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Path-space moderate deviations for a Curie–Weiss model of self-organized criticality

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Abstract. The dynamical Curie–Weiss model of self-organized criticality (SOC) was introduced in (*Ann. Inst. Henri Poincaré Probab. Stat.* **53** (2017) 658–678) and it is derived from the classical generalized Curie–Weiss by imposing a microscopic Markovian evolution having the distribution of the Curie–Weiss model of SOC (*Ann. Probab.* **44** (2016) 444–478) as unique invariant measure. In the case of Gaussian single-spin distribution, we analyze the dynamics of moderate fluctuations for the magnetization. We obtain a path-space moderate deviation principle via a general analytic approach based on convergence of non-linear generators and uniqueness of viscosity solutions for associated Hamilton–Jacobi equations. Our result shows that, under a peculiar moderate space-time scaling and without tuning external parameters, the typical behavior of the magnetization is critical.

Résumé. Le modèle de Curie–Weiss de criticalité auto-organisée dynamique a été construit dans (*Ann. Inst. Henri Poincaré Probab. Stat.* **53** (2017) 658–678) à partir du modèle de Curie–Weiss généralisé. Il s’agit d’un processus de Markov continu dont l’unique mesure invariante est la loi du modèle de Curie–Weiss de criticalité auto-organisée (*Ann. Probab.* **44** (2016) 444–478). Dans le cas Gaussien, nous étudions les fluctuations modérées de la magnétisation. Nous obtenons un principe de déviations modérées dans l’espace des chemins en utilisant une approche analytique basée sur la convergence de générateurs non-linéaires et sur l’unicité des solutions de viscosité pour des équations de Hamilton–Jacobi associées. Notre résultat montre que, dans une certaine échelle de temps modérée et sans intervention de paramètres extérieurs, le comportement critique de la magnétisation est critique.

MSC: 60F10; 60J60; 60K35

Keywords: Moderate deviations; Interacting particle systems; Mean-field interaction; Self-organized criticality; Hamilton–Jacobi equation; Perturbation theory for Markov processes

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Divergence of shape fluctuation for general distributions in first-passage percolation

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Abstract. We study the shape fluctuation in the first-passage percolation on \mathbb{Z}^d . It is known that it diverges when the distribution obeys Bernoulli in Zhang (*Probab. Theory. Related. Fields.* **136** (2006) 298–320). In this paper, we extend the result to general distributions.

Résumé. Nous étudions les fluctuations de la forme limite pour la percolation de premier passage dans \mathbb{Z}^d . Il est connu que ces fluctuations divergent dans le cas des lois de Bernoulli [Zhang (*Probab. Theory. Related. Fields.* **136** (2006) 298–320)]. Dans cet article, nous étendons ce résultat à toutes les lois.

MSC: Primary 60K37; secondary 60K35; 82A51

Keywords: Random environment; First-passage percolation; Shape fluctuation

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Parabolic Anderson model with a fractional Gaussian noise that is rough in time¹

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Abstract. This paper concerns the parabolic Anderson equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{2} \Delta u + u \frac{\partial^{d+1} W^{\mathbf{H}}}{\partial t \partial x_1 \cdots \partial x_d}$$

generated by a $(d + 1)$ -dimensional fractional noise with the Hurst parameter $\mathbf{H} = (H_0, H_1, \dots, H_d)$ with special interest in the setting that some of H_0, \dots, H_d are less than half. In the recent work (*Ann. Inst. Henri Poincaré Probab. Stat.* **55** (2019) 941–976), the case of the spatial roughness has been investigated. To put the last piece of the puzzle in place, this work investigates the case when $H_0 < 1/2$ with the concern on solvability, Feynman–Kac’s moment formula and intermittency of the system.

Résumé. Cet article concerne l’équation d’Anderson parabolique

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{2} \Delta u + u \frac{\partial^{d+1} W^{\mathbf{H}}}{\partial t \partial x_1 \cdots \partial x_d}$$

engendrée par un bruit fractionnaire de dimension $d + 1$ avec un paramètre de Hurst $\mathbf{H} = (H_0, H_1, \dots, H_d)$, en portant une attention particulière au cas où certains des paramètres H_0, \dots, H_d sont inférieurs à $1/2$. Le cas rugueux en espace avait fait l’objet du travail récent (*Ann. Inst. Henri Poincaré Probab. Stat.* **55** (2019) 941–976). Pour mettre en place la dernière pièce du puzzle, cet article examine le cas $H_0 < 1/2$ en se penchant sur les problèmes de résolution, de la formule des moments de Feynman–Kac et de l’intermittence du système.

MSC: 60F10; 60H15; 60H40; 60J65; 81U10

Keywords: Parabolic Anderson equation; Dalang’s condition; Fractional; Rough and critical Gaussian noises; Feynman–Kac’s representation; Brownian motion; Moment asymptotics

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Stable matchings in high dimensions via the Poisson-weighted infinite tree

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Abstract. We consider the stable matching of two independent Poisson processes in \mathbb{R}^d under an asymmetric color restriction. Blue points can only match to red points, while red points can match to points of either color. It is unknown whether there exists a choice of intensities of the red and blue processes under which all points are matched. We prove that for any fixed intensities, there are unmatched blue points in sufficiently high dimension. Indeed, if the ratio of red to blue intensities is ρ then the intensity of unmatched blue points converges to $e^{-\rho}/(1+\rho)$ as $d \rightarrow \infty$. We also establish analogous results for certain multi-color variants. Our proof uses stable matching on the Poisson-weighted infinite tree (PWIT), which can be analyzed via differential equations. The PWIT has been used in many settings as a scaling limit for models involving complete graphs with independent edge weights, but as far as we are aware, this is the first presentation of a rigorous application to high-dimensional Euclidean space. Finally, we analyze the asymmetric matching problem under a hierarchical metric, and show that there are unmatched points for all intensities.

Résumé. Nous considérons l'appariement stable de deux processus de Poisson indépendants dans \mathbb{R}^d , sous une contrainte asymétrique sur les couleurs. Un point bleu ne peut être apparié qu'à un point rouge, tandis qu'un point rouge peut être apparié soit à un point rouge soit à un point bleu. On ne sait pas s'il existe un choix d'intensités des processus bleu et rouge tel que tous les points sont appariés. Nous démontrons que pour toutes intensités fixes, il y a des points bleus non-appariés en dimension suffisamment élevée. En effet, si le rapport de l'intensité des points rouges à l'intensité des points bleus est ρ , l'intensité des points bleus non-appariés tend vers $e^{-\rho}/(1+\rho)$ quand $d \rightarrow \infty$. On établit aussi des résultats analogues pour certaines variantes à multiples couleurs. La preuve utilise un modèle d'appariement stable sur l'arbre infini pondéré de Poisson (PWIT), qui peut être analysé par des équations différentielles. Le PWIT a été utilisé dans de nombreux contextes comme limite d'échelle pour des modèles impliquant des graphes complets pondérés de variables aléatoires indépendants, mais à notre connaissance, celle-ci est la première présentation d'une application rigoureuse à l'espace euclidien en haute dimension. Finalement, on analyse le problème d'appariement asymétrique sous une métrique hiérarchique, et on démontre qu'il existe des points non-appariés pour tout choix d'intensités.

MSC: Primary 60D05; secondary 60G55; 05C70

Keywords: Poisson process; Point process; Stable matching; Poisson-weighted infinite tree

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Infinite rate symbiotic branching on the real line: The tired frogs model

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Abstract. Consider a population of infinitesimally small frogs on the real line. Initially the frogs on the positive half-line are dormant while those on the negative half-line are awake and move according to the heat flow. At the interface, the incoming wake frogs try to wake up the dormant frogs and succeed with a probability proportional to their amount among the total amount of involved frogs at the specific site. Otherwise, the incoming frogs also fall asleep. This frog model is a special case of the infinite rate symbiotic branching process on the real line with different motion speeds for the two types.

We construct this frog model as the limit of approximating processes and compute the structure of jumps. We show that our frog model can be described by a stochastic partial differential equation on the real line with a jump type noise.

Résumé. Considérons une population de grenouilles infinitésimales sur la droite réelle. Au début, toutes les grenouilles à droite de l'origine sont endormies tandis que les grenouilles à gauche sont éveillées et bougent comme un flux de chaleur. A l'interface, les grenouilles éveillées qui arrivent essaient de réveiller les grenouilles dormantes. Elles le font avec succès avec une probabilité proportionnelle à leur proportion par rapport à la population totale de grenouilles à cet endroit. Si elles échouent, les grenouilles arrivantes s'endorment aussi. Ce modèle de grenouilles est un modèle spécifique de branchement symbiotique sur la droite réelle où les populations bougent avec des vitesses différentes. Nous construisons le modèle par une procédure d'approximation et nous calculons la structure du processus de sauts. Nous montrons que notre modèle des grenouilles peut être décrit par une équation différentielle partielle stochastique avec sauts.

MSC: 60K35; 60J80; 60J68; 60J75; 60H15

Keywords: Symbiotic branching; Mutually catalytic branching; Infinite rate branching; Stochastic partial differential equation; Frog model

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A perturbation analysis of stochastic matrix Riccati diffusions

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Abstract. Matrix differential Riccati equations are central in filtering and optimal control theory. The purpose of this article is to develop a perturbation theory for a class of stochastic matrix Riccati diffusions. Diffusions of this type arise, for example, in the analysis of ensemble Kalman–Bucy filters since they describe the flow of certain sample covariance estimates. In this context, the random perturbations come from the fluctuations of a mean field particle interpretation of a class of nonlinear diffusions equipped with an interacting sample covariance matrix functional. The main purpose of this article is to derive non-asymptotic Taylor-type expansions of stochastic matrix Riccati flows with respect to some perturbation parameter. These expansions rely on an original combination of stochastic differential analysis and nonlinear semigroup techniques on matrix spaces. The results here quantify the fluctuation of the stochastic flow around the limiting deterministic Riccati equation, at any order. The convergence of the interacting sample covariance matrices to the deterministic Riccati flow is proven as the number of particles tends to infinity. Also presented are refined moment estimates and sharp bias and variance estimates. These expansions are also used to deduce a functional central limit theorem at the level of the diffusion process in matrix spaces.

Résumé. Les équations de Riccati matricielles jouent un rôle important dans la théorie du filtrage et du contrôle optimal. Cet article présente une théorie des perturbations d'une classe d'équations de Riccati matricielles stochastiques. Ces modèles probabilistes sont d'un usage courant dans la théorie des filtres de Kalman d'Ensemble. Ils représentent dans ce contexte l'évolution des matrices de covariance empiriques associées à un ensemble de diffusions en interaction. Les perturbations aléatoires résultent des fluctuations stochastiques d'un système de particules de type champ moyen interagissant avec la mesure empirique du système. Nous présentons dans cet article une formule de Taylor non asymptotique pour des flots stochastiques de diffusion de Riccati matricielles par rapport à un paramètre de fluctuation. Ces développements sont fondés sur un nouveau calcul différentiel stochastique et une analyse fine de semigroupes non linéaires dans des espaces de matrices. Ces résultats permettent de quantifier avec précision les fluctuations des flots de matrices stochastiques autour des systèmes limites à tout ordre. Nous illustrons ces résultats avec une preuve de la convergence des matrices empiriques de filtres de Kalman d'Ensemble vers la solution d'équations de Riccati déterministes lorsque le nombre de particules tends vers l'infini. Nous présentons dans ce cadre des estimations fines des biais et des variances, ainsi qu'un théorème de la limite centrale fonctionnel au niveau du processus matriciel.

MSC: 11M50; 60B20; 62M20; 60G35

Keywords: Riccati matrix differential equation; Covariance matrices; Filtering; Ensemble Kalman filters; Interacting particle systems; Perturbation theory

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Indistinguishability of collections of trees in the uniform spanning forest

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Abstract. We prove the following indistinguishability theorem for k -tuples of trees in the uniform spanning forest of \mathbb{Z}^d : Suppose that \mathcal{A} is a property of a k -tuple of components that is stable under finite modifications of the forest. Then either every k -tuple of distinct trees has property \mathcal{A} almost surely, or no k -tuple of distinct trees has property \mathcal{A} almost surely. This generalizes the indistinguishability theorem of the author and Nachmias (2016), which applied to individual trees. Our results apply more generally to any graph that has the Liouville property and for which every component of the USF is one-ended.

Résumé. Dans cet article, nous prouvons le théorème d'indistinguabilité suivant pour les k -uplets d'arbres dans le modèle de forêt couvrante uniforme sur \mathbb{Z}^d : supposons que \mathcal{A} est une propriété d'un k -uplet de composantes connexes qui est stable par modification finie de la forêt, alors ou bien chaque k -uplet satisfait la propriété \mathcal{A} presque sûrement, ou bien aucun ne la satisfait presque sûrement. Ce résultat étend le théorème d'indistinguabilité de l'auteur et de Nachmias (2016) qui ne couvrait que le cas d'arbres pris individuellement. Notre résultat s'applique plus généralement à tout graphe vérifiant la propriété de Liouville et pour lequel toutes les composantes connexes de la FCU ont un seul bout.

MSC: Primary 60B99; secondary 37A20

Keywords: Uniform spanning forest; Indistinguishability; Ergodicity; Liouville; Zero-one law

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Sanov-type large deviations in Schatten classes

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Abstract. Denote by $\lambda_1(A), \dots, \lambda_n(A)$ the eigenvalues of an $(n \times n)$ -matrix A . Let Z_n be an $(n \times n)$ -matrix chosen uniformly at random from the matrix analogue to the classical ℓ_p^n -ball, defined as the set of all self-adjoint $(n \times n)$ -matrices satisfying $\sum_{k=1}^n |\lambda_k(A)|^p \leq 1$. We prove a large deviations principle for the (random) spectral measure of the matrix $n^{1/p} Z_n$. As a consequence, we obtain that the spectral measure of $n^{1/p} Z_n$ converges weakly almost surely to a non-random limiting measure given by the Ullman distribution, as $n \rightarrow \infty$. The corresponding results for random matrices in Schatten trace classes, where eigenvalues are replaced by the singular values, are also presented.

Résumé. Notons $\lambda_1(A), \dots, \lambda_n(A)$ les valeurs propres d'une matrice A de taille $n \times n$. Soit Z_n une matrice $n \times n$ choisie aléatoirement et uniformément dans l'équivalent matriciel de la boule unité de l'ensemble classique ℓ_p^n , défini comme l'ensemble des matrices $n \times n$ auto-adjointes satisfaisant $\sum_{k=1}^n |\lambda_k(A)|^p \leq 1$. Nous prouvons un principe de grandes déviations pour la mesure spectrale aléatoire de la matrice $n^{1/p} Z_n$. Comme conséquence, nous obtenons que la mesure spectrale de $n^{1/p} Z_n$ converge faiblement presque sûrement vers une mesure déterministe limite décrite par la loi d'Ullman lorsque n tend vers l'infini. Nous présentons également les résultats correspondants pour les matrices aléatoires dans les classes de trace de Schatten, où les valeurs propres sont remplacées par les valeurs singulières.

MSC: Primary 47B10; 60B20; 60F10; secondary 46B07; 47B10; 52A21; 52A23

Keywords: Asymptotic geometric analysis; Coulomb gas; Eigenvalues; Gaussian ensembles; High dimensional convexity; Large deviations principles; Matrix unit balls; Random matrix theory; Schatten classes; Singular values

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A Central Limit Theorem for Wasserstein type distances between two distinct univariate distributions

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Abstract. In this article we study the natural nonparametric estimator of a Wasserstein type cost between two distinct continuous distributions F and G on \mathbb{R} . The estimator is based on the order statistics of a sample having marginals F , G and any joint distribution. We prove a central limit theorem under general conditions relating the tails and the cost function. In particular, these conditions are satisfied by Wasserstein distances of order $p > 1$ and compatible classical probability distributions.

Résumé. Dans cet article nous étudions l'estimateur non paramétrique naturel d'un coût de type Wasserstein entre deux lois F et G distinctes et continues sur \mathbb{R} . Cet estimateur est construit à partir des statistiques d'ordre d'un échantillon d'un couple quelconque de lois marginales F et G . Nous démontrons un théorème limite central sous des conditions générales reliant les queues de distribution à la fonction de coût. En particulier, ces conditions sont satisfaites par les distances de Wasserstein d'ordre $p > 1$ et les lois classiques compatibles.

MSC: 62G30; 62G20; 60F05; 60F17

Keywords: Central Limit Theorems; Generalized Wasserstein distances; Empirical processes; Strong approximation; Dependent samples

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On the mixing time of the Diaconis–Gangolli random walk on contingency tables over $\mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z}$

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Abstract. The Diaconis–Gangolli random walk is an algorithm that generates an almost uniform random graph with prescribed degrees. In this paper, we study the mixing time of the Diaconis–Gangolli random walk restricted on $n \times n$ contingency tables over $\mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z}$. We prove that the random walk exhibits cutoff at $\frac{n^2}{4(1-\cos(\frac{2\pi}{q}))} \log n$, when $\log q = o(\frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{\log \log n})$.

Résumé. La marche aléatoire de Diaconis–Gangolli est un algorithme qui génère un graphe aléatoire à degrés prescrits, de loi presque uniforme. Dans cet article, nous étudions le temps de mélange de cette marche aléatoire restreinte aux tableaux de contingence de taille $n \times n$ sur $\mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z}$. Nous montrons que la marche aléatoire présente une transition abrupte (cutoff) à $\frac{n^2}{4(1-\cos(\frac{2\pi}{q}))} \log n$, où $\log q = o(\frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{\log \log n})$.

MSC: Primary 60J10; secondary 60C05; 60G42

Keywords: Contingency table; Random graphs; Mixing time; Cutoff

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Weak uniqueness and density estimates for SDEs with coefficients depending on some path-functionals

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Abstract. In this article, we develop a methodology to prove weak uniqueness for stochastic differential equations with coefficients depending on some path-functionals of the process. As an extension of the technique developed by Bass and Perkins (In *From Probability to Geometry (I): Volume in Honor of the 60th Birthday of Jean-Michel Bismut* (2009) 47–53) in the standard diffusion case, the proposed methodology allows one to deal with process whose probability laws is singular with respect to the Lebesgue measure. To illustrate our methodology, we prove weak existence and uniqueness in the two following examples: a diffusion process with coefficients depending on its running local time and a diffusion process with coefficients depending on its running maximum. In each example, we also prove the existence of the associated transition density and establish some Gaussian upper-estimates.

Résumé. Dans cet article, nous développons une méthodologie permettant de prouver l'unicité faible pour des équations différentielles stochastiques dont les coefficients dépendent de certaines fonctionnelles de la trajectoire du processus. Dans le prolongement de la technique développée par Bass & Perkins (In *From Probability to Geometry (I): Volume in Honor of the 60th Birthday of Jean-Michel Bismut* (2009) 47–53) dans le cas des processus de diffusions standards, la méthodologie proposée permet de traiter le cas de processus dont la loi est singulière par rapport à la mesure de Lebesgue. Afin d'illustrer notre méthodologie, nous prouvons l'existence et l'unicité faible dans les deux exemples suivants: un processus de diffusion dont les coefficients dépendent du temps local en zéro courant et un processus de diffusion dont les coefficients dépendent du maximum courant. Dans chaque exemple, nous prouvons également l'existence d'une densité de transition associée et établissons des estimées Gaussiennes.

MSC: Primary 60H10; 60G46; secondary 60H30; 35K65

Keywords: Weak uniqueness; Martingale problem; Parametrix expansion; Local time; Maximum; Density estimates

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On a toy network of neurons interacting through their dendrites

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Abstract. Consider a large number n of neurons, each being connected to approximately N other ones, chosen at random. When a neuron spikes, which occurs randomly at some rate depending on its electric potential, its potential is set to a minimum value v_{\min} , and this initiates, after a small delay, two fronts on the (linear) dendrites of all the neurons to which it is connected. Fronts move at constant speed. When two fronts (on the dendrite of the same neuron) collide, they annihilate. When a front hits the soma of a neuron, its potential is increased by a small value w_n . Between jumps, the potentials of the neurons are assumed to drift in $[v_{\min}, \infty)$, according to some well-posed ODE. We prove the existence and uniqueness of a heuristically derived mean-field limit of the system when $n, N \rightarrow \infty$ with $w_n \simeq N^{-1/2}$. We make use of some recent versions of the results of Deuschel and Zeitouni (*Ann. Probab.* **23** (1995) 852–878) concerning the size of the longest increasing subsequence of an i.i.d. collection of points in the plan. We also study, in a very particular case, a slightly different model where the neurons spike when their potential reach some maximum value v_{\max} , and find an explicit formula for the (heuristic) mean-field limit.

Résumé. Considérons un grand nombre n de neurones, chacun étant connecté à environ N autres, choisis au hasard. Quand un neurone décharge, ce qui se produit au hasard à un certain taux en fonction de son potentiel électrique, son potentiel est remis à une valeur minimale v_{\min} , ce qui déclenche, après un petit délai, deux fronts sur les dendrites (linéaires) de tous les neurones auxquels il est connecté. Les fronts se déplacent à vitesse constante. Lorsque deux fronts (sur la dendrite du même neurone) entrent en collision, ils s'annihilent. Lorsqu'un front touche le soma d'un neurone, son potentiel est augmenté d'une petite valeur w_n . Entre les sauts, les potentiels des neurones évoluent dans $[v_{\min}, \infty)$, suivant une EDO. Nous prouvons l'existence et l'unicité d'une limite champ moyen du système lorsque $n, N \rightarrow \infty$ avec $w_n \simeq N^{-1/2}$ obtenue de manière heuristique. Nous utilisons certaines versions récentes des résultats de Deuschel et Zeitouni (*Ann. Probab.* **23** (1995) 852–878) concernant la taille de la sous-suite croissante la plus longue d'une suite i.i.d. de points du plan. Nous étudions également, dans un cas très particulier, un modèle légèrement différent où les neurones déchargent quand leur potentiel atteint une valeur maximale v_{\max} . Nous trouvons heuristiquement une expression explicite pour la limite de champ moyen.

MSC: 60K35; 60J75; 92C20

Keywords: Mean-field limit; Propagation of chaos; Nonlinear stochastic differential equations; Ulam's problem; Longest increasing subsequence; Biological neural networks

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Asymptotics of free fermions in a quadratic well at finite temperature and the Moshe–Neuberger–Shapiro random matrix model

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Abstract. We derive the local statistics of the canonical ensemble of free fermions in a quadratic potential well at finite temperature, as the particle number approaches infinity. This free fermion model is equivalent to a random matrix model proposed by Moshe, Neuberger and Shapiro. Limiting behaviors obtained before for the grand canonical ensemble are observed in the canonical ensemble: We have at the edge the phase transition from the Tracy–Widom distribution to the Gumbel distribution via the Kardar–Parisi–Zhang (KPZ) crossover distribution, and in the bulk the phase transition from the sine point process to the Poisson point process.

Résumé. Nous décrivons les statistiques locales de l'ensemble canonique de fermions libres dans un puits de potentiel quadratique à température finie, dans la limite où le nombre de particules tend vers l'infini. Ce modèle de fermions libres est équivalent à un modèle matriciel aléatoire proposé par Moshe, Neuberger et Shapiro. Les comportements à la limite précédemment obtenus pour l'ensemble grand-canonique sont observés dans l'ensemble canonique: Nous avons, au bord de l'ensemble, une transition de phase de la distribution de Tracy–Widom à la distribution de Gumbel via la distribution croisée de Kardar–Parisi–Zhang (KPZ), et dans l'ensemble, une transition de phase du processus ponctuel sinus au processus ponctuel de Poisson.

MSC: Primary 15B52; secondary 82B23

Keywords: Determinantal point process; Poisson process; Random matrices; Free fermions; Tracy–Widom distribution; KPZ universality

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Non-equilibrium fluctuations for the SSEP with a slow bond

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Abstract. We prove the non-equilibrium fluctuations for the one-dimensional symmetric simple exclusion process with a slow bond. This generalizes a result of [*Stochastic Process. Appl.* **123** (2013) 4156–4185; *Stochastic Process. Appl.* **126** (2016) 3235–3242], which dealt with the equilibrium fluctuations. The foundation stone of our proof is a precise estimate on the correlations of the system, and that is by itself one of the main novelties of this paper. To obtain these estimates, we first deduce a spatially discrete PDE for the covariance function and we relate it to the local times of a random walk in a non-homogeneous environment via Duhamel's principle. Projection techniques and coupling arguments reduce the analysis to the problem of studying the local times of the classical random walk. We think that the method developed here can be applied to a variety of models, and we provide a discussion on this matter.

Résumé. Nous décrivons les fluctuations hors-équilibre du processus d'exclusion simple symétrique en dimension 1 avec des liens lents. Ceci étend un résultat de [*Stochastic Process. Appl.* **123** (2013) 4156–4185; *Stochastic Process. Appl.* **126** (2016) 3235–3242], qui traitait des fluctuations à l'équilibre. La pierre de touche de notre preuve est une estimée précise des corrélations du système, qui est en elle-même une des nouveautés principales de cet article. Pour obtenir ces estimées, nous obtenons dans un premier temps une EDP discrète en espace pour la fonction de covariance et nous la relierons aux temps locaux d'une marche aléatoire dans un environnement non-homogène, par le principe de Duhamel. Des techniques de projection et des arguments de couplage permettent de réduire l'analyse à l'étude des temps locaux de la marche aléatoire classique. Nous pensons que cette méthode peut être appliquée à une variété de modèles, et nous argumentons ce point.

MSC: 60K35

Keywords: Non-equilibrium fluctuations; Slowed exclusion; Local times of random walks; Two point correlation function

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Infinite geodesics in hyperbolic random triangulations

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Abstract. We study the structure of infinite geodesics in the Planar Stochastic Hyperbolic Triangulations \mathbb{T}_λ introduced in (*Probab. Theory Related Fields* **165** (2016) 509–540). We prove that these geodesics form a supercritical Galton–Watson tree with geometric offspring distribution. The tree of infinite geodesics in \mathbb{T}_λ provides a new notion of boundary, which is a realization of the Poisson boundary. By scaling limit arguments, we also obtain a description of the tree of infinite geodesics in the hyperbolic Brownian plane. Finally, by combining our main result with a forthcoming paper (Budzinski (2018)), we obtain new hyperbolicity properties of \mathbb{T}_λ : they satisfy a weaker form of Gromov-hyperbolicity and admit bi-infinite geodesics.

Résumé. Nous étudions la structure des géodésiques infinies dans les Triangulations Planaires Stochastiques Hyperboliques (PSHT) \mathbb{T}_λ introduites dans (*Probab. Theory Related Fields* **165** (2016) 509–540). Nous montrons que ces géodésiques forment un arbre de Galton–Watson surcritique de loi de reproduction géométrique. L'arbre des géodésiques infinies de \mathbb{T}_λ fournit une nouvelle notion de bord, qui est une réalisation de la frontière de Poisson. Par des arguments de limites d'échelle, on en déduit une description de l'arbre des géodésiques infinies du plan brownien hyperbolique. Enfin, en combinant notre résultat principal avec ceux de (Budzinski (2018)), nous obtenons de nouvelles propriétés d'hyperbolicité de \mathbb{T}_λ : ces triangulations vérifient une forme faible d'hyperbolicité à la Gromov, et admettent des géodésiques bi-infinies.

MSC: 60C05; 05C80

Keywords: Random planar maps; Hyperbolicity; Infinite geodesics; Poisson boundary

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On the performance of the Euler–Maruyama scheme for SDEs with discontinuous drift coefficient

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Abstract. Recently a lot of effort has been invested to analyze the L_p -error of the Euler–Maruyama scheme in the case of stochastic differential equations (SDEs) with a drift coefficient that may have discontinuities in space. For scalar SDEs with a piecewise Lipschitz drift coefficient and a Lipschitz diffusion coefficient that is non-zero at the discontinuity points of the drift coefficient so far only an L_p -error rate of at least $1/(2p)$ – has been proven. In the present paper we show that under the latter conditions on the coefficients of the SDE the Euler–Maruyama scheme in fact achieves an L_p -error rate of at least $1/2$ for all $p \in [1, \infty)$ as in the case of SDEs with Lipschitz coefficients. The proof of this result is based on a detailed analysis of appropriate occupation times for the Euler–Maruyama scheme.

Résumé. De nombreux efforts ont été consacrés récemment à l'analyse de l'erreur L_p de schéma d'Euler–Maruyama pour des équations différentielles stochastiques (EDS) avec un coefficient de dérive pouvant avoir des discontinuités en espace. Jusqu'à présent, pour des EDS scalaires avec un coefficient de dérive Lipschitz par morceaux et un coefficient de diffusion Lipschitz qui est non nul aux points de discontinuité du coefficient de dérive, seule une borne d'erreur L_p avec un taux d'au moins $1/(2p)$ – a été obtenue. Dans cet article, nous montrons que sous les hypothèses précédentes, le schéma d'Euler–Maruyama réalise un taux d'erreur L_p d'au moins $1/2$ pour tout $p \in [1, \infty)$, comme dans le cas d'EDS avec coefficients Lipschitz. La preuve de ce résultat se fonde sur une analyse détaillée de temps d'occupation bien choisis pour le schéma d'Euler–Maruyama.

MSC: 65C30; 60H35; 60H10

Keywords: Stochastic differential equations; Discontinuous drift coefficient; Strong approximation; Euler–Maruyama scheme

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Absence of percolation for Poisson outdegree-one graphs

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Abstract. A Poisson outdegree-one graph is an oriented graph based on a Poisson point process such that each vertex has only one outgoing edge. The paper focuses on the absence of percolation for such graphs. Our main result is based on two assumptions. The Shield assumption ensures that the graph is locally determined with possible random horizons. The Loop assumption ensures that any forward branch of the graph merges on a loop provided that the Poisson point process is augmented with a finite collection of well-chosen points. Several models satisfy these general assumptions and inherit in consequence the absence of percolation. In particular, we solve in Theorem 3.1 a conjecture by Daley et al. on the absence of percolation for the line-segment model (Conjecture 7.1 of (*Probab. Math. Statist.* **36** (2016) 221–246), discussed in (*Ann. Inst. Henri Poincaré Probab. Stat.* **52** (2016) 127–145) as well). In this planar model, a segment is growing from any point of the Poisson process and stops its growth whenever it hits another segment. The random directions are picked independently and uniformly on the unit sphere. Another model of geometric navigation is presented and also fulfills the Shield and Loop assumptions.

Résumé. Nous considérons des graphes orientés dont l'ensemble des sommets est donné par un processus ponctuel de Poisson et tels que chaque sommet admette une et une seule arête sortante. Le résultat principal de ce papier est l'absence de percolation pour de tels graphes satisfaisant deux hypothèses. L'hypothèse Shield stipule que l'état du graphe localement ne dépend que de son voisinage, tandis que l'hypothèse Loop prétend que toute branche orientée du graphe échoue sur un cycle dès qu'un ensemble (fini) de sommets bien choisis est ajouté au processus de Poisson. Plusieurs modèles intéressants satisfont ces deux hypothèses générales et, par conséquent, ne percolent pas. Nous résolvons ainsi dans Theorem 3.1 une conjecture de Daley et al. sur l'absence de percolation pour le “line-segment model” (Conjecture 7.1 de (*Probab. Math. Statist.* **36** (2016) 221–246), également discutée dans (*Ann. Inst. Henri Poincaré Probab. Stat.* **52** (2016) 127–145)). Dans ce modèle bidimensionnel, un segment pousse depuis chaque point du processus de Poisson jusqu'à ce qu'il heurte un autre segment, stoppant ainsi sa croissance. Les directions dans lesquelles poussent les segments sont choisies uniformément sur la sphère et indépendamment les unes des autres. Enfin, un autre modèle dit de navigation est présenté et satisfait aussi les hypothèses Shield et Loop.

MSC: 60D05; 60K35

Keywords: Stochastic geometry; Geometric random graphs; Percolation; Mass transport principle; Lilypond model; Line-segment model

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Trees within trees II: Nested fragmentations

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Abstract. Similarly as in (*Electron. J. Probab.* **23** (2018)) where nested coalescent processes are studied, we generalize the definition of partition-valued homogeneous Markov fragmentation processes to the setting of nested partitions, i.e. pairs of partitions (ζ, ξ) where ζ is finer than ξ . As in the classical univariate setting, under exchangeability and branching assumptions, we characterize the jump measure of nested fragmentation processes, in terms of erosion coefficients and dislocation measures. Among the possible jumps of a nested fragmentation, three forms of erosion and two forms of dislocation are identified – one being specific to the nested setting and relating to a bivariate paintbox process.

Résumé. Poursuivant l'idée de (*Electron. J. Probab.* **23** (2018)) où les processus de coalescence emboîtés sont étudiés, nous étendons ici la définition des processus de fragmentation markoviens homogènes aux processus de fragmentation à valeurs dans les partitions emboîtées, c'est-à-dire les paires de partitions (ζ, ξ) telles que ζ soit plus fine que ξ . Comme dans le contexte classique (dit univarié), sous des hypothèses d'échangeabilité et de branchement, nous caractérisons la mesure de saut des processus de fragmentation emboîtés en termes de coefficients d'érosion et de mesures de dislocation. Les sauts d'une fragmentation emboîtée peuvent être de plusieurs natures différentes : nous distinguons trois formes d'érosions et deux formes de dislocations, l'une d'elles étant spécifique au contexte des partitions emboîtées et étant générée par un processus de pots de peinture bivarié.

MSC: 60G09; 60G57; 60J25; 60J35; 60J75; 92D15

Keywords: Fragmentations; Exchangeable; Partition; Random tree; Coalescent; Population genetics; Gene tree; Species tree; Phylogenetics; Evolution

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Stochastic Hölder continuity of random fields governed by a system of stochastic PDEs

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Abstract. This paper constructs a solvability theory for a system of stochastic partial differential equations. On account of the Kolmogorov continuity theorem, solutions are looked for in certain Hölder-type classes in which a random field is treated as a space-time function taking values in L^p -space of random variables. A modified stochastic parabolicity condition involving p is proposed to ensure the finiteness of the associated norm of the solution, which is showed to be sharp by examples. The Schauder-type estimates and the solvability theorem are proved.

Résumé. Cet article construit une théorie sur la solvabilité d'un système d'équations différentielles partielles stochastiques. En raison du théorème de continuité de Kolmogorov, les solutions sont recherchées dans certaines classes de Hölder, dans lesquelles un champ aléatoire est considéré comme une fonction spatio-temporelle prenant des valeurs dans l'espace L^p des variables aléatoires. Une condition de parabolicité stochastique modifiée impliquant p est proposée afin d'assurer la finitude de la norme associée de la solution. En étudiant des exemples, cette condition est montrée être optimale. Les estimations de type de Schauder et la solvabilité de l'équation sont démontrées.

MSC: Primary 60H15; 35R60; secondary 35K45

Keywords: Stochastic partial differential system; Stochastic parabolicity condition; Schauder estimate; Stochastic continuity

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Hua–Pickrell diffusions and Feller processes on the boundary of the graph of spectra

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Abstract. We consider consistent diffusion dynamics, leaving the celebrated Hua–Pickrell measures, depending on a complex parameter s , invariant. These, give rise to Feller–Markov processes on the infinite dimensional boundary Ω of the “graph of spectra”, the continuum analogue of the Gelfand–Tsetlin graph, via the method of intertwiners of Borodin and Olshanski. In the particular case of $s = 0$, this stochastic process is closely related to the Sine_2 point process on \mathbb{R} that describes the spectrum in the bulk of large random matrices. Equivalently, these coherent dynamics are associated to interlacing diffusions in Gelfand–Tsetlin patterns having certain *Gibbs* invariant measures. Moreover, under an application of the Cayley transform when $s = 0$ we obtain processes on the circle leaving invariant the *multilevel* Circular Unitary Ensemble. We finally prove that the Feller processes on Ω corresponding to Dyson’s Brownian motion and its stationary analogue are given by explicit and very simple deterministic dynamical systems.

Résumé. Nous considérons des dynamiques de diffusions cohérentes, laissant les fameuses mesures de Hua–Pickrell, dépendant d’un paramètre complexe s , invariante. Celles-ci donnent lieu à des processus de Feller–Markov sur la frontière infini-dimensionnelle Ω du «graphe de spectres», l’analogue continu du graphe de Gelfand–Tsetlin, par la méthode des entrelacements de Borodin et Olshanski. Dans le cas particulier de $s = 0$, ce processus stochastique est étroitement relié au processus ponctuel Sine_2 sur \mathbb{R} qui décrit l’intérieur du spectre des grandes matrices aléatoires. De manière équivalente, ces dynamiques cohérentes sont associées à des diffusions entrelacées dans des modèles de Gelfand–Tsetlin ayant certaines mesures invariantes de *Gibbs*. De plus, par une application de la transformation de Cayley lorsque $s = 0$, nous obtenons des processus sur le cercle laissant invariant l’ensemble circulaire unitaire *multiniveaux*. Nous prouvons enfin que les processus de Feller sur Ω correspondant au mouvement brownien de Dyson et à son analogue stationnaire sont donnés par des systèmes dynamiques déterministes très simples et explicites.

MSC: 60J60

Keywords: Feller processes; Diffusions; Dyson Brownian motion; Hua–Pickrell measures; Intertwinings

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Outliers in the spectrum for products of independent random matrices

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Abstract. For fixed $m \geq 1$, we consider the product of m independent $n \times n$ random matrices with iid entries as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Under suitable assumptions on the entries of each matrix, it is known that the limiting empirical distribution of the eigenvalues is described by the m th power of the circular law. Moreover, this same limiting distribution continues to hold if each iid random matrix is additively perturbed by a bounded rank deterministic error. However, the bounded rank perturbations may create one or more outlier eigenvalues. We describe the asymptotic location of the outlier eigenvalues, which extends a result of Tao (*Probab. Theory Related Fields* **155** (2013) 231–263) for the case of a single iid matrix. Our methods also allow us to consider several other types of perturbations, including multiplicative perturbations.

Résumé. Pour un $m \geq 1$ fixé, nous considérons le produit de m matrices aléatoires indépendantes de taille $n \times n$, à coefficients i.i.d., lorsque $n \rightarrow \infty$. Sous certaines hypothèses sur les coefficients de chaque matrice, il est connu que la loi empirique limite des valeurs propres est décrite par la puissance m -ième de la loi circulaire. De plus, cette même loi limite apparaît toujours si chacune des matrices i.i.d. est perturbée additivement par une erreur déterministe de rang borné. Néanmoins, les perturbations de rang borné peuvent créer quelques valeurs propres atypiques (outliers). Nous décrivons la localisation asymptotique de ces valeurs propres atypiques, ce qui généralise un résultat de Tao (*Probab. Theory Related Fields* **155** (2013) 231–263) dans le cas d'une seule matrice i.i.d. Nos méthodes nous permettent également de considérer d'autres types de perturbations, dont des perturbations multiplicatives.

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Keywords: Product random matrices; Outlier eigenvalues; Perturbed products; Isotropic limit law

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Interacting self-avoiding polygons

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Abstract. We consider a system of self-avoiding polygons interacting through a potential that penalizes or rewards the number of mutual touchings and we provide an exact computation of the critical curve separating a regime of long polygons from a regime of localized polygons. Moreover, we prove the existence of a sub-region of the phase diagram where the self-avoiding polygons are space filling and we provide a non-trivial characterization of the regime where the polygon length admits uniformly bounded exponential moments.

Résumé. Dans cet article, nous considérons un système de polygones auto-évitant interagissant au moyen d'un potentiel qui pénalise ou récompense le nombre de points de contacts. Nous calculons la forme exacte de la courbe critique séparant un régime de polygones longs d'un régime de polygones localisés. En outre, nous prouvons l'existence d'un sous-domaine du diagramme de phase dans lequel les polygones remplissent l'espace dans un sens faible et donnons une caractérisation non-triviale du sous-régime où les longueurs des polygones ont des moments exponentiels bornés.

MSC: 60K35; 82B27; 82B20

Keywords: Phase transition; Weakly space filling loops; Spatial random permutations

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Lower bounds for fluctuations in first-passage percolation for general distributions

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Abstract. In first-passage percolation (FPP), one assigns i.i.d. weights to the edges of the cubic lattice \mathbb{Z}^d and analyzes the induced weighted graph metric. If $T(x, y)$ is the distance between vertices x and y , then a primary question in the model is: what is the order of the fluctuations of $T(0, x)$? It is expected that the variance of $T(0, x)$ grows like the norm of x to a power strictly less than 1, but the best lower bounds available are (only in two dimensions) of order $\log \|x\|$. This result was found in the '90s and there has not been any improvement since. In this paper, we address the problem of getting stronger fluctuation bounds: to show that $T(0, x)$ is with high probability not contained in an interval of size $o(\log \|x\|)^{1/2}$, and similar statements for FPP in thin cylinders. Such statements have been proved for special edge-weight distributions, and here we obtain such bounds for general edge-weight distributions. The methods involve inducing a fluctuation in the number of edges in a box whose weights are of “hi-mode” (large).

Résumé. En percolation de premier passage (PPP), on attribue des poids i.i.d. aux arêtes du réseau cubique \mathbb{Z}^d et analyse la métrique de graphe induite. Si $T(x, y)$ dénote la distance entre les sommets x et y , une question fondamentale est de trouver l'ordre des fluctuations de $T(0, x)$. Il est escompté que la variance de $T(0, x)$ croît comme la norme, $\|x\|$, de x à une puissance strictement inférieure à 1, mais les meilleures bornes inférieures disponibles à ce jour (et seulement pour $d = 2$) sont d'ordres logarithmiques. Ce résultat a été démontré dans les années 90 et il a connu peu d'amélioration depuis. Dans ce papier, nous abordons le problème d'obtenir des bornes inférieures plus strictes, en montrant qu'avec très grande probabilité, la distance $T(0, y)$ n'est pas contenue dans un interval de taille $o(\log \|x\|)^{1/2}$. Un résultat similaire est aussi valide en percolation de dernier passage (PDP) dans des cylindres minces. Ce type de résultats qui n'avait été obtenu que pour des classes particulières de poids est ici démontré en toute généralité. Les (nouvelles) méthodes développées ici consistent à induire une fluctuation du nombre d'arêtes dans une boîte dont les poids sont en “mode-haut.”

MSC: 60K35

Keywords: First-passage percolation; Fluctuations; Small-ball probability

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The sharp phase transition for level set percolation of smooth planar Gaussian fields

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Abstract. We prove that the connectivity of the level sets of a wide class of smooth centred planar Gaussian fields exhibits a phase transition at the zero level that is analogous to the phase transition in Bernoulli percolation. In addition to symmetry, positivity and regularity conditions, we assume only that correlations decay polynomially with exponent larger than two – roughly equivalent to the integrability of the covariance kernel – whereas previously the phase transition was only known in the case of the Bargmann–Fock covariance kernel which decays super-exponentially. We also prove that the phase transition is *sharp*, demonstrating, without any further assumption on the decay of correlations, that in the sub-critical regime crossing probabilities decay exponentially.

Key to our methods is the white-noise representation of a Gaussian field; we use this on the one hand to prove new quasi-independence results, inspired by the notion of influence from Boolean functions, and on the other hand to establish sharp thresholds via the OSSS inequality for i.i.d. random variables, following the recent approach of Duminil-Copin, Raoufi and Tassion.

Résumé. Nous démontrons l'existence d'un phénomène de transition de phase pour les propriétés de connexion de lignes de niveau d'une grande classe de champs gaussiens planaires. En plus d'hypothèses de symétrie, régularité et positivité des corrélations, nous supposons que la covariance de ces champs décroît à vitesse polynomiale avec un exposant strictement plus grand que 2. Nous montrons par ailleurs que la transition de phase est "nette" dans le sens que, dans la phase sous-critique, les probabilités de connexion convergent vers 0 à vitesse exponentielle. Dans nos preuves, nous utilisons de façon centrale l'écriture des champs gaussiens lisses à l'aide d'un bruit blanc planaire. Nous utilisons cette représentation pour prouver de nouveaux résultats de quasi-indépendance spatiale, inspirés par la notion d'influence en théorie des fonctions booléennes. Par ailleurs, la structure produit du bruit blanc nous permet d'utiliser l'inégalité d'OSSS, qui est une inégalité clef dans la récente approche d'étude des transitions de phase par Duminil-Copin, Raoufi et Tassion.

MSC: 60G60; 60K35

Keywords: Gaussian fields; Percolation; Sharp phase transition

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Parameter recovery in two-component contamination mixtures: The L^2 strategy

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Abstract. In this paper, we consider a parametric density contamination model. We work with a sample of i.i.d. data with a common density, $f^* = (1 - \lambda^*)\phi + \lambda^*\phi(\cdot - \mu^*)$, where the shape ϕ is assumed to be known. We establish the optimal rates of convergence for the estimation of the mixture parameters $(\lambda^*, \mu^*) \in (0, 1) \times \mathbb{R}^d$. In particular, we prove that the classical parametric rate $1/\sqrt{n}$ cannot be reached when at least one of these parameters is allowed to tend to 0 with n .

Résumé. Dans cet article, nous étudions un modèle de contamination paramétrique. Nous considérons un échantillon i.i.d de densité $f^* = (1 - \lambda^*)\phi + \lambda^*\phi(\cdot - \mu^*)$, où la fonction ϕ est supposée connue. Nous établissons des vitesses de convergence optimales pour l'estimation des paramètres de mélange $(\lambda^*, \mu^*) \in (0, 1) \times \mathbb{R}^d$. En particulier, nous prouvons que la vitesse paramétrique usuelle $1/\sqrt{n}$ ne peut pas être atteinte quand au moins un de ces paramètres est amené à tendre vers 0 avec n .

MSC: Primary 62G05; 62F15; secondary 62G20

Keywords: L^2 contrast; Parameter estimation; Rate of convergence; Two-component contamination mixture model

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Size of a minimal cutset in supercritical first passage percolation¹

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Abstract. We consider the standard model of i.i.d. first passage percolation on \mathbb{Z}^d given a distribution G on $[0, +\infty]$ (including $+\infty$). We suppose that $G(\{0\}) > 1 - p_c(d)$, i.e., the edges of positive passage time are in the subcritical regime of percolation on \mathbb{Z}^d . We consider a cylinder of basis an hyperrectangle of dimension $d - 1$ whose sides have length n and of height $h(n)$ with $h(n)$ negligible compared to n (i.e., $h(n)/n \rightarrow 0$ when n goes to infinity). We study the maximal flow from the top to the bottom of this cylinder. We already know that the maximal flow renormalized by n^{d-1} converges towards the flow constant which is null in the case $G(\{0\}) > 1 - p_c(d)$. The study of maximal flow is associated with the study of sets of edges of minimal capacity that cut the top from the bottom of the cylinder. If we denote by ψ_n the minimal cardinality of such a set of edges, we prove here that ψ_n/n^{d-1} converges almost surely towards a constant.

Résumé. Considérons le modèle de percolation de premier passage i.i.d. dans \mathbb{Z}^d associé à la distribution G sur $[0, +\infty]$ (en incluant $+\infty$). Supposons que $G(\{0\}) > 1 - p_c(d)$, i.e., les arêtes ayant un temps de passage strictement positif sont dans un régime sous-critique de percolation dans \mathbb{Z}^d . Considérons un cylindre ayant pour base un hyperrectangle de dimension $d - 1$ de côté de longueur n et de hauteur $h(n)$ avec $h(n)$ négligeable devant n (i.e., $h(n)/n \rightarrow 0$ quand n tend vers l'infini). Nous nous intéressons à la quantité maximale de flux pouvant circuler de haut en bas dans le cylindre. Le flux maximal renormalisé par n^{d-1} converge vers la constante de flux qui est nulle dans le cas où $G(\{0\}) > 1 - p_c(d)$. L'étude du flux maximal est équivalente à l'étude des ensembles d'arêtes de capacité minimale séparant le haut du bas du cylindre. Notons ψ_n le cardinal minimal de tels ensembles d'arêtes, nous prouvons ici que ψ_n/n^{d-1} converge presque sûrement vers une constante.

MSC: Primary 60K35; secondary 82B20

Keywords: First passage percolation; Maximal flow; Minimal cutset; Size of a cutset

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Local densities for a class of degenerate diffusions

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Abstract. We study a class of \mathbb{R}^d -valued continuous strong Markov processes that are generated, only locally, by an ultra-parabolic operator with coefficients that are regular w.r.t. the intrinsic geometry induced by the operator itself and not w.r.t. the Euclidean one. The first main result is a local Itô formula for functions that are not twice-differentiable in the classical sense, but only intrinsically w.r.t. to a set of vector fields, related to the generator, satisfying the Hörmander condition. The second main contribution, which builds upon the first one, is an existence and regularity result for the local transition density.

Résumé. Dans cet article on étudie une classe de processus de type Markov fort continus à valeurs dans \mathbb{R}^d qui sont engendrés, seulement localement, par un opérateur ultra-parabolique avec des coefficients réguliers par rapport à la géométrie intrinsèque induite par l'opérateur lui-même et non par rapport à la géométrie euclidienne. On obtient deux résultats importants. Le premier est une formule locale d'Itô valable pour des fonctions qui ne sont pas deux fois différentiables dans le sens classique, mais seulement intrinsèquement par rapport à un ensemble de champs de vecteurs, liés au générateur, satisfaisant à la condition d'Hörmander. La deuxième contribution, qui s'appuie sur la première, est un résultat d'existence et de régularité pour la densité de transition locale.

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Keywords: Hörmander condition; Intrinsic geometry; Intrinsic Hölder spaces; Kolmogorov equations; Local densities; Strong Feller property

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Exponential weights in multivariate regression and a low-rankness favoring prior

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Abstract. We establish theoretical guarantees for the expected prediction error of the exponentially weighted aggregate in the case of multivariate regression that is when the label vector is multidimensional. We consider the regression model with fixed design and bounded noise. The first new feature uncovered by our guarantees is that it is not necessary to require independence of the observations: a symmetry condition on the noise distribution alone suffices to get a sharp risk bound. This result needs the regression vectors to be bounded. A second curious finding concerns the case of unbounded regression vectors but independent noise. It turns out that applying exponential weights to the label vectors perturbed by a uniform noise leads to an estimator satisfying a sharp oracle inequality. The last contribution is the instantiation of the proposed oracle inequalities to problems in which the unknown parameter is a matrix. We propose a low-rankness favoring prior and show that it leads to an estimator that is optimal under weak assumptions.

Résumé. Nous établissons des garanties théoriques pour l'erreur de prédiction de l'agrégat par poids exponentiels dans le cadre de la régression multivariée, c'est-à-dire lorsqu'on souhaite prédire une étiquette multidimensionnelle. Nous considérons le modèle de régression à design fixe et à bruit borné. La première conséquence de nos garanties est qu'il n'est pas nécessaire d'exiger l'indépendance des observations : une condition de symétrie sur la seule distribution du bruit suffit pour obtenir des bornes précises. Ce résultat nécessite que les vecteurs de régression soient bornés. Une seconde conséquence curieuse concerne le cas des vecteurs de régression non bornés mais indépendants de bruit. Il s'avère que l'application des poids exponentiels aux vecteurs d'étiquette perturbés par un bruit uniforme conduit à un estimateur satisfaisant une inégalité d'oracle exacte. La dernière contribution est l'instanciation des inégalités d'oracle proposées à des problèmes dans lesquels le paramètre inconnu est une matrice. Nous proposons une loi a priori favorisant les matrices à faible rang et montrons qu'elle conduit à un estimateur optimal sous des hypothèses faibles.

MSC: Primary 62J05; secondary 62H12

Keywords: Oracle inequality; Exponential weights; Trace regression; Low-rank matrices

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Stein's method for functions of multivariate normal random variables

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Abstract. By the continuous mapping theorem, if a sequence of d -dimensional random vectors $(\mathbf{W}_n)_{n \geq 1}$ converges in distribution to a multivariate normal random variable $\Sigma^{1/2}\mathbf{Z}$, then the sequence of random variables $(g(\mathbf{W}_n))_{n \geq 1}$ converges in distribution to $g(\Sigma^{1/2}\mathbf{Z})$ if $g: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous. In this paper, we develop Stein's method for the problem of deriving explicit bounds on the distance between $g(\mathbf{W}_n)$ and $g(\Sigma^{1/2}\mathbf{Z})$ with respect to smooth probability metrics. We obtain several bounds for the case that the j -component of \mathbf{W}_n is given by $W_{n,j} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n X_{ij}$, where the X_{ij} are independent. In particular, provided g satisfies certain differentiability and growth rate conditions, we obtain an order $n^{-(p-1)/2}$ bound, for smooth test functions, if the first p moments of the X_{ij} agree with those of the normal distribution. If p is an even integer and g is an even function, this convergence rate can be improved further to order $n^{-p/2}$. These convergence rates are shown to be of optimal order. We apply our general bounds to some examples, which include the distributional approximation of asymptotically chi-square distributed statistics; the approximation of expectations of smooth functions of binomial and Poisson random variables; rates of convergence in the delta method; and a quantitative variance-gamma approximation of the D_2^* statistic for alignment-free sequence comparison in the case of binary sequences.

Résumé. Par le théorème de l'application continue, si une suite $(\mathbf{W}_n)_{n \geq 1}$ de vecteurs aléatoires de dimension d converge en loi vers une loi normale multivariée $\Sigma^{1/2}\mathbf{Z}$, alors la suite des variables aléatoires $(g(\mathbf{W}_n))_{n \geq 1}$ converge en loi vers $g(\Sigma^{1/2}\mathbf{Z})$ si $g: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ est continue. Dans cet article, nous développons la méthode de Stein pour obtenir des bornes explicites sur la distance entre $g(\mathbf{W}_n)$ et $g(\Sigma^{1/2}\mathbf{Z})$, pour des métriques lisses sur l'espace des probabilités. Nous obtenons plusieurs bornes dans le cas où la j -ème coordonnée de \mathbf{W}_n est donnée par $W_{n,j} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n X_{ij}$, où les X_{ij} sont indépendants. En particulier, si g vérifie certaines conditions de dérivabilité et de croissance, nous obtenons une borne d'ordre $n^{-(p-1)/2}$, pour des fonctions-test lisses, si les p premiers moments des X_{ij} coïncident avec ceux de la loi normale. Si p est un entier pair et g est une fonction paire, ce taux de convergence peut être encore amélioré en $n^{-p/2}$. Nous montrons que ces taux de convergence sont d'ordre optimal. Nous appliquons nos bornes générales à quelques exemples, incluant l'approximation en loi de statistiques suivant asymptotiquement une loi du chi-deux; l'approximation d'espérances de fonctions lisses de variables aléatoires de loi binomiales ou de Poisson; des taux de convergence pour la méthode δ ; et une approximation variance-gamma quantitative de la statistique D_2^* pour la comparaison sans alignement, dans le cas de suites binaires.

MSC: 60F05

Keywords: Stein's method; Functions of multivariate normal random variables; Multivariate normal approximation; Rate of convergence; Delta method; Sequence comparison

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