

Gaussian Integral

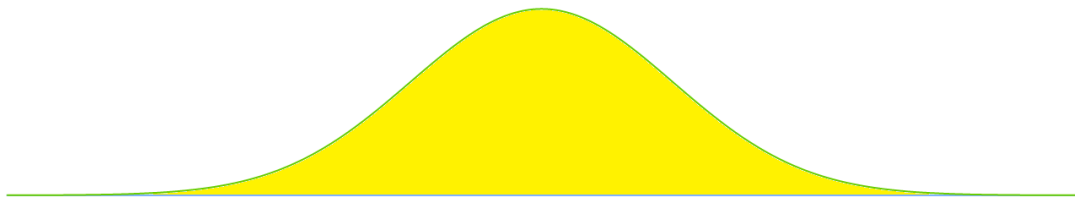
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-y^2} dy$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx \right)^2 &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-y^2} dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2-y^2} dx dy = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-(x^2+y^2)} dx dy \end{aligned}$$

Changing the domain to polar coordinates,

$$x^2 + y^2 = r^2 \quad dxdy = rd\theta dr$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-r^2} r dr d\theta = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} dt d\theta = -\frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} [e^{-t}]_0^{\infty} d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta = \frac{1}{2} [\theta]_0^{2\pi} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2\pi = \pi \end{aligned}$$



$$\therefore \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx = \sqrt{\pi}$$