The Sum of Like Powers of the Zeros of the Riemann Zeta Function

By D. H. Lehmer

Abstract. In this paper we discuss a method of evaluating the sum $\sigma_r = \sum \rho^{-r}$ where r is an integer greater than 1 and the sum is taken over all the complex zeros of $\zeta(s)$, the Riemann zeta function. The method requires the coefficients of the Maclaurin expansion of the entire function $f(s) = (s-1)\zeta(s)$. These are obtained from a limit theorem of Sitaramachandrarao by the use of the Euler-Maclaurin summation formula. The sum σ_r is then obtained from the logarithmic derivative of the function f(s). A table of σ_r is given to 30 decimals for r = 2(1)26.

Despite the vast literature and machine computing on the zeros of

$$\zeta(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-s},$$

no one has attempted to evaluate

(1)
$$\sigma_2 = \sum_{\rho} \rho^{-2},$$

the sum extending over all the complex zeros ρ of $\zeta(s)$.

The direct approach, summing over the known zeros, is not effective. For example, we find the first 50 zeros sum to

$$\sum_{|\rho| \le 88.8} \rho^{-2} = -.034721,$$

whereas the infinite series (1) is nearly a time and a half as much, as we shall see. The Dirichlet series representation of functions of a complex variable is not conducive to the solution of this problem, which needs a power series approach.

In a letter to Hermite [1], Stieltjes gave the expression

(2)
$$\varsigma(s) = \frac{1}{s-1} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \gamma_n}{n!} (s-1)^n,$$

where γ_n is a generalization of Euler's constant γ ,

$$\gamma_n = \lim_{N \to \infty} \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{(\log k)^n}{k} - \frac{(\log N)^{n+1}}{n+1} \right\}.$$

Briggs and Chowla [2] give two proofs of this result. Liang and Todd [3] call them Stieltjes constants and give a table of γ_n for $n \leq 19$ to 15 significant decimals, improving the earlier results by Jensen [4] and Gram [5].

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The power series in (2) is an entire function of s and hence has an infinite radius of convergence.

To find, more generally,

(3)
$$\sigma_k = \sum_{\rho} \rho^{-k}$$

we need an expansion in powers of s, not (s-1). In executing the transformation so much accuracy is lost that it was decided to abandon the method. What we need is a method of computing $\zeta^{(k)}(0)$. It is well known that

$$\varsigma(0) = -\frac{1}{2}, \qquad \varsigma'(0) = -\frac{1}{2} \log 2\pi.$$

Ramanujan [6, p. 25] gave

$$\varsigma''(0) = -\frac{1}{2}(\log 2\pi)^2 + \frac{\pi^2}{24} - a_1,$$

and Apostol [7] gives a formula for $\varsigma^{(k)}(0)$ and a table for $k \leq 18$ to 15D in terms of a_n defined by

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (s-1)^n = \Gamma(s) \varsigma(s) + \frac{1}{1-s}.$$

We must regard the a's as unknowns and as difficult to approximate as $\zeta^{(k)}(0)$ itself.

It was decided to use an *ab initio* approach *via* a recent theorem of Sitaramachandrarao [8] to the effect that

(4)
$$\varsigma(s) + \frac{1}{1-s} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \delta_n}{n!} s^n,$$

where

(5)
$$\delta_n = \lim_{N \to \infty} \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^N (\log k)^n - \int_1^N (\log t)^n dt - \frac{1}{2} (\log N)^n \right\}.$$

This is an analogue of Stieltjes' theorem.

To calculate δ_n we use the Euler-Maclaurin summation formula [9, p. 806]

(6)
$$\sum_{i=0}^{m} F(a+i) = \int_{a}^{b} F(t) dt + \frac{1}{2} F(b) + \frac{1}{2} F(a) + \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{B_{2k}}{(2k)!} \{ F^{(2k-1)}(b) - F^{(2k-1)}(a) \} + R_{p}$$

where m = b - a and $B_2 = \frac{1}{6}$, $B_4 = -\frac{1}{30}$ are the Bernoulli numbers. We also use the Stirling numbers of the first kind. These latter are denoted by s(i,j) and are generated by [9, p. 824]

$$\sum_{j=0}^{i} s(i,j)x^{j} = x(x-1)(x-2)\cdots(x-i+1)$$

and enjoy the recurrence

(7)
$$s(i+1,j) = s(i,j-1) - is(i,j) \qquad (s(0,0) = 1).$$

We have the following lemma:

LEMMA. If h is a nonnegative integer, then

$$\frac{d^h}{dx^h}\{(\log x)^n\} = x^{-h}n! \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{(\log x)^k}{k!} s(h, n-k).$$

Proof. The proof is by induction on h. The lemma is easily seen to be true for h = 0, since s(0, j) = 0, except for s(0, 0) = 1. If true for h, we have

$$\begin{split} \frac{d^{h+1}}{dx^{h+1}}\{(\log x)^n\} &= -hx^{-(h+1)}n! \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{(\log x)^k}{k!} s(h,n-k) \\ &+ x^{-(h+1)}n! \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{(\log x)^{k-1}}{(k-1)!} s(h,n-k) \\ &= x^{-(h+1)}n! \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{(\log x)^k}{k!} (s(h,n-k-1) - hs(h,n-k)) \\ &= x^{-(h+1)}n! \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{(\log k)^k}{k!} s(h+1,n-k). \end{split}$$

Thus the induction is complete.

Before we apply (6) we fix a number $\nu \leq N$ and write

$$\sum_{k=1}^{N} (\log k)^n = \sum_{k=1}^{\nu-1} (\log k)^n + \sum_{k=\nu}^{N} (\log k)^n = S_1 + S_2.$$

We plan to evaluate S_1 on our machine. As to S_2 , we apply (6) with $m = N - \nu$, b = N, $a = \nu$ and $F(t) = (\log t)^n$ to get from the lemma

$$S_{2} = \int_{\nu}^{N} (\log t)^{n} dt + \frac{1}{2} (\log N)^{n} + \frac{1}{2} (\log \nu)^{n}$$

$$+ \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{B_{2k}}{(2k)!} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \frac{n!}{j!} s(2k-1, n-j) (\log N)^{j} N^{1-2k}$$

$$- \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{B_{2k}}{(2k)!} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \frac{n!}{j!} s(2k-1, n-j) (\log \nu)^{j} \nu^{1-2k} + R_{p}.$$

Substituting this into (5), cancelling and letting $N \to \infty$ we find

(8)
$$\delta_{n} = \sum_{k=1}^{\nu} (\log k)^{n} - \int_{1}^{\nu} (\log t)^{n} dt - \frac{1}{2} (\log \nu)^{n} - \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{B_{2k}}{(2k)! \nu^{2k-1}} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \frac{n!}{j!} s(2k-1, n-j) (\log \nu)^{j} + R_{p}.$$

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TABLE 1

```
0
         .5000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 00
       - .0810 6146 6795 3272 5821 9670 2635 94
 1
2
       - .0063 5645 5908 5848 5121 0100 0267 30
3
         .0047 1116 6862 2544 4776 1060 8133 66
 4
         .0028 9681 1986 2920 4101 2780 4722 59
5
         .0002 3290 7558 4547 2453 5985 8377 96
       - .0009 3682 5130 0509 2950 4283 5085 45
6
7
       - .0008 4982 3765 0016 6915 1706 0276 02
       - .0002 3243 1735 5115 5958 2855 6900 64
8
9
         .0003 3058 9663 6122 9644 5256 1272 50
         .0005 4323 4115 7797 0847 2231 9889 43
10
         .0003 7549 3172 9072 6365 0467 0308 84
11
       - .0000 1960 3536 2810 1391 9766 4840 25
12
13
       - .0004 0724 1232 5630 3314 3432 1213 67
       - .0005 7049 2013 2817 7771 5641 2913 84
14
       - .0003 9392 7078 9812 0442 1827 6608 19
15
16
         .0000 8345 8805 8255 0168 1727 6488 05
         .0006 6094 3729 6285 9689 6169 4029 98
17
         .0010 2622 7286 5408 5400 2177 0141 55
18
19
         .0008 6557 5776 7792 8299 1576 0724 14
20
         .0000 1929 3671 7837 0514 0106 3299 76
       - .0013 5690 6052 1345 4946 1149 1378 33
21
22
       - .0026 9215 6458 7532 9128 4034 2571 09
23
       - .0030 5138 5621 2416 2713 8845 4373 86
24
       - .0014 2429 1849 4185 4585 3222 1867 92
         .0027 0778 9212 8860 0678 8197 4821 92
25
         .0086 0288 0969 2793 2425 6140 4520 25
26
27
         .0135 5616 2030 9835 3962 1697 3716 23
         .0127 7851 3326 6914 1273 7021 7809 89
28
29
         .0005 7602 6175 9930 1208 9937 4469 58
       - .0264 6570 4147 0797 5269 3730 4048 60
```

This expression for δ_n depends on the two parameters ν and p. The optimal choice of the parameters depends on n but this dependence complicates the programming. There is also a dependence on the desired accuracy of δ_n and accordingly we must use sufficiently precise logarithms. This is no simple matter. In experimenting with (8), $|\delta_n|$ grows very slowly, but the four terms of (8) are decidedly unbounded. In particular, therefore, the sum of the first three terms is nearly the negative of the fourth term. For example if $\nu=180$, p=15 and n=24, the first three terms contribute

316 4420 8836 5362.2542 0772...

whereas the fourth term is

 $-316\ 4420\ 8836\ 5362.2556\ 3201\ldots$

This gives

$$\delta_{24} = -.0014 \ 2429.$$

Only six significant decimals remain from the destructive cancellation of numbers of 23 significant decimals. This loss of significance increases with n, but is relatively harmless for $n \leq 6$.

TABLE 2

It was decided to run a program for δ_n that exploited certain recursive features of (8). For example, if

$$I_n = \int_1^{\nu} (\log t)^n \, dt$$

then

$$I_n = \nu(\log \nu)^n - nI_{n-1}$$
 $(I_0 = \nu - 1).$

It was also decided to compute $\delta_1, \delta_2, \ldots, \delta_{30}$ with accuracy sufficient to determine δ_n from 44 significant figures for n=1 to about 10 for n=30. The details of this program with its 1024 instructions and its multiprecision subroutines will not be given. The estimation of the remainder R_p was avoided by the following considerations. The denominator factor ν^{2k-1} assures us of terms in the asymptotic series that decrease by a factor of at least 10^4 for $\nu>100$. The machine was instructed to choose p so that the last term it computed was less than 10^{-40} , so that $|R_p|<10^{-40}$. Two runs were made with $\nu=180$ and $\nu=200$. The two results were compared and only the digits that were common to the two runs were retained. Table 1 gives the values of δ_n .

TABLE 3

We use the following notation.

$$\varsigma(s) = \frac{1}{s-1} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \delta_n s^n / n! = \frac{1}{s-1} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n s^n,
(s-1)\varsigma(s) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} d_n s^n \qquad (d_0 = \frac{1}{2}, d_n = c_{n-1} - c_n),
g(s) = 2(s-1)\varsigma(s),
\frac{g'(s)}{g(s)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n s^n \qquad \left(b_i = 2\left[(i+1)d_{i+1} - \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} b_j d_{i-j}\right], i = 0, 1, \dots\right).$$

The coefficients c_n , d_n and b_n are given in Tables 2, 3 and 4.

In terms of the complex zeros of $\zeta(s)$, we have the Weierstrass expansion [9, p. 807]

$$\varsigma(s) = \frac{\exp\{s(\log 2\pi - 1 - \frac{1}{2}\gamma)\}}{2(s-1)\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}s+1)} \prod_{\rho} \left(1 - \frac{s}{\rho}\right) e^{s/\rho}.$$

Multiplying this by 2(s-1) and taking logarithms, we get

$$(10) \quad \log g(s) = s(\log 2\pi - 1 - \frac{1}{2}\gamma) - \log \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}s + 1) + \sum_{\alpha} \left(\log \left(1 - \frac{2}{\rho}\right) + \frac{s}{\rho}\right).$$

TABLE 4

We note that

$$\sum_{s} \left(\log \left(1 - \frac{s}{\rho} \right) + \frac{s}{\rho} \right) = -\sum_{s} \sum_{r=2}^{\infty} \frac{s^r}{r \rho^r}.$$

Differentiating (10) with respect to s and using the formula [9, p. 259, 6.3.14],

$$\frac{d}{ds}\log\Gamma\left(\frac{s}{2}+1\right) = \frac{1}{2}\psi\left(\frac{s}{2}+1\right) = -\frac{\gamma}{2} + \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{\varsigma(n)}{2^n} s^{n-1},$$

we get

(11)
$$\frac{g'(s)}{g(s)} = \log 2\pi - 1 - \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \zeta(n)}{2^n} s^{n-1} - \sum_{\rho} \sum_{r=2}^{\infty} s^{r-1} \rho^{-r}.$$

Identifying the coefficient of s^m in both (11) and (9), we get

$$b_0 = \log 2\pi - 1$$
, $b_m = \frac{(-1)^m \zeta(m+1)}{2^{m+1}} - \sigma_{m+1}$ $(m > 0)$,

where σ_k is defined in (3). Hence,

(12)
$$\sigma_{r} = -\left(\frac{(-1)^{r}\varsigma(r)}{2^{r}} + b_{r-1}\right), \qquad r > 1.$$

TABLE 5

In particular,

$$\sigma_2 = -\left(\frac{\pi^2}{24} + b_1\right) = -.0461\ 5431\ 7295\ 8046\ 0275\ 7107\ 9903\ 79$$

and

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$$\sigma_3 = -\left(-\frac{\zeta(3)}{8} + b_2\right) = -.0001\ 1115\ 8231\ 4521\ 0592\ 2762\ 6682\ 39.$$

These two numbers are not connected in any obvious way with any other known constants. Their continued fractions show no radical departure from the norm.

Formula (12) may be used to compute other values of σ_r . The term $\zeta(r)/2^r$ represents the sum of the negative rth powers of the trivial zeros -2n $(n=1,2,3,\ldots)$ of $\zeta(s)$. Values of $\zeta(n)$ were taken from the 50D tables of Lienard [10]. The values of σ_n are given in Table 5.

Table 5 can be used to evaluate such sums as

$$\sum_{\rho} \frac{1}{\rho(\rho - 1)} = \sum_{r=2}^{\infty} \sigma_r = -.0461 \ 9141 \ 7932 \ 2420 \ 6762 \ 8620 \ 4958 \ 13$$

and

$$\sum_{\rho} \frac{1}{\rho(\rho+1)} = \sum_{r=2}^{\infty} (-1)^r \sigma_r = -.0459\ 7052\ 2563\ 8796\ 4241\ 0855\ 6713\ 56.$$

These sums are special cases of

$$\sum_{\rho} \frac{1}{\rho(\rho - a)} = \sum_{r=2}^{\infty} \sigma_r a^{r-2}.$$

The author owes a debt of gratitude to the referee who went to the trouble of reproducing and extending the values given in Tables 1–5. Not only did he locate several errors, but he made a number of good suggestions which improved the presentation of the method. Also, I have taken the liberty of borrowing some of his values to fill out Table 1.

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