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Exercise 1:

Let $a,b \in \mathbb{R}$ such that a < b and $f:[a,b] \to \mathbb{R}$ a non-zero continuous function on [a,b] such that

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x), dx = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \int_{a}^{b} x f(x), dx = 0.$$

- 1. Using the mean value theorem, show that there exists at least one $c \in [a, b]$ such that f(c) = 0.
- 2. Verify that f necessarily changes sign on [a, b]. (Hint: use the fact that f is continuous and not identically zero on [a, b]).
- 3. Suppose that c is the only point in [a, b] such that f(c) = 0. In this case, we have

$$\forall x \in [a, c[, f(x) < 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \forall x \in]c, b], f(x) > 0.$$

- (a) Show that $\int_a^b (x-c)f(x), dx > 0$.
- (b) Deduce a contradiction.
- 4. State a conclusion summarizing the preceding results.

Answer Area

1. Using the mean value theorem, show that there exists at least one $c \in [a, b]$ such that f(c) = 0.

Since f is continuous on [a, b] and $\int_a^b f(x) dx = 0$, by the Mean Value Theorem for integrals, there exists a point $c \in [a, b]$ such that:

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x) dx = f(c)(b-a).$$

Given that $\int_a^b f(x) dx = 0$ and b - a > 0, it follows that:

$$f(c)(b-a) = 0 \Rightarrow f(c) = 0.$$

Therefore, there exists at least one $c \in [a, b]$ such that f(c) = 0.

2. Verify that f necessarily changes sign on [a, b].

Suppose f does not change sign on [a,b]. Then either $f(x) \geq 0$ or $f(x) \leq 0$ for all $x \in [a,b]$. Since f is continuous and not identically zero, then the integral $\int_a^b f(x) \, dx \neq 0$, which contradicts the given condition $\int_a^b f(x) \, dx = 0$. Hence, f must change sign on [a,b].

3. Suppose that c is the only point in [a,b] such that f(c)=0. In this case, we have:

$$\forall x \in [a, c), f(x) < 0 \text{ and } \forall x \in (c, b], f(x) > 0.$$

(a) Show that $\int_a^b (x-c)f(x) dx > 0$.

Consider the function g(x) = (x - c)f(x). Note that:

- On [a, c), x c < 0 and f(x) < 0, so g(x) > 0.
- At x = c, g(c) = 0.
- On (c, b], x c > 0 and f(x) > 0, so g(x) > 0.

Thus, $g(x) \ge 0$ on [a, b], and g(x) > 0 on a set of positive measure. Since g is continuous and non-negative with positive values on a subset of [a, b], we conclude:

$$\int_{a}^{b} (x-c)f(x) dx > 0.$$

(b) Deduce a contradiction.

Now expand the integral:

$$\int_{a}^{b} (x - c)f(x) \, dx = \int_{a}^{b} x f(x) \, dx - c \int_{a}^{b} f(x) \, dx.$$

But from the problem statement:

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \int_a^b x f(x) dx = 0,$$

so the entire expression becomes:

$$\int_{a}^{b} (x - c)f(x) dx = 0 - c \cdot 0 = 0.$$

This contradicts the earlier result that the integral is strictly positive. Therefore, our assumption that c is the only zero of f must be false.

4. State a conclusion summarizing the preceding results.

From the above, since assuming that f has only one zero leads to a contradiction, we conclude that f must have at least two distinct zeros in [a, b]. Additionally, since f changes sign and is continuous, it must vanish at least twice in the interval [a, b].

Exercise 2:

Consider the two integrals I and J defined by:

$$I = \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{\cos x}{\cos x + \sin x}, dx \quad \text{and} \quad J = \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{\sin x}{\cos x + \sin x}, dx.$$

- 1. Using an appropriate change of variable, show that I = J.
- 2. Calculate I+J. Deduce the common value of I and J.
- 3. Deduce (using an appropriate change of variable) the integral $\int_0^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-t^2}+t}, dt$.

Answer Area

1. Using an appropriate change of variable, show that I = J.

Recall:

$$I = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\cos x}{\cos x + \sin x} \, dx, \quad J = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\sin x}{\cos x + \sin x} \, dx.$$

Consider the substitution $u = \frac{\pi}{2} - x$. Then when x = 0, $u = \frac{\pi}{2}$; and when $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$, u = 0. Also, dx = -du.

Apply this substitution to I:

$$I = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\cos x}{\cos x + \sin x} dx$$

$$= \int_{\frac{\pi}{2}}^0 \frac{\cos \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - u\right)}{\cos \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - u\right) + \sin \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - u\right)} (-du)$$

$$= \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\sin u}{\sin u + \cos u} du$$

$$= J.$$

Therefore, I = J.

2. Calculate I + J. Deduce the common value of I and J.

We compute:

$$I + J = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\cos x}{\cos x + \sin x} dx + \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\sin x}{\cos x + \sin x} dx$$
$$= \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\cos x + \sin x}{\cos x + \sin x} dx$$
$$= \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} 1 dx$$
$$= \frac{\pi}{2}$$

Since I = J, we have:

$$2I = \frac{\pi}{2} \Rightarrow I = J = \frac{\pi}{4}.$$

3. Deduce (using an appropriate change of variable) the integral $\int_0^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-t^2}+t}\,dt.$

Consider the substitution $t = \sin x$. Then $dt = \cos x dx$, and when t = 0,

x=0; when t=1, $x=\frac{\pi}{2}.$ The integral becomes:

$$\int_{0}^{1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - t^{2}} + t} dt = \int_{0}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\cos x}{\sqrt{1 - \sin^{2} x} + \sin x} dx$$

$$= \int_{0}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\cos x}{\cos x + \sin x} dx$$

$$= I$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{4}$$

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Exercise 3:

For all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we define:

$$I_n = \int_0^1 \frac{x^n}{x+1}, dx.$$

- 1. Justify the existence of I_n for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then calculate I_0 .
- 2. Verify that for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have the following inequality:

$$\forall x \in [0, 1], \frac{x^n}{2} \le \frac{x^n}{x+1} \le x^n.$$

- 3. Deduce that $\lim_{n\to+\infty} I_n = 0$.
- 4. Calculate for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, the value of $I_n + I_{n+1}$.
- 5. Deduce that

$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \left(\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k} \right) = \ln 2.$$

Answer Area

1. Justify the existence of I_n for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then calculate I_0 .

The function $f_n(x) = \frac{x^n}{x+1}$ is continuous on [0,1] for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, since both numerator and denominator are continuous and the denominator does not vanish on [0,1]. Therefore, the integral

$$I_n = \int_0^1 \frac{x^n}{x+1} \, dx$$

exists for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

For n = 0, we have:

$$I_0 = \int_0^1 \frac{1}{x+1} dx = \left[\ln|x+1| \right]_0^1 = \ln(2) - \ln(1) = \ln(2).$$

2. Verify that for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have the inequality: $\forall x \in [0,1], \ \frac{x^n}{x+1} \leq x^n$.

On [0,1], we know that $x+1 \ge 1$, so $\frac{1}{x+1} \le 1$. Multiplying both sides by $x^n \ge 0$, we get:

$$\frac{x^n}{x+1} \le x^n, \quad \forall x \in [0,1].$$

3. Deduce that $\lim_{n\to+\infty} I_n = 0$.

Since $\frac{x^n}{x+1} \leq x^n$, integrating both sides over [0, 1] gives:

$$0 \le I_n = \int_0^1 \frac{x^n}{x+1} \, dx \le \int_0^1 x^n \, dx = \frac{1}{n+1}.$$

As $n \to \infty$, $\frac{1}{n+1} \to 0$, so by the squeeze theorem:

$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} I_n = 0.$$

4. Calculate for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, the value of $I_n + I_{n+1}$.

We compute:

$$I_n + I_{n+1} = \int_0^1 \frac{x^n}{x+1} dx + \int_0^1 \frac{x^{n+1}}{x+1} dx$$
$$= \int_0^1 \frac{x^n (1+x)}{x+1} dx$$
$$= \int_0^1 x^n dx = \frac{1}{n+1}$$

5. **Deduce that** $\lim_{n\to+\infty} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k} = \ln 2$.

From the recurrence:

$$I_k + I_{k+1} = \frac{1}{k+1},$$

summing from k = 0 to n - 1, we get:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (I_k + I_{k+1}) = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k+1} = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{1}{k}.$$

But the left-hand side telescopes:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (I_k + I_{k+1}) = I_0 + 2(I_1 + I_2 + \dots + I_{n-1}) + I_n.$$

Alternatively, consider the partial sums of the alternating harmonic series:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \dots + \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n}.$$

It is known that this converges to $\ln 2$ as $n \to \infty$. Therefore:

$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k} = \ln 2.$$