

# Matrix concentration inequalities with dependent summands and sharp leading-order terms

Alexander Van Werde, presented at *High Dimensional Probability* (Bedlewo, 2023)

Joint work with Jaron Sanders

# Part I

## Context & related work

# Matrix Bernstein inequality

## Theorem. (Tropp, Oliveira)

Let  $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$  be independent self-adjoint  $d \times d$  matrices.

Assume  $\mathbb{E}\mathbf{X}_i = 0$  and  $\|\mathbf{X}_i\| \leq R$ . Denote  $\mathbf{S} := \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{X}_i$ .

Then, for some absolute  $c > 0$ , the operator norm satisfies

$$\mathbb{E}\|\mathbf{S}\| \leq c \sqrt{\ln(2d)} \sigma + c \ln(2d) R$$

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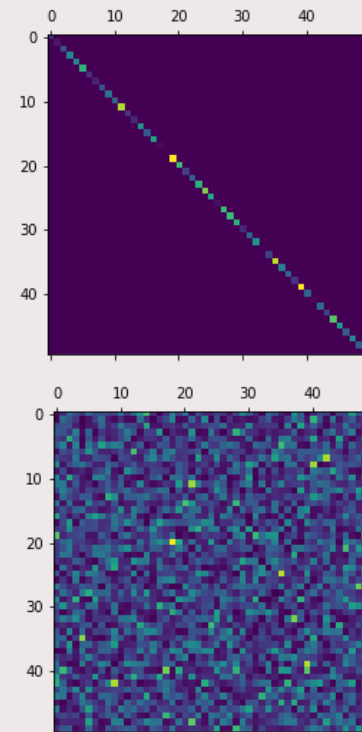
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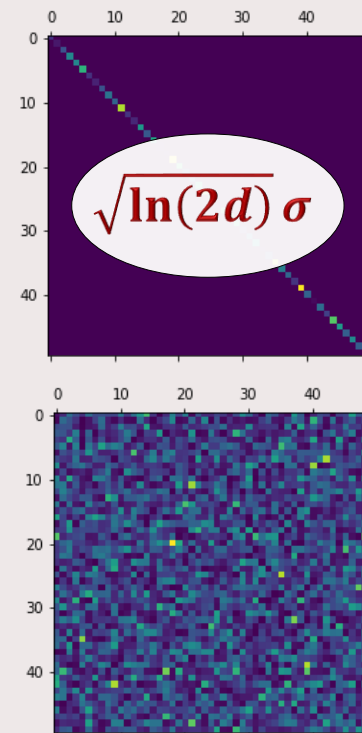
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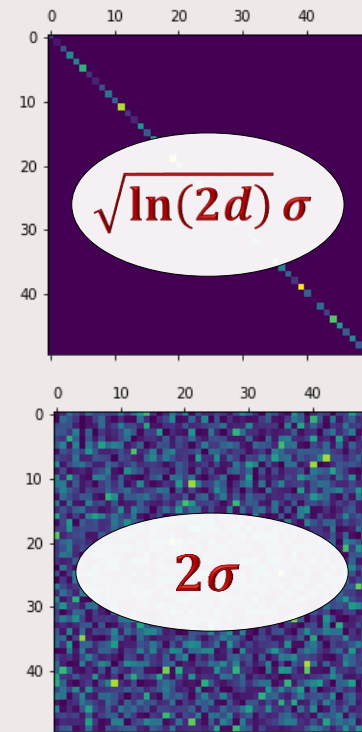
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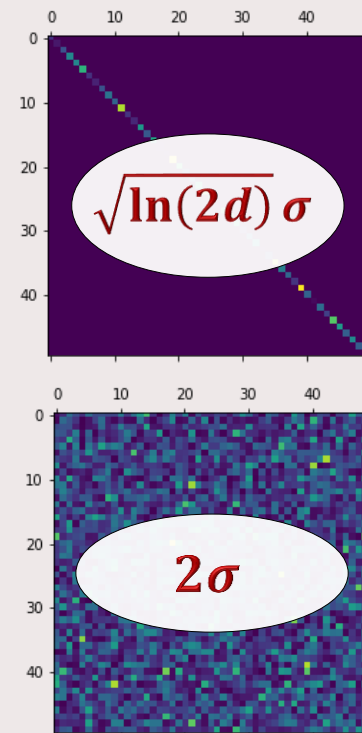
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# Part II

## Sharp matrix concentration for Markovian model & matrix series model

# Markovian model and parameters

## Markovian model.

Consider a Markov chain  $Z_1, \dots, Z_n$ .

Generate self-adjoint  $d \times d$  matrices

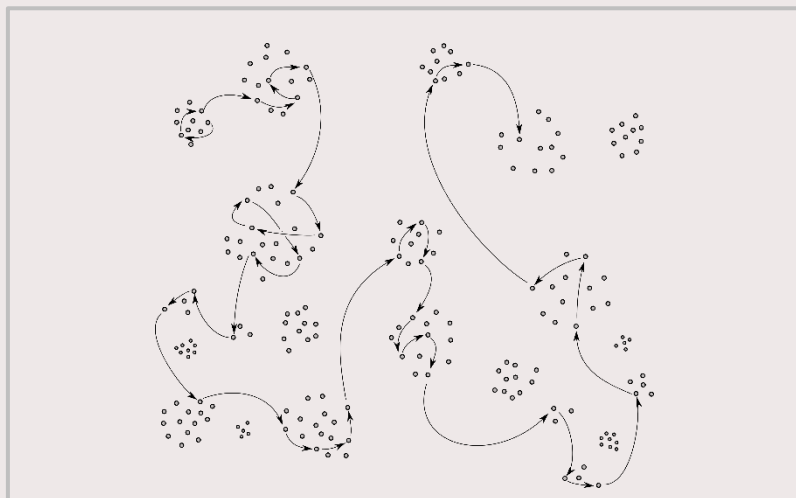
$$\mathbf{X}_i := f_i(Z_i) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{S} := \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{X}_i$$

Further, for simplicity, also assume

- Finite state space
- Transition matrix  $P$   
& equilibrium distribution  $\pi$
- $\mathbb{E}\mathbf{X}_i = 0$

## Dependence parameter

$$\Psi := \min\left\{ t \geq 1: \frac{|P_{x,y}^t - \pi_y|}{\pi_y} \leq \frac{1}{4} \quad \forall x, y \right\}$$



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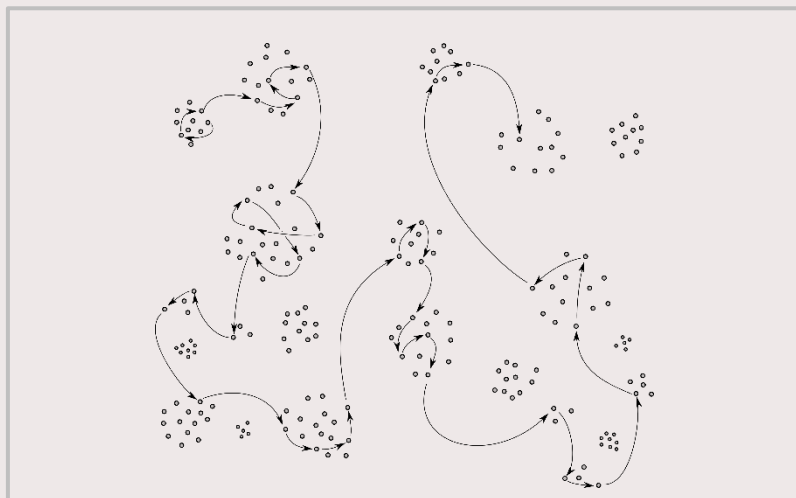
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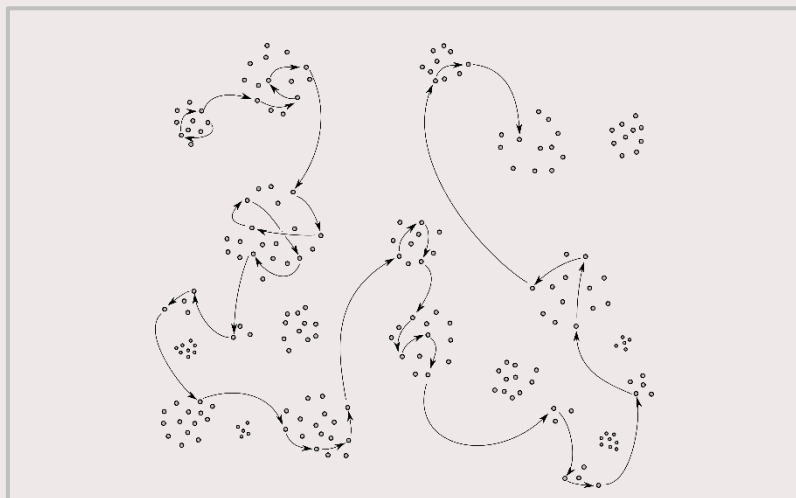
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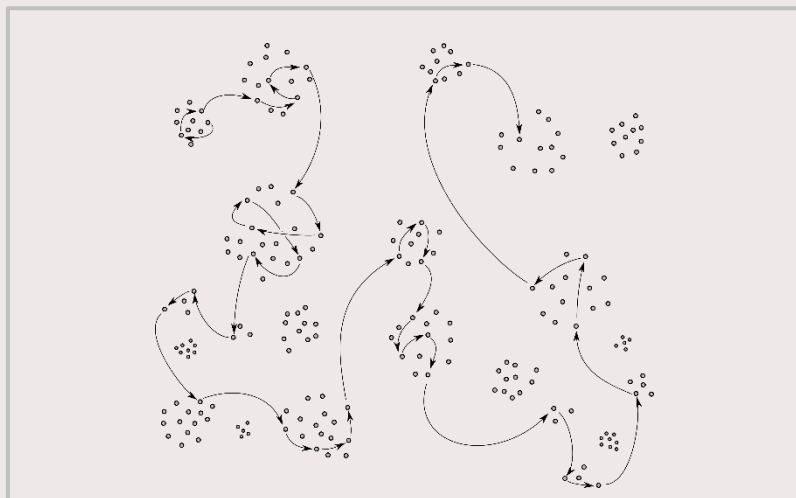
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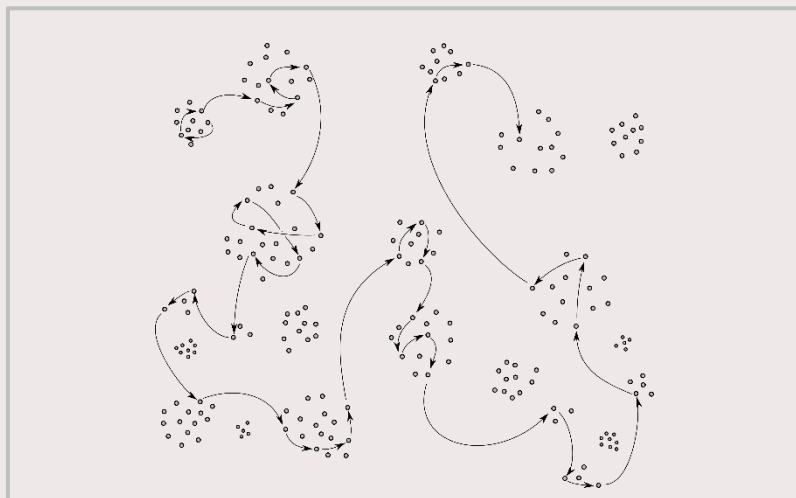
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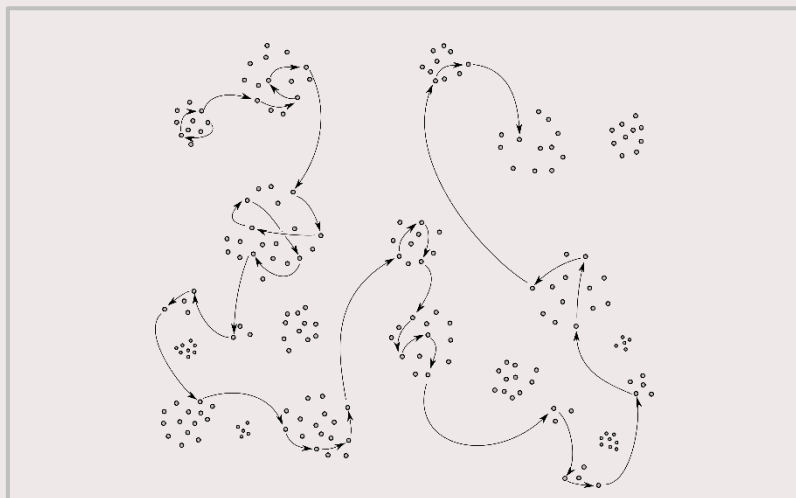
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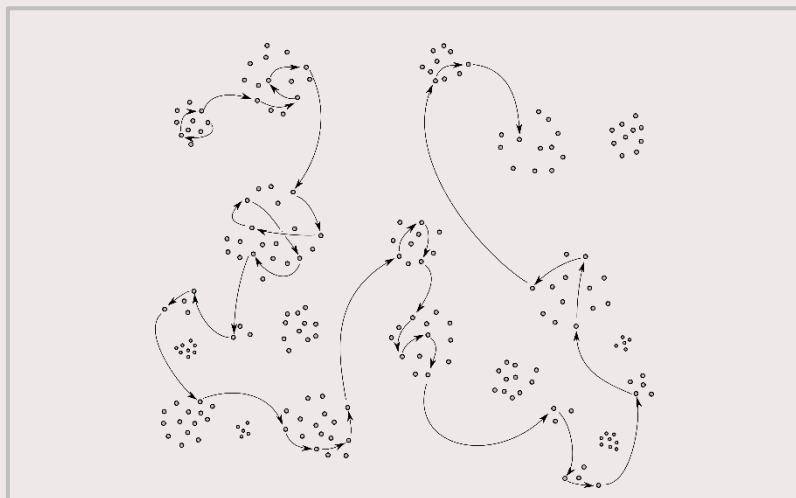
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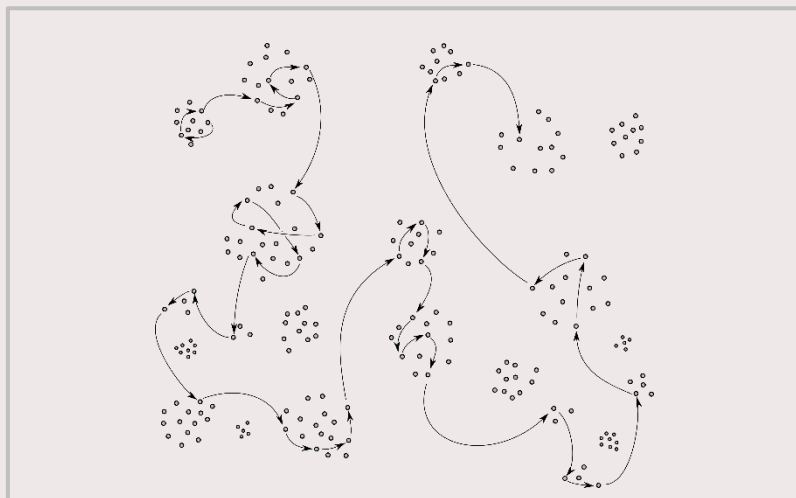
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## Main result.

There exists  $c > 0$  such that for  $0 < \delta \leq 1$

$$\mathbb{E}\|\mathcal{S}\| \leq (1 + \delta)\|\mathcal{S}_{\text{free}}\| + c\mathcal{E}_{d,\delta}$$

where

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## Free-probabilistic quantity

$$\|\mathcal{S}_{\text{free}}\| = \inf_{W>0} \lambda_{\max}(W^{-1} + \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{S}W\mathcal{S}]).$$

## Matrix parameters

$$\zeta^2 := \|\mathbb{E}[\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{X}_i^2]\|, \quad \sigma^2 := \|\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{S}^2]\|$$

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## Free-probabilistic quantity (Lehner)

$$\|\mathcal{S}_{\text{free}}\| = \inf_{W>0} \lambda_{\max}(W^{-1} + \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{S}W\mathcal{S}]).$$

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$$\zeta^2 := \|\mathbb{E}[\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{X}_i^2]\|, \quad \sigma^2 := \|\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{S}^2]\|$$

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# Sharp matrix concentration in Markovian model

## Main result.

There exists  $c > 0$  such that for  $0 < \delta \leq 1$

$$\mathbb{E}\|\mathcal{S}\| \leq (1 + \delta)\|\mathcal{S}_{\text{free}}\| + c\mathcal{E}_{d,\delta}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{E}_{d,\delta} &:= v^{1/2}\sigma^{1/2}\log_{1+\delta}(2d)^{3/4} \\ &\quad + R^{1/3}\Psi^{2/3}\zeta^{2/3}\log_{1+\delta}(2d)^{2/3} \\ &\quad + R\Psi\log_{1+\delta}(2d)\end{aligned}$$

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# Part III

## Proof sketch

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**Interpolate:** For  $t \in [0,1]$  set

$$\mathbf{S}(t) := \sqrt{t}\mathbf{S} + \sqrt{1-t}\mathbf{G}$$

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- Expansion with *classical cumulants*.
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**Direct modification using classical cumulants gives suboptimal results...**

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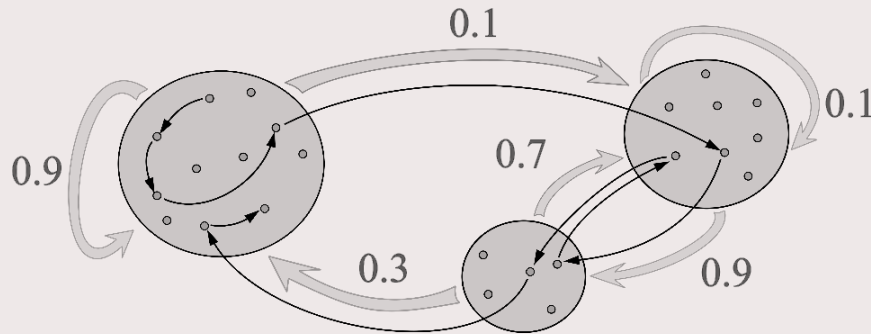
# Part IV

## Illustrative applications

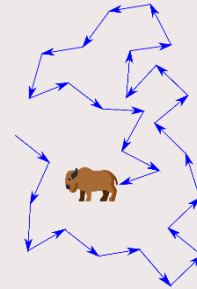
# Literature: Block Markov chains

## Spectral clustering in block Markov chains

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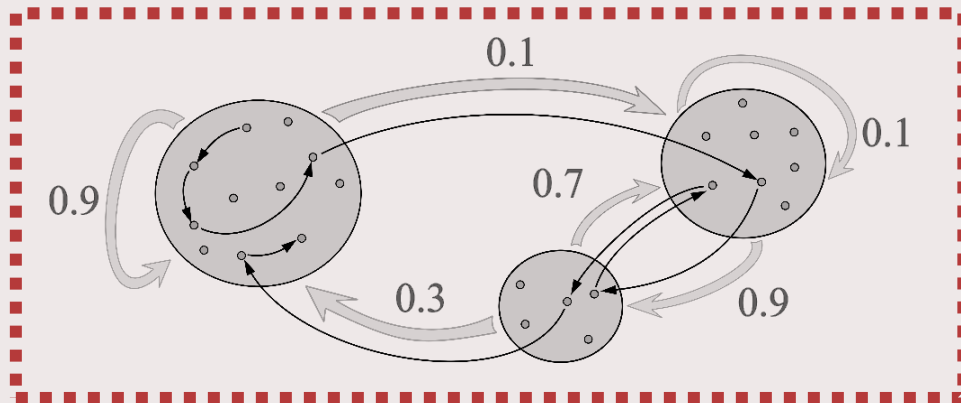
Stock market



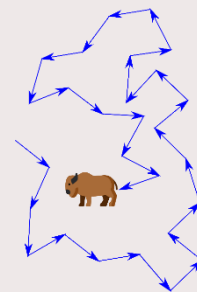
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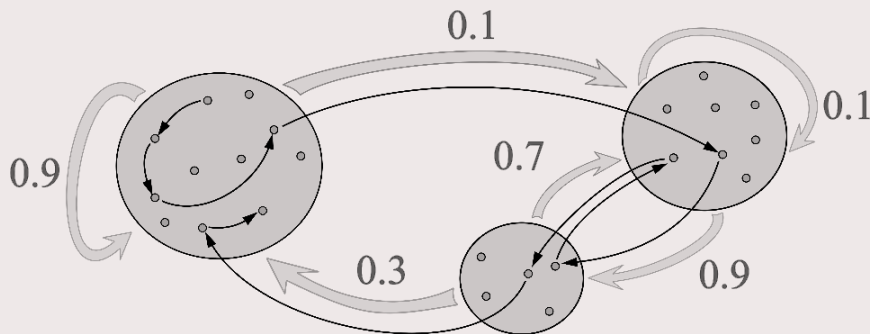
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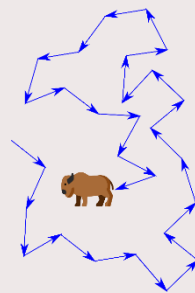
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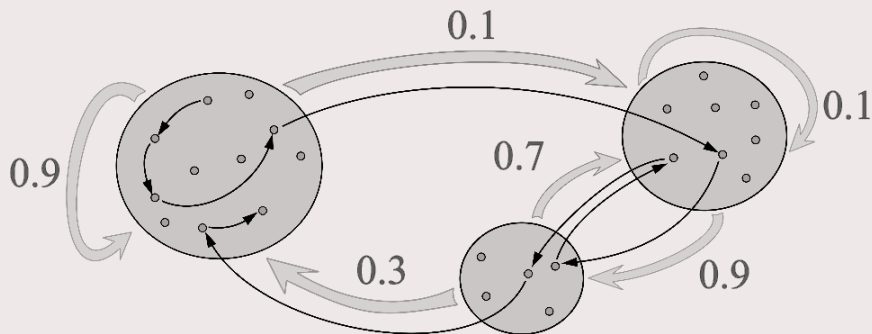
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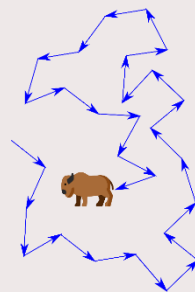
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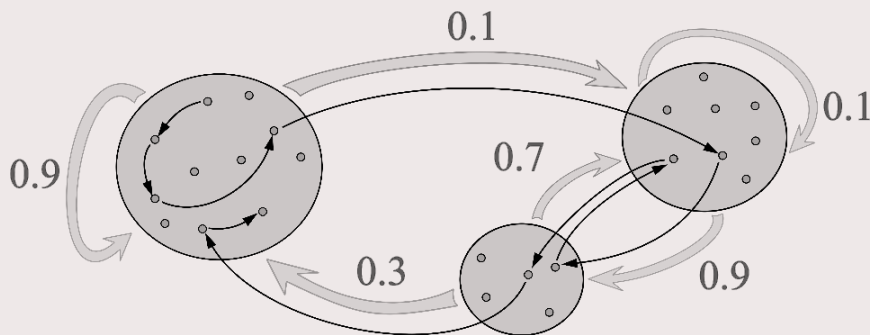
Stock market



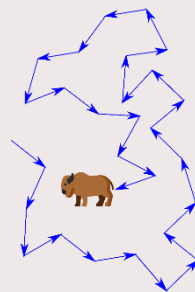
# Literature: Block Markov chains

## Spectral clustering in block Markov chains

- **J. Sanders, A. Proutière, S.-Y. Yun (2020):**  
Spectral clustering algorithm
- **J. Sanders, A. Senen–Cerda (2023)**  
Asymptotic estimate  $c\sigma$  for non-explicit  $c$ .
- **A. Van Werde, A. Senen–Cerda, G. Kosmella, J. Sanders (2023)**  
Real-world data



Animal movement



DNA



Text

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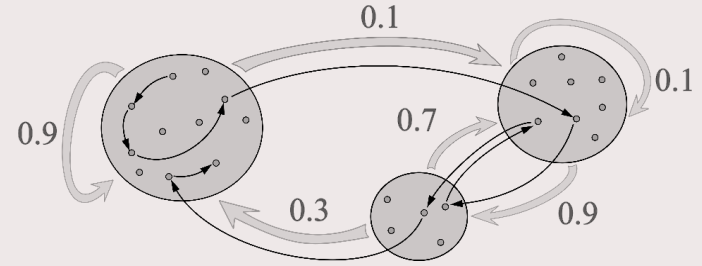


# Application: Block Markov chains

**Definition.** Fix  $K \geq 1$ , a stochastic matrix  $p \in [0,1]^{K \times K}$ , and partition  $\mathcal{V}_1, \dots, \mathcal{V}_K$  of  $\{1, \dots, d\}$ .

A *Block Markov chain* has transition matrix

$$P_{i,j} = \frac{p_{x,y}}{\#\mathcal{V}_y} \quad \forall i \in \mathcal{V}_x, j \in \mathcal{V}_y$$

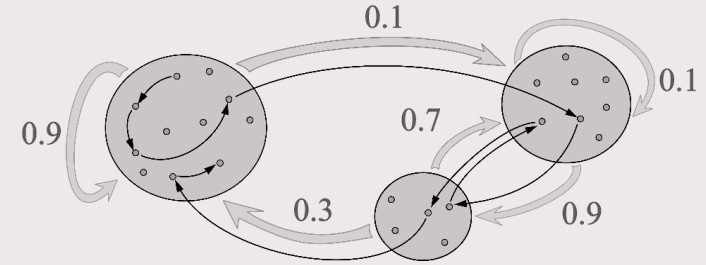


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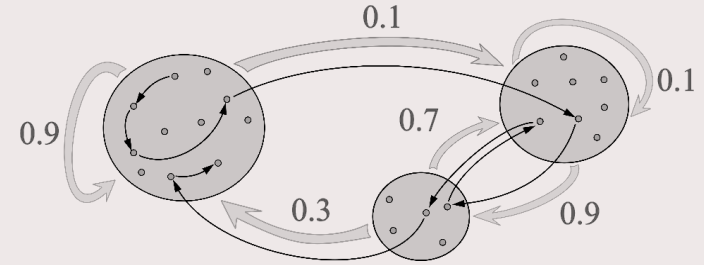


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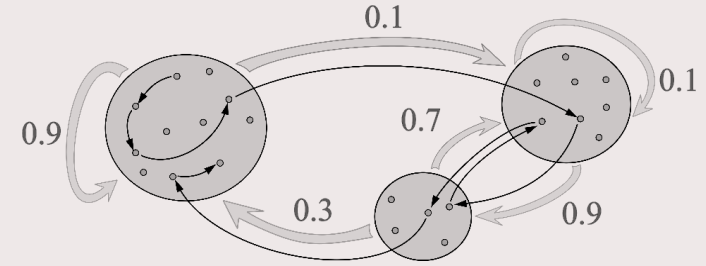


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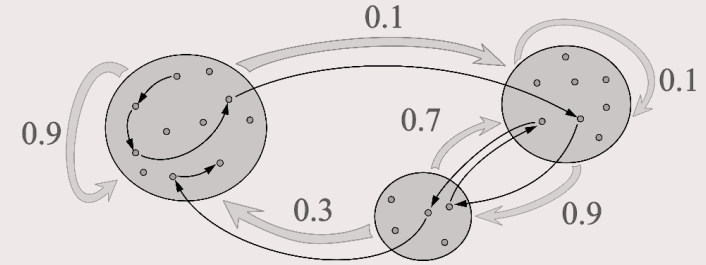


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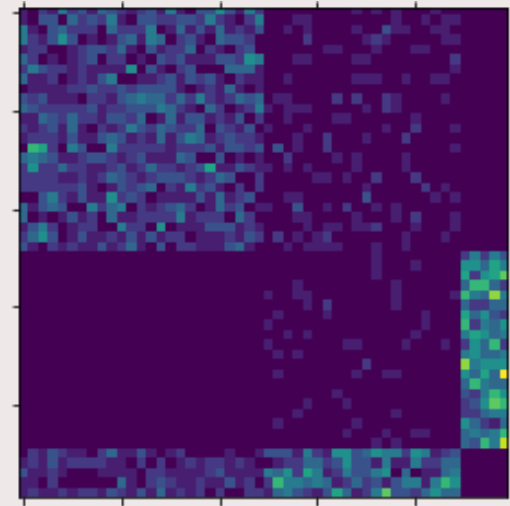
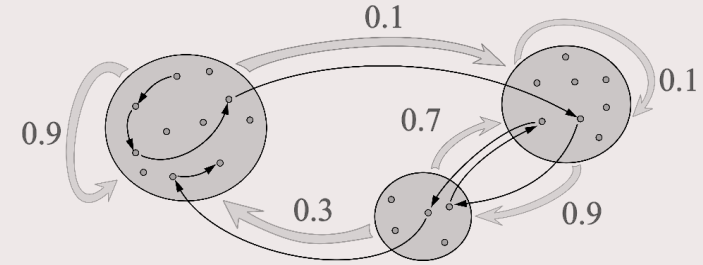
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Sample frequency matrix  $N \in \mathbb{Z}^{d \times d}$ :

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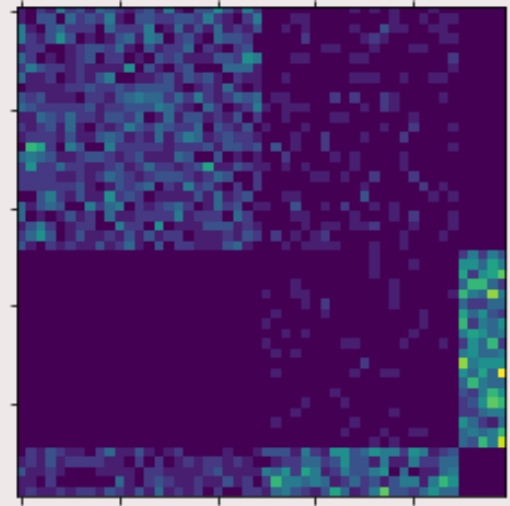
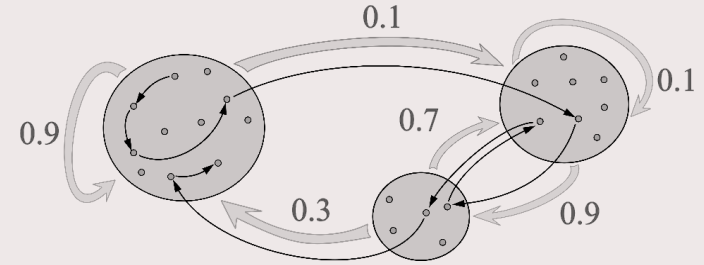
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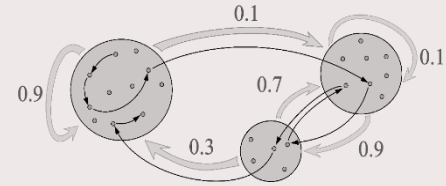
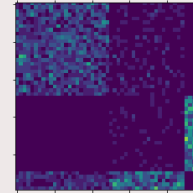
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$$\text{Let } \mathbf{M} := \sqrt{d/n} (\mathbf{N} - \mathbb{E}\mathbf{N})$$



## Corollary.

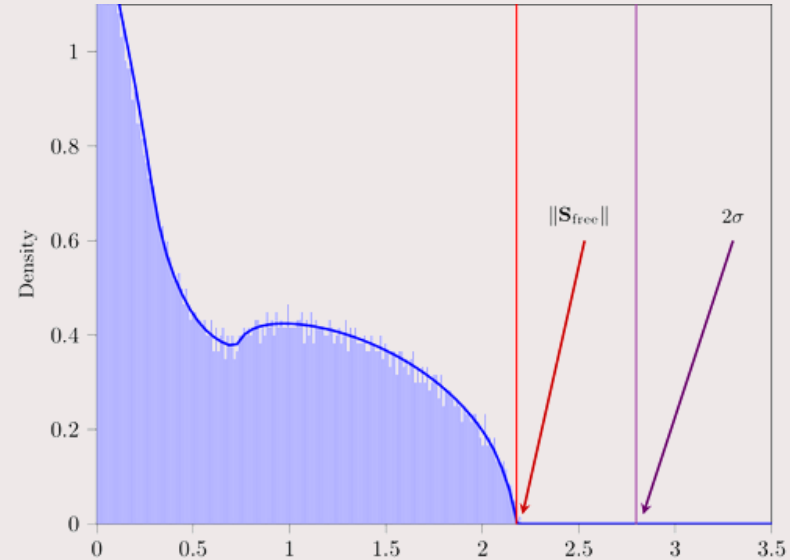
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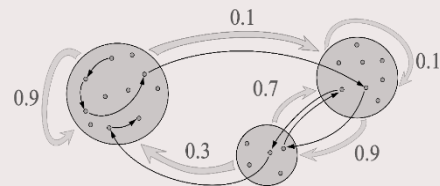
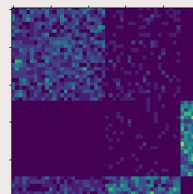
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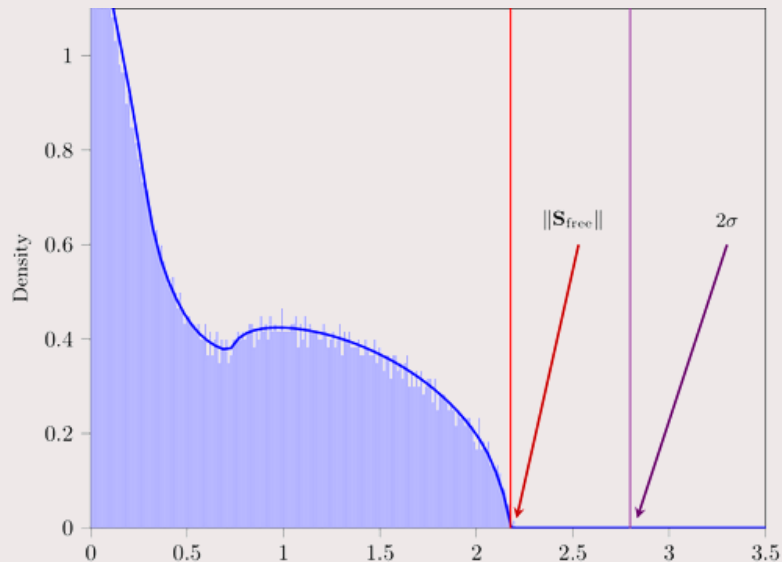
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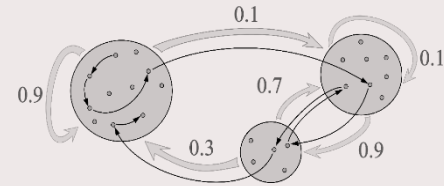
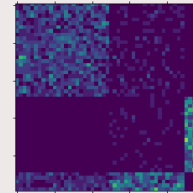
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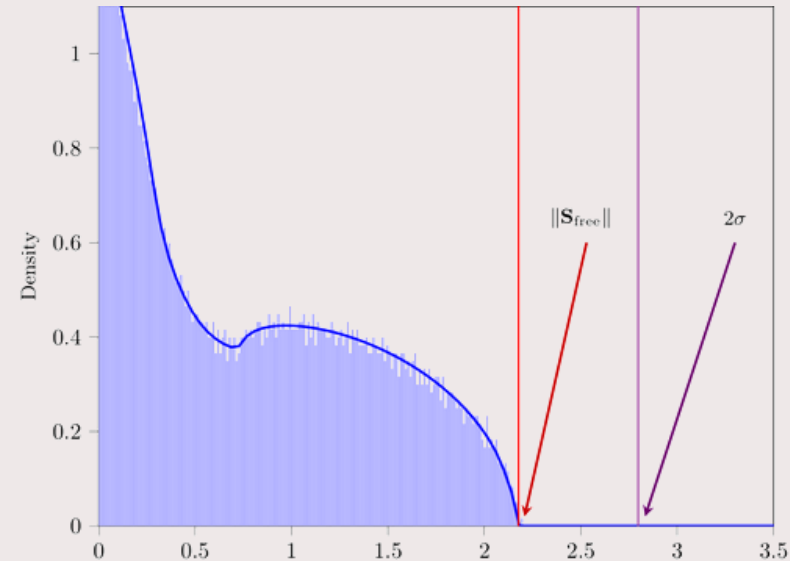
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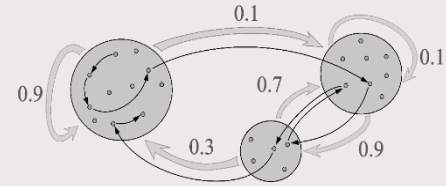
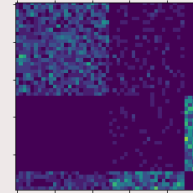
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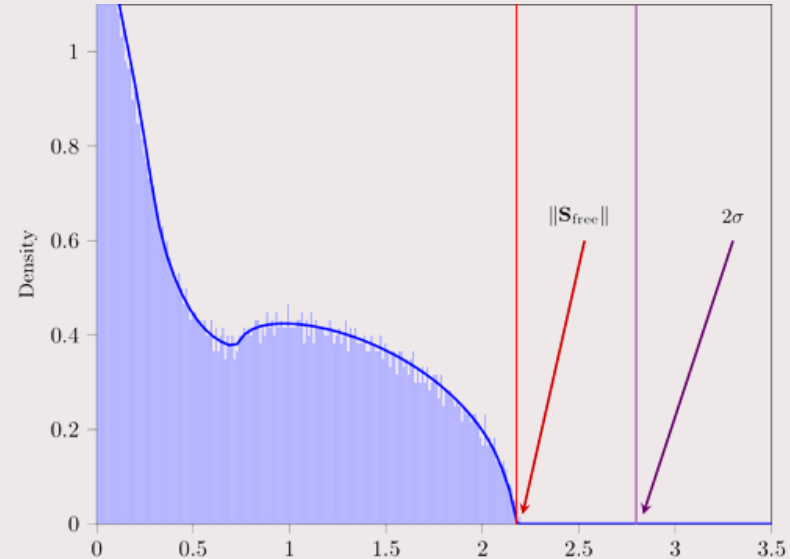
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# Applications of matrix series model

## Heavy-tailed independent entries

Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a Wigner matrix with independent sub-Weibull entries.

Then, we show that

$$\|\mathcal{S}\| \leq 2\sigma + \varepsilon \text{ with high probability.}$$

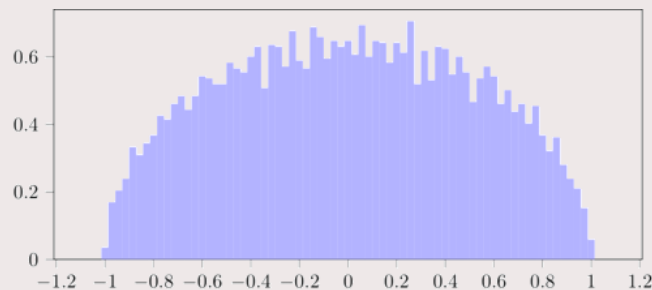
We provide explicit tail bounds.

This is a quantitative non-asymptotic variant on the Bai-Yin theorem.

## Spectra of graphs with dependent edges

Let  $A$  be the adjacency matrix of an Erdős–Rényi random graph with  $m$  edges and  $d$  nodes.

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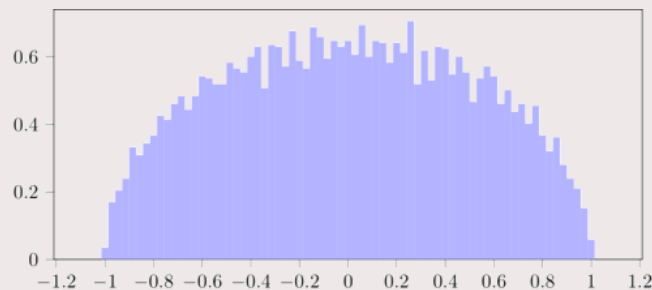
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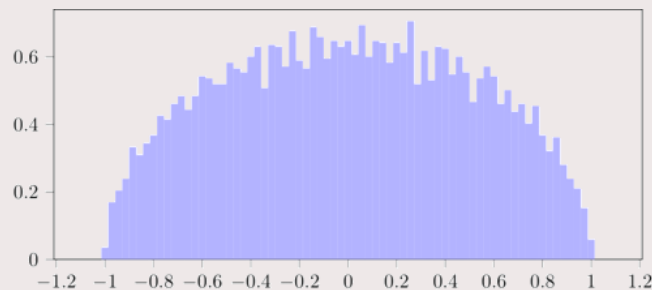
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# Summary

We establish *sharp* matrix concentration inequalities for sum of *dependent* random matrices.

Boolean cumulants play a crucial role in the proof. Surprisingly, classical cumulants are insufficient for sharp estimates.

Sharp concentration in applications, such as block Markov chains, would be inaccessible by previous nonasymptotic dependent results.

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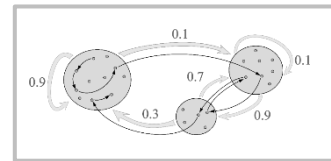
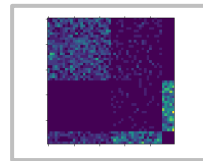
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**Appears on arXiv soon!**

# Thank you!



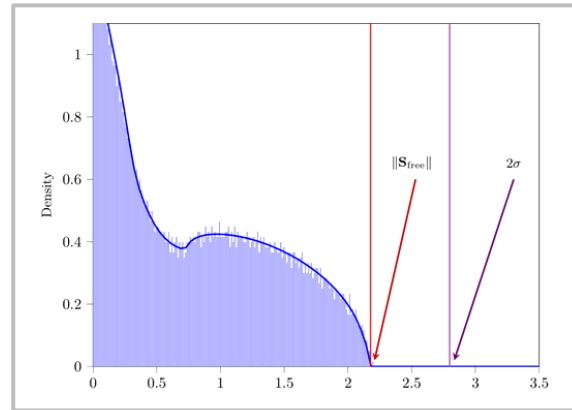
## Main result for Markovian model.

There exists  $c > 0$  such that for any  $0 < \delta \leq 1$

$$\mathbb{E}\|\mathbf{S}\| \leq (1 + \delta)\|\mathbf{S}_{\text{free}}\| + c\mathcal{E}_{d,\delta}$$

where

$$\mathcal{E}_{d,\delta} := v^{1/2}\sigma^{1/2} \log_{1+\delta}(2d)^{3/4} + R^{1/3}\Psi^{2/3}\zeta^{2/3} \log_{1+\delta}(2d)^{2/3} + R\Psi \log_{1+\delta}(2d)$$



## Dependence parameter

$$\Psi := \min\left\{t \geq 1: \frac{|P_{x,y}^t - \pi_y|}{\pi_y} \leq \frac{1}{4}\right\}$$

## Matrix parameters

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta^2 &:= \|\mathbb{E}[\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{X}_i^2]\|, & \sigma^2 &:= \|\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{S}^2]\| \\ v^2 &:= \|\text{Cov}(\mathbf{S})\|, & R &\geq \|\mathbf{X}_i\| \end{aligned}$$

## Free-probabilistic quantity

$$\begin{aligned} &\|\mathbf{S}_{\text{free}}\| \\ &= \inf_{\mathbf{W} > \mathbf{0}} \lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{W}^{-1} + \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{S}\mathbf{W}\mathbf{S}]). \end{aligned}$$