

VALUE OF THE INFINITE SERIES $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3}$

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ABSTRACT: The value of the infinite series of the sum of reciprocals of the cubes has remained unknown so far .It has not been expressed as a multiple of π^3 . I have tried to find it by computation.

KEYWORD: Infinite series

NOTATIONS: Notations are very simple.

I. INTRODUCTION

A natural question is whether Zeta(3) is a rational multiple of π^3 . Although the values of $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$ and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^4}$ are known to us, the value of $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3}$ is unknown to us. I have tried to find out by computation. ($\pi=22/7$) has been taken into consideration.

II. METHOD OF ANALYSIS

Fourier sine series for x^2 gives a well known result,

$$1 - \frac{1}{3^3} + \frac{1}{5^3} - \frac{1}{7^3} + \dots + \infty = \frac{\pi^3}{32}$$

Now $1 - \frac{1}{3^3} + \frac{1}{5^3} - \frac{1}{7^3} + \dots + \infty$ can be written as

$$(1 + \frac{1}{5^3} + \frac{1}{9^3} + \dots + \infty) - (\frac{1}{3^3} + \frac{1}{7^3} + \frac{1}{11^3} + \dots + \infty) = \frac{\pi^3}{32}$$

$\frac{\pi^3}{32}$ is the difference of two infinite series. Here the difference of two infinite series is a multiple of

π^3 . Hence the addition of these infinite series must be a multiple of π^3 . If we are able to express $\frac{\pi^3}{32}$

as the difference of two numbers precisely then we can find the value of $1 + \frac{1}{3^3} + \frac{1}{5^3} + \dots + \infty$.

It has been found that $\frac{\pi^3}{32} = \frac{2695\pi^3}{82756} - \frac{871\pi^3}{662048}$

$$\text{Now } (1 + \frac{1}{5^3} + \frac{1}{9^3} + \dots + \infty) - (\frac{1}{3^3} + \frac{1}{7^3} + \frac{1}{11^3} + \dots + \infty) = \frac{\pi^3}{32} = \frac{2695\pi^3}{82756} - \frac{871\pi^3}{662048}$$

$$\text{Equating equal parts, we get } 1 + \frac{1}{5^3} + \frac{1}{9^3} + \dots + \infty = \frac{2695\pi^3}{82756} \quad \text{-----(1)}$$

$$\text{and } \frac{1}{3^3} + \frac{1}{7^3} + \frac{1}{11^3} + \dots + \infty = \frac{871\pi^3}{662048} \quad \text{----- (2)}$$

Adding (1) and (2), we get

$$1 + \frac{1}{3^3} + \frac{1}{5^3} + \frac{1}{7^3} + \frac{1}{9^3} + \dots + \infty = \frac{2695\pi^3}{82756} + \frac{871\pi^3}{662048}$$

$$\text{Or, } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n-1)^3} = \frac{(21560 + 871)\pi^3}{662048}$$

$$\text{Or, } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n-1)^3} = \frac{22431\pi^3}{662048} \quad \text{-----(3)}$$

$$\text{Now, } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n-1)^3} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n)^3}$$

$$\text{Or, } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n-1)^3} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{8n^3}$$

$$\text{Or, } (1 - \frac{1}{8}) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n-1)^3}$$

$$\text{Or, } \frac{7}{8} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n-1)^3}$$

$$\text{Or, } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3} = \frac{8}{7} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n-1)^3}$$

$$\text{Or, } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3} = \frac{8}{7} \left(\frac{22431\pi^3}{662048} \right) \quad \text{----- from (3)}$$

$$\text{Finally, } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3} = \frac{22431\pi^3}{579292}$$

III. CONCLUSION

From this method we find that $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3} = \frac{22431\pi^3}{579292}$

$$\text{Also, } \frac{22431\pi^3}{579292} = 1.20205.....$$

Here $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3}$ becomes equal to Apéry's constant.

REFERENCE

- (1) George F. Simons, *Differential Equations With Applications And Historical Notes*, Tata McGraw-Hill Publishing company limited, New Delhi.