

**SOLUTION TO PROBLEM #12305**

*Problem #12305. Proposed by S. Sharma (India).* Let  $\gamma$  be the Euler-Mascheroni constant. Prove

$$\int_0^1 \frac{x - 1 - x \log x}{x \log x - x \log^2 x} dx = \gamma.$$

*Solution by Tewodros Amdeberhan and Victor H. Moll, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA, USA.*

First off, we have  $\gamma = \int_0^1 \left( \frac{1}{\log x} + \frac{1}{1-x} \right) dx$  as one of the integral representations for  $\gamma$ . With this in mind, it suffices to show the difference between the two integral is zero. That means, evaluate

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 \left( \frac{x - 1 - x \log x}{x \log x - x \log^2 x} - \frac{1}{\log x} - \frac{1}{1-x} \right) dx &= \int_0^1 \left( \frac{1}{\log x} - \frac{1}{x \log x - x \log^2 x} - \frac{1}{\log x} - \frac{1}{1-x} \right) dx \\ &= - \int_0^1 \left( \frac{1}{x \log x - x \log^2 x} + \frac{1}{1-x} \right) dx. \end{aligned}$$

So, we focus on last integral. This, however, goes as follows: since

$$\int \left( \frac{1}{x \log x - x \log^2 x} + \frac{1}{1-x} \right) dx = \log \left( \frac{\log x}{(1-x)(\log x - 1)} \right),$$

we compute two limits:  $x \rightarrow 0^+$  and  $x \rightarrow 1^-$ . Both are executed via *L'Hôpital's Rule*, resulting in

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \log \left( \frac{\log x}{(1-x)(\log x - 1)} \right) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \log \left( \frac{\log x}{(1-x)(\log x - 1)} \right) = 0.$$

The proof is complete.  $\square$