

Long Answer (L.A.)

Example 13 Prove that $2\sin^{-1}\frac{3}{5} - \tan^{-1}\frac{17}{31} = \frac{\pi}{4}$

Solution Let $\sin^{-1}\frac{3}{5} = \theta$, then $\sin\theta = \frac{3}{5}$, where $\theta \in \left[\frac{-\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$

Thus $\tan\theta = \frac{3}{4}$, which gives $\theta = \tan^{-1}\frac{3}{4}$.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Therefore, } 2\sin^{-1}\frac{3}{5} - \tan^{-1}\frac{17}{31} &= 2\theta - \tan^{-1}\frac{17}{31} = 2\tan^{-1}\frac{3}{4} - \tan^{-1}\frac{17}{31} \\ &= \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{2\cdot\frac{3}{4}}{1-\frac{9}{16}}\right) - \tan^{-1}\frac{17}{31} = \tan^{-1}\frac{24}{7} - \tan^{-1}\frac{17}{31} \\ &= \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\frac{24}{7} - \frac{17}{31}}{1 + \frac{24}{7}\cdot\frac{17}{31}}\right) = \frac{\pi}{4}\end{aligned}$$

$$= \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\frac{4}{3} + \frac{1}{4}}{1 - \frac{4}{3}\times\frac{1}{4}}\right) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{19}{8}\right) = \frac{19}{8}.$$