

To Actual Definiton From Historical Definition Of The Gamma Function

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Definition (Euler, 1730):

Let $x > 0$

$$\Gamma(x) = \int_0^1 (-\log t)^{x-1} dt$$

where $\log x$ is $\ln x$.

Theorem:

For $x > 0$

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

Proof:

Consider for $x > 0$

$$\Gamma(x) = \int_0^1 (-\log t)^{x-1} dt.$$

Let $u = -\log t$, then

$$\begin{aligned} t &= e^{-u} & du &= -\frac{dt}{t} \\ t = 0 &\rightarrow u = \infty & t = 1 &\rightarrow u = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Gamma(x) = \int_{\infty}^0 u^{x-1} (-e^{-u}) du$$

$$\Gamma(x) = \int_0^{\infty} u^{x-1} e^{-u} du$$

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

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