

Walles formula

Statement: If n is a positive integer then

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^n x \, dx = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \cos^n x \, dx \\ &= \frac{(n-1)(n-3)(n-5)\dots\dots\dots 5.3.1}{n(n-2)(n-4)\dots\dots\dots 6.4.2} \times \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \text{when } n \text{ is even} \\ &= \frac{(n-1)(n-3)(n-5)\dots\dots\dots 6.4.2}{n(n-2)(n-4)\dots\dots\dots 5.3.1} \quad \text{when } n \text{ is odd} \end{aligned}$$

Problem: Find the value by using wallis formula:

i) $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^7 x \, dx$ ii) $\int_0^{\pi} \sin^9 x \, dx$ iii) $\int_0^{\pi} \sin^8 x \, dx$ iv) $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \cos^6 x \, dx$
v) $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \cos^7 x \, dx$.

Solved – (i): Let,

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^7 x \, dx \quad \text{Here, } n = 7 \text{ which is odd} \\ \text{so, } I &= \frac{(7-1)(7-3)(7-5)}{7(7-2)(7-4)(7-6)} \\ &= \frac{48}{105} \\ &= \frac{16}{35} \end{aligned}$$

Solved – (ii): Let, $I = \int_0^{\pi} \sin^9 x \, dx$

$$= 2 \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^9 x \, dx$$

Here, $n = 9$ which is odd

$$\begin{aligned} \text{so, } I &= 2 \frac{(9-1)(9-3)(9-5)(9-7)}{9(9-2)(9-4)(9-6)(9-8)} \\ &= 2 \frac{348}{945} = \frac{256}{215} \end{aligned}$$

Solved – (iii): Let, $I = \int_0^{\pi} \sin^8 x \, dx$

$$= 2 \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^8 x \, dx$$

Here, $n = 8$ which is even number

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{so, } I &= 2 \times \frac{(8-1)(8-3)(8-5)(8-7)}{8(8-2)(8-4)(8-6)} \times \frac{\pi}{2} \\
 &= 2 \times \frac{7.5.3.1}{8.6.4.2} \times \frac{\pi}{2} \\
 &= \frac{35\pi}{128}
 \end{aligned}$$

Solved – (iv): Let, $I = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \cos^7 x \, dx$

Here, $n = 7$ which is odd

$$\text{so, } I = \frac{(7-1)(7-3)(7-5)}{7(7-2)(7-4)(7-6)} = \frac{48}{105} = \frac{16}{35}.$$

Gamma and Beta function:

Beta Function: An integral $\int_0^1 x^{m-1}(1-x)^{n-1}dx$, where $m > 0, n > 0$ is called *beta function* and is denoted by $\beta(m, n)$.

Gamma Function: An integral $\int_0^\infty e^{-x}x^{n-1}dx$, where $n > 0$ is called *gamma function* and is denoted by Γn .

Problem-1: Show that,

$$(i) \int_0^\infty e^{-y^{\frac{1}{n}}} dy = \Gamma(n+1); \quad (ii) \beta(m, n) = \beta(n, m)$$

Solved – (i):

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{L.H.S, } I &= \int_0^\infty e^{-y^{\frac{1}{n}}} dy \\
 &= \int_0^\infty e^{-x} nx^{n-1} dx \\
 &= n \int_0^\infty e^{-x} x^{n-1} dx \\
 &= n\Gamma n
 \end{aligned}$$

Let, $y^{\frac{1}{n}} = x$ $\Rightarrow y = x^n$ $\Rightarrow dy = nx^{n-1} dx$		
x	0	∞
y	0	∞

$$\therefore \int_0^\infty e^{-y^{\frac{1}{n}}} dy = \Gamma(n+1) \quad (\text{Showed})$$

Solved – (ii):

We know,

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

Let, $1-x=y$ $\Rightarrow 0-dx=dy$ $\Rightarrow dx=-dy$		
x	0	1
y	1	0

$$\therefore \beta(m, n) = \beta(n, m) \quad (\text{Showed})$$

Problem -2: Show that,

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

Solved: We know,

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma m &= \int_0^\infty e^{-x} x^{m-1} dx \\ &= \int_1^\infty e^{-\lambda y} (\lambda y)^{m-1} \lambda dy \\ &= \int_1^\infty e^{-\lambda y} \lambda^{m-1} y^{m-1} \lambda dy \\ &= \int_1^\infty e^{-\lambda y} y^{m-1} \lambda^m \lambda dy \quad \dots\dots(i)\end{aligned}$$

Let, $x=\lambda y$ $\Rightarrow dx=\lambda dy$		
x	0	∞
y	1	∞

$$\text{again, } \Gamma n = \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda} \lambda^{n-1} d\lambda \quad \dots\dots(ii)$$

Multiplying (i) and (ii) we get,

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma m \Gamma n &= \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda y} e^{-\lambda} y^{m-1} \lambda^{n-1} \lambda^m d\lambda dy \\ &= \int_0^\infty \left[\int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda(1+y)} \lambda^{m+n-1} d\lambda \right] y^{m-1} dy \\ &= \int_0^\infty \frac{\Gamma(m+n)}{(y+1)^{m+n}} y^{m-1} dy \\ &= \Gamma(m+n) \int_0^\infty \frac{y^{m-1}}{(y+1)^{m+n}} dy\end{aligned}$$

$$\Gamma m \Gamma n = \Gamma(m+n) \cdot \beta(m, n)$$

$$\therefore \beta(m, n) = \frac{\Gamma m \Gamma n}{\Gamma(m+n)} \text{ (Showed).}$$

Problem-3: Show that,

$$\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^p \theta \cos^q \theta d\theta = \frac{\Gamma \frac{p+1}{2} \Gamma \frac{q+1}{2}}{2 \Gamma \frac{p+q+2}{2}}.$$

Solved:

We know,

$$\begin{aligned} \beta(m, n) &= \int_0^1 x^{m-1} (1-x)^{n-1} dx \\ &= \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} (\sin^2 \theta)^{m-1} (1 - \sin^2 \theta)^{n-1} 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta = \\ &= 2 \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^{2m-2} \theta \cos^{2n-2} \theta \sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta \end{aligned}$$

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

$$\text{Again, } 2m-1 = p \quad 2n-1 = q$$

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

Therefore,

$$\beta\left(\frac{p+1}{2}, \frac{q+1}{2}\right) = 2 \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^p \theta \cos^q \theta d\theta$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^p \theta \cos^q \theta d\theta = \frac{1}{2} \beta\left(\frac{p+1}{2}, \frac{q+1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{p+1}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{q+1}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{p+1}{2} + \frac{q+1}{2}\right)}$$

$$\therefore \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^p \theta \cos^q \theta d\theta = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{p+1}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{q+1}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{p+q+2}{2}\right)}. \text{ (Showed).}$$

Problem-4: Show that, $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^p \theta d\theta = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \cos^q \theta d\theta = \frac{1}{2} \beta\left(\frac{p+1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \beta\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{p+1}{2}\right) = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{p+1}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{2 \Gamma\left(\frac{p+2}{2}\right)}, \text{ where } p > -1.$$

Let, $x = \sin^2 \theta$ $\Rightarrow dx = 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta$		
x	0	1
y	0	$\pi/2$

Solve: We know,

$$\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^p \theta \cos^q \theta d\theta = \frac{1}{2} \beta\left(\frac{p+1}{2}, \frac{q+1}{2}\right) \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

Putting $q = 0$, then we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^p \theta d\theta &= \frac{1}{2} \beta\left(\frac{p+1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) \dots\dots\dots(2) \\ \Rightarrow \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^p \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right) d\theta &= \frac{1}{2} \beta\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{p+1}{2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

[Since, $\int_0^a f(x)dx = \int_0^a f(a-x)dx$ and $\beta(m,n) = \beta(n,m)$]

$$\Rightarrow \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \cos^p \theta d\theta = \frac{1}{2} \beta\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{p+1}{2}\right) \dots\dots\dots(3)$$

$$\text{Again, } \frac{1}{2} \beta\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{p+1}{2}\right) = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{p+1}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{2\Gamma\left(\frac{p+2}{2}\right)} \dots\dots\dots(4)$$

From (2), (3) & (4) we get,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^p \theta d\theta &= \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \cos^q \theta d\theta = \frac{1}{2} \beta\left(\frac{p+1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \beta\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{p+1}{2}\right) = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{p+1}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{2\Gamma\left(\frac{p+2}{2}\right)}, \text{ where } p > -1. \text{ (showed)} \end{aligned}$$

Problem-5: Show that, $\Gamma\frac{1}{2} = \sqrt{\pi}$

Solved:

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

$$\begin{aligned} \beta\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) &= \int_0^1 x^{\frac{1}{2}-1}(1-x)^{\frac{1}{2}-1}dx \\ &= \int_0^1 x^{-\frac{1}{2}}(1-x)^{-\frac{1}{2}}dx \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}\sqrt{1-x}}dx \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{x(1-x)}}dx \end{aligned}$$

Let, $1-x = y$ $\Rightarrow dx = -dy$		
x	0	1
y	1	0

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \int_0^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x-x^2)}} dx \\
&= \int_0^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 - \left(x-\frac{1}{2}\right)^2}} dx \\
&= \left[\sin^{-1} \left(\frac{x-\frac{1}{2}}{\frac{1}{2}} \right) \right]_0^1 \\
&= \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{1-\frac{1}{2}}{\frac{1}{2}} \right) - \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{0-\frac{1}{2}}{\frac{1}{2}} \right) \\
&= \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{\frac{1}{2}}{\frac{1}{2}} \right) - \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{-\frac{1}{2}}{\frac{1}{2}} \right) \\
&= \sin^{-1}(1) - \sin^{-1}(-1) \\
&= \sin^{-1}(1) + \sin^{-1}(1) \\
&= 2\sin^{-1}(1) \\
&= 2 \times \frac{\pi}{2} \\
&\Rightarrow \beta \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right) = \pi \\
&\Rightarrow \frac{\Gamma_{\frac{1}{2}} \Gamma_{\frac{1}{2}}}{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{2}\right)} = \pi \\
&\Rightarrow \frac{\left(\Gamma_{\frac{1}{2}}\right)^2}{\Gamma_1} = \pi; \\
&\Rightarrow \left(\Gamma_{\frac{1}{2}}\right)^2 = \pi \quad [\because \Gamma_1 = 1] \\
&\therefore \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \sqrt{\pi}, \text{ (Hence proved).}
\end{aligned}$$

Problem-6: Find the value,

$$(i) \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) \quad (ii) \Gamma\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) \quad (iii) \Gamma\left(\frac{7}{2}\right) \quad (iv) \Gamma\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) \quad (v) \Gamma\left(-\frac{3}{2}\right)$$

Solution: We know, $\Gamma(n+1) = n\Gamma n$

$$(i) \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) = \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2} + 1\right) = \frac{1}{2} \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi} \quad \left[\because \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \sqrt{\pi}\right]$$

$$(ii) \Gamma\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) = \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{2} + 1\right) = \frac{3}{2} \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) = \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi} = \frac{3\sqrt{\pi}}{4}.$$

$$(ii) \Gamma\left(\frac{7}{2}\right) = \Gamma\left(\frac{5}{2} + 1\right) = \frac{5}{2} \Gamma\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) = \frac{5}{2} \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi} = \frac{15\sqrt{\pi}}{8}.$$

$$\text{Again, } \Gamma n = \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{n}$$

$$(iv) \Gamma\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{\Gamma\left(-\frac{1}{2}+1\right)}{-\frac{1}{2}} = \left(-\frac{2}{1}\right) \sqrt{\pi} = -2\sqrt{\pi}.$$

$$(v) \Gamma\left(-\frac{3}{2}\right) = \frac{\Gamma\left(-\frac{3}{2}+1\right)}{-\frac{3}{2}} = \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) \Gamma\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) = \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) (-2\sqrt{\pi}) = \frac{4\sqrt{\pi}}{3}.$$