

One example of integral

We consider

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp \left[-\frac{x^4}{4} + \frac{x}{\nu} \right] dx .$$

(this integral is from witten paper....)

We have for the exponent:

$$F(x) = -\frac{x^4}{4} + \frac{x}{\nu}, \quad F'(x) = -x^3 + \frac{1}{\nu}, \quad F''(x) = -3x^2, \quad F'''(x) = -6x, \quad F''''(x) = -6, ,$$

the stationary point $x_0 = \nu^{-1/3}$ and

$$F(x) = \frac{3}{4}\nu^{-4/3} - \frac{3}{2}\nu^{-2/3} \left(x - \nu^{-1/3} \right)^2 - \nu^{-1/3} \left(x - \nu^{-1/3} \right)^3 - \frac{1}{4} \left(x - \nu^{-1/3} \right)^4 .$$

Thus we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp \left[-\frac{x^4}{4} + \frac{x}{\nu} \right] dx &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp [F(x)] dx = \\ &\exp \left[\frac{3}{4}\nu^{-4/3} \right] \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp \left[-\frac{3}{2}\nu^{-2/3} \left(x - \nu^{-1/3} \right)^2 \right] f_{\nu}(x) dx , \end{aligned}$$

where

$$f_{\nu}(x) = \exp \left[-\nu^{-1/3} \left(x - \nu^{-1/3} \right)^3 - \frac{1}{4} \left(x - \nu^{-1/3} \right)^4 \right] .$$

Doing translation we will come to

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp \left[-\frac{x^4}{4} + \frac{x}{\nu} \right] dx = \exp \left[\frac{3}{4}\nu^{-4/3} \right] \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp \left[-\frac{3}{2}\nu^{-2/3} x^2 \right] \exp \left[-\nu^{-1/3} x^3 - \frac{1}{4} x^4 \right] dx$$

On the other hand we know that

$$\int \exp \left[-\frac{x^2}{h} \right] f(x) dx = C_h \exp \left[h \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \right] f(x) \Big|_{x=0}$$

prove this formula and calculate C_h . Consider

$$I_n(h) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp \left[-\frac{x^2}{h} \right] x^{2n} dx .$$

(This integral vanishes if $2n \rightarrow 2n + 1$.) We have

$$\begin{aligned} I_n(h) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp \left[-\frac{x^2}{h} \right] x^{2n} dx = (x^2 = hz) = 2 \int_0^{\infty} \exp [-z] h^n z^n d \left(\sqrt{h} d\sqrt{z} \right) = \\ h^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \int_0^{\infty} \exp [-z] z^{n-\frac{1}{2}} dz &= h^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \Gamma \left(n + \frac{1}{2} \right) = \sqrt{h} \frac{\left(\frac{h}{4} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \right)^n}{n!} x^{2n} = \sqrt{h} \exp \left[\frac{h}{4} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \right] x^{2n} \Big|_{x=0} \end{aligned}$$