

There is more than one way to skin a cat, as people used to say. Instead of following the suggestions here one could start with the case where  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\beta$  is real. In that case it is easy to reduce the integral to  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{-x^2} dx$ . Almost everyone has heard about the trick for doing that one (square it, interpret the result as an integral over  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , and evaluate that using polar coordinates). Once you get the formula for  $\beta$  real and  $\alpha > 0$  consider analytic continuation on both sides of the equation, first in  $\beta$  to all of  $\mathbb{C}$ , and then in  $\alpha$  to  $\text{Re}\{\alpha\} > 0$  – and even to  $\text{Re}\{\alpha\} \geq 0$  to get the formula for the fundamental solution for the initial value problem for the Schrödinger equation.