

Local Dependence and Persistence in Discrete Sliding Window Processes

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Joint work with Noga Alon

Weizmann Institute of Science

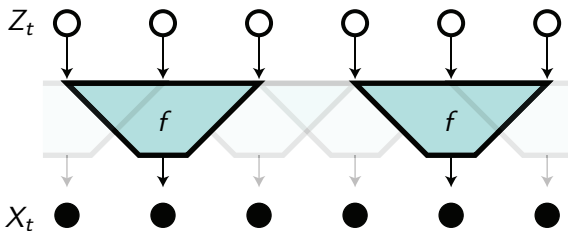
July 2014
Technische Universität Darmstadt

Sliding Window Processes

$\{Z_t\}_{t \in \mathbb{Z}} :=$ i.i.d. uniform on $[0, 1]$.

$f : [0, 1]^k \rightarrow \{0, \dots, r - 1\}$ measurable.

$$\{X_t\}_{t \in \mathbb{Z}} := f(Z_t, Z_{t+1}, \dots, Z_{t+k-1}).$$



Such a process is called **k -block factor**. If $r = 2$ we call it a **binary k -block factor**.

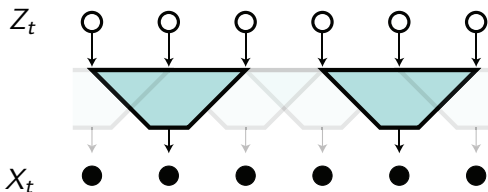
Local dependence

k -dependence for stationary processes

If every E_- which is $\{X_t\}_{t < 0}$ measurable, and every E_+ which is $\{X_t\}_{t \geq k}$ measurable are independent, then $\{X_t\}$ is said to be **k -dependent**.

Observation

$k + 1$ -block factors are stationary k -dependent.



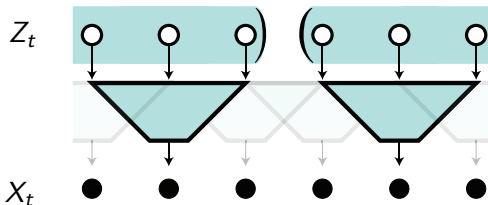
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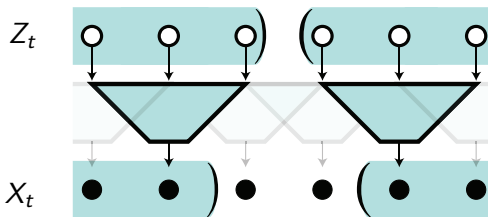
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Some previous results on block factors

2-block factors

Katz, 1971 Computed $\max \mathbb{P}(X_1 = X_2 = 1)$ given $\mathbb{P}(X_1 = 1)$.

De Valk, 1988 Computed $\min \mathbb{P}(X_1 = X_2 = 1)$ given $\mathbb{P}(X_1 = 1)$ and showed uniqueness of the minimal and maximal processes. He did this also for general 1-dependent processes.

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k -block factors

Janson, 1984: Explored several examples of binary k -block factors with at least $k - 1$ zeroes between consecutive ones, and showed convergence of the gaps between consecutive ones for such processes.

Persistence

A natural definition of **persistence** in a frame of size q , for processes with discrete image:

$$P_q^X = \mathbb{P}(X_1 = X_2 = \dots = X_q)$$

Coincides with the usual definition of persistence, if

$$f(Z_1, \dots, Z_k) = \mathbb{1}\{g(Z_1, \dots, Z_k) > 0\},$$

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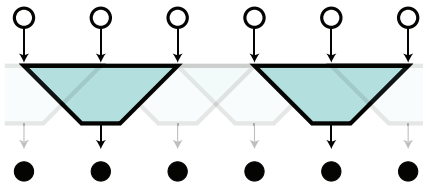
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But what about a lower bound?

Lower bound if $Z_t \in \{0, \dots, \ell - 1\}$

Observation

If we had $Z_t \in \{0, \dots, \ell - 1\}$ it would imply $\ell^{-(q+k-1)} < P_q^X$.



Somewhat unusual question

Usually: low correlation \nrightarrow lower bound on persistence.

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Lower bound on block-factor persistence \longleftrightarrow

There is a universal constant $p_{k,q}$ such that every symmetric real sliding window process $\{X_t\}_{t \in \mathbb{Z}}$ with a given window size k must have:

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There is a block factor with $P_q = 0$ for some q \longleftrightarrow

Each of N players, standing in a row is assigned a random number uniform in $[0, 1]$. By looking only on the numbers in their q neighborhood, using a symmetric algorithm, the players can divide themselves to consecutive pairs and triplets.

Our results

Let $k, q \in \mathbb{N}$. For $f : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$

write $X_t^f = f(Z_t, \dots, Z_{t+k-1})$ where Z_t are i.i.d, and write

$$p_q^{\min} = \inf_f \{ \mathbb{P}(X_1^f = X_2^f = \dots = X_q^f) \}$$

Theorem (Alon, F.)

$$\frac{1}{(T_{k-2}(q^2))^{k+q-1}} < p_q^{\min} < \frac{1}{T_{k-2}(\frac{q}{100})},$$

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- Heavily involves Ramsey theory.

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For upper bound on p_q^X we used only k -dependence. Can we do the same for the lower bound?

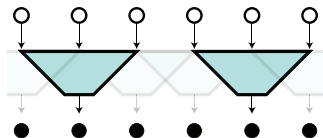
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- **Does k -dependence imply being a $k + 1$ -block factor?**

Are the two properties equivalent

Does k -dependence imply being a $k + 1$ -block factor?



$k + 1$ -block factor

For $Z_t \sim U[0, 1]$ i.i.d.
 $\exists f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow L$ such that

$$\{X_t\} \stackrel{\text{law}}{=} \{f(Z_t, Z_{t+1}, \dots, Z_{t+k})\}$$

k -dependent

If E_- is $\{X_t\}_{t < 0}$ measurable and
 E_+ is $\{X_t\}_{t \geq k}$ measurable, then

$$\mathbb{P}(E_-)\mathbb{P}(E_+) = \mathbb{P}(E_- \cap E_+)$$

History of this question

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History of this question

The Annals of Probability
1984, Vol. 12, No. 3, 805–818

RUNS IN m -DEPENDENT SEQUENCES

BY SVANTE JANSON

Uppsala University

• • •

To obtain complete results we will impose one further condition.

(*) There exists a sequence $\{\xi_i\}$ of i.i.d. random variables and a measurable function α such that $I_i = \alpha(\xi_{i-m}, \dots, \xi_i)$.

Obviously, any sequence $\{I_i\}$ satisfying (*) is m -dependent. It seems to be unknown whether the converse holds, i.e. whether every m -dependent stationary sequence may be thus represented. Hence it is conceivable that this condition is redundant.

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- In that year Tsirelson showed a quantum mechanical example of 1-dependent non-2-block factor process.

Is it possible to extend to k -dependent processes?

For upper bound on p_q^X we used only k -dependence. Can we do the same for the lower bound?

- **Does k -dependence imply being a $k + 1$ -block factor?**
 - **No.**

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- **Can we extend our results to k -dependent processes?**
 - **No.**

Finitely dependent coloring

Theorem (Holroyd and Liggett 2014)

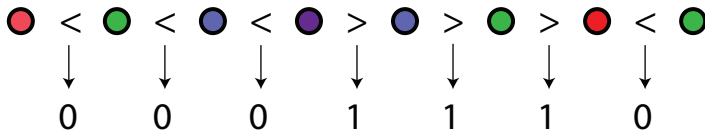
There exists a 1-dependent stationary random proper coloring of \mathbb{Z} with 4 colors.

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Writing 0 whenever a color comes before a color of lower value and 1 otherwise, we get a 2-dependent process, with $p_4^X = 0$.

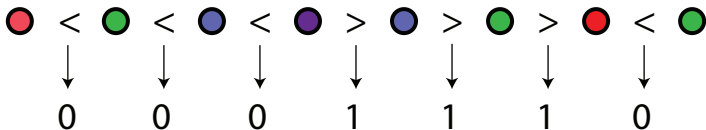


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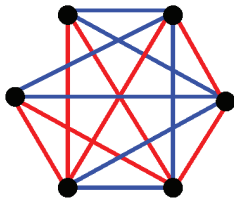
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→ There is no lower bound on persistence for 2-dependent processes.

Proof Idea



Formula for persistence

We would like to calculate: $\mathbb{P}(X_1 = \dots = X_q)$

Writing $w := q + k - 1$ we have,

$$= \int_0^1 dx_1 \cdots \int_0^1 dx_w \mathbb{1} \{f(x_1, \dots, x_k) = \dots = f(x_q, \dots, x_w)\}$$

Probabilistic reformulation

Let $\{Z_t\}_t \in \mathbb{Z}$ be i.i.d. uniform random variables.

Observation

$$(Z_1, \dots, Z_w) \stackrel{\text{law}}{=} (Z_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, Z_{\sigma(w)})$$

where $\sigma \in S_M$ for some $M > w$.

Thus,

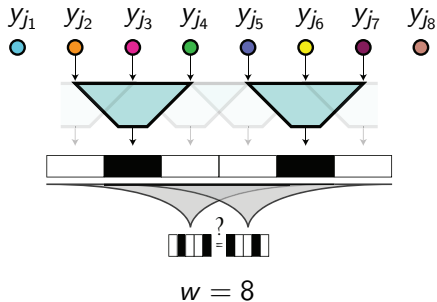
$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\bar{x} \in [0,1]^w} \mathbb{1}\{f(x_1, \dots, x_k) = \dots = f(x_q, \dots, x_w)\} \\ &= \int_{\bar{y} \in [0,1]^M} \frac{(M-w)!}{M!} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_w \leq M} \mathbb{1}\{f(y_{j_1}, \dots, y_{j_k}) = \dots = f(y_{j_q}, \dots, y_{j_w})\}. \end{aligned}$$

Probabilistic reformulation

We must therefore bound this sum
combinatorially from below.

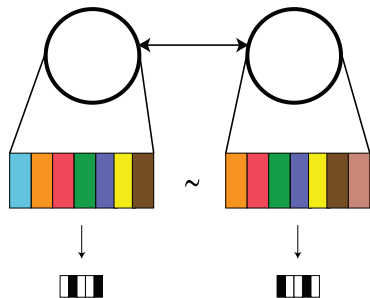
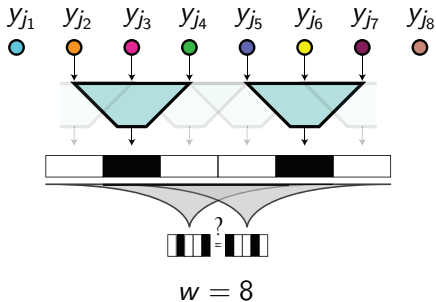
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Combinatorial reformulation

Let $k, q \in \mathbb{N}$. We define a graph D_M^w whose vertices are increasing sequences of elements in $\{1 \dots M\}$ of length w , and

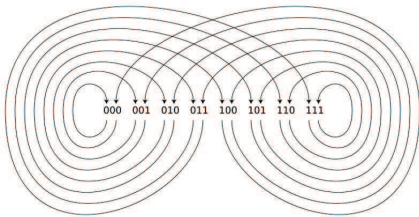
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Reduced problem

Must show: There exists $M = M_{k,q}$ s.t. there is no proper coloring of D_M^{w-1} with 2^q colors.

Ramsey Theory

Theorem (implied by Chvátal)

For every k, d , if M is big enough, then there is no proper coloring of D_M^k with d colors.

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Similar to the classical Ramsey results

Theorem (Ramsey)

For every d , there exists M such that K_M cannot be properly colored by d colors.

Thank you.

