

Math 254A Lecture 13 Notes

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1 Observing Macroscopic Quantities From Microscopic States

1.1 Recap

We have a phase space (M, λ) which is a σ finite but not finite measure space. The energy of one particle is $\varphi : M \rightarrow [0, \infty)$, where $\min \varphi = \text{ess min } \varphi = 0$. Then we know that

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda^{\times n} \left(\left\{ (p_1, \dots, p_n) \in M^n : \frac{1}{n} \Phi_n(p_1, \dots, p_n) := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \varphi(p_i) \in I \right\} \right) \\ = \exp \left(n \cdot \sup_{x \in I} s(x) + o(n) \right), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$s(x) = \inf_{\beta > 0} \{s^*(\beta) + \beta x\}.$$

We also have the Fenchel-Legendre transform

$$s^*(\beta) = \log \int e^{-\beta \varphi}.$$

β achieves equality in the definition of s

$$\begin{aligned} &\iff s \text{ has a tangent of slope } \beta \text{ at } x \\ &\iff D_+ s(x) \leq \beta \leq D_- s(x) \\ &\iff s^*(\beta + (-s(x))) = -\beta x \\ &\iff D_- s^*(\beta) \leq -x \leq D_+ s^*(\beta) \\ &\iff s^* \text{ has a tangent of slope } -x \text{ at } \beta. \end{aligned}$$

Using s^* , we can prove:

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$$s^*(\beta) \rightarrow \begin{cases} \log \lambda(\{\varphi = 0\}) & \beta \rightarrow \infty \\ \infty & \beta \downarrow 0. \end{cases}$$

- s^* is strictly decreasing and strictly convex.
- s^* is differentiable on $(0, \infty)$.
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$$s(x) \rightarrow \begin{cases} \log \lambda(\{\varphi = 0\}) & x \downarrow 0 \\ \infty & x \rightarrow \infty. \end{cases}$$

- s is strictly increasing and strictly concave.
- s is differentiable on $(0, \infty)$.

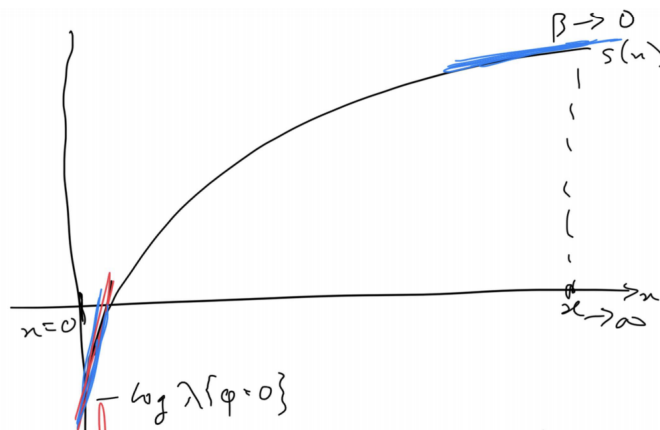
1.2 Behavior of s'

Let's analyze the behavior of s' :

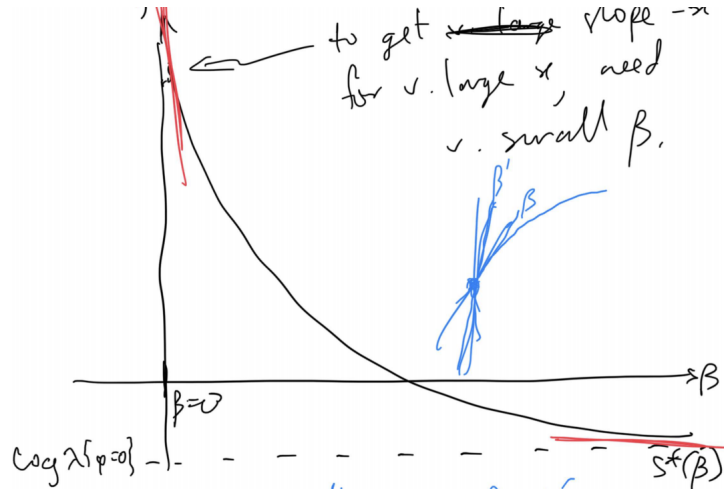
Proposition 1.1.

$$s'(x) \rightarrow \begin{cases} 0 & x \rightarrow \infty \\ \infty & x \rightarrow 0. \end{cases}$$

Instead of a formal proof, here are some pictures. Look at the possible slopes we can get for points on the graph of s and how they correspond to slopes for points on the graph for s^* .



To get slope $-x$ for very large x in the graph of s^* , we need very small β .



1.3 Observing macroscopic quantities from microscopic states

Now imagine we are looking at some other macroscopic observable quantity of the microscopic state $(p_1, \dots, p_n) \in M^n$. We will study functions for the form

$$\Psi_n(p_1, \dots, p_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n \psi(p_i).$$

If $M = \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3$, we could take $\psi(r, p) = \mathbb{1}_D(r)$, which indicates whether a particle is in D or not in D ; then Ψ_n would be the total number of particles in D .

We need some regularity. A simple sufficient condition is that ψ is bounded. A weaker but still sufficient condition is that for every $\beta > 0$, there is an $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $\int e^{-\beta\varphi} e^{-\gamma\psi} d\lambda < \infty$ for all $\gamma \in (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon)$.

Let's assume ψ is bounded, and we'll ask about the distribution of Ψ_n on the approximate level set $\{\frac{1}{n}\Phi_n \in I\}$, where I is a small interval. We need to compare $\lambda^{\times n}(\{\frac{1}{n}\Phi_n \in I\})$ and $\lambda^{\times n}(\{\frac{1}{n}\Phi_n \in I, \frac{1}{n}\Psi_n \in J\})$. We use the generalized type-counting machinery with \mathbb{R}^2 to get an asymptotic for this:

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda^{\times n} \left(\left\{ \frac{1}{n}\Phi_n \in I, \frac{1}{n}\Psi_n \in J \right\} \right) &= \lambda^{\times n} \left(\left\{ (p_1, \dots, p_n) \in M^n : \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\varphi(p_i), \psi(p_i)) \in I \times J \right\} \right) \\ &= \exp \left(n \cdot \sup_{(x,y) \in I \times J} \tilde{s}(x,y) + o(n) \right), \end{aligned}$$

where $\tilde{s}(x, y) : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [-\infty, \infty)$ is an upper semicontinuous, concave function with

$$\tilde{s}(x, y) = \inf_{\beta, \gamma} \{ \tilde{s}^*(\beta, \gamma) + \beta x + \gamma y \}.$$

and Fenchel-Legendre transform

$$\tilde{s}^*(\beta, \gamma) = \log \int e^{-\beta\varphi} e^{-\gamma\psi} d\lambda.$$

Here, we assume ψ is bounded, $|\psi| \leq M$, so

$$\tilde{s}^*(\beta, \gamma) = \begin{cases} \infty & \beta = 0 \\ < \infty & \beta > 0. \end{cases}$$

Here, $\tilde{s}(x, y) \leq s(x)$ for all $y \in \mathbb{R}$. We want to find a y_0 such that $\tilde{s}(x, y_0) = s(x)$ and $\tilde{s}(x, y) < s(x)$ for any other y . This will tell us that conditioned on Φ being x , we are likely to have Ψ be y_0 and not likely to have any other y . We have

$$s(x) = \inf_{\beta > 0} \left\{ \log \int e^{-\beta\varphi} d\lambda + \beta x \right\},$$

which is greater than or equal to

$$\tilde{s}(x, y) = \inf_{\beta > 0, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}} \left\{ \log \int e^{-\beta\varphi} e^{-\gamma\psi} d\lambda + \beta x + \gamma y \right\}.$$

Lemma 1.1. $\tilde{s}(x, y_0) = s(x)$ and $\tilde{s}(x, y) < s(x)$ for any other y , where

$$y_0 = \frac{\int \psi e^{-\beta\varphi} d\lambda}{\int e^{-\beta\varphi} d\lambda} = \langle \psi, \mu_\beta \rangle$$

and

$$d\mu_\beta(p) = \frac{e^{-\beta\varphi(p)} d\lambda(p)}{\int e^{-\beta\varphi} d\lambda}$$

is the **Gibbs measure** obtained from λ, φ, β .

Proof. First, s is differentiable, so for every $x > 0$, there is a unique $\beta > 0$ such that $s(x) = \log \int e^{-\beta\varphi} d\lambda + \beta x$. To achieve $\tilde{s}(x, y_0) = s(x)$, we must have that the function $\gamma \mapsto \log \int e^{-\beta\varphi} e^{-\gamma\psi} d\lambda + \beta x + \gamma y_0$ achieves its minimum uniquely at $\gamma = 0$. This function of γ is convex (by Hölder), strictly convex if ψ is not a.s. constant, and differentiable. Assuming ψ is not a.s. constant, we need y_0 such that

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \gamma} \left\{ \log \int e^{-\beta\varphi} e^{-\gamma\psi} d\lambda + \beta x + \gamma y_0 \right\} = 0$$

at $\gamma = 0$. This is the derivative of the log of the moment generating function. Differentiate under the integral to get

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \gamma} \log \int e^{-\beta\varphi} e^{-\gamma\psi} d\lambda = \frac{\int -\psi e^{-\beta\varphi} e^{-\gamma\psi} d\lambda}{\int e^{-\beta\varphi} e^{-\gamma\psi} d\lambda} \Big|_{\gamma=0} = -\langle \psi, \mu_\beta \rangle.$$

So $\frac{\partial}{\partial \gamma} [\dots] |_{\gamma=0} = -\langle \psi, \mu_\beta \rangle + y_0$, and this equals 0 iff $y_0 = \langle \psi, \mu_\beta \rangle$. □

Corollary 1.1.

$$\lambda^{\times n} \left(\left\{ \left| \frac{1}{n} \Psi_n - \langle \psi, \mu_\beta \rangle \right| > \varepsilon \right\} \middle| \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \Phi_n \in I \right\} \right) \leq e^{-c \cdot n + o(n)},$$

where c is a constant, I is a short enough interval containing x , and we are using conditional probability notation.

Remark 1.1. Given $\frac{1}{n} \Phi_n \approx x$, we found that

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi_n &\approx n(\text{its average over } \{\frac{1}{n} \Phi_n \approx n\}^1) \\ &\approx n \langle \psi, \mu_\beta \rangle \\ &= \langle \psi(p_1) + \dots + \psi(p_n), \mu_\beta^{\times n} \rangle \\ &= \int \Psi_n d\mu_{\beta,n}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$d\mu_{\beta,n}(p_1, \dots, p_n) = \frac{e^{-\beta \Phi_n(p_1, \dots, p_n)} d\lambda^{\times n}(p)}{\int e^{-\beta \Phi_n} d\lambda^{\times n}} = \mu_\beta \times \dots \times \mu_\beta$$

is called the **canonical ensemble measure**.

¹This is called the **microcanonical ensemble**.