

# Continuous state branching processes with immigration and GGC (generalized gamma convolutions)

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## Abbreviations:

**CBI-process** ← continuous state branching process with immigration

**GGC** ← generalized gamma convolution(s)

## The main result:

GGC satisfying certain conditions are **stationary distributions** of CBI-processes.

# CONTENTS

- §1 **The simplest case**  
Problem & answer
- §2 **CBI-processes due to Kawazu-S.Watanabe**  
Why infinitely divisible distributions ?
- §3 **Stationary distributions of CBI-processes**  
Ogura's formula for Laplace exponents
- §4 **GGC as stationary distributions**  
The main result and related topics

## §1. The simplest case

Prototype: **Gamma distribution** and **Laguerre operator** with  $\delta, b > 0$

$$\gamma_{\delta,b}(dx) = \frac{b^\delta}{\Gamma(\delta)} x^{\delta-1} e^{-bx} dx, \quad x > 0 \quad (1.1)$$

$$Lf(x) = xf''(x) + (-bx + \delta)f'(x) \quad (1.2)$$

enjoy the relation  $\int_0^\infty Lf(x)\gamma_{\delta,b}(dx) = 0$ .

Interpretation:  $\gamma_{\delta,b}$  is a **stationary distribution** of the Markov process generated by  $L$ .

**Problem** Given  $\delta_1, \delta_2, b_1, b_2 > 0$ , generalize  $L$  so that  $\nu := \gamma_{\delta_1, b_1} * \gamma_{\delta_2, b_2}$  is a **stationary distribution** of the associated Markov process.

(**Note:**  $b_1 = b_2 =: b \implies \nu = \gamma_{\delta_1 + \delta_2, b}$ )

**Answer** (within the class of CBI-processes)

$$Lf(x) = xf''(x) + (-bx + \delta)f'(x) + c\kappa^2 x \int_0^\infty [f(x+y) - f(x) - yf'(x)]e^{-\kappa y} dy$$

where  $\delta = \delta_1 + \delta_2$ ,  $b = (\delta_1 + \delta_2)/(b_1^{-1}\delta_1 + b_2^{-1}\delta_2)$ ,

$$c = \frac{\delta_1\delta_2(b_1 - b_2)^2}{(\delta_1 + \delta_2)(b_2\delta_1 + b_1\delta_2)}, \quad \kappa = \frac{b_2\delta_1 + b_1\delta_2}{\delta_1 + \delta_2}. \quad (1.4)$$

## §2 CBI-processes due to Kawazu-S.Watanabe

Limit processes from

**Galton-Watson processes with immigration**

Discrete model:

Markov chain  $\{X_n\}$  on  $\mathbf{Z}_+ := \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  with

$$P(X_{n+1} \in \cdot | X_n = k) = P\left(\sum_{i=1}^k Y_i + Z \in \cdot\right) \quad (2.2)$$

$\{Y_i\}$ :  $\mathbf{Z}_+$ -valued iid,

( $Y_i \sim$  “**the offspring distribution**”)

$Z$ :  $\mathbf{Z}_+$ -valued r.v. indep of  $\{Y_i\}$

( $\#$  of **immigrating** particles)

The limit procedure (in the diffusion case)

- **Assumptions:**  $E[Y_i] = 1$  (**the critical case**),

$$2a := \text{Var}(Y_i) < \infty, E[Z] =: \delta, \text{Var}(Z) < \infty. \quad (2.3)$$

- **Rescaled processes:**  $x^{(N)}(t) := X_{[Nt]}/N \in \mathbf{R}_+$

By Taylor's theorem for each  $x \in \mathbf{R}_+$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$

$$\begin{aligned} & E \left[ f(x^{(N)}(\mathbf{1}/N)) \mid x^{(N)}(0) = [Nx]/N \right] \\ &= E \left[ f((Y_1 + \cdots + Y_{[Nx]} + Z)/N) \right] \\ &\sim f(x) + \frac{f''(x)}{2N^2} \sum_{i=1}^{[Nx]} \text{Var}(Y_i) + \frac{f'(x)}{N} E[Z] \\ &= f(x) + \frac{1}{N} (ax f''(x) + \delta f'(x)) =: f(x) + \frac{1}{N} L f(x) \end{aligned}$$

$L$ : generator of the limit process

More generally, consider **G-W processes with immigration**  $\{X_n^{(N)}\}$  with offspring distr's s.t.

$$E[Y_i^{(N)}] = 1 - \frac{b}{N} + o\left(\frac{1}{N}\right) \quad (\text{asympt. critical}),$$

$$2a := \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \text{Var}\left(Y_i^{(N)}\right), E[Z] =: \delta, \text{Var}(Z) < \infty.$$

Then  $x^{(N)}(t) := X_{[Nt]}^{(N)}/N$  converge as  $N \rightarrow \infty$  to the diffusion generated by

$$Lf(x) = axf''(x) + (-bx + \delta)f'(x). \quad (2.4)$$

**Remark:** It is known as the **CIR(Cox-Ingersoll-Ross) model** in mathematical finance.

Kawazu-S.Watanabe (1971) determined possible limit processes (we call **CBI-processes**).

- **generator** (in the conservative case):

$$\begin{aligned} Lf(x) = & axf''(x) - bxf'(x) \\ & + x \int_0^\infty [f(x+y) - f(x) - yf'(x)] n_1(dy) \\ & + \delta f'(x) + \int_0^\infty [f(x+y) - f(x)] n_2(dy) \end{aligned}$$

with  $a, b, \delta \geq 0$ ,  $n_i$  satisfying integrability (2.6).

**Note:**  $(a, b, n_1) \leftarrow$  **branching**  
 $(\delta, n_2) \leftarrow$  **immigration**



- **transition function**  $P_t(x, dy)$ :

$$\int e^{-\lambda y} P_t(x, dy) = \exp \left( -x\psi(t, \lambda) - \int_0^t F(\psi(s, \lambda)) ds \right),$$

where  $\psi(t, \lambda)$  solves

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t}(t, \lambda) = R(\psi(t, \lambda)), \quad \psi(0, \lambda) = \lambda, \quad \lambda \geq 0 \quad (2.7)$$

with “**branching mechanism**”

$$R(\lambda) = -a\lambda^2 - b\lambda - \int_0^\infty (e^{-\lambda y} - 1 + \lambda y) n_1(dy)$$

and “**immigration mechanism**”

$$F(\lambda) = \delta\lambda + \int_0^\infty (1 - e^{-\lambda y}) n_2(dy). \quad (2.10)$$

Infinitely divisibility of  $P_t(x, dy)$  follows from

$$\begin{aligned} & \int e^{-\lambda y} P_t(x_1 + \cdots + x_k, dy) \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^k \exp \left( -x_i \psi(t, \lambda) - \int_0^t \frac{1}{k} F(\psi(s, \lambda)) ds \right). \end{aligned}$$

Indeed, this implies

$$P_t(x_1 + \cdots + x_k, \cdot) = P_t^{(k)}(x_1, \cdot) * \cdots * P_t^{(k)}(x_k, \cdot),$$

where  $P_t^{(k)}(x, \cdot) \longleftrightarrow L$  with  $(\delta/k, n_2/k)$  in place of  $(\delta, n_2)$ .

**Interpretation:** Devide the country into  $k$  districts in which the same branching mechanism applies and every immigrating person chooses one district equally likely.

### §3 Stationary distributions of CBI-processes

Exploring  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int e^{\lambda y} P_t(x, dy)$  yields

Ogura's formula (1970): A CBI-process has a stationary distribution iff

$$\Phi(\lambda) := - \int_{0+}^{\lambda} \frac{F(u)}{R(u)} du < \infty, \quad \lambda > 0. \quad (3.1)$$

In this case, the stationary distribution, say  $\nu$ , is unique and

$$\int e^{-\lambda x} \nu(dx) = \exp(-\Phi(\lambda)), \quad \lambda > 0. \quad (3.2)$$

Remarks •  $b > 0 \implies (3.1)$  holds.

•  $(3.1) \implies$  “ergodicity” ; for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}_+$

$P_t(x, dy) \rightarrow \nu$  ( $t \rightarrow \infty$ ) weakly.

Because of **infinitely divisibility** of  $\nu$ , under (3.1)

$$-\int_{0+}^{\lambda} \frac{F(u)}{R(u)} du =: \Phi(\lambda) = q\lambda + \int_0^{\infty} (1 - e^{-\lambda u}) \Lambda(du)$$

for some  $q \geq 0$  and  $\Lambda$  (**Lévy measure**) on  $(0, \infty)$ .

**Problem**: Study the correspondence

$$(a, b, n_1, \delta, n_2) \longleftrightarrow (q, \Lambda)$$

**Example 1** (**CIR model and gamma distr.**)

$$a, b, \delta > 0, n_1 \equiv 0 \equiv n_2$$

$$\implies R(\lambda) = -a\lambda^2 - b\lambda, \quad F(\lambda) = \delta\lambda \quad \text{and}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(\lambda) &= \int_0^{\lambda} \frac{\delta}{au + b} du = \frac{\delta}{a} \log \left( 1 + \frac{a}{b} \lambda \right) \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} (1 - e^{-\lambda u}) \delta \frac{e^{-bu/a}}{au} du. \end{aligned}$$

**Example 2 (stable distribution [Ogura, 1971])**

Given  $0 < \alpha < \beta < 1$ , set  $a = b = \delta = 0$

$$n_1(dy) = y^{-(2+\alpha)} dy, \quad n_2(dy) = y^{-(1+\beta)} dy.$$

$$\implies R(\lambda) = -c_1 \lambda^{1+\alpha}, \quad F(\lambda) = c_2 \lambda^\beta, \quad \Phi(\lambda) = c' \lambda^{\beta-\alpha}$$

**Example 3 (Interpolating stable and gamma)**

Given  $0 < \alpha < 1$ ,  $\kappa \geq 0$ , set  $a = 0$ ,  $b = \kappa^\alpha$ ,  $\delta > 0$ ,

$$n_1(dy) = \frac{\alpha}{\Gamma(1-\alpha)} \left( -\frac{e^{-\kappa y}}{y^{1+\alpha}} \right)' dy, \quad n_2 \equiv 0. \quad (3.7)$$

$$\implies R(\lambda) = -\lambda(\lambda + \kappa)^\alpha, \quad F(\lambda) = \delta \lambda \quad \text{and}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(\lambda) &= \delta(1-\alpha)^{-1} \left[ (\lambda + \kappa)^{1-\alpha} - \kappa^{1-\alpha} \right] \\ &= \frac{\delta}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^\infty (1 - e^{-\lambda y}) \frac{e^{-\kappa y}}{y^{1+(1-\alpha)}} dy. \end{aligned}$$

**From now on** let  $n_2 \equiv 0$  and  $\delta > 0$ . Thus

$$Lf(x) = axf''(x) - bxf'(x) + \delta f'(x) + x \int_0^\infty [f(x+y) - f(x) - yf'(x)] n(dy)$$

with  $n$  s.t.  $\int \min\{y, y^2\}n(dy) < \infty$ .

**Remark:** Stannat (2005) gave, under the assumptions  $a, b > 0, c := \int yn(dy) < \infty$ , a formula

$$\frac{\Lambda(du)}{du} = \frac{e^{-(b+c)u}}{au} + \frac{1}{u} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (\text{k-fold integral} \geq 0).$$

$\longleftrightarrow$  **'perturbation' of a gamma distribution**

## §4 GGC as stationary distributions

Consider the “inverse problem”: Given  $\Lambda$ , find  $(a, b, n, \delta, n_2 \equiv 0) \longleftrightarrow (q = 0, \Lambda)$ .

Lévy measures for GGC:

$$\Lambda_m(dy) := \left( \int e^{-uy} m(du) \right) dy/y \quad (4.1)$$

with  $m$  (called the **Thorin measure**) satisfying certain integrability conditions.

Remarks: • The Laplace exponent ( $q = 0$ ) is

$$\Phi_m(\lambda) := \int \log \left( 1 + \frac{\lambda}{u} \right) m(du), \quad \lambda \geq 0 \quad (4.2)$$

•  $m$ : **degenerate**  $\iff$  The GGC : a **gamma**

**Notation & convention:**  $\bar{m}_\alpha = \int x^\alpha dm$ ,  $\frac{1}{\infty} = 0$ .

**Theorem (the main result):**

$m$ : a Thorin measure s.t.  $0 < \bar{m}_0 < \infty$ ,  $\bar{m}_1 < \infty$

$\implies \exists$  a unique  $M(du)$  on  $(0, \infty)$  s.t.

$(q = 0, \Lambda_m(dy)) \longleftrightarrow$

$$\left( a = \frac{1}{\bar{m}_0}, b = \frac{1}{\bar{m}_{-1}}, n(dy) = dy \int u^2 e^{-yu} M(du), \delta = 1 \right)$$

Moreover  $M(\mathbb{R}_+) = \frac{\bar{m}_1}{\bar{m}_0^2} - \frac{1}{\bar{m}_{-1}} \geq 0$  (4.4)

**Example 6 (trivial case)**  $m$ : **degenerate**

$\iff M \equiv 0 \iff n \equiv 0 \iff$  **a CIR model**



Essence of the proof: We want to find  $R$  s.t.

$$-\int_0^\lambda \frac{u}{R(u)} du = \int \log \left( 1 + \frac{\lambda}{u} \right) m(du). \quad (*)$$

Recall that  $R$  is the branching mechanism;

$$R(u) = -au^2 - bu - \int_0^\infty (e^{-uy} - 1 + uy) n(dy).$$

Make the '**ansatz**'  $n(dy) = dy \int u^2 e^{-yu} M(du)$  to rewrite  $d(*)/d\lambda$  as

$$\frac{1}{a\lambda + b + \lambda \int \frac{M(du)}{\lambda + u}} = \int \frac{m(du)}{\lambda + u}, \quad \lambda > 0. \quad (**)$$

Use a characterization of **Stieltjes transforms** to prove the existence of  $M$  solving (\*\*).

### Characterization of Stieltjes transforms:

Let  $0 < c < \infty$ . An analytic function  $g(z)$  on  $\{\operatorname{Im} z > 0\}$  is of the form

$$g(z) = \int \frac{1}{z - u} M(du) =: G_M(z), \operatorname{Im} z > 0$$

for some  $M(du)$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $M(\mathbb{R}) = c$  iff

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bullet \operatorname{Im} z > 0 \implies \operatorname{Im} g(z) \leq 0 \\ \bullet (iy)g(iy) \rightarrow c \quad (0 < y \rightarrow \infty). \end{array} \right.$$

Our equation (\*\*) reads

$$\frac{1}{az - b - zG_M(z)} = G_m(z), \operatorname{Im} z \neq 0. \quad (\text{ST})$$

**Example 7** (Solving the ‘simplest problem’):

Consider  $m(du) = \delta_1 \delta_{b_1}(du) + \delta_2 \delta_{b_2}(du)$  and **suppose**  $M(du) = c \delta_\kappa(du)$ .

Then (\*\*) becomes

$$\frac{\delta_1}{\lambda + b_1} + \frac{\delta_2}{\lambda + b_2} = \frac{1}{a\lambda + b + \frac{c\lambda}{\lambda + \kappa}}, \quad \lambda > 0, \quad (4.6)$$

which suffices to determine  $a, b, c, \kappa$  uniquely.

**A generalization:**

$$m(du) = \sum_{i=1}^l \delta_i \delta_{b_i}(du) \quad \text{with } \delta_i > 0, 0 < b_1 < \cdots < b_l \implies M(du) =$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{l-1} c_i \delta_{\kappa_i}(du) \quad \text{with } c_i > 0 \text{ and}$$

$$b_1 < \kappa_1 < b_2 < \kappa_2 < \cdots < b_{l-1} < \kappa_{l-1} < b_l$$

### Absolutely continuous cases:

- For some examples of  $m(du) = f(u)du$  for which  $dM/dx$  are calculated by **the Stieltjes-Perron inversion formula**

$$M((s, t)) + \frac{M(\{s\}) + M(\{t\})}{2} \\ = -\frac{1}{\pi} \lim_{y \downarrow 0} \int_s^t \operatorname{Im} G_M(x + iy) dx, \quad -\infty < s < t < \infty,$$

see 例8 (4.7), (4.9) in the extended abstract.

- **Conversely**, given  $a > 0, b \geq 0$  and a finite  $M(du)$ , we can **find**  $m(du)$  via **(ST)**. See 例9 (4.11), (4.13) for an example.

(Unexpected) **connection with other contexts**

(1) **Free probability theory.** Let  $a > 0, b \geq 0$ . What is the fixed point of  $m \mapsto M$  ? i.e.

$$G_m(z) = \frac{1}{az - b - zG_m(z)} \quad \text{by (ST)}$$

or

$$G_m(z) = \frac{(az - b) - \sqrt{(az - b)^2 - 4z}}{2z}.$$

By inversion

$$m(du) = \frac{a}{2\pi(1+ab)u} \sqrt{(\beta - u)(u - \alpha)} \mathbf{1}_{(\alpha, \beta)}(u) du$$

$\propto$  **Marchenko-Pastur (free Poisson) law,**

where  $\alpha, \beta = a^{-2}(ab + 2 \pm 2\sqrt{ab + 1}) \geq 0$ .

(2) Boolean convolution. For prob. distr's  $m_1$  and  $m_2$ , the Boolean convolution  $m_1 \oplus m_2$ , **by definition**, linearizes 'the self-energy':

$$K_{m_1 \oplus m_2}(z) = K_{m_1}(z) + K_{m_2}(z),$$

where  $K_m(z) := z - G_m(z)^{-1}$ .

Proposition Let  $m_i (i = 1, 2)$  be Thorin measures s.t.  $(q = 0, \Lambda_{m_i}) \longleftrightarrow (a = 1, b_i, n_i, \delta = 1)$ . Then  $m_1 \oplus m_2$  is a Thorin measure and

$(q = 0, \Lambda_{m_1 \oplus m_2}) \longleftrightarrow (a = 1, b_1 + b_2, n_1 + n_2, \delta = 1)$ . Indeed, a version of **(ST)** with  $a = 1$  reads

$$G_M(z) = z^{-1}(z - b - G_m(z)^{-1}) = z^{-1}(K_m(z) - b).$$