

Problem 11885

(American Mathematical Monthly, Vol.123, January 2016)

Proposed by C. I. Vălean (Romania).

Prove that

$$\sum_{p=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(m+n)^4 + ((m+n)(m+p))^2} = \frac{3}{2}\zeta(3) - \frac{5}{4}\zeta(4).$$

Solution proposed by Roberto Tauraso, Dipartimento di Matematica, Università di Roma "Tor Vergata", via della Ricerca Scientifica, 00133 Roma, Italy.

Let S be the left-hand side, then by setting $a = m + n$ and $b = m + p$, we have that by symmetry,

$$S = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{a>m} \sum_{b>m} \frac{1}{a^2(a^2+b^2)} = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{a>m} \sum_{b>m} \left(\frac{1}{a^2b^2} - \frac{1}{b^2(a^2+b^2)} \right) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{a>m} \sum_{b>m} \frac{1}{a^2b^2} - S.$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{a>m} \sum_{b>m} \frac{1}{a^2b^2} = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{a>b>m} \frac{1}{a^2b^2} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{a>m} \frac{1}{a^4} \\ &= \sum_{a>b \geq 1} \frac{1}{a^2b^2} \sum_{m=1}^{b-1} 1 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a \geq 1} \frac{1}{a^4} \sum_{m=1}^{a-1} 1 \\ &= \sum_{a>b \geq 1} \frac{1}{a^2b} - \sum_{a>b \geq 1} \frac{1}{a^2b^2} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a \geq 1} \frac{1}{a^3} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a \geq 1} \frac{1}{a^4} \\ &= \zeta(2, 1) - \zeta(2, 2) + \frac{1}{2}\zeta(3) - \frac{1}{2}\zeta(4) = \frac{3}{2}\zeta(3) - \frac{5}{4}\zeta(4), \end{aligned}$$

because the following Multiple Zeta Values are known,

$$\zeta(2, 1) = \zeta(3) \quad \text{and} \quad \zeta(2, 2) = \frac{3}{4}\zeta(4).$$

□