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# Shell models - exercises with hints

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**Exercise 1:** (Gronwall's inequality) Let  $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be a continuous function such that

$$f(t) \leq A + B \int_0^t f(s) ds \quad \text{for } t \geq 0 \text{ and some } A, B > 0. \quad (1)$$

Then we have

$$f(t) \leq A \exp(Bt) \quad \text{for } t \geq 0.$$

**Solution:** Consider the function  $\varphi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  defined by the formula:

$$\varphi(t) = \exp(-Bt) \int_0^t f(s) ds \quad \text{for all } t \geq 0.$$

Obviously  $\varphi$  is differentiable and

$$\varphi'(t) = -B \exp(-Bt) \int_0^t f(s) ds + \exp(-Bt) f(t) \leq A \exp(-Bt),$$

by equation (1).

Consequently, integrating both sides of the above inequality and taking into account that  $\varphi(0) = 0$  we obtain

$$\varphi(t) \leq -A/B(\exp(-Bt) - 1)$$

and

$$B \int_0^t f(s) ds \leq -A(1 - \exp(Bt)).$$

This gives

$$A + B \int_0^t f(s) ds \leq A \exp(Bt)$$

and consequently

$$f(t) \leq A \exp(Bt) \quad \text{for } t \geq 0.$$

□

**Exercise 2:** Let  $\mathbf{W} = \{W(h) : h \in H\}$  denote an isonormal Gaussian process associated with the Hilbert space  $H$  with the scalar product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_H$  defined on some probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$ , i.e.  $\mathbf{W}$  is a centered Gaussian family of random variables such that  $\mathbf{E}(W(h)W(g)) = \langle h, g \rangle_H$  for all  $h, g \in H$ . Prove that the mapping  $h \rightarrow W(h)$  is linear.

**Solution:** For any  $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $h, g \in H$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}((W(\lambda h + \mu g) - \lambda W(h) - \mu W(g))^2) &= \|\lambda h + \mu g\|_H^2 \\ &+ \lambda^2 \|h\|_H^2 + \mu^2 \|h\|_H^2 - 1\lambda \langle \lambda h + \mu g, \lambda h + \mu g \rangle_H \\ &- 2\mu \langle \lambda h + \mu g, g \rangle_H + 2\lambda \mu \langle h, g \rangle_H = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $W(\lambda h + \mu g) = \lambda W(h) + \mu W(g)$  and we are done.

□

**Exercise 3:** Let  $H_n(x)$ ,  $n \geq 1$ , denote the  $n$ th *Hermite polynomial*, which is defined by

$$H_n(x) = \frac{(1)^n}{n!} e^{x^2/2} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (e^{-x^2/2}), \quad \text{for } n \geq 1$$

and  $H_0(x) = 1$ . Show the following properties

$$H'_n(x) = H_{n-1}(x), \quad n \geq 1, \quad (2)$$

$$(n+1)H_{n+1}(x) = nH_n(x) - H_{n-1}(x), \quad n \geq 1, \quad (3)$$

$$H_n(-x) = (-1)^n H_n(x), \quad n \geq 1. \quad (4)$$

**Solution:** Observe that the coefficients of the expansion in powers of  $t$  of the function  $F(x, t) = \exp(tx - t^2/2)$ . In fact, we have

$$\begin{aligned} F(x, t) &= \exp(x^2/2 - (x-t)^2/2) \\ &= e^{x^2/2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^n}{n!} \left( \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (e^{-(x-t)^2/2}) \right)_{|t=0} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} t^n H_n(x). \end{aligned}$$

Then (2) and (3) follow from  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} = tF$ , respectively, and  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial t} = (x-t)F$ , and (4) is a consequence of  $F(-x, t) = F(x, -t)$ .  $\square$

**Exercise 4:** Let  $X, Y$  be two random variables with joint Gaussian distribution such that  $\mathbf{E}(X) = \mathbf{E}(Y) = 0$  and  $\mathbf{E}(X^2) = \mathbf{E}(Y^2) = 1$ . Then we have

$$\mathbf{E}(H_n(X)H_m(Y)) = 0 \quad \text{if } n \neq m$$

and

$$\mathbf{E}(H_n(X)H_n(Y)) = \frac{1}{n!} (\mathbf{E}(XY))^n.$$

**Solution:** From the fact that  $X, Y$  are two random variables with joint Gaussian distribution we obtain for  $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\mathbf{E}(\exp(sX - s^2/2) \exp(tY - t^2/2)) = \exp(st\mathbf{E}(XY)).$$

at  $s = t = 0$  in both sides of the above equality yields

$$\mathbf{E}(n!m!H_n(X)H_m(Y)) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } n \neq m; \\ n!(\mathbf{E}(XY))^n, & \text{if } n = m. \end{cases}$$

$\square$

**Exercise 5:** Let  $\mathbf{W} = \{W(h) : h \in H\}$  denote an isonormal Gaussian process associated with the Hilbert space  $H$  with the scalar product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_H$  defined on some probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$ . Let

$$F = f(W(h_1), \dots, W(h_n)),$$

where  $f$  belongs to the set of all infinitely continuously differentiable functions  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f$  and all of its partial derivatives have polynomial growth ( $f \in C_p^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ). The derivative of  $F$  is the  $H$ -valued random variable given by

$$DF = \sum_{i=1}^n \partial_i f(W(h_1), \dots, W(h_n)) h_i.$$

Prove that

$$\mathbf{E}(\langle DF, h \rangle_H) = \mathbf{E}(FW(h)). \quad (5)$$

**Solution:** First notice that we can normalize equation (5) and assume that the norm of  $h$  is one. There exist orthonormal elements of  $H$ ,  $e_1, \dots, e_n$ , such that  $h = e_1$  and  $F$  is a smooth random variable of the form

$$F = f(W(e_1), \dots, W(e_n)),$$

where  $f \in C_p^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Let  $\phi(x)$  denote the density of the standard normal distribution on  $\mathbf{R}^n$ , that is,

$$\phi(x) = (2\pi)^{-n/2} \exp\left(-\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2/2\right).$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}(\langle DF, h \rangle_H) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \partial_1 f(x) \phi(x) dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) \phi(x) x_1 dx \\ &= \mathbf{E}(FW(e_1)) = \mathbf{E}(FW(h)), \end{aligned}$$

which completes exercise 5. □