

RANDOM SUMS, MELLIN  
TRANSFORM,  
GAUSSIAN RANDOM FIELDS,  
SMALL DEVIATIONS and  
REVERSION

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Asymptotic analysis via Mellin transforms for small deviations in  $L^2$  norm of integrated Brownian sheets.

Probability Theory and Related Fields (2004).

Available from (e.g.)

<http://www.ams.jhu.edu/~fill/>

## §1. QUESTION ABOUT RANDOM SUMS

$$a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \cdots > 0, \quad \sum a_n < \infty$$

$$Y_1, Y_2, \cdots \geq 0 \quad \text{i.i.d.}$$

$$h_1(x) := -\log \mathbf{E}e^{-xY} \quad (x \geq 0)$$

$$S := \sum_n a_n Y_n \geq 0$$

$$h(x) := -\log \mathbf{E}e^{-xS} \quad (x \geq 0)$$

In terms of  $h_1$ , what are asymptotic properties of  $h$  ?

## §2. HARMONIC SUMS

$$h(x) = \sum_n h_1(a_n x)$$

Harmonic sum ! Use Mellin transforms !

FIRST USE IN THIS KIND OF PROBLEM.

### §3. MELLIN TRANSFORMS (see F& S book)

DEFN.  $f^*(s) = \int_0^\infty f(x)x^{s-1}dx.$

EXAMPLES 1.  $f(x) = e^{-x} \rightarrow f^*(s) = \Gamma(s).$

2.  $F(x) = (1+x)^{-1} \rightarrow f^*(s) = \frac{\pi}{\sin(\pi s)}.$

[Exercise in Hankel contours.]

SEPARATION for Harmonic sums: by using  
 $y = a_n x,$

$$\begin{aligned} h^*(s) &= \sum_n b_n \int_0^\infty h_1(a_n x) x^{s-1} dx \\ &= \sum_n b_n a_n^{-s} \int_0^\infty h_1(y) y^{s-1} dy \\ &= h_1^*(s) \sum_n b_n a_n^{-s} \end{aligned}$$

where the first factor is MT for base function  
and the second factor is GDS.

## INVERSION.

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} f^*(s)x^{-s} ds.$$

MT of derivative.

$$(f')^*(s) = -(s-1)f^*(s-1).$$

MAPPING PROPERTY. Asymptotic properties of  $f(x)$  as  $x \rightarrow 0$  or  $x \rightarrow \infty$  correspond to singularities of  $f^*$ . Behavior  $x^\xi (\log x)^k$  ( $k = 0, 1, \dots$ ) corresponds to  $-\frac{(-1)^k \cdot k!}{(s+\xi)^{k+1}}$ . Power  $\xi$  corresponds to the pole at  $-\xi$ .

"REASON" ( $k=0$ ):

$$\int_1^\infty x^\xi x^{s-1} dx = \frac{-1}{s+\xi}.$$

EXAMPLE.

$$f(x) = \log(1+x) = \log x + x^{-1} - \frac{1}{2}x^{-2} + \dots$$

$$f^*(x) = \frac{\pi}{s \sin(\pi s)}$$

FUNDAMENTAL STRIP =  $\langle -1, 0 \rangle$ ,

$\exists$  mero. extension of  $f^*$  to  $s \in \mathbf{C}$ .

Look for singularities in  $\langle -1, \infty \rangle$  (only !).

Double pole at  $s = 0$ :

$$f^*(s) = \frac{1}{s^2} + \frac{O}{s} + \dots \leftrightarrow \log x + O.$$

Simple poles at  $s = +j$ :

$$f^* = \frac{(-1)^j}{j(s-j)} + \dots \leftrightarrow \frac{(-1)^j}{j} x^{-j} .$$

## MELLIN ASYMPTOTIC SUMMATION

1. Study singularities of

$$h_1^*(s) \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_n b_n a_n^{-s}$$

separately.

2. Multiply singular expansions to get singular expansion of  $h^*(s)$ .

3. Use (reverse) mapping property to get asy. exp. for  $h(x)$ .

Reduction of "d-dimensional harmonic sums" to "1-dimensional" in a special case: (say  $h_1 \equiv 1$ )

Suppose

$$a_{\bar{n}} = a_{n_1}(1) \cdots a_{n_d}(d) \quad n_1, \dots, n_d = 1, 2, \dots$$

Then

$$\bar{A}(s) = A_1(s) \cdots A_d(s).$$

## §4. GAUSSIAN RANDOM FIELDS; KARHUNEN - LOÈVE

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{t} &= (t_1, \dots, t_d) \in [0, 1]^d \\ X &= (X(\bar{t})) = \text{centered GRF} \\ K(\bar{s}, \bar{t}) &:= \text{Cov}(X(\bar{s}), X(\bar{t}))\end{aligned}$$

KARHUNEN-LOÈVE spectral decomposition:

$$K(\bar{s}, \bar{t}) = \sum_n a_n \phi_n(\bar{s}) \phi_n(\bar{t})$$

where  $\sum a_n < \infty$ ,  $a_n$  are positive eigenvalues and  $\phi_n$  are O.N. eigenfunctions. Then

$$X \stackrel{\mathcal{L}}{=} \left( \sum_n \sqrt{a_n} \phi_n(\bar{t}) Z_n \right)$$

where  $Z_n$ 's are i.i.d.  $\sim N(0, 1)$  and

$$\|X\|_2^2 := \int_{[0,1]^d} X^2(\bar{t}) d\bar{t} = \sum_n a_n Z_n^2 = S$$

Here

$$h_1(x) = -\log \mathbf{E} e^{-xZ^2} = \frac{1}{2} \log(1 + 2x).$$

From now on: Look at  $L(x) = 2h(x/2)$ .



EXAMPLE 1.  $X = \text{B.M.}$  ( $d = 1$ ).

$$K(s, t) = s \wedge t$$

Integral equation  $Kf = af$  ( $f \not\equiv 0$ ) converts to

$$af'' + f = 0, \quad f(0) = f'(1) = 0.$$

Soln.  $\exists$  iff  $a = a_n := [(n-1/2)\pi]^{-2}$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$

Then F.S. =  $\langle -1, -1/2 \rangle$  and

$$L^*(s) = \frac{\pi}{s \sin \pi s} \left[ (\pi/2)^{2s} - \pi^{2s} \right] \zeta(-2s)$$

- simple pole at  $s = -1/2$
- simple pole at  $s = 0$
- analytic at  $s = j$

BETTER:  $L(x) = \log \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( 1 + \frac{x}{(n-\frac{1}{2})^2 \pi^2} \right)$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{exactly!} \\ & = \log \cosh(\sqrt{x}) \\ & = x^{-1/2} - \log 2 + O\left(\exp\{-x^{1/2}\}\right). \square \end{aligned}$$

EXAMPLE 2.  $X = \text{B.S.}$  ( $d \geq 2$ )

$$K_{BS}(\bar{s}, \bar{t}) = K_{BM}(s_1, t_1) \cdots K_{BM}(s_d, t_d)$$

So F.S. =  $\langle -1, -\frac{1}{2} \rangle$ , evals. are  $a_{\bar{n}} = a_{n_1} \cdots a_{n_d}$   
and

$$L_{BS}^*(s) = \frac{\pi}{s \sin \pi s} [A_{BM}(s)]^d$$

- pole of order  $d$  at  $s = \frac{1}{2}$
- analytic o.w. in  $\langle -1, 0 \rangle$

So

$$\begin{aligned} L_{BS}(x) &= \left[ (2\pi)^{d-1} (d-1)! \right]^{-1} x^{1/2} (\log x)^{d-1} \\ &+ \_ x^{1/2} (\log x)^{d-2} + \dots \\ &+ \_ x^{1/2} \\ &+ O(x^{-R}) \quad \text{for any } R \end{aligned}$$

In fact the last term is exponentially small in a power of  $x$ .  $\square$

EXAMPLE 3.  $X =$  integrated B.M. ( $d = 1$ ).  
 Studied in Kh&Shi(1998),Ch&Li(2003).

$$X(t) := \int_0^t B(u)du = \int_0^t (t - u)dB(u)$$

$$K(s, t) = \int_0^{s \wedge t} (s - u)(t - u)du.$$

Eigenvalues are known only as reciprocal roots of

$$\cosh \left( 2^{1/2}(-z)^{1/4} \right) + \cos \left( 2^{1/2}(-z)^{1/4} \right) + 2 = 0.$$

with F.S. =  $\langle -1, -\frac{1}{4} \rangle$ . But MIRACULOUSLY  
 (Hadamard's factorization thm.: GHT(2003),  
 GHLT(2003))

$$\begin{aligned} L(x) &\stackrel{\text{exactly}}{=} \log \left[ \cosh \left( 2^{1/2}x^{1/4} \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \cos \left( 2^{1/2}x^{1/4} \right) + 2 \right] - 2 \log 2 \\ &= 2^{1/2}x^{1/4} - 3 \log 2 \\ &\quad + O \left( \exp \left\{ -2^{-1/2}x^{1/4} \right\} \right). \end{aligned}$$

By (direct) mapping property  $L^*$  has simple poles at  $s = -\frac{1}{4}$  and at  $s = 0$ ; otherwise it is analytic in  $\langle -1, \infty \rangle$ .

So (or from GHLT study of eigenvalue asymptotics):

$A(s)$  has simple pole at  $s = -\frac{1}{4}$  and simple ZERO at  $s = 0$ .  $\square$

EXAMPLE 4.  $X = m$ -times integrated B.M. ( $d = 1$ ).

Similarly,  $L_m(x)$  has explicit expression involving the characteristic determinant of the boundary-value problem,

$$L_m(x) = c_m x^{1/(2m+2)} + \tilde{c}_m + R_m$$

where  $c_m$  admits a simple explicit expression,  $\tilde{c}_m$  involves determinant of a Vandermonde matrix and  $R_m$  is exponentially small in  $x^{1/(2m+2)}$ .

So:

$A_m(s)$  has simple pole at  $s = -\frac{1}{2m+2}$  and has simple ZERO at  $s = 0$ .  $\square$

EXAMPLE 5.  $X = \bar{m}$ -integrated B.S. ( $d \geq 2$ ).

Notation:

$$0 \leq m_1 \leq m_2 \leq \dots \leq m_d$$

$$g := \# \text{ of groups of tied } m_j \text{'s} \quad (1 \leq g \leq d)$$

$$t_\nu := \text{size of } \nu^{\text{th}} \text{ group} \quad (1 \leq \nu \leq g)$$

$$\bar{m}_\nu := \text{common value of } m_j \text{ in } \nu^{\text{th}} \text{ group}$$

$$\xi_\nu := \frac{1}{2\bar{m}_\nu + 2}$$

$L_{\bar{m}}^*(s)$  has pole of order  $t_\nu$  at  $-\xi_\nu$  ( $\forall \nu$ ) and is analytic elsewhere in  $\langle -1, \infty \rangle$ .

THEOREM.  $L_{\bar{m}}(x)$  has an asymptotic expansion of the form

$$L_{\bar{m}}(x) = \sum_{\nu=1}^g \sum_{k=0}^{t_\nu-1} c_{\nu,k} x^{\xi_\nu} (\log x)^k + R_{\bar{m}}$$

Here we can compute coefficients  $c_{\nu,k}$ . The remainder  $R_{\bar{m}}$  is exponentially small.

This expression can be differentiated term by term, any number of times.  $\square$

## §5. SMALL DEVIATIONS VIA SYTAYA (1974)

$$S = \|X\|_2^2 = \sum_n a_n Z_n^2,$$

$$h(x) := -\log \mathbf{E} e^{-xS} = \frac{1}{2} L(2x).$$

THEOREM. (Sytaya) As  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ ,

$$\mathbf{P}(S \leq \epsilon) = (1 + o(1)) \left[ -2\pi(x^*)^2 h''(x^*) \right]^{-1/2} \\ \times \exp \{ - [h(x^*) - \epsilon x^*] \}$$

where  $x^* = x^*(\epsilon)$  is defined by

$$h'(x^*) = \epsilon. \quad \square$$

REMARKS. 1.) Many applications of small-ball estimates in various norms: connections with metric entropy, Hausdorff dimension, LILs, empirical processes, ... Excellent surveys: W.Li & Q-M Shao (2001), Lifshits (1997).

2.) Sytaya: STRONG SDs.

3.) Lifshits (1997) extended to general sums as at start of talk.

4.) Fred & I know how to get full asymptotic expansion (Compare Bahadur & Ranga Rao (1960), Fill (1989).)  $\square$

If we want EXPLICIT expansions in  $\epsilon$ , we must "reverse" (invert)

$$h'(x^*) = \epsilon$$

to get an asymptotic expansion for  $x^*$  (and thus for  $h(x^*), h''(x^*)$ ).

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, RESTRICT ATTENTION TO  $\bar{m}$ -INTEGRATED B.S.

## §6. REVERSION

Outline:

1.) Exponentially small remainders can be ignored.

2.) lead-order asymptotics for  $x^*$  in terms of solution  $x_0$  to

$$\epsilon = \sum_{k=0}^{t_1-1} c_{1,k}(1) x^{\xi_1-1} (\log x)^k$$

Here the sum contains the terms involving highest power  $x^{\xi_1-1}$  in asymptotic expansion of  $h'(x)$ . Denote  $-\eta_1 := \xi_1 - 1$ .

3.) complete asymptotic expansion for  $x^*$  in terms of elementary functions &  $x_0$ .

4.) exact computation of  $x_0$ .



## REVERSION

1.) Exponentially small remainders in expansions for  $h$  can be ignored:

LEMMA. Let

$$\hat{h}(x) := \sum_{\nu=1}^g \sum_{k=0}^{t_{\nu}-1} c_{\nu,k} x^{\xi_{\nu}} (\log x)^k,$$

and let  $\hat{x}$  satisfy

$$\hat{h}'(\hat{x}) = \epsilon.$$

Then the following are each exponentially small in a power of  $1/\epsilon$ :

$$\hat{x} - x^*, \quad \hat{h}^{(j)}(\hat{x}) - h^{(j)}(x^*) \quad (\forall j).$$

Proof. EASY.  $\square$

## REVERSION

For lead-order LOGARITHMIC SDs, it's enough to get

2.) lead-order asymptotics for  $x^*$ :

$$\begin{aligned}x^* &\sim \hat{x} && \text{(solution dropping exp. rem.)} \\ &\sim x_0 && \text{(keeping only terms with } x^{-\eta_1}\text{)} \\ &\sim \tilde{x}_0 && \text{(keeping only single largest term).}\end{aligned}$$

So: Solve

$$\epsilon = c x^{-\eta_1} (\log x)^{t_1-1}$$

for  $\tilde{x}_0$ .

LEMMA.

$$\begin{aligned}x^* &\sim x_0 \sim \tilde{x}_0 \\ &\sim \left[ \frac{c}{\eta_1^{t_1-1}} \cdot \frac{1}{\epsilon} \cdot \left( \log \frac{1}{\epsilon} \right)^{t_1-1} \right]^{1/\eta_1}\end{aligned}$$

Proof. EASY.  $\square$

## REVERSION

3.) complete asymptotic expansion for  $x^*$  (or  $\hat{x}$ ) in terms of elementary functions &  $x_0$ :

See paper for general case: we get a complete asymptotic expansion for  $\hat{x} / x_0$  in which remainder estimates drop off at least by powers of  $\epsilon^{\eta_2/\eta_1-1}$ . (This is good enough).

EXAMPLE.  $d = 2, 0 = m_1 < m_2$ . Then  $\hat{x}$  satisfies

$$\epsilon = c_1 \hat{x}^{-1/2} + c_2 \hat{x}^{-\eta} \quad (1)$$

where  $1/2 < \eta = \eta_2 = \frac{2m_2+1}{2m_2+2} < 1$ ), and  $x_0$  satisfies

$$\epsilon = c_1 x_0^{-1/2} \quad (\text{i.e., } x_0 = \frac{c_1^2}{\epsilon^2})$$

Technique: We know  $\hat{x} = x_0 + (1 + o(1))x_0 y_0$  for some  $y_0 = o(1)$ . Plug this into eq. (1) and solve for  $y_0$ :

REVERSION

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon &= c_1 x_0^{-1/2} [1 + (1 + o(1))y_0]^{-1/2} \\ &\quad + (1 + o(1))c_2 x_0^{-\eta} \\ &= \epsilon \left[ 1 + (1 + o(1))\frac{1}{2}y_0 \right] + (1 + o(1))\frac{c_2}{c_1^{2\eta}}\epsilon^{2\eta},\end{aligned}$$

So

$$y_0 = (1 + o(1)) \frac{2c_2}{c_1^{2\eta}} \epsilon^{2\eta-1}.$$

(Recall here  $\frac{\eta_2}{\eta_1} = \frac{\eta}{1/2} = 2\eta$ .)

Now we know

$$\hat{x} = x_0 \left[ 1 + \frac{2c_2}{c_1^{2\eta}} \epsilon^{2\eta-1} + (1 + o(1))y_1 \right]$$

for some  $y_1 = o(\epsilon^{2\eta-1})$ .

Plug this into equation (1) and solve for  $y_1$ ,

ETC. !

□

## REVERSION

4. exact computation of solution  $x_0$  to

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon &= \sum_{k=0}^{t_1-1} c_{1,k}(1) x^{-\eta_1} (\log x)^k \\ &:= x^{-\eta} \sum_{k=0}^{t_1-1} a_k (\log x)^k\end{aligned}$$

We find a (conv.) series representation for  $x_0$ .

EXAMPLE.  $t = 1$ . Solution is trivial:

$$\epsilon = a_0 x^{-\eta} \rightarrow x_0 = \left(\frac{a_0}{\epsilon}\right)^{\eta}. \quad \square$$

EXAMPLE.  $t = 2$ . Solution is instructive.

Change variables, from  $x$  to

$$w := -\eta \left( \log x + \frac{a_0}{a_1} \right)$$

We need to solve for  $w$  the equation

$$w e^w = -\frac{\eta}{a_1} \exp\left(-\eta \frac{a_0}{a_1}\right) \epsilon =: -z$$

## REVERSION

Solve

$$w e^w = -z \quad \left( = -\frac{\eta}{a_1} \exp\left(-\eta \frac{a_0}{a_1}\right) \epsilon \right) \quad \text{for } w.$$

No elementary solution, but absolutely and uniformly convergent series (also an asymptotic expansion):

$$w = W_{-1}(-z) = \log z - \log \log \frac{1}{z} + \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} d_{rs} \left(\log \log \frac{1}{z}\right)^s (\log z)^{-(r+s)}$$

with  $d_{rs}$  given simply in terms of Stirling numbers  $[:]$ . Here  $W$  is a branch of Lambert  $W$ -function

(see CGHJK(1996))

## REVERSION

( $t = 2$ )

The solution can be rearranged into the form

$$(*) \quad \tilde{x}_0 \times \left[ 1 + \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} \tilde{d}_{rs} \left( \log \log \frac{1}{\epsilon} \right)^s \left( \log \frac{1}{\epsilon} \right)^{-(r+s)} \right]$$

with  $\tilde{d}_{\infty} = 0$ .

□

## GENERAL $t$ RESULT:

Again a result of the form (\*) holds.

□

e have completed the reversion.

§7. EXPLICIT FORMS OF ASYMPTOTIC EXPANSIONS FOR SDs ( $\bar{m}$ -integrated B.S.,  $d \geq 2$ )

A.) WEAK RESULTS ( $t := t_1, m := m_1$ )

THM.1. (independently, and in somewhat different form, by Karol, Nazarov, & Nikitin (2003))

$$-\log \mathbf{P}(S \leq \epsilon) = (1 + o(1))C(d, t, m) \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)^{\frac{1}{2m+1}} \times \left(\log \frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)^{(t-1)\frac{2m+2}{2m+1}}. \quad \square$$

Here  $C(d, t, m)$  has a complicated but explicit expression !

THM.2. The  $o(1)$  term in Thm.1 has a complete asymptotic expansion of the form

$$\sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \sum_{s=0}^r D_{rs} \left(\log \log \frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)^s \left(\log \frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)^{-r}$$

Here  $D_{rs} = D_{rs}(d, t, m)$ . In particular,  $D_{11} = (t-1)^2 \frac{2m+2}{2m+1}$ .



## B.) STRONG RESULTS

For simplicity, assume distinct  $m_j$ 's ( $g = d$ ).  
 From Thm.1, recall (here  $t = t_1 = 1$ )

$$-\log \mathbf{P}(S \leq \epsilon) = (1 + o(1))E(\epsilon)$$

with

$$E(\epsilon) = E_{d,m_1}(\epsilon) = C(d, 1, m_1) \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)^{\frac{1}{2m_1+1}}.$$

THEOREM 3. The small-ball prob.  $\mathbf{P}(S \leq \epsilon)$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}(S \leq \epsilon) &= (1 + o(1)) \left[ \frac{\pi}{m_1 + 1} E(\epsilon) \right]^{-1/2} \\ &\quad \times \exp \left\{ -E(\epsilon) \left[ 1 + \sum(\epsilon) \right] \right\} \end{aligned}$$

for some finite linear combination  $\sum(\epsilon)$  of  $\epsilon^{\text{powers}}$ , wherein each power is a nonzero nonnegative integer combination of the numbers

$$\frac{(2m_1 + 2)(2m_\nu + 1)}{(2m_1 + 1)(2m_\nu + 2)} - 1 > 0, \quad \nu = 2, \dots, d. \quad \square$$