Boletfn de la Sociedad Matematica Mexicana Vol. 33 No. 2, 1988

INTERCHANGE OF LARGE TIME AND SCALING LIMITS IN STABLE DAWSON-WATANABE PROCESSES: A PROBABILISTIC PROOF

BY A. WAKOLBINGER

1. Introduction and formulation of the result

Consider a population of individuals in R^d , each of which carries unit mass, evolving in time as follows: Initially, the individuals' positions form a Poisson process with intensity measure ρ . Each particle performs symmetric stable motion with exponent $\alpha \in (0, 2]$ for a random lifetime which is exponentially distributed with paramter *V.* At the end of this lifetime it branches into a random number N of particles, all of them obeying (independently) the dynamics just described, starting at the parent particle's final position. The random offspring number *N* is assumed to have moment generating function $Es^N = s + \frac{1}{2}(1-s)^{1+\beta},$ $\beta \in (0,1].$ Mathematically, this gives rise to a stochas tic process $X_t^{\rho,\nu}$ taking its values in the counting measures on \mathbf{R}^d .

For a fixed constant γ , and $n = 1, 2, \ldots$, we consider the rescalings $X_t^n :=$ $\frac{1}{n}X_t^{n\lambda,n^{\beta}\gamma}$ of the process $X_t^{\lambda,\gamma}$ (where λ denotes Lebesgue measure on \mathbf{R}^d). This means that each particle carries mass $1/n$, the lifetime parameter is $n^{\beta}\gamma$, and the initial particles positions form a Poisson process with intensity $n\lambda$. Note that due to criticality of the branching and homogeneity of the motion there holds $EX_t^n = \lambda$, where $E\xi$ denotes the expectation of a random measure ξ .

The following facts are known (for (1.1) and (1.4) see [GW], (1.2) see [MRC], (1.3) and (1.5) see [GRCW] Theorem 1):

- (1.1) For $t \to \infty$, X_t^n converges in distribution towards a random measure X_∞^n .
- (1.2) For $n\rightarrow\infty, X_{t}^{n}$ converges in distribution towards a random measure $X_{t},$ and $EX_t = \lambda$.

 (1.3) For $t \to \infty$, X_t converges in distribution towards a random measure X_∞ .

 $(1.4) EX_{\infty}^n = \lambda \text{ if } d > \alpha/\beta \text{, and } EX_{\infty}^n = o \text{ if } d \leq \alpha/\beta.$

 $(1.5) EX_{\infty} = \lambda \text{ if } d > \alpha/\beta \text{, and } EX_{\infty} = o \text{ if } d \leq \alpha/\beta.$

(where o denotes zero measure on \mathbb{R}^d .)

The measure-valued process (X_t) is called stable Dawson-Watanabe process; it has first been introduced and studied by Watanabe [W] and Dawson [D]. By examining the Laplace transforms of X_t^n one can prove in a rather straightforward way the following

THEOREM (1.6). ([GRCW], Thm. 2) *The large time and scaling limits* (1.1) and (1.2) *interchange, i.e.* X^n_{∞} *converges for* $n \to \infty$ *in distribution towards* X_{∞} .

46 A. WAKOLBINGER

In this paper we give a probabilistic proof of the preceding theorem which relies on a convergence theorem for infinitely divisible random measures due to Kallenberg (stated as Lemma (2.3) below) and on a representation of the canonical Palm distributions of X_i^n obtained in [GW] (see Remark 3 below).

2. Some tools from the theory of infinitely divisible random measures

LEMMA (2.1) . $([K], p. 45)$ *Let* ξ *be an infinitely divisible random measure on* \mathbf{R}^d , with distribution P. Then there exists a uniquely determined $\mathbf{v}_P \in M :=$ *set of locally finite measures on* \mathbb{R}^d , and a uniquely determined measure U_P *on M* having the properties $U_P({o}) = 0$ and $\int U_P(d\rho)(1 - e^{\langle \rho, g \rangle}) < \infty$ for all $g \in F_c :=$ set of continuous nonnegative functions on \mathbb{R}^d with compact support, *such that*

$$
(2.2) \tE e^{-\langle \xi, g \rangle} = e^{-\langle \nu_P, g \rangle} e^{-\int U_P(d\rho)(1 - e^{-\langle \rho, g \rangle})} \t(f \in F_c).
$$

Notation. Let ξ , P , ν_P and U_P be as in Lemma 1. For all measurable $B \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ and $F \subseteq M$ one puts

$$
C_{\tilde{P}}(B\times F):=\nu_P(B)1_F(o)+\int\rho(B)1_F(\rho)U_P(d\rho)
$$

Note that the first marginal of $C_{\tilde{p}}$ is

$$
C_{\tilde{P}}(B\times M)=\nu_P(B)+\int\rho(B)U_P(d\rho)=E\xi(B),
$$

i.e. the intensity measure of ξ . In case $E\xi$ is locally finite, let $(P_b)_{b\in\mathbf{R}^d}$ be a regular desintegration of $C_{\tilde{p}}$ with respect to its first marginal $E\xi=:\Lambda_P,$ and let for each $b \in \mathbf{R}^d$ $\tilde{\xi}_b$ be a random measure having distribution \tilde{P}_b . We will call ξ_b a *canonical Palm random measure at b*. For each $f \in F_c$ such that $\langle \Lambda_P, f \rangle > 0$, let $\tilde{\xi}_f$ be the random measure which arises from $\tilde{\xi}_b$ when the point b is chosen at random with probability distribution $\frac{1}{\langle \Lambda_{p,f} \rangle} f(b) \Lambda_P(db)$; note that $\tilde{\xi}_f$ has distribution $\tilde{P}_f := \frac{1}{\langle \Lambda_p, f \rangle} \int \tilde{P}_b(\cdot) f(b) \Lambda_P(db)$.

We will call ξ_f a *canonical Palm random measure* of ξ , *randomized by f.*

LEMMA (2.3). ([K], Lemma 10.8) Let ξ , ξ_1 , ξ_2 ,... *be infinitely divisible random measures having locally finite intensity measures. Then any two of the following statements impfies the third:*

1) $\xi_k \rightarrow \xi$ in distribution,

2) $E(\xi_k, f) \to E(\xi, f)$ for all $f \in F_c$,

3) $({\tilde{\xi}}_k)_f \rightarrow {\tilde{\xi}}_f$ in distribution for all $f \in F_c$ with $\langle \rho, f \rangle > 0$.

LEMMA (2.4). Let $\xi, \xi_1, \xi_2, \ldots$ *be i.i.d. infinitely divisible random populations* and put, for some $n \in \mathbb{N}, \eta := \frac{1}{n}(\xi_1 + \dots \xi_n)$. Then a version of $\tilde{\eta}_b$ is given by $\frac{1}{n}\tilde{\xi}_b$.

Proof. Denote the distribution of ϵ by *P* and that of *n* by *Q*. One checks easily that $U_Q = nU_P(\frac{\rho}{n} \in (\cdot)).$

Since $\nu_P = \nu_Q = 0$, there results

 $C_{\tilde{O}}(B \times F) = C_{\tilde{P}}(B \times {\rho | n \rho \in F})$ for all measurable $B \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d, F \subseteq M$, and hence $\tilde{Q}_b = \tilde{P}_b(\frac{\rho}{n} \in (\cdot)).$

3. Proof of the theorem

Let us state at once that in the case $d \le \alpha/\beta$ the assertion of the theorem is immediate from (1.4) and (1.5); therefore we assume **in** the rest of the paper that $d > \alpha/\beta$.

LEMMA (3.1). For each $n = 1, 2, ...,$ and each $t \in [0, \infty]$, a family of canonical *Palm random measures of Xⁿ is given by* $\frac{1}{n}(X_t^{\lambda,n^{\beta}})$ _b, $b \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

Proof . This is immediate from Lemma (2.4), since $X_t^{n\lambda,n^\beta\gamma}$ equals in distribution the sum of *n* independent copies of $X_t^{\lambda,n^{\beta}\gamma}$. \Box

Let $N_S^{\mathbf{z},V}$ denote a random population of individuals which arises after time *s* from one initial individual at site $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ by the branching dynamics described in the introduction (with lifetime parameter V).

Remark (3.2). For each $n = 1, 2, \ldots$ and each $t \in [0, \infty]$, a family of canonical Palm random populations of $X_t^{\lambda,n,\beta}$ is provided by [GW], Theorem 2.3 and Lemma 5.1, namely by

$$
\delta_b + \int_{[0,t)} (\sum_{i=1}^{Z_s} N_{s,i}^{a_s,n^{\beta}\gamma}) \mu_{n^{\beta}}(ds)
$$

where $\mu_{n\beta}$ is a random Poisson configuration on $[0,\infty)$ with intensity $n^{\beta}\gamma$, *(as)* is a random path of the basic process (i.e. symmetric stable motion with exponent α) starting in *b*, Z_s , $s > 0$, are random numbers with $P[Z_s = k] =$ $(k + 1)p_{k+1}, k = 1, 2, \ldots, (p_k)$ are the weights of the offspring distribution, $N^{x,n^{\rho}\gamma}_{s,i}, i=1,2,...,x\in{\bf R}^d,$ has the same distribution as $N^{x,n^{\rho}\gamma}_s,$ and all these random objects are independent.

Combining Lemma (3.1) and Remark (3.2), we arrive at

PROPOSITION (3.3). *Consider an arbitrary but fixed* $f \in F_c$ with $\langle \lambda, f \rangle > 0$. *For each* $n = 1, 2, \ldots$ *and* $t \in [0, \infty)$, *a canonical Palm random measure of* X_t^n , *randomized by* f, *is given by*

(3.4)
$$
Y_t^n := \frac{1}{n} \delta_b + \frac{1}{n} \int_{[0,t)} (\sum_{i=1}^{Z_s} N_{s,i}^{a_s,n^{\beta} \gamma}) \mu_{n^{\beta}}(ds)
$$

48 A. WAKOLBINGER

where b (which is the starting point of (a_0)) is randomly distributed according *to the probability measure* $(1/\langle \lambda, f \rangle) f(x) \lambda(dx)$.

For the rest of the paper we fix a function $f \in F_c$ such that $\langle \lambda, f \rangle > 0$.

Remark (3.5).

a) It follows from Lemma (2.3) together with (1.2) that, for any $t \in [0, \infty)$, $(\widetilde{X_t^n})_f = Y_t^n$ converges, for $n \to \infty$, in distribution towards the random measure $(\widetilde{X}_t)_t =: Y_t$.

b) On the other hand, it follows from Lemma (2.3) together with (1.3) and (1.5) that $(\widetilde{X_t})_f = Y_t$ converges, for $t \to \infty$, in distribution towards the random measure $(\widetilde{X_{\infty}})_f =: Y_{\infty}$.

c) It is clear from (3.4) that for all $n = 1, 2, ...$ and all bounded $B \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ there holds

$$
(3.6) \t Y_t^n(B) \t \nearrow_{t \to \infty} Y_\infty^n(B).
$$

Remark (3.7). The assertion of the theorem (in the case $d > \alpha/\beta$) now follows immediately from Proposition (3.8) below together with (1.5) and Lemma (2.3). Once again note that also in the case $d \le \alpha/\beta$ the theorem holds true, since then all large time limits vanish due to (1.4) and (1.5) .

PROPOSITION (3.8). Y^n_{∞} converges, for $t \to \infty$, in distribution towards Y_{∞} .

Proof. In view of Remark (3.5), we are faced with the following diagram of convergences:

$$
n \to \infty \qquad \begin{matrix} Y_t^n & \xrightarrow[t \to \infty]{} & Y_\infty^n \\ \downarrow & \xrightarrow[t \to \infty]{} & Y_\infty^n \end{matrix}
$$

We claim that also $Y^n_{\infty} \to Y_{\infty}$ holds true. In Lemma (3.11) below we will show:

(3.9) \forall bounded $B \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d \forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists t > 0 \forall n = 1, 2, \ldots : P[Y_{\infty}^n(B) - Y_t^n(B)] \geq \varepsilon$

(In this sense, convergence in t is uniformly in n .)

Now consider, for any $g \in F_c$ with $g < 1,$ the Laplace transforms $E e^{-\langle Y_{\infty}^n, g \rangle};$ we claim that they converge towards $Ee^{-(Y_{t},g)}$. To this end we rewrite

$$
|Ee^{-\langle Y_{\infty}^n, g \rangle} - Ee^{-\langle Y_{t}^n, g \rangle}| = E[e^{-\langle Y_{t}^n, g \rangle} (1 - e^{-\langle Y_{\infty}^n - Y_{t}^n, g \rangle})]
$$

\n
$$
\leq E[1 - e^{-\langle Y_{\infty}^n - Y_{t}^n, g \rangle}] \leq E[\langle Y_{\infty}^n - Y_{t}^n, g \rangle \wedge 1]
$$

\n
$$
\leq \varepsilon + P[\langle Y_{\infty}^n - Y_{t}^n, g \rangle \geq \varepsilon] \text{ for all } \varepsilon > 0.
$$

Now take according to (3.9) for any fixed $\varepsilon > 0$ the time *t* large enough such that

$$
P[\langle Y_\infty^n-Y_t^n,g\rangle\geq \varepsilon]\leq \varepsilon.
$$

Hence results for this t :

$$
(3.10) \t\t\t |Ee^{-\langle Y_{\infty}^n,g\rangle}-Ee^{-\langle Y_{t}^n,g\rangle}|\leq 2\varepsilon \quad (n=1,2,\ldots)
$$

Since $\langle Y_s^n, g \rangle$ increases, for $s \to \infty$, towards $\langle Y_\infty^n, g \rangle$ (see Remark (3.5)c), we can in view of Remark (3.5)b) choose t so large that besides (3.10) also

$$
(3.11) \t\t\t |Ee^{-\langle Y_{\infty}^{\infty},g\rangle} - Ee^{-\langle Y_{t}^{\infty},g\rangle}| < \varepsilon
$$

holds true. Now we can apply the triangle inequality:

$$
\overline{\lim}_{n \to \infty} |Ee^{-\langle Y_{\infty}, g \rangle} - Ee^{-\langle Y_{\infty}^n, g \rangle}|
$$
\n
$$
\leq |Ee^{-\langle Y_{\infty}, g \rangle} - Ee^{-\langle Y_t, g \rangle}|
$$
\n
$$
+ \overline{\lim}_{n \to \infty} |Ee^{-\langle Y_t, g \rangle} - Ee^{-\langle Y_t^n, g \rangle}|
$$
\n
$$
+ \overline{\lim}_{n \to \infty} |Ee^{-\langle Y_t^n, g \rangle} - Ee^{-\langle Y_{\infty}^n, g \rangle}| \leq 3\varepsilon
$$

(Note that we applied (3.10) and (3.11) to estimate the first and third summand, respectively, and Remark (3.5)a) to guarantee that the second summand vanishes). Since $\epsilon > 0$ was arbitrary, this yields the assertion.

We are thus left with the hard core in the proof of the theorem, namely

LEMMA (3.12). The convergence $Y_t^n \longrightarrow Y_\infty^n$ is uniform in the sense of (3.9) . $t\rightarrow\infty$

Proof. **1.** Without loss of generality we assume that $B \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ is a ball centered around the origin. Let $\epsilon > 0$ be fixed.

We intend to show:

$$
(3.13) \quad \exists t>0 \ \forall n=1,2,\ldots: P[\frac{1}{n}\int_{[t,\infty)}\sum_{i=1}^{Z_s}N_{s,i}^{a_s,n^{\beta}\gamma}(B)\mu_{n^{\beta}}(ds)>\varepsilon]<\varepsilon.
$$

Since $\xi_{\bullet,i}^n := N_{\bullet,i}^{\upsilon,n}(\mathcal{B})$ obeys, by symmetry of the motion, ' '

$$
P[\xi_{s,i}^n > r] \ge P[N_{s,i}^{x,n^B \gamma}(B) > r] \text{ for all } x \in \mathbf{R}^d, r \ge 0,
$$

it suffices to show:

(3.14)
$$
\exists t > 0, \ \forall n = 1, 2, \ldots : P[\frac{1}{n} \int_{[t,\infty)} (\sum_{i=1}^{Z_s} \xi_{s,i}^n) \mu_n \rho(ds) > \varepsilon] < \varepsilon
$$

Denoting by *(Ta)* the semigroup of the basic process, we have by criticality of the branching and by the scaling property of the stable motion:

$$
(3.15) \tE\xi_{s,i}^n = T_s1_B(0) = T_11_{s^{-1/\alpha}B}(0) \leq c_Bs^{-d/\alpha} \tfor all s \geq 1,
$$

where the constant c_B depends only on B .

2. To illustrate what is going on, we first consider the case $\beta = 1$. In this case, the offspring distribution simply is given by $p_0 = p_2 = \frac{1}{2}$, i.e. the branching is binary. Hence $Z_s \equiv 1$, and using (3.15) we get for all $n = 1, 2, \ldots$

$$
E\frac{1}{n}\int_{[t,\infty)}\xi_{s,i}^n\mu_n(ds) \leq \frac{1}{n}c_B\int_{[t,\infty)}s^{-\frac{d}{\alpha}}nds = c_B\frac{\alpha}{d-\alpha}t^{-\frac{d}{\alpha}+1}
$$

Hence, by Markov's inequality,

$$
(3.16) \tP\left[\frac{1}{n}\int_{[t,\infty)}\xi_s\mu_n(ds)>\varepsilon\right]\leq\frac{1}{\varepsilon}c_B\frac{\alpha}{d-\alpha}t^{-\frac{d}{\alpha}+1}
$$

In order to guarantee (3.14) it thus suffices to choose *t* large enough so that the right hand side of (3.16) is smaller than ε .

This completes the proof in the case $\beta = 1$.

3. In the case $0 < \beta < 1$, a straightforward argument like that in step 2 fails, since then the random numbers Z_s are not integrable any more. Their distribution $q_k := P[Z_s = k] = (k+1)p_{k+1}$, however, obeys a power law of the following form:

There exist positive constants c_1, c_2 such that

$$
(3.17) \t\t c_1 k^{-(\beta+1)} \le q_k \le c_2 k^{-(\beta+1)} \t (k = 1, 2, ...)
$$

(3.18) can be checked, e.g., by expanding the moment generating function of (q_k) , which is $1-\frac{1+\beta}{2}(1-s)^{\beta}$, into a binomial series.

Now we turn to the proof of (3.14) in the case $0 < \beta < 1$:

In view of the estimate (3.15), it is reasonable to divide the support of the random Poisson configuration $\mu_{n\beta}$ into two parts, namely:

those points *s* for which $Z_s > s^{d/\alpha}$, forming $\mu_{\alpha}^1 g$,

and those points *s* for which $Z_s \n\leq s^{d/\alpha}$, forming $\mu_{\alpha\beta}^2$.

 $\mu_n^1 \beta$ can be considered a "random thinning" of $\mu_n \beta$, and hence has the same distribution as a random Poisson configuration Φ_1 with intensity measure $h(s)n^{\beta}\lambda(ds)$, where $h(s) := P[Z_s > s^{d/\alpha}]$. Denoting by Φ_2 a random Poisson configuration with intensity measure $(1 - h(s))n^{\beta} \lambda(ds)$ (independent of Φ_1), we note that $\Phi_1 + \Phi_2$ equals $\mu_{n\beta}$ in distribution, and moreover:

$$
\frac{1}{n}\int_{[t,\infty)}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{Z_s}\xi_{s,i}^n\right)\mu_{n,\theta}(ds)\quad\text{is equal in distribution to}\quad
$$

$$
(3.18) \qquad \frac{1}{n}\int_{[t,\infty)}(\sum_{i=1}^{\bar{Z}_{\bullet}}\xi_{s,i}^{n})\Phi_{1}(ds)+\frac{1}{n}\int_{[t,\infty)}(\sum_{i=1}^{\bar{Z}_{\bullet}}\xi_{s,i}^{n})\Phi_{2}(ds)=:G_{t}^{n}+H_{t}^{n},
$$

where \bar{Z}_{s} is assumed to have distribution $P[Z_{s} \in (\cdot)|Z_{s} > s^{d/\alpha}],$ and Z_{s} is assumed to have distribution $P[Z_s \in (\cdot) | Z_s < s^{d/\alpha}],$ the random variables Z Z_s all being independent.

4. In order to estimate the summand H_t^n , first note that by (3.17) one has for all $s \geq 1$:

$$
E[Z_s] = E[Z_s | Z_s \le s^{d/\alpha}] \le \frac{1}{P[Z_s \le s^{d/\alpha}]} \sum_{k=1}^{s^{d/\alpha}} k c_2 k^{-(\beta+1)}
$$

$$
\le \frac{1}{c_1} \sum_{k=1}^{s^{d/\alpha}} c_2 k^{-\beta} \le c_3 s^{\frac{d}{\alpha}(1-\beta)}
$$

with a suitable constant $c_3 > 0$ (independent of s).

Hence results by Wald's identity (similar as in step 2):

$$
EH_t^n \leq \frac{1}{n} \int_{[t,\infty)} c_2 E[Z_s] \cdot E[\xi_{s,i}^n] n^{\beta} ds \leq c_B \cdot c_3 \int_{[t,\infty)} s^{-\frac{d\beta}{\alpha}} ds,
$$

which leads, by Markov's inequality to:

(3.19) $\exists T > 0 \ \forall t \geq T \ \forall n = 1, 2, \ldots : P[H_t^n > \varepsilon] < \varepsilon.$

5. We now turn to estimate the first summand G_t^n in (3.18). By (3.17) there holds for all $s \geq 1$

 $\ddot{}$

$$
(3.20) \t\t\t h(s) = P[Z_s > s^{d/\alpha}] \leq c_4 s^{-\frac{a\rho}{\alpha}}
$$

for a suitable constant c_4 (independent of s), hence Φ_1 is, on the interval $[1, \infty)$, "stochastically thinner" than a random Poisson configuration $\mu_n^* \beta$ with intensity measure $c_4 s^{-\frac{d\beta}{\alpha}} \lambda(ds)$. Writing, for abbreviation,

$$
\eta_s^n := \sum_{i=1}^{\bar{Z}_s} \xi_{s,i}^n,
$$

we thus observe, for all $t \geq 1$ and $n = 1, 2, \ldots$

(3.21)
$$
P[G^n_t \geq \varepsilon] \leq P[\int_{[t,\infty)} \eta^n_s \mu^*_{n\beta}(ds) \geq \varepsilon].
$$

6. In view of (3.18), (3.19) and (3.21), the proof **will** be complete if we succeed to show:

(3.22) :3t > 0 *\/n* = 1, 2, ... : P[*f* TJ~µ~11*(d8)* 2:: c] Sc. l[t,oo)

Indeed, then we have, using step 1, for this t and all $n = 1, 2, \ldots$:

$$
P[Y_{\infty}^n(B)-Y_t^n(B)\geq 2\varepsilon]\leq P[G_t^n+H_t^n\geq 2\varepsilon]\leq P[G_t^n\geq \varepsilon]+P[H_t^n\geq \varepsilon]\leq 2\varepsilon
$$

(note that *t* in (3.22) can be taken, without loss of generality, larger than *T* figuring in (3.19)).

7. We now proceed to show (3.22). Let, for $m = 1, 2, \ldots, t_m$ be such that

$$
\int_{t_m}^{\infty} s^{-\frac{d\beta}{\alpha}} ds = \frac{1}{m}.
$$

Let $\mu_n^{(m)}$ β be a random Poisson configuration with intensity measure $m \cdot$ $n^{\beta}s^{-}\overline{\alpha}\lambda(ds)$. Obviously, $S_{m,n} := \int_{[t_{m},\infty)} \eta_s^n \mu_{n}^{(m)} \beta(ds)$ arises, in distribution, as $f a \text{ sum of } m \text{ independent copies } L_{m,n}^{(1)}, \ldots, L_{m,n}^{(m)} \text{ of } L_{m,n} := \frac{1}{n} \int_{[t_m,\infty)} \eta_s^n \mu_{n\beta}^*(ds).$

Now assume the contrary of (3.22) , which would imply the existence of a sequence $m_j \rightarrow \infty$ and a sequence n_j such that

$$
(3.23) \tP[L_{m_j,n_j} \geq \varepsilon] > \varepsilon \quad (j=1,2,...).
$$

Let $r > 0$ be a lower bound for the probability of $\frac{N\epsilon}{2}$ successes in *N* cointosses with success probability ε . (Note that such a strictly positive lower bound actually exists, since by the law of large numbers there holds P[number of successes> ~]---+1). From (3.23) there results *N-+oo*

$$
P[S_{m_j,n_j} \geq \varepsilon \frac{m_j \varepsilon}{2}] = P[L_{m_j,n_j}^{(1)} + \cdots + L_{m_j,n_j}^{(1)} \geq \varepsilon \frac{m_j \varepsilon}{2}] \geq r.
$$

This would imply that the family of random variables $\{S_{m,n}\}_{m,n\in\mathbb{N}}$ is not tight. To guarantee (3.22) it is thus sufficient to show that $\{S_{m,n}\}_{m,n\in\mathbb{N}}$ actually *is* tight.

8. We now turn to the proof of tightness of $\{S_{m,n}\}_{m,n\in\mathbb{N}}$. In step 9 below we will show:

$$
(3.24) \t\t\t\t\exists c_5 > 0 \ \forall s \ge 1 \ \forall k = 1, 2, \ldots \ \forall n = 1, 2, \ldots : P[\eta_s^n \ge k] \le c_5 k^{-\beta}.
$$

Having (3.24) at hand, it is possible to estimate the random variables η_s^n by an upper bound "in distribution". To this end, let *K* be large enough such that

$$
\sum_{j=K+1}^{\infty}c_5\beta j^{-(\beta+1)}\leq 1,
$$

put $\pi_j := c_5 \beta j^{-(\beta+1)}$ if $j > K$, $\pi_K := 1 - \sum_{i=K+1}^{\infty} \pi_j$, $\pi_j := 0$ if $j < K$, and let $(\chi_s)_{s\geq 1}$ be a family of i.i.d. random variables, each with distribution $(\pi_j)_{j=1,2,...}$. Since by (3.24) for all $k = 1, 2, ..., s \ge 1$ and $n = 1, 2, ...$ there holds

$$
P[\chi_s \geq k] \geq P[\eta_s^n \geq k],
$$

tightness of $\{S_{m,n}\}_{m,n\in\mathbb{N}}$ will follow from tightness of

$$
\frac{1}{n}\int_{[t_m,\infty)}\chi_s\mu_{n\beta}^{(m)}(ds),\quad m,n\in\mathbf{N}.
$$

To check tightness of the latter family, note that $\mu_{n\beta}^{(m)}([t_m,\infty))$ is a Poisson random variable with mean n^{β} . It is thus enough to show that the family

$$
\zeta_n := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{N_n} \chi_j, \quad n = 1, 2, \ldots
$$

is tight, where N_n is a Poisson random variable with mean n^{β} .

But
$$
\zeta_n = \frac{(N_n)^{1/\beta}}{n} \frac{1}{(N_n)^{1/\beta}} \sum_{j=1}^{N_n} \chi_j
$$
 converges, for $n \to \infty$,

54 A. WAKOLBINGER

in distribution, since χ_s is in the domain of normal attraction of a totally asymmetric stable law with exponent β .

Hence $\{\zeta_n\}_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$ is tight, and so is $\{S_{m,n}\}_{m,n\in\mathbb{N}}$.

9. It remains to close the gap in the previous step, namely to show (3.24). Note that $\eta_s^n = A_s^n \cdot D_s^n$ $(s \geq 1, n = 1, 2, \ldots),$ where

$$
A^n_{s} := \frac{1}{\bar{Z}_s} \sum_{i=1}^{Z_s} \xi^n_{s,i} s^{d/\alpha}, \quad D_s := \bar{Z}_s s^{-d/\alpha}.
$$

In order to estimate the distribution of D_{s} , choose in view of (3.17) a constant $c_6 > 0$ such that

(3.25)

By (3.17) and (3.25) we have for all $j = 1, 2, ...$

$$
P[D_s \in [j, j+1)] = P[\bar{Z}_s \in [js^{d/\alpha}, (j+1)s^{d/\alpha})]
$$

= $P[Z_s \in [js^{d/\alpha}, (j+1)s^{d/\alpha})|Z_s \ge s^{d/\alpha}]$
 $\le c_2 \sum_{i=[js^{d/\alpha}]}^{[(j+1)s^{d/\alpha}]+1} i^{-(\beta+1)} \frac{1}{c_6} s d^{\beta/\alpha}$
 $\le \frac{c_2}{c_6} (j[s^{d/\alpha}])^{-(\beta+1)} (s^{d/\alpha} + 1) s d^{\beta/\alpha}$

 $\leq c_7(j+1)^{-(b+1)}$ for a suitable $c_7 > 0$ independent of j and s.

Hence results, for all $k = 1, 2, \ldots$

$$
P[\eta^n_{s} \geq k] = P[A^n_{s} D_s \geq k] \leq \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} P[D_s \in [j-1, j)] P[A^n_{s} \geq \frac{k}{j} | D_s \in [j-1, j)]
$$

$$
(3.26) \qquad \qquad \leq \sum_{j=2}^k c_{7j} \, \frac{-(\beta+1)}{k} \frac{j}{k} E[A^n_s | D_s \in [j-1,j)] + \sum_{j=k+1}^\infty c_{7j} \, \frac{-(\beta+1)}{2}.
$$

Since the conditional expectation $E[A_s^n|\bar{Z}_s]$ is, due to (3.15), bounded by c_B , and since moreover

$$
\sum_{j=2}^k j^{-\beta} \leq \int_1^k x^{-\beta} dx = \frac{1}{1-\beta} k^{1-\beta}
$$

$$
\sum_{j=k+1}^{\infty} j^{-\beta+1} \leq \int_{k}^{\infty} x^{-\beta+1} dx = \frac{1}{\beta} k^{-\beta},
$$

the validity of (3.24) follows directly from (3.26), and the proof of the lemma is complete. □

The preceding lemma closes the gap in the proof of Proposition (3.8), which, in view of Remark (3.7) , finishes the proof of the theorem.

Acknowledgement: I thank Luis Gorostiza for having drawn my attention to this problem; also, I thank **him,** Sylvie Roelly-Coppoletta and especially Reinhard Lang for stimulating and constructive discussions.

INSTITUT FÜR MATHEMATIK JOHANNES KEPLER UNIVERSITÄT LINZ LINZ, A-4040 AUSTRIA

REFERENCES

- [D] D. A. DAWSON, *The critical measure diffusion process*. Z. Wahrscheinlichkeitstheorie verw. Gebiete **40,** 125-145, 1977.
- [GRCW] L. G. GoROSTIZA, S. ROELLY-C0PP0LE'ITA AND A. WAK0LBrNGER, *Sur la persistance du processus de Dawson-Watanabe stable. L'intervertion de la limite en temps et de la renormalisation*, in Sem Probabilité xxrv, 1988/89, J. Azéma, P. A. Meyer, M. Yos (Eds), p. 275-281, Lecture Notes in Mathematics, Springer, 1990.
- [GW] L. G. GOROSTIZA AND A. WAKOLBINGER, *Persistence criteria for a class of critical branching particle systems in continuous time, to* appear in Ann. Probability.
- [K] 0. KALLENBERG, *Random Measures,* 3rd ed., Akademie Verlag, Berlin, and Academic Press, New York, 1983.
- [MRC] S. MELEARD AND S. RoELLY-COPPOI.ETIA, *Discontinuous measure-valued branching processes and generalized stochastic equations, to* appear in Math. Nachr.
- [W] S. WATANABE, *A limit theorem of branching processes and continuous state branching processes,* J. Math. Kyoto Univ. 8, 141-167, 1968.