

# 280C HW2 Idea

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1. We try to compute the conditional expectation  $\mathbb{E}[f(X_t)|\mathcal{F}_s]$ . Given any bounded continuous function  $f$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}[f(X_t)|\mathcal{F}_s] = \mathbb{E}[f(e^{-\lambda t}(B_{e^{2\lambda t}} - B_{e^{2\lambda s}})) + e^{-\lambda t}B_{e^{2\lambda s}}|\mathcal{F}_s].$$

By independent increments of Brownian motion, we have the above equation

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi(e^{2\lambda t} - e^{2\lambda s})}} \int f(e^{-\lambda t}u + e^{-\lambda(t-s)}x) e^{-\frac{x^2}{2(e^{2\lambda t} - e^{2\lambda s})}} du \Bigg|_{x=X_s}.$$

After we do a substitution  $y = e^{-\lambda t}u + e^{-\lambda(t-s)}x$ , we get

$$\mathbb{E}[f(X_t)|\mathcal{F}_s] = \int f(y) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi(1 - e^{-2\lambda(s-t)})}} \exp\left(-\frac{(y - e^{-\lambda(s-t)}x)^2}{2(1 - e^{-2\lambda(s-t)})}\right) dy \Bigg|_{x=X_s}.$$

This shows  $X_t$  is a Markov process and computed the Markov transition kernel

$$Q_{s,t}f(x) = \int f(y) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi(1 - e^{-2\lambda(s-t)})}} \exp\left(-\frac{(y - e^{-\lambda(s-t)}x)^2}{2(1 - e^{-2\lambda(s-t)})}\right) dy$$

or the  $p(x, B)$  is given by

$$p(x, B) = \int_B \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi(1 - e^{-2\lambda(s-t)})}} \exp\left(-\frac{(y - e^{-\lambda(s-t)}x)^2}{2(1 - e^{-2\lambda(s-t)})}\right) dy$$

Observe that it is indeed time homogeneous.

2. Since if  $L$  is the largest zero of Brownian motion in  $[0, 1]$  and  $L \leq t$ , then it takes time longer than  $1 - t$  to reach another zero from  $L$ , in terms of the shift map  $\theta_t$ , we have

$$\mathbb{1}_{T_0 > 1-t} \circ \theta_t = \mathbb{1}_{L \leq t}.$$

By Markov property,

$$\mathbb{E}_0[\mathbb{1}_{L \leq t} | \mathcal{F}_t^+] = \mathbb{E}_{B_t}[\mathbb{1}_{T_0 > 1-t}].$$

Taking expectation on both sides, we have

$$\mathbb{P}(L \leq t) = \int \mathbb{E}_y[\mathbb{1}_{T_0 > 1-t}] p(t, 0, dy) = \int \mathbb{P}_y(T_0 > 1-t) p(t, 0, dy).$$

The rest of the result follows from Example 8.4.2, page 374 of Durrett.

3. Since  $L$  is isolated from the right and almost surely zeros of  $B_t$  cannot be isolated, there must be zeros  $z_n \uparrow L$ . (Warning: almost surely there are zeros between  $z_n$ , otherwise the  $z_n$  is also isolated zero.) Since almost surely  $B_t$  cannot be constantly 0 in  $[z_n, z_{n+1}]$ , there must be  $t_k \in [z_{n_k}, z_{n_k+1}]$  and  $s_m \in [z_{n_m}, z_{n_m+1}]$  such that  $B(t_k) < 0$  and  $B(s_m) > 0$ .
4. To show that it is a martingale,

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{i\lambda B_t} | \mathcal{F}_s] = e^{i\lambda B_s} \mathbb{E}[e^{i\lambda(B_t - B_s)} | \mathcal{F}_s].$$

However, how the conditional expectation becomes expectation, by independent increments of Brownian motions. There are independent  $X, Y$  which are  $N(0, t - s)$  such that  $\mathbb{E}[e^{i\lambda(B_t - B_s)}] = \mathbb{E}[e^{i\lambda X}] \mathbb{E}[e^{-\lambda Y}]$  which is a product of characteristic function and moment generating function of  $N(0, t - s)$ . It follows that

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{i\lambda B_t} | \mathcal{F}_s] = e^{i\lambda B_s} \exp(-(t - s)\lambda^2/2) \exp((t - s)\lambda^2/2) = e^{i\lambda B_s}.$$

If we assume  $B_0 = i$ , since  $e^{i\lambda B_t}$  is a martingale,

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{i\lambda B_t}] = \mathbb{E}[e^{i\lambda B_0}] = e^{-\lambda}.$$

5. For  $\mathbb{E}_x[\tau]$ , the main observation is that

$$\mathbb{E}_x[T_R | T_R < T_0] = \mathbb{E}_x[T | T_R < T_0]$$

where  $T = T_R \wedge T_0$  since  $B_t^2 - t$  is a martingale (and other technical assumptions are satisfied), the optional stopping theorem yields

$$x^2 = \mathbb{E}_x[B(\tau)^2 - \tau] = R^2 - \mathbb{E}_x[\tau]$$

so  $\mathbb{E}_x[\tau] = R^2 - x^2$ . For  $\mathbb{E}_x[T_R | T_R < T_0]$ , first, we can check that  $B_t^3 - 3tB_t$  is a martingale. Since  $P_x(T_R < T_0) = x/R$  by theorem 8.5.3 Durrett, the optional stopping theorem (again technical assumptions are satisfied) yields

$$x^3 = \mathbb{E}_x[B(T)^3 - 3TB(T)] = x(R^2 - 3\mathbb{E}_x[T_R | T_R < T_0]).$$

Hence,

$$\mathbb{E}_x[T_R | T_R < T_0] = \frac{1}{3}(R^2 - x^2)$$