

Math 205 Problem
April 13, 2009

Exercise 1(ii) on the HW involved a fairly serious integral. Here is the answer (and no, problems on exams will not be so difficult!)

Challenge. Compute

$$(0.1) \quad \iint_{0 \leq x, y \leq 1} (x^2 + y^2)^{1/2} dx dy.$$

Use Fubini to rewrite the integration

$$(0.2) \quad \int_0^1 y \left(\int_0^1 (1 + (x/y)^2)^{1/2} dx \right) dy$$

Now make the change of variable $u = x/y$, $x = uy$, $dx = ydu$. The integral becomes

$$(0.3) \quad \int_0^1 y^2 \left(\int_0^{1/y} (1 + u^2)^{1/2} du \right) dy$$

Integration by parts yields

$$(0.4) \quad \int (1 + u^2)^{1/2} du = u(1 + u^2)^{1/2} - \int \frac{u^2 du}{(1 + u^2)^{1/2}} = u(1 + u^2)^{1/2} - \int (1 + u^2)^{1/2} du + \int \frac{du}{(1 + u^2)^{1/2}}.$$

It follows that

$$(0.5) \quad \int (1 + u^2)^{1/2} du = 1/2 \left(u(1 + u^2)^{1/2} + \int \frac{du}{(1 + u^2)^{1/2}} \right).$$

On the other hand,

$$(0.6) \quad \int \frac{du}{(1 + u^2)^{1/2}} = \log(u + (u^2 + 1)^{1/2})$$

(How to spot this? Well, it is a bit of an art. One starts with the formula $d/du(\log(f(u))) = (df/du)/f$ and then one looks for an f ... Alternatively, there are lots of tables of elementary integrals on the web.)

Anyway, where are we? Combining (0.5) and (0.6) yields

$$(0.7) \quad \int (1 + u^2)^{1/2} du = 1/2 \left(u(1 + u^2)^{1/2} + \log(u + (u^2 + 1)^{1/2}) \right)$$

Now substitute into (0.3)

$$\begin{aligned}
 (0.8) \quad & \iint_{0 \leq x, y \leq 1} (x^2 + y^2)^{1/2} dx dy = \\
 & 1/2 \int_0^1 y^2 \left(y^{-1} (1 + y^{-2})^{1/2} + \log(y^{-1} + (y^{-2} + 1)^{1/2}) \right) = \\
 & 1/2 \int_0^1 \left((y^2 + 1)^{1/2} - y^2 \log y + y^2 \log(1 + (y^2 + 1)^{1/2}) \right) dy.
 \end{aligned}$$

This integral can also be computed as an indefinite integral involving the inverse hyperbolic sin, $\operatorname{arcsinh}$. It is a bit painful to do by hand, but Mathematica yields

$$\begin{aligned}
 (0.9) \quad & 1/2 \int \left((y^2 + 1)^{1/2} - y^2 \log y + y^2 \log(1 + (y^2 + 1)^{1/2}) \right) dy = \\
 & y\sqrt{1 + y^2}/3 + \operatorname{arcsinh}(y)/6 - y^3 \log(y)/6 + y^3 \log(1 + \sqrt{1 + y^2})/6.
 \end{aligned}$$

For a numerical answer, you have but to evaluate these quantities at 0 and 1.