

SOME EXAMPLES ON UNIMODALITY OF LÉVY PROCESSES

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§1. Introduction and results

Many works have been done on unimodality of Lévy processes on R^1 . Sato [4] surveys the results of these works and indicates open problems. In this paper we answer some questions raised by Sato.

A measure μ on R^1 is said to be unimodal with mode a if $\mu(dx) = f(x)dx + c\delta_a(dx)$, where $c \geq 0$, δ_a is the delta measure at a , and $f(x)$ is increasing on $(-\infty, a)$ and decreasing on (a, ∞) . In this paper we use the words “increase” and “decrease” in the wide sense. A probability measure μ on R^1 is said to be strongly unimodal if, for every unimodal probability measure η , the convolution $\mu * \eta$ is unimodal. We say that a random variable is unimodal (resp. strongly unimodal) if its distribution is unimodal (resp. strongly unimodal). Let $\{X_t(\omega) : t \geq 0\}$ be a Lévy process on R^1 defined on a probability space (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) (that is, a stochastically continuous process with stationary independent increments starting at the origin). Then the characteristic function of X_t is represented as

$$(1.1) \quad E \exp(izX_t) = \exp(t\psi(z)),$$

$$\psi(z) = i\gamma z - 2^{-1}\sigma^2 z^2 + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (e^{izx} - 1 - 1_{(-1,1)}(x)izx)\nu(dx),$$

where $\gamma \in R^1$, $\sigma^2 \geq 0$, $1_{(-1,1)}(x)$ is the indicator function of the interval $(-1, 1)$, and ν is a measure on R^1 satisfying $\nu(\{0\}) = 0$ and $\int (1 \wedge x^2)\nu(dx) < \infty$, called Lévy measure of $\{X_t\}$. We say that a Lévy process $\{X_t\}$ is unimodal if X_t is unimodal for each t . A Lévy process $\{X_t\}$ is called self-decomposable if, for each $c \in (0, 1)$, there are a probability space $(\Omega', \mathcal{F}', P')$ and two Lévy processes $\{Y_t\}$ and $\{Z_t\}$ defined on it such that (i) $\{Y_t\}$ and $\{Z_t\}$ are independent, (ii) $\{Y_t\}$ and $\{cX_t\}$ are equivalent in law, and (iii) $\{Y_t + Z_t\}$ and $\{X_t\}$ are equivalent in law. A self-decomposable Lévy process is simply called a self-decomposable process. A Lévy process $\{X_t\}$ with Lévy measure ν is self-decomposable if and only if $\nu(dx) = |x|^{-1}k(x)dx$ with $k(x)$ increasing on $(-\infty, 0)$ and decreasing on $(0, \infty)$. Yamazato proves in the celebrated paper [11] that every self-decomposable process on R^1 is unimodal. The author proves in [9] the following

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theorem.

THEOREM 1.1. *If $\{X_t\}$ and $\{Y_t\}$ are independent unimodal increasing Lévy processes, then $\{X_t - Y_t\}$ is a unimodal Lévy process.*

Sato raises in [4] three related questions:

Question (i). Does Theorem 1.1 exhaust unimodal Lévy processes with Lévy measure satisfying $\int (1 \wedge |x|) \nu(dx) < \infty$ without Gaussian part?

Question (ii). Can all unimodal Lévy processes be approximated by unimodal Lévy processes with Lévy measure satisfying $\int (1 \wedge |x|) \nu(dx) < \infty$?

Question (iii). If $\{X_t\}$ with $\sigma^2 > 0$ in (1.1) is a unimodal Lévy process, is the Lévy process having the identical Lévy measure without Gaussian part a unimodal process?

Question (i) has answer ‘no’ in symmetric case. In symmetric case Questions (ii) and (iii) have answer ‘yes’ by Proposition 3.2 of Sato [4]. The purpose of this paper is to show that, in non-symmetric case, Question (i) has answer ‘no’ and Question (iii) has answer ‘no’ in general by giving concrete examples. However Question (ii) still remains unanswered in non-symmetric case. Further we give an interesting example on unimodality of Lévy processes.

Namely our results are as follows.

PROPOSITION 1.2. *There are independent increasing Lévy processes $\{X_t\}$ and $\{Y_t\}$ such that $\{X_t\}$ is not a unimodal Lévy process, $\{Y_t\}$ is a unimodal Lévy process, and $\{X_t - Y_t\}$ is a non-symmetric unimodal Lévy process.*

PROPOSITION 1.3. *There are an increasing Lévy process $\{X_t\}$ and a Brownian motion $\{B_t\}$ such that $\{X_t\}$ and $\{B_t\}$ are independent and $\{X_t\}$ is not a unimodal Lévy process, but $\{X_t + \sigma B_t\}$ is a unimodal Lévy process for sufficiently large $\sigma > 0$.*

PROPOSITION 1.4. *There are $t_1 > 0$, $t_2 > 0$, $c > 1$, and an increasing Lévy process $\{X_t\}$ such that, for each integer n , X_t is unimodal at $t = c^n t_1$ and not unimodal at $t = c^n t_2$.*

We prove the propositions above in the following sections. Results of Sato [4], Sato-Yamazato [5], and Medgyessy [3] are employed for the proof of Proposition 1.2. Proofs of Propositions 1.3 and 1.4 are based on the integro-differential equations that the densities satisfy. Such equations are extensively used by Sato-Yamazato [5], Watanabe [8, 10], and Yamazato [11, 12]. Semi-stability of the process in the sense of Lévy [2] plays an essential role in the

proof of Proposition 1.4.

§ 2. Proof of Proposition 1.2

Let $\{X_t\}$ be an increasing Lévy process such that in (1.1)

$$(2.1) \quad E \exp(izX_t) = \exp\left(\varepsilon t \int_0^\infty (e^{izx} - 1)e^{-x} dx\right),$$

where ε is a constant satisfying $0 < \varepsilon \leq 1$. Then, as in the proof of Proposition 3.3 of Sato [4], $\{X_t\}$ is not a unimodal Lévy process and, if $0 \leq t \leq 2\varepsilon^{-1}$, then X_t is unimodal with mode 0. Let $\{Y_t\}$ be an increasing Lévy process independent of $\{X_t\}$ such that in (1.1)

$$(2.2) \quad E \exp(izY_t) = \exp\left(t \int_0^\infty (e^{izx} - 1)(\varepsilon + x^{-1})e^{-x} dx\right).$$

Let $k(x) = (\varepsilon x + 1)e^{-x}1_{(0, \infty)}(x)$. The process $\{Y_t\}$ is self-decomposable and hence a unimodal Lévy process, since $k'(x) = (-\varepsilon x - 1 + \varepsilon)e^{-x}1_{(0, \infty)}(x) < 0$ on $(0, \infty)$. Hence, if $0 \leq t \leq 1$, then Y_t is unimodal with mode 0 by Theorem 1.3 of Sato-Yamazato [5], since $k(0+) = 1$. Therefore, if $0 \leq t \leq 1$, then $X_t - Y_t$ is unimodal with mode 0 by Corollary 2.7 of Sato [4]. Let $\{W_t\}$ be a symmetric compound Poisson process such that in (1.1)

$$(2.3) \quad E \exp(izW_t) = \exp\left(\varepsilon t \int_{-\infty}^\infty (e^{izx} - 1)e^{-|x|} dx\right).$$

Since Lévy measure of $\{W_t\}$ is symmetric unimodal, $\{W_t\}$ is a symmetric unimodal Lévy process by Medgyessy [3]. Let $\{Z_t\}$ be a gamma process independent of $\{W_t\}$ such that in (1.1)

$$(2.4) \quad E \exp(izZ_t) = \exp\left(t \int_0^\infty (e^{izx} - 1)x^{-1}e^{-x} dx\right).$$

Then we can express the distribution η_t of Z_t as

$$(2.5) \quad \eta_t(dx) = 1_{(0, \infty)}(x) \{I'(t)\}^{-1} e^{-x} x^{t-1} dx,$$

where $I'(t)$ is the gamma function. Hence, if $t \geq 1$, then Z_t is strongly unimodal by Ibragimov [1] and hence $W_t - Z_t$ is unimodal. Since $\{X_t - Y_t\}$ and $\{W_t - Z_t\}$ are equivalent in law, $X_t - Y_t$ is unimodal for $t \geq 1$. Thus $\{X_t\}$ is not a unimodal Lévy process, $\{Y_t\}$ is a unimodal Lévy process, and $\{X_t - Y_t\}$ is a non-symmetric unimodal Lévy process. The proof of Proposition 1.2 is complete.

§ 3. Proof of Proposition 1.3

Let $\{X_t\}$ be an increasing Lévy process such that in (1.1)

$$(3.1) \quad E \exp(izX_t) = \exp\left(t \int_0^1 (e^{izx} - 1)x^{-1}(1+mx)dx\right),$$

where m is a constant satisfying $0 < m < 1$. Let $k(x) = (1+mx)1_{(0,1)}(x)$. Then X_t is strongly unimodal for $t \geq 1$ by Theorem 1 of Yamazato [12], since $\log k(x)$ is concave on $(0, 1)$ and $k(0+) = 1$. On the other hand, X_t is unimodal with mode 0 for $0 \leq t \leq 1-m$ and $\{X_t\}$ is not a unimodal Lévy process by Example 4.2 of Watanabe [9]. Let $\{B_t\}$ be a Brownian motion independent of $\{X_t\}$ and let $\{Y_t\} = \{X_t + \sigma B_t\}$ for $\sigma > 0$. Note that σB_t is strongly unimodal for every $\sigma > 0$ and for every t by Ibragimov [1]. We shall show that $\{Y_t\}$ is a unimodal Lévy process for sufficiently large $\sigma > 0$. If $t \geq 1$, then Y_t is strongly unimodal, since X_t and σB_t are strongly unimodal. If $0 \leq t \leq 1-m$, then Y_t is unimodal, since X_t is unimodal and σB_t is strongly unimodal. Hence, from now on, we assume $1-m < t < 1$. Let μ_t be the distribution of Y_t . Then μ_t is absolutely continuous with a density function $f_t(x)$ of class $C^\infty(R^1)$ by positivity of σ . We obtain the following equation as in Theorem 2.1 of Sato-Yamazato [5]:

$$(3.2) \quad \sigma^2 t f_t'(x) = t \int_0^1 f_t(x-u)(1+mu)du - x f_t(x).$$

By using integration by parts, we get that

$$(3.3) \quad \sigma^2 t f_t'(x) = t F_t(x) - t F_t(x-1)(1+m) + mt \int_0^1 F_t(x-u)du - x f_t(x),$$

where $F_t(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_t(u)du$. Differentiating (3.3), we find that

$$(3.4) \quad \sigma^2 t f_t''(x) = (t-1)f_t(x) - t f_t(x-1)(1+m) + mt \int_0^1 f_t(x-u)du - x f_t'(x).$$

Put $c = 1-m$. Define the set $A = \{(x, y, t) : -1 \leq x, y \leq 4, c < t < 1\}$. We shall show that there is $\sigma_1 > 0$ such that, for every $\sigma \geq \sigma_1$,

$$(3.5) \quad \inf_{(x, y, t) \in A} f_t(y)/f_t(x) \geq 1/2.$$

Let η_t and ρ_t be the distributions of X_t and σB_t , respectively. Then η_t is absolutely continuous by Tucker [7], since $\int_0^1 x^{-1}(1+mx)dx = \infty$. The distribution ρ_t is Gaussian with mean 0 and variance $\sigma^2 t$. Let $\eta_t(dx) = g_t(x)dx$ and $\rho_t(dx) = h_t(x)dx$. Then we see that

$$(3.6) \quad f_t(x) = \int_0^\infty h_t(x-u)g_t(u)du.$$

Since $\{X_t\}$ is increasing,

$$(3.7) \quad \int_0^N g_t(x)dx = P(X_t \leq N) \geq P(X_1 \leq N)$$

for $N > 0$ and for $c < t < 1$. Hence there is $N_1 > 0$ such that

$$(3.8) \quad \inf_{c < t < 1} \int_0^{N_1} g_t(x) dx \geq 3/4.$$

Define the set $B = \{(x, u, t) : -1 \leq x \leq 4, 0 \leq u \leq N_1, c < t < 1\}$. Then there is sufficiently large $\sigma_1 > 0$ such that, for every $\sigma \geq \sigma_1$ and for every $(x, u, t) \in B$,

$$(3.9) \quad (2/3)h_t(0) \leq h_t(x-u) \leq h_t(0).$$

Hence we obtain (3.5) from (3.6) and (3.8). We divide the proof of unimodality of Y_t for $c < t < 1$ and for $\sigma \geq \sigma_1$ into four cases.

(i) We find from (3.2) that

$$(3.10) \quad f'_t(x) > 0$$

for $x \leq 0$.

(ii) Let us prove that if $f'_t(x_1) = 0$ for some x_1 with $0 < x_1 \leq 3$, then $f''_t(x_1) < 0$. Indeed, we see from (3.4) and (3.5) that

$$(3.11) \quad \begin{aligned} \sigma^2 t f''_t(x_1) &= (t-1)f_t(x_1) - t f_t(x_1-1)(1+m) + m t \int_0^1 f_t(x_1-u) du \\ &< -t f_t(x_1-1)(1-m) < 0, \end{aligned}$$

noting from (3.5) that $\int_0^1 f_t(x_1-u) du \leq 2f_t(x_1-1)$.

(iii) We obtain from (3.2) and (3.5) that

$$(3.12) \quad \begin{aligned} \sigma^2 t f'_t(x) &= t \int_0^1 f_t(x-u)(1+mu) du - x f_t(x) \\ &\leq f_t(x) \{(2+m)t - x\} < 0 \end{aligned}$$

for $3 \leq x \leq 4$.

(iv) Let us prove that $f'_t(x) < 0$ on $(4, \infty)$. Suppose, on the contrary, that $f'_t(x_2) = 0$ for some $x_2 > 4$. Define $x_3 = \inf\{x : f'_t(x) = 0, x > 4\}$. Since $f'_t(u) < 0$ for $3 \leq u < x_3$ by (iii), and $x_3 \geq 4$,

$$(3.13) \quad f_t(x_3-u) < f_t(x_3-1)$$

for $0 < u < 1$ and

$$(3.14) \quad f''_t(x_3) \geq 0.$$

Hence we get by (3.4) that

$$(3.15) \quad \begin{aligned} \sigma^2 t f''_t(x_3) &= (t-1)f_t(x_3) - t f_t(x_3-1)(1+m) + m t \int_0^1 f_t(x_3-u) du \\ &< -t f_t(x_3-1) < 0, \end{aligned}$$

which contradicts (3.14). Consequently $f'_t(x) < 0$ on $(4, \infty)$. It follows from (i),

(ii), (iii), and (iv) that Y_t is unimodal for every $\sigma \geq \sigma_1$ and for every t satisfying $c < t < 1$. Thus we have proved that $\{Y_t\}$ is a unimodal Lévy process for every $\sigma \geq \sigma_1$, but $\{X_t\}$ is not a unimodal Lévy process.

§ 4. Proof of Proposition 1.4

Let $0 < m < 2^{-1}$, $0 < \lambda < 1$, $b > 1$ and $c = b^\lambda$. Let $\zeta(x)$ be a positive right continuous periodic function on R^1 with period $\log b$ defined by

$$(4.1) \quad \zeta(x) = e^{\lambda x}(1 + me^x)$$

on $[-\log b, 0)$. Let $\{X_b(t)\}$ be an increasing Lévy process such that in (1.1)

$$(4.2) \quad \begin{aligned} E \exp(izX_b(t)) &= \exp(t\phi(z)), \\ \phi(z) &= \int_0^\infty (e^{izx} - 1)\zeta(\log x)x^{-\lambda-1}dx. \end{aligned}$$

Then the distribution $\mu_t^{(b)}$ of $X_b(t)$ is semi-stable in the sense of Lévy [2] and satisfies the following equation:

$$(4.3) \quad \mu_t^{(b)}(dx) = \mu_t^{(b)}(b^{-1}dx).$$

By (4.1) $\phi(z)$ in (4.2) is represented as

$$(4.4) \quad \phi(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{b^n}^{b^{n+1}} (e^{izx} - 1)b^{-\lambda(n+1)}(1 + mb^{-n-1}x)x^{-1}dx.$$

We note that

$$(4.5) \quad \begin{aligned} & \left| \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_{b^n}^{b^{n+1}} (e^{izx} - 1)b^{-\lambda(n+1)}(1 + mb^{-n-1}x)x^{-1}dx \right| \\ & \leq 2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_{b^n}^{b^{n+1}} b^{-\lambda(n+1)}(1 + mb^{-n-1}x)x^{-1}dx \\ & = 2(b^\lambda - 1)^{-1} \{\log b + m(1 - b^{-1})\} \longrightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

as $b \rightarrow \infty$ and similarly

$$(4.6) \quad \begin{aligned} & \left| \sum_{n=-\infty}^{-2} \int_{b^n}^{b^{n+1}} (e^{izx} - 1)b^{-\lambda(n+1)}(1 + mb^{-n-1}x)x^{-1}dx \right| \\ & \leq |z| (b^{1-\lambda} - 1)^{-1} \{1 - b^{-1} + 2^{-1}m(1 - b^{-2})\} \longrightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

as $b \rightarrow \infty$, where we use $|e^{izx} - 1| \leq |zx|$. On the other hand, we see that

$$(4.7) \quad \int_{b^{-1}}^1 (e^{izx} - 1)(1 + mx)x^{-1}dx \longrightarrow \int_0^1 (e^{izx} - 1)(1 + mx)x^{-1}dx$$

as $b \rightarrow \infty$. Hence we find from (4.5), (4.6) and (4.7) that $\mu_t^{(b)}$ converges weakly to the distribution η_t of X_t defined in the proof of Proposition 1.3, as $b \rightarrow \infty$.

Since $\{X_t\}$ is not a unimodal Lévy process, there is $b_0 > 1$ such that, for every $b \geq b_0$, $\{X_b(t)\}$ is not a unimodal Lévy process. For nonnegative integers n , let $k_n(x)$ be functions on R^1 defined by

$$(4.8) \quad \begin{aligned} k_0(x) &= 0 && \text{for } x \leq 0, \\ &= 1 + mx && \text{for } 0 < x < 1, \\ &= b^{-\lambda(k+1)}(1 + mb^{-k-1}x) && \text{for } b^k \leq x < b^{k+1} \end{aligned}$$

for every nonnegative integer k and, for $n \geq 1$,

$$(4.9) \quad k_n(x) = 1_{(0, b^{-n})}(x) b^{\lambda(n-1)} \{b^\lambda - 1 + mx(b^{n+\lambda} - b^{n-1})\}.$$

For nonnegative integers n , let $\{Z_n(t)\}$ be increasing Lévy processes without drift such that processes $\{Z_n(t)\}$ are independent and Lévy measures ν_n of $\{Z_n(t)\}$ are expressed as

$$(4.10) \quad \nu_n(dx) = x^{-1} k_n(x) dx.$$

Note that $\{X_b(t)\}$ and $\left\{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} Z_n(t)\right\}$ are equivalent in law. Let $b_1 = 3^{1/\lambda}$. If $b \geq b_1$, then $\log k_n(x)$ is concave on $(0, b^{-n})$ and $2^{-1} k_n(0+) = 2^{-1} b^{\lambda(n-1)}(b^\lambda - 1) \geq 1$ for every $n \geq 1$. Hence $Z_n(2^{-1})$ is strongly unimodal for $n \geq 1$ and $b \geq b_1$ by Theorem 1 of Yamazato [12]. We shall show that $Z_0(2^{-1})$ is unimodal with mode 0 for $b \geq b_1$. If this is true, then $X_b(2^{-1})$ is unimodal for $b \geq b_1$. The distribution μ of $Z_0(2^{-1})$ is absolutely continuous by Tucker [7], since $\int_0^1 \nu_0(dx) = \infty$. Let $\mu = f(x)dx$. Put $t = 2^{-1}$ and $a = 1 + m - b^{-\lambda}(1 + mb^{-1})$. Then we have a relation by Steutel [6]:

$$(4.11) \quad \begin{aligned} x f(x) &= t \int_0^1 f(x-u)(1+mu) du \\ &+ t \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_{b^n}^{b^{n+1}} f(x-u) b^{-\lambda(n+1)} (1+mb^{-n-1}u) du \end{aligned}$$

for $x > 0$. By using integration by parts, we get that

$$(4.12) \quad \begin{aligned} x f(x) &= t F(x) + mt \int_0^1 F(x-u) du - at \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} F(x-b^n) b^{-\lambda n} \\ &+ mt \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_{b^n}^{b^{n+1}} F(x-u) b^{-(\lambda+1)(n+1)} du \end{aligned}$$

for $x > 0$, where $F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(u) du$. Differentiating (4.12), we find that

$$(4.13) \quad \begin{aligned} x f'(x) &= (t-1)f(x) + mt \int_0^1 f(x-u) du - at \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f(x-b^n) b^{-\lambda n} \\ &+ mt \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_{b^n}^{b^{n+1}} f(x-u) b^{-(\lambda+1)(n+1)} du \end{aligned}$$

for $x > 0$ except at $x = b^n$ with nonnegative integers n . Let $E_0 = (0, 1)$ and $E_k = (b^{k-1}, b^k)$ for integers $k \geq 1$. We shall prove by induction in k that

$$(4.14) \quad f'(x) < 0 \quad \text{on} \quad \bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} E_k$$

for $b \geq b_1$.

(I) For $x \in E_0$, we obtain from (4.13) that

$$(4.15) \quad x f'(x) = (t-1)f(x) + mt \int_0^x f(x-u) du.$$

We get by (4.11) that

$$(4.16) \quad x f(x) = t \int_0^x f(x-u)(1+mu) du > t \int_0^x f(x-u) du$$

on E_0 . Hence we obtain from (4.15) that

$$(4.17) \quad x f'(x) < (t-1)f(x) + mx f(x) < (-2^{-1} + m)f(x) < 0$$

on E_0 . Therefore, we see that

$$(4.18) \quad f(x) \geq Ax^{-1/2+m}$$

on E_0 with a positive constant A , which implies that

$$(4.19) \quad f(x) \longrightarrow \infty$$

as $x \downarrow 0$.

(II) Let $x \in E_k$ for $k \geq 1$. We find from (4.13) that

$$(4.20) \quad \begin{aligned} x f'(x) &= (t-1)f(x) + mt \int_0^1 f(x-u) du - at \sum_{n=0}^{k-1} f(x-b^n) b^{-\lambda n} \\ &\quad + mt \sum_{n=0}^{k-2} \int_{b^n}^{b^{n+1}} f(x-u) b^{-(\lambda+1)(n+1)} du \\ &\quad + mt \int_{b^{k-1}}^x f(x-u) b^{-(\lambda+1)k} du. \end{aligned}$$

Since $f(x-b^{k-1}) \rightarrow \infty$ as $x \downarrow b^{k-1}$ by (4.19), we see from (4.20) that

$$(4.21) \quad f'(x) \longrightarrow -\infty$$

as $x \downarrow b^{k-1}$. Suppose that there is x_1 such that $x_1 \in E_k$ and $f'(x_1) = 0$. Define $x_2 = \inf\{x : x \in E_k, f'(x) = 0\}$. We find from (4.21) that $x_2 \in E_k$ and $f'(x) < 0$ on (b^{k-1}, x_2) . Hence the induction assumption says that

$$(4.22) \quad f'(x) < 0 \quad \text{on} \quad \bigcup_{n=0}^{k-1} E_n \cup (b^{k-1}, x_2).$$

This implies that

$$(4.23) \quad \sum_{n=0}^{k-2} \int_{b^n}^{b^{n+1}} f(x_2 - u) b^{-(\lambda+1)(n+1)} du \leq \sum_{n=0}^{k-2} f(x_2 - b^{n+1}) b^{-\lambda(n+1)} (1 - b^{-1})$$

and

$$(4.24) \quad \int_0^1 f(x_2 - u) du < f(x_2 - 1).$$

On the other hand, we get by (4.11) that

$$(4.25) \quad t \int_{b^{k-1}}^{x_2} f(x_2 - u) b^{-(\lambda+1)k} du < t \int_0^{x_2} f(x_2 - u) b^{-k} k_0(u) du = b^{-k} x_2 f(x_2).$$

Therefore, we obtain from (4.20), (4.23), (4.24) and (4.25) that

$$(4.26) \quad 0 = x_2 f'(x_2) \leq (t-1 + mb^{-k} x_2) f(x_2) - t f(x_2 - 1) (a-m) \\ - t \sum_{n=1}^{k-1} f(x_2 - b^n) b^{-\lambda n} \{a - m(1 - b^{-1})\} < 0,$$

noting that $t-1 - mb^{-k} x_2 < -2^{-1} + m < 0$ and $a-m > 0$ for $b \geq b_1$. This is a contradiction. Thus the assertion (4.14) is established. It follows that, for every $b \geq b_0 \vee b_1$, $\{X_b(t)\}$ is not a unimodal Lévy process and $X_b(2^{-1})$ is unimodal. Recalling (4.3), we see from this that, for every $b \geq b_0 \vee b_1$, there are $t_1 = 2^{-1}$ and $t_2 \neq 2^{-1}$ such that, for every integer n , $X_b(t)$ is unimodal for $t = c^n t_1$ and not unimodal for $t = c^n t_2$. This completes the proof of Proposition 1.4.

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