

**Basic Stochastic Processes**  
**by Zdzisław Brzeźniak and Tomasz Zastawniak**  
**Springer-Verlag, London 1999**  
**Corrections in the 2nd printing**

**Version:** 21 May 2005

Page and line numbers refer to the 2nd printing of the book.

A list of corrections in the 1st printing is also available. Please see

<http://www-users.york.ac.uk/~tz506/bsp>

To make a comment or report further mistakes please contact the authors at  
[bz506@york.ac.uk](mailto:tz506@york.ac.uk) or [tz506@york.ac.uk](mailto:tz506@york.ac.uk)

Your feedback will be greatly appreciated!

viii **insert at the end of Preface:**

As this book is going into its 3rd printing, we would like to thank our students and readers for their support and feedback. In particular, we wish to express our gratitude to Ioannis Emmanouil of the University of Athens and to Brett T. Reynolds and Chris N. Reynolds of the University of Wales in Swansea for their extensive and meticulous lists of remarks and valuable suggestions, which helped us to improve the current version of *Basic Stochastic Processes*.

We would greatly appreciate further feedback from our readers, who are invited to visit the Web Page <http://www-users.york.ac.uk/~tz506/bsp> for more information and to check the latest corrections in the book.

Zdzisław Brzeźniak and Tomasz Zastawniak  
Kingston upon Hull, June 2000

54–3 **Replace the text of Exercise 1.6 by:**

Show that if  $\xi$  has discrete distribution with values  $x_1, x_2, \dots$ , then  $F_\xi$  is constant on each interval  $(s, t]$  not containing any of the  $x_i$ 's and has jumps of size  $P\{\xi = x_i\}$  at each  $x_i$ .

13<sup>1–7</sup> **Replace Solution 1.6 by:**

If  $s < t$  are real numbers such that  $x_i \notin (s, t]$  for any  $i$ , then

$$F_\xi(t) - F_\xi(s) = P\{\xi \leq t\} - P\{\xi \leq s\} = P\{\xi \in (s, t]\} = 0,$$

i.e.  $F_\xi(s) = F_\xi(t)$ . Because  $F_\xi$  is non-decreasing, this means that  $F_\xi$  is constant on  $(s, t]$ . To show that  $F_\xi$  has a jump of size  $P\{\xi = x_i\}$  at each  $x_i$ , we compute

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{t \searrow x_i} F_\xi(t) - \lim_{s \nearrow x_i} F_\xi(s) &= \lim_{t \searrow x_i} P\{\xi \leq t\} - \lim_{s \nearrow x_i} P\{\xi \leq s\} \\ &= P\{\xi \leq x_i\} - P\{\xi < x_i\} = P\{\xi = x_i\}. \end{aligned}$$

21<sub>11</sub>  $\int_B E(\xi) dP$  should be  $\int_B \xi dP$

25<sub>10</sub>  $\eta = 1 - |2x - 1|$  should be  $\eta(x) = 1 - |2x - 1|$

29<sub>6</sub>  $B = \Omega$  should be  $A = \Omega$

35<sup>11-12</sup> the sentence

Indeed, if  $A$  is such a set, then  $A = \{\eta \in 2A - 1\} \in \sigma(A)$ .

should be replaced by

Indeed, if  $A$  is such a set, then  $A = \{\eta \in B\}$ , where  $B = \{2x : x \in A \cap [0, \frac{1}{2}]\}$  is a Borel set, so  $A \in \sigma(\eta)$ .

37<sup>4</sup>  $F(y)$  should be  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

37<sub>2</sub>  $F(y)$  should be  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

59<sub>5</sub>  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} P\{\tau > 2Kn\}$  should be  $P\left(\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \{\tau > 2Kn\}\right)$

60<sup>8</sup> replace 2) by 1)

72<sub>10-1</sub> replace the last 10 lines on page 72 by:

for any  $a < b$ . Since the set of all pairs of rational numbers  $a < b$  is countable, the event

$$A = \bigcap_{a < b \text{ rational}} \left\{ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_n[a, b] < \infty \right\} \quad (4.3)$$

has probability 1. (The intersection of countably many events has probability 1 if each of these events has probability 1.)

We claim that the sequence  $\xi_n$  converges a.s. to a limit  $\xi$ . Consider the set

$$B = \left\{ \liminf_n \xi_n < \limsup_n \xi_n \right\} \subset \Omega$$

on which the sequence  $\xi_n$  fails to converge. Then for any  $\omega \in B$  there are rational numbers  $a, b$  such that

$$\liminf_n \xi_n(\omega) < a < b < \limsup_n \xi_n(\omega),$$

implying that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_n[a, b](\omega) = \infty$ . This means that  $B$  and the event  $A$  in (4.3) are disjoint, so  $P(B) = 0$ , since  $P(A) = 1$ , which proves the claim.

79<sup>1-2</sup> the sentence

Because this  $\sigma$ -field is generated by the family of sets  $\mathcal{F}_1 \cup \mathcal{F}_2 \cup \dots$  it follows that  $\xi = 1_A$  a.s.

should be replaced by

The family  $\mathcal{G}$  consisting of all sets  $B \in \mathcal{F}$  such that  $\int_B \xi dP = \int_B 1_A dP$  is a  $\sigma$ -field containing  $\mathcal{F}_1 \cup \mathcal{F}_2 \cup \dots$ . As a result,  $\mathcal{G}$  contains the  $\sigma$ -field  $\mathcal{F}_\infty$  generated by the family  $\mathcal{F}_1 \cup \mathcal{F}_2 \cup \dots$ . By Lemma 2.1 it follows that  $\xi = 1_A$  a.s.

81<sub>10-1</sub> **Solution 4.5 should be replaced by:**

In Example 3.4 it was verified that  $\xi_n = E(\xi|\mathcal{F}_n)$  is a martingale. Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . By Lemma 4.2 there is a  $\delta > 0$  such that

$$P(A) < \delta \implies \int_A |\xi| dP < \varepsilon.$$

By Jensen's inequality  $|\xi_n| \leq E(|\xi||\mathcal{F}_n)$  a.s., so

$$E(|\xi|) \geq E(|\xi_n|) \geq \int_{\{|\xi_n| \geq M\}} |\xi_n| dP \geq MP\{|\xi_n| > M\}.$$

If we take  $M > E(|\xi|)/\delta$ , then

$$P\{|\xi_n| > M\} < \delta.$$

Since  $\{|\xi_n| > M\} \in \mathcal{F}_n$ , it follows that

$$\int_{\{|\xi_n| > M\}} |\xi_n| dP \leq \int_{\{|\xi_n| > M\}} E(|\xi||\mathcal{F}_n) dP = \int_{\{|\xi_n| > M\}} |\xi| dP < \varepsilon,$$

proving that  $\xi_n = E(\xi|\mathcal{F}_n)$  is a uniformly integrable sequence.

89<sup>15</sup>  $P(\xi_{n+1} = 0|\xi_n = 1) = \frac{P(\xi_{n+1} = 0, \xi_n = 1)}{P(\xi_n = 1)}$

should be

$$P(\xi_{n+1} = 1|\xi_n = 0) = \frac{P(\xi_{n+1} = 1, \xi_n = 0)}{P(\xi_n = 0)}$$

93<sup>5</sup>  $P(\eta_1 = 0) = q = 1 - p$  should be  $P(\eta_1 = -1) = q = 1 - p$

93<sup>9</sup>  $\eta_0 = 0$  should be  $\xi_0 = 0$

93<sup>9</sup>  $\eta_0 = i$  should be  $\xi_0 = i$

94<sub>4</sub>  $p_n = P(\xi_n = 0)$  should be  $p_0(n) = P(\xi_n = 0)$

96<sub>4</sub>  $j \geq i \geq 0$  should be  $j, i \geq 0$

97<sup>5-7</sup> **replace Propostion 5.6 by:**

The probability of survival in Exercise 5.12, part 2) equals 0 if  $\lambda \leq 1$ , and  $1 - \hat{r}^k$  if  $\lambda > 1$ , where  $k$  is the initial Vugiel population and  $\hat{r} \in (0, 1)$  is a solution to

$$r = e^{(r-1)\lambda}. \tag{5.28}$$

98<sup>15</sup> probability of extinction is certain  
should be  
probability of extinction is 1

100<sup>5</sup>  $\lambda > 0$  should be  $\lambda > 1$

100<sub>12</sub>  $(n+1)$ th should be  $(n+1)$ st

100<sub>5</sub>  $\pm 1$  should be  $-1$

103<sup>7</sup>  $F_{jj}(x) \rightarrow \sum_n f_n(j|j) = 1$   
should be  
 $F_{jj}(x) \rightarrow \sum_n f_n(j|j) = 1$  as  $x \nearrow 1$

103<sub>3</sub> (5.73) should be (5.43)

106<sup>11</sup>  $\varepsilon := p(j|i)p(i|j)$  should be  $\varepsilon := p_m(j|i)p_n(i|j)$

106<sup>15</sup>  $\sum_{r,s \in S} p_m(i|s)p_k(s|r)p_n(r|i)$  should be  $\sum_{r,s \in S} p_n(i|s)p_k(s|r)p_m(r|i)$

106<sub>11-1</sub> These lines should be replaced by the following:  
To prove 5) it is enough to show that  $d(i) \leq d(j)$ . Using the first inequality derived above, we have

$$p_{n+k+m}(i|i) \geq \varepsilon p_k(j|j)$$

for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . From this inequality we can draw two conclusions:

(a)  $d(i)|n+m$ , since by taking  $k=0$  we get  $p_{n+m}(i|i) > 0$ ;

(b) if  $p_k(j|j) > 0$ , then  $p_{n+k+m}(i|i) > 0$ .

From (a) and (b) we can see that  $d(i)|k$  provided that  $p_k(j|j) > 0$ . This proves what is required.

107<sub>11</sub>  $p(j|i) > 0$  for all  $i, j \in C$   
should be  
for all  $i, j \in C$  there exists an  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $p_n(j|i) > 0$

108<sup>2</sup>  $R = S \setminus C$  should be  $R = S \setminus T$

108<sup>2</sup> If  $i \leftrightarrow j$ , the both should be If  $i \leftrightarrow j$ , then both

113<sup>5</sup> the line  
where  $F_{ji}(x)$  is defined in (5.39);  
should be replaced by  
where  $F_{ji}(1)$  is the probability that the chain will ever visit state  $j$  if it starts at  $i$ , see (5.39), and where  $m_j$  is the mean recurrence time of state  $j$ , see (5.44);

113<sub>11-10</sub> if each  $i \in S$  is ergodic.  
should be  
if each  $i \in S$  is ergodic, i.e. each state  $i \in S$  is positive, recurrent and aperiodic.

113<sub>8</sub> ergodic Markov chain  
should be  
ergodic irreducible Markov chain

- 113<sub>5</sub> **replace the hint by:**  
 Use Theorem 5.5. You may assume as a known fact that if  $j$  is recurrent and  $i \leftrightarrow j$ , then  $F_{ji}(1) = 1$ .
- 114<sup>12</sup>  $\sum \sum_i$  should be  $\sum_i$
- 114<sub>10-7</sub> **replace Exercise 5.36 by:**  
 Prove that if there exists an invariant measure for the Markov chain in Exercise 5.14, then  $\lambda' := \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} j q'_j < 1$ . Assuming that the converse is also true, conclude that the chain is ergodic if and only if  $\lambda' < 1$ . Show that if such an invariant measure exists, then it is unique.
- 114<sub>6</sub> **replace the hint by:**  
 Suppose that  $\pi = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \pi_j \delta_j$  is an invariant measure. Write down an infinite system of linear equations for  $\pi_j$ . If you don't know how to follow, look at the solution.
- 115<sup>14</sup>  $p_{kn_0}(j|i) = q_n(j|i)$  should be  $p_{kn_0}(j|i) = q_k(j|i)$
- 116<sup>6</sup>  $\max_k p_n(j|k)$  should be  $\min_k p_n(j|k)$
- 116<sup>8</sup>  $\min_i p_n(j|i)$  should be  $\min_i p_{n+1}(j|i)$
- 116<sup>12</sup>  $\min_k p_n(j|k)$  should be  $\max_k p_n(j|k)$
- 116<sup>14</sup>  $\max_i p_n(j|i)$  should be  $\max_i p_{n+1}(j|i)$
- 116<sup>15</sup>  $m_j(n)$  should be  $m_n(j)$
- 116<sub>4</sub>  $\varepsilon \sum_{s \in S} p_n(j|s) \varepsilon p_n(s|j)$  should be  $\varepsilon \sum_{s \in S} p_n(j|s) p_n(s|j)$
- 116<sub>2</sub> Chapman-Kolmogorov equations  
 should be  
 by the Chapman-Kolmogorov equations
- 116<sub>1</sub>  $p_k(s|i) \geq \varepsilon$  should be  $p(s|i) \geq \varepsilon$
- 117<sup>2</sup>  $m_n(j) \sum_{s \in S} (1 - \varepsilon)$  should be  $(1 - \varepsilon) m_n(j)$
- 117<sup>9</sup>  $m_{n+1}$  should be  $m_{n+1}(j)$
- 117<sup>11</sup>  $m_n$  should be  $m_n(j)$
- 124<sup>9</sup> equals  $\pm 1$  or 0 should be equals  $-1$  or 0
- 124<sub>10</sub>  $j \geq i \geq 1$  should be  $i \geq 1, j \geq i - 1$
- 124<sub>10-7</sub> **the sentences**  
 On the other hand,  $P(\xi_{n+1} = j | \xi_n = 0) = \frac{\lambda^j}{j!} e^{-\lambda}$  if  $j \geq i = 0$ . Finally, if  $j = i - 1, i \geq 1$ , then  $P(\xi_{n+1} = i - 1 | \xi_n = i) = p e^{-\lambda}$ .  
 should be replaced by  
 On the other hand, if  $j \geq 0$ , then  $P(\xi_{n+1} = j | \xi_n = 0) = \frac{\lambda^j}{j!} e^{-\lambda}$ .

124<sub>5</sub> formula (5.71) should be replaced by

$$p(j|i) = \begin{cases} q_j, & \text{if } i = 0, j \in \mathbb{N}, \\ q'_{j-i+1}, & \text{if } i \geq 1, j \geq i - 1, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad (5.71)$$

124<sub>3</sub> formula (5.72) should be replaced by

$$q'_k = \begin{cases} pq_k, & \text{if } k = 0, \\ (1-p)q_{k-1} + pq_k, & \text{if } k \geq 1. \end{cases} \quad (5.72)$$

127<sup>4</sup>  $P_{00}(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n(0|0)x^n$  should be  $P_{00}(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_n(0|0)x^n$

130<sub>6</sub>  $\sum_{i \in S} p_n(j|i)\mu_i \leq \mu_i$  should be  $p_n(j|i)\mu_i \leq \mu_i$

132<sup>2</sup>  $\Pi(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \pi_j x^j$  should be  $\Pi(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \pi_j x^j$

132<sup>3</sup>  $Q(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} q_j x^j$  should be  $Q(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} q_j x^j$

132<sup>4</sup>  $G(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} q'_j x^j$  should be  $G(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} q'_j x^j$

132<sub>13-7</sub> these lines should be replaced by:

1) if  $\lambda' \neq 1$ , then  $\Pi(x) \rightarrow \pi_0 \frac{1+\lambda-\lambda'}{1-\lambda'}$ ;

2) if  $\lambda' = 1$ , then  $\Pi(x) \rightarrow \infty$ .

In case 1)  $\frac{1+\lambda-\lambda'}{1-\lambda'} \geq 1$ , since  $\pi_0 \leq 1$ . It follows that  $\frac{\lambda}{1-\lambda'} \geq 0$ , and so  $\lambda' < 1$ . Moreover, in this case

$$\pi_0 = \frac{1-\lambda'}{1-\lambda'+\lambda}.$$

The above argument shows that if there exists an invariant measure, then it is unique. Now suppose that an invariant measure exists (and then it is unique).

137<sup>2</sup>  $\left(\frac{q}{p}\right)ix$  should be  $\left(\frac{q}{p}\right)^i x$

137<sup>3</sup>  $x = \phi(i) - \phi(0)$  should be  $x = \phi(1) - \phi(0)$

137<sub>1</sub> insert = before  $\frac{\left(\frac{q}{p}\right)^i - 1}{\left(\frac{q}{p}\right)^a - 1}$

154<sup>5</sup>  $\{(x, y) : x - y \in A\}$  should be  $\{(x, y) : y - x \in A\}$

154<sup>6</sup>  $\{y : x - y \in A\}$  should be  $\{y : y - x \in A\}$

154<sup>7</sup>  $p(t-s, x, x-u)$  should be  $p(t-s, x, x+u)$

165<sub>15</sub>  $P\{\eta_1 < s\}$  should be  $P\{\eta_1 < s_1\}$

173<sup>5</sup>  $t \mapsto V(t) = W(t+T)$  should be  $t \mapsto V(t) = W(t+T) - W(T)$

175<sup>9</sup>  $2t$  in the denominator should be  $2t^2$

175<sup>11</sup>  $t$  in the denominator should be  $t^2$

175<sub>1</sub>  $p(t-s, W(t), y)$  should be  $p(t-s, W(s), y)$

176<sup>2</sup>  $p(t-s, W(t), y)$  should be  $p(t-s, W(s), y)$

181<sub>8-7</sub> the approximations should consist only of random variables adapted to  
should be  
the approximations of the integrand should consist only of processes adapted to

181<sub>4</sub> depend only by what has happened up to time  $t$ , not on any future events.  
should be  
depend only on what has happened up to time  $t$ , but not on any future events.

189<sup>10</sup> form should be from

189<sub>5</sub> Exercise 7.4 should be Exercise 7.6

190<sub>6</sub> insert the following sentence at the end of the hint:  
You may also need the following identity:

$$(a^2 - b^2)^2 = (a - b)^4 + 4(a - b)^3 b + 4(a - b)^2 b^2.$$

198<sub>10</sub>  $|f_n(t) - f(t)|^2 \leq 2C^2$  should be  $|f_n(t) - f(t)|^2 \leq 4C^2$

198<sub>7</sub>  $2TC^2$  should be  $4TC^2$

199<sub>7-6</sub>  $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (\Delta_i^n W)^2 \rightarrow t$  should be  $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (\Delta_i^n W)^2 \rightarrow T$

199<sub>5</sub>  $\sum_{i=0}^{n_k-1} (\Delta_i^{n_k} W)^2 \rightarrow t$  should be  $\sum_{i=0}^{n_k-1} (\Delta_i^{n_k} W)^2 \rightarrow T$

200<sup>7</sup>  $x \in [-n-1, n+1]$  should be  $x \notin [-n-1, n+1]$

201<sup>12</sup> will be replaced should be will be replaced

201<sup>14</sup> where  $a$  belongs to  $M_t^2$  and  $b$  to  $\mathcal{L}_t^1$   
should be  
where  $a$  belongs to  $\mathcal{L}_t^1$  and  $b$  to  $M_t^2$

204<sub>12</sub> form should be from

205<sup>4</sup> To obtain a solution  
should be replaced by  
Once we have shown that such a  $\xi \in M_T^2$  exists, to obtain a solution

205<sub>7</sub> are strict contractions.  
should be replaced by  
are strict contractions with contracting constants  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  such that  
 $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 < 1$ .

206<sup>2</sup>  $\frac{C^2}{\lambda} \|\xi - \zeta\|_\lambda$  should be  $\frac{C^2}{\lambda} \|\xi - \zeta\|_\lambda^2$

206<sup>4</sup>  $\lambda > C^2$  should be  $\lambda > C^2/\varepsilon$

206<sup>4</sup>  $\Phi_2$  is a strict contraction.

should be replaced by

$\Phi_2$  is a strict contraction with contracting constant  $\leq \varepsilon$ .

210<sup>8</sup>  $E(\eta_j \zeta_j \Delta_j^2)$  should be  $E(\eta_j \zeta_j |\Delta_j W|^2)$

210<sup>8</sup>  $E(\Delta_j^2)$  should be  $E(|\Delta_j W|^2)$

214<sub>2</sub> the line

in  $L^2$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , since by the Cauchy-Schwartz inequality

should be replaced by

in  $L^2$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Indeed, by the classical inequality  $\left| \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i \right|^2 \leq$

$n \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} |a_i|^2$  and by the Cauchy-Schwartz inequality

215<sub>2</sub>  $4(E(W_t - W_s)^2 W_s^2)$  should be  $4E((W_t - W_s)^2 W_s^2)$

219<sub>13</sub>  $F(t, W(t)) = nW(t)^{n-1}$  should be  $F'_x(t, W(t)) = nW(t)^{n-1}$

219<sub>9</sub>  $F(t, W(t)) = nW(t)^{n-1}$  should be  $F'_x(t, W(t)) = nW(t)^{n-1}$

220<sup>1</sup>  $\sigma \varepsilon^{\alpha t} F'_x(t, x)$  should be  $\sigma e^{\alpha t} F'_x(t, x)$

220<sup>2</sup>  $\sigma \varepsilon^{\alpha t} F'_x(t, x)$  should be  $\sigma e^{\alpha t} F'_x(t, x)$