

1. (i) (a) I:  $P(\text{exactly 1 event occurs in } (t, t + \delta t]) = \lambda \delta t + o(\delta t)$ ,  
 $[o(\delta t)/\delta t \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \delta t \rightarrow 0]$ .

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II:  $P(2 \text{ or more events occur in } (t, t + \delta t]) = o(\delta t)$ .

III: Occurrence of events after time  $t$  is independent of occurrence of events before  $t$ .

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- (b) Let  $p_0(t) = P(X(t) = 0)$ , where  $X(t)$  is the number of events by time  $t$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} p_0(t + \delta t) &= P\{X(0, t + \delta t) = 0\} \\ &= P\{X(0, t) = 0 \cap X(t, t + \delta t) = 0\} \\ &= P\{X(0, t) = 0\}P\{X(t, t + \delta t) = 0\} \quad \text{independence} \\ &= p_0(t)(1 - \lambda \delta t + o(\delta t)) \quad \text{axioms} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{p_0(t + \delta t) - p_0(t)}{\delta t} &= -\lambda p_0(t) + p_0(t) \frac{o(\delta t)}{\delta t}. \end{aligned}$$

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So,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{p_0(t + \delta t) - p_0(t)}{\delta t} &= -\lambda p_0(t) \\ \frac{d}{dt} p_0(t) &= -\lambda p_0(t) \\ \Rightarrow \int \frac{1}{p_0(t)} dp_0(t) &= \int -\lambda dt \\ \log(p_0(t)) &= -\lambda t + k_1 \\ p_0(t) &= k_2 \exp(-\lambda t). \end{aligned}$$

Initial condition  $p_0(0) = 1 \Rightarrow k_2 = 1$ , so

$$p_0(t) = e^{-\lambda t}$$

$P(X(t) > 0) = 1 - P(X(t) = 0) = 1 - e^{-\lambda t}$  as required.

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- (ii) Let  $X(t_1, t_2)$  be the number of events in the interval  $(t_1, t_2]$ . From the axioms,

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$$\begin{aligned} E(X(t, t + \delta t)) &= E(X(0, \delta t)) = 1 \times (\lambda \delta t + o(\delta t)) + 0 \times (1 - \lambda \delta t + o(\delta t)) + o(\delta t) \\ &= \lambda \delta t + o(\delta t) \end{aligned}$$

$D(t)$  = number events by  $t$  in deterministic model. Then

$$\begin{aligned} D(t + \delta t) &= D(t) + E(X(t, t + \delta t)) \\ D(t + \delta t) &= D(t) + \lambda \delta t + o(\delta t) \\ \Rightarrow \frac{D(t + \delta t) - D(t)}{\delta t} &= \lambda + \frac{o(\delta t)}{\delta t} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{dD(t)}{dt} &= \lambda \\ \Rightarrow D(t) &= \lambda t + c \end{aligned}$$

and since  $D(0) = 0$ ,  $D(t) = \lambda t$  as required.

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If  $X(t) \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda t)$  then  $E(X(t)) = \lambda t$  in correspondence with approximation - sample trajectory approximated by expected value.

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(iii)

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$$\begin{aligned}\mu(u, 2u) &= \int_u^{2u} \lambda(t) dt = \int_u^{2u} (\sin(t) + t) dt \\ &= \left[ -\cos(t) + \frac{t^2}{2} \right]_u^{2u} = \left( -\cos(2u) + \frac{(2u)^2}{2} \right) - \left( -\cos(u) + \frac{u^2}{2} \right) \\ &= \cos(u) - \cos(2u) + \frac{3u^2}{2}\end{aligned}$$

Let  $X(u, 2u)$  be the number of events in  $(u, 2u]$ , then  $X(u, 2u) \sim \text{Poisson}(\mu(u, 2u))$ , giving

$$\begin{aligned}P(X(u, 2u) < 2) &= P(X(u, 2u) = 0) + P(X(u, 2u) = 1) \\ &= \exp(-\mu(u, 2u)) + \exp(-\mu(u, 2u))\mu(u, 2u) \\ &= (1 + \mu(u, 2u)) \exp(-\mu(u, 2u)) \\ &= \left( 1 + \cos(u) - \cos(2u) + \frac{3u^2}{2} \right) \exp \left( \cos(2u) - \cos(u) - \frac{3u^2}{2} \right).\end{aligned}$$

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2. (i) Let  $X$  = number of offspring of an individual

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$$p(x) = P(X = x) = \text{"offspring prob. function"}$$

Assume:

- (i)  $p$  same for all individuals.  
(ii) individuals reproduce independently.

Assumptions (i) and (ii) define the Galton-Watson discrete time branching process.

- (ii) Let  $\Pi(s)$  be the pgf of  $X$ , and  $\Pi_n(s)$  be the pdf of  $Z_n$ .

Define  $\mu = \mu_1 = E(X) = \Pi'(1) = 1/2$  and  $\mu_n = E(Z_n) = \Pi'_n(1)$ .

Note that  $Z_0 = 1$  so  $\Pi_1(s) = \Pi(s)$ .

Let,  $X_i$  = number of offspring of  $i$ th member of  $(n-1)$ th generation.

$Z_n$  = number in generation  $n$ .

Then

$$Z_n = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_{Z_{n-1}},$$

- (a) Standard pgf result gives,

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi_n(s) &= \Pi_{n-1}[\Pi(s)] \\ \Rightarrow \Pi'_n(s) &= \Pi'_{n-1}[\Pi(s)] \Pi'(s) \\ \mu_n = \Pi'_n(1) &= \Pi'_{n-1}[\Pi(1)] \Pi'(1) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \Pi'_{n-1}(1) \quad (\text{as } \Pi(1) = 1) \\ \Rightarrow E(Z_n) = \mu_n &= \frac{1}{2} \mu_{n-1} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 \mu_{n-2} = \dots = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n = 2^{-n} \end{aligned}$$

- (b) Let  $\sigma^2 = \text{var}(X)$  and let  $\sigma_n^2 = \text{var}(Z_n)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi'_n(s) &= \Pi'_{n-1}[\Pi(s)] \Pi'(s) \\ \Pi''_n(s) &= \Pi''_{n-1}[\Pi(s)] \Pi'(s)^2 + \Pi'_{n-1}[\Pi(s)] \Pi''(s) \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

Now  $\Pi'(1) = \mu$ ,  $\Pi''(1) = \sigma^2 - \mu + \mu^2$ .

Also, since  $\sigma_n^2 = \Pi''_n(1) + \mu_n - \mu_n^2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi''_n(1) &= \sigma_n^2 - \mu^n + \mu^{2n} \\ \text{and } \Pi''_{n-1}(1) &= \sigma_{n-1}^2 - \mu^{n-1} + \mu^{2n-2}. \end{aligned}$$

From (1),

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi''_n(1) &= \Pi''_{n-1}(1) \Pi'(1)^2 + \Pi'_{n-1}(1) \Pi''(1) \\ \sigma_n^2 - \mu^n + \mu^{2n} &= (\sigma_{n-1}^2 - \mu^{n-1} + \mu^{2n-2}) \mu^2 + \mu^{n-1} (\sigma^2 - \mu + \mu^2) \\ \Rightarrow \sigma_n^2 &= \mu^2 \sigma_{n-1}^2 + \mu^{n-1} \sigma^2 \\ \Rightarrow \text{var}(Z_n) &= \frac{1}{4} \text{var}(Z_{n-1}) + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-1} \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{4} \left( \text{var}(Z_{n-1}) + \frac{1}{2^n} \right) \\ \Rightarrow 4 \text{var}(Z_n) &= \text{var}(Z_{n-1}) + 2^{-n} \end{aligned}$$

- (c)  $\mu \leq 1$  so ultimate extinction is certain.

(iii) If  $\alpha = 0$  then  $P(\text{ultimate extinction}) = 0$ . Otherwise, we have

$$\Pi(s) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} P(X = i)s^i = \alpha + (1 - \alpha)s^2.$$

Giving,

$$\Pi'(s) = 2(1 - \alpha)s$$

So  $\mu = \Pi'(1) = 2(1 - \alpha)$ .

Let  $P(\text{ultimate extinction}) = \theta^*$ , then

1.  $\mu \leq 1 \Rightarrow \theta^* = 1 \Rightarrow \text{ultimate extinction certain.}$

2.  $\mu > 1 \Rightarrow \theta^* < 1 \Rightarrow \text{ultimate extinction not certain.}$

$\mu > 1$  when  $2(1 - \alpha) > 1 \Rightarrow \alpha < \frac{1}{2}$ .

So, when  $\alpha < \frac{1}{2}$  ultimate extinction is not certain and

$\theta^* = \text{smallest positive solution of } \theta = \Pi(\theta):$

$$\theta = \alpha + (1 - \alpha)\theta^2$$

$$0 = (1 - \alpha)\theta^2 - \theta + \alpha$$

$$0 = (\theta - 1)((1 - \alpha)\theta - \alpha)$$

roots are 1 and  $\alpha/(1 - \alpha)$ , as  $\alpha < 1/2$  we have

$$\text{Probability of extinction} = \begin{cases} 0 & \alpha = 0 \\ 1 & \alpha \geq 1/2 \\ \alpha/(1 - \alpha) & \alpha < 1/2 \end{cases}$$

3. (i) (a) As  $p + q = 1$ ,  $P(X_n = k) = 0$  if  $n$  and  $k$  are not either both even or both odd, otherwise let

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$W_n$  = number positive steps in first  $n$  steps, then  $X_n = W_n - (n - W_n) = 2W_n - n$ , and  $W_n \sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$ .

$$P(W_n = x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x q^{n-x} \quad x = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

$$P((X_n + n)/2 = x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x q^{n-x}$$

$$P(X_n = 2x - n) = \binom{n}{x} p^x q^{n-x}$$

$$P(X_n = k) = \binom{n}{(n+k)/2} p^{(n+k)/2} q^{(n-k)/2} \quad k = -n, \dots, n$$

- (b) Symmetric RW, so  $p = q = 1/2$ .

5

$X_n$  is sum of  $n$  iid rvs,  $Z_i$ , so use CLT to see large  $n$  behaviour:

CLT:  $X_n$  is approx.  $N(E(X_n), \text{var}(X_n))$  large  $n$ .

sim. seen ↓

$$\begin{aligned} E(X_n) &= \sum E(Z_i) = \sum [1 \times p + (-1) \times q] = n(p - q) = 0. \\ \text{var}(X_n) &= \sum \text{var}(Z_i) \\ &= \sum [E(Z_i^2) - E^2(Z_i)] \\ &= n[(1 \times p + 1 \times q) - (p - q)^2] \\ &= 4npq = n. \end{aligned}$$

Giving (accept answers with or without continuity correction), with  $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} P(|X_{100}| > 20) &= P(X_{100} > 20) + P(X_{100} < -20) \\ &= P\left(Z > \frac{20}{\sqrt{100}}\right) + P\left(Z < \frac{-20}{\sqrt{100}}\right) \\ &= 1 - \Phi\left(\frac{20}{10}\right) + \Phi\left(-\frac{20}{10}\right) \\ &= 2(1 - \Phi(2)). \end{aligned}$$

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- (ii) (a) Condition on first game, where  $W$  = event  $A$  wins first game.

sim. seen ↓

$$q_j = P(A \text{ ruined} | \overline{W})P(\overline{W}) + P(A \text{ ruined} | W)P(W)$$

$$q_j = \frac{1}{2}q_{j-2} + \frac{1}{2}q_{j+2} \quad \text{for } j \in \{3, 4, \dots, a-4, a-3\}$$

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- (b) Similarly,

$$q_1 = \frac{1}{2}q_0 + \frac{1}{2}q_3 = \frac{1}{2}(1 + q_3)$$

$$q_2 = \frac{1}{2}q_1 + \frac{1}{2}q_4$$

$$q_{a-2} = \frac{1}{2}q_{a-4} + \frac{1}{2}q_{a-1}$$

$$q_{a-1} = \frac{1}{2}q_{a-3} + \frac{1}{2}q_a = \frac{1}{2}q_{a-3}$$

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- (c) expression from part (ii)(a) is

$$q_j = \frac{1}{2}q_{j-2} + \frac{1}{2}q_{j+2}$$

consider even  $j = 2k, k = 2, \dots, a/2 - 2$ , then

$$\text{LHS} = q_j = 1 - \frac{\frac{(a-2)2k}{a} + 2}{a+2} = 1 - \frac{(a-2)2k + 2a}{a(a+2)}$$

$$\text{RHS} = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{\frac{(a-2)(2k-2)}{a} + 2}{a+2} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{\frac{(a-2)(2k+2)}{a} + 2}{a+2} \right)$$

$$= 1 - \frac{(a-2)2k + 2a}{a(a+2)} = \text{LHS as required.}$$

consider odd  $j = 2k + 1, k = 1, \dots, a/2 - 2$ , then

$$\text{LHS} = q_j = 1 - \frac{(2k+1+1)}{a+2} = 1 - \frac{2k+2}{a+2}$$

$$\text{RHS} = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{2k-1+1}{a+2} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{2k+3+1}{a+2} \right)$$

$$= 1 - \frac{2k+2}{a+2} = \text{LHS as required.}$$

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- (d)

$$q_1 = \frac{1}{2}(1 + q_3) = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + 1 - \frac{3+1}{a+2} \right) = \frac{a}{a+2}$$

$$q_2 = \frac{1}{2}q_1 + \frac{1}{2}q_4 = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{a}{a+2} + 1 - \frac{(a-2)4/a+2}{a+2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{2a+2}{a+2} - \frac{6a-8}{a+2} \right) = \frac{a^2 - 2a + 4}{a(a+2)}$$

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4. (i) (a) A Markov chain is irreducible if it has only one communicating class, i.e. there is a path of non-zero probability from state  $i$  to state  $j$  and back again for all  $i, j$  in the sample space.

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- (b) A Markov chain is aperiodic if all states have period 1, i.e. if

$$\gcd\{n : p_{ij}^{(n)} > 0\} = 1.$$

where  $p_{ij}^{(n)}$  is the probability of going from  $i$  to  $j$  in  $n$  steps.

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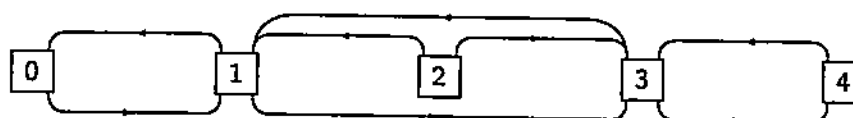
- (ii) (a) A's fortune has state space  $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$

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$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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- (b) Transition diagram:



two communicating classes:  $\{0, 1, 3, 4\}$  which is closed and  $\{2\}$  which is open. For periodicity of the closed class  $\{0, 1, 3, 4\}$  can just look at state 0 as periodicity inherited by all states in class,

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$$\gcd\{n : p_{00}^{(n)} > 0\} = \gcd\{2, 4, 6, 8, \dots\} = 2$$

so all states  $\{0, 1, 3, 4\}$  have period 2.

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- (c) Only one closed communicating class, finite state space, so there is a unique stationary distribution.

Solve  $\pi = \pi P$ ;  $\sum \pi_i = 1$ ,  $\pi_i \geq 0 \forall i$

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$$\pi_0 = \frac{1}{2}\pi_1$$

$$\pi_2 = 0$$

$$\pi_3 = \frac{1}{2}\pi_1 + \frac{1}{2}\pi_2 + \pi_4$$

$$\pi_4 = \frac{1}{2}\pi_3$$

$$1 = \pi_0 + \pi_1 + \pi_2 + \pi_3 + \pi_4$$

Giving  $\pi_1 = 2\pi_0$ ,  $\pi_2 = 0$ ,  $\pi_3 = 2\pi_0$ ,  $\pi_4 = \pi_0$  and  $\pi_0 = 1/6$ , so

$$\pi = (1/6, 1/3, 0, 1/3, 1/6).$$

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- (d) Need aperiodicity for this to be limiting - not met in this case.

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- (e)  $A$ 's fortune exceeds  $B$ 's by more than £2 only when he has £4, which happens in the long run a fraction  $\pi_4 = 1/6$  of the time.

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5. (i) (a) Let  $Q$  have elements  $q_{ij}$  and  $P(t)$  have elements  $p_{ij}(t)$ , then

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$$\frac{d}{dt}P(t) = P(t)Q \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt}p_{ij}(t) = \sum_k p_{ik}(t)q_{kj} \quad \forall i, j \text{ (FORWARD EQNS)}$$

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- (b) Stationary Distribution

$$\pi = \pi P(t) \text{ or } \pi Q = 0; \quad \sum_j \pi_j = 1, \quad \pi_j \geq 0 \quad \forall j$$

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- (ii) (a) We have

$$p_{ij}(\delta t) = \begin{cases} 1 + \delta t q_{ii} + o(\delta t) & i = j \\ \delta t q_{ij} + o(\delta t) & i \neq j \end{cases}$$

So for the linear birth and death process we have

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \nu & -(\nu + \beta) & \beta & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2\nu & -(2\nu + 2\beta) & 2\beta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3\nu & -(3\nu + 3\beta) & 3\beta \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

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- (b) We have

$$\frac{d}{dt}P(t) = P(t)Q$$

Giving

$$\frac{d}{dt}p_{i0}(t) = \nu p_{i1}(t)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}p_{ij}(t) = (j-1)\beta p_{i,j-1}(t) - j(\nu + \beta)p_{ij}(t) + (j+1)\nu p_{i,j+1}(t) \quad j \geq 1$$

Apply general method:

1. multiply by  $s^j$ .
2. sum over  $0 \leq j \leq \infty$ .
3. find differential equation for pgf  $\Pi_i(s, t)$  of  $X_i(t)$ :

$$\Pi_i(s, t) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} p_{ij}(t) s^j$$

To give,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} p_{ij}(t) s^j = \beta \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} (j-1) p_{i,j-1}(t) s^j - (\nu + \beta) \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} j p_{ij}(t) s^j + \nu \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} (j+1) p_{i,j+1}(t) s^j$$

Note that,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial s} \Pi_i(s, t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} p_{ij}(t) s^j = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} j p_{ij}(t) s^{j-1}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} p_{ij}(t) s^j &= \beta s^2 \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} j p_{ij}(t) s^{j-1} - (\nu + \beta) s \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} j p_{ij}(t) s^{j-1} + \nu \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} j p_{ij}(t) s^{j-1} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Pi_i(s, t) &= (\beta s^2 - (\nu + \beta) s + \nu) \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \Pi_i(s, t). \end{aligned}$$

(c)

$$F_T(t) = P(T \leq t) = P(X(t) = 0) = \Pi_i(0, t) = \left( \frac{\nu - \nu e^{(\nu-\beta)t}}{\beta - \nu e^{(\nu-\beta)t}} \right)^i$$

(d)  $X(0) = 1$ , so

$$F_T(t) = \frac{\nu - \nu e^{(\nu-\beta)t}}{\beta - \nu e^{(\nu-\beta)t}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E(T) &= \int_0^{\infty} (1 - F(t)) dt \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} \left( 1 - \frac{\nu - \nu e^{(\nu-\beta)t}}{\beta - \nu e^{(\nu-\beta)t}} \right) dt \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\nu - \beta}{\nu e^{(\nu-\beta)t} - \beta} dt = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{(\nu - \beta) e^{-(\nu-\beta)t}}{\nu - \beta e^{-(\nu-\beta)t}} dt \\ &= \left[ \frac{1}{\beta} \log(\nu - \beta e^{-(\nu-\beta)t}) \right]_0^{\infty} = \frac{1}{\beta} \log \left( \frac{\nu}{\nu - \beta} \right) \quad (\text{as } \beta < \nu) \end{aligned}$$

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