

A remarkable subordinator with generalized gamma  
convolutions marginals.

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This Note is devoted to the presentation of a number of properties of a subordinator, which we shall denote here as  $(\Delta_t, t \geq 0)$ , whose Lévy-Khintchine representation is simply:

(1)  $E[\exp(-\lambda \Delta_t)] = (\sqrt{1+\lambda} - \sqrt{\lambda})^{2t}$ ,  $t, \lambda \geq 0$ .

(2)  $\equiv (1+2\lambda - 2\sqrt{(1+\lambda)\lambda})^t$

Despite the simplicity - or, perhaps, thanks to the simplicity! - of this formula, the process  $(\Delta_t, t \geq 0)$  occurs in several instances in probability theory and enjoys many interesting properties.

a) Consider a real-valued Brownian motion  $(B_u, u \geq 0)$ , and denote:

$d_s = \inf\{u > s : B_u = 0\}$ ;  $g_s = \sup\{u < s : B_u = 0\}$

Then, for  $e$  an independent r.v., with standard exponential distribution, one has:  $E[\exp(-\lambda (d_e - g_e))] = \sqrt{1+\lambda} - \sqrt{\lambda}$ ;

hence:  $d_e - g_e \sim \Delta_{1/2}$  (3).

The identity (3) is a very particular case of the identification of the distribution of  $d_e - g_e$ , when  $(B_u, u \geq 0)$  is replaced by a general

diffusion  $(X_u, u \geq 0)$ ; see BFRY, when  $X$  is a BES(d), for  $0 < d \leq 2$ , and Winkel [ ] for a more general study.

b) As formula (3) suggests, the process  $(\Delta_{t/2}, t \geq 0)$  may occur more naturally than  $(\Delta_t, t \geq 0)$ ; throughout this Note, the factor 2 will appear repeatedly, and ~~most~~ formulae need to be carefully checked (because of this feature in particular!!) -

c). The process  $(\Delta_t, t \geq 0)$  is a very particular example among the subordinators indexed by  $\mathbb{R}_+$ -valued r.v.'s  $G$ , ~~and~~ which we shall denote by  $(\Delta_t(G), t \geq 0)$ , and whose Lévy-Khintchine representation is:

(4) 
$$E[\exp(-\lambda \Delta_t(G))] = \exp\left(-t \int_0^\infty dx (1 - e^{-\lambda x}) \frac{E(e^{-xG})}{x}\right)$$

Indeed, the process  $(\Delta_t, t \geq 0)$  is  $(\Delta_t(G_{1/2}), t \geq 0)$ , where  $G_{1/2} \sim \beta(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$ , a beta  $(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$  r.v., also known as arc-sine variable, i.e:

$$P(\beta(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}) \in du) = \frac{du}{\pi \sqrt{u(1-u)}} \quad (0 < u < 1)$$

Later in the Note, more general beta(a,b) variables will play some role; recall

$$P(\beta(a,b) \in du) = \frac{u^{a-1} (1-u)^{b-1} du}{B(a,b)} \quad (0 < u < 1).$$

We also indicate that in BFRY  $B(a,b)$  the subordinators  $(\Delta_t(G_\alpha), t \geq 0)$  occur, for every  $\alpha \in (0,1)$ , with  $G_\alpha$  defined in terms of two independent stable( $\alpha$ ) variables  $T_\alpha$  and  $T'_\alpha$ ; for  $\alpha = 1/2$ , it is well known that:  $(G_{1/2} \sim) \beta_{1/2,1/2} \sim T_{1/2} / (T_{1/2} + T'_{1/2})$

d) As a first occurrence of the case to take with factors 2, or 1/2, in our discussion, we note that the Laplace transform which occurs is featured in the Lévy-Khintchine formula (4) for

$$(\Delta_t \equiv \Delta_t(G_{1/2}), t \geq 0) \text{ is:}$$

$$(5) \quad E[\exp(-\lambda G_{1/2})] \equiv E[\exp(-x \beta(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}))] = e^{-x/2} I_0(x/2).$$

This leads us naturally to the following statement found in [MNY, Theorem 1.1, p. 24.]

Theorem: a) The modified Bessel functions  $(I_\nu, \nu \geq 0)$  satisfy the Lipschitz-Hankel formula:

$$(6) \quad \nu \int_0^\infty e^{-ax} I_\nu(x) \frac{dx}{x} = (a + \sqrt{a^2 - 1})^{-\nu}, \quad a \geq 1;$$

b) There exists a subordinator, denoted by  $(J_\nu, \nu \geq 0)$ , such that its Lévy measure is:

$$(7) \quad \text{by}(dx) = I_\nu(x) e^{-x} \frac{dx}{x}$$

or c) For every  $\nu > 0$ , the law of  $J_\nu$  is given by:

$$(8) \quad P(J_\nu \in dx) = \nu I_\nu(x) e^{-x} \frac{dx}{x}$$

and its Laplace transform is:

$$(9) \quad E[\exp(-\lambda J_\nu)] = \left( (1+\lambda) + \sqrt{(1+\lambda)^2 - 1} \right)^{-\nu}$$

We now compare formula (9) with formulae (1) and (2), or rather with the equivalent formulae:

$$(1') \quad E[\exp(-\lambda \Delta_t)] = (\sqrt{1+\lambda} + \sqrt{\lambda})^{-2t}$$

$$(2) \quad \equiv (1+2\lambda + 2\sqrt{(1+\lambda)\lambda})^{-t}$$

Thus, we obtain, by replacing  $\lambda$  by (21) in formula (9):

$$(10) \quad (\Delta_t \equiv \Delta_t(S_{1/2}), t \geq 0) \sim (2J_t, t \geq 0)$$

by comparison with formula (2').

e) Furthermore, the identification of the density of  $J_t$ , as given in (8) now leads to:

Proposition: For fixed  $t > 0$ , the ~~total~~ distribution of  $\Delta_t \sim 2J_t$  is that of:  $\gamma_t / \beta(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} + t)$ , where  $\gamma_t$  and  $\beta(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} + t)$  are independent, and  $\gamma_t$  indicates a gamma ( $t$ ) variable.

We shall give two proofs of this result: the first one simply consists in identifying the Laplace transform, in general, of  $\gamma_a / \beta(b, c)$ , for 3 general values of the parameters  $a, b, c$ , and to identify this Laplace transform, for  $a=t, b=1/2, c=1/2+t$ , with that of  $\Delta_t$ , as given by (1).  
Undoubtedly, the following lemma is well-known:

Lemma: The Laplace transform  $\gamma_a / \beta(b, c)$  is given by:

$$E \left[ \exp(-\lambda \frac{\gamma_a}{\beta(b, c)}) \right] = \frac{\Gamma(a+b) \Gamma(b+c)}{\Gamma(b) \Gamma(a+b+c)} \frac{1}{\lambda^a} F(a, a+b, a+b+c, -\frac{1}{\lambda})$$

where  $F(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, z)$  is the hypergeometric function with 3 parameters  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$ , which may be defined via the integral representation:

$$F(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, z) = \frac{1}{B(\beta, \gamma-\beta)} \int_0^1 dt t^{\beta-1} (1-t)^{\gamma-\beta-1} \frac{1}{(1-tz)^\alpha} = E \left[ \frac{1}{(1-\beta(\beta, \gamma-\beta)z)^\alpha} \right]$$

f) As the reader may have guessed, we did not arrive to the result of the Proposition, i.e. the identification of the law of  $\Delta_t$  as that of a beta-gamma ratio, with the proof we just gave - In fact, we first obtained this result as the consequence of the following identification of  $(\Delta_t, t \geq 0)$  as a subordinator  $(\hat{T}_u, u \geq 0)$  being time changed with an independent gamma process  $(\gamma_t, t \geq 0)$ .

Precisely, there is the following

Proposition: (i) The subordinator  $(\Delta_{t/2}, t \geq 0)$  may be represented as:  $(\hat{T}_{\gamma_t}, t \geq 0)$  where  $(\hat{T}_u, u \geq 0)$  is a subordinator, independent of the Standard gamma process  $(\gamma_t, t \geq 0)$ , and (\*\*\*)

(ii) As a consequence, the density of the variable  $\Delta_t$  is given by:

$$P(\Delta_t \in dx) / dx = \frac{2^{2t} \Gamma(1+t)}{(2\pi) \Gamma(2t)} x^{t-1} \int_0^1 dm e^{-mx} (m(1-m))^{t-\frac{1}{2}} \quad (11)$$

(iii) Hence,  $\Delta_t \sim \gamma_t / \beta(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} + t)$  . (12)

Proof: (i) This follows from formula (1'), which we rewrite as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} E[\exp(-\lambda \Delta_{t/2})] &= \frac{1}{(1 + (\sqrt{1+\lambda} - 1) + \sqrt{\lambda})^t} \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(t)} \int_0^\infty du u^{t-1} e^{-u} [1 + (\sqrt{1+\lambda} - 1) + \sqrt{\lambda}]^{-t} \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(t)} \int_0^\infty du u^{t-1} e^{-u} E[e^{-\lambda \hat{T}_u}] E(e^{-\lambda T_u}) \\ &= E[\exp(-\lambda \hat{T}_{\gamma_t})] \end{aligned}$$

(\*\*\*)  $\hat{T}_u = \tilde{T}_u + T_u, u \geq 0$ , with  $(\tilde{T}_u)$  and  $(T_u)$  two independent subordinators, which may be characterized through their Laplace transforms:

$$\begin{cases} E[e^{-\lambda \tilde{T}_u}] = \exp(-u(\sqrt{1+\lambda} - 1)) \\ E[e^{-\lambda T_u}] = \exp(-u\sqrt{\lambda}) \end{cases}$$

(iii) (ii) This point will now follow easily from (i), and the fact that the marginal distributions of  $(T_u, u \geq 0)$  and  $(T_u, u \geq 0)$  are well-known - We leave the details to the interested reader -  
 (→ cf. my Fax to Lancelot, on Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup>)  
 [ Proposition 1 and 2 ]

2) Occurrences of the subordinator  $(\Delta_t, t \geq 0)$ .  
 (a discussion from the references below).

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