

**W12.** Prove that:

Prove that

$$\int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{\sin^2 nx}{\sin^2 x} dx = \frac{n\pi}{2}, n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

**Šefket Arslanagić**

**Solution by Arkady Alt, San Jose, California, USA.**

First note that  $\int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{\sin^2 nx}{\sin^2 x} dx = \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{1 - \cos 2nx}{1 - \cos 2x} dx = \frac{1}{2} I_n$ , where  $I_n := \int_0^{\pi} \frac{1 - \cos nx}{1 - \cos x} dx$ .

Let  $c_n := \cos nx, t := \cos x, d_n := 1 - c_n \Rightarrow c_n = 1 - d_n$ .

Then  $\cos(n+1)x + \cos(n-1)x = 2 \cos x \cdot \cos nx$  becomes

$$c_{n+1} - 2t \cdot c_n + c_{n-1} = 0 \Leftrightarrow 1 - d_{n+1} - 2t(1 - d_n) + 1 - d_{n-1} = 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$2td_n - 2t - d_{n-1} - d_{n+1} + 2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow d_{n+1} + d_{n-1} - 2td_n = 2(1 - t) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{1 - \cos(n+1)x}{1 - \cos x} + \frac{1 - \cos(n-1)x}{1 - \cos x} - 2 \cos x \cdot \frac{1 - \cos nx}{1 - \cos x} = 2 \cdot \frac{1 - \cos x}{1 - \cos x}$$

$$\text{and, therefore, } I_{n+1} + I_{n-1} - 2 \int_0^{\pi} \cos x \cdot \frac{1 - \cos nx}{1 - \cos x} dx = 2 \int_0^{\pi} dx = \pi$$

$$\text{Since } \int_0^{\pi} \cos x \cdot \frac{1 - \cos nx}{1 - \cos x} dx = \int_0^{\pi} \left( (\cos x - 1 + 1) \cdot \frac{1 - \cos nx}{1 - \cos x} \right) dx =$$

$$\int_0^{\pi} (\cos nx - 1) dx + I_n \text{ and } \int_0^{\pi} (\cos nx - 1) dx = \int_0^{\pi} \cos(nx) dx - \pi =$$

$$\left( \frac{\sin nx}{n} \right)_0^{\pi} - \pi = -\pi \text{ then } I_{n+1} + I_{n-1} - 2(-\pi + I_n) = 2\pi \Leftrightarrow$$

$$I_{n+1} + I_{n-1} - 2I_n = 0, n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Noting that  $I_0 = 0, I_1 = \pi$  we obtain  $I_{n+1} + I_{n-1} - 2I_n = 0 \Leftrightarrow$

$$I_{n+1} - I_n = I_n - I_{n-1} \Rightarrow I_{n+1} - I_n = \pi \Rightarrow I_n = n\pi$$

$$\text{and, therefore, } \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{\sin^2 nx}{\sin^2 x} dx = \frac{n\pi}{2}.$$