

We will solve the famous Dirichlet integral:

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{\sin \lambda}{\lambda} d\lambda$$

You may assume the Dirichlet integral converges. Proving it converges is a whole other matter.

1. Verify that:

$$\int_0^{\infty} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx = 1$$

for all  $\lambda > 0$ . The function  $\lambda e^{-\lambda x}$  is the exponential distribution and appears a lot in probability.

2. Observe that we have:

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{\sin \lambda}{\lambda} d\lambda = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\sin \lambda}{\lambda} \left( \int_0^{\infty} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx \right) d\lambda = \int_0^{\infty} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\lambda x} \sin \lambda d\lambda dx$$

Using integration by parts twice, evaluate:

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-\lambda x} \sin \lambda d\lambda$$

Your answer will be in terms of  $x$ .

3. Hence find the value of the Dirichlet integral.
4. Go online and find the Laplace transform of  $\sin x$ . What do you notice?
5. We know that  $e^{i\lambda} = \cos \lambda + i \sin \lambda$  for  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ . It may be tempting to consider the following argument, similar to before:

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{e^{i\lambda}}{\lambda} d\lambda = \int_0^{\infty} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{e^{i\lambda}}{\lambda} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} d\lambda dx = \int_0^{\infty} \int_0^{\infty} e^{i\lambda} e^{-\lambda x} d\lambda dx$$

But in fact, all this is rather illegal since you do not know if  $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{e^{i\lambda}}{\lambda} d\lambda$  converges (it does not) and you cannot just treat  $i$  like any other real number here. It is true that considering  $e^{i\lambda}$  would make our life easier and it would avoid integration by parts and all that stuff. But what we *would* need to do is to integrate in the complex plane in order for our manipulations to be legal.