

MIT Integration Bee 2023 Regular Season

Problem 8

$$\int_0^{\pi} x \sin^4(x) dx$$

Let $x = \pi - u$, $u = \pi - x$, $dx = -du$

When $x = 0$, $u = \pi$, and when $x = \pi$, $u = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int_{\pi}^0 (\pi - u) \sin^4(\pi - u) (-du) \\ &= \int_0^{\pi} (\pi - u) \sin^4(\pi - u) du \\ &= \int_0^{\pi} (\pi - u) \sin^4(u) du \\ &= \int_0^{\pi} \pi \sin^4(u) du - \int_0^{\pi} u \sin^4(u) du \\ &= \int_0^{\pi} \pi \sin^4(u) du - I \\ &= \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^{\pi} \sin^4(u) du \\ &= \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^{\pi} \left(\frac{1 - \cos 2u}{2} \right)^2 du \\ &= \frac{\pi}{8} \int_0^{\pi} (1 - 2 \cos 2u + \cos^2 2u) du \\ &= \frac{\pi}{8} \left(\int_0^{\pi} du - 2 \int_0^{\pi} \cos(2u) du + \int_0^{\pi} \cos^2(2u) du \right) \\ &= \frac{\pi}{8} \left(\pi - 2 \int_0^{\pi} \cos(2u) du + \int_0^{\pi} \frac{1 + \cos(4u)}{2} du \right) \\ &= \frac{\pi}{8} \left(\pi - 2 \cdot \left[\frac{1}{2} \sin(2u) \right]_0^{\pi} + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi} [1 + \cos(4u)] du \right) \\ &= \frac{\pi}{8} \left(\pi - 2 \cdot (0 - 0) + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi} du + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi} \cos(4u) du \right) \\ &= \frac{\pi}{8} \left(\pi + \frac{1}{2} \pi + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left[\frac{1}{4} \sin(4u) \right]_0^{\pi} \right) \\ &= \frac{\pi}{8} \left(\frac{3}{2} \pi + \frac{1}{2} \cdot (0 - 0) \right) \\ &= \frac{3}{16} \pi \end{aligned}$$