

The Saddle point method in combinatorics asymptotic analysis: successes and failures (A personal view)

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The number of inversions in permutations

Let $a_1 \dots a_n$ be a permutation of the set $\{1, \dots, n\}$. If $a_i > a_k$ and $i < k$, the pair (a_i, a_k) is called an **inversion**; $I_n(j)$ is the number of permutations of length n with j inversions.

Here, we show how to extend previous results using the **saddle point method**. This leads, e. g., to asymptotics for $I_{\alpha n + \beta}(\gamma n + \delta)$, for integer constants $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$ and more general ones as well.

With this technique, we will also show the known result that $I_n(j)$ is **asymptotically normal, with additional corrections**.

The generating function for the numbers $I_n(j)$ is given by

$$\Phi_n(z) = \sum_{j \geq 0} I_n(j) z^j = (1 - z)^{-n} \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - z^i).$$

By Cauchy's theorem,

$$I_n(j) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\mathcal{C}} \Phi_n(z) \frac{dz}{z^{j+1}},$$

where \mathcal{C} is, say, a circle around the origin.

The Gaussian limit, $j = m + x\sigma$, $m = n(n-1)/4$

Actually, we obtain here local limit theorems with some corrections (=lower order terms).

The Gaussian limit of $I_n(j)$ is easily derived from the generating function $\Phi_n(z)$ (using the Lindeberg-Lévy conditions. Indeed, this generating function corresponds to a sum for $i = 1, \dots, n$ of independent, uniform $[0..i-1]$ random variables. As an exercise, let us recover this result with the **saddle point method**, with an **additional correction** of order $1/n$. We have, for the random variable X_n characterized by

$$\mathbb{P}(X_n = j) = J_n(j),$$

with $J_n := I_n/n!$,

$$m := \mathbb{E}(X_n) = n(n-1)/4,$$

$$\sigma^2 := \mathbb{V}(X_n) = n(2n+5)(n-1)/72.$$

We know that

$$I_n(j) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Omega} e^{S(z)} dz$$

where Ω is inside the analyticity domain of the integrand, encircles the origin, passes through the saddle point \tilde{z} and

$$S = \ln(\Phi_n(z)) - (j+1) \ln z,$$

\tilde{z} is the solution of

$$S^{(1)}(\tilde{z}) = 0. \tag{1}$$

Figure 1 shows the real part of $S(z)$ together with a path Ω through the saddle point.

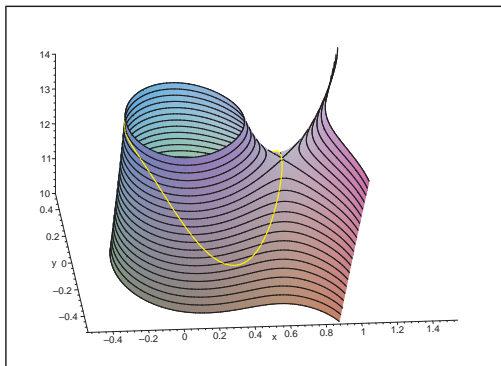


Figure 1: Real part of $S(z)$. Saddle-point and path, $n = 10$

We have

$$J_n(j) = \frac{1}{n!2\pi i} \int_{\Omega} \exp \left[S(\tilde{z}) + S^{(2)}(\tilde{z})(z-\tilde{z})^2/2! + \sum_{l=3}^{\infty} S^{(l)}(\tilde{z})(z-\tilde{z})^l/l! \right] dz$$

(note carefully that the linear term vanishes). Set $z = \tilde{z} + i\tau$. This gives

$$J_n(j) = \frac{1}{n!2\pi} \exp[S(\tilde{z})] \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp \left[S^{(2)}(\tilde{z})(i\tau)^2/2! + \sum_{l=3}^{\infty} S^{(l)}(\tilde{z})(i\tau)^l/l! \right] d\tau. \quad (2)$$

We can now compute (2), for instance by using the classical trick of setting

$$S^{(2)}(\tilde{z})(i\tau)^2/2! + \sum_{l=3}^{\infty} S^{(l)}(\tilde{z})(i\tau)^l/l! = -u^2/2.$$

To justify this procedure, we proceed in three steps (to simplify, we use $\tilde{z} = 1$).

- setting $z = e^{i\theta}$, we must show that the tail integral

$$\int_{\theta_0}^{2\pi - \theta_0} e^{S(z)} d\theta$$

is **negligible** for some θ_0 ,

- we must insure that a **central Gaussian approximation** holds:

$$S(z) \sim S(\tilde{z}) + S^{(2)}(\tilde{z})(z - \tilde{z})^2/2!$$

in the integration domain $|\theta| \leq \theta_0$, by choosing for instance $S^{(2)}(\tilde{z})\theta_0^2 \rightarrow \infty$, $S^{(3)}(\tilde{z})\theta_0^3 \rightarrow 0$, $n \rightarrow \infty$,

- we must have a **tail completion**: the incomplete Gaussian integral must be asymptotic to a complete one.

We **split** the exponent of the integrand as

$$\begin{aligned} S &:= S_1 + S_2, \\ S_1 &:= \sum_{i=1}^n \ln(1 - z^i), \\ S_2 &:= -n \ln(1 - z) - (j + 1) \ln z. \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

Set

$$S^{(i)} := \frac{d^i S}{dz^i}.$$

Set $\tilde{z} := z^* - \varepsilon$, where $z^* = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \tilde{z}$. Here, $z^* = 1$. (This notation always means that z^* is the approximate saddle point and \tilde{z} is the exact saddle point; they differ by a quantity that has to be computed to some degree of accuracy.) This leads, to first order, to

$$\begin{aligned} &[(n + 1)^2/4 - 3n/4 - 5/4 - j] \\ &+ [-(n + 1)^3/36 + 7(n + 1)^2/24 - 49n/72 - 91/72 - j]\varepsilon = 0. \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

Set $j = m + x\sigma$ in (4). This shows that, asymptotically, ε is given by a **Puiseux series** of powers of $n^{-1/2}$, starting with $-6x/n^{3/2}$. To obtain the next terms, we compute the next terms in the expansion of (1), i.e., we first obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & [(n+1)^2/4 - 3n/4 - 5/4 - j] \\ & + [-(n+1)^3/36 + 7(n+1)^2/24 - 49n/72 - 91/72 - j]\varepsilon \\ & + [-j - 61/48 - (n+1)^3/24 + 5(n+1)^2/16 - 31n/48]\varepsilon^2 = 0. \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

More generally, even powers ε^{2k} lead to a $\mathcal{O}(n^{2k+1}) \cdot \varepsilon^{2k}$ term and odd powers ε^{2k+1} lead to a $\mathcal{O}(n^{2k+3}) \cdot \varepsilon^{2k+1}$ term. Now we set $j = m + x\sigma$, expand into powers of $n^{-1/2}$ and equate each coefficient with 0. This leads successively to a full expansion of ε . Note that to obtain a **given precision** of ε , it is enough to compute a **given finite number of terms** in the generalization of (5). We obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon = & -6x/n^{3/2} + (9x/2 - 54/25x^3)/n^{5/2} - (18x^2 + 36)/n^3 \\ & + x[-30942/30625x^4 + 27/10x^2 - 201/16]/n^{7/2} + \mathcal{O}(1/n^4). \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Let us first analyze $S(\tilde{z})$. We obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_1(\tilde{z}) &= \sum_{i=1}^n \ln(i) + [-3/2 \ln(n) + \ln(6) + \ln(-x)]n \\
 &\quad + 3/2x\sqrt{n} + 43/50x^2 - 3/4 \\
 &\quad + [3x/8 + 6/x + 27/50x^3]/\sqrt{n} \\
 &\quad + [5679/12250x^4 - 9/50x^2 + 173/16]/n + \mathcal{O}(n^{-3/2}), \\
 S_2(\tilde{z}) &= [3/2 \ln(n) - \ln(6) - \ln(-x)]n - 3/2x\sqrt{n} - 34/25x^2 + 3/4 \\
 &\quad - [3x/8 + 6/x + 27/50x^3]/\sqrt{n} \\
 &\quad - [5679/12250x^4 - 9/50x^2 + 173/16]/n + \mathcal{O}(n^{-3/2}),
 \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$S(\tilde{z}) = -x^2/2 + \ln(n!) + \mathcal{O}(n^{-3/2}).$$

Also,

$$S^{(2)}(\tilde{z}) = n^3/36 + (1/24 - 3/100x^2)n^2 + \mathcal{O}(n^{3/2}),$$

$$S^{(3)}(\tilde{z}) = \mathcal{O}(n^{7/2}),$$

$$S^{(4)}(\tilde{z}) = -n^5/600 + \mathcal{O}(n^4),$$

$$S^{(l)}(\tilde{z}) = \mathcal{O}(n^{l+1}), \quad l \geq 5.$$

We compute τ as a **truncated series** in u , setting $d\tau = \frac{d\tau}{du} du$, expanding w.r.t. n and integrating on $[u = -\infty.. \infty]$. This amounts to the **reversion** of a series. Finally (2) leads to

$$J_n \sim e^{-x^2/2} \cdot \exp \left[\left(-51/50 + 27/50x^2 \right) / n + \mathcal{O}(n^{-3/2}) \right] / (2\pi n^3/36)^{1/2}. \quad (7)$$

Note that $S^{(3)}(\tilde{z})$ does not contribute to the $1/n$ correction.

To check the effect of the correction, we first give in Figure 2, for $n = 60$, the comparison between $J_n(j)$ and the asymptotics (7), without the $1/n$ term. Figure 3 gives the same comparison, with the constant term $-51/(50n)$ in the correction. Figure 4 shows the quotient of $J_n(j)$ and the asymptotics (7), with the constant term $-51/(50n)$. The “hat” behaviour, already noticed by Margolius, is apparent. Finally, Figure 5 shows the quotient of $J_n(j)$ and the asymptotics (7), with the full correction.

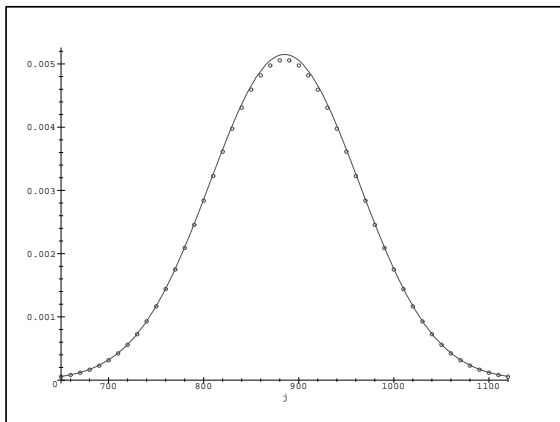


Figure 2: $J_n(j)$ (circle) and the asymptotics (7) (line), without the $1/n$ term, $n = 60$

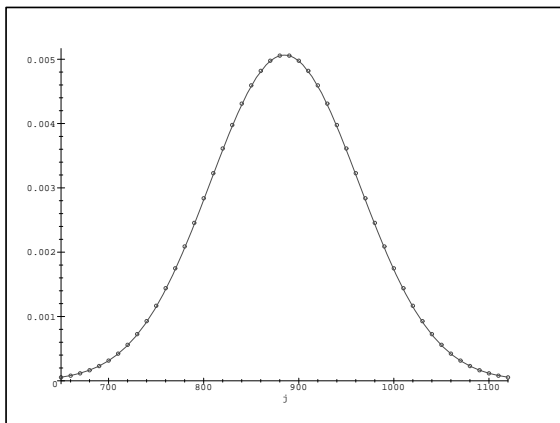


Figure 3: $J_n(j)$ (circle) and the asymptotics (7) (line), with the constant in the $1/n$ term, $n = 60$

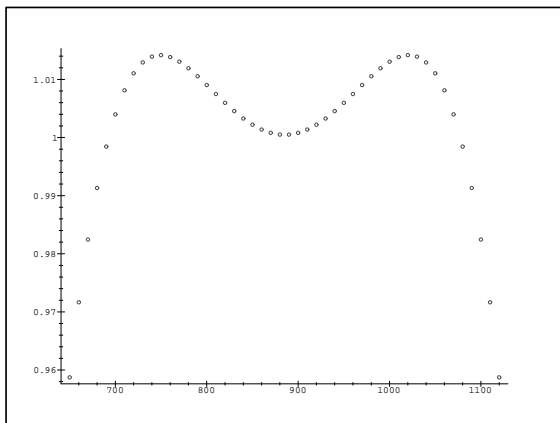


Figure 4: Quotient of $J_n(j)$ and the asymptotics (7), with the constant in the $1/n$ term, $n = 60$

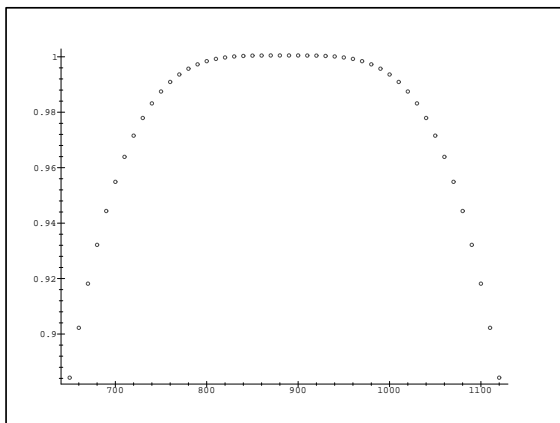


Figure 5: Quotient of $J_n(j)$ and the asymptotics (7), with the full $1/n$ term, $n = 60$

Case $j = n - k$

It is easy to see that here, we have $z^* = 1/2$. We obtain, to first order,

$$[C_{1,n} - 2j - 2 + 2n] + [C_{2,n} - 4j - 4 - 4n]\varepsilon = 0$$

with

$$C_{1,n} = C_1 + \mathcal{O}(2^{-n}),$$

$$C_1 = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{-2i}{2^i - 1} = -5.48806777751 \dots,$$

$$C_{2,n} = C_2 + \mathcal{O}(2^{-n}),$$

$$C_2 = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} 4 \frac{i(i2^i - 2^i + 1)}{(2^i - 1)^2} = 24.3761367267 \dots$$

Set $j = n - k$. This shows that, asymptotically, ε is given by a **Laurent series** of powers of n^{-1} , starting with $(k - 1 + C_1/2)/(4n)$. We next obtain

$$[C_1 - 2j - 2 + 2n] + [C_2 - 4j - 4 - 4n]\varepsilon + [C_3 + 8n - 8j - 8]\varepsilon^2 = 0$$

for some constant C_3 . More generally, powers ε^{2k} lead to a $\mathcal{O}(1) \cdot \varepsilon^{2k}$ term, powers ε^{2k+1} lead to a $\mathcal{O}(n) \cdot \varepsilon^{2k+1}$ term. This gives

$$\varepsilon = (k-1+C_1/2)/(4n) + (2k-2+C_1)(4k-4+C_2)/(64n^2) + \mathcal{O}(1/n^3).$$

Now we derive

$$S_1(\check{z}) = \ln(Q) - C_1(k - 1 + C_1/2)/(4n) + \mathcal{O}(1/n^2)$$

with $Q := \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} (1 - 1/2^i) = .288788095086 \dots$. Similarly

$$S_2(\check{z}) = 2 \ln(2)n + (1-k) \ln(2) + (-k^2/2 + k - 1/2 + C_1^2/8)/(2n) + \mathcal{O}(1/n^2)$$

and so

$$S(\tilde{z}) = \ln(Q) + 2 \ln(2)n + (1-k) \ln(2) + (A_0 + A_1 k - k^2/4)/n + \mathcal{O}(1/n^2)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} A_0 &:= -(C_1 - 2)^2/16, \\ A_1 &:= (-C_1/2 + 1)/2. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} I_n(n-k) &\sim e^{2 \ln(2)n + (1-k) \ln(2)} \frac{Q}{(2\pi S(2,1))^{1/2}} \times \\ &\times \exp \left\{ \left[(A_0 + 1/8 + C_2/16) + (A_1 + 1/4)k - k^2/4 \right] /n + \mathcal{O}(1/n^2) \right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

Figure 6 shows, for $n = 300$, the quotient of $I_n(n-k)$ and the asymptotics (8).

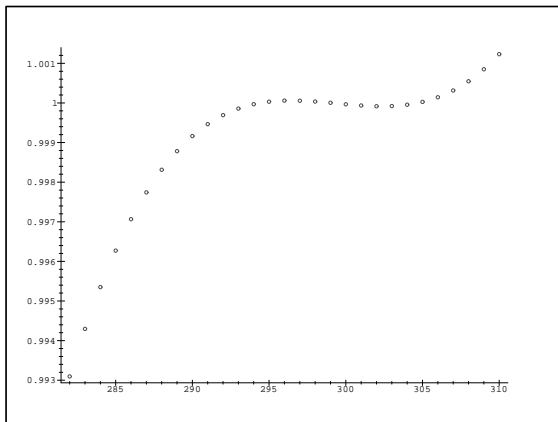


Figure 6: Quotient of $I_n(n-k)$ and the asymptotics (8), $n = 300$

Case $j = \alpha n - x$, $\alpha > 0$

Of course, we must have that $\alpha n - x$ is an integer. For instance, we can choose α, x integers. But this also covers more general cases, for instance $l_{\alpha n + \beta}(\gamma n + \delta)$, with $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$ integers. We have here $z^* = \alpha/(1 + \alpha)$. We derive, to first order,

$$C_{1,n}(\alpha) - (j + 1)(1 + \alpha)/\alpha + (1 + \alpha)n \\ + [C_{2,n}(\alpha) - (j + 1)(1 + \alpha)^2/\alpha^2 - (1 + \alpha)^2n]\varepsilon = 0$$

with, setting $\varphi(i, \alpha) := [\alpha/(1 + \alpha)]^i$,

$$C_{1,n}(\alpha) = C_1(\alpha) + \mathcal{O}([\alpha/(1 + \alpha)]^{-n}),$$

$$C_1(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{i(1 + \alpha)\varphi(i, \alpha)}{\alpha[\varphi(i, \alpha) - 1]},$$

$$C_{2,n}(\alpha) = C_2(\alpha) + \mathcal{O}([\alpha/(1 + \alpha)]^{-n}),$$

$$C_2(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \varphi(i, \alpha)i(1 + \alpha)^2(i - 1 + \varphi(i, \alpha))/[(\varphi(i, \alpha) - 1)^2\alpha^2].$$

$$\hat{Q}(\alpha) := \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} (1 - \varphi(i, \alpha)) = \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \left(\frac{\alpha}{1+\alpha}\right)^i\right) = Q\left(\frac{\alpha}{1+\alpha}\right).$$

We finally derive

$$I_n(\alpha n - x) \sim e^{[-\ln(1/(1+\alpha)) - \alpha \ln(\alpha/(1+\alpha))]n + (x-1) \ln(\alpha/(1+\alpha))} \times \frac{\hat{Q}(\alpha)}{(2\pi S(2,1))^{1/2}} \exp \left[\left\{ -(1 + 3\alpha + 4\alpha^2 - 12\alpha^2 C_1 + 6C_1^2 \alpha^2 + \alpha^4 + 3\alpha^3 - 6C_2 \alpha^2 - 12C_1^3 \alpha) / [12\alpha(1 + \alpha)^3] + x(2\alpha^2 - 2C_1 \alpha + 3\alpha + 1) / [2\alpha(1 + \alpha)^2] - x^2 / [2\alpha(1 + \alpha)] \right\} / n + \mathcal{O}(1/n^2) \right]. \quad (9)$$

Figure 7 shows, for $\alpha = 1/2$, $n = 300$, the quotient of $I_n(\alpha n - x)$ and the asymptotics (9).

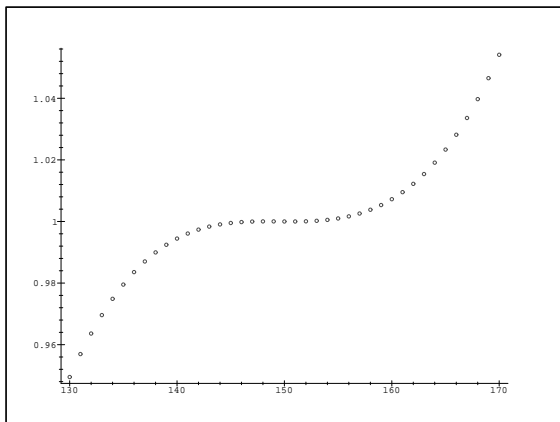


Figure 7: Quotient of $I_n(\alpha n - x)$ and the asymptotics (9), $\alpha = 1/2$, $n = 300$

The moderate Large deviation, $j = m + xn^{7/4}$

Now we consider the case $j = m + xn^{7/4}$. We have here $z^* = 1$. We observe the same behaviour as in in the Gaussian limit for the coefficients of ε in the generalization of (5).

Finally we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 J_n \sim & e^{-18x^2\sqrt{n}-2916/25x^4} \times \\
 & \times \exp \left[x^2(-1889568/625x^4 + 1161/25)/\sqrt{n} \right. \\
 & + (-51/50 - 1836660096/15625x^8 + 17637426/30625x^4)/n \\
 & \left. + \mathcal{O}(n^{-5/4}) \right] / (2\pi n^3/36)^{1/2}. \tag{10}
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that $S^{(3)}(\check{z})$ does not contribute to the correction and that this correction is equivalent to the Gaussian case when $x = 0$. Of course, the dominant term is null for $x = 0$. The exponent $7/4$ that we have chosen is of course **not sacred**; any fixed number below 2 could also have been considered.

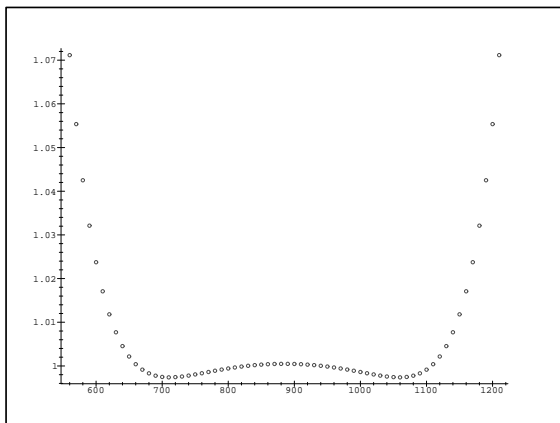


Figure 8: Quotient of $J_n(j)$ and the asymptotics (10), with the $1/\sqrt{n}$ and $1/n$ term, $n = 60$

Large deviations, $j = \alpha n(n-1)$, $0 < \alpha < 1/2$

Here, again, $z^* = 1$. Asymptotically, ε is given by a Laurent series of powers of n^{-1} , but here the behaviour is quite different: **all terms** of the series generalizing (5) contribute to the computation of the coefficients. It is convenient to analyze separately $S_1^{(1)}$ and $S_2^{(1)}$. This gives, by substituting

$$\tilde{z} := 1 - \varepsilon, \quad j = \alpha n(n-1), \quad \varepsilon = a_1/n + a_2/n^2 + a_3/n^3 + \mathcal{O}(1/n^4),$$

and expanding w.r.t. n ,

$$S_2^{(1)}(\tilde{z}) \sim (1/a_1 - \alpha)n^2 + (\alpha - \alpha a_1 - a_2/a_1^2)n + \mathcal{O}(1),$$

$$S_1^{(1)}(\tilde{z}) \sim \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} f(k),$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(k) &:= -(k+1)(1-\varepsilon)^k / [1 - (1-\varepsilon)^{k+1}] \\ &= -(k+1)(1 - [a_1/n + a_2/n^2 + a_3/n^3 + \mathcal{O}(1/n^4)])^k \\ &\quad / \{1 - (1 - [a_1/n + a_2/n^2 + a_3/n^3 + \mathcal{O}(1/n^4)])^{k+1}\}. \end{aligned}$$

This immediately suggests to apply the **Euler-Mac Laurin summation formula**, which gives, to first order,

$$S_1^{(1)}(\tilde{z}) \sim \int_0^n f(k) dk - \frac{1}{2}(f(n) - f(0)),$$

so we set $k = -un/a_1$ and expand $-f(k)n/a_1$. This leads to

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^n f(k) dk \\ & \sim \int_0^{-a_1} \left[-\frac{ue^u}{a_1^2(1-e^u)} n^2 \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{e^u[2a_1^2 - 2e^u a_1^2 - 2u^2 a_2 - u^2 a_1^2 + 2e^u u a_1^2]}{2a_1^3(1-e^u)^2} n \right] du \\ & + \mathcal{O}(1) - \frac{1}{2}(f(n) - f(0)). \end{aligned}$$

This readily gives

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^n f(k) dk &\sim -\operatorname{dilog}(e^{-a_1})/a_1^2 n^2 \\ &+ [2a_1^3 e^{-a_1} + a_1^4 e^{-a_1} - 4a_2 \operatorname{dilog}(e^{-a_1}) + 4a_2 \operatorname{dilog}(e^{-a_1}) e^{-a_1} \\ &+ 2a_2 a_1^2 e^{-a_1} - 2a_1^2 + 2a_1^2 e^{-a_1}]/[2a_1^3 (e^{-a_1} - 1)] n + \mathcal{O}(1). \end{aligned}$$

Combining $S_1^{(1)}(\tilde{z}) + S_2^{(1)}(\tilde{z}) = 0$, we see that $a_1 = a_1(\alpha)$ is the solution of

$$-\operatorname{dilog}(e^{-a_1})/a_1^2 + 1/a_1 - \alpha = 0.$$

We check that $\lim_{\alpha \rightarrow 0} a_1(\alpha) = \infty$, $\lim_{\alpha \rightarrow 1/2} a_1(\alpha) = -\infty$.

Similarly, $a_2(\alpha)$ is the solution of the linear equation

$$\begin{aligned} &\alpha - \alpha a_1 - a_2/a_1^2 + e^{-a_1}/[2(1 - e^{-a_1})] - 1/(2a_1) \\ &+ [2a_1^3 e^{-a_1} + a_1^4 e^{-a_1} + 4a_2 \operatorname{dilog}(e^{-a_1})(e^{-a_1} - 1) \\ &+ 2a_2 a_1^2 e^{-a_1} - 2a_1^2 + 2a_1^2 e^{-a_1}]/[2a_1^3 (e^{-a_1} - 1)] \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

and $\lim_{\alpha \rightarrow 0} a_2(\alpha) = -\infty$, $\lim_{\alpha \rightarrow 1/2} a_2(\alpha) = \infty$.

We could proceed in the same manner to derive $a_3(\alpha)$ but the computation becomes quite heavy. So we have computed an **approximate solution** $\tilde{a}_3(\alpha)$.

Finally,

$$J_n(\alpha n(n-1))$$

$$\sim e^{[1/72a_1(a_1-18+72\alpha)]n+C_0} \frac{1}{(2\pi n^3/36)^{1/2}} \times \\ \times \exp \left[\left(\frac{1}{72}a_2^2 + \frac{1}{36}a_1a_3 - \frac{1}{4}a_3 + \frac{1}{4}a_2 - \frac{1}{2}a_1 + a_3\alpha + a_1a_2\alpha \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. + \frac{1}{3}a_1^3\alpha - a_2\alpha - \frac{1}{2}a_1^2\alpha - \frac{5}{24}a_1a_2 + \frac{1}{24}a_1^2a_2 + \frac{1139}{18000}a_1^2 \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. - \frac{1}{16}a_1^3 + 87/25 - 18\alpha \right) /n + \mathcal{O}(1/n^2) \right]. \quad (11)$$

$$C_0 := \frac{1}{72}a_1^3 - \frac{1}{4}a_2 + \frac{1}{4}a_1 - a_1\alpha - \frac{5}{48}a_1^2 \\ + \frac{1}{36}a_1a_2 + a_2\alpha + \frac{1}{2}a_1^2\alpha$$

Note that, for $\alpha = 1/4$, the $1/n$ term gives $-51/50$, again as expected.

Figure 9 shows, for $n = 80$ and $\alpha \in [0.15..0.35]$, the quotient of $J_n(\alpha n(n-1))$ and the asymptotics (11).

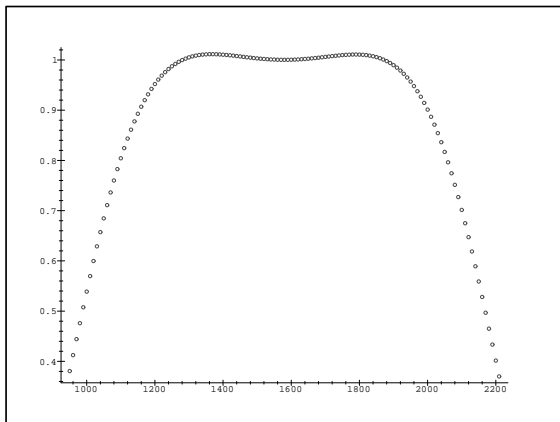


Figure 9: Quotient of $J_n(\alpha n(n-1))$ and the asymptotics (11), $n = 80$

Median versus A (A large) for a Luria-Delbruck-like distribution, with parameter A

The distribution studied by Zheng, $p(n)$, depending on two parameters, A, k , is defined as follows. Set $\theta := 1/A$. We have

$$\xi(n) = \frac{1}{1+\theta} \frac{1}{n} \left[-\frac{1}{n+1} + \sum_1^{n-1} j \xi(j) \frac{1}{(n-j)(n-j+1)} \right], n \geq 1,$$

$$\xi(0) = \ln(1 + 1/\theta). \quad (12)$$

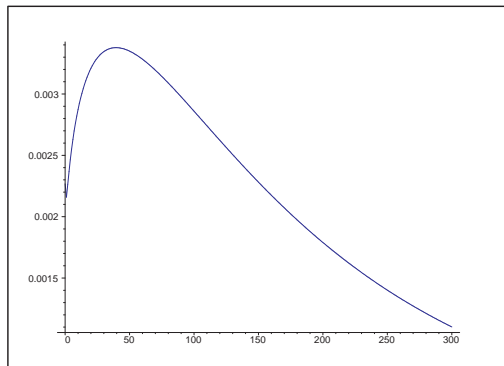
Note that

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_1^{n-1} j \frac{1}{(n-j)(n-j+1)} \sim 1 - \frac{\ln n}{n}.$$

Also, with some extra integer parameter k , we set

$$p(n) = -\frac{k}{n} \sum_1^n j \xi(j) p(n-j), n \geq 1, \quad p(0) = \frac{1}{(1 + 1/\theta)^k}.$$

A picture of $p(n)$ ($A = 20, k = 2$) is given in Figure 10.

Figure 10: $p(n)$

The analysis

We know that the GF of $\xi(n)$ is given by

$$G(z) = \sum_0^{\infty} \xi(n)z^n = \ln \left[1 - \frac{1}{\theta} (-1 + \varphi(z)) \right], G(1) = 0, \quad (13)$$

with

$$\varphi(z) = \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{z^n}{n(n+1)} = 1 + \left(\frac{1}{z} - 1 \right) \ln(1-z).$$

Set

$$F(z) := \sum_1^{\infty} z^n p(n).$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned}
 zF'(z) &= \sum_1^{\infty} z^n np(n) = -k \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^n z^j j \xi(j) z^{n-j} p(n-j) \\
 &= -k \sum_1^{\infty} z^n n \xi(n) p(0) - k \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} z^j j \xi(j) \sum_{n=j+1}^{\infty} z^{n-j} p(n-j) \\
 &= -kzG'(z)p(0) - kzG'(z)F(z).
 \end{aligned}$$

Solving, this gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(z) &= \left[\int_0^z -u^{-1-k} (\ln(1-u) + u) k [\theta u - \ln(1-u) + u \ln(1-u)]^{k-1} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left(\frac{\theta+1}{\theta} \right)^{-k} du + C \right] z^k / (\theta z - \ln(1-z) + z \ln(1-z))^k .
 \end{aligned}$$

For instance, for $k = 2$, we have

$$F(z) = - [2z^2 \ln(1-z)\theta - 2\theta z^2 - 2z \ln(1-z)\theta + \ln(1-z)^2 - z^2 - 2z \ln(1-z) + z^2 \ln(1-z)^2] \theta^2 / [(1+\theta)^2 [\theta z - \ln(1-z) + z \ln(1-z)]^2].$$

Of course

$$p(0) + F(1) = 1.$$

The GF of $\sum_n^\infty p(j)$ is given by

$$FD(z) = \sum_1^\infty z^n \sum_n^\infty p(j) = \frac{z}{1-z} [1 - p(0) - F(z)].$$

How to find n^* such that

$$[z^{n^*}]FD(z) = 1/2.$$

Of course, we can't use the singularity of $FD(z)$ at $z = 1$, as it gives

$$[z^n]FD(z)$$

for large n , but FIXED θ .

The Saddle point

We have

$$[z^j]FD(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi\mathbf{i}} \int_{\Omega} \frac{FD(z)}{z^{j+1}} dz = \frac{1}{2\pi\mathbf{i}} \int_{\Omega} \frac{e^{\ln(FD(z))}}{z^{j+1}} dz. \quad (14)$$

It appears, after some experiments, that the values of j such that $[z^j]FD(z) = 1/2$ are such that

$$j \sim \alpha^* A \ln(A) = -\frac{\alpha^* \ln(\theta)}{\theta},$$

for some constant α^* . Note that this does not confirm Zheng's conjecture. For instance, $k = 1$ leads to $\alpha^* = 0.92\dots$, $k = 2$ to $\alpha^* = 0.252\dots$, $k = 3$ to $\alpha^* = 4.25\dots$. For now on, we set for instance $k = 2$.

Set

$$G(z) := \ln(FD(z)) - \left(-\frac{\alpha^* \ln(\theta)}{\theta} + 1 \right) \ln(z).$$

Set z to C and expand $G'(z)$ into θ . This gives, to first order,

$$\frac{\alpha \ln(\theta)}{C\theta} + \frac{1}{1-C} = 0,$$

or

$$C = 1 + \frac{\theta}{\alpha \ln(\theta)} + \mathcal{O}(\theta^2).$$

So we try

$$\tilde{z} = 1 + \frac{\beta\theta}{\ln(\theta)}. \quad (15)$$

This gives, after some complicated manipulations (done by Maple)

$$G'(\tilde{z}) \sim \frac{[-\beta + \alpha\beta^2 + 2\alpha + 3\beta\alpha - 3] \ln(\theta)}{(1 + \beta)(2 + \beta)\theta}.$$

Solving $G'(\tilde{z}) = 0$ gives

$$\beta = \frac{1 - 3\alpha + \sqrt{1 + 6\alpha + \alpha^2}}{2\alpha}.$$

But this is impossible: β is decreasing as expected, but

PROBLEM 1: $\beta(3/2) = 0!$. The same problem appears for all k .

To be convinced that (15) is the correct asymptotics, we have computed **numerically** the solution zn of $G'(zn) = 0$ for different values of θ and α and we have extracted the corresponding values of β from (15). For instance, for $\theta = 1/1000$, we obtain in Figure 11 the graph of β vs α . And the values of θ : $1/100, 1/500, 1/1500$ give the same function, with some remarkable fit.

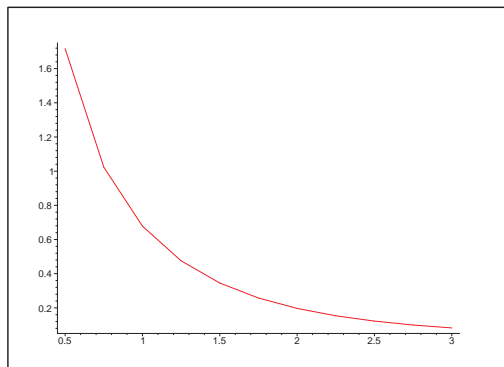


Figure 11: β vs α , $\theta = 1/1000, k = 2$

Independently of PROBLEM 1, it appears, after some experiments, that the next term would be

$$\tilde{z} = 1 + \frac{\beta\theta}{\ln(\theta)} + \frac{\gamma\theta \ln(-\ln(\theta))}{\ln(\theta)^2}.$$

This leads to some equation

$$\varphi(\gamma, \alpha) = 0.$$

Also, we obtain, to first order,

$$G''(\tilde{z}) \sim f(\beta) \frac{\ln(\theta)^2}{\theta^2}, \quad f(\beta) = \frac{7 + 6\beta + \beta^2}{(2 + \beta)^2(1 + \beta)^2},$$

and

$$G(\tilde{z}) \sim -\ln(\theta) + g(\beta) + \ln(-\ln(\theta)) + \alpha\beta, \quad g(\beta) = \ln\left(\frac{2 + \beta}{(1 + \beta)^2}\right).$$

Hence, by standard manipulations,

$$[z^j]FD(z) \sim \frac{e^{\alpha\beta+g(\beta)}}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sqrt{f(\beta)}} = \phi(\alpha) \text{ say ,}$$

independent of θ .

If we knew $\beta(\alpha)$, this would give α^* from $\phi(\alpha^*) = 1/2$.

Sum of positions of records in random permutations

The statistic $srec$ is defined as the sum of positions of records in random permutations. The generating function (GF) of $srec$ is given by

$$G(z) = \prod_{i=1}^n (z^i + i - 1), \quad (16)$$

and the probability generating function (PGF) is given by

$$Z(z) = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n (z^i + i - 1)}{n!}. \quad (17)$$

This statistic has been the object of recent interest in the literature. Kortchemski obtains the the GF (16) and also proves that

$$J_n(j) := z^j [G(z)] \sim e^{n \ln(n)y}, \quad \text{where } j = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}x, \quad x = 1 - y^2, \quad (18)$$

with an error $\mathcal{O}(1/\ln(n))$.

The large deviation $j = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}(1 - y^2)$

By Cauchy's theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} J_n(j) &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Omega} \frac{G(z)}{z^{j+1}} dz \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Omega} e^{S(z)} dz, \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

where Ω is inside the analyticity domain of the integrand and encircles the origin and

$$S(z) = \sum_{i=1}^n \ln(z^i + i - 1) - \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2}(1 - y^2) + 1 \right) \ln(z).$$

Set

$$S^{(i)} := \frac{d^i S}{dz^i}.$$

First we must find the solution of

$$S^{(1)}(\tilde{z}) = 0$$

with smallest module. This leads to

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{i\tilde{z}^i}{\tilde{z}^i + i - 1} - \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2}(1 - y^2) + 1 \right) = 0. \quad (20)$$

In some previous sections , we simply tried $\tilde{z} = z^* + \varepsilon$, plug into (20), and expanded into ε . Here it appears that **we cannot get this expansion**. So we expand first (20) itself. But we must be careful. There exists some \tilde{i} such that $\tilde{z}^{\tilde{i}} = \tilde{i}$. Some numerical experiments suggest that $\tilde{i} = \mathcal{O}(n)$. So we set $\tilde{i} = \alpha n, 0 < \alpha < 1$ and we must now compute α .

We obtain $\tilde{z} = e^\xi$, with

$$\xi = \frac{L + \ln(\alpha)}{\alpha n},$$

where here and in the sequel, $L := \ln(n)$. Note that this leads to

$$\tilde{z}^n = \exp\left(\frac{L + \ln(\alpha)}{\alpha}\right) = n^{1/\alpha} \alpha^{1/\alpha}.$$

Using the classical **splitting of the sum technique** (20) leads to (we provide in the sequel only a few terms in the expansions, but Maple knows and uses more)

$$\Sigma_1 := \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{i}} \frac{i \tilde{z}^i}{\tilde{z}^i + i - 1},$$

$$\Sigma_2 := \sum_{i=\tilde{i}+1}^n \frac{i \tilde{z}^i}{\tilde{z}^i + i - 1} - \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2} (1 - y^2) + 1 \right).$$

As

$$\frac{\tilde{z}^i - 1}{i} < \frac{\tilde{z}^{\tilde{i}} - 1}{\tilde{i}} < \frac{\tilde{z}^{\tilde{i}}}{\tilde{i}} = 1, i < \tilde{i},$$

we have

$$\Sigma_1 = \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{i}} \frac{\tilde{z}^i}{1 + \frac{\tilde{z}^{i-1}}{i}} = \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{i}} \tilde{z}^i \left[1 - \frac{\tilde{z}^i - 1}{i} + \left(\frac{\tilde{z}^i - 1}{i} \right)^2 + \dots \right] \quad (21)$$

The first summation is immediate

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{i}} \tilde{z}^i = \frac{\tilde{z}^{\tilde{i}+1} - 1}{\tilde{z} - 1} - \frac{\tilde{z}}{\tilde{z} - 1}.$$

For the next summations, we again use **Euler-Mac Laurin summation formula**. First of all, the correction (to first order) is given by

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\tilde{i}}{1 + \frac{\tilde{i}-1}{\tilde{i}}} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\alpha n}{2 - 1/(\alpha n)} \sim \frac{1}{4} \alpha n. \quad (22)$$

Next, we must compute integrals such as

$$\int_1^{\tilde{i}} \tilde{z}^i \left(\frac{\tilde{z}^i - 1}{i} \right)^k di. \quad (23)$$

But we know that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_1^{\tilde{i}} \tilde{z}^i \left(\frac{\tilde{z}^i - 1}{i} \right) di &= \int_1^{\tilde{i}} e^{\xi i} \left(\frac{e^{\xi i} - 1}{i} \right) di = Ei(1, -2\xi) - Ei(1, -\xi) \\ &+ Ei(1, -\tilde{i}\xi) - Ei(1, -2\tilde{i}\xi) \\ &= Ei(1, -2\xi) - Ei(1, -\xi) + Ei(1, -(L + \ln(\alpha))) - Ei(1, -2(L + \ln(\alpha))), \end{aligned}$$

where $Ei(x)$ is the exponential integral.

Setting $L_1 := L + \ln(\alpha)$, we have

$$\Re(Ei(1, -\xi)) = -\gamma - \ln(\xi) - \xi - \frac{\xi^2}{4} + \dots,$$

$$\Re(Ei(1, -L_1)) = e^{L_1} \left[-\frac{1}{L_1} - \frac{1}{L_1^2} + \dots \right] = \alpha n \left[-\frac{1}{L_1} - \frac{1}{L_1^2} + \dots \right].$$

We use similar expansions for terms like (23). This finally leads, with (22), to

$$\Sigma_1 = n^2 \left[\frac{7\alpha^2}{12L} + \frac{\alpha^2(-84 \ln(\alpha) - 31)}{144L^2} + \dots \right] + \mathcal{O}(n).$$

Now we turn to Σ_2 . As

$$\frac{i-1}{\tilde{z}^i} < \frac{\tilde{i}+1-1}{\tilde{z}^{\tilde{i}+1}} < \frac{\tilde{i}}{\tilde{z}^{\tilde{i}}} = 1, i > \tilde{i},$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_2 &= \sum_{i=\tilde{i}+1}^n \frac{i}{1 + \frac{i-1}{\tilde{z}^i}} - \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2} (1-y^2) + 1 \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=\tilde{i}+1}^n i \left[1 - \frac{i-1}{\tilde{z}^i} + \left(\frac{i-1}{\tilde{z}^i} \right)^2 + \dots \right] - \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2} (1-y^2) + 1 \right) \\ &= n^2 \left[\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\alpha^2}{2} - \frac{47\alpha^2}{60L} + \dots \right] + \mathcal{O}(n) \\ &+ \frac{n^3}{n^{1/\alpha}} \left[\frac{\alpha}{\alpha^{1/\alpha} L} + \dots \right] - \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2} (1-y^2) + 1 \right) + \dots \end{aligned}$$

So

$$S'(\tilde{z}) = \Sigma_1 + \Sigma_2 = n^2 \left[\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\alpha^2}{2} - \frac{\alpha^2}{5L} + \dots - (1 - y^2)/2 \right] + \mathcal{O}(n) \\ + \frac{n^3}{n^{1/\alpha}} \left[\frac{\alpha}{\alpha^{1/\alpha} L} + \dots \right] + \dots = 0 \quad (24)$$

Putting the coefficient of n^2 to 0, and solving wrt α gives

$$\alpha^* = y - \frac{y}{5L} + \frac{-3199y/1800 + \ln(y)y/5}{L^2} + \dots \quad (25)$$

Now we must consider the other terms of (24). First we must compare n with $\frac{n^3}{n^{1/\alpha}}$.

If $\alpha > \frac{1}{2}$, $n^{3-1/\alpha} > n$ and vice-versa. The most interesting case is the case $\alpha > \frac{1}{2}$ (the other one can be treated by similar method). Note that there are also other terms in (24) of order $n^{k-(k-2)/\alpha}$, $k \geq 4$. This is greater than n if $\alpha > (k-2)/(k-1)$.

Returning to (24), we first compute $n^{1/\alpha} = n^{1/y} \varphi(y, L)$, with

$$\varphi(y, L) = e^{L(1/\alpha - 1/y)} = e^{1/(5y)} - \frac{e^{1/(5y)}(-3271 + 360 \ln(y))}{1800yL} + \dots \quad (26)$$

So we obtain from (24) the term

$$\frac{n^3}{n^{1/y} \varphi(y, L)} \left[\frac{\alpha}{\alpha^{1/\alpha} L} + \dots \right],$$

and with (25),

$$\frac{n^3}{n^{1/y}} \left[\frac{y}{y^{1/y} e^{1/(5y)} L} + \dots \right].$$

Now we set $\alpha = \alpha^* + \frac{Cn}{n^{1/y}}$, plug into (24) (ignoring the $\mathcal{O}(n)$ term), and expand. The n^2 term must theoretically be 0. Actually, it is given by a series of large powers of $1/L$ as we only use a finite number of terms in (25). Solving the coefficient of $\frac{n^3}{n^{1/y}}$ wrt C , we obtain

$$C = \frac{e^{-1/(5y)} y^{(3y-1)/y}}{Ly^3} + \dots$$

and

$$\alpha = \alpha^* + \frac{Cn}{n^{1/y}} + \dots \quad (27)$$

$$\tilde{J}_n(j) = \frac{e^{S(\tilde{z})}}{\sqrt{2\pi S''(\tilde{z})}} \quad (28)$$

In Figure 12, we give, for $n = 150$, a comparison between $\ln(J_n(j))$ (circle) and $\ln(\tilde{J}_n(j))$ (line). The fit is quite good, but when y is near 1. But j is then small and our asymptotics are no more very efficient. We also show the first approximation (18): nLy (line blue) which is only efficient for very large n .

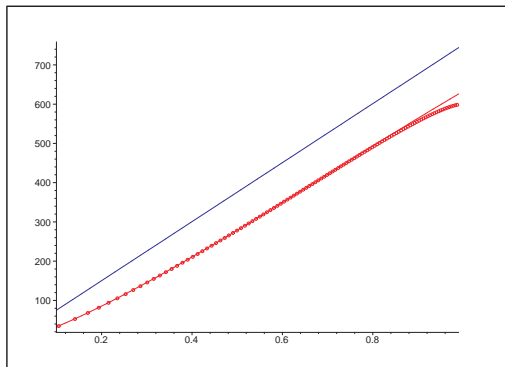


Figure 12: Comparison between $\ln(J_n(j))$ (circle) and $\ln(\tilde{J}_n(j))$ (line), $n = 150$. Also it shows the first approximation (1): nLy (line blue)

The central region $j = yn$

From (17), we see that, as expected, $Z(1) = 1$. Moreover

$$Z'(z) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{iz^{i-1}}{z^i + i - 1} Z(z),$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} Z''(z) &= \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{i[z^{i-2}i^2 - 2z^{i-2} - z^{2i-2} + z^{i-2}]}{(z^i + i - 1)^2} Z(z) \\ &+ \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{iz^{i-1}}{z^i + i - 1} \right)^2 Z(z). \end{aligned}$$

So

$$\mathbb{E}(srec) = Z'(1) = n,$$

and the variance is given by

$$\mathbb{V}(srec) = Z''(1) + n - n^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n (i-2) + n^2 + n - n^2 = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}.$$

Of course $Z(z)$ corresponds to a sum of independent *non* identically distributed random variables, but it is clear that the Lindeberg-Lévy conditions are not satisfied here. The distribution is *not* asymptotically Gaussian. As will be clear later on, it is convenient to separate the cases $j \geq 1$ and $j < 1$.

The case $y \geq 1$

Again, by Cauchy's theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(srec = j) &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Omega} \frac{Z(z)}{z^{j+1}} dz \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Omega} e^{S(z)} dz, \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

where Ω is inside the analyticity domain of the integrand and encircles the origin and

$$S(z) = \sum_{i=1}^n \ln(z^i + i - 1) - (yn + 1) \ln(z) - \ln(n!).$$

First we must find the solution of

$$S^{(1)}(\tilde{z}) = 0$$

with smallest module.

This leads to

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{i \tilde{z}^i}{\tilde{z}^i + i - 1} - (yn + 1) = 0. \quad (30)$$

Set $\tilde{z} := z^* + \varepsilon$, where, here, it is easy to check that $z^* = 1$. Set $j = yn$.

This leads, to first order (keeping only the ε term in (30)), to

$$\varepsilon := \frac{2(y-1)}{n} + \frac{-4 + 10y - 4y^2}{n^2} + \mathcal{O}(1/n^3).$$

This shows that, asymptotically, ε is given by a **Laurent series** of powers of n^{-1} . To obtain more precision, we set again $j = yn$, expand (30) into powers of ε (we use 9 terms), set

$$\varepsilon = \frac{a_1}{n} + \sum_{i=2}^4 \frac{a_i}{n^i}$$

expand in powers of n^{-1} , and equate each coefficient to 0.

This gives, for the coefficient of n

$$1 - y + 1/120a_1^4 + 1/2a_1 + 1/720a_1^5 + 1/362880a_1^8 + 1/6a_1^2 + 1/5040a_1^6 + 1/3628800a_1^9 + 1/24a_1^3 + 1/40320a_1^7 = 0.$$

We observe that *all* terms of the expansion of (30) into ε contribute to the computation of the coefficients. We have already encountered this situation in analyzing the number in inversions in permutations. So we must turn to another approach. Setting $i = k + 1$, (30) becomes

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} f(k) - (yn + 1) = 0, \quad (31)$$

where

$$f(k) = \frac{(k+1)\tilde{z}^{k+1}}{\tilde{z}^{k+1} + k}.$$

This gives, always by **Euler-Mac Laurin summation formula**, to first order,

$$\int_0^n f(k) dk - \frac{1}{2}(f(n) + f(0)) - (yn + 1) = 0,$$

so we set $k = un/a_1$, $\tilde{z} = 1 + a_1/n$ and expand $f(k)n/a_1$. This leads to

$$\int_0^{a_1} e^u \frac{ndu}{a_1} - yn + \mathcal{O}(1) = 0,$$

or

$$e^{a_1} = ya_1 + 1. \quad (32)$$

Note that

$$a_1(y) \sim \ln(y), y \rightarrow \infty,$$

$$a_1(1) = 0.$$

The explicit solution of (5) is easily found, we have

$$e^{a_1} = ya_1 + 1 = y[a_1 - 1/y] = e^{a_1+1/y} e^{-1/y},$$

$$-e^{-[a_1+1/y]} [a_1 + 1/y] = -e^{-1/y} / y,$$

$$-[a_1 + 1/y] = W(-1, -e^{-1/y} / y),$$

$$a_1 = -1/y - W(-1, -e^{-1/y} / y),$$

where $W(-1, x)$ is the suitable branch of the Lambert equation:
 $W(x)e^{W(x)} = x.$

**PROBLEM 2: THE THIRD DERIVATIVE IS OF ORDER n^3
 ALTHOUGH THE SECOND DERIVATIVE IS OF ORDER n^2 .**

Finally, by standard technique, (29) should lead to

$$\mathbb{P}(srec = j) \sim \frac{e^{F(y)}}{\sqrt{2\pi n^2 F_2(y)}}, \quad (33)$$

and

$$\mathbb{P}(srec = n) \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi n^2/2}}. \quad (34)$$

Also

$$\mathbb{P}(srec = j) \sim \frac{e^{-y \ln(y)}}{\sqrt{2\pi n^2 y}}, y \rightarrow \infty.$$

The case $y < 1$

We have

$$\mathbb{P}(srec = j) = \frac{1}{n!} [z^j] \prod_{i=1}^j [z^i + i - 1] \prod_{u=j}^{n-1} u,$$

and, if j is large, by (34),

$$[z^j] \prod_{i=1}^j [z^i + i - 1] \sim j! \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi j}}.$$

So

$$\mathbb{P}(srec = j) \sim \frac{1}{n!} \frac{(j-1)!}{\sqrt{\pi}} \prod_{u=y}^{n-1} u = \frac{1}{n\sqrt{\pi}}.$$

For j large enough, $\mathbb{P}(srec = j)$ is constant and given by (34).

We have made a numerical comparison of

$\mathbb{P}(srec = j)$, $n = 200$, $j = 1..3n$ with (34) and (33). This is given in Figure 13. This is quite satisfactory.

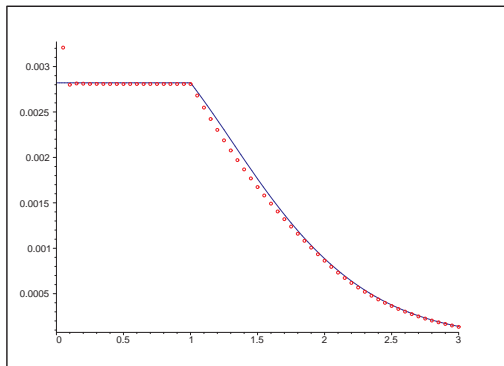


Figure 13: Comparison between $\mathbb{P}(srec = j)$, $n = 200, j = 1..3n$ (circle) and the asymptotics (34) and (33) (line)

Merten's theorem for toral automorphisms

Let

$$\varphi_n(z) := \prod_1^n (1 - z^k)(1 - z^{-k})$$

What is the asymptotic behaviour of

$$[z^j]\varphi_n(z),$$

in particular the asymptotic value of

$$[z^0]\varphi_n(z).$$

A plot of $[z^j]\varphi_n(z)$, $n = 15$ is given in Figure 14. This seems to have a **Gaussian envelope**.

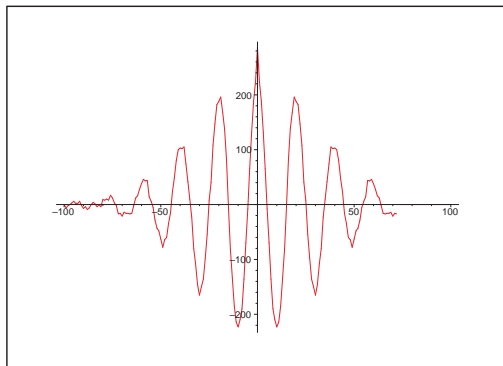


Figure 14: $[z^j]\varphi_n(z)$, $n = 15$

But

$$S(z) := \ln(\varphi_n(z)) - \ln(z) = \sum_1^n (\ln(1 - z^k) + \ln(1 - z^{-k}) - \ln(z))$$

doesn't appear to possess zeroes, two plots of

$$|S(z)|^2$$

given in Figures 15, 16, reveal a quite **irregular behaviour**.

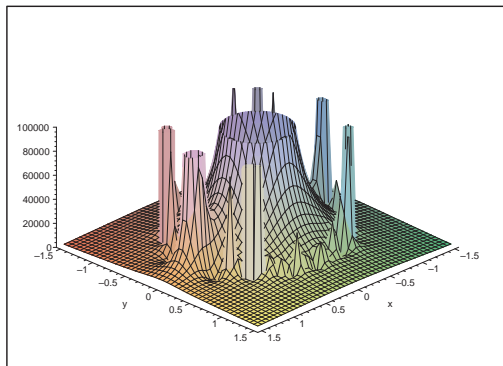


Figure 15: $|S(z)|^2$, $n = 15$

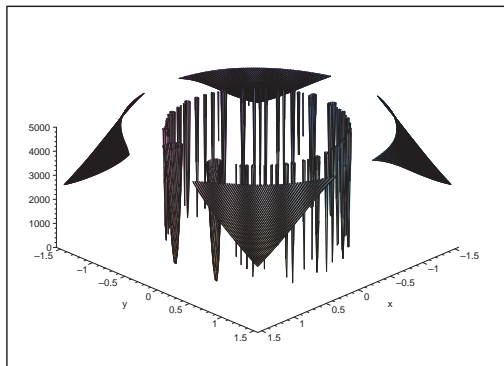


Figure 16: $|S(z)|^2$, $n = 15$

Representations of numbers as $\sum_{k=-n}^n \varepsilon_k k$

We consider the **number of representations of m** as $\sum_{k=-n}^n \varepsilon_k k$, where $\varepsilon_k \in \{0, 1\}$. For $m = 0$, this is sequence A000980 in Sloane's encyclopedia. This problem has a long history. Here, we **extend previous ranges a bit**, to $\mathcal{O}(n^{3/2})$. But we **improve** at the same time the quality of the approximation

The generating function of the number of representations for fixed n is given by

$$C_n(z) = 2 \prod_{k=1}^n (1 + z^k)(1 + z^{-k}), \quad C_n(1) = 2 \cdot 4^n.$$

By normalisation, we get the probability generating function of a random variable X_n :

$$F_n(z) = 4^{-n} \prod_{k=1}^n (1 + z^k)(1 + z^{-k}),$$

The Gaussian limit

We obtain mean \mathbb{M} and variance \mathbb{V} :

$$\mathbb{M}(n) = 0, \quad \sigma^2 := \mathbb{V}(n) = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{12}.$$

We consider values $j = x\sigma$, for $x = \mathcal{O}(1)$ in a neighbourhood of the mean 0.

The Gaussian limit of X_n can be obtained by using the Lindeberg-Lévy conditions, but we want more precision.

We know that

$$P_n(j) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Omega} e^{S(z)} dz$$

where

$$S(z) := \ln(F_n(z)) - (j+1) \ln z$$

with

$$\ln(F_n(z)) = \sum_{i=1}^n [\ln(1+z^i) + \ln(1+z^{-i}) - \ln 4].$$

Set $\tilde{z} := z^* - \varepsilon$, where, here, $z^* = 1$.

Finally this leads to

$$P_n(j) \sim e^{-x^2/2} \cdot \exp\left(\left[-39/40 + 9/20x^2 - 3x^4/40\right]/n + \mathcal{O}(n^{-3/2})\right) / (2\pi n^3/6) \quad (35)$$

Note again that $S^{(3)}(\tilde{z})$ does not contribute to the $1/n$ correction. Note also that, unlike in the instance of the number of inversions in permutations, we have an x^4 term in the first order correction. Figure 17 shows, for $n = 60$, Q_3 : the quotient of $P_n(j)$ and the asymptotics (35), with the constant term $-39/(40n)$ and the x^2 term $9x^2/(20n)$, and Q_4 : the quotient of $P_n(j)$ and the full asymptotics (35). Q_4 gives indeed a good precision on a larger range.

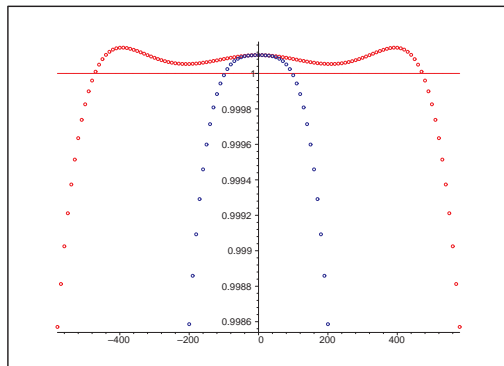


Figure 17: Q_3 (blue) and Q_4 (red)

The case $j = n^{7/4} - x$

Now we show that our methods are strong enough to deal with probabilities that are far away from the average; viz. $n^{7/4} - x$, for fixed x . Of course, they are very small, but nevertheless we find asymptotic formulæ for them. Later on, $n^{7/4} - x$ will be used as an integer

This finally gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_n(j) \sim e^{-3n^{1/2}-27/10} & \left[1 + 369/175/n^{1/2} + 931359/245000/n \right. \\
 & + 1256042967/471625000/n^{3/2} + 4104x/175/n^{7/4} \\
 & - 9521495156603/2145893750000/n^2 + 7561917x/122500/n^{9/4} + \\
 & \left. (-235974412468129059/341392187500000 + 18x^2)/n^{5/2} + \dots \right] \\
 & / (2\pi n^3/6)^{1/2}. \tag{36}
 \end{aligned}$$

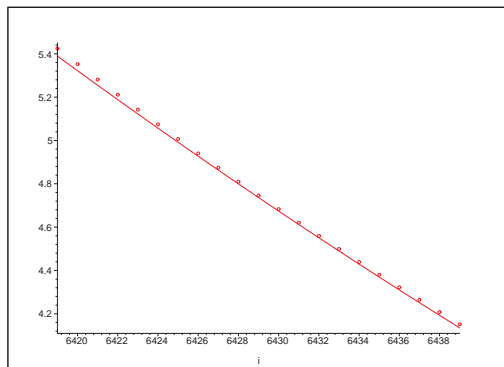


Figure 18: $P_n(j)$ (circle) and the full asymptotics (36) up to the $n^{-5/2}$ term, (line), $n = 150$, scaling = 10^{21}

The q -Catalan numbers

The q -Catalan numbers $C_n(q)$ are defined as

$$C_n(q) = \frac{1 - q}{1 - q^{n+1}} \frac{(q; q)_{2n}}{(q; q)_n (q; q)_{2n}},$$

with $(q; q)_n = (1 - q)(1 - q^2) \dots (1 - q^n)$. Note that $C_n = C_n(1)$, a Catalan number, and the polynomial $F_n(q) = C_n(q)/C_n$ is the probability generating function of a distribution X_n that we call the **Catalan distribution**. It has been shown recently that this distribution is asymptotically normal.

Since we attack $F_n(q)$ and $C_n(q)$ mostly with analytic methods, we find it more appropriate to replace the letter q by z ; note that

$$C_n(z) = \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} \frac{1 - z^{n+i+1}}{1 - z^{i+1}}.$$

It is easy to get the mean m and variance σ^2 of the random variable X_n characterized by

$$P_n(i) := \mathbb{P}(X_n = i) := \frac{[z^i]C_n(z)}{C_n},$$

namely

$$m = \frac{n(n-1)}{2},$$
$$\sigma^2 = \frac{n(n^2-1)}{6}.$$

(In the full paper we sketch how these moments and higher ones can be computed quite easily.)

The Gaussian limit

Set $j = m + x\sigma$, with $m = n(n-1)/2$ and $\sigma = \sqrt{n(n^2-1)/6}$.
Then, for fixed x , the following approximation holds:

$$P_n(j) \sim e^{-x^2/2} \cdot \exp\left(\left(-9/40 + 9/20x^2 - 3x^4/40\right)/n\right) / (2\pi n^3/6)^{1/2}. \quad (37)$$

Note that, like in the Representations of numbers as $\sum_{k=-n}^n \varepsilon_k k$, we have a x^4 term in the first order correction.

Figure 19 shows, for $n = 60$, Q_3 : the quotient of $P_n(j)$ and the asymptotics (37), with the constant term $-9/(40n)$ and the x^2 term $9x^2/(20n)$ and Q_4 : the quotient of $P_n(j)$ and the full asymptotics (37). Q_4 gives indeed a good precision on a larger range.

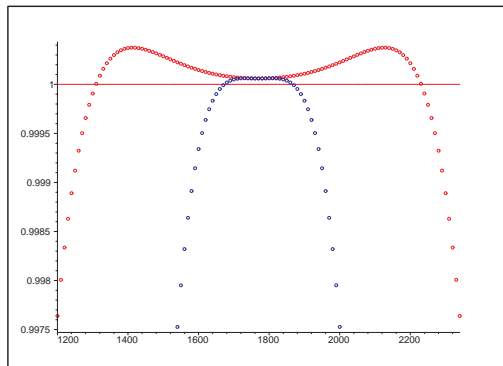


Figure 19: Q_3 (blue) and Q_4 (red)

The case $j = n - k$

We deal with probabilities that are far away from the average; viz. $j = n - k$, for fixed k . Again, they are very small, but nevertheless we find asymptotic formulæ for them.

We have $z^* = 1$ and, as we will see, ε is again given by a **Puiseux series** of powers of $n^{-1/2}$. But the approach of previous Sections is doomed to failure: **all terms** of the generalization of (5) contribute to the computation of the coefficients. So we have to turn to another technique. We have

$$P_n(n - k) = [z^{n-k}] \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} \frac{1 - z^{n+i+1}}{1 - z^{i+1}} / C_n.$$

So we set

$$S := S_1 + S_2 + S_3 + S_4,$$

with

$$S_1 := \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \ln(1 - z^{n+i+1}),$$

$$S_2 := - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \ln(1 - z^{i+1}) = - \sum_{i=2}^n \ln(1 - z^i),$$

$$S_3 := -(n+1-k) \ln z, \quad S_4 := -\ln(C_n).$$

Set $\tilde{z} = z^* - \varepsilon = 1 - \varepsilon$. We must have $S'(\tilde{z}) = 0$, with

$$S'(z) = S'_1(z) + S'_2(z) + S'_3(z),$$

$$S'_1(z) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \frac{-(n+i+1)z^{n+i}}{1 - z^{n+i+1}},$$

$$S'_2(z) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \frac{(i+1)z^i}{1 - z^{i+1}},$$

$$S'_3(z) = -\frac{n+1-k}{z}.$$

It is clear that we must have either $S'_1(\tilde{z}) = \mathcal{O}(n)$ or $S'_2(\tilde{z}) = \mathcal{O}(n)$.
Set

$$\varepsilon = \frac{f(n)}{n},$$

for a function still to be determined. Let us first (roughly) solve

$$S'_1(\tilde{z}) = n.$$

We have

$$S'_1(\tilde{z}) \sim n \frac{\tilde{z}^n}{1 - \tilde{z}} \sim \frac{n^2 e^{-f(n)}}{f(n)}.$$

This leads to the equation

$$\frac{n^2 e^{-f(n)}}{f(n)} = n, \text{ i.e. } e^{f(n)} f(n) = n,$$

which is solved by

$$f(n) = W(n),$$

where W is the **Lambert function**. But we know that

$$W(n) \sim \ln(n) - \ln \ln(n) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\ln \ln(n)}{\ln(n)}\right).$$

So

$$\varepsilon \sim \frac{\ln(n)}{n}.$$

But then

$$S'_2(\tilde{z}) \sim \frac{1}{(1 - \tilde{z})^2} \sim \frac{n^2}{\ln(n)^2} = \Omega(n).$$

So we must turn to the other choice, i.e.

$$S_2'(\tilde{z}) \sim \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{(1-\tilde{z})^2}\right) \sim \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{n^2}{f(n)^2}\right).$$

The equation

$$\frac{n^2}{f(n)^2} = n$$

leads now to

$$f(n) = \sqrt{n},$$

and

$$S_1'(\tilde{z}) \sim \frac{n^2 e^{-\sqrt{n}}}{\sqrt{n}} = n^{3/2} e^{-\sqrt{n}},$$

which is **exponentially negligible**.

This rough analysis leads to the **more precise asymptotics**

$$\varepsilon = \frac{a_1}{n^{1/2}} + \frac{a_2}{n} + \frac{a_3}{n^{3/2}} + \dots \quad (38)$$

and we must solve

$$S'_2(\tilde{z}) + S'_3(\tilde{z}) = 0,$$

i.e.

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \frac{(j+1)\tilde{z}^j}{1-\tilde{z}^{j+1}} - \frac{n+1-k}{\tilde{z}} = 0.$$

We rewrite this equation as

$$\sum_{j=2}^n \frac{j\tilde{z}^j}{1-\tilde{z}^j} = M,$$

and will later replace M by $n+1-k$. It is not hard to see that we can solve

$$\sum_{j=2}^{\infty} \frac{j\tilde{z}^j}{1-\tilde{z}^j} = M,$$

since the extra terms introduce an exponentially small error.

Now we replace \tilde{z} by e^{-t} :

$$g(t) = \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} \frac{je^{-jt}}{1 - e^{-jt}},$$

and compute its **Mellin transform**:

$$g^*(s) = (\zeta(s-1) - 1)\zeta(s)\Gamma(s). \quad (39)$$

The original function can be recovered by a contour integral:

$$g(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{3-i\infty}^{3+i\infty} (\zeta(s-1) - 1)\zeta(s)\Gamma(s)t^{-s} ds.$$

This integral can be approximately (in a neighbourhood of $t = 0$) solved by taking **residues** into account:

$$g(t) = \frac{\pi^2}{6t^2} - \frac{3}{2t} + \frac{13}{24} - \frac{t}{12} + \frac{t^3}{720} - \frac{t^5}{30240} + \mathcal{O}(t^7).$$

Now we solve

$$\frac{\pi^2}{6t^2} - \frac{3}{2t} + \frac{13}{24} - \frac{t}{12} + \frac{t^3}{720} - \frac{t^5}{30240} \sim M,$$

and find

$$t(M) \sim \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{6}} M^{-1/2} - \frac{3}{4} M^{-1} + \frac{(81 + 13\pi^2)\sqrt{6}}{288\pi} M^{-3/2} - \left(\frac{13}{32} + \frac{\pi^2}{144}\right) M^{-2}$$

To simplify the next expressions, we will set $n = w^2$.

Now, since $1 - \varepsilon = e^{-t}$, we set $M = n + 1 - k$, expand and reorganize:

$$\varepsilon \sim \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{6}} w^{-1} - \left(\frac{\pi^2}{12} + \frac{3}{4} \right) w^{-2} + \frac{\sqrt{6}(4\pi^4 + 3\pi^2 + 72\pi^2 k + 243)}{864\pi} w^{-3}. \quad (40)$$

Note that k appears (linearly) only in the coefficient of w^{-3} . The quadratic term in k appears in the coefficient of w^{-5} .

This finally leads to

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_n(n-k) \sim e^{T_4} \frac{2^{-1/2} \pi^{3/2}}{12} & \left(1 - 2^{1/2} 3^{1/2} \frac{216 + 13\pi^2 + 24\pi^2 k}{144\pi w} \right. \\
 & + \frac{19008\pi^2 + 20736\pi^2 k + 31104 + 217\pi^4 + 624\pi^4 k + 576\pi^4 k^2}{6912\pi^2 w^2} \\
 & - 3^{1/2} 2^{1/2} [-229635 + 11104128\pi^2 + 1907712\pi^4 k + 11197440\pi^2 k \\
 & + 4069\pi^6 + 771984\pi^4 + 1244160\pi^4 k^2 + 15624\pi^6 k \\
 & \left. + 13824\pi^6 k^3 + 22464\pi^6 k^2] / [2985984\pi^3 w^3] \right) \\
 T_4 := -2 \ln(2) w^2 & + \frac{\sqrt{6} \pi w}{3}.
 \end{aligned}$$

The quality of the approximation is given in Figure 20, with the w^{-2} term (and k^2 contribution) and in Figure 21, with the w^{-2} and w^{-3} terms (and k^3 contribution). The fit is rather good: the curves cover the exact graph above and below.

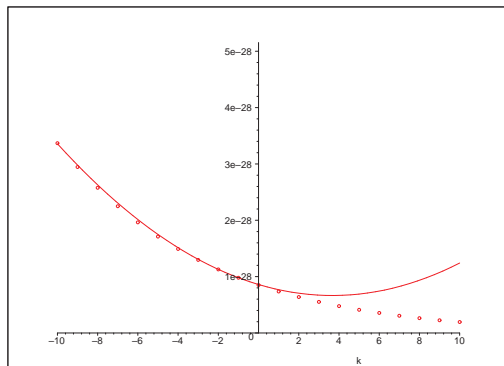


Figure 20: $P_n(n-k)$, $n=60$ exact (circle), asymptotics (line), with w^{-2} term

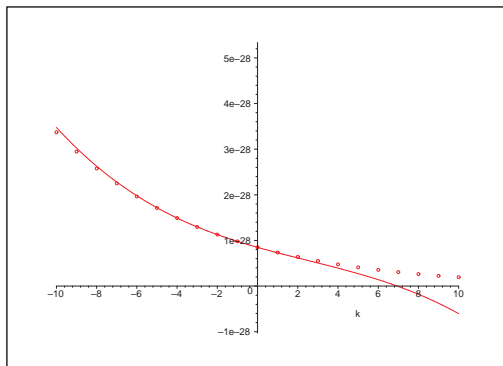


Figure 21: $P_n(n-k)$, $n=60$ exact (circle), asymptotics (line), with w^{-2} and w^{-3} terms

A simple case of the Mahonian statistic

Canfield, Janson and Zeilberger have analyzed the **Mahonian distribution on multiset permutations**: classic permutations on m objects can be viewed as words in the alphabet $\{1, \dots, m\}$. If we allow **repetitions**, we can consider all words with a_1 occurrences of 1, a_2 occurrences of 2, \dots , a_m occurrences of m . Let J_m denote the **number of inversions**. Assuming that all words are equally likely, the probability generating function of J_m is given, setting $N = a_1 + \dots + a_m$, by

$$\phi_{a_1, \dots, a_m}(z) = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^m a_i! \prod_{i=1}^N (1 - z^i)}{N! \prod_{j=1}^m \prod_{i=1}^{a_j} (1 - z^i)}.$$

The mean μ and variance σ^2 are given by

$$\mu(J_m) = e_2(a_1, \dots, a_m)/2, \quad \sigma^2(J_m) = \frac{(e_1 + 1)e_2 - e_3}{12},$$

where $e_k(a_1, \dots, a_m)$ is the degree k elementary symmetric function.

Let $a^* = \max_j a_j$ and $N^* = N - a^*$. Recently it was proved that, if $N^* \rightarrow \infty$ then the sequence of normalized random variables

$$\frac{J_m - \mu(J_m)}{\sigma(J_m)}$$

tends to the standard normal distribution. The authors also conjecture a local limit theorem and prove it under additional hypotheses.

In this talk, we analyze **simple examples of the Mahonian statistic**, for instance, we consider the case

$$m = 2, a_1 = an, a_2 = bn, n \rightarrow \infty.$$

We analyze the central region $j = \mu + x\sigma$ and one large deviation $j = \mu + xn^{7/4}$. The exponent $7/4$ that we have chosen is of course again not sacred, any fixed number below 2 and above $3/2$ could also have been considered.

We have here

$$\phi(z) = \frac{(an)!(bn)! \prod_{i=1}^{(a+b)n} (1 - z^i)}{((a+b)n)! \prod_{i=1}^{an} (1 - z^i) \prod_{i=1}^{bn} (1 - z^i)},$$

$$\mu = \frac{abn^2}{2},$$

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{ab(a+b+1/n)n^3}{12}.$$

The Gaussian limit

To compute $S_1(\tilde{z})$, we first compute the asymptotics of the i term, this leads to a $\ln(i)$ contribution, which will be cancelled by the factorials. We obtain

$$Z_2(j) \sim e^{-x^2/2}.$$

$$\exp \left[\left[-\frac{3a^2 + 13ab + 3b^2}{20ab(a+b)} + \frac{3(a^2 + b^2 + ab)x^2}{10ab(a+b)} \right] / n + \mathcal{O}(n^{-3/2}) \right] / (\pi ab(a+b)n^3/6)^{1/2}. \quad (41)$$

The Large deviation, $j = \mu + xn^{7/4}$

We derive

$$\begin{aligned}
 Z_2(j) \sim \exp & \left[-\frac{6x^2}{ab(a+b)} n^{1/2} - \frac{36(a^2 + ab + b^2)x^4}{5[ab(a+b)]^3} \right. \\
 & \left. + C_9(x, a, b)/n^{1/2} + C_{10}(x, a, b)/n + \dots \right] \\
 & / (\pi ab(a+b)n^3/6)^{1/2}. \tag{42}
 \end{aligned}$$

To check the effect of the correction, we first give in Figure 22, for $n = 50$, $a = b = 1/2$ and $x \in [0..0.2]$, the comparison between $Z_2(j)$ and the asymptotics (42). Figure 23 shows the quotient of $Z_2(j)$ and the asymptotics (42)

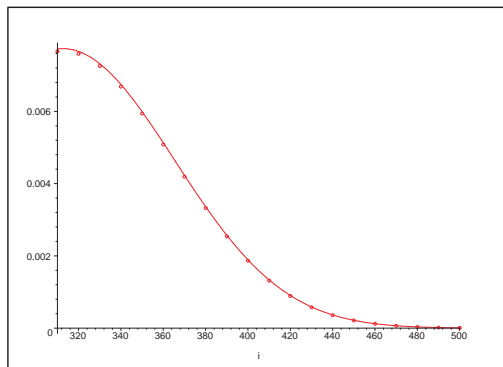


Figure 22: The comparison between $Z_2(j)$ and the asymptotics (42).

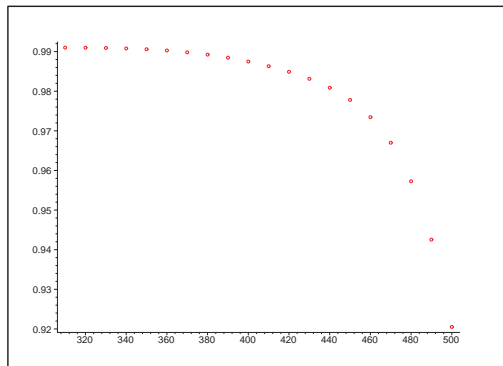


Figure 23: The quotient of $Z_2(j)$ and the asymptotics (42)

Asymptotics of the Stirling numbers of the first kind revisited

Let $\left[\begin{smallmatrix} n \\ j \end{smallmatrix} \right]$ be the Stirling number of the first kind (unsigned version). Their generating function is given by

$$\phi_n(z) = \prod_0^{n-1} (z + i) = \frac{\Gamma(z + n)}{\Gamma(z)}, \quad \phi_n(1) = n!.$$

Consider the random variable J_n , with probability distribution

$$\mathbb{P}[J_n = j] = Z_n(j),$$

$$Z_n(j) := \frac{\left[\begin{smallmatrix} n \\ j \end{smallmatrix} \right]}{n!}.$$

$$M := \mathbb{E}(J_n) = \sum_0^{n-1} \frac{1}{1+i} = H_n = \psi(n+1) + \gamma,$$

$$\sigma^2 := \mathbb{V}(J_n) = \sum_0^{n-1} \frac{i}{(1+i)^2} = \psi(1, n+1) + \psi(n+1) - \frac{\pi^2}{6} + \gamma,$$

where $\psi(k, x)$ is the k th polygamma function, and

$$M \sim \ln(n) + \gamma + \frac{1}{2n} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{n^2}\right),$$

$$\sigma^2 \sim \ln(n) - \frac{\pi^2}{6} + \gamma + \frac{3}{2n} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{n^2}\right).$$

It is convenient to set

$$A_n := \ln(n) - \frac{\pi^2}{6} + \gamma = \ln\left(ne^{\gamma - \pi^2/6}\right),$$

and to consider all our next asymptotics ($n \rightarrow \infty$) as functions of A_n . All asymptotics can be reformulated in terms of $\ln(n)$.

We have

$$M \sim A_n + \frac{\pi^2}{6} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{n}\right),$$
$$\sigma^2 \sim A_n + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{n}\right).$$

A celebrated central limit theorem of Goncharov says that

$$J_n \sim \mathcal{N}(M, \sigma),$$

where \mathcal{N} is the Gaussian distribution, with a rate of convergence $\mathcal{O}(1/\sqrt{\ln(n)})$.

In this Section, we want to obtain a **more precise local limit theorem** for J_n in terms of $x := \frac{J_n - M}{\sigma}$ and A_n . Actually, we obtain the following result, where we use $B_n := \sqrt{A_n}$ to simplify the expressions.

$$Z_n(j) \sim R_1,$$

$$\begin{aligned} R_1 &:= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}B_n} e^{-x^2/2} \\ &\cdot \left[1 + \frac{x^3/6 - x/2}{B_n} + \frac{3x^2/8 - x^4/6 - 1/12 + x^6/72}{B_n^2} \right. \\ &+ \frac{1}{B_n^3} \left[-\pi^2 x^3/18 + 37x^5/240 - 355x^3/144 + x/8 - x^7/48 \right. \\ &\left. \left. + x^9/1296 + \pi^2 x/6 - \zeta(3)x + \zeta(3)x^3/3 \right] + \dots \right]. \end{aligned}$$

A comparison of $Z_n(j) / \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp \left[- \left(\frac{j-M}{\sigma} \right)^2 / 2 \right] \right]$ with $Z_n(j)/R_1$, with 2 terms in R_1 , is given in Figure 24.

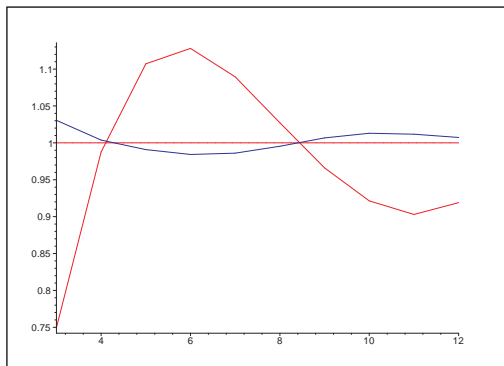


Figure 24: $Z_n(j) / \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} \exp \left[- \left(\frac{j-M}{\sigma} \right)^2 / 2 \right] \right]$, color=red, $Z_n(j)/R_1$, color=blue, $n = 3000$

The precision of R_1 is of order 10^{-2} . Using 3 terms in R_1 leads to a less good result: A_n is not large enough to take advantage of the $A_n^{-3/2}$ term: $A_n = 6.94$ here, we deal with asymptotic series, not necessarily convergent ones. More terms can be computed in R_1 (which is almost automatic with Maple).

The **justification of the integration procedure** goes as follows. We proceed as in Flajolet and Sedgewick (Analytic combinatorics, FS), ch. VIII. We can choose here $\tilde{z} = 1$. This leads, with $z = e^{i\theta}$, to

$$S(z) \sim S_0(z) + \mathcal{O}\left(\sqrt{\ln(n)\theta}\right) + \text{constant term},$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} S_0(z) &= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \ln[e^{i\theta} + k] - H_n i\theta \\ &\sim \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{1}{1+k} [e^{i\theta} - 1] - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left[\frac{1}{1+k} [e^{i\theta} - 1] \right]^2 - H_n i\theta + \mathcal{O}(\theta^3) \\ &\sim H_n [e^{i\theta} - 1 - i\theta] + \mathcal{O}(\theta^2). \end{aligned}$$

Set

$$h(\theta) := e^{i\theta} - 1 - i\theta.$$

We have

$$h(\theta) \sim -\frac{\theta^2}{2},$$

The function $h(\theta)$ is the same as in FS, Ex. VIII.3, which proves the validity of our integration procedure: we use here $H_n \sim \ln(n)$ instead of n . The complete asymptotic expansion is justified as in FS, Ex. VIII.4.

Large deviation, $j = n - n^\alpha$, $1 > \alpha > 1/2$

We have

$$G_n(z) := \frac{\Gamma(z+n)}{\Gamma(z)z^{j+1}} = \exp[S(z)],$$

with

$$S(z) = S_1(z) + S_2(z), S_1(z) = \sum_0^{n-1} \ln(z+i), S_2(z) = -(j+1) \ln(z).$$

Some experiments with some values for α ($\alpha = 5/8$ is a good choice) show that **\tilde{z} must be a combination of $x = n^\alpha$ and $y = n^{1-\alpha}$ and $x \gg y \gg 1$** . Note that both x and y are large. We will derive series of powers of x^{-1} , where each coefficient is a series of powers of y^{-1} .

First, by bootstrapping, we obtain (we give the first terms)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tilde{z} = & \frac{ny}{2} \left[1 - \frac{4}{3y} + \frac{2}{9y^2} + \frac{8}{135y^3} + \frac{8}{405y^4} \right. \\
 & + \frac{16}{1701y^5} + \frac{232}{45525y^6} + \frac{64}{18225y^7} + \dots \\
 & + \frac{1}{x} \left[1 - \frac{1}{y} + \frac{4}{9y^2} - \frac{16}{135y^3} + \dots \right] \\
 & + \frac{1}{x^2} \left[1 - \frac{1}{y} + \frac{0}{y^2} + \dots \right] \\
 & \left. + \frac{1}{x^3} [1 + \dots] + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{x^4}\right) \right]. \tag{43}
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that the choice of dominant terms in the bracket of (43) depends on α . For instance, for $\alpha = 3/4$, the dominant terms (in decreasing order) are

$$1, \frac{1}{y}, \frac{1}{y^2}, \left\{ \frac{1}{x}, \frac{1}{y^3} \right\}, \left\{ \frac{1}{xy}, \frac{1}{y^4} \right\}, \left\{ \frac{1}{xy^2}, \frac{1}{y^5} \right\}, \left\{ \frac{1}{x^2}, \frac{1}{xy^3}, \frac{1}{y^6} \right\}, \dots$$

We obtain the following result

$$\begin{aligned}
 [z^j]\phi_n(z) &\sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{y^2 \sqrt{x}}{2} e^{S(\tilde{z})} T_4 \\
 T_4 &= 1 - \frac{2}{3y} - \frac{2}{9y^2} + \dots + \frac{1}{x} \left(\frac{5}{12} - \frac{11}{18y} + \dots \right) \\
 &+ \frac{1}{x^2} \left(\frac{73}{288} - \frac{133}{432y} + \dots \right) + \frac{1}{x^3} \left(\frac{721}{576} + \dots \right) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{x^4}\right) \quad (44)
 \end{aligned}$$

We have made several experiments with (44), with n up to 500. The result is **unsatisfactory**, only values of x of order \sqrt{n} give reasonable results. Actually, only very large values of n lead to good precision. So we turn to another formulation: instead of using an expansion for $e^{S(\tilde{z})}$, **we plug directly \tilde{z} into $G_n(z)$** , ie we set

$$T_7 = G_n(\tilde{z}),$$

leading to

$$[z^j]\phi_n(z) \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{y^2 \sqrt{x}}{2} T_7 T_4 =: T_8 \text{ say .}$$

For $n = 500$, using two and three terms in T_4 , we give in Figures 25 and 26, the quotient $[z^j]\phi_n(z)/T_8$. The precision is now of order 10^{-5} .

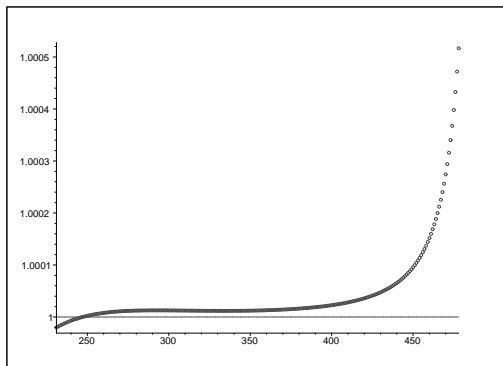


Figure 25: The quotient $[z^j]\phi_n(z)/T_8$, two terms in T_4 , as function of j , $n = 500$

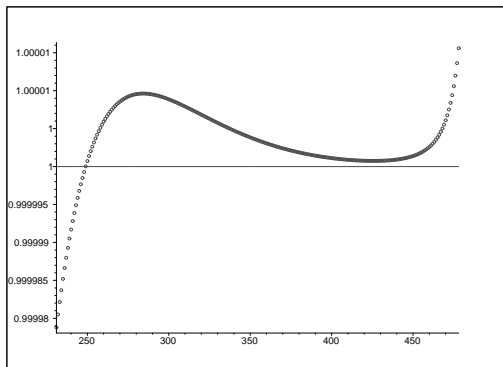


Figure 26: The quotient $[z^j]\phi_n(z)/T_8$, three terms in T_4 , as function of j , $n = 500$