

Solution (#1549) Let $0 \leq k \leq 1$ and define $k' = \sqrt{1 - k^2}$.

We make the substitution $\tan(x - t) = k' \tan t$ or equivalently

$$x = t + \tan^{-1}(k' \tan t).$$

Note that when $t = 0$ then $x = 0$ and that when $t = \pi/2$ then $x = \pi$. Also

$$dx = \left(1 + \frac{k' \sec^2 t}{1 + k'^2 \tan^2 t}\right) dt,$$

and note that

$$\frac{k' \sec^2 t}{1 + k'^2 \tan^2 t} = \frac{k'}{\cos^2 t + k'^2 \sin^2 t} = \frac{k'}{1 - k^2 \sin^2 t}.$$

We further note that

$$\begin{aligned} \sin x &= \sin(t + \tan^{-1}(k' \tan t)) \\ &= \sin t \cos [\tan^{-1}(k' \tan t)] + \cos t \sin [\tan^{-1}(k' \tan t)] \\ &= \frac{\sin t}{\sqrt{1 + k'^2 \tan^2 t}} + \frac{\cos t(k' \tan t)}{\sqrt{1 + k'^2 \tan^2 t}} \\ &= \frac{(1 + k') \sin t}{\sqrt{1 + k'^2 \tan^2 t}} \\ &= \frac{(1 + k') \sin t \cos t}{\sqrt{1 - k^2 \sin^2 t}}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} K\left(\frac{1 - k'}{1 + k'}\right) &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\pi \frac{(1 + k') dx}{\sqrt{(1 + k')^2 - (1 - k')^2 \sin^2 x}} \\ &= \frac{1 + k'}{2} \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{(1 + k')^2 - (1 - k')^2 \left[\frac{(1 + k')^2 \sin^2 t \cos^2 t}{1 - k^2 \sin^2 t}\right]}} \left(1 + \frac{k'}{1 - k^2 \sin^2 t}\right) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{\sqrt{1 - k^2 \sin^2 t}}{\sqrt{(1 - k^2 \sin^2 t) - (1 - k')^2 \sin^2 t \cos^2 t}} \left(1 + \frac{k'}{1 - k^2 \sin^2 t}\right) dt \end{aligned}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} &(1 - k^2 \sin^2 t) - (1 - k')^2 \sin^2 t \cos^2 t \\ &= 1 - k^2 \sin^2 t - (1 - k')^2 \sin^2 t (1 - \sin^2 t) \\ &= 1 - (k^2 + (1 - k')^2) \sin^2 t + (1 - k')^2 \sin^4 t \\ &= 1 - 2(1 - k') \sin^2 t + (1 - k')^2 \sin^4 t \\ &= (1 - (1 - k') \sin^2 t)^2. \end{aligned}$$

So

$$K\left(\frac{1 - k'}{1 + k'}\right) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi/2} \left(\frac{1 + k' - k^2 \sin^2 t}{1 - (1 - k') \sin^2 t}\right) \frac{dt}{\sqrt{1 - k^2 \sin^2 t}}$$

Finally we note $k^2 = 1 - k'^2$ and so

$$1 + k' - k^2 \sin^2 t = 1 + k' - (1 - k'^2) \sin^2 t = (1 + k')(1 - (1 - k') \sin^2 t)$$

and hence

$$K\left(\frac{1 - k'}{1 + k'}\right) = \frac{1 + k'}{2} \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{dt}{\sqrt{1 - k^2 \sin^2 t}} = \left(\frac{1 + k'}{2}\right) K(k).$$