

Q) $\int \frac{xdx}{x^4 + x^2 + 1}$ equals

(a) $\frac{2}{3} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2x^2 + 1}{\sqrt{3}} \right) + C$

(b) $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \left[\tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2x - 1}{\sqrt{3}} \right) - \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2x + 1}{\sqrt{3}} \right) \right] + C$

(c) $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2x^2 + 1}{\sqrt{3}} \right) + C$

(d) $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \left[\tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2x - 1}{\sqrt{3}} \right) + \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2x + 1}{\sqrt{3}} \right) \right] + C$

where C is an arbitrary constant.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \int \frac{xdx}{(x^4 + 2x^2 + 1) - x^2} \\ &= \int \frac{xdx}{(x^2 + x + 1)(x^2 - x + 1)} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{(x^2 + x + 1) - (x^2 - x + 1)}{(x^2 + x + 1)(x^2 - x + 1)} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{dx}{x^2 - x + 1} - \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{dx}{x^2 + x + 1} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{dx}{(x - (1/2))^2 - (\sqrt{3}/2)^2} - \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{dx}{(x + (1/2))^2 - (\sqrt{3}/2)^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2x - 1}{\sqrt{3}} \right) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2x + 1}{\sqrt{3}} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \left[\tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2x - 1}{\sqrt{3}} \right) - \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2x + 1}{\sqrt{3}} \right) \right] + C \end{aligned}$$

Answer is option B