

Limits of Fresnel integrals calculated in an easy way

Limits of cosine and sine Fresnel integrals are

$$\int_0^{\infty} \cos(t^2) dt \quad (1)$$

and

$$\int_0^{\infty} \sin(t^2) dt \quad (2)$$

We notice that we may use Euler's formula

$$e^{-it^2} = \cos(t^2) - i \sin(t^2) \quad (3)$$

where $i = \sqrt{-1}$. We have

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-it^2} dt = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \cos(t^2) dt - i \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sin(t^2) dt = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{i}} \quad (4)$$

what is known from solving the Gaussian integral like $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ax^2} = \sqrt{\pi/a}$.

We see that

$$\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{i}} = \sqrt{\frac{i\pi}{i^2}} = \sqrt{-i\pi} = \sqrt{-i}\sqrt{\pi} \quad (5)$$

We compute the $\sqrt{-i}$ as follows

$$\sqrt{-i} = (-i)^{1/2} \quad (6)$$

$$-i = \cos\left(\frac{3}{2}\pi + 2\pi m\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{3}{2}\pi + 2\pi m\right) = e^{i(\frac{3}{2}\pi + 2\pi m)} \quad (7)$$

$$\sqrt{-i} = (e^{i(\frac{3}{2}\pi + 2\pi m)})^{1/2} = e^{i(\frac{3}{4}\pi + \pi m)} = \cos\left(\frac{3}{4}\pi + \pi m\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{3}{4}\pi + \pi m\right) \quad (8)$$

where $m = 0, 1$. Therefrom we receive two values r_1 and r_2 for the square root of the imaginary unit $-i$

$$r_1 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + i\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \quad (9)$$

$$r_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - i\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \quad (10)$$

$$\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{i}} = \begin{cases} (-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + i\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})\sqrt{\pi} \\ (\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - i\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})\sqrt{\pi} \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

By comparing the coefficients in equation (4) and in equation (11) we find out that

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \cos(t^2) dt = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} \quad (12)$$

and

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sin(t^2) dt = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} \quad (13)$$

Because the functions $\cos(t^2)$ and $\sin(t^2)$ are even, we receive for the limits of the Fresnel integrals

$$\int_0^{\infty} \cos(t^2) dt = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} \quad (14)$$

and

$$\int_0^{\infty} \sin(t^2) dt = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} \quad (15)$$

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