

Quiz 9, September 20, 2016

Find $\int \frac{8dx}{(4x^2+1)^2}$.

Answer: Let $2x = \tan \theta$. It follows that $2dx = \sec^2 \theta d\theta$ and $4x^2 + 1 = \tan^2 \theta + 1 = \sec^2 \theta$. The original integral is

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{8(\frac{1}{2}) \sec^2 \theta d\theta}{\sec^4 \theta} &= \int \frac{4}{\sec^2 \theta} d\theta = \int \cos^2 \theta d\theta = 2 \int (1 + \cos 2\theta) d\theta = \sin \theta = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{hypotenuse}} \\ &= \frac{2x}{\sqrt{4x^2+1}} + C = 2 \left(\theta + \frac{2 \sin(\theta) \cos(\theta)}{2} \right) + C. \end{aligned}$$

Draw a right triangle with $2x = \tan \theta = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{adjacent}}$. So this triangle has $2x$ on the opposite, 1 on the adjacent, and $\sqrt{4x^2+1}$ on the hypotenuse. So $\sin \theta = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{hypotenuse}} = \frac{2x}{\sqrt{4x^2+1}}$ and $\cos \theta = \frac{\text{adjacent}}{\text{hypotenuse}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4x^2+1}}$. Our integral is equal to

$$2 \left(\theta + \frac{2 \sin(\theta) \cos(\theta)}{2} \right) + C = 2 \left(\arctan(2x) + \frac{2x}{4x^2+1} \right) + C = \boxed{2 \arctan(2x) + \frac{4x}{4x^2+1} + C}.$$

Check: The derivative of the proposed answer is

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2 \cdot 2}{(2x)^2+1} - 4x \frac{8x}{(4x^2+1)^2} + \frac{4}{4x^2+1} &= \frac{8}{4x^2+1} + \frac{-32x^2}{(4x^2+1)^2} = \frac{8(4x^2+1) - 32x^2}{(4x^2+1)^2} \\ &= \frac{8dx}{(4x^2+1)^2}. \checkmark \end{aligned}$$