

Some Sample Problems

1. Find the antiderivative: $\int \sqrt{\tan(x)} dx$

Let $u = \sqrt{\tan(x)}$; $u^2 = \tan(x)$, $dx = \frac{2udu}{1+u^4}$. Then $\int u \frac{2udu}{u^4+1} = 2 \int \frac{u^2}{u^4+1} du$.

$u^4 + 1 = (u^2 + \sqrt{2}u + 1)(u^2 - \sqrt{2}u + 1)$, so by partial fractions:

$$2 \int \frac{u^2}{u^4+1} du = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \int \frac{u}{u^2+\sqrt{2}u+1} du + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \int \frac{u}{u^2-\sqrt{2}u+1} du.$$

$$\text{Now, } \int \frac{u}{u^2+Ku+1} du = \frac{1}{2} \ln(u^2 + Ku + 1) - \frac{K}{4-K^2} \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{2u+K}{\sqrt{4-K^2}}\right).$$

Substituting $K = \sqrt{2}, -\sqrt{2}$ gives:

$$\begin{aligned} \int \sqrt{\tan(x)} dx &= \frac{-1}{2\sqrt{2}} [\ln(u^2 + \sqrt{2}u + 1) - \ln(u^2 - \sqrt{2}u + 1)] + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [\tan^{-1}(\sqrt{2}u + 1) + \tan^{-1}(\sqrt{2}u - 1)] \Big|_{u=\sqrt{\tan(x)}} (+C) \end{aligned}$$

2. What is the sum of $1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{9} - \frac{1}{10} - \frac{1}{11} - \frac{1}{12} + \dots$

Let $A = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{6} + \dots$

$B = 1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{6} + \dots$

Then $B = \ln(2)$ ($= \sum_1^\infty \frac{(-1)^n}{n} = \ln(1+x)|_{x=1}$).

$$\begin{aligned} \text{And } A + B &= 2[1 + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{9} - \frac{1}{10} - \frac{1}{12} + \frac{1}{13} + \dots] \\ &= 2[1 + (\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4}) - (\frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{7}) + (\frac{1}{9} - \frac{1}{10}) - (\frac{1}{12} - \frac{1}{13}) + \dots] \\ &= 2[1 + \frac{1}{3*4} - \frac{1}{6*7} + \frac{1}{9*10} - \frac{1}{12*13} + \dots] \\ &= 2[1 + \sum_1^\infty \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{3n(3n+1)}] \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_1^\infty \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{3n(3n+1)} = \int_0^1 \sum_1^\infty \frac{(-1)^n x^{3n}}{3n} dx = \int_0^1 \frac{1}{3} \ln(1+x^3) dx$$

$$(\ln(1+u) = u - \frac{u^2}{2} + \frac{u^3}{3} - \dots)$$

Therefore, $A + B = 2 + 2 \int_0^1 \frac{1}{3} \ln(1+x^3) dx$

$$= 2 + \frac{2}{3} \int_0^1 \ln(1+x^3) dx$$

Integration by parts gives: $\int_0^1 \ln(1+x^3) dx = x \ln(1+x^3)|_0^1 - \int_0^1 \frac{3x^2}{1+x^3} x dx$

$$= \ln(2) - 3 \int_0^1 \frac{x^3}{x^3+1} dx$$

$$\text{So } A + B = 2 + \frac{2}{3} \ln(2) - 2 \int_0^1 \frac{x^3}{x^3+1} dx$$

$$\text{Now } \int_0^1 \frac{x^3}{x^3+1} dx = \int_0^1 \frac{x^3+1-1}{x^3+1} dx = \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{x^3+1} - \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{x^3+1}$$

$$\text{So } A + B = 2 + \frac{2}{3} \ln(2) - 2[1 - \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{x^3+1}] = \frac{2}{3} \ln(2) + 2 \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{x^3+1}$$

Partial fractions gives:

$$\int_0^1 \frac{dx}{x^3+1} = \frac{1}{3} \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{x+1} - \frac{1}{3} \int_0^1 \frac{x-2}{x^2-x+1} dx = \frac{1}{3} \ln(2) - \frac{1}{6} \int_0^1 \frac{2x-4}{x^2-x+1} dx$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{1}{3} \ln(2) - \frac{1}{6} \int_0^1 \frac{2x-1}{x^2-x+1} dx - \frac{1}{6} \int_0^1 \frac{-3}{x^2-x+1} dx \\
&= \frac{1}{3} \ln(2) - \frac{1}{6} \ln(x^2 - x + 1) \Big|_0^1 + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{x^2-x+1} \\
&= \frac{1}{3} \ln(2) + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{(x-\frac{1}{2})^2 + (\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2})^2} \\
&= \frac{1}{3} \ln(2) + \frac{1}{2} * \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x-\frac{1}{2}}{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}}\right) \Big|_0^1 \\
&= \frac{1}{3} \ln(2) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} [\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right) - \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{-1}{\sqrt{3}}\right)] \\
&= \frac{1}{3} \ln(2) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} * \frac{\pi}{3}
\end{aligned}$$

Finally, $A + B = \frac{2}{3} \ln(2) + 2[\frac{1}{3} \ln(2) + \frac{\pi}{3\sqrt{3}}]$

$$= \frac{4}{3} \ln(2) + \frac{2\pi}{3\sqrt{3}}$$

So $A = \frac{4}{3} \ln(2) - \ln(2) + \frac{2\pi}{3\sqrt{3}}$

$$= \frac{1}{3} \ln(2) + \frac{2\pi}{3\sqrt{3}}$$

3. Find the total perimeter of $x^{\frac{2}{3}} + y^{\frac{2}{3}} = a^{\frac{2}{3}}$, where a is a fixed positive number.

$$\begin{aligned}
y &= (a^{\frac{2}{3}} - x^{\frac{2}{3}})^{\frac{3}{2}} \text{ (1st quadrant piece, take a look at the graph)} \\
1 + (y')^2 &= \frac{a^{\frac{2}{3}}}{x^{\frac{2}{3}}}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Therefore the total length} &= 4 \int_0^a a^{\frac{1}{3}} x^{\frac{-1}{3}} dx \\
&= 4a^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot \frac{3}{2} x^{\frac{2}{3}} \Big|_0^a = 6a
\end{aligned}$$

4. Let $f(x) = \int_1^x \frac{\ln(t)}{1+t} dt$ for $x > 0$. Find $f(x) + f(\frac{1}{x})$.
(As a check: $f(2) + f(\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{1}{2}(\ln 2)^2$.)

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Let } g(x) &= f(x) + f(\frac{1}{x}), x > 0, g' = f'(x) - \frac{1}{x^2} f'(\frac{1}{x}) \\
&= \frac{\ln(x)}{1+x} - \frac{1}{x^2} \frac{\ln(\frac{1}{x})}{1+\frac{1}{x}} \\
&= \frac{\ln(x)}{1+x} + \frac{\ln(x)}{x(1+x)} \\
&= \frac{\ln(x)}{x}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
g'(x) &= \frac{\ln(x)}{x} \text{ implies } g(x) = \frac{1}{2}(\ln(x))^2 + C \\
g(\frac{1}{2}) &= \frac{1}{2}(\ln(2))^2 \text{ implies } C = 0 \\
\text{Therefore, } f(x) + f(\frac{1}{x}) &= \frac{1}{2}(\ln(x))^2
\end{aligned}$$