

Solutions for Problem Set Four

Problem 1. (1) The only thing which is not entirely trivial is that $O \cdot (B_t - B_s) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, (t-s)\text{Id})$ and $\langle \mu, B_t - B_s \rangle \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$. But this can be seen by using characteristic functions. Of course the problem can also be solved simply by applying Lévy's characterization theorem once we notice that $O \cdot B_t = \int_0^t O \cdot dB_s$ and $\langle \mu, B_t \rangle = \int_0^t \langle \mu, dB_s \rangle$.

(2) We first show that $\mathbb{E}[B_s|B_t] = sB_t/t$ for $s < t$. Indeed, consider the time reversal $\tilde{B}_r \triangleq rB_{1/r}$. From Problem 2, (1), we know that \tilde{B}_r is a Brownian motion. Let $u = 1/s$, $v = 1/t$ so that $u > v$. It follows that

$$\mathbb{E}[\tilde{B}_u|\tilde{B}_v] = \tilde{B}_v + \mathbb{E}[\tilde{B}_u - \tilde{B}_v|\tilde{B}_v] = \tilde{B}_v = B_t/t.$$

But $\tilde{B}_u = B_s/s$ and conditioning on \tilde{B}_v is the same as conditioning on B_t . Therefore,

$$\mathbb{E}[B_s|B_t] = \frac{s}{t}B_t.$$

Now for the general case, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[B_u|B_s, B_t] &= B_s + \mathbb{E}[B_u - B_s|B_s, B_t] \\ &= B_s + \mathbb{E}[B_u - B_s|B_s, B_t - B_s] \\ &= B_s + \mathbb{E}[B_u - B_s|B_t - B_s], \end{aligned}$$

where in the last equality, we used the fact that $(B_u - B_s, B_t - B_s)$ and B_s are independent (c.f. Problem Sheet 1, Problem (1), (iii)). Therefore, from what we just proved, we have

$$\mathbb{E}[B_u|B_s, B_t] = B_s + \frac{u-s}{t-s}(B_t - B_s) = \frac{t-u}{t-s}B_s + \frac{u-s}{t-s}B_t.$$

Problem 2. (1) It is easy to see that $(X_t)_{t>0}$ has the right distribution as a Brownian motion, and $t \mapsto X_t$ is continuous for $t > 0$. The only fact which is not so clear is the continuity at $t = 0$. By the definition of X_t , this is equivalent to

showing that with probability one, $B_t/t \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$. Indeed, from the strong law of large numbers, we know that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{B_n}{n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{k=1}^n (B_k - B_{k-1})}{n} = 0 \text{ a.s.}$$

Moreover, since

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P} \left(\sup_{n-1 \leq t \leq n} \frac{|B_t - B_{n-1}|}{n} > \varepsilon \right) &\leq \frac{1}{(n\varepsilon)^2} \mathbb{E} \left[\sup_{n-1 \leq t \leq n} |B_t - B_{n-1}|^2 \right] \\ &\leq \frac{4}{(n\varepsilon)^2} \mathbb{E}[|B_n - B_{n-1}|^2] \\ &\leq \frac{4}{(n\varepsilon)^2}, \end{aligned}$$

from the first Borel-Cantelli's lemma, we know that with probability one,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{n-1 \leq t \leq n} \frac{|B_t - B_{n-1}|}{n} = 0.$$

Therefore, $B_t/t \rightarrow 0$ almost surely as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

(2) Since $\{X_t : t \geq 0\}$ is a Brownian motion, this part follows from Proposition 4.2 in the lecture notes.

(3) Since

$$\frac{X_t}{t} = B_{1/t}, \quad t > 0,$$

the non-differentiability of X_t at $t = 0$ also follows directly from Proposition 4.2. Now we show the almost everywhere non-differentiability of B . For each $t \geq 0$, let A_t be the event that B is differentiable at t . Then $\mathbb{P}(A_t) = 0$ by applying what we just proved to the Brownian motion $\{B_{u+t} - B_t : u \geq 0\}$. According to Fubini's theorem, we have

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^\infty \mathbf{1}_{A_t} dt \right] = \int_0^\infty \mathbb{P}(A_t) dt = 0.$$

Therefore, with probability one,

$$\int_0^\infty \mathbf{1}_{A_t}(\omega) dt = 0,$$

which implies that $\omega \notin A_t$ for almost every $t \geq 0$. This means that $t \mapsto B_t(\omega)$ is almost everywhere non-differentiable.

Problem 3. We only need to consider the case when f is bounded and continuous. The case when f is bounded Borel measurable follows from a monotone class argument. Let

$$\sigma_n \triangleq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{k}{2^n} \mathbf{1}_{\{(k-1)/2^n \leq \sigma < k/2^n\}}.$$

Define τ_n similarly. Apparently, σ_n, τ_n are stopping times, and $\sigma_n \downarrow \sigma, \tau_n \downarrow \tau$. Moreover, $\tau_n \in \mathcal{F}_\sigma$ since $\tau \in \mathcal{F}_\sigma$. From the Strong Markov property of Brownian motion, we know that

$$\mathbb{E}[f(B_{\sigma_n+k/2^n})|\mathcal{F}_{\sigma_n}] = P_{k/2^n} f(B_{\sigma_n}).$$

Therefore,

$$\mathbb{E}[f(B_{\sigma_n+k/2^n})|\mathcal{F}_\sigma] = \mathbb{E}[P_{k/2^n} f(B_{\sigma_n})|\mathcal{F}_\sigma]. \quad (1)$$

But we know that $\mathbf{1}_{\{\tau_n = \sigma_n + k/2^n\}} \in \mathcal{F}_\sigma$. By multiplying this function on both sides of (1) and summing over k , we arrive at

$$\mathbb{E}[f(B_{\tau_n})|\mathcal{F}_\sigma] = \mathbb{E}[P_{\tau_n - \sigma_n} f(B_{\sigma_n})|\mathcal{F}_\sigma].$$

By continuity and the dominated convergence theorem, we conclude that

$$\mathbb{E}[f(B_\tau)|\mathcal{F}_\sigma] = \mathbb{E}[P_{\tau - \sigma} f(B_\sigma)|\mathcal{F}_\sigma] = P_{\tau - \sigma} f(B_\sigma).$$

It is not true that $B_\tau - B_\sigma$ and \mathcal{F}_σ are independent. Consider the one dimensional case. Let $\sigma \triangleq \inf\{t \geq 0 : B_t = a\}$ for given $a > 0$, and let $\tau \triangleq 2\sigma$. Suppose that $B_{2\sigma} - B_\sigma$ and \mathcal{F}_σ are independent. Then $B_{2\sigma}$ and \mathcal{F}_σ must be independent since $B_\sigma = a$ is a deterministic constant. Therefore, the conditional expectation

$$\mathbb{E}[f(B_{2\sigma})|\mathcal{F}_\sigma] = \mathbb{E}[f(B_{2\sigma})]$$

is a deterministic constant. However, according to what we just proved,

$$\mathbb{E}[f(B_{2\sigma})|\mathcal{F}_\sigma] = P_\sigma f(B_\sigma) = P_\sigma f(a) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} e^{-\frac{(a-y)^2}{2\sigma}} f(y) dy.$$

This cannot be a deterministic constant for a large class of f as σ is random. Therefore, we have a contradiction, which shows that $B_{2\sigma} - B_\sigma$ and \mathcal{F}_σ are not independent.

Problem 4. From direct computation, we have

$$D_1 = \begin{cases} 1, & X = 0, 1, 2; \\ -1, & X = -2, -1, \end{cases}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} X_1 &= \mathbb{E}[X_1|D_1 = 1] \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\{D_1=1\}} + \mathbb{E}[X_1|D_1 = -1] \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\{D_1=-1\}} \\ &= 1 \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\{D_1=1\}} - \frac{3}{2} \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\{D_1=-1\}}. \end{aligned}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} \{D_1 = 1, D_2 = 1\} &= \{X = 1, 2\}, & \{D_1 = 1, D_2 = -1\} &= \{X = 0\}, \\ \{D_1 = -1, D_2 = 1\} &= \{X = -1\}, & \{D_1 = -1, D_2 = -1\} &= \{X = -2\}. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} X_2 &= \frac{3}{2} \mathbf{1}_{\{D_1=1, D_2=1\}} + 0 \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\{D_1=1, D_2=-1\}} + (-1) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\{D_1=-1, D_2=1\}} \\ &\quad + (-2) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\{D_1=-1, D_2=-1\}} \\ &= \frac{3}{2} \mathbf{1}_{\{X_1=1, D_2=1\}} + 0 \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\{X_1=1, D_2=-1\}} + (-1) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\{X_1=-3/2, D_2=1\}} \\ &\quad + (-2) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\{X_1=-3/2, D_2=-1\}}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we can obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} X_3 &= 2 \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\{D_1=1, D_2=1, D_3=1\}} + 1 \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\{D_1=1, D_2=1, D_3=-1\}} + 0 \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\{D_1=1, D_2=-1\}} \\ &\quad + (-1) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\{D_1=-1, D_2=1\}} + (-2) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\{D_1=-1, D_2=-1\}} \\ &\quad + 2 \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\{X_1=1, X_2=3/2, D_3=1\}} + 1 \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\{X_1=1, X_2=3/2, D_3=-1\}} + 0 \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\{X_1=1, X_2=0\}} \\ &\quad + (-1) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\{X_1=-3/2, X_2=-1\}} + (-2) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\{X_1=-3/2, X_2=-2\}}, \end{aligned}$$

and $X_n = X_3$ for $n \geq 3$.

The stopping time τ is defined in the following way. Let τ_1 be the first exit time of the interval $(-3/2, 1)$. Define τ_2 as follows: if $B_{\tau_1} = 1$, then τ_2 is the exit time of the interval $(0, 3/2)$ after τ_1 , and if $B_{\tau_1} = -3/2$, then τ_2 is the exist time of the interval $(-2, -1)$. Define τ_3 as follows: if $(B_{\tau_1}, B_{\tau_2}) = (1, 3/2)$, then τ_3 is the exist time of the interval $(1, 2)$ after τ_2 , and in all other cases, $\tau_3 \triangleq \tau_2$. The desired stopping time τ will be $\tau \triangleq \tau_3$ (in the proof of the Skorokhod embedding theorem, in this case we have $X_n = X_3$ and $\tau_n = \tau_3$ for $n \geq 3$, so $\tau = \tau_3$).

Problem 5. (1) Write $B_t = B_t^x + iB_t^y$ where B_t^x is a standard Brownian motion and B_t^y is a Brownian motion starting at position 1. Note that B^x and B^y are independent. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E} [e^{\lambda i \cdot B_t} | \mathcal{F}_s^B] &= \mathbb{E} [e^{\lambda i \cdot (B_t - B_s)}] \cdot e^{\lambda i \cdot B_s} \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[e^{i\lambda(B_t^x - B_s^x) - \lambda(B_t^y - B_s^y)} \right] \cdot e^{\lambda i \cdot B_s} \\ &= e^{\lambda i \cdot B_s},\end{aligned}$$

which shows that $X_t \triangleq e^{\lambda i \cdot B_t}$ is an $\{\mathcal{F}_t^B\}$ -martingale.

(2) A crucial observation is that $\tau = \inf\{t \geq 0 : B_t^y = 0\}$, which is independent of B^x and has density

$$f_\tau(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi t^3}} e^{-\frac{1}{2t}}, \quad t > 0.$$

Now let $\varphi \in B_b(\mathbb{R}^1)$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[\varphi(B_\tau)] &= \int_0^\infty \mathbb{E}[\varphi(B_\tau) | \tau = t] f_\tau(t) dt \\ &= \int_0^\infty \mathbb{E}[\varphi(B_t^x) | \tau = t] f_\tau(t) dt \\ &= \int_0^\infty \mathbb{E}[\varphi(B_t^x)] f_\tau(t) dt \\ &= \int_0^\infty \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^1} \varphi(u) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi t}} e^{-\frac{u^2}{2t}} du \right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi t^3}} e^{-\frac{1}{2t}} dt.\end{aligned}$$

By using Fubini's theorem and integrating out t by a change of variables $s = 1/t$, we arrive at

$$\mathbb{E}[\varphi(B_\tau)] = \int_{\mathbb{R}^1} \varphi(u) \frac{1}{\pi(u^2 + 1)} du.$$

Therefore, B_τ is Cauchy distributed.

Problem 6. (1) Note that under $\mathbb{P}^{x,c}$, the coordinate process is a Brownian motion starting at x with drift c . Therefore, for any $n \geq 1$, $t_1 < \dots < t_n = t$, and

$f \in C_b(\mathbb{R}^n)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{W^1} f(w_{t_1}, \dots, w_{t_n}) d\mathbb{P}^{x,c} \\
&= \int_{W^1} f(w_{t_1} + ct_1, \dots, w_{t_n} + ct_n) d\mathbb{P}^{x,0} \\
&= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(u_1 + ct_1, \dots, u_n + ct_n) p_{t_1}(u_1 - x) \\
&\quad \cdot p_{t_2-t_1}(u_2 - u_1) \cdots p_{t_n-t_{n-1}}(u_n - u_{n-1}) du \\
&= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(v_1, \dots, v_n) p_{t_1}(v_1 - x - ct_1) \cdot p_{t_2-t_1}(v_2 - v_1 - c(t_2 - t_1)) \\
&\quad \cdots p_{t_n-t_{n-1}}(v_n - v_{n-1} - c(t_n - t_{n-1})) dv \\
&= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(v_1, \dots, v_n) e^{c(v_n - x) - \frac{1}{2}c^2 t} \gamma(dv) \\
&= \int_{W^1} f(w_{t_1}, \dots, w_{t_n}) e^{c(w_t - x) - \frac{1}{2}c^2 t} d\mathbb{P}^{x,0},
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$p_t(u) \triangleq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi t}} e^{-\frac{u^2}{2t}}$$

and $\gamma(dv)$ is the distribution of $(w_{t_1}, \dots, w_{t_n})$ under $\mathbb{P}^{x,0}$. Therefore, the result follows.

(2) Since (S_t, X_t) is \mathcal{F}_t -measurable, for any $f \in C_b(\mathbb{R}^2)$, from (1) we have

$$\mathbb{E}^{0,c}[f(S_t, X_t)] = \mathbb{E}^{0,0} \left[f(S_t, X_t) e^{cX_t - \frac{1}{2}c^2 t} \right].$$

According to Proposition 4.9 in the lecture notes, this equals

$$\int_{\{x \geq 0, x \geq y\}} f(x, y) e^{cy - \frac{1}{2}c^2 t} \frac{2(2x - y)}{\sqrt{2\pi t^3}} e^{-\frac{(2x-y)^2}{2t}} dx dy.$$

Therefore,

$$\mathbb{P}^{0,c}(S_t \in dx, X_t \in dy) = \frac{2(2x - y)}{\sqrt{2\pi t^3}} e^{cy - \frac{1}{2}c^2 t - \frac{(2x-y)^2}{2t}}, \quad x \geq 0, x \geq y.$$

Problem 7. (1) The first part follows from Itô's formula and the boundedness of e_θ . The second part follows from integrating the martingale property of $e_\theta(B_t)$ against $\phi(\theta)d\theta$. Note that we can integrate because $\|e_\theta\| \leq 1$ and $\phi(\theta)$ is rapidly decreasing.

(2) (i) Trivial.

(ii) Choose $f \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$ such that on the annulus $A_{a,b} \triangleq \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : a \leq |x| \leq b\}$, $f(x) = \log |x|$ for $d = 2$ and $f(x) = |x|^{2-d}$ for $d \geq 3$. Since

$$f(B_t) - f(0) - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \Delta f(B_s) ds$$

is a bounded martingale and $\Delta f(B_s) = 0$ on $[0, \tau_a \wedge \tau_b]$, according to the optional sampling theorem, we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(0) &= \mathbb{E}[f(B_{\tau_a \wedge \tau_b})] \\ &= f(B_{\tau_a}) \mathbb{P}_d^x(\tau_a < \tau_b) + f(B_{\tau_b}) (1 - \mathbb{P}_d^x(\tau_a < \tau_b)). \end{aligned}$$

By the definition of f on the annulus $A_{a,b}$, we obtain that

$$\mathbb{P}_d^x(\tau_a < \tau_b) = \begin{cases} \frac{\log b - \log |x|}{\log b - \log a}, & d = 2; \\ \frac{|x|^{2-d} - b^{2-d}}{a^{2-d} - b^{2-d}}, & d \geq 3. \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

Since

$$\{\tau_a < \infty\} = \bigcup_{b > |x|} \{\tau_b > \tau_a\},$$

we also obtain that

$$\mathbb{P}_d^x(\tau_a < \infty) = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}_d^x(\tau_a < \tau_b) = \begin{cases} 1, & d = 2; \\ \left(\frac{a}{|x|}\right)^{d-2}, & d \geq 3. \end{cases}$$

(iii) We first consider the case when $d = 2$. Let $B(x_0, \varepsilon)$ be an open ball contained in U , and take $N \geq 1$ such that $U \cup \{0\} \subseteq B(x_0, N)$. Define

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_1 &\triangleq \inf\{t \geq 0 : |X_t| = N\}, \quad \tau_1 \triangleq \inf\{t \geq \theta_1 : |X_t| = \varepsilon\}, \\ \theta_2 &\triangleq \inf\{t \geq \tau_1, |X_t| = N + 1\}, \quad \tau_2 \triangleq \inf\{t \geq \theta_2 : |X_t| = \varepsilon\}, \\ &\dots \\ \theta_n &\triangleq \inf\{t \geq \tau_{n-1}, |X_t| = N + n - 1\}, \quad \tau_n \triangleq \inf\{t \geq \theta_n : |X_t| = \varepsilon\}. \end{aligned}$$

Apparently, $\theta_n \uparrow \infty$ and hence $\tau_n \uparrow \infty$. Therefore, it is clear that

$$\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \{\tau_n < \infty\} \subseteq \{\sigma = \infty\}.$$

Moreover, for each n ,

$$\mathbb{P}_2^0(\tau_n < \infty) = \mathbb{E}_2^0[\mathbb{P}_2^0(\tau_n < \infty) | \mathcal{F}_{\sigma_n}],$$

and conditioned on \mathcal{F}_{σ_n} , B_{σ_n+t} is a Brownian motion starting at B_{σ_n} . According to the strong Markov property and (2), (ii), we have

$$\mathbb{P}_2^0(\tau_n < \infty) = 1.$$

Therefore,

$$\mathbb{P}_2^0(\sigma = \infty) = 1.$$

Now we consider the case when $d \geq 3$. Let $B(x_0, r)$ be an open ball such that $U \subseteq B(x_0, r)$. For each $R > r$ with $0 \in B(x_0, R)$, define inductively

$$\theta_n \triangleq \inf\{t \geq \tau_{n-1}, |X_t| = R\}, \quad \tau_n \triangleq \inf\{t \geq \theta_n : |X_t| = r\},$$

where $\tau_0 \triangleq 0$. It follows that

$$\{\sigma = \infty\} \subseteq \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \{\tau_n < \infty\}.$$

But in dimension greater than 2, we have

$$\mathbb{P}_d^0(\tau_n < \infty) = \left(\frac{r}{R}\right)^{d-2}.$$

Therefore,

$$\mathbb{P}_d^0(\sigma = \infty) \leq \left(\frac{r}{R}\right)^{d-2}.$$

As this is true for all R , we conclude that $\mathbb{P}_d^0(\sigma = \infty) = 0$.

(iv) We first consider the case when $y \neq 0$. For each $r < R$, define

$$\tau_r \triangleq \inf\{t \geq 0 : |X_t - y| = r\}, \quad \tau_R \triangleq \inf\{t \geq 0 : |X_t - y| = R\}.$$

It follows that

$$\{\sigma_y < \infty\} = \bigcup_{R > |y|} \{\sigma_y < \tau_R\} \subseteq \bigcup_{R > 0} \left(\bigcap_{r < |y|} \{\tau_r < \tau_R\} \right).$$

Moreover, for each fixed R , in view of the formula (2), we have

$$\mathbb{P}_d^0 \left(\bigcap_{r < |y|} \{\tau_r < \tau_R\} \right) = \lim_{r \downarrow 0} \mathbb{P}_d^0(\tau_r < \tau_R) = 0,$$

for all $d \geq 2$. Therefore,

$$\mathbb{P}_d^0(\sigma_y < \infty) = 0$$

for all $d \geq 2$.

Now we consider the case when $y = 0$. For each $r > 0$, define

$$\tau_r \triangleq \inf\{t \geq 0 : |X_t| = r\}, \quad \theta_r \triangleq \inf\{t \geq \tau_r : X_t = 0\}.$$

Then we have

$$\{0 < \sigma_y < \infty\} \subseteq \bigcup_{r>0} \{\theta_r < \infty\}.$$

But according to the result in the case when $y \neq 0$, we have

$$\mathbb{P}_d^0(\theta_r < \infty) = \mathbb{E}_d^0[\mathbb{P}_d^0(\theta_r < \infty | \mathcal{F}_{\tau_r})] = 0.$$

Therefore,

$$\mathbb{P}_d^0(0 < \sigma_y < \infty) = 0.$$

It remains to show that $\mathbb{P}_d^0(\sigma_y = 0) = 0$. To this end, first observe that the probability $\mathbb{P}_d^0(\sigma_y = 0)$ is determined by the distribution of Brownian motion. Therefore, we may use the Brownian motion $tX_{1/t}$ to compute this probability (so define $\tilde{\sigma}_y = \inf\{t \geq 0 : tX_{1/t} = y\}$). In this case, we have

$$\{\tilde{\sigma}_y = 0\} = \{\exists t_n \uparrow \infty, X_{t_n} = 0\} \subseteq \{\theta_r < \infty\},$$

for any fixed $r > 0$, where τ_r, θ_r are defined in the same way as before for the process X_t . Therefore,

$$\mathbb{P}_d^0(\sigma_y = 0) = \mathbb{P}_d^0(\tilde{\sigma}_y = 0) \leq \mathbb{P}_d^0(\theta_r < \infty) = 0.$$