

Gamma function and Beta function

Gamma function

The integral $\int_0^{\infty} x^{n-1} e^{-x} dx$, $n > 0$ known as the second

Eulerian, is called the gamma function of n and is denoted by $\Gamma(n)$

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

Properties

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

$$2) \quad \Gamma(n+1) = \int_0^{\infty} x^n e^{-x} dx = [-x^n e^{-x}]_0^{\infty} + \int_0^{\infty} nx^{n-1} e^{-x} dx$$

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

$$3) \quad \Gamma(n+1) = n(n-1)\Gamma(n-1)$$

$$= n(n-1)(n-2)(n-3)\dots\dots\dots 3.2.1\Gamma(1)$$

$$= n! \quad , \quad \text{if } n \text{ is an integer}$$

$$4) \quad \Gamma(n)\Gamma(n-1) = \frac{\pi}{\sin n\pi}$$

Different forms of $\Gamma(n)$

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

(1) put $x = ay$ then

$$\Gamma(n) = a^n \int_0^{\infty} y^{n-1} e^{-ay} dy = a^n \int_0^{\infty} x^{n-1} e^{-ax} dx$$

(2) put $x = y^2$ then

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

(3) put $x = -(m+1) \ln y$ then

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(n) &= (m+1)^n \int_0^{\infty} y^m \left(\ln \frac{1}{y} \right)^{n-1} dy \\ &= (m+1)^n \int_0^{\infty} x^m \left(\ln \frac{1}{x} \right)^{n-1} dx \end{aligned}$$

Prove that $\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \sqrt{\pi}$ **and** $\int_0^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2}$

Proof. $\Gamma(n) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-x} x^{n-1} dx$ put $x = y^2$ and $n = \frac{1}{2}$

$$\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 2 \int_0^{\infty} e^{-y^2} dy \quad \text{Let } I = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-y^2} dy$$

$$I^2 = \int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} dx \int_0^\infty e^{-y^2} dy = \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty e^{-(x^2+y^2)} dx dy \text{ ----(1)}$$

put $x = r \cos \theta, y = r \sin \theta$, we get $dx dy = r dr d\theta$

and as x and y varies from 0 to ∞ then r varies from

0 to ∞ and θ varies from 0 to $\frac{\pi}{2}$. so (1) becomes

$$I^2 = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \int_0^\infty e^{-r^2} r dr d\theta = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \left[-\frac{1}{2} e^{-r^2} \right]_0^\infty d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} d\theta = \frac{\pi}{4} \quad \therefore I = \int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} dx = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2}$$

$$\therefore \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 2 \int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} dx = 2 \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} = \sqrt{\pi}$$

Beta function

The integral $\int_0^1 x^{m-1} e(1-x)^{n-1} dx$, $n > 0$ knows as the first

Eulerian integral , is called the Beta function of m and n and is

denoted by $B(m, n)$ or $\beta(m, n)$

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

Property

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

Different forms of $B(m, n)$

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

(1) put $x = \frac{y}{1+y}$ then

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

(2) put $x = \sin^2 \theta$ then

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

(3) put $x = \frac{y}{a}$ then

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

Relation between Gamma and Beta functions

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

Proof :

We know that

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

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(m)\Gamma(n) &= 2 \int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} x^{2m-1} dx \cdot 2 \int_0^\infty e^{-y^2} y^{2n-1} dy \\ &= 4 \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty e^{-(x^2+y^2)} x^{2m-1} y^{2n-1} dx dy \quad \text{-----(1)} \end{aligned}$$

put $x = r \cos \theta, y = r \sin \theta$, we get $dx dy = r dr d\theta$

and as x and y varies from 0 to ∞ then r varies from

0 to ∞ and θ varies from 0 to $\frac{\pi}{2}$. so (1) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(m)\Gamma(n) &= 4 \int_0^\infty \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} e^{-r^2} r^{2m-1} \cos^{2m-1} \theta r^{2n-1} \sin^{2n-1} \theta r dr d\theta \\ &= 2 \int_0^\infty e^{-r^2} r^{2(m+n)-1} dr \cdot 2 \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \cos^{2m-1} \theta \sin^{2n-1} \theta d\theta \\ &= \Gamma(m+n) B(m, n) \end{aligned}$$

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

Prove that $\frac{B(p,q+1)}{q} = \frac{B(p+1,q)}{p} = \frac{B(p,q)}{p+q}$

Proof:

$$B(p, q + 1) = \frac{\Gamma(p)\Gamma(q+1)}{\Gamma(p+q+1)} = \frac{q\Gamma(p)\Gamma(q)}{(p+q)\Gamma(p+q)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{B(p,q+1)}{q} = \frac{\Gamma(p)\Gamma(q)}{(p+q)\Gamma(p+q)} = \frac{B(p,q)}{(p+q)} \text{ -----(1)}$$

Again

$$B(p + 1, q) = \frac{\Gamma(p+1)\Gamma(q)}{\Gamma(p+q+1)} = \frac{p\Gamma(p)\Gamma(q)}{(p+q)\Gamma(p+q)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{B(p+1,q)}{p} = \frac{\Gamma(p)\Gamma(q)}{(p+q)\Gamma(p+q)} = \frac{B(p,q)}{(p+q)} \text{ -----(2)}$$

From (1) and (2) we get

$$\frac{B(p,q+1)}{q} = \frac{B(p+1,q)}{p} = \frac{B(p,q)}{p+q} \text{ proved}$$

Prove that $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^p \theta \cos^q \theta d\theta = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{p+1}{2})\Gamma(\frac{q+1}{2})}{2\Gamma(\frac{p+q+2}{2})}$

Proof:

We have

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

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

Put $2m - 1 = p$ and $2n - 1 = q$

$$\therefore m = \frac{p+1}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad n = \frac{q+1}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^p \theta \cos^q \theta d\theta &= \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{p+1}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{q+1}{2}\right)}{2 \Gamma\left(\frac{p+1}{2} + \frac{q+1}{2}\right)} \\ &= \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{p+1}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{q+1}{2}\right)}{2 \Gamma\left(\frac{p+q+2}{2}\right)} \end{aligned}$$

Example Evaluate: $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^4 \theta \cos^5 \theta d\theta$

Soln we know that $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^p \theta \cos^q \theta d\theta = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{p+1}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{q+1}{2}\right)}{2 \Gamma\left(\frac{p+q+2}{2}\right)}$

Put $p = 4$ and $q = 5$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^4 \theta \cos^5 \theta d\theta &= \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{4+1}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{5+1}{2}\right)}{2 \Gamma\left(\frac{4+5+2}{2}\right)} \\ &= \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) \Gamma(3)}{2 \Gamma\left(\frac{11}{2}\right)} = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) 2}{2 \frac{9}{2} \frac{7}{2} \frac{5}{2} \Gamma\left(\frac{5}{2}\right)} = \frac{8}{9 \cdot 7 \cdot 5} = \frac{8}{315} \end{aligned}$$

Example Evaluate: $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^5 \theta d\theta$

Soln we know that $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^p \theta \cos^q \theta d\theta = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{p+1}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{q+1}{2}\right)}{2 \Gamma\left(\frac{p+q+2}{2}\right)}$

Put $p = 5$ and $q = 0$, we get

$$\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^4 \theta d\theta = \frac{\Gamma(3)\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})}{2\Gamma(\frac{7}{2})} = \frac{2\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})}{2\frac{5}{2}\frac{3}{2}\frac{1}{2}\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})} = \frac{8}{15}$$

Example Evaluate: $\int_0^{\pi} x \cos^4 x dx$

Soln: Let

$$I = \int_0^{\pi} x \cos^4 x dx = \int_0^{\pi} (\pi - x) \cos^4(\pi - x) dx$$

$$= \int_0^{\pi} \pi \cos^4 x dx - \int_0^{\pi} x \cos^4 x dx$$

$$= \int_0^{\pi} \pi \cos^4 x dx - I$$

$$\Rightarrow 2I = \int_0^{\pi} \pi \cos^4 x dx = \pi \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) \Gamma(\frac{5}{2})}{2 \Gamma(\frac{6}{2})} = \pi \frac{\frac{3}{2} \frac{1}{2} \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2})}{2 \cdot \Gamma(3)}$$

$$\therefore I = \frac{3\pi\sqrt{\pi}\sqrt{\pi}}{16} = \frac{3\pi^2}{16}$$

Evaluate $\int_0^1 x^3(1-x^2)^{\frac{5}{2}}dx$

Soln:

$$I = \int_0^1 x^3(1-x^2)^{\frac{5}{2}}dx$$

$$\text{Put } x = \sin \theta \quad dx = \cos \theta d\theta$$

When $x = 0$ then $\theta = 0$ and $x = 1$ then $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$

$$\therefore I = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^3 \theta \cos^6 \theta d\theta = \frac{\Gamma(2) \Gamma(\frac{7}{2})}{2 \Gamma(\frac{3+6+2}{2})} = \frac{2 \Gamma(\frac{7}{2})}{2 \frac{9}{2} \Gamma(\frac{7}{2})} = \frac{4}{63}$$

Evaluate $\int_0^1 \frac{x dx}{\sqrt{1-x^5}}$

Soln: $I = \int_0^1 \frac{x dx}{\sqrt{1-x^5}}$

$$\text{Put } x^5 = \sin^2 \theta \quad x = \sin^{\frac{2}{5}} \theta \quad dx = \frac{2}{5} \sin^{-\frac{3}{5}} \theta \cos \theta d\theta$$

$$I = \frac{2}{5} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\sin^{\frac{2}{5}} \theta \sin^{-\frac{3}{5}} \theta \cos \theta d\theta}{\cos \theta} = \frac{2}{5} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^{-\frac{1}{5}} \theta d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{5} 2 \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^{2\frac{2}{5}-1} \theta \cos^{2\frac{1}{2}-1} \theta d\theta = \frac{1}{5} B\left(\frac{2}{5}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{5} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{2}{5}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{9}{10}\right)}$$

Evaluate $\int_0^1 \frac{x^4}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx, \quad x = \sin \theta$

Soln: $I = \int_0^1 \frac{x^4 dx}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$

Put $x = \sin \theta$, $dx = \cos \theta d\theta$

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

$$= \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{2 \Gamma(3)} = \frac{\frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{2 \Gamma(3)} = \frac{3\pi}{16}$$