

[Heavy-tails] The distribution of a random variable  $X$  with distribution function  $F$  is said to have a **heavy right tail** if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\lambda x} \Pr[X > x] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\lambda x} \bar{F}(x) = \infty, \quad \forall \lambda > 0 \quad (1)$$

More generally, we can say that a random variable  $X$  has heavy tails if  $\Pr(|X| > x) \rightarrow 0$  at a polynomial rate. In this case, some of the moments will be undefined.

[ long right tail] The distribution of a random variable  $X$  with distribution function  $F$  is said to have a long right tail if  $\forall t > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pr[X > x + t | X > x] = 1 \Leftrightarrow \bar{F}(x + t) \sim \bar{F}(x) \text{ as } x \rightarrow \infty \quad (2)$$

The term **risk** can be defined as tail probability  $p$ . But, because many application fields of risk analysis exist, such as actuarial science, econometrics or of course what is of interest for this thesis, climatology, many risk definitions are in usage ; Thywissen (2006) lists 22, although not completely mutually exclusive, definitions currently employed. The definition via the probability has the advantage that this is a fundamental, real number, from which the other parameters of interest, for example, the expected economic loss, can be derived.