Shiny Application and Reproducible Pitch

Volume of an *n*-ball and area of an *n*-sphere

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n-ball and n-sphere

Let n be a positive integer and r be a positive real number.

The Euclidean *n*-ball of radius *r* is defined as the set of all points $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $\|x\|_2^2 \le r^2$ where $\|\cdot\|_2$ refers to the usual Euclidean norm in \mathbb{R}^n .

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Euclidean_distance)

The Euclidean n-sphere of radius r is defined as the set of all points $x \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ such that $\|x\|_2^2 = r^2$. Please note that an n-sphere lives in a space of dimension n+1 (for example, a classical sphere is an object of dimension 2 embedded in the Euclidean space of dimension 3).

We refer the reader to the two following articles on Wikipedia for more informations regarding n-ball and n-sphere:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ball_(mathematics)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/N-sphere

Volume of an *n*-ball and surface area of an *n*-sphere

The volume of an n-ball of radius r can be calculated thanks to the following formula:

$$V_n(r) = \frac{\pi^{\frac{n}{2}}}{\Gamma(1+\frac{n}{2})}r^n$$

where Γ is the gamma function (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gamma_function).

The surface area of an n-sphere is given by the formula below:

$$S_n(r) = \frac{2\pi^{\frac{n}{2}}}{\Gamma(\frac{n}{2})} r^{n-1}$$

See the following Wikipedia articles for a formal proof of each formula:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Volume_of_an_n-ball https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/N-sphere

Example

For n = 3 and r = 1 the volume of the unit ball is:

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pi^(3/2) / gamma(1+3/2)
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[1] 4.18879

while the surface area of the associated sphere is:

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2*pi^(3/2) / gamma(3/2)
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[1] 12.56637

Please note that those (rather simple) results could also have been derived from the well-known expressions $V_3(r)=\frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$ and $S_3(r)=4\pi r^2$ (which are actually special cases of the formulas given on the previous slide).

Web application functionality

The application can be found at: https://tlefebvre1.shinyapps.io/project/

- Pick the dimension n (positive integer)
- ▶ Pick the radius *r* (positive real number)

The application computes the volume $V_n(r)$ of the *n*-ball and the surface area $S_n(r)$ of the *n*-sphere according to the formulas presented in the previous slides.