



# OPEN STOCHASTIC SYSTEMS

&

# THEIR INTERCONNECTION

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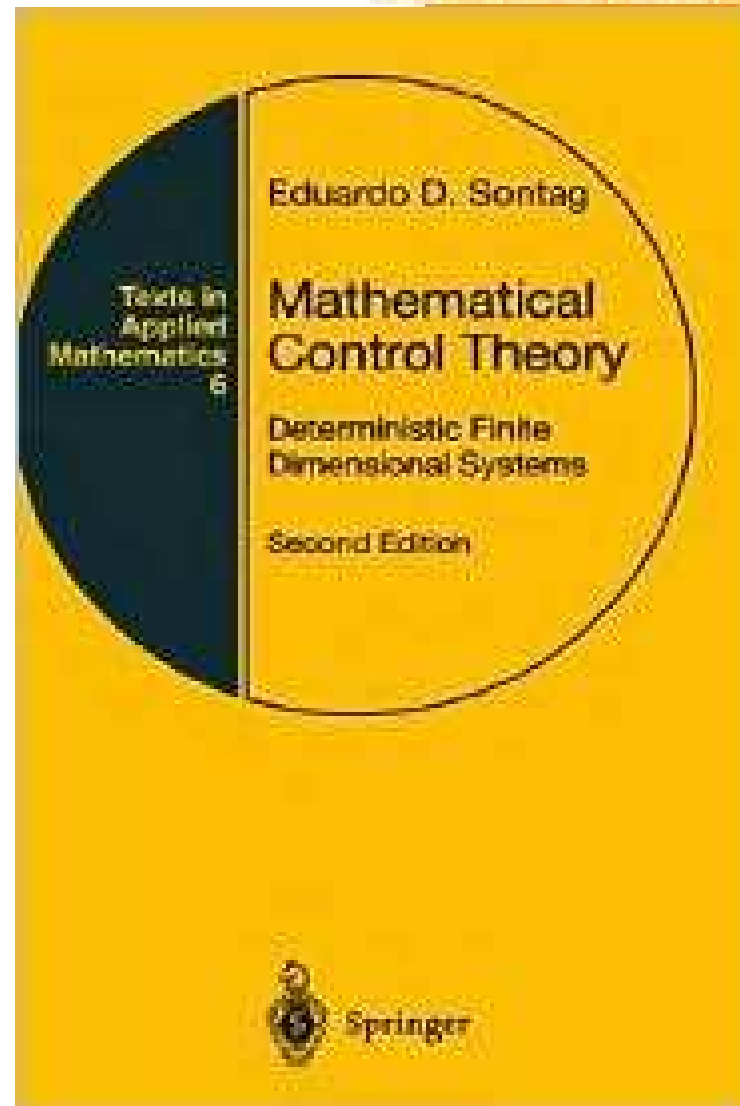


**In honor of Eduardo Sontag  
on the occasion of his 60-th birthday.**

# When & where & how we first met



LOOK INSIDE!



# Stochastic systems

# Outline

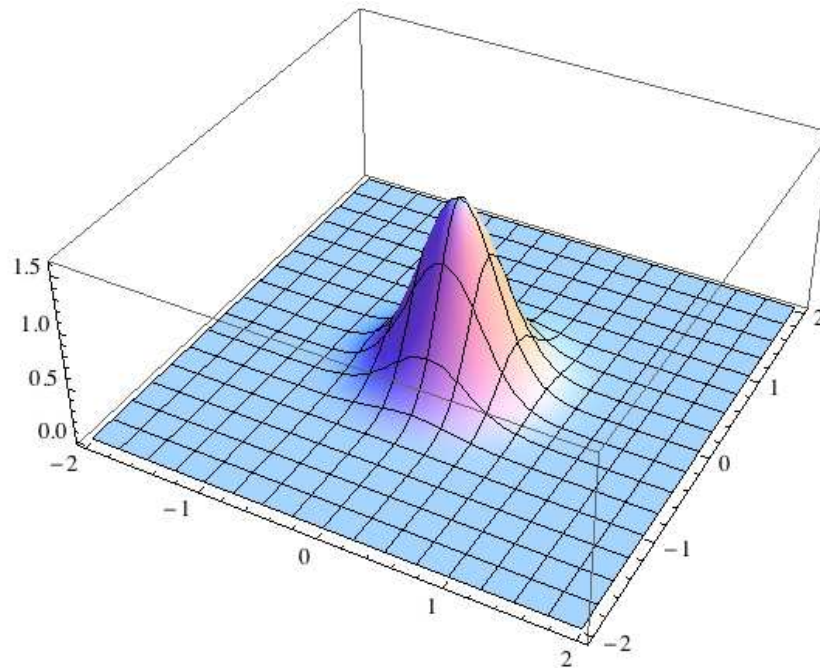
- ▶ **Motivation**
- ▶ **Definitions**
- ▶ **Interconnection**
- ▶ **[Variable sharing versus input/output]**
- ▶ **[Identification]**
- ▶ **Conclusions**

# Theme

**Model a phenomenon stochastically; outcomes in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .**

**Usual framework:**

- ▶ **probability distributions, probability density functions;**
- ▶ **means that the event  $\sigma$ -algebra consists of the Borel sets.**  
     $\leadsto$  **‘Every’ subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is assigned a probability.**



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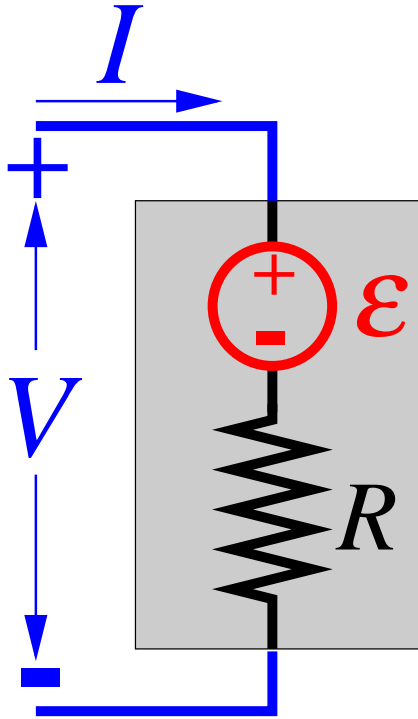
**Thesis:**

**This is unduly restrictive,  
even for elementary applications.**



# Motivating examples

## Noisy resistor



$$V = RI + \varepsilon$$

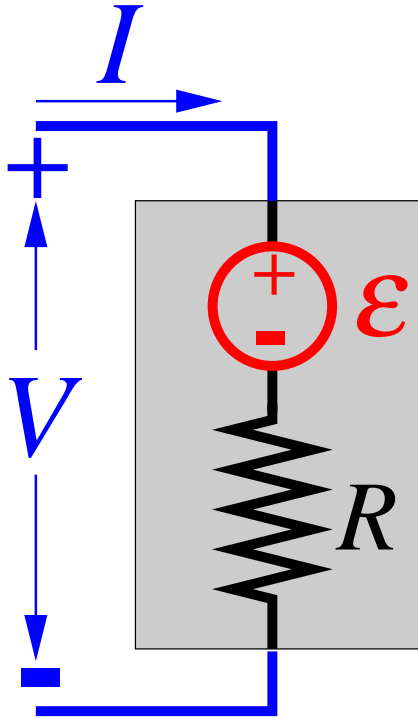
$\varepsilon$  gaussian

zero mean

variance  $\sigma \sim \sqrt{RT}$

‘Johnson-Nyquist resistor’

## Noisy resistor



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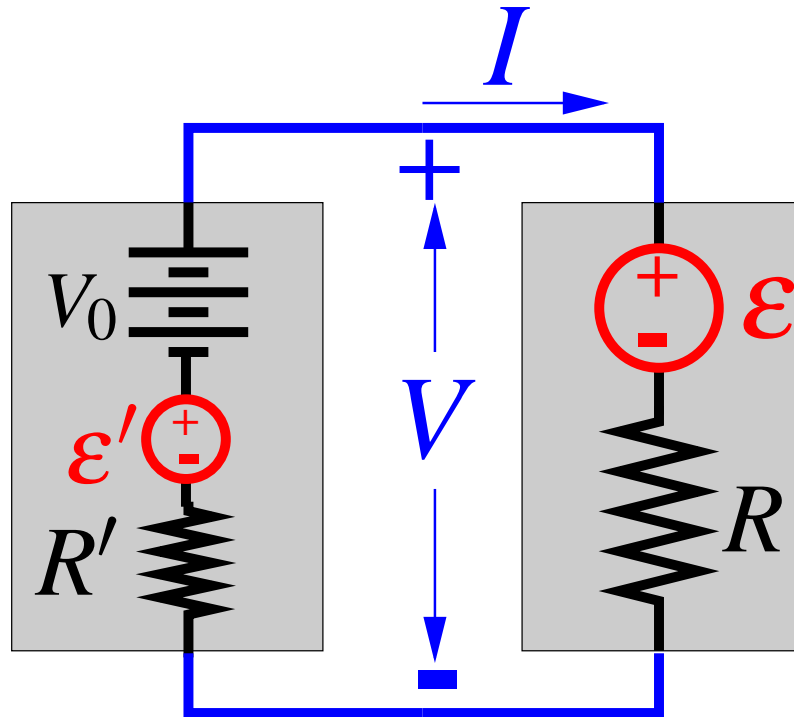
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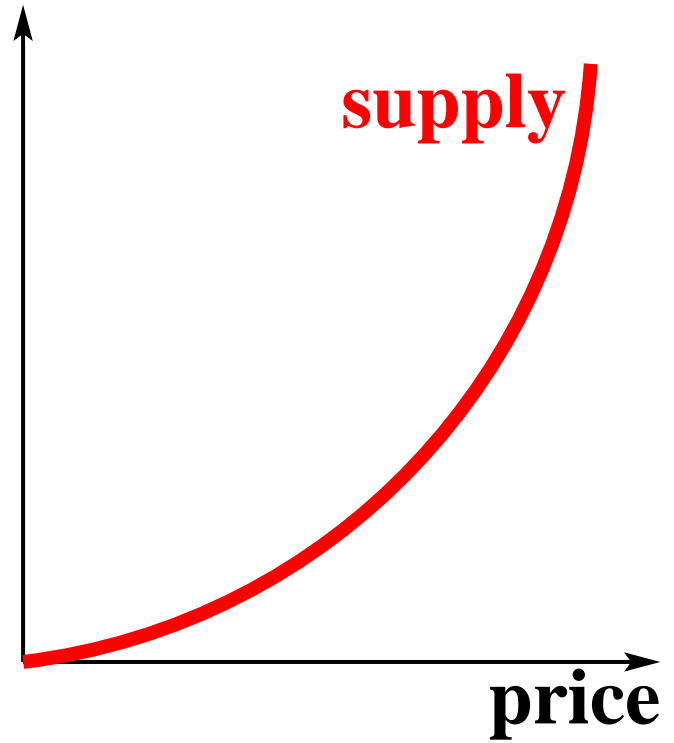
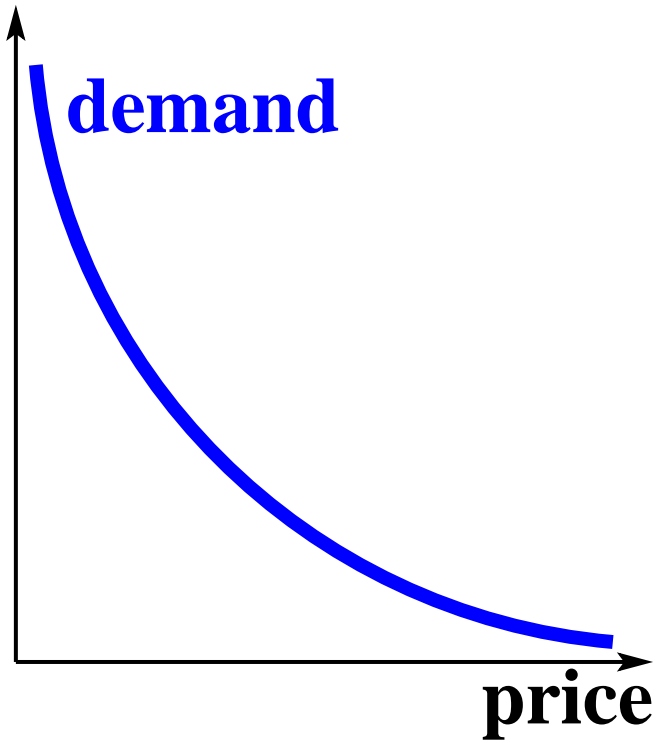
*What is  $\begin{bmatrix} V \\ I \end{bmatrix}$  as a mathematical object?*

## Noisy resistor

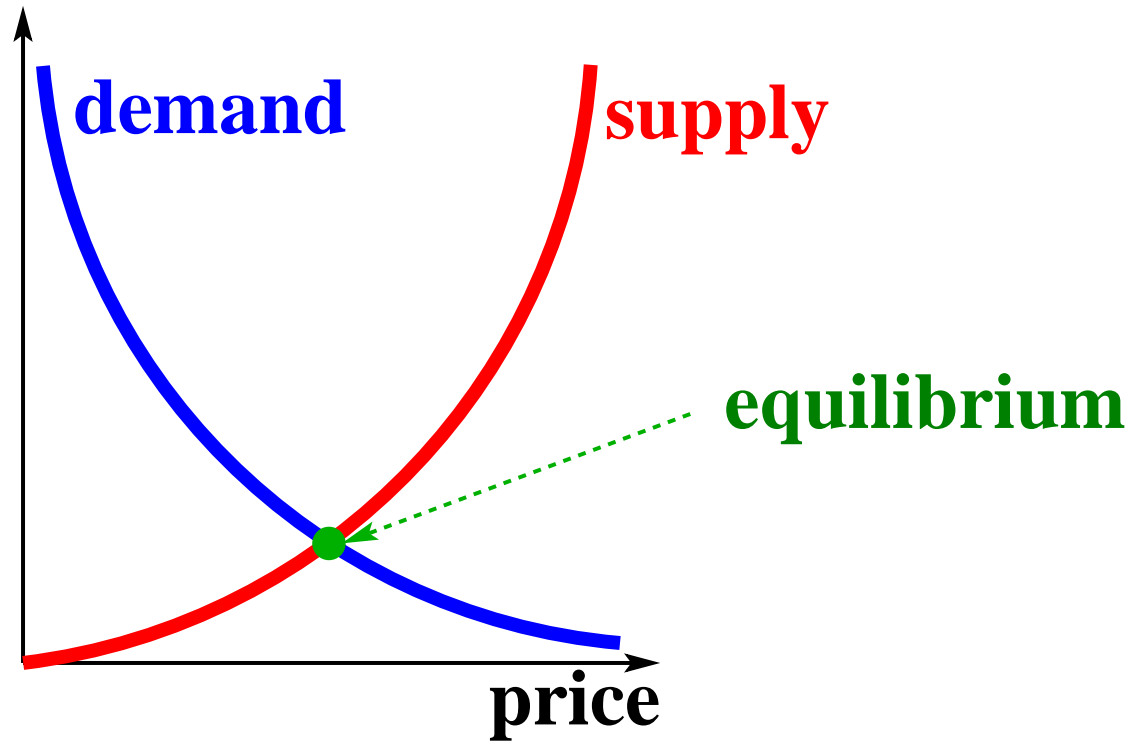


*How do we deal with interconnection?*

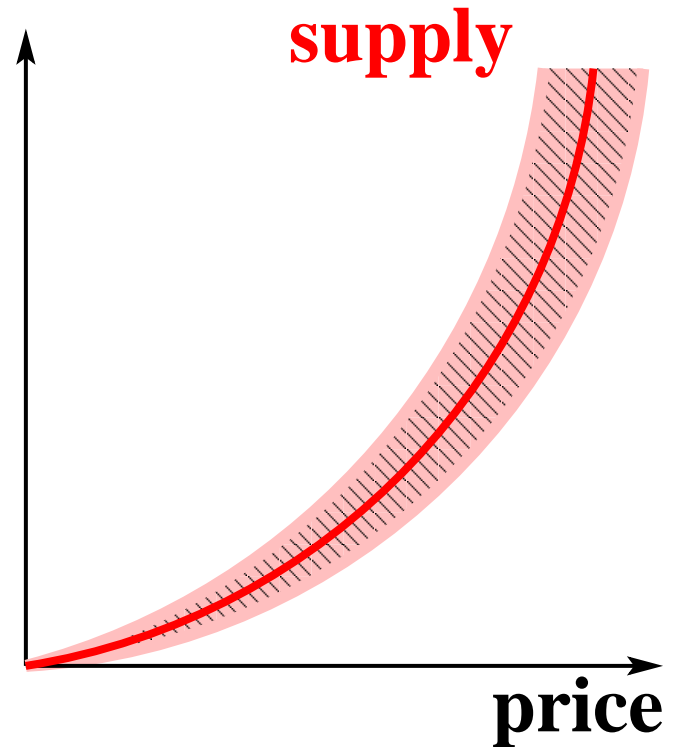
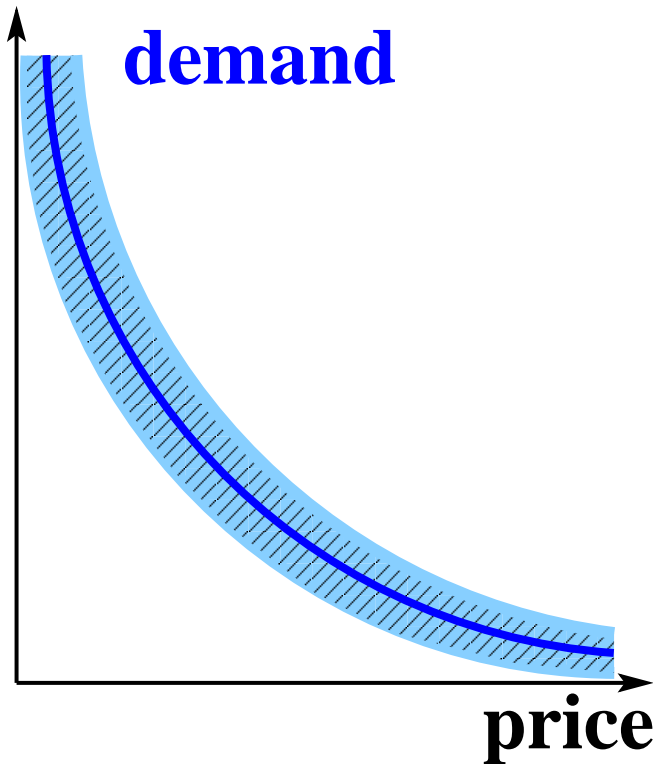
# Deterministic price/demand/supply



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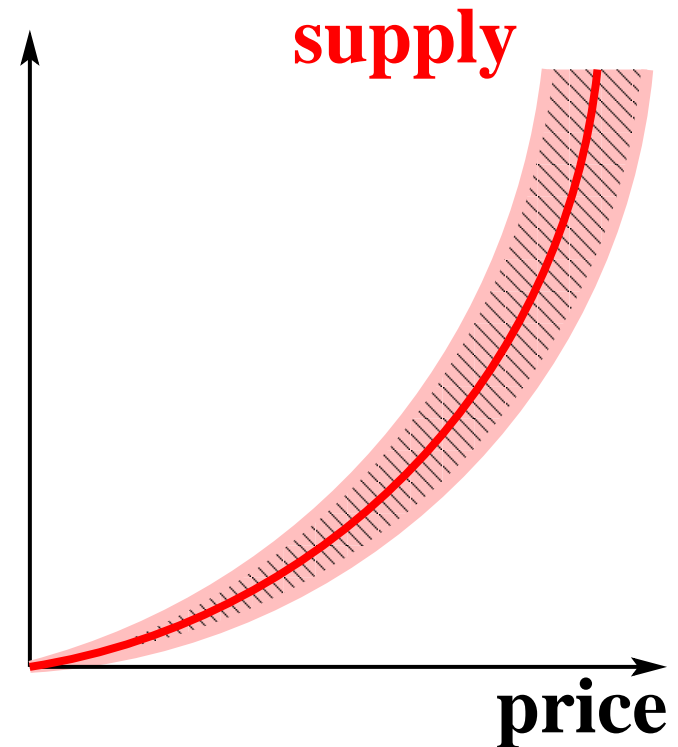
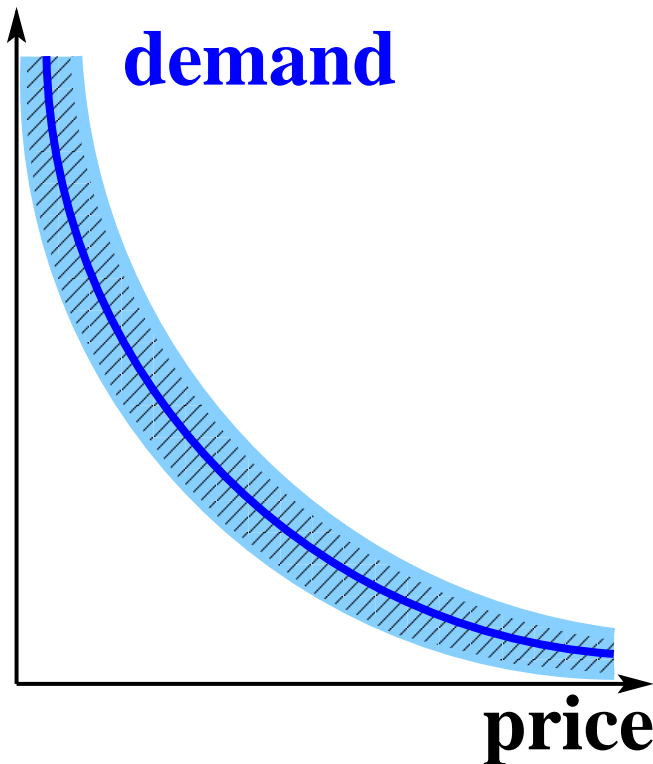


## Stochastic price/demand/supply



Only certain regions of the  $\begin{bmatrix} \text{price} \\ \text{demand} \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} \text{price} \\ \text{supply} \end{bmatrix}$  planes are assigned a probability.

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*How do we deal with equilibrium supply = demand?*



# Formal definitions

## Definition

A *stochastic system* is a probability triple  $(\mathbb{W}, \mathcal{E}, P)$

- ▶  $\mathbb{W}$  a non-empty set, the *outcome space*,
- ▶  $\mathcal{E}$  a  $\sigma$ -algebra of subsets of  $\mathbb{W}$ : the *events*,
- ▶  $P : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow [0, 1]$  a *probability measure*.

$\mathcal{E}$ : the subsets that are assigned a probability.

Probability that outcomes  $\in E$ ,  $E \in \mathcal{E}$ , is  $P(E)$ .

Model  $\cong \mathcal{E}$  and  $P$ ;  $\mathcal{E}$  is an essential part.

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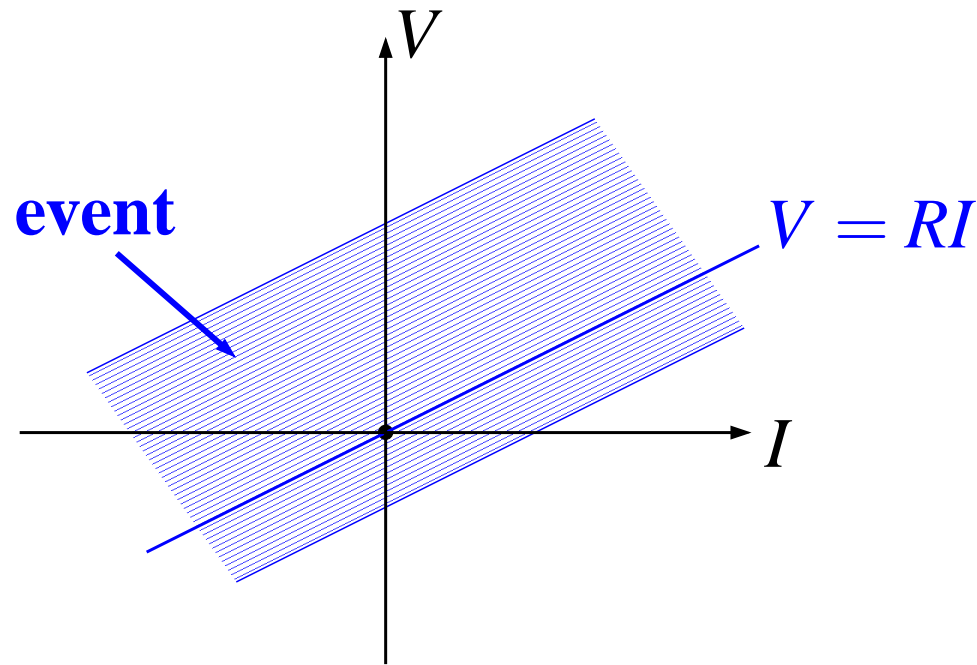
**‘Classical’** stochastic system:

$\mathbb{W} = \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\mathcal{E}$  = the Borel subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

$\mathcal{E}$  is inherited from topology on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

$P$  can then be specified by a probability distribution.

## Noisy resistor



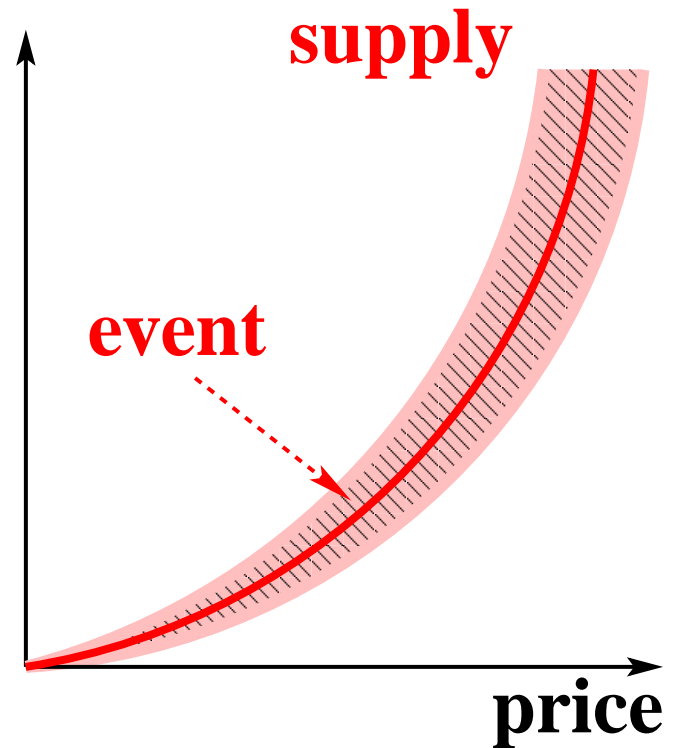
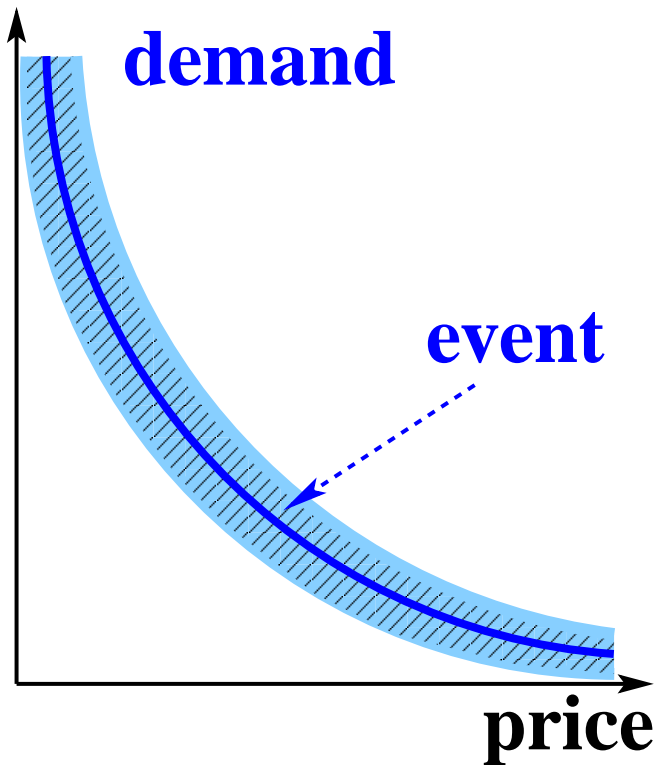
$V = RI + \varepsilon$ : **stoch. system**,  $\mathbb{W} = \mathbb{R}^2$ , **outcomes**  $\begin{bmatrix} V \\ I \end{bmatrix}$ .

**Events:**  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} V \\ I \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid V - RI \in A \text{ with } A \text{ a Borel subset of } \mathbb{R} \right\}$ .

$P(\text{event}) =$  **gaussian measure of } A.**

$V$  and  $I$  are not classical real random variables.

# Stochastic price/demand/supply

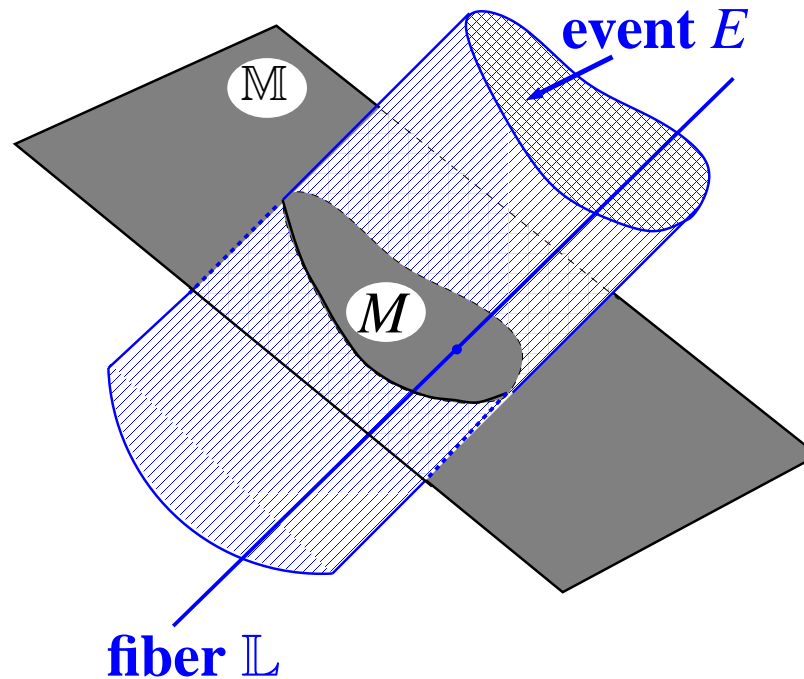


$\mathcal{E}$  = the regions that are assigned a probability.

$p$ ,  $d$ , and  $s$  are not classical real random variables.

# Linearity

*linear* : $\Leftrightarrow$  Borel probability on  $\mathbb{R}^n / \mathbb{L}$ ,  $\mathbb{L}$  linear, ‘fiber’.



**Borel probability on  $M \cong \mathbb{R}^n / \mathbb{L}$ .**

*gaussian* : $\Leftrightarrow$  linear, Borel probability gaussian.

**Classical  $\Rightarrow$  linear.**

## Deterministic

$(\mathbb{W}, \mathcal{E}, P)$  is said to be *deterministic* if

$$\mathcal{E} = \{\emptyset, \mathbb{B}, \mathbb{B}^{\text{complement}}, \mathbb{W}\} \text{ and } P(\mathbb{B}) = 1.$$

**If  $\mathbb{B} = \mathbb{W}$ , the variables are *free*.**

**noisy resistor: linear, gaussian, fiber  $V = RI$ .**

**$w = V - RI$  is a classical random variable.**

**$V$  and  $I$  are free.**

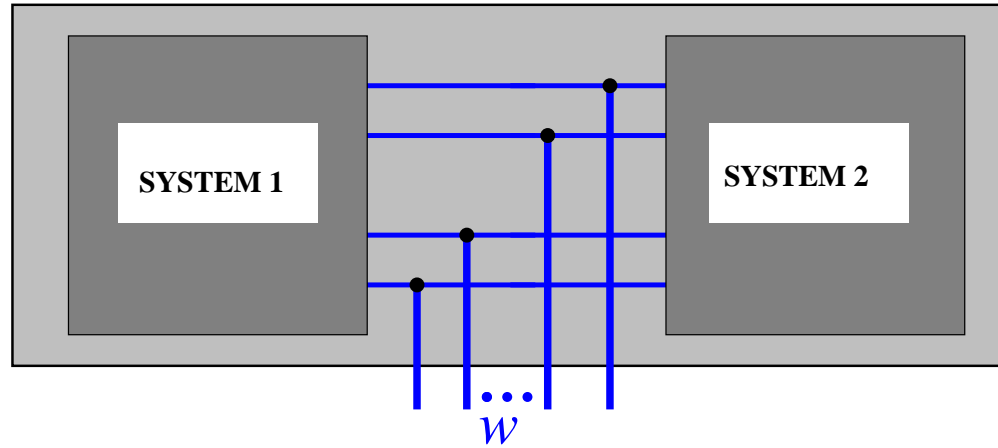
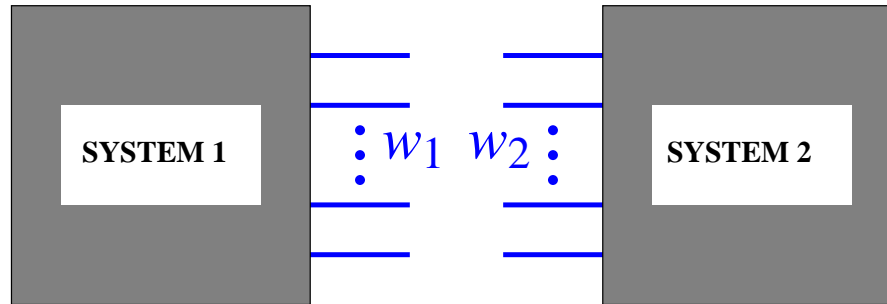
**Only statements  $P(\{V \in \mathbb{R}\}) = 1, P(\{I \in \mathbb{R}\}) = 1$ .**

**$\begin{bmatrix} V \\ I \end{bmatrix}$  no pdf, no cumulative, no conditional distr'ions.**

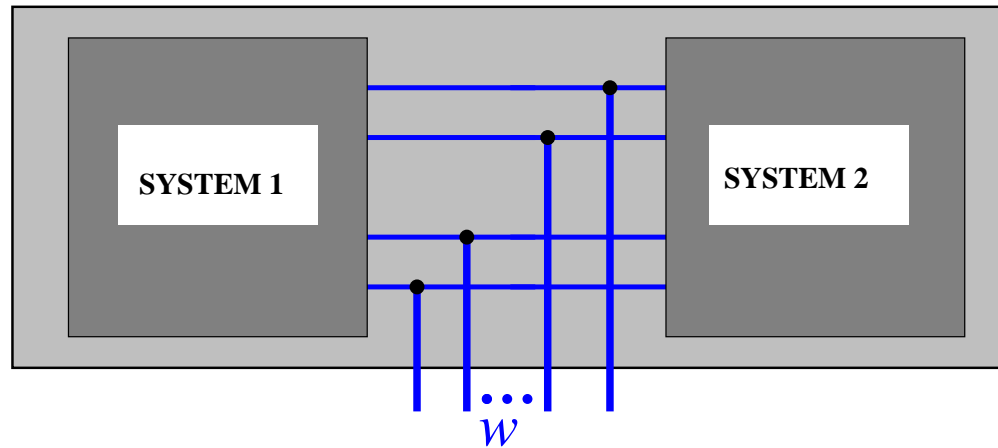
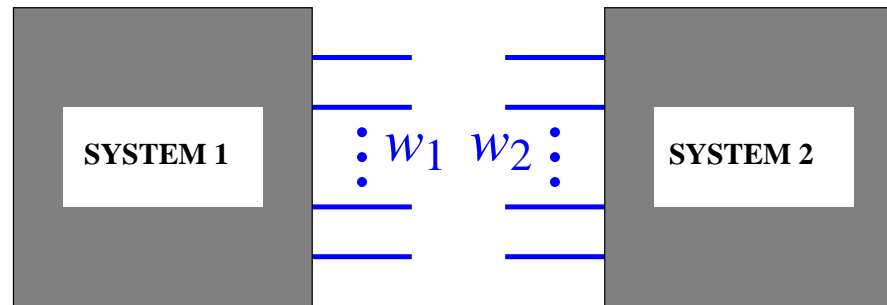
# Interconnection



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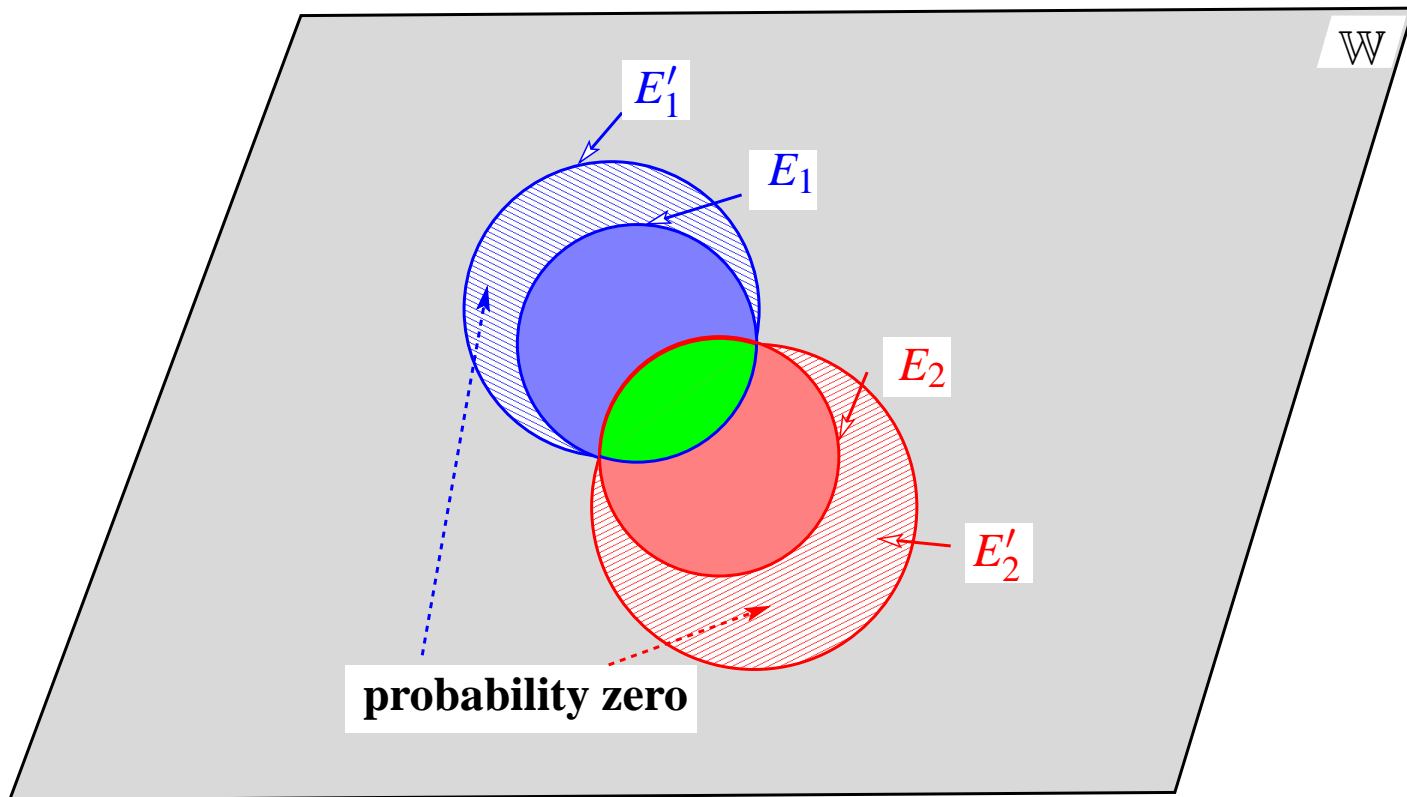


**Can we impose two distinct probabilistic laws  
on the same set of variables?**

# Complementarity

$\Sigma_1 = (\mathbb{W}, \mathcal{E}_1, P_1)$  and  $\Sigma_2 = (\mathbb{W}, \mathcal{E}_2, P_2)$  are said to be *complementary*  $:\Leftrightarrow$  for  $E_1, E'_1 \in \mathcal{E}_1$  and  $E_2, E'_2 \in \mathcal{E}_2$ :

$$\llbracket E_1 \cap E_2 = E'_1 \cap E'_2 \rrbracket \Rightarrow \llbracket P_1(E_1)P_2(E_2) = P_1(E'_1)P_2(E'_2) \rrbracket.$$



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Implied by  $\mathcal{E}_1$  and  $\mathcal{E}_2$  are *complementary*  $:\Leftrightarrow$   
for all nonempty sets  $E_1, E'_1 \in \mathcal{E}_1, E_2, E'_2 \in \mathcal{E}_2$

$$\llbracket E_1 \cap E_2 = E'_1 \cap E'_2 \rrbracket \Rightarrow \llbracket E_1 = E'_1 \text{ and } E_2 = E'_2 \rrbracket.$$

## Interconnection of complementary systems

Let  $\Sigma_1 = (\mathbb{W}, \mathcal{E}_1, P_1)$  and  $\Sigma_2 = (\mathbb{W}, \mathcal{E}_2, P_2)$  be complementary stochastic systems (assumed stochastically independent). Their *interconnection* is

$$(\mathbb{W}, \mathcal{E}, P)$$

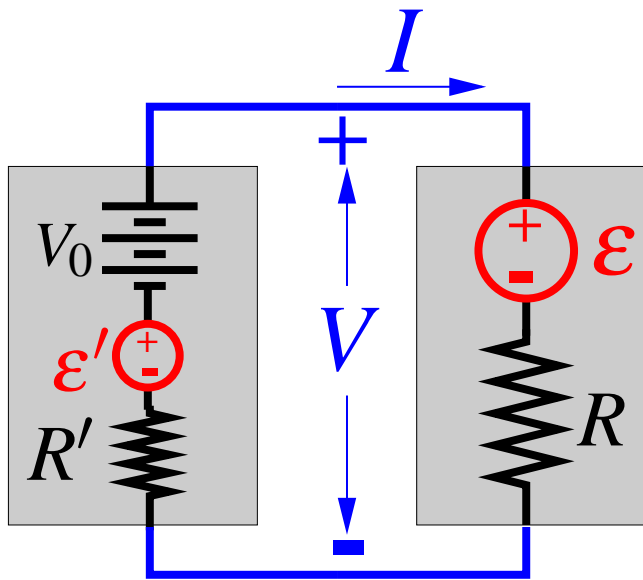
with  $\mathcal{E} :=$  the  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by the ‘rectangles’

$$\{E_1 \cap E_2 \mid E_1 \in \mathcal{E}_1, E_2 \in \mathcal{E}_2\},$$

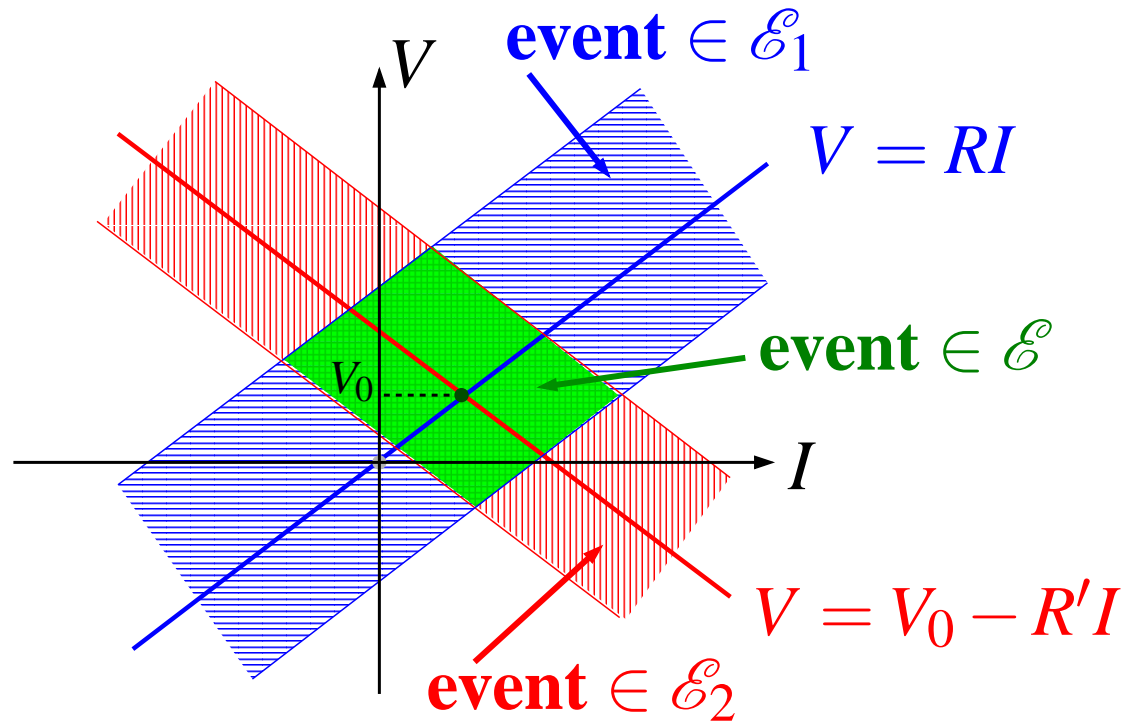
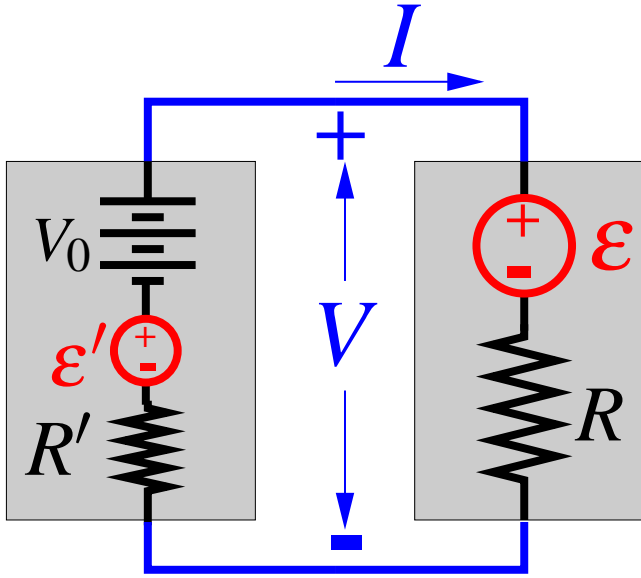
and  $P$  defined through the rectangles by

$$P(E_1 \cap E_2) := P_1(E_1)P_2(E_2).$$

# Noisy resistor terminated by voltage source

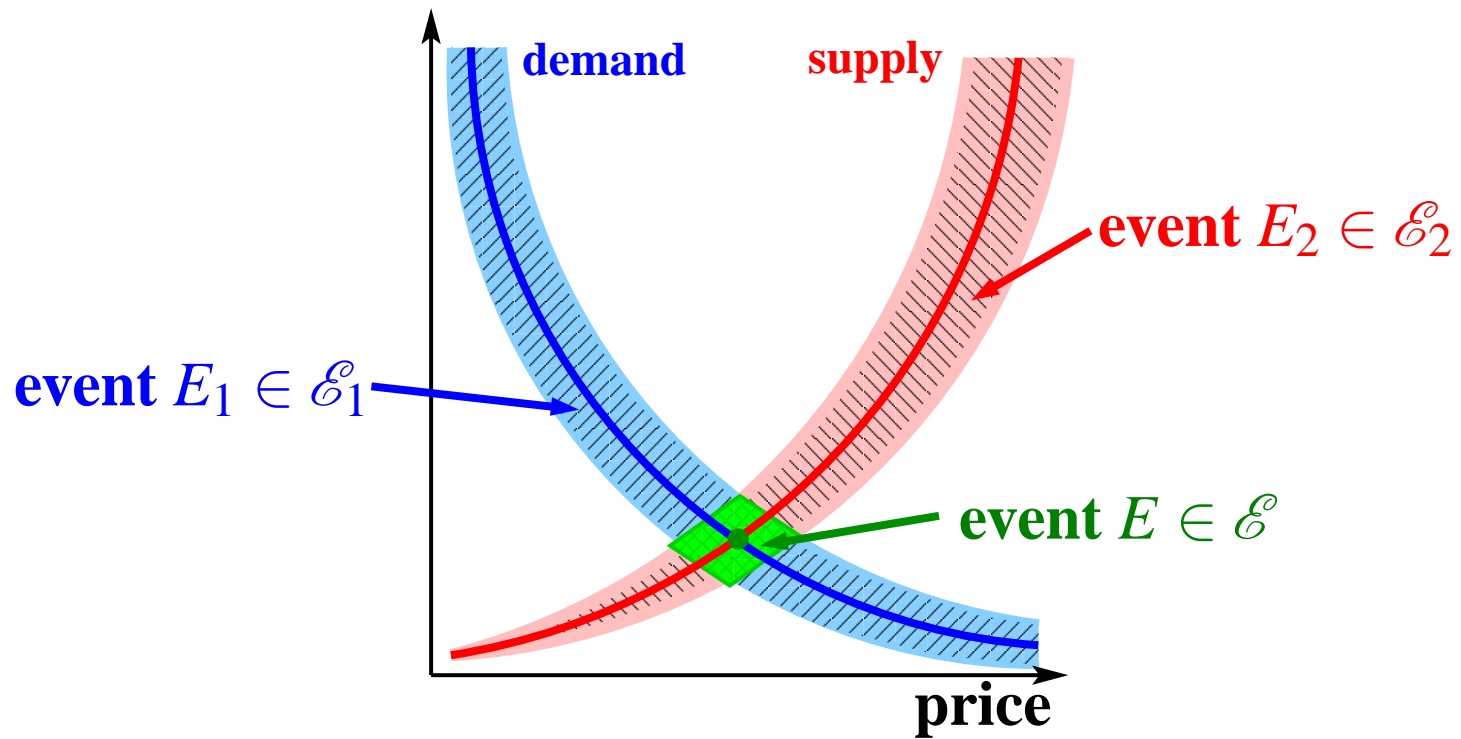


# Noisy resistor terminated by voltage source



$$P(E) = P_1(E_1)P_2(E_2)$$

# Equilibrium price/demand/supply



$$P(E) = P_1(E_1)P_2(E_2).$$



## Open versus closed

$$\Sigma_1 = (\mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{E}_1, P_1).$$

**Parsimonious  $\mathcal{E}_1 \Rightarrow \Sigma_1$  is interconnectable.**

$\Rightarrow$  **'open' system.**

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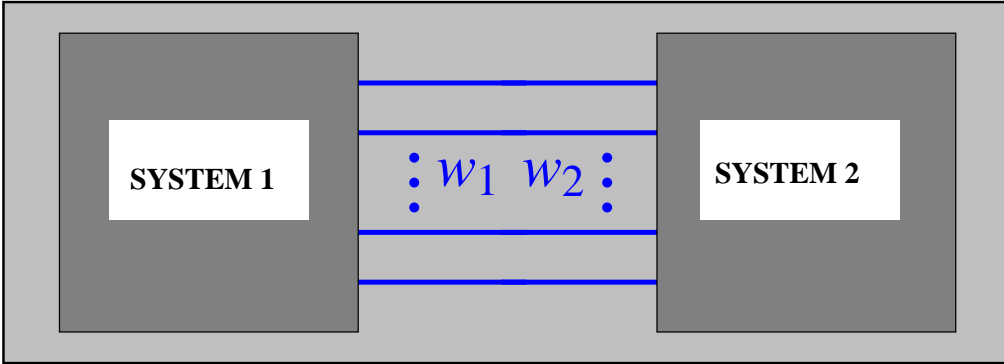
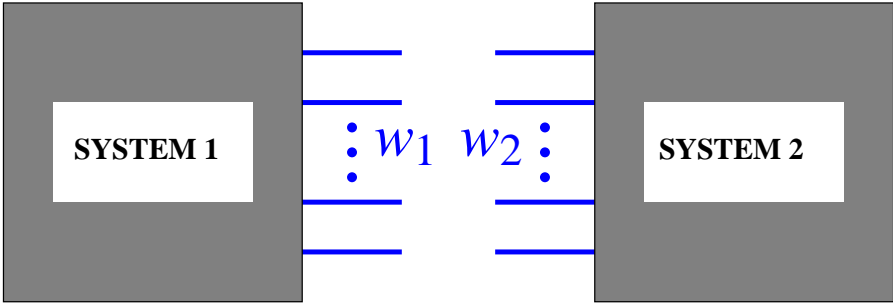
**If  $\mathcal{E}_1 =$  the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra, and  $\text{support}(P_1) = \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  
then  $\Sigma_1$  interconnectable only with the free system**

$$\Sigma_2 = (\mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{E}_2, P_2), \mathcal{E}_2 = \{\emptyset, \mathbb{R}^n\}.$$

**$\Rightarrow$  classical = ‘closed’ system.**

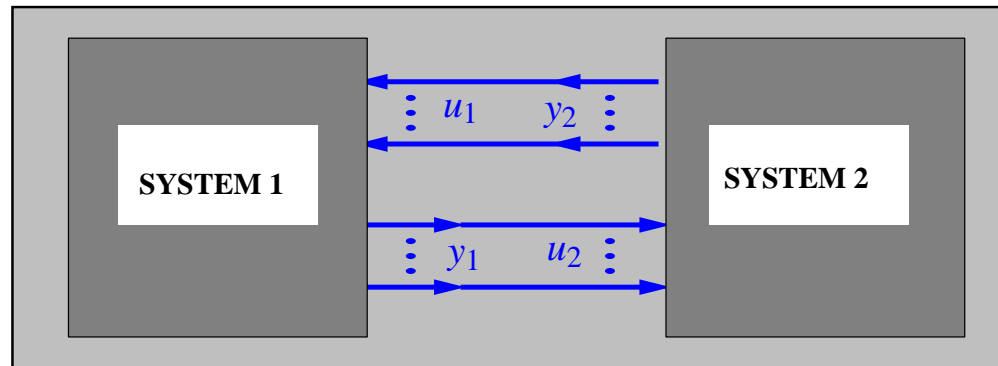
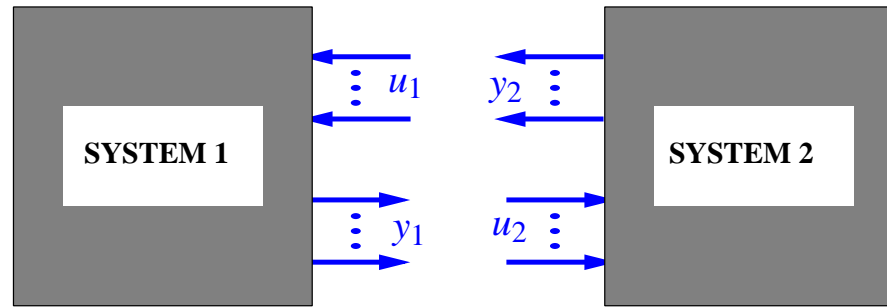
**Interconnection  $\Leftrightarrow$  variable sharing**

# Variable sharing



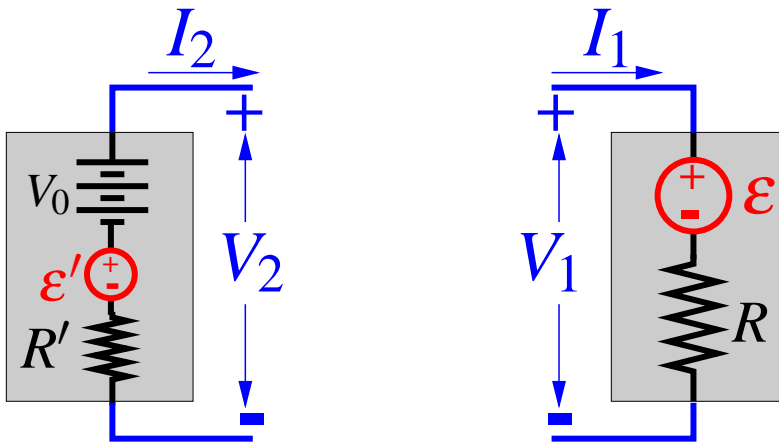
$$w_1 = w_2$$

# Output-to-input assignment



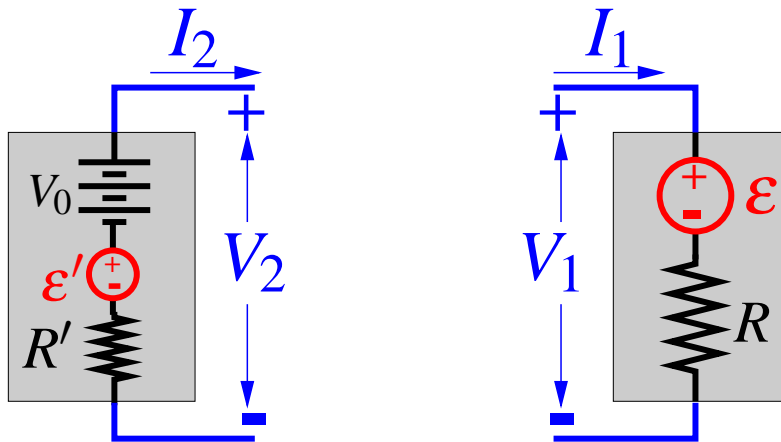
$$u_1 = y_2, \quad u_2 = y_1$$

## Resistor interconnection

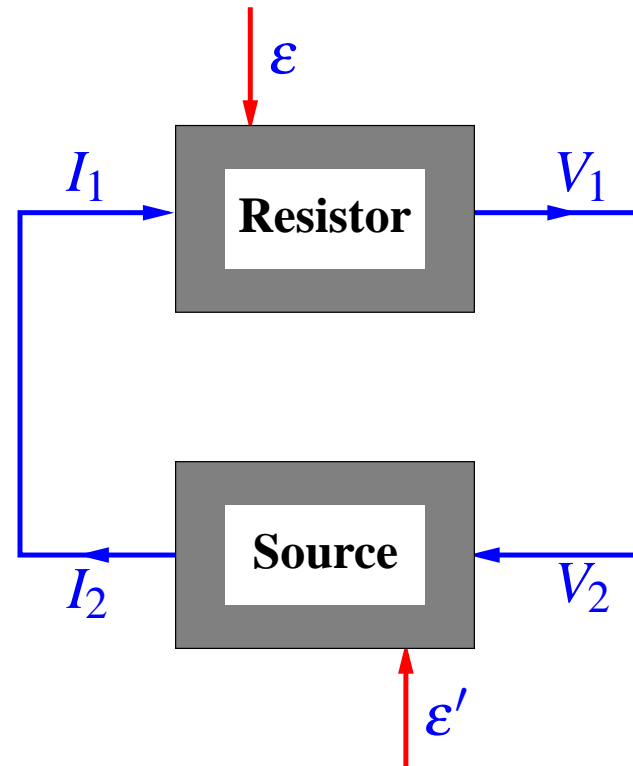


$$V_1 = V_2, \quad I_1 = I_2$$

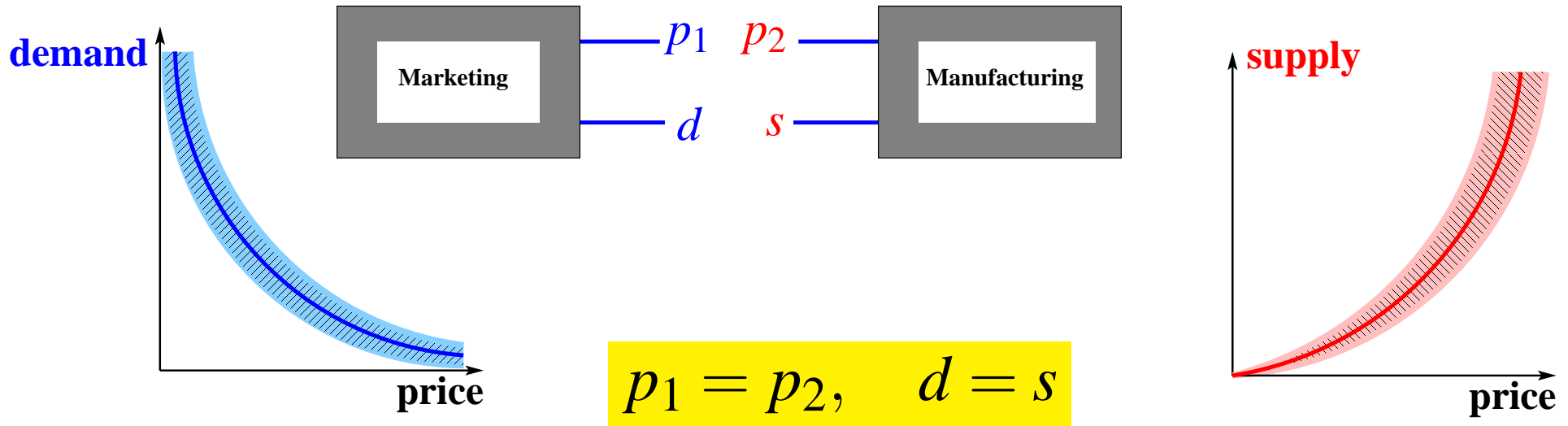
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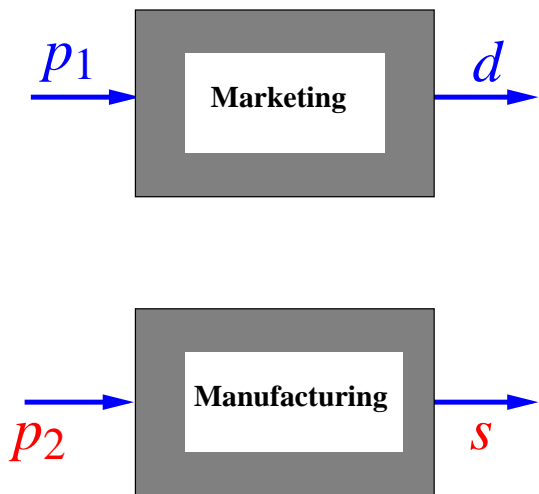
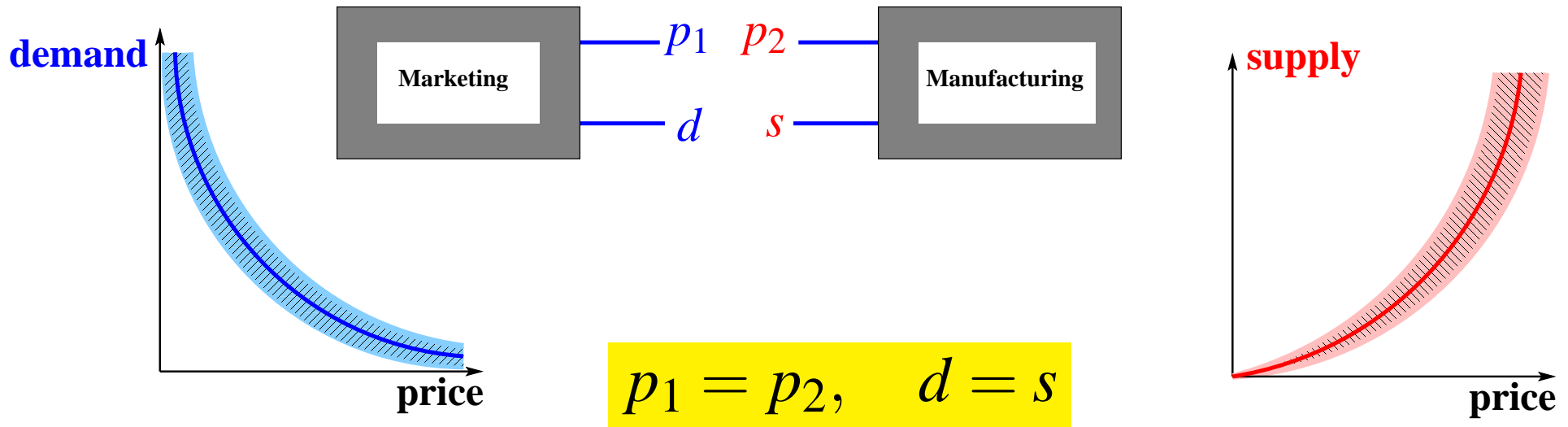


# Price/demand/supply interconnection

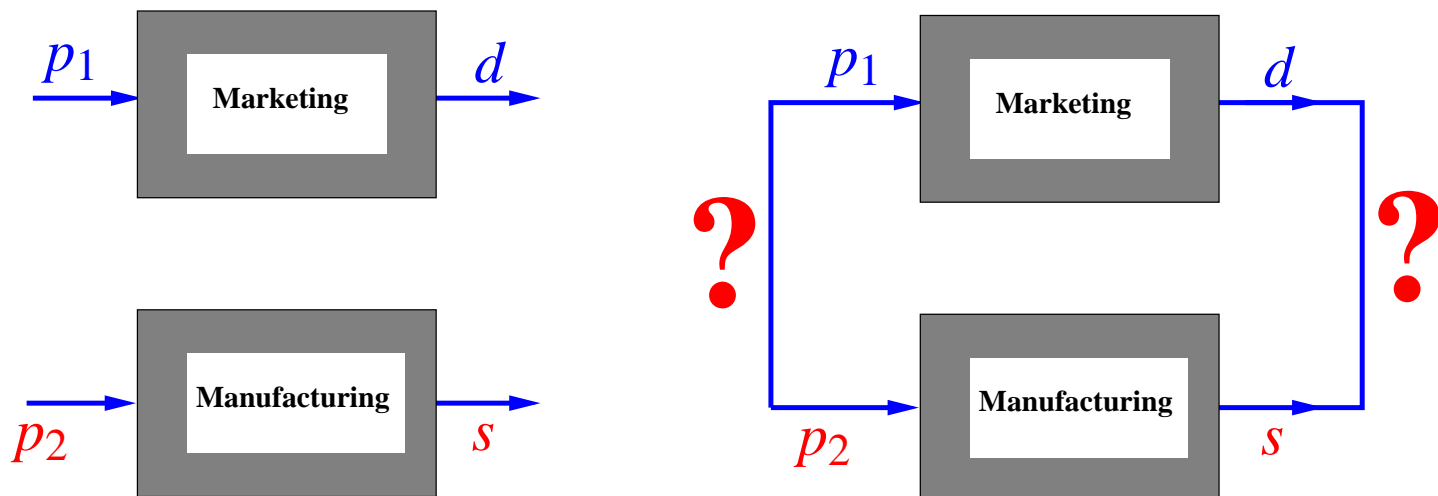
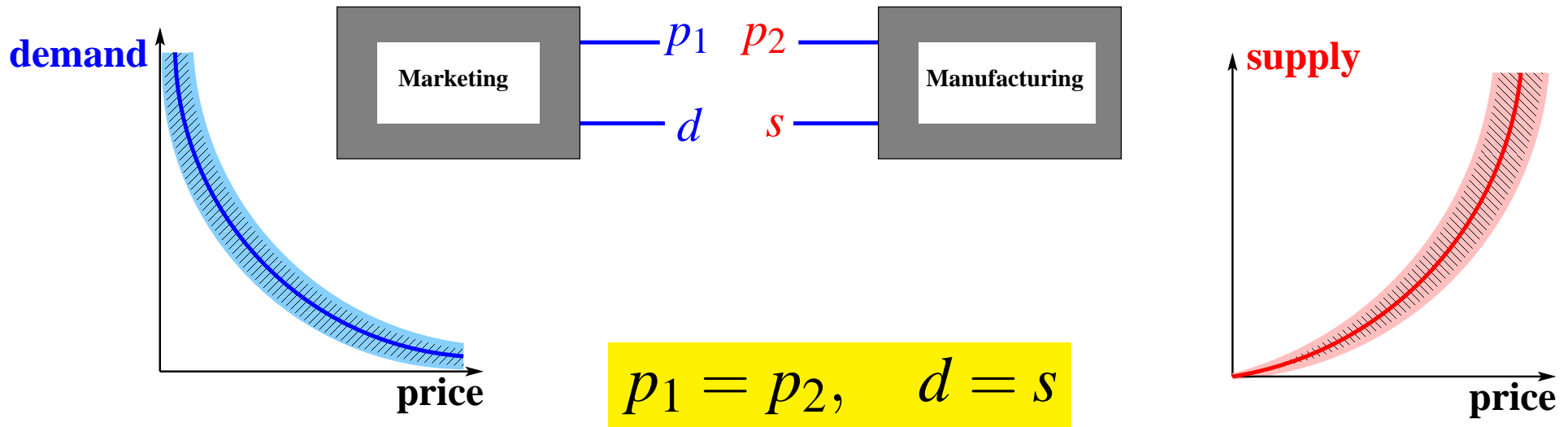




# Price/demand/supply interconnection



# Price/demand/supply interconnection



# Identification

## Measurements

**Data collection requires observing a stochastic system *in interaction with an environment.***

*Is it possible to disentangle the laws of a system from the laws of the environment?*

## Measurements

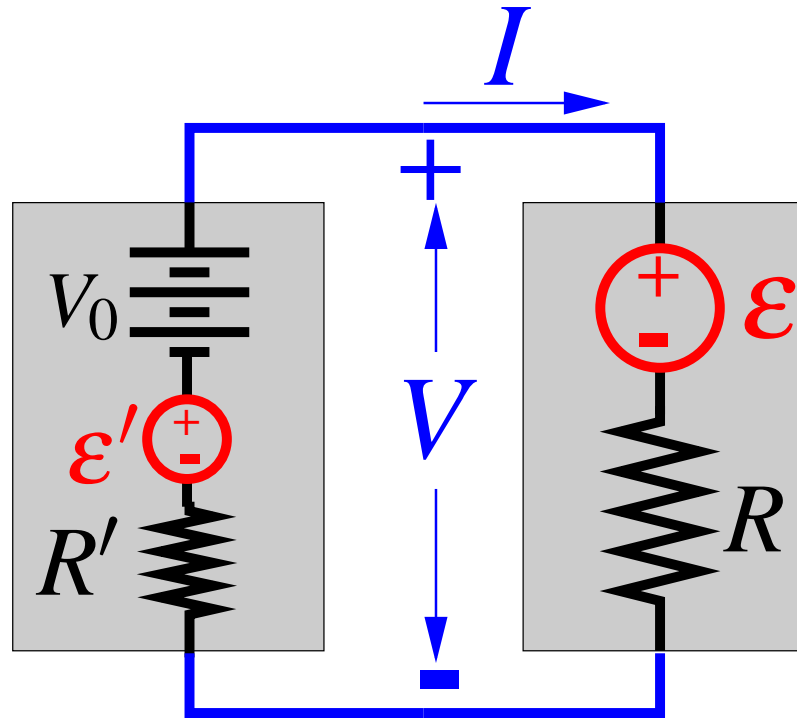
**Data collection requires observing a stochastic system *in interaction with an environment*.**

*Is it possible to disentangle the laws of a system from the laws of the environment?*

**In engineering, it may be possible to set the experimental conditions.**

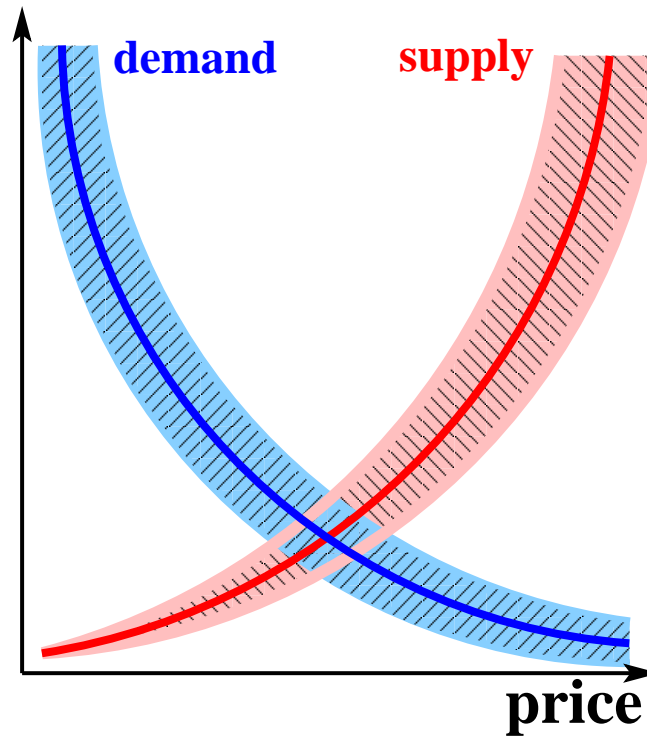
**In economics and the social sciences (and biology?), data often gathered passively **‘in vivo’**.**

# Disentangling



Can  $R$  and  $\sigma$  be deduced by sampling  $(V, I)$ ?

# Disentangling



**Can the price/demand characteristic be deduced  
by sampling  $(p, d)$  in equilibrium?**

## **SYSID for gaussian systems**

**Let  $\Sigma_1$  and  $\Sigma_2$  be complementary gaussian systems and assume that the interconnection  $\Sigma_1 \wedge \Sigma_2$  is a classical random system.**

**Sampling  $\rightsquigarrow$  the mean and covariance of  $\Sigma_1 \wedge \Sigma_2$ .**



## **SYSID for gaussian systems**

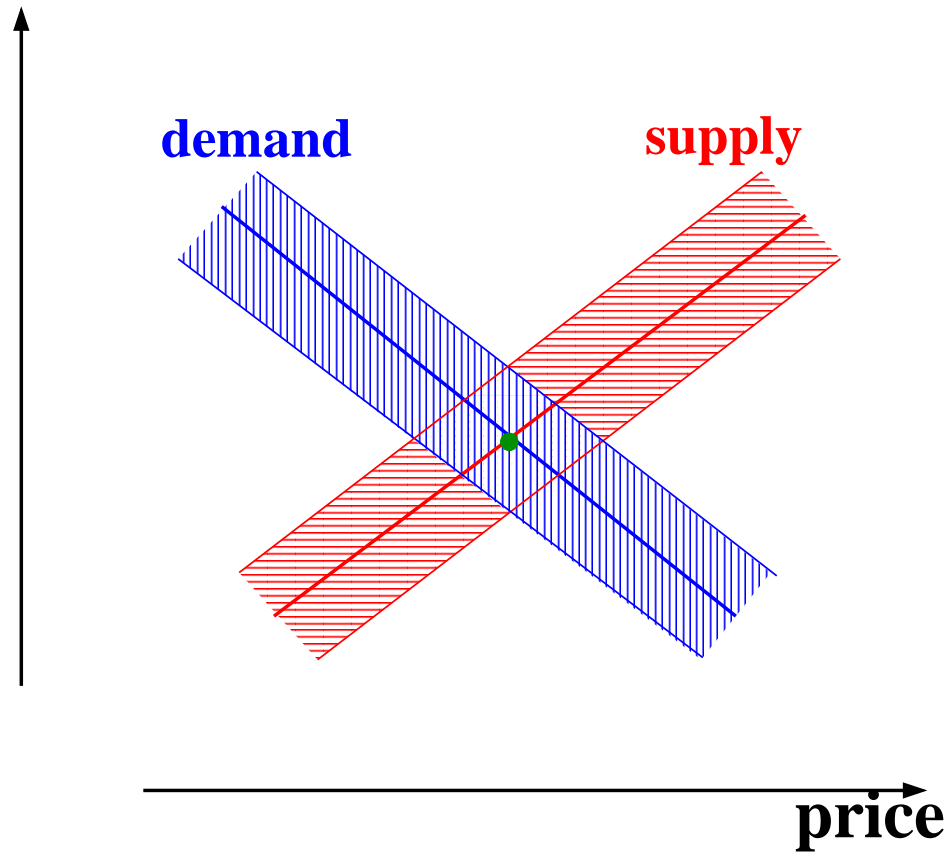
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**Sampling  $\rightsquigarrow$  the mean and covariance of  $\Sigma_1 \wedge \Sigma_2$ .**

**Given the fiber of  $\Sigma_1$  or  $\Sigma_2$ , all the other parameters of  $\Sigma_1$  and  $\Sigma_2$  can be deduced from  $\Sigma_1 \wedge \Sigma_2$ .**

**The fiber of  $\Sigma_1$  or  $\Sigma_2$  can be chosen freely.**

# Linearized gaussian price/demand/supply



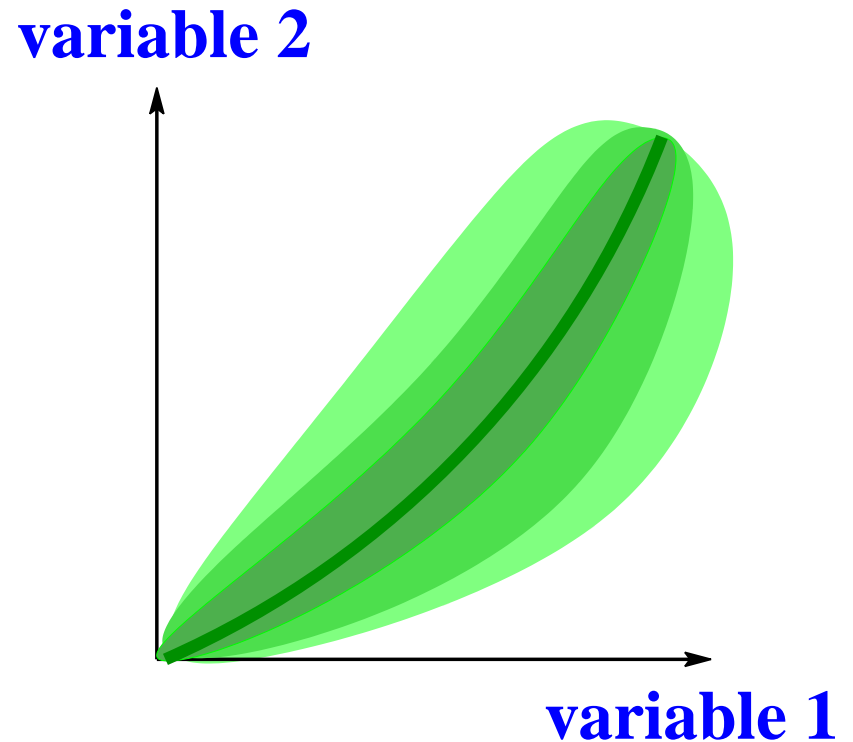
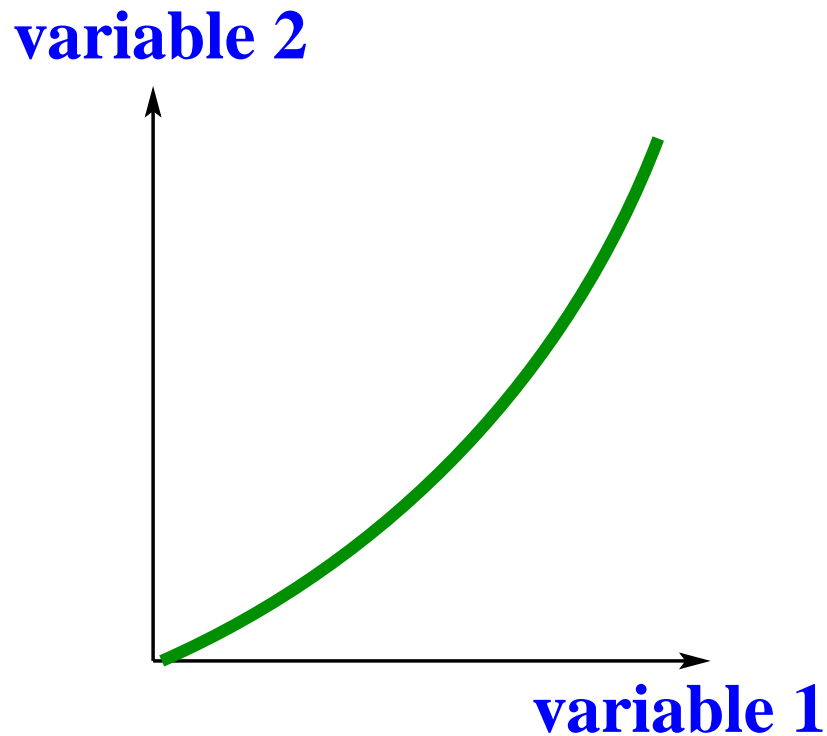
**Identifiability provided one of the fibers is known.**

**Sampling alone does not give the elasticities.**

# Conclusions

## Stochastic systems

- ▶ **The Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra is inadequate even for elementary applications.**

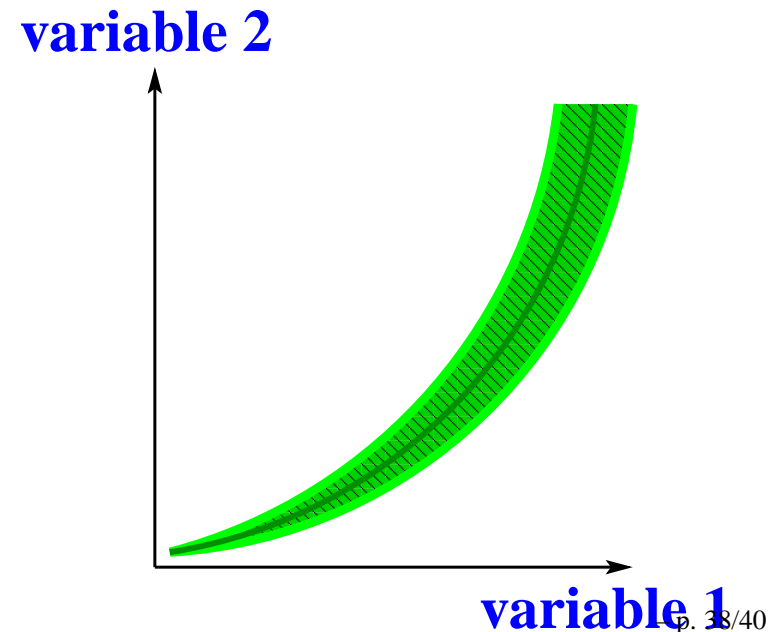
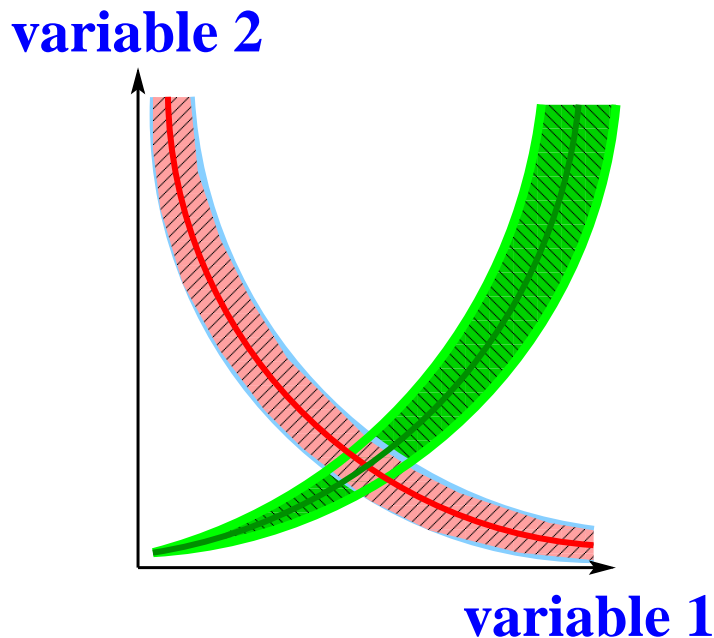


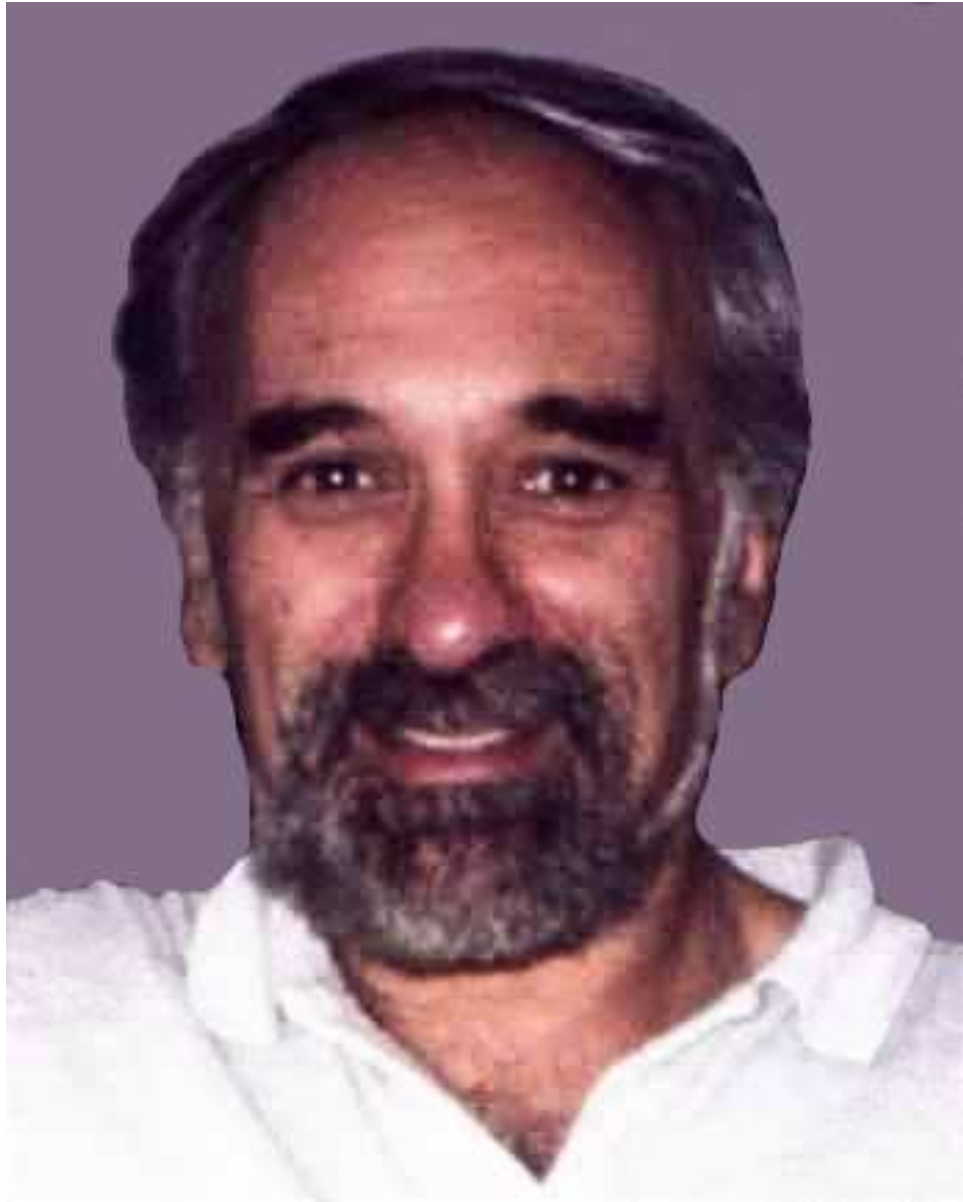
## Stochastic systems

- ▶ **The Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra is inadequate even for elementary applications.**
- ▶ **Complementary stochastic systems can be interconnected:  
two distinct laws imposed on one set of variables.  
Open stochastic systems require a parsimonious  $\sigma$ -algebra.  
Classical stochastic systems are closed systems.**

# SYSID

- ▶ **Measurements are the result of interaction with an environment.**  
**Modeling from data requires disentangling.**  
**The data alone are insufficient for identifiability.**





**Happy birthday, Eduardo!**  
**Ad multos annos felices!**

Reference: *Open stochastic systems*, IEEE AC, submitted.

Copies of the lecture frames available from/at

<http://www.esat.kuleuven.be/~jwillems>

**Thank you**

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