

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

Find:

$$\Omega = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1+x^8}}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega &= \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1+x^8}} \stackrel{y=x^8}{=} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+y}} \cdot \frac{1}{8\sqrt[8]{y^7}} dy = \frac{1}{8} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{y^{-\frac{7}{8}}}{(1+y)^{\frac{1}{2}}} dy = \\ &= \frac{1}{8} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{y^{\frac{1}{8}-1}}{(1+y)^{\frac{1}{8}+\frac{3}{8}}} dy = \frac{1}{8} B\left(\frac{1}{8}, \frac{3}{8}\right) = \frac{1}{8} \cdot \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{8}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{8}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{8} + \frac{3}{8}\right)} = \frac{1}{8} \cdot \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{8}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{8}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)} = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{8}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{8}\right)}{8\sqrt{\pi}}\end{aligned}$$

Observation:

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot \Gamma\left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) &= \frac{\pi}{\sin \frac{\pi}{2}} \\ \left(\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\right)^2 &= \pi \Rightarrow \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \sqrt{\pi}\end{aligned}$$