

Euler gamma function of 1/2

The gamma function is defined as

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

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) &= \int_0^{\infty} x^{\frac{1}{2}-1} e^{-x} dx = \int_0^{\infty} x^{-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-x} dx = \left| \begin{array}{l} x^{\frac{1}{2}} = u \\ \frac{1}{2} x^{-\frac{1}{2}} dx = du \\ x^{-\frac{1}{2}} dx = 2du \\ x = u^2 \end{array} \right| \quad (2) \\ &= 2 \int_0^{\infty} e^{-u^2} du = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi} = \sqrt{\pi} \end{aligned}$$

We have then the result

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

Pawel Jan Piskorz (paweljs@gmail.com)