Estimate $\cos^{4t}(x)$

A good approximation of $\cos^{4t}(x)$ is e^{-2tx^2} . The difference between the two terms is

$$\begin{split} &e^{-2tx^2} - \cos^{4t}(x) \\ &= e^{-2tx^2} - e^{-2tx^2 + O(tx^4)} \\ &= e^{-2tx^2} \Big(1 - e^{O(tx^4)} \Big) \\ &\sim &O\Big(tx^4 e^{-2tx^2} \Big) \end{split}$$

Thus, we have

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{P} &= \frac{1}{N} + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \left[\cos \left((i-j) \frac{k\pi}{N} \right) + \cos \left((i+j-1) \frac{k\pi}{N} \right) \right] \cos^{4t} \left(\frac{\pi k}{2N} \right) \\ &= -\frac{1}{N} + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \left[\cos \left((i-j) \frac{k\pi}{N} \right) + \cos \left((i+j-1) \frac{k\pi}{N} \right) \right] \cos^{4t} \left(\frac{\pi k}{2N} \right) \\ &= -\frac{1}{N} + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k} e^{-\frac{k^2 \pi^2 t}{2N^2}} \left[\cos \left((i-j) \frac{k\pi}{N} \right) + \cos \left((i+j-1) \frac{k\pi}{N} \right) \right] + O\left(t^{-\frac{3}{2}} \right) \\ &= -\frac{1}{N} + \frac{1}{N} \Re \left[\sum_{k} \left(\exp \left(-\frac{k^2 \pi^2 t}{2N^2} + i a \frac{\pi k}{2N} \right) + \exp \left(-\frac{k^2 \pi^2 t}{2N^2} + i b \frac{\pi k}{2N} \right) \right) \right] + O\left(t^{-\frac{3}{2}} \right), \end{split}$$

where a = 2|i - j|, b = i + j - 1

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{Estimate} & \sum_{k} \exp \left(-\frac{k^2 \pi^2 t}{2N^2} + i a \frac{\pi k}{2N} \right) \\ & \Re \left[\frac{\pi}{2N} \sum_{k} \exp \left(-\frac{k^2 \pi^2 t}{2N^2} + i a \frac{\pi k}{2N} \right) \right] \\ & < \Re \left[\int_{0}^{\infty} \exp(-2tx^2 + iax) dx \right] \\ & = \frac{1}{2} \Re \left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp(-2tx^2 + iax) dx \right] \end{split}$$

And we have

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp(-2tx^2 + iax) dx = \frac{e^{-\left(\frac{a^2}{8t}\right)} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}}}{\sqrt{t}}$$

Now, we analysis how much we throw when we transfer the summation to integral.

$$\begin{split} &\Re\left[\int_0^\infty \exp(-2tx^2+iax)\mathrm{d}x\right] - \Re\left[\frac{\pi}{2N}\sum_k \exp\left(-\frac{k^2\pi^2t}{2N^2}+ia\frac{\pi k}{2N}\right)\right] \\ &=\sum_{i=0}^{N-1}\!\left(\int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} \exp(-2tx^2)\cos(ax)\mathrm{d}x - \frac{\pi}{2N}\exp\!\left(-2t\frac{i^2\pi^2t}{2N^2}\right)\cos\!\left(a\frac{\pi i}{2N}\right)\right) + \int_{\frac{\pi}{2}}^\infty \exp(-2tx^2+iax)\mathrm{d}x \end{split}$$

The first term obey

$$\begin{split} &\left| \int_{x_k}^{x_{k+1}} \exp(-2tx^2) \cos(ax) dx - \frac{\pi}{2N} \exp\left(-2t\frac{k^2\pi^2t}{2N^2}\right) \cos\left(a\frac{\pi k}{2N}\right) \right| \\ &\leq \frac{\pi}{2N} \left(\max_{x \in [x_i, x_{i+1}]} (\exp(-2tx^2) \cos(ax)) - \exp\left(-2t\frac{k^2\pi^2t}{2N^2}\right) \cos\left(a\frac{\pi k}{2N}\right) \right) \end{split}$$