

Conditional central limit theorem for subcritical branching random walk

Dan Yao

joint work with Professor Wenming Hong

The 18th Workshop on Markov Processes and Related Topics

July 31, 2023

- 1 Branching Random Walk (BRW)
- 2 Main result: Conditional central limit theorem
- 3 Sketch of the proof
- 4 Applications: Conditional limit theorems

Branching Random Walk (BRW)

Given a probability measure $\{p_k\}_{k \geq 0}$ on \mathbb{N} (called offspring distribution) and a probability measure G on \mathbb{R} , the branching random walk is defined as follows.

- At time 0, there is one particle positioned at 0, denoted by Z_0 .
- It splits into a random number of particles according to $\{p_k\}_{k \geq 0}$, meanwhile, each of the particles are positioned independently (with respect to their parent) according to the same probability measure G , denoted by Z_1 .
- Similarly, each particle in Z_1 splits independently according to $\{p_k\}_{k \geq 0}$ and is positioned independently according to G , which forms Z_2 .
- And so on.

Assume: the reproduction and displacement mechanisms are independent.

Branching Random Walk (BRW)

We use the classical Ulam–Harris notation for discrete trees.

- \mathbb{T} : the genealogical Galton–Watson tree of this system rooted at \emptyset .
- $V(u)$: the position of u .
- $|u|$: the generation of u .
- Branching random walk: the random measure $Z_n = \sum_{u \in \mathbb{T}: |u|=n} \delta_{V(u)}$.
- $Z_n(A) := \#\{u \in \mathbb{T} : V(u) \in A, |u| = n\}$: **the number of particles in the n -th generation located in A .**
- $N_n := Z_n(\mathbb{R})$: the size of n -th generation. Then $\{N_n; n \geq 0\}$ is a Galton-Watson process (GW process) with offspring distribution $\{p_k\}_{k \geq 0}$, which is called supercritical, critical, and subcritical according to $m := \sum k p_k > 1$, $= 1$ and < 1 , respectively.
- $f(s) := \sum_k p_k s^k$, $s \in [0, 1]$. It is easy to obtain the generating function of N_n given by the iterate

$$f_n(s) = f(f_{n-1}(s)), \quad f_0(s) = s, \quad f_1(s) = f(s).$$

- The intensity measure of Z_n is $m^n G^{m*}$, where G^{m*} is the n -fold convolution of G .
- If G has mean μ and variance $\sigma_0^2 < \infty$, then for any $x \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$m^{-n} \mathbf{E} [Z_n((-\infty, \sqrt{n}\sigma_0 x + n\mu))] = G^{m*}(\sqrt{n}\sigma_0 x + n\mu) \rightarrow \Phi(x), \quad n \rightarrow \infty,$$

where $\Phi(x)$ is the standard normal distribution function.

Supercritical BRW ($m > 1$):

- Harris (1963) first conjectured the following central limit theorem (CLT) for the supercritical BRW: if G has mean zero and variance one,

$$m^{-n} Z_n((-\infty, \sqrt{nx}]) \rightarrow W\Phi(x) \quad \text{in probability,} \quad n \rightarrow \infty, \quad (1)$$

where W is the limit of the additive martingale $\{m^{-n} N_n\}$ in GW process.

- Stam (1966), Kaplan and Asmussen (1976): under the assumption “particles’ displacement are independent of their reproduction”, and obtained that the convergence holds **almost surely**.
- Klebaner (1982), Biggins (1990): **removed** the assumption, and extended these results to the branching random walk in **time-varying environment**.

In subcritical case, the processes will die out with probability one.

Subcritical branching Brownian (BBM) motion with absorption:

- Liu (2021): obtained a Yaglom type asymptotic result for subcritical BBM with absorption.

Subcritical BRW ($m < 1$):

- (1) holds almost surely.
- Q: What's the conditional central limit theorem for subcritical BRW?

Assumption

- the reproduction and displacement mechanisms are independent.
- $0 < m < 1$, $\sigma^2 := \text{Var } N_1 < \infty$.
- $\int_{\mathbb{R}} x \, dG(x) = 0$, $\int_{\mathbb{R}} x^2 \, dG(x) = 1$.

Question

In subcritical BRW, what's the asymptotic result of $\mathcal{L}(Z_n((-\infty, \sqrt{nx}]) \mid N_n > 0)$ under the assumptions as $n \rightarrow \infty$?

Yaglom's theorem

For $0 < m < 1$, then

$$\mathcal{L}(N_n | N_n > 0) \xrightarrow{w} \mathcal{L}(\xi),$$

where \xrightarrow{w} means weak convergence, and we say random variable ξ is the **Yaglom limit** of GW process $\{N_n; n \geq 0\}$.

- Yaglom (1947): showed that such limit exists when $m < 1$ and N_1 has a finite second moment.
- Heathcote, et al. (1967), Joffe (1967), Athreya and Ney (1972): generalized to the case without the second moment assumption.

Previous results for subcritical GW process

More generally, it is meaningful to extend to condition on $\{N_{n+l} > 0\}$, $l = 1, 2, \dots$.

Conditional limit theorem (Athreya and Ney, 1972)

For $0 < m < 1$, then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{P}(N_n = j \mid N_{n+l} > 0) = b_j(l) \geq 0, \quad j \geq 1,$$

and $\sum_{j \geq 1} b_j(l) = 1$, its generating function is $m^{-l}[\mathcal{B}(s) - \mathcal{B}(sf_l(0))]$, where $\mathcal{B}(s)$ is the generating function of Yaglom limit.

Previous results for subcritical GW process

As $l \rightarrow \infty$, the limit distribution of $\mathcal{L}(N_n | N_{n+l} > 0)$ determines a Markov process whose n -step transition probabilities are given by

$$Q_n(i, j) = \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{P}(N_n = j | N_{n+l} > 0, N_0 = i),$$

and we call the above Markov process is the **Q -process** associated with $\{N_n; n \geq 0\}$.

The positive recurrence for Q -process

For $0 < m < 1$, the Q -process is positive recurrent if and only if $\sum_k (k \log k) p_k < \infty$. In the positive recurrent case the **stationary measure** for Q is

$$\pi_j = \varphi(0) j b_j, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots,$$

where $b_j = \mathbf{P}(\xi = j)$, $\varphi(0) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} m^{-n} \mathbf{P}(N_n > 0)$. Furthermore, the generating function of $\{\pi_j\}_{j \geq 1}$ is $\varphi(0) s \mathcal{B}'(s)$.

- Joffe (1967), Athreya and Ney (1972): studied the positive recurrence for Q -process.
- **Remark:** Heathcote, et al. (1967), Athreya and Ney (1972) showed that $\varphi(0) > 0$ if and only if $\sum_k (k \log k) p_k < \infty$.

Theorem 1 (Conditional central limit theorem)

Suppose that assumptions hold, then for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\mathcal{L}(Z_n((-\infty, \sqrt{nx}]) \mid N_n > 0) \xrightarrow{w} \mathcal{L}(\xi \mathbf{1}_{\{\mathcal{N} \leq x\}}), \quad n \rightarrow \infty,$$

where \mathcal{N} is a standard normal random variable and independent of ξ , which is a Yaglom limit of the subcritical GW process $\{N_n; n \geq 0\}$.

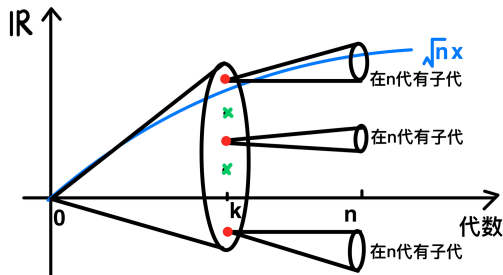
- The limit variable in Theorem 1 reflects two parts of the randomness: the Yaglom limit variable comes from the subcritical branching, and the normal variable comes from the space displacement.
- In supercritical BRW, Kaplan and Asmussen (1976) decomposed $\frac{Z_n((-\infty, \sqrt{nx}])}{m^n}$ at k_n , where $k_n = n^\beta$, $0 < \beta < 1$. Since $N_{k_n} \rightarrow \infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, they use “the law of large numbers” (see Kaplan and Asmussen (1976), Lemma 1) for the first k_n generation of BRW to get W . Since $n - k_n \rightarrow \infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, they then use CLT for the last $n - k_n$ generation of BRW to get $\Phi(x)$.
- In subcritical BRW, **conditioned on $\{N_n > 0\}$, N_n doesn't tend to infinity as $n \rightarrow \infty$** . So we need a new decomposition.

Sketch of the proof

- **Our goal:**

$$\mathcal{L}(Z_n((-\infty, \sqrt{nx}]) \mid N_n > 0) \xrightarrow{w} \mathcal{L}(\xi \mathbf{1}_{\{\mathcal{N} \leq x\}}), \quad n \rightarrow \infty, \quad (2)$$

- **Basic tools:** reduced tree, the many-to-few formula.



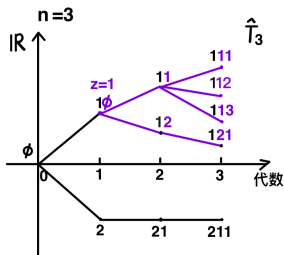
Sketch of the proof: reduced tree

- **Reduced tree:** obtained by removing all branches of the original GW tree \mathbb{T} , which don't extend to generation n .
- $\hat{\mathbb{T}}_n$: the reduced tree conditioned on survival up to time n , which has the root \emptyset .
- $\hat{\mathbb{T}}_{k,n} := \{u \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_n : |u| = k\}$.
- $\hat{N}_{k,n} := \#\hat{\mathbb{T}}_{k,n}$, $\hat{N}_n := \hat{N}_{n,n}$.
 - * $\mathcal{L}(\hat{N}_n) = \mathcal{L}(N_n \mid N_n > 0) \xrightarrow{w} \mathcal{L}(\xi)$, as $n \rightarrow \infty$.
 - * $\hat{N}_{n-\tau,n}$ converges to 1 in law as n then $\tau \rightarrow \infty$.
 - * Fleischmann, et al. (1977) : $\{\hat{N}_{k,n}; 0 \leq k \leq n\}$ is a non-homogeneous GW process, and its offspring distribution $\{p_l(\mathbf{e}_k(n))\}_{l \geq 0}$ at time k is given by

$$\sum_{l \geq 0} p_l(\mathbf{e}_k(n)) s^l = \frac{f(f_{n-k-1}(0) + s(1 - f_{n-k-1}(0))) - f_{n-k}(0)}{1 - f_{n-k}(0)}.$$

Sketch of the proof: reduced tree

- uv : the concatenation of u and v . In particular, $\emptyset u = u\emptyset = u$.
- $z \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_n$, the subtree $\hat{\mathbb{T}}_n$ rooted at z is defined by $\hat{\mathbb{T}}_n(z) := \{v : zv \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_n\}$.
 - $\hat{\mathbb{T}}_{k-|z|,n}(z) := \{u \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_n(z) : |zu| = k\}$, $|z| \leq k \leq n$.
 - $\hat{N}_{k-|z|,n}(z) := \#\hat{\mathbb{T}}_{k-|z|,n}(z)$, $|z| \leq k \leq n$.
 - $\hat{\mathbb{T}}_n(z) := \cup_{k=|z|}^n \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{k-|z|,n}(z)$
- Note $\hat{\mathbb{T}}_n(\emptyset) = \hat{\mathbb{T}}_n$, $\hat{\mathbb{T}}_{k,n}(\emptyset) = \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{k,n}$, $\hat{N}_{k,n}(\emptyset) = \hat{N}_{k,n}$, $\hat{N}_n(\emptyset) = \hat{N}_n$.



Subtree

$$\hat{\mathbb{T}}_3(1) = \{\emptyset, 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 21\}$$

- $\hat{\mathbb{T}}_{0,3}(1) = \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{1-1,3}(1) = \{\emptyset\}$ $\hat{N}_{0,3}(1) = 1$
- $\hat{\mathbb{T}}_{1,3}(1) = \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{2-1,3}(1) = \{1, 2\}$ $\hat{N}_{1,3}(1) = 2$
- $\hat{\mathbb{T}}_{2,3}(1) = \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{3-1,3}(1) = \{11, 12, 13, 21\}$ $\hat{N}_{2,3}(1) = 4$

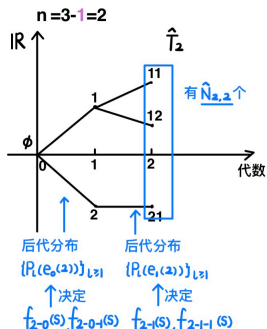
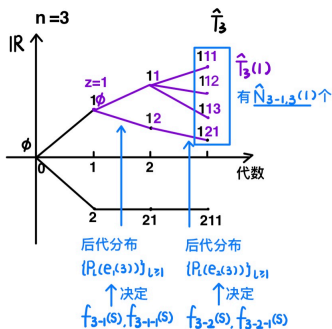
Sketch of the proof: reduced tree

Lemma 1

For each $z \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_n$, we have

$$\hat{N}_{n-|z|,n}(z) \stackrel{d}{=} \hat{N}_{n-|z|,n-|z|}(\emptyset) = \hat{N}_{n-|z|}.$$

Intuitively,



Sketch of the proof

Strategy of the proof of Theorem 1 Let \hat{Z}_n is a point process with law $\mathcal{L}(Z_n | N_n > 0)$. We decompose $\hat{Z}_{n+\tau}$ at generation n by $\hat{\mathbb{T}}_{n+\tau}$ as

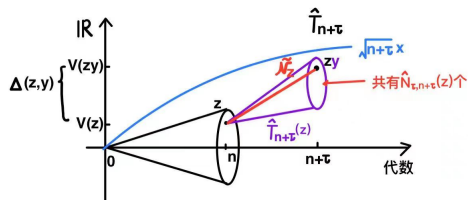
$$\begin{aligned}\hat{Z}_{n+\tau}((-\infty, \sqrt{n+\tau}x]) &\stackrel{d}{=} \sum_{z \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{n,n+\tau}} \left[\sum_{y \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{\tau,n+\tau}(z)} \mathbf{1}_{\{V(zy) \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x\}} \right] \\ &:= A_{n+\tau} + B_{n+\tau},\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}A_{n+\tau} &:= \sum_{z \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{n,n+\tau}} \left[\left(\sum_{y \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{\tau,n+\tau}(z)} \mathbf{1}_{\{V(zy) \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x\}} \right) - \hat{N}_{\tau,n+\tau}(z) \mathbf{1}_{\{\tilde{N}_z \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - V(z)\}} \right], \\ B_{n+\tau} &:= \sum_{z \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{n,n+\tau}} \hat{N}_{\tau,n+\tau}(z) \mathbf{1}_{\{\tilde{N}_z \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - V(z)\}},\end{aligned}$$

and under \mathbf{P} , $\tilde{N}_z, z \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{n,n+\tau}$ are mutually independent, for fixed z, \tilde{N}_z is distributed as $G^{\tau*}$, and independent of $(V(u) : u \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{k,n+\tau}, 0 \leq k \leq n)$ and $\hat{N}_{\tau,n+\tau}(z)$.

Sketch of the proof



- $\frac{\Delta(z,y)}{\sqrt{n+\tau}} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$.

- each $\Delta(z,y)$ behaves as the same variable \tilde{N}_z .

- as n first then τ tends to infinity, $A_{n+\tau} \rightarrow 0$, thus

$$\hat{Z}_{n+\tau}((-\infty, \sqrt{n+\tau}x]) \stackrel{d}{\sim} B_{n+\tau} := \sum_{z \in \hat{T}_{n, n+\tau}} \hat{N}_{\tau, n+\tau}(z) \mathbf{1}_{\{\tilde{N}_z \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - V(z)\}}.$$

- By Lemma 1, we have $\hat{N}_{\tau, n+\tau}(z) \stackrel{d}{=} \hat{N}_{\tau, \tau}(\emptyset) = \hat{N}_{\tau}$, and recall $\hat{N}_{n, n+\tau} \stackrel{d}{\sim} 1$, as n first then τ tends to infinity,

$$B_{n+\tau} \stackrel{d}{\sim} \sum_{z \in \hat{T}_{n, n+\tau}} \hat{N}_{\tau} \mathbf{1}_{\{\tilde{N}_z \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - V(z)\}} \stackrel{d}{\sim} \hat{N}_{\tau} \mathbf{1}_{\left\{ \frac{V(z)}{\sqrt{n+\tau}} \leq x - \frac{\tilde{N}_z}{\sqrt{n+\tau}} \right\}} \stackrel{d}{\sim} \xi \mathbf{1}_{\{\mathcal{N} \leq x\}}. \quad \square$$

Sketch of the proof: the asymptotic behavior of $A_{n+\tau}$

Using Lemma 1, we get

$$A_{n+\tau} \stackrel{d}{=} \sum_{z \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{n,n+\tau}} \left[\left(\sum_{y \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{\tau,\tau}} \mathbf{1}_{\{V(y) \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - V(z)\}} \right) - \hat{N}_{\tau} \mathbf{1}_{\{\tilde{N}_z \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - V(z)\}} \right],$$

where $(V(u) : u \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{k,n+\tau}, 0 \leq k \leq n)$ is independent of $(V(u) : u \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{\tau})$, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} A_{n+\tau}^2 &\stackrel{d}{=} \sum_{z \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{n,n+\tau}} \left(\sum_{y \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{\tau,\tau}} \mathbf{1}_{\{V(y) \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - V(z)\}} - \hat{N}_{\tau} \mathbf{1}_{\{\tilde{N}_z \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - V(z)\}} \right)^2 \\ &\quad + \sum_{\substack{z_1, z_2 \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{n,n+\tau} \\ z_1 \neq z_2}} \prod_{i=1,2} \left(\sum_{y \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{\tau,\tau}} \mathbf{1}_{\{V(y) \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - V(z_i)\}} - \hat{N}_{\tau} \mathbf{1}_{\{\tilde{N}_{z_i} \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - V(z_i)\}} \right). \end{aligned}$$

(i) $\sum_{\substack{z_1, z_2 \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{n,n+\tau} \\ z_1 \neq z_2}} \mathbf{1} \rightarrow 0$, as n then $\tau \rightarrow \infty$.

(ii) $\lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{E}[\hat{N}_{\tau}] = \frac{1}{\varphi(0)} < \infty$.

Sketch of the proof: the asymptotic behavior of $A_{n+\tau}$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{E}[A_{n+\tau}^2] &\stackrel{d}{\sim} \mathbf{E} \left[\sum_{z \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{n, n+\tau}} \left(\sum_{y \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{\tau, \tau}} \mathbf{1}_{\{V(y) \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - V(z)\}} - \hat{N}_{\tau} \mathbf{1}_{\{\tilde{N}_z \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - V(z)\}} \right)^2 \right] \\ &= \mathbf{E} \left[\sum_{z \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{n, n+\tau}} F(n, n+\tau, V(z)) \right], \text{ as } n \text{ then } \tau \rightarrow \infty,\end{aligned}$$

where for $a \in \mathbb{R}$, under \mathbf{P} , \tilde{N} has the same distribution as \tilde{N}_z and is independent of \mathfrak{X}_n and \hat{N}_{τ} ,

$$\begin{aligned}F(n, n+\tau, a) &= \mathbf{E} \left[\left(\sum_{y \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{\tau, \tau}} \mathbf{1}_{\{V(y) \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - a\}} - \hat{N}_{\tau} \mathbf{1}_{\{\tilde{N} \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - a\}} \right)^2 \right] \\ &= \mathbf{E} \left[\hat{Z}_{\tau}((-\infty, \sqrt{n+\tau}x - a])^2 \right] - 2\mathbf{E} \left[\hat{N}_{\tau} \sum_{y \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{\tau, \tau}} \mathbf{1}_{\{V(y) \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - a\}} \mathbf{1}_{\{\tilde{N} \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - a\}} \right] \\ &\quad + \mathbf{E} \left[\left(\hat{N}_{\tau} \mathbf{1}_{\{\tilde{N} \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - a\}} \right)^2 \right] \\ &:= F_1(n, n+\tau, a) - 2F_2(n, n+\tau, a) + F_3(n, n+\tau, a).\end{aligned}$$

Lemma 2 (Many-to-one formula)

For every $n, \tau \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$, for any $0 \leq k \leq n + \tau$, $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ and Borel measurable function g on \mathbb{R} , we have

$$\mathbf{E}_{\delta_{x_0}} \left[\sum_{u \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{k, n+\tau}} g(V(u)) \right] = m^k \frac{1 - f_{n+\tau-k}(0)}{1 - f_{n+\tau}(0)} \mathbf{E}_{x_0} [g(\mathfrak{X}_k)],$$

where $\mathfrak{X} = (\mathfrak{X}_n : n \geq 0)$ is the spine random walk with the jump law G under \mathbf{P} .

Using Lemma 2, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}[A_{n+\tau}^2] &\stackrel{d}{\sim} m^n \frac{1 - f_\tau(0)}{1 - f_{n+\tau}(0)} \cdot \mathbf{E}[F(n, n + \tau, \mathfrak{X}_n)] \\ &= \mathbf{E}[F_1(n, n + \tau, \mathfrak{X}_n)] - 2\mathbf{E}[F_2(n, n + \tau, \mathfrak{X}_n)] + \mathbf{E}[F_3(n, n + \tau, \mathfrak{X}_n)]. \end{aligned}$$

Sketch of the proof: the asymptotic behavior of $A_{n+\tau}$

Lemma 3 (Second-order moment)

For every $n, \tau \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$, for any $a \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{E} \left[\hat{Z}_\tau((-\infty, \sqrt{n+\tau}x - a])^2 \right] \\ &= \frac{m^\tau}{1 - f_\tau(0)} \mathbf{P} \left(\mathfrak{X}'_\tau \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - a \right) \\ & \quad + \frac{m^{2\tau-1}}{1 - f_\tau(0)} f''(1) \sum_{r=1}^{\tau} m^{-r} \mathbf{P} \left(\mathfrak{X}_{r-1,\tau}^{(1)} \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - a, \mathfrak{X}_{r-1,\tau}^{(2)} \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - a \right), \end{aligned}$$

where under \mathbf{P} , for each j , $(\mathfrak{X}'_i : i \geq 0)$, $(\mathfrak{X}_{j,i}^{(1)} : i \geq 0)$, $(\mathfrak{X}_{j,i}^{(2)} : i \geq 0)$ are spine random walk whose jump distribution is G , and satisfying

- (1) for all $i \leq j$, $\mathfrak{X}_{j,i}^{(1)} = \mathfrak{X}_{j,i}^{(2)}$.
- (2) $(\mathfrak{X}_{j,j+i}^{(1)} - \mathfrak{X}_{j,j}^{(1)} : i \geq 0)$ and $(\mathfrak{X}_{j,j+i}^{(2)} - \mathfrak{X}_{j,j}^{(2)} : i \geq 0)$ are independent.

Sketch of the proof: the asymptotic behavior of $A_{n+\tau}$

By Lemma 3 and some calculations, we can get

Proposition 1

Suppose that assumptions hold, we have

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{E}A_{n+\tau}^2 \leq h_1(\tau),$$

where $h_1(\tau) \rightarrow 0$ as $\tau \rightarrow \infty$.

Sketch of the proof: the asymptotic behavior of $B_{n+\tau}$

By some calculations, we can obtain,

$$\mathbf{E} \left[s^{B_{n+\tau}} \right] = \mathbf{E} \left[s^{\sum_{z \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{n,n+\tau}} \hat{N}_\tau(z) \mathbf{1}_{\{\tilde{N}_z \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - V(z)\}}} \right] = \mathbf{E} \left[\prod_{z \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{n,n+\tau}} R(n, n+\tau, V(z)) \right],$$

where for $a \in \mathbb{R}$, $s \in [0, 1]$,

$$R(n, n+\tau, a) = \mathbf{P} \left(\tilde{N}_z \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - a \right) \mathbf{E} \left[s^{\hat{N}_\tau} \right] + 1 - \mathbf{P} \left(\tilde{N}_z \leq \sqrt{n+\tau}x - a \right).$$

Then, for fixed $z_0 \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{n,n+\tau}$,

- (i) Using the fact that $|\prod_{m=1}^n z_m - \prod_{m=1}^n w_m| \leq \theta^{n-1} \sum_{m=1}^n |z_m - w_m|$, where $|z_i| \leq 1, |w_i| \leq 1$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \mathbf{E} \left[s^{B_{n+\tau}} \right] - \mathbf{E} [R(n, n+\tau, V(z_0)) \cdot \prod_{\substack{z \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{n,n+\tau} \\ z \neq z_0}} 1] \right| \leq \mathbf{E} \left[\sum_{\substack{z \in \hat{\mathbb{T}}_{n,n+\tau} \\ z \neq z_0}} (1 - R(n, n+\tau, V(z))) \right] \\ & \leq \mathbf{E} \left[\hat{N}_{n,n+\tau} - 1 \right] \rightarrow \frac{1 - f_\tau(0)}{\varphi(0)m^\tau} - 1, \quad n \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Sketch of the proof: the asymptotic behavior of $B_{n+\tau}$

(ii) Since the law of $V(z_0)$ is G^{m*} , and $V(z_0)$ is independent of $\tilde{\mathcal{N}}_{z_0}$, then

$$\mathbf{E}[R(n, n + \tau, V(z_0))] \rightarrow \Phi(x) \mathbf{E}[s^{\hat{N}_\tau}] + 1 - \Phi(x),$$

whose limit is equal to $\mathbf{E}[s^{\xi^1\{\mathcal{N} \leq x\}}]$, as $\tau \rightarrow \infty$.

Proposition 2

Suppose that assumptions hold, then for all $s \in [0, 1]$, we have

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \mathbf{E}[s^{B_{n+\tau}}] - \mathbf{E}[s^{\xi^1\{\mathcal{N} \leq x\}}] \right| \leq h_2(\tau, s),$$

where $h_2(\tau, s) \rightarrow 0$ as $\tau \rightarrow \infty$.

Corollary

Suppose that assumptions hold, we have, for fixed $l \geq 1$, for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$,

(i) For $j \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{P} (Z_n((-\infty, \sqrt{nx}] = j \mid N_{n+l} > 0) = b_j(l; x) \geq 0$$

where $\sum_{j \geq 0} b_j(l; x) = 1$. Recall $\mathcal{B}(s) = \mathbf{E} [s^\xi]$, then the generating function of $\{b_j(l; x)\}_{j \geq 0}$ is defined by

$$\frac{1}{m^l} \{ \Phi(x) [\mathcal{B}(s) - \mathcal{B}(sf_l(0))] + (1 - \Phi(x)) [1 - \mathcal{B}(f_l(0))] \}.$$

(ii) As $l \rightarrow \infty$ and then $n \rightarrow \infty$,

$$\mathcal{L} (Z_n((-\infty, \sqrt{nx}] \mid N_{n+l} > 0) \xrightarrow{w} \mathcal{L} (\zeta \mathbf{1}_{\{\mathcal{N} \leq x\}}),$$

where the standard normal random variable \mathcal{N} is independent of random variable ζ with distribution $\{\pi_j\}_{j \geq 1}$.

Remark

The assumption of G can be generalized to the case that G is in the domain of attraction of a stable law, that is, there exists a non-degenerate random variable η , $\{a_n\} \subset \mathbb{R}$, $\{b_n\} \subset \mathbb{R}^+$ such that, as $n \rightarrow \infty$, $(S_n - a_n)/b_n \xrightarrow{d} \eta$, where S_n is the sum of n independent identically distributed variables with law G . Under this assumption, we only need to replace $(-\infty, \sqrt{nx}]$, \mathcal{N} and $\Phi(x)$ with $(-\infty, b_n x + a_n]$, η and $\mathbf{P}(\eta \leq x)$ respectively in the above results.

References I

- [1] Athreya, K. B. and Ney, P. E. *Branching Processes*. Springer, Berlin, 1972.
- [2] Biggins, J. D. The central limit theorem for the supercritical branching random walk, and related results. *Stochastic Process. Appl.*, 34: 255-274, 1990.
- [3] Fleischmann, K. and Siegmund-Schultze, R. The structure of reduced critical Galton-Watson processes. *Math. Nachr.*, 79: 233-241, 1977.
- [4] Harris, S. C. and Roberts, M. I. The many-to-few lemma and multiple spines. *Inst. Henri Poincaré Probab. Stat.*, 53: 226-242, 2017.
- [5] Harris, T. E. *The Theory of Branching Processes*. Springer, Berlin, 1963.
- [6] Heathcote, C. R., Seneta, E. and Vere-Jones, D. A refinement of two theorems in the theory of branching processes. *Teor. Verojatnost. i Primenen.*, 53: 341-346, 1967.
- [7] Joffe, A. On the Galton-Watson branching process with mean less than one. *Ann. Math. Statist.*, 38: 264-266, 1967.
- [8] Kaplan, N. and Asmussen, S. Branching random walks. II. *Stochastic Process. Appl.*, 4: 15-31, 1976.

- [9] Klebaner, C. F. Branching random walk in varying environments. *Adv. in Appl. Probab.*, 14: 359-367, 1982.
- [10] Liu, J. A Yaglom type asymptotic result for subcritical branching Brownian motion with absorption. *Stochastic Process. Appl.*, 141: 245-273, 2021.
- [11] Stam, A. J. On a conjecture by Harris. *Z. Wahrsch. Verw. Gebiete*, 5: 202-206, 1966.
- [12] Yaglom, A. M. Certain limit theorems of the theory of branching random processes. *Dokl. Akad. Nauk SSSR(N.S.)*, 56: 795-798, 1947.

Thank you!