

# Limit theorems for Lévy flights on a 1D Lévy random medium

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  - The space  $\mathcal{D}$  of càdlàg functions
  - Metrics on  $\mathcal{D}$ :  $J_1$  and  $J_2$
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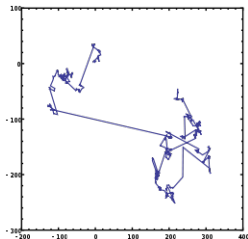
# Lévy Flights

## What is a Lévy Flight?

**Idea:** *A set of random short movements connected by infrequent longer ones.*

There are many situations which can be modeled in terms of **Lévy flights**:

- Human mobility
- Animal foraging
- Internet browsing



**More formally:** *discrete-time random walk with heavy-tailed instantaneous jumps (infinite variance).*

# Lévy Flights on random medium

## What is a Lévy random medium?

*A stochastic point process, in some space, where the distances between nearby points have heavy-tailed distributions*

- Consider a random medium in the real line: a sequence of random points  $\omega = (\omega_k, k \in \mathbb{Z})$  whose nearest-neighbor distances are i.i.d. and heavy-tailed random variables;
- Consider a random walk  $Y = (Y_n, n \in \mathbb{N})$  which takes place on  $\omega$ .
- $Y \Leftrightarrow$  **Lévy flight on a 1D Lévy random medium**

# Stable distributions

## Definition ( $\alpha$ -stable distribution)

The distribution of a non-degenerate random variable  $W^{(\alpha)}$  is  $\alpha$ -stable if there exist constants  $a_n > 0$  and  $b_n$  such that for any  $n \geq 2$ , if  $W_1^{(\alpha)}, W_2^{(\alpha)}, \dots$  are independent random variables distributed like  $W^{(\alpha)}$  and  $S_n := \sum_{i=1}^n W_i^{(\alpha)}$ , then

$$\frac{S_n - b_n}{a_n} \stackrel{d}{=} W^{(\alpha)}, \quad \alpha \in (0, 2]. \quad (1)$$

- ▷  $a_n = n^{1/\alpha}$  for some  $\alpha \in (0, 2]$ ;
- ▷ if  $\alpha \in (1, 2]$ ,  $W^{(\alpha)}$  has **finite mean**
- ▷ The case  $\alpha = 2$  corresponds to the **Gaussian distribution**
- ▷ Stable laws have power tails such as

$$\mathbb{P}(W^{(\alpha)} > x) \sim C_\alpha x^{-\alpha} \quad x \rightarrow +\infty, \quad \alpha \in (0, 2). \quad (2)$$

## Definition (Normal domain of attraction of an $\alpha$ -stable distribution)

A random variable  $\xi$  belongs to the *normal domain of attraction of an  $\alpha$ -stable distribution* if there exist constants  $c_n > 0$  and  $b_n$  such that

$$\frac{S_n - b_n}{c_n} \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow +\infty]{d} W^{(\alpha)}, \quad (3)$$

where  $S_n := \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i$  is a sum of i.i.d copies of  $\xi$  and  $W^{(\alpha)}$  is an  $\alpha$ -stable random variable.

- If  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  then <sup>1</sup>

$$\frac{S_n}{n^{1/\alpha}} \xrightarrow{d} W^{(\alpha)}. \quad (4)$$

- If  $\alpha \in (1, 2)$  then

$$\frac{S_n - n\mathbb{E}(\xi)}{n^{1/\alpha}} \xrightarrow{d} W^{(\alpha)} \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{S_n}{n} \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \mathbb{E}(\xi). \quad (6)$$

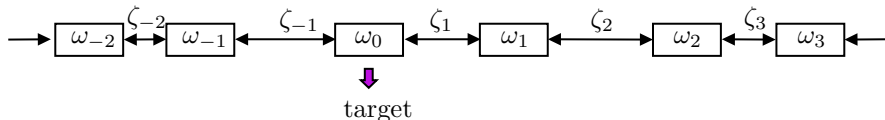
<sup>1</sup>Feller [3, Theorem XVII.5.3]

# The Model: Lévy-Lorentz gas (Barkai, Fleurov, Klafter [00])

## Random medium $\omega$

- ▶ Let  $\zeta = (\zeta_j, j \in \mathbb{Z})$  be a sequence of i.i.d. positive random variables;
- ▶ assume that  $\zeta$  belongs to the normal domain of attraction of a  $\beta$ -stable distribution, with  $0 < \beta < 2$ ;
- ▶ Define the point process associated to  $(\zeta_j, j \in \mathbb{Z})$  as:

$$\omega_0 := 0, \quad \omega_k := \begin{cases} \sum_{i=1}^k \zeta_i & \text{if } k > 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } k = 0, \\ -\sum_{i=k}^{-1} \zeta_i & \text{if } k < 0. \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

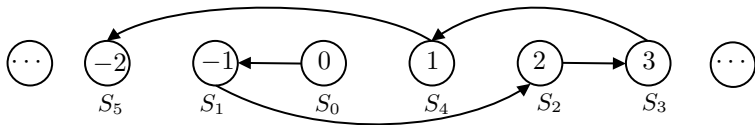


# The Model

## Underlying random walk $S$

- ▶ Let  $\xi = (\xi_i, i \in \mathbb{N})$  be a sequence of i.i.d. random variables;
- ▶ assume that  $\xi_i$  belongs to the normal domain of attraction of a  $\alpha$ -stable distribution, with  $0 < \alpha < 2$ ;
- ▶ define the underlying random walk associated to  $(\xi_i, i \in \mathbb{N})$  as:

$$S_0 := 0, \quad S_n := \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i \quad \text{for } n \in \mathbb{N}^+. \quad (8)$$



$$\xi_i = S_i - S_{i-1}$$

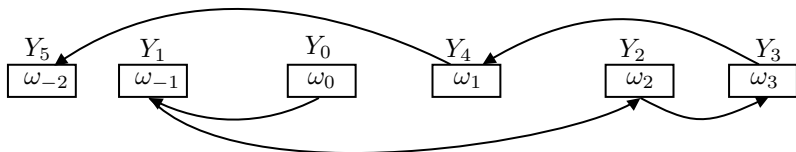


# The Model

**Random walk on the point process:**  $Y = (Y_n, n \in \mathbb{N})$ , where

$$Y_n := \omega_{S_n} \equiv \omega \circ S(n), \quad n \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (9)$$

- ▶  $Y_n$  performs the same jumps as  $S_n$ , but on the points of  $\omega$ .
- ▶ if  $S = (0, -1, 2, 3, 1, -2, \dots)$  is a realization of the underlying random walk, the corresponding random walk on the point process will be  $Y = (\omega_0, \omega_{-1}, \omega_2, \omega_3, \omega_1, \omega_{-2}, \dots)$ .



# Processes that arise from $\omega_n$ and $S_n$

According to the domain of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  we define the following rescaled processes: for  $s, t \geq 0$

- $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  :

$$\hat{S}^{(n)}(t) := \frac{S_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n^{1/\alpha}}$$

- $\alpha \in (1, 2)$  :

$$\bar{S}^{(n)}(t) := \frac{S_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n}$$

- $\beta \in (0, 1)$  :

$$\hat{\omega}^{(n)}(s) := \frac{\omega_{\lfloor ns \rfloor}}{n^{1/\beta}}$$

- $\beta \in (1, 2)$  :

$$\bar{\omega}^{(n)}(s) := \frac{\omega_{\lfloor ns \rfloor}}{n}$$

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## GOAL

convergence in distribution of

$$1) \frac{Y_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n^{1/\alpha}} = \bar{\omega}^{(n)} \circ \hat{S}^{(n)}, \alpha \in (0, 1), \beta \in (1, 2)$$

$$2) \frac{Y_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n} = \bar{\omega}^{(n)} \circ \bar{S}^{(n)}, \alpha \in (1, 2), \beta \in (1, 2)$$

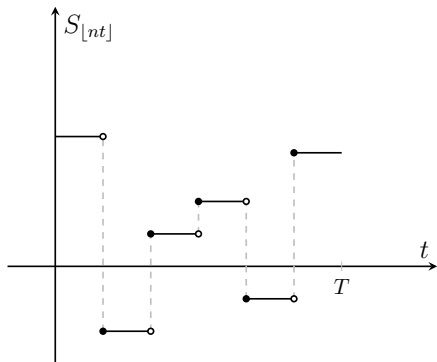
$$3) \frac{Y_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n^{1/\beta}} = \hat{\omega}^{(n)} \circ \bar{S}^{(n)}, \alpha \in (1, 2), \beta \in (0, 1)$$

$$4) \frac{Y_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n^{1/\alpha\beta}} = \hat{\omega}^{(n)} \circ \hat{S}^{(n)}, \alpha \in (0, 1), \beta \in (0, 1)$$

$$\left( \frac{Y_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n^\gamma}, t \in [0, +\infty) \right) \xrightarrow{d} ?$$

# Space $\mathcal{D}$ of càdlàg functions

We denote by  $\mathcal{D}([a, b]) = \mathcal{D}([a, b], \mathbb{R})$  the space of functions  $f : [a, b] \mapsto \mathbb{R}$  which are continuous from the right at every point and such that  $\lim_{s \rightarrow t^-} f(s)$  exists for all  $t \in [a, b]$  (**c**à**d**l**à**g=**c**ontinu **à** droite, limites **à** gauche)



## Notation:

- $\mathcal{D} := \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$ ;
- $\mathcal{D}^+ := \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R}^+, \mathbb{R})$ ;

The space  $\mathcal{D}$  includes all continuous functions

# Metrics on $\mathcal{D}$ : the idea of $J_1$

*Functions are close if they are uniformly close after allowing continuous small perturbations of time (the function argument).*

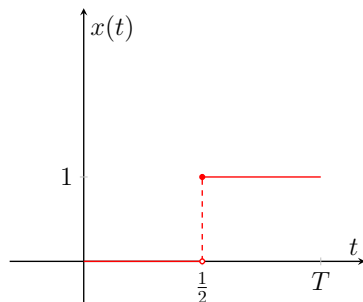
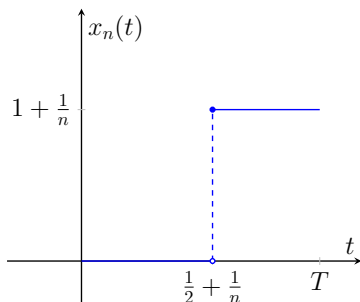
**Example:** Consider

- $x_n(t) = (1+n^{-1}) \mathbb{1}_{[2^{-1}+n^{-1}, T]}(t)$

- $x(t) = \mathbb{1}_{[2^{-1}, T]}(t)$

$$x_n \rightarrow x \quad \text{in } (\mathcal{D}^+, J_1) \quad (10)$$

$$\|x_n - x\|_\infty \not\rightarrow 0 \quad (11)$$



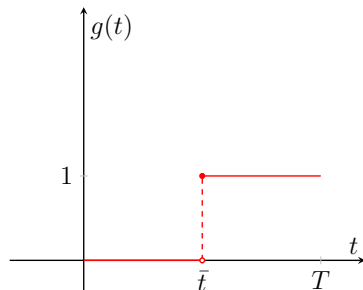
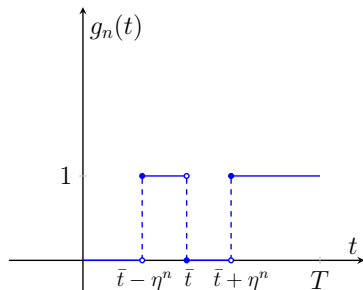
# Metrics on $\mathcal{D}$ : the idea of $J_2$

*Functions are close if they are uniformly close after allowing small perturbations of time, not necessarily continuous.*

**Example:** For  $\bar{t} \in [0, T]$  and  $\eta \in (0, 1)$  consider

$$\bullet g_n(t) = \mathbb{1}_{[\bar{t}-\eta^n, \bar{t})}(t) + \mathbb{1}_{[\bar{t}+\eta^n, T]}(t) \quad g_n \rightarrow g \text{ in } (\mathcal{D}^+, J_2) \quad (12)$$

$$\bullet g(t) = \mathbb{1}_{[\bar{t}, T]}(t) \quad g_n \not\rightarrow g \text{ in } (\mathcal{D}^+, J_1) \quad (13)$$



# Formal definition of $J_1$ and $J_2$

## Definition

Let  $\{f_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ ,  $f$  be càdlàg functions defined on a closed interval  $[0, T]$ . The sequence  $f_n$  is said to converge to  $f$  in the  $J_1$  (respectively  $J_2$ ) Skorokhod topology if there exists a sequence of homeomorphisms (respectively bijections)  $\lambda_n : [0, T] \mapsto [0, T]$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{t \in [0, T]} |f_n \circ \lambda_n(t) - f(t)| = 0, \quad (14)$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{t \in [0, T]} |\lambda_n(t) - t| = 0. \quad (15)$$

$$U > J_1 > J_2$$

# Processes that arise from $\omega_n$ and $S_n$

For  $t, s \geq 0$

- $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  :

$$\hat{S}^{(n)}(t) := \frac{S_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n^{1/\alpha}}$$

- $\alpha \in (1, 2)$  :

$$\bar{S}^{(n)}(t) := \frac{S_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n}$$

- $\beta \in (0, 1)$  :

$$\hat{\omega}^{(n)}(s) := \frac{\omega_{\lfloor ns \rfloor}}{n^{1/\beta}}$$

- $\beta \in (1, 2)$  :

$$\bar{\omega}^{(n)}(s) := \frac{\omega_{\lfloor ns \rfloor}}{n}$$

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$$2) \frac{Y_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n} = \bar{\omega}^{(n)} \circ \bar{S}^{(n)}, \alpha \in (1, 2), \beta \in (1, 2)$$

$$3) \frac{Y_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n^{1/\beta}} = \hat{\omega}^{(n)} \circ \bar{S}^{(n)}, \alpha \in (1, 2), \beta \in (0, 1)$$

$$4) \frac{Y_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n^{1/\alpha\beta}} = \hat{\omega}^{(n)} \circ \hat{S}^{(n)}, \alpha \in (0, 1), \beta \in (0, 1)$$

$$\left( \frac{Y_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n^\gamma}, t \in [0, +\infty) \right) \xrightarrow{d} ?$$



# Results

Define

- $\mu := \mathbb{E}(\xi)$  when  $\alpha \in (1, 2)$
- $\nu := \mathbb{E}(\zeta)$  when  $\beta \in (1, 2)$

**Theorem (A.Bianchi, G.Bet, M.Lenci, E.M, S.Stivanello)**

Let  $\beta \in (1, 2)$ . Assume  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  or  $\alpha \in (1, 2)$  and  $\mu = 0$ . Define, for every  $t \geq 0$

$$\hat{Y}^{(n)}(t) := \bar{\omega}^{(n)} \circ \hat{S}^{(n)}(t) = \frac{Y_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n^{1/\alpha}}. \quad (16)$$

Then

$$\hat{Y}^{(n)} \xrightarrow{d} \nu W^{(\alpha)} \quad \text{in } (\mathcal{D}^+, \mathcal{J}_1), \quad (17)$$

where  $W^{(\alpha)}$  is an  $\alpha$ -stable process with  $W^{(\alpha)}(0) = 0$ .

- $\hat{S}^{(n)}(\cdot) := \frac{S_{\lfloor n \cdot \rfloor}}{n^{1/\alpha}}$
- $\bar{\omega}^{(n)}(\cdot) := \frac{\omega_{\lfloor n \cdot \rfloor}}{n}$
- $\hat{S}^{(n)} \xrightarrow{d} W^{(\alpha)} \quad \text{in } (\mathcal{D}^+, \mathcal{J}_1)$
- $\bar{\omega}^{(n)} \xrightarrow{a.s.} \nu \text{id} \quad \text{in } (\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{J}_1)$

### Theorem (A.Bianchi, G.Bet, M.Lenci, E.M, S.Stivanello)

Assume  $\beta \in (1, 2)$ ,  $\alpha \in (1, 2)$  and  $\mu \neq 0$ , and define, for every  $t \geq 0$ ,

$$\bar{Y}^{(n)}(t) := \bar{\omega}^{(n)} \circ \bar{S}^{(n)}(t) = \frac{Y_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n}. \quad (18)$$

Then

$$\bar{Y}^{(n)} \xrightarrow{d} \nu \mu \text{id} \quad \text{in } (\mathcal{D}^+, \mathcal{J}_1). \quad (19)$$

- $\bar{S}^{(n)}(\cdot) := \frac{S_{\lfloor n \cdot \rfloor}}{n}$

- $\bar{\omega}^{(n)}(\cdot) := \frac{\omega_{\lfloor n \cdot \rfloor}}{n}$

- $\bar{S}^{(n)} \xrightarrow{a.s} \mu \text{id} \quad \text{in } (\mathcal{D}^+, \mathcal{J}_1)$

- $\bar{\omega}^{(n)} \xrightarrow{a.s} \nu \text{id} \quad \text{in } (\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{J}_1)$

$\alpha \in (1, 2), \beta \in (0, 1)$ :

- $\bar{S}^{(n)} \xrightarrow{a.s} \mu_{id}$  in  $(\mathcal{D}^+, J_1)$
- $\hat{\omega}^{(n)} \xrightarrow{d} Z^{(\beta)}$  in  $(\mathcal{D}, J_1)$

$\alpha \in (1, 2), \beta \in (0, 1)$ :

- $\bar{S}^{(n)} \xrightarrow{a.s} \mu \text{id}$  in  $(\mathcal{D}^+, J_1)$
- $\hat{\omega}^{(n)} \xrightarrow{d} Z^{(\beta)}$  in  $(\mathcal{D}, J_1)$

**Theorem (A.Bianchi, G.Bet, M.Lenci, E.M, S.Stivanello)**

Let  $\beta \in (0, 1)$  and  $\alpha \in (1, 2)$  with  $\mu > 0$ . Define, for every  $t \geq 0$

$$\hat{Y}^{(n)}(t) := \hat{\omega}^{(n)} \circ \bar{S}^{(n)}(t) = \frac{Y_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n^{1/\beta}} \quad (20)$$

Then, the following convergence holds with respect to the  $J_2$  Skorokhod topology

$$\hat{Y}^{(n)} \xrightarrow{d} \mu^{1/\beta} Z^{(\beta)} \quad \text{in } (\mathcal{D}^+, J_2). \quad (21)$$

### Theorem (A.Bianchi, G.Bet, M.Lenci, E.M, S.Stivanello)

Let  $\beta \in (0, 1)$  and  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  or  $\alpha \in (1, 2)$  and  $\mu = 0$ . Define, for every  $t \geq 0$ ,

$$\hat{Y}^{(n)}(t) := \hat{\omega}^{(n)} \circ \hat{S}^{(n)}(t) = \frac{Y_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n^{1/\alpha\beta}}, \quad (22)$$

and let  $W^{(\alpha)}$  be a Lévy  $\alpha$ -stable process with  $W^{(\alpha)}(0) = 0$ . Then the finite dimensional distributions of  $\hat{Y}^{(n)}$  converge to those of  $Z^{(\beta)} \circ W^{(\alpha)}$ , that is, for any  $m \in \mathbb{N}^+$ ,  $t_1, \dots, t_m \in \mathbb{R}^+$

$$(\hat{Y}^{(n)}(t_1), \dots, \hat{Y}^{(n)}(t_m)) \xrightarrow{d} (Z^{(\beta)}(W^{(\alpha)}(t_1)), \dots, Z^{(\beta)}(W^{(\alpha)}(t_m))), \quad (23)$$

- $\hat{S}^{(n)}(\cdot) := \frac{S_{\lfloor n \cdot \rfloor}}{n^{1/\alpha}}$
- $\hat{\omega}^{(n)}(\cdot) := \frac{\omega_{\lfloor n \cdot \rfloor}}{n^{1/\beta}}$
- $\hat{S}^{(n)} \xrightarrow{d} W^{(\alpha)} \quad \text{in } (\mathcal{D}^+, \mathcal{J}_1)$
- $\hat{\omega}^{(n)} \xrightarrow{d} Z^{(\beta)} \quad \text{in } (\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{J}_1)$

## Theorem (A.Bianchi, G.Bet, M.Lenci, E.M, S.Stivanello)

Let  $\alpha, \beta \in (1, 2)$  with  $\mu > 0$  and  $\bar{Y}^{(n)}(t) := \bar{\omega}^{(n)} \circ \bar{S}^{(n)}(t) = \frac{Y_{[nt]}}{n}$ .

1 When  $\alpha < \beta$

$$\frac{n(\bar{Y}^{(n)} - \nu\mu \text{id})}{n^{1/\alpha}} \xrightarrow{d} \nu W^{(\alpha)} \quad \text{in } (\mathcal{D}^+, \mathcal{J}_1), \quad (24)$$

2 When  $\alpha > \beta$  we have

$$\frac{n(\bar{Y}^{(n)} - \nu\mu \text{id})}{n^{1/\beta}} \xrightarrow{d} \mu^{1/\beta} Z^{(\beta)} \quad \text{in } (\mathcal{D}^+, \mathcal{J}_2), \quad (25)$$

3 When  $\alpha = \beta$  we have

$$\frac{n(\bar{Y}^{(n)} - \nu\mu \text{id})}{n^{1/\alpha}} \xrightarrow{d} \mu^{1/\alpha} Z^{(\alpha)} + \nu W^{(\alpha)} \quad \text{in } (\mathcal{D}^+, \mathcal{J}_2), \quad (26)$$

with  $Z^{(\alpha)}$ ,  $W^{(\alpha)}$  independent  $\alpha$ -stable processes.

# Conclusions

- $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  :

$$\hat{S}^{(n)}(\cdot) := \frac{S_{\lfloor n\cdot \rfloor}}{n^{1/\alpha}}$$

- $\alpha \in (1, 2)$  :

$$\bar{S}^{(n)}(\cdot) := \frac{S_{\lfloor n\cdot \rfloor}}{n}$$

- $\beta \in (0, 1)$  :

$$\hat{\omega}^{(n)}(\cdot) := \frac{\omega_{\lfloor n\cdot \rfloor}}{n^{1/\beta}}$$

- $\beta \in (1, 2)$  :

$$\bar{\omega}^{(n)}(\cdot) := \frac{\omega_{\lfloor n\cdot \rfloor}}{n}$$

## Results:

$$1) \frac{Y_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n^{1/\alpha}} = \bar{\omega}^{(n)} \circ \hat{S}^{(n)} \xrightarrow{d} \nu W^{(\alpha)} \text{ in } (\mathcal{D}^+, J_1)$$

$$2) \frac{Y_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n} = \bar{\omega}^{(n)} \circ \bar{S}^{(n)} \xrightarrow{d} \nu \mu \text{id in } (\mathcal{D}^+, J_1)$$

$$3) \frac{Y_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n^{1/\beta}} = \hat{\omega}^{(n)} \circ \bar{S}^{(n)} \xrightarrow{d} \mu^{1/\beta} Z^{(\beta)} \text{ in } (\mathcal{D}^+, J_2)$$

$$4) \frac{Y_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{n^{1/\alpha\beta}} = (\hat{\omega}^{(n)} \circ \hat{S}^{(n)}(t_1), \dots, \hat{\omega}^{(n)} \circ \hat{S}^{(n)}(t_m)) \xrightarrow{d} (Z^{(\beta)}(W^{(\alpha)}(t_1)), \dots, Z^{(\beta)}(W^{(\alpha)}(t_m))),$$

**Preprint:** S.Stivanello, G.Bet, A.Bianchi, M.Lenci, E.M

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