



relative of cosine integral

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| Related topic | EulersConstant |
| Related topic | RelativeOfExponentialIntegral |
| Related topic | IntegrationOfLaplaceTransformWithRespectToParameter |

For determining of the value of the improper integral

$$I(a) := \int_0^\infty \frac{\cos ax^2 - \cos ax}{x} dx \quad (a > 0),$$

related to the cosine integral, we think it as a function of the parametre a which we denote by t . Then we can take the Laplace transform (see the integration with respect to a parametre in the table of Laplace transforms):

$$\mathcal{L}\{I(t)\} = \mathcal{L}\left\{\int_0^\infty (\cos tx^2 - \cos tx) \frac{dx}{x}\right\} = \int_0^\infty \left(\frac{s}{s^2+x^4} - \frac{s}{s^2+x^2}\right) \frac{dx}{x}$$

Splitting the fractional expressions to <http://planetmath.org/node/5812> partial fractions and integrating give

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}\{I(t)\} &= \frac{1}{s} \int_0^\infty \left(\frac{1}{x} - \frac{x^3}{s^2+x^4} - \frac{1}{x} + \frac{x}{s^2+x^2} \right) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{s} \int_{x=0}^\infty \left[\frac{1}{2} \ln(s^2+x^2) - \frac{1}{4} \ln(s^2+x^4) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \int_{x=0}^\infty \ln \frac{(s^2+x^2)^2}{s^2+x^4} = -\frac{\ln s}{2s}. \end{aligned}$$

As seen in the <http://planetmath.org/node/10588> table of Laplace transforms, the gotten expression is the Laplace transform of $\frac{\gamma + \ln t}{2} = I(t)$ (N.B. $\mathcal{L}\{1\} = \frac{1}{s}$), and thus we have the result

$$I(a) = \frac{\gamma + \ln a}{2}.$$