

Evaluate the integral $\int_0^1 \frac{x^4(1-x)^4}{1+x^2} dx$ and hence prove that $\pi < \frac{22}{7}$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^1 \frac{x^4(1-x)^4}{1+x^2} dx &= \int_0^1 \frac{x^4({}^4C_0 - {}^4C_1x + {}^4C_2x^2 - {}^4C_3x^3 + {}^4C_4x^4)}{1+x^2} dx \\
 &= \int_0^1 \frac{x^4(1-4x+6x^2-4x^3+x^4)}{1+x^2} dx \\
 &= \int_0^1 x^4 \frac{[-4x(1+x^2)+1+6x^2+x^4]}{1+x^2} dx \\
 &= \int_0^1 x^4(-4x) dx + \int_0^1 x^4 \frac{(1+6x^2+x^4)}{1+x^2} dx \\
 &= -4 \times \frac{1}{6} + \int_0^1 x^4 \frac{1+5x^2+x^2(1+x^2)}{1+x^2} dx \\
 &= -\frac{2}{3} + \int_0^1 x^6 dx + \int_0^1 x^4 \frac{1+5x^2}{1+x^2} dx \\
 &= -\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{7} + \int_0^1 x^4 \frac{5(1+x^2)-4}{1+x^2} dx \\
 &= -\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{7} + \int_0^1 5x^4 dx - 4 \int_0^1 \frac{x^4}{1+x^2} dx \\
 &= -\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{7} + 1 - 4 \int_0^1 \frac{x^4-1+1}{1+x^2} dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{7} - 4 \int_0^1 \frac{(x^2+1)(x^2-1)+1}{1+x^2} dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{7} - 4 \int_0^1 (x^2-1) dx - 4 \int_0^1 \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{7} - 4 \left(\frac{1}{3} - 1 \right) - 4 \frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{8}{3} - \pi = 3 + \frac{1}{7} - \pi = \frac{22}{7} - \pi
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, $f(x) = \frac{x^4(1-x)^4}{1+x^2}$ has even powers and having +ve area in the interval 0 to 1.

$$\text{So, } \int_0^1 \frac{x^4(1-x)^4}{1+x^2} dx = \frac{22}{7} - \pi > 0 \text{ or } \frac{22}{7} > \pi \text{ or } \pi < \frac{22}{7}$$