



Implicit renewal theorem for trees with general weights

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Received 19 October 2011; received in revised form 8 April 2012; accepted 10 May 2012
Available online 17 May 2012

Abstract

Consider distributional fixed point equations of the form

$$R \stackrel{\mathcal{D}}{=} f(Q, C_i, R_i, 1 \leq i \leq N),$$

where $f(\cdot)$ is a possibly random real-valued function, $N \in \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\} \cup \{\infty\}$, $\{C_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ are real-valued random weights and $\{R_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ are iid copies of R , independent of (Q, N, C_1, C_2, \dots) ; $\stackrel{\mathcal{D}}{=}$ represents equality in distribution. Fixed point equations of this type are important for solving many applied probability problems, ranging from the average case analysis of algorithms to statistical physics. We develop an Implicit Renewal Theorem that enables the characterization of the power tail behavior of the solutions R to many equations of multiplicative nature that fall into this category. This result extends the prior work in Jelenković and Olvera-Cravioto (2012) [16], which assumed nonnegative weights $\{C_i\}$, to general real-valued weights. We illustrate the developed theorem by deriving the power tail asymptotics of the solution R to the linear equation $R \stackrel{\mathcal{D}}{=} \sum_{i=1}^N C_i R_i + Q$.

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MSC: primary 60H25; secondary 60F10; 60K05; 60J80

Keywords: Implicit renewal theory; Weighted branching processes; Multiplicative cascades; Smoothing transforms; Stochastic recursions; Power laws; Large deviations; Stochastic fixed point equations

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1. Introduction

Many applied probability problems, ranging from the average case analysis of algorithms to statistical physics, reduce to distributional fixed point equations of the form

$$R \stackrel{\mathcal{D}}{=} f(Q, C_i, R_i, 1 \leq i \leq N), \quad (1.1)$$

where $f(\cdot)$ is a possibly random real-valued function, $N \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$, $\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$, $\{C_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ are real-valued random weights and $\{R_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ are i.i.d. copies of R , independent of (Q, N, C_1, C_2, \dots) . For a recent survey of a variety of problems where these equations appear see [1]. The solutions to these types of equations can be recursively constructed on a weighted branching tree, where N represents the generic branching variable and the $\{C_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ are the branching weights. For this reason, we also refer to (1.1) as recursions on weighted branching trees.

In this paper, we develop an Implicit Renewal Theorem, stated in [Theorem 3.4](#), that enables the characterization of the power tail behavior of the solutions R to many equations of multiplicative nature of the form in (1.1). This result extends the prior work in [16], which assumed nonnegative weights $\{C_i\}$, to general real-valued weights. This work also fully generalizes the Implicit Renewal Theorem of Goldie (1991) [11], which was derived for equations of the form $R \stackrel{\mathcal{D}}{=} f(Q, C, R)$ (equivalently $N \equiv 1$ in our case), to recursions (fixed point equations) on trees. Note that even in the classical non-branching problem the proof of the mixed sign case is quite involved, see the proof of Case 2 on pp. 145–149 in [11]. We provide here a streamlined matrix form derivation of [Theorem 2.3](#) in [11] that seamlessly extends to trees. For completeness, we also derive the lattice version of our implicit renewal theorem in [Theorem 3.7](#). One of the key observations leading to [Theorems 3.4](#) and [3.7](#) is that an appropriately constructed measure on a weighted branching tree is a matrix renewal measure, see [Lemma 3.3](#) and [Eq. \(3.12\)](#).

We illustrate the developed theorem by deriving the power tail asymptotics of the nonhomogeneous linear recursion

$$R \stackrel{\mathcal{D}}{=} \sum_{i=1}^N C_i R_i + Q, \quad (1.2)$$

where $N \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$, $\{C_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ are real-valued random weights, Q is a real-valued random variable with $P(Q \neq 0) > 0$ and $\{R_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ are i.i.d. copies of R , independent of (N, C_1, C_2, \dots) . For a recent application of the preceding recursions to the stochastic analysis of Google's PageRank algorithm see [15,16,26] and the references therein. In the context of Google's PageRank algorithm, R represents the rank of a generic page, N is the number of neighbors of such a page, and the $\{C_i\}$ are the weights that determine the contribution of each neighboring page to the total rank R . Here, we argue that if the pointer by neighbor i represents a negative reference, then the weight C_i of such a reference should be negative as well, i.e., negative references should not increase the rank of R . Hence, in this paper, we allow the weights $\{C_i\}$ to be possibly negative. Recursion (1.2) appears in the probabilistic analysis of other algorithms as well, e.g., [1,4,10,14–16,20,22–24]. In addition, [Eq. \(1.2\)](#) generalizes other well studied problems in the literature, e.g.: for $N \equiv 1$, it reduces to an autoregressive process of order one and for $C_i \equiv \text{constant}$, R represents the busy period of an M/G/1 queue (e.g. see [27]). The homogeneous ($Q \equiv 0$) version of (1.2) has been studied extensively in the literature of weighted branching processes and multiplicative cascades, see [2,3,6,9,13,17,19,20] and the references therein.

We apply the developed Implicit Renewal Theorem to the nonhomogeneous recursion (1.2) following a similar approach as that for the nonnegative case in [16]. We start by constructing an

explicit solution on a weighted branching tree and provide sufficient conditions for the finiteness of its moments. In addition, under quite general conditions, it can be shown that this solution is unique under iterations, see Lemma 4.5 in [16]. However, the fixed point equation (1.2) can have additional stable solutions, as it was recently discovered in [4]; earlier work for the case when $\{C_i\}$, Q are deterministic real-valued constants can be found in [5]. Then, the main result, which characterizes the power-tail behavior of the constructed solution R to (1.2) is presented in Theorem 4.6.

The key technical difficulty in applying the Implicit Renewal Theorem (Theorems 3.4 and 3.7) to various specific recursions on trees is to verify conditions (3.2)–(3.5). Note that verifying such conditions is difficult even in the $N \equiv 1$ case [11]. Consequently, we develop technical lemmas, Lemmas 4.8–4.11, that facilitate the proof of the asymptotics for the solution of (1.2), see Theorem 4.6. These intermediate results are generalizations of the corresponding lemmas in [16], but the treatment of real-valued weights requires a new set of arguments. The above mentioned lemmas transform conditions (3.2)–(3.5) into moment conditions directly verifiable from the specific recursion being analyzed, and are therefore needed to derive the asymptotics of the solutions to other fixed point equations as well. For example, similarly as in [16], one can study the following distributional equations

$$R \stackrel{\mathcal{D}}{=} \left(\bigvee_{i=1}^N C_i R_i \right) \vee Q, \quad R \stackrel{\mathcal{D}}{=} \left(\bigvee_{i=1}^N C_i R_i \right) + Q, \quad R \stackrel{\mathcal{D}}{=} \left(\sum_{i=1}^N C_i R_i \right) \vee Q; \quad (1.3)$$

see Remark 4.12 for additional details. The majority of the proofs are postponed to Section 5.

2. Weighed branching tree

First we construct a random tree \mathcal{T} . We use the notation \emptyset to denote the root node of \mathcal{T} , and $A_n, n \geq 0$, to denote the set of all individuals in the n th generation of \mathcal{T} , $A_0 = \{\emptyset\}$. Let Z_n be the number of individuals in the n th generation, that is, $Z_n = |A_n|$, where $|\cdot|$ denotes the cardinality of a set; in particular, $Z_0 = 1$.

Next, let $\mathbb{N}_+ = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ be the set of positive integers and let $U = \bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} (\mathbb{N}_+)^k$ be the set of all finite sequences $\mathbf{i} = (i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n)$, where by convention $\mathbb{N}_+^0 = \{\emptyset\}$ contains the null sequence \emptyset . To ease the exposition, for a sequence $\mathbf{i} = (i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k) \in U$ we write $\mathbf{i}|n = (i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n)$, provided $k \geq n$, and $\mathbf{i}|0 = \emptyset$ to denote the index truncation at level $n, n \geq 0$. Also, for $\mathbf{i} \in A_1$ we simply use the notation $\mathbf{i} = i_1$, that is, without the parenthesis. Similarly, for $\mathbf{i} = (i_1, \dots, i_n)$ we will use $(\mathbf{i}, j) = (i_1, \dots, i_n, j)$ to denote the index concatenation operation, if $\mathbf{i} = \emptyset$, then $(\mathbf{i}, j) = j$.

We iteratively construct the tree as follows. Let N be the number of individuals born to the root node \emptyset , $N_\emptyset = N$, and let $\{N_{\mathbf{i}}\}_{\mathbf{i} \in U, \mathbf{i} \neq \emptyset}$ be i.i.d. copies of N . Define now

$$A_1 = \{i \in \mathbb{N} : 1 \leq i \leq N\}, \quad A_n = \{(\mathbf{i}, i_n) \in U : \mathbf{i} \in A_{n-1}, 1 \leq i_n \leq N_{\mathbf{i}}\}. \quad (2.1)$$

It follows that the number of individuals $Z_n = |A_n|$ in the n th generation, $n \geq 1$, satisfies the branching recursion

$$Z_n = \sum_{\mathbf{i} \in A_{n-1}} N_{\mathbf{i}}.$$

Now, we construct the weighted branching tree $\mathcal{T}_{Q,C}$ as follows. Let $\{(Q_{\mathbf{i}}, N_{\mathbf{i}}, C_{(i,1)}, C_{(i,2)}, \dots)\}_{\mathbf{i} \in U, \mathbf{i} \neq \emptyset}$ be a sequence of i.i.d. copies of (Q, N, C_1, C_2, \dots) . Recall that N_\emptyset determines

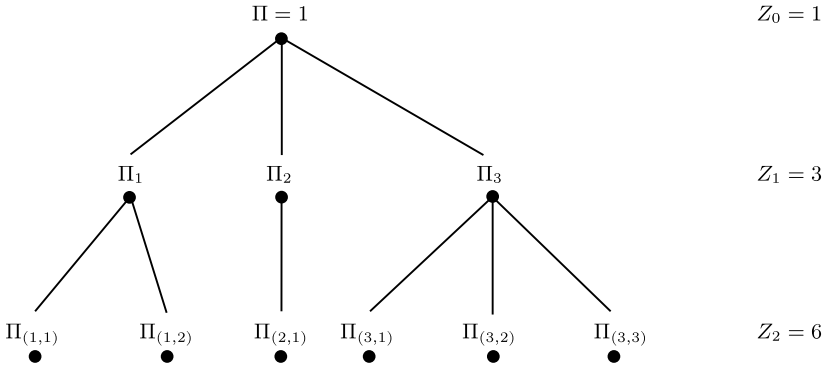


Fig. 1. Weighted branching tree.

the number of nodes in the first generation of \mathcal{T} according to (2.1), and assign to each node in the first generation its corresponding vector $(Q_i, N_i, C_{(i,1)}, C_{(i,2)}, \dots)$ from the preceding i.i.d. sequence. In general, for $n \geq 2$, to each node $\mathbf{i} \in A_{n-1}$ we assign its corresponding $(Q_{\mathbf{i}}, N_{\mathbf{i}}, C_{(\mathbf{i},1)}, C_{(\mathbf{i},2)}, \dots)$ from the sequence and construct $A_n = \{(\mathbf{i}, i_n) \in U : \mathbf{i} \in A_{n-1}, 1 \leq i_n \leq N_{\mathbf{i}}\}$. For each node in $\mathcal{T}_{Q,C}$ we also define the weight $\Pi_{(i_1, \dots, i_n)}$ via the recursion

$$\Pi_{i_1} = C_{i_1}, \quad \Pi_{(i_1, \dots, i_n)} = C_{(i_1, \dots, i_n)} \Pi_{(i_1, \dots, i_{n-1})}, \quad n \geq 2,$$

where $\Pi = 1$ is the weight of the root node. Note that the weight $\Pi_{(i_1, \dots, i_n)}$ is equal to the product of all the weights $C_{(\cdot)}$ along the branch leading to node (i_1, \dots, i_n) , as depicted in Fig. 1. In some places, e.g., in the following section, the value of Q may be of no importance, and thus we will consider a weighted branching tree defined by the smaller vector (N, C_1, C_2, \dots) . This tree can be obtained from $\mathcal{T}_{Q,C}$ by simply disregarding the values for $Q_{(\cdot)}$ and is denoted by \mathcal{T}_C .

Studying recursions and fixed point equations embedded in this weighted branching tree is the objective of this paper.

3. Implicit renewal theorem on trees

In this section we present an extension of Goldie’s Implicit Renewal Theorem [11] to weighted branching trees with real-valued weights $\{C_i\}$. The key observation that facilitates the generalization, which shows that a certain measure on a tree is a matrix product measure, is given in the following lemma; its proof is given in Section 5.1. For the case of nonnegative weights, a similar observation was made for a scalar measure in [7]. Throughout the paper we use the standard convention $0^\alpha \log 0 = 0$ for all $\alpha > 0$ and the notation $x^+ = \max\{x, 0\}$, $x^- = -\min\{x, 0\} = (-x)^+$.

Let $\mathbf{F} = (F_{ij})$ be an $n \times n$ matrix whose elements are finite nonnegative measures concentrated on \mathbb{R} . The convolution $\mathbf{F} * \mathbf{G}$ of two such matrices is the matrix with elements $(\mathbf{F} * \mathbf{G})_{ij} \triangleq \sum_{k=1}^n F_{ik} * G_{kj}$, $j = 1, \dots, n$, where $F_{ik} * G_{kj}$ is the convolution of individual measures.

Definition 3.1. A matrix renewal measure is the matrix of measures

$$\mathbf{U} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \mathbf{F}^{*k},$$

where $\mathbf{F}^{*1} = \mathbf{F}$, $\mathbf{F}^{*(k+1)} = \mathbf{F}^{*k} * \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{F} * \mathbf{F}^{*k}$, $\mathbf{F}^{*0} = \delta_0 \mathbf{I}$, δ_0 is the point measure at 0, and \mathbf{I} is the identity $n \times n$ matrix.

The following definition corresponds to Definition 5 in [25].

Definition 3.2. A matrix of measures \mathbf{F} is said to be *lattice* if there exist real numbers $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ and a positive number λ such that each measure F_{ij} is concentrated on the set $\alpha_i - \alpha_j + \lambda\mathbb{Z}$. The largest number λ with this property is called the *span* of the lattice matrix of measures \mathbf{F} . A matrix of measures that is not lattice is said to be *nonlattice*.

Lemma 3.3. Let \mathcal{T}_C be the weighted branching tree defined by the vector (N, C_1, C_2, \dots) , where $N \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$ and the $\{C_i\}$ are real-valued. For any $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\mathbf{i} \in A_n$, let $V_{\mathbf{i}} = \log |\Pi_{\mathbf{i}}|$ and $X_{\mathbf{i}} = \text{sgn}(\Pi_{\mathbf{i}})$; $V_{\emptyset} \equiv 0, X_{\emptyset} \equiv 1$. For $\alpha > 0$ define the measures

$$\mu_n^{(+)}(dt) = e^{\alpha t} E \left[\sum_{\mathbf{i} \in A_n} 1(X_{\mathbf{i}} = 1, V_{\mathbf{i}} \in dt) \right],$$

$$\mu_n^{(-)}(dt) = e^{\alpha t} E \left[\sum_{\mathbf{i} \in A_n} 1(X_{\mathbf{i}} = -1, V_{\mathbf{i}} \in dt) \right],$$

for $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, and let $\eta_{\pm}(dt) = \mu_1^{(\pm)}(dt)$. Suppose that $E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^{\alpha} \right] = 1$ and that $E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^{\gamma} \right] < \infty$ for some $0 \leq \gamma < \alpha$. Then, $(\eta_+ + \eta_-)(\cdot)$ is a probability measure on \mathbb{R} that places no mass at $-\infty$, and has mean

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u \eta_+(du) + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u \eta_-(du) = E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^{\alpha} \log |C_j| \right].$$

Furthermore, if we let $\boldsymbol{\mu}_n = (\mu_n^{(+)}, \mu_n^{(-)})$, $\mathbf{e} = (1, 0)$ and $\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} \eta_+ & \eta_- \\ \eta_- & \eta_+ \end{pmatrix}$, then

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_n = (\mu_n^{(+)}, \mu_n^{(-)}) = (1, 0) \begin{pmatrix} \eta_+ & \eta_- \\ \eta_- & \eta_+ \end{pmatrix}^{*n} = \mathbf{eH}^{*n}, \tag{3.1}$$

where \mathbf{H}^{*n} denotes the n th matrix convolution of \mathbf{H} with itself.

Note that the conditions $E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^{\alpha} \right] < \infty$ and $E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^{\gamma} \right] < \infty$ for some $0 \leq \gamma < \alpha$ imply that $E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^{\alpha} (\log |C_i|)^{-} \right] < \infty$, and therefore the means of $\eta_+(\cdot)$ and $\eta_-(\cdot)$ are well-defined and strictly greater than $-\infty$. We now present a generalization of Goldie’s Implicit Renewal Theorem [11] that will enable the analysis of recursions on weighted branching trees. Note that except for the independence assumption, the random variable R and the vector (N, C_1, C_2, \dots) are arbitrary, and therefore the applicability of this theorem goes beyond the linear recursion that we study here.

Theorem 3.4. Let (N, C_1, C_2, \dots) be a random vector, where $N \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$ and the $\{C_i\}$ are real-valued. Suppose that there exists $j \geq 1$ with $P(N \geq j, |C_j| > 0) > 0$ such that the measure $P(\log |C_j| \in du, |C_j| > 0, N \geq j)$ is nonlattice. Assume further that $\mu \triangleq E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^{\alpha} \log |C_j| \right] > 0$, $E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^{\alpha} \right] = 1$, $E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^{\gamma} \right] < \infty$ for some $0 \leq \gamma < \alpha$, and that R is independent of (N, C_1, C_2, \dots) .

(a) If $\{C_i\} \geq 0$ a.s., $E[(R^+)^{\beta}] < \infty$ for any $0 < \beta < \alpha$, and

$$\int_0^{\infty} \left| P(R > t) - E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N 1(C_j R > t) \right] \right| t^{\alpha-1} dt < \infty, \tag{3.2}$$

or, respectively, $E[(R^-)^{\beta}] < \infty$ for any $0 < \beta < \alpha$, and

$$\int_0^{\infty} \left| P(R < -t) - E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N 1(C_j R < -t) \right] \right| t^{\alpha-1} dt < \infty, \tag{3.3}$$

then

$$P(R > t) \sim H_+ t^{-\alpha}, \quad t \rightarrow \infty,$$

or, respectively,

$$P(R < -t) \sim H_- t^{-\alpha}, \quad t \rightarrow \infty,$$

where $0 \leq H_{\pm} < \infty$ are given by

$$H_{\pm} = \frac{1}{\mu} \int_0^{\infty} v^{\alpha-1} \left(P((\pm 1)R > v) - E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N 1((\pm 1)C_j R > v) \right] \right) dv.$$

(b) If $P(C_j < 0, N \geq j) > 0$ for some $j \geq 1$, $E[|R|^{\beta}] < \infty$ for any $0 < \beta < \alpha$, and both (3.2) and (3.3) are satisfied, then

$$P(R > t) \sim P(R < -t) \sim H t^{-\alpha}, \quad t \rightarrow \infty,$$

where $0 \leq H = (H_+ + H_-)/2 < \infty$ is given by

$$H = \frac{1}{2\mu} \int_0^{\infty} v^{\alpha-1} \left(P(|R| > v) - E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N 1(|C_j R| > v) \right] \right) dv.$$

Remark 3.5. (i) As pointed out in [11], the statement of the theorem only has content when R^+ , R^- or $|R|$, respectively, has infinite moments of order α , since otherwise H_+ , H_- or H , respectively, are zero. (ii) Note that the case of nonnegative weights $\{C_i\} \geq 0$ a.s. was recently proved in Theorem 3.2 in [16]. Here, in the proof of Theorem 3.4 we refer to it as Case (a), and provide an alternative proof that does not require the finiteness of $E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^{\alpha} \log |C_j| \right]$; when this expectation is infinite the constants H_{\pm}, H are zero which can be interpreted as R having lighter tails than $t^{-\alpha}$. (iii) We also point out that our proof provides an alternative derivation of the classical theorem of Goldie [11] ($N = 1$) through the use of a matrix renewal measure. (iv) Note that in both cases, (a) and (b), provided that (3.2) and (3.3) hold, we have

$$P(|R| > t) \sim (H_+ + H_-)t^{-\alpha}, \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow \infty.$$

(v) To see that the condition $E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^{\gamma} \right] < \infty$ for some $0 \leq \gamma < \alpha$ is needed, consider the following example. Fix $k \geq 2$ to be such that $A = \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} 1/(j(\log j)^3)$ and $B = \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} (\log j + 3 \log \log j)/(j(\log j)^3)$ are both smaller than $1/2$, and choose $C = e^X$ where X is exponentially distributed with mean $(1 - A)$. Now set $C_j = C/(j(\log j)^3)$ for $j \geq k$ and $C_j = 0$ otherwise ($N = \infty$). Then, $E \left[\sum_{j=k}^{\infty} C_j \right] = 1$ and $E \left[\sum_{j=k}^{\infty} C_j \log C_j \right] = A^{-1}(1 - A - B) > 0$,

but $E \left[\sum_{j=k}^{\infty} C_j^\gamma \right] = \infty$ for any $0 \leq \gamma < 1$. (vi) It appears, as noted in [11], that early ideas of applying renewal theory to study the power tail asymptotics of autoregressive processes are due to [12,18].

We give below the corresponding theorem for the lattice case, for which we need the following definition.

Definition 3.6. We say that the root vector (N, C_1, C_2, \dots) is *lattice* with span λ if the matrix

$$\tilde{\mathbf{H}} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\eta}_+ & \tilde{\eta}_- \\ \tilde{\eta}_- & \tilde{\eta}_+ \end{pmatrix},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\eta}_+(dt) &= E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N 1(\text{sgn } |C_i| = 1, \log |C_i| \in dt) \right] \quad \text{and} \\ \tilde{\eta}_-(dt) &= E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N 1(\text{sgn } |C_i| = -1, \log |C_i| \in dt) \right], \end{aligned}$$

satisfies Definition 3.2 with span λ .

Theorem 3.7. Assume the root vector (N, C_1, C_2, \dots) , $N \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$, is lattice with span λ . Suppose further that $\mu = E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^\alpha \log |C_j| \right] > 0$, $E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^\alpha \right] = 1$, $E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^\gamma \right] < \infty$ for some $0 \leq \gamma < \alpha$, and that R is independent of (N, C_1, C_2, \dots) .

(a) If $\{C_i\} \geq 0$ a.s., $E \left[(R^+)^{\beta} \right] < \infty$ for any $0 < \beta < \alpha$, and

$$\int_0^\infty \left| P(R > t) - E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N 1(C_j R > t) \right] \right| t^{\alpha-1} dt < \infty, \tag{3.4}$$

or, respectively, $E \left[(R^-)^{\beta} \right] < \infty$ for any $0 < \beta < \alpha$, and

$$\int_0^\infty \left| P(R < -t) - E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N 1(C_j R < -t) \right] \right| t^{\alpha-1} dt < \infty, \tag{3.5}$$

then, for almost every $t \in \mathbb{R}$ (with respect to the Lebesgue measure),

$$P(R > e^{t+\lambda n}) \sim H_+(t) e^{-\alpha(t+\lambda n)}, \quad n \rightarrow \infty,$$

or, respectively,

$$P(R < -e^{t+\lambda n}) \sim H_-(t) e^{-\alpha(t+\lambda n)}, \quad n \rightarrow \infty,$$

where $0 \leq H_{\pm}(t) < \infty$ are given by

$$H_{\pm}(t) = \frac{\lambda}{\mu} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{\alpha(t+k\lambda)} \left(P((\pm 1)R > e^{t+k\lambda}) - E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N 1((\pm 1)C_j R > e^{t+k\lambda}) \right] \right).$$

(b) If $P(C_j < 0, N \geq j) > 0$ for some $j \geq 1$, $E[|R|^\beta] < \infty$ for any $0 < \beta < \alpha$, and both (3.2) and (3.3) are satisfied, then, for almost every $t \in \mathbb{R}$ (with respect to the Lebesgue measure),

$$P(R > e^{t+\lambda n}) \sim P(R < -e^{t+\lambda n}) \sim H(t)e^{-\alpha(t+\lambda n)}, \quad n \rightarrow \infty,$$

where $0 \leq H(t) = (H_+(t) + H_-(t))/2 < \infty$ is given by

$$H(t) = \frac{\lambda}{2\mu} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{\alpha(t+k\lambda)} \left(P(|R| > e^{t+k\lambda}) - E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N 1(|C_j R| > e^{t+k\lambda}) \right] \right).$$

Remark 3.8. (i) The absolute integrability conditions (3.4) and (3.5) can be replaced by

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq \lambda} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{\alpha(t+k\lambda)} \left| P((\pm 1)R > e^{t+k\lambda}) - E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N 1((\pm 1)C_j R > e^{t+k\lambda}) \right] \right| < \infty.$$

(ii) This theorem can be used to derive the tail behavior of the solutions to a variety of fixed point equations under the lattice assumption, e.g., those studied in [16] for the nonlattice case. In particular, one can obtain an alternative derivation of existing results in the literature for the homogeneous equation ($Q = 0$) with nonnegative weights ($C_i \geq 0$) under the lattice assumption, e.g., see Proposition 7 in [14], Theorem 2.2 in [20] and Theorem 29(b) in [21]. We refrain from such possible derivations here since our primary motivation for this work is the nonhomogeneous linear recursion (1.2). In addition, we focus on the nonlattice assumption since the results tend to be more explicit. (iii) Early results for perpetuities ($R \stackrel{D}{=} CR + Q$) in the lattice case can be found in Theorem 2(b) of [12].

Since the proof of the lattice case is very similar to that of Theorem 3.4, we postpone the proof of Theorem 3.7 to Section 5.1.

Proof of Theorem 3.4. Let \mathcal{T}_C be the weighted branching tree defined by the vector (N, C_1, C_2, \dots) . For each $\mathbf{i} \in A_n$ and all $k \leq n$ define $V_{\mathbf{i}|k} = \log |I_{\mathbf{i}|k}|$; note that $I_{\mathbf{i}|k}$ is independent of $N_{\mathbf{i}|k}$ but not of $N_{\mathbf{i}|s}$ for any $0 \leq s \leq k - 1$. Also note that $\mathbf{i}|n = \mathbf{i}$ since $\mathbf{i} \in A_n$. Let $\mathcal{F}_k, k \geq 1$, denote the σ -algebra generated by $\{(N_{\mathbf{i}}, C_{(\mathbf{i},1)}, C_{(\mathbf{i},2)}, \dots) : \mathbf{i} \in A_j, 0 \leq j \leq k - 1\}$, and let $\mathcal{F}_0 = \sigma(\emptyset, \Omega), I_{\mathbf{i}|0} \equiv 1$. Assume also that R is independent of the entire weighted tree, \mathcal{T}_C . Then, for any $t \in \mathbb{R}$, we can write $P(R > e^t)$ via a telescoping sum as follows (note that all the expectations in (3.6) are finite by Markov’s inequality and (3.11))

$$\begin{aligned} &P(R > e^t) \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left(E \left[\sum_{(\mathbf{i}|k) \in A_k} 1(I_{\mathbf{i}|k} R > e^t) \right] - E \left[\sum_{(\mathbf{i}|k+1) \in A_{k+1}} 1(I_{\mathbf{i}|k+1} R > e^t) \right] \right) \\ &\quad + E \left[\sum_{(\mathbf{i}|n) \in A_n} 1(I_{\mathbf{i}|n} R > e^t) \right] \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} E \left[\sum_{(\mathbf{i}|k) \in A_k} \left(1(I_{\mathbf{i}|k} R > e^t) - \sum_{j=1}^{N_{\mathbf{i}|k}} 1(I_{\mathbf{i}|k} C_{(\mathbf{i}|k,j)} R > e^t) \right) \right] \\ &\quad + E \left[\sum_{(\mathbf{i}|n) \in A_n} 1(I_{\mathbf{i}|n} R > e^t) \right] \end{aligned} \tag{3.6}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} E \left[\sum_{(\mathbf{i}|k) \in A_k} 1(X_{\mathbf{i}|k} = 1) E \left[1(R > e^{t-V_{\mathbf{i}|k}}) - \sum_{j=1}^{N_{\mathbf{i}|k}} 1(C_{(\mathbf{i}|k,j)} R > e^{t-V_{\mathbf{i}|k}}) \middle| \mathcal{F}_k \right] \right] \\
 &+ \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} E \left[\sum_{(\mathbf{i}|k) \in A_k} 1(X_{\mathbf{i}|k} = -1) E \left[1(R < -e^{t-V_{\mathbf{i}|k}}) - \sum_{j=1}^{N_{\mathbf{i}|k}} 1(C_{(\mathbf{i}|k,j)} R < -e^{t-V_{\mathbf{i}|k}}) \middle| \mathcal{F}_k \right] \right] \\
 &+ E \left[\sum_{(\mathbf{i}|n) \in A_n} 1(I_{\mathbf{i}|n} R > e^t) \right]. \tag{3.7}
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, define the measures $\mu_n^{(+)}$ and $\mu_n^{(-)}$ according to Lemma 3.3 and let

$$\begin{aligned}
 v_n^{(+)}(dt) &= \sum_{k=0}^n \mu_k^{(+)}(dt), & g_+(t) &= e^{\alpha t} \left(P(R > e^t) - E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N 1(C_j R > e^t) \right] \right), \\
 v_n^{(-)}(dt) &= \sum_{k=0}^n \mu_k^{(-)}(dt), & g_-(t) &= e^{\alpha t} \left(P(R < -e^t) - E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N 1(C_j R < -e^t) \right] \right), \\
 r(t) &= e^{\alpha t} P(R > e^t) \quad \text{and} \quad \delta_n(t) = e^{\alpha t} E \left[\sum_{(\mathbf{i}|n) \in A_n} 1(I_{\mathbf{i}|n} R > e^t) \right].
 \end{aligned}$$

Since R and $(N_{\mathbf{i}|k}, C_{(\mathbf{i}|k,1)}, C_{(\mathbf{i}|k,2)}, \dots)$ are independent of \mathcal{F}_k , then

$$\begin{aligned}
 E \left[1(R > e^{t-V_{\mathbf{i}|k}}) - \sum_{j=1}^{N_{\mathbf{i}|k}} 1(C_{(\mathbf{i}|k,j)} R > e^{t-V_{\mathbf{i}|k}}) \middle| \mathcal{F}_k \right] &= e^{\alpha(V_{\mathbf{i}|k}-t)} g_+(t - V_{\mathbf{i}|k}), \quad \text{and} \\
 E \left[1(R < -e^{t-V_{\mathbf{i}|k}}) - \sum_{j=1}^{N_{\mathbf{i}|k}} 1(C_{(\mathbf{i}|k,j)} R < -e^{t-V_{\mathbf{i}|k}}) \middle| \mathcal{F}_k \right] &= e^{\alpha(V_{\mathbf{i}|k}-t)} g_-(t - V_{\mathbf{i}|k}).
 \end{aligned}$$

It follows that for any $t \in \mathbb{R}$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$r(t) = (g_+ * v_{n-1}^{(+)}) (t) + (g_- * v_{n-1}^{(-)}) (t) + \delta_n(t).$$

Next, define the operator

$$\check{f}(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t e^{-(t-u)} f(u) du$$

and note that straightforward calculations give

$$\check{r}(t) = (\check{g}_+ * v_{n-1}^{(+)}) (t) + (\check{g}_- * v_{n-1}^{(-)}) (t) + \check{\delta}_n(t). \tag{3.8}$$

Now, we will show that one can pass $n \rightarrow \infty$ in the preceding identity. To this end, let $\eta_{\pm}(du) = \mu_1^{(\pm)}(du)$, and note that by Lemma 3.3 $(\eta_+ + \eta_-)(\cdot)$ is a probability measure on \mathbb{R} that places no mass at $-\infty$ and has mean,

$$\mu = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u \eta_+(du) + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u \eta_-(du) = E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^{\alpha} \log |C_j| \right] > 0.$$

To see that $(\eta_+ + \eta_-)(\cdot)$ is nonlattice note that by assumption the measure $P(\log |C_j| \in du, |C_j| > 0, N \geq j)$ is nonlattice, since, if we suppose to the contrary that it is lattice on a lattice set L , then on the complement L^c of this set we have (by conditioning on N)

$$0 = E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N 1(\log |C_i| \in L^c, |C_i| > 0) \right] \geq P(\log |C_j| \in L^c, |C_j| > 0, N \geq j) > 0,$$

which is a contradiction.

Moreover, in the notation of Lemma 3.3, $\mu_k = (\mu_k^{(+)}, \mu_k^{(-)})$, $\mathbf{e} = (1, 0)$ and $\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} \eta_+ & \eta_- \\ \eta_- & \eta_+ \end{pmatrix}$, which gives

$$\mathbf{v} = (v^{(+)}, v^{(-)}) \triangleq \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (\mu_k^{(+)}, \mu_k^{(-)}) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \mu_k = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \mathbf{eH}^{*k} = \mathbf{e} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \mathbf{H}^{*k}. \tag{3.9}$$

Also, $\eta_+ + \eta_-$ being nonlattice implies that \mathbf{H} is nonlattice.

Since $\mu \neq 0$, then $(|f| * v^{(\pm)})(t) < \infty$ for all t whenever f is directly Riemann integrable. By (3.2) and (3.3) we know that $g_{\pm} \in L_1$, and thus by Lemma 9.1 from [11], \check{g}_{\pm} is directly Riemann integrable, resulting in $(|\check{g}_{\pm}| * v^{(\pm)})(t) < \infty$ for all t . Thus, $(|\check{g}_{\pm}| * v^{(\pm)})(t) = E \left[\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{(i|k) \in A_k} e^{\alpha V_{i|k}} |\check{g}_{\pm}(t - V_{i|k})| 1(X_{i|k} = \pm 1) \right] < \infty$, implying that $E \left[\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{(i|k) \in A_k} e^{\alpha V_{i|k}} \check{g}_{\pm}(t - V_{i|k}) 1(X_{i|k} = \pm 1) \right]$ exist, and by Fubini’s theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} (\check{g}_{\pm} * v^{(\pm)})(t) &= E \left[\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{(i|k) \in A_k} e^{\alpha V_{i|k}} \check{g}_{\pm}(t - V_{i|k}) 1(X_{i|k} = \pm 1) \right] \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} E \left[\sum_{(i|k) \in A_k} e^{\alpha V_{i|k}} \check{g}_{\pm}(t - V_{i|k}) 1(X_{i|k} = \pm 1) \right] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\check{g}_{\pm} * v_n^{(\pm)})(t). \end{aligned}$$

For case (b), to see that $\check{\delta}_n(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ for all fixed t , note that from the assumptions $E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^{\alpha} \right] = 1$, $E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^{\alpha} \log |C_j| \right] > 0$, and $E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^{\gamma} \right] < \infty$ for some $0 \leq \gamma < \alpha$, there exists $0 < \beta < \alpha$ such that $E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^{\beta} \right] < 1$ (by convexity). Therefore, by the same reasoning as in the proof of Theorem 3.1 in [16],

$$\check{\delta}_n(t) \leq \frac{e^{(\alpha-\beta)t}}{\beta} E \left[\sum_{(i|n) \in A_n} |II_{i|n} R|^{\beta} \right]. \tag{3.10}$$

Similarly, one obtains bounds for Case (a) by replacing $|R|$ by either R^+ or R^- .

It remains to show that the expectation in (3.10) converges to zero as $n \rightarrow \infty$. First note that from the independence of R and \mathcal{T}_C ,

$$E \left[\sum_{(i|n) \in A_n} |II_{i|n} R|^\beta \right] = E[|R|^\beta] E \left[\sum_{(i|n) \in A_n} |II_{i|n}|^\beta \right],$$

where $E[|R|^\beta] < \infty$, for $0 < \beta < \alpha$. For the expectation involving $II_{i|n}$ condition on \mathcal{F}_{n-1} and use the independence of $(N_{i|n-1}, C_{(i|n-1,1)}, C_{(i|n-1,2)}, \dots)$ from \mathcal{F}_{n-1} , similarly as in the proof of Theorem 3.1 in [16], to obtain

$$E \left[\sum_{(i|n) \in A_n} |II_{i|n}|^\beta \right] = \left(E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^\beta \right] \right)^n. \tag{3.11}$$

Since $E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^\beta \right] < 1$, then the above converges to zero as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Hence, the preceding arguments allow us to pass $n \rightarrow \infty$ in (3.8), and obtain

$$\check{r}(t) = (\mathbf{v} * \mathbf{g})(t) = \mathbf{e}(\mathbf{U} * \mathbf{g})(t), \tag{3.12}$$

where $\mathbf{g} = (\check{g}_+, \check{g}_-)^T$ and $\mathbf{U} = \sum_{k=0}^\infty \mathbf{H}^{*k}$. To complete the analysis we need to consider two cases separately.

Case (a): $C_i \geq 0$ for all i .

For this case we have $\eta_- \equiv 0$, from where it follows that

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{e}\mathbf{U} = (1, 0) \sum_{k=0}^\infty \begin{pmatrix} \eta_+ & 0 \\ 0 & \eta_+ \end{pmatrix}^{*k} = (1, 0) \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^\infty \eta_+^{*k} & 0 \\ 0 & \sum_{k=0}^\infty \eta_+^{*k} \end{pmatrix} = \left(\sum_{k=0}^\infty \eta_+^{*k}, 0 \right),$$

which in turn implies that

$$\check{r}(t) = (\mathbf{v}^{(+)} * \check{g}_+)(t) = \sum_{k=0}^\infty (\check{g}_+ * \eta_+^{*k})(t).$$

Then, by the matrix version of the Key Renewal Theorem on the real line, Theorem 4 in [25],

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{-t} \int_0^t v^\alpha P(R > v) dv = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \check{r}(t) = \frac{1}{\mu} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \check{g}_+(u) du \triangleq H_+.$$

Clearly, $H_+ \geq 0$ since the left-hand side of the preceding equation is positive, and thus, by Lemma 9.3 in [11],

$$P(R > t) \sim H_+ t^{-\alpha}, \quad t \rightarrow \infty.$$

To derive the result for $P(R < -t)$, simply start by developing a telescoping sum for $P(R < -e^t)$ in (3.6), define $r(t) = e^{\alpha t} P(R < -e^t)$ and follow exactly the same steps to obtain

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{-t} \int_0^t v^\alpha P(R < -v) dv = \frac{1}{\mu} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \check{g}_-(u) du \triangleq H_-$$

and

$$P(R < -t) \sim H_- t^{-\alpha}, \quad t \rightarrow \infty.$$

The constants H_+ , H_- can be computed similarly as in the proof of Theorem 3.1 in [16], and are given by

$$H_{\pm} = \frac{1}{\mu} \int_0^{\infty} v^{\alpha-1} \left(P((\pm 1)R > v) - E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N 1((\pm 1)C_j R > v) \right] \right) dv.$$

Case (b): $P(C_j < 0, N \geq j) > 0$ for some $j \geq 1$.

For this case we have that η_- is nonzero. Also, note that the matrix

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{H}((-\infty, \infty)) &= \begin{pmatrix} E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^{\alpha} 1(X_j = 1) \right] & E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^{\alpha} 1(X_j = -1) \right] \\ E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^{\alpha} 1(X_j = -1) \right] & E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^{\alpha} 1(X_j = 1) \right] \end{pmatrix} \\ &\triangleq \begin{pmatrix} p & q \\ q & p \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

is irreducible and has eigenvalues $\{1, p-q\}$, and therefore spectral radius equal to one. Moreover, $(1, 1)$ and $(1, 1)^T$ are left and right eigenvalues, respectively, of $\mathbf{H}((-\infty, \infty))$ corresponding to eigenvalue one, and by assumption,

$$\begin{aligned} (1, 1) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \mathbf{H}(dx) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} &= 2 \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \eta_+(dx) + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \eta_-(dx) \right) \\ &= 2E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^{\alpha} \log |C_j| \right] = 2\mu > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, since the matrix of measures \mathbf{H} is nonlattice, Theorem 4 in [25] gives

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{U} * \mathbf{g}(t) = \frac{(1, 1)^T (1, 1)}{2\mu} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{g}(u) du = \frac{1}{2\mu} \begin{pmatrix} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\check{g}_+(u) + \check{g}_-(u)) du \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\check{g}_+(u) + \check{g}_-(u)) du \end{pmatrix},$$

from where it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{-t} \int_0^{e^t} v^{\alpha} P(R > v) dv &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \check{r}(t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{e}(\mathbf{U} * \mathbf{g})(t) \\ &= \frac{1}{2\mu} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\check{g}_+(u) + \check{g}_-(u)) du \triangleq H. \end{aligned}$$

Note that $H = (H_+ + H_-)/2$, and by Lemma 9.3 in [11],

$$P(R > t) \sim Ht^{-\alpha}, \quad t \rightarrow \infty.$$

To derive the result for $P(R < -t)$ simply start by defining $r(t) = e^{\alpha t} P(R < -e^t)$, which in this case leads to the same asymptotics as above, that is,

$$P(R < -t) \sim Ht^{-\alpha}, \quad t \rightarrow \infty.$$

Finally, we note, by using the representations for H_+ and H_- from Case (a), that

$$H = \frac{H_+ + H_-}{2} = \frac{1}{2\mu} \int_0^\infty v^{\alpha-1} \left(P(|R| > v) - E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N 1(|C_j R| > v) \right] \right) dv. \quad \square$$

4. The linear recursion: $R = \sum_{i=1}^N C_i R_i + Q$

Motivated by the information ranking problem on the internet, e.g., Google’s PageRank algorithm [15,16,26], in this section we apply the implicit renewal theory for trees developed in the previous section to the following linear recursion

$$R \stackrel{\mathcal{D}}{=} \sum_{i=1}^N C_i R_i + Q, \tag{4.1}$$

where $N \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$, $\{C_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ are real-valued random weights, Q is a real-valued random variable with $P(Q \neq 0) > 0$ and $\{R_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ are i.i.d. copies of R , independent of (N, C_1, C_2, \dots) . Note that the power tail of R for the case $Q \geq 0$, $\{C_i \geq 0\}$ was previously studied in [16], the critical homogeneous case ($Q \equiv 0$) with $\{C_i \geq 0\}$ was considered in [14,20].

The first result we need to establish is the existence and finiteness of a solution to (4.1). For the purpose of existence we will provide an explicit construction of a solution R to (4.1) on a tree. Note that such constructed R will be the main object of study of this section.

Recall that throughout the paper the convention is to denote the random vector associated to the root node \emptyset by $(Q, N, C_1, C_2, \dots) \equiv (Q_\emptyset, N_\emptyset, C_{(\emptyset,1)}, C_{(\emptyset,2)}, \dots)$.

We now formally define the process

$$W_0 = Q, \quad W_n = \sum_{i \in A_n} Q_i I_i, \quad n \geq 1, \tag{4.2}$$

on the weighted branching tree $\mathcal{T}_{Q,C}$, as constructed in Section 2.

Define formally the process $\{R^{(n)}\}_{n \geq 0}$ according to

$$R^{(n)} = \sum_{k=0}^n W_k, \quad n \geq 0, \tag{4.3}$$

that is, $R^{(n)}$ is the sum of the weights of all the nodes on the subtree up to the n th generation. It is not hard to see that $R^{(n)}$ satisfies the recursion

$$R^{(n)} = \sum_{j=1}^{N_\emptyset} C_{(\emptyset,j)} R_j^{(n-1)} + Q_\emptyset = \sum_{j=1}^N C_j R_j^{(n-1)} + Q, \quad n \geq 1, \tag{4.4}$$

where $\{R_j^{(n-1)}\}$ are independent copies of $R^{(n-1)}$ corresponding to the tree starting with individual j in the first generation and ending on the n th generation; note that $R_j^{(0)} = Q_j$. Moreover, since the tree structure repeats itself after the first generation, W_n satisfies

$$W_n \stackrel{\mathcal{D}}{=} \sum_{k=1}^N C_k W_{(n-1),k}, \tag{4.5}$$

where $\{W_{(n-1),k}\}$ is a sequence of i.i.d. random variables independent of (N, C_1, C_2, \dots) and having the same distribution as W_{n-1} .

Lemma 4.1. *If for some $0 < \beta \leq 1$, $E[|Q|^\beta] < \infty$, $E\left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^\beta\right] < 1$, then $R^{(n)} \rightarrow R$ a.s. as $n \rightarrow \infty$, where $E[|R|^\beta] < \infty$ and is given by*

$$R \triangleq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} W_n. \tag{4.6}$$

Remark 4.2. If $E[N] < 1$ the tree is finite a.s. and thus R is finite a.s. for any choice of Q and $\{C_i\}$.

Proof of Lemma 4.1. By Corollary 4 on p. 68 in [8], the a.s. convergence of $R^{(n)}$ will follow once we show that, in probability,

$$\sup_{m>n} |R^{(m)} - R^{(n)}| \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

To this end, note that for any $\epsilon > 0$

$$P\left(\sup_{m>n} |R^{(m)} - R^{(n)}| > \epsilon\right) \leq P\left(\sum_{i=n+1}^{\infty} |W_i| > \epsilon\right) \leq \frac{1}{\epsilon^\beta} E\left[\sum_{i=n+1}^{\infty} |W_i|^\beta\right], \tag{4.7}$$

where the last step follows from Chebyshev’s inequality and the elementary inequality $(\sum_i y_i)^\beta \leq \sum_i y_i^\beta$ for $y_i \geq 0$ and $0 < \beta \leq 1$; this elementary inequality is used repeatedly in the remainder of this proof and paper. Now, the last sum can be easily evaluated since by Lemma 4.3 we have

$$E[|W_i|^\beta] \leq E[|Q|^\beta] \rho_\beta^i,$$

where $\rho_\beta = E\left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^\beta\right]$. Therefore, by combining the preceding two inequalities we obtain

$$P\left(\sup_{m>n} |R^{(m)} - R^{(n)}| > \epsilon\right) \leq \frac{1}{\epsilon^\beta} \cdot \frac{E[|Q|^\beta] \rho_\beta^{n+1}}{1 - \rho_\beta} \rightarrow 0$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$, which completes the proof of the a.s. convergence part. Thus, the infinite sum in (4.6) is properly defined and

$$E[|R|^\beta] \leq E\left[\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} |W_i|^\beta\right] = \frac{E[|Q|^\beta]}{1 - \rho_\beta} < \infty. \quad \square$$

Furthermore, under the assumption of the preceding lemma, it is easy to see that the sum of all the absolute values of the weights on the tree are a.s. finite, i.e.,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{i \in A_n} |Q_i I_i| < \infty \quad \text{a.s.}$$

Hence, it can be easily seen from the construction of R on the tree, that it can be decomposed into the following identity

$$R = \sum_{j=1}^{N_\emptyset} C_{(\emptyset,j)} R_j + Q_\emptyset = \sum_{j=1}^N C_j R_j + Q,$$

where $\{R_j\}$ are independent copies of R corresponding to the infinite subtree starting with individual j in the first generation. The derivation provided above implies in particular the

existence of a solution in distribution to (4.1). Moreover, we will show in the following section that, under additional technical conditions, R is the unique solution under iterations. The constructed R , as defined in (4.6), is the main object of study in the remainder of this section. Note that, in view of the very recent work in [4], (4.1) may have other stable law solutions that are not considered here.

4.1. Moments of W_n and R

In order to establish the finiteness of moments of W_n and R let $A_{\mathcal{T}} = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n$ and note that

$$|W_n| \leq \sum_{i \in A_n} |Q_i| |I_i|, \quad n \geq 1,$$

$$\text{and } |R| \leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |W_n| \leq \sum_{i \in A_{\mathcal{T}}} |Q_i| |I_i|,$$

so Lemmas 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4 in [16] apply and we immediately obtain the following results. Throughout the rest of the paper we use $\rho_{\beta} = E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^{\beta} \right]$ and $\rho \equiv \rho_1$.

Lemma 4.3. *Let $0 < \beta \leq 1$. Then, for all $n \geq 0$,*

$$E[|W_n|^{\beta}] \leq E[|Q|^{\beta}] \rho_{\beta}^n.$$

Lemma 4.4. *Let $\beta > 1$ and suppose $E \left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i| \right)^{\beta} \right] < \infty$, $E[|Q|^{\beta}] < \infty$, and $\rho \vee \rho_{\beta} < 1$. Then, there exists a constant $K_{\beta} < \infty$ such that for all $n \geq 0$,*

$$E[|W_n|^{\beta}] \leq K_{\beta} (\rho \vee \rho_{\beta})^n.$$

Lemma 4.5. *Assume $E[|Q|^{\beta}] < \infty$ for some $\beta > 0$. In addition, suppose either (i) $\rho_{\beta} < 1$ if $0 < \beta < 1$, or (ii) $(\rho \vee \rho_{\beta}) < 1$ and $E \left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i| \right)^{\beta} \right] < \infty$ if $\beta \geq 1$. Then, $E[|R|^{\gamma}] < \infty$ for all $0 < \gamma \leq \beta$. Moreover, if $\beta \geq 1$, $R^{(n)} \xrightarrow{L_{\beta}} R$, where L_{β} stands for convergence in $(E|\cdot|^{\beta})^{1/\beta}$ norm.*

4.2. Asymptotic behavior

We now characterize the tail behavior of the distribution of the solution R to the nonhomogeneous equation (4.1), as defined by (4.6).

Theorem 4.6. *Let (Q, N, C_1, C_2, \dots) be a random vector, with $N \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$, $\{C_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ real-valued weights, Q a real-valued random variable with $P(|Q| > 0) > 0$ and R be the solution to (4.1) given by (4.6). Suppose that there exists $j \geq 1$ with $P(N \geq j, |C_j| > 0) > 0$ such that the measure $P(\log |C_j| \in du, |C_j| > 0, N \geq j)$ is nonlattice, and that for some*

$\alpha > 0$, $E[|Q|^\alpha] < \infty$, $\mu = E\left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^\alpha \log |C_i|\right] > 0$ and $E\left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^\alpha\right] = 1$. In addition, assume

- (1) $E\left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|\right] < 1$ and $E\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|\right)^\alpha\right] < \infty$, if $\alpha > 1$; or,
- (2) $E\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^{\alpha/(1+\epsilon)}\right)^{1+\epsilon}\right] < \infty$ for some $0 < \epsilon < 1$, if $0 < \alpha \leq 1$.

Then,

(a) if $\{C_i\} \geq 0$ a.s.

$$P(R > t) \sim H_+ t^{-\alpha}, \quad P(R < -t) \sim H_- t^{-\alpha}, \quad t \rightarrow \infty,$$

where $H_\pm \geq 0$ are given by

$$\begin{aligned} H_\pm &= \frac{1}{\mu} \int_0^\infty v^{\alpha-1} \left(P((\pm 1)R > v) - E\left[\sum_{i=1}^N 1((\pm 1)C_i R > v)\right] \right) dv \\ &= \frac{1}{\alpha\mu} E\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N C_i R_i + Q\right)^\pm - \sum_{i=1}^N (C_i R_i)^\pm\right]. \end{aligned}$$

(b) if $P(C_j < 0, N \geq j) > 0$ for some $j \geq 1$,

$$P(R > t) \sim P(R < -t) \sim H t^{-\alpha}, \quad t \rightarrow \infty,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} H &= \frac{1}{2\mu} \int_0^\infty v^{\alpha-1} \left(P(|R| > v) - E\left[\sum_{i=1}^N 1(|C_i R| > v)\right] \right) dv \\ &= \frac{1}{2\alpha\mu} E\left[\left|\sum_{i=1}^N C_i R_i + Q\right|^\alpha - \sum_{i=1}^N |C_i R_i|^\alpha\right]. \end{aligned}$$

Remark 4.7. (i) When $\alpha > 1$, the condition $E\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|\right)^\alpha\right] < \infty$ is needed to ensure that the tails of R are not dominated by N . In particular, if the $\{C_i\}$ are nonnegative i.i.d. and independent of N , the condition reduces to $E[N^\alpha] < \infty$ since $E[C^\alpha] < \infty$ is implied by the other conditions; see Theorems 4.2 and 5.4 in [15]. Furthermore, when $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ the condition $E\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|\right)^\alpha\right] < \infty$ is redundant since $E\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|\right)^\alpha\right] \leq E\left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^\alpha\right] = 1$, and the additional condition $E\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^{\alpha/(1+\epsilon)}\right)^{1+\epsilon}\right] < \infty$ is needed. When the $\{C_i\}$ are nonnegative i.i.d. and independent of N (given the other assumptions), the latter condition reduces to $E[N^{1+\epsilon}] < \infty$, which is consistent with Theorem 4.2 in [15]. (ii) Note that the expressions for H_\pm and H given in terms of moments are more suitable for actually computing them, especially in the case of α being an integer (see Corollary 4.9 in [16]). When α is not an integer, we can derive bounds on H_\pm and H by using moment inequalities, e.g., in the case when

$Q \geq 0$ and $\{C_i \geq 0\}$, the elementary inequality $\left(\sum_{i=1}^k x_i\right)^\alpha \geq \sum_{i=1}^k x_i^\alpha$ for $\alpha \geq 1$ and $x_i \geq 0$, yields

$$H_+ \geq \frac{E[Q^\alpha]}{\alpha E\left[\sum_{i=1}^N C_i^\alpha \log C_i\right]} > 0.$$

Before giving the proof of Theorem 4.6, we state the following preliminary lemmas; their proofs are contained in Section 5.2. With some abuse of notation, we will use throughout the paper $\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} x_i$ to denote $\sup_{1 \leq i < N+1} x_i$ in case $N = \infty$.

Lemma 4.8. *Suppose (N, C_1, C_2, \dots) is a random vector with $N \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\{C_i\}$ real-valued random variables. Let $\{R_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of i.i.d. real-valued random variables having the same distribution as R , independent of (N, C_1, C_2, \dots) . Further assume $\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i R_i| < \infty$ a.s., $E\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|\right)^\beta\right] < \infty$ for some $\beta > 1$, and $E[|R|^\eta] < \infty$ for all $0 < \eta < \beta$. Then, for $d(t)$ equal to any of the functions t^+, t^- or $|t|$,*

$$E\left[\left|d\left(\sum_{i=1}^N C_i R_i\right)^\beta - \sum_{i=1}^N d(C_i R_i)^\beta\right|\right] < \infty.$$

Lemma 4.9. *Suppose (N, C_1, C_2, \dots) is a random vector with $N \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\{C_i\}$ real-valued random variables. Let $\{R_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of i.i.d. real-valued random variables having the same distribution as R , independent of (N, C_1, C_2, \dots) . Further assume $\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i R_i| < \infty$ a.s., $E\left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^\beta\right] < \infty$, $E\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^{\beta/(1+\epsilon)}\right)^{1+\epsilon}\right] < \infty$ for some $0 < \beta \leq 1, 0 < \epsilon < 1$, and $E[|R|^\eta] < \infty$ for all $0 < \eta < \beta$. Then, for $d(t)$ equal to any of the functions t^+, t^- or $|t|$,*

$$E\left[\left|d\left(\sum_{i=1}^N C_i R_i\right)^\beta - \sum_{i=1}^N d(C_i R_i)^\beta\right|\right] < \infty.$$

Lemma 4.10. *Suppose (N, C_1, C_2, \dots) is a random vector, with $N \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$ and $\{C_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ real-valued weights, and let $\{R_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of i.i.d. random variables having the same distribution as R , independent of (N, C_1, C_2, \dots) . For $\alpha > 0$, suppose that $\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i R_i|^\alpha < \infty$ a.s. and $E[|R|^\beta] < \infty$ for any $0 < \beta < \alpha$. Furthermore, assume that $E\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^{\alpha/(1+\epsilon)}\right)^{1+\epsilon}\right] < \infty$ for some $0 < \epsilon < 1$. Then,*

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \int_0^\infty \left(E\left[\sum_{i=1}^N 1(T_i > t)\right] - P\left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} T_i > t\right) \right) t^{\alpha-1} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{\alpha} E\left[\sum_{i=1}^N (T_i^+)^\alpha - \left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} T_i\right)^+\right]^\alpha < \infty, \end{aligned}$$

where T_i can be taken to be any of the random variables $C_i R_i, -C_i R_i$, or $|C_i R_i|$.

Lemma 4.11. Let (Q, N, C_1, C_2, \dots) be a random vector with $N \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$, $\{C_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ real-valued weights and Q real-valued, and let $\{R_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of i.i.d. random variables independent of (Q, N, C_1, C_2, \dots) . Suppose that for some $\alpha > 0$ we have $E[|Q|^\alpha] < \infty$, $E\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|\right)^\alpha\right] < \infty$, $E[|R|^\beta] < \infty$ for any $0 < \beta < \alpha$, and $\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i R_i| < \infty$ a.s. Then, for $d(t)$ equal to any of the functions t^+ , t^- or $|t|$,

$$E \left[\left| d \left(\sum_{i=1}^N C_i R_i + Q \right) - d \left(\sum_{i=1}^N C_i R_i \right) \right|^\alpha \right] < \infty.$$

Remark 4.12. As previously stated in the introduction, the preceding four lemmas can be directly applied to analyze other max-plus recursions as well, such as those mentioned in (1.3). In particular, Theorem 5.1 in [16], which analyzes the recursion $R \stackrel{D}{=} \left(\bigvee_{i=1}^N C_i R_i\right) \vee Q$, can be extended to real-valued weights by replacing Lemma 4.6 in [16] with Lemma 4.10 above. For more details see [16].

Proof of Theorem 4.6. By Lemma 4.5 we know that $E[|R|^\beta] < \infty$ for any $0 < \beta < \alpha$. To verify that $E\left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^\gamma\right] < \infty$ for some $0 \leq \gamma < \alpha$ follow the arguments used at the beginning of the proof of Theorem 4.1 in [16] applied to the $|C_i|$.

The statement of the theorem with the first expressions for H_+ , H_- , H will follow from Theorem 3.4 once we prove that conditions (3.2) and (3.3) hold. To this end, define

$$R^* = \sum_{i=1}^N C_i R_i + Q,$$

and let T_i be any of $C_i R_i$, $-C_i R_i$ or $|C_i R_i|$, depending on which condition is being verified; respectively, let T^* be the corresponding R^* , $-R^*$ or $|R^*|$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| P(T^* > t) - E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N 1(T_i > t) \right] \right| &\leq \left| P(T^* > t) - P \left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} T_i > t \right) \right| \\ &\quad + \left| P \left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} T_i > t \right) - E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N 1(T_i > t) \right] \right|. \end{aligned}$$

To analyze the second absolute value, note that

$$\begin{aligned} E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N 1(T_i > t) \right] - P \left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} T_i > t \right) \\ = E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N 1(T_i > t) \right] - E \left[1 \left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} T_i > t \right) \right] \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Now it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| P(T^* > t) - E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N 1(T_i > t) \right] \right| &\leq \left| P(T^* > t) - P \left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} T_i > t \right) \right| \\ &\quad + E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N 1(T_i > t) \right] - P \left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} T_i > t \right). \quad (4.8) \end{aligned}$$

Note that the integral corresponding to (4.8) is finite by Lemma 4.10 if we show that the assumptions of Lemma 4.10 are satisfied when $\alpha > 1$. Note that in this case we can choose $\epsilon > 0$ such that $\alpha/(1+\epsilon) \geq 1$ and use the inequality $\sum_{i=1}^k x_i^\beta \leq \left(\sum_{i=1}^k x_i\right)^\beta$ for $\beta \geq 1, x_i \geq 0, k \leq \infty$ to obtain

$$E \left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^{\alpha/(1+\epsilon)} \right)^{1+\epsilon} \right] \leq E \left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i| \right)^\alpha \right] < \infty.$$

Therefore, it only remains to show that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^\infty \left| P(T^* > t) - P\left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} T_i > t\right) \right| t^{\alpha-1} dt \\ & \leq \int_0^\infty E \left[\left| 1(T^* > t) - 1\left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} T_i > t\right) \right| \right] t^{\alpha-1} dt < \infty. \end{aligned} \tag{4.9}$$

By Lemma 5.3 in Section 5.2,

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^\infty E \left[\left| 1(T^* > t) - 1\left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} T_i > t\right) \right| \right] t^{\alpha-1} dt \\ & \leq \frac{1}{\alpha} E \left[\left| (T^*)^\alpha - \left(\left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} T_i \right)^+ \right)^\alpha \right| \right] \\ & \leq \frac{1}{\alpha} E \left[\left| (T^*)^\alpha - \sum_{i=1}^N (T_i^+)^alpha \right| \right] \end{aligned} \tag{4.10}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{\alpha} E \left[\left| \sum_{i=1}^N (T_i^+)^alpha - \left(\left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} T_i \right)^+ \right)^\alpha \right| \right]. \tag{4.11}$$

Note that (4.11) is finite by Lemma 4.10, so it only remains to verify that (4.10) is finite. To see this let $d(t) = t^+, t^-$ or $|t|$ depending on whether (T^*, T_i) is $(R^*, C_i R_i), (-R^*, -C_i R_i)$ or $(|R^*|, |C_i R_i|)$, respectively, and let $S = \sum_{i=1}^N C_i R_i$. Then, the expectation in (4.10) is equal to

$$\begin{aligned} E \left[\left| d(S + Q)^\alpha - \sum_{i=1}^N d(C_i R_i)^\alpha \right| \right] & \leq E [|d(S + Q)^\alpha - d(S)^\alpha|] \\ & + E \left[\left| d(S)^\alpha - \sum_{i=1}^N d(C_i R_i)^\alpha \right| \right]. \end{aligned}$$

The first expectation on the right hand side is finite by Lemma 4.11, while the second one is finite by Lemmas 4.8 and 4.9.

Finally, applying Theorem 3.4 gives the asymptotic expressions for $P(R > t)$ and $P(R < -t)$ with the integral representation of the constants H_+, H_- and H . To obtain the expressions for H_+, H_- and H in terms of moments we can use the same arguments used at the end of the proof of Theorem 4.1 in [16].

This completes the proof. \square

5. Proofs

We separate the proofs corresponding to Sections 3 and 4 into the following two subsections.

5.1. Implicit renewal theorem on trees

This section contains the proofs of Lemma 3.3 and Theorem 3.7.

Proof of Lemma 3.3. To see that $\eta_+ + \eta_-$ is a probability measure note that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \eta_{\pm}(du) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{\alpha u} E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N 1(X_j = \pm 1, \log |C_j| \in du) \right] \\ &= E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N 1(X_j = \pm 1) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{\alpha u} 1(\log |C_j| \in du) \right] \quad (\text{by Fubini's Theorem}) \\ &= E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N 1(X_j = \pm 1) |C_j|^{\alpha} \right] \end{aligned}$$

We then have that

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \eta_+(du) + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \eta_-(du) = E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^{\alpha} \right] = 1.$$

Similarly, by the remark following the statement of the lemma, the mean of $\eta_+ + \eta_-$ exists and is given by

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u\eta_+(du) + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u\eta_-(du) = E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^{\alpha} \log |C_j| \right].$$

To show that (3.1) holds we proceed by induction. For $\mathbf{i} \in A_n$, set $V_{\mathbf{i}} = \log |I_{\mathbf{i}}|$, and let $\mathcal{F}_n, n \geq 1$, denote the σ -algebra generated by $\{(N_{\mathbf{i}}, C_{(\mathbf{i},1)}, C_{(\mathbf{i},2)}, \dots) : \mathbf{i} \in A_j, 0 \leq j \leq n - 1\}$; $\mathcal{F}_0 = \sigma(\emptyset, \Omega), \Pi \equiv 1$. Let $Y_{\mathbf{i}} = \text{sgn}(C_{\mathbf{i}})$. Hence, using this notation we derive

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{n+1}^{(+)}((-\infty, t]) &= \int_{-\infty}^t e^{\alpha u} E \left[\sum_{\mathbf{i} \in A_{n+1}} 1(X_{\mathbf{i}} = 1, V_{\mathbf{i}} \in du) \right] \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^t e^{\alpha u} E \left[\sum_{\mathbf{i} \in A_n} \sum_{j=1}^{N_{\mathbf{i}}} \left\{ 1(X_{\mathbf{i}} = 1, Y_{(\mathbf{i},j)} = 1, V_{\mathbf{i}} + \log |C_{(\mathbf{i},j)}| \in du) \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. + 1(X_{\mathbf{i}} = -1, Y_{(\mathbf{i},j)} = -1, V_{\mathbf{i}} + \log |C_{(\mathbf{i},j)}| \in du) \right\} \right] \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^t e^{\alpha u} E \left[\sum_{\mathbf{i} \in A_n} \left\{ 1(X_{\mathbf{i}} = 1) E \left[\sum_{j=1}^{N_{\mathbf{i}}} 1(Y_{(\mathbf{i},j)} = 1, V_{\mathbf{i}} + \log |C_{(\mathbf{i},j)}| \in du) \middle| \mathcal{F}_n \right] \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. + 1(X_{\mathbf{i}} = -1) E \left[\sum_{j=1}^{N_{\mathbf{i}}} 1(Y_{(\mathbf{i},j)} = -1, V_{\mathbf{i}} + \log |C_{(\mathbf{i},j)}| \in du) \middle| \mathcal{F}_n \right] \right\} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Using the independence of $(N_{\mathbf{i}}, C_{(\mathbf{i},j)}, C_{(\mathbf{i},2)}, \dots)$ and \mathcal{F}_n we obtain

$$E \left[\sum_{j=1}^{N_{\mathbf{i}}} 1(Y_{(\mathbf{i},j)} = \pm 1, V_{\mathbf{i}} + \log |C_{(\mathbf{i},j)}| \in du) \middle| \mathcal{F}_n \right] = e^{-\alpha(u-V_{\mathbf{i}})} \eta_{\pm}(du - V_{\mathbf{i}}),$$

from where it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{n+1}^{(+)}((-\infty, t]) &= \int_{-\infty}^t E \left[\sum_{\mathbf{i} \in A_n} \left\{ 1(X_{\mathbf{i}} = 1) e^{\alpha V_{\mathbf{i}}} \eta_+(du - V_{\mathbf{i}}) \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. + 1(X_{\mathbf{i}} = -1) e^{\alpha V_{\mathbf{i}}} \eta_-(du - V_{\mathbf{i}}) \right\} \right] \\ &= E \left[\sum_{\mathbf{i} \in A_n} 1(X_{\mathbf{i}} = 1) e^{\alpha V_{\mathbf{i}}} \eta_+((-\infty, t - V_{\mathbf{i}}]) \right] \\ &\quad + E \left[\sum_{\mathbf{i} \in A_n} 1(X_{\mathbf{i}} = -1) e^{\alpha V_{\mathbf{i}}} \eta_-((-\infty, t - V_{\mathbf{i}}]) \right] \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \eta_+((-\infty, t - v]) \mu_n^{(+)}(dv) + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \eta_-((-\infty, t - v]) \mu_n^{(-)}(dv), \end{aligned}$$

and hence $\mu_{n+1}^{(+)}(dt) = (\eta_+ * \mu_n^{(+)})(dt) + (\eta_- * \mu_n^{(-)})(dt)$. The same arguments also give

$$\mu_{n+1}^{(-)}(dt) = (\eta_- * \mu_n^{(+)})(dt) + (\eta_+ * \mu_n^{(-)})(dt).$$

In matrix notation the last two equations can be written as

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mu_{n+1}^{(+)} & \mu_{n+1}^{(-)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_n^{(+)} & \mu_n^{(-)} \end{pmatrix} * \begin{pmatrix} \eta_+ & \eta_- \\ \eta_- & \eta_+ \end{pmatrix},$$

and now the induction hypothesis gives the result. \square

Before going into the proof of **Theorem 3.7** we need the following lattice analogue of the monotone density lemma, Lemma 9.3 in [11].

Lemma 5.1. *Let $\alpha > 0$ and fix $t \in \mathbb{R}$. Suppose that $\int_{-\infty}^{t+\lambda n} e^{(\alpha+1)u} P(R > e^u) du \sim G(t) e^{t+\lambda n}$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, with $0 \leq G(t) < \infty$. If $H(t) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (e^h G(t+h) - G(t))/h$ exists, then*

$$P(R > e^{t+\lambda n}) \sim H(t) e^{-\alpha(t+\lambda n)}, \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Proof. Fix $0 < \delta, \epsilon < \min\{\eta, 1\}$. By assumption, for any $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$, and n sufficiently large,

$$\begin{aligned} P(R > e^{t+\lambda n}) e^{(\alpha+1)(t+\lambda n)} \cdot \frac{(e^{(\alpha+1)\delta} - 1)}{\alpha + 1} &\geq \int_{t+\lambda n}^{t+\delta+\lambda n} e^{(\alpha+1)u} P(R > e^u) du \\ &\geq (G(t + \delta) - \epsilon) e^{t+\delta+\lambda n} - (G(t) + \epsilon) e^{t+\lambda n} \\ &= e^{t+\lambda n} \left((G(t + \delta) - \epsilon) e^{\delta} - G(t) - \epsilon \right). \end{aligned}$$

Since ϵ was arbitrary, we can take the limit as $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ to obtain

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(R > e^{t+\lambda n}) e^{\alpha(t+\lambda n)} \geq \frac{\alpha + 1}{e^{(\alpha+1)\delta} - 1} \cdot (e^{\delta} G(t + \delta) - G(t)).$$

Now take the limit as $\delta \downarrow 0$ to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\delta \downarrow 0} \frac{\alpha + 1}{e^{(\alpha+1)\delta} - 1} \cdot (e^{\delta} G(t + \delta) - G(t)) \\ = \lim_{\delta \downarrow 0} \frac{(\alpha + 1)\delta}{e^{(\alpha+1)\delta} - 1} \cdot \lim_{\delta \downarrow 0} \frac{e^{\delta} G(t + \delta) - G(t)}{\delta} = H(t). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, one can prove that $\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(R > e^{t+\lambda n})e^{\alpha(t+\lambda n)} \leq H(t)$ by starting with the integral $\int_{t-\delta+\lambda n}^{t+\lambda n} e^{(\alpha+1)u} P(R > e^u) du$. \square

Now we proceed with the proof of Theorem 3.7.

Proof of Theorem 3.7. By the assumptions of the theorem, the matrix \mathbf{H} is clearly lattice with span λ .

The proof of the theorem is identical to that of Theorem 3.4 up to the point where the matrix analogue of the Key Renewal Theorem on the real line, Theorem 4 in [25], is used.

Case (a): $C_i \geq 0$ for all i .

Applying Theorem 4 in [25] we obtain that for any $t \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{-(t+\lambda n)} \int_{-\infty}^{t+\lambda n} e^{(\alpha+1)u} P(R > e^u) du &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \check{r}(t + \lambda n) \\ &= \frac{\lambda}{\mu} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \check{g}_+(t + k\lambda) \triangleq G_+(t) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{-(t+\lambda n)} \int_{-\infty}^{t+\lambda n} e^{(\alpha+1)u} P(R < -e^u) du = \frac{\lambda}{\mu} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \check{g}_-(t + k\lambda) \triangleq G_-(t).$$

We now verify that the limit $\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} (e^\delta G_\pm(t + \delta) - G_\pm(t))/\delta$ exists. To do this first define the function $H_\pm(t) \triangleq \frac{\lambda}{\mu} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} g_\pm(t + k\lambda)$ and fix $0 < \delta < \lambda$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{e^\delta G_\pm(t + \delta) - G_\pm(t)}{\delta} &= \frac{\lambda}{\delta \mu} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} (e^\delta \check{g}_\pm(t + \delta + k\lambda) - \check{g}_\pm(t + k\lambda)) \\ &= \frac{\lambda}{\delta \mu} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{t+k\lambda}^{t+\delta+k\lambda} e^{-(t+k\lambda-u)} g_\pm(u) du \\ &= \frac{\lambda}{\delta \mu} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_0^\delta e^v g_\pm(v + t + k\lambda) dv \\ &= \frac{1}{\delta} \int_0^\delta e^v H_\pm(v + t) dv \\ &= \frac{e^{-t}}{\delta} \int_t^{t+\delta} e^u H_\pm(u) du, \end{aligned}$$

where the rearrangement of summands in the first equality is justified by the absolute summability of the expressions, and the exchange of the integral and sum in the fourth equality is justified by Fubini’s theorem and the observation that by (3.4) and (3.5)

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_0^\delta e^v |g_\pm(v + t + k\lambda)| dv &\leq e^\lambda \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_0^\lambda |g_\pm(v + t + k\lambda)| dv \\ &= e^\lambda \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |g_\pm(u)| du < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\frac{e^{-\delta}G_{\pm}(t - \delta) - G_{\pm}(t)}{-\delta} = \frac{e^{-t}}{\delta} \int_{t-\delta}^t e^u H_{\pm}(u) du.$$

Taking the limit as $\delta \rightarrow 0$ and using the Lebesgue differentiation theorem gives

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^h G_{\pm}(t + h) - G_{\pm}(t)}{h} = H_{\pm}(t)$$

for almost every $t \in \mathbb{R}$.

Next, by using Lemma 5.1 we obtain

$$P(R > e^{t+\lambda n}) \sim H_+(t)e^{-\alpha(t+\lambda n)}, \quad n \rightarrow \infty,$$

and

$$P(R < -e^{t+\lambda n}) \sim H_-(t)e^{-\alpha(t+\lambda n)}, \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Case (b): $P(C_j < 0, N \geq j) > 0$ for some $j \geq 1$.

Applying Theorem 4 in [25] we obtain that for any $t \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{-(t+\lambda n)} \int_0^{e^{t+\lambda n}} v^\alpha P(R > v) dv &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \check{r}(t + \lambda n) \\ &= \frac{\lambda}{2\mu} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} (\check{g}_+(t + k\lambda) + \check{g}_-(t + k\lambda)) \triangleq G(t) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{-(t+\lambda n)} \int_0^{e^{t+\lambda n}} v^\alpha P(R > v) dv = \frac{\lambda}{2\mu} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} (\check{g}_+(t + k\lambda) + \check{g}_-(t + k\lambda)) \triangleq G(t),$$

where $G(t) = (G_+(t) + G_-(t))/2$. By using Lemma 5.1 we obtain (for almost every $t \in \mathbb{R}$)

$$P(R > e^{t+\lambda n}) \sim H(t)e^{-\alpha(t+\lambda n)}, \quad n \rightarrow \infty,$$

where $H(t) = (H_+(t) + H_-(t))/2$. \square

5.2. The linear recursion: $R = \sum_{i=1}^N C_i R_i + Q$

In this section we give the proofs of Lemmas 4.8–4.11. We also state and prove an analogue of Lemma 4.1 in [16] for the positive parts of general random variables, which will be used in the proofs of the lemmas mentioned above, and a version of Lemma 9.4 in [11] needed in the proof of Theorem 4.6.

Lemma 5.2. For any $k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$ let $\{D_i\}_{i=1}^k$ be a sequence of real-valued random variables and let $\{Y_i\}_{i=1}^k$ be a sequence of real-valued i.i.d. random variables having the same distribution as Y , independent of the $\{D_i\}$. For $\beta > 1$ set $p = \lceil \beta \rceil \in \{2, 3, 4, \dots\}$, and if $k = \infty$ assume that $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |D_i Y_i| < \infty$ a.s. Then,

$$E \left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^k (D_i Y_i)^+ \right)^\beta - \sum_{i=1}^k ((D_i Y_i)^+)^{\beta} \right] \leq E \left[|Y|^{p-1} \right]^{\beta/(p-1)} E \left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^k |D_i| \right)^\beta \right].$$

Remark. Note that the preceding lemma does not exclude the case when $E\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^k (D_i Y_i)^+\right)^\beta\right] = \infty$ but $E\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^k (D_i Y_i)^+\right)^\beta - \sum_{i=1}^k ((D_i Y_i)^+)^\beta\right] < \infty$.

Proof of Lemma 5.2. It follows the same steps used in the proof of Lemma 4.1 in [16] and the observation that $(D_i Y_i)^+ \leq |D_i Y_i|$. \square

Proof of Lemma 4.8. Suppose first that $d(t) = t^+$ and let $S_+ = \sum_{i=1}^N (C_i R_i)^+$, $S_- = \sum_{i=1}^N (C_i R_i)^-$, and $S = S_+ - S_-$, then

$$E\left[\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N C_i R_i\right)^+ - \sum_{i=1}^N ((C_i R_i)^+)^{\beta}\right]\right] \leq E\left[\sum_{i=1}^N ((C_i R_i)^+)^{\beta} 1(S_+ \leq S_-)\right] + E\left[(S_+ - S_-)^{\beta} - S_+^{\beta} \mid 1(S_+ > S_-)\right] \tag{5.1}$$

$$+ E\left[S_+^{\beta} - \sum_{i=1}^N ((C_i R_i)^+)^{\beta}\right]. \tag{5.2}$$

Note that (5.2) is finite by Lemma 5.2. The first expectation in (5.1) can be bounded as follows

$$E\left[\sum_{i=1}^N ((C_i R_i)^+)^{\beta} 1(S_+ \leq S_-)\right] = E\left[\sum_{i=1}^N E\left[((C_i R_i)^+)^{\beta} 1(S_+ \leq S_-) \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots \right]\right] = E\left[\sum_{i=1}^N E\left[(C_i R_i)^{\beta} 1(0 < C_i R_i \leq -S + C_i R_i) \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots \right]\right]. \tag{5.3}$$

When $1 < \beta \leq 2$, we have that (5.3) is bounded by

$$E\left[\sum_{i=1}^N E\left[|C_i R_i| |S - C_i R_i|^{\beta-1} \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots \right]\right] = E[|R|] E\left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i| E\left[|S - C_i R_i|^{\beta-1} \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots \right]\right] \tag{5.4}$$

$$\leq E[|R|] E\left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i| (E[|S - C_i R_i| \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots])^{\beta-1}\right] \tag{5.5}$$

$$\leq E[|R|]^{\beta} E\left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i| \left(\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|\right)^{\beta-1}\right]$$

$$= E[|R|]^{\beta} E\left[\left(\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|\right)^{\beta}\right] < \infty,$$

where in (5.4) we used the conditional independence of $C_i R_i$ and $S - C_i R_i$ and in (5.5) we used Jensen’s inequality. Now, when $\beta > 2$ (5.3) is bounded by

$$\begin{aligned}
 & E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N E \left[|C_i R_i|^{\beta-1} |S - C_i R_i| \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots \right] \right] \\
 &= E \left[|R|^{\beta-1} \right] E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^{\beta-1} E \left[|S - C_i R_i| \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots \right] \right] \tag{5.6} \\
 &\leq E \left[|R|^{\beta-1} \right] E[|R|] E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^{\beta-1} \sum_{j=1}^N |C_j| \right] \\
 &\leq E \left[|R|^{\beta-1} \right] E[|R|] E \left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i| \right)^{\beta-1} \sum_{j=1}^N |C_j| \right] < \infty,
 \end{aligned}$$

where in (5.6) we used the conditional independence of $C_i R_i$ and $S - C_i R_i$.

For the second expectation in (5.1) we use the elementary inequality

$$|x^\beta - y^\beta| \leq \beta(x \vee y)^{\beta-1} |x - y|$$

for any $x, y \geq 0$ to obtain that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & E \left[\left| (S_+ - S_-)^\beta - S_+^\beta \right| \mathbf{1}(S_+ > S_-) \right] \tag{5.7} \\
 &\leq \beta E \left[S_+^{\beta-1} S_- \right] \\
 &= \beta E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N E \left[S_+^{\beta-1} (C_i R_i)^- \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots \right] \right] \\
 &= \beta E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N E \left[(S_+ - (C_i R_i)^+)^{\beta-1} (C_i R_i)^- \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots \right] \right] \\
 &= \beta E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N E \left[(S_+ - (C_i R_i)^+)^{\beta-1} \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots \right] E \left[(C_i R_i)^- \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots \right] \right] \\
 &\leq \beta E[|R|] E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i| E \left[S_+^{\beta-1} \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots \right] \right], \tag{5.8}
 \end{aligned}$$

where in the last equality we used the conditional independence of $(S_+ - (C_i R_i)^+)^{\beta-1}$ and $(C_i R_i)^-$. To see that (5.8) is finite note that if $1 < \beta \leq 2$, Jensen’s inequality gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i| E \left[S_+^{\beta-1} \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots \right] \right] &\leq E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i| \left(E \left[S_+ \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots \right] \right)^{\beta-1} \right] \\
 &\leq E[|R|]^{\beta-1} E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i| \left(\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j| \right)^{\beta-1} \right] < \infty.
 \end{aligned}$$

And if $\beta > 2$, we use Lemma 5.2 to obtain, for $p = \lceil \beta - 1 \rceil$,

$$\begin{aligned} & E \left[S_+^{\beta-1} \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots \right] \\ & \leq E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N ((C_j R_j)^+)^{\beta-1} \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots \right] + E \left[|R|^{p-1} \right]^{(\beta-1)/(p-1)} \left(\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j| \right)^{\beta-1} \\ & \leq E \left[|R|^{\beta-1} \right] \sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^{\beta-1} + E \left[|R|^{p-1} \right]^{(\beta-1)/(p-1)} \left(\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j| \right)^{\beta-1} \\ & \leq \left(\|R\|_{\beta-1}^{\beta-1} + \|R\|_{p-1}^{\beta-1} \right) \left(\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j| \right)^{\beta-1}, \end{aligned}$$

where $\| \cdot \|_r = (E [| \cdot |^r])^{1/r}$. Next, using the monotonicity of $\| \cdot \|_r$ it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i| E \left[S_+^{\beta-1} \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots \right] \right] \\ & \leq 2E \left[|R|^{\beta-1} \right] E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i| \left(\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j| \right)^{\beta-1} \right] < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof for $d(t) = t^+$. To obtain the same result for $d(t) = t^-$ simply note that

$$\begin{aligned} & E \left[\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N C_i R_i \right)^- - \sum_{i=1}^N ((C_i R_i)^-)^{\beta} \right] \right] \\ & = E \left[\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N (-C_i R_i) \right)^+ - \sum_{i=1}^N ((-C_i R_i)^+)^{\beta} \right] \right] \end{aligned}$$

and apply the result for $d(t) = t^+$.

Finally, for $d(t) = |t|$, we use the fact that $|x|^\beta = (x^+)^\beta + (x^-)^\beta$ for any $x \in \mathbb{R}$ to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & E \left[\left[\left| \sum_{i=1}^N C_i R_i \right|^\beta - \sum_{i=1}^N |C_i R_i|^\beta \right] \right] \\ & = E \left[\left[(S^+)^\beta + (S^-)^\beta - \sum_{i=1}^N \left(((C_i R_i)^+)^{\beta} + ((C_i R_i)^-)^{\beta} \right) \right] \right] \end{aligned}$$

which is finite by the previous cases $d(t) = t^+$ and $d(t) = t^-$. \square

Proof of Lemma 4.9. From the proof of Lemma 4.8 we see that it is enough to prove the result for $d(t) = t^+$. Let $S_+ = \sum_{i=1}^N (C_i R_i)^+$, $S_- = \sum_{i=1}^N (C_i R_i)^-$ and $S = S_+ - S_-$. Since for $0 < \beta \leq 1$, we have

$$\left(\left(\sum_{i=1}^k y_i \right)^+ \right)^\beta \leq \left(\sum_{i=1}^k (y_i)^+ \right)^\beta \leq \sum_{i=1}^k ((y_i)^+)^{\beta}$$

for any real numbers $\{y_i\}$ and any $k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
 0 &\leq E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N ((C_i R_i)^+)^{\beta} - \left(\left(\sum_{i=1}^N C_i R_i \right)^+ \right)^{\beta} \right] \\
 &= E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N ((C_i R_i)^+)^{\beta} 1_{(S_+ \leq S_-)} \right] + E \left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N ((C_i R_i)^+)^{\beta} - S_+^{\beta} \right) 1_{(S_+ > S_-)} \right] \quad (5.9) \\
 &\quad + E \left[\left(S_+^{\beta} - (S_+ - S_-)^{\beta} \right) 1_{(S_+ > S_-)} \right]. \quad (5.10)
 \end{aligned}$$

The first expectation in (5.9) can be bounded as follows. Let $a = \beta/(1+\epsilon)$ and $b = \epsilon\beta/(1+\epsilon)$ and note that

$$\begin{aligned}
 &E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N ((C_i R_i)^+)^{\beta} 1_{(S_+ \leq S_-)} \right] \\
 &= E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N E \left[((C_i R_i)^+)^{\beta} 1_{(0 < C_i R_i \leq -S + C_i R_i)} \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots \right] \right] \\
 &\leq E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N E \left[|C_i R_i|^a |S - C_i R_i|^b \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots \right] \right] \\
 &= E \left[|R|^a \right] E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^a E \left[|S - C_i R_i|^{a \cdot \frac{b}{a}} \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots \right] \right] \\
 &\leq E \left[|R|^a \right] E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^a \left(E \left[\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j R_j|^a \mid N, C_1, C_2, \dots \right] \right)^{\frac{b}{a}} \right] \\
 &= (E \left[|R|^a \right])^{1+b/a} E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^a \left(\sum_{j=1}^N |C_j|^a \right)^{\frac{b}{a}} \right] \\
 &= \left(E \left[|R|^{\beta/(1+\epsilon)} \right] \right)^{1+\epsilon} E \left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N |C_i|^{\beta/(1+\epsilon)} \right)^{1+\epsilon} \right] < \infty,
 \end{aligned}$$

where in the second equality we used the conditional independence of $C_i R_i$ and $S - C_i R_i$.

To analyze the expectation in (5.10) note that since $|x^{\beta} - y^{\beta}| \leq |x - y|^{\beta}$ for any $x, y \geq 0$, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
 &E \left[\left(S_+^{\beta} - (S_+ - S_-)^{\beta} \right) 1_{(S_+ > S_-)} \right] \\
 &\leq E \left[S_-^{\beta} 1_{(S_+ > S_-)} \right] \leq E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N ((C_i R_i)^-)^{\beta} 1_{(S_- \leq S_+)} \right],
 \end{aligned}$$

which is finite by the same arguments used above.

Finally, to analyze the second expectation in (5.9), note that it is bounded by

$$\begin{aligned} & E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N ((C_i R_i)^+)^{\beta} - S_+^{\beta} \right] \\ & \leq E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N ((C_i R_i)^+)^{\beta} - \left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} (C_i R_i)^+ \right)^{\beta} \right] + E \left[\left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} (C_i R_i)^+ \right)^{\beta} - S_+^{\beta} \right] \\ & \leq 2E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N ((C_i R_i)^+)^{\beta} - \left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} (C_i R_i)^+ \right)^{\beta} \right], \end{aligned}$$

which is finite by Lemma 4.10. \square

Proof of Lemma 4.10. Let T_i be any of the random variables $C_i R_i$, $-C_i R_i$, or $|C_i R_i|$ and note that the integral is positive since

$$P \left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} T_i > t \right) = E \left[1 \left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} T_i > t \right) \right] \leq E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N 1(T_i > t) \right].$$

To see that the integral is equal to the expectation involving the α -moments note that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^{\infty} \left(E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N 1(T_i > t) \right] - P \left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} T_i > t \right) \right) t^{\alpha-1} dt \\ & = \int_0^{\infty} \left(E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N 1(T_i > t) \right] - 1 \left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} T_i > t \right) \right) t^{\alpha-1} dt \\ & = E \left[\int_0^{\infty} \left(\sum_{i=1}^N 1(T_i > t) - 1 \left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} T_i > t \right) \right) t^{\alpha-1} dt \right] \quad (\text{by Fubini' Theorem}) \\ & = E \left[\sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{\alpha} (T_i^+)^{\alpha} - \frac{1}{\alpha} \left(\left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} T_i \right)^+ \right)^{\alpha} \right], \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality is justified by the assumption that $\sum_{i=1}^N |T_i|^{\alpha} < \infty$ a.s.

The rest of the proof is essentially the same as that of Lemma 4.6 in [16] and is therefore omitted. \square

Proof of Lemma 4.11. Let $S = \sum_{i=1}^N C_i R_i$ and suppose first that $d(t) = t^+$. If $0 < \alpha \leq 1$, then we can use the inequality $|x^{\alpha} - y^{\alpha}| \leq |x - y|^{\alpha}$ for all $x, y \geq 0$ to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} E [|(S + Q)^{\alpha} - (S^+)^{\alpha}|] & \leq E [|(S + Q)^+ - S^+|^{\alpha}] \\ & = E [((S + Q)^+ - S^+)^{\alpha} 1(Q \geq 0)] \\ & \quad + E [(S - (S + Q))^{\alpha} 1(Q < 0 \leq S + Q)] \\ & \quad + E [(S^+)^{\alpha} 1(Q < 0, S + Q < 0)] \\ & \leq E [(Q^+)^{\alpha} 1(Q \geq 0)] + E [(-Q)^{\alpha} 1(Q < 0 \leq S + Q)] \\ & \quad + E [((-Q)^+)^{\alpha} 1(Q < 0, S + Q < 0)] \\ & \leq E [|Q|^{\alpha}] < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

If $\alpha > 1$ we use the inequality

$$(x + t)^\kappa \leq \begin{cases} x^\kappa + t^\kappa, & 0 < \kappa \leq 1, \\ x^\kappa + \kappa(x + t)^{\kappa-1}t, & \kappa > 1, \end{cases}$$

for any $x, t \geq 0$. Let $p = \lceil \alpha \rceil$, apply the second inequality $p - 1$ times and then the first one to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (x + t)^\alpha &\leq x^\alpha + \alpha(x + t)^{\alpha-1}t \leq \dots \leq x^\alpha + \sum_{i=1}^{p-2} \alpha^i x^{\alpha-i} t^i + \alpha^{p-1} (x + t)^{\alpha-p+1} t^{p-1} \\ &\leq x^\alpha + \alpha^p t^\alpha + \alpha^p \sum_{i=1}^{p-1} x^{\alpha-i} t^i. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} E [|(S + Q)^+|^\alpha - (S^+)|^\alpha] &= E [(((S + Q)^+)^{\alpha} - (S^+)^{\alpha}) 1(Q \geq 0)] \\ &\quad + E [(S^\alpha - (S + Q)^\alpha) 1(Q < 0 \leq S + Q)] \\ &\quad + E [(S^+)^{\alpha} 1(Q < 0, S + Q < 0)] \\ &\leq E [((S^+ + Q^+)^{\alpha} - (S^+)^{\alpha}) 1(Q \geq 0)] \\ &\quad + E [(S^\alpha - (S - Q^-)^{\alpha}) 1(Q < 0 \leq S + Q)] \\ &\quad + E [((-Q)^+)^{\alpha} 1(Q < 0, S + Q < 0)] \\ &\leq E \left[\left(\alpha^p (Q^+)^{\alpha} + \alpha^p \sum_{i=1}^{p-1} (S^+)^{\alpha-i} (Q^+)^i \right) 1(Q \geq 0) \right] \\ &\quad + E [\alpha S^{\alpha-1} (Q^-) 1(Q < 0 \leq S + Q)] \\ &\quad + E [(Q^-)^{\alpha} 1(Q < 0, S + Q < 0)] \\ &\leq \alpha^p E [|Q|^\alpha] + 2\alpha^p \sum_{i=1}^{p-1} E [(S^+)^{\alpha-i} |Q|^i]. \end{aligned}$$

To see that each of the expectations of the form $E [(S^+)^{\alpha-i} |Q|^i]$ is finite note that $S^+ \leq \sum_{i=1}^N |C_i R_i|$ and follow the same steps as in the proof of Lemma 4.8 in [16].

To establish the result for $d(t) = t^-$ simply note that

$$E [|(S + Q)^-|^\alpha - (S^-)|^\alpha] = E [(((-S - Q)^+)^{\alpha} - ((-S)^+)^{\alpha})]$$

and apply the result for the positive part. Finally, for $d(t) = |t|$ we use the fact that $|x|^\beta = (x^+)^{\beta} + (x^-)^{\beta}$ for any $x \in \mathbb{R}$ to obtain

$$E [||S + Q|^\alpha - |S|^\alpha |] = E [|(S + Q)^+|^\alpha + ((S + Q)^-)^{\alpha} - (S^+)^{\alpha} - (S^-)^{\alpha} |],$$

which is finite by the previous two cases $d(t) = t^+$ and $d(t) = t^-$. \square

Lemma 5.3. For any two real-valued random variables X and Y on a common probability space,

$$\int_0^\infty E [|1(X > t) - 1(Y > t)| t^{\alpha-1} dt] \leq \frac{1}{\alpha} E [|(X^+)^{\alpha} - (Y^+)^{\alpha} |],$$

finite or infinite.

Proof. Use the same standard arguments as in [11]. \square

Acknowledgement

Both authors were supported by NSF Grant CMMI-1131053.

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