

Exercise 1 - Coulomb Potential in d dimensions

Consider a point charge q at the origin $\vec{r} = 0$ in \mathbb{R}^d . Recalling Gauss's law - a surface integral formula for the electric flux

$$\oint_{\partial S} \vec{E}(\vec{r}) \cdot d\vec{S} = 4\pi q \quad (1)$$

for the electric field $\vec{E}(\vec{r})$, ∂S the surface of a closed volume S , and $d\vec{S}$ an infinitesimal area perpendicular to the surface ∂S .

Show that the potential $V(r = |\vec{r}|)$ for the rotationally invariant electric field $E(r) \cdot \vec{e}_r$ has the following dependence on the dimension d :

$$\begin{cases} d = 1 & V(r) \sim r \\ d = 2 & V(r) \sim \log r \\ d \geq 3 & V(r) \sim r^{-d+2} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

Exercise 2 - Large N analysis of the entropy integral

Show that for $N \rightarrow \infty$ the following integral

$$I_N[n(x)] = \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \prod_{j=1}^N dx_j \delta \left[n(x) - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta(x - x_i) \right] \quad (3)$$

is given by

$$I_N[n(x)] \sim \exp \left[-N \int dx n(x) \ln n(x) \right] \quad (4)$$

using functional differentiation and saddle point analysis. Make use of the following representation of the (functional) δ -function

$$\delta \left[Nn(x) - \sum_{i=1}^N \delta(x - x_i) \right] = \int \mathcal{D}[\hat{n}(x)] \exp \left[i \int dx \hat{n}(x) \left[Nn(x) - \sum_{i=1}^N \delta(x - x_i) \right] \right] \quad (5)$$

Exercise 3 - Semi-circle integrals and large- N consistency check

1. Assume we have the following two integrals

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}_0[n(x)] &= \frac{1}{2} \int_J dx x^2 n(x) - \frac{1}{2} \int_{J^2} dx dx' n(x) n(x') \ln |x - x'| \\ \mathcal{F}_1[n(x)] &= \int_J dx n(x) \ln n(x),\end{aligned}\tag{6}$$

with $J = [-\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{2}]$. Compute those two integrals under the assumption that the equilibrium measure is given by

$$n(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \sqrt{2 - x^2}.\tag{7}$$

2. Determine the coefficients a_β and b_β in the asymptotic expansion of the partition function using the above integrals

$$\mathcal{Z}_{N,\beta} \approx \exp \left[\frac{\beta}{4} N^2 \ln[N] + a_\beta N^2 + N \ln[N] + b_\beta N + o(N) \right]$$

and compare the result to the asymptotic expansion of $\mathcal{Z}_{N,\beta=2}$ based on Barnes' G-function as given in lecture.
