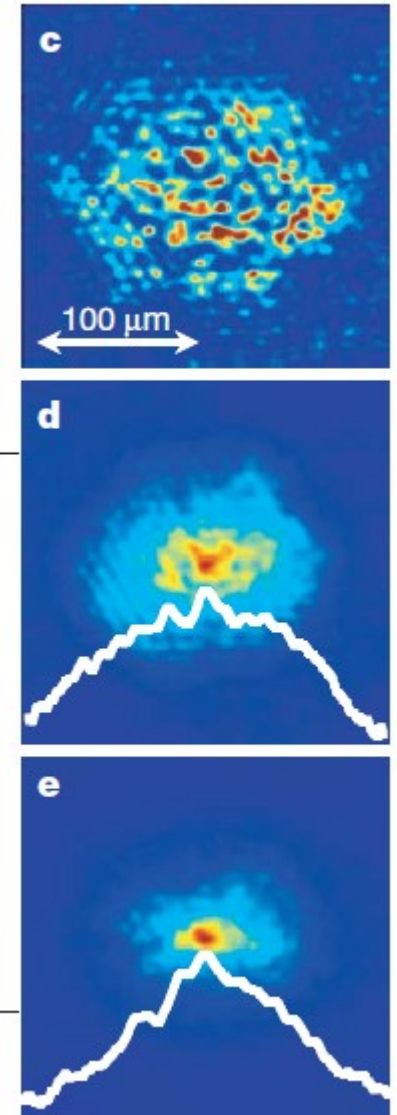
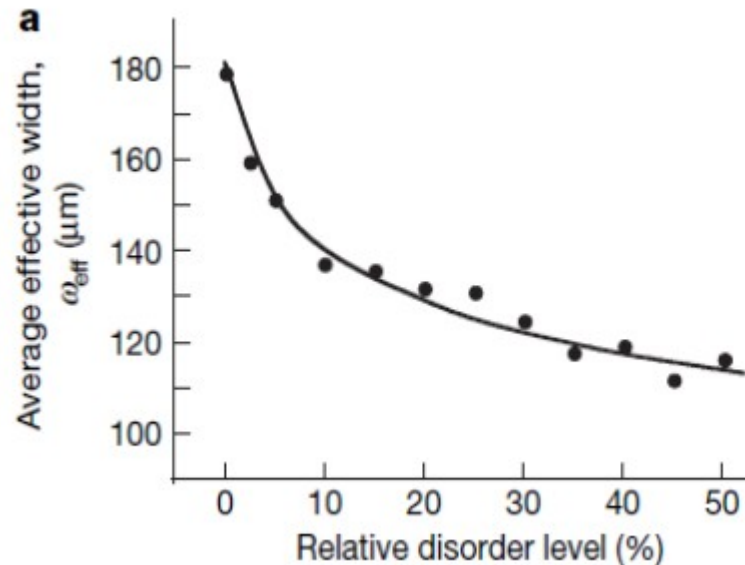


# TRANSVERSE Anderson Loc

T. Schwartz, G. Bartal, S. Fishman, M. Segev, Nature 446, 52 (2007)



INDEX CONTRAST 0.0001  
PROPAGATION 1cm





# **The simplest model**

# The model

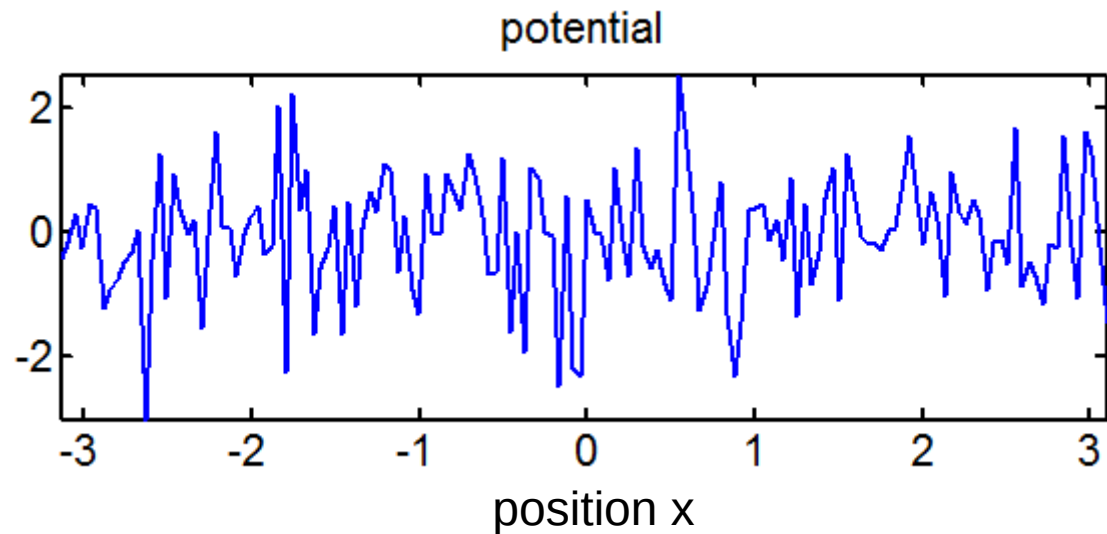
- One-dimensional NLS with a random potential

$$i\psi_t = -\psi_{xx} + V(x)\psi - \chi|\psi|^2\psi$$

$$P = \int |\psi|^2 dx$$

$\chi = 0$	Linear
$\chi = +1$	Focusing
$\chi = -1$	Defocusing

$$\langle V(x)V(x') \rangle = V_0^2 \delta(x - x')$$



# Nonlinear Anderson localization

- Bound state equation

$$\psi = \varphi \exp(-iEt)$$

$$-\varphi_{xx} + V(x)\varphi - \chi\varphi^3 = E\varphi,$$

- This is solved numerically by a pseudo-spectral Newton-Raphson algorithm

# The simplest Anderson localization

$$-\varphi_{xx} + V(x)\varphi = \mathcal{L}\varphi = E\varphi,$$

$$\chi = 0$$

- One dimensional **LINEAR** Schroedinger equation with random potential
  - Specific case:
    - a Gaussianly distributed random potential
  - Known issues:
    - Existence of exponentially localized states (negative eigenvalues)
    - Distribution of eigenvalues
    - Localization length

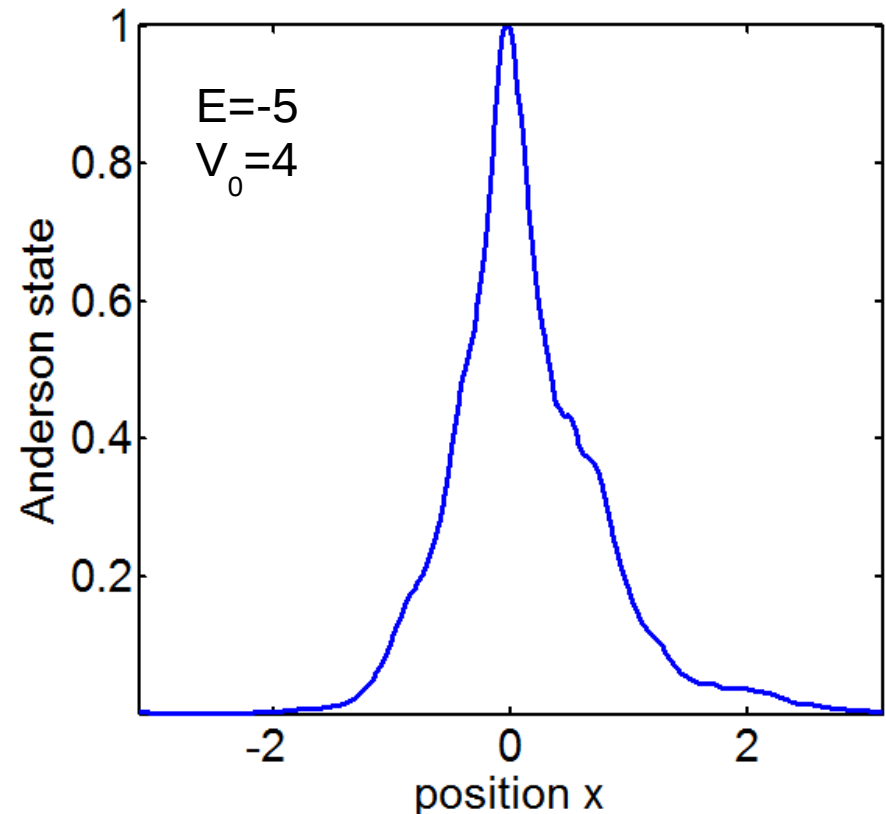
# Linearly localized states

- Gaussian potential
- Negative eigenvalues
- Decays as  $\exp(-\sqrt{-E}|x|)$

- **Link between**

localization length  
and  
eigenvalue

$$-\varphi_{xx} + V(x)\varphi = \mathcal{L}\varphi = E\varphi,$$



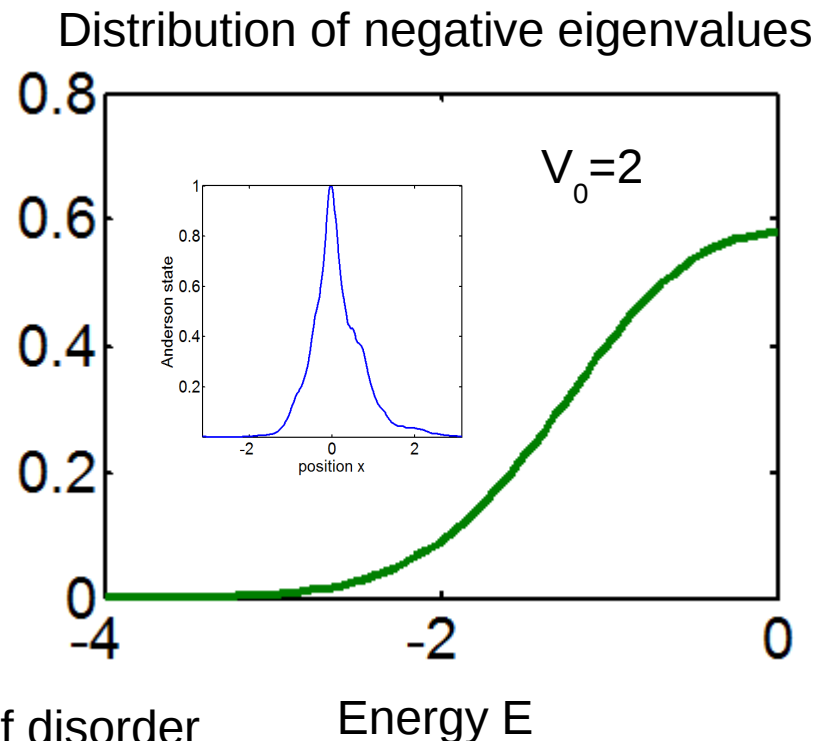
# The statistical distribution of eigenvalues

- There is a tail of negative energies corresponding to *exponentially highly localized states*

$$\langle V(x)V(x') \rangle = V_0^2 \delta(x - x')$$

$$\overline{E}_L \cong -V_0^{4/3} / 3$$

The localization length decreases as the Inverse square root of the |energy|, hence the localization length decreases with the amount of disorder (as observed experimentally)



# Localization length $l$

- It is calculated by the inverse participation ratio

$$l = \frac{|\int \varphi^2 dx|^2}{\int \varphi^4 dx} = \frac{P^2}{\int \varphi^4 dx}$$

$$P = \int |\psi|^2 dx$$

- For an exponentially localized state

$$\varphi_e = \frac{e^{-2|x|/l}}{\sqrt{l/2}}$$



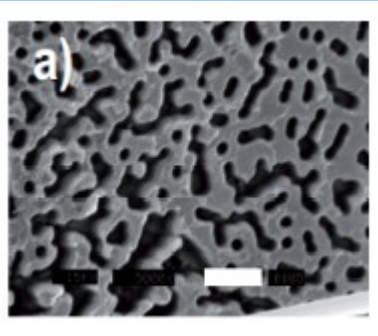
# Link between localization length and eigenvalue in the **LINEAR** case

- The localization length scales as inverse squares root of the eigenvalue

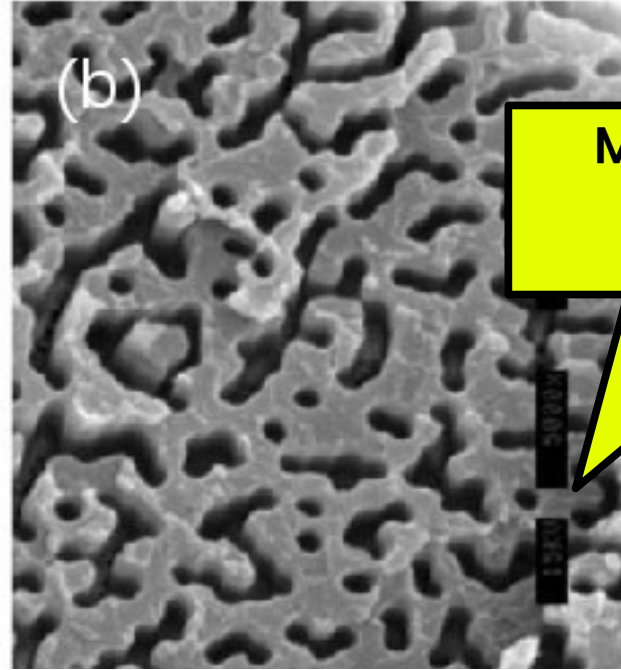
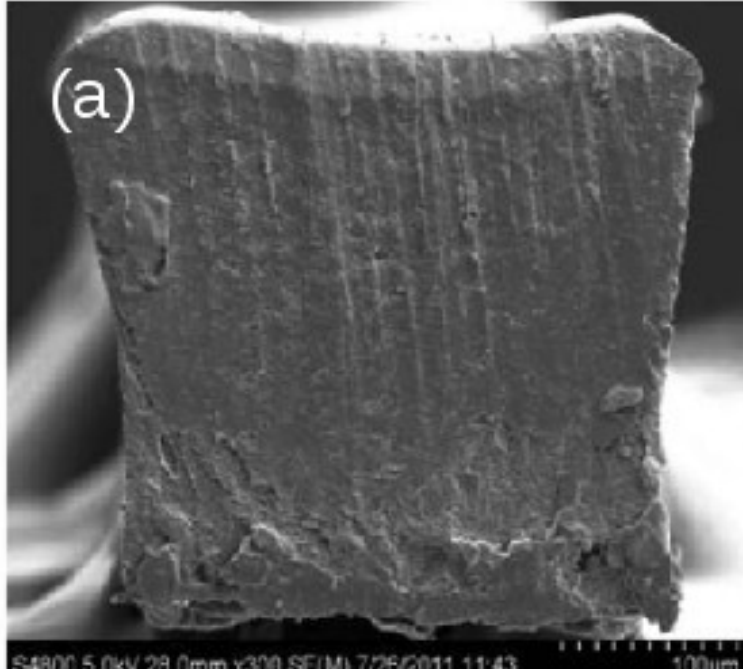
$$l = \frac{3}{\sqrt{-E}}$$

- The lower the negative energy, the more localized

# Transverse localization in 2D fibers



Our experiments on  
transverse localization  
in two dimensional  
fibers



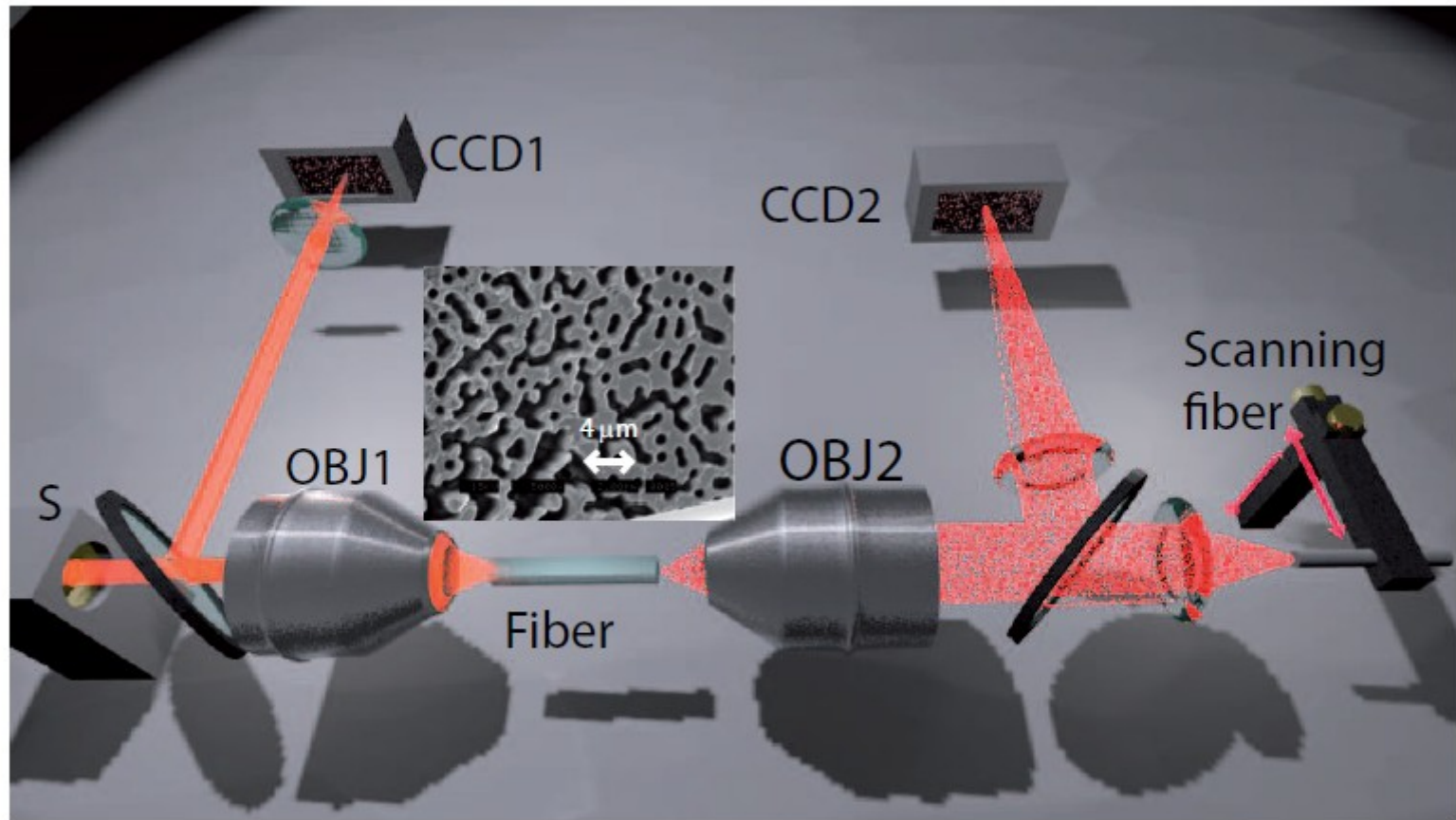
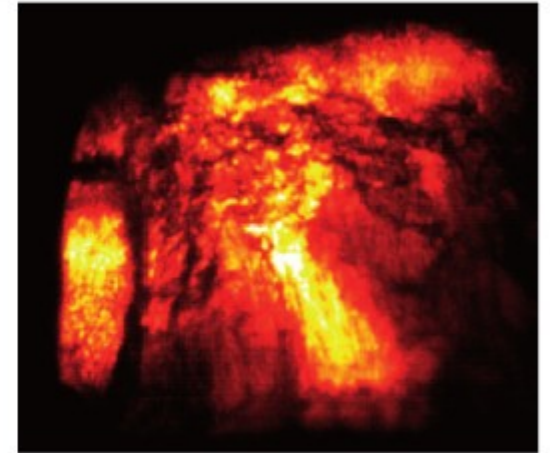
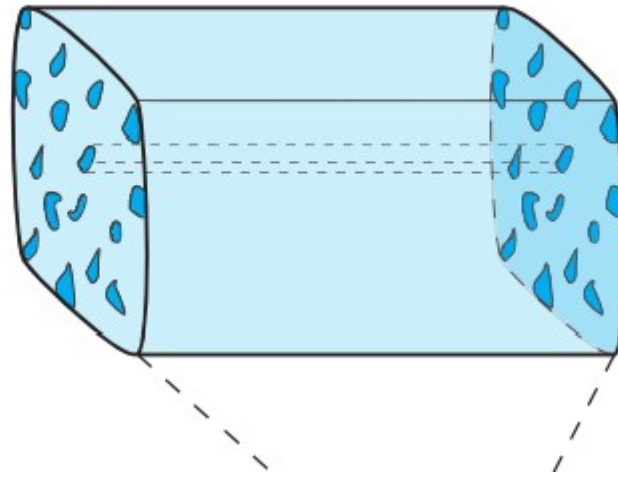
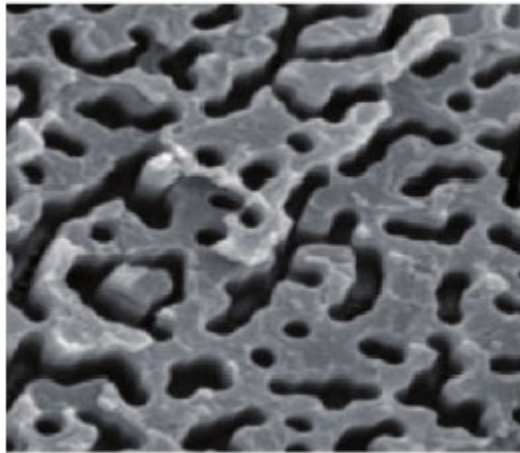
Mixture of PS and PPMA  
Index contrast 0.1  
Propagation  $>7$  cm

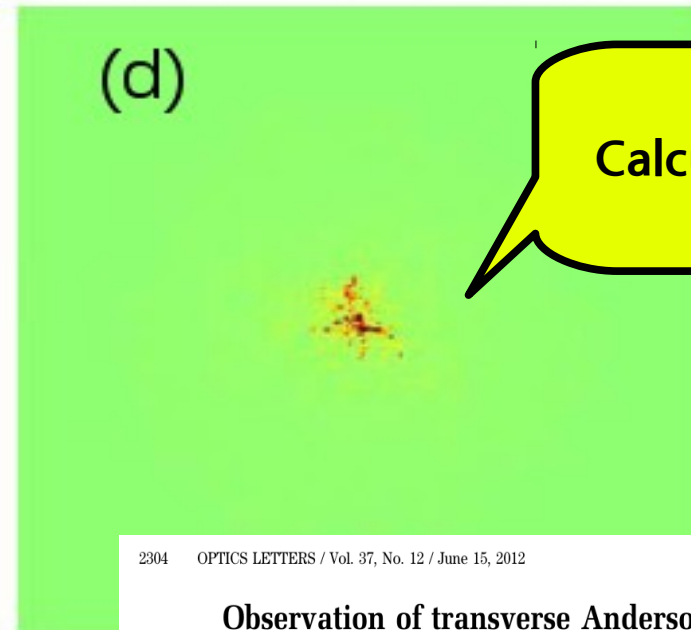
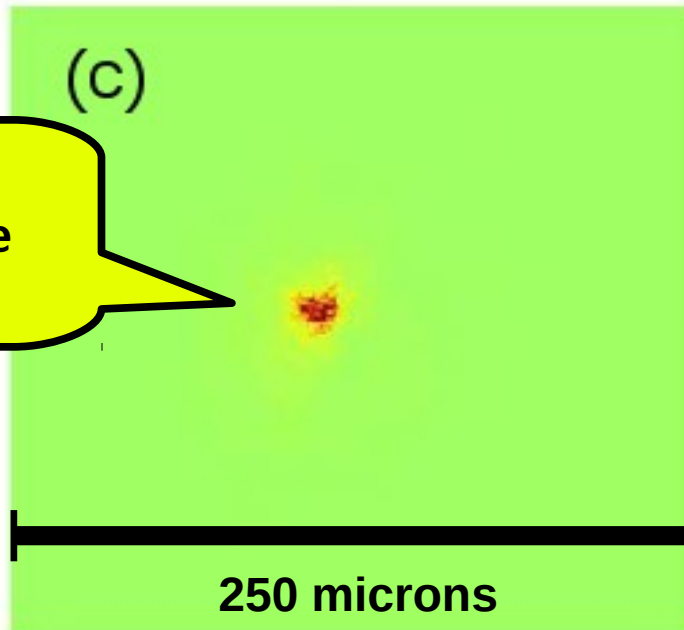
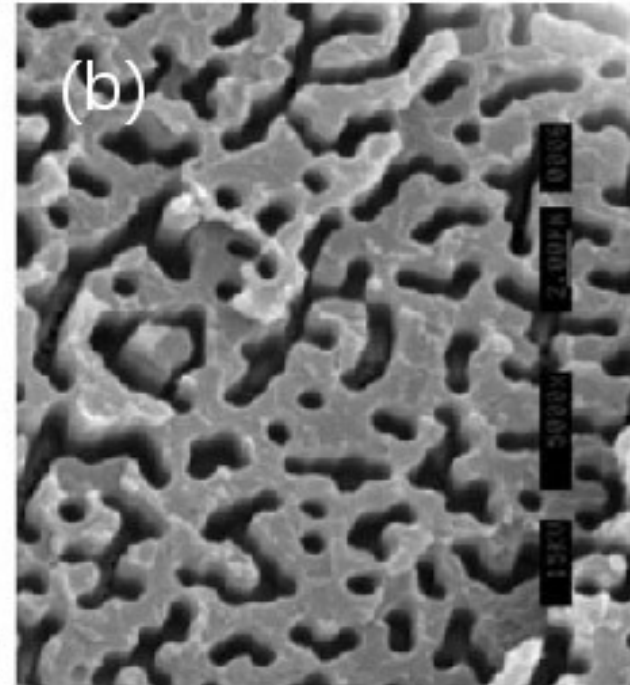
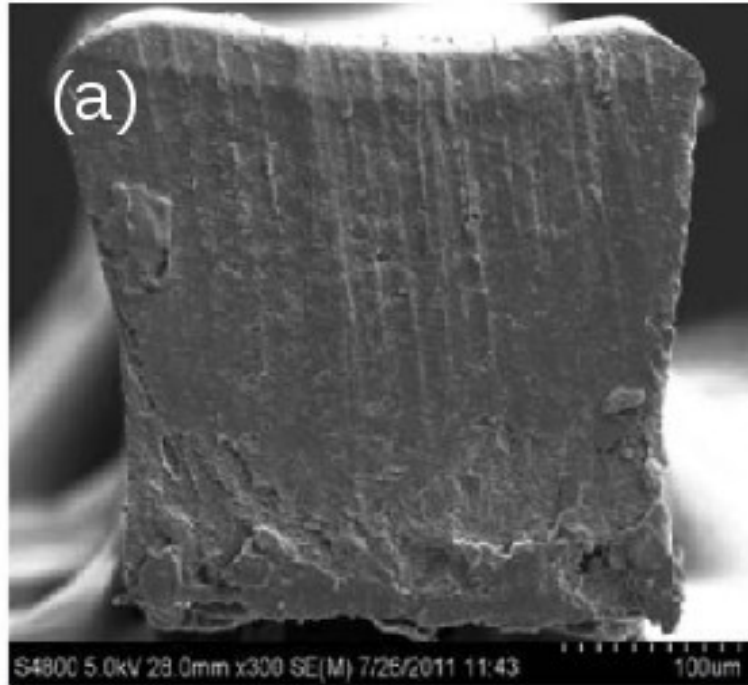
40000 pieces of PMMA and 40000 pieces of PS randomly mixed and fused together  
 $n(\text{PS})=1.59$   
 $n(\text{PMMA})=1.49$

2304 OPTICS LETTERS / Vol. 37, No. 12 / June 15, 2012

## Observation of transverse Anderson localization in an optical fiber

Salman Karbasi,<sup>1</sup> Craig R. Mirr,<sup>1</sup> Parisa Gandomkar Yarandi,<sup>1</sup> Ryan J. Frazier,<sup>1</sup> Karl W. Koch,<sup>2</sup> and Arash Mafi<sup>1,\*</sup>

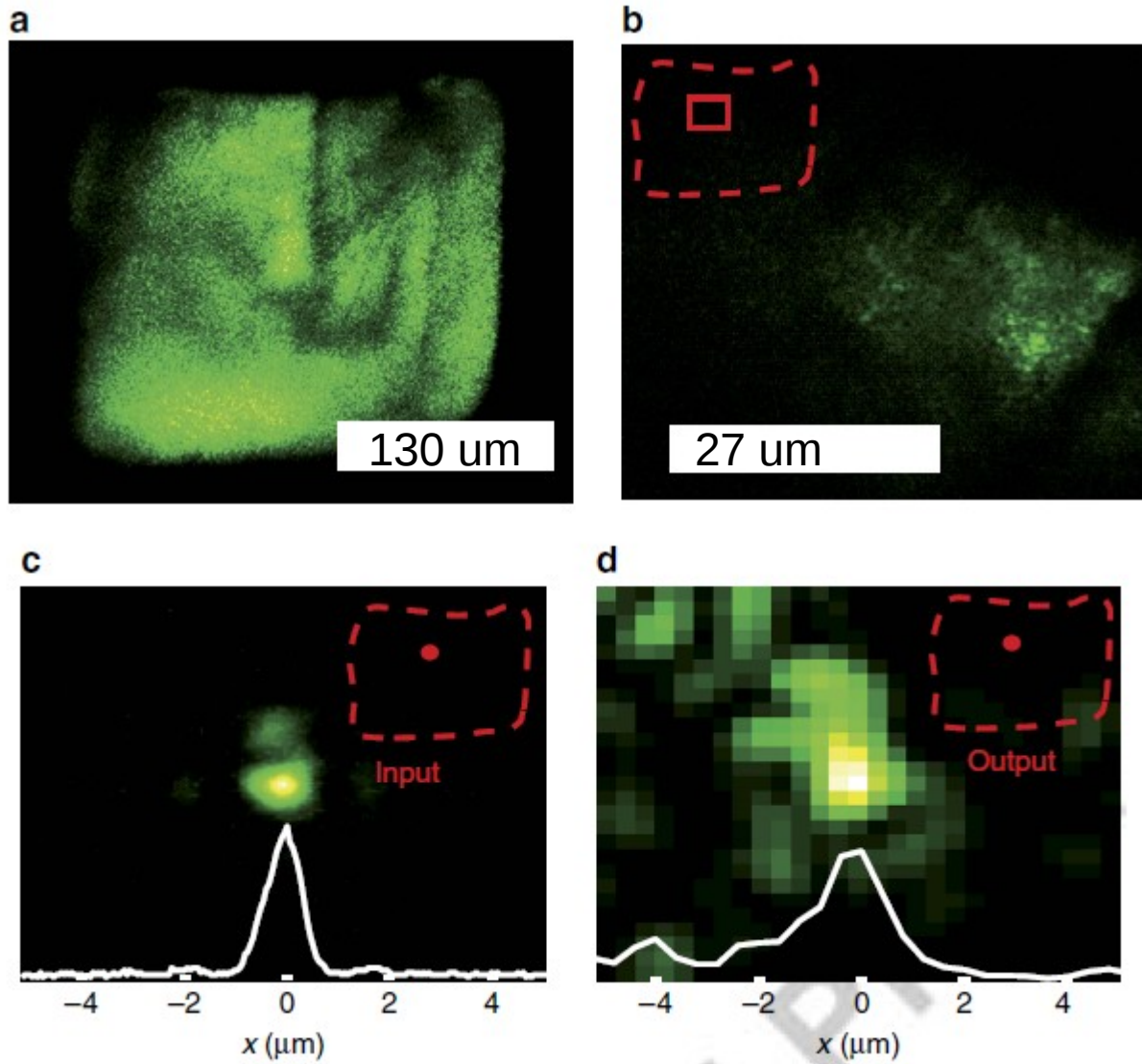




### Observation of transverse Anderson localization in an optical fiber



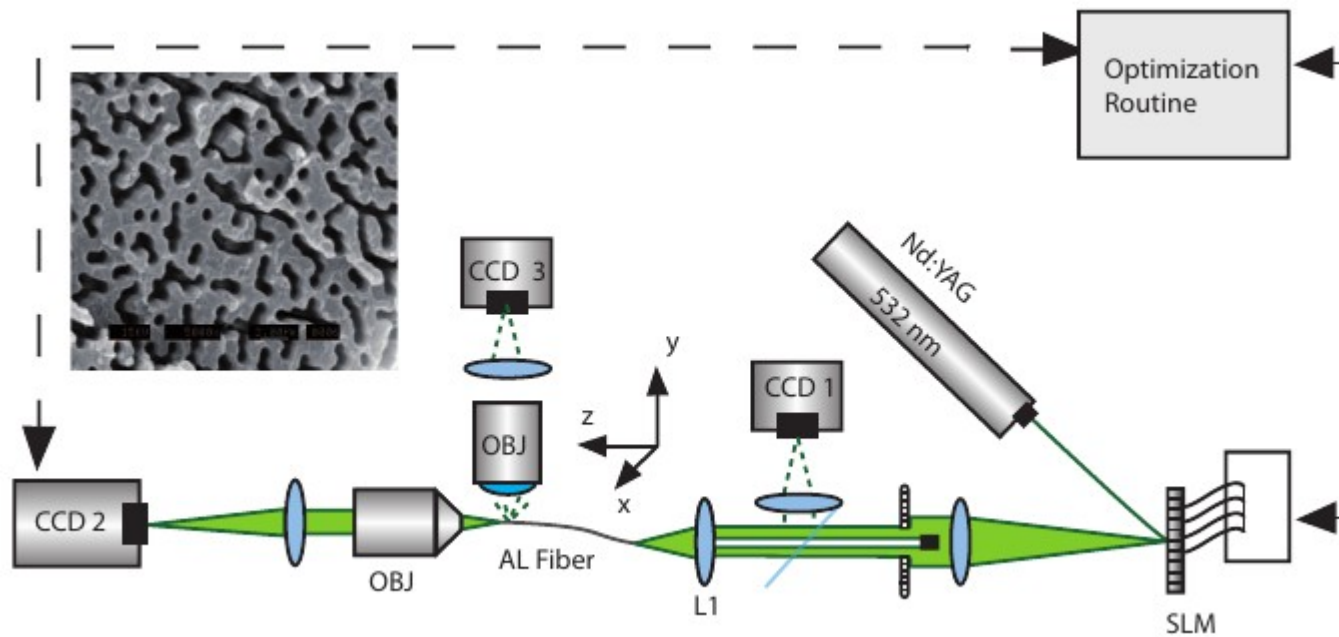
# Absence of diffusion



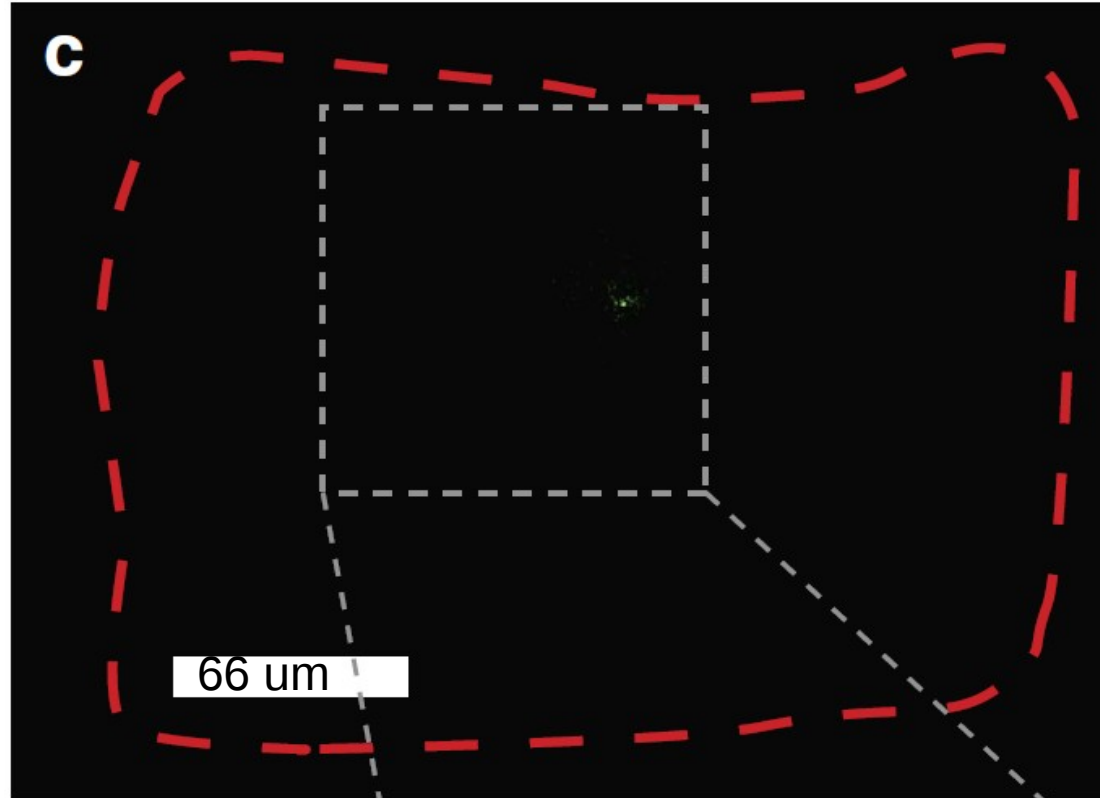
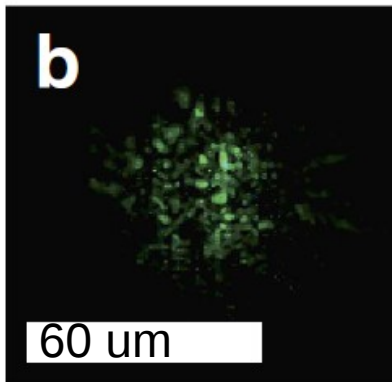
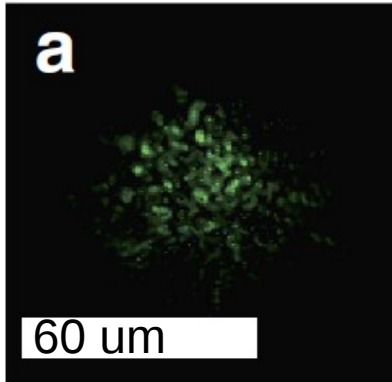
# Optimization of light focusing through disordered media



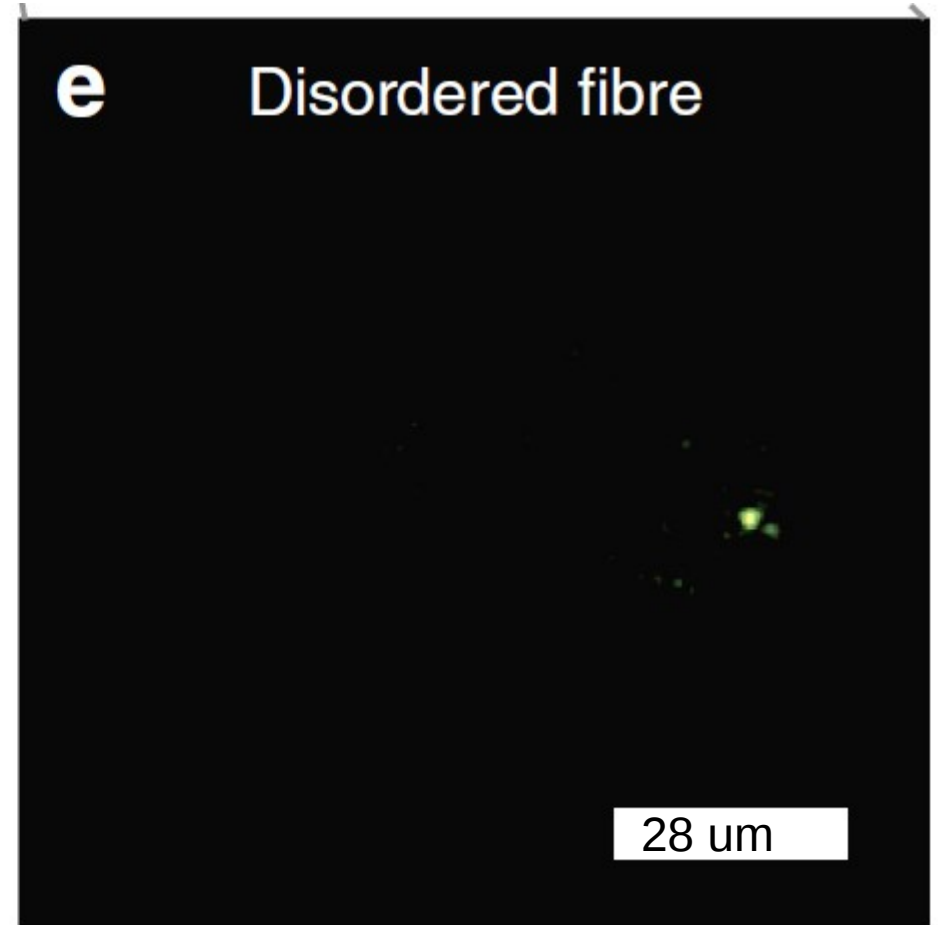
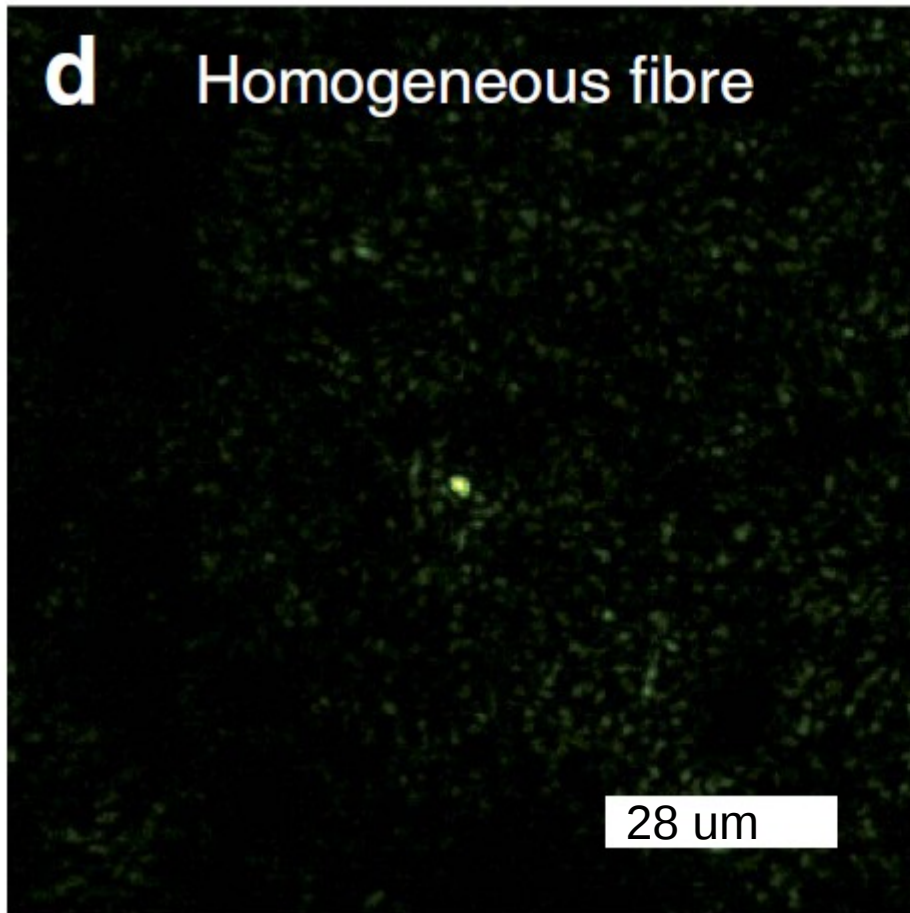
# Focusing in the Anderson regime



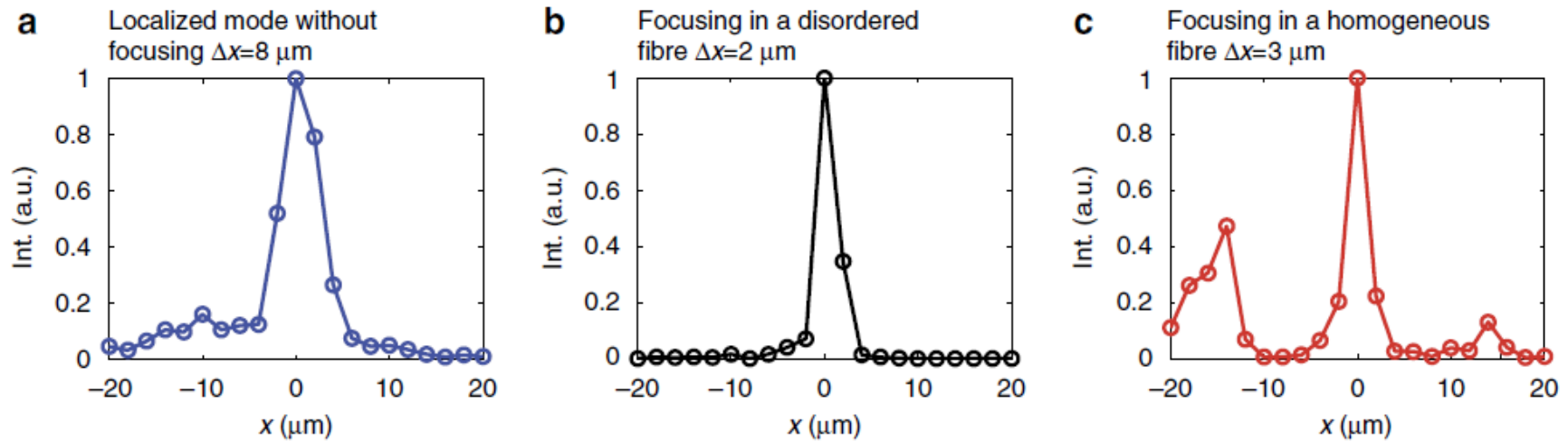
# Adaptive focusing



# Comparison



# Further comparison



**Figure 4 | Intensity profile of the focus.** Profile of a localized mode (a) without optimization and (b) after the optimization procedure. (c) A focused mode in a homogeneous fibre; note the background.

Is this related to inference?

# Measures from the top

