Identities inspired from the Ramanujan Notebooks

First series (1998)

by Simon Plouffe  
  
First Draft, July 1998  
Revised December 5, 2009

Abstract  
  
I present here a collection of formulas inspired from the Ramanujan Notebooks. These formulas were found using an experimental method based on three widely available symbolic computation programs: PARI-Gp, Maple and Mathematica. A new formula is presented for .

-Introduction

-Results

-Introduction

The first idea was to find the natural generalization of the result from Ramanujan. The main problem being to choose among the many possible directions.

A first step was to use a variation in the sign. The goal was to get an interesting identity for .

These 2 first formulas found, it was not difficult to guess the next ones.

Then for

The new formula being the first formula.

Another direction was suggested by the Apéry formula for .

From which the case for doesn’t seems to be there. One possible direction is to use the function and it’s derivative.

Which of course leads to and .

The next step is to find a closed expression for the alternate sums. We know from Apéry's 1979 article that it can be expressed in terms of . If we omit the constant factor for short, we have:

But unfortunately, there are no apparent patterns for , , etc. despite my numerous efforts for those sums and previous tests of D. H. Bailey and others are equally inconclusive so far. The mystery remains until someone finds the clue to all this.

An indication for further discoveries in that direction might be given with these remarks:

There are many representations of the same thing, for example,

is in fact a linear combination of these numbers (when simplified).

That is, a simple linear combination of and . Which is also this number:

This identity is well known and not difficult to find. So, the case should be simple and in terms of and ? This is strange since the other formulas were with only. It could be also that the factor is an artefact. Normaly the sum for should be expressible with and/or but numerical evidence shows that it is not the case.

Other results

Here are the other identities found with to and the results of Joerg Arndt computed on July 27, 1998 up to .

**/infinity \**

**| ----- |**

**| \ 1 |**

**37122624 | ) --------------------|**

**| / 9 |**

**| ----- n (exp(2 Pi n) - 1)|**

**\ n = 1 /**

**/infinity \**

**| ----- |**

**| \ 1 | 9**

**+ 74844 | ) --------------------| + 18523890 Zeta(9) - 625 Pi = 0**

**| / 9 |**

**| ----- n (exp(2 Pi n) + 1)|**

**\ n = 1 /**

The rest of the listing is here: <http://lacim.uqam.ca/~plouffe/identities.html>

References

-Apéry, Roger Irrationalité de et , Astérisque 61, 11-13, 1979.

-Berndt, B. C. Ramanujan's Notebooks: Part I-V. New York: Springer-Verlag, 1985 to now.

-van der Poorten, A. ``A Proof that Euler Missed... Apéry's Proof of the Irrationality of .'' Mathematical. Intelligencer 1, 196-203, 1979.

-Zeilberger, D. The Method of Creative Telescoping. Journal of Symbolic Computation 11, 195-204, 1991.

-Plouffe Inverter, available here : <http://pi.lacim.uqam.ca/eng/>

-Plouffe inverter tables : (2nd collection) : 215 million constants at 16 digits of precision <http://pictor.math.uqam.ca/~plouffe/plouffe_inverter_tables/>

-Plouffe inverter tables: (3rd collection), 2.853 billion constants (64 digits) : <http://pictor.math.uqam.ca/~plouffe/pi/ip/>