What is Mathematics?

West Chester University Mathematics Colloquium,

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Overview

- Purposes of the Talk
- 2 What is Mathematics?
 - 3 The Extent of Modern Mathematics
- Learn to Program Using a Computer Algebra System such as Mathematica or Maple
- 5 The Mathematical areas in which I do research
- 6 Interlude: qf_1^{24}
- 7 Connection to the work on Vanishing Coefficients
- 8 Chebyshev polynomials of the Second Kind
 - Interlude: Some Useful Online Mathematical Resources
- Properties of Chebyshev polynomials of the second kind
- Applications to the Fourier Coefficients of Hecke Eigenforms





Alternative titles for this talk





"You'll Never Believe What Mathematics Is - Prepare to Be Confused Forever!"



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"Mathematics: The Ultimate Guide to Solving All Your Real-Life Problems (Because Who Needs Common Sense?)"



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"Beware The WHAT IS MATHEMATICS? Scam"



Why give this talk?



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To attempt to provide a picture for non-mathematicians of the kinds of things mathematicians spend their time on.



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- To provide an overview of the particular area of mathematics in which I do research.



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- To attempt to provide a picture for students thinking of pursuing a career in mathematics of how mathematicians spend their time.
- To demonstrate how most mathematicians work in a very localized area of mathematics.
- To provide an overview of the particular area of mathematics in which I do research.
- To indicate the importance of computer algebra systems to my own research.











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Useful real-world applications of an area of mathematics may only come many years after the theory has been worked out (if at all).



What is Mathematics?



A (Very) Little Philosophy of Mathematics I



A (Very) Little Philosophy of Mathematics I

Mathematical Realism (Wikipedia)



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A (Very) Little Philosophy of Mathematics II



A (Very) Little Philosophy of Mathematics II

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Observers, including humans, are "self-aware substructures (SASs)" In any mathematical structure complex enough to contain such substructures, they "will subjectively perceive themselves as existing in a physically 'real' world."



A (Very) Little Philosophy of Mathematics III



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Fictionalism (Wikipedia)



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"Social constructivism sees mathematics primarily as a social construct, as a product of culture, subject to correction and change. Like the other sciences, mathematics is viewed as an empirical endeavor whose results are constantly evaluated and may be discarded."



A (Very) Little Philosophy of Mathematics IV



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Gödel's incompleteness theorems (Wikipedia)



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' For any such consistent formal system, there will always be statements about natural numbers that are true, but that are unprovable within the system.

' The second incompleteness theorem, an extension of the first, shows that the system cannot demonstrate its own consistency."



The Extent of Modern Mathematics



Mathematics Subject Classification





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At the top level, 64 mathematical disciplines are labeled with a unique two-digit number.







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- 01: History and biography



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- **2** 01: History and biography
- O3: Mathematical logic and foundations, including model theory. computability theory. set theory. proof theory. and algebraic logic







Discrete mathematics/algebra

05: Combinatorics



- 05: Combinatorics
- Of: Order theory



- 05: Combinatorics
- Of: Order theory
- 08: General algebraic systems



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- 11: Number theory



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- **12**: Field theory and polynomials



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- 14: Algebraic geometry



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- 19: K-theory
- 20: Group theory and generalizations
- 22: Topological groups, Lie groups, and analysis upon them







Analysis

1 26: Real functions, including derivatives and integrals



- **1** 26: Real functions, including derivatives and integrals
- 28: Measure and integration



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- 30: Complex functions, including approximation theory in the complex domain



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- 31: Potential theory



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- 35: Partial differential equations
- 9 37: Dynamical systems and ergodic theory



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- In the systems and ergodic theory
- 39: Difference equations and functional equations



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- 35: Partial differential equations
- In 37: Dynamical systems and ergodic theory
- 39: Difference equations and functional equations
- 40: Sequences, series, summability







1 41: Approximations and expansions



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- 42: Harmonic analysis, including Fourier analysis, Fourier transforms, trigonometric approximation, trigonometric interpolation, and orthogonal functions



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- 46: Functional analysis, including infinite-dimensional holomorphy, integral transforms in distribution spaces
- 47: Operator theory
- 49: Calculus of variations and optimal control: optimization (including geometric integration theory)





Geometry and topology



Geometry and topology

51: Geometry



Geometry and topology

- 51: Geometry
- 2 52: Convex geometry and discrete geometry



- 51: Geometry
- 2 52: Convex geometry and discrete geometry
- 3 53: Differential geometry



- 51: Geometry
- 2 52: Convex geometry and discrete geometry
- 3 53: Differential geometry
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- 55: Algebraic topology



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- 53: Differential geometry
- 54: General topology
- 55: Algebraic topology
- 57: Manifolds



- 51: Geometry
- 2 52: Convex geometry and discrete geometry
- 53: Differential geometry
- 4: General topology
- 55: Algebraic topology
- 57: Manifolds
- 58: Global analysis, analysis on manifolds (Including Infinite-dimensional holomorphy)







Applied mathematics / other

O Probability theory and stochastic processes



- 60 Probability theory and stochastic processes
- 2 62 Statistics



- 60 Probability theory and stochastic processes
- 2 62 Statistics
- 65 Numerical analysis



- 60 Probability theory and stochastic processes
- 62 Statistics
- 65 Numerical analysis
- 68 Computer science



- 60 Probability theory and stochastic processes
- 62 Statistics
- 65 Numerical analysis
- 68 Computer science
- § 70 Mechanics (Including particle mechanics)



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- 65 Numerical analysis
- 68 Computer science
- 70 Mechanics (Including particle mechanics)
- 74 Mechanics of deformable solids



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- 76 Fluid mechanics



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- 76 Fluid mechanics
- Ø 78 Optics, electromagnetic theory



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- 76 Fluid mechanics
- 8 Optics, electromagnetic theory
- 80 Classical thermodynamics, heat transfer



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- 80 Classical thermodynamics, heat transfer
- 81 Quantum theory
- 82 Statistical mechanics, structure of matter







0 83 Relativity and gravitational theory. Including relativistic mechanics



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- 86 Geophysics



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- 86 Geophysics
- 90 Operations research, mathematical programming



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- 92 Biology and other natural sciences
- 93 Systems theory; control, Including optimal control



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- 94 Information and communication, circuits
- 97 Mathematics education



The Complete MSC



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- Most Mathematics PhD granting institutions have some program to connect students with an area of mathematics that matches their interests.



Learn to Program Using a Computer Algebra System such as *Mathematica* or Maple

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If are able to just partially prove some what you discovered experimentally, then the work may lead to on-going collaborations with others able to prove the parts you cannot prove.

• getting a program to work is fun



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While there are specialized CAS's for particular areas of Mathematics such as group theory or algebraic number theory much can be done with only simple programming using an all-purpose CAS such as *Mathematica*.

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- collaborating with other people on math projects is fun





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The series expansion for f_1 :

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Notice that the coefficients of most powers of q are zero.



q-products Continued



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The list of coefficients:



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The series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c(n)q^n$ is *lacunary* if

$$\lim_{x \to \infty} \frac{|\{0 \le n \le x \mid c(n) = 0\}|}{x} = 1.$$



q-products Continued





Fact: f_1 is lacunary, as the previous slide suggests. Q. For which positive integers s is f_1^s lacunary?



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One could also ask questions about which of these more general eta quotients are lacunary.



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In other words, if the prime factorization of 3n + 1 has the form $3n + 1 = \dots p^{2r+1} \dots$ for some integer $r \ge 0$, then a(n) = b(n) = 0, and $a(n) \ne 0$, $b(n) \ne 0$ otherwise.

The Result of Han and Ono in More Detail



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$$\begin{split} f_1^8 &= 1 - 8q + 20q^2 - 70q^4 + 64q^5 + 56q^6 - 125q^8 - 160q^9 + 308q^{10} \\ &\quad + 110q^{12} - 520q^{14} + 57q^{16} + 560q^{17} + 182q^{20} + \dots, \\ f_3^3 \\ f_1^3 &= 1 + q + 2q^2 + 2q^4 + q^5 + 2q^6 + q^8 + 2q^9 + 2q^{10} + 2q^{12} \\ &\quad + 2q^{14} + 3q^{16} + 2q^{17} + 2q^{20} + \dots. \end{split}$$

Notice that the two series vanish for the same powers of q, namely q^n with $n = 3, 7, 11, 13, 15, 18, 19 \dots$



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(For example, for n = 11, $3n + 1 = 3(11) + 1 = 34 = 2(17^{1})$ and 17 = 3(5) + 2.)





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Theorem 1 motivated the speaker to investigate experimentally if similar results held for other pairs of eta quotients.

This was done using some simple *Mathematica* programs (next slides).





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The list **posa** contains the positions of the vanishing coefficients in the series expansion of f_1^6 , up to q^{50} .



Next a set of **For[]** loops that the integer variable i, j, k, l, m, n, r, s, t, u, v cycle through to produce the eta quotients $f_1^t f_j^j f_k^l f_m^n f_s^s f_u^v$:



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(what happens inside the "For" loops - next slide)



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];];];];];];];];];];];];];







The code inside the For[] loops: n = (6 - ij - kl - rs - t - uv)/m;



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```



```
n = (6 - i j - k l - r s - t - u v)/m;

If[IntegerQ[n],

prb = f[1]^t f[i]^j f[k]^l f[m]^n f[r]^s f[u]^v;

clb = CoefficientList[Series[prb, q, 0, 60], q];

posb = Intersection[Flatten[Position[clb, 0]], Range[50]];
```



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\begin{split} \mathbf{n} &= (\mathbf{6} - \mathbf{i} \mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k} \mathbf{l} - \mathbf{r} \mathbf{s} - \mathbf{t} - \mathbf{u} \mathbf{v})/\mathbf{m}; \\ \mathbf{If}[\mathbf{IntegerQ[n]}, \\ \mathbf{prb} &= f[1]^t f[i]^j f[k]^l f[m]^n f[r]^s f[u]^v; \\ \mathbf{clb} &= \mathbf{CoefficientList}[\mathbf{Series}[\mathbf{prb}, \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{60}], \mathbf{q}]; \\ \mathbf{posb} &= \mathbf{Intersection}[\mathbf{Flatten}[\mathbf{Position}[\mathbf{clb}, \mathbf{0}]], \mathbf{Range}[\mathbf{50}]]; \\ \mathbf{If}[\mathbf{posa} &== \mathbf{posb}, \mathbf{Isprc} = \mathbf{Append}[\mathbf{Isprc}, \mathbf{prb}];]; \end{split}
```



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If[posa == posb, Isprc = Append[Isprc, prb];];

If[SubsetQ[posb, posa] && (! SubsetQ[posa, posb]),
```



```
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```



The code inside the For[] loops:

```
\begin{split} \mathbf{n} &= (\mathbf{6} - \mathbf{i} \mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k} \mathbf{l} - \mathbf{r} \mathbf{s} - \mathbf{t} - \mathbf{u} \mathbf{v})/\mathbf{m}; \\ \mathbf{If}[\mathbf{IntegerQ[n]}, \\ \mathbf{prb} &= f[1]^t f[i]^j f[k]^l f[m]^n f[r]^s f[u]^v; \\ \mathbf{clb} &= \mathbf{CoefficientList}[\mathbf{Series}[\mathbf{prb}, \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{60}], \mathbf{q}]; \\ \mathbf{posb} &= \mathbf{Intersection}[\mathbf{Flatten}[\mathbf{Position}[\mathbf{clb}, \mathbf{0}]], \mathbf{Range}[\mathbf{50}]]; \\ \mathbf{If}[\mathbf{posa} &== \mathbf{posb}, \mathbf{lsprc} = \mathbf{Append}[\mathbf{lsprc}, \mathbf{prb}];]; \\ \mathbf{If}[\mathbf{SubsetQ}[\mathbf{posb}, \mathbf{posa}] \&\& (! \ \mathbf{SubsetQ}[\mathbf{posa}, \mathbf{posb}]), \\ \mathbf{lsprd} &= \mathbf{Append}[\mathbf{lsprd}, \mathbf{prb}];]; \end{split}
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So the eta quotients **prb** gets added to the list **Isprc** if it appears that its coefficients vanish identically with those of f_1^6 ,



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```

So the eta quotients **prb** gets added to the list **lsprc** if it appears that its coefficients vanish identically with those of f_1^6 , and gets added to the list **lsprd** if it appears that the vanishing coefficients of f_1^6 are a proper subset of the vanishing coefficients of **prb**.



What was discovered as a result of these computer algebra experiments is summarized as follows.



Other eta quotients with identically vanishing coefficients I



Other eta quotients with identically vanishing coefficients I

Let (A(q), B(q)) be any of the pairs

$$\begin{cases} \left(f_{1}^{4}, \frac{f_{1}^{8}}{f_{2}^{2}}\right), \left(f_{1}^{4}, \frac{f_{1}^{10}}{f_{3}^{2}}\right), \left(f_{1}^{6}, \frac{f_{2}^{4}}{f_{1}^{2}}\right), \left(f_{1}^{6}, \frac{f_{1}^{14}}{f_{2}^{4}}\right), \\ \left(f_{1}^{10}, \frac{f_{2}^{6}}{f_{1}^{2}}\right), \left(f_{1}^{14}, \frac{f_{3}^{5}}{f_{1}}\right), \left(f_{1}^{14}, \frac{f_{2}^{8}}{f_{1}^{2}}\right) \end{cases} \end{cases}$$
(3)



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(3)

For any such pair (A(q), B(q)), define the sequences $\{a(n)\}$ and $\{b(n)\}$ by

$$A(q) =: \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a(n)q^n, \qquad B(q) =: \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b(n)q^n.$$



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Then, for each pair, $a(n) = 0 \iff b(n) = 0$, with criteria for when exactly this happens.



Other eta quotients with identically vanishing coefficients II



Other eta quotients with identically vanishing coefficients II

For the pairs

$$\left\{ \left(f_{1}^{26}, \frac{f_{3}^{9}}{f_{1}}\right), \left(f_{1}^{26}, \frac{f_{2}^{16}}{f_{1}^{6}}\right) \right\}$$



(5)

For the pairs

$$\left\{ \left(f_1^{26}, \frac{f_3^9}{f_1} \right), \left(f_1^{26}, \frac{f_2^{16}}{f_1^6} \right) \right\}$$
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a(n) = b(n) = 0 if 12n + 13 satisfies a criteria of Serre for a(n) = 0. How to prove these results on identically vanishing coefficients?





Consider

$$\prod_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(1-q^{8n+1})(1-q^{8n+7})}{(1-q^{8n+3})(1-q^{8n+5})} = 1 - q + q^3 - q^4 + q^5 - 2q^7 + 2q^8 - q^9$$
$$+ 2q^{11} - 3q^{12} + 2q^{13} - 2q^{15} + 4q^{16} - 4q^{17} + 4q^{19} - 6q^{20} + 5q^{21}$$
$$- 6q^{23} + 9q^{24} - 6q^{25} + 7q^{27} - 12q^{28} + 9q^{29} + \dots =: \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n q^n$$



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List of coefficients:

 $1, -1, 0, 1, -1, 1, 0, -2, 2, -1, 0, 2, -3, 2, 0, -2, 4, -4, 0, 4, -6, 5, \\0, -6, 9, -6, 0, 7, -12, 9, 0, \dots$



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The list of *n* such that $a_n = 0$:

 $2, 6, 10, 14, 18, 22, 26, 30, \ldots$



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$$\ldots = \{4n + 2 | n \ge 0\}.$$

Alladi, Andrews, and others have worked on such infinite products.





On the other hand, consider one of the infinite products from a few slides back, f_1^8 :



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$$f_1^8 = \prod_{n=0}^{\infty} (1-q^n)^8 = 1 - 8q + 20q^2 - 70q^4 + 64q^5 + 56q^6 - 125q^8$$
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 $\begin{array}{c} 3,7,11,13,15,18,19,23,27,28,29,31,35,38,39,43,45,47,\\ 48,51,53,55,59,61,62,63,67,68,71,73,75,77,78,79,\\ 83,84,87,88,91,93,95,98,99,\ldots \end{array}$



Other eta quotients with identically vanishing coefficients III



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- This research is described more fully in the second talk next week, with most of the remainder of this talk being a description of some more elementary work that arose as a side project to the above work.



The Mathematical areas in which I do research.





Definition: continued fractions:



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$$b_0 + K_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} := b_0 + \frac{a_1}{b_1 + rac{a_2}{b_2 + rac{a_3}{a_3}}}$$



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$$:= b_0 + \frac{a_1}{b_1} + \frac{a_2}{b_2} + \frac{a_3}{b_3} + \cdots =: b_0 + K_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n / b_n.$$



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 $b_0 + K_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n}$ converges if the sequence $\{f_n\}$ converges.





Regular continued fraction expansions:



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$$b_0 + \frac{1}{b_1 + \frac{1}{b_2 + \frac{1}{b_3 + \cdots}}} = b_0 + K_{n=1}^{\infty} 1/b_n := [b_0; b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots]$$



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Examples:

$$\pi = [3; 7, 15, 1, 292, 1, 1, 1, 2, 1, 3, 1, 14, 2, 1, 1, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, \dots]$$



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$$\pi = [3; 7, 15, 1, 292, 1, 1, 1, 2, 1, 3, 1, 14, 2, 1, 1, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, \dots]$$

$$e = [2; 1, 2, 1, 1, 4, 1, 1, 6, 1, 1, 8, 1, 1, 10, 1, 1, 12, 1, \ldots]$$





Some more notation:





$$(a;q)_n = \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} (1-aq^i) = (1-a)(1-aq)(1-aq^2)\dots(1-aq^{n-1}).$$



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Example:

$$(q^2;q^5)_\infty = (1-q^2)(1-q^7)(1-q^{12})(1-q^{17})\dots$$





Example 1.



Example 1. The Rogers-Ramanujan continued fraction:



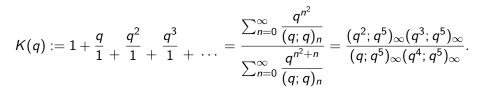


$$\mathcal{K}(q) := 1 + rac{q}{1} + rac{q^2}{1} + rac{q^3}{1} + \cdots$$



$$\mathcal{K}(q) := 1 + rac{q}{1} + rac{q^2}{1} + rac{q^3}{1} + \cdots = rac{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} rac{q^{n^2}}{(q;q)_n}}{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} rac{q^{n^2+n}}{(q;q)_n}}$$







Example 1. The Rogers-Ramanujan continued fraction: for |q| < 1,

$$\mathcal{K}(q) := 1 + \frac{q}{1} + \frac{q^2}{1} + \frac{q^3}{1} + \cdots = \frac{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n^2}}{(q;q)_n}}{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n^2+n}}{(q;q)_n}} = \frac{(q^2;q^5)_{\infty}(q^3;q^5)_{\infty}}{(q;q^5)_{\infty}(q^4;q^5)_{\infty}}$$

If |q| > 1 the sequences of odd- and even-indexed approximants converge to different limits.



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If $|{\it q}|>1$ the sequences of odd- and even-indexed approximants converge to different limits. .

If $K_n(q)$ denotes the *n*-th approximant of K(q), then

$$\lim_{j o\infty} extsf{K}_{2j+1}(q) = rac{1}{ extsf{K}(-1/q)},$$
 $\lim_{j o\infty} extsf{K}_{2j}(q) = rac{ extsf{K}(1/q^4)}{q}.$





What if |q| = 1?



Issai Schur dealt with the case where q is an *n*-th root of unity:



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Schur also gave an explicit formula for the value of K(q) when $5 \nmid n$. What if |q| = 1 but q is not a root of unity?

This was an open question until my thesis, where I showed the existence of an uncountable set of points (of measure 0) for which K(q) diverges.





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Komatsu:

$$[0, \overline{a^k}]_{k=1}^{\infty} := [0; a, a^2, a^3, a^4, \cdots]$$
$$= \frac{\sum_{s=0}^{\infty} a^{-(s+1)^2} \prod_{i=1}^{s} (a^{2i} - 1)^{-1}}{\sum_{s=0}^{\infty} a^{-s^2} \prod_{i=1}^{s} (a^{2i} - 1)^{-1}}.$$





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$$[0; p-1, \overline{1, (4n+1)u - 1, p, (4n+3)v - 1, 1, p - 2}]_{n=0}^{\infty} = \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{p} \sqrt{\frac{v}{u}} \tan \frac{1}{p\sqrt{uv}}, \quad (6)$$

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where $a_i(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ for $i \ge 1$ (a *specializable* continued fraction expansion). By letting x be an integer, he got expansions such as:

$$\sum_{n \ge 0} \frac{1}{T_{4^n}(2)} = [0; 1, 1, 23, 1, 2, 1, 18815, 3, 1, 23, 3, 1, 23, 1, 2, 1, 106597754640383, 3, 1, 23, 1, 3, 23, 1, 3, 18815, 1, 2, 1, 23, 3, 1, 23, \cdots]$$

 $T_l(x)$ being the *l*-th Chebyshev polynomial of the first kind.



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likewise has a specializable continued fraction expansion. Specialization likewise led to results such as

$$\prod_{j=0}^\infty \left(1+rac{1}{{\mathcal T}_{6^j}(3)}
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 $[1; 2, 1, 1632, 1, 2, 1, 3542435884041835200, 1, 2, 1, 1632, 1, 2, 1, 26029539217771234538544216588488566196402655804477165253\\9336341222077618284068468732496046837200411447595913600, 1, 2, 1, 1632, 1, 2, 1, 3542435884041835200, 1, 2, 1, 1632, 1, 2, 1, ...].$

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We recall also that

$$I_{\nu}(z) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\frac{1}{2}z)^{\nu+2m}}{m!\Gamma(\nu+m+1)}$$

denotes the modified Bessel function of the first kind.





(Rademacher) If n is a positive integer, then

$$p(n) = \frac{2\pi}{(24n-1)^{3/4}} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{A_k(n)}{k} I_{3/2}\left(\frac{\pi}{k}\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}\left(n-\frac{1}{24}\right)}\right).$$
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The idea of course is that if a partial sum is known to be within 0.5 of the value of the series, then the nearest integer gives the exact value of p(n).





Mc L. and Parsell (2012)



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$$R:=rac{(r-1)(s-1)}{24}, \qquad \delta_k:=rac{(r/r_k-r_k)(s/s_k-s_k)}{24}.$$



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$$p_{r,s}(n) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{\lfloor \delta_k \rfloor} \frac{2\pi A_{k,m}(n)}{k} \sqrt{\frac{r_k s_k(\delta_k - m)}{rs(n-R)}} I_1\left(\frac{4\pi}{k} \sqrt{\frac{r_k s_k}{rs}(\delta_k - m)(n-R)}\right),$$

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where

$$A_{k,m}(n) := \sum_{\substack{h=0\\(h,k)=1}}^{k-1} \frac{\omega(h,k)\omega(hrs/(r_ks_k),k/(r_ks_k))}{\omega(hr/r_k,k/r_k)\omega(hs/s_k,k/s_k)} c_m(h,k) \exp\left(\frac{-2\pi inh}{k}\right).$$



As an example, we consider the convergence of the sum of the series to

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As an example, we consider the convergence of the sum of the series to

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by examining the difference $p_{14,15}(500) - S_N$, where S_N is the *N*th partial sum of the series.





Ν	S _N	$p_{14,15}(500) - S_N$
1	310093947025049932429.8505	$-2.374319315 \times 10^{7}$
2	310093947025073675628.9283	5.9283
3	310093947025073675414.3591	-208.6409
4	310093947025073675623.3258	0.3258
5	310093947025073675623.3258	0.3258
6	310093947025073675623.3723	0.3723
7	310093947025073675623.3723	0.3723
8	310093947025073675623.3723	0.3723
9	310093947025073675623.2793	0.2793
10	310093947025073675623.2793	0.2793
11	310093947025073675623.4447	0.4447

Table: The fast initial convergence of the series for $p_{14,15}(500)$.



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(10)
$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n^2+n}}{(q;q)_n} = \prod_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1-q^{5j+2})(1-q^{5j+3})}.$$
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Other work involves identities of the type

West Chester University

"infinite series₁ = infinite product \times infinite series₂".



1. Using Bailey pairs (with Doug Bowman and Andrew Sills, 2009)

$$1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n^2}(-q^3; q^3)_{n-1}}{(-q; q)_n(q; q)_{2n-1}} = \frac{1}{(q; q)_{\infty}} \left((q^{12}, q^{15}, q^{27}; q^{27})_{\infty} - 2q^2(-q^{33}, -q^{75}, q^{108}; q^{108})_{\infty} + 2q^7(-q^{15}, -q^{93}, q^{108}; q^{108})_{\infty} \right)$$
(12)



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$$\begin{split} \sum_{r=-\infty}^{\infty} (10r+1)q^{(5r^2+r)/2} \\ &= \left(\frac{4q(q^4,q^{16},q^{20};q^{20})_{\infty}}{(q^2;q^4)_{\infty}} + \frac{(q^2,q^3,q^5;q^5)_{\infty}}{(-q;q)_{\infty}}\right)\frac{(q;q)_{\infty}^2}{(-q;q)_{\infty}}, \\ &\sum_{r=-\infty}^{\infty} (10r+3)q^{(5r^2+3r)/2} \\ &= \left(\frac{4(q^8,q^{12},q^{20};q^{20})_{\infty}}{(q^2;q^4)_{\infty}} - \frac{(q,q^4,q^5;q^5)_{\infty}}{(-q;q)_{\infty}}\right)\frac{(q;q)_{\infty}^2}{(-q;q)_{\infty}}. \end{split}$$

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where $a_0(q) = 0$, $b_0(q) = 1$, and for $m \ge 1$,

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$$\sum_{\vec{m}} \frac{q^{m_1(m_1-m_2)+m_2(m_2-m_3)+\dots+m_{k-1}(m_{k-1}-m_k)+m_k^2}}{(q;q)_{m_1}(q;q)_{m_1-m_2}\dots(q;q)_{m_{k-1}}(q;q)_{m_{k-1}-m_k}(q;q)_{m_k}^2} = \frac{1}{(q;q)_{\infty}^k}; \quad (14)$$





Vanishing Coefficients (McL. and Zimmer 2022)



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(i) Let v and w (0 \leq v, w \leq p - 1) be defined by

$$v \equiv -xV^{-1} \pmod{p},$$

$$w \equiv \frac{j + \chi p + 3}{2} \pmod{p}, \text{ where } \chi = \begin{cases} 0, & j \text{ is odd,} \\ 1, & j \text{ is even.} \end{cases}$$





Let b be any integer and let the sequence $\{r_n\}$ be defined by

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Example.



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Since $V^{-1} \pmod{59} = 20$, then
 $-xV^{-1} = -(7)(20) \equiv 37 \pmod{59}$, so $v = 37$.



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and $r_{59n+24b^2+52b} = 0$, for all integers *n* and all even integers *b*.



Interlude: qf_1^{24} and the Ramanujan au Function











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"There are five elementary arithmetical operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and ... modular forms." - Martin Eichler.



Srinivasa Ramanujan Aiyangar



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Srinivasa Ramanujan Aiyangar 22 December 1887 - 26 April 1920 (aged 32)





The Ramanujan τ function is defined by

 $q \prod_{m=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^m)^{24} =: \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \tau(n)q^n = q - 24q^2 + 252q^3 - 1472q^4 + 4830q^5$ $- 6048q^6 - 16744q^7 + 84480q^8 - 113643q^9 - 115920q^{10} + 534612q^{11}$ $- 370944q^{12} - 577738q^{13} + 401856q^{14} + 1217160q^{15} + 987136q^{16} - \dots$



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For example, with p = 2 and r = 3, $\tau(2)\tau(2^3) - 2^{11}\tau(2^2) = (-24)84480 - 2^{11}(-1472)$ $= 987136 = \tau(2^4).$



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(If *n* has prime factorization $n = p_1^{k_1} p_2^{k_2} \dots p_r^{k_r}$ then $\tau(n) = \tau(p_1^{k_1}) \tau(p_2^{k_2}) \dots \tau(p_r^{k_r})$ by (1),



Observe that the two conditions

(1) $\tau(m)\tau(n) = \tau(mn)$ if gcd(m, n) = 1(2) For any prime p and any integer $r \ge 1$,

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Other Hecke Eigenforms





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As with $\tau(p^{n+1})$, the recurrence relation (18) implies that $a_{p^{n+1}}$ is a polynomial in a_p .

It was trying to determine these polynomials that led to results presented later in this talk.



Connection to the work on Vanishing Coefficients



Results involving f_1^{26} Again



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Recall:



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The present speaker initially mistranslated Serre's criterion for the vanishing of a_n to be an "if and only if" statement (as was the case for Serre's results on the other even powers of f_1).

While trying to prove the (possibly false) reverse direction, the speaker was led to the result described in the next few slides.



Chebyshev polynomials of the Second Kind



Chebyshev polynomials of the Second Kind I



Recall the Chebyshev polynomials of the second kind, $\{U_n(x)\}$,



Recall the Chebyshev polynomials of the second kind, $\{U_n(x)\}$, defined by $U_0(x) = 1$, $U_1(x) = 2x$,



Recall the Chebyshev polynomials of the second kind, $\{U_n(x)\}$, defined by $U_0(x) = 1$, $U_1(x) = 2x$, and the recursive formula

$$U_{n+1}(x) = 2xU_n(x) - U_{n-1}(x).$$
⁽²⁰⁾



Chebyshev polynomials of the Second Kind II



Chebyshev polynomials of the Second Kind II

The first 10 Chebyshev polynomials of the second kind:



Chebyshev polynomials of the Second Kind II

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$$\begin{split} &U_1(x) = 2x, \\ &U_2(x) = 4x^2 - 1, \\ &U_3(x) = 8x^3 - 4x, \\ &U_4(x) = 16x^4 - 12x^2 + 1, \\ &U_5(x) = 32x^5 - 32x^3 + 6x, \\ &U_6(x) = 64x^6 - 80x^4 + 24x^2 - 1, \\ &U_7(x) = 128x^7 - 192x^5 + 80x^3 - 8x, \\ &U_8(x) = 256x^8 - 448x^6 + 240x^4 - 40x^2 + 1, \\ &U_9(x) = 512x^9 - 1024x^7 + 672x^5 - 160x^3 + 10x, \\ &U_{10}(x) = 1024x^{10} - 2304x^8 + 1792x^6 - 560x^4 + 60x^2 - 1, \end{split}$$



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Then, after fixing a value for $\sqrt{\chi(p)}$,

$$a_{p^n} = \left(-p^{(k-1)/2}\sqrt{\chi(p)}\right)^n U_n\left(\frac{-a_p}{2p^{(k-1)/2}\sqrt{\chi(p)}}\right).$$
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Aside: Some more Mathematica I



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ChebyshevU[18, $\sqrt{x}/2$]

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(2) Known results about Chebyshev polynomials of the second kind can now be used to derive various identities for terms in the sequence $\{a_{p^n}\}$, where p is a prime.









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Interlude: Some Useful Online Mathematical Resources

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$$U_{mn-1}(x) = U_{m-1}(T_n(x))U_{n-1}(x).$$
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For integers $m, n \ge 1$,

$$U_{m+n}(x) = U_m(x)U_n(x) - U_{m-1}(x)U_{n-1}(x).$$





For all integers $m \ge 1$ and $n \ge 0$,

 $U_{m-1}(x) + U_{m+1}(x) + U_{m+3}(x) + \dots + U_{m+2n-1}(x) = U_n(x)U_{m+n-1}(x)$ (32)



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The exponential generating function

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} U_n(x) \frac{t^n}{n!} = e^{tx} \left(\frac{x \sin\left(t\sqrt{1-x^2}\right)}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} + \cos\left(t\sqrt{1-x^2}\right) \right). \tag{34}$$



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Define

$$F_{\pm} = xy \pm \sqrt{(1 - x^2)(1 - y^2)},$$

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Then

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} U_n(x) U_n(y) \frac{t^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} = \frac{e^{tF_+} \cos(t\Phi_-) - e^{tF_-} \cos(t\Phi_+)}{2\sqrt{1-x^2}\sqrt{1-y^2}}$$



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$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} U_n(x) U_n(y) t^n = \frac{1-t^2}{(1-t^2)^2 - 4t(y-tx)(x-ty)}.$$

Applications to the Fourier Coefficients of Hecke Eigenforms

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Let $f(q) = q + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n q^n$ be a normalized Hecke eigenform of weight k, level N, and Nebentypus χ .



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The identities in the previous section are used in conjunction with the identity

$$a_{p^{n}} = \left(-p^{(k-1)/2}\sqrt{\chi(p)}\right)^{n} U_{n}\left(\frac{-a_{p}}{2p^{(k-1)/2}\sqrt{\chi(p)}}\right), \quad (39)$$

to derive identities for the members of the sequence $\{a_{p^n}\}$.



From

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} U_n(x)t^n = \frac{1}{1-2tx+t^2},$$

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one gets

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From this, the multiplicative property, $a_m a_n = a_{mn}$ when gcd(m, n) = 1, gives that

$$L(f,s) := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{n^s} = \prod_p \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_{p^n}}{p^{sn}} = \prod_p \frac{1}{1 - a_p p^{-s} + \chi(p) p^{-2s} p^{k-1}}.$$
 (42)

An *L*-function for the sequence $\{a_n^2\}$

From

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} U_n^2(x) t^n = \frac{(t+1)}{(1-t)\left((t+1)^2 - 4tx^2\right)}$$
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$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_{p^n}^2}{p^{sn}} = \frac{1+\chi(p)p^{k-s-1}}{(1-\chi(p)p^{k-s-1})\left((1+\chi(p)p^{k-s-1})^2 - a_p^2 p^{-s}\right)}.$$

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Then using the multiplicity property once again,

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Then using the multiplicity property once again, one gets that

$$L_2(f,s) := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n^2}{n^s} = \prod_p \frac{1 + \chi(p)p^{k-s-1}}{(1 - \chi(p)p^{k-s-1})\left((1 + \chi(p)p^{k-s-1})^2 - a_p^2 p^{-s}\right)}$$

For convergence we may take Re(s) > k.

Ramanujan τ -function, Example I

Example

For any prime p and any complex s with Re(s) > 12,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\tau^2(p^n)}{p^{sn}} = \frac{1+p^{11-s}}{\left(1-p^{11-s}\right)\left(\left(1+p^{11-s}\right)^2 - \tau^2(p)p^{-s}\right)}.$$
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From the exponential generating functions at (34) and (35):

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$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_{p^n} t^n}{n!} = \exp\left(\frac{a_p t}{2}\right) \left(\cos\left(\frac{1}{2}t\sqrt{4p^{k-1}\chi(p) - a_p^2}\right) + \frac{a_p \sin\left(\frac{1}{2}t\sqrt{4p^{k-1}\chi(p) - a_p^2}\right)}{\sqrt{4p^{k-1}\chi(p) - a_p^2}}\right), \quad (45)$$

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$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_{p^{n}}t^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} = \exp\left(\frac{a_{p}t}{2}\right) \frac{2\sin\left(\frac{1}{2}t\sqrt{4p^{k-1}\chi(p) - a_{p}^{2}}\right)}{\sqrt{4p^{k-1}\chi(p) - a_{p}^{2}}}. \quad (46)$$

Ramanujan τ -function, Example II

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$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\tau(p^n) t^n}{n!} = e^{\frac{t\tau(p)}{2}} \left(\frac{\tau(p) \sin\left(\frac{1}{2}t\sqrt{4p^{11} - \tau(p)^2}\right)}{\sqrt{4p^{11} - \tau(p)^2}} + \cos\left(\frac{1}{2}t\sqrt{4p^{11} - \tau(p)^2}\right) \right),$$

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$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\tau(p^n) t^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} = \frac{2e^{\frac{t\tau(p)}{2}} \sin\left(\frac{1}{2}t\sqrt{4p^{11} - \tau(p)^2}\right)}{\sqrt{4p^{11} - \tau(p)^2}}.$$

Identities from the Bivariate Generating Functions I

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Let p_1 and p_2 be distinct primes and define

$$F_{\pm} = a_{p_1} a_{p_2} \pm \sqrt{4p_1^{k-1}\chi(p_1) - a_{p_1}^2} \sqrt{4p_2^{k-1}\chi(p_2) - a_{p_2}^2}$$
$$\Phi_{\pm} = a_{p_1} \sqrt{4p_2^{k-1}\chi(p_2) - a_{p_2}^2} \pm a_{p_2} \sqrt{4p_1^{k-1}\chi(p_1) - a_{p_1}^2}$$

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Then for any $t \in \mathbb{C}$,

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Then for any $t \in \mathbb{C}$,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{p_1^n} a_{p_2^n} \frac{t^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} = 2 \frac{e^{t/4F_+} \cos(t/4\Phi_-) - e^{t/4F_-} \cos(t/4\Phi_+)}{\sqrt{4p_1^{k-1}\chi(p_1) - a_{p_1}^2}\sqrt{4p_2^{k-1}\chi(p_2) - a_{p_2}^2}}.$$
 (47)

Identities from the Bivariate Generating Functions II

Theorem (continued)

For any $t \in \mathbb{C}$ satisfying $|t| < (p_1p_2)^{-k/2}$,

Theorem (continued)

For any
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$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{p_{1}^{n}} a_{p_{2}^{n}} t^{n}$$

$$= \frac{1 - t^{2} p_{1}^{k-1} p_{2}^{k-1} \chi(p_{1}) \chi(p_{2})}{\left(1 - t^{2} p_{1}^{k-1} p_{2}^{k-1} \chi(p_{1}) \chi(p_{2})\right)^{2}} - t \left(a_{p_{1}} - t a_{p_{2}} p_{1}^{k-1} \chi(p_{1})\right) \left(a_{p_{2}} - t a_{p_{1}} p_{2}^{k-1} \chi(p_{2})\right)}$$

$$(48)$$

Ramanujan τ -function, Example III

Example

Let p_1 and p_2 be primes (distinct or otherwise) and define

$$F_{\pm} = \tau(p_1)\tau(p_2) \pm \sqrt{4p_1^{11} - \tau^2(p_1)}\sqrt{4p_2^{11} - \tau^2(p_2)},$$

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Then for any $t \in \mathbb{C}$,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \tau(p_1^n) \tau(p_2^n) \frac{t^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} = 2 \frac{e^{t/4F_+} \cos(t/4\Phi_-) - e^{t/4F_-} \cos(t/4\Phi_+)}{\sqrt{4p_1^{11} - \tau^2(p_1)}\sqrt{4p_2^{11} - \tau^2(p_2)}}.$$
(49)

Ramanujan τ -function, Example III Continued



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Example (continued)



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For any $t\in\mathbb{C}$ satisfying $|t|<(p_1p_2)^{-6}$,



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For any $t\in\mathbb{C}$ satisfying $|t|<(p_1p_2)^{-6}$,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \tau(p_1^n) \tau(p_2^n) t^n = \frac{1 - p_1^{11} p_2^{11} t^2}{\left(1 - p_1^{11} p_2^{11} t^2\right)^2 - t\left(\tau(p_1) - p_1^{11} \tau(p_2) t\right)\left(\tau(p_2) - p_2^{11} \tau(p_1) t\right)}.$$



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Let the sequence a_{p^n} be as defined in Proposition 8.1.

Theorem

Let the sequence a_{p^n} be as defined in Proposition 8.1. If $m \ge 1$ and $n \ge 2$ are integers, then

$$a_{p^{mn-1}} = a_{p^{n-1}} \times \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor (m-1)/2 \rfloor} (-1)^{j} {m-1-j \choose j} (a_{p^{n}} - p^{k-1}\chi(p)a_{p^{n-2}})^{m-1-2j} p^{(k-1)nj}\chi^{j}(p).$$
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(50)

Remark: Note that if the numbers a_{p^n} are integers, then (50) implies that if n + 1|m + 1, then $a_{p^n}|a_{p^m}$.

Ramanujan τ -function, Example IV

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Example

If $m \ge 1$ and $n \ge 2$ are integers, then

$$\tau(p^{mn-1}) = \tau(p^{n-1}) \times \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor (m-1)/2 \rfloor} (-1)^j \binom{m-1-j}{j} (\tau(p^n) - p^{11}\tau(p^{n-2}))^{m-1-2j} p^{11nj}.$$

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If m and n are positive integers such that n + 1|m + 1,

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If *m* and *n* are positive integers such that n + 1|m + 1, then

 $\tau(p^n)|\tau(p^m).$

Ramanujan τ -function, Example IV

Example

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If *m* and *n* are positive integers such that n + 1|m + 1, then

$$\tau(p^n)|\tau(p^m).$$

For example, taking m = 119 and considering the divisors of 120, then for any prime p,

 $\tau(p^n)|\tau(p^{119})$ for any $n \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 14, 19, 23, 29, 39, 59\}.$

Some Remarks on the Speed of Convergence of some of the Series

Recall:

Example

Let p_1 and p_2 be primes (distinct or otherwise) and define

$$F_{\pm} = \tau(p_1)\tau(p_2) \pm \sqrt{4p_1^{11} - \tau^2(p_1)}\sqrt{4p_2^{11} - \tau^2(p_2)},$$

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$$\Phi_{\pm} = \tau(p_1)\sqrt{4p_2^{11} - \tau^2(p_2)} \pm \tau(p_2)\sqrt{4p_1^{11} - \tau^2(p_1)}.$$

Then for any $t \in \mathbb{C}$,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \tau(p_1^n) \tau(p_2^n) \frac{t^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} = 2 \frac{e^{t/4F_+} \cos(t/4\Phi_-) - e^{t/4F_-} \cos(t/4\Phi_+)}{\sqrt{4p_1^{11} - \tau^2(p_1)} \sqrt{4p_2^{11} - \tau^2(p_2)}}.$$
(51)

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$$R(2,3,1/10) = \frac{1}{72\sqrt{236929}} \left[e^{\frac{1}{40} \left(144\sqrt{236929} - 6048 \right)} \\ \cos \left(\frac{1}{40} \left(-2016\sqrt{119} - 432\sqrt{1991} \right) \right) \\ - e^{\frac{1}{40} \left(-6048 - 144\sqrt{236929} \right)} \cos \left(\frac{1}{40} \left(2016\sqrt{119} - 432\sqrt{1991} \right) \right) \right] \\ \approx 1.977000812890026 \times 10^{690}.$$
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One might wonder how quickly the series converges to such a large number.

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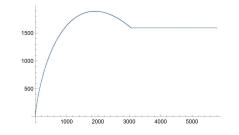


Figure: $\ln |S_N|$, $0 \le N \le 5800$, for the series at (49)

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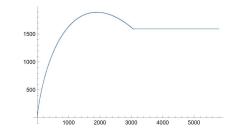


Figure: $\ln |S_N|$, $0 \le N \le 5800$, for the series at (49)

However, the picture of convergence, which appears to show S_N getting close to the limiting value R(2,3,1/10) once N gets a little above 3000, is somewhat deceptive,

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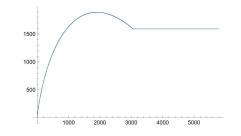


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However, the picture of convergence, which appears to show S_N getting close to the limiting value R(2,3,1/10) once N gets a little above 3000, is somewhat deceptive, due to the fact that R(2,3,1/10) is so large.



The following table shows the value of $S_N - R(2, 3, 1/10)$ for some values of $N \ge 2700$.



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Table 2: The convergence of S_n to R(2,3,1/10)

N	$S_N - R(2, 3, 1/10)$	N	$S_N - R(2, 3, 1/10)$
2700	$-2.06017 imes 10^{756}$	4300	$-2.76543 imes 10^{339}$
2900	$2.76208 imes 10^{723}$	4500	$-4.67955 imes 10^{266}$
3100	$8.84248 imes 10^{683}$	4700	$2.09614 imes 10^{190}$
3300	$-2.04249 imes 10^{638}$	4900	$1.28799 imes 10^{110}$
3500	$-3.39702 imes 10^{588}$	5100	$-1.13270 imes 10^{26}$
3700	$-6.32613 imes 10^{532}$	5300	$-1.81362 imes 10^{-61}$
3900	$8.00337 imes 10^{472}$	5500	$-1.83820 imes 10^{-152}$
4100	$2.20553 imes 10^{408}$	5700	$8.45999 imes 10^{-246}$



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Thank you for listening/watching.

