

# ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

Prove that:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+k}}{2^{n+k}(n+k)^3} = Li_2\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) - Li_3\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

Proposed by Shirvan Tahirov-Azerbaijan

**Solution 1 by Amin Hajiyev-Azerbaijan**

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+k}}{2^{n+k}(n+k)^3} &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{2^k} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^n} \int_0^1 x^{n+k-1} \log^2(x) dx = \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{2^k} \int_0^1 x^{k-1} \log^2(x) \underbrace{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^n}{2^n}}_{GS} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{2^k} \int_0^1 \left(-\frac{x}{1+\frac{x}{2}}\right) x^{k-1} \log^2(x) dx = \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \frac{\log^2(x)}{x+2} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k x^k}{2^k} dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \frac{x \log^2(x)}{(x+2)^2} dx; \quad f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{x}{2}\right)^n = -\frac{x}{x+2} \\ & * \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n(-1)^n x^{n-1}}{2^n} = -\frac{2}{(x+2)^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n(-1)^n x^n}{2^n} = -\frac{2x}{(x+2)^2} \right\} \\ &= -\frac{1}{4} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n(-1)^n}{2^n} \int_0^1 x^n \log^2(x) dx \stackrel{IBP}{=} -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n(-1)^n}{2^n(n+1)^3} = \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^n(n+1)^2} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^n(n+1)^3} \right) = -\frac{1}{2} \left( -2Li_2\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) - 1 + 2Li_3\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) + 1 \right) = \\ &= Li_2\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) - Li_3\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

**Solution 2 by Ankush Kumar Parcha-India**

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+k}}{2^{n+k}(n+k)^3} = \sum_{m \in \mathbb{N}} (-1)^m \frac{(m-1)}{2^m m^3} =$$

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$$\sum_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^m \cdot \frac{1}{m^2} - \sum_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^m \cdot \frac{1}{m^3} = Li_2\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) - Li_3\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$\text{Note : } \begin{cases} \sum_{a, b \in \mathbb{N}} f(a+b) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (n-1)f(n) \\ \text{And, } \sum_{a, b \in \mathbb{N}} f(a+b) = \sum_{a \in \mathbb{N}} \sum_{b \in \mathbb{N}} f(a+b) \end{cases}$$