

The mean perimeter of the convex hull of  
some plane random sets generated by the  
Brownian motion

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If  $C$  is a compact plane convex set, denote by  $L(C)$  the length of its perimeter. Let  $B(t) = (X(t), Y(t))$  be a standard Brownian motion in the plane and denote by  $C_1(t)$  the convex hull of the curve

$$\mathbf{B} = \{B(s) ; 0 \leq s \leq t\}.$$

This object has been considered by Paul Lévy (1948), pages 239-240. **The mean of  $L(C_1(t))$  is  $\sqrt{8\pi t}$ .** Here we consider the symmetric convex hull  $C_2(t)$ , namely the convex hull of  $C_1(t) \cup -C_1(t)$ .

By scaling we can guess the existence of a constant  $\ell_2$  such that  $E[L(C_2(t))] = \ell_2\sqrt{8\pi t}$ .

Similarly we consider random convex sets obtained in the following way. We let  $\Omega \subset [0, 2\pi)$  be a set of angles and  $C_\Omega$  the convex hull of  $\cup_{\omega \in \Omega} R_\omega \mathbf{B}$ , where  $R_\omega$  is the rotation of angle  $\omega$ . Again by scaling there exists a constant  $\ell_\Omega$  such that

$$E[L(C_\Omega(t))] = \ell_\Omega \sqrt{8\pi t}.$$

We shall compute this constant when  $\Omega$  is equal to one of the following sets

$$\{0\}, \quad \{0, \pi\},$$

$$\{0, \pi/2\}, \quad \{0, \pi/2, \pi\}, \quad \{0, \pi/2, \pi, 3\pi/2\},$$

$$[0, 2\pi[, \quad \{0, 2\pi/3\}, \quad \{0, 2\pi/3, 4\pi/3\}.$$

giving the result either in closed form or as an expression which can be evaluated numerically.

**Preliminary remarks** Given a compact convex set  $C$  in the Euclidean plane  $\mathbb{R}^2$  consider its support function  $h_C$  as the function on  $\mathbb{R}$  of period  $2\pi$  defined by

$$h_C(\theta) = \max_{(x,y) \in C} (x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta)$$

It is well known that

$$L(C) = \int_0^{2\pi} h_C(\theta) d\theta.$$

Let  $\Omega \subset [0, 2\pi)$  and define

$$h_B(\theta) = \max_{0 \leq s \leq t} (X(s) \cos \theta + Y(s) \sin \theta)$$

and

$$h_\Omega(\theta) = \max_{\omega \in \Omega} h_B(\theta + \omega).$$

The rotation invariance of the law of Brownian motion implies

$$E[L(C_\Omega(t))] = 2\pi E[h_\Omega(0)].$$

Let  $P_\Omega$  be the convex set defined by the inequalities

$$x \cos \omega + y \sin \omega \leq 1; \omega \in \Omega$$

and  $T_\Omega$  be the first time Brownian motion exits this set, then a scaling argument shows that  $h_\Omega(0)$  is distributed as  $T_\Omega^{-1/2}$ . It turns out that in several cases the Laplace transform  $E[\exp(-\frac{\lambda^2}{2}T_\Omega)]$  is given by a simple formula, then

$$E[h_\Omega(0)] = E[T_\Omega^{-1/2}] = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^\infty E[\exp(-\frac{\lambda^2}{2}T_\Omega)] d\lambda$$

and

$$E[L(C_\Omega)(t)] = \sqrt{8\pi t} \int_0^\infty E[\exp(-\frac{\lambda^2}{2}T_\Omega)] d\lambda = \sqrt{8\pi t} \ell_\Omega.$$

Thus

$$\int_0^\infty E[\exp(-\frac{\lambda^2}{2}T_\Omega)] d\lambda = \ell_\Omega.$$

Some easy cases :  $\Omega = \{0\}$  The time  $T_\Omega$  is the first hitting time of 1 for a linear Brownian motion, and

$$E[\exp(-\frac{\lambda^2}{2}T_\Omega)] = e^{-\lambda}. \quad (1)$$

The Laplace transform can be inverted to give

$$P(T_\Omega \in dt) = \frac{e^{-1/2t}}{\sqrt{2\pi t^3}}.dt \quad (2)$$

We get  $E[L(C_1(t))] = \sqrt{8\pi t}$ . As expected :

$$\ell_\Omega = 1.$$

$\Omega = \{0, \pi\}$  Now  $T_\Omega$  is the exit time of linear Brownian motion from the interval  $[-1, +1]$  and

$$E[\exp(-\frac{\lambda^2}{2}T_\Omega)] = 1/\cosh \lambda \quad (3)$$

with density

$$P(T_\Omega \in dt) = \pi \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n (n + \frac{1}{2}) e^{-(n + \frac{1}{2})^2 \pi^2 t / 2} dt \quad (4)$$

and distribution function

$$P(T_\Omega \geq t) = \frac{2}{\pi} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n + \frac{1}{2}} e^{-(n + \frac{1}{2})^2 \pi^2 t / 2}$$

see e.g. Biane, Pitman, Yor (2001) or Feller (1966). Thus

$$l_\Omega = \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

$$\Omega = \{0, \pi/2\}$$

We have  $h_{\Omega}(\theta) = \max_{0 \leq s \leq t}$

$$\{X(s) \cos \theta + Y(s) \sin \theta, Y(s) \cos \theta - X(s) \sin \theta\}.$$

The trick is to use the fact that  $(X(s) \cos \theta + Y(s) \sin \theta)_{s \geq 0}$  and  $(Y(s) \cos \theta - X(s) \sin \theta)_{s \geq 0}$  are two standard one dimensional Brownian motions which are independent. As a consequence, using (2) we have

$$\Pr(h_{\Omega}(\theta) \leq h) = H^2(h/\sqrt{t})$$

where

$$H(z) = -1 + 2 \int_{-\infty}^z e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} \frac{dx}{\sqrt{2\pi}}. \quad (5)$$



It leads to  $\mathbb{E}(L(\Omega)) =$

$$2\pi \int_0^\infty (1 - H^2(h/\sqrt{t})) dh = 2\pi\sqrt{t} \int_0^\infty (1 - H^2(z)) dz.$$

We write

$$1 - H^2(z) = 4 \int_z^\infty e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} \frac{dx}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left( 1 - \int_z^\infty e^{-\frac{y^2}{2}} \frac{dy}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \right)$$

By the change of variables  $x = zu$  and  $y = zv$  and  $w = z^2/2$  we get easily

$$\mathbb{E}(L(C_\Omega)) = \sqrt{8\pi t} \left( 2 - \int_1^\infty \int_1^\infty \frac{dudv}{(u^2 + v^2)^{3/2}} \right)$$

Introduce the function  $(x, y) \mapsto g(x, y)$  defined for  $x$  and  $y$  in  $\mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$  by

$$g(x, y) = \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}{xy}. \quad (6)$$

A tedious calculation shows that if  $a < b$  and  $c < d$  with  $(0, 0) \notin [a, b] \times [c, d]$  and if furthermore  $a, b, c, d \neq 0$  we have

$$\int_a^b \int_c^d \frac{dudv}{(u^2 + v^2)^{3/2}} = g(a, c) + g(b, d) - g(a, d) - g(b, c). \quad (7)$$

From this we get that

$$\int_1^\infty \int_1^\infty \frac{dudv}{(u^2 + v^2)^{3/2}} = 2 - \sqrt{2}$$

which finally gives that

$$l_\Omega = \sqrt{2}.$$

$\Omega = \{0, \pi/2, \pi, 3\pi/2\}$  The method is quite similar to the method used before, but the distribution function  $H$  of the maximum of a Brownian motion is replaced by the distribution function  $L$  of the maximum of its absolute value. Still with the previous notations we have

$$h_{C_\Omega}(\theta) = \max\{|X(s) \cos \theta + Y(s) \sin \theta|, \\ |Y(s) \cos \theta - X(s) \sin \theta| ; 0 \leq s \leq t\}.$$

We use again the fact that  $(X(s) \cos \theta + Y(s) \sin \theta)_{s \geq 0}$  and  $(Y(s) \cos \theta - X(s) \sin \theta)_{s \geq 0}$  are two standard one dimensional independent Brownian motions. We get

$$\Pr(h_{C_\Omega}(\theta) \leq h) = L^2(h/\sqrt{t})$$

and  $\mathbb{E}(L(C_\Omega)) =$

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \mathbb{E}(h_{C_4(t)}(\theta)) d\theta = 2\pi \int_0^\infty (1 - L^2(h/\sqrt{t})) dh = \\ 2\pi\sqrt{t} \int_0^\infty (1 - L^2(z)) dz.$$

We now write

$$1 - L^2(z) = (1 - L(z))(1 + L(z)) = \frac{2}{\pi} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{(4k-1)z}^{(4k+1)z} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} dx \int_{(4n+1)z}^{(4n+3)z} e^{-\frac{y^2}{2}} dy.$$

We are led to the computation of the integral for fixed  $(k, n) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$

$$I(k, n) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^\infty \left( \int_{(4k-1)z}^{(4k+1)z} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} dx \int_{(4n+1)z}^{(4n+3)z} e^{-\frac{y^2}{2}} dy \right) dz.$$

By the same change of variables as before  $x = zu$  and  $y = zv$  and  $w = z^2/2$  we get

$$I(k, n) = \int_{4k-1}^{4k+1} \int_{4n+1}^{4n+3} \frac{dudv}{(u^2 + v^2)^{3/2}}. \quad (8)$$

In order to compute  $I(k, n)$  we use the function  $g$  defined by (6) and the identity (7).

$$l_{\Omega} = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} I(k, n) \quad (9)$$

One can observe that we have the following two symmetries : for all  $(k, n) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$

$$I(k, n) = I(-k, n) = I(k, -n - 1).$$

$l_\Omega = S_0 + S_1$  with

$$S_0 = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} I(0, n) =$$

$$4 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\sqrt{1 + (4n + 1)^2}}{4n + 1} - \frac{\sqrt{1 + (4n + 3)^2}}{4n + 3} \right)$$

and

$$S_1 = 4 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} I(k, n).$$

We compute  $\frac{S_0}{4} \approx 0.3725\dots$  and

$$l_\Omega = 1,9178\dots$$

by Mathematica.

$\Omega = \{0, \pi/2, \pi\}$  Again the same method gives

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}(L(C_\Omega)) &= 2\pi \int_0^\infty (1 - L(h/\sqrt{t})H(h/\sqrt{t}))dh = \\ &2\pi\sqrt{t} \int_0^\infty (1 - L(z)H(z))dz. \end{aligned}$$

We write for simplicity  $L = 1 - 2L_1$  and  $H = 1 - 2H_1$  so that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}(L(C_\Omega)) &= \\ &2\pi\sqrt{t} \int_0^\infty (2L_1(z) + 2H_1(z) - 4L_1(z)H_1(z)) dz. \end{aligned}$$

A previous calculation has shown that

$$2\pi\sqrt{t} \int_0^\infty 2L_1(z)dz = \frac{\pi}{2}\sqrt{8\pi t}$$

and a direct calculation shows  $2\pi$  and  $y = zv$  and  $w = z^2/2$ , the use of the function  $g$  of (6) and the formula (7) we get

$$\begin{aligned}
& 2\pi\sqrt{t} \int_0^\infty 4L_1(z)H_1(z)dz = \\
& \sqrt{8\pi t} \sum_{n=-\infty}^\infty \int_1^\infty \int_{4n+1}^{4n+3} \frac{dudv}{(u^2+v^2)^{3/2}} = \\
& \sqrt{8\pi t} \sum_{n=-\infty}^\infty (g(1, 4n+1) - g(1, 4n+3)).
\end{aligned}$$

It is easily seen that

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^\infty (g(1, 4n+1) - g(1, 4n+3)) = \frac{S_0}{2} \approx 0.7450\dots \tag{10}$$

Thus

$$l_\Omega \approx \frac{\pi}{2} + 0.2550\dots$$



$\Omega = [0, 2\pi)$  The set  $P_\Omega$  is the unit circle, and the time  $T_\Omega$  is the first hitting time of 1 by a Bessel process of dimension 2, therefore

$$\mathbb{E}(e^{-\frac{\lambda^2}{2}T_\Omega}) = \frac{I_0(0)}{I_0(\lambda)} \quad (11)$$

where

$$I_0(2z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^{2k}}{k!^2}$$

is the Bessel function. Thus

$$\ell_\Omega = \int_0^\infty \frac{d\lambda}{I_0(\lambda)}.$$

A calculation by Mathematica gives

$$\ell_\Omega = 2,08323..$$

.

$$\Omega = \{0, 2\pi/3\}.$$

$T_\Omega$  is the exit time from a cone of angle  $\pi/3$  tangent to the unit circle. In this case one can use results from Doumerc and O'Connell (2005). There, the exit time from the cone  $x_1 > x_2 > x_3$  in  $\mathbf{R}^3$ , starting from the point  $(x_1, x_2, x_3)$  is expressed as

$$P(T \geq t) = p_{12} - p_{13} + p_{23}$$

with  $p_{ij} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^{(x_i - x_j)/\sqrt{2t}} e^{-y^2/2} dy.$

Taking the component of Brownian motion in the hyperplane  $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 0$ , with the starting point  $(\sqrt{2}, 0, -\sqrt{2})$ , the trick is to observe that if  $b = (b_1, b_2, b_3)$  is in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and if  $x = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$  is its orthogonal projection on  $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 0$ , then  $b \in C$  if and only if  $x \in C$ . One gets

$$P(T_\Omega \geq t) =$$

$$\sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \left( 2 \int_0^{1/\sqrt{t}} e^{-y^2/2} dy - \int_0^{2/\sqrt{t}} e^{-y^2/2} dy \right)$$

and a straightforward computation gives

$$E[T_\Omega^{-1/2}] = \frac{3}{2} \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}}$$

and

$$E[L(C_\Omega(t))] = \frac{3}{2} \sqrt{8\pi t}.$$

Thus  $\ell_\Omega = 3/2$ .

$\Omega = \{0, 2\pi/3, 4\pi/3\}$  Hence  $P_\Omega$  is an equilateral triangle centered at 0. We will compute the distribution of  $T_\Omega$  and get a curious identity in law.

In order to do the computation it will be convenient to take the equilateral triangle  $\Delta$  with vertices  $0, 1, -j^2$  where  $j = (-1+i\sqrt{3})/2$ . Its center is  $x_0 = (1 - j^2)/3$ . The case of the triangle  $P_\Omega$  can be obtained by an affinity. The orthogonal reflections with respect to the three lines bordering the triangle  $\Delta$  generate a group  $W$  of affine isometries of the Euclidian plane, whose fundamental domain is  $\Delta$ . Using the reflection principle, we can compute the probability transition of Brownian motion in the triangle, killed at the boundary. One obtains

$$p_t^0(x, y) = \sum_{w \in W} \det(w) p_t(x, w(y))$$

where  $p_t(x, y)$  is the ordinary heat kernel on the Euclidian plane and  $x$  and  $y$  are points of this plane.

If we denote  $R$  the lattice generated by 1 and  $j$ , then the dual lattice  $\hat{R}$  (such that  $\langle w, \hat{w} \rangle \in \mathbf{Z}$ ) is generated by the dual basis  $a = 1 + \frac{i}{\sqrt{3}}$  and  $b = \frac{2i}{\sqrt{3}}$ . The plane is tiled by translates of  $\Delta$  by  $R$ , which correspond to direct isometries  $w \in W$  and translates of  $\bar{\Delta}$ . Thus

$$p_t^0(x, y) = \sum_{r \in R} p_t(x - y, r) - p_t(x - \bar{y}, r).$$

The function

$$h(t, z) = \sum_{r \in R} p_t(z, r)$$

is periodic in  $z$  with period lattice  $R$  and  $p_t^0(x, y) = h(t, x - y) - h(t, x - \bar{y})$ . One can apply Poisson summation formula, i.e. expand it in terms of the characters  $e^{2i\pi \langle \cdot, \hat{w} \rangle}$  obtaining

$$h(t, z) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \sum_{\hat{r} \in \hat{R}} e^{2i\pi \langle z, \hat{r} \rangle} e^{-2\pi^2 |\hat{r}|^2 t}$$

Let us now integrate with respect to  $y$  in the triangle to obtain the distribution function for  $T$ , the first exit time of Brownian motion starting from  $x_0$ ,

$$P(T > t) = \int_{\Delta} p_t^0(x_0, y) dy.$$

We use the coordinates  $y = y_1 + y_2 j$ ,  $1 \geq y_1 \geq y_2 \geq 0$  on the triangle, with Jacobian  $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$  and  $\hat{r} = ma + nb$  on  $\hat{R}$ , then

$$\langle y, \hat{r} \rangle = my_1 + ny_2, \quad \langle x_0, \hat{r} \rangle = 2m/3 + n/3,$$

$$|\hat{w}|^2 = 4(m^2 + mn + n^2)/3.$$

Furthermore, by periodicity

$$\int_{\Delta} h(t, x - \bar{y}) dy = \int_{\Delta} h(t, x - j - \bar{y}) dy = \int_{\bar{\Delta} + j} h(t, x - y) dy$$

and the triangle  $\bar{\Delta} + j$  corresponds to the coordinates  $1 \geq y_2 \geq y_1 \geq 0$ .

Let us compute

$$\int_{\Delta} h(t, x_0 - y) dy = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \sum_{n,m} e^{2i\pi(2m/3+n/3)} \times$$

$$\int_0^1 dy_1 \int_0^{y_1} e^{-2i\pi(my_1+ny_2)} dy_2 e^{-8\pi^2(m^2+mn+n^2)t/3}$$

It is easy to see that terms with  $n \neq 0, m \neq 0, m + n \neq 0$  give 0 contribution. Also the term  $m = n = 0$  will be cancelled by the other integral. The sequence  $m = 0, n \neq 0$ , gives

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{n \neq 0} e^{2i\pi n/3} \int_0^1 dy_1 \int_0^{y_1} e^{-2i\pi n y_2} dy_2 e^{-8\pi^2 n^2 t/3} \\
= & \sum_{n \neq 0} e^{2i\pi n/3} \int_0^1 \frac{1}{2i\pi n} (1 - e^{-2i\pi n y_1}) dy_1 e^{-8\pi^2 n^2 t/3} \\
= & \sum_{n \neq 0} e^{2i\pi n/3} \frac{1}{2i\pi n} e^{-8\pi^2 n^2 t/3}
\end{aligned}$$



The sequence  $m \neq 0, n = 0$ , gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sum_{m \neq 0} e^{4i\pi m/3} \int_0^1 dy_1 e^{-2i\pi m y_1} \int_0^{y_1} dy_2 e^{-8\pi^2 m^2 t/3} \\
 = & \sum_{m \neq 0} e^{4i\pi m/3} \int_0^1 dy_1 y_1 e^{-2i\pi y_1 m} e^{-8\pi^2 m^2 t/3} \\
 = & - \sum_{m \neq 0} e^{4i\pi m/3} \frac{1}{2i\pi m} e^{-8\pi^2 m^2 t/3}
 \end{aligned}$$

The sequence  $m \neq 0, m + n = 0$ , gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sum_{m \neq 0} e^{2i\pi m/3} \int_0^1 dy_1 \int_0^{y_1} e^{2i\pi(-my_1 + my_2)} dy_2 e^{-8\pi^2 m^2 t/3} \\
 = & \sum_{m \neq 0} e^{2i\pi m/3} \frac{1}{2i\pi m} \int_0^1 dy_1 (1 - e^{-2i\pi y_1 m}) e^{-8\pi^2 m^2 t/3} \\
 = & \sum_{m \neq 0} e^{2i\pi m/3} \frac{1}{2i\pi m} e^{-8\pi^2 m^2 t/3}
 \end{aligned}$$

The sum of these three terms is

$$3 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin(2\pi n/3)}{\pi n} e^{-8\pi^2 n^2 t/3}$$

The other integral is

$$\int_{\Delta} h(t, x_0 - \bar{y}) dy = \sum_{n,m} e^{2i\pi(2m/3+n/3)}$$

$$\int_0^1 dy_2 \int_0^{y_2} e^{-2i\pi(my_1+ny_2)} dy_1 e^{-8\pi^2(m^2+mn+n^2)t/3}$$

Using

$$\int_0^1 dy_1 \int_0^1 e^{-2i\pi(my_1+ny_2)} dy_1 dy_2 = 0$$

if  $m$  or  $n$  is  $\neq 0$  we see that, except for the term  $m = n = 0$  the other terms are the opposite of what we computed, therefore after some rearrangement

$$P(T > t) = 3\sqrt{3} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\chi_3(n)}{\pi n} e^{-8\pi^2 n^2 t/3}$$

where

$$\chi_3(n) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \sin(2\pi n/3)$$

is the multiplicative Dirichlet character modulo 3. The density is

$$P(T \in dt) = 8\sqrt{3} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \pi n \chi_3(n) e^{-8\pi^2 n^2 t/3}$$

**A curious identity in law** Let  $S$  be the first hitting time of  $3a$  by a three-dimensional Bessel process starting from  $a$ . The Laplace transform is

$$E[e^{-\lambda^2 S/2}] = \frac{3 \sinh(\lambda a)}{\sinh(3\lambda a)} = 3 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \chi_3(n) e^{-2n\lambda a}.$$

Inverting term by term gives the density

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 6an \frac{\chi_3(n) e^{-2n^2 a^2/t}}{\sqrt{2\pi t^3}}$$

We can also use the alternative expression

$$\frac{3 \sinh(\lambda a)}{\sinh(3\lambda a)} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{3\sqrt{3}\pi n \chi_3(n)}{\pi^2 n^2 + 9\lambda^2 a^2}$$

and invert term by term the Laplace transform to get

$$P(S \in dt) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{3\sqrt{3}\pi n \chi_3(n)}{18a^2} e^{-\pi^2 n^2 t/(18a^2)}$$

The agreement between these two expressions is an instance of the functional equation of theta series. Putting  $8/3 = 1/(18a^2)$ , or  $a = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{3}}$  we see that the exit time  $T$  and the time  $S$  have the same distribution. Coming back to  $T_\Omega$ , the triangle  $P_\Omega$  has sides of size  $2\sqrt{3}$  therefore

$$E[e^{-\frac{\lambda^2}{2}T_\Omega}] = \frac{3 \sinh(\lambda/2)}{\sinh(3\lambda/2)}.$$

Using (??) we are reduced to an elementary integral, and the result is

$$\ell_\Omega = \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{3}}.$$

## Areas

Calculations for the mean areas rely on the formula  $A(C) = \int_0^{2\pi} (h_C(\theta)^2 - h'_C(\theta)^2) d\theta$ , where  $h'_C(\theta)$  denotes the derivative on the left, which can be shown to exist and ultimately of the distribution of  $h'_C(\theta)$  when  $C$  is random. This problem was solved in the unpublished thesis of El Bachir (1983) for  $C_1(t)$ , where

$$\mathbb{E}(A(C_1(t))) = \pi t/2$$

is proved. It is unsolved for the other convex sets considered here, except for  $C_\infty(t)$  the smallest circle, centered at 0, surrounding  $C_1(t)$ , indeed

$$\mathbb{E}(A(C_\infty(t))) = \pi t \int_0^\infty \frac{ds}{I_0(\sqrt{2s})} = \pi t \times 3.06883.$$

a little more than six times the quantity  $\mathbb{E}(A(C_1(t)))$ .

## Conclusion...

$\Omega$	$\ell_{\Omega}$
$\{0\}$	1
$\{0, \pi/2\}$	$\sqrt{2}$
$\{0, 2\pi/3\}$	3/2
$\{0, \pi\}$	$\pi/2$
$\{0, 2\pi/3, 4\pi/3\}$	$\pi/\sqrt{3}$
$\{0, \pi/2, \pi\}$	1.8257...
$\{0, \pi/2, \pi, 3\pi/2\}$	1.9178...
$(0, 2\pi)$	2.08323...

## Three tantalizing questions

Find  $\ell_{\Omega}$  for

1.  $\Omega = \{0, \pi/3, 2\pi/3, \pi, 4\pi/3, 5\pi/3\}$  (the hexagon)
2.  $\Omega = \{0, \pi/n, 2\pi/n, 3\pi/n, \dots, (n-1)\pi/n\}$  (the regular polygon)
3.  $\Omega = \{0, \pi - \epsilon\}$  (a small angle)