

Exercises for the Stochastic part of Mathematical Data Science WI4231 (“Big Data”)

Please hand in your answers to 2 of the following 3 exercises.

1. When U and U' are two i.i.d. uniformly distributed random variables on $[0, 1]$, show that:

- (a) $E((U - U')^2) = \frac{1}{6}$.
- (b) $\text{Var}((U - U')^2) \approx 0.04$

2. In Giraud's book it is claimed that a p -dimensional ball with radius $r > 0$, one has that the volume $V_p(r)$ of this ball satisfies:

$$V_p(r) = \frac{\pi^{p/2}}{\Gamma(p/2 + 1)} r^p \approx \left(\frac{2\pi e r^2}{p} \right)^{p/2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{p\pi}}, \quad \text{for large } p. \quad (1)$$

where Γ is the famous “Gamma-function,” defined by:

$$\Gamma(\alpha) = \int_0^\infty x^{\alpha-1} e^{-x} dt, \quad \text{for } \alpha > 0.$$

We're going to show this in a number of steps.

- (a) Show that for the Gamma-function we have that $\Gamma(1) = 1$, $\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) = \sqrt{\pi}$, and $\Gamma(\alpha + 1) = \alpha\Gamma(\alpha)$ for all $\alpha > 0$. Use this to show that

$$\Gamma(p+1) = p! \quad \text{en} \quad \Gamma(p+3/2) = \frac{(2p+1)(2p-1)\cdots 1}{2^{p+1}} \sqrt{\pi},$$

for $p \in \mathbb{N}$.

- (b) Prove that $V_p(r) = r^p V_p(1)$ for any $p \geq 1$ check that $V_1(1) = 2$ en $V_2(1) = \pi$.
 (c) For $p \geq 3$, show that

$$\begin{aligned} V_p(1) &= \int_{x_1^2 + x_2^2 \leq 1} V_{p-2} \left(\sqrt{1 - x_1^2 - x_2^2} \right) dx_1 dx_2 \\ &= V_{p-2}(1) \int_{r=0}^1 \int_{\theta=0}^{2\pi} (1 - r^2)^{p/2-1} r dr d\theta \\ &= \frac{2\pi}{p} V_{p-2}(1). \end{aligned}$$

- (d) Conclude that

$$V_{2p}(1) = \frac{\pi^p}{p!} \quad \text{en} \quad V_{2p+1}(1) = \frac{2^{p+1} \pi^p}{(2p+1)(2p-1)\cdots 3}.$$

(e) Use the Stirling expansion

$$\Gamma(\alpha)\alpha^{\alpha-1/2}e^{-\alpha}\sqrt{2\pi}\left(1+\mathcal{O}(\alpha^{-1})\right) \quad \text{for } \alpha \rightarrow +\infty$$

to prove (1).

3. Let Z be a random variable with a standard normal $N(0, 1)$ -distribution.

(a) For $z > 0$, prove (with integration by parts) that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(|Z| \geq z) &= \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \frac{e^{-z^2/2}}{z} - \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_z^\infty x^{-2} e^{-x^2/2} dx \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \frac{e^{-z^2/2}}{z} \left(1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{z^2}\right)\right). \end{aligned}$$

(b) For Z_1, \dots, Z_p i.i.d. with $N(0, 1)$ standard Gaussian distribution and $\alpha > 0$, show that when $p \rightarrow \infty$

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathbb{P}\left(\max_{j=1, \dots, p} |Z_j| \geq \sqrt{\alpha \log(p)}\right) \\ &= 1 - \left(1 - \mathbb{P}\left(|Z_1| \geq \sqrt{\alpha \log(p)}\right)\right)^p \\ &= 1 - \exp\left(-\sqrt{\frac{2}{\alpha\pi}} \frac{p^{1-\alpha/2}}{\sqrt{\log p}} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{p^{1-\alpha/2}}{(\log p)^{3/2}}\right)\right). \end{aligned}$$