

## Solution: POW 2010-21

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Consider  $(4n + 1) - 3a_{4n+1}$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}(4n + 1) - 3a_{4n+1} &= (4n + 1) - 3(2n - a_{2n}) \\ &= 3a_{2n} - 2n + 1 \\ &= 3(n - a_n) - 2n + 1 \\ &= n - 3a_n + 1.\end{aligned}$$

Define  $m_1 = 1$  and  $m_i = 4m_{i-1} + 1$  for  $i \geq 2$ . Then,  $m_1 - 3a_{m_1} = 1$  and so  $m_k - 3a_{m_k} = k$ . By letting  $k = m_{6033}$ ,  $\frac{k}{3} - a_k = 2011 > 2010$ .

To prove the second part, I claim that

$$\left| \frac{a_n}{n} - \frac{1}{3} \right| \leq \frac{k}{3 \cdot 2^k}$$

for any  $2 \leq 2^k \leq n < 2^{k+1}$ . Use induction on  $n$ .

Consider the base cases,  $n = 2, 3$ . Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}\left| \frac{a_2}{2} - \frac{1}{3} \right| &= \frac{1}{6} \leq \frac{1}{3 \cdot 2^1} \\ \left| \frac{a_3}{3} - \frac{1}{3} \right| &= 0 < \frac{1}{3 \cdot 2^1}.\end{aligned}$$

For  $n \geq 4$ , if  $n = 2m$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}\left| \frac{a_n}{n} - \frac{1}{3} \right| &= \left| \frac{m - a_m}{2m} - \frac{1}{3} \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left| \frac{1}{3} - \frac{a_m}{m} \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \frac{k-1}{3 \cdot 2^{k-1}} < \frac{k}{3 \cdot 2^k}.\end{aligned}$$

If  $n = 2m + 1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{a_n}{n} - \frac{1}{3} \right| &= \left| \frac{m - a_m}{2m + 1} - \frac{1}{3} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{m + 1}{3(2m + 1)} - \frac{a_m}{2m + 1} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{1}{3(2m + 1)} + \frac{m}{2m + 1} \left( \frac{1}{3} - \frac{a_m}{m} \right) \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{3 \cdot 2^k} + \frac{1}{2} \left| \frac{a_m}{m} - \frac{1}{3} \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{3 \cdot 2^k} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{k-1}{3 \cdot 2^{k-1}} = \frac{k}{3 \cdot 2^k}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\frac{k}{2^k}$  goes to 0 as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{n} = \frac{1}{3}.$$