

On potential theory of subordinate Brownian motion in unbounded sets

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(joint work with Panki Kim and Renming Song)

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- 1 Motivation
- 2 Description of the class of processes - subordinate BM
- 3 Boundary Harnack inequality at infinity
- 4 Martin boundary of the half-space

Martin boundary

Let $X = (X_t, \mathbb{P}_x)$ be rotationally invariant Lévy process in \mathbb{R}^d , $D \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ open, X^D the killed process, $G_D(x, y)$ the Green function of X^D .

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Fix $x_0 \in D$ and define $M_D(x, y) := \frac{G_D(x, y)}{G_D(x_0, y)}$, $x, y \in D$.

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D has a **Martin boundary** $\partial_M D$ with respect to X^D satisfying the following properties:

- (1) $D \cup \partial_M D$ is compact metric space;
- (2) D is open and dense in $D \cup \partial_M D$, and its relative topology coincides with its original topology;
- (3) $M_D(x, \cdot)$ can be uniquely extended to $\partial_M D$ in such a way that, $M_D(x, y)$ converges to $M_D(x, z)$ as $y \rightarrow z \in \partial_M D$, the function $x \rightarrow M_D(x, z)$ is excessive with respect to X^D , the function $(x, z) \rightarrow M_D(x, z)$ is jointly continuous on $D \times \partial_M D$ and $M_D(\cdot, z_1) \neq M_D(\cdot, z_2)$ if $z_1 \neq z_2$.

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The **minimal Martin boundary** of X^D is defined as

$$\partial_m D = \{z \in \partial_M D : M_D(\cdot, z) \text{ is minimal harmonic with respect to } X^D\}.$$

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Certain subordinate BM, D bounded κ -fat open set: Kim, Song, V. (2009).

Martin boundary for unbounded sets?

In all mentioned results D is bounded. The reason: Proofs depend on the boundary Harnack principle for non-negative harmonic functions which implies the existence of the limit $\lim_{y \rightarrow z \in \partial D} M_D(x, y)$.

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$\partial_M H = \partial_m H = \partial H \cup \{\infty\}$. The Martin kernel given by (with $x_0 = (\tilde{0}, 1)$)

$$M_H(x, z) = \frac{x_d^{\alpha/2}}{|x - z|^d} (1 + |z|^2)^{\alpha/2}, \quad M_H(x, \infty) = x_d^{\alpha/2}.$$

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In case of unbounded open D , inversion through the sphere implies the existence of $M_D(x, \infty) := \lim_{|y| \rightarrow \infty, y \in D} M_D(x, y)$:

Bogdan, Kulczycki, Kwaśnicki (2008)

Finite part of Martin boundary

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In case X is a subordinate Brownian motion satisfying certain condition, the finite part of the Martin boundary of H can be identified with the Euclidean boundary ∂H , Kim, Song, V. (2011).

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Remark 2: Case $d = 1$. M. Silverstein proved in 1980 that $\partial_m(0, \infty) = \{0, \infty\}$ (two minimal harmonic functions: renewal function of the ladder height process and its density). **The full Martin boundary can be larger.**

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Subordinators

$S = (S_t)_{t \geq 0}$ a subordinator with the Laplace exponent ϕ :

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Upper and lower scaling conditions at infinity and at zero:

(H1): There exist constants $0 < \delta_1 \leq \delta_2 < 1$ and $a_1, a_2 > 0$ such that

$$a_1 \lambda^{\delta_1} \phi(t) \leq \phi(\lambda t) \leq a_2 \lambda^{\delta_2} \phi(t), \quad \lambda \geq 1, t \geq 1.$$

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(H2): There exist constants $0 < \delta_3 \leq \delta_4 < 1$ and $a_3, a_4 > 0$ such that

$$a_3 \lambda^{\delta_4} \phi(t) \leq \phi(\lambda t) \leq a_4 \lambda^{\delta_3} \phi(t), \quad \lambda \leq 1, t \leq 1.$$

Examples

If $0 < \alpha < 2$ and $\tilde{\ell}$ slowly varying at infinity, then

$$\phi(\lambda) \asymp \lambda^{\alpha/2} \tilde{\ell}(\lambda), \quad \lambda \rightarrow \infty,$$

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If $0 < \beta < 2$ and ℓ slowly varying at infinity, then

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implies (H2). Assumption on the behavior of the subordinator (hence SBM) for large time, large space.

Properties of the potential and the Lévy density

There exists a constant $C = C(\phi) > 0$ such that

$$u(t) \leq Ct^{-1}\phi(t^{-1})^{-1}, \quad \mu(t) \leq Ct^{-1}\phi(t^{-1}), \quad \forall t \in (0, \infty).$$

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We write

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Subordinate Brownian motion

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X is a Lévy process with characteristic exponent $\Phi(x) = \phi(|x|^2)$ and Lévy measure with density $J(x) = j(|x|)$ where

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Assume X is transient ($\iff \int_0^1 \phi(\lambda)^{-1} \lambda^{d/2-1} d\lambda < \infty$); then X has the Green function $G(x, y) = G(x - y) = g(|x - y|)$ where

$$g(r) = \int_0^\infty (4\pi t)^{-d/2} e^{-r^2/4t} u(t) dt, \quad r > 0.$$

Renewal measure of the ladder height process

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It holds that

$$V(t) \asymp \phi(r^{-2})^{-1}, \quad \text{for all } r > 0.$$

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Corollary: (Doubling property) $J(2x) \asymp J(x)$, $x \neq 0$.

Scaling properties

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Define $\Phi^a(r) := \phi^a(r^{-2})^{-1}$, $r > 0$. Then

$$a_5 \left(\frac{R}{r}\right)^{2(\delta_1 \wedge \delta_3)} \leq \frac{\Phi^a(R)}{\Phi^a(r)} \leq a_6 \left(\frac{R}{r}\right)^{2(\delta_2 \vee \delta_4)} \quad a > 0, \quad 0 < r < R < \infty.$$

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X^a satisfies conditions of Chen-Kumagai, PTRF (2008)

Uniform BHP

Recall that $u : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is **regular harmonic** in open $D \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ with respect to X if

$$u(x) = \mathbb{E}_x [u(X_{\tau_D}) : \tau_D < \infty] , \quad \text{for all } x \in D .$$

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Theorem: There exists a constant $c = c(\phi, d) > 0$ such that for every $z_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$, every open set $D \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, **every** $r > 0$ and for any nonnegative functions u, v in \mathbb{R}^d which are regular harmonic in $D \cap B(z_0, r)$ with respect to X and vanish in $D^c \cap B(z_0, r)$, we have

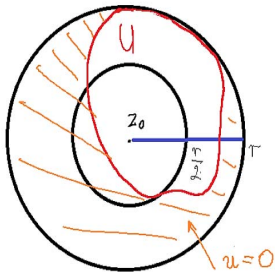
$$\frac{u(x)}{v(x)} \leq c \frac{u(y)}{v(y)} \quad \text{for all } x, y \in D \cap B(z_0, r/2).$$

Lemma: For every $z_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$, every open set $U \subset B(z_0, r)$ and for any nonnegative function u in \mathbb{R}^d which is regular harmonic in U with respect to X and vanishes a.e. in $U^c \cap B(z_0, r)$ it holds that

$$u(x) \asymp \mathbb{E}_x[\tau_U] \int_{B(z_0, r/2)^c} j(|y - z_0|) u(y) dy, \quad x \in U \cap B(z_0, r/2).$$

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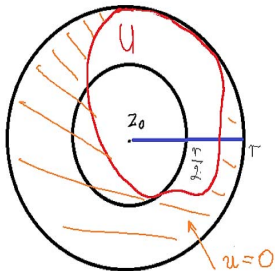
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For all $r \in (0, 1]$ under (H1) (Kim, Song, V. (2011)), for all $r \in (0, \infty)$ under (H1) and (H2).



Take $z_0 = 0$. Then the above reads:

$$u(x) \asymp \int_U G_U(x, y) dy + \int_{B(0, r/2)^c} j(|y|) u(y) dy, \quad x \in U \cap B(0, r/2).$$

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In case of rotationally invariant α -stable process, M. Kwaśnicki (2009) used the inversion through the sphere $B(0, \sqrt{r})$ to obtain a BHP at infinity.

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Boundary Harnack inequality at infinity

Recall that the Poisson kernel $K_U(x, z)$ is the exit density from an open set U : $\mathbb{P}_x(X_{\tau_U} \in B) = \int_B K_U(x, z) dy$, $B \subset \overline{U}^c$,

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Additional technical assumption:

$$(A): \quad 2\delta_2 - \delta_1 < 1 \quad \text{and} \quad 2\delta_4 - \delta_3 < 1.$$

BHP at infinity – continuation

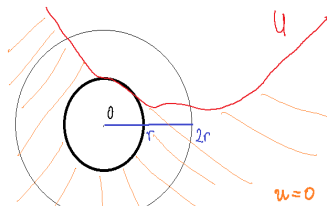
Theorem: There exists $C = C(\phi) > 1$ such that for all $r \geq 1$, for all open sets $U \subset \overline{B}(0, r)^c$ and all nonnegative functions u on \mathbb{R}^d that are regular harmonic in U and vanish on $\overline{B}(0, r)^c \setminus U$, it holds that

$$\frac{1}{C} \leq \frac{u(x)}{K_U(x, 0) \int_{B(0, 2r)} u(z) dz} \leq C, \quad \text{for all } x \in U \cap \overline{B}(0, 2r)^c.$$

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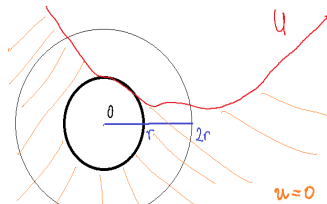


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$$u(x) \asymp \int_U G_U(x, y) j(|y|) dy \int_{B(0, 2r)} u(z) dz, \quad x \in U \cap \overline{B}(0, 2r)^c.$$



Corollaries

Corollary: There exists $C = C(\phi) > 1$ such that for all $r \geq 1$, for all open sets $U \subset \overline{B}(0, r)^c$ and all nonnegative functions u and v on \mathbb{R}^d that are regular harmonic in U and vanish on $\overline{B}(0, r)^c \setminus U$, it holds that

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Corollary: Let $r \geq 1$ and $U \subset \overline{B}(0, r)^c$. If u is a non-negative function on \mathbb{R}^d which is regular harmonic in U and vanishes on $\overline{B}(0, r)^c \setminus U$, then

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Remark: Not true if *regular harmonic* is replaced by *harmonic*:

$w(x) = w(\tilde{x}, x_d) := V((x_d)^+)$ is harmonic in the upper half-space $H \subset B((\tilde{0}, -1), 1)^c$, vanishes on $\overline{B}((\tilde{0}, -1), 1)^c \setminus H$, but

$$\lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} w(x) = \infty.$$

Ingredients of the proof

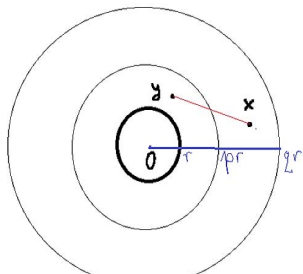
Upper bound on the Green function $\overline{B}(0, r)^c$, $r \geq 1$: Let $1 < p < q < 4$ and $b > 0$. There exist a constant $C = C(\phi, p, q, b) > 0$ such that for all $r \geq 1$, all $x \in A(0, pr, qr)$ and all $y \in \overline{B}(0, r)^c$ such that $\delta_{\overline{B}(0, r)^c}(y) < r$ and $br < |x - y|$ it holds that

$$G_{\overline{B}(0, r)^c}(x, y) \leq C \frac{V(\delta_{\overline{B}(0, r)^c}(x))}{V(|x - y|)} \frac{V(\delta_{\overline{B}(0, r)^c}(y))}{V(|x - y|)} G(x, y).$$

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Ingredients of the proof – continuation

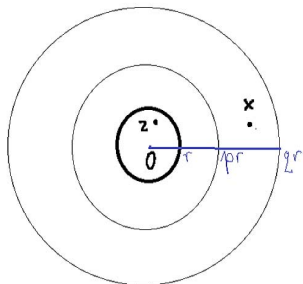
Upper bound for the Poisson kernel of $\overline{B}(0, r)^c$, $r \geq 1$: Let $1 < p < q < 4$. There exists $C = C(\phi, p, q) > 1$ such that for all $r \geq 1$, all $x \in A(0, pr, qr)$ and $z \in B(0, r)$ it holds that

$$K_{\overline{B}(0, r)^c}(x, z) \leq C \left(|x - z|^{-d} (\phi(r^{-2}))^{-1/2} \phi((r - |z|)^{-2})^{1/2} + 1 \right) + r^{-d}.$$

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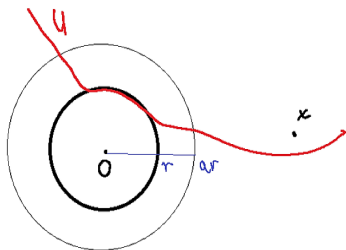
Exit probability estimate: For every $a \in (1, \infty)$, there exists a positive constant $C = C(\phi, a) > 0$ such that for any $r \in (0, \infty)$ and any open set $U \subset \overline{B}(0, r)^c$ we have

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Regularization of the Poisson kernel in the spirit of Bogdan, Kulczycki and Kwaśnicki (2008) leading to

$$K_U(x, z) \asymp K_U(x, 0) \left(\int_{U \cap B(0, 2r)} K_U(y, z) dy + 1 \right).$$

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Description of the class of processes - subordinate BM
- 3 Boundary Harnack inequality at infinity
- 4 Martin boundary of the half-space**

Oscillation reduction

Recall that $H = \{x = (\tilde{x}, x_d) : x_d > 0\}$ is the upper half-space,
 $M_H(x, y) = \frac{G_H(x, y)}{G_H(x_0, y)}$ where $x_0 = (\tilde{0}, 1)$. For any $r > 0$ let $A_r := (\tilde{0}, 2r)$.

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Lemma: For $r > 0$ and $k = 1, 2, \dots$, let $B_k = B(0, 4^k r)$. There exist $c_1 = c_1(\phi, d) > 0$ and $c_2 = c_2(\phi, d) \in (0, 1)$ such that for any $r > 1$ and any non-negative function h which is regular harmonic in $H \cap \overline{B}(0, 4r)^c$ and vanishes in $H^c \cap \overline{B}(0, 4r)^c$ we have

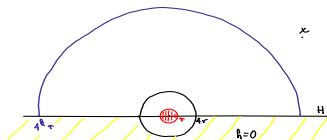
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Oscillation reduction – continuation

Lemma: There exist $C = C(\phi, d) > 0$ and $\nu = \nu(d, \phi) > 0$ such that for all $r \geq 1$ and all non-negative functions u and v on \mathbb{R}^d which are regular harmonic in $H \cap \overline{B}(0, r/2)^c$, vanish in $H^c \cap \overline{B}(0, r/2)^c$ and satisfy $u(A_r) = v(A_r)$, there exists the limit

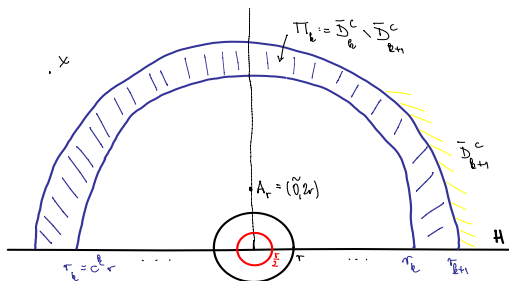
$$g = \lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty, x \in H} \frac{u(x)}{v(x)},$$

and we have

$$\left| \frac{u(x)}{v(x)} - g \right| \leq C \left(\frac{|x|}{r} \right)^{-\nu}, \quad x \in H \cap \overline{B}(0, r)^c.$$

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This immediately implies that the every infinite Martin boundary point can be identified with $\{\infty\}$. Since Martin kernels for different Martin boundary points are different, this gives that the infinite part of the Martin boundary is exactly $\{\infty\}$.

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