

I would appreciate if anyone could help me with this proof of the strong markov property for Brownian motion I'm trying to write. I have the following definitions and lemmas to help me with the proof.

Definiton 1 Let  $X$  be a random variable defined on the probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ , and let  $\mathcal{G} \subseteq \mathcal{F}$  be a sub- $\sigma$ -algebra.  $X$  is independent of  $\mathcal{G}$  if, for every bounded continuous function  $f$ , the following holds:

$$\mathbb{E}[f(X)1_G] = \mathbb{E}[f(X)]\mathbb{P}(G)$$

for every  $G \in \mathcal{G}$ .

Lemma 1 Let  $\overline{X}, \overline{Y}$  be random vectors. If

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\prod_{i=1}^n f_i(X_i)\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[\prod_{i=1}^n f_i(Y_i)\right]$$

for all bounded continuous functions  $f_1, \dots, f_n$ , then  $\overline{X}$  and  $\overline{Y}$  are identically distributed.

Definition 2 Let  $T$  be a stopping time. Then, the  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{F}_T$  is defined as

$$\mathcal{F}_T = \{A \in \mathcal{F} \mid A \cap \{T \leq t\} \in \mathcal{F}_t \text{ for all } t\}.$$

$\mathcal{F}_T$  is a summary of the events up to time  $T$ .

Theorem 1 Let  $(B_t)_{t \geq 0}$  be a Brownian motion, and let  $T$  be a stopping time such that  $\mathbb{P}(T < \infty) = 1$ . Define the process  $B'_s = B_{T+s} - B_T$ . Then,  $(B'_s)_{s \geq 0}$  is a Brownian motion, independent of  $\mathcal{F}_T$ .

Here's my proof, if there is a step which isn't clear, please point it out in the comments so I can edit it.

Proof Assume that  $T$  takes values in  $\{0, \frac{1}{n}, \frac{2}{n}, \dots\}$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . For  $0 \leq s_1 < s_2 < \dots < s_n < \infty$  and  $G \in \mathcal{F}_T$ , and for bounded continuous functions  $f_1, \dots, f_n$ , we calculate

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E}\left[\prod_{k=1}^n f_k(B_{T+s_k} - B_{T+s_{k-1}}) 1_G\right] = \\ &= \mathbb{E}\left[\prod_{k=1}^n f_k(B_{T+s_k} - B_{T+s_{k-1}}) 1_G \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} 1(T = \frac{m}{n})\right] \\ &= (\text{Dominated Convergence Theorem}) = \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} E \left[ \prod_{k=1}^n f_k (B_{T+s_k} - B_{T+s_{k-1}}) 1_G 1(T = \frac{m}{n}) \right] \\
&= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} E \left[ \prod_{k=1}^n f_k \left( B_{\frac{m}{n}+s_k} - B_{\frac{m}{n}+s_{k-1}} \right) 1_G 1(T = \frac{m}{n}) \right] \\
&= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \left( E \left[ \prod_{k=1}^n f_k \left( B_{\frac{m}{n}+s_k} - B_{\frac{m}{n}+s_{k-1}} \right) \right] E \left[ 1_G 1(T = \frac{m}{n}) \right] \right) \\
&= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \left( E \left[ \prod_{k=1}^n f_k (B_{s_k} - B_{s_{k-1}}) \right] E \left[ 1_G 1(T = \frac{m}{n}) \right] \right) \\
&= E \left[ \prod_{k=1}^n f_k (B_{s_k} - B_{s_{k-1}}) \right] \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} E \left[ 1_G 1(T = \frac{m}{n}) \right] \\
&= E \left[ \prod_{k=1}^n f_k (B_{s_k} - B_{s_{k-1}}) \right] E \left[ 1_G \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} 1(T = \frac{m}{n}) \right] \\
&= E \left[ \prod_{k=1}^n f_k (B_{s_k} - B_{s_{k-1}}) \right] P[G]
\end{aligned}$$

We have shown that  $B'_s = B - B_T$ . The process  $(B'_s)_{s \geq 0}$  inherits the following properties: Continuity of sample paths. By Lemma 3, the vectors  $(B'_{s_2} - B'_{s_1}, \dots, B'_{s_n} - B'_{s_{n-1}})$  and  $(B_{s_2} - B_{s_1}, \dots, B_{s_n} - B_{s_{n-1}})$  are identically distributed for any set  $0 \leq s_1 < s_2 < \dots < s_n < \infty$ , and the first vector is independent of  $\mathcal{F}_T$ . Thus, we have shown that  $(B'_s)_{s \geq 0}$  is a Brownian motion independent of  $\mathcal{F}_T$ .

What if  $T$  takes values in  $[0, \infty)$ ? In this case, for  $T$  taking values in  $\{0, \frac{1}{n}, \frac{2}{n}, \dots\}$ , we define  $T_r = \frac{1}{r} \lceil rT \rceil$  for  $r \in \mathbb{N}$ . This is the largest multiple of  $\frac{1}{r}$  that is  $\geq T$ .

It could be verified that  $T_r$  is indeed a stopping time. Since  $T_r \geq T$ , we have  $\mathcal{F}_T \subseteq \mathcal{F}_{T_r}$ . As  $T_r \downarrow T$  as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ , for  $G \in \mathcal{F}_T$ , we have

$$E \left[ \prod_{k=1}^n f_k (B_{s_k}^* - B_{s_{k-1}}^*) 1_G \right] = E \left[ \prod_{k=1}^n f_k (B_{s_k} - B_{s_{k-1}}) \right] P(G)$$

$$E \left[ \prod_{k=1}^n f_k \left( B_{s_k}^* - B_{s_{k-1}}^* \right) 1_G \right] = E \left[ \prod_{k=1}^n f_k \left( B_{s_k} - B_{s_{k-1}} \right) \right] P(G)$$

As  $r \rightarrow \infty$ , by the continuity of realizations, we have  $(B_{T_r+s_k} - B_{T_r+s_{k-1}}) \rightarrow (B_{T+s_k} - B_{T+s_{k-1}})$   $\mathbb{P}$ -almost surely. By the Lebesgue Dominated Convergence Theorem, we can interchange the limit and the expectation, resulting in

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \prod_{k=1}^n f_k \left( B_{s_k}^* - B_{s_{k-1}}^* \right) 1_G \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \prod_{k=1}^n f_k \left( B_{s_k} - B_{s_{k-1}} \right) \right] \mathbb{P}(G)$$