

A trick to solve some infinite sums.

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Let be $f(x)$ an analytic function and its reciprocal which is locally analytic where $f(x)$ is non-zero, whose expansion in series of powers is:

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k$$

$$D_x^1[f(x)] = D_x^1 \left[\frac{1}{f(x)} \right] = \frac{-D_x^1 \left[\frac{1}{f(x)} \right]}{\left(\frac{1}{f(x)} \right)^2}$$

$$D_x^1 \left[\frac{1}{f(x)} \right] = - \left(\frac{1}{f(x)} \right)^2 D_x^1[f(x)] = - \left(\frac{1}{f(x)} \right)^2 D_x^1 \left[\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k \right]$$

For some x we can therefore evaluate the infinite sum:

$$D_x^1 \left[\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k \right] = -D_x^1 \left[\frac{1}{f(x)} \right] \cdot (f(x))^2 \quad (i)$$

For example let's consider the function:

$$f(x) = \frac{\ln(1-x)}{x}$$

whose expansion, in its domain, in series of powers is:

$$f(x) = - \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k} x^{k-1} = -1 - \frac{x}{2} - \frac{x^2}{3} - \frac{x^3}{4} - \dots$$

So

$$D_x^1[f(x)] = - \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{k+1}{k+2} x^k = -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{2x}{3} - \frac{3x^2}{4} - \dots$$

Applying (i) we get

$$-\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{k+1}{k+2} x^k = -D_x^1 \left[\frac{x}{\ln(1-x)} \right] \cdot \left(\frac{\ln(1-x)}{x} \right)^2$$

$$\sum_0^{\infty} \frac{(k+1)x^k}{(k+2)} = \frac{\frac{x}{1-x} + \ln(1-x)}{\ln^2(1-x)} \cdot \left(\frac{\ln(1-x)}{x} \right)^2$$

and then finally

$$\sum_0^{\infty} \frac{(k+1)x^k}{(k+2)} = \frac{\frac{x}{1-x} + \ln(1-x)}{x^2}$$

For some x we can therefore evaluate the infinite sum.

For example at $x = \frac{1}{e}$

$$\left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{3}e^{-1} + \frac{3}{4}e^{-2} + \frac{4}{5}e^{-3} + \dots \right) = \frac{\frac{e^{-1}}{1-e^{-1}} + \ln(1-e^{-1})}{\ln^2(1-e^{-1})} \cdot \frac{\ln^2(1-e^{-1})}{e^{-2}}$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}e^{-2} + \frac{2}{3}e^{-3} + \frac{3}{4}e^{-4} + \frac{4}{5}e^{-5} + \dots \right) = \frac{e^{-1}}{1-e^{-1}} + \ln(1-e^{-1})$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}e^{-2} + \frac{2}{3}e^{-3} + \frac{3}{4}e^{-4} + \frac{4}{5}e^{-5} + \dots \right) = \frac{e^{-1}}{1-e^{-1}} + \ln(1-e^{-1})$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}e^{-2} + \frac{2}{3}e^{-3} + \frac{3}{4}e^{-4} + \frac{4}{5}e^{-5} + \dots \right) = \frac{1}{e-1} + \ln(1-e^{-1}) = \frac{1 + \ln(1-e^{-1})e^{-1}}{e-1}$$