

Problem 12287

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Prove

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(n \left(\sum_{k=n}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^2} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{n} \right) = \frac{1}{2} (3 - \zeta(2) + 3\zeta(3)).$$

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

Solution. For $N \geq 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} 2 \sum_{n=1}^N \left(n \left(\sum_{k=n}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^2} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{n} \right) &= 2 \sum_{n=1}^N \left(n (\zeta(2) - H_{n-1}(2))^2 - \frac{1}{n} \right) \\ &= (N^2 + N) \zeta^2(2) - 4\zeta(2) \sum_{n=1}^N n H_{n-1}(2) + 2 \sum_{n=1}^N n H_{n-1}^2(2) - 2H_N \\ &= \zeta(2)(4N + 2 \ln(N) + 2\gamma + 1) - 4N\zeta(2) - 2(\zeta(2) - 1) \ln(N) \\ &\quad + 3\zeta(3) - (2\gamma + 2)\zeta(2) + 2\gamma + 3 - 2 \ln(N) - 2\gamma + o(1) \\ &= 3 - \zeta(2) + 3\zeta(3) + o(1) \end{aligned}$$

and the required identity is proved as soon as $N \rightarrow \infty$.

We used the following known facts,

$$\begin{aligned} H_n &= \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} = \ln(n) + \gamma + o(1) \\ H_n(2) &= \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k^2} = \zeta(2) - \frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{2n^2} + o(1/n^2) \\ H_n(3) &= \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k^3} = \zeta(3) + o(1) \\ \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{H_{k-1}}{k^2} &= \zeta(3) + o(1). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, it can be verified by induction that

$$4 \sum_{n=1}^N n H_{n-1}(2) = 2(N(N+1) H_N(2) - H_N - N) = 2(N^2 + N)\zeta(2) - 4N - 2 \ln(N) - 2\gamma - 1 + o(1)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} 2 \sum_{n=1}^N n H_{n-1}^2(2) &= H_N(3) - 2H_N(2)H_N + 2 \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{H_{k-1}}{k^2} - (2N+1)H_N(2) + 2H_N + (N^2 + N)H_N^2(2) \\ &= \zeta(3) - 2\zeta(2)(\ln(N) + \gamma) + 2\zeta(3) - (2N+1)(\zeta(2) - \frac{1}{N}) + 2(\ln(N) + \gamma) \\ &\quad + (N^2 + N) \left(\zeta(2) - \frac{1}{N} + \frac{1}{2N} \right)^2 + o(1) \\ &= (N^2 + N)\zeta^2(2) - 4N\zeta(2) - 2(\zeta(2) - 1) \ln(N) + 3\zeta(3) - (2\gamma + 2)\zeta(2) + 2\gamma + 3 + o(1). \end{aligned}$$

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