

5339: Proposed by D.M. Băținetu-Giurgiu, "Matei Basarab" National College, Bucharest, Romania and Neculai Stanciu "George Emil Palade" School, Buzău, Romania

Calculate: $\int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{3 \sin x + 4 \cos x}{3 \cos x + 4 \sin x} dx$.

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

Let $I := \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{3 \sin x + 4 \cos x}{3 \cos x + 4 \sin x} dx$ and $J := \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{-3 \sin x + 4 \cos x}{3 \cos x + 4 \sin x} dx$.

Then $I + J = 8 \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{\cos x}{3 \cos x + 4 \sin x} dx = 8 \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{1}{3 + 4 \tan x} dx =$

$[t := \tan x; dt = (1 + t^2) dx] = 8 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dt}{(3 + 4t)(1 + t^2)}$.

Since $\frac{1}{(3 + 4t)(1 + t^2)} = \frac{16}{25(4t + 3)} - \frac{4t - 3}{25(t^2 + 1)} = \frac{16}{25(4t + 3)} - \frac{4t}{25(t^2 + 1)} + \frac{3}{25(t^2 + 1)}$,

$\int \frac{4dt}{4t + 3} = \ln(4t + 3) + c, \int \frac{2tdt}{t^2 + 1} = \ln(t^2 + 1) + c, \int \frac{dt}{t^2 + 1} = \tan^{-1}(t) + c$

then $\int \frac{dt}{(3 + 4t)(1 + t^2)} = \frac{2}{25} \ln \frac{(4t + 3)^2}{t^2 + 1} + \frac{3}{25} \tan^{-1}(t) + c$.

Noting that $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \ln \frac{(4t + 3)^2}{t^2 + 1} = \ln 16 = 4 \ln 2$ and $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \tan^{-1}(t) = \frac{\pi}{2}$ we obtain

$$I + J = \frac{8}{25} \left(2 \ln \frac{(4t + 3)^2}{t^2 + 1} + 3 \tan^{-1}(t) \right)_0^{\infty} = \frac{8}{25} \left(2(4 \ln 2 - 2 \ln 3) + 3 \cdot \frac{\pi}{2} \right) = \frac{8}{25} \left(8 \ln 2 - 4 \ln 3 + \frac{3\pi}{2} \right).$$

Since $J = \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{d(3 \cos x + 4 \sin x)}{3 \cos x + 4 \sin x} = (\ln(3 \cos x + 4 \sin x))_0^{\pi/2} = \ln 4 - \ln 3$ then

$$I = \frac{8}{25} \left(8 \ln 2 - 4 \ln 3 + \frac{3\pi}{2} \right) - (\ln 4 - \ln 3) = \frac{12\pi}{25} + \frac{14}{25} \ln 2 - \frac{7}{25} \ln 3.$$

Remark.

Another way to evaluate integral $\int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{1}{3 + 4 \tan x} dx$ consists in using of tangent

of half argument, that is denoting $t := \tan \frac{x}{2}$ we obtain $dx = \frac{2dt}{t^2 + 1}$ and then

$$\int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{1}{3 + 4 \tan x} dx = 2 \int_0^1 \frac{t^2 - 1}{(3t + 1)(t - 3)(t^2 + 1)} dt =$$

$$2 \int_0^1 \left(\frac{2}{25(t - 3)} - \frac{4t - 3}{25(t^2 + 1)} + \frac{6}{25(3t + 1)} \right) dt =$$

$$2 \left(\frac{2}{25} \int_0^1 \frac{dt}{t - 3} - \frac{2}{25} \int_0^1 \frac{(t^2 + 1)'}{t^2 + 1} dt + \frac{3}{25} \int_0^1 \frac{dt}{t^2 + 1} + \frac{2}{25} \int_0^1 \frac{dt}{3t + 1} \right) = :$$

$$2 \left(\frac{2}{25} (\ln 2 - \ln 3) - \frac{2}{25} \ln 2 + \frac{3}{25} \cdot \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{2}{25} \cdot \frac{2}{3} \ln 2 \right) = \frac{3}{50} \pi + \frac{8}{75} \ln 2 - \frac{4}{25} \ln 3.$$

$$\text{Hence, } I + J = 8 \left(\frac{3}{50} \pi + \frac{8}{75} \ln 2 - \frac{4}{25} \ln 3 \right) = \frac{12}{25} \pi + \frac{64}{75} \ln 2 - \frac{32}{25} \ln 3$$

$$\text{and, therefore, } I = \left(\frac{12}{25} \pi + \frac{64}{75} \ln 2 - \frac{32}{25} \ln 3 \right) - (2 \ln 2 - \ln 3) = \frac{12}{25} \pi + \frac{14}{25} \ln 2 - \frac{7}{25} \ln 3.$$