Expected Number of Level Crossings of a Random Trigonometric Polynomial

Dr. P. K. Mishra  
Associate Professor  
Department of Mathematics  
CET, BPUT, BBSR, Odisha, India

Dipty Rani Dhal  
Research Scholar  
Department of Mathematics  
“SOA” University, Bhubaneswar

Abstract

Let $EN( T; \Phi', \Phi'' )$ denote the average number of real zeros of the random trigonometric polynomial $T=\sum_{k=1}^{n} a_k(\omega) \cos k \theta$. In the interval $(\Phi', \Phi'')$, assuming that $a_k(\omega)$ are independent random variables identically distributed according to the normal law and that $b_k = k^p \ (p \geq 0)$ are positive constants, we show that $EN( T; 0, 2\pi ) \sim \left(\frac{2p+1}{2p+3}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} 2n + O(\log n)$. Outside an exceptional set of measure at most $(2/n)$ where $\epsilon_n^2 = \frac{4\beta^2(2p+1)(2p+3)}{SS'(\log n)^2}$, $\beta = \text{constant} \ S \sim 1 \ S' \sim 1$, 1991 Mathematics subject classification (amer. Math. Soc.): 60 B 99.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Let $N(T; \Phi', \Phi'')$ be the number of real zeros of trigonometric polynomial

$$T = T_n(\Phi, \omega) = \sum_{k=1}^{n} a_k(\omega) \cos k \theta \quad (1)$$

In the interval $(\Phi', \Phi'')$ where the coefficients $a_k(\omega)$ are mutually independent random variables identically distributed according to the normal law; $b_k = k^p$ are positive constants and when multiple zeros are counted only once. Let $EN( T; \Phi', \Phi'' )$ denote the expectation of $N(T; \Phi', \Phi'')$.

Obviously, $T_n(\Phi, \omega)$ can have at most $2n$ most zeros in the interval $(0, 2\pi)$ Das [1] studied the class of polynomials

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n} k^p (g_{2k-1} \cos k \theta + g_{2k} \sin k \theta) \quad (2)$$

where $g_k$ are independent normal random variables for fixed $p > -1/2$ and proved that in the interval $(0, 2\pi)$ the function (2) have number of real roots when $n$ is large.

$$\left\lfloor \frac{(2p+1)(2p+3)}{2n+O(n^{1/3})} \right\rfloor 2n + O(\log n^{1/3})$$

Here, $q = \max(0, -p)$ and $\epsilon_n < (2/3)(1-2q)$. The measure of exceptional set does not exceed $n^2 \epsilon_n$. Das [2] took the polynomial (1) where $a_k(\omega)$ are independent normal random variables identically distributed with mean zero and variance one. He proves that in the interval $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$, the average number of real zeros of polynomials (1) is

$$\left(\frac{2p+1}{2p+3}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} 2n + O(n^{1/3})$$

for $b_k = k^p \ (p > -1/2)$ and of the order of $n^{p+1/2}$ if $-3/2 \leq p \leq -1/2$ for large $n$.

In this paper we consider the polynomial (1) with conditions as in DAS [2] and use the Kac_Rice formula for the expectation of the number of real zeros and obtain that for $p \geq 0$

$$EN( T; 0, 2\pi ) \sim \left[ \frac{2p+1}{2p+3} \left(1-\epsilon_n^2\right) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} 2n + O(\log n)$$

Where

$$\epsilon_n^2 = \frac{4\beta^2(2p+1)(2p+3)}{SS'(\log n)^2} \quad \beta = \text{constant} \ S \sim 1 \ S' \sim 1$$

Our asymptotic estimate implies that Das’s estimate in [1] is approached from below. Also our term is smaller.
The particular case for p=0 has been considered by Dunnage [3] and Pratihari and Bhanja [4]. Dunnage has shown that in the interval $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$ all save a certain exceptional set of the functions $T_n(\Phi, \omega)$ have zeros when $n$ is large.

$$\frac{2n}{\sqrt{3}} + O\left(n^{1/2}(\log n)^{1/3}\right)$$

(4)

The measure of the exceptional set does not exceed $(\log n)^{-1}$. Using the kac_rice formula we tried to obtain in [4] that Professor Dunnage[5] comments that our result is incorrect.

$$EN(T; 0, 2\pi) \sim \frac{2n}{\sqrt{6}} + O(\log n)$$

He is quite right when he says than an asymptotic estimate is unique and that both results (4) and (5) cannot be correct. But in his calculations given in paragraph 4 of [5] he seems to have imported a factor 2 and the correct calculation would give $I' \sim 2\pi n / \sqrt{3}$. Accepting his own statement in paragraph 3 that $I < I'$, our point is clear. However, since $I' \sim 2\pi n / \sqrt{3}$ on direct integration, our estimation of EN as found in [4], contained in the statement (5) above, must be wrong. We are sorry about our mistake. In this paper we consider our original integral I and evaluate it directly instead of placing it between two integrals as in [4], the second one being possibly suspect. This rectification eventually raises our estimate for EN but all the same, keeps it below Dunnage’s estimate stated above. The purport of our result is that EN approaches the value $2\pi n / \sqrt{3}$ from below. This is something meaningful. We prove the following theorem.

**A. Theorem**

The average number of real zeros in the interval $(0, 2\pi)$ of the class of random trigonometric polynomials of the form

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n} a_k(\omega) y_k \cos k\theta$$

where $a_k(\omega)$ are mutually independent random variables identically distributed according to normal law with mean zero and variance one and $b_k = k^p$ ($p \geq 0$) are positive constants, is asymptotically equal to

$$\left\{ \frac{2p+1}{2p+3} \left(1 - e^{-g^2} \right) \right\}^{1/2} 2n + O(\log n)$$

(5)

Outside an exceptional set of measure at most $(2n)^{-1}$ where

$$e_n^2 = \frac{4\beta^2(2p+1)(2p+3)}{SS' \log n^2}$$

$\beta = \text{constant}$

$S \sim 1$

$S' \sim 1$

**II. THE APPROXIMATION FOR EN(T;0,2\pi)**

Let $L(n)$ be a positive-valued function of $n$ such that $L(n)$ and $n/L(n)$ both approach infinity with $n$. We take $\varepsilon = L(n)/n$ throughout.

Outside a small exceptional set of $\omega$, $T_n(\Phi, \omega)$ has a negligible number of zeros in each of the intervals $(0, \varepsilon)$, $(\pi - \varepsilon, \pi + \varepsilon)$ and $(2\pi - \varepsilon, 2\pi)$. By periodicity, of zeros in each of intervals $(0, \varepsilon)$ and $(2\pi - \varepsilon, 2\pi)$ is the same as number in $(\varepsilon, \pi)$. We shall use the following lemma, which is due to Das [2].

**A. Lemma**

The probability that $T$ has more than $1 + (\log n)^{-1}(\log n + \log D_n + 4n \varepsilon)$ Zeros in $\omega - \varepsilon \leq \theta \leq \omega + \varepsilon$ does not exceed $2 \exp(-n \varepsilon)$, where

$$D_n = \sum_{k=1}^{n} b_k$$

The steps in this section follow closely those in section 2 of [4]. Therefore, we indicate only the modifications necessary. In this case we have

$$T = \sum_{k=1}^{n} a_k(\omega) y_k \cos k\theta$$

$$T' = -\sum_{k=1}^{n} k a_k(\omega) y_k \sin k\theta$$

$$\phi(y, z) = \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{n} (y \cos \theta - zk \sin \theta)^2 b_k^2 \right\}$$

$$p(0, \eta) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int_{-\eta}^{\eta} dt \int_{-\eta}^{\eta} \exp(\imath \eta z) \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{n} (y \cos \theta - zk \sin \theta)^2 b_k^2 \right\} dy$$

And finally
\[
\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \log \left( \sum_{k=1}^{n} \left( \frac{u \cos k \theta + k \sin k \theta}{(Au + B)^2} \right)^2 \right) du = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \log \left( \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{n} (u \cos k \theta + k \sin k \theta)^2 b_k}{(Au + B)^2} \right) du
\]

for fixed non-zero real constants A and B to be chosen.

III. ESTIMATION OF THE INTEGRAL OF EQUATION (6)

Consider the integral

\[
I = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \log \left( \sum_{k=1}^{n} \left( \frac{u \cos k \theta + k \sin k \theta}{(Au + B)^2} \right)^2 \right) du
\]

Which exists in general as a principal value if

\[
A^2 = \sum_{k=1}^{n} b_k^2 \cos^2 k\theta
\]

Let

\[
B^2 = \sum_{k=1}^{n} k^2 b_k^2 \sin^2 k\theta
\]

And

\[
C^2 = \sum_{k=1}^{n} k b_k^2 \cos k\theta \sin k\theta
\]

As in Das[2], letting \( b_k = k\theta (p \geq 0) \) we get

\[
A^2 = \frac{n^{2p+1}}{2} \left\{ 1 + O \left( \frac{1}{L(n)} \right) \right\} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{2p+1}{2p+1}
\]

\[
B^2 = \frac{n^{2p+3}}{2p+3} \left\{ 1 + O \left( \frac{1}{L(n)} \right) \right\} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{2p+3}{2p+3}
\]

\[
C^2 = O \left( \frac{n^{2p+2}}{L(n)} \right) = \frac{\beta n^{2p+2}}{L(n)}
\]

Say \( (\beta = \text{constant}) \)

outside the set \( \{0, \pm \pi, \pm 2\pi, \ldots \} \) of the values of \( \theta \), \( AB > C^2 \). We have

\[
I = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \log \left( \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{n} (u \cos k \theta + k \sin k \theta)^2 b_k}{(Au + B)^2} \right) du = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \log \left( \frac{u^2 + 2c^2 u + b^2}{u^2 + 2bu + b^2} \right) du
\]

Where \( c = (C/A) \) and \( b = (B/A) \). Now by integration by parts,

\[
\int_{0}^{x} \log \left( u^2 + 2c^2 u + b^2 \right) du = \left[ u \log \left( u^2 + 2c^2 u + b^2 \right) \right]_{0}^{x} - \int_{0}^{x} \frac{2u^2 + 2c^2 u}{u^2 + 2c^2 u + b^2} du = 2X \log X + c^2 - 2X + \frac{x}{u^2 + 2c^2 u + b^2} du + O \left( \frac{1}{X} \right)
\]

And

\[
\int_{-x}^{0} \log \left( u^2 + 2c^2 u + b^2 \right) du = \int_{0}^{x} \log \left( u^2 - 2c^2 u + b^2 \right) du = 2X \log X + c^2 - 2X + \frac{x}{u^2 - 2c^2 u + b^2} du + O \left( \frac{1}{X} \right)
\]

Therefore

\[
\int_{-x}^{x} \log \left( u^2 + 2c^2 u + b^2 \right) du = 4X \log X - 4X + \frac{c^2 + b^2}{u^2 + 2c^2 u + b^2} du + O \left( \frac{1}{X} \right)
\]

Again

\[
\int_{-x}^{x} \log \left( u^2 + 2bu + b^2 \right) du = 4X \log X - 4X + 2 \frac{bu + b^2}{u^2 + 2bu + b^2} du + O \left( \frac{1}{X} \right)
\]

Hence the integral
\[
\int_{-x}^{x} \log \left( \frac{u^2 + 2c^2 u + b^2}{u^2 + 2bu + b^2} \right) du = 2 \int_{-x}^{x} c^2 \left( \log \left( \frac{u^2 + 2c^2 u + b^2}{u^2 + 2bu + b^2} \right) \right) du - 2 \int_{-x}^{x} \frac{bu + b^2}{u^2 + 2bu + b^2} + O \left( \frac{1}{X} \right)
\]

\[
2 \int_{-x}^{x} \frac{c^2 u + b^2}{u^2 + 2c^2 u + b^2} du = c^2 \left[ \log \left( \frac{u^2 + 2c^2 u + b^2}{u^2 + 2bu + b^2} \right) \right] \bigg|_{-x}^{x} + 2\sqrt{b^2 - c^2} \left[ \tan^{-1} \frac{u + c}{\sqrt{b^2 - c^2}} \right] \bigg|_{-x}^{x}
\]

When \( X \to \infty \), we have

\[
\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{c^2 u + b^2}{u^2 + 2c^2 u + b^2} du = \Pi \sqrt{b^2 - c^2}
\]

and

\[
O \left( \frac{1}{X} \right) = 0
\]

Therefore

\[
I = \lim_{x \to \infty} \int_{-x}^{x} \cdots = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \log \left( \frac{u^2 + 2c^2 u + b^2}{u^2 + 2bu + b^2} \right) du
\]

\[
= 2\Pi \left( b^2 - c^2 \right)^{1/2} = 2\Pi \left( \frac{4A^2 B^2 - C^2}{A^4} \right)^{1/2}
\]

\[
= \left( \frac{S}{S'} \right) \left( \frac{2p + 1}{2p + 3} \right) \left( \Pi + \varepsilon \right)^{1/2} 2\Pi n
\]

Where

\[
\varepsilon = \frac{4\beta^2 (2p + 1)(2p + 3)}{SS' (L(n))^2}
\]

Thus

\[
I - \left( \frac{(2p + 1)(2p + 3)}{2\Pi n} \right)^{1/2} \Pi n \left( 1 - \varepsilon \right)^{1/2}
\]

Now the result follows from the section 4 of [4], choosing \( L(n) = \log n \), the cases where \(-1/2 < p < 0\) and \( p = -1/2 \) can be similarly dealt with and results can be obtained to show that Das’s estimates are approached from below.

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REFERENCES