

# Chapter X

## Brownian Motion: The LIL and Some Fine-Scale Properties

In this chapter, we analyze the *growth* of the Brownian paths  $t \mapsto B_t$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . We will see by a property of “time inversion” of Brownian motion that this leads to small-scale properties as well. First, however, let us record some basic properties of the Brownian motion that follow somewhat directly from its definition.

**Theorem 10.1** Let  $B = \{B_t : t \geq 0\}$  be a standard one-dimensional Brownian motion starting at 0. Then

1. (*Symmetry*)  $W_t := -B_t, t \geq 0$ , is a standard Brownian motion starting at 0.
2. (*Homogeneity and Independent Increments*)  $\{B_{t+s} - B_s : t \geq 0\}$  is a standard Brownian motion independent of  $\{B_u : 0 \leq u \leq s\}$ , for every  $s \geq 0$ .
3. (*Scale-Change Invariance*). For every  $\lambda > 0$ ,  $\{B_t^{(\lambda)} := \lambda^{-\frac{1}{2}} B_{\lambda t} : t \geq 0\}$  is a standard Brownian motion starting at 0.
4. (*Time-Inversion Invariance*)  $W_t := t B_{1/t}, t > 0, W_0 = 0$ , is a standard Brownian motion starting at 0.

*Proof* Each of these is obtained by showing that the conditions defining a Brownian motion are satisfied. In the case of the time-inversion property, one may apply the strong law of large numbers to obtain continuity at  $t = 0$ . That is, if  $0 < t_n \rightarrow 0$  then write  $s_n = 1/t_n \rightarrow \infty$  and  $N_n := [s_n]$ , where  $[\cdot]$  denotes the greatest integer function, so that by the strong law of large numbers, with probability one

$$W_{t_n} = \frac{1}{s_n} B_{s_n} = \frac{N_n}{s_n} \frac{1}{N_n} \sum_{j=1}^{N_n} (B_j - B_{j-1}) + \frac{1}{s_n} (B_{s_n} - B_{N_n}) \rightarrow 0,$$

since  $B_i - B_{i-1}, i \geq 1$ , is an i.i.d. mean-zero sequence,  $N_n/s_n \rightarrow 1$ , and  $(B_{s_n} - B_{N_n})/s_n \rightarrow 0$  a.s. as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  (see Exercise 2). ■

Although the Brownian motion paths cannot be differentiable, it is possible to determine an *order of continuity* using the next general theorem.

**Definition 10.1** A stochastic process (or random field)  $Y = \{Y_u : u \in \Lambda\}$  is a *version* of  $X = \{X_u : u \in \Lambda\}$  taking values in a metric space if  $Y$  has the same finite dimensional distributions as  $X$ .

**Theorem 10.2 (Kolmogorov-Chentsov Theorem)** Suppose  $X = \{X_u : u \in \Lambda\}$  is a stochastic process (or random field) with values in a complete metric space  $(S, \rho)$ , indexed by a bounded rectangle  $\Lambda \subset \mathbb{R}^k$  and satisfying

$$\mathbb{E}\rho^\alpha(X_u, X_v) \leq c|u - v|^{k+\beta}, \quad \text{for all } u, v \in \Lambda,$$

where  $c, \alpha, \beta$  are positive numbers. Then there is a version  $Y = \{Y_u : u \in \Lambda\}$  of  $X$  which is a.s. Hölder continuous of any exponent  $\gamma$  such that  $0 < \gamma < \frac{\beta}{\alpha}$ .

*Proof* Without essential loss of generality we take  $\Lambda = [0, 1]^k$  and the norm  $|\cdot|$  to be the *maximum norm* given by  $|u| = \max\{|u_i| : 1 \leq i \leq k\}$ ,  $u = (u_1, \dots, u_k)$ . For each  $N = 1, 2, \dots$ , let  $L_N$  be the finite lattice  $\{j2^{-N} : j = 0, 1, \dots, 2^N\}^k$ . Write  $L = \cup_{N=1}^\infty L_N$ . Define  $M_N = \max\{\rho(X_u, X_v) : (u, v) \in L_N^2, |u - v| \leq 2^{-N}\}$ . Since (i) for a given  $u \in L_N$  there are no more than  $3^k$  points in  $L_N$  such that  $|u - v| \leq 2^{-N}$ , (ii) there are  $(2^N + 1)^k$  points in  $L_N$ , and (iii) for every given pair  $(u, v)$ , the condition of the theorem holds, one has by Chebyshev's inequality that

$$P(M_N > 2^{-\gamma N}) \leq c3^k(2^N + 1)^k \left( \frac{2^{-N(k+\beta)}}{2^{-\alpha\gamma N}} \right). \quad (10.1)$$

In particular, since  $\gamma < \beta/\alpha$ ,

$$\sum_{N=1}^\infty P(M_N > 2^{-\gamma N}) < \infty. \quad (10.2)$$

Thus there is a random positive integer  $N^* \equiv N^*(\omega)$  and a set  $\Omega^*$  with  $P(\Omega^*) = 1$ , such that

$$M_N(\omega) \leq 2^{-\gamma N} \quad \text{for all } N \geq N^*(\omega), \omega \in \Omega^*. \quad (10.3)$$

Fix  $\omega \in \Omega^*$  and let  $N \geq N^*(\omega)$ . By exactly the same induction argument as used for the proof of Lemma 3 in Chapter VII, one has for all  $m \geq N + 1$ ,

$$\rho(X_u, X_v) \leq 2 \sum_{j=N}^m 2^{-\gamma j}, \quad \text{for all } u, v \in L_m, |u - v| \leq 2^{-N}. \quad (10.4)$$

Since  $2 \sum_{\nu=N}^\infty 2^{-\gamma \nu} = 2^{-\gamma N+1} (1 - 2^{-\gamma})^{-1}$ , and  $L = \cup_{m=N+1}^\infty L_m$  for all  $N \geq N^*(\omega)$ , it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup\{\rho(X_u, X_v) : u, v \in L, |u - v| \leq 2^{-N}\} \\ &= \sup\{\rho(X_u, X_v) : u, v \in \cup_{m=N+1}^\infty L_m, |u - v| \leq 2^{-N}\} \\ &\leq 2^{-\gamma N+1}(1 - 2^{-\gamma})^{-1}, \quad N \geq N^*(\omega), \omega \in \Omega^*. \end{aligned} \tag{10.5}$$

This proves that on  $\Omega^*$ ,  $u \rightarrow X_u$  is uniformly continuous (from  $L$  into  $(S, \rho)$ ), and is Hölder continuous with exponent  $\gamma$ . Now define  $Y_u := X_u$  if  $u \in L$  and otherwise  $Y_u := \lim X_{u_N}$ , with  $u_N \in L$  and  $u_N \rightarrow u$ , if  $u \notin L$ . Because of uniform continuity of  $u \rightarrow X_u$  on  $L$  (for  $\omega \in \Omega^*$ ), and completeness of  $(S, \rho)$ , the last limit is well-defined. For all  $\omega \notin \Omega^*$ , let  $Y_u$  be a fixed element of  $S$  for all  $u \in [0, 1]^k$ . Finally, letting  $\gamma_j \uparrow \beta/\alpha$ ,  $\gamma_j < \beta/\alpha$ ,  $j \geq 1$ , and denoting the exceptional set above as  $\Omega_j^*$ , one has the Hölder continuity of  $Y$  for every  $\gamma < \beta/\alpha$  on  $\Omega^{**} := \cap_{j=1}^\infty \Omega_j^*$  with  $P(\Omega^{**}) = 1$ .

That  $Y$  is a version of  $X$  may be seen as follows. For any  $r \geq 1$  and  $r$  vectors  $u_1, \dots, u_r \in [0, 1]^k$ , there exist  $u_{jN} \in L$ ,  $u_{jN} \rightarrow u_j$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$  ( $1 \leq j \leq r$ ). Then  $(X_{u_{1N}}, \dots, X_{u_{rN}}) = (Y_{u_{1N}}, \dots, Y_{u_{rN}})$  a.s., and  $(X_{u_{1N}}, \dots, X_{u_{rN}}) \rightarrow (X_{u_1}, \dots, X_{u_r})$  in probability,  $(Y_{u_{1N}}, \dots, Y_{u_{rN}}) \rightarrow (Y_{u_1}, \dots, Y_{u_r})$  almost surely. ■

**Corollary 10.3 (Brownian Motion)** Let  $X = \{X_t : t \geq 0\}$  be a real-valued Gaussian process defined on  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$ , with  $X_0 = 0$ ,  $\mathbb{E}X_t = 0$ , and  $\text{Cov}(X_s, X_t) = s \wedge t$ , for all  $s, t \geq 0$ . Then  $X$  has a version  $B = \{B_t : t \geq 0\}$  with continuous sample paths, which are Hölder continuous on every bounded interval with exponent  $\gamma$  for every  $\gamma \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$ .

*Proof* Since  $\mathbb{E}|X_t - X_s|^{2m} = c(m)(t - s)^m$ ,  $0 \leq s \leq t$ , for some constant  $c(m)$ , for every  $m > 0$ , the Kolmogorov–Chentsov Theorem 10.2 implies the existence of a version  $B^{(0)} = \{B_t^{(0)} : 0 \leq t \leq 1\}$  with the desired properties on  $[0, 1]$ . Let  $B^{(n)}$ ,  $n \geq 1$ , be independent copies of  $B^{(0)}$ , independent of  $B^{(0)}$ . Define  $B_t = B_t^{(0)}$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ , and  $B_t = B_1^{(0)} + \dots + B_1^{(n-1)} + B_{t-[t]}^{(n)}$ , for  $t \in [n, n + 1)$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . ■

**Corollary 10.4 (Brownian Sheet)** Let  $X = \{X_u : u \in [0, \infty)^2\}$  be a real-valued Gaussian random field satisfying  $\mathbb{E}X_u = 0$ ,  $\text{Cov}(X_u, X_v) = (u_1 \wedge v_1)(u_2 \wedge v_2)$  for all  $u = (u_1, u_2)$ ,  $v = (v_1, v_2)$ . Then  $X$  has a continuous version on  $[0, \infty)^2$ , which is Hölder continuous on every bounded rectangle contained in  $[0, \infty)^2$  with exponent  $\gamma$  for every  $\gamma \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$ .

*Proof* First let us note that on every compact rectangle  $[0, M]^2$ ,  $\mathbb{E}|X_u - X_v|^{2m} \leq c(M)|u - v|^m$ , for all  $m = 1, 2, \dots$ . For this it is enough to check that on each horizontal line  $u = (u_1, c)$ ,  $0 \leq u_1 < \infty$ ,  $X_u$  is a one-dimensional Brownian motion with mean zero and variance parameter  $\sigma^2 = c$  for  $c \geq 0$ . The same holds on vertical lines. Hence  $\mathbb{E}|X_{(u_1, u_2)} - X_{(v_1, v_2)}|^{2m} \leq 2^{2m-1}(\mathbb{E}|X_{(u_1, u_2)} - X_{(v_1, u_2)}|^{2m} + \mathbb{E}|X_{(v_1, u_2)} - X_{(v_1, v_2)}|^{2m}) \leq 2^{2m-1}c(m)(u_2^m|u_1 - v_1|^m + v_1^m|u_2 - v_2|^m) \leq 2^{2m-1}c(m)M^m 2|u - v|^m$ , where  $u = (u_1, u_2)$ ,  $v = (v_1, v_2)$ . ■

**Remark 10.1** One may define the *Brownian sheet* on the index set  $\Lambda_{\mathcal{R}}$  of all rectangles  $R = [u, v)$ , with  $u = (u_1, u_2)$ ,  $v = (v_1, v_2)$ ,  $0 \leq u_i \leq v_i < \infty$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ), by setting

$$X_R \equiv X_{[u,v]} := X_{(v_1,v_2)} - X_{(v_1,u_2)} - X_{(u_1,v_2)} + X_{(u_1,u_2)}. \quad (10.6)$$

Then  $X_R$  is Gaussian with mean zero and variance  $|R|$ , the area of  $R$ . Moreover, if  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are nonoverlapping rectangles, then  $X_{R_1}$  and  $X_{R_2}$  are independent. More generally,  $\text{Cov}(X_{R_1}, X_{R_2}) = |R_1 \cap R_2|$ . Conversely, given a Gaussian family  $\{X_R : R \in \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{R}}\}$  with these properties, one can restrict it to the class of rectangles  $\{R = [0, u] : u = (u_1, u_2) \in [0, \infty)^2\}$  and identify this with the Brownian sheet in Corollary 10.4. It is simple to check that for all  $n$ -tuples of rectangles  $R_1, R_2, \dots, R_n \subset [0, \infty)^2$ , the matrix  $((|R_i - R_j|))_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$  is symmetric and non-negative definite. So the finite dimensional distributions of  $\{X_R : R \in \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{R}}\}$  satisfy Kolmogorov's consistency condition.

In order to prove our main result of this section, we will make use of the following important inequality due to Paul Lévy.

**Proposition 10.5 (Lévy's Inequality)** Let  $X_j, j = 1, \dots, N$ , be independent and symmetrically distributed (about zero) random variables. Write  $S_j = \sum_{i=1}^j X_i, 1 \leq j \leq N$ . Then, for every  $y > 0$ ,

$$P\left(\max_{1 \leq j \leq N} S_j \geq y\right) \leq 2P(S_N \geq y) - P(S_N = y) \leq 2P(S_N \geq y).$$

*Proof* Write  $A_j = [S_1 < y, \dots, S_{j-1} < y, S_j \geq y]$ , for  $1 \leq j \leq N$ . The events  $[S_N - S_j < 0]$  and  $[S_N - S_j > 0]$  have the same probability and are independent of  $A_j$ . Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} P\left(\max_{1 \leq j \leq N} S_j \geq y\right) &= P(S_N \geq y) + \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} P(A_j \cap [S_N < y]) \\ &\leq P(S_N \geq y) + \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} P(A_j \cap [S_N - S_j < 0]) \\ &= P(S_N \geq y) + \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} P(A_j)P([S_N - S_j < 0]) \\ &= P(S_N \geq y) + \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} P(A_j \cap [S_N - S_j > 0]) \\ &\leq P(S_N \geq y) + \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} P(A_j \cap [S_N > y]) \\ &\leq P(S_N \geq y) + P(S_N > y) \\ &= 2P(S_N \geq y) - P(S_N = y). \end{aligned} \quad (10.7)$$

This establishes the basic inequality. ■

**Corollary 10.6** For every  $y > 0$  one has for any  $t > 0$ ,

$$P\left(\max_{0 \leq s \leq t} B_s \geq y\right) \leq 2P(B_t \geq y).$$

*Proof* Partition  $[0, t]$  by equidistant points  $0 < u_1 < u_2 < \dots < u_N = t$ , and let  $X_1 = B_{u_1}$ ,  $X_{j+1} = B_{u_{j+1}} - B_{u_j}$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq N - 1$ , in the proposition. Now let  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , and use the continuity of Brownian motion. ■

In fact one may use a reflection principle argument (strong Markov property) to see that this inequality is sharp for Brownian motion

$$P(\max_{0 \leq s \leq t} B_s \geq y) = 2P(B_t \geq y). \tag{10.8}$$

Alternatively, the following proposition concerns the **simple symmetric random walk** defined by  $S_0 = 0$ ,  $S_j = X_1 + \dots + X_j$ ,  $j \geq 1$ , with  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  i.i.d.  $\pm 1$ -valued with equal probabilities. It also demonstrates the remarkable strength of the **reflection method**, allowing one in particular to compute the distribution of the maximum of a random walk over a finite time. The above-indicated equality (10.8) then becomes a consequence of the functional central limit theorem proved in Section 1.8, (Theorem 7.15); especially see (9.27).

**Proposition 10.7** For the simple symmetric random walk one has for every positive integer  $y$ ,

$$P\left(\max_{0 \leq j \leq N} S_j \geq y\right) = 2P(S_N \geq y) - P(S_N = y).$$

*Proof* In the notation of Lévy’s inequality given in Proposition 10.5 one has, for the present case of the random walk moving by  $\pm 1$  units at a time, that  $A_j = [S_1 < y, \dots, S_{j-1} < y, S_j = y]$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq N$ . Then in (10.7) the probability inequalities are all equalities for this special case. ■

**Corollary 10.8** Equation (10.8) holds for every  $y > 0, t > 0$ .

**Theorem 10.9** (*Law of the Iterated Logarithm (LIL) for Brownian Motion*) Each of the following holds with probability one:

$$\overline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{B_t}{\sqrt{2t \log \log t}} = 1, \quad \underline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{B_t}{\sqrt{2t \log \log t}} = -1.$$

*Proof* Let  $\varphi(t) := \sqrt{2t \log \log t}$ ,  $t > 0$ . Let us first show that for any  $0 < \delta < 1$ , one has with probability one that

$$\overline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{B_t}{\varphi(t)} \leq 1 + \delta. \tag{10.9}$$

For arbitrary  $\alpha > 1$ , partition the time interval  $[0, \infty)$  into subintervals of exponentially growing lengths  $t_{n+1} - t_n$ , where  $t_n = \alpha^n$ , and consider the event

$$E_n := \left[ \max_{t_n \leq t \leq t_{n+1}} \frac{B_t}{(1 + \delta)\varphi(t)} > 1 \right].$$

Since  $\varphi(t)$  is a nondecreasing function, one has, using Corollary 10.6, a scaling property, and Lemma 2 from Chapter IV, that

$$\begin{aligned} P(E_n) &\leq P\left(\max_{0 \leq t \leq t_{n+1}} B_t > (1 + \delta)\varphi(t_n)\right) \\ &= 2P\left(B_1 > \frac{(1 + \delta)\varphi(t_n)}{\sqrt{t_{n+1}}}\right) \\ &\leq \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \frac{\sqrt{t_{n+1}}}{(1 + \delta)\varphi(t_n)} e^{-\frac{(1 + \delta)^2 \varphi^2(t_n)}{2t_{n+1}}} \leq c \frac{1}{n^{(1 + \delta)^2/\alpha}} \end{aligned} \quad (10.10)$$

for a constant  $c > 0$  and all  $n > \frac{1}{\log \alpha}$ . For a given  $\delta > 0$  one may select  $1 < \alpha < (1 + \delta)^2$  to obtain  $P(E_n \text{ i.o.}) = 0$  from the Borel–Cantelli lemma (Part I). Thus we have (10.9). Since  $\delta > 0$  is arbitrary we have with probability one that

$$\overline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{B_t}{\varphi(t)} \leq 1. \quad (10.11)$$

Next let us show that with probability one,

$$\overline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{B_t}{\varphi(t)} \geq 1. \quad (10.12)$$

For this consider the independent increments  $B_{t_{n+1}} - B_{t_n}$ ,  $n \geq 1$ . For  $\theta = \frac{t_{n+1} - t_n}{t_{n+1}} = \frac{\alpha - 1}{\alpha} < 1$ , using Feller's tail probability estimate (Lemma 2, Chapter IV) and Brownian scale change,

$$\begin{aligned} P(B_{t_{n+1}} - B_{t_n} > \theta \varphi(t_{n+1})) &= P\left(B_1 > \sqrt{\frac{\theta}{t_{n+1}}} \varphi(t_{n+1})\right) \\ &\geq \frac{c'}{\sqrt{2\theta \log \log t_{n+1}}} e^{-\theta \log \log t_{n+1}} \\ &\geq \frac{c}{\sqrt{\log n}} n^{-\theta} \end{aligned} \quad (10.13)$$

for suitable positive constants  $c, c'$  depending on  $\alpha$  and for all  $n > \frac{1}{\log \alpha}$ . It follows from the Borel–Cantelli Lemma (Part II) that with probability one,

$$B_{t_{n+1}} - B_{t_n} > \theta \varphi(t_{n+1}) \text{ i.o.} \tag{10.14}$$

Also, by (10.11) and replacing  $\{B_t : t \geq 0\}$  by the standard Brownian motion  $\{-B_t : t \geq 0\}$ ,

$$\underline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{B_t}{\varphi(t)} \geq -1, \text{ a.s.} \tag{10.15}$$

Since  $t_{n+1} = \alpha t_n > t_n$ , we have

$$\frac{B_{t_{n+1}}}{\sqrt{2t_{n+1} \log \log t_{n+1}}} = \frac{B_{t_{n+1}} - B_{t_n}}{\sqrt{2t_{n+1} \log \log t_{n+1}}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \frac{B_{t_n}}{\sqrt{2t_n (\log \log t_n + \log \log \alpha)}}. \tag{10.16}$$

Now, using (10.14) and (10.15), it follows that with probability one,

$$\overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{B_{t_{n+1}}}{\varphi(t_{n+1})} \geq \theta - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha}} = \frac{\alpha - 1}{\alpha} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha}}. \tag{10.17}$$

Since  $\alpha > 1$  may be selected arbitrarily large, one has with probability one that

$$\overline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{B_t}{\varphi(t)} \geq \overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{B_{t_{n+1}}}{\varphi(t_{n+1})} \geq 1. \tag{10.18}$$

This completes the computation of the limit superior. To get the limit inferior simply replace  $\{B_t : t \geq 0\}$  by  $\{-B_t : t \geq 0\}$ . ■

The time inversion property for Brownian motion turns the law of the iterated logarithm (LIL) into a statement concerning the degree (or lack) of *local smoothness*. (Also see Exercise 7).

**Corollary 10.10** Each of the following holds with probability one:

$$\overline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{B_t}{\sqrt{2t \log \log \frac{1}{t}}} = 1, \quad \underline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{B_t}{\sqrt{2t \log \log \frac{1}{t}}} = -1.$$

**Exercise Set X**

1. (*Ornstein–Uhlenbeck Process*) Fix parameters  $\gamma > 0, \sigma > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Use the Kolmogorov–Chentsov theorem to obtain the existence of a continuous Gaussian process  $X = \{X_t : t \geq 0\}$  starting at  $X_0 = x$  with  $\mathbb{E}X_t = x e^{-\gamma t}$ , and  $\text{Cov}(X_s, X_t) = \frac{\sigma^2}{\gamma} e^{-\gamma t} \sinh(\gamma s), 0 < s \leq t$ .
2. (i) Use Feller’s tail estimate (Lemma 2, Chapter IV). to prove that  $\max\{|B_i - B_{i-1}| : i = 1, 2, \dots, N + 1\}/N \rightarrow 0$  a.s. as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .  
 (ii) Without using the law of the iterated logarithm for standard Brownian motion  $B$ , show directly that  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{B_n}{\sqrt{2n \log n}} \leq 1$  almost surely.

3. Show that with probability one, standard Brownian motion has arbitrarily large zeros. [Hint: Apply the LIL.]
4. Fix  $t \geq 0$  and use the law of the iterated logarithm to show that  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{B_{t+h} - B_t}{h}$  exists with probability zero. [Hint: Check that  $Y_h := B_{t+h} - B_t, h \geq 0$ , is distributed as standard Brownian motion starting at 0. Consider  $\frac{1}{h} Y_h = \frac{Y_h}{\sqrt{2h \log \log(1/h)}}$ .]
5. For the simple symmetric random walk, find the distributions of the extremes: (a)  $M_N = \max\{S_j : j = 0, \dots, N\}$ , and (b)  $m_N = \min\{S_j : 0 \leq j \leq N\}$ .
6. Consider the simple symmetric random walk  $S_0 = 0, S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n, n \geq 1$ , where  $X_k, k \geq 1$ , are iid symmetric Bernoulli  $\pm 1$  valued random variables. Denote the range by  $R_n = \max_{m \leq n} S_m - \min_{m \leq n} S_m, n \geq 1$ . Show that  $\frac{R_n}{\sqrt{n}}$  converges in distribution to a nonnegative random variable as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .
7. (Lévy Modulus of Continuity<sup>1</sup>) Use the wavelet construction  $B_t := \sum_{n,k} Z_{n,k} S_{n,k}(t), 0 \leq t \leq 1$ , of standard Brownian motion to establish the following fine-scale properties.

- (i) Let  $0 < \delta < \frac{1}{2}$ . With probability one there is a random constant  $K$  such that if  $|t - s| \leq \delta$  then  $|B_t - B_s| \leq K \sqrt{\delta \log \frac{1}{\delta}}$ . [Hint: Fix  $N$  and write the increment as a sum of three terms:  $B_t - B_s = Z_{00}(t - s) + \sum_{n=0}^N \sum_{k=2^n}^{2^{n+1}-1} Z_{n,k} \int_s^t H_{n,k}(u) du + \sum_{n=N+1}^{\infty} \sum_{k=2^n}^{2^{n+1}-1} Z_{n,k} \int_s^t H_{n,k}(u) du = a + b + c$ . Check that for a suitable (random) constant  $K'$  one has  $|b| \leq |t - s| K' \sum_{n=0}^N n^{\frac{1}{2}} 2^{\frac{n}{2}} \leq |t - s| K' \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2-1}} \sqrt{N} 2^{\frac{N}{2}}$ , and  $|c| \leq K' \sum_{n=N+1}^{\infty} n^{\frac{1}{2}} 2^{-\frac{n}{2}} \leq K' \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2-1}} \sqrt{N} 2^{-\frac{N}{2}}$ . Use these estimates, taking  $N = \lceil -\log_2(\delta) \rceil$  such that  $\delta 2^N \sim 1$ , to obtain the bound  $|B_t - B_s| \leq |Z_{00}| \delta + 2K' \sqrt{-\delta \log_2(\delta)}$ . This is sufficient since  $\delta < \sqrt{\delta}$ .]
- (ii) The modulus of continuity is sharp in the sense that with probability one, there is a sequence of intervals  $(s_n, t_n), n \geq 1$ , of respective lengths  $t_n - s_n \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  such that the ratio  $\frac{B_{t_n} - B_{s_n}}{\sqrt{-(t_n - s_n) \log(t_n - s_n)}}$  is bounded below by a positive constant. [Hint: Use Borel–Cantelli I together with Feller’s tail probability estimate for the Gaussian distribution to show that  $P(A_n \text{ i.o.}) = 0$ , where  $A_n := \{|B_{k2^{-n}} - B_{(k-1)2^{-n}}| \leq c \sqrt{n 2^{-n}}, k = 1, \dots, 2^n\}$  and  $c$  is fixed in  $(0, \sqrt{2 \log 2})$ . Interpret this in terms of the certain occurrence of the complimentary event  $[A_n \text{ i.o.}]^c$ .]
- (iii) The paths of Brownian motion are a.s. nowhere differentiable.

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<sup>1</sup>The calculation of the modulus of continuity for Brownian motion is due to Lévy, P. (1937). However this exercise follows Pinsky, M. (1999): Brownian continuity modulus via series expansions, *J. Theor. Probab.* **14** (1), 261–266.