

9.23. Choose and fix an integer $k \geq 1$, and define $T := \inf\{n \geq 1 : X_n = k\}$.

$$\mathbb{P} \left\{ \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} S_j \geq k \right\} = \mathbb{P}\{T \leq n\} = \mathbb{P}\{T \leq n, S_n \leq k - 1\} + \mathbb{P}\{S_n \geq k\}.$$

A.s. on $\{T \leq n\}$, $S_n = k + (S_n - S_T)$. By the strong Markov property, $S_n - S_T$ is independent of \mathcal{F}_T . By symmetry, $S_n - S_T$ has the same distribution as $S_T - S_n = k - S_n$. Therefore,

$$\mathbb{P}\{T \leq n, S_n \leq k - 1\} = \mathbb{P}\{T \leq n, k + (k - S_n) \leq k - 1\} = \mathbb{P}\{T \leq n, S_n > k\} = \mathbb{P}\{S_n \geq k + 1\}.$$

Parity considerations show that $\mathbb{P}\{S_n \geq k\} = \mathbb{P}\{S_n \geq k + 1\}$, and both are equal to $\mathbb{P}\{S_n \leq -k\}$ by symmetry. Therefore, $\mathbb{P}\{T \leq n\} = \mathbb{P}\{S_n \leq -k\} + \mathbb{P}\{S_n \geq k\} = \mathbb{P}\{|S_n| \geq k\}$ as desired.