

PHY4410 HW 4 Fall 2019
Due Friday Oct 11 by 4:30pm

Homework:

1. Show that for a Gaussian, the average value (e.g. of s) occurs at the same "location" as the maximum value.

2. Suppose $g(N, U) = CU^{3N/2}$ where $C = \text{some constant}$.

a) Show that $U = \frac{3}{2}N\tau$

b) Show that $\left(\frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial U^2}\right)_N < 0$. This form of g applies to an ideal gas.

3. In Python, write a program which will plot a histogram of sums of rolls of N six-sided dice, such that you demonstrate an exact ensemble, i.e. each possible set of dice rolls is counted once and only once.

Print out histograms for $N=3, 6, 10$.

4. Show that, for large N ,

$$\sigma(s) \simeq \ln g(N, U) - 2s^2/N \quad (\text{Yes, it's that easy})$$

5. Prove the "log version" of the Stirling Approximation:

Using the fact that for integer N , $N! = \int_0^\infty x^N e^{-x} dx$, ($= \Gamma(N+1)$)

show that, for large N , $\ln N! \simeq N \ln N - N$.

Hint: $\log(1+x) = x - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{3}x^3 - \frac{1}{4}x^4 + \dots$

Better hint on 5: Much easier to use $\ln N! = \sum_{k=1}^N \ln k$, and let the sum become an integral!!