Polylogarithms Of Order One

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In this white paper we will examine the polylogarithm in the following form...

$$Li_{-s}(z)=\sum_{k=1}^{\infty}k^s z^k \text{ ...where... } s\in\{0,1,2,3,4,...\} \text{ ...and... } |z|<1 \tag{1}$$

When the parameter s (order) in Equation (1) above is equal to one then the equation for a polylogarithm of order one is...

$$Li_{-1}(z)=\sum_{k=1}^{\infty}k\,z^k \text{ ...where... } |z|<1 \tag{2}$$

Our Hypothetical Problem

Given that the parameter $z=0.80$ and the parameter $s=1$ then answer the following questions...

1. What is the value of the polylogarithm over the interval $k=1$ to infinity?

2. What is the value of the polylogarithm over the interval $k=1$ to 4?

Building the Equations

Using Equation (2) above and Appendix Equation (11) below the equation for the value of a polylogarithm of order one over the interval $k=1$ to $k=\infty$ is..

$$Li_{-1}(z)=\sum_{k=1}^{\infty}k\,z^k=z\frac{\delta Li_0(z)}{\delta z}=z\,\frac{1}{(1-z)^2}=\frac{z}{(1-z)^2} \tag{3}$$

The equation for the value of a polylogarithm of order one over the interval $k=1$ to n is...

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n}k\,z^k=\sum_{k=1}^{\infty}k\,z^k-\sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty}k\,z^k \tag{4}$$

Note that we can rewrite the third term in Equation (4) above as...

$$\sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty}k\,z^k=z^n\sum_{k=1}^{\infty}(k+n)\,z^k=z^n\sum_{k=1}^{\infty}k\,z^k+n\,z^n\sum_{k=1}^{\infty}z^k \tag{5}$$

Using Equation (3) above and Appendix Equation (11) below we can rewrite Equation (5) above as...

$$\sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty}k\,z^k=z^n\frac{z}{(1-z)^2}+n\,z^n\frac{z}{1-z}=\frac{z^{n+1}}{(1-z)^2}+n\,\frac{z^{n+1}}{1-z} \tag{6}$$

Using Equations (3) and (6) above we can rewrite Equation (4) above as...

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n}k\,z^k=\frac{z}{(1-z)^2}-\frac{z^{n+1}}{(1-z)^2}-n\,\frac{z^{n+1}}{1-z}=\frac{z-z^{n+1}}{(1-z)^2}-\frac{n\,z^{n+1}}{1-z} \tag{7}$$

The Answers To Our Hypothetical Problem

1. What is the value of the polylogarithm over the interval $k = 1$ to infinity?

Using Equation (3) above the answer to the question is...

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k\,0.80^k = \frac{0.80}{(1-0.80)^2} = 20.00 \tag{8}$$

2. What is the value of the polylogarithm over the interval $k = 1$ to 4?

Using Equation (7) above the answer to the question is...

$$\sum_{k=1}^{4} k\,0.80^k = \frac{0.80 - 0.80^5}{(1-0.80)^2} - \frac{4 \times 0.80^5}{1-0.80} = 5.25 \tag{9}$$

References

[1] Gary Schurman, *Polylogarithm Of Order Zero,* May, 2019

Appendix

A. The equation for the base polylogarithm is...

$$Li_1 z = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k^{-1} z^k = -ln(1-z) \text{ ...where... } \frac{\delta Li_1(z)}{\delta z} = \frac{1}{1-z} \tag{10}$$

B. The equation for a polylogarithm of order zero is... [1]

$$Li_0 z = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k^0 z^k = \frac{z}{1-z} \text{ ...where... } \frac{\delta Li_0(z)}{\delta z} = \frac{1}{(1-z)^2} \tag{11}$$