

SPECIAL FUNCTIONS

Introduction :

In this chapter, we shall see some special integral functions, such as Gamma function, Beta function, Error function etc. There are some functions which are most conveniently defined in the form of integrals, such functions are known as Integral functions. The application of these functions is in the evaluation of definite integrals.

4.2 The Gamma Function :

The improper integral defined by

$$\Gamma(n) = \int_0^{\infty} x^{n-1} e^{-x} dx, \quad n > 0 \text{ is called the Gamma function of } n. \text{ (It is convergent for}$$

all $n > 0$.)

Note : (1) The definite integral which is defined over infinite interval or if the integral becomes infinite within the interval of integration, is known as improper integral.

(2) If f is continuous on the interval $[a, \infty)$, then the improper integral can be written in the form

$$\int_a^{\infty} f(x) dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^t f(x) dx$$

is said to converge if the limit exists, otherwise it is said to diverge.

(3) Gamma function is used in probability theory, kinetic theory of gases, statistical mechanics, problems in condensed matter physics involving Fermi-Dirac and Einstein-Bose statistics; variety of problems in finding areas, volumes, moments of intertial and so on. It was original discovered by L. Euler in 1729.

4.3 Properties of Gamma Function :

1. Gamma function has the recurrence relation $\Gamma(n+1) = n\Gamma(n)$

Proof : We have

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(n+1) &= \int_0^{\infty} x^n e^{-x} dx \\ &= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^k x^n e^{-x} dx \\ &= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ [-x^n e^{-x}]_0^k - \int_0^k nx^{n-1} (-e^{-x}) dx \right\} \\ &= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ [-k^n e^{-k}] + n \int_0^k x^{n-1} e^{-x} dx \right\} \\ &= n \int_0^{\infty} x^{n-1} e^{-x} dx \quad \left(\because \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (-k^n e^{-k}) = 0 \right) \\ &= n\Gamma(n) \end{aligned}$$

2. $\Gamma(1) = 1$

Proof : We have $\Gamma(n) = \int_0^\infty e^{-x} x^{n-1} dx$

$$\therefore \Gamma(1) = \int_0^\infty e^{-x} dx = [-e^{-x}]_0^\infty = 1$$

3. When n is a positive integer $\Gamma(n+1) = n!$

Proof : We have the recurrence relation

$$\Gamma(n+1) = n\Gamma(n)$$

Thus, $\Gamma(n) = (n-1)\Gamma(n-1)$ (replacing n by $n-1$)

$$\Gamma(n-1) = (n-2)\Gamma(n-2)$$

⋮

$$\Gamma(2) = 1\Gamma(1)$$

$$\Gamma(1) = 1$$

Multiplying above relations, we get

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma(n+1) &= n(n-1)(n-2) \dots (n-k+1) \\ &= n!\end{aligned}\quad \dots \text{ (2.1)}$$

4. If we rewrite property (1) in the form

$$\Gamma(n) = \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{n} \quad \text{then we have}$$

$$\Gamma(n) = \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{n} = \frac{\Gamma(n+2)}{n(n+1)} = \frac{\Gamma(n+3)}{n(n+1)(n+2)} = \dots = \frac{\Gamma(n+k+1)}{n(n+1)(n+2) \dots (n+k)}$$

for $n \neq 0, -1, -2, \dots$

from this we can find the values of Gamma function for negative $n \neq -1, -2, -3, \dots$

Thus we can define Gamma function completely as follows :

$$\Gamma(n) = \int_0^\infty e^{-x} x^{n-1} dx, \quad n > 0$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{n}, \quad n < 0 \quad \text{and} \quad n \neq -1, -2, -3, \dots$$

For example, $\Gamma(6) = (6-1)! = 120$

$$\Gamma(-\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})}{-\frac{1}{2}} = -2\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})$$

$$\Gamma(\frac{3}{2}) = \frac{1}{2}\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) \quad (\because \Gamma(n) = (n-1)\Gamma(n-1))$$

The graph of the Gamma function is as follows :

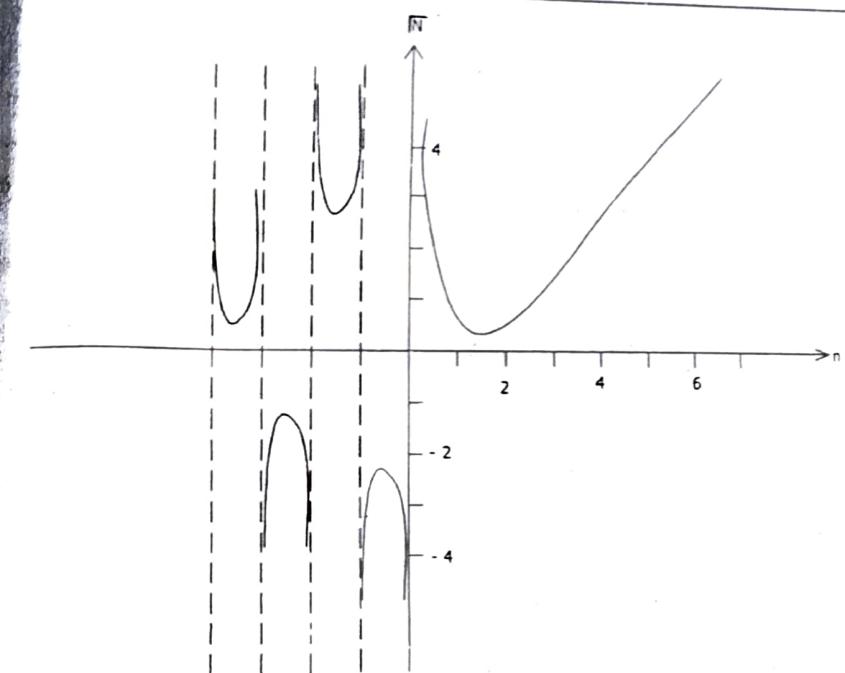


Fig 4.1

$$5. \Gamma(n) = 2 \int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} x^{2n-1} dx$$

Proof :

$$\text{Put } x = t^{1/2} \Rightarrow dx = \frac{1}{2} t^{-1/2} dt$$

$$\therefore \text{LHS} = 2 \int_0^\infty e^{-t} t^{\frac{2n-1}{2}} \frac{1}{2} t^{-1/2} dt$$

$$= \int_0^\infty e^{-t} t^{n-1} dt = \Gamma(n)$$

4.4 The Beta Function :

The improper integral $\int_0^1 x^{m-1} (1-x)^{n-1} dx$, converges for $m > 0, n > 0$ is known as Beta function and is denoted by $B(m, n)$.

4.5 Properties of Beta Function :

1. $B(m, n) = B(n, m)$. That is B function is symmetric.

Proof : We have

$$B(m, n) = \int_0^1 x^{m-1} (1-x)^{n-1} dx.$$

$$\text{Put } 1-x = y \Rightarrow -dx = dy$$

$$\therefore \text{When } x=0 \rightarrow y=1, \quad x=1 \rightarrow y=0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore B(m, n) &= \int_1^0 (1-y)^{m-1} y^{n-1} (-dy) \\ &= \int_0^1 y^{n-1} (1-y)^{m-1} dy \\ &= B(n, m) \end{aligned}$$

$$2. \quad B(m, n) = \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{m-1}}{(1+x)^{m+n}} dx$$

Proof : We have

$$B(m, n) = \int_0^1 x^{m-1} (1-x)^{n-1} dx$$

$$\text{Put } x = \frac{1}{1+y} \Rightarrow dx = -\frac{1}{(1+y)^2} dy$$

$$\text{and } 1+y = \frac{1}{x} \Rightarrow y = \frac{1}{x} - 1$$

$$\therefore \text{When } x=0 \rightarrow y \rightarrow \infty \\ \text{and } x=1 \rightarrow y=0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore B(m, n) &= \int_{\infty}^0 \frac{1}{(1+y)^{m-1}} \left[1 - \frac{1}{1+y} \right]^{n-1} \left(-\frac{1}{(1+y)^2} dy \right) \\ &= \int_0^\infty \frac{y^{n-1}}{(1+y)^{m-1+2+n-1}} dy = \int_0^\infty \frac{y^{n-1}}{(1+y)^{m+n}} dy \end{aligned}$$

As $B(m, n) = B(n, m)$

$$\text{We have } B(m, n) = \int_0^\infty \frac{y^{m-1}}{(1+y)^{m+n}} dy = \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{m-1}}{(1+x)^{m+n}} dx$$

$$3. \quad B(m, n) = 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{2m-1} \theta \cos^{2n-1} \theta d\theta$$

$$\text{Proof : We have } B(m, n) = \int_0^1 x^{m-1} (1-x)^{n-1} dx$$

$$\text{Put } x = \sin^2 \theta \Rightarrow dx = 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta$$

$$\text{When } x=0 \rightarrow \theta=0 \text{ and } x=1 \rightarrow \theta=\pi/2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore B(m, n) &= \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{2m-2} \theta (1-\sin^2 \theta)^{n-1} 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta \\ &= 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{2m-1} \theta \cos^{2n-1} \theta d\theta \end{aligned}$$

4.6 Relation Between Beta and Gamma Functions :

$$B(m, n) = \frac{\Gamma(m) \Gamma(n)}{\Gamma(m+n)}$$

Proof : We know that

$$\Gamma(m) = 2 \int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} x^{2m-1} dx \quad \text{and}$$

$$\Gamma(n) = 2 \int_0^\infty e^{-y^2} y^{2n-1} dy$$

$$\therefore \Gamma(m) \Gamma(n) = 4 \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty e^{-(x^2+y^2)} x^{2m-1} y^{2n-1} dx dy$$

We use polar coordinates

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore 0 &\leq r \leq \infty \\ 0 &\leq \theta \leq \pi/2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \Gamma(m) \Gamma(n) = 4 \int_0^{\pi/2} \int_0^\infty e^{-r^2} r^{2m-1} \cos^{2m-1} \theta r^{2n-1} \sin^{2n-1} \theta r dr d\theta$$

$$= 4 \int_0^{\pi/2} \int_0^\infty \cos^{2m-1} \theta \sin^{2n-1} \theta r^{2m+2n-1} e^{-r^2} dr d\theta$$

$$= 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \cos^{2m-1} \theta \sin^{2n-1} \theta \left\{ 2 \int_0^\infty e^{-r^2} r^{2(m+n)-1} dr \right\} d\theta$$

$$= 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \cos^{2m-1} \theta \sin^{2n-1} \theta \Gamma(m+n) d\theta$$

$$= \Gamma(m+n) 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \cos^{2m-1} \theta \sin^{2n-1} \theta d\theta$$

$$\text{Put } x = \sin^2 \theta \Rightarrow dx = 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta$$

$$\therefore \frac{\Gamma(m) \Gamma(n)}{\Gamma(m+n)} = \int_0^{\pi/2} \cos^{2m-2} \theta \sin^{2n-2} 2 \cos \theta \sin \theta d\theta$$

$$= \int_0^1 (1-\sin^2 \theta)^{m-1} (\sin^2 \theta)^{n-1} (2 \cos \theta \sin \theta) d\theta$$

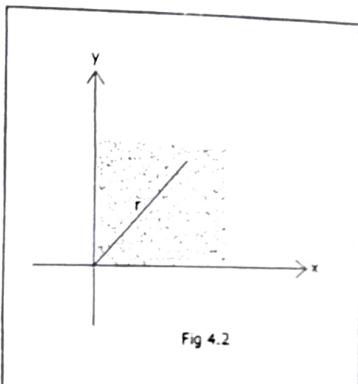


Fig 4.2

$$= \int_0^1 (1-x)^{m-1} x^{n-1} dx = B(m, n).$$

Note : We have $B(m, n) = 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{2m-1} \theta \cos^{2n-1} \theta d\theta$

$$\text{and } B(m, n) = \frac{m! n!}{(m+n)!}$$

$$\text{Put } m = n = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi/2} d\theta = 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} d\theta$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = \pi \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} = \sqrt{\pi}$$

4.7 Duplication Formula :

$$\sqrt{n} \sqrt{n + \frac{1}{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2^{2n+1}} \sqrt{2n} \quad \text{or} \quad \sqrt{n+1} \sqrt{n + \frac{1}{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2^{2n}} \sqrt{2n+1}$$

[It is useful formula to find the Gamma functions for values on n halfway between the integers]

Proof : We know that

$$\begin{aligned} B(m, n) &= 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{2m-1} \theta \cos^{2n-1} \theta d\theta \\ \Rightarrow B\left(n + \frac{1}{2}, n + \frac{1}{2}\right) &= 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{2n} \theta \cos^{2n} \theta d\theta \\ &= \frac{2}{2^{2n}} \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{2n} 2\theta d\theta \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Put } 2\theta = \phi \Rightarrow 2 d\theta = d\phi$$

$$\begin{aligned} B\left(n + \frac{1}{2}, n + \frac{1}{2}\right) &= \frac{2}{2^{2n}} \int_0^{\pi} \sin^{2n} \phi \frac{d\phi}{2} \\ &= \frac{2}{2^{2n}} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{2n} \phi d\phi \\ &= \frac{2}{2^{2n}} \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{2n} \phi \cos^2 \phi d\phi \\ &= \frac{1}{2^{2n}} B\left(n + \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Special Functions

$$\frac{n+1}{2} \sqrt{n + \frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{2^{2n}} \sqrt{n+1} \sqrt{n+2}$$

$$\sqrt{n+1} \sqrt{n + \frac{1}{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \sqrt{2n+1}$$

$$\pi \sqrt{n} \sqrt{n + \frac{1}{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \cdot 2n \sqrt{2n} \quad (\sqrt{n+1} = n\sqrt{n})$$

$$\sqrt{n} \sqrt{n + \frac{1}{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2^{2n-1}} \sqrt{2n}$$

Note : In duplication formula put $n = \frac{1}{4}$

$$\frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}} = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2^{2 \cdot \frac{1}{4}}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{2}\pi$$

SOLVED EXAMPLES

1. Prove that $B(m, n) = B(m+1, n) + B(m, n+1)$.

Solution : RHS = $B(m+1, n) + B(m, n+1)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{m+1}{m+n+1} \frac{n!}{m!} + \frac{m!}{m+n+1} \frac{(m+1)!}{n!} \\ &= \frac{m(m+n) + m(n+1)}{(m+n)(m+n+1)} = \frac{m(n+1)}{m+n} \left(\frac{m+n}{m+n} \right) = \frac{m! n!}{m+n} = B(m, n) \end{aligned}$$

2. Prove that $\sqrt{n} = \int_0^\infty \left[\log \frac{1}{x} \right]^{n-1} dx$

Solution : Take $y = \log \frac{1}{x} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{x} = e^y \Rightarrow x = e^{-y}$

$$\therefore dx = -e^{-y} dy$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RHS} &= \int_0^\infty y^{n-1} (-e^{-y} dy) = + \int_0^\infty e^{-y} y^{n-1} dy \\ &= \sqrt{n} = \text{L.H.S.} \end{aligned}$$

3. Evaluate $\int_0^\infty e^{-ax} x^{n-1} dx$, where a, n are positive. Deduce that (a) $\int_0^\infty e^{-ax} x^{n-1} \cos$

$bx dx = \frac{\pi}{r^n} \cos n\theta$ (b) $\int_0^\infty e^{-ax} x^{n-1} \sin bx dx = \frac{\pi}{r^n} \sin n\theta$ where $r^2 = a^2 + b^2$ and $\theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{b}{a}$.

Solution : Put $y = ax \Rightarrow dy = a dx$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^\infty e^{-ax} x^{n-1} dx &= \int_0^\infty e^{-y} \frac{y^{n-1}}{a^{n-1}} \frac{1}{a} dy \\ &= \frac{1}{a^n} \int_0^\infty e^{-y} y^{n-1} dy = \frac{\Gamma(n)}{a^n} \end{aligned}$$

Now replace a by $a + ib$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^\infty e^{-(a+ib)x} x^{n-1} dx &= \frac{\Gamma(n)}{(a+ib)^n} \\ \Rightarrow \int_0^\infty e^{-ax} (\cos bx - i \sin bx) x^{n-1} dx &= \frac{\Gamma(n)}{(a+ib)^n} \end{aligned}$$

Put $a = r\cos\theta$, $b = r\sin\theta$

$$r = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}, \quad \theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{b}{a}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^\infty \{e^{-ax} \cos bx - i e^{-ax} \sin bx\} x^{n-1} dx &= \frac{\Gamma(n)}{r^n (\cos n\theta - i \sin n\theta)} \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(n)}{r^n} (\cos n\theta - i \sin n\theta) \end{aligned}$$

Compare real and imaginary parts, we get

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-ax} \cos bx x^{n-1} dx = \frac{\Gamma(n)}{r^n} \cos n\theta$$

$$\text{and } \int_0^\infty e^{-ax} \sin bx x^{n-1} dx = \frac{\Gamma(n)}{r^n} \sin n\theta.$$

4. Evaluate $\int_0^1 x^4 (1-\sqrt{x})^5 dx$

Solution : Put $x = t^2 \Rightarrow dx = 2t dt$

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \int_0^1 t^8 (1-t)^5 2t dt \\ &= 2 \int_0^1 t^9 (1-t)^5 dt \\ &= 2B(10, 6) = 2 \frac{9!5!}{15!} \\ &= \frac{2 \cdot 9! \cdot 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5}{9! 10 \cdot 11 \cdot 12 \cdot 13 \cdot 14 \cdot 15} = \frac{1}{15015} \end{aligned}$$

Evaluate $\int_0^\infty y^{p-1} \left(\log \frac{1}{y} \right)^{q-1} dy$ where $p > 0$, $q > 0$.

Solution : Put $\log \frac{1}{y} = t$
 $\Rightarrow y = e^{-t} \Rightarrow dy = -e^{-t} dt$

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \int_0^\infty e^{-t(q-1)} t^{p-1} (-e^{-t} dt) \\ &= \int_0^\infty e^{-tq} t^{p-1} dt \end{aligned}$$

Put $tq = y \Rightarrow q dt = dy$

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \int_0^\infty e^{-y} \frac{y^{p-1}}{q^{p-1}} \frac{dy}{q} \\ &= \frac{1}{q^p} \int_0^\infty e^{-y} y^{p-1} dy = \frac{\Gamma(p)}{q^p} \end{aligned}$$

6. Evaluate $\int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-st}}{\sqrt{t}} dt$ where $s > 0$.

Solution : Put $st = x$
 $\Rightarrow s dt = dx$

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \int_0^\infty e^{-x} \left(\frac{x}{s} \right)^{-1/2} \frac{dx}{s} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{s}} \int_0^\infty e^{-x} x^{-1/2} dx = \frac{1}{\sqrt{s}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{s}} \end{aligned}$$

7. Prove that $\int_0^\infty x^{2n-1} e^{-ax^2} dx = \frac{\Gamma(n)}{2a^n}$

Solution : Put $ax^2 = t \Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} t^{1/2} \Rightarrow dx = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{a} \sqrt{t}} dt$

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \int_0^\infty x^{2n-1} e^{-ax^2} dx \\ &= \int_0^\infty \left(\frac{t}{a} \right)^{\frac{2n-1}{2}} e^{-t} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{a} \sqrt{t}} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2a^n} \int_0^\infty t^{n-1} e^{-t} dt = \frac{\Gamma(n)}{2a^n} \end{aligned}$$

8. Prove that $\int_0^\infty \sqrt{x} e^{-x^2} dx \times \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-x^2}}{\sqrt{x}} dx = \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{2}}$

Solution : Put $x = t^{1/2} \Rightarrow dx = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{t}} dt$

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore \int_0^\infty \sqrt{x} e^{-x^2} dx &= \int_0^\infty t^{1/4} e^{-t} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{t}} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty e^{-t} \cdot t^{-1/4} dt = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[3]{\frac{3}{4}}\end{aligned}$$

and $\int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-x^2}}{\sqrt{x}} dx = \int_0^\infty e^{-t/4} e^{-t} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{t}} dt$
 $= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty t^{-3/4} e^{-t} dt = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{4}}$

∴ From (1) and (2), we have

$$\int_0^\infty \sqrt{x} e^{-x^2} dx \times \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-x^2}}{\sqrt{x}} dx = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[3]{\frac{3}{4}} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{4}} = \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{2} \pi = \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{2}}$$

9. Prove the recurrence relation for Beta function.

$$B(m, n) = \frac{(m-1)(n-1)}{(m+n-1)(m+n-2)} B(m-1, n-1)$$

Solution : We know that

$$\begin{aligned}B(m, n) &= \frac{\sqrt{m} \sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{m+n}} \\ &= \frac{(m-1)\sqrt{m-1} (n-1)\sqrt{n-1}}{(m+n-1)(m+n-2)\sqrt{m+n-2}} \quad (\because \sqrt{n} = (n-1)\sqrt{n-1}) \\ &= \frac{(m-1)(n-1)}{(m+n-1)(m+n-2)} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{m-n} \sqrt{n-1}}{\sqrt{m+n-2}} \\ &= \frac{(m-1)(n-1)}{(m+n-1)(m+n-2)} B(m-1, n-1)\end{aligned}$$

10. Evaluate $\int_0^{\pi/2} \sqrt{\cot \theta} d\theta$

Solution : We know that

$$\begin{aligned}B(m, n) &= 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{2m-1} \theta \cos^{2n-1} \theta d\theta \\ \therefore \int_0^{\pi/2} \sqrt{\cot \theta} d\theta &= \int_0^{\pi/2} \cos^{1/2} \theta \sin^{-1/2} \theta d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{2} B\left(\frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{4}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{\sqrt[3]{\frac{3}{4}} \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{4}}}{\sqrt[3]{1}} = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{2}\pi = \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{2}}\end{aligned}$$

11. Evaluate $\int_0^1 (x \log x)^3 dx$

Solution : Put $\log x = y \Rightarrow x = e^{-y}$

$$\therefore dx = -e^{-y} dy$$

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore I &= - \int_{-\infty}^0 e^{-3y} (-y)^3 e^{-y} dy \\ &= - \int_0^\infty e^{-4y} y^3 dy\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Put } 4y = t \Rightarrow 4dy = dt$$

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore I &= - \int_0^\infty e^{-t/4} \frac{t^3}{4^3} \frac{dt}{4} = -\frac{1}{4^4} \int_0^\infty e^{-t/4} t^3 dt \\ &= -\frac{1}{256} \sqrt[4]{4} = -\frac{3!}{256} = -\frac{3}{128}\end{aligned}$$

12. Evaluate $\int_0^\infty \frac{x^4(1+x^5)}{(1+x)^{15}} dx$

Solution : We know that

$$B(m, n) = \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{m-1}}{(1+x)^{m+n}} dx$$

$$\therefore I = \int_0^\infty \frac{x^4(1+x^5)}{(1+x)^{15}} dx$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \int_0^\infty \frac{x^4}{(1+x)^{15}} dx + \int_0^\infty \frac{x^9}{(1+x)^{15}} dx \\
 &= B(5, 10) + B(10, 5) \\
 &= 2B(5, 10) = 2 \frac{4! 9!}{14!} = \frac{2 \cdot 24 \cdot 9!}{9! \cdot 10 \cdot 11 \cdot 12 \cdot 13 \cdot 14} = \frac{1}{5005}
 \end{aligned}$$

13. Prove that $\int_0^\infty \frac{x^8(1-x^6)}{(1+x)^{24}} dx = 0$

Solution : We know that

$$B(m, n) = \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{m-1}}{(1+x)^{m+n}} dx$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \therefore I &= \int_0^\infty \frac{x^8}{(1+x)^{24}} dx - \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{14}}{(1+x)^{24}} dx \\
 &= B(9, 15) - B(15, 9) = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

14. Prove that $\int_0^1 \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1-x^n}} = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{n} \frac{\sqrt{1/n}}{\sqrt{\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{2}}}$

Solution : Put $x = t^{1/n} \Rightarrow dx = \frac{1}{n} t^{\frac{1}{n}-1} dt$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \therefore I &= \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1-x^n}} = \int_0^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-t}} \frac{1}{n} t^{\frac{1}{n}-1} dt \\
 &= \frac{1}{n} \int_0^1 t^{\frac{1}{n}-1} (1-t)^{-1/2} dt \\
 &= \frac{1}{n} B\left(\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{2}\right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{n} \frac{\sqrt{\frac{1}{n}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}}{\sqrt{\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{2}}} = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{n} \frac{\sqrt{1/n}}{\sqrt{\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{2}}}
 \end{aligned}$$

15. Evaluate $\int_0^1 \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1-x^4}}$

Solution : Put $x = t^{1/4} \Rightarrow dx = \frac{1}{4} t^{-3/4} dt$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \therefore I &= \int_0^1 (1-t)^{-1/2} \frac{1}{4} t^{-3/4} dt \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} \int_0^1 t^{-3/4} (1-t)^{-1/2} dt \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} B\left(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{4} \frac{\sqrt{\frac{1}{4}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}}{\sqrt{\frac{3}{4}}} = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{4} \frac{\sqrt{\frac{1}{4}}}{\sqrt{\frac{3}{4}}}
 \end{aligned}$$

16. Evaluate $\int_0^\infty \frac{x^{m-1}}{(a+bx)^{m+n}} dx$

Solution : Put $bx = at \Rightarrow b dx = a dt$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \therefore I &= \int_0^\infty \left(\frac{at}{b}\right)^{m-1} \frac{1}{(a+at)^{m+n}} \frac{a dt}{b} \\
 &= \frac{a^{m-1} a}{b^{m-1} a^{m+n} b} \int_0^\infty \frac{t^{m-1}}{(1+t)^{m+n}} dt \\
 &= \frac{1}{a^n b^m} B(m, n)
 \end{aligned}$$

17. Evaluate $\int_{-1}^1 (1+x)^{p-1} (1-x)^{q-1} dx$

Solution : Put $x = \cos 2\theta$

$$\Rightarrow dx = -2 \sin 2\theta d\theta$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \therefore I &= 2 \int_{\pi/2}^0 (1+\cos 2\theta)^{p-1} (1-\cos 2\theta)^{q-1} (-2 \sin 2\theta) d\theta \\
 &= 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} (2\cos^2 \theta)^{p-1} (2\sin^2 \theta)^{q-1} 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta \\
 &= 4 \int_0^{\pi/2} 2^{p-1} \cos^{2p-2} \theta 2^{q-1} \sin^{2q-2} \theta \sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta \\
 &= 4 \cdot 2^{p+q-2} \int_0^{\pi/2} \cos^{2p-1} \theta \sin^{2q-1} \theta d\theta \\
 &= 2^{p+q-1} B(p, q)
 \end{aligned}$$

18. Evaluate $\int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{d\theta}{\sqrt{\sin\theta}} \int_0^{\pi/2} \sqrt{\sin\theta} d\theta$

Solution : We use $B(m, n) = 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{2m-1}\theta \cos^{2n-1}\theta d\theta$

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{-1/2}\theta \cos^0\theta d\theta \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{1/2}\theta \cos^0\theta d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{2} B\left(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2}\right) \frac{1}{2} B\left(\frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{2}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{5}{4}\right)} = \frac{1}{4} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)\sqrt{\pi}}{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)} \quad (\because \Gamma(n) = (n-1)\Gamma(n-1)) \\ &= \pi \end{aligned}$$

19. Evaluate $\int_0^1 \frac{dx}{(1-x^n)^{1/n}}$

Solution : Put $x = t^{1/n} \Rightarrow dx = \frac{1}{n} t^{\frac{1}{n}-1} dt$

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \int_0^1 (1-t)^{-1/n} \frac{1}{n} t^{\frac{1}{n}-1} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \int_0^1 t^{\frac{1}{n}-1} (1-t)^{-\frac{1}{n}} dt = \frac{1}{n} B\left(\frac{1}{n}, 1-\frac{1}{n}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)\Gamma\left(1-\frac{1}{n}\right)}{\Gamma(1)} = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)\Gamma\left(\frac{n-1}{n}\right)}{n} \end{aligned}$$

20. Prove that $\sqrt{n+\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{(2n)! \sqrt{\pi}}{4^n n!} \quad (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots)$

Hence fine $\sqrt{\frac{5}{2}}$

Solution : We have $\Gamma(n) = (n-1)\Gamma(n-1)$

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{n+\frac{1}{2}} &= \left(n + \frac{1}{2} - 1\right) \sqrt{n + \frac{1}{2} - 1} \\ &= \left(n - \frac{1}{2}\right) \sqrt{n - \frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \left(n - \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(n - \frac{3}{2}\right) \sqrt{n - \frac{3}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left(n - \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(n - \frac{3}{2}\right) \dots \frac{5}{2} \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \frac{(2n-1)(2n-3)\dots5\cdot3\cdot1}{2^n} \sqrt{\pi} \\ &= \frac{(2n)(2n-1)(2n-2)(2n-3)\dots6\cdot5\cdot4\cdot3\cdot2\cdot1}{2^n(2n)(2n-2)\dots6\cdot4\cdot2} \sqrt{\pi} \\ &= \frac{(2n)!\sqrt{\pi}}{2^{2n} n!} = \frac{(2n)!\sqrt{\pi}}{4^n n!} \end{aligned}$$

21. Prove that $\frac{B(m, n+1)}{n} = \frac{B(m+1, n)}{m} = \frac{B(m, n)}{m+n}$

Solution : $\frac{B(m, n+1)}{n} = \frac{\Gamma(m)\Gamma(n+1)}{n\Gamma(m+n+1)} = \frac{\Gamma(m)\Gamma(n)}{n(m+n)\Gamma(m+n)} \quad (\because \Gamma(n+1) = n\Gamma(n))$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(m)\Gamma(n)}{(m+n)\Gamma(m+n)} = \frac{B(m, n)}{m+n}$$

Similarly $\frac{B(m+1, n)}{m} = \frac{\Gamma(m+1)\Gamma(n)}{m\Gamma(m+n+1)} = \frac{m\Gamma(m)\Gamma(n)}{m\Gamma(m+n+1)}$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(m)\Gamma(n)}{(m+n)\Gamma(m+n)} = \frac{B(m, n)}{m+n}$$

Hence the result.

22. Prove that $B(m, m) B\left(m + \frac{1}{2}, m + \frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{\pi m^{-1}}{2^{4m-1}}$

Solution : We know the duplication formula

$$\sqrt{n} \sqrt{n + \frac{1}{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2^{2n-1}} \sqrt{2n}$$

$\therefore \text{LHS} = B(m, m) B\left(m + \frac{1}{2}, m + \frac{1}{2}\right)$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(m)\Gamma(m)}{\Gamma(2m)} \frac{\Gamma(m + \frac{1}{2})\Gamma(m + \frac{1}{2})}{\Gamma(2m+1)} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(2m)\Gamma(2m+1)} \left\{ \Gamma(m)\Gamma\left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right) \right\}^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{\Gamma(2m)2m\Gamma(2m)} \left\{ \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2^{2m-1}} \sqrt{2m} \right\}^2 = \frac{1}{2m(\Gamma(2m))^2} \frac{\pi(\sqrt{2m})^2}{2^{4m-2}}$$

$$= \frac{\pi m^{-1}}{2^{4m-1}} = \text{RHS}$$

23. Evaluate $\int_0^\infty x^n e^{-ax^2} dx$,

$n > -1$. Deduce that $\int_{-\infty}^\infty e^{-ax^2} dx = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{a}$

Solution : Put $a^2x^2 = t \Rightarrow x = \frac{t^{1/2}}{a}$

$$\Rightarrow dx = \frac{1}{2a} t^{-1/2} dt$$

$$\therefore I = \int_0^\infty \frac{t^{n/2}}{a^n} e^{-t} \frac{1}{2a} t^{-1/2} dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{2a^{n+1}} \int_0^\infty t^{\frac{n-1}{2}} e^{-t} dt = \frac{1}{2a^{n+1}} \left[\frac{n+1}{2} \right], \quad n > -1$$

We put $n = 0$

$$\therefore \int_0^\infty e^{-ax^2} dx = \frac{1}{2a} \left[\frac{1}{2} \right] = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2a}$$

$$\text{Now, } \int_{-\infty}^\infty e^{-ax^2} dx = \int_{-\infty}^0 e^{-ax^2} dx + \int_0^\infty e^{-ax^2} dx \\ = I_1 + I_2$$

Put $x = -y$ in I_1

$$\therefore I_1 = \int_{-\infty}^0 e^{-a^2y^2} (-dy) = \int_0^\infty e^{-a^2y^2} dy = I_2$$

$$\therefore \int_{-\infty}^\infty e^{-ax^2} dx = 2I_2 = 2 \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2a} = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{a}$$

24. Prove that $B(m+2, n-2) = \frac{m(m+1)}{(n-1)(n-2)} B(m, n)$

Solution : $B(m+2, n-2) = \frac{\Gamma(m+2) \Gamma(n-2)}{\Gamma(m+n)}$
 $= \frac{(m+1) \Gamma(m+1) (n-2) \Gamma(n-2)}{(n-2) \Gamma(m+n)} \quad (\because \Gamma(n+1) = n \Gamma(n))$
 $= \frac{(m+1) m \Gamma(m) \Gamma(n-1)}{(n-2) \Gamma(m+n)}$
 $= \frac{(m+1) m \Gamma(m) (n-1) \Gamma(n-1)}{(n-2)(n-1) \Gamma(m+n)}$

$$= \frac{m(m+1) \Gamma(m) \Gamma(n)}{(n-1)(n-2) \Gamma(m+n)} \\ = \frac{m(m+1)}{(n-1)(n-2)} B(m, n)$$

25. Evaluate $\int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^3 x \cos^{5/2} x dx$.

Solution : We use $B(m, n) = 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{2m-1} \theta \cos^{2n-1} \theta d\theta$

$$\therefore \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^3 x \cos^{5/2} x dx = \frac{1}{2} B(2, \frac{7}{4})$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Gamma(2) \Gamma(\frac{7}{4})}{\Gamma(\frac{15}{4})} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1! \Gamma(\frac{7}{4})}{\frac{11}{4} \cdot \frac{7}{4} \Gamma(\frac{7}{4})} = \frac{8}{77}$$

26. Evaluate $\int_a^b (x-a)^m (b-x)^n dx$

Solution : Put $x-a = z \Rightarrow dx = dz$

$$\therefore I = \int_0^{b-a} z^m (b-a-z)^n dz$$

Put $z = (b-a)y \Rightarrow dz = (b-a) dy$

$$\therefore I = \int_0^1 (b-a)^m y^m (b-a)^n (1-y)^n (b-a) dy$$

$$= (b-a)^{m+n+1} \int_0^1 y^m (1-y)^n dy$$

$$= (b-a)^{m+n+1} \cdot B(m+1, n+1)$$

27. Prove that $\frac{B(m+1, n)}{B(m, n)} = \frac{m}{m+n}$

Solution : LHS = $\frac{B(m+1, n)}{B(m, n)} = \frac{\Gamma(m+1) \Gamma(n)}{\Gamma(m+n)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(m+n)}{\Gamma(m) \Gamma(n)}$

$$= \frac{m \Gamma(m) \Gamma(n)}{(m+n) \Gamma(m+n)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(m+n)}{\Gamma(m) \Gamma(n)}$$

$$= \frac{m}{m+n} = \text{RHS}$$

28. Prove that $\frac{\sqrt{n+\frac{1}{2}}}{\sqrt{n+1}} = \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \dots (2n-1)}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \dots 2n} \sqrt{\pi}$

Solution : We know that

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{n+1} &= n\sqrt{n} \\ &= n(n-1)(n-2)\dots 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \\ \sqrt{n+\frac{1}{2}} &= \left(n-\frac{1}{2}\right) \left(n-\frac{3}{2}\right) \dots \frac{5}{2} \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \frac{(2n-1)(2n-3)\dots 5 \cdot 3 \cdot 1}{2^n} \sqrt{\pi}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\sqrt{n+\frac{1}{2}}}{\sqrt{n+1}} &= \frac{(2n-1)(2n-3)\dots 5 \cdot 3 \cdot 1}{2^n n(n-1)\dots 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} \sqrt{\pi} \\ &= \frac{(2n-1)(2n-3)\dots 5 \cdot 3 \cdot 1}{(2n)(2n-2)\dots 6 \cdot 4 \cdot 2} \sqrt{\pi}\end{aligned}$$

29. Evaluate $\int_0^{\pi} \frac{x^c}{c^x} dx$

Solution : Put $c^x = t \Rightarrow x \log c = \log t$

$$\therefore (\log c) dx = \frac{1}{t} dt$$

When $x=0 \Rightarrow t=1$

$x \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow t \rightarrow \infty$

$$\therefore I = \int_1^{\pi} \left(\frac{\log t}{\log c}\right)^c \frac{1}{t} \frac{dt}{t \log c}$$

$$= \frac{1}{(\log c)^{c+1}} \int_1^{\pi} \frac{1}{t^2} (\log t)^c dt$$

Put $\log t = y \Rightarrow t = e^y$

$$\therefore dt = e^y dy$$

$$\therefore I = \frac{1}{(\log c)^{c+1}} \int_0^{\pi} e^{-2y} y^c e^y dy$$

$$= \frac{1}{(\log c)^{c+1}} \int_0^{\pi} e^{-y} y^c dy = \frac{\sqrt{c+1}}{(\log c)^{c+1}}$$

Special Functions

30. Evaluate $\int_0^1 x^m (\log x)^n dx$, where n is a + ve integer and $m > 1$.

Solution : Put $\log x = -y \Rightarrow x = e^{-y}$

$$\therefore dx = -e^{-y} dy$$

When $x=0 \Rightarrow y=\infty$

and $x=1 \Rightarrow y=0$

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore \int_0^1 x^m (\log x)^n dx &= \int_{\infty}^0 e^{-my} (-y)^n (-e^{-y} dy) \\ &= (-1)^n \int_0^{\infty} e^{-(m+1)y} y^n dy\end{aligned}$$

Put $(m+1)y=t$

$$\Rightarrow (m+1) dy = dt$$

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore I &= (-1)^n \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} \frac{t^n}{(m+1)^n} \frac{dt}{(m+1)} \\ &= \frac{(-1)^n}{(m+1)^{n+1}} \sqrt{n+1} = \frac{(-1)^n n!}{(m+1)^{n+1}}\end{aligned}$$

31. Evaluate $\int_0^1 \frac{x^2 dx}{(1-x^4)^{1/2}} \times \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{(1+x^4)^{1/2}}$.

Solution : Put $x^2 = \sin \theta$ in the first integral

$$\therefore x = \sin^{1/2} \theta$$

$$\Rightarrow dx = \frac{1}{2} \sin^{-1/2} \theta \cos \theta d\theta$$

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore \int_0^1 \frac{x^2 dx}{\sqrt{1-x^4}} &= \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} \frac{1}{2} \sin^{-1/2} \theta \cos \theta d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{1/2} \theta \cos^0 \theta d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{4} B\left(\frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{2}\right)\end{aligned}$$

Now Put $x^2 = \tan \theta$ in the second integral

$$\therefore x = \tan^{1/2} \theta \Rightarrow dx = \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1/2} \theta \sec^2 \theta d\theta$$

$$\therefore \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1+x^4}} = \int_0^{\pi/4} \frac{1}{\sec \theta} \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1/2} \theta \sec^2 \theta d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi/4} \tan^{-1/2} \theta \sec \theta d\theta = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi/4} \frac{\sin^{-1/2} \theta}{\cos^{-1/2} \theta} \frac{1}{\cos \theta} d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi/4} \frac{1}{\sin^{1/2} \theta \cos^{1/2} \theta} d\theta = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi/4} \frac{2^{1/2}}{\sin^{1/2} 2\theta} d\theta$$

$$\text{Put } 2\theta = \phi \Rightarrow 2 d\theta = d\phi$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\pi/4} \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1+x^4}} &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{-1/2} \phi \frac{d\phi}{2} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{2} B\left(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 \frac{x^2 dx}{\sqrt{1-x^4}} \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1+x^4}} &= \frac{1}{4} B\left(\frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{2}\right) \frac{\sqrt{2}}{8} B\left(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2}\right) \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{32} \frac{\left[\frac{3}{4} \left|\frac{1}{2}\right. \right] \left[\frac{1}{4} \left|\frac{1}{2}\right. \right]}{\left[\frac{5}{4} \right] \left[\frac{3}{4} \right]} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{32} \frac{\sqrt{\pi} \left[\frac{1}{4} \right] \sqrt{\pi}}{\left[\frac{1}{4} \right] \left[\frac{1}{2} \right]} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{8} \pi = \frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{2}} \end{aligned}$$

32. Prove that $\int_0^1 \frac{x^{m-1} (1-x)^{n-1}}{(a+x)^{m+n}} dx = \frac{B(m, n)}{a^n (1+a)^m}$

$$\text{Solution : Put } \frac{x}{a+x} = \frac{t}{a+1}$$

$$\therefore x(a+1) = t(a+x) \Rightarrow x(a+1-t) = at$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{at}{a+1-t}$$

$$\therefore dx = \frac{(a+1-t) a dt - at(-dt)}{(a+1-t)^2}$$

$$= \frac{a(a+1) dt}{(a+1-t)^2}$$

$$\therefore \int_0^1 \frac{x^{m-1} (1-x)^{n-1}}{(a+x)^{m+n}} dx = \int_0^1 \frac{\left(\frac{at}{a+1-t}\right)^{m-1} \left(1 - \frac{at}{a+1-t}\right)^{n-1}}{\left(a + \frac{at}{a+1-t}\right)^{m+n}} \frac{a(a+1)}{(a+1-t)^2} dt$$

$$= \int_0^1 \frac{(at)^{m-1} (a+1-t-at)^{n-1} a(a+1)}{(a^2 + a - at + at)^{m+n}} dt$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int_0^1 \frac{a^{m-1} t^{m-1} (a+1)^{n-1} (1-t)^{n-1} a(a+1)}{a^{m+n} (1+a)^{m+n}} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{a^n (a+1)^m} \int_0^1 t^{m-1} (1-t)^{n-1} dt \\ &= \frac{B(m, n)}{a^n (a+1)^m} \end{aligned}$$

33. Evaluate $\int_3^7 \sqrt[4]{(x-3)(7-x)} dx$

Solution : Put $x-3 = y \Rightarrow dx = dy$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore I &= \int_0^4 y^{1/4} (7-3-y)^{1/4} dy \\ &\quad \int_0^4 y^{1/4} (4-y)^{1/4} dy \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Put } y = 4t \Rightarrow dy = 4dt$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore I &= \int_0^1 4^{1/4} t^{1/4} 4^{1/4} (1-t)^{1/4} 4 dt \\ &= 8 \int_0^1 t^{1/4} (1-t)^{1/4} dt \\ &= 8B\left(\frac{5}{4}, \frac{5}{4}\right) = \frac{8 \left[\frac{5}{4} \left|\frac{5}{4}\right.\right]}{\left[\frac{5}{2}\right]} = 8 \frac{\left(\frac{1}{4} \left|\frac{1}{4}\right.\right)^2}{\frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \left|\frac{1}{2}\right.} \\ &= \frac{8 \cdot 4}{4^2 \cdot 3} \frac{\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^2}{\sqrt{\pi}} = \frac{2}{3} \frac{\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \end{aligned}$$

34. If $I_n = \int_0^\infty e^{-x} x^{n-1} dx$ for $n > 0$, find $\frac{I_{n+1}}{I_n}$

Solution : We have

$$I_n = \int_0^\infty e^{-x} x^{n-1} dx = \sqrt{n}$$

$$\therefore I_{n+1} = \sqrt{n+1} = n\sqrt{n} = nI_n$$

$$\therefore \frac{I_{n+1}}{I_n} = n$$

35. If $\int_0^\infty \frac{x^{n-1}}{1+x} dx = \frac{\pi}{\sin n\pi}$, prove that

$$\sqrt{n(1-n)} = \frac{\pi}{\sin n\pi}. \text{ Hence evaluate } \int_0^\infty \frac{dy}{1+y^4}$$

Solution : We know that $B(m, n) = \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{n-1}}{(1+x)^{m+n}} dx$

$$\text{Put } m+n=1 \Rightarrow m=1-n$$

$$\therefore \frac{\sqrt{m}\sqrt{n}}{m+n} = \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{n-1}}{1+x} dx$$

$$\therefore \sqrt{n(1-n)} = \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{n-1}}{1+x} dx$$

Deduction : Put $y = t^{1/4} \Rightarrow dy = \frac{1}{4} t^{-3/4} dt$

$$\therefore \int_0^\infty \frac{dy}{1+y^4} = \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{1+t} \frac{1}{4} t^{-3/4} dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \int_0^\infty \frac{t^{-3/4}}{1+t} dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{1}{4} \sqrt{1-\frac{1}{4}} \right] \quad (\text{By above result})$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}} \right] = \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{2}\pi = \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{2}}$$

36. Prove that $\int_0^{\pi/2} \tan^n \theta d\theta = \frac{\pi}{2} \sec \frac{n\pi}{2}$ ($-1 < n < 1$)

Solution : $\int_0^{\pi/2} \tan^n \theta d\theta = \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^n \theta \cos^{-n} \theta d\theta$

$$= \frac{1}{2} B\left(\frac{n+1}{2}, \frac{1-n}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\left[\frac{n+1}{2}\right] \left[\frac{1-n}{2}\right]}{\Gamma(1)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{n+1}{2}\right] \left[1 - \frac{n+1}{2}\right] = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\pi}{\sin\left(\frac{n+1}{2}\pi\right)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{\pi}{\cos \frac{n\pi}{2}} = \frac{\pi}{2} \sec \frac{n\pi}{2}$$

Here $n+1 > 0$ and $1-n > 0$

$$\therefore n > -1 \quad \text{and} \quad n < 1$$

$$\therefore -1 < n < 1$$

Establish Dirichlet's integral $\iiint_V x^{l-1} y^{m-1} z^{n-1} dx dy dz = \frac{\Gamma(l)\Gamma(m)\Gamma(n)}{\Gamma(l+m+n+1)}$

Where V is the region $x \geq 0, y \geq 0, z \geq 0$ and $x + y + z \leq 1$.

Solution : We have

$$0 \leq z \leq 1-x-y$$

$$0 \leq y \leq 1-x$$

$$0 \leq x \leq 1$$

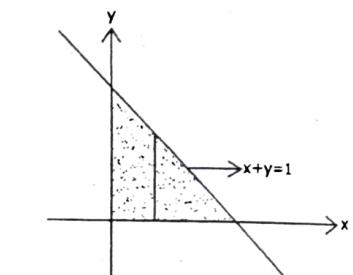
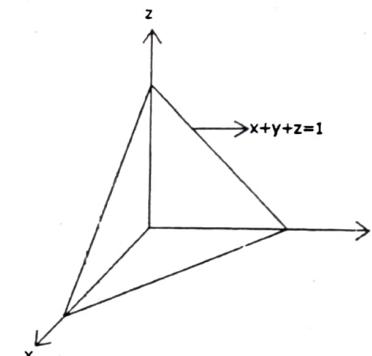


Fig 4.3

$$\therefore I = \int_0^1 \int_0^{1-x} \int_0^{1-x-y} x^{l-1} y^{m-1} z^{n-1} dz dy dx$$

$$= \int_0^1 \int_0^{1-x} x^{l-1} y^{m-1} \left[\frac{z^n}{n} \right]_0^{1-x-y} dy dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \int_0^1 \int_0^{1-x} x^{l-1} y^{m-1} (1-x-y)^n dy dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \int_0^1 x^{l-1} \left\{ \int_0^{1-x} y^{m-1} (1-x-y)^n dy \right\} dx$$

Put $y = (1-x)t \Rightarrow dy = (1-x)dt$

$$\therefore I = \frac{1}{n} \int_0^1 x^{l-1} \left\{ \int_0^{1-x} (1-x)^{m-1} t^{m-1} (1-x)^n (1-t)^n (1-x) dt \right\} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \int_0^1 x^{l-1} (1-x)^{m+n} \left\{ \int_0^1 t^{m-1} (1-t)^n dt \right\} dx$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{1}{n} B(m, n+1) \int_0^1 x^{l-1} (1-x)^{m+n} dx \\
 &= \frac{B(m, n+1)}{n} \cdot B(l, m+n+1) \\
 &= \frac{1}{n} \frac{\sqrt{m} \sqrt{n+1}}{\sqrt{m+n+1}} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(l) \Gamma(m+n+1)}{\Gamma(l+m+n+1)} \\
 &= \frac{1}{n} \frac{\sqrt{m} n \sqrt{n} \Gamma(l)}{\Gamma(l+m+n+1)} = \frac{\sqrt{m} \sqrt{n} \Gamma(l)}{\Gamma(l+m+n+1)}
 \end{aligned}$$

38. Prove that $\int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty e^{-(ax^2+by^2)} x^{2m-1} y^{2n-1} dx dy = \frac{\sqrt{m} \sqrt{n}}{4a^m b^n}$, where a, b, m, n are positive constants.

Solution : We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 I &= \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty e^{-(ax^2+by^2)} x^{2m-1} y^{2n-1} dx dy \\
 &= \int_0^\infty \left\{ \int_0^\infty e^{-ax^2} x^{2m-1} dx \right\} e^{-by^2} y^{2n-1} dy
 \end{aligned}$$

But from example 7, we know that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^\infty e^{-ax^2} x^{2m-1} dx &= \frac{\sqrt{m}}{2a^m} \\
 \therefore I &= \int_0^\infty \frac{\sqrt{m}}{2a^m} e^{-by^2} y^{2n-1} dy \\
 &= \frac{\sqrt{m}}{2a^m} \int_0^\infty e^{-by^2} y^{2n-1} dy \\
 &= \frac{\sqrt{m}}{2a^m} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{n}}{2b^n} = \frac{\sqrt{m} \sqrt{n}}{4a^m b^n}
 \end{aligned}$$

EXERCISE

1. Prove that $\int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^p \theta \cos^q \theta d\theta = \frac{1}{2} B\left(\frac{p+1}{2}, \frac{q+1}{2}\right)$

Hence show that $\int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^n \theta d\theta = \frac{\sqrt{n+1}}{\sqrt{n+2}} \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} = \int_0^{\pi/2} \cos^n \theta d\theta$

Evaluate $\int_0^1 (1-x^3)^{-1/2} dx$

[Ans. : $\frac{1}{3} B\left(\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$]

Evaluate $\int_0^\infty x^4 e^{-x} dx$

[Ans. : 24]

Evaluate $\int_0^\infty x^6 e^{-3x} dx$

[Ans. : $\frac{80}{243}$]

Evaluate $\int_0^1 x^4 (1-x)^3 dx$

[Ans. : $\frac{1}{280}$]

Evaluate $\int_0^{\pi/2} \sqrt{\tan \theta} d\theta$

[Ans. : $\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{2}}$]

Evaluate $\int_0^\infty \frac{x^4 (1+x^5)}{(1+x)^{15}} dx$

[Ans. : $\frac{1}{5005}$]

8. Prove that $\int_0^1 \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1-x^n}} = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{n} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{n})}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{2})}$

9. Prove that $B(n, m) = \frac{\sqrt{\pi} \sqrt{n}}{2^{2n-1} \Gamma(n+\frac{1}{2})}$

10. Evaluate $\int_0^1 x^5 (1-x^3)^3 dx$

[Ans. : $\frac{1}{60}$]

11. Prove that $\sqrt{n+\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \dots (2n-1)}{2^n} \sqrt{\pi}$

12. Prove that $\int_0^a x^{n-1} (a-x)^{m-1} dx = a^{m+n-1} B(m, n)$ (Hint : Put $x = ay$)

13. Prove that $\int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-x^2}}{\sqrt{x}} dx \times \int_0^\infty x^2 e^{-x^4} dx = \frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{2}}$

14. Prove that $\int_0^1 \frac{x^{m-1} (1-x)^{n-1}}{(a+bx)^{m+n}} dx = \frac{B(m, n)}{a^n (a+b)^m}$ [Hint. : Take $\frac{x}{a+bx} = \frac{z}{a+b}$]

15. Prove that $\int_0^\infty \frac{x^{m-1} - x^{n-1}}{(1+x)^{m+n}} dx = 0$, $m > 0, n > 0$.

16. Prove that $n B(m+1, n) = m B(m, n+1)$

17. Prove that $\int_0^2 (8-x^3)^{-1/3} dx = \frac{1}{3} \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{3}} \sqrt[3]{\frac{2}{3}}$

4.8 The Error Function :

The error function is defined and denoted by $\text{erf}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt$

Note : The error function occurs in statistics and different studies in physics, and heat conduction.

The complementary error function is defined and denoted by

$$\text{erfc}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_x^\infty e^{-t^2} dt$$

4.9. Properties of Error Function :

1. $\text{erf}(0) = 0$

Proof : Put $x = 0$ in $\text{erf}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt$

$$\therefore \text{erf}(0) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^0 e^{-t^2} dt = 0$$

2. $\text{erf}(\infty) = 1$

Proof : We have $\text{erf}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt$

$$\therefore \text{erf}(\infty) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^\infty e^{-t^2} dt$$

But we know that $\sqrt{n} = 2 \int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} \cdot x^{2n-1} dx$

$$\therefore \text{erf}(\infty) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left[\frac{1}{2} \right] = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{\sqrt{\pi}} = 1.$$

3. $\text{erf}(-x) = -\text{erf}(x)$

Proof : We have $\text{erf}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt$

$$\therefore \text{erf}(-x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{-x} e^{-t^2} dt$$

Put $t = -v \Rightarrow dt = -dv$

$$\therefore \text{erf}(-x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-v^2} (-dv)$$

$$= \frac{-2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-v^2} dv = -\text{erf}(x).$$

Special Functions

$$\text{erf}(x) = 1 - \text{erfc}(x)$$

Proof : By definitions

$$\begin{aligned} \text{erf}(x) + \text{erfc}(x) &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt + \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_x^\infty e^{-t^2} dt \\ &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left\{ \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt + \int_x^\infty e^{-t^2} dt \right\} \\ &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^\infty e^{-t^2} dt = \text{erf}(\infty) = 1 \end{aligned}$$

10 Geometrical Interpretation of Error Function :

The graph of $y = e^{-x^2}$ is given by

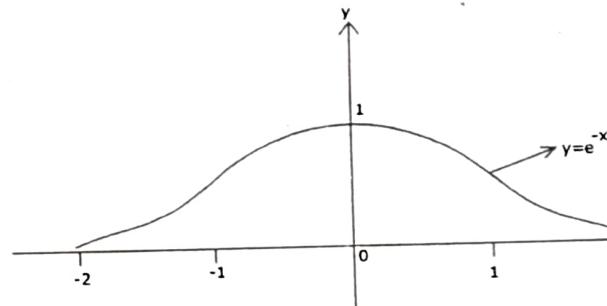


Fig 4.4

The graph of $y = e^{-x^2}$ is symmetrical about y -axis. Thus the area under the curve is given by

$$\text{Area} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx = 2 \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t^2} dt$$

$$\text{But } \text{erf}(\infty) = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^\infty e^{-t^2} dt = 1$$

$$\therefore \text{Area} = \sqrt{\pi}$$

$$\therefore \text{The half area} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t^2} dt = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2}$$

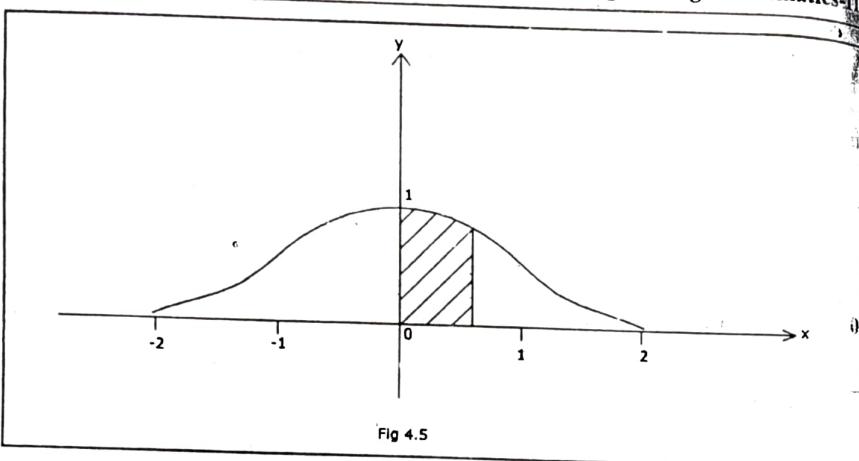


Fig 4.5

\therefore The integral $\int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt$ denotes the area shaded, between $t = 0$ and $t = x$. And the value of error function tend to 1 as $x \rightarrow \infty$. The graph of $y = \text{erf}(x)$ is as follows :

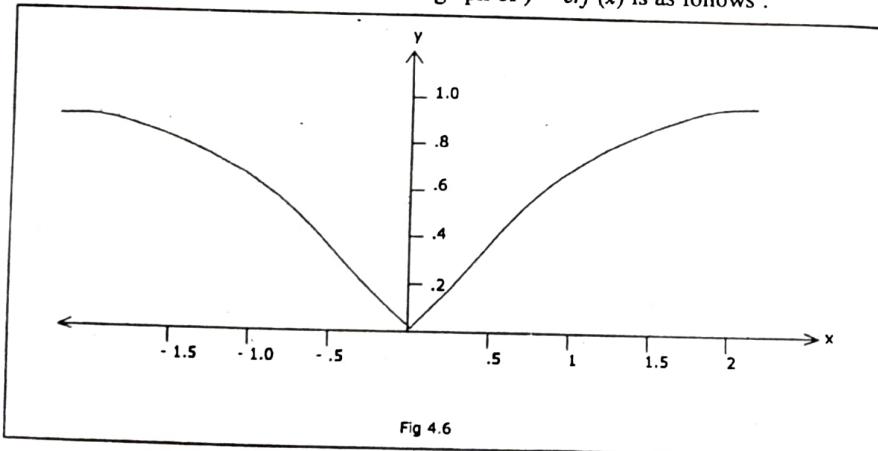


Fig 4.6

SOLVED EXAMPLES

- Prove that $\int_a^b e^{-x^2} dx = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \{ \text{erf}(b) - \text{erf}(a) \}$, $a < 0 < b$

Solution : $\int_a^b e^{-x^2} dx = \int_a^0 e^{-x^2} dx + \int_0^b e^{-x^2} dx$

$$= - \int_0^a e^{-x^2} dx + \int_0^b e^{-x^2} dx$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \left\{ - \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^a e^{-x^2} dx + \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^b e^{-x^2} dx \right\}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \{ \text{erf}(b) - \text{erf}(a) \}$$

- Prove that $\text{erfc}(x) + \text{erfc}(-x) = 2$.

Solution : LHS = $\text{erfc}(x) + \text{erfc}(-x)$

$$= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_x^\infty e^{-t^2} dt + \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{-x}^\infty e^{-t^2} dt$$

$$= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_x^\infty e^{-t^2} dt + \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_x^{-\infty} e^{-y^2} (-dy) \quad (\text{Put } t = -y)$$

$$= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left\{ \int_x^\infty e^{-t^2} dt + \int_{-\infty}^x e^{-y^2} dy \right\}$$

$$= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^\infty e^{-t^2} dt = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^\infty 2e^{-t^2} dt$$

$$= 2 \text{erf}(\infty)$$

$$= 2 \quad (\because \text{erf}(\infty) = 1)$$

- Prove that $\int_0^\infty e^{-x^2 - 2bx} dx = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} e^{b^2} (1 - \text{erf}(b))$

Solution : $\int_0^\infty e^{-x^2 - 2bx} dx = \int_0^\infty e^{-(x^2 + 2bx + b^2) + b^2} dx$

$$= \int_0^\infty e^{-(x+b)^2} \cdot e^{b^2} dx = e^{b^2} \int_0^\infty e^{-(x+b)^2} dx$$

$$= e^{b^2} \int_b^\infty e^{-t^2} dt \quad (\text{Put } t = x + b)$$

$$= e^{b^2} \left[\int_0^\infty e^{-t^2} dt - \int_0^b e^{-t^2} dt \right]$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} e^{b^2} [\text{erf}(\infty) - \text{erf}(b)]$$

$$= e^{b^2} \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} [1 - \text{erf}(b)]$$

4. Prove that $\frac{d}{dx} [\operatorname{erfc}(ax)] = -\frac{2a}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-a^2 x^2}$

$$\text{Solution : } \frac{d}{dx} [\operatorname{erfc}(ax)] = \frac{d}{dx} \left[\frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{ax}^{\infty} e^{-t^2} dt \right]$$

We use the following formula for differentiation under the integral sign :

$$\frac{d}{d\alpha} \int_{g(\alpha)}^{h(\alpha)} f(x, \alpha) dx \stackrel{?}{=} \int_{g(\alpha)}^{h(\alpha)} \frac{\partial f(x, \alpha)}{\partial \alpha} dx + h'(\alpha) f[h(\alpha), \alpha] - g'(\alpha) f[g(\alpha), \alpha]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \frac{d}{dx} [\operatorname{erfc}(ax)] &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left[\int_{ax}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} e^{-t^2} \right) dt + \frac{d}{dx}(\infty) e^{-\infty} - \frac{d}{dx}(ax) e^{-a^2 x^2} \right] \\ &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} [0 + 0 - ae^{-a^2 x^2}] = -\frac{2a}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-a^2 x^2} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we can prove that

$$\frac{d}{dx} [\operatorname{erf}(ax)] = \frac{2a}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-a^2 x^2}$$

5. Prove that $\operatorname{erf}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left\{ x - \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^5}{10} - \frac{x^7}{42} + \dots \right\}$

$$\text{Solution : We have } \operatorname{erf}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt$$

$$\text{We know that } e^{-x} = 1 - x + \frac{x^2}{2!} - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \operatorname{erf}(x) &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x \left[1 - t^2 + \frac{t^4}{2!} - \frac{t^6}{3!} + \dots \right] dt \\ &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left[t - \frac{t^3}{3} + \frac{t^5}{2!5} - \frac{t^7}{3!7} + \dots \right]_0^x \\ &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left[x - \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^5}{10} - \frac{x^7}{42} + \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

6. Compute (i) $\operatorname{erf}(0.3)$ (ii) $\operatorname{erf}(0.5)$

$$\text{Solution : } \operatorname{erf}(0.3) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left[0.3 - \frac{(0.3)^3}{3} + \frac{(0.3)^5}{10} - \frac{(0.3)^7}{42} \right] \text{ (approximation)}$$

$$= 0.3248$$

$$\text{Similarly, } \operatorname{erf}(0.5) = 0.5204$$

$$\text{Prove that } \int_0^t \operatorname{erfc}(ax) dx = t \operatorname{erfc}(at) - \frac{e^{-a^2 t^2}}{a \sqrt{\pi}} + \frac{1}{a \sqrt{\pi}}$$

$$\text{Solution : } \int_0^t \operatorname{erfc}(ax) dx = \int_0^t \operatorname{erfc}(ax) \cdot 1 dx$$

$$= [\operatorname{erfc}(ax)x]'_0 - \int_0^t \frac{d}{dx} (\operatorname{erfc}(ax) \cdot x) dx$$

$$= \operatorname{erfc}(at)t + \int_0^t \frac{2a}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-a^2 x^2} x dx \quad \left(\because \frac{d}{dx} (\operatorname{erf}(ax)) = -\frac{2a}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-a^2 x^2} \right)$$

$$= t \operatorname{erfc}(at) - \frac{1}{a \sqrt{\pi}} [e^{-a^2 x^2}]'_0$$

$$= t \operatorname{erfc}(at) - \frac{1}{a \sqrt{\pi}} (e^{-a^2 t^2} - 1)$$

$$= t \operatorname{erfc}(at) - \frac{1}{a \sqrt{\pi}} e^{-a^2 t^2} + \frac{1}{a \sqrt{\pi}}$$

$$6. \text{ Prove that } \frac{d}{dx} [\operatorname{erf}(\sqrt{x})] = \frac{e^{-x}}{2\sqrt{x}}$$

$$\text{Solution : } \frac{d}{dx} [\operatorname{erf}(\sqrt{x})] = \frac{d}{dx} \left\{ \int_0^{\sqrt{x}} e^{-t^2} dt \right\}$$

$$= \int_0^{\sqrt{x}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (e^{-t^2}) dt + \left(\frac{d\sqrt{x}}{dx} \right) e^{-x} - \frac{d}{dx}(0) e^0$$

$$= 0 + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} e^{-x} - 0$$

$$= \frac{e^{-x}}{2\sqrt{x}}$$