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# Erdős Rényi laws for hyperbolic dynamical systems

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## Abstract

We establish Erdős-Rényi limit laws for Lipschitz observations on a class of non-uniformly expanding dynamical systems, including logistic-like maps. These limit laws give the maximal average of a time series over a time window of logarithmic length. We also give results on the rate of convergence in the limit law.

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Key Words : Erdős-Rényi law, large deviation, non-uniformly expanding map, hyperbolic map, Gibbs measure.

## 1 Introduction

The Erdős-Rényi law was first formulated for independent and identically distributed random variables in 1970 ([6]) as follows:

**Theorem 1.1** *Let  $(X_n)_{n \geq 1}$  be an independent identically distributed (iid) sequence of non-degenerate random variables, and put  $S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n$ . Assume that the moment generating function  $\varphi(t) = Ee^{tX_1}$  exists in some interval  $U$  containing  $t = 0$ . For each  $\alpha > 0$ , define  $\psi_\alpha(t) = \varphi(t)e^{-\alpha t}$ . For those  $\alpha$  for which  $\psi_\alpha$  attains its minimum at a point  $t_\alpha \in U$ , set  $c_\alpha = -1/\log \psi_\alpha(t_\alpha)$ . Then*

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \max\{(S_{n+[c_\alpha \log N]} - S_n)/[c_\alpha \log N] : 1 \leq n \leq N - [c \log N]\} = \alpha.$$

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To appreciate the significance of the theorem suppose  $X_i$  is an iid sequence taking on the values  $\pm 1$  with equal probability and define  $\theta(N, K(N))$  by

$$\theta(N, K(N)) := \max_{0 \leq n \leq N-K(N)} \frac{S_{n+K(N)} - S_n}{K(N)}$$

$\theta(N, K(N))$  may be interpreted as the maximal average gain over a time window of length  $K(N)$ . A straightforward calculation using the strong law of large numbers shows that if  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{K(N)}{\log N} = \infty$  then  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \theta(N, K(N)) = 0$ ,  $P$  a.s. However if  $K(N) \leq c \log_2 N$  with  $0 < c < 1$  then in the limit of large  $N$  with probability one there is at least one  $n < N - K(N)$  such that  $X_{n+1} = X_{n+2} = \dots = X_{n+K(N)} = 1$  so that  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \theta(N, K(N)) = 1$   $P$  a.s. Thus in this setting of a fair game the Erdős-Rényi law gives information on the maximal average gain of a player in a fair game precisely in the case where the length of the time window ensures  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \theta(N, K(N))$  has a non-degenerate limit. As another application, Erdős and Rényi take  $X_i$  to be iid with the standard normal distribution  $N(0, 1)$  and give a simple proof of a remarkable result of Lévy [8]: if  $B(t)$  is canonical Brownian motion then

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} P(|B(t+h) - B(t)| < \lambda \sqrt{2h \log \frac{1}{h}} \text{ for } 0 \leq t \leq 1-h) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \lambda > 1; \\ 0 & \text{if } \lambda < 1. \end{cases}$$

In this note we establish Erdős-Rényi limit laws for certain non-uniformly expanding maps. We also discuss stronger versions which give rates of convergence. In the dynamical systems context such a result has first been obtained by Grigull [7] in 1993, later by Chazottes and Collet [1] for uniformly expanding maps of the interval, and for Gibbs-Markov dynamics by Denker and Kabluchko [3]. The results of Chazottes and Collet [1] also give a convergence rate (as do Deheuvels et al [5] for the independent case). The convergence rates we give may not be optimal.

## 2 Erdős-Rényi law

Suppose that  $(T, X, \mathcal{B}, \mu)$  is a probability preserving transformation and  $\varphi : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a mean-zero integrable function i.e.  $E(\varphi) := \int_X \varphi d\mu = 0$ . Let  $S_n(\varphi) := \varphi + \varphi \circ T + \dots + \varphi \circ T^{n-1}$ .

**Definition 2.1** *A mean-zero integrable function  $\varphi : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to satisfy a large deviation principle with rate function  $I(\alpha)$ , if there exists a neigh-*

neighbourhood  $U$  of 0 and a strictly convex function  $I : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , non-negative and vanishing only at  $\alpha = 0$ , such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log \mu(S_n(\varphi) \geq n\alpha) = -I(\alpha) \quad (1)$$

for all  $\alpha > 0$  in  $U$  and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log \mu(S_n(\varphi) \leq n\alpha) = -I(\alpha) \quad (2)$$

for all  $\alpha < 0$  in  $U$ .

The rate function  $I(\alpha)$  is also called the information function. Throughout this paper we will concentrate on the case  $\alpha > 0$  as the case  $\alpha < 0$  is identical with the obvious modifications of statements.

The first result is well known and may be established by an adapted proof from Grigull [7] or Denker and Kabluchko [3], for example. We give the proof for completeness.

**Proposition 2.2** *Suppose that  $\varphi$  satisfies a large deviation principle with rate function  $I$  defined on the open set  $U$ . Let  $\alpha > 0$  and set*

$$l_n = l_n(\alpha) = \left\lceil \frac{\log n}{I(\alpha)} \right\rceil \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

*Then the upper Erdős-Rényi law holds, that is*

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \max\{S_{l_n}(\varphi) \circ T^j / l_n : 0 \leq j \leq n - l_n\} \leq \alpha.$$

*Moreover, if for some constant  $C > 0$  and integer  $\tau \geq 1$  for each interval  $A$*

$$\mu\left(\bigcap_{m=0}^{n-l_n} \{S_{l_n}(\varphi) \circ T^m \in A\}\right) \leq C[\mu(S_{l_n} \in A)]^{n/(l_n)^\tau}$$

*then the lower Erdős-Rényi law holds as well, i.e.*

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \max\{S_{l_n}(\varphi) \circ T^j / l_n : 0 \leq j \leq n - l_n\} \geq \alpha.$$

**Remark 2.3** *Proposition 2.2 implies that*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \max_{0 \leq m \leq n - l_n} \frac{S_{l_n} \circ T^m}{l_n} \right] = \alpha$$

*Proof.* Let  $\alpha \in U$  and  $l_n$  be as above. We consider the case  $\alpha > 0$ . To simplify notation we write  $S_n(\varphi)$  as  $S_n$ .

Choose  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $\alpha + \epsilon \in U$ , and define

$$A_n(\epsilon) = \{x \in X : \max_{0 \leq m \leq n - l_n} S_{l_n} \circ T^m \geq (\alpha + \epsilon)l_n\}.$$

If  $0 < 2\delta < I(\alpha + \epsilon) - I(\alpha)$ , then there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for  $n > N$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(A_n(\epsilon)) &\leq n\mu(S_{l_n} \geq (\alpha + \epsilon)l_n) \\ &\leq ne^{-l_n(I(\alpha + \epsilon) - \delta)} \\ &\leq ne^{-l_n(I(\alpha) + \delta)} \\ &\leq e^{I(\alpha) + \delta} n^{-\frac{\delta}{I(\alpha)}}. \end{aligned}$$

Apply this estimate for  $n = k^p$  where  $p > \frac{I(\alpha)}{\delta}$  is an integer to obtain via the Borel-Cantelli lemma that

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \max_{0 \leq m \leq k^d - l_{k^d}} S_{l_{k^d}} \circ T^m / l_{k^d} \leq \alpha + \epsilon.$$

Replacing  $l_n$  by  $l'_n = l_n - 1$  yields

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \max_{0 \leq m \leq k^d - l'_{k^d}} S_{l'_{k^d}} \circ T^m / l_{k^d} \leq \alpha + \epsilon.$$

Now take any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Choose  $k$  such that  $(k - 1)^d < n \leq k^d$ . Then, for  $k$  large,  $l_{(k-1)^d}$  and  $l_{k^d}$  differ by at most one. Hence  $l_n = l_{k^d}$  or  $l_n = l'_{k^d}$  and therefore

$$S_{l_n} \circ T^m = S_{l_{k^d}} \quad \text{or} \quad S_{l_n} \circ T^m = S_{l'_{k^d}} \circ T^m$$

for  $0 \leq m \leq n$ . This shows that

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \max_{0 \leq m \leq n - l_n} S_{l_n} \circ T^m / l_n \leq \alpha + \epsilon.$$

Letting  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$  proves the first part of the proposition.

For the converse inequality, let  $\alpha > 0$  and choose  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $\alpha - \epsilon > 0$ . Define

$$B_n(\epsilon) = \left\{ \max_{0 \leq m \leq n-l_n} S_{l_n} \circ T^m \leq l_n(\alpha - \epsilon) \right\}.$$

Define also

$$C_m(\epsilon) = \{S_{l_n} \circ T^m \leq l_n(\alpha - \epsilon)\}.$$

Then  $B_n(\epsilon) = \bigcap_{m=0}^{n-l_n} C_m(\epsilon)$  and by assumption

$$\mu(B_n(\epsilon) \leq C \mu(S_{l_n} \leq l_n(\alpha - \epsilon)))^{n/(l_n)^\tau}.$$

Using the large deviation property for  $C_0(\epsilon)^c := X \setminus C_0(\epsilon)$ , for large  $n$  one obtains  $\mu(C_0(\epsilon)^c) \geq e^{-l_n(I(\alpha-\epsilon)+\delta_1)} \geq e^{-\frac{I(\alpha-\epsilon)}{I(\alpha)} \log n} e^{I(\alpha-\epsilon)+\delta_1 \frac{\log n}{I(\alpha)}}$ . For large  $n$  (note  $\delta_1 \rightarrow 0$  with  $n$ ) one obtains

$$1 - \mu(C_0(\epsilon)) \geq e^{-(1-\delta) \log n}.$$

for some  $0 < \delta < 1$ . Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(B_n(\epsilon)) &\leq C [1 - e^{-(1-\delta) \log n}]^{n/(l_n)^\tau} \\ &= O(\exp -n^{\delta'}). \end{aligned}$$

where  $\delta'$  is any  $0 < \delta' < \delta$ . The lower bound follows from the Borel-Cantelli lemma.

**Remark 2.4** *It is clear from the proof that to obtain the upper Erdős-Rényi law it suffices to have exponential large deviations given by a rate function, while for the lower Erdős-Rényi law it suffices to show that for every  $\epsilon > 0$  the series  $\sum_{n>0} \mu(B_n(\epsilon))$  is summable.*

### 3 One-dimensional non-uniformly expanding maps.

We now give some applications of Proposition 2.2. Melbourne and Nicol [10] have established the existence of a rate function  $I(\cdot)$  for a broad class of

non-uniformly expanding maps and non-uniformly hyperbolic systems (see also [11] for related results). For these systems the upper Erdős-Rényi law of Proposition 2.2 immediately holds for Lipschitz functions. In this section we verify the mixing condition of Proposition 2.2 to establish the lower Erdős-Rényi law for Lipschitz functions for a class of non-uniformly expanding maps. Our results in this section rely on the existence of an exponential rate function, exponential decay of correlations and a bounded derivative for  $T$ .

**Theorem 3.1** *Suppose that  $T : X \rightarrow X$  is a  $C^2$  non-uniformly expanding map of the interval  $X$  with an absolutely continuous invariant probability measure  $\mu$  satisfying exponential decay of correlations of the form: for all  $\varphi \in Lip$ ,  $\psi \in L^\infty$  we have*

$$|\int \varphi \psi \circ T^j dm - \int \varphi dm \int \psi dm| \leq C\theta^j \|\varphi\|_{Lip} \|\psi\|_\infty$$

where  $0 < \theta < 1$  and  $C$  is a constant independent of  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$ .

Then any Lipschitz observation  $\varphi : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  has exponential deviations with a rate function and the upper and lower Erdős-Rényi laws of Proposition 2.2 hold.

**Remark 3.2** (i) *Theorem 3.1 applies to the class of logistic maps  $T(x) = 1 - ax^2$  with  $a$  in the set of parameters which lead to an absolutely continuous invariant measure and exponential decay of correlations.*

(ii) *Theorem 3.1 also applies to the class of non-uniformly expanding maps of the interval modeled by a Young Tower with exponential decay of correlations considered by Collet [2].*

*Proof:*

Melbourne and Nicol [10, Theorem 2.1] have established the existence of a rate function  $I(\cdot)$  for this class of maps. The existence of a rate function implies that the upper Erdős-Rényi law of Proposition 2.2 holds. We will show that the lower Erdős-Rényi law of Proposition 2.2 also holds by showing that for every  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $\sum_{n>0} \mu(B_n(\epsilon))$  is summable (see Remark 2.4). To simplify notation we write  $S_n$  for  $S_n(\varphi)$ .

Since  $T$  is  $C^2$ ,  $|DT| < L$  for some  $L > 0$ . For  $s > 0$  define  $A_n^s = \{S_{l_n} \leq l_n(\alpha - s)\}$ . We fix  $\epsilon > 0$  and consider  $A_n^{\epsilon/2} = \{S_{l_n} \leq l_n(\alpha - \epsilon/2)\}$  and  $A_n^\epsilon = \{S_{l_n} \leq l_n(\alpha - \epsilon)\}$ .

Let  $0 < \eta < 1$ . If  $|x - y| < L^{-(1+\eta)m}$  then  $|T^m x - T^m y| < L^{-\eta m}$  from the mean-value theorem applied to  $T^m$  and the fact that  $|DT^m| < L^m$ . Thus if  $n$  is large then  $x \in A_n^\epsilon$  and  $|x - y| < L^{-(1+\eta)l_n}$  implies that  $y \in A_n^{\epsilon/2}$ .

We may approximate the indicator function  $1_{A_n^\epsilon}$  of  $A_n^\epsilon$  by a Lipschitz function  $\varphi_\epsilon$  of Lipschitz norm at most  $L^{(1+\eta)l_n}$  satisfying  $1_{A_n^\epsilon} \leq \varphi_\epsilon \leq 1$  and  $\mu(A_n^\epsilon) < \int \varphi_{A_n^\epsilon} d\mu < \mu(A_n^{\epsilon/2})$ . To do this let  $F := A_n^\epsilon$  and define  $h_1(z) = 0$  and  $h_2(z) = 1 - d(z, F)L^{-(1+\eta)l_n}$ . The fact that  $h_2$  is Lipschitz with Lipschitz constant  $L^{(1+\eta)l_n}$  is straightforward (see for example Stein [12, Section 2.1]). Thus  $\varphi_\epsilon(z) := \max\{0, (1 - d(z, F)L^{-(1+\eta)l_n})\}$  is Lipschitz with Lipschitz constant bounded by  $L^{(1+\eta)l_n}$  and support in  $A_n^{\epsilon/2}$ .

Define  $C_m(\epsilon) = \{S_{l_n} \circ T^m \leq l_n(\alpha - \epsilon)\}$  and  $B_n(\epsilon) = \bigcap_{m=0}^{n-l_n} C_m(\epsilon)$ . We use a blocking argument to take advantage of decay of correlations and intercalate by blocks of length  $(\log n)^\tau$ ,  $\tau > 1$ . We define

$$E_n^0(\epsilon) := \bigcap_{m=0}^{\lfloor (n - (\log n)^\tau) / (\log n)^\tau \rfloor} C_{m \lfloor (\log n)^\tau \rfloor}(\epsilon)$$

and in general for  $0 \leq j < \lfloor \frac{n}{(\log n)^\tau} \rfloor$

$$E_n^j(\epsilon) := \bigcap_{m=0}^{\lfloor (n - (j+1)(\log n)^\tau) / (\log n)^\tau \rfloor} C_{m \lfloor (\log n)^\tau \rfloor}(\epsilon)$$

Note that  $\mu(B_n(\epsilon)) \leq \mu(E_n^0(\epsilon))$ . For each  $j$ , let  $\psi_j$  denote the indicator function of  $E_n^j(\epsilon)$ , so that

$$\psi_j = 1_{E_n^j(\epsilon)}$$

By decay of correlations we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(E_n^0(\epsilon)) &\leq \int \varphi_\epsilon \psi_1 \circ T^{\lfloor (\log n)^\tau \rfloor} d\mu \\ &\leq C\theta^{(\log n)^\tau} \|\varphi_\epsilon\|_{Lip} \|\psi_1\|_\infty + \int \varphi_\epsilon d\mu \int \psi_1 d\mu \\ &\leq \int \varphi_\epsilon d\mu \int \psi_1 d\mu + C\theta^{(\log n)^\tau} (L^{(1+\eta)l_n}) \end{aligned}$$

Applying a Lipschitz approximation and decay of correlations again to  $\int \psi_1 d\mu$  we iterate and conclude

$$\mu(E_n^0(\epsilon)) \leq nC\theta^{(\log n)^\tau} L^{(1+\eta)l_n} + \mu(A_n^{\epsilon/2})^{n/(\log n)^\tau}$$



The term  $nC\theta^{(\log n)^\tau} L^{(1+\eta)l_n}$  is clearly summable if  $\tau > 1$ . The same argument given in the proof of Proposition 2.2 using large deviations shows that  $\mu(A_n^{\epsilon/2})^{n/(\log n)^\tau}$  is summable for all  $\tau \geq 1$  as  $\mu(A_n^{\epsilon/2}) \leq 1 - e^{\log n[\frac{I(\alpha-\epsilon)}{I(\alpha)} + \delta_1]}$  where  $\delta_1 \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  so that  $\mu(A_n^{\epsilon/2}) \leq 1 - e^{\log n(1-\rho)}$  for some  $0 < \rho < 1$ . Since the right hand side is summable for any  $\tau > 1$  the Borel-Cantelli lemma implies the result by Remark 2.4.

## 4 Rates of Convergence

In this section we refine our results to consider the rate of convergence in the Erdős-Rényi limits laws. In order to obtain rates in the Erdős-Rényi law we need stronger assumptions. In the setting of topologically mixing piecewise  $C^2$  expanding maps of the interval  $(T, I, \mu)$  Chazottes and Collet [1, Appendix A] show:

**Proposition 4.1** [1] *If  $\varphi : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is of bounded variation then*

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \max_{0 \leq m \leq n-l_n} \frac{S_{l_n} \circ T^m - l_n \alpha}{\log l_n} \leq \frac{1}{2I'(\alpha)} \quad a.e.$$

and

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \max_{0 \leq m \leq n-l_n} \frac{S_{l_n} \circ T^m - l_n \alpha}{\log l_n} \geq -\frac{1}{2I'(\alpha)} \quad a.e.$$

To prove this they use the following proposition [1, Appendix A], once again in the setting of topologically mixing piecewise  $C^2$  expanding maps of the interval  $(T, I, \mu)$ . Such maps have exponential large deviations estimates given by a rate function,  $I(\cdot)$ .

**Proposition 4.2** [1] *If  $\varphi : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is of bounded variation then there is a compact interval  $K$  of the origin and constants  $0 < c_1 < c_2$  such that for any  $\alpha \in K \setminus \{0\}$  and integer  $n \geq 1 + I'(\alpha)^{-4}$ ,*

$$\frac{c_1}{I'(\alpha)\sqrt{n}} e^{-nI(\alpha)} \leq \mu(S_n \geq n\alpha) \leq \frac{c_2}{I'(\alpha)\sqrt{n}} e^{-nI(\alpha)}$$

We now state our rate theorem,

**Theorem 4.3** *In addition to the assumptions in Proposition 2.2 we assume that the information function  $I(\cdot)$  is twice differentiable on  $U$  and the large deviation property holds uniformly in neighborhoods of  $\alpha$  for each  $\alpha \in U$ : There exists  $C \geq 1$  and  $\kappa(\varphi) \geq 0$  such that for  $\alpha \in U$*

$$(*) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\log n} [\log m(S_n \geq \alpha) e^{nI(\alpha)}] = \kappa(\varphi)$$

If  $\alpha \in U$  then

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \max_{0 \leq m \leq n - l_n} \frac{S_{l_n} \circ T^m - l_n \alpha}{\log l_n} \leq \frac{1 + \kappa}{I'(\alpha)} \quad a.e.$$

and

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \max_{0 \leq m \leq n - l_n} \frac{S_{l_n} \circ T^m - l_n \alpha}{\log l_n} \geq -\frac{\tau + 1 + \kappa}{I'(\alpha)} \quad a.e.$$

where  $\tau$  is defined in Proposition 2.2.

*Proof:*

Let  $d > \frac{1+\kappa}{I'(\alpha)}$  and choose  $\delta > 0$  with  $dI'(\alpha) - \kappa - 2\delta > 1$ . We have for all  $n$  large enough

$$\begin{aligned} & \mu \left( \max_{0 \leq m \leq n - l_n} S_{l_n} \circ T^m - l_n \alpha \geq d \log l_n \right) \\ & \leq n \mu \left( S_{l_n} \geq l_n \left( \alpha + d \frac{\log l_n}{l_n} \right) \right) \\ & \leq I(\alpha)^{-\kappa - \delta} n l_n^{\kappa + \delta} \exp \left[ -l_n \left( I \left( \alpha + d \frac{\log l_n}{l_n} \right) \right) \right] \\ & \leq I(\alpha)^{-\kappa - \delta} n l_n^{\kappa + \delta} \exp \left[ -l_n I(\alpha) - I'(\alpha) d \log l_n + \frac{1}{2} I''(\zeta) d^2 \frac{(\log l_n)^2}{l_n} \right] \\ & = O \left( l_n^{-I'(\alpha)d + \kappa + 2\delta} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $I'(\alpha)d - \kappa - 2\delta > 1$ , it follows from the Borel-Cantelli Lemma, applied to the subsequence  $q_k = [q^k]$  ( $k \geq 1$ ) where  $q > 1$ , that

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \max_{0 \leq m \leq q_k - l_{q_k}} (S_{l_{q_k}} \circ T^m - l_{q_k} \alpha) / \log l_{q_k} \leq d. \quad (3)$$

We now proceed as in the proof of Proposition 2.2. Note that  $l_{q^{k+1}} - l_{q^k}$  is bounded by a constant  $\leq \log q + 1$ . Therefore we can use the equation (3) replacing  $l_{q^k}$  by  $l_{q^k} - j$  for  $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, [1 + \log q]$ .

It follows that

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \max_{0 \leq m \leq n - l_n} (S_{l_n} \circ T^m - l_n \alpha) / \log l_n \leq d.$$

For the converse, define

$$B_n = \left\{ \max_{0 \leq m \leq n - l_n} S_{l_n} \circ T^m \leq l_n \alpha - d \log l_n \right\},$$

and

$$C_m = \{S_{l_n} \circ T^m \leq l_n \alpha - d \log l_n\} \quad m = 0, \dots, n - l_n.$$

Then  $B_n = \bigcap_{m=0}^{n-l_n} C_m$  and by assumption

$$\mu(B_n) \leq C[\mu(S_{l_n} \leq l_n \alpha - d \log l_n)]^{n/(l_n)^\tau}.$$

By the large deviation rate estimate (\*)

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - \mu(S_{l_n} \geq 1 - l_n \alpha - d \log l_n) &\geq l_n^\kappa \exp \left[ -l_n I \left( \alpha - d \frac{\log l_n}{l_n} \right) \right] \\ &= 1 - l_n^\kappa \exp \left[ -l_n \left( I(\alpha) - I'(\alpha) d \frac{\log l_n}{l_n} + \frac{1}{2} I''(\zeta) d^2 \frac{(\log l_n)^2}{l_n^2} \right) \right] \\ &\geq 1 - n^{-1} l_n^\kappa \exp [I'(\alpha) d \log l_n - \delta_n \log l_n] \\ &= 1 - n^{-1} l_n^{I'(\alpha) d + \kappa - \delta_n} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \delta_n = 0$ .

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(B_n) &\leq C \left( 1 - n^{-1} l_n^{I'(\alpha) d + \kappa - \delta_n} \right)^{n/(l_n)^\tau} \\ &= O \left( \exp \left[ -l_n^{I'(\alpha) d + \kappa - 1 - \delta_n} \right] \right), \end{aligned}$$

If  $d > \frac{\kappa + \tau + 1}{I'(\alpha)}$  then  $\sum_n \mu(B_n) < \infty$  and by the Borel Cantelli lemma we arrive at

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \max_{0 \leq m \leq n - l_n} (S_{l_n} \circ T^m - l_n \alpha) / \log l_n \geq -d.$$

## 5 Applications of Theorem 4.3

**Theorem 5.1** *Suppose that  $T : X \rightarrow X$  is a subshift of finite type with the usual symbolic metric and  $m$  is a Gibbs state corresponding to a Hölder potential. Then the conclusions of Theorem 4.3 hold (with  $\tau = 2$ ) for any Lipschitz observation  $\varphi : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .*

*Proof:*

The same proof given for  $C^2$  non-uniformly expanding maps of the interval  $X$  with exponential decay of correlations holds in this setting to establish the assumptions of Proposition 2.2 (we may take  $\tau = 2$ ). The existence of a  $\kappa(\varphi)$  such that for  $\alpha > 0$

$$\frac{1}{\log n} [\log m(S_n \geq \alpha) e^{nI(\alpha)}] = \kappa(\varphi)$$

follows from a result of Kessebohermer [9, Corollary 5.4] on large deviations for subshifts of finite type.

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