

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

UP.545 Find:

$$\Omega = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{x^5 - 3x^3}{3x^6 - x^4 - 3x^2 + 1} dx$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

$$x \in \left(0, \frac{1}{2}\right) \Rightarrow (\exists)y \in \left(0, \arctan \frac{1}{2}\right); x = \tan y$$

$$dx = \frac{1}{\cos^2 y} dy; dx = (1 + \tan^2 y) dy$$

$$x = 0 \Rightarrow y = 0; x = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow y = \arctan \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Omega = \int_0^{\arctan \frac{1}{2}} \frac{(\tan^5 y - 3 \tan^3 y)(1 + \tan^2 y)}{3 \tan^6 y - \tan^4 y - 3 \tan^2 y + 1} dy$$

$$\Omega = - \int_0^{\arctan \frac{1}{2}} \frac{\tan^3 y (3 - \tan^2 y)(1 + \tan^2 y)}{3 \tan^2 y (\tan^4 y - 1) - (\tan^4 y - 1)} dy$$

$$\Omega = - \int_0^{\arctan \frac{1}{2}} \frac{\tan^3 y (3 - \tan^2 y)(1 + \tan^2 y)}{(\tan^2 y - 1)(\tan^2 y + 1)(3 \tan^2 y - 1)} dy$$

$$\Omega = \int_0^{\arctan \frac{1}{2}} \frac{\tan y (3 - \tan^2 y)}{3 \tan^2 y - 1} \cdot \frac{\tan^2 y}{\tan^2 y - 1} dy$$

$$\Omega = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\arctan \frac{1}{2}} \tan(3y) \cdot \frac{2 \tan y}{\tan^2 y - 1} \cdot \tan y dy$$

$$\Omega = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\arctan \frac{1}{2}} \tan(3y) \cdot \tan(2y) \cdot \tan y dy$$

$$\Omega = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\arctan \frac{1}{2}} (\tan 3y - \tan 2y - \tan y) dy$$

$$\Omega = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\arctan \frac{1}{2}} \tan 3y dy - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\arctan \frac{1}{2}} \tan 2y dy - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\arctan \frac{1}{2}} \tan y dy$$

$$\Omega = \frac{1}{2} \ln \left(\cos \left(\arctan \frac{1}{2} \right) \right) + \frac{1}{4} \ln \left(\cos \left(2 \arctan \frac{1}{2} \right) \right) - \frac{1}{6} \ln \left(\cos \left(3 \arctan \frac{1}{2} \right) \right)$$

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Solution 2 by Marin Chirciu-Romania

With the substitution $x^2 = t$ we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\frac{1}{4}} \frac{t^2 - 3t}{3t^3 - t^2 - 3t + 1} dt = \frac{1}{2} \int_1^{\frac{1}{4}} \frac{t^2 - 3t}{(t-1)(t+1)(3t-1)} dt = \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_1^{\frac{1}{4}} \left(\frac{-\frac{1}{2}}{t-1} + \frac{-1}{3t-1} + \frac{-1}{t+1} \right) dt = \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(-\frac{1}{2} \ln|t-1| - \frac{1}{3} \ln|3t-1| - \ln|t+1| \right) \Big|_0^{\frac{1}{4}} = \\ &= \frac{-1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \ln|t-1| + \frac{1}{3} \ln|3t-1| + \ln|t+1| \right) \Big|_0^{\frac{1}{4}} = \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \ln \left| \frac{1}{4} - 1 \right| + \frac{1}{3} \ln \left| \frac{3}{4} - 1 \right| + \ln \left| \frac{1}{4} + 1 \right| \right) = -\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{3} \ln \frac{1}{4} + \ln \frac{5}{4} \right) = \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \ln 3 - \ln 2 - \frac{2}{3} \ln 2 + \ln 5 + \ln 2 - 2 \ln 2 \right) = -\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \ln 3 - \frac{11}{3} \ln 2 + \ln 5 \right) = \\ &= \frac{11}{6} \ln 2 - \frac{1}{4} \ln 3 - \frac{1}{2} \ln 5\end{aligned}$$

I broke it down into simple fractions:

$$\frac{t^2-3t}{(t-1)(3t-1)(t+1)} = \frac{A}{t-1} + \frac{B}{3t-1} + \frac{C}{t+1}, \text{ with } A = -\frac{1}{2}, B = -1, C = -1$$