

The log-Lévy moment problem via Berg–Urbanik semigroups

by

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Abstract. We consider the Stieltjes moment problem for the Berg–Urbanik semigroups which form a class of multiplicative convolution semigroups on \mathbb{R}_+ that is in bijection with the set of Bernstein functions. Berg and Durán (2004) proved that the law of such semigroups is moment determinate (at least) up to time $t = 2$, and, for the Bernstein function $\phi(u) = u$, Berg (2005) made the striking observation that for time $t > 2$ the law of this semigroup is moment indeterminate. We extend these works by estimating the threshold time $\mathcal{T}_\phi \in [2, \infty]$ that it takes for the law of such Berg–Urbanik semigroups to transition from moment determinacy to moment indeterminacy in terms of simple properties of the underlying Bernstein function ϕ , such as its Blumenthal–Gettoor index. One of the several strategies we implement to deal with the different cases relies on a non-classical Abelian type criterion for the moment problem, recently proved by the authors (2018). To implement this approach we provide detailed information regarding distributional properties of the semigroup such as existence and smoothness of a density, and the large asymptotic behavior for all $t > 0$ of this density along with its successive derivatives. In particular, these results, which are original in the Lévy processes literature, may be of independent interest.

1. Introduction. The aim of this paper is to study the Stieltjes moment determinacy for multiplicative convolution semigroups $(\nu_t)_{t \geq 0}$, that is, semigroups satisfying, for $n, t \geq 0$,

$$\int_0^\infty x^n \nu_t(dx) = \int_{-\infty}^\infty e^{ny} \mathbb{P}(Y_t \in dy) = e^{t\Psi(n)}$$

where $(Y_t)_{t \geq 0}$ is a one-dimensional Lévy process such that $\mathbb{E}[e^{nY_t}] < \infty$ for all $n, t \geq 0$. In other words, we study the moment determinacy of the law of a process whose logarithm is a Lévy process, and we call this problem the *log-Lévy moment problem*, for short.

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We first point out that if $\Psi(n) = \frac{1}{2}n^2$ then $(\nu_t)_{t \geq 0}$ boils down to the semigroup of the geometric Brownian motion, whose law is indeterminate by its moments for all $t > 0$. This is because for any $t > 0$ the geometric Brownian motion is log-normally distributed, and it is well-known that a log-normal distribution is indeterminate by its moments. More generally, in [26, Theorem 2.1] it is proved that the log-Lévy moment problem is indeterminate for all $t > 0$ whenever the associated Lévy process has a Gaussian component, a case that we exclude from our analysis.

Moreover, Urbanik [34] introduced the multiplicative convolution semigroup $(e_t)_{t \geq 0}$ of probability densities satisfying, for $n, t \geq 0$,

$$(1.1) \quad \int_0^\infty x^n e_t(x) dx = (n!)^t = \exp\left(t \sum_{k=1}^n \log k\right) \\ = \exp\left(t \int_0^\infty (e^{-ny} - 1 - n(e^{-y} - 1)) \frac{dy}{y(e^y - 1)}\right),$$

and Berg [4, Theorem 2.5] discovered that the measure $e_t(x)dx$ is moment determinate if and only if $t \leq 2$. This interesting fact reveals that the log-Lévy moment problem can be non-trivial, since there can exist a threshold time $\mathcal{T} \in [0, \infty]$ such that ν_t is moment determinate for $0 \leq t \leq \mathcal{T}$ and moment indeterminate for $t > \mathcal{T}$.

In the same paper, Berg defined a family of multiplicative convolution semigroups $(\nu_t)_{t \geq 0}$ that are in bijection with the set \mathcal{B} of Bernstein functions (see (2.2) below for definition). In particular, for any $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$, the moments of ν_t are given, for $n, t \geq 0$, by

$$(1.2) \quad \mathcal{M}_{\nu_t}(n) = \int_0^\infty x^n \nu_t(dx) = \left(\prod_{k=1}^n \phi(k)\right)^t$$

where \mathcal{M}_{ν_t} is called the *moment transform* of ν_t and for $n = 0$ the product is assumed to be 1. We call these the *Berg–Urbanik semigroups*, since (1.1) corresponds to the specific case $\phi(u) = u$ of (1.2). Note that, for a probability measure λ , there is the notion of Urbanik decomposability semigroups $\mathbb{D}(\lambda)$, which have also been referred to as Urbanik semigroups in the literature (see e.g. [18, 17]) and are distinct from the semigroups $(\nu_t)_{t \geq 0}$ defined via (1.2). Furthermore in [5, Theorem 2.2] it was also shown that \mathcal{M}_{ν_t} admits an analytical extension to the right-half plane, and for $\operatorname{Re}(z) \geq 0$ and $t \geq 0$,

$$\mathcal{M}_{\nu_t}(z) = e^{t\Psi(z)}$$

where

$$(1.3) \quad \Psi(z) = z \log \phi(1) + \int_0^\infty (e^{-zy} - 1 - z(e^{-y} - 1)) \frac{\kappa(dy)}{y(e^y - 1)},$$

and

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-uy} \kappa(dy) = \frac{\phi'(u)}{\phi(u)},$$

with $\kappa(dy) = \int_0^y U(dy-r)(r\mu(dr) + \delta_d(dr))$, where U is the potential measure, μ the Lévy measure and d the drift of ϕ (see (2.3) and (2.1) below for definitions). This is the general form of the last equality in (1.1), and we note that Hirsch and Yor have also derived (1.3) using different means (see [14, Theorem 3.1]). We mention that Hirsch and Yor also offer a nice exposition on the wealth of results by Urbanik [35], which continues the investigations started in [34].

The log-Lévy moment problem for general Berg–Urbanik semigroups is only partially understood. It is known that any Berg–Urbanik semigroup is moment determinate for $t \leq 2$ (see [4]), and that there are Berg–Urbanik semigroups that are moment determinate for all $t \geq 0$ (see [5]), but much less is known concerning moment indeterminacy. We were inspired by Berg’s results, in particular his remarkable discovery of the threshold for the classical Urbanik semigroup $(e_t)_{t \geq 0}$, to further study the log-Lévy moment problem in this setting. In particular, our aim was to understand how to estimate the threshold time \mathcal{T} from simple properties of the underlying Bernstein function, and our main contribution in this regard is Theorem 2.2 below, which provides several new results in this area.

One of our approaches stems from a recent Abelian type criterion for the moment problem, established by the authors, which gives a necessary and sufficient condition for moment indeterminacy (see [26, Theorem 1.2]). To utilize this criterion we resort to proving the existence of densities for certain Berg–Urbanik semigroups and study their large asymptotic behavior. To obtain such asymptotics we apply, in a novel and non-standard way, a closure result for Gaussian tails obtained by Balkema et al. [2] combined with some recent Gaussian tail asymptotics estimates due to Patie and Savov [23].

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2 we state our main result for the log-Lévy moment problem, as well some auxiliary results on Berg–Urbanik semigroups and Lévy processes. In Section 3 we discuss some examples of Berg–Urbanik semigroups. Finally, Section 4 is devoted to the proofs of the results stated in Section 2.

2. Main results. We start with some preliminaries. Let $\phi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ be the function defined by

$$(2.1) \quad \phi(u) = k + du + \int_0^\infty (1 - e^{-uy}) \mu(dy),$$

where $\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{d} \geq 0$ and μ is a Radon measure on $(0, \infty)$ that satisfies $\int_0^\infty (1 \wedge y) \mu(dy) < \infty$. We write \mathcal{B} for the set of *Bernstein functions*, which is defined as

$$(2.2) \quad \mathcal{B} = \{\phi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty); \phi \text{ is of the form (2.1)}\}.$$

Note that \mathcal{B} is a convex cone, i.e. for $\phi_1, \phi_2 \in \mathcal{B}$ and $c_1, c_2 > 0$ one has $c_1\phi_1 + c_2\phi_2 \in \mathcal{B}$, and also that the triplet $(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{d}, \mu)$ in (2.1) uniquely determines any $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$. We recall that the mapping $u \mapsto \phi'(u)$ is completely monotone, i.e. $\phi' \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathbb{R}^+)$, the space of infinitely differentiable functions on \mathbb{R}^+ , and for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $u \geq 0$, $(-1)^n \phi^{(n+1)}(u) \geq 0$. It is well-known that the mapping $u \mapsto 1/\phi(u)$ is also completely monotone and the corresponding Radon measure U is the so-called *potential measure* of (or the *subordinator* associated to) ϕ , i.e. for any $u \geq 0$,

$$(2.3) \quad \int_0^\infty e^{-uy} U(dy) = \frac{1}{\phi(u)}.$$

We refer to the excellent monograph [28] for further information on Bernstein functions, and also to [23, Section 4] and [24, Section 3], in which several properties of Bernstein functions that are used in the proofs are collected. In what follows we systematically exclude the trivial Bernstein function $\phi \equiv 0$ since this yields the degenerate convolution semigroup of a Dirac mass at 1 for all time.

A family $(\nu_t)_{t \geq 0}$ of measures is said to be a *multiplicative convolution semigroup* if for $t, s \geq 0$ we have $\nu_t \diamond \nu_s = \nu_{t+s}$, where \diamond denotes the convolution product on the multiplicative group (\mathbb{R}_+, \times) . Next, we define the *moment transform* of an integrable function $f : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and of a probability measure ρ supported on $[0, \infty)$ for (at least) $z \in i\mathbb{R}$ as

$$\mathcal{M}_f(z) = \int_0^\infty x^z f(x) dx \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{M}_\rho(z) = \int_0^\infty x^z \rho(dx),$$

and observe that the moment transform is simply a shift of the classical Mellin transform. The moments of ρ , if they exist, are given, for $n \geq 0$, by

$$\mathcal{M}_\rho(n) = \int_0^\infty x^n \rho(dx).$$

We say that a measure ρ supported on $[0, \infty)$ is *Stieltjes moment determinate*, or simply *moment determinate*, if the sequence $(\mathcal{M}_\rho(n))_{n \geq 0}$ uniquely characterizes the measure ρ among all probability measures supported on $[0, \infty)$ and admitting all moments. Otherwise, we say ρ is *moment indeterminate*. The moment problem for probability measures supported on $[0, \infty)$ has been intensively studied for many years, going back to the original memoir by Stieltjes [31]. For excellent references on aspects of the Stieltjes (and

other) moment problems see the classic texts [1] and [30], as well as the more recent monograph [29].

We now state the definition of Berg–Urbanik semigroups, whose validity is justified by [4, Theorem 1.8].

DEFINITION 2.1. Let $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$. Then the *Berg–Urbanik semigroup associated to ϕ* is the unique multiplicative convolution semigroup $(\nu_t)_{t \geq 0}$ of probability measures characterized, for any $t \geq 0$ and $\operatorname{Re}(z) > 0$, by

$$\mathcal{M}_{\nu_t}(z) = e^{t\Psi(z)}$$

where Ψ was defined in (1.3). Recall that $e^{t\Psi(n)} = (\prod_{k=1}^n \phi(k))^t$ for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $t > 0$.

Occasionally we write $(\nu_t^\phi)_{t \geq 0}$ to emphasize the dependence of the Berg–Urbanik semigroup on the Bernstein function, but we will mostly drop this superscript for convenience. In such cases the Bernstein function will be clear from the context.

2.1. The log-Lévy moment problem for Berg–Urbanik semigroups. To describe our first main result we introduce the *threshold index*. For each $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$ we let $\mathcal{T}_\phi \in [0, \infty]$ be defined by

$$\mathcal{T}_\phi = \inf\{t > 0; \nu_t^\phi \text{ is indeterminate}\} = \sup\{t > 0; \nu_t^\phi \text{ is determinate}\},$$

where we utilize the bijection between \mathcal{B} and the set of Berg–Urbanik semigroups, as well as the convention that $\sup \emptyset = 0$. It is justified to call \mathcal{T}_ϕ a threshold index since $(\nu_t)_{t \geq 0}$ is a multiplicative convolution semigroup and according to [7, Lemma 2.2 and Remark 2.3], a measure $\mu \diamond \sigma$ is moment indeterminate if μ is indeterminate and $\sigma \neq c\delta_0$, $c > 0$. Since, for any $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$, ν_t is moment determinate for $t \leq 2$, it follows that $\mathcal{T}_\phi \geq 2$. When $\mathcal{T}_\phi = \infty$ we say the Berg–Urbanik semigroup is *completely determinate*, otherwise if $\mathcal{T}_\phi \in [2, \infty)$ we say the semigroup is *threshold determinate*.

We proceed by defining some subsets of \mathcal{B} that will be useful to state our main results. First, let

$$\mathcal{B}_d = \{\phi \in \mathcal{B}; d > 0\}$$

denote the set of Bernstein functions with a positive drift. Next, write

$$\mathcal{B}_\mathcal{J} = \{\phi \in \mathcal{B}; \mu(dy) = v(y)dy \text{ with } v \text{ non-increasing}\}$$

and note that this is sometimes referred to as the Jurek class of Bernstein functions, due to [16] (see also [28, Chapter 10]). For a Bernstein function ϕ we write $\phi(\infty) = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \phi(u) \in (0, \infty]$, and define its *Blumenthal–Gettoor index* as

$$(2.4) \quad \beta_\phi = \inf\left\{\beta \geq 0; \overline{\lim}_{u \rightarrow \infty} u^{-\beta} \phi(u) < \infty\right\} \in [0, 1],$$

noting that this definition coincides with the original one in [10] for driftless subordinators. We also define the *lower index* of ϕ by

$$\delta_\phi = \sup \left\{ \delta \geq 0; \liminf_{u \rightarrow \infty} u^{-\delta} \phi(u) > 0 \right\},$$

which has appeared in the study of shift-Harnack inequalities for subordinate semigroups [11]. From these definitions it is clear that $0 \leq \delta_\phi \leq \beta_\phi \leq 1$, and moreover one can construct an example for which strict inequality is possible [10, Section 6]. In view of this, we set

$$\mathcal{B}_> = \{\phi \in \mathcal{B}; \delta_\phi = \beta_\phi\}.$$

We are now ready to state our main result regarding the log-Lévy moment problem for Berg–Urbanik semigroups.

THEOREM 2.2. *Let $(\nu_t)_{t \geq 0}$ be the Berg–Urbanik semigroup associated to $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$.*

(1) *We have*

$$\mathcal{T}_\phi \geq 2/\beta_\phi,$$

and if $\beta_\phi > 0$ and $\overline{\lim}_{u \rightarrow \infty} u^{-\beta_\phi} \phi(u) < \infty$ then $\nu_{\mathcal{T}_\phi}$ is moment determinate. In particular, if $\phi(\infty) < \infty$ then $\beta_\phi = 0$ and $(\nu_t)_{t \geq 0}$ is completely determinate.

(2) *If $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_d$ then $\mathcal{T}_\phi = 2$, and ν_2 is moment determinate.*

(3) *If $\phi^t \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{J}}$ for all $t \in (0, 1)$, then*

$$(2.5) \quad 2/\beta_\phi \leq \mathcal{T}_\phi \leq 2/\delta_\phi,$$

and hence, if additionally $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_>$, then

$$\mathcal{T}_\phi = 2/\beta_\phi.$$

(4) *If there exists $\vartheta \in \mathcal{B}$ such that $\phi/\vartheta \in \mathcal{B}$, then $\mathcal{T}_\phi \leq \mathcal{T}_\vartheta$. In particular, if $\vartheta^t \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{J}}$ for all $t \in (0, 1)$, then*

$$\mathcal{T}_\phi \leq 2/\delta_\vartheta.$$

REMARK 2.3. Note that all complete Bernstein functions satisfy $\phi^t \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{J}}$ for all $t \in (0, 1)$. Indeed, writing $\mathbb{H} = \{z \in \mathbb{C}; \operatorname{Im} z > 0\}$ for the upper half-plane, we recall that a Bernstein function ϕ is said to be *complete* if its Lévy measure μ has a completely monotone density, or equivalently $\operatorname{Im} \phi(z) \geq 0$ for all $z \in \mathbb{H}$. Such functions are also sometimes called *Pick* or *Nevanlinna functions* in the complex analysis literature. If ϕ is a complete Bernstein function, then for $t \in (0, 1)$ and $z \in \mathbb{H}$,

$$\operatorname{Im} \phi^t(z) = \operatorname{Im} e^{t(\log |\phi(z)| + i \arg \phi(z))} = e^{t \log |\phi(z)|} \operatorname{Im} e^{it \arg \phi(z)} \geq 0,$$

and hence ϕ^t is a complete Bernstein function, and in particular its Lévy measure has a non-increasing density. In particular $u \mapsto (u + \mathbf{m})^\alpha$ is a complete Bernstein function for any $\mathbf{m} \geq 0$ and $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, and thus $u \mapsto (u + \mathbf{m})^{\alpha t}$

is also a complete Bernstein function for any $t \in (0, 1)$. We refer to [28, Chapter 16] for abundant examples of complete Bernstein functions and to [28, Chapter 6] for further details on the theory of complete Bernstein functions; see also [13] for some interesting mappings related to complete Bernstein functions.

REMARK 2.4. We mention that for item (4) of Theorem 2.2 Patie and Savov [23, Proposition 4.4] have given sufficient conditions for the ratio of Bernstein functions to remain a Bernstein function; see also Proposition 4.4 below for another set of sufficient conditions.

Theorem 2.2 is proved in Section 4.4 and the proof makes use of several strategies that will be detailed throughout the rest of the paper. We proceed by offering some remarks regarding our results in relation to what has been proved in the literature.

First, Theorem 2.2(1) provides a generalization of the example provided in [4] for which the threshold function is infinite. Therein, the author considers the Bernstein function $u \mapsto \frac{u}{u+1}$, for which $\lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u}{u+1} < \infty$ and therefore trivially $\beta_\phi = 0$. However, there exist $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$ such that $\phi(\infty) = \infty$ but $\beta_\phi = 0$, for example the function given, for $u \geq 0$ and any $\lambda > 0$, by

$$\phi(u) = \log(1 + u/\lambda) = \int_0^\infty (1 - e^{-ux})x^{-1}e^{-\lambda x} dx,$$

which is a specific instance of Example 3.2 below. This shows that a Berg–Urbanik semigroup may have unbounded support for all $t > 0$ (see Theorem 2.10(1) below), but is still completely determinate. Furthermore, in Theorem 2.2(1) we provide a condition on ϕ that ensures that the lower bound in (2.5) is sharp, in the sense that $\nu_{\mathcal{T}_\phi}$ is moment determinate. It would be interesting to know what situations can occur when this condition is not fulfilled, in particular if it is possible that $\nu_{\mathcal{T}_\phi}$ is indeterminate.

In Theorem 2.2(2) we provide an exhaustive claim for the case when $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_d$, thereby generalizing Berg’s result that the classical Urbanik semigroup $(e_t)_{t \geq 0}$ is moment determinate if and only if $t \leq 2$, which corresponds to the case $\phi(u) = u$. The proof relies on an application of Theorem 2.2(4) to yield the matching upper bound, which shows that $\mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{J}}$ can serve as a reference class for proving more general estimates. We borrow this idea of using reference objects from [23, Section 10] where the concept of reference semigroups was developed in the context of spectral theory of some non-self-adjoint operators. The fact that one can construct $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$ such that $0 \leq \delta_\phi < \beta_\phi < 1$ shows that the inequality in (2.5) may be far from optimal. Nevertheless, when $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_{\succ}$, Theorem 2.2(3) allows one to classify the behavior of \mathcal{T}_ϕ entirely by the analytical exponent β_ϕ . Finally, as was suggested by an anonymous referee, it is worth emphasizing that for any $T \in (2, \infty)$ there

exists a Bernstein function ϕ whose associated Berg–Urbanik semigroup has threshold index $\mathcal{T}_\phi = T$ (see e.g. Example 3.1).

2.2. A related moment problem on infinitely divisible moment sequences. Before we proceed with developing results leading to the proof of Theorem 2.2, we briefly discuss a related moment problem, which requires introducing the notion of infinitely divisible moment sequences. A Stieltjes moment sequence $(\mathbf{m}(n))_{n \geq 0}$ is said to be *infinitely divisible* if, for any $t > 0$, the sequence $(\mathbf{m}^t(n))_{n \geq 0}$ is again a Stieltjes moment sequence, and this notion goes back to Tyan who introduced and studied infinitely divisible moment sequences in his thesis [33]. By definition, for each $t > 0$, there exists a random variable X_t with moments $(\mathbf{m}^t(n))_{n \geq 0}$ and it is natural to ask how the moment determinacy of X_t (meaning the moment determinacy of its law) relates to the moment determinacy of X_1^t , as a function of t . This latter random variable X_1^t is the t th power of a random variable with moments $(\mathbf{m}(n))_{n \geq 0}$, and it is straightforward that X_1^t has moments given by $(\mathbf{m}(tn))_{n \geq 0}$. From Theorem 2.7 below it follows that, for any $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$, the moment sequence $(\mathcal{M}_{\nu_1}(n))_{n \geq 0}$ is infinitely divisible, and hence Berg–Urbanik semigroups provide a natural setting in which to investigate this question. In what follows we let $X_t(\phi)$, for $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$, denote the stochastic process whose law at time $t > 0$ is given by ν_t^ϕ , and write simply $X(\phi) = X_1(\phi)$, suppressing also the dependence on ϕ when this causes no confusion.

THEOREM 2.5. *Let $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$.*

- (1) *The random variable X^t is moment determinate for $t < 2/\beta_\phi$, and if $\beta_\phi > 0$ and $\overline{\lim}_{u \rightarrow \infty} u^{-\beta_\phi} \phi(u) < \infty$ then X^{2/β_ϕ} is moment determinate.*
- (2) *If $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_d$ then X^t is moment determinate if and only if $t \leq 2$.*
- (3) *If $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{J}}$ then X^t is moment indeterminate for $t > 2/\delta_\phi$. If in addition $\delta_\phi = \beta_\phi$ and $\overline{\lim}_{u \rightarrow \infty} u^{-\beta_\phi} \phi(u) < \infty$ then X^t is moment indeterminate if and only if $t > 2/\beta_\phi$.*
- (4) *If there exists $\vartheta \in \mathcal{B}$ such that $\phi/\vartheta \in \mathcal{B}$ then for any t such that $X^t(\vartheta)$ is moment indeterminate, the variable $X^t(\phi)$ is also moment indeterminate.*

This theorem is proved in Section 4.5. While Theorem 2.2 concerns the t -dependent moment determinacy of the process $(X_t)_{t \geq 0}$, Theorem 2.5 is the analogous result regarding the moment determinacy of X^t , or equivalently of the sequence $(\mathcal{M}_{\nu_1}(tn))_{n \geq 0}$. Note that the conditions in Theorem 2.5(3) are weaker than those in Theorem 2.2(3), which shows that the log-Lévy moment problem is the harder of the two moment problems. Lin [22] stated the following conjecture regarding the moment determinacy of infinitely divisible moment sequences.

CONJECTURE ([22, Conjecture 1]). Let $(X_t)_{t \geq 0}$ be a stochastic process such that $(\mathbb{E}[X_t^n])_{n \geq 0} = (\mathbf{m}^t(n))_{n \geq 0}$, i.e. $(\mathbf{m}(n))_{n \geq 0}$ is an infinitely divisible moment sequence. Then X_t is moment determinate if and only if X_1^\dagger is moment determinate.

As a corollary of Theorems 2.2 and 2.5 we get an affirmative answer to Lin's conjecture for a subclass of Berg–Urbanik semigroups.

COROLLARY 2.6. Let $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$ and suppose that any of the following conditions is satisfied:

- (i) $\beta_\phi = 0$,
- (ii) $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_d$,
- (iii) $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_>$ with $\phi^\dagger \in \mathcal{B}_\mathcal{J}$ for all $\mathfrak{t} \in (0, 1)$, $\beta_\phi > 0$ and $\overline{\lim}_{u \rightarrow \infty} u^{-\beta_\phi} \phi(u) < \infty$.

Then Lin's conjecture holds.

We point out that recently Berg [6] proved a related conjecture by Lin [22, Conjecture 2] concerning the moment sequence $(\Gamma(tn + 1))_{n \geq 0}$, which among other things confirms Lin's Conjecture 1 for this particular example. Note that the moment sequence $(\Gamma(tn + 1))_{n \geq 0}$ corresponds to the Bernstein function $\phi(u) = u$, which falls under the assumption (ii) in Corollary 2.6.

2.3. A new Mellin transform representation in terms of Bernstein-Gamma functions. The proof of Theorem 2.2 relies on several intermediate results that are of independent interest. The first one is an alternative representation of \mathcal{M}_{ν_t} . For $a \in \mathbb{R}$ we let $\mathbb{C}_{(a, \infty)} = \{z \in \mathbb{C}; \operatorname{Re}(z) > a\}$ and then write $\mathcal{A}_{(a, \infty)}$ for the set of analytic functions on $\mathbb{C}_{(a, \infty)}$. Recall that a function $f : i\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is said to be *positive-definite* if, for any $s_1, \dots, s_n \in i\mathbb{R}$ and $z_1, \dots, z_n \in \mathbb{C}$, $\sum_{i,j=1}^n f(s_i - s_j) z_i \bar{z}_j \geq 0$.

Next, for any $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$ we let $W_\phi : \mathbb{C}_{(0, \infty)} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ denote the so-called *Bernstein-Gamma function* associated to ϕ , which is given by

$$(2.6) \quad W_\phi(z) = \frac{e^{-\gamma_\phi z}}{\phi(z)} \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\phi(k)}{\phi(k+z)} e^{\frac{\phi'(k)}{\phi(k)} z}$$

where the infinite product is absolutely convergent on at least $\mathbb{C}_{(0, \infty)}$, and

$$\gamma_\phi = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\phi'(k)}{\phi(k)} - \log \phi(n) \right) \in \left[-\log \phi(1), \frac{\phi'(1)}{\phi(1)} - \log \phi(1) \right].$$

This function, defined as in (2.6) on \mathbb{R}_+ , was introduced and studied by Webster [36], and was extended (at least) to $\mathbb{C}_{(0, \infty)}$ by Patie and Savov [23, Chapter 6], [24] who introduced the terminology and studied their analytical properties, such as uniform decay along imaginary lines. The product in (2.6) can be thought of as a generalized Weierstrass product, as it generalizes the classical Weierstrass product representation for the gamma function. Indeed,

this case can be recovered by setting $\phi(u) = u$, in which case γ_ϕ boils down to the Euler–Mascheroni constant. Furthermore, W_ϕ is the unique positive-definite function that solves the functional equation

$$W_\phi(z+1) = \phi(z)W_\phi(z), \quad W_\phi(1) = 1,$$

valid for at least $z \in \mathbb{C}_{(0,\infty)}$ [23, Theorem 6.1(3)]. Write Log for the branch of the complex logarithm that is analytic on the slit plane $\mathbb{C} \setminus (-\infty, 0]$ and satisfies $\text{Log } 1 = 0$, commonly referred to as the principal branch. We use it to define, for $t > 0$ and $z \in \mathbb{C}_{(0,\infty)}$,

$$W_\phi^t(z) = e^{t \text{Log } W_\phi(z)}, \quad \phi^t(z) = e^{t \text{Log } \phi(z)}.$$

THEOREM 2.7. *Let $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$ and let $(\nu_t)_{t \geq 0}$ be the corresponding Berg–Urbanik semigroup. Then, for $t > 0$,*

$$(2.7) \quad \mathcal{M}_{\nu_t}(z) = \int_0^\infty x^z \nu_t(dx) = W_\phi^t(z+1), \quad \text{Re}(z) > -1,$$

where $W_\phi : \mathbb{C}_{(0,\infty)} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is the Bernstein–Gamma function associated to ϕ . Moreover, $W_\phi^t \in \mathcal{A}_{(0,\infty)}$ and W_ϕ is the unique positive-definite function that solves, for all $t > 0$, the functional equation

$$(2.8) \quad W_\phi^t(z+1) = \phi^t(z)W_\phi^t(z), \quad W_\phi^t(1) = 1,$$

valid for $z \in \mathbb{C}_{(0,\infty)}$.

REMARK 2.8. Note that when $t = 1$, the equation (2.8) restricted to \mathbb{R}_+ was studied by Webster [36], who showed that $W_\phi|_{\mathbb{R}_+}$ is the unique log-convex solution to the restricted functional equation.

REMARK 2.9. We point out that in [24, Theorem 4.1] the authors proved that $W_\phi \in \mathcal{A}_{(\mathfrak{d}_\phi, \infty)}$, where

$$\mathfrak{d}_\phi = \sup\{u \leq 0; \phi(u) = -\infty \text{ or } \phi(u) = 0\} \in [-\infty, 0],$$

which is more than what we claim in Theorem 2.7 for $t = 1$. However, for $t \neq 1$, W_ϕ^t is only defined on the slit plane $\mathbb{C} \setminus (-\infty, 0]$ and hence it is not possible to extend the strip of analyticity of W_ϕ^t beyond $\mathbb{C}_{(0,\infty)}$.

This theorem is proved in Section 4.1. Our proof of (2.7) in Theorem 2.7 generalizes an argument given by Berg [4] for the case $W_\phi(z) = \Gamma(z)$, i.e. $\phi(u) = u$, which uses the (classical) Weierstrass product representation for the gamma function. We are able to easily adapt his argument to the generalized Weierstrass product for W_ϕ given by (2.6), which emphasizes the utility of such a product representation.

2.4. Existence, smoothness, and Mellin–Barnes representation of densities. In this section we obtain the existence of densities for subclasses of Berg–Urbanik semigroups, and quantify their regularities based on

properties of the associated Bernstein function. We write $\mathbf{C}_0(\mathbb{R}_+)$ for the set of continuous functions on \mathbb{R}_+ whose limit at infinity is zero. Then, for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we write $\mathbf{C}_0^n(\mathbb{R}_+)$ for the set of n -times differentiable functions all of whose derivatives belong to $\mathbf{C}_0(\mathbb{R}_+)$, and $\mathbf{C}_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+)$ for the set of infinitely differentiable functions all of whose derivatives belong to $\mathbf{C}_0(\mathbb{R}_+)$. Finally, for notational convenience, we write $\mu \in \mathbf{C}_0^n(\mathbb{R}_+)$ to denote that a measure μ on \mathbb{R}_+ has a density, with respect to Lebesgue measure on \mathbb{R}_+ , and that this density belongs to $\mathbf{C}_0^n(\mathbb{R}_+)$.

To state our next result we need to consider some further subsets of \mathcal{B} . Following [24], we say that a Lévy measure μ satisfies *weak Jurek condition* if $\mu(dy) = v(y)dy$ where $v(0^+) = \infty$, $v = v_1 + v_2$ for $v_1, v_2 \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+)$, and $v_1 \geq 0$ is non-increasing, while $\int_0^\infty v_2(y) dy \geq 0$ and $|v_2(y)| \leq (\int_y^\infty v_1(r) dr) \vee C$ for some $C > 0$. Given this, we let

$$\mathcal{B}_j = \{\phi \in \mathcal{B}; \mu \text{ satisfies weak Jurek condition}\}$$

and note that $\mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{J}} \subset \mathcal{B}_j$.

Write $\|v\|_\infty = \sup_{y \geq 0} |v(y)|$ for the sup-norm of a function on \mathbb{R}_+ , and set

$$\mathcal{B}_v = \{\phi \in \mathcal{B} \setminus \mathcal{B}_d; \mu(y) = v(y)dy \text{ with } \|v\|_\infty < \infty\},$$

so that $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_v$ implies that $\phi(\infty) < \infty$. We define

$$\mathbf{N}_\phi = \begin{cases} v(0^+)/\phi(\infty) & \text{if } \phi \in \mathcal{B}_v, \\ \infty & \text{if } \phi \in \mathcal{B}_j \cup \mathcal{B}_d, \end{cases}$$

and set

$$\mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{N}} = \{\phi \in \mathcal{B}_j \cup \mathcal{B}_v \cup \mathcal{B}_d; \mathbf{N}_\phi > 0\}.$$

Next, let

$$\mathcal{B}_\Theta = \left\{ \phi \in \mathcal{B}; \Theta_\phi = \varliminf_{b \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{|b|} \int_0^b \arg \phi(1 + iu) du > 0 \right\},$$

and note that $\Theta_\phi \in [0, \pi/2]$ due to [24, Theorem 3.2(1)]. In fact, if $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_d$ then $\Theta_\phi = \pi/2$, while if $\lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \phi(u)u^{-\alpha} = C_\alpha$ for $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ and a constant $C_\alpha \in (0, \infty)$, then $\Theta_\phi = \alpha\pi/2$ (see [24, Theorem 3.3]). Furthermore, there is nothing special about the 1 in $\arg \phi(1 + iu)$ as it can be replaced by any $a > 0$ without changing the value of Θ_ϕ , which follows from a combination of [23, Proposition 6.12] and [24, Theorem 3.1(1)]; in the definition of \mathcal{B}_Θ we simply choose to evaluate $\arg \phi$ along the imaginary line $\operatorname{Re}(z) = 1$ for convenience. For $\theta \in (0, \pi]$ let

$$\mathcal{A}(\theta) = \{f : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}; f \text{ is analytic on the sector } |\arg z| < \theta\},$$

so $\mathcal{A}(\pi)$ is the set of functions analytic on the slit plane $\mathbb{C} \setminus (-\infty, 0]$. Finally, we denote by $\operatorname{supp}(\mu)$ the support of a measure μ .

THEOREM 2.10. *Let $(\nu_t)_{t \geq 0}$ be the Berg–Urbanik semigroup associated to $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$.*

- (1) *Assume that $\phi \not\equiv k$ for $k \geq 0$. If $\phi(\infty) < \infty$ then $\text{supp}(\nu_t) = [0, \phi(\infty)^t]$, otherwise $\text{supp}(\nu_t) = [0, \infty)$ for all $t > 0$.*
- (2) *If $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{N}}$ then, for any $t > 1/\mathbb{N}_\phi$, $\nu_t \in \mathbf{C}_0^{\mathbf{n}(t)}(\mathbb{R}_+)$, i.e. $\nu_t(dx) = \nu_t(x)dx$, $x > 0$, where $\mathbf{n}(t) = \lfloor \mathbb{N}_\phi t \rfloor - 1 \geq 0$. Furthermore, for each $n \leq \mathbf{n}(t)$, the density $\nu_t(x)$ and its successive derivatives admit the Mellin–Barnes representation*

$$\nu_t^{(n)}(x) = \frac{(-1)^n}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} x^{-z-n} \frac{\Gamma(z+n)}{\Gamma(z)} W_\phi^t(z) dz$$

for any $c, x > 0$.

- (3) *If $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_\Theta$, then $\nu_t \in \mathcal{A}(\Theta_\phi t)$ for any $0 < t < \pi/\Theta_\phi$, and $\nu_t \in \mathcal{A}(\pi)$ for any $t \geq \pi/\Theta_\phi$.*

REMARK 2.11. From Theorem 2.10(1) it follows that the support of ν_t is bounded, pointwise in t , if and only if ϕ is a bounded function. Note that we exclude the case when $\phi \equiv k$ as this corresponds to a Berg–Urbanik semigroup with degenerate support, i.e. $\text{supp}(\nu_t) = \delta_{kt}$.

Theorem 2.10 is proved in Section 4.2. A key ingredient in the proof of Theorem 2.10(2, 3) is estimates for Bernstein-Gamma functions along imaginary lines provided in [24, Theorem 4.2].

The main point of Theorem 2.10(2) is to quantify the differentiability of the Berg–Urbanik semigroup as a function of t and simple quantities associated to ϕ . In this sense our result complements and extends [23, Theorem 5.2], which deals with differentiability at time 1. Finally, in Theorem 2.10(3) we describe the analyticity of ν_t both as a function of ϕ and t , and show that the sector of analyticity grows linearly in t . This gives rise to another kind of threshold phenomenon, where for large enough t we find that the density is analytic on $\mathbb{C} \setminus (-\infty, 0]$.

2.5. Asymptotics at infinity of densities and their successive derivatives. In this section we consider a subset of Berg–Urbanik semigroups admitting smooth densities, for all $t > 0$, for which we are able to obtain the exact large asymptotic behavior of the density, as well as of all its successive derivatives, for all time $t > 0$. We write $f(x) \overset{\infty}{\sim} g(x)$ if $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = 1$, and $f(x) \overset{\infty}{=} o(g(x))$ if $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = 0$. The following theorem is the main result of this section, and one of the main results of this paper.

THEOREM 2.12. *Let $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$ be such that $\phi(\infty) = \infty$ with $\phi^\dagger \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{J}}$ for all $\dagger \in (0, 1)$, and let $(\nu_t)_{t \geq 0}$ be the corresponding Berg–Urbanik semigroup.*

For any $t > 0$, $\nu_t \in \mathbf{C}_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+)$, i.e. $\nu_t(dx) = \nu_t(x)dx$, $x > 0$, and the densities $\nu_t(x)$ have the following large asymptotic behavior:

$$(2.9) \quad \nu_t(x^t) \approx \frac{C_\phi^t}{\sqrt{2\pi t}} \sqrt{x^{1-t} \varphi'(x)} \exp\left(-t \int_k^x \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr\right)$$

where $C_\phi > 0$ is a constant depending only on ϕ , and $\varphi : [k, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is the continuous inverse of ϕ . Furthermore, for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $t > 0$, the successive derivatives of the density satisfy

$$(2.10) \quad \nu_t^{(n)}(x^t) \approx (-1)^n x^{-nt} \varphi^n(x) \nu_t(x^t),$$

which can be specified as follows.

(1) If $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_d$ then

$$\nu_t(x^t) \approx \frac{\tilde{C}_\phi^t}{\sqrt{2\pi t}} x^{\frac{d+t(2k-d)}{2d}} \exp\left(-\frac{tx}{d} + \frac{t}{d} \int_k^x \frac{E(r)}{r} dr\right)$$

where $\tilde{C}_\phi > 0$ is a constant, and $E(u) \geq 0$ satisfies $E(u) \stackrel{\infty}{\approx} o(u)$. Furthermore, for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $t > 0$,

$$\nu_t^{(n)}(x^t) \approx (-1)^n d^n x^{n(1-t)} \nu_t(x^t).$$

(2) If $\phi(u) \stackrel{\infty}{\approx} C_\alpha u^\alpha$ for a constant $C_\alpha > 0$ and $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, then

$$\nu_t(x^t) \approx \frac{\bar{C}_\phi^t}{\sqrt{2\pi t}} x^{\frac{1-\alpha t}{2\alpha}} \exp\left(-t\alpha C_\alpha^{-1/\alpha} x^{1/\alpha} + t \int_k^x \frac{H(r)}{r} dr\right)$$

where $\bar{C}_\phi > 0$ is a constant, and $H(u^\alpha) \stackrel{\infty}{\approx} o(u)$. Furthermore, for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $t > 0$,

$$\nu_t^{(n)}(x^t) \approx (-1)^n C_\alpha^{-n/\alpha} x^{\frac{n}{\alpha}(1-\alpha t)} \nu_t(x^t).$$

REMARK 2.13. Note the asymptotic (2.9) is a key ingredient in the proof of Theorem 2.2 regarding the moment determinacy of Berg–Urbanik semi-groups.

REMARK 2.14. In the special case $\phi(u) = u$ the identity in (2.9) boils down to

$$(2.11) \quad e_t^{(n)}(x) \approx (-1)^n \frac{(2\pi)^{\frac{t-1}{2}}}{\sqrt{t}} x^{\frac{1-t}{2t}} x^{n(1/t-1)} e^{-tx^{1/t}}$$

where we recall that $(e_t)_{t>0}$ stands for the classical Urbanik semigroup (see (1.1)). For $n = 0$ and $t > 0$ this asymptotic was proved by Berg and López [8]; see also Janson [15] for an independent proof. In both papers the authors apply a delicate saddle point argument hinging on special properties of the gamma function such as Stirling's formula with Binet remainder for the gamma function [8]. Furthermore, Janson outlines how his saddle

point argument can be applied to yield the asymptotics in (2.11) for arbitrary $n \in \mathbb{N}$ [15, Remark 6.2]. It would be interesting to see if a saddle point approach could be applied for general Berg–Urbanik semigroups, using the Mellin transform representation we provide in Theorem 2.7 together with a further study of Bernstein–Gamma functions.

Theorem 2.12 is proved in Sections 4.3.1 and 4.3.2. There are three main steps in the proof of the asymptotics (2.9) and (2.10). The first one hinges on a non-classical Tauberian theorem in the version due to Patie and Savov [23, Proposition 5.26] but which originates from the work of Balkema [3, Theorem 4.4]. It enables us to get the large asymptotic behavior of the densities and of its successive derivatives at time $t = 1$, under the less stringent conditions $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{J}}$. Since the conditions to invoke this non-classical Tauberian theorem are difficult to check, one cannot follow this path for times other than 1. Instead, we combine the asymptotic at time 1 of the densities from [23, Theorem 5.5] with the assumption that $\phi^t \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{J}}$ for all $t \in (0, 1)$ to obtain the asymptotic at time t . Lastly we adapt to our context a closure result due to Balkema et al. [2, Theorem 1.1], which states that the (additive) convolution of probability densities with Gaussian tails also has a Gaussian tail, to extend the asymptotic from $t \in (0, 1)$ to all $t > 0$. Our application of this closure result is novel, since we use it not only for the densities (as stated in [2]) but also for their successive derivatives.

As a by-product of Theorem 2.12 we obtain the large asymptotic behavior of the density and its successive derivatives for the law of certain Lévy processes, which seems to be new in the Lévy literature. To state this we briefly recall that a (one-dimensional) *Lévy process* $(Y_t)_{t \geq 0}$ is an \mathbb{R} -valued stochastic process with stationary and independent increments that is continuous in probability and such that $Y_0 = 0$ a.s. For further information regarding Lévy processes we refer to the monograph [27]. Note that for each Berg–Urbanik semigroup there exists a corresponding Lévy process whose characteristic exponent is given by (1.3).

COROLLARY 2.15. *Let $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$ be such that $\phi(\infty) = \infty$ with $\phi^t \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{J}}$ for all $t \in (0, 1)$, and let $(Y_t)_{t \geq 0}$ be a Lévy process whose characteristic exponent Ψ is given by (1.3). Then, for $t > 0$, $\mathbb{P}(Y_t \in dy) = f_t(y)dy$, $y \in \mathbb{R}$, with $f_t \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ and, for any $n \geq 0$,*

$$f_t^{(n)}(ty) \approx (-1)^n \frac{C_\phi^t}{\sqrt{2\pi t}} \varphi^n(e^y) \sqrt{e^{(1+t)y} \varphi'(e^y)} \exp\left(-t \int_k^{e^y} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr\right)$$

where $C_\phi > 0$ is a constant depending only on ϕ , and $\varphi : [k, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is the continuous inverse of ϕ .

This corollary is obtained by combining (2.9) and (2.10) with the relation $f_t^{(n)}(y) \approx e^{(n+1)y} \nu_t^{(n)}(e^y)$ for any $n \geq 0$, which is established in the proof of Theorem 2.12. We are not aware of any such detailed description in the literature of the large asymptotic behavior for the law of a Lévy process, for all $t > 0$, as well as of its successive derivatives, except in some special cases.

3. Examples. In this section we consider two examples of Berg–Urbanik semigroups that illustrate the previous results.

EXAMPLE 3.1. Let $\Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}}$ be the Bernstein function defined, for $u \geq 0$, by

$$\Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}}(u) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha u + \mathbf{a})}{\Gamma(\alpha u + \mathbf{b})}$$

with $\alpha \in (0, 1]$ and $0 \leq \mathbf{b} < \mathbf{a} < \mathbf{b} + 1$, where the fact that $\Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}}$ is a Bernstein function follows from [19, Proposition 1 and Remark 1]. Next, for $\tau \in \mathbb{R}_+$, let $G(z | \tau)$ denote the double gamma function, and recall that it satisfies the functional equation

$$(3.1) \quad G(z + 1 | \tau) = \Gamma\left(\frac{z}{\tau}\right) G(z | \tau)$$

for $z \in \mathbb{C}_{(0, \infty)}$, with $G(1 | \tau) = 1$. We claim that

$$(3.2) \quad W_{\Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}}}(z) = C_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}} \frac{G(z + \frac{\mathbf{a}}{\alpha} | \frac{1}{\alpha})}{G(z + \frac{\mathbf{b}}{\alpha} | \frac{1}{\alpha})}, \quad \text{where} \quad C_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}} = \frac{\Gamma(\mathbf{b}) G(\frac{\mathbf{b}}{\alpha} | \frac{1}{\alpha})}{\Gamma(\mathbf{a}) G(\frac{\mathbf{a}}{\alpha} | \frac{1}{\alpha})}.$$

Indeed, from (3.1) it follows that

$$\frac{G(z + 1 + \frac{\mathbf{a}}{\alpha} | \frac{1}{\alpha})}{G(z + 1 + \frac{\mathbf{b}}{\alpha} | \frac{1}{\alpha})} = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha z + \mathbf{a})}{\Gamma(\alpha z + \mathbf{b})} \frac{G(z + \frac{\mathbf{a}}{\alpha} | \frac{1}{\alpha})}{G(z + \frac{\mathbf{b}}{\alpha} | \frac{1}{\alpha})}$$

for $z \in \mathbb{C}_{(0, \infty)}$, and the choice of $C_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}}$ ensures the required normalization. Hence it remains to prove the uniqueness. To this end we note that, by a Malmsten-type representation for $G(z | \tau)$ due to [20], we have

$$(3.3) \quad \log\left(\frac{G(z + \frac{\mathbf{a}}{\alpha} | \frac{1}{\alpha})}{G(z + \frac{\mathbf{b}}{\alpha} | \frac{1}{\alpha})}\right) = -c - \kappa z + \int_0^\infty (e^{-zy} - 1 + zy) f_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}}(y) dy,$$

where c, κ are real constants depending only on the underlying parameters, and

$$f_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}}(y) = \frac{e^{-\frac{\mathbf{b}}{\alpha}y} - e^{-\frac{\mathbf{a}}{\alpha}y}}{y(1 - e^{-y})(1 - e^{-\frac{y}{\alpha}})}$$

(see for instance [21, (2.15)]). Differentiating the right-hand side of (3.3) twice, which is justified by dominated convergence, shows that the ratio of double gamma functions is log-convex. However, $W_{\Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}}}$ is the unique

log-convex function on \mathbb{R}_+ that solves the functional equation, and thus the claim is proved.

Next, we note that $\Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}}$ is a complete Bernstein function. Indeed, $\Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}}$ is obtained by the dilation and translation of the argument of the function $\Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}}$ below, whose Lévy measure is easily seen via direct calculation to be completely monotone, and these operations preserve the property of being a complete Bernstein function, which can be seen by using the upper half-plane criterion as outlined in Remark 2.3. Moreover, the density of the Lévy measure of $\Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}}$ is necessarily infinite at 0, which follows from $\Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}}(\infty) = \infty$, and so $\Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}} \in \mathcal{B}_j$, which gives by definition $\mathfrak{N}_{\Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}}} = \infty$. Thus, invoking Theorem 2.10(2) shows that $\nu_t \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+)$ for all $t > 0$, and since by the Stirling formula recalled in (4.17) below, $\Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}}(u) \approx Cu^{\mathbf{a}-\mathbf{b}}$ for a constant $C > 0$ and with $\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b} \in (0, 1)$, these densities satisfy the large asymptotic behavior specified by Theorem 2.12(2). From [24, Theorem 3.3(2)] we get $\Theta_{\Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}}} = (\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b})\pi/2$ (see the discussion prior to Theorem 2.10 for the definition), where we may apply this result since $\Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}} \in \mathcal{B}_\alpha$ with $\ell \equiv 1$ in the notation therein. Hence invoking Theorem 2.10(3) gives $\nu_t \in \mathcal{A}((\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b})\pi t/2)$ for $t < 2/(\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b})$ and $\nu_t \in \mathcal{A}(\pi)$ for $t \geq 2/(\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b})$. Finally, the property $\Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}}(u) \approx Cu^{\mathbf{a}-\mathbf{b}}$ implies, by Theorem 2.2(3), that $\mathcal{T}_{\Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}}} = 2/(\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b})$ and, by Theorem 2.2(1), we also know that the semigroup is moment determinate at the threshold. As remarked earlier, this example reveals that for any $T \in (2, \infty)$ there exists a Bernstein function, namely $\Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}}$ with $\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b} = 2/T$ and any $\alpha \in (0, 1]$, whose associated Berg–Urbanik semigroup has threshold index $\mathcal{T}_{\Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}}} = T$.

Now let us mention that for the special case when $\mathbf{a} = \alpha \mathbf{m} + 1$ and $\mathbf{b} = \alpha \mathbf{m} + 1 - \alpha$, where $\mathbf{m} \in [1 - 1/\alpha, \infty)$, so that $\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b} = \alpha$, some expressions above simplify. Indeed, in this case, the Bernstein function takes the form

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}}(u) &= \frac{\Gamma(\alpha u + \alpha \mathbf{m} + 1)}{\Gamma(\alpha u + \alpha \mathbf{m} + 1 - \alpha)} \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(\alpha \mathbf{m} + 1)}{\Gamma(\alpha \mathbf{m} + 1 - \alpha)} + \int_0^\infty (1 - e^{-uy}) e^{-(\mathbf{m}+1/\alpha)y} (1 - e^{-y/\alpha})^{-\alpha-1} dy, \end{aligned}$$

and was studied in the context of the so-called Gauss–Laguerre semigroup in [25, p. 808]. For $z \in \mathbb{C}_{(0, \infty)}$, the ratio of double gamma functions in (3.2) boils down to

$$W_{\Phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}}}(z) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha z + \alpha \mathbf{m} + 1 - \alpha)}{\Gamma(\alpha \mathbf{m} + 1)}$$

(see e.g. [25, Lemma 3.1]), and we also have

$$\nu_1(x) = \frac{x^{\mathbf{m}+1/\alpha-1} e^{-x^{1/\alpha}}}{\Gamma(\alpha \mathbf{m} + 1)}, \quad x > 0$$

(see [23, (3.10) and more generally Section 3.3]).

EXAMPLE 3.2. Let $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$ and consider the function defined on \mathbb{R}^+ by

$$\phi_\ell(u) = \log\left(\frac{\phi(u+1)}{\phi(1)}\right).$$

Observe that

$$\phi'_\ell(u) = \log\left(\frac{\phi(u+1)}{\phi(1)}\right)' = \frac{\phi'(u+1)}{\phi(u+1)} = \int_0^\infty e^{-uy} \kappa_e(dy),$$

where we have used $\phi'(u)/\phi(u) = \int_0^\infty e^{-uy} \kappa(dy)$ and have set $\kappa_e(dy) = e^{-y} \kappa(dy)$. This means that ϕ'_ℓ is completely monotone and since ϕ_ℓ is plainly positive on \mathbb{R}^+ , we deduce that $\phi_\ell \in \mathcal{B}$. Next, as a general result on Bernstein functions gives $\overline{\lim}_{u \rightarrow \infty} u^{-1} \phi(u) < \infty$ (see for instance [23, Proposition 4.1(3)]), it follows readily that for any $\beta > 0$, $\overline{\lim}_{u \rightarrow \infty} u^{-\beta} \phi_\ell(u) = 0$ and thus $\beta_{\phi_\ell} = 0$ (see (2.4)). Hence, the Berg–Urbanik semigroup associated to the Bernstein function ϕ_ℓ is completely determinate.

As an illustration, we choose, for $\lambda > 0$, $\phi(u) = 1 + u/\lambda \in \mathcal{B}$ and we see, writing $\phi_\ell = \phi_\lambda$, that

$$(3.4) \quad \phi_\lambda(u) = \log\left(1 + \frac{u}{\lambda}\right) = \int_0^\infty (1 - e^{-uy}) \frac{e^{-\lambda y}}{y} dy.$$

It follows plainly from the right-hand side of (3.4) that the Lévy measure of ϕ_λ is completely monotone, and thus ϕ_λ is a complete Bernstein function. Furthermore, $N_{\phi_\lambda} = \infty$, since ϕ_λ satisfies weak Jurek condition and $\phi_\lambda(\infty) = \infty$. Hence from Theorem 2.10(1) we get $\text{supp}(\nu_t) = [0, \infty)$ for all $t > 0$, and from Theorem 2.10(2) we conclude that for all $t > 0$, $\nu_t(dx) = \nu_t(x)dx$ with $\nu_t \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+)$. A straightforward computation shows that the continuous inverse of ϕ_λ is given by $u \mapsto \lambda(e^u - 1)$. Hence, by Theorem 2.12, for all $t > 0$,

$$\nu_t(x^t) \approx \frac{C^t}{\sqrt{2\pi t}} x^{\frac{1-t(1+2\lambda)}{2}} \exp\left(-\lambda t \text{Ei}(x) + \frac{x}{2}\right),$$

where $C > 0$ is a constant and $\text{Ei}(x) = -\int_{-x}^\infty \frac{e^{-t}}{t} dt$ is the exponential integral, and we have also used the well-known relation $\text{Ei}(x) = \gamma + \log x + \int_0^x \frac{e^r - 1}{r} dr$, where γ is the Euler–Mascheroni constant.

4. Proofs of main results. Throughout we write $f(x) \stackrel{\infty}{=} O(g(x))$ to denote that $\overline{\lim}_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \right| < \infty$, and recall that $f(x) \stackrel{\infty}{\approx} g(x)$ if $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = 1$, and $f(x) \stackrel{\infty}{=} o(g(x))$ if $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = 0$.

4.1. Proof of Theorem 2.7. We begin with the proof of (2.7) and start by showing that the function $b \mapsto -\text{Log } W_\phi(1 + ib)$ is a continuous negative-definite function, i.e. a continuous function f such that $f(0) \geq 0$

and $u \mapsto e^{-tf(u)}$ is positive-definite for all $t > 0$ [28, Proposition 4.4]. As mentioned in the introduction, this fact has already been established by Berg [5] and independently by Hirsch and Yor [14] and we shall provide yet another proof utilizing the Weierstrass product representation for W_ϕ . We follow closely the arguments given by Berg for the proof of [4, Lemma 2.1]. First, from (2.6) we have, for $\operatorname{Re}(z) > 0$,

$$W_\phi(z) = \frac{e^{-\gamma_\phi z}}{\phi(z)} \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\phi(k)}{\phi(k+z)} e^{\frac{\phi'(k)}{\phi(k)} z},$$

where $\gamma_\phi = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\phi'(k)}{\phi(k)} - \log \phi(n) \right) \in \left[-\log \phi(1), \frac{\phi'(1)}{\phi(1)} - \log \phi(1) \right]$. Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} -\operatorname{Log} W_\phi(1+ib) &= \gamma_\phi(1+ib) + \operatorname{Log} \phi(1+ib) \\ &\quad - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\operatorname{Log} \left(\frac{\phi(k)}{\phi(k+1+ib)} \right) + (1+ib) \frac{\phi'(k)}{\phi(k)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Next, for $n \geq 1$, consider the truncated functions $L_{\phi,n}$ defined by

$$\begin{aligned} L_{\phi,n}(1+ib) &= \gamma_\phi(1+ib) + \operatorname{Log} \phi(1+ib) \\ &\quad - \sum_{k=1}^n \left(\operatorname{Log} \left(\frac{\phi(k)}{\phi(k+1+ib)} \right) + (1+ib) \frac{\phi'(k)}{\phi(k)} \right) \\ &= L_{\phi,n}(1) + ib \left(\gamma_\phi - \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\phi'(k)}{\phi(k)} \right) + \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \operatorname{Log} \frac{\phi(k+ib)}{\phi(k)}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$L_{\phi,n}(1) = \gamma_\phi - \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\phi'(k)}{\phi(k)} + \log \phi(n+1) = \gamma_\phi - g(n),$$

and the last equality serves to define $g(n)$. We claim that $n \mapsto g(n)$ is non-decreasing with $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g(n) = \gamma_\phi$. Indeed, from [23, Proposition 4.1(4)] we know that $1/\phi$ is completely monotone so that ϕ'/ϕ is completely monotone, as the product of two completely monotone functions. Thus $u \mapsto \phi'(u)/\phi(u)$ is non-increasing, and we get

$$\log \frac{\phi(n+2)}{\phi(n+1)} = \int_{n+1}^{n+2} \frac{\phi'(u)}{\phi(u)} du \leq \frac{\phi'(n+1)}{\phi(n+1)},$$

which yields

$$g(n+1) - g(n) = \frac{\phi'(n+1)}{\phi(n+1)} - \log \frac{\phi(n+2)}{\phi(n+1)} \geq 0.$$

Additionally, by [23, Proposition 4.1(6)],

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\phi(n+1)}{\phi(n)} = 1,$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g(n) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\phi'(k)}{\phi(k)} - \log \phi(n) + \log \phi(n) - \log \phi(n+1) \right) \\ &= \gamma_\phi - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \log \frac{\phi(n+1)}{\phi(n)} = \gamma_\phi. \end{aligned}$$

Putting all of these observations together, we conclude that $L_{\phi,n}(1) \geq 0$. Furthermore, for any $a \in \mathbb{R}$ the function $b \mapsto iab$ is continuous negative-definite, and for any $1 \leq k \leq n+1$, $b \mapsto \text{Log} \frac{\phi(k+ib)}{\phi(k)}$ is continuous negative-definite since $u \mapsto \log \frac{\phi(k+u)}{\phi(k)}$ is a Bernstein function, as the composition of two Bernstein functions [28, Corollary 3.8(iii)]. This shows that $L_{\phi,n}(1+ib)$ is a continuous negative-definite function, and since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} L_{\phi,n}(1+ib) = -\text{Log} W_\phi(1+ib)$ pointwise it follows that $b \mapsto -\text{Log} W_\phi(1+ib)$ is a continuous negative-definite function.

Consequently, using the homeomorphism $x \mapsto e^x$ between \mathbb{R} and $(0, \infty)$, we find that there exists a unique multiplicative convolution semigroup $(\mathcal{V}_t)_{t \geq 0}$ such that

$$(4.1) \quad \int_0^\infty y^{ib} \mathcal{V}_t(dy) = W_\phi^t(1+ib).$$

From [23, Theorem 6.1] we know that $W_\phi \in \mathcal{A}_{(0,\infty)}$ and hence $W_\phi^t \in \mathcal{A}_{(0,\infty)}$ for any $t > 0$. Thus the identity in (4.1) extends to

$$\int_0^\infty y^{z-1} \mathcal{V}_t(dy) = W_\phi^t(z)$$

for $z \in \mathbb{C}_{(0,\infty)}$. However, again from [23, Theorem 6.1], we have $\mathcal{M}_{\nu_1}(z-1) = W_\phi(z)$ and thus $\mathcal{V}_1 = \nu_1$, since the Mellin transform uniquely characterizes a probability measure. By uniqueness of convolution semigroups it then follows that $\mathcal{V}_t = \nu_t$ for all $t \geq 0$, and thus (2.7) is established. Finally, from [23, Theorem 6.1] we infer that $W_\phi : \mathbb{C}_{(0,\infty)} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is the unique positive-definite function, i.e. the Mellin transform of a probability measure, that satisfies the functional equation

$$W_\phi(z+1) = \phi(z)W_\phi(z), \quad W_\phi(1) = 1,$$

for $z \in \mathbb{C}_{(0,\infty)}$, from which the last claim follows.

4.2. Proofs for Section 2.4

4.2.1. *Proof of Theorem 2.10(1).* It is immediate from [7, Theorem 1.5] that $\phi(\infty) = \infty$ implies $\text{supp}(\nu_t)$ is unbounded, and we also see from [23,

Theorem 5.2(1)] that $\text{supp}(\nu_1) = [0, \infty)$. By the homeomorphism $x \mapsto e^x$ between \mathbb{R} and $(0, \infty)$ mentioned above, together with the fact that the boundedness from below of the support of the law of a Lévy process is time-independent [27, Theorem 24.7], we then conclude that $\text{supp}(\nu_t) = [0, \infty)$ for all $t > 0$. Hence, we suppose that $\phi(\infty) \in (0, \infty)$. To prove the claim we will rely on the following auxiliary result: for any measure μ on \mathbb{R}_+ , $\text{supp}(\mu) \subseteq [0, c]$, for $c > 0$, if and only if $\int_0^\infty x^n \mu(dx) \stackrel{\infty}{\asymp} O(c^n)$ [7, Lemma 2.9]. Since for any $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$, by definition, ϕ' is completely monotone, it follows that all Bernstein functions are non-decreasing on \mathbb{R}_+ . Thus, for any $n \geq 0$,

$$\mathcal{M}_{\nu_t}(n) = \left(\prod_{k=1}^n \phi(k) \right)^t \leq \phi(\infty)^{nt}.$$

By the quoted result, the above estimate implies that $\text{supp}(\nu_t) \subseteq [0, \phi(\infty)^t]$. For the reverse inclusion, let $\epsilon > 0$ be small and choose $N_{\epsilon, \phi}$ large enough (depending on ϵ and ϕ) such that for $k \geq N_{\epsilon, \phi} - 1$ we have $\phi(k) \geq \phi(\infty) - \epsilon > 0$. Then, for $n \geq N_{\epsilon, \phi}$ and again since ϕ is non-decreasing,

$$\mathcal{M}_{\nu_t}(n) = \left(\prod_{k=1}^{N_{\epsilon, \phi}-1} \phi(k) \right)^t \left(\prod_{k=N_{\epsilon, \phi}}^n \phi(k) \right)^t \geq C_{\epsilon, \phi, t} (\phi(\infty) - \epsilon)^{nt},$$

where

$$C_{\epsilon, \phi, t} = \frac{\phi(1)^{(N_{\epsilon, \phi}-1)t}}{(\phi(\infty) - \epsilon)^{N_{\epsilon, \phi}t}}$$

is a constant, which depends only on ϵ , ϕ , and t . Since $\epsilon > 0$ is arbitrary this estimate shows that $\text{supp}(\nu_t)$ cannot be contained in any subinterval of $[0, \phi(\infty)^t]$. Thus we must have either $\text{supp}(\nu_t) = [0, \phi(\infty)^t]$ or $\text{supp}(\nu_t) = \delta_{\phi(\infty)^t}$, a Dirac mass at the point $\phi(\infty)^t$. In the latter case,

$$\mathcal{M}_{\nu_t}(n) = \phi(\infty)^{nt} = \left(\prod_{k=1}^n \phi(k) \right)^t$$

for all $n \geq 0$ and $t > 0$, from which it follows that ϕ must be constant.

4.2.2. Proof of Theorem 2.10(2). We split the proof into two cases. First, suppose that $\aleph_\phi = \infty$, which implies that $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_d \cup \mathcal{B}_j$. Then one may invoke [24, Theorem 4.2(3)] to deduce that, for any $p \geq 0$ and $a > 0$,

$$\lim_{|b| \rightarrow \infty} |b|^p |W_\phi(a + ib)| = 0,$$

where $W_\phi : \mathbb{C}_{(0, \infty)} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is the Bernstein-Gamma function associated to ϕ . Hence, for any $q \geq 0$ and $t > 0$ fixed,

$$\lim_{|b| \rightarrow \infty} |b|^q |W_\phi(a + ib)|^t = 0,$$

which yields the estimate

$$|W_\phi^t(a+ib)| \cong O(|b|^{-q}),$$

uniformly on bounded a -intervals, i.e. uniformly on bounded intervals of $a \in (0, \infty)$. Indeed, the functions E_ϕ and R_ϕ in [24, Theorem 4.2] are uniformly bounded for all $a > 0$ and all $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$, while the function G_ϕ in [24, Theorem 4.2] depends only on a and $G_\phi(a) \leq a \log \phi(1+a)$, so that G_ϕ is uniformly bounded on bounded a -intervals (see also [24, Remark 4.3]). By Theorem 2.7 we know that $\mathcal{M}_{\nu_t}(z-1) = W_\phi^t(z)$ for $\operatorname{Re}(z) > 0$, so the estimate for W_ϕ^t established above, together with the fact that $W_\phi^t \in \mathcal{A}_{(0, \infty)}$, justifies the use of Mellin inversion (see e.g. [32]) to conclude that, for any $c > 0$,

$$(4.2) \quad \nu_t(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} x^{-z} W_\phi^t(z) dz.$$

Note that the integrand in (4.2) is absolutely integrable for any $x > 0$, since $|x^{-(c+ib)}| |W_\phi^t(c+ib)| = x^{-c} |W_\phi^t(c+ib)|$ and $|W_\phi^t(c+ib)| \cong O(|b|^{-1})$, for $|b|$ large enough. Taking $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \nu_t(x)$ in (4.2) and using the dominated convergence theorem to interchange the limit and the integral shows that $\nu_t \in \mathbf{C}_0(\mathbb{R}_+)$. However, since for any $q \geq 0$ and $a > 0$, $|W_\phi^t(a+ib)| \cong O(|b|^{-q})$, we deduce that, for any $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, $z \mapsto z^n |W_\phi^t(z)|$ is absolutely integrable and uniformly decaying on a complex strip containing $c+n+i\mathbb{R}$ (see e.g. [23, Section 1.7.4]), and thus we get

$$\nu_t^{(n)}(x) = \frac{(-1)^n}{2\pi i} \int_{c+n-i\infty}^{c+n+i\infty} x^{-z} \frac{\Gamma(z)}{\Gamma(z-n)} W_\phi^t(z-n) dz.$$

The change of variables $z \mapsto z+n$ then yields the claimed Mellin–Barnes representation,

$$\nu_t^{(n)}(x) = \frac{(-1)^n}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} x^{-z-n} \frac{\Gamma(z+n)}{\Gamma(z)} W_\phi^t(z) dz,$$

where we note that the integrand is absolutely integrable by Stirling's formula for the gamma function (see (4.17) below). Using the dominated convergence theorem once more to evaluate the limit at infinity shows that $\nu_t \in \mathbf{C}_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+)$.

Next, suppose that $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_v$, i.e. $\mathbf{N}_\phi = v(0^+)/\phi(\infty) \in (0, \infty)$. Another application of [24, Theorem 4.2] yields, for $a > 0$ fixed and any $\epsilon > 0$,

$$\lim_{|b| \rightarrow \infty} |b|^{\mathbf{N}_\phi - \epsilon} |W_\phi(a+ib)| = 0,$$

while

$$\lim_{|b| \rightarrow \infty} |b|^{\mathbf{N}_\phi + \epsilon} |W_\phi(a+ib)| = \infty.$$

The first equality thus guarantees that, for $t > 0$ and any $\epsilon > 0$,

$$(4.3) \quad \lim_{|b| \rightarrow \infty} |b|^{\mathbf{N}_\phi t - \epsilon} |W_\phi(a + ib)|^t = 0.$$

Now let $t > 1/\mathbf{N}_\phi$ and observe that $\mathbf{n}(t) = \lfloor \mathbf{N}_\phi t \rfloor - 1 \geq 0$ and is the largest integer less than or equal to $\mathbf{N}_\phi t - 1$. Choose ϵ such that $\mathbf{N}_\phi t - 1 - \mathbf{n}(t) > \epsilon > 0$. Then, by (4.3), uniformly on bounded a -intervals and for $|b|$ large enough,

$$|W_\phi(a + ib)|^t \leq C|b|^{-1 - \mathbf{n}(t) - \epsilon},$$

for $C > 0$ a constant. Since the right-hand side is uniformly integrable and W_ϕ^t is analytic on $\mathbb{C}_{(0, \infty)}$, another application of the Mellin inversion formula and dominated convergence allows us to conclude that $\nu_t \in \mathbf{C}_0^{\mathbf{n}(t)}(\mathbb{R}_+)$. The Mellin–Barnes representation follows as in the previous case.

4.2.3. Proof of Theorem 2.10(3). Since $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_\Theta$ we have, for any $\epsilon > 0$ and $|b|$ large enough,

$$(4.4) \quad A_\phi(a + ib) \geq (\Theta_\phi - \epsilon)|b|,$$

where $A_\phi(a + ib) = \int_0^b \arg \phi(a + iu) du$. Invoking [24, Theorem 4.2(1)] gives, for any $a > 0$,

$$|W_\phi(a + ib)|^t = C_{\phi, a, t} \left(\frac{\phi(a)}{|\phi(a + ib)|} \right)^{t/2} e^{-tA_\phi(a + ib)},$$

where $C_{\phi, a, t} > 0$ is a constant depending only on ϕ , a and t . Since [24, Proposition 3.1(9)] gives $|\phi(a + ib)| \geq \phi(a)$, it follows from the estimate for A_ϕ in (4.4) that, for ϵ small enough such that $\Theta_\phi t - \epsilon > 0$,

$$(4.5) \quad |W_\phi(a + ib)|^t \stackrel{\infty}{\cong} O(e^{-(\Theta_\phi t - \epsilon)|b|}),$$

where the big-O estimate holds pointwise in a , and thus uniformly on bounded a -intervals. By similar arguments to those given in the proof of Theorem 2.10(2) above, it follows that $\nu_t \in \mathbf{C}_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+)$, and hence we have the Mellin–Barnes representation

$$(4.6) \quad \nu_t(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} x^{-z} W_\phi^t(z) dz$$

for any $c > 0$. To show that ν_t is analytic on the claimed sector it suffices to analytically extend the right-hand side of (4.6), which amounts to replacing x by a suitable complex number. Let $\epsilon > 0$ be fixed and consider $w \in \mathbb{C}$ such that $|\arg w| < \Theta_\phi t - \epsilon$. From the estimate (4.5) it follows that, for any $c > 0$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$|w^{-(c+ib)} W_\phi^t(c + ib)| \leq e^{|b||\arg w|} |W_\phi(c + ib)|^t \stackrel{\infty}{\cong} O(e^{-(\Theta_\phi t - \epsilon - |\arg w|)|b|}),$$

and by choice of w the right-hand side is integrable in b . Thus the integrand on the right-hand side of (4.6) is well-defined for $|\arg w| < \Theta_\phi t - \epsilon$, which

by uniqueness of the analytic extension gives $\nu_t \in \mathcal{A}(\Theta_\phi t - \epsilon)$. Since $\epsilon > 0$ is arbitrary we get $\nu_t \in \mathcal{A}(\Theta_\phi t)$, and thus for $t > \pi/\Theta_\phi$ we have $\nu_t \in \mathcal{A}(\pi)$.

4.3. Proofs for Section 2.5. The proof of Theorem 2.12 combines ideas from several different areas. Hence we first state some definitions, and detail some lemmas and propositions that will be useful in the proof. We say that a function $s : (a, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$, for some $a \geq -\infty$, is *self-neglecting* if

$$\lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \frac{s(u + ws(u))}{s(u)} = 1 \quad \text{locally uniformly in } w \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Furthermore, a function $G : (a, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is *asymptotically parabolic* if it is twice continuously differentiable with $G'' > 0$ on (a, ∞) , and if its scale function $s_G(u) = (G''(u))^{-1/2}$ is self-neglecting. Denote the set of asymptotically parabolic functions by \mathcal{AP} and note that it is a convex cone. A function $h : (a, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ is said to be *flat* with respect to G if

$$(4.7) \quad \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \frac{h(u + ws_G(u))}{h(u)} = 1 \quad \text{locally uniformly in } w \in \mathbb{R},$$

where s_G is the scale function of G . In the following lemma we collect some properties of flat and asymptotically parabolic functions.

LEMMA 4.1. *Let $G \in \mathcal{AP}$ and h be flat with respect to G .*

- (1) *The function $u \mapsto 1/h(u)$ is flat with respect to G .*
- (2) *For any $c > 0$, the function $u \mapsto h(cu)$ is flat with respect to G .*
- (3) *The identity function is flat with respect to G and, for any $\alpha > 0$, the function $u \mapsto h^\alpha(u)$ is flat with respect to G . In particular, for any $n \geq 0$, the function $u \mapsto u^n$ is flat with respect to G .*
- (4) *The function h satisfies*

$$\lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log h(u)}{G(u)} = 0.$$

- (5) *For any $c > 0$, the function $u \mapsto cG(u/c)$ is in \mathcal{AP} .*

Proof. The first claim is obvious from the definition in (4.7). Let $c > 0$ and consider the function h_c defined by $h_c(u) = h(cu)$. Then, with $v = cu$,

$$\lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \frac{h_c(u + ws_G(u))}{h_c(u)} = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \frac{h(cu + cws_G(cu))}{h(cu)} = \lim_{v \rightarrow \infty} \frac{h(v + cws_G(v))}{h(v)} = 1,$$

where the last limit follows from the fact that (4.7) holds locally uniformly for $w \in \mathbb{R}$. For the third claim, note that $s_G(u) \stackrel{\infty}{=} o(u)$ (see e.g. [26, Lemma 3.1]) so that, locally uniformly in $w \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u + ws_G(u)}{u} = 1 + w \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \frac{s_G(u)}{u} = 1.$$

The fact that, for $\alpha > 0$, $u \mapsto h^\alpha(u)$ is flat follows trivially from the definition, and the fourth item is essentially known (see again [26, Lemma 3.1]).

Finally, for the proof of the last claim, write $\tilde{G}(u) = cG_c(u/c)$ and $s_{\tilde{G}}$ for the corresponding scale function. Then $s_{\tilde{G}}(u) = \sqrt{c}s_G(u/c)$ so that, for $w \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\frac{s_{\tilde{G}}(u + ws_{\tilde{G}}(u))}{s_{\tilde{G}}(u)} = \frac{s_G(u/c + \sqrt{c}ws_G(u/c))}{s_G(u/c)}$$

and the self-neglecting property of s_G carries over readily to $s_{\tilde{G}}$. ■

In the next lemma we collect some properties of specific asymptotically parabolic functions that will play a role in the proof of Theorem 2.12. To state it we recall that the *Legendre transform* of a convex function $\psi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, which we denote as \mathcal{L}_ψ , is given by

$$\mathcal{L}_\psi(y) = \sup_{u \in \mathbb{R}} \{uy - \psi(u)\}.$$

If in addition $\psi \in \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R})$ then the above supremum is achieved at the unique point $u = \psi'^{-1}(y)$, and hence

$$\mathcal{L}_\psi(y) = y\psi'^{-1}(y) - \psi(\psi'^{-1}(y)).$$

The variables u and y obeying the relations $y = \psi'(u)$ and $u = \psi'^{-1}(y)$ are called *conjugate variables*.

LEMMA 4.2. *Let $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{J}}$ be such that $\phi(\infty) = \infty$. Then the function $s_G : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ defined by*

$$s_G(u) = \sqrt{\phi(u)/\phi'(u)}$$

is self-neglecting, and consequently $G \in \mathcal{AP}$, where $G : (1, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is the function defined by

$$(4.8) \quad G(u) = \int_1^u \log \phi(r) dr + \log \phi(1).$$

The Legendre transform of G is given by

$$\mathcal{L}_G(y) = \int_k^{e^y} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr - \int_k^{\phi(1)} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr$$

where $\varphi : [k, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is the continuous inverse of ϕ , and y and u are conjugate variables related by $y = \log \phi(u)$ and $u = \varphi(e^y)$. Furthermore, $\mathcal{L}_G \in \mathcal{AP}$.

Proof. The fact that s_G is self-neglecting was proved in [23, Proposition 5.40] under the additional condition that $k = \phi(0) > 0$. However, an inspection of the proof reveals that this property is not crucial for the self-neglecting property of s_G . Differentiating G twice shows that s_G is indeed the scale function of G , and hence $G \in \mathcal{AP}$.

Taking derivatives in (4.8) we get $G'(u) = \log \phi(u)$ so that the conjugate variables are $y = \log \phi(u)$ and $u = \varphi(e^y)$. Also, by integration by parts we

can rewrite G as

$$G(u) = u \log \phi(u) - \int_1^u \frac{r\phi'(r)}{\phi(r)} dr.$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_G(y) = y\varphi(e^y) - G(\varphi(e^y)) &= \int_1^{\varphi(e^y)} \frac{r\phi'(r)}{\phi(r)} dr = \int_{\phi(1)}^{e^y} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr \\ &= \int_k^{e^y} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr - \int_k^{\phi(1)} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr \end{aligned}$$

where the third equality follows by the change of variables $r = \varphi(w)$. Finally, the fact that $\mathcal{L}_G \in \mathcal{AP}$ follows from a closure property of \mathcal{AP} with respect to the Legendre transform [2, Theorem 5.3]. ■

In the final lemma before the proof we collect some properties concerning additive convolution, especially a stability property for Gaussian tails under additive convolution. We write $*$ for the additive convolution of suitable functions $f, g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, that is,

$$(f * g)(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x-y)g(y) dy = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(y)g(x-y) dy,$$

with the additive convolution of measures being defined similarly. A probability density f is said to have a *Gaussian tail* if $f(y) \stackrel{\infty}{\sim} \eta(y)e^{-\psi(y)}$ for some $\psi \in \mathcal{AP}$ and some η flat with respect to ψ .

LEMMA 4.3.

- (1) Let $(\nu_t)_{t \geq 0}$ be a multiplicative convolution semigroup and let, for each $t > 0$, f_t be the pushforward measure under the map $x \mapsto \log x$. Then $(f_t)_{t \geq 0}$ is an additive convolution semigroup, i.e. $f_t * f_s = f_{t+s}$ for all $t, s \geq 0$.
- (2) Let $f, g \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$ be such that $f(y) \stackrel{\infty}{\sim} e^{-\psi_1(y)}$ and $g(y) \stackrel{\infty}{\sim} e^{-\psi_2(y)}$ for some ψ_1, ψ_2 with $\lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} \psi_1'(y) = \lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} \psi_2'(y) = \infty$. Then $(f * g)(y) \stackrel{\infty}{\sim} (e^{-\psi_1} * e^{-\psi_2})(y)$.
- (3) Let f and g be probability densities with Gaussian tails, that is, $f(y) \stackrel{\infty}{\sim} \eta_1(y)e^{-\psi_1(y)}$ and $g(y) \stackrel{\infty}{\sim} \eta_2(y)e^{-\psi_2(y)}$, and suppose that we have $\lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} \psi_1'(y) = \lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} \psi_2'(y) = \infty$. Then $f * g$ has a Gaussian tail, i.e. $(f * g)(y) \stackrel{\infty}{\sim} \eta_0(y)e^{-\psi_0(y)}$ for some $\psi_0 \in \mathcal{AP}$ and some η_0 flat with respect to ψ_0 . Specifically, writing $y(u) = q_1 + q_2 = \psi_1'^{-1}(u) + \psi_2'^{-1}(u)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\psi_0(y) &= \psi_1(q_1) + \psi_2(q_2), \\ \eta_0(y) &= \frac{\sqrt{2\pi} s_{\psi_1}(q_1)\eta_1(q_1)s_{\psi_2}(q_2)\eta_2(q_2)}{\sqrt{s_{\psi_1}^2(q_1) + s_{\psi_2}^2(q_2)}}.\end{aligned}$$

In particular, for $d \geq 1$, the d -fold convolution f^{*d} satisfies

$$f^{*d}(y) \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{d}} \left(\frac{2\pi}{\psi_1''(y/d)} \right)^{(d-1)/2} f(y/d)^d.$$

Before giving the proof, we note that item (2) of Lemma 4.3 gives conditions under which the asymptotics of the convolution of integrable functions can be identified from the asymptotics of the functions themselves. On the other hand, item (3) states that Gaussian tails are closed under additive convolution and allows one to identify the asymptotic explicitly, this latter feature being particularly useful. The statement of Lemma 4.3(3) is the content of [2, Theorem 1.1 and (1.11)], and our aim, in incorporating it as an item of a lemma, is merely to improve the clarity and presentation of the proof of Theorem 2.12.

Proof of Lemma 4.3. The first claim is straightforward. The proof of (2) is in the spirit of [2, proof of Proposition 2.2]. Since f and g are asymptotic to positive functions it follows that they are themselves eventually positive. This, together with the other properties of ψ_1 and ψ_2 , allows us to choose $a > 0$ large enough such that (1) both ψ_1 and ψ_2 are well-defined on (a, ∞) , (2) $\psi_1', \psi_2' > 0$ on (a, ∞) , (3) $\int_{-\infty}^a |g(y)| dy \neq 0$ and $\int_{-\infty}^a |f(y)| dy \neq 0$, and (4) $c_g = \int_{a+1}^{a+2} g(x) dx > 0$ and $c_f = \int_{a+1}^{a+2} f(x) dx > 0$. For $x > 2a$,

$$(f * g)(x) = \int_a^{x-a} f(x-y)g(y) dy + \int_{-\infty}^a f(x-y)g(y) dy + \int_{-\infty}^a f(y)g(x-y) dy,$$

so by symmetry it suffices to show that $\int_{-\infty}^a e^{-\psi_1(x-y)}g(y) dy$ is of order $o(\int_a^{x-a} f(x-y)g(y) dy)$ at infinity. Since $\psi_1' > 0$ on (a, ∞) ,

$$\left| \int_{-\infty}^a e^{-\psi_1(x-y)}g(y) dy \right| \leq C e^{-\psi_1(x-a)}$$

with $C = \int_{-\infty}^a |g(y)| dy \neq 0$ a constant. By the mean value theorem,

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{a+1}^{a+2} e^{-\psi_1(x-y)}g(y) dy &\geq c_g e^{-\psi_1(x-a-1)} = c_g e^{-\psi_1(x-a)} e^{\psi_1'(x-z)} \\ &\geq \frac{c_g}{C} e^{\psi_1'(x-z)} \left| \int_{-\infty}^a e^{-\psi_1(x-y)}g(y) dy \right|\end{aligned}$$

with $|z| \leq a + 1$, and letting $x \rightarrow \infty$ finishes the proof of (2). Finally, (3) is the content of [2, Theorem 1.1 and (1.11)]. ■

4.3.1. Proof of Theorem 2.12(1). For convenience we write α in place of t and thus our assumption is that ϕ is a Bernstein function such that $\phi(\infty) = \infty$ and $\phi^\alpha \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{J}}$ for all $\alpha \in (0, 1)$. We write $(\nu_t)_{t \geq 0}$ for the Berg–Urbanik semigroup associated to ϕ and, for any $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, let $(\bar{\nu}_t)_{t > 0}$ denote the Berg–Urbanik semigroup associated to ϕ^α . Then, for $n \geq 0$ and any $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, by the moment determinacy of any Berg–Urbanik semigroup up to time 2,

$$\mathcal{M}_{\bar{\nu}_1}(n) = \prod_{k=1}^n \phi^\alpha(k) = \left(\prod_{k=1}^n \phi(k) \right)^\alpha = \mathcal{M}_{\nu_\alpha}(n),$$

and applying [5, Theorem 2.2] then gives $(\bar{\nu}_t)_{t \geq 0} = (\nu_{\alpha t})_{t \geq 0}$. Since $\phi^\alpha \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{J}}$ for any $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, and plainly $\phi(\infty) = \infty$ implies $\phi^\alpha(\infty) = \infty$, we conclude that $N_{\phi^\alpha} = \infty$. Invoking Theorem 2.10(2) then yields, for any $t > 0$ and $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, $\bar{\nu}_t \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+)$, from which we deduce that $\nu_t \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+)$, where $\nu_t(dx) = \nu_t(x)dx$ for $x, t > 0$. Since $\phi^\alpha \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{J}}$ with $\phi^\alpha(\infty) = \infty$ we may apply [23, Theorem 5.5] to obtain, for any $n \geq 0$, the asymptotic relation

$$\bar{\nu}_1^{(n)}(x) = \nu_\alpha^{(n)}(x) \approx (-1)^n \frac{C_{\phi, \alpha}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} x^{-n} \varphi_\alpha^n(x) \sqrt{\varphi'_\alpha(x)} e^{-\int_{\mathbf{k}^\alpha}^x \frac{\varphi_\alpha(y)}{y} dy}$$

where $C_{\phi, \alpha} > 0$ is a constant depending only on ϕ and α , $\varphi_\alpha : [\mathbf{k}^\alpha, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is the continuous inverse of the function $u \mapsto \phi^\alpha(u)$ and $\mathbf{k} = \phi(0)$. The constant $C_{\phi, \alpha}$ may be identified as C_ϕ^α , where $C_\phi > 0$ is a constant depending only on ϕ [23, Theorem 5.1(2)], and plainly $\varphi_\alpha(u) = \varphi(u^{1/\alpha})$, where $\varphi : [\mathbf{k}, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is the continuous inverse of ϕ . Thus, by some routine calculations, we conclude that

(4.9)

$$\nu_\alpha^{(n)}(x) \approx (-1)^n \frac{C_\phi^\alpha}{\sqrt{2\pi\alpha}} x^{-n-1/2} \varphi^n(x^{1/\alpha}) \sqrt{x^{1/\alpha} \varphi'(x^{1/\alpha})} e^{-\alpha \int_{\mathbf{k}^\alpha}^{x^{1/\alpha}} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr}.$$

Since $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ is arbitrary, this proves the claimed asymptotic for any $n \geq 0$ and $t \in (0, 1)$.

We proceed by showing that for $n = 0$, i.e. for the density $\nu_t(x)$ itself, the claimed asymptotic holds for all $t > 0$, and then extend this to the case $n \geq 1$. To this end we define, for $y \in \mathbb{R}$ and $t > 0$, $f_t(y) = e^y \nu_t(e^y)$ and set $f_0 = \delta_0$. Then by Lemma 4.3(1), $(f_t)_{t \geq 0}$ is an additive convolution semigroup of probability densities, and from (4.9) together with some simple algebra we get, for $\alpha \in (0, 1)$,

$$(4.10) \quad f_\alpha(y) \approx \frac{C_\phi^\alpha}{\sqrt{2\pi\alpha}} e^{y/2} \sqrt{e^{y/\alpha} \varphi'(e^{y/\alpha})} e^{-\alpha \int_{\mathbf{k}^\alpha}^{e^{y/\alpha}} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr}.$$

Let us write

$$\bar{\psi}(y) = \int_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{e^y}{r} \varphi(r) dr = \mathcal{L}_G(y) + \int_{\mathbf{k}}^{\phi(1)} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr$$

where \mathcal{L}_G is the Legendre transform of the function G defined in (4.8). From Lemma 4.2 it follows that $\bar{\psi} \in \mathcal{AP}$, and writing

$$(4.11) \quad \psi(y) = \alpha \int_{\mathbf{k}}^{e^{y/\alpha}} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr = \alpha \bar{\psi}(y/\alpha),$$

we deduce from Lemma 4.1(5) that $\psi \in \mathcal{AP}$. A straightforward calculation shows that its scale function s_ψ takes the form

$$s_\psi(y) = \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{e^{y/\alpha} \varphi'(e^{y/\alpha})}},$$

so combining items (1) and (2) of Lemma 4.1 we find that $\sqrt{e^{y/\alpha} \varphi'(e^{y/\alpha})}$ is flat with respect to ψ . Furthermore, as ϕ' is non-increasing positive, $\lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \phi'(u) < \infty$ and thus

$$\lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} s_\psi(y) = \sqrt{\alpha} \lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{e^{y/\alpha} \varphi'(e^{y/\alpha})}} = \sqrt{\alpha} \lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} e^{-y/2\alpha} \sqrt{\phi'(\varphi(e^{y/\alpha}))} = 0.$$

Hence

$$\lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} \exp(ws_\psi(y)/2) = 1 \quad \text{locally uniformly in } w \in \mathbb{R},$$

which shows that $e^{y/2}$ is flat with respect to ψ . Constants are trivially flat with respect to ψ , so that putting all of these observations together we conclude that all the terms in front of the exponential in (4.10) are flat with respect to ψ . Hence, for each $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, f_α has a Gaussian tail.

Now we may invoke the second part of Lemma 4.3(3), which states that the property of having a Gaussian tail is stable under additive convolution, to obtain, for any $d \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$f_{d\alpha}(y) \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{d}} \left(\frac{2\pi}{\psi''(y/d)} \right)^{\frac{d-1}{2}} f_\alpha \left(\frac{y}{d} \right)^d = \frac{1}{\sqrt{d}} \left(\frac{2\pi\alpha}{e^{\frac{y}{\alpha d}} \varphi'(e^{\frac{y}{\alpha d}})} \right)^{\frac{d-1}{2}} f_\alpha \left(\frac{y}{d} \right)^d.$$

Since for any $t > 0$ we can find $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ and $d \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $t = \alpha d$ we get from the above relation the asymptotic of f_t for all $t > 0$. Hence, after performing some straightforward computations and changing variables again, we deduce that for any $t > 0$,

$$(4.12) \quad \nu_t(x) \approx \frac{C_\phi^t}{\sqrt{2\pi t}} \sqrt{x^{\frac{1-t}{t}} \varphi'(x^{1/t})} e^{-t \int_{\mathbf{k}}^{x^{1/t}} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr},$$

which proves the claim for $n = 0$.

Next, suppose $n \geq 1$. A straightforward application of the chain rule shows $f_\alpha^{(n)}(y) = (e^y \nu_\alpha(e^y))^{(n)}$ is a linear combination of terms of the form $e^{(k+1)y} \nu_\alpha^{(k)}(e^y)$ for $0 \leq k \leq n$. However, from (4.9) we find that, for large y , the term $e^{(n+1)y} \nu_\alpha^{(n)}(e^y)$ grows faster than all terms of lower order. Hence

$$(4.13) \quad f_\alpha^{(n)}(y) \underset{\infty}{\sim} e^{(n+1)y} \nu_\alpha^{(n)}(e^y) \\ \underset{\infty}{\sim} (-1)^n \frac{C_\phi^\alpha}{\sqrt{2\pi\alpha}} e^{y/2} \varphi^n(e^{y/\alpha}) \sqrt{e^{y/\alpha} \varphi'(e^{y/\alpha})} e^{-\alpha \int_k^{e^{y/\alpha}} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr}$$

and the asymptotic on the right-hand side is obtained from the one in (4.9) after changing variables. From the right-hand side of (4.13) it is apparent that $y \mapsto (-1)^n f_\alpha^{(n)}(y)$ is eventually positive, so that there exists $a_n \in \mathbb{R}$ (depending on n) such that $f_{\alpha,n}(y) = (-1)^n f_\alpha^{(n)}(y) \mathbb{I}_{\{y > a_n\}}$ is a positive function. Since $y \mapsto \varphi(e^{y/\alpha})$ is the derivative of ψ (the function appearing within the last exponential in (4.13)), we infer from [2, Proposition 5.8] that $y \mapsto \varphi(e^{y/\alpha})$ is flat with respect to ψ , and combined with Lemma 4.1(3) this implies that $y \mapsto \varphi^n(e^{y/\alpha})$ is flat with respect to ψ . Thus, once again all terms in front of the last exponential in (4.13) are flat with respect to ψ . Let $\epsilon \in (0, \alpha)$ so that, by Lemma 4.1(4) applied to (4.10),

$$(4.14) \quad f_{\alpha,n}(y) \underset{\infty}{\cong} O\left(e^{-(\alpha-\epsilon)y} \int_k^{e^{y/\alpha}} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr\right).$$

Then (4.10) allows us to identify the right-hand side of (4.14) as the dominant term in the asymptotic for the probability density $f_{\alpha-\epsilon}(y) = e^y \nu_{\alpha-\epsilon}(e^y)$. Indeed, the fact that the function inside the big-O of (4.14) dominates all others in (4.10) is immediate, as the term in front of the exponential is increasing at infinity. Noting that dilating a function does not affect its integrability, we conclude that, for any $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ and $n \geq 1$, the function $f_{\alpha,n}$ is integrable. In particular, for each $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ and $n \geq 1$ there exists a constant $c_{\alpha,n} > 0$ such that $c_{\alpha,n} f_{\alpha,n}$ is a probability density.

Now, let us write $t = \alpha + \tau$, where $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ and $\tau > 0$. If, for any $n \geq 0$, $f_\alpha^{(n)} \in L^2(\mathbb{R})$, and $f_\tau \in L^2(\mathbb{R})$, then a standard result [12, Chapter 8, Ex. 8 & 9] allows us to interchange differentiation and convolution to write

$$(4.15) \quad f_t^{(n)}(y) = (f_\alpha^{(n)} * f_\tau)(y), \quad y \in \mathbb{R}.$$

To this end, let $t > 0$ and observe that

$$(4.16) \quad \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (e^{(n+1)y} \nu_t^{(n)}(e^y))^2 dy = \int_0^{\infty} (x^{n+1/2} \nu_t^{(n)}(x))^2 dx \\ = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{|\Gamma(1+n+ib)|^2}{|\Gamma(1+ib)|^2} |W_\phi^t(1+ib)|^2 db$$

where the first equality follows from a change of variables, and the second

is a combination of the Parseval formula for the Mellin transform applied to the function $x \mapsto x^{n+1/2} \nu_t^{(n)}(x)$ combined with Theorem 2.7. By [24, Theorem 4.2(3)(c)], the fact that $\phi(\infty) = \infty$ with $\phi^\alpha \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{J}}$ implies that $b \mapsto |W_\phi^t(1+ib)|$ decays faster than any polynomial along the real line. Next, we recall Stirling's formula for the gamma function, for any $a+ib$ with $a > 0$ fixed:

$$(4.17) \quad |\Gamma(a+ib)| \approx C_a |b|^{a-1/2} e^{-\frac{\pi}{2}|b|}$$

for some constant $C_a > 0$. Hence, the term in (4.16) involving the ratio of gamma functions grows like $|b|^{2n+2}$, which by the aforementioned decay properties of W_ϕ^t implies that the integral in (4.16) is finite. Since $f_\tau^{(n)}(y) = (e^y \nu_\alpha(e^y))^{(n)}$ is a linear combination of functions of the form $e^{(k+1)y} \nu_\alpha^{(k)}(e^y)$, for $k \leq n$, we find that $f_\alpha^{(n)} \in L^2(\mathbb{R})$ for any $n \geq 0$, and $f_\tau \in L^2(\mathbb{R})$. Hence the equality in (4.15) is justified.

Next we aim to use a combination of Lemma 4.3(2) together with (4.15) in order to show that $f_t^{(n)}$ has a Gaussian tail. From (4.13) we have

$$(-1)^n f_\alpha^{(n)}(y) \approx h(y) e^{-\psi(y)}$$

where the function ψ is defined in (4.11), and h denotes the function consisting of all terms in front of the last exponential of (4.13). Since h is flat with respect to ψ , we know, by [2, Proposition 3.2], that there exists $\chi \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ such that $\chi(y) \approx h(y)$ and $s_\psi(y)\chi'(y) \equiv o(\chi(y))$. Further, from [2, Proposition 5.8], $\lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} s_\psi(y)\psi'(y) = \infty$. Using these facts we get

$$\lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\log \chi(y))'}{\psi'(y)} = \lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\chi'(y)}{\chi(y)\psi'(y)} = \lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} \frac{s_\psi(y)\chi'(y)}{\chi(y)} \frac{1}{s_\psi(y)\psi'(y)} = 0,$$

which is enough to show that $f_\alpha^{(n)}$ satisfies the assumptions of Lemma 4.3(2). Since the arguments for f_τ are similar, Lemma 4.3(2) yields

$$(-1)^n c_{\alpha,n} f_t^{(n)}(y) \approx (c_{\alpha,n} \mathbf{f}_{\alpha,n} * f_\tau)(y),$$

with both $c_{\alpha,n} \mathbf{f}_{\alpha,n}$ and f_τ having Gaussian tails. Applying Lemma 4.3(3) again we conclude that $c_{\alpha,n} \mathbf{f}_{\alpha,n} * f_\tau$ has a Gaussian tail, and hence $f_t^{(n)}(y) \approx (-1)^n \eta_0(y) e^{-\psi_0(y)}$, where $\psi_0 \in \mathcal{AP}$ and η_0 is flat with respect to ψ_0 .

To conclude the proof it remains to identify η_0 and ψ_0 , which may be computed as described in Lemma 4.3(3), using a combination of (4.13) and, after changing variables, (4.12). As in the lemma, we write $y(u) = q_1(u) + q_2(u) = \alpha \log \phi(u) + \tau \log \phi(u) = t \log \phi(u)$, where the second equality serves as definition of q_1 and q_2 , and the last equality defines the conjugate variables

y and u . Using this notation it is straightforward to conclude that

$$\begin{aligned}\psi_0(y) &= \alpha \int_{\mathfrak{k}}^{e^{q_1/\alpha}} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr + \tau \int_{\mathfrak{k}}^{e^{q_2/\tau}} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr \\ &= (\alpha + \tau) \int_{\mathfrak{k}}^{\phi(u)} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr = t \int_{\mathfrak{k}}^{e^{y/t}} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr.\end{aligned}$$

The associated scale function s_{ψ_0} is then

$$s_{\psi_0}(y) = \sqrt{\frac{t}{e^{y/t}\varphi'(e^{y/t})}}.$$

Let η_1 and η_2 denote the flat terms, while ψ_1 and ψ_2 denote the asymptotically parabolic terms, in the Gaussian tails of $c_{\alpha, n} f_{\alpha, n}$ and f_{τ} respectively. Then

$$\begin{aligned}\eta_1(q_1(u)) &= \frac{C_{\phi}^{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2\pi\alpha}} (\phi(u))^{\alpha/2} u^n \sqrt{\phi(u)\varphi'(\phi(u))}, \\ \eta_2(q_2(u)) &= \frac{C_{\phi}^{\tau}}{\sqrt{2\pi\tau}} (\phi(u))^{\tau/2} \sqrt{\phi(u)\varphi'(\phi(u))}.\end{aligned}$$

Furthermore,

$$s_{\psi_1}(q_1(u)) = \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{\phi(u)\varphi'(\phi(u))}} \quad \text{and} \quad s_{\psi_2}(q_2(u)) = \sqrt{\frac{\tau}{\phi(u)\varphi'(\phi(u))}}$$

where s_{ψ_1} and s_{ψ_2} are the scale functions of ψ_1 and ψ_2 , respectively. Putting all of these observations together we deduce that η_0 can be written, after canceling like terms, as

$$\begin{aligned}\eta_0(y) &= \frac{C_{\phi}^{(\alpha+\tau)} \sqrt{2\pi}}{\sqrt{2\pi\alpha}\sqrt{2\pi\tau}} e^{y/2} \sqrt{\alpha}\sqrt{\tau} \frac{\sqrt{e^{y/t}\varphi'(e^{y/t})}}{\sqrt{t}} \varphi^n(e^{y/t}) \\ &= \frac{C_{\phi}^t}{\sqrt{2\pi t}} e^{y/2} \varphi^n(e^{y/t}) \sqrt{e^{y/t}\varphi'(e^{y/t})}.\end{aligned}$$

This gives $f_t^{(n)}(y) \approx (-1)^n \eta_0(y) e^{-\psi_0(y)} \approx e^{(n+1)y} \nu_t^{(n)}(e^y)$, and changing variables again, we finally obtain the claimed asymptotic

$$\nu_t^{(n)}(x) \approx (-1)^n \frac{C_{\phi}^t}{\sqrt{2\pi t}} x^{-n} \varphi^n(x^{1/t}) \sqrt{x^{1-t/t}\varphi'(x^{1/t})} e^{-t \int_{\mathfrak{k}}^{x^{1/t}} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr}$$

for any $n \geq 0$ and $t > 0$, which completes the proof.

4.3.2. Proof of Theorem 2.12(1, 2). The proof is the same as for [23, Theorem 5.5(1, 2)], but we give the argument for completeness. Suppose

that $\mathbf{d} > 0$, so that

$$\phi(u) = \mathbf{k} + \mathbf{d}u + u \int_0^\infty e^{-uy} \bar{\mu}(y) dy.$$

Then [23, Proposition 4.1(3)] yields $\phi(u) \stackrel{\infty}{\sim} \mathbf{d}u$ and hence $\varphi(u) \stackrel{\infty}{\sim} \mathbf{d}^{-1}u$. Furthermore, differentiating the identity $u = \phi(\varphi(u))$ gives $\varphi'(u) = 1/\phi'(\varphi(u))$ and since $\phi'(u) \stackrel{\infty}{\sim} \mathbf{d}$ by the monotone density theorem [9, Theorem 1.7.2], we get $\varphi'(u) \stackrel{\infty}{\sim} \mathbf{d}^{-1}$. Next, as $u = \phi(\varphi(u))$ we have, on $[\mathbf{k}, \infty)$,

$$u = \mathbf{k} + \mathbf{d}\varphi(u) + \varphi(u) \int_0^\infty e^{-\varphi(u)y} \bar{\mu}(y) dy = \mathbf{k} + \mathbf{d}\varphi(u) + E(u)$$

where the last equality serves to define E . By dominated convergence we have $\lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^\infty e^{-\varphi(u)y} \bar{\mu}(y) dy = 0$, which, together with $\varphi(u) \stackrel{\infty}{\sim} \mathbf{d}^{-1}u$, shows that $E(u) = o(u)$. Rearranging, we obtain $\varphi(y) = \mathbf{d}^{-1}(u - \mathbf{k} - E(u))$, and substituting all of these quantities into (2.9) and (2.10) proves (1).

Next, assume that $\phi(u) \stackrel{\infty}{\sim} C_\alpha u^\alpha$ with $C_\alpha > 0$ a constant and $\alpha \in (0, 1)$. A standard result from regular variation theory gives $\varphi(u) \stackrel{\infty}{\sim} C_\alpha^{-1/\alpha} u^{1/\alpha}$ (see e.g. [9, Theorem 1.5.12]). This allows us to define $H(u) = C_\alpha^{-1/\alpha} u^{1/\alpha} - \varphi(u)$, so that $H(u) = o(u^{1/\alpha})$. Next, the monotonicity of ϕ' allows us to again invoke the monotone density theorem to conclude that $\phi'(u) \stackrel{\infty}{\sim} C_\alpha \alpha u^{\alpha-1}$ (see again [9, Theorem 1.7.2]). Combining these two statements with the identity $\varphi'(u) = 1/\phi'(\varphi(u))$ yields the asymptotic $\varphi'(u) \stackrel{\infty}{\sim} \alpha^{-1} C_\alpha^{-1/\alpha} u^{1/\alpha-1}$. Finally, substituting these asymptotics proves the claim.

4.4. Proofs for Section 2.1. Before beginning with the proofs we state some preliminary results that will be used in the proof of Theorem 2.2(2, 3).

PROPOSITION 4.4. *For $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ and $\mathbf{m} \geq 0$, let $\phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}} : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ be defined by $\phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}}(u) = (u + \mathbf{m})^\alpha$.*

- (1) *For any $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ and $\mathbf{m} \geq 0$, $\phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}}$ is a complete Bernstein function.*
- (2) *The potential measure of $\phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}}$ admits a density, denoted by $U_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}}$, given by*

$$U_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}}(y) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} e^{-\mathbf{m}y} y^{\alpha-1}.$$

Furthermore, $U_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}}$ is non-increasing, convex and solves, on \mathbb{R}_+ , the differential equation

$$U'_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}} = -U_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}}(y) \left(\mathbf{m} + \frac{1-\alpha}{y} \right).$$

- (3) *Let $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_d$, i.e. $\mathbf{d} > 0$. Then, for any $\alpha \in (0, 1)$,*

$$y_\alpha = \inf\{y \geq 0; y\bar{\mu}(y) > \mathbf{d}(1-\alpha)\} \in (0, \infty],$$

and for any \mathbf{m} such that $\mathbf{d}\mathbf{m} \geq \bar{\mu}(y_\alpha/2) + \mathbf{k}$, we have $\phi/\phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}} \in \mathcal{B}$.

Proof. Let $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ and $\mathbf{m} \geq 0$. The fact that $\phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}}$ is a complete Bernstein function is straightforward and was also mentioned in Remark 2.3. To show that $U_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}}$ defined as above is the density of the potential measure of $\phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}}$ we observe that

$$\frac{1}{u^\alpha} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^\infty e^{-uy} y^{\alpha-1} dy,$$

and then substitute $u + \mathbf{m}$ for u . The claimed properties of $U_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}}$ can then be verified by straightforward calculations. The proof of the last claim is, mutatis mutandis, the same as the one for [23, Proposition 4.4(2)], so we omit it here. The interested reader will find the details in the forthcoming PhD thesis of the second author.

Note that the proof of [23, Proposition 4.4] does not explicitly use the fact that the Lévy measure of ϕ has a non-increasing density, and hence this restriction can be removed. Furthermore, we have modified y_α and the condition on \mathbf{m} to suit our potential measure $U_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}}$. ■

For two functions f and g , we write $f(x) \overset{\infty}{\asymp} g(x)$ if $f(x) \overset{\infty}{\cong} O(g(x))$ and $g(x) \overset{\infty}{\cong} O(f(x))$. In the following theorem we rephrase, in the context of Berg–Urbanik semigroups, an Abelian type criterion for moment indeterminacy given in [26], which we use in the proof of Theorem 2.2(3).

THEOREM 4.5 ([26, Theorem 1.2(2)]). *Let $(\nu_t)_{t \geq 0}$ be a Berg–Urbanik semigroup and suppose that, for some $t > 0$, $\nu_t(dx) = \nu_t(x)dx$, $x > 0$, and*

$$\nu_t(x) \overset{\infty}{\asymp} e^{-G(\log x)},$$

with $G \in \mathcal{AP}$ satisfying $\lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} G'(y)e^{-y/2} < \infty$. Then, writing γ for the inverse of the continuous, increasing function G' ,

$$\sum_{n=n_0}^\infty e^{-\gamma(n)/2} < \infty \text{ for some } n_0 \geq 1 \iff \nu_t \text{ is moment indeterminate.}$$

4.4.1. Proof of Theorem 2.2(1). First, invoking [23, Theorem 5.1(2)] we get

$$\mathcal{M}_\nu(n) = W_\phi(n+1) \overset{\infty}{\asymp} C_\phi \sqrt{\phi(n)} e^{G(n)}$$

where $G(n) = \int_1^n \log \phi(r) dr$ and $C_\phi > 0$ is a constant depending only on ϕ . Integrating G by parts gives, for any $t > 0$ and $n \geq 1$,

$$\frac{t}{2n} G(n) = \frac{t}{2} \log \phi(n) - \frac{t}{2n} \left(\log \phi(1) + \int_1^n u \frac{\phi'(u)}{\phi(u)} du \right).$$

Consequently, for some constant $C_1 > 0$,

$$(4.18) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} W_{\phi}^{-t/(2n)}(n+1) \geq C_1 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\exp \left[-\frac{t}{2} \left(\log \phi(n) + \frac{1}{2n} \log \phi(n) \right) \right] \right. \\ \left. \times \exp \left[\frac{t}{2n} \left(\log \phi(1) + \int_1^n u \frac{\phi'(u)}{\phi(u)} du \right) \right] \right).$$

The estimate $\phi(n) \stackrel{\infty}{\asymp} O(n)$ (see e.g. [23, Proposition 4.1(3)]) gives $\log \phi(n) \stackrel{\infty}{\asymp} o(n)$, which together with the positivity of the terms within the second exponential in (4.18) allows us to obtain, for a constant $C_2 > 0$, the bound

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} W_{\phi}^{-t/(2n)}(n+1) \geq C_1 e^{-C_2 t} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \phi^{-t/2}(n),$$

so to prove moment determinacy it suffices to show the divergence of the latter series. Let $\beta > \beta_{\phi}$. By definition of β_{ϕ} , $\phi(u) \stackrel{\infty}{\asymp} O(u^{\beta})$, so that for some constant $C_3 > 0$,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \phi^{-t/2}(n) \geq C_3 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-t\beta/2}.$$

The latter series diverges if and only if $t\beta \leq 2$, which gives the moment determinacy of ν_t for any $t \leq 2/\beta < 2/\beta_{\phi}$. Since $\beta > \beta_{\phi}$ is arbitrary we conclude that $\mathcal{T}_{\phi} \geq 2/\beta_{\phi}$ if $\beta_{\phi} > 0$ and $\mathcal{T}_{\phi} = \infty$ for $\beta_{\phi} = 0$. Finally, if $\overline{\lim}_{u \rightarrow \infty} u^{-\beta_{\phi}} \phi(u) < \infty$ then we may choose $\beta = \beta_{\phi}$ and apply the above argument to conclude that $\nu_{\mathcal{T}_{\phi}}$ is moment determinate.

4.4.2. Proof of Theorem 2.2(3). It suffices to treat the case when $\delta_{\phi} \in (0, 1]$, since otherwise the claimed right-hand inequality in (2.5) is trivial. Therefore we also assume that $0 < \delta_{\phi} \leq \beta_{\phi} \leq 1$, and $\delta_{\phi} > 0$ is easily seen to imply that $\phi(\infty) = \infty$. Invoking Theorem 2.12 we find that, for any $t > 0$,

$$\nu_t(x) \asymp \frac{C_{\phi}^t}{\sqrt{2\pi t}} x^{1-t/2t} \sqrt{\varphi'(x^{1/t})} e^{-t \int_k^{x^{1/t}} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr}.$$

Let $b(\log x)$ denote all the terms in front of the exponential and write $\overline{G}(\log x)$ for the function within the exponential on the right-hand side. It was shown in the proof of Theorem 2.12 that b is flat with respect to \overline{G} , and thus by Lemma 4.1(4) we have $b(\log x) \stackrel{\infty}{\asymp} o(\overline{G}(\log x))$. Hence, for any $c \in (0, t)$ fixed we get

$$\nu_t(x) \stackrel{\infty}{\asymp} e^{-G(\log x)} \quad \text{where} \quad G(\log x) = (t-c) \int_k^{x^{1/t}} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr.$$

From Lemma 4.2 it follows that $G \in \mathcal{AP}$ and a simple calculation, after substituting $y = \log x$, gives

$$G'(y) = \frac{t-c}{t} \varphi(e^{y/t}) = \mathbf{t} \varphi(e^{y/t})$$

where we write $\mathbf{t} = (t-c)/t \in (0, 1)$ for ease of notation. Observe that, for any $\delta \in (0, \delta_\phi)$, the property $\underline{\lim}_{u \rightarrow \infty} u^{-\delta} \phi(u) > 0$ is equivalent to $\overline{\lim}_{u \rightarrow \infty} u^{-1/\delta} \varphi(u) < \infty$. Hence, for any $\delta > \delta_\phi$ and $t \geq 2/\delta$ we have

$$\lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} G'(y) e^{-y/2} = \mathbf{t} \lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(e^{y/t}) e^{-y/2} = \mathbf{t} \lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} e^{-y/\delta t} \varphi(e^{y/t}) e^{(\frac{1}{\delta t} - \frac{1}{2})y} < \infty,$$

and thus all the assumptions of Theorem 4.5 are fulfilled for any $t > 2/\delta_\phi$. The inverse of G' is easily identified as $\gamma(u) = t \log \phi(\mathbf{t}u)$ so that

$$(4.19) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-\gamma(n)/2} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \phi^{-t/2}(\mathbf{t}n).$$

Now, for any $\delta \in (0, \delta_\phi)$, there exists a constant $C > 0$ (depending only on t) such that, for n large enough,

$$\phi^{-t/2}(\mathbf{t}n) \leq C n^{-\delta t/2}.$$

Thus for any $t > 2/\delta$ the series in (4.19) converges, so that ν_t is indeterminate. Since δ can be taken arbitrarily close to δ_ϕ , this gives the indeterminacy of ν_t for any $t > 2/\delta_\phi$.

4.4.3. Proof of Theorem 2.2(4). Let $\phi/\vartheta \in \mathcal{B}$ and write $(\rho_t)_{t>0}$ for the Berg–Urbanik semigroup associated to ϑ . Since $\phi/\vartheta \in \mathcal{B}$, we may invoke [24, Theorem 4.7(3)] to deduce that, for any $t > 0$ and $n \geq 0$,

$$W_\phi^t(n+1) = W_{\phi/\vartheta}^t(n+1) W_{\vartheta}^t(n+1)$$

where each of the terms is a moment sequence. Applying [7, Lemma 2.2 and Remark 2.3] we conclude that whenever ρ_t is indeterminate then ν_t is indeterminate, i.e.

$$\{t > 0; \rho_t \text{ is indeterminate}\} \subseteq \{t > 0; \nu_t \text{ is indeterminate}\},$$

which implies that $\mathcal{T}_\phi \leq \mathcal{T}_\vartheta$. If $\vartheta^t \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{J}}$ for all $t \in (0, 1)$, then invoking Theorem 2.2(3) yields $\mathcal{T}_\phi \leq 2/\delta_\vartheta$, which completes the proof.

4.4.4. Proof of Theorem 2.2(2). First, by Proposition 4.4 and using the notation therein, for any $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ and $\mathbf{m} \geq \frac{\bar{\mu}(y_\alpha/2) + k}{d}$ we have $\phi/\phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}} \in \mathcal{B}$. Hence, by Theorem 2.2(4) it follows that $\mathcal{T}_\phi \leq \mathcal{T}_{\phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}}}$. Proposition 4.4(1) implies that $\phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}}$ is a complete Bernstein function so that $\phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}}^t \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{J}}$ for all $t \in (0, 1)$ (see e.g. Remark 2.3). Plainly $\phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}} \stackrel{\infty}{\sim} u^\alpha$, which implies that $\delta_{\phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}}} = \beta_{\phi_{\alpha, \mathbf{m}}} = \alpha$. Invoking Theorem 2.2(3) we get $\mathcal{T}_\phi \leq 2/\alpha$. Since this inequality holds for any $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ we get $\mathcal{T}_\phi \leq 2$, whence $\mathcal{T}_\phi = 2$. The claim

that ν_2 is moment determinate follows from Theorem 2.2(1), since $d > 0$ implies that $\beta_\phi = 1$ and $\overline{\lim}_{u \rightarrow \infty} u^{-1} \phi(u) = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} u^{-1} \phi(u) = d$.

4.5. Proofs for Section 2.2. In the proofs below we write, for any $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$, $X(\phi) = X$ for the positive random variable whose law is ν_1^ϕ , and for any $x, t > 0$, $\sigma_t(dx) = \mathbb{P}(X^t \in dx)$.

4.5.1. Proof of Theorem 2.5(1). From [23, Theorem 5.1(2)] it follows that, for $t > 0$,

$$\mathbb{E}[(X^t)^n] = W_\phi(tn + 1) \asymp C_\phi \sqrt{\phi(tn)} e^{G(tn)}$$

where $G(tn) = \int_1^{tn} \log \phi(r) dr$ and $C_\phi > 0$ is a constant depending only on ϕ . By following similar arguments to the ones developed for the proof of Theorem 2.2(1) we obtain the estimate

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} W_\phi^{-1/(2n)}(tn + 1) \geq C \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \phi^{-t/2}(tn)$$

for some constant $C > 0$. Now, for any $\beta > \beta_\phi$, $\phi(n) \asymp O(n^\beta)$ so that, for a constant $C_1 > 0$ depending on t and β ,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \phi^{-t/2}(tn) \geq C_1 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-\beta t/2}.$$

This latter series diverges if and only if $t \leq 2/\beta < 2/\beta_\phi$, so that by Carleman's criterion X^t is moment determinate whenever $t < 2/\beta_\phi$. When $\overline{\lim}_{u \rightarrow \infty} u^{-\beta_\phi} \phi(u) < \infty$ we may take $\beta = \beta_\phi$ and apply the above argument, which finishes the proof.

4.5.2. Proof of Theorem 2.5(3). Observe that, for $z \in 1 + i\mathbb{R}$ and $t > 0$,

$$\mathcal{M}_{\sigma_t}(z - 1) = \mathbb{E}[(X_1^t(\phi))^{z-1}] = \mathbb{E}[X^{t(z-1)}] = W_\phi(tz - t + 1).$$

Since $W_\phi \in \mathcal{A}_{(0, \infty)}$ it follows that $\mathcal{M}_{\sigma_t}(z - 1)$ can be analytically extended to $\operatorname{Re}(z) > 1 - 1/t$, and we write \mathcal{M}_{σ_t} for this analytical extension. Next, we may assume that $\delta_\phi > 0$, since the claim is trivial otherwise, from which it follows that $\phi(\infty) = \infty$. Combining this with the fact that $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{J}}$ gives $\mathbb{N}_\phi = \infty$, where we refer to Section 2.4 for the definition of \mathbb{N}_ϕ , and invoking [24, Theorem 4.2(3)] allows us to conclude that, for any $q \geq 0$ and $a > 0$,

$$|W_\phi(a + ib)| \asymp O(|b|^{-q})$$

uniformly on bounded a -intervals, so that for any $q \geq 0$ and $a > -1/t$,

$$|\mathcal{M}_{\sigma_t}(a + ib)| \asymp O(|b|^{-q})$$

uniformly on bounded a -intervals. By Mellin inversion we get $\sigma(dx) = \sigma_t(x) dx$ for each $t > 0$ and, from similar arguments to those given in the proof of

Theorem 2.10(2), we get the Mellin–Barnes representation

$$\sigma_t(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} x^{-z} W_\phi(tz - t + 1) dz,$$

valid for any $c > 1 - 1/t$. The change of variables $z \mapsto (z - 1)/t + 1$ reveals that

$$(4.20) \quad \sigma_t(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi it} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} x^{-(z-1)/t-1} W_\phi(z) dz$$

for any $c > 0$, and using Theorem 2.10(2) to identify the right-hand side of (4.20) we establish, for all $t > 0$, the equality

$$\sigma_t(x) = \frac{1}{t} x^{\frac{1-t}{t}} \nu_1(x^{1/t})$$

where $\nu_1(dx) = \nu_1(x)dx$. This identity allows us to use the asymptotic behavior of ν_1 described in [23, Theorem 5.5] to get

$$\sigma_t(x) \approx \frac{C_\phi}{t\sqrt{2\pi}} x^{1-t/t} \sqrt{\varphi'(x^{1/t})} \exp\left(-\int_k^{x^{1/t}} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} dr\right)$$

where $C_\phi > 0$ is a constant depending on ϕ and $\varphi : [k, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is the continuous inverse of ϕ . Repeating, mutatis mutandis, the arguments from Theorem 2.2(3) we conclude that X^t is moment indeterminate for $t > 2/\delta$, and the last claim is straightforward.

4.5.3. Proof of Theorem 2.5(4). The proof is the same as the one of Theorem 2.2(4) after observing that the assumptions imply the factorization of moment sequences

$$W_\phi(tn + 1) = W_{\phi/\vartheta}(tn + 1)W_\vartheta(tn + 1)$$

valid for any $t > 0$ and $n \geq 0$.

4.5.4. Proof of Theorem 2.5(2). When $\phi \in \mathcal{B}_d$ Proposition 4.4 guarantees, for any $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ and suitable \mathbf{m} , that $\phi/\phi_{\alpha,\mathbf{m}} \in \mathcal{B}$. Applying Theorem 2.5(4) it follows that $X^t(\phi)$ is indeterminate for any t such that $X^t(\phi_{\alpha,\mathbf{m}})$ is indeterminate. However, $\phi_{\alpha,\mathbf{m}}(u) = (u+\mathbf{m})^\alpha$, so by a combination of Proposition 4.4 and some straightforward asymptotic analysis one gets $\phi_{\alpha,\mathbf{m}} \in \mathcal{B}_{\prec}$ with $\beta_{\phi_{\alpha,\mathbf{m}}} = \alpha > 0$ and $\lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} u^{-\alpha} \phi_{\alpha,\mathbf{m}}(u) < \infty$. From Proposition 4.4(1) we know that $\phi_{\alpha,\mathbf{m}}$ is a complete Bernstein function and hence, in particular, $\phi_{\alpha,\mathbf{m}} \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{J}}$. Thus Theorem 2.5(3) shows that $X^t(\phi_{\alpha,\mathbf{m}})$ is moment indeterminate if and only if $t > 2/\alpha$, from which we conclude that $X^t(\phi)$ is indeterminate for $t > 2/\alpha$. Since $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ is arbitrary we find that $X^t(\phi)$ is moment indeterminate if $t > 2$, and from Theorem 2.5(1) we get moment determinacy for $t \leq 2$, which finishes the proof.

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