

Problem 12317

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Proposed by S. Stewart (Saudi Arabia).

Prove

$$\int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{\sin(4x)}{\log(\tan(x))} dx = -\frac{14\zeta(3)}{\pi^2}.$$

Solution proposed by Roberto Tauraso, University of Rome Tor Vergata, Rome, Italy.

Solution. We have that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{\sin(4x)}{\log(\tan(x))} dx &= 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{\sin(2x) \cos(2x)}{\log(\tan(x))} dx \\ &= 2 \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{\frac{2t}{1+t^2} \frac{1-t^2}{1+t^2}}{\log(t)} \frac{dt}{1+t^2} \quad [t = \tan(x)] \\ &= 4 \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{t(1-t^2)}{(1+t^2)^3 \log(t)} dt \\ &= -4 \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{s-1}{(1+s)^3 \log(s)} ds \quad [s = t^2] \\ &= -4I(1) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$I(u) = \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{s^u - 1}{(1+s)^3 \log(s)} ds.$$

By the Euler's reflection formula, for $u \in (0, 1)$,

$$\begin{aligned} I'(u) &= \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{s^u}{(1+s)^3} ds \stackrel{w=\frac{1}{1+s}}{=} \int_0^1 w^{1-u} (1-w)^u dw = B(2-u, u+1) \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(2-u)\Gamma(u+1)}{\Gamma(3)} = \frac{u(1-u)}{2} \Gamma(u)\Gamma(1-u) = \frac{\pi u(1-u)}{2 \sin(\pi u)}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} I(1) &= \int_0^1 I'(u) du = \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^1 \frac{u(1-u)}{\sin(\pi u)} du = \pi i \int_0^1 \frac{u(1-u)}{e^{i\pi u} - e^{-i\pi u}} du \\ &= \pi i \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \int_0^1 u(1-u) e^{-i(2k+1)\pi u} du = \frac{4}{\pi^2} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2k+1)^3} = \frac{4}{\pi^2} \zeta(3) \left(1 - \frac{1}{8}\right) = \frac{7\zeta(3)}{2\pi^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Finally,

$$\int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{\sin(4x)}{\log(\tan(x))} dx = -4I(1) = -4 \frac{7\zeta(3)}{2\pi^2} = -14 \frac{\zeta(3)}{\pi^2}.$$

□