

CS 206P Final Project Report

In this project I have compared **Monte Carlo vs. Deterministic Volume Integration** methods for computing the volume of the hypersphere. I will be estimating the volume of a d-dimensional (hyper-)sphere of radius $r=1$ centered on the origin.

Part-1

Monte Carlo Integration:

In this method, I have surrounded the hypersphere with the smallest hypercube that can enclose it. This hypercube is centered at the origin with sides of length 2 and has a volume of 2^d . I have then selected N points at random inside the hypercube. I used Rejection algorithm to determine the count of points that are inside the hypersphere. I do this by generating 2D matrix $N \times d$ size with random numbers in range $[-1,1]$ and checking if sum of the squares row wise is ≤ 1 .

The volume of the hypersphere is then

$$(N\text{-points inside} / N\text{-points in total}) * 2^d$$

I have assured 4 digits of accuracy value by taking difference between analytical model formula and determined volume (mean) and making sure it's equal to zero. I have taken different values of points N and runs n. For each dimension d, I have used a fixed number of N and n to calculate mean and standard deviation. I computed error bar or standard deviation as σ/\sqrt{n} .

I have used 95% confidence interval. For precision, I have calculated it as follows –

- Standard Deviation (std) = σ/\sqrt{n} , where σ is the standard deviation, n is the number of runs.
- Low = mean – 2(std)
- High = mean + 2(std)
- **Precision = (High – Low)/mean $\leq 10^{-4}$**

Precision calculated will be used as the stopping criteria for 'd' value in this method. Mean is the determined volume from Monto Carlo Integration. In my results for d, n is 100 and I have chosen N so that the estimated value lies between ± 0.0001 .

The 'd' value has been pushed by –

- Ensuring 95% confidence interval
 - (High – Low)/mean $\leq 10^{-4}$

The following are my results I have my 'n' is 100 fixed, I have varied N as follows -

Dimension	Mean	No of Points - N	Precision	Standard Deviation	Estimated volume at 95% confidence level
1	2.0	100000	0	0	2 ± 0
2	3.1416	4000000	0.0001	0.0001	3.1416 ± 0.0001
3	4.1888	8000000	0.0001	0.0001	4.1888 ± 0.0001
4	4.9347	12100000	0.0001	0.0001	4.9347 ± 0.0001
5	5.2635	16300000	0.0001	0.0001	5.2635 ± 0.0001
6	5.1673	20600000	0.0001	0.0001	5.1673 ± 0.0001
7	4.7246	25000000	0.0001	0.0001	4.7246 ± 0.0001
8	4.0587	29500000	0.0001	0.0001	4.0587 ± 0.0001
9	3.2975	34100000	0.0001	0.0001	3.2975 ± 0.0001
10	2.5510	38800000	0.0001	0.0001	2.5510 ± 0.0001

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I was able to push till $d=10$, for dimensions higher than $d=10$, probability that a point in a cube falls inside a hypersphere is very small and I observed very large deviations in precision upto 0.002 instead of 0.0001 and also it lacks accuracy and efficiently. N random numbers were selected from a uniform distribution and the volume was estimated to 4-digit precision.

Cube Based Integration:

In cube based method, I have divided each of the d dimensions into K segments, so that the side of the smaller is of length $2/k$. The volume of smaller hypercube is $(2/k)^d$.

Then I find the distance from small hypercube's center to the hypersphere's center to determine whether it is completely

- inside the hypersphere if distance \leq (radius-half_diagonal_distance) (Val 1 for box type)
- outside the hypersphere if distance \geq (radius+half_diagonal_distance) (Val 2 for box type)
- intersecting the hypersphere otherwise (Val 3 for box type)

The lower and upper bound are found as –

- lower_bound = inside_count * $(2/k)^d$
- upper_bound = inside_count + (intersect_count/2) * $(2/k)^d$

upper_bound is considered as **volume** here in part 1=

- **inside_count + (intersect_count/2) * $(2/k)^d$**

Precision is calculated and will be used as the stopping criteria for 'd' value in this method

- **(upper_bound - lower_bound)/average (upper_bound, lower_bound) \leq 0.0001**

I have determined how large K should be by using an iterative method to increase the value of k and calculating the volume, till 4-digit precision is reached which was used as a stopping criteria. I have also ensured that $K-1$ does not satisfy this precision.

I have been able to push 'd' till 3. The results are as follows –

Dimension	Volume (Upper Bound)	Actual Volume	Precision	K value
1	1.9998	2.0	0.0001	8889
2	3.1413	3.1416	0.0001	15502
3	4.1889	4.1888	0.0001	35607

As you can see, I'm able to find the volumes of the hypersphere in Monte Carlo till $d=10$ and Cube based integration till $d=3$. Given a same amount of time I can find volumes more accurately in Monte Carlo even for high dimensions. Cube based method takes a lot of time to run as dimensions increases and accuracy is less. In Cube based integration for $d=4$, the run time is longer than Monte Carlo's $d=15$, hence I had to stop with $D=3$ for cube based. Therefore, **Monte Carlo method is more efficient** since it allows **dimension to become larger** given the **4 digits of precision** as insisted in the answer.

If **8 digits of precision** is demanded, the observations will be similar. **Monte Carlo method will be more efficient** since it will allow dimension to be pushed to a larger value with lesser run time compared to cube based integration. Monte Carlo gives more accurate precisions for lesser runtime and larger 'd' value with an accuracy maintained.

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In Cube based, the value needed for **K is high** to get that precision and the **run time of Cube based** is **$O(K^d)$** . Hence as dimension increases, the run time increases exponentially for it. Hence Monte Carlo method is more efficient.

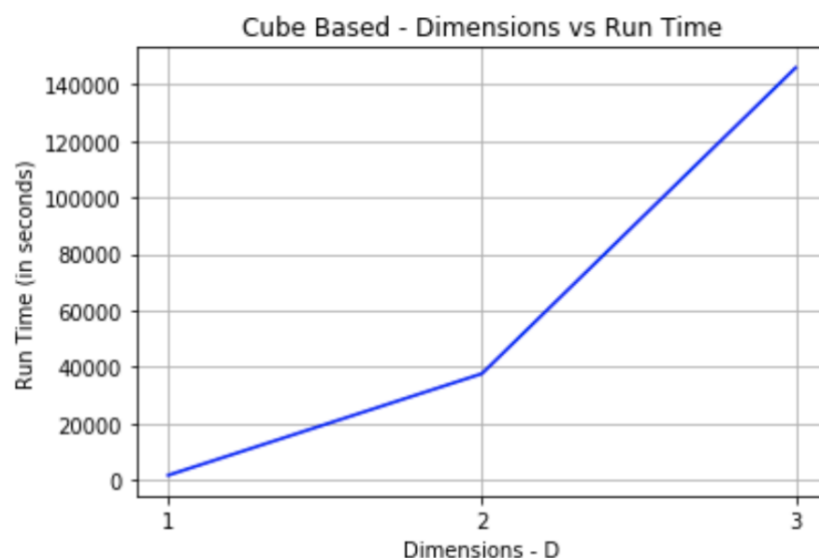
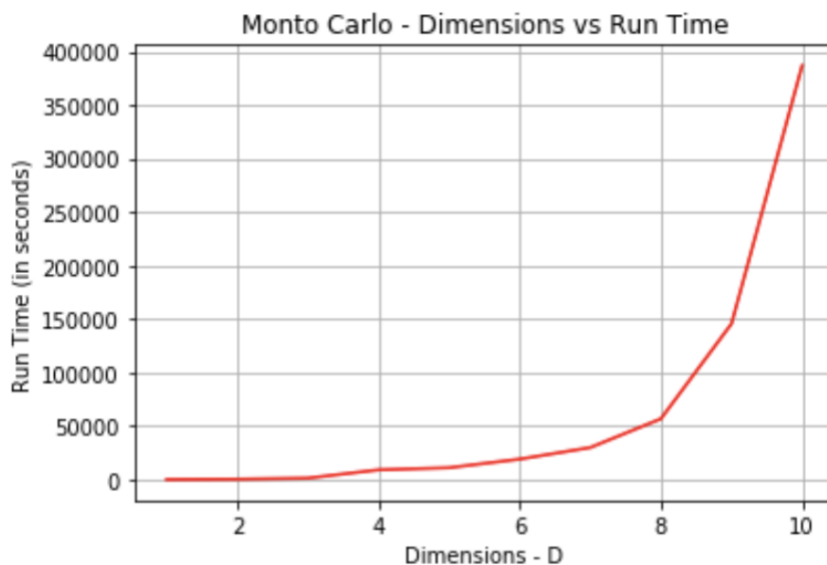
Graphs for Run time and Accuracy as a function of dimension in Monto Carlo and Cube Based Integration:

For a given 4 digits of precision, I have calculated Dimension vs Run Time and Dimension vs Accuracy in **Monto Carlo** for **D = 1 to 10** and **N in range 100000 to 38800000** and **n=100**.

For **Cube Based Integrations** I have plotted same graphs for **D= 1 to 3**, **K= 8889, 15502, 35607**.

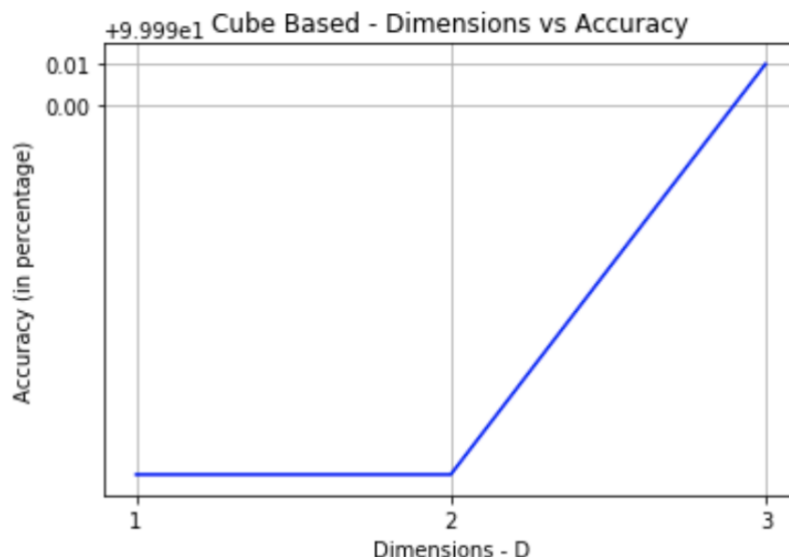
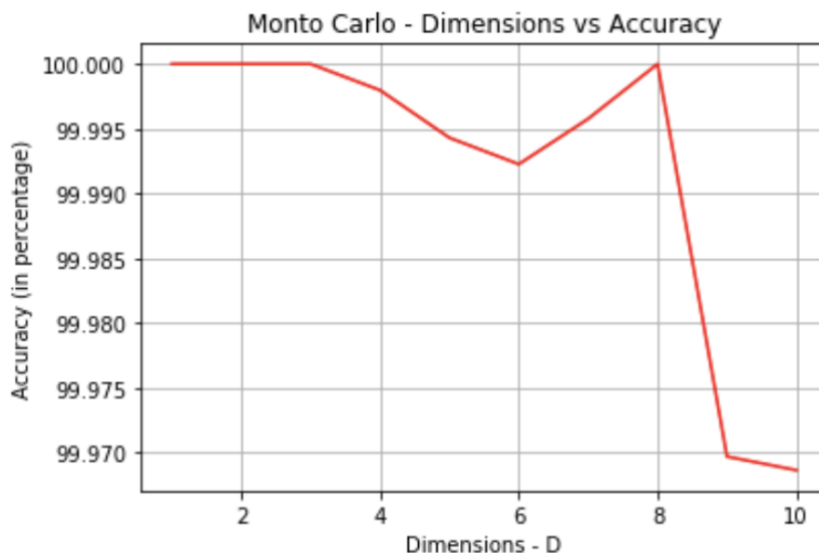
Dimension vs Run Time for both methods:

It is observed that run time increases with dimension in both the cases. The run time for d=10 in Monto Carlo is closer to run time for d=4 in Cube Based. The value of K should be large in Cube based for accuracy and as dimension increases, the run time increases exponentially for it - $O(K^d)$. Hence **Monte Carlo method is more efficient** as it is observed here that the amount of time it takes to compute volume for d=9 in Monto Carlo is same as the time it takes to run d=3 in cube based integration. Python's time.time() function was used here which computes the clock time of run.



Dimension vs Accuracy for both methods:

It is seen that for both the methods, the accuracy is in range of 99-100%, but there is a large difference in the number of dimensions it gives accuracy for. In Monto Carlo there is accuracy till $d=10$ whereas in Cube based there is only accuracy till $d=3$, beyond which it seems to run forever. Cube based method grows exponentially with the dimensions making it impractical to generate accurate results in a day's time of a computer even for $d=4$ as compared to Monto Carlo. Hence **Monto Carlo is more efficient** in this case.



Part 2 –

In this part, N is assumed to be 10^6 and $K = \text{round}(N^{1/d})$. The volume has been computed using Monto Carlo and Cube Based till $d=10$. The run time is computed here using python's `time.time()` function which computes the wall clock run time and accuracy is computed as percentage using the following formula –

- **Accuracy = $100 - (100 * (\text{Absolute}(\text{Mean} - \text{Actual_vol}) / \text{Actual_vol})) \%$**
 - Mean is the volume determined by Monto Carlo or Cube Based and
 - Actual_vol is the volume determined by analytical formula (Wikipedia page)

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In Cube Based, the volume of the hypersphere is calculated to be –

➤ **Volume in Cube Based = Average(lower_bound , upper_bound)**

- lower_bound = inside_count * $(2/k)^d$
- upper_bound = inside_count + (intersect_count/2) * $(2/k)^d$

From experiments in part 1, it's evident that results are more efficient in Monto Carlo method. Here we can both the algorithms for $N=10^6$ and $K = \text{round}(N^{1/d})$. Accuracy in **Monto Carlo is always maintained between 99-100%** and the run time is also reasonable for the accuracy it gives. In **Cube Based, K reduces exponentially as 'd' increases** and the accuracy of 99-100% range reduces after $d=2$. For $d=3$ & 4 the accuracy is maintained decently with above 90% range but for dimensions $d \geq 5$ **Cube Based method completely falls apart and fails terribly to give accurate results for fixed $N = 10^6$** . The accuracy results are highlighted in red for cube based. This is because for $d=10$, K becomes 4 which means there are only few cubes surrounding the hypercube and finding lower and upper bound in that will lead to erroneous estimate of volume.

d	N points (10^6)	K = ($N^{1/d}$)	Monto Carlo - volume 95% confidence	Run time (seconds)	Monto Carlo - Accuracy (in percent)	Cube Based - volume	Run time (seconds)	Cube Based - Accuracy (in percent)
1	1000000	10^6	2.0 ± 0	261.32	100	2.0	11.14	100
2	1000000	1000	3.1417 ± 0.0001	283.027	99.996	3.1369	11.71	99.850
3	1000000	100	4.1886 ± 0.0004	330.92	99.995	4.1026	12.37	97.942
4	1000000	32	4.9359 ± 0.0006	364.84	99.977	4.5698	15.049	92.603
5	1000000	16	5.2639 ± 0.009	413.28	99.998	4.4246	15.08	84.057
6	1000000	10	5.1677 ± 0.047	432.38	100.0	4.395	13.92	85.0475
7	1000000	7	4.7241 ± 0.060	457.97	99.985	3.75	12.21	89.466
8	1000000	6	4.06 ± 0.073	499.076	99.967	4.6627	18.34	85.118
9	1000000	5	3.2991 ± 0.079	584.647	99.981	8.6181	35.51	61.273
10	1000000	4	2.5436 ± 0.080	599.69	99.741	14.0	19.93	8.976

Part 3 –

Having said that N is unknown and there will be a fixed value given for it, I have assumed N to be from 100 till 10^6 and determined pi value for $d=2$, $n=100$. I have run using Monto Carlo and Cube Based Integration. It is observed that for all ranges of a fixed N value, Monto Carlo has very high accuracy in range 99-100% whereas Cube based gives lesser accuracy for values before $N=100000$ i.e **$K = \text{round}(N^{1/d})$** .

The accuracy as highlighted in red shows cube based failed to give accuracy in range 99-100% for $N < 100000$. The accuracy percentage here is calculated as follows –

➤ **Accuracy = $100 - (100 * (\text{Absolute}(\text{Mean} - \text{Actual_vol}) / \text{Actual_vol})) \%$**

- Mean is the volume determined by Monto Carlo or Cube Based and
- Actual_vol is the volume determined by analytical formula (Wikipedia page)

The following table shows the results, it is evident that **Monto Carlo is preferred** to find pi value for **dimension $d=2$** because of its **more accuracy results** than cube based integration, comparable run time, for any given fixed value of N points.

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N value	K value	d	Monto Carlo - pi value	Monto Carlo - Accuracy (in percent)	Run time (seconds)	Cube based - pi value	Cube Based – Accuracy (in percent)	Run time (seconds)
100	10	2	3.1596	99.427	0.029	2.52	80.213	0.002
1000	32	2	3.1448	99.898	0.263	2.9805	94.872	0.013
10000	100	2	3.1399	99.945	3.122	3.0908	98.382	0.110
100000	316	2	3.1423	99.977	28.112	3.1275	99.551	1.155
1000000	1000	2	3.1416	100.0	293.10	3.1369	99.850	11.986