

$$I = \int_0^1 \int_0^{\xi_1} \int_0^{\xi_2} \dots \int_0^{\xi_{4999}} \ln(1 - \xi_{5000}) d\xi_{5000} \dots d\xi_2 d\xi_1$$

One approach to this integral is to expand $\ln(1 - \xi)$ as a power series, and integrate each polynomial term by interchanging summation and integration and resolving the simple sum at the end. While this is a valid approach, we will apply a slightly cleaner and more elegant solution making use of a lesser known mathematical result known as the Cauchy formula for repeated integration. It states

$$\int_{\alpha}^x \int_{\alpha}^{\sigma_1} \dots \int_{\alpha}^{\sigma_{n-1}} f(\sigma_n) d\sigma_n \dots d\sigma_2 d\sigma_1 = \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \int_{\alpha}^x (x-t)^{n-1} f(t) dt$$

This result is major in the field of fractional calculus. I will post an inductive proof this week, but feel free to try it for yourself. In the meantime, applying to our integral,

$$I = \frac{1}{4999!} \int_0^1 (1-t)^{4999} \ln(1-t) dt$$

Applying reflection identity,

$$= \frac{1}{4999!} \int_0^1 t^{4999} \ln t dt$$

We will now apply IBP, differentiating $\ln t$ and integrating t^{4999} to get

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \underbrace{\frac{1}{5000!} \ln t \cdot t^{5000}}_{=0} \Big|_0^1 - \int_0^1 \frac{t^{4999}}{5000!} dt \\ &= -\frac{1}{5000! \cdot 5000} \end{aligned}$$