

Problem 12107

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Proposed by C. I. Vălean (Romania).

Prove

$$\int_0^1 \int_0^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+x^2}\sqrt{1+y^2}(1-x^2y^2)} dx dy = G$$

where G is the Catalan's constant $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1}/(2n-1)^2$.

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

Solution. We have that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \frac{dx dy}{\sqrt{1+x^2}\sqrt{1+y^2}(1-x^2y^2)} &= \int_0^{\pi/4} \left(\int_0^{\pi/4} \frac{\cos(u)\cos(v)}{\cos^2(u) - \sin^2(v)} dv \right) du \quad (x = \tan(u), y = \tan(v)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi/4} \left[\log \left(\frac{\cos(u) + \sin(v)}{\cos(u) - \sin(v)} \right) \right]_{v=0}^{\pi/4} du \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi/4} \log \left(\frac{\cos(u) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}}{\cos(u) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}} \right) du = \frac{1}{4} \int_{-\pi/4}^{\pi/4} \log \left(\frac{\cos(u) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}}{\cos(u) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}} \right) du \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \int_0^{\pi/2} \log \left(\frac{\cos(s) + \sin(s) + 1}{\cos(s) + \sin(s) - 1} \right) ds \quad \left(u = s - \frac{\pi}{4} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \frac{\log \left(\frac{1+t}{t(1-t)} \right)}{1+t^2} dt \quad (t = \tan(s/2)) \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \frac{\log(t)}{1+t^2} dt - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \frac{\log \left(\frac{1-t}{1+t} \right)}{1+t^2} dt \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \frac{\log(t)}{1+t^2} dt - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \frac{\log(r)}{1+r^2} dr \quad \left(r = \frac{1-t}{1+t} \right) \\ &= -\int_0^1 \frac{\log(t)}{1+t^2} dt = [-\log(t) \arctan(t)]_0^1 + \int_0^1 \frac{\arctan(t)}{t} dt \\ &= \int_0^1 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1} t^{2n-2}}{2n-1} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{2n-1} \int_0^1 t^{2n-2} dt \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{(2n-1)^2} = G \end{aligned}$$

and we are done. □