

Problem 3.39

1. Problem C-3.39 page 144

Let

$$S = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{i}{2^i}$$

See that

$$S = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{i-1}{2^i} + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2^i}$$

Claim:

$$(i) \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{i-1}{2^i} < \frac{S}{2}$$

Proof.

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{i-1}{2^i} = \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{i-1}{2^i} = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \frac{i}{2^{i+1}} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \frac{i}{2^i} < \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{i}{2^i} = \frac{S}{2}$$

□

$$(ii) \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2^i} < 1$$

Proof.

$$2 \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2^i} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2^{i-1}} = 1 + \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{2^{i-1}} = 1 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{2^i} = 1 + \left[\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2^i} - \frac{1}{2^n} \right] \implies \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2^i} = 1 - \frac{1}{2^n} < 1$$

□

Finally, by the Claim, $S < \frac{S}{2} + 1 \implies 2S < S + 2 \implies S < 2$