

## Primes as sums of irrational numbers

Simon Plouffe  
July 30, 2016

In the Ramanujan notebooks, one formula is particularly remarkable is

$$24 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^{13}}{e^{2\pi n} - 1} = 1$$

This formula suggests that there could be other identities with rationals or primes, after having searched many forms, one in particular seems to be able to generate the prime numbers. The Ramanujan formula works for  $n^{4k+1}$  exponents, if we use exponents of the form  $n^{4k+3}$  then,

for example :

$$691 = 16 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^{11}}{e^{\pi n} - 1} - 65536 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^{11}}{e^{4\pi n} - 1}$$

Here 691 is the numerator of the 12'th Bernoulli number : -691/2730. The Ramanujan formula is closely related to numerators of the Bernoulli numbers, one example is

$$24 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^{673}}{e^{2\pi n} - 1} = 1563446 \dots 036059151, a 1077 digit prime$$

That number is  $\frac{12 B(674)}{674}$ , see A112548 of the OEIS for references. The biggest known prime of that form being  $240 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^{22807}}{e^{2\pi n} - 1}$ , a 71299 digits prime.

By exploring the form  $n^{4k+3}$ , I have found other primes not related to Bernoulli numbers.

$$\begin{aligned} 17 &= 32 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^7}{e^{\pi n} - 1} - 8192 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^7}{e^{4\pi n} - 1} \\ 37 &= -2662 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^7}{e^{2\pi n} - 1} + 5632 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^7}{e^{4\pi n} - 1} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^{11}}{e^{\pi n} - 1} - 4096 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^{11}}{e^{4\pi n} - 1} \\ 251 &= 6087 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^3}{e^{\pi n} - 1} + 68343 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^3}{e^{2\pi n} - 1} + 2016 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^{11}}{e^{4\pi n} - 1} \end{aligned}$$

If we pose

$$S_{k,m} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^k}{e^{m\pi n} - 1}$$

Then we can write each prime as a sum of the  $S(k, m)$  function, like

$$691 \equiv [S_{11,1}, S_{11,4}]$$

Disregarding the coefficients of the integer relation.

We have the following list of primes.

Prime	Linear combination of
2	$S_{3,1}, S_{3,2}, S_{3,4}$
3	$S_{7,1}, S_{7,2}, S_{7,4}$
5	$S_{7,1}, S_{7,2}, S_{7,4}$
7	$S_{3,1}, S_{3,2}, S_{3,4}$
11	$S_{3,1}, S_{3,2}, S_{7,1}, S_{7,2}$
13	$S_{3,1}, S_{3,4}, S_{7,2}, S_{7,4}$
17	$S_{7,1}, S_{7,4}$
19	$S_{7,1}, S_{7,2}, S_{7,4}$
23	$S_{3,2}, S_{3,4}, S_{7,1}, S_{7,2}$
83	$S_{7,2}, S_{7,4}, S_{11,1}, S_{11,2}$
167	$S_{3,1}, S_{3,3}, S_{3,6}, S_{3,12}$
251	$S_{3,1}, S_{3,2}, S_{3,4}$
691	$S_{11,1}, S_{11,4}$
71840783209099	$S_{27,1}, S_{27,4}, S_{31,2}, S_{31,4}$

## References

- [1] Milton Abramowitz and Irene Stegun, *Handbook of Mathematical Functions with Formulas, Graphs, and Mathematical Tables*, New York: Dover Publications , 1972 (original in 1964).
- [2] Steven Finch, *Central binomial coefficients*,  
<http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~sfinch/csolve/cbc.pdf>
- [3] Eric Weissstein, Dirichlet L-series, <http://mathworld.wolfram.com/DirichletL-Series.html>
- [4] Wikipedia : *Dirichlet Character*  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dirichlet\\_character](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dirichlet_character)
- [5] Psi or polygamma function , Maple 18,  
<http://www.maplesoft.com/support/help/maple/view.aspx?path=Psi>
- [6] Espinosa, O., and Moll, V. *A Generalized Polygamma Function. Integral Transforms and Special Functions*, (April 2004): 101-115.
- [7] Simon Plouffe, The Art of Inspired Guessing, <http://www.plouffe.fr/simon/inspired.html> also on the vixra site [http://vixra.org/author/simon\\_plouffe](http://vixra.org/author/simon_plouffe) and on the ArXiv site <http://arxiv.org/find/all/1/all:+AND+simon+plouffe/0/1/0/all/0/1>
- [8] Richard J. Mathar, *Table of Dirichlet L-Series and Prime Zeta Modulo Functions for Small Moduli*<http://arxiv.org/abs/1008.2547>
- [9] Simon Plouffe, *The many faces of the Polygamma function*, <http://vixra.org/abs/1603.0426>