

# $p$ -th variation and roughness

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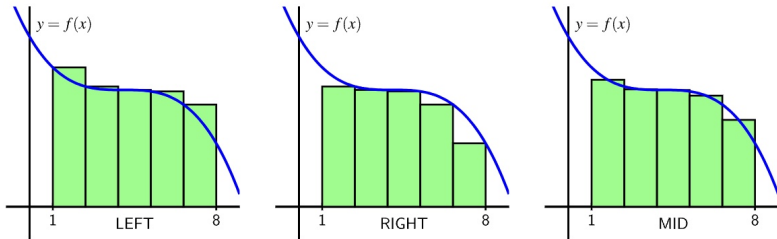
Joint work with Rama Cont (Uof Oxford), Rafał Łochowski (Uof Warsaw), Toyomu Matsuda (EPFL), Nicolas Perkowsk (FU Berlin)

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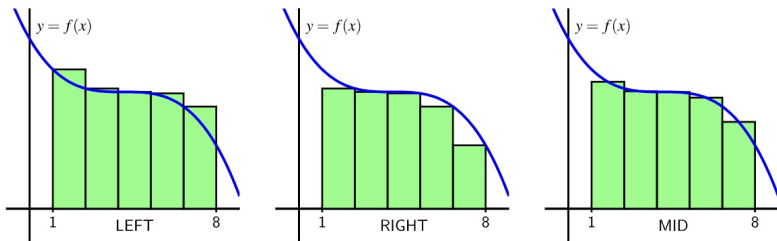
June 24, 2024

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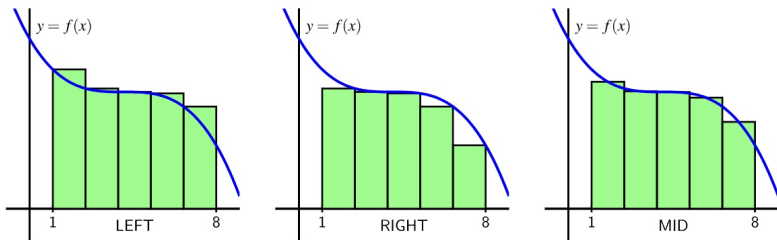


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A sequence of partitions  $\pi$  of  $[0, T]$  is a sequence  $(\pi^n)_{n \geq 1}$ :

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Example: dyadic partition

$$\pi^n = \left\{ 0 < \frac{1}{2^n} < \frac{2}{2^n} < \dots < \frac{T2^n}{2^n} \right\}.$$

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Example: Lebesgue partition:  $t_0^n = 0$  and

$$t_{k+1}^n(\omega) = \inf \{ t > t_k^n, |\omega(t) - \omega(t_k^n)| \geq T2^{-n} \}.$$



## Proposition

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$$[x]_{\pi^n}^{(p)}(t) = \sum_{t_j^n \in \pi^n} |x(t_{j+1}^n \wedge t) - x(t_j^n \wedge t)|^p$$

converges uniformly on  $[0, T]$  to a continuous (increasing) function

$$[x]_{\pi}^{(p)} \in C^0([0, T], \mathbb{R}).$$

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### Proposition (Cont (2012))

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$$[x]_\pi \in C^0([0, T], S_d^+).$$

**Theorem (Föllmer (1981))**

Assume that  $\omega \in D([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d) \cap Q_\pi([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $f \in C^2(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R})$ .

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Assume that  $\omega \in D([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d) \cap Q_\pi([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $f \in C^2(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R})$ . Then the limit of Riemann sums:

$$\int_0^t \nabla f(\omega(s)) d^\pi \omega := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{t_j^n \in \pi^n} \nabla f(\omega(t_j^n)) \cdot (\omega(t_{j+1}^n \wedge t) - \omega(t_j^n \wedge t)),$$

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exists and also one has:

$$\begin{aligned} f(\omega(t)) = & f(\omega(0)) + \int_0^t \nabla f(\omega(s)) d^\pi \omega + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \nabla^2 f(\omega(s)) d[\omega]_\pi \\ & + \sum_{[0,t]} f(\omega(s)) - f(\omega(s-)) - \nabla f(\omega(s)) \Delta \omega(s). \end{aligned}$$

Consider now two sequences of partitions  $\pi, \tau$  and a continuous path

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But the pathwise quadratic variation **does** depend on the sequence of partitions...

The following construction (Freedman 1983) shows that the notion of pathwise quadratic variation depends on the sequence of partitions:

## Proposition (Freedman (1983))

*Let  $\omega \in C^0([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d)$ . There exists a sequence of partitions  $(\pi^n)$  such that  $[\omega]_{\pi} = 0$ .*

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- In fact Davis, Obłój and Siorpaes (2018) extend this construction to show that given any increasing function  $A : [0, T] \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  one can construct a sequence of partitions  $\pi = (\pi^n)$  such that  $[\omega]_{\pi}(t) = A(t)$ .

- On the other hand, we know for Brownian paths (Dudley 1973), for any sequence of partitions  $\pi = (\pi^n)_{n \geq 1}$  with mesh  $o(1/\log n)$ :

$$\mathbb{P} \left( \sum_{\pi^n} |W(t_{i+1}^n \wedge t) - W(t_i^n \wedge t)|^2 \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} t \right) = 1.$$

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(Joint work with Rama Cont)

Let  $\underline{\pi}^n = \inf_{i=0, \dots, N(\pi^n)-1} |t_{i+1}^n - t_i^n|$  and  $|\pi^n| = \sup_{i=0, \dots, N(\pi^n)-1} |t_{i+1}^n - t_i^n|$ .

## Definition

We say a sequence of partitions  $\pi = (\pi^n)_{n \geq 1}$  balanced if

$$\exists c > 0, \quad \forall n \geq 1, \quad \frac{|\pi^n|}{\underline{\pi}^n} \leq c. \quad (1)$$

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This condition means that the **intervals in the partition  $\pi^n$  are asymptotically comparable**.

## Definition (Quadratic roughness)

Let  $\mathbb{T} = (\mathbb{T}^n)_{n \geq 1}$  be the dyadic (Reference) partition of  $[0, T]$  and  $\pi^n = (0 = s_0^n < s_1^n < \dots < s_{N(\pi^n)}^n = T)$  be a balanced sequence of partitions of  $[0, T]$  with vanishing mesh  $|\pi^n| \rightarrow 0$ . We say that  $x \in C^0([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d) \cap Q_{\mathbb{T}}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d)$  has the quadratic roughness property with coarsening index  $0 < \beta < 1$  along  $\pi$  on  $[0, T]$  if there exists a subsequence or super-sequence  $d^n = (0 = t_1^n < t_2^n < \dots < t_{N(d^n)}^n = T)$  of  $\mathbb{T}$  with the following properties:

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- (i)  $|d^n|^\beta = O(|\pi^n|)$ , and
- (ii) for all  $t \in [0, T]$ :

$$\sum_{j=1}^{N(\pi^n)-1} \sum_{t_i^n \neq t_{i'}^n \in (s_j^n, s_{j+1}^n]} \left( x(t_{i+1}^n \wedge t) - x(t_i^n \wedge t) \right)^t \left( x(t_{i'+1}^n \wedge t) - x(t_{i'}^n \wedge t) \right) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

We denote by  $R_{\pi}^{\beta}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d)$  the set of paths satisfying this property.





- In other words, the quadratic roughness property states that cross-products of increments along the dyadic partition  $d^n$  average to zero when grouped along  $\pi^n$ .

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- Note that, since  $\beta < 1$ , the number of terms in the inner sum in (ii) grows to infinity as  $n$  grows, so (ii) is the result of compensation across terms, **reminiscent of the law of large numbers**.
- This quadratic roughness plays a crucial role in the stability of quadratic variation with respect to the partitions.

The dyadic partition may be replaced by any other balanced sequence of partitions  $\sigma$  with vanishing mesh  $|\sigma^n| \rightarrow 0$  satisfying

$$\sup_n \frac{|\sigma^n|}{|\sigma^{n+1}|} < \infty$$

without changing any of the statements of the results.

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### Theorem (Quadratic roughness of Brownian paths)

Let  $W$  be a Wiener process on a probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ ,  $T > 0$  and  $(\pi^n)_{n \geq 1}$  a balanced sequence of partitions of  $[0, T]$  with

$$(\log n)^2 |\pi^n| \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0. \quad (2)$$

Then, for any  $0 < \beta < 1$ , the sample paths of  $W$  almost-surely satisfy the quadratic roughness property with coarsening index  $\beta$ :

$$\forall \beta \in (0, 1), \quad \mathbb{P} \left( W \in R_{\pi}^{\beta}([0, T], \mathbb{R}) \right) = 1.$$

The quadratic roughness property is a **necessary condition** for the stability of quadratic variation with respect to the choice of partition sequence.



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### Lemma (Cont & Das 2022)

Let  $x \in C^\alpha([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d) \cap Q_{\mathbb{T}}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d)$ . Let  $\pi = (\pi^n)_{n \geq 1}$  be a balanced partition sequence of  $[0, T]$  such that  $x \in Q_\pi([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d)$ . Then:

$$(\forall t \in [0, T]), [x]_\pi(t) = [x]_{\mathbb{T}}(t) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \forall \beta \in (0, 2\alpha), x \in R_\pi^\beta([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d).$$

Our main result is that quadratic roughness along such a sequence implies the uniqueness of pathwise quadratic variation:

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## Theorem (Uniqueness of quadratic variation (Cont & Das 2022))

Let  $\pi$  be a balanced sequence of partitions of  $[0, T]$  and  $x \in C^\alpha([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d) \cap R_\pi^\beta([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d)$  for some  $0 < \beta < 2\alpha$ . Then

$$x \in Q_\pi([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d), \quad \text{and} \quad \forall t \in [0, T], \quad [x]_\pi(t) = [x]_{\mathbb{T}}(t).$$

Let  $\mathbb{T} = (\mathbb{T}^n)_{n \geq 1}$  be the dyadic sequence of partitions of  $[0, T]$ . Define,

$$\mathcal{Q}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d) = C^{\frac{1}{2}-}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d) \cap \mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{T}}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d). \quad (3)$$

### Lemma

*The class  $\mathcal{Q}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d)$  is non-empty and contains all 'typical' Brownian paths.*

We have the following invariant quadratic variation map.

### Theorem (Quadratic variation map)

*There exists a unique map:*

$$\begin{aligned} [\cdot] &: \mathcal{Q}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow C^0([0, T], S_d^+) \\ x &\rightarrow [x] \end{aligned}$$

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such that:  $\forall \pi \in \mathbb{B}([0, T])$ ,  $\forall \beta \in (0, 1)$ ,  
 $\forall x \in R_\pi^\beta([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d) \cap \mathcal{Q}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $\forall t \in [0, T]$ , we get:

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$$[x]_\pi(t) = [x](t).$$

We call  $[x]$  the quadratic variation of  $x$ .

**Theorem (Invariance of the Föllmer integral (Cont & Das 2022))**

There exists a unique map

$$\begin{aligned} I & : C^2(\mathbb{R}^d) \times \mathcal{Q}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow \mathcal{Q}([0, T], \mathbb{R}) \\ (f, x) & \rightarrow I(f, x) = \int_0^\cdot (\nabla f \circ x).dx, \end{aligned}$$



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$$I(f, x)(t) = \int_0^t (\nabla f \circ x) \cdot d^\pi x = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{\pi^n} \nabla f(x(t_i^n)) \cdot (x(t_{i+1}^n \wedge t) - x(t_i^n \wedge t)).$$

We denote  $I(f, x) = \int_0^\cdot (\nabla f \circ x) dx$ .

**Theorem (Pathwise change of variable formula)**

$\forall f \in C^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $\forall \pi \in \mathbb{B}([0, T])$ ,  $\forall \beta \in (0, 1)$ , and,  $\forall x \in R_\pi^\beta([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d) \cap Q([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d)$ , we have the following change of variable formula:

$$f(x(t)) - f(x(0)) = \int_0^t (\nabla f \circ x) \cdot dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \langle \nabla^2 f(x), d[x] \rangle$$

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$$\forall \omega \in \Omega_{\pi}, [\omega]_{\pi}(t) = t.$$

6. On the other hand, we know from Freedman's result there exists for each  $\omega \in \Omega$  a partition  $\pi = \pi(\omega)$  such that  $[\omega]_{\pi(\omega)}(t) = 0$ , and therefore

$$\bigcap_{\pi} \Omega_{\pi} = \emptyset.$$



1. Quadratic variation heavily depends on the choice of partition sequence.
2. Invariant notion of stochastic internal  $\iff$  invariant quadratic variation across partitions.
3. Balanced partition  $\pi$  + quadratic roughness on path  $x \implies [x]_{\pi} = [x]_{\text{ref. part.}}$ .
4. Brownian motion satisfies this quadratic roughness property almost surely.
5. In fact, for any *deterministic* partition sequence  $\pi = (\pi^n)$  with  $|\pi^n| \log n \rightarrow 0$ , there exists  $\Omega_{\pi} \subset \Omega$  of full  $\mathbb{P}$ -measure such that

$$\forall \omega \in \Omega_{\pi}, [\omega]_{\pi}(t) = t.$$

6. On the other hand, we know from Freedman's result there exists for each  $\omega \in \Omega$  a partition  $\pi = \pi(\omega)$  such that  $[\omega]_{\pi(\omega)}(t) = 0$ , and therefore

$$\bigcap_{\pi} \Omega_{\pi} = \emptyset.$$

**So even for Brownian motion, quadratic roughness does not ensure an almost sure invariance of quadratic variation across all deterministic partitions (partitions purely on time variable).**

# Some obvious questions!!

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(Joint work with Rafał Łochowski, Toyomu Matsuda & Nicolas Perkowski)



- The result of Chacon, Jan, Perkins, and Taylor(1981) proves that Brownian motion has a single measure zero set outside which **quadratic variation along any sequence of *Lebesgue partitions* with vanishing mesh is equal to  $t$ .**

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- Unlike in Dudley's result, there is no condition on the decay of meshes of partitions and the **null set is uniform over all (uniform) Lebesgue partitions.**



The quantity  $V_{s,t}(\mathbb{L}, w)$  measures the  $(1/H)$ -th variation along a Lebesgue partition defined by  $\mathbb{L}$  on the interval  $[s, t]$ .

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### Theorem (Fractional analogue of Chacon et al. (D-L-M-P 2023))

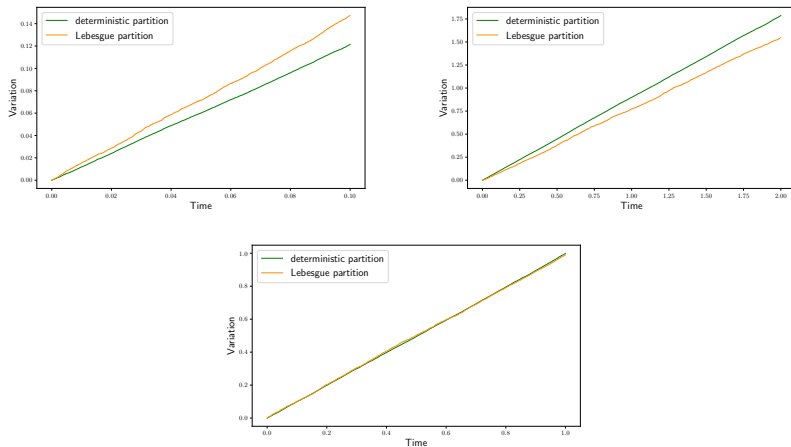
Let  $H < 1/2$  and let  $\mathbf{c}_H$  be a constant. Then, there exists a measurable set  $\Omega_H \subseteq C([0, \infty); \mathbb{R})$  with the following property.

- $\mathbb{P}(B^H \in \Omega_H) = 1$ .
- For every  $w \in \Omega_H$  and  $T \in (0, \infty)$ , we have

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0, \epsilon > 0} \sup_{\substack{\mathbb{L}: |\mathbb{L}| \leq \epsilon, \\ t \leq T}} |V_{0,t}(\mathbb{L}, w) - \mathbf{c}_H t| = 0.$$



# A non-intuitive Conjecture



**Figure:**  $1/H$ -th variation of fBM.  $H = 0.4, 0.6, 0.5$  respectively.

We denote by  $K_{s,t}(\epsilon, w)$  the number of  $\epsilon$ -level crossings in the interval  $[s, t]$

## Definition (Horizontally rough: an invariance notion for $p$ -th var)

A function  $x \in C^0([0, T], \mathbb{R})$  is called *horizontally rough* if for any  $t \in [0, T]$ ,  $\rho \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\epsilon = \{\epsilon_n\}$  with  $\epsilon_n \downarrow 0$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{K_{0,t}(\epsilon_n, x + \rho)}{K_{0,t}(\epsilon_n, x)} = 1.$$

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- From the definition, any linear function is horizontally rough.
- Using results from Chacon et al.(1981) one can show that Brownian motion and more generally continuous semimartingales are horizontally rough almost surely.
- Our result shows that fractional Brownian motion with Hurst index  $H < 1/2$  is horizontally rough almost surely.