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ON CERTAIN DEFINITE INTEGRALS.

[From the Cambridge Mathematical Journal, vol. III. (1841), pp. 138-144.]

In the first place, we shall consider the integral

$$V = \iint \dots (\mathfrak{n} \text{ times}) \frac{dx \, dy \dots}{\{(a-x)^2 + (b-y)^2 \dots\}^{\frac{1}{2}\mathfrak{n}-1}},$$

the integration extending to all real values of the variables, subject to the condition

$$\frac{x^2}{h^2} + \frac{y^2}{h_{\ell}^2} + \dots < \text{ or } = 1,$$

and the constants a, b, &c. satisfying the condition

$$\frac{a^2}{h^2} + \frac{b^2}{h_1^2} \dots > 1.$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dV}{da} &= -\left(\mathfrak{n}-2\right) \iint \dots \left(\mathfrak{n} \text{ times}\right) \frac{(a-x)\,dx\,dy\,\dots}{\{(a-x)^2 + (b-y)^2\,\dots\}^{\frac{1}{2}n}},\\ &= -\left(\mathfrak{n}-2\right) \frac{2hh,\dots\,\pi^{\frac{1}{2}n}a}{\sqrt{(\xi+h^2)}\,\cdot\,\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}n\right)} \int_0^1 \frac{x^{\mathfrak{n}-1}\,dx}{\sqrt{\left[\{\xi+h^2+(h_{,\,^2}-h^2)\,x^2\}\,\{\xi+h^2+(h_{,\,\prime}^{-2}-h^2)\,x^2\}\,\dots\right]}},\end{aligned}$$

 ξ being determined by the equation

$$\frac{a^2}{\xi + h^2} + \frac{b^2}{\xi + h_2^2} \dots = 1,$$

by a formula [see p. 12] in a paper, [2], "On the Properties of a Certain Symbolical Expression," in the preceding No. of this Journal: ξ having been substituted for the η^2 of the formula.

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$$x^2 = \frac{\xi + h^2}{\xi + h^2 + \phi};$$

we have without difficulty

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dV}{da} &= -\left(\mathfrak{n}-2\right) \frac{hh_{,} \dots \pi^{\frac{1}{2}\mathfrak{n}} a}{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\mathfrak{n}\right)} \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{d\phi}{\left(\xi+h^{2}+\phi\right)\sqrt{\Phi}},\\ \Phi &= \left(\xi+h^{2}+\phi\right)\left(\xi+h^{2}_{,}+\phi\right)\dots\end{aligned}$$

where and similarly

$$\frac{dV}{db} = -(\mathfrak{n}-2)\frac{hh_{,}\ldots\pi^{\frac{1}{2}\mathfrak{n}}b}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}\mathfrak{n})}\int_{0}^{\infty}\frac{d\phi}{(\xi+h_{,}^{2}+\phi)\sqrt{\Phi}}$$
 Sec.....

From these values it is easy to verify the equation

$$V = \frac{(n-2) hh_{\prime} \dots \pi^{\pm n}}{2\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}n)} \int_{0}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{a^{2}}{\xi + h^{2} + \phi} - \frac{b^{2}}{\xi + h^{2}_{\prime} + \phi} \dots\right) \frac{d\phi}{\sqrt{\Phi}}.$$

For this evidently verifies the above values of $\frac{dV}{da}$, $\frac{dV}{db}$, &c. if only the term $\frac{dV}{d\xi} d\xi$ vanishes; and we have

$$\frac{dV}{d\xi} = \frac{(\mathfrak{n}-2)hh_{\prime}\dots\pi^{\pm\mathfrak{n}}}{2\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\mathfrak{n}\right)} \int_{0}^{\infty} d\phi \cdot \frac{d}{d\xi} \left(1 - \frac{a^{2}}{\xi + h^{2} + \phi}\dots\right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{\Phi}};$$

or, observing that

$$\frac{d}{d\xi}\left(1-\frac{a^2}{\xi+h^2+\phi}-\ldots\right)\frac{1}{\sqrt{(\Phi)}}=\frac{d}{d\phi}\left(1-\frac{a^2}{\xi+h^2+\phi}\ldots\right)\frac{1}{\sqrt{(\Phi)}},$$

and taking the integral from 0 to ∞ ,

$$\frac{dV}{d\xi} = -\frac{(\mathfrak{n}-2)hh, \dots \pi^{\frac{1}{2}\mathfrak{n}}}{2\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\mathfrak{n}\right)} \left(1 - \frac{a^2}{\xi + h^2} - \frac{b^2}{\xi + h_2^2} \dots\right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{\left\{(\xi + h^2)(\xi + h_2^2)\dots\right\}}}, = 0$$

in virtue of the equation which determines ξ .

No constant has been added to the value of V, since the two sides of the equation vanish as they should do for $a, b \dots$ infinite, for which values ξ is also infinite and the quantity

$$\left(1-\frac{a^2}{\xi+h^2+\phi}\ldots\right)\frac{1}{\sqrt{(\Phi)}},$$

which is always less than $\frac{1}{\sqrt{\Phi}}$, vanishes.

Hence, restoring the values of V and Φ ,

$$\iint \dots (\mathfrak{n} \text{ times}) \frac{dx \, dy \dots}{\{(a-x)^2 + (b-y)^2 \dots\}^{\frac{1}{2}\mathfrak{n}-1}} = \frac{(\mathfrak{n}-2) hh_{,} \dots \pi^{\frac{1}{2}\mathfrak{n}}}{2\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}\mathfrak{n})} \int_{0}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{a^2}{\xi + h^2 + \phi} - \frac{b^2}{\xi + h_{,}^2 + \phi} \dots\right) \frac{d\phi}{\sqrt{\{(\xi + h^2 + \phi) (\xi + h_{,}^2 + \phi) \dots\}}}$$

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the limits of the first side of the equation, and the condition to be satisfied by a, b, &c., also the equation for the determination of ξ , being as above.

The integral

$$V' = \iint \dots (\mathfrak{n} \text{ times}) \frac{dx \, dy \dots}{\{(a-x)^2 + (b-y)^2 \dots\}^{\frac{1}{2}n}},$$

between the same limits, and with the same condition to be satisfied by the constants, has been obtained [see p. 11] in the paper already quoted. Writing ξ instead of η^2 , and $x^2 = \frac{\xi}{\xi + \phi}$, we have

$$V' = \frac{hh_{,...,\pi^{\frac{1}{2}n}}}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}n)} \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{d\phi}{(\xi+\phi)\sqrt{\{(\xi+h^{2}+\phi)(\xi+h_{,}^{2}+\phi)...\}}},$$
$$\frac{a^{2}}{\xi+h^{2}} + \frac{b^{2}}{\xi^{2}+h_{,}^{2}} \dots = 1.$$

where

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Let $\nabla = \frac{d^2}{da^2} + \frac{d^2}{db^2} + \dots$ Then by the assistance of a formula,

$$\nabla^{q} \frac{1}{(a^{2}+b^{2}\dots)^{i}} = 2i(2i+2)\dots(2i+2q-2)(2i+2-\mathfrak{n})\dots(2i+2q-\mathfrak{n}) \cdot \frac{1}{(a^{2}+b^{2}\dots)^{i+q}}$$

given in the same paper [see p. 6], in which it is obvious that a, b... may be changed into a - x, b - y, &c...; also putting $i = \frac{1}{2}n$; we have

$$\iint \dots (\mathfrak{n} \text{ times}) \frac{dx \, dy \dots}{\{(a-x)^2 + \dots\}^{\frac{1}{2}n+q}} = \frac{hh, \dots, \pi^{\frac{1}{2}n}}{2^{2q} \cdot 1 \cdot 2 \dots q \cdot \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}n+q)} \int_0^\infty d\phi \cdot \nabla^q \frac{1}{(\xi + \phi)\sqrt{\{(\xi + h^2 + \phi)\dots\}}}$$

Now in general, if $\chi \xi$ be any function of ξ ,

$$\nabla\chi\xi = \chi'\xi \left(\frac{d^2\xi}{da^2} + \frac{d^2\xi}{db^2} \dots\right) + \chi''\xi \left\{ \left(\frac{d\xi}{da}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{d\xi}{db}\right)^2 \dots \right\} = \chi'\xi\Sigma \left(\frac{d^2\xi}{da^2}\right) + \chi''\xi\Sigma \left(\frac{d\xi}{da}\right)^2, \text{ suppose.}$$

But from the equation $\Sigma \frac{a^2}{(\xi + h^2)} = 1,$

But from the equation

$$\frac{2a}{\xi+h^2} - \left\{ \Sigma \frac{a^2}{(\xi+h^2)^2} \right\} \frac{d\xi}{da} = 0,$$
$$\Sigma \left(\frac{d\xi}{da} \right)^2 = \frac{4}{\Sigma \frac{a^2}{(\xi+h^2)^2}}.$$

Also

we obtain

whence

$$\frac{2}{\xi+h^2} - 4\frac{a}{(\xi+h^2)^2}\frac{d\xi}{da} + 2\left\{\Sigma \frac{a^2}{(\xi+h^2)^3}\right\} \left(\frac{d\xi}{da}\right)^2 - \left\{\Sigma \frac{a^2}{(\xi+h^2)^2}\right\} \frac{d^2\xi}{da^2} = 0$$

whence taking the sum Σ , and observing that

$$-4\Sigma \frac{a}{(\xi+h^2)^2} \frac{d\xi}{da} = -8 \frac{\Sigma \frac{a^2}{(\xi+h^2)^3}}{\Sigma \frac{a^2}{(\xi+h^2)^2}} = -2\Sigma \frac{a^2}{(\xi+h^2)^3} \cdot \Sigma \left(\frac{d\xi}{da}\right)^2$$
$$2\Sigma \frac{1}{\xi+h^2} - \left\{\Sigma \frac{a^2}{(\xi+h^2)^2}\right\} \Sigma \left(\frac{d^2\xi}{da^2}\right) = 0;$$

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 $\Sigma\left(\frac{d^2\xi}{da^2}\right) = \frac{2\Sigma}{\Sigma} \frac{1}{\frac{\xi+h^2}{\xi+h^2}};$

and we hence obtain

$$\nabla \chi \xi = \frac{2\chi' \xi \,\Sigma \,\frac{1}{\xi + h^2} + 4 \,\chi'' \,\xi}{\Sigma \frac{a^2}{(\xi + h^2)^2}}$$

Hence the function

$$\int_0^\infty d\phi \cdot \nabla \frac{1}{(\xi+\phi)\sqrt{\{(\xi+h^2+\phi)\ldots\}}}$$

(observing that differentiation with respect to ξ is the same as differentiation with respect to ϕ) becomes integrable, and taking the integral between the proper limits, its value is

$$-rac{2\chi_{_0}\xi\sumrac{1}{\xi+h^2}+4\chi_{_0}{}'\xi}{\sumrac{a^2}{(\xi+h^2)^2}}\,;
onumber\ \chi_0\xi\!=\!rac{1}{\xi\,\sqrt{\{(\xi+h^2)\,(\xi+h_{_\prime}{}^2)\,\ldots\}}}$$

where

We have immediately

$$egin{aligned} &rac{\chi_0'\xi}{\chi_0\xi}\!=\!-rac{1}{2}\left(\!rac{2}{\xi}\!+\Sigmarac{1}{\xi+h^2}\!
ight); \ &2\chi_0\xi\,\Sigma\left(\!rac{1}{\xi+h^2}\!
ight)\!+4\chi_0'\xi\!=\!-4rac{\chi_0\xi}{\xi}; \end{aligned}$$

or

whence

 $\int_{0}^{\infty} d\phi \cdot \nabla \frac{1}{(\xi + \phi) \sqrt{\{(\xi + h^{2} + \phi) \dots\}}} = \frac{4}{\xi^{2} \sqrt{\{(\xi + h^{2}) (\xi + h^{2}_{\prime}) \dots\}} \left\{\frac{a^{2}}{(\xi + h^{2})^{2}} + \frac{b^{2}}{(\xi + h^{2}_{\prime})^{2}} + \dots\right\}}.$

Hence restoring the value of ∇ , and of the first side of the equation,

from which equation the differential coefficients of ξ , which enter into the preceding result, are to be determined.

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we find

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In general if u be any function of ξ , a, b...

$$\left(\frac{d^{2}}{da^{2}} + \frac{d^{2}}{db^{2}} \dots\right) u = \frac{4 \frac{d^{2}u}{d\xi^{2}} + 2 \frac{du}{d\xi} \Sigma \frac{1}{\xi + h^{2}} + 4 \frac{d^{2}u}{d\xi da} \Sigma \frac{a}{\xi + h^{2}}}{\Sigma \frac{a^{2}}{(\xi + h^{2})^{2}}} + \Sigma \frac{d^{2}u}{da^{2}},$$

from which the values of the second side for q = 1, q = 2, &c. may be successively calculated.

The performance of the operation $\left(\frac{d}{da}\right)^p \left(\frac{d}{db}\right)^q \left(\frac{d}{dc}\right)^r$..., upon the integral V', leads in like manner to a very great number of integrals, all of them expressible algebraically, for a single differentiation renders the integration with respect to ϕ possible. But this is a subject which need not be further considered at present.

We shall consider, lastly, the definite integral

$$U = \iint \dots (\mathfrak{n} \text{ times}) \frac{(a-x)f\left(\frac{x^2}{h^2} + \frac{y^2}{h_2^2} + \dots\right) dx dy \dots}{\{(a-x)^2 + (b-y)^2 \dots\}^{\frac{1}{2}n}},$$

limits, &c. as before. This is readily deduced from the less general one

$$\iint \dots (\mathfrak{n} \text{ times}) \frac{(a-x) \, dx dy \dots}{\{(a-x)^2 + (b-y)^2 \dots\}^{\frac{1}{2}\mathfrak{n}}}$$

For representing this quantity by F(h, h, ...), it may be seen that

$$U = \int_{0}^{1} f(m^{2}) \frac{d}{dm} F(mh, mh, ...) dm;$$

but in the value of F(h, h, ...), changing h, h, ... into mh, mh, ... also writing $m^2\phi$ instead of ϕ , and $m^2\xi'$ for ξ , we have

$$F'(mh, mh, \ldots) = \frac{hh, \ldots \pi^{\frac{1}{2}n}}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}n)} a \int_0^\infty \frac{d\phi}{(\xi' + h^2 + \phi)\sqrt{(\Phi')}};$$
$$\Phi' = (\xi' + h^2 + \phi)(\xi' + h_1^2 + \phi)\ldots$$

$$\frac{a^2}{\xi'+h^2} + \frac{b^2}{\xi'+h_{\ell}^2} + \dots = m^2.$$

 $\frac{d}{dm} F(mh, mh, \ldots) = \frac{d\xi'}{dm} \frac{d}{d\xi'} F(mh, mh, \ldots),$

Hence

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$$=\frac{hh_{\prime}\ldots\pi^{\frac{1}{2}\mathfrak{n}}}{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\mathfrak{n}\right)}a\frac{d\xi'}{dm}\int_{0}^{\infty}d\phi\,\frac{d}{d\xi'}\,\frac{1}{\left(\xi'+h^{2}+\phi\right)\sqrt{(\Phi')}}$$

or, observing that $\frac{d}{d\xi'}$ is equivalent to $\frac{d}{d\phi}$, and effecting the integration between the proper limits,

$$\frac{d}{dm} F(mh, mh, ...) = -\frac{hh_{i} \dots \pi^{\frac{1}{2}n}}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}n)} a \frac{1}{(\xi' + h^{2}) \sqrt{\{(\xi' + h^{2}) (\xi' + h_{i}^{2}) \dots\}}}.$$

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where

and

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Substituting this value, also $f\left\{\frac{a^2}{\xi'+h^2}+\frac{b^2}{\xi'+h_{\prime}^2}+\ldots\right\}$ for $f(m^2)$, in the value of U, and observing that m=0 gives $\xi'=\infty$, m=1 gives $\xi'=\xi$, where ξ is a quantity determined as before by the equation

$$\frac{a^2}{\xi + h^2} + \frac{b^2}{\xi + h^2_{,2}} + \dots = 1,$$

we have U

$$I = -\frac{hh_{,}\dots\pi^{\frac{1}{2}\mathfrak{n}}a}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}\mathfrak{n})} \int_{\infty}^{\xi} \frac{f\left\{\frac{a^{2}}{\xi'+h^{2}}+\dots\right\}d\xi'}{(\xi'+h^{2})\sqrt{\{(\xi'+h^{2})(\xi'+h^{2})\dots\}}}$$

or writing $\phi + \xi$ for ξ' , $d\xi' = d\phi$, the limits of ϕ are 0, ∞ ; or, inverting the limits and omitting the negative sign,

$$U = \frac{hh_{\prime} \dots \pi^{\frac{1}{2}n} a}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}n)} \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{f\left\{\frac{a^{2}}{\xi + h^{2} + \phi} + \frac{b^{2}}{\xi + h_{\prime}^{2} + \phi} + \dots\right\} d\phi}{(\xi + h^{2} + \phi)\sqrt{\{(\xi + h^{2} + \phi)(\xi + h_{\prime}^{2} + \phi)\dots\}}};$$

which, in the particular case of n = 3, may easily be made to coincide with known results. The analogous integral

$$\iint \dots \, (\mathfrak{n} \, \text{ times}) \frac{f\left\{\frac{x^2}{h^2} + \frac{y^2}{h_{\prime}^2} + \dots\right\} dx \, dy \dots}{\{(a-x)^2 + (b-y)^2 \dots\}^{\frac{1}{2}n}}$$

is apparently not reducible to a single integral.