

We define $\{B_t\}_{t \geq 0}$ as a standard Brownian motion and $\{M_t\}_{t \geq 0}$ as the maximum process of $\{B_t\}$. We want to evaluate $P(M_t \geq z, B_t \leq x)$. Consider then all sample paths that satisfy the conditions $M_t \geq z$ and $B_t \leq x$ for a fixed $t > 0$.

By the continuity of the sample paths (almost surely continuous paths), we know that there exist a time τ such that $B_\tau = z$. All sample paths satisfying the two conditions, will then decrease with at least $z - x$ (recall that $z > x$) from τ to t . ($\tau < t$). For each of these paths, we consider the reflected path B_t^* as defined in sec. 8.2.1 on top of p. 406, where we from time τ reflect the path about the line $y = z$. The reflected path reach $B_\tau = z$ and the increases at least $z - x$ from τ to t . This implies that $B_t^* \geq z + (z - x)$. Using the reflection principle, we know that the original sample path is equally likely as the reflected sample path, i.e.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & P(M_t \geq z, B_t \leq z - (z - x)) \overset{\text{minus}}{=} \\
 & = P(M_t \geq z, B_t \geq z + (z - x)) = P(B_t \geq 2z - x).
 \end{aligned}$$

The last equality is due to the fact that if $B_t \geq 2z - x$, then $M_t \geq z$, as $0 < x < z$.

Now, we know that

$$\begin{aligned} P(B_t \geq 2z - x) &= 1 - P(B_t < 2z - x) \\ &= 1 - \Phi((2z - x)/t^{\frac{1}{2}}), \end{aligned}$$

where Φ is the CDF of a standard normal distribution. The reason we divide by $t^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{t}$ is because we standardize $B_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, t)$ to $B_t/\sqrt{t} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$.

In summary,

$$P(M_t \geq z, B_t \leq x) = 1 - \Phi((2z - x)/\sqrt{t}).$$

Now, let $f_{M_t}(z)$ and $f_{B_t}(x)$ be the density functions of M_t and B_t , respectively. We also define $f_t(z, x)$ as the joint density function of (M_t, B_t) . Then, we have

$$P(M_t \geq z, B_t \leq x) = \int_z^\infty \int_{-\infty}^x f_t(u, w) dw du.$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z \partial x} P(M_t \geq z, B_t \leq x) &= \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z \partial x} \int_z^\infty \int_{-\infty}^x f_t(u, w) dw du \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \int_z^\infty \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \int_{-\infty}^x f_t(u, w) dw \right) du \end{aligned}$$

The fundamental theorem of calculus shows that

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \int_{-\infty}^x f_t(u, w) dw = f_t(u, x).$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \int_z^{\infty} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \int_{-\infty}^x f_t(u, w) dw \right) du \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \int_z^{\infty} f_t(u, x) du \\ &= -f_t(z, x). \end{aligned}$$

In conclusion, we can find the joint pdf as $f_t(z, x) = -\partial^2 / \partial z \partial x P(M_t \geq z, B_t \leq x)$.

We take the partial derivative of $P(M_t \geq z, B_t \leq x)$ w.r.t. x :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} P(M_t \geq z, B_t \leq x) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(1 - \Phi((2z-x)/\sqrt{t}) \right) \\ &= -\phi((2z-x)/\sqrt{t}) \left(-1/\sqrt{t} \right) = \phi((2z-x)/\sqrt{t}) \cdot 1/\sqrt{t}. \end{aligned}$$

We then take the partial derivative with respect to z :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} P(M_t \geq z, B_t \leq x) \right) &= \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z \partial x} P(M_t \geq z, B_t \leq x) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\phi\left(\frac{2z-x}{\sqrt{t}}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}} \right) = \phi'\left(\frac{2z-x}{\sqrt{t}}\right) \frac{2}{\sqrt{t}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}}. \end{aligned}$$

In both cases, we have applied the chain rule.

Here φ is the PDF of a standard normal distribution. We can find the derivative of the function:

$$\varphi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi'(x) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{d}{dx} \left(e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(-x e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} \right) \\ &= -x\varphi(x).\end{aligned}$$

Finally, we get that

$$\begin{aligned}& -\frac{\partial^2}{\partial z \partial x} \mathbb{P}(M_t \geq z, B_t \leq x) \\ &= -\varphi' \left(\frac{2z-x}{\sqrt{t}} \right) \frac{2}{t} \\ &= - \left(-\frac{2z-x}{\sqrt{t}} \varphi \left(\frac{2z-x}{\sqrt{t}} \right) \right) \frac{2}{t} \\ &= \varphi \left(\frac{2z-x}{\sqrt{t}} \right) \left(\frac{2z-x}{\sqrt{t}} \right) \frac{2}{t}, \quad 0 < x < z.\end{aligned}$$