

Dictionaries Are Like Timepieces

Problem 03-002, by JONATHAN BORWEIN (Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC, Canada).

Samuel Johnson observed that dictionaries were like clocks; the best would not run true and the worst were better than none. The same is true of tables and databases. In [1] Michael Berry reveals that on a desert island he “would give up Shakespeare in favor of Prudnikov, Brychkov and Marichev.” That excellent compendium [3] contains (entry 9, page 750)

$$(1) \quad \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^2(k^2 - kl + l^2)} = \frac{\pi^{\alpha} \sqrt{3}}{30},$$

where the “ α ” is probably “4.”

Integer relation methods [2] suggest that no reasonable value of α works. What is intended in formula (1)?

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{n^2(n^2 - mn + m^2)} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{n^2(n^2 + mn + m^2)} \\ &= \sum_{\substack{m, n \in \mathbb{Z} \\ mn \neq 0}} \frac{1}{n^2(n^2 + mn + m^2)} = 6\zeta(4), \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{nm(n^2 + mn + n^2)} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2(n^2 + mn + m^2)} = \frac{13}{12} \zeta(4),$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2(n^2 + mn + m^2)} &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \operatorname{Im} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\Psi\left(1 + n \frac{-1+i\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)}{n^3} \\ &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \operatorname{Im} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\operatorname{Li}_3\left(e^{\left(\frac{-1+i\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)t}\right)}{e^t - 1} dt \\ &= 1.00445719820157402755414025 \dots \end{aligned}$$

Here Ψ and Li_3 are the *digamma* and *trilogarithm*, respectively [2].

REFERENCES

- [1] M. BERRY, *Why are special functions so special?*, Phys. Today, 54 (2003), pp. 11–12; also available online from <http://www.physicstoday.org/pt/vol-54/iss-4/p11.html>.

- [2] J.M. BORWEIN AND D.H. BAILEY, *Mathematics by Experiment*, A. K. Peters Ltd., Wellesley, MA, 2003.
- [3] A.P. PRUDNIKOV, YU.A. BRYCHKOV AND O.I. MARICHEV, *Integrals and Series*, Volumes 1 and 2, Gordon and Breach, New York, 1986.

Status. This problem appears in [2]. It is unsolved, though the listed identities are known. Indeed one may ask, Is it the left side or the right side of (1) that is in need of corrections?