

HOMework #6 : FINAL EXAMINATION
Due on March 22nd : individual work

Exercise 1 *Warm-up : behaviour of characteristic exponent*

Let $\eta(u)$ be the characteristic exponent of a real-valued Lévy process :

$$\eta(u) = ibu - \frac{1}{2}\Gamma u^2 + \int_{\mathbb{R}} [e^{iuy} - 1 - iuy\mathbf{1}_{\{|y|<1\}}] \nu(dy).$$

1. Show that $\lim_{|u| \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\eta(u)}{u^2} = -\frac{1}{2}\Gamma$, by proving that $\lim_{|u| \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{u^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}} [e^{iuy} - 1 - iuy\mathbf{1}_{\{|y|<1\}}] \nu(dy) = 0$.
2. Show that X has bounded variations on every time interval a.s. if and only if $\Gamma = 0$ and $\int_{\mathbb{R}} (1 \wedge |y|) \nu(dy) < \infty$. Use Lévy-Itô decomposition or the exponential formula for PRM. In that case $\lim_{|u| \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\eta(u)}{u} = i\mathbf{d}$, where $\mathbf{d} = b - \int_{-1}^1 y \nu(dy)$ is the drift. Use the dominated convergence as in the first point.
3. Show that the characteristic exponent η is bounded if and only if X is a compound Poisson process. If you assume that η is bounded, show that

$$(\operatorname{Re} \eta)(u) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^*} (\cos(uy) - 1) \nu(dy)$$

and that

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^*} (e^{-ty^2/2} - 1) \nu(dy) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi t}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{-\lambda^2/2t} (\operatorname{Re} \eta)(\lambda) d\lambda \leq \sup_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}} (\operatorname{Re} \eta)(\lambda).$$

Deduce further that X has bounded variations (in the sense of the preceding point).

Exercise 2 *First round : subordinators*

A non-decreasing Lévy process with values in \mathbb{R}_+ is called a *subordinator*.

1. Show that a real valued Lévy process $X = (X_t : t \geq 0)$ is a subordinator if its characteristic exponent has the form

$$\eta(u) = ibu + \int_0^\infty (e^{iyu} - 1) \nu(dy), \quad (1)$$

where $b \geq 0$ and the Lévy measure has the support in \mathbb{R}_+ and satisfies

$$\int_0^1 y \nu(dy) < \infty \quad \text{or equivalently} \quad \int_0^\infty \frac{y}{1+y} \nu(dy) < \infty. \quad (2)$$

Moreover $X_t = tb + \sum_{s \leq t} \Delta X_s$. Use the positivity and the monotonicity to prove that X contains no Brownian part. Then use the existence of all moments of the third term in the Lévy-Itô decomposition of X to obtain (2).

2. Show that for a subordinator

$$\mathbb{E}(e^{-\lambda X_t}) = e^{-t\phi(\lambda)}, \quad (3)$$

where the Laplace exponent

$$\phi(\lambda) = \eta(i\lambda) = -b\lambda + \int_0^\infty (1 - e^{-\lambda y})\nu(dy). \quad (4)$$

Analyse the analytic continuation of $u \mapsto \mathbb{E}(e^{iuX_t})$.

3. A subordinator X is called one-sided stable process if for each $a \geq 0$ there corresponds a constant $c(a) \geq 0$ such that aX_t and $X_{tc(a)}$ have the same law.

(a) Show that $c(\cdot)$ in this definition is continuous and satisfies the equation $c(a\tilde{a}) = c(a)c(\tilde{a})$. Then deduce that $c(a) = a^\alpha$, with some $\alpha > 0$ (the index).

(b) Deduce further that $\phi(a) = c(a)\phi(1)$ and hence

$$\mathbb{E}(e^{-\lambda X_t}) = e^{-tr\lambda^\alpha}, \quad r > 0 \text{ (the rate)}. \quad (5)$$

By using the concavity of ϕ deduce that $\alpha \in (0, 1)$.

(c) Prove (or assume) that for $\alpha \in (0, 1)$,

$$\int_0^\infty (1 - e^{-\lambda y}) \frac{1}{y^{1+\alpha}} dy = \frac{\Gamma(1-\alpha)}{\alpha} \lambda^\alpha,$$

where here $\Gamma(\cdot)$ is the Euler's gamma function. Deduce that the stable subordinators with index α and rate r have the Laplace exponent (4) with Lévy measure

$$\nu(dy) = \frac{\alpha r}{\Gamma(1-\alpha)} \frac{1}{y^{1+\alpha}}. \quad (6)$$

(d) An example : the stable subordinator with index $\frac{1}{2}$ and rate 1 have the probability density

$$f_{X_t}(s) := \left(\frac{t}{2\sqrt{\pi}}\right) s^{-3/2} e^{-t^2/(4s)}, \quad s \geq 0.$$

Indeed, set

$$g_t(\lambda) := \mathbb{E}(e^{-\lambda X_t}) = \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda s} f_{X_t}(s) ds,$$

prove that $g'_t(\lambda) = -(t/2\sqrt{\lambda})g_t(\lambda)$, that $g_t(0) = 1$ and deduce that $g_t(\lambda) = e^{-t\lambda^{1/2}}$.

Exercise 3 *Rising scale : transience and recurrence*

Let $X = (X_t : t \geq 0)$ be a Lévy process with the characteristic exponent η . Denote by P_t the associated semigroup, given by

$$P_t f(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x+y) \mathbb{P}(X_t \in dy),$$

with f a non-negative measurable function. Recall that the resolvent R_λ is given, for measurable $f \geq 0$ by

$$R_\lambda f(x) = \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda t} P_t f(x) dt = \mathbb{E}_x \left(\int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda t} f(X_t) dt \right).$$

1. Let τ an exponential random time with parameter λ . Show that $\mathbb{E}_\bullet f(X_\tau) = \lambda R_\lambda f(\bullet)$.

2. Denote the Fourier transform of a function $g \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$ by

$$\mathcal{F}g(u) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{iux} g(x) dx$$

(attention, not the same definition as in the course). Show that for every $f \in L^1 \cap L^\infty$,

$$\mathcal{F}(P_t f)(u) = \exp\{t\eta(-u)\} \mathcal{F}f(u), \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{F}(R_\lambda f)(u) = \left(\frac{1}{\lambda - \eta(-u)} \right) \mathcal{F}f(u), \quad (7)$$

where $t \geq 0$ and $\lambda > 0$. Moreover if A denotes the generator of P_t and D its domain, show that if $f \in D$ and $Af \in L^1$, then

$$\mathcal{F}(Af)(u) = \eta(-u) \mathcal{F}f(u).$$

3. Let us introduce a family of measures called the potential measures $\{U(x, \cdot) : x \in \mathbb{R}\}$ given, for $B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$, by

$$U(x, B) = \int_0^\infty \mathbb{P}_x(X_t \in B) dt = \mathbb{E}_x \left(\int_0^\infty \mathbb{1}_{\{X_t \in B\}} dt \right) \in [0, \infty].$$

If $T_B = \inf\{t \geq 0 : X_t \in B\}$ denotes the first entrance time into B , show that

$$U(x, B) = \mathbb{E}_x \left(\int_{T_B}^\infty \mathbb{1}_{\{X_t \in B\}} dt \right) = \int_{\overline{B}} U(y, B) \mathbb{P}_x(X_{T_B} \in dy), \quad (8)$$

where \overline{B} is the closure of B .

4. We say that the process X is *transient* if for every compact set K , $U(x, K) < \infty$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$, or equivalent if $U(0, K) < \infty$ since $U(x, K) = U(0, K - \{x\})$. Here we denoted by $B - B' = \{x - x' : x \in B, x' \in B'\}$. We say that a process is *recurrent* if $U(0, B) = \infty$ for every open ball B centered in 0. We want to prove that the process is either transient or recurrent.

- (a) Suppose that $\exists \varepsilon > 0$ such that $U(0, B) < \infty$, where $B = (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon)$, and let $B' = [-\frac{\varepsilon}{3}, \frac{\varepsilon}{3}]$. Justify the following relations

$$U(x, B') \leq \sup_{y \in B'} U(y, B') = \sup_{y \in B'} U(0, B' - \{y\}) \leq U(0, B' - B') \leq U(0, B) < \infty.$$

Use (8) for the first inequality.

- (b) Deduce that for every $y \in \mathbb{R}$, $U(x, \{y\} + B') < \infty$ and then $U(x, K) < \infty$ for any compact K .

5. Test of transience : the Lévy process X is transient iff for some $r > 0$ small enough

$$\limsup_{\lambda \downarrow 0} \int_{-r}^r \operatorname{Re} \left(\frac{1}{\lambda - \eta(u)} \right) du < \infty. \quad (9)$$

- (a) For $r > 0$ arbitrary small consider $f = \mathbb{1}_{[-r, r]} \star \mathbb{1}_{[-r, r]}$ (the convolution). Clearly it can be (proved) seen that $0 \leq f \leq 2r \mathbb{1}_{[-2r, 2r]}$ is continuous non-negative with support $[-2r, 2r]$ and also that

$$\mathcal{F}f(u) = \begin{cases} [(2/u) \sin(ru)]^2 & \text{if } u \neq 0 \\ 4r^2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

is a bounded continuous non-negative function. Show that for $\lambda > 0$,

$$R_\lambda f(0) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left[\frac{2}{u} \sin(ru) \right]^2 \operatorname{Re} \left(\frac{1}{\lambda + \eta(-u)} \right) du. \quad (10)$$

Use Fourier inversion, (7) and the fact that $R_\lambda f(0)$ is a real number.

(b) Deduce that

$$2rU(0, [-2r, 2r]) \geq \lim_{\lambda \downarrow 0} R_\lambda f(0),$$

and latter quantity is infinite whenever

$$\limsup_{\lambda \downarrow 0} \int_{-r}^r \operatorname{Re} \left(\frac{1}{\lambda + \eta(u)} \right) du = \infty$$

and then X is recurrent.

(c) Conversely, assume that for $r > 0$,

$$\limsup_{\lambda \downarrow 0} \int_{-2r}^{2r} \operatorname{Re} \left(\frac{1}{\lambda + \eta(u)} \right) du < \infty.$$

Set

$$g(x) = f(u) = \begin{cases} [(2/x) \sin(rx)]^2 & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ 4r^2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

having its Fourier transform $\mathcal{F}g(u) = 2\pi \mathbf{1}_{[-r, r]} \star \mathbf{1}_{[-r, r]}$. Deduce an expression of $R_\lambda g(0)$. One can use the same argument as in the previous point.

(d) Prove that $U(0, [-\frac{\pi}{3r}, \frac{\pi}{3r}]) < \infty$. For instance one can (prove and) use that $g(x) \geq r^2$, when $|x| \leq \frac{\pi}{3r}$. Conclude that X is transient.

Exercise 4 Final step : pathwise uniqueness

Let $X = (X_t : t \geq 0)$ be a one-dimensional symmetric stable with index $\alpha \in (1, 2)$ having its Lévy measure given by $\nu(dz) = |z|^{-1-\alpha}$ on \mathbb{R}^* and its generator

$$Lf(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^*} [f(x+z) - f(x) - \mathbf{1}_{\{|z| \leq 1\}} z f'(x)] |z|^{-1-\alpha} dz,$$

for C^2 functions.

1. Set $X_t^n = \sum_{s \leq t} \Delta X_s \mathbf{1}_{\{|\Delta X_s| \leq n\}}$. Show that X^n is a Lévy process and give its Lévy measure, then show that X^n is a square integrable martingale.
2. Let H_t be a bounded predictable process. Show that $Z_t^n := \int_0^t H_s dX_s^n$ is a square integrable martingale.
3. Set $U_t^n = X_t - X_t^n$. Show that

$$\mathbb{E} \left| \int_0^t H_s dU_s^n \right| \leq C \mathbb{E} \left(\sum_{s \leq t} |\Delta X_s| \mathbf{1}_{\{|\Delta X_s| > n\}} \right),$$

for some constant C . Show that the right hand side of the latter inequality is finite and tends to 0, as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

4. Deduce that the process $Z_t = \int_0^t H_s dX_s$ is a martingale.

5. Let f be a C_b^2 function (with bounded first and second derivatives) and set $K(s, z) := f(Z_{s-} + H_s z) - f(Z_{s-}) - f'(Z_{s-})H_s z$. Justify each of following equalities

$$f(Z_t) = f(Z_0) + \int_0^t f'(Z_{s-})dZ_s + \sum_{s \leq t} [f(Z_s) - f(Z_{s-}) - f'(Z_{s-})\Delta Z_s]$$

$$= f(Z_0) + \int_0^t f'(Z_{s-})dZ_s + \int_0^t \int K(s, z)N(ds, dz) = f(Z_0) + M_t + \int_0^t \int K(s, z)ds\nu(dz),$$

where $M_t = \int_0^t f'(Z_{s-})dZ_s + \int_0^t \int K(s, z)\tilde{N}(ds, dz)$. Here N is the PRM associated to X with intensity measure $dt \nu(dz)$.

6. Prove that for each m , $V_t^m = \int_0^t \int_{|z| \leq m} K(s, z)\tilde{N}(ds, dz)$ is a martingale and that M_t is the limit of martingales $\int_0^t f'(Z_{s-})dZ_s + V_t^m$.

One can use the fact that for each $k > m$, $V_t^k - V_t^m$ is a martingale and show that

$$\mathbb{E} \int_0^t \int_{m < |z|} |K(s, z)|(N(ds, dz) + ds\nu(dz)) \leq C'm^{1-\alpha},$$

for some constant C' not depending on m .

7. Show that, if $H_s \neq 0$, we have

$$\int_0^t \int K(s, z)ds\nu(dz) = \int_0^t |H_s|^\alpha Lf(Z_{s-}).$$

One should come back to the expression of K , perform the change of variable $w = H_s z$ and recall the expression of L . Conclude that even if $H_s = 0$,

$$f(Z_t) = f(Z_0) + M_t + \int_0^t |H_s|^\alpha Lf(Z_{s-})ds. \quad (11)$$

8. We study the uniqueness of the following SDE

$$dY_t = F(Y_{t-})dX_t, \quad Y_0 = y_0, \quad (12)$$

where F is supposed bounded continuous such that

$$|F(x) - F(y)| \leq \rho(|x - y|), \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}, \quad (13)$$

with $\rho : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ a non-decreasing continuous function, $\rho(0) = 0$. More precisely we try to prove that if

$$\int_{0+} \frac{1}{\rho(x)^\alpha} dx = \infty, \quad (14)$$

then the solution of the SDE (12) is pathwise unique.

- (a) Let Y^1 and Y^2 be any two solutions of (12) set $Z_t = Y_t^1 - Y_t^2$ and $H_t = F(Y_{t-}^1) - F(Y_{t-}^2)$. Deduce that $Z_t = \int_0^t H_s dX_s$.
- (b) Define $A_t = \int_0^t |H_s|^\alpha ds$. Justify that $A_t < \infty$ (use the fact that F is bounded).

- (c) Let $a_n \downarrow 0$ such that $\int_{a_{n+1}}^{a_n} \rho(x)^{-\alpha} dx = n$. For each n let h_n be a non-negative C^2 function with the support in $[a_{n+1}, a_n]$, whose integral is 1 and with $h_n(x) \leq 2/(n\rho(x)^\alpha)$. Why is this possible?
- (d) Denote by $p_t(x, y)$ the transition density for X_t , that is the density of $\mathbb{P}_x(X_t \in dy)$. Fix $\lambda > 0$, let $r_\lambda(x) = \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda t} p_t(x, 0) dt$ and $R_\lambda f(x) = \int f(y) r_\lambda(x - y) dy$. Who is R_λ here? It can be proved that $r_\lambda(x)$ is bounded and is continuous in x (admitted). Furthermore $r_\lambda(x) < r_\lambda(0)$, if $x \neq 0$. Finally, set $f_n = R_\lambda h_n(x)$. Show that if h_n is C^2 , then f_n is C^2 .

One can interchange differentiation and integration and uses translation invariance.

- (e) Show that $Lf_n = LR_\lambda h_n = \lambda R_\lambda h_n - h_n = \lambda f_n - h_n$.
- (f) Use Itô's product formula and (11) to deduce

$$\mathbb{E}(e^{-\lambda A_t} f_n(Z_t)) - f_n(0) = \mathbb{E} \int_0^t e^{-\lambda A_s} |H_s|^\alpha Lf_n(Z_{s-}) ds - \mathbb{E} \int_0^t e^{-\lambda A_s} \lambda |H_s|^\alpha f_n(Z_{s-}) ds.$$

- (g) Conclude from the preceding two points that

$$f_n(0) - \mathbb{E}(e^{-\lambda A_t} f_n(Z_t)) = \mathbb{E} \int_0^t e^{-\lambda A_s} |H_s|^\alpha h_n(Z_{s-}) ds.$$

Show, by using the properties of h_n and the fact that $|H_s| \leq \rho(Z_{s-})$, that the right hand side of the latter equality is less than $2t/n$ hence tends to 0, as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

- (h) Justify that $h_n(y) dy \rightarrow \delta_0$ weakly, as $n \rightarrow \infty$ and that $f_n(x) \rightarrow r_\lambda(x)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Show that

$$r_\lambda(0) - \mathbb{E}(e^{-\lambda A_t} r_\lambda(Z_t)) = 0.$$

- (i) Conclude that $\mathbb{P}(Z_t = 0) = 1$ for each t hence Z is identically 0.

Exercice (Bonus) *Last word : another approach to pathwise uniqueness*

Consider the same SDE (12) as in 8 of the Exercise 4 and make the same assumptions on F and ρ . Recall that N is the PRM associated to X with intensity measure $dt\nu(dz)$.

1. Explain why the equation (12) can be written as

$$Y_t = y_0 + \int_0^t \int_{|z| \leq 1} F(Y_{s-}) z \tilde{N}(ds, dz) + \int_0^t \int_{|z| > 1} F(Y_{s-}) z N(ds, dz). \quad (15)$$

2. Consider again the sequence $a_n \downarrow 0$ such that $\int_{a_{n+1}}^{a_n} \rho(x)^{-\alpha} dx = n$ and also h_n non-negative C^2 even functions with the support in $[a_{n+1}, a_n]$, whose integral is 1 and with $h_n(x) \leq 2/(n\rho(x)^\alpha)$. Set $u(x) = |x|^{\alpha-1}$ and $u_n = u \star h_n$. Justify that $u_n(s) \rightarrow u(x)$, as $n \rightarrow \infty$.
3. In this question we prove that $Lu_n = cu_n$ with c a constant independent of n . Set $u^\epsilon(x) = u(x)e^{-\epsilon|x|}$ and $u_n^\epsilon = u^\epsilon \star h_n$. The functions u_n^ϵ belongs to $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R})$.

- (a) Use Exercise 3 point 2, with same notations, and show $\mathcal{F}(Lu_n^\epsilon)(\xi) = c(\alpha)|\xi|^\alpha \mathcal{F}u_n^\epsilon(\xi)$.
- (b) Show that

$$\mathcal{F}u_n^\epsilon(\xi) = c'(\alpha)[(\epsilon - i\xi)^{-\alpha} + (\epsilon + i\xi)^{-\alpha}] \mathcal{F}h_n(\xi).$$

- (c) For $\xi \neq 0$ compute $\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} [(\epsilon - i\xi)^{-\alpha} + (\epsilon + i\xi)^{-\alpha}]$ and deduce $Lu_n = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} Lu_n^\epsilon = cu_n$.

4. Denote again Y^1 and Y^2 two solutions of (12) and set $Z_t = Y_t^1 - Y_t^2$. Show that

$$\begin{aligned} u_n(Z_t) - u_n(0) &= \int_0^t |F(Y_s^1) - F(Y_s^2)|^\alpha L u_n(Z_s) ds \\ &+ \int_0^t \int \left[u_n(Z_{s-} + (F(Y_s^1) - F(Y_s^2))z) - u_n(Z_{s-}) \right] \tilde{N}(ds, dz). \end{aligned}$$

5. Show that $|F(x) - F(y)|^\alpha L u_n(x, y) \leq c\rho(|x - y|)^\alpha h_n(x - y) \leq c/n$.

6. Set, for $k \geq 1$, $T_k = \inf\{t > 0 : |Z_t| > k\}$. Deduce that

$$\mathbb{E} \left[u_n(Z_{t \wedge T_k}) \right] \leq u_n(0) + \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^{t \wedge T_k} \frac{c}{n} ds \right].$$

Conclude that $\mathbb{E}[|Z_{t \wedge T_k}|^{\alpha-1}] = 0$ and then $Z_t = 0$ a.s.