

Solution (#1562) For $a \geq 0$ set

$$I(a) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{e^{-ax^2}}{x^2 + 1} dx.$$

Differentiating under the integral sign we find

$$I'(a) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{-x^2 e^{-ax^2}}{x^2 + 1} dx = - \int_0^{\infty} e^{-ax^2} dx + \int_0^{\infty} \frac{e^{-ax^2}}{x^2 + 1} dx = -\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}} + I(a),$$

by #1401. So

$$I'(a) - I(a) = -\frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}}.$$

This DE can be solved using integrating factors. Here the integrating factor is e^{-a} and we see

$$\frac{d}{da} (I(a)e^{-a}) = I'(a)e^{-a} - I(a)e^{-a} = -\frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \frac{e^{-a}}{\sqrt{a}},$$

and hence

$$I(a)e^{-a} = I(0) - \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \int_0^a \frac{e^{-x}}{\sqrt{x}} dx.$$

Now $I(0) = \pi/2$ and further making the substitution $x = u^2$ we see

$$\begin{aligned} I(a)e^{-a} &= \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \int_0^{\sqrt{a}} \frac{e^{-u^2}}{u} 2u du \\ &= \frac{\pi}{2} - \sqrt{\pi} \int_0^{\sqrt{a}} e^{-u^2} du \\ &= \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\pi}{2} \operatorname{erf} \sqrt{a}, \end{aligned}$$

finally giving

$$I(a) = \frac{\pi e^a}{2} (1 - \operatorname{erf}(\sqrt{a})).$$

The desired integral equals

$$I(1) = \frac{\pi e}{2} (1 - \operatorname{erf}(1)).$$