

# Generalizing Wick's Formula

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## 1 RE-PROOF OF WICK'S FORMULA

### Theorem 1.1 Isserlis' Theorem/Wick's Probability Theorem

If  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  is a zero-mean (complex) Gaussian random vector, then

$$\mathbb{E}[x_1 x_2 \dots x_n] = \sum_{p \in P_n^2} \prod_{(i,j) \in p} \mathbb{E}[x_i x_j]$$

### Theorem 1.2 Wick's Formula

Let  $A = VV^*$  be a PSD matrix, where  $v_i$ 's are rows of  $V$ , let  $x \in \mathbb{C}^n$  be a standard complex Gaussian random vector, i.e.  $x \sim \mathcal{CN}(0, I)$ , then

$$\text{per}(VV^*) = \mathbb{E} \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n |\langle v_i, x \rangle|^2 \right] = \frac{1}{n!} \mathbb{E} [\text{per}(Vxx^*V^*)]$$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n |\langle v_i, x \rangle|^2 \right] &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n \langle v_i, x \rangle \overline{\langle v_i, x \rangle} \right] \\ &= \sum_{p \in P_{2n}^2} \prod_{(i,j) \in p} \mathbb{E}[\langle v_i, x \rangle \langle v_j, x \rangle] \end{aligned}$$

Now notice that

$$\mathbb{E}[\langle v_i, x \rangle \langle v_j, x \rangle] = \mathbb{E}[\langle v_i, x \rangle \overline{\langle x, v_j \rangle}] = \mathbb{E}[v_i^* x x^T v_j] = v_i^* \mathbb{E}[x x^T] v_j$$

However, for any complex Gaussian variable  $x = a + bi$ , we have that  $a$  and  $b$  independent follows  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1/2)$ , thus

$$\mathbb{E}[x^2] = \mathbb{E}[a^2] + 2i\mathbb{E}[ab] - \mathbb{E}[b^2] = 0$$

For any pair of complex Gaussian variables  $x_1 = a_1 + b_1 i, x_2 = a_2 + b_2 i$ , where  $x_1 \neq x_2$ , since they are independent, we have  $\mathbb{E}[x_1 x_2] = 0$ .

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E} \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n |\langle v_i, x \rangle|^2 \right] &= \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[\langle v_i, x \rangle \overline{\langle v_{\sigma(i)}, x \rangle}] \\
&= \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \prod_{i=1}^n v_i^* \mathbb{E}[xx^*] v_{\sigma(i)} \\
&= \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \prod_{i=1}^n \langle v_i, v_{\sigma(i)} \rangle \\
&= \text{per}(VV^*)
\end{aligned}$$

□

## 2 RANK-2 WICK'S FORMULA

### Claim 2.1

Let  $A = VV^*$  be a PSD matrix, where  $v_i$ 's are rows of  $V$ , let  $x, y \in \mathbb{C}^n$  be independent drawn standard complex Gaussian random vectors, then

$$(n+1)! \text{per}(VV^*) = \mathbb{E}_{x, y \sim \mathcal{CN}(0, I)} [\text{per}(Vxx^*V^* + Vyy^*V^*)]$$

*Proof.* Recall that

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{per}(xx^* + yy^*) &= \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{S, T \in [n], |S|=|T|=k} \text{per}(xx^*[S, T]) \text{per}(yy^*[\bar{S}, \bar{T}]) \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{S, T \in [n], |S|=|T|=k} k!(n-k)! \prod_{i \in S} x_i \prod_{j \in T} \bar{x}_j \prod_{p \in \bar{S}} y_p \prod_{q \in \bar{T}} \bar{y}_q
\end{aligned}$$

Again, by linearity of expectation and independence of  $x$  and  $y$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&\mathbb{E}_{x, y \sim \mathcal{CN}(0, I)} [\text{per}(Vxx^*V^* + Vyy^*V^*)] = \\
&\sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{S, T \in [n], |S|=|T|=k} k!(n-k)! \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \mathcal{CN}(0, I)} \left[ \prod_{i \in S} \langle v_i, x \rangle \prod_{j \in T} \overline{\langle v_j, x \rangle} \right] \mathbb{E}_{y \sim \mathcal{CN}(0, I)} \left[ \prod_{p \in \bar{S}} \langle v_p, y \rangle \prod_{q \in \bar{T}} \overline{\langle v_q, y \rangle} \right]
\end{aligned}$$

Same story here, we have

$$\mathbb{E}_{x \sim \mathcal{CN}(0, I)} \left[ \prod_{i \in S} \langle v_i, x \rangle \prod_{j \in T} \overline{\langle v_j, x \rangle} \right] = \sum_{\sigma \in S_{S \rightarrow T}} \prod_{i \in S} \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \mathcal{CN}(0, I)} [\langle v_i, x \rangle \overline{\langle v_{\sigma(i)}, x \rangle}] = \text{per}(A[S, T])$$

Therefore,

$$\mathbb{E}_{x, y \sim \mathcal{CN}(0, I)} [\text{per}(Vxx^*V^* + Vyy^*V^*)] = \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{S, T \in [n], |S|=|T|=k} k!(n-k)! \text{per}(A[S, T]) \text{per}(A[\bar{S}, \bar{T}])$$

### Claim 2.2

Let  $\mathbb{1}$  be a 0, 1-valued  $n^n$ -length vector, where  $\mathbb{1}_\sigma = 1$  if and only if  $\sigma$  corresponds to a permutation, let  $A, B \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  be two matrices, then

$$\langle \mathbb{1}, A^{\otimes k} \otimes B^{\otimes(n-k)} \mathbb{1} \rangle = \sum_{S, T \subseteq [n], |S|=|T|=k} k!(n-k)! \text{per}(A[S, T]) \text{per}(B[\bar{S}, \bar{T}])$$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \mathbb{1}, A^{\otimes k} \otimes B^{\otimes(n-k)} \mathbb{1} \rangle \\ &= \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \sum_{l \in S_n} \prod_{i=1}^k A_{\sigma(i), l(i)} \prod_{j=k+1}^n B_{\sigma(j), l(j)} \\ &= \sum_{S, T \subseteq [n], |S|=|T|=k} \sum_{\sigma \in S_k} \sum_{\sigma' \in S_{n-k}} \sum_{l \in S_k} \sum_{l' \in S_{n-k}} \prod_{i=1}^k A_{S(\sigma(i)), T(l(i))} \prod_{j=k+1}^n B_{\bar{S}(\sigma'(j)), \bar{T}(l'(j))} \\ &= \sum_{S, T \subseteq [n], |S|=|T|=k} \sum_{\sigma \in S_k} \sum_{l \in S_k} \prod_{i=1}^k A_{S(\sigma(i)), T(l(i))} \sum_{\sigma' \in S_{n-k}} \sum_{l' \in S_{n-k}} \prod_{j=k+1}^n B_{\bar{S}(\sigma'(j)), \bar{T}(l'(j))} \\ &= \sum_{S, T \subseteq [n], |S|=|T|=k} \sum_{\sigma \in S_k} \sum_{l \in S_k} \prod_{i=1}^k A_{[S, T]_{\sigma(i), l(i)}} \sum_{\sigma' \in S_{n-k}} \sum_{l' \in S_{n-k}} \prod_{j=k+1}^n B_{[\bar{S}, \bar{T}]_{\sigma'(j), l'(j)}} \\ &= \sum_{S, T \subseteq [n], |S|=|T|=k} k!(n-k)! \text{per}(A[S, T]) \text{per}(B[\bar{S}, \bar{T}]) \end{aligned}$$

□

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_{x, y \sim \mathcal{CN}(0, I)} [\text{per}(Vxx^*V^* + Vyy^*V^*)] &= \sum_{k=0}^n \langle \mathbb{1}, A^{\otimes k} \otimes A^{\otimes(n-k)} \mathbb{1} \rangle \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^n \langle \mathbb{1}, A^{\otimes n} \mathbb{1} \rangle \\ &= (n+1)! \text{per}(A) \end{aligned}$$

□

### Claim 2.3

Change of measure between Gaussian and uniform distribution over the unit sphere:

$$\mathbb{E}_{x, y \sim \mathcal{CN}(0, I)} [\text{per}(Vxx^*V^* + Vyy^*V^*)] \leq \frac{(n+d-1)!}{(d-1)!} \mathbb{E}_{x, y \in \mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{C}}^{n-1}(1)} [\text{per}(Vxx^*V^* + Vyy^*V^*)]$$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathbb{E}_{x,y \sim \mathcal{CN}(0,I)} [\text{per}(VxxV^* + VyyV^*)] \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{S,T \in [n], |S|=|T|=k} \mathbb{E}_{x,y \sim \mathcal{CN}(0,I)} \left[ k!(n-k)! \prod_{i \in S} \langle v_i, x \rangle \prod_{j \in T} \overline{\langle v_j, x \rangle} \prod_{p \in \bar{S}} \langle v_p, y \rangle \prod_{q \in \bar{T}} \overline{\langle v_q, y \rangle} \right] \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{S,T \in [n], |S|=|T|=k} \mathbb{E}_{x,y \sim \mathcal{CN}(0,I)} \left[ k!(n-k)! \prod_{i \in S} \langle v_i, \frac{x}{\|x\|_2} \rangle \prod_{j \in T} \overline{\langle v_j, \frac{x}{\|x\|_2} \rangle} \prod_{p \in \bar{S}} \langle v_p, \frac{y}{\|y\|_2} \rangle \prod_{q \in \bar{T}} \overline{\langle v_q, \frac{y}{\|y\|_2} \rangle} \right. \\
&\quad \left. \cdot \|x\|_2^{2k} \|y\|_2^{2(n-k)} \right] \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{S,T \in [n], |S|=|T|=k} \mathbb{E}_{x,y \sim \mathcal{CN}(0,I)} \left[ k!(n-k)! \prod_{i \in S} \langle v_i, \frac{x}{\|x\|_2} \rangle \prod_{j \in T} \overline{\langle v_j, \frac{x}{\|x\|_2} \rangle} \prod_{p \in \bar{S}} \langle v_p, \frac{y}{\|y\|_2} \rangle \prod_{q \in \bar{T}} \overline{\langle v_q, \frac{y}{\|y\|_2} \rangle} \right] \\
&\quad \cdot \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \mathcal{CN}(0,I)} [\|x\|_2^{2k}] \mathbb{E}_{y \sim \mathcal{CN}(0,I)} [\|y\|_2^{2(n-k)}] \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{S,T \in [n], |S|=|T|=k} \mathbb{E}_{\tilde{x}, \tilde{y} \in \mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{C}}^{n-1}(1)} \left[ k!(n-k)! \prod_{i \in S} \langle v_i, \tilde{x} \rangle \prod_{j \in T} \overline{\langle v_j, \tilde{x} \rangle} \prod_{p \in \bar{S}} \langle v_p, \tilde{y} \rangle \prod_{q \in \bar{T}} \overline{\langle v_q, \tilde{y} \rangle} \right] \\
&\quad \cdot \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \mathcal{CN}(0,I)} [\|x\|_2^{2k}] \mathbb{E}_{y \sim \mathcal{CN}(0,I)} [\|y\|_2^{2(n-k)}]
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $\|x\|_2^2$  is a "scaled" chi-squared random variable with  $2d$  dimension of freedom (since we can treat  $\|x\|_2^2$  as  $\|a\|_2^2 + \|b\|_2^2$ , where  $a = \text{Re}(x), b = \text{Im}(x)$ ), the  $k$ -th moment of it is  $\frac{\Gamma(2d/2+k)}{\Gamma(2d/2)} \cdot \frac{(d+k-1)!}{(d-1)!}$ . Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \mathcal{CN}(0,I)} [\|x\|_2^{2k}] \mathbb{E}_{y \sim \mathcal{CN}(0,I)} [\|y\|_2^{2(n-k)}] \\
&= \frac{(d+k-1)!}{(d-1)!} \cdot \frac{(d+n-k-1)!}{(d-1)!} \\
&= \frac{(d-1)! \prod_{i=1}^k (d+i-1)}{(d-1)!} \cdot \frac{(d+n-k-1)!}{(d-1)!} \\
&\leq \frac{(d-1)! \prod_{i=1}^k (d+i-1+n-k)}{(d-1)!} \cdot \frac{(d+n-k-1)!}{(d-1)!} \\
&= \frac{(n+d-1)!}{(d-1)!}
\end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathbb{E}_{x,y \sim \mathcal{CN}(0,I)} [\text{per}(VxxV^* + VyyV^*)] \\
&\leq \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{S,T \in [n], |S|=|T|=k} \mathbb{E}_{x,y \in \mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{C}}^{n-1}(1)} \left[ k!(n-k)! \prod_{i \in S} \langle v_i, \frac{x}{\|x\|_2} \rangle \prod_{j \in T} \overline{\langle v_j, \frac{x}{\|x\|_2} \rangle} \prod_{p \in \bar{S}} \langle v_p, \frac{y}{\|y\|_2} \rangle \prod_{q \in \bar{T}} \overline{\langle v_q, \frac{y}{\|y\|_2} \rangle} \right] \\
&\quad \cdot \frac{(n+d-1)!}{(d-1)!} \\
&= \frac{(n+d-1)!}{(d-1)!} \mathbb{E}_{x,y \in \mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{C}}^{n-1}(1)} [\text{per}(VxxV^* + VyyV^*)]
\end{aligned}$$

□

**Theorem 2.1**

The quantity  $\max_{x,y \in \mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{C}}^{n-1}(1)} \text{per}(Vxx^*V^* + Vyy^*V^*)$  gives  $\frac{(n+d-1)!}{(d-1)!(n+1)!}2^n$ -approximation to  $\text{per}(VV^*)$ .