

# One-dependent trigonometric determinantal processes are two-block-factors

Erik I. Broman\*

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## Abstract

Given a trigonometric polynomial  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  of degree  $m$ , one can define a corresponding stationary process  $\{X_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  via determinants of the Toeplitz matrix for  $f$ . We show that for  $m = 1$  this process, which is trivially one-dependent, is a two-block-factor.

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**Short title:** Determinants and two-block-factors

## 1 Introduction

We will start by defining a family of probability measures  $\mathbf{P}^f$  on the Borel sets of  $\{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{Z}}$  where  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a Lebesgue-measurable function (see [9]). For such an  $f$ , define the probability of the cylinder sets by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}^f[\eta(e_1) = \cdots = \eta(e_k) = 1] &:= \mathbf{P}^f[\{\eta \in \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{Z}} : \eta(e_1) = \cdots = \eta(e_k) = 1\}] \\ &:= \det[\hat{f}(e_j - e_i)]_{1 \leq i, j \leq k}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $e_1, \dots, e_k$  are distinct elements in  $\mathbb{Z}$  and  $k \geq 1$ . Here  $\hat{f}$  denotes the Fourier coefficients of  $f$ , defined by

$$\hat{f}(k) := \int_0^1 f(x) e^{-i2\pi kx} dx.$$

In [9] it is proven that  $\mathbf{P}^f$  is indeed a probability measure. In fact they showed this for the more general case of  $f : \mathbb{T}^d \rightarrow [0, 1]$  where  $\mathbb{T}^d := \mathbb{R}^d / \mathbb{Z}^d$ ; in this case the resulting process is indexed by  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ . This result rests very strongly on the results in [8]. Except for the two definitions below,  $\{X_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  will always denote a process distributed according to some measure  $\mathbf{P}^f$ . Throughout this paper, equality in distribution will be denoted by  $=_{\mathcal{D}}$ . Let the function  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  be of the form

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=-m}^m a_k e^{-i2\pi kx}.$$

It is then easily checked that the process  $\{X_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  corresponding to the probability measure  $\mathbf{P}^f$  is  $m$ -dependent according to the definition below.

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**Definition 1.1** A process  $\{X_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is called  $m$ -dependent if  $\{X_i\}_{i < k}$  is independent of  $\{X_i\}_{i \geq k+m}$  for all integers  $k$ .

We will also need the definition of an  $m$ -block-factor.

**Definition 1.2** The process  $\{X_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is called an  $m$ -block-factor if there exists a function  $h$  of  $m$  variables and an i.i.d. process  $\{Y_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  such that  $\{X_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} =_{\mathcal{D}} \{h(Y_i, \dots, Y_{i+m-1})\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$ .

We will as usual not distinguish between the process  $\{X_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  and the corresponding probability measure  $\mathbf{P}^f$ .

Observe that an  $(m+1)$ -block-factor is trivially  $m$ -dependent. For some time, it was an open question whether all  $m$ -dependent processes were in fact  $(m+1)$ -block-factors (see [4],[5],[6],[7]). However, in [2] the authors constructed a family of one-dependent processes which are not two-block-factors, and in [3] the authors constructed a one-dependent process which is not a  $k$ -block factor for any  $k$ . In [1] the authors construct a one-dependent stationary Markov process with five states which is not a two-block-factor, they also prove that this result is sharp in the sense that every one-dependent stationary Markov process with not more than four states is a two-block-factor. In view of the above it is a natural question to ask whether a certain  $m$ -dependent process is an  $(m+1)$ -block-factor or not.

$\mathbf{P}^f$  as defined above is an  $m$ -dependent "trigonometric determinantal probability measure". These probability measures are special cases of general determinantal probability measures, see [10] or [8] for definitions and results. Determinantal processes arise in numerous contexts e.g. mathematical physics, random matrix theory and representation theory to name a few. For a survey see [10], for further results see [8] and for results concerning the discrete stationary case, see [9]. In [9], they ask whether  $\mathbf{P}^f$  above is an  $(m+1)$ -block-factor. In that paper they say that if one can find sufficiently explicit block factors for all trigonometric polynomials, then one can find explicit factors of i.i.d. processes giving  $\mathbf{P}^f$ , where  $f$  is any function such that  $f : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow [0, 1]$ . This in turn would enable one to use more standard probabilistic techniques when studying such a  $\mathbf{P}^f$ . We answer their question positively for  $m=1$  in Theorem (1.3), constructing an explicit two-block-factor.

**Theorem 1.3** If  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is given by

$$f(x) = b + ae^{-i2\pi x} + ce^{i2\pi x},$$

then the corresponding process  $\{X_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is a two-block-factor.

## 2 Proof of theorem 1.3

**Proof of theorem 1.3.**

With  $f$  as in the statement of the theorem, it follows that  $\bar{a} = c$ ,  $b \geq 0$  and hence if  $a = a_1 + ia_2$

$$f(x) = b + 2a_1 \cos(2\pi x) + 2a_2 \sin(2\pi x) = b + 2|a| \cos(2\pi x - \phi), \quad (1)$$

for some suitable choice of  $\phi$ . Let, as usual,  $\mathbf{P}^f$  be the corresponding probability measure, and write

$$D_k := \det [\hat{f}(j-i)]_{1 \leq i, j \leq k+1}$$

where  $k \geq 0$ .

Note that the process  $\{X_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  distributed according to  $\mathbf{P}^f$  is obviously stationary. Since  $\mathbf{P}^f$  is one-dependent, it is easily seen that it is uniquely determined among the one-dependent processes by the values of

$$\mathbf{P}^f[\eta(i) = \dots = \eta(i+k) = 1] = \mathbf{P}^f[\eta(1) = \dots = \eta(1+k) = 1]$$

as  $k$  varies over the nonnegative integers.

We have that for  $k \geq 2$

$$\begin{aligned} D_k &= \det [\hat{f}(j-i)]_{1 \leq i, j \leq k+1} = \begin{vmatrix} b & a & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ \bar{a} & b & a & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & \bar{a} & b & a & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & \bar{a} & b & a & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \end{vmatrix} & (2) \\ &= b \begin{vmatrix} b & a & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ \bar{a} & b & a & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & \bar{a} & b & a & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & \bar{a} & b & a & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \end{vmatrix} - a \begin{vmatrix} \bar{a} & a & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & b & a & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & \bar{a} & b & a & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & \bar{a} & b & a & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \end{vmatrix} \\ &= bD_{k-1} - |a|^2 D_{k-2}, \end{aligned}$$

where the determinant on the left-hand side of the third equality has size  $(k+1) \times (k+1)$ , and the two on the right-hand side have size  $k \times k$ . Furthermore

$$D_0 = |b| = b \quad (3)$$

$$D_1 = \begin{vmatrix} b & a \\ \bar{a} & b \end{vmatrix} = b^2 - |a|^2. \quad (4)$$

The characteristic equation corresponding to equation (2) is

$$r^2 - br + |a|^2 = 0, \quad (5)$$

which has two roots

$$r_1 = \frac{b}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{b^2}{4} - |a|^2}, \quad (6)$$

and

$$r_2 = \frac{b}{2} - \sqrt{\frac{b^2}{4} - |a|^2}. \quad (7)$$

Case 1: Assume that  $r_1 = r_2 = r$  so that  $r = \frac{b}{2}$  and

$$\frac{b^2}{4} = |a|^2$$

and so (since  $b, |a| \geq 0$ )

$$b = 2|a|.$$

We have by equation (1) that

$$\max_{x \in [0,1]} f(x) = \max_{x \in [0,1]} (b + 2|a| \cos(2\pi x - \phi)) = b + 2|a| = 2b$$

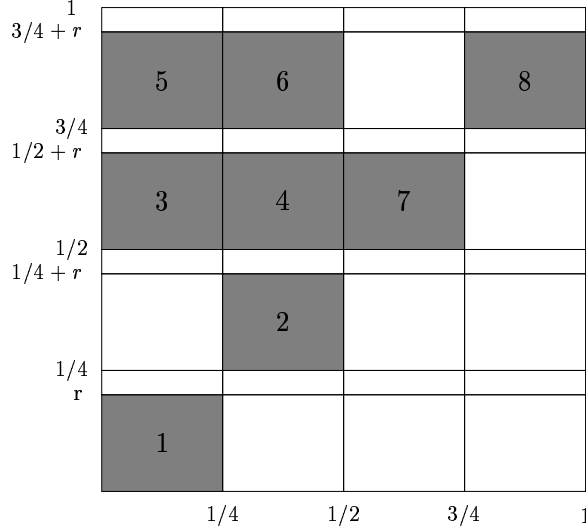


Figure 1: This figure shows A (the shaded area).

and since  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  we get  $b \leq 1/2$  and so  $|a| \leq 1/4$ .

With  $r_1 = r_2 = r$ , it follows from the basic theory of difference equations that the solution to equation (2) is

$$D_k = (C_1 k + C_2) r^k \quad \forall k \geq 0,$$

for some constants  $C_1, C_2$  yet to be determined. Using (3) and (4), we get that  $C_2 = D_0 = b = 2r$  and using this we get  $(C_1 + 2r)r = D_1 = b^2 - |a|^2 = b^2 - b^2/4 = 3r^2$ . Hence  $C_1 = r$  and so

$$D_k = (kr + 2r)r^k \quad \forall k \geq 0. \quad (8)$$

We will now construct a two-block-factor which we will show to be distributed according to  $\mathbf{P}^f$ . Let  $\{Y_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  be i.i.d. uniform on  $[0, 1]$ . Define  $h : [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  by  $h = I_A$  where

$$\begin{aligned} A &= [0, \frac{1}{4}] \times [0, r] \cup [0, \frac{1}{4}] \times [\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} + r] \cup [0, \frac{1}{4}] \times [\frac{3}{4}, \frac{3}{4} + r] \\ &\cup [\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2}] \times [\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4} + r] \cup [\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2}] \times [\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} + r] \cup [\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2}] \times [\frac{3}{4}, \frac{3}{4} + r] \\ &\cup [\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{4}] \times [\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} + r] \cup [\frac{3}{4}, 1] \times [\frac{3}{4}, \frac{3}{4} + r]. \end{aligned}$$

A is depicted as the grey area of figure (1). Observe that  $r = |a| \leq 1/4$ .

We will show that

$$\mathbf{P}[h(Y_i, Y_{i+1}) = \cdots = h(Y_{i+k}, Y_{i+k+1}) = 1] = D_k \quad \forall k \geq 0.$$

Since  $\{h(Y_i, Y_{i+1})\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is one-dependent, this gives us  $\{h(Y_i, Y_{i+1})\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} =_{\mathcal{D}} \mathbf{P}^f$  as desired. We first observe that the size of the shaded area of figure (1) is  $8\frac{1}{4}r = 2r = b$ , so that  $\mathbf{P}[h(Y_i, Y_{i+1}) = 1] = D_0$ .

If  $h(Y_i, Y_{i+1}) = \dots = h(Y_{i+k}, Y_{i+k+1}) = 1$ , then  $(Y_{i+l}, Y_{i+l+1})$  must be in one of the boxes marked 1 through 8 of figure (1)  $\forall l \in \{0, \dots, k\}$ . If  $(Y_i, Y_{i+1})$  is in the box marked 1, then  $Y_{i+1} \in [0, r]$  and so  $(Y_{i+1}, Y_{i+2})$  must be in one of the boxes marked 1, 3 or 5 because otherwise  $(Y_{i+1}, Y_{i+2}) \notin A$ . Similar “rules” apply if  $(Y_i, Y_{i+1})$  is in one of the other seven boxes. We see that for any  $\omega$  such that  $h(Y_i(\omega), Y_{i+1}(\omega)) = \dots = h(Y_{i+k}(\omega), Y_{i+k+1}(\omega)) = 1$  there is a natural sequence  $j_0 j_1 \dots j_k(\omega) \in \{1, \dots, 8\}^{k+1}$  associated to it, where the value of  $j_l$  indicates that  $(Y_{i+l}(\omega), Y_{i+l+1}(\omega))$  is in the box marked with that value. In any such sequence the number 1 can only be followed by either 1, 3 or 5, as described above, while the number 2 can only be followed by either 2, 4 or 6. Additionally any one of the numbers 3, 4 or 7 must be followed by a 7, while any one of 5, 6 or 8 must be followed by an 8.

We claim that the number of sequences  $j_0 j_1 \dots j_k$  described above is  $(4k + 8)$ . To see this, observe that every such sequence with  $j_k \notin \{1, 2\}$  can be extended into a sequence  $j_0 j_1 \dots j_{k+1}$  in only one way, while if  $j_k \in \{1, 2\}$  it can be extended in three ways. Observe also that there are only two sequences  $j_0 j_1 \dots j_k$  ending in 1 or 2.

The set of  $\omega$  giving a specific sequence  $j_0 j_1 \dots j_k \in \{1, \dots, 8\}^{k+1}$  has probability  $(1/4)r^{k+1}$  since  $Y_i$  must be in an interval of length  $1/4$ , while  $Y_{i+1}, \dots, Y_{i+k+1}$  all must be within intervals of length  $r$ . Hence the total probability of having  $h(Y_i, Y_{i+1}) = \dots = h(Y_{i+k}, Y_{i+k+1}) = 1$  is  $(4k + 8)(1/4)r^{k+1} = (kr + 2r)r^k$ . Comparing with equation (8) we see that

$$\mathbf{P}[h(Y_i, Y_{i+1}) = \dots = h(Y_{i+k}, Y_{i+k+1}) = 1] = D_k$$

$\forall k \geq 0$  and we conclude that  $\{h(Y_i, Y_{i+1})\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} =_{\mathcal{D}} \mathbf{P}^f$  and so this case is proved.

Case 2: It remains to consider  $r_1 \neq r_2$ . According to equations (6) and (7)

$$r_1 + r_2 = b,$$

and

$$r_1 r_2 = |a|^2.$$

In this case the solution to equation (2) is, again, from basic difference equation theory,

$$D_k = C_1 r_1^k + C_2 r_2^k \quad \forall k \geq 0,$$

for some constants  $C_1, C_2$  yet to be determined. Using this with equation (3) we get

$$C_1 + C_2 = D_0 = r_1 + r_2,$$

and using equation (4) we get

$$C_1 r_1 + C_2 r_2 = D_1 = b^2 - |a|^2 = (r_1 + r_2)^2 - r_1 r_2 = r_1^2 + r_1 r_2 + r_2^2.$$

A straightforward calculation yields

$$C_1 = \frac{r_1^2}{r_1 - r_2}$$

and

$$C_2 = -\frac{r_2^2}{r_1 - r_2}$$

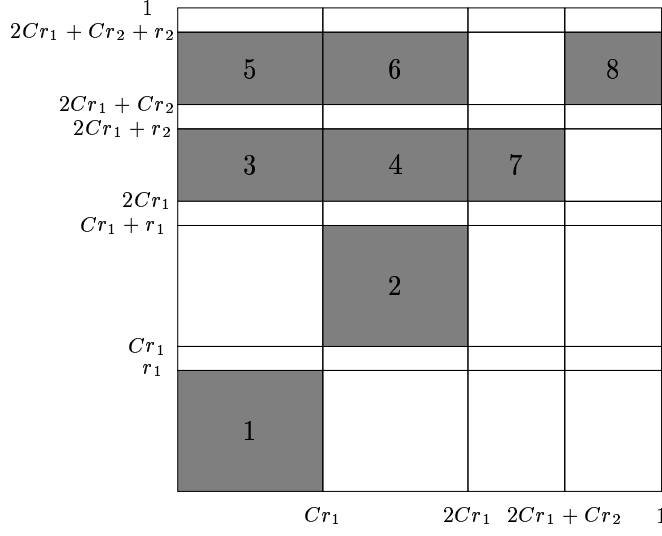


Figure 2: This figure shows A (the shaded area).

and therefore for  $k \geq 1$ ,

$$D_k = \frac{r_1^{k+2} - r_2^{k+2}}{r_1 - r_2} = \frac{r_1^{k+2} - r_1^{k+1}r_2 + r_2(r_1^{k+1} - r_2^{k+1})}{r_1 - r_2} = r_1^{k+1} + r_2 D_{k-1}. \quad (9)$$

Assume that  $b \leq \frac{1}{2}$  so that  $2(r_1 + r_2) \leq 1$ . We will now construct a two-block-factor which we will show to be distributed according to  $\mathbf{P}^f$ . Let  $\{Y_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  be i.i.d. uniform on  $[0, 1]$  and again take  $h : [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  to be the function  $h = I_A$  where A is now

$$\begin{aligned} A &= [0, Cr_1] \times [0, r_1] \cup [0, Cr_1] \times [2Cr_1, 2Cr_1 + r_2] \\ &\cup [0, Cr_1] \times [2Cr_1 + Cr_2, 2Cr_1 + Cr_2 + r_2] \\ &\cup [Cr_1, 2Cr_1] \times [Cr_1, Cr_1 + r_1] \\ &\cup [Cr_1, 2Cr_1] \times [2Cr_1, 2Cr_1 + r_2] \\ &\cup [Cr_1, 2Cr_1] \times [2Cr_1 + Cr_2, 2Cr_1 + Cr_2 + r_2] \\ &\cup [2Cr_1, 2Cr_1 + Cr_2] \times [2Cr_1, 2Cr_1 + r_2] \\ &\cup [2Cr_1 + Cr_2, 1] \times [2Cr_1 + Cr_2, 2Cr_1 + Cr_2 + r_2], \end{aligned}$$

and  $C = \frac{1}{2(r_1 + r_2)} \geq 1$ . A is the shaded area of figure (2).

Again we will show that

$$\mathbf{P}[h(Y_i, Y_{i+1}) = \dots = h(Y_{i+k}, Y_{i+k+1}) = 1] = D_k \quad \forall k \geq 0.$$

Since again  $\{h(Y_i, Y_{i+1})\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is one-dependent this gives us  $\{h(Y_i, Y_{i+1})\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} =_{\mathcal{D}} \mathbf{P}^f$ . We observe that the size of the shaded area of figure (2) equals

$$2Cr_1r_1 + 4Cr_1r_2 + 2Cr_2r_2 = 2C(r_1 + r_2)^2 = r_1 + r_2$$

by our choice of C, and so  $\mathbf{P}[h(Y_i, Y_{i+1}) = 1] = D_0$ .

For any  $\omega$  such that  $h(Y_i(\omega), Y_{i+1}(\omega)) = \dots = h(Y_{i+k}(\omega), Y_{i+k+1}(\omega)) = 1$  there is a natural sequence  $j_0 j_1 \dots j_k(\omega) \in \{1, \dots, 8\}^{k+1}$  associated to it as before. Let  $\{\omega : j_0 j_1 \dots j_k(\omega)\}$  denote the set of  $\omega$  giving a specific sequence  $j_0 j_1 \dots j_k$ , and for convenience we will write  $\mathbf{P}[j_0 j_1 \dots j_k]$  instead of  $\mathbf{P}[\{\omega : j_0 j_1 \dots j_k(\omega)\}]$ . Assume that  $j_{k-1} \in \{3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8\}$ , we get

$$\mathbf{P}[j_0 j_1 \dots j_k] = r_2 \mathbf{P}[j_0 j_1 \dots j_{k-1}]$$

since  $j_k$  is either 7 or 8 (depending on the value of  $j_{k-1}$ ). If instead  $j_{k-1} = 1$  then  $j_k$  must be either 1, 3 or 5 and of course  $j_l = 1$  for all  $l \leq (k-1)$ . Hence in this case

$$\mathbf{P}[j_0 j_1 \dots j_k] = r_2 \mathbf{P}[j_0 j_1 \dots j_{k-1}] = r_2 \mathbf{P}[\underbrace{11 \dots 1}_k] = r_2 C r_1^{k+1}$$

if  $j_k$  is equal to 3 or 5 and

$$\mathbf{P}[j_0 j_1 \dots j_k] = \mathbf{P}[\underbrace{11 \dots 1}_{k+1}] = C r_1^{k+2}$$

if  $j_k = 1$ . Similarly if  $j_{k-1} = 2$  then  $j_k$  must be either 2, 4 or 5 and of course  $j_l = 2$  for all  $l \leq (k-1)$ . Hence

$$\mathbf{P}[j_0 j_1 \dots j_k] = r_2 \mathbf{P}[j_0 j_1 \dots j_{k-1}] = r_2 \mathbf{P}[\underbrace{22 \dots 2}_k] = r_2 C r_1^{k+1}$$

if  $j_k$  is equal to 4 or 6 and

$$\mathbf{P}[j_0 j_1 \dots j_k] = \mathbf{P}[\underbrace{22 \dots 2}_{k+1}] = C r_1^{k+2}$$

if  $j_k = 2$ .

Let  $\mathcal{A}_k$  be the set of all sequences  $j_0 j_1 \dots j_k$  corresponding to the event  $h(Y_i, Y_{i+1}) = \dots = h(Y_{i+k}, Y_{i+k+1}) = 1$ . We have that

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{P}[h(Y_i, Y_{i+1}) = \dots = h(Y_{i+k}, Y_{i+k+1}) = 1] \\ &= \sum_{\mathcal{A}_k} \mathbf{P}[j_0 j_1 \dots j_k] \\ &= \sum_{\substack{\mathcal{A}_k \\ j_{k-1} \notin \{1,2\}}} \mathbf{P}[j_0 j_1 \dots j_k] + \sum_{\substack{\mathcal{A}_k \\ j_{k-1} \in \{1,2\}}} \mathbf{P}[j_0 j_1 \dots j_k] \\ &= r_2 \sum_{\substack{\mathcal{A}_{k-1} \\ j_{k-1} \notin \{1,2\}}} \mathbf{P}[j_0 j_1 \dots j_{k-1}] + 4r_2 C r_1^{k+1} + 2C r_1^{k+2} \\ &= r_2 \left( \sum_{\substack{\mathcal{A}_{k-1} \\ j_{k-1} \notin \{1,2\}}} \mathbf{P}[j_0 j_1 \dots j_{k-1}] + \mathbf{P}[\underbrace{11 \dots 1}_k] + \mathbf{P}[\underbrace{22 \dots 2}_k] \right) \\ &\quad + 2r_2 C r_1^{k+1} + 2C r_1^{k+2} \\ &= r_2 \sum_{\mathcal{A}_{k-1}} \mathbf{P}[j_0 j_1 \dots j_{k-1}] + 2C r_1^{k+1} (r_1 + r_2) \\ &= r_2 \mathbf{P}[h(Y_i, Y_{i+1}) = \dots = h(Y_{i+k-1}, Y_{i+k}) = 1] + r_1^{k+1}. \end{aligned}$$

Comparing this to equation (9), and using  $\mathbf{P}[h(Y_i, Y_{i+1}) = 1] = D_0$  we see that

$$\mathbf{P}[h(Y_i, Y_{i+1}) = \cdots = h(Y_{i+k}, Y_{i+k+1}) = 1] = D_k$$

for all  $k \geq 0$ , and so this case is also proved.

Finally the case  $b > \frac{1}{2}$  remains. Take

$$g(x) = 1 - f(x) = 1 - b - 2|a| \cos(2\pi x - \phi) = 1 - b + 2|a| \cos(2\pi x - \phi'),$$

for some suitable choice of  $\phi'$ . Since  $1 - b \leq \frac{1}{2}$ , it follows from above that we can construct a two-block-factor  $\{h(Y_i, Y_{i+1})\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  such that

$$\{h(Y_i, Y_{i+1})\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} =_{\mathcal{D}} \mathbf{P}^g.$$

With  $\tilde{h} = 1 - h$ , we get a new two-block-factor  $\{\tilde{h}(Y_i, Y_{i+1})\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  with ones and zeros flipped. Lemma 2.4 in [9] then shows that  $\{\tilde{h}(Y_i, Y_{i+1})\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  has distribution  $\mathbf{P}^{1-g}$ , which in turn is  $\mathbf{P}^f$ .

*QED*

When trying to generalise theorem 1.3 to the case where  $f$  is a trigonometric polynomial of degree  $m$ , one must consider not only the values of

$$\mathbf{P}^f[\eta(1) = \cdots = \eta(1+k) = 1],$$

but also the values of

$$\mathbf{P}^f[\eta(e_1) = 1 \cdots = \eta(e_k) = 1]$$

where  $e_i \in \mathbb{Z} \forall i \in \{1, \dots, k\}$  but where  $e_i$  is not necessarily equal to  $e_{i-1} + 1$ . Analysing these new cylinder events adds to the complexity of the problem and therefore, in our opinion, the generalisation of theorem 1.3 (if indeed the generalisation is true) does not seem to be trivial.

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Erik Broman  
Dept. of Mathematics  
Chalmers University of Technology  
412 96 Gothenburg  
Sweden  
broman@math.chalmers.se  
<http://www.math.chalmers.se/~broman>