## **Annales Henri Poincaré**



# Eigensystem Multiscale Analysis for the Anderson Model via the Wegner Estimate

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**Abstract.** We present a new approach to the eigensystem multiscale analysis (EMSA) for random Schrödinger operators that relies on the Wegner estimate. The EMSA treats all energies of the finite volume operator in an energy interval at the same time, simultaneously establishing localization of all eigenfunctions with eigenvalues in the energy interval with high probability. It implies all the usual manifestations of localization (pure point spectrum with exponentially decaying eigenfunctions, dynamical localization). The new method removes the restrictive level spacing hypothesis used in the previous versions of the EMSA. The method is presented in the context of the Anderson model, allowing for single-site probability distributions that are Hölder continuous of order  $\alpha \in (0,1]$ .

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A.E. was supported in part by the NSF under Grant DMS-1907435 and by the Simons Foundation under Grant 443529. A.K. was supported in part by the NSF under Grant DMS-1301641.

## Introduction

In [16, 17] we developed an eigensystem multiscale analysis (EMSA) for proving localization (pure point spectrum with exponentially decaying eigenfunctions, dynamical localization) for random Schrödinger operators. The EMSA treats all energies of the finite volume operator in an energy interval at the same time, simultaneously establishing localization of all eigenfunctions with eigenvalues in the energy interval with high probability. The analysis in [16,17] (and its bootstrap enhancement in [30]) relies on a probability estimate for level spacing. For the Anderson model with a Hölder continuous single-site probability distribution of order  $\alpha \in (\frac{1}{2}, 1]$  such an estimate is provided by [29, Lemma 2], where it is derived from Minami's estimate [31]. (This is the level spacing probability estimate used in [16,17,30].) A weaker level spacing estimate is proven for the continuous Anderson model in [13, Theorem 2.2]; it requires a covering condition for the random potential, it holds only in a certain interval at the bottom of the spectrum, it requires the single-site probability distribution to be absolutely continuous with a density that is uniformly Lipschitz continuous and bounded below on its support, and provides weak probability estimates. The fact that level spacing probability estimates are not widely known, and where known require extra hypotheses, imposes a strong limitation on the applicability of the EMSA.

The well-known methods previously developed for proving localization for random Schrödinger operators are the multiscale analysis (MSA) (see [7,9,14, 15,19–23,25,27,32]) and the fractional moment method (FMM) (see [1–5]). As opposed to the EMSA, these methods are based on the study of finite volume Green's functions, and the analysis is performed either at a fixed energy in a single box, or for all energies in an interval at once but with two boxes with an 'either or' statement for each energy. Green's functions-based methods do not rely on level spacing. Rather, they use either explicitly (MSA) or implicitly (FMM) a more widely available bound, the Wegner estimate (e.g., [8–10, 26, 28, 33]). This estimate is proven for a large family of both lattice and continuum random Schrödinger operators, making it possible to establish localization in these contexts.

Unfortunately, the Green's function quickly becomes an inadequate tool in the study of many-body localization, rending the traditional approaches to localization ineffective. The EMSA approach to localization shows more flexibility in this regard: In a forthcoming paper, [18], we use the EMSA to establish many-body localization results in the context of random XXZ spin quantum chains. However, as we already mentioned, the previously available version of the method uses the level spacing hypothesis, which (although expected) has never been proven for many-body systems so far. The main innovation of the present work is the removal of this restrictive condition, replacing it by an argument based on the Wegner estimate. More precisely, the new approach uses Wegner estimates between boxes, as in [15,22,23,27]. To illustrate the method, we consider here its application to a single particle lattice Anderson model. In this context it applies when the single-site probability distribution is Hölder

continuous of order  $\alpha \in (0,1]$ , in contrast to the EMSA with level spacing of [16,17] that requires  $\alpha \in (\frac{1}{2},1]$ . Moreover, this version of EMSA is expected to admit extensions to random Schrödinger operators where a suitable Wegner estimate is available, such as the continuum Anderson model.

#### 1. Definitions and Results

A discrete Schrödinger operator is an operator of the form  $H = -\Delta + V$  on  $\ell^2(\mathbb{Z}^d)$ , where  $\Delta$  is the (centered) discrete Laplacian:

$$(\Delta\varphi)(x) := \sum_{\substack{y \in \mathbb{Z}^d \\ |y-x|=1}} \varphi(y) \quad \text{for} \quad \varphi \in \ell^2(\mathbb{Z}^d), \tag{1.1}$$

and V is a bounded potential.

**Definition 1.1.** The Anderson model is the random discrete Schrödinger operator

$$H_{\omega} := -\Delta + V_{\omega} \quad \text{on} \quad \ell^2(\mathbb{Z}^d),$$
 (1.2)

where  $V_{\omega}$  is a random potential:  $V_{\omega}(x) = \omega_x$  for  $x \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ , where  $\omega = \{\omega_x\}_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d}$ is a family of independent identically distributed random variables, whose common probability distribution  $\mu$  has bounded support and is assumed to be Hölder continuous of order  $\alpha \in (0, 1]$ :

$$S_{\mu}(t) \le Kt^{\alpha} \quad \text{for all} \quad t \in [0, 1],$$
 (1.3)

where K is a constant and  $S_{\mu}(t) := \sup_{a \in \mathbb{R}} \mu \{[a, a+t]\}$  is the concentration function of the measure  $\mu$ .

To formulate our main result, we need to introduce some additional notation. Given  $\Theta \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ , we let  $H_{\Theta}$  be the restriction of  $\chi_{\Theta} H \chi_{\Theta}$  to  $\ell^2(\Theta)$ . We write  $\|\varphi\| = \|\varphi\|_{\ell^2(\Theta)}$  for  $\varphi \in \ell^2(\Theta)$ . We call  $(\varphi, \lambda)$  an eigenpair for  $H_{\Theta}$  if  $\varphi \in \ell^2(\Theta)$  with  $\|\varphi\| = 1$ ,  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , and  $H_{\Theta}\varphi = \lambda \varphi$ . (In other words,  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue for  $H_{\Theta}$  and  $\varphi$  is a corresponding normalized eigenfunction.) A collection  $\{(\varphi_j, \lambda_j)\}_{j \in J}$  of eigenpairs for  $H_{\Theta}$  will be called an eigensystem for  $H_{\Theta}$ if  $\{\varphi_j\}_{j\in J}$  is an orthonormal basis for  $\ell^2(\Theta)$ . If  $\Theta\subset\mathbb{Z}^d$  is finite, we let  $\widetilde{\sigma}(H_\Theta)$ denote the eigenvalues of  $H_{\Theta}$  repeated according to multiplicity (and thought of as different points in  $\widetilde{\sigma}(H_{\Theta})$ ), so an eigensystem for  $H_{\Theta}$  can be rewritten as  $\{(\varphi_{\lambda},\lambda)\}_{\lambda\in\widetilde{\sigma}(H_{\Theta})}$ , i.e., it can be labeled by  $\widetilde{\sigma}(H_{\Theta})$ .

If  $x = (x_1, x_2, ..., x_d) \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , we set  $|x| = |x|_2 = \left(\sum_{j=1}^d x_j^2\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$  and ||x|| = $|x|_{\infty} = \max_{j=1,2,\dots,d} |x_j|$ . We consider boxes in  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  centered at points of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . The box in  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  of side L > 0 centered at  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is given by

$$\Lambda_L(x) = \Lambda_L^{\mathbb{R}}(x) \cap \mathbb{Z}^d, \quad \text{where} \quad \Lambda_L^{\mathbb{R}}(x) = \left\{ y \in \mathbb{R}^d; \ \|y - x\| \le \frac{L}{2} \right\}. \tag{1.4}$$

By a box  $\Lambda_L$  we will mean a box  $\Lambda_L(x)$  for some  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . We have

$$(L-2)^d < |\Lambda_L(x)| \le (L+1)^d$$
 for all  $L \ge 2$  and  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . (1.5)

The EMSA is based on the study of localized eigensystems. The relevant definitions are stated in terms of exponents  $\tau, \kappa' \in (0, 1)$  that will be chosen later. We use the notation  $L_{\tau} = |L^{\tau}|$  for  $L \geq 1$ .

**Definition 1.2.** Let  $\Lambda_L$  be a box,  $x \in \Lambda_L$ , and  $m \ge 0$ . Then  $\varphi \in \ell^2(\Lambda_L)$  is said to be (x, m)-localized if  $\|\varphi\| = 1$  and

$$|\varphi(y)| \le e^{-m\|y-x\|}$$
 for all  $y \in \Lambda_L$  with  $\|y-x\| \ge L_{\tau}$ . (1.6)

We consider energy intervals I(E,A)=(E-A,E+A) with center  $E\in\mathbb{R}$  and radius A>0. (When we write I(E,A) it will be implicit that  $E\in\mathbb{R}$  and A>0.) Given an interval I=I(E,A), we set

$$h_I(t) = h\left(\frac{t-E}{A}\right)$$
 for  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , with  $h(s) = \begin{cases} 1 - s^2 & \text{if } s \in (-1,1) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ . (1.7)

Note that  $h_I(t) > 0 \iff t \in I$ , which implies  $h_I = \chi_I h_I$ .

**Definition 1.3.** Given an energy interval I = I(E, A), a box  $\Lambda_L$  will be called (m, I)-localizing for H if

$$L^{-\kappa'} \le m \le \frac{1}{2} \log \left( 1 + \frac{A}{4d} \right), \tag{1.8}$$

and there exists an (m, I)-localized eigensystem for  $H_{\Lambda_L}$ , that is, an eigensystem  $\{(\varphi_{\nu}, \nu)\}_{\nu \in \widetilde{\sigma}(H_{\Lambda_L})}$  for  $H_{\Lambda_L}$  such that for all  $\nu \in \widetilde{\sigma}(H_{\Lambda_L})$  there is  $x_{\nu} \in \Lambda_L$  so  $\varphi_{\nu}$  is  $(x_{\nu}, mh_I(\nu))$ -localized.

Given a box  $\Lambda_{\ell} \subset \Theta$ , a crucial step in our analysis shows that if  $(\psi, \lambda)$  is an eigenpair for  $H_{\Theta}$ , with  $\lambda \in I$  not too close to the eigenvalues of  $H_{\Lambda_{\ell}}$ , and the box  $\Lambda_{\ell}$  is (m, I)-localizing for H, then  $\psi$  is exponentially small deep inside  $\Lambda_{\ell}$  (see Lemma 2.2.). This is proven by expanding the values of  $\psi$  inside  $\Lambda_{\ell}$  in terms of an (m, I)-localizing eigensystem for  $H_{\Lambda_{\ell}}$ . The problem is we only know decay for the eigenfunctions with eigenvalues in I; we have no information whatsoever concerning eigenfunctions with eigenvalues that lie outside the interval I. As in [17], the decay of the term containing the latter eigenfunctions comes from the distance from the eigenvalue  $\lambda$  to the complement of the interval I, and consequently the decay rate for the localization of an eigenfunction goes to zero as the corresponding eigenvalue approaches the edges of the interval I. The introduction of the modulating function  $h_I$  in the decay rate models this phenomenon.

The control of the term containing eigenfunctions corresponding to eigenvalues that lie outside the interval I is given by [17, Lemma 3.2(ii)], which requires the upper bound in (1.8). The lower bound in (1.8) is a requirement for the multiscale analysis, as in [20,23,25,27].

Our main result pertaining to the eigensystem multiscale analysis in an energy interval is given in the following theorem. To state the theorem, given exponents  $0 < \xi < \zeta < 1$ , we choose the exponents  $\tau, \kappa' \in (0,1)$  that appear in Definitions 1.2 and 1.3, as well as exponents  $\beta, \kappa, \varrho \in (0,1)$  and  $\gamma > 1$ , satisfying the relations described in Appendix A. In what follows, once the exponents  $0 < \xi < \zeta < 1$  are fixed, we always assume we choose and fix the other exponents as in Appendix A.

**Theorem 1.4.** Let  $H_{\omega}$  be an Anderson model. Given  $0 < \xi < \zeta < 1$ , there exists a finite scale  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}(d, \xi, \zeta)$  and a constant  $C_d = C_{d,\xi,\zeta} > 0$  with the following property: Suppose for some scale  $L_0 \geq \mathcal{L}$  and interval  $I_0 = I(E, A_0)$  we have

$$\inf_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} \mathbb{P}\left\{ \Lambda_{L_0}(x) \text{ is } (m_0, I_0) \text{-localizing for } H_{\omega} \right\} \ge 1 - e^{-L_0^{\zeta}}. \tag{1.9}$$

Then for all  $L \geq L_0^{\gamma}$  we have

$$\inf_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} \mathbb{P}\left\{ \Lambda_L(x) \text{ is } (m_{\infty}, I_{\infty}^L) \text{-localizing for } H_{\omega} \right\} \ge 1 - e^{-L^{\xi}}, \tag{1.10}$$

where

$$I_{\infty}^{L} = I_{\infty}^{L}(L_{0}) = I(E, A_{\infty}(1 - L^{-\kappa})^{-1}),$$

$$A_{\infty} = A_{\infty}(L_{0}) = A_{0} \prod_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(1 - L_{0}^{-\kappa \gamma^{k}}\right),$$

$$L_{0}^{-\gamma \kappa'} \leq m_{\infty} = m_{\infty}(L_{0}) = m_{0} \prod_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(1 - C_{d}L_{0}^{-\varrho \gamma^{k}}\right) < \frac{1}{2} \log\left(1 + \frac{A_{\infty}}{4d}\right).$$
(1.11)

In particular,  $\lim_{L_0\to\infty} A_\infty(L_0) = A_0$  and  $\lim_{L_0\to\infty} m_\infty(L_0) = m_0$ .

We now state a corollary of Theorem 1.4 that encapsulates the usual forms of Anderson localization (pure point spectrum with exponentially decaying eigenfunctions, dynamical localization, etc.) on the interval  $I_{\infty} = I(E, A_{\infty})$ , as in [16,24,25]. We fix  $\nu > \frac{d}{2}$ , and given  $a \in \mathbb{Z}^d$  we define  $T_a$  as the operator on  $\ell^2(\mathbb{Z}^d)$  given by multiplication by the function  $T_a(x) := \langle x - a \rangle^{\nu}$ , where  $\langle x \rangle = \sqrt{1 + \|x\|^2}$ . Since  $\langle a + b \rangle \leq \sqrt{2} \langle a \rangle \langle b \rangle$ , we have  $\|T_a T_b^{-1}\| \leq 2^{\frac{\nu}{2}} \langle a - b \rangle^{\nu}$ . A function  $\psi \colon \mathbb{Z}^d \to \mathbb{C}$  is a  $\nu$ -generalized eigenfunction for the discrete Schrödinger operator H if  $\psi$  is a generalized eigenfunction and  $\|T_0^{-1}\psi\| < \infty$ . ( $\|T_0^{-1}\psi\| < \infty$  if and only if  $\|T_a^{-1}\psi\| < \infty$  for all  $a \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ .) We let  $\mathcal{V}(\lambda)$  denote the collection of  $\nu$ -generalized eigenfunctions for H with generalized eigenvalue  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ . Given  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ , we set

$$W_{\lambda}^{(a)}(b) := \begin{cases} \sup_{\psi \in \mathcal{V}(\lambda)} \frac{|\psi(b)|}{\|T_a^{-1}\psi\|} & \text{if } \mathcal{V}(\lambda) \neq \emptyset \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$
 (1.12)

For all  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}^d$  we have

$$W_{\lambda}^{(a)}(a) \leq 1, \ W_{\lambda}^{(a)}(b) \leq \langle b-a \rangle^{\nu}, \ \text{and} \ W_{\lambda}^{(a)}(c) \leq 2^{\frac{\nu}{2}} \langle b-a \rangle^{\nu} W_{\lambda}^{(b)}(c). \tag{1.13}$$

Corollary 1.5. Suppose the conclusions of Theorem 1.4 hold for an Anderson model  $H_{\omega}$ , and let  $I = I_{\infty}$ ,  $m = m_{\infty}$ . There is a finite scale  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{d,\nu}$  such that, given  $\mathcal{L} \leq L \in 2\mathbb{N}$  and  $a \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ , there exists an event  $\mathcal{Y}_{L,a}$  with the following properties:

(i)  $\mathcal{Y}_{L,a}$  depends only on the random variables  $\{\omega_x\}_{x\in\Lambda_{\pi_L}(a)}$  and

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\mathcal{Y}_{L,a}\right\} \ge 1 - Ce^{-L^{\xi}}.\tag{1.14}$$

(ii) Given  $\omega \in \mathcal{Y}_{L,a}$ , for all  $\lambda \in I$  we have that

$$\max_{b \in \Lambda_{\frac{L}{3}}(a)} W_{\omega,\lambda}^{(a)}(b) > e^{-\frac{1}{4}mh_{I^L}(\lambda)L} \implies \max_{y \in A_L(a)} W_{\omega,\lambda}^{(a)}(y) \le e^{-\frac{7}{132}mh_{I^L}(\lambda)\|y-a\|},$$
(1.15)

where

$$A_L(a) := \left\{ y \in \mathbb{Z}^d; \ \frac{8}{7}L \le ||y - a|| \le \frac{33}{14}L \right\}. \tag{1.16}$$

In particular, for all  $\omega \in \mathcal{Y}_{L,a}$  and  $\lambda \in I$  we have

$$W_{\omega,\lambda}^{(a)}(a)W_{\omega,\lambda}^{(a)}(y) \le e^{-\frac{7}{132}mh_{IL}(\lambda)\|y-a\|} \text{ for all } y \in A_L(a).$$
 (1.17)

Although Corollary 1.5 looks exactly like [17, Theorem 1.7], Theorem 1.4 is not the same as [17, Theorem 1.6] (the definitions of a localizing box are different, the conclusion (1.10) is stated differently from [17, Equation (1.20)]). For this reason the derivation of Corollary 1.5 from Theorem 1.4 has some differences from the derivation of [17, Theorem 1.7] from [17, Theorem 1.6], so it is included in this paper.

The usual forms of localization can be derived from Corollary 1.5 and are stated in the following corollary.

Corollary 1.6. Suppose the conclusions of Theorem 1.4 hold for an Anderson model  $H_{\omega}$ , and let  $I = I_{\infty}$ ,  $m = m_{\infty}$ . Then the following holds with probability one:

- (i)  $H_{\omega}$  has pure point spectrum in the interval I.
- (ii) If  $\psi_{\lambda}$  is an eigenfunction of  $H_{\omega}$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda \in I$ , then  $\psi_{\lambda}$  is exponentially localized with rate of decay  $\frac{7}{132}mh_I(\lambda)$ , more precisely,

$$|\psi_{\lambda}(x)| \le C_{\omega,\lambda} \|T_0^{-1}\psi\| e^{-\frac{7}{132}mh_I(\lambda)\|x\|}$$
 for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . (1.18)

(iii) If  $\lambda \in I$ , then for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}^d$  we have

$$W_{\omega,\lambda}^{(x)}(x)W_{\omega,\lambda}^{(x)}(y) \le C_{m,\omega,\nu} \left(h_I(\lambda)\right)^{-\nu} e^{\left(\frac{4}{33}+\nu\right)mh_I(\lambda)(2d\log\langle x\rangle)^{\frac{1}{\xi}}} e^{-\frac{7}{132}mh_I(\lambda)\|y-x\|}.$$
(1.19)

(iv) If  $\lambda \in I$ , then for  $\psi \in \chi_{\{\lambda\}}(H_{\omega})$  and all  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}^d$  we have  $|\psi(x)| |\psi(y)|$ 

$$\leq C_{m,\omega,\nu} \left( h_{I}(\lambda) \right)^{-\nu} \left\| T_{x}^{-1} \psi \right\|^{2} e^{\left( \frac{4}{33} + \nu \right) m h_{I}(\lambda) \left( 2d \log \langle x \rangle \right)^{\frac{1}{\xi}}} e^{-\frac{7}{132} m h_{I}(\lambda) \|y - x\|} \\
\leq 2^{\nu} C_{m,\omega,\nu} \left( h_{I}(\lambda) \right)^{-\nu} \left\| T_{0}^{-1} \psi \right\|^{2} \langle x \rangle^{2\nu} e^{\left( \frac{4}{33} + \nu \right) m h_{I}(\lambda) \left( 2d \log \langle x \rangle \right)^{\frac{1}{\xi}}} e^{-\frac{7}{132} m h_{I}(\lambda) \|y - x\|}. \tag{1.20}$$

(v) If  $\lambda \in I$ , then there exists  $x_{\lambda} = x_{\omega,\lambda} \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ , such that for  $\psi \in \chi_{\{\lambda\}}(H_{\omega})$  and all  $x \in \mathbb{Z}^d$  we have

$$|\psi(x)| \leq C_{m,\omega,\nu} \left(h_{I}(\lambda)\right)^{-\nu} \|T_{x_{\lambda}}^{-1}\psi\| e^{\left(\frac{4}{33}+\nu\right)mh_{I}(\lambda)(2d\log\langle x_{\lambda}\rangle)^{\frac{1}{\xi}}} e^{-\frac{7}{132}mh_{I}(\lambda)\|x-x_{\lambda}\|}$$

$$\leq 2^{\frac{\nu}{2}} C_{m,\omega,\nu} \left(h_{I}(\lambda)\right)^{-\nu} \|T_{0}^{-1}\psi\| \langle x_{\lambda}\rangle^{\nu} e^{\left(\frac{4}{33}+\nu\right)mh_{I}(\lambda)(2d\log\langle x_{\lambda}\rangle)^{\frac{1}{\xi}}} e^{-\frac{7}{132}mh_{I}(\lambda)\|x-x_{\lambda}\|}.$$

$$(1.21)$$

In Corollary 1.6, (i) and (ii) are statements of Anderson localization, (iii) and (iv) are statements of dynamical localization ((iv) is called SUDEC (summable uniform decay of eigenfunction correlations) in [24]), and (v) is SULE (semi-uniformly localized eigenfunctions; see [11,12,24]). Statements of localization in expectation can also be derived, as in [24,25].

The proof of Corollary 1.6 from Corollary 1.5 is the same as the proof of [17, Corollary 1.8] from [17, Theorem 1.7], with some obvious modifications, so we refer to [17].

Theorem 1.4 also implies localization at the bottom of the spectrum as in [17, Section 2].

The conclusions of Theorem 1.4 are equivalent to the conclusions of the energy interval multiscale analysis [15,22,23,27]; this can be seen proceeding as in [17, Section 6]. Finally, we stress that the theorem holds for Anderson models whose single-site probability distributions satisfy (1.3).

In the remainder of this paper, we fix  $0 < \xi < \zeta < 1$  and the corresponding exponents  $\tau, \beta, \kappa, \kappa', \varrho \in (0,1)$  and  $\gamma > 1$ , as in Appendix A. The deterministic lemmas for the EMSA are introduced in Sect. 2. The probability estimates based on Wegner estimates are presented in Sect. 3. Theorem 1.4 is proven in Sect. 4. The proof of Corollary 1.5 is given in Sect. 5.

# 2. Lemmas for the Eigensystem Multiscale Analysis

In this section we introduce notation and deterministic lemmas that will play an important role in the eigensystem multiscale analysis. By H we always denote a discrete Schrödinger operator  $H = -\Delta + V$  on  $\ell^2(\mathbb{Z}^d)$ . We also fix an interval I = I(E, A).

#### 2.1. Preliminaries

Let  $\Phi \subset \Theta \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ . We define the boundary, exterior boundary, and interior boundary of  $\Phi$  relative to  $\Theta$ , respectively, by

$$\begin{aligned} &\boldsymbol{\partial}^{\Theta}\Phi = \left\{ (u,v) \in \Phi \times (\Theta \backslash \Phi) \, ; \, |u-v| = 1 \right\}, \\ &\boldsymbol{\partial}_{\mathrm{ex}}^{\Theta}\Phi = \left\{ v \in (\Theta \backslash \Phi) \, ; \, (u,v) \in \boldsymbol{\partial}^{\Theta}\Phi \quad \text{for some} \quad u \in \Phi \right\}, \\ &\boldsymbol{\partial}_{\mathrm{in}}^{\Theta}\Phi = \left\{ u \in \Phi ; \, (u,v) \in \boldsymbol{\partial}^{\Theta}\Phi \quad \text{for some} \quad v \in \Theta \backslash \Phi \right\}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.1}$$

If  $t \geq 1$ , we let

$$\Phi^{\Theta,t} = \{ y \in \Phi; \operatorname{dist}(y, \Theta \backslash \Phi) > \lfloor t \rfloor \} \quad \text{and} \quad \partial_{\operatorname{in}}^{\Theta,t} \Phi = \Phi \backslash \Phi^{\Theta,t}. \tag{2.2}$$

We use the notation

$$R_{\Theta}(y) = \operatorname{dist}(y, \partial_{\operatorname{in}}^{\Theta} \Phi) \quad \text{for} \quad y \in \Phi.$$
 (2.3)

For a box  $\Lambda_L \subset \Theta \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$  we write  $\Lambda_L^{\Theta,t}(x) = (\Lambda_L(x))^{\Theta,t}$ . For  $L \geq 2$  we have

$$\left|\partial_{\text{in}}^{\Theta} \Lambda_L\right| \le \left|\partial_{\text{ex}}^{\Theta} \Lambda_L\right| = \left|\partial^{\Theta} \Lambda_L\right| \le s_d L^{d-1}, \text{ where } s_d = 2^d d.$$
 (2.4)

For  $v \in \Theta$  we let  $\hat{v} \in \partial_{\text{in}}^{\Theta} \Lambda_L$  be the unique  $u \in \partial_{\text{in}}^{\Theta} \Lambda_L$  such that  $(u, v) \in \partial_{-\infty}^{\Theta} \Lambda_L$  if  $v \in \partial_{-\infty}^{\Theta} \Lambda_L$ , and set  $\hat{v} = 0$  otherwise.

If  $\Phi \subset \Theta \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ , we consider  $\ell^2(\Phi) \subset \ell^2(\Theta)$  by extending functions on  $\Phi$  to functions on  $\Theta$  that are identically 0 on  $\Theta \setminus \Phi$ . We have

$$H_{\Theta} = H_{\Phi} \oplus H_{\Theta \backslash \Phi} + \Gamma_{\partial^{\Theta} \Phi} \quad \text{on} \quad \ell^{2}(\Theta) = \ell^{2}(\Phi) \oplus \ell^{2}(\Theta \backslash \Phi),$$
where 
$$\Gamma_{\partial^{\Theta} \Phi}(u, v) = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if either } (u, v) \text{ or } (v, u) \in \partial^{\Theta} \Phi \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$
(2.5)

Given  $J \subset \mathbb{R}$ , we set  $\sigma_J(H_{\Theta}) = \sigma(H_{\Theta}) \cap J$  and  $\widetilde{\sigma}_J(H_{\Theta}) = \widetilde{\sigma}(H_{\Theta}) \cap J$ .

A function  $\psi \colon \Theta \to \mathbb{C}$  is called a generalized eigenfunction for  $H_{\Theta}$  with generalized eigenvalue  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , and  $(\psi, \lambda)$  is called a generalized eigenpair for  $H_{\Theta}$ , if  $\psi$  is not identically zero and

$$\langle (H_{\Theta} - \lambda)\varphi, \psi \rangle = 0$$
 for all  $\varphi \in \ell^2(\Theta)$  with finite support. (2.6)

**Lemma 2.1.** Let  $\Theta \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$  and let  $(\psi, \lambda)$  be a generalized eigenpair for  $H_{\Theta}$ . Let  $\Phi \subset \Theta$  finite,  $\eta > 0$ , and suppose

$$\operatorname{dist}(\lambda, \sigma(H_{\Phi})) \ge \eta. \tag{2.7}$$

Then for all  $y \in \Phi$  we have

$$|\psi(y)| \le 2d\eta^{-1} \left|\partial_{\mathrm{ex}}^{\Theta}\Phi\right|^{\frac{1}{2}} |\psi(y_1)| \quad \text{for some} \quad y_1 \in \partial_{\mathrm{ex}}^{\Theta}\Phi.$$
 (2.8)

The estimate (2.8) also holds (trivially) for  $y \in \partial_{ex}^{\Theta} \Phi$  if  $2d\eta^{-1} \ge 1$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\{(\varphi_{\nu}, \nu)\}_{\nu \in \widetilde{\sigma}(H_{\Phi})}$  be an eigensystem for  $H_{\Phi}$ . If  $\nu \in \widetilde{\sigma}(H_{\Phi})$ , we have  $|\lambda - \nu| \geq \eta$  by (2.7). Since  $\Phi$  is finite, using (2.6) and (2.5) we get

$$\langle \varphi_{\nu}, \psi \rangle = (\lambda - \nu)^{-1} \langle (H_{\Theta} - \nu) \varphi_{\nu}, \psi \rangle = (\lambda - \nu)^{-1} \langle (H_{\Theta} - H_{\Phi}) \varphi_{\nu}, \psi \rangle$$
$$= (\lambda - \nu)^{-1} \langle \varphi_{\nu}, \Gamma_{\partial \Phi} \psi \rangle. \tag{2.9}$$

It follows that for  $y \in \Phi$  we have

$$\psi(y) = \langle \delta_{y}, \psi \rangle = \left\langle \delta_{y}, \sum_{\nu \in \widetilde{\sigma}(H_{\Phi})} \langle \varphi_{\nu}, \psi \rangle \varphi_{\nu} \right\rangle$$

$$= \left\langle \delta_{y}, \sum_{\nu \in \widetilde{\sigma}(H_{\Phi})} (\lambda - \nu)^{-1} \langle \varphi_{\nu}, \Gamma_{\partial} \Theta_{\Phi} \psi \rangle \varphi_{\nu} \right\rangle$$

$$= \left\langle \delta_{y}, \sum_{\nu \in \widetilde{\sigma}(H_{\Phi})} (\lambda - \nu)^{-1} \langle \varphi_{\nu}, \chi_{\Phi} \Gamma_{\partial} \Theta_{\Phi} \psi \rangle \varphi_{\nu} \right\rangle$$

$$= \left\langle \delta_{y}, (\lambda - H_{\Phi})^{-1} \sum_{\nu \in \widetilde{\sigma}(H_{\Phi})} \left\langle \varphi_{\nu}, \chi_{\Phi} \Gamma_{\partial \Phi} \psi \right\rangle \varphi_{\nu} \right\rangle$$
$$= \left\langle \delta_{y}, (\lambda - H_{\Phi})^{-1} \chi_{\Phi} \Gamma_{\partial \Phi} \psi \right\rangle. \tag{2.10}$$

Using (2.7), we get

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi(y)| &\leq \eta^{-1} \|\chi_{\Phi} \Gamma_{\partial^{\Theta} \Phi} \psi\| = \eta^{-1} \|\chi_{\Phi} \Gamma_{\partial^{\Theta} \Phi} \chi_{\partial^{\Theta}_{\text{ex}} \Phi} \psi\| \leq 2d\eta^{-1} \|\chi_{\partial^{\Theta}_{\text{ex}} \Phi} \psi\| \\ &\leq 2d\eta^{-1} \left|\partial^{\Theta}_{\text{ex}} \Phi\right|^{\frac{1}{2}} |\psi(y_{1})| \quad \text{for some} \quad y_{1} \in \partial^{\Theta}_{\text{ex}} \Phi. \end{aligned}$$
 (2.11)

For the interval I = I(E, A) and L > 1, we set

$$I_L = I(E, A(1 - L^{-\kappa})) \subsetneq I = I(E, A) \subsetneq I^L = (E, A(1 - L^{-\kappa})^{-1}).$$
 (2.12)

We write  $I_L^{L'} = \left(I_L\right)^{L'} = \left(I^{L'}\right)_L$ , and observe that  $I_L^L = I$ . Note that

$$h_I(t) \ge 1 - (1 - L^{-\kappa})^2 \ge L^{-\kappa} \text{ for all } t \in I_L, \text{ so } h_I \chi_{I_L} \ge L^{-\kappa} \chi_{I_L}.$$
(2.13)

### 2.2. Localizing Boxes

The following lemma plays a crucial role in the multiscale analysis. It says that given an eigenpair  $(\psi, \lambda)$  for  $H_{\Theta}$  and a box  $\Lambda_{\ell} \subset \Theta$  with  $\lambda \in I_{\ell}$  not too close to the eigenvalues of  $H_{\Lambda_{\ell}}$ , then  $\psi$  is exponentially small deep inside  $\Lambda_{\ell}$  if the box  $\Lambda_{\ell}$  is (m, I)-localizing for H.

If  $\Lambda_{\ell}$  is an (m, I)-localizing box,  $\{(\varphi_{\nu}, \nu)\}_{\nu \in \widetilde{\sigma}(H_{\Lambda_{\ell}})}$  will denote an (m, I)-localized eigensystem for  $H_{\Lambda_{\ell}}$ . If  $\Lambda_{\ell} \subset \Theta \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ ,  $J \subset I$  and t > 0, we set

$$\widetilde{\sigma}_{J}^{\Theta,t}(H_{\Lambda_{\ell}}) = \left\{ \nu \in \widetilde{\sigma}_{J}(H_{\Lambda_{\ell}}); \ x_{\nu} \in \Lambda_{\ell}^{\Theta,t} \right\}. \tag{2.14}$$

Given a scale  $\ell \geq 1$ , we set  $L = \ell^{\gamma}$ . The exponent  $\tilde{\tau}$  is defined in (A.3). We use the notation  $L_{\tau} = \lfloor L^{\tau} \rfloor$  and  $L_{\tilde{\tau}} = \lfloor L^{\tilde{\tau}} \rfloor$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** Let  $\psi \colon \Theta \subset \mathbb{Z}^d \to \mathbb{C}$  be a generalized eigenfunction for  $H_{\Theta}$  with generalized eigenvalue  $\lambda \in I_{\ell}$ . Consider a box  $\Lambda_{\ell} \subset \Theta$  such that  $\Lambda_{\ell}$  is (m, I)-localizing for H. Suppose

$$\operatorname{dist}(\lambda, \sigma_I(H_{\Lambda_\ell})) \ge \frac{1}{2} e^{-L^{\beta}}.$$
 (2.15)

Then, if  $\ell$  is sufficiently large, for all  $y \in \Lambda_{\ell}^{\Theta, \ell_{\tilde{\tau}}}$  we have

$$|\psi(y)| \le e^{-m_3 h_I(\lambda) R_{\Theta}(y)} |\psi(v)| \quad \text{for some} \quad v \in \partial_{\text{ex}}^{\Theta} \Lambda_{\ell},$$
 (2.16)

where

$$m_3 = m_3(\ell) \ge m \left(1 - C_d \ell^{-\frac{1-\tau}{2}}\right).$$
 (2.17)

Lemma 2.2 resembles [17, Lemma 3.4], but the hypothesis (2.15) is stronger than the corresponding hypothesis [17, Eq. (3.24)], so the proof is slightly easier, and the conclusions are slightly stronger. The main issue in the proof is the same: the hypothesis that the box  $\Lambda_{\ell} \subset \Theta$  is (m, I)-localizing only gives decay for eigenfunctions with eigenvalues in I. To compensate, we take  $\lambda \in I_{\ell}$ , and use [17, Lemmas 3.2 and 3.3].

Proof (Proof of Lemma 2.2).

Given  $y \in \Lambda_{\ell}$  and t > 0, it follows from [17, Lemma 3.2(i)] that

$$\psi(y) = \left\langle e^{-t\left(\left(H_{\Lambda_{\ell}} - E\right)^{2} - (\lambda - E)^{2}\right)} \delta_{y}, \psi \right\rangle - \left\langle F_{t,\lambda - E}(H_{\Lambda_{\ell}} - E) \delta_{y}, \Gamma_{\partial \Theta_{\Lambda_{\ell}}} \psi \right\rangle,$$
(2.18)

where  $\Gamma_{\partial^{\Theta}\Phi}$  is defined in (2.5) and  $F_{t,\lambda}(z)$  is the entire function given by

$$F_{t,\lambda}(z) = \frac{1 - e^{-t(z^2 - \lambda^2)}}{z - \lambda}$$
 for  $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{\lambda\}$  and  $F_{t,\lambda}(\lambda) = 2t\lambda$ . (2.19)

We take E=0 by replacing the potential V by V-E. Setting  $P_I=\chi_I(H_{\Lambda_\ell})$  and  $\bar{P}_I=1-P_I$ , we have

$$\left\langle e^{-t\left(H_{\Lambda_{\ell}}^{2}-\lambda^{2}\right)}\delta_{y},\psi\right\rangle = \left\langle e^{-t\left(H_{\Lambda_{\ell}}^{2}-\lambda^{2}\right)}P_{I}\delta_{y},\psi\right\rangle + \left\langle e^{-t\left(H_{\Lambda_{\ell}}^{2}-\lambda^{2}\right)}\bar{P}_{I}\delta_{y},\psi\right\rangle. \tag{2.20}$$

It follows from [17, Lemma 3.3] that

$$\left| \left\langle e^{-t \left( H_{\Lambda_{\ell}}^{2} - \lambda^{2} \right)} \bar{P}_{I} \delta_{y}, \psi \right\rangle \right| \leq \left\| \chi_{\Lambda_{\ell}} \psi \right\| \left\| e^{-t \left( H_{\Lambda_{\ell}}^{2} - \lambda^{2} \right)} \bar{P}_{I} \right\|$$

$$\leq (\ell + 1)^{\frac{d}{2}} e^{-t A^{2} h_{I}(\lambda)} \left| \psi(v) \right|, \qquad (2.21)$$

for some  $v \in \Lambda_{\ell}$ . Estimating  $|\psi(v)|$  by Lemma 2.1, we get

$$\left| \left\langle e^{-t \left( H_{\Lambda_{\ell}}^{2} - \lambda^{2} \right)} \bar{P}_{I} \delta_{y}, \psi \right\rangle \right| \leq 4d \left( s_{d} \ell^{d-1} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} (\ell+1)^{\frac{d}{2}} e^{L^{\beta}} e^{-tA^{2} h_{I}(\lambda)} \left| \psi(v_{0}) \right|$$

$$\leq e^{2L^{\beta}} e^{-tA^{2} h_{I}(\lambda)} \left| \psi(v_{0}) \right|, \quad \text{for some} \quad v_{0} \in \partial_{\text{ex}}^{\Theta} \Lambda_{\ell}.$$

$$(2.22)$$

We now use the fact that  $\Lambda_\ell$  is (m,I)-localizing for H, so it has an (m,I)-localized eigensystem  $\{\varphi_{\nu},\nu\}_{\nu\in\widetilde{\sigma}(H_{\Lambda_\ell})}$ , and write

$$\left\langle e^{-t\left(H_{\Lambda_{\ell}}^{2}-\lambda^{2}\right)} P_{I} \delta_{y}, \psi \right\rangle = \sum_{\nu \in \widetilde{\sigma}_{I}(\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda_{\ell}})} e^{-t(\nu^{2}-\lambda^{2})} \varphi_{\nu}(y) \left\langle \varphi_{\nu}, \psi \right\rangle. \tag{2.23}$$

If  $\nu \in \widetilde{\sigma}_I(H_{\Lambda_\ell})$ , we have  $|\lambda - \nu| \ge \frac{1}{2} e^{-L^{\beta}}$  by (2.15). Since  $\Lambda_\ell$  is finite, (2.6) gives

$$\langle \varphi_{\nu}, \psi \rangle = (\lambda - \nu)^{-1} \langle (H_{\Theta} - \nu) \varphi_{\nu}, \psi \rangle.$$
 (2.24)

It follows from [16, Eq. (3.12) in Lemma 3.2] that

$$|\varphi_{\nu}(y)\langle\varphi_{\nu},\psi\rangle| \le 2e^{L^{\beta}} \sum_{v\in\partial^{\Theta}\Lambda_{\ell}} |\varphi_{\nu}(y)\varphi_{\nu}(\hat{v})| |\psi(v)|.$$
 (2.25)

We now assume  $y \in \Lambda_{\ell}^{\Theta,\ell_{\tilde{\tau}}}$ , so  $R_{\Theta}(y) \geq \ell_{\tilde{\tau}}$ . For  $\nu \in \widetilde{\sigma}_{I}^{\Theta,\ell_{\tau}}(H_{\Lambda_{\ell}})$  and  $v' \in \partial_{\text{in}}^{\Theta} \Lambda_{\ell}$ , we have, as in [16, Eq. (3.41)],

$$|\varphi_{\nu}(y)\varphi_{\nu}(v')| \le e^{-m'_1 h_I(\nu)R_{\Theta}(y)} \quad \text{with} \quad m'_1 \ge m(1 - 2\ell^{\frac{\tau - 1}{2}}), \quad (2.26)$$

so, as in [16, Eq. (3.44)], for  $\nu \in \widetilde{\sigma}_I^{\Theta, \ell_\tau}(H_{\Lambda_\ell})$  we have

$$|\varphi_{\nu}(y)\langle\varphi_{\nu},\psi\rangle| \leq 2e^{L^{\beta}} s_{d} \ell^{d-1} e^{-m'_{1}h_{I}(\nu)R_{\Theta}(y)} |\psi(v_{1})|$$

$$\leq e^{2L^{\beta}} e^{-m'_{1}h_{I}(\nu)R_{\Theta}(y)} |\psi(v_{1})|, \qquad (2.27)$$

for some  $v_1 \in \partial_{\mathrm{ex}}^{\Theta} \Lambda_{\ell}$ . If  $\nu \in \widetilde{\sigma}_I(H_{\Lambda_{\ell}})$  with  $x_{\nu} \in \partial_{\mathrm{in}}^{\Theta, \ell_{\tau}} \Lambda_{\ell}$ , we have

$$||x_{\nu} - y|| \ge R_{\Theta}(y) - \ell_{\tau} \ge R_{\Theta}(y) \left(1 - 2\ell^{\tau - \tilde{\tau}}\right) = R_{\Theta}(y) \left(1 - 2\ell^{\frac{\tau - 1}{2}}\right),$$
(2.28)

so

$$|\varphi_{\nu}(y) \langle \varphi_{\nu}, \psi \rangle| \le e^{-mh_I(\nu)||x_{\nu} - y||} ||\chi_{\Lambda} \psi||$$

$$\leq e^{-mh_{I}(\nu)R_{\Theta}(y)\left(1-2\ell^{\frac{\tau-1}{2}}\right)} (\ell+1)^{\frac{d}{2}} |\psi(v_{2})| \leq (\ell+1)^{\frac{d}{2}} e^{-m'_{1}h_{I}(\nu)R_{\Theta}(y)} |\psi(v_{2})|, \tag{2.29}$$

for some  $v_2 \in \Lambda_\ell$ , where  $m_1'$  is given in (2.26). It follows that for all  $\nu \in \widetilde{\sigma}_I(H_{\Lambda_\ell})$  we have

$$e^{-t(\nu^2 - \lambda^2)} |\varphi_{\nu}(y) \langle \varphi_{\nu}, \psi \rangle| \le e^{2L^{\beta}} e^{-t(\nu^2 - \lambda^2)} e^{-m'_1 h_I(\nu) R_{\Theta}(y)} |\psi(v)|,$$
 (2.30)

for some  $v \in \Lambda_{\ell} \cup \in \partial_{\mathrm{ex}}^{\Theta} \Lambda_{\ell}$ .

We now take

$$t = \frac{m_1' R_{\Theta}(y)}{A^2} \implies e^{-t(\nu^2 - \lambda^2)} e^{-m_1' h_I(\nu) R_{\Theta}(y)} = e^{-m_1' h_I(\lambda) R_{\Theta}(y)} \text{ for } \nu \in I,$$
(2.31)

obtaining

$$\left| \left\langle e^{-\frac{m'_1 R_{\Theta}(y)}{A^2} \left( H_{\Lambda_{\ell}}^2 - \lambda^2 \right)} P_I \delta_y, \psi \right\rangle \right| \leq (\ell + 1)^d e^{2L^{\beta}} e^{-m'_1 h_I(\lambda) R_{\Theta}(y)} |\psi(v)| 
\leq 4d \left( s_d \ell^{d-1} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} (\ell + 1)^d e^{3L^{\beta}} e^{-m'_1 h_I(\lambda) R_{\Theta}(y)} |\psi(v')| 
\leq e^{4L^{\beta}} e^{-m'_1 h_I(\lambda) R_{\Theta}(y)} |\psi(v')|,$$
(2.32)

for some  $v \in \Lambda_{\ell} \cup \partial_{\text{ex}}^{\Theta} \Lambda_{\ell}$ , and then for some  $v' \in \partial_{\text{ex}}^{\Theta} \Lambda_{\ell}$  using Lemma 2.1. Combining (2.20), (2.22) and (2.32) yields

$$\left| \left\langle e^{-\frac{m_1' R_{\Theta}(y)}{A^2} \left( H_{\Lambda_{\ell}}^2 - \lambda^2 \right)} \delta_y, \psi \right\rangle \right| \le 2e^{4L^{\beta}} e^{-m_1' h_I(\lambda) R_{\Theta}(y)} \left| \psi(v) \right|, \tag{2.33}$$

for some  $v \in \partial_{\mathrm{ex}}^{\Theta} \Lambda_{\ell}$ .

We now use [17, Lemma 3.2(ii)] (it follows from (1.8) that  $\frac{\ell^{-\kappa'}}{2} < m_1' \le m \le \frac{1}{2} \log \left(1 + \frac{A}{4d}\right)$ ), getting

$$\left| \left\langle F_{\frac{m_1' R_{\Theta}(y)}{A^2}, \lambda}(H_{\Lambda}) \delta_y, \Gamma_{\partial} \Theta_{\Lambda_{\ell}} \psi \right\rangle \right| \leq 70 s_d \ell^{d-1} A^{-1} e^{-m_1' h_I(\lambda) R_{\Theta}(y)} |\psi(v)|,$$

$$(2.34)$$

for some  $v \in \partial_{\text{ex}}^{\Theta} \Lambda_{\ell}$ . We conclude from (2.33) and (2.34) that

$$|\psi(y)| \leq C_d \left( \ell^{d-1+\kappa'} + e^{4L^{\beta}} \right) e^{-m'_1 h_I(\lambda) R_{\Theta}(y)} |\psi(v)|$$

$$\leq C'_d e^{4L^{\beta}} e^{-m'_1 h_I(\lambda) R_{\Theta}(y)} |\psi(v)|$$

$$\leq e^{-m_3 h_I(\lambda) R_{\Theta}(y)} |\psi(v')| \text{ for some } v \in \partial_{\text{ex}}^{\Theta} \Lambda_{\ell}, \tag{2.35}$$

where, using  $h_I(\lambda) \geq \ell^{-\kappa}$  since  $\lambda \in I_\ell$ , we have

$$m_3 \ge m \left( 1 - C_d \ell^{-\min\left\{\tilde{\tau} - \gamma\beta - \kappa - \kappa', \frac{1-\tau}{2}\right\}} \right) = m \left( 1 - C_d \ell^{-\frac{1-\tau}{2}} \right). \tag{2.36}$$

#### 2.3. Buffered Subsets

The probability estimates of a multiscale analysis do not allow all boxes to be localizing, so we must control non-localizing boxes. If a box  $\Lambda_{\ell} \subset \Lambda_{L}$  is not (m, I)-localizing for H, we will add a buffer of (m, I)-localizing boxes and study eigensystems for the enlarged subset.

**Definition 2.3.** We call  $\Upsilon \subset \Lambda_L$  an (m, I)-buffered subset of the box  $\Lambda_L$  if the following holds:

(i)  $\Upsilon$  is a connected set in  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  of the form

$$\Upsilon = \bigcup_{j=1}^{J} \Lambda_{R_j}(a_j) \cap \Lambda_L, \tag{2.37}$$

where  $J \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_J \in \Lambda_L^{\mathbb{R}}$ , and  $\ell \leq R_j \leq L$  for  $j = 1, 2, \ldots, J$ .

- (ii) There exists  $\mathcal{G}_{\Upsilon} \subset \Lambda_L^{\mathbb{R}}$  such that:
  - (a)  $\Lambda_{\ell}(a) \subset \Lambda_L$  for all  $a \in \mathcal{G}_{\Upsilon}$  and  $\{\Lambda_{\ell}(a)\}_{a \in \mathcal{G}_{\Upsilon}}$  is a collection of (m, I)-localizing boxes for H.
  - (b) For all  $y \in \partial_{\text{in}}^{\Lambda_L} \Upsilon$  there exists  $a_y \in \mathcal{G}_{\Upsilon}$  such that  $y \in \Lambda_{\ell}^{\Lambda_L, \ell_{\tilde{\tau}}}(a_y)$ .

This definition of a buffered subset has subtle but important differences from [17, Definition 3.6], in addition to not requiring level spacing conditions. Definition 2.3(ii) requires  $\Lambda_{\ell}(a) \subset \Lambda_L$  and  $y \in \Lambda_{\ell}^{\Lambda_L,\ell_{\tilde{\tau}}}(a_y)$ , while the corresponding [17, Definition 3.6](iii) has  $\Lambda_{\ell}(a) \subset \Upsilon$  and  $y \in \Lambda_{\ell}^{\Upsilon,2\ell_{\tau}}(a_y)$ .

In the multiscale analysis, we control the effect of buffered subsets using the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.4.** Let  $\Lambda_L = \Lambda_L(x_0)$ ,  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , and let  $(\psi, \lambda)$  be an eigenpair for  $H_{\Lambda_L}$  with  $\lambda \in I_\ell$ . Let  $\Upsilon \subseteq \Lambda_L$  be an (m, I)-buffered subset, and suppose

$$\operatorname{dist}(\lambda, \sigma_I(H_{\Upsilon})) \ge \frac{1}{2} e^{-L^{\beta}} \quad and \quad \min_{a \in \mathcal{G}_{\Upsilon}} \operatorname{dist}(\lambda, \sigma_I(H_{\Lambda_{\ell}(a)})) \ge \frac{1}{2} e^{-L^{\beta}}.$$
(2.38)

Then for all  $y \in \Upsilon$  we have

$$|\psi(y)| \le e^{-\frac{m_3}{2}h_I(\lambda)\ell_{\tilde{\tau}}} |\psi(y_1)| \quad \text{for some} \quad y_1 \in \bigcup_{a \in \mathcal{G}_{\Upsilon}} \partial_{\text{ex}}^{\Lambda_L} \Lambda_{\ell}(a),$$
 (2.39)

where  $m_3 = m_3(\ell)$  is as in (2.17).

*Proof.* Let  $y \in \Upsilon$ . In view of (2.38) it follows from Lemma 2.1 that

$$|\psi(y)| \le 4de^{L^{\beta}} |\partial_{\mathrm{ex}}^{\Lambda_L} \Upsilon| |\psi(y_1)| \quad \text{for some} \quad y_1 \in \partial_{\mathrm{ex}}^{\Lambda_L} \Upsilon.$$
 (2.40)

Let  $a_1 \in \mathcal{G}_{\Upsilon}$  be such that  $y_1 \in \Lambda_{\ell}^{\Lambda_L, \ell_{\tilde{\tau}}}(a_1)$ . It then follows from (2.38) and (2.16) in Lemma 2.2 that

$$|\psi(y_1)| \le e^{-m_3 h_I(\lambda)\ell_{\tilde{\tau}}} |\psi(y_2)|$$
 for some  $y_2 \in \partial_{\text{ex}}^{\Lambda_L} \Lambda_{\ell}(a_1)$ . (2.41)

Since  $|\Upsilon| \leq |\Lambda_L| \leq (L+1)^d$  and  $|\partial_{\text{ex}}^{\Lambda_L} \Upsilon| \leq 2d |\Upsilon| \leq 2d(L+1)^d$ , and we have (2.13) as  $\lambda \in I_\ell$ , we get

$$|\psi(y)| \le 8d^2(L+1)^d e^{L^\beta} e^{-m_3 h_I(\lambda)\ell_{\tilde{\tau}}} |\psi(y_3)| \le e^{-\frac{m_3}{2} h_I(\lambda)\ell_{\tilde{\tau}}},$$
 (2.42)

for some  $y_3 \in \bigcup_{a \in G_{\Sigma}} \partial_{\text{ex}}^{\Lambda_L} \Lambda_{\ell}(a)$ , if L is sufficiently large.

## 3. Spectral Separation

We recall the Wegner estimate for the Anderson model as in Definition 1.1 (see, e.g., [8, Appendix A]).

**Lemma 3.1.** Let  $H_{\omega}$  be an Anderson model. Let  $\Theta \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ . Then, for all  $E \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\operatorname{dist}\left\{E, \sigma(H_{\Theta, \omega})\right\} \le \eta\right\} \le \widetilde{K}\eta^{\alpha} |\Theta|, \tag{3.1}$$

where with  $\widetilde{K} = 2K$  if  $\alpha = 1$  and  $\widetilde{K} = 82^{\alpha}K$  if  $\alpha \in (0,1)$ .

**Definition 3.2.** Let R > 0. Two finite sets  $\Theta, \Theta' \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$  will be called R-separated for H if dist  $\{\sigma(H_{\Theta}), \sigma(H_{\Theta'})\} \geq e^{-R^{\beta}}$ , i.e.,  $|\lambda - \lambda'| \geq e^{-R^{\beta}}$  for all  $\lambda \in \sigma(H_{\Theta})$  and  $\lambda' \in \sigma(H_{\Theta'})$ .

**Definition 3.3.** Let  $\Theta \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$  and R > 0. A family  $\{\Phi_j\}_{j \in J}$  of finite subsets of  $\Theta$  is called R-separated for H if  $\Phi_j$  and  $\Phi_{j'}$  are R-separated for H for all  $j, j' \in J$  such that  $\Phi_j \cap \Phi_{j'} = \emptyset$ .

Lemma 3.1 implies the Wegner estimate for R-separated sets (see, e.g., [26, Lemma 5.28]).

**Lemma 3.4.** Let  $H_{\omega}$  be an Anderson model. Let  $\Theta, \Theta' \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$  with  $\Theta \cap \Theta' = \emptyset$ . Then, for all  $0 < \eta$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\operatorname{dist}\left\{\sigma(H_{\Theta}), \sigma(H_{\Theta'})\right\} \le \eta\right\} \le \widetilde{K}\eta^{\alpha} \left|\Theta\right| \left|\Theta'\right|. \tag{3.2}$$

In particular,

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\Theta,\Theta' \text{ are } R\text{-separated for } H\right\} \ge 1 - \widetilde{K}e^{-\alpha R^{\beta}} \left|\Theta\right| \left|\Theta'\right|. \tag{3.3}$$

## 4. Eigensystem Multiscale Analysis

In this section we fix an Anderson model  $H_{\omega}$  and prove Theorem 1.4.

The following is an extension of Definition 1.3.

**Definition 4.1.** Let  $J = I(E, B) \subset I = I(E, A)$  be bounded open intervals with the same center. A box  $\Lambda_L$  will be called (m, J, I)-localizing for H if

$$L^{-\kappa'} \le m \le \frac{1}{2} \log \left( 1 + \frac{B}{4d} \right), \tag{4.1}$$

and there exists an (m, J, I)-localized eigensystem for  $H_{\Lambda_L}$ , that is, an eigensystem  $\{(\varphi_{\nu}, \nu)\}_{\nu \in \widetilde{\sigma}(H_{\Lambda_L})}$  for  $H_{\Lambda_L}$  such that for all  $\nu \in \widetilde{\sigma}(H_{\Lambda_L})$  there is  $x_{\nu} \in \Lambda_L$  so  $\varphi_{\nu}$  is  $(x_{\nu}, m\chi_J(\nu)h_I(\nu))$ -localized.

Note that (m, I, I)-localizing/localized is the same as (m, I)-localizing/localized. If  $\Lambda_L$  is (m, J, I)-localizing for H it is also (m, J)-localizing for H as  $\chi_J h_I \geq h_J$ .

**Proposition 4.2.** There exists a finite scale  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}(d)$  with the following property: Suppose for some scale  $L_0 \geq \mathcal{L}$  and interval  $I_0 = I(E, A_0)$  we have

$$\inf_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} \mathbb{P}\left\{\Lambda_{L_0}(x) \text{ is } (m_0, I_0) \text{-localizing for } H_{\omega}\right\} \ge 1 - e^{-L_0^{\zeta}}.$$
 (4.2)

Set  $L_{k+1} = L_k^{\gamma}$ ,  $A_{k+1} = A_k(1 - L_k^{-\kappa})$ , and  $I_{k+1} = I(E, A_{k+1})$ , for k = 0, 1, ...Then for all k = 1, 2, ... we have

$$\inf_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} \mathbb{P}\left\{ \Lambda_{L_k}(x) \text{ is } (m_k, I_k, I_{k-1}) \text{-localizing for } H_{\omega} \right\} \ge 1 - e^{-L_k^{\zeta}}, \tag{4.3}$$

where

$$L_k^{-\kappa'} < m_{k-1} \left( 1 - C_d L_{k-1}^{-\varrho} \right) \le m_k < \frac{1}{2} \log \left( 1 + \frac{A_k}{4d} \right).$$
 (4.4)

The proof of Proposition 4.2 relies on the following lemma, the induction step for the multiscale analysis.

**Lemma 4.3.** Let I = (E, A). Suppose for some scale  $\ell$  we have

$$\inf_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} \mathbb{P} \left\{ \Lambda_{\ell}(x) \text{ is } (m, I) \text{-localizing for } H_{\omega} \right\} \ge 1 - e^{-\ell^{\zeta}}. \tag{4.5}$$

Then, if  $\ell$  is sufficiently large, we have (recall  $L = \ell^{\gamma}$ )

$$\inf_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} \mathbb{P}\left\{\Lambda_L(x) \text{ is } (M, I_\ell, I) \text{-localizing for } H_\omega\right\} \ge 1 - e^{-L^\zeta}, \tag{4.6}$$

where

$$L^{-\kappa'} < m \left( 1 - C_d \ell^{-\varrho} \right) \le M < \frac{1}{2} \log \left( 1 + \frac{A(1 - \ell^{-\kappa})}{4d} \right).$$
 (4.7)

*Proof.* To prove the lemma we proceed as in [17, Proof of Lemma 4.2], with several modifications.

We assume (4.5) for a scale  $\ell$ . We take  $\Lambda_L = \Lambda(x_0)$ , where  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , and let  $\mathcal{C}_{L,\ell} = \mathcal{C}_{L,\ell}(x_0)$  be the suitable  $\ell$ -cover of  $\Lambda_L$  with  $\varsigma$  as in (A.7) (see Appendix B). Given  $a, b \in \Xi_{L,\ell}$ , we will say that the boxes  $\Lambda_{\ell}(a)$  and  $\Lambda_{\ell}(b)$  are

disjoint if and only if  $\Lambda_{\ell}^{\mathbb{R}}(a) \cap \Lambda_{\ell}^{\mathbb{R}}(b) = \emptyset$ , that is, if and only if  $||a - b|| \ge k_{\ell} \rho \ell^{\varsigma}$  (see Remark B.3). We take (recall (A.3))

$$N = N_{\ell} = \left| \ell^{(\gamma - 1)\tilde{\zeta}} \right|, \tag{4.8}$$

and let  $\mathcal{B}_N$  denote the event that there exist at most N disjoint boxes in  $\mathcal{C}_{L,\ell}$  that are not (m, I)-localizing for  $H_{\omega}$ . For sufficiently large  $\ell$ , we have, using (B.5), (4.5), and the fact that events on disjoint boxes are independent, that

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\mathcal{B}_{N}^{c}\right\} \leq \left(\frac{2L}{\ell^{\varsigma}}\right)^{(N+1)d} e^{-(N+1)\ell^{\varsigma}} = 2^{(N+1)d} \ell^{(\gamma-\varsigma)(N+1)d} e^{-(N+1)\ell^{\varsigma}} < \frac{1}{2} e^{-L^{\varsigma}}. \tag{4.9}$$

We now fix  $\omega \in \mathcal{B}_N$ . There exists  $\mathcal{A}_N = \mathcal{A}_N(\omega) \subset \Xi_{L,\ell} = \Xi_{L,\ell}(x_0)$  such that  $|\mathcal{A}_N| \leq N$  and  $||a - b|| \geq k_\ell \rho \ell^\varsigma$  if  $a, b \in \mathcal{A}_N$  and  $a \neq b$ , with the following property: if  $a \in \Xi_{L,\ell}$  with  $\operatorname{dist}(a, \mathcal{A}_N) \geq k_\ell \rho \ell^\varsigma$ , so  $\Lambda_\ell^{\mathbb{R}}(a) \cap \Lambda_\ell^{\mathbb{R}}(b) = \emptyset$  for all  $b \in \mathcal{A}_N$ , the box  $\Lambda_\ell(a)$  is (m, I)-localizing for  $H_\omega$ . In other words,

$$a \in \Xi_{L,\ell} \setminus \bigcup_{b \in \mathcal{A}_N} \Lambda_{2(k_\ell - 1)\rho\ell^\varsigma}^{\mathbb{R}}(b) \implies \Lambda_\ell(a) \text{ is } (m, I)\text{-localizing for } H_\omega.$$

$$(4.10)$$

We want to embed the boxes  $\{\Lambda_{\ell}(b)\}_{b\in\mathcal{A}_N}$  into (m,I)-buffered subsets of  $\Lambda_L$ . To do so, we consider graphs  $\mathbb{G}_i=(\Xi_{L,\ell},\mathbb{E}_i),\ i=1,2$ , both having  $\Xi_{L,\ell}$  as the set of vertices, with sets of edges given by

$$\mathbb{E}_{1} = \left\{ \{a, b\} \in \Xi_{L,\ell}^{2}; \ 0 < \|a - b\| \le (k_{\ell} - 1)\rho\ell^{\varsigma} \right\} 
= \left\{ \{a, b\} \in \Xi_{L,\ell}^{2}; \ a \ne b \text{ and } \Lambda_{\ell}^{\mathbb{R}}(a) \cap \Lambda_{\ell}^{\mathbb{R}}(b) \ne \emptyset \right\}, 
\mathbb{E}_{2} = \left\{ \{a, b\} \in \Xi_{L,\ell}^{2}; \ k_{\ell}\rho\ell^{\varsigma} \le \|a - b\| \le (3k_{\ell} - 1)\rho\ell^{\varsigma} \right\} 
= \left\{ \{a, b\} \in \Xi_{L,\ell}^{2}; \ \Lambda_{\ell}^{\mathbb{R}}(a) \cap \Lambda_{\ell}^{\mathbb{R}}(b) = \emptyset \text{ and } \Lambda_{2k_{\ell}\rho\ell^{\varsigma} + \ell}^{\mathbb{R}}(a) \cap \Lambda_{2k_{\ell}\rho\ell^{\varsigma} + \ell}^{\mathbb{R}}(b) \ne \emptyset \right\}.$$
(4.11)

Given  $\Psi \subset \Xi_{L,\ell}$ , we let  $\overline{\Psi} = \Psi \cup \partial_{\mathrm{ex}}^{\mathbb{G}_1} \Psi$ , where  $\partial_{\mathrm{ex}}^{\mathbb{G}_1} \Psi$ , the exterior boundary of  $\Psi$  in the graph  $\mathbb{G}_1$ , is defined by

$$\partial_{\text{ex}}^{\mathbb{G}_1} \Psi = \{ a \in \Xi_{L,\ell} \setminus \Psi; \ \text{dist}(a, \Psi) \le (k_{\ell} - 1)\rho \ell^{\varsigma} \}$$

$$= \{ a \in \Xi_{L,\ell} \setminus \Psi; \ (b, a) \in \mathbb{E}_1 \text{ for some } b \in \Psi \}.$$

$$(4.12)$$

Let  $\Phi \subset \Xi_{L,\ell}$  be  $\mathbb{G}_2$ -connected, so diam  $\Phi \leq (3k_\ell - 1)\rho\ell^{\varsigma}$  ( $|\Phi| - 1$ ). (The diameter of a set  $\Xi \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  is given by diam  $\Xi = \sup_{x,y\in\Xi} \|y-x\|$ .) Then

$$\widetilde{\Phi} = \{ a \in \Xi_{L,\ell}; \operatorname{dist}(a, \Phi) \le k_{\ell} \rho \ell^{\varsigma} \}$$
(4.13)

is a  $\mathbb{G}_1$ -connected subset of  $\Xi_{L,\ell}$  such that

$$\operatorname{diam} \widetilde{\Phi} \leq \operatorname{diam} \Phi + 2k_{\ell} \rho \ell^{\varsigma} \leq ((3k_{\ell} - 1) |\Phi| - (k_{\ell} - 1)) \rho \ell^{\varsigma} \leq 5\ell |\Phi|.$$
(4.14)

We set

$$\Upsilon_{\Phi} = \bigcup_{a \in \widetilde{\Phi}} \Lambda_{\ell}(a) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{G}_{\Upsilon_{\Phi}} = \partial_{\text{ex}}^{\mathbb{G}_1} \widetilde{\Phi}.$$
(4.15)

Let  $\{\Phi_r\}_{r=1}^R = \{\Phi_r(\boldsymbol{\omega})\}_{r=1}^R$  denote the  $\mathbb{G}_2$ -connected components of  $\mathcal{A}_N$  (i.e., connected in the graph  $\mathbb{G}_2$ ); we have  $R \in \{1, 2, ..., N\}$  and  $\sum_{r=1}^R |\Phi_r| = |\mathcal{A}_N| \leq N$ . We conclude that  $\{\tilde{\Phi}_r\}_{r=1}^R$  is a collection of disjoint,  $\mathbb{G}_1$ -connected subsets of  $\Xi_{L,\ell}$ , such that

$$\operatorname{dist}(\widetilde{\Phi}_r, \widetilde{\Phi}_s) \ge k_{\ell} \rho \ell^{\varsigma} > \ell \quad \text{if} \quad r \ne s. \tag{4.16}$$

Moreover, it follows from (4.10) that

$$a \in \mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}(\omega) = \Xi_{L,\ell} \setminus \bigcup_{r=1}^{R} \widetilde{\Phi}_r \implies \Lambda_{\ell}(a) \text{ is } (m,I)\text{-localizing for } H_{\omega}.$$

$$(4.17)$$

In particular, we conclude that  $\Lambda_{\ell}(a)$  is (m, I)-localizing for  $H_{\omega}$  for all  $a \in \partial_{\mathrm{ex}}^{\mathbb{G}_1} \widetilde{\Phi}_r$ ,  $r = 1, 2, \ldots, R$ .

Each  $\Upsilon_r = \Upsilon_{\Phi_r}$ ,  $r = 1, 2, \ldots, R$ , clearly satisfies all the requirements to be an (m, I)-buffered subset of  $\Lambda_L$  with  $\mathcal{G}_{\Upsilon_r} = \partial_{\mathrm{ex}}^{\mathbb{G}_1} \widetilde{\Phi}_r$  (see Definition 2.3). Moreover the sets  $\{\Upsilon_r\}_{r=1}^R$  are disjoint. Note also that it follows from (4.14) that

$$\operatorname{diam} \Upsilon_r \le \operatorname{diam} \widetilde{\Phi}_r + \ell \le 5\ell |\Phi_r| + \ell \le 6\ell |\Phi_r|, \tag{4.18}$$

so, using (A.4), we have

$$\sum_{r=1}^{R} \operatorname{diam} \Upsilon_r \le 6\ell N \le 6\ell^{(\gamma-1)\tilde{\zeta}+1} \ll \ell^{\gamma\tau} = L^{\tau}. \tag{4.19}$$

Let

$$\mathbb{S}_{\omega} = \{\Lambda_{\ell}(a)\}_{a \in \mathcal{G}} \cup \{\Upsilon_r\}_{r=1}^R . \tag{4.20}$$

We can arrange for  $\mathbb{S}_{\omega}$  to be an L-separated family of subsets of  $\Lambda_L$  for H as follows. Let

$$\mathcal{F}_{N} = \bigcup_{r=1}^{N} \mathcal{F}(r), \text{ where } \mathcal{F}(r) = \{ \Phi \subset \Xi_{L,\ell}; \text{ } \Phi \text{ is } \mathbb{G}_{2}\text{-connected and } |\Phi| = r \}.$$

$$(4.21)$$

We set  $\widetilde{\mathbb{S}}_N = \{\Lambda_\ell(a)\}_{a \in \Xi_{L,\ell}} \cup \{\Upsilon_{\Phi}\}_{\Phi \in \mathcal{F}_N}$ . Given  $S_1, S_2 \in \widetilde{\mathbb{S}}_N$ ,  $S_1 \cap S_2 = \emptyset$ , it follows from Lemma 3.4 that

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{S_1 \text{ and } S_2 \text{ are not } L\text{-separated for } H_{\varepsilon,\omega}\right\} \leq \widetilde{K}e^{-\alpha L^{\beta}} \left(L+1\right)^{2d} \leq e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}L^{\beta}}.$$
(4.22)

We have  $|\Xi_{L,\ell}| \leq 2^d \ell^{(\gamma-\varsigma)d}$  from (B.5). Setting  $\mathcal{F}(r,a) = \{\Phi \in \mathcal{F}(r); a \in \Phi\}$  for  $a \in \Xi_{L,\ell}$ , and letting  $\kappa(a)$  denote the number of nearest neighbors of  $a \in \Xi_{L,\ell}$  in the graph  $\mathbb{G}_2$ , and noting that

$$\kappa(a) \le (2(3k_{\ell} - 1) + 1)^{d} - (2(3k_{\ell} - 2) + 1)^{d} \le d(2(3k_{\ell} - 1) + 1)^{d-1}$$

$$= d(6k_{\ell} - 1)^{d-1} \le d20^{d-1}\ell^{(1-\varsigma)(d-1)} \le \ell^{d-1}, \tag{4.23}$$

we get

$$|\mathcal{F}(r,a)| \le (r-1)!\ell^{(d-1)(r-1)} \implies |\mathcal{F}(r)| \le (L+1)^d (r-1)!\ell^{(d-1)(r-1)}$$
  
 $\implies |\mathcal{F}_N| \le (L+1)^d N!\ell^{(d-1)(N-1)}.$  (4.24)

Thus, we get

$$\left|\widetilde{\mathbb{S}}\right|_{N} \le 2^{d} \ell^{(\gamma-\varsigma)d} + (L+1)^{d} N! \ell^{(d-1)(N-1)} \le 2(L+1)^{d} N! \ell^{(d-1)(N-1)}. \tag{4.25}$$

Letting  $S_N$  denote that the event that  $\widetilde{\mathbb{S}}_N$  is an L-separated family of subsets of  $\Lambda_L$  for H, and taking  $N = N_\ell$  as in (4.8), we get

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\mathcal{S}_{N}^{c}\right\} \leq e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}L^{\beta}} 2(L+1)^{d} N_{\ell}! \ell^{(d-1)(N_{\ell}-1)} < e^{-\frac{\alpha}{4}L^{\beta}} < \frac{1}{2} e^{-L^{\zeta}}, \quad (4.26)$$

for sufficiently large L, since  $(\gamma - 1)\widetilde{\zeta} < (\gamma - 1)\beta < \gamma\beta$  and  $\zeta < \beta$ .

We now define the event  $\mathcal{E}_N = \mathcal{B}_N \cap \mathcal{S}_N$ . It follows from (4.9) and (4.26) that

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\mathcal{E}_{N}\right\} > 1 - e^{-L^{\zeta}}.\tag{4.27}$$

To finish the proof we need to show that for all  $\omega \in \mathcal{E}_N$  the box  $\Lambda_L$  is  $(M, I_\ell, I)$ -localizing for  $H_\omega$ , where M is given in (4.7).

Let us fix  $\omega \in \mathcal{E}_N$ . Then we have (4.17), the subsets  $\{\Upsilon_r\}_{r=1}^R$  constructed in (4.15) are buffered subsets of  $\Lambda_L$  for  $H_{\omega}$ , and the collection  $\mathbb{S}_{\omega}$  is an L-separated family of subsets of  $\Lambda_L$  for H. It follows from (B.4) and Definition 2.3(ii) that

$$\Lambda_L = \left\{ \bigcup_{a \in \mathcal{G}} \Lambda_\ell^{\Lambda_L, \frac{\ell - \ell^{\varsigma}}{2}}(a) \right\} \cup \left\{ \bigcup_{r=1}^R \Upsilon_r \right\}.$$
 (4.28)

Note that  $\Lambda_{\ell}^{\Lambda_L, \frac{\ell-\ell^{\varsigma}}{2}}(a) \subset \Lambda_{\ell}^{\Lambda_L, \ell_{\widetilde{r}}}(a)$ .

Let  $\{(\psi_{\lambda}, \lambda)\}_{\lambda \in \widetilde{\sigma}(H_{\Lambda_L})}$  be an eigensystem for  $H_{\Lambda_L}$ . (Since  $\omega$  is fixed, we omit it from the notation.) Given  $\lambda \in \widetilde{\sigma}_{I_\ell}(H_{\Lambda_L})$ , we claim there exists  $S_\lambda \in \mathbb{S}_\omega$  such that

$$\operatorname{dist}(\lambda, \sigma(H_{S_{\lambda}})) \le \frac{1}{2} e^{-L^{\beta}}.$$
(4.29)

Suppose not, i.e., dist  $(\lambda, \sigma(H_S)) > \frac{1}{2} e^{-L^{\beta}}$  for all  $S \in \mathbb{S}_{\omega}$ . Let  $y \in \Lambda_L$ . If  $y \in \Lambda_{\ell}^{\Lambda_L, \frac{\ell-\ell^{\varsigma}}{2}}(a)$  for some  $a \in \mathcal{G}$ , we have  $R_{\Lambda_L}(y) \geq \lfloor \frac{\ell-\ell^{\varsigma}}{2} \rfloor$ , so it follows from (2.16) that

$$|\psi_{\lambda}(y)| < e^{-m_3 h_I(\lambda) \left\lfloor \frac{\ell - \ell^{\varsigma}}{2} \right\rfloor} < e^{-m_3 \ell^{-\kappa} \left\lfloor \frac{\ell - \ell^{\varsigma}}{2} \right\rfloor} < e^{-\frac{1}{4} m_3 \ell^{1-\kappa}}. \tag{4.30}$$

If not, it follows from (4.28) that  $y \in \Upsilon_r$  for some  $r \in \{1, 2, ..., R\}$ . But then it follows from (2.39) in Lemma 2.4 that

$$|\psi_{\lambda}(y)| \le e^{-\frac{m_3}{2}h_I(\lambda)\ell_{\tilde{\tau}}} \le e^{-\frac{m_3}{2}\ell^{-\kappa}\ell_{\tilde{\tau}}} \le e^{-\frac{1}{4}m_3\ell^{\tilde{\tau}-\kappa}}.$$
 (4.31)

We conclude that

$$1 = \|\psi_{\lambda}\|^{2} \le (L+1)^{d} e^{-\frac{1}{4}m_{3}\ell^{\tilde{\tau}-\kappa}} < 1, \tag{4.32}$$

a contradiction.

We now pick  $x_{\lambda} \in S_{\lambda}$ . We will show that  $\psi_{\lambda}$  is an  $(x_{\lambda}, Mh_{I}(\lambda))$ -localized eigenfunction for  $H_{\omega}$ , where M is given in (4.7).

Let  $\mathbb{S}_{\omega}^{(\lambda)} = \{ S \in \mathbb{S}_{\omega}; \ S \cap S_{\lambda} = \emptyset \}$ . If  $S \in \mathbb{S}_{\omega}^{(\lambda)}$ , S and  $S_{\lambda}$  are L-separated, so it follows from (4.29) that

$$\operatorname{dist}(\lambda, \sigma(H_S)) \ge \operatorname{dist}(\sigma(H_S), \sigma(H_{S_{\lambda}})) - \operatorname{dist}(\lambda, \sigma(H_{S_{\lambda}}))$$
  
$$\ge e^{-L^{\beta}} - \frac{1}{2}e^{-L^{\beta}} = \frac{1}{2}e^{-L^{\beta}}.$$
 (4.33)

We consider two cases:

(i) Let  $y \in \Lambda_{\ell}^{\Lambda_L, \frac{\ell-\ell^{\varsigma}}{2}}(a)$ , where  $\Lambda_{\ell}(a) \in \mathbb{S}_{\omega}^{(\lambda)}$ . In this case it follows from (2.16) that

$$|\psi_{\lambda}(y)| \le e^{-m_3 h_I(\lambda) \left\lfloor \frac{\ell - \ell^{\varsigma}}{2} \right\rfloor} |\psi_{\lambda}(y_1)| \text{ for some } y_1 \in \partial_{\text{ex}}^{\Lambda_L} \Lambda_{\ell}(a),$$
 (4.34)

where  $m_3 = m_3(\ell)$  is as in (2.17). Moreover, we have

$$||y - y_1|| \le \ell + 1 - \left\lfloor \frac{\ell - \ell^{\varsigma}}{2} \right\rfloor \le \frac{\ell + \ell^{\varsigma}}{2} + 2 \le \frac{\ell + 2\ell^{\varsigma}}{2}. \tag{4.35}$$

(ii) Let  $y \in \Upsilon_r$ , where  $\Upsilon_r \in \mathbb{S}_{\omega}^{(\lambda)}$  and  $\{\Lambda_{\ell}(a)\}_{a \in \mathcal{G}_{\Upsilon_r}} \subset \mathbb{S}_{\omega}^{(\lambda)}$ . Then it follows from (2.39) in Lemma 2.4 that

$$|\psi_{\lambda}(y)| \le e^{-\frac{m_3}{2}h_I(\lambda)\ell_{\tilde{\tau}}} |\psi_{\lambda}(y_2)| \le e^{-\frac{m_3}{4}\ell^{\tilde{\tau}-\kappa}} |\psi_{\lambda}(y_2)|$$

$$(4.36)$$

for some  $y_2 \in \bigcup_{a \in \mathcal{G}_{\Upsilon_r}} \partial_{\text{ex}}^{\Lambda_L} \Lambda_{\ell}(a)$ , where  $m_3 = m_3(\ell)$  is as in (2.17). Note that

$$||y - y_2|| \le \operatorname{diam} \Upsilon_r + \ell. \tag{4.37}$$

Now let us take  $y \in \Lambda_L$  such that  $||y - x_{\lambda}|| \ge L_{\tau}$ . Suppose  $|\psi_{\lambda}(y)| > 0$ , since otherwise there is nothing to prove. We estimate  $|\psi_{\lambda}(y)|$  using either (4.34) or (4.36) repeatedly, as appropriate, stopping when we get too close to  $x_{\lambda}$  so we are not in one of the two cases described above. (Note that this must happen since  $|\psi_{\lambda}(y)| > 0$ .) We accumulate decay only when we use (4.34), and just use  $e^{-\frac{m_3}{4}\ell^{7-\kappa}} < 1$  when using (4.36). In view of (4.35) and (4.37), this can be done using (4.34) at least S times, as long as

$$\frac{\ell + 2\ell^{\varsigma}}{2} S + \sum_{r=1}^{R} (\operatorname{diam} \Upsilon_r + \ell) + 2\ell \le \|y - x_{\lambda}\|. \tag{4.38}$$

Since  $\sum_{r=1}^{R} (\operatorname{diam} \Upsilon_r + \ell) \leq 7\ell N$  in view of (4.19), this can be guaranteed by requiring

$$\frac{\ell+2\ell^{\varsigma}}{2}S + 7\ell^{(\gamma-1)\widetilde{\zeta}+1} + 2\ell \le \|y - x_{\lambda}\|. \tag{4.39}$$

We can thus have

$$\begin{split} S &= \left\lfloor \frac{2}{\ell + 2\ell^{\varsigma}} \left( \|y - x_{\lambda}\| - 7\ell^{(\gamma - 1)\widetilde{\zeta} + 1} - 2\ell \right) \right\rfloor - 1 \\ &\geq \frac{2}{\ell + 2\ell^{\varsigma}} \left( \|y - x_{\lambda}\| - 7\ell^{(\gamma - 1)\widetilde{\zeta} + 1} - 2\ell \right) - 2 \\ &= \frac{2}{\ell + 2\ell^{\varsigma}} \left( \|y - x_{\lambda}\| - 7\ell^{(\gamma - 1)\widetilde{\zeta} + 1} - 3\ell - 2\ell^{\varsigma} \right) \end{split}$$

$$\geq \frac{2}{\ell + 2\ell^{\varsigma}} \left( \|y - x_{\lambda}\| - 8\ell^{(\gamma - 1)\tilde{\zeta} + 1} \right). \tag{4.40}$$

Thus we conclude that

$$|\psi_{\lambda}(y)| \le e^{-m_3 h_I(\lambda) \left\lfloor \frac{\ell - \ell^{\varsigma}}{2} \right\rfloor \frac{2}{\ell + 2\ell^{\varsigma}} \left( \|y - x_{\lambda}\| - 8\ell^{(\gamma - 1)\tilde{\zeta} + 1} \right)} \le e^{-Mh_I(\lambda) \|y - x_{\lambda}\|}$$
(4.41)

where

$$M \geq m_3 \left( 1 - C_d \ell^{-\min\left\{1 - \varsigma, \gamma \tau - (\gamma - 1)\tilde{\zeta} - 1\right\}} \right)$$

$$= m_3 \left( 1 - C_d \ell^{-\left(\gamma \tau - (\gamma - 1)\tilde{\zeta} - 1\right)} \right)$$

$$\geq m \left( 1 - C_d \ell^{-\min\left\{\kappa, \frac{1 - \tau}{2}, \gamma \tau - (\gamma - 1)\tilde{\zeta} - 1\right\}} \right) = m \left( 1 - C_d \ell^{-\varrho} \right), \qquad (4.42)$$

where we used (A.7), (2.17), and (A.6). In particular, M satisfies (4.7) for sufficiently large  $\ell$ .

We conclude that  $\psi_{\lambda}$  is an  $(x_{\lambda}, Mh_I(\lambda))$ -localized eigenfunction for  $\Lambda_L$ , where M satisfies (4.7).

We proved that 
$$\Lambda_L$$
 is  $(M, I_\ell, I)$ -localized for  $H_\omega$ .

Proof of Proposition 4.2. We assume (4.2) and set  $L_{k+1} = L_k^{\gamma}$ ,  $A_{k+1} = A_k(1 - L_k^{-\kappa})$ , and  $I_{k+1} = I(E, A_{k+1})$  for  $k = 0, 1, \ldots$  Since if a box  $\Lambda_L$  is  $(M, I_{\ell}, I)$ -localizing for  $H_{\omega}$  it is also  $(M, I_{\ell})$ -localizing, if  $L_0$  is sufficiently large it follows from Lemma 4.3 by an induction argument that we have (4.3) and (4.4) for all  $k = 1, 2, \ldots$ 

**Proposition 4.4.** There exists a a finite scale  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}(d)$  with the following property: Suppose for some scale  $L_0 \geq \mathcal{L}$  and interval  $I_0 = I(E, A_0)$  we have

$$\inf_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} \mathbb{P}\left\{\Lambda_{L_0}(x) \text{ is } (m_0, I_0) \text{-localizing for } H_{\omega}\right\} \ge 1 - e^{-L_0^{\zeta}}.$$
 (4.43)

Set  $L_{k+1} = L_k^{\gamma}$ ,  $A_{k+1} = A_k(1 - L_k^{-\kappa})$ , and  $I_{k+1} = I(E, A_{k+1})$ , for k = 0, 1, ..., Then for all k = 1, 2, ... we have

$$\inf_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} \mathbb{P}\left\{\Lambda_L(x) \text{ is } (m_k, I_k, I_{k-1}) \text{-localizing for } H_\omega\right\} \ge 1 - e^{-L^{\xi}} \text{ for } L \in [L_k, L_{k+1}),$$
(4.44)

where

$$L_k^{-\kappa'} < m_{k-1} \left( 1 - C_d L_{k-1}^{-\varrho} \right) \le m_k < \frac{1}{2} \log \left( 1 + \frac{A_k}{4d} \right),$$
 (4.45)

with  $C_d$  as in (4.4).

*Proof.* We apply Proposition 4.2, which gives a scale  $\mathcal{L}$  such that, taking  $L_0 \geq \mathcal{L}$  we have the conclusions of Proposition 4.2.

Given a scale  $L \geq L_1$ , let  $k = k(L) \in \{1, 2, ...\}$  be defined by  $L_k \leq L < L_{k+1}$ . We have  $L_k = L_{k-1}^{\gamma} \leq L < L_{k+1} = L_{k-1}^{\gamma^2}$ , so  $L = L_{k-1}^{\gamma'}$  with  $\gamma \leq \gamma' < \gamma^2$ . We proceed as in Lemma 4.3. We take  $\Lambda_L = \Lambda_L(x_0)$ , where  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , let  $\{(\psi_{\lambda}, \lambda)\}_{\lambda \in \widetilde{\sigma}(H_{\Lambda_L})}$  be an eigensystem for  $H_{\Lambda_L}$ , and let  $\mathcal{C}_{L, L_{k-1}} = \mathcal{C}_{L, L_{k-1}}(x_0)$  be the suitable  $L_{k-1}$ -cover of  $\Lambda_L$ . We let  $\mathcal{B}_0$  denote the event that all boxes

in  $C_{L,L_{k-1}}$  are  $(m_{k-1},I_{k-1})$ -localizing for  $H_{\omega}$ . It follows from (B.5) and (4.3) that

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\mathcal{B}_{0}^{c}\right\} \leq \left(\frac{2L}{L_{k-1}^{\zeta}}\right)^{d} e^{-L_{k-1}^{\zeta}} = 2^{d} L_{k-1}^{(\gamma'-\varsigma)d} e^{-L_{k-1}^{\zeta}} \leq 2^{d} L^{(1-\frac{\varsigma}{\gamma'})d} e^{-L^{\frac{\zeta}{\gamma'}}} < \frac{1}{2} e^{-L^{\xi}}, \tag{4.46}$$

if  $L_0$  is sufficiently large, since  $\xi \gamma' < \xi \gamma^2 < \zeta$ . Moreover, given  $\Lambda_1, \Lambda_2 \in \mathcal{C}_{L,L_{k-1}}, \Lambda_1 \cap \Lambda_2 = \emptyset$ , it follows from Lemma 3.4 that

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\Lambda_1 \text{ and } \Lambda_2 \text{ are not } L\text{-separated for } H_{\omega}\right\} \leq \widetilde{K}e^{-\alpha L^{\beta}} \left(L_{k-1}+1\right)^{2d} \leq e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}L^{\beta}}.$$
(4.47)

Thus, letting  $S_0$  denote the event that  $C_{L,L_{k-1}}$  is an L-separated family of subsets of  $\Lambda_L$  for H, it follows from (B.5) that

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\mathcal{S}_0^c\right\} \le \left(\frac{2L}{L_{k-1}^{\xi}}\right)^{2d} e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}L^{\beta}} \le \frac{1}{2} e^{-L^{\xi}},\tag{4.48}$$

if  $L_0$  is sufficiently large, since  $\xi < \beta$ . Thus, letting  $\mathcal{E}_0 = \mathcal{B}_0 \cap \mathcal{S}_0$ , we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\mathcal{E}_{0}\right\} \ge 1 - e^{-L^{\xi}}.\tag{4.49}$$

It only remains to prove that  $\Lambda_L$  is  $(m_k, I_k, I_{k-1})$ -localizing for  $H_{\omega}$  for all  $\omega \in \mathcal{E}_0$ . To do so, we fix  $\omega \in \mathcal{E}_0$  and proceed as in the proof of Lemma 4.3. Since  $\omega \in \mathcal{B}_0$ ,  $\Lambda_{L_{k-1}}(a)$  is  $(m_{k-1}, I_{k-1})$ -localizing for  $H_{\omega}$  for all  $a \in \mathcal{G} = \Xi_{L, L_{k-1}}$ . Since  $\omega$  is now fixed, we omit them from the notation.

Let  $\lambda \in \widetilde{\sigma}_{I_k}(H_{\Lambda_L})$  (note  $(I_{k-1})_{L_{k-1}} = I_k$ ). To finish the proof we need to show that  $\psi_{\lambda}$  is  $(m_k, I_k, I_{k-1})$ -localized. Since  $\mathcal{C}_{L, L_{k-1}}$  is an L-separated family of subsets of  $\Lambda_L$  for H, there must exist  $a_{\lambda} \in \mathcal{G} = \Xi_{L, L_{k-1}}$  such that, setting  $\Lambda_{\lambda} = \Lambda_{L_{k-1}}(a_{\lambda})$ , we have (as in the proof of Lemma 4.3)

$$\operatorname{dist}(\lambda, \sigma(H_{\Lambda_{\lambda}})) \le \frac{1}{2} e^{-L^{\beta}}, \tag{4.50}$$

and if  $a \in \mathcal{G}_{\lambda} = \{b \in \mathcal{G}; \ \Lambda_{L_{k-1}}(b) \cap \Lambda_{\lambda} = \emptyset\},$ 

$$\operatorname{dist}(\lambda, \sigma(H_{\Lambda})) \ge \frac{1}{2} e^{-L^{\beta}}.$$
(4.51)

If  $y \in \Lambda_L$  and  $||y - a_{\lambda}|| \ge 2L_{k-1}$ , it follows from (B.4) that  $y \in \Lambda_{L_{k-1}}^{\Lambda_L, \frac{L_{k-1} - L_{k-1}^{\zeta}}{2}}(a)$  for some  $a \in \mathcal{G}_{\lambda}$ , so it follows from (2.16) that

$$|\psi_{\lambda}(y)| \le e^{-m_{k-1,3}h_{I_{k-1}}(\lambda) \left\lfloor \frac{L_{k-1} - L_{k-1}^{\zeta}}{2} \right\rfloor} |\psi_{\lambda}(y_1)|,$$
 (4.52)

for some  $y_1 \in \partial^{\Lambda_L,2(L_{k-1})_\tau} \Lambda_{L_{k-1}}(a)$ , where we need

$$m_{k-1,3} = m_{k-1,3}(L_{k-1}) \ge m_{k-1} \left(1 - C_d L_{k-1}^{-\left(\frac{1-\tau}{2}\right)}\right),$$
 (4.53)

and we have

$$||y - y_1|| \le \frac{L_{k-1} + 2L_{k-1}^{\varsigma}}{2},\tag{4.54}$$

as in (4.35).

Now consider  $y \in \Lambda_L$  such that  $||y - a_{\lambda}|| \ge L_{\tau}$ . Suppose  $|\psi_{\lambda}(y)| > 0$ , since otherwise there is nothing to prove. We estimate  $|\psi_{\lambda}(y)|$  using either

(4.52) repeatedly, as appropriate, stopping when we get within  $2L_{k-1}$  of  $a_{\lambda}$ . In view of (4.54), we can use (4.52) S times, as long as

$$\frac{L_{k-1} + 2L_{k-1}^{\varsigma}}{2}S + 2L_{k-1} \le \|y - a_{\lambda}\|. \tag{4.55}$$

We can thus have

$$S = \left\lfloor \frac{2}{L_{k-1} + 2L_{k-1}^{\varsigma}} \left( \|y - a_{\lambda}\| - 2L_{k-1} \right) \right\rfloor - 1$$

$$\geq \frac{2}{L_{k-1} + 2L_{k-1}^{\varsigma}} \left( \|y - a_{\lambda}\| - 2L_{k-1} \right) - 2$$

$$\geq \frac{2}{L_{k-1} + 2L_{k-1}^{\varsigma}} \left( \|y - a_{\lambda}\| - 3L_{k-1} - 2L_{k-1}^{\varsigma} \right)$$

$$\geq \frac{2}{L_{k-1} + 2L_{k-1}^{\varsigma}} \left( \|y - a_{\lambda}\| - 4L_{k-1} \right). \tag{4.56}$$

Thus we conclude that

$$|\psi_{\lambda}(y)| \leq e^{-m_{k-1,3}h_{I_{k-1}}(\lambda)\left\lfloor\frac{L_{k-1}-L_{k-1}^{\varsigma}}{2}\right\rfloor\frac{2}{L_{k-1}+2L_{k-1}^{\varsigma}}(\|y-a_{\lambda}\|-4L_{k-1})}$$

$$\leq e^{-m_{k}h_{I_{k-1}}(\lambda)\|y-a_{\lambda}\|}$$
(4.57)

where  $m_k$  can be taken to satisfy (4.4).

We conclude that  $\psi_{\lambda}$  is an  $(m_k, I_k, I_{k-1})$ -localized eigenfunction, where  $m_k$  satisfies (4.4).

We proved that the box  $\Lambda_L$  is  $(m_k, I_k, I_{k-1})$ -localizing for  $H_{\omega}$ .

Proof of Theorem 1.4. Let  $L_{k+1} = L_k^{\gamma}$ ,  $A_{k+1} = A_k(1 - L_k^{-\kappa})$ ,  $I_{k+1} = I(E, A_{k+1})$ , and  $m_{k+1} = m_k \left(1 - C_d L_k^{-\varrho}\right)$  for  $k = 0, 1, \ldots$  Given  $L \geq L_0^{\gamma} = L_1$ , let  $k = k(L) \in \{1, 2, \ldots\}$  be defined by  $L_k \leq L < L_{k+1}$ . Let  $A_{\infty}, I_{\infty}, m_{\infty}$  be defined by (1.11). Since

$$A_k = A_\infty \prod_{j=k}^{\infty} (1 - L_j^{-\kappa})^{-1}$$
 for  $k = 0, 1, \dots,$  (4.58)

we have

$$A_{\infty} \left( 1 - L^{-\kappa} \right)^{-1} \le A_{\infty} \left( 1 - L_k^{-\kappa} \right)^{-1} < A_k,$$
 (4.59)

and hence  $I_{\infty}^L \subset I_k$ . Since  $m_{\infty} \leq m_k$ , we conclude that (1.10) follows from (4.44).

## 5. Localization

In this section we prove Theorem 1.5 for an Anderson model  $H_{\omega}$ .

**Lemma 5.1.** Let I = (E, A). There exists a finite scale  $\mathcal{L}_{d,\nu}$  such that for all  $L \geq \mathcal{L}_{d,\nu}$  and  $a \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ , given an  $(m, I^L)$ -localizing box  $\Lambda_L(a)$  for the discrete Schrödinger operator H, then for all  $\lambda \in I$ ,

$$\max_{b \in \Lambda_{\frac{L}{3}}(a)} W_{\lambda}^{(a)}(b) > e^{-\frac{1}{4}mh_{I^{L}}(\lambda)L} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \min_{\theta \in \sigma_{I^{L}}(H_{\Lambda_{L}(a)})} |\lambda - \theta| < \frac{1}{2}e^{-L^{\gamma\beta}}.$$
(5.1)

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*Proof.* Let  $\lambda \in I = (I^L)_L$ , and suppose  $|\lambda - \theta| \ge \frac{1}{2} e^{-L^{\gamma \beta}}$  for all  $\theta \in \sigma_{I^L}(H_{\Lambda_L(a)})$ . Let  $\psi \in \mathcal{V}(\lambda)$ . Then it follows from Lemma 2.2 that for large L and  $b \in \Lambda_{\frac{L}{3}}(a)$  we have

$$|\psi(b)| \le e^{-m_3(L)h_{IL}(\lambda)\left(\frac{L}{3}-1\right)} \|T_a^{-1}\psi\| \left\langle \frac{L}{2}+1\right\rangle^{\nu} \le e^{-\frac{1}{4}mh_{IL}(\lambda)L} \|T_a^{-1}\psi\|.$$
(5.2)

Proof of Theorem 1.5. Assume Theorem 1.4 holds for some  $L_0$ , and let  $I = I_{\infty}$ ,  $m = m_{\infty}$ . Consider  $L_0^{\gamma} \leq L \in 2\mathbb{N}$  and  $a \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ . We have

$$\Lambda_{5L}(a) = \bigcup_{b \in \{a + \frac{1}{2}L\mathbb{Z}^d\}, \|b - a\| \le 2L} \Lambda_L(b).$$
 (5.3)

Let  $\mathcal{Y}_{L,a}$  denote the event that  $\{\Lambda_L(b)\}_{b\in\{a+\frac{1}{2}L\mathbb{Z}^d\},\ \|b-a\|\leq 2L}$  is an  $L^{\gamma}$ -separated family of  $(m,I^L)$ -localizing boxes for H. It follows from (1.10) and Lemma 3.4 that

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\mathcal{Y}_{L,a}^{c}\right\} \le 9^{d} e^{-L^{\xi}} + \widetilde{K} 9^{2d} (L+1)^{2d} e^{-\alpha L^{\gamma \beta}} \le C_{\mu} e^{-L^{\xi}}.$$
 (5.4)

Suppose  $\omega \in \mathcal{Y}_{L,a}$ ,  $\lambda \in I$ , and  $\max_{b \in \Lambda_{\frac{1}{3}}(a)} W_{\omega,\lambda}^{(a)}(b) > e^{-\frac{1}{4}mh_{IL}(\lambda)L}$ . It follows from Lemma 5.1 that  $\min_{\theta \in \sigma_{IL}(H_{\Lambda_L(a)})} |\lambda - \theta| < \frac{1}{2}e^{-L^{\gamma\beta}}$ . Since the family of boxes is  $L^{\gamma}$ -separated family for  $H_{\omega}$ , we conclude that

$$\min_{\theta \in \sigma_{JL}(H_{\Lambda_L(b)})} |\lambda - \theta| \ge \frac{1}{2} e^{-L^{\gamma\beta}}$$
(5.5)

for all  $b \in \left\{a + \frac{1}{2}L\mathbb{Z}^d\right\}$  with  $\frac{3}{2}L \le ||b - a|| \le 2L$ . Since

$$A_L(a) \subset \bigcup_{b \in \left\{a + \frac{1}{2}L\mathbb{Z}^d\right\}, \frac{3}{2}L \le ||b-a|| \le 2L} \Lambda_L^{\frac{L}{7}}(b), \tag{5.6}$$

it follows from Lemma 2.2 that for all  $y \in A_L(a)$  we have, given  $\psi \in \mathcal{V}_{\omega}(\lambda)$ ,

$$|\psi(y)| \le e^{-m_3(L)h_{IL}(\lambda)\left(\frac{L}{7}-2\right)} \|T_a^{-1}\psi\| \left\langle \frac{5}{2}L+1 \right\rangle^{\nu} \le e^{-mh_{IL}(\lambda)\frac{L}{8}} \|T_a^{-1}\psi\|$$

$$\le e^{-\frac{7}{132}mh_{IL}(\lambda)\|y-a\|} \|T_a^{-1}\psi\|,$$
(5.7)

so we get

$$W_{\omega,\lambda}^{(a)}(y) \le e^{-\frac{7}{132}mh_{IL}(\lambda)\|y-a\|}$$
 for all  $y \in A_L(a)$ . (5.8)

Since we have (1.13), we conclude that for  $\omega \in \mathcal{Y}_{L,a}$  we always have

$$W_{\omega,\lambda}^{(a)}(a)W_{\omega,\lambda}^{(a)}(y) \le \max\left\{ e^{-\frac{7}{66}mh_{I^L}(\lambda)\|y-a\|} \langle y-a \rangle^{\nu}, e^{-\frac{7}{132}mh_{I^L}(\lambda)\|y-a\|} \right\}$$

$$\le e^{-\frac{7}{132}mh_{I^L}(\lambda)\|y-a\|} \quad \text{for all} \quad y \in A_L(a).$$
(5.9)

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# Appendix A: Exponents

Given  $0 < \xi < \zeta < 1$ , we consider  $\beta, \tau \in (0,1)$  and  $\gamma > 1$  such that

$$0 < \xi < \zeta < \beta < \frac{1}{\gamma} < 1 < \gamma < \sqrt{\frac{\zeta}{\xi}} \quad \text{and} \quad \max\left\{\gamma\beta, \frac{(\gamma - 1)\beta + 1}{\gamma}\right\} < \tau < 1; \tag{A.1}$$

it follows that

$$0 < \xi < \xi \gamma^2 < \zeta < \beta < \frac{\tau}{\gamma} < \frac{1}{\gamma} < \tau < 1 < \frac{1-\beta}{\tau-\beta} < \gamma < \frac{\tau}{\beta}. \tag{A.2}$$

We set

$$\widetilde{\zeta} = \frac{\zeta + \beta}{2} \in (\zeta, \beta) \quad \text{and} \quad \widetilde{\tau} = \frac{1 + \tau}{2} \in (\tau, 1),$$
 (A.3)

so

$$(\gamma - 1)\widetilde{\zeta} + 1 < (\gamma - 1)\beta + 1 < \gamma \tau. \tag{A.4}$$

We take  $\kappa \in (0,1)$  and  $\kappa' \in [0,1)$  such that

$$\kappa + \kappa' < \tau - \gamma \beta. \tag{A.5}$$

We let

$$\varrho = \min \left\{ \kappa, \tfrac{1-\tau}{2}, \gamma \tau - (\gamma-1) \widetilde{\zeta} - 1 \right\}, \quad \text{note} \quad 0 < \kappa \leq \varrho < 1, \quad \ (\text{A.6})$$

and choose

$$\varsigma \in (0, 1 - \varrho], \quad \text{so} \quad \varrho < 1 - \varsigma.$$
(A.7)

We select exponents satisfying (A.1)–(A.7) and fix these exponents.

# Appendix B: Suitable Covers of a Box

To perform the multiscale analysis in an efficient way we use suitable covers of a box as in [17, Section 3.4], an adaptation of [25, Definition 3.12]. We state the definition and properties for the reader's convenience.

**Definition B.1.** Fix  $\varsigma \in (0,1)$ . Let  $\Lambda_L = \Lambda_L(x_0)$ ,  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$  be a box in  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ , and let  $\ell < L$ . A suitable  $\ell$ -cover of  $\Lambda_L$  is the collection of boxes

$$C_{L,\ell} = C_{L,\ell}(x_0) = \{\Lambda_{\ell}(a)\}_{a \in \Xi_{L,\ell}}, \tag{B.1}$$

where

$$\Xi_{L,\ell} = \Xi_{L,\ell}(x_0) := \left\{ x_0 + \rho \ell^{\varsigma} \mathbb{Z}^d \right\} \cap \Lambda_L^{\mathbb{R}} \text{ with } \rho \in \left[ \frac{1}{2}, 1 \right] \cap \left\{ \frac{L - \ell}{2\ell^{\varsigma} k}; k \in \mathbb{N} \right\}.$$
(B.2)

We call  $C_{L,\ell}$  the suitable  $\ell$ -cover of  $\Lambda_L$  if  $\rho = \rho_{L,\ell} := \max\left[\frac{1}{2},1\right] \cap \left\{\frac{L-\ell}{2\ell^s k}; k \in \mathbb{N}\right\}$ .

**Lemma B.2** ([25, Lemma 3.13], [17, Lemma 3.10]) Let  $\ell \leq \frac{L}{2}$ . Then for every box  $\Lambda_L = \Lambda_L(x_0)$ ,  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , a suitable  $\ell$ -cover  $\mathcal{C}_{L,\ell} = \mathcal{C}_{L,\ell}(x_0)$  satisfies

$$\Lambda_L = \bigcup_{a \in \Xi_{L,\ell}} \Lambda_\ell(a); \tag{B.3}$$

for all  $b \in \Lambda_L$  there is  $\Lambda_\ell^{(b)} \in \mathcal{C}_{L,\ell}$  such that  $b \in \left(\Lambda_\ell^{(b)}\right)^{\Lambda_L,\frac{\ell-\ell^S}{2}}$ ,

i.e., 
$$\Lambda_L = \bigcup_{a \in \Xi_L} \Lambda_\ell^{\Lambda_L, \frac{\ell - \ell^{\varsigma}}{2}}(a);$$
 (B.4)

$$\#\Xi_{L,\ell} = \left(\frac{L-\ell}{\rho\ell^{\varsigma}} + 1\right)^d \le \left(\frac{2L}{\ell^{\varsigma}}\right)^d. \tag{B.5}$$

Moreover, given  $a \in x_0 + \rho \ell^{\varsigma} \mathbb{Z}^d$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , it follows that

$$\Lambda_{(2k\rho\ell^{\varsigma}+\ell)}(a) = \bigcup_{b \in \{x_0 + \rho\ell^{\varsigma}\mathbb{Z}^d\} \cap \Lambda_{(2k\rho\ell^{\varsigma}+\ell)}^{\mathbb{R}}(a)} \Lambda_{\ell}(b),$$
(B.6)

and  $\{\Lambda_{\ell}(b)\}_{b\in\{x_0+\rho\ell^\varsigma\mathbb{Z}^d\}\cap\Lambda_{(2k\rho\ell\varsigma+\ell)}^{\mathbb{R}}(a)}$  is a suitable  $\ell$ -cover of the box  $\Lambda_{(2k\rho\ell^\varsigma+\ell)}(a)$ .

Note that  $\Lambda_{\ell}^{(b)}$  does not denote a box centered at b, just some box in  $\mathcal{C}_{L,\ell}\left(x_{0}\right)$  satisfying (B.4). By  $\Lambda_{\ell}^{(b)}$  we will always mean such a box. We will use

$$\operatorname{dist}\left(b, \partial_{\operatorname{in}}^{\Lambda_L} \Lambda_{\ell}^{(b)}\right) \ge \frac{\ell - \ell^{\varsigma}}{2} - 1 \quad \text{for all} \quad b \in \Lambda_L.$$
 (B.7)

Note also that  $\rho \leq 1$  yields (B.4). We specified  $\rho = \rho_{L,\ell}$  in for the suitable  $\ell$ -cover for convenience, so there is no ambiguity in the definition of  $C_{L,\ell}(x_0)$ .

Suitable covers are convenient for the construction of buffered subsets (see Definition 2.3) in the multiscale analysis, where we will assume  $\varsigma \in (0,1)$  is as in (A.7). We will use the following observation:

Remark B.3. Let  $C_{L,\ell}$  be a suitable  $\ell$ -cover for the box  $\Lambda_L$ , and set  $k_{\ell} = k_{L,\ell} = |\rho^{-1}\ell^{1-\varsigma}| + 1$ . Then for all  $a, b \in C_{L,\ell}$  we have

$$\Lambda_{\ell}^{\mathbb{R}}(a) \cap \Lambda_{\ell}^{\mathbb{R}}(b) = \emptyset \quad \iff \quad ||a - b|| \ge k_{\ell} \rho \ell^{\varsigma}. \tag{B.8}$$

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Communicated by Anton Bovier. Received: November 4, 2019.

Accepted: May 18, 2020.