

Some features of the typical Poisson-Delaunay/ Poisson-Voronoi cell

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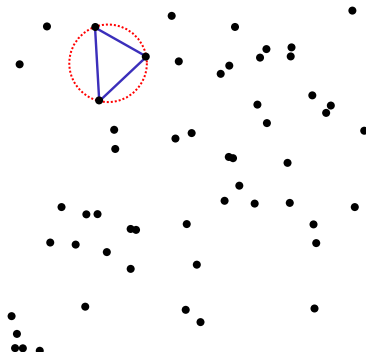
June 26th, 2025

Part 1 - Poisson-Delaunay

Poisson-Delaunay tessellation and the typical cell

PPP: Poisson point process on $\mathbb{R}^d$, intensity 1

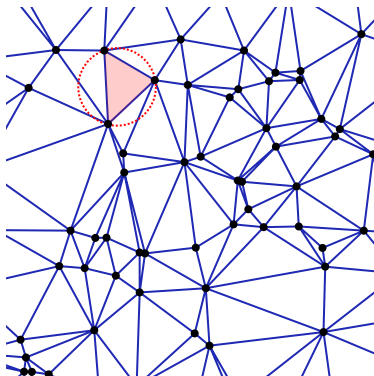
Whenever $(d + 1)$ points of the PPP lay on a sphere that contains no points of the PPP in its interior, their convex hull is a Delaunay cell.



Poisson-Delaunay tessellation and the typical cell

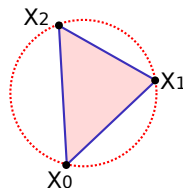
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Typical cell: a cell chosen uniformly at random in a large window. Denote $X_0, \dots, X_d$ its vertices.

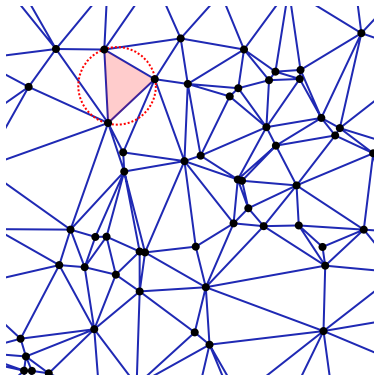
$$\mathcal{C}_{\text{typ}}^{\text{Del}} = \text{Conv}(X_0, \dots, X_d)$$



Poisson-Delaunay tessellation and the typical cell

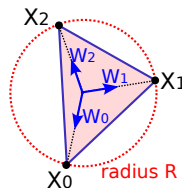
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Law of the typical cell

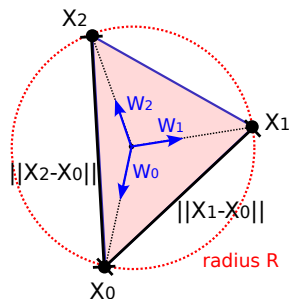
$$(X_0, \dots, X_d) \stackrel{\text{law}}{=} \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{W}_0, \dots, \mathbf{W}_d)$$

where $\mathbf{R}$ has a known generalized Gamma distribution, $(\mathbf{W}_0, \dots, \mathbf{W}_d)$ are points on the unit sphere with density proportional to $\text{Vol}_d(\text{Conv}(\mathbf{W}_0, \dots, \mathbf{W}_d))$.

Some edge lengths of the typical cell

Question: what is the law of

$(\|X_1 - X_0\|, \dots, \|X_d - X_0\|)$?

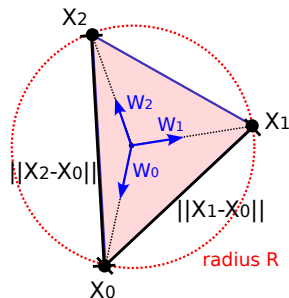


We want to compute the **Mellin transform**, that is

$$\mathbb{E} [\|X_1 - X_0\|^{\alpha_1} \cdots \|X_d - X_0\|^{\alpha_d}]$$

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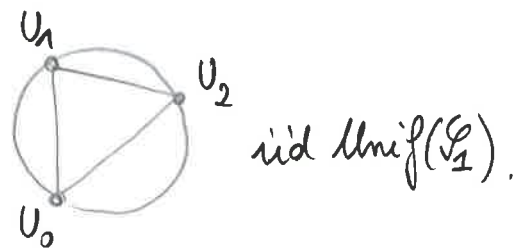
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} [\|X_1 - X_0\|^{\alpha_1} \dots \|X_d - X_0\|^{\alpha_d}] &= \mathbb{E} [R^{\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_d} \|W_1 - W_0\|^{\alpha_1} \dots \|W_d - W_0\|^{\alpha_d}] \\ &= \frac{\mathbb{E} [R^{\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_d}]}{\underbrace{\mathbb{E} [\text{Vol}_d(\text{Conv}(U_0, \dots, U_d))]}_{\text{found by [1]}}} \mathbb{E} [\|U_1 - U_0\|^{\alpha_1} \dots \|U_d - U_0\|^{\alpha_d} \text{Vol}_d(\text{Conv}(U_0, \dots, U_d))] \end{aligned}$$

where $U_0, \dots, U_d$ are i.i.d. uniform on the unit sphere.

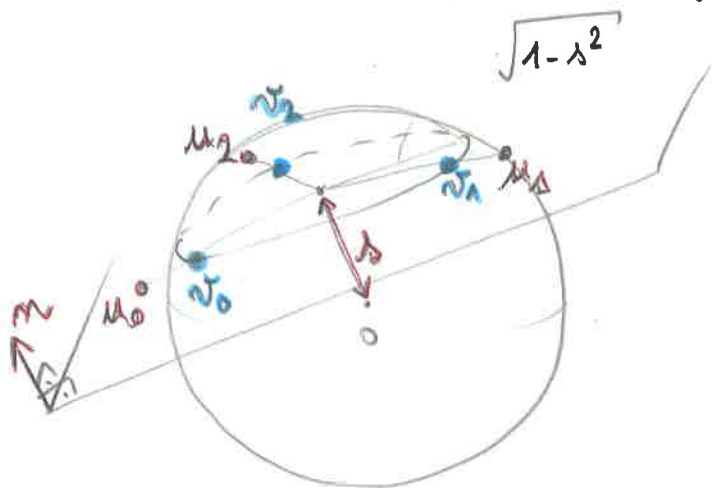
[1] R.E. Miles. Isotropic random simplices. *Adv. in App. Prob.* **Vol. 3, No. 2**, 353-382 (1971)

Miles $d = 2$

$$\mathbb{E} [\text{Vol}(\text{Conv}(U_0, U_1, U_2))] = ?$$



miles starts from a different space ... a 2-dim sphere!



choose

$$v_0, v_1, v_2 \in \mathcal{G}_2$$

$\equiv$

choose

$$m \in \mathcal{G}_2$$

$$s \in [0, 1]$$

$$u_0, u_1, u_2 \in \mathcal{G}_1$$

Choosing 3 points on $\mathcal{G}_2$ is easy ... we know how to do it.
However, we can do this choice in a much more complicated way, that will give us access to $\mathbb{E} [\text{Vol}(\text{Conv}(U_0, U_1, U_2))]$.

" v_0, v_1, v_2 live on a circle,

this circle lays on an affine plane

• this plane is orthogonal to vector $m \in \mathcal{G}_2$.

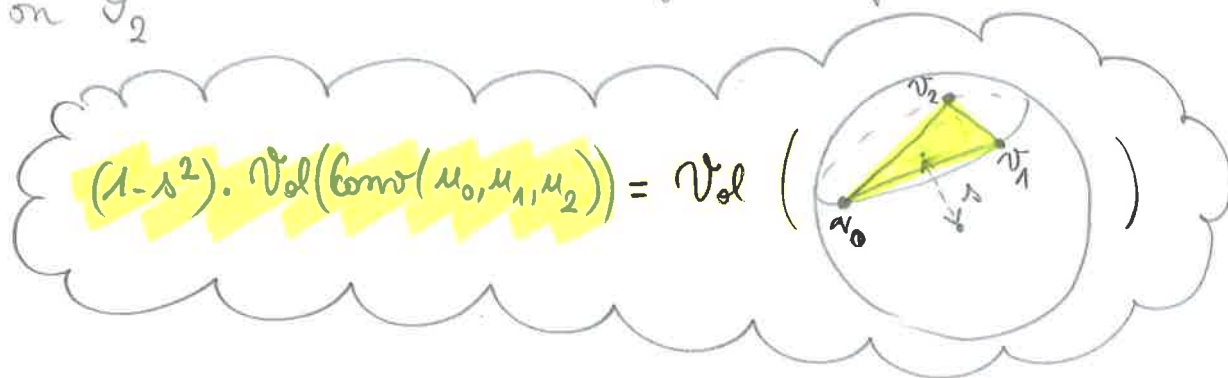
• this plane has distance $s \in [0, 1]$ to the origin (this also fixes the radius of the circle : $\sqrt{1-s^2}$)

• finally, we need local coordinates within the affine

plane : $u_0, u_1, u_2 \in \mathcal{G}_1$. "

Let's see how the volume unit changes between the two sets of coordinates

$$\underbrace{d\sigma_2(v_0) d\sigma_2(v_1) d\sigma_2(v_2)}_{\substack{\text{surface measure} \\ \text{on } G_2}} = 2 \underbrace{d\sigma_2(m)}_{\text{Lebesgue}} \underbrace{ds}_{\text{surface meas. on } G_1} \underbrace{(1-s^2)}_{\text{surface meas. on } G_1} \underbrace{d\sigma_1(u_0) d\sigma_1(u_1) d\sigma_1(u_2)}_{\text{surface meas. on } G_1} \text{Vol}(\text{Conv}(u_0, u_1, u_2))$$



We can integrate this expression and obtain

$$\int d\sigma_2(v_0) \int d\sigma_2(v_1) \int d\sigma_2(v_2) = 2 \int d\sigma_2(m) \int ds (1-s^2) \int d\sigma_1(u_0) \int d\sigma_1(u_1) \int d\sigma_1(u_2) \text{Vol}(\text{Conv}(u_0, u_1, u_2))$$

$$(4\pi)^3 = 2 \cdot 4\pi \cdot \frac{2}{3} \cdot (2\pi)^3 \mathbb{E}[\text{Vol}(\text{Conv}(u_0, u_1, u_2))]$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{E}[\text{Vol}(\text{Conv}(u_0, u_1, u_2))] = \frac{3}{2\pi}$$

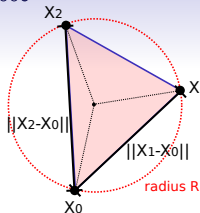
What we were interested in was $\mathbb{E}[\text{Vol}(\text{Conv}(u_0, u_1, u_2)) \|u_1 - u_0\|^{\alpha_1} \|u_2 - u_0\|^{\alpha_2}] \dots$
we find that we can insert these distances on either side of Miles' relation!

renormalization:

$$\underbrace{\int d\sigma_2(v_0) \int d\sigma_2(v_1) \int d\sigma_2(v_2)}_{\substack{\text{distance between indep.} \\ \text{points, that we can} \\ \text{compute} \rightarrow \text{Beta functions}}} = 2 \underbrace{\int d\sigma_2(m)}_{\text{constant}} \underbrace{\int ds (1-s^2)}_{\text{Beta function}} \underbrace{\int d\sigma_1(u_0) \int d\sigma_1(u_1) \int d\sigma_1(u_2)}_{\substack{\|u_1 - u_0\|^{\alpha_1} \|u_2 - u_0\|^{\alpha_2}}} \text{Vol}(\text{Conv}(u_0, u_1, u_2))$$

$$= (2\pi)^3 \mathbb{E}[\text{Vol} \cdot \|u_1 - u_0\|^{\alpha_1} \|u_2 - u_0\|^{\alpha_2}]$$

We can solve the equation for and recognize the law...



Miles “2.0”

Our problem: For $U_0, \dots, U_d$ i.i.d. uniform on the unit sphere:

$$\mathbb{E} [\|U_1 - U_0\|^{\alpha_1} \cdots \|U_d - U_0\|^{\alpha_d} \text{Vol}_d(\text{Conv}(U_0, \dots, U_d))] =? \quad (1)$$

Re-purposing the methods used by Miles [1] to find $\mathbb{E} [\text{Vol}_d(\text{Conv}(U_0, \dots, U_d))]$, we can compute (1) and recover a representation of the law of $(\|X_1 - X_0\|, \dots, \|X_d - X_0\|)$.

Theorem.

$$(\|X_1 - X_0\|^2, \dots, \|X_d - X_0\|^2) \stackrel{\text{law}}{=} R^2(L_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, L_{\sigma(d)})$$

where R has density proportional to $r \mapsto r^{d^2-1} e^{-\kappa_d r^d}$, σ is a uniform random permutation and

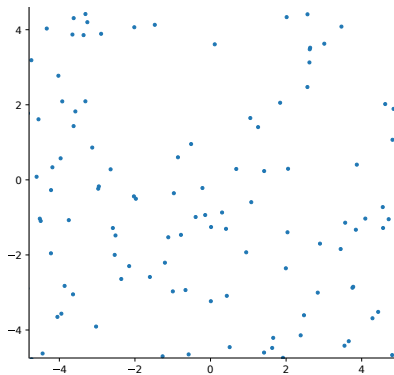
$$(L_1, \dots, L_d) \stackrel{\text{law}}{=} (CB_1 D_1, \dots, CB_{d-1} D_{d-1}, CB_d)$$

where the random variables $B_1, \dots, B_d, D_1, \dots, D_{d-1}, C$ are all independent and Beta distributed with the following parameters: $C \sim \text{Beta}\left(\frac{d^2+1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$, $B_1, \dots, B_d \sim \text{Beta}\left(\frac{d}{2} + 1, \frac{d}{2} - 1\right)$ and $D_1, \dots, D_{d-1} \sim \text{Beta}\left(\frac{d}{2}, 1\right)$.

Part 2 - Poisson-Voronoi

Poisson-Voronoi tessellation, the typical cell and its circumradius

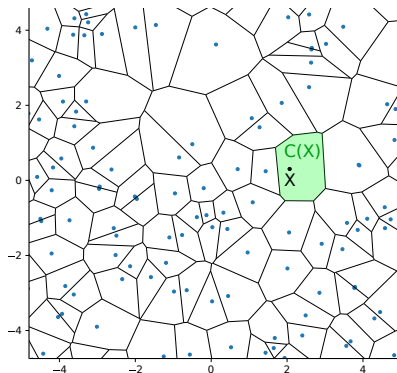
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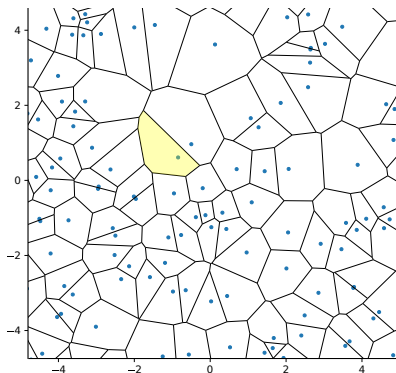
$$\mathcal{C}(X) = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^d : \|y - X\| \leq \|y - X'\|, X' \in \text{PPP}\}$$



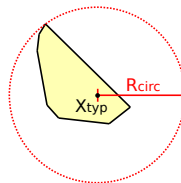
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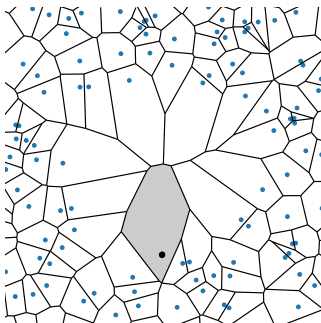
Typical cell $\mathcal{C}_{\text{typ}} = \mathcal{C}(X_{\text{typ}})$: a cell chosen uniformly at random in a large window.



Circumradius R_{circ} of the typical cell:

$$R_{\text{circ}} = \min(r \geq 0 : \mathcal{C}_{\text{typ}} \subseteq \mathcal{B}_r(X_{\text{typ}}))$$

Previous results in dimension 2



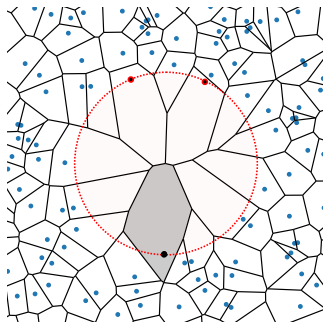
Calka, in [2], finds a double bound for $d = 2$. For t large enough,

$$2\pi t^2 e^{-\pi t^2} \leq \mathbb{P}(R_{\text{circ}} \geq t) \leq 4\pi t^2 e^{-\pi t^2}.$$

Question: $\mathbb{P}(R_{\text{circ}} \geq t) \underset{t \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} ?$

[2] P. Calka. The distributions of the smallest disks containing the Poisson-Voronoi typical cell and the Crofton cell in the plane. *Adv. in Appl. Probab.* **34**, 702-717 (2002)

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factor t^2 :
positioning of $\bigcirc$
around X_{typ}

factor $e^{-\pi t^2}$:
 $e^{-\pi t^2} = e^{-\text{Vol}_2(\bigcirc)}$
 $= \mathbb{P}(\text{PPP} \cap \bigcirc = \emptyset)$

Guess:

$$\mathbb{P}(R_{\text{circ}} \geq t) \stackrel{t \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} C_d t^{n_d} e^{-\kappa_d t^d}$$

where κ_d is the volume of the unit ball,
 C_d is a constant to be found,
 n_d is a power to be found.

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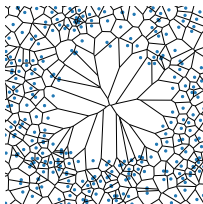
Theorem and implications regarding the extremal index

Theorem 1 (Distribution tail of the circumradius of the typical cell).

$$\mathbb{P}(R_{\text{circ}} \geq t) \stackrel{t \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} C_d t^{d(d-1)} e^{-\kappa_d t^d}$$

where κ_d is the volume of the unit ball and C_d is an explicit constant with $C_2 = 4\pi$.

$$\text{Extremal index} = \frac{1}{\mathbb{E}[\# \text{ exceedances in a cluster of exceedances}]}$$



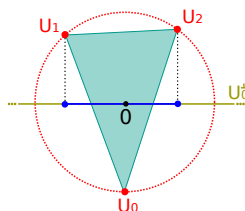
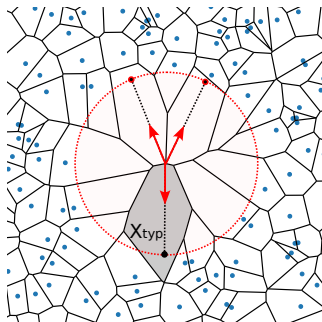
Limit law of the max
circumradius in an increasing
window (properly rescaled)

[3] P. Calka & N. Chenavier.
Extreme values for characteristic
radii of a Poisson-Voronoi tessella-
tion. *Extremes* **17**, 359-385 (2014)

Random simplices in the unit sphere - value of the constant C_d

Theorem 3. Let $U_0, \dots, U_d$ i.i.d. uniform on the $(d-1)$ -dim unit sphere and denote κ_d the volume of the unit ball.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{C_d}{(d\kappa_d)^d} &= \mathbb{E} \left[\text{Vol}_d(\text{Conv}(U_0, \dots, U_d)) \mathbf{1}_{0 \in \text{Conv}(\text{Proj}_{U_0^\perp}(U_1), \dots, \text{Proj}_{U_0^\perp}(U_d))} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2^{d-1} \sqrt{\pi} (d-1)!} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{d}{2}\right)^d}{\Gamma\left(\frac{d+1}{2}\right)^{d-1}} \end{aligned}$$



$\{0 \in \text{Conv}(\text{Proj}_{U_0^\perp}(U_i))\}$:
describes locally the extremal
shape of the cell.

$\text{Vol}_d(\text{Conv}(U_0, \dots, U_d))$: arises
from a polar change of
coordinates.

Thank you for your attention!