

# On the associated martingale for a multitype branching process in random environment

Thi Trang Nguyen<sup>1</sup>

joint work with Quansheng Liu<sup>1</sup>, Ion Grama<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Laboratory of Mathematics of Atlantic Brittany  
(LMBA, UMR CNRS 6205)  
University of South Brittany, France*

Talk at the conference "2023 Probability Days "  
Angers, June 19-23



# What is the talk about

- 1 With a branching process in random environment (with one type on particles)  $(Z_n)$  one can associate a martingale which is used to show that (under assumptions) the size of the population explodes:

$$Z_n \asymp m_1 \dots m_n.$$

where  $m_k$  are the quenched reproduction means. For fixed deterministic environment ( $:=$  no environment) this simply reads

$$Z_n \asymp m^n.$$

- 2 A similar result holds for a **multitype branching process** (without environment = fixed deterministic environment). This is the famous Kesten-Stigum theorem.
- 3 However, until recently there was no completely satisfactory analog of this property in the case of a multitype branching process in random environment. **Previous results:** Cohn (1989), Jones (1997) [ $L^2$ -convergence of  $\frac{Z_n^i(j)}{\mathbb{E}_\xi Z_n^i(j)}$ ], Biggins, Cohn, Nerman (1999) [in  $L^p$ ], Le Page, Peigné, Pham (2019).

## Our contribution

- The main difficulty is the construction of the **associated martingale**, which is the main tool in establishing the K-S theorem.
- Our goal is to complement on the construction of this martingale in G.-Liu-Pin, AAP 2023, by considering a triangular array of martingales and by showing the convergence of its terminal values.
- Usefulness: this construction is used to prove the Berry-Esseen theorem, to establish Moderate deviations, and with the last developments also a precise Large deviation asymptotic (in progress).
- The construction of the associated martingale is related to a "new" version of the Perron-Frobenius theorem for products of random matrices.

# Outline

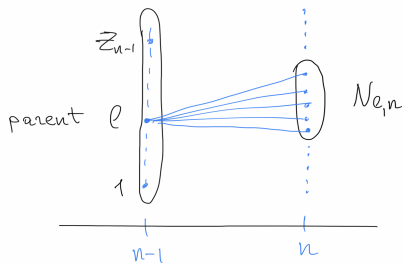
- 1 Start with the case of 1 type of particles.
- 2 Then we will pass to multitype case: Kesten-Stigum theorem.
- 3 We will state a Perron-Frobenius theorem for products of random matrices, construct the martingale and state an analog of the K-S theorem.

# Single-type BP

Consider a single type branching process in random environment:

$$Z_0 = 1, \quad Z_n = \sum_{l=1}^{Z_{n-1}} N_{l,n}, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

- $N_{l,n}$  is the number of children generated by the parent  $l$  in generation  $n - 1$
- $N_{1,n}, N_{2,n}, \dots$  are i.i.d. with p.g.f.  $f_n(s) = f_{\xi_n}(s)$ .
- The environment sequence  $\xi = (\xi_0, \xi_1, \dots)$  is i.i.d.



# The martingale for single-type BP

- 1 The reproduction mean in generation  $n$  is denoted by

$$m_n = m(\xi_n) = \mathbb{E}_{\xi_n} N_{l,n} = \frac{\partial}{\partial s} f_{\xi_n}(1).$$

This is a sequence of i.i.d. random variables depending only on  $\xi$ .

- 2 The following process is a martingale

$$W_0 = 1, \quad W_n = \frac{Z_n}{m_1 \dots m_n}, \quad n \geq 1. \quad \left( W_n = \frac{Z_n}{m^n} \right)$$

with respect to the quenched measure  $\mathbb{P}_\xi$  and the filtration

$$\mathcal{F}_n = \sigma\{\xi, N_{l,k}, k \leq n, \forall l\},$$

Proof: Use the simple fact that  $\mathbb{E}(Z_n | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) = Z_{n-1} m_n$ .

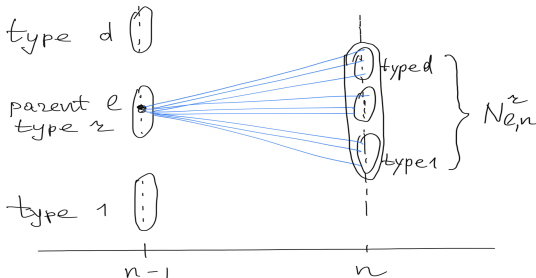
# Multitype branching process

Consider a branching process with  $d$  types of particles (no environment):

$$Z_n = (Z_n(1), \dots, Z_n(d)), \quad Z_n = \sum_{r=1}^d \sum_{l=1}^{Z_{n-1}(r)} N_{l,n}^r, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots,$$

- $N_{l,n}^r$  is the row-vector of children (of all types) generated by the parent  $l$  of type  $r$  in generation  $n-1$ :
- the sequence  $N_{1,n}^r, N_{2,n}^r, \dots$  is i.i.d. and independent of the past

$$\mathcal{F}_{n-1} = \sigma\{N_{1,n-1}^r, N_{2,n-1}^r, \dots\}.$$



## Matrix of the means

- 1 With a constant deterministic environment, the mean number of born children is a (constant non-random) matrix  $M$ , whose entries

$$M(r, j) = \mathbb{E} N_{l,n}^r(j)$$

are the mean production of children of type  $j$  by any parent of type  $r$ .

- 2 In an i.i.d. random environment  $\xi = (\xi_0, \xi_1, \dots)$  we will have matrices  $(M_n)$  changing with  $n$ :

$$M_n(r, j) = \mathbb{E} (N_{l,n}^r(j) | \xi) = \mathbb{E} (N_{l,n}^r(j) | \xi_n)$$

each depending on the environment variable  $\xi_n$ .

- Since the sequence  $(\xi_n)$  is i.i.d. it follows that the sequence of matrices  $(M_n)$  is also i.i.d.



## Kesten-Stigum theorem

Consider a MBP (no environment). The (non-random) mean matrix  $M$  is assumed to be primitive ( $M^k > 0$  for some  $k \geq 1$ ).

- Let  $\rho$  be the spectral radius of  $M$  which is dominating eigenvalue of multiplicity 1.
- By the Perron-Frobenius theorem, there exist unique  $u > 0$  and  $v > 0$  which are the right and left row-eigenvectors of  $M$ , that is

$$Mu^T = \rho u^T, \quad vM = \rho v, \quad \text{with } \|u\| = 1, \langle v, u \rangle = 1.$$

### Theorem (Kesten-Stigum 1966)

- 1 **Part 1:** for any  $1 \leq i, j \leq d$  it holds, with some r.v.  $W^i \geq 0$ ,

$$\frac{Z_n^i(j)}{\rho^n u(i)v(j)} \rightarrow W^i \quad \mathbb{P}\text{-a.s. as } n \rightarrow \infty. \quad (1)$$

- 2 **Part 2:** the limits  $W^i$  are non degenerate for all  $1 \leq i \leq d \Leftrightarrow \mathbb{E}Z_1^i(j) \log^+ Z_1^i(j) < \infty$ , for all  $1 \leq i, j \leq d$ .

Notation:  $Z_n^i$  means that the BP starts with 1 particle of type  $i$ .

## Equivalent formulation

- 1 In addition to the previous the Perron-Frobenius theorem tells that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\rho^n} M^n = u \otimes v$ ; in the component form becomes:

$$M^n(i, j) \sim \rho^n u(i)v(j), \quad \text{for any } 1 \leq i, j \leq d.$$

- 2 Then **Part 1 of the K-S theorem** (on previous slide) is equivalent to:

$$\frac{Z_n^i(j)}{\mathbb{E}_\xi Z_n^i(j)} = \frac{Z_n^i(j)}{M^n(i, j)} \rightarrow W^i \quad \mathbb{P}\text{-a.s. as } n \rightarrow \infty. \quad (2)$$

The relation (2) is an analog of the convergence stated for the BP with 1 type of particles. It can be rewritten (with  $x = e_i, y = e_j$ ):

$$\frac{\langle Z_n^x, y \rangle}{\langle x M^n, y \rangle} \rightarrow W^x. \quad (3)$$

- 3 Note that  $\frac{Z_n^i(j)}{M^n(i, j)}, n \geq 0$  is not a martingale as in the case  $d = 1$ .

# The associated martingale

- 1 The K-S theorem is based on the following martingale: for  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$W_n = \frac{\langle Z_n^i, u \rangle}{\rho^n u(i)} = \frac{\langle Z_n^{e_i}, u \rangle}{\langle e_i M^n, u \rangle}, \quad n \geq 0,$$

which converges  $\mathbb{P}_\xi$ -a.s. to  $W^i$ .

(Recall:  $u$  is the right eigenvector of  $M$ :  $Mu^T = \rho u^T$ ).

- 2 Proof. We use the simple property:  $\mathbb{E}_\xi(Z_n | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) = Z_{n-1}M$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_\xi(W_n | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) &= \frac{\langle \mathbb{E}_\xi(Z_n^{e_i} | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}), u \rangle}{\langle e_i M^n, u \rangle} \\ &= \frac{\langle Z_{n-1}^{e_i} M, u \rangle}{\langle e_i M^n, u \rangle} = \frac{\langle Z_{n-1}^{e_i}, u M^T \rangle}{\langle e_i M^{n-1}, u M^T \rangle} = \frac{\rho \langle Z_{n-1}^{e_i}, u \rangle}{\rho \langle e_i M^{n-1}, u \rangle} \\ &= \frac{\langle Z_{n-1}^{e_i}, u \rangle}{\langle e_i M^{n-1}, u \rangle} = W_{n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

- 3 Recall: until recently there was no extension to the case of a multitype BP in **random environment**. Why?

## Martingale extension: naive attempt

- 1 Recall that with a random environment, we have a sequence of i.i.d. matrices  $(M_n)$ .
- 2 By analogy with the K-S construction set: for any  $x, y$

$$W_n^x(y) = \frac{\langle Z_n^x, y \rangle}{\langle xM_1 \dots M_n, y \rangle}, \quad n \geq 0.$$

Question: what we should choose for  $y$  ?

- 3 Let  $y = y_n$  where  $y_n$  is the right eigenvector of the matrix  $M_n$ :  $y_n M_n^T = \rho_n y_n$ . Then, using  $E_\xi(Z_n^x | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) = Z_{n-1}^x M_n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_\xi(W_n^x(y_n) | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) &= \frac{\langle E_\xi(Z_n^x | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}), y_n \rangle}{\langle xM_1 \dots M_n, y_n \rangle} \\ &= \frac{\langle Z_{n-1}^x M_n, y_n \rangle}{\langle xM_1 \dots M_n, y_n \rangle} = \frac{\langle Z_{n-1}^x, y_n M_n^T \rangle}{\langle xM_1 \dots M_{n-1}, y_n M_n^T \rangle} \\ &= \frac{\rho_n \langle Z_{n-1}^x, y_n \rangle}{\rho_n \langle xM_1 \dots M_{n-1}, y_n \rangle} = \frac{\langle Z_{n-1}^x, y_n \rangle}{\langle xM_1 \dots M_{n-1}, y_n \rangle} \neq W_{n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

To get a martingale we need the property  $y_n M_n^T = \lambda_n y_{n-1}$ .  
Dolgopyat, Hebbar, Korolov, Perelman (2018). [Seneta (1981)]

# Recall the Perron-Frobenius theorem

## Theorem

Assume that the matrix  $M$  has positive entries. Denote by  $\rho = \rho(M)$  its spectral radius. Then

- 1  $\rho > 0$  and is an eigenvalue of the matrix  $M$ . Any other (possibly complex) eigenvalue in absolute value is strictly smaller than  $\rho$ . The eigenvalue  $\rho$  is simple and right and left eigenspaces associated with  $\rho$  are one-dimensional.
- 2 There exists a right eigenvector  $\mathbf{u} > 0$  such that  $\mathbf{M}\mathbf{u}^T = \rho\mathbf{u}^T$ .  
There exists a left eigenvector  $\mathbf{v} > 0$  such that  $\mathbf{v}\mathbf{M} = \rho\mathbf{v}$ .  
The vectors  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  can be chosen uniquely in such a way that  $\|\mathbf{u}\| = 1$  and  $\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = 1$ .
- 3 In addition, it holds  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\rho^n} M^n = \mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{v}$ , where the matrix  $\mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{v}$  is the projection onto the subspace generated by  $\mathbf{u}$ .

These statements extend to a primitive  $M$ , i.e.  $M \geq 0$  and  $M^k > 0$  for some  $k \geq 1$ .

# Perron-Frobenius theorem

- The point 3 of the previous theorem, i.e.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\rho^n} M^n = \mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{v},$$

can we rewritten in the following equivalent way:

- for any  $1 \leq i, j \leq d$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\langle \mathbf{e}_i M^n, \mathbf{e}_j \rangle}{\rho^n \langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{e}_i \rangle \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{e}_j \rangle} = 1,$$

- or, for any  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $x, y \neq 0$  (instead of  $\mathbf{e}_i, \mathbf{e}_j$ ),

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\langle x M^n, y \rangle}{\rho^n \langle \mathbf{u}, x \rangle \langle \mathbf{v}, y \rangle} = 1.$$

# A Perron-Frobenius theorem for random matrices

Consider the i.i.d. random matrices  $M_k$  indexed with  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Assume **condition A1**:

- 1 The matrices  $M_k$  satisfy  $M_k \geq 0$  and are **allowable** (every row and every column contains a strictly positive entry).
- 2 The **Hennion condition**:  $\mathbb{P}(\exists k \text{ such that } M_1 \dots M_k > 0) = 1$ .

This is an analog of the condition " $M^k > 0$  for some  $k \geq 0$ " (" $M$  is primitive").

# A Perron-Frobenius theorem for $(M_n)$

## Theorem 1.

Assume A1 (allowability + Hennion condition):

- 1 There exists a stationary and ergodic sequence of vectors  $u_n > 0$ ,  $\|u_n\| = 1$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ :

$$u_{n+1} M_n^T = \lambda_n u_n, \quad \lambda_n = \|M_n u_{n+1}\|.$$

- 2 There exists a stationary and ergodic sequence of vectors  $v_n > 0$ ,  $\|v_n\| = 1$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ :

$$v_{n-1} M_n = \mu_n v_n, \quad \mu_n = \|v_{n-1} M_n\|.$$

- 3 For any vectors  $x$  and  $y$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\langle x M_k \dots M_n, y \rangle}{d_{k,n} \langle u_k, x \rangle \langle v_n, y \rangle} = 1,$$

where  $d_{k,n} := \langle 1, 1 M_k \dots M_n \rangle = \sum_{i,j} M(i,j)$ .



## Relation to eigenvectors

- 1 Let  $\rho_{k,n}$ ,  $u_{k,n}$  and  $v_{k,n}$  be the spectral radius, the right and the left eigenvectors of the matrix  $M_k \dots M_n$ , i.e.

$$u_{k,n}(M_k \dots M_n)^T = \rho_{k,n} u_{k,n} \quad v_{k,n} M_k \dots M_n = \rho_{k,n} v_{k,n}.$$

with constraints  $\|u_{k,n}\| = 1$  and  $\langle u_{k,n}, v_{k,n} \rangle = 1$ .

We have a.s.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_{k,n} = u_k, \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{v_{k,n}}{\|v_{k,n}\|} = v_n. \quad (4)$$

- 2 Comparison with Hennion (1997) result: as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  the convergence for  $v_n$  holds only in law: for fixed  $k$

$$\bar{v}_{k,n} := \frac{v_{k,n}}{\|v_{k,n}\|} \xrightarrow{d} v_k \quad \Leftarrow \left( \frac{\langle \bar{v}_{k,n}, y \rangle}{\langle v_n, y \rangle} \rightarrow 1 \text{ a.s. unif. } \forall y \neq 0. \right)$$

# Associated martingale for MBPRE

- Using the sequence  $y_n = u_{n+1}$ , where  $u_n > 0$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  is stationary and ergodic and satisfies  $M_n u_{n+1}^T = \lambda_n u_n^T$  and  $\|u_n\| = 1$ , we obtain

## Theorem 2

Under A1 (allowability + Hennion condition), the sequence

$$W_n^x(u_{n+1}) = \frac{\langle Z_n^x, u_{n+1} \rangle}{\langle x M_1 \dots M_n, u_{n+1} \rangle}$$

is a positive martingale.

- By the martingale convergence theorem there exist the following limit

$$W_n^x(u_{n+1}) = \frac{\langle Z_n^x, u_{n+1} \rangle}{\langle x M_1 \dots M_n, u_{n+1} \rangle} \rightarrow W^x,$$

where  $W^x \geq 0$ . We shall discuss its non-degeneracy below.

- We still need to show a relation between  $W_n^x(u_{n+1})$  and the quantity we are interested in  $W_n^x(y) = \frac{\langle Z_n^x, y \rangle}{\langle x M_1 \dots M_n, y \rangle}$ .

## A triangular array of martingales

- 1 Again using the property  $E_\xi(Z_n | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) = Z_{n-1} M_n$  we can easily check that, for any  $n \geq 0$  and any  $x, y$ ,

$$W_{n,k}^x(y) = \frac{\langle Z_k^x M_{k+1} \dots M_n, y \rangle}{\langle x M_1 \dots M_n, y \rangle}, \quad k = 0, \dots, n$$

is a triangular array of finite time  $\mathbb{P}_\xi$ -martingales.

$$W_{00}^x(y)$$

$$W_{10}^x(y) \quad W_{11}^x(y)$$

$$W_{20}^x(y) \quad W_{21}^x(y) \quad W_{22}^x(y)$$

...

$$W_{n0}^x(y) \quad W_{n1}^x(y) \quad \dots \quad W_{nn}^x(y)$$

- 2 Its terminal values are exactly the quantities of interest:

$$W_{n,n}^x(y) = W_n^x(y) = \frac{\langle Z_n^x, y \rangle}{\langle x M_1 \dots M_n, y \rangle}.$$

# Kesten-Stigum theorem

## Theorem 3:

- 1 Assume: A1 (allowability + Hennion condition),  
A2 ( $\mathbb{E} \log^+ \|M_0\| < +\infty$ ).

Then 
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{W_n^x(y)}{W_n^x(u_{n+1})} = 1, \quad \text{in probability } \mathbb{P}, \quad \forall x, y. \quad (5)$$

conditioned on the explosion event  $E^x = \{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Z_n^x = \infty\}$ .

- 2 As a consequence, for any  $x$  and  $y$ , as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$W_n^x(y) = \frac{\langle Z_n^x, y \rangle}{\langle x M_1 \dots M_n, y \rangle} \rightarrow W^x, \quad \text{in probability } \mathbb{P}, \quad (6)$$

where  $W^x$  is the limit of the martingale  $(W_n^x(u_{n+1}))_{n \geq 0}$ .

This is the analog of the Part 1 of the Kesten-Stigum theorem (convergence to a limit).

The convergence is in probability only (since we have a triangular array of martingales).  
For the a.s. convergence we need some additional conditions.

## K-S theorem: a.s. convergence

- Assume additionally that for some  $p > 1$  and for all  $1 \leq r \leq d$ ,

$$\mathbb{E} \sup_{y \in \mathbb{R}_+^d \setminus \{0\}} \left( \frac{\langle Z_1^r, y \rangle}{\langle e_r M_1, y \rangle} \right)^p < +\infty \quad (7)$$

and

$$\mathbb{E} \|M_1\|^{1-p} < +\infty, \quad (8)$$

Then, for any  $x$  and  $y$ , as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , the convergence in the above theorem is  $\mathbb{P}$ -a.s.

# Non-degeneracy for supercritical MBPRE's

- 1 We prove the non-degeneracy of  $W^X$  for a supercritical MBPRE.  
What is definition of the supercriticality ?
- 2 The following strong law of large numbers has been established by Furstenberg and Kesten 1960: under A2 ( $\mathbb{E} \log^+ \|M_1\| < +\infty$ ),

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{n} \log \|M_1 \dots M_n\| = \gamma \quad \mathbb{P}\text{-a.s.}$$

- 3 The Lyapunov exponent  $\gamma$  allows to introduce the following classification of MBPRE's:

## Definition

We say that  $(Z_n)_{n \geq 0}$  is:

subcritical if  $\gamma < 0$ ;    critical if  $\gamma = 0$ ;    **supercritical if  $\gamma > 0$ .**

This def. sticks with the definition for a single-type BP.

# Non-degeneracy of $W^x$

- In the following we consider supercritical MBPRE's:  $\gamma > 0$ . We give a sufficient condition for the non-degeneracy of  $W^x$ .
- **Condition H2:** For all  $1 \leq r \leq d$ ,

$$\mathbb{E} \left( \frac{\langle N_{1,1}^r, u_1 \rangle}{\lambda_1 \langle u_1, e_r \rangle} \log^+ \langle N_{1,1}^r, u_1 \rangle \right) < +\infty. \quad (9)$$

## Theorem 3:

Assume: A1 (allowability + Hennion condition),

A2 ( $\mathbb{E} \log^+ \|M_1\| < +\infty$ ),  $\gamma > 0$  (supercritical).

- 1 Then H2 is a sufficient condition for  $W^x$  to be non-degenerate  $\forall x$ .
- 2 Furthermore, when  $W^x$ , for  $\forall x \neq 0$  are non-degenerate, we have  $\mathbb{E}_\xi W^x = 1$  for  $\forall x \neq 0$ ,  $\mathbb{P}$ -a.s.

# Necessary and sufficient condition

We need stronger conditions:

- (F-K) The Furstenberg-Kesten condition:  $\frac{\max_{i,j} M_1(i,j)}{\min_{i,j} M_1(i,j)} \leq C$
- **Condition H3:** For all  $1 \leq r \leq d$ , For all  $1 \leq r, j \leq d$ ,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{N_{1,1}^r(j)}{\langle e_r M_1, e_j \rangle} \log^+ \frac{N_{1,1}^r(j)}{\langle e_r M_1, e_j \rangle} \right] < +\infty.$$






## Theorem 5:

Assume: F-K, A2 ( $\mathbb{E} \log^+ \|M_1\| < +\infty$ ),  $\gamma > 0$  (supercritical).

- 1 Then H3 is a necessary and sufficient condition for  $W^x$  to be non-degenerate  $\forall x$ .
- 2 Furthermore, when  $W^x$ , for  $\forall x \neq 0$  are non-degenerate, we have  $\mathbb{E}_\xi W^x = 1$  for  $\forall x \neq 0$ ,  $\mathbb{P}$ -a.s.

Proof: we use the method based on size biased tree by Lyons, Pemantle and Peres (1995)  
[Biggins and Kyprianou (2004)].



-  Grama I., Liu Q., Miqueu E., Berry-Esseen's bound and Cramér's large deviation expansion for a supercritical branching process in a random environment, *Stochastic Process. Appl.*, 127, 1255-1281, 2017.
-  Grama I., Liu Q., Pin E., Convergence in  $L^p$  for a supercritical multi-type branching process in a random environment, *Proceedings of the Steklov Mathematical Institute*, 316, 169-194, 2022,
-  Grama I., Liu Q., Pin E., A Kesten-Stigum type theorem for a supercritical multi-type branching process in a random environment, *Annals Appl. Probab.* 33(2), 1013-1051, 2023.
-  Grama I., Liu Q., Pin E., Berry-Esseen's bound and harmonic moments for supercritical multi-type branching processes in random environments, Preprint.
-  Grama I., Liu Q., Pin E., Cramér type moderate deviation expansion for supercritical multi-type branching processes in random environments, Preprint.

# Thank you !!!

