

Homework 14 - Exercise 2

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$$I_\infty = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{j}{3^j};$$

Compute: $I_n = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{j}{3^j}$

$$\begin{aligned} I_n &= \frac{1}{3} + \frac{2}{3^2} + \frac{3}{3^3} + \dots + \frac{n}{3^n} \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \dots + \frac{1}{3^n} \right) + \left(\frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{3^3} + \dots + \frac{1}{3^n} \right) + \dots \\ &\quad + \left(\frac{1}{3^{n-1}} + \frac{1}{3^n} \right) + \left(\frac{1}{3^n} \right) \\ &= \frac{\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{n+1} - \frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{3} - 1} + \frac{\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{n+1} - \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2}{\frac{1}{3} - 1} + \dots + \frac{\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{n+1} - \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^n}{\frac{1}{3} - 1} \\ &= \frac{\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{n+1} - \left(\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \dots + \frac{1}{3^n}\right)}{\frac{1}{3} - 1} \\ &= \frac{\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{n+1} - \frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{3} - 1} \\ &= -\frac{3}{2} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{n+1} + \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 \left(\frac{1}{3} - \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{n+1}\right) \\ &= \frac{9}{4} \left(\frac{1}{3} - \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{n+1}\right) - \frac{3}{2} n \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{n+1} \\ &= \frac{3}{4} - \frac{9}{4} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{n+1} - \frac{3}{2} n \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{n+1} \\ &= \frac{3}{4} - \frac{3}{4} (3 + 2n) \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{n+1} \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \left(1 - \frac{2n+3}{3^{n+1}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Hence: $I_\infty = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{j}{3^j} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3}{4} \left(1 - \frac{2n+3}{3^{n+1}} \right)$

$$= \frac{3}{4} - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n+3}{3^{n+1}} \stackrel{\text{L'Hospital}}{=} \frac{2}{3} - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2}{3^{n+1} \cdot 3} = \frac{3}{4}$$