

Continuous state branching processes in random environments.

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CIMAT

CB-processes.

A continuous-state branching process (or CB-process) is a non-negative valued strong Markov process with probabilities $(\mathbb{P}_x, x \geq 0)$ such that for any $x, y \geq 0$, \mathbb{P}_{x+y} is equal in law to the convolution of \mathbb{P}_x and \mathbb{P}_y .

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In particular,

$$\mathbb{E}_x \left[e^{-\lambda Y_t} \right] = \exp\{-xu_t(\lambda)\}, \quad \text{for } \lambda \geq 0,$$

for some function $u_t(\lambda)$.

The function $u_t(\lambda)$ is determined by the integral equation

$$\int_{u_t(\lambda)}^{\lambda} \frac{1}{\psi(u)} du = t$$

where ψ (**branching mechanism** of Y) satisfies the Lévy-Khinchine formula

$$\psi(\lambda) = -a\lambda + \gamma^2\lambda^2 + \int_{(0,\infty)} (e^{-\lambda x} - 1 + \lambda x \mathbf{1}_{\{x < 1\}}) \mu(dx),$$

where $a \in \mathbb{R}$, $\gamma \geq 0$ and μ is a σ -finite measure such that

$$\int_{(0,\infty)} (1 \wedge x^2) \mu(dx) < \infty.$$

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Observe $\mathbb{E}_x[Y_t] = xe^{-\psi'(0^+)t}$. Hence, in respective order, a CB-process is called **supercritical**, **critical** or **subcritical** accordingly as $\psi'(0^+) < 0$, $\psi'(0^+) = 0$ or $\psi'(0^+) > 0$.

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A CB-process Y with branching mechanism ψ has a finite time **extinction** almost surely if and only if

$$\int^{\infty} \frac{du}{\psi(u)} < \infty \quad \text{and} \quad \psi'(0+) \geq 0.$$

A CB-process can also be defined as the unique non-negative strong solution of the stochastic differential equation

$$\begin{aligned}
 Y_t = & Y_0 + a \int_0^t Y_s ds + \int_0^t \sqrt{2\gamma^2 Y_s} dB_s \\
 & + \int_0^t \int_{(0,1)} \int_0^{Y_{s-}} z \tilde{N}(ds, dz, du) + \int_0^t \int_{[1,\infty)} \int_0^{Y_{s-}} z N(ds, dz, du),
 \end{aligned}$$

where $B = (B_t, t \geq 0)$ is a standard Brownian motion, N is a Poisson random measure independent of B , with intensity $ds \otimes \mu(dz) \otimes du$ and \tilde{N} is its compensated version.

CB-process in a Lévy random environment

We introduce a continuous state branching process in a Lévy random environment (CBLRE) as the unique non-negative strong solution of the stochastic differential equation

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 Z_t = & Z_0 + a \int_0^t Z_s ds + \int_0^t \sqrt{2\gamma^2 Z_s} dB_s \\
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 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_t = & \alpha t + \sigma B_t^{(e)} + \int_0^t \int_{(-1,1)} (e^z - 1) \tilde{N}^{(e)}(ds, dz) \\
 & + \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R} \setminus (-1,1)} (e^z - 1) N^{(e)}(ds, dz),
 \end{aligned}$$

with $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\sigma \geq 0$, $B^{(e)} = (B_t^{(e)}, t \geq 0)$ is a standard Brownian motion and $N^{(e)}(ds, dz)$ is a Poisson random measure in $\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}$ independent of $B^{(e)}$ with intensity $ds\pi(dy)$, $\tilde{N}^{(e)}$ its compensated version and π is a σ -finite measure satisfying

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} (1 \wedge z^2)\pi(dz) < \infty.$$

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We define the auxiliary process

$$K_t = \mathbf{m}t + \sigma B_t^{(e)} + \int_0^t \int_{(-1,1)} v \tilde{N}^{(e)}(ds, dv) + \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R} \setminus (-1,1)} v N^{(e)}(ds, dv),$$

where

$$\mathbf{m} = \alpha - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} - \int_{(-1,1)} (e^v - 1 - v) \pi(dv).$$

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Theorem

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Theorem

The previous stochastic differential equation has a unique non-negative strong solution. The process $Z = (Z_t, t \geq 0)$ is a Markov process and, conditionally on K , it satisfies the branching property.

Moreover if $|\psi'(0+)| < \infty$, then the auxiliary process can be taken as $K_t^{(0)} = K_t + \psi'(0+)t$ and for any $t > 0$

$$\mathbb{E}_z \left[\exp \left\{ -\lambda Z_t e^{-K_t^{(0)}} \right\} \middle| K \right] = \exp \left\{ -z v_t(0, \lambda, K^{(0)}) \right\} \quad a.s.,$$

where for every $(\lambda, \delta) \in (\mathbb{R}_+, D(\mathbb{R}_+))$, $v_t : s \in [0, t] \mapsto v_t(s, \lambda, \delta)$ is the unique solution of the backward differential equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial s} v_t(s, \lambda, K^{(0)}) = e^{K_s^{(0)}} \psi_0(v_t(s, \lambda, K^{(0)}) e^{-K_s^{(0)}}), \quad v_t(t, \lambda, K^{(0)}) = \lambda,$$

and

$$\psi_0(\lambda) = \psi(\lambda) - \lambda\psi'(0) = \gamma^2\lambda^2 + \int_{(0,\infty)} (e^{-\lambda x} - 1 + \lambda x)\mu(dx).$$

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Neveu's branching process: This example correspond to the case when

$$\psi(u) = u \log u, \quad u \geq 0.$$

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Neveu's branching process: This example correspond to the case when

$$\psi(u) = u \log u, \quad u \geq 0.$$

Observe that $\psi'(0+) = -\infty$. In this case

$$v_t(s, \lambda, K) = \exp \left\{ e^s \int_s^t e^{-u} K_u du + \log \lambda e^{-(t-s)} \right\}.$$

Then,

$$\mathbb{E}_z \left[\exp \left\{ -\lambda Z_t e^{-K_t} \right\} \middle| K \right] = \exp \left\{ -z \lambda e^{-t} \exp \left\{ \int_0^t e^{-s} K_s ds \right\} \right\} \quad a.s.,$$

which implies that

$$\mathbb{P}_z \left(Z_t > 0 \middle| K \right) = 1, \quad t > 0.$$

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Feller's diffusion If $a = \mu(0, \infty) = 0$, the CBBRE is given by

$$Z_t = Z_0 + \alpha \int_0^t Z_s ds + \sigma \int_0^t Z_s dS_s + \int_0^t \sqrt{2\gamma^2 Z_s} dB_s.$$

Then,

$$\mathbb{E}_z \left[\exp \left\{ -\lambda Z_t e^{-Kt} \right\} \middle| K \right] = \exp \left\{ -z \lambda e^{-t} \exp \left\{ \int_0^t e^{-s} K_s ds \right\} \right\} \quad a.s.,$$

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Stable case. Here, the branching mechanism is of the form

$$\psi(\lambda) = -a\lambda + c_\beta \lambda^{\beta+1}, \quad \lambda \geq 0,$$

for some $\beta \in (-1, 0) \cup (0, 1)$, $a \in \mathbb{R}$, and

$$\begin{cases} c_\beta < 0 & \text{if } \beta \in (-1, 0), \\ c_\beta > 0 & \text{if } \beta \in (0, 1). \end{cases}$$

In this case, we note

$$\psi'(0+) = \begin{cases} -\infty & \text{if } \beta \in (-1, 0), \\ -a & \text{if } \beta \in (0, 1). \end{cases}$$

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We use in both cases the backward differential equation of Theorem 1 and observe that it satisfies

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial s} v_t(s, \lambda, \delta) = -a v_t(s, \lambda, \delta) + c_\beta v_t^{\beta+1}(s, \lambda, \delta) e^{-\beta \delta s}.$$

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Therefore,

$$v_t(s, \lambda, \delta) = e^{as} \left((\lambda e^{at})^{-\beta} + \beta c_\beta \int_s^t e^{-\beta(\delta_u + au)} du \right)^{-1/\beta}.$$

Implying the following a.s. identity

$$\mathbb{E}_z \left[\exp \left\{ -\lambda Z_t e^{-K_t^{(0)}} \right\} \middle| K^{(0)} \right] = \exp \left\{ -z \left(\lambda^{-\beta} + \beta c_\beta \int_0^t e^{-\beta K_u^{(0)}} du \right)^{-1/\beta} \right\}.$$

Long-term behaviour

Similarly to the case of CB-processes, there are three events which are of immediate concern for the process Z , *explosion*, *absorption* and *extinction*.

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Proposition

Assume $|\psi'(0+)| < \infty$, then a CBPBRE Z with branching mechanism ψ satisfies

$$\mathbb{P}_z(Z_t < \infty) = 1, \quad \text{for all } t > 0.$$

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Stable case with $\beta \in (-1, 0)$. From the Laplace transform of \tilde{Z} (taking λ goes to 0), we deduce

$$\mathbb{P}_z(Z_t < \infty | K) = \exp \left\{ -z \left(\beta c_\beta \int_0^t e^{-\beta(K_u + au)} du \right)^{-1/\beta} \right\} \quad \text{a.s.,}$$

implying

$$\mathbb{P}_z\left(Z_t = \infty \mid K\right) = 1 - \exp\left\{-z\left(\beta c_\beta \int_0^t e^{-\beta(K_u + au)} du\right)^{-1/\beta}\right\} > 0.$$

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Moreover, if the process $(K_u + au, u \geq 0)$ does not drift to $+\infty$, we deduce that $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} Z_t = \infty$, a.s.

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On the other hand, if the process $(K_u + au, u \geq 0)$ drifts to $+\infty$, we have an interesting behaviour of the process Z ,

$$\mathbb{P}_z\left(Z_\infty = \infty\right) = 1 - \mathbb{E}\left[\exp\left\{-z\left(\beta c_\beta \int_0^\infty e^{-\beta(K_u + au)} du\right)^{-1/\beta}\right\}\right].$$

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Neveu case. By taking λ goes to 0 in the Laplace exponent of \tilde{Z} , one can see that the process is conservative conditionally on the environment, i.e.

$$\mathbb{P}_z(Z_t < \infty \mid K) = 1,$$

for all $t \in (0, \infty)$ and $z \in [0, \infty)$.

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i) If $K^{(0)}$ drifts to $-\infty$, then $\mathbb{P}_z\left(\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} Z_t = 0 \mid K^{(0)}\right) = 1$, a.s.

Proposition

Assume that $|\psi'(0+)| < \infty$. Let $(Z_t, t \geq 0)$ be a CBPBRE with branching mechanism given by ψ .

- i) If $K^{(0)}$ drifts to $-\infty$, then $\mathbb{P}_z \left(\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} Z_t = 0 \mid K^{(0)} \right) = 1$, a.s.
- ii) If $K^{(0)}$ oscillates, then $\mathbb{P}_z \left(\liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} Z_t = 0 \mid K^{(0)} \right) = 1$, a.s.

Moreover if $\gamma > 0$ then

$$\mathbb{P}_z \left(\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} Z_t = 0 \mid K^{(0)} \right) = 1, \text{ a.s.}$$

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iii) If $K^{(0)}$ drifts to $+\infty$ and

$$\int^{\infty} x \ln x \mu(dx) < \infty,$$

then $\mathbb{P}_z \left(\liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} Z_t > 0 \mid K^{(0)} \right) > 0$ a.s., and there exists a non-negative finite r.v. W such that

$$Z_t e^{-K_t^{(0)}} \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow \infty]{} W, \text{ a.s.} \quad \text{and} \quad \{W = 0\} = \left\{ \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} Z_t = 0 \right\}.$$

Moreover if $\gamma > 0$, we have

$$\mathbb{P}_z \left(\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} Z_t = 0 \right) \geq \left(1 + \frac{z\sigma^2}{\gamma^2} \right)^{-\frac{2m}{\sigma^2}}.$$

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It is important to note that in the Feller and stable cases, one can deduce directly that

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whenever $K^{(0)}$ does not drift to $+\infty$.

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$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} Z_t = 0, \quad \text{a.s.},$$

whenever $K^{(0)}$ does not drift to $+\infty$.

In the case when $K^{(0)}$ drifts to $+\infty$, we have

$$\mathbb{P}_z(\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} Z_t = 0 | K^{(0)}) = \exp \left\{ -z \left(\beta c_\beta \int_0^\infty e^{-\beta K_u^{(0)}} du \right)^{-1/\beta} \right\}, \quad \text{a.s.}$$

Stable case

Theorem

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- i)** *Subcritical-explosion.* If $\phi'_K(0+) < 0$, then there exist $c_1(z) > 0$ such that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}_z(Z_t < \infty) = c_1(z).$$

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- ii) *Critical-explosion.* If $\phi'_K(0+) < 0$ (+ some moments conditions), then then there exist $c_2(z) > 0$ such that

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- iii) *Supercritical-explosion.* If $\phi'_K(0+) < 0$ (+ some moments conditions) then there exist $c_3(z) > 0$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} t^{\frac{3}{2}} e^{\phi_K(\tau)} \mathbb{P}_z(Z_t < \infty) = c_3(z),$$

where τ is the value at which ϕ_K attains its minimum.

Theorem

Let $(Z_t, t \geq 0)$ be a the stable CBLRE with $\beta \in (0, 1)$. Then for all $z > 0$,

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- i) (Supercritical case) If $\phi'_K(0+) > 0$ (+ some moments conditions), then there exist $c_4(z) > 0$ such that

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- ii)** (Critical case) If $\phi'_K(0+) = 0$ (+ some moments conditions), then there exist $c_5(z) > 0$ such that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{t} \mathbb{P}_z(Z_t > 0) = c_5(z).$$

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- iii) (Weakly subcritical) If $\phi'_K(0+) = 0$ and $\phi'_K(1) > 0$ (+ some moments conditions), then there exist $c_6(z) > 0$ such that

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