

Exercise 31

Evaluate the integral.

$$\int_{\pi/6}^{\pi/2} \csc t \cot t \, dt$$

Solution

Use the formula for the derivative of cosecant on page 193 to rewrite the integrand. Then use part 2 of the fundamental theorem of calculus to evaluate the integral.

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\pi/6}^{\pi/2} \csc t \cot t \, dt &= \int_{\pi/6}^{\pi/2} \left[-\frac{d}{dt}(\csc t) \right] dt \\ &= - \int_{\pi/6}^{\pi/2} \frac{d}{dt}(\csc t) \, dt \\ &= -(\csc t) \Big|_{\pi/6}^{\pi/2} \\ &= - \left(\csc \frac{\pi}{2} - \csc \frac{\pi}{6} \right) \\ &= - \left(\frac{1}{\sin \frac{\pi}{2}} - \frac{1}{\sin \frac{\pi}{6}} \right) \\ &= -(1 - 2) \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$