

# ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If  $x \geq 0$  then:

$$\frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left( \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt \right)^2 + \int_0^{2x} e^{-t^2} dt \geq 2 \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt$$

*Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania*

**Solution 1** by Ahmed Salem-Tunisia

$$\text{Let } Q(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_x^\infty e^{-\frac{v^2}{2}} dv$$

Prob. that standard Gaussian RVX exceeds  $x$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt &\stackrel{u=\sqrt{2}t}{=} \sqrt{2\pi} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{\sqrt{2}x} e^{-\frac{u^2}{2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} du = \sqrt{\pi} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{\sqrt{2}x} e^{-\frac{u^2}{2}} du \\ &= \sqrt{\pi} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^\infty e^{-\frac{u^2}{2}} du - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{\sqrt{2}x}^\infty e^{-\frac{u^2}{2}} du \right) = \sqrt{\pi} \left( \frac{1}{2} - Q(\sqrt{2}x) \right) \end{aligned}$$

The given inequality is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \cdot \pi \left( \frac{1}{2} - Q(\sqrt{2}x) \right)^2 + \sqrt{\pi} \left( \frac{1}{2} - Q(2\sqrt{2}x) \right) &\geq 2\sqrt{\pi} \left( \frac{1}{2} - Q(\sqrt{2}x) \right) \\ \Rightarrow \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} + 2\sqrt{\pi}Q^2(\sqrt{2}x) - 2\sqrt{\pi}Q(\sqrt{2}x) + \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} - \sqrt{\pi}Q(2\sqrt{2}x) &\geq \sqrt{\pi} - 2\sqrt{\pi}Q(\sqrt{2}x) \\ \Rightarrow 2Q^2(\sqrt{2}x) &\geq Q(2\sqrt{2}x) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Q(x) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_x^\infty \int_{-\infty}^\infty e^{-\frac{1}{2}(u^2+v^2)} du dv = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \int_{x \sec \phi}^\infty -d e^{-\frac{1}{2}r^2} d\phi = \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2 \sec^2 \phi} d\phi \stackrel{\phi \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}-\phi}{=} \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2 \sin^2 \phi}} d\phi \\ (1 - 2Q(x))^2 &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-x}^x \int_x^\infty e^{-\frac{1}{2}(u^2+v^2)} du dv = \frac{4}{\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \int_0^{x \sec \phi} -de^{-\frac{1}{2}r^2} d\phi \\ &= \frac{4}{\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \left( 1 - e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2 \sec^2 \phi} \right) d\phi = 1 - 4Q(x) + 4Q^2(x) \\ \Rightarrow Q^2(x) &= Q(x) - \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2 \sec^2 \phi} d\phi = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\frac{\pi}{4}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2 \sec^2 \phi} d\phi \stackrel{\phi \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}-\phi}{=} \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2 \sin^2 \phi}} d\phi \end{aligned}$$

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$$2Q^2(\sqrt{2}x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{\sin \phi}} d\phi$$

$$Q(2\sqrt{2}x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} e^{-\frac{4x^2}{\sin B}} dB \stackrel{\phi=\frac{B}{2}}{=} \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} e^{-\frac{4x^2}{\sin^2(2\phi)}} d\phi$$

$$2Q^2(\sqrt{2}x) - Q(2\sqrt{2}x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \left( e^{-\frac{x^2}{\sin^2 \phi}} - e^{-\frac{4x^2}{\sin^2(2\phi)}} \right) d\phi$$

For  $\phi \in (0, \frac{\pi}{4}]$ :

$$\begin{aligned} 4 \sin^2 \phi > 4 \sin^2 \phi \cos^2 \phi = \sin^2 2\phi \Rightarrow \frac{4}{\sin^2 2\phi} > \frac{1}{\sin^2 \phi} \Rightarrow -\frac{x^2}{\sin^2 \phi} > -\frac{4x^2}{\sin^2 2\phi} \Rightarrow \\ &\Rightarrow e^{-\frac{x^2}{\sin^2 \phi}} > e^{-\frac{4x^2}{\sin^2(2\phi)}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2Q^2(\sqrt{2}x) \geq Q(2\sqrt{2}x), \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left( \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt \right)^2 + \int_0^{2x} e^{-t^2} dt \geq 2 \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt$$

**Solution 2 by Djamel Arrouche-France**

$$\frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left( \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt \right)^2 + \int_0^{2x} e^{-t^2} dt \geq 2 \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt \dots E$$

$$\operatorname{erf}(y) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^y e^{-t^2} dt$$

$$E \Leftrightarrow \operatorname{erf}^2(x) + \operatorname{erf}(2x) \geq 2 \operatorname{erf}(x)$$

**Proposition**  $\forall (x, y) \in [0, \infty[^2$

$$\operatorname{erf}(x) \operatorname{erf}(y) + \operatorname{erf}(x+y) \geq \operatorname{erf}(x) + \operatorname{erf}(y)$$

**Let**  $y \in \mathbb{R}_+ \forall x \geq 0$

$$f_y(x) = \operatorname{erf}(x) \operatorname{erf}(y) + \operatorname{erf}(x+y) - \operatorname{erf}(x) - \operatorname{erf}(y)$$

$$\Rightarrow f'_y(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} (e^{-x^2} \operatorname{erf}(y) + e^{-(x+y)^2} - e^{-x^2})$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} e^{-x^2} f'(x) = \operatorname{erf}(y) + e^{-y^2 - 2xy} - 1$$

$$f'_y(x) \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow e^{-y^2 - 2xy} \geq 1 - \operatorname{erf}(y) \Rightarrow x \leq \frac{1}{-2y} (\ln(1 - \operatorname{erf}(y)) + y) = a_y$$

$$1 - \operatorname{erf}(y) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_y^\infty e^{-t^2} dt; t = y + z \Rightarrow \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-y^2} \int_0^\infty e^{-z^2 - yz} dz \leq e^{-y^2}$$

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$$a_y \geq \frac{1}{-2y}(-2x + y) = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow a_y \in [0, +\infty[$$

$$f_y(x) \leq f(a_y)$$

$$\Rightarrow f_y(x) = \min(f_y(0), \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f_y(x)) \Rightarrow f_y(0) = 0$$

$$\lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} f_y(x) = \operatorname{erf}(y) + 1 - 1 - \operatorname{erf}(y) = 0$$

$$f_y(x) \geq 0 \Rightarrow f_y(x) \geq 0; \forall x \in [0, \infty[$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{since } y \text{ is arbitrary} \Rightarrow \forall (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2$$

$$\operatorname{erf}(x) \operatorname{erf}(y) + \operatorname{erf}(x+y) \geq \operatorname{erf}(x) + \operatorname{erf}(y)$$

$$c = y \Rightarrow \operatorname{erf}^2(x) + \operatorname{erf}(2x) \geq 2 \operatorname{erf}(x)$$