

Linear operators, Metric Entropy, and Small Deviation Probabilities

M.A. Lifshits

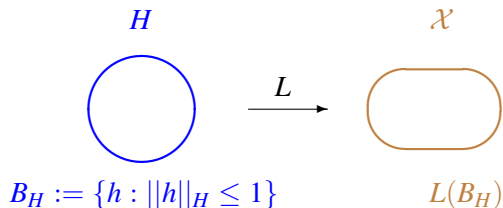
January, 8
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Consider an operator $L : H \mapsto \mathcal{X}$ acting between two normed spaces

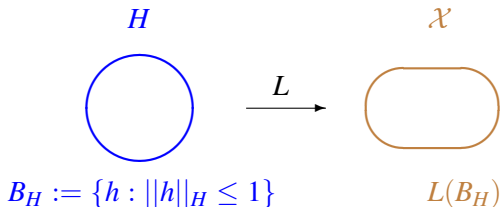
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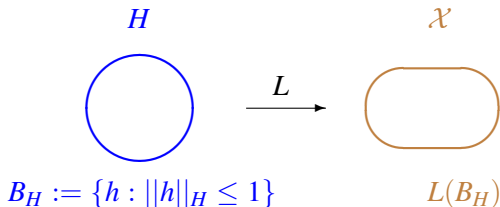
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The norm $\|L\|$ (half-diameter of $L(B_H)$) alone is not enough!

Covering numbers and entropy

We measure compactness of an operator $L : H \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$ by **metric entropy**.

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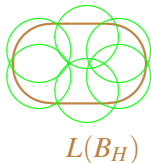
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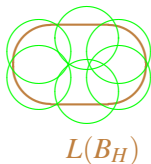


Covering numbers:

$$N_L(\varepsilon) := \inf \left\{ n : \exists \{x_j\}_{j \leq n}, \{Lh : \|h\|_H \leq 1\} \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^n B_\varepsilon(x_j) \right\}.$$

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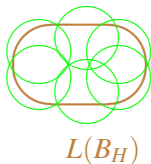
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Dyadic entropy numbers:

$$e_n(L) := \inf \{ \varepsilon > 0 : N_L(\varepsilon) \leq 2^n \}.$$

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- duality problem: compare characteristics of L and L^* .

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For us:

The main problem in operator language:

Find the behavior of covering numbers $N_L(\varepsilon)$, as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$.

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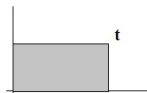
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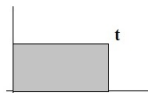
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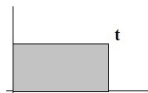
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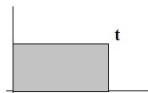
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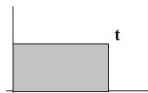
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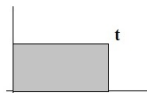
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- $c_1 n^{-1}(\ln n)^{d-1} \leq e_n(L) \leq c_2 n^{-1}(\ln n)^{d-1/2}$, for general d .

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A typical answer to small deviation problem is

$$\mathbb{P}(\|X\| \leq \varepsilon) \sim c_1 \varepsilon^a \exp\{-c_2 \varepsilon^{-b}\}, \quad \varepsilon \rightarrow 0.$$

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The distribution of a Gaussian vector X is uniquely determined by the means and covariances of $\{g(X), g \in \mathcal{X}^*\}$.

Main example: Wiener process W – a random element in $\mathbb{C}[0, 1]$ or in $L_2[0, 1]$ such that $\mathbb{E}W(t) = 0$, $\text{cov}(W(s), W(t)) = \min\{s, t\}$.

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For example, let $X = W$ be a Wiener process. Then

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{0 \leq t \leq 1} |W(t)| \leq \varepsilon\right) \sim \frac{4}{\pi} \exp\left\{-\frac{\pi^2}{8} \varepsilon^{-2}\right\}, \quad \varepsilon \rightarrow 0,$$

and for $\mathcal{X} = L_2[0, 1]$

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\int_0^1 |W(t)|^2 dt \leq \varepsilon^2\right) \sim \frac{4\varepsilon}{\sqrt{\pi}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{8} \varepsilon^{-2}\right\}, \quad \varepsilon \rightarrow 0.$$

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If

$$\sigma_j^2 = C (j + \delta + O(j^{-1}))^{-\alpha}, \quad \alpha > 1, \delta \in \mathbb{R},$$

then for small deviation probabilities we have (A.I.Nazarov et al)

$$\mathbb{P}(\|X\| \leq \varepsilon) \sim c_1 \varepsilon^a \exp\left\{-c_2 \varepsilon^{\frac{-2}{\alpha-1}}\right\}, \quad \varepsilon \rightarrow 0.$$

where

$$c_2 = c_2(C, \alpha, \delta), a = \frac{2-\alpha-2\delta\alpha}{2(\alpha-1)}, \text{ and } c_1 \text{ depends on the entire sequence } (\sigma_j).$$

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$c_2 = c_2(C, \alpha, \delta)$, $a = \frac{2-\alpha-2\delta\alpha}{2(\alpha-1)}$, and c_1 depends on the entire sequence (σ_j) .

Quite often, σ_j^2 are the **eigenvalues of a Sturm–Liouville problem**, thus small deviations are related to asymptotic behavior of these eigenvalues.

Example: Gaussian vector in a Hilbert space

Let \mathcal{X} be a separable **Hilbert** space with a basis (e_j) . Then any element $x \in \mathcal{X}$ writes as $x = \sum_j x_j e_j$ with $\sum x_j^2 < \infty$. Let a random vector $X \in \mathcal{X}$ be given by

$$X := \sum_j \xi_j e_j, \quad \xi_j \text{ are independent and } N(0, \sigma_j^2) \text{ - distributed.}$$

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where ξ_j are i.i.d. standard normal r.v. and $L : H \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$ an appropriate linear operator acting to \mathcal{X} from a Hilbert space H with a basis (e_j) .

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Therefore, any distribution property of a Gaussian vector can be expressed in terms of operator L .

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- logarithmic growth

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- small deviation function $\varphi(\varepsilon) := -\ln \mathbb{P}(\|X\| \leq \varepsilon)$ is growing slowly when $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$.
- sample paths of a process X are rather smooth.
- X has good finite rank approximations

$$X \approx \sum_{j=1}^n \xi_j L(e_j), \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

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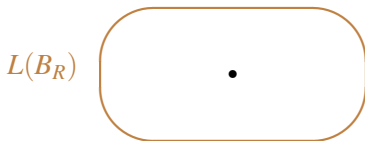


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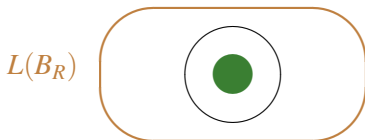


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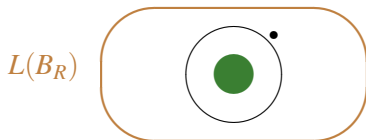


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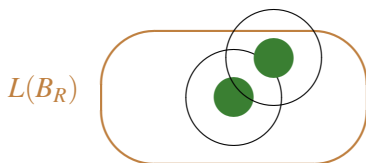


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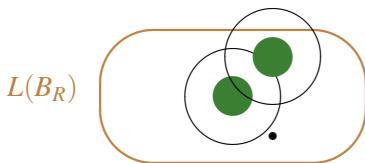


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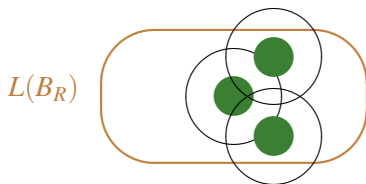


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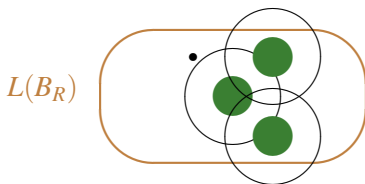


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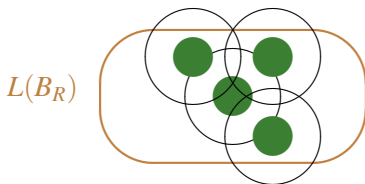


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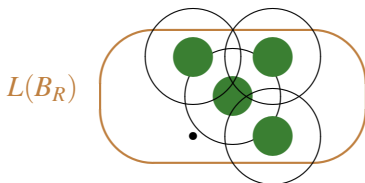


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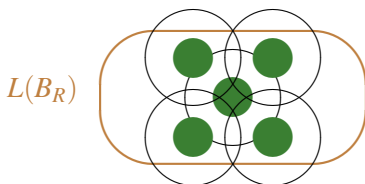


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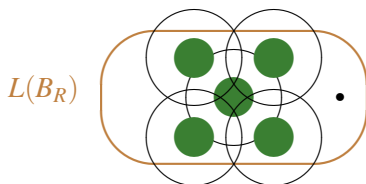


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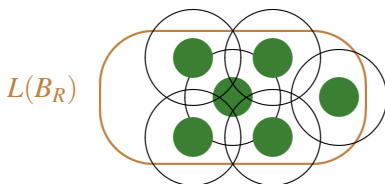


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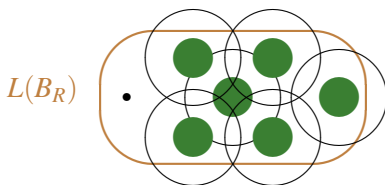


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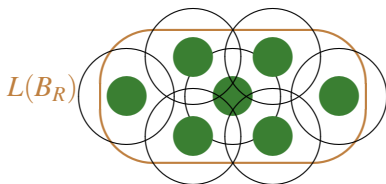


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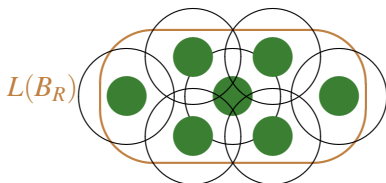


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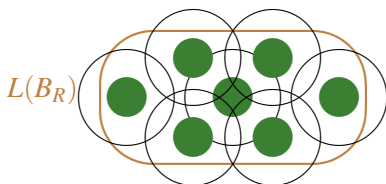
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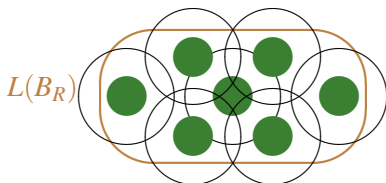
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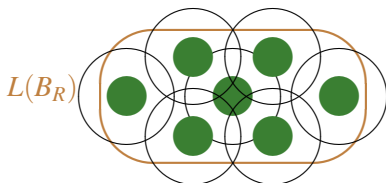
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The **green balls** are disjoint !

How the connection occurs - continued

We have a picture from the former slide

How the connection occurs - continued

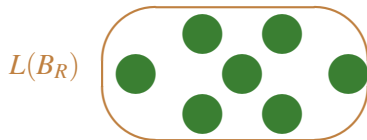
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$L(B_R)$



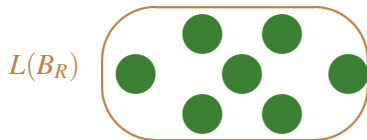
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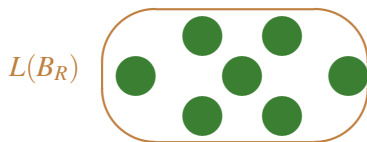
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The green balls are $Lh_j + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} U$ where U is the unit ball in \mathcal{X} .

How the connection occurs - continued

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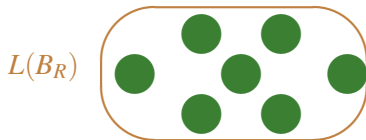
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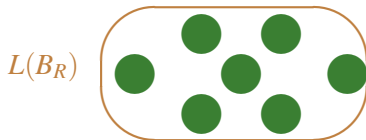
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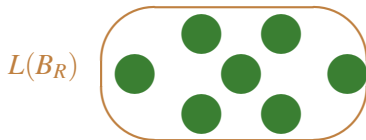
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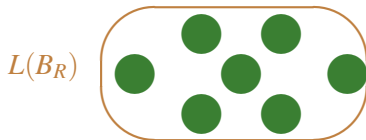
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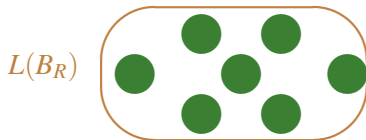
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This reads as $\mathbb{P}(\|X\| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2}) \leq e^{R^2/2} N_L(\varepsilon/R)^{-1}$. **Optimize the rhs in R !**

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In the following we restrict X to the interval $[0, 1]$ and evaluate the small deviations of X with respect to the **uniform norm**

$$\|x\|_{\infty} = \max_{t \in [0, 1]} |x(t)|.$$

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Namely, consider the family of processes X_ν corresponding to absolutely continuous spectral measures

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We formally close this family with $F_\infty(du) = \mathbf{1}_{[-1,1]}du$.

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The most interesting cases are $\nu = 1$ ([exponential spectrum](#)) and $\nu = 2$ ([normal spectrum](#)).

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By using

$$\ln N_L(\varepsilon) \approx |\ln \varepsilon|^\beta \ln |\ln \varepsilon|^\gamma \Leftrightarrow \varphi(r) \approx |\ln \varepsilon|^\beta \ln |\ln \varepsilon|^\gamma, \quad \text{as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0.$$

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we obtain

Small deviations for exponential continuous spectra

We have, as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$,

$$\varphi(\varepsilon) \approx \frac{|\ln \varepsilon|^2}{\ln |\ln \varepsilon|}, \quad 1 < \nu \leq \infty,$$

and

$$\varphi(\varepsilon) \approx |\ln \varepsilon|^{1+\frac{1}{\nu}}, \quad 0 < \nu \leq 1.$$