

**Theorem 0.1.**

$$G = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} dx = \sqrt{2\pi}$$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} G^2 &= \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} dx \right) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}y^2} dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^2+y^2)} dx dy \end{aligned}$$

Substitute  $r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ ,  $r \sin \theta = y$ ,  $r \cos \theta = x$ , hence  $dx dy = r dr d\theta$

$$\begin{aligned} G^2 &= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}r^2} r dr d\theta \\ &= \left[ \theta \int_0^{\infty} r e^{-\frac{1}{2}r^2} dr \right]_{\theta=0}^{\theta=2\pi} \\ &= 2\pi \left[ -e^{-\frac{1}{2}r^2} \right]_0^{\infty} \\ &= 2\pi \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $G = \sqrt{2\pi}$

□

**Theorem 0.2.** For  $a^2$  real and positive.

$$I = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-a^2 x^2 + bx + c} dx = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{a} e^{c + \frac{b^2}{4a^2}}$$

*Proof.* First, “complete the square” in the exponent by defining  $r$ ,  $s$  and  $t$  by the equation:

$$-a^2 x^2 + bx + c = -\frac{(rx + s)^2}{2} + t$$

This gives us:

$$\begin{aligned} -r^2 &= -2a^2 & \Rightarrow r &= a\sqrt{2} \\ -rs &= b & \Rightarrow s &= \frac{-b}{a\sqrt{2}} \\ t - \frac{s^2}{2} &= c & \Rightarrow t &= \frac{b^2}{4a^2} \end{aligned}$$

Using the completed square in the integral  $I$ :

$$I = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{(rx+s)^2}{2} + t} dx \tag{1}$$

$$= e^t \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{(rx+s)^2}{2}} dx \tag{2}$$

By assumption  $a$  is real and positive, hence  $r$  is also real and positive. We can therefore substitute  $y = rx + s$  without changing the limits of the integration. With this substitution  $\frac{dy}{r} = dx$ .

$$= e^t \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{y^2}{2}} \frac{dy}{r} \quad (3)$$

$$= \frac{e^t}{r} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{y^2}{2}} dy \quad (4)$$

Applying theorem 0.1 we have

$$= \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{r} e^t \quad (5)$$

Substituting in for  $r$  and  $t$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{a} e^{c + \frac{b^2}{4a^2}} \quad (6)$$

□