

Brownian Motion calculation

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1 Problem

Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ be a filtered probability space with the filtration $\mathbb{F} = (\mathcal{F}_t)_{t \geq 0}$. Let $W = (W_t)_{t \geq 0}$ be a Wiener process on this probability space. Let $0 < a < b$ two positive numbers

We would like to compute the following probability

$$\mathbb{P}(\exists t \in [a, b], W_t = 0) \quad (1)$$

2 Auxiliaries

Definition 2.1. Let $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Let τ_x be the first time when the Wiener process reaches x

$$\tau_x = \min(t > 0, W_t = x) \quad (2)$$

Proposition 2.1. The probability density function of τ_x is

$$f_{\tau_x}(y) = \frac{|x|}{\sqrt{2\pi t^3}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2t}\right) \quad (3)$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(\tau_x < t) &= \mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{s \leq t} W_s > x\right) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(|W_t| > x) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(W_t^2 > x^2) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(tW_1^2 > x^2) \\ &= \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{x^2}{W_1^2} < t\right) \end{aligned}$$

□

Corollary 2.2. τ_x and $\frac{x^2}{W_1^2}$ have same law

Proposition 2.3.