

BETA & GAMMA FUNCTIONS

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- The Gamma function was first introduced by Swiss mathematician **Leonhard Euler**(1707-1783).

- Definition:

Let n be any positive number. Then the definite integral $\int_0^{\infty} e^{-x} x^{n-1} dx$ is called gamma function of n which is denoted by Γn and it is defined as

$$\Gamma(n) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-x} x^{n-1} dx, n > 0$$

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$$(5) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \sqrt{\pi}$$

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Exercise

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- Definition:

The Beta function denoted by $\beta(m, n)$ or $B(m, n)$ is defined as

$$B(m, n) = \int_0^1 x^{m-1}(1-x)^{n-1}dx, (m > 0, n > 0)$$

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$$(4) \quad B(m, n) = \int_0^1 \frac{x^{m-1} + x^{n-1}}{(1+x)^{m+n}} dx$$

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

Ex. Prove that $\int_0^\infty \frac{x^{m-1}}{(a+bx)^{m+n}} dx = \frac{\beta(m,n)}{a^n b^m}$

Relation between Beta and Gamma functions

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

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

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Ex. Prove that: $B(m, n) = B(m, n+1) + B(m+1, n)$