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# Parameter estimation of Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process generating a stochastic graph

Emmanuel Gobet\*, Gustaw Matulewicz†

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## Abstract

Given  $Y$  a graph process defined by an incomplete information observation of a multivariate Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process  $X$ , we investigate whether we can estimate the parameters of  $X$ . We define two statistics of  $Y$ . We prove convergence properties and show how these can be used for parameter inference. Finally, numerical tests illustrate our results and indicate possible extensions and applications.

**Keywords:** stochastic graph process, inference for stochastic process, incomplete information, asymptotic properties of estimators.

**MSC 2010:** 62Mxx; 05C80; 62F12.

## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Statement of the problem

Take an Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process  $X = (X_t : t \geq 0)$  with values in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  ( $d \in \mathbb{N}^+$ ), solution to the stochastic differential equation:

$$dX_t = -AX_t dt + \Sigma dW_t, \quad X_0 \text{ given.} \quad (1.1)$$

We consider the model of stochastic graphs generated as follows: the adjacency value between vertices  $i$  and  $j$  is

$$Y_t^{ij} = \mathbb{1}_{X_t \in S^{ij}}$$

where  $(S^{ij})_{i,j}$  are subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .

The topic of random graphs is a well-developed research area. Since the Erdős–Rényi model, many other ways of generating a random graph have been proposed, most notably the preferential attachment model, the Chung-Lu model or the Kronecker graph model [Bol01, MX07]. Most models have the goal to create a single instance of a random graph.

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\*CMAP, Ecole Polytechnique and CNRS, Université Paris Saclay, Route de Saclay, 91128 Palaiseau cedex, France. Email: emmanuel.gobet@polytechnique.edu.

†CMAP, Ecole Polytechnique and CNRS, Université Paris Saclay, Route de Saclay, 91128 Palaiseau cedex, France. Email: gustaw.matulewicz@polytechnique.edu. This work was funded jointly by *Chaire Risques Financiers* of the *Risk Fondation*, the *Finance for Energy Market Research Centre* and the Natixis Foundation for Quantitative Research.

Some proceed by "growing" the graph, i.e. by successively adding nodes and edges, as in the preferential attachment model. Other models also enable deleting nodes and edges.

In contrast, in our model the nodes are fixed, hence it is not a "growing" graph, but the edges are evolving continuously in time. One could in principle fix a  $T$  and consider the random graph  $Y_T$ , but the real richness of our model resides in the evolution of the graph in continuous time. For instance, it adds correlation between graphs at arbitrary time-scales.

$Y$  gives only partial information about  $X$ . Hence, usual results on inference for stochastic processes can not be applied. We therefore aim at extending these results to our setting and ask then the question of finding  $A, \Sigma$  from Equation (1.1), given the sole observation of  $Y$ .

We will consider that we have access to one realization of the process  $Y$  observed at discrete times  $(k\Delta_n)_{0 \leq k \leq n}$ ,  $n \geq 1$ . Therefore, we hope to get results in the long time limit  $n\Delta_n \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ , in which we can expect to use ergodic properties of the process  $X$ . Intuitively, doing so we will estimate parameters arising in the stationary distribution. Also, to estimate parameters related to local fluctuations (i.e.  $\Sigma$ ), we are interested in the high frequency limit  $\Delta_n \rightarrow 0$ .

## 1.2 Applications in systemic risk modeling

In [CFS15, FI13], authors present a model for inter-bank lending in which  $d$  bank reserves are modeled through real-valued random processes  $X^i$ . Whenever bank  $i$  has more reserves than bank  $j$ ,  $i$  lends money to  $j$ , thus reducing reserve  $X^i$  and increasing  $X^j$ . Gaussian noise is added in order to model random variations of the reserves. We will refer to this model through Equation (1.2) (which is exactly the model from [CFS15] without a central bank):

$$dX_t^i = -\frac{a}{d} \sum_{j=1}^d (X_t^i - X_t^j) dt + \sigma dW_t^i. \quad (1.2)$$

In this model, authors define a systemic event when the mean reserve falls below some predetermined value. The analysis of the model shows that the probability of the systemic event can be computed and the result depends explicitly on the values of the parameters, especially on the correlation of the Brownian motions with a common noise.

Therefore, it is crucial to know how to estimate the values of the parameters of the equation, even in the realistic situation where one wouldn't have complete information of the banks' reserves. We consider for instance that the regulator, whose perspective we are analysing here, would fix a regulatory threshold  $r$  and would observe all variables of the form

$$Y_t^{ij} := \mathbb{1}_{X_t^i - X_t^j > r}.$$

## 1.3 Summary of results

In this article, we define two statistics and show the following convergences.

- An "occupation time" statistic  $OT_n$ , which counts the number of times the process is present in a given set. Normalized by  $n$ , this number converges to the stationary measure of that set, in the following ways:
  - in  $L^2$ , with a speed of convergence bounded by  $\sqrt{n\Delta_n}$ , which is the square root of the time horizon of the estimation;
  - with the right normalization, convergence in law to a Gaussian variable, for one-dimensional processes.
- A "crossings" statistic  $\mathcal{C}_n$ , which counts the number of times the process  $X$  goes in or out of a given set  $S^{ij}$ , i.e. the number of changes of the  $Y^{i,j}$ -value. We show a convergence in  $L^2$  of this - suitably normalized - statistic.

We show then how to use this in order to estimate the parameters of model (1.1).

#### 1.4 Related work

The question that we investigate in this article is on the recovery of the parameters of an Ornstein-Uhlenbeck equation given the  $n$  observations of a single realization of the process. It relates therefore to the largely developed field of inference for stochastic processes. Many results exist on this subject: for instance, see [Kut04] for continuous-time observations and [KLS12] for discrete-time ones.

In this work, we are specifically interested in discrete-time observation schemes. We observe three distinct discrete-time settings. First, the low-frequency long-time (LF-LT) setting consists in fixing a time step  $\Delta$  and observing at times  $(i\Delta)_{i \leq n}$  with  $n \rightarrow +\infty$  [Yos92]. Second, the high-frequency fixed-time (HF-FT) setting, where a time horizon  $T$  is fixed and observations are taken at  $(i\Delta_n)_{i \leq n}$  with  $\Delta_n = T/n \rightarrow 0$  [GJ93]. Third, the high-frequency long-time (HF-LT) setting where one assumes observations at  $(i\Delta_n)_{i \leq n}$  with the time step  $\Delta_n \rightarrow 0$  and the time horizon  $n\Delta_n \rightarrow +\infty$  [Kes97, Gob02, ASM04]. Our work is placed in the latter HF-LT setting.

Some results already exist on problems with observation of crossings of a given threshold. For instance, [Flo87] considers the estimation using only the observation of the sign of the process. However this is done in the LF-LT setting and in dimension 1. The same remark applies to [Flo89, Flo91]. We will extend her CLT results to the HF limit.

The HF-LT setting is combined with partial information observation in [IUY09]. The authors consider, for  $\epsilon > 0$ , the observation of  $\mathbb{1}_{|X_t| \geq \epsilon} X_t$ . Our assumption of a binary observation leaves us with even scarcer information, thus making the inference problem more delicate.

To sum up, the closest work to ours is seemingly [IUY09] and [Flo87] but our main original contribution concerns the multi-dimensional scope and the case of binary observation in the HF-LT setting.

**Organisation of the paper.** In the next subsection, we define the notations and assumptions used throughout this work. Then in Section 2, we study the first statistic based on occupation time. We first prove general convergence results useful to analyse the convergence of all estimators (Theorem 2.1).  $L^2$  and CLT results are proved (Theorems 2.2 and 2.3). Section 3 is devoted to the study of the second estimator based on crossings

(Theorem 3.1). Last in Section 4, we report numerical experiments. Applications to parameters inference are discussed along the sections. Technical results are postponed to Appendix.

## 1.5 Notations and assumptions

### 1.5.1 Notations

For  $d \in \mathbb{N}^+$ , take  $m \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $V$  a symmetric positive definite  $d \times d$  matrix. We call  $\mathcal{N}(m, V)$  the law of a Gaussian r.v. with mean  $m$  and covariance matrix  $V$ . For  $m = 0$ , this centered Gaussian distribution is denoted by  $\nu_V$  and its density by  $\mu_V$ :

$$\mu_V(x) = (2\pi)^{-d/2} \det(V)^{-1/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}x^*V^{-1}x\right), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^d,$$

where  $x^*$  is the transpose of  $x$ . In dimension  $d = 1$ , we introduce additionally the CDF of  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ :

$$N(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x \mu_1(s) ds, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Given a measurable function  $f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and a probability measure  $\nu$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , we denote  $\nu(f) = \int f(x)\nu(dx)$ . For a measurable set  $S \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ , we write  $\nu(S) = \nu(\mathbb{1}_S)$  by a slight abuse of notation.

### 1.5.2 Restatement of the model and standing assumptions

Consider two matrices  $A \in \mathcal{M}_{d,d}(\mathbb{R})$  and  $\Sigma \in \mathcal{M}_{d,q}(\mathbb{R})$  where  $d, q \in \mathbb{N}^+$ , which serves to model (1.1). The standing assumptions on  $A$  and  $\Sigma$  are the following.

(H) The matrix  $\Sigma\Sigma^*$  is invertible and the spectrum of  $A$  has strictly positive real parts:

$$a_0 := \min_{\lambda \in \text{Sp}(A)} \text{Re}(\lambda) > 0. \quad (1.3)$$

We define an important class of covariance matrices:

$$V_t = \int_0^t e^{-Au}\Sigma\Sigma^*e^{-A^*u}du, \quad V_\infty = \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-Au}\Sigma\Sigma^*e^{-A^*u}du.$$

We easily check that  $V_\infty$  is well defined, symmetric positive definite. For one-dimensional processes, we simply have:

$$v_t = \frac{\sigma^2}{2a} (1 - e^{-2at}), \quad v_\infty = \frac{\sigma^2}{2a}.$$

Let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, (\mathcal{F}_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}^+}, \mathbb{P})$  be a filtered space and  $(W_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}^+}$  a  $q$ -dimensional Brownian motion with respect to  $\mathcal{F}$ . In this setting, we consider the multi-dimensional Ornstein-Uhlenbeck equation for  $X$  as introduced in (1.1):

$$dX_t = -AX_t + \Sigma dW_t, \quad X_0 \stackrel{d}{=} \mathcal{N}(0, V_\infty), \quad (1.4)$$

where  $X_0$  is a r.v. independent of  $W$ . In the following  $X = (X_t : t \geq 0)$  stands for the  $\mathbb{R}^d$ -valued solution of (1.4). We recall some properties from [KS91, Chapter 5.6]. First  $X$  is stationary:

$$\forall t \in \mathbb{R}^+, X_t \stackrel{d}{=} \mathcal{N}(0, V_\infty). \quad (1.5)$$

To simplify we denote by  $\nu_\infty$  the Gaussian distribution  $\mathcal{N}(0, V_\infty)$  and by  $\mu_\infty$  its density. In the subsequent analysis, the initial distribution could be different from  $\nu_\infty$ , it would not change significantly the analysis since the OU-process converges exponentially fast to its stationary regime.

Second,  $X$  is Markovian and ergodic. Take  $t > s$ , we can write:

$$X_t = e^{-A(t-s)} X_s + \int_s^t e^{-A(t-u)} \Sigma dW_u, \quad (1.6)$$

from which we deduce

$$X_t | X_s \stackrel{d}{=} \mathcal{N}\left(e^{-A(t-s)} X_s, V_{t-s}\right). \quad (1.7)$$

Equality (1.6) gives also an important insight on decorrelation of the process:

$$\text{Cov}(X_t, X_s) = e^{-A(t-s)} \text{Var}(X_s) = e^{-A(t-s)} V_\infty, \quad t \geq s. \quad (1.8)$$

In the following, all the limits will be considered as  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ , under the asymptotics of high frequency data ( $\Delta_n \rightarrow 0$ ) on a long-time interval ( $n\Delta_n \rightarrow +\infty$ ). Also, for simplicity, we assume  $\Delta_n \leq 1$ .

**Remark 1.1.** *In Equations (1.4) and (1.7), we see that the distribution of  $X_0$  and  $X_t | X_s$  depend on  $\Sigma$  only through  $\Sigma\Sigma^*$ . Hence we shall restate our inference problem as the estimation of  $(A, \Sigma\Sigma^*)$ .*

## 2 Occupation time statistic

Consider the  $d$ -dimensional process governed by Equation (1.4). We define the first statistic:

**Definition 2.1.** *Let  $S$  be a measurable subset of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . Define:*

$$Y_t^S = \mathbb{1}_{X_t \in S}.$$

*The occupation time statistic is defined as:*

$$\text{OT}_n^S = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} Y_{k\Delta_n}^S = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \mathbb{1}_{X_{k\Delta_n} \in S}.$$

This statistic gives the frequency of occupation of  $S$  by the process  $X$ , hence the name.

## 2.1 Preliminary tools

The study of convergence of  $\text{OT}_n^S$  and further statistics will be made possible by using some tight controls related to the mixing properties of  $X$  at different times. Note that we cannot directly invoke general mixing properties of Markov chains since here the Markov chain  $(X_{k\Delta_n} : k \geq 0)$  depends on  $n$  through  $\Delta_n$ : this is the main difficulty. The current estimates are made possible using the Gebelein inequality (a.k.a. Lancaster inequality) about maximal correlation between Gaussian spaces.

**Theorem 2.1** (Mixing properties). *Assume that  $X$  solves the Ornstein-Uhlenbeck Equation (1.4), and recall the definition of  $a_0$  in (1.3). There exists a finite constant  $C_{(2.1)}$ , depending only on the stationary distribution covariance matrix  $V_\infty$ , such that for any  $t \geq s \geq 0$  and for any functions  $\varphi : \mathcal{C}^0([0, s], \mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\phi : \mathcal{C}^0([t, +\infty), \mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\varphi, \phi$  are square-integrable w.r.t. the law of  $X$ , we have*

$$|\text{Cov}(\varphi((X_u)_{u \leq s}), \phi((X_v)_{v \geq t}))| \leq C_{(2.1)} e^{-a_0|t-s|} \sqrt{\text{Var}(\varphi((X_u)_{u \leq s})) \text{Var}(\phi((X_v)_{v \geq t}))}. \quad (2.1)$$

The proof is done in Appendix B. A very useful corollary is related to the convergence study of sum of general functionals of  $X$ .

**Corollary 2.1.** *Consider a measurable function  $g : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \times \mathcal{C}^0([0, 1], \mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\mathbb{E}[g(k, n, (X_s)_{k\Delta_n \leq s \leq (k+1)\Delta_n})^2] < +\infty$  for any  $k, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  define*

$$v_n^2 = \sup_{k < n} \text{Var}(g(k, n, (X_s)_{k\Delta_n \leq s \leq (k+1)\Delta_n})),$$

$$\xi_k^{(n)} = \sqrt{\frac{\Delta_n}{n}} g(k, n, (X_s)_{k\Delta_n \leq s \leq (k+1)\Delta_n}).$$

Then, there is a finite constant  $C_{(2.2)}$ , dependent only on the parameters  $A, \Sigma$  of the model, such that:

$$\text{Var}\left(\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \xi_k^{(n)}\right) \leq C_{(2.2)} v_n^2. \quad (2.2)$$

**Remark 2.1.** *If  $\mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \xi_k^{(n)}\right] \rightarrow l$  for some  $l \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $v_n \rightarrow 0$  implies*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \xi_k^{(n)} \xrightarrow{L^2} l.$$

*Proof of Corollary 2.1.* Denote  $g_k = g(k, n, (X_s)_{k\Delta_n \leq s \leq (k+1)\Delta_n})$ ; without loss of generality, we can assume that  $\mathbb{E}[g_k] = 0$ . We have

$$\text{Var}\left(\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \xi_k^{(n)}\right) = \frac{\Delta_n}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \text{Var}(g_k) + \frac{2\Delta_n}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \sum_{l=k+1}^{n-1} \text{Cov}(g_k, g_l).$$

For  $l > k$ , we have  $[k\Delta_n, (k+1)\Delta_n] \subset [0, (k+1)\Delta_n]$  and  $[l\Delta_n, (l+1)\Delta_n] \subset [l\Delta_n, +\infty[$ . Apply Theorem 2.1:

$$\text{Cov}(g_k, g_l) \leq C_{(2.1)} e^{-a_0|k+1-l|\Delta_n} \sqrt{\text{Var}(g_k) \text{Var}(g_l)}.$$

Then we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var} \left( \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \xi_k^{(n)} \right) &\leq \frac{\Delta_n}{n} n v_n^2 + \frac{2\Delta_n}{n} n \sum_{m \geq 0} C_{(2.1)} v_n^2 e^{-a_0 m \Delta_n} \\ &\leq v_n^2 \left( \Delta_n + 2C_{(2.1)} \frac{\Delta_n}{1 - e^{-a_0 \Delta_n}} \right) \\ &\leq C_{(2.2)} v_n^2, \end{aligned}$$

where we set  $C_{(2.2)} = \sup_{x \in [0,1]} \left( x + 2C_{(2.1)} \frac{x}{1 - e^{-a_0 x}} \right)$ .  $\square$

## 2.2 $L^2$ convergence of occupation time statistics

**Theorem 2.2.** *For any measurable set  $S \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $\text{OT}_n^S$  converges to  $\nu_\infty(S)$  in  $L^2$  and*

$$\mathbb{E} [(\text{OT}_n^S - \nu_\infty(S))^2] = O \left( \frac{1}{n\Delta_n} \right).$$

*Proof.* As the process is stationary,  $\mathbb{E} [\text{OT}_n^S] = \mathbb{E} [\mathbf{1}_{X_0 \in S}] = \nu_\infty(S)$ . Next, we apply Corollary 2.1 to  $\text{OT}_n^S = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \xi_k^{(n)}$  with

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_k^{(n)} &= \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{1}_{X_{k\Delta_n} \in S} = \sqrt{\frac{\Delta_n}{n}} g(k, n, X_{k\Delta_n}), \\ g(k, n, X_{k\Delta_n}) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{n\Delta_n}} \mathbf{1}_{X_{k\Delta_n} \in S}, \\ \text{Var}(g(k, n, X_{k\Delta_n})) &= \frac{1}{n\Delta_n} \text{Var}(\mathbf{1}_{X_{k\Delta_n} \in S}) = \frac{\nu_\infty(S)(1 - \nu_\infty(S))}{n\Delta_n}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we get  $\mathbb{E} [(\text{OT}_n^S - \nu_\infty(S))^2] = \text{Var}(\text{OT}_n^S) \leq \frac{C_{(2.2)}}{n\Delta_n}$ .  $\square$

## 2.3 Central Limit Theorem for one-dimensional processes

Here we restrict the study to the one-dimensional situation. There are two technical reasons for this: we solve explicitly the Poisson equation (see Lemma C.2) and derive tractable bounds on it. Additionally, we take advantage of the one-dimensional situation to handle explicit computations. The validity of a Central Limit Theorem in the multi-dimensional setting remains an open question to us.

For  $d = 1$ , the model becomes

$$dX_t = -aX_t dt + \sigma dW_t. \quad (2.3)$$

Assumption **(H)** reads  $a > 0$  and  $\sigma \neq 0$ . We consider the case  $S = [1, +\infty[$ . The extension of the following results to the case where  $S$  is a finite union of intervals is straightforward, and it is left to the reader.



**Theorem 2.3.** *As  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ , we have*

$$\sqrt{n\Delta_n} \left( \text{OT}_n^{[1, +\infty[} - \nu_\infty([1, +\infty[) \right) \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, \nu_\infty(\sigma^2 F'^2))$$

where  $F$  is defined in (C.2) and is such that

$$F'(x) = \frac{2}{\sigma^2} \frac{N\left(\frac{x \wedge 1}{\sqrt{\nu_\infty}}\right) - N\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\nu_\infty}}\right) N\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{\nu_\infty}}\right)}{\mu_\infty(x)} \in \left[0, 2\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a\sigma^2}}\right].$$

*Proof.* A simple inspection on  $F'$  shows that it is non-negative. The upper bound is proved in Lemma C.3 (see inequality (C.7)). This proves the inclusion of  $F'(x)$ .

We now prove the Central Limit Theorem. We follow the approach by [Flo84]. The main difference is that the function  $x \mapsto \mathbb{1}_{x \geq 1}$  is non continuous, which raises technical issues.

Consider first the continuous time extension of  $\text{OT}_n^{[1, +\infty[}$ , i.e.

$$\text{OT}_t^c = \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \mathbb{1}_{X_s \geq 1} ds.$$

Denote in this proof  $f(x) = \mathbb{1}_{x \geq 1}$  and  $\hat{f}(x) = f(x) - \nu_\infty([1, +\infty[)$ , so that

$$\int_0^t \hat{f}(X_s) ds = t(\text{OT}_t^c - \nu_\infty([1, +\infty[)).$$

Introduce then  $L = -ax \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}$  the infinitesimal generator of  $X$ : Lemma C.2 in Appendix C ensures that  $F$  defined in (C.2) verifies the Poisson equation

$$LF = -\hat{f}.$$

Introduce  $M_t = F(X_t) - F(X_0) + \int_0^t \hat{f}(X_s) ds$ .  $F$  is twice differentiable but  $F''$  has a single point of discontinuity at 1. However, we can still apply Itô's formula in that case (see Lemma C.1). We get:

$$M_t = \int_0^t \sigma F'(X_s) dW_s, \quad \langle M \rangle_t = \int_0^t \sigma^2 F'(X_s)^2 ds.$$

$F'$  being bounded,  $M$  is a martingale. As we have  $t^{-1} \langle M \rangle_t \rightarrow \nu_\infty(\sigma^2 F'^2)$  in probability (ergodic theorem) as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ , we can use a CLT for martingales (see Lemma C.4 with  $K_t = t^{-1/2}$ ) to get

$$\frac{M_t}{\sqrt{t}} = \frac{F(X_t) - F(X_0) + (\text{OT}_t^c - \nu_\infty([1, +\infty[)) t}{\sqrt{t}} \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, \nu_\infty(\sigma^2 F'^2)).$$

Finally,  $F$  is sublinear ( $F'$  bounded), thus  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{t}} (F(X_t) - F(X_0)) \xrightarrow{L^2} 0$ . Consequently we have proved

$$\sqrt{t}(\text{OT}_t^c - \nu_\infty([1, +\infty[)) \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, \nu_\infty(\sigma^2 F'^2)).$$

We now aim at proving that the above result extends to the discrete version  $\text{OT}_n^{[1, +\infty[}$ . For this, define

$$\begin{aligned} D_n &:= \sqrt{n\Delta_n} \left( \text{OT}_n^{[1, +\infty[} - \text{OT}_{n\Delta_n}^c \right) \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{\Delta_n}{n}} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \int_0^{\Delta_n} \frac{f(X_{k\Delta_n}) - f(X_{k\Delta_n+u})}{\Delta_n} du \\ &:= \sqrt{\frac{\Delta_n}{n}} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} g(k, n, (X_s)_{k\Delta_n \leq s \leq (k+1)\Delta_n}). \end{aligned}$$

Observe that it remains to prove that  $D_n \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 0$ . In view of Corollary 2.1 and since

$$\mathbb{E} [g(k, n, (X_s)_{k\Delta_n \leq s \leq (k+1)\Delta_n})] = 0,$$

it is enough to prove that

$$v_n^2 := \sup_{k < n} \mathbb{E} [g(k, n, (X_s)_{k\Delta_n \leq s \leq (k+1)\Delta_n})^2] \rightarrow 0.$$

Actually, by Jensen inequality, the stationarity property and since  $f$  takes values in  $\{0, 1\}$ , we have

$$v_n^2 \leq \frac{1}{\Delta_n} \int_0^{\Delta_n} \mathbb{E} [|f(X_0) - f(X_u)|^2] du = \int_0^1 \mathbb{E} [|f(X_0) - f(X_{t\Delta_n})|] dt.$$

With probability 1,  $f(X_{t\Delta_n}) \rightarrow f(X_0)$ , since  $f$  is continuous except on a set of zero  $\nu_\infty$ -measure: by the dominated convergence theorem, we obtain  $v_n \rightarrow 0$ , then  $D_n \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 0$ . From this we have:

$$\sqrt{n\Delta_n} \left( \text{OT}_n^{[1, +\infty[} - \nu_\infty([1, +\infty[) \right) \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, \nu_\infty(\sigma^2 F'^2)).$$

□

## 2.4 Application to parameter inference

**Lemma 2.1.** *Fix  $S \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  and recall (H). Then  $\nu_\infty(S)$  is a continuous function of  $V_\infty$ .*

*Proof.* Write

$$\nu_\infty(S) = \int_S \mu_\infty(x) dx = \int_S (2\pi)^{-d/2} \det(V_\infty)^{-1/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} x^* V_\infty^{-1} x\right) dx.$$

As the determinant and the inverse are continuous functions,  $\mu_\infty(x)$  is continuous in  $V_\infty$  for any  $x$ . We also have:

$$\mu_\infty(x) \leq (2\pi)^{-d/2} v_m^{-d/2} \exp\left(-\frac{v_M^{-1}}{2} |x|^2\right)$$

where  $v_M = \max_{\lambda \in \text{Sp}(V_\infty)} \lambda$ ,  $v_m = \min_{\lambda \in \text{Sp}(V_\infty)} \lambda$ .

Applying the Hoffman-Wielandt theorem ([HJ86, Theorem 6.3.5]) we know that  $v_M$  and  $v_m$  are continuous functions of  $V_\infty$ , which are also non-zero in the neighborhood of invertible  $V_\infty$ . From this follows that there is a local bound (in the neighbourhood of every invertible  $V_\infty$ ) by an integrable function of the form:

$$\mu_\infty(x) \leq \text{Cst} \exp(-\text{Cst}|x|^2)$$

with a positive constant Cst. Conclude using the dominated convergence theorem.  $\square$

**For one-dimensional processes.** We consider here Equation (2.3). The limit value of  $\text{OT}_n$  depends on the stationary distribution of the process, which is a centered Gaussian r.v. with variance  $v_\infty = \sigma^2/2a$  (see Section 1.5). If  $\nu_\infty(S)$  is monotonous with respect to  $v_\infty$ , then we can construct an estimator of  $v_\infty$ .

For instance, if  $S = [1, +\infty[$ , then  $\nu_\infty(S) = N(-1/\sqrt{v_\infty})$  which is strictly increasing with  $v_\infty$ .

However,  $v_\infty$  is not a one-to-one function of  $a$  and  $\sigma$  hence we need more information to find the parameters of the process, using for instance the crossings statistic of Section 3.

**For multi-dimensional processes.** Here again the limit value of  $\text{OT}_n^S$  is the measure of  $S$  under the stationary distribution. This distribution depends on the value of the matrix  $V_\infty$ . Without further information or assumptions,  $V_\infty$  is a symmetric  $d \times d$  matrix, representing  $d(d+1)/2$  unknowns. We can expect to be able to find these unknowns only if we consider more than one set  $S$  and the corresponding statistics.

In the following, we will use the fact that the covariance matrices of the marginals of a Gaussian variable are the restrictions of its covariance matrix to the relevant spaces.

Consider first for  $i \leq d$  the set  $S^i = \{x : x^i \geq 1\}$ . Then  $\nu_\infty(S^i)$  depends only on the value of  $(V_\infty)^{ii}$ . Applying the result from the preceding paragraph, we can construct an estimator of that value.

Consider then for  $i \neq j$  the set  $S^{ij} = \{x : x^i \geq 1, x^j \geq 1\}$ . Then  $\nu_\infty(S^{ij})$  depends only on the values of  $(V_\infty)^{ii}, (V_\infty)^{jj}, (V_\infty)^{ij}$ . From the previous point, we know we can construct estimators of  $(V_\infty)^{ii}, (V_\infty)^{jj}$ . For the last parameter, we use the following result.

**Proposition 2.1.** *Take  $(G_1, G_2)$  a non-degenerate centered Gaussian vector. Denote  $\rho$  the correlation between  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ . Denote  $S = [1, +\infty[^2$  and  $\mu_\rho$  the density of the distribution of  $(G_1, G_2)$ . Then  $\mu_\rho(S)$  is a strictly increasing function of  $\rho$ .*

*Proof.* Denote  $\sigma_1 = \sqrt{\text{Var}(G_1)}$ ,  $\sigma_2 = \sqrt{\text{Var}(G_2)}$ . By symmetry between  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , we can safely assume  $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2$ . Introduce a standard centered Gaussian  $G$ . We can write

$$\begin{aligned} (G_1, G_2) &\stackrel{d}{=} \left( \rho \frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_2} G_2 + \sigma_1 \sqrt{1 - \rho^2} G, G_2 \right), \\ \mu_\rho(S) &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbf{1}_{G_2 \geq 1} \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbf{1}_{\rho \frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_2} G_2 + \sigma_1 \sqrt{1 - \rho^2} G \geq 1} \mid G_2 \right] \right] \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbf{1}_{y \geq 1} N \left( \frac{\rho \frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_2} y - 1}{\sigma_1 \sqrt{1 - \rho^2}} \right) \mu_{\sigma_2^2}(y) dy. \end{aligned}$$

Set  $g(\rho, y) = \frac{\rho \frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_2} y - 1}{\sigma_1 \sqrt{1 - \rho^2}}$ : then  $\frac{dg}{d\rho}(\rho, y) = \frac{\frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_2} y - \rho}{\sigma_1 (1 - \rho^2)^{3/2}}$ . This is strictly positive for  $y \geq 1$  since  $\frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_2} \geq 1$  and  $\rho < 1$ . Therefore  $N(g(\rho, y))$  is strictly increasing in  $\rho$ , and so is  $\mu_\rho(S)$  on  $] -1, 1[$ . □

This shows that we can construct an estimator of  $(V_\infty)^{ij}$  given the knowledge of  $(V_\infty)^{ii}, (V_\infty)^{jj}$ , which we have as noted before. Therefore, using  $d(d+1)/2$  estimators, we can recover the whole matrix  $V_\infty$ .

### 3 Crossings statistic

Given a binary observation  $Y_t$ , a function of  $X_t$ , we will count how many times  $Y$  goes from 0 to 1 and vice-versa. The following defines a statistic counting the number of jumps between 0 and 1 of the discretization of  $Y$ .

**Definition 3.1.** *We define the crossings statistic by:*

$$\mathcal{C}_n^S = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \mathbb{1}_{Y_{k\Delta_n}^S \neq Y_{(k+1)\Delta_n}^S}.$$

In the following, we restrict the convergence analysis to sets which are half-spaces  $S^i = \{x : x^i \geq 1\}$ ; by symmetry, we assume that  $i = 1$ . Therefore we drop the superscript  $S$  and

$$Y_t = \mathbb{1}_{X_t^1 \geq 1}.$$

$\mathcal{C}_n$  counts the number of times the discretised projection of  $X$  on the first coordinate crosses 1.

#### 3.1 $L^2$ convergence

**Theorem 3.1.** *Assume that  $n\Delta_n^{3/2} \rightarrow +\infty$ . We have the following convergence:*

$$\frac{\mathcal{C}_n}{\sqrt{\Delta_n}} \xrightarrow{L^2} 2\sqrt{\frac{(\Sigma\Sigma^*)^{11}}{2\pi}} \mu_{V_\infty^{11}}(1),$$

$$\text{Var}\left(\frac{\mathcal{C}_n}{\sqrt{\Delta_n}}\right) = O\left(\frac{1}{n\Delta_n^{3/2}}\right).$$

*Proof.* For ease of writing, introduce a new notation:

$$Z_k^{(n)} = \mathbb{1}_{X_{k\Delta_n}^1 < 1} \mathbb{1}_{X_{(k+1)\Delta_n}^1 \geq 1}.$$

Now, divide the sum in two similar parts:

$$\mathcal{C}_n = \mathcal{C}_n^{+-} + \mathcal{C}_n^{-+},$$

$$\mathcal{C}_n^{+-} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \mathbb{1}_{X_{k\Delta_n}^1 \geq 1} \mathbb{1}_{X_{(k+1)\Delta_n}^1 < 1}, \quad \mathcal{C}_n^{-+} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} Z_k^{(n)}.$$

Although the two sums aren't perfectly symmetric, we will show that our reasoning will apply to both sums. Concentrate then on the second sum. In order to apply Corollary 2.1, we introduce the following notations:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\mathcal{C}_n^{-+}}{\sqrt{\Delta_n}} &:= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \xi_k^{(n)}, \\ \xi_k^{(n)} &= \frac{1}{n\sqrt{\Delta_n}} Z_k^{(n)} := \sqrt{\frac{\Delta_n}{n}} g\left(k, n, (X_s)_{k\Delta_n \leq s \leq (k+1)\Delta_n}\right), \\ v_n^2 &:= \sup_{k < n} \text{Var}\left(g\left(k, n, (X_s)_{k\Delta_n \leq s \leq (k+1)\Delta_n}\right)\right).\end{aligned}$$

We obviously have  $v_n^2 = \frac{1}{n\Delta_n^2} \sup_{k < n} \text{Var}\left(Z_k^{(n)}\right)$  and Corollary A.1 we have  $\text{Var}\left(Z_k^{(n)}\right) = O(\sqrt{\Delta_n})$ . Therefore  $v_n^2 = O\left(\frac{1}{n\Delta_n^{3/2}}\right) = o(1)$  by assumption. Thus, Corollary 2.1 gives us the convergence to 0 of the variance.

Using again Corollary A.1 we get

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\frac{\mathcal{C}_n^{-+}}{\sqrt{\Delta_n}}\right] = \frac{\mathbb{E}\left[Z_k^{(n)}\right]}{\sqrt{\Delta_n}} \sim \sqrt{\frac{(\Sigma\Sigma^*)^{11}}{2\pi}} \mu_{V_\infty^{11}}(1).$$

Therefore, recalling Remark 2.1 gives

$$\frac{\mathcal{C}_n^{-+}}{\sqrt{\Delta_n}} \xrightarrow{L^2} \sqrt{\frac{(\Sigma\Sigma^*)^{11}}{2\pi}} \mu_{V_\infty^{11}}(1).$$

The same reasoning would apply to  $\mathcal{C}_n^{+-}$  if only we replaced  $Z_k^{(n)}$  by  $\tilde{Z}_k^{(n)} = \mathbb{1}_{X_{k\Delta_n}^1 \geq 1} \mathbb{1}_{X_{(k+1)\Delta_n}^1 < 1}$ . Observe

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}\left[\tilde{Z}_{\Delta_n}\right] &= \mathbb{E}\left[\left(1 - \mathbb{1}_{X_0^1 < 1}\right) \left(1 - \mathbb{1}_{X_{\Delta_n}^1 \geq 1}\right)\right] \\ &= 1 - \mathbb{E}\left[\mathbb{1}_{X_0^1 < 1}\right] - \mathbb{E}\left[\mathbb{1}_{X_{\Delta_n}^1 \geq 1}\right] + \mathbb{E}\left[Z_{\Delta_n}\right] \\ &= \mathbb{E}\left[Z_{\Delta_n}\right]\end{aligned}$$

using stationarity. Thus, we can transfer the estimate on  $Z_k^{(n)}$  to  $\tilde{Z}_k^{(n)}$ , i.e. on  $\mathcal{C}_n^{-+}$  to  $\mathcal{C}_n^{+-}$ , which gives the final result.  $\square$

### 3.2 Application to parameter inference

**For one-dimensional processes.** For  $d = 1$ , Theorem 3.1 simplifies to

$$\frac{\mathcal{C}_n}{\sqrt{\Delta_n}} \xrightarrow{L^2} \frac{2\sigma}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \mu_\infty(1).$$

Thus the renormalized  $\mathcal{C}_n$  converges to a value that depends on  $\sigma$  and the density  $\mu_\infty(1)$ , which itself depends on  $v_\infty = \sigma^2/2a$ . In Section 2.4, we show how to estimate the value of  $v_\infty$ . Using this estimate, we can compute  $\mu_\infty(1)$  and construct simply an estimator of  $\sigma$ . Finally, as we estimate both  $\sigma$  and  $\mu_\infty$ , we also estimate  $a$ . Therefore, the two statistics  $OT_n$  and  $\mathcal{C}_n$  are sufficient to estimate the parameters of the model (2.3).

**For multi-dimensional processes.** As we show above, we can estimate parameters of one-dimensional processes. The extension to multi-dimensional processes is not obvious. However, in specific cases, we can leverage Theorem 3.1. Consider specifically that  $A$  is a diagonal matrix with diagonal terms  $(a_1, \dots, a_d)$ . Then

$$(V_\infty)^{ij} = \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-a_i u} (\Sigma \Sigma^*)^{ij} e^{-a_j u} du = \frac{(\Sigma \Sigma^*)^{ij}}{a_i + a_j}.$$

Assuming we know  $V_\infty$ , which we can estimate using results from Section 2.4, and as we can estimate  $(\Sigma \Sigma^*)^{ii}$  using Theorem 3.1, we can estimate the values of  $a_i$ :

$$a_i = \frac{(\Sigma \Sigma^*)^{ii}}{2 (V_\infty)^{ii}}.$$

We complete the inference by using the relation  $(\Sigma \Sigma^*)^{ij} = (a_i + a_j) (V_\infty)^{ij}$ .

## 4 Numerical tests

In the following, we present some inference results in the case of one-dimensional Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process. The observations are obtained via simulation and we consider simulation lengths  $n$  between 10 and  $10 \cdot 2^{14}$  and discretization time-steps  $\Delta$  between 0.1 and  $0.1 \cdot 2^{-7}$ .

We simulate trajectories using  $\sigma = a = 1$ :

$$dX_t = -X_t dt + dW_t.$$

For each data point characterized by  $(n, \Delta)$ , we compute the expectation and standard deviation of  $\text{OT}_n$  and  $\mathcal{C}_n$ . These are empirically computed using 50000 simulated trajectories, independently initialized in the stationary distribution. Each figure will show these values plotted against either  $n$  or  $\Delta$  in blue, and regression lines are added to each series in red. The figures are plotted in log-log scale, in order to show dependence of the results as powers of  $n$  and  $\Delta$ .

For some plots, the regressions don't give a clear answer on the power dependence. Because we know many of our results come from the long-time limit, we privilege data series that maximize  $n\Delta_n$ , the horizon of the simulation.

**Plots.** For programming and plotting purposes, it is clearer to define statistics  $\text{OT}_n$  and  $\mathcal{C}_n$  omitting normalization. Therefore, only in this paragraph, we use

$$\widetilde{\text{OT}}_n = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \mathbb{1}_{X_{k\Delta_n} > 1}, \quad \widetilde{\mathcal{C}}_n = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \mathbb{1}_{X_{k\Delta_n} \neq X_{(k+1)\Delta_n}}.$$

Additionally, we use  $ts$  as a notation for  $\Delta_n$ .

Figures 1 and 2 show a linear dependence in  $n$  and no dependence in  $\Delta$ . This is in agreement with the stationarity of the process.

The lines fitted to the scatter in Figure 3 are somewhat misleading. Their slopes vary from 0.52 to 0.75. However, given our analysis in the paper, it is  $n\Delta$ , the inferring

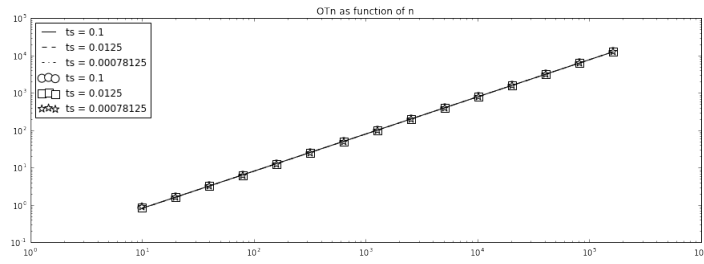


Figure 1: Expectation of  $\widetilde{OT}_n$  versus  $n$  for different values of time steps  $\Delta_n (ts)$

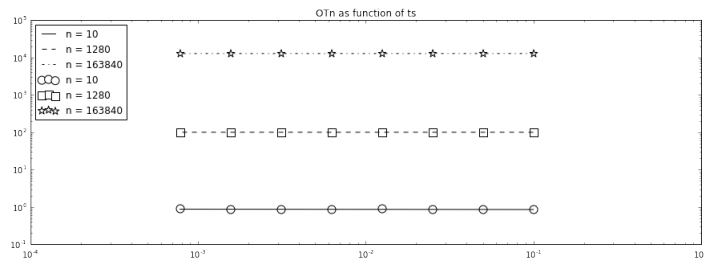


Figure 2: Expectation of  $\widetilde{OT}_n$  versus  $\Delta_n (ts)$  for different values of  $n$

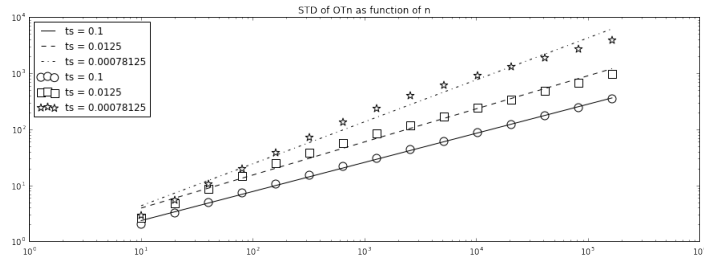


Figure 3: Standard deviation of  $\widetilde{OT}_n$  versus  $n$  for different values of time steps  $\Delta_n (ts)$

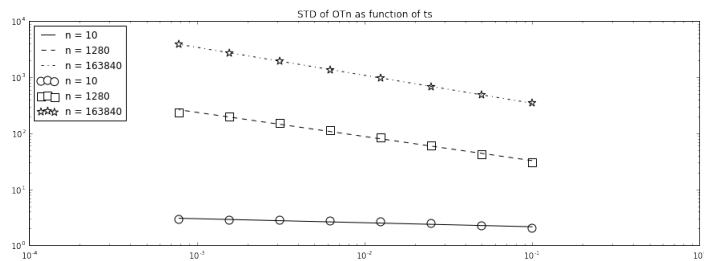


Figure 4: Standard deviation of  $\widetilde{OT}_n$  versus  $\Delta_n (ts)$  for different values of  $n$

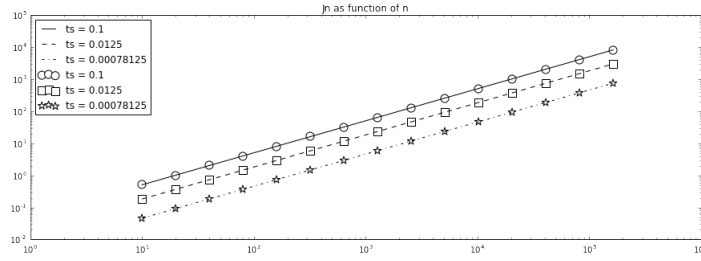


Figure 5: Expectation of  $\widetilde{\mathcal{C}}_n$  versus  $n$  for different values of time steps  $\Delta_n (ts)$

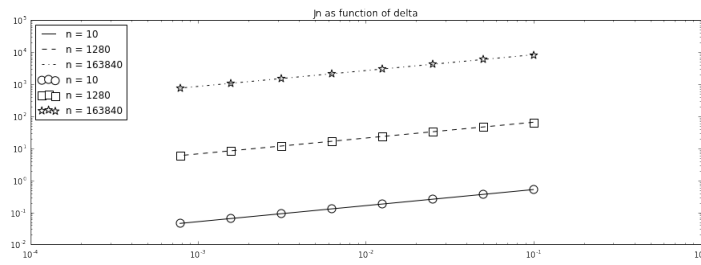


Figure 6: Expectation of  $\widetilde{\mathcal{C}}_n$  versus  $\Delta_n (ts)$  for different values of  $n$

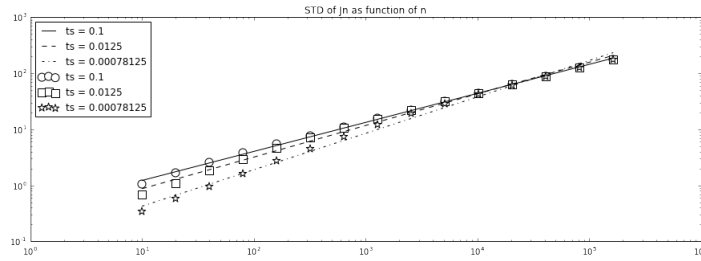


Figure 7: Standard deviation of  $\widetilde{\mathcal{C}}_n$  versus  $n$  for different values of time steps  $\Delta_n (ts)$

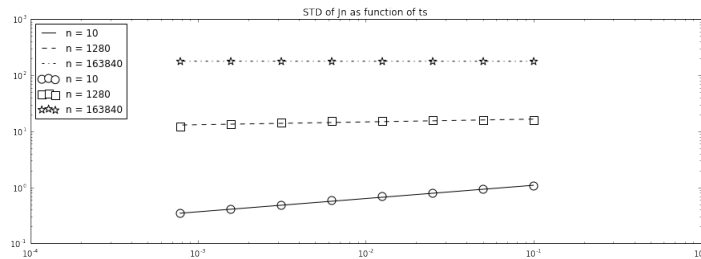


Figure 8: Standard deviation of  $\widetilde{\mathcal{C}}_n$  versus  $\Delta_n (ts)$  for different values of  $n$



horizon, that has the largest impact on the quality of the convergence. For this reason, we should concentrate on high values of  $n$ . Further work on the last 5 points of the scatters concludes with a consistent slope of 0.5. The same applies to Figure 4: although slopes vary from  $-0.07$  to  $-0.5$ , we have the most confidence in the line corresponding to the highest value of  $n$ . We retain then the value of  $-0.5$ .

Thus, we numerically observe (up to constants)

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \widetilde{\text{OT}}_n \right] \sim n, \quad \sqrt{\text{Var} \left( \widetilde{\text{OT}}_n \right)} \sim n^{1/2} \Delta^{-1/2}.$$

Regarding  $\widetilde{\mathcal{C}}_n$ , Figures 5 and 6 show clear power dependencies of 1 and 0.5 with respect to  $n$  and  $\Delta$ . Again, Figures 7 and 8 have to be observed only at the largest values of  $n$ . We conclude with slopes of 0.5 and 0.

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \widetilde{\mathcal{C}}_n \right] \sim n \Delta^{1/2}, \quad \sqrt{\text{Var} \left( \widetilde{\mathcal{C}}_n \right)} \sim n^{1/2}.$$

**Summary.** Taking the results from the preceding paragraph and rewriting them using our regular expressions of  $\text{OT}_n$  and  $\mathcal{C}_n$ , as in Definitions 2.1 and 3.1, we get from these numerical tests:

- For  $\text{OT}_n$ :
  - $\mathbb{E} [\text{OT}_n] \propto 1$ ,
  - $\text{Var} (\text{OT}_n) \propto \frac{1}{n \Delta_n}$ .

This is in agreement with Theorem 2.2.

- For  $\mathcal{C}_n$ :
  - $\mathbb{E} [\mathcal{C}_n] \propto \Delta_n^{1/2}$ ,
  - $\text{Var} \left( \frac{\mathcal{C}_n}{\sqrt{\Delta_n}} \right) \propto \frac{1}{n \Delta_n}$ .

The expectation estimate is in agreement with Theorem 3.1. However, our variance estimate is seemingly not optimal: the missing factor  $\Delta_n^{1/2}$  may come from subtle cancellations in small time, in conjunction with the low regularity of indicator function. This issue is left to future research.

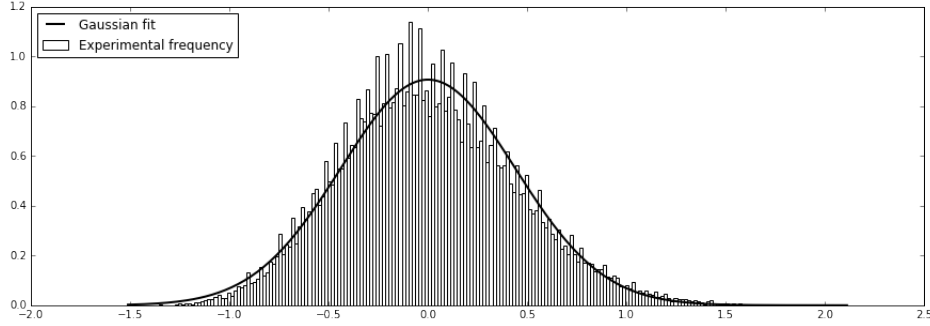
In Table 1 we can compare our theoretical limits with the estimates from simulation.

**Numerical investigation regarding a central limit theorem for  $\mathcal{C}_n$ .** Our experimental observation of  $\text{Var} \left( \frac{\mathcal{C}_n}{\sqrt{\Delta_n}} \right) \propto \frac{1}{n \Delta_n}$  suggests we may expect a central limit theorem for  $\sqrt{n \Delta_n} \left( \frac{\mathcal{C}_n}{\sqrt{\Delta_n}} - m \right)$  where  $m = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{\mathcal{C}_n}{\Delta_n} \right]$ . However, this result is out of the scope of the present paper.

Nonetheless we use the results of our simulations in order to see whether this conjecture is likely. In Figure 9, we compare the normalized histogram of  $\mathcal{C}_n$  to the probability density function of a fitted Gaussian. The agreement of the two seems to show that the validity of a central limit theorem is likely.

	Simulation result	Theoretical value
$\mathbb{E}[\text{OT}_n]$	0.07977	0.07865
$\mathbb{E}\left[\frac{\mathcal{C}_n}{\sqrt{\Delta_n}}\right]$	0.16418	0.16560
$n\Delta_n \text{Var}(\text{OT}_n)$	0.25902	N/A
$n\Delta_n \text{Var}\left(\frac{\mathcal{C}_n}{\sqrt{\Delta_n}}\right)$	0.43324	N/A

Table 1: Observed versus theoretical values of the limits of the expressions on the left

Figure 9: Normalized histogram of  $\mathcal{C}_n$ , for  $n = 10 \cdot 2^{14}$  and  $\Delta_n = 0.1 \cdot 2^{-7}$  and plot of PDF of Gaussian fit

## A Expectation of threshold crossing for OU processes in small time

In this section,  $X$  is the  $d$ -dimensional Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process of Equation (1.4). Define the indicator of the crossing of the threshold 1 by the first coordinate of  $X$ :

$$Z_\Delta = \mathbb{1}_{X_0^1 < 1} \mathbb{1}_{X_\Delta^1 \geq 1}.$$

From Section 1.5.2, the first coordinate of  $X_\Delta | X_0$  is a Gaussian vector centered at  $(e^{-A\Delta} X_0)^1$  with variance  $V_\Delta^{11}$ . Therefore  $\mathbb{E}\left[\mathbb{1}_{X_\Delta^1 \geq 1} \mid X_0\right] = N\left(\frac{(e^{-A\Delta} X_0)^1 - 1}{\sqrt{V_\Delta^{11}}}\right)$  and

$$\mathbb{E}[Z_\Delta] = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \mathbb{1}_{x^1 < 1} N\left(\frac{(e^{-A\Delta} x)^1 - 1}{\sqrt{V_\Delta^{11}}}\right) \mu_\infty(x) dx. \quad (\text{A.1})$$

**Lemma A.1.** *Let  $h$  be a bounded continuous increasing non-negative function, integrable in  $-\infty$  and define:*

$$I_h(\Delta) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \mathbb{1}_{x^1 < 1} h\left(\frac{(e^{-A\Delta} x)^1 - 1}{\sqrt{V_\Delta^{11}}}\right) \mu_\infty(x) dx.$$

Then when  $\Delta \rightarrow 0$ ,

$$I_h(\Delta) \sim \sqrt{\Delta} \sqrt{(\Sigma \Sigma^*)^{11}} \mu_{V_\infty^{11}}(1) \int_{-\infty}^0 h(x) dx.$$

*Proof.* We use the following change of variables:

$$(y^1, y^2, \dots, y^d) = \left( \frac{x^1 - 1}{\sqrt{V_\Delta^{11}}}, x^2, \dots, x^d \right),$$

$$\frac{I_h(\Delta)}{\sqrt{V_\Delta^{11}}} = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \mathbb{1}_{y^1 < 0} h \left( (e^{-A\Delta})^{11} y^1 + \frac{(e^{-A\Delta})^{11} - 1 + \sum_{i \geq 2} (e^{-A\Delta})^{1i} y^i}{\sqrt{V_\Delta^{11}}} \right) \times \mu_\infty \left( 1 + \sqrt{V_\Delta^{11}} y^1, y^2, \dots, y^d \right) dy. \quad (\text{A.2})$$

Using the power expansion of the matrix exponential  $e^{-A\Delta} = \text{Id} - \Delta A + O(\Delta^2)$ , we have:

$$(e^{-A\Delta})^{11} = 1 + O(\Delta),$$

$$(e^{-A\Delta})^{1i} = \Delta A^{1i} + O(\Delta^2), \quad i \geq 2.$$

Simultaneously, we know that  $V_\Delta \sim \Delta(\Sigma\Sigma^*)$  as  $\Delta \rightarrow 0$ . Hence in the integral (A.2),  $h(\dots)$  and  $\mu_\infty(\dots)$  converge pointwise to  $h(y^1)$  and  $\mu_\infty(1, y^2, \dots, y^d)$  respectively, for any  $y$ . To pass to the limit for (A.2), it remains to dominate  $h(\dots)\mu_\infty(\dots)$  uniformly in  $\Delta$ , by an integrable function on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .

- On the one hand, using the monotone and non-negative properties of  $h$ , we observe that  $h(\dots)$  is bounded by  $h(\frac{1}{2}y^1 + 2\sum_{j \geq 2} |y^j|)$  for any  $y$  such that  $y^1 < 0$ , provided that  $\Delta$  is small enough.
- On the other hand, since  $V_\infty^{-1}$  is symmetric definite positive,  $\mu_\infty(\dots)$  is bounded by  $\text{Cst} \exp(-\sum_{j \geq 2} |y^j|^2 / \text{Cst})$  for some positive constant  $\text{Cst}$ .

Finally, we easily check that the product of the two bounds is integrable, using in particular that  $h$  is integrable on  $\mathbb{R}^-$  and bounded over  $\mathbb{R}$ . Thus the dominated convergence theorem yields

$$\frac{I_h(\Delta)}{\sqrt{V_\Delta^{11}}} \rightarrow \int_{-\infty}^0 \int_{\mathbb{R}^{d-1}} h(y^1) \mu_\infty(1, y^2, \dots, y^d) dy,$$

$$I_h(\Delta) \sim \sqrt{\Delta} \sqrt{(\Sigma\Sigma^*)^{11}} \int_{-\infty}^0 h(x) dx \int_{\mathbb{R}^{d-1}} \mu_\infty(1, y^2, \dots, y^d) dy.$$

We can simply rewrite the last integral. Let  $G \stackrel{d}{=} \mathcal{N}(0, V_\infty)$ :

$$\int_{-\infty}^x \int_{\mathbb{R}^{d-1}} \mu_\infty(y^1, z) dy^1 dz = \mathbb{P}[G^1 \leq x] = \int_{-\infty}^x \mu_{V_\infty^{11}}(y^1) dy^1$$

where we have used that  $G^1 \stackrel{d}{=} \mathcal{N}(0, V_\infty^{11})$  at the second equality. It gives, for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^{d-1}} \mu_\infty(x, y^2, \dots, y^d) dy = \mu_{V_\infty^{11}}(x),$$

and therefore the announced result.  $\square$

**Corollary A.1.** *In the limit  $\Delta \rightarrow 0$ , we have*

$$\mathbb{E}[Z_\Delta] \sim \text{Var}(Z_\Delta) \sim \sqrt{\Delta} \sqrt{\frac{(\Sigma \Sigma^*)^{11}}{2\pi}} \mu_{V_\infty^{11}}(1).$$

*Proof.* Since  $Z_\Delta$  takes values in  $\{0, 1\}$ , if  $\mathbb{E}[Z_\Delta] \rightarrow 0$ , we have  $\text{Var}(Z_\Delta) = \mathbb{E}[Z_\Delta](1 - \mathbb{E}[Z_\Delta]) \sim \mathbb{E}[Z_\Delta]$ . Thus, it remains to show the estimate on  $\mathbb{E}[Z_\Delta]$ .

Start from (A.1) and apply Lemma A.1 with  $h(\cdot) = N(\cdot)$ . We have  $\int_{-\infty}^0 N(x) dx = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$ , hence the result.  $\square$

## B Maximal correlation inequality

In this section, we aim at proving the very useful Theorem 2.1.

### B.1 Gebelein's inequality

We start by an abstract version.

**Theorem B.1** ([Jan97, Theorem 10.11]). *Take  $H, K$  two closed subspaces of some Gaussian Hilbert space. Define  $P_{HK}$  the restriction to  $H$  of the orthogonal projection onto  $K$ . Define the maximal correlation coefficient between variables  $A, B$  respectively measurable w.r.t. the sigma field generated by  $H$  and  $K$ :*

$$\rho(H, K) = \sup_{A \in L^2(H), B \in L^2(K)} |\text{Cor}(A, B)|.$$

Then we have:

$$\rho(H, K) = \|P_{HK}\|$$

where  $\|\cdot\|$  is the operator norm.

We now restate in a more convenient way the above result in a finite dimensional case and for given Gaussian vectors: we believe such a statement may exist in the literature but we could not find a ready reference. Consider a Gaussian Hilbert space and two Gaussian vectors  $X, Y$  in this space. Define then  $H_X$  and  $H_Y$  the subspaces spanned respectively by  $X$  and  $Y$ .

Denoting  $P_{XY}$  the orthogonal projection on  $H_Y$  restricted to  $H_X$ , from Theorem B.1 we have that  $\rho(H_X, H_Y) = \|P_{XY}\|$ . This value is independent of the enclosing Gaussian Hilbert Space.

Using the notations stated above, set

$$\rho(X, Y) = \rho(H_X, H_Y) = \|P_{XY}\|.$$

**Corollary B.1.** *Take  $X, Y$  two Gaussian vectors in the same Gaussian Hilbert space and  $f, g$  two functions such that  $f(X), g(Y)$  are square-integrable. Then we have:*

$$|\text{Cov}(f(X), g(Y))| \leq |\rho(X, Y)| \sqrt{\text{Var}(f(X)) \text{Var}(g(Y))}.$$

In preparation of Theorem 2.1, we now aim at making more explicit the coefficients  $\rho(X, Y)$  in terms of the correlations of the components of  $X$  and  $Y$ , or of their transforms.

## B.2 Finite-dimensional Gaussian vectors

**Notation.** We denote  $\text{Cov}(X)$  the covariance matrix of  $X$  and  $\text{Cov}(X, Y)$  the covariance matrix of  $X$  and  $Y$ , which is also the upper-right part of the covariance matrix of the vector  $(X, Y)$ . We reserve the notation  $\text{Var}(X)$  for the variance of a real-valued  $X$ .

We set  $K_{XX} = \text{Cov}(X)$ ,  $K_{YY} = \text{Cov}(Y)$  and  $K_{XY} = \text{Cov}(X, Y)$ . As  $K_{XX}$  and  $K_{YY}$  are symmetric non-negative definite matrices, there exist  $O_X, O_Y$  orthogonal matrices and  $D_X, D_Y$  diagonal non-negative definite matrices such that we have:

$$\begin{aligned} K_{XX} &= O_X^* D_X O_X = \left( O_X^* D_X^{1/2} O_X \right) \left( O_X^* D_X^{1/2} O_X \right)^*, \\ K_{YY} &= O_Y^* D_Y O_Y = \left( O_Y^* D_Y^{1/2} O_Y \right) \left( O_Y^* D_Y^{1/2} O_Y \right)^*. \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $\left( O_X^* D_X^{1/2} O_X \right)$  and  $\left( O_Y^* D_Y^{1/2} O_Y \right)$  are symmetric.

Take now  $X'$  and  $Y'$  orthonormal basis of respectively  $H_X$  and  $H_Y$ . It is easy to see that the covariance matrix  $R$  of  $X'$  and  $Y'$  is the projection matrix from  $H_X$  on  $H_Y$  written in the basis  $X'$  and  $Y'$  and therefore  $\rho(X, Y) = \|R\|$ .

### B.2.1 Non-degenerate case

Assume, in this paragraph,  $D_X$  and  $D_Y$  are non-degenerate or, equivalently, that  $K_{XX}$  and  $K_{YY}$  are non-degenerate.

We can choose  $X' = \left( O_X^* D_X^{1/2} O_X \right)^{-1} X$  and  $Y' = \left( O_Y^* D_Y^{1/2} O_Y \right)^{-1} Y$ . Our calculation shows then that

$$R = \left( O_X^* D_X^{1/2} O_X \right)^{-1} K_{XY} \left( O_Y^* D_Y^{1/2} O_Y \right)^{-1}.$$

From the other side,  $O_X^* D_X^{1/2} O_X$  and  $O_Y^* D_Y^{1/2} O_Y$  are symmetric matrices which square to  $K_{XX}$  and  $K_{YY}$ . Therefore we have

$$(K_{XX})^{1/2} = O_X^* D_X^{1/2} O_X, \quad (K_{YY})^{1/2} = O_Y^* D_Y^{1/2} O_Y.$$

From this we have the following proposition.

**Proposition B.1.** *Take  $(X, Y)$  a Gaussian vector. Assume that  $\text{Cov}(X)$ ,  $\text{Cov}(Y)$  are non-degenerate. Then we have*

$$\rho(X, Y) = \|\text{Cov}(X)^{-1/2} \text{Cov}(X, Y) \text{Cov}(Y)^{-1/2}\|.$$

**Corollary B.2.** *If  $X$  and  $Y$  are orthogonal with non degenerate components ( $\text{Var}(X^i) \neq 0$ ,  $\text{Var}(Y^j) \neq 0$ , for any  $i, j$ ), then we have  $\rho(X, Y) = \|R\|$  with*

$$R^{ij} = \text{Cor}(X^i, Y^j) = \frac{\text{Cov}(X^i, Y^j)}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(X^i) \text{Var}(Y^j)}}.$$

### B.2.2 Degenerate case

In this part, we consider that  $X$  or  $Y$  is degenerate (or both). We know there are orthonormal matrices  $O_X$  and  $O_Y$  such that  $O_X X$  and  $O_Y Y$  both have diagonal covariances. These diagonals can have zero values; taking only the variables of  $O_X X$  and  $O_Y Y$  that have non-zero variances, we get a couple of orthonormal families. Applying results from previous paragraph and using the fact that extending a matrix with zeroes doesn't change its operator norm, we have the following.

**Proposition B.2.** *Let  $(X, Y)$  be a Gaussian vector and  $O_X, O_Y$  two orthogonal matrices such that  $X_O := O_X X$  and  $Y_O := O_Y Y$  are respectively orthogonal families. Then the maximal correlation coefficient verifies  $\rho(X, Y) = \|R\|$  with*

$$R^{ij} = \text{Cor} \left( X_O^i, Y_O^j \right) = \begin{cases} \frac{\text{Cov}(X_O^i, Y_O^j)}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(X_O^i) \text{Var}(Y_O^j)}} & \text{if } \text{Var}(X_O^i) \text{Var}(Y_O^j) \neq 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } \text{Var}(X_O^i) \text{Var}(Y_O^j) = 0. \end{cases}$$

### B.3 Application to functions of Gaussian processes

We are now in a position to give the maximal correlation between  $X_s$  and  $X_t$  for  $t, s \in \mathbb{R}^+$ , in terms of the OU parameters  $(A, \Sigma)$  (Assumption **(H)**).

**Proposition B.3.** *Using the previous notation, we have for any  $s, t \in \mathbb{R}^+$*

$$\rho(X_s, X_t) \leq \sqrt{\frac{v_M}{v_m}} e^{-a_0|t-s|},$$

where  $a_0 := \min_{\lambda \in \text{Sp}(A)} \text{Re}(\lambda)$ ,  $v_M = \max_{\lambda \in \text{Sp}(V_\infty)} \lambda$ ,  $v_m = \min_{\lambda \in \text{Sp}(V_\infty)} \lambda$ .

*Proof.* Let  $t \geq s \geq 0$ . From (1.5) and (1.8), we have

$$\text{Cov}(X_s) = \text{Cov}(X_t) = V_\infty, \quad \text{Cov}(X_t, X_s) = e^{-A(t-s)} V_\infty.$$

Since  $V_\infty$  is non degenerate (owing to Assumption **(H)**), we can apply proposition B.1, to get

$$\rho(X_s, X_t) = \|V_\infty^{-1/2} e^{-A(t-s)} V_\infty^{1/2}\|.$$

The bound on  $\rho(X_s, X_t)$  is a consequence of sub-multiplicativity of the operator norm.  $\square$

We immediately deduce the following.

**Corollary B.3.** *For any  $\varphi, \phi : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  square-integrable w.r.t.  $\nu_\infty$ , we have*

$$|\text{Cov}(\varphi(X_s), \phi(X_t))| \leq \sqrt{\frac{v_M}{v_m}} e^{-a_0|t-s|} \sqrt{\text{Var}(\varphi(X_s)) \text{Var}(\phi(X_t))}.$$

We can proceed to the proof of Theorem 2.1. In its setting we have  $t > s \geq 0$  and  $\varphi, \phi$  take as arguments respectively  $(X_u)_{0 \leq u \leq s}$  and  $(X_v)_{v \geq t}$ .

*Proof.* For ease of writing, denote  $\varphi_s = \varphi\left((X_u)_{0 \leq u \leq s}\right)$  and  $\phi_t = \phi\left((X_v)_{v \geq t}\right)$ . Without loss of generality, we can assume  $\mathbb{E}[\varphi_s] = \mathbb{E}[\phi_t] = 0$ . We repeatedly use the Markov property and the tower property of conditional expectation to write

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(\varphi_s, \phi_t) &= \mathbb{E}[\varphi_s \phi_t] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\varphi_s \mathbb{E}[\phi_t | \mathcal{F}_s]] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\varphi_s \mathbb{E}[\phi_t | X_s]] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[\varphi_s | X_s] \mathbb{E}[\phi_t | X_s]] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[\varphi_s | X_s] \phi_t | X_s]] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[\varphi_s | X_s] \phi_t] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[\varphi_s | X_s] \mathbb{E}[\phi_t | X_t]] \\ &= \text{Cov}(\mathbb{E}[\varphi_s | X_s], \mathbb{E}[\phi_t | X_t]). \end{aligned}$$

We define now  $f(X_s) = \mathbb{E}[\varphi_s | X_s]$ ,  $g(X_t) = \mathbb{E}[\phi_t | X_t]$  and apply Corollary B.3:

$$\text{Cov}(f(X_s), g(X_t)) \leq \sqrt{\frac{v_M}{v_m}} e^{-a_0|t-s|} \sqrt{\text{Var}(f(X_s)) \text{Var}(g(X_t))}.$$

Then, the announced inequality of Theorem 2.1 stems from the standard decomposition  $\text{Var}(h) = \text{Var}(\mathbb{E}[h | \mathcal{G}]) + \mathbb{E}[\text{Var}(h | \mathcal{G})] \geq \text{Var}(\mathbb{E}[h | \mathcal{G}])$  for any sigma-field  $\mathcal{G}$  and any square-integrable variable  $h$ .  $\square$

## C Central limit theorem for discontinuous functions of OU processes

In this section, we broaden the domain of application of the properties from [Flo84], precisely extending it to the case of a bounded function with a single point of irregularity, as  $x \mapsto \mathbb{1}_{x \geq 1}$ . In this section, the process  $X$  is one-dimensional.

### C.1 Itô formula for piecewise $C^2$ function

First, we recall a generalization of Itô's lemma to functions that are not  $C^2$ .

**Lemma C.1.** *Let  $g$  be a function  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , twice differentiable and  $g''$  is continuous except at a single point  $z$ . Assume also that  $\forall x \neq z, |g''(x)| \leq K$ . Then Itô's formula applies to  $g$ , i.e.:*

$$dg(X_t) = g'(X_t)dX_t + \frac{\sigma^2}{2}g''(X_t)dt.$$

*Proof.* As we have  $g \in C^1$  and  $g''$  is integrable on any interval, we can apply [RW87, Lemma 45.9].  $\square$

## C.2 Solution to Poisson equation $LF = -f$

Consider now a function  $f$  smooth with the exception of a single point. Consider also  $L$  the infinitesimal generator associated to  $X$  verifying (2.3):

$$L\phi(x) = -ax \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x}(x) + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2}(x).$$

The next lemma gives a solution to the Poisson equation  $LF = -f$ .

**Lemma C.2.** *Let  $f$  be a bounded function. Then*

$$F(x) := -\frac{2}{\sigma^2} \int_0^x \frac{dy}{\mu_\infty(y)} \int_{-\infty}^y f(u) \mu_\infty(u) du \quad (\text{C.1})$$

is a solution to  $LF = -f$ .

With  $f = \mathbf{1}_{[1,+\infty[} - N(-1/\sqrt{v_\infty})$ , we have:

$$F(x) = \frac{2}{\sigma^2} \int_0^x \frac{N\left(\frac{u\wedge 1}{\sqrt{v_\infty}}\right) - N\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{v_\infty}}\right) N\left(\frac{u}{\sqrt{v_\infty}}\right)}{\mu_\infty(u)} du. \quad (\text{C.2})$$

*Proof.* Simple computations give:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}(x) &= -\frac{2}{\sigma^2 \mu_\infty(x)} \int_{-\infty}^x f(u) \mu_\infty(u) du, \\ \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x^2}(x) &= -2 \frac{2ax}{\sigma^2 \mu_\infty(x)} \int_{-\infty}^x \frac{f(u)}{\sigma^2} \mu_\infty(u) du - 2 \frac{f(x)}{\sigma^2}. \end{aligned}$$

We then deduce  $LF = -f$ .

Choosing  $f = \mathbf{1}_{[1,+\infty[} - N(-1/\sqrt{v_\infty}) = 1 - \mathbf{1}_{]-\infty,1[} - N(-1/\sqrt{v_\infty}) = -\mathbf{1}_{]-\infty,1[} + N(1/\sqrt{v_\infty})$ , we get:

$$\begin{aligned} F(x) &= \frac{2}{\sigma^2} \left( \int_0^x \frac{dy}{\mu_\infty(y)} \int_{-\infty}^{y\wedge 1} \mu_\infty(u) du - \int_0^x \frac{N\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{v_\infty}}\right)}{\mu_\infty(y)} dy \int_{-\infty}^y \mu_\infty(u) du \right) \\ &= \frac{2}{\sigma^2} \int_0^x \frac{N\left(\frac{u\wedge 1}{\sqrt{v_\infty}}\right) - N\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{v_\infty}}\right) N\left(\frac{u}{\sqrt{v_\infty}}\right)}{\mu_\infty(u)} du. \end{aligned}$$

□

We now establish bounds on  $F$  and its derivatives.

**Lemma C.3.** *Assume that  $f$  is bounded and such that  $\nu_\infty(f) = 0$ . Define  $F$  as in (C.1). Then there exist finite constants  $C_{(\text{C.3})}, C_{(\text{C.4})}, C_{(\text{C.5})}$  (depending only on the model) such that, for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,*

$$|F(x)| \leq C_{(\text{C.3})} |f|_\infty |x|, \quad (\text{C.3})$$

$$|F'(x)| \leq C_{(\text{C.4})} |f|_\infty \left(1 \wedge \frac{1}{|x|}\right), \quad (\text{C.4})$$

$$|F''(x)| \leq C_{(\text{C.5})} |f|_\infty. \quad (\text{C.5})$$



*Proof.* Using the assumption that  $\nu_\infty(f) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x)\mu_\infty(x)dx = 0$ , we can write:

$$\begin{aligned} F'(x) &= -\frac{2}{\sigma^2\mu_\infty(x)} \int_{-\infty}^x f(u)\mu_\infty(u)du \\ &= \frac{2}{\sigma^2\mu_\infty(x)} \int_x^{+\infty} f(u)\mu_\infty(u)du, \\ |F'(x)| &\leq \frac{2}{\sigma^2\mu_\infty(x)} \left( \int_{-\infty}^x |f(u)|\mu_\infty(u)du \wedge \int_x^{+\infty} |f(u)|\mu_\infty(u)du \right). \end{aligned}$$

Applying now the assumption that  $f$  is bounded, we have:

$$|F'(x)| \leq \frac{2|f|_\infty}{\sigma^2} \frac{N\left(-\frac{|x|}{\sqrt{v_\infty}}\right)}{\mu_\infty(x)}. \quad (\text{C.6})$$

Using the classic inequality  $N(-|x|) \leq e^{-x^2/2}$  yields

$$|F'(x)| \leq \frac{2|f|_\infty}{\sigma^2} \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2v_\infty}\right)}{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi v_\infty}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2v_\infty}\right)} \leq 2\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a\sigma^2}}|f|_\infty. \quad (\text{C.7})$$

By integrating, we complete the proof of Equation (C.3). Next, we use the Mills inequality,

$$N(-|x|) \leq \frac{e^{-x^2/2}}{\sqrt{2\pi}|x|},$$

which combined with (C.6) gives

$$|x||F'(x)| \leq \frac{2|f|_\infty}{\sigma^2}|x| \frac{N\left(-\frac{|x|}{\sqrt{v_\infty}}\right)}{\mu_\infty(x)} \leq \frac{2|f|_\infty}{\sigma^2}|x| \frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\frac{|x|}{\sqrt{v_\infty}}}}{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi v_\infty}}} \leq \frac{2|f|_\infty}{\sigma^2}v_\infty.$$

Thus, joined with (C.7), Inequality (C.4) is proved. Last, as  $LF = -f$ ,

$$|F''(x)| = \frac{2}{\sigma^2} |axF'(x) - f(x)| \leq \frac{2}{\sigma^2} \left( a\frac{2v_\infty}{\sigma^2} + 1 \right) |f|_\infty = \frac{4}{\sigma^2}|f|_\infty,$$

which proves (C.5).  $\square$

### C.3 CLT for multi-dimensional continuous-time martingales

**Lemma C.4** ([van00, Theorem 4.1]). *Let  $(M_t; \mathcal{F}_t : t \geq 0)$  be a  $d$ -dimensional continuous local martingale. If there exist invertible, non-random  $d \times d$ -matrices  $(K_t : t \geq 0)$  such that as  $t \rightarrow \infty$*

- $K_t \langle M \rangle_t K_t^* \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} \eta\eta^*$  where  $\eta$  is a random  $d \times d$ -matrix;
- $|K_t| \rightarrow 0$ ;

then, for each  $\mathbb{R}^k$ -valued random vector  $X$  defined on the same probability space as  $M$ , we have

$$(K_t M_t, X) \xrightarrow{d} (\eta Z, X) \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow \infty,$$

where  $Z \stackrel{d}{=} \mathcal{N}(0, \text{Id})$  and  $Z$  is independent of  $(\eta, X)$ .

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