

Horváth and Markoš Reply: 1. In Ref. [1] (Letter) we calculated the infrared (IR) effective counting dimension d_{IR} [2–4] of critical states in 3D Anderson models, inferring two novelties: (m1) Space effectively occupied by a critical electron is of dimension $d_{\text{IR}} \approx 8/3$. Dimension d_{IR} governs IR scaling of properly defined *effective volume* and is unique in that role [4]. It is the maiden estimate of such a quantity in the Anderson context. (m2) Values of d_{IR} in studied classes (O , U , S , AIII) coincide to about two parts per mill with comparable individual errors. We dubbed this superuniversality in d_{IR} since other critical indices differ to a much larger degree.

2. In Ref. [5] (Comment) Burmistrov raises objections to (m1) and (m2). Burmistrov (B1) conjectures that $d_{\text{IR}} = f_m(3)$, where $f_m(\alpha)$ is the “singularity spectrum” of critical states in the moment multifractal (mMF) method [6]; (B2) combines it with older numerical results on f_m [7] to argue that our d_{IR} analysis is affected by systematics; and (B3) proposes that discrepancy arises because our procedure does not assume $\langle \mathcal{N}_\star \rangle_L$ asymptotics predicted by mMF.

3. (B1) is conjectural since it lacks the proof that an exact multifractal (MF) representation of $\langle \mathcal{N}_\star \rangle_L$, namely [8]

$$\langle \mathcal{N}_\star \rangle_L = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\alpha v(\alpha, L) L^{f(\alpha, L)} \min\{1, L^{D-\alpha}\} \quad (1)$$

implies $\langle \mathcal{N}_\star \rangle_L = h_\star(L) L^{f_m(3)}$, where h_\star is such that $\forall \delta > 0: \lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} L^{-\delta} \max\{h_\star(L), 1/h_\star(L)\} = 0$. The singularity spectrum $f(\alpha) = \lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} f(\alpha, L)$ in the MF (not mMF) method is the dimension of the set of points x for which $\psi^+ \psi(x) = L^{-\alpha}$. Precise definitions are given in [8]. Without this proof, (B2) and (B3) are conjectures as well.

4. Moreover, (B1) lacks support in raw d_{IR} data. Indeed, the left panel in Fig. 1 shows finite- L dimension $d_{\text{IR}}(L) \equiv d_{\text{IR}}(L, s=2)$ ($\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} d_{\text{IR}}(L) \equiv d_{\text{IR}}$; Eq. (7) in [1]) together with its mMF representations [8,9]. Parabolic mMF severely overestimates $d_{\text{IR}}(L)$, while full (quartic) mMF [9] does the opposite. Neither reflects large- L

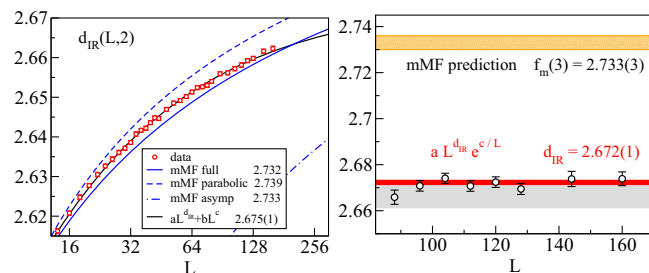


FIG. 1. Left: mMF predictions [8,9] for $d_{\text{IR}}(L, 2)$ vs data. The two-power fit describes $\langle \mathcal{N}_\star \rangle_L$ over the entire studied range ($6 \leq L \leq 160$) and guides the eye. Right: Stability of d_{IR} determination (see text). mMF prediction is based on (B1) and Ref. [7].

tendencies of $d_{\text{IR}}(L)$ at state-of-the-art volumes. The mMF asymptotic term [Eq. (3) in Comment] is almost off scale. Lacking contact (direct or indirect) with data, (B1) is in fact a hypothesis rather than conjecture. Note that our data were greatly extended for this purpose.

5. The claim that our analysis assumes “purely power-law-like scaling” of $\langle \mathcal{N}_\star \rangle_L$ is not true. To convey the related basics explicitly, note that $\langle \mathcal{N}_\star \rangle_L = h_\star(L) L^{d_{\text{IR}}}$, where $h_\star(L)$ varies slower than any nonzero power for $L \rightarrow \infty$. While h_\star is unknown, using *any* such $h(L)$ to model (fit) $\langle \mathcal{N}_\star \rangle_L$ is guaranteed to yield correct d_{IR} if the analysis includes a reliable $L \rightarrow \infty$ limit. In the Letter, we used $h(L)$ associated with linear $d_{\text{IR}}(1/L)$, namely $h(L) = a \exp(c/L)$. [Both $h(L)$ and $d_{\text{IR}}(1/L)$ would be constant in the pure-power case.] To check for sufficiency of available volumes, we fit in a sliding window $[L/2, L]$, with results ($88 \leq L \leq 160$) in the right panel of Fig. 1. We emphasize that each plotted point is an *extrapolated* d_{IR} . Saturation at $L \approx 96$ substantiates the stability of our analysis. The red band arises from an overall fit in the stable range. It lies at 2 parts per mill from $8/3$ (gray band) and far away from mMF prediction.

6. Given the reasoning in 3, 4 and 5, we consider Burmistrov arguments based on combination of (B1) and (B2) a bridge too far, especially when it comes to very fine quantitative resolution needed in the Comment. In their current form, these arguments do not affect the gist of (m1) and (m2).

7. The present debate opens doors to studies of potential loopholes in saddle point (Gaussian) mMF orthodoxy in the geometric description of Anderson criticality. One possibility is that $f_m \neq f$ [8] which would entail that Anderson multifractals are not exactly self-similar [10]. Recent *multidimensional analysis* [11] favors this scenario.

8. The Comment loses sight of the conceptual novelty in d_{IR} wherein effective numbers lead to well-defined *effective subsets* of a probability sample space and unique effective dimension [4]. This has no analog in MF formalism working with a one-parametric family of *fixed subsets*. In that vein, the (hypothetical) “ d_{IR} is nothing but $f(d)$ ” [read $f_m(d)$] reminds us of “ π is nothing but $22/7 - \int_0^1 dx x^4(1-x)^4/(1+x^2)$,” with both declarations stripping their subjects of meaning.

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