

(35.0) Recall that we defined  $\Gamma(z)$ , for  $z \in \Omega = \{\operatorname{Re} z > 0\}$ ,  
(right-half plane)

as:  $\Gamma(z) = \int_0^{\infty} t^{z-1} e^{-t} dt$ . By the calculation from §34.0,

$$\Gamma(n) = (n-1)! \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}.$$

(35.1) Difference equation for  $\Gamma(z)$ .

$$\boxed{\Gamma(z+1) = z \Gamma(z)}$$

Proof (integration by parts).  $\Gamma(z+1) = \int_0^{\infty} t^z e^{-t} dt$

$$= \left[ t^z \frac{e^{-t}}{-1} \right]_{t=0}^{t=\infty} + \int_0^{\infty} z \cdot t^{z-1} e^{-t} dt$$

$$= z \cdot \Gamma(z) \quad \left( \text{since, for } \operatorname{Re}(z) > 0, \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} t^z e^{-t} = 0 \right. \\ \left. \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} t^z = 0 \right) \quad \square$$

(35.2) Extending the domain to  $\mathbb{C} - \mathbb{Z}_{\leq 0}$ .

Using  $\Gamma(z+1) = z \Gamma(z)$ , we can extend the domain of definition of  $\Gamma(z)$  from  $\{\operatorname{Re}(z) > 0\}$  to  $\mathbb{C} - \mathbb{Z}_{\leq 0}$ .

Let  $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{Z}_{\leq 0}$ . Let  $N \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$  be such that  $\text{Re}(z+N) > 0$ . Thus  $\Gamma(z+N) = \int_0^\infty t^{z+N-1} \cdot e^{-t} dt$  is defined

Set  $\Gamma(z) = \frac{\Gamma(z+N)}{z(z+1)\dots(z+N-1)}$ . Thus  $\Gamma$  becomes a

meromorphic function  $\Gamma: \mathbb{C} \dashrightarrow \mathbb{C}$  with poles at  $\{0, -1, -2, \dots\}$ .

(35.3) Poles of  $\Gamma$  are all simple (i.e., order of the pole at  $z=-n$  is 1,  $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ ).

$$\text{Res}_{z=0} \Gamma(z) = \text{Res}_{z=0} \frac{\Gamma(z+1)}{z} = \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \Gamma(z+1) = \Gamma(1) = 1.$$

$$\text{Res}_{z=-N} \Gamma(z) = \text{Res}_{w=0} \Gamma(w-N) = \text{Res}_{w=0} \frac{\Gamma(w)}{(w-1)\dots(w-N)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( (w-1)\dots((w-N)\Gamma(w-N)) = (w-1)\dots(w-N+1)\Gamma(w-N+1) = \dots = \Gamma(w) \right) \\ & = \frac{1}{(-1)(-2)\dots(-N)} = \frac{(-1)^N}{N!}. \end{aligned}$$

(35.4)  $\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \sqrt{\pi}$ .  $\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \int_0^\infty t^{-1/2} \cdot e^{-t} dt$

Set  $u = t^{1/2}$  or  $t = u^2$  so that  $dt = 2u du$ .

$$\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{u} e^{-u^2} 2u du = \int_{-\infty}^\infty e^{-u^2} du \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} e^{-x^2} \text{ is even,} \\ \text{so } \int_{-\infty}^\infty = 2 \cdot \int_0^\infty \end{array} \right)$$

[Gaussian integral]

$$\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-u_1^2} du_1 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-u_2^2} du_2 = \iint_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-(u_1^2+u_2^2)} du_1 du_2 \quad (3)$$

Change to polar coordinates  $u_1 = r \cos(\theta)$ ,  $u_2 = r \sin(\theta)$   
 $(r \in (0, \infty), \theta \in [0, 2\pi])$

$$du_1 du_2 \rightsquigarrow r dr d\theta.$$

$$\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-r^2} r dr d\theta = \left[\theta\right]_0^{2\pi} \left[\frac{e^{-r^2}}{-2}\right]_0^{\infty} = 2\pi \cdot \frac{1}{2}$$

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

(35.5) Beta function. Let  $p, q \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$  and consider

$$B(p, q) = \int_0^1 x^{p-1} (1-x)^{q-1} dx \quad - (1)$$

Or, changing  $x = \cos^2(\theta)$ ,  $dx = -2 \sin(\theta) \cos(\theta) d\theta$ ; (1)

becomes

$$B(p, q) = 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \cos^{2p-1}(\theta) \sin^{2q-1}(\theta) d\theta \quad - (2)$$

Euler computed this integral as:

$$B(p, q) = \frac{\Gamma(p) \Gamma(q)}{\Gamma(p+q)}$$

Note: We recover the computation of §35.4 by setting  $p=q=\frac{1}{2}$  in (2)

(4)

Proof. -  $\Gamma(p) \Gamma(q) = \int_0^{\infty} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-(t_1+t_2)} \cdot t_1^{p-1} t_2^{q-1} dt_1 dt_2$

Change of variables:  $x = t_1 + t_2$  ( $0 < x < \infty$ )  
 $y = \frac{t_1}{t_1 + t_2}$  ( $0 < y < 1$ )

Or, equivalently:  $t_1 = xy$  and  $t_2 = x - t_1 = x(1-y)$

$dt_1 dt_2 \rightsquigarrow x dx dy$  (verify this!)

$\Rightarrow \Gamma(p) \Gamma(q) = \int_0^1 \int_0^{\infty} e^{-x} (xy)^{p-1} x^{q-1} \cdot (1-y)^{q-1} x dx dy$

$= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-x} x^{p+q-1} dx \cdot \int_0^1 y^{p-1} (1-y)^{q-1} dy$

$= \Gamma(p+q) \cdot B(p, q)$  □

(35.6) Gamma function as another uniform limit (Euler).

Theorem. For  $N \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$ , let  $G_N(z) = \int_0^N t^{z-1} \left(1 - \frac{t}{N}\right)^N dt$

(for  $\text{Re}(z) > 0$ ).

(1)  $\{G_N(z)\}_{N \geq 1}$  converges uniformly (rel. to compact sets) in  $\Omega = \{z \mid \text{Re}(z) > 0\}$ .

$$(2) \quad G_N(z) = \frac{N!}{z(z+1)\dots(z+N)} \cdot N^z \quad (\forall z \in \Omega) \quad (5)$$

Remark. - The functions  $\frac{N!}{z(z+1)\dots(z+N)} N^z$  are defined on  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{Z}_{\leq 0}$ .

We will see below that the convergence of this sequence of functions is uniform (rel. to cpct sets) in  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{Z}_{\leq 0}$ , and hence defines a holomorphic function (still denoted by  $\Gamma$ )  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{Z}_{\leq 0} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ .

Proof. - (2):  $G_N(z) = \int_0^1 t^{z-1} \left(1 - \frac{t}{N}\right)^N dt$

$$= \int_0^1 N^{z-1} \tau^{z-1} (1-\tau)^N \cdot N \cdot d\tau \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{change of variables} \\ t = N\tau \end{array} \right)$$

$$= N^z \cdot \int_0^1 \tau^{z-1} (1-\tau)^N d\tau = N^z B(z, N+1)$$

(see §35.5)

$$= N^z \frac{\Gamma(z) \Gamma(N+1)}{\Gamma(z+N+1)}$$

$$= N^z \frac{N!}{z(z+1)\dots(z+N)}$$

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since  $\Gamma(N+1) = N!$   
and  $\Gamma(w+1) = w\Gamma(w)$

(1) Consider the difference  $\Gamma(z) - G_N(z)$

$$\int_0^{\infty} t^{z-1} e^{-t} dt - \int_0^N t^{z-1} \left(1 - \frac{t}{N}\right)^N dt$$

$$= \int_N^{\infty} t^{z-1} e^{-t} dt + \int_0^N t^{z-1} \left(e^{-t} - \left(1 - \frac{t}{N}\right)^N\right) dt$$

Inequality:  $0 \leq e^{-t} - \left(1 - \frac{t}{N}\right)^N \leq e^{-t} \frac{t^2}{N} \quad (0 \leq t \leq N).$

(Proof of the inequality: Note  $e^x = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \dots > 1 + x \quad (\forall x > 0)$   
 $< 1 + x + x^2 + \dots = \frac{1}{1-x} \quad (\forall x \in (0,1))$

i.e.  $1+x \leq e^x \leq \frac{1}{1-x} \quad \forall 0 \leq x \leq 1.$

Taking the inverse:  $1-x \leq e^{-x} \leq \frac{1}{1+x}$

Set  $x = \frac{t}{N}$ ; and raise to N-th power:  $\left(1 - \frac{t}{N}\right)^N \leq e^{-t} \quad (0 \leq t \leq N)$   
 $\left(1 + \frac{t}{N}\right)^N \leq e^t$

$$\Rightarrow e^{-t} - \left(1 - \frac{t}{N}\right)^N = e^{-t} \left(1 - e^t \left(1 - \frac{t}{N}\right)^N\right)$$

$$\leq e^{-t} \left(1 - \left(1 + \frac{t}{N}\right)^N \left(1 - \frac{t}{N}\right)^N\right)$$

$$= e^{-t} \left(1 - \left(1 - \frac{t^2}{N^2}\right)^N\right) \leq e^{-t} \frac{t^2}{N} \quad \text{using}$$

$(1-y)^n \geq 1-ny \quad \forall n \geq 0, y \in (0,1)$  - easy exercise by induction on n.

$$\text{Thus } \Gamma(z) - G_N(z) = \int_N^\infty t^{z-1} e^{-t} dt + \int_0^N t^{z-1} \left( e^{-t} - \left(1 - \frac{t}{N}\right)^N \right) dt \quad (7)$$

Let  $K$  be a compact set;  $K \subset \Omega$ , and  $\varepsilon > 0$  be given. Let  $B \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$  be such that  $\operatorname{Re}(z) < B \quad \forall z \in K$ .

• Since  $\int_0^\infty t^{z-1} e^{-t} dt$  converges uniformly,  $\exists N_1 \gg 0$  s.t.

$$\left| \int_{N_1'}^\infty t^{z-1} e^{-t} dt \right| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \quad \forall z \in K, N_1' > N_1 \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{see Lecture 34,} \\ \text{page 7} \end{array} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_0^N t^{z-1} \left( e^{-t} - \left(1 - \frac{t}{N}\right)^N \right) dt \right| &\leq \int_0^N t^{B-1} \cdot \frac{t^2 e^{-t}}{N} dt \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(B+2)}{N} \end{aligned}$$

Choose  $N_2 > 0$  so that  $\frac{\Gamma(B+2)}{N_2} < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ .

Hence for every  $N > \operatorname{Max}\{N_1, N_2\}$ ,  $z \in K$ , we have

$$\left| \Gamma(z) - G_N(z) \right| < \varepsilon. \quad \square$$