

Recall:

- $\Omega = \{-1, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ ,  $\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{P}(\Omega)$

- $\mathbb{P}(A) = \frac{|A|}{2^{\mathbb{N}}}$   $A \subseteq \Omega$

- $\{S_n\}_{n \geq 0}$   $S_0 = 0$   $X_i: \Omega \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$   $n \mapsto \omega_i$   $S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$

- $T: \Omega \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, N\} \cup \{\infty\}$

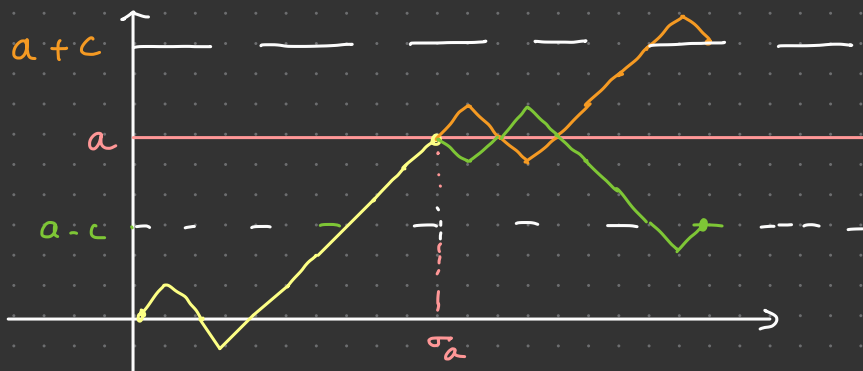
- $\{T = k\} \in \mathcal{A}_k \equiv$  observable event upto time  $k$   
 $\equiv \{(x_1, \dots, x_k) \in \Omega : A \subseteq \{-1, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}\}$

- $E[S_T] = 0$ ,  $E[S_T^2] = E[T]$

first hitting time  $\sigma_a: \sigma_a = \min\{k \geq 0 : S_k = a\}$

### 1.3 Reflection Principle

Picture Concept:  $a \in \mathbb{N}$   $c \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$



Ex: For every path of the random walk after  $\sigma_a$ :

Each orange path that lands at  $a+c$

There is a "Reflected" path across  $y=a$  green path that lands at  $a-c$

$$\begin{aligned} & |\{ \omega \in \Omega : S_n = a+c \}| \\ &= |\{ \omega \in \Omega : \sigma_a \leq n, S_n = a+c \}| \\ &= |\{ \omega \in \Omega : \sigma_a \leq n, S_n = a-c \}| \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 1 :  $a, c \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$

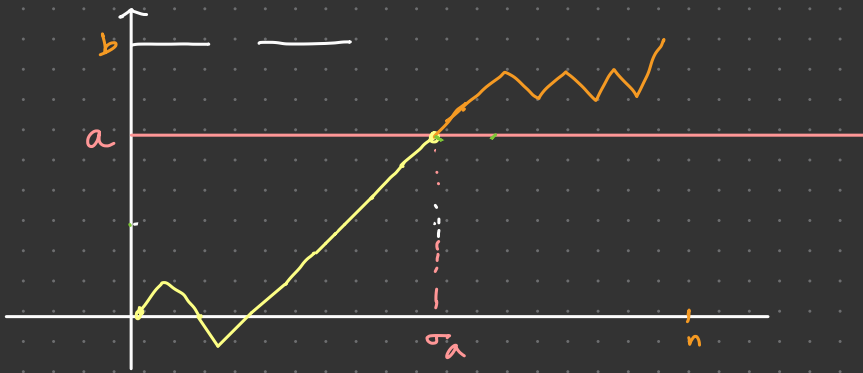
$$\mathbb{P}(S_n = a+c) = \mathbb{P}(\sigma_a \leq n, S_n = a-c)$$

Theorem 2

$$(a) \quad \mathbb{P}(\sigma_a \leq n) = \mathbb{P}(S_n \notin [-a, a-1])$$

$$(b) \quad \mathbb{P}(\sigma_a = n) = \frac{1}{2} [\mathbb{P}(S_n = a-1) - \mathbb{P}(S_{n+1} = a+1)]$$

Proof:-  $\mathbb{P}(\sigma_a \leq n) = \mathbb{P}(\sigma_a \leq n, \bigcup_{b \in \mathbb{Z}} \{S_n = b\})$



$$1.2 \quad \mathbb{P}(\sigma_a \leq n) = \sum_{b \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{P}(\sigma_a \leq n, S_n = b)$$

$$= \sum_{\substack{b \in \mathbb{Z} \\ b \geq a}} \mathbb{P}(\sigma_a \leq n, S_n = b) + \sum_{\substack{b \in \mathbb{Z} \\ b < a}} \mathbb{P}(\sigma_a \leq n, S_n = b)$$

Apply lemma 1.3.1

$$b = a - c$$

$$(\Rightarrow) a + c = 2a - b$$

Reflection principle

$$= \sum_{\substack{b \in \mathbb{Z} \\ b \geq a}} \mathbb{P}(\sigma_a \leq n, S_n = b) + \sum_{\substack{b \in \mathbb{Z} \\ b < a}} \mathbb{P}(S_n = 2a - b)$$

$$= \sum_{\substack{b \in \mathbb{Z} \\ b \geq a}} \mathbb{P}(S_n = b) + \sum_{b \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{P}(S_n > a) \quad (\text{E*})$$

$$\{\sigma_a \leq n\} \subseteq \{S_n \geq a\}$$

$$= \mathbb{P}(S_n \geq a) + \mathbb{P}(S_n > a)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \stackrel{(\text{Symmetry})}{=} \mathbb{P}(S_n \geq a) + \mathbb{P}(S_n < -a) \\
 & = \mathbb{P}(S_n \notin [-a, a-1])
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \textcircled{b} \quad \mathbb{P}(\sigma_n = n) &= \mathbb{P}(\sigma_n \leq n) - \mathbb{P}(\sigma_n \leq n-1) \\
 & \stackrel{\text{Ex}}{=} \frac{1}{2} [\mathbb{P}(S_{n-1} = a-1) - \mathbb{P}(S_{n-1} = a+1)] \\
 & \stackrel{(\text{Apply } \textcircled{a})}{=} \stackrel{(\text{Symmetry})}{=} 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Corollary 3 :-  $a, n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\mathbb{P}(\sigma_n = n) = \frac{a}{n} \mathbb{P}(S_n = a)$$

Proof: Earlier class:

$$\mathbb{P}(S_{n-1} = a-1) = \frac{1}{2^{n-1}} \binom{n-1}{\frac{(n-1)+(a-1)}{2}}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(S_{n-1} = a+1) = \frac{1}{2^{n-1}} \binom{n-1}{\frac{n-1+a+1}{2}}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(S_n = a) = \frac{1}{2^n} \binom{n}{\frac{n+a}{2}}$$

(Do the Combinatorics)

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n}{k} \binom{n-1}{k-1}$$

$$\binom{n-1}{k} = \frac{n-k}{k} \binom{n}{k}$$

Thm 2  $\Rightarrow \mathbb{P}(\sigma_a = \infty) = \frac{a}{n} \mathbb{P}(S_n = a) \quad \square$

$n \in \mathbb{N} \quad \sigma_a = \min \{n \geq 1 \mid S_n = a\}$   
 (Hitting time of  $a$ )  $a \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$

(Return time)  $\sigma_0 = \min \{n \geq 1 \mid S_n = 0\}$

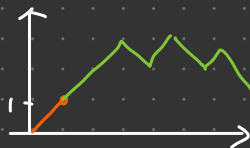
Lemma 4: (Escape from origin)

$$\mathbb{P}(\sigma_0 > 2n) = \mathbb{P}(S_{2n} = 0)$$

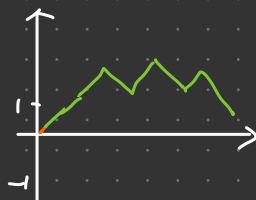
Proof:-

$$\mathbb{P}(\sigma_0 > 2n) = \mathbb{P}(S_1 \neq 0, S_2 \neq 0, \dots, S_{2n} \neq 0)$$

(Reflection principle)  $\xleftarrow{\epsilon_r} = 2 \mathbb{P}(S_1 > 0, S_2 > 0, \dots, S_{2n} > 0)$



$$= 2 \frac{\# \text{ paths start at 1 \& stay positive for } 2n-1 \text{ steps}}{2^{2n}}$$



$$= \frac{1}{2^{2n-1}} \frac{\# \text{ paths start at 0 \& stay above -1 for } 2n-1 \text{ steps}}{2^{2n-1}}$$

(Reflection principle)  $\xleftarrow{\epsilon_r} = \frac{1}{2^{2n-1}} \frac{\# \text{ paths start at 0 \& stay below 1 for } 2n-1 \text{ steps}}{2^{2n-1}}$

$$= \mathbb{P}(S_1 > 2^{n-1})$$

$$= 1 - \mathbb{P}(S_1 \leq 2^{n-1})$$

Theorem 2  
 (a)  $\approx 1 - \mathbb{P}(S_{2^{n-1}} \notin [-1, 0])$   
 with  $a=1$

$$\stackrel{\text{Ex}}{=} \mathbb{P}(S_{2^{n-1}} = -1) = \mathbb{P}(S_{2^n} = 0) \quad \square$$

1.4 Arc Sine law - last visit to origin in  $\frac{2N}{\text{time}}$

$$L = \max \{0 \leq n \leq 2N \mid S_n = 0\}$$

(not a stopping time)

"Order of  $L$ ": time after which one player has gain in capital

$$L \approx 2N$$

Theorem 5:  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  up to  $n \leq N$

$$\mathbb{P}(L = 2n) = \frac{1}{2^{2N}} \binom{2n}{n} \binom{2N-2n}{N-n}$$

Proof: (see class)

(next class)  $\cdot \mathbb{P}(L = 2n) \stackrel{\text{Cstirling formula}}{=} \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{n}{N} \right)^n$   
 $n! \sim n^n e^{-n}$

where  $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x(1-x)}}$

To understand order

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\frac{L}{2N} \leq x\right) = \mathbb{P}(L \leq 2Nx)$$

$$\therefore \sum_{k=0}^{2Nx} \mathbb{P}(L=2k)$$

(next class)

$$\approx \sum_{k=0}^{2Nx} \frac{1}{2N} f\left(\frac{k}{2N}\right)$$

$$\boxed{N \rightarrow \infty}$$

$$\approx \int_0^x f(y) dy$$

$$= \int_0^x \frac{1}{\sqrt{y(1-y)}} dy$$

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\frac{L}{2N} \leq x\right) \sim \arcsin(\sqrt{x})$$