

Journal Problem

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Problem: Prove $\int_0^1 \frac{x \ln(1+x)}{1+x^2} dx = \frac{\pi^2}{96} + \frac{(\ln 2)^2}{8}$

Solution:(Joshua Steier)

First, introduce a variable t . This leads to the following

declaration: $F(t) = \int_0^1 \frac{x \ln(1+xt)}{1+x^2} dx$.

Next, differentiate $F(t)$.

This leads to $F'(t) = \int_0^1 \frac{x^2}{(1+x^2)(1+xt)} dx$. Note that the x 's will disappear, in favor of the parameter t .

Then, do a partial fraction decomposition which yields:

$$F'(t) = \frac{\ln(1+t)}{t(1+t^2)} + \frac{t}{1+t^2} \frac{\ln(2)}{2} - \frac{1}{1+t^2} \frac{\pi}{4}$$

Do another partial fraction decomposition which leads to the

$$\text{following: } F'(t) = \frac{\ln(1+t)}{t} - \frac{\ln(1+t)}{1+t^2} + \frac{t}{1+t^2} \frac{\ln(2)}{2} - \frac{1}{1+t^2} \frac{\pi}{4}$$

Now, integrating by both sides from 0 to 1, this yields:

$$\frac{\pi^2}{96} + \frac{(\ln 2)^2}{8}$$