

## PRODUCT FRACTAL SETS DETERMINED BY STABLE PROCESSES

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### Abstract

Let  $X_i$  be transient  $\beta_i$ -stable processes on  $\mathbb{R}^{d_i}$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . Assume further that  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are independent. We shall find the exact Hausdorff measure function for the product sets  $R_1(1) \times R_2(1)$ , where  $R_1(1) \times R_2(1) = \{(X_1(t_1), X_2(t_2)) \mid 0 \leq t_1, t_2 \leq 1\}$ . The result of Hu generalizes [Some fractal sets determined by stable processes, *Probab. Theory Related Fields* **100** (1994), 205–225].

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### 1. Introduction

A Lévy process  $\{X(t) \mid t \geq 0\}$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is called an  $\alpha$ -stable process with  $\alpha \in (0, 2]$  if the distribution of  $X(1)$  is not degenerate (that is, it cannot be supported on any proper subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ) and for any  $t > 0$ ,

$$X(t) = t^{1/\alpha} X(1)$$

in law. An  $\alpha$ -stable process on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is transient if and only if  $\alpha < d$ . It is well known that  $X(1)$  has a bounded continuous density  $p(1, x)$  (see [5]). An  $\alpha$ -stable process on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is said to be of type A if  $p(1, 0) > 0$ ; and type B otherwise. If an  $\alpha$ -stable process with  $\alpha \neq 1$  is of type B, then  $0 < \alpha < 1$ .

Before we give the main result, we recall briefly the definition of the Hausdorff measure function by referring to Falconer [1].

A function  $\phi$  is said to belong to the class  $\Phi$  if there exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that  $\phi$  is a right continuous and increasing function on  $(0, \delta)$  with  $\phi(0+) = 0$  and there exists a finite constant  $K > 0$  such that

$$\frac{\phi(2s)}{\phi(s)} \leq K, \quad \text{for } 0 < s < \frac{1}{2}\delta.$$

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For  $\phi \in \Phi$ , the  $\phi$ -Hausdorff measure of  $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  is defined by

$$\phi\text{-}m(E) = \liminf_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \phi(\text{diam}(E_i)) \mid E \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i, \text{diam}(E_i) < \varepsilon \right\},$$

where  $\text{diam}(E_i)$  denotes the diameter of  $E_i$ . A function  $\phi \in \Phi$  is called an exact Hausdorff measure function for  $E$  if  $0 < \phi\text{-}m(E) < \infty$ .

We recall some previous results concerning Hausdorff measure related to stable processes. It was proved in [5] that for a transient  $\alpha$ -stable process  $X$  with  $\alpha \neq 1, 2$ , an exact Hausdorff measure function of  $R(t)$  is  $\phi(a) = a^\alpha \log \log \frac{1}{a}$  if  $X(t)$  is of type A or  $\phi(a) = a^\alpha (\log \log \frac{1}{a})^{1-\alpha}$  if  $X$  is of type B, where  $R(t) = \{X(s) \mid s \in [0, t]\}$ . Then, in 1994, the product of range of two independent stable subordinators (or one-sided stable processes) was considered in [2]. Specifically, it was shown that

$$\phi(a) = a^{\beta_1 + \beta_2} \left( \log \log \frac{1}{a} \right)^{2 - \beta_1 - \beta_2}$$

is an exact Hausdorff measure function for the product set

$$R_1(1) \times R_2(1) = \{(X_1(t_1), X_2(t_2)) \mid 0 \leq t_1, t_2 \leq 1\},$$

where  $X_i$  are independent  $\beta_i$ -stable subordinators on  $\mathbb{R}$  with  $0 < \beta_i < 1, i = 1, 2$ .

In this paper, we consider the more general case by a different method. We aim to find the exact Hausdorff measure function for  $R_1(1) \times R_2(1)$ , where  $X_i$  are independent transient  $\beta_i$ -stable processes on  $\mathbb{R}^{d_i}$  with  $\beta_i \in (0, 2)$  and  $\beta_i \neq 1, i = 1, 2$ . The main result is the following theorem.

**THEOREM 1.1.** *Let  $X_i$  be transient  $\beta_i$ -stable processes on  $\mathbb{R}^{d_i}$  with  $\beta_i \neq 1, 2, i = 1, 2$ . Assume that  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are independent and let  $\phi_i(a) = a^{\beta_i} \log \log \frac{1}{a}$  if  $X_i$  is of type A or  $\phi_i(a) = a^{\beta_i} (\log \log \frac{1}{a})^{1-\beta_i}$  if  $X_i$  is of type B. Then, with probability 1,*

$$0 < \phi\text{-}m(R_1(1) \times R_2(1)) < \infty,$$

where  $\phi(a) = \phi_1(a)\phi_2(a)$ .

We note that any stable subordinator on  $\mathbb{R}$  with index  $0 < \alpha < 1$  is of type B (see, for example, [5]). Therefore the result in [2] is a special case of Theorem 1.1. The proof of Theorem 1.1 is divided into two parts. In Section 2 we prove the lower bound and in Section 3 we prove the upper bound for  $\phi\text{-}m(R_1(1) \times R_2(1))$ . Though our result is stated for two independent stable processes, its method is valid for finitely many independent stable processes. Throughout this paper, we use  $c_1, c_2, \dots$  to denote positive finite constants whose values may or may not be known.

### 2. Lower bound for $\phi$ - $m(R_1(1) \times R_2(1))$

We start with the following lemma. It can be easily derived from the results in [4], which gives a way to get a lower bound for  $\phi$ - $m(E)$ . For any Borel measure  $\mu$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  and  $\phi \in \Phi$ , the upper  $\phi$ -density of  $\mu$  at  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is defined by

$$\overline{D}_\mu^\phi(x) = \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mu(B(x, r))}{\phi(2r)},$$

where  $B(x, r)$  denotes the closed ball with radius  $r$  and center  $x$ .

**LEMMA 2.1.** *For a given  $\phi \in \Phi$ , there exists a positive constant  $C_1$  such that for any Borel measure  $\mu$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  and every Borel set  $B \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ ,*

$$\phi\text{-}m(E) \geq C_1 \mu(E) \cdot \inf_{x \in E} \frac{1}{\overline{D}_\mu^\phi(x)}.$$

We now give the proof for the lower bound for  $\phi$ - $m(R_1(1) \times R_2(1))$  in Theorem 1.1.

**PROOF.** Define the random Borel measure  $\mu$  on  $\mathbb{R}^{d_1+d_2}$  and  $\mu_i$  on  $\mathbb{R}^{d_i}$  with  $i = 1, 2$  by

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(B) &= \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \mathbb{I}_B(X_1(t_1), X_1(t_2)) dt_1 dt_2, & B \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{d_1+d_2}; \\ \mu_i(B_i) &= \int_0^1 \mathbb{I}_{B_i}(X_i(t_i)) dt_i, & B_i \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{d_i}, i = 1, 2, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathbb{I}_B$  is the indicator function of the set  $B$ . For any fixed  $(s_1, s_2) \in [0, 1]^2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} &\limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mu(B((X_1(s_1), X_2(s_2)), r))}{\phi(r)} \\ &\leq \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mu(B_1(X_1(s_1), r) \times B_2(X_2(s_2), r))}{\phi(r)} \\ &\leq \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mu_1(B_1(X_1(s_1), r))}{\phi_1(r)} \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mu_2(B_2(X_2(s_2), r))}{\phi_2(r)}, \end{aligned} \tag{2.1}$$

where  $B((X_1(s_1), X_2(s_2)), r)$  denotes the closed ball of radius  $r$  and center  $(X_1(s_1), X_2(s_2))$ , while  $B_i(X_i(s_i), r)$  denotes the closed ball of radius  $r$  and center  $X_i(s_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . Define

$$\overline{Y}_i(t) = \begin{cases} X_i(s_i) - X_i(s_i - t) & \text{if } 0 \leq t < s_i, \\ X_i(t) & \text{if } t \geq s_i, \end{cases}$$

and

$$Y_i(t) = X_i(s_i + t) - X_i(s_i), \quad t \geq 0.$$

Then  $\bar{Y}_i$  and  $Y_i$  are  $\beta_i$ -stable processes,  $i = 1, 2$ . By (2.1),

$$\begin{aligned} & \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mu(B((X_1(s_1), X_2(s_2)), r))}{\phi(r)} \\ & \leq \left( \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\bar{T}_1(r)}{\phi_1(r)} + \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{T_1(r)}{\phi_1(r)} \right) \cdot \left( \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\bar{T}_2(r)}{\phi_2(r)} + \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{T_2(r)}{\phi_2(r)} \right), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\bar{T}_i(r)$  and  $T_i(r)$  are the sojourn times of  $\bar{Y}_i$  and  $Y_i$  in the closed ball  $B_i(0, r) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{d_i}$  respectively,  $i = 1, 2$ . Applying [5, Theorems 4 and 5], it follows that there exists a constant  $K_1$  such that with probability 1,

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mu(B((X_1(s_1), X_2(s_2)), r))}{\phi(r)} \leq K_1. \tag{2.2}$$

Let

$$E = \{(X_1(s_1), X_2(s_2)) \mid s_1, s_2 \in [0, 1] \text{ and (2.2) holds}\}.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}\mu(E) &= \mathbf{E} \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \mathbb{I}_E(X_1(s_1), X_2(s_2)) \, ds_1 \, ds_2 \\ &= \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \mathbf{P}\{(X_1(s_1), X_2(s_2)) \in E\} \, ds_1 \, ds_2 \\ &= 1, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $\mu(E) = 1$  almost surely. By Lemma 2.1,  $\phi\text{-}m(E) \geq C_1/K_1 > 0$  almost surely. Since  $E \subseteq R_1(1) \times R_2(1)$ , then with probability 1,

$$\phi\text{-}m(R_1(1) \times R_2(1)) \geq \phi\text{-}m(E) > 0.$$

That completes the proof for the lower bound. □

### 3. Upper bound for $\phi\text{-}m(R_1(1) \times R_2(1))$

Before we give the proof for the upper bound, we prove an important lemma.

**LEMMA 3.1.** *Under the condition of Theorem 1.1, put  $P_i(a) = \inf\{t : \|X_i(t)\| \geq a\}$ , where  $i = 1, 2$ . Then there are positive constants  $K_2, K_3, \gamma_0$  such that*

$$\mathbf{P}\left(\sup_{\gamma \leq a \leq \delta} \frac{P_1(a)P_2(a)}{\phi(a)} \leq K_2\right) < \exp\left\{-K_3\left(\log \frac{1}{\gamma}\right)^{1/8}\right\}$$

provided that  $0 < \gamma \leq \gamma_0$  and  $\delta \geq \gamma^{1/5}$ .

**PROOF.** We only consider the case where  $X_1(t)$  is of type A and  $X_2(t)$  is of type B, the proofs for the other cases being similar. By [5, Lemmas 5 and 6] it can be seen directly that there exist positive constants  $c_3, c_4, \lambda_0$  such that for  $0 < \lambda < \lambda_0$ ,

$$\mathbf{P}\left\{\sup_{0 \leq t \leq \tau} |X_1(t)| \leq \tau^{1/\beta_1} \lambda\right\} \geq \exp(-c_3 \lambda^{-\beta_1}) \tag{3.1}$$

and

$$\mathbf{P}\left\{\sup_{0 \leq t \leq \tau} |X_2(t)| \leq \tau^{1/\beta_2} \lambda\right\} \geq \exp\{-c_4 \lambda^{-\beta_2/(1-\beta_2)}\}. \tag{3.2}$$

We consider the sequence

$$a_k = \exp(-k^2), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

which tends to zero very rapidly as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . Put

$$t_{1,k} = \phi_1(a_k) = a_k^{\beta_1} \log \log \frac{1}{a_k}$$

and

$$t_{2,k} = \phi_2(a_k) = a_k^{\beta_2} \left(\log \log \frac{1}{a_k}\right)^{1-\beta_1}.$$

Let  $c_1 = (6c_3)^{1/\beta_1}$  and  $c_2 = (6c_4)^{(1-\beta_2)/\beta_2}$ . For any  $t \geq 0$ , let  $Y_i = 2c_i X_i((2c_i)^{-\beta_i} t)$  with  $i = 1, 2$ . Then  $Y_i(t) = X_i(t)$  in law for  $i = 1, 2$ . Therefore  $\{Y_i(t), t \geq 0\}$  is still a  $\beta_i$ -stable process on  $\mathbb{R}^{d_i}$ ,  $\{Y_1(t)\}$  is of type A,  $\{Y_2(t)\}$  is of type B, and they are also independent. Further, for  $0 < \lambda < \lambda_0$ , (3.1) and (3.2) hold respectively for  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$ .

For any  $k \geq 1$ , let

$$D_{i,k} = \left\{ \sup_{0 \leq t \leq t_{i,k}} |Y_i(t)| \geq 2c_i a_k \right\},$$

$$G_{i,k} = \left\{ \sup_{t_{i,k+1} \leq t \leq t_{i,k}} |Y_i(t) - Y_i(t_{i,k+1})| \geq c_i a_k \right\},$$

$$H_{i,k} = \left\{ \sup_{0 \leq t \leq t_{i,k+1}} |Y_i(t)| > c_i a_k \right\}.$$

Then  $D_{i,k} \subset G_{i,k} \cup H_{i,k}$  with  $i = 1, 2$ . Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}\left\{\bigcap_{k=m+1}^{2m} (D_{1,k} \cup D_{2,k})\right\} &\leq \mathbf{P}\left\{\bigcap_{k=m+1}^{2m} [(G_{1,k} \cup H_{1,k}) \cup (G_{2,k} \cup H_{2,k})]\right\} \\ &= \mathbf{P}\left\{\bigcap_{k=m+1}^{2m} [(G_{1,k} \cup G_{2,k}) \cup (H_{1,k} \cup H_{2,k})]\right\} \\ &\leq \mathbf{P}\left\{\bigcap_{k=m+1}^{2m} (G_{1,k} \cup G_{2,k}) \cup \left(\bigcup_{k=m+1}^{2m} (H_{1,k} \cup H_{2,k})\right)\right\} \\ &\leq \prod_{k=m+1}^{2m} \mathbf{P}(G_{1,k} \cup G_{2,k}) + \sum_{k=m+1}^{2m} \mathbf{P}(H_{1,k} \cup H_{2,k}), \end{aligned}$$

where the events  $\{G_{1,k} \cup G_{2,k} \mid k \geq 1\}$  are independent.

Put  $\mathbf{P}(G_{i,k}) = 1 - p_{i,k}$  and  $\mathbf{P}(H_{i,k}) = q_{i,k}$  with  $i = 1, 2$ . Then by (3.1), for sufficiently large  $k$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} p_{1,k} &\geq \mathbf{P}\left(\sup_{0 \leq t \leq t_{1,k}} |Y_1(t)| < c_1 a_k\right) \\ &= \mathbf{P}\left(\sup_{0 \leq t \leq t_{1,k}} |Y_1(t)| < t_{1,k}^{1/\beta_1} c_1 a_k t_{1,k}^{-1/\beta_1}\right) \\ &\geq \exp\{-c_3 [c_1 a_k t_{1,k}^{-1/\beta_1}]^{-\beta_1}\} \\ &= k^{-1/3}. \end{aligned}$$

Simultaneously, by [3, Lemma 4.3] and [5, Lemma 7], for sufficiently large  $k$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} q_{1,k} &= \mathbf{P}\left(\sup_{0 \leq t \leq t_{1,k+1}} |Y_1(t)| > c_1 a_k t_{1,k+1}^{-1/\beta_1} t_{1,k+1}^{1/\beta_1}\right) \\ &\leq 2d_1 \mathbf{P}\left(|Y_1(t_{1,k+1})| > \frac{c_1}{2d_1} a_k t_{1,k+1}^{-1/\beta_1} t_{1,k+1}^{1/\beta_1}\right) \\ &\leq 2d_1 c_5 \left(\frac{c_1 a_k t_{1,k+1}^{-1/\beta_1}}{2d_1}\right)^{-\beta_1} \\ &= c_6 \phi_1(a_{k+1}) a_k^{-\beta_1} \\ &= c_6 \exp\{-(k+1)^2 \beta_1\} \log(k+1)^2 \exp(k^2 \beta_1) \\ &\leq \exp(-k\beta_1). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, for the  $\beta_2$ -stable type B process  $Y_2$ , by (3.2), [3, Lemma 4.3] and [5, Lemma 7], we obtain, for sufficiently large  $k$ ,

$$p_{2,k} > k^{-1/3}, \quad q_{2,k} < \exp(-k\beta_2).$$

Thus there exists  $m_0$  such that for  $m > m_0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{P}\left\{\bigcap_{k=m+1}^{2m} (D_{1,k} \cup D_{2,k})\right\} \\ & \leq \prod_{k=m+1}^{2m} \mathbf{P}(G_{1,k} \cup G_{2,k}) + \sum_{k=m+1}^{2m} \mathbf{P}(H_{1,k} \cup H_{2,k}) \\ & = \prod_{k=m+1}^{2m} (1 - p_{1,k}p_{2,k}) + \sum_{k=m+1}^{2m} (q_{1,k} + q_{2,k}) \\ & \leq \exp\left(-\sum_{k=m+1}^{2m} p_{1,k}p_{2,k}\right) + \sum_{k=m+1}^{\infty} \exp(-k\beta_1) + \sum_{k=m+1}^{\infty} \exp(-k\beta_2) \\ & \leq \exp(-2^{-2/3}m^{1/3}) + c_7 \exp(-\beta_1 m) + c_8 \exp(-\beta_2 m) \\ & \leq \exp(-m^{1/4}). \end{aligned}$$

Recall that  $P_i(a) = \inf\{t \geq 0 : |X_i(t)| \geq a\}$  with  $i = 1, 2$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{P}\left\{\bigcap_{k=m+1}^{2m} (D_{1,k} \cup D_{2,k})\right\} \\ & = \mathbf{P}\left\{\bigcap_{k=m+1}^{2m} \left[\left(\sup_{0 \leq t \leq t_{1,k}} |Y_1(t)| \geq 2c_1 a_k\right) \cup \left(\sup_{0 \leq t \leq t_{2,k}} |Y_2(t)| \geq 2c_2 a_k\right)\right]\right\} \\ & = \mathbf{P}\left\{\bigcap_{k=m+1}^{2m} \left[\left(\sup_{0 \leq t \leq (2c_1)^{-\beta_1} t_{1,k}} |X_1(t)| \geq a_k\right) \cup \left(\sup_{0 \leq t \leq (2c_2)^{-\beta_2} t_{2,k}} |X_2(t)| \geq a_k\right)\right]\right\} \\ & = \mathbf{P}\left\{\bigcap_{k=m+1}^{2m} [(P_1(a_k) \leq (2c_1)^{-\beta_1} t_{1,k}) \cup (P_2(a_k) \leq (2c_2)^{-\beta_2} t_{2,k})]\right\} \\ & \geq \mathbf{P}\left\{\bigcap_{k=m+1}^{2m} \left[\frac{P_1(a_k)P_2(a_k)}{\phi_1(a_k)\phi_2(a_k)} \leq (2c_1)^{-\beta_1} (2c_2)^{-\beta_2}\right]\right\} \\ & \geq \mathbf{P}\left\{\sup_{a_{2m} \leq a \leq a_m} \frac{P_1(a)P_2(a)}{\phi(a)} \leq (2c_1)^{-\beta_1} (2c_2)^{-\beta_2}\right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\mathbf{P}\left(\sup_{a_{2m} \leq a \leq a_m} \frac{P_1(a)P_2(a)}{\phi(a)} \leq K_2\right) \leq \exp(-m^{1/4}),$$

where  $K_2 = (2c_1)^{-\beta_1} (2c_2)^{-\beta_2}$ . Choose  $\gamma_0 > 0$  such that

$$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\log \frac{1}{\gamma_0}} - 1 > \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \sqrt{\log \frac{1}{\gamma_0}} > m_0.$$

For any  $0 < \gamma \leq \gamma_0$  and  $\delta \geq \gamma^{1/5}$ ,

$$\left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\right)\sqrt{\log \frac{1}{\gamma}} \geq \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\right)\sqrt{\log \frac{1}{\gamma_0}} > 1,$$

and hence there is a positive integer

$$m \in \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\sqrt{\log \frac{1}{\gamma}}, \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{\log \frac{1}{\gamma}}\right).$$

It follows that

$$m > \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\sqrt{\log \frac{1}{\gamma}} \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\sqrt{\log \frac{1}{\gamma_0}} > m_0$$

and  $\gamma < a_{2m} < a_m < \gamma^{1/5} \leq \delta$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}\left(\sup_{\gamma \leq a \leq \delta} \frac{P_1(a)P_2(a)}{\phi(a)} \leq K_2\right) &\leq \mathbf{P}\left(\sup_{a_{2m} \leq a \leq a_m} \frac{P_1(a)P_2(a)}{\phi(a)} \leq K_2\right) \\ &\leq \exp(-m^{1/4}) < \exp\left\{-K_3\left(\log \frac{1}{\gamma}\right)^{1/8}\right\}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $K_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt[8]{5}}$ . The lemma is proved. □

We may actually prove that Lemma 3.1 holds for finitely many independent transient stable processes. The proof of Lemma 3.1 has a direct consequence.

**COROLLARY 3.1.** *Under the conditions of Theorem 1.1, let*

$$T_i(a, 1) = \int_0^1 \mathbb{1}_{B_i(0,a)}(X_i(t)) dt$$

be the sojourn time of  $X_i$  in the closed ball  $B_i(0, a) (\subset \mathbb{R}^{d_i})$  up to time 1. Then there exist positive constants  $K_2, K_3, \gamma_0$  such that

$$\mathbf{P}\left(\sup_{\gamma \leq a \leq \delta} \frac{T_1(a, 1)T_2(a, 1)}{\phi(a)} \leq K_2\right) < \exp\left\{-K_3\left(\log \frac{1}{\gamma}\right)^{1/8}\right\}$$

provided that  $0 < \gamma \leq \gamma_0$  and  $\delta \geq \gamma^{1/5}$ .

Now we introduce another lemma, which is exactly [5, Lemma 9].

**LEMMA 3.2.** *If  $E = \bigcup_{i=1}^m I_i$ , where each  $I_i$  is an interval of  $\Lambda_k$  for some integer  $k$ . Here  $\Lambda_k$  is the collection of cubes of side  $2^{1-k}$  and center at a lattice point  $(j_1/2^k, j_2/2^k, \dots, j_d/2^k)$ , where  $j_l$  are integers, closed on the left and open on right. Then we can find a subset  $\{j_r\}$  such that  $E = \bigcup I_{j_r}$  and no point of  $E$  is in more than  $2^d$  of the intervals  $I_{j_r}$ .*



We now come to the proof of the upper bound for  $\phi$ - $m(R_1(1) \times R_2(1))$  in Theorem 1.1.

**PROOF.** Let  $\Lambda_n^{(i)}$  be the collection of cubes closed on the left and open on right of side  $2^{1-n}$  with centers at a lattice point  $(j_1/2^n, j_2/2^n, \dots, j_{d_i}/2^n)$  where the  $j_l$  are integers,  $i = 1, 2$ . Consider  $\bar{\Lambda}_n^{(i)}$ , the collection of cubes of side  $2^{-n}$  and centers the same as those of  $\Lambda_n^{(i)}$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . Put  $\Lambda_n = \Lambda_n^{(1)} \times \Lambda_n^{(2)}$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}_n = \bar{\Lambda}_n^{(1)} \times \bar{\Lambda}_n^{(2)}$ . Suppose  $\delta = 2^{-r}$  is given where  $r$  is a positive integer, and  $\gamma_n = 2^{-n} \leq \min\{\gamma_0, 2^{-5r}\}$ . We say that a cube  $\bar{I}_{i,n} = \bar{I}_{i,n}^{(1)} \times \bar{I}_{i,n}^{(2)}$  of  $\bar{\Lambda}_n$  is bad if the following conditions hold.

- (1)  $R_1(1) \times R_2(1)$  meets  $\bar{I}_{i,n}$ , where  $R_j(1)$  meets  $\bar{I}_{i,n}^{(j)}$  at  $\tau_j \leq 1$  with  $j = 1, 2$ . In detail, for  $j = 1, 2$ ,  $\tau_j = \inf\{t \geq 0 \mid X_j(t) \in \bar{I}_{i,n}^{(j)}\} \leq 1$ .
- (2) For all  $a$  satisfying  $\gamma_n \leq a \leq \delta$ ,

$$\int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_1+1} \mathbb{I}_{B(X_1(\tau_1), a)}(X_1(t_1)) dt_1 \int_{\tau_2}^{\tau_2+1} \mathbb{I}_{B(X_2(\tau_2), a)}(X_2(t_2)) dt_2 \leq K_2\phi(a),$$

where the closed ball  $B(X_i(\tau_i), a) \in \mathbb{R}^{d_i}$  with  $i = 1, 2$ .

If (1) holds and (2) does not, then we say that  $\bar{I}_{i,n}$  is good. For any cube  $\bar{I}_{1,n}$  of  $\bar{\Lambda}_n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{P}(\bar{I}_{i,n} \text{ is bad} \mid 0 \leq \tau_1, \tau_2 \leq 1) \\ &= \mathbf{P}\left\{ \sup_{\gamma_n \leq a \leq \delta} \frac{\int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_1+1} \mathbb{I}_{B(X_1(\tau_1), a)}(X_1(t_1)) dt_1 \int_{\tau_2}^{\tau_2+1} \mathbb{I}_{B(X_2(\tau_2), a)}(X_2(t_2)) dt_2}{\phi(a)} \right. \\ & \quad \left. \leq K_2 \mid 0 \leq \tau_1, \tau_2 \leq 1 \right\} \\ &= \mathbf{P}\left\{ \sup_{\gamma_n \leq a \leq \delta} \frac{\int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_1+1} \mathbb{I}_{B_1(0, a)}(X_1(t_1) - X_1(\tau_1)) dt_1 \int_{\tau_2}^{\tau_2+1} \mathbb{I}_{B_2(0, a)}(X_2(t_2) - X_2(\tau_2)) dt_2}{\phi(a)} \right. \\ & \quad \left. \leq K_2 \mid 0 \leq \tau_1, \tau_2 \leq 1 \right\} \\ &= \mathbf{P}\left\{ \sup_{\gamma_n \leq a \leq \delta} \frac{\int_0^1 \mathbb{I}_{B_1(0, a)}(X_1(t_1 + \tau_1) - X_1(\tau_1)) dt \int_0^1 \mathbb{I}_{B_2(0, a)}(X_2(t_2 + \tau_2) - X_2(\tau_2)) dt_2}{\phi(a)} \right. \\ & \quad \left. \leq K_2 \mid 0 \leq \tau_1, \tau_2 \leq 1 \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

where the closed ball  $B_1(0, a) \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1}$  and  $B_2(0, a) \in \mathbb{R}^{d_2}$ . Put

$$Y_1(t) = X_1(t + \tau_1) - X_1(\tau_1), \quad Y_2(t) = X_2(t + \tau_2) - X_2(\tau_2), \quad t \geq 0.$$

Then  $Y_1, Y_2$  are independent and have exactly the same law as  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  respectively by the strong Markovian property. Hence we may apply Corollary 3.1 to  $Y_1, Y_2$  to obtain

$$\mathbf{P}(\bar{I}_{i,n} \text{ is bad} \mid 0 \leq \tau_1, \tau_2 \leq 1) < \exp(-c_9 n^{1/8}).$$

Let  $M_{i,n}$  denote the number of cubes in  $\overline{\Lambda}_n^{(i)}$  hit by the path  $X_i(t)$  in one unit of time,  $i = 1, 2$ . Then by [3, Lemma 6.1] and the fact that  $X_1$  is transient,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}M_{1,n} &\leq c_{10} \left[ \mathbf{E}T \left( \frac{2^{-n}}{3}, 1 \right) \right]^{-1} \\ &= c_{10} \left[ \int_0^1 \mathbf{P} \left( |X_1(t)| \leq \frac{2^{-n}}{3} \right) dt \right]^{-1} \\ &\leq c_{10} \left[ \frac{2^{-n}}{3} \right]^{-\beta_1} \left[ \int_0^\infty \mathbf{P}(|X_i(t)| \leq 1) dt \right]^{-1} \\ &\leq c_{11} 2^{n\beta_1}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,  $\mathbf{E}M_{2,n} \leq c_{12} 2^{n\beta_2}$ . Now we can deduce that  $N_n$ , the number of bad cubes  $\overline{I}_{i,n}$ , has expectation

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}N_n &\leq \mathbf{E}M_{1,n} \mathbf{E}M_{2,n} \exp(-c_9 n^{1/8}) \\ &\leq c_{13} 2^{n(\beta_1 + \beta_2)} \exp(-c_9 n^{1/8}). \end{aligned}$$

Then, by the Markov inequality,

$$\mathbf{P}\{N_n \geq 2^{n(\beta_1 + \beta_2)} \exp(-n^{1/10})\} < c_{14} \exp(-n^{1/10}).$$

Furthermore, we obtain

$$\sum_n \mathbf{P}\{N_n \geq 2^{n(\beta_1 + \beta_2)} \exp(-n^{1/10})\} < \infty.$$

Applying the first Borel–Cantelli lemma, there exists  $\Omega_0$  such that  $\mathbf{P}(\Omega_0) = 1$ , and for all  $\omega \in \Omega_0$  there exists an integer  $n_1 = n_1(\omega)$  such that for  $n \geq n_1$ ,

$$N_n \leq 2^{n(\beta_1 + \beta_2)} \exp(-n^{1/10}).$$

It is easy to obtain

$$\phi(d^{1/2} 2^{-n}) \leq c_{15} 2^{-n(\beta_1 + \beta_2)} (\log n)^2.$$

Thus for any  $n \geq n_1$ ,

$$\sum_{\overline{I}_{i,n}:\text{bad}} \phi(\text{diam}(\overline{I}_{i,n})) = N_n \phi(d^{1/2} 2^{-n}) \leq c_{15} \exp(-n^{1/10}) (\log n)^2. \tag{3.3}$$

Now consider the good squares  $\overline{I}_{i,n} = \overline{I}_{i,n}^{(1)} \times \overline{I}_{i,n}^{(2)}$  of the mesh  $\overline{\Lambda}_n^{(1)} \times \overline{\Lambda}_n^{(2)}$ . We have to show that the set of all good squares can be covered economically. For each good square  $\overline{I}_{i,n}$ , there exist  $a \in [\gamma_n, 2^{-r}]$  such that

$$\phi(a) < \frac{1}{K_2} \int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_1+1} \mathbb{I}_{B(X_1(\tau_1), a)}(X_1(t_1)) dt_1 \int_{\tau_2}^{\tau_2+1} \mathbb{I}_{B(X_2(\tau_2), a)}(X_2(t_2)) dt_2.$$

Furthermore, we can find an integer  $k_i$  with  $2^{-k_i} > 5a \geq 2^{-k_i-1}$  and a square  $I_i = I_i^{(1)} \times I_i^{(2)}$  of  $\Lambda_{k_i}$  such that  $I_i^{(1)}$  contains  $\bar{I}_{i,n}^{(1)}$  and  $B(X_1(\tau_1), a)$ , while  $I_i^{(2)}$  contains  $\bar{I}_{i,n}^{(2)}$  and  $B(X_2(\tau_2), a)$ . Then  $k_i > r - 4$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(\text{diam}(I_i)) &= \phi(\sqrt{d}2^{1-k_i}) \leq \phi(20\sqrt{d}a) \leq c_{16}\phi(a) \\ &\leq c_{17} \int_0^2 \mathbb{I}_{I_i^{(1)}}(X_1(t_1)) dt_1 \int_0^2 \mathbb{I}_{I_i^{(2)}}(X_2(t_2)) dt_2. \end{aligned}$$

Now  $\bigcup_{\bar{I}_{i,n}:\text{good}} I_i$  is a finite collection of squares to which we can apply Lemma 3.2. Hence there is a subset, denoted by  $\{I_i\}_{i \in \Lambda}$ , which still covers all the good squares, but no point is covered more than  $2^d$  times. For this subset, it must be the case that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i \in \Lambda} \phi(\text{diam}(I_i)) &\leq \sum_{i \in \Lambda} c_{17} \int_0^2 \mathbb{I}_{I_i^{(1)}}(X_1(t_1)) dt_1 \int_0^2 \mathbb{I}_{I_i^{(2)}}(X_2(t_2)) dt_2 \\ &\leq c_{17} \int_0^2 \int_0^2 \sum_{i \in \Lambda} \mathbb{I}_{I_i}((X_1(t_1)), X_2(t_2)) dt_1 dt_2 \\ &\leq c_{17}2^{d+2}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.4}$$

Using all the bad squares together with this covering of the good squares, we obtain a covering of  $R_1(1) \times R_2(1)$  by squares all of diameter less than  $\sqrt{d}2^{-r+5}$ , that is,

$$R_1(1) \times R_2(1) \subseteq \left( \bigcup_{\bar{I}_{i,n}:\text{bad}} \bar{I}_{i,n} \right) \cup \left( \bigcup_{i \in \Lambda} I_i \right).$$

On the other hand, for sufficient large  $n$ , by (3.3) and (3.4),

$$\sum_{\bar{I}_{i,n}:\text{bad}} \phi(\text{diam}\bar{I}_{i,n}) + \sum_{i \in \Lambda} \phi(\text{diam}(I_i)) < c_{17}2^{d+2} + 1.$$

Thus with probability 1,

$$\phi\text{-}m[R_1(1) \times R_2(1)] < \infty.$$

That completes the proof. □

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