

# Fractional scaling of quantum Walks on Percolation Lattices



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...with contributions from PhD students: Neil Lovett and Katie Barr



| Project students: | 2008:         | 2009:        | 2010:        |
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|                   | Joe Bailey    | Sally Cooper | Rob Heath    |
|                   | Paul Knott    | Matt Everitt | Matt Everitt |
|                   | Godfrey Leung | Matt Trevers | Daniel Fry   |



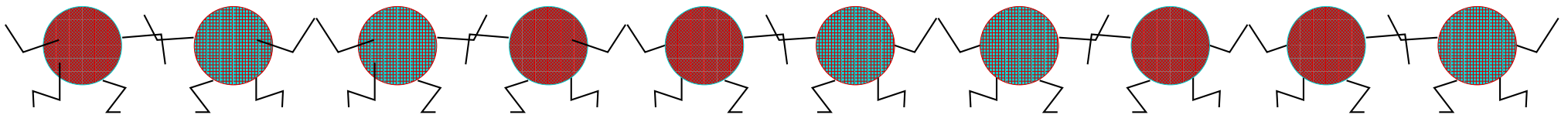
(PK,SC,MT)

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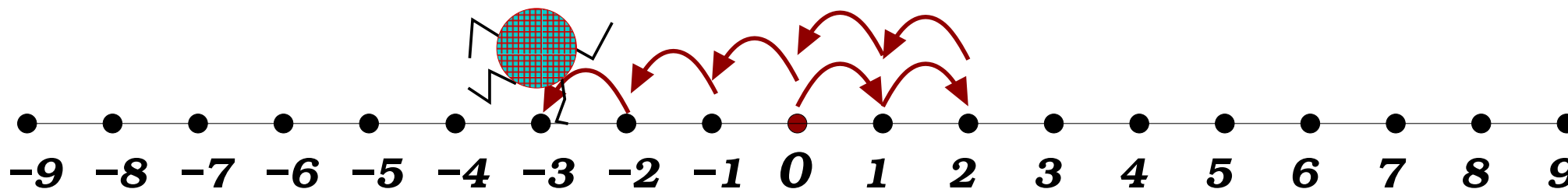


## Overview

1. Introduction & motivation (*quantum walks; percolation lattices*)
2. Quantum walks on line with gaps (*and simple tunnelling model*)
3. 2D percolation lattice (*fractional scaling*)
4. Summary and outlook (*what's next*)



## Classical Random Walk on a Line



### Recipe:

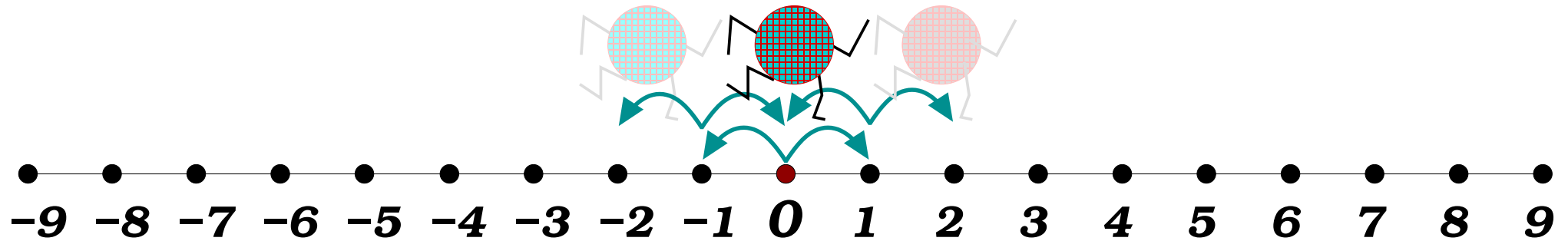
1. Start at the origin
2. Toss a fair coin, result is heads or tails
3. Move one unit: right for heads, left for tails
4. Repeat steps 2. and 3.  $T$  times
5. Measure position of walker,  $-T \leq x \leq T$

Repeat steps 1. to 5. many times

→ prob. dist.  $P(x, T)$ , binomial

$$\text{standard deviation } \langle x^2 \rangle^{1/2} = \sqrt{T}$$

# Quantum Walk on a Line



## Recipe:

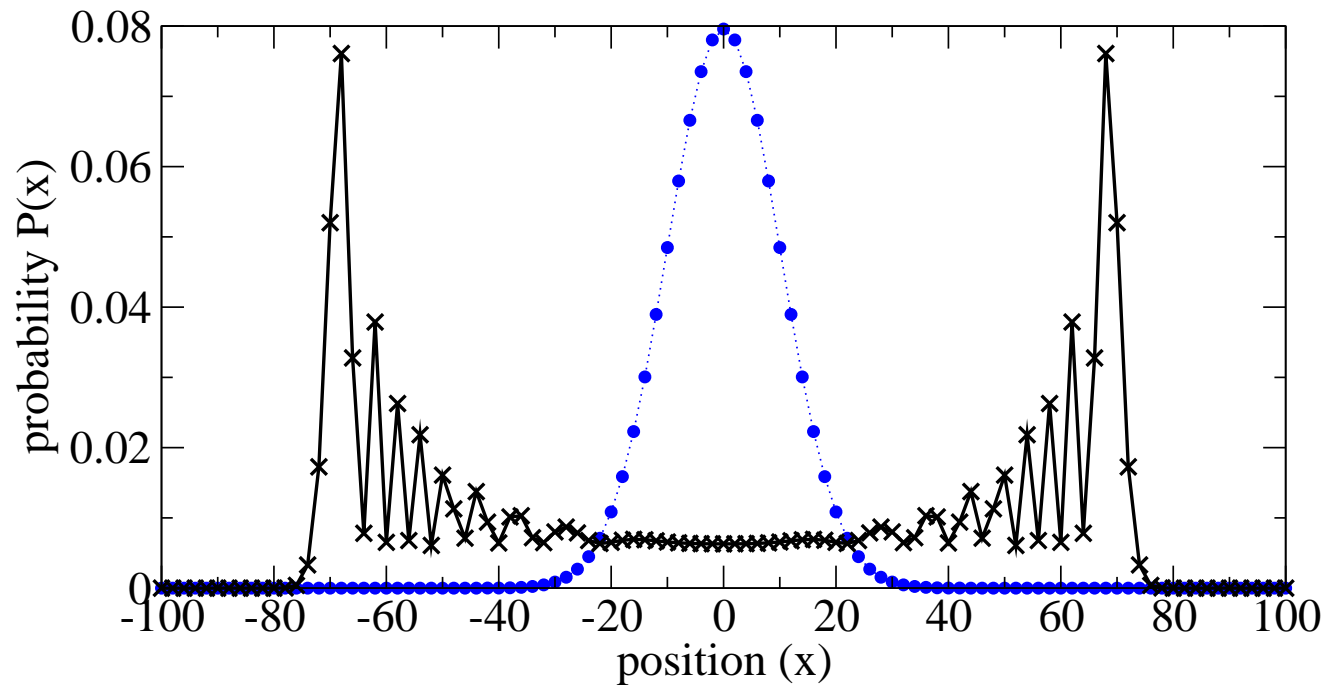
1. Start at the origin
2. Toss a qubit (quantum coin)
 
$$\mathbf{H}|0\rangle \longrightarrow (|0\rangle + |1\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$$

$$\mathbf{H}|1\rangle \longrightarrow (|0\rangle - |1\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$$
3. Move left **and** right according to qubit state
 
$$\mathbf{S}|x, 0\rangle \longrightarrow |x - 1, 0\rangle$$

$$\mathbf{S}|x, 1\rangle \longrightarrow |x + 1, 1\rangle$$
4. Repeat steps 2. and 3.  $T$  times
5. measure position of walker,  $-T \leq x \leq T$

Repeat steps 1. to 5. many times  $\longrightarrow$  prob. dist.  $P(x, T)$ ...

# Quantum vs Classical on a Line



Analytical solution:

Nayak

Vishwanath

quant-ph/0010117

and

Ambainis

Bach Nayak

Vishwanath Watrous

STOC'01 pp60-69 2001

quantum spread  $\propto T$  compared with classical  $\sqrt{T}$

## Decoherence model for quantum walks

Markovian noise, rate of decoherence:  $p$  per unit time  
– independent of any previous decoherence events.

Discrete time quantum walk ( $\mathbf{S}$  = shift,  $\mathbf{C}$  = coin toss):

$$\boldsymbol{\rho}(t+1) = (1-p)\mathbf{S}\mathbf{C}\boldsymbol{\rho}(t)\mathbf{C}^\dagger\mathbf{S}^\dagger + p \sum_i \mathbb{P}_i \mathbf{S}\mathbf{C}\boldsymbol{\rho}(t)\mathbf{C}^\dagger\mathbf{S}^\dagger \mathbb{P}_i^\dagger$$

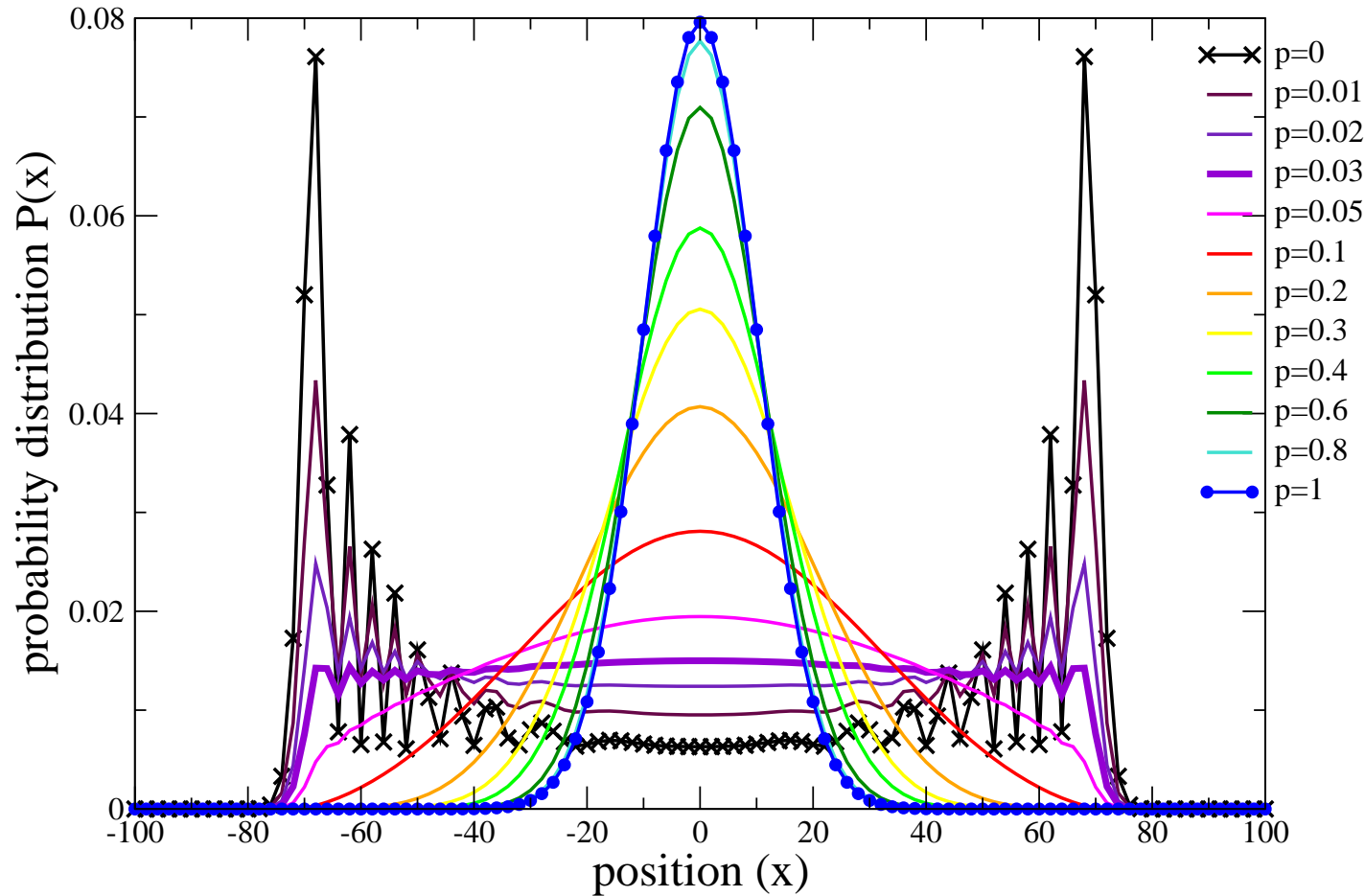
Continuous time quantum walk (hopping rate  $\gamma$  per unit time):

$$\frac{d\boldsymbol{\rho}(t)}{dt} = -i\gamma[\mathbf{A}, \boldsymbol{\rho}] - p\boldsymbol{\rho} + p \sum_i \mathbb{P}_i \boldsymbol{\rho} \mathbb{P}_i^\dagger$$

→ effect is to reduce size of off-diagonal elements of  $\boldsymbol{\rho}$

# Interpolate quantum ↔ classical

Add decoherence (measure with prob  $p$  at each step):

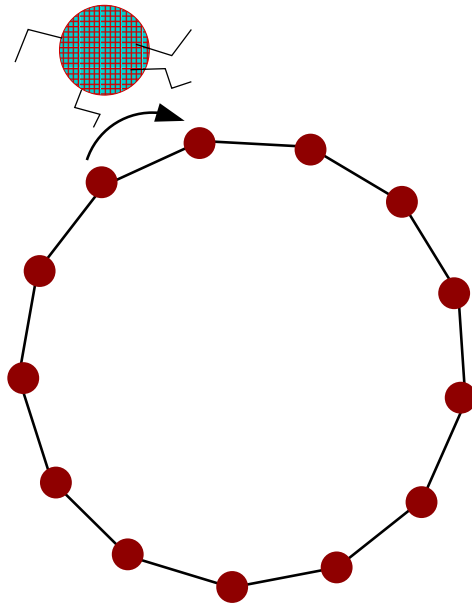


Top hat distribution for just the right amount of noise! [quant-ph/0209005]

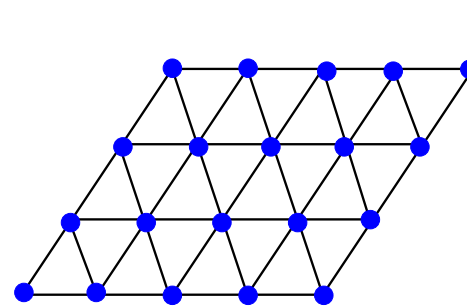
# Beyond the line

Can “quantum walk” on any graph structure:

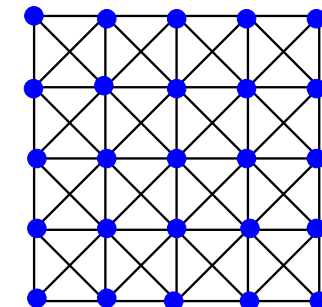
a cycle:



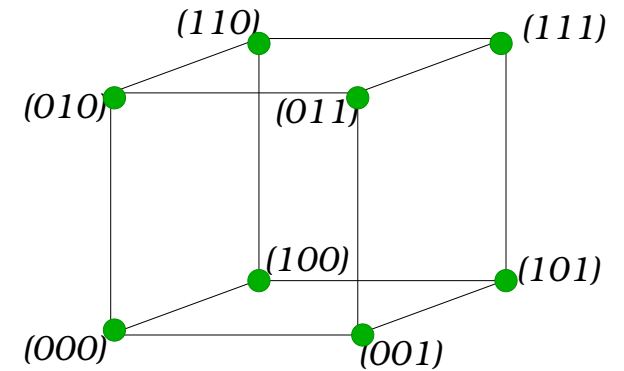
...or lattices:  
...or grids:



(a)



(b)



need larger coin: one dimension per edge

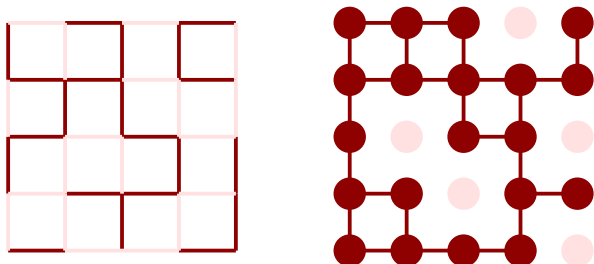
quant-ph/0304204, quant-ph/0504042



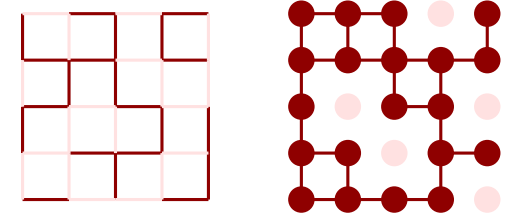
## Motivation:

Role of symmetry in quantum speed up?

- nice properties of quantum walks appear on structures with high symmetry...
- evidence that the symmetry is required:
  - properties disappear when symmetry breaks...
- look at less regular systems: choose **percolation lattices**
- well studied, simple, wide range of applications
- non-trivial phase transition with high upper critical dimension
- disordered but not so random there is no structure



## Percolation lattices:

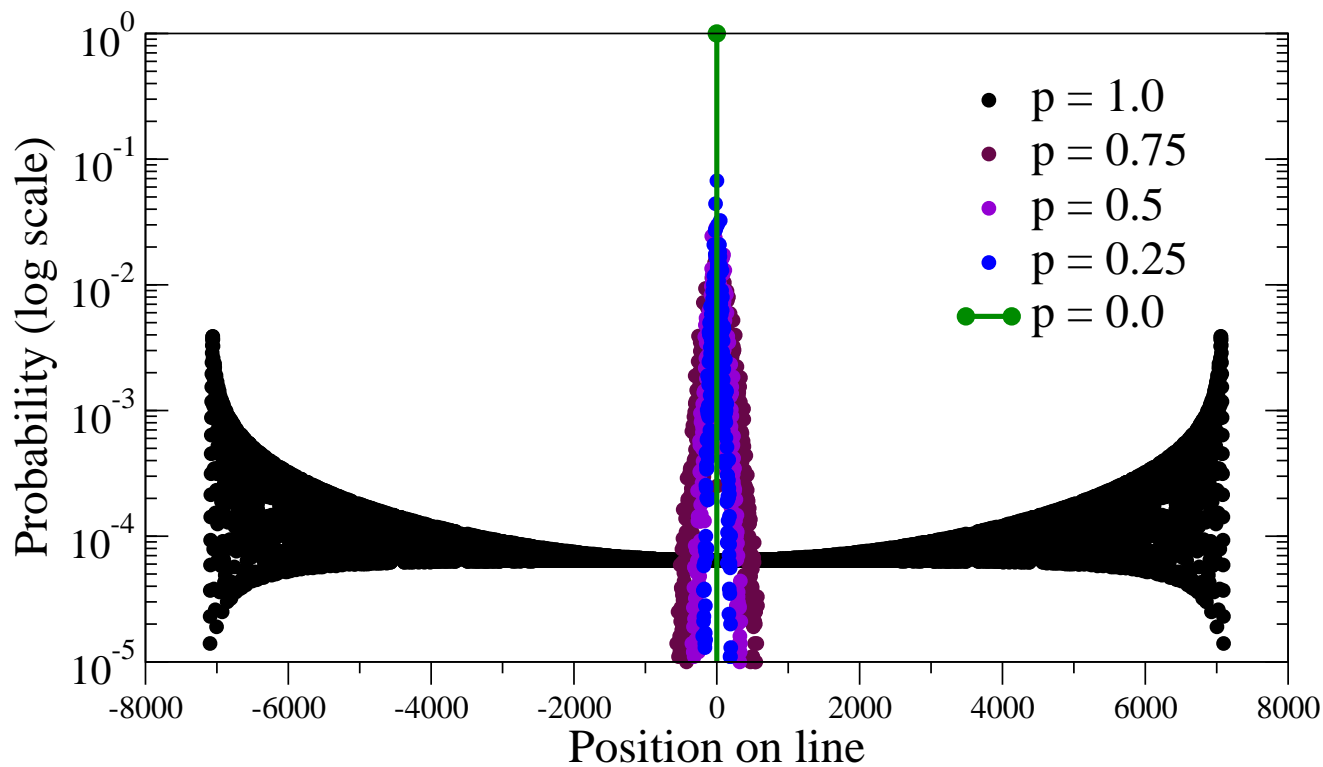


- Two types: **bond (edge)** and **site (vertex)**
- **bond** or **site** is present in lattice with probability  $p$
- phase transition at  $p_c = 0.5$  (**bond**) or  $p_c = 0.5927\dots$  (**site**) in 2D lattices
- $p < p_c$ : connected structures small  
 $p > p_c$ : connections link most of lattice, “one giant cluster”, conductivity  $> 0$
- line (1D): no (non-trivial) phase transition:  
 single missing bond breaks line into two large structures...

Nonetheless, start with 1D, can still learn something useful.

## Percolation on a line

**Gaps** on a line prevent both classical and quantum walkers from proceeding.



– if gaps change location  
at each time step:

[Romanelli et al  
quant-ph/0405120]

walk still gets through...

effect of gaps is like decoherence, spreading returns to classical scaling  
– bit with larger prefactor

# Percolation on a line – with tunnelling

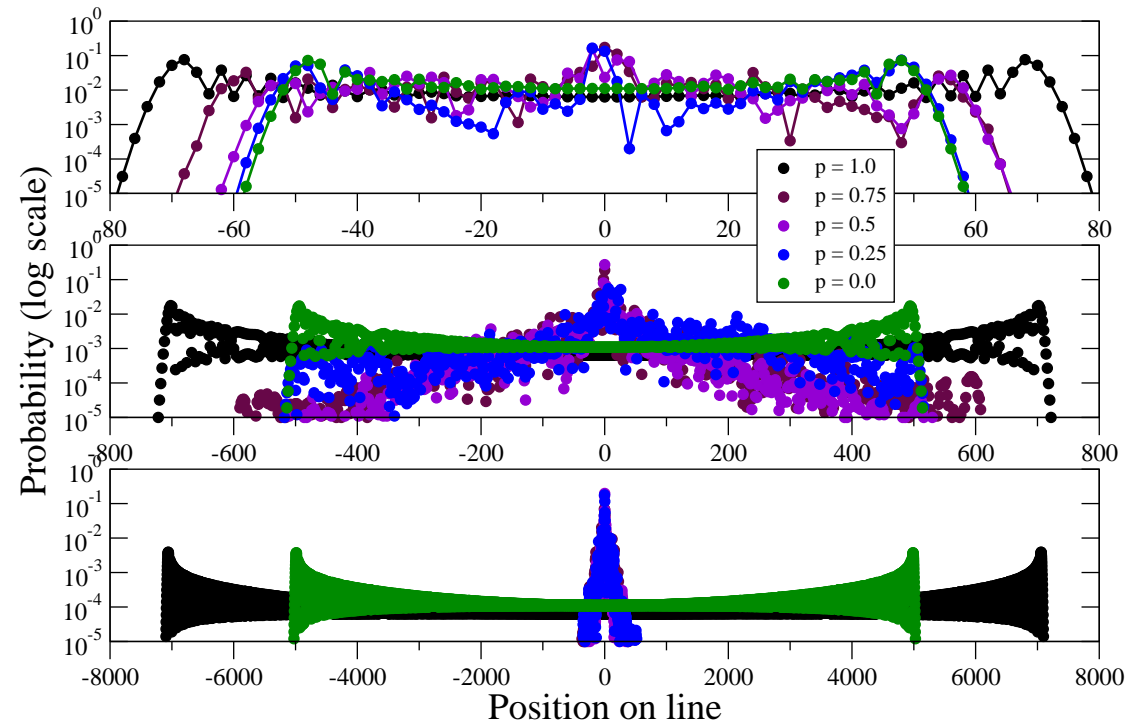
alternative: add a simple model of quantum tunnelling:

– unbiased coin for edges present

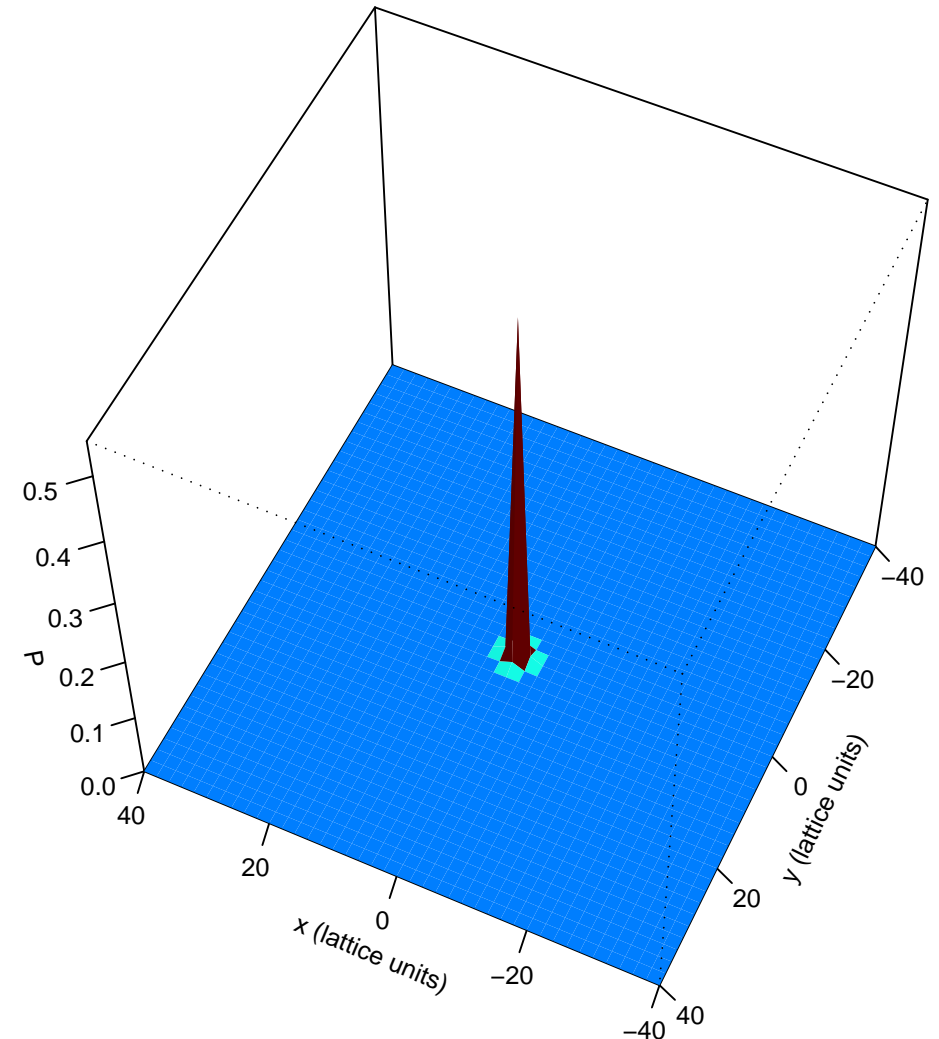
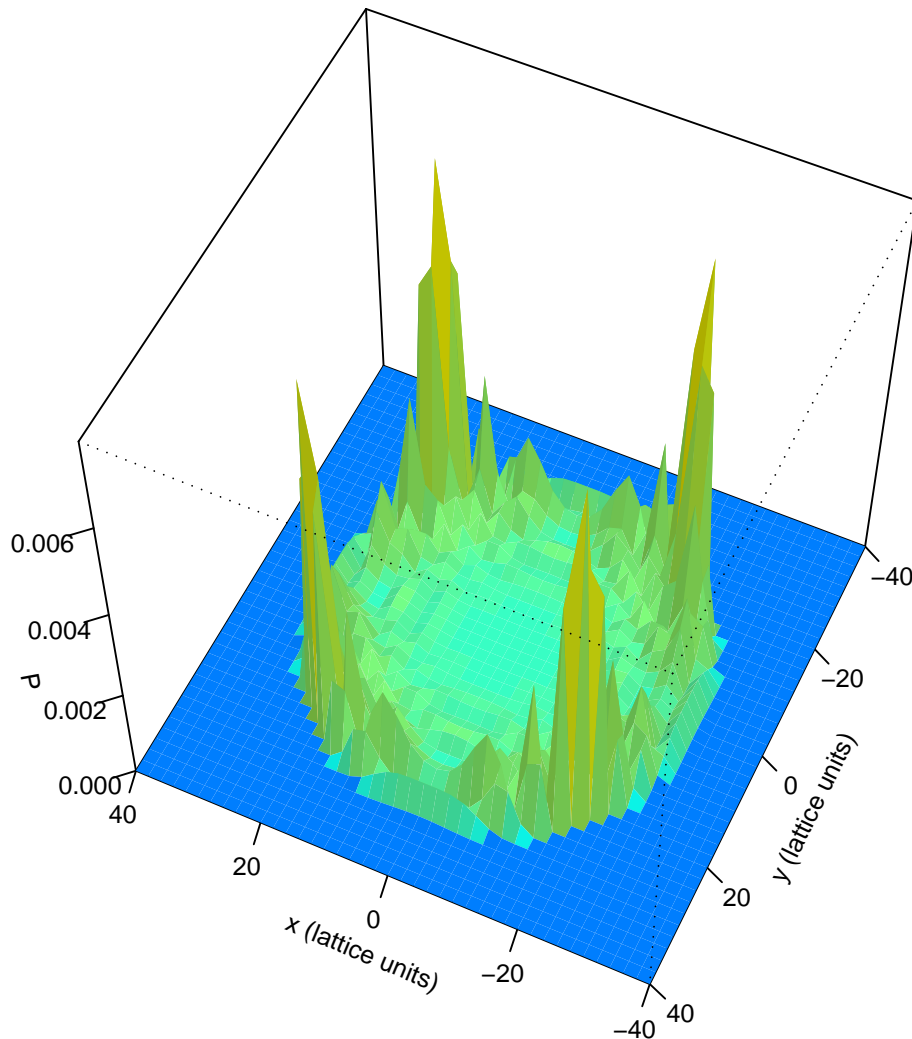
( $\eta = 0.25$  below)

– biased coin allows hopping over missing edges with small probability  $\eta$

regularly placed gaps equivalent to study by Linden and Sharam  
 arXiv:0906.3692v1  
 quantum behaviour but widely different spreading rates



# Quantum walk on 2D lattice

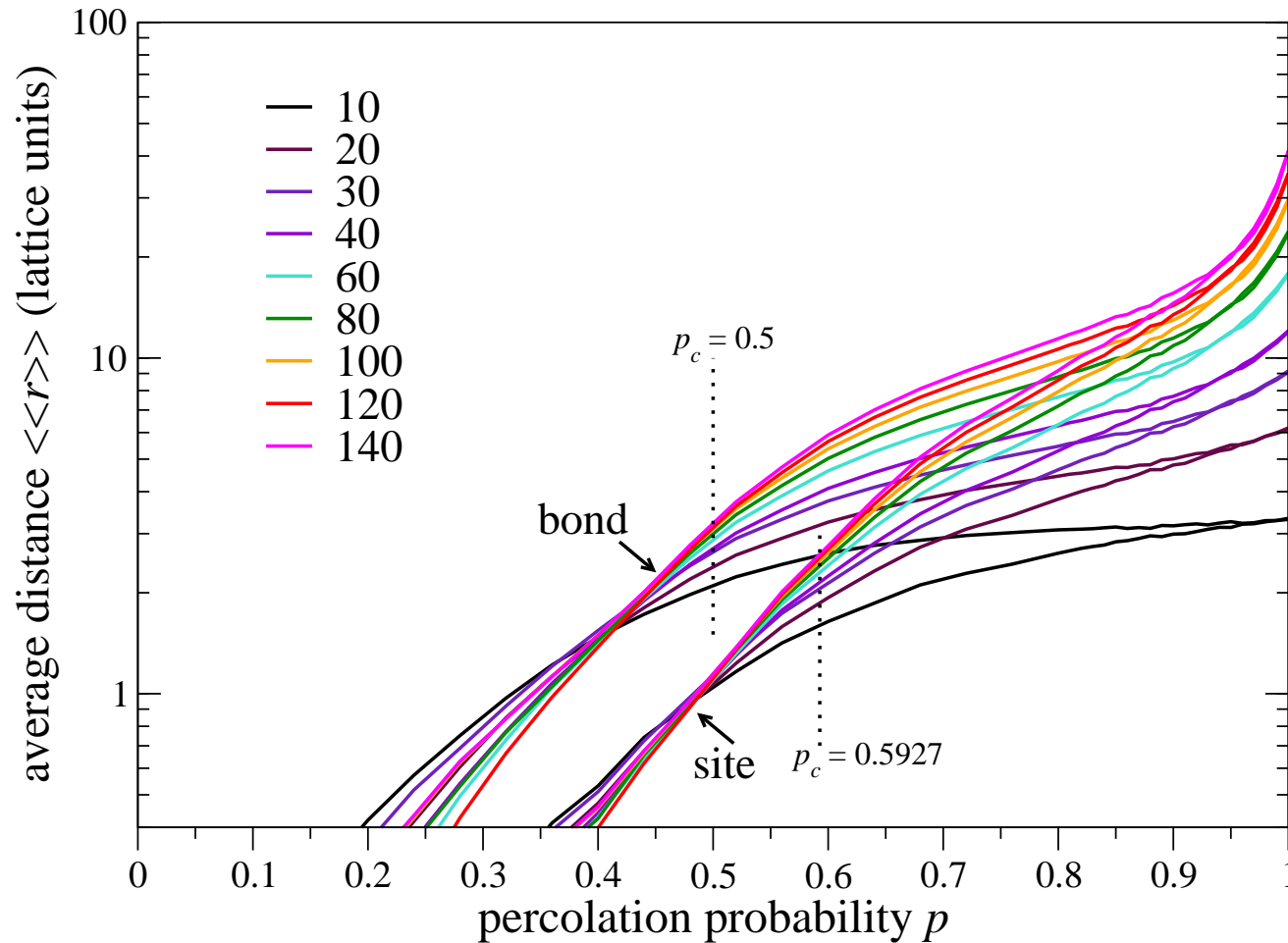


- one initial state gives good spreading

[Tregenna, Flanagan, Maile, VK, NJP 5 83 (2003)]

- rest give central peak, but intermediate spreading – this is worst case

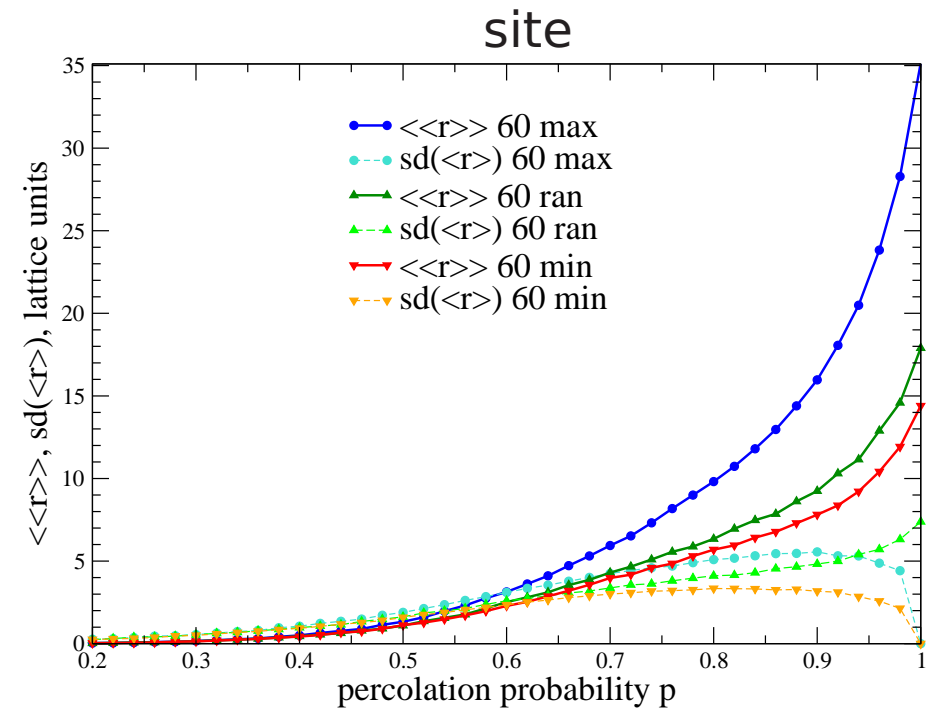
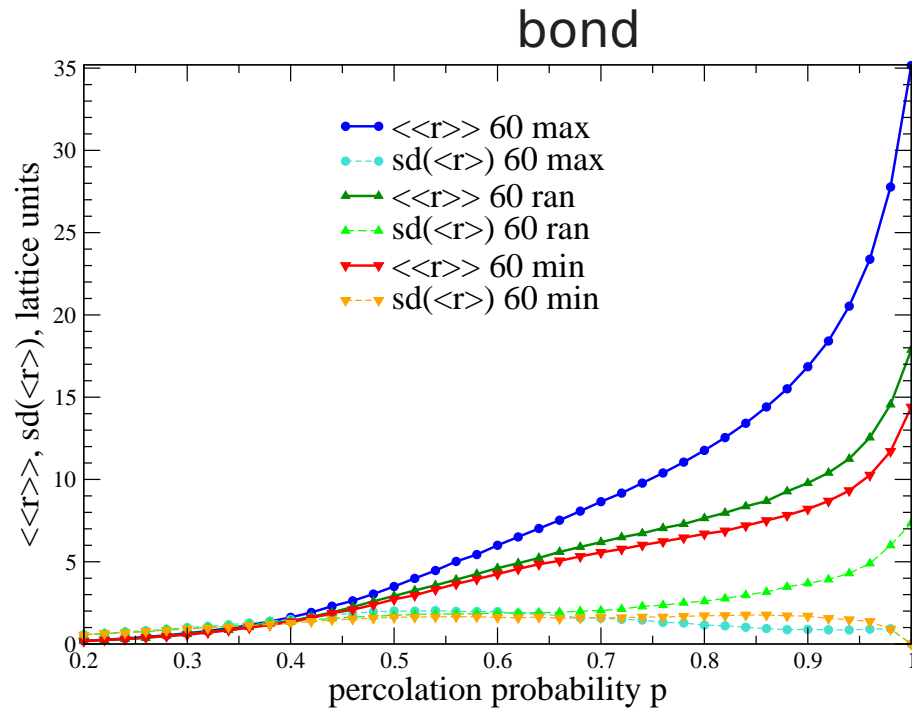
# Quantum walk on 2D percolation lattice



- size in key is number of time steps
- calculate  $\langle r \rangle$  for single percolation lattice, then
- average over many (5000) random percolation lattices
- log-linear plot: values of  $\langle\langle r \rangle\rangle$  below 1 not important

Note finite size effects: 10  $\longrightarrow$  100 peel off below  $p_c$

## Vary initial state:

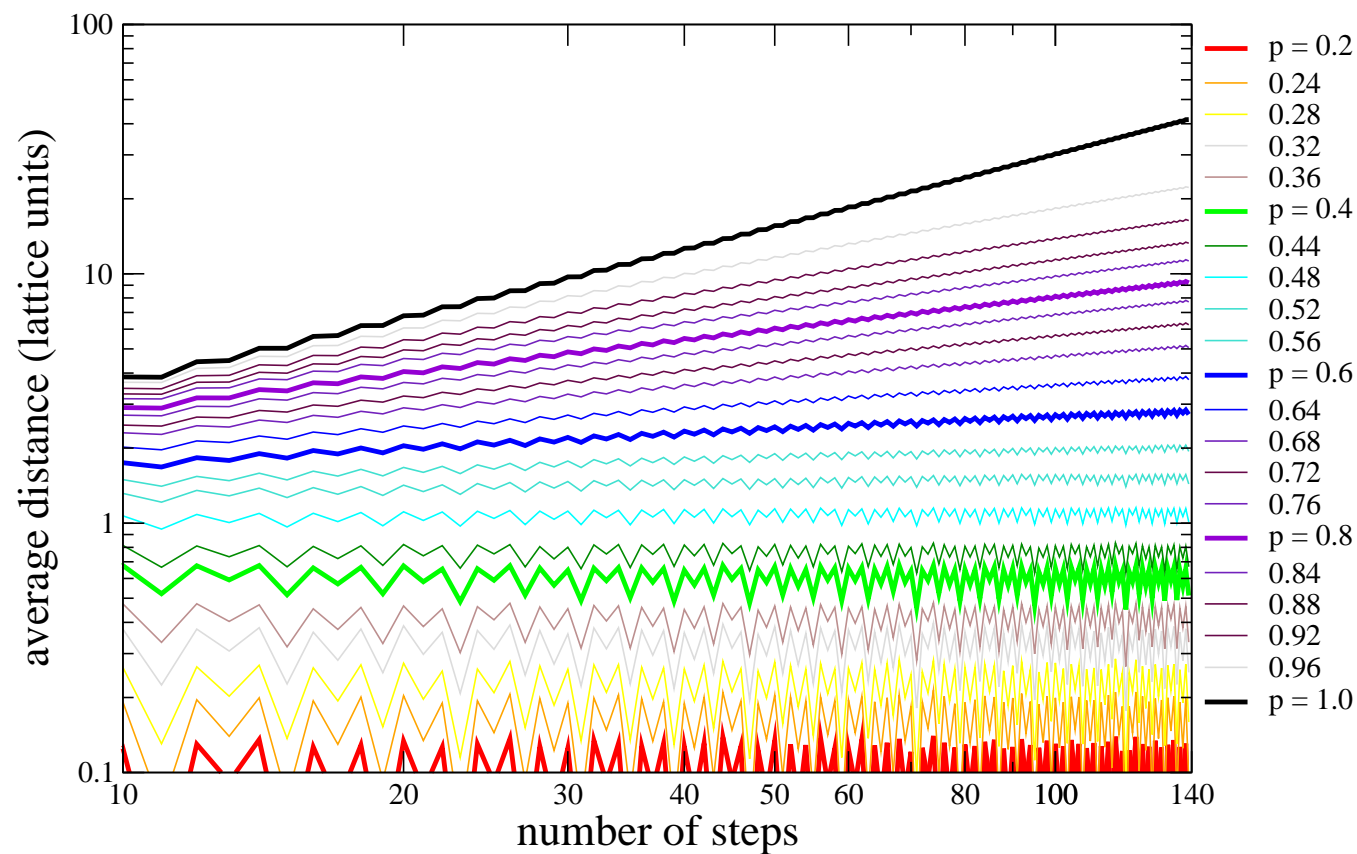


max and min correspond to initial states

ran is random phases in max state

$sd(\langle r \rangle)$  is variability of  $\langle r \rangle$  over percolation lattices – higher for site percolation

## Look at scaling of spreading



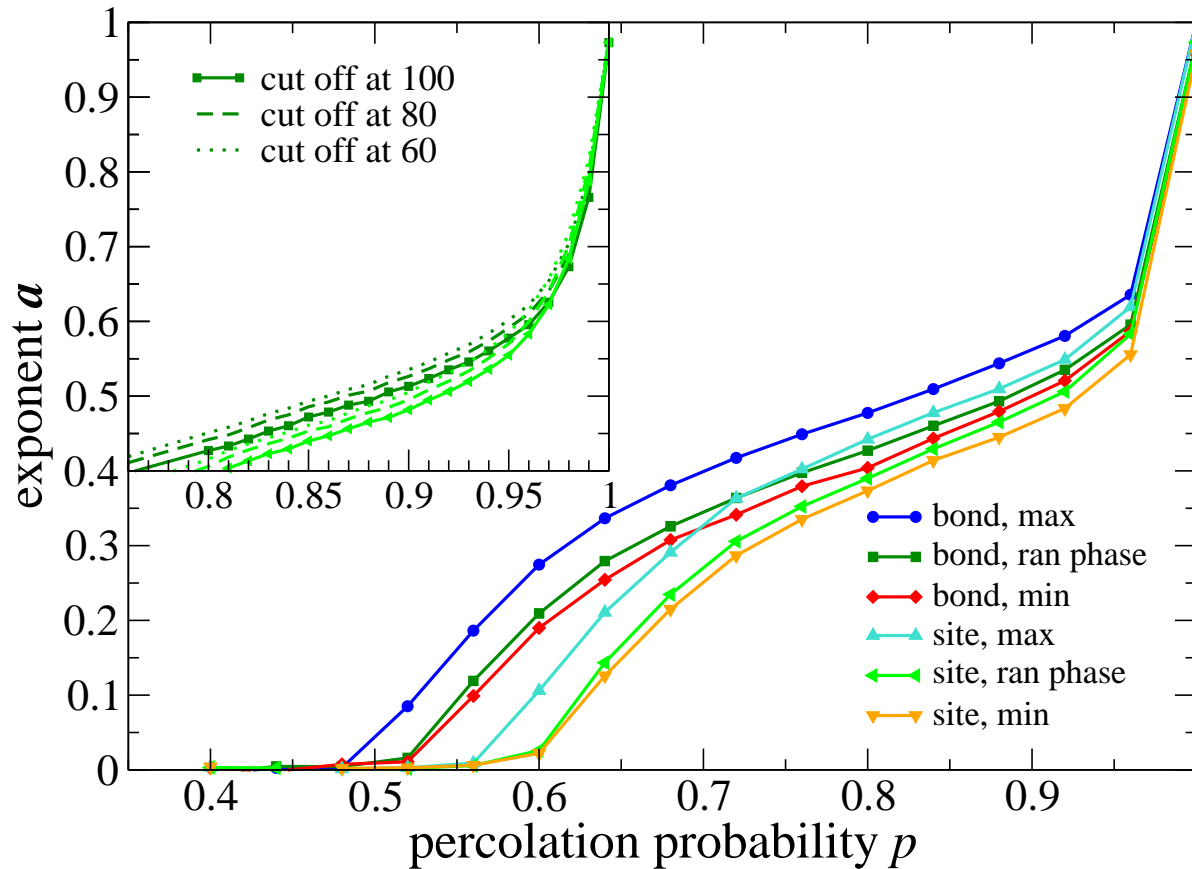
- log-log plot:  
slope gives scaling  
 $\langle\langle r \rangle\rangle \sim T^\alpha$

noting finite size effects... use range 100  $\rightarrow$  140 to fit for scaling



# Fractional scaling:

fit data in range 100  $\rightarrow$  140 to  $\langle\langle r \rangle\rangle \sim T^\alpha$

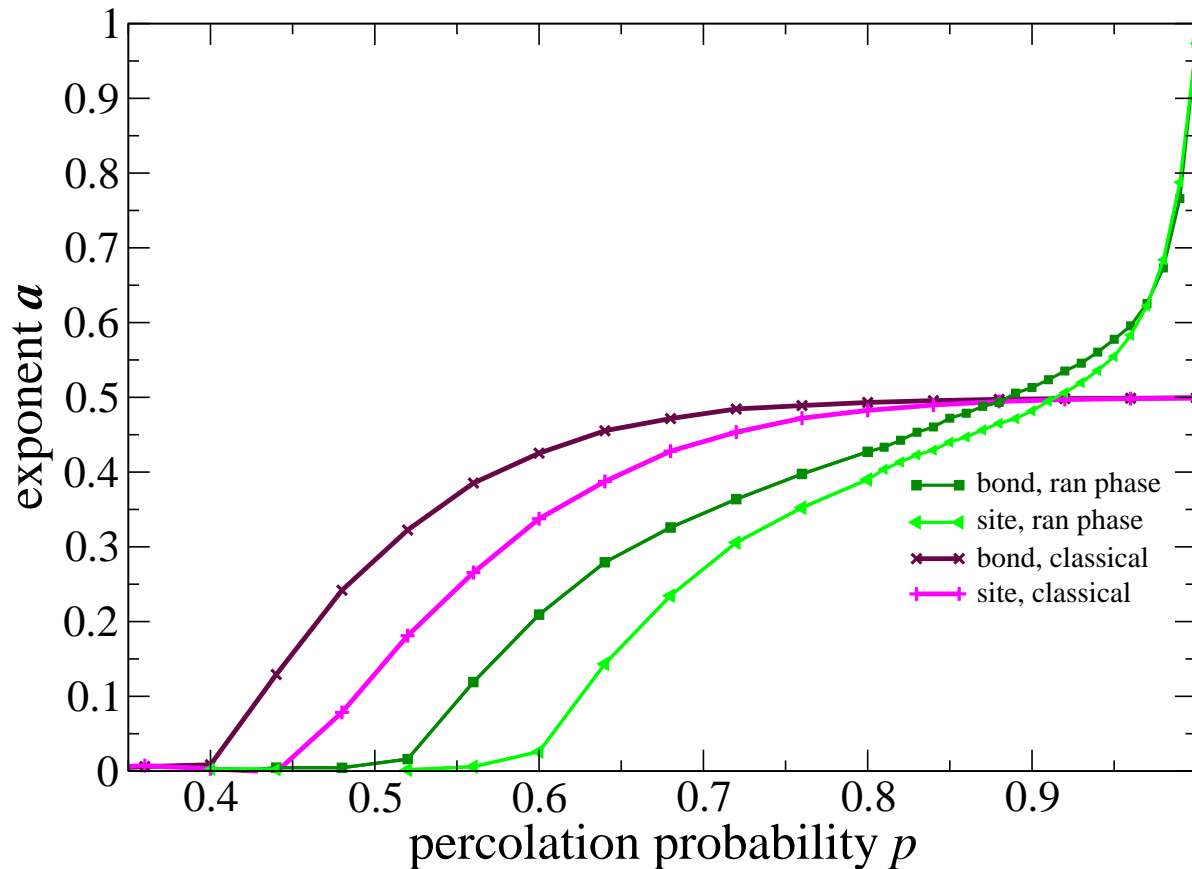


$p_c < p < 0.85$  smooth  
 rise  $0 < \alpha < 0.5$   
 $0.85 < p < 1.0$  steep  
 rise  $0.5 < \alpha \leq 1$

(inset tests finite size convergence using lower cut off for fits)

## Compare classical scaling:

– would be nice to know how classical random walk on percolation lattice scales...



same as before  
 (without inset) with  
 classical added...  
 same parameters for  
 fitting, 100  $\rightarrow$  140  
 still significant  
finite size effects...

- faster quantum spreading!
- need classical random walk  $\sim$  900 steps to sample at same rate?

## Summary – ArXiv:1006.1283

- classical simulation of quantum walk on 1- and 2-dimensional percolation lattices
- 1D the missing edges induce decoherence at large times
- 2D shows fractional scaling  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$  for  $p_c < p \leq 1$
- comparison of classical scaling hindered by finite size effects on tractable lattice sizes!
- timescales  $\lesssim 10^3$ : quantum still dominates?

### Further work:

- use percolation lattices to explore properties of quantum walk search algorithm
- can classical simulations of quantum walks do better for analysing percolation lattices?!
- transport, scaling exponents...quantum methods to calculate them?

