

## Volume of a $d$ -dimensional sphere

Important fact from reading:

$$B(p, q) = \int_0^1 x^{p-1}(1-x)^{q-1} dx = \frac{\Gamma(p)\Gamma(q)}{\Gamma(p+q)} \quad \text{when } p, q > 0.$$

a.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{C_{d+1}}{C_d} &= \int_{-1}^1 (1-u^2)^{d/2} du \quad (\text{the integrand is even so...}) \\ &= 2 \int_0^1 (1-u^2)^{d/2} du \quad (\text{use the substitution } x = u^2) \\ &= 2 \int_0^1 (1-x)^{d/2} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} dx \\ &= \int_0^1 x^{-1/2}(1-x)^{d/2} dx \\ &= B\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{d}{2} + 1\right) \end{aligned}$$

b.

$$C_{d+1} = C_d \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})\Gamma(\frac{d}{2} + 1)}{\Gamma(\frac{d}{2} + \frac{3}{2})} = C_d \left[ \sqrt{\pi} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{d}{2} + 1)}{\Gamma(\frac{d}{2} + \frac{3}{2})} \right]$$

Work out the first few  $C_d$  coefficients, starting from the well-known result  $C_2 = \pi$ :

$$\begin{aligned} C_2 &= \pi \\ C_3 &= \pi \left[ \sqrt{\pi} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{4}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{5}{2})} \right] = \frac{\pi^{3/2}}{\Gamma(\frac{5}{2})} \quad (\text{Using } \Gamma(2) = 1! = 1.) \\ C_4 &= \frac{\pi^{3/2}}{\Gamma(\frac{5}{2})} \left[ \sqrt{\pi} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{5}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{6}{2})} \right] = \frac{\pi^{4/2}}{\Gamma(\frac{6}{2})} \\ C_5 &= \frac{\pi^{4/2}}{\Gamma(\frac{6}{2})} \left[ \sqrt{\pi} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{6}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{7}{2})} \right] = \frac{\pi^{5/2}}{\Gamma(\frac{7}{2})}. \end{aligned}$$

Clearly,

$$C_d = \frac{\pi^{d/2}}{\Gamma(\frac{d}{2} + 1)} = \frac{\pi^{d/2}}{(\frac{d}{2})!}.$$