

Concepts in Monte Carlo sampling

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Mathematical details (Appendix A), Version: 20 Sep 2023

We consider the integral of Eq. (6),

```
In[ ]:= Integrate[4 / Sqrt[2 (U - x^2/2 - x^4/4)], {x, 0, Sqrt[-1 + Sqrt[1 + 4 U]]}]
```

that Mathematica 13.2 cannot do:

$$\text{Out[]}= \int_0^{\sqrt{-1+\sqrt{1+4U}}} \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{U-\frac{x^2}{2}-\frac{x^4}{4}}} dx$$

We reconsider the integral for the special value of $U = e = \exp[1]$:

```
In[ ]:= \tau = Integrate[4 / Sqrt[2 (E - x^2/2 - x^4/4)], {x, 0, Sqrt[-1 + Sqrt[1 + 4 E]]}] /. E -> U
```

that Mathematica 13.2 succeeds in evaluating:

$$\text{Out[]}= 4\sqrt{2} \sqrt{\frac{1}{1+\sqrt{1+4U}}} \text{EllipticK}\left[\frac{1-\sqrt{1+4U}}{1+\sqrt{1+4U}}\right]$$

Mathematica can also evaluate this integral for integer values of U , and the result agrees with the above. Numerically, we find perfect agreement for all real values of U that we have tested in $[0,20]$.

```
In[ ]:= Series[\tau, {U, 0, 4}]
```

$$\text{Out[]}= 2\pi - \frac{3\pi U}{2} + \frac{105\pi U^2}{32} - \frac{1155\pi U^3}{128} + \frac{225225\pi U^4}{8192} + O[U^5]$$

The first two terms in this expression correspond to Eq. (A3) (see also Fig. 3), with the first term being the period of the harmonic oscillator. The expansion for large U is:

```
In[ ]:= FullSimplify[Series[\tau, {U, Infinity, 2}]]
```

$$\text{Out[]}= \frac{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma[\frac{1}{4}] (\frac{1}{U})^{1/4}}{\Gamma[\frac{3}{4}]} - \frac{\sqrt{2} \pi^{3/2} (\frac{1}{U})^{3/4}}{\Gamma[\frac{1}{4}]^2} - \frac{(\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma[\frac{5}{4}] (\frac{1}{U})^{5/4}}{8 \Gamma[\frac{3}{4}]} + \frac{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma[\frac{7}{4}] (\frac{1}{U})^{7/4}}{8 \Gamma[\frac{1}{4}]} + O\left[\frac{1}{U}\right]^{9/4}$$

Here, the first term corresponds to Eq. (A5) (see also Fig. 3). As indicated in Appendix A, this first term is the period of the quartic oscillator,

```
In[ ]:= FullSimplify[Integrate[4 / Sqrt[2 (U - x^4/4)], {x, 0, Sqrt[Sqrt[4 U]]}]]
```

$$\text{Out[]} = \frac{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma\left[\frac{1}{4}\right]}{U^{1/4} \Gamma\left[\frac{3}{4}\right]} \text{ if } \text{Re}[U] > 0 \text{ \&\& } U == \text{Re}[U]$$

as indicated in Flg. 3.

The partition function Eq. (13) of the anharmonic oscillator is

```
In[ ]:= Clear[Z]
```

```
In[ ]:= Z[b_] = Assuming[b > 0, Integrate[Exp[-b (x^2 / 2 + x^4/4)], {x, -Infinity, Infinity}]]
```

$$\text{Out[]} = \frac{e^{\beta/8} \text{BesselK}\left[\frac{1}{4}, \frac{\beta}{8}\right]}{\sqrt{2}}$$

A table of values for $\beta = 1, 2, \dots, 5$ is:

```
In[ ]:= Table[N[Z[b], 20], {b, 1, 5}]
```

```
Out[ ]:= {1.9352478184967272764, 1.4863108176097251915,
1.2622272716816842719, 1.1195578897284502004, 1.0178493404245583598}
```

Finally, the integral of Eq. (C1) is given by

```
In[ ]:= NIntegrate[Exp[-(x^2 / 2 + x^4/4)], {x, -Infinity, 63/100}, WorkingPrecision -> 20] /
NIntegrate[Exp[-(x^2 / 2 + x^4/4)], {x, -Infinity, Infinity}, WorkingPrecision -> 20]
```

```
Out[ ]:= 0.8030253972702860022
```

This result has been confirmed by high-precision numerical integration using the SciPy library.