

# 概率论的进步

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# 目录

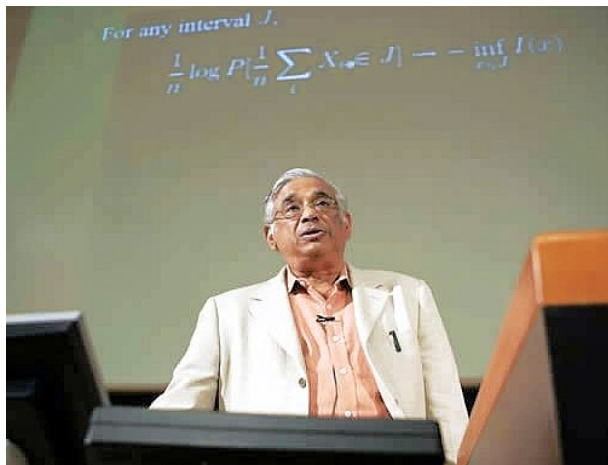
- 概率论的成熟与成长
- 概率论与统计物理的交叉
- 概率论与数学其它分支的交叉

# (1) 2006 Gauss Prize Kiyoshi Itô 伊藤清



[1915–2008] The prize honors his achievements in **stochastic analysis**, a field of mathematics based essentially on his groundbreaking work. **1942+64**

## (2) 2007 Abel Prize Srinivasa S.R. Varadhan



1940–

Fundamental contributions to **probability theory** and in particular for creating a unified **theory of large deviations**. **1975** with M.D. Donsker<sup>+42</sup>

John Ball: “Probability swept most of the award”, “2.5 of them, to be exact”.

- Andrei Okounkov: 概率论 + 表示论 + 代数几何.
- Wendelin Werner: 二维布朗运动的几何和共形映照.  
对数Sobole不等式
- Grigori Perelman: Ricci流的分析和几何结构.
- Terence Tao: PDE, 组合, 调和分析及堆垒数论, 随机矩阵.

## (4) ICM2010

2/4

- Elon Lindenstrauss: 遍历理论.
- Ngô Bảo Châu: Langlands 纲领(数论).
- Stanislav Smirnov: 渗流的共形不变性与平面 Ising 模型.
- Cédric Villani: 数学物理 + 概率论.

## (5) ICM2014

1/4

- Artur Avila: 动力系统理论.
- Manjul Bhargava: 数的几何(数论).
- **Martin Hairer**: 随机偏微分方程.
- Maryam Mirzakhani: 黎曼面的动力系统和几何及它们的模空间.

# William Feller<sup>1906–1970</sup>: An Introduction to Probability Theory and its Application



William Feller's vivid lecturing at IBM.



# W.Feller: An Introduction to Probability Theory and its Application (Vol. 1 & 2)

Preface to the Third Edition (of Volume 1)

WHEN THIS BOOK WAS FIRST CONCEIVED  
(MORE THAN 25 YEARS AGO) few

mathematicians outside of the Soviet Union

recognized probability as **legitimate** [合法的, 正当的] **branch** of mathematics. .... 1967

两书问世之前, 概率论除在前苏联而外, 尚未被  
数学界普遍认可.

# W.Feller: An Introduction to Probability Theory and its Application (Vol. 1 & 2)

Preface to the First Edition (of Volume 2)

AT THE TIME THE FIRST VOLUME OF THIS  
BOOK WAS WRITTEN (BETWEEN 1941 AND  
1948) the **interest in probability was not yet  
widespread [流行; 普遍的]**. ..... 1965

Feller 边界理论

# Andrei Nikolaevich Kolmogorov 1903-1987



A.N. Kolmogorov's book (in German, 1933);  
英译(1950, 1956): Foundations of the Theory of  
Probability. 中译:概率论基本概念, 1952.

## Hilbert's period: 1933–1965. 公理化, 基础

- 极限理论. B. Gnedenko and A.N. Kolmogorov (1954); 许宝騄
- 平稳过程. A.N. Kolmogorov (1941); 江泽培
- 马氏过程. J. Doob (1953); K.L. Chung (1960); E.B. Dynkin (1965); 王梓坤 (1965)

许: 中国概率统计的总司令.

江: 我国平稳过程之父.

王: 我国马氏过程之父.

Poincaré's period: 1964– 回归自然

Roland Lvovich Dobrushin 1929–1995



1988 年参观  
长城和十三陵  
时的留影

## Roland Lvovich Dobrushin: Random Fields

- The existence conditions of the configuration integral of the Gibbs distribution, 1964.
- Methods of the theory of probability in statistical physics, 1964, Winter School.
- Existence of a phase transition in the two-dimensional and three-dimensional Ising models, 1965.

## Roland Lvovich Dobrushin: Random Fields

- The existence conditions of the configuration integral of the Gibbs distribution, 1964.
- Methods of the theory of probability in statistical physics, 1964, Winter School.
- Existence of a phase transition in the two-dimensional and three-dimensional Ising models, 1965.
- Dobrushin: “目标是重新建立统计力学的数学基础”
- Robert A. Minlos: “开始时仅有一个结果已知,即自由能总存在”

## Poincaré's period: 1964– 回归自然

- Random fields (1964)
- Interacting particle systems. R.L. Dobrushin, F. Spitzer (1970). D.A. Dawson
- Percolation. H. Kesten (1982): Percolation Theory for Mathematicians. Birkhäuser Verlag, Boston
- Large deviations, Malliavin calculus, stochastic differential geometry, quantum probability, Euclidean quantum field theory, free probability, Dirichlet forms, mathematical finance, stochastic PDE, etc



## 统计物理:

- 1977 之前, 平衡态(电影). Ising 模型.
- 1978 之后, 非平衡态(人体).
- 1977/12/8, I. Prigogine: Nobel prize lecture.
- 1977—, 北师大数、理、化非平衡统计物理联合讨论班.

平衡态  $\longleftrightarrow$  自共扼算子.

非平衡态  $\longleftrightarrow$  非自共扼算子.

相变现象  $\longleftrightarrow$  无穷维数学模型  $\longleftarrow$  有限维极限.

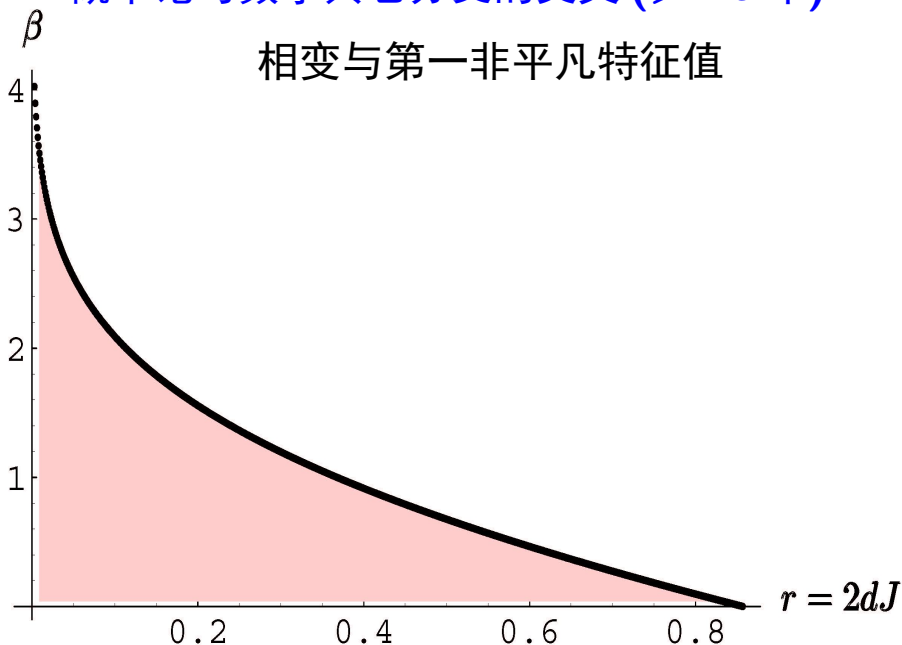
# 概率论与统计物理的交叉 (15 年):

- 有限维模型解的存在唯一性? 1978—1983. 极限过渡.
- 耦合(coupling)三部曲: 马氏, 最优, 距离.
- 保序性(随机可比性).
- 无穷维反应扩散过程(Chen: 1985).

- [1] From Markov Chains to Nonequilibrium Particle Systems. World Sci. 1992/2004. Part IV
- [2] Eigenvalues, Inequalities and Ergodic Theory. Springer 2005. Chapter 9
- [3] Practical criterion<sup>'86</sup> for uniq. of  $Q$ -processes, Chin. J. Appl. Prob. Stat. 2015, 31(2): 213–224

# 概率论与数学其它分支的交叉 (> 25 年)

## 相变与第一非平凡特征值



## The first (non-trivial) eigenvalue:

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} -b_0 & b_0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ a_1 & -(a_1 + b_1) & b_1 & 0 & \cdots \\ 0 & a_2 & -(a_2 + b_2) & b_2 & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

$$a_i > 0, b_i > 0.$$

$Q\mathbb{1} = 0 = 0 \cdot \mathbb{1}$ . Trivial eigenvalue:  $\lambda_0 = 0$ .

Question: next eigenvalue of  $-Q$ ,  $\lambda_1 = ?$

Elliptic operator in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ; Laplacian on Riemannian manifolds. Importance: leading term.

## Difficulties

**Example 1:** Trivial case (two points). Two parameters

$$\begin{pmatrix} -b & b \\ a & -a \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda_1 = a + b.$$

$\lambda_1$  is increasing in each of the parameters!

**Example 2:** Three points. Four parameters.

$$\begin{pmatrix} -b_0 & b_0 & 0 \\ a_1 & -(a_1 + b_1) & b_1 \\ 0 & a_2 & -a_2 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\lambda_1 = 2^{-1} \left[ a_1 + a_2 + b_0 + b_1 - \sqrt{(a_1 - a_2 + b_0 - b_1)^2 + 4a_1b_1} \right].$$

### Example 3: Four points.

Six parameters:  $b_0, b_1, b_2, a_1, a_2, a_3$ .

$$\lambda_1 = \frac{D}{3} - \frac{C}{3 \cdot 2^{1/3}} + \frac{2^{1/3} (3B - D^2)}{3C},$$

where

$$D = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + b_0 + b_1 + b_2,$$

$$B = a_3 b_0 + a_2 (a_3 + b_0) + a_3 b_1 + b_0 b_1 + b_0 b_2 \\ + b_1 b_2 + a_1 (a_2 + a_3 + b_2),$$

$$C = \left( A + \sqrt{4(3B - D^2)^3 + A^2} \right)^{1/3},$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{A} = & -2 a_1^3 - 2 a_2^3 - 2 a_3^3 + 3 a_3^2 b_0 + 3 a_3 b_0^2 - \\
& 2 b_0^3 + 3 a_3^2 b_1 - 12 a_3 b_0 b_1 + 3 b_0^2 b_1 + 3 a_3 b_1^2 + \\
& 3 b_0 b_1^2 - 2 b_1^3 - 6 a_3^2 b_2 + 6 a_3 b_0 b_2 + 3 b_0^2 b_2 + \\
& 6 a_3 b_1 b_2 - 12 b_0 b_1 b_2 + 3 b_1^2 b_2 - 6 a_3 b_2^2 + 3 b_0 b_2^2 + \\
& 3 b_1 b_2^2 - 2 b_2^3 + 3 a_1^2 (a_2 + a_3 - 2 b_0 - 2 b_1 + b_2) + \\
& 3 a_2^2 [a_3 + b_0 - 2 (b_1 + b_2)] + 3 a_2 [a_3^2 + b_0^2 - 2 b_1^2 - \\
& b_1 b_2 - 2 b_2^2 - a_3(4 b_0 - 2 b_1 + b_2) + 2 b_0(b_1 + b_2)] + \\
& 3 a_1 [a_2^2 + a_3^2 - 2 b_0^2 - b_0 b_1 - 2 b_1^2 - a_2(4 a_3 - 2 b_0 + \\
& b_1 - 2 b_2) + 2 b_0 b_2 + 2 b_1 b_2 + b_2^2 + 2 a_3(b_0 + b_1 + b_2)].
\end{aligned}$$

The role of each parameter is completely mazed!

Not solvable when space has more than five points!

**Conclusion:** Impossible to compute  $\lambda_1$  explicitly!

How about the estimation of  $\lambda_1$ ?

## Perturbation of eigenvalues

**Example 4:** Infinite tri-diagonal matrix  
(Birth-death processes).

$b_i (i \geq 0)$	$a_i (i \geq 1)$	$\lambda_1$	degree of eigenf. $g$
$i + \beta$ ( $\beta > 0$ )	$2i$	1	1
$i + 1$	$2i + 3$		
$i + 1$	$2i + (4 + \sqrt{2})$		

$g$ : eigenfunction of  $\lambda_1$ .



## Perturbation of eigenvalues

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$i + \beta$ ( $\beta > 0$ )	$2i$	1	1
$i + 1$	$2i + 3$	2	
$i + 1$	$2i + (4 + \sqrt{2})$	3	

## Perturbation of eigenvalues

**Example 4:** Infinite tri-diagonal matrix  
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$b_i (i \geq 0)$	$a_i (i \geq 1)$	$\lambda_1$	degree of eigenf. $g$
$i + \beta$ ( $\beta > 0$ )	$2i$	1	1
$i + 1$	$2i + 3$	2	2
$i + 1$	$2i + (4 + \sqrt{2})$	3	3

Sensitive. In general, it is too hard to estimate  $\lambda_1$ !

Bare-handed. Visited 黎曼几何<sup>3</sup>年, 调和分析<sup>13</sup>年 等

# Numerical computation

Two algorithms for computing the maximal eigenpair.

- **Power iteration.** Given  $v_0|_g \neq 0$ , define

$$v_k = \frac{Av_{k-1}}{\|Av_{k-1}\|} \text{ and } z_k = v_k^* Av_k.$$

- **Rayleigh quotient iteration** Given

$(v_0, z_0) \sim (g, \lambda_{\max}(A))$ , define

$$v_k = \frac{(A - z_{k-1}I)^{-1}v_{k-1}}{\|(A - z_{k-1}I)^{-1}v_{k-1}\|} \text{ and } z_k = v_k^* Av_k.$$

Then  $v_k \rightarrow g$  and  $z_k \rightarrow \lambda_{\max}(A)$ .

**Example:**  $a_{k+1} = b_k = (k+1)^2$ ,  $N = 7$ .  $10^3$

# Large $N$ . $\lambda_0 = 1/4$ if $N = \infty$ . $\leq 30$ Sec

Use  $\tilde{v}_0$  and  $\delta_1$ . Let  $z_0 = 7/(8\delta_1) + v_0^*(-Q)v_0/8$ .

$N+1$	$z_0$	$z_1$	$z_2 = \lambda_0$
$10^4$	0.31437	0.302586	0.302561

# Large $N$ . $\lambda_0 = 1/4$ if $N = \infty$ . $\leq 30$ Sec

Use  $\tilde{v}_0$  and  $\delta_1$ . Let  $z_0 = 7/(8\delta_1) + v_0^*(-Q)v_0/8$ .

$N+1$	$z_0$	$z_1$	$z_2 = \lambda_0$	upper/lower
8	0.523309	0.525268	0.525268	$1 + 10^{-11}$
100	0.387333	0.376393	0.376383	$1 + 10^{-8}$
500	0.349147	0.338342	0.338329	$1 + 10^{-7}$
1000	0.338027	0.327254	0.32724	$1 + 10^{-7}$
5000	0.319895	0.30855	0.308529	$1 + 10^{-7}$
7500	0.316529	0.304942	0.304918	$1 + 10^{-7}$
$10^4$	0.31437	0.302586	0.302561	$1 + 10^{-7}$

## Unified speed estimation of various stabilities

Theorem (Informal! 1988→2010–2014)

For tridiagonal matrix  $Q$  or one-dim elliptic operator (order  $2$ ) with/without killing on a finite/infinite interval, in each of **20 cases**, there exist explicit  $\delta$ ,  $\delta_1$ ,  $\delta'_1$  (and then  $\delta_n$ ,  $\delta'_n$ , recursively) such that  $\delta'_n \uparrow$ ,  $\delta_n \downarrow$  and

$$(4\delta)^{-1} \leq \delta_n^{-1} \leq \lambda_0 \leq \delta_n'^{-1} \leq \delta^{-1}, \quad n \geq 1.$$

Besides,  $1 \leq \delta_1'^{-1} / \delta_1^{-1} \leq 2$ .

State space  $E = (-M, N)$ ,  $M, N \leq \infty$ .

**Eigenequation:**  $Lg = -\lambda g$ ,  $g \neq 0$ .

Four boundaries. Use codes 'D' and 'N'.

**D:** (Abs.) Dirichlet boundary  $g(-M) = 0$   $\lim_M$

**N:** (Ref.) Neumann boundary  $g'(-M) = 0$ .

- $\lambda^{NN}$ : Neumann boundaries at  $-M$  and  $N$ .
- $\lambda^{DD}$ : Dirichlet boundaries at  $-M$  and  $N$ .
- $\lambda^{DN}$ : Dirichlet at  $-M$  and Neumann at  $N$ .
- $\lambda^{ND}$ : Neumann at  $-M$  and Dirichlet at  $N$ .

$$L = a(x) \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + b(x) \frac{d}{dx}, \quad C(x) = \int_{\theta}^x \frac{b}{a}$$

$$\text{Speed } \frac{d\mu}{dx} = \frac{e^C}{a}, \quad \text{scale } \frac{d\hat{\nu}}{dx} = e^{-C}.$$

Speed of  $L^2$ -exponential stability  $P_t = e^{tL}$



Theorem (C. 2010). For each # of 4 cases, the

**unified estimates**  $(4\kappa^\#)^{-1} \leq \lambda^\# \leq (\kappa^\#)^{-1}$ ,

where

$$\mu(\alpha, \beta) = \int_\alpha^\beta d\mu.$$

$$(\kappa^{\text{NN}})^{-1} = \inf_{x < y} \{ \mu(-M, x)^{-1} + \mu(y, N)^{-1} \} \hat{\nu}(x, y)^{-1}$$

$$(\kappa^{\text{DD}})^{-1} = \inf_{x \leq y} \{ \hat{\nu}(-M, x)^{-1} + \hat{\nu}(y, N)^{-1} \} \mu(x, y)^{-1}$$

$$\kappa^{\text{DN}} = \sup_{x \in (-M, N)} \hat{\nu}(-M, x) \mu(x, N)$$

1920–1972

$$\kappa^{\text{ND}} = \sup_{x \in (-M, N)} \mu(-M, x) \hat{\nu}(x, N)$$

$\mu$  and  $\hat{\nu}$ , factor 4

In particular,  $\lambda^\# > 0$  iff  $\kappa^\# < \infty$ .

1988–2010. Three probabilistic tools + 5 steps.

# Exp stability in $L^2$ or entropy

Semigroup  $P_t = e^{tL}$ .  $L^2(\pi)$ ,  $\|\cdot\|$ ,  $(\cdot, \cdot)$ .

$L$  self-adjoint:  $(f, Lg) = (Lf, g)$ .

$$\|P_t f - \pi(f)\| \leq \|f\| e^{-\varepsilon t}, \quad \varepsilon_{\max} = \lambda_1 := \lambda^{\text{NN}}.$$

Exponential stability in entropy

$$\text{Ent}(P_t f) \leq \text{Ent}(f) e^{-2\sigma t}, \quad t \geq 0,$$

$$\text{Ent}(f) := H(\mu \| \pi) = \int_E f \log f d\pi \quad \text{if} \quad \frac{d\mu}{d\pi} = f$$

# The $\varphi^4$ Euclidean quantum field on the lattice

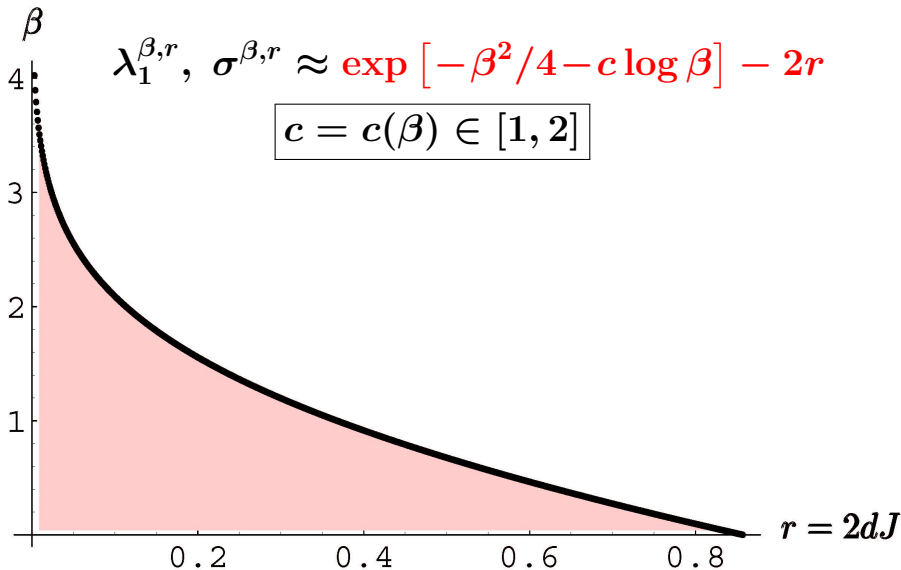
$$\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{Z}^d} \ni x: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}. \quad H(x) = -2J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} x_i x_j, \quad J, \beta \geq 0.$$

$$L = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}^d} [\partial_{ii} - (u'(x_i) + \partial_i H) \partial_i], \quad u(x_i) = x_i^4 - \beta x_i^2$$

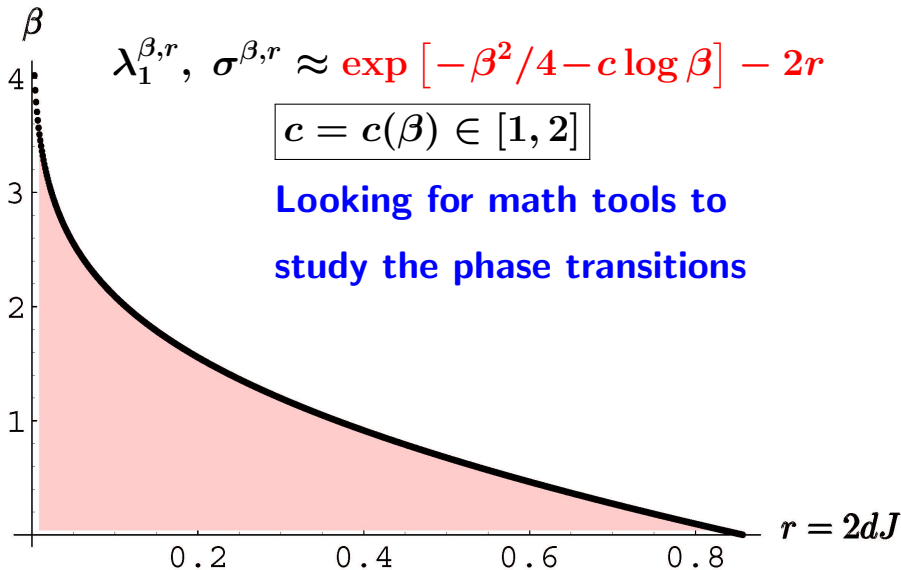
Theorem (C. 2008)

$$\begin{aligned} \inf_{\Lambda \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \inf_{\omega \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{Z}^d}} \lambda_1^{\beta, J}(\Lambda, \omega) &\approx \inf_{\Lambda \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \inf_{\omega \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{Z}^d}} \sigma^{\beta, J}(\Lambda, \omega) \\ &\approx \exp[-\beta^2/4 - c \log \beta] - 4dJ \quad [c = c(\beta) \in [1, 2]] \end{aligned}$$

# Phase transition: the $\varphi^4$ model



# Phase transition: the $\varphi^4$ model



# For Further Reading I

 C. (2008)

*Spectral gap and logarithmic Sobolev constant  
for continuous spin systems*

Acta Math. Sin. New Ser. 24(5): 705–736

 C. (2010)

*Speed of stability for birth–death processes*

Front. Math. China. 5:3, 379–515

# For Further Reading II

 C. (2014)

*Criteria for discrete spectrum of 1D operators*



Commun. Math. Stat. 2014, 2(3): 279 – 309

 C. (2016) **Survey article, free downloadable!**

*Unified speed estimation of various stabilities*

Chin. J. Appl. Probab. Statis. 32(1), 1–22

# For Further Reading III

-  C. (2016): *Efficient initials for computing the maximal eigenpair*, preprint
-  C. and Zhang, X. (2014).  
*Isospectral operators*.  
Commu. Math. Stat. 2, 17–32




# For Further Reading IV

 C. and Zhang, Y.H. (2014).

*Unified representation of formulas for single birth processes.*

Front. Math. China 9(4): 761–796

 陈 (2005). 谈谈概率论与其它学科的若干交叉

<http://math0.bnu.edu.cn/~chenmf> 4 volumes

18 popularizing papers

*The end!*

*Thank you, everybody!*

谢谢大家!

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