

**A Level H2 Math**

**Sigma Notation Test 4**

Q1

A sequence  $u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots$  is such that

$$u_n = \frac{1}{2n^2(n-1)^2} \text{ and } u_{n+1} = u_n - \frac{2}{n(n-1)^2(n+1)^2}, \text{ for all } n \geq 2.$$

(i) Find  $\sum_{n=2}^N \frac{2}{n(n-1)^2(n+1)^2}$ . [3]

(ii) Explain why  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{2}{n(n-1)^2(n+1)^2}$  is a convergent series, and state the value of the sum to infinity. [2]

(iii) Using your answer in part (i), find  $\sum_{n=1}^N \frac{2N}{(n+1)n^2(n+2)^2}$ . [2]

Q2

(a) (i) Show that  $\frac{1}{r-1} - \frac{2}{r} + \frac{1}{r+1} = \frac{2}{r(r-1)(r+1)}$ . [1]

(ii) Hence find  $\sum_{r=3}^n \frac{4}{r(r-1)(r+1)}$ .

(There is no need to express your answer as a single algebraic fraction). [4]

(b) Amy and her brother Ben are saving money together for their family trip. In the first week of 2017, Amy saves \$25 and Ben saves \$2. In each subsequent week, Amy saves \$4 more than the amount she saved in the previous week, and Ben saves 22% more than the amount he saved in the previous week.

(i) Which is the first week in which Ben saves more than Amy in that week? [2]

(ii) They need a combined total of \$2400 for the trip. How many complete weeks do Amy and Ben need to save before they can achieve their targeted amount? [2]

Q3

The function  $f$  is defined by  $f: x \mapsto \frac{1}{x^2 - 1}$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $x > 1$ .

(i) Show that  $\frac{2}{n+1} - \frac{3}{n} + \frac{1}{n+1} = \frac{An+B}{n^3-n}$ , where  $A$  and  $B$  are constants to be found. [3]

(ii) Hence find  $\sum_{r=2}^n \frac{2r+6}{r^3-r}$ . [4]

(iii) Use your answer to part (ii) to find  $\sum_{r=2}^n \frac{2r+10}{(r+1)(r+2)(r+3)}$ . [1]

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**Answers**

**Sigma Notation Test 4**

Q1

(i)

$$\sum_{n=2}^N \frac{2}{n(n-1)^2(n+1)^2}$$

$$= \sum_{n=2}^N [u_n - u_{n+1}]$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} (u_2 - u_3) \\ + (u_3 - u_4) \\ + (u_4 - u_5) \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ + (u_{N-1} - u_N) \\ + (u_N - u_{N+1}) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= u_2 - u_{N+1}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2(2^2)(2-1)^2} - \frac{1}{2(N+1)^2((N-1)+1)^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{8} - \frac{1}{2N^2(N+1)^2}$$

(ii)

As  $N \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\frac{1}{2N^2(N+1)^2} \rightarrow 0$

$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{2}{n(n-1)^2(n+1)^2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{8}$  which is a constant, hence it is a convergent series.

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{2}{n(n-1)^2(n+1)^2} = \frac{1}{8} - 0$$

$$= \frac{1}{8}$$

(iii)

**Method 1**

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{2N}{(n+1)n^2(n+2)^2} &= N \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{2}{(n+1)n^2(n+2)^2} \\ &= N \sum_{n=2}^{N+1} \frac{2}{(n)(n-1)^2(n+1)^2} \\ &= N \left[ \frac{1}{8} - \frac{1}{2(N+1)^2(N+2)^2} \right] \\ &= \frac{N}{8} \left[ 1 - \frac{4}{(N+1)^2(N+2)^2} \right] \end{aligned}$$

**Method 2** By listing the terms

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=2}^N \frac{2}{n(n-1)^2(n+1)^2} \\ = \frac{2}{2(1)^2(3)^2} + \frac{2}{3(2)^2(4)^2} + \dots + \frac{2}{N(N-1)^2(N+1)^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{2N}{(n+1)n^2(n+2)^2} \\ = N \left[ \frac{2}{2(1)^2(3)^2} + \frac{2}{3(2)^2(4)^2} + \dots + \frac{2}{(N+1)(N)^2(N+2)^2} \right] \\ = N \sum_{n=2}^{N+1} \frac{2}{n(n-1)^2(n+1)^2} \\ = N \left[ \frac{1}{8} - \frac{1}{2(N+1)^2(N+2)^2} \right] \\ = \frac{N}{8} \left[ 1 - \frac{4}{(N+1)^2(N+2)^2} \right] \end{aligned}$$

Q2

(a)(i)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{r-1} - \frac{2}{r} + \frac{1}{r+1} &= \frac{r(r+1) - 2(r-1)(r+1) + r(r-1)}{r(r-1)(r+1)} \\ &= \frac{r^2 + r - 2(r^2 - 1) + r^2 - r}{r(r-1)(r+1)} \\ &= \frac{2}{r(r-1)(r+1)} \end{aligned}$$

(a)(ii)

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{r=3}^n \frac{4}{r(r-1)(r+1)} &= 2 \sum_{r=3}^n \frac{2}{r(r-1)(r+1)} \\ &= 2 \sum_{r=3}^n \left( \frac{1}{r-1} - \frac{2}{r} + \frac{1}{r+1} \right) \\ &= 2 \left[ \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{4} \right. \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{2}{4} + \frac{1}{5} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{4} - \frac{2}{5} + \frac{1}{6} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{2}{6} + \frac{1}{7} \\ &\quad + \dots \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{n-3} - \frac{2}{n-2} + \frac{1}{n-1} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{n-2} - \frac{2}{n-1} + \frac{1}{n} \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{n-1} - \frac{2}{n} + \frac{1}{n+1} \right] \\ &= 2 \left( \frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n+1} \right) = \frac{1}{3} - \frac{2}{n} + \frac{2}{n+1} \end{aligned}$$

(b)(i)

Amount Amy saves in  $n$ th week =  $25 + (n-1)(4) = 21 + 4n$

Amount Ben saves in  $n$ th week =  $ar^{n-1} = 2(1.22)^{n-1}$

When Ben saves more than Amy,

$$2(1.22)^{n-1} > 21 + 4n$$

From GC,

in the 20th week, Amy saves \$101, Ben saves \$87.47

in the 21st week, Amy saves \$105, Ben saves \$106.72

Hence, Ben first saves more than Amy in the 21st week.

$$\text{Or: } 2(1.22)^{n-1} > 21 + 4n \Rightarrow 2(1.22)^{n-1} - 21 - 4n > 0$$

$$\text{When } n = 20, 2(1.22)^{n-1} - 21 - 4n = -13.5 < 0$$

$$\text{When } n = 21, 2(1.22)^{n-1} - 21 - 4n = 1.72 > 0$$

(b)(ii) Total amount in Amy's account after  $n$ th week,

$$= \frac{n}{2}(2a + (n-1)d) = \frac{n}{2}(50 + (n-1)(4)) = \frac{n}{2}(46 + 4n)$$

Total amount in Ben's account after  $n$ th week,

$$= \frac{a(r^n - 1)}{r - 1} = \frac{2(1.22^n - 1)}{1.22 - 1}$$

For their total saving to exceed \$2400,

$$\frac{n}{2}(46 + 4n) + \frac{2(1.22^n - 1)}{1.22 - 1} > 2400$$

From GC,

in the 22nd week, total savings = \$2186.89 < \$2400

in the 23rd week, total savings = \$2458.72 > \$2400

$\therefore$  least  $n = 23$ .

Hence, their total saving will exceed \$2400 after 23 complete weeks.

Q3

(i)

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{2}{n-1} - \frac{3}{n} + \frac{1}{n+1} \\ &= \frac{2(n)(n+1) - 3(n-1)(n+1) + (n-1)(n)}{(n-1)(n)(n+1)} \\ &= \frac{(2n^2 + 2n) - (3n^2 - 3) + (n^2 - n)}{n^3 - n} \\ &= \frac{n+3}{n^3 - n} \end{aligned}$$

(ii)

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{r=2}^n \frac{2r+6}{r^3-r} \\ &= 2 \sum_{r=2}^n \frac{r+3}{r^3-r} \\ &= 2 \sum_{r=2}^n \left( \frac{2}{r-1} - \frac{3}{r} + \frac{1}{r+1} \right) \\ &= 2 \left[ \begin{array}{l} \frac{2}{1} - \frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{3} \\ + \frac{2}{2} - \frac{3}{3} + \frac{1}{4} \\ + \frac{2}{3} - \frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{5} \\ + \dots \\ + \frac{2}{n-2} - \frac{3}{n-1} + \frac{1}{n} \\ + \frac{2}{n-1} - \frac{3}{n} + \frac{1}{n+1} \end{array} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$= 2 \left( \frac{2}{1} - \frac{3}{2} + \frac{2}{2} + \frac{1}{n} - \frac{3}{n} + \frac{1}{n+1} \right)$$

$$= 2 \left( \frac{3}{2} - \frac{2}{n} + \frac{1}{n+1} \right)$$

$$= 3 - \frac{4}{n} + \frac{2}{n+1}$$

(iii)

$$\sum_{r=2}^n \frac{2r+10}{(r+1)(r+2)(r+3)}$$

Let  $r+2 = p \Rightarrow r = p-2$

$$= \sum_{p-2=2}^{p-2=n} \frac{2p+6}{(p-1)(p)(p+1)}$$

$$= \sum_{p=4}^{n+2} \frac{2p+6}{p^3-p}$$

$$= \sum_{p=2}^{n+2} \frac{2p+6}{p^3-p} - \sum_{p=2}^3 \frac{2p+6}{p^3-p}$$

$$= \left( 3 - \frac{4}{n+2} + \frac{2}{n+3} \right) - \left( 3 - \frac{4}{3} + \frac{2}{4} \right)$$

$$= \frac{5}{6} - \frac{4}{n+2} + \frac{2}{n+3}$$