

A General Method for Constructing Ramanujan- Type Formulas for Powers of $1/\pi$

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This article discusses the theoretical background for generating Ramanujan-type formulas for $1/\pi^p$ and constructs series for $1/\pi^4$ and $1/\pi^6$. We also study the elliptic alpha function, whose values are useful for such evaluations.

■ Introduction

The standard definitions of the complete elliptic integrals of the first and second kind (see [1], [2], [3], [4]) are respectively:

$$K(x) = \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2 \sin(t)^2}} dt, \tag{1}$$

$$E(x) = \int_0^{\pi/2} \sqrt{1-x^2 \sin(t)^2} dt.$$

In *Mathematica*, these are `EllipticK[x^2]` and `EllipticE[x^2]`.

We also have

$$K(x) = \frac{\pi}{2} {}_2F_1\left(1/2, 1/2, 1; x^2\right) = \frac{\pi}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(1/2)_n (1/2)_n}{(1)_n} \frac{x^{2n}}{n!} \tag{2}$$

and (see [5], [6]):

$$\dot{K}(x) = \frac{dK(k)}{dk} = \frac{E(k)}{k(1-k^2)} - \frac{K(k)}{k}. \tag{3}$$

The elliptic singular moduli k_r is defined to be the solution of the equation

$$\frac{K\left(\sqrt{1-w^2}\right)}{K(w)} = \sqrt{r}. \quad (4)$$

In *Mathematica*, k_r is computed using `w = k[r]^2 = InverseEllipticNomeQ[E^(-Pi Sqrt[r])]`.

The complementary modulus is given by $(k'_r)^2 = 1 - k_r^2$. (For evaluations of k_r see [7], [8], [9]).

We need the following relation satisfied by the elliptic alpha function (see [7]):

$$a(r) = \frac{\pi}{4 K(k_r)^2} - \sqrt{r} \left(\frac{E(k_r)}{K(k_r)} - 1 \right). \quad (5)$$

Our method requires finding derivatives of powers of the elliptic integrals K and E that can always be expressed in terms of K , k_r , and $a(r)$. This article uses *Mathematica* to carry out these evaluations.

The function $a(r)$ is not widely known (see [7, 10]). Like the singular moduli, the elliptic alpha function can be evaluated from modular equations. The case $a(4r)$ is given in [7] Chapter 5:

$$a(4r) = (1 + k_r)^2 a(r) - 2\sqrt{r} k_r. \quad (6)$$

In view of [7], [11], and [5], the formula for $a(9r)$ is

$$\frac{a(9r)}{\sqrt{r}} - k_{9r}^2 = 1 - \frac{k_{9r} k_r}{3 M_{3r}} - \frac{k'_{9r} k'_r}{3 M_{3r}} - \frac{1}{3 M_{3r}} - \frac{1}{3 M_{3r}^2} + \frac{1}{M_{3r}^2} \left(\frac{a(r)}{\sqrt{r}} - \frac{k_r^2}{3} \right), \quad (7)$$

where M_{3r} is a root of the polynomial equation

$$27 M_{3r}^4 - 18 M_{3r}^2 - 8(1 - 2 k_r^2) M_{3r} - 1 = 0. \quad (8)$$

In the next section, we review and extend the method for constructing a series for π^{-p} based on $a(r)$. These Ramanujan-type formulas for $1/\pi^p$, $p \geq 4$ are presented here for the first time. The only formulas that were previously known are of orders 1, 2, and 3 ([12], [13]). There are few general formulas of order 2 and only one for order 3, due to B. Gourevitch (see references [14], [15], [5], [16], [17], [18]):

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \binom{2n}{n}^7 \frac{1}{2^{20n}} (1 + 14n + 76n^2 + 168n^3) = \frac{32}{\pi^3}. \quad (9)$$

In the last section we prove a formula for the evaluation of $a(25r)$ in terms of $a(r)$.

■ The General Method and the Construction of Formulas for $1/\pi^4$ and $1/\pi^6$

We have (see [16]):

$$\phi(x) = {}_3F_2\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}; 1, 1; x\right) = \frac{4K^2\left(\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}(1-\sqrt{1-x})}\right)}{\pi^2}. \quad (10)$$

This is the *Mathematica* definition.

$$\phi[\mathbf{x_}] := \frac{4 \mathbf{EllipticK}\left[\frac{1}{2} (1 - \sqrt{1 - \mathbf{x}})\right]^2}{\pi^2}$$

Define $c_p(n)$, $p = 2, 4, 6, \dots$, such that

$$\phi^p(x) = \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\binom{2n}{n}^3}{64^n} x^n \right)^p = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_p(n) x^n. \quad (11)$$

It turns out that

$$\begin{aligned} c_2(n) &= \frac{1}{2^{6n}} \sum_{s=0}^n \binom{2s}{s}^3 \binom{2n-2s}{n-s}^3, \\ c_4(n) &= \sum_{s=0}^n c_2(s) c_2(n-s), \\ c_6(n) &= \sum_{s=0}^n c_4(s) c_2(n-s), \\ &\dots \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Here are the *Mathematica* definitions for $c_p(n)$ for $p = 2, 4, 6$.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{c2}[\mathbf{n_}] &:= \\ &\frac{1}{2^{(6 \mathbf{n})}} \sum_{\mathbf{s}=0}^{\mathbf{n}} \mathbf{Binomial}[2 \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}]^3 \mathbf{Binomial}[2 \mathbf{n} - 2 \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{n} - \mathbf{s}]^3 \\ \\ \mathbf{c4}[\mathbf{n_}] &:= \sum_{\mathbf{s}=0}^{\mathbf{n}} \mathbf{c2}[\mathbf{n} - \mathbf{s}] \mathbf{c2}[\mathbf{s}] \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{c6}[\mathbf{n_}] := \sum_{\mathbf{s3=0}^{\mathbf{n}}} \mathbf{c4}[\mathbf{n - s3}] \mathbf{c2}[\mathbf{s3}]$$

Consider the following equation for the function $\phi^p(x)$:

$$A_p x^p \frac{d^p \phi(x)^p}{dx^p} + A_{p-1} x^{p-1} \frac{d^{p-1} \phi(x)^p}{dx^{p-1}}(x) + \dots + A_1 x \frac{d \phi(x)^p}{dx} + A_0 \phi(x)^p(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_p(n) x^n (C_p n^p + C_{p-1} n^{p-1} + \dots + C_1 n + C_0) = \frac{g}{\pi^p}. \quad (13)$$

Set $x = 1 - (1 - 2w)^2$; then $w = k_r^2$ and g , for suitable values of A_j , is a function of k_r and $a(r)$, so g is an algebraic number when $r \in N$. The A_j and C_j can be evaluated from (13).

Higher values of $r \in N$ and k_r give more accurate and faster formulas for $1/\pi^4$ and $1/\pi^6$.

□ Series for $1/\pi^4$

The general formula produced by our method for $1/\pi^4$ is

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_4(n) (k_r k'_r)^{2n} [A_4 n^4 + (A_3 - 6A_4) n^3 + (A_2 - 3A_3 + 11A_4) n^2 + (A_1 - A_2 + 2A_3 - 6A_4) n + A_0] = \frac{g}{\pi^4}. \quad (14)$$

This computes the polynomial in the variable n in the sum (13).

```
npoly[p_, A_] :=  
  A[0] + Collect[Table[Product[n - k, {k, 0, K}], {K, 0, -1 + p}],  
  Array[A, p], n]
```

```
npoly[4, A] // TraditionalForm
```

$$A(4) n^4 + (A(3) - 6A(4)) n^3 + (A(2) - 3A(3) + 11A(4)) n^2 + (A(1) - A(2) + 2A(3) - 6A(4)) n + A(0)$$

To find the A_j , the function `Arules` replaces `EllipticK[w]` by `EK[w]` and `EllipticE[w]` by `EE[w]` and sets all the Taylor expansion coefficients with respect to `EK[w]` to 0.

$$\mathbf{EE}[\mathbf{w_}] := \frac{\pi - 4 \mathbf{a} \mathbf{EK}[\mathbf{w}]^2 + 4 \sqrt{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{EK}[\mathbf{w}]^2}{4 \sqrt{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{EK}[\mathbf{w}]}$$

```

Arules[M_, p_] := (* Replace EllipticK[w] and
  EllipticE[w] by EE[w] and set all the Taylor
  expansion coefficients with respect to EK[w] to be 0. *)
First@Simplify@Solve[
  Prepend[
    Table[
      0 == SeriesCoefficient[
        PowerExpand[
          Table[x^i D[phi[x]^p, {x, i}], {i, 0, p}].
          Array[A, p+1, 0] /. x -> (1 - (1 - 2 w)^2)
        ] /. EllipticK[w] -> EK[w] /. EllipticE[w] -> EE[w],
        {EK[w], 0, j}
      ],
      {j, 1, M}
    ],
    A[0] == 1,
    Array[A, p+1, 0]
  ]

```

Choose M large enough to get a solution for all the $A[i]$ for $p = 4$. (Here $a = a(r)$ and $w = k_r^2$.)

(Arules4 = Arules[20, 4]) // TraditionalForm

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \{A(0) \rightarrow 1, A(1) \rightarrow (-210 \sqrt{r} (2w - 1)a^3 + \\
 & \quad 90r(20w^2 - 13w + 1)a^2 - 10r^{3/2}(304w^3 - 276w^2 + 57w - 2)a + \\
 & \quad r^2(2080w^4 - 2640w^3 + 995w^2 - 115w + 2)) / \\
 & \quad (2(105a^4 - 420\sqrt{r}wa^3 + 90rw(8w - 1)a^2 - 20r^{3/2}w(32w^2 - 12w + 1)a + \\
 & \quad r^2w(256w^3 - 192w^2 + 43w - 2))), \\
 & A(2) \rightarrow (r(45a^2(1 - 2w)^2 - 30a\sqrt{r}(24w^3 - 30w^2 + 11w - 1) + \\
 & \quad r(880w^4 - 1400w^3 + 735w^2 - 140w + 7))) / \\
 & \quad (105a^4 - 420\sqrt{r}wa^3 + 90rw(8w - 1)a^2 - 20r^{3/2}w(32w^2 - 12w + 1)a + \\
 & \quad r^2w(256w^3 - 192w^2 + 43w - 2)), \\
 & A(3) \rightarrow (2r^{3/2}(1 - 2w)^2(a(5 - 10w) + \sqrt{r}(28w^2 - 23w + 3))) / \\
 & \quad (105a^4 - 420\sqrt{r}wa^3 + 90rw(8w - 1)a^2 - \\
 & \quad 20r^{3/2}w(32w^2 - 12w + 1)a + r^2w(256w^3 - 192w^2 + 43w - 2)), \\
 & A(4) \rightarrow (r^2(1 - 2w)^4) / (105a^4 - 420\sqrt{r}wa^3 + 90rw(8w - 1)a^2 - \\
 & \quad 20r^{3/2}w(32w^2 - 12w + 1)a + r^2w(256w^3 - 192w^2 + 43w - 2))\}
 \end{aligned}$$

Now that we have the $A[i]$, this computes the sum on the left-hand side of (13).

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{lhs4}[\mathbf{T_}] &:= \sum_{n=0}^{\mathbf{T}} \mathbf{c4}[n] \mathbf{x}^n \mathbf{npoly}[4, \mathbf{A}] /. \mathbf{Arules4} /. \\ &\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{1} - (\mathbf{1} - \mathbf{2} \mathbf{w})^2 \end{aligned}$$

This computes the right-hand side of (13).

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{rhs4}[\mathbf{a_}, \mathbf{r_}, \mathbf{w_}] &:= \\ &\mathbf{Module}[\{\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{Denominator}[\mathbf{A}[1]] /. \mathbf{Arules4}\}, \\ &(\mathbf{x} /. \mathbf{r} \rightarrow \mathbf{0} /. \mathbf{a} \rightarrow \mathbf{1}) / (\pi^4 \mathbf{x})] \\ \\ \mathbf{rhs4}[\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{w}] &// \mathbf{TraditionalForm} \\ \\ &105 / (\pi^4 (105 a^4 - 420 \sqrt{r} w a^3 + 90 r w (8 w - 1) a^2 - \\ &20 r^{3/2} w (32 w^2 - 12 w + 1) a + r^2 w (256 w^3 - 192 w^2 + 43 w - 2))) \end{aligned}$$

Example 1. From [19] and [7], for $p = 4$ and $r = 2$, we have $k_2 = \sqrt{2} - 1$ and $a(2) = \sqrt{2} - 1$. Hence we get the formula

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_4(n) \left(-56 + 40 \sqrt{2}\right)^n \left[\right. \\ &1 + 5 \left(\frac{292072 + 56267 \sqrt{2}}{462719} \right) n + 6 \left(\frac{268641 + 81580 \sqrt{2}}{462719} \right) n^2 + \\ &4 \left(\frac{134444 + 32155 \sqrt{2}}{462719} \right) n^3 - 4 \left(\frac{36209 + 34800 \sqrt{2}}{462719} \right) n^4 \left. \right] = \\ &= \frac{105}{(229441 - 162240 \sqrt{2}) \pi^4}. \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

We verify this numerically.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{verify1} &= \{\mathbf{r} \rightarrow \mathbf{2}, \mathbf{a} \rightarrow \sqrt{\mathbf{2}} - \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{w} \rightarrow (\sqrt{\mathbf{2}} - \mathbf{1})^2\}; \\ \\ \mathbf{rhs4}[\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{w}] &/. \mathbf{verify1} // \mathbf{FullSimplify} \\ \\ &= \frac{105}{(-229441 + 162240 \sqrt{2}) \pi^4} \end{aligned}$$

Array[A, 5, 0] /. Arules4 /. verify1 // FullSimplify

$$\left\{ 1, \frac{3\,465\,146 + 760\,235\sqrt{2}}{462\,719}, \frac{2\,211\,322 - 99\,060\sqrt{2}}{462\,719}, \right. \\ \left. -\frac{980(338 + 721\sqrt{2})}{462\,719}, -\frac{4(36\,209 + 34\,800\sqrt{2})}{462\,719} \right\}$$

N[lhs4[100] - rhs4[a, r, w] /. verify1]

$$9.10383 \times 10^{-15}$$

Example 2. Here is another example for $p = 4$ that we verify numerically.

$$\text{verify2} = \left\{ r \rightarrow 15, a \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2} + \sqrt{5 - \frac{5\sqrt{3}}{2}}, \right. \\ \left. w \rightarrow \frac{1}{8 \left(376 + 168\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{6(47\,067 + 21\,049\sqrt{5})} \right)} \right\};$$

rhs4[a, r, w] /. verify2 // FullSimplify

$$\frac{1792}{17\pi^4}$$

Array[A, 5, 0] /. Arules4 /. verify2 // FullSimplify

$$\left\{ 1, \frac{3}{544} (8595 + 36\,049\sqrt{5}), \frac{135}{544} (3633 + 2347\sqrt{5}), \right. \\ \left. \frac{45}{272} (4635 + 2089\sqrt{5}), \frac{135}{544} (487 + 189\sqrt{5}) \right\}$$

N[lhs4[100] - rhs4[a, r, w] /. verify2]

$$-2.19824 \times 10^{-14}$$

□ **Series for $1/\pi^6$**

The coefficients of A_j and the parameters for the $1/\pi^6$ formula are obtained using the same method as for $1/\pi^4$. (The same can be done as well for $1/\pi^2$, of course.) Higher values of $r \in N$ and k_r give more accurate and faster formulas for $1/\pi^4$ and $1/\pi^6$.

For $p = 6$ we get

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_6(n) (k_r k'_r)^{2n} [A_6 n^6 + (A_5 - 15 A_6) n^5 + (A_4 - 10 A_5 + 85 A_6) n^4 + (A_3 - 6 A_4 + 35 A_5 - 225 A_6) n^3 + (A_2 - 3 A_3 + 11 A_4 - 50 A_5 + 274 A_6) n^2 + (A_1 - A_2 + 2 A_3 - 6 A_4 + 24 A_5 - 120 A_6) n + A_0] = \frac{g}{\pi^6}. \quad (16)$$

This calculates the A_j .

Arules6 = Arules[20, 6];

Example 3. For $r = 2$,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_6(n) \left(-56 + 40\sqrt{2}\right)^n \left[1 + \frac{28\,335\,508\,172 - 240\,070\,543\sqrt{2}}{12\,623\,771\,801} n + \frac{22\,911\,684\,702 - 3\,047\,538\,900\sqrt{2}}{12\,623\,771\,801} n^2 + \frac{6\,110\,502\,200 - 5\,456\,734\,120\sqrt{2}}{12\,623\,771\,801} n^3 - \frac{1\,196\,112\,280 + 3\,649\,618\,320\sqrt{2}}{12\,623\,771\,801} n^4 - \frac{505\,494\,672 + 788\,011\,092\sqrt{2}}{12\,623\,771\,801} n^5 + \frac{463\,408\,744 + 244\,639\,040\sqrt{2}}{12\,623\,771\,801} n^6\right] = \frac{3465}{(629\,823\,301 - 445\,352\,320\sqrt{2})\pi^6}. \quad (17)$$

Example 4. For $r = 7$, we have $k_r^2 = \frac{8-3\sqrt{7}}{16}$ and $a(7) = \frac{\sqrt{7}-2}{2}$; then

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{c_6(n)}{64^n} \left[1 + \frac{913150}{307323}n - \frac{75313}{102441}n^2 - \frac{4998980}{307323}n^3 - \frac{1126755}{34147}n^4 - \frac{1080450}{34147}n^5 - \frac{453789}{34147}n^6 \right] = -\frac{14417920}{34147\pi^6}. \quad (18)$$

We verify this numerically.

$$\text{verify3} = \left\{ r \rightarrow 7, a \rightarrow \frac{\sqrt{7}-2}{2}, w \rightarrow \frac{8-3\sqrt{7}}{16} \right\};$$

Array[A, 7, 0] /. Arules6 /. verify3 // FullSimplify

$$\left\{ 1, -\frac{28260715}{307323}, -\frac{39852925}{34147}, -\frac{676514090}{307323}, -\frac{41427540}{34147}, -\frac{7887285}{34147}, -\frac{453789}{34147} \right\}$$

**rhs6[a_, r_, w_] :=
Module[{x = Denominator[A[1] /. Arules6]},
(x /. r -> 0 /. a -> 1) / (π⁶ x)]**

rhs6[a, r, w] // TraditionalForm

$$3465 / (\pi^6 (3465 a^6 - 20790 \sqrt{r} w a^5 + 4725 r w (12 w - 1) a^4 - 1260 r^{3/2} w (72 w^2 - 18 w + 1) a^3 + 105 r^2 w (864 w^3 - 432 w^2 + 65 w - 2) a^2 - 21 r^{5/2} w (2592 w^4 - 2160 w^3 + 616 w^2 - 59 w + 1) a + r^3 w (15552 w^5 - 19440 w^4 + 8944 w^3 - 1700 w^2 + 110 w - 1)))$$

rhs6[a, r, w] /. verify3 // FullSimplify

$$-\frac{14417920}{34147\pi^6}$$

**lhs6[T_] := Sum[c6[n] x^n npoly[6, A] /. Arules6 /.
x -> 1 - (1 - 2 w)^2**

N[lhs6[50] - rhs6[a, r, w] /. verify3]

1.44329×10^{-15}

Example 5. For $r = 15$, we have $k_r^2 = \frac{(2-\sqrt{3})^2(\sqrt{5}-\sqrt{3})^2(3-\sqrt{5})^2}{128}$ and $a(15) = \frac{\sqrt{15}-\sqrt{5}-1}{2}$;
then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_6(n) & \left(\frac{47 - 21\sqrt{5}}{128} \right)^n \left[1 + \left(\frac{2877117109830 + 924178552332\sqrt{5}}{293049243769} n \right) + \right. \\ & \left. \left(\frac{15689590644975 + 6660423786240\sqrt{5}}{293049243769} \right) n^2 + \right. \\ & \left. \left(\frac{51863088153600 + 23066524139820\sqrt{5}}{293049243769} \right) n^3 + \right. \\ & \left. \left(\frac{106483989569175 + 47630637457200\sqrt{5}}{293049243769} \right) n^4 + \right. \\ & \left. \left(\frac{130261549416750 + 58266415341540\sqrt{5}}{293049243769} \right) n^5 + \right. \\ & \left. \left(\frac{75619648012725 + 33817435224300\sqrt{5}}{293049243769} \right) n^6 \right] = \\ & \frac{20185088}{(11556387 - 5162500\sqrt{5})\pi^6}. \end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

■ Evaluating the Elliptic Alpha Function $a(25r)$

It is clear from the results in the previous section that getting rapidly convergent series for $1/\pi$ and its even powers requires values of the alpha function $a(r)$ for large $r \in N$, say $r = 5000$ (see [14], [20], [5]). In this section we address this problem.

From (4), (7), and [2] pages 121–122, Chapter 21, if we set $y = \pi\sqrt{r}$, $q = e^{-\pi\sqrt{r}}$, $K(k_r) = K[r]$, $k'_r = \sqrt{1 - k_r^2}$, then

$$1 - 24 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{nq^{2n}}{1 - q^{2n}} = \frac{3}{\pi\sqrt{r}} + \left(1 + k_r^2 - \frac{3a(r)}{\sqrt{r}}\right) \frac{4}{\pi^2} K[r]^2. \tag{20}$$

From the duplication formula

$$k_{r/4} = \frac{2\sqrt{k_r}}{1 + k_r}$$

and

$$a(4r) = (1 + k_{4r})^2 a(r) - 2\sqrt{r} k_{4r},$$

equation (20) becomes

$$1 - 24 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{nq^n}{1 - q^n} = \frac{6}{\pi\sqrt{r}} + \left(1 + k_r^2 - \frac{6a(r)}{\sqrt{r}}\right) \frac{4}{\pi^2} K[r]^2. \tag{21}$$

Setting

$$T_{p,r} = \left(1 - 24 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{nq^{2n}}{1 - q^{2n}}\right) - p \left(1 - 24 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{nq^{2pn}}{1 - q^{2pn}}\right) \tag{22}$$

gives the following proposition.

Proposition 1

$$\frac{1}{m_p^2 \sqrt{r}} a(p^2 r) = -\frac{1 + k_r^2}{3} + \frac{p(1 + k_{p^2 r}^2)}{3m_p^2} + \frac{\pi^2 T_{p,r}}{12K[r]^2} + \frac{a(r)}{\sqrt{r}}. \tag{23}$$

This connects Ramanujan's results of Chapter 21 in [2] with the evaluation of the alpha function and the evaluations of π . Solving (23) with respect to $T_{p,r}$ gives

$$T_{p,r} = \frac{4K[r]^2}{\pi^2 \sqrt{r} m_p^2} [3a(p^2 r) - p\sqrt{r}(1+k_{p^2 r}^2) + (-3a(r) + \sqrt{r}(1+k_r^2))m_p^2].$$

Equations (21), (22), and (23) give another interesting formula,

$$1 - 24 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n q^{2pn}}{1 - q^{2pn}} = \frac{3}{\pi \sqrt{r} p} + \frac{4K[r]^2}{\pi^2 \sqrt{r} p m_p^2} [-3a(p^2 r) + p\sqrt{r}(1+k_{p^2 r}^2)]$$

where

$$m_p = \frac{K[r]}{K[p^2 r]}. \quad (24)$$

Entry 4 of [2], p. 436 is

$$T_{5,r} = \frac{(x^2 + 22q^2xy + 125q^4y^2)^{1/2}}{(xy)^{1/6}}, \quad (25)$$

where $x = f(-q^2)^6$ and $y = f(-q^{10})^6$.

Set

$$A_r = \frac{1}{R(q^2)^5} - 11 - R(q^2)^5 = \frac{x}{q^2 y}, \quad (26)$$

where $R(q)$ is the Rogers–Ramanujan continued fraction (see [2], [21], [22]):

$$R(q) = \frac{q^{1/5}}{1 +} \frac{q}{1 +} \frac{q^2}{1 +} \frac{q^3}{1 +} \dots \quad (27)$$

and

$$f(-q^2)^6 = \frac{2k_r k'_r K[r]^3}{\pi^3 q^{1/2}}; \quad (28)$$

this gives

$$T_{5,r} = 4 \frac{(k_r k'_r)^{2/3} \sqrt{125 + 22A_r + A_r^2}}{6 \sqrt[3]{2} A_r^{5/6}} = 2^{2/3} \frac{(k_r k'_r)^{2/3} [R(q^2)^{-5} + R(q^2)^5]}{3 [R(q^2)^{-5} - 11 - R(q^2)^5]^{5/6}} \quad (29)$$

and hence the evaluation

$$-4 - 24 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n q^{2n}}{1 - q^{2n}} + 120 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n q^{10n}}{1 - q^{10n}} = 2^{2/3} \frac{(k_r k'_r)^{2/3} [R(q^2)^{-5} + R(q^2)^5]}{3 [R(q^2)^{-5} - 11 - R(q^2)^5]^{5/6}}. \quad (30)$$

But for the evaluation of the Rogers–Ramanujan continued fraction, from [22] we have

Proposition 2

If $q = e^{-\pi\sqrt{r}}$ and r is a positive real, then

$$A_r = a_{4r} = \left(\frac{k_r k'_r}{w_r w'_r} \right)^2 \left(\frac{w_r}{k_r} + \frac{w'_r}{k'_r} - \frac{w_r w'_r}{k_r k'_r} \right)^3 \quad (31)$$

with

$$m_5 = \frac{w_r}{k_r} + \frac{w'_r}{k'_r} - \frac{w_r w'_r}{k_r k'_r}, \quad (32)$$

$$w_r = \sqrt{k_r k_{25r}},$$

$$w'_r = \sqrt{k'_r k'_{25r}}.$$

Proposition 3

$$\frac{3 a(25r)}{m_5^2} - \frac{3 a(r)}{\sqrt{r}} = \frac{5}{m_5^2} (1 + k_{25r}^2) - (1 + k_r^2) - 2^{2/3} A_r^{-5/6} (k_r k'_r)^{2/3} \sqrt{125 + A_r + A_r^2}. \quad (33)$$

Proof

From (23), (28), and (31),

$$\frac{3 a(25r)}{m_5^2 \sqrt{r}} - \frac{3 a(r)}{\sqrt{r}} = -1 + \frac{5}{m_5^2} + \frac{5 k_{25r}^2}{m_5^2} - k_r^2 - \frac{2^{2/3} \sqrt{125 + 22 A_r + A_r^2} (k_r k'_r)^{2/3}}{A_r^{5/6}}, \quad (34)$$

with (see [22])

$$A_{r/4} = \left(\frac{k'_r}{k'_{25r}} \right)^2 \sqrt{\frac{k_r}{k_{25r}}} m_5^{-3}. \blacksquare \quad (35)$$

In some cases, the next formula from [9] is very useful:

$$k_{25^n r_0} = \sqrt{1/2 - 1/2 \sqrt{1 - 4(k_{r_0} k'_{r_0})^2 \prod_{j=1}^n P^{(j)} \left(\sqrt{\frac{k_{r_0} k'_{r_0}}{k_{r_0} k'_{r_0/25}}} \right)^{24}}}. \quad (36)$$

Here the function P is $P(x) = U(Q^{1/6}(U^{*6}(x)))$, where U , U^* , and Q are as defined in [9] and $P^{(n)}(x) = P(P(\dots P(x)\dots))$ is the n^{th} iterate of P .

The coefficient $m_5 = 1/M_5$ was defined in (24) and occurred in (32); M_5 also satisfies the equation

$$(5M_5 - 1)^5(1 - M_5) = 256(k_r k'_r)M_5.$$

If we know k_r and k_{25r} , we can evaluate A_r from (31) and then we can evaluate $a(25r)$.

The following conjecture is most compactly expressed in terms of the quantity

$$Y_{\sqrt{-r}} = \frac{1}{6} \left(R(e^{-\pi\sqrt{r}})^{-5} - 11 - R(e^{-\pi\sqrt{r}})^5 \right) = \frac{A_r}{6}. \quad (37)$$

The function j_r is the j -invariant (see [23], [8]). For more properties of j_r and A_r see [24].

Conjecture (Algorithm for A_r)

Numerical results calculated with *Mathematica* indicate that whenever $\gcd(r, 5) = 1$, then

$$\deg\left(Y_{\sqrt{-r/5}}\right) = \deg\left(j_{\sqrt{-r/5}}\right).$$

For a given $r \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\deg\left(Y_{\sqrt{-r/5}}\right) = 2, 4, \text{ or } 8$, if the smallest nested root of $j_{\sqrt{-r/5}}$ is \sqrt{d} , then we can evaluate the Rogers–Ramanujan continued fraction with integer parameters.

1. When $\deg\left(Y_{\sqrt{-r/5}}\right) = 2$,

$$Y_{\sqrt{-r/5}} = \frac{l + m\sqrt{d}}{t} \quad (38)$$

with $l^2 - m^2 d = 1$, where l, m, d are positive integers.

2. When $\deg\left(Y_{\sqrt{-r/5}}\right) = 4$,

a) If $U \neq \frac{125}{64}$, then

$$Y_{\sqrt{-r/5}} = \frac{5}{8} \sqrt{a_0 + \sqrt{-1 + a_0^2}} \left(\sqrt{5+p} - \sqrt{p} \right), \quad (39)$$

where

$$Y_{\sqrt{-r/5}} Y_{\sqrt{-r/5}}^* = \frac{125}{64} \left(a_0 + \sqrt{-1 + a_0^2} \right) \quad (40)$$

and where a_0 is the positive integer solution of $l^2 - m^2 d = 1$. Hence $l = a_0$ and $m = d^{-1/2} \sqrt{a_0^2 - 1}$ is a positive integer. The parameter p is a positive rational and can be found directly from the numerical value of $Y_{\sqrt{-r/5}}$.

b) If $U = \frac{125}{64}$, then

$$Y_{\sqrt{-r/5}} = A + \frac{1}{8} \sqrt{-125 + 64 A^2}, \quad (41)$$

where we set $A = k + l \sqrt{d}$. Then a starting point for the evaluation of the integers k, l is

$$l^2 = \frac{(A - k)^2}{d}, \quad (42)$$

the square of an integer.

3. When $\deg\left(Y_{\sqrt{-1/20r}}\right) = 4$, then we can evaluate $Y_{\sqrt{-1/5r}}$.

The degree of $Y_{\sqrt{-1/5r}}$ is 8 and the minimal polynomial of $Y_{\sqrt{-1/5r}} / Y_{\sqrt{-1/20r}}$ is of degree 4 or 8 and symmetric. Hence the minimal polynomial can be reduced to at most a fourth-degree polynomial and so it is solvable. With the help of step 2, we can evaluate $Y_{\sqrt{-1/20r}}$.

$$Y_{\sqrt{-1/5r}} = \frac{5}{8} \sqrt{a_0 + \sqrt{-1 + a_0^2}} \left(\sqrt{p+5} - \sqrt{p} \right) 2^{-1} \left(\sqrt{x+4} - \sqrt{x} \right), \quad (43)$$

where $x = a_1 + b_1 \sqrt{d} + c \sqrt{a_2 + b_2 \sqrt{d}}$, a_1, b_1, a_2, b_2, c are integers, and

$$Y_{\sqrt{-1/20r}} = \frac{5}{8} \sqrt{a_0 + \sqrt{-1 + a_0^2}} \left(\sqrt{p+5} - \sqrt{p} \right). \quad (44)$$

Here are some values of $Y_{\sqrt{-1/5r}} = 1/8 A_{r/5}$ that can found with the *Mathematica* built-in function `Recognize` or by solving Pell's equation and applying the conjecture.

$$Y_{\sqrt{-1/5}} = \frac{5 \sqrt{5}}{8}. \quad (45)$$

$$Y_{\sqrt{-2/5}} = \frac{5}{8} \left(5 + 2 \sqrt{5} \right). \quad (46)$$

$$Y_{\sqrt{-3/5}} = \frac{5}{16} \left(25 + 11 \sqrt{5} \right). \quad (47)$$

$$Y_{\sqrt{-4/5}} = \frac{5}{16} \left(25 + 13 \sqrt{5} + 5 \sqrt{58 + 26 \sqrt{5}} \right). \quad (48)$$

$$Y_{\sqrt{-5/5}} = \frac{125}{8} \left(2 + \sqrt{5} \right). \quad (49)$$

$$Y_{\sqrt{-6/5}} = \frac{5}{8} \left(50 + 35 \sqrt{2} + 3 \sqrt{5 \left(99 + 70 \sqrt{2} \right)} \right). \quad (50)$$

$$Y_{\sqrt{-9/5}} = \frac{5}{8} \left(225 + 104 \sqrt{5} + 10 \sqrt{1047 + 468 \sqrt{5}} \right). \quad (51)$$

$$Y_{\sqrt{-12/5}} = \frac{5}{12} \left(1690 + 975 \sqrt{3} + 29 \sqrt{6755 + 3900 \sqrt{3}} \right). \quad (52)$$

$$Y_{\sqrt{-14/5}} = \frac{5}{8} \left(1850 + 585 \sqrt{10} + 7 \sqrt{5 \left(27379 + 8658 \sqrt{10} \right)} \right). \quad (53)$$

$$Y_{\sqrt{-17/5}} = \frac{5}{8} \left(5360 + 585 \sqrt{85} + 4 \sqrt{3613670 + 391950 \sqrt{85}} \right). \quad (54)$$

Example 6. If $r = 68 = 4 \times 17$, from (54) we have $d = 85$, hence

$$x = a_1 + b_1 \sqrt{85} + c \sqrt{a_2 + b_2 \sqrt{85}}, \quad (55)$$

$$Y_{\sqrt{-68/5}} / Y_{\sqrt{-17/5}} = 2^{-1} \left(\sqrt{x+4} - \sqrt{x} \right), \quad (56)$$

$$a_1 = 2891581250, b_1 = 31363605, c = 12960,$$

$$a_2 = 99557521554, b_2 = 10798529365.$$

Hence

$$Y_{\sqrt{-68/5}} = Y_{\sqrt{-17/5}} 2^{-1} \left(\sqrt{x+4} - \sqrt{x} \right) = \frac{5}{16} \left(5360 + 585 \sqrt{85} + 4 \sqrt{3613670 + 391950 \sqrt{85}} \right) \left(\sqrt{x+4} - \sqrt{x} \right). \quad (57)$$

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