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**Souvik Dhara\***, sdhara@mit.edu, and **Debankur Mukherjee** and **Kavita Ramanan**. *The  $r$ -to- $p$  norm of non-negative random matrices.*

For an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A_n$ , the  $r \rightarrow p$  operator norm is defined as

$$\|A_n\|_{r \rightarrow p} := \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n: \|x\|_r \leq 1} \|A_n x\|_p \quad \text{for } r, p \geq 1.$$

This talk considers  $r \rightarrow p$  norms of symmetric random matrices with nonnegative entries, including adjacency matrices of Erdős-Rényi random graphs, matrices with positive sub-Gaussian entries, and certain sparse matrices. For  $1 < p \leq r < \infty$ , the asymptotic normality of the appropriately centered and scaled norm  $\|A_n\|_{r \rightarrow p}$  is established. Furthermore, a sharp  $\ell_\infty$ -approximation for the unique maximizing vector in the definition of  $\|A_n\|_{r \rightarrow p}$  is obtained, which may be of independent interest.

The results obtained can be viewed as a generalization of the seminal results of Füredi and Komlós (1981) on asymptotic normality of the largest singular value. In the general case with  $1 < p \leq r < \infty$ , the spectral methods are no longer applicable, which requires a new approach, involving a refined convergence analysis of a nonlinear power method and establishing a perturbation bound on the maximizing vector. (Received August 15, 2020)