

Lecture #23 - Multidimensional Green's Functions and Probability

I. Green's Functions in Multiple Dimensions

A. Basic Properties

1. Many properties carry over from the 1D case.

2. Definition: $\mathcal{L} G(\underline{r}, \underline{r}') = \delta(\underline{r} - \underline{r}')$

a. Here $\delta(\underline{r} - \underline{r}') = \delta(x - x') \delta(y - y') \delta(z - z')$

3. Hermitian 2nd-order PDE:

$$\mathcal{L} \psi(\underline{r}) = \nabla \cdot [p(\underline{r}) \nabla \psi(\underline{r})] + q(\underline{r}) \psi(\underline{r}) = f(\underline{r})$$

4. Solution to $\mathcal{L} \psi(\underline{r}) = f(\underline{r})$:

$$\psi(\underline{r}) = \int G(\underline{r}, \underline{r}') f(\underline{r}') d^3 \underline{r}'$$

Note: \underline{r} is held constant
 \underline{r}' is variable of integration.

5. If $\mathcal{L} \psi(\underline{r}) = \lambda \psi(\underline{r})$ defines a Hermitian eigenvalue problem with eigenfunctions $\phi_n(\underline{r})$ and eigenvalues λ_n , then

a. Symmetric: $G(\underline{r}, \underline{r}') = G^*(\underline{r}', \underline{r})$

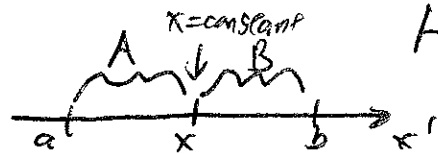
b. Eigenfunction Expansion: $G(\underline{r}, \underline{r}') = \sum_n \frac{\phi_n^*(\underline{r}') \phi_n(\underline{r})}{\lambda_n}$

b.a. $G(\underline{r}, \underline{r}')$ is continuous and differentiable at all points $\underline{r} \neq \underline{r}'$.

b. $G(\underline{r}, \underline{r}')$ has singularities in first derivatives so that second-order operator \mathcal{L} generates the necessary delta function ((2) above).

I, (Continued)

B. Differences from 1D Case



Hawes ③

1. Division into intervals $a < x' < x$, $x < x' < b$

a. In the multi-dimensional case, one may not simply divide into two intervals!

2. Specific forms of solution (such as solution for case A) do not apply!

B. Ex: 3D Laplacian

a. Obtain Green's Function for convenient BC's.

b. Then, add solution to homogeneous equation $\nabla^2 \psi(r) = 0$ to satisfy required BC's.

c. $(\nabla^2)^2 G(r, r') = \delta(r - r')$ where $\lim_{r' \rightarrow \infty} G(r, r') = 0$.
operates on r' variable!

d. NOTE: i) BCs are spherically symmetric and at an infinite distance from both r and r'

ii) We may make simplifying assumption $G(r, r')$ is a function only of $Sr = |r - r'|$

iii) Then we can divide region along 1D variable Sr .

e. Following this strategy, we may obtain

$$\boxed{G(r, r') = -\frac{1}{4\pi |r - r'|}}$$
 Fundamental Green's Function of Laplace's Equation in 3D

f. May add a suitable solution to $\nabla^2 \psi = 0$ (homogeneous eq.) to convert BC's from 0 at $r' = \infty$ to satisfy whatever BC's are needed.

II. Probability

A. Basic Concepts and Definitions

1. Random Events: Practically impossible to predict from initial state
 ⇒ Includes when we have incomplete information about initial state.

Ex: Gas in a box: i. We do not know individual particle positions and velocities, but only average quantities such as pressure, temp.

2. Key Concept: Average properties of many similar events are predictable

3. Probability quantifies our level of ignorance!

4. Statistics connects observations on a small data sample to inferences about probable content of entire population

5. Def: Sample space: All possible mutually exclusive outcomes of an experiment.

a. Mutually exclusive means if one event did occur, others did not.
 Ex: Flip a coin: If heads, then it cannot be tails.

6. Def: Trial: A single instance that produces an outcome.

b. Event: Unique, equally likely occurrence c. Outcome: Events that satisfy same particular criterion.

7. Def: Experimental Probability

$$P(x_i) \equiv \frac{\text{Number of times event } x_i \text{ occurs}}{\text{Total number of trials}}$$

8. Def: Theoretical Probability

$$P(x_i) \equiv \frac{\text{Number of outcomes } x_i}{\text{Total number of all possible events}}$$

II. A. (Continued)

Howes (4)

Experimental definition is appropriate when:

- Total number of possible events is not well defined
- Cannot identify equally likely outcomes.

10. Example: Two coin tosses: Theoretical Probability

a. Outcomes: Number of heads:

i) Possible values x_0, x_1, x_2 for 0, 1, or 2 heads

b. Possible Events:

Trial	Toss 1	Toss 2	Outcome
Fair possible events $N_{\text{tot}} = 4$	H	H	x_2
	H	T	x_1
	T	H	x_1
	T	T	x_0

c. Theoretical Probability

$$P(x_0) = \frac{1}{4}, \quad P(x_1) = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{1}{2}, \quad P(x_2) = \frac{1}{4}$$

11. Example: Grains of Sand: Experimental Probability

a. Consider two piles of sand with same number of grains:
one pile has black grains, other has white grains

b. Mix both piles together thoroughly

c. Counting all grains of sand is impractical

d. Choosing a small sample, the probability of choosing a black grain is near $\frac{1}{2}$

e. With a larger sample, the probability will get closer to $\frac{1}{2}$

12. Axioms

impossibility

a. $\rightarrow 0 \leq P \leq 1$

certainty

b. Probabilities for mutually exclusive events add.

Ex: One head from two coin tosses: $P = \frac{1}{2}$ where $P_1 = \frac{1}{4}$ for (T,H) & $P_2 = \frac{1}{4}$ for (H,T)

II. A Continued

Haves (5)

B. Or vs. "Exclusive Or"

- In probability, "A or B" means A, B, or "both A and B".
- Exclusive or (xor) means A or B but "not both A and B".

14. Example: Drawing Cards

a. What is probability for drawing a club or a jack?

b. NOTE: These events are not mutually exclusive, since there is a jack of clubs.

c. Deck of playing cards: 52 cards total \rightarrow Not 4 suits of 13 cards each

d. Each card is equally likely to be drawn.

e. A: drawing a club: 13 events \leftarrow BUT \rightarrow this includes jack of clubs

B: drawing a jack: 4 events

c. Thus: Theoretical Prob: $P = \frac{12}{52} + \frac{4}{52} = \frac{16}{52} = \boxed{\frac{4}{13} = P}$

clubs without jack
all jacks

B. Sets, Unions, Intersections

1. Consider a sample space S

2. Def: Subset, C

a. $A \subset S$ if all events in A are also in S.

3. Equality of A and B if $A \subset B$ and $B \subset A$

4. Def: Union, U

a. $A \cup B$ is all points in A, B, or both A and B.

5. Def: Intersection, \cap

a. $A \cap B$ is all points in both A & B.

II. B. Continued

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6. IF A and B have no common points, $A \cap B = \emptyset$
↳ Empty Set.

7. Subtraction: $A - (A \cap B)$

a. All points in A are also in B.

8. Addition Rule for Probabilities

a. $P(A)$ is probability of event A from full sample S.

b. $0 \leq P(A) \leq 1$

c. $P(S) = 1$ Probability of entire sample space.

d. $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$ Subtract double-counted points.

e. IF $A \cap B = \emptyset$ (Mutually exclusive outcomes), then

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$$

9. Conditional Probability $P(B|A)$

a. Def: Probability that B occurs, given that A has already occurred.

b. Def: Ordered Events $P(A, B)$

Probability that A occurs, then B occurs.

c. $P(A, B) = P(A) P(B|A)$

Probability of A

Probability of B after A has occurred.

d. Thus $P(B|A) = \frac{P(A, B)}{P(A)}$

10. Example: Conditional Probability

a. Consider a box of 10 identical red & 20 identical blue pens.

b. What is $P(R, B)$? (Drawing red pen, then drawing blue pen).

II B. 10, (Common used)

Hawes ②

c. NOTE: Pens are not replaced after they are drawn;

d.

$$P(R, B) = \left(\frac{10}{30} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{20}{29} \right) = \frac{20}{87}$$

\uparrow 10 red \uparrow 20 blue
 \uparrow 30 total \uparrow 29 total
P(A) P(B|A)

11a. IF A and B are independent, then $P(B|A) = P(B)$

b. Thus $P(A, B) = P(A) P(B)$

c. This would be the case if we replace pens after each drawing.

d. For A and B independent, we may write

$$P(B|A) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(A)} \quad \text{where } P(A \cap B) = P(A) P(B)$$

12. Bayes Theorem: $P(A|B) P(B) = P(B|A) P(A)$

C. Counting Permutations and Combinations

(Ordered) \rightarrow (Unordered) \rightarrow

1. Permutations: (Order Matters)

a. How many ways can we arrange (permute) n different letters?

$$\underline{n} \cdot \underline{n-1} \cdot \underline{n-2} \cdot \dots \cdot \underline{2} \cdot \underline{1} = \boxed{n!}$$

b. How many (ordered) ways can we seat n people in k chairs? ($n \geq k$)

$$\underline{n} \cdot \underline{(n-1)} \cdot \underline{(n-2)} \cdot \dots \cdot \underline{(n-k+2)} \cdot \underline{(n-k+1)} = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$$

Seat #	1	2	3	...	k-1	k
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2. Combinations: (Order does not matter)

a. How many ways can you choose k particles from n distinguishable particles?

b. NOTE: For the same k particles, there are k! possible permutations.

II C2 (Continued)

Hwies (8)

c. Thus divide by possible permutations

$$\frac{n!}{(n-k)!k!}$$

d. Symbol: $\binom{n}{k}$ "n choose k"

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!k!}$$

e. This is the binomial coefficient.

B. Classical vs. Quantum Statistics (n particles, k possible states)

a. Maxwell-Boltzmann Statistics: Distinguishable particles

i. Total possibilities k^n

b. Bose-Einstein Statistics: Indistinguishable Particles

i. Wave function symmetric under particle interchange

ii. Total possibilities: $\binom{n+k-1}{n} = \binom{n+k-1}{k-1}$

c. Fermi-Dirac Statistics: Indistinguishable Particles

i. Wave function reverses sign under particle interchange.

ii. Total possibilities $\binom{k}{n}$

iii. NOTE: Probability is zero if $n > k$ (more particles than states).
Since maximum one particle per state.