

Problem for 2005 July

Communicated by Dan Jurca

Suppose that a , b , and c are real numbers; evaluate the following limit.

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \ln \left(\frac{1}{t} \int_0^t (1 + a \sin bx)^{c/x} dx \right)$$

Solution by Dan Jurca

Using continuity of the natural logarithm function, l'Hôpital's rule, and the fundamental theorem of calculus we find

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \ln \left(\frac{1}{t} \int_0^t (1 + a \sin bx)^{c/x} dx \right) &= \ln \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\int_0^t (1 + a \sin bx)^{c/x} dx}{t} \\ &= \ln \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{d}{dt} \int_0^t (1 + a \sin bx)^{c/x} dx}{\frac{d}{dt} t} \\ &= \ln \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{(1 + a \sin bt)^{c/t}}{1} \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \ln((1 + a \sin bt)^{c/t}) \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{c}{t} \ln(1 + a \sin bt) \\ &= c \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\ln(1 + a \sin bt)}{t} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{t}{\frac{d}{dt} \ln(1 + a \sin bt)} \\
&= c \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{t}{\frac{d}{dt} \ln(1 + a \sin bt)} \\
&= c \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{1 + a \sin bt} \cdot ab \cos bt} \\
&= c \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{ab \cos bt}{1 + a \sin bt} \\
&= c \cdot ab \\
&= abc.
\end{aligned}$$

Also solved by John M. Sayer