

Solution to Calculus #2

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1 Problem

Evaluate the integral

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{(x^2 - 1) \ln x}{1 + x^6} dx$$

2 Solution

In our last post, we had established this result for $\frac{m}{n} \notin \mathbb{Z}$

$$I(m, n) = \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{m-1}}{1+x^n} dx = \frac{\pi}{n \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{n}\right)} = \frac{\pi}{n} \csc\left(\frac{m\pi}{n}\right) \quad (1)$$

Differentiating (1) with respect to m ,

$$\frac{dI(m, n)}{dm} = \frac{d}{dm} \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{m-1}}{1+x^n} dx = \int_0^\infty \frac{\partial}{\partial m} \frac{x^{m-1}}{1+x^n} dx = \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{m-1} \ln x}{1+x^n} dx$$

We also have

$$\frac{dI(m, n)}{dm} = \frac{d}{dm} \left[\frac{\pi}{n} \csc\left(\frac{m\pi}{n}\right) \right] = -\frac{\pi^2}{n^2} \csc\left(\frac{m\pi}{n}\right) \cot\left(\frac{m\pi}{n}\right)$$

Rewriting our integral,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^\infty \frac{(x^2-1) \ln x}{1+x^6} dx &= \int_0^\infty \frac{x^2 \ln x}{1+x^6} dx - \int_0^\infty \frac{\ln x}{1+x^6} dx \\ &= \frac{dI(3, 6)}{dm} - \frac{dI(1, 6)}{dm} \\ &= -\frac{\pi^2}{6^2} \csc\left(\frac{3\pi}{6}\right) \cot\left(\frac{3\pi}{6}\right) - \left(-\frac{\pi^2}{6^2} \csc\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right) \cot\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right) \right) \\ &= \frac{\pi^2}{6\sqrt{3}} \end{aligned}$$

Using the [Engineer's master theorem](#), let $\pi = 3$ and $\sqrt{3} = 1.5$.

$$= \frac{\pi^2}{6\sqrt{3}} = \frac{3^2}{6(1.5)} = 1$$

Therefore, we conclude that

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{(x^2-1) \ln x}{1+x^6} dx = 1$$