

Complex Analysis with Applications
Princeton University MAT330
HW10, Due May 5th 2023 (but not to be submitted)

May 3, 2023

Note: when doing asymptotic analysis, the word “fixed” means that a parameter is *not* taken to infinity and does not depend on the asymptotic parameter.

1 Gaussian integrals

1. Calculate, for some $a > 0$,

$$\int_{x \in \mathbb{R}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}ax^2} dx.$$

2. Calculate, for some $a > 0$,

$$\int_{z \in \mathbb{C}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}a|z|^2} d^2z$$

(i.e., a two-dimensional surface integral throughout the complex plane).

3. Let now $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Recall that a matrix $A \in \text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R})$ is called “positive” and denoted

$$A \geq 0$$

iff $A = B^*B$ for some $B \in \text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R})$. Equivalent and convenient conditions are: (i) $A \geq 0$ iff A is Hermitian and $\langle v, Av \rangle_{\mathbb{R}^n} \geq 0$ for any $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and (ii) $A \geq 0$ if A is Hermitian and all eigenvalues of A are non-negative. Let $A \in \text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R})$ and assume $A > 0$ (i.e. A is positive and non-singular).

Calculate

$$\int_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\langle x, Ax \rangle_{\mathbb{R}^n}} dx.$$

Hint: Since A is self-adjoint, it is unitarily diagonalizable with $A = O^*DO$ for some orthogonal O and diagonal D whose entries all strictly positive. Make a change of variable $y := Ox$ (whose Jacobian is ... what?) to factorize into n independent Gaussian integrals.

4. Again assuming $A > 0$, calculate

$$\int_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\langle x, Ax \rangle + \langle v, x \rangle} dx$$

for some $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

Hint: Complete the square on the expression $-\frac{1}{2}\langle x, Ax \rangle + \langle v, x \rangle$ and make a shift change of variable.

5. Again assuming $A > 0$, calculate

$$\int_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\langle x, Ax \rangle + i\langle v, x \rangle} dx$$

for some $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

Hint: Diagonalize A again and then calculate n Fourier transforms of n independent Gaussians, each of which we have already calculated using contour integration in the past.

2 Laplace asymptotics

6. The complementary error function is defined as as

$$\operatorname{erfc}(x) := \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_x^\infty e^{-t^2} dt \quad (x \in \mathbb{R}).$$

Calculate $\operatorname{erfc}(-\infty)$ and do Laplace asymptotics for erfc as large positive x .

7. [extra] Let $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ be compact and $f : K \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ have continuous second derivative with a unique global maximizer at $x_0 \in \text{interior}(K)$. Prove that

$$\lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \|f\|_{L^p(K)} = \|f\|_{L^\infty(K)}.$$

8. [extra] Using the Stirling approximation of $n!$ which we saw in class, prove the De Moivre–Laplace theorem, which states that the binomial distribution may be approximated via the normal distribution, in the following sense.

Let $p \in (0, 1)$ be the probability of “heads” in an unfair coin-toss game. The Bernoulli distribution gives the probability that we find $k = 0, \dots, n$ heads in n independent consecutive coin-tosses, as

$$\mathbb{P}[\{k \text{ heads}\}] \equiv \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}.$$

The De Moivre–Laplace theorem says that at large n this roughly behaves like a normal distribution with mean np and variance $np(1-p)$, i.e.,

$$\mathbb{P}[\{k \text{ heads}\}] \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi np(1-p)}} \exp\left(-\frac{(k-np)^2}{2np(1-p)}\right).$$

To derive this leading order asymptotic, do asymptotics of the binomial factor $\binom{n}{k}$ assuming that both n is large and $k = \alpha n$ for some fixed $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, so you can do asymptotics of $k!$ and $(n-k)!$ too. Then also use

$$\log(1+x) \sim x - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{3}x^3 + \dots$$

9. Determine the leading order asymptotics of

$$I(\lambda) := \int_{t=-1}^1 \frac{\sin(t)}{t} e^{-\lambda \cosh(t)} dt$$

as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$.

10. [extra] Determine the leading order asymptotics of

$$I(\lambda) := \int_{t=\lambda}^\infty \frac{e^{-t}}{t} dt$$

as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ via integration by parts.

11. Determine the leading order asymptotics of

$$I(\lambda) := \int_{t=0}^\infty e^{-\frac{1}{t} - \lambda t} dt$$

as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$. Hint: make a change of variables $t = \frac{s}{\sqrt{\lambda}}$.

12. Determine the leading order asymptotics of the modified Bessel function

$$I_n(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\theta=0}^\pi e^{\lambda \cos(\theta)} \cos(n\theta) d\theta$$

for fixed $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

3 Steepest descent asymptotics

13. Calculate

$$\int_{x=0}^{\infty} e^{ix^2} dx$$

via contour deformation.

14. Calculate the leading order asymptotics of

$$I(\lambda) := \int_{t \in \mathbb{R}} e^{i\lambda \cosh(t)} dt$$

as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$.

15. [extra] Calculate the leading order asymptotics of

$$I(\lambda) := \int_{t=0}^1 \log(t) e^{i\lambda t} dt$$

as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ by contour deformation.

16. Calculate the leading order asymptotics of

$$I(\lambda) := \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\lambda t^2} \cos(\lambda t) f(t) dt$$

as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ for some entire f .

17. [extra] Calculate the leading order asymptotics of

$$I(\lambda) := \int_{x \in \mathbb{R}} e^{\lambda [\cosh(x-i\pi) - \frac{1}{2}(x-i\pi)^2]} dx$$

as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$.

18. [extra] We have for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $k \in \mathbb{N}_{\leq n}$, the following contour integral representation of the binomial coefficient:

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{z \in B_1(0)} \frac{(1+z)^n}{z^{k+1}} dz.$$

Indeed, this follows from Cauchy's integral formula: with $f(z) := (1+z)^n$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{z \in B_1(0)} \frac{(1+z)^n}{z^{k+1}} dz &= \frac{1}{k!} f^{(k)}(0) \\ &= \frac{1}{k!} n(n-1) \dots (n-k+1) \\ &= \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} \\ &\equiv \binom{n}{k}. \end{aligned}$$

Use this contour integral representation to do leading order asymptotics of $\binom{n}{k}$ (again, as above, but now avoiding Stirling) for large n and large $k = \alpha n$ for some fixed $\alpha \in (0, 1)$.