

Calculus I

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Semester

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Chapter 1

Gamma Functions

Objective

- Definition of gamma function
- understand uses and applications

1.1 Definitions

Gamma function denoted by $\Gamma(x)$. Also known as generalized factorial function. Gamma has several equivalent definitions.

Definition 1.1.1: Euler Representation

$$\Gamma(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n! n^x}{x(x+1)(x+2) \dots (x+n-1)(x+n)} \quad (1.1)$$

Limit exist if $x \neq 0$ or negative number.

Definition 1.1.2: Integral Representation

$$\Gamma(x) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} t^{x-1} dt, \quad x > 0 \quad (1.2)$$

Integral (1.2) is improper integral due to the infinite upper limit of integration and t^{x-1} at $t = 0$ when $0 < x < 1$

Let's take a look on some important properties (using (1.1) and (1.2))

- What is the value of $\Gamma(1)$?

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma(1) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n! n}{1.2.3 \dots (n+1)} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n! n}{(n+1)!} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{n+1} = 1\end{aligned}$$

Or using the integral representation

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma(1) &= \int_0^\infty e^{-t} t^0 dt \\ &= 1\end{aligned}$$

- We will deduce an important formula

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma(x+1) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n! n^{x+1}}{(x+1)(x+2) \dots (x+n)(x+n+1)} \times \frac{x}{x} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n! n^x}{x(x+1)(x+2) \dots (x+n)} \times \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n x}{x+n+1} \\ &= \Gamma(x)x\end{aligned}$$

Or from integral representation

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma(x+1) &= \int_0^\infty e^{-t} t^x dt \quad \text{By parts} \\ &= [-e^{-t} t^x]_0^\infty + \int_0^\infty x e^{-t} t^{x-1} dt \\ &= x \int_0^\infty e^{-t} t^{x-1} dt \\ &= x \Gamma(x)\end{aligned}$$

Hence, An important formula called Recurrence formula

$$\boxed{\Gamma(x+1) = x \Gamma(x)} \tag{1.3}$$

Remark.

■ If x is integer $\Gamma(x+1) = x!$ or it has another notation by Gauss $\prod(x) = x!$

Example.

- $\Gamma(5) = 4!$
- $\Gamma(\frac{3}{2}) = \frac{1}{2} \Gamma(\frac{1}{2})$

Recurrence formula (1.3) can be written as

$$\Gamma(x) = \frac{\Gamma(x+1)}{x}$$

Remark.

If x is negative or $= 0 \Rightarrow \Gamma(x)$ divergent

$$|\Gamma(n)| = \infty, \quad n \leq 0$$

Example.

- $\Gamma(0) = \frac{\Gamma(1)}{0} = \infty$
- $\Gamma(-1) = -\infty$
- $\Gamma(-2) = \infty$
- \vdots

1.2 Weierstrass' infinite product

Definition 1.2.1: Weierstrass' infinite product

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma(x)} = x e^{\gamma x} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 + \frac{x}{n}\right) e^{-\frac{x}{n}} \quad (1.4)$$

Where γ : Euler-Mascheroni constant

$$\gamma = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} - \ln(n) \right) \approx 0.577215$$

Proof. We start with reciprocal of Euler representation

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\Gamma(x)} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x(x+1)(x+2) \dots (x+n)}{n! n^x} \\ &= x \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{-x} \left(\frac{x+1}{1} \times \frac{x+2}{2} \times \frac{x+3}{3} \dots \frac{x+n}{n} \right) \\ &= x \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{-x \ln(n)} \prod_{k=1}^n \left(1 + \frac{x}{k}\right) \end{aligned} \quad (I)$$

And obviously,

$$e^{x \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k}} = \prod_{k=1}^n e^{\frac{x}{k}} \quad (II)$$

Multiply L.H.S of (II) by (I)

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{e^{x \sum \frac{1}{k}}}{\Gamma(x)} &= x \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{-x \ln(n)} \left[\prod_{k=1}^n \left(1 + \frac{x}{k}\right) \right] \times e^{x \sum \frac{1}{k}} \\
&= x \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \exp \left(x \left(\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} - \ln(n) \right) \right) \prod_{k=1}^n \left(1 + \frac{x}{k}\right) \\
\frac{1}{\Gamma(x)} &= x \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \exp \left(x \left(\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} - \ln(n) \right) \right) \prod_{k=1}^n \left(1 + \frac{x}{k}\right) \prod_{k=1}^n e^{-\frac{x}{k}} \\
&= x \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \exp \left(x \left(\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} - \ln(n) \right) \right) \times \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \prod_{k=1}^n \left(1 + \frac{x}{k}\right) e^{-\frac{x}{k}} \\
&= x e^{\gamma x} \times \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(1 + \frac{x}{k}\right) e^{-\frac{x}{k}}
\end{aligned}$$

□

Solution. sss

□

Theorem 1.2.2: Theorem Name

A theorem.

Lemma 1.2.3: Lemma Name

A lemma.

Objective

A fact.

Corollary 1.2.4

A corollary.

Proposition 1.2.5

A proposition.

Claim

A claim.

Proof for Claim.

■ A reference to Theorem 1.2.2 ■

Proof. Veniam velit incididunt deserunt est proident consectetur non velit ipsum voluptate nulla quis. Ea ullamco consequat non ad amet cupidatat cupidatat aliquip tempor sint ea nisi elit dolore dolore.

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Example.

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*Some remark.***Remark.**

■ Some more remark.

1.3 Pictures



Figure 1.1: Waterloo, ON