

ADDITIVE FUNCTIONALS AND EXCURSIONS OF KUZNETSOV PROCESSES

HACÈNE BOUTABIA

Received 16 September 2004 and in revised form 28 June 2005

Let B be a continuous additive functional for a standard process $(X_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}_+}$ and let $(Y_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ be a stationary Kuznetsov process with the same semigroup of transition. In this paper, we give the excursion laws of $(X_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}_+}$ conditioned on the strict past and future without duality hypothesis. We study excursions of a general regenerative system and of a regenerative system consisting of the closure of the set of times the regular points of B are visited. In both cases, those conditioned excursion laws depend only on two points X_{g^-} and X_d , where $]g, d[$ is an excursion interval of the regenerative set M . We use the (F_{D_t}) -predictable exit system to bring together the isolated points of M and its perfect part and replace the classical optional exit system. This has been a subject in literature before (e.g., Kaspi (1988)) under the classical duality hypothesis. We define an “additive functional” for $(Y_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ with B , we generalize the laws cited before to $(Y_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$, and we express laws of pairs of excursions.

1. Introduction

Let X be a standard process, and let M be a closed random and homogeneous subset of \mathbb{R}_+ . Kaspi [8] constructs an additive functional B associated to M and gives, under the classical duality hypothesis, the probability measures allowing the law of excursions to be associated to B with respect to the σ -algebra $K = \sigma(Z_t : t \in \mathbb{R}_+)$, known to start at x and end at y ($Z_t = X_{S_t}$ where $S_t = \inf\{u : B_u > t\}$). The purpose of this paper is to give, without duality, the conditional law $P^{x,y}$ of the excursion straddling an arbitrary random time, given the initial state x and the final state y , as regular probabilities in terms of the (F_{D_t}) -predictable exit measures for M and also for a regenerative system consisting of the closure of the set of times the regular points of an arbitrary continuous additive functional are visited. We also give the conditional laws of pairs of excursions for a Markov process with random birth and death $(Y_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ having the same semigroup as X . In this respect, we define an “additive functional” for $(Y_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ and we extend this result concerning the probability measures $P^{x,y}$ to $(Y_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$.

In Section 2, we introduce our notations, preliminaries, and Maisonneuve’s result [12] on the strict past conditioning with respect to the filtration (F_{D_t}) . In Section 3, we

construct the probability measures $P^{x,y}$, which allows the law of the excursion to straddle an arbitrary random time, given the initial state x and the final state y . Section 4 deals with excursions associated to a continuous additive functional B . The measures $P^{x,y}$ which govern these excursion are the same as defined in Section 3 corresponding to the regenerative set M where contiguous intervals are of the form $]S_{t-}, S_t[$, t is a time of discontinuity of S . Laws of excursions and of pairs of excursions for $(Y_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ are discussed in Section 5.

2. Notations and preliminaries

Let $(\Omega, F, F_t, X_t, \theta_t, P^x)$ be a canonical realization for a Borel standard semigroup (P_t) with lifetime ζ , and let M be a closed random and homogeneous subset of $]0, \zeta[$ such that $R = \inf M$ is F^* -measurable, where F^* is the universal completion of the σ -algebra $F^0 = \sigma(X_t : t \in \mathbb{R}_+)$. We assume that the state space E is Lusinian, and we denote by \mathcal{E} its σ -algebra of Borel sets. The cemetery point δ is outside of E . We denote by G^0 the set of the left endpoints of the contiguous intervals of M .

Let $({}^\circ P^x)_{x \in E \cup \delta}$ be the family of (F_t^D) -predictable exit measures for the process $(X_t^D) = (X_{D_t})$ in the sense of Maisonneuve [11], and let μ be a fixed law on E . Then $({}^\circ P^x)_{x \in E \cup \delta}$ is a universally measurable family of σ -finite measures on (Ω, F^*) , under which the process (X_t) is Markov with respect to (P_t) .

For all $t \in \mathbb{R}_+$, let k_t be the killing operator at t defined by $k_t(\omega)(s) = \omega(s)$ if $s < t$ and δ if $s \geq t$. If $t \in \mathbb{R}_+$, $\omega, \omega' \in \Omega$, we denote by $\omega/t/\omega'$ the trajectory $\bar{\omega} \in \Omega$ such that $\bar{\omega}(s) = \omega(s)$ (or $k_s(\omega)$) if $s < t$ and $\omega'(s-t)$ if $s \geq t$.

Let T be a random time on (Ω, F) such that $T < D_T$ on $\{T < \zeta\}$ ($D_t = \inf\{s \geq t : s \in M\}$ for $t \in \mathbb{R}_+$ with the convention $\inf \emptyset = +\infty$), and let $g = \sup\{s \leq T : s \in M\}$ and $d = \inf\{s > T : s \in M\}$. Then with the following notations:

$$\begin{aligned} A^\omega(\omega') &= T(\omega) - g(\omega/g(\omega)/\omega'), & C^\omega &= \{0 \leq A^\omega < R\}, \\ v(B | A) &= \frac{v(B \cap A)}{v(A)} & \left(\frac{0}{0} = \frac{\infty}{\infty} = 0 \right) \end{aligned} \quad (2.1)$$

if v is a measure on (Ω, F^*) , we have the basic Maisonneuve formula [12].

For almost all $\omega \in \{g < \infty\}$ we have (if δ is nonabsorbent)

$$P(f(\theta_g) | F_{g-}^D)(\omega) = {}^\circ P_{g-}^{X_g^D(\omega)}(f | C^\omega) \quad (2.2)$$

for every F^* -measurable function $f \geq 0$, where P is the probability measure defined by $P(f) = \int P^x(f) \mu(dx)$. If we assume that δ is absorbent, then this formula is true on $\{g < \zeta\}$ instead of $\{g < \infty\}$.

Note that if T is an $(F_t^D) = (F_{D_t})$ -stopping time, we can replace C^ω by the condition $A^\omega < R$, and if $T \in G^0$ on $\{X_T \in E\}$, the set C^ω can be replaced by the condition $A^\omega = 0$.

3. The excursion straddling T

For the conditional law of the excursion $e = k_R \circ \theta_g$ straddling T , with respect to F_{g-}^D and θ_d , we assume that δ is absorbent. In this respect, we consider, for $(x, y) \in E \times E$,

the measures H^x , H_1^x and $P^{x,y}$ on (Ω, F^*) “defined by”

$$\begin{aligned} H^x &= {}^\circ P^x(k_R \in \cdot \mid X_R = x), & H_1^x &= {}^\circ P^x(\cdot; X_R \neq x), \\ P^{x,y} &= H_1^x(k_R \in \cdot \mid X_R = y) \quad \text{if } x \neq y. \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

Since (Ω, F^0) is a U-space, and according to a classical lemma of Doob, the measures $P^{x,y}$ can be chosen measurable for the pair (x, y) .

PROPOSITION 3.1. *Let $x \in E$, $A \in F^*$ such that $0 < {}^\circ P^x(A) < +\infty$, and let the probability measure μ^x be defined on (Ω, F^*) by $\mu^x = {}^\circ P^x(\cdot \mid A)$. Then for almost all $\omega \in \Omega$,*

$$\mu^x(f \circ k_R \mid \theta_R)(\omega) = M^{x, X_R(\omega)}(f \mid (\cdot/\zeta/\theta_R(\omega)) \in A), \quad (3.2)$$

where

$$M^{x,y}(f) = P^{x,y}(f)I_{\{x \neq y\}} + H^x(f)I_{\{x=y\}}. \quad (3.3)$$

Proof. Note that formula (3.2) means

$$\begin{aligned} \mu^x(f \circ k_R \mid \theta_R)(\omega) &= P^{x, X_R(\omega)}(f \mid B^\omega) \quad \text{for } a \cdot a\omega \in \{X_R \neq x\}, \\ \mu^x(f \circ k_R \mid \theta_R)(\omega) &= H^x(f \mid B^\omega) \quad \text{for } a \cdot a\omega \in \{X_R = x\}, \\ \text{where } B^\omega &= \{(\cdot/\zeta/\theta_R(\omega)) \in A\}, \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

which follows from the Markov property at time R with an argument of monotone classes, the definitions of $P^{x,y}$ and H^x , and the fact that $\omega = (k_R(\omega)/\zeta \circ k_R(\omega)/\theta_R(\omega))$ for all $\omega \in \Omega$. \square

The following theorem gives the conditional law of the excursion e with respect to $F_{g^-}^D$ and θ_d .

THEOREM 3.2. *For all $\omega \in \{g < \infty\}$, let the subset of Ω be defined by $U_d^\omega = \{\omega' \in \Omega : (\omega'/\zeta(\omega')/\theta_d(\omega)) \in C^\omega\}$. Then*

(1) *for almost all $\omega \in \{X_d \neq X_{g^-}^D; g < \zeta; d - g < \infty\}$,*

$$P(f(e) \mid F_{g^-}^D, \theta_d)(\omega) = P^{X_{g^-}^D(\omega), X_d(\omega)}(f \mid U_d^\omega), \quad (3.5)$$

(2) *for almost all $\omega \in \{X_d = X_{g^-}^D, g < \zeta\}$,*

$$P(f(e) \mid F_{g^-}^D, \theta_d)(\omega) = H^{X_{g^-}^D(\omega)}(f \mid U_d^\omega). \quad (3.6)$$

It follows that if T is an (F_{D_t}) -stopping time such that $T \in G^0$ on $\{X_T \in E\}$, then formulas (3.5) and (3.6) hold without conditioning by U_d^ω in the right sides.

Proof. Let Z be a positive $F_{g^-}^D$ -measurable random variable carried by $\{g < \zeta; d - g < \infty\}$, and let φ be a positive F^0 -measurable function. We have to prove that

$$P\left(f(e)Z\varphi(\theta_d)I_{\{X_d \neq X_{g^-}^D\}}\right) = \int_{\{X_d \neq X_{g^-}^D\}} P(d\omega)Z(\omega)\varphi(\theta_d)(\omega)P^{X_{g^-}^D(\omega), X_d(\omega)}(f \mid U_d^\omega). \quad (3.7)$$

By formula (2.2) and the definition of μ^x with $x = X_{g^-}^D(\omega)$ and $A = C^\omega$, the left side of formula (3.7) is equal to

$$\int P(d\omega)Z(\omega)\mu^x(f \circ k_R\varphi(\theta_R)I_{\{X_R \neq x\}}) \quad (3.8)$$

which by formula (3.2) is equal to

$$\int P(d\omega)Z(\omega) \int_{\{X_R \neq x\}} \mu^x(d\omega')\varphi(\theta_R)(\omega')P^{x, X_R(\omega')}(f \mid (\cdot/\zeta/\theta_R(\omega')) \in A), \quad (3.9)$$

and using formula (2.2) again, we obtain the right side of (3.7). Formula (3.6) is argued in the same manner using formula (3.4). \square

Remark 3.3. Maisonneuve [12] gives several examples where the set C^ω is independent of ω . In these cases Theorem 3.2 implies that the excursion e is conditionally independent of $F_{g^-}^D$ and θ_d given $X_{g^-}^D$ (resp., $X_{g^-}^D$ and X_d) on $\{X_{g^-}^D = X_d; g < \zeta\}$ (resp., $\{X_{g^-}^D \neq X_d; g < \zeta; d - g < \infty\}$).

Remark 3.4. Theorem 3.2 contains results of Kaspi [8, Section 5] under duality hypothesis. In fact if M is perfect, then $X_{g^-}^D = X_{g^-}$ and $F_{g^-}^D = F_{g^-}$. If T is the beginning of the set $\{t \in \mathbb{R}_+ : (X_t, X_t) \in J\}$, where $J \in \mathcal{C} \otimes \mathcal{C}$, then with the assumption that ${}^\circ P^x(X_{0^-} \neq x) = 0$, the conditions $0 < g(\omega) < T(\omega)$ and $\theta_g(\omega) \in C^\omega$ are equivalent to the condition $\theta_g(\omega) \in \{(X_{0^-}, X_0) \notin J; 0 < T < R\}$, and formula (2.2) becomes

$$P(f(\theta_g) \mid F_{g^-}) = {}^\circ P^{X_{g^-}}(f \mid (X_{0^-}, X_0) \notin J; 0 < T < R) \quad \text{on } \{0 < g < T < \zeta\}. \quad (3.10)$$

According to the same argument used in Theorem 3.2 and the fact that $T = T \circ k_R$ on $\{T < R\}$ and $R = \zeta \circ k_R$, formula (3.5) becomes

$$P(f(e) \mid F_{g^-}, \theta_d) = P^{X_{g^-}, X_d}(f \mid (X_{0^-}, X_0) \notin J; 0 < T < \zeta) \quad \text{on } \{X_{g^-} \neq X_d; 0 < g < T < \zeta\} \quad (3.11)$$

and formula (3.6) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} & P(f(e) \mid F_{g^-}, \theta_d) \\ &= H^{X_{g^-}}(f \mid (X_{0^-}, X_0) \notin J; 0 < T < \zeta) \text{ on } \{X_{g^-} = X_d; 0 < g < T < \zeta; d - g < \infty\}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.12)$$

4. Excursions associated to an additive functional

Let (B_t) be a continuous additive functional and let $C = \{x : P^x(R = 0) = 1\}$ be its fine support, where R is the perfect exact terminal time $\inf\{u : B_u > 0\}$. We associate to the

right inverse $S_t = \{u : B_u > t\}$ of (B_t) the notations $Z_t = X_{S_t}$, $\mathcal{M}_t = F_{S_t}$, and $\bar{\theta}_t = \theta_{S_t}$. It is well known that the process $Z = (\Omega, F, \mathcal{M}_t, Z_t, \bar{\theta}_t, P^x)$ is strong Markov with semigroup $(\bar{P}_t) \triangleq (P_{S_t})$ and takes values on $(C, C \cap \mathcal{E}^*)$ (cf. Jacobs [7]).

In this section, we assume that δ is nonabsorbent and we consider the random homogeneous set $M = \{t + R \circ \theta_t : t \in \mathbb{R}_+\}$ and its family of (F_{D_t}) -predictable exit measures $({}^0P^x)_{x \in E \cup \{\delta\}}$. If $S_{t-} \neq S_t$, then $D_{S_{t-}} = S_t$. The excursion associated to t is then defined by

$$e_t = k_R \circ \theta_{S_{t-}} = \begin{cases} X_{S_{t-}+s} & \text{if } s < S_t - S_{t-}, \\ \delta & \text{if } s \geq S_t - S_{t-}. \end{cases} \quad (4.1)$$

We denote by $(K_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}_+}$ the filtration, where K_t is the intersection of the P^π -completions of the σ -algebra K_t^0 where π is in the set of all the bounded measures on E ; (K_t^0) is the natural filtration of the process (Z_t) .

For the following lemma we put $K_{0-} = F_0$ by convention.

LEMMA 4.1. *Let T be a (K_t) -stopping time such that $S_{T-} < S_T$ a.s. Then*

$$F_{(S_{T-})-} = K_{T-}. \quad (4.2)$$

Proof. According to the fact that S_{T-} is not an isolate point of M , we have $F_{(S_{T-})-} = F_{(S_{T-})-}^D$. Since $K_t^0 = \sigma(X_{S_{u-}}^D : u \leq t) \subset F_{(S_{t-})-}^D$, then every (K_t) -predictable process is $F_{(S_{t-})-}^D$ -predictable, which implies that $K_{T-} \subset F_{(S_{T-})-}$. For the inclusion $F_{(S_{T-})-} \subset K_{T-}$, since $F_0 \subset K_{T-}$ it suffices to prove that $A = B \cap \{t < S_{T-}\} \in K_{T-}$ for all $B \in F_t$.

Note that $S_{T-} = \sup_{r < T} \{S_r : r \in \mathbb{Q}_+\}$, which implies that

$$\{t < S_{T-}\} = \bigcup_{r \in \mathbb{Q}_+} \{r < T\} \cap \{t < S_r\}, \quad A = \bigcup_{r \in \mathbb{Q}_+} (B \cap \{t < S_r\} \cap \{r < T\}), \quad (4.3)$$

where \mathbb{Q}_+ is the set of positive rationals. For all $u \leq t$ we have $X_u = Z_{B_u}$, then $F_t \subset K_{B_t}$, which implies that

$$B \cap \{t < S_r\} = B \cap \{B_t \leq r\} \in K_r \quad (4.4)$$

and $A \in K_{T-}$. The proof is complete. \square

The following theorem which gives the conditional law of the excursion e_T associated to a (K_t) -stopping time T , with respect to the σ -algebra K generated by K_t ($t \geq 0$), was proved by Kaspi [8] under the duality hypothesis.

THEOREM 4.2. *Let T be a finite (K_t) -stopping time. Then*

- (1) S_{T-} is an (F_{D_t}) -stopping time,
- (2) it is assumed that $S_{T-} \neq S_T$ and $Z_{T-} \neq Z_T$ a.s., then the following formula:

$$P(f(e_T) \mid K) = P^{Z_{T-}, Z_T}(f) \quad (4.5)$$

holds for every positive and F^* -measurable function f .

Proof. (1) If $t \in \mathbb{R}_+$, then $\{u < S_{t-}\} = \{D_u \leq S_t\} = \{B_{D_u} \leq t\} \in F_u^D$ and S_{t-} is an (F_{D_u}) -stopping time.

Let $(T_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be the nondecreasing dyadic approximation of T , then

$$\{S_{T_n} \leq u\} = \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \{S_{(k/2^n)} \leq u\} \cap \left\{ \frac{k}{2^n} \leq T < \frac{k+1}{2^n} \right\}. \quad (4.6)$$

Since $\{k/2^n \leq T < (k+1)/2^n\} \in K_{((k+1)/2^n)^-} \subset F_{S_{((k+1)/2^n)^-}}^D \subset F_{S_{((k+1)/2^n)}}^D$, then

$$\{S_{(k/2^n)} \leq u\} \cap \left\{ \frac{k}{2^n} \leq T < \frac{k+1}{2^n} \right\} \in F_u^D, \quad \{S_{T_n} \leq u\} \in F_u^D, \quad (4.7)$$

which implies that $\{S_{T^-} \leq u\} \in F_u^D$.

(2) For every continuous (K_t) -adapted process $U \geq 0$, and for every positive F^* -measurable function φ , we have by formula (3.5) with S_{T^-} instead of T and the fact that $K_{T^-} = F_{(S_{T^-})^-}^D$ the following:

$$P(f(e_T)U_T\varphi(\bar{\theta}_T)) = P(P^{Z_{T^-}, Z_T}(f)U_T\varphi(\bar{\theta}_T)). \quad (4.8)$$

Formula (4.5) follows from the fact that K is generated by K_{T^-} and $\bar{\theta}_T$. \square

5. Excursions of Kuznetsov processes

Let W be the set of applications $w: \mathbb{R} \mapsto E \cup \{\delta\}$ which satisfies the following properties: there exists an open interval of \mathbb{R} on which w is E -valued right-continuous with left limits and out of which w equals δ . We denote by $(Y_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ the coordinate process on W . Let $(\mathcal{G}_t^0)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ be the natural filtration of $(Y_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ and let $\mathcal{G}^0 = \mathcal{V}_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \mathcal{G}_t^0$. Then the birth and the death times of $(Y_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ are, respectively,

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha &= \inf \{t \in \mathbb{R} : Y_t \in E\} \quad (\inf \emptyset = +\infty), \\ \beta &= \sup \{t \in \mathbb{R} : Y_t \in E\} \quad (\sup \emptyset = -\infty). \end{aligned} \quad (5.1)$$

We define the families of operators on W by

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_t : W &\mapsto \Omega \text{ such that } \tau_t w(s) = w(s+t) \quad \text{for } s \in \mathbb{R}_+, t \in \mathbb{R}, \\ \sigma_t : W &\mapsto W \text{ such that } \sigma_t w(s) = w(s+t) \quad \text{for } s, t \in \mathbb{R}. \end{aligned} \quad (5.2)$$

Note that $X_s \circ \tau_t = Y_{t+s}$ on $\{Y_t \in E\}$ and $\sigma_t \circ \sigma_u = \sigma_{t+u}$ for $t, u \in \mathbb{R}$, $s \in \mathbb{R}_+$. Let η be an excessive measure with respect to (P_t) and let Q be the Kuznetsov measure on W that corresponds to $(\eta, (P_t))$ (cf. [9, 10]). We denote by \mathcal{G}_t and \mathcal{G} the Q -completions of \mathcal{G}_t^0 and \mathcal{G}^0 , and we assume that the semigroup (P_t) satisfies “les hypothèses droites de Meyer.” It follows by [13] that the process $Y = (W, \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{G}_t, (Y_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}, \tau_t, \alpha, \beta, Q)$ is stationary (i.e., $\sigma_t(Q) = Q$) and strong Markov with semigroup (P_t) .

For the generalization of Theorem 4.2, we consider the additive functionals B and S given in the previous section. We also denote by B the random measure on W , carried by $] \alpha, \beta[$ such that

$$B_s \circ \tau_t = B]t, t+s[\quad \text{on } \{Y_t \in E\}, \quad \forall s > 0, t \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (5.3)$$

We assume that the characteristic measure $\nu_B \triangleq Q \int_0^1 I_{\{Y_t \in \cdot\}} B(dt)$ of B is purely excessive for the semigroup (\bar{P}_t) (i.e., $\int \bar{P}_t f(x) \nu_B(dx) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$ if $\nu_B(f) < \infty$). It was shown in [9] that Q a.e. $B[\alpha, t] < \infty$ for all $t > \alpha$.

Let $(V_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ be the nondecreasing process defined on W by

$$V_t = \alpha + B[\alpha, t] \quad \text{on } \{\alpha < t\}, \quad V_t = \alpha \quad \text{on } \{t \leq \alpha\}, \quad (5.4)$$

and let $(U_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ be the right-continuous inverse of $(V_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$, that is,

$$U_t = \inf \{u > \alpha : V_u > t\}. \quad (5.5)$$

We also denote by M the closed random subset of $] \alpha, \beta[$ defined by $M = \bigcup_{\alpha < t < \beta} \{t + R \circ \tau_t\}$ which verifies the following property of homogeneity (cf. [4]):

$$(M - t) \cap]0, \infty[= M \circ \tau_t \quad \text{on } \{Y_t \in E\}. \quad (5.6)$$

Remark 5.1. (1) If $\alpha = -\infty$, $\{u > \alpha : V_u > t\} = \emptyset$, and $U_t = +\infty$, then $\alpha > -\infty$ on $\{\alpha < U_t < \beta\}$.

(2) $U_t = \alpha$ on $\{t \leq \alpha\}$.

For $t \in \mathbb{R}$, let $\Phi_t = Y_{U_t}$, $\bar{\mathcal{G}}_t = \mathcal{G}_{U_t}$, $\bar{\tau}_t = \tau_{U_t}$, $\mathcal{H}_t^0 = \sigma(\Phi_u : u \leq t)$, and $\mathcal{H}^0 = \mathcal{V}_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \mathcal{H}_t^0$. We denote by \mathcal{H}_t (resp., \mathcal{H}) the Q -completion of \mathcal{H}_t^0 (resp., \mathcal{H}^0). Note that for all the following formulas, the σ -finiteness of Q is guaranteed by the argument used in [1]. It is not hard to show that (Φ_t) has the same properties as (Z_t) and that the following result holds.

PROPOSITION 5.2. (1) *The process (U_t) is right-continuous, has left limits, and satisfies $U_t = U_\beta$ for all $t \geq \beta$ Q a.e.*

(2) *(U_t) is $(\bar{\mathcal{G}}_t)$ -adapted.*

(3) *For all $t \in \mathbb{R}$ and $s > 0$,*

(a) $U_t = \alpha + S_{t-\alpha} \circ \tau_\alpha$ on $\{-\infty < \alpha < t\}$,

(b) $V_{t+s} = V_t + B_s \circ \tau_t$ on $\{Y_t \in E\}$ and $U_{t+s} = U_t + S_s \circ \bar{\tau}_t$ on $\{\alpha < U_t < \beta\}$.

(4) *On $\{U_t \neq U_{t-}\}$, $]U_{t-}, U_t[$ is a contiguous interval of M .*

If $U_t \neq U_{t-}$, let E_t be the excursion associated to B and defined by

$$E_t(w)(s) = \begin{cases} Y_{U_{t-}+s}(w) & \text{if } 0 \leq s < U_t(w) - U_{t-}(w), \\ \delta & \text{if } s \geq U_t(w) - U_{t-}(w). \end{cases} \quad (5.7)$$

According to the previous proposition, the process $(V_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ has got the same role as B for the process $(Y_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$. We say that $(V_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ is an “additive functional” for $(Y_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$. We have the extension of Theorem 4.2 on W .

THEOREM 5.3. (1) *The process $\Phi = (W, \Phi_t, \mathcal{G}, \bar{\mathcal{G}}_t, \bar{\tau}_t, Q)$ is strong Markov in the sense that for all $(\bar{\mathcal{G}}_t)$ -stopping time T and $s > 0$,*

$$Q(f(\Phi_{T+s}) \mid \bar{\mathcal{G}}_T) = \bar{P}_s(f, \Phi_T) \quad \text{on } \{\alpha < U_T < \beta\} \quad (5.8)$$

for every positive and F -measurable function f .

(2) Assume that T_1 is a finite (\mathcal{H}_t) -stopping time such that $U_{T_1} \neq U_{T_1^-}$ and $\Phi_{T_1} \neq \Phi_{T_1^-}$ Q a.e. Then

$$Q(F(E_{T_1}) \mid \mathcal{H}) = P^{\Phi_{T_1^-}, \Phi_{T_1}}(F) \quad \text{on } \{\alpha < U_{T_1} < \beta\} \quad (5.9)$$

for all F^* -measurable $F \geq 0$.

Proof. If $T \equiv t$ is constant, formula (5.8) follows from the Markov property of the process $(Y_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ at time U_t and the fact that $\Phi_{t+s} = Z_s \circ \bar{\tau}_t$ and $\bar{\tau}_{t+s} = \bar{\theta}_s \circ \bar{\tau}_t$ on $\{\alpha < U_t < \beta\}$. This formula is also true for T_n instead of T , where (T_n) is the decreasing dyadic approximation of T , which extends for a general T by the right continuity of the processes (Φ_t) , (U_t) , and $(\bar{\tau}_t)$.

Formula (5.9) is argued in the same manner as (4.5) by using [1, formula (30)]. \square

We consider now the time-reversed process $(\hat{Y}_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}} = (Y_{(-t)-})_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$. It is an E -valued right-continuous process with left limits on $]\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}[=] - \beta, -\alpha[$, and which is equal to δ outside of $]\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}[$. As in [1, 13], we assume that (\hat{Y}_t) is also Markov with respect to another standard semigroup (\hat{P}_t) satisfying “les hypothèses droites de Meyer,” which implies the strong Markov property and the existence of exit systems. The measure

$$\hat{\eta}(B) = Q(\hat{Y}_t \in B; \hat{\alpha} < t < \hat{\beta}) \quad (5.10)$$

is (\hat{P}_t) -excessive and the stationarity of (\hat{Y}_t) is guaranteed. Let $\hat{\tau}_t, \hat{\mathcal{G}}_t, \hat{B}, \hat{S}, \hat{V}_t, \hat{U}_t$, and \hat{E}_t be the analog of $\tau_t, \mathcal{G}_t, B, S, V_t, U_t$, and E_t corresponding to (\hat{Y}_t) . As previously we assume that Q a.e. $\hat{B}] \hat{\alpha}, t[< \infty$ for all $t > \hat{\alpha}$. For the process $(\Psi_t) = (\hat{Y}_{\hat{U}_t})$ and the random subset

$$\hat{M} = \bigcup_{\hat{\alpha} < t < \hat{\beta}} \{t + R \circ \hat{\tau}_t\} \quad (5.11)$$

of $]\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}[$, we have the analog of Theorem 5.3. In particular if we design by $\hat{\mathcal{H}}$ and $\hat{\mathcal{H}}_t$ the Q -completions of $\sigma(\Psi_u : u \in \mathbb{R})$ and $\sigma(\Psi_u : u \leq t)_+$, respectively, and by $\hat{P}^{x,y}$ the measure defined as $P^{x,y}$ in terms of the exit measures ${}^0\hat{P}^x$ of \hat{M} for the canonical realization of (\hat{P}_t) , we have the following formula:

$$Q(F(\hat{E}_{T_2}) \mid \hat{\mathcal{H}}) = \hat{P}^{\Psi_{T_2^-}, \Psi_{T_2}}(F) \quad \text{on } \{\hat{\alpha} < \hat{U}_{T_2} < \hat{\beta}\} \quad (5.12)$$

for all finite $(\hat{\mathcal{H}}_t)$ -stopping time T_2 such that $\hat{U}_{T_2} \neq \hat{U}_{T_2^-}$ and $\Psi_{T_2^-} \neq \Psi_{T_2}$ Q a.e., and for every positive F^* -measurable function F .

For the following theorem which gives the conditional law of pairs of excursions, we consider the family of probability measures

$$Q^{x,y,z,u} = P^{x,y} \otimes \hat{P}^{z,u}. \quad (5.13)$$

THEOREM 5.4. *Let T_1 (resp., T_2) be as in (5.9) (resp., (5.12)). Assume that the following hypotheses are satisfied:*

- (1) $\sigma(U_{T_1^-}) \cap \Lambda \subset \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{T_2^-}$,
- (2) $\sigma(\hat{U}_{T_2^-}) \cap \Lambda \subset \mathcal{H}_{T_1^-}$,

where $\Lambda = \{\alpha < -\hat{U}_{T_2^-} \leq U_{T_1^-} < \beta\}$. Then the following formula:

$$Q(H(E_{T_1}, \hat{E}_{T_2}) \mid \mathcal{H} \cap \hat{\mathcal{H}}) = Q^{\Phi_{T_1^-}, \Phi_{T_1}, \Psi_{T_2^-}, \Psi_{T_2}}(H) \quad \text{on } \Lambda \quad (5.14)$$

holds for every positive and $F^* \otimes F^*$ -measurable function H .

Since $\mathcal{G}_{(U_{T_1^-})^-}^D = \mathcal{H}_{T_1^-}$ and $\hat{\mathcal{G}}_{(\hat{U}_{T_2^-})^-}^{\hat{D}} = \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{T_2^-}$, the hypothesis (1) (resp., (2)) means that the trace on Λ of the σ -algebra generated by $U_{T_1^-}$ (resp., $\hat{U}_{T_2^-}$) is contained in the strict past of $\hat{U}_{T_2^-}$ (resp., $U_{T_1^-}$) with respect to the filtration (\mathcal{G}_t^D) (resp., $(\hat{\mathcal{G}}_t^{\hat{D}})$).

Proof. We have to prove that

$$Q(F(E_{T_1})\hat{F}(\hat{E}_{T_2})ZI_\Lambda) = Q(P^{\Phi_{T_1^-}, \Phi_{T_1}}(F)\hat{P}^{\Psi_{T_2^-}, \Psi_{T_2}}(\hat{F})ZI_\Lambda) \quad (5.15)$$

for all positive and F^* -measurable functions F , \hat{F} , and for every positive $\mathcal{H} \cap \hat{\mathcal{H}}$ -measurable random variable Z . Since $\hat{\tau}_{\hat{U}_{T_2^-}} = \theta_{U_{T_1^-} + \hat{U}_{T_2^-}} \circ \hat{\tau}_{-U_{T_1^-}}$ on Λ , and since $\hat{\tau}_{-U_{T_1^-}}$ is $\mathcal{G}_{(U_{T_1^-})^-}$ -measurable and $\mathcal{G}_{(U_{T_1^-})^-}^D = \mathcal{H}_{T_1^-}$, then $\sigma(\hat{\tau}_{\hat{U}_{T_2^-}}) \cap \Lambda \subset \mathcal{H}_{T_1^-}$ ($\mathcal{G}_t^D = \mathcal{G}_{D_t} \supset \mathcal{G}_t$, where $D_t = \inf\{s > t : s \in M\}$ on W , for $t \in \mathbb{R}$). By using the same argument, we prove that $\sigma(\Psi_{T_2^-}, \Psi_{T_2}) \cap \Lambda \subset \mathcal{H}_{T_1^-}$, $\sigma(U_{T_1^-}) \cap \Lambda \subset \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{T_2^-}$, and $\sigma(\Phi_{T_1^-}, \Phi_{T_1}) \cap \Lambda \subset \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{T_2^-}$.

The Markov property at time T_1 and formula (5.9) implied that for every positive $\mathcal{H}_{T_1^-}$ -measurable random variable Z_1 , and for every positive and F^0 -measurable function φ ,

$$Q(F(E_{T_1})\hat{F}(\hat{E}_{T_2})Z_1\varphi(\bar{\tau}_{T_1})I_\Lambda) = Q(P^{\Phi_{T_1^-}, \Phi_{T_1}}(F)\hat{F}(\hat{E}_{T_2})Z_1\varphi(\bar{\tau}_{T_1})I_\Lambda); \quad (5.16)$$

and according to the fact that \mathcal{H} is generated by $\mathcal{H}_{T_1^-}$ and $\bar{\tau}_{T_1}$, we have

$$Q(F(E_{T_1})\hat{F}(\hat{E}_{T_2})ZI_\Lambda) = Q(P^{\Phi_{T_1^-}, \Phi_{T_1}}(F)\hat{F}(\hat{E}_{T_2})ZI_\Lambda). \quad (5.17)$$

Formula (5.15) follows by using formulas (5.12) and (5.17). \square

References

- [1] H. Boutabia, *Lois conditionnelles des excursions d'un processus de Markov à naissance et mort aléatoires* [Conditional excursion laws for a Markov process with random birth and death times], Portugal. Math. **56** (1999), no. 2, 239–255 (French).
- [2] H. Boutabia and B. Maisonneuve, *Lois conditionnelles des excursions markoviennes* [Conditional distributions of Markov excursions], Séminaire de Probabilités, XXVI, Lecture Notes in Math., vol. 1526, Springer, Berlin, 1992, pp. 162–166.
- [3] C. Dellacherie, B. Maisonneuve, and P. A. Meyer, *Probabilités et potentiel*, chapter 17–19, Hermann, Paris, 1992.
- [4] R. K. Gettoor, *Killing a Markov process under a stationary measure involves creation*, Ann. Probab. **16** (1988), no. 2, 564–585.
- [5] R. K. Gettoor and M. J. Sharpe, *Two results on dual excursions*, Seminar on Stochastic Processes, 1981 (Evanston, Ill., 1981), Progr. Prob. Statist., vol. 1, Birkhäuser, Massachusetts, 1981, pp. 31–52.
- [6] ———, *Excursions of dual processes*, Adv. in Math. **45** (1983), no. 3, 259–309.

- [7] P. A. Jacobs, *Excursions of a Markov process induced by continuous additive functionals*, Z. Wahrsch. Verw. Gebiete **44** (1978), no. 4, 325–336.
- [8] H. Kaspi, *Excursion laws of Markov processes in classical duality*, Ann. Probab. **13** (1985), no. 2, 492–518.
- [9] ———, *Random time changes for processes with random birth and death*, Ann. Probab. **16** (1988), no. 2, 586–599.
- [10] S. E. Kuznetsov, *Construction of Markov processes with random times of birth and death*, Theory Probab. Appl. **18** (1973), no. 3, 571–575.
- [11] B. Maisonneuve, *Systèmes de sortie (\mathcal{F}_{D_t}) prévisibles [(\mathcal{F}_{D_t}) -predictable exit systems]*, Probab. Theory Related Fields **80** (1989), no. 3, 395–405 (French).
- [12] ———, *Excursions chevauchant un temps aléatoire quelconque [Excursions spanning a random time]*, Astérisque **236** (1996), 215–226 (French).
- [13] J. B. Mitro, *Exit systems for dual Markov processes*, Z. Wahrsch. Verw. Gebiete **66** (1984), no. 2, 259–267.

Hacène Boutabia: Département de Mathématiques, Faculté des Sciences, Université Badji Mokhtar, BP 12, Annaba 23000, Algeria

E-mail address: hboutabia@hotmail.com

Special Issue on Intelligent Computational Methods for Financial Engineering

Call for Papers

As a multidisciplinary field, financial engineering is becoming increasingly important in today's economic and financial world, especially in areas such as portfolio management, asset valuation and prediction, fraud detection, and credit risk management. For example, in a credit risk context, the recently approved Basel II guidelines advise financial institutions to build comprehensible credit risk models in order to optimize their capital allocation policy. Computational methods are being intensively studied and applied to improve the quality of the financial decisions that need to be made. Until now, computational methods and models are central to the analysis of economic and financial decisions.

However, more and more researchers have found that the financial environment is not ruled by mathematical distributions or statistical models. In such situations, some attempts have also been made to develop financial engineering models using intelligent computing approaches. For example, an artificial neural network (ANN) is a nonparametric estimation technique which does not make any distributional assumptions regarding the underlying asset. Instead, ANN approach develops a model using sets of unknown parameters and lets the optimization routine seek the best fitting parameters to obtain the desired results. The main aim of this special issue is not to merely illustrate the superior performance of a new intelligent computational method, but also to demonstrate how it can be used effectively in a financial engineering environment to improve and facilitate financial decision making. In this sense, the submissions should especially address how the results of estimated computational models (e.g., ANN, support vector machines, evolutionary algorithm, and fuzzy models) can be used to develop intelligent, easy-to-use, and/or comprehensible computational systems (e.g., decision support systems, agent-based system, and web-based systems)

This special issue will include (but not be limited to) the following topics:

- **Computational methods:** artificial intelligence, neural networks, evolutionary algorithms, fuzzy inference, hybrid learning, ensemble learning, cooperative learning, multiagent learning

- **Application fields:** asset valuation and prediction, asset allocation and portfolio selection, bankruptcy prediction, fraud detection, credit risk management
- **Implementation aspects:** decision support systems, expert systems, information systems, intelligent agents, web service, monitoring, deployment, implementation

Authors should follow the Journal of Applied Mathematics and Decision Sciences manuscript format described at the journal site <http://www.hindawi.com/journals/jamds/>. Prospective authors should submit an electronic copy of their complete manuscript through the journal Manuscript Tracking System at <http://mts.hindawi.com/>, according to the following timetable:

Manuscript Due	December 1, 2008
First Round of Reviews	March 1, 2009
Publication Date	June 1, 2009

Guest Editors

Lean Yu, Academy of Mathematics and Systems Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100190, China; Department of Management Sciences, City University of Hong Kong, Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon, Hong Kong; yulean@amss.ac.cn

Shouyang Wang, Academy of Mathematics and Systems Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100190, China; sywang@amss.ac.cn

K. K. Lai, Department of Management Sciences, City University of Hong Kong, Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon, Hong Kong; mskkklai@cityu.edu.hk