

NAME

tgamma, tgammaf, tgammaL – true gamma function

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <math.h>
```

```
double tgamma(double x);
```

```
float tgammaf(float x);
```

```
long double tgammaL(long double x);
```

Link with `-lm`.

Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see [feature_test_macros\(7\)](#)):

```
tgamma(), tgammaf(), tgammaL():
```

```
_ISOC99_SOURCE || _POSIX_C_SOURCE >= 200112L
```

DESCRIPTION

These functions calculate the Gamma function of x .

The Gamma function is defined by

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

It is defined for every real number except for nonpositive integers. For nonnegative integral m one has

$$\Gamma(m+1) = m!$$

and, more generally, for all x :

$$\Gamma(x+1) = x * \Gamma(x)$$

Furthermore, the following is valid for all values of x outside the poles:

$$\Gamma(x) * \Gamma(1 - x) = \pi / \sin(\pi * x)$$

RETURN VALUE

On success, these functions return $\Gamma(x)$.

If x is a NaN, a NaN is returned.

If x is positive infinity, positive infinity is returned.

If x is a negative integer, or is negative infinity, a domain error occurs, and a NaN is returned.

If the result overflows, a range error occurs, and the functions return **HUGE_VAL**, **HUGE_VALF**, or **HUGE_VALL**, respectively, with the correct mathematical sign.

If the result underflows, a range error occurs, and the functions return 0, with the correct mathematical sign.

If x is -0 or $+0$, a pole error occurs, and the functions return **HUGE_VAL**, **HUGE_VALF**, or **HUGE_VALL**, respectively, with the same sign as the 0.

ERRORS

See [math_error\(7\)](#) for information on how to determine whether an error has occurred when calling these functions.

The following errors can occur:

Domain error: x is a negative integer, or negative infinity

`errno` is set to **EDOM**. An invalid floating-point exception (**FE_INVALID**) is raised (but see **BUGS**).

Pole error: x is $+0$ or -0

`errno` is set to **ERANGE**. A divide-by-zero floating-point exception (**FE_DIVBYZERO**) is raised.

Range error: result overflow

`errno` is set to **ERANGE**. An overflow floating-point exception (**FE_OVERFLOW**) is raised.

glibc also gives the following error which is not specified in C99 or POSIX.1-2001.

Range error: result underflow

An underflow floating-point exception (**FE_UNDERFLOW**) is raised, and *errno* is set to **ERANGE**.

VERSIONS

These functions first appeared in glibc in version 2.1.

ATTRIBUTES

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see [attributes\(7\)](#).

Interface	Attribute	Value
tgamma() , tgammaf() , tgammal()	Thread safety	MT-Safe

CONFORMING TO

C99, POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008.

NOTES

This function had to be called "true gamma function" since there is already a function [gamma\(3\)](#) that returns something else (see [gamma\(3\)](#) for details).

BUGS

Before version 2.18, the glibc implementation of these functions did not set *errno* to **EDOM** when *x* is negative infinity.

Before glibc 2.19, the glibc implementation of these functions did not set *errno* to **ERANGE** on an underflow range error. *x*

In glibc versions 2.3.3 and earlier, an argument of +0 or -0 incorrectly produced a domain error (*errno* set to **EDOM** and an **FE_INVALID** exception raised), rather than a pole error.

SEE ALSO

[gamma\(3\)](#), [lgamma\(3\)](#)

COLOPHON

This page is part of release 4.16 of the Linux *man-pages* project. A description of the project, information about reporting bugs, and the latest version of this page, can be found at <https://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/>.