

Exercise 1: Gaussian integrals ($2+2=4$ points)

Calculate the following Gaussian integrals

i) Calculate

$$\langle x^{2n} \rangle = \sqrt{\frac{a}{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^{2n} e^{-\frac{1}{2}ax^2} dx \quad (1)$$

ii) Calculate

$$\langle x^{2n} \rangle = \left(\frac{d}{dJ} \right)^{2n} \left[\sqrt{\frac{a}{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}ax^2 + Jx} dx \right] \Big|_{J=0} \quad (2)$$

Exercise 2: Functional derivative - chain rule ($2+2=4$ points)

Recall the definition of the functional derivative

$$\delta F[x] = \int \frac{\delta F[x]}{\delta x(s)} \delta x(s) ds. \quad (3)$$

Consider the following functional

$$F[g(f)] = \int g(f(x)) dx, \quad \text{with} \quad g(f) = (f'(x))^n. \quad (4)$$

i) Calculate the derivative using

$$\frac{\delta F[g(f)]}{\delta f(y)} = \int \frac{\delta F[g(f)]}{\delta [g(f)](s)} \frac{\delta [g(f)](s)}{\delta f(y)} ds. \quad (5)$$

ii) Calculate the derivative using

$$\frac{\delta F[g(f)]}{\delta f(y)} = \frac{d}{ds} F[g(f(x) + s\delta(x-y))] \Big|_{s=0}. \quad (6)$$

Exercise 3: Partition function of the harmonic oscillator ($3+3+3+3=12$ points)

Recall the Hamilton function of the 1 dimensional harmonic oscillator

$$H(p, x) = T + V = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 x^2. \quad (7)$$

- i) Use the Hamilton function to compute the partition function of the system

$$Z_1 = \int e^{-\beta H} \frac{dp dx}{2\pi}, \quad (8)$$

with $\beta = 1/T$.

- ii) We can obtain a similar result from the quantum mechanical case. Recall the energies of the discrete spectrum of the quantum mechanical harmonic oscillator E_n and calculate

$$Z_2 = \sum_n e^{-\beta E_n}. \quad (9)$$

- iii) Finally another possibility to obtain the partition function is using the Mehler formula given by

$$\langle x | e^{-\beta H} | x \rangle = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\pi \sinh(\beta\omega)}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2 m\omega}{\sinh(\beta\omega)} (\cosh(\omega\beta) - 1)\right). \quad (10)$$

Calculate the partition function using

$$Z_3 = \int \langle x | e^{-\beta H} | x \rangle dx. \quad (11)$$

- iv) Calculate the free energy

$$F = -\frac{1}{\beta} \log(Z), \quad (12)$$

for all three cases Z_1 , Z_2 and Z_3 and discuss the limit $\beta \ll 1$ for F_2 and F_3 .