

# Random linear recursions with dependent coefficients<sup>☆</sup>

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## Abstract

We consider the equation  $R_n = Q_n + M_n R_{n-1}$ , with random non-i.i.d. coefficients  $(Q_n, M_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , and show that the distribution tails of the stationary solution to this equation are regularly varying at infinity.

*Keywords:* stochastic difference equations, regular variation, Markov models, chains with complete connections, regenerative structure

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## 1. Introduction and statement of results

### 1.1. Outline

Let  $(Q_n, M_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  be  $\mathbb{R}^2$ -valued random pairs and consider the recursion

$$R_n = Q_n + M_n R_{n-1}, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}, R_n \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (1)$$

This equation has a wide variety of real world and theoretical applications, see (Embrechts and Goldie, 1994; Vervaat, 1979). Sufficient (in fact, close to necessary) conditions for  $R_n$  to converge in law, independently of  $R_0$ , to  $R = Q_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} Q_{-n} \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} M_{-i}$ , can be found in (Brandt, 1986).

The distribution tails of  $R$  were shown to be regularly varying in (Kesten, 1973; Goldie, 1991; Grincevičius, 1975; Grey, 1994) provided that the pairs  $(Q_n, M_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  form an i.i.d. sequence. In the setup of (Kesten, 1973; Goldie, 1991) the tails are in fact power tailed. Recall that  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called regularly varying if  $f(t) = t^\alpha L(t)$  for some  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  where  $L(t)$  is a slowly varying function, that is  $L(\lambda t) \sim L(t)$  for all  $\lambda > 0$ . Here and henceforth  $f(t) \sim g(t)$  (as a rule, we omit “as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ”) means  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} f(t)/g(t) = 1$ .

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The mechanisms leading to regularly varying tails of  $R$  are different in (Kesten, 1973; Goldie, 1991) versus (Grincevičius, 1975; Grey, 1994). In the former case, there exists a critical exponent  $\alpha$  such that  $E(|M_n|^\alpha) = 1$  and  $E(|Q_n|^\alpha) < \infty$ . Then,  $R$  is heavy tailed essentially because of one atypical fluctuation of  $S_n = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \log |M_{-i}|$ , which follows from renewal arguments for  $S_n$  under exponential tilt. Remarkably, while no particular tail behavior is assumed on inputs, exact power law tails appear in the output. In contrast, the critical exponent is not available in the latter case, where the tails of  $Q_n$  are assumed to be regular varied. The second case thus provides an instance of the phenomenon “regular variation in, regular variation out” for (1). This setup is appealing because it enables one to gain insight into the structure and fine properties of the sequence  $(R_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ , including the asymptotic behavior of its partial sums and extremes, see for instance (de Haan et al., 1989; Davis and Hsing, 1995; Konstantinides and Mikosch, 2005; Rachev and Samorodnitsky, 1995; Rastegar et al., 2010).

The goal of this paper is to study (1) with non-i.i.d. coefficients. The extension is desirable in many, especially financial, applications. See (Perrakis and Henin, 1974; Collamore, 2009). We remark that an extension of the main result of (Kesten, 1973; Goldie, 1991) to a Markov setup has been obtained in (de Saporta, 2005; Roitershtein, 2007; Collamore, 2009).

**Definition 1.1.** *The coefficients  $(Q_n, M_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  are said to be induced by a sequence of random variables  $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ , each valued in a countable set  $\mathcal{D}$ , if there exist independent random variables  $(Q_{n,i}, M_{n,i})_{n \in \mathbb{Z}, i \in \mathcal{D}} \in \mathbb{R}^2$  such that for a fixed  $i \in \mathcal{D}$ ,  $(Q_{n,i}, M_{n,i})_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  are i.i.d.,*

$$Q_n = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}} Q_{n,j} \mathbf{I}_{\{X_n=j\}} = Q_{n,X_n}, M_n = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}} M_{n,j} \mathbf{I}_{\{X_n=j\}} = M_{n,X_n}, \quad (2)$$

and  $(Q_{n,i}, M_{n,i})_{n \in \mathbb{Z}, i \in \mathcal{D}}$  is independent of  $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ .

Note that if  $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is a finite Markov chain, then (2) defines a *Hidden Markov Model* (HMM), see (Ephraim and Merhav, 2002) for a survey of HMM and their applications. Heavy tailed HMM are considered for instance in (Resnick and Subramanian, 1998), see also references therein.

### 1.2. Markov-dependent coefficients: regular variation in, regular variation out

First, we will impose the following conditions on the coefficients in (1).

**Assumption 1.2.** *Assume that the sequence  $(Q_{n,i}, M_{n,i})_{n \in \mathbb{Z}, i \in \mathcal{D}} \in \mathbb{R}^2$  is induced by a stationary irreducible Markov chain  $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  on a countable state space  $\mathcal{D}$ . Furthermore, suppose that there exists a constant  $\alpha > 0$  s. t.:*

(A1) *There is a slowly varying function  $L(t)$  and two sequences of constants  $(q_i^{(\eta)})_{i \in \mathcal{D}}$ ,  $\eta \in \{-1, 1\}$ , such that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P(Q_{n,i} \cdot \eta > t)}{t^{-\alpha} L(t)} = q_i^{(\eta)}$  uniformly in  $i \in \mathcal{D}$ . Moreover, we have  $\sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}} q_j^{(1)} > 0$  and  $\sup_{j \in \mathcal{D}} \max\{q_j^{(1)}, q_j^{(-1)}\} < \infty$ .*

(A2) *There exists  $\beta > \alpha$  such that  $\sup_{i \in \mathcal{D}} E(|M_{0,i}|^\beta) < \infty$ .*

(A3) *Let  $m_i^{(\eta)} = E(|M_{0,i}|^\alpha \mathbf{I}_{\{M_{0,i} \cdot \eta > 0\}})$ ,  $m_i = m_i^{(-1)} + m_i^{(1)}$ . Then  $\sup_{i \in \mathcal{D}} m_i < 1$ .*

(A4)  $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} P(M_{1,i} \leq \varepsilon) = P(M_{1,i} \leq 0)$  uniformly in  $i \in \mathcal{D}$ .

Let  $B_b = \{\mathbf{x} = (x_n)_{n \in \mathcal{D}} : \sup_{n \in \mathcal{D}} |x_n| < +\infty\} \subset \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{D}}$  be equipped with the norm  $\|\mathbf{x}\| = \sup_{n \in \mathcal{D}} |x_n|$ . Let  $H$  be transition matrix of the stationary backward chain  $X_{-n}$ , that is  $H(i, j) = P(X_n = j | X_{n+1} = i)$ . Define matrices  $G_\eta$ ,  $\eta \in \{-1, 1\}$ , as  $G_\eta(i, j) = m_i^{(\eta)} H(i, j)$  and set  $G(i, j) = m_i H(i, j)$ ,  $i, j \in \mathcal{D}$ . The spectral radius of  $G$  (operator in  $B_b$ ) is less than 1 by (A3).

Under Assumption 1.2, the tails of  $R$  and  $Q_0$  have similar structure. Denote  $\mathbf{q}^{(\eta)} = (q_i^{(\eta)})_{i \in \mathcal{D}}$ ,  $\mathbf{m}^{(\eta)} = (m_i^{(\eta)})_{i \in \mathcal{D}}$ ,  $\eta \in \{-1, 1\}$ , and  $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{q}^{(1)} + \mathbf{q}^{(-1)}$ .

**Theorem 1.3.** *Let Assumptions 1.2 hold and suppose that  $P(M_{0,i} > 0) = 1$  for all  $i \in \mathcal{D}$ . Then, for all  $i \in \mathcal{D}$ ,  $P(R > t | X_0 = i) \sim K_i t^{-\alpha} L(t)$ , where  $\mathbf{K} = (K_i)_{i \in \mathcal{D}} \in B_b$  is defined by  $\mathbf{K} = (I - G)^{-1} \mathbf{q}^{(1)}$ .*

Theorem 1.3 yields its analog without the restriction  $P(M_0 > 0) = 1$ .

**Theorem 1.4.** *Let Assumption 1.2 hold. Then,  $P(R \cdot \eta > t | X_0 = i) \sim K_i^{(\eta)} t^{-\alpha} L(t)$  for  $\eta \in \{-1, 1\}$ , where  $\mathbf{K}^{(\eta)} = (K_i^{(\eta)})_{i \in \mathcal{D}} \in B_b$  are given by*

$$\mathbf{K}^{(\eta)} = \frac{1}{2} \left( (I - G)^{-1} (\mathbf{q}^{(1)} + \mathbf{q}^{(-1)}) + \eta (I - G_+ + G_-)^{-1} (\mathbf{q}^{(1)} - \mathbf{q}^{(-1)}) \right).$$

Theorem 1.3 and 1.4 are proved in Sections 2 and 3, respectively.

### 1.3. Kesten's power law for coefficients induced by chains of infinite order

We next consider coefficients induced by process with infinite memory.

**Definition 1.5.** *A C-chain is a stationary process  $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  taking values in a finite set (alphabet)  $\mathcal{D}$  such that*

(i) *For any  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n \in \mathcal{D}$ ,  $P(X_1 = i_1, X_2 = i_2, \dots, X_n = i_n) > 0$ .*

(ii) *For any  $i_0 \in \mathcal{D}$  and any sequence  $(i_n)_{n \geq 1} \in \mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{N}}$ , the following limit exists:*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(X_0 = i_0 | X_{-k} = i_k, 1 \leq k \leq n) = P(X_0 = i_0 | X_{-k} = i_k, k \geq 1),$$

where the right-hand side is a regular version of the conditional probabilities.

(iii) *(fading memory) For  $n \geq 0$  let*

$$\gamma_n = \sup \left\{ \left| \frac{P(X_0 = i_0 | X_{-k} = i_k, k \geq 1)}{P(X_0 = j_0 | X_{-k} = j_k, k \geq 1)} - 1 \right| : i_k = j_k, k = 1, \dots, n \right\}.$$

Then, the numbers  $\gamma_n$  are all finite and  $\limsup_n \log \gamma_n / n < 0$ .

C-chains are a particular case of *chains of infinite order (chains with complete connections)*, see e.g. (Kaijser, 1981; Iosifescu and Grigorescu, 1990). The distributions of C-chains (a particular case of  $g$ -measures introduced in (Keane, 1972)) are Gibbs states in the sense of Bowen (also known as Dobrushin-Lanford-Ruelle states), see e.g. (Bowen, 1975; Lalley, 1986).

We have, see also (Berbee, 1987; Fernández and Maillard, 2004),

**Theorem A.** (Lalley, 1986) Let  $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  be a C-chain with alphabet  $\mathcal{D}$ ,  $\mathcal{S} = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} \mathcal{D}^n$ , and  $\zeta : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  be the projection into the last coordinate, i.e.  $\zeta((s_1, \dots, s_n)) = s_n$ . Then (in an enlarged probability space) there exist a stationary irreducible Markov chain  $(Y_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  on  $\mathcal{S}$ , and constants  $r \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\delta > 0$ , s. t. the following Markov representation holds:  $X_n = \zeta(Y_n)$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Furthermore, for any  $(y_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in \mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{N}}$  and  $s \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

- (i)  $P(Y_{n+1} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_t) | Y_n = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_s)) = 0$  unless either  $t = 1$  or  $t = s + 1$  and  $x_i = y_i$  for all  $i \leq s$ ,
- (ii)  $P(Y_{n+1} = (y) | Y_{n+1} \in \mathcal{D}, Y_n = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_s)) = P(Y_0 = (y) | Y_0 \in \mathcal{D})$ .
- (iii)  $P(Y_{n+1} \in \mathcal{D} | Y_n = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{mr})) = \delta$ , for all  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Moreover, without loss of generality, we can assume that

- (iv)  $r$  is **even** (see the beginning of the proof in (Lalley, 1986, p. 1266)).

The following result is proved in Section 4.

**Theorem 1.6.** Assume that the coefficients  $(Q_n, M_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  are induced by a C-chain  $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ . Furthermore, suppose that

- (i)  $|Q_0| < q_0$  and  $m_0^{-1} < |M_0| < m_0$ , a.s., for some constants  $q_0 > 0$ ,  $m_0 > 0$ .
- (ii)  $\Lambda(\beta) := \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log E \left( \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} |M_i|^\beta \right) \geq 0$  changes its sign in  $(0, \infty)$ .
- (iii)  $P(\log |M_0| = \delta \cdot k \text{ for some } k \in \mathbb{Z} | M_0 \neq 0) < 1$  for all  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $\mathcal{X} = (X_n)_{n \geq 0}$ . Then, with  $\alpha > 0$  defined below in (4):

- (a)  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} t^\alpha P(R \cdot \eta > t | \mathcal{X}) = K_\eta(\mathcal{X})$  for some bounded  $K_\eta : \mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{Z}^+} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ ,  $\eta \in \{-1, 1\}$ .  
Moreover, the convergence is uniform on  $\mathcal{X}$ .
- (b) If  $P(M_0 < 0) > 0$  then  $P(K_1(\mathcal{X}) = K_{-1}(\mathcal{X})) = 1$ .
- (c) If  $P(Q_0 > 0, M_0 > 0) = 1$  then  $P(K_1(\mathcal{X}) > 0) = 1$ .
- (d) For  $\eta \in \{-1, 1\}$ , if  $P(K_\eta(\mathcal{X}) > 0) > 0$  then  $P(K_\eta(\mathcal{X}) > 0) = 1$ .
- (e)  $P(K_1(\mathcal{X}) = K_{-1}(\mathcal{X}) = 0) = 1$  iff there is a function  $\Gamma : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  s. t.

$$P(Q_0 + \Gamma(X_0)M_0 = \Gamma(X_1)) = 1. \quad (3)$$

Moreover, if  $P(Q_{0,i} = q, M_{0,i} = m) < 1$  for all pairs  $(q, m) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  and any  $i \in \mathcal{D}$ , then  $P(K_1(\mathcal{X}) = K_{-1}(\mathcal{X}) = 0) = 1$  iff  $P(Q_0 + cM_0 = c) = 1$  for some  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ .

It turns out (see below, in Section 4) that the lim sup in (ii) is in fact a limit, and the parameter  $\alpha > 0$  is (uniquely) determined by

$$\Lambda(\alpha) = 0, \quad \text{where } \Lambda(\beta) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log E \left( \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} |M_i|^\beta \right). \quad (4)$$

We remark that condition (3) is a natural generalization of the criterion that appears in the i.i.d. case, see Theorem B in Section 4 below.

Following the idea of (Mayer-Wolf et al., 2004), Theorem 1.6 is obtained in Section 4 rather directly from its i.i.d. prototype (cited as Theorem B below) by applying a

Doebelin's "cyclic trick" and associating  $R$  to a linear recursion with i.i.d. coefficients. Though a reduction to the main results of (Roitershtein, 2007) is possible, it would anyway entail considerable extra work. The approach taken here enjoys the finite range and mixing properties of  $X_n$ , in addition to the existence of  $Y_n$ . It is much "lighter" than those used in (Roitershtein, 2007) for general Markov chains and in (de Saporta, 2005) for a finite state case, both built on techniques of (Goldie, 1991).

We conclude with the remark that, using the Markov representation for  $C$ -chains, it is straightforward to deduce the following from Theorem 1.4.

**Theorem 1.7.** *Assume that the coefficients  $(Q_n, M_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  are induced by a  $C$ -chain  $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ . Furthermore, suppose that there exists  $\alpha > 0$  such that:*

(i) *There is a slowly varying function  $L(t)$  and two sequences of constants  $(q_i^{(\eta)})_{i \in \mathcal{D}}$ ,  $\eta \in \{-1, 1\}$ , such that for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$   $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P(Q_{n,i} \cdot \eta > t)}{t^{-\alpha} L(t)} = q_i^{(\eta)}$ .*

(ii) *There exists  $\beta > \alpha$  such that  $\sup_{i \in \mathcal{D}} E(|M_{0,i}|^\beta) < \infty$ .*

*Let  $\mathcal{X} = (X_n)_{n \geq 0}$ . Then, for some bounded function  $K^{(\eta)}$ ,  $\eta \in \{-1, 1\}$ , we have  $P(R \cdot \eta > t | \mathcal{X}) \sim K^{(\eta)}(\mathcal{X}) t^{-\alpha} L(t)$ , a.s. Moreover,  $P(K^{(1)}(\mathcal{X}) \neq 0) > 0$ .*

## 2. Proof of Theorem 1.3

The key to the result is Proposition 2.1 extending the corresponding statement in (Grincevičius, 1975; Grey, 1994).

**Proposition 2.1.** *Let  $Y$  be a random variable such that:*

(i)  *$Y \in \sigma(X_n, Q_{n,i}, M_{n,i} : n \leq 0, i \in \mathcal{D})$ .*

(ii) *For  $\eta \in \{-1, 1\}$  there exist non-negative constants  $(c_i^{(\eta)})_{i \in \mathcal{D}}$  such that*

$$(a) \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P(Y \cdot \eta > t | X_0 = i)}{t^{-\alpha} L(t)} = c_i^{(\eta)}, \text{ uniform on } i \in \mathcal{D}.$$

$$(b) \sup_{i \in \mathcal{D}} c_i^{(\eta)} < \infty.$$

*Then  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P(Q_1 + M_1 Y > t | X_1 = i)}{t^{-\alpha} L(t)} = q_i^{(1)} + m_i^{(1)} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}} H(i, j) c_j^{(1)}$  uniformly on  $i \in \mathcal{D}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $(Y_i)_{i \in \mathcal{D}}$  be random variables independent of both  $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  and  $(Q_{1,i}, M_{1,i})_{i \in \mathcal{D}}$ , such that  $P(Y_i \leq t) = P(Y \leq t | X_0 = i)$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $i \in \mathcal{D}$ . It follows from  $P((Q_1, M_1, Y) \in \cdot | X_1 = i, X_0 = j) = P((Q_{1,i}, M_{1,i}, Y_j) \in \cdot)$  that

$$\begin{aligned} P(Q_1 + M_1 Y > t | X_1 = i) &= \\ &= \sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}} P(Q_1 + M_1 Y > t | X_1 = i, X_0 = j) H(i, j) \\ &= \sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}} P(Q_{1,i} + M_{1,i} Y_j > t) H(i, j). \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

By (Grey, 1994, Lemma 2), which is the i.i.d. prototype of our proposition,

$$P(Q_{1,i} + M_{1,i} Y_j > t) \sim t^{-\alpha} L(t) (q_i^{(1)} + c_j^{(1)} m_i^{(1)}). \tag{6}$$

To complete the proof, it suffices to show that the convergence in (6) is uniform on  $i, j$ . To this end we decompose  $P(Q_{1,i} + M_{1,i}Y_j > t)$  into individually tractable terms, as in (Grey, 1994, Lemma 2). Fix  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$  and write

$$P(Q_{1,i} + M_{1,i}Y_j > t) = A_{i,j}^{(1)}(t) - A_{i,j}^{(2)}(t) + A_{i,j}^{(3)}(t) + A_{i,j}^{(4)}(t), \text{ where}$$

$$A_{i,j}^{(1)}(t) = P(Q_{1,i} > t(1 + \varepsilon)), \quad A_{i,j}^{(2)}(t) = P(Q_{1,i} > (1 + \varepsilon)t, Q_{1,i} + M_{1,i}Y_j \leq t),$$

$$A_{i,j}^{(3)}(t) = P(|Q_{1,i} - t| \leq \varepsilon t, Q_{1,i} + M_{1,i}Y_j > t),$$

$$A_{i,j}^{(4)}(t) = P(Q_{1,i} \leq (1 - \varepsilon)t, Q_{1,i} + M_{1,i}Y_j > t).$$

By (A1),  $\frac{A_{i,j}^{(1)}(t)}{t^{-\alpha}L(t)}$  converges uniformly in  $i, j$  to  $q_i^{(1)}(1 + \varepsilon)^{-\alpha}$ . For  $A_{i,j}^{(2)}$  write

$$\begin{aligned} A_{i,j}^{(2)}(t) &= P(Q_{1,i} > (1 + \varepsilon)t, Q_{1,i} + M_{1,i}Y_j \leq t; Y_j < -\varepsilon t^{\frac{\beta-\alpha}{2\beta}}) \\ &\quad + P(Q_{1,i} > (1 + \varepsilon)t, Q_{1,i} + M_{1,i}Y_j \leq t; Y_j \geq -\varepsilon t^{\frac{\beta-\alpha}{2\beta}}) \\ &\leq P(M_{1,i}Y_j \leq -\varepsilon t, Y_j \geq -\varepsilon t^{\frac{\beta-\alpha}{2\beta}}) + P(Q_{1,i} > (1 + \varepsilon)t, Y_j < -\varepsilon t^{\frac{\beta-\alpha}{2\beta}}) \\ &\leq P(M_{1,i} \geq t^{\frac{\alpha+\beta}{2\beta}}) + P(Q_{1,i} > (1 + \varepsilon)t)P(Y_j < -\varepsilon t^{\frac{\beta-\alpha}{2\beta}}). \end{aligned}$$

To obtain a bound on  $\frac{A_{i,j}^{(2)}(t)}{t^{-\alpha}L(t)}$  tending to zero uniformly on  $i, j \in \mathcal{D}$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , we use (A2), Chebyshev's inequality  $P(M_{1,i} \geq t^{\frac{\alpha+\beta}{2\beta}}) \leq E(M_{1,i}^\beta) \cdot t^{-\frac{\alpha+\beta}{2}}$ , and the inequality  $P(Y_j < -\varepsilon t^{\frac{\beta-\alpha}{2\beta}}) \leq C(\varepsilon t^{\frac{\beta-\alpha}{2\beta}})^{-\alpha} L(\varepsilon t^{\frac{\beta-\alpha}{2\beta}})$ , which is true for some  $C > 0$  in virtue of condition (ii) of the proposition. A uniform bound on  $\frac{A_{i,j}^{(3)}(t)}{t^{-\alpha}L(t)}$  which tends to 0 as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  follows directly from (A1). Finally, denote  $g_{j,t}(a, b) = P(Y_j > a^{-1}(t - b))$ , fix constants  $m \geq 1$  and  $n \geq 1$ , and let  $A_{i,j}^{(4)}(t) = A_{i,j}^{(4,1)}(t) + A_{i,j}^{(4,2)}(t) + A_{i,j}^{(4,3)}(t)$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} A_{i,j}^{(4,1)}(t) &= E(g_{j,t}(M_{1,i}, Q_{1,i})\mathbf{I}_{\{Q_{1,i} \leq (1-\varepsilon)t\}}\mathbf{I}_{\{M_{1,i} > m\}}) \\ A_{i,j}^{(4,2)}(t) &= E(g_{j,t}(M_{1,i}, Q_{1,i})\mathbf{I}_{\{Q_{1,i} \leq (1-\varepsilon)t\}}\mathbf{I}_{\{M_{1,i} \leq m\}}\mathbf{I}_{\{|Q_{1,i}| > n\}}) \\ A_{i,j}^{(4,3)}(t) &= E(g_{j,t}(M_{1,i}, Q_{1,i})\mathbf{I}_{\{Q_{1,i} \leq (1-\varepsilon)t\}}\mathbf{I}_{\{M_{1,i} \leq m\}}\mathbf{I}_{\{|Q_{1,i}| \leq n\}}). \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $\frac{A_{i,j}^{(4,1)}(t)}{t^{-\alpha}L(t)} \leq E\left(\frac{g_{j,\varepsilon t}(M_{1,i}, 0)}{(M_{1,i}^{-1}\varepsilon t)^{-\alpha}L(M_{1,i}^{-1}\varepsilon t)} \frac{(M_{1,i}^{-1}\varepsilon t)^{-\alpha}L(M_{1,i}^{-1}\varepsilon t)}{t^{-\alpha}L(t)} \mathbf{I}_{\{M_{1,i} > m\}}\right)$ . Hence, by condition (ii)-(b) of the proposition,  $\frac{A_{i,j}^{(4,1)}(t)}{t^{-\alpha}L(t)} \leq E\left(\frac{CM_{1,i}^\alpha}{\varepsilon^\alpha} \cdot \frac{L(M_{1,i}^{-1}\varepsilon t)}{L(t)} \mathbf{I}_{\{M_{1,i} > m\}}\right)$  for some constant  $C > 0$ . By (Grey, 1994, Lemma 1), for any  $\delta > 0$  there is  $K = K(\delta) > 0$  such that  $\sup_{t>0} \frac{L(\lambda t)}{L(t)} \leq \max\{\lambda^\alpha, K\lambda^{-\delta}\}$  for all  $\lambda > 0$ . Using  $\lambda = M_{1,i}^{-1}\varepsilon$  and  $\delta = \frac{\beta-\alpha}{2}$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{A_{i,j}^{(4,1)}(t)}{t^{-\alpha}L(t)} &\leq E(CM_{1,i}^\alpha \varepsilon^{-\alpha} \cdot \max\{(M_{1,i}^{-1}\varepsilon)^\alpha, K(M_{1,i}^{-1}\varepsilon)^{-\frac{\beta-\alpha}{2}}\} \mathbf{I}_{\{M_{1,i} > m\}}) \\ &\leq E(CM_{1,i}^\alpha \varepsilon^{-\alpha} (M_{1,i}^{-\alpha} \varepsilon^\alpha + KM_{1,i}^{\frac{\beta-\alpha}{2}} \varepsilon^{-\frac{\beta-\alpha}{2}}) \mathbf{I}_{\{M_{1,i} > m\}}). \end{aligned}$$

Hölder's inequality with  $p = \frac{2\beta}{\alpha+\beta}$ ,  $q = \frac{2\beta}{\beta-\alpha}$  yields

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{A_{i,j}^{(4,1)}(t)}{t^{-\alpha}L(t)} &\leq C\varepsilon^{-\frac{\alpha+\beta}{2}} E\left[(1 + KM_{1,i}^{\frac{\beta+\alpha}{2}})\mathbf{I}_{\{M_{1,i} > m\}}\right] \\ &\leq C\varepsilon^{-\frac{\alpha+\beta}{2}} E\left[(1 + KM_{1,i}^{\frac{\beta+\alpha}{2}})^{\frac{2\beta}{\alpha+\beta}}\right]^{\frac{\alpha+\beta}{2\beta}} P(M_{1,i} > m)^{\frac{\beta-\alpha}{2\beta}} \\ &\leq C\varepsilon^{-\frac{\alpha+\beta}{2}} E\left[(1 + K^{\frac{2\beta}{\beta+\alpha}} M_{1,i}^{\beta}) \cdot 2^{\frac{\beta-\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}}\right]^{\frac{\alpha+\beta}{2\beta}} P(M_{1,i} > m)^{\frac{\beta-\alpha}{2\beta}}, \end{aligned}$$

where we used the inequality  $(x + y)^p \leq 2^{p-1}(x^p + y^p)$  which is valid for  $x, y \geq 0$  and  $p > 1$ . Since  $P(M_{1,i} > m) \leq m^{-\beta} E(M_{1,i}^{\beta})$ , it follows from (A2) that  $\frac{A_{i,j}^{(4,1)}(t)}{t^{-\alpha}L(t)}$  is uniformly bounded by a function of  $m$  which tends to zero when  $m \rightarrow \infty$ . The term  $A_{i,j}^{(4,2)}(t)$  is treated similarly, and we therefore omit the details. We next show the asymptotic of  $A_{i,j}^{(4,3)}(t)$ . If  $Q_{1,i} \leq (1 - \varepsilon)t$  and  $M_{1,i} \leq m$ , then  $M_{1,i}^{-1}(t - Q_{1,i}) \geq m^{-1}\varepsilon t$ . Hence, in virtue of (A1) and condition (ii) of the proposition, we have  $P$ -a.s., uniformly on  $i, j \in \mathcal{D}$ ,

$$\frac{g_{j,t}(M_{1,i}, Q_{1,i})\mathbf{I}_{\{Q_{1,i} \leq (1-\varepsilon)t\}}\mathbf{I}_{\{M_{1,i} \leq m\}}}{(M_{1,i}^{-1}(t - Q_{1,i}))^{-\alpha}L(M_{1,i}^{-1}(t - Q_{1,i}))} \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} c_j^{(1)}\mathbf{I}_{\{M_{1,i} \leq m\}}. \quad (7)$$

Furthermore, with probability one, uniformly on  $i \in \mathcal{D}$ ,

$$t^{\alpha}(M_{1,i}^{-1}(t - Q_{1,i}))^{-\alpha}\mathbf{I}_{\{M_{1,i} \leq m, |Q_{1,i}| \leq n\}} \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} M_{1,i}^{\alpha}\mathbf{I}_{\{M_{1,i} \leq m, |Q_{1,i}| \leq n\}}. \quad (8)$$

By (Bingham et al., 1987, Theorem 1.2.1), we have a.s., uniformly on  $i \in \mathcal{D}$ ,

$$\frac{L(M_{1,i}^{-1}(t - Q_{1,i}))}{L(t)}\mathbf{I}_{\{m^{-1} < M_{1,i} \leq m, |Q_{1,i}| \leq n\}} \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{I}_{\{m^{-1} < M_{1,i} \leq m, |Q_{1,i}| \leq n\}}. \quad (9)$$

By (Bingham et al., 1987, Theorem 1.5.6),  $\forall \delta > 0 \exists t_0 = t_0(\delta)$  such that

$$\frac{L(M_{1,i}^{-1}(t - Q_{1,i}))}{L(t)}\mathbf{I}_{\{M_{1,i} \leq m^{-1}, |Q_{1,i}| \leq n\}} \leq \frac{mt}{t-n} \cdot \mathbf{I}_{\{M_{1,i} \leq m^{-1}\}}, \quad t > t_0. \quad (10)$$

Estimates (7)-(10) along with assumption (A4) and the bounded convergence theorem show that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{A_{i,j}^{(4)}(t)}{t^{-\alpha}L(t)} = c_j^{(1)} E(M_{1,i}^{\alpha})$  uniformly on  $i, j$ .  $\square$

To enable us to use Proposition 2.1 iteratively we need the following:

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $Y$  satisfy the conditions of Proposition 2.1, and let  $\tilde{Y} = Q_1 + M_1 Y$ . Then  $\tilde{Y}$  satisfies condition (ii) of the proposition.*

*Proof.* Apply Proposition 2.1 to  $(Y, Q_1, M_1)$  and  $(-Y, -Q_1, M_1)$ .  $\square$

The next technical lemma is immediate from Proposition 2.1 and (A3).

**Lemma 2.3.**  $\exists$  a random variable  $Z \geq 0$  satisfying the conditions of Proposition 2.1, s. t.  $P(Q_1 + M_1 Z > t | X_1 = i) \leq P(Z > t | X_0 = i)$ ,  $t > 0$ ,  $i \in \mathcal{D}$ .

We are now in position to complete the proof of Theorem 1.3.

**Lemma 2.4.** For all  $i \in \mathcal{D}$ ,  $\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P(R > t | X_0 = i)}{t^{-\alpha} L(t)} \leq (I - G)^{-1} \mathbf{q}^{(1)}(i)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $R_0 = Z$ , where  $Z$  is as in Lemma 2.3. Then, for all  $t > 0$  and  $i \in \mathcal{D}$ , we have  $P(R_1 > t | X_1 = i) \leq P(R_0 > t | X_0 = i)$ . This yields:

$$\begin{aligned} P(R_2 > t | X_2 = i) &= \sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}} P(Q_2 + M_2 R_1 > t | X_2 = i, X_1 = j) H(i, j) \\ &= \sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}} P(Q_{2,i} + M_{2,i} R_1 > t | X_1 = j) H(i, j) \\ &\leq \sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}} P(Q_{1,i} + M_{1,i} R_0 | X_0 = j) H(i, j) = P(R_1 > t | X_1 = i). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $P(R_2 > t | X_2 = i) \leq P(R_1 > t | X_1 = i)$ . Iterating, we obtain

$$P(R_n > t | X_n = i) \leq P(R_{n-1} > t | X_{n-1} = i), \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, i \in \mathcal{D}, t > 0. \quad (11)$$

By Proposition 2.1,  $\frac{P(R_n > t | X_n = i)}{t^{-\alpha} L(t)} \sim [\mathbf{q}^{(1)} + \dots + G^{n-1} \mathbf{q}^{(1)} + c^* G^n \mathbf{1}](i)$ , where  $c^* > 0$  is a constant such that  $P(Z > t) \sim c^* L(t) t^{-\alpha}$  and  $\mathbf{1} \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{D}}$  has all components equal to 1. Since  $P(Z > 0) = 1$ , it follows from (11) that  $P(R_n > t | X_n = i) \geq P(R > t | X_0 = i)$  for  $n \geq 0$ . Hence,  $\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P(R > t | X_0 = i)}{t^{-\alpha} L(t)} \leq (I - G)^{-1} \mathbf{q}^{(1)}(i)$  for all  $i \in \mathcal{D}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.5.** For all  $i \in \mathcal{D}$ ,  $\liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P(R > t | X_0 = i)}{t^{-\alpha} L(t)} \geq (I - G)^{-1} \mathbf{q}^{(1)}(i)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{R} = Q_{-1} + M_{-1} Q_{-2} + M_{-1} M_{-2} Q_{-3} + \dots$ . Let  $R_0 \geq 0$  be independent of  $(X_n, Q_{i,n}, M_{i,n})_{n \geq 1, i \in \mathcal{D}}$ , s. t.  $P(R_0 > t) = P(\mathcal{R} > 0, Q_0 > t)$  for  $t > 0$ . Then  $P(R_0 > t | X_0 = i) \leq P(Q_0 + M_0 \mathcal{R} > t | X_0 = i) = P(R > t | X_0 = i)$ . We will now use induction to show that for  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$P(R_n > t | X_n = i) \leq P(R > t | X_0 = i) \quad \forall t > 0, i \in \mathcal{D}. \quad (12)$$

Specifically, assuming (12) for some  $n \geq 0$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} P(R_{n+1} > t | X_{n+1} = i) &= \sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}} P(Q_{n+1,i} + M_{n+1,i} R_n > t | X_n = j) H(i, j) \\ &\leq \sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}} P(Q_{1,i} + M_{1,i} R > t | X_0 = j) H(i, j) \\ &= P(Q_1 + M_1 R > t | X_1 = i) = P(R > t | X_0 = i), \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, uniformly on  $i \in \mathcal{D}$ ,  $\frac{P(R_0 > t | X_0 = i)}{t^{-\alpha} L(t)} = \frac{P(Q_{0,i} > t) P(\mathcal{R} > 0 | X_0 = i)}{t^{-\alpha} L(t)} \sim e_i$ , where  $e_i = q_i^{(1)} P(\mathcal{R} > 0 | X_0 = i)$ . Let  $\mathbf{e} = (e_i)_{i \in \mathcal{D}}$ . Then, by Proposition 2.1,  $P(R_n > t | X_n = i) \sim t^{-\alpha} L(t) \cdot [\mathbf{q}^{(1)} + G \mathbf{q}^{(1)} + \dots + G^{n-1} \mathbf{q}^{(1)} + G^n \mathbf{e}](i)$ . This completes the proof of Lemma 2.5 in view of (12).  $\square$



### 3. Proof of Theorem 1.4

The following result extends Lemma 4 of (Grey, 1994).

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $Y \in \sigma(X_n, Q_{n,i}, M_{n,i} : n \leq 0, i \in \mathcal{D})$  be a random variable s. t.  $c_i^{(\eta)} := \limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P(Y \cdot \eta > t | X_0 = i)}{t^{-\alpha} L(t)}$  and  $d_i^{(\eta)} := \liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P(Y \cdot \eta > t | X_0 = i)}{t^{-\alpha} L(t)}$  are finite for all  $i \in \mathcal{D}$  and  $\eta \in \{-1, 1\}$ . Then for all  $i \in \mathcal{D}, \eta \in \{-1, 1\}$ ,*

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P((Q_1 + M_1 Y) \cdot \eta > t | X_1 = i)}{t^{-\alpha} L(t)} \leq q_i^{(\eta)} + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}} \sum_{\gamma \in \{-1, 1\}} G_\gamma(i, j) c_j^{(\gamma)} \text{ and}$$

$$\liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P((Q_1 + M_1 Y) \cdot \eta > t | X_1 = i)}{t^{-\alpha} L(t)} \geq q_i^{(\eta)} + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}} \sum_{\gamma \in \{-1, 1\}} G_\gamma(i, j) d_j^{(\gamma)}.$$

*Proof.* Let  $(Y_j)_{j \in \mathcal{D}}$  be random variables independent of both  $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  and  $(Q_{1,i}, M_{1,i})_{i \in \mathcal{D}}$ , such that  $P(Y_j \cdot \eta > t) = P(Y \cdot \eta > t | X_0 = j)$  for  $\eta \in \{-1, 1\}$ . Then we have  $P((Q_1 + M_1 Y) \cdot \eta > t | X_1 = i) = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}} P((Q_{1,i} + M_{1,i} Y_j) \cdot \eta > t) H(i, j)$  according to (5). To complete the proof, apply (Grey, 1994, Lemma 4) separately to each term  $P((Q_{1,i} + M_{1,i} Y_j) \cdot \eta > t)$ .  $\square$

Let  $R^* = |Q_0| + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |Q_{-n}| \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} |M_{-i}|$  be a stationary solution of the equation  $R_{n+1} = |Q_n| + |M_n| R_n$ . Notice that  $-R^*$  is a stationary solution of the equation  $R_{n+1} = -|Q_n| + |M_n| R_n$ . Since  $P(-R^* \leq R \leq R^*) = 1$ , Theorem 1.3 ensures that Lemma 3.1 can be applied with  $Y = R$ . Let  $a_i^{(\eta)} = \limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P(R \cdot \eta > t | X_0 = i)}{t^{-\alpha} L(t)}$  and  $b_i^{(\eta)} = \liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P(R \cdot \eta > t | X_0 = i)}{t^{-\alpha} L(t)}$ . Denote  $\mathbf{a}^{(\eta)} = (a_i^{(\eta)})_{i \in \mathcal{D}}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}^{(\eta)} = (b_i^{(\eta)})_{i \in \mathcal{D}}$  and  $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{a}^{(-1)} + \mathbf{a}^{(1)}$ ,  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b}^{(-1)} + \mathbf{b}^{(1)}$ . The application of Lemma 3.1 yields  $\mathbf{a} \leq \mathbf{q} + G\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b} \geq \mathbf{q} + G\mathbf{b}$ , which implies  $(I - G)^{-1} \mathbf{q} \leq \mathbf{b} \leq \mathbf{a} \leq (I - G)^{-1} \mathbf{q}$ . This is only possible if  $\mathbf{a}^{(\eta)} = \mathbf{b}^{(\eta)}$ , the inequalities in the conclusions of Lemma 3.1 are actually equalities, and thus  $\mathbf{a}^{(\eta)} = \mathbf{q}^{(\eta)} + G_1 \mathbf{a}^{(\eta)} + G_{-1} \mathbf{a}^{(-\eta)}$ , which implies the result of Theorem 1.4.

### 4. Proof of Theorem 1.6

Consider the **backward** chain  $Z_n = Y_{-n}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , with transition matrix  $H(x, y) = P(Y_n = y | Y_{n+1} = x) = \frac{P(Y_0 = y)}{P(Y_0 = x)} \cdot P(Y_{n+1} = y | Y_n = x)$ . Fix  $y^* \in \mathcal{S}$  and a constant  $r \in (0, 1)$ . Let  $(\eta_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  be a sequence of i.i.d. ‘‘coins’’ independent of both  $(Z_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  and  $(Q_{n,i}, M_{n,i})_{n \in \mathbb{Z}, i \in \mathcal{D}}$ , such that  $P(\eta_0 = 1) = r$ ,  $P(\eta_0 = 0) = 1 - r$ . Let  $N_0 = 0$  and  $N_i = \inf\{n > N_{i-1} : Z_n = y^*, \eta_n = 1\}$ ,  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . The blocks  $(Z_{N_i}, \dots, Z_{N_{i+1}-1})$  are independent for  $i \geq 0$  and identically distributed for  $i \geq 1$ . Between two successive regeneration times  $N_i$  the chain  $(Z_n)_{n \geq 0}$  evolves according to a sub-Markov kernel  $\Theta$  given by  $H(x, y) = \Theta(x, y) + r \mathbf{1}_{\{y=y^*\}} H(x, y)$ , i.e.

$$\Theta(x, y) = P(Z_1 = y, N_1 > 1 | Z_0 = x). \quad (13)$$

Theorem A implies that  $E(e^{\beta N_1} | Z_0)$  is uniformly bounded for some  $\beta > 0$  (see the paragraph following Theorem 1 in (Lalley, 1986)). For  $i \geq 0$ , let

$$\begin{aligned} A_i &= Q_{N_i} + Q_{N_{i+1}} M_{N_i} + \dots + Q_{N_{i+1}-1} M_{N_i} M_{N_{i+1}} \dots M_{N_{i+1}-2} \\ B_i &= M_{N_i} M_{N_{i+1}} \dots M_{N_{i+1}-1}. \end{aligned}$$

The pairs  $(A_i, B_i)$  are independent for  $i \geq 0$ , identically distributed for  $i \geq 1$  and  $R = A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} B_i$ . To prove Theorem 1.6 we will verify the conditions of the following theorem for  $(A_i, B_i)_{i \geq 1}$ .

**Theorem B.** (Kesten, 1973; Goldie, 1991) *Let  $(A_i, B_i)_{i \geq 1}$  be i.i.d. and*

- (i) *For some  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $E(|A_1|^\alpha) = 1$  and  $E(|B_1|^\alpha \log^+ |B_1|) < \infty$ .*
- (ii)  *$P(\log |B_1| = \delta \cdot k \text{ for some } k \in \mathbb{Z} | B_1 \neq 0) < 1$  for all  $\delta > 0$ .*  
*Let  $\tilde{R} = A_1 + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} A_n \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} B_i$ . Then*
- (a)  *$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} t^\alpha P(\tilde{R} > t) = K_+$ ,  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} t^\alpha P(\tilde{R} < -t) = K_-$  for some  $K_+, K_- \geq 0$ .*
- (b) *If  $P(B_1 < 0) > 0$ , then  $K_+ = K_-$ .*
- (c)  *$K_+ + K_- > 0$  if and only if  $P(A_1 = (1 - B_1)c) < 1$  for all  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ .*

For  $\beta \geq 0$  define matrices  $H_\beta$  and  $\Theta_\beta$  by setting  $H_\beta(x, y) = H(x, y)E(|M_{0, \zeta(y)}|^\beta)$  and  $\Theta_\beta(x, y) = \Theta(x, y)E(|M_{0, \zeta(y)}|^\beta)$ . Since we have  $E(\prod_{i=0}^n |M_{-i}|^\beta \mathbf{1}_{\{Z_n=y\}} | Z_0 = x) = E(|M_0|^\beta | Z_0 = x)H_\beta^n(x, y)$  and, for  $y \neq y^*$ ,

$$E(\mathbf{1}_{\{n < N_1, Z_n=y\}} \prod_{i=0}^n |M_{-i}|^\beta | Z_0 = x) = E(|M_0|^\beta | Z_0 = x)\Theta_\beta^n(x, y),$$

(Roitershtein, 2007, Lemma 2.3 and Proposition 2.4) show that (4) holds and that the spectral radius of  $H_\alpha$  is 1, while the spectral radius of  $\Theta_\alpha$  is less than 1. Hence, see (2.43) in (Mayer-Wolf et al., 2004), we have:

**Lemma 4.1.**  $E(|B_1|^\alpha) = 1$ .

We next show that  $\log |B_0|$  is a non-lattice random variable if  $y^* \in \mathcal{D}$ .

**Lemma 4.2.** *Assume  $y^* \in \mathcal{D}^1$  and let  $V = \sum_{n=0}^{N_1-1} \log |M_{-n}| = \log |B_0|$ . Then for any  $\delta > 0$  we have  $P(V \in \delta \cdot \mathbb{Z} | Z_0 = y^*) < 1$ , where  $\delta \cdot \mathbb{Z} := \{k \cdot \delta : k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ .*

*Proof.* For  $y \in \mathcal{D}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $y_{(k)}$  denote  $(y_1, \dots, y_k) \in \mathcal{D}^k$  such that  $y_2 = \dots = y_k = y$  and  $y_1 = y^*$ . By Lalley's Theorem A, for any  $y \in \mathcal{D}$ ,

$$P(Z_0 = y_{(1)}, Z_1 = y_{(m)}, \dots, Z_{m-1} = Z_{N_1-1} = y_{(2)}) > 0 \quad (14)$$

for some  $m > 1$ . Therefore,  $P(V \in \delta \cdot \mathbb{Z} | Z_0 = (y^*)) = 1$  along with (14) imply: (i) using  $y = y^*$ ,  $P(m \cdot \log |M_{0, y^*}| \in \delta \cdot \mathbb{Z} | Z_0 = (y^*)) = 1$ ; (ii) using general  $y \in \mathcal{D}$ ,  $P((m-1) \cdot \log |M_{0, y}| + \log |M_{0, y^*}| \in \delta \cdot \mathbb{Z} | Z_0 = (y^*)) = 1$ . Therefore, we would have  $P(m(m-1) \cdot \log |M_{0, y}| \in \delta \cdot \mathbb{Z} | Z_0 = (y^*)) = 1$  for any  $y \in \mathcal{D}$ , contradicting condition (iii) of Theorem 1.6.  $\square$

The proof of the next lemma is verbatim the proof of (2.44) in (Mayer-Wolf et al., 2004), and therefore is omitted.

**Lemma 4.3.**  $\exists \beta > \alpha$  s. t.  $E[(\sum_{n=0}^{N_1-1} \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} |M_{-i}|)^\beta | Z_0]$  is bounded a.s.

*Completion of the proof of Theorem 1.6.*

(a)–(d) It follows from Lemmas 4.1–4.3 that the conclusions of Theorem B can be applied to  $(A_1, B_1)$ . Claims (a) through (d) of Theorem 1.6 follow then from the identity  $R = A_0 + B_0 \tilde{R}$  and the independence of  $(A_0, B_0)$  of  $\tilde{R}$  under the conditional measures  $P(\cdot | Z_0 = x)$ . In particular, for  $\eta \in \{-1, 1\}$ ,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(R \cdot \eta > t | Z_0) = E(|B_0|^\alpha (\mathbf{I}_{\{B_0 \cdot \eta > 0\}} K_+ + \mathbf{I}_{\{B_0 \cdot \eta < 0\}} K_-) | Z_0) \quad (15)$$

Note that Theorem A-(iv) implies  $P(N_1 \text{ is odd}) > 0$  and  $P(N_1 \text{ is even}) > 0$ . Therefore,  $P(M_0 < 0) > 0$  yields  $P(B_0 < 0 | Z_0 = x) > 0$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{S}$ .

(e) First, (3) implies  $P(R_n = \Gamma(X_n)) = 1$  provided that  $R_0 = \Gamma(X_0)$ . Hence if (3) is true and  $R_0 = \Gamma(X_0)$ , then  $R_n$  can take only a finite number of values from  $\{\Gamma(i) : i \in \mathcal{D}\}$  and cannot converge in distribution to a power-tailed random variable. Therefore, (3) implies  $P(K_1(\mathcal{X}) + K_{-1}(\mathcal{X}) = 0) = 1$ .

Assume now  $P(K_1(\mathcal{X}) + K_{-1}(\mathcal{X}) = 0) = 1$ . Then (15) and Theorem 1.6-(b) imply  $K_+ = K_- = 0$ . Then, by Theorem B,  $P(A_1 + c(y^*)B_1 = c(y^*)) = 1$  for a constant  $c(y^*)$ . Hence  $P(Q_0 + M_0 \hat{R} = c(y^*) | Z_0 = y^*) = 1$ , with  $\hat{R} = \frac{R - Q_0}{M_0}$ . Since  $\hat{R}$  is conditionally independent of  $(Q_0, M_0)$  given  $Z_0$ ,

$$P(\hat{R} = c_1(y^*) | Z_0 = y^*) = P(R = c_1(y^*) | Z_{-1} = y^*) = 1, \quad (16)$$

$$P(Q_0, \zeta(y^*) + M_0, \zeta(y^*) c_1(y^*) = c(y^*)) = 1, \quad (17)$$

for some constant  $c_1(y^*)$ . It follows from (16) and the Markov property that  $P(R = c_1(y^*) | Z_0 = y) = 1 \forall y \in \mathcal{S}$  s. t.  $P(Z_0 = y | Z_{-1} = y^*) > 0$ . Then

$$P(R = c(y^*) | Z_{-1} = x) = 1 \forall x \in \mathcal{S} \text{ s. t. } P(Z_0 = y^* | Z_{-1} = x) > 0. \quad (18)$$

Thus  $P(R = c_1(x) = c(y^*) | Z_{-1} = x) = 1$  whence  $P(Z_0 = y^* | Z_{-1} = x) > 0$ . Since  $y^* \in \mathcal{S}$  is arbitrary,  $P(Q_0, \zeta(Z_0) + M_0, \zeta(Z_0) c_1(Z_0) = c_1(Z_{-1})) = 1$  due to (17). This is exactly (3) once one sets  $\Gamma(Y_n) = c_1(Z_{-n})$ .

Suppose now in addition that  $(Q_{0,i}, M_{0,i})$ ,  $i \in \mathcal{D}$ , are non-degenerate. Since the system  $q + mc_1 = c$ ,  $q + m\tilde{c}_1 = \tilde{c}$  for unknown variables  $q, m$  has a unique solution unless  $c_1 = \tilde{c}_1$ , it follows from (17) that  $c_1$  depends on  $\zeta(y^*)$  only. Let  $\Gamma(i) = c_1(y^*)$  for  $i = \zeta(y^*)$ . Then, (17) and (18) imply  $P(Q_0 + M_0 \Gamma(X_0) = \Gamma(X_1)) = 1$ . Hence, in virtue of (i) of Definition 1.5,  $P(\Gamma(X_n) = c) = P(Q_0 + M_0 c = c) = 1$  for some constant  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ .

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