General Mathematics and ACM II

Exercise 14

April 1, 2011

- 1. Extension from last exercise sheet: Kac ring paper, Exercise 12. Hints:
 - (a) Use Stirling's formula in the form

$$k! \sim \sqrt{2\pi k} \, k^k \, e^{-k} \, .$$

- (b) It is helpful, though not necessary, to take the logarithm of the equation for the half-width early on.
- (c) Note that $\ln(n+w) = \ln n + \ln(1+w/n)$. Then use the log-series

$$\ln(1+x) = x - \frac{x^2}{2} + O(x^3)$$

to approximate such terms. (All other logarithms, except the ln 2 which survives into the final answer, should cancel identically.)

- 2. Kac ring paper, Exercise 17.
- 3. Kac ring paper, Exercise 19.

(Use Matlab, Mathematica, or similar. It would be nice to plot your solution from Exercise 17 as well.)