

Asymptotic Analysis of Integrals (Quick review)

(Applied Asymptotic Analysis)
(by Peter Miller)

Consider the integral:

$$F(\lambda) = \int_0^\lambda e^{-\lambda t} f(t) dt, \quad \lambda > 0.$$

For general $f(t)$ this is almost impossible to solve.

In terms of elementary solutions. Some easy examples where this integral can be solved is for $f(t)$ polynomials or periodic functions like $\sin t$ or $\cos t$, but not in general for $t \sin t$. However, can we get some information about this integral?

In several cases, the answer to this question is "yes".

If $f(t)$ has the form:

$$f(t) = t^m g(t), \quad m - \text{non-negative integer.}$$

Then, if we let $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$: (under some hypothesis)

$$(0) \quad F(\lambda) = \int_0^\lambda e^{-\lambda t} f(t) dt < \infty, \quad \forall \lambda > 0$$

(1) and

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} F(\lambda) &\sim \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{g^{(n)}(0)}{n!} \frac{(m+n)!}{\lambda^{m+n+1}} \\ &\text{as } \lambda \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}}$$

Even more, if $m \equiv \sigma > -1$, then. (not necessarily an integer.)

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} (2) \quad F(\lambda) &\sim \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{g^{(n)}(0)}{n!} \frac{\Gamma(\sigma+n+1)}{\lambda^{\sigma+n+1}} \\ &\text{as } \lambda \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}}$$

where $\Gamma(z) = \int_0^\infty e^{-t} t^{z-1} dt$ is the gamma function,

Watson's lemma: If $T > 0$, $\sigma > -1$,

$\phi(t) = t^\sigma g(t)$ is complex-valued,

$$\int_0^T |t|^\sigma |\phi(t)| dt < \infty.$$

$g^{(k)}(0)$ exists for $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

Then, equations (1), (2) and (3) hold (previous page).

Sketch of the Proof.

$$\#(s) = \int_0^s e^{-\lambda t} \phi(t) dt + \int_s^T e^{-\lambda t} \phi(t) dt$$

where $s < T$ is small enough:

$$\left| \int_s^T e^{-\lambda t} \phi(t) dt \right| \leq e^{-\lambda s} \underbrace{\int_0^T |\phi(t)| dt}_{\text{the integral is } \lambda \text{ independent.}} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{is exponentially} \\ \text{small in } \lambda \end{matrix}$$

Similarly, we can show that:

$$\int_0^s e^{-\lambda t} t^\sigma g(t) dt = \sum_{n=0}^N \frac{g^{(n)}(0)}{n!} \int_0^s e^{-\lambda t} t^{\sigma+n} dt + \int_0^s e^{-\lambda t} t^\sigma r_N(t) dt$$

Now:

$$\int_0^s e^{-\lambda t} t^\sigma r_N(t) dt \leq \\ \leq \sup_{0 \leq t \leq s} |g^{(N+1)}(t)| \cdot \frac{1}{(N+1)!} \int_0^s e^{-\lambda t} t^{\sigma+N+1} dt.$$

We can prove that:

$$\int_0^s e^{-\lambda t} t^{\sigma+p} dt = \frac{\Gamma(\sigma+p+1)}{\lambda^{\sigma+p+1}} + o(\lambda^{-(\sigma+p+1)})$$

From where it follows that:

$$f(\lambda) \approx \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{g^{(n)}(0)}{n!} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(\sigma+n+1)}{\lambda^{\sigma+n+1}}, \quad \text{as } \lambda \rightarrow +\infty.$$

Laplace Method for Asymptotic expansions of Integrals

Integrals of the form:

$$F(\lambda) = \int_0^T e^{-\lambda t} \phi(t) dt$$

$$F(\lambda) = \int_{-a}^B e^{-\lambda t^2} \phi(t) dt.$$

can be approximated for $\lambda > 0$, and $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$.

The generic integral:

$$f(\lambda) = \int_a^b e^{\lambda R(t)} g(t) dt.$$

can be approximated.

$$F(\lambda) = e^{\lambda R_{\max}} \int_a^\lambda e^{\lambda R(t)} g(t) dt$$

So we have either:

$$F(\lambda) = e^{\lambda R_{\max}} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\lambda^{n+1}} \frac{d^n}{dt^n} \Big|_{t=a} \left(g(t) T'(t) \right) + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\lambda^{n+1}} \frac{d^n}{dt^n} \Big|_{t=b} \left(g(t) T'(t) \right) \right\}$$

where $T'(t=a)$ or $T'(t=b)$ depends on $R(t)$,

Or:

$$F(\lambda) = \sqrt{\lambda} e^{\lambda R_{\max}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^{2n} n! \lambda^n} \frac{d^{2n}}{dt^{2n}} \Big|_{t=t_{mid}} \left(g(t) e^{(t-t_{mid})^2} \right)$$

where $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$

here $v(t)$ can be computed in terms of R .

Example: At leading order:

~~$$E_+(\lambda) = \int_0^\lambda e^{-\lambda(t-t^2)} dt \approx$$~~

$$F(\lambda) = -\frac{g(a)}{R'(a)} \lambda^{-1} + O(\lambda^{-2}), \text{ as } \lambda \rightarrow \infty$$

$\downarrow + \frac{g(b)}{R'(b)} \lambda^{-1} +$

or

$$F(\lambda) = e^{\lambda R_{\max}} \sqrt{\frac{-2\pi}{\lambda R''(t_{\max})}} g(t_{\max}) + O\left(\frac{1}{\lambda^{3/2}}\right)$$

as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$.

Example:

$$F_-(\lambda) = \int_0^1 e^{-\lambda(t-t^2)} dt.$$

$$R(t) = -t + t^2, \quad g(t) = 1$$

$$\max_{[0,1]} R(t) = R(0) = R(1) = 0.$$

$$R'(t) = -1 + 2t.$$

$$R'(0) = -1$$

$$R'(1) = +1.$$

$$R''(t) = +2.$$

$$F_+(\lambda) = -\frac{1}{\lambda} \lambda^{-1} + \frac{1}{1} \lambda + O\left(\frac{1}{\lambda^2}\right)$$

$$= +\frac{2}{\lambda} + O\left(\frac{1}{\lambda^2}\right) \quad \text{as } \lambda \rightarrow \infty.$$

Example:

$$F_+(\lambda) = \int_0^1 e^{\lambda(t-t^2)} dt.$$

$$R(t) = t - t^2.$$

$$R'(t) = +(-2t)$$

$$\max_{[0,1]} R(t) = R\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$R''(t) = -2.$$

$$F_-(\lambda) = \sqrt{\frac{-2\pi}{\lambda(-2)}} \cdot 1 \cdot e^{\frac{\lambda}{4}} + O\left(\lambda^{-3/2}\right)$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} e^{\frac{\lambda}{4}} + O\left(\frac{1}{\lambda^{3/2}}\right) \quad \text{as } \lambda \rightarrow \infty$$

