

Question

Given that $b > a$, $\lambda > -1$, $h(x) > h(a)$, $h'(a) \neq 0$, show that as $x \rightarrow +\infty$

$$I(x) = \int_a^b (t-a)^\lambda e^{-xh(t)} dt \sim \frac{e^{-xh(a)} \Gamma(\lambda+1)}{[xh'(a)]^{\lambda+1}}.$$

Answer

$$I(x) = \int_a^b (t-a)^\lambda e^{-x \ln(t)} dt$$

For convergence at $t = a$. It's a linear endpoint.

$$\underbrace{b > a}, \quad \overbrace{\lambda > -1}, \quad \underbrace{h(x) > h(a)}, \quad \overbrace{h'(a) \neq 0}$$

Integral on real line.

Endpoint at $x = a$ will dominate for $x > a$.

This is the general case of question 6: a dominant linear endpoint as $x \rightarrow +\infty$ where $f(t)$ vanishes there.

Proceed as above:

$$\begin{aligned} u &= h(t) - h(a) \\ &= h'(a)(t-a) + O[(t-a)^2] \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow u \approx h'(a)(t-a) \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Therefore } I(x) = e^{-x \ln(a)} \int_0^{h(b)-h(a)} e^{-xu} \frac{[t(u)-a]^\lambda}{h'(t(u))} du$$

$$(1) \Rightarrow t-a \approx \frac{u}{h'(a)}$$

Therefore to leading order we have: $h'(t(u)) = h'(a)$

$$I(x) \approx e^{-x \ln(a)} \int_0^{h(b)-h(a)} \frac{e^{-xu} u^\lambda}{[h'(a)]^{\lambda+1}} du$$

as $x \rightarrow +\infty$ for Poincaré the upper limit can be set to ∞ (with exponentially small error).

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} I(x) &\sim \frac{e^{-x \ln(a)}}{[h'(a)]^{\lambda+1}} \int_0^\infty e^{-xu} u^\lambda du \\ &\text{this is a known integral} \\ &\sim \frac{e^{-x \ln(a)} \Gamma(\lambda + 1)}{[xh'(a)]^{\lambda+1}} \end{aligned}$$