

REPORT 3. ON HOMOGENEOUS MARKOV PROPERTY.

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Exercise 6.1.4 Show that Brownian motion has the time-homogeneous Markov property.

First, recall the definition of 1-D Brownian motion

A stochastic process $B := (\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P}, \mathcal{F}_t, B_t)$ taking values in \mathbb{R} is a 1-D Brownian motion if

1. $B_0 = 0$ a.s
2. For any $0 \leq s < t$ the random variable $B_t - B_s$ is independent of \mathcal{F}_s
3. For any $0 \leq s < t$ the random variable $B_t - B_s$ is a Gaussian random variable $N(0, t-s)$

Consider $g(B_t)$ for some time t and bounded function g , and a random variable W that is \mathcal{F}_s -measurable for $s < t$.

We have:

$$E[g(B_t)W] = E[g(B_s + \underbrace{B_t - B_s}_Y)W]$$

Since $B_t - B_s \sim N(0, t-s)$ and is independent of \mathcal{F}_s (as stated in 2 and 3)

$$E[g(B_s + Y)W] = E\left[\int_{\mathbb{R}} g(B_s + y)W \cdot \frac{e^{-\frac{y^2}{2(t-s)}}}{\sqrt{2(t-s)}} dy\right]$$

$$\text{Fubini's Theorem} \leftarrow = \int_{\mathbb{R}} E[g(B_s + y)W] \frac{e^{-\frac{y^2}{2(t-s)}}}{\sqrt{2(t-s)}} dy.$$

Thus, the conditional expectation of $g(B_t)$ given \mathcal{F}_s is

$$\begin{aligned} E[g(B_t) | \mathcal{F}_s] &= E[g(B_s + Y) | \mathcal{F}_s] \\ &= E_Y[g(B_s + Y)] \text{ since } Y \text{ is independent of } \mathcal{F}_s \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} g(B_s + y) \frac{e^{-\frac{y^2}{2(t-s)}}}{\sqrt{2(t-s)}} dy \end{aligned}$$

R.H.S is a function of $t-s$ and B_s only, it does not depend on \mathcal{F}_s .

It implies that $E[g(B_t) | \mathcal{F}_s] = E[g(B_t) | B_s]$.

Since it depends on $t-s$ one has

$$E[g(B_t) | \mathcal{F}_s] = E[g(B_t) | B_s] = E[g(B_{t-s}) | B_0].$$

This can also be written as (by taking $g = \mathbb{1}_A$)

$$P(B_t \in A | \mathcal{F}_s) = P(B_{t-s} \in A | B_0)$$

Hence the standard Brownian motion has the time homogeneous Markov property. (see def. 6.1.2).