

Rare Events Modeling for Linear Estimation and Control

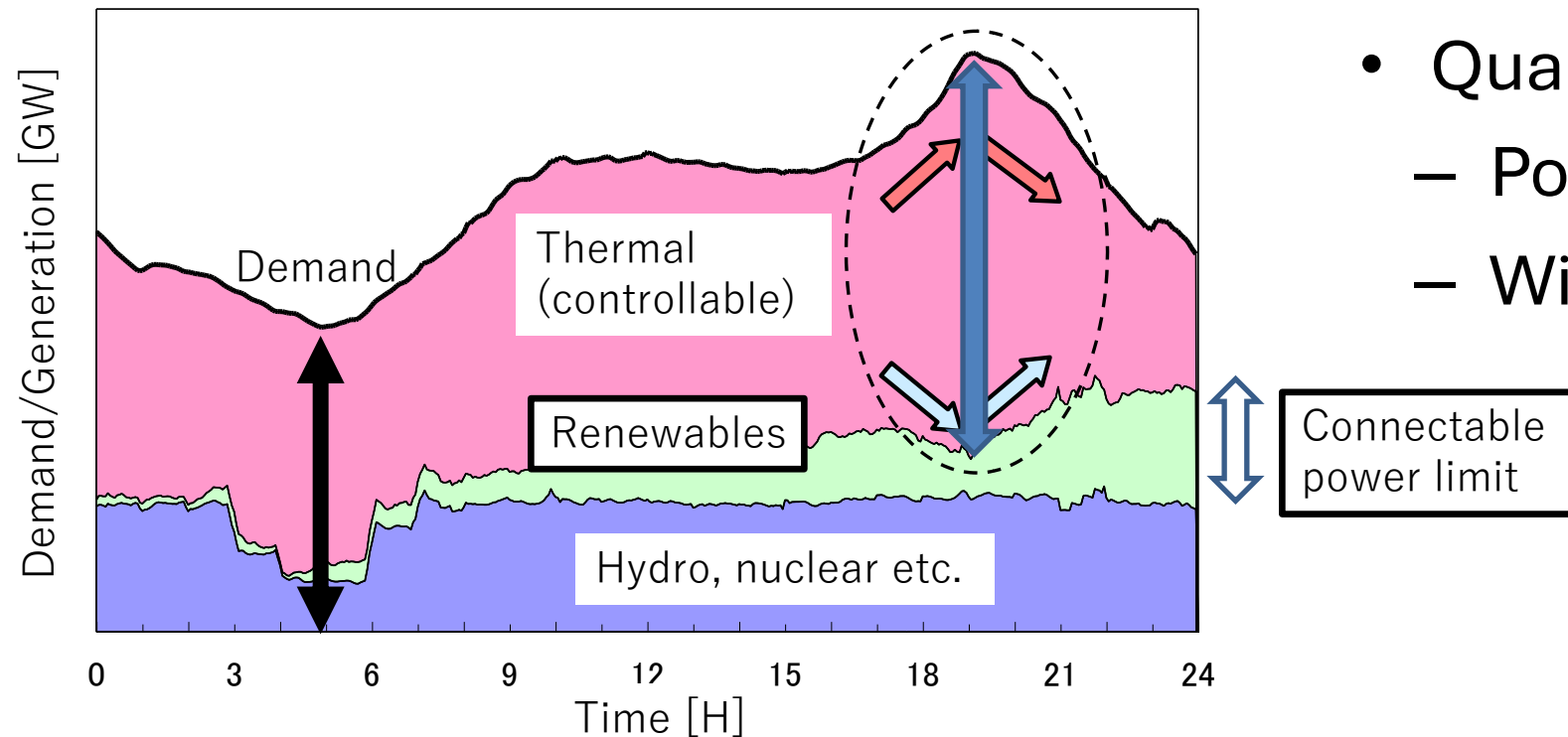
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SSS'21 Tutorial Seminar

- Stable power supply under the widely introduced renewable energies
 - Evaluating the impact of wind power fluctuation on power system quality

Motivation: Renewables are uncontrollable

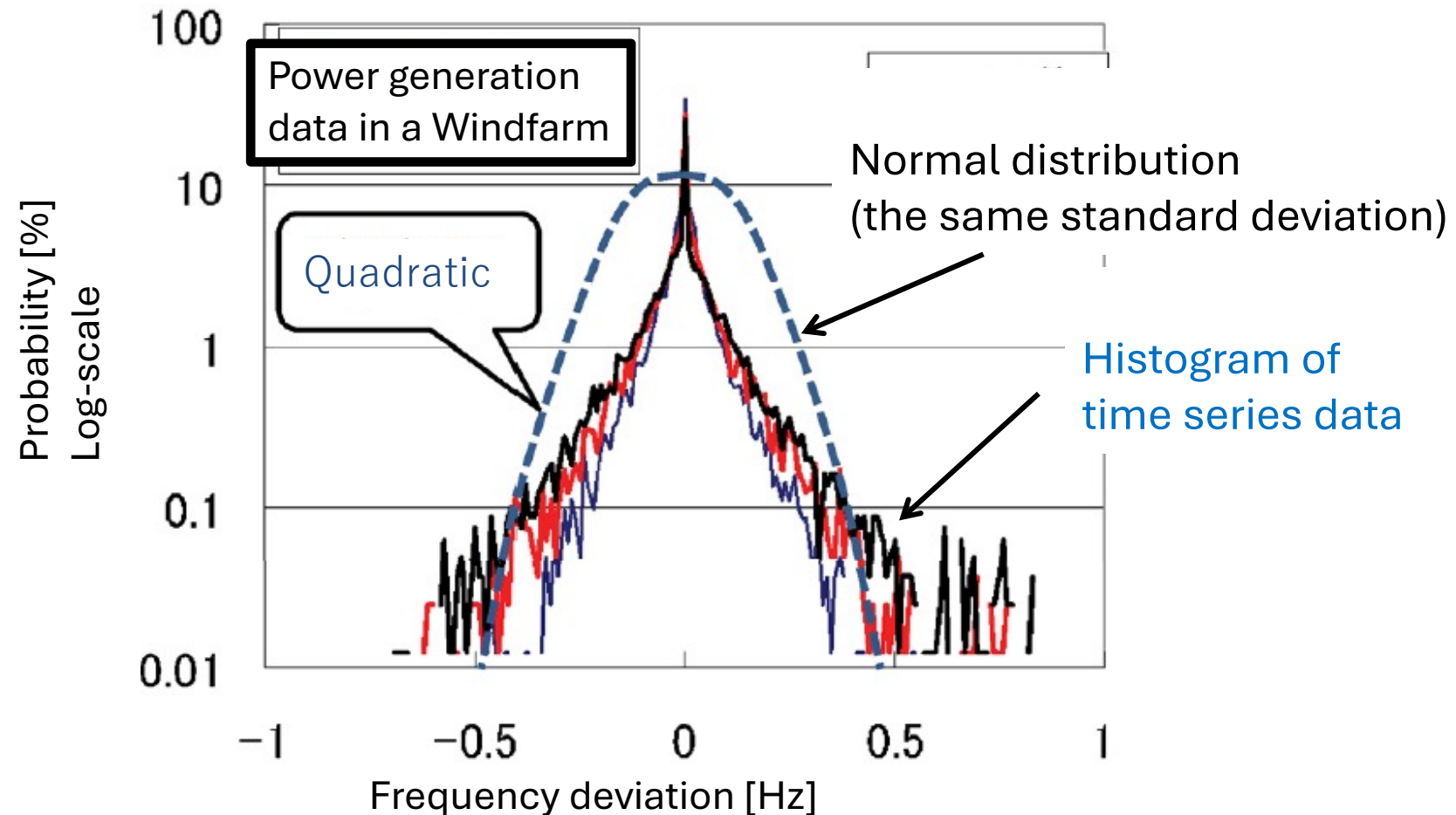
- Long-term (>20 [min])
 - Thermal unit output may reach its upper/lower limit
- Short-term ($1 \sim 20$ [min])
 - Thermal output change speed may reach its limit.



- Quantification required
 - Power plant dynamics
 - Wind power uncertainty

Motivation: Extremum event

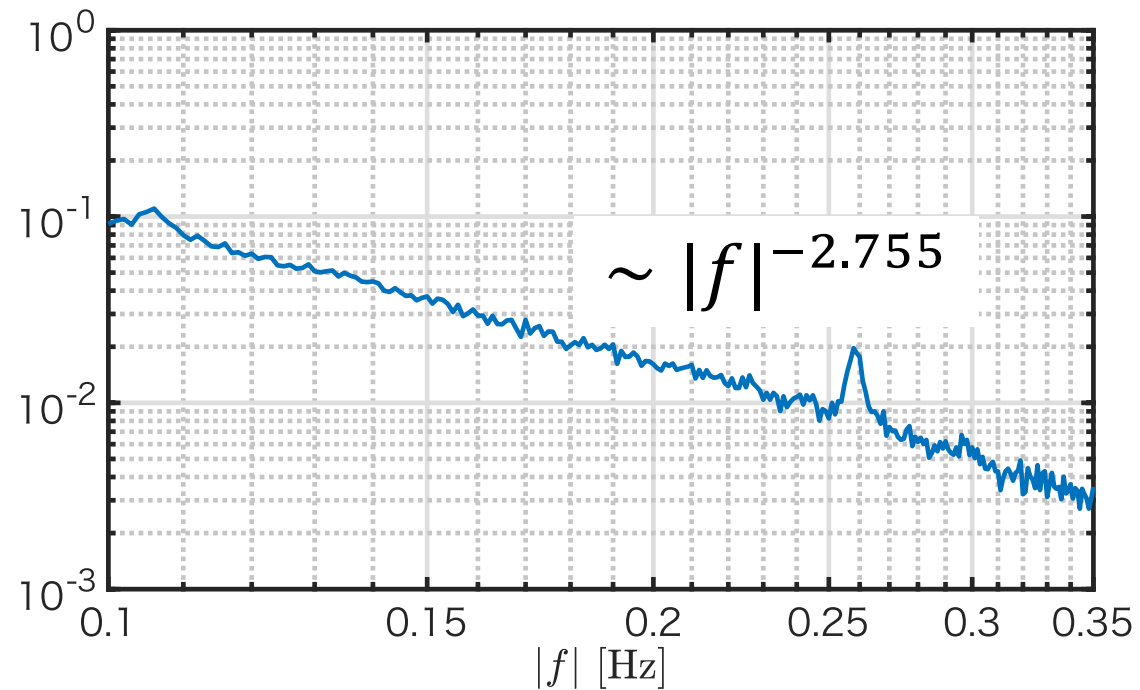
- The fluctuation of wind power generation is usually small, but it becomes extremely large due to the occurrence of gusts and turbulence



Motivation: Power law

- Power law (a.k.a. scale-free property)
 - linear in log-log scale

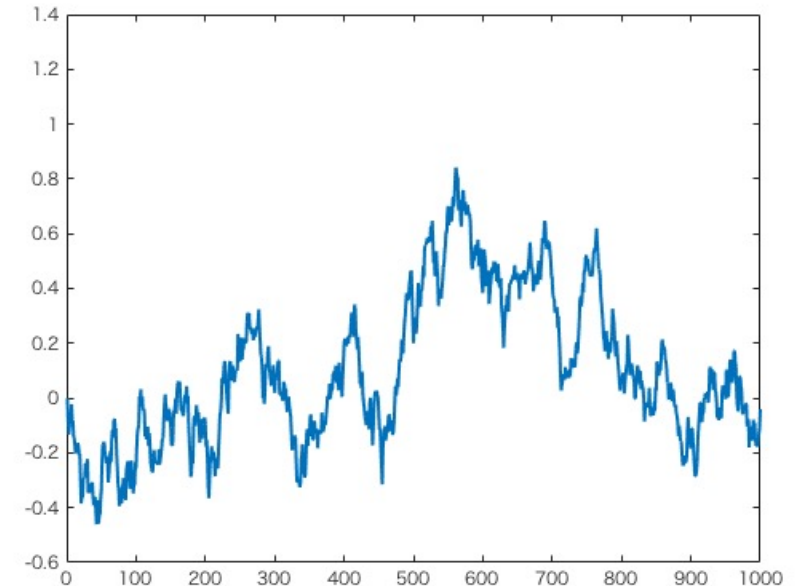
Frequency deviation histogram of PS interconnected with wind power



- **Gaussian distribution revisited**
 - **Affinity to linear systems, its limitation and generalization**
- Key theoretical results
 - Linear system analysis and equivalent linearization
- New application
 - Control systems privacy
- Sparsity VS rare events
 - Sparse optimal stochastic control

Rationale: Emergence of Gaussianity

- Central Limit Theorem
 - Average of independent random variables **having finite variance** converges to a Gaussian.
- Wiener process
 - If a stochastic process is **almost continuous i.i.d. increment**, then it is a Wiener process.



- Simple density function characterized only by two parameters
 - $\varphi(x) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$, σ : SD, μ : mean
- Simple expression for characteristic function
 - $\mathbb{E}[\exp(-i\omega x)] = \exp(i\mu\omega - \sigma^2\omega^2)$
- Superposition principle
 - Gaussian r.v. + Gaussian r.v. = Gaussian r.v.
- Conjugation (closed under Bayes estimation), to list a few

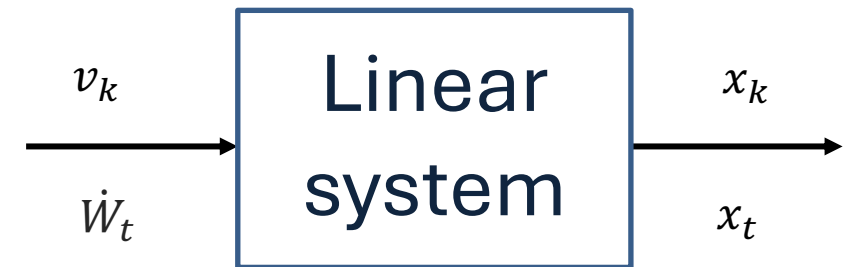
- If the input signal is i.i.d. Gaussian, the output signal of linear systems are Gaussian.

- Discrete-time case

- $x_{k+1} = Ax_k + Bv_k$, $v_k \sim$ i.i.d. Gaussian
- $x_k, \forall k$ and stationary distributions are Gaussian

- Continuous-time case

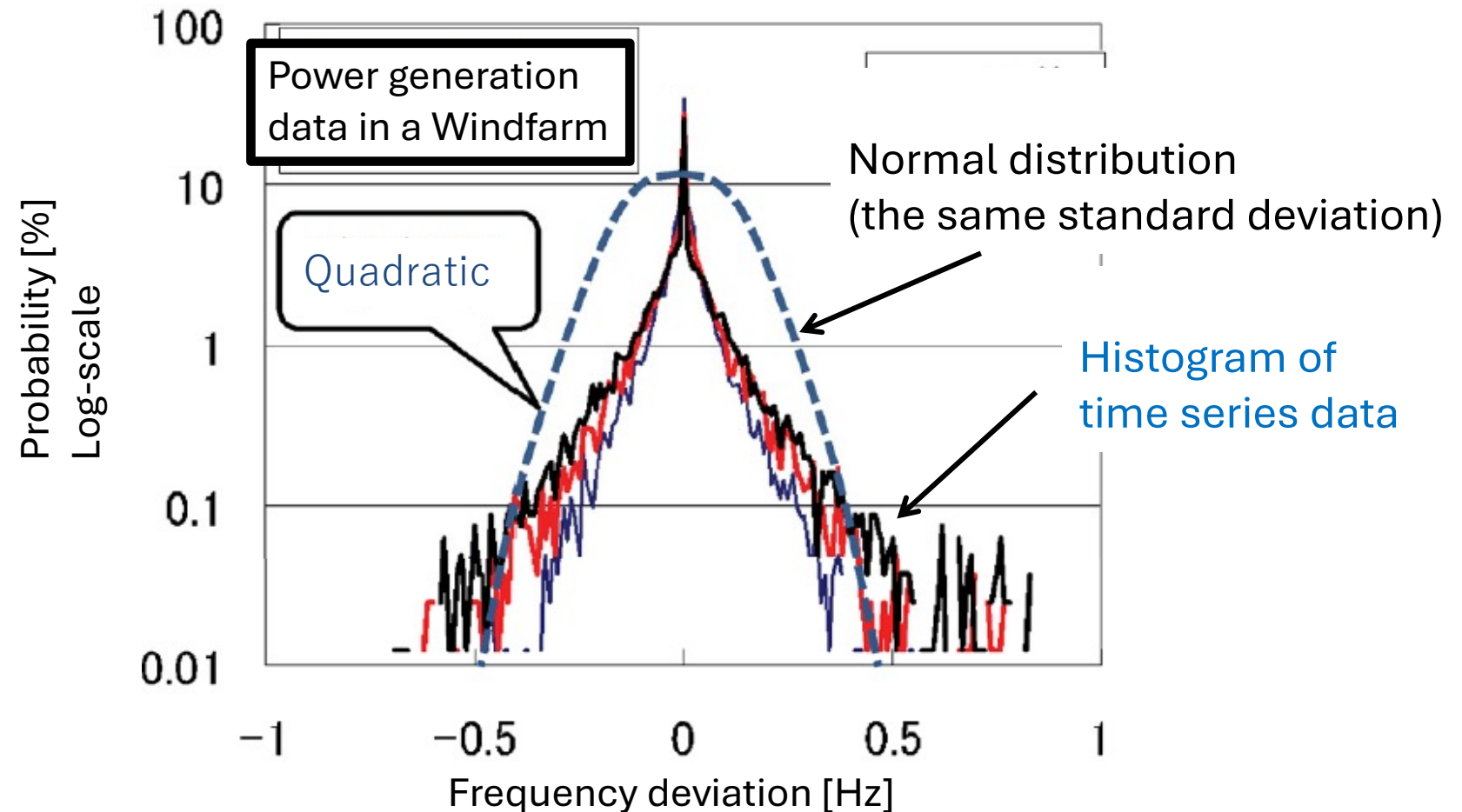
- $dx_t = Ax_t dt + BdW_t$, W_t : Wiener process
- $x_t, \forall t$ and stationary distributions are Gaussian



Limitation: Quickly decaying tails

- Density function decays in a square exponential manner.
 - Large variance does not imply heavy tail.

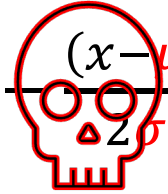
$$\varphi(x) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$



Generalization: α -Stable distribution $x \sim S_\alpha(\mu, \sigma)$

- Simple density function characterized only by two parameters (**Gaussian if $\alpha = 2$**)

- $\varphi(x) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$, σ : SD, μ : mean **three**



- Simple expression for characteristic function

- $E[\exp(-i\omega x)] = \exp(i\mu\omega - \sigma^\alpha |\omega|^\alpha)$

- Central Limit Theorem

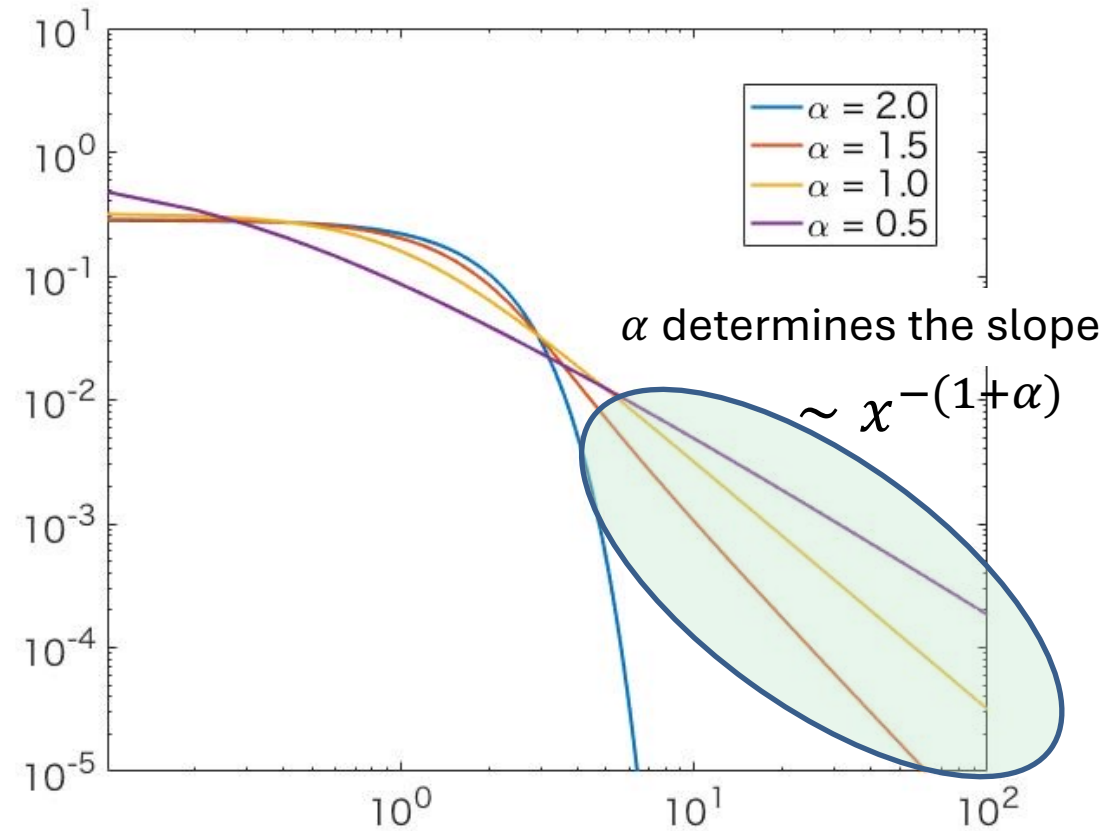
- Average of independent random variables

having finite variance converges to a **stable** distribution.

- “Stable” has nothing to do with “dynamical stability”.

Stable distribution $x \sim S_\alpha(\mu, \sigma)$

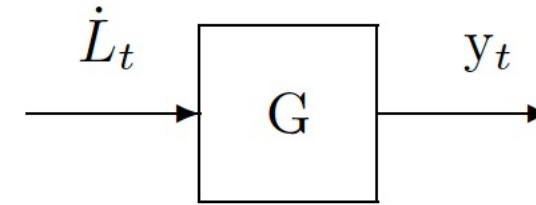
- Tails of density functions follow power law.
 - Suitable for dealing with rare events
- Superposition principle
 - Affinity to linear systems
- Careful mathematical treatment
 - Unbounded variance, etc



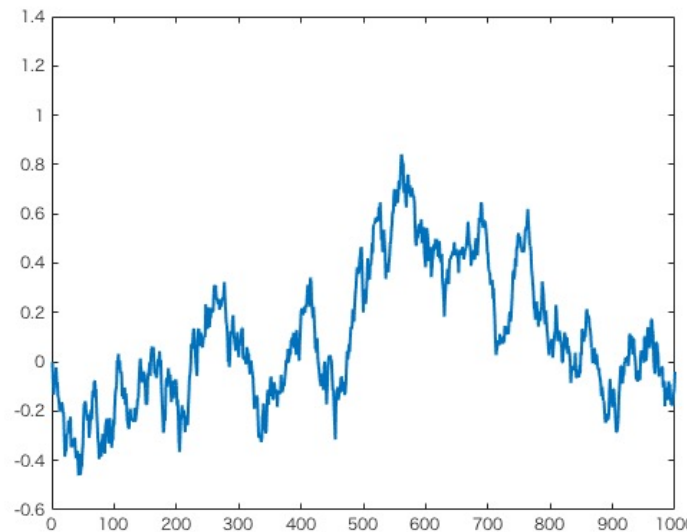
Log-log plot of pdf

Stable process

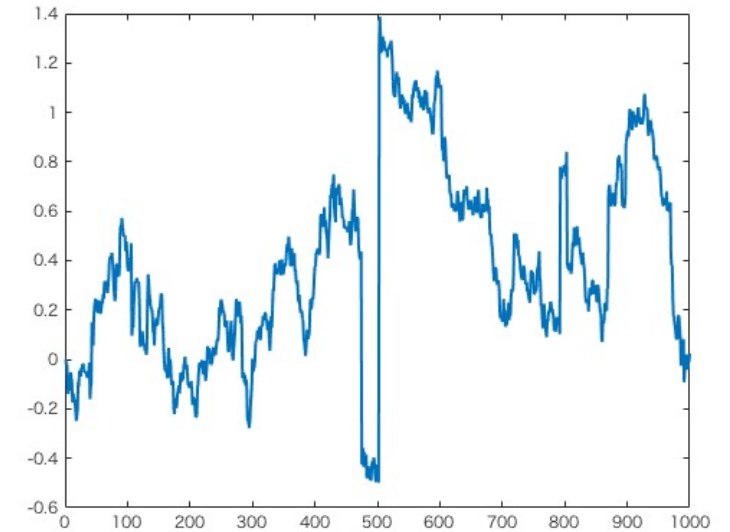
- Wiener process: $W_t \sim N(0, \sqrt{t})$
 - Scale (variance) = time t
- Stable process: $L_t \sim S_\alpha(0, t^{1/\alpha})$
 - Scale = $t^{2/\alpha}$



Sample paths



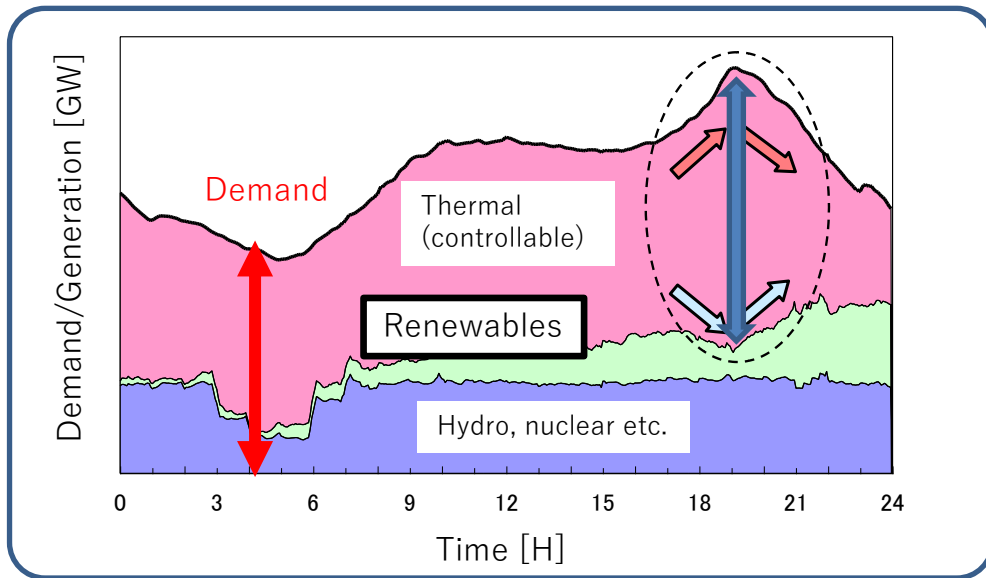
$\alpha = 2$



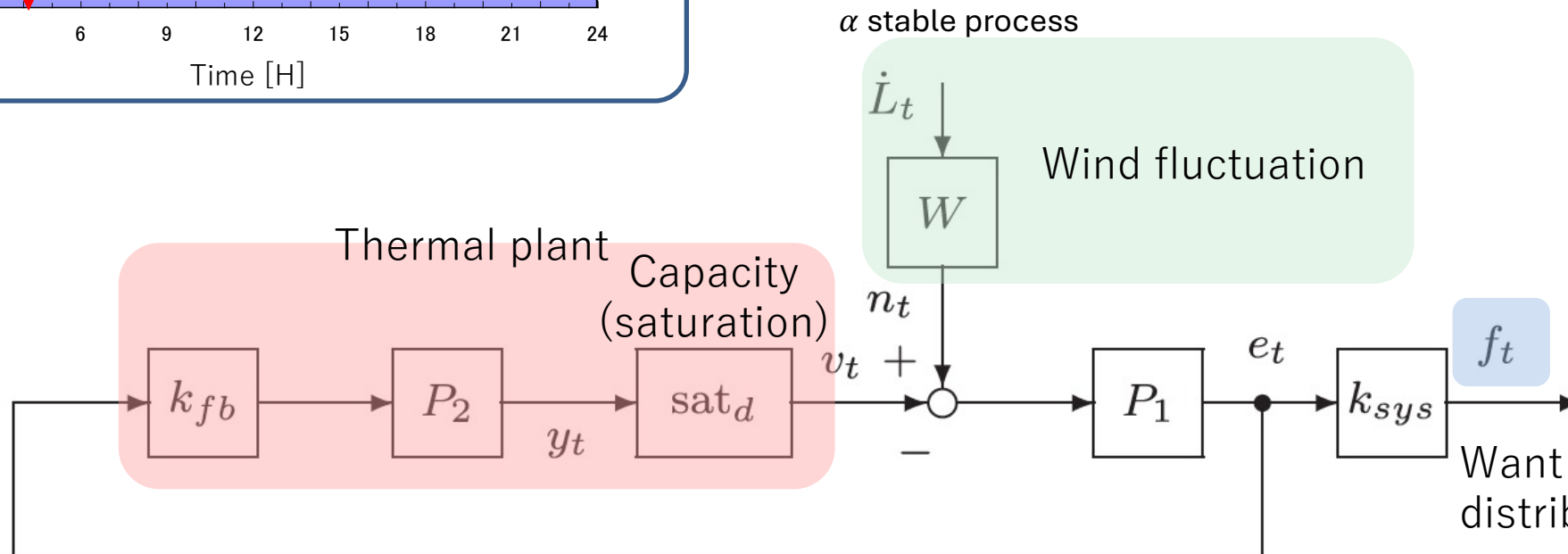
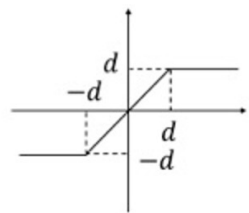
$\alpha = 1.9$

- Gaussian distribution revisited
 - Affinity to linear systems, its limitation and generalization
- **Key theoretical results**
 - **Linear system analysis and equivalent linearization**
- New application
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Modeling example revisited: Power network



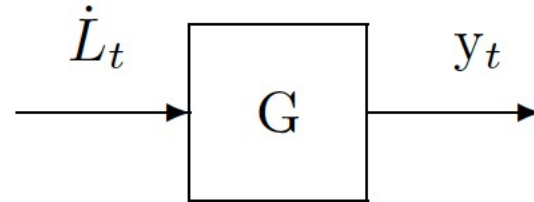
1. Wind fluctuation model
2. Calculate the stationary distribution
3. Effect of nonlinearity



Want to know the stationary distribution without sample path generation

Frequency domain model

α stable process



$$\kappa_{(\alpha,p)} = \frac{(2\kappa_\alpha)^p \Gamma(1 + \frac{p}{2}) \Gamma(1 - \frac{p}{\alpha})}{\Gamma(1 - \frac{p}{2})}$$

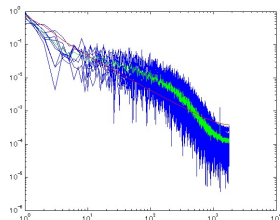
$$\kappa_\alpha := \left(\frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\pi |\cos t|^\alpha dt \right)^{1/\alpha}.$$

- Theorem 1: For any $\alpha \in (1,2]$, $p \in (-1, \alpha)$, ω ,

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E} \left[\left| \frac{1}{T^{1/\alpha}} \int_0^T e^{-j\omega t} y_t dt \right|^p \right] = \kappa_{(\alpha,p)} |G(j\omega)|^p$$

\approx Power spectrum density

= Frequency gain of transfer function

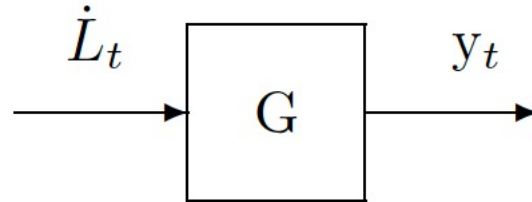


Easily computable from data

Gain diagram fitting

Stationary distribution of linear systems driven by stable process

α stable process



- Theorem 2: For any $\alpha \in (1,2]$ and stable $G(s) = c(sI - A)^{-1}b$, the stationary distribution of y_t is $S_\alpha(0, \|ce^{At}b\|_\alpha)$.

- $\|f\|_\alpha := \left(\int |f(t)|^\alpha dt\right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}$
- Same α as input noise
- Stationary variance is L^α -norm of impulse response.

Generalized plant representation

$$dx_t = Ax_t dt + Bu_t dt + bdL_t$$

$$f_t = c_z x_t$$

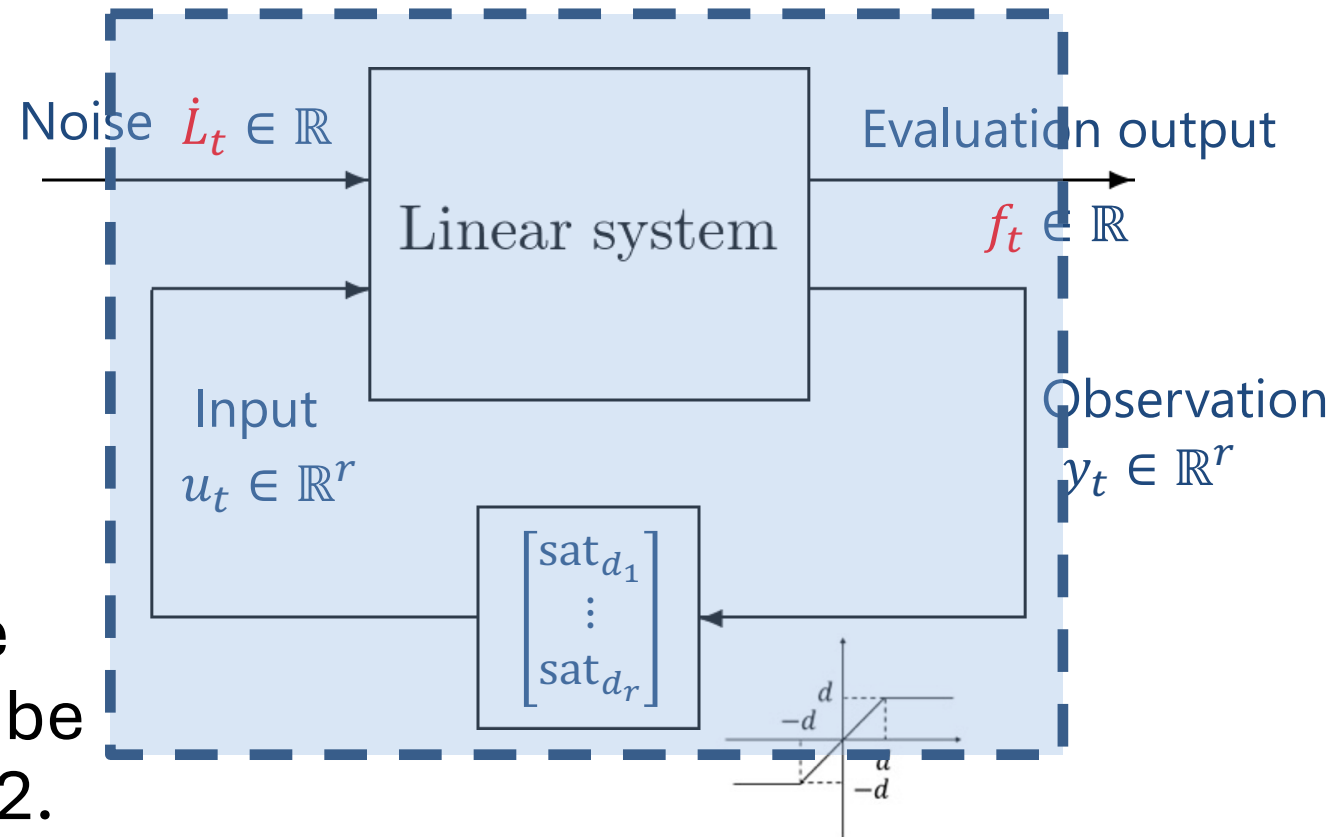
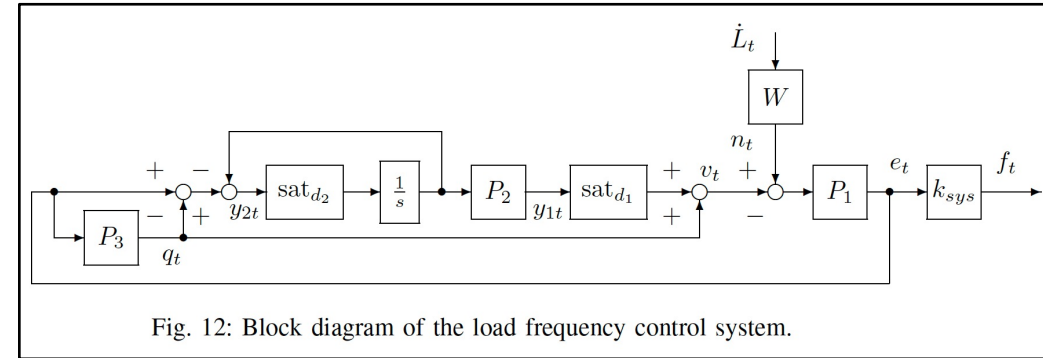
$$y_t = C_y x_t$$

$$u_t = \text{sat}_d(y_t)$$

$x_t \in \mathbb{R}^n$: State, $b, c_z^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$ A, B, C_y : Matrices

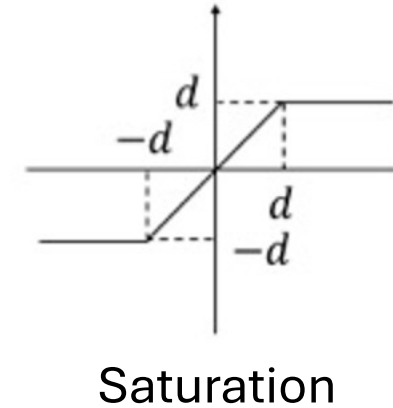
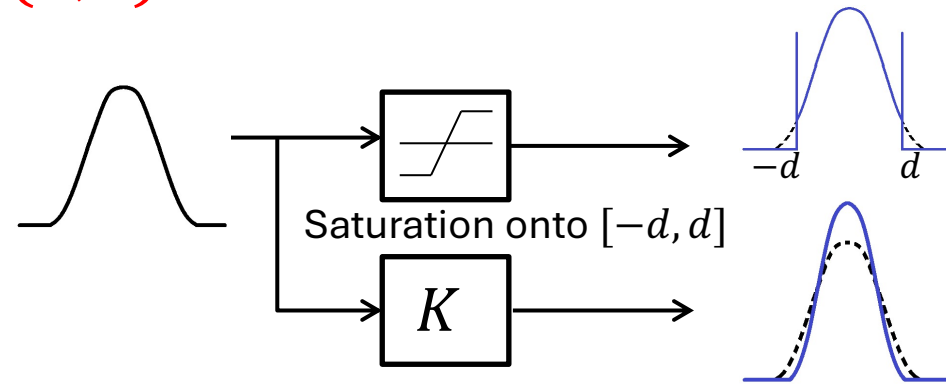
L_t : Stable process with parameter α

- **If the nonlinearity is negligible**, the stationary output distribution can be obtained analytically by Theorem 2.



Equivalent linearization

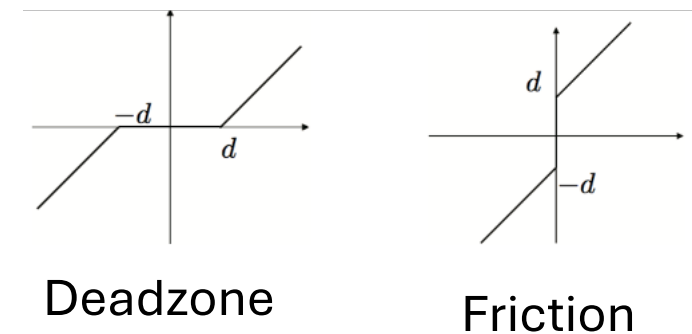
- Linear gain $K \in (0,1)$ that minimizes the error variance



- For $x \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$, the optimal $K = \text{erf}\left(\frac{d}{\sqrt{2}\sigma}\right)$ with $\text{erf}(x) := \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{-x}^{+x} e^{-z^2} dz$.

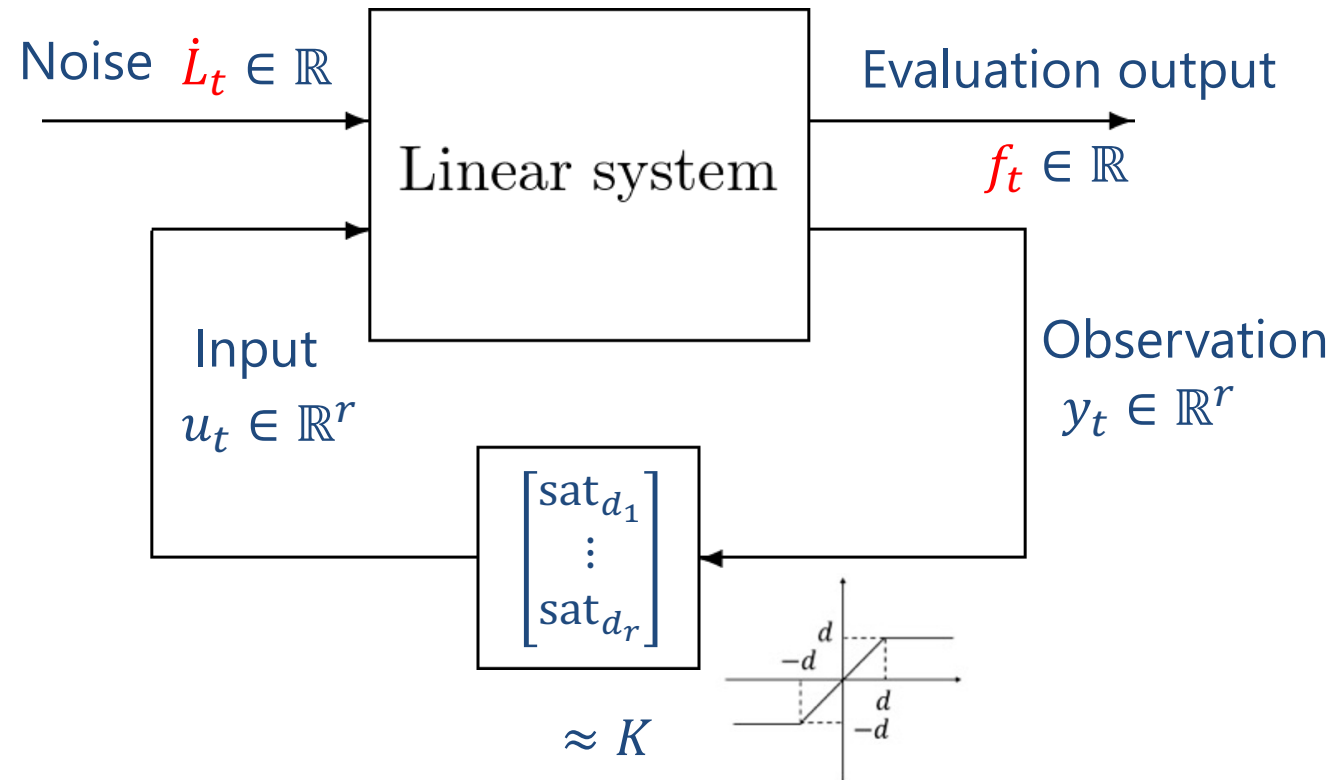
- Theorem 3:**

For $x \sim S_\alpha(0, \sigma^2)$, the optimal $K = \min(1, d/\sigma\gamma_\alpha)$



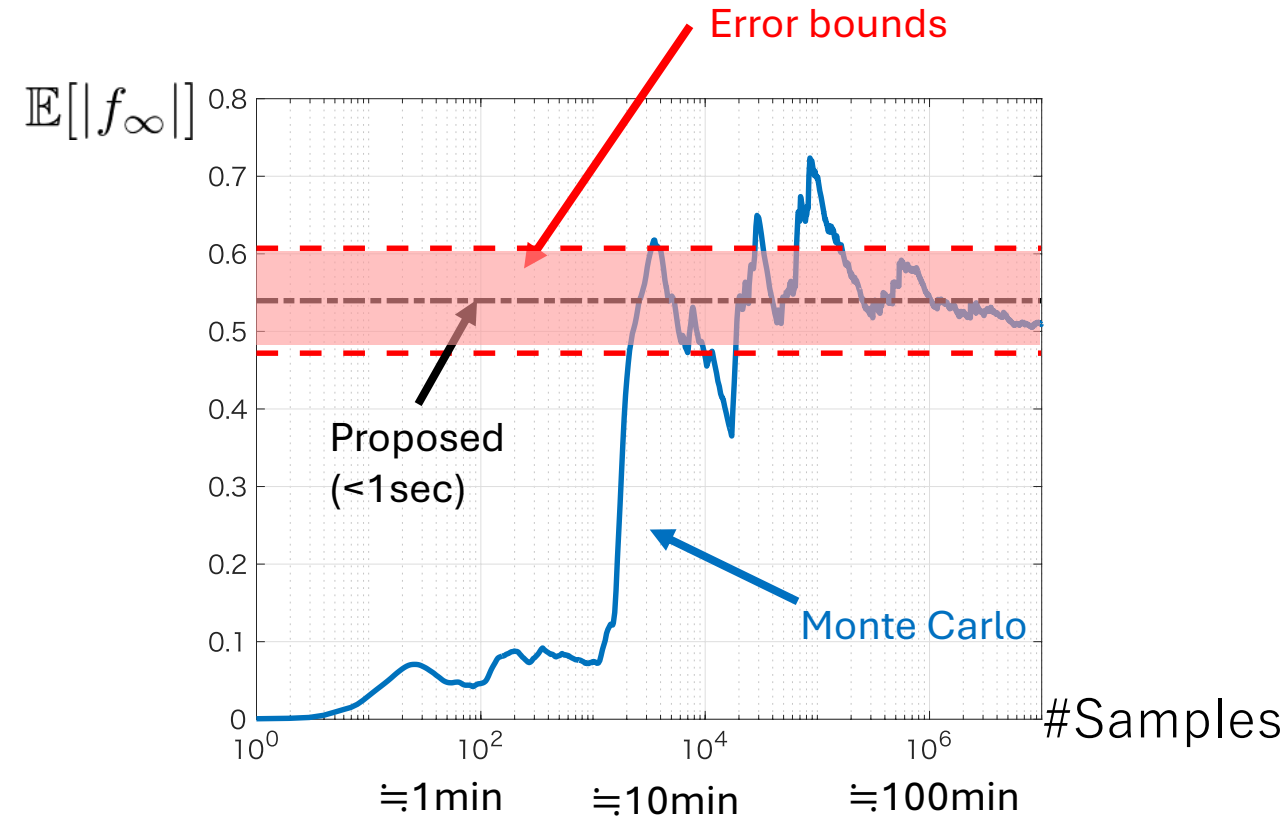
Equivalent linearization in the feedback loop

- Variance of y determines the approximated linear gain K .
 - $K = f(\sigma_y) = \min(1, d/\sigma_y \gamma_\alpha)$
- The gain K determines the stationary distribution of y .
 - $\sigma_y = g(K)$
- The solution to $K = f(g(K))$
 - Theoretical error bound



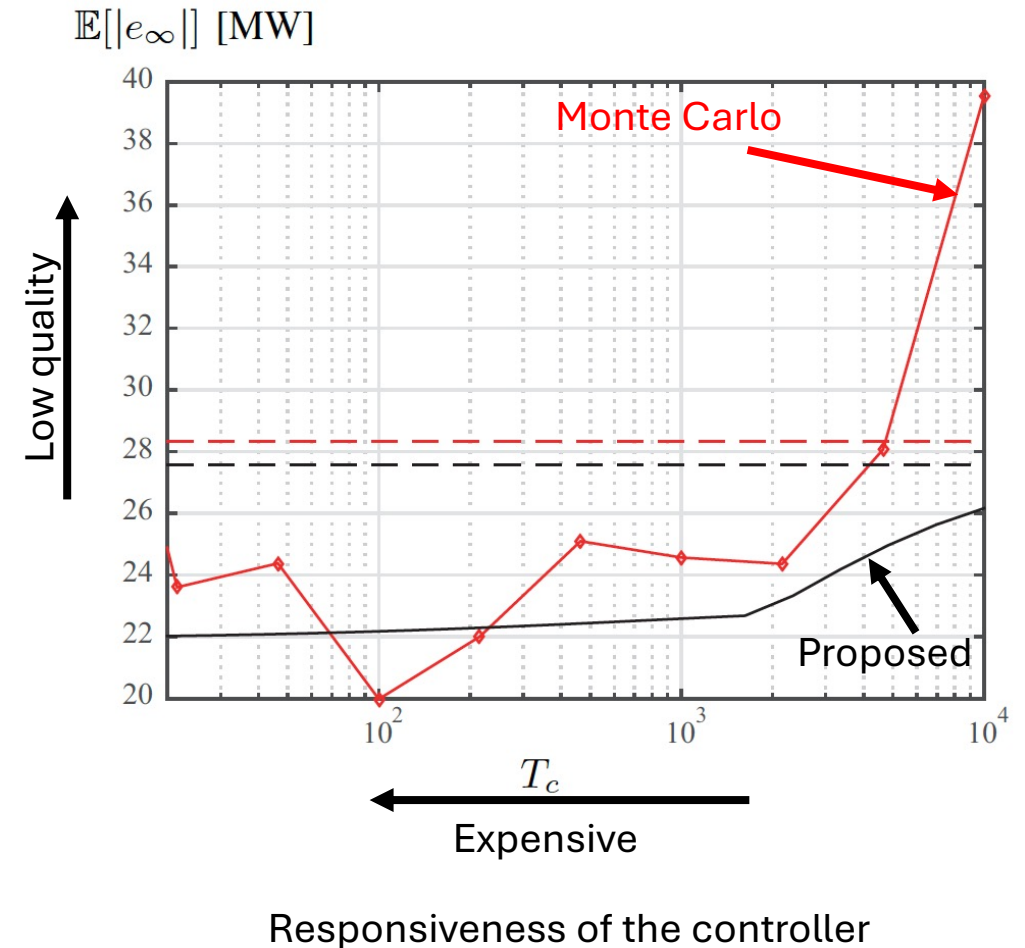
Example: Proposed method vs Monte Carlo

#Samples and MC average



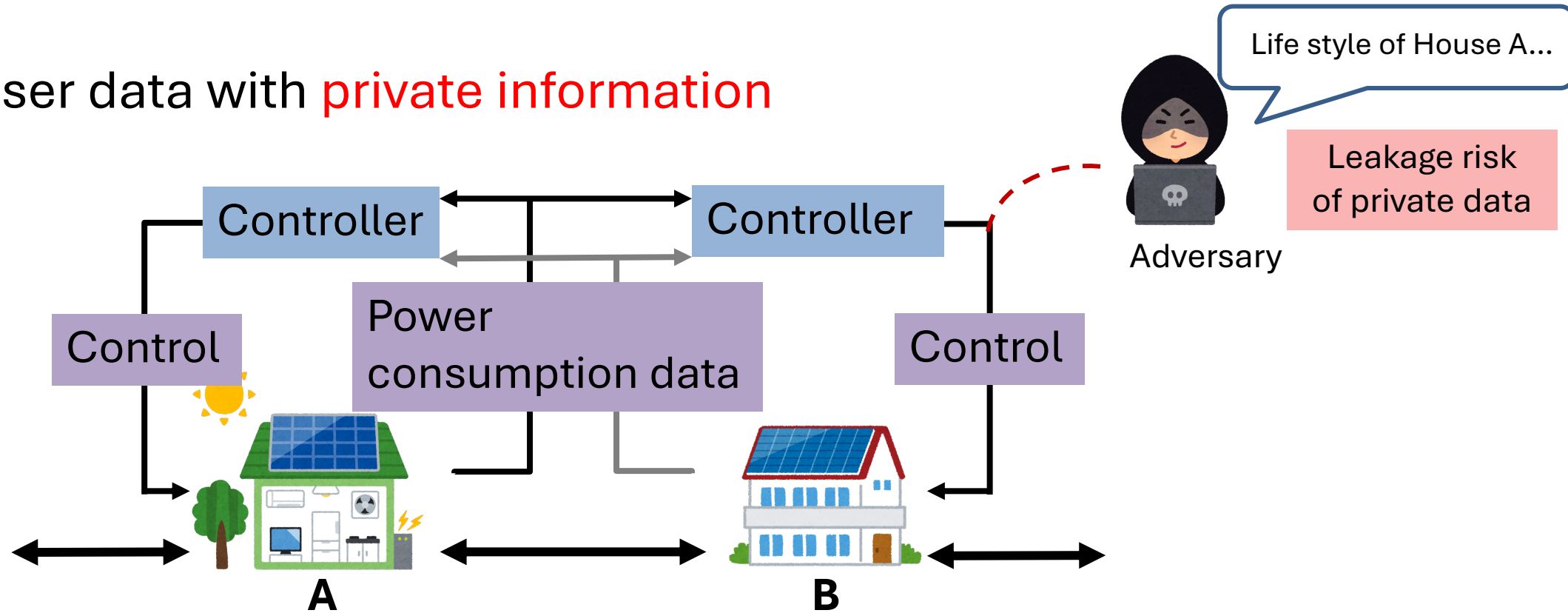
Rare event simulation requires too many samples.

Physical parameter T_c and stationary error



- Gaussian distribution revisited
 - Affinity to linear systems and its limit
- Key theoretical results
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- **New application**
 - **Control systems privacy**
- Sparsity VS rare events
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- Utility of user data with **private information**



- Need for control method considering **privacy protection**
 - Trade-off “Privacy protection level vs. information usefulness”

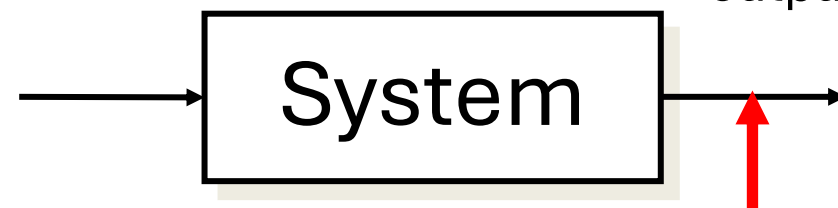
Differential privacy

- Protection by adding noise
 - Large noise decreases the information usefulness
- **Differential privacy** : Difficulty of distinguishing input signals
 - can be viewed as the degree of unobservability.
 - Output noise statistics is crucial for the differential privacy calculation.

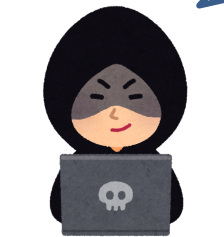
Input signals

(private information)

e.g. power consumption data



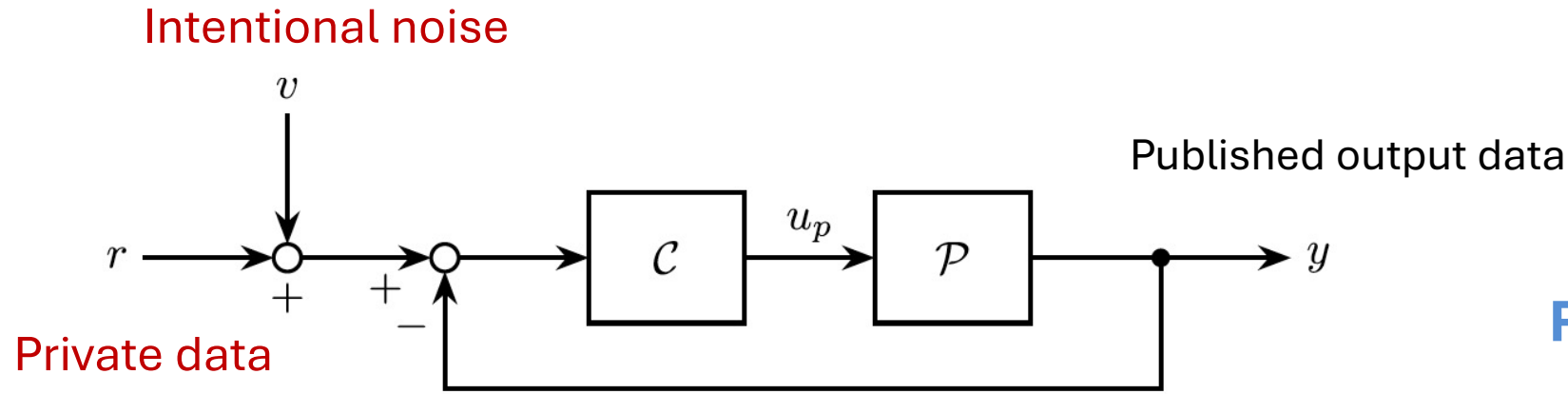
Published
output signals



I know the system dynamics.

Adversary

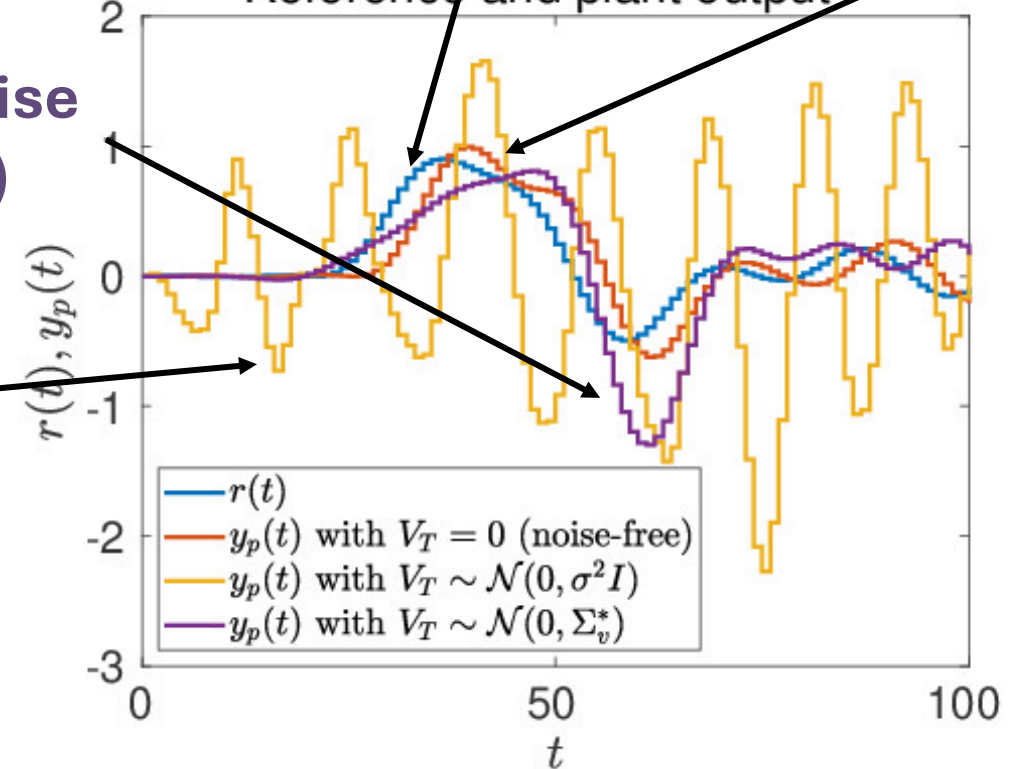
Bayesian differential privacy: Example



**No noise
(good tracking,
no privacy)**

Reference

Reference and plant output

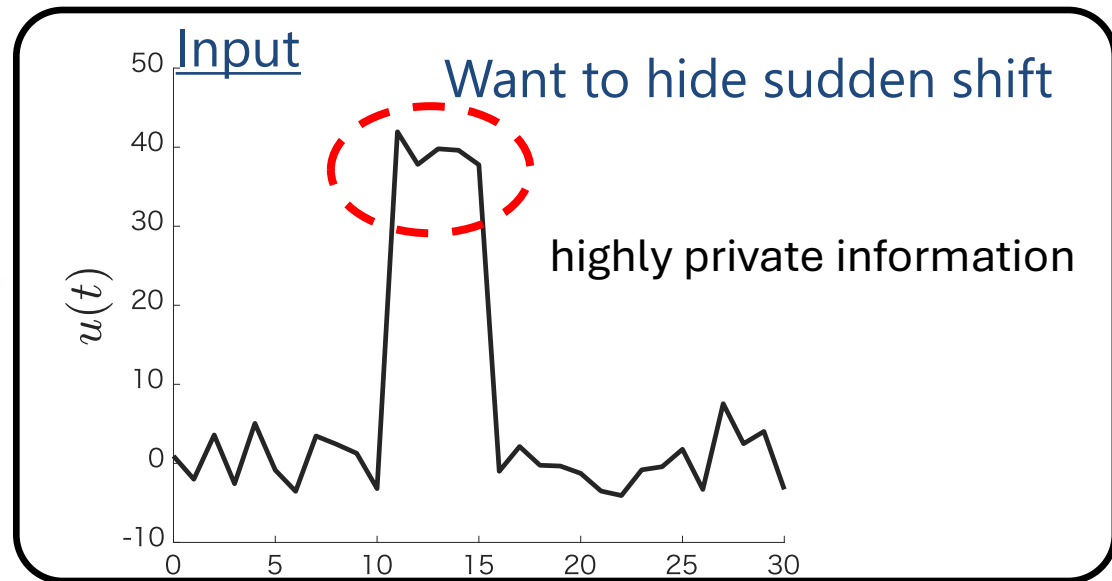
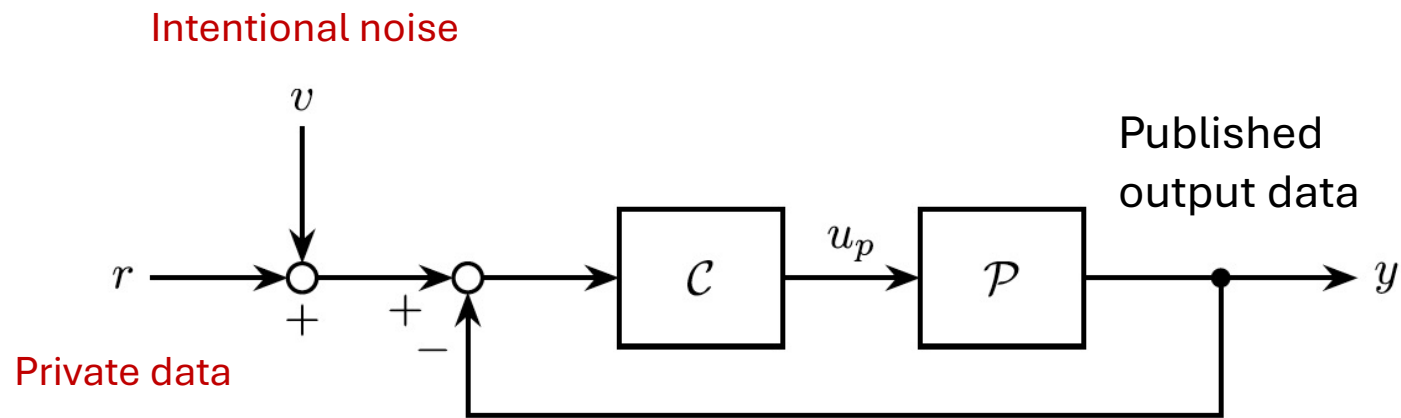


Same differential privacy level

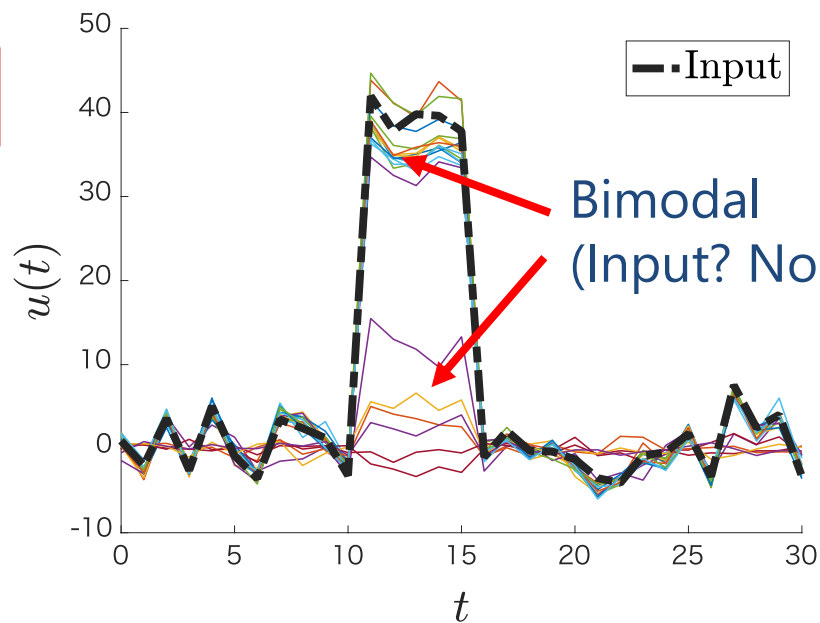
Bayesian optimal noise (minor deterioration)

Optimal i.i.d. noise (not tracking at all)

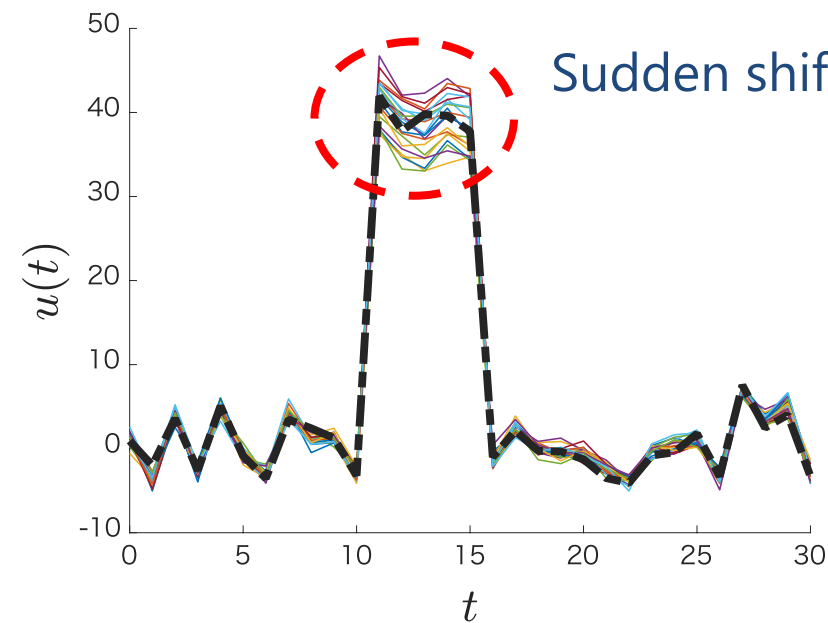
Stable distribution noise can hide outliers: Example



Adversary's estimate



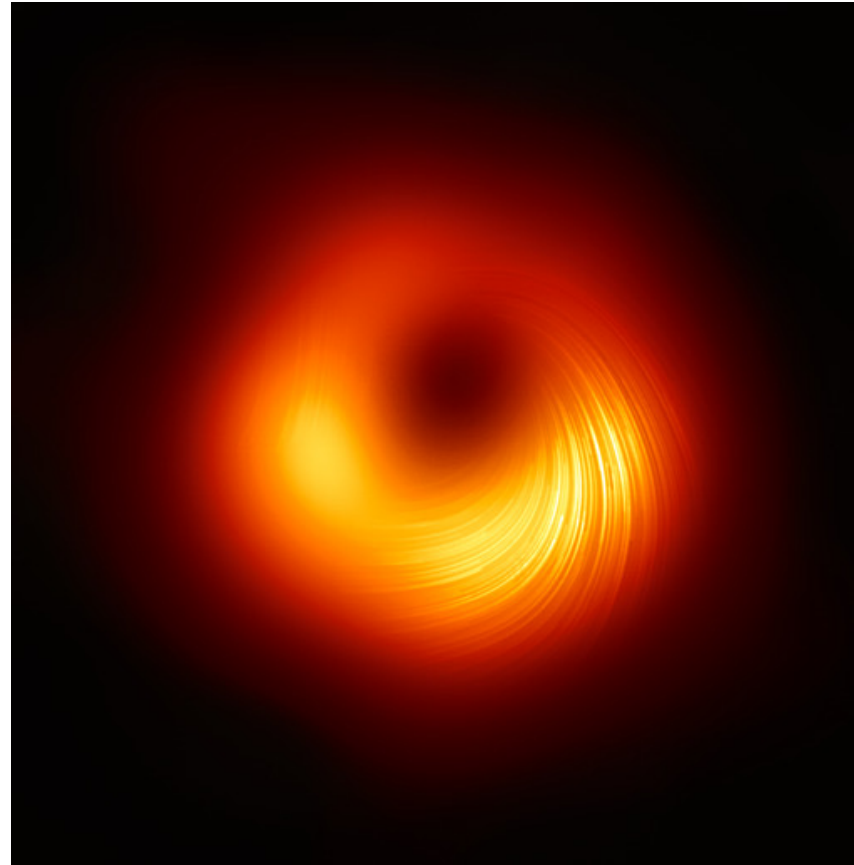
Stable distribution noise



Gaussian noise

- Gaussian distribution revisited
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- Key theoretical results
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- New application
 - Control systems privacy
- **Sparsity VS rare events**
 - **Sparse optimal stochastic control**

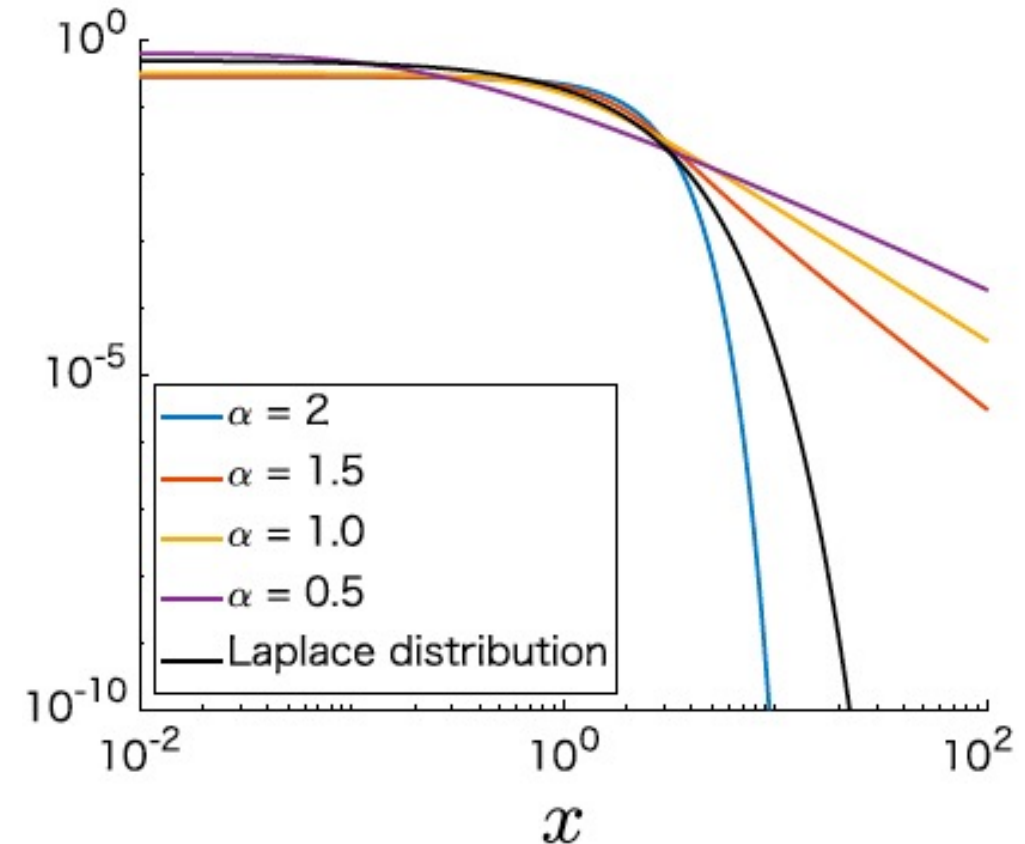
- Sparsity plays a key role of recent AI techniques.
 - Image processing (MRI, EHT), ML (Dropout, LASSO)



<https://eventhorizontelescope.org/>

Laplace distribution

- Popular model for heavy tail distribution
- Simple density function $\varphi(x) \propto \exp(-|x|)$
 - Slower decay than $\propto \exp(-x^2)$
- No superposition principle



- Discrete-time system
 - $x_{k+1} = f(x_k) + Bv_k, y_k = h(x_k) + w_k$
 - For observed trajectory $y_{0:k}$, estimate real trajectory $x_{0:k}$
- MAP (Maximum a posteriori) estimation
 - $\varphi(x_{0:k}|y_{0:k})$

$$\varphi_{x_{0:k}}(\mathbf{x}_{0:k}|y_{0:k} = \mathbf{y}_{0:k}) = \frac{\varphi_{y_{0:k}}(\mathbf{y}_{0:k}|x_{0:k} = \mathbf{x}_{0:k}) \varphi_{x_{0:k}}(\mathbf{x}_{0:k})}{\varphi_{y_{0:k}}(\mathbf{y}_{0:k})}$$

Equivalence between modal trajectory estimate and optimal control

- MAP estimate

$$\varphi_{x_{0:k}}(\mathbf{x}_{0:k} | y_{0:k} = \mathbf{y}_{0:k}) = \frac{\varphi_{y_{0:k}}(\mathbf{y}_{0:k} | x_{0:k} = \mathbf{x}_{0:k}) \varphi_{x_{0:k}}(\mathbf{x}_{0:k})}{\varphi_{y_{0:k}}(\mathbf{y}_{0:k})}$$

- $x_{k+1} = f(x_k) + Bv_k, y_k = h(x_k) + w_k$

- For observed trajectory $y_{0:k}$, maximize $\varphi_{x_{0:k}}(\mathbf{x}_{0:k} | y_{0:k} = \mathbf{y}_{0:k})$ over $\mathbf{x}_{0:k}$

$$v_k \Leftrightarrow u(k)$$

- Optimal control

- $x(k+1) = f(x(k)) + Bu(k)$

- Minimize $\ell(0, x(0)) + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \ell(k, x(k), u(k))$

log of prior pdfs

$$\ell(k, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) := \log \varphi_{w_k}(\mathbf{y}_k - h(\mathbf{x})) + \log \varphi_{v_k}(\mathbf{u}), \quad \ell(0, \mathbf{x}) := \log \varphi_{x_0}(\mathbf{x})$$

Laplace prior $\varphi(x) \propto \exp(-|x|)$ leads to LASSO

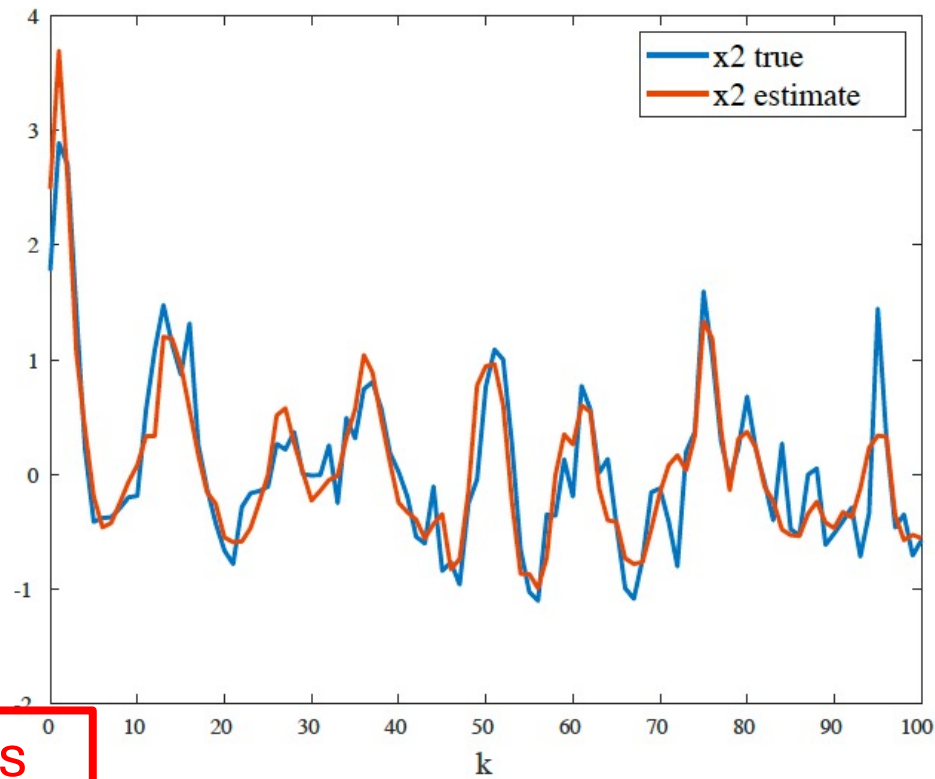
$$x_{k+1} = Ax_k + 0.1v_k, \quad x_0 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_0, 0.4I)$$

$$y_k = Cx_k + 0.1w_k \quad v_k, w_k \sim \text{Lap}(0,1), \text{ i.i.d.}$$

$$A := \begin{bmatrix} 1.12 & -0.49 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C := \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mu_0 := \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$v_k \Leftrightarrow u(k)$$

log of prior pdfs



$$\text{minimize}_{\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{u}} \quad 2.5\|\mathbf{x}_0 - \mu_0\|^2 + 10 \sum_i^{N-1} \|\mathbf{u}_i\|_1 + \|C\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{y}_i\|_1$$

$$\text{subj. to} \quad \mathbf{x}_{k+1} = A\mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{u}_k$$

Minimization with ℓ^1 regularization

Sparsity of solutions of LASSO

- Ill-conditioned linear equation $Ax = b$
 - Feature extraction, Small-data ML

$$x = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]'$$

- The solution having the minimum ℓ^0 -norm
 - ℓ^0 -norm: number of non-zero elements
 - Combinatorial optimization

$$\#\{i: x_i \neq 0\}$$

- The solution having the minimum ℓ^1 -norm
 - ℓ^1 -norm: sum of the absolute values of elements
 - Convex optimization
 - Guarantee for the sparsity under mild assumption

$$\sum_i |x_i|$$

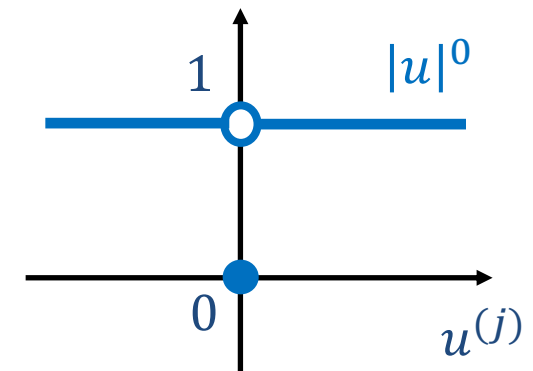
ℓ^1 -regularization (LASSO) gives sparse solutions.

Can we relate the sparse optimal control with its L^1 counterpart?

Sparse optimal stochastic control

Minimize $\mathbb{E} \left[\underbrace{\int_0^T \sum_{j=1}^m |u_t^{(j)}|^0 dt}_{L^0 \text{ norm}} + \underbrace{g(x_T)}_{\text{(Continuous) terminal cost}} \right], \quad T: \text{final time}$

Subject to $dx_t = f(x_t, u_t)dt + \sigma(x_t, u_t)dw_t$
 $x_0 = x_i, \{u_t\} \in \mathcal{U} \quad (x_i \in \mathbb{R}^n)$



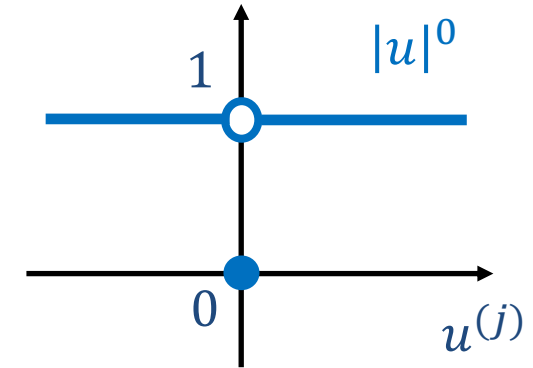
- $\mathcal{U} := \{\text{Causal } \{u_t\} \text{ valued in } \mathbb{U}\}$
- $\mathbb{U} \subset \mathbb{R}^m$: a compact set that contains 0
- $f(x, u)$ and $\sigma(x, u)$ are Lipschitz continuous in x uniformly in u .

Result (continuity and HJB equation)

- The value function V is **continuous** on $\mathbb{R}^n \times [0, T]$.

$$V(x, t) := \inf_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{j=1}^m \int_t^T |u_s^{(j)}|^0 ds + g(x_T) \mid x_t = x \right]$$

Discontinuous cost



- V is a **viscosity solution** of the HJB equation:

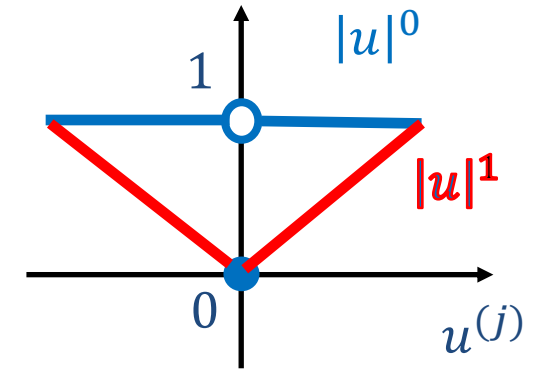
$$\begin{cases} -v_t(x, t) + H(x, v_x(x, t), v_{xx}(x, t)) = 0, & \mathbb{R}^n \times (0, T), \\ v(x, T) = g(x) & \text{in } \mathbb{R}^n \end{cases}$$

$$H(x, p, M) := \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \left\{ -f(x, u)^\top p - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\sigma \sigma^\top(x, u) M) - \sum_{j=1}^m |u^{(j)}|^0 \right\}$$

- Equivalence between L^0 and L^1 optimality

◆ L^1 optimal control problem

$$\text{Minimize}_u \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T \sum_{j=1}^m |u_t^{(j)}|^1 dt + g(x_T) \right]$$



- For control-affine systems, **the optimal control process is Bang-Off-Bang**
 - takes only three values of $\{-1, 0, 1\}$

Main problem

$$\text{Minimize}_u \quad \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T |u_t|^0 dt + x_T^2 \right]$$

$$\text{Subject to} \quad dx_t = x_t dt + u_t dt + 0.1 dw_t$$

$$x_0 = x, \quad u_t \in [-1,1] \quad \forall t \in [0,1]$$

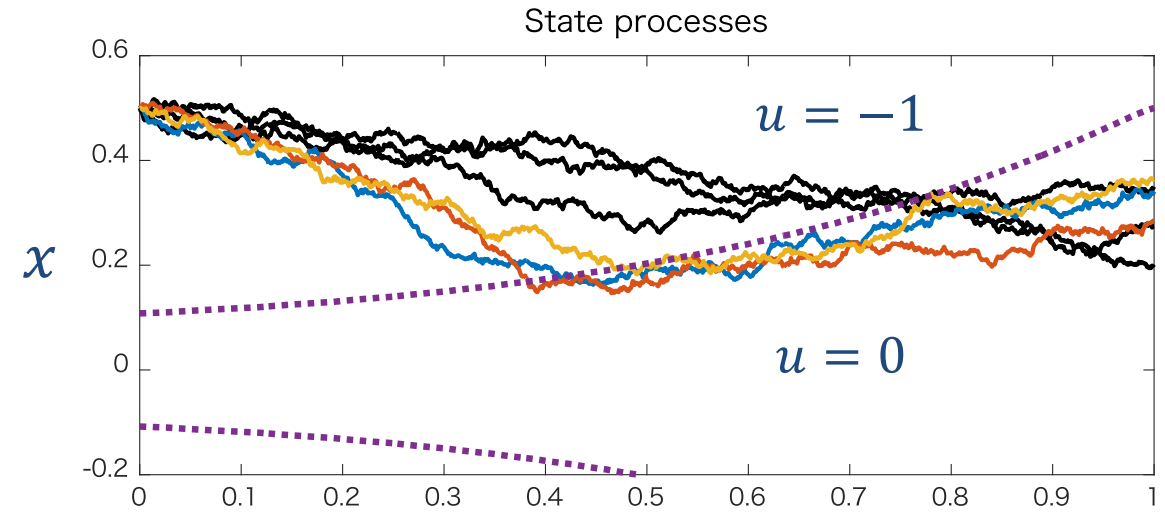
Equivalent relaxed problem

$$\text{Minimize}_u \quad \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T |u_t|^1 dt + x_T^2 \right]$$

$$\text{Subject to} \quad dx_t = x_t dt + u_t dt + 0.1 dw_t$$

$$x_0 = x, \quad u_t \in [-1,1] \quad \forall t \in [0,1]$$

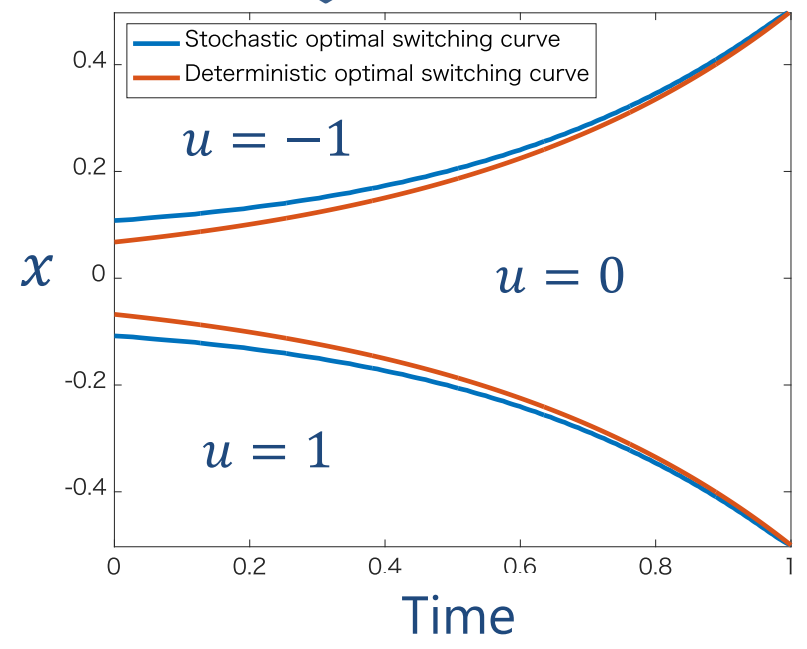
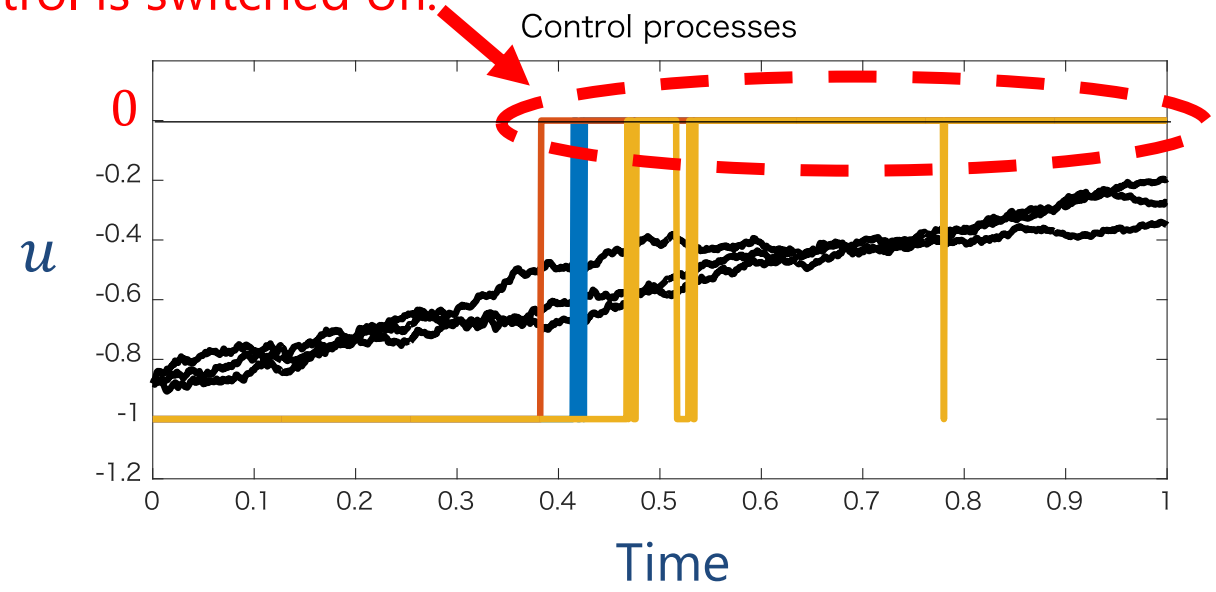
Example: $dx_t = x_t dt + u_t dt + 0.1 dw_t, t \in [0,1]$



- Blue, red, yellow : L^0 optimal sample paths
- Black: LQG optimal sample paths

Switching curve ($\sigma = 0.1$)
 " ($\sigma = 0$)

The control is switched off.



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 - Linear system analysis and equivalent linearization
- New application
 - Control systems privacy
- Sparsity VS rare events
 - Sparse optimal stochastic control ← Ito, K, *Automatica*, 2021

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