

Trisemestre on Methods of Proof Theory in Mathematics (Seminar Talks)

Max Planck Institute for Mathematics, Bonn

## Symbolic Summation and Applications

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# Warmup example

(bonus problem 6.69 in “Concrete Mathematics”)

FIND a closed form for

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k^2 H_{n+k} = ? ,$$

where  $H_n := \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k}$ .

# Telescoping

GIVEN  $f(k) = k^2 H_{n+k}$ .

FIND  $g(k)$ :

$$f(k) = g(k+1) - g(k)$$

for all  $1 \leq k \leq n$  and  $n \geq 0$ .

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FIND  $g(k)$ :

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for all  $1 \leq k \leq n$  and  $n \geq 0$ .

Sigma computes

$$g(k) = \frac{1}{36} (k(-4k^2 + (6n+3)k - 12n(n+1) + 1) + 6(2k^3 - 3k^2 + k + n(n+1)(2n+1))H_{k+n}).$$

# Telescoping

GIVEN  $f(k) = k^2 H_{n+k}$ .

FIND  $g(k)$ :

$$f(k) = g(k+1) - g(k)$$

for all  $1 \leq k \leq n$  and  $n \geq 0$ .

Summing this equation over  $k$  from 1 to  $n$  gives

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

$$= -\frac{1}{36}n(n+1)(10n + 6(2n+1)H_n - 12(2n+1)H_{2n} - 1).$$

# Telescoping

FIND a closed form for

$$\sum_{k=1}^n H_k.$$

## A difference field for the **summand**

Consider the rational function field

$$\mathbb{F} := \mathbb{Q}(k)(h)$$

with the automorphism  $\sigma : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$  defined by

$$\sigma(c) = c \quad \forall c \in \mathbb{Q},$$

$$\sigma(k) = k + 1,$$

$$\sigma(h) = h + \frac{1}{k+1},$$

$$S k = k + 1,$$

$$S H_k = H_k + \frac{1}{k+1}.$$

# Telescoping in the given difference field

FIND  $g \in \mathbb{F}$ :

$$\sigma(g) - g = h.$$

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$$g(k + 1) - g(k) = H_k$$

with

$$g(k) = (H_k - 1)k.$$

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This gives

$$g(k+1) - g(k) = H_k$$

with

$$g(k) = (H_k - 1)k.$$

Hence,

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

# telescoping

▶ GIVEN

$$f(k) \in \mathbb{F}.$$

▶ FIND  $g(k) \in \mathbb{F}$ :

$$f(k) = g(k+1) - g(k)$$

## telescoping

- ▶ GIVEN

$$f(k) \in \mathbb{F}.$$

- ▶ FIND  $g(k) \in \mathbb{F}$ :

$$f(k) = g(k+1) - g(k)$$

- ▶ THEN (with some mild extra conditions)

$$\sum_{k=0}^n f(k) = g(n+1) - g(0)$$

## Refined telescoping

- ▶ GIVEN

$$f(k) \in \mathbb{F}.$$

- ▶ FIND  $g(k) \in \mathbb{F}$  and  $f^*(k)$ :

$$f(k) = g(k+1) - g(k) + f^*(k)$$

where  $f^*(k)$  is simpler than  $f(k)$ .

# Refined telescoping

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- ▶ FIND  $g(k) \in \mathbb{F}$  and  $f^*(k)$ :

$$\boxed{f(k) = g(k+1) - g(k) + f^*(k)}$$

where  $f^*(k)$  is simpler than  $f(k)$ .

- ▶ THEN (with some mild extra conditions)

$$\sum_{k=0}^n f(k) = g(n+1) - g(0) + \sum_{k=0}^n f^*(k).$$

## Simpler w.r.t. the depth

$$\sum_{k=1}^n H_k^2 H_k^{(2)} =$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^a \left( \sum_{i=0}^k \binom{n}{i} \right)^2 =$$

Sigma

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\sum_{j=1}^k \frac{1}{j}}{k^3} =$$

## Simpler w.r.t. the depth

$$\sum_{k=1}^n H_k^2 H_k^{(2)} = \frac{1}{3} H_n^{(3)} - \frac{1}{3} H_n^3 + \left( (n+1) H_n^{(2)} + 1 \right) H_n^2 + (2n+1) (1 - H_n) H_n^{(2)} - 2H_n$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^a \left( \sum_{i=0}^k \binom{n}{i} \right)^2 = (n-a) \binom{n}{a} \sum_{i=0}^a \binom{n}{i} - \frac{n-2a-2}{2} \left( \sum_{i=0}^a \binom{n}{i} \right)^2 - \frac{n}{2} \sum_{i=1}^a \binom{n}{i}^2$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{i=1}^j \frac{1}{i}}{k^3} =$$

$$= H_n^{(3)} \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{H_j}{j^2} - \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{H_j H_j^{(3)}}{j^2} + \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{H_j}{j^5}$$



## Simpler w.r.t. the depth

$$\sum_{k=1}^n H_k^2 H_k^{(2)} = \frac{1}{3} H_n^{(3)} - \frac{1}{3} H_n^3 + \left( (n+1) H_n^{(2)} + 1 \right) H_n^2 + (2n+1) (1 - H_n) H_n^{(2)} - 2H_n$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^a \left( \sum_{i=0}^k \binom{n}{i} \right)^2 = (n-a) \binom{n}{a} \sum_{i=0}^a \binom{n}{i} - \frac{n-2a-2}{2} \left( \sum_{i=0}^a \binom{n}{i} \right)^2 - \frac{n}{2} \sum_{i=1}^a \binom{n}{i}^2$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{i=1}^j \frac{1}{i}}{k^3} = S(3, 2, 1, n)$$

(Harmonic sums;  
alternative representation: Euler-Zagier sums)

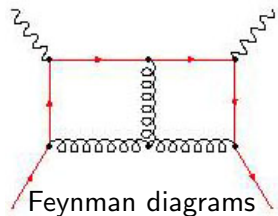
$$= H_n^{(3)} \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{H_j}{j^2} - \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{H_j H_j^{(3)}}{j^2} + \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{H_j}{j^5} \quad (\text{Euler sums})$$

## Example 1: Particle physics

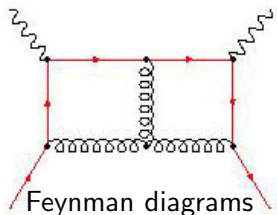
A. Mitov, S. Moch; *QCD corrections to semi-inclusive hadron production in electron-positron annihilation at two loops*. 2006.

▶▶ Example 2

Visualization of quantum electrodynamic interaction:



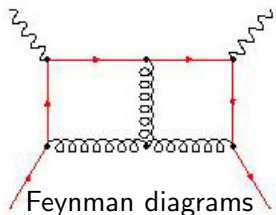
Visualization of quantum electrodynamic interaction:



$$\longrightarrow \int d^D p_1 \dots d^D p_n \frac{1}{(p_1^2)^{v_1} \dots (p_n^2)^{v_n}}$$

GOAL: Evaluation of Feynman integrals

Visualization of quantum electrodynamic interaction:



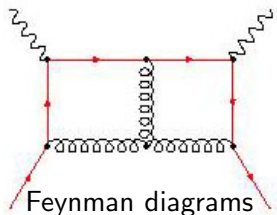
$$\longrightarrow \int d^D p_1 \dots d^D p_n \frac{1}{(p_1^2)^{v_1} \dots (p_n^2)^{v_n}}$$

GOAL: Evaluation of Feynman integrals

DESY  
Deutsches  
Elektronen  
Synchrotron

Simplification of Feynman sums

Visualization of quantum electrodynamic interaction:



$$\longrightarrow \int d^D p_1 \dots d^D p_n \frac{1}{(p_1^2)^{v_1} \dots (p_n^2)^{v_n}}$$

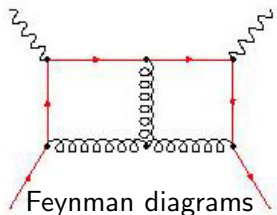
GOAL: Evaluation of Feynman integrals

XSummer using Form  
(special purpose solver)

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Simplification of Feynman sums

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$$\longrightarrow \int d^D p_1 \dots d^D p_n \frac{1}{(p_1^2)^{v_1} \dots (p_n^2)^{v_n}}$$

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Simplification of Feynman sums

Sigma

GIVEN

$$F(N) = \frac{\Gamma(2N)\Gamma(2-3\epsilon)\Gamma(N-2\epsilon+1)\Gamma(2(1-\epsilon))\Gamma(N-\epsilon+1)}{\Gamma(N)\Gamma(N-3\epsilon+2)\Gamma(1-2\epsilon)\Gamma(1-\epsilon)\Gamma(2(N-\epsilon+1))} \times$$

$$\times \left( 2G + \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\Gamma(i)\Gamma(i-3\epsilon+1)\Gamma(1-2\epsilon)\Gamma(1-\epsilon)\Gamma(2(i-\epsilon))}{\Gamma(2i)\Gamma(2-3\epsilon)\Gamma(i-2\epsilon+1)\Gamma(2(1-\epsilon))\Gamma(i-\epsilon)} X(i) \right)$$

with

$$G = g_0 + g_1\epsilon + g_2\epsilon^2 + g_3\epsilon^3 + g_4\epsilon^4 + O(\epsilon^5)$$

and

$$X(i) = x_0(i) + x_1(i)\epsilon + x_2(i)\epsilon^2 + x_3(i)\epsilon^3 + x_4(i)\epsilon^4 + O(\epsilon^5)$$



GIVEN

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FIND the  $\epsilon$ -expansion

$$F(N) = f_0(N) + f_1(N)\epsilon + f_2(N)\epsilon^2 + f_3(N)\epsilon^3 + f_4(N)\epsilon^4 + O(N^5)$$

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Sigma

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$$F(N) = \left[ \frac{\Gamma(2N)\Gamma(2-3\epsilon)\Gamma(N-2\epsilon+1)\Gamma(2(1-\epsilon))\Gamma(N-\epsilon+1)}{\Gamma(N)\Gamma(N-3\epsilon+2)\Gamma(1-2\epsilon)\Gamma(1-\epsilon)\Gamma(2(N-\epsilon+1))} \right] \times$$

$$\times \left( 2 \boxed{G} + \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\Gamma(i)\Gamma(i-3\epsilon+1)\Gamma(1-2\epsilon)\Gamma(1-\epsilon)\Gamma(2(i-\epsilon))}{\Gamma(2i)\Gamma(2-3\epsilon)\Gamma(i-2\epsilon+1)\Gamma(2(1-\epsilon))\Gamma(i-\epsilon)} X(i) \right)$$

1. FIND expansions for each box, e.g.,

$$\boxed{A(N)} = a_0(N) + a_1(N)\epsilon + a_2(N)\epsilon^2 + a_3(N)\epsilon^3 + a_4(N)\epsilon^4 + O(\epsilon^5)$$

$$\boxed{B(N)} = b_0(N) + b_1(N)\epsilon + b_2(N)\epsilon^2 + b_3(N)\epsilon^3 + b_4(N)\epsilon^4 + O(\epsilon^5)$$

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2. COMBINE:

$$A(N) + B(N) = \dots + (a_r(N) + b_r(N))\epsilon^r + \dots \quad \text{component wise}$$

$$A(N) \cdot B(N) = \dots + \left( \sum_{l=0}^r a_l(N)b_{r-l}(N) \right) \epsilon^r + \dots \quad \text{Cauchy-product}$$

$$F(N) = \frac{\Gamma(2N)\Gamma(2-3\epsilon)\Gamma(N-2\epsilon+1)\Gamma(2(1-\epsilon))\Gamma(N-\epsilon+1)}{\Gamma(N)\Gamma(N-3\epsilon+2)\Gamma(1-2\epsilon)\Gamma(1-\epsilon)\Gamma(2(N-\epsilon+1))} \times$$

$$\times \left( 2 \boxed{G} + \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\Gamma(i)\Gamma(i-3\epsilon+1)\Gamma(1-2\epsilon)\Gamma(1-\epsilon)\Gamma(2(i-\epsilon))}{\Gamma(2i)\Gamma(2-3\epsilon)\Gamma(i-2\epsilon+1)\Gamma(2(1-\epsilon))\Gamma(i-\epsilon)} X(i) \right)$$

$$\frac{\Gamma(i)\Gamma(i-3\epsilon+1)\Gamma(1-2\epsilon)\Gamma(1-\epsilon)\Gamma(2(i-\epsilon))}{\Gamma(2i)\Gamma(2-3\epsilon)\Gamma(i-2\epsilon+1)\Gamma(2(1-\epsilon))\Gamma(i-\epsilon)} X(i)$$

=

Sigma

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$$= h_0(i) + h_1(i)\epsilon + h_2(i)\epsilon^2 + \dots$$

$$F(N) = \frac{\Gamma(2N)\Gamma(2-3\epsilon)\Gamma(N-2\epsilon+1)\Gamma(2(1-\epsilon))\Gamma(N-\epsilon+1)}{\Gamma(N)\Gamma(N-3\epsilon+2)\Gamma(1-2\epsilon)\Gamma(1-\epsilon)\Gamma(2(N-\epsilon+1))} \times$$

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$$\sum_{j=1}^N \frac{\Gamma(i)\Gamma(i-3\epsilon+1)\Gamma(1-2\epsilon)\Gamma(1-\epsilon)\Gamma(2(i-\epsilon))}{\Gamma(2i)\Gamma(2-3\epsilon)\Gamma(i-2\epsilon+1)\Gamma(2(1-\epsilon))\Gamma(i-\epsilon)} X(i)$$

$$= \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^N h_0(i)}_{\text{sum 0}} + \epsilon \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^N h_1(i)}_{\text{sum 1}} + \epsilon^2 \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^N h_2(i)}_{\text{sum 2}} + \dots$$

Sigma

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(N) &= \boxed{\frac{\Gamma(2N)\Gamma(2-3\epsilon)\Gamma(N-2\epsilon+1)\Gamma(2(1-\epsilon))\Gamma(N-\epsilon+1)}{\Gamma(N)\Gamma(N-3\epsilon+2)\Gamma(1-2\epsilon)\Gamma(1-\epsilon)\Gamma(2(N-\epsilon+1))}} \times \\
 &\times \left( 2 \boxed{G} + \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\Gamma(i)\Gamma(i-3\epsilon+1)\Gamma(1-2\epsilon)\Gamma(1-\epsilon)\Gamma(2(i-\epsilon))}{\Gamma(2i)\Gamma(2-3\epsilon)\Gamma(i-2\epsilon+1)\Gamma(2(1-\epsilon))\Gamma(i-\epsilon)} X(i) \right) \\
 &= \boxed{f_0(N) + f_1(N)\epsilon + f_2(N)\epsilon^2 + f_3(N)\epsilon^3 + f_4(N)\epsilon^4 + O(N^5)} \quad \text{COMBINE}
 \end{aligned}$$



## Example 2: Padé approximation

[▶▶ Example 3](#)

Quadratic Padé approximation to  $\log(x)$  at  $x = 1$ 

$$\text{FIND } r_m(x) = \sum_{k=0}^m a_k x^k, \quad s_m(x) = \sum_{k=0}^m b_k x^k, \quad t_m(x) = \sum_{k=0}^m c_k x^k:$$

$$r_m(x) (\log x)^2 + s_m(x) \log(x) + t_m(x) = O((x - 1)^{3m+2}).$$

# Quadratic Padé approximation to $\log(x)$ at $x = 1$

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$$r_m(x) (\log x)^2 + s_m(x) \log(x) + t_m(x) = O((x-1)^{3m+2}).$$

A. Weideman finds

$$r_m(x) = c_3 A(m, x)$$

$$s_m(x) = c_2 A(m, x) + 2c_3 B(m, x)$$

$$t_m(x) = c_1 A(m, x) + c_2 B(m, x) + c_3 C(m, x)$$

where

$$A(m, x) = \sum_{k=0}^m \binom{m}{k}^3 (-x)^k \quad B(m, x) = \sum_{k=0}^m \left[ \frac{d}{dk} \binom{m}{k}^3 \right] (-x)^k$$

$$C(m, x) = \sum_{k=0}^m \left[ \frac{d^2}{dk^2} \binom{m}{k}^3 \right] (-x)^k.$$

# Quadratic Padé approximation to $\log(x)$ at $x = 1$

$$\text{FIND } r_m(x) = \sum_{k=0}^m a_k x^k, \quad s_m(x) = \sum_{k=0}^m b_k x^k, \quad t_m(x) = \sum_{k=0}^m c_k x^k:$$

$$r_m(x) (\log x)^2 + s_m(x) \log(x) + t_m(x) = O((x-1)^{3m+2}).$$

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$$C(m, x) = \sum_{k=0}^m \left[ \frac{d^2}{dk^2} \binom{m}{k}^3 \right] (-x)^k.$$

<p>Tests at <math>x = 1, m = 0, 1, \dots</math> :</p> <p><math>c_1 = \pi^2, \quad c_2 = 0, \quad c_3 = 1</math></p>
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

For all  $m \geq 0$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \left[ \pi^2 \binom{m}{k}^3 + \frac{d^2}{dk^2} \binom{m}{k}^3 \right] = 0$$

For all  $m \geq 0$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k}^3 \left[ 3(H_{m-k} - H_k)^2 + H_{m-k}^{(2)} + H_k^{(2)} \right] = 0$$

where

$$H_k = \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{i}, \quad H_k^{(2)} = \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{i^2}.$$

## Theorem (Sigma; 2002)

For all  $m \geq 0$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k}^3 \left[ 3(H_{m-k} - H_k)^2 + H_{m-k}^{(2)} + H_k^{(2)} \right] = 0$$

where

$$H_k = \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{i}, \quad H_k^{(2)} = \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{i^2}.$$

Proof.

Sigma



# Zeilberger's creative telescoping paradigm

GIVEN

$$\text{SUM}(m) := \sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k}^3 \underbrace{\left[ 3(H_{m-k} - H_k)^2 + H_{m-k}^{(2)} + H_k^{(2)} \right]}_{=: f(m, k)}.$$

FIND  $c_0(m)$ ,  $c_1(m)$ ,  $c_2(m)$ , and  $g(m, k)$ :

$$\boxed{g(m, k+1) - g(m, k)} = \boxed{c_0(m) f(m, k) + c_1(m) f(m+1, k) + c_2(m) f(m+2, k)}$$

for all  $0 \leq k \leq m$  and all  $m \geq 0$ .



# Zeilberger's creative telescoping paradigm

GIVEN

$$\text{SUM}(m) := \sum_{k=0}^m \underbrace{(-1)^k \binom{m}{k}^3 \left[ 3(H_{m-k} - H_k)^2 + H_{m-k}^{(2)} + H_k^{(2)} \right]}_{=: f(m, k)}.$$

FIND  $c_0(m)$ ,  $c_1(m)$ ,  $c_2(m)$ , and  $g(m, k)$ :

$$\boxed{g(m, k+1) - g(m, k)} = \boxed{c_0(m) f(m, k) + c_1(m) f(m+1, k) + c_2(m) f(m+2, k)}$$

for all  $0 \leq k \leq m$  and all  $m \geq 0$ .

**Sigma:**

$$c_0(m) := 3(3m+2)(3m+4)(3m+8), \quad c_1(m) := 0, \\ c_2(m) := (m+2)^2(3m+8),$$

$$g(m, k) := (-1)^k \binom{m}{k}^3 \frac{p_1(k, m, H_k, H_k^{(2)}, H_{m-k}, H_{m-k}^{(2)})}{(m-k+1)^5 (m-k+2)^5},$$

$$g(m, k+1) := (-1)^k \binom{m}{k}^3 \frac{p_2(k, m, H_k, H_k^{(2)}, H_{m-k}, H_{m-k}^{(2)})}{(m-k+1)^5}.$$

# Zeilberger's creative telescoping paradigm

GIVEN

$$\text{SUM}(m) := \sum_{k=0}^m \underbrace{(-1)^k \binom{m}{k}^3 \left[ 3(H_{m-k} - H_k)^2 + H_{m-k}^{(2)} + H_k^{(2)} \right]}_{=: f(m, k)}.$$

GIVEN  $c_0(m)$ ,  $c_1(m)$ ,  $c_2(m)$ , and  $g(m, k)$ :

$$\boxed{g(m, k+1) - g(m, k)} = \boxed{c_0(m) f(m, k) + c_1(m) f(m+1, k) + c_2(m) f(m+2, k)}$$

for all  $0 \leq k \leq m$  and all  $m \geq 0$ .

Summing this equation over  $k$  from 0 to  $m$  gives:

$$\boxed{g(m, m+1) - g(m, 0)} = \boxed{c_0(m) \text{SUM}(m) + c_1(m) [\text{SUM}(m+1) - f(m+1, m+1)] + c_2(m) [\text{SUM}(m+2) - f(m+2, m+1) - f(m+2, m+2)]}.$$

# Proving $\xrightarrow{\text{Sigma}}$ Finding

$$\sum_{k=0}^{2m} \binom{2m}{k}^3 (-1)^k H_k H_{2m-k} = \frac{(3m)!(-1)^m}{m!m!m!} \frac{1}{12} (3H_m^2 - 6H_m H_{3m} + 3H_{3m}^2 + H_m^{(2)})$$

$$+ 12H_{2m}(H_{2m} + H_m - H_{3m}) + 4H_{2m}^{(2)} - 3H_{3m}^{(2)}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{2m} \binom{2m}{k}^3 (-1)^k H_k^2 = \frac{(3m)!(-1)^m}{m!m!m!} \frac{1}{12} (3H_m^2 - 6H_m H_{3m} + 3H_{3m}^2 - H_m^{(2)})$$

$$+ 12H_{2m}(H_{2m} + H_m - H_{3m}) + 2H_{2m}^{(2)} - 3H_{3m}^{(2)}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{2m} \binom{2m}{k}^3 (-1)^k H_k^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{(3m)!(-1)^m}{m!m!m!} (H_n^{(2)} + H_{2n}^{(2)})$$

# Proving $\xrightarrow{\text{Sigma}}$ Finding

$$\sum_{k=0}^{2m} \binom{2m}{k}^3 (-1)^k H_k H_{2m-k} = \frac{(3m)!(-1)^m}{m!m!m!} \frac{1}{12} (3H_m^2 - 6H_m H_{3m} + 3H_{3m}^2 + H_m^{(2)})$$

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$$\sum_{k=0}^{2m} \binom{2m}{k}^3 (-1)^k H_k^2 = \frac{(3m)!(-1)^m}{m!m!m!} \frac{1}{12} (3H_m^2 - 6H_m H_{3m} + 3H_{3m}^2 - H_m^{(2)})$$

$$+ 12H_{2m}(H_{2m} + H_m - H_{3m}) + 2H_{2m}^{(2)} - 3H_{3m}^{(2)}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{2m} \binom{2m}{k}^3 (-1)^k H_k^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{(3m)!(-1)^m}{m!m!m!} (H_n^{(2)} + H_{2n}^{(2)})$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{2m} (-1)^k \binom{2m}{k}^3 \left[ 3(H_{2m-k} - H_k)^2 + H_{2m-k}^{(2)} + H_k^{(2)} \right] = 0$$

# Proving $\xrightarrow{\text{Sigma}}$ Finding

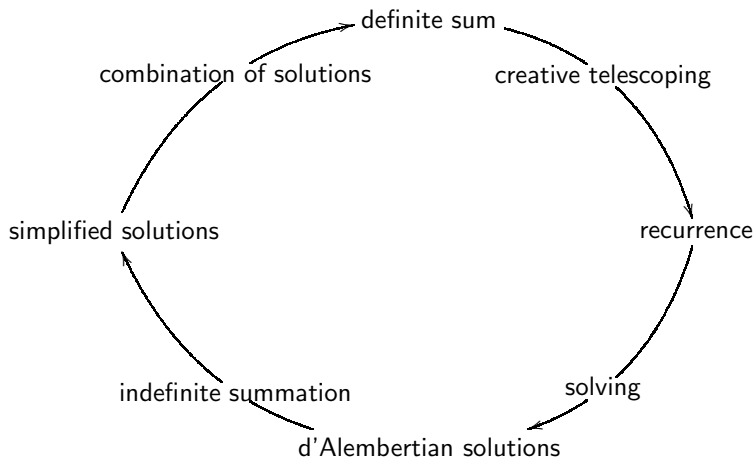
$$\boxed{\sum_{k=0}^{2m} \binom{2m}{k}^3 (-1)^k H_k H_{2m-k}} = \text{FIND}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{2m} \binom{2m}{k}^3 (-1)^k H_k^2 = \frac{(3m)!(-1)^m}{m!m!m!} \frac{1}{12} (3H_m^2 - 6H_m H_{3m} + 3H_{3m}^2 - H_m^{(2)})$$

$$+ 12H_{2m}(H_{2m} + H_m - H_{3m}) + 2H_{2m}^{(2)} - 3H_{3m}^{(2)}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{2m} \binom{2m}{k}^3 (-1)^k H_k^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{(3m)!(-1)^m}{m!m!m!} (H_n^{(2)} + H_{2n}^{(2)})$$

# The Sigma-summation spiral:



Weideman. Padé Approximations to the Logarithm I: Derivation via Differential Equations. 2005.

Driver, Prodinger, CS, Weideman. Padé approximations to the logarithm II: Identities, recurrences, and symbolic computation. 2006.

Driver, Prodinger, CS, Weideman. Padé approximations to the logarithm III: Alternative methods and additional results.

Krattenthaler. Private communication (differentiation, hypergeometric transformations).

Wenchang Chu. Harmonic number identities and Hermite-Padé approximation to the logarithm function. 2005.

Example 3:  
Apéry's proof of the irrationality of  $\zeta(3)$

▶▶ Example 4



Apéry's proof (1979) of the irrationality of  $\zeta(3)$  relies on the following fact:

$$a(n) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n+k}{k}^2 \binom{n}{k}^2$$

and

$$b(n) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n+k}{k}^2 \binom{n}{k}^2 \left( H_n^{(3)} + \sum_{m=1}^k \frac{(-1)^{m-1}}{2m^3 \binom{n+m}{m} \binom{n}{m}} \right)$$

satisfy both the recurrence relation

$$(n+1)^3 A(n) - (2n+3)(17n^2 + 51n + 39) A(n+1) + (n+2)^3 A(n+2) = 0.$$

Apéry's proof (1979) of the irrationality of  $\zeta(3)$  relies on the following fact:

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satisfy both the recurrence relation

$$(n+1)^3 A(n) - (2n+3)(17n^2 + 51n + 39) A(n+1) + (n+2)^3 A(n+2) = 0.$$

Van der Poorten (1979) points out that Henri Cohen and Don Zagier showed this fact by

*“some rather complicated but ingenious explanations”*

based on the creative telescoping method.

Apéry's proof (1979) of the irrationality of  $\zeta(3)$  relies on the following fact:

$$a(n) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n+k}{k}^2 \binom{n}{k}^2$$

and

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satisfy both the recurrence relation

$$(n+1)^3 A(n) - (2n+3)(17n^2 + 51n + 39) A(n+1) + (n+2)^3 A(n+2) = 0.$$

$a(n)$ -case: trivial exercise by Zeilberger's algorithm (1991)

Apéry's proof (1979) of the irrationality of  $\zeta(3)$  relies on the following fact:

$$a(n) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n+k}{k}^2 \binom{n}{k}^2$$

and

$$b(n) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n+k}{k}^2 \binom{n}{k}^2 \left( H_n^{(3)} + \sum_{m=1}^k \frac{(-1)^{m-1}}{2m^3 \binom{n+m}{m} \binom{n}{m}} \right)$$

satisfy both the recurrence relation

$$(n+1)^3 A(n) - (2n+3)(17n^2 + 51n + 39) A(n+1) + (n+2)^3 A(n+2) = 0.$$

$b(n)$ -case: skilful application of computer algebra

1. Generalization of the Cohen/Zagier method in the WZ-setting (Zeilberger, 1993)
2. Multi-summation + holonomic closure properties (Chyzak, 1998)

Apéry's proof (1979) of the irrationality of  $\zeta(3)$  relies on the following fact:

$$a(n) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n+k}{k}^2 \binom{n}{k}^2$$

and

$$b(n) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n+k}{k}^2 \binom{n}{k}^2 \left( H_n^{(3)} + \sum_{m=1}^k \frac{(-1)^{m-1}}{2m^3 \binom{n+m}{m} \binom{n}{m}} \right)$$

satisfy both the recurrence relation

$$(n+1)^3 A(n) - (2n+3)(17n^2 + 51n + 39) A(n+1) + (n+2)^3 A(n+2) = 0.$$

$b(n)$ -case: plain sailing (and not plane sailing) by [Sigma](#)

# Example 4: Evaluation of a quadruple sum

[▶▶ Example 5](#)

## A challenging email (2004)

From: Doron Zeilberger  
To: Robin Pemantle, Herbert Wilf  
CC:Carsten Schneider

Robin and Herb,

I am willing to bet that Carsten Schneider's SIGMA package for handling sums with harmonic numbers (among others) can do it in a jiffy. I am Cc-ing this to Carsten.

Carsten: please do it, and Cc- the answer to me.  
-Doron

## The problem

From: Robin Pemantle [University of Pennsylvania]  
To: herb wilf; doron zeilberger

Herb, Doron,

I have a sum that, when I evaluate numerically, looks suspiciously like it comes out to exactly 1.

Is there a way I can automatically decide this?

The sum may be written in many ways, but one is:

$$\sum_{j,k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_j(H_{k+1} - 1)}{jk(k+1)(j+k)}; \quad H_j := \sum_{i=1}^j \frac{1}{i}.$$

Of course you can expand out the H's and get a quadruple sum. There are zillions of ways to play with it, summing by parts, but I have never managed to get rid of all the summations.

Robin



Simplify:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{k+1} - 1}{k(k+1)} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_j}{j(j+k)}.$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^a \frac{H_j}{j(j+k)} = \text{FIND}$$

Simplify:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{k+1} - 1}{k(k+1)} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_j}{j(j+k)}.$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^a \frac{H_j}{j(j+k)} = \frac{kH_k^2 - 2H_k + kH_k^{(2)} + 2kH_a^{(2)}}{2k^2}$$

$$- \underbrace{\frac{(kH_a - 1)}{k^2} \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{a+i} - \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=1}^i \frac{1}{a+j}}_{\text{Limits}}$$

Simplify:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{k+1} - 1}{k(k+1)} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_j}{j(j+k)}.$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_j}{j(j+k)} = \frac{kH_k^2 - 2H_k + kH_k^{(2)} + 2k\zeta(2)}{2k^2}$$

Simplify:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{k+1} - 1}{k(k+1)} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_j}{j(j+k)}.$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^b \frac{H_{k+1} - 1}{k(k+1)} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_j}{j(j+k)} = \sum_{k=1}^b \frac{H_{k+1} - 1}{k(k+1)} \frac{kH_k^2 - 2H_k + kH_k^{(2)} + 2k\zeta(2)}{2k^2}$$

= Sigma

Simplify:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{k+1} - 1}{k(k+1)} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_j}{j(j+k)}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^b \frac{H_{k+1} - 1}{k(k+1)} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_j}{j(j+k)} &= \sum_{k=1}^b \frac{H_{k+1} - 1}{k(k+1)} \frac{kH_k^2 - 2H_k + kH_k^{(2)} + 2k\zeta(2)}{2k^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2(b+1)^2} \left( 6H_b + 4bH_b + 4H_b^2 + 3bH_b^2 + H_b^3 + bH_b^3 - 6b\zeta(2) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 2H_b\zeta(2) + 2bH_b\zeta(2) - 2H_b^{(2)} - 7bH_b^{(2)} + H_bH_b^{(2)} + bH_bH_b^{(2)} \right) \\ &\quad - \frac{2b^2}{(b+1)^2} \left( \zeta(2) + H_b^{(2)} \right) \\ &\quad + (\zeta(2) - 1) \sum_{i=1}^b \frac{H_i}{i^2} - \sum_{i=1}^b \frac{H_i^2}{i^3} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^b \frac{H_i^3}{i^2} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^b \frac{H_i H_i^{(2)}}{i^2} \end{aligned}$$

## $\zeta$ -relations

This gives

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \sum_{j,k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_j(H_{k+1} - 1)}{jk(k+1)(j+k)} \\ &= -4\zeta(2) + (\zeta(2) - 1) \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_i}{i^2} - \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_i^2}{i^3} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_i^3}{i^2} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_i H_i^{(2)}}{i^2}. \end{aligned}$$

## $\zeta$ -relations

This gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 S &= \sum_{j,k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_j(H_{k+1} - 1)}{jk(k+1)(j+k)} \\
 &= -4\zeta(2) + (\zeta(2) - 1) \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_i}{i^2} - \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_i^2}{i^3} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_i^3}{i^2} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_i H_i^{(2)}}{i^2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

E.g., in J.M. Borwein, Girgensohn. Evaluation of triple Euler sums, 1996.

Flajolet, Salvy. Euler sums and contour integral representations, 1998.

Granville. A decomposition of Riemann's zeta-function. 1997.

Zagier. Values of zeta functions and their applications. 1994.

we find

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_i}{i^2} &= 2\zeta(3), & \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_i^2}{i^3} &= -\zeta(2)\zeta(3) + \frac{7}{2}\zeta(5), \\
 \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_i^3}{i^2} &= \zeta(2)\zeta(3) + 10\zeta(5), & \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_i H_i^{(2)}}{i^2} &= \zeta(2)\zeta(3) + \zeta(5).
 \end{aligned}$$

## $\zeta$ -relations

### Theorem.

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \sum_{j,k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_j(H_{k+1} - 1)}{jk(k+1)(j+k)} \\ &= -4\zeta(2) - 2\zeta(3) + 4\zeta(2)\zeta(3) + 2\zeta(5) = 0.999222\dots \end{aligned}$$

Pemantle, CS. When is 0.999... equal to 1? 2007.

Panholzer, Prodinger. Computer-free evaluation of an infinite double sum. 2005.



## Example 5: Particle physics II

I. Bierenbaum, J. Blümlein, and S. Klein, *Evaluating two-loop massive operator matrix elements with Mellin-Barnes integrals*. 2006.

GIVEN

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(N) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} & \left( \frac{\Gamma(k+1)}{\Gamma(k+2+N)} \Gamma(\varepsilon) \Gamma(1-\varepsilon) \frac{\Gamma(j+1-2\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+1+\varepsilon) \Gamma(k+j+1+N)}{\Gamma(j+1-\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+2+N) \Gamma(k+j+2)} \right. \\
 & \left. + \frac{\Gamma(k+1)}{\Gamma(k+2+N)} \Gamma(-\varepsilon) \Gamma(1+\varepsilon) \frac{\Gamma(j+1+2\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+1-\varepsilon) \Gamma(k+j+1+\varepsilon+N)}{\Gamma(j+1) \Gamma(j+2+\varepsilon+N) \Gamma(k+j+2+\varepsilon)} \right) \\
 & \underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{f(N, k, j)}
 \end{aligned}$$

GIVEN

$$F(N) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\Gamma(k+1)}{\Gamma(k+2+N)} \Gamma(\varepsilon) \Gamma(1-\varepsilon) \frac{\Gamma(j+1-2\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+1+\varepsilon) \Gamma(k+j+1+N)}{\Gamma(j+1-\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+2+N) \Gamma(k+j+2)} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{\Gamma(k+1)}{\Gamma(k+2+N)} \Gamma(-\varepsilon) \Gamma(1+\varepsilon) \frac{\Gamma(j+1+2\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+1-\varepsilon) \Gamma(k+j+1+\varepsilon+N)}{\Gamma(j+1) \Gamma(j+2+\varepsilon+N) \Gamma(k+j+2+\varepsilon)} \right) \\ \underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{f(N, k, j)}$$

FIND the  $\varepsilon$ -expansion

$$F(N) = F_0(N) + \varepsilon F_1(N) + \dots$$

GIVEN

$$F(N) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\Gamma(k+1)}{\Gamma(k+2+N)} \Gamma(\varepsilon) \Gamma(1-\varepsilon) \frac{\Gamma(j+1-2\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+1+\varepsilon) \Gamma(k+j+1+N)}{\Gamma(j+1-\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+2+N) \Gamma(k+j+2)} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{\Gamma(k+1)}{\Gamma(k+2+N)} \Gamma(-\varepsilon) \Gamma(1+\varepsilon) \frac{\Gamma(j+1+2\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+1-\varepsilon) \Gamma(k+j+1+\varepsilon+N)}{\Gamma(j+1) \Gamma(j+2+\varepsilon+N) \Gamma(k+j+2+\varepsilon)} \right) \\ \underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{f(N, k, j)}$$

Step 1: ▶ FIND the  $\varepsilon$ -expansion

$$f(N, k, j) = f_0(N, k, j) + \varepsilon f_1(N, k, j) + \dots$$

GIVEN

$$F(N) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\Gamma(k+1)}{\Gamma(k+2+N)} \Gamma(\varepsilon) \Gamma(1-\varepsilon) \frac{\Gamma(j+1-2\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+1+\varepsilon) \Gamma(k+j+1+N)}{\Gamma(j+1-\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+2+N) \Gamma(k+j+2)} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{\Gamma(k+1)}{\Gamma(k+2+N)} \Gamma(-\varepsilon) \Gamma(1+\varepsilon) \frac{\Gamma(j+1+2\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+1-\varepsilon) \Gamma(k+j+1+\varepsilon+N)}{\Gamma(j+1) \Gamma(j+2+\varepsilon+N) \Gamma(k+j+2+\varepsilon)} \right) \\ \underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{f(N, k, j)}$$

Step 2: Simplify the sums in

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f(N, k, j) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_0(N, k, j) + \varepsilon \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_1(N, k, j) + \dots \\ \parallel \\ F(N)$$

GIVEN

$$F(N) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\Gamma(k+1)}{\Gamma(k+2+N)} \Gamma(\varepsilon) \Gamma(1-\varepsilon) \frac{\Gamma(j+1-2\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+1+\varepsilon) \Gamma(k+j+1+N)}{\Gamma(j+1-\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+2+N) \Gamma(k+j+2)} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{\Gamma(k+1)}{\Gamma(k+2+N)} \Gamma(-\varepsilon) \Gamma(1+\varepsilon) \frac{\Gamma(j+1+2\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+1-\varepsilon) \Gamma(k+j+1+\varepsilon+N)}{\Gamma(j+1) \Gamma(j+2+\varepsilon+N) \Gamma(k+j+2+\varepsilon)} \right) \\ \underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{f(N, k, j)}$$

Step 2: Simplify the sums in

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f(N, k, j) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_0(N, k, j) + \varepsilon \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_1(N, k, j) + \dots \\ \parallel \\ F(N)$$

Simplify

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_0(N, k, j)$$

$$\sum_{j=0}^a f_0(N, k, j) = \text{▶ Sigma}$$

Simplify

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_0(N, k, j)$$

$$\sum_{j=0}^a f_0(N, k, j) = \frac{(a+1)!(k-1)!(a+k+N+1)!(H_a - H_{a+k} - H_{a+N} + H_{a+k+N})}{N(a+k+1)!(a+N+1)!(k+N+1)!}$$

$$+ \frac{H_k + S_N - H_{k+N}}{kN(k+N+1)N!} + \frac{(2a+k+N+2)a!k!(a+k+N)!}{(a+k+1)(a+N+1)(a+k+1)!(a+N+1)!(k+N+1)!}$$



Simplify

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_0(N, k, j)$$

$$\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_0(N, k, j) = \frac{H_k + H_N - H_{k+N}}{kN(k+N+1)N!}$$

Simplify

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_0(N, k, j)$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_0(N, k, j) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_k + H_N - H_{k+N}}{kN(k+N+1)N!}$$

Simplify

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_0(N, k, j)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_0(N, k, j) &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_k + H_N - H_{k+N}}{kN(k+N+1)N!} \\ &= \text{Sigma} \end{aligned}$$

Simplify

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_0(N, k, j)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_0(N, k, j) &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_k + H_N - H_{k+N}}{kN(k+N)N!} \\ &= \frac{H_N^2 + H_N^{(2)}}{2N(N+1)!} \end{aligned}$$

where

$$H_N^{(2)} = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{i^2}$$

GIVEN

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(N) &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\Gamma(k+1)}{\Gamma(k+2+N)} \Gamma(\varepsilon) \Gamma(1-\varepsilon) \frac{\Gamma(j+1-2\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+1+\varepsilon) \Gamma(k+j+1+N)}{\Gamma(j+1-\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+2+N) \Gamma(k+j+2)} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{\Gamma(k+1)}{\Gamma(k+2+N)} \Gamma(-\varepsilon) \Gamma(1+\varepsilon) \frac{\Gamma(j+1+2\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+1-\varepsilon) \Gamma(k+j+1+\varepsilon+N)}{\Gamma(j+1) \Gamma(j+2+\varepsilon+N) \Gamma(k+j+2+\varepsilon)} \right) \\
 &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_0(N, k, j) + \varepsilon \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_1(N, k, j) + \dots,
 \end{aligned}$$

Sigma computes

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_0(N, k, j) = \frac{H_N^2 + 3H_N}{2N(N+1)!}.$$

GIVEN

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(N) &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\Gamma(k+1)}{\Gamma(k+2+N)} \Gamma(\varepsilon) \Gamma(1-\varepsilon) \frac{\Gamma(j+1-2\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+1+\varepsilon) \Gamma(k+j+1+N)}{\Gamma(j+1-\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+2+N) \Gamma(k+j+2)} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{\Gamma(k+1)}{\Gamma(k+2+N)} \Gamma(-\varepsilon) \Gamma(1+\varepsilon) \frac{\Gamma(j+1+2\varepsilon) \Gamma(j+1-\varepsilon) \Gamma(k+j+1+\varepsilon+N)}{\Gamma(j+1) \Gamma(j+2+\varepsilon+N) \Gamma(k+j+2+\varepsilon)} \right) \\
 &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_0(N, k, j) + \varepsilon \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_1(N, k, j) + \dots,
 \end{aligned}$$

Sigma computes

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_0(N, k, j) = \frac{H_N^2 + 3H_N}{2N(N+1)!}.$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_1(N, k, j) = \frac{-H_N^3 - 3H_N H_N^{(2)} - 8H_N}{6N(N+1)!}.$$

# Appendix

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**Denominator bound:** COMPUTE a polynomial  $d \in \mathbb{Q}(k)[h]$ :

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**Polynomial Solution:** FIND

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$$\left[ \sigma(g_2) \left( h + \frac{1}{k+1} \right)^2 + \sigma(g_1 h + g_0) \right] - [g_2 h^2 + g_1 h + g_0] = h$$



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