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A Local Zero-Two Law and Some Applications

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**Abstract:** In the paper we obtain a local zero-two law for positive contractions of  $L^1$ -spaces, which we use in order to offer new proofs of a theorem of Orey concerning Markov chains, and of the strong asymptotic stability of certain Markov operators that have appeared in the study of the Tjon-Wu equation and in connection with the Hannsgen and Tyson model of the cell cycle.



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