

9.25. If $s > 0$ and $s > w$ then we follow the hint and reflect at the first hitting time of s to find that

$$\mathbb{P}\{S(t) > s, W(t) < w\} = \mathbb{P}\{W(t) > 2s - w\} = \mathbb{P}\left\{N(0, 1) > \frac{2s - w}{\sqrt{t}}\right\}.$$

Denote the latter by $F(s, w)$ and let ϕ denote the $N(0, 1)$ density. Then, the joint density $f_{(S(t), W(t))}$ of $(S(t), W(t))$ is

$$f_{(S(t), W(t))}(s, w) = -\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial s \partial w}(s, w) = -\frac{2}{t} \phi' \left(\frac{2s - w}{\sqrt{t}} \right) \quad s \geq \max(w, 0).$$

Consequently, for all $a > 0$,

$$\mathbb{P}\{S(t) - W(t) \leq a\} = -\frac{2}{t} \iint_{\substack{s > \max(w, 0) \\ s - w \leq a}} \phi' \left(\frac{2s - w}{\sqrt{t}} \right) ds dw = -2 \iint_{\substack{s > \max(w, 0) \\ s - w \leq a\sqrt{t}}} \phi'(2s - w) ds dw.$$

Write the integral as $\int_{-a\sqrt{t}}^0 \int_0^{w+a\sqrt{t}} + \int_0^\infty \int_w^{w+a\sqrt{t}}$ and compute directly to find that

$$\mathbb{P}\{S(t) - W(t) \leq a\} = \int_{-a\sqrt{t}}^{a\sqrt{t}} \phi(x) dx.$$

Consequently, $S(t) - W(t) = |N(0, t)|$; i.e., $S(t) - W(t)$ has the same distribution as $|W(t)|$. In fact, Paul Lévy has proved that the process $\{S(t) - W(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ has the same “distribution” as $\{|W(t)|\}_{t \geq 0}$ in the sense that

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^m \{S(t_i) - W(t_i) \in A_i\}\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^m \{W(t_i) \in A_i\}\right),$$

for all times $t_1, \dots, t_m \geq 0$ and all $A_1, \dots, A_m \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbf{R})$.