

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

SP.623 Compute the following limit:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{k=1}^n k \left(\frac{2k^2 + 3n^2}{3k^2 + 2n^2} \right)$$

Proposed by José Luis Díaz – Barrero – Spain

Solution 1 by proposer

To compute the limit, we can transform the sum into a Riemann sum and evaluate it using definite integral. Since

$$\frac{k}{n^2} \cdot \frac{2k^2 + 3n^2}{3k^2 + 2n^2} = \left(\frac{k}{n} \right) \cdot \frac{2 \left(\frac{k}{n} \right)^2 + 3}{3 \left(\frac{k}{n} \right)^2 + 2} \cdot \frac{1}{n}$$

then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \sum_{k=1}^n \left[\left(\frac{k}{n} \right) \cdot \frac{2 \left(\frac{k}{n} \right)^2 + 3}{3 \left(\frac{k}{n} \right)^2 + 2} \cdot \frac{1}{n} \right]$$

This expression is precisely the Riemann sum for the function $f(x) = x \cdot \frac{2x^2 + 3}{3x^2 + 2}$ on the interval $[0, 1]$ with step size $\Delta x = \frac{1}{n}$.

Taking the limit as $n \rightarrow +\infty$ converts the sum into the integral of $f(x)$ on $[0, 1]$, and we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \sum_{k=1}^n \left[\left(\frac{k}{n} \right) \cdot \frac{2 \left(\frac{k}{n} \right)^2 + 3}{3 \left(\frac{k}{n} \right)^2 + 2} \cdot \frac{1}{n} \right] = \int_0^1 x \cdot \frac{2x^2 + 3}{3x^2 + 2} dx$$

Since

$$\int x \frac{2x^2 + 2}{3x^2 + 2} dx = \frac{1}{3}x^2 + \frac{5}{18} \ln(3x^2 + 2) + C$$

then

$$\int_0^1 x \cdot \frac{2x^2 + 3}{3x^2 + 2} dx = \left[\frac{1}{3}x^2 + \frac{5}{18} \ln(3x^2 + 2) + C \right]_0^1 = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{5}{18} \ln\left(\frac{5}{2}\right)$$

and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{k=1}^n k \left(\frac{2k^2 + 3n^2}{3k^2 + 2n^2} \right) = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{5}{18} \ln \left(\frac{5}{2} \right)$$

Solution 2 by Marin Chirciu-Romania

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{k=1}^n k \left(\frac{2k^2 + 3n^2}{3k^2 + 2n^2} \right) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k}{n} \left(\frac{2 \frac{k^2}{n^2} + 3}{3 \frac{k^2}{n^2} + 2} \right) = \int_0^1 x \frac{2x^2 + 3}{3x^2 + 2} dx = \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{2x^3 + 3x}{3x^2 + 2} dx = \\ &= \frac{1}{3} \int_0^1 \frac{6x^3 + 9x}{3x^2 + 2} dx = \frac{1}{3} \int_0^1 \left(2x + \frac{5x}{3x^2 + 2} \right) dx = \frac{1}{3} \left(\int_0^1 2x dx + \int_0^1 \frac{5x}{3x^2 + 2} dx \right) = \\ &= \frac{1}{3} \left(\int_0^1 2x dx + \frac{5}{6} \int_0^1 \frac{6x}{3x^2 + 2} dx \right) = \frac{1}{3} \left(x^2 \Big|_0^1 + \frac{5}{6} \ln(3x^2 + 2) \Big|_0^1 \right) = \frac{1}{3} \left(1 + \frac{5}{6} \ln \frac{5}{2} \right). \end{aligned}$$

We deduce that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{k=1}^n k \left(\frac{2k^2 + 3n^2}{3k^2 + 2n^2} \right) = \frac{1}{3} \left(1 + \frac{5}{6} \ln \frac{5}{2} \right)$.

Remark: The problem can be developed.

Compute the following limit:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{k=1}^n k \left(\frac{\lambda k^2 + (\lambda + 1)n^2}{(\lambda + 1)k^2 + \lambda n^2} \right), \lambda > 0.$$

Marin Chirciu

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{k=1}^n k \left(\frac{\lambda k^2 + (\lambda + 1)n^2}{(\lambda + 1)k^2 + \lambda n^2} \right) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k}{n} \left(\frac{\lambda \frac{k^2}{n^2} + \lambda + 1}{(\lambda + 1) \frac{k^2}{n^2} + \lambda} \right) = \\ &= \int_0^1 x \frac{\lambda x^2 + \lambda + 1}{(\lambda + 1)x^2 + \lambda} dx = \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{\lambda x^3 + (\lambda + 1)x}{(\lambda + 1)x^2 + \lambda} dx = \frac{1}{\lambda + 1} \int_0^1 \frac{\lambda(\lambda + 1)x^3 + (\lambda + 1)^2 x}{(\lambda + 1)x^2 + \lambda} dx = \\ &= \frac{1}{\lambda + 1} \int_0^1 \left(\lambda x + \frac{(2\lambda + 1)x}{(\lambda + 1)x^2 + \lambda} \right) dx = \frac{1}{\lambda + 1} \left(\int_0^1 \lambda x dx + \int_0^1 \frac{(2\lambda + 1)x}{(\lambda + 1)x^2 + \lambda} dx \right) = \\ &= \frac{1}{\lambda + 1} \left(\int_0^1 \lambda x dx + \frac{2\lambda + 1}{2(\lambda + 1)} \int_0^1 \frac{2(\lambda + 1)x}{(\lambda + 1)x^2 + \lambda} dx \right) = \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\lambda + 1} \left(\frac{\lambda x^2}{2} \Big|_0^1 + \frac{2\lambda + 1}{2(\lambda + 1)} \ln \left((\lambda + 1)x^2 + \lambda \right) \Big|_0^1 \right) = \frac{1}{\lambda + 1} \left(\frac{\lambda}{2} + \frac{2\lambda + 1}{2(\lambda + 1)} \ln \frac{2\lambda + 1}{\lambda} \right).$$

We deduce that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{k=1}^n k \left(\frac{\lambda k^2 + (\lambda + 1)n^2}{(\lambda + 1)k^2 + \lambda n^2} \right) = \frac{1}{\lambda + 1} \left(\frac{\lambda}{2} + \frac{2\lambda + 1}{2(\lambda + 1)} \ln \frac{2\lambda + 1}{\lambda} \right).$

Note: For $\lambda = 2$ we obtain Problem SP.623 from RMM Number 42 – Autumn 2026.

SP.623. Compute the following limit

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{k=1}^n k \left(\frac{2k^2 + 3n^2}{3k^2 + 2n^2} \right).$$

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