

General Gaussian integral

$$Z(A, \bar{b}) = \int d^n x e^{-A(x) + \bar{b} \cdot x}$$

We look at the minimum of $A(x) - \bar{b} \cdot x$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(\sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{2} A_{ij} x_j - \sum_{i=1}^n b_i x_i \right) = \sum_{j=1}^n A_{ij} x_j - b_i = 0$$

Introducing the inverse matrix

$$\Delta = A^{-1}$$

We solve

$$x_i = \sum_{j=1}^n \Delta_{ij} b_j$$

Next, we change the variable

$$x_i = \sum_{j=1}^n \Delta_{ij} b_j + y_i$$

and get

$$Z(A, \bar{b}) = e^{\Delta(\bar{b})} \int d^n y e^{-A(y)}$$

$$\text{with } \Delta(\bar{b}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n b_i \Delta_{ij} b_j$$

Thus we find

$$Z(A, \bar{b}) = (2\pi)^{n/2} (\det A)^{-1/2} e^{\Delta(\bar{b})}$$