

# Entropy + the Shannon-McMillan-Breiman Theorem

## A counting argument

### Shannon-McMillan-Breiman Theorem

— third of the three core tools in  
measurable dynamics

- 1) Ergodic Theorem
- 2) Rokhlin lemmas
- 3) SMTB

Theorem For  $T$  ergodic and  
 $P$  a finite partition of  $X$ ,  
for a.e.  $x \in X$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_2(\mu(P_n(x)))}{n} = h(T, P)$$

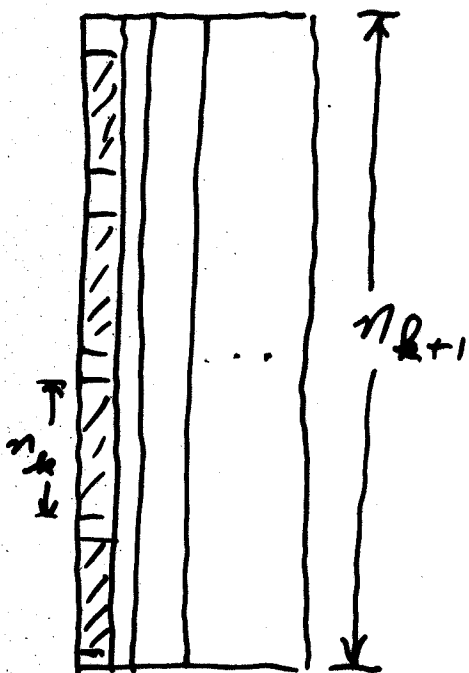
↑  
Came from counting

Says for most  $x$ , when  
 $n$  is large

$$\mu(P_n(x)) = 2^{-(h(T, P) \pm \epsilon)n}$$
$$= \left( 2^{-h(T, P)n} \right) \underbrace{\left( 2^{\pm \epsilon} \right)^n}_{\text{close to 1}}$$

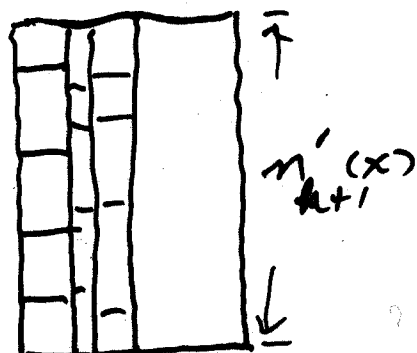
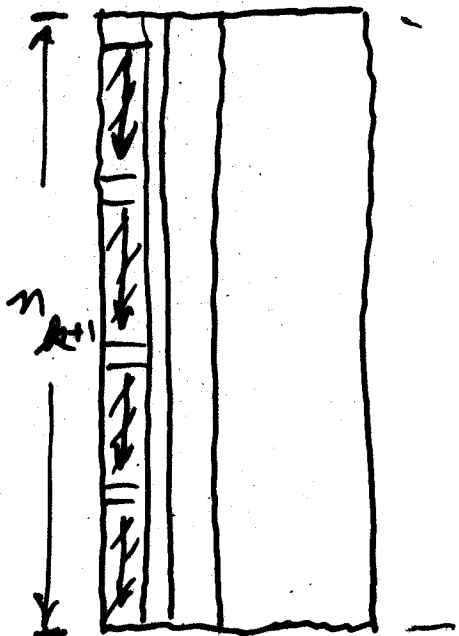
← Watch  
out!!

# Reminder of the basic move in Dye's Theorem



Rearrange the blocks of length  $n_k$  by permuting them & then modify names a small fraction.

A little prep work:  
Collapse the blocks from the previous stage to be just one level and label it with the  $T, P, n_k$ -name of the block



New height is variable but approximately constant

$$n'_{k+1} = \underbrace{\epsilon_k n_{k+1}}_{\text{outside blocks}} + \underbrace{(1-\epsilon_k) \frac{n_{k+1}}{n_k}}_{\text{collapsed blocks}} \pm \underbrace{\epsilon_{k+1} n_{k+1}}_{\text{ergodic Thm variability}}$$

$$= \left( \epsilon_k + \frac{(1-\epsilon_k)}{n_k} \pm \epsilon_{k+1} \right) n_{k+1} = S_k n_{k+1}$$

↑  
small essentially constant value

How many permutations might we use?

$$(S_k n_{k+1})! \approx 2^{S_k n_{k+1} \log_2 (S_k n_{k+1})}$$

superexponential in  $n_{k+1}$

How many names are there and how big are they?

$$\# \text{ is } 2^{(\mathcal{H}(T,P) \pm \epsilon_{k+1}) n}$$

$$\text{size is } 2^{-(\mathcal{H}(T,P) \pm \epsilon_{k+1}) n}$$

} off subset of  $\epsilon_{k+1}$  of base

More prep - Modify  $P$  on a small part near bottom to be one name so these names are fat.

$$\# \text{ is } 2^{(\mathcal{H}(T,P) - 2\epsilon_{k+1} \pm \epsilon_{k+1}) n_{k+1}}$$

$$\text{size is } 2^{-(\mathcal{H}(T,P) - 2\epsilon_{k+1} \pm \epsilon_{k+1}) n_{k+1}}$$

Do a combinatorial argument:  
Simplified form but expresses the  
core idea of how one can  
control the # of permutations  
one uses in Dye's theorem.

Fix a (large) value  $n$ , and  
let  $k_1, k_2, \dots, k_t$  be given  $\sum k_i = n$ .

Consider the set of words  
 $\mathcal{L}$  of length  $n$  in the symbols  
 $\{1, 2, \dots, t\}$  where symbol  $i$  occurs  
 $k_i$  times.

$$\text{there are } N = \binom{n}{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_t} = \frac{n!}{k_1! \dots k_t!}$$

such names:

Two facts

$$1) N = 2^{h(\alpha)n}, \quad \alpha = \left\{ \frac{k_1}{n}, \frac{k_2}{n}, \dots, \frac{k_t}{n} \right\}$$
$$+ h(\alpha) \approx - \sum_{i=1}^t \alpha_i \log_2 \alpha_i.$$

2) If you take one word  $\mathcal{W} \in \mathcal{L}$   
and act on it by  $S^n$  by permuting  
the order of the symbols, the  
image under  $S^n$  of  $\mathcal{W}$  will cover  $\mathcal{L}$   
uniformly.

Write down two lists of  $n$  words from  $\mathcal{L}$

$$L_1 = \{\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_n\} = \mathcal{L} \text{ is 1-1}$$

$$L_2 = \{\pi'_1, \pi'_2, \dots, \pi'_n\} \text{ allows multiplicities}$$

We look for lists of permutations  $\pi_i: i=1 \dots n$  in  $S^n$  and

a bijection  $H: \{1 \dots n\} \hookrightarrow \{1 \dots n\}$  so that

$$\pi_i(\pi'_i) = \pi_{H(i)}$$

$$\{\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_n\}$$

$$\{\pi'_1, \pi'_2, \dots, \pi'_n\}$$

Call  $\pi_i, H$  a "matching" of  $L_2$  to  $L_1$ .

Theorem Suppose words in  $L_2$  occur with maximum multiplicity  $K$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . One can find a matching  $\pi_i, H$  of  $L_2$  to  $L_1$ , so that all but a fraction at most  $\varepsilon$  of  $1, \dots, n$  are covered by fewer than  $\frac{K}{\varepsilon^2}$  distinct  $\pi_i$ .

In our case, what will  $K$  and  $\epsilon$  be?

Our names are fat, so ~~first~~ we can modify  $P$  so that all symbols  $1, \dots, k$  occur the same number of times  $k_1, \dots, k_k$  and

$$h(\alpha) = h(T, P) \pm \epsilon_{k+1}$$

so 
$$N = 2^{(h(T, P) \pm \epsilon_{k+1}) n_{k+1}}$$

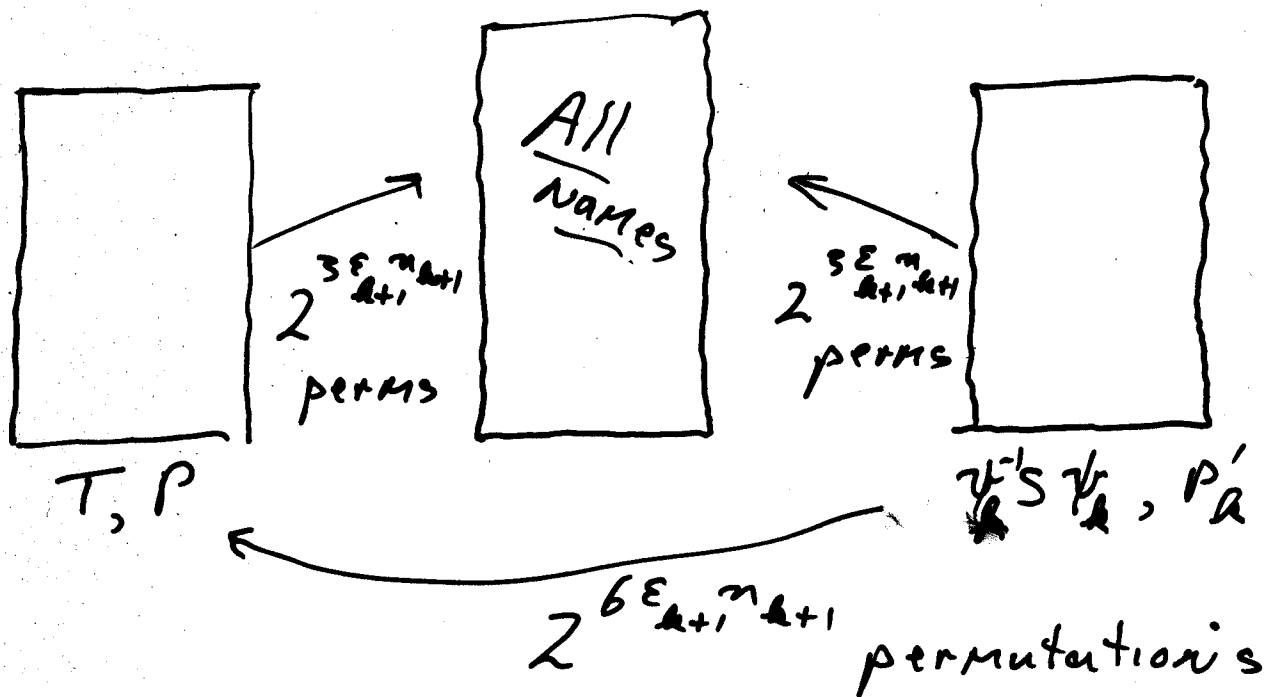
and cut a name in tower into pieces of size  $\frac{1}{N}$ ,

you get at least  $2^{\epsilon_{k+1} n_{k+1}}$  of them and at most  $2^{2\epsilon_{k+1} n_{k+1}}$

of them. So remainder, the bit left is a fraction at most  $2^{-\epsilon_{k+1} n_{k+1}}$  (tiny) of the name. Modify  $P$  again so cuts are perfect & we're ready to apply the Theorem.

What is  $K$ ?  $K \leq 2^{2\epsilon_{k+1} n_{k+1}}$   
so # of permutations used is

$$\leq \frac{2^{2\epsilon_{k+1} n_{k+1}}}{2^{\epsilon_{k+1} n_{k+1}}} \leq 2^{3\epsilon_{k+1} n_{k+1}} \quad \text{if } n_{k+1} \text{ is large}$$



### Comments:

- 1) Really about discrete amenable group actions - As is Dye's Theorem. Is there a group-independent version?
- 2) At least for some cases can a more explicit algorithm for selecting the small # of permutations be given?
- 3) Can a topological version for homeomorphisms of Cantor sets be given?