


**Measure and Integration**  
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**Lecture 57**  
**Measure of the unit ball in N dimensions**

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We were looking at the integration of radial functions. So,  $f: \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  radial, i. e.,  $f(x) = \tilde{f}(|x|)$  some  $\tilde{f}: [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . So, that is such a function, if it is a smaller domain then we will say. Now, how do we say the integral for instance

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^N} f dm_1 = N \omega_N \int_0^\infty \tilde{f}(r) r^{N-1} dr, \quad f \geq 0$$

So, this was the formula, we said, especially for instance if  $f$  is non-negative for instance. Then we have, it can be extended to others. We first proved it in the case of a ball and then we, by limiting arguments to you, like monotone convergence theorem or something, can prove it. For other domains also  $f$  is integrable,  $f$  is non-negative, in such cases you can extend it to this.

So, now we will see a nice example of this thing.

**Example:**  $f(x) = e^{-|x|^2}$

So, this is the function which we want to look at. So, let us call

$$I_N = \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} e^{-|x|^2} dm_N(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} e^{-(x_1^2 + \dots + x_N^2)} dm_N(x)$$

Now, this non negative function here and therefore Fubini implies that of

$$I_N = \prod_{i=1}^N \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{-x_i^2} dm_1(x_i) . \text{ And this is nothing but } (I_1)^N . \text{ So, this is one way of looking at}$$


Fubini's, by application, applying Fubini's theorem, you get this. So, now let us try to compute  $I_1$ .

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Fubini  $\Rightarrow I_1 = \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{-x^2} dm_1(x) = (I_1)^2$

$$(I_1)^2 = I_2 = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} e^{-|x|^2} dx = 2\omega_2 \int_0^\infty e^{-r^2} r dr \quad \omega_2 = \pi$$

$$r^2 = s, 2rdr = ds$$

$$= \pi \int_0^\infty e^{-s} ds = \pi$$



$$\Rightarrow I_1 = \sqrt{\pi} \quad I_N = \pi^{N/2}$$

$$\frac{N/2}{\pi} = I_N =$$



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$$\Rightarrow I_1 = \sqrt{\pi} \quad I_N = \pi^{N/2}$$


$$\frac{N/2}{\pi} = I_N = N\omega_N \int_0^\infty e^{-r^2} r^{N-1} dr \quad r^2 = s$$

$$= \frac{N}{2} \omega_N \int_0^\infty e^{-s} s^{N/2-1} ds \quad \Gamma(x) = \text{Gamma fn}$$

$$= \frac{N}{2} \omega_N \Gamma(N/2)$$




$= \pi \int_0^\infty e^{-s} ds = \pi$



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$\Rightarrow I_1 = \sqrt{\pi} \quad I_N = \frac{\pi^{N/2}}{2}$

$\frac{N}{2} = I_N = N \omega_N \int_0^\infty e^{-r^2} r^{N-1} dr \quad r^2 = s$

$= \frac{N}{2} \omega_N \int_0^\infty e^{-s} s^{N/2-1} ds \quad \Gamma(s) = \text{Gamma fn}$

$= \frac{N}{2} \omega_N \Gamma(N/2) \quad = \int_0^\infty e^{-x} x^{s-1} dx$

$= \omega_N \Gamma(N/2) \quad s \Gamma(s) = \Gamma(s+1)$



So, we start with  $I_2$  is equal to integral over  $\mathbb{R}^2$  of  $e^{-x^2 - y^2}$  dx dy, and now we will, so this is equal to  $I_1$  squared. Now, this we will apply the polar coordinate formula integration of a radial function. So, this is equal to  $2 \omega_2$  and  $\omega_2$  is volume of the unit ball which is area of the unit circle disc and that is equal to  $\pi$ .

So, 2:  $\omega_2$  integral 0 to infinity  $e^{-r^2} r dr$ . So that is the formula which we have. Now,  $2 r dr$  so if I put  $r^2$  equal to  $s$  then  $2 r dr$  equals  $ds$  and therefore this becomes  $\omega_2$  which is  $\pi$  integral 0 to infinity  $e^{-s} ds$  is equal to  $\pi$ . Consequently, so this implies that  $I_1$  equal to  $\sqrt{\pi}$  and  $I_N$ , therefore, is equal to  $(\pi)^{N/2}$ .

Now, having determined this, we will now look at it again. So,  $(\pi)^{N/2}$  equals  $I_N$  and that is equal to, if I write again  $e^{-x^2 - y^2}$  is nothing but a radial function. So this is equal to  $N \omega_N$  integral 0 to infinity  $e^{-r^2} r^{N-1} dr$ .

So once more, I want to write  $r^2$  equal to  $s$  and then this will become  $N \omega_N$  integral 0 to infinity  $e^{-s} s^{N/2-1} ds$ . This  $r^{N-1} dr$  which if I make  $r^2$  equal to  $s$  transforms to  $s^{N/2-1} ds$ . And that is equal to  $N \omega_N \Gamma(N/2)$  where  $\Gamma(s)$  is the  $\Gamma$  function which is equal to integral 0 to infinity  $e^{-x} x^{s-1} dx$ .

So this is the  $\Gamma$  function and therefore you have this. Now, this  $\Gamma$  function has some properties. You have  $s\Gamma(s) = \Gamma(s + 1)$ . These are all properties which you have seen in your calculus course. So this is equal to  $\omega_N \Gamma(\frac{N}{2} + 1)$ .

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Handwritten notes on lined paper showing the derivation of the volume of a unit ball  $\omega_N$  using the Gamma function. The notes include the following equations:

$$\omega_N = \frac{\pi^{N/2}}{\Gamma(\frac{N}{2} + 1)}$$

$$\omega_2 = \frac{\pi}{\Gamma(2)} = \pi$$

$$\omega_3 = \frac{\pi^{3/2}}{\Gamma(\frac{3}{2} + 1)} = \frac{\pi^{3/2}}{\frac{3}{2} \Gamma(\frac{3}{2})} = \frac{\pi^{3/2}}{\frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \Gamma(\frac{1}{2})} = \frac{4}{3} \pi$$

Additional notes on the right side of the paper include:  $\Gamma(s) = \Gamma(s+1)/s$  and  $\Gamma(1/2) = \sqrt{\pi}$ . A small NPTEL logo is visible on the right side of the paper.

So, therefore from this, you deduce that  $\omega_N$ , the volume of the unit ball is nothing, the measure of the unit ball is equal  $(\pi/2)^{N/2}$ , by 2 by  $\Gamma(\frac{N}{2} + 1)$ . Now,  $\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})$  is again the integral which you get when you do I 1. It is same as that integral and therefore you have root  $\pi$ . So check. The same as the integral  $\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})$ . So, now let us compute  $\omega_2$ , for instance, from this formula. This equal to  $\pi$  by  $\Gamma(2)$ .  $\Gamma(2)$  is equal to 1 and therefore this is  $\pi$ . So this is the area of the unit ball.

Let us do  $\omega_3$ . So this is equal to  $\pi^{3/2}$  by  $\Gamma(3)$  by 2 plus 1 which is  $\pi^{3/2}$  by 3 by 2,  $\Gamma(s + 1) = s\Gamma(s)$ ,  $\Gamma 3$  by 2. 3 by 2 is 1 plus half and therefore you have this equal to  $\pi^{3/2}$  by 3 by 2 into 1 by 2 into  $\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})$  is equal to, so this is equal to root  $\pi$ . And therefore that will cancel here, so with one half with one and, so this will just give you  $\pi/3$  by 4 is equal to 4 by 3  $\pi$  which is the formula you know for the volume of the unit ball in r 3.

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$$\omega_3 = \frac{\pi^{3/2}}{\Gamma(3/2+1)} = \frac{\pi^{3/2}}{3/2 \Gamma(1/2)} = \frac{\pi^{3/2}}{\frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}}} = \frac{\pi^{3/2}}{\frac{3}{2\sqrt{\pi}}} = \frac{\pi^2}{3}$$

we can show  $\omega_4 = \frac{1}{2} \pi^2$      $\omega_5 = \frac{8}{15} \pi^2$



Similarly, we can show  $\omega_4$ , the measure of the unit ball in four dimensions is one half  $\pi$  square and  $\omega_5$  which is the measure of the unit ball in r 5 is 8 by 15. You just apply the formula and use the fact that  $\Gamma(s + 1) = s\Gamma(s)$ . So, this tells you how to compute the volume of the unit ball in arbitrary space dimensions.