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# From an Example of Lévy's

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The motive of this paper is to prove completely an assertion of P. Lévy [3], who claimed that for each positive integer  $n$ , there exists a polynomial  $F_n$  of degree  $n$  such that the Wiener integral with respect to Brownian motion  $\{B(u); 0 \leq u\}$

$$X(t) = \int_0^t F_n\left(\frac{u}{t}\right) dB(u)$$

is again a Brownian motion and

$$\mathbf{B}(X; t) \subsetneq \mathbf{B}(B; t).$$

Here  $\mathbf{B}(X; t)$  is the  $\sigma$ -field generated by  $\{X(s); s \leq t\}$ .

Over the last few years, the non-canonical representation of Brownian motion of this kind related has been of interest to many authors, in particular Th. Jeulin & M. Yor [4,5,6,7] and M. Hitsuda [2].

Let  $X_0(t) = B(t), (t \geq 0)$  be a standard Brownian motion. In this paper, our precise purpose is to construct a sequence of Brownian motion  $\{X_n(t); t \geq 0\} (n \geq 0)$  such that  $X_n(t)$  can be represented as a Wiener integral

$$X_n(t) = \int_0^t F_n\left(\frac{u}{t}\right) dB(u), \quad (n \geq 1).$$

Here  $F_n(t)$  is a polynomial of degree  $n$  in  $t$ . And if  $\mathbf{M}(X_n; t)$  is a linear span of  $\{X_n(u); 0 \leq u \leq t\}$  in  $L^2(\Omega, P)$ , then for all  $t > 0$ ,

$$(1) \quad \mathbf{M}(X_{n+1}; t) \subsetneq \mathbf{M}(X_n; t), \quad (n \geq 0),$$

and further, for all  $t > 0$  and  $n \geq 1$ ,

$$(2) \quad \int_0^t F_n\left(\frac{u}{t}\right) u^k du = 0, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Let  $F_n(t) = a_n t^n + a_{n-1} t^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 t + a_0$ . We know by calculating the covariance that  $X_n(t)$  is a Brownian motion if and only if the coefficients of  $F_n(t)$  satisfy the following equations

$$(3) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{a_0 a_0}{1} + \frac{a_0 a_1}{2} + \dots + \frac{a_0 a_n}{n+1} = 1, \\ \frac{a_1 a_0}{2} + \frac{a_1 a_1}{3} + \dots + \frac{a_1 a_n}{n+2} = 0, \\ \dots \\ \frac{a_n a_0}{n+1} + \frac{a_n a_1}{n+2} + \dots + \frac{a_n a_n}{2n+1} = 0. \end{cases}$$

In the simplest case

$$\begin{cases} a_n = \frac{2n+1}{n}, a_0 = -\frac{n+1}{n}, \\ a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_{n-1} = 0. \end{cases}$$

is a solution of equation (3).

**Theorem 1** If  $P_n(t) = \frac{2n+1}{n}t^n - \frac{n+1}{n}$  and if  $F_n(t)$  are defined by the following recursive formula

$$\begin{cases} F_1(t) = P_1(t) \\ F_n\left(\frac{u}{t}\right) = F_{n-1}\left(\frac{u}{t}\right) - \int_u^t F_{n-1}\left(\frac{u}{\tau}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} P_n\left(\frac{\tau}{t}\right) d\tau, \quad (n \geq 2) \end{cases},$$

then  $F_n(t)$  satisfies (2), the coefficients of  $F_n(t)$  are given by

$$a_k = (-1)^{n+k} \binom{n}{k} \binom{n+1+k}{n}, \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

and

$$X_n(t) := \int_0^t F_n\left(\frac{u}{t}\right) dB(u), \quad (n \geq 1)$$

are Brownian motions satisfying condition (1). Further,  $X_n(t)$  and  $X_{n+1}(t)$  are related by

$$(4) \quad X_{n+1}(t) = \int_0^t P_{n+1}\left(\frac{u}{t}\right) dX_n(u), \quad (n \geq 0).$$

In order to prove the theorem, we prepare the following lemma.

**Lemma 1** If  $s < n$ , we have

$$\sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \binom{n}{k} \binom{n+k}{s} = 0.$$

To prove this, we note

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{s!} \left(\frac{d}{dx}\right)^s ((1+x)^n x^n) &= \frac{1}{s!} \left(\frac{d}{dx}\right)^s \left(\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} x^{n+k}\right) \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \binom{n+k}{s} x^{n+k-s}. \end{aligned}$$

The result follows by letting  $x = -1$ .

The validity of the coefficients of  $F_n(t)$  can be established by mathematical induction. The assertion is trivial for  $n = 1$ . Suppose the assertion holds for  $n$ . Now using lemma 1 and then noting

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{n}{k} \binom{n+1+k}{n} \left(1 - \frac{2(n+1)+1}{n+1-k}\right) &= -\binom{n+1}{k} \binom{n+2+k}{n+1}, \\ \binom{n}{k} \binom{n+1+k}{n} \frac{2(n+1)+1}{n+1-k} &= \frac{2(n+1)+1}{n+1} \binom{n+1}{k} \binom{n+1+k}{n}, \end{aligned}$$

we see that

$$\begin{aligned} F_{n+1}\left(\frac{u}{t}\right) &= F_n\left(\frac{u}{t}\right) - \int_u^t F_n\left(\frac{u}{\tau}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} P_{n+1}\left(\frac{\tau}{t}\right) d\tau \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^{n+k} \binom{n}{k} \binom{n+1+k}{n} \left(1 - \frac{2(n+1)+1}{n+1-k}\right) \left(\frac{u}{t}\right)^k \\ &\quad + \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^{n+k} \binom{n}{k} \binom{n+1+k}{n} \frac{2(n+1)+1}{n+1-k} \left(\frac{u}{t}\right)^{n+1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^{n+1+k} \binom{n+1}{k} \binom{n+2+k}{n+1} \left(\frac{u}{t}\right)^k + \binom{2n+3}{n+1} \left(\frac{u}{t}\right)^{n+1} \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^{n+1} (-1)^{n+1+k} \binom{n+1}{k} \binom{n+2+k}{n+1} \left(\frac{u}{t}\right)^k.
\end{aligned}$$

which shows the assertion holds for coefficients of  $F_{n+1}(t)$ .

We next show (2). By the recursive formula of  $F_n$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^t F_n \left(\frac{u}{t}\right) u^k du &= \int_0^t F_{n-1} \left(\frac{u}{t}\right) u^k du - \int_0^t \int_u^t F_{n-1} \left(\frac{u}{\tau}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} P_n \left(\frac{\tau}{t}\right) u^k d\tau du \\
&= \int_0^t F_{n-1} \left(\frac{u}{t}\right) u^k du - \int_0^t d\tau \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} P_n \left(\frac{\tau}{t}\right) \int_0^\tau F_{n-1} \left(\frac{u}{\tau}\right) u^k du
\end{aligned}$$

This equals zero if  $k < n$  by induction; and when  $k = n$ , this becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^t F_{n-1} \left(\frac{u}{t}\right) u^n du - \left[ P_n \left(\frac{\tau}{t}\right) \int_0^\tau F_{n-1} \left(\frac{u}{\tau}\right) u^n du \right]_{\tau=0}^t - \int_0^t P_n \left(\frac{u}{t}\right) u^n du \\
= \int_0^t P_n \left(\frac{u}{t}\right) u^n du = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

which is what we needed to prove.

Again we easily verify, by mathematical induction, that

$$\int_0^1 F_n(u) du = \frac{(-1)^n}{n+1}.$$

Thus we have proved, in combination with the previous equation, that the coefficients of  $F_n$  are another solution to equation (3).

Now if we write

$$X_n(t) = \int_0^t F_n \left(\frac{u}{t}\right) dB(u),$$

then by the above argument,  $X_n(t)$  is again a Brownian motion. The differential of  $X_n(t)$ , by Itô's formula [1], is seen to be

$$dX_n(u) = dB(u) + \int_0^u \frac{\partial}{\partial u} F_n \left(\frac{\tau}{u}\right) dB(\tau) du.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
&\int_0^t P_{n+1} \left(\frac{u}{t}\right) dX_n(u) \\
&= \int_0^t P_{n+1} \left(\frac{u}{t}\right) dB(u) + \int_0^t \left\{ P_{n+1} \left(\frac{u}{t}\right) \int_0^u \frac{\partial}{\partial u} F_n \left(\frac{\tau}{u}\right) dB(\tau) \right\} du \\
&= \int_0^t P_{n+1} \left(\frac{u}{t}\right) dB(u) + \int_0^t dB(\tau) \int_\tau^t P_{n+1} \left(\frac{u}{t}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial u} F_n \left(\frac{\tau}{u}\right) du \\
&= \int_0^t P_{n+1} \left(\frac{u}{t}\right) dB(u) + \\
&\quad \int_0^t dB(\tau) \left\{ F_n \left(\frac{\tau}{u}\right) P_{n+1} \left(\frac{u}{t}\right) \Big|_{u=\tau}^t - \int_\tau^t F_n \left(\frac{\tau}{u}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial u} P_{n+1} \left(\frac{u}{t}\right) du \right\} \\
&= \int_0^t F_n \left(\frac{u}{t}\right) dB(u) - \int_0^t \left\{ \int_u^t F_n \left(\frac{u}{\tau}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} P_{n+1} \left(\frac{\tau}{t}\right) d\tau \right\} dB(u) \\
&= X_{n+1}(t)
\end{aligned}$$

This establishes (4).

To show (1), let us fix  $t_0 > 0$  and let  $z = \int_0^{t_0} u^{n+1} dX_n(u)$ . Now  $z \in \mathbf{M}(X_n; t)$  and note that for all  $t$  such that  $0 < t \leq t_0$ ,

$$E[X_{n+1}(t) \cdot z] = \int_0^t P_{n+1}\left(\frac{u}{t}\right) u^{n+1} du = 0.$$

This verifies (1). The proof of theorem is thus completed.

**Remark 1** *This construction was suggested by P. Lévy in his book [3] and  $F_1(t)$  was given there.*

**Remark 2** *Although we have (1), for all  $n > 0$ , we notice,*

$$(5) \quad \mathbf{M}(B; \infty) = \mathbf{M}(X_n; \infty).$$

This equation has the following interpretation. For each finite time  $t$ , as we have already seen,  $\mathbf{B}(X_n; t)$  contains less information than  $\mathbf{B}(B; t)$ . Nevertheless,  $\mathbf{B}(X_n; t)$  will “catch up” with  $\mathbf{B}(B; t)$  by increasing time to infinity.

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