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Existence of Small Oscillations at Zeros of Brownian Motion

by Frank B. Knight

0. Introduction. Let $X(t)$, $X(0) = 0$, be a standard one-dimensional Brownian motion, with zero-set $Z = \{0 \leq t \leq 1: X(t) = 0\}$. Many properties of Z are known, in the sense that they hold with probability 1. For example, Z is a closed uncountable set of Hausdorff dimension $\frac{1}{2}$ [2, 2.5]. If one asks, however, for the conditional behavior of $X(t+h)$ given that $0 < t \in Z$ one encounters the difficulty that, since $P\{t \in Z\} = 0$, the conditioning has no meaning. To be sure if $t = T(w) \in Z$ is a stopping time, then the strong Markov property implies various results, of which the most relevant here is the well-known Local Law of the Iterated Logarithm [6, VI, 51.1]: Set $\Delta_h X(t) = X(t+h) - X(t)$ and $\phi_2(h) = (h \log \log 1/h)^{1/2}$. Then $P\{\limsup_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \Delta_h X(T) (\sqrt{2} \phi_2(h))^{-1} = \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \Delta_h X(T) (\sqrt{2} \phi_2(h))^{-1} = 1\} = 1$. There are, however, many (random) $t \in Z$ at which this behavior does not hold, and such t we shall term "exceptional." The object of this paper is to study one type of exceptionality which occurs with probability 1.⁽¹⁾

⁽¹⁾It will be noted that such a type of exceptionality will be represented not only in Z but also at all x in the range of $X(t)$ outside a random set of Lebesgue measure 0. It then follows directly from P. Lévy's modulus of continuity for $X(t)$ [6, VII, 52] that the overall exceptional set has Hausdorff dimension $\geq \frac{1}{2}$ (for this observation I am indebted to Professor N. Jain).

Our main result is to show that there exist $t \in Z$ with $\limsup_{h \rightarrow 0^+} |\Delta_h X(t)| (\sqrt{2} \varphi_2(h))^{-1} < 1$. This gives a partial answer to a question of A. Dvoretzky [1] which remained unanswered in [9] (without the added information that $t \in Z$). To do this we rely upon a result of B. Mandelbrot [7] and L. Shepp [10]. At the same time, our analysis seems to indicate that there do not exist $t \in Z$ for which $\limsup_{h \rightarrow 0^+} |\Delta_h X(t)| (\varphi_2(h))^{-1} = 0$. Consequently, if such t exist they must be sought elsewhere than in the set where $X(t)$ has a prescribed value.

Before turning to this result, let us remark upon a type of exceptionality which is quite well understood. A time $t \in Z$ is said to be the starting time of an excursion of $X(t)$ if $X(t+h) \neq 0$ for $0 < h < \varepsilon$ sufficiently small. There are countably many such t , and for all of them the behavior of $\Delta_h X(t)$ is adequately covered by [2, 2.10]. Assuming, as we may, that $X(t+h) > 0$, we have $\limsup_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \Delta_h X(t) (\sqrt{2} \varphi_2(h))^{-1} = 1$ as in the unexceptional case, but also $\liminf_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \Delta_h X(t) h^{-\frac{1}{2}} (\log 1/h)^{(1+\varepsilon)} > 1$ for $\varepsilon > 0$, in radical contrast with the normal behavior for $-\Delta_h X(t)$. We see immediately that there cannot exist a stopping

time T which equals the starting time of an excursion with positive probability. ⁽²⁾

(2) Another set of exceptional times is of course the set of local maxima and minima. Being countable, however, it does not intersect Z . The behavior of $X(t)$ following such an extremum is entirely analogous to that at the start of an excursion. This is easily seen from P. Levy's equivalence $|X(t)| = M(t) - X(t)$ where $M(t) = \max_{s \leq t} X(s)$. Moreover, by an evident reversal of time most of this exceptional behavior holds in both time directions. In short, the path exhibits a dense set of spine-like projections of sharpness exceeding $\sqrt{|h|} (\log \frac{1}{|h|})^{-(1+\epsilon)}$ for every $\epsilon > 0$.

1. Exceptional Small Oscillations at $t \in Z$.

We introduce the standard local time $f(t)$ of $X(t)$ at 0 using the indicator function $I_{(-\infty, x)}$ of $(-\infty, x)$:

$$(1.1) \quad f(t) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dx} \int_0^t I_{(-\infty, x)}(X(s)) ds].$$

$X=0$

The existence and continuity in t of $f(t)$ is a well-known result of P. Lévy (see [2]). The exact statement of our result is as follows.

Theorem 1.1. $P\{\exists t_0 \in Z: \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0^+} |X(t_0+h)| (\varphi_2(h))^{-1} < k\} = 1,$
for all $k > 2^{-\frac{1}{2}}$.

Proof. The key to the proof lies in the observation that if the oscillations of $|X(t)|$ above 0 are recorded as a function of the local time $f(t)$ they generate a homogeneous Poisson point process of the type considered in [10].

Definition 1.1. Let $f^{(-1)}(\alpha) = \inf\{t: f(t) > \alpha\}$ be the right-continuous inverse local time at 0, and let $A(\alpha, \alpha + \varepsilon) =$

$$\max_{f^{(-1)}(\alpha) < t < f^{(-1)}(\alpha + \varepsilon)} |X(t)|, \quad 0 \leq \alpha < \alpha + \varepsilon.$$

Lemma 1.1. The random set $\Gamma = \{(\alpha, y): \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} A(\alpha - \varepsilon, \alpha) = y > 0\}$

is a homogeneous Poisson point process with parameter $\alpha \geq 0$ and expectation measure $\lambda \times \mu$ where λ is Lebesgue measure and $\mu(A) = \int_A 2y^{-2} dy$ on $\{y: 0 < y < \infty\}$.

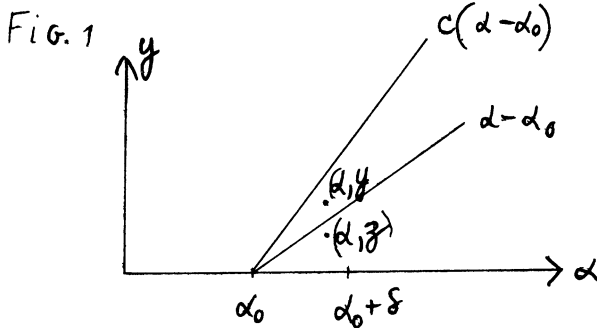
Proof. Since $f^{(-1)}(\alpha)$ is a homogeneous process with independent increments and a stopping time of $X(t)$ for each α , with $X(f^{(-1)}(\alpha)) = 0$, it is clear that Γ is a homogeneous Poisson

point process. Taking into account the independence of the local times for $x > 0$ and for $x < 0$ up to time $t^{(-1)}(\alpha)$ and the fact that $P\{M(t^{(-1)}(\alpha)) < z\} = \exp - \frac{\alpha}{z}$, known from [3, Theorems 1.2 and 2.2, or 11, Proposition 2.4], we have $P\{A(0, \alpha) < z\} = \exp - \frac{2\alpha}{z}$. In view of $\frac{2\alpha}{z} = \alpha \int_z^\infty 2y^{-2} dy$ this implies the result.

The following lemma is now a direct consequence of [7].

Lemma 1.2. $P\{\exists \alpha_0$ with $t^{(-1)}(\alpha_0) \leq 1$ and $A(\alpha_0, \alpha_0 + \varepsilon) < c\varepsilon$, $0 < \varepsilon < \delta$ for some $\delta > 0\} = 1$ for $c > 2$.

Proof. The property $A(\alpha_0, \alpha_0 + \varepsilon) < c\varepsilon$, $0 < \varepsilon < \delta$, may be stated as saying that α_0 is not covered by the union of open intervals $(\alpha - z, \alpha)$ generated by the truncated Poisson process $\{(\alpha, z) : z = \frac{y}{c} \wedge \delta, (\alpha, y) \in \Gamma\}$ where \wedge denotes minimum.



This process has mean density $2c^{-1}y^{-2}$; $y < c\delta$, with a point mass at $y = \delta$ of size $2(c\delta)^{-1}$. The result of [10, (40)] or [7], states that such an α_0 exists with positive probability if and only if $\int_0^\delta (\exp \int_x^\delta 2(cy)^{-1} dy) dx < \infty$, where

$2(cy)^{-1} = \int_y^\delta 2c^{-1}z^{-2}dz + 2(c\delta)^{-1}$ is the expectation measure in $[y, \infty)$. The condition is equivalent to $\int_0^1 x^{-\frac{2}{c}} dx < \infty$, i.e., to $c > 2$. Routine use of the scale change $X(t) \equiv k^{-\frac{1}{2}} X(kt)$ shows that $A(\alpha, \alpha + \epsilon) \equiv k^{-\frac{1}{2}} A(k^{\frac{1}{2}}\alpha, k^{\frac{1}{2}}(\alpha + \epsilon))$, and letting $k \rightarrow 0$ we may allow $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ and apply the 0-1 Law to get the probability 1 as required.

The exceptional t_0 of Theorem 1.1 is essentially $t_0 = f^{(-1)}(\alpha_0)$, but to derive the result directly would involve giving a meaning to the process $X(f^{(-1)}(\alpha_0) + h)$, which is problematical. Instead, we introduce the space $\Omega' = [0, \infty) \times \Omega$, where Ω is the sample space of $X(t)$, and define the conditioning sequentially in such a way that it may be applied at a constant $\alpha = 0$. We then argue that the projection of the limit set in Ω' has positive probability in Ω , and therefore the additional condition of Theorem 1.1 is met at some $t_0 = f^{(-1)}(\alpha_0)$.

Turning to the details, let δ, c_0 and $\rho < 1$ be positive constants, $0 < r < s$ and n be integers, and consider the subset of Ω'

$$(1.2) \quad S'(n, r, s) = S'(n) \cap M'(r, s);$$

$$S'(n) = \{(\alpha, \omega) : f^{(-1)}(\alpha) \leq 1, A(\alpha, \alpha + k2^{-n}\delta) \leq ck2^{-n}\delta, 1 \leq k < 2^n\}$$

$$M'(r, s) = \{(\alpha, \omega) : \max_{f^{(-1)}(\alpha) < t < f^{(-1)}(\alpha) + \rho^m\delta} |X(t)| \leq c_0 \rho_2(\rho^m\delta), r \leq m \leq s\}.$$

Furthermore, let $\Phi(S') = \{w: (\alpha, w) \in S' \text{ for some } \alpha \geq 0\}$ denote the projection onto Ω . The proof rests in showing that, for suitable c_0, c, δ , and r ,

$$(1.3) \text{ (a)} \quad \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(\Phi(S'(n, r, s))) > 0, \text{ and}$$

$$(b) \quad \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Phi(S'(n, r, s)) = \Phi(\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S'(n, r, s)).$$

Indeed, it is clear that

$$(1.4) \quad \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S'(n, r, s) = \{(\alpha, w) \in \Omega' : f^{(-1)}(\alpha) \leq 1;$$

$$\mathcal{A}(\alpha, \alpha + \epsilon) \leq c \epsilon, 0 < \epsilon < \delta, \text{ and}$$

$$f^{(-1)}(\alpha) < t < f^{(-1)}(\alpha) + \rho^m \delta, r \leq m < \infty\} .$$

Since φ_2 is increasing this will imply the result when $c_0 \sim 2^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ and $(1-\rho) \sim 0$, for in view of (b) the set of w for which there exists an exceptional $t_0 = f^{(-1)}(\alpha_0)$ will have positive probability (the scale change used in Lemma 1.2 again shows easily that the probability must be 0 or 1).

The first step in proving (a) is

Lemma 1.3. $P\{\Phi(S'(n, r, s))\} \geq P\{\Phi(S'(n))\} \times$
 $P\{(0, w) \in M'(r, s) | (0, w) \in S'(n)\}.$

Proof. We set $\alpha_n = \inf\{\alpha: (\alpha, w) \in S'(n)\}$ if this is non-null and $\alpha_n = f(1) + 1$ otherwise. Although α_n is not a stopping time, we can reduce it to stopping time on the set $\{\alpha_n \leq f(1)\} = \{(\alpha_n, w) \in S'(n)\}$. On this set, either $\alpha_n = 0$ or else α_n is the local time of an excursion of $X(t)$ such that $\mathcal{A}(\alpha_n^-, \alpha_n) > c2^{-n}\delta$. To see this, note that if $0 < \alpha_n \leq f(1)$ then for $\alpha < \alpha_n$ we have $\mathcal{A}(\alpha, (\alpha + k2^{-n}\delta) \wedge \alpha_n) > ck2^{-n}\delta$ for some $k < 2^n$, and the assertion follows as α increases to α_n . The set of $f^{(-1)}(\alpha)$ with $\mathcal{A}(\alpha^-, \alpha) > c2^{-n}\delta$ is contained in the sequence T_1, \dots, T_n, \dots of stopping times $T_1 = \inf\{t: X(t) = 0 \text{ and } \max_{0 < s < t} |X(s)| > c2^{-n}\delta\}$, $T_{n+1} = T_n + T_1 \circ \theta_{T_n}$, where θ_t is the usual translation operator. Setting $T_0 = 0$ and using the strong Markov property, we have

$$\begin{aligned} P\{\Phi(S'(n, r, s))\} &\geq \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P\{(\alpha_n, w) \in S'(n, r, s), \alpha_n = f(T_k)\} \\ &= P\{\Phi(S'(n))\}P\{(0, w) \in M'(r, s) | (0, w) \in S'(n)\}, \end{aligned}$$

as required.

The next step is to obtain an estimate of the above conditional probability. The analytical content is contained in

Lemma 1.4. For $\beta > 0$, $x > 0$, $K > 0$ and large r ,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\{f^{(-1)}(\beta\varphi_2(\rho^m\delta)) < x\rho^m\delta | (0, w) \in S'(n)\} \\ \leq |\log \rho^m\delta|^{Kx-2\beta} \sqrt{2K} (c\beta \sqrt{2K} \log|\log \rho^m\delta|)^{\frac{c}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Given $(0, w) \in S'(n)$ the increments $f^{(-1)}(j2^{-n\delta}) - f^{(-1)}((j-1)2^{-n\delta})$ remain independent, $1 \leq j < n$, and their conditional distribution is the same as that of $f^{(-1)}(2^{-n\delta})$ given that $\max_{0 < t < f^{(-1)}(2^{-n\delta})} |X(t)| < cj2^{-n\delta}$. The Laplace transform of this conditional distribution is readily obtained from [4, Theorem 2.1], in which we set $\alpha = 2^{1-n\delta}$, $a = cj2^{-n}$, and square the result since the f of [4] is twice the present f and the sojourns in $(0, a)$ and $(-a, 0)$ are independent.⁽³⁾ Multiplying from $j = 1$ to k we obtain

$$(1.5) \quad E(\exp - \lambda f^{(-1)}(k2^{-n\delta}) | (0, w) \in S'(n)) \\ = \exp \sum_{j=1}^k \left(\frac{2}{cj} - 2^{1-n\delta} \sqrt{2\lambda} \cothanh(cj2^{-n\delta} \sqrt{2\lambda}) \right).$$

Letting $k2^{-n\delta} = \epsilon$ remain fixed as $n \rightarrow \infty$ the exponent becomes

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2^{-n\delta} \sum_{j=1}^k \left(\frac{2^{n+1}}{cj\delta} - 2\sqrt{2\lambda} \cothanh cj2^{-n\delta} \sqrt{2\lambda} \right) \\ = \lim_{\epsilon' \rightarrow 0} \int_{\epsilon'}^{\epsilon} \left(\frac{2}{cx} - 2\sqrt{2\lambda} \cothanh c\sqrt{2\lambda} x \right) dx \\ = -\frac{2}{c} (\log(\epsilon^{-1} \sinh \epsilon c \sqrt{2\lambda}) - \lim_{\epsilon' \rightarrow 0} (\log c \sqrt{2\lambda} + o(\epsilon'))) \\ = -\frac{2}{c} \log((\epsilon c \sqrt{2\lambda})^{-1} \sinh \epsilon c \sqrt{2\lambda}),$$

and so the Laplace transform converges to

(3) The "check" on p. 179 of [4] has a mistaken integrand. It should be $\exp - (\alpha \sqrt{2\lambda} \cothanh a \sqrt{2\lambda})$.

$$(1.6) \quad ((\varepsilon c \sqrt{2\lambda})(\sinh \varepsilon c \sqrt{2\lambda})^{-1})^+ \frac{2}{c}.$$

Accordingly, the conditional distributions converge weakly, and the limits may be bounded by using $P\{R < k\} < e^{\lambda k} Ee^{-\lambda R}$, valid for any positive random variable R and $\lambda > 0$. Setting $\varepsilon = \beta\varphi_2(\rho^m\delta)$, $k = x\rho^m\delta$, and $\lambda = K(\rho^m\delta)^{-1}\log|\log \rho^m\delta|$, we have $\lambda k = Kx \log|\log \rho^m\delta|$, $\varepsilon c \sqrt{2\lambda} = c\beta \sqrt{2K} \log|\log \rho^m\delta|$, and using the fact that for large values of the argument we may replace $\sinh(\cdot)$ by $\frac{1}{2} \exp(\cdot)$ in (1.6), for large r and $m > r$ we obtain the required upper bound of Lemma 1.4.

To continue, let $\varepsilon' > 0$ be fixed and note that

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\{|X(t)| \leq cf(t) + \varepsilon', 0 < f(t) < \delta | (0, w) \in S'(n)\} = 1$, as follows from $|X(t)| \leq A(0, f(t))$ in view of (1.4). On the other hand, since the limit distribution with transform (1.6) is concentrated near 0 for small ε , we have for any $\delta' > 0$ and $m > r$ sufficiently large, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\{\rho^m\delta < f(\delta) | (0, w) \in S'(n)\} > 1 - \delta'$. Therefore

$$(1.7) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\left\{\bigcup_{m=r}^S \left(\max_{0 < t < \rho^m\delta} |X(t)| > c_0\varphi_2(\rho^m\delta)\right) | (0, w) \in S'(n)\right\} \\ \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\left\{\bigcup_{m=r}^S (cf(t) + \varepsilon' \geq |X(t)|, 0 < t < \rho^m\delta),\right.$$

$$\text{and } \max_{0 < t < \rho^m\delta} |X(t)| > c_0\varphi_2(\rho^m\delta) | (0, w) \in S'(n)\} + \delta'.$$

Thus if we set $T(m) = \inf\{t: cf(t) > c'_0 \varphi_2(\rho^m \delta)\}$ for $c'_0 < c_0$, and let $\varepsilon' \rightarrow 0$, (1.7) will be bounded by

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\left\{ \bigcup_{m=r}^S (T(m) < \rho^m \delta \text{ and } \max_{T(m) < t < \rho^m \delta} |X(t)| > c_0 \varphi_2(\rho^m \delta)) \right. \\ \left. | (O, w) \in S'(n) \right\} + \delta'.$$

Next, since $T(m)$ is a stopping time and $X(T(m)) = 0$, this limit is seen to be bounded by

$$(1.8) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{m=r}^S \int_0^1 P\left\{ \max_{0 < t < \rho^m \delta (1-x)} |X(t)| > c_0 \varphi_2(\rho^m \delta) \right\} dF_{m,n}(x) + \delta',$$

where $F_{m,n}(x)$ is the conditional distribution function of $T(m)(\rho^m \delta)^{-1}$ given $\{(O, w) \in S'(n)\}$. Here we have $F_{m,n}(x) \leq P\{cf(x\rho^m \delta) > c'_0 \varphi_2(\rho^m \delta) | (O, w) \in S'(n)\} \leq P\{f^{(-1)}(\frac{c'_0}{c} \varphi_2(\rho^m \delta)) < x\rho^m \delta | (O, w) \in S'(n)\}$. In applying Lemma 1.4 we may simply set $c'_0 = c_0$ since the bound is continuous. Moreover, for large m the last factor may be absorbed by an arbitrarily small increase in the exponent $Kx - 2\beta \sqrt{2K}$, where $\beta = \frac{c_0}{c}$.

As for the integrand in (1.8), we use the standard inequality

$$(1.9) \quad P\left\{ \max_{0 < s < t} |X(s)| > k \right\} \leq 4P\{X(t) > k\} \leq \left(\frac{4}{K} \sqrt{\frac{t}{2\pi}}\right) \exp - \frac{k^2}{2t},$$

where the first factor on the right will be small for large m and may be replaced by unity. It follows from this and the weak

convergence of the distributions in Lemma 1.4 that (1.8) is bounded by

$$(1.10) \quad \sum_{m=r}^s \int_0^1 \exp - \frac{c_0^2 \phi_2^2(\rho^{m\delta})}{2\rho^{m\delta}(1-x)} d_x (|\log \rho^{m\delta}|^{Kx - \frac{2c_0}{c}\sqrt{2K}}) \\ = \sum_{m=r}^s K \log |\log \rho^{m\delta}| \int_0^1 |\log \rho^{m\delta}| \left(-\frac{c_0^2}{2(1-x)} + Kx - \frac{2c_0}{c}\sqrt{2K} \right) dx + \delta'.$$

Now for given K the exponent is maximized at $x = 1 - c_0(\frac{1}{2K})^{\frac{1}{2}}$, where it becomes $K - K^{\frac{1}{2}}c_0(\sqrt{2} + \frac{c_0^2}{2})$. We can easily minimize this over $K > 0$ to obtain the value $E(c_0) = -\frac{c_0^2}{4}(2 + \frac{8}{c} + \frac{8}{c^2})$. If we choose c_0 to make this less than -1 , then the integrals in (1.8) are of the order $m^{E(c_0)}$, which is the general term of a convergent series.

By choosing $c - 2$ small, this may be accomplished for any $c_0 > \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$. Recalling that δ' in (1.7) does not depend on s we can then let $s \rightarrow \infty$ and (1.7) will be strictly less than 1 if r is large. In view of Lemmas 1.3 and 1.2 this proves property (1.3), (a): $\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(\Phi(S'(n,r,s))) > 0$, for any $c_0 > \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ when c and r are suitably chosen.

It remains only to prove (1.3), (b). The inclusion from right to left is obvious. Conversely, let $w \in \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Phi(S'(n,r,s))$ and let $(w, \alpha_{n,s}) \in S'(n,r,s)$ for each (n,s) . Keeping s fixed and choosing a subsequence we may assume that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_{n,s} = \alpha_s$ exists. We will show that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f^{(-1)}(\alpha_{n,s}) = f^{(-1)}(\alpha_s)$. In

the contrary case, α_s would be the local time of an excursion of $X(t)$, and $\alpha_{n,s} < \alpha_s$ would hold for infinitely many n . This would contradict the definition of $S'(n,r,s)$ since $A(\alpha_s, \alpha_s) > 0$ is impossible when $A(\alpha_{n,s}, \alpha_{n,s} + k2^{-n}\delta) \leq ck2^{-n}\delta$, $1 \leq k < 2^n$, for $0 < \alpha_s - \alpha_{n,s}$ sufficiently small. It thus follows from the definitions that $(w, \alpha_s) \in \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S'(n,r,s)$.

Similarly, let $\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_s = \alpha$ exist along a subsequence. Then

$\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} f^{(-1)}(\alpha_s) = f^{(-1)}(\alpha)$ in view of (1.4), and so

$(w, \alpha) \in \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S'(n,r,s)$. This implies the result.

A very slight change in this proof also shows the existence of two-sided exceptional times.

Corollary 1.2. $P\{\exists t_0 \in Z: \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0^+} |X(t_0 + \varepsilon_1) - X(t_0 - \varepsilon_2)| (\varphi_2(h))^{-1} < k,$

$0 < \varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2; \varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2 = h\} = 1$ for all $k > \frac{4}{3}$.

Remark. It is shown in [12] that for $t > 0$

$P\{\limsup_{h \rightarrow 0^+} |X(t + \varepsilon_1) - X(t - \varepsilon_2)| (\varphi_2(h))^{-1} = \sqrt{2}\} = 1$ for t fixed.

Since $\frac{4}{3} < \sqrt{2}$ the t_0 obtained above is exceptional.

Proof. The argument of Lemma 1.2 also shows that $P\{\exists \alpha_0$ with $f^{(-1)}(\alpha_0) \leq 1$, and both $A(\alpha_0, \alpha_0 + \varepsilon) < c\varepsilon$ and $A(\alpha_0 - \varepsilon, \alpha_0) < c\varepsilon$, $0 < \varepsilon < \delta\} = 1$ for $c > 4$. Indeed, this is equivalent to α_0 not being covered by the intervals $(\alpha - z, \alpha + z)$, and by the homogeneity of the Poisson process this is equivalent to replacing z

by 2z. The mean density is then $4c^{-1}y^{-2}$ and the integral converges for $c > 4$. Since the problem only involves the increments of $X(t)$ we can assign to $X(0)$ a uniform initial measure on $(-\infty, \infty)$ and obtain a stationary process, $-\infty < t < \infty$. Then the same proof given above, but with $c > 4$, applies both to $X(t_0 + \varepsilon_1) - X(t_0)$ and to $X(t_0 - \varepsilon_2) - X(t_0)$. The condition that $E(c_0) < -1$ becomes $c_0 > \frac{2}{3}\sqrt{2}$, and since $\varphi_2(\varepsilon_1) + \varphi_2(\varepsilon_2) < \sqrt{2} \varphi_2(h)$ when $h = \varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2$ is small (as is not difficult to show) we obtain the constant $\frac{4}{3}$. The Corollary is proved.

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