



# OPEN STOCHASTIC SYSTEMS

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**Workshop on**

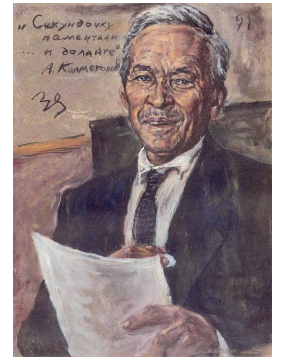
*Control Theory: Mathematical Perspectives on Complex Networked Systems*

**Mathematisches Forschungsinstitut Oberwolfach**

**February 28, 2012**

# Orthodox probability

# Mathematical probability

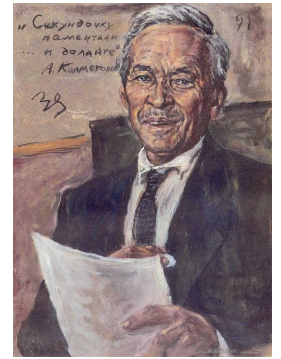


A.N. Kolmogorov  
1903 – 1987

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

- ▶  $\mathbb{W}$  the *outcome space*,
- ▶  $\mathcal{E}$  a class of subsets of  $\mathbb{W}$ , elements called *events*,
- ▶  $P : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow [0, 1]$  a *probability measure*.

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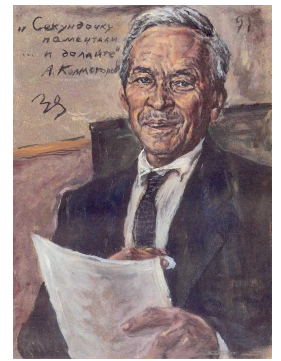
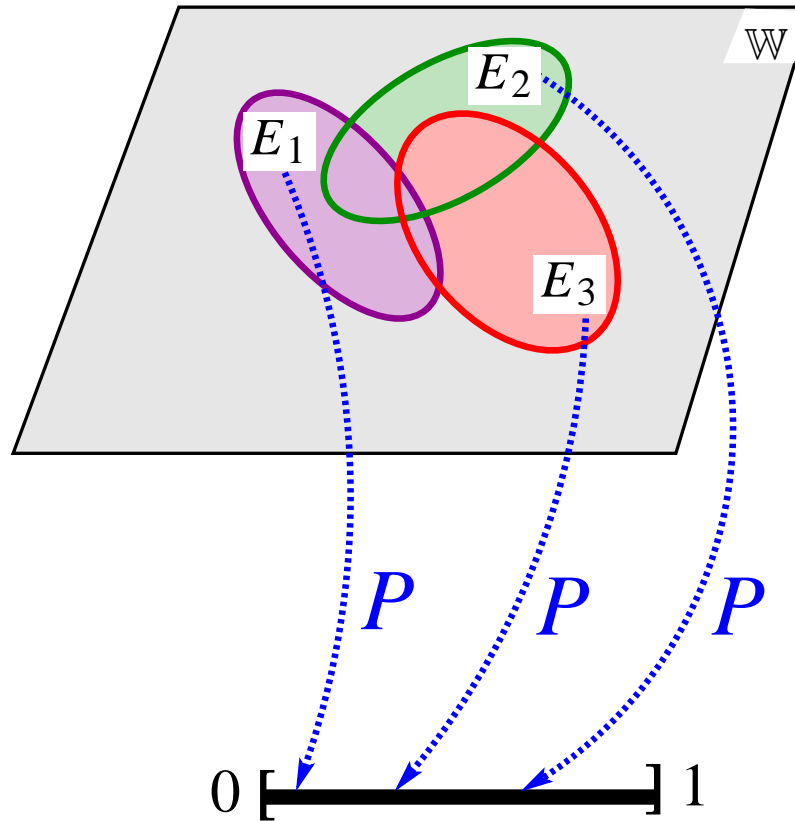
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$\mathcal{E}$ : the subsets of  $\mathbb{W}$  that are assigned a probability.

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

Model  $\cong \mathcal{E}$  and  $P$ .

# Events



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$\mathcal{E}$  = the subsets of  $\mathbb{W}$  that are assigned a probability.

## Axioms

The events  $\mathcal{E}$  form a  $\sigma$ -algebra  $:\Leftrightarrow$

- ▶  $\Omega \in \mathcal{E}$ ,
- ▶  $[[E \in \mathcal{E}]] \Rightarrow [[E^{\text{complement}} \in \mathcal{E}]]$ ,
- ▶  $[[E_k \in \mathcal{E}, k \in \mathbb{N}]] \Rightarrow [[\bigcap_{k \in \mathbb{N}} E_k \in \mathcal{E}, \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} E_k \in \mathcal{E}]]$ .

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$P : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a **probability measure**  $:\Leftrightarrow$

- ▶  $P(\mathbb{W}) = 1$ ,
- ▶  $P$  is **countably additive**  $:\Leftrightarrow$

$$[[E_k \in \mathcal{E}, k \in \mathbb{N}, \text{ disjoint}] \Rightarrow [P(\bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} E_k) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} P(E_k)]] .$$

## Borel

In expositions, **introductory & advanced**,  
with  $W = \mathbb{R}^n$ , the events are often taken  
as the **Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra**.



Émile Borel  
1871 – 1956

$\mathcal{E}$  then contains **‘basically every’** subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .



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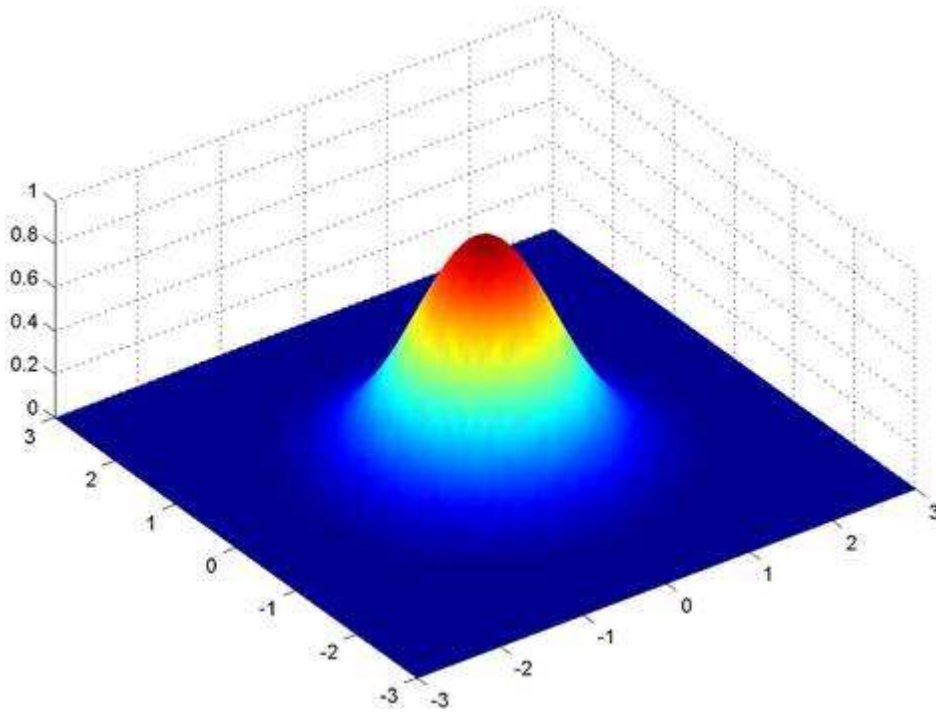
Allows to take probability distributions and pdf’s as  
the primitive concepts.

**$\mathcal{E}$  is inherited from the topological structure of the  
outcome space, avoids modeling of  $\mathcal{E}$ .**

## Probability (as commonly taught)

**‘Classical’** stochastic system:

$\mathbb{W} = \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\mathcal{E} = \text{Borel } \sigma\text{-algebra} \cong \text{‘all’ subsets of } \mathbb{R}^n$ .



for  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$

$$P(A) = \int_A p(x) dx$$

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**Borel is assumed for many basic concepts, such as**

- ▶ mean, variance, moments, correlation,
- ▶ random variable, random vector,
- ▶ marginal probability,
- ▶ **random process**, autocorrelation,
- ▶ entropy, mutual information,
- ▶ **Brownian motion, Markov process, etc.**

## Theme



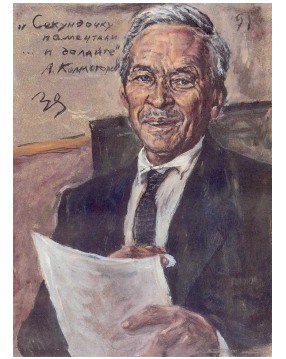
**Émile Borel**  
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*Borel is unduly restrictive,  
even for elementary applications.*

$\mathcal{E}$  is an essential part of the model!

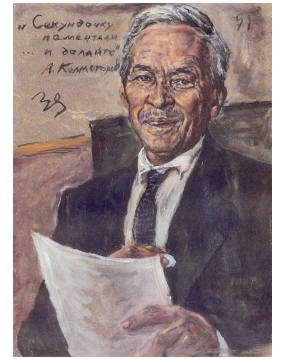
# In the Kolmogorov setting



**A.N. Kolmogorov**  
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$$(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P) \xrightarrow{f} (\mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^n), P')$$

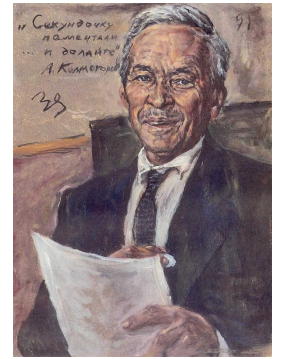
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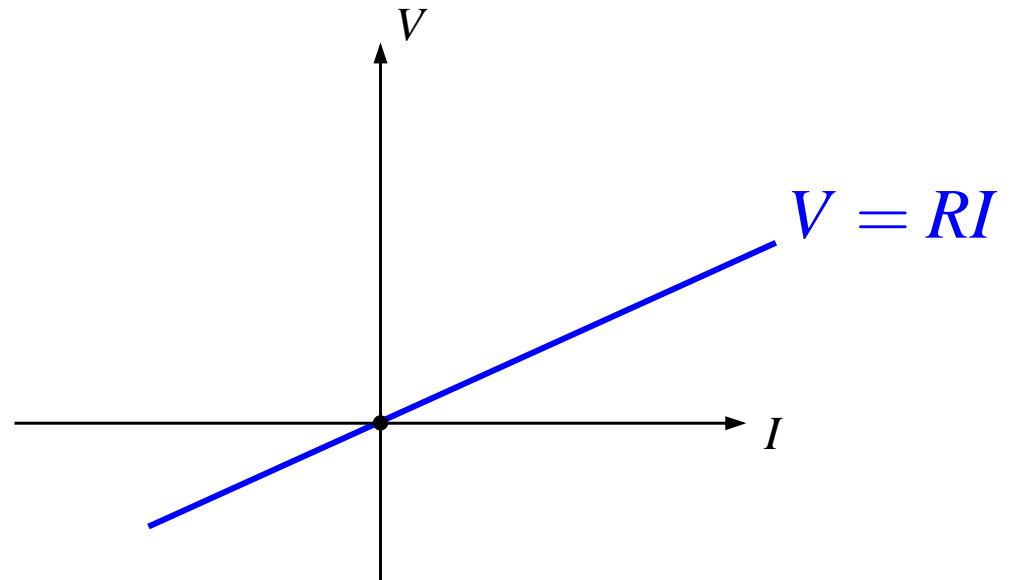
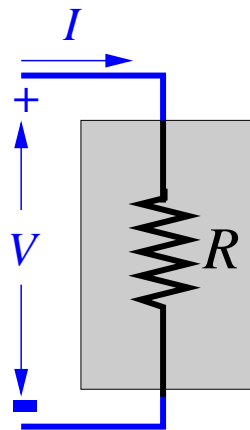
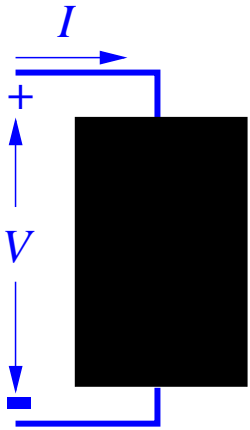
$$(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P) \xrightarrow{f} (\mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{E}, P')$$

**Requires modeling  $\mathcal{E}$  anyway.**

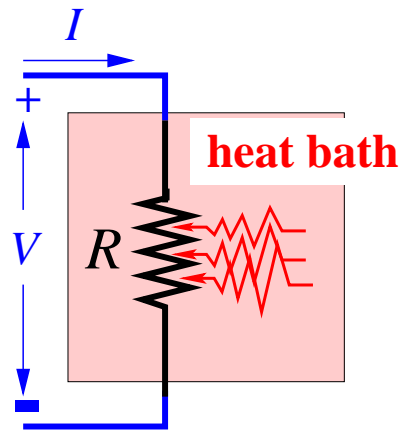
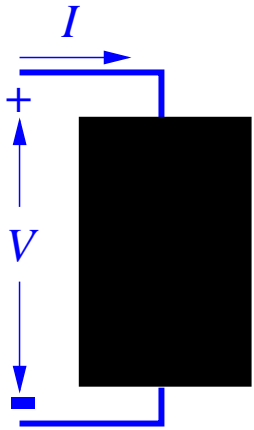
# Examples



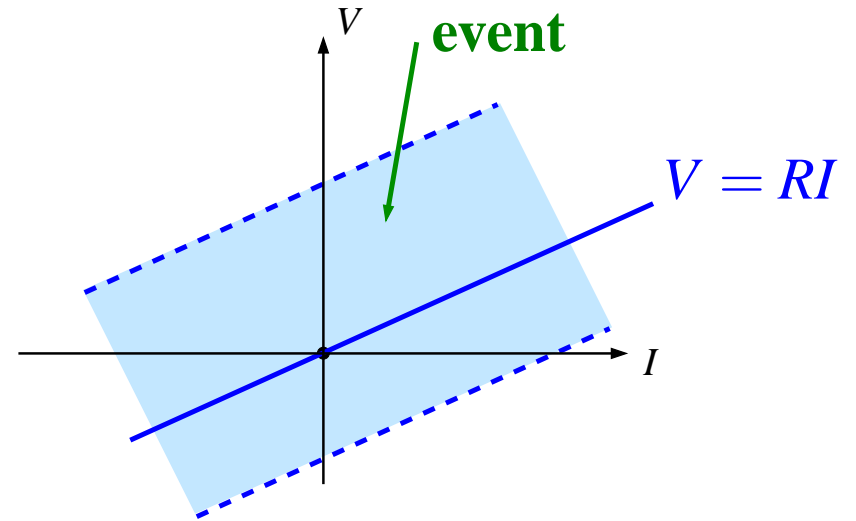
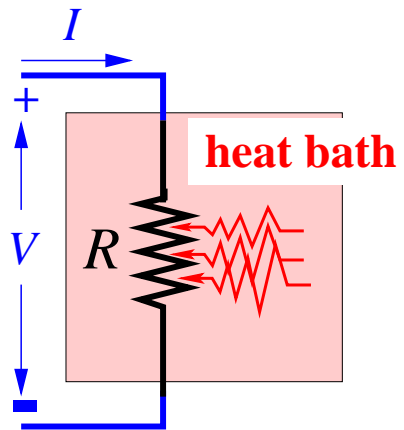
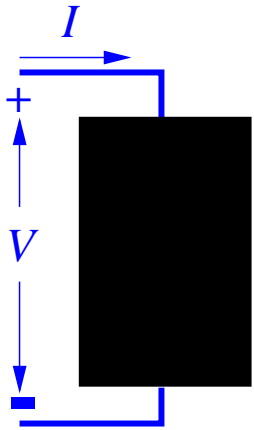
# Ohm resistor



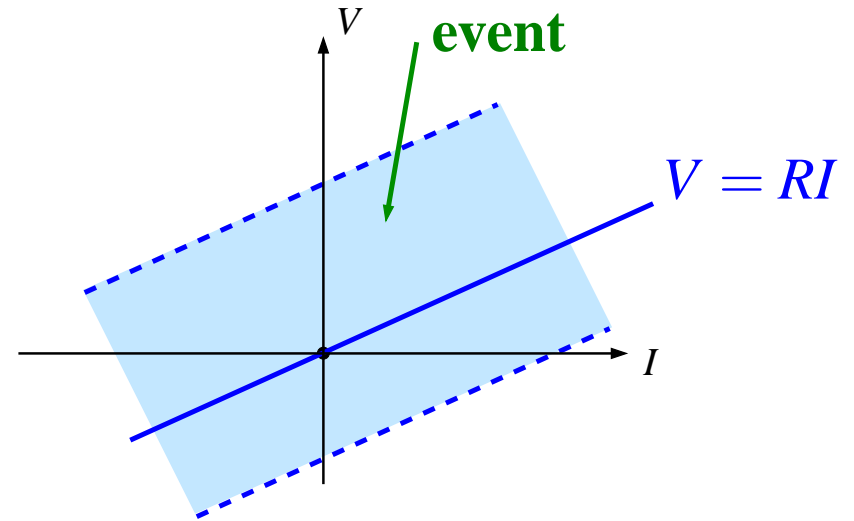
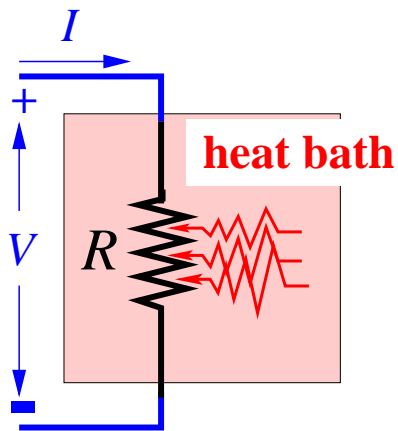
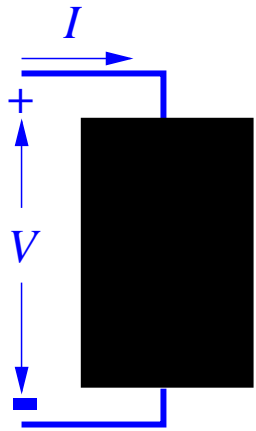
# Noisy (or 'hot', or 'Johnson-Nyquist') resistor



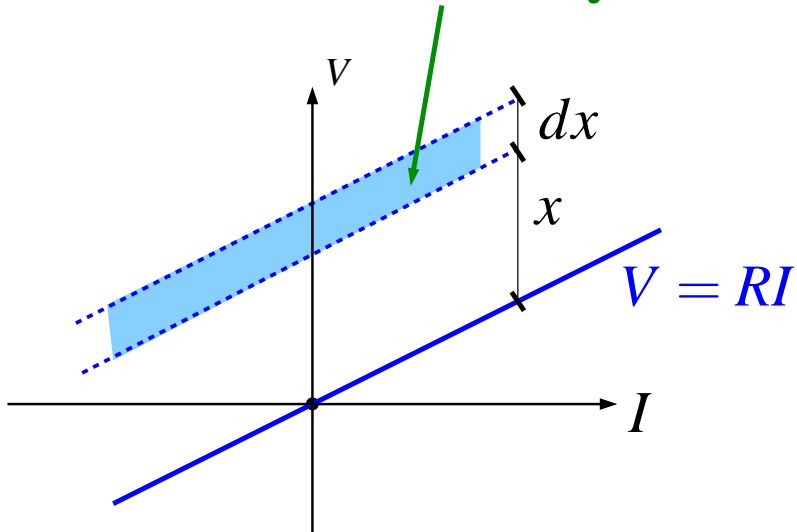
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Probability

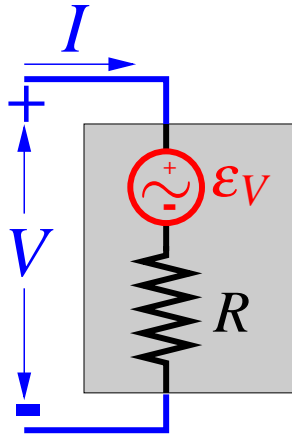


$$\text{Probability} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2}} dx.$$

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

$T = \text{temperature}$

## Equivalent circuits



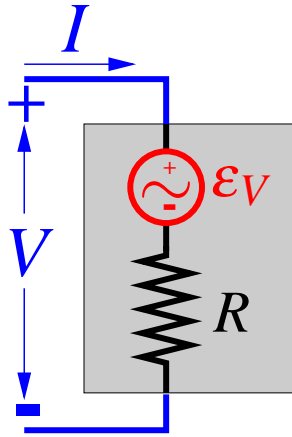
$$V = RI + \varepsilon_V$$

$\varepsilon_V$  gaussian

zero mean

variance  $\sim RT$

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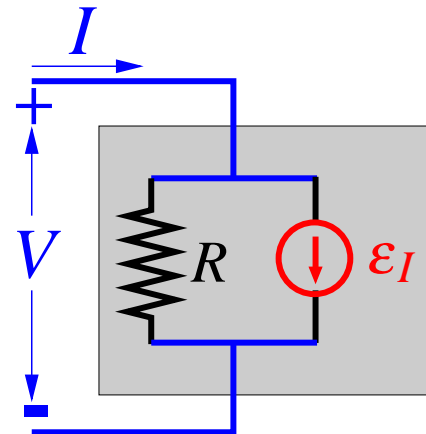
variance  $\sim RT$

$$I = \frac{1}{R}V + \epsilon_I$$

$\epsilon_I$  gaussian

zero mean

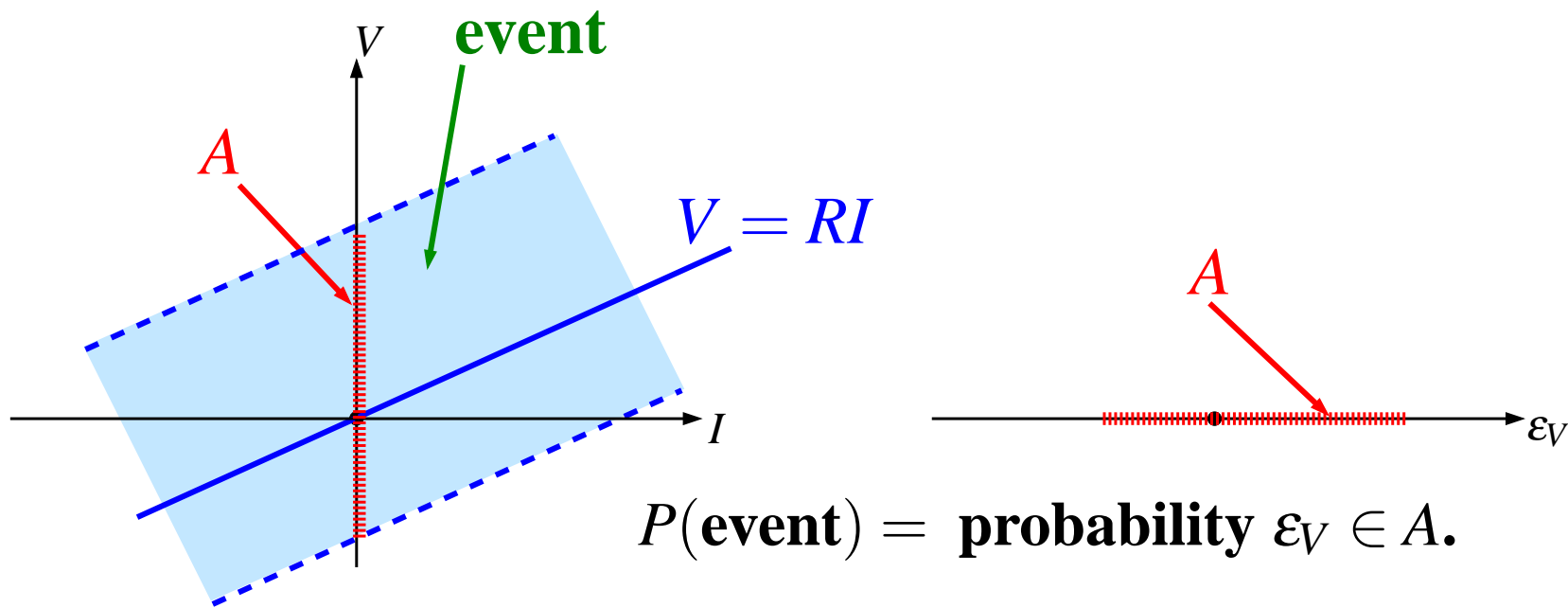
variance  $\sim \frac{T}{R}$



$$V = RI + \varepsilon_V$$

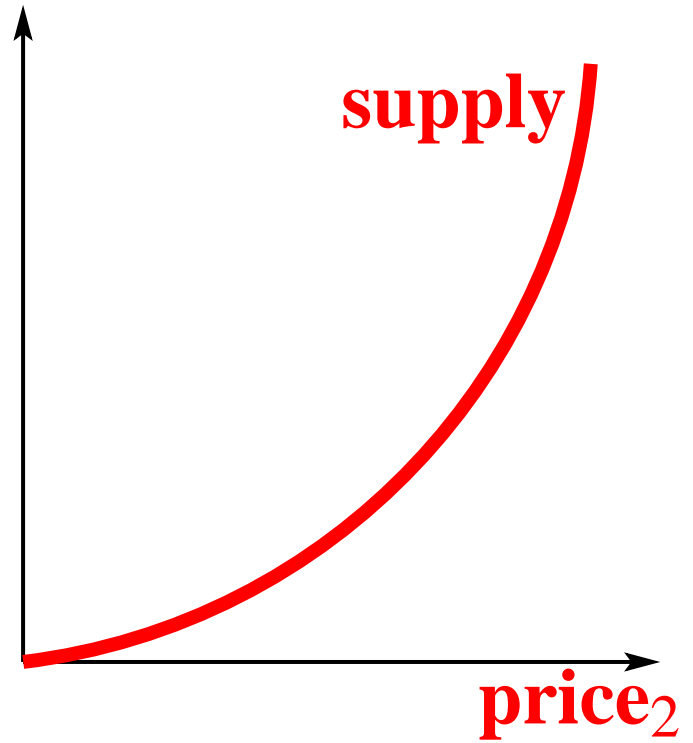
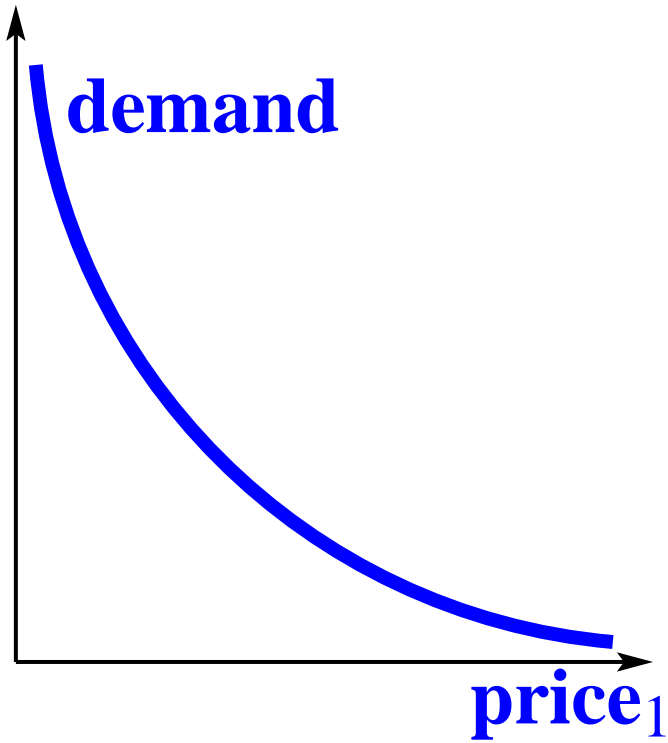
**Outcomes**  $\begin{bmatrix} V \\ I \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbb{W} = \mathbb{R}^2$ ; **events**: subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  as

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



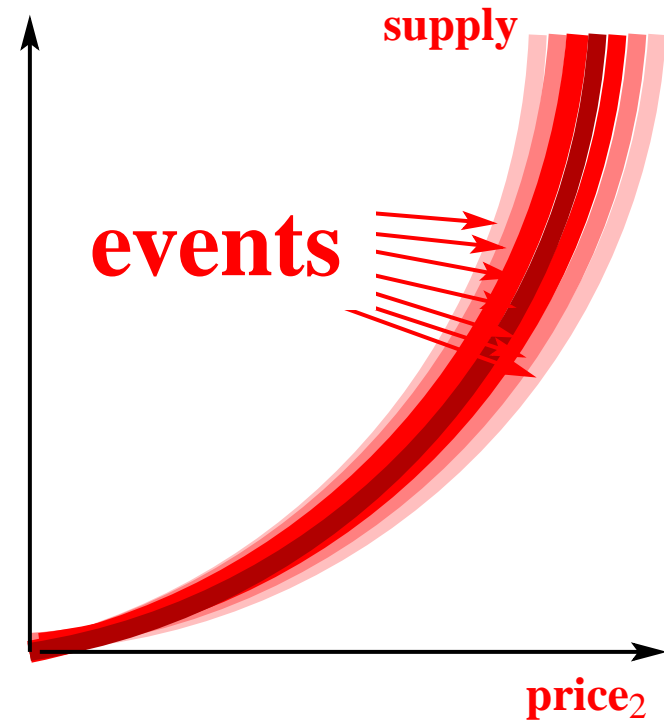
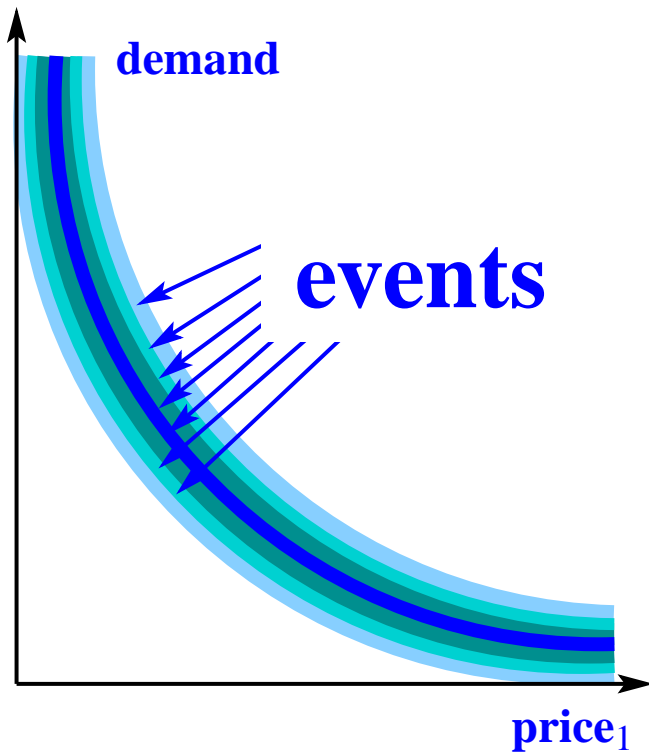
**Neither**  $\begin{bmatrix} V \\ I \end{bmatrix}$ , **nor**  $I$ , **nor**  $V$  **possess a pdf.**

# Deterministic price/demand/supply





# Stochastic price/demand/supply



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

$p_1, p_2, d, s$  are not classical real random variables.

- 1. Linearity**
- 2. Interconnection**
- 3. Constrained probability**

# Linearity

# Linearity

**linear stochastic system** :  $\Leftrightarrow$



**Borel probability** on  $\mathbb{R}^n / \mathbb{L}$ ,

with  $\mathbb{L} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  a linear subspace, the ‘**fiber**’.

$\mathbb{R}^n / \mathbb{L}$  **real vector space of dimension**  $n - \dim(\mathbb{L})$ .

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**with  $\mathbb{L} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  a linear subspace, the ‘fiber’.**

$\mathbb{R}^n/\mathbb{L}$  **real vector space of dimension  $n - \dim(\mathbb{L})$ .**

**Events:** cylinders with sides parallel to  $\mathbb{L}$ .

**Subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  as  $A + \mathbb{L}$ ,  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  Borel.**

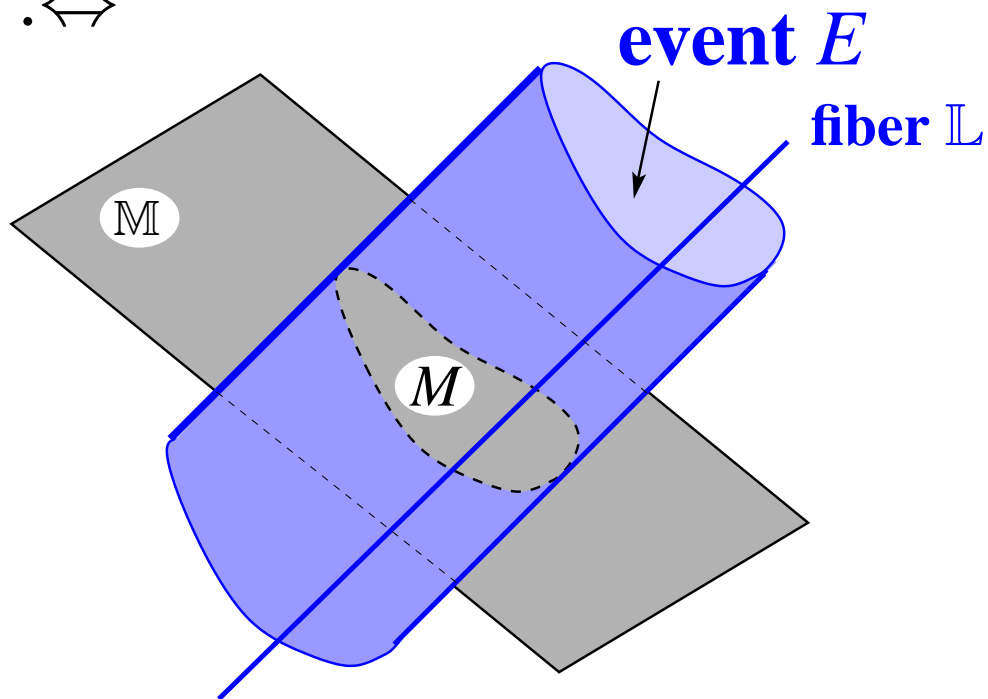
# Linearity

**linear stochastic system**  $:\Leftrightarrow$

$$\mathbb{L} \oplus \mathbb{M} = \mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{M} \cong \mathbb{R}^n / \mathbb{L}.$$

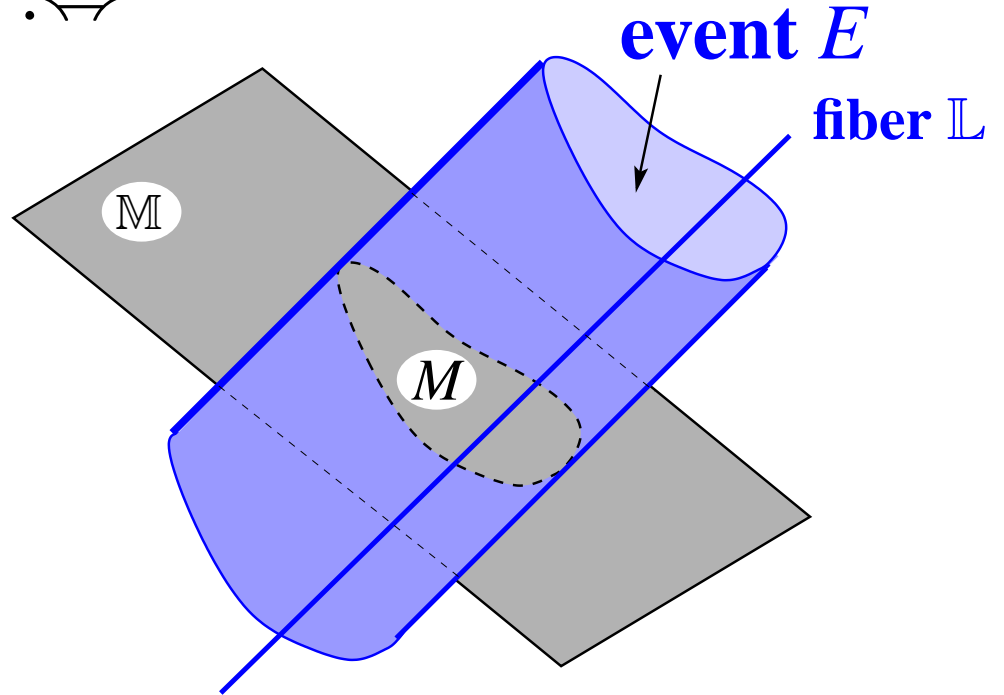
**Borel probability on  $\mathbb{M}$ .**

$$P(E) = P_{\mathbb{M}}(M).$$



# Linearity

**linear stochastic system**  $:\Leftrightarrow$



$$L \oplus M = \mathbb{R}^n, M \cong \mathbb{R}^n / L.$$

**Borel probability on  $M$ .**

$$P(E) = P_M(M).$$

**Example: the noisy resistor.**

**Classical  $\Rightarrow$  linear!**

***gaussian***  $:\Leftrightarrow$  linear, probability on  $\mathbb{R}^n / L$  gaussian.

## Deterministic system

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

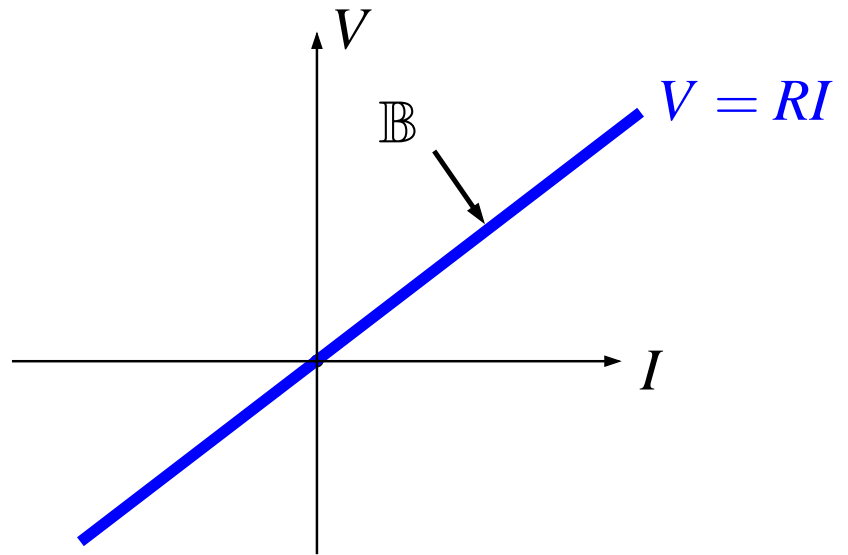
$$\mathcal{E} = \{\emptyset, \mathbb{B}, \mathbb{B}^{\text{complement}}, \mathbb{W}\} \text{ and } P(\mathbb{B}) = 1.$$

$\mathbb{B}$  = the **‘behavior’**.



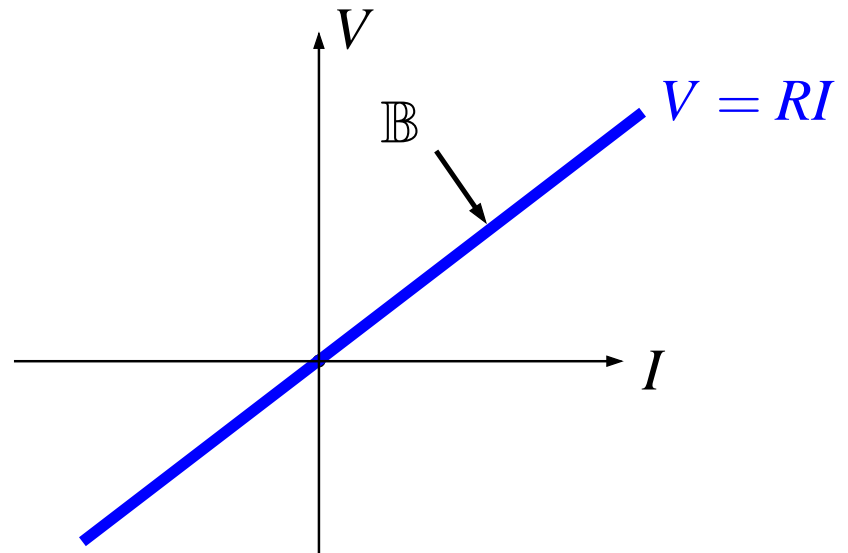
## Deterministic examples

**Ohmic resistor:**

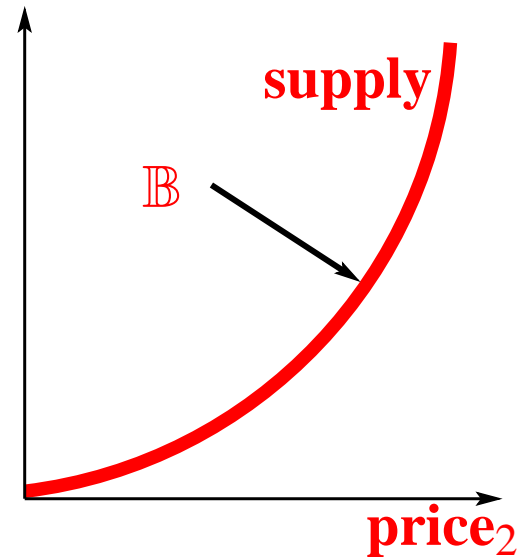
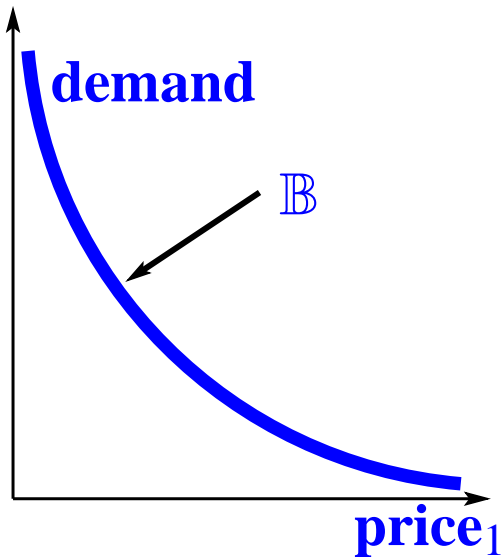


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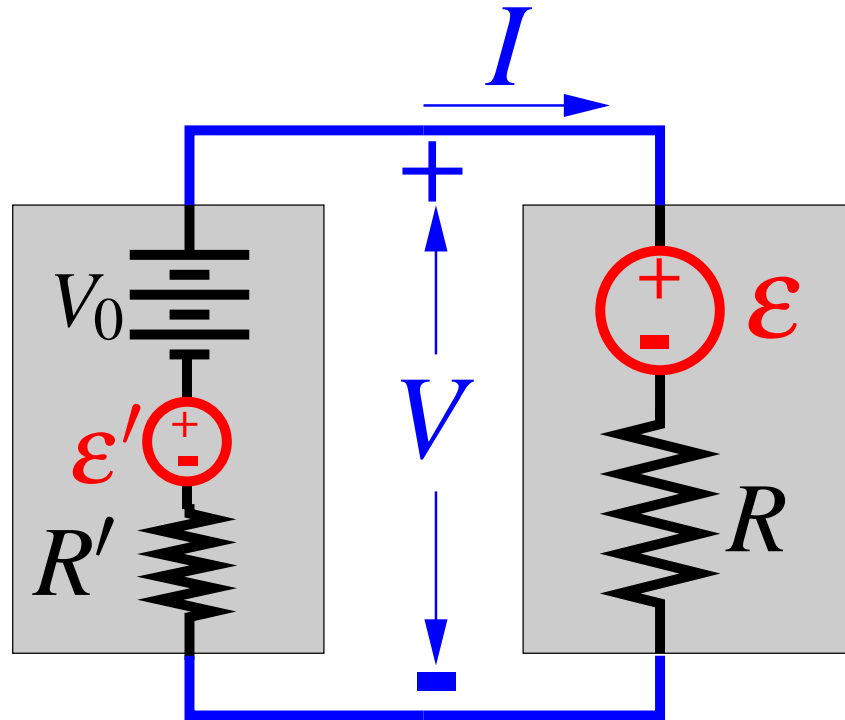


**Economic example:**



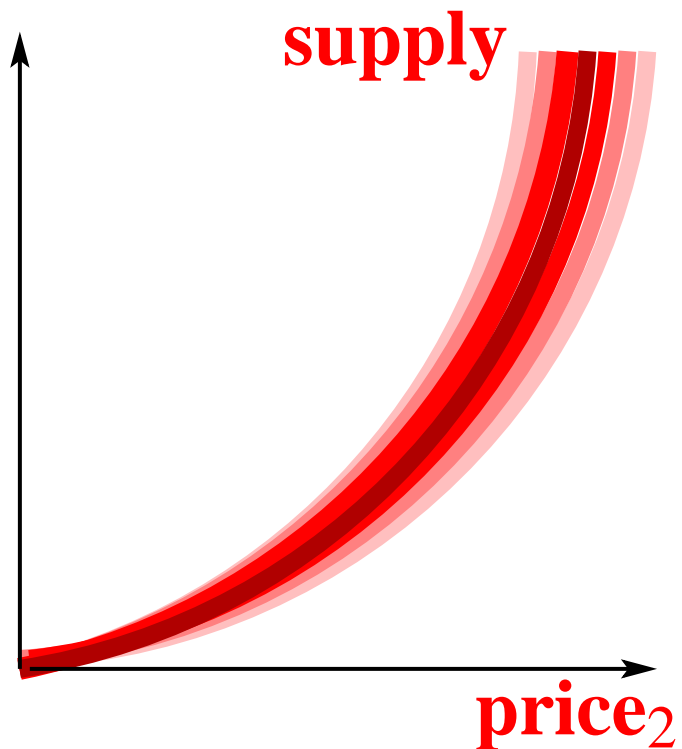
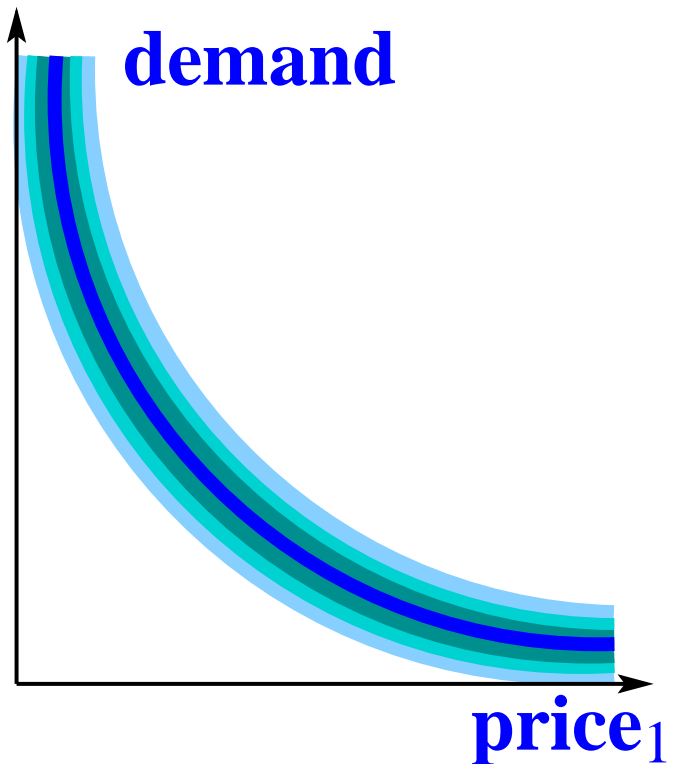
# Interconnection

# Noisy resistor terminated by a voltage source



*How do we deal with interconnection?*

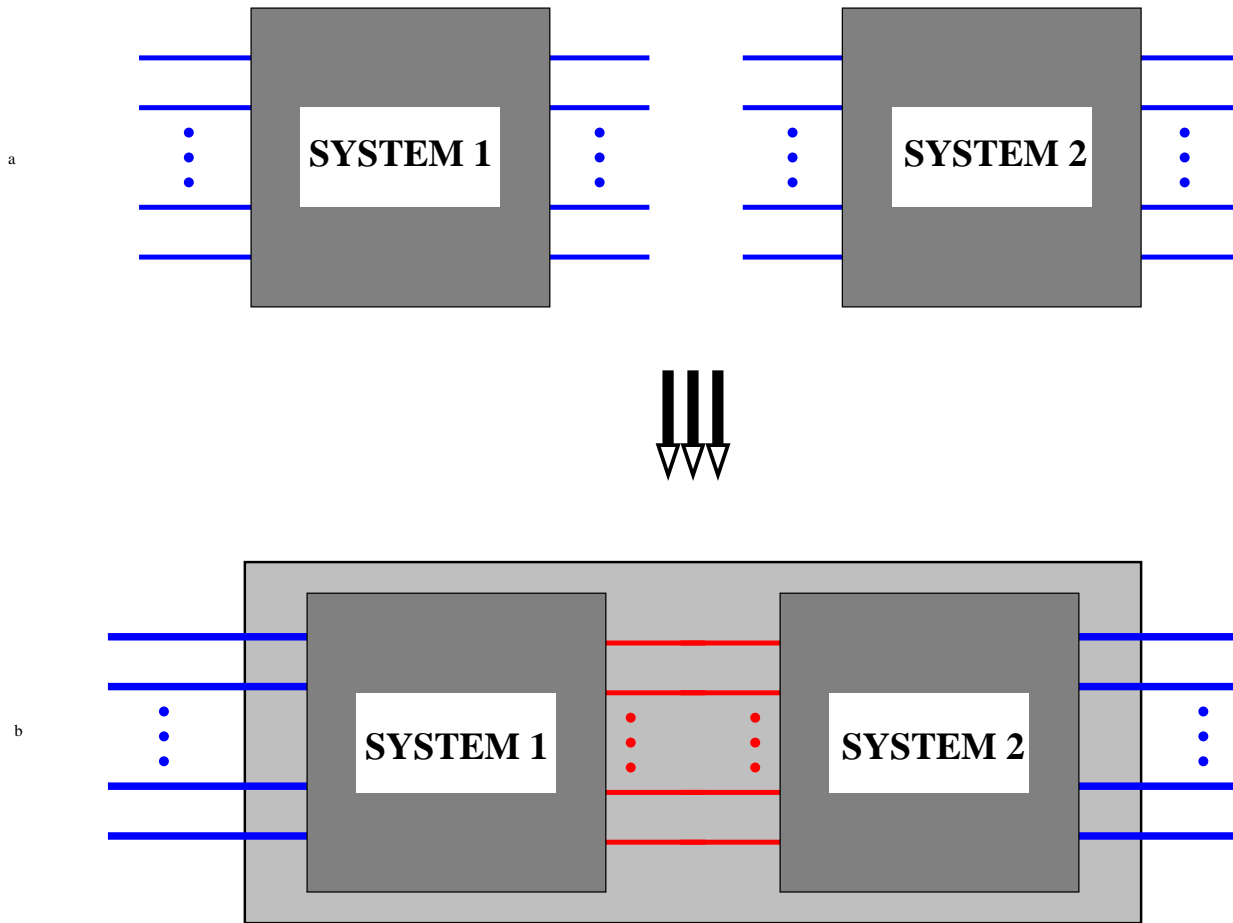
# Stochastic price/demand/supply



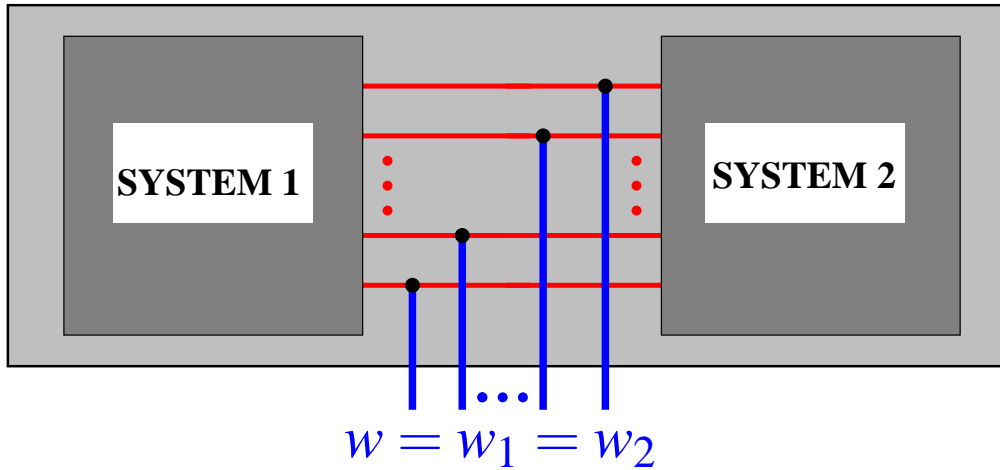
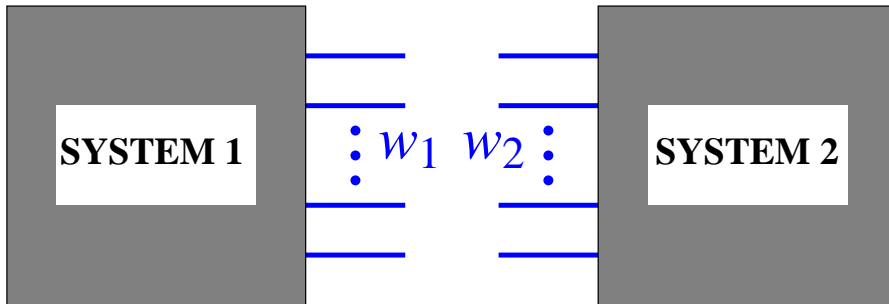
*How do we deal with equilibrium?*

Equilibrium: price<sub>1</sub> = price<sub>2</sub>, demand = supply.

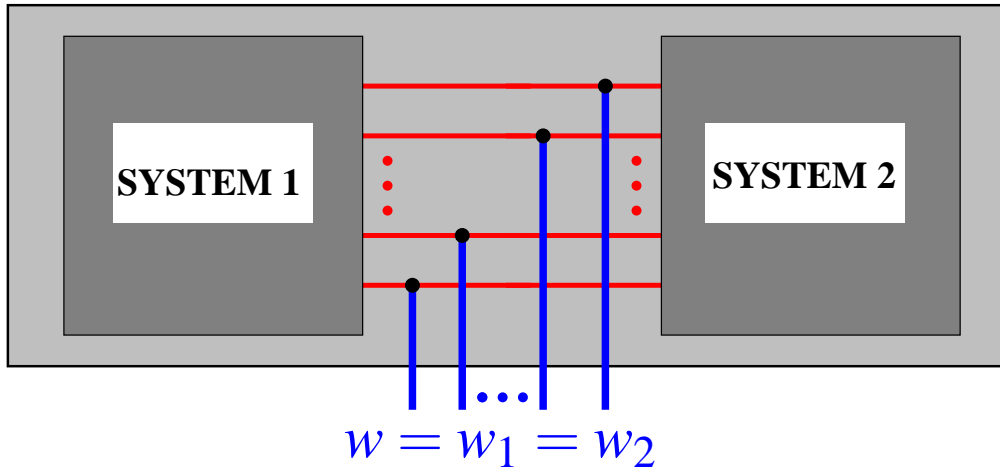
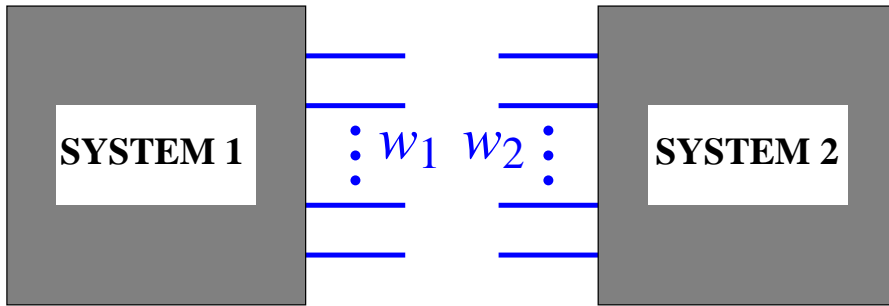
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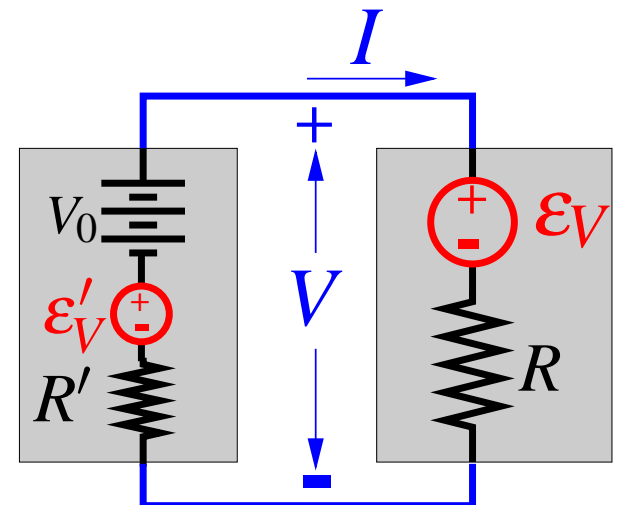
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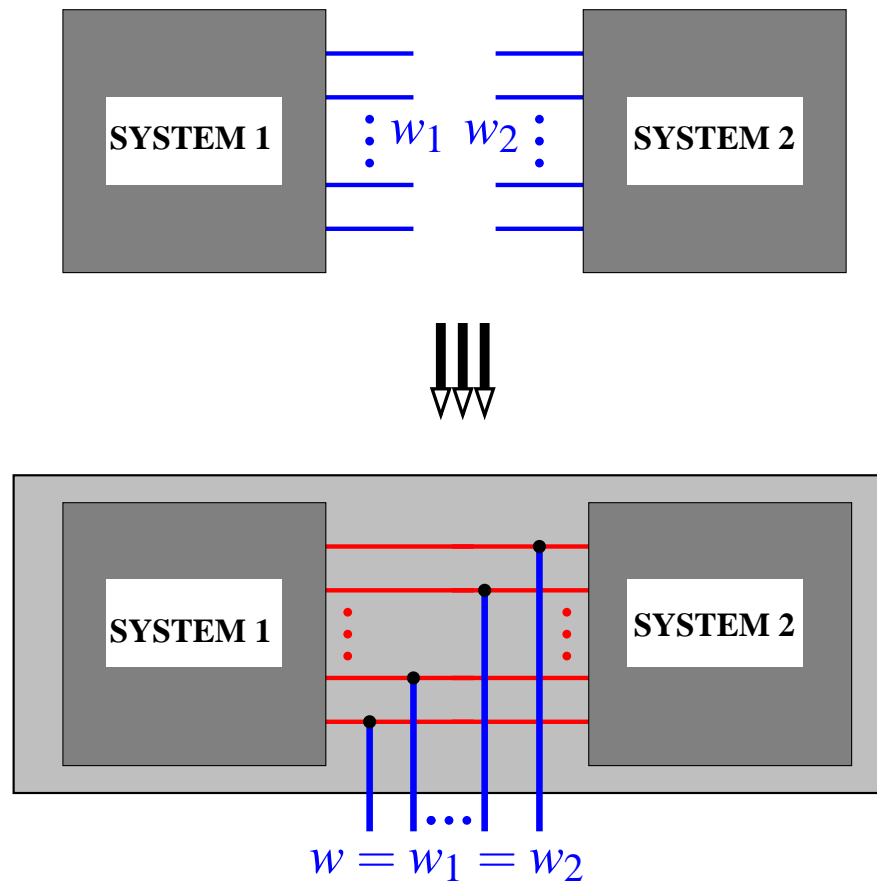


## Example:





# Interconnection



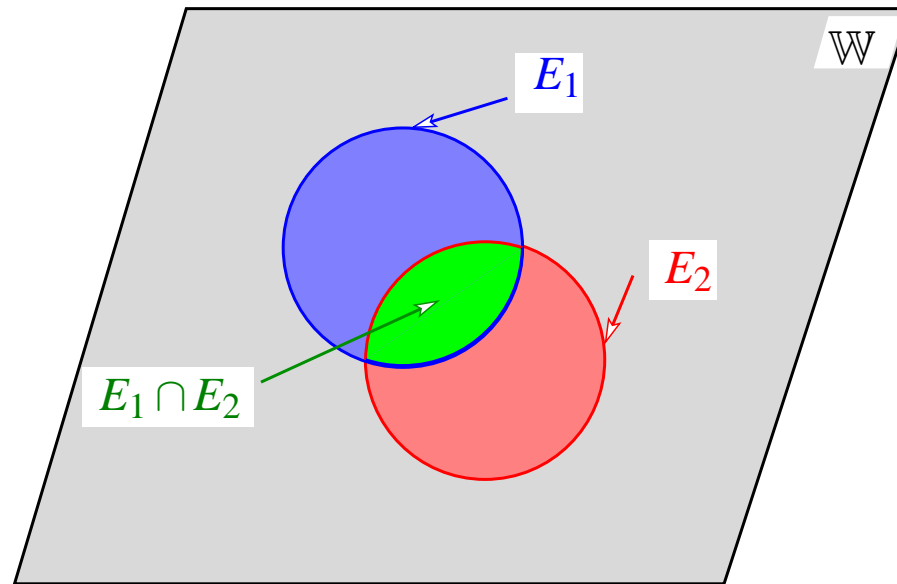
**Can two distinct probabilistic laws  
be imposed on the same set of variables?**

## Complementarity of $\sigma$ -algebras

$\mathcal{E}_1$  and  $\mathcal{E}_2$  are **complementary  $\sigma$ -algebras**

$:\Leftrightarrow$  for all nonempty  $E_1, E'_1 \in \mathcal{E}_1, E_2, E'_2 \in \mathcal{E}_2$

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

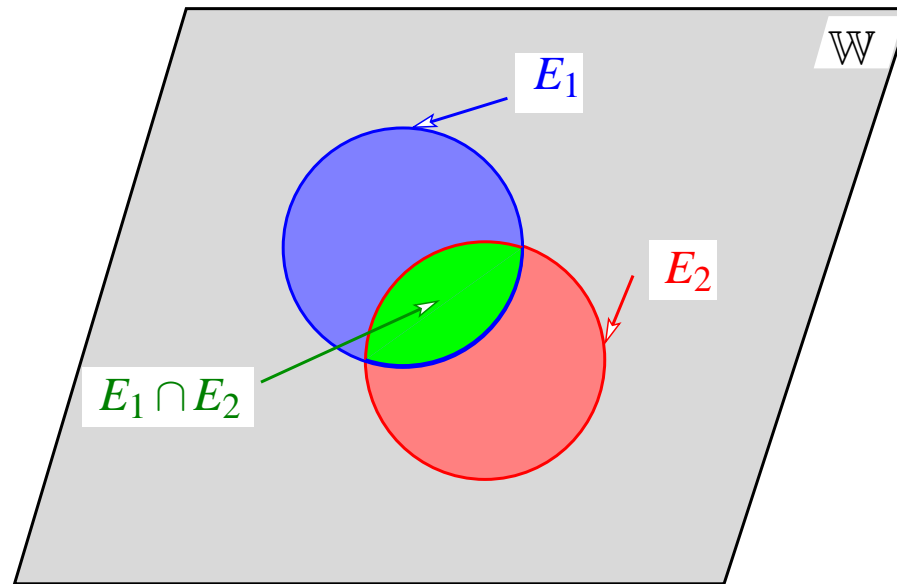


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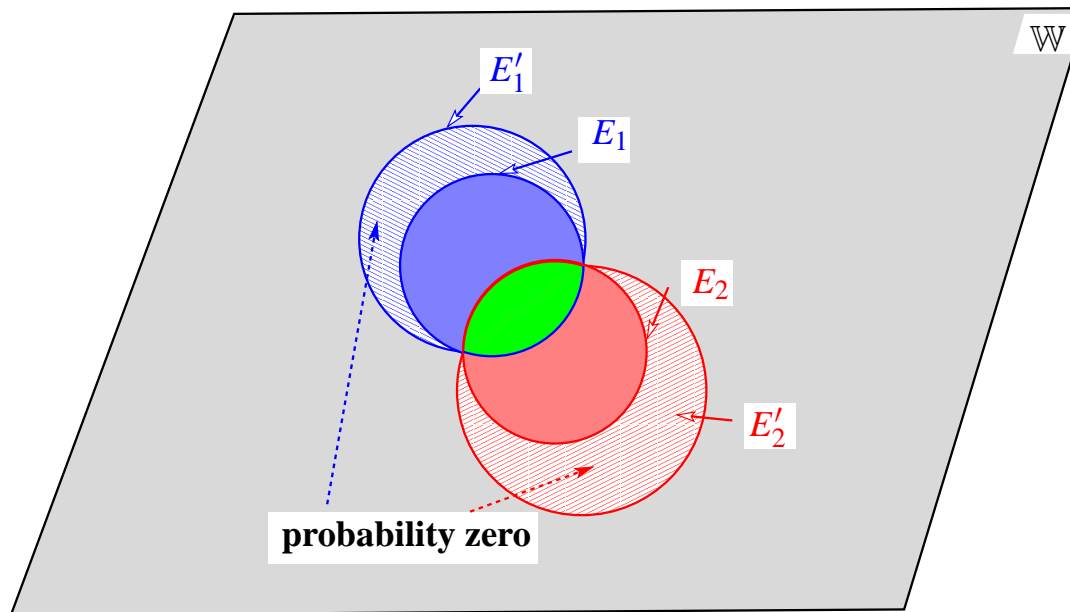
**Intersection  $\Rightarrow$  intersectants.**

# Complementarity of stochastic systems

$(\mathbb{W}, \mathcal{E}_1, P_1)$  and  $(\mathbb{W}, \mathcal{E}_2, P_2)$  are **complementary systems**

$:\Leftrightarrow$  for all  $E_1, E'_1 \in \mathcal{E}_1, E_2, E'_2 \in \mathcal{E}_2$

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

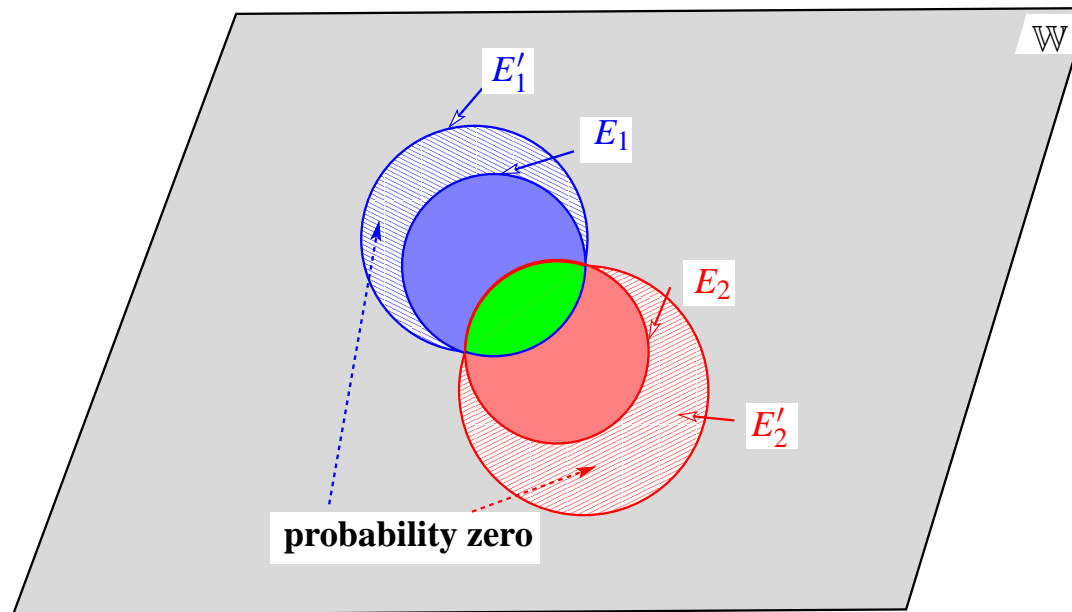


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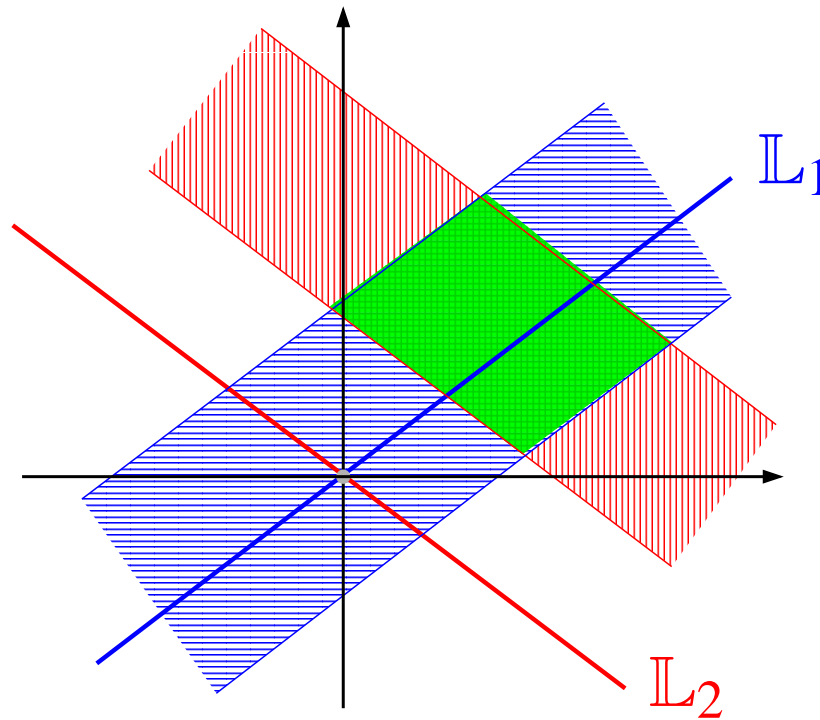
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**Intersection  $\Rightarrow$  product of probabilities of intersectants.**

# Linear example



**complementarity**

$\Leftrightarrow$

$$L_1 + L_2 = \mathbb{R}^n$$

## Interconnection of complementary systems

Let  $(\mathbb{W}, \mathcal{E}_1, P_1)$  and  $(\mathbb{W}, \mathcal{E}_2, P_2)$  be stochastic systems (independent). Assume complementarity.

Their *interconnection* is defined as

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

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

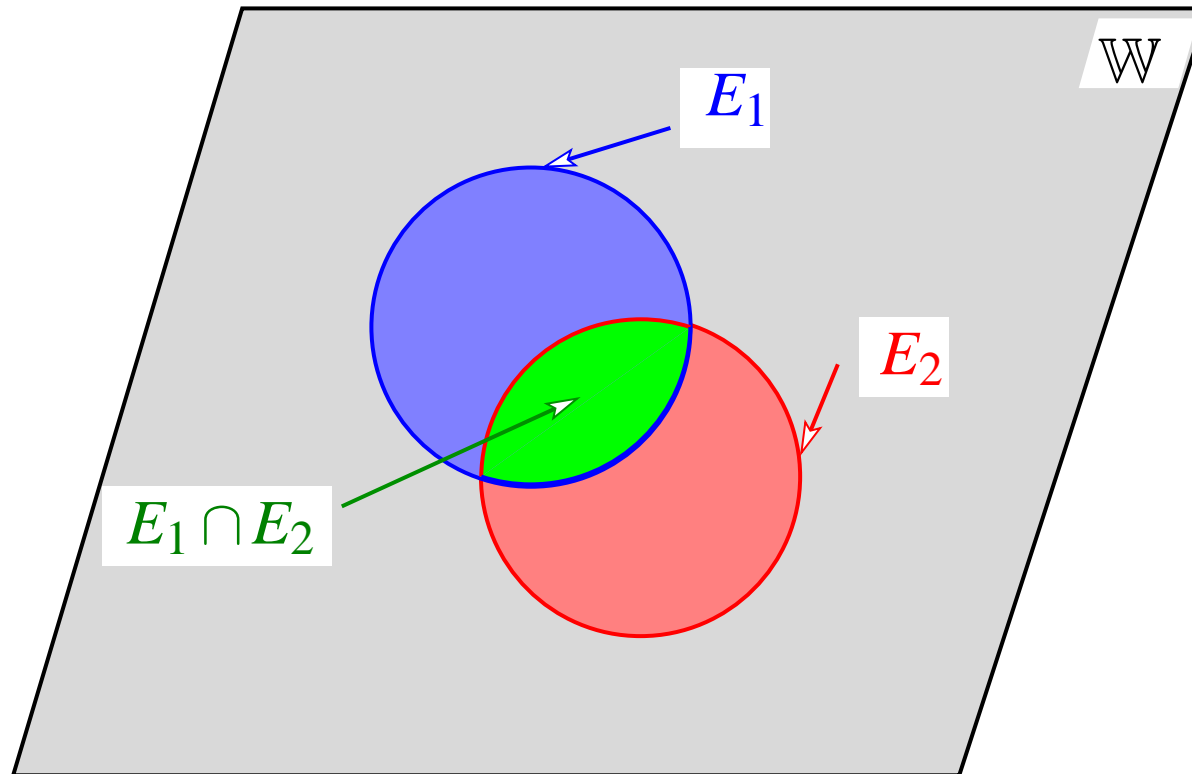
$$\{E_1 \cap E_2 \mid E_1 \in \mathcal{E}_1, E_2 \in \mathcal{E}_2\},$$

and  $P$  defined through the rectangles by

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

$\mathcal{E}$  and  $P$  via Hahn-Kolmogorov extension theorem.

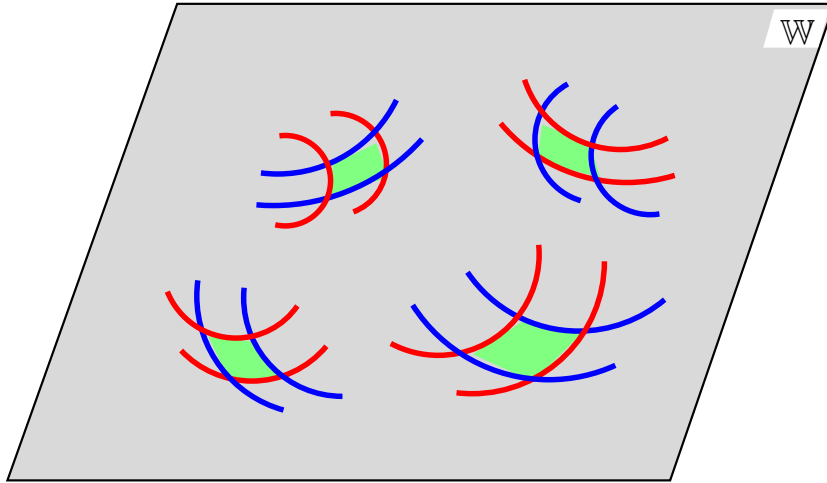
# Interconnection of complementary systems



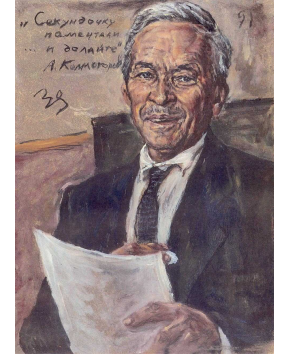
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# Hahn-Kolmogorov construction of $P$



**H. Hahn**  
1879 – 1934

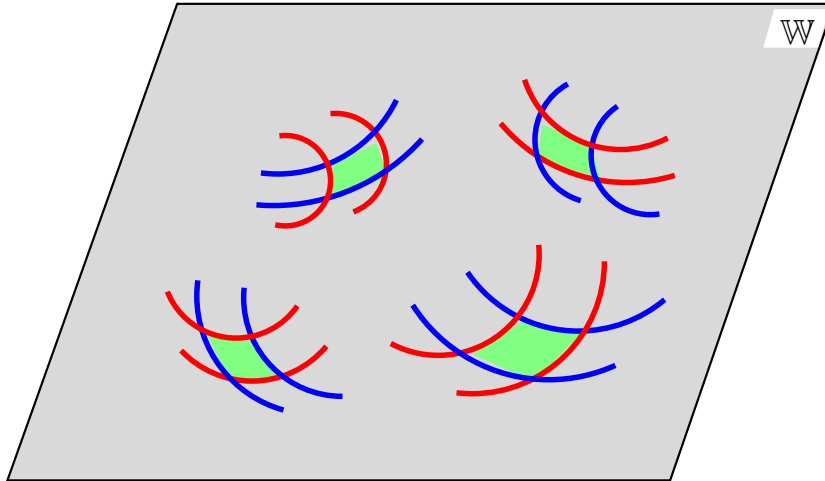


**A.N. Kolmogorov**  
1903 – 1987

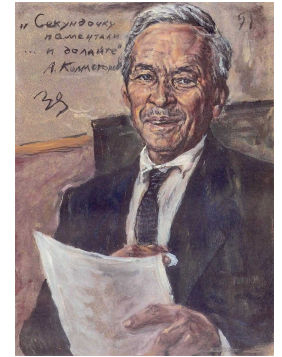
**Union of finite # of disjoint rectangles is closed under complementation, intersection, and union.**

**Hence forms an algebra of subsets of  $\mathbb{W}$ .**

# Hahn-Kolmogorov construction of $P$



**H. Hahn**  
1879 – 1934



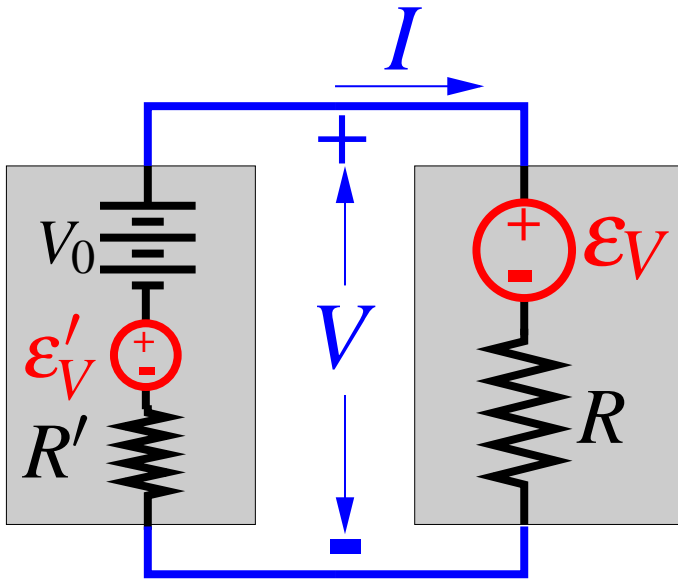
**A.N. Kolmogorov**  
1903 – 1987

$P$  is defined on this algebra by finite additivity.

**Hahn-Kolmogorov extension thm**

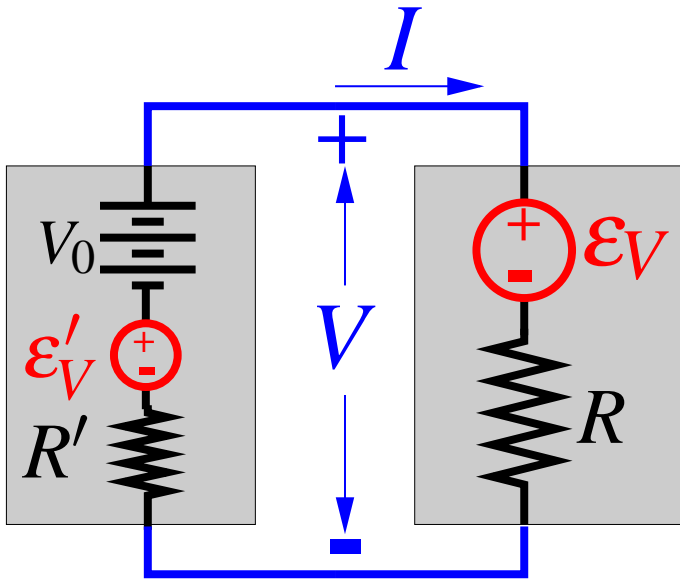
$\Rightarrow \exists (!)$  extension to  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by  $\mathcal{E}_1 \cup \mathcal{E}_2$ .

# Noisy resistor terminated by a voltage source



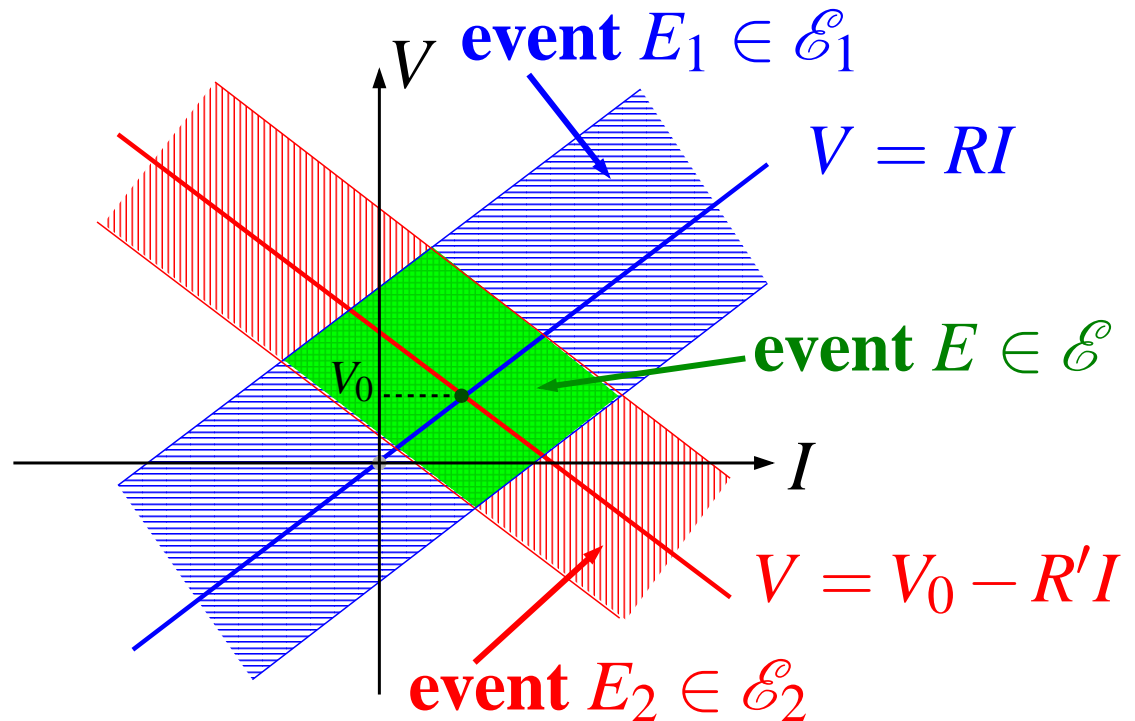
Probability of  $\left[ \frac{V}{I} \right]$  ?

# Noisy resistor terminated by a voltage source

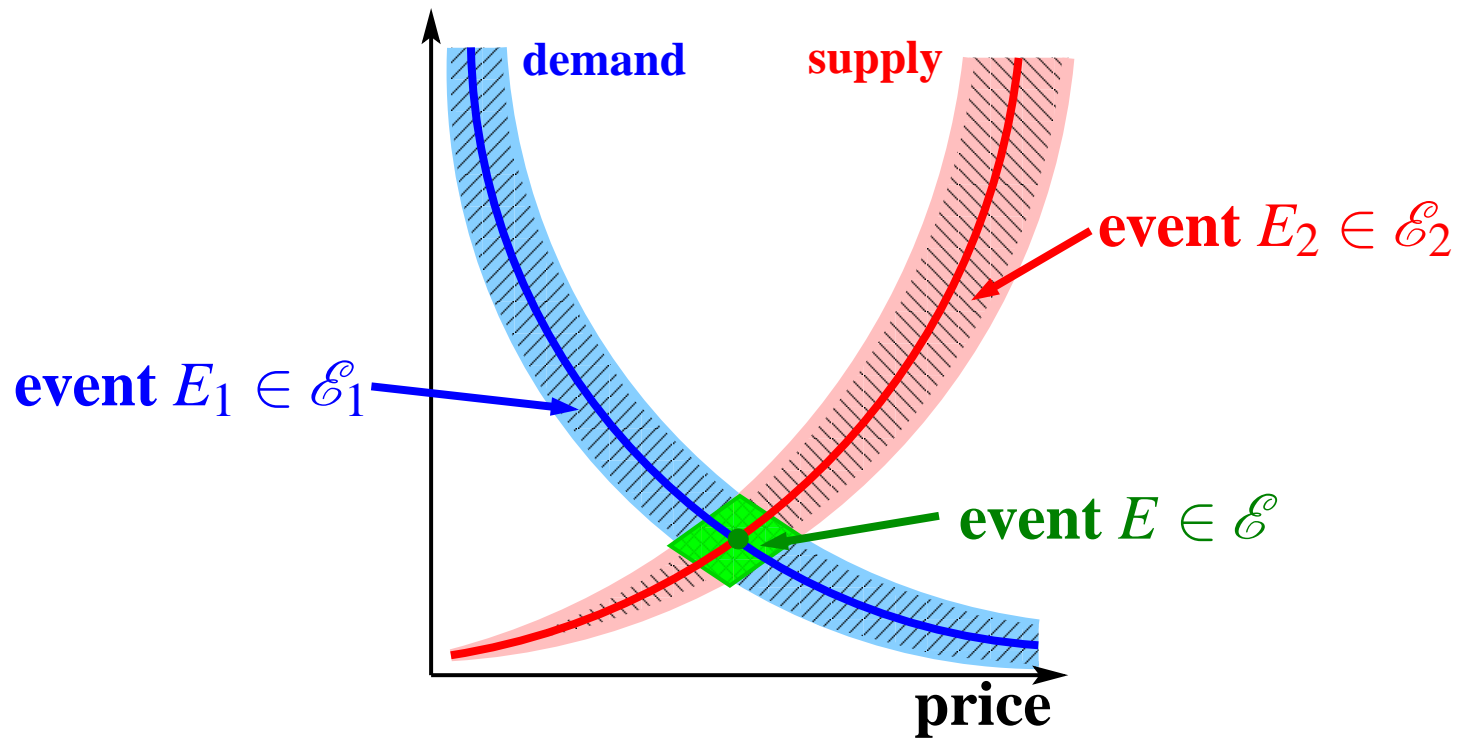


Probability of  $\left[\frac{V}{I}\right]$ ?

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

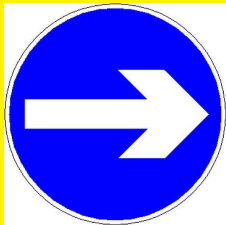


# Equilibrium price/demand/supply



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

# Constrained probability



**Impose  $w \in \mathcal{S}$**

## Constrained probability

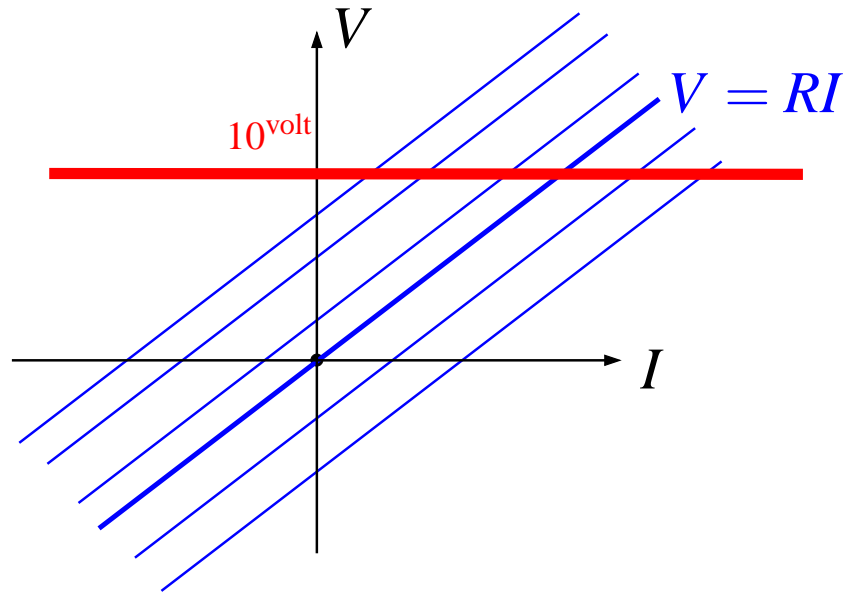
Let  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{W}, \mathcal{E}, P)$  be a stochastic system.

Impose the constraint  $w \in \mathbb{S}$  with  $\mathbb{S} \subset \mathbb{W}$ .

*What is the stochastic nature of the outcomes in  $\mathbb{S}$ ?*

**Is this a meaningful question?**

## Noisy resistor



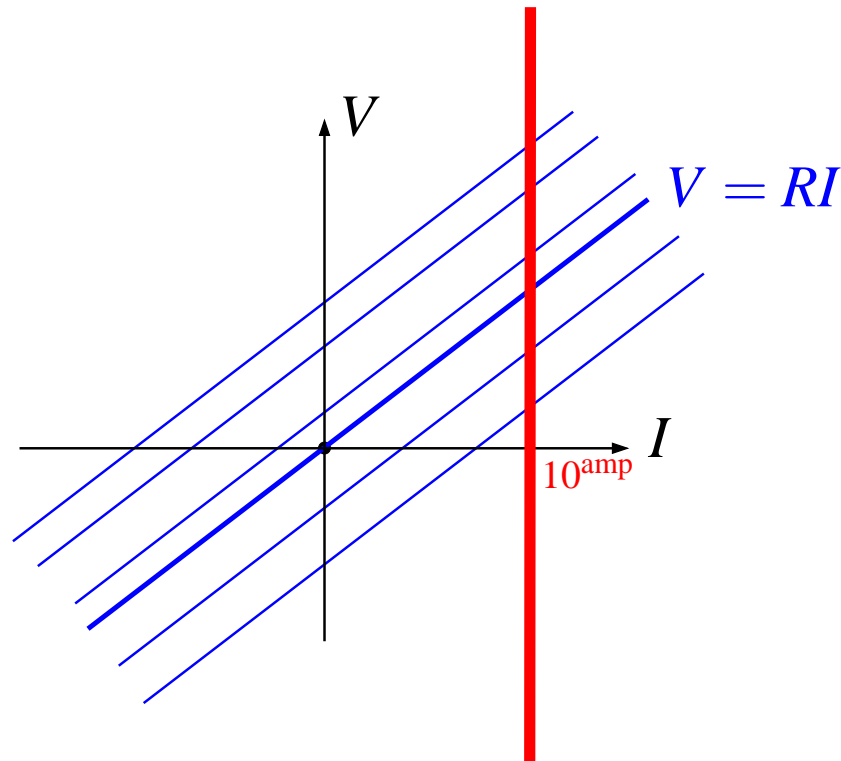
**Impose  $V = 10^{\text{volt}}$ . What is the distribution of  $I$ ?**

$$V = RI + \varepsilon, V = 10^{\text{volt}} \Rightarrow I = \frac{10}{R} - \frac{\varepsilon}{R}.$$

**$I$  is a well-defined gaussian random variable!**



# Noisy resistor

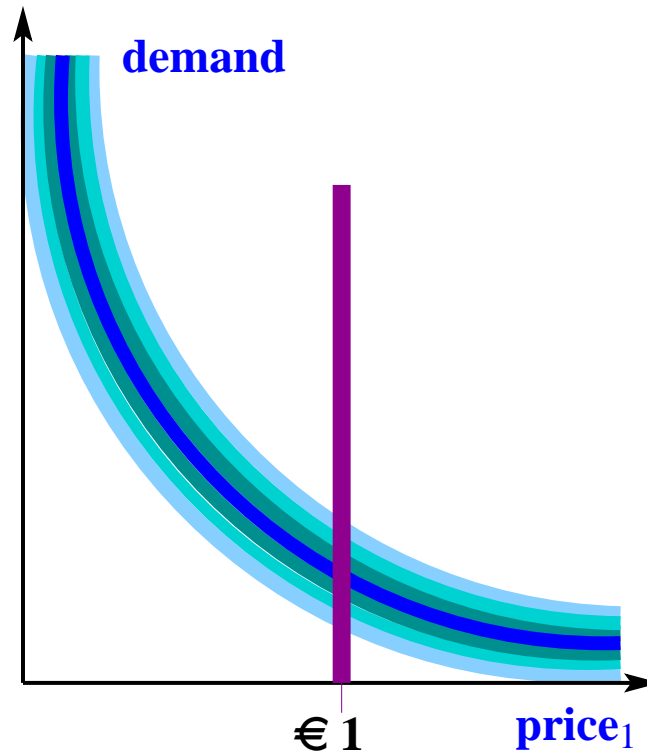


**Impose  $I = 10^{\text{amp}}$ . What is the distribution of  $V$ ?**

$$V = RI + \varepsilon, I = 10^{\text{amp}} \Rightarrow V = 10R - \varepsilon.$$

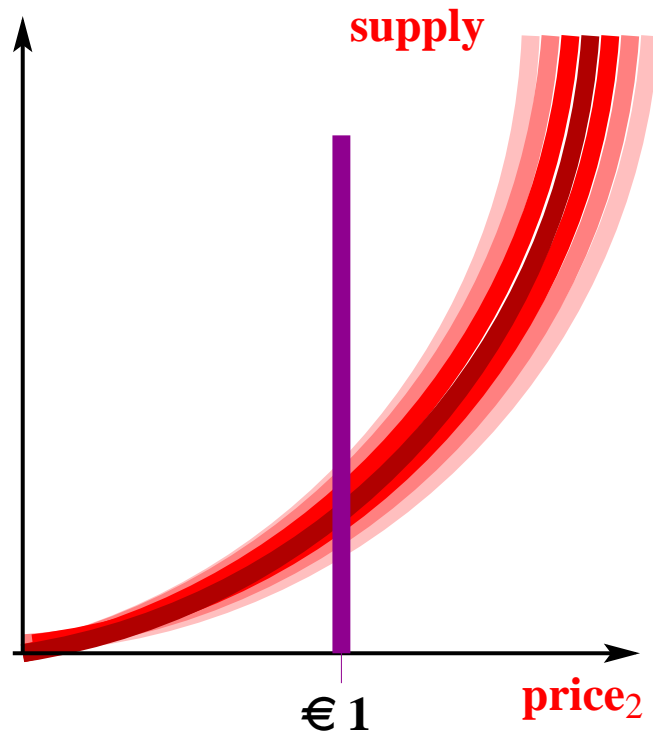
**$V$  is a well-defined gaussian random variable!**

## Price/demand/supply example



**Impose price = € 1. Probability of demand?**

# Price/demand/supply example



**Impose price = € 1. Probability of supply?**

## Constrained probability

**Constraining**  $\simeq$  **interconnection** of  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{W}, \mathcal{E}, P)$   
with the deterministic system with behavior  $\mathbb{S}$ .

**Complementarity:**  $\Leftrightarrow$

$$[[E_1, E_2 \in \mathcal{E} \text{ and } E_1 \cap \mathbb{S} = E_2 \cap \mathbb{S}]] \Rightarrow [[P(E_1) = P(E_2)]].$$

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**Complementarity basically implies**  $\boxed{\mathbb{S} \notin \mathcal{E}!}$   
 $\llbracket \text{complementarity and } \mathbb{S} \in \mathcal{E} \rrbracket \Leftrightarrow \llbracket P(\mathbb{S}) = 1 \rrbracket.$

## Constrained probability

**Constraining**  $\simeq$  **interconnection** of  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{W}, \mathcal{E}, P)$  with the deterministic system with behavior  $\mathcal{S}$ .

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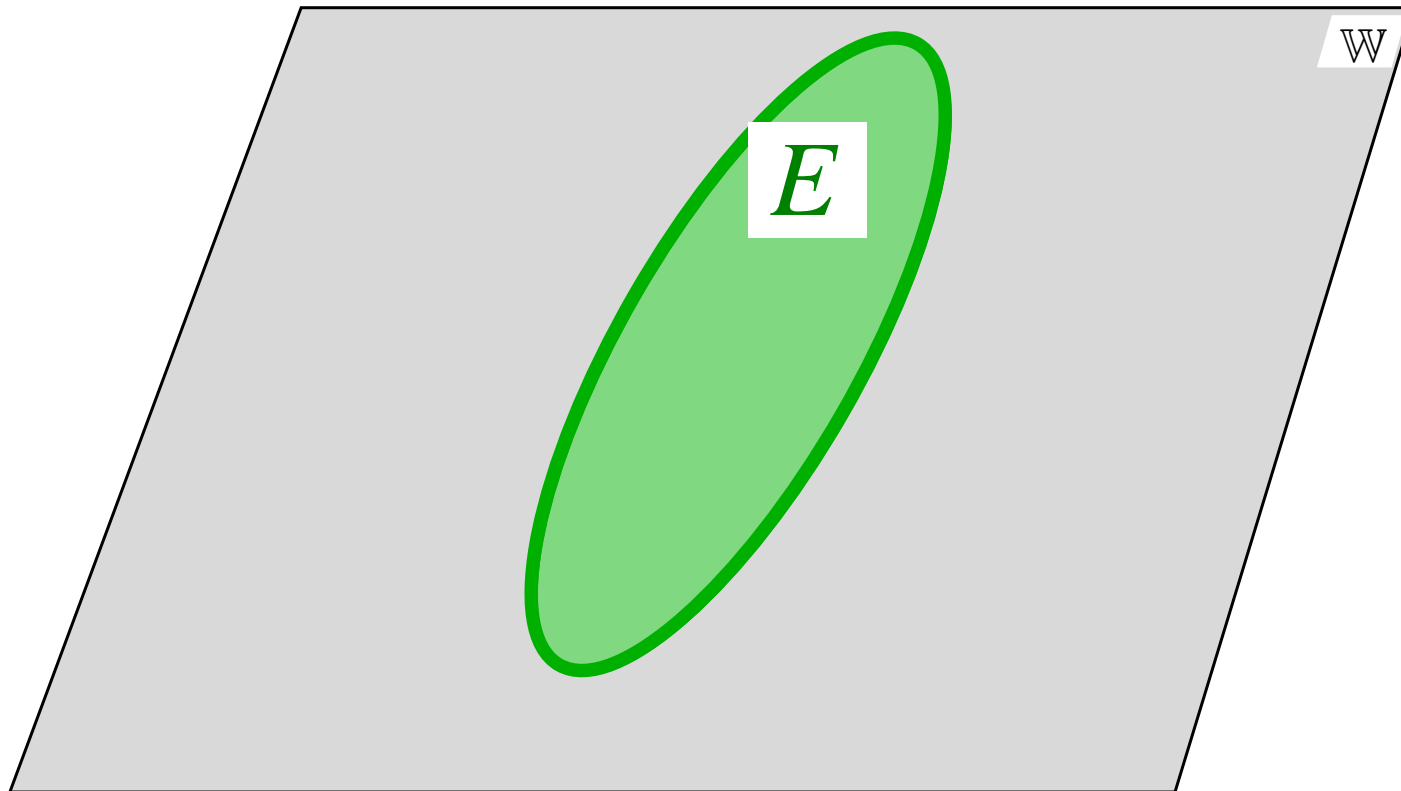
**Constraining**  $\rightsquigarrow$

$$\Sigma_{|\mathcal{S}} = (\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{E} \cap \mathcal{S}, P_{|\mathcal{S}}) \quad \text{with} \quad P_{|\mathcal{S}}(E \cap \mathcal{S}) := P(E).$$

$P_{|\mathcal{S}}$  = “probability of  $w$  constrained by  $w \in \mathcal{S}$ ”.

# **Constraining versus conditioning**

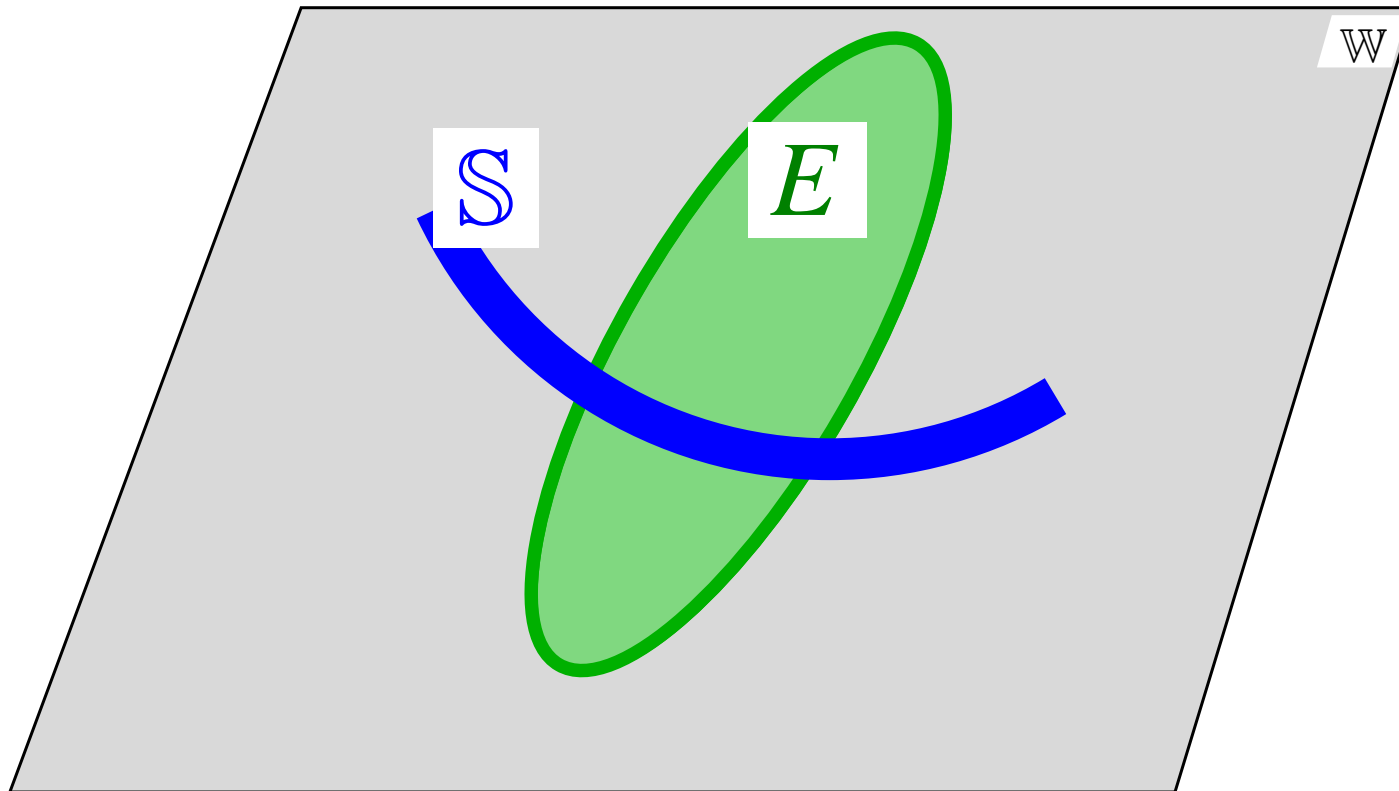
# Constrained and conditional probability



$E \in \mathcal{E}$  event



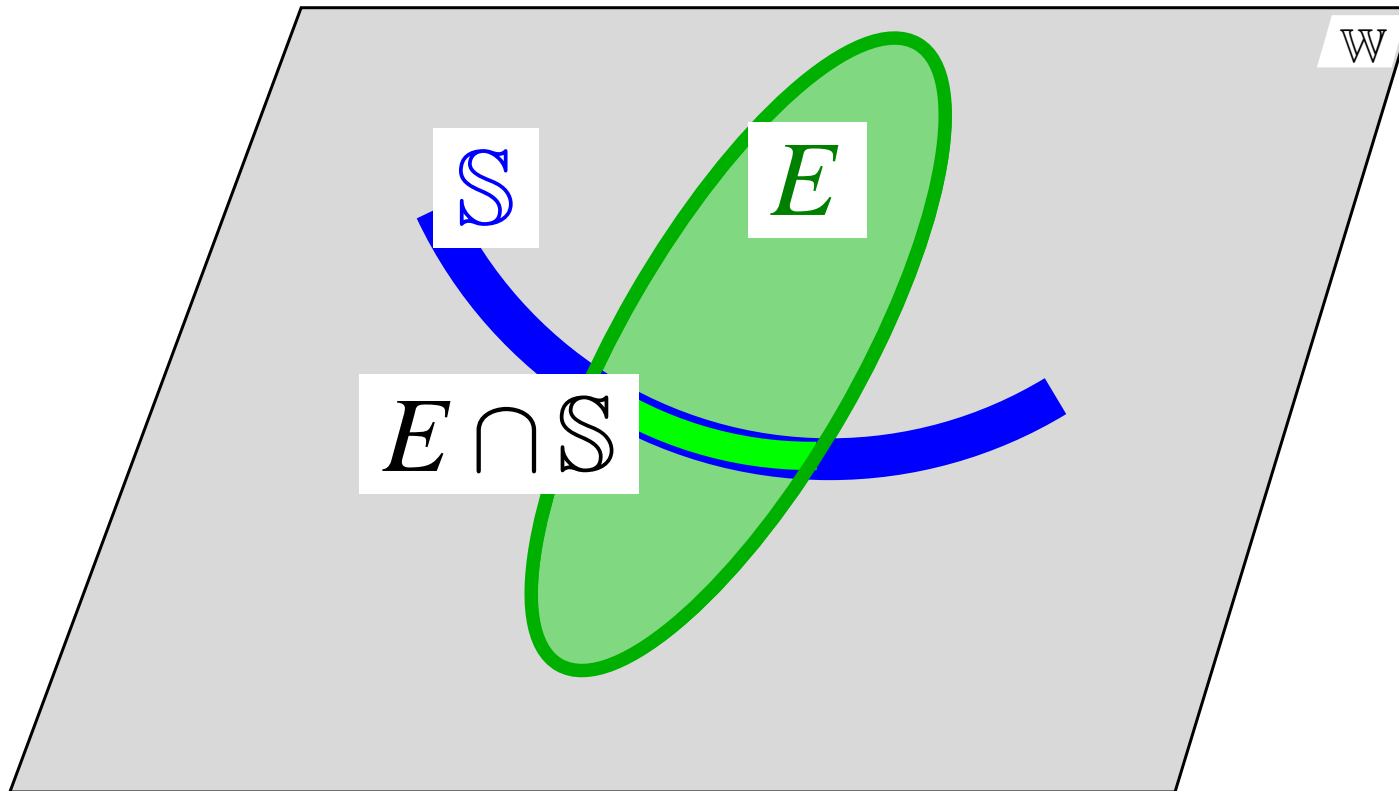
# Constrained and conditional probability



$E \in \mathcal{E}$  event,

$S \subset W$  **constraining/conditioning set.**

# Constrained and conditional probability

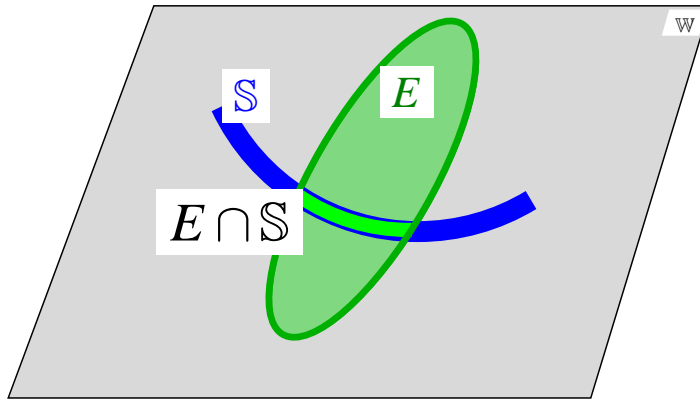


$E \in \mathcal{E}$  event,

$S \subset W$  **constraining/conditioning set,**

$E \cap S$  **'new' event.**

# Constrained and conditional probability



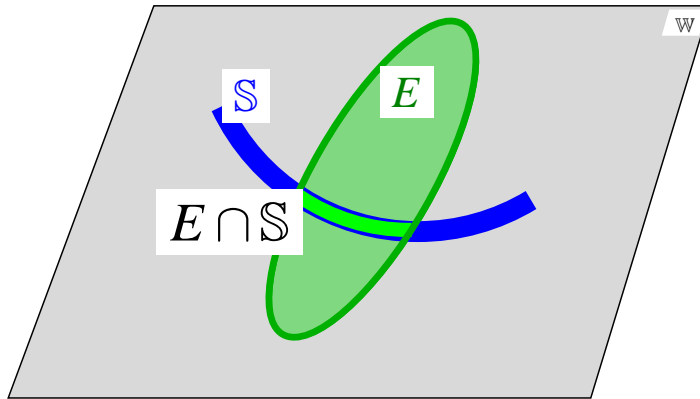
$E$  = event

$S$  = constraining/conditioning set

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# Constrained and conditional probability



$E$  = event

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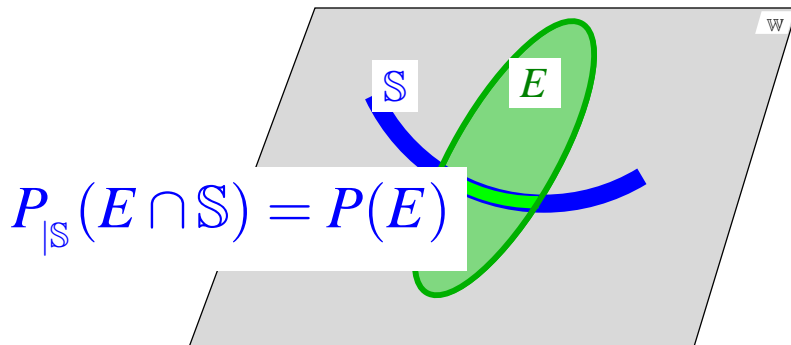
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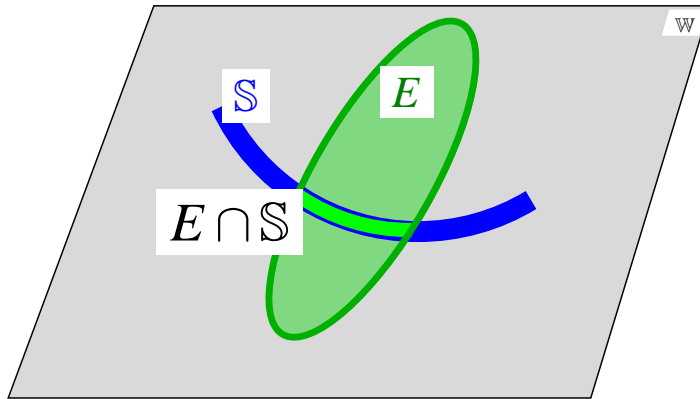
## Constraining

$$S \notin \mathcal{E}, \\ (S, \mathcal{E}_{|S}, P_{|S}),$$

$$P_{|S}(E \cap S) = P(E).$$



# Constrained and conditional probability



$E$  = event

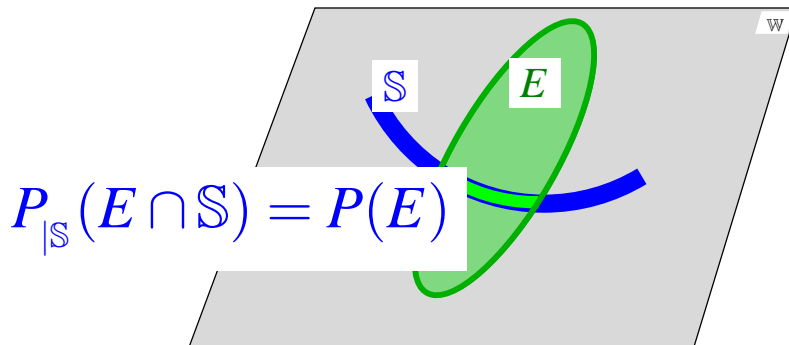
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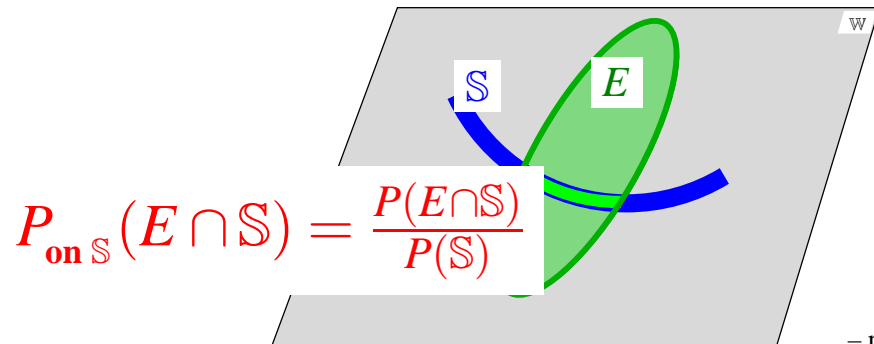
$$P_{|S}(E \cap S) = P(E).$$



## Conditioning

$$S \in \mathcal{E}, \\ (S, \mathcal{E}_{|S}, P_{\text{on } S}),$$

$$P_{\text{on } S}(E \cap S) = \frac{P(E \cap S)}{P(S)}.$$



# Open stochastic systems

## Open versus closed

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

If  $\mathcal{E}_1 =$  the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra, then  $\Sigma_1$  is **basically** only interconnectable with the trivial stochastic system

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*It don't mean a thing, if it ain't interconnecting!*

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Coarse  $\mathcal{E}_1$

$\Rightarrow \Sigma_1$  is interconnectable.

$\Rightarrow$  **‘open’ stochastic system.**

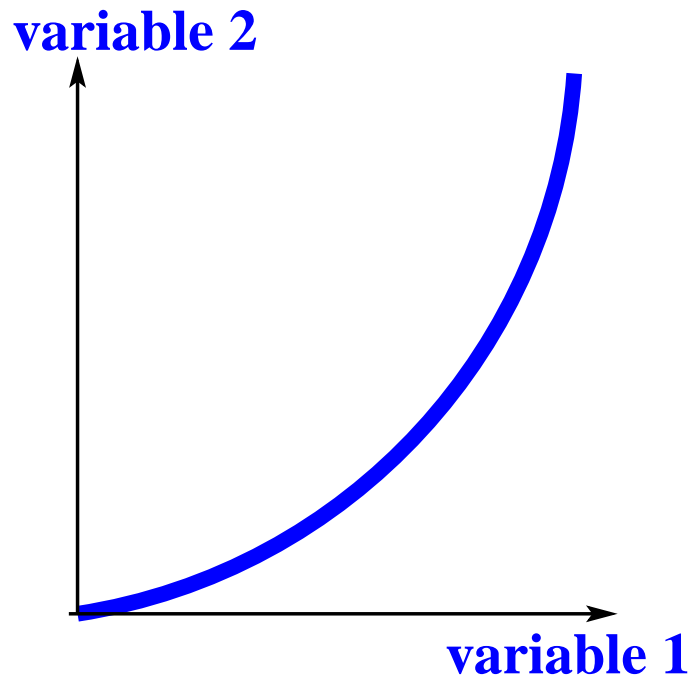
# Conclusions

## Stochastic systems

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

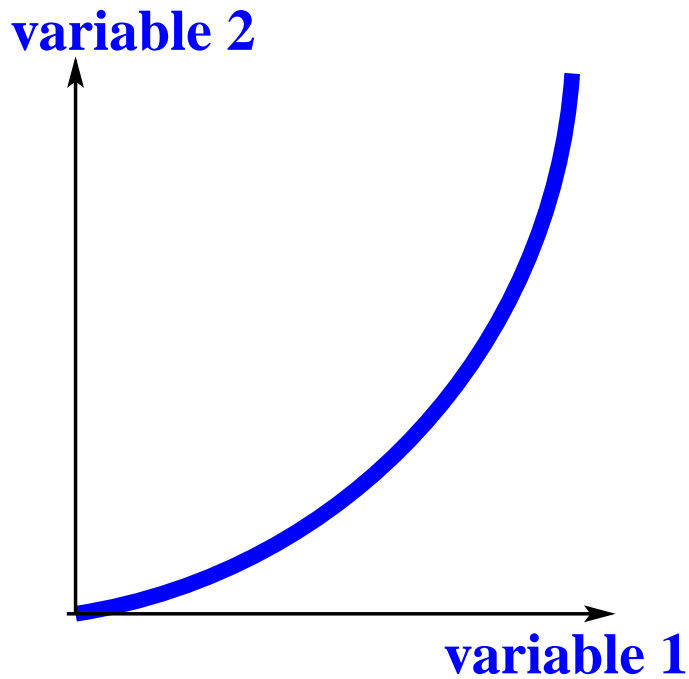
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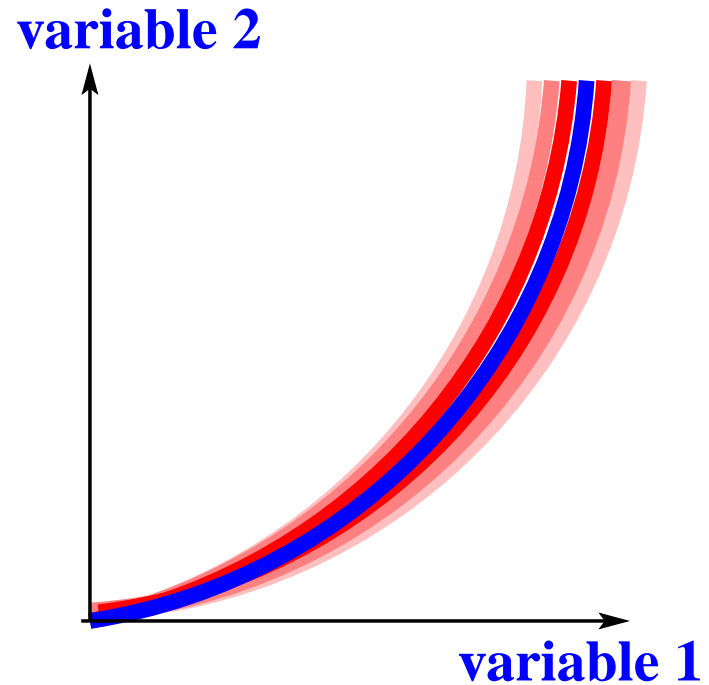


# Stochastic systems

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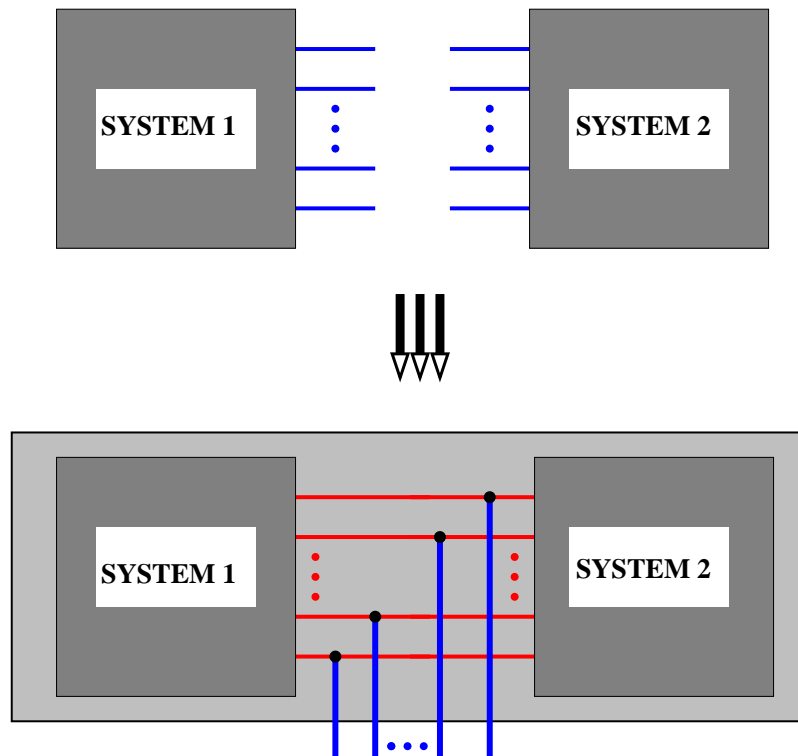
**Deterministic**



**stochastic.**

# Stochastic systems

- ▶ Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra inadequate for elementary applications.
- ▶ Complementary stochastic systems can be interconnected: two distinct laws imposed on one set of variables.



## Stochastic systems

- ▶ **Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra inadequate for elementary applications.**
  - ▶ **Complementary stochastic systems can be interconnected: two distinct laws imposed on one set of variables.**
  - ▶ **Open stochastic systems require a coarse  $\sigma$ -algebra.**
- Classical random vectors imply closed systems.**



## Stochastic systems

- ▶ **Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra inadequate for elementary applications.**
- ▶ **Complementary stochastic systems can be interconnected: two distinct laws imposed on one set of variables.**
- ▶ **Open stochastic systems require a coarse  $\sigma$ -algebra.**  
**Classical random vectors imply closed systems.**
- ▶  **$\rightsquigarrow$  Notion of ‘constrained probability’.**

**Presentation slides and associated article are on my website.**

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

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**Thank you**

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