

## Infinite series

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Let  $H_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k}$ . Show that the infinite series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{n+1}}{n(n+1)}$  converges and find its value.

**Solution by Arkady Alt, San Jose, California, USA.**

$$\text{Note that } \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{H_{k+1}}{k(k+1)} = \sum_{k=1}^n H_{k+1} \left( \frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{k+1} \right) = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{H_{k+1}}{k} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{k+1}}{k+1} =$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{H_{k+1}}{k} - \sum_{k=2}^{n+1} \frac{H_k}{k} = \frac{H_2}{1} + \sum_{k=2}^n \frac{H_{k+1}}{k} - \sum_{k=2}^n \frac{H_k}{k} - \frac{H_{n+1}}{n+1} =$$

$$1 + \frac{1}{2} + \sum_{k=2}^n \frac{1}{k} (H_{k+1} - H_k) - \frac{H_{n+1}}{n+1} = \frac{3}{2} + \sum_{k=2}^n \frac{1}{k(k+1)} - \frac{H_{n+1}}{n+1}.$$

$$\text{Since } \sum_{k=2}^n \frac{1}{k(k+1)} = \sum_{k=2}^n \left( \frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{k+1} \right) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{n+1} \text{ then}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{H_{k+1}}{k(k+1)} = \frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{n+1} - \frac{H_{n+1}}{n+1} = 2 - \frac{H_{n+1} + 1}{n+1}.$$

We will prove that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{H_n}{n} = 0$ .

$$\text{By AM-QM Inequality } \frac{H_n}{n} \leq \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k^2}} \text{ and since } \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k^2} < 1 + \sum_{k=2}^n \frac{1}{(k-1)k} =$$

$$1 + \sum_{k=2}^n \left( \frac{1}{k-1} - \frac{1}{k} \right) = 1 + 1 - \frac{1}{n} < 2 \text{ then } \frac{H_n}{n} < \sqrt{\frac{2}{n}} \text{ and, therefore,}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{H_n}{n} = 0. \text{ Hence, } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{n+1}}{n(n+1)} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{H_{k+1}}{k(k+1)} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( 2 - \frac{H_{n+1} + 1}{n+1} \right) = 2.$$