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## *The problem of the first return attached to a pseudodifferential operator in dimension 3*

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**Abstract.** In this article we study the problem of first return associated to an elliptic pseudodifferential operator with non-radial symbol of dimension 3 over the  $p$ -adics.

**Keywords:** Random walks, ultradiffusion,  $p$ -adic numbers, non-archimedean analysis.

**MSC2010:** 82B41, 82C44, 26E30.

## *El problema del primer retorno asociado a un operador seudodiferencial en dimensión 3*

**Resumen.** En este artículo estudiamos el problema del primer retorno asociado a un operador seudodiferencial elíptico con símbolo no radial de dimensión 3 sobre el cuerpo de los números  $p$ -ádicos.

**Palabras clave:** Caminatas aleatorias, ultradifusión, números  $p$ -ádicos, análisis no arquimediano.

### **1. Introduction**

Avetisov et al. have constructed a wide variety of models of ultrametric diffusion constrained by hierarchical energy landscapes (see [2],[3]). From a mathematical point of view, in these models the time-evolution of a complex system is described by a  $p$ -adic master equation (a parabolic-type pseudodifferential equation) which controls the time-evolution of a transition function of a random walk on an ultrametric space, and the random walk describes the dynamics of the system in the space of configurational states which is approximated by an ultrametric space ( $\mathbb{Q}_p$ ).

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The problem of the first return in dimension 1 was studied in [4], and in arbitrary dimension in [7]. In both articles, pseudodifferential operators with radial symbols were considered. More recently, Chacón-Cortés [6] considers pseudodifferential operators over  $\mathbb{Q}_p^4$  with non-radial symbol; he studies the problem of first return for a random walk  $X(t, w)$  whose density distribution satisfies certain diffusion equation.

In [5], the authors study elliptic pseudodifferential operators in dimension 3 and find a function,  $Z(x, t)$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{Q}_p^3$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+$ , that satisfies the following equation

$$\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} = - \int_{\mathbb{Q}_p^3} K_{-\alpha}(y)(u(x - y, t) - u(x, t))d^3y, \quad (1)$$

where  $K_{-\alpha}(x)$  is the Riesz kernel associated to the elliptic quadratic form  $f^\circ(\xi) = p\xi_1^2 + \xi_2^2 - \epsilon\xi_3^2$ .

Using the same techniques as in [6] we prove that the random walk  $X(t, w)$  whose density distribution satisfies the equation (1) is recurrent if  $\alpha \geq \frac{3}{2}$  and transient when  $\alpha < \frac{3}{2}$ . This result is analog to the one showed in [7], in the sense that  $2\alpha$  represent the degree of the symbol, and in this case the process is recurrent if  $2\alpha$  is greater that the dimension, 3.

The article is organized as follows. In Section 2 we write some facts about  $p$ -adics. In Section 3 we define the symbol for the pseudodifferential operator and its Fourier transform. In Section 4 we study the Cauchy problem and give some properties of its fundamental solution, and define a Markov process over  $\mathbb{Q}_p^3$ . In Section 5 we determine the probability density function for a path of  $X(t, \omega)$  goes back to  $\mathbb{Z}_p^3$ , and we show that the process is recurrent when  $\alpha \geq \frac{3}{2}$ , and otherwise is transient (see Theorem 5.7).

## 2. Preliminars

For the sake of completeness we include some preliminars. For more details the reader may consult [1],[9],[10].

### 2.1. The field of $p$ -adic numbers

Along this article  $p$  will denote a prime number different from 2. The field of  $p$ -adic numbers  $\mathbb{Q}_p$  is defined as the completion of the field of rational numbers  $\mathbb{Q}$  with respect to the  $p$ -adic norm  $|\cdot|_p$ , which is defined as

$$|x|_p = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x = 0, \\ p^{-\gamma} & \text{if } x = p^\gamma \frac{a}{b}, \end{cases}$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers coprime with  $p$ . The integer  $\gamma := \text{ord}(x)$ , with  $\text{ord}(0) := +\infty$ , is called the  $p$ -adic order of  $x$ . We extend the  $p$ -adic norm to  $\mathbb{Q}_p^n$  by taking

$$\|x\|_p := \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i|_p, \quad \text{for } x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{Q}_p^n.$$

We define  $\text{ord}(x) = \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} \{\text{ord}(x_i)\}$ ; then  $\|x\|_p = p^{-\text{ord}(x)}$ . Any  $p$ -adic number  $x \neq 0$  has a unique expansion  $x = p^{\text{ord}(x)} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} x_j p^j$ , where  $x_j \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$  and  $x_0 \neq 0$ .

By using this expansion, we define the fractional part of  $x \in \mathbb{Q}_p$ , denoted by  $\{x\}_p$ , as the rational number

$$\{x\}_p = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x = 0 \text{ or } \text{ord}(x) \geq 0, \\ p^{\text{ord}(x)} \sum_{j=0}^{-\text{ord}(x)-1} x_j p^j & \text{if } \text{ord}(x) < 0. \end{cases}$$

For  $\gamma \in \mathbb{Z}$ , denote by  $B_\gamma^n(a) = \{x \in \mathbb{Q}_p^n : \|x - a\|_p \leq p^\gamma\}$  the ball of radius  $p^\gamma$  with center at  $a = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{Q}_p^n$ , and take  $B_\gamma^n(0) := B_\gamma^n$ . Note that  $B_\gamma^n(a) = B_\gamma(a_1) \times \dots \times B_\gamma(a_n)$ , where  $B_\gamma(a_i) := \{x \in \mathbb{Q}_p : |x - a_i|_p \leq p^\gamma\}$  is the one-dimensional ball of radius  $p^\gamma$  with center at  $a_i \in \mathbb{Q}_p$ . The ball  $B_0^n(0)$  is equal to the product of  $n$  copies of  $B_0(0) := \mathbb{Z}_p$ , the ring of  $p$ -adic integers.

## 2.2. The Bruhat-Schwartz space

A complex-valued function  $\varphi$  defined on  $\mathbb{Q}_p^n$  is called *locally constant* if for any  $x \in \mathbb{Q}_p^n$  there exists an integer  $l(x) \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that

$$\varphi(x + x') = \varphi(x) \text{ for } x' \in B_{l(x)}^n. \quad (2)$$

A function  $\varphi : \mathbb{Q}_p^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is called a *Bruhat-Schwartz function* (or a *test function*) if it is locally constant with compact support. The  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector space of Bruhat-Schwartz functions is denoted by  $\mathbf{S}(\mathbb{Q}_p^n)$ . For  $\varphi \in \mathbf{S}(\mathbb{Q}_p^n)$ , the largest of such numbers  $l = l(\varphi)$  satisfying (2) is called the *exponent of local constancy* of  $\varphi$ .

Let  $\mathbf{S}'(\mathbb{Q}_p^n)$  denote the set of all functionals (distributions) on  $\mathbf{S}(\mathbb{Q}_p^n)$ . All functionals on  $\mathbf{S}(\mathbb{Q}_p^n)$  are continuous.

Set  $\chi(y) = \exp(2\pi i \{y\}_p)$  for  $y \in \mathbb{Q}_p$ . The map  $\chi(\cdot)$  is an additive character on  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ , i.e. a continuous map from  $\mathbb{Q}_p$  into  $S$  (the unit circle) satisfying  $\chi(y_0 + y_1) = \chi(y_0)\chi(y_1)$ ,  $y_0, y_1 \in \mathbb{Q}_p$ .

## 2.3. Fourier transform

Given  $\xi = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)$  and  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{Q}_p^n$ , we set  $\xi \cdot x := \sum_{j=1}^n \xi_j x_j$ . The Fourier transform of  $\varphi \in \mathbf{S}(\mathbb{Q}_p^n)$  is defined as

$$(\mathcal{F}\varphi)(\xi) = \int_{\mathbb{Q}_p^n} \chi(\xi \cdot x) \varphi(x) d^n x \quad \text{for } \xi \in \mathbb{Q}_p^n,$$

where  $d^n x$  is the Haar measure on  $\mathbb{Q}_p^n$  normalized by the condition  $\text{vol}(B_0^n) = 1$ . The Fourier transform is a linear isomorphism from  $\mathbf{S}(\mathbb{Q}_p^n)$  onto itself satisfying  $(\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{F}\varphi))(\xi) = \varphi(-\xi)$ . We will also use the notation  $\mathcal{F}_{x \rightarrow \xi} \varphi$  and  $\hat{\varphi}$  for the Fourier transform of  $\varphi$ .

The Fourier transform  $\mathcal{F}[f]$  of a distribution  $f \in \mathbf{S}'(\mathbb{Q}_p^n)$  is defined by

$$(\mathcal{F}[f], \varphi) = (f, \mathcal{F}[\varphi]) \text{ for all } \varphi \in \mathbf{S}(\mathbb{Q}_p^n).$$

The Fourier transform  $f \rightarrow \mathcal{F}[f]$  is a linear isomorphism from  $\mathbf{S}'(\mathbb{Q}_p^n)$  onto  $\mathbf{S}'(\mathbb{Q}_p^n)$ . Furthermore,  $f = \mathcal{F}[\mathcal{F}[f](-\xi)]$ .

## 2.4. The space $\mathfrak{M}_\lambda$

We denote by  $\mathfrak{M}_\lambda$ ,  $\lambda \geq 0$ , the  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector space of locally constant functions  $\varphi(x)$  on  $\mathbb{Q}_p^n$  such that  $|\varphi(x)| \leq C(1 + \|x\|_p^\lambda)$ , where  $C$  is a positive constant. If the function  $\varphi$  depends also on a parameter  $t$ , we shall say that  $\varphi \in \mathfrak{M}_\lambda$  *uniformly with respect to  $t$* , if its constant  $C$  and its exponent of local constancy do not depend on  $t$ .

## 3. Pseudodifferential operators

We take  $f(\xi) = \epsilon\xi_1^2 + p\epsilon\xi_2^2 - p\xi_3^2$  and  $f^\circ(\xi) = p\xi_1^2 + \xi_2^2 - \epsilon\xi_3^2$ , with  $\epsilon \in \mathbb{Z}$  a quadratic non-residue module  $p$ . Given  $\alpha > 0$ , we define the pseudodifferential operator with symbol  $|f(\xi)|_p^\alpha$  by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{S}(\mathbb{Q}_p^3) &\longrightarrow C(\mathbb{Q}_p^3) \cap L^2(\mathbb{Q}_p^3) \\ \varphi &\longrightarrow (\mathbf{f}(\partial, \alpha)\varphi)(x) := \mathcal{F}_{\xi \rightarrow x}^{-1} \left( |f(\xi)|_p^\alpha \mathcal{F}_{x \rightarrow \xi} \varphi \right). \end{aligned}$$

In [5] the authors show that the Fourier transform of the symbol is given by

$$\mathcal{F}[|f(x)|_p^{-\alpha}] = \frac{1 - p^{-\alpha}}{1 - p^{2\alpha-3}} \left[ (1 + p^{\alpha-1})I_{V_1 \cup V_\epsilon}(x) + p^{\alpha-\frac{3}{2}}(p^{2-\alpha} + 1)I_{V_p}(x) \right] |f^\circ(x)|^{\alpha-\frac{3}{2}}, \quad (3)$$

where

$$I_A(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in A, \\ 0 & \text{if } x \notin A, \end{cases}$$

and for  $\delta = 1, \epsilon, p, p\epsilon$  put  $V_\delta := \{x \in \mathbb{Q}_p^3 \mid f^\circ(x) \in \delta[\mathbb{Q}_p^\times]^2\}$ . Observe that  $V_{p\epsilon} = \emptyset$ , otherwise the elliptic form  $px_1^2 + x_2^2 - \epsilon x_3^2 - p\epsilon x_4^2 = 0$  would have non-trivial solution in  $\mathbb{Q}_p^4$ .

If we consider

$$K_\alpha(x) := \frac{1 - p^{-\alpha}}{1 - p^{2\alpha-3}} \left[ (1 + p^{\alpha-1})I_{V_1 \cup V_\epsilon}(x) + p^{\alpha-\frac{3}{2}}(p^{2-\alpha} + 1)I_{V_p}(x) \right] |f^\circ(x)|^{\alpha-\frac{3}{2}},$$

then equation (3) can be written as

$$\hat{K}_\alpha(x) = |f(x)|^{-\alpha}, \quad \alpha \neq \frac{3}{2} + \frac{2\pi\sqrt{-1}}{\ln p}\mathbb{Z}, \quad (4)$$

and as a distribution on  $\sigma(\mathbb{Q}_p^3)$ ,  $K_\alpha(x)$  possesses a meromorphic continuation to all  $\alpha \neq \frac{3}{2} + \frac{2\pi\sqrt{-1}}{\ln p}\mathbb{Z}$  (see [5, Lemma 5]).

Since  $\mathcal{F}^{-1}(|f|_p^\alpha) = K_{-\alpha}$  we have  $|f(\xi)|_p^\alpha \mathcal{F}_{x \rightarrow \xi} \varphi \in L^1(\mathbb{Q}_p^3) \cap L^2(\mathbb{Q}_p^3)$ , and the operator is well-defined. Therefore it is possible to write the operator as a convolution

$$\mathbf{f}(\partial, \alpha)\varphi = K_{-\alpha} * \varphi = \int_{\mathbb{Q}_p^3} K_{-\alpha}(y)(\varphi(x-y) - \varphi(x))d^3y, \quad (5)$$

for  $\varphi \in \mathbf{S}(\mathbb{Q}_p^3)$ . Actually, the domain of the operator can be extended to the locally constant functions  $u(x)$  such that

$$\int_{\|x\|_p \geq 1} K_{-\alpha}(x)|u(x)|d^3x < \infty. \quad (6)$$

There exists an important inequality for elliptic polynomials, which is essential to do all the calculations (see [11]). In our case, for  $f$  and  $f^\circ$ , the inequalities are given in the next lemma.

**Lemma 3.1** ([6, Lemma 3]). *Let  $f, f^\circ$  be as above. Then*

- (i)  $p^{-1} \|x\|_p^2 \leq |f(x)|_p \leq \|x\|_p^2$ , for every  $x \in \mathbb{Q}_p^3$ ,
- (ii)  $p^{-1} \|x\|_p^2 \leq |f^\circ(x)|_p \leq \|x\|_p^2$ , for every  $x \in \mathbb{Q}_p^3$ .

#### 4. The Cauchy problem

The Cauchy problem

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} = -\mathbf{f}(\partial, \alpha)u(x, t), & x \in \mathbb{Q}_p^3, \quad 0 < t \leq T, \\ u(x, 0) = \varphi(x), \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

where  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $T > 0$ ,  $\varphi \in \mathfrak{M}_{2\lambda}$ ,  $0 \leq \lambda < \alpha$  has a solution  $u : \mathbb{Q}_p^3 \times [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  satisfying  $u(x, t) \in \mathfrak{M}_{2\lambda}$  and

$$u(x, t) := Z(x, t) * \varphi(x) = \int_{\mathbb{Q}_p^3} Z(x - \eta, t) \varphi(\eta) d^3\eta, \quad (8)$$

where the heat kernel  $Z(x, t)$  attached to  $f(x)$  is

$$Z(x, t) := Z(x, t; f, \alpha) = \int_{\mathbb{Q}_p^3} \chi(-\xi \cdot x) e^{-t|f(\xi)|_p^\alpha} d^3\xi,$$

for  $x \in \mathbb{Q}_p^3$ ,  $t > 0$  and  $\alpha > 0$  (see [5]).

**Theorem 4.1.** *The function  $Z(x, t)$  has the following properties:*

- (i)  $Z(x, t) \geq 0$  for any  $t > 0$ .
- (ii)  $\int_{\mathbb{Q}_p^3} Z(x, t) d^3x = 1$  for any  $t > 0$ .
- (iii)  $Z(x, t) \leq Ct \left( \|x\|_p + t^{\frac{1}{2\alpha}} \right)^{-3-2\alpha}$ , where  $C$  is a positive constant, for any  $t > 0$  and any  $x \in \mathbb{Q}_p^3$ .
- (iv)  $Z(x, t) * Z(x, t') = Z(x, t + t')$  for any  $t, t' > 0$ .

$$(v) \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} Z(x, t) = \delta(x) \text{ in } S'(\mathbb{Q}_p^3).$$

$$(vi) Z(x, t) \in C(\mathbb{Q}_p^3, \mathbb{R}) \cap L^1(\mathbb{Q}_p^3) \cap L^2(\mathbb{Q}_p^3) \text{ for any } t > 0.$$

*Proof.* See Theorems 1, 2, Proposition 2 and Corollary 1 of [11].  $\square$

#### 4.1. Markov processes over $\mathbb{Q}_p^3$

The space  $(\mathbb{Q}_p^3, \|\cdot\|_p)$  is a complete non-Archimedean metric space. Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra of  $\mathbb{Q}_p^3$ ; thus  $(\mathbb{Q}_p^3, \mathcal{B}, d^3x)$  is a measure space. By using the terminology and results of [8, Chapters 2, 3], we set

$$p(t, x, y) := Z(x - y, t) \text{ for } t > 0, x, y \in \mathbb{Q}_p^3,$$

and

$$P(t, x, B) = \begin{cases} \int_B p(t, y, x) d^3y & \text{for } t > 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{Q}_p^3, \quad B \in \mathcal{B}, \\ \mathbf{1}_B(x) & \text{for } t = 0. \end{cases}$$

**Lemma 4.2.** *With the above notation the following assertions hold:*

- (i)  $p(t, x, y)$  is a normal transition density.
- (ii)  $P(t, x, B)$  is a normal transition function.

*Proof.* The result follows from Theorem 4.1 (see [8, Section 2.1] for further details).  $\square$

**Lemma 4.3.** *The transition function  $P(t, x, B)$  satisfies the following two conditions:*

**L(B)** *For each  $u \geq 0$  and compact  $B$ ,*

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{t \leq u} P(t, x, B) = 0.$$

**M(B)** *For each  $\epsilon > 0$  and compact  $B$ ,*

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \sup_{x \in B} P(t, x, \mathbb{Q}_p^3 \setminus B_\epsilon^3(x)) = 0.$$

*Proof.* (i) By Theorem 4.1 (iii) and the fact that  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is an ultranorm, we have

$$\begin{aligned} P(t, x, B) &\leq Ct \int_B \left( \|x - y\|_p + t^{\frac{1}{2\alpha}} \right)^{-3-2\alpha} d^3y \\ &= t \left( \|x\|_p + t^{\frac{1}{2\alpha}} \right)^{-3-2\alpha} \text{vol}(B) \text{ for } x \in \mathbb{Q}_p^3 \setminus B. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{t \leq u} P(t, x, B) = 0$ .

(ii) By using Theorem 4.1 (iii),  $\alpha > 0$ , and the fact that  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is an ultranorm, we have

$$\begin{aligned} P(t, x, \mathbb{Q}_p^3 \setminus B_\epsilon^3(x)) &\leq Ct \int_{\|x-y\|_p > \epsilon} \left( \|x-y\|_p + t^{\frac{1}{2\alpha}} \right)^{-3-2\alpha} d^3y \\ &= Ct \int_{\|z\|_p > \epsilon} \left( \|z\|_p + t^{\frac{1}{2\alpha}} \right)^{-3-2\alpha} d^3z \\ &\leq Ct \int_{\|z\|_p > \epsilon} \|z\|_p^{-3-2\alpha} d^3z \\ &= C'(\alpha, \epsilon) t. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \sup_{x \in B} P(t, x, \mathbb{Q}_p^3 \setminus B_\epsilon^3(x)) \leq \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \sup_{x \in B} C'(\alpha, \epsilon) t = 0. \quad \checkmark$$

**Theorem 4.4.**  *$Z(x, t)$  is the transition density of a time and space homogeneous Markov process which is bounded, right-continuous and has no discontinuities other than jumps.*

*Proof.* The result follows from [8, Theorem 3.6] by using that  $(\mathbb{Q}_p^3, \|x\|_p)$  is a semi-compact space, i.e., a locally compact Hausdorff space with a countable base, and  $P(t, x, B)$  is a normal transition function satisfying conditions  $L(B)$  and  $M(B)$  (cf. Lemmas 4.2 and 4.3).  $\checkmark$

## 5. The first passage time

The solution of the Cauchy problem

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} = - \int_{\mathbb{Q}_p^3} K_{-\alpha}(y) [u(x-y) - u(x, t)] d^3y, & x \in \mathbb{Q}_p^3, \quad 0 < t \leq T, \\ u(x, 0) = \Omega(\|x\|_p), \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

is given by

$$u(x, t) = \int_{\mathbb{Q}_p^3} \chi(-\xi \cdot x) \Omega(\|\xi\|_p) e^{-t|f(\xi)|_p^\alpha} d^3\xi. \quad (10)$$

Among other properties, the solution (10) is infinitely differentiable with respect to  $t \geq 0$ , and for  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\frac{\partial^m u}{\partial t^m}(x, t) = (-1)^m \int_{\mathbb{Q}_p^3} |f(\xi)|_p^{\alpha m} \chi(-\xi \cdot x) \Omega(\|\xi\|_p) e^{-t|f(\xi)|_p^\alpha} d^3\xi. \quad (11)$$



**Lemma 5.1** ([5, Lemma 6]). *For  $\operatorname{Re}(\alpha) > 0$  we have*

$$-\left(\int_{\|x\|_p > 1} K_{-\alpha}(x) d^3x\right) = \frac{p^{-\alpha}(1-p^{-1})(p^\alpha + p^{-1} + p^{-2})}{1-p^{-2\alpha-3}} \leq 1.$$

**Definition 5.2.** The random variable  $\tau_{\mathbb{Z}_p^3}(\omega) := \tau(\omega) : \mathbb{Q}_p^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  defined by

$$\inf\{t > 0; X(t, \omega) \in \mathbb{Z}_p^3 \mid \text{there exists } t' \text{ such that } 0 < t' < t \text{ and } X(t', \omega) \notin \mathbb{Z}_p^3\}$$

is called the *first passage time* of a path of the random process  $X(t, \omega)$  entering the domain  $\mathbb{Z}_p^3$ .

Note that the initial condition in (9) implies that

$$\Pr(\{\omega \in \mathbb{Q}_p^3; X(0, \omega) \in \mathbb{Z}_p^3\}) = 1.$$

**Definition 5.3.** We say that  $X(t, \omega)$  is recurrent with respect to  $\mathbb{Z}_p^3$  if

$$\Pr(\{\omega \in \mathbb{Q}_p^3; \tau(\omega) < \infty\}) = 1. \quad (12)$$

Otherwise we say that  $X(t, \omega)$  is transient with respect to  $\mathbb{Z}_p^3$ .

The meaning of (12) is that every path of  $X(t, \omega)$  is sure to return to  $\mathbb{Z}_p^3$ . If (12) does not hold, then there exist paths of  $X(t, \omega)$  that abandon  $\mathbb{Z}_p^3$  and never go back.

By using the same arguments given by Chacón in [6] we define the survival probability as

$$S(t) := S_{\mathbb{Z}_p^3}(t) = \int_{\mathbb{Z}_p^3} \varphi(x, t) d^3x,$$

which is the probability that a path of  $X(t, \omega)$  remains in  $\mathbb{Z}_p^3$  at the time  $t$ . Because there are no external forces acting on the random walk, we have

$$\begin{aligned} S'(t) &= \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Probability that a path of } X(t, \omega) \\ \text{goes back to } \mathbb{Z}_p^3 \text{ at the time } t \end{array} \right) - \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Probability that a path of } X(t, \omega) \\ \text{exits } \mathbb{Z}_p^3 \text{ at the time } t \end{array} \right) \\ &= g(t) - C \cdot S(t) \text{ with } 0 < C \leq 1. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

In order to determine the probability density function  $g(t)$  we compute  $S'(t)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 S'(t) &= \int_{\mathbb{Z}_p^3} \frac{\partial \varphi(x, t)}{\partial t} d^3x = - \int_{\mathbb{Z}_p^3} \int_{\mathbb{Q}_p^3} K_{-\alpha}(y) [u(x-y, t) - u(x, t)] d^3y d^3x \\
 &= - \int_{\mathbb{Z}_p^3} \int_{\|y\|_p > 1} K_{-\alpha}(y) [u(x-y, t) - u(x, t)] d^3y d^3x \\
 &= - \int_{\mathbb{Z}_p^3} \int_{\|y\|_p > 1} K_{-\alpha}(y) u(x-y, t) d^3y d^3x + \int_{\mathbb{Z}_p^3} \int_{\|y\|_p > 1} K_{-\alpha}(y) u(x, t) d^3y d^3x \\
 &= - \int_{\|y\|_p > 1} K_{-\alpha}(y) u(y, t) d^3y + \int_{\|y\|_p > 1} K_{-\alpha}(y) d^3y \int_{\mathbb{Z}_p^3} u(x, t) d^3x \\
 &= - \int_{\|y\|_p > 1} K_{-\alpha}(y) u(y, t) d^3y - \left( \frac{p^{-\alpha}(1-p^{-1})(p^\alpha + p^{-1} + p^{-2})}{1-p^{-2\alpha-3}} \right) S(t).
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$g(t) = - \int_{\|y\|_p > 1} K_{-\alpha}(y) u(y, t) d^3y, \quad (14)$$

and the constant  $C := \frac{p^{-\alpha}(1-p^{-1})(p^\alpha + p^{-1} + p^{-2})}{1-p^{-2\alpha-3}}$  satisfies  $0 < C \leq 1$ .

**Proposition 5.4.** *The probability density function  $f(t)$  of the random variable  $\tau(\omega)$  satisfies the non-homogeneous Volterra equation of second kind*

$$g(t) = \int_0^\infty g(t-\tau) f(\tau) d\tau + f(t). \quad (15)$$

*Proof.* The result follows from (14) by using the argument given in the proof of Theorem 1 in [4].  $\square$

**Lemma 5.5.** *For  $f(x) = \epsilon x_1^2 + p \epsilon x_2^2 - p x_3^2$  and  $\operatorname{Re}(s) > 0$  the following formulas hold:*

$$(i) \quad \int_{\|x\|_p=1} \frac{1}{s + p^{-2\gamma\alpha} |f(y)|_p^\alpha} d^3y = \frac{1-p^{-1}}{s + p^{-2\gamma\alpha}} + \frac{p^{-1}(1-p^{-2})}{s + p^{-2\gamma\alpha-\alpha}}.$$

(ii) *If  $\|\xi\|_p \geq p$ , then there exist constants  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  such that*

$$\int_{\|x\|_p=1} \frac{\chi(y \cdot \xi)}{s + p^{-2\gamma\alpha} |f(y)|_p^\alpha} d^3y = \begin{cases} \frac{C_1}{s + p^{-2\gamma\alpha}} - \frac{C_2}{s + p^{-2\gamma\alpha-\alpha}} & \text{if } \|\xi\|_p = p, \\ 0 & \text{if } \|\xi\|_p > p. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* By using the same technique as in [6, Lemma 15] we write  $U := \sqcup_i U^{(i)}$ , where  $U^{(i)} = U_1^{(i)} \times U_2^{(i)} \times U_3^{(i)}$  and

$$U_j^{(i)} := \begin{cases} p^{i_j} \mathbb{Z}_p & \text{if } i_j = 1, \\ \mathbb{Z}_p^* & \text{if } i_j = 0, \end{cases}$$

for  $(i) = (i_1, i_2, i_3) \in \{0, 1\}^3 \setminus \{(1, 1, 1)\}$ . Since  $|f(y)|_p \in \{1, p^{-1}\}$ , it is enough to compute the volume  $\mu(U^{(i)})$ . The result follows from the following table.

$(i)$	$ f(y) _p$	$\mu(U^{(i)})$
$(0, 0, 0)$	1	$(1 - p^{-1})^3$
$(0, 0, 1)$	1	$(1 - p^{-1})^2 p^{-1}$
$(0, 1, 0)$	1	$(1 - p^{-1})^2 p^{-1}$
$(0, 1, 1)$	1	$(1 - p^{-1}) p^{-2}$
$(1, 0, 0)$	$p^{-1}$	$(1 - p^{-1})^2 p^{-1}$
$(1, 0, 1)$	$p^{-1}$	$(1 - p^{-1}) p^{-2}$
$(1, 1, 0)$	$p^{-1}$	$(1 - p^{-1}) p^{-2}$

□

**Proposition 5.6.** *The Laplace transform  $G(s)$  of  $g(t)$  is given by  $G(s) = G_1(s) + G_2(s)$ , where*

$$G_1(s) = -\frac{p^{-\alpha}(1 - p^{2\alpha})(1 - p^{-1})(p^{-1} + p^{-2} + p^\alpha)}{1 - p^{-2\alpha-3}} \\ \times \sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} p^{-2\nu\alpha} \sum_{\gamma=\nu}^{\infty} p^{-3\gamma} \left( \frac{1 - p^{-1}}{s + p^{-2\gamma\alpha}} + \frac{(1 - p^{-2})p^{-1}}{s + p^{-2\gamma\alpha-\alpha}} \right),$$

and

$$G_2(s) = -\frac{p^{-\alpha}(1 - p^{2\alpha})(1 - p^{-1})(p^{-1} + p^{-2} + p^\alpha)}{1 - p^{-2\alpha-3}} \\ \times \sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} p^{-2\nu\alpha} p^{-3(\nu-1)} \left( \frac{C_1}{s + p^{-2(\nu-1)\alpha}} - \frac{C_2}{s + p^{-2(\nu-1)\alpha-\alpha}} \right).$$

*Proof.* We first note that, if  $\operatorname{Re}(s) > 0$ , then

$$K_{-\alpha}(x) e^{-st} e^{-t|f(\xi)|_p^\alpha} \Omega\left(\|\xi\|_p\right) \in L^1\left((0, \infty) \times \mathbb{Q}_p^3 \times \mathbb{Q}_p^3 \setminus \mathbb{Z}_p^3, dt d^3 \xi d^3 x\right). \quad (16)$$

Therefore, by using (16) and Fubini's Theorem we have

$$G(s) = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} g(t) dt \\ = - \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \int_{\|x\|_p > 1} K_{-\alpha}(x) u(x, t) d^3 x dt \\ = - \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \int_{\|x\|_p > 1} K_{-\alpha}(x) \int_{\mathbb{Q}_p^3} \chi(-\xi \cdot x) \Omega(\|\xi\|_p) e^{-t|f(\xi)|_p^\alpha} d^3 \xi d^3 x dt \\ = - \int_{\|x\|_p > 1} K_{-\alpha}(x) \int_{\mathbb{Z}_p^3} \chi(-\xi \cdot x) \int_0^\infty e^{-t(s + |f(\xi)|_p^\alpha)} dt d^3 \xi d^3 x \\ = - \int_{\|x\|_p > 1} K_{-\alpha}(x) \int_{\mathbb{Z}_p^3} \frac{\chi(-\xi \cdot x)}{s + |f(\xi)|_p^\alpha} d^3 \xi d^3 x.$$

After the change of variables  $x = p^{-\nu}y$  and  $\xi = p^\gamma y'$ , and due to the fact that  $K_{-\alpha}(p^{-\nu}y) = p^{-2\nu\alpha-3\nu}K_{-\alpha}(y)$ , we obtain

$$G(s) = - \sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} p^{-2\nu\alpha} \int_{\|y\|_p=1} K_{-\alpha}(y) \sum_{\gamma=0}^{\infty} p^{-3\gamma} \int_{\|y'\|_p=1} \frac{\chi(-p^{-\nu+\gamma}y \cdot y')}{s + p^{-2\alpha\gamma}|f(y')|_p^\alpha} d^3y' d^3y.$$

In order to calculate the interior integral we split the set  $\|y'\|_p = 1$  into two parts, when  $\|p^{-\nu+\gamma}y \cdot y'\|_p \leq 1$ , and when  $\|p^{-\nu+\gamma}y \cdot y'\|_p > 1$ . The first case occurs when  $\gamma \geq \nu$ , and then  $\chi(-p^{-\nu+\gamma}y \cdot y') = 1$ . The second case occurs when  $\gamma = 0, \dots, \nu-1$ . By Lemma 5.5  $G(s)$  takes the form  $G(s) = G_1(s) + G_2(s)$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} G_1(s) &:= - \sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} p^{-2\nu\alpha} \int_{\|y\|_p=1} K_{-\alpha}(y) \sum_{\gamma=\nu}^{\infty} p^{-3\gamma} \int_{\|y'\|_p=1} \frac{1}{s + p^{-2\alpha\gamma}|f(y')|_p^\alpha} d^3y' d^3y \\ &= - \frac{p^{-\alpha}(1-p^{2\alpha})(1-p^{-1})(p^{-1}+p^{-2}+p^\alpha)}{1-p^{-2\alpha-3}} \\ &\quad \times \sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} p^{-2\nu\alpha} \sum_{\gamma=\nu}^{\infty} p^{-3\gamma} \left( \frac{1-p^{-1}}{s+p^{-2\gamma\alpha}} + \frac{(1-p^{-2})p^{-1}}{s+p^{-2\gamma\alpha-\alpha}} \right), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} G_2(s) &:= - \sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} p^{-2\nu\alpha} \int_{\|y\|_p=1} K_{-\alpha}(y) \sum_{\gamma=0}^{\nu-1} p^{-3\gamma} \int_{\|y'\|_p=1} \frac{\chi(-p^{-\nu+\gamma}y \cdot y')}{s + p^{-2\alpha\gamma}|f(y')|_p^\alpha} d^3y' d^3y \\ &= - \frac{p^{-\alpha}(1-p^{2\alpha})(1-p^{-1})(p^{-1}+p^{-2}+p^\alpha)}{1-p^{-2\alpha-3}} \\ &\quad \times \sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} p^{-2\nu\alpha} p^{-3(\nu-1)} \left( \frac{C_1}{s+p^{-2(\nu-1)\alpha}} - \frac{C_2}{s+p^{-2(\nu-1)\alpha-\alpha}} \right). \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 5.7.** (i) If  $\alpha \geq \frac{3}{2}$ , then  $X(t, \omega; \mathbf{W})$  is recurrent with respect to  $\mathbb{Z}_p^3$ .

(ii) If  $\alpha < \frac{3}{2}$ , then  $X(t, \omega; \mathbf{W})$  is transient with respect to  $\mathbb{Z}_p^3$ .

*Proof.* By Proposition 5.4, the Laplace transform  $F(s)$  of  $f(t)$  equals  $\frac{G(s)}{1+G(s)}$ , where  $G(s)$  is the Laplace transform of  $g(t)$ , and thus

$$F(0) = \int_0^\infty f(t) dt = 1 - \frac{1}{1+G(0)}.$$

Hence, in order to prove that  $X(t, \omega; \mathbf{W})$  is recurrent is sufficient to show that  $G(0) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} G(s) = \infty$ , and to prove that it is transient, that  $G(0) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} G(s) < \infty$ .

(i) Take  $s \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $s > 0$  and set  $s = p^{-2\nu\alpha} = p^{-2\gamma\alpha}$ ; note that  $s \rightarrow 0^+ \Leftrightarrow v \rightarrow \infty$  ( $v = \gamma$ ). Now, taking only the first term of  $G_1(s)$  we have

$$G(s) > -\frac{p^{-\alpha}(1-p^{2\alpha})(1-p^{-1})(p^{-1}+p^{-2}+p^{\alpha})}{1-p^{-2\alpha-3}} \\ \times \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\infty} p^{-3\gamma} \left( \frac{1-p^{-1}}{s+p^{-2\gamma\alpha}} + \frac{(1-p^{-2})p^{-1}}{s+p^{-2\gamma\alpha-\alpha}} \right) + G_2(s).$$

We get  $G_2(p^{-2\nu\alpha}) < \infty$ , but the first sum diverges if  $\alpha \geq \frac{3}{2}$ . Then,

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow 0^+} G(s) = \infty.$$

(ii) Now

$$|G(s)| \leq -\frac{p^{-\alpha}(1-p^{2\alpha})(1-p^{-1})(p^{-1}+p^{-2}+p^{\alpha})}{1-p^{-2\alpha-3}} \\ \times \sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} p^{-2\nu\alpha} \sum_{\gamma=\nu}^{\infty} p^{-3\gamma} \left( \frac{1-p^{-1}}{p^{-2\gamma\alpha}} + \frac{(1-p^{-2})p^{-1}}{p^{-2\gamma\alpha-\alpha}} \right) + G_2(0).$$

One sees easily that  $G_2(0)$  converges, and that the double series converges if  $\alpha > \frac{3}{2}$ . Therefore  $\lim_{s \rightarrow 0^+} G(s) < \infty$ .  $\square$

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