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Time-changes of self-similar Markov processes

by

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ABSTRACT. — Let X_t be a β -self-similar, $\beta > 0$, transient Markov process on $(0, \infty)$. We show that if X_{T_t} (T_t is the right continuous inverse of a continuous additive functional A_t) is an α -self-similar Markov process, $\alpha > 0$, then

$$A_t = k \int_0^t X_h^{1/\alpha - 1/\beta} dh \quad \text{for some } k > 0.$$

A result concerning time-changes of a transient Lévy process is also given.

Key words : Self-similar, Markov process, time-change, Lévy process.

RÉSUMÉ. — Soit X_t un processus β -self-similaire transient et de Markov sur $(0, \infty)$, $\beta > 0$. Notons T_t l'inverse continu à droite du fonctionnelle additive A_t . Nous montrons que si X_{T_t} est un processus α -self-similaire et de Markov, $\alpha > 0$, alors

$$A_t = k \int_0^t X_h^{1/\alpha - 1/\beta} dh \quad \text{pour quelque } k > 0.$$

Un résultat concernant le changement de temps d'un processus de Lévy transient est également donné.

0. INTRODUCTION

α -self-similar Markov processes (α -ssmp) on $(0, \infty)$ were introduced by J. Lamperti [5]. The process (X_t, P^x) with a state space $(0, \infty)$ is called α -ssmp, $\alpha > 0$, if there exists a Borel semigroup $(P_t(\cdot, \cdot))_{t \geq 0}$ on $(0, \infty) \times \mathcal{B}(0, \infty)$ satisfying

(i) $P_0(\cdot, \cdot) = I$;

(ii) $P_t(x, A) = P_{at}(a^\alpha x, a^\alpha A)$ for all $t > 0$, $a > 0$, $x \in (0, \infty)$, $A \in \mathcal{B}(0, \infty)$, such that (X_t, P^x) is a time homogeneous Markov process with a transition function $(P_t(\cdot, \cdot))_{t \geq 0}$ and with sample paths that are P^x -almost surely right-continuous with left limits for all $x \in (0, \infty)$.

It was proved in [6] that every α -ssmp with "nice paths" (see Notation) on $(0, \infty)$ has a weak dual with respect to the measure $x^{1/\alpha-1} dx$. In this note we apply this result and characterize, the theory developed in [3] as a main tool, all the possible ways to time-change a transient self-similar process (in fact, an α -ssmp is transient iff it is cotransient; see Proposition) to another self-similar process. We also obtain a result concerning time-changes of a Lévy process. For simplicity, we assume $\alpha > 0$, but the results can easily be generalized to negative α .

1. - NOTATION. DEFINITIONS

Ω notes the space of all functions ω from $[0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty) \cup \{\Delta\}$ (Δ denotes the point used as a "graveyard"; we assume Δ is an isolated point), which satisfy

(a) $\omega(t) = \Delta$ for $t \geq \zeta(\omega) = \inf\{t \geq 0; \omega(t) = \Delta\}$;

(b) ω is right continuous and ω or $1/\omega$ has left limits on $[0, \infty)$ at every $t \in (0, \zeta(\omega))$.

Such Ω is called the space of "nice paths".

DEFINITION. - Let $\alpha > 0$ be given. A stochastic process (X_t, P^x) with a state space $(0, \infty) \cup \{\Delta\}$ is called α -ssmp on $(0, \infty)$ if the following is satisfied: there exists a Borel semigroup $(P_t(\cdot, \cdot))_{t \geq 0}$ on $(0, \infty) \times \mathcal{B}(0, \infty)$ with the properties:

(i) $P_0(\cdot, \cdot) = I$;

(ii) $P_t(x, A) = P_{at}(a^\alpha x, a^\alpha A)$ for all $t \geq 0$, $a > 0$, $x \in (0, \infty)$, $A \in \mathcal{B}(0, \infty)$, such that (X_t, P^x) is a time homogeneous Markov process with a transition function $(P_t(\cdot, \cdot))_{t \geq 0}$ and $t \rightarrow X_t \in \Omega$ P^x -a. s. for $x \in (0, \infty)$.

Remark 1. - It was proved in [4] that every α -ssmp on $(0, \infty)$ automatically is strongly Markov.

A Markov process $(X_t, P^x, x \in (0, \infty))$ is said to be *in weak duality* with a Markov process $(\tilde{X}_t, \tilde{P}^x, x \in (0, \infty))$ with respect to a σ -finite measure

η , if for all bounded f, g in $\mathcal{B}(0, \infty)$

$$\int f(x) E^x g(X_t) \eta(dx) = \int \hat{E}^x f(\hat{X}_t) g(x) \eta(dx), \quad \text{for all } t > 0.$$

Let (X_t, P^x) be in weak duality with (\hat{X}_t, \hat{P}^x) with respect to a measure η . (X_t, P^x) is said to be *transient*, if

$$Uf(x) = E^x \left\{ \int_0^\infty f(X_t) dt \right\} < \infty$$

for all x , all bounded, non-negative Borel functions f on $(0, \infty)$ with compact support (see alternative definitions for transience in [2]). If the dual process (\hat{X}_t, \hat{P}^x) is transient, then (X_t, P^x) is said to be *cotransient*.

Remark 2. — It was shown in [6] that an α -ssmp on $(0, \infty)$ has a weak dual, with respect to the measure $x^{1/\alpha-1} dx$, and the dual process is also an α -ssmp.

2. — THEOREMS

We assume throughout this paper that (X_t, P^x) is transient (as we shall see in Proposition, for self-similar processes the transience is equivalent to the cotransience). According to [6], (X_{T_t}, P^x) is an α -ssmp if (X_t, P^x) is β -ssmp and T_t is the right continuous inverse of an additive functional $k \int_0^t X_h^{1/\alpha-1/\beta} dh$. We shall show that this is the only possible way to time-change (X_t, P^x) to an α -ssmp.

PROPOSITION. — *Let (X_t, P^x) be a β -ssmp on $(0, \infty)$, $\beta > 0$. Then it is transient iff it is cotransient.*

Proof. — According to [4] (Th. 2.3) and [5] (Th. 4.1), there is one to one correspondence between a β -ssmp X_t on $(0, \infty)$ and a Lévy process Z_t on $(-\infty, +\infty)$ (that is, Z_t is a strong Markov process which have stationary independent increments and right continuous paths with left limits) defined by $Z_t = \log X_{T_t}$, where T_t is the right continuous inverse of an additive functional

$$\int_0^t X_h^{-1/\beta} dh.$$

It is also easily seen that X_t is transient iff Z_t is transient. Now for Z_t there exists a weak dual \hat{Z}_t with respect to the Lebesgue measure such that also \hat{Z}_t is a Lévy process. As shown in [6], starting from \hat{Z}_t one can construct a β -ssmp \hat{X}_t , which is a weak dual to X_t with respect to the

measure $x^{1/\beta-1} dx$. Now \hat{X}_t is transient iff \hat{Z}_t is transient and so it suffices to show that \hat{Z}_t is transient iff it is cotransient. If (Z_t, Q^z) is a Lévy process then Z_t under Q^z has the same distribution as $z+Z_t$ under Q^0 and thus easy calculations show that \hat{Z}_t under \hat{Q}^z has the same distribution as $z-Z_t$ under Q^0 . This shows that Z_t is transient iff \hat{Z}_t is transient and gives thus the assertion.

In the proof of the following theorem actually cotransience (and not transience) is used.

THEOREM 2.1. — *Let (X_t, P^x) be a transient β -ssmp on $(0, \infty)$, $\beta > 0$, and let A_t be a continuous additive functional of X_t with T_t as the right continuous inverse, i. e.*

$$T_t = \inf \{ s \geq 0; A_s > t \}.$$

If the process (X_{T_t}, P^x) is α -ssmp, then there exists $k > 0$ such that

$$A_t(\omega) = k \int_0^t X_h^{1/\alpha-1/\beta}(\omega) dh, \quad \text{for all } t < \zeta(\omega).$$

Proof. — As mentioned in Remark 2, (X_t, P^x) has a weak dual (\hat{X}_t, \hat{P}^x) with respect to the measure $x^{1/\beta-1} dx$ such that also (\hat{X}_t, \hat{P}^x) is β -ssmp. Let A_t be a continuous additive functional of X_t and let (X_{T_t}, P^x) , T_t is the right continuous inverse of A_t , be an α -ssmp. Let further ν_A be the Revuz measure corresponding to A_t . According to the result of Gettoor and Sharpe [3]

$$\int \nu_A(dx) f(x) \hat{U}(x, dy) = E^y \left\{ \int_0^\infty f(X_t) dA_t \right\} y^{1/\beta-1} dy \quad (2.1)$$

for any bounded, non-negative Borel function f with compact support.

The right side of (2.1) is equal to $E^y \left\{ \int_0^\infty f(X_{T_t}) dt \right\} y^{1/\beta-1} dy$, which, because of the α -self-similarity of (X_{T_t}, P^x) , is equal to

$$\begin{aligned} E^{a^y} \left\{ \int_0^\infty f(a^{-\alpha} X_{T_{at}}) dt \right\} y^{1/\beta-1} dy \\ = a^{-1} E^{a^y} \left\{ \int_0^\infty f(a^{-\alpha} X_{T_t}) dt \right\} y^{1/\beta-1} dy \\ = a^{-1} E^{a^y} \left\{ \int_0^\infty f(a^{-\alpha} X_t) dA_t \right\} y^{1/\beta-1} dy \quad (2.2) \end{aligned}$$

From (2.1) and (2.2) we obtain, by substituting $z = a^\alpha y$,

$$\begin{aligned} \int v_A(dx) f(x) \hat{U}(x, d(a^{-\alpha} z)) \\ = a^{-\alpha/\beta-1} E^z \left\{ \int_0^\infty f(a^{-\alpha} X_t) dA_t \right\} z^{1/\beta-1} dz \\ = a^{-\alpha/\beta-1} \int v_A(d(a^\alpha x)) f(x) \hat{U}(a^\alpha x, dz) \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

The β -self-similarity of (\hat{X}_t, \hat{P}^x) implies

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{U}(x, d(a^{-\alpha} z)) &= \int_0^\infty \hat{P}^x \{ \hat{X}_t \in d(a^{-\alpha} z) \} dt \\ &= \int_0^\infty \hat{P}^{a^\alpha x} \{ \hat{X}_{a^{\alpha/\beta} t} \in dz \} dt = a^{-\alpha/\beta} \hat{U}(a^\alpha x, dz) \end{aligned}$$

This, together with (2.3), gives

$$v_A(dx) \hat{U}(a^\alpha x, dz) = a^{-1} v_A(d(a^\alpha x)) \hat{U}(a^\alpha x, dz) \quad (2.4)$$

Because X_t is cotransient we have $\hat{U}f(x) < +\infty, \forall x$. Thus

$$v_A(d(ax)) = a^{1/\alpha} v_A(dx), \quad \forall a > 0. \quad (2.5)$$

Applying the well-known uniqueness result for a Haar measure we obtain

$$v_A(dx) = kx^{1/\alpha-1} dx = k(x^{1/\alpha-1/\beta}) x^{1/\beta-1} dx, \quad \text{for some } k > 0,$$

which gives

$$A_t = k \int_0^t X_h^{1/\alpha-1/\beta} dh \text{ for some } k > 0.$$

Remark. — The special case of Theorem 1 is $\alpha = \beta$, which gives $A_t = kt$. This means that the only possible way to time-change a transient β -ssmp to another β -ssmp is a linear time-change.

In [5] J. Lamperti introduced a continuous additive functional

$$A_t(\omega) = \int_0^t X_h^{-1/\beta}(\omega) dh,$$

where (X_t, P^x) is a β -ssmp on $(0, \infty)$. He showed that if T_t is the right continuous inverse of A_t , then the time-changed process (X_{T_t}, P^x) is a strong Markov process on $(0, \infty)$ such that it is *multiplicatively invariant*, i. e.

$$Q_t(x, A) = Q_t(ax, aA), \quad \text{for all } t > 0, a > 0, X \in (0, \infty), A \in \mathcal{B}(0, \infty),$$

where $Q_t(\cdot, \cdot)$ is a transition function for (X_{T_t}, P^x) .

The following theorem says that this, possibly multiplied by a constant, is the only way to time-change (X_t, P^x) to a multiplicatively invariant

process:

THEOREM 2.2. — *Let (X_t, P^x) be a transient β -ssmp on $(0, \infty)$ and let A_t be a continuous additive functional of (X_t, P^x) and T_t the right continuous inverse of A_t . If (X_{T_t}, P^x) is multiplicatively invariant, then there exists $k > 0$ such that*

$$A_t = k \int_0^t X_h^{-1/\beta} dh \quad \text{for all } t < \xi.$$

The proof is similar to that of Theorem 2.1 and will therefore be omitted.

Finally, we shall present a result concerning time-changes of a Lévy process. It was already remarked by Lamperti [5] that (Y_t) is a multiplicatively invariant strong Markov process with “nice paths” (see Notation) on $(0, \infty)$ iff $(Z_t) = (\log Y_t)$ is a Lévy process on $(-\infty, +\infty)$. We will show

THEOREM 2.3. — *The only possible way to time-change a transient Lévy process on $(-\infty, +\infty)$ to another Lévy process is a linear time-change $t \rightarrow kt$, $k > 0$.*

We need the following Lemma:

LEMMA. — *Let (Y_t, P^x) be a transient, multiplicatively invariant strong Markov process with “nice paths” (see Notation) on $(0, \infty)$. Then the only possible way to time-change (Y_t, P^x) to another process of the same type is a linear time-change $t \rightarrow kt$, $k > 0$.*

Proof. — What we have to show is, that if A_t is a continuous additive functional of (Y_t) with T_t as the right continuous inverse and (Y_{T_t}, P^x) is multiplicatively invariant, then there exists $k > 0$ such that $A_t = kt$ for all $t < \xi$. According to [6], (Y_t, P^x) has a weak dual with respect to the measure $x^{-1} dx$. We can now show, by the same way as in Theorem 2.1, that A_t has a Revuz measure

$$\nu_A(dx) = kx^{-1} dx, \quad \text{for some } k > 0,$$

which gives the assertion.

Proof of Theorem 2.3. — Let (Z_t, Q^z) be a transient Lévy process on $(-\infty, +\infty)$. Then, as remarked in the proof of Proposition, the weak dual (\hat{Z}_t, \hat{Q}^z) , which also is a Lévy process, is transient. Now $(\exp Z_t, Q^{\log x})$, $x > 0$, is multiplicatively invariant and has, as shown in [6], a weak dual $(\exp \hat{Z}_t, \hat{Q}^{\log x})$ with respect to the measure $x^{-1} dx$. It is easily seen that (Z_t) is transient iff $(\exp Z_t)$ is transient and so, according to Lemma, $(\exp Z_t)$ cannot be time-changed to another multiplicatively invariant process with “nice paths” otherwise than by the linear time change $t \rightarrow kt$, $k > 0$. Thus one to one correspondence between the class of Lévy

processes and the class of multiplicatively invariant processes with “nice paths” gives the assertion.

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