



# Self-similar random fields and rescaled random balls models

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# 1 Random balls models

## 1.1 Mathematical description

We start with a family of grains  $X_j + B(0, R_j)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  where

$(X_j, R_j)_j$  is a Poisson point process in  $\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^+$ ,

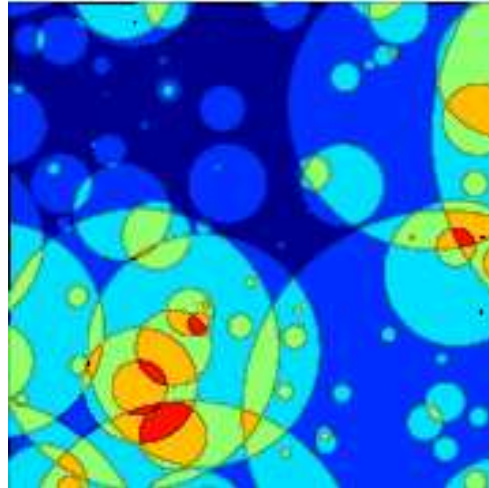
with intensity measure  $n(dx, dr) = dx F(dr)$  where  $F$  is a  $\sigma$ -finite non-negative measure on  $\mathbb{R}^+$  such that

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^+} r^d F(dr) < +\infty.$$

Let  $N$  be the associated Poisson random measure on  $\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^+$ .

For  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^+)$  with  $n(A) < \infty$

$$N(A) = \# \{j; (X_j, R_j) \in A\} \sim \mathcal{P}(n(A)).$$



### Associated shot-noise random field

One can define the random field  $X$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  by

$$\begin{aligned} X(t) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^+} \mathbf{1}_{B(x,r)}(t) N(dx, dr) \\ &= \# \text{ grains containing } t \in \mathbb{R}^d. \end{aligned}$$

## Examples

$d = 1$   $\longrightarrow$   $X(t)$  = numbers of connections to a server at time  $t$

$d = 2$   $\longrightarrow$   $X(t)$  = discretized gray level at point  $t$  in a picture

$d = 3$   $\longrightarrow$   $X(t)$  = mass density of a 3D granular media in  $t$

## Main properties

- $X$  is stationary and isotropic
- $\mathbb{E}X(t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^+} \mathbf{1}_{B(x,r)}(t) dx F(dr) = c_d \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} r^d F(dr)$
- $\text{Cov}(X(t), X(t')) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} |B(t,r) \cap B(t',r)| F(dr)$

## 1.2 Generalizations

↪ For  $V$  a Borel set of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ,

$$X(V) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^+} |V \cap B(x, r)| N(dx, dr) = \text{weighted coverage of } V.$$

↪ For  $\mu \in \mathcal{M} = \{\text{signed measures } \mu \text{ on } \mathbb{R}^d; |\mu|(\mathbb{R}^d) < +\infty\}$ ,

$$X(\mu) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^+} \mu(B(x, r)) N(dx, dr)$$

- $\mathbb{E}(X(\mu)) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^+} \mu(B(x, r)) dx F(dr) = \mu(\mathbb{R}^d) c_d \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} r^d F(dr)$
- $\text{Var}(X(\mu)) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^+} \mu(B(x, r))^2 dx F dr \leq |\mu|(\mathbb{R}^d)^2 c_d \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} r^d F(dr)$

**Prop:**  $X$  is a continuous random linear functional on  $\mathcal{M}$  ie

$$X : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow L^2(\Omega) \text{ is continuous}$$

**Remark:**  $X(t) = X(\delta_t)$  for any  $t \in \mathbb{R}^d$

## 2 Scaling behavior

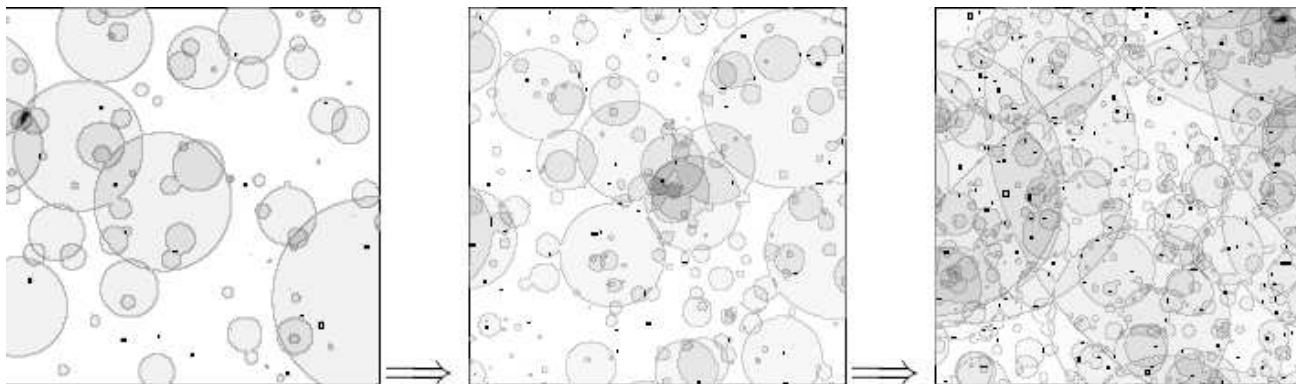
Let us multiply the radii by  $\rho > 0$  and the intensity measure by  $\lambda(\rho) > 0$ :

$$n(dx, dr) = dx F(dr) \rightsquigarrow n_{\lambda(\rho), \rho}(dx, dr) = \lambda(\rho) dx F_\rho(dr)$$

$F_\rho(dr)$  = image measure of  $F(dr)$  by the change of scale  $r \mapsto \rho r$ .

$$X_\rho(\mu) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^+} \mu(B(x, r)) N_{\lambda(\rho), \rho}(dx, dr)$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \text{zoom-in:} & \rho \rightarrow +\infty \quad (\text{small grain assumption}) \\ \text{zoom-out:} & \rho \rightarrow 0 \quad (\text{large grain assumption}) \end{array} \right.$$



We are looking for a normalization term  $n(\rho)$  s.t.

$$\frac{X_\rho(\cdot) - \mathbb{E}(X_\rho(\cdot))}{n(\rho)} \xrightarrow{fdd} W(\cdot),$$

when  $\rho \rightarrow 0$  (zoom-out) or  $\rho \rightarrow +\infty$  (zoom-in). By linearity, it holds if

$$\mathbb{E} \left( \exp \left( i \frac{X_\rho(\mu) - \mathbb{E}(X_\rho(\mu))}{n(\rho)} \right) \right) \longrightarrow \mathbb{E} (\exp (iW(\mu))),$$

for all  $\mu$  in a convenient subspace of  $\mathcal{M}$ . Let us write

$$\mathbb{E} \left( \exp \left( i \frac{X_\rho(\mu) - \mathbb{E}(X_\rho(\mu))}{n(\rho)} \right) \right) = \exp \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} \lambda(\rho) \varphi_\rho(r) F_\rho(dr) \right).$$

with

$$\varphi_\rho(r) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \Psi \left( \frac{\mu(B(x, r))}{n(\rho)} \right) dx \text{ and } \Psi(v) = e^{iv} - 1 - iv.$$

- Gaussian limit:  $n(\rho) \rightarrow +\infty$ ,  $\varphi_\rho(r) \sim -\frac{1}{2n(\rho)^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \mu(B(x, r))^2 dx$ .
- Poisson limit:  $n(\rho) \rightarrow n_0$ ,  $\varphi_\rho(r) \sim \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \Psi \left( \frac{\mu(B(x, r))}{n_0} \right) dx$ .



## 2.1 Power law assumptions

**Intensity  $\mathbf{A}(\beta)$**  : for  $\beta \neq d$ , assume  $F(dr) = f(r)dr$  with

$$f(r) \sim C_\beta r^{-\beta-1}, \text{ as } r \rightarrow 0^{d-\beta} = \begin{cases} r \rightarrow +\infty, & \beta > d \text{ (zoom-out)} \\ r \rightarrow 0, & \beta < d \text{ (zoom-in)} \end{cases}.$$

We consider  $F$  satisfying  $\mathbf{A}(\beta)$  and  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^+} r^d F(dr) < +\infty$ .

**Lemma:** Under  $\mathbf{A}(\beta)$  if  $g$  is a continuous function on  $\mathbb{R}^+$  such that  $|g(r)| \leq C \min(r^q, r^p)$ , for some  $0 < p < \beta < q$ , then

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^+} g(r) F_\rho(dr) \underset{\rho \rightarrow 0^{\beta-d}}{\sim} C_\beta \rho^\beta \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} g(r) r^{-\beta-1} dr.$$

## Finite energy measures

$$\mathcal{I}_\alpha(\mu) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} |z - z'|^{d-\alpha} \mu(dz) \mu(dz')$$

- For  $\beta > d$ ,  $\mathcal{M}_\beta = \{\mu \in \mathcal{M} ; \exists \alpha > \beta , \mathcal{I}_\alpha(|\mu|) < +\infty\}$
- For  $\beta < d$ ,  $\mathcal{M}_\beta = \{\mu \in \mathcal{M} ; \exists \alpha < \beta , \mathcal{I}_\alpha(|\mu|) < +\infty \text{ and } \int \mu = 0 \}$

**Prop:** for  $\beta \in (d-1, 2d)$  with  $\beta \neq d$ , when  $\mu \in \mathcal{M}_\beta$

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^d} \mu(B(x, r))^2 r^{-\beta-1} dr dx = c_\beta \mathcal{I}_\beta(\mu) < +\infty.$$

**Remark:**  $-c_\beta > 0$  for  $d < \beta < 2d$  and  $c_\beta < 0$  for  $d-1 < \beta < d$ ;  
 -for any  $t \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , the Dirac mass  $\delta_t \notin \mathcal{M}_\beta$ ;  
 -for any  $t \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , when  $d-1 < \beta < d$ ,  $\delta_t - \delta_0 \in \mathcal{M}_\beta$ .

## 2.2 Gaussian limit

**Theorem:** Assume

- $d - 1 < \beta < 2d$  such that  $\beta \neq d$
- $\mathbf{A}(\beta) : F(dr) \sim C_\beta r^{-\beta-1} dr$  as  $r \rightarrow 0^{d-\beta}$
- $\lambda(\rho)\rho^\beta \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $\rho \rightarrow 0^{\beta-d}$

Then for all  $\mu \in \mathcal{M}_\beta$ , as  $\rho \rightarrow 0^{\beta-d} = \begin{cases} \rho \rightarrow 0, & \beta > d \text{ (zoom-out)} \\ \rho \rightarrow +\infty & \beta < d \text{ (zoom-in)} \end{cases}$

$$\frac{X_\rho(\mu) - \mathbb{E}(X_\rho(\mu))}{\sqrt{\lambda(\rho)\rho^\beta}} \xrightarrow{fdd} W_\beta(\mu)$$

The limit field  $W_\beta$  is the centered Gaussian continuous random linear functional on  $\mathcal{M}_\beta$  with

$$\text{Cov}(W_\beta(\mu), W_\beta(\nu)) = c_\beta \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} |z - z'|^{d-\beta} \mu(dz)\nu(dz')$$

### Properties of $W_\beta$

**Notations:** For  $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$ ,

- for  $a > 0$ :  $\mu_a(A) := \mu(a^{-1}A)$  for any Borel set  $A$ ;
- for  $s \in \mathbb{R}^d$ :  $\tau_s\mu(A) := \mu(A - s)$  for any Borel set  $A$ .

**Definition:** A random field  $X$ , defined on  $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{M}$  is said to be

- **$H$  self-similar**, for  $H \in \mathbb{R}$ , if

$$\forall \mu \in \mathcal{S}, \forall a > 0, \mu_a \in \mathcal{S} \text{ and } X(\mu_a) \stackrel{fdd}{=} a^H X(\mu).$$

- **translation invariant**, if

$$\forall \mu \in \mathcal{S}, \forall s \in \mathbb{R}^d, \tau_s\mu \in \mathcal{S} \text{ and } X(\tau_s\mu) \stackrel{fdd}{=} X(\mu).$$

**Prop:** Let  $\beta \in (d-1, 2d) \setminus \{d\}$ . The field  $W_\beta$  defined on  $\mathcal{M}_\beta$  is

- self-similar with index  $H = \frac{d-\beta}{2} \in (-d/2, 1/2) \setminus \{0\}$
- translation invariant.

## 2.3 Poisson limit

**Theorem:** Assume

- $d - 1 < \beta < 2d$  such that  $\beta \neq d$
- $\mathbf{A}(\beta)$  :  $F(dr) \sim C_\beta r^{-\beta-1} dr$  as  $r \rightarrow 0^{d-\beta}$
- $\lambda(\rho)\rho^\beta \rightarrow \sigma_0^{d-\beta}$  as  $\rho \rightarrow 0^{\beta-d}$

Then for all  $\mu \in \mathcal{M}_\beta$ , as  $\rho \rightarrow 0^{\beta-d} = \begin{cases} \rho \rightarrow 0, & \beta > d \text{ (zoom-out)} \\ \rho \rightarrow +\infty & \beta < d \text{ (zoom-in)} \end{cases}$

$$X_\rho(\mu) - \mathbb{E}(X_\rho(\mu)) \xrightarrow{fdd} J_\beta(\mu_{\sigma_0})$$

The limit field  $J_\beta$  is the centered continuous random linear functional on  $\mathcal{M}_\beta$  defined as

$$J_\beta(\mu) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} \mu(B(x, r)) \widetilde{N}_\beta(dx, dr),$$

where  $\widetilde{N}_\beta$  is a compensated Poisson random measure with intensity  $C_\beta dx r^{-\beta-1} dr$ , and  $\mu_{\sigma_0}$  is defined by  $\mu_{\sigma_0}(A) = \mu(\sigma_0^{-1}A)$ .

### Properties of $J_\beta$

Let  $\beta \in (d-1, 2d) \setminus \{d\}$ . Then,

- $J_\beta$  is not Gaussian, not self-similar.
- $J_\beta$  is **aggregate similar** with index  $H = \frac{d-\beta}{2} \in (-d/2, 1/2) \setminus \{0\}$ :

$$\forall m \geq 1, \quad \sum_{i=1}^m J_\beta^i(\mu) \stackrel{fdd}{=} J_\beta(\mu_{a_m}) \quad \text{for } a_m = m^{1/2H},$$

where  $(J_\beta^i)$  are iid copies of  $J_\beta$ .

- $J_\beta$  is **translation invariant**.
- $J_\beta$  has the same covariance as  $W_\beta$  ( $H$  second order self-similar).

**Remark:**  $W_\beta$  is also aggregate-similar with index  $H$ .

## 3 Self-similar random fields

### 3.1 Dobrushin's characterization

**Schwartz classes:**  $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d) = \{\varphi : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, C^\infty, \text{rapidly } \searrow\}$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S}_n(\mathbb{R}^d) &= \{\varphi \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d); \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} z^j \varphi(z) dz = 0, j \in \mathbb{N}^d, |j| < n\} \\ &= \{\varphi \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d); D^j \widehat{\varphi}(0) = 0, j \in \mathbb{N}^d, |j| < n\} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\widehat{\varphi}(\xi) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{-i\xi \cdot x} \varphi(z) dz \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ . Since  $(\mathcal{S}_n(\mathbb{R}^d))_n \searrow$ , set

$$\mathcal{S}_0(\mathbb{R}^d) := \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d) \text{ and } \mathcal{S}_\infty(\mathbb{R}^d) := \bigcap_n \mathcal{S}_n(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

Identifying  $\varphi \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  with  $\varphi(z) dz \in \mathcal{M}$ ,  $\forall \beta \in (d-1, 2d) \setminus \{d\}$

$$\mathcal{S}_n(\mathbb{R}^d) \subset \mathcal{M}_\beta \text{ for all } n \geq 1, \text{ and } n \geq 0 \text{ if } \beta > d$$

**Theorem** [Dobrushin (79)]. Let  $n \geq 0$  and  $X$  be a centered continuous random linear functional on  $\mathcal{S}_n(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

$X$  is translation invariant and self-similar of order  $H \in \mathbb{R}$   
if and only if

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(X(\varphi), X(\psi)) &= \int_{S^{d-1}} \int_0^{+\infty} \widehat{\varphi}(r\theta) \overline{\widehat{\psi}(r\theta)} r^{-2H-1} dr d\sigma(\theta) \\ &+ \sum_{|j|=|k|=n} A_{j,k} \alpha_j(\varphi) \overline{\alpha_k(\psi)}, \forall \varphi, \psi \in \mathcal{S}_n(\mathbb{R}^d) \end{aligned}$$

where

- $\sigma = 0$  if  $H \geq n$ ;
- $(A_{j,k})_{|j|=|k|=n} = 0$  if  $H \neq n$
- $\alpha_j(\varphi) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x) x^j dx = i^{|j|} D^j \widehat{\varphi}(0)$ .



**Corollary:** Let  $\beta \in (d-1, 2d) \setminus \{d\}$  and  $H = \frac{d-\beta}{2} \in (-d/2, 1/2) \setminus \{0\}$ .

$\exists k_\beta > 0$  s.t.,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(W_\beta(\varphi), W_\beta(\psi)) &= \text{Cov}(J_\beta(\varphi), J_\beta(\psi)) \\ &= c_\beta \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} |z - z'|^{2H} \varphi(z) \psi(z') \, dz dz' \\ &= k_\beta \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \widehat{\varphi}(\xi) \overline{\widehat{\psi}(\xi)} |\xi|^{-2H-d} \, d\xi, \end{aligned}$$

$\forall \varphi, \psi \in \mathcal{S}_1(\mathbb{R}^d)$  if  $0 < H < 1/2$ ,  $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  if  $-d/2 < H < 0$ .

**Notation:** Let  $H \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Z}$  and consider (cf Dobrushin)  $B_H$  Gaussian s.t.

$$\text{Cov}(B_H(\varphi), B_H(\psi)) = k_H \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \widehat{\varphi}(\xi) \overline{\widehat{\psi}(\xi)} |\xi|^{-2H-d} \, d\xi, \quad \forall \varphi, \psi \in \mathcal{S}_\infty(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

**Remark:**  $B_H$  is the only Gaussian generalized random field isotropic, translation invariant and self-similar of order  $H$ . Moreover

$$B_H = W_{d-2H} \text{ for all } H \in (-d/2, 1/2) \setminus \{0\}$$

Let  $H \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Z}$  and  $m = \lceil H + \frac{1}{2} \rceil \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $H \in [m - 1/2, m + 1/2)$ .

Define the operator  $(-\Delta)^{-\frac{m}{2}} : \mathcal{S}_\infty(\mathbb{R}^d) \longrightarrow \mathcal{S}_\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$  by

$$\widehat{(-\Delta)^{-\frac{m}{2}} \varphi}(\xi) = |\xi|^{-m} \widehat{\varphi}(\xi).$$

**Theorem:** For  $\beta_H = d - 2(H - m)$  assume

- $\mathbf{A}(\beta_H) : F(dr) \underset{r \rightarrow 0^{H-m}}{\sim} C_\beta r^{-\beta_H - 1} dr;$
- $\lambda(\rho) \rho^{\beta_H} \underset{\rho \rightarrow 0^{m-H}}{\longrightarrow} +\infty.$

Then for all  $\varphi \in \mathcal{S}_\infty$ , as  $\rho \rightarrow 0^{m-H} = \begin{cases} \rho \rightarrow 0, & H < m \text{ (zoom-out)} \\ \rho \rightarrow +\infty & H > m \text{ (zoom-in)} \end{cases}$

$$\frac{X_\rho((-\Delta)^{-m/2} \varphi) - \mathbb{E}(X_\rho((-\Delta)^{-m/2} \varphi))}{\sqrt{\lambda(\rho) \rho^{\beta_H}}} \xrightarrow{fdd} B_H(\varphi).$$

Let  $H \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Z}$  and  $m = \lceil H + \frac{1}{2} \rceil \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $H \in [m - 1/2, m + 1/2)$ .

**Theorem:** For  $\beta_H = d - 2(H - m)$  assume

- $\mathbf{A}(\beta_H) : F(dr) \underset{r \rightarrow 0^{H-m}}{\sim} C_\beta r^{-\beta_H - 1} dr;$
- $\lambda(\rho)\rho^{\beta_H} \underset{\rho \rightarrow 0^{m-H}}{\longrightarrow} \sigma_0^{2(H-m)}.$

Then for all  $\varphi \in \mathcal{S}_\infty$ , as  $\rho \rightarrow 0^{m-H} = \begin{cases} \rho \rightarrow 0, & H < m \text{ (zoom-out)} \\ \rho \rightarrow +\infty & H > m \text{ (zoom-in)} \end{cases}$

$$X_\rho((-\Delta)^{-m/2}\varphi) - \mathbb{E} \left( X_\rho((-\Delta)^{-m/2}\varphi) \right) \xrightarrow{fdd} P_H(\sigma_0^m \varphi_{\sigma_0}),$$

where

$$P_H(\varphi) = J_{\beta_H}((-\Delta)^{-m/2}\varphi), \quad \varphi \in \mathcal{S}_\infty(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

## 3.2 Representation

Let  $H \in \mathbb{R}^+ \setminus \mathbb{N}$ .

There exists  $\widetilde{B}_H : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow L^2(\Omega)$  a **representation** of  $B_H$  on  $\mathcal{S}_\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$  ie

$$\forall \varphi \in \mathcal{S}_\infty(\mathbb{R}^d), \quad B_H(\varphi) \stackrel{L^2(\Omega)}{=} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \widetilde{B}_H(t) \varphi(t) dt$$

Moreover, for any  $t, s \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov} \left( \widetilde{B}_H(t), \widetilde{B}_H(s) \right) &= \\ k_H \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} &\left( e^{-it \cdot \xi} - \sum_{k=0}^{\lceil H \rceil - 1} \frac{(it \cdot \xi)^k}{k!} \right) \overline{\left( e^{-is \cdot \xi} - \sum_{k=0}^{\lceil H \rceil - 1} \frac{(is \cdot \xi)^k}{k!} \right)} |\xi|^{-d-2H} d\xi \\ &= c_H \left( |t - s|^{2H} - \sum_{|l|=0}^{\lceil H \rceil - 1} \frac{(-1)^{|l|}}{l!} \left( s^l D^l |t|^{2H} + t^l D^l |s|^{2H} \right) \right) \end{aligned}$$

**Rk:** there also exists a representation  $\widetilde{P}_H : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow L^2(\Omega)$  of  $P_H$  on  $\mathcal{S}_\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

## Characterization of $\widetilde{B}_H$ for $H > 0$

$\widetilde{B}_H$  is the only Gaussian random field that satisfies

- stationary  $n^{\text{th}}$  increments for  $n = \lceil H \rceil$
- self-similar of order  $H$
- isotropic
- $D^j \widetilde{B}_H(0) = 0$  a.s for all  $|j| < \lceil H \rceil$

→ For  $H \in (0, 1)$ ,

$\widetilde{B}_H$  = Fractional Brownian field of Hurst parameter  $H$ .

→ For  $H \in (0, 1/2)$  and  $\beta_H = d - 2H \in (d - 1, d)$ ,

$$\left\{ \widetilde{B}_H(x); x \in \mathbb{R}^d \right\} \stackrel{fdd}{=} \left\{ W_{\beta_H}(\delta_x - \delta_0); x \in \mathbb{R}^d \right\}.$$

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