

Problem 12256

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Prove

$$\int_0^1 \frac{\log(1+x)\log(1-x)}{x} dx = -\frac{5}{8}\zeta(3).$$

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

Solution. We first note that

$$\log^2((1+x)(1-x)) - \log^2\left(\frac{1+x}{1-x}\right) = 4\log(1+x)\log(1-x).$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 \frac{\log(1+x)\log(1-x)}{x} dx &= \frac{1}{4} \left(\int_0^1 \frac{1}{x} \log^2(1-x^2) dx - \int_0^1 \frac{1}{x} \log^2\left(\frac{1+x}{1-x}\right) dx \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left(\zeta(3) - \frac{7\zeta(3)}{2} \right) = -\frac{5}{8}\zeta(3) \end{aligned}$$

because, by letting $t = 1 - x^2$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 \frac{1}{x} \log^2(1-x^2) dx &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \frac{\log^2(t)}{1-t} dt = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \int_0^1 t^k \log^2(t) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{2}{(k+1)^3} = \zeta(3), \end{aligned}$$

and, by letting $t = \frac{1+x}{1-x}$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 \frac{1}{x} \log^2\left(\frac{1+x}{1-x}\right) dx &= 2 \int_0^1 \frac{\log^2(t)}{1-t^2} dt = 2 \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \int_0^1 t^{2k} \log^2(t) dt \\ &= 2 \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{2}{(2k+1)^3} = \frac{7}{2}\zeta(3). \end{aligned}$$

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