

## Integral of the Poisson kernel over $\partial\mathbb{R}_+^n$ .

We show that for  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$

$$\int_{\partial\mathbb{R}_+^n} K(\vec{x}, \vec{y}) dy_1 \cdots dy_{n-1} = 1,$$

where  $K(\vec{x}, \vec{y})$  denotes the Poisson kernel for  $\mathbb{R}_+^n$ . Fix  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$  and write  $\vec{x} = (\bar{x}, x_n)$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2x_n}{n\alpha(n)} \int_{\partial\mathbb{R}_+^n} \frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{y}|^n} dy_1 \cdots dy_{n-1} &= \frac{2x_n}{n\alpha(n)} \int_0^\infty \int_{\partial B(\bar{x}, r)} \frac{1}{(r^2 + x_n^2)^{n/2}} dS_y dr \\ &= \frac{2x_n}{n\alpha(n)} (n-1)\alpha(n-1) \int_0^\infty \frac{r^{n-2}}{(r^2 + x_n^2)^{n/2}} dr, \end{aligned}$$

where in this last equality we have observed that  $B(\bar{x}, r) \subset \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$  and so  $|\partial B(\bar{x}, r)| = (n-1)\alpha(n-1)r^{n-2}$ . In order to analyze the integral, we set

$$r = x_n \tan \theta,$$

so that

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{r^{n-2}}{(r^2 + x_n^2)^{n/2}} dr = \frac{1}{x_n} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^{n-2} \theta d\theta = \frac{1}{x_n} \frac{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma(\frac{n-1}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{n}{2})},$$

where I've cribbed this last equality from an integral table. The result is now clear from the relations

$$\begin{aligned} n\alpha(n) &= \frac{2\pi^{n/2}}{\Gamma(\frac{n}{2})} \\ (n-1)\alpha(n-1) &= \frac{2\pi^{(n-1)/2}}{\Gamma(\frac{n-1}{2})}. \end{aligned}$$