

# Tight Bounds for Repeated Balls-into-Bins

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<sup>1</sup>University of Cambridge, UK



# Balls-into-Bins: Background

# Balls-into-Bins setting

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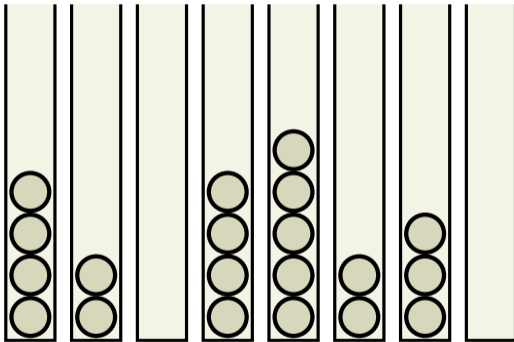
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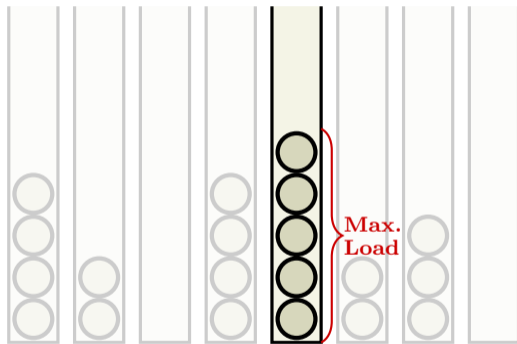
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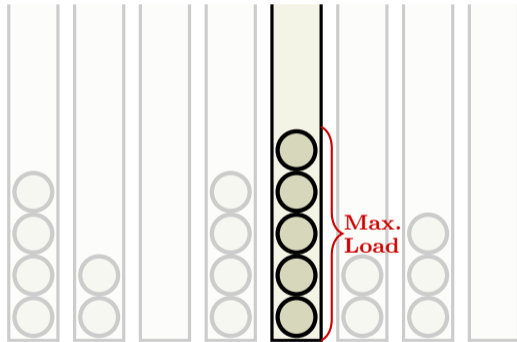
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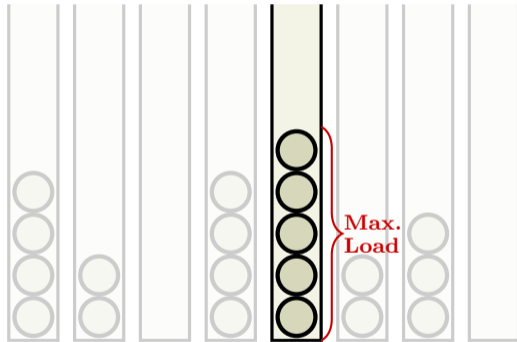


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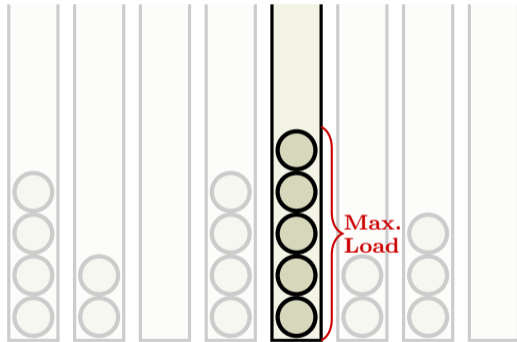
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Meaning with probability  
at least  $1 - n^{-c}$  for constant  $c > 0$ .

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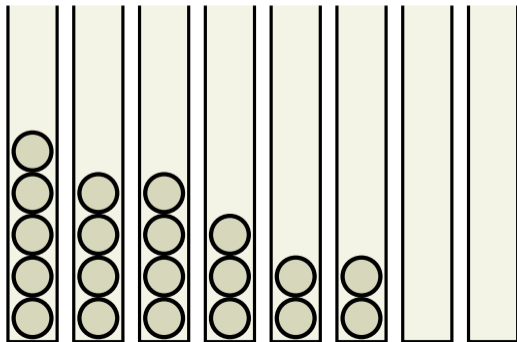
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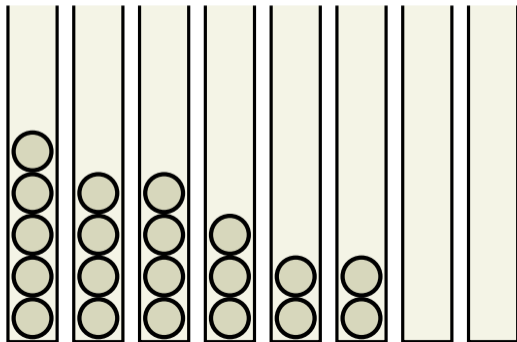
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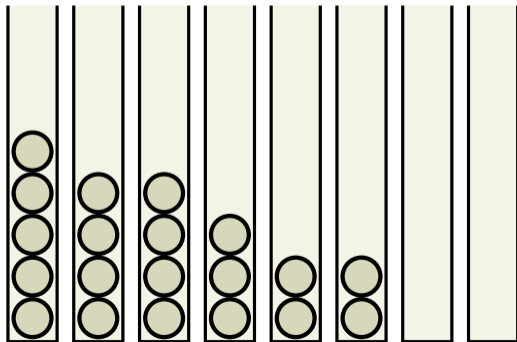
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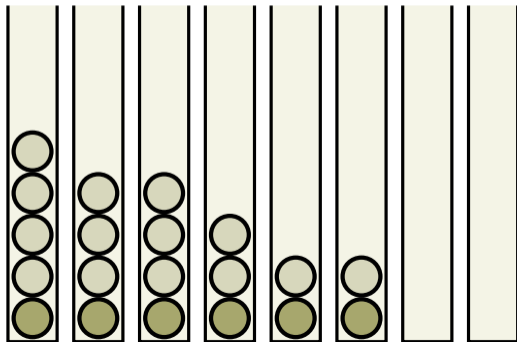
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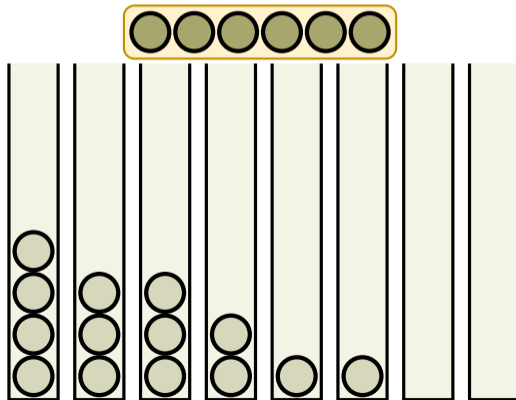
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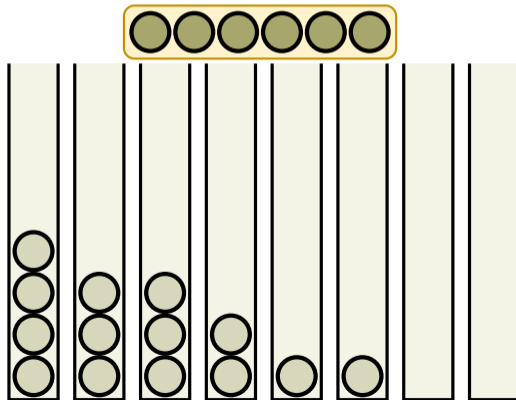
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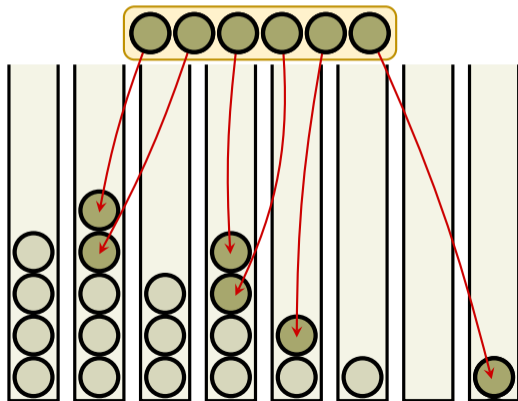
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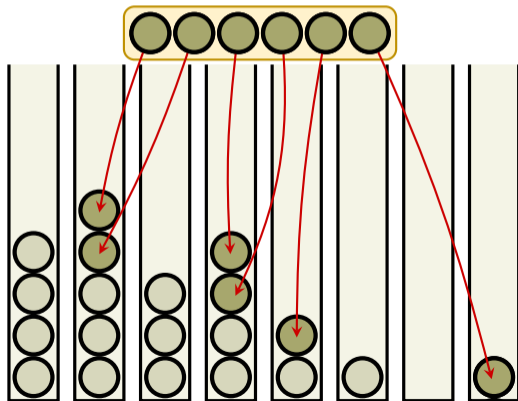
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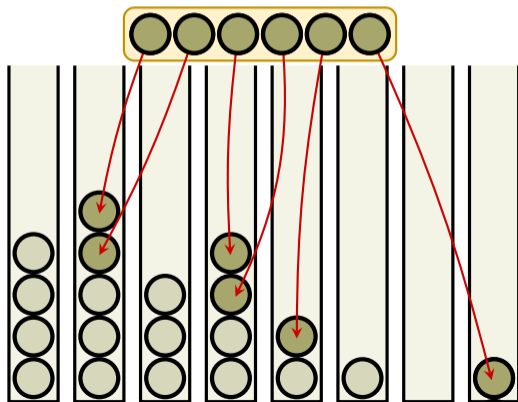


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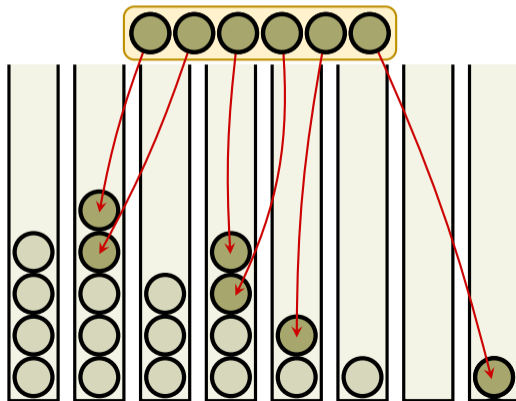


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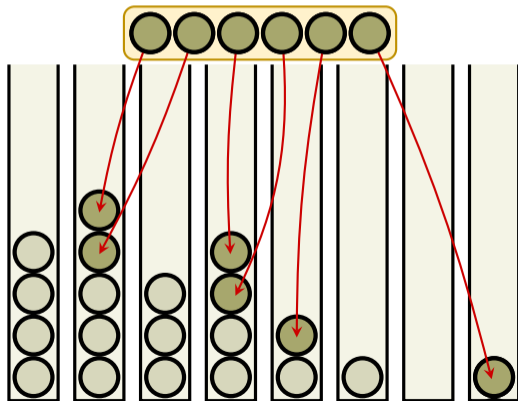


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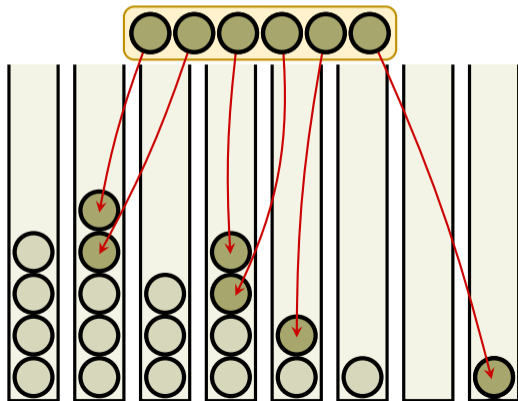


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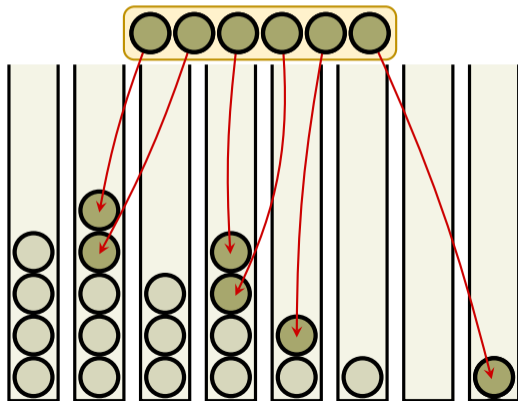


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Open in Visualiser.

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- Starting with an unbalanced configuration, the process eventually stabilises in a balanced configuration.

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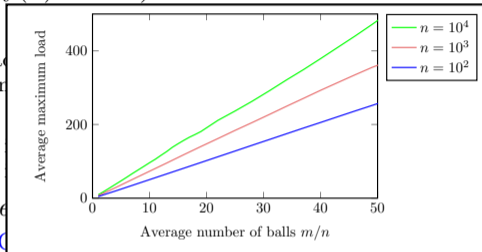
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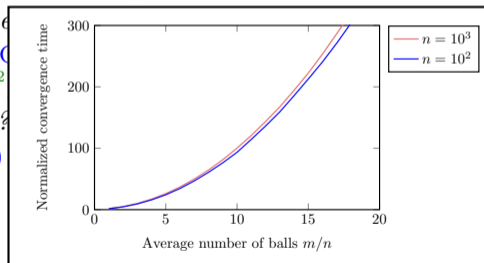
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# Techniques

**Key idea: Analyze the fraction  $f^t$  of empty bins**

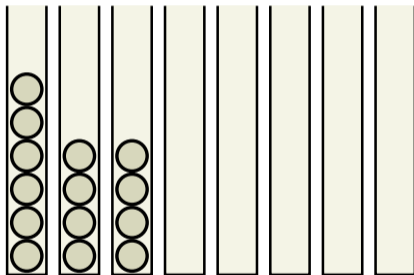


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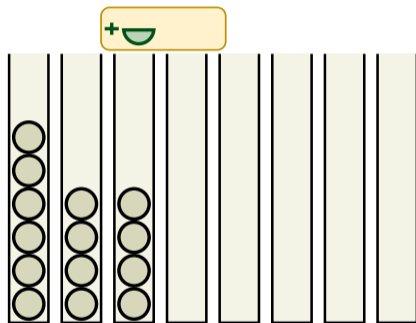
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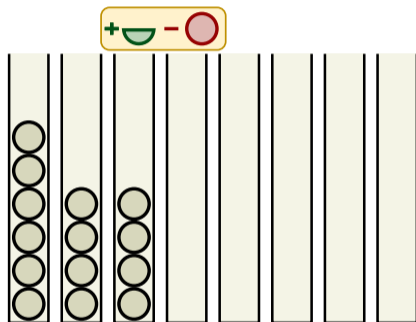
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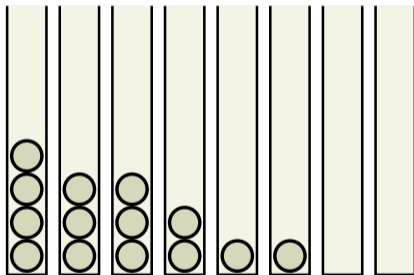
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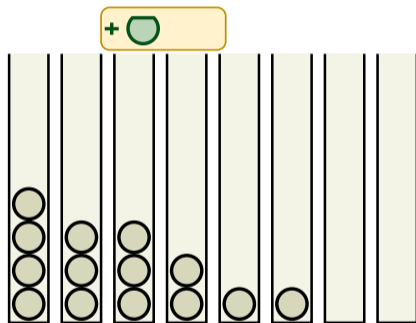
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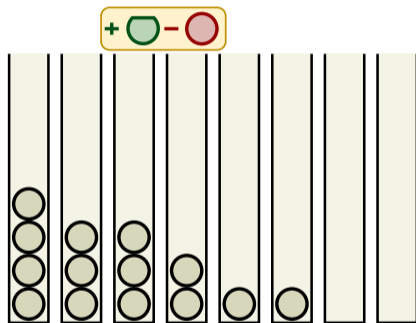
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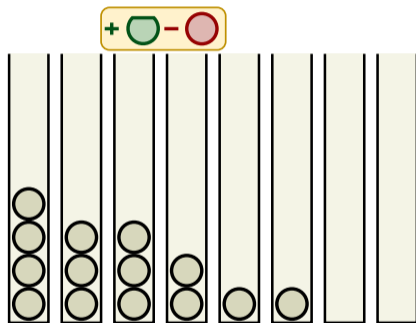
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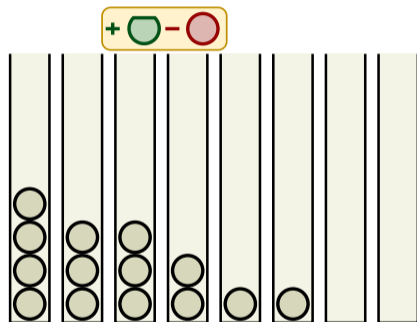


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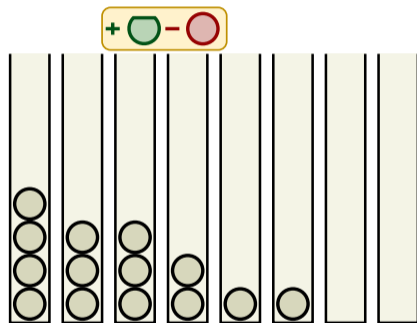


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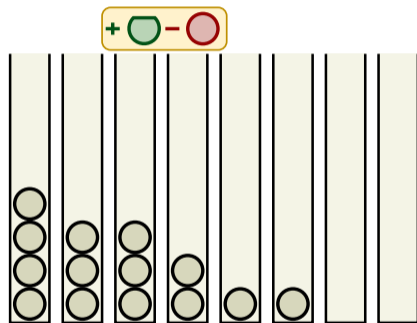
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The  $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{m}{n} \cdot \log n\right)$  upper bound

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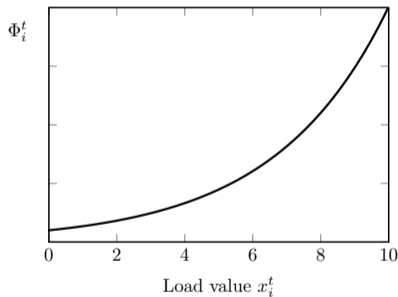
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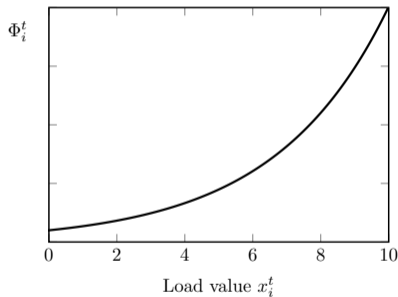
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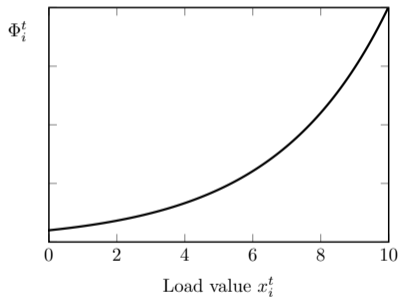
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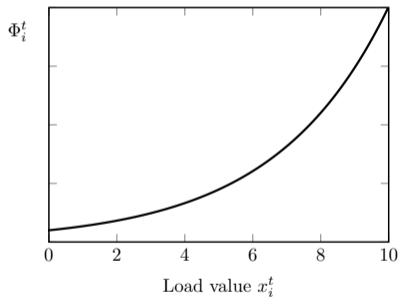
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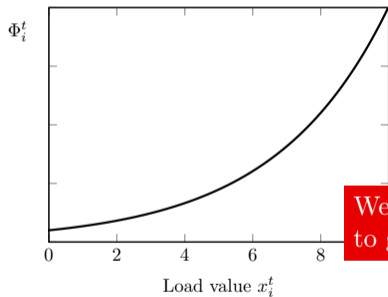
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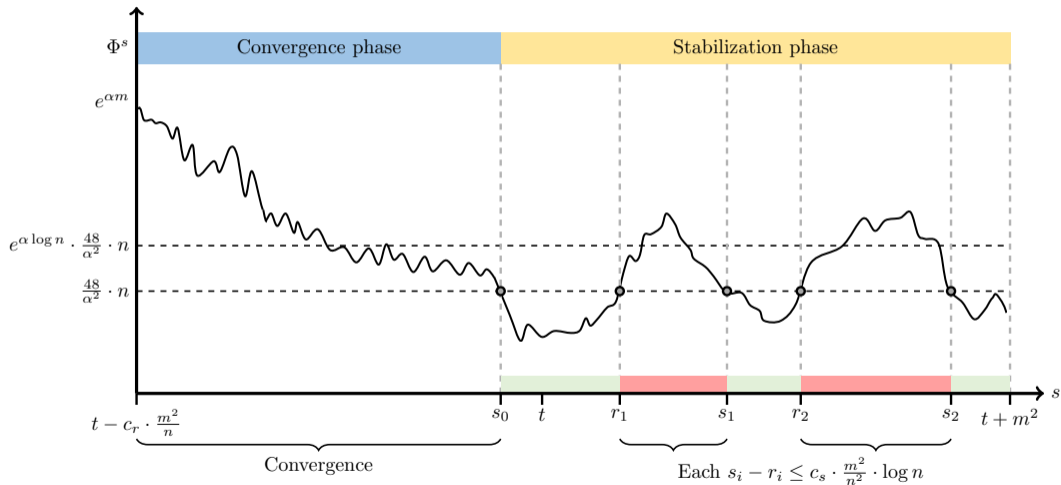
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- By the **method of bounded differences**, we get the lower bound holds w.h.p.

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## The $\Omega\left(\frac{m}{n} \cdot \log n\right)$ lower bound

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- Note that  $\Upsilon^t \leq m^2$ . So, using a concentration inequality, in any interval of  $\Omega(m^2/n)$  length, there can be  $\leq \gamma$  fraction of empty bins.



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Actually, this is  $\cup_{s \in [0, t]}$  as in the concentration inequality we assume the loads are  $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{m}{n} \cdot \log n\right)$ .

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- Relate to the setting where  $n \cdot (1 - \Theta(n/m))$  new tasks arrive in each round [BFK<sup>+</sup>18].

# Questions?

More visualisations: [dimitrioslos.com/stacs23](https://dimitrioslos.com/stacs23)



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