

## On Zhao-Woodroffe's condition for martingale approximation\*

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### Abstract

The Zhao-Woodroffe condition has been introduced in [19] and it is a necessary and sufficient condition for the existence of a martingale approximation of a causal stationary process. Here, a nonadapted version is given and the convergence of Cesaro averages is replaced by a convergence of a subsequence. The nonadapted version is of a different form than in other cases, e.g. of Wu-Woodroffe or Maxwell-Woodroffe conditions ([10], [18], [15]).

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## 1 Introduction

Let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$  be a probability space and  $T : \Omega \rightarrow \Omega$  a bijective, bimeasurable and measure preserving mapping. For a measurable function  $f$  the sequence  $(f \circ T^i)$  is strictly stationary and every strictly stationary sequence of random variables can be represented in this way.

Denote

$$S_n(f) = \sum_{i=1}^n f \circ T^i.$$

By  $(\mathcal{F}_i)$  we will denote an increasing filtration where  $T^{-1}(\mathcal{F}_i) = \mathcal{F}_{i+1}$ ,  $P_i$  will denote the orthogonal projection onto  $L^2(\mathcal{F}_i) \ominus L^2(\mathcal{F}_{i-1})$ , i.e.  $P_i f = E(f|\mathcal{F}_i) - E(f|\mathcal{F}_{i-1})$ . If  $f$  is  $\mathcal{F}_0$ -measurable, we say that the process  $(f \circ T^i)$  is adapted (to the filtration  $(\mathcal{F}_i)$ ).

**Definition 1.1.** We say that a function  $f$  (process  $(f \circ T^i)$ ) has a **martingale approximation** with respect to a filtration  $(\mathcal{F}_i)_{i=-\infty}^{+\infty}$  if there exists a martingale difference sequence  $(m \circ T^i)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  such that  $P_0 m = m$  and  $\|S_n(f - m)\|_2^2 = o(n)$ .

Because the CLT holds for stationary sequences of  $L^2$  martingale differences, this condition guarantees a CLT for  $(f \circ T^i)$  (if  $\mu$  is ergodic, the limit law is normal and for  $\mu$  non ergodic it can be mixture of normal laws). Since 1969, the date of publication of Gordin's paper [4], martingale approximations have been an important tool in the research of limit theorems for stationary processes. Conditions for a martingale approximation can be found in many articles. Most of the results published before 1980

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can be found in [6], for more recent results see e.g. (the list being very incomplete) [14], [10], [1], [2], [3], [19], [11], [5], [17].

In 2004, Wu and Woodroofe ([18]) showed that for an  $L^2$  process  $(f \circ T^i)$  adapted to a filtration  $(\mathcal{F}_i)$ , there exists a triangular array of martingale differences  $m_n \circ T^i$  ( $P_0 m_n = m_n$ ) satisfying

$$\|S_n(f - m_n)\|_2 = o(\sigma_n)$$

if and only if

$$\|E(S_n(f)|\mathcal{F}_0)\|_2 = o(\sigma_n);$$

we denote  $\sigma_n = \|S_n(f)\|_2 \rightarrow \infty$ . The condition of Wu and Woodroofe, however, implies neither a martingale approximation, nor a CLT. In [8], Klicnarová and Volný found an  $L^2$  process  $(f \circ T^i)$  such that  $\|S_n(f)\|_2/\sqrt{n} \rightarrow 1$ ,  $\|E(S_n(f)|\mathcal{F}_0)\|_2 = O(\sqrt{n}/\log n)$ , and the CLT does not take place, hence there is no martingale approximation.

It is thus a natural problem to find a supplementary condition which implies a martingale approximation. Such a condition has been found by Zhao and Woodroofe in [19]. They introduced the plus-norm

$$\|f\|_+^2 = \limsup_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{n} \|S_n(f)\|_2^2$$

and a condition which we call Zhao-Woodroofe's condition (ZW):

**Definition 1.2.** Let the process  $(f \circ T^i)$  be adapted. We say that it (or, the function  $f$ ) satisfies **Zhao-Woodroofe's condition (ZW)** if

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=1}^m \|E(f|\mathcal{F}_{-k})\|_+^2 = 0.$$

Zhao and Woodroofe proved that a process  $(f \circ T^i)$  satisfying the condition of Wu and Woodroofe has a martingale approximation if and only if it satisfies ZW. Later, Peligrad (see [11]) improved the result by showing that the Wu-Woodroofe's condition is redundant and found other equivalent conditions. We thus have:

**Proposition 1.3.** An adapted process  $(f \circ T^i)$  has a martingale approximation if and only if it satisfies ZW.

Further results leading to invariance principles can be found in [5].

We will search a nonadapted version of ZW. Recall that a nonadapted version of the condition of Wu and Woodroofe has been found by Volný in [15]. For ZW, the same method as in [15] gives a condition presented below in Corollary 1 which is sufficient for a martingale approximation. As we will show in Proposition 2, this condition, however, is not necessary. We thus define the following condition.

**Definition 1.4.** The function  $f$  satisfies **nonadapted Zhao-Woodroofe's condition (naZW)** if it satisfies:

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=1}^m \|E(f|\mathcal{F}_{-k}) + f - E(f|\mathcal{F}_{m-k})\|_+^2 = 0. \tag{1.1}$$

**Theorem 1.5.** A stationary process satisfies the nonadapted Zhao-Woodroofe's condition (1.1) if and only if it has a martingale approximation.

**Remark.** As follows from [9], for  $f$  adapted,  $\|E(f|\mathcal{F}_{-k})\|_+ \rightarrow 0$  is not a necessary condition for a martingale approximation. Nevertheless, in Proposition 3 we shall give a

necessary and sufficient condition for a martingale approximation using subsequences, both for the adapted and the nonadapted case.

**Proof of the Theorem:**

For  $f \in L^2$  we have  $f = f' + f^{(r)} + f''$  where  $f' = E(f|\mathcal{F}_{-\infty})$  is the orthogonal projection of  $f$  onto  $L^2(\mathcal{F}_{-\infty})$ ,  $f'' = f - E(f|\mathcal{F}_{\infty})$  is the orthogonal projection of  $f$  onto  $L^2(\mathcal{A}) \ominus L^2(\mathcal{F}_{\infty})$ , and  $f^{(r)} = E(f|\mathcal{F}_{\infty}) - E(f|\mathcal{F}_{-\infty})$  is the orthogonal projection of  $f$  onto  $L^2(\mathcal{F}_{\infty}) \ominus L^2(\mathcal{F}_{-\infty})$  ( $\mathcal{F}_{\infty}$  is the  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by the union of all  $\mathcal{F}_k$  and  $\mathcal{F}_{-\infty}$  is the intersection of all  $\mathcal{F}_k$ ). The subspaces  $L^2(\mathcal{F}_{-\infty})$ ,  $L^2(\mathcal{F}_{\infty}) \ominus L^2(\mathcal{F}_{-\infty})$ , and  $L^2(\mathcal{A}) \ominus L^2(\mathcal{F}_{\infty})$  of  $L^2(\mathcal{A})$  are mutually orthogonal and invariant with respect to the unitary operator  $U$  defined by  $Uh = h \circ T$ ,  $h \in L^2(\mathcal{A})$ . For  $m \in L^2$  with  $P_0m = m$  we thus have

$$\|S_n(f - m)\|_2^2 = \|S_n(f')\|_2^2 + \|S_n(f^{(r)} - m)\|_2^2 + \|S_n(f'')\|_2^2$$

and for  $1 \leq k \leq j$  we have

$$E(f|\mathcal{F}_{-k}) + f - E(f|\mathcal{F}_{j-k}) = f' + E(f^{(r)}|\mathcal{F}_{-k}) + f^{(r)} - E(f^{(r)}|\mathcal{F}_{j-k}) + f'',$$

$$\begin{aligned} \|S_n(E(f|\mathcal{F}_{-k}) + f - E(f|\mathcal{F}_{j-k}))\|_2^2 &= \|S_n(f')\|_2^2 + \|S_n(f'')\|_2^2 \\ &\quad + \|S_n(E(f^{(r)}|\mathcal{F}_{-k}) + f^{(r)} - E(f^{(r)}|\mathcal{F}_{j-k}))\|_2^2 \end{aligned}$$

hence  $\|S_n(f')\|_2 = o(\sqrt{n})$  and  $\|S_n(f'')\|_2 = o(\sqrt{n})$  are necessary conditions both for a martingale approximation with respect to the filtration  $(\mathcal{F}_i)_{i=-\infty}^{+\infty}$  and for the nonadapted Zhao-Woodrooffe's condition.

For proving Theorem 1 we can thus suppose that  $f$  is *regular*, i.e.  $f = f^{(r)}$  (otherwise said,  $f$  is  $\mathcal{F}_{\infty}$ -measurable and  $E(f|\mathcal{F}_{-\infty}) = 0$ ).

**The naZW's condition implies MA.** Let us suppose that the nonadapted ZW's condition is satisfied. Our aim is to prove that in such a case the process has a martingale approximation. By regularity,  $f = \sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} P_i f$  hence the naZW's condition is equivalent to

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=1}^m \left\| f - \sum_{i=-k+1}^{m-k} P_i f \right\|_+^2 = 0.$$

Such a condition implies (see Proposition 1.8) that there exist subsequences  $n'_k$  and  $n''_k$  (both tending to infinity) such that

$$\left\| f - \sum_{i=-n'_k}^{n''_k} P_i f \right\|_+^2 \rightarrow 0. \tag{1.2}$$

A regular  $L^2$  function  $h$  has a martingale-coboundary decomposition  $h = m + g - g \circ T$  with  $m, g \in L^2$  and  $P_0m = m$  if and only if the series  $\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} E(h \circ T^i | \mathcal{F}_{-1})$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} [h \circ T^{-i} - E(h \circ T^{-i} | \mathcal{F}_{-1})]$  converge in  $L^2$ ; then, we can have  $m = \sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} P_0(h \circ T^i)$ ,  $g = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} E(h \circ T^i | \mathcal{F}_{-1}) - \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} [h \circ T^{-i} - E(h \circ T^{-i} | \mathcal{F}_{-1})]$  (see [14], cf. [4]). From this we deduce that  $\sum_{i=-n'_k}^{n''_k} P_i f - \sum_{i=-n''_k}^{n'_k} P_0(f \circ T^i)$  is a coboundary  $g - g \circ T$  with an  $L^2$ -integrable transfer function  $g$ . More precisely,  $g$  is equal to

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n'_k} \sum_{j=0}^{n'_k-i} P_{-i}(f \circ T^j) - \sum_{i=0}^{n''_k-1} \sum_{j=1}^{n''_k-i} P_i(f \circ T^{-j})$$

and the martingale part  $m$  is zero.

Therefore,  $\left\| \sum_{i=-n'_k}^{n''_k} P_i f - \sum_{i=-n''_k}^{n'_k} P_0(f \circ T^i) \right\|_+ = 0$ , hence (notice that  $\|\cdot\|_+$  is a seminorm, cf. [19])

$$\left\| f - \sum_{i=-n''_k}^{n'_k} P_0(f \circ T^i) \right\|_+^2 \rightarrow 0$$

for some subsequences  $n''_k$  and  $n'_k$  both tending to infinity.

Denote  $m_k = \sum_{i=-n''_k}^{n'_k} P_0(f \circ T^i)$ ; like in [14] we will show that there exists  $m$  such that  $m_k \rightarrow m$  in  $L^2$ . Since  $m_k = P_0(m_k)$  for every  $k$  and  $l$  we have  $\|m_k - m_l\|_2 = \|m_k - m_l\|_+$ . Because  $\|m_k - m_l\|_+ \leq \|f - m_k\|_+ + \|f - m_l\|_+$ , where both terms of the right-hand side tend to zero, we have  $\|m_k - m_l\|_2 \rightarrow 0$ . We deduce that there exists  $m$  such that  $m = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} m_k$ .  $\|f - m\|_+ \leq \|f - m_k\|_+ + \|m - m_k\|_+ = \|f - m_k\|_+ + \|m - m_k\|_2 \rightarrow 0$  (cf. [14]) hence  $\|f - m\|_+ = 0$  and the function  $f$  has a martingale approximation.

**The MA implies the naZW's condition.** Let us suppose that the process  $(f \circ T^i)$  has a martingale approximation  $(m \circ T^i)$ , i.e.  $\|S_n(f - m)\|_2 = o(\sqrt{n})$ ; by [18] and [15],

$$\|\mathbb{E}(S_n(f)|\mathcal{F}_0)\|_2 = o(\sqrt{n}) \text{ and } \|S_n(f) - \mathbb{E}(S_n(f)|\mathcal{F}_n)\|_2 = o(\sqrt{n}).$$

Therefore

$$\|S_n(f - m) - \mathbb{E}(S_n(f)|\mathcal{F}_0) - (S_n(f) - \mathbb{E}(S_n(f)|\mathcal{F}_n))\|_2 = o(\sqrt{n})$$

hence

$$\|\mathbb{E}(S_n(f)|\mathcal{F}_n) - \mathbb{E}(S_n(f)|\mathcal{F}_0) - S_n(m)\|_2 = o(\sqrt{n}).$$

We have

$$\mathbb{E}(S_n(f)|\mathcal{F}_n) - \mathbb{E}(S_n(f)|\mathcal{F}_0) = \sum_{k=1}^n P_k S_n(f).$$

Noticing that the mapping  $Uh = h \circ T$  is a unitary operator in  $L^2$  and that  $UP_i = P_{i+1}U$  we get

$$\sum_{k=1}^n P_k S_n(f) = \sum_{k=1}^n U^k \sum_{j=1}^n P_0 U^{j-k} f.$$

We denote

$$\sum_{j=1}^n P_0 U^{j-k} f = \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} P_0 U^{-j} f + \sum_{j=0}^{n-k} P_0 U^j f = s''_k + s'_{n-k}.$$

Therefore,

$$\mathbb{E}(S_n(f)|\mathcal{F}_n) - \mathbb{E}(S_n(f)|\mathcal{F}_0) - S_n(m) = - \sum_{k=1}^n (m - s'_{n-k} - s''_k) \circ T^k,$$

The functions  $m - s'_{n-k} - s''_k$  are martingale differences, hence

$$\|\mathbb{E}(S_n(f)|\mathcal{F}_n) - \mathbb{E}(S_n(f)|\mathcal{F}_0) - S_n(m)\|_2^2 = \sum_{k=1}^n \|m - s'_{n-k} - s''_k\|_2^2 = \sum_{k=1}^n \|m - s'_{n-k} - s''_k\|_+^2 = o(n).$$

Let us note that the functions  $\mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_0) - \mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_{k-n-1}) - s'_{n-k}$  and  $\mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_{k-1}) - \mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_0) - s''_k$  are coboundaries. Indeed, for  $h = \mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_0) - \mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_{k-n-1}) - s'_{n-k}$  the condition for a

martingale-coboundary decomposition is easily satisfied and the martingale part  $m = \sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} P_0(h \circ T^i)$  is zero; the same reasoning applies to the second function. Therefore,

$$\|\mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_0) - \mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_{k-n-1}) - s'_{n-k}\|_+ = 0 \text{ and } \|\mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_{k-1}) - \mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_0) - s''_k\|_+ = 0.$$

Using these equalities and  $\|f - m\|_+ = 0$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|m - s'_{n-k} - s''_k\|_+ &= \|f - s'_{n-k} - s''_k\|_+ \\ &= \|f - (\mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_0) - \mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_{k-n-1})) - (\mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_{k-1}) - \mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_0))\|_+ \\ &= \|f - \mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_{k-1}) + \mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_{n-k+1})\|_+ \end{aligned}$$

hence

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \|f - \mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_{k-1}) + \mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_{n-k+1})\|_+^2 \rightarrow 0$$

and the naZW condition follows. △

From Theorem 1 we get the following corollary.

**Corollary 1.6.** *The conditions*

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=1}^m \|\mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_{-k})\|_+^2 = 0$$

and

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=1}^m \|f - \mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_k)\|_+^2 = 0$$

imply MA.

The corollary resembles the nonadapted versions of the theorems of Wu and Woodroofe [18], Maxwell and Woodroofe [10] and Peligrad and Utev [13], cf. [16] and [7]. Here, however, the assumption of the corollary is not a necessary condition for a martingale approximation:

**Proposition 1.7.** *There exists a function  $f$  such that there is a martingale approximation but none of the conditions  $\lim_{m \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=1}^m \|\mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_{-k})\|_+^2 = 0$ ,  $\lim_{m \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=1}^m \|f - \mathbb{E}(f|\mathcal{F}_k)\|_+^2 = 0$  is satisfied.*

**Proof.** Let  $(e_i)$  be a sequence of iid random variables,  $E(e_i) = 0$ ,  $\|e_i\|_2 = 1$ ,  $e_i \circ T = e_{i+1}$ . We define  $N_0 = 0$  and  $N_k = 2^k$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ . Let

$$f_k = \sum_{i=-N_k}^{N_k} a_{k,i} e_i, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, \text{ where } a_{k,i} = \frac{\text{sign}(i)}{2kN_k};$$

sign( $i$ ) is defined as 1 if  $i > 0$ , -1 if  $i < 0$ , and 0 for  $i = 0$ . We define

$$\bar{f} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} f_k, \quad f = e_0 + \bar{f}.$$

Remark that  $f = e_0 + \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} a_i e_i$  where  $a_i = \sum_{k: N_k \geq |i|} a_{k,i}$  because  $N_k \geq k$ ,  $\sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} a_i^2 < \infty$  hence  $f \in L^2$ .

By [18, proof of Theorem 1], if there is a martingale approximation  $(m \circ T^i)$  for  $E(f|\mathcal{F}_0)$  then  $m$  is the limit of  $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{i=0}^k P_0(f \circ T^i)$ . Because  $\sum_{i=-\infty}^{-1} a_i = -\infty$ , the

adapted part  $E(f|\mathcal{F}_0)$  of  $f$  does not have a martingale approximation. From  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i = \infty$  we get the same result for the nonadapted part  $f - E(f|\mathcal{F}_0)$ . From Theorem 1 applied to  $E(f|\mathcal{F}_0)$  and to  $f - E(f|\mathcal{F}_0)$  separately it follows that neither  $\lim_{m \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=1}^m \|E(f|\mathcal{F}_{-k})\|_+^2 = 0$  nor  $\lim_{m \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=1}^m \|f - E(f|\mathcal{F}_k)\|_+^2 = 0$  can be satisfied.

Now, let us show that for every  $n < N_k$

$$\|S_n(\sum_{j=k}^{\infty} f_j)\|_2 \leq 4\sqrt{\frac{n}{k}}$$

and for  $n \geq N_k$ ,

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{n \geq N_k} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \|S_n(\sum_{j=1}^k f_j)\|_2 = 0.$$

This will imply that  $\|S_n(f - e_0)\|_2 = o(\sqrt{n})$  hence  $(e_0 \circ T^i)$  is a martingale approximation for  $f$ . For every  $k$  we have

$$\|S_n(\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} f_j)\|_2 \leq \|S_n(\sum_{j=1}^{k-1} f_j)\|_2 + \|S_n(\sum_{j=k}^{\infty} f_j)\|_2$$

and that for each  $n$  there exists a  $k$  such that  $N_{k-1} \leq n < N_k$ .

Let us prove the first estimation.

By orthogonality,

$$\|S_n(\sum_{j=k}^{\infty} f_j)\|_2^2 = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{N_l \leq i \leq N_{l+1}} \|P_i(S_n(\sum_{j=k}^{\infty} f_j))\|_2^2.$$

For  $|i| \in \{N_{j-1} + 1, \dots, N_j\}$  we have  $|a_i| \leq \frac{1}{jN_j}$ . By direct computation we thus get

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{N_l \leq i \leq N_{l+1}} \|P_i(S_n(\sum_{j=k}^{\infty} f_j))\|_2^2 &\leq \sum_{|i| \leq N_k} \|P_i(S_n(2f_k))\|_2^2 + \sum_{l=k}^{\infty} \sum_{N_l < |i| \leq N_{l+1}} \|P_i(S_n(4f_l))\|_2^2 \\ &\leq 8n^2 \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} \frac{1}{j^2 N_j}. \end{aligned}$$

Since we suppose  $n < N_k$ ,

$$\|S_n(\sum_{j=k}^{\infty} f_j)\|_2^2 \leq 8n \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} \frac{1}{j^2} \leq \frac{16n}{k}.$$

Now, we prove the second estimate.

For  $j = 1, 2, \dots$  the functions  $f_j$  are coboundaries  $f_j = g_j - g_j \circ T$  with a cobounding function

$$g_j = -\frac{1}{2jN_j} \sum_{i=0}^{N_j-1} (N_j - i)e_i - \frac{1}{2jN_j} \sum_{i=1}^{N_j} (N_j - i + 1)e_{-i}.$$

$\sum_{j=1}^k f_j$  is thus a coboundary with a cobounding function  $g = \sum_{i=-N_k}^{N_k-1} b_i e_i$  where

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \leq b_i &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \dots + \frac{1}{k}\right) \quad \text{for } 0 \leq i \leq N_1 - 1 = 1, \\ 0 \leq b_i &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{j} + \dots + \frac{1}{k}\right) \quad \text{for } N_{j-1} \leq i \leq N_j - 1, j = 2, \dots, k. \end{aligned}$$

For  $-N_k \leq i \leq -1$  we get a similar estimation for  $|b_i|$ .

For  $k$  sufficiently big and  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $l = \epsilon k > 1$  we get, using  $\frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{k} \leq \log k$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \|g\|_2^2 &\leq 2 \sum_{i=1}^{N_k} b_i^2 = 2 \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{i=N_{k-1}+1}^{N_k} b_i^2 \\ &\leq N_{k-1} \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^2 + \dots + N_{k-l} \left(\frac{1}{k-l+1} + \dots + \frac{1}{k}\right)^2 + 2N_{k-l}(1 + \log k)^2 \\ &\leq N_k \left(\frac{\epsilon}{1-\epsilon}\right)^2 + N_k 2^{-\epsilon k} (1 + \log k)^2; \end{aligned}$$

choosing  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$  such that  $\epsilon k / \log \log k \rightarrow \infty$  we see that for  $k \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\|g\|_2^2 / N_k \rightarrow 0$ . Because  $S_n(\sum_{j=1}^k f_j) = g \circ T - g \circ T^{n+1}$  we get the result. △

**Proposition 1.8.** *The nonadapted Zhao-Woodroffe's condition is equivalent to the existence of subsequences  $(n'_k)$  and  $(n''_k)$  such that both of them tend to infinity and*

$$\|E(f|\mathcal{F}_{-n'_k}) + f - E(f|\mathcal{F}_{n''_k})\|_+^2 \rightarrow 0.$$

*In adapted case, the Zhao-Woodroffe's condition is equivalent to the existence of a subsequence  $(n_k)$  such that*

$$\|E(f|\mathcal{F}_{-n_k})\|_+ \rightarrow 0.$$

**Proof:** Notice that  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \inf_{k,l \geq N} \|E(f|\mathcal{F}_{-n'_k}) + f - E(f|\mathcal{F}_{n''_l})\|_+^2 = 0$  if and only if there is a sequence of  $(n'_k, n''_k)$  such that  $n'_k, n''_k \nearrow \infty$  and  $\|E(f|\mathcal{F}_{-n'_k}) + f - E(f|\mathcal{F}_{n''_k})\|_+^2 \rightarrow 0$ . If there are no subsequences  $(n'_k)$  and  $(n''_k)$  such that

$$\|E(f|\mathcal{F}_{-n'_k}) + f - E(f|\mathcal{F}_{n''_k})\|_+^2 \rightarrow 0$$

as  $(n'_k)$  and  $(n''_k)$  tend to infinity then there is a  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $N$  large enough and  $k, m - k \geq N$ :  $\|E(f|\mathcal{F}_{-k}) + f - E(f|\mathcal{F}_{m-k})\|_+^2 > \delta$ , hence the naZW condition cannot hold. This proves sufficiency. The same proof applies to the adapted case.

To prove necessity, we will treat the adapted case first. We will use the same idea as in the proof of Theorem 1. Let us suppose that there exists a subsequence  $(n_k)$  such that

$$\|E(f|\mathcal{F}_{-n_k})\|_+ \rightarrow 0.$$

The function  $(\sum_{i=-n_k+1}^0 P_i f - \sum_{i=0}^{n_k-1} P_0(f \circ T^i))$  is a coboundary and for  $m_k = \sum_{i=0}^{n_k-1} P_0(f \circ T^i)$ ,  $(m_k \circ T^i)$  is a martingale difference sequence ( $m_k = P_0 m_k$ ). Then  $\|f - m_k\|_+ = \|\sum_{i=-n_k+1}^0 P_i f - m_k + E(f|\mathcal{F}_{-n_k})\|_+ \leq \|\sum_{i=-n_k+1}^0 P_i f - m_k\|_+ + \|E(f|\mathcal{F}_{-n_k})\|_+ \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . Using the same arguments as in the proof of Theorem 1 we get the existence of  $m \in L^2$ ,  $m = P_0 m$ , such that  $m_k \rightarrow m$  in  $L^2$  and  $\|f - m\|_+^2 = 0$ . Therefore, the function  $f$  has a martingale approximation. From Theorem 1 it follows that the ZW condition is satisfied.

The proof of the nonadapted case is the same; in particular,  $\sum_{i=-n'_k}^{n''_k} P_i f - \sum_{i=-n''_k}^{n'_k} P_0(f \circ T^i)$  is a coboundary, for  $m_k = \sum_{i=-n''_k}^{n'_k} P_0(f \circ T^i)$  we have  $P_0 m_k = m_k$  and  $m_k$  converge to a limit  $m$  in  $L^2$ . △

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