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Homework 4

9/26/2021

1) A's speed is 200 miles per hour; T's speed is 50 miles per hour
T gets a head start of 50 miles

a. At time 0, T is at 50 and A is at 0. At $t = \frac{1}{4}$ of an hour, A has moved up to 50, but T has also moved up to $50 + \frac{1}{4}(50)$. At $t = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{16}$, A has moved up to 62.5, but T has also moved up to $50 + \frac{1}{4}(50) + \frac{1}{16}(50)$. At $t = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{16} + \frac{1}{64}$, A has moved up to $50 + \frac{1}{4}(50) + \frac{1}{16}(50)$, but T has also moved to $50 + \frac{1}{4}(50) + \frac{1}{16}(50) + \frac{1}{64}(50)$. Whenever A goes to where T was, T moves up as well, so A will never be able to reach T.

b) After t hours: A's distance = $200t$

T's distance = $50t + 50$

A's distance = T's distance when $200t = 50t + 50$

$150t = 50 \Rightarrow t = \frac{1}{3}$ of an hour

so A will catch up to T after 20 minutes

c) $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{16} + \frac{1}{64} + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^{n+1}$

so the sum would be $\frac{1/4}{1-1/4} = \frac{1/4}{3/4} = \frac{1}{3}$ so A would catch

up to T after 20 minutes

d) At time $t = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{16} + \frac{1}{64} = \frac{21}{64}$, A is at $\frac{525}{8}$ and T is at $\frac{2125}{32}$.

The next step would require $\frac{1}{256}$ of an hour, but since time advances by $\frac{1}{64}$, the next step would be $t = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{16} + \frac{1}{64} + \frac{1}{256}$.

2) $1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^n = \frac{1-x^{n+1}}{1-x}$

$(1-x)(1+x+x^2+\dots+x^n) = 1-x^{n+1}$

$1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^n - x - x^2 - \dots - x^{n+1} = 1 - x^{n+1} = 1 - x^{n+1}$

The middle terms (x, x^2, x^3, \dots, x^n are all subtracted) so you're only left with 1 and $-x^{n+1}$ on the left side, which is equal to what's on the right side.

$$3) a. \quad 1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^n = \frac{1}{1-x}$$

$$(1-x)(1+x+x^2+\dots+x^n) = 1$$

$$1 + \cancel{x} + \cancel{x^2} + \dots + \cancel{x^n} - \cancel{x} - \cancel{x^2} - \dots - \cancel{x^n} = 1$$

On the left side, the only terms you are left with is 1 because through multiplication the other terms cancel out so, this proves that the sum works.

b. Zero's way: At $t=0$, T is at 1 and A is at 0. At $t=1$, A is at 1, but T has gone $1+x$. At $t=1+x$, A has reached where T was, but T has moved up to $1+x+x$.

Algebraic way: A's distance = $1t$ T's distance = $1+xt$

$$1+xt = t$$

$$1 = (1-x)t \quad t = \frac{1}{1-x}$$

$$4) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n} = 1$$

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^n} = 1$$

I'm not sure how to prove this using Zero's paradox because Zero supposed that you'd never reach the destination.