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# Almost sure convergence rates in martingale convergence theorems

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joint work with

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# I. Motivation: The Polya Urn process

- Urn with  $N$  balls
- $B$  of them are **black**, and  $N - B$  of them are **white**.

The game:

1. Pick a ball  $Z$  from the urn
2. If  $Z$  is
  - $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{black:} \quad \text{put it back \& another black ball into the urn} \\ \text{white:} \quad \text{put it back \& another white ball into the urn} \end{array} \right.$
3. Repeat step 1.

What about the (random) proportion of the black balls on the long run?

## Formally:

- Urn with  $N$  balls
- $B$  of them are **black**, and  $N - B$  of them are **white**.
- Step 0: Initial value

$$X_0 := \frac{B}{N}$$

- Step 1: Given  $X_0$  sample  $Y_1 \sim \mathcal{B}_{X_0}$

$$X_1 := \frac{B + Y_1}{N + 1}$$

- Step  $n$ : Given  $X_{n-1}$  sample  $X_n \sim \mathcal{B}_{X_{n-1}}$

$$X_n := \frac{B + \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i}{N + n}$$

Polya urns have “balanced” increments (= they are “martingales”)

$$\mathbb{E}[(\mathbf{X}_{n+1} - \mathbf{X}_n) \mid \sigma(\mathbf{X}_n, \dots, \mathbf{X}_1)] = \mathbf{0} \quad \text{a.s.}$$

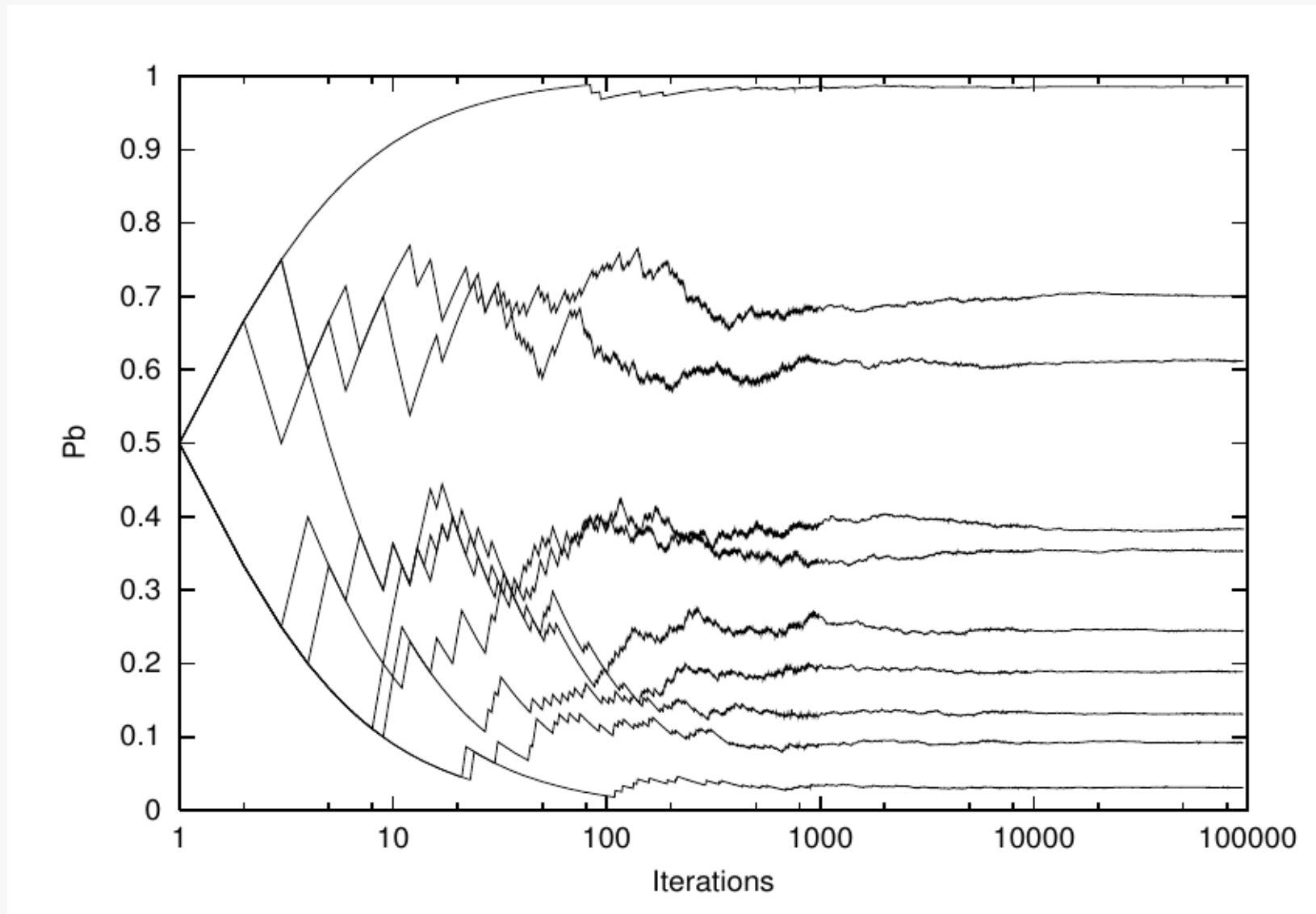
Easy check

$$\begin{aligned} & (\mathbf{N} + \mathbf{n} + \mathbf{1})\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}_{n+1} - \mathbf{X}_n \mid \sigma(\mathbf{X}_n, \dots, \mathbf{X}_1)] \\ &= \mathbb{E}\left[\left(\mathbf{B} + \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} \mathbf{Y}_i\right) - \frac{\mathbf{N} + \mathbf{n} + \mathbf{1}}{\mathbf{N} + \mathbf{n}}\left(\mathbf{B} + \sum_{i=1}^{\mathbf{n}} \mathbf{Y}_i\right) \mid \sigma(\mathbf{X}_n, \dots, \mathbf{X}_1)\right] \\ &= \mathbb{E}\left[\left(\mathbf{B} + \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} \mathbf{Y}_i\right) - \frac{\mathbf{N} + \mathbf{n}}{\mathbf{N} + \mathbf{n}}\left(\mathbf{B} + \sum_{i=1}^{\mathbf{n}} \mathbf{Y}_i\right) - \frac{\mathbf{1}}{\mathbf{N} + \mathbf{n}}\left(\mathbf{B} + \sum_{i=1}^{\mathbf{n}} \mathbf{Y}_i\right) \mid \sigma(\mathbf{X}_n, \dots, \mathbf{X}_1)\right] \\ &= \mathbb{E}\left[\left(\mathbf{B} + \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} \mathbf{Y}_i\right) - \left(\mathbf{B} + \sum_{i=1}^{\mathbf{n}} \mathbf{Y}_i\right) - \mathbf{X}_n \mid \sigma(\mathbf{X}_n, \dots, )\right] \\ &= \mathbb{E}\left[\underbrace{\mathbf{Y}_{n+1}}_{\sim \mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{X}_n}} \mid \sigma(\mathbf{X}_n, \dots, \mathbf{X}_1)\right] - \mathbf{X}_n = \mathbf{X}_n - \mathbf{X}_n = \mathbf{0}. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover their **increments decrease a.s. like  $\frac{1}{n}$**

$$\begin{aligned} |X_n - X_{n-1}| &= \left| \frac{S_n + B}{n + N} - \frac{S_{n-1} + B}{n - 1 + N} \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{n + N} \left| S_n + B - \left( 1 + \frac{1}{n - 1 + N} \right) (S_{n-1} + B) \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{n + N} \left| Y_n + \frac{1}{n - 1 + N} (S_{n-1} + B) \right| \leq \frac{2}{n + N} \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $X_n$  should converge a.s. ... to a random variable  $X_\infty$

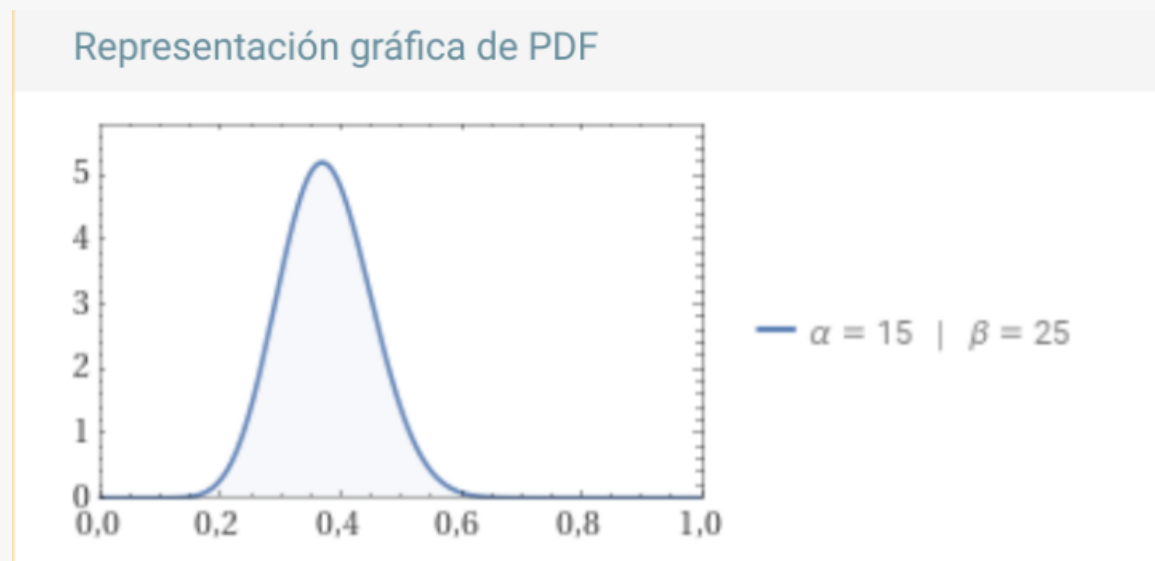


The **limiting distribution** is known

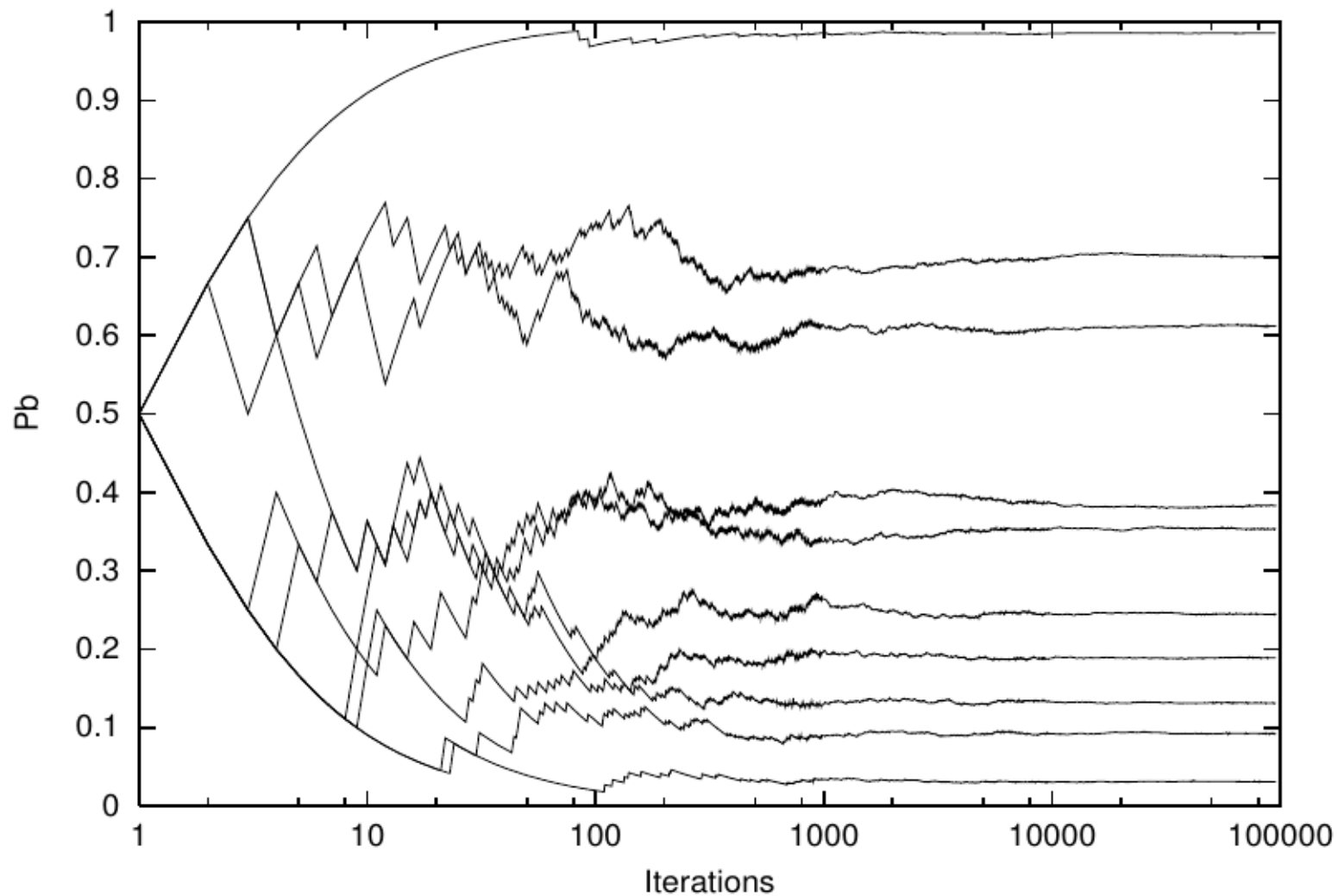
$$\mathbf{X}_n \rightarrow \mathbf{X}_\infty \sim \text{Beta}(\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{N} - \mathbf{B})$$

and the it depends on the initial distribution  $\mathbf{B}$  vs  $\mathbf{N} - \mathbf{B}$

$$f_{\mathbf{X}_\infty}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{C} \cdot \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{B}-1} \cdot (1 - \mathbf{x})^{\mathbf{N}-\mathbf{B}-1}, \quad \mathbf{x} \in [0, 1]$$



Note that its mean is given by the initial proportion  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}_\infty] = \frac{\mathbf{B}}{\mathbf{N}}$   
However, unclear **how fast converges**  $\mathbf{X}_n \rightarrow \mathbf{X}_\infty$ .



¿How fast does  $X_n \rightarrow X_\infty$  converge  $\omega$ -wise?

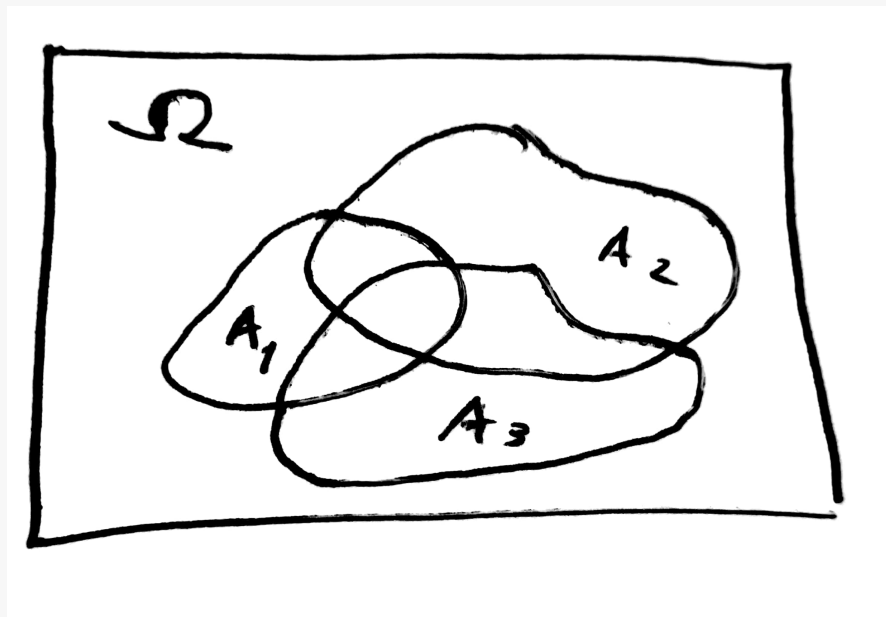


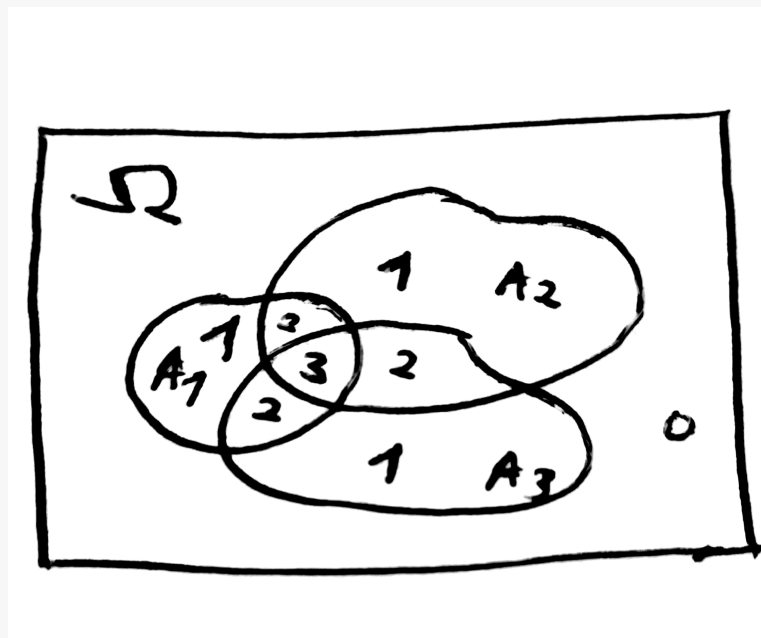
## II. A device to prove a.s. convergence: the Borel-Cantelli Lemma

- $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$  probability space
- $(A_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}, A_n \in \mathcal{A}$  family of events

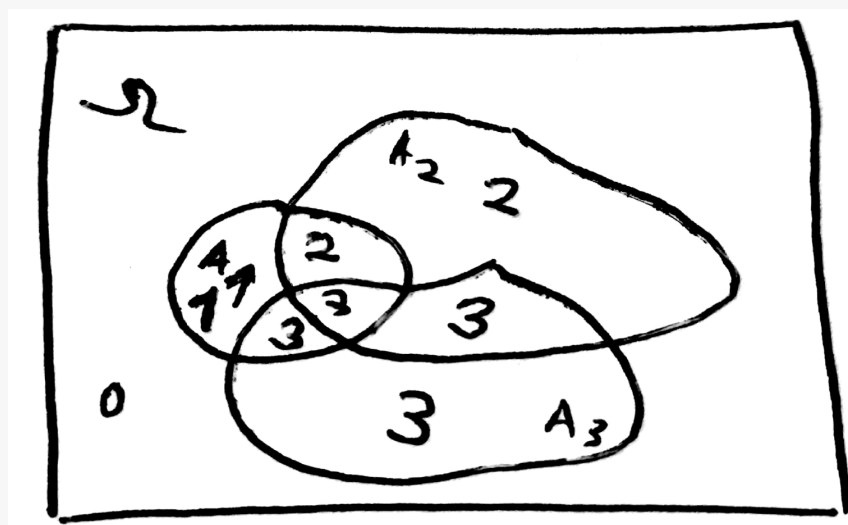
$$\mathcal{O}(\omega) := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 1(A_n)(\omega) \quad \text{“overlap count”}$$

$$\mathcal{M}(\omega) := \max\{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid \omega \in A_n\} \quad \text{“last index”}$$





“overlap count”  $O(\omega)$

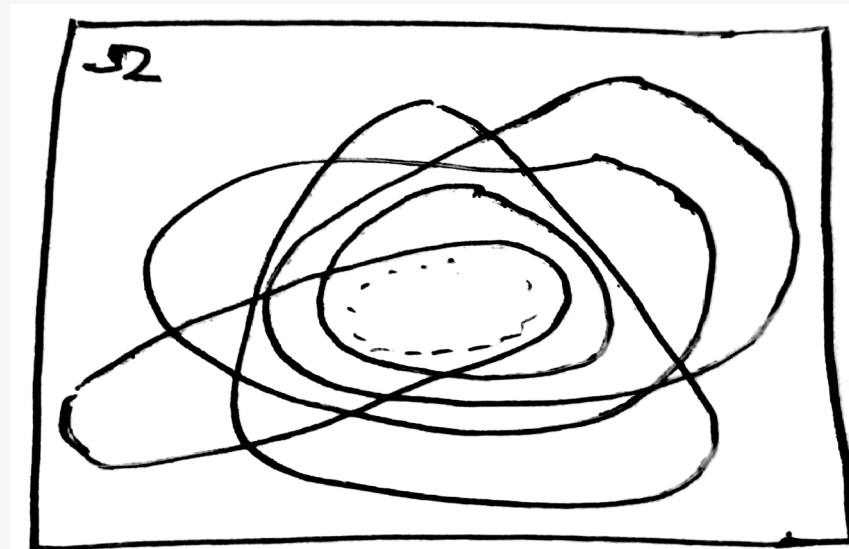


“last index”  $M(\omega)$

- $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$  probability space
- $(\mathbf{A}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}, \mathbf{A}_n \in \mathcal{A}$  family of events

$$\mathcal{O}(\omega) := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbf{1}(\mathbf{A}_n)(\omega) \quad \text{“overlap count”}$$

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{A}_n = \{\omega \in \Omega \mid \mathcal{O}(\omega) = \infty\} \quad \text{“infinite overlap”}$$



## The first Borel-Cantelli lemma (1909 / 1917)

- $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$  probability space
- $(\mathbf{A}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}, \mathbf{A}_n \in \mathcal{A}$  family of events

Then

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{A}_n) < \infty$$

implies

$$\mathbb{P}(\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{A}_n) = 0.$$

## The first Borel-Cantelli lemma (1909 / 1917)

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Then

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{A}_n) < \infty$$

implies

$$\mathbb{P}(\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{A}_n) = 0.$$

That is,

$$\mathcal{O} < \infty \quad \mathbb{P} - \text{almost surely.}$$

“The overlap depth is finite a.s.”

**Proof 1:  $\mathcal{O} < \infty$   $\mathbb{P}$ -a.s.**

For all  $N \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\mathbb{P}(\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{A}_n) = \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup_{m \geq n} \mathbf{A}_m\right) \leq \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{n=1}^N \bigcup_{m \geq n} \mathbf{A}_m\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{m=N}^{\infty} \mathbf{A}_m\right)$$

**Proof 1:  $\mathcal{O} < \infty$   $\mathbb{P}$ -a.s.**

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and 
$$\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{m=N}^{\infty} \mathbf{A}_m\right) \leq \sum_{m=N}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{A}_m) < \infty \quad \text{by hypothesis.}$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad 0 \leq \mathbb{P}(\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{A}_n) \leq \sum_{m=N}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{A}_m) \quad \text{for all } N \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad 0 \leq \mathbb{P}(\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{A}_n) \leq \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{m=N}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{A}_m) = 0$$

## Proof 2: $\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{O}] < \infty$

By monotone convergence (Beppo-Levi)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{O}] &= \mathbb{E}\left[\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=1}^N \mathbf{1}_{A_n}\right] \\ &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{n=1}^N \mathbf{1}_{A_n}\right] \\ &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=1}^N \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{1}_{A_n}] \\ &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=1}^N \mathbb{P}(A_n) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_n) < \infty\end{aligned}$$

by hypothesis.

This **implies**  $\mathcal{O} < \infty$  with probability 1.



## Observations:

- The distribution of  $\mathcal{O}$  is well-known as **Schuette-Nesbitt formula** (Gerber 1979)

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O} = \mathbf{k}) = \sum_{\substack{J \subset \{1, \dots, N\} \\ |J| = k}} \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{j \in J} A_j\right)$$

The **probabilities on the right-hand side** are **rarely at hand**.

- However: many applications with  $\mathbb{P}(A_n) \searrow 0$  **much faster, than merely summable, with unknown  $\mathbb{P}(\bigcap_{j \in J} A_j)$ !!**
- Seems natural **to translate the rate  $\mathbb{P}(A_n) \searrow 0$  into higher moments of  $\mathcal{O}$  (and  $\mathcal{M}$ ).**

## Example:

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{A}_n) \leq \frac{1}{n^q}, \quad \text{given } q > 1$$

Hence

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{O}] = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{A}_n) \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^q} < \infty.$$

Note: **larger** values of  $q$  yield **smaller** values of  $\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{O}]$ .

—→ Instead: is such a relation also **true under the expectation?**

—→ That is, what about **higher moments** of  $\mathcal{O}$ ?

For instance, **given**  $q = 5$ , for which  $p > 0$  do we get

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{O}^{1+p}] < \infty \quad ?$$

## Questions:

- i) Given **only the rate of convergence**  $\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{A}_n) \searrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  
what can be said about **higher moments of the overlap**

$$\mathcal{O}(\omega) := \sum_n \mathbf{1}(\mathbf{A}_n) \quad ?$$

- ii) How can the results of i) be improved by the **monotonicity** (nestedness) of the events  $\mathbf{A}_n \supset \mathbf{A}_{n+1}$ ?

- iii) How about **higher moments of the (random) last index**

$$\mathcal{M}(\omega) := \max\{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N} \mid \omega \in \mathbf{A}_n\} \quad ?$$

# Lemma: Borel-Cantelli moment equation for nested events<sup>1 2</sup>:

- $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$
- $(A_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  **nested events:**  $A_n \supset A_{n+1}, \quad n \geq n_0$
- $a = (a_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  positive & nondecreasing

Then we have

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{S}_{a,n_0}(\mathcal{O}_{n_0})] = \sum_{n=n_0}^{\infty} a_n \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_n)$$

for

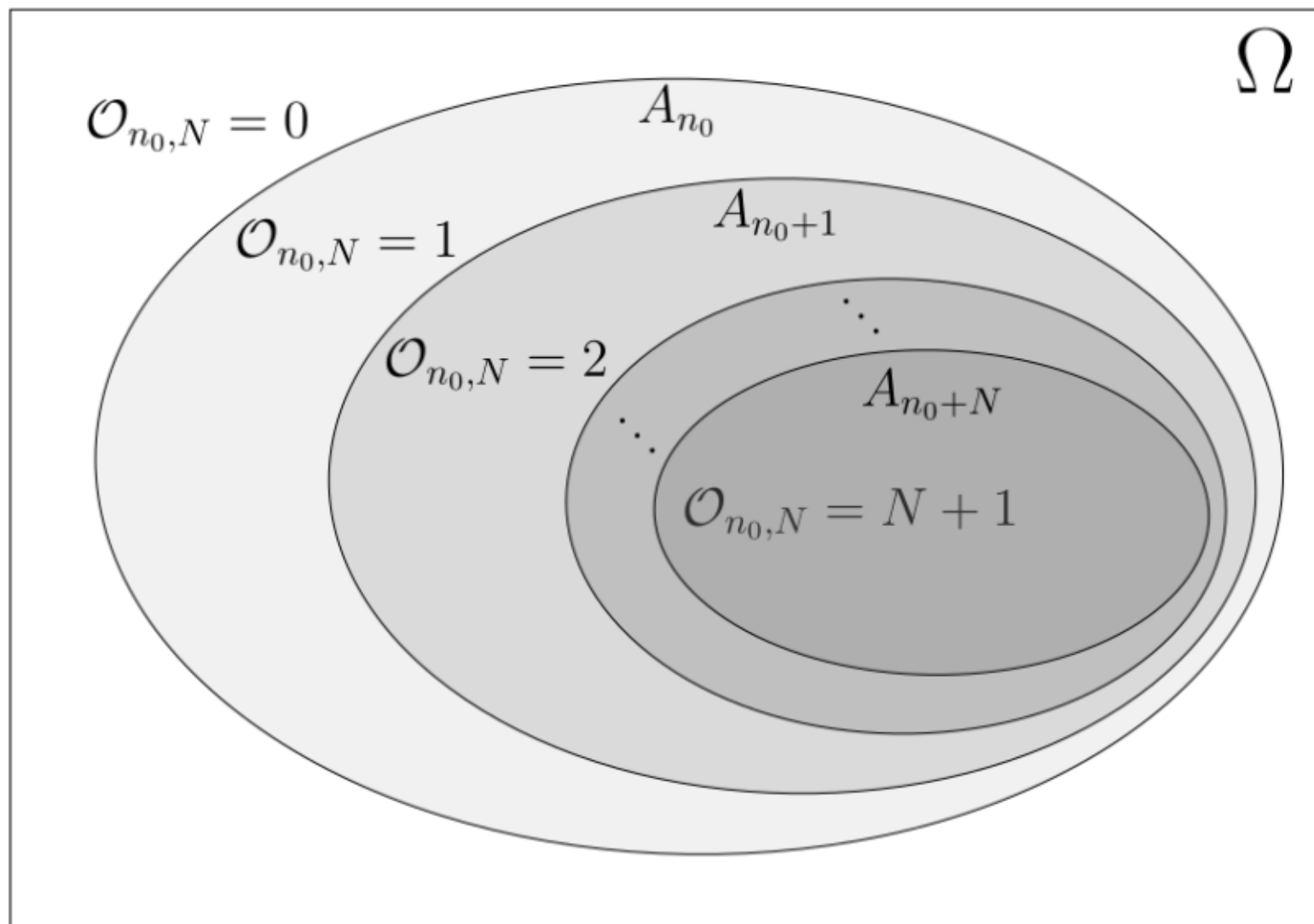
$$\mathcal{S}_{a,n_0}(N) := \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} a_{n+n_0}, \quad \mathcal{S}_{a,n_0}(0) = 0$$

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<sup>1</sup>Luisa F. Estrada, Michael A. Högele: Moment estimates in the first Borel-Cantelli Lemma with applications to mean deviation frequencies. Statistics and Probability Letters 190 (2022) 109636, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.spl.2022.109636>

<sup>2</sup>Luisa F. Estrada, Michael A. Högele, Alexander Steinicke: On the tradeoff between almost sure error tolerance versus mean deviation frequency in martingale convergence, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2310.09055>

**Proof:**



- $\{\mathcal{O}_{n_0, N} = 0\} = A_{n_0}^c$
- nestedness:  $\{\mathcal{O}_{n_0, N} = k\} = A_{n_0+k-1} \setminus A_{n_0+k}$  for  $k = 1, \dots, N$
- $\{\mathcal{O}_{n_0, N} = N + 1\} = A_{n_0+N}$
- For  $p_k = \mathbb{P}(A_k)$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{S}_{a, n_0}(\mathcal{O}_{n_0, N})] \\ = \mathcal{S}_{a, n_0}(0)\mathbb{P}(\Omega \setminus A_{n_0}) + \sum_{k=1}^N \mathcal{S}_{a, n_0}(k)\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O}_{n_0, N} = k) + \mathcal{S}_{a, n_0}(N+1)\mathbb{P}(A_{N+n_0}) \end{aligned}$$

## Summation by parts:

$$\sum_{k=0}^N f_k g_k = f_N \sum_{k=0}^N g_k - \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} (f_{j+1} - f_j) \sum_{\ell=0}^j g_k.$$

$$f_k = p_{n_0+k}, \quad g_k = a_{n_0+k} \quad p_k = \mathbb{P}(A_k)$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^N a_{n_0+k} p_{n_0+k} = p_{n_0+N} \sum_{k=0}^N a_{n_0+k} + \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} (p_{n_0+j} - p_{n_0+j+1}) \sum_{\ell=0}^j a_{n_0+\ell}.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{k=0}^N a_{n_0+k} \mathbb{P}(A_{n_0+k}) \\
&= \mathbb{P}(A_{n_0+N}) \sum_{k=0}^N a_{n_0+k} + \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} (\mathbb{P}(A_{n_0+j}) - \mathbb{P}(A_{n_0+j+1})) \sum_{\ell=0}^j a_{n_0+\ell} \\
&= \mathbb{P}(A_{n_0+N}) \sum_{k=0}^N a_{n_0+k} + \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \left( \sum_{\ell=0}^j a_{n_0+\ell} \right) \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O}_{n_0,N} = j+1) \\
&= \mathbb{P}(A_{n_0+N}) \sum_{k=0}^N a_{n_0+k} + \sum_{j=1}^N \left( \sum_{\ell=0}^{j-1} a_{n_0+\ell} \right) \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O}_{n_0,N} = j)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{S}_{a,n_0}(\mathcal{O}_{n_0,N})] \\
&= \mathcal{S}_{a,n_0}(0) \mathbb{P}(\Omega \setminus A_{n_0}) + \sum_{k=1}^N \mathcal{S}_{a,n_0}(k) \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O}_{n_0,N} = k) + \mathcal{S}_{a,n_0}(N+1) \mathbb{P}(A_{N+n_0})
\end{aligned}$$



for

$$\mathcal{S}_{\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{n}_0}(\mathbf{N}) := \sum_{\mathbf{n}=0}^{\mathbf{N}-1} \mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{n}+\mathbf{n}_0}, \quad \mathcal{S}_{\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{n}_0}(\mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}.$$

Sending  $N \rightarrow \infty$  we have by monotone convergence

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{S}_{a, n_0}(\mathcal{O}_{n_0})] = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_{n_0+k} \mathbb{P}(A_{n_0+k}) = \sum_{\ell=n_0}^{\infty} a_{\ell} \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_{\ell}).$$

## Lemma: Borel-Cantelli moment estimate for general events

- $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$
- $(\mathbf{A}_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  **general events** (not nested)
- $(a_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  positive & nondecreasing

Then we have

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{S}_{a,n_0}(\mathcal{O}_{n_0})] \leq \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{S}_{a,n_0}(\mathcal{M}_{n_0})] \leq \sum_{n=n_0}^{\infty} a_n \cdot \sum_{m=n}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{A}_m),$$

for

$$\mathcal{O}_{n_0} := \sum_{n=n_0}^{\infty} \mathbf{1}(\mathbf{A}_n)$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{n_0} := \max\{n \geq n_0 \mid \omega \in \mathbf{A}_n\} = \sum_{n=n_0}^{\infty} \mathbf{1}\left(\bigcup_{m=n}^{\infty} \mathbf{A}_m\right)$$

and

$$\mathcal{S}_{\mathbf{a},\mathbf{n}_0}(\mathbf{N}) := \sum_{\mathbf{n}=\mathbf{0}}^{\mathbf{N}-1} \mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{n}+\mathbf{n}_0}, \quad \mathcal{S}_{\mathbf{a},\mathbf{n}_0}(\mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}$$

## Proof:

- Fix

$$\mathbf{A}_n \subset \tilde{\mathbf{A}}_n := \bigcup_{m=n}^{\infty} \mathbf{A}_m.$$

Note that  $(\tilde{\mathbf{A}}_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  is nested. Then by construction

$$\mathcal{O}_{n_0} = \sum_{n=n_0}^{\infty} \mathbf{1}(\mathbf{A}_n) \leq \sum_{n=n_0}^{\infty} \mathbf{1}(\tilde{\mathbf{A}}_n) = \mathcal{M}_{n_0}.$$

- The nestedness of  $(\tilde{\mathbf{A}}_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  allows to apply our Lemma for nested events:

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{S}_{\mathbf{a}, n_0}(\mathcal{O}_{n_0})] \leq \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{S}_{\mathbf{a}, n_0}(\mathcal{M}_{n_0})] = \sum_{n=n_0}^{\infty} \mathbf{a}_n \mathbb{P}(\tilde{\mathbf{A}}_n) \leq \sum_{n=n_0}^{\infty} \mathbf{a}_n \sum_{m=n}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{A}_m)$$

## Lemma: **Moment version of the first Borel-Cantelli lemma**

- $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P}), n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$
- $(A_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  **family of events**
- $(a_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  positive & nondecreasing

Then we have

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \mathcal{S}_{a, n_0}(\mathcal{O}_{n_0}) \right] \leq \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathcal{S}_{a, n_0}(\mathcal{M}_{n_0}) \right] \leq \sum_{n=n_0}^{\infty} a_n \sum_{m=n}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_m).$$

If the sequence  $(A_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  is **nested**, we have

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \mathcal{S}_{a, n_0}(\mathcal{O}_{n_0}) \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathcal{S}_{a, n_0}(\mathcal{M}_{n_0}) \right] = \sum_{n=n_0}^{\infty} a_n \mathbb{P}(A_n).$$

## Example 1: Polynomial probability decay

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{A}_m) \leq c m^{-q}$$

Then for  $0 < p < q - 2$ :

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{O}_{n_0}^{1+p}] \leq \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{M}_{n_0}^{1+p}] \leq c q \zeta(q - p - 1; n_0), \quad \zeta(z; n_0) = \sum_{n=n_0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^z}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O}_{n_0} \geq k) \leq \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{M}_{n_0} \geq k) \leq c q \cdot k^{-(p+1)} \cdot \zeta(q - p - 1; n_0) \quad k \geq 1.$$

This answers our **pink question**: For instance, given  $q = 5$ , for which  $p > 0$  do we get

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{O}^{1+p}] < \infty \quad ?$$

**How to calculate this:**

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{n=n_0}^{\infty} n^p \sum_{m=n}^{\infty} cm^{-q} &\leq c \sum_{n=n_0}^{\infty} n^p \left( n^{-q} + \int_n^{\infty} x^{-q} dx \right) \\ &= c\zeta(q-p; n_0) + \frac{c}{q-1} \zeta(q-p-1; n_0) \\ &\leq \frac{cq}{q-1} \zeta(q-p-1; n_0)\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{S}_{a,n_0}(N) = \sum_{n=n_0}^{N+n_0-1} n^p \geq \sum_{n=1}^N n^p \geq \int_0^N x^p dx = \frac{N^{p+1}}{p+1}$$

## Example 2: Exponential probability decay

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{A}_m) \leq cb^m$$

Then for all  $b \in (0, 1)$ ,  $c > 0$ ,  $p \in (0, 1)$ :

$$\mathbb{E}[b^{-p\mathcal{O}_{n_0}}] \leq \mathbb{E}[b^{-p\mathcal{M}_{n_0}}] \leq 1 + \frac{cb^{n_0-1}}{1 - b^{1-p}}$$

and for  $k \geq 1$

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O}_{n_0} \geq k) \leq \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{M}_{n_0} \geq k) \leq 2^{9/8} [k(cb^{n_0-1} + 1) + 1] \cdot b^k.$$



**Example 3: Weibull decay**  $\boxed{\mathbb{P}(A_m) \leq c b^{m^\alpha}}$   $b, \alpha, \in (0, 1), c > 0$

Then for any  $p \in (0, 1) \exists K = K(p, c, b, \alpha) > 0$  :

$$\mathbb{E}[b^{-p(\mathcal{O}_{n_0} + n_0 - 1)}] \leq \mathbb{E}[b^{-p(\mathcal{M}_{n_0} + n_0 - 1)}] \leq K$$

and

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O}_{n_0} \geq k) \leq \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{M}_{n_0} \geq k) \leq b^{p(k-1)^\alpha} K$$

## Recall:

- $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$
- $(\mathbf{X}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}, \mathbf{X}_n : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
- $\mathbf{X} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

1)

$$\mathbf{X}_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{X} \quad \text{in probability}$$

if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|\mathbf{X}_n - \mathbf{X}| > \varepsilon) = 0 \quad \forall \varepsilon > 0$$

2)

$$\mathbf{X}_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{X} \quad \mathbb{P} - \text{a.s.}$$

if  $\exists \tilde{\Omega} \in \mathcal{A}$  con  $\mathbb{P}(\tilde{\Omega}) = 1$  s.th.

$$\forall \omega \in \tilde{\Omega} : \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{X}_n(\omega) = \mathbf{X}(\omega).$$

## Tradeoff Lemma of a.s. convergence<sup>3</sup>:

- $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{X}), d)$  Polish space
- $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$  with  $X_n, X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  r.v.,  $n \geq n_0$
- $p(\delta, n) := \mathbb{P}(d(X_n, X) > \delta) \rightarrow 0$ , as  $n \rightarrow \infty \quad \forall \delta > 0$  (conv. in  $\mathbb{P}$ )

Then for any  $\epsilon := (\epsilon_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  ( $> 0, \searrow$ ) and  $\mathbf{a} = (a_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  ( $> 0, \nearrow$ ) s.th.

$$K(\mathbf{a}, \epsilon, n_0) := \sum_{n=n_0}^{\infty} a_n \sum_{m=n}^{\infty} p(\epsilon_m, m) < \infty$$

1) we have the **a.s. asymptotic rate**

$$d(X_n, X) \leq \epsilon_n \quad \text{a.s. for all } n \geq \mathcal{M}_{\epsilon, n_0}$$

2) we have the integrability of the **overshoot / modulus of convergence**

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{S}_{\mathbf{a}, n_0}(\mathcal{O}_{\epsilon, n_0})] \leq \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{S}_{\mathbf{a}, n_0}(\mathcal{M}_{\epsilon, n_0})] \leq K(\mathbf{a}, \epsilon, n_0)$$

---

<sup>3</sup>Luisa F. Estrada, Michael A. Högele, Alexander Steinicke: On the tradeoff between almost sure error tolerance versus mean deviation frequency in martingale convergence, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2310.09055>

and in particular

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{M}_{\epsilon, \mathbf{n}_0} \geq \ell) \leq \frac{\mathbf{K}(\mathbf{a}, \epsilon, \mathbf{n}_0)}{\mathcal{S}_{\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{n}_0}(\ell)}$$

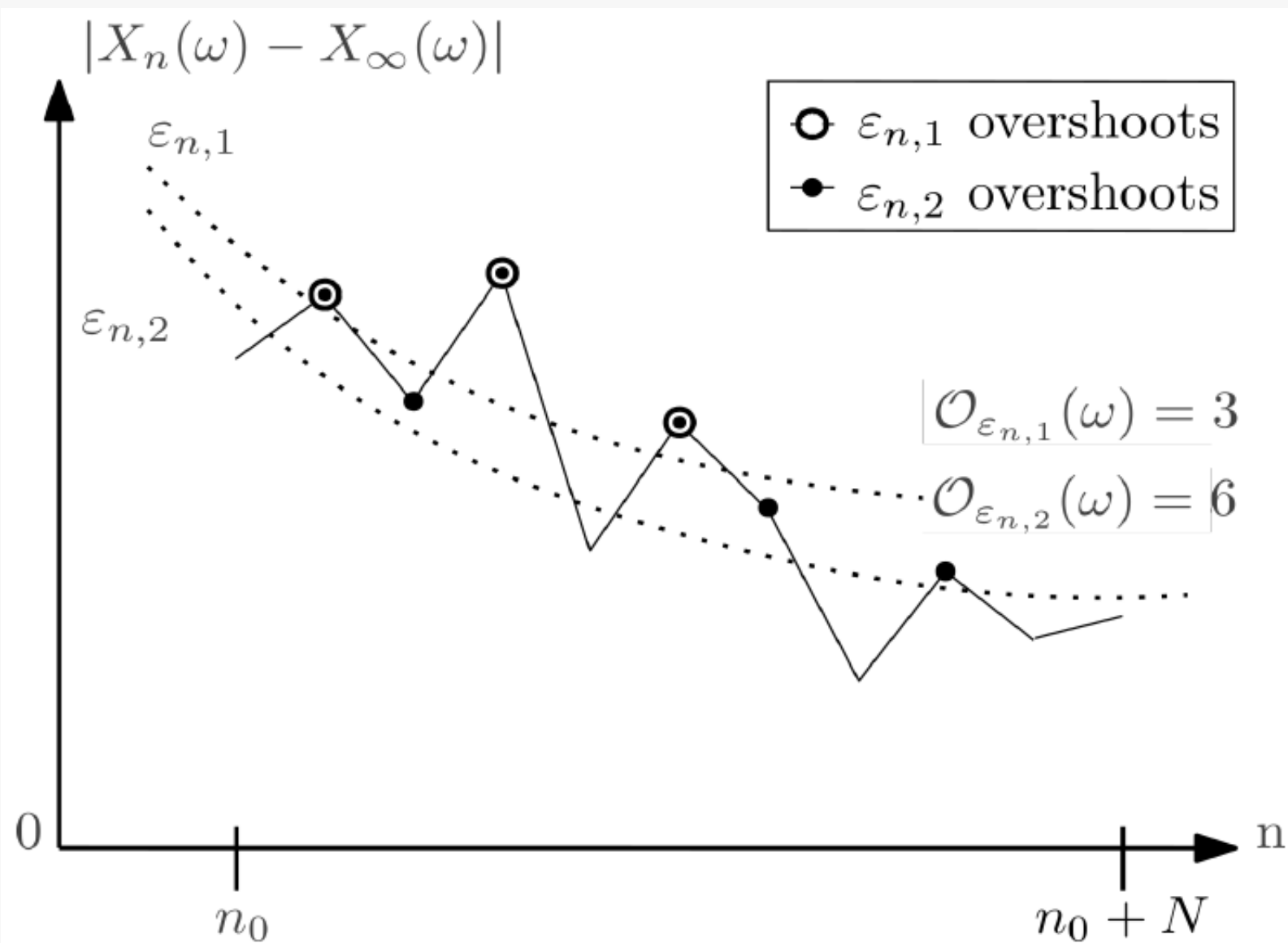
where

$$\mathcal{O}_{\epsilon, \mathbf{n}_0} = \sum_{\mathbf{n}=\mathbf{n}_0}^{\infty} \mathbf{1}\{\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{X}_{\mathbf{n}}, \mathbf{X}) > \epsilon_{\mathbf{n}}\},$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{\epsilon, \mathbf{n}_0} = \max\{\mathbf{n} \geq \mathbf{n}_0 \mid \mathbf{d}(\mathbf{X}_{\mathbf{n}}, \mathbf{X}) > \epsilon_{\mathbf{n}}\}$$

and

$$\mathcal{S}_{\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{n}_0}(\mathbf{N}) = \sum_{\mathbf{n}=\mathbf{0}}^{\mathbf{N}-1} \mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{n}+\mathbf{n}_0} \quad \text{with} \quad \mathcal{S}_{\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{n}_0}(\mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}$$



## Example 4: Law of large numbers (Baum, Katz, 1965)

$(\mathbf{X}_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  centered i.i.d. Then are equivalent:

1.  $\mathbb{E}[|\mathbf{X}_1|^p] < \infty$  for  $p > 1$

2. For any  $\frac{p}{2} < \alpha \leq p$  and any  $c > 0$  we have

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{\alpha-2} \cdot \mathbb{P}\left(|\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n| > \frac{c}{n^{1-\frac{\alpha}{p}}}\right) < \infty$$

For any  $\frac{p}{2} < \alpha \leq p$  and any  $c > 0$  we have

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{\alpha-2} \cdot \mathbb{P}\left(|\bar{X}_n| > \frac{c}{n^{1-\frac{\alpha}{p}}}\right) < \infty$$

Kronecker's lemma:  $(c_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}, (b_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ , both  $> 0$ ,  $b_n \rightarrow \infty$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{c_n}{b_n} < \infty \quad \text{implies} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{b_n} \sum_{i=1}^n c_i = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{P}\left(|\bar{X}_n| > \frac{c}{n^{1-\frac{\alpha}{p}}}\right) \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n i^{\alpha-2} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{P}\left(|\bar{X}_n| > \frac{c}{n^{1-\frac{\alpha}{p}}}\right) = o(n^{\alpha-1})$$

Combining Lemma 2 + Example 1 +  $\mathbb{P}\left(|\bar{\mathbf{X}}_{\mathbf{n}}| > \frac{\mathbf{c}}{\mathbf{n}^{1-\frac{\alpha}{\mathbf{p}}}}\right) = \mathbf{o}(\mathbf{n}^{\alpha-1})$ :

**We have the tradeoff for moments  $\mathbf{p} > 3$ !**

For  $\mathbf{p}, \alpha > 3$  with  $\frac{\mathbf{p}}{2} < \alpha \leq \mathbf{p}$  and  $0 < \tilde{\mathbf{p}} \leq \alpha - 3$

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{O}^{1+\tilde{\mathbf{p}}}] \leq \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{M}^{1+\tilde{\mathbf{p}}}] \leq \mathbf{C}(\alpha - 1)\zeta(\alpha - 2 - \tilde{\mathbf{p}}, \mathbf{n}_0) < \infty,$$

and

$$\limsup_{\mathbf{n} \rightarrow \infty} |\bar{\mathbf{X}}_{\mathbf{n}}| \cdot \mathbf{n}^{1-\frac{\alpha}{\mathbf{p}}} \leq \mathbf{1} \quad \text{a.s.}$$



## Example 5: Cramér's theorem

For  $(\mathbf{X}_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  centered i.i.d. with  $\mathbb{E}[e^{\lambda|\mathbf{X}_1|}] < \infty$  for some  $\lambda > 0$

Then for any vecinity  $\bar{\mathbf{A}} \ni \mathbf{0}$

$$\mathbb{P}(\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n \in \mathbf{A}^c) \leq 2 \exp \left( -n \inf_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{A}^c} \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{x}) \right), \quad n \geq 1$$

where  $\mathcal{I}(\mathbf{x})$  is the Fenchel-Legendre transform of  $\mathbf{X}_1$   
( $\mathcal{I}(\mathbf{x}) \geq 0$ , convex,  $\mathcal{I}(\mathbf{0}) = 0$ )

Large deviations principle (LDP)

In particular, for  $\epsilon = (\epsilon_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  ( $> 0$ ,  $\searrow$ ) and  $n \geq 1$  we have that

$$\mathbb{P}(\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n \in \mathbf{B}_{\epsilon_n}^c(\mathbf{0})) \leq 2 \exp \left( -n \inf_{|\mathbf{x}| > \epsilon_n} \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{x}) \right) \approx \exp \left( -n \frac{\epsilon_n^2}{2} (\mathbf{D}^2 \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{0})) \right)$$

Combining Lemma 2 + Example 3 +  $\mathbb{P}(\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n \in \mathbf{B}_{\epsilon}^c(\mathbf{0})) = \mathbf{O}(e^{n \epsilon_n^2 \frac{(\mathbf{D}^2 \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{0}))}{2}})$ :

We have the **tradeoff** for  $\epsilon_n = n^{-\rho}$ ,  $\rho \in [0, \frac{1}{2})$ !

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{\tilde{\mathbf{p}} \mathcal{O}_{\epsilon}^{1-2\rho}}] \leq \mathbb{E}[e^{\tilde{\mathbf{p}} \mathcal{M}_{\epsilon}^{1-2\rho}}] \leq \mathbf{K}(\rho, \tilde{\mathbf{p}}, \epsilon, \mathbf{D}^2 \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{0})) < \infty$$

y

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} |\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n| \cdot \epsilon_n^{-1} \leq 1 \quad \text{a.s.}$$

Obvious applications in any context with an **LDP**:

- The Glivenko-Cantelli theorem
- The Sanov theorem (i.i.d. + MC)
- Excursion frequencies of rare sequences for random walks

Applications with **sums of independent increments**:

- Quantifying the a.s. version of the CLT, Gaal-Koksma strong law
- A.s. rates of convergence of statistical M-estimators for bounded r.v.

### **III. Returning to the initial equation:**

**The rate of convergence of the Polya urn**

## Recall:

- Urn with  $N$  balls
- $B$  of them are **black**, and  $N - B$  of them are **white**.
- Step 0: Initial value

$$X_0 := \frac{B}{N}$$

- Step  $n$ : Given  $X_{n-1}$  sample  $X_n \sim \mathcal{B}_{X_{n-1}}$

$$X_n := \frac{B + \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i}{N + n}$$

1. It is a martingale ✓

2. It has increments, which are bounded by  $\frac{1}{n}$

## Theorem: Azuma-Hoeffding inequality

- Martingale  $\mathbf{X} = (\mathbf{X}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$
- The increments of  $\mathbf{X}$  are a.s. bounded by  $(c_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  that is

$$|\mathbf{X}_n - \mathbf{X}_{n-1}| \leq c_n \quad \text{a.s. for all } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Then for  $m \leq n$

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{X}_n - \mathbf{X}_m \geq \varepsilon) \leq \exp \left( - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\varepsilon^2}{\sum_{i=m+1}^n c_i^2} \right).$$

## Theorem: a.s. rates via Azuma-Hoeffding closure

- Martingale  $\mathbf{X} = (\mathbf{X}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$
- The increments of  $\mathbf{X}$  are a.s. bounded by  $(c_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  that is

$$\bullet \quad |\mathbf{X}_n - \mathbf{X}_{n-1}| \leq c_n \quad \text{a.s. for all } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n^2 < \infty \quad \text{and set } r(n) := \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} c_k^2$$

Then there exists a r.v.  $\mathbf{X}_{\infty}$  such that  $\mathbf{X}_n \rightarrow \infty$  a.s. as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . If

- $\epsilon = (\epsilon_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  positive & nonincreasing  $\epsilon_n \rightarrow 0$
- $\mathbf{a} = (\mathbf{a}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  positive & nondecreasing

such that

$$\mathbf{K}(\mathbf{a}, \epsilon) := 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbf{a}_n \sum_{m=n}^{\infty} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\epsilon_m^2}{r(m)} \right) < \infty,$$

then

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} |\mathbf{X}_n - \mathbf{X}_{\infty}| \cdot \epsilon_n^{-1} \leq 1 \quad \text{a.s.} \quad \&$$

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{S}_{\mathbf{a},1}(\mathcal{O}_{\epsilon})] \leq \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{S}_{\mathbf{a},1}(\mathcal{M}_{\epsilon})] \leq \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{a}, \epsilon).$$

## The rate of convergence of the Polya urn:

For any  $p \in (0, 1)$  and

$$\epsilon = (\epsilon_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \quad \epsilon_n := \sqrt{\frac{2}{3np}}, \quad n \geq 1$$

by the Corollary we have

1. We have a.s.

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} |X_n - X_\infty| \cdot n^{\frac{p}{2}} \leq \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}}$$

2. For any  $q \in (0, 1)$  we have

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{q\mathcal{O}_{\epsilon,1}^{1-2p}}] \leq \mathbb{E}[e^{q\mathcal{M}_{\epsilon,1}^{1-2p}}] \leq K((e^{qn^{1-2p}})_n, \epsilon, 1)$$



## Note:

- We only used the Azuma-Hoeffding inequality for **martingales with a.s. square summably bounded increments**.
- More immediate examples:
  - **Generalized Polya urns** with more colors and more general replacement rules
  - **Excursion frequencies for different heights** for the martingales associated to the **supercritical branching process**

## IV. Another type of applications: Brownian path properties approximations

- More than 1 century of hiding the approximations of Brownian sample paths in order to extract precise path properties  
—→ rough path theory
- **Idea:** reverse engineering of this path abstraction, terms of a.s. convergence with higher order MDF.
- Use the approximations of Brownian path properties in the literature and quantify those.

**Theorem 6** (Paley, Wiener, Zygmund). *The event*

$$\{\omega \in \Omega \mid \text{for each } t \in [0, 1] \text{ either } D^+W_t(\omega) = \infty \text{ or } D_+W_t(\omega) = -\infty\}$$

*contains an event  $E \in \mathcal{A}$  with  $\mathbb{P}(E) = 1$ .*

- Clearly, for any finite time step discretization  $(W_{t_n})_n$  this is false.
- However we can quantify, how fast, this property emerges a.s.

**Theorem:** (Paley, Wiener, Zygmund, quantitative)

For  $c_\pi := \frac{2^{10}}{\pi^2}$  and any  $b \in (1, 2^{1/4})$  we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\#\left\{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid \exists s \in [0, 1] : \sup_{t \in [s-2^{-n}, s+2^{-n}] \cap [0, 1]} \frac{|W(s) - W(t)|}{2^{-n}} \leq b^n\right\} \geq k\right) \\ \leq 2e^{\frac{9}{8}} \cdot \left[k\left(\frac{2c_\pi}{b^4} + 1\right) + 1\right] \cdot \left(\frac{b^4}{2}\right)^k, \quad k \geq 1.$$

## Sketch of proof (Koshnevisi, Karatzas / Shreve )

$$E_\lambda^n := \{ \exists s \in [0, 1] \mid \sup_{t \in [s-2^{-n}, s+2^{-n}] \cap [0, 1]} \frac{|W(s) - W(t)|}{2^{-n}} \leq \lambda \}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(E_\lambda^n) &\leq 2^n \left( \int_{-\lambda 2^{-n/2+2}}^{\lambda 2^{-n/2+2}} \frac{e^{-x^2/2}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} dx \right)^4 \leq 2^n \left( \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \lambda 2^{-n/2+2} \right)^4 \\ &= 2^n \lambda^4 \left( \frac{8}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \right)^4 2^{-2n} = \left( \frac{8}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \right)^4 \lambda^4 2^{-n} = \left( \frac{1024}{\pi^2} \right) \lambda^4 2^{-n} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_\lambda := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathbf{1}_{E_\lambda^n}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{r\mathcal{O}_\lambda}] \leq 1 + \frac{2c_\pi \lambda^4}{1 - e^{p\frac{1}{2}}}$$

$$\text{for } c_\pi := \frac{1024}{\pi^2}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O}_\lambda \geq k) \leq 2e^{\frac{9}{8}} \cdot [k(2c_\pi \lambda^4 + 1) + 1] \cdot 2^{-k}, \quad k \geq 1$$

For the special case of  $\lambda = \lambda_n = b^n$  for some  $1 < b < 2^{1/4}$  we have

$$\mathbb{P}(E_{\lambda}^n) \leq c_{\pi}(b^4/2)^n, \quad n \in \mathbb{N},$$

$$\mathcal{O} := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathbf{1}_{E_{\lambda_n}^n} \text{ and any } 0 < r < \ln(2/b^4)$$

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{r\mathcal{O}}] \leq \frac{2}{b^4} \frac{c_{\pi}}{(1 - e^r b^4/2)} + 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{P}\left(\#\left\{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid \exists s \in [0, 1] : \sup_{t \in [s-2^{-n}, s+2^{-n}] \cap [0, 1]} \frac{|W(s) - W(t)|}{2^{-n}} \leq b^n\right\} \geq k\right) \\ & \leq 2e^{\frac{9}{8}} \cdot \left[k\left(\frac{2c_{\pi}}{b^4} + 1\right) + 1\right] \cdot \left(\frac{b^4}{2}\right)^k. \end{aligned}$$

## **More Brownian path property approximations:**

1. A.s. uniform convergence of Lévy's construction
2. Kolmogorov-Chentsov continuity theorem
3. Lévy's modulus of continuity
4. Loss of path monotonicity
5. Laws of the iterated logarithm (Khinchin, Chung's "other" law, Strassen)

## **V. Extention of qBC1 to independent events**



## Motivation: Kolmogorov's 3 series theorem

- $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$ ,
- $(A_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  independent events,  $\mathcal{O} := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbf{1}(A_n)$

Hence

$$\mathcal{O} < \infty \quad \mathbb{P} - \text{c.s.} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \text{Var}(\mathcal{O}) < \infty \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad C_1 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_n) < \infty.$$

since

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{O}^2] &= \mathbb{E}\left[\left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbf{1}_{A_n}\right)^2\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbf{1}_{A_n} + \sum_{n \neq m} \mathbf{1}_{A_n} \mathbf{1}_{A_m}\right] \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{1}_{A_n}] + \sum_{n \neq m} \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{1}_{A_n} \mathbf{1}_{A_m}] \\ &\leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_n) + \sum_{n, m=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_n) \mathbb{P}(A_m) = C_1(1 + C_1) \end{aligned}$$

## Preliminary result: Freedman's universal bound

- $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$ ,
- $(\mathbf{A}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  independent events
- $\mathbf{C}_1 := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{E}_n) < \infty$

Then for all  $r > 0$

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{r\mathcal{O}}] \leq e^{\mathbf{C}_1(e^r - 1)}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O} \geq k) \leq \inf_{r>0} \exp(-kr + C_1(e^r - 1)) = \exp(-k \ln(k) + k(\ln(C_1) + 1) - C_1)$$

## Proof (sketch):

Bernoulli inequality  $1 + x \leq e^x$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[e^{r\mathcal{O}}] &= \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{E}[e^{r\mathbf{1}_{E_n}}] = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (e^r \mathbb{P}(E_n) + 1 - \mathbb{P}(E_n)) = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \exp(\ln(1 + e^r \mathbb{P}(E_n) - \mathbb{P}(E_n))) \\ &= \exp\left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \ln(1 + (e^r - 1)\mathbb{P}(E_n))\right) \leq \exp\left((e^r - 1) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(E_n)\right) = \exp(C_1(e^r - 1)).\end{aligned}$$

## The second Borel-Cantelli lemma:

- $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$ ,
- $(\mathbf{A}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  independent events
- $\mathbf{C}_1 := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{A}_n) < \infty$

$$1. \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(E_n) = \infty \quad \implies \quad \mathcal{O} = \infty \quad a.s.$$

$$2. \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(E_n) < \infty \quad \implies \quad \mathcal{O} < \infty \quad a.s. \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbb{E}[e^{r\mathcal{O}}] \leq \exp\left((e^r - 1) \cdot \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(E_n)\right) \leq \infty$$

## The second Borel-Cantelli lemma:

- $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$ ,
- $(\mathbf{A}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  independent events
- $\mathbf{C}_1 := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{A}_n) < \infty$

$$1. \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(E_n) = \infty \quad \implies \quad \mathcal{O} = \infty \quad a.s.$$

$$2. \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(E_n) < \infty \quad \implies \quad \mathcal{O} < \infty \quad a.s. \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbb{E}[e^{r\mathcal{O}}] \leq \exp\left((e^r - 1) \cdot \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(E_n)\right) < \infty$$

How can this result be quantified, where the **rate of convergence** of  $(\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{A}_n))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  appears, instead of only the **value**  $\mathbf{C}_1$ ?

## First formulation: $C_1$

- $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$
- $(A_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  independent events
- $C_1 := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_n) < \infty$
- $C_1 < e^{-r}$  for some  $r > 0$

Then

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{r\mathcal{O}}] \leq (1 - C_1 e^r)^{-1} \quad \text{for all } r < |\ln(C_1)|.$$

**Proof (sketch):** The distribution of  $\mathcal{O}_N$  is known

$$G_k^N := \{\mathcal{O}_N = k\} \text{ and } \mathcal{O}_N := \sum_{n=1}^N \mathbf{1}_{E_n}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^N a_k \mathbb{P}(G_k^N) = \sum_{n=0}^N \mathcal{Q}_n^N (a_n - a_0), \quad \text{where} \quad \mathcal{Q}_n^N = \sum_{\substack{J \subset \{1, \dots, N\} \\ |J|=n}} \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{j \in J} E_j\right).$$

$$\mathcal{Q}_n^N = \sum_{\substack{J \subset \{1, \dots, N\} \\ |J|=n}} \prod_{j \in J} \mathbb{P}(E_j) = \sum_{i_1=1}^{N-n} \sum_{i_2=i_1+1}^{N-n+1} \dots \sum_{i_{n-1}=i_{n-2}+1}^{N-1} \sum_{i_n=i_{n-1}+1}^N \prod_{\ell=1}^n \mathbb{P}(E_{i_\ell}) \leq \left( \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{P}(E_i) \right)^n \leq C_1^n$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(G_k^N) \cdot e^{rk} = \sum_{k=0}^N \mathbb{P}(G_k^N) \cdot e^{rk} = \sum_{n=0}^N \mathcal{Q}_n^N (e^{rn} - 1) \leq \sum_{n=0}^N e^{rn} \mathcal{Q}_n^N \leq \sum_{n=0}^N e^{rn} C_1^n \leq (1 - C_1 e^r)^{-1}$$

Passing to the limit  $N \rightarrow \infty$  we conclude.

## Second formulation:

- $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$
- $(A_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  independent events
- $C_{\mathbf{m}} := \sum_{n=\mathbf{m}}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_n) < \infty, \mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{N}$
- $N_{\delta}(\mathbf{r}) := \inf\{\mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{N} \mid C_{\mathbf{m}} < e^{-\mathbf{r}}/\delta\}$  for  $\mathbf{r} > 0$  and  $\delta > 1$

Then for all  $\mathbf{r} > 0$  we have

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{\mathbf{r}\mathcal{O}}] \leq \frac{e^{\mathbf{r}\mathbf{m}}}{1 - C_{\mathbf{m}}e^{\mathbf{r}}} \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{m} \geq N_{\delta}(\mathbf{r}), \delta > 1$$



## Second formulation:

- $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$
- $(\mathbf{A}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  independent events
- $\mathbf{C}_m := \sum_{n=m}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{A}_n) < \infty$
- $\mathbf{N}_\delta(\mathbf{r}) := \inf\{\mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{N} \mid \mathbf{C}_m < e^{-\mathbf{r}}/\delta\}$  for  $\mathbf{r} > 0$  and  $\delta > 1$

Then for all  $\mathbf{r} > 0$  we have

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{r\mathcal{O}}] \leq \frac{e^{rm}}{1 - \mathbf{C}_m e^r} \quad \text{for all } m \geq \mathbf{N}_\delta(\mathbf{r}), \delta > 1$$

which we can optimize

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{r\mathcal{O}}] \leq \inf_{\delta > 1} \inf_{m \geq N_r(\delta)} e^{rm} (1 - C_m e^r)^{-1} = \inf_{\delta > 1} \frac{\delta}{\delta - 1} e^{r \cdot N_r(\delta)}$$

## Third formulation:

- $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$ ,
- $(\mathbf{A}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  independent events
- **Sea**  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{A}_n) < \infty$
- $\mathbf{C}_m := \sum_{n=m}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{A}_n)$
- For  $L : (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$  non increasing, invertible such that

$$\mathbf{L}(\mathbf{m}) = \mathbf{C}_m$$

Then for all  $r > 0$  we get

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{r\mathcal{O}}] \leq \inf_{\delta > 1} \frac{\delta}{\delta - 1} \exp(r \cdot L^{-1}(e^{-r}/\delta))$$

## The quantitative second Borel-Cantelli lemma:

- $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$ ,
- $(A_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  independent events
- $C_{\mathbf{m}} := \sum_{n=\mathbf{m}}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_n) < \infty, \quad \mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{N}$
- $L : (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$  non-increasing, invertible with  $L(\mathbf{m}) = C_{\mathbf{m}}$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} 1. \quad & \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(E_n) = \infty \quad \implies \quad \mathcal{O} = \infty \quad a.s. \\ 2. \quad & \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(E_n) < \infty \quad \implies \quad \mathcal{O} < \infty \quad a.s. \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{r\mathcal{O}}] \leq \inf_{\delta > 1} \frac{\delta}{\delta - 1} \exp(r \cdot L^{-1}(e^{-r}/\delta)) < \infty$$

**Example:**  $(A_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  independent  $\mathbb{P}(E_n) \leq c/n^p$ ,  $p > 1$ .

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{r\mathcal{O}}] \leq \inf_{\delta > 1} \frac{\delta}{\delta - 1} \exp((\delta c)^{1/p} \cdot r e^{r/p}) \leq 2 \exp((2c)^{1/p} \cdot r e^{r/p})$$

By Markov's inequality

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O} \geq k) \leq \inf_{r > 0} 2 \exp(-kr + (2c)^{1/p} r e^{r/p})$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O} \geq k) \leq \mathcal{K} \cdot \exp(-pk[\ln(k) - \ln(\ln(k))]), \quad k > e^2$$

**Example:**  $(A_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  independent and  $\mathbb{P}(A_n) \leq cb^n$ ,  $b \in (0, 1)$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[e^{r\mathcal{O}}] &\leq \inf_{\delta > 1} \frac{\delta}{\delta - 1} \exp\left(\left[r^2 + r \cdot \ln(\delta c)\right] / |\ln(b)|\right) \\ &\leq 2 \exp\left(\left[r^2 + r \cdot \ln(2c)\right] / |\ln(b)|\right)\end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O} \geq k) &\leq 2 \inf_{r > 0} \exp\left(\left(r^2 + r \cdot [\ln(2c) - k|\ln(b)|]\right) / |\ln(b)|\right) \\ &= 2 \exp\left(-(|\ln(b)|/4) \left[k - (\ln(2C)/|\ln(b)|)\right]^2\right)\end{aligned}$$

**Example:**  $(\mathbf{A}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  independent and  $\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{A}_n) \leq \mathbf{b}^{n^2}$ ,  $\mathbf{b} \in (0, 1)$

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{e}^{\mathbf{r}\mathcal{O}}] \leq \mathbf{2} \exp\left(\frac{\sqrt{\mathbf{r}^3 - \mathbf{r}^2 \ln(\mathbf{2})}}{\sqrt{|\ln(\mathbf{b})|}}\right).$$

and

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O} \geq \mathbf{k}) \leq \mathbf{2} \exp\left(-\left(\left(\frac{\mathbf{2}|\ln(\mathbf{b})|}{\mathbf{3}}\right)^2 \cdot \frac{\mathbf{k}^3}{\mathbf{3}} + \sqrt{\mathbf{2}}\right) / \sqrt{|\ln(\mathbf{b})|}\right) \quad \mathbf{k} \geq \mathbf{1}.$$

## More applications:

- Random graphs (Coloring numbers, clique numbers)
- A.s. invariance principles (A.s. versions of the CLT)

## Literature:

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<https://arxiv.org/abs/2310.09055>
3. M.A.H., A. Steinicke:  
Deviation frequencies of Brownian path property approximations  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2302.04115>