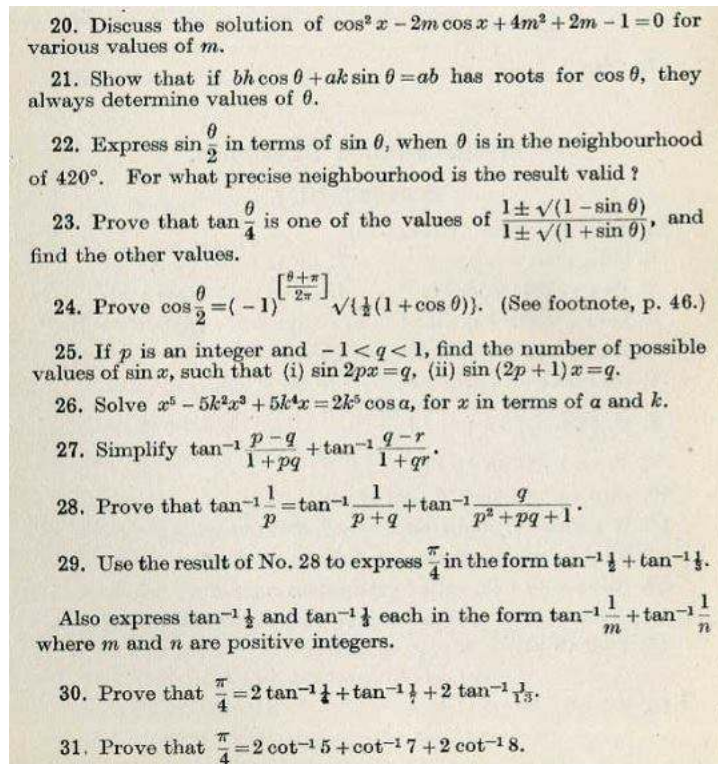


Trigonometry practice in a book published in the year 1930...



20. Discuss the solution of $\cos^2 x - 2m \cos x + 4m^2 + 2m - 1 = 0$ for various values of m .

$$\cos^2 x - 2m \cos x + 4m^2 + 2m - 1 = 0$$

$$(\cos^2 x - 2m \cos x + m^2) + (3m^2 + 2m - 1) = 0$$

$$(\cos x - m)^2 = -3m^2 - 2m + 1$$

$$\therefore \cos x = m \pm \sqrt{-3m^2 - 2m + 1} \quad \dots (1)$$

$$(A) \quad -3m^2 - 2m + 1 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow 3m^2 + 2m - 1 \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow (3m - 1)(m + 1) \leq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -1 \leq m \leq \frac{1}{3} \quad \dots (2)$$

(B) In order (1) to have solution, $-1 \leq \cos x \leq 1$.

(a) First we consider the root $\cos x = m + \sqrt{-3m^2 - 2m + 1}$

$$(i) \quad m + \sqrt{-3m^2 - 2m + 1} \leq 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sqrt{-3m^2 - 2m + 1} \leq 1 - m, \text{ since by (2), RHS is positive.}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -3m^2 - 2m + 1 \leq (1 - m)^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -3m^2 - 2m + 1 \leq 1 - 2m + m^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 4m^2 \geq 0, \text{ which is always true.}$$

$$(ii) \quad -1 \leq m + \sqrt{-3m^2 - 2m + 1} \text{ is always true since } -1 \leq m.$$

(b) Next, we consider the root $\cos x = m - \sqrt{-3m^2 - 2m + 1}$,

(i) $m - \sqrt{-3m^2 - 2m + 1} \leq 1$ is always true since $m \leq \frac{1}{3}$

(ii) $-1 \leq m - \sqrt{-3m^2 - 2m + 1}$
 $\Leftrightarrow \sqrt{-3m^2 - 2m + 1} \leq m + 1$, both sides are positive by (2)
 $\Leftrightarrow -3m^2 - 2m + 1 \leq (m + 1)^2$
 $\Leftrightarrow -3m^2 - 2m + 1 \leq m^2 + 2m + 1$
 $\Leftrightarrow 4m^2 + 4m \geq 0$
 $\Leftrightarrow m(m + 1) \geq 0$
 $\Leftrightarrow m \leq -1$ or $m \geq 0$

Joining with (2), $m = -1$ or $0 \leq m \leq \frac{1}{3}$

In conclusion,

(a) For $m = -1$, $m + \sqrt{-3m^2 - 2m + 1} = m - \sqrt{-3m^2 - 2m + 1}$

The given equation is reduced to $\cos^2 x + 2 \cos x + 1 = 0 \Leftrightarrow (\cos x + 1)^2 = 0$

We have only **one** root, that is, $\cos x = -1$.

(b) For $-1 < m < 0$, we have **one** roots, $\cos x = m \pm \sqrt{-3m^2 - 2m + 1}$

(c) For $m = 0$, $\cos x = \pm 1$, **two** roots.

(d) For $0 < m < \frac{1}{3}$, we have **two** roots, $\cos x = m \pm \sqrt{-3m^2 - 2m + 1}$.

(e) For $m = \frac{1}{3}$, $-3m^2 - 2m + 1 = 0$, $m + \sqrt{-3m^2 - 2m + 1} = m - \sqrt{-3m^2 - 2m + 1}$

The given equation is reduced to $9\cos^2 x - 6 \cos x + 1 = 0 \Leftrightarrow (3 \cos x - 1)^2 = 0$

We have only **one** root, that is, $\cos x = \frac{1}{3}$.

If we like to find the roots for x , where $0^\circ \leq x < 360^\circ$, then

(a) For $m = -1$, $x = 180^\circ$, **one** root.

(b) For $-1 < m < 0$, x has **four** roots.

(c) For $m = 0$, $x = 0^\circ, 180^\circ$, **two** roots.

(d) For $0 < m < \frac{1}{3}$, x has **four** roots.

(e) For $m = \frac{1}{3}$, x has **two** roots.

21. Show that if $bh \cos \theta + ak \sin \theta = ab$ has roots for $\cos \theta$. They always determine values of θ .

Let $c = \cos \theta$, the given equation becomes

$$bhc \pm ak\sqrt{1 - c^2} = ab$$

$$\pm ak\sqrt{1 - c^2} = ab - bhc$$

$$a^2k^2(1 - c^2) = (ab - bhc)^2$$

$$a^2k^2(1 - c^2) = a^2b^2 - 2ab^2hc + b^2h^2c^2$$

$$(b^2h^2 + a^2k^2)c^2 - 2ab^2hc + (a^2b^2 - a^2k^2) = 0$$

Since the equation has roots for $c = \cos \theta$,

$$\Delta = (-2ab^2h)^2 - 4(b^2h^2 + a^2k^2)(a^2b^2 - a^2k^2) = 4a^4k^4 + 4a^2b^2h^2k^2 - 4b^2k^2a^4$$

$$= 4a^2k^2(b^2h^2 + a^2k^2 - a^2b^2) \geq 0$$

$$a^2b^2 \leq b^2h^2 + a^2k^2 \quad \dots (1)$$

Now, $bh \cos \theta + ak \sin \theta = ab$

$$\frac{bh}{\sqrt{b^2h^2 + a^2k^2}} \cos \theta + \frac{ak}{\sqrt{b^2h^2 + a^2k^2}} \sin \theta = \frac{ab}{\sqrt{b^2h^2 + a^2k^2}}$$

Put $\cos \alpha = \frac{bh}{\sqrt{b^2h^2 + a^2k^2}}, \sin \alpha = \frac{ak}{\sqrt{b^2h^2 + a^2k^2}}$

Then the given equation becomes $\cos \theta \cos \alpha + \sin \theta \sin \alpha = \frac{ab}{\sqrt{b^2h^2 + a^2k^2}}$

Or $\cos(\theta - \alpha) = \frac{ab}{\sqrt{b^2h^2 + a^2k^2}} \quad \dots (2)$

(2) has solution $\Leftrightarrow \left| \frac{ab}{\sqrt{b^2h^2 + a^2k^2}} \right| \leq 1 \Leftrightarrow \frac{a^2b^2}{b^2h^2 + a^2k^2} \leq 1$, which is always true by (1).

$$\theta - \alpha = 360^\circ n \pm \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{ab}{\sqrt{b^2h^2 + a^2k^2}} \right)$$

$$\therefore \theta = \alpha + 360^\circ n \pm \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{ab}{\sqrt{b^2h^2 + a^2k^2}} \right), \text{ where } n \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

22. Express $\sin \frac{\theta}{2}$ in terms of $\sin \theta$, where θ is in the neighbourhood of 420° .

For what precise neighbourhood is the result valid ?

$$2\sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} = 1 - \cos \theta, \quad 2\cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} = 1 + \cos \theta$$

Replace θ by $(90^\circ - \theta)$,

$$2\sin^2 \left(45^\circ - \frac{\theta}{2} \right) = 1 - \cos(90^\circ - \theta), \quad 2\cos^2 \left(45^\circ - \frac{\theta}{2} \right) = 1 + \cos(90^\circ - \theta)$$

$$\sqrt{2}\sin \left(45^\circ - \frac{\theta}{2} \right) = \pm \sqrt{1 - \sin \theta}, \quad \sqrt{2}\cos \left(45^\circ - \frac{\theta}{2} \right) = \pm \sqrt{1 + \sin \theta}$$

Since θ is in the neighbourhood of 420° , $\left(45^\circ - \frac{\theta}{2} \right)$ is in the neighbourhood -165° .

Note that $\left(45^\circ - \frac{\theta}{2} \right)$ is in the 3rd quadrant when $270^\circ < \theta < 450^\circ$.

$$\therefore \sqrt{2}\sin\left(45^\circ - \frac{\theta}{2}\right) = -\sqrt{1 - \sin\theta}, \quad \sqrt{2}\cos\left(45^\circ - \frac{\theta}{2}\right) = -\sqrt{1 + \sin\theta}$$

$$\begin{cases} \sqrt{2}\left(\sin 45^\circ \cos \frac{\theta}{2} - \cos 45^\circ \sin \frac{\theta}{2}\right) = -\sqrt{1 - \sin\theta} \\ \sqrt{2}\left(\cos 45^\circ \cos \frac{\theta}{2} + \sin 45^\circ \sin \frac{\theta}{2}\right) = -\sqrt{1 + \sin\theta} \end{cases}, \quad 270^\circ < \theta < 450^\circ$$

$$\begin{cases} \cos \frac{\theta}{2} - \sin \frac{\theta}{2} = -\sqrt{1 - \sin\theta} \quad \dots (1) \\ \cos \frac{\theta}{2} + \sin \frac{\theta}{2} = -\sqrt{1 + \sin\theta} \quad \dots (2) \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{(2)-(1)}{2}, \quad \sin \frac{\theta}{2} = \frac{1}{2}(-\sqrt{1 + \sin\theta} + \sqrt{1 - \sin\theta}), \quad 270^\circ < \theta < 450^\circ.$$

23. Prove that $\tan \frac{\theta}{4}$ is one of the values of $\frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1 - \sin\theta}}{1 \pm \sqrt{1 + \sin\theta}}$, and find the other values.

$$\frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1 - \sin\theta}}{1 \pm \sqrt{1 + \sin\theta}} = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{\left(\sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2}\right) - 2 \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \cos \frac{\theta}{2}}}{1 \pm \sqrt{\left(\sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2}\right) + 2 \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \cos \frac{\theta}{2}}} = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{\left(\sin \frac{\theta}{2} - \cos \frac{\theta}{2}\right)^2}}{1 \pm \sqrt{\left(\sin \frac{\theta}{2} + \cos \frac{\theta}{2}\right)^2}} = \frac{1 \pm \left(\sin \frac{\theta}{2} - \cos \frac{\theta}{2}\right)}{1 \pm \left(\sin \frac{\theta}{2} + \cos \frac{\theta}{2}\right)}$$

By taking different signs in the fraction, we have:

$$(a) \quad \frac{1 + \left(\sin \frac{\theta}{2} - \cos \frac{\theta}{2}\right)}{1 + \left(\sin \frac{\theta}{2} + \cos \frac{\theta}{2}\right)} = \frac{1 + 2 \sin \frac{\theta}{4} \cos \frac{\theta}{4} - (1 - 2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{4})}{1 + 2 \sin \frac{\theta}{4} \cos \frac{\theta}{4} + (2 \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{4} - 1)} = \frac{2 \sin \frac{\theta}{4} \cos \frac{\theta}{4} + 2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{4}}{2 \sin \frac{\theta}{4} \cos \frac{\theta}{4} + 2 \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{4}} = \frac{\sin \frac{\theta}{4} (\cos \frac{\theta}{4} + \sin \frac{\theta}{4})}{\cos \frac{\theta}{4} (\cos \frac{\theta}{4} + \sin \frac{\theta}{4})} = \frac{\sin \frac{\theta}{4}}{\cos \frac{\theta}{4}} = \underline{\underline{\tan \frac{\theta}{4}}}$$

$$(b) \quad \frac{1 - \left(\sin \frac{\theta}{2} - \cos \frac{\theta}{2}\right)}{1 + \left(\sin \frac{\theta}{2} + \cos \frac{\theta}{2}\right)} = \frac{1 - 2 \sin \frac{\theta}{4} \cos \frac{\theta}{4} + (2 \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{4} - 1)}{1 + 2 \sin \frac{\theta}{4} \cos \frac{\theta}{4} + (2 \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{4} - 1)} = \frac{-2 \sin \frac{\theta}{4} \cos \frac{\theta}{4} + 2 \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{4}}{2 \sin \frac{\theta}{4} \cos \frac{\theta}{4} + 2 \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{4}} = \frac{\cos \frac{\theta}{4} (-\sin \frac{\theta}{4} + \cos \frac{\theta}{4})}{\cos \frac{\theta}{4} (\sin \frac{\theta}{4} + \cos \frac{\theta}{4})} = \frac{-\sin \frac{\theta}{4} + \cos \frac{\theta}{4}}{\sin \frac{\theta}{4} + \cos \frac{\theta}{4}}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{\sin \frac{\theta}{4}}{\cos \frac{\theta}{4}} + 1}{\frac{\sin \frac{\theta}{4}}{\cos \frac{\theta}{4}} + 1} = \frac{1 - \tan \frac{\theta}{4}}{1 + \tan \frac{\theta}{4}} = \frac{\tan \frac{\pi}{4} - \tan \frac{\theta}{4}}{1 + \tan \frac{\pi}{4} \tan \frac{\theta}{4}} = \tan \left(\frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{\theta}{4} \right) = \underline{\underline{\tan \left(\frac{\pi - \theta}{4} \right)}}$$

$$(c) \quad \frac{1 - \left(\sin \frac{\theta}{2} - \cos \frac{\theta}{2}\right)}{1 - \left(\sin \frac{\theta}{2} + \cos \frac{\theta}{2}\right)} = \frac{1 - 2 \sin \frac{\theta}{4} \cos \frac{\theta}{4} + (2 \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{4} - 1)}{1 - 2 \sin \frac{\theta}{4} \cos \frac{\theta}{4} - (1 - 2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{4})} = \frac{2 \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{4} - 2 \sin \frac{\theta}{4} \cos \frac{\theta}{4}}{2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{4} - 2 \sin \frac{\theta}{4} \cos \frac{\theta}{4}} = \frac{\cos \frac{\theta}{4} (\cos \frac{\theta}{4} - \sin \frac{\theta}{4})}{-\sin \frac{\theta}{4} (\cos \frac{\theta}{4} - \sin \frac{\theta}{4})} = \underline{\underline{-\cot \frac{\theta}{4}}}$$

$$(d) \quad \frac{1 + \left(\sin \frac{\theta}{2} - \cos \frac{\theta}{2}\right)}{1 - \left(\sin \frac{\theta}{2} + \cos \frac{\theta}{2}\right)} = \frac{1 + 2 \sin \frac{\theta}{4} \cos \frac{\theta}{4} - (1 - 2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{4})}{1 - 2 \sin \frac{\theta}{4} \cos \frac{\theta}{4} - (1 - 2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{4})} = \frac{2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{4} + 2 \sin \frac{\theta}{4} \cos \frac{\theta}{4}}{2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{4} - 2 \sin \frac{\theta}{4} \cos \frac{\theta}{4}} = \frac{\sin \frac{\theta}{4} (\sin \frac{\theta}{4} + \cos \frac{\theta}{4})}{\sin \frac{\theta}{4} (\sin \frac{\theta}{4} - \cos \frac{\theta}{4})} = \frac{\sin \frac{\theta}{4} + \cos \frac{\theta}{4}}{\sin \frac{\theta}{4} - \cos \frac{\theta}{4}}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{\sin \frac{\theta}{4}}{\cos \frac{\theta}{4}} + 1}{\frac{\sin \frac{\theta}{4}}{\cos \frac{\theta}{4}} - 1} = -\frac{1 + \tan \frac{\theta}{4}}{1 - \tan \frac{\theta}{4}} = -\frac{1 + \tan \frac{\pi}{4} \tan \frac{\theta}{4}}{\tan \frac{\pi}{4} - \tan \frac{\theta}{4}} = -\frac{1}{\tan \left(\frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{\theta}{4} \right)} = \underline{\underline{-\cot \left(\frac{\pi - \theta}{4} \right)}}$$

24. Prove that $\cos \frac{\theta}{2} = (-1)^{\left[\frac{\theta+\pi}{2\pi}\right]} \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos \theta)}$, $[x]$ =greatest integer smaller or equal to x

$$\cos 2\theta = 2 \cos^2 \theta - 1$$

Replace θ by $\frac{\theta}{2}$ and rearrange we get $\cos \frac{\theta}{2} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos \theta)}$

The point is to determine the $\pm$ sign exactly.

Now, $\cos \alpha$ is positive when α is in the 1st and 4th quadrants, and negative in the 2nd and 3rd quadrants. The sign of $\cos \alpha$ is $(-1)^{\left[\frac{\alpha+\pi}{\pi}\right]}$. Here in $\left[\frac{\alpha+\pi}{\pi}\right]$, the change from positive to negative is in every turn of π and we add $\frac{\pi}{2}$ since (-1) to power an even number is 1.

Thus the sign for $\cos \frac{\theta}{2}$ should be $(-1)^{\left[\frac{\frac{\theta}{2}+\pi}{\pi}\right]} = (-1)^{\left[\frac{\theta+\pi}{2\pi}\right]}$.

$$\therefore \cos \frac{\theta}{2} = (-1)^{\left[\frac{\theta+\pi}{2\pi}\right]} \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos \theta)}$$

25. If p is an integer and $-1 < q < 1$, find the number of possible values of $\sin x$, such that

(i) $\sin 2px = q$, (ii) $\sin(2p+1)x = q$.

(i) The general solution for $\sin 2px = q$ is $2px = n\pi + (-1)^n \sin^{-1} q$, where $n \in \mathbf{Z}$.

$$\text{Hence } x = \frac{1}{2p} [n\pi + (-1)^n \sin^{-1} q] = \frac{n\pi}{2p} + \frac{1}{2p} (-1)^n \sin^{-1} q .$$

If we take $0 \leq x < 2\pi$, there are $4p$ values of x , that is, when $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, (4p-1)$

Thus there are **4p** values of $\sin x = \sin \left[\frac{n\pi}{2p} + \frac{1}{2p} (-1)^n \sin^{-1} q \right]$.

(ii) The general solution for $\sin(2p+1)x = q$ is

$$(2p+1)x = n\pi + (-1)^n \sin^{-1} q , \text{ where } n \in \mathbf{Z} .$$

$$\text{Hence } x = \frac{1}{2p+1} [n\pi + (-1)^n \sin^{-1} q] = \frac{n\pi}{2p+1} + \frac{1}{2p+1} (-1)^n \sin^{-1} q .$$

If we take $0 \leq x < 2\pi$, there are $2(2p+1) = 4p+2$ values of x , that is, when $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, (4p+1)$.

Since $\sin x = \sin \left[\frac{n\pi}{2p+1} + \frac{1}{2p+1} (-1)^n \sin^{-1} q \right]$, and amongst these solutions

$$\sin \left[\frac{k\pi}{2p+1} + \frac{1}{2p+1} (-1)^k \sin^{-1} q \right] = \sin \left[\frac{[(2p+1)+k]\pi}{2p+1} + \frac{1}{2p+1} (-1)^{[(2p+1)+k]} \sin^{-1} q \right]$$

for all $k = 0, 1, \dots, (2p-2)$.

Thus there are only **2p-1** values of $\sin x$.

(For those who do not understand the proof may start with solving $\sin 2x = 1, \sin 3x = 1, \dots$ and then find the possible values of $\sin x$.)

26. Solve $x^5 - 5k^2x^3 + 5k^4x = 2k^5 \cos \alpha$, for x in terms of α and k .

Put $x = 2k \cos \theta$, then the given equation becomes:

$$(2k \cos \theta)^5 - 5k^2(2k \cos \theta)^3 + 5k^4(2k \cos \theta) = 2k^5 \cos \alpha$$

$$32k^5 \cos^5 \theta - 40k^5 \cos^3 \theta + 10k^5 \cos \theta = 2k^5 \cos \alpha$$

$$16 \cos^5 \theta - 20 \cos^3 \theta + 5 \cos \theta = \cos \alpha$$

$$\cos 5\theta = \cos \alpha$$

(The proof that $\cos 5\theta = 16 \cos^5 \theta - 20 \cos^3 \theta + 5 \cos \theta$ is left for the reader.)

$$5\theta = 2n\pi \pm \alpha$$

$$\therefore \theta = \frac{2n\pi \pm \alpha}{5}, n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

27. Simplify $\tan^{-1} \frac{p-q}{1+pq} + \tan^{-1} \frac{q-r}{1+qr}$.

Take $p = \tan x, q = \tan y, r = \tan z$.

$$\tan^{-1} \frac{p-q}{1+pq} + \tan^{-1} \frac{q-r}{1+qr} = \tan^{-1} \frac{\tan x - \tan y}{1 + \tan x \tan y} + \tan^{-1} \frac{\tan y - \tan z}{1 + \tan y \tan z}$$

$$= \tan^{-1}[\tan(x - y)] + \tan^{-1}[\tan(y - z)] = (x - y) + (y - z) = x - z = \underline{\underline{\tan^{-1}p - \tan^{-1}r}}$$

28. Prove that $\tan^{-1} \frac{1}{p} = \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{p+q} + \tan^{-1} \frac{q}{p^2+pq+1}$.

$$\tan \left[\tan^{-1} \frac{1}{p+q} + \tan^{-1} \frac{q}{p^2+pq+1} \right] = \frac{\frac{1}{p+q} + \frac{q}{p^2+pq+1}}{1 - \frac{1}{p+q} \times \frac{q}{p^2+pq+1}} = \frac{(p^2+pq+1)+q(p+q)}{(p+q)(p^2+pq+1)-q} = \frac{p^2+2pq+q^2+1}{p(p^2+2pq+q^2+1)} = \frac{1}{p}$$

$$\therefore \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{p} = \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{p+q} + \tan^{-1} \frac{q}{p^2+pq+1}.$$

29. Use the result of No.28 to express $\frac{\pi}{4}$ in the form of $\tan^{-1} \frac{1}{2} + \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{3}$.

Also express $\tan^{-1} \frac{1}{2}$ and $\tan^{-1} \frac{1}{3}$ each in the form of $\tan^{-1} \frac{1}{m} + \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{n}$ where m and n

are positive integers.

Put $p = q = 1$, then $\tan^{-1}\frac{1}{2} + \tan^{-1}\frac{1}{3} = \tan^{-1}1 = \frac{\pi}{4}$.

Put $p = 2, q = 1$, then $\tan^{-1}\frac{1}{2} = \tan^{-1}\frac{1}{3} + \tan^{-1}\frac{1}{7}$

Put $p = 3, q = 1$, then $\tan^{-1}\frac{1}{3} = \tan^{-1}\frac{1}{4} + \tan^{-1}\frac{1}{13}$

30. Prove that $\frac{\pi}{4} = 2\tan^{-1}\frac{1}{4} + \tan^{-1}\frac{1}{7} + 2\tan^{-1}\frac{1}{13}$.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\pi}{4} &= \tan^{-1}\frac{1}{2} + \tan^{-1}\frac{1}{3} = \left(\tan^{-1}\frac{1}{3} + \tan^{-1}\frac{1}{7}\right) + \tan^{-1}\frac{1}{3} = 2\tan^{-1}\frac{1}{3} + \tan^{-1}\frac{1}{7} \\ &= 2\left(\tan^{-1}\frac{1}{4} + \tan^{-1}\frac{1}{13}\right) + \tan^{-1}\frac{1}{7} = 2\tan^{-1}\frac{1}{4} + \tan^{-1}\frac{1}{7} + 2\tan^{-1}\frac{1}{13}.\end{aligned}$$

31. Prove that $\frac{\pi}{4} = 2\cot^{-1}5 + \cot^{-1}7 + 2\cot^{-1}8$.

From No. 27, $\tan^{-1}\frac{1}{p} = \tan^{-1}\frac{1}{p+q} + \tan^{-1}\frac{q}{p^2+pq+1}$

Since $\tan^{-1}\frac{1}{p} = \cot^{-1}p$, (Proof is left to the reader.)

We have $\cot^{-1}p = \cot^{-1}(p+q) + \cot^{-1}\frac{p^2+pq+1}{q}$

Put $p = q = 1$, then $\frac{\pi}{4} = \cot^{-1}1 = \cot^{-1}2 + \cot^{-1}3$

Put $p = 2, q = 1$, then $\cot^{-1}2 = \cot^{-1}3 + \cot^{-1}7$

Put $p = 3, q = 2$, then $\cot^{-1}3 = \cot^{-1}5 + \cot^{-1}8$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Combining, } \frac{\pi}{4} &= \cot^{-1}2 + \cot^{-1}3 = (\cot^{-1}3 + \cot^{-1}7) + \cot^{-1}3 \\ &= 2\cot^{-1}3 + \cot^{-1}7 = 2(\cot^{-1}5 + \cot^{-1}8) + \cot^{-1}7 \\ &= 2\cot^{-1}5 + \cot^{-1}7 + 2\cot^{-1}8\end{aligned}$$