

# **Stochastics** Methods and Problems

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# 1 Generating and Characteristic functions

## 2 Discrete Time Markov Chains

### 2.1 Transition Matrix

*Sample Problems:*

- **Exercise 4.1:** Write down transition matrices for processes based on rolling a dice
- **Exercise 4.2:** Write down transition matrices for  $Y_n = X_{2n}$
- **Exercise 4.7:** Give example of transition matrix with multiple stationary distributions

### 2.2 Classification of States

*Sample Problems:*

- **Exercise 4.3:** Show if all states communicate with an absorbing state they must all be transient

### 2.3 Mean Recurrence Time

*Sample Problems:*

- **Exercise 4.4:** Find expected visits to a state given some properties
- **Exercise 4.5:** Find mean-recurrence times using invariant distribution

### 2.4 Reversibility

*Sample Problems:*

- **Exercise 4.8:** Show process is reversible in equilibrium

### 2.5 Stationary/Invariant distribution

*Sample Problems:*

- **Exercise 4.5:** Find invariant distribution
- **Exercise 4.6:** Find invariant distribution of mistakes in editions of a book by computing limit of generating function
- **Exercise 4.7:** Give example of transition matrix with multiple stationary distributions

### 2.6 Generating Functions

*Sample Problems:*

- **Exercise 4.6:** Find invariant distribution of mistakes in editions of a book by computing limit of generating function

## 3 Continuous Time Markov Chains

### 3.1 Transition Matrix

### 3.2 Stationary/Invariant distribution

*Sample Problems:*

- **Exercise 5.1:** Find invariant distribution and conditions for existence
- **Exercise 5.2:** Show two processes have the same stationary distribution
- **Exercise 5.3:** Indirectly find stationary distribution by solving KFE, finding generating function for the chain, and computing the distribution of  $X_t$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$

### 3.3 Generator

*Sample Problems:*

- **Exercise 5.1:** Write down generator
- **Exercise 5.3:** Given generator solve KFE
- **Exercise 5.4:** Write down generator and solve KFE/KBE

### 3.4 Generating Functions

*Sample Problems:*

- **Exercise 5.3:** Use KBE to find PDE for generating function of  $X$
- **Exercise 5.4:** Use KBE to find PDE for generating function of  $X$
- **Exercise 5.5:** Compute generating function of Poisson process with random intensity. Use generating function to compute mean and variance.

### 3.5 KFE AND KBE

*Sample Problems:*

- **Exercise 5.3:** Given generator solve KFE
- **Exercise 5.4:** Write down KFE and KBE and solve

### 3.6 Birth Death Processes

General description of birth death processes

### 3.6.1 General Form for infinite queue

*Description:*

- Process either jumps up one or down one or stay the same
- Expected wait time in state  $i$  is exponentially distributed  $\tau \sim \mathcal{E}(\lambda_i + \mu_i)$
- When the process does jump, the probability of an up jump is  $\lambda_i/(\lambda_i + \mu_i)$ , and the probability of a down jump is  $\mu_i/(\lambda_i + \mu_i)$ .
- if  $\lambda_0 > 0$  the chain is irreducible.

*State space:*  $S = \{1, 2, 3 \dots\}$ .

*Generator:*

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} -\lambda_0 & \lambda_0 & & & \\ \mu_1 & -(\mu_1 + \lambda_1) & \lambda_1 & & \\ & \mu_2 & -(\mu_2 + \lambda_2) & \lambda_2 & \\ & & \mu_3 & -(\mu_3 + \lambda_3) & \lambda_3 \\ & & & \ddots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

*Invariant distribution:*

$$\pi(k) = \frac{\lambda_0 \lambda_1 \cdots \lambda_{k-1}}{\mu_1 \mu_2 \cdots \mu_k} \pi(0), \quad \pi(0) = \left( 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda_0 \lambda_1 \cdots \lambda_{k-1}}{\mu_1 \mu_2 \cdots \mu_k} \right)^{-1}$$

*Sample Problems:* Example 5.2.9

### 3.6.2 M/M/1 queue

*Description:*

- Models infinite queue.
- Arrivals occur at a rate  $\lambda$  according to a Poisson process.
- Service times have exponential distribution with rate parameter  $\mu$ , where  $1/\mu$  is the mean service time.
- A single server serves customers one at a time from front of queue, first come first serve

*State space:*  $S = \{1, 2, 3 \dots\}$ .

*Generator:*

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} -\lambda & \lambda & & \\ \mu & -(\mu + \lambda) & \lambda & \\ & \mu & -(\mu + \lambda) & \lambda \\ & & \ddots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

*Invariant distribution:*

$$\pi(k) = (1 - \lambda/\mu)(\lambda/\mu)^k$$



*Expected Response Time:* For customers who arrive and find the queue as a stationary process, the response time (sum of waiting and services times) has density function,

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} (\mu - \lambda)e^{-(\mu-\lambda)t}, & t > 0 \\ 0 & \text{ow.} \end{cases}$$

This has mean,

$$\int_0^\infty t f(t) dt = \frac{1}{\mu - \lambda}$$

*Sample Problems:* [Exercise 5.1](#)

### 3.6.3 M/M/ $\infty$

*Description:*

- Arrivals occur at a rate  $\lambda$  according to a Poisson process.
- Service times have exponential distribution with rate parameter  $\mu$ , where  $1/\mu$  is the mean service time.
- There are always enough servers that every arriving job is serviced immediately.

*State space:*  $S = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ .

*Generator:*

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} -\lambda & \lambda & & & \\ \mu & -(\mu + \lambda) & \lambda & & \\ & 2\mu & -(2\mu + \lambda) & \lambda & \\ & & 3\mu & -(3\mu + \lambda) & \lambda \\ & & & \ddots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

*Invariant Distribution:*

$$\pi(k) = \frac{(\lambda/\mu)^k e^{-\lambda/\mu}}{k!}$$

*Sample Problems:* [Exercise 5.3](#), Final Problem ??, Practice Exam #? Problem 1

### 3.6.4 M/M/1/K queue

*State space:*  $S = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .

*Generator:*

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} -\lambda & \lambda & & & & \\ \mu & -(\mu + \lambda) & \lambda & & & \\ & \mu & -(\mu + \lambda) & \lambda & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & \mu & -(\mu + \lambda) & \lambda \\ & & & & \mu & -\mu \end{bmatrix}$$

## 4 Brownian Motion

*Note:* add examples from class notes

### 4.1 Martingale

*Sample Problems:*

- **Exercise 7.1:** Show a process is a Martingale using definition
- **Exercise 7.4:** Show a process is a Martingale using definition

### 4.2 Characteristic Functions

*Sample Problems:*

- **Exercise 7.2:** Compute characteristic function of  $W(N(t))$ , where  $N \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda)$

7.3: n-th variation time

### 4.3 Laplace Transform

*Sample Problems:*

- *Note:* Example ??? from book
- **Exercise 7.4:** Compute Laplace transform of first hitting time.

## 5 Stochastic Calculus

## 6 SDEs and PDEs

## 7 Jump Diffusions

## 8 Practice Qualification Exams

## 9 Homework Problems



**Exercise 3.1**

Let  $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, U)$  where  $U \sim \mathcal{U}((0, 1))$ . What is the probability Generating function  $G_X(s)$  of  $X$ ? What is  $\mathbb{P}(X = k)$  where  $k \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ?

**Solution**

Using iterated conditioning, since a Binomial random variable is the sum of  $n$  iid Bernioully random variables,

$$G_X(s) = \mathbb{E}[s^X] = \mathbb{E}\mathbb{E}[s^X|U] = \mathbb{E}[(1 - U)s^0 + Us^1]^n$$

We calculate this by integrating with Mathematica as,

```
Integrate[((1 - x) + x s)^n, {x, 0, 1}, Assumptions -> {s > 0}]
```

This yields,

$$\mathbb{E}[(1 - U) + Us]^n = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{1}_{(0,1)}((1 - x) + xs)^n dx = \int_0^1 ((1 - x) + xs)^n dx = \frac{1 - s^{n+1}}{(n + 1)(1 - s)}$$

This is a finite geometric progression which we simplify so,

$$G_X(s) = \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{s^k}{n + 1}$$

Therefore  $\mathbb{P}(X = k) = 1/(n + 1)$  for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

**Exercise 3.2**

Let  $Z_n$  be the size of the  $n$ -th generation in an ordinary branching process with  $Z_0 = 1$ ,  $\mathbb{E}Z_1 = \mu$  and  $\mathbb{V}Z_1 > 0$ . Show that  $\mathbb{E}Z_n Z_m = \mu^{n-m} \mathbb{E}Z_m^2$  for  $m \leq n$ . Use this to find the correlation coefficient  $\rho(Z_m, Z_n)$  in terms of  $\mu, n$  and  $m$ . Consider the case  $\mu = 1$  and the case  $\mu \neq 1$ .

**Solution**

Let  $Y_{m,i}$  denote the number of offspring in the  $n$ -th generation that descends from the  $i$ -th member of the  $m$ -th generation. Then the  $(Y_{m,i})$  are iid with distribution  $Z_{n-m}$  and  $Z_n = Y_{m,1} + Y_{m,2} + \dots + Y_{m,Z_m}$ .

Then, since  $(Y_{m,i})$  are iid with distribution  $Z_{n-m}$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}[Z_n | Z_m] = \mathbb{E}[Y_{m,1} + Y_{m,2} + \dots + Y_{m,Z_m} | Z_m] = Z_m \mathbb{E}[Z_{n-m}] = Z_m \mu^{n-m}$$

Therefore, by taking out what is known,

$$\mathbb{E}[Z_m Z_n] = \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[Z_m Z_n | Z_m]] = \mathbb{E}[Z_m^2 \mathbb{E}[Z_n | Z_m]] = \mathbb{E}[Z_m^2 \mu^{n-m}] = \mu^{n-m} \mathbb{E}[Z_m^2]$$

Observing that  $\mathbb{E}[Z_m Z_n] = \mu^{n-m} \mathbb{E}[Z_m^2] = \mu^{n-m} (\mathbb{V}[Z_m] + \mathbb{E}[Z_m]^2) = \mu^{n-m} (\mathbb{V}[Z_m] + \mu^{2m})$ , write,

$$\rho(Z_m, Z_n) = \frac{\text{Cov}(Z_n, Z_m)}{(\mathbb{V}[Z_n] \mathbb{V}[Z_m])^{1/2}} = \frac{\mathbb{E}[Z_n Z_m] - \mathbb{E}[Z_n] \mathbb{E}[Z_m]}{(\mathbb{V}[Z_n] \mathbb{V}[Z_m])^{1/2}} = \frac{\mu^{n-m} (\mathbb{V}[Z_m] + \mu^{2m}) - \mu^{n+m}}{(\mathbb{V}[Z_n] \mathbb{V}[Z_m])^{1/2}}$$

Denote  $\mathbb{V}[Z_1]$  by  $\sigma$ .

Suppose  $\mu = 1$  so that  $\mathbb{V}[Z_m] = m\sigma^2$ . We use Mathematica to simplify the above expression as,

```
FullSimplify[
  PowerExpand[(\[Mu]^(n - m) (Vzm + \[Mu]^(2 m)) - \[Mu]^(
    n + m)) / (Vzn Vzm)^(
    1/2) /. {Vzm -> m \[Sigma]^2, Vzn -> n \[Sigma]^2, \[Mu] ->
    1}],
  Assumptions -> {{m, n, \[Sigma], \[Mu]} > 0}]
```

This yields,

$$\rho(Z_m, Z_n) = \sqrt{\frac{m}{n}}$$

Now suppose  $\mu \neq 1$  so that  $\mathbb{V}[Z_m] = \sigma^2(\mu^n - 1)\mu^{n-1}/(\mu - 1)$ . We use Mathematica to simplify the above expression as,

```
FullSimplify[
  PowerExpand[(\[Mu]^(n - m) (Vzm + \[Mu]^(2 - m)) - \[Mu]^(
    n + m)) / (Vzn - Vzm)^(
    1/2) /. {Vzm -> \[Sigma]^2 (\[Mu]^m - 1) \[Mu]^(m - 1) / (\[Mu] -
    1),
    Vzn -> \[Sigma]^2 (\[Mu]^n - 1) \[Mu]^(n - 1) / (\[Mu] - 1) }],
  Assumptions -> {\[Mu] != 1, {m, n, \[Sigma], \[Mu]} > 0}]
```

This yields,

$$\rho(Z_m, Z_n) = \sqrt{\frac{\mu^n(\mu^m - 1)}{\mu^m(\mu^n - 1)}}$$

Observe that in the limit  $\mu \rightarrow 1$  this coincides with the previous value.

**Exercise 3.3****Solution**

**Exercise 3.4**

Consider a branching process with immigration

$$Z_0 = 1 \qquad Z_{n+1} = \sum_{i=1}^{Z_n} X_{n,i} + Y_n$$

where the  $(X_{n,i})$  are iid with common distribution  $X$ , the  $(Y_n)$  are iid with common distribution  $Y$ , and the  $(X_{n,i})$  and  $(Y_n)$  are independent. What is  $G_{Z_{n+1}}(s)$  in terms of  $G_{Z_n}(s)$ ,  $G_X(s)$ , and  $G_Y(s)$ ? Write  $G_{Z_2}(s)$  explicitly in terms of  $G_X(s)$  and  $G_Y(s)$ .

**Solution**

Define:

$$G_{Z_n}(s) = s^{Z_n} \qquad G_X(s) = \mathbb{E}s^X \qquad G_Y(s) = \mathbb{E}s^Y$$

Write  $S_n = \sum_{i=1}^{Z_n} X_{n,i}$  so that,  $Z_{n+1} = S_n + Y_n$ .

First observe that since the  $(X_{n,i})$  are iid with common distribution  $X$ ,

$$G_{S_n}(s) = \mathbb{E}[s^{S_n}] = \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[s^{S_n}|Z_n]] = \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[s^X]^{Z_n}] = \mathbb{E}[G_X(s)^{Z_n}] = G_{Z_n}(G_X(s))$$

Since the  $(X_{n,i})$  and  $(Y_n)$  are independent,  $S_n$  and  $Y_n$  are independent. Therefore,

$$G_{Z_{n+1}}(s) = G_{S_n+Y_n}(s) = G_{S_n}(s)G_Y(s) = G_{Z_n}(G_X(s))G_Y(s)$$

We calculate,

$$G_{Z_0}(s) = \mathbb{E}[s^{Z_0}] = \mathbb{E}[s] = s$$

Similarly,

$$G_{Z_1}(s) = G_{Z_0}(G_X(s))G_Y(s) = G_X(s)G_Y(s)$$

Therefore,

$$G_{Z_2}(s) = G_{Z_1}(G_X(s))G_Y(s) = G_X(G_X(s))G_Y(G_X(s))G_Y(s)$$

**Exercise 3.5**

Find  $\phi_{X^2}(t) := \mathbb{E} \exp(itX^2)$  where  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma)$ .

**Solution**

We have,

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(\frac{-(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

Thus,

$$\phi_{X^2}(t) = \mathbb{E} \exp(itX^2) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{itx^2} f_X(x) dx$$

We evaluate with Mathematica as,

```
Integrate[Exp[I t x^2] PDF[NormalDistribution[\[Mu], \[Sigma]], x
], {x, -\[Infinity], \[Infinity]},
Assumptions -> {\[Mu] \[Element] Reals, t \[Element] Reals, \[
Sigma] > 0}]
```

This yields,

$$\phi_{X^2}(t) = \frac{\exp(it\mu^2/(1-2it\sigma^2))}{\sqrt{1-2it\sigma^2}}$$

**Exercise 3.6**

Let  $X_n$  have cumulative distribution function

$$F_{X_n}(x) = \left( x - \frac{\sin(2n\pi x)}{2n\pi} \right) \mathbb{1}_{0 \leq x \leq 1} + \mathbb{1}_{x > 1}$$

- (a) Show that  $F_{X_n}$  is a distribution function and find the corresponding density function  $f_{X_n}$ .
- (b) Show that  $F_{X_n}$  converges to the uniform distribution function  $F_U$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , but that the density function  $f_{X_n}$  does NOT converge to  $f_U$ . Here,  $U \sim \mathcal{U}((0, 1))$ .

**Solution**

- (a) Clearly  $F_{X_n}(x) = 0$  for  $x \leq 0$  and  $F_{X_n}(x) = 1$  for  $x \geq 1$ . Observe,  $x - \sin(2n\pi x)/2n\pi$  is non-decreasing and continuous on  $(0, 1)$ , since the derivative, calculated below is non-negative on this interval. Moreover,  $x - \sin(2n\pi x)/2n\pi$  is equal to zero at  $x = 0$ , and equal to one at  $x = 1$ .

Therefore  $F_{X_n}(x)$  is a non-decreasing continuous function with  $F_{X_n}(x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $x \rightarrow -\infty$  and  $F_{X_n}(x) \rightarrow 1$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ . So  $F_{X_n}(x)$  is a distribution function.

It is straightforward to compute the density function as,

$$f_{X_n}(x) = \frac{d}{dx} F_{X_n}(x) = (1 - \cos(2n\pi x)) \mathbb{1}_{0 \leq x \leq 1}$$

- (b) The uniform distribution on  $(0, 1)$  is given by,

$$F_U(x) = x \mathbb{1}_{0 \leq x \leq 1} + \mathbb{1}_{x > 1}$$

Obviously outside of  $(0, 1)$  both  $F_U$  and  $F_{X_n}$  agree exactly. Consider a point  $x \in (0, 1)$ . Then, since  $|\sin(u)| \leq 1$  for all  $u$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ x - \frac{\sin(2n\pi x)}{2n\pi} \right] = x - 0 = x$$

Therefore  $F_{X_n}$  converges pointwise on to  $F_U$  on  $(0, 1)$ , and therefore on all of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

It is clear that  $f_{X_n}(x)$  does not converge to  $f_U(x)$  as  $f_U(x)$  is constant on  $(0, 1)$  while  $f_{X_n}(x)$  oscillates between zero and two. In particular, fix a rational number  $x = p/q$ . Then for  $n = qk, k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $f_{X_n}(x) = 0$ .

**Exercise 3.7**

A coin is tossed repeatedly, with heads turning up with probability  $p$  on each toss. Let  $N$  be the minimum number of tosses required to obtain  $k$  heads. Show that, as  $p \rightarrow 0$ , the distribution function of  $2Np$  converges to that of a gamma distribution. Note that, if  $X \sim \Gamma(\lambda, r)$  then,

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(r)} \lambda^r x^{r-1} e^{-\lambda x} \mathbb{1}_{x \geq 0}$$

**Solution**

We have  $\Gamma(r) = \int_0^\infty x^{r-1} e^{-x} dx$ . Thus, making the substitution  $u = (\lambda - it)x$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_X(t) &= \mathbb{E} [e^{itx} f_X(x) dx] \\ &= \int_0^\infty e^{itx} \frac{1}{\Gamma(r)} \lambda^r x^{r-1} e^{-\lambda x} dx \\ &= \int_0^\infty \frac{\lambda^r}{\Gamma(r)} e^{-u} \frac{u^{r-1}}{(\lambda - it)^{r-1}} \frac{du}{(\lambda - it)} \\ &= \frac{\lambda^r}{\Gamma(r)(\lambda - it)^r} \int_0^\infty e^{-u} u^{r-1} du \\ &= \frac{\lambda^r}{(\lambda - it)^r} \end{aligned}$$

Let  $(X_i)_{i=1}^k$  be iid with  $X, X_i \sim \text{Geo}(p)$ . Then  $N = \sum_{i=1}^k X_i$  so, since the  $X_i$  are iid,

$$\varphi_{2Np}(t) = \mathbb{E}[\exp(it2Np)] = \mathbb{E}[\exp(2itp(X_1 + \dots + X_k))] = \mathbb{E}[\exp(2itpX)]^k$$

Therefore, since  $|e^{2itp}(1-p)| < 1$  if  $p \in (0, 1)$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}[\exp(2itpX)]^k = \left[ \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} e^{2itpm} p(1-p)^{m-1} \right]^k = \left[ p e^{2itp} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (e^{2itp}(1-p))^{m-1} \right]^k = \left[ \frac{p e^{2itp}}{1 - (1-p)e^{2itp}} \right]^k$$

With Mathematica we evaluate,

```
Limit[((p Exp[2 I t p])/(1 - (1 - p) Exp[2 I t p]))^k, {p -> 0},
sumptions -> {k \[Element] Integers, k > 0}] // FullSimplify
```

This yields,

$$\lim_{p \rightarrow 0} \varphi_{2Np} = \frac{1}{(1 - 2it)^k} = \frac{(1/2)^k}{(1/2 - it)^k}$$



Thus, for a random variable  $X \sim \Gamma(1/2, k)$ , by the continuity theorem,  $\lim_{p \rightarrow 0} f_{2Np}(x) = f_X(x)$

**Exercise 4.1**

A six-sided die is rolled repeatedly. Which of the following are Markov chains? For those that are, find the one-step transition matrix.

- (a)  $X_n$  is the largest number rolled up to the  $n$ th roll.
- (b)  $X_n$  is the number of sixes rolled in the first  $n$  rolls.
- (c) At time  $n$ ,  $X_n$  is the time since the last six was rolled.
- (d) At time  $n$ ,  $X_n$  is the time until the next six is rolled.

**Solution**

- (a) Yes.

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 \\ & 2/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 \\ & & 3/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 \\ & & & 4/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 \\ & & & & 5/6 & 1/6 \\ & & & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- (b) Yes.

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 5/6 & 1/6 & & \\ & 5/6 & 1/6 & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

- (c) Yes. Suppose  $X_n = i$ . The next roll is either a 6, in which case  $X_{n+1} = 0$ . Otherwise  $X_{n+1} = i + 1$ .

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1/6 & 5/6 & & \\ 1/6 & & 5/6 & \\ 1/6 & & & 5/6 \\ \vdots & & & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

- (d) Yes. Suppose  $X_n = 0$ . The probability of  $X_{n+1} = j$  is  $(1/6)(5/6)^j$  as you must not roll a 6 for  $j$  turns, and then must roll a 6 on the  $j$ -th. Suppose  $X_n = i > 0$ . Then the next step you will be on turn closer to rolling a 6. That

is,  $X_{n+1} = i - 1$ .

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} \left(\frac{5}{6}\right) & \frac{1}{6} \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^2 & \frac{1}{6} \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^3 & \dots \\ 1 & & & & \\ & 1 & & & \\ & & 1 & & \\ & & & 1 & \\ & & & & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

**Exercise 4.2**

Let  $Y_n = X_{2n}$ . Compute the transition matrix for  $Y$  when

- (a)  $X$  is a simple random walk (i.e.,  $X$  increases by one with probability  $p$  and decreases by 1 with probability  $q$ )
- (b)  $X$  is a branching process where  $G$  is the generating function of the number of offspring from each individual

**Solution**

- (a) In each step we can go down with probability  $q$  and then down again with probability  $q$  or up with probability  $p$ . Alternatively we can go up with probability  $p$  and then down with probability  $q$  or up again with probability  $p$ .

Therefore we will end up two spaces down with probability  $q^2$ , in the same position with probability  $qp + pq = 2pq$ , or up two spaces with probability  $p^2$ . Thus,

$$p(i, j) = \begin{cases} p^2 & j = i + 2 \\ 2pq & i = j \\ q^2 & j = i - 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- (b) We can obtain the exponents of a generating function  $G(s) = a_0 + a_1s + a_2s^2 + \dots$  by,

$$a_n = \frac{1}{n!} \frac{d^n}{ds^n} [G(s)]_{s=0}$$

The coefficient of the  $s^k$  term is the value of the probability mass function of  $X$  evaluated at  $k$ .

The generating function of  $Y$  is  $G(G(s)) = G_2(s)$  from the notes.

For a branching process with current population  $k$ , the population of the next generation will be  $X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_k$ , where each  $X_i$  is iid with distribution  $X$ . Therefore,

$$p(i, j) = \frac{1}{j!} \frac{d^j}{ds^j} [G_2(s)^i]_{s=0}$$

**Exercise 4.3**

Let  $X$  be a Markov chain with state space  $S$  and absorbing state  $k$  (i.e.,  $p(k, j) = 0$  for all  $j \in S$ ). Suppose  $j \rightarrow k$  for all  $j \in S$ . Show that all states other than  $k$  are transient.

**Solution**

Fix a state  $j \in S$ . By definition of  $j \rightarrow k$ ,  $\exists N \geq 0 : p_N(j, k) > 0$ . Since  $\{X_N = k | X_0 = j\} \subseteq \{\exists n, X_n = k | X_0 = j\}$  we have,

$$0 < p_N(j, k) = \mathbb{P}(X_N = k | X_0 = j) \leq \mathbb{P}(\exists n, X_n = k | X_0 = j)$$

Therefore,

$$\mathbb{P}(\exists n \geq 0 : X_n = k | X_0 = j) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(\forall n, X_n \neq k | X_0 = j) < 1$$

This proves state  $j$  is transient. □

**Exercise 4.4**

Suppose two distinct states  $i, j$  satisfy

$$\mathbb{P}(\tau_j < \tau_i | X_0 = i) = \mathbb{P}(\tau_i < \tau_j | X_0 = j)$$

where  $\tau_j = \inf\{n \geq 1 : X_n = j\}$ . Show that, if  $X_0 = i$ , the expected value of visits to  $j$  prior to returning to  $i$  is one.

**Solution**

Write

$$p = \mathbb{P}(\tau_j < \tau_i | X_0 = i) = \mathbb{P}(\tau_i < \tau_j | X_0 = j)$$

That is,  $p$  is the probability that we go to state  $j$  before state  $i$  given we are in state  $i$ , and  $p$  is also the probability that we go to state  $i$  before state  $j$  given we are in state  $j$ .

Then  $1 - p$  is the probability that we do not go to state  $i$  before returning state  $j$ , given we start in state  $j$ .

So  $(1 - p)^k$  is the probability that we return to state  $j$  exactly  $k$  times before moving to state  $i$ , given we start in state  $j$ .

Let  $N$  be the number of visits to  $j$  prior to returning to  $i$  given we start in state  $i$ .

The probability that  $N = k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$  is the probability that starting from state  $i$  we go to state  $j$ , return to state  $j$  ( $k - 1$ ) times without returning to state  $i$ , and then return to state  $i$  without going to returning to state  $j$ .

So  $\mathbb{P}(N = k | X_0 = i) = p(1 - p)^{k-1}p$ . This is the probability mass function for  $N$  so,

$$\mathbb{E}[N] = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} np^2(1 - p)^{k-1} = p \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n(1 - p)^n = p \frac{p}{(1 - (1 - p))^2} = 1$$

**Exercise 4.5**

Let  $X$  be a Markov chain with transition matrix,

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1-2p & 2p & 0 \\ p & 1-2p & p \\ 0 & 2p & 1-2p \end{bmatrix}, \quad p \in (0, 1)$$

Find  $P^n$ , the invariant distribution  $\pi$ , and the mean-recurrence times  $\bar{\tau}_j$  for  $j = 1, 2, 3$ .

**Solution**

Note that  $P$  has eigendecomposition  $P = V\Lambda V^{-1}$  where,

$$\Lambda = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & \\ & 1-4p & \\ & & 1-2p \end{bmatrix}, \quad V = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Therefore,  $P^n = V\Lambda^n V^{-1}$ . Explicitly,

$$P^n = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & \\ & 1-4p & \\ & & 1-2p \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1/4 & 1/2 & 1/4 \\ 1/4 & -1/2 & 1/4 \\ -1/2 & 0 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Invariant distributions are linear combinations of left eigenvectors corresponding to eigenvalues of 1. In this case that is the first row of  $V^{-1}$ . That is,

$$\pi = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

Finally, since the invariant distribution is unique, by Theorem we have,

$$\bar{\tau}_i = \frac{1}{\pi(i)}$$

**Exercise 4.6**

Let  $X_n$  be the number of mistakes in the  $n$ -th addition of a book. Between the  $n$ -th and the  $(n+1)$ -th addition an editor corrects each mistake independently with probability  $p$  and introduces  $Y_n$  new mistakes where the  $(Y_n)$  are iid and Poisson distributed with parameter  $\lambda$ . Find the invariant distribution  $\pi$  of the number of mistakes in the book.

**Solution**

Let  $M_{n,k}$  be distributed as  $\text{Ber}(1-p)$  so that  $M_k$  is 0 if this mistake is corrected, and 1 otherwise. Let  $Y_n$  be Poisson distributed with parameter  $\lambda$ . Then,

$$X_{n+1} = Y_n + \sum_{k=1}^{X_n} M_k$$

Each  $M_{n,k}$  has generating function,

$$G_{M_{n,k}} = p + (1-p)s = 1 - q + qs = 1 - q(1-s)$$

Similarly,  $Y_n$  has generating function,

$$G_Y(s) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} e^{-\lambda} \lambda^k / k! s^k = e^{-\lambda} e^{s\lambda} = e^{\lambda(s-1)}$$

Therefore  $X_{n+1}$  has generating function,

$$\begin{aligned} G_{n+1}(s) &= G_Y(s) \mathbb{E} [s^{M_{k,1} + M_{k,2} + \dots + M_{k,X_n}}] \\ &= G_Y(s) \mathbb{E} [\mathbb{E} [s^{M_{k,1} + M_{k,2} + \dots + M_{k,X_n}} | X_n]] \\ &= G_Y(s) \mathbb{E} [(1 - q(1-s))^{X_n}] \\ &= G_Y(s) G_n(1 - q(1-s)) \end{aligned}$$

First observe  $1 - q^i(1 - (1 - q(1-s))) = 1 - q^{i+1}(1-s)$ . We now use the relation



$G_{n+1}(s) = G_Y(s)G_n(1 - q(1 - s))$  and the fact that  $G_0(s) = 1$  to calculate,

$$\begin{aligned}
 G_{n+1}(s) &= G_Y(s)G_n(1 - q(1 - s)) \\
 &= G_Y(s)G_Y(1 - q(1 - s))G_{n-1}(1 - q^2(1 - s)) \\
 &= G_Y(s)G_Y(1 - q(1 - s))G_Y(1 - q^2(1 - s))G_{n-2}(1 - q^3(1 - s)) \\
 &\vdots \\
 &= \prod_{i=0}^n G_Y(1 - q^i(1 - s))
 \end{aligned}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} G_n(s) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} G_{n+1}(s) \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \prod_{i=0}^n G_Y(1 - q^i(1 - s)) \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \prod_{i=0}^n \exp(\lambda(-q^i(1 - s))) \\
 &= \exp\left(\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \lambda(-q^i(1 - s))\right) \\
 &= \exp\left(\lambda(s - 1)\frac{1}{1 - q}\right) \\
 &= \exp\left(\frac{\lambda}{p}(s - 1)\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $G_n(S)$  converges to the generating function of a Poisson random variable with parameter  $\lambda/p$ .

Then  $X_n$  converges to a random variable distributed like a Poisson random variable with parameter  $\lambda/p$ . The random variable for which  $X_n$  converges to must be the variable corresponding to the stationary distribution. Therefore, the stationary distribution is distributed like the probability mass function of this random variable. That is,

$$\pi(k) = e^{-\lambda/p} \frac{(\lambda/p)^k}{k!}$$

In the limit  $p \rightarrow 1$ , where we correct all mistakes, the stationary distribution looks like a Poisson distribution with parameter  $\lambda$ . In the limit  $\lambda \rightarrow 0$  so we do not make any new mistakes,  $\pi(0) \rightarrow 1$  as expected.

**Exercise 4.7**

Give an example of a transition matrix  $P$  that admits multiple stationary distributions  $\pi$ .

**Solution**

Define  $P$  to be the identity matrix. Then any distribution is a stationary distribution.

**Exercise 4.8**

A Markov chain on  $S = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n\}$  has transition probabilities  $p(0, 0) = 1 - \lambda_0$ ,  $p(i, i+1) = \lambda_i$  and  $p(i+1, i) = \mu_{i+1}$  for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$ , and  $p(n, n) = 1 - \mu_n$ . Show that the process is reversible in equilibrium.

**Solution**

We assume all entries not specified are zero. (I heard this is the intent, however I wonder why we are given  $\mu_j$  when  $\mu_j = 1 - \lambda_j$  for all  $j$ ). We write the matrix  $P$  as, Write  $\mu_n = 1 - \lambda_n$ . Thus,  $\mu_i = 1 - \lambda_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$  as the sum of each row must be 1 (making the assumption that all entries not specified at zero).

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1-\lambda_0 & \lambda_0 & & & \\ \mu_1 & & \lambda_1 & & \\ & \mu_2 & & \lambda_2 & \\ & & \mu_3 & & \\ & & & & \lambda_{n-1} \\ & & & \mu_n & 1-\mu_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1-\lambda_0 & \lambda_0 & & & \\ 1-\lambda_1 & & \lambda_1 & & \\ & 1-\lambda_2 & & \lambda_2 & \\ & & 1-\lambda_3 & & \\ & & & & 1-\lambda_n & \lambda_{n-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

This chain is irreducible and finite so a unique invariant distribution  $\pi$  exists. Write  $\pi = [\pi_0, \pi_1, \dots, \pi_n]$ . Then  $\pi P = \pi$ . That is,

$$\pi P = \begin{bmatrix} \pi_0(1-\lambda_0) + \pi_1(1-\lambda_1) \\ \pi_0\lambda_0 + \pi_2(1-\lambda_2) \\ \pi_1\lambda_1 + \pi_3(1-\lambda_3) \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \pi_{n-1}\lambda_{n-1} + \pi_n\lambda_n \end{bmatrix}^T = \begin{bmatrix} \pi_0 \\ \pi_1 \\ \pi_2 \\ \vdots \\ \pi_j \\ \vdots \\ \pi_n \end{bmatrix}^T$$

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_1 &= \lambda_0\pi_0/(1-\lambda_1) & \lambda_0\pi_0 &= \pi_1(1-\lambda_1) \\ \pi_2 &= (\pi_1 - \pi_0\lambda_0)/(1-\lambda_2) = \pi_1\lambda_1/(1-\lambda_2) & \lambda_1\pi_1 &= \pi_2(1-\lambda_2) \\ \pi_3 &= (\pi_2 - \pi_1\lambda_1)/(1-\lambda_3) = \pi_2\lambda_2/(1-\lambda_3) & \lambda_2\pi_2 &= \pi_3(1-\lambda_3) \\ &\vdots & & \\ \pi_{j+1} &= (\pi_j - \pi_{j-1}\lambda_{j-1})/(1-\lambda_{j+1}) = \pi_j\lambda_j/(1-\lambda_{j+1}) & \lambda_j\pi_j &= \pi_{j+1}(1-\lambda_{j+1}) \\ &\vdots & & \\ \pi_n &= (\pi_{n-1}\lambda_{n-1})/(1-\lambda_n) & \pi_{n-1}\lambda_{n-1} &= \pi_n(1-\lambda_n) \end{aligned}$$

Observing the equations on the right hand side we have that for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$ ,

$$\pi_i p(i, i + 1) = \pi_{i+1} p(i + 1, i)$$

We now show the detail balance condition. In particular, we must show,

$$\pi_i p(i, j) = \pi_j p(j, i) \quad \text{for all } i, j$$

However, for  $j \notin \{i - 1, i + 1\}$  we have  $p(i, j) = 0$ . Therefore, for this matrix the previous condition is equivalent to

$$\pi_i p(i, i + 1) = \pi_{i+1} p(i + 1, i) \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$$

We have shown that these equations hold for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$ .

This proves  $\pi$  is in detailed balance with  $P$ , and so this process is reversible in equilibrium.  $\square$

**Exercise 5.1**

Patients arrive at an emergency room as a Poisson process with intensity  $\lambda$ . The time to treat each patient is an independent exponential random variable with parameter  $\mu$ . Let  $X = (X_t)_{t \geq 0}$  be the number of patients in the system (either being treated or waiting). Write down the generator of  $X$ . Show that  $X$  has an invariant distribution  $\pi$  if and only if  $\lambda < \mu$ . Find  $\pi$ . What is the total expected time (waiting + treatment) a patient waits when the system is in its invariant distribution?

**Solution**

In some small time interval  $s$  there is probability  $\lambda s + \mathcal{O}(s^2)$  that a patient arrives, probability  $1 - \lambda s + \mathcal{O}(s^2)$  that a patient does not arrive, and probability  $\mathcal{O}(s^2)$  that multiple patients arrive.

If there are patients, in this times there is also probability  $\mu s + \mathcal{O}(s^2)$  that a patient is treated, probability  $1 - \mu s + \mathcal{O}(s^2)$  that a patient is not treated, and probability  $\mathcal{O}(s^2)$  that more than one (if possible) patients are treated.

Note that any moves which have more than one transition such as a patient arriving, and a patient being treated are all  $\mathcal{O}(s^2)$ .

Suppose there are no patients at time  $t$ . The probability of transitioning to  $j$  patients after a short time  $s$  is given by,

$$\mathbb{P}(X_{t+s} = j | X_t = 0) = \begin{cases} \lambda s + \mathcal{O}(s^2) & j = 1 \\ 1 - \lambda s + \mathcal{O}(s^2) & j = 0 \\ \mathcal{O}(s^2) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Now suppose there are  $i > 0$  patients at time  $t$ . The probability of transitioning to  $j$  patients after a short time  $s$  is given by,

$$\mathbb{P}(X_{t+s} = j | X_t = i) = \begin{cases} (\lambda s + \mathcal{O}(s^2))(1 - \mu s + \mathcal{O}(s^2)) & j = i + 1 \\ (1 - \lambda s + \mathcal{O}(s^2))(1 - \mu s + \mathcal{O}(s^2)) + \mathcal{O}(s^2) & j = i \\ (1 - \lambda s + \mathcal{O}(s^2))(\mu s + \mathcal{O}(s^2)) & j = i - 1 \\ \mathcal{O}(s^2) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

This is simplified as,

$$\mathbb{P}(X_{t+s} = j | X_t = i) = \begin{cases} \lambda s + \mathcal{O}(s^2) & j = i + 1 \\ 1 - \lambda s - \mu s + \mathcal{O}(s^2) & j = i \\ \mu s + \mathcal{O}(s^2) & j = i - 1 \\ \mathcal{O}(s^2) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

This gives,

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} -\lambda & \lambda & & & \\ \mu & -(\lambda + \mu) & \lambda & & \\ & \mu & -(\lambda + \mu) & \lambda & \\ & & \mu & -(\lambda + \mu) & \lambda & \cdots \\ & & & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

We recognize this as a birth-death process (a bit ironic in the context of an emergency room) with  $\lambda_i = \lambda$  and  $\mu_i = \mu$ .

Then if a stationary distribution  $\pi$  exists, for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ ,

$$\pi(n > 0) = \left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^n \pi(0)$$

and

$$\pi(0) = \left(1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^n\right)^{-1} = \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^n\right)^{-1}$$

This is a geometric series which is convergent exactly when  $\lambda/\mu < 1$ . That is, when  $\lambda < \mu$ . In this case,

$$\pi(0) = \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^n\right)^{-1} = \left(\frac{\mu}{\mu - \lambda}\right)^{-1} = \frac{\mu - \lambda}{\mu}$$

We condition on knowing the number of people on the queue. Suppose there are  $n$  people in the queue when a patient arrives. Then the patient will have to wait a random time distributed as the sum of  $n$  exponential random variables with parameter  $\mu$  to be treated and one more to finish treatment. The expectation of each of each exponential random variable is  $1/\mu$ , so the patient waits an expected time of  $(n+1)/\mu$ .

In equilibrium, the probability that there are  $n$  people in the queue when a patient arrives is  $\pi(n)$ .

Therefore, the expected wait time is,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \pi(n) \frac{(n+1)}{\mu} = \frac{\mu - \lambda}{\mu^2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^n (n+1) = \frac{\mu - \lambda}{\mu^2} \left(\frac{\mu\lambda}{(\mu - \lambda)^2} + \frac{\mu}{\mu - \lambda}\right) = \frac{1}{\mu - \lambda}$$

**Exercise 5.2**

Let  $X = (X_t)_{t \geq 0}$  be a Markov chain with stationary distribution  $\pi$ . Let  $N$  be an independent Poisson process with intensity  $\lambda$  and denote by  $\tau_n$  the time of the  $n$ -th arrival of  $N$ . Define  $Y_n := X_{\tau_n+}$  (i.e.,  $Y_n$  is the value of  $X$  immediately after the  $n$ -th jump). Show that  $Y$  is a discrete time Markov chain with the same stationary distribution as  $X$ .

It is obvious that  $Y$  is Markov, as given the present, the future is independent of the past. We add a bit more rigor below.

Fix a probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ . By hypothesis  $X_t$  is a Markov process. That is, for a filtration  $(\mathcal{F}_s)_{s \in [0, T]}$ , for  $0 \leq s \leq t \leq T$ , and for every non-negative Borel measurable function  $f$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}[f(X_t) | \mathcal{F}_s] = \mathbb{E}[f(X_t) | X_s]$$

Let  $\mathcal{F}'_n = \mathcal{F}_{\tau_n+}$  be a sub- $\sigma$ -algebra of  $\mathcal{F}$ . Then clearly  $(\mathcal{F}'_n)$  is a filtration. Let  $f$  be any non-negative Borel measurable function. Then,

$$\mathbb{E}[f(Y_n) | \mathcal{F}'_m] = \mathbb{E}[f(X_{\tau_n+}) | \mathcal{F}_{\tau_m+}] = \mathbb{E}[f(X_{\tau_n+}) | X_{\tau_m+}] = \mathbb{E}[f(Y_n) | Y_m]$$

This means  $Y$  is Markov, and clearly  $Y$  is discrete time. Therefore  $Y$  is a discrete time Markov chain.

Note we assume  $X$  is time homogeneous.

Suppose  $X$  has stationary distribution  $\pi$ . Then for all  $0 \leq t \leq T$ ,  $\pi P_t = \pi$ , where,

$$(P_t)_{i,j} = \mathbb{P}(X_t = j | X_0 = i)$$

Thus, the one step probability transition matrix, denoted  $\tilde{P}$ , for  $Y$  is,

$$\tilde{P}_{i,j} = \mathbb{P}(Y_1 = j | Y_0 = i) = \mathbb{P}(X_{\tau_1+} = j | X_0 = i) = (P_{\tau_1})_{i,j}$$

This means  $\pi \tilde{P} = \pi$ , so  $\pi$  is a stationary distribution of  $Y$ .

**Exercise 5.3**

Let  $X = (X_t)_{t \geq 0}$  be a Markov chain with state space  $S = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  and generator  $G$  whose  $i$ -th row has entries

$$g_{i,i-1} = i\mu \qquad g_{i,i} = -i\mu - \lambda \qquad g_{i,i+1} = \lambda,$$

with all other entries being zero (the zeroth row has only two entries:  $g_{0,0}$  and  $g_{0,1}$ ). Assume  $X_0 = j$ . Find  $G_{X_t}(s) := \mathbb{E}s^{X_t}$ . What is the distribution of  $X_t$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ?

**Solution**

We have  $G$  in matrix form,

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} -\lambda & \lambda & & & & \\ \mu & -(\mu + \lambda) & \lambda & & & \\ & 2\mu & -(2\mu + \lambda) & \lambda & & \\ & & 3\mu & -3(\mu + \lambda) & \lambda & \cdots \\ & & & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

We wish to find the transition semi group  $P_t$ . We know this can be derived from the Kolmogorov forward equations. That is,

$$\frac{d}{dt}P_t = P_t G$$

With the assumption that  $X_0 = i$  (*I am using  $i$  rather than  $j$  like the problem statement since this is the standard way of doing things*) we have,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}p_t(i, 0) &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} p_t(i, k)g(k, 0) = -\lambda p_t(i, 0) + \mu p_t(i, 1) \\ \frac{d}{dt}p_t(i, j) &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} p_t(i, k)g_t(k, j) = \lambda p_t(i, j-1) - (j\mu + \lambda)p_t(i, j) + (j+1)\mu p_t(i, j+1) \end{aligned}$$

$j \geq 1$

We multiply the  $j$ -th equation by  $s^j$ . This gives,

$$\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} p_t(i, j) s^j = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} [\lambda p_t(i, j-1) s^j] - \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} [(j\mu + \lambda) p_t(i, j) s^j] + \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} [(j+1)\mu p_t(i, j+1) s^j]$$



Summing the left hand sides gives,

$$\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} p_t(i, j) s^j = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} p_t(i, j) s^j = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} G_{X_t}(s)$$

The first term of the right hand side gives,

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \lambda p_t(i, j-1) s^j = \lambda s \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} p_t(i, j-1) s^{j-1} = \lambda s \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} p_t(i, j) s^j = \lambda s G_{X_t}(s)$$

The negative of the first part of the second term of the right hand side gives,

$$\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} j \mu p_t(i, j) s^j = s \mu \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} j p_t(i, j) s^{j-1} = s \mu \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} p_t(i, j) s^j = s \mu \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} p_t(i, j) s^j = s \mu \frac{\partial}{\partial s} G_{X_t}(s)$$

The negative of the second part of the second term of the right hand side gives,

$$\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \lambda p_t(i, j) s^j = \lambda \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} p_t(i, j) s^j = \lambda G_{X_t}(s)$$

The third term of the right hand side gives,

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} (j+1) \mu p_t(i, j+1) s^j = \mu \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} p_t(i, j+1) s^{j+1} = \mu \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} p_t(i, j) s^j = \mu \frac{\partial}{\partial s} G_{X_t}(s)$$

Putting these results together we have,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} G_{X_t}(s) = \left[ \lambda s - s \mu \frac{\partial}{\partial s} - \lambda + \mu \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \right] G_{X_t}(s)$$

Since  $X_0 = j$  we have initial condition,

$$G_{X_0}(s) = s^j$$

We solve with Mathematica by,

```
DSolve[{
  D[G[s,t],t]==\[Lambda] s G[s,t]-s \[Mu] D[G[s,t],s]-\[Lambda]
  G[s,t]+\[Mu] D[G[s,t],s],
  G[s,0]==s^j
},G[s,t],{s,t}]/FullSimplify
```

This yields,

$$G_{X_t}(s) = ((s-1)e^{-\mu t} + 1)^j \exp \left[ \frac{\lambda(s-1)e^{\mu(-t)}(e^{\mu t} - 1)}{\mu} \right]$$

We find the limit as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  with Mathematica by,

```
Limit[E^((E^(-t \[Mu]) (-1+E^(t \[Mu])) (-1+s) \[Lambda])/\[Mu])
      (1+E^(-t \[Mu]) (-1+s))^j, {t->\[Infinity]}, Assumptions->{\[
      Lambda]>0, \[Mu]>0}]
```

This yields,

$$G_{X_\infty}(s) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} G_{X_t}(s) = e^{\frac{\lambda}{\mu}(s-1)}$$

So  $X_\infty = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} X_t$  is a Poission random variable with parameter  $\lambda/\mu$ .

**Exercise 5.4**

Let  $N$  be a time-inhomogeneous Poisson process with intensity function  $\lambda(t)$ . That is, the probability of a jump of size one in the time interval  $(t, t + dt)$  is  $\lambda(t)dt$  and the probability of two jumps in that interval of time is  $\mathcal{O}(dt^2)$ . Write down the Kolmogorov forward and backward equations of  $N$  and solve them. Let  $N_0 = 0$  and let  $\tau_1$  be the time of the first jump of  $N$ . If  $\lambda(t) = c/(1+t)$  show that  $\mathbb{E}\tau_1 < \infty$  if and only if  $c > 1$ .

**Solution**

Based on the definition of the generator and the given transition probabilities we have,

$$G(t) = \begin{bmatrix} -\lambda(t) & \lambda(t) & & & \\ & -\lambda(t) & \lambda(t) & & \\ & & -\lambda(t) & \lambda(t) & \cdots \\ & & & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

For  $t \geq s$  we define,

$$p_{s,t}(i, j) = \mathbb{P}(N_t = j | N_s = i)$$

We first derive the Kolmogorov forward equations. We consider,

$$\begin{aligned} p_{s,t+\Delta t} &= \mathbb{P}(N_{t+\Delta t} = j | N_s = i) \\ &= \sum_k \mathbb{P}(N_{t+\Delta t} = j | N_t = k) \mathbb{P}(N_t = k | N_s = i) \\ &= \begin{cases} \lambda(t)\Delta t p_{s,t}(i, j-1) + (1 - \lambda(t)\Delta t)p_{s,t}(i, j) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^2) & j > i \\ (1 - \lambda(t)\Delta t)p_{s,t}(i, j) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^2) & j = i \\ 0 & j < i \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{p_{s,t+\Delta t}(i, j) - p_{s,t}(i, j)}{\Delta t} = \begin{cases} \lambda(t)\Delta t p_{s,t}(i, j-1) - \lambda(t)\Delta t p_{s,t}(i, j) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^2) & j > i \\ -\lambda(t)\Delta t p_{s,t}(i, j) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^2) & j = i \\ 0 & j < i \end{cases}$$

Taking the limit as  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$  we have,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} p_{s,t}(i, j) = \begin{cases} \lambda(t)p_{s,t}(i, j-1) - \lambda(t)p_{s,t}(i, j) & j > i \\ -\lambda(t)p_{s,t}(i, j) & j = i \\ 0 & j < i \end{cases}$$

Fix  $i$ . Noting that  $G_F(x)$  is also a function of  $s, t$  and  $j$ , we have,

$$G_F(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(N_t = j | N_s = i) x^j = \sum_{j=i}^{\infty} p_{s,t}(i, j) x^j$$

Thus, multiplying the  $j$ -th KFE by  $x^j$  and summing, we have,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \sum_{j=i}^{\infty} p_{s,t}(i, j) x^j &= \sum_{j=i}^{\infty} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} p_{s,t}(i, j) x^j = \sum_{j=i+1}^{\infty} \lambda(t) p_{s,t}(i, j-1) x^j + \sum_{j=i}^{\infty} (-\lambda(t)) p_{s,t}(i, j) x^j \\ &= \lambda(t) x \sum_{j=i}^{\infty} p_{s,t}(i, j) x^j - \lambda(t) \sum_{j=i}^{\infty} p_{s,t}(i, j) x^j \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} G_F(x) = \lambda(t) x G_F(x) - \lambda(t) G_F(x) = \lambda(t) (x - 1) G_F(x)$$

We have initial condition  $N_s = i$ , so  $G_B(x) = x^i$  when  $s = t$ .

We solve with Mathematica as,

```
DSolve[{D[G[s, t], t] == \[Lambda][t] (x - 1) G[s, t],
  G[s, s] == x^i
}, G[s, t], {s, t}] // FullSimplify
```

This gives,

$$G_F(x) = x^i \exp \left( (x - 1) \int_s^t \lambda(z) dz \right)$$

Write  $I = \int_s^t \lambda(z) dz$ . Then,

$$G_F(x) = e^{-I} x^i e^{Ix} = e^{-I} x^i \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} (Ix)^k = e^{-I} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} I^k x^{k+i} = e^{-I} \sum_{j=i}^{\infty} \frac{I^{j-i}}{(j-i)!} x^j$$

Therefore, from the definition of the Generating function we have,

$$P_{s,t}(i, j) = \mathbb{P}(N_t = j | N_s = i) = \frac{1}{(j-i)!} \left[ \int_s^t \lambda(z) dz \right]^{j-i} \exp \left( - \int_s^t \lambda(z) dz \right)$$

We now derive the Kolmogorov Backward equations. We consider,

$$\begin{aligned} p_{s-\Delta s, t} &= \mathbb{P}(N_t = j | N_{s-\Delta s} = i) \\ &= \sum_k \mathbb{P}(N_t = j | N_s = k) \mathbb{P}(N_s = k | N_{s-\Delta s} = i) \\ &= \begin{cases} \lambda(s) \Delta s p_{s,t}(i+1, j) + (1 - \lambda(s) \Delta s) p_{s,t}(i, j) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta s^2) & j > i \\ (1 - \lambda(s) \Delta s) p_{s,t}(i, j) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta s^2) & j = i \\ 0 & j < i \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{p_{s-\Delta s, t}(i, j) - p_{s,t}(i, j)}{\Delta s} = \begin{cases} \lambda(s) \Delta t p_{s,t}(i+1, j) - \lambda(s) \Delta t p_{s,t}(i, j) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta s^2) & j > i \\ -\lambda(s) \Delta t p_{s,t}(i, j) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta s^2) & j = i \\ 0 & j < i \end{cases}$$

Taking the limit as  $\Delta s \rightarrow 0$  we have,

$$-\frac{\partial}{\partial s} p_{s,t}(i, j) = \begin{cases} \lambda(s) p_{s,t}(i+1, j) - \lambda(s) p_{s,t}(i, j) & j > i \\ -\lambda(s) p_{s,t}(i, j) & j = i \\ 0 & j < i \end{cases}$$

Fix  $i$ . Noting that  $G_B(x)$  is also a function of  $s, t$  and  $j$ , we have,

$$G_B(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(N_t = j | N_s = i) x^j = \sum_{j=i}^{\infty} p_{s,t}(i, j) x^j$$

Thus, multiplying the  $j$ -th KBE by  $x^j$  and summing, we have,

$$\begin{aligned}
 -\frac{\partial}{\partial s} \sum_{j=i}^{\infty} p_{s,t}(i, j) x^j &= -\sum_{j=i}^{\infty} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} p_{s,t}(i, j) x^j = \sum_{j=i+1}^{\infty} \lambda(s) p_{s,t}(i+1, j) x^j + \sum_{j=i}^{\infty} (-\lambda(s)) p_{s,t}(i, j) x^j \\
 &= \sum_{j=i+1}^{\infty} \lambda(s) p_{s,t}(i, j-1) x^j + \sum_{j=i}^{\infty} (-\lambda(s)) p_{s,t}(i, j) x^j \\
 &= \lambda(s) x \sum_{j=i}^{\infty} p_{s,t}(i, j) x^j - \lambda(s) \sum_{j=i}^{\infty} p_{s,t}(i, j) x^j
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial s} G_B(x) = -\lambda(s) x G_B(x) + \lambda(s) G_B(x) = -\lambda(s)(x-1) G_B(x)$$

From the result for  $G_F(x)$  we know,

$$G_B(x) = x^i \exp \left( -(x-1) \int_t^s \lambda(z) dz \right) = x^i \exp \left( (x-1) \int_s^t \lambda(z) dz \right) = G_F(x)$$

We now show that for  $\lambda(t) = c/(1+t)$ , that  $\mathbb{E}\tau_1 < \infty$  if and only if  $c < 1$ . Indeed,

$$\int_0^t \lambda(z) dz = \int_0^t \frac{c}{1+z} dz = c \ln(1+t) - c \ln(1) = c \ln(1+t)$$

Therefore,

$$\mathbb{E}[\tau_1] = \int_0^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(\tau_1 > t) dt = \int_0^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(N_t = 0 | N_0 = 0) dt = \int_0^{\infty} \exp(-c \ln(1+t)) dt = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dt}{(1+t)^c}$$

This is convergent if and only if  $c > 1$ .

**Exercise 5.5**

Let  $N_t$  be a Poisson process with a random intensity  $\Lambda$  which is equal to  $\lambda_1$  with probability  $p$  and  $\lambda_2$  with probability  $1 - p$ . Find  $G_{N_t}(s) = \mathbb{E}s^{N_t}$ . What is the mean and variance of  $N_t$ ?

**Solution**

Recall the generating function for a Poisson process with intensity  $\lambda$  is,

$$G(s) = e^{-\lambda t(1-s)}$$

Therefore,

$$G_{N_t}(s) = \mathbb{E}[s^{N_t}] = \mathbb{E}\left[\mathbb{E}[s^{N_t}] \mid \Lambda\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[e^{-\Lambda t(1-s)} \mid \Lambda\right] = pe^{-\lambda_1 t(1-s)} + (1-p)e^{-\lambda_2 t(1-s)}$$

We use Mathematica to calculate moments,

```
GNt[s_]:=p Exp[-\[Lambda]1 t (1-s)]+(1-p)Exp[-\[Lambda]2 t (1-s)]
D[GNt[s],{s,1}]/.{s->1}
D[GNt[s],{s,2}]-D[GNt[s],{s,1}]^2+D[GNt[s],{s,1}]/.{s->1}
```

This yields,

$$\begin{aligned}\mu &= G'_{N_t}(1) = p\lambda_1 t + (1-p)\lambda_2 t \\ \sigma^2 &= G''_{N_t}(1) - [G'_{N_t}(1)]^2 + G'_{N_t}(1) = p(\lambda_1 t)^2 + (1-p)(\lambda_2 t)^2 - \mu^2 + \mu\end{aligned}$$

**Exercise 7.1**

Let  $W$  be a Brownian motion and let  $\mathbb{F} = (\mathcal{F}_t)_{t \geq 0}$  be a filtration for  $W$ . Show that  $W(t)^2 - t$  is a martingale with respect to the filtration  $\mathbb{F}$ .

**Solution**

Suppose  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ . Then,

$$\sigma^2 = \mathbb{V}[X] = \mathbb{E}[X^2] - \mathbb{E}[X]^2 = \mathbb{E}[X^2] - 0^2 = \mathbb{E}[X^2]$$

Let  $0 \leq s \leq t$ . By the definition of a filtration,  $(W(t) - W(s))$  is independent of  $\mathcal{F}_s$ . Moreover, by the definition of Brownian Motion we have  $W(t) - W(s) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, t - s)$ . Thus,

$$\mathbb{E}[(W(t) - W(s))^2 | \mathcal{F}_s] = \mathbb{E}[(W(t) - W(s))^2] = (t - s)$$

Since  $W(s) \in \mathcal{F}_s$ , by “taking out what is known” we have,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[W(t)W(s) | \mathcal{F}_s] &= W(s)\mathbb{E}[W(t) | \mathcal{F}_s] = W(s)W(s) = W(s)^2 \\ \mathbb{E}[W(s)^2 | \mathcal{F}_2] &= W(s)\mathbb{E}[W(s) | \mathcal{F}_2] = W(s)W(s) = W(s)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[W(t)^2 - t | \mathcal{F}_s] &= \mathbb{E}[(W(t) - W(s) + W(s))^2 - t] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[(W(t) - W(s))^2 + 2(W(t) - W(s))W(s) + W(s)^2 - t] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[(W(t) - W(s))^2 | \mathcal{F}_s] + 2\mathbb{E}[W(t)W(s) | \mathcal{F}_s] - \mathbb{E}[W(s)^2 | \mathcal{F}_2] - \mathbb{E}[t] \\ &= (t - s) + 2W(s)^2 - W(s)^2 - t \\ &= W(s)^2 - s \end{aligned}$$

This proves  $W(t) - t$  is a martingale with respect to the filtration  $\mathbb{F}$ . □



**Exercise 7.2**

Compute the characteristic function of  $W(N(t))$  where  $N$  is a Poisson process with intensity  $\lambda$  and the Brownian motion  $W$  is independent of the Poisson process  $N$ .

**Solution**

The characteristic function is defined as,

$$\phi(s) = \mathbb{E} e^{isW(N(t))}$$

We condition on  $N(t)$  using iterated conditioning,

$$\mathbb{E} [e^{isW(N(t))}] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbb{E} [e^{isW(N(t))} | N(t)] \right]$$

The characteristic function of  $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$  is  $\phi_Z(s) = \exp(i\mu s - \sigma^2 s^2/2)$ . At time  $t$ ,  $W(t)$  is normally distributed with mean zero and variance  $t$ . Thus,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbb{E} [e^{isW(N(t))} | N(t)] \right] = \mathbb{E} [e^{-N(t)s^2/2}]$$

Since  $N(t)$  is a Poisson process with parameter  $\lambda$ , then  $N(t) = k$  with probability  $(\lambda t)^k e^{-\lambda t} / k!$ . Thus,

$$\mathbb{E} [e^{-N(t)s^2/2}] = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\lambda t)^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda t} e^{-ks^2/2} = e^{-\lambda t} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\lambda t)^k}{k!} (e^{-s^2/2})^k$$

Simplifying yields,

$$e^{-\lambda t} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\lambda t)^k}{k!} (e^{-s^2/2})^k = e^{-\lambda t} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} (\lambda t e^{-s^2/2})^k = e^{-\lambda t} \exp(\lambda t e^{-s^2/2}) = \exp(\lambda t (e^{-s^2/2} - 1))$$

That is, the characteristic function  $\phi(s)$  of  $W(N(t))$  is,

$$\phi(s) = \exp(\lambda t (e^{-s^2/2} - 1))$$

**Exercise 7.3**

The  $n$ -th variation of a function  $f$ , over the interval  $[0, T]$  is defined as,

$$V_T(n, f) := \lim_{\|\Pi\| \rightarrow 0} \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} |f(t_{j+1}) - f(t_j)|^n, \quad \Pi = \{0 = t_0, t_1, \dots, t_m = T\}, \quad \|\Pi\| = \max_j (t_{j+1} - t_j)$$

Show that  $V_T(1, W) = \infty$  and  $V_T(3, W) = 0$ , where  $W$  is a Brownian motion.

**Solution**

We first prove that if  $f_n \rightarrow 0$  and  $|g_n| \leq M$  for some  $|M| < \infty$  then  $(f_n g_n) \rightarrow 0$ .

Indeed, fix  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then, by convergence of  $f_n$  there is some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|f_n| < \varepsilon/M$  for all  $n \geq N$ . Then,

$$|f_n g_n| = |f_n| |g_n| \leq |f_n| M < (\varepsilon/M) M = \varepsilon$$

This proves  $f_n g_n \rightarrow 0$ . □

Write,

$$V_T(k+1, W) = \lim_{\|\Pi\| \rightarrow 0} \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} |W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j)|^{k+1} = \lim_{\|\Pi\| \rightarrow 0} \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} |W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j)|^k |W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j)|$$

Let,  $M_\Pi = \max_j |W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j)|$  for a given partition  $\Pi$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\|\Pi\| \rightarrow 0} \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} |W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j)|^k |W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j)| &\leq \lim_{\|\Pi\| \rightarrow 0} \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} |W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j)|^k M_\Pi \\ &= \lim_{\|\Pi\| \rightarrow 0} M_\Pi \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} |W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j)|^k \end{aligned}$$

Provided,  $|V_T(k, T)| = V_T(k, T)$  is not infinite,

$$\lim_{\|\Pi\| \rightarrow 0} M_\Pi \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} |W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j)|^k = \left( \lim_{\|\Pi\| \rightarrow 0} M_\Pi \right) \left( \lim_{\|\Pi\| \rightarrow 0} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} |W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j)|^2 \right)$$

Since  $W(t)$  is continuous,  $|W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j)| \rightarrow 0$  as  $\|\Pi\| \rightarrow 0$  since  $t_{j+1} - t_j \rightarrow 0$ . In particular, this means that  $M_\Pi \rightarrow 0$  as  $\|\Pi\| \rightarrow 0$ .

Thus,

$$0 \geq V_T(k+1, W) = \left( \lim_{\|\Pi\| \rightarrow 0} M_\Pi \right) \left( \lim_{\|\Pi\| \rightarrow 0} \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} |W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j)|^k \right) \leq 0 \cdot N = 0$$

Recall  $V_T(2, W) = T < \infty$ . Then, by above,  $V_T(3, W) = 0$ . □

Suppose, for the sake of contradiction that  $V_T(1, W) \neq \infty$ . Clearly  $V_T(1, W) \geq 0$ , so  $V_T(1, W)$  is bounded above and below by finite constants. Then, by above,  $V_T(2, W) = 0$ , a contradiction (for  $T > 0$ ). This proves  $V_T(1, W) = \infty$ . □

**Exercise 7.4**

Define

$$X_t = \mu t + W_t \quad \tau_m := \inf\{t \geq 0 : X_t = m\}$$

Show that  $Z$  is a martingale where,

$$Z_t = \exp(\sigma X_t - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)t)$$

Assume  $\mu > 0$  and  $m \geq 0$ . Assume further that  $\tau_m < \infty$  with probability one and the stopped process  $Z_{t \wedge \tau_m}$  is a martingale. Find the Laplace transform  $\mathbb{E}e^{-\alpha\tau_m}$ .

**Solution**

Let  $0 \leq s \leq t$ . Rewrite,

$$\mathbb{E}[Z_t | \mathcal{F}_s] = \mathbb{E}\left[e^{\sigma X_t - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)t} | \mathcal{F}_s\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[e^{\sigma(\mu t + W_t) - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)t} | \mathcal{F}_s\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[e^{\sigma W_t - (\sigma^2/2)t} | \mathcal{F}_s\right]$$

Now, pulling out what is known,

$$\mathbb{E}\left[e^{\sigma W_t - (\sigma^2/2)t} | \mathcal{F}_s\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[e^{\sigma(W_t - W_s) + \sigma W_s - (\sigma^2/2)t} | \mathcal{F}_s\right] = e^{\sigma W_s - (\sigma^2/2)t} \mathbb{E}\left[e^{\sigma(W_t - W_s)} | \mathcal{F}_s\right]$$

By the property of independent increments,

$$e^{\sigma W_s - (\sigma^2/2)t} \mathbb{E}\left[e^{\sigma(W_t - W_s)} | \mathcal{F}_s\right] = e^{\sigma W_s - (\sigma^2/2)t} \mathbb{E}\left[e^{\sigma(W_t - W_s)}\right] = e^{\sigma W_s - (\sigma^2/2)t} e^{\sigma^2(t-s)/2}$$

Finally,

$$e^{\sigma W_s - (\sigma^2/2)t} e^{\sigma^2(t-s)/2} = e^{\sigma W_s - (\sigma^2/2)s} = e^{\sigma(\mu s + W_s) - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)s} = e^{\sigma X_s - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)s}$$

This proves  $Z_t$  is a martingale. □

Define  $s = \min\{t, \tau_m\}$ . Fix  $m \geq 0$  and define,

$$Z^{(m)} = \left(Z_t^{(m)}\right)_{t \geq 0}, \quad Z_t^{(m)} = Z_s$$

Then, using the fact that  $Z_t$  is a martingale we have,

$$1 = Z_0^{(m)} = \mathbb{E}\left[Z_t^{(m)}\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[e^{\sigma X_s - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)s}\right]$$

If  $\tau_m = \infty$  then  $X_t < m$  for all  $t$ . Thus, since  $\sigma \geq 0, \mu > 0$ ,

$$e^{\sigma X_t - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)t} \leq e^{\sigma m - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)t} < \infty$$

Therefore, since  $\mathbb{P}(\tau_m < \infty) = 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[ e^{\sigma X_s - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)s} \right] &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau_m = \infty\}} \left( e^{\sigma X_s - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)s} \right) + \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau_m < \infty\}} \left( e^{\sigma X_s - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)s} \right) \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau_m = \infty\}} \left( e^{\sigma X_t - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)t} \right) \right] + \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau_m < \infty\}} \left( e^{\sigma X_{\tau_m} - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)\tau_m} \right) \right] \\ &= 0 + \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau_m < \infty\}} \left( e^{\sigma m - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)\tau_m} \right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, since  $\sigma \geq 0, \mu > 0$ ,  $e^{\sigma m - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)\tau_m} < \infty$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau_m < \infty\}} \left( e^{\sigma m - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)\tau_m} \right) \right] &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau_m = \infty\}} \left( e^{\sigma m - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)\tau_m} \right) \right] + \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau_m < \infty\}} \left( e^{\sigma m - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)\tau_m} \right) \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau_m = \infty\}} \left( e^{\sigma m - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)\tau_m} \right) + \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau_m < \infty\}} \left( e^{\sigma m - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)\tau_m} \right) \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[ e^{\sigma m - (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)\tau_m} \right] \end{aligned}$$

Then, setting  $\alpha = (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)$ ,

$$e^{-\sigma m} = \mathbb{E} \left[ e^{-(\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)\tau_m} \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[ e^{-\alpha\tau_m} \right]$$

We solve the equation,  $\alpha = (\sigma\mu + \sigma^2/2)$  for  $\sigma$  using the quadratic equation, yielding,

$$\sigma = -\mu \pm \sqrt{\mu^2 + 2\alpha}$$

However,  $\sigma, \alpha \geq 0$  so we must take  $\sigma = -\mu + \sqrt{\mu^2 + 2\alpha}$ . Thus,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ e^{-\alpha\tau_m} \right] = e^{(\mu - \sqrt{\mu^2 + 2\alpha})m}$$

**Exercise 8.1**

Compute  $d(W_t^4)$ . Write  $W_T^4$  as an integral with respect to  $W$  plus an integral with respect to  $t$ . Use this representation of  $W_T^4$  to show that  $\mathbb{E}W_T^4 = 3T^2$ . Compute  $\mathbb{E}W_T^6$  using the same technique.

**Solution**

Write  $f(x) = x^4$  so that  $f(W_t) = W_t^4$ . Then,  $f'(x) = 4x^3$  and  $f''(x) = 12x^2$ . Therefore, Itô's formula gives,

$$dW_t^4 = f'(W_t)dW_t + \frac{1}{2}f''(W_t)d[W, W]_t = 4W_t^3dW_t + \frac{12}{2}W_t^2d[W, W]_t$$

Thus, writing  $d[W, W]_t = dt$  we have,

$$dW_t^4 = 4W_t^3dW_t + 6W_t^2dt$$

Thus, since  $W_0 = 0$ ,

$$W_T^4 = W_T^4 - W_0^4 = 4 \int_0^T W_t^3dW_t + 6 \int_0^T W_t^2dt$$

Recall Itô integrals are martingales so that,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T W_t^3dW_t \right] = 0$$

Note also that since  $\mathbb{E}[W_t^2] = t$ ,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T W_t^2dt \right] = \int_0^T \mathbb{E}[W_t^2] dt = \int_0^T tdt = \frac{T^2}{2}$$

Therefore,

$$\mathbb{E}[W_T^4] = 4\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T W_t^3dW_t \right] + 6\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T W_t^2dt \right] = 6\frac{T^2}{2} = 3T^2$$

Similarly, we have,

$$W_T^6 = 6 \int_0^T W_t^5dW_t + \frac{6 \cdot 5}{2} \int_0^T W_t^4dt$$

Therefore, since  $\mathbb{E} [W_t^4] = 3t^2$ ,

$$\mathbb{E} [W_T^6] = 6\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T W_t^5 dW_t \right] + 15\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T W_t^4 dt \right] = 15 \int_0^T \mathbb{E} [W_t^4] dt = 15 \int_0^T 3t^2 dt = 15T^3$$

**Exercise 8.2**

Find an explicit expression for  $Y_T$  where,

$$dY_t = rdt + \alpha Y_t dW_t$$

Hint: Multiply the above equation by  $F_t := \exp(-\alpha W_t + \frac{1}{2}\alpha^2 t)$ .

**Solution**

Let  $f(x, y) = \exp(-\alpha x + \frac{1}{2}\alpha^2 y)$  so that,

$$f_x(W_t, t) = -\alpha F_t \quad f_y(W_t, t) = \frac{\alpha^2}{2} F_t \quad f_{xx}(W_t, t) = \alpha^2 F_t$$

Then  $F_t = f(W_t, t)$ , so by Itô's formula and the heuristic  $(dW_t)^2 = dt, (dt)^2 = dt dW_t = 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} dF_t &= df(W_t, t) = f_y(W_t, t)dt + f_x(W_t, t)dW_t + \frac{1}{2}f_{xx}(W_t, t)(dW_t)^2 \\ &= \frac{\alpha^2}{2}F_t dt - \alpha F_t dW_t + \frac{\alpha^2}{2}F_t dt \\ &= \alpha^2 F_t dt - \alpha F_t dW_t \end{aligned}$$

Using our heuristics we have,

$$d[F, Y]_t = (dF_t)(dY_t) = (\alpha^2 F_t dt - \alpha F_t dW_t)(rdt + \alpha Y_t dW_t) = -\alpha^2 F_t Y_t (dW_t)^2 = -\alpha^2 F_t Y_t dt$$

By the product rule we have,

$$\begin{aligned} d(F_t Y_t) &= F_t dY_t + Y_t dF_t + d[F, Y]_t \\ &= F_t(rdt + \alpha Y_t dW_t) + Y_t(\alpha^2 F_t dt - \alpha F_t dW_t) - \alpha^2 F_t Y_t dt \\ &= rF_t dt \end{aligned}$$

In integral form,

$$F_t Y_t - F_0 Y_0 = \int_0^t r F_s ds = \int_0^t r e^{-\alpha W_s + \frac{1}{2}\alpha^2 s} ds$$

We can add  $F_0 Y_0 = Y_0$  and divide by  $F_t$  yielding,

$$Y_t = Y_0 + r e^{\alpha W_t - \frac{1}{2}\alpha^2 t} \int_0^t e^{-\alpha W_s + \frac{1}{2}\alpha^2 s} ds$$



**Exercise 8.3**

Suppose  $X$ ,  $\Delta$ , and  $\Pi$  are given by,

$$dX_t = \sigma X_t dW_t, \quad \Delta_t = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(t, X_t), \quad \Pi_t = X_t \Delta_t$$

where  $f$  is some smooth function. Show that if  $f$  satisfies,

$$\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 x^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \right) f(t, x) = 0$$

for all  $(t, x)$ , then  $\Pi$  is a martingale with respect to a filtration  $\mathcal{F}_t$  for  $W$ .

**Solution**

We have,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 x^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \right) = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial t} + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \left[ x^2 \frac{\partial^3}{\partial x^3} + 2x \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \right]$$

Thus, using the condition for  $f$  we have,

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial t} + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 X_t^2 \frac{\partial^3 f}{\partial x^3} = -\sigma^2 X_t \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}$$

Using our heuristics we have,

$$d[X, X] = \sigma^2 X_t^2 (dW_t)^2 = \sigma^2 X_t^2 dt$$

Similarly,

$$d[X, t] = d[t, X] = d[t, t] = 0$$

Therefore, by Itô's formula,

$$\begin{aligned} d\Delta_t &= \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial t}(t, X_t) dt + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(t, X_t) dX_t + \frac{1}{2} d[X, X] \\ &= \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial t}(t, X_t) dt + \sigma X_t \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(t, X_t) dW_t + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 X_t^2 \frac{\partial^3 f}{\partial x^3}(t, X_t) dt \\ &= -\sigma^2 X_t \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(t, X_t) dt + \sigma X_t \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(t, X_t) dW_t \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$d[X, \Delta]_t = (dX_t)(d\Delta_t) = \sigma^2 X_t^2 \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(t, X_t) (dW_t)^2 = \sigma^2 X_t^2 \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(t, X_t) dt$$

Finally, we have,

$$\begin{aligned} d\Pi_t &= d(X_t \Delta_t) = X_t d\Delta_t + \Delta_t dX_t + d[X, \Delta]_t \\ &= X_t \left( -\sigma^2 X_t \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(t, X_t) dt + \sigma X_t \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(t, X_t) dW_t \right) + \sigma X_t \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(t, X_t) dW_t + \sigma^2 X_t^2 \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} dt \\ &= \sigma X_t \left( X_t \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(t, X_t) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(t, X_t) \right) dW_t \end{aligned}$$

Since there is no  $dt$  dependence this is an Itô integral and therefore a martingale with respect to a filtration for  $W$ . (there are probably some technical assumptions we need about  $X$  and  $f$ , but in class we never dealt with these)  $\square$

**Exercise 8.4**

Suppose  $X$  is given by,

$$dX_t = \mu(t, X_t)dt + \sigma(t, X_t)dW_t$$

For any smooth function  $f$  define,

$$M_t^f := f(t, X_t) - f(0, X_0) - \int_0^t \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial s} + \mu(s, X_s) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2(s, X_s) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \right) f(s, X_s) ds$$

Show that  $M^f$  is a martingale with respect to a filtration  $\mathcal{F}_t$  for  $W$ .

**Solution**

We first compute,

$$d[X, X]_t = (dX_t)(dX_t) = \sigma^2(t, X_t)(dW_t)^2 = \sigma^2(t, X_t)dt$$

We then have,

$$\begin{aligned} df(t, X_t) &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(t, X_t)dt + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(t, X_t)dX_t + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} d[X, X]_t \\ &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(t, X_t)dt + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(t, X_t)[\mu(t, X_t)dt + \sigma(t, X_t)dW_t] + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2(t, X_t) \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} dt \\ &= \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \mu(t, X_t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2(t, X_t) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \right) f(t, X_t)dt + \sigma(t, X_t) \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} dW_t \end{aligned}$$

Finally, since  $f(0, X_0)$  is a constant,

$$\begin{aligned} dM_t^f &= df(t, X_t) - \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \mu(t, X_t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2(t, X_t) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \right) f(t, X_t)dt \\ &= \sigma(t, X_t) \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} dW_t \end{aligned}$$

Since there is no  $dt$  dependence this is an Itô integral and therefore a martingale with respect to a filtration for  $W$ .  $\square$

**Exercise 9.2**

Let  $X$  be a solution to the following SDE

$$dX_t = \kappa(\theta - X_t)dt + \delta\sqrt{X_t}dW_t$$

Define

$$u(t, x) = \mathbb{E} \left[ \exp \left( - \int_t^T X_s ds \right) \middle| X_t = x \right]$$

Derive a PDE for the function  $u$ . To solve the PDE for  $u$ , try a solution of the form

$$u(t, x) = \exp(-xA(t) - B(t)),$$

where  $A$  and  $B$  are deterministic functions of  $t$ . Show that  $A$  and  $B$  must satisfy a pair of coupled ODEs (with appropriate terminal conditions at time  $T$ ). Bonus question: solve the ODEs (it may be helpful to note that one of the ODEs is a Riccati equation).

**Solution**

With  $\gamma(u, x) = x$ ,  $\phi(x) = 1$ ,  $g(u, x) = 0$  this is a subcase of an example in the notes. We then know  $u(t, x)$  solves,

$$(\partial_t + \mathcal{A})u + g = 0, \quad u(T, \cdot) = \phi, \quad \mathcal{A} = \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2\partial_x^2 + \mu\partial_x - \gamma = 0$$

First compute,

$$\partial_t u = (-xA' - B')u \quad \partial_x u = -Au \quad \partial_x^2 u = A^2u$$

This gives,

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \left[ \partial_t + \frac{1}{2}\delta^2 x \partial_x^2 + \kappa(\theta - x)\partial_x - x \right] u \\ &= \left[ -xA' - B' + \frac{1}{2}\delta^2 x A^2 + \kappa(\theta - x)(-A) - x \right] u \\ &= \left[ \left( -A' + \frac{1}{2}\delta^2 A^2 + \kappa A - 1 \right) x + (-B' - \kappa\theta A) \right] u \end{aligned}$$

Observe  $u(t, x) > 0$  for all  $t, x$ . Therefore we require the bracketed term above to be zero for all  $x, t$ . Setting the coefficients of the  $x$  terms and constant terms to zero

gives a coupled pair of ODEs,

$$\begin{cases} -A'(t) + \frac{1}{2}\delta^2 A^2(t) + \kappa A(t) - 1 = 0 \\ -B'(t) - \kappa\theta A(t) = 0 \end{cases}$$

We have,

$$1 = \varphi(x) = u(T, x) = \exp(-xA(T) - B(T))$$

This gives terminal condition,

$$A(T) = 0 \qquad B(T) = 0$$

We solve this in Mathematica without boundary conditions using,

```
DSolve[{-D[A[t],t]+1/2 \[Delta]^2 A[t]^2+\[Kappa] A[t] - 1 ==0 , -
D[B[t],t]-\[Kappa] \[Theta] A[t]==0},{A,B},t]
```

This gives solution,

$$A(t) = \frac{\sqrt{-2\delta^2 - \kappa^2} \tan\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(2c_1\sqrt{-2\delta^2 - \kappa^2} + t\sqrt{-2\delta^2 - \kappa^2}\right)\right) - \kappa}{\delta^2}$$

$$B(t) = \frac{\theta\kappa\left(2\log\left(\cos\left(c_1\sqrt{-2\delta^2 - \kappa^2} + \frac{1}{2}t\sqrt{-2\delta^2 - \kappa^2}\right)\right) + \kappa t\right)}{\delta^2} + c_2$$

where,

$$c_1 = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{-2\delta^2 - \kappa^2}} \left[ 2\arctan\left(\frac{\kappa}{\sqrt{-2\delta^2 - \kappa^2}}\right) - T\sqrt{-2\delta^2 - \kappa^2} \right]$$

$$c_2 = -\frac{\theta\kappa\left(2\log\left(\cos\left(c_1\sqrt{-2\delta^2 - \kappa^2} + \frac{1}{2}T\sqrt{-2\delta^2 - \kappa^2}\right)\right) + \kappa T\right)}{\delta^2}$$

We could have done this by hand by since the first equation is separable but its just as ugly.

**Exercise 9.2****Solution**

**Exercise 9.3**

For  $i = 1, 2, \dots, d$  let  $X^{(i)}$  satisfy,

$$dX_t^{(i)} = -\frac{b}{2}X_t^{(i)}dt + \frac{1}{2}\sigma dW_t^{(i)}$$

where  $(W_t^{(i)})_{i=1}^d$  are independent Brownian motions. Define

$$R_t := \sum_{i=1}^d \left(X_t^{(i)}\right)^2, \quad B_t := \sum_{i=1}^d \int_0^t \frac{1}{\sqrt{R_s}} X_s^{(i)} dW_s^{(i)}$$

Show that  $B$  is a Brownian motion. Derive an SDE for  $R$  that involves only  $dt$  and  $dB_t$  terms (i.e., no  $dW_t^{(i)}$  terms should appear).

**Solution**

We use the Lévy characterization of Brownian motion. In particular, we must show  $B$  is a martingale,  $B$  has continuous sample paths, and  $B_0 = 0$  with  $[B, B]_t = t$  for all  $t \geq 0$ .

Write,

$$dB_t = d \left[ \sum_{i=1}^d \int_0^t \frac{1}{\sqrt{R_s}} X_s^{(i)} dW_s^{(i)} \right] = \sum_{i=1}^d \frac{1}{\sqrt{R_t}} X_t^{(i)} dW_t^{(i)}$$

As  $B_t$  is an Itô integral it is a martingale with respect to a filtration  $\mathbb{F} = (\mathcal{F}_t)_{t \geq 0}$  for  $W_t^{(i)}$ .

Similarly,  $B_t$  has continuous sample paths as  $W_t^{(i)}$  have continuous sample paths.

Clearly  $B_0 = 0$  as  $W_0^{(i)} = 0$ .

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} (dB_t)(dB_t) &= \frac{1}{R_t} \sum_{i=1}^d \sum_{j=1}^d X_t^{(i)} X_t^{(j)} dW_t^{(i)} dW_t^{(j)} \\ &= \frac{1}{R_t} \left( \sum_{j=1}^d \left( X_t^{(j)} dW_t^{(j)} \right)^2 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^d \sum_{j=1}^i X_t^{(i)} X_t^{(j)} dW_t^{(i)} dW_t^{(j)} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Using the heuristic,  $dW_t^{(i)}dW_t^{(j)} = \delta_{ij}dt$  and the definition of  $R_t$  we have,

$$d[B, B]_t = \frac{1}{R_t} \sum_{i=1}^d \left(X_t^{(i)}\right)^2 dt = dt$$

Therefore,  $[B, B]_t = t$ .

This proves  $B$  is a Brownian motion. □

Compute, using Itô's formula,

$$dR_t = d\left[\sum_{i=1}^d \left(X_t^{(i)}\right)^2\right] = \sum_{i=1}^d 2X_t^{(i)}dX_t^{(i)} + \frac{1}{2}2d[X^{(i)}, X^{(i)}]_t = \sum_{i=1}^d 2X_t^{(i)}dX_t^{(i)} + d[X^{(i)}, X^{(i)}]_t$$

Using our heuristics we have,

$$d[X^{(i)}, X^{(i)}]_t = \left(dX_t^{(i)}\right) \left(dX_t^{(i)}\right) = \left(-\frac{b}{2}X_t^{(i)}dt + \frac{1}{s}\sigma dW_t^{(i)}\right)^2 = \frac{\sigma^2}{4}dt$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^d 2X_t^{(i)}dX_t^{(i)} + d[X^{(i)}, X^{(i)}]_t &= \sum_{i=1}^d 2X_t^{(i)} \left(-\frac{b}{2}X_t^{(i)}dt + \frac{1}{2}\sigma dW_t^{(i)}\right) + \frac{\sigma^2}{4}dt \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^d \left(\frac{\sigma^2}{4} - b\left(X_t^{(i)}\right)^2\right)dt + \sigma\sqrt{R_t}\frac{1}{\sqrt{R_t}}X_t^{(i)}dW_t^{(i)} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, simplifying slightly we have,

$$dR_t = (d\sigma^2/4 - bR_t)dt + \sigma\sqrt{R_t}dB_t$$



**Exercise 9.4****Solution**

**Exercise 9.5**

Consider a diffusion  $X = (X_t)_{t \geq 0}$  that lives on a finite interval  $(l, r)$ ,  $0 < l < r < \infty$  and satisfies the SDE

$$dX_t = \mu X_t dt + \sigma X_t dW_t$$

One can easily check that the endpoints  $l$  and  $r$  are regular (you do not have to prove it here). Assume both endpoints are killing. Find the transition density  $\Gamma(t, x; T, y)$  of  $X$ .

**Solution**

We have,  $\Gamma(\cdot, \cdot; T, y)$  satisfies,

$$(\partial_t + \mathcal{A}(t))\Gamma(\cdot, t; T, y) = 0 \qquad \Gamma(T, \cdot; T, y) = \delta_y$$

where the infinitesimal generator  $\mathcal{A}$  is,

$$\mathcal{A} = \mu x \partial_x + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 x^2 \partial_x^2$$

We seek a spectral representation for  $\mathcal{A}$ . That is, a basis  $\{\Psi_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  for such that  $\mathcal{A}\Psi_n = \lambda_n \Psi_n$ .

Since the endpoints are killing we also require,

$$\Psi_n(l) = 0, \qquad \Psi_n(r) = 0$$

We make a change of variables. Let  $z = \log(x)$ . Then,

$$\partial_x = \frac{1}{x} \partial_z, \qquad \partial_x^2 = -\frac{1}{x^2} \partial_z + \frac{1}{x} \partial_z^2$$

Then, in terms of  $z$  we have generator,

$$\mathcal{A}_z = \left( \mu - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) \partial_z + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \partial_z^2$$

This equation is very similar to a damped harmonic oscillator. We therefore guess that the eigenfunctions have the form,

$$\psi_n(z) = \exp(\gamma_n z) \left[ A \sin \left( \frac{n\pi(z - \log(l))}{\log(r) - \log(l)} \right) + B \cos \left( \frac{n\pi(z - \log(l))}{\log(r) - \log(l)} \right) \right]$$

In order to satisfy the boundary conditions listed above we need  $B = 0$ . The constant  $A$  will be determined by the normalization of  $\psi_n$ , so we will leave it off until the end.

For convenience, write,

$$\psi = \psi_n, \quad \gamma = \gamma_n, \quad k = \frac{n\pi}{\log(l/r)}, \quad \cos(z') = \cos(k(z - \log l))$$

We then have,

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_z \psi(z) &= \gamma \psi + \exp(\gamma z) k \cos(z') \\ \partial_z^2 \psi(z) &= \gamma^2 \psi + \gamma \exp(\gamma z) k \cos(z') + \gamma \exp(\gamma z) k \cos(z') - k^2 \psi = \gamma^2 \psi + 2\gamma \exp(\gamma z) k \cos(z') - k^2 \psi \end{aligned}$$

We seek  $\gamma$  such that  $\mathcal{A}_z \psi = \lambda \psi$  for some constant  $\lambda$ . That is, in our expression of  $\mathcal{A}_z \psi$  we require the terms not containing a  $\psi$  be zero. Thus,

$$0 = \left( \mu - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) \exp(\gamma z) k \cos(z') + \left( \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) 2\gamma \exp(\gamma z) k \cos(z') = \left[ \left( \mu - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) + \sigma^2 \gamma \right] \exp(\gamma z) \cos(z')$$

Suppose  $k \neq 0$  (i.e. that the solution is non-trivial). Since  $\exp(\gamma z)$  and  $\cos(z') \neq 0$  we have,

$$0 = \left( \mu - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) + \sigma^2 \gamma$$

Solving for  $\gamma$  we have,

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\mu}{\sigma^2}$$

The eigenvalues are,

$$\lambda_n = \left( \mu - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) \gamma + \left( \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) (\gamma^2 - k^2) = -\frac{\sigma^2}{2} [k^2 + \gamma^2]$$

Transforming back to  $x$  we have,  $\hat{\Psi}_n(x) = \psi_n(\log(x))$  satisfies,

$$\mathcal{A} \hat{\Psi}_n(x) = \lambda_n \hat{\Psi}_n(x), \quad \mathcal{A} = \mu x \partial_x + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 x^2 \partial_x^2$$

Define,

$$m(y) = \frac{2}{\sigma^2 y^2} \exp \left( \int dy \frac{2\mu y}{\sigma^2 y^2} \right) = \frac{2}{\sigma^2 y^2} \exp \left( \frac{2\mu}{\sigma^2} \log(y) \right) = \frac{2}{\sigma^2} y^{2\mu/\sigma^2 - 2} = \frac{2}{\sigma^2} y^{-2\gamma - 1}$$

It is clear that the  $\hat{\Psi}_n$  are orthogonal (properties of sines). We compute,

$$\langle \hat{\Psi}_n(x), \hat{\Psi}_n(x) \rangle_m = \int_l^r \Psi_n(x)^2 m(x) dx = \log(r/l)/\sigma^2$$

We then satisfy  $\langle \Psi_k, \Psi_l \rangle_m = \delta_{kl}$  by defining,

$$\Psi_n(x) = \frac{\hat{\Psi}_n(x)}{\sqrt{\langle \hat{\Psi}_n(x), \hat{\Psi}_n(x) \rangle_m}}$$

Explicitly,

$$\Psi_n(x) = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{\log(r/l)}} x^\gamma \sin(k(z - \log l)) = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{\log(r/l)}} x^{1/2-\mu/\sigma^2} \sin\left(n\pi \frac{\log(x/l)}{\log(r/l)}\right)$$

Finally,

$$\Gamma(t, x; T, y) = m(y) \sum_n \exp((T-t)\lambda_n) \Psi_n(x) \Psi_n(y)$$

Explicitly,

$$\Gamma(t, x; T, y) = \frac{2}{\log(r/l)} \left(\frac{x}{y}\right)^{1/2-\mu/\sigma^2} y^{-1} \sum_n \exp((T-t)\lambda_n) \sin\left(n\pi \frac{\log(x/l)}{\log(r/l)}\right) \sin\left(n\pi \frac{\log(y/l)}{\log(r/l)}\right)$$

Since the  $\Psi_n$  are normalized then  $\Gamma$  is normalized.

We verify in Mathematica that  $\Gamma$  satisfies both the KFE and KBE.

**Exercise 9.6**

Consider a two-dimensional diffusion processes  $X = (X_t)_{t \geq 0}$  and  $Y = (Y_t)_{t \geq 0}$  that satisfy the SDEs

$$dX_t = dW_t^1 \quad dY_t = dW_t^2$$

where  $W_t^1$  and  $W_t^2$  are two independent Brownian motions. Define a function  $u$  as follows

$$u(x, y) = \mathbb{E}[\phi(X_\tau) | X_t = x, Y_t = y], \quad \tau = \inf\{s \geq t : Y_s = a\}$$

1. State a PDE and boundary conditions satisfied by the function  $u$ .
2. Let us define the Fourier transform and inverse Fourier transform, respectively, as follows

$$\text{Fourier Transform:} \quad \hat{f}(\omega) := \int e^{-i\omega x} f(x) dx$$

$$\text{Inverse Transform:} \quad f(x) := \frac{1}{2\pi} \int e^{i\omega x} \hat{f}(\omega) d\omega$$

Use Fourier transforms and a conditioning argument to derive an expression for  $u(x, y)$  as an inverse Fourier transform. Use this result to derive an explicit form for  $\mathbb{P}(X_\tau \in dz | X_t = x, Y_t = y)$  (i.e., an expression involving no integrals).

3. Show the expression you derived in part 2 for  $u(x, y)$  satisfies the PDE and BCs you stated in part 1.

**Solution**

1. Since there are no  $dt$  terms in either Brownian motion, and since the coefficient in both of the  $dW_t$  term is 1 we have, generator,

$$\mathcal{A} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 + \frac{1}{2} \partial_y^2$$

The PDE satisfied by  $u$  is,

$$\mathcal{A}u = \left( \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 + \frac{1}{2} \partial_y^2 \right) u = 0 \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad (\partial_x^2 + \partial_y^2) u = 0$$

If  $y = a$  then  $\tau = t$  so  $X_\tau = x$ . We therefore have boundary condition,

$$u(x, a) = \phi(x)$$

2. Given starting position  $(x, y)$  at time  $t$ , and time  $\tau$ , from the notes we know  $X_\tau$  is normally distributed with mean  $x$  and variance  $\tau - t$  by the independent increments property of Brownian motion. We know the characteristic function of a normally distributed random variable with distribution  $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$  is  $e^{i\omega\mu - \sigma^2\omega^2/2}$ . Therefore,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ e^{i\omega X_\tau} \middle| \tau, X_t = x, Y_t = y \right] = e^{i\omega x - (\tau-t)\omega^2/2}$$

Thus, using iterated conditioning,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[ e^{i\omega X_\tau} \middle| X_t = x, Y_t = y \right] &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbb{E} \left[ e^{i\omega X_\tau} \middle| \tau, X_t = x, Y_t = y \right] \middle| X_t = x, Y_t = y \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[ e^{i\omega x - (\tau-t)\omega^2/2} \middle| X_t = x, Y_t = y \right] \\ &= e^{i\omega x} \mathbb{E} \left[ e^{-(\tau-t)\omega^2/2} \middle| X_t = x, Y_t = y \right] \end{aligned}$$

We have previously shown that the first hitting time of a Brownian motion  $\tau_m$  satisfies,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ e^{-\lambda \tau_m} \right] = e^{-|m|\sqrt{2\lambda}}$$

where  $\tau_m = \inf\{t \geq 0 : W_t = m\}$  and  $W_0 = 0$ .

Since we start at position  $y$  at time  $t$  (rather than position 0 and time 0 as above), we know that,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ e^{-(\omega^2/2)(\tau-t)} \middle| X_t = x, Y_t = y \right] = e^{-|a-y||\omega|}$$

Therefore,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ e^{i\omega X_\tau} \middle| X_t = x, Y_t = y \right] = e^{-|a-y||\omega|}$$

Write,

$$\phi(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{i\omega x} \hat{\phi}(\omega) d\omega$$

Then,

$$u(x, y) = \mathbb{E}[\phi(X_\tau) \middle| X_t = x, Y_t = y] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{i\omega X_\tau} \hat{\phi}(\omega) d\omega \middle| X_t = x, Y_t = y \right]$$

Now, bringing the expectation through the integral, and applying the above result,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{i\omega X_\tau} \hat{\phi}(\omega) d\omega \middle| X_t = x, Y_t = y \right] &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \hat{\phi}(\omega) \mathbb{E} [e^{i\omega X_\tau} | X_t = x, Y_t = y] d\omega \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \hat{\phi}(\omega) e^{-|a-y||\omega|} e^{i\omega x} d\omega\end{aligned}$$

First recall,  $\mathbb{E}[\phi(X)] = \int \phi(x) f_X(x) dx$  and  $\mathbb{P}(X \in dz) = f_X(z) dz$ . Then, taking  $\phi(x) = \mathbb{1}_{\{x \in dz\}}$  means  $\mathbb{E}[\phi(X)] = f_X(z) dz = \mathbb{P}(X \in dz)$ . Therefore,

$$u(x, y) = \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{1}_{\{X_\tau \in dz\}} | X_t = x, Y_t = y] = \mathbb{P}(X_\tau \in dz | X_t = x, Y_t = y)$$

In this case,

$$\hat{\phi}(\omega) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{-i\omega x} \mathbb{1}_{\{x \in dz\}} dx = e^{-i\omega z} dz$$

Thus, computing this integral by splitting it at 0,

$$u(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{-i\omega z} dz e^{-|a-y||\omega|} e^{i\omega x} d\omega = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[ \frac{2|a-y|}{(a-y)^2 + (x-z)^2} \right] dz = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{|y-a|}{(y-a)^2 + (x-z)^2} \right] dz$$

3. First observe,

$$u(x, a) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \hat{\phi}(\omega) e^{-|a-a||\omega|} e^{i\omega x} d\omega = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \hat{\phi}(\omega) e^{i\omega x} d\omega = \phi(x)$$

Define,

$$c = \begin{cases} 1 & y \geq a \\ -1 & y < a \end{cases}$$

Now observe,

$$\partial_x^2 u(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \hat{\phi}(\omega) e^{-c(y-a)|\omega|} \partial_x^2 e^{i\omega x} d\omega = \frac{(i^2 \omega^2)}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \hat{\phi}(\omega) e^{-c(y-a)|\omega|} e^{i\omega x} d\omega$$

Then,

$$\partial_y^2 u(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \hat{\phi}(\omega) \partial_y^2 e^{-c(y-a)|\omega|} e^{i\omega x} d\omega = \frac{c^2 \omega^2}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \hat{\phi}(\omega) e^{-c(y-a)|\omega|} e^{i\omega x} d\omega$$

Thus, since  $i^2 = -1$  and  $c^2 = 1$ ,

$$(\partial_x^2 + \partial_y^2)u(x, y) = 0$$

Note there is probably some issue with the partial derivative with respect to  $y$  at  $y = a$ , since  $|y - a|$  is not differentiable at this point.

Therefore  $u(x, y) = \mathbb{E}[\phi(X_\tau)|X_t = x, Y_t = y]$  satisfies the PDE from 1.



**Exercise 10.1**

Let  $P = (P_t)_{t \geq 0}$  be a Poisson process with intensity  $\lambda$ .

- (a) What is the Lévy Measure  $\nu$  of  $P$ .
- (b) Let  $dX_t = dP_t$ . Define  $u(x, t) := \mathbb{E}[\varphi(X_T) | X_t = x]$ . Find  $u(t, x)$  and verify it solves the Kolmogorov Backward equation.

**Solution**

- (a) We have,

$$\nu(U) = \mathbb{E}[N(1, U)] = \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{0 \leq s \leq 1} \mathbb{1}_{\Delta P_s \in U}\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{P_1} \mathbb{1}_{1 \in U}\right] = \mathbb{E}[P_1] \mathbb{1}_{1 \in U} = \lambda \mathbb{1}_{1 \in U}$$

- (b) Integrating  $dX_t = dP_t$  from 0 to  $t$  gives,  $X_t - X_0 = P_t - P_0$ . Since  $P_0 = 0$  we have,

$$X_t = X_0 + P_t$$

First observe,

$$\mathbb{P}(X_T = k | X_t = x) = \mathbb{P}(X_0 + P_T = k | X_0 + P_t = x) = \mathbb{P}(P_T = k - X_0 | P_t = x - X_0)$$

Since  $P$  has independent increments, and since  $P$  is Markov,

$$\mathbb{P}(P_T = k - X_0 | P_t = x - X_0) = \mathbb{P}(P_{T-t} = k - x) = \frac{(\lambda(T-t))^{k-x}}{(k-x)!} e^{-\lambda(T-t)}$$

Thus,

$$u(t, x) = \mathbb{E}[\varphi(X_T) | X_t = x] = \sum_{k=x}^{\infty} \varphi(k) \mathbb{P}(X_T = k | X_t = x) = \sum_{k=x}^{\infty} \varphi(k) \frac{(\lambda(T-t))^{k-x}}{(k-x)!} e^{-\lambda(T-t)}$$

Reindexing with  $n = k - x$ ,

$$u(t, x) = e^{-\lambda(T-t)} \sum_{k=x}^{\infty} \varphi(k) \frac{(\lambda(T-t))^{k-x}}{(k-x)!} = e^{-\lambda(T-t)} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \varphi(n+x) \frac{(\lambda(T-t))^n}{n!}$$

We now compute the generator  $\mathcal{A}(t)$  for  $P$ . By definition,

$$\mathcal{A}(t)\varphi(x) = \lim_{s \rightarrow t^+} \frac{1}{s-t} [\mathcal{P}(t, s)\varphi(x) - \varphi(x)] = \lim_{s \rightarrow t^+} \frac{1}{s-t} [\mathbb{E}[\varphi(X_s)|X_t = x] - \varphi(x)]$$

In a small interval  $dt$  the probability  $X_{t+dt} = X_t + 1$  is  $\lambda dt$  and probability  $X_{t+dt} = X_t$  is  $(1 - \lambda)dt$ . Therefore,

$$\mathcal{A}(t)\varphi(x) = \frac{1}{dt} [\varphi(x+1)\lambda + \varphi(x)(1 - \lambda) - \varphi(x)] = \lambda(\varphi(x+1) - \varphi(x))$$

Since the  $t$ -derivative of the  $n = 0$  term is zero,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \varphi(n+x) \partial_t \left[ \frac{(\lambda(T-t))^n}{n!} \right] &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \varphi(n+x) \partial_t \left[ \frac{(\lambda(T-t))^n}{n!} \right] \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \varphi(n+x) (n)(-\lambda) \frac{(\lambda(T-t))^{n-1}}{n!} \\ &= -\lambda \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \varphi(n+x) \frac{(\lambda(T-t))^{n-1}}{(n-1)!} \end{aligned}$$

Observe, by the chain rule and assuming we can bring a derivative through a sum,

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t u(t, x) &= [\partial_t e^{-\lambda(T-t)}] \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \varphi(n+x) \frac{(\lambda(T-t))^n}{n!} + e^{-\lambda(T-t)} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \varphi(n+x) \partial_t \left[ \frac{(\lambda(T-t))^n}{n!} \right] \\ &= \lambda e^{-\lambda(T-t)} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \varphi(n+x) \frac{(\lambda(T-t))^n}{n!} - \lambda e^{-\lambda(T-t)} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \varphi(n+x) \frac{(\lambda(T-t))^{n-1}}{(n-1)!} \\ &= \lambda e^{-\lambda(T-t)} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \varphi(n+x) \frac{(\lambda(T-t))^n}{n!} - \lambda e^{-\lambda(T-t)} \sum_{n=m}^{\infty} \varphi(m+1+x) \frac{(\lambda(T-t))^m}{m!} \\ &= \lambda(u(t, x) - u(t, x+1)) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the KBE is satisfied as

$$[\partial_t + \mathcal{A}]u(t, x) = \lambda(u(t, x) - u(t, x+1)) - \lambda(u(t, x+1) - u(t, x)) = 0, \quad u(T, x) = \varphi(x)$$

**Exercise 10.2****Solution**

**Exercise 10.3**

Let  $X = (X_t)_{t \geq 0}$  be a process defined by,

$$\begin{aligned} dX_t &= \mu_t X_t dt + \sigma_t X_t dW_t + \int_{\mathbb{R}} (e^{\gamma_t(z)} - 1) X_{t-} \tilde{N}(dt, dz) \\ dY_t &= b_t Y_t dt + a_t Y_t dW_t + \int_{\mathbb{R}} (e^{g_t(z)} - 1) Y_{t-} \tilde{N}(dt, dz) \end{aligned}$$

where  $W$  is a one-dimensional Brownian motion,  $\tilde{N}$  is a one-dimensional compensated Poisson random measure on  $\mathbb{R}$ , and  $\mu, b, \sigma, a, \gamma, g$  are  $\mathbb{F}$ -adapted stochastic processes.

- (a) Define  $Z_t := X_t/Y_t$ . Compute the differential  $dZ_t$ . Your answer should not involve  $X_t$  or  $Y_t$ .
- (b) Find  $\mu_t$  so that  $Z$  is a martingale.

**Solution**

- (a) Define  $f(x, y) = x/y$ . Then  $Z_t = f(X_t, Y_t)$ .

We have,

$$[(e^{\gamma_t(z)} - 1)X_t; (e^{g_t(z)} - 1)Y_t] \cdot \nabla f(X_{t-}, Y_{t-}) = (e^{\gamma_t(z)} - 1)X_{t-} f_x(X_{t-}, Y_{t-}) + (e^{g_t(z)} - 1)Y_{t-} f_y(X_{t-}, Y_{t-})$$

We use Itô's formula to compute,

$$\begin{aligned} dZ_t = df(X_t, Y_t) &= \left( \mu_t X_t f_x + b_t Y_t f_y + \frac{1}{2} ((\sigma_t X_t)^2 f_{xx} + 2(\sigma_t X_t)(a_t Y_t) f_{xy} + (a_t Y_t)^2 f_{yy}) \right) dt \\ &\quad + (\sigma_t X_t f_x + a_t Y_t f_y) dW_t \\ &\quad + \int_{\mathbb{R}} (f(X_{t-} + (e^{\gamma_t(z)} - 1)X_{t-}, Y_{t-} + (e^{g_t(z)} - 1)Y_{t-}) - f(X_{t-}, Y_{t-})) \tilde{N}(dt, dz) \\ &\quad + \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left( f(X_{t-} + (e^{\gamma_t(z)} - 1)X_{t-}, Y_{t-} + (e^{g_t(z)} - 1)Y_{t-}) - f(X_{t-}, Y_{t-}) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - (e^{\gamma_t(z)} - 1)X_{t-} f_x(X_{t-}, Y_{t-}) - (e^{g_t(z)} - 1)Y_{t-} f_y(X_{t-}, Y_{t-}) \right) \nu(dz) dt \end{aligned}$$

Now, using  $f_x = 1/y$ ,  $f_y = -x/y^2$ ,  $f_{xy} = -1/y^2$ ,  $f_{xx} = 0$ ,  $f_{yy} = 2x/y^3$  we have,

$$\mu_t X_t f_x + b_t Y_t f_y = \mu_t X_t \left( \frac{1}{Y_t} \right) + b_t Y_t \left( \frac{-X_t}{Y_t^2} \right) = \mu_t Z_t - b_t Z_t$$

$$(\sigma_t X_t)^2 f_{xx} + 2(\sigma_t X_t)(a_t Y_t) f_{xy} + (a_t Y_t)^2 f_{yy} = 2(\sigma_t X_t)(a_t Y_t) \left( \frac{-1}{Y_t^2} \right) + a_t^2 Y_t^2 \left( \frac{2X_t}{Y_t^3} \right) = -2\sigma_t a_t Z_t + 2$$

$$\sigma_t X_t f_x + a_t Y_t f_y = \sigma_t X_t \left( \frac{1}{Y_t} \right) + a_t Y_t \left( \frac{-X_t}{Y_t^2} \right) = \sigma_t Z_t - a_t Z_t$$

$$f(X_{t^-} + (e^{\gamma_t(z)} - 1)X_{t^-}, Y_{t^-} + (e^{g_t(z)} - 1)Y_{t^-}) - f(X_{t^-}, Y_{t^-}) = \frac{e^{\gamma_t(z)}}{e^{g_t(z)}} Z_{t^-} - Z_{t^-}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & (e^{\gamma_t(z)} - 1)X_{t^-} f_x(X_{t^-}, Y_{t^-}) + (e^{g_t(z)} - 1)Y_{t^-} f_y(X_{t^-}, Y_{t^-}) \\ &= (e^{\gamma_t(z)} - 1)X_{t^-} \left( \frac{1}{Y_{t^-}} \right) + (e^{g_t(z)} - 1)Y_{t^-} \left( \frac{-X_{t^-}}{Y_{t^-}^2} \right) \\ &= (e^{\gamma_t(z)} - 1)Z_{t^-} - (e^{g_t(z)} - 1)Z_{t^-} \end{aligned}$$

Inserting these evaluated expressions into the original expression for  $dZ_t$  gives,

$$\begin{aligned} dZ_t &= (\mu_t - b_t - \sigma_t a_t + a_t^2) Z_t dt + (\sigma_t - a_t) Z_t dW_t \\ &\quad + \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left( \frac{e^{\gamma_t(z)}}{e^{g_t(z)}} - 1 \right) Z_{t^-} \tilde{N}(dt, dz) \\ &\quad + \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left( \frac{e^{\gamma_t(z)}}{e^{g_t(z)}} - e^{\gamma_t(z)} + e^{g_t(z)} - 1 \right) Z_{t^-} \nu(dz) dt \end{aligned}$$

(b) We need the  $dt$  term to be zero. Therefore pick,

$$\mu_t = b_t + \sigma_t a_t - a_t^2 - \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left( \frac{e^{\gamma_t(z)}}{e^{g_t(z)}} - e^{\gamma_t(z)} + e^{g_t(z)} - 1 \right) \nu(dz) dt$$

**Exercise 10.4**

Let  $\eta = (\eta_t)_{t \geq 0}$  be a one-dimensional Lévy Process and define  $X = (X_t)_{t \geq 0}$  by

$$dX_t = \kappa(\theta - X_t)dt + d\eta_t$$

- (a) Find  $X_t$  explicitly as a function of  $\eta$ .
- (b) Assume  $\eta_t = \sigma W_t + \int_{\mathbb{R}} z \tilde{N}(t, dz)$ . Compute  $m(t) := \mathbb{E}X_t$  and  $c(t, s) := \mathbb{E}(X_t - m(t))(X_s - m(s))$ .

**Solution**

- (a) Let  $Y_t = X_t - \theta$  and  $Z_t = e^{\kappa t} Y_t = f(t, Y_t)$ , where  $f(t, y) = e^{\kappa t} y$ .

Then,

$$dY_t = dX_t = -\kappa Y_t dt + d\eta_t$$

Recall the product rule (which applies to Lévy Itô processes),

$$d(U_t V_t) = U_{t-} dV_t + V_{t-} dU_t + d[U, V]_t$$

Therefore,

$$dZ_t = d(e^{\kappa t} Y_t) = e^{\kappa t-} dY_t + Y_{t-} de^{\kappa t} + d[e^{\kappa t}, Y]_t$$

Using our heuristics we have  $d(e^{\kappa t})dY_t = 0$ . Therefore, since  $t^-$  and  $t$  can be “treated the same” on  $dt$  terms which are continuous,

$$dZ_t = e^{\kappa t-} dY_t + \kappa e^{\kappa t} Y_{t-} = e^{\kappa t-} d\eta_t$$

Integrating we have,

$$Z_t = Z_0 + \int_0^t e^{\kappa s} d\eta_s$$

Therefore, since  $Y_t = e^{-\kappa t} Z_t$ ,  $Z_0 = Y_0$  so,

$$Y_t = e^{-\kappa t} \left( Y_0 + \int_0^t e^{\kappa s} d\eta_s \right)$$

Finally, since  $X_t = \theta + Y_t$ ,  $Y_0 = X_0 - \theta$  so,

$$X_t = \theta + e^{-\kappa t} \left( X_0 - \theta + \int_0^t e^{\kappa s} d\eta_s \right) = \theta + e^{-\kappa t} (X_0 - \theta) + \int_0^t e^{\kappa(s-t)} d\eta_s$$

(b) We have,

$$d\eta_t = \sigma dW_t + \int_{\mathbb{R}} z \tilde{N}(dt, dz)$$

Observe, that since integrals with respect to  $dW_t$  and  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} \tilde{N}(dt, dz)$  are martingales so,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^t e^{\kappa(s-t)} d\eta_s \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^t e^{\kappa(s-t)} \sigma dW_t + \int_0^t e^{\kappa(s-t)} \int_{\mathbb{R}} z \tilde{N}(dt, dz) \right] = 0$$

Therefore,

$$m(t) = \mathbb{E} [X_t] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \theta + e^{-\kappa t} (X_0 - \theta) + \int_0^t e^{\kappa(s-t)} d\eta_s \right] = \theta + e^{-\kappa t} (X_0 - \theta)$$

Clearly,

$$X_t - m(t) = \int_0^t e^{\kappa(u-t)} d\eta_u$$

Without loss of generality assume  $t \geq s$ . Then, using the independent increments property to write the expectation of a product as the product of expectations,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} [(X_t - m(t)) (X_s - m(s))] &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \int_0^t e^{\kappa(u-t)} d\eta_u \right) \left( \int_0^s e^{\kappa(v-s)} d\eta_v \right) \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \int_0^s e^{\kappa(u-t)} d\eta_u + \int_s^t e^{\kappa(u-t)} d\eta_u \right) \left( \int_0^s e^{\kappa(v-s)} d\eta_v \right) \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[ e^{-\kappa(t+s)} \left( \int_0^s e^{\kappa u} d\eta_u \right)^2 + e^{-\kappa(t+s)} \left( \int_s^t e^{\kappa u} d\eta_u \right) \left( \int_0^s e^{\kappa v} d\eta_v \right) \right] \\ &= e^{-\kappa(t+s)} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \int_0^s e^{\kappa u} d\eta_u \right)^2 \right] + e^{-\kappa(t+s)} \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_s^t e^{\kappa u} d\eta_u \right] \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^s e^{\kappa v} d\eta_v \right] \end{aligned}$$

We now note that, Lévy processes without a  $dt$  term are martingales so that,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^s e^{\kappa u} d\eta_u \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^s e^{\kappa u} \left( \sigma dW_u + \int_{\mathbb{R}} z \tilde{N}(du, dz) \right) \right] = 0$$

Define,

$$Z_s = \int_0^s e^{\kappa u} d\eta_u$$

Then,

$$dZ_s = e^{\kappa s} d\eta_s = \sigma e^{\kappa s} dW_s + \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{\kappa s} z \tilde{N}(ds, dz)$$

Using Itô's isometry we have,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \int_0^s e^{\kappa u} d\eta_u \right)^2 \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^s \left( \sigma^2 e^{2\kappa u} + \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{2\kappa u} z^2 \nu(dz) \right) du \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \sigma^2 + \int_{\mathbb{R}} z^2 \nu(dz) \right) \frac{e^{2\kappa s} - 1}{2\kappa} \right]$$

Therefore,

$$c(t, s) = e^{-\kappa(t+s)} \frac{e^{2\kappa s} - 1}{2\kappa} \left( \sigma^2 + \int_{\mathbb{R}} z^2 \nu(dz) \right) = \frac{e^{\kappa(s-t)} - e^{-\kappa(t+s)}}{2\kappa} \left( \sigma^2 + \int_{\mathbb{R}} z^2 \nu(dz) \right)$$

We can remove our assumption that  $t \geq s$  and write,

$$c(t, s) = \frac{e^{-\kappa|t-s|} - e^{-\kappa(t+s)}}{2\kappa} \left( \sigma^2 + \int_{\mathbb{R}} z^2 \nu(dz) \right)$$



**Exercise 10.5**

Let  $X$  be the following one-dimensional jump-diffusion

$$dX_t = \mu(t, X_t)dt + \sigma(t, X_t)dW_t + \int_{\mathbb{R}} \gamma(t, X_{t-}, z)\tilde{N}(t, dz),$$

where  $W$  is a one-dimensional Brownian motion and  $\tilde{N}$  is a one-dimensional compensated Poisson random measure on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Derive using the Lévy-Itô formula the infinitesimal generator  $\mathcal{A}(t)$  of the  $X$  process,

$$\mathcal{A}(t)\varphi(x) := \lim_{s \rightarrow t^+} \frac{\mathbb{E}[\varphi(X_s)|X_t = x] - \varphi(x)}{s - t}$$

**Solution**

Since  $\mathbb{E}[\varphi(X_t)|X_t = x] = \varphi(x)$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}[\varphi(X_s)|X_t = x] - \varphi(x) = \mathbb{E}\left[\varphi(X_t) + \int_t^s d\varphi(X_u)\right] - \varphi(x) = \mathbb{E}\left[\int_t^s d\varphi(X_u)\right]$$

From the Lévy-Itô formula we have,

$$\begin{aligned} d\varphi(X_u) &= \left(\mu(u, X_u)\varphi'(X_u) + \frac{1}{2}\sigma(u, X_u)^2\varphi''(X_u)\right)du + \sigma(u, X_u)\varphi'(X_u)dW_u \\ &\quad + \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left(\varphi(X_{u-} + \gamma(u, X_{u-}, z)) - \varphi(X_{u-})\right)\tilde{N}(du, dz) \\ &\quad + \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left(\varphi(X_{u-} + \gamma(u, X_{u-}, z)) - \varphi(X_{u-}) - \gamma(u, X_{u-}, z)\varphi'(X_{u-})\right)\nu(dz)du \end{aligned}$$

We note that as integrals with respect to  $W$  and  $\tilde{N}$  are martingales that,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}\left[\int_t^s d\varphi(X_u)\right] &= \mathbb{E}\left[\int_t^s \left(\mu(u, X_u)\varphi'(X_u) + \frac{1}{2}\sigma(u, X_u)^2\varphi''(X_u)du\right.\right. \\ &\quad \left.\left.+ \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left(\varphi(X_{u-} + \gamma(u, X_{u-}, z)) - \varphi(X_{u-}) - \gamma(u, X_{u-}, z)\varphi'(X_{u-})\right)\nu(dz)\right)du\right] \end{aligned}$$

Thus, taking the limit as  $s \rightarrow t^+$ ,

$$\mathcal{A}(t)\varphi(x) = \left(\mu(t, X_t)\partial_x + \frac{1}{2}\sigma(t, X_t)^2\partial_x^2 + \int_{\mathbb{R}} \nu(dz) (\theta_{\gamma(t, X_t, z)} - 1 - \gamma(t, X_t, z)\partial_x)\right)\varphi(x)$$