

**Problem 12054**

(American Mathematical Monthly, Vol.125, June-July 2018)

Proposed by C. I. Vălean (Romania).

Prove

$$\int_0^1 \frac{\arctan(x)}{x} \ln\left(\frac{1+x^2}{(1-x)^2}\right) dx = \frac{\pi^3}{16}.$$

Solution proposed by Roberto Tauraso, Dipartimento di Matematica, Università di Roma "Tor Vergata", via della Ricerca Scientifica, 00133 Roma, Italy.

*Solution.* Let  $H_k = \sum_{j=1}^k \frac{1}{j}$  for  $k \geq 1$ . We have that for  $x \in (0, 1)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \arctan(x) \ln(1+x^2) &= \frac{i}{2}(\ln(1-ix) - \ln(1+ix))(\ln(1-ix) + \ln(1+ix)) \\ &= \frac{i}{2}(\ln^2(1-ix) - \ln^2(1+ix)) = -\operatorname{Im}(\ln^2(1-ix)) = -2 \operatorname{Im}\left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_k (ix)^{k+1}}{k+1}\right) \end{aligned}$$

where we used the fact that

$$-\ln(1-t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k} \implies -\frac{\ln(1-t)}{1-t} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} H_k t^k \implies \ln^2(1-t) = 2 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_k t^{k+1}}{k+1}.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 \frac{\arctan(x) \ln(1+x^2)}{x} dx &= -2 \operatorname{Im}\left(\int_0^1 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_k i^{k+1} x^k}{k+1} dx\right) \\ &= -2 \operatorname{Im}\left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_k i^{k+1}}{k+1} \int_0^1 x^k dx\right) = -2 \operatorname{Re}\left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_k i^k}{(k+1)^2}\right). \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 \frac{\arctan(x) \ln(1-x)}{x} dx &= \int_0^1 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k x^{2k} \ln(1-x)}{2k+1} dx \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{2k+1} \int_0^1 x^{2k} \ln(1-x) dx \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{(2k+1)^2} \int_0^1 \ln(1-x) d(x^{2k+1} - 1) \\ &= -\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{(2k+1)^2} \int_0^1 \frac{x^{2k+1} - 1}{x-1} dx \\ &= -\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k H_{2k+1}}{(2k+1)^2} = -\operatorname{Re}\left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{H_{k+1} i^k}{(k+1)^2}\right). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 \frac{\arctan(x)}{x} \ln\left(\frac{1+x^2}{(1-x)^2}\right) dx &= -2 \operatorname{Re}\left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_k i^k}{(k+1)^2}\right) + 2 \operatorname{Re}\left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{H_{k+1} i^k}{(k+1)^2}\right) \\ &= 2 \operatorname{Re}\left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{i^k}{(k+1)^3}\right) = 2 \operatorname{Im}\left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{i^k}{k^3}\right) = 2 \operatorname{Im}(\operatorname{Li}_3(i)) = \frac{\pi^3}{16} \end{aligned}$$

because, by a known identity for the trilogarithm  $\operatorname{Li}_3$ ,

$$2 \operatorname{Im}(\operatorname{Li}_3(i)) = \operatorname{Im}(\operatorname{Li}_3(z) - \operatorname{Li}_3(1/z))_{z=i} = -\frac{1}{6} \operatorname{Im}(\ln^3(-z) + \pi^2 \ln(-z))_{z=i} = \frac{\pi^3}{16}.$$

□