McKean and I determined all possible boundary conditions at 0 for the Brownian motion in \((0, \infty)\) and discussed the construction of the sample functions of the Markov processes corresponding to the boundary conditions [1]. The jumping-in measure \(k\) appearing in the boundary condition has to satisfy

\[
\int_0^\infty (b \land 1)k(db) < \infty. \tag{1}
\]

This condition turns out to be

\[
\int_0^\infty (s(b) \land 1)k(db) < \infty \tag{2}
\]

for the diffusion in \((0, \infty)\) with the generator

\[
\mathcal{G} = \frac{d}{dm} \frac{d}{ds} \tag{3}
\]

if we have

\[
s(0) > -\infty, \ m(0, 1) < \infty \text{ and } s(\infty) = \infty, \tag{4}
\]

as we discussed in that paper. A few years ago, J. Lamperti raised the following question in connection with his work on branching processes.
What condition should the jumping-in measure $k$ satisfy in case $m(0, 1) = \infty$ in (4)?

By intuitive argument, I conjectured that the condition would be

$$
\int_0^{\infty} E_b(1 - e^{-\sigma_0})k(db) < \infty, \quad \sigma_0 = \text{hitting time for } 0
$$

or equivalently

$$
\int_0^{\infty} \left( \int_0^b m(\xi, 1) \, ds(\xi) \wedge 1 \right) k(db) < \infty. \quad (5)
$$

The purpose of this lecture is to solve this problem for the general Markov process with reasonable conditions by introducing the notion of the Poisson point process attached to the Markov process and to derive (2) and (5) as its special cases.

Let $Y_t(\omega)$ be a homogeneous Lévy process with paths increasing only with jumps.

Then,

$$
E(e^{-\alpha Y_t}) = e^{-\alpha t} \int_0^{\infty} (1 - e^{-\alpha u}) n(du)
$$

where $n$ is the Lévy measure of the process and

$$
\int_0^{\infty} (u \wedge 1) n(du) < \infty. \quad (7)
$$

Let $D_\omega$ be the discontinuity points of $Y_t$ and consider the random set

$$
G(\omega) = \{(t, Y_{t+}(\omega) - Y_{t-}(\omega)), t \in D_\omega\}.
$$

This is a countable set in $T \times U$, $T = U = [0, \infty)$. It is well known that

(a) The number $\#(E \cap G)$ of points in $E \cap G$ is Poisson distributed with the mean:

$$
\int_E dt n(du)
$$

for every Borel set $E$ in $T \times U$ (a random variable $\equiv \infty$ is regarded as Poisson distributed with mean $= \infty$) and

(b) $\#(E_i \cap G)$, $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ are independent for disjoint Borel sets $E_i$ in $T \times U$.

These two conditions characterize the probability law of the random set $G_\omega$.

Instead of considering the random set $G_\omega$, we can consider the point process $X_*(\omega)$ where $X_t(\omega)$ is defined only on $D_\omega$ and
\[ X_t(\omega) = Y_{t+}(\omega) - Y_{t-}(\omega) \quad \text{for} \quad t \in D_\omega \]

for each \( \omega \). Then, \( G_\omega \) is the graph of the path of \( X \). A point process in general is a random process whose sample function is defined only on a countable subset of the time interval depending on the sample.

The values of a point process need not be real. We can consider a point process whose values are taken from a general measurable space \( U \). Let \( n \) be an arbitrary \( \sigma \)-finite measure on \( U \). Then, a point process whose values are in \( U \) is called a Poisson point process with characteristic measure \( n \), if its graph \( G = G_X \) satisfies the conditions (a) and (b) mentioned above. We can define Poisson point processes in a qualitative way and derive (a) and (b) from the definition, as we shall do in this note.

In case the total measure \( n(U) \) is finite, the domain of the definition of the sample function of the Poisson point process with characteristic measure \( n \) is a discrete set a.s. and its structure is simple. This was discussed by K. Matthes, J. Kersten, and P. Pranken [2–4]. It is a generalization of the point process arising from a compound Poisson process.

If \( f: U \to U_1 \) is measurable and if \( X \) is a Poisson point process: \( T \to U \) with characteristic measure \( n \), then the composition \( f \cdot X \) is also a Poisson point process with characteristic measure \( nf^{-1} \).

Let \( X_\cdot \) be a Markov process on a locally compact metric space \( S \) and \( a(\in S) \) be a fixed state. Let \( A(t) \) be a local time process of \( X_\cdot \) at \( a \). Then, \( A^{-1}(t) \) is a homogeneous Lévy process with increasing paths such that \( P_a(A^{-1}(0) = 0) = 1 \).

Let \( X^0_\cdot \) be a Markov process obtained by stopping \( X_\cdot \) at the hitting time \( \sigma_a \) of \( X_\cdot \) for \( a \). \( \sigma_a \) is the same as the hitting time \( \sigma^0_a \) of \( X^0_\cdot \) for \( a \).

Let \( U \) be the space of all right continuous functions with left limits. We will define a point process \( X: T \equiv [0, \infty) \to U \) by

\[
D_{X_\cdot} (= \text{the domain of } X_\cdot) \\
= \text{the set of all discontinuity points of } A^{-1}(t)
\]

and

\[
X_{\omega,t}(s) = X(s + A^{-1}(t-)) \quad \text{if } s \leq A^{-1}(t+) - A^{-1}(t-) \\
= a \quad \text{if } s \geq A^{-1}(t+) - A^{-1}(t-)
\]

for \( t \in D_{X_\cdot} \) (see the pictures in Sect. 2.2). We can use the strong Markov property of \( X_\cdot \) to prove that \( X_\omega \) is a Poisson point process: \( T \to U \).

Let us introduce a function \( e: U \to S \) by

\[ e(u) = u(0). \]
Then, \( e \cdot X \) is also a Poisson point process, and its characteristic measure is denoted by \( k \) and is called the jumping-in measure of \( X_t \). Then, the characteristic measure \( n_X \) of \( X \) proves to be

\[
n_X(V) = \int_S k(db)P_b(X_0 \in V), \quad V \subset U
\]

when \( X_0 \) denotes the sample path of the stopped process \( X_t^0 \).

Let \( h(u) = \inf \{ t, u(t) = a \} \). Then, \( h \cdot X \) is also a Poisson point process with characteristic measure \( n_X \cdot h^{-1} \) and the jump part of \( A^{-1}(t) \) is equal to

\[
\sum_{s \in D_X, s \leq t} (h \cdot X)_s.
\]

Using (7), we have

\[
\int_0^\infty (t \wedge 1)n_X \cdot h^{-1}(dt) < \infty
\]

i.e.,

\[
\int_S k(db)E_b(\sigma_a^0 \wedge 1) < \infty.
\]

Since the construction of a Poisson point process with a given characteristic measure is easy, we can discuss the construction of the Markov process \( X_t \) from its stopped process, its jumping-in measure, and its stagnancy rate (=the coefficient of \( t \) in the continuous part of \( A^{-1}(t) \)) if \( X_t \) has no continuous exit from \( a \).

To discuss the case that a continuous exit from \( a \) is allowed, we will be faced with a more difficult problem. Roughly speaking, if we can determine all possible processes \( X_t \) with continuous exit only for their stopped process \( X^0_t \) given (e.g., one-dimensional diffusion case), then we can determine all possible processes with both continuous exit and discontinuous exit. However, we will not discuss this problem in this note.

References

1. Itô, K., McKean, Jr., H.P.: Brownian motion on a half line. Ill. J. Math. 7(2), 181–231 (1963)
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