

BETA AND GAMMA FUNCTIONS

§ 4.1. Gamma Functions

We define Gamma functions $\Gamma(n)$ (read as Gamma n) by the integral

$$\Gamma(n) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} t^{n-1} dt, \quad n > 0$$

These are also known as Eulerian Integrals of second kind after the Mathematician Euler who introduced them in 1729.

§ 4.2. An Important Property.

To prove that $\Gamma(n+1) = n\Gamma(n)$ for all values of n .

(Gorakhpur 83, 2006, 13)

We have $\Gamma(n) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} t^{n-1} dt$

Integrating by parts taking t^{n-1} as first function, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(n) &= \int_0^{\infty} \left\{ -e^{-t} t^{n-1} \right\} - \int_0^{\infty} (n-1) t^{n-2} (-e^{-t}) dt \\ &= 0 + (n-1) \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} t^{n-2} dt \\ &= (n-1) \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} t^{n-2} dt \\ &= (n-1) \Gamma(n-1) \end{aligned}$$

replacing n by $(n+1)$, we get

$$\Gamma(n+1) = n\Gamma(n) \text{ as required.}$$

Cor I. $\Gamma(1) = 1$

by definition

$$\Gamma(1) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} t^{-1} dt$$

$$= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} dt = \left[-e^{-t} \right]_0^{\infty}$$

$$\Gamma(1) = 1$$

Cor II. If n is a positive integral $\Gamma(n+1) = n!$.

We know that $\Gamma(n+1) = n \Gamma(n)$ for all $n > 0$, applying this result successively for positive integer n , we have

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma(n+1) &= n(n-1)(n-2)\dots\dots\dots 3.2.1 \Gamma(1) \\ &= n! \text{ as } \Gamma(1) = 1.\end{aligned}$$

Cor III. $\Gamma(0) = \infty$

Proof. : By the recurrence formula for Gamma function, we have

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

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Putting } n = 0 \text{ in this, we obtain } \Gamma(0) &= \frac{\Gamma(1)}{0} \\ &= \frac{1}{0} = \infty\end{aligned}$$

Cor IV. $\Gamma(n) = \infty$, where n is a negative integer.

Prof. Let $n = -p$, where p is a +ve integer then by $\Gamma(n) = \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{n}$, we obtain

$$\Gamma(-p) = \frac{\Gamma(-p+1)}{-p} = \frac{\Gamma(-p)}{-p} = \infty$$

(by using $(-P)! = \infty$)

$$\text{We know that } {}^n P_r = \frac{n!}{n-r!} \quad \dots(1)$$

$$\text{Putting } n = 0 \text{ in (1) we obtain } {}^0 P_r = \frac{0!}{r!}$$

$$\text{But } {}^n P_r = n(n-1)\dots(n-r+1)$$

$$\text{So that } {}^0 P_r = 0$$

$$\text{Hence we have } 0 = \frac{0!}{(-r)!} \quad \dots(2)$$

Now putting $r = n$ in (1), we obtain

$${}^n P_n = \frac{n!}{(n-n)!} = \frac{n!}{0!}$$

$$\text{or } n! = \frac{n!}{0!} \text{ (by using } {}^n P_n = n(n-1)(n-2)\dots 3.2.1 = n!) \text{}$$

$$\text{or } n! = \frac{n!}{1} = n! \text{ i.e. } 0! = 1 \quad \dots(3)$$

Putting $0! = 1$ in (2), we obtain

$$0 = \frac{1}{(-r)!} \text{ which gives}$$

$$(-r)! = \frac{1}{0} = \infty \quad \dots(4)$$

§ 4.3. Transformation of Gamma Functions.

We have $\Gamma(n) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} t^{n-1} dt$... (1)

I. Put $t = \lambda x$; so that $dt = \lambda dx$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \Gamma(n) &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\lambda x} (\lambda x)^{n-1} \lambda dx \\ &= \lambda^n \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\lambda x} x^{n-1} dx \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\lambda x} x^{n-1} dx = \lambda^{-n} \Gamma(n). \quad (\text{Gorakhpur 82})$$

II. Put $t^n = x$ in (1) so that $nt^{n-1} dt = dx$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \Gamma(n) &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-x^{1/n}} \left(\frac{1}{n} dx\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-x^{1/n}} dx \end{aligned}$$

or $\int_0^{\infty} e^{-x^{1/n}} dx = n \Gamma n$

III. In (1) put $e^{-t} = x$; so that $-e^{-t} dt = dx$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \Gamma(n) &= \int_1^0 \{-\log x\}^{n-1} (-dx) \\ &= (-1)^{n-1} \int_0^1 (\log x)^{n-1} dx \end{aligned}$$

or $\Gamma(n) = (-1)^{n-1} \int_0^1 (\log x)^{n-1} dx = \int_0^1 \left(\log \frac{1}{x}\right)^{n-1} dx$

§ 4.4. Product of two Integrals.

We shall prove that,

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \times \int_a^b g(y) dy = \int_a^b \int_c^d f(x) g(y) dx dy.$$

Proof. Let us suppose that $\int g(y) dy = G(y)$

then $\int_a^b \int_c^d f(x) g(y) dx dy = \int_a^b f(x) [G(y)]_c^d dx$

$$= \int_a^b f(x) [G(d) - G(c)] dx$$

$$= \int_a^b f(x) dx \times \{G(d) - G(c)\}$$

$$= \int_a^b f(x) dx \times \int_c^d g(y) dy \quad \text{Hence proved.}$$

§ 4.5. Value of $\Gamma(1/2)$.

(Purvanchal 90, 97)

We know that $\Gamma(n) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} t^{n-1} dt$

If we take $n = 1/2$, we get

$$\Gamma(1/2) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} t^{-1/2} dt$$

putting $t = x^2$ or $t^{1/2} = x$
so that $t^{-1/2} dt = 2 dx$

$$\Gamma(1/2) = 2 \int_0^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx \quad \dots(1)$$

$$= 2 \int_0^{\infty} e^{-y^2} dy \quad \dots(2)$$

Property 1 of definite integrals

Multiplying (1) and (2) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \left\{ \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \right\}^2 &= 4 \int_0^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx \times \int_0^{\infty} e^{-y^2} dy \\ &= 4 \int_0^{\infty} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-(x^2+y^2)} dx dy \quad \text{from article 4.4.} \end{aligned}$$

On transposing to polars, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \left\{ \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \right\}^2 &= 4 \int_0^{\pi/2} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-r^2} r dr d\theta \\ &= -2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \left[e^{-r^2} \right]_0^{\infty} d\theta = 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} d\theta \\ &= 2 (\theta)_0^{\pi/2} = \pi \quad \therefore \Gamma(1/2) = \sqrt{\pi}. \end{aligned}$$

Remark. If n is positive integer than the formula $\Gamma(m+1) = m\Gamma(m)$ and $\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \sqrt{\pi}$ gives the formula

$$\Gamma\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) = \left(n - \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(n - \frac{3}{2}\right) \dots \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi}$$

In particular $\Gamma\left(\frac{7}{2}\right) = \frac{5}{2} \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi}$

§ 4.6. Beta functions.

Beta functions are denoted by $B(m, n)$, read as Beta m, n and is defined by the integral

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

These are also known as the Eulerian integral of first kind.

§ 4.7. Properties of Beta Functions

(a) Symmetry property of Beta functions.

Here we shall prove the $B(m, n) = B(n, m)$. (Gorakhpur 80, 2011)

Proof. $B(m, n) = \int_0^1 x^{m-1} (1-x)^{n-1} dx$ from definition.

Putting $x = 1 - y$, we get

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

Proved.

(b) $\beta(m, n) = \beta(m+1, n) + \beta(m, n+1)$

(GKP 2017)

Proof. Since $\beta(m, n) = \int_0^1 x^{m-1} (1-x)^{n-1} dx$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int_0^1 x^{m-1} (1-x)^{n-1} [x + (1-x)] dx \\ &= \int_0^1 [x^m (1-x)^{n-1} + x^{m-1} (1-x)^n] dx \\ &= \int_0^1 x^m (1-x)^{n-1} dx + \int_0^1 x^{m-1} (1-x)^n dx \\ &= \beta(m+1, n) + \beta(m, n+1) \end{aligned}$$

(c) $\frac{\beta(m, n+1)}{n} = \frac{\beta(m+1, n)}{m} = \frac{\beta(m, n)}{m+n}$

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\beta(m, n+1)}{n} &= \frac{\int_0^1 x^{m-1} (1-x)^n dx}{n} = \frac{\int_0^1 x^{m-1} (1-x)^n dx}{n(m+n) \int_0^1 x^{m-1} (1-x)^n dx} \\ &= \frac{\int_0^1 x^{m-1} (1-x)^n dx}{(m+n) \int_0^1 x^{m-1} (1-x)^n dx} = \frac{\beta(m, n)}{m+n} \end{aligned}$$

Hence, $\frac{\beta(m, n+1)}{n} = \frac{\beta(m, n)}{m+n}$

Similarly, $\frac{\beta(m+1, n)}{m} = \frac{\beta(m, n)}{m+n}$

§ 4.8. An useful transformation.

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

Putting $x = \frac{1}{1+y}$; so that $dx = -\frac{1}{(1+y)^2}$

and

$$1-x = \frac{y}{1+y}, \text{ we get}$$

$$B(m, n) = - \int_{\infty}^0 \left(\frac{1}{1+y}\right)^{m-1} \left(\frac{y}{1+y}\right)^{n-1} \frac{dy}{(1+y)^2}$$

$$= \int_0^{\infty} \frac{y^{n-1} dy}{(1+y)^{m+n}} \quad \dots(2)$$

(Gorakhpur 81)

Remark 1. Since $B(m, n) = B(n, m)$ hence by interchanging m and n in (2), we have

$$B(m, n) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{y^{m-1} dy}{(1+y)^{m+n}} \quad \dots(3)$$

Remark 2. Relation (2) or (3) provide alternative definitions of Beta functions.

4.9. Relation between Beta and Gamma functions.

$$\text{To prove that } B(m, n) = \frac{\Gamma(m) \Gamma(n)}{\Gamma(m+n)}$$

(Gorakhpur 87, 98, 2003, 04, 10; Purv. 96 98)

$$\text{We know that } \frac{\Gamma(n)}{z^n} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-zt} t^{n-1} dt \quad \dots(1)$$

where z is a constant

$$\therefore \Gamma(n) = \int_0^{\infty} z^n e^{-zt} t^{n-1} dt$$

Multiplying both sides by $e^{-z} z^{m-1}$, we get

$$\Gamma(n) e^{-z} z^{m-1} = \int_0^{\infty} z^{(n+m-1)} e^{-z(t+1)} t^{n-1} dt$$

Now integrating both sides with respect to z within the limits 0 and ∞ and using the definition

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-z} z^{m-1} dz = \Gamma(m), \text{ we have}$$

$$\Gamma(n) \Gamma(m) = \int_0^{\infty} \left[\int_0^{\infty} e^{-z(t+1)} z^{(m+n-1)} dz \right] t^{n-1} dt \quad \dots(2)$$

$$\text{But } \int_0^{\infty} e^{-z(t+1)} z^{m+n-1} dz = \frac{\Gamma(m+n)}{(1+t)^{m+n}} \quad (\text{See } \S 4.3)$$

Therefore from (2), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(m) \Gamma(n) &= \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\Gamma(m+n) t^{n-1} dt}{(1+t)^{m+n}} \\ &= \Gamma(m+n) \int_0^{\infty} \frac{t^{n-1}}{(1+t)^{m+n}} dt \\ &= \Gamma(m+n) B(m, n) \end{aligned}$$

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

§ 4.10. Reflection Formula for Gamma Function

This is also known as Complement formula given by

$$\Gamma(\bar{n}) \Gamma(1-n) = \frac{\pi}{\sin n\pi} \text{ where } 0 < n < 1.$$

Proof. : Since $\beta(m, n) = \frac{\Gamma(m) \Gamma(n)}{\Gamma(m+n)}$

$$\text{and where } \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{n-1}}{(1+x)^{m+n}} = \frac{\Gamma(m) \Gamma(n)}{\Gamma(m+n)}$$

Putting $m+n=1$ so that $m=1-n$ and using the known result

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{x^{n-1}}{(1+x)} dx = \frac{\pi}{\sin n\pi}, \quad 0 < n < 1$$

we get $\frac{\pi}{\sin n\pi} = \frac{\Gamma(1-n) \Gamma(n)}{\Gamma(1)}$ which gives $\Gamma(\bar{n}) \Gamma(1-n) = \frac{\pi}{\sin n\pi}$

§ 4.11. Value of the integral $\int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{2m-1} \theta \cos^{2n-1} \theta d\theta$, for positive values of m and n . (Gorakhpur 84, 2016; Purvanchal 90)

From definition

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

Put $x = \sin^2 \theta$; so that $dx = 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta$.

$$\therefore B(m, n) = \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{2m-2} \theta \cos^{2n-2} \theta \cdot 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta$$

$$\frac{\Gamma(m) \Gamma(n)}{\Gamma(m+n)} = 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{2m-1} \theta \cos^{2n-1} \theta d\theta.$$

$$\text{Therefore } \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{2m-1} \theta \cos^{2n-1} \theta d\theta = \frac{\Gamma(m) \Gamma(n)}{2\Gamma(m+n)}.$$

Remark. Replacing $2m-1$ by m and $2n-1$ by n we get the alternative form of above result as

$$\int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^m \theta \cos^n \theta d\theta = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{m+1}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right)}{2\Gamma\left(\frac{m+n+2}{2}\right)}$$

§ 4.12. Walli's formula.

$$\int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^n x dx = \begin{cases} \frac{(n-1)(n-3)\dots\dots 4 \cdot 2}{n(n-2)\dots\dots 3 \cdot 1}, & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \\ \frac{(n-1)(n-3)\dots\dots 3 \cdot 1}{n(n-2)\dots\dots 4 \cdot 2} \frac{\pi}{2}, & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

Proof. If n is odd, we put $n = 2m + 1$, where $m = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Then } \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^n x \, dx &= \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{2m+1} x \cos^0 x \, dx \\
&= \frac{\Gamma(m+1) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{2\Gamma\left(\frac{2m+3}{2}\right)} \quad (\text{by art 4.10}) \\
&= \frac{m(m-1)(m-2) \dots 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \sqrt{\pi}}{2 \cdot \Gamma\left(m + \frac{3}{2}\right)} \\
&= \frac{m(m-1)(m-2) \dots 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \sqrt{\pi}}{2 \cdot \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(m - \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(m - \frac{3}{2}\right) \dots \frac{5}{2} \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi}} \\
&= \frac{2m(2m-2)(2m-4) \dots 6 \cdot 4 \cdot 2}{(2m+1)(2m-1)(2m-3) \dots 5 \cdot 3 \cdot 1} \\
&= \frac{(n-1)(n-3)(n-5) \dots 6 \cdot 4 \cdot 2}{n(n-2)(n-4) \dots 5 \cdot 3 \cdot 1}
\end{aligned}$$

If n is even, we put $n = 2m$ where m is positive integer. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^n x \, dx &= \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{2m} x \cos^0 x \, dx = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{2m+1}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{2\Gamma\left(\frac{2m+2}{2}\right)} \\
&= \frac{\Gamma\left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot \sqrt{\pi}}{2\Gamma(m+1)} \\
&= \frac{\left(m - \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(m - \frac{3}{2}\right) \dots \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi} \cdot \sqrt{\pi}}{2 \cdot m \cdot (m-1)(m-2) \dots 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} \\
&= \frac{(2m-1)(2m-3) \dots 3 \cdot 1 \cdot \pi}{2 \cdot 2m(2m-2)(2m-4) \dots 6 \cdot 4 \cdot 2} \\
&= \frac{(n-1)(n-3) \dots 3 \cdot 1}{n(n-2)(n-4) \dots 6 \cdot 4 \cdot 2} \cdot \frac{\pi}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

Example 1. Evaluate $\int_0^a x^2 (a^2 - x^2)^{3/2} dx$.

Sol. Put $x = a \sin \theta$, so that $dx = a \cos \theta \, d\theta$

$$\therefore \int_0^a x^2 (a^2 - x^2)^{3/2} dx = \int_0^{\pi/2} a^2 \sin^2 \theta a^3 \cos^3 \theta a \cos \theta \, d\theta$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= a^6 \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^2 \theta \cos^4 \theta d\theta \\
 &= \frac{a^6 \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{5}{2}\right)}{2\Gamma(4)} \\
 &= \frac{a^6 \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi} \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \sqrt{\pi}}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} = \frac{\pi a^6}{32}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 2. Show that $\int_0^{2a} x^3 (2ax - x^2)^{1/2} dx = \frac{7}{8} \pi a^5$.

Sol. Let $I = \int_0^{2a} x^3 (2ax - x^2)^{1/2} dx$
 $= \int_0^{2a} x^{7/2} (2a - x)^{1/2} dx$

Put $x = 2a \sin^2 \theta$, so that $dx = 4a \sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \therefore I &= \int_0^{\pi/2} (2a \sin^2 \theta)^{7/2} (2a - 2a \sin^2 \theta)^{1/2} 4a \sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta \\
 &= 64a^5 \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^8 \theta \cos^2 \theta d\theta \\
 &= 64a^5 \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{9}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)}{2\Gamma(6)} \\
 &= 64a^5 \frac{\frac{7}{2} \cdot \frac{5}{2} \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi}}{2 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} \\
 &= \frac{7\pi a^5}{8}
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 3. Evaluate $\int_0^{\pi/4} \sin^4 x \cos^2 x dx$

Sol. Let $I = \int_0^{\pi/4} \sin^4 x \cos^2 x dx$
 $= \int_0^{\pi/4} \sin^2 x \cos^2 x \sin^2 x dx$
 $= \int_0^{\pi/4} \frac{\sin^2 2x}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{2} (2 \sin^2 x) dx$
 $= \frac{1}{8} \int_0^{\pi/4} \sin^2 2x (1 - \cos 2x) dx$

Put $2x = t$, so that $2dx = dt$. Also when $x = 0$, $t = 0$ and when $x = \frac{\pi}{4}$, $t = \frac{\pi}{2}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \therefore I &= \frac{1}{8} \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^2 t (1 - \cos t) \frac{1}{2} dt \\
 &= \frac{1}{16} \left[\int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^2 t dt - \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^2 t \cos t dt \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{16} \left[\frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{2\Gamma(2)} - \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) \Gamma(1)}{2\Gamma\left(\frac{5}{2}\right)} \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{16} \left[\frac{\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi} \sqrt{\pi}}{2 \cdot 1} - \frac{\frac{1}{2} \cdot \sqrt{\pi} \cdot 1}{2 \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi}} \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{16} \left[\frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{1}{3} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 4. If m, n are positive integers, then prove that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^1 x^{m-1} (1-x)^{n-1} dx &= \int_0^1 x^{n-1} (1-x)^{m-1} dx \\
 &= \frac{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \dots (m-1)}{n(n+1) \dots (n+m-1)}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Sol. } \int_0^1 x^{m-1} (1-x)^{n-1} dx &= B(m, n) = B(n, m) \\
 &= \int_0^1 x^{n-1} (1-x)^{m-1} dx \\
 &= \frac{\Gamma(m) \Gamma(n)}{\Gamma(m+n)} = \frac{(m-1)! (n-1)!}{(m+n-1)!} \\
 &= \frac{(m-1)! (n-1)!}{(n+m-1)(n+m-2) \dots n(n-1)(n-2) \dots 2 \cdot 1} \\
 &= \frac{(m-1)! (n-1)!}{(n+m-1)(n+m-2) \dots (n+1)n(n-1)!} \\
 &= \frac{(m-1)(m-2) \dots 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{(n+m-1)(n+m-2) \dots (n+1)n}
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 5. Obtain the value of the integral

$$\int_0^{\pi} x \sin^6 x \cos^4 x dx$$

$$\text{Sol. Let } I = \int_0^{\pi} x \sin^6 x \cos^4 x dx \quad \dots(i)$$

$$= \int_0^{\pi} (\pi - x) \sin^6 (\pi - x) \cos^4 (\pi - x) dx$$

(by property 4 of definite integral)

$$\text{or } I = \int_0^{\pi} (\pi - x) \sin^6 x \cos^4 x dx \quad \dots(\text{ii})$$

Adding (i) and (ii) we get

$$2I = \pi \int_0^{\pi} \sin^6 x \cos^4 x dx$$

$$= 2\pi \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^6 x \cos^4 x dx \quad (\text{by property 6 of definite integral})$$

$$= 2\pi \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{7}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{5}{2}\right)}{2\Gamma(6)}$$

$$= \frac{2\pi \cdot \frac{5}{2} \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi} \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \sqrt{\pi}}{2 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}$$

$$= \frac{3\pi^2}{256}$$

$$\therefore I = \frac{3\pi^2}{512}$$

Example 6. Show that $\int_0^{\infty} x^6 e^{-2x} dx = \frac{45}{8}$

Solution. Putting $2x = t$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\infty} x^6 e^{-2x} dx &= \int_0^{\infty} \left(\frac{t}{2}\right)^6 e^{-t} \cdot \frac{dt}{2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2^7} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} t^6 dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2^7} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} t^{7-1} dt = \frac{\Gamma(7)}{2^7} \\ &= \frac{6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{2^7} = \frac{45}{8} \end{aligned}$$

Example 7. Show that $\int_0^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi}$.

(Gorakhpur 85, 96, 2002, 09, Sidh. 2017)

Solution. Putting $x^2 = y$ or $x = y^{1/2}$

so that $dx = \frac{1}{2} y^{-1/2} dy$.

$$\text{We get } \int_0^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-y} \frac{1}{2} y^{-1/2} dy$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-y} y^{\frac{1}{2}-1} dy = \frac{1}{2} \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi}$$

Proved.

Example 8. Show that $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^c}{c^x} dx = \frac{\Gamma(c+1)}{(\log c)^{c+1}}$

(Purvanchal 89; Gorakhpur 95, 2005, 12)

Solution. Let $I = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^c}{c^x} dx$ Put $c^x = e^t$ i.e. $x \log c = t$

$$\therefore x = \frac{t}{\log c}; dx = \frac{dt}{\log c}$$

$$\therefore I = \int_0^{\infty} \left(\frac{t}{\log c}\right)^c \frac{1}{e^t \log c} dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{(\log c)^{c+1}} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} t^c dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{(\log c)^{c+1}} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} t^{c+1-1} dt$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(c+1)}{(\log c)^{c+1}}$$

Example 9. Prove that $\int_0^{\pi/4} (\cos 2\theta)^{3/2} \cos \theta d\theta = \frac{3\pi}{16\sqrt{2}}$

Solution. $\int_0^{\pi/4} (\cos 2\theta)^{3/2} \cos \theta d\theta = \int_0^{\pi/4} (1 - 2\sin^2 \theta)^{3/2} \cos \theta d\theta$

(putting $\sqrt{2} \sin \theta = \sin \phi$ so that $\cos \theta d\theta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cos \phi d\phi$)

$$= \int_0^{\pi/2} (1 - \sin^2 \phi)^{3/2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cos \phi d\phi$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \int_0^{\pi/2} \cos^4 \phi d\phi$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^0 \phi \cos^4 \phi d\phi$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\Gamma(1/2) \Gamma(5/2)}{\Gamma(3)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\sqrt{\pi} \cdot (3/2) \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi}}{2 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} = \frac{3\pi}{16\sqrt{2}}$$

Example 10. Evaluate $\int_0^1 \sqrt{1-x^4} dx$

Solution. $\int_0^1 \sqrt{1-x^4} dx = \int_0^1 (1-x^4)^{1/2} dx$

putting $x^4 = t$ or $x = t^{1/4}$ so that $dx = \frac{1}{4} t^{-3/4} dt$

$$= \int_0^1 (1-t)^{1/2} \cdot \frac{1}{4} t^{-3/4} dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \int_0^1 t^{-3/4} (1-t)^{1/2} dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \int_0^1 t^{1/4-1} (1-t)^{3/2-1} dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} B\left(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{2}\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{\Gamma(1/4) \Gamma(3/2)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{2}\right)} \right) = \frac{1}{4} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{7}{4}\right)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \left\{ \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi}}{\frac{3}{4} \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)} \right\} = \frac{1}{6} \left\{ \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) \sqrt{\pi}}{\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)} \right\}$$

Example 11. Show that $\int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{d\theta}{\sqrt{\sin \theta}} \times \int_0^{\pi/2} \sqrt{\sin \theta} d\theta = \pi$.

Solution. $\int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{d\theta}{\sqrt{\sin \theta}} = \int_0^{\pi/2} (\sin \theta)^{-1/2} \cos^0 \theta d\theta$

$$= \left(\frac{\Gamma(1/4) \Gamma(1/2)}{2\Gamma(3/4)} \right)$$

and $\int_0^{\pi/2} \sqrt{\sin \theta} d\theta = \int_0^{\pi/2} (\sin \theta)^{1/2} \cos^0 \theta d\theta$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(3/4) \Gamma(1/2)}{2\Gamma(5/4)}$$

Multiplying (i) and (ii), we get

$$\int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{d\theta}{\sqrt{\sin \theta}} \times \int_0^{\pi/2} \sqrt{\sin \theta} d\theta = \frac{\Gamma(1/4) \Gamma(1/2)}{2\Gamma(3/4)} \times \frac{\Gamma(3/4) \Gamma(1/2)}{2\Gamma(5/4)}$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(1/4) \sqrt{\pi} \sqrt{\pi}}{4\Gamma(5/4)}$$

$$= \frac{\pi \Gamma(1/4)}{4 \times \frac{1}{4} \Gamma(1/4)} = \pi.$$

Prove

Example 12. Prove that $\int_0^1 \frac{x^2 dx}{\sqrt{1-x^4}} \times \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1+x^4}} = \frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{2}}$.

Solution. Let $I_1 = \int_0^1 \frac{x^2 dx}{\sqrt{1-x^4}}$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Put } x^2 = \sin \theta \quad \therefore 2x dx = \cos \theta d\theta \\ \therefore I_1 &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{\sqrt{(\sin \theta)} \cdot \cos \theta d\theta}{\cos \theta} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi/2} (\sin \theta)^{1/2} d\theta \\ \therefore I_1 &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{2\Gamma\left(\frac{5}{4}\right)} = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{4\Gamma\left(\frac{5}{4}\right)} \\ \therefore I_1 &= \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)} \quad \dots(i) \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \left(\Gamma\left(\frac{5}{4}\right) = \left(\frac{1}{4}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) \right)$$

$$\text{Let } I_2 = \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{\sqrt{(1+x^4)}} \quad \text{Put } x^2 = \tan \phi$$

$$\text{so that } 2x dx = \sec^2 \phi d\phi$$

$$\therefore dx = \frac{\sec^2 \phi d\phi}{2\sqrt{\tan \phi}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore I_2 &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi/4} \frac{\sec^2 \phi d\phi}{\sqrt{\tan \phi} \cdot \sec \phi} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi/4} \frac{d\phi}{\sqrt{(\sin \phi \cos \phi)}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \int_0^{\pi/4} \frac{d\phi}{\sqrt{(\sin 2\phi)}} \\ & \quad \text{Put } 2\phi = t; 2d\phi = dt \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore I_2 = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} \int_0^{\pi/2} (\sin t)^{-1/2} dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{2\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)}$$

$$\therefore I_2 = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2}} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)} \quad \dots(ii)$$

Multiplying (i) and (ii) we get

$$\text{L.H.S.} = I_1 \times I_2 = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)} \times \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2}} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)}$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{2}}$$

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

Example 13. Prove that $2^{2n-1} \Gamma(n) \Gamma\left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right) = \sqrt{\pi} \Gamma(2n)$. (Purvanchal 53)

Solution. We know that $\int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{2m-1} \theta \cos^{2n-1} \theta d\theta$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(m) \Gamma(n)}{2 \Gamma(m+n)} \quad \dots(i)$$

Putting $m = \frac{1}{2}$ in it, we get

$$\int_0^{\pi/2} \cos^{2n-1} \theta d\theta = \frac{\Gamma(1/2) \Gamma(n)}{2 \Gamma(n + \frac{1}{2})} = \frac{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma(n)}{2 \Gamma(n + \frac{1}{2})} \quad \dots(ii)$$

Again if we put $m = n$ in (i), we get

$$\int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{2n-1} \theta \cos^{2n-1} \theta d\theta = \frac{\Gamma(n) \Gamma(n)}{2 \Gamma(2n)}$$

or $\int_0^{\pi/2} (2 \sin \theta \cos \theta)^{2n-1} d\theta = \frac{2^{2n-1} \{\Gamma(n)\}^2}{2 \Gamma(2n)}$

(on multiplying both sides by 2^{2n-1})

or $\int_0^{\pi/2} (\sin 2\theta)^{2n-1} d\theta = \frac{2^{2n-1} \{\Gamma(n)\}^2}{2 \Gamma(2n)}$

or $\frac{2^{2n-1} \{\Gamma(n)\}^2}{2 \Gamma(2n)} = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi} (\sin t)^{2n-1} dt$

(by the substitution $2\theta = t$)

$$= \int_0^{\pi/2} (\sin t)^{2n-1} dt \quad \text{(by property 6 of definite integrals)}$$

$$= \int_0^{\pi/2} \left\{ \sin \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - t \right) \right\}^{2n-1} dt \quad \text{by property 4}$$

$$= \int_0^{\pi/2} (\cos t)^{2n-1} dt = \int_0^{\pi/2} (\cos \theta)^{2n-1} d\theta$$

or $\int_0^{\pi/2} (\cos \theta)^{2n-1} d\theta = \frac{2^{2n-1} \{\Gamma(n)\}^2}{2 \Gamma(2n)} \quad \dots(iii)$

From (ii) and (iii), we get

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

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

Hence Proved.

EXERCISE 4.1

1. $\int_0^{\infty} e^{-x} x^{2/3} dx$

2. $\int_0^{\infty} e^{-3x} x^4 dx$

3. $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{e^{-1/x}}{x^{3/2}} dx$

4. $\int_0^1 \frac{dx}{(1-x^6)^{1/6}}$

Show that

5. $\int_0^{\infty} x^n e^{-k^2 x^2} dx = \Gamma\left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right) / 2k^{n+1}$ and hence solve $\int_0^{\infty} e^{-k^2 x^2} dx$

(Gorakhpur 2004, 06, 08)

6. $\int_0^{\infty} x^{2n-1} e^{-ax^2} dx = \frac{\Gamma(n)}{2a^n}$

7. $\int_0^{\infty} \sqrt{y} e^{-y^2} dy = \frac{1}{2} \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)$

8. $\Gamma(n) = \int_0^1 \left(\log \frac{1}{y}\right)^{n-1} dy$

9. $\int_0^1 x^{3/2} (1-x)^{3/2} dx = \frac{3\pi}{128}$

10. $\int_0^1 x^2 (1-x^2)^{3/2} dx = \frac{\pi}{32}$

11. $\int_0^1 \frac{dx}{\sqrt{(1-x^n)}} = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) \sqrt{\pi}}{n \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{2}\right)}$

(Gorakhpur 88; 96)

12. $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^2 dx}{1+x^4} = \Gamma\left(\frac{5}{4}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)$

(Gorakhpur 2000, 11)

$$\left[\text{Hint : Put } x = \sqrt{\tan \theta} \text{ then the integral} = 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{1/2} \theta \cos^{-1/2} \theta d\theta \right]$$

13. Show that $\int_0^1 (1-x^3)^{-1/2} dx = \frac{1}{3} B\left(\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$

14. Express $\int_0^1 x^m (1-x^n)^p dx$ in terms of Beta functions and hence

evaluate $\int_0^1 x^5 (1-x^3)^{10} dx$. (Gorakhpur 2003, 2007, 2008)

15. Show that $B(m, n) = B(m+1, n) + B(m, n+1)$. (Gorakhpur 99, 2005)

16. Show that $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^8 (1-x^6) dx}{(1+x)^{24}} = 0$.

[Hint : Given integral = $B(9, 15) - B(15, 9) = 0$].

17. Prove that $B(n, n) = \frac{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma(n)}{2^{2n-1} \Gamma(n + \frac{1}{2})} = 2 \int_0^{1/2} (x - x^2)^{n-1} dx$

(Purvanchal 89, 2003; Gorakhpur 99, 2002)

18. Show that

$$\int_0^{\pi/2} \sqrt{\tan \theta} \theta d\theta = 2 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^2 dx}{1+x^4} = \frac{1}{2} \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) \quad (\text{Sidh. 2017})$$

19. Prove that $\int_0^{2a} x^3 \sqrt{2ax - x^2} dx = \frac{7\pi a^5}{8}$

(Gorakhpur 99)

20. Prove that $\sqrt{\frac{3}{2} - x} \sqrt{\frac{3}{2} + x} = \left(\frac{1}{4} - x^2\right) \pi \sec \pi x$

21. Evaluate $\int_0^{\pi/6} \cos^4 3\phi \sin^3 6\phi d\phi$

22. Evaluate $\int_0^a x^4 (a^2 - x^2)^{1/2} dx$

23. $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^4 dx}{(a^2 + x^2)^4}$

24. $\int_0^a x^3 (2ax - x^2)^{3/2} dx$

25. If $b > a$, $m > 0$, $n > 0$ prove that

$$\int_a^b (x-a)^{m-1} (b-x)^{n-1} dx = (b-a)^{m+n-1} B(m, n)$$

26. Prove that $\int_{-1}^1 (1-x)^{p-1} (1+x)^{q-1} dx = 2^{p+q-1} B(p, q)$

27. Prove that $\int_{-\pi/4}^{\pi/4} (\cos x + \sin x)^{m-1} dx = \frac{2^{m-\frac{3}{2}} \Gamma\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) \sqrt{\pi}}{\Gamma\left(\frac{m+1}{2}\right)}$

□□