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Absolute continuity and convergence of densities for random vectors on Wiener chaos

Ivan Nourdin*, David Nualart[†] and Guillaume Poly[‡]

July 21, 2012

Abstract

The aim of this paper is to establish some new results on the absolute continuity and the convergence in total variation for a sequence of d -dimensional vectors whose components belong to a finite sum of Wiener chaoses. First we show that the probability that the determinant of the Malliavin matrix of such vectors vanishes is zero or one, and this probability equals to one is equivalent to say that the vector takes values in the set of zeros of a polynomial. We provide a bound for the degree of this annihilating polynomial improving a result by Kusuoka [8]. On the other hand, we show that the convergence in law implies the convergence in total variation, extending to the multivariate case a recent result by Nourdin and Poly [11]. This follows from an inequality relating the total variation distance with the Fortet-Mourier distance. Finally, applications to some particular cases are discussed and several open questions are listed.

1 Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to establish some new results on the absolute continuity and the convergence of the densities in some $L^p(\mathbb{R}^d)$ for a sequence of d -dimensional random vectors whose components belong to finite sum of Wiener chaos. These result generalize previous works by Kusuoka [8] and by Nourdin and Poly [11], and are based on a combination of the techniques of Malliavin calculus, the Carbery-Wright inequality and some recent work on algebraic dependence for a family of polynomials.

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Let us describe our main results. Given two d -dimensional random vectors F and G , we denote by $d_{TV}(F, G)$ the total variation distance between the laws of F and G , defined by

$$d_{TV}(F, G) = \sup_{A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^d)} |P(F \in A) - P(G \in A)|,$$

where the supremum is taken over all Borel sets A of \mathbb{R}^d . On the other hand, we denote by $d_{FM}(F, G)$ the Fortet-Mourier distance, given by

$$d_{FM}(F, G) = \sup_{\phi} |E[\phi(F)] - E[\phi(G)]|,$$

where the supremum is taken over all 1-Lipschitz functions $\phi : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ which are bounded by 1. It is well-known that d_{FM} metrizes the convergence in distribution.

Consider a sequence of random vectors $F_n = (F_{1,n}, \dots, F_{d,n})$ whose components belong to $\bigoplus_{k=0}^q \mathcal{H}_k$, where \mathcal{H}_k stands for the k th Wiener chaos, and assume that F_n converges in distribution towards a random variable F_∞ . Denote by $\Gamma(F_n)$ the Malliavin matrix of F_n , and assume that $E[\det \Gamma(F_n)]$ is bounded away from zero. Then we prove that there exist constants $c, \gamma > 0$ (depending on d and q) such that, for any $n \geq 1$,

$$d_{TV}(F_n, F_\infty) \leq c d_{FM}(F_n, F_\infty)^\gamma. \tag{1.1}$$

So, our result implies that the sequence F_n converges not only in law but also in total variation. In [11] this result has been proved for $d = 1$. In this case $\gamma = \frac{1}{2q+1}$, and one only needs that F_∞ is not identically zero, which turns out to be equivalent to the fact that the law of F_∞ is absolutely continuous. This equivalence is not true for $d \geq 2$. The proof of this result is based on the Carbery-Wright inequality for the law of a polynomial on Gaussian random variables and the also on the integration-by-parts formula of Malliavin calculus. In the multidimensional case we make use of the integration-by-parts formula based on the Poisson kernel developed by Bally and Caramelino in [1].

The convergence in total variation is equivalent to the convergence of the densities in $L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$. We improve this results proving that under the above assumptions on the sequence F_n , the densities converge in $L^p(\mathbb{R}^d)$ for some explicit $p > 1$ depending solely on d and q .

Motivated by the above inequality, in the first part of the paper we discuss the absolute continuity of the law of a d -dimensional random vector $F = (F_1, \dots, F_d)$ whose components belong to a finite sum of Wiener chaoses $\bigoplus_{k=0}^q \mathcal{H}_k$. Our main result says that the three following conditions are equivalent:

1. The law of F is not absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue measure on \mathbb{R}^d .
2. There exists a nonzero polynomial H in d variables of degree at most dq^{d-1} such that $H(F) = 0$.
3. $E[\det \Gamma(F)] = 0$.

Notice that the criterion of the Malliavin calculus for the absolute continuity of the law of a random vector F says that $\det \Gamma(F) > 0$ almost surely implies the absolute continuity of the law of F . We prove the stronger result that $P(\det \Gamma(F) = 0)$ is zero or one; as a consequence, $P(\det \Gamma(F) > 0) = 1$ turns out to be equivalent to the absolute continuity. The equivalence with condition 2 improves a classical result by Kusuoka ([8]), in the sense that we provide a simple proof of the existence of the annihilating polynomial based on a recent result by Kayal [7] and we give an upper bound for the degree of this polynomial. Also, it is worthwhile noting that, compared to condition 2, condition 3 is often easier to check in practical situations, see also the end of Section 3.

The paper is organized as follows. Section 2 contains some preliminary material on Malliavin calculus, the Carbery-Wright inequality and the results on algebraic dependence that will be used in the paper. In Section 3 we provide equivalent conditions for absolute continuity in the case of a random vector in a sum of Wiener chaoses. Section 4 is devoted to establish the inequality (1.1), and also the convergence in $L^p(\mathbb{R}^d)$ for some p . Section 5 contains applications of these results in some particular cases. Finally, we list two open questions in Section 6.

2 Preliminaries

This section contains some basic elements on Gaussian analysis that will be used throughout this paper. We refer the reader to the books [10, 13] for further details.

2.1 Multiple stochastic integrals

Let \mathfrak{H} be a real separable Hilbert space. We denote by $X = \{X(h), h \in \mathfrak{H}\}$ an *isonormal Gaussian process* over \mathfrak{H} . That means, X is a centered Gaussian family of random variables defined in some probability space (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) , with covariance given by

$$E[X(h)X(g)] = \langle h, g \rangle_{\mathfrak{H}},$$

for any $h, g \in \mathfrak{H}$. We also assume that \mathcal{F} is generated by X .

For every $k \geq 1$, we denote by \mathcal{H}_k the k th *Wiener chaos* of X defined as the closed linear subspace of $L^2(\Omega)$ generated by the family of random variables $\{H_k(X(h)), h \in \mathfrak{H}, \|h\|_{\mathfrak{H}} = 1\}$, where H_k is the k th Hermite polynomial given by

$$H_k(x) = (-1)^k e^{\frac{x^2}{2}} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \left(e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} \right).$$

We write by convention $\mathcal{H}_0 = \mathbb{R}$. For any $k \geq 1$, we denote by $\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes k}$ the k th tensor product of \mathfrak{H} . Then, the mapping $I_k(h^{\otimes k}) = H_k(X(h))$ can be extended to a linear isometry between the symmetric tensor product $\mathfrak{H}^{\odot k}$ (equipped with the modified norm $\sqrt{k!} \|\cdot\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes k}}$) and the k th Wiener chaos \mathcal{H}_k . For $k = 0$ we write $I_0(x) = c$, $c \in \mathbb{R}$. In the particular case $\mathfrak{H} = L^2(A, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$, where μ is a σ -finite measure without atoms, then $\mathfrak{H}^{\odot k}$ coincides

with the space $L_s^2(\mu^k)$ of symmetric functions which are square integrable with respect to the product measure μ^k , and for any $f \in \mathfrak{H}^{\odot k}$ the random variable $I_k(f)$ is the multiple stochastic integral of f with respect to the centered Gaussian measure generated by X .

Any random variable $F \in L^2(\Omega)$ admits an orthogonal decomposition of the form $F = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} I_k(f_k)$, where $f_0 = E[F]$, and the kernels $f_k \in \mathfrak{H}^{\odot k}$ are uniquely determined by F .

Let $\{e_i, i \geq 1\}$ be a complete orthonormal system in \mathfrak{H} . Given $f \in \mathfrak{H}^{\odot k}$ and $g \in \mathfrak{H}^{\odot j}$, for every $r = 0, \dots, k \wedge j$, the *contraction* of f and g of order r is the element of $\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes(k+j-2r)}$ defined by

$$f \otimes_r g = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_r=1}^{\infty} \langle f, e_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{i_r} \rangle_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes r}} \otimes \langle g, e_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{i_r} \rangle_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes r}}.$$

The contraction $f \otimes_r g$ is not necessarily symmetric, and we denote by $f \widetilde{\otimes}_r g$ its symmetrization.

2.2 Malliavin calculus

Let \mathcal{S} be the set of all cylindrical random variables of the form

$$F = g(X(h_1), \dots, X(h_n)),$$

where $n \geq 1$, $h_i \in \mathfrak{H}$, and g is infinitely differentiable such that all its partial derivatives have polynomial growth. The Malliavin derivative of F is the element of $L^2(\Omega; \mathfrak{H})$ defined by

$$DF = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i}(X(h_1), \dots, X(h_n)) h_i.$$

By iteration, for every $m \geq 2$, we define the m th derivative $D^m F$ which is an element of $L^2(\Omega; \mathfrak{H}^{\odot m})$. For $m \geq 1$ and $p \geq 1$, $\mathbb{D}^{m,p}$ denote the closure of \mathcal{S} with respect to the norm $\|\cdot\|_{m,p}$ defined by

$$\|F\|_{m,p}^p = E[|F|^p] + \sum_{j=1}^m E[\|D^j F\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes j}}^p].$$

We also set $\mathbb{D}^{\infty} = \bigcap_{m \geq 1} \bigcap_{p \geq 1} \mathbb{D}^{m,p}$.

As a consequence of the hypercontractivity property of the Ornstein-Uhlenbeck semigroup, all the $\|\cdot\|_{m,p}$ -norms are equivalent in a finite Wiener chaos. This is a basic result that will be used along the paper.

We denote by δ the adjoint of the operator D , also called the *divergence operator*. An element $u \in L^2(\Omega; \mathfrak{H})$ belongs to the domain of δ , denoted $\text{Dom} \delta$, if $|E\langle DF, u \rangle_{\mathfrak{H}}| \leq$

$c_u \|F\|_{L^2(\Omega)}$ for any $F \in \mathbb{D}^{1,2}$, where c_u is a constant depending only on u . Then, the random variable $\delta(u)$ is defined by the duality relationship

$$E[F\delta(u)] = E\langle DF, u \rangle_{\mathfrak{H}}. \quad (2.2)$$

Given a random vector $F = (F_1, \dots, F_d)$ such that $F_i \in \mathbb{D}^{1,2}$, we denote $\Gamma(F)$ the *Malliavin matrix* of F , which is a random nonnegative definite matrix defined by

$$\Gamma_{i,j}(F) = \langle DF_i, DF_j \rangle_{\mathfrak{H}}.$$

If $F \in \mathbb{D}^{2,2}$ and $\det \Gamma(F) > 0$ almost surely, then the law of F is absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue measure on \mathbb{R}^d (see, for instance, [13, Theorem 2.1.1]). This is our basic criterion for absolute continuity in this paper.

2.3 Carbery-Wright inequality

Along the paper we will make use of the following inequality due to Carbery and Wright [4]: there is a universal constant $c > 0$ such that, for any polynomial $Q : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ of degree at most d and any $\alpha > 0$ we have

$$E[Q(X_1, \dots, X_n)^2]^{\frac{1}{2d}} P(|Q(X_1, \dots, X_n)| \leq \alpha) \leq cd\alpha^{\frac{1}{d}}, \quad (2.3)$$

where X_1, \dots, X_n are independent random variables with law $N(0, 1)$.

2.4 Algebraic dependence

Let \mathbb{F} be a field and $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, \dots, f_k) \in \mathbb{F}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ be a set of k polynomials of degree at most d in n variables in the field \mathbb{F} . These polynomials are said to be *algebraically dependent* if there exists a nonzero k -variate polynomial $A(t_1, \dots, t_k) \in \mathbb{F}[t_1, \dots, t_k]$ such that $A(f_1, \dots, f_k) = 0$. The polynomial A is then called an *(f_1, \dots, f_k) -annihilating polynomial*.

Denote by

$$J_{\mathbf{f}} = \left(\frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_j} \right)_{1 \leq i \leq k, 1 \leq j \leq n}$$

the Jacobian matrix of the set of polynomials in \mathbf{f} . A classical result (see, e.g., Ehrenborg and Rota [6] for a proof) says that f_1, \dots, f_k are algebraically independent if and only if the Jacobian matrix $J_{\mathbf{f}}$ has rank k .

Suppose that the polynomials $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, \dots, f_k)$ are algebraically dependent. Then the set of \mathbf{f} -annihilating polynomials forms an ideal in the polynomial ring $\mathbb{F}[t_1, \dots, t_k]$. In a recent work Kayal (see [7]) has established some properties of this ideal. In particular (see [7, Lemma 7]) he has proved that if no proper subset of \mathbf{f} is algebraically dependent, then the ideal of \mathbf{f} -annihilating polynomials is generated by a single irreducible polynomial. On the other hand (see [7, Theorem 11]) the degree of this generator is at most kq^{k-1} .

3 Absolute continuity of the law of a system of multiple stochastic integrals

The purpose of this section is to extend a result by Kusuoka [8] on the characterization of the absolute continuity of a vector whose components are finite sums of multiple stochastic integrals, using techniques of Malliavin calculus.

Theorem 3.1 *Fix $q, d \geq 1$, and let $F = (F_1, \dots, F_d)$ be a random vector such that $F_i \in \bigoplus_{k=0}^q \mathcal{H}_k$ for any $i = 1, \dots, d$. Let $\Gamma := \Gamma(F)$ be the Malliavin matrix of F . Then the following assertions are equivalent:*

- (a) *The law of F is not absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue measure on \mathbb{R}^d .*
- (b) *There exists $H \in \mathbb{R}[X_1, \dots, X_d] \setminus \{0\}$ of degree at most $D = dq^{d-1}$ such that, almost surely,*

$$H(F_1, \dots, F_d) = 0.$$

- (c) $E[\det \Gamma] = 0$.

Proof of (a) \Rightarrow (c). Let us prove $\neg(c) \Rightarrow \neg(a)$. Set $N = 2d(q-1)$ and let $\{e_k, k \geq 1\}$ be an orthonormal basis of \mathfrak{H} . Since $\det \Gamma \in \bigoplus_{k=0}^N \mathcal{H}_k$, there exists a sequence $\{Q_n, n \geq 1\}$ of real-valued polynomials of degree at most N such that the random variables $Q_n(I_1(e_1), \dots, I_1(e_n))$ converge in $L^2(\Omega)$ and almost surely to $\det \Gamma$ as n tends to infinity (see [11, Theorem 3.1, first step of the proof] for an explicit construction). Assume now that $E[\det \Gamma] > 0$. Then for $n \geq n_0$, $E[|Q_n(I_1(e_1), \dots, I_1(e_n))|] > 0$. We deduce from the Carbery-Wright's inequality (2.3) the existence of a universal constant $c > 0$ such that, for any $n \geq 1$,

$$P(|Q_n(I_1(e_1), \dots, I_1(e_n))| \leq \lambda) \leq cN\lambda^{1/N} (E[Q_n(I_1(e_1), \dots, I_1(e_n))^2])^{-1/2N}.$$

Using the property

$$E[Q_n(I_1(e_1), \dots, I_1(e_n))^2] \geq (E[|Q_n(I_1(e_1), \dots, I_1(e_n))|])^2$$

we obtain

$$P(|Q_n(I_1(e_1), \dots, I_1(e_n))| \leq \lambda) \leq cN\lambda^{1/N} (E[|Q_n(I_1(e_1), \dots, I_1(e_n))|])^{-1/N},$$

and letting n tend to infinity we get

$$P(\det \Gamma \leq \lambda) \leq cN\lambda^{1/N} (E[\det \Gamma])^{-1/N}. \tag{3.4}$$

Letting $\lambda \rightarrow 0$, we get that $P(\det \Gamma = 0) = 0$. As an immediate consequence of absolute continuity criterion, (see, for instance, [13, Theorem 2.1.1]) we get the absolute continuity of the law of F , and assertion (a) does not hold.

It is worthwhile noting that, in passing, we have proved that $P(\det \Gamma = 0)$ is zero or one.

Proof of (b) \Rightarrow (a). Assume the existence of $H \in \mathbb{R}[X_1, \dots, X_d] \setminus \{0\}$ such that, almost surely, $H(F_1, \dots, F_d) = 0$. Since $H \not\equiv 0$, the zeros of H constitute a closed subset of \mathbb{R}^d with Lebesgue measure 0. As a result, the vector F cannot have a density with respect to the Lebesgue measure.

Proof of (c) \Rightarrow (b). Let $\{e_k, k \geq 1\}$ be an orthonormal basis of \mathfrak{H} , and set $G_k = I_1(e_k)$ for any $k \geq 1$. In order to illustrate the method of proof, we are going to deal first with the finite dimensional case, that is, when $F_i = P_i(G_1, \dots, G_n)$, $i = 1, \dots, d$, and for each i , $P_i \in \mathbb{R}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ is a polynomial of degree at most q . In that case,

$$\langle DF_i, DF_k \rangle_{\mathfrak{H}} = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial P_i}{\partial x_j}(G_1, \dots, G_n) \frac{\partial P_k}{\partial x_j}(G_1, \dots, G_n),$$

and the Malliavin matrix Γ of F can be written as $\Gamma = AA^T$, where

$$A = \left(\frac{\partial P_i}{\partial x_j}(G_1, \dots, G_n) \right)_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq d, \\ 1 \leq j \leq n}}.$$

As a consequence, taking into account that the support of the law of (G_1, \dots, G_n) is \mathbb{R}^n , if $\det \Gamma = 0$ almost surely, then the Jacobian $\left(\frac{\partial P_i}{\partial x_j}(y_1, \dots, y_n) \right)_{d \times n}$ has rank strictly less than d for all $(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Statement (b) is then a consequence of Theorem 2 and Theorem 11 in [7].

Consider now the general case. Any symmetric element $f \in \mathfrak{H}^{\otimes p}$ can be written as

$$f = \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_p=1}^{\infty} a_{k_1, \dots, k_p} e_{k_1} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{k_p}.$$

Setting $p_k = \#\{j : k_j = k\}$, the multiple stochastic integral of $e_{k_1} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{k_p}$ can be written in terms of Hermite polynomials as

$$I_p(e_{k_1} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{k_p}) = \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} H_{p_k}(G_k),$$

where the above product is finite. Thus,

$$I_p(f) = \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_p=1}^{\infty} a_{k_1, \dots, k_p} \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} H_{p_k}(G_k),$$

where the series converges in L^2 . This implies that we can write

$$I_p(f) = P(G_1, G_2, \dots) \tag{3.5}$$

where $P : \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a function defined $\nu^{\otimes \mathbb{N}}$ -almost everywhere, with ν the standard normal distribution. In other words, we can consider $I_p(f)$ as a random variable defined in the probability space $(\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}, \nu^{\otimes \mathbb{N}})$. On the other hand, for any $n \geq 1$ and for almost all y_{n+1}, y_{n+2}, \dots in \mathbb{R} , the function $(y_1, \dots, y_n) \mapsto P(y_1, y_2, \dots)$ is a polynomial of degree at most p . By linearity, from the representation (3.5) we deduce the existence of mappings $P_1, \dots, P_d : \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, defined $\nu^{\otimes \mathbb{N}}$ almost everywhere, such that for all $i = 1, \dots, d$,

$$F_i = P_i(G_1, G_2, \dots), \quad (3.6)$$

and such that for all $n \geq 1$ and almost all y_{n+1}, y_{n+2}, \dots in \mathbb{R} , the mapping $(y_1, \dots, y_n) \mapsto P_i(y_1, y_2, \dots)$ is a polynomial of degree at most q . With this notation, the Malliavin matrix Γ can be expressed as $\Gamma = AA^T$, where

$$A = \left(\frac{\partial P_i}{\partial x_j}(G_1, G_2, \dots) \right)_{1 \leq i \leq d, j \geq 1}.$$

Consider the truncated Malliavin matrix $\Gamma_n = A_n A_n^T$, where

$$A_n = \left(\frac{\partial P_i}{\partial x_j}(G_1, G_2, \dots) \right)_{1 \leq i \leq d, 1 \leq j \leq n}.$$

From the Cauchy-Binet formula

$$\det \Gamma_n = \det(A_n A_n^T) = \sum_{J=\{j_1, \dots, j_d\} \subset \{1, \dots, n\}} (\det A_J)^2,$$

where for $J = \{j_1, \dots, j_d\}$,

$$A_J = \left(\frac{\partial P_i}{\partial x_j}(G_1, G_2, \dots) \right)_{1 \leq i \leq d, j \in J},$$

we deduce that $\det \Gamma_n$ is increasing and it converges to $\det \Gamma$. Therefore, if $\det \Gamma = 0$ almost surely, then for each $n \geq 1$, $\det \Gamma_n = 0$ almost surely.

Suppose that $E[\det \Gamma] = 0$, which implies that $\det \Gamma = 0$ almost surely. Then, for all $n \geq 1$, $\det \Gamma_n = 0$ almost surely. We can assume that for any subset $\{F_{i_1}, \dots, F_{i_r}\}$ of the random variables $\{F_1, \dots, F_d\}$ we have

$$E[\det \Gamma(F_{i_1}, \dots, F_{i_r})] \neq 0,$$

because otherwise we will work with a proper subset of this family. This implies that for $n \geq n_0$, and for any subset $\{F_{i_1}, \dots, F_{i_r}\}$,

$$E[\det \Gamma_n(F_{i_1}, \dots, F_{i_r})] \neq 0,$$

where Γ_n denotes the truncated Malliavin matrix defined above. Then, applying the Carbery-Wright inequality we can show that the probability $P(\det \Gamma_n(F_{i_1}, \dots, F_{i_r}) = 0)$ is zero of one, so we deduce $\det \Gamma_n(F_{i_1}, \dots, F_{i_r}) > 0$ almost surely.

Fix $n \geq n_0$. We are going to apply the results by Kayal (see [7]) to the family of random polynomials

$$P_i^{(n)}(y_1, \dots, y_n) = P_i(y_1, \dots, y_n, G_{n+1}, G_{n+2}, \dots), \quad 1 \leq i \leq d.$$

We can consider these polynomials as elements of the ring of polynomials $\mathbb{K}[y_1, \dots, y_n]$, where \mathbb{K} is the field generated by all multiple stochastic integrals. This field is well defined because by a result of Shigekawa [14] if F and G are finite sums of multiple stochastic integrals and $G \neq 0$, then G is different from zero almost surely and $\frac{F}{G}$ is well defined. The Jacobian of this set of polynomials

$$J(y_1, \dots, y_n) = \left(\frac{\partial P_i^{(n)}}{\partial y_j}(y_1, \dots, y_n) \right)_{1 \leq i \leq d, 1 \leq j \leq n}$$

satisfies $J(G_1, \dots, G_n) = A_n$ almost surely, and, therefore, it has determinant zero almost surely. Furthermore, for any proper subfamily of polynomials $\{P_{i_1}^{(n)}, \dots, P_{i_r}^{(n)}\}$, the corresponding Jacobian has nonzero determinant. As a consequence of the results by Kayal, there exists a nonzero irreducible polynomial $H_n \in \mathbb{F}[x_1, \dots, x_d]$ of degree at most $D := dq^{d-1}$, which satisfies the following properties:

- (i) The coefficients of H_n are random variables measurable with respect to the σ -field $\sigma\{G_{n+1}, G_{n+2}, \dots\}$.
- (ii) The coefficient of the largest monomial in antilexicographic order occurring in H_n is 1.
- (iii) For all $y_1, \dots, y_n \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$H_n(P_1^{(n)}(y_1, \dots, y_n), \dots, P_d^{(n)}(y_1, \dots, y_n)) = 0$$

almost surely.

- (iv) If $A \in \mathbb{F}[x_1, \dots, x_d]$ satisfies

$$A(P_1^{(n)}(y_1, \dots, y_n), \dots, P_d^{(n)}(y_1, \dots, y_n)) = 0$$

almost surely, then A is a multiple of H_n , almost surely.

If we apply property (iii) to $n+1$ and substitute y_{n+1} by G_{n+1} we obtain

$$H_{n+1}(P_1^{(n+1)}(y_1, \dots, y_n, G_{n+1}), \dots, P_d^{(n+1)}(y_1, \dots, y_n, G_{n+1})) = 0.$$

From property (iv) and taking into account that for any $1 \leq i \leq d$,

$$P_i^{(n+1)}(y_1, \dots, y_n, G_{n+1}) = P_i^{(n)}(y_1, \dots, y_n)$$

almost surely, we deduce that H_{n+1} is a multiple of H_n almost surely. Using the fact that H_{n+1} is irreducible and normalized we deduce that $H_n = H_{n+1}$ almost surely for any $n \geq n_0$. These coefficients of these polynomials are random variables, but, in view of condition (i), and using the 0 – 1 Kolmogorov law we obtain that the coefficients are deterministic. Thus, there exists a polynomial $H \in \mathbb{R}[X_1, \dots, X_d] \setminus \{0\}$ of degree at most $D = dq^{d-1}$ such that $H(F_1, \dots, F_d) = 0$ almost surely. \blacksquare

The condition $E[\det \Gamma] > 0$ can be translated into a condition on the kernels of the multiple integrals appearing in the expansion of each component of the random vector F . Consider the following simple particular cases.

Example 1. Let $(F, G) = (I_1(f), I_q(g))$, with $q \geq 1$. Let Γ be the Malliavin matrix of (F, G) . Let us compute $E[\det \Gamma]$. Applying the duality relationship (2.2) and the fact that $\delta(DG) = -LG = qG$, where L is the Ornstein-Uhlenbeck operator, we deduce

$$E[\|DG\|_{\mathfrak{H}}^2] = E[G\delta(DG)] = qE[G^2] = qq!\|g\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes q}}^2,$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} E[\det \Gamma] &= \|f\|_{\mathfrak{H}}^2 E[\|DG\|_{\mathfrak{H}}^2] - E[\langle f, DG \rangle_{\mathfrak{H}}^2] = \|f\|_{\mathfrak{H}}^2 E[\|DG\|_{\mathfrak{H}}^2] - q^2 E[I_{q-1}(f \otimes_1 g)^2] \\ &= qq!(\|f\|_{\mathfrak{H}}^2 \|g\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes q}}^2 - \|f \otimes_1 g\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes(q-1)}}^2). \end{aligned}$$

We deduce that $E[\det \Gamma] > 0$ if and only if $\|f \otimes_1 g\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes(q-1)}} < \|f\|_{\mathfrak{H}} \|g\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes q}}$. Notice that when $q = 1$ the above formula for $E[\det \Gamma]$ reduces to $E[\det \Gamma] = \det C$, where C is the covariance matrix of (F, G) .

Example 2. Let $(F, G) = (I_2(f), I_q(g))$, with $q \geq 2$. Let Γ be the Malliavin matrix of (F, G) . Let us compute $E[\det \Gamma]$. We have

$$\|DG\|_{\mathfrak{H}}^2 = q^2 \sum_{r=1}^q (r-1)! \binom{q-1}{r-1}^2 I_{2q-2r}(g \otimes_r g) = \sum_{r=1}^q rr! \binom{q}{r}^2 I_{2q-2r}(g \otimes_r g),$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle DF, DG \rangle_{\mathfrak{H}} &= 2q(I_q(f \otimes_1 g) + (q-1)I_{q-2}(f \otimes_2 g)) \\ \|DF\|_{\mathfrak{H}}^2 &= 4\|f\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes 2}}^2 + 4I_2(f \otimes_1 f) \\ \|DG\|_{\mathfrak{H}}^2 &= qq!\|g\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes q}}^2 + (q-1)qq!I_2(g \otimes_{q-1} g) + \sum_{r=3}^q rr! \binom{q}{r}^2 I_{2q-2r}(g \otimes_r g). \end{aligned}$$

We deduce

$$\begin{aligned} E[\det \Gamma] &= E[\|DF\|_{\mathfrak{H}}^2 \|DG\|_{\mathfrak{H}}^2] - E[\langle DF, DG \rangle_{\mathfrak{H}}^2] \\ &= 4qq!\|f\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes 2}}^2 \|g\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes q}}^2 + 8(q-1)qq!\langle f \otimes_1 f, g \otimes_{q-1} g \rangle_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes 2}} - 4q^2q!\|f \tilde{\otimes}_1 g\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes q}}^2 \\ &\quad - 4q(q-1)q!\|f \otimes_2 g\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes(q-2)}}^2 \\ &= 4qq!\|f\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes 2}}^2 \|g\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes q}}^2 + 8(q-1)qq!\|f \otimes_1 g\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes q}}^2 - 4q^2q!\|f \tilde{\otimes}_1 g\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes q}}^2 \\ &\quad - 4q(q-1)q!\|f \otimes_2 g\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes(q-2)}}^2. \end{aligned} \tag{3.7}$$

Therefore, $E[\det \Gamma] > 0$ if and only if the right hand side of (3.7) is strictly positive.

Consider the particular case $q = 2$, that is, $F = (I_2(f), I_2(g))$ and let C be the covariance matrix of F . By specializing (3.7) to $q = 2$, we get that

$$E[\det \Gamma] = 16(\|f\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes 2}}^2 \|g\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes 2}}^2 - \langle f, g \rangle_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes 2}}^2) + 32(\|f \otimes_1 g\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes 2}}^2 - \|f \tilde{\otimes}_1 g\|_{\mathfrak{H}^{\otimes 2}}^2) \geq 4 \det C. \quad (3.8)$$

We deduce an interesting result, that generalizes a well-known criterion for Gaussian pairs.

Proposition 3.2 *Let $F = (I_2(f), I_2(g))$ and let C be the covariance matrix of F . Then, the law of F has a density if and only if $\det C > 0$.*

Proof. If $\det C > 0$ then $E[\det \Gamma] > 0$ by (3.8); we deduce from Theorem 3.1 that the law of F has a density. Conversely, if $\det C = 0$ then $I_2(f)$ and $I_2(g)$ are proportional; this prevents F to have a density. \blacksquare

4 Convergence in law and total variation distance

In this section we first prove an inequality between the total variation distance and the Fortet-Mourier distance for vectors in a finite sum of Wiener chaoses.

Theorem 4.1 *Fix $q, d \geq 2$, and let $F_n = (F_{1,n}, \dots, F_{d,n})$ be a sequence such that $F_{i,n} \in \bigoplus_{k=0}^q \mathcal{H}_k$ for any $i = 1, \dots, d$ and $n \geq 1$. Let $\Gamma_n := \Gamma(F_n)$ be the Malliavin matrix of F_n . Assume that $F_n \xrightarrow{\text{law}} F_\infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ and that there exists $\beta > 0$ such that $E[\det \Gamma_n] \geq \beta$ for all n . Then F_∞ has a density and, for any $\gamma < \frac{1}{(2d+2)(4d(q-1)+3)+1}$, there exists $c > 0$ such that*

$$d_{TV}(F_n, F_\infty) \leq c d_{FM}(F_n, F_\infty)^\gamma. \quad (4.9)$$

In particular, $F_n \rightarrow F_\infty$ in total variation as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Proof. The proof is divided into several steps.

Step 1. From the hypercontractivity property of the Ornstein-Uhlenbeck semigroup it follows that for any $i = 1, \dots, d$, the sequence $(F_{i,n})$ satisfies $\sup_n E|F_{i,n}|^p < \infty$ for all $p \geq 1$. Let $\phi : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \in \mathcal{C}^\infty$ be such that $\|\phi\|_\infty \leq 1$. We can write, for any $n, m, p, M \geq 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} |E[\phi(F_n)] - E[\phi(F_m)]| &\leq |E[(\phi \mathbf{1}_{[-M/2, M/2]^d})(F_n)] - E[(\phi \mathbf{1}_{[-M/2, M/2]^d})(F_m)]| \\ &\quad + 2 \sup_{n \geq 1} P(\max_{1 \leq i \leq d} |F_{i,n}| \geq M/2) \\ &\leq \sup_{\substack{\psi \in \mathcal{C}^\infty: \|\psi\|_\infty \leq 1 \\ \text{supp } \psi \subset [-M, M]^d}} |E[\psi(F_n)] - E[\psi(F_m)]| \\ &\quad + \frac{2^{1+p}}{M^p} \sup_{n \geq 1} E \left[\max_{1 \leq i \leq d} |F_{i,n}|^p \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, since $\sup_{n \geq 1} E[\max_{1 \leq i \leq d} |F_{i,n}|^p]$ is finite, there exists a constant $c > 0$ (depending on p) satisfying, for all $n \geq 1$,

$$d_{TV}(F_n, F_\infty) \leq \sup_{\substack{\phi \in C^\infty: \|\phi\|_\infty \leq 1 \\ \text{supp } \phi \subset [-M, M]^d}} |E[\phi(F_n)] - E[\phi(F_\infty)]| + \frac{c}{M^p}. \quad (4.10)$$

As in [11], now the idea to bound the first term in the right-hand side of (4.10) is to regularize the function ϕ by means of an approximation of the identity and then to control the error term using the integration by parts of Malliavin calculus. Let $\phi : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \in C^\infty$ with compact support in $[-M, M]^d$ and satisfying $\|\phi\|_\infty \leq 1$. Let $n, m \geq 1$ be integers. Let $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ and let $\rho : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ be in C_c^∞ and satisfying $\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \rho(x) dx = 1$. Set $\rho_\alpha(x) = \frac{1}{\alpha^d} \rho(\frac{x}{\alpha})$. By [11, inequality (5.40)], we have that $\phi * \rho_\alpha$ is bounded by 1 and is Lipschitz continuous with a constant of the form c/α^2 . We can thus write,

$$\begin{aligned} & |E[\phi(F_n)] - E[\phi(F_m)]| \\ & \leq |E[\phi * \rho_\alpha(F_n) - \phi * \rho_\alpha(F_m)]| + 2 \sup_{n \geq 1} |E[(\phi(F_n) - \phi * \rho_\alpha(F_n))]| \\ & \leq \frac{c}{\alpha^2} d_{FM}(F_n, F_m) + 2R_\alpha, \end{aligned} \quad (4.11)$$

where d_{FM} is the Forter-Mourier distance and

$$R_\alpha = \sup_{n \geq 1} |E[(\phi(F_n) - \phi * \rho_\alpha(F_n))]|.$$

In order to estimate the term R_α we decompose the expectation into two parts using the identity

$$1 = \frac{\varepsilon}{\det \Gamma_n + \varepsilon} + \frac{\det \Gamma_n}{\det \Gamma_n + \varepsilon}, \quad \varepsilon > 0.$$

Step 2. We claim that there exists $c > 0$ such that, for all $\varepsilon > 0$ and all $n \geq 1$,

$$E \left[\frac{\varepsilon}{\det \Gamma_n + \varepsilon} \right] \leq c \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2(q-1)d+1}}. \quad (4.12)$$

Indeed, for any $\lambda > 0$ and by using (3.4) together with the assumption $E[\det \Gamma_n] \geq \beta$,

$$E \left[\frac{\varepsilon}{\det \Gamma_n + \varepsilon} \right] \leq E \left[\frac{\varepsilon}{\det \Gamma_n + \varepsilon} \mathbf{1}_{\{\det \Gamma_n > \lambda\}} \right] + c \lambda^{\frac{1}{2(q-1)d}} \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{\lambda} + c \lambda^{\frac{1}{2(q-1)d}}.$$

Choosing $\lambda = \varepsilon^{\frac{2(q-1)d}{2(q-1)d+1}}$ proves the claim (4.12). As a consequence, the estimate (4.12) implies

$$\begin{aligned} R_\alpha & = \sup_{n \geq 1} \left| E \left[(\phi(F_n) - \phi * \rho_\alpha(F_n)) \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{\det \Gamma_n + \varepsilon} + \frac{\det \Gamma_n}{\det \Gamma_n + \varepsilon} \right) \right] \right| \\ & \leq 2c \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2(q-1)d+1}} + \sup_{n \geq 1} \left| E \left[(\phi - \phi * \rho_\alpha)(F_n) \frac{\det \Gamma_n}{\det \Gamma_n + \varepsilon} \right] \right|. \end{aligned} \quad (4.13)$$

Step 3. In this step we will derive the integration by parts formula that will be useful for our purposes. The method is based on the representation of the density of a Wiener functional using the Poisson kernel obtained by Malliavin and Thalmaier in [9], and it has been further developed by Bally and Caramellino in the works [1] and [2].

Let $h : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function in \mathcal{C}^∞ with compact support, and consider a random variable $W \in \mathbb{D}^\infty$. Consider the Poisson kernel in \mathbb{R}^d ($d \geq 2$), defined as the solution to the equation $\Delta Q_d = \delta_0$. We know that $Q_2(x) = c_2 \log |x|$ and that $Q_d(x) = c_d |x|^{2-d}$ for $d \geq 3$. Then, we have the following identity

$$h = \sum_{i=1}^d \partial_i h * \partial_i Q_d. \quad (4.14)$$

As a consequence, we can write

$$\begin{aligned} E[W \det \Gamma_n h(F_n)] &= \sum_{i=1}^d E \left[W \det \Gamma_n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \partial_i Q_d(y) \partial_i h(F_n - y) dy \right] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^d \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \partial_i Q_d(y) E(W \det \Gamma_n \partial_i h(F_n - y)) dy. \end{aligned}$$

We claim that

$$E[W \det \Gamma_n \partial_i h(F_n - y)] = \sum_{a=1}^d E[h(F_n - y) \delta(W(\text{Com} \Gamma_n)_{i,a} DF_{a,n})], \quad (4.15)$$

where δ is the divergence operator, and $\text{Com}(\cdot)$ stands for the usual comatrice operator. The equality (4.15) follows easily from the relation

$$\partial_i h(F_n - y) = \sum_{a=1}^d (\Gamma_n^{-1})_{a,i} \langle D(h(F_n - y)), DF_{a,n} \rangle_{\mathfrak{H}},$$

multiplying by $W \det \Gamma_n$, taking the mathematical expectation, and applying the duality relationship between the derivative and the divergence operator. The random variable

$$\begin{aligned} A_{i,n}(W) &= \sum_{a=1}^d \delta(W(\text{Com} \Gamma_n)_{i,a} DF_{a,n}) \\ &= - \sum_{a=1}^d (\langle D(W(\text{Com} \Gamma_n)_{a,i}), DF_{a,n} \rangle_{\mathfrak{H}} + (\text{Com} \Gamma_n)_{a,i} W L F_{a,n}) \end{aligned}$$

satisfies $A_{i,n}(W) \in \mathbb{D}^\infty$, and we can write

$$E[W \det \Gamma_n h(F_n)] = \sum_{i=1}^d E \left[A_{i,n}(W) \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} h(y) \partial_i Q_d(F_n - y) dy \right]. \quad (4.16)$$

Step 4. We are going to apply the identity (4.16) to the function $h = \phi - \phi * \rho_\alpha$ and to the random variable $W = W_{n,\varepsilon} = \frac{1}{\det \Gamma_n + \varepsilon}$. In this way we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & E \left[(\phi - \phi * \rho_\alpha)(F_n) \frac{\det \Gamma_n}{\det \Gamma_n + \varepsilon} \right] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^d E \left[A_{i,n}(W_{n,\varepsilon}) \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (\phi - \phi * \rho_\alpha)(y) \partial_i Q_d(F_n - y) dy \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (4.17)$$

We claim that, for any $p \geq 1$, there exists a constant $c > 0$ such that

$$\sup_n E[|A_{i,n}(W_{n,\varepsilon})|^p] \leq c\varepsilon^{-2}.$$

Indeed, this follows immediately from the fact that the sequence $(F_{i,n})$ is uniformly bounded in L^p for each $i = 1, \dots, d$ and that we can write

$$\begin{aligned} A_{i,n}(W_{n,\varepsilon}) &= \sum_{a=1}^d \left\{ -\frac{1}{\det \Gamma_n + \varepsilon} (\langle D(\text{Com} \Gamma_n)_{a,i}, DF_{a,n} \rangle_{\mathfrak{H}} - (\text{Com} \Gamma_n)_{a,i} LF_{a,n}) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{(\det \Gamma_n + \varepsilon)^2} (\text{Com} \Gamma_n)_{a,i} \langle D(\det \Gamma_n), DF_{a,n} \rangle_{\mathfrak{H}} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (\phi - \phi * \rho_\alpha)(y) \partial_i Q_d(F_n - y) dy &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} (\phi(y) - \phi(y - z)) \rho_\alpha(z) \partial_i Q_d(F_n - y) dy dz \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} \phi(F_n - y) \rho_\alpha(z) (\partial_i Q_d(y) - \partial_i Q_d(y - z)) dy dz. \end{aligned}$$

Taking into account that

$$\partial_i Q_d(x) = k_d \frac{x_i}{|x|^d}, \quad (4.18)$$

for some constant k_d , we can write

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (\phi - \phi * \rho_\alpha)(y) \partial_i Q_d(F_n - y) dy = k_d \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} \phi(F_n - y) \rho_\alpha(z) \left(\frac{y_i}{|y|^d} - \frac{y_i - z_i}{|y - z|^d} \right) dy dz.$$

Fix $R > 0$. Set $B_R = \{(y, z) : |y| \geq R, |y - z| \geq R\}$. We can assume that the support of ρ is the unit ball $\{|z| \leq 1\}$. Then for any $(y, z) \in (B_R)^c$ with $|z| \leq \alpha$, both $|y|$ and $|y - z|$ are bounded by $R + \alpha$, and we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_{(B_R)^c} \phi(F_n - y) \rho_\alpha(z) \left(\frac{y_i}{|y|^d} - \frac{y_i - z_i}{|y - z|^d} \right) dy dz \right| \\ & \leq \int_{(B_R)^c} \rho_\alpha(z) \left(\frac{|y_i|}{|y|^d} + \frac{|y_i - z_i|}{|y - z|^d} \right) dy dz \\ & \leq 2 \int_{\{|y| \leq R + \alpha\}} \frac{|y_i|}{|y|^d} dy = 2 \int_{\{|y| \leq 1\}} \frac{|y_i|}{|y|^d} dy \times (R + \alpha). \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_{B_R} \phi(F_n - y) \rho_\alpha(z) \left(\frac{y_i}{|y|^d} - \frac{y_i - z_i}{|y - z|^d} \right) dy dz \right| \\ & \leq \left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq d} |F_{i,n}| + M \right)^d \sup_{|y| \geq R} \int_{\{z: |y-z| \geq R\}} \left| \frac{y_i}{|y|^d} - \frac{y_i - z_i}{|y - z|^d} \right| \rho_\alpha(z) dz. \end{aligned}$$

There exists a constant $c > 0$ such that, for $|y| \geq R$, $|y - z| \geq R$ and $|z| \leq \alpha$,

$$\left| \frac{y_i}{|y|^d} - \frac{y_i - z_i}{|y - z|^d} \right| \leq \frac{|y| \left| |y - z|^d - |y|^d \right|}{|y|^d |y - z|^d} + \frac{|z| |y|^d}{|y|^d |y - z|^d} \leq c R^{-d} \alpha.$$

Therefore,

$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (\phi - \phi * \rho_\alpha)(y) \partial_i Q_d(F_n - y) dy \right| \leq c \left(R + \alpha + \alpha R^{-d} \left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq d} |F_{i,n}| + M \right)^d \right),$$

for some constant $c > 0$. Substituting this estimate into (4.17) and assuming that $M \geq 1$, yields

$$\sup_n \left| E \left[(\phi - \phi * \rho_\alpha)(F_n) \frac{\det \Gamma_n}{\det \Gamma_n + \varepsilon} \right] \right| \leq c \varepsilon^{-2} (R + \alpha + \alpha R^{-d} M^d),$$

for some constant $c > 0$. Choosing $R = \alpha^{\frac{1}{d+1}} M^{\frac{d}{d+1}}$ and assuming $\alpha \leq 1$, we obtain

$$\sup_n \left| E \left[(\phi - \phi * \rho_\alpha)(F_n) \frac{\det \Gamma_n}{\det \Gamma_n + \varepsilon} \right] \right| \leq c \varepsilon^{-2} \alpha^{\frac{1}{d+1}} M^{\frac{d}{d+1}}, \quad (4.19)$$

for some constant $c > 0$.

Step 5. From (4.11), (4.13) and (4.19) we obtain

$$|E[\phi(F_n)] - E[\phi(F_m)]| \leq \frac{c}{\alpha^2} d_{FM}(F_n, F_\infty) + c \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2(q-1)d+1}} + c \varepsilon^{-2} \alpha^{\frac{1}{d+1}} M^{\frac{d}{d+1}}.$$

By letting $m \rightarrow \infty$, we get

$$|E[\phi(F_n)] - E[\phi(F_\infty)]| \leq \frac{c}{\alpha^2} d_{FM}(F_n, F_\infty) + c \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2(q-1)d+1}} + c \varepsilon^{-2} \alpha^{\frac{1}{d+1}} M^{\frac{d}{d+1}}. \quad (4.20)$$

Finally, by plugging (4.20) into (4.10) we obtain the following inequality, valid for every $M \geq 1$, $p \geq 1$, $n \geq 1$, $\varepsilon > 0$ and $0 < \alpha \leq 1$:

$$d_{TV}(F_n, F_\infty) \leq c \left(\frac{1}{\alpha^2} d_{FM}(F_n, F_\infty) + \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2(q-1)d+1}} + \frac{\alpha^{\frac{1}{d+1}} M^{\frac{d}{d+1}}}{\varepsilon^2} + \frac{1}{M^p} \right), \quad (4.21)$$

where the constant c depends on p . Choosing $\varepsilon = \left(\alpha^{\frac{1}{d+1}} M^{\frac{d}{d+1}} \right)^{\frac{2(q-1)d+1}{2(2(q-1)d+1)+1}}$ we get

$$d_{TV}(F_n, F_\infty) \leq c \left(\frac{1}{\alpha^2} d_{FM}(F_n, F_\infty) + \left(\alpha^{\frac{1}{d+1}} M^{\frac{d}{d+1}} \right)^{\frac{1}{4(q-1)d+3}} + M^{-p} \right). \quad (4.22)$$

Notice that $d_{FM}(F_n, F_\infty) \leq 1$ for n large enough ($n \geq n_0$ say). So, assuming that $n \geq n_0$ and choosing

$$\alpha = d_{FM}(F_n, F_\infty)^{\frac{(d+1)(4(q-1)d+3)}{2(d+1)(4(q-1)d+3)+1}} M^{-\frac{d}{2(d+1)(4(q-1)d+3)+1}},$$

we obtain

$$d_{TV}(F_n, F_\infty) \leq c \left(d_{FM}(F_n, F_\infty)^{\frac{1}{D}} M^{\frac{2d}{D}} + M^{-p} \right), \quad (4.23)$$

where $D = (2d+2)(4(q-1)d+3)+1$. Notice that $\alpha \leq 1$ provided $M \geq 1$ and $n \geq n_0$. Optimizing with respect to M yields

$$d_{TV}(F_n, F_\infty) \leq c d_{FM}(F_n, F_\infty)^{\frac{p}{pD+2dD}},$$

and taking into account that p can be chosen arbitrarily large, we have proved that for any $\gamma < \frac{1}{D}$ there exists $c > 0$ such that (4.9) holds true.

Step 6. Finally, let us prove that the law of F_∞ is absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue measure. Let $A \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ be a Borel set of Lebesgue measure zero. By Lemma 3.1 and because $E[\det \Gamma_n] \geq \beta > 0$, we have $P(F_n \in A) = 0$. Since $d_{TV}(F_n, F_\infty) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, we deduce that $P(F_\infty \in A) = 0$, proving that F_∞ has a density by the Radon-Nikodym theorem. The proof of the theorem is now complete. \blacksquare

Under the assumptions of Theorem 4.1, if we denote by ρ_n (resp. ρ_∞) the density of F_n (resp. F_∞), then the convergence in total variation is equivalent to

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\rho_n(x) - \rho_\infty(x)| dx \rightarrow 0,$$

as n tends to infinity. We are going to show that this convergence actually holds in $L^p(\mathbb{R}^d)$ for any $1 \leq p < 1 + \frac{1}{2d^2(q-1)+d-1}$.

Proposition 4.2 *Suppose that F_n is a sequence of d -dimensional random vectors satisfying the conditions of Theorem 4.1. Denote by ρ_n (resp. ρ_∞) the density of F_n (resp. F_∞). Then, for any $1 \leq p < 1 + \frac{1}{2d^2(q-1)+d-1}$, we have*

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\rho_n(x) - \rho_\infty(x)|^p dx \rightarrow 0.$$

Proof. The proof will be done in several steps. We set $N = 2d(q-1)$ and we fix p such that $1 < p < 1 + \frac{1}{2d^2(q-1)+d-1}$.

1) Denote by Γ_n the Malliavin matrix of F_n . Using Carbery-Wright's inequality (2.3), we have, for any $\gamma < \frac{1}{N}$,

$$\sup_n E [(\det \Gamma_n)^{-\gamma}] = \sup_n \int_0^\infty \gamma t^{\gamma-1} P(\det \Gamma_n < t^{-1}) dt \leq C \left(1 + \int_1^\infty t^{\gamma-1-\frac{1}{N}} dt \right) < \infty.$$

2) Fix a real number $M > 0$. For any $\alpha < \frac{1}{N+1}$ and $1 + \frac{\alpha}{d} < p < 1 + \frac{\alpha}{d-\alpha}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \rho_n^p(x) \mathbf{1}_{\{|\rho_n(x)| \leq M\}} dx \\
&= E \left[\rho_n^{p-1}(F_n) \mathbf{1}_{\{|\rho_n(F_n)| \leq M\}} \frac{(\det \Gamma_n)^\alpha}{(\det \Gamma_n)^\alpha} \right] \\
&\leq E \left[\rho_n^{(p-1)(N+1)}(F_n) \mathbf{1}_{\{|\rho_n(F_n)| \leq M\}} (\det \Gamma_n)^{(N+1)\alpha} \right]^{\frac{1}{N+1}} E \left[(\det \Gamma_n)^{-\frac{N+1}{N}\alpha} \right]^{\frac{N}{N+1}} \\
&\leq CE \left[\rho_n^{\frac{p-1}{\alpha}}(F_n) \mathbf{1}_{\{|\rho_n(F_n)| \leq M\}} \det \Gamma_n \right]^\alpha, \tag{4.24}
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$C := \sup_n E \left[(\det \Gamma_n)^{-\frac{N+1}{N}\alpha} \right]^{\frac{N}{N+1}} < \infty.$$

Applying the identity (4.16) to $h = \rho_n^{\frac{p-1}{\alpha}} \mathbf{1}_{\{|\rho_n(\cdot)| \leq M\}}$ and $W = 1$ and taking into account that (4.18) holds, yields

$$E \left[\rho_n^{\frac{p-1}{\alpha}}(F_n) \mathbf{1}_{\{|\rho_n(F_n)| \leq M\}} \det \Gamma_n \right] = k_d \sum_{i=1}^d \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{y_i}{|y|^d} E \left[\rho_n^{\frac{p-1}{\alpha}}(F_n - y) \mathbf{1}_{\{|\rho_n(F_n - y)| \leq M\}} A_{i,n} \right] dy, \tag{4.25}$$

where $A_{i,n} = A_{i,n}(1) = \sum_{a=1}^d \delta((\text{Com} \Gamma_n)_{i,a} D F_{a,n})$.

For any $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and any function $f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$, the integral

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{y_i}{|y|^d} f(x - y) dy$$

can be decomposed into the regions $\{y : |y| \leq 1\}$ and $\{y : |y| > 1\}$. Then, using Hölder's inequality, for any exponents $\beta > d$ and $\gamma < d$, there exist a constant $C_{\beta,\gamma}$ such that

$$\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} \left| \int_{y \in \mathbb{R}^d} \frac{y_i}{|y|^d} f(x - y) dy \right| \leq C_{\beta,\gamma} (\|f\|_\beta + \|f\|_\gamma).$$

We are going to apply this estimate to the function $f = \rho_n^{\frac{p-1}{\alpha}} \mathbf{1}_{\{|\rho_n(\cdot)| \leq M\}}$ and to the exponents $\beta = \frac{p\alpha}{p-1} > d$ and $\gamma = \frac{\alpha}{p-1} < d$. In this way we obtain from (4.25)

$$\begin{aligned}
& E \left[\rho_n^{\frac{p-1}{\alpha}}(F_n) \mathbf{1}_{\{|\rho_n(F_n)| \leq M\}} \det \Gamma_n \right] \\
&\leq c_d \sum_{i=1}^n E[|A_{i,n}|] C_{\alpha,\beta} \left[\left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \rho_n^p(x) \mathbf{1}_{\{|\rho_n(x)| \leq M\}} dx \right)^{\frac{p-1}{p\alpha}} + \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \rho_n(x) \mathbf{1}_{\{|\rho_n(x)| \leq M\}} dx \right)^{\frac{p-1}{\alpha}} \right] \\
&\leq c_d \sum_{i=1}^n E[|A_{i,n}|] C_{\alpha,\beta} \left[\left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \rho_n^p(x) \mathbf{1}_{\{|\rho_n(x)| \leq M\}} dx \right)^{\frac{p-1}{p\alpha}} + 1 \right]. \tag{4.26}
\end{aligned}$$

From (4.24) and (4.26) we deduce the existence of a constant K , independent of M and n , such that

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \rho_n^p(x) \mathbf{1}_{\{|\rho_n(x)| \leq M\}} dx \leq K \left[\left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \rho_n^p(x) \mathbf{1}_{\{|\rho_n(x)| \leq M\}} dx \right)^{\frac{p-1}{p}} + 1 \right]. \quad (4.27)$$

Since $\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \rho_n^p(x) \mathbf{1}_{\{|\rho_n(x)| \leq M\}} dx$ is finite (it is less than M^{p-1}), we deduce from (4.27) that

$$\sup_n \sup_{M>0} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \rho_n^p(x) \mathbf{1}_{\{|\rho_n(x)| \leq M\}} dx < \infty,$$

implying in turn that

$$\sup_n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \rho_n^p(x) dx < \infty,$$

3) Let $n, m \geq 1$. By applying Hölder to

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\rho_n(x) - \rho_m(x)|^p dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\rho_n(x) - \rho_m(x)|^\epsilon |\rho_n(x) - \rho_m(x)|^{p-\epsilon} dx,$$

we obtain, for any $0 < \epsilon < 1$,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\rho_n(x) - \rho_m(x)|^p dx \leq \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\rho_n(x) - \rho_m(x)| dx \right)^\epsilon \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\rho_n(x) - \rho_m(x)|^{\frac{p-\epsilon}{1-\epsilon}} dx \right)^{1-\epsilon}. \quad (4.28)$$

We can choose $\epsilon > 0$ small enough such that

$$p < \frac{p-\epsilon}{1-\epsilon} < 1 + \frac{1}{2d^2(q-1) + d + 1}.$$

Then, from Part 2) we deduce

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\rho_n(x) - \rho_m(x)|^p dx \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n, m \rightarrow \infty.$$

As a result, $\{\rho_n\}$ converges in $L^p(\mathbb{R}^d)$, which is the desired conclusion. ■

5 Some applications

In this section we present some consequences of Theorems 4.1 and 3.1. The next result improves substantially Theorem 4 of Breton [3], and it represents a multidimensional version of a result by Davydov and Martynova [5].

Corollary 5.1 Fix $d \geq 2$ and $q_1, \dots, q_d \geq 1$. Consider a sequence of d -dimensional random vectors $\{F_n, n \geq 1\}$ of the form $F_n = (F_{1,n}, \dots, F_{d,n})$, with $F_{i,n} = I_{q_i}(f_{i,n})$, $i = 1, \dots, d$, $n \geq 1$. Suppose that F_n converges $L^2(\Omega)$ to F_∞ and the law of F_∞ is absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue measure. Then, F_n converges to F_∞ in total variation.

Proof. By the isometry of multiple stochastic integrals, for any $i = 1, \dots, d$, the sequence $f_{i,n} \in \mathfrak{H}^{\odot q_i}$ converges as n tends to infinity to an element $f_{i,\infty} \in \mathfrak{H}^{\odot q_i}$, and we can write

$$F_\infty = (I_{q_1}(f_{1,\infty}), \dots, I_{q_d}(f_{d,\infty})).$$

From Theorem 3.1 we deduce $E[\det \Gamma(F_\infty)] > 0$, where $\Gamma(F_\infty)$ is the Malliavin matrix of F_∞ . Taking into account that all the norms $\|\cdot\|_{m,p}$ are equivalent in a fixed Wiener chaos, we deduce that for all $1 \leq i, j \leq d$

$$\Gamma_{i,j}(F_n) \rightarrow \Gamma_{i,j}(F_\infty)$$

in $L^p(\Omega)$ as n tends to infinity, for all $p \geq 2$. Therefore, $E[\det \Gamma(F_n)] \rightarrow E[\det \Gamma(F_\infty)]$, and for n large enough, $E[\det \Gamma(F_n)] \geq \frac{1}{2}E[\det \Gamma(F_\infty)] > 0$. Then, we can conclude the proof using Theorem 4.1. \blacksquare

In the case of a sequence of 2-dimensional vectors in the second chaos, it suffices to assume that the covariance of the limit is non singular. In fact, we have the following result.

Corollary 5.2 Let $(F_n, G_n) = (I_2(f_n), I_2(g_n))$ be a pair converging in law to (F_∞, G_∞) as n tends to ∞ . Let C_∞ be the covariance matrix of (F_∞, G_∞) and assume that $\det C_\infty > 0$. Then (F_n, G_n) converges to (F_∞, G_∞) in total variation.

Proof. Let Γ_n (resp. C_n) be the Malliavin (resp. covariance) matrix of (F_n, G_n) . Taking into account that all p -norms are equivalent in a fixed Wiener chaos, we deduce that both $\{F_n, n \geq 1\}$ and $\{G_n, n \geq 1\}$ are uniformly bounded with respect to n in all the $L^p(\Omega)$. Thus, one has $\det C_n \rightarrow \det C_\infty$ as n tends to ∞ . On the other hand, we have by (3.8) that $E[\det \Gamma_n] \geq 4 \det C_n$. By letting n tend to ∞ , we deduce that $E[\det \Gamma_n] \geq \frac{1}{2} \det C_\infty > 0$ for n large enough. Theorem 4.1 allows us to conclude. \blacksquare

Another situation where we only need the limit to be non degenerate in order to obtain the convergence in total variation, is the case where the limit has pairwise independent components.

Corollary 5.3 Fix $d \geq 2$ and $q_1, \dots, q_d \geq 1$. Consider a sequence of d -dimensional random vector of multiple stochastic integrals $\{F_n, n \geq 1\}$ of the form $F_n = (F_{1,n}, \dots, F_{d,n}) = (I_{q_1}(f_{1,n}), \dots, I_{q_d}(f_{d,n}))$. Suppose that F_n converges in law to $F_\infty = (F_{1,\infty}, \dots, F_{d,\infty})$. Assume moreover that $\text{Var}(F_{j,\infty}) > 0$ for any $j = 1, \dots, d$ and that $F_{1,\infty}, \dots, F_{j,\infty}$ are pairwise independent. Then F_n converges to F_∞ in total variation.

Proof. The proof is divided into several steps.

Step 1. We claim that there exists $\gamma > 0$ such that $E[\|DF_{1,n}\|^2 \dots \|DF_{d,n}\|^2] \geq \gamma$ for all n large enough. Indeed, let $j = 1, \dots, d$. Since $E[\|DF_{j,n}\|^2] \geq \text{Var}(F_{j,n})$ and $\text{Var}(F_{j,n}) \rightarrow \text{Var}(F_{j,\infty})$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, we have that $E[\|DF_{j,n}\|^2] \geq \frac{1}{2}\text{Var}(F_{j,\infty}) > 0$ for all n large enough. Using Carbery-Wright's inequality, we deduce that there exists $c > 0$ such that, for all n large enough and all $\lambda > 0$,

$$P(\|DF_n\|^2 \leq \lambda) \leq c\lambda^{\frac{1}{2q_j-2}}.$$

As a consequence, for $0 < \alpha < \frac{1}{d(-1+\max_{1 \leq j \leq d} p_j)}$, we can write

$$\begin{aligned} & E[\|DF_{1,n}\|^{-\alpha} \dots \|DF_{d,n}\|^{-\alpha}] \\ &= \int_0^\infty P\left(\|DF_{1,n}\|^\alpha \dots \|DF_{d,n}\|^\alpha \leq \frac{1}{x}\right) dx \\ &\leq 1 + \int_1^\infty \left\{ P\left(\|DF_{1,n}\|^\alpha \leq \frac{1}{x^{\frac{1}{d}}}\right) + \dots + P\left(\|DF_{d,n}\|^\alpha \leq \frac{1}{x^{\frac{1}{d}}}\right) \right\} dx \\ &\leq c \left(1 + \int_1^\infty \left[x^{-\frac{1}{\alpha d(q_1-1)}} + \dots + x^{-\frac{1}{\alpha d(q_d-1)}} \right] dx \right), \end{aligned}$$

so that $\sup_{n \geq 1} E[\|DF_{1,n}\|^{-\alpha} \dots \|DF_{d,n}\|^{-\alpha}] < \infty$. Combined with

$$\begin{aligned} E[\|DF_{1,n}\|^2 \dots \|DF_{d,n}\|^2] &\geq E[\|DF_{1,n}\|^\alpha \dots \|DF_{d,n}\|^\alpha]^{\frac{2}{\alpha}} \\ &\geq (E[\|DF_{1,n}\|^{-\alpha} \dots \|DF_{d,n}\|^{-\alpha}])^{-\frac{2}{\alpha}}, \end{aligned}$$

this proves the claim.

Step 2. We claim that $E[\det \Gamma(F_n)] - E[\|DF_{1,n}\|^2 \dots \|DF_{d,n}\|^2] \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. To prove the claim it suffices to show that, for any $1 \leq i \neq j \leq d$, one has $\langle DF_{i,n}, DF_{j,n} \rangle_{\mathfrak{H}} \rightarrow 0$ in all the $L^p(\Omega)$. By hypercontractivity, to prove this latter property it is enough to check that $\langle DF_{i,n}, DF_{j,n} \rangle_{\mathfrak{H}} \rightarrow 0$ in $L^2(\Omega)$. Recall from [12, (3.20)] that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(F_{i,n}^2, F_{j,n}^2) &= p_i! p_j! \sum_{r=1}^{p_i \wedge p_j} \binom{p_i}{r} \binom{p_j}{r} \|f_{i,n} \otimes_r f_{j,n}\|^2 \\ &\quad + \sum_{r=1}^{p_i \wedge p_j} r!^2 \binom{p_i}{r}^2 \binom{p_j}{r}^2 (p_i + p_j - 2r)! \|f_{i,n} \tilde{\otimes}_r f_{j,n}\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\text{Cov}(F_{i,n}^2, F_{j,n}^2) \rightarrow \text{Cov}(F_{i,\infty}^2, F_{j,\infty}^2) = 0$ (recall that $F_{i,\infty}$ and $F_{j,\infty}$ are assumed to be independent), we deduce that $\|f_{i,n} \otimes_r f_{j,n}\|^2 \rightarrow 0$ for all $r = 1, \dots, p_i \wedge p_j$. But

$$E[\langle DF_{i,n}, DF_{j,n} \rangle_{\mathfrak{H}}^2] = p_i^2 p_j^2 \sum_{r=1}^{p_i \wedge p_j} (r-1)!^2 \binom{p_i-1}{r-1}^2 \binom{p_j-1}{r-1}^2 (p_i + p_j - 2r)! \|f_{i,n} \tilde{\otimes}_r f_{j,n}\|^2,$$

and the claim is shown.

Step 3. By combining Steps 1 and 2, we obtain the existence of $\gamma > 0$ such that $E[\det \Gamma(F_n)] \geq \gamma$ for all n large enough. Theorem 4.1 then gives the desired conclusion of Corollary 5.3. \blacksquare

6 Two open questions

Let $d \geq 2$. Denote by Γ the Malliavin matrix of a d -dimensional vector $F = (F_1, \dots, F_d)$ whose components belong to $\bigoplus_{k=0}^q \mathcal{H}_k$. We also denote by C the covariance matrix of F . In this section, we present few open questions which aim at clarifying the condition $E[\det \Gamma] = 0$. Previously, we have proven in Proposition 3.2 that, for $d = 2$, $F_1 = I_2(f_1)$ and $F_2 = I_2(f_2)$, the following inequality holds true:

$$E[\det \Gamma^2] \geq 4 \det C.$$

An interesting immediate consequence is the following alternative: either $(I_2(f_1), I_2(f_2))$ is absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue measure, or f_1 and f_2 are proportional. Such a fact legitimates the following two open questions.

Question 6.1 *Let $q \geq 1$ and $F_i = I_q(f_i)$, $1 \leq i \leq d$, where $f_1, \dots, f_d \in \mathfrak{H}^{\odot q}$. Assume that $E[\det \Gamma] = 0$. Is it true that $\{f_1, \dots, f_d\}$ are linearly dependent?*

The Question 6.1 may be reinforced in the following way:

Question 6.2 *Is there an universal constant $c = c_{d,q}$ such that, for any $f_1, \dots, f_d \in \mathfrak{H}^{\odot q}$,*

$$E[\det \Gamma] \geq c \det C \quad ?$$

Finally, in the more general case of a random vector $F = (F_1, \dots, F_d)$ where $F_i \in \bigoplus_{k=0}^q \mathcal{H}_k$, a natural question is to find a lower bound for $E[\det \Gamma]$ of the form $\inf_H E[|H(F_1, \dots, F_d)|]$, where H runs over a suitable family of polynomials in d variables.

Positive answers to the above questions would have important consequences on the results about the limit in law and in total variation for sequences of vectors whose components belong to a finite sum of Wiener chaos.

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