

Problem 3) a) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1/n^4) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 1/(2n)^4 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 1/(2n-1)^4 = \frac{1}{16} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1/n^4) + (\pi^4/96)$

$$\rightarrow \frac{15}{16} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1/n^4) = \pi^4/96 \quad \rightarrow \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1/n^4) = \pi^4/90.$$

b) $\int_0^1 [(\ln x)^3 / (1-x)] dx = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_0^1 x^n (\ln x)^3 dx$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left[\frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} (\ln x)^3 \Big|_{x=0}^1 - \int_0^1 \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} \cdot \frac{3}{x} (\ln x)^2 dx \right] = - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{3}{n+1} \int_0^1 x^n (\ln x)^2 dx \\
 &= - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left[\frac{3x^{n+1}}{(n+1)^2} (\ln x)^2 \Big|_{x=0}^1 - \frac{3}{n+1} \int_0^1 \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} \cdot \frac{2}{x} \ln x dx \right] = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{6}{(n+1)^2} \int_0^1 x^n \ln x dx \\
 &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left[\frac{6x^{n+1}}{(n+1)^3} \ln x \Big|_{x=0}^1 - \frac{6}{(n+1)^2} \int_0^1 \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} \cdot \frac{1}{x} dx \right] = - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{6}{(n+1)^3} \int_0^1 x^n dx \\
 &= - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{6x^{n+1}}{(n+1)^4} \Big|_{x=0}^1 = -6 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1/n^4) = -\pi^4/15. \quad \leftarrow \text{Gradshteyn \& Ryzhik 4.262-2}
 \end{aligned}$$

Digression: To prove that $\lim_{(x \rightarrow 0^+)} x(\ln x)^\alpha = 0$, let $x = e^{-k}$, where k is a large positive integer. You will have $x(\ln x)^\alpha = e^{-k}(-k)^\alpha = e^{i\pi\alpha} k^\alpha / e^k$. Given that, with an increasing k , the value of e^k grows faster than that of k^α , you will find that $k^\alpha / e^k \rightarrow 0$ in the limit when $k \rightarrow \infty$.