

# Limit Theorems for Catalytic Branching Processes

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Ulm, September 2, 2013

# Introduction

- L. Doering, M. Roberts (2013)  
catalytic branching process with a single catalyst  
many-to-few lemmas, renewal theory
- E.B. Yarovaya (2012)  
branching random walk with finitely many sources of particle generation  
spectral theory of operators
- E.VI. Bulinskaya (2013)  
catalytic branching process with finitely many catalysts (CBP)  
auxiliary multi-type Bellman-Harris process

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# Description of CBP

- particles move according to an irreducible Markov chain  $\eta = \{\eta(t), t \geq 0\}$  having the state space  $S$  and generated by Q-matrix  $A$
- they branch at the presence of catalysts,  $W = \{w_1, \dots, w_N\} \subset S$  is the catalysts set
- having hit  $w_k$  ( $k = 1, \dots, N$ ), a particle, after an exponentially distributed time with parameter 1, either produces a random number of offsprings  $\xi_k$  with probability  $\alpha_k$  or leaves  $w_k$  with probability  $1 - \alpha_k$
- newly born particles behave as independent copies of their parent

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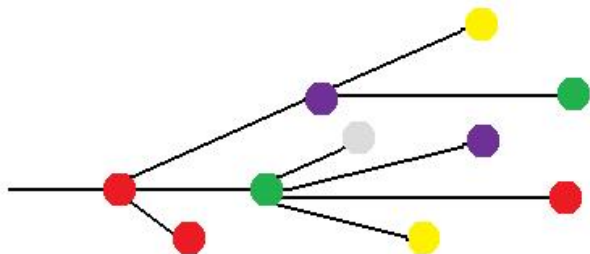
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# Multi-type Bellman-Harris Processes

- A particle of type  $i$  has a life-length with distribution  $G_i$ .
- Just before the death the particle of type  $i$  produces a random number of offsprings according to a generating function  $g_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, L$ .



# Method of CBP study

V.A. Vatutin, V.A. Topchii, E.B. Yarovaya (2003)  
auxiliary Bellman-Harris process (BHP)  
with two types of particles for study of a  
branching random walk with a single catalyst

E.Vi.Bulinskaya (2013)  
auxiliary Bellman-Harris process with  
 $\leq N(N + 1)$  types of particles for analysis  
of a catalytic branching process with  $N$  catalysts

# Auxiliary Bellman-Harris Process

The particles located at time  $t$  at  $w_j$  in CBP are the particles of type  $i$  in BHP.

Each particle in CBP that has left  $w_j$  at least once within time interval  $[0, t]$  and upon the last leaving  $w_j$  has not yet reached  $W$  by time  $t$  but eventually will hit  $w_k$  before possible hitting  $W \setminus \{w_k\}$  is of the  $(jN + k)$ -th type in BHP.

We have constructed a Bellman-Harris process with  $\leq N(N + 1)$  types of particles.

# Classification of CBP

Let  $M = (m_{ij})$  be the mean matrix of BHP, i.e.  $m_{ij}$  is the mean number of the offsprings of type  $j$  produced by a particle of type  $i$ .

$M$  is an irreducible matrix. Therefore, according to the Perron-Frobenius theorem  $M$  has a positive eigenvalue  $\rho(M)$  with maximal modulus which is called the Perron root.

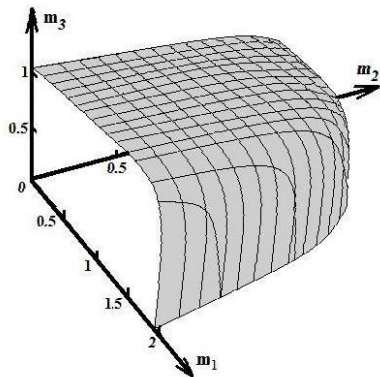
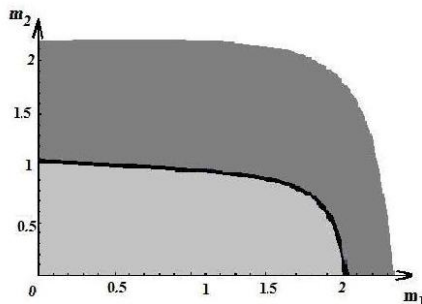
**Definition** by E.VI. Bulinskaya (2013)

CBP is called supercritical, critical or subcritical if  $\rho(M) > 1$ ,  $\rho(M) = 1$  or  $\rho(M) < 1$ , respectively.

# Structure of the Criticality Set

For  $\mathbb{E}\xi_i = m_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$ ,  
the criticality set is

$$C = \{(m_1, \dots, m_N) \in \mathbb{R}_+^N : \rho(M) = 1\}.$$



# Notation

Let  $\mu(t; y)$  be the number of particles at site  $y$  at time  $t$  in CBP. In other words,  $\mu(t; y)$  is the local particles number.

Set  $\mu(t) = \sum_{y \in S} \mu(t; y)$ , i.e.  $\mu(t)$  is the total number of particles at time  $t$ .

Put also

$$m_n(t; x, y) = \mathbb{E}_x \mu(t; y) (\mu(t; y) - 1) \dots (\mu(t; y) - n + 1),$$

$$M_n(t; x) = \mathbb{E}_x \mu(t) (\mu(t) - 1) \dots (\mu(t) - n + 1).$$

# Main results

## Theorem (E.VI. Bulinskaya (2013))

Let  $x, y \in \mathcal{S}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . If  $\rho(M) > 1$  then for some  $\lambda > 0$  and  $a_n(x, y), A_n(x) > 0$  one has

$$m_n(t; x, y) \sim a_n(x, y)e^{\lambda t}, \quad M_n(t; x) \sim A_n(x)e^{\lambda t}.$$

If  $\rho(M) = 1$  then

$$m_n(t; x, y) \sim b_n(x, y)t^{n-1}, \quad M_n(t; x) \sim B_n(x)t^{2n-1}.$$

If  $\rho(M) < 1$  then

$$m_n(t; x, y) \rightarrow 0, \quad M_n(t; x) \rightarrow C_n(x),$$

for some  $b_n(x, y), B_n(x), C_n(x) \geq 0$ .

## Theorem (E.VI. Bulinskaya (2013))

*Let matrix  $A$  have uniformly bounded elements,  $\rho(M) > 1$  and  $\mathbb{E}\xi_i^2 < \infty$  for each  $i = 1, \dots, N$ . Then the following relations hold true*

$$\mu(t; \mathbf{y})e^{-\lambda t} \rightarrow \nu(\mathbf{y}), \quad \mu(t)e^{-\lambda t} \rightarrow \nu \quad \text{a.s.},$$

*as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , where  $\nu(\mathbf{y})$ ,  $\mathbf{y} \in S$ , and  $\nu$  are certain non-trivial nonnegative random variables.*

To prove the theorems we employ  
results for the Bellman-Harris processes  
(K.S. Crump (1970), Ch.J. Mode (1971),  
N. Kaplan (1975))  
and hitting times under taboo.



# Hitting Times under Taboo

Let  $\tau_x$  be the first exit time from  $x$  on the set  $\{\eta(0) = x\}$  and let  $H$  be the taboo set,  $H \subset S$ . The hitting time of  $y$  under the taboo  $H$  is  ${}^H\tau_{x,y}$  defined on the set  $\{\eta(0) = x\}$  as  $\inf\{t \geq \tau_x : \eta(t) = y, \eta(u) \notin H, \tau_x < u < t\}$  (as usual,  $\inf\{t \in \emptyset\} = \infty$ ).

K.L. Chung (1960),

R.L. Tweedie (1974),

J. Kemeny, L. Snell, A. Knapp, D. Griffeath (1976),

A.M. Zubkov (1980),

R. Syski (1992), ...,

E.V. Bulinskaya (2013).