

# Chapter 2: Analytical aspects

I

I - The law of large numbers:

Existence of asymptotic shapes

The result is that upon observing a specific direction  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2$ ,  $L(Nx, Ny)$  grows linearly in  $N$ .

The main thm we shall prove is

Thm: [LLN - <sup>(weak)</sup> Existence of asymptotic shape] Assume  $E|w| < +\infty$ .

There exists a deterministic  $s: \mathbb{R}_+^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$

s.t.  $\forall (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2$ ,  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{L(Nx, Ny)}{N} = s(x, y)$  a.s.

where  $s$  is

$$s = s_{\mathcal{L}(w)}$$

- (Homogeneous):  $s(cx, cy) = cs(x, y)$
- (Superadditivity):  $s(x_1, y_1) + s(x_2, y_2) \leq s(x_1 + x_2, y_1 + y_2)$
- (Symmetry):  $s(x, y) = s(y, x)$
- (Concave):  $\forall t \in [0, 1], t s(x_1) + (1-t) s(x_2) \leq s(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2)$
- (Monotone - upon correcting by mean):  
 $s(x+1, y) \geq s(x, y) + E(w)$

Rmk:  $s$  is convex, symmetric & subadditive on  $\mathbb{R}_+^2$   
 $\simeq$  Distance on  $\mathbb{R}_+^2$  (if  $\geq 0!$ )

# Exercise:

1/ If  $s$  homogenous,  $s$  superadditive  $\iff$  concave

2/ Prove that if  $\mathcal{L}(w)$  is an environment

$$\& w' = \frac{w - \mathbb{E}(w)}{\sigma}, \quad \sigma = \sqrt{\text{Var}(w)}$$

then 
$$\begin{cases} s_{\mathcal{L}(w)}(x, y) = \mathbb{E}(w)(x+y) + \sigma s_{\mathcal{L}(w')} (x, y) \\ s_{\mathcal{L}(w')} \geq 0 \quad \& \text{monotone in each coordinate} \end{cases}$$

3/ Show that  $s(x+h, y) \geq s(x, y) + h\mathbb{E}(w)$

At this point, let us make two remarks

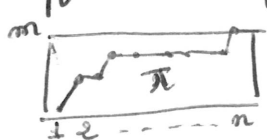
$\hookrightarrow$  For most  $w$ , the shape  $s_{\mathcal{L}(w)} = s$

is UNKNOWN since the existence comes from a non-constructive superadditive argument.

The few ~~cases~~ cases that are known are qualified as "integrable" because of the underlying algebraic structure (Chapter 3).

- $w \stackrel{\mathcal{L}}{=} \oplus$ :  $s(x, y) = x + y + 2\sqrt{xy} = (\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y})^2$
  - $w \stackrel{\mathcal{L}}{=} \text{Geom}(q)$ :  $s(x, y) = \frac{1}{p} (qx + qy + 2\sqrt{qxy})$
  - $w \stackrel{\mathcal{L}}{=} \text{Bernoulli}(p)$ :  $s(x, y) = \begin{cases} p(x+y) + 2\sqrt{xy} \sqrt{p(1-p)} & \text{if } p \leq \frac{x}{x+y} \\ x & \text{if } p \geq \frac{x}{x+y} \end{cases}$
- (Johansson (2000))

By Seppäläinen (1998), for a ~~geometry~~ geometry of paths different from  $\rightarrow \uparrow$  called "strict weak"



$$\pi \in \Pi^{m, m} = \left\{ \text{paths of the form } (0, y_1), (1, y_2), \dots, (m, y_m) \right\}$$

$x_i$  weakly increasing.

From the two first examples, one could conjecture

$$s(x,y) = m(x+y) + 2\sqrt{xy}$$

which is true on the boundary, but false globally...

A simulation quickly shows that the formula is unlikely

↳ In order to have an asymptotic shape for  $\frac{D(t)}{t}$ , one needs some uniformity in the direction  $(x,y)$ ... This will be a consequence of concentration of measure (Chapter 2 - II).

□ Kingman's superadditive ergodic theorem. Originally stated in the subadditive form (Kingman 1988) and this version with two indices is due to Liggett (1985).

We state it in the general form, however the proof works only for DLPP or models with similar structure.

Thm [Kingman's superadditive ergodic thm]

Suppose  $(X_{m,n}; 0 \leq m \leq n)$  is a random sequence in  $L^1$  with the following properties

(i) Superadditive:

$$X_{0,m} + X_{m,n} \leq X_{0,n}$$

(ii)  $\forall m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $(X_{m,m}, X_{m+1,m}; n \geq 1)$

stationary & ergodic (we will only need iid)

(iii)  $\mathcal{L}(X_{m,m+k}; k \geq 1)$  does not depend on  $m$ .

Then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{X_{0,n}}{n} = \gamma$  exists a.s. and in  $L^1$ . IV

Moreover  $\gamma = \sup_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbb{E} \frac{X_{0,m}}{m} \in \mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\}$

Proof: Step 1: Let us start by proving the superadditive thm for constants (for e.g.  $a_n = \mathbb{E}(X_{0,n})$ ) which satisfy  $a_m + a_n \leq a_{m+n}$  ( $\mathbb{E}(X_{0,n})$  does by (ii) & (iii))

$$* \quad \left. \begin{aligned} \frac{a_m}{n} &\leq \frac{a_{m+n}}{n} - \frac{a_m}{n} \\ &= \frac{m+n}{n} \frac{a_{m+n}}{m+n} - \frac{a_m}{n} \\ &\leq \frac{m+n}{n} \sup_{k \in \mathbb{N}^*} \frac{a_k}{k} \end{aligned} \right\} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{n} \leq \sup_{k \in \mathbb{N}^*} \frac{a_k}{k}$$

\* Now write  $n = kq + l$  for fixed  $q$  ( $k = k_n$ )

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \frac{a_n}{n} &= \frac{a_{kq+l}}{kq+l} \geq \frac{1}{kq+l} (a_q + a_{k(q-1)+l}) \\ &\geq \dots \\ &\geq \frac{1}{kq+l} (ka_q + a_l) \\ &= \frac{k}{kq+l} a_q + \frac{a_l}{kq+l} \end{aligned} \right\} \text{superadditivity } k \text{ times}$$

Then  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{n} \geq \frac{a_q}{q} \quad \forall q \text{ fixed}$

Then  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{n} \geq \sup_{k \in \mathbb{N}^*} \frac{a_k}{k} \quad \square$

Step 2: This very nice idea for controlling  $\liminf$  carries verbatim for the random case!

We write again  $n = kq + l$

$$X_{0,n} \geq X_{0,q} + X_{q,m} \geq \dots \geq X_{0,q} + X_{q,2q} + \dots + X_{(k-1)q, kq} + X_{kq, kq+l}$$

Then  $\frac{X_{0,m}}{m} \geq \frac{R}{Rq+l} \cdot \frac{\sum_{j=0}^{k-1} X_{jq, (j+1)q}}{R} + \frac{X_{Tq, Rq+l}}{Rq+l}$   $\boxed{\frac{V}{R}}$

$\frac{1}{q}$

$\downarrow \begin{matrix} m \rightarrow \infty \\ (R \rightarrow \infty) \end{matrix}$

Hypothesis (iii)  $\downarrow n \rightarrow \infty$

$\downarrow \begin{matrix} m \rightarrow \infty \\ (R \rightarrow \infty) \end{matrix}$

Either by the LLN (if iid)

Via Borel-Cantelli.

we have convergence

Indeed,  $\forall \epsilon > 0$

to  $IE(X_{0,q})$

$$\sum_{R=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}\left(\left|\frac{X_{Rq, Rq+l}}{Rq+l}\right| \geq \epsilon\right)$$

Either by Birkhoff's ergodic

then  $IE(X_{0,q} | \mathcal{I}_q) = IE(X_{0,m})$

$$= \sum_{R=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}( |X_{0,\epsilon}| \geq \frac{\epsilon(Rq+l)}{R} )$$

$\downarrow$  Invariant  $\sigma$ -algebra for shifts by  $q$

$$\leq \sum_{R=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}( |X_{0,\epsilon}| \geq \epsilon' R )$$

$$\leq \int_0^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_{0,\epsilon}| \geq \epsilon' t) dt < \infty$$

In any case  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{X_{0,m}}{n} \geq \frac{1}{q} IE(X_{0,m})$

as  $IE|X| = \int_0^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(|X| > t) dt$

then  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{X_{0,m}}{n} \geq \sup_{R \in \mathbb{N}^*} \frac{IE(X_{0,R})}{R} = \gamma$

Step 3:  $\bar{X} = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{X_{0,m}}{n} \leq \gamma$

\* Let  $\bar{X}_m = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{X_{m, m+n}}{n} \stackrel{iii}{=} \bar{X}$  by Hypothesis (iii)

Moreover  $\frac{X_{0, m+n}}{n} \geq \frac{X_{0,m}}{n} + \frac{X_{m, m+n}}{n}$

$\leadsto \bar{X}_{m+n} \geq \bar{X}_m$

Then  $\bar{X} = \bar{X}_m$ : we cannot have  $\bar{X} \stackrel{\neq}{=} \bar{X}_m$  and  $\bar{X} > \bar{X}_m$  on a set of  $> 0$  probability!

\* This is where the proof works only for DRPP, where  $(X_{m, m+k}; k \geq 0)$  depend on the environment

for  $(w_{ij}; i, j \gg f(m))$   $\downarrow \frac{X_{m, m+k}}{n \rightarrow \infty}$

$\bar{X}$  is in the tail  $\sigma$ -algebra of the  $w_{ij}$  independent VI

$\leadsto$  Kolmogorov 0-1 law:

$$\bar{X} = \mathbb{E}(\bar{X})$$

$$\forall M > 0, \quad \bar{X} \wedge M = \mathbb{E}(\bar{X} \wedge M)$$

$$= \mathbb{E} \left( \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{X_{0,n}}{n} \wedge M \right)$$

Reverse Fatou lemma  $\ll$   $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E} \left( \frac{X_{0,n}}{n} \wedge M \right)$

$$\ll \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}^+} \mathbb{E} \left( \frac{X_{0,n}}{n} \right)$$

In the end  $\bar{X} \leq \delta$ .

$\triangle$  We have not proved  $L^1$  convergence. □ For details & examples we refer to the

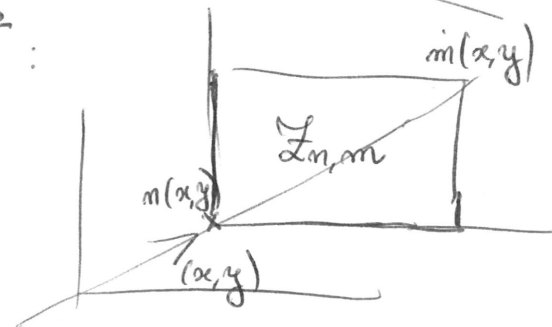
[2] Proof of ~~strong~~ LLN:

back of Durrett.

The idea is to use Kingman's superadditive ergodic thm for different  $(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2$ :

\*  $(x,y) \in \mathbb{N}_+^2$ :

$$Z_{m,n} := L_{mx, my} \quad \text{superadditive}$$



Kingman

$$\Rightarrow \frac{L(mx, my)}{m} = \frac{Z_{0,m}}{m} \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} s(x,y) \text{ in } L^1 \text{ \& a.s.}$$

Superadditivity is obvious.

Homogeneity:  $s(Rx, Ry) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{L(nRx, nRy)}{nRx} \times R = R s(x,y)$

\*  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2$ :

Let  $\begin{cases} k \in \mathbb{N} \text{ s.t. } k(x, y) \in \mathbb{N}^2 \\ m = q_n k + r \text{ Euclidean division } 0 \leq r < k \end{cases}$

$$\frac{L_{[mx], [my]}}{m} = \frac{L(qkx + [rx], qky + [ry])}{kq+r}$$

$$= \frac{L(qkx, qky)}{kq+r} + \frac{L(qkx + [rx], qky + [ry]) - L(qkx, qky)}{kq+r}$$

as  $\varepsilon L'$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $\frac{s(kx, ky)}{k}$

$$| | \leq \frac{1}{m} ([rx] + [ry])$$

$$\max_{\substack{0 \leq i \leq [rx] \\ 0 \leq j \leq [ry]}} |w_{qkx+i, qky+j}|$$

$\xrightarrow{n \rightarrow +\infty} 0$  in  $L'$  (easy)  
 & a.s (Borel-Cantelli)

\* At this stage, recall that we can shift  $w$  by its mean:

$$L^{m,m} = \max_{\pi: (1,1) \rightarrow (m,m)} \left( \sum_{(i,j) \in \pi} w_{ij} - \mathbb{E}(w) \right) + (m+m) \mathbb{E}(w)$$

$(L^{m,m})^\#$  where  $w_{ij} \leftrightarrow w_{ij} - \mathbb{E}(w)$

This shifts a shape function  $s$  to  $\tilde{s}(x, y) = s(x, y) - (x+y) \mathbb{E}(w)$

Assuming, without loss of generality  $\mathbb{E}(w) = 0$ ,

we have  $s(x, y+h) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \max_{\pi: (1,1) \rightarrow (L[x], L[y+h])} \mathbb{E}(\pi)$  only one path!

$$\geq \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\max_{\pi: (1,1) \rightarrow (L[x], L[y])} \mathbb{E}(\pi)}{L[y+h]} \rightarrow \frac{L[y]}{L[y+h]}$$

$$= s(x, y) + \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j=L[y]+1}^{L[y+h]} w_{L[x], j}$$

by LLN  $\rightarrow 0$

Hence we have

$$s: \mathbb{Q}_+^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{monotone in every coordinate} \\ \text{homogeneous + superadditive} \end{array} \right.$

\* Let us prove that either  $s: \mathbb{Q}_+^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$   
 or  $s = +\infty$  on  $(\mathbb{Q}_+^*)^2$

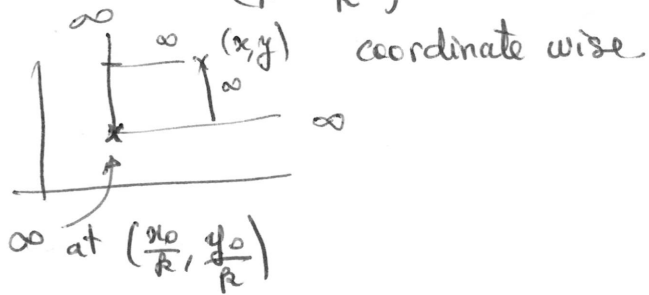
either  $s < +\infty$

or  $\exists (x_0, y_0) \in \mathbb{Q}_+^2$  s.t.  $s(x_0, y_0) = +\infty$

Let  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{Q}_+^2$ . Pick  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $(\frac{x_0}{k}, \frac{y_0}{k}) < (x, y)$

By coordinate-wise monotonicity

$$s(x, y) = +\infty$$



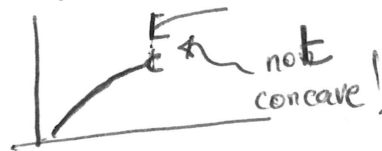
\* Conclusion:

Either  $s = +\infty$  everywhere

or  $s: \mathbb{Q}_+^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{monotone in every coordinate} \\ \text{homogeneous + superadditive} \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \text{concave}$

In this case, because of monotonicity, unique extension to  $\mathbb{R}_+^2$ , except that there can be jumps.



Concavity excludes jumps!

A finite, concave function on an open set, which is continuous,

As such, there is a unique continuous  $s: \mathbb{R}_+^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

s.t.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s(\frac{\lfloor nx \rfloor}{n}, \frac{\lfloor ny \rfloor}{n}) \rightarrow s(x, y)$  for rationals.

By monotonicity, convergence holds for reals.  $\square$