

# Sharp large deviation principles for descents of random permutations

Luis Fredes

(Work with B. Bercu, M. Bonnefont and A. Richou)

Seminario de Probabilidades de Chile

- Random permutations and descents
- Large Deviation Principles.
- Descent statistics.
- Descent statistics for the couple.
- Construction of the probability space.

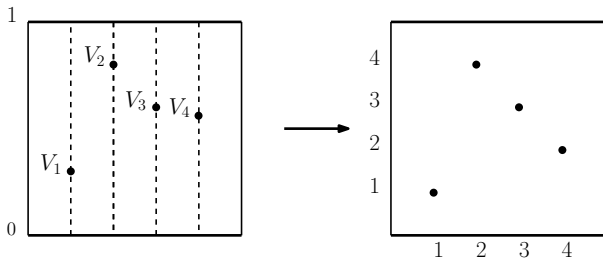
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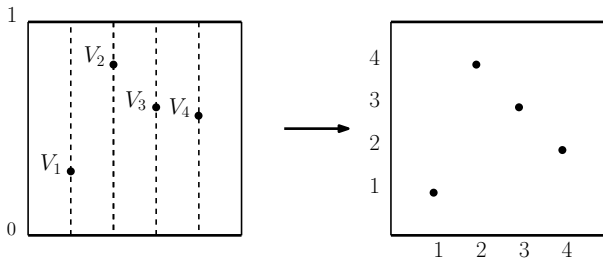
**Construction** : Let  $\mathcal{V} = (V_1, V_2, \dots, V_n)$  I.I.D.  $\text{Unif}[0, 1]$  r.v.



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The (total) number of **descents** in a permutation  $\pi_n$  is given by

$$D_n = D_n(\pi_n) = \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \mathbb{1}_{\{\pi_n(k+1) < \pi_n(k)\}}$$

## Theorem: (Tanny '73)

$D_n$  is equal in distribution to  $\lfloor S_n \rfloor$ , for  $S_n$  defined as

$$S_n = \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} U_k,$$

where  $U_k = \text{Unif}[0, 1]$  independent of the others.

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### **Sketch of proof**

Let  $\mathcal{U} = (U_1, U_2, \dots, U_n)$  I.I.D.  $\text{Unif}[0, 1]$  r.v.

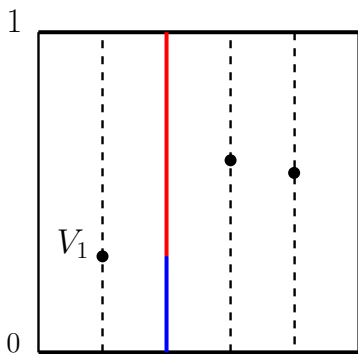
We define  $\mathcal{V} = (V_1, V_2, \dots, V_n)$  as

$$V_i = \{U_1 + U_2 + \dots + U_i\} \quad \forall i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\},$$

where  $\{x\} = x - \lfloor x \rfloor$ , i.e. the fractional part.

## Proposition

*The collection  $\mathcal{V}$  is an i.i.d. collection of  $\text{Unif}[0, 1]$  r.v.*



- $V_2$  will create an ascent = red part =  $(\lfloor U_1 + U_2 \rfloor - \lfloor U_1 \rfloor = 0)$
- $V_2$  will create a descent = blue part =  $(\lfloor U_1 + U_2 \rfloor - \lfloor U_1 \rfloor = 1)$



The random variable  $S_n$  follows the Irwin-Hall (continuous) distribution.

### Corollary

$$\mathbb{E}(D_n) = \frac{n-1}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Var}(D_n) = \frac{n+1}{12} \quad \forall n \geq 2$$

## Theorem : LLN (D. Freedman '65)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{D_n}{n} = \frac{1}{2} \quad a.s.$$

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**Difficulty :** for  $x \in (1/2, 1)$

$$\mathbb{P}(D_n/n > x) = \mathbb{P}(\lfloor S_n \rfloor > nx) = \mathbb{P}(S_n > \lceil nx \rceil)$$

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## Theorem : CLT (David & Barton '62, Harper '67, Bender '73, +...)

$$\sqrt{n} \left( \frac{D_n}{n} - \frac{1}{2} \right) \xrightarrow{(d)} \mathcal{N} \left( 0, \frac{1}{12} \right)$$

# Large deviation principles (LDP)

**Main idea** : give an adjusted behavior of the probability off the mean.

Let  $D_n \in L_1$  with mean  $m$ ,  $x > m$  and  $t \geq 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}\left(\frac{D_n}{n} > x\right) &= \mathbb{P}(\exp(tD_n) > e^{tnx}) \\ &\leq \exp(-tnx) \underbrace{\mathbb{E}(\exp(tD_n))}_{L_n(t)} \\ &\leq \exp\left(-n \left(tx - \frac{1}{n} \log(L_n(t))\right)\right)\end{aligned}$$

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$$\mathbb{P}\left(\frac{D_n}{n} > x\right) \leq \exp(-nl(x))$$

The idea is to prove that this is “**tight**” as inequality.

**Rough LDP (RLDP)** : Determine the power in the optimal exponential speed

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log \left( \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{D_n}{n} > x\right) \right) = -I(x)$$

**Sharp LDP (SLDP)** : Determine a more adjusted asymptotic behavior, i.e.

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\frac{D_n}{n} > x\right) \approx c(x, n) \exp(-nl(x)) \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

## Theorem : RLDP (Bryc, Minda and Sethuraman '09)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log \left( \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{D_n}{n} > x \right) \right) = -I(x) \quad \forall x \in (1/2, 1),$$

where the log-Laplace transform is given by

$$L(t) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log \left( \underbrace{\mathbb{E}(\exp(tD_n))}_{L_n(t)} \right) = \log \left( \frac{\exp(t) - 1}{t} \right)$$

Recently Bercu, Bonnefont and Richou (BBR) obtained for an specific probability space that

$$D_{n+1} - D_n = \xi_{n+1},$$

where the conditional distribution of  $\xi_{n+1}$  given  $\mathcal{F}_n = \sigma(D_1, D_2, \dots, D_n)$  follows a  $\mathcal{B}(p_n)$  with

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Then they proved that the following is a Martingale with respect to  $\mathcal{F}_n$

$$M_n = n \left( D_n - \frac{n-1}{2} \right).$$

# Consequences

They derived a LLG, together with :

Theorem : Quadratic Strong Law (BBR '23)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\log(n)} \sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{D_k}{k} - \frac{1}{2} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{12} \quad \text{a.s.}$$

Theorem : Law of Iterated Logarithm (BBR '23)

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{n}{2 \log \log(n)} \right)^{1/2} \left| \frac{D_n}{n} - \frac{1}{2} \right| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{12}} \quad \text{a.s.}$$

Theorem : Functional CLT (BBR '23)

$$\sqrt{n} \left( \frac{D_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}}{\lfloor nt \rfloor} - \frac{1}{2}, t \geq 0 \right) \xrightarrow{(d)} (W_t : t \geq 0)$$

where  $(W_t : t \geq 0)$  is a real-valued centered Gaussian process starting at the origin with  $\mathbb{E}(W_s W_t) = s/(12t^2)$  for all  $0 < s \leq t$ .



## Theorem : SLDP (BBR '23)

For every  $x \in (1/2, 1)$  one has

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\frac{D_n}{n} > x\right) = \frac{\exp(-nI(x) - \{nx\}t_x)}{\sigma_x t_x \sqrt{2\pi n}} (1 + o(1)),$$

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The theorem also holds for  $y = 1 - x$  in  $(0, 1/2)$ , since by a symmetry argument

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\frac{D_n + 1}{n} < y\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{D_n}{n} > x\right)$$

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**What about the behavior of  $(D_n, D'_n)$ ?**

$$\text{Cov}(D_n, D'_n) = (n - 1)/2n$$

**Theorem : Joint CLT(Vatutin '96)**

$$\sqrt{n} \left( \frac{D_n}{n} - \frac{1}{2}, \frac{D'_n}{n} - \frac{1}{2} \right) \xrightarrow{(d)} \mathcal{N} \left( \vec{0}, \frac{1}{12} \text{Id}_2 \right)$$

We construct a probability space which let us obtain.

## Theorem : Quadratic Strong Law (BBFR '24)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\log(n)} \sum_{k=1}^n \left\langle \left( \frac{D_k}{k} - \frac{1}{2}, \frac{D'_k}{k} - \frac{1}{2} \right), u \right\rangle^2 = \frac{\|u\|^2}{12} \quad \text{a.s.}$$

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For every  $x, y \in (1/2, 1)$  it holds that

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{D_n}{n-1} > x, \frac{D'_n}{n-1} > y \right) \\ &= \frac{\exp(-n(I(x) + I(y)) - \{nx\}t_x - \{ny\}t_y + t_x t_y / 2)}{\sigma_x t_x \sigma_y t_y 2\pi n} (1 + o(1)), \end{aligned}$$

where  $t_x$  is the unique solution of  $L'(t_x) = x$  and  $\sigma_x^2 = L''(t_x)$ .



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## Corollary

*The sequence  $(D_n/n, D'_n/n)$  satisfies an RLDP with rate function given by  $I(x, y) = I(x) + I(y)$ .*

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## Theorem : SLDP (BBFR '24)

For every  $x \in (1/2, 1)$  and any  $p \geq 1$  there exists a sequence  $d_{n,1}(x), \dots, d_{n,p}(x)$  such that for  $n$  large enough one has

$$\mathbb{P} \left( \frac{D_n}{n} > x \right) = \frac{\exp(-nl(x) - \{nx\}t_x)}{\sigma_x t_x \sqrt{2\pi n}} \left( 1 + \sum_{k=1}^p \frac{d_{n,k}(x)}{n^k} + o \left( \frac{1}{n^{p+1}} \right) \right),$$

where  $t_x$  is the unique solution of  $L'(t_x) = x$  and  $\sigma_x^2 = L''(t_x)$ ; and where the coefficients  $d_{n,1}(x), \dots, d_{n,p}(x)$  can be explicitly computed.

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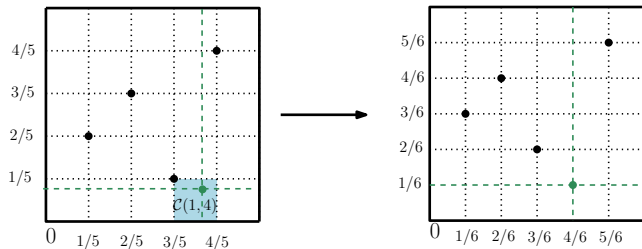
For example

$$d_{n,1}(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma_x^2} \left( \frac{l_4}{8\sigma_x^2} - \frac{5l_3^2}{24\sigma_x^4} - \frac{l_3}{2t_x\sigma_x^2} - \frac{1}{t_x^2} - \frac{\{nx\}}{t_x} - \frac{\{nx\}l_3}{6\sigma_x^2} - \frac{\{nx\}^2}{2} \right)$$

where  $l_3 = L^{(3)}(t_x)$  and  $l_4 = L^{(4)}(t_x)$ .

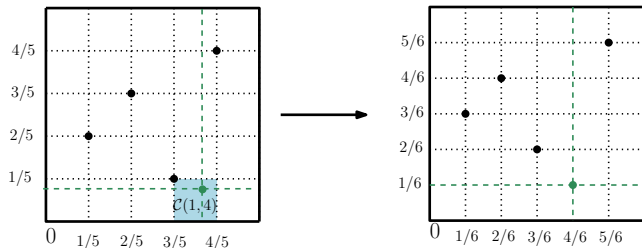
# Construction of the probability space

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From this representation we can study the number of cells  $\mathcal{C}(i,j)$  that generate prescribed increments  $\Delta D_{n+1} = a$  and  $\Delta D'_{n+1} = b$ , for  $a, b \in \{0, 1\}$  in the permutation  $\pi_n$  and  $\pi_n^{-1}$  when  $U_{n+1} \in \mathcal{C}(i,j)$ .

Define for  $a, b \in \{0, 1\}$ , the number of cells with prescribed increments for the permutation and its inverse

$$c_{a,b} := c_{a,b}(\pi_n) = |\{\mathcal{C}(i, j) : \Delta D_{n+1}(i, j) = a, \Delta D'_{n+1}(i, j) = b\}| \quad (1)$$

## Theorem (BBFR '24)

Every permutation  $\pi_n$ , out of its  $(n + 1)^2$  cells, has exactly

$$c_{1,1} = (n - D_n)(n - D'_n) + n$$

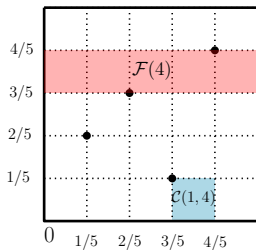
$$c_{1,0} = (n - D_n)(D'_n + 1) - n$$

$$c_{0,1} = (D_n + 1)(n - D'_n) - n$$

$$c_{0,0} = (D_n + 1)(D'_n + 1) + n$$



We define the *fiber of height*  $\ell$  the set  $\mathcal{F}(\ell) = \cup_{i=1}^{n+1} \mathcal{C}(i, \ell)$ .



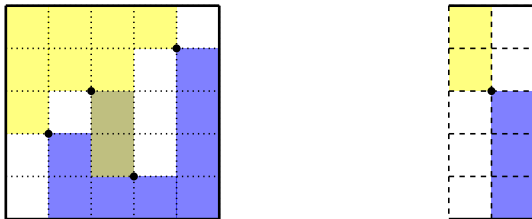
## Lemma (BBFR '24)

For each  $\ell \in \{1, 2, \dots, n+1\}$  the fiber  $\mathcal{F}(\ell)$  has exactly

$$|\{i : \Delta D_{n+1}(i, \ell) = 1\}| = n - D_n \quad \text{and}$$

$$|\{i : \Delta D_{n+1}(i, \ell) = 0\}| = D_n + 1$$

## Sketch of proof :

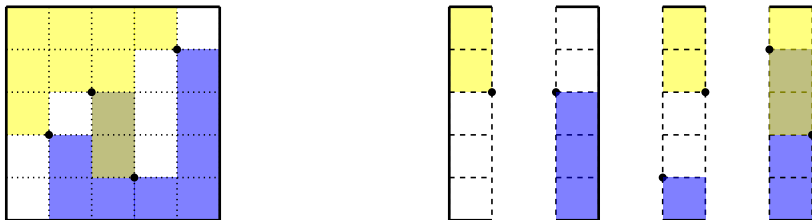


**Figure:** We color yellow the cells to the “up-left” of each point and blue the cells to the “low-right” of each point.

## Properties:

- 1 Each point induces one yellow or a blue cell for each fiber.

## Sketch of proof :



**Figure:** We color yellow the cells to the “up-left” of each point and blue the cells to the “low-right” of each point.

## Properties:

- 1 Each point induces one yellow or a blue cell for each fiber.
- 2 Reading vertical fibers there are four cases to have increment  $+1$  :
  - Left) if yellow
  - Right) if blue
  - Interior) two cases depending if there is descent on  $\pi_n$ :
    - Ascent) if exclusively yellow or blue.
    - Descent) if yellow and blue.

$$\begin{aligned}
& Y(1, \ell) + B(n+1, \ell) + \sum_{\substack{i \in \{2, \dots, n\} \\ \pi_n(i-1) < \pi_n(i)}} (Y(i, \ell) + B(i, \ell)) + \sum_{\substack{i \in \{2, \dots, n\} \\ \pi_n(i-1) > \pi_n(i)}} (Y(i, \ell) + B(i, \ell) - 1) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n (Y(i, \ell) + B(i+1, \ell)) - D_n \\
&= n - D_n,
\end{aligned}$$

## Corollary (BBFR '24)

For every  $\pi_n$ , out of the  $(n+1)^2$  cells, there are exactly  $(n+1)(n - D_n)$  with increment  $+1$ .

# Sketch of proof of the Theorem

**Claim:** It is enough to prove that  $c_{1,1} = (n - D_n)(n - D'_n) + n$ .

**Proof of claim:** We recover  $c_{0,0}$  from  $c_{1,1}$ .

From  $\pi_n$  we construct  $\bar{\pi}_n(i) = n - \pi_n(i)$ .

This exchanges descents with ascents for  $\pi_n$  and  $\pi_n^{-1}$ .

Ascents + Descents =  $n - 1$ .

$$c_{0,0}(\pi_n) = c_{1,1}(\bar{\pi}_n) = (D_n + 1)(D'_n + 1) + n.$$

For  $c_{1,0}$  from  $c_{1,1}$ , thanks to the previous Corollary one has that

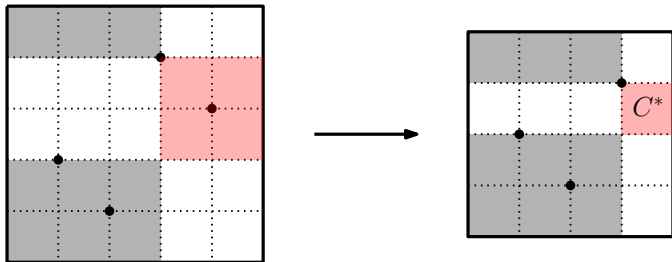
$$c_{1,0} + c_{1,1} = (n - D_n)(n + 1) \implies c_{1,0} = (n - D_n)(D'_n + 1) - n.$$

Similarly for  $c_{0,1}$ .

**Proof for  $c_{1,1}$  :** Induction.

$n = 1$  identity, easy to check.

Inductive step : we consider  $\pi_{n+1}$  a permutation of size  $n + 1$  and we induce a permutation  $\pi_n$  of size  $n$  as follows

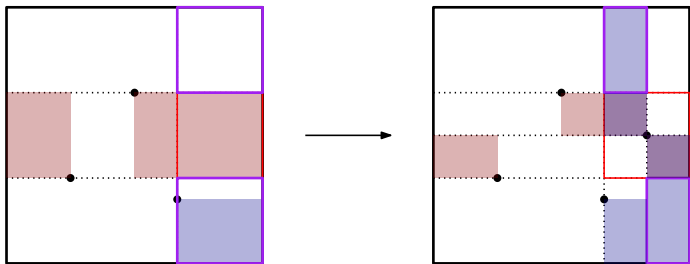


**Figure:** Permutation  $\pi_n = (213)$  (to the right) induced for  $n + 1 = 4$  from  $\pi_{n+1} = (2143)$  (to the left) when taking out  $\pi_{n+1}(n + 1) = 3$ . We keep track of the increment behavior of the red cell during the induction.

**The increments in the gray region remain invariant!**

Depending on the behavior of  $(\Delta D_{n+1}(C^*), \Delta D'_{n+1}(C^*))$  we have four cases.

We illustrate with one case : if it is equal to  $(0, 1)$ , we have



**Figure:** The blue cells are cells with  $\Delta D_{n+1} = 1$  and the red cells are cells with  $\Delta D'_{n+1} = 1$ .

To conclude we apply to the fiber of  $\pi_n^{-1}$  the previous Lemma, i.e. rightmost fiber in the left image, has

$$|\{C(n+1, j) : \Delta D'_{n+1}(n+1, j) = 1\}| = n - D'_n$$