

## Lecture II: Khinchin Thm and Exponential Mixing.

1

Fix  $\psi: [1, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$  - a continuous nonincreasing function.  
(for example,  $\psi(r) = r^{-a} (\log r)^{-b}$ ,  $a, b > 0$ ).

Def. A vector  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is called  $\psi$ -approximable

if the inequalities

$$\begin{cases} \|x - \frac{p}{q}\| \leq \frac{\psi(R)}{q} \\ q \leq R \\ p \in \mathbb{Z}^d, q \in \mathbb{N} \end{cases}$$

have solutions for unbounded set  $R$ 's.

example: By Dirichlet Thm, every  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is  $R^{-1/d}$ -approximable.

$W_d(\psi) =$  the set of  $\psi$ -approximable vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .

Thm (Khinchin - Groshev)

(1)  $W_d(\psi)$  has measure zero  $\iff \sum_{q \geq 1} \psi(q)^d < \infty$ .

(2)  $W_d(\psi)$  has full measure  $\iff \sum_{q \geq 1} \psi(q)^d = \infty$ .

example: a.e.  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is  $(R \log R)^{-1/d}$ -approximable,  
but not  $(R (\log R)^{1+\epsilon})^{-1/d}$ -approximable for  $\epsilon > 0$ .

However, there are vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  which

are not  $(R \log R)^{-1/d}$ -approximable

(for example, badly approximable vectors)

## Borel-Cantelli Lemma.

(2)

Let  $A_n, n \geq 1$ , be measurable subsets of a measure space  $(X, \mu)$  such that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu(A_n) < \infty$ .

Then  $\limsup A_n = \{x \in X : x \text{ belongs to inf. many } A_n\}$  has measure zero.

Proof. Note that  $\limsup A_n = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{k \geq n} A_k$ .

$$\mu(\limsup A_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu\left(\bigcup_{k \geq n} A_k\right) \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k \geq n} \mu(A_k) = 0$$

## Proof of Khinchin-Groshev Thm (1)

It is sufficient to show that  $W_d(\psi) \cap (0,1)^d$  has measure zero.

Let  $A_q = \{x \in (0,1)^d : \|x - \frac{p}{q}\| \leq \frac{\psi(q)}{q} \text{ for some } p \in \mathbb{Z}^d\}$ .

Note that  $W_d(\psi)$  consists of vectors  $x$  such that  $\|x - \frac{p}{q}\| \leq \frac{\psi(q)}{q}$  has solutions for inf. many  $q$ 's.

Therefore,  $W_d(\psi) \cap (0,1)^d \subset \limsup_q A_q$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(A_q) &\leq \sum_{p: \|p\| \leq q} \text{vol}\left(B_{\psi(q)/q}\left(\frac{p}{q}\right)\right) = (2q+1)^d \cdot \left(\frac{\psi(q)}{q}\right)^d \\ &\leq C^d \cdot \psi(q)^d. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\sum_{q \geq 1} \psi(q)^d < \infty$ , we have  $\sum_{q \geq 1} \mu(A_q) < \infty$ ,

and by the Borel-Cantelli Lemma,

$$\mu(\limsup_q A_q) = 0 \Rightarrow \mu(W_d(\psi) \cap (0,1)^d) = 0.$$

exercise: Show that the converse of Borel-Cantelli lemma is false without imposing any extra conditions.

The converse of Borel-Cantelli lemma requires some "independence" assumption on  $A_n$ 's.

### Converse of Borel-Cantelli Lemma.

Let  $A_n, n \geq 1$ , be measurable subsets of a measure space  $(X, \mu)$  such that

(i)  $\sum_{n \geq 1} \mu(A_n) = \infty$

(ii)  $\sum_{n, m=1}^N \mu(A_n \cap A_m) \leq \left( \sum_{n=1}^N \mu(A_n) \right)^2 + C \cdot \left( \sum_{n=1}^N \mu(A_n) \right)$ .

Then  $\lim A_n$  has full measure.

Proof. Let  $S_N(x) = \sum_{n=1}^N \chi_{A_n}(x)$  and  $E_N = \sum_{n=1}^N \mu(A_n) \rightarrow \infty$ .

Note that  $x \in \lim A_n$  iff  $S_N(x) \rightarrow \infty$ , so we need to show that  $S_N(x) \rightarrow \infty$  for a.e.  $x$ .

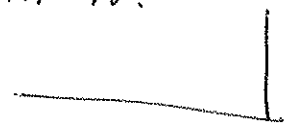
We have

$$\begin{aligned} \|S_N - E_N\|_2^2 &= \left\langle \sum_{n=1}^N (\chi_{A_n} - \mu(A_n)), \sum_{m=1}^N (\chi_{A_m} - \mu(A_m)) \right\rangle \\ &= \sum_{n, m=1}^N \langle \chi_{A_n} - \mu(A_n), \chi_{A_m} - \mu(A_m) \rangle \\ &= \sum_{n, m=1}^N (\mu(A_n \cap A_m) - \mu(A_n)\mu(A_m)) \\ &\stackrel{(ii)}{\leq} C \cdot E_N. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\left\| \frac{S_N}{E_N} - 1 \right\|_2 \leq \frac{C}{E_N} \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} 0$ .

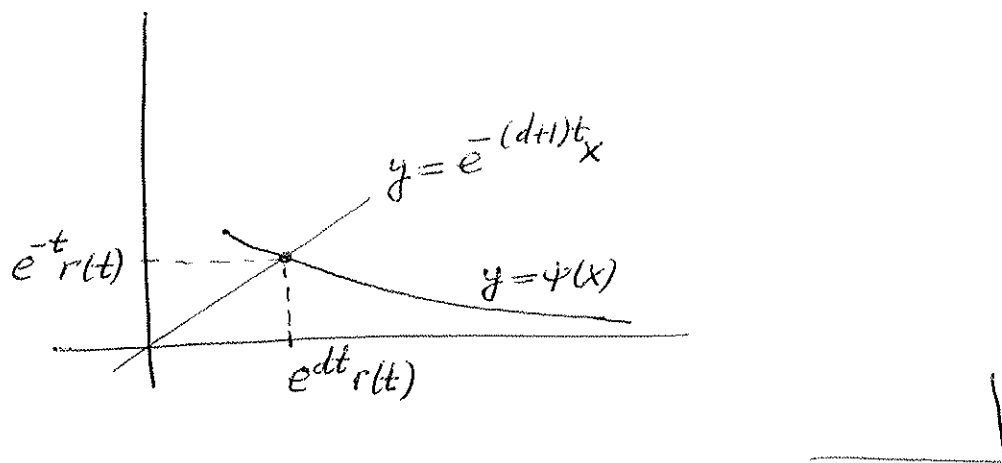
Since  $\frac{S_N}{E_N} \xrightarrow{L^2} 1$ ,  $\frac{S_{N_i}(x)}{E_{N_i}} \xrightarrow{a.e.} 1$  along a subsequence.

Then  $S_{N_i}(x) \xrightarrow{a.e.} \infty$  and  $S_N(x) \xrightarrow{a.e.} \infty$  because  $S_N(x)$  is monotone in  $N$ .



- Lem. 1. Given a continuous nonincreasing function  $\psi: [1, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ , there exists unique function  $r: [t_0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, 1)$  such that:
- (i)  $t \mapsto e^{dt} r(t)$  is strictly increasing,
  - (ii)  $t \mapsto e^{-t} r(t)$  is nonincreasing,
  - (iii)  $\psi(e^{dt} r(t)) = e^{-t} r(t)$  for  $t \geq t_0$ .
  - (iv)  $\sum_{z \geq 1} \psi(z)^d = \infty \iff \sum_{n \geq t_0} r(n)^{d+1} = \infty$ .

Proof. The function  $r$  is constructed using the picture:

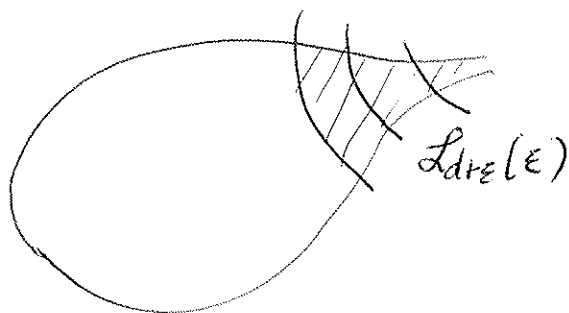


Let  $\Delta: \mathcal{L}_{d+1} \rightarrow (0, \infty): \Delta(\Lambda) = \min_{0 \neq v \in \Lambda} \|v\|$ .

Note that by Mahler compactness criterion,

$$\Lambda_n \rightarrow \infty \text{ in } \mathcal{L}_{d+1} \iff \Delta(\Lambda_n) \rightarrow 0.$$

Hence,  $\mathcal{L}_{d+1}(\varepsilon) = \{\Lambda: \Delta(\Lambda) \leq \varepsilon\}$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$ , defines a basis of nbhds of  $\infty$ .



Recall that  $\Lambda_x = \mathbb{Z}^{d+1} \left( \begin{array}{c|c} \text{Id} & 0 \\ \hline x & 1 \end{array} \right)$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,

(5)

$$a_t = \left( \begin{array}{c|c} e^t \cdot \text{Id} & 0 \\ \hline 0 & e^{-dt} \end{array} \right).$$

Lem 2.  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is  $\psi$ -approximable  $\Leftrightarrow \Lambda_x a_{t_n} \in \mathcal{L}_{d+1}(r(t_n))$   
for a sequence  $t_n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Proof.

$\Rightarrow$  Suppose that the system of inequalities

$$\begin{cases} \|x - \frac{p}{q}\| \leq \frac{\psi(R_n)}{q} \\ q \leq R_n \\ p \in \mathbb{Z}^d, q \in \mathbb{N} \end{cases} \quad \text{has solutions for a sequence } R_n \rightarrow \infty.$$

We pick  $t_n$  such that  $R_n = e^{dt_n} r(t_n)$ . Then  $t_n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  
and  $\psi(R_n) = e^{-t_n} r(t_n)$ , so the inequality

$$\max\{e^{t_n} \|x \cdot q - p\|, e^{-dt_n} |q|\} \leq r(t_n)$$

has a solution  $p \in \mathbb{Z}^d, q \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Hence  $\Delta(\Lambda_x a_{t_n}) \leq r(t_n)$  and  $\Lambda_x a_{t_n} \in \mathcal{L}_{d+1}(r(t_n))$ .

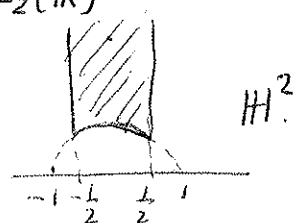
The proof of  $\Leftarrow$  is similar. }

Lem 3.  $\text{Vol}(\mathcal{L}_{d+1}(\varepsilon)) \asymp \varepsilon^{d+1}$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ .

Proof. (for  $d=1$ )

We use the identifications:  $\mathcal{L}_2 \simeq \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}) \backslash \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{R})$

$$\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}) \backslash \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{R}) / \text{SO}(2) \simeq$$



Every  $g \in \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{R})$  can be written in

the form:  $g = v_x \cdot b_y \cdot k$  for  $v_x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $b_y = \begin{pmatrix} y^{1/2} & 0 \\ 0 & y^{-1/2} \end{pmatrix}$ ,

$k \in \text{SO}(2)$ .

The second identification is given by the map

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \frac{a \cdot i + b}{c \cdot i + d}.$$

$$v_x \cdot b_y \cdot k \mapsto x + iy.$$

Hence,  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z}) \backslash SL_2(\mathbb{R})$  can be "parametrised" by

$$\{v_x \cdot b_y \cdot k : |x| \leq \frac{1}{2}, y \geq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, k \in SO(2)\},$$

and  $\mathcal{L}_2 = \{\mathbb{Z}^2 v_x b_y k : |x| \leq \frac{1}{2}, y \geq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, k \in SO(2)\}.$

$$\Delta(\mathbb{Z}^2 v_x b_y \cdot k) = \Delta(\mathbb{Z}^2 b_y \cdot \underbrace{v_{y^{-1}x}}_{\text{uniformly bounded}} \cdot k) \subset \Delta(\mathbb{Z}^2 b_y) = y^{-\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Hence,  $\Delta \ll \epsilon \iff y^{-\frac{1}{2}} \ll \epsilon \iff y \gg \epsilon^{-2}.$

Recall that invariant volume on  $\mathbb{H}^2$  is  $\frac{dx dy}{y^2}$ ,

so that  $\text{vol}(\mathcal{L}_{d+1}(\epsilon)) \subset \int_{\substack{|x| \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ y \gg \epsilon^{-2}}} \frac{dx dy}{y^2} \ll \epsilon^2.$

Rmk. The proof for  $d > 1$  follows the same strategy, but one needs to use "parametrization" of  $\mathcal{L}_{d+1}$  by Siegel sets.

An "independence property" needed for Khinchin's Thm comes from exponential mixing on  $\mathcal{L}_{d+1} \simeq SL_{d+1}(\mathbb{Z}) \backslash SL_{d+1}(\mathbb{R})$ . (see Einsiedler's lectures).

Thm (exponential mixing)  $\forall f_1, f_2 \in C^\infty(\mathcal{L}_{d+1})$  such that

$$\int_{\mathcal{L}_{d+1}} f_1 = \int_{\mathcal{L}_{d+1}} f_2 = 0, \quad |\langle f_1 \circ a_t, f_2 \rangle| \leq \text{const.} \cdot e^{-\delta t} S(f_1) S(f_2), \quad \delta > 0,$$

where  $S(f_i)$  denote suitable Sobolev norms.

Proof of Khinchin - Geoshev Thm (2).

(7)

Let  $r(t)$  be the function defined in Lem. 1.

Then  $\sum_{n \geq t_0} r(n)^{d+1} = \infty$  and by Lemma 2, it is sufficient to show that for a.e.  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $\Lambda_x a_n \in \mathcal{L}_{d+1}(r(n))$  infinitely often.

We approximate the characteristic functions of the sets  $\mathcal{L}_{d+1}(r(n))$  by smooth functions  $f_n$  such that:

- 1)  $\{f_n \neq 0\} \subset \mathcal{L}_{d+1}(r(n))$ ,  $f_n \geq 0$ ,
- 2)  $\int_{\mathcal{L}_{d+1}} f_n \simeq \text{vol}(\mathcal{L}_{d+1}(r(n)))$ ,
- 3)  $S(f_n) \ll \int_{\mathcal{L}_{d+1}} f_n$ .

Then by 2) and Lem. 3,

$$\sum_{n \geq 1} \int_{\mathcal{L}_{d+1}} f_n = \infty.$$

We also claim that

$$\sum_{n,m=1}^N \langle f_n \cdot a_n, f_m \cdot a_m \rangle \leq \left( \sum_{n=1}^N \int_{\mathcal{L}_{d+1}} f_n \right)^2 + C \left( \sum_{n=1}^N \int_{\mathcal{L}_{d+1}} f_n \right).$$

Let  $\tilde{f}_n = f_n - \int_{\mathcal{L}_{d+1}} f_n$ . Then the claim is equivalent to

$$\sum_{n,m=1}^N \langle \tilde{f}_n \cdot a_n, \tilde{f}_m \cdot a_m \rangle \ll \sum_{n=1}^N \int_{\mathcal{L}_{d+1}} f_n.$$

Now we apply the thm on exponential mixing of the flow  $a_t$ , using that

$$S(f_n) \ll \int_{\mathcal{L}_{d+1}} f_n \ll 1.$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n,m=1}^N \langle \tilde{f}_n \cdot a_n, \tilde{f}_m \cdot a_m \rangle &= \sum_{n,m=1}^N \langle \tilde{f}_n \cdot a_{n-m}, \tilde{f}_m \rangle \\ &\ll \sum_{n,m=1}^N e^{-\delta|n-m|} S(\tilde{f}_n) S(\tilde{f}_m) \\ &\ll \sum_{1 \leq m \leq n \leq N} e^{-\delta(n-m)} \left( \int_{\mathcal{L}_{d+1}} f_n \right) \cdot 1 \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^N \underbrace{\left( \sum_{m=1}^n e^{-\delta(n-m)} \right)}_{\text{uniformly bounded}} \left( \int_{\mathcal{L}_{d+1}} f_n \right) \\ &\ll \sum_{n=1}^N \left( \int_{\mathcal{L}_{d+1}} f_n \right). \end{aligned}$$

This proves the claim.

Now for functions  $\varphi_n = f_n \cdot a_n$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \geq 1} \int_{\mathcal{L}_{d+1}} \varphi_n &= \infty, \\ \sum_{n,m=1}^N \langle \varphi_n, \varphi_m \rangle &\leq \left( \sum_{n=1}^N \int_{\mathcal{L}_{d+1}} \varphi_n \right)^2 + C \cdot \left( \sum_{n=1}^N \int_{\mathcal{L}_{d+1}} \varphi_n \right). \end{aligned}$$

As in the proof of converse of Borel-Cantelli Lemma, we deduce that for a.e.  $\Lambda \in \mathcal{L}_{d+1}$

$$\sum_{n \geq 1} \varphi_n(\Lambda) = \sum_{n \geq 1} f_n(\Lambda a_n) = \infty.$$

Since  $\{f_n \neq 0\} \subset \mathcal{L}_{d+1}(r(n))$ , this shows that for a.e.  $\Lambda$ ,  $\Lambda \cdot a_n \in \mathcal{L}_{d+1}(r(n))$  infinitely often, and for a.e.  $g \in \text{SL}_{d+1}(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $z^{d+1} g a_n \in \mathcal{L}_{d+1}(r(n))$  inf. often.



For  $g = \left( \begin{array}{c|c} Id & 0 \\ \hline x & 1 \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{c|c} A & b \\ \hline 0 & c \end{array} \right)$ , we have

$$g \cdot a_n = \left( \begin{array}{c|c} Id & 0 \\ \hline x & 1 \end{array} \right) a_n \cdot \underbrace{\left( \begin{array}{c|c} A & e^{-(d+1)n\beta} \\ \hline 0 & c \end{array} \right)}_{\text{uniformly bounded.}}$$

Hence, by Fubini Thm, for a.e.  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,

$$\underbrace{\sum_{n \geq 1}^{d+1} \left( \begin{array}{c|c} Id & 0 \\ \hline x & 1 \end{array} \right) a_n}_{\Lambda_x} \in \mathcal{L}_{d+1}(\alpha \cdot r(n)) \text{ infinitely often,}$$

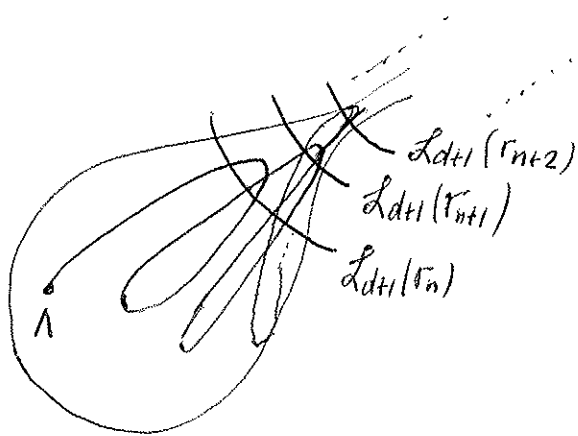
where  $\alpha > 0$  is a fixed constant.

Applying the above argument to the function  $\bar{\alpha} r(t)$ , we conclude that  $\Lambda_x a_n \in \mathcal{L}_{d+1}(r(n))$  infinitely often for a.e.  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ .

This completes the proof of the thm. }

The same argument also gives:

Dynamical Khinchin Thm. Given a sequence  $r_n \rightarrow 0^+$  such that  $\sum_{n \geq 1} r_n^{d+1} = \infty$ , for a.e.  $\Lambda \in \mathcal{L}_{d+1}$ ,  $\Lambda a_n \in \mathcal{L}_{d+1}(r_n)$  infinitely often.



Rmk. Generic orbits  $\{\Lambda a_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  are dense in  $\mathcal{L}_{d+1}$ , but at the same time they visit shrinking nbhds of infinity.