

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

Find a closed form:

$$\int_{-\frac{\pi}{4}}^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \sqrt{\cos(x) - \sin(x)} dx$$

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Solution by Odeyemi Gideon-Nigeria

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \int_{-\frac{\pi}{4}}^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \sqrt{\cos(x) - \sin(x)} dx = \int_{-\frac{\pi}{4}}^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \sqrt{2} \cos\left(x + \frac{\pi}{4}\right) dx \\ I &= \sqrt{2} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sqrt{\cos(x)} dx = \sqrt{2} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \cos^{2\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)-1}(x) \sin^{2\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)-1}(x) dx \\ I &= \sqrt{2} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{2\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{2}\right)} = \sqrt{2} \frac{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)}{2\Gamma\left(\frac{5}{4}\right)} \\ \int_{-\frac{\pi}{4}}^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \sqrt{\cos(x) - \sin(x)} dx &= \sqrt{\pi\sqrt{2}} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)}{2\Gamma\left(\frac{5}{4}\right)} \end{aligned}$$