Local Limit Theorems and Recurrence for the Planar Lorentz Process

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Assuming the CLT, its local version is established for the periodic Lorentz process in \mathbb{R}^d . This result implies a.) the local CLT and b.) the recurrence for the planar Lorentz process with a finite horizon, thus improving earlier, so-called quasi-versions of the statements obtained by Krámli-Szász in 1985. For the proof of the local CLT, a Markov approximation technique is worked out to be applicable to L. S. Young's 1998 tower construction. For the Fourier transform of the Perron-Frobenius operator, the necessary analysis of the spectrum was carried out via Doeblin-Fortet inequalities generalizing the 2000 method of Aaaronson-Denker. The challenging arithmeticity questions associated with the local CLT require particular treatment. It is worth noting that for the same case (d = 2, finite horizon), combining the global CLT with abstract ergodic theoretic ideas, K. Schmidt, 1998 and J.-P. Conze, 1999, could already establish recurrence. The results are joint with Tamás Varjú.