



Chapter 7. Brownian Motion



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In other way, we may write it as Markov chain Y_n given by

$$Y_n = X_1 + X_2 + \cdots + X_n,$$

where X_1, X_2, \cdots are i.i.d. and

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 1 & w.p. \frac{1}{2} \\ -1 & w.p. \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$



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where $[x]$ denote the largest integer below x .



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where $[x]$ denote the largest integer below x . Denote $[t/\delta] = n$. Then, $n \rightarrow \infty$ and $n\delta \rightarrow t$.



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$$E(X^{(\delta)}(t)) = 0, \quad V(X^{(\delta)}(t)) \rightarrow \sigma^2 t.$$



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- $\{X^{(\delta)}(t), t \geq 0\}$ has stationary increments, namely, the distribution of $X^{(\delta)}(t+s) - X^{(\delta)}(t)$ does not depend on t .



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The Brownian motion process, sometimes called the Wiener process, is one of the most useful stochastic processes in applied probability theory.



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Proposition

$(X(t_1), \dots, X(t_n))$ has joint pdf

$$\begin{aligned} & f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \\ = & (2\pi)^{-n/2} (t_1(t_2 - t_1) \cdots (t_n - t_{n-1}))^{-1/2} \\ & \times \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x_1^2}{t_1} + \frac{(x_2 - x_1)^2}{t_2 - t_1} + \cdots + \frac{(x_n - x_{n-1})^2}{t_n - t_{n-1}} \right) \right). \end{aligned}$$



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Proof: Let

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Then, they are independent and $Y_i \sim N(0, t_i - t_{i-1})$ with $t_0 = 0$. Hence, (Y_1, \dots, Y_n) has pdf

$$g(y_1, \dots, y_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi(t_i - t_{i-1})}} \exp \left(- \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{y_i^2}{2(t_i - t_{i-1})} \right).$$



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$$f_{s|t}(x|b) = \frac{f(x, b)}{f_t(b)}$$



$$\begin{aligned} f_{s|t}(x|b) &= \frac{f(x, b)}{f_t(b)} \\ &= \frac{K_1 \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2s} - \frac{(b-x)^2}{2(t-s)}\right)}{K_2} \end{aligned}$$



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Example

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- (a) If the inside racer is leading by σ seconds at the midpoint of the race, what is the probability that she is the winner?*
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$$\begin{aligned} P(N(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}) > 0) &= P(Z > \frac{0 - \frac{1}{2}}{\frac{1}{2}}) \\ &= P(Z > -1) = \Phi(1) = 0.8413. \end{aligned}$$





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The case for $a < 0$ can be obtained by symmetry. □



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Proposition

$$P(T_a < T_{-b}) = \frac{b}{a+b}.$$



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Taking limit, we get our conclusion. □



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Another useful process is the geometric Brownian motion:

$$Y(t) = e^{X(t)},$$

where $X(t)$ is a Brownian motion with a drift.



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For any $t > s$, we have

$$E(Y(t)|Y(u), u \leq s) = Y(s) \exp \left((t-s)(\mu + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2) \right).$$



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HW: Ch10, 6, 7, 9, 16, 17, 27.