

On the Hasse-Sondow Formula for the Riemann Zeta Function

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Abstract: We employ the known relation $(2^{1-s} - 1)\zeta(s) = \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^r}{r^s}$ to motivate the analytic continuation of the Riemann zeta function obtained by Hasse and Sondow.

Key words: Hasse-Sondow's expression • Analytic continuation of $\zeta(s)$.

INTRODUCTION

We have the following relation for the Riemann zeta function [1]:

$$\zeta(s) = \frac{1}{2^{1-s} - 1} \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^r}{r^s}, \quad 0 > \text{Re } s < 1, \quad (1)$$

for example [2, 3]:

$$\zeta\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = (1 + \sqrt{2}) \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^r}{\sqrt{r}} = -1.4603\ 5450\ 88 \quad (2)$$

In Sec. 2 we manipulate (1) to obtain the analytic continuation of $\zeta(s)$ deduced by Hasse [4] and Sondow [5, 6], which allows determine it $\forall s \neq 1$

Hasse-Sondow's formula

From (1):

$$(1 - 2^{1-s})\zeta(s) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{(k+1)^s} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{(k+1)^s} \frac{1}{2^{k+1}} {}_1F_0\left(k+1; \frac{1}{2}\right), \quad (3)$$

with the presence of the hypergeometric function [7]:

$${}_1F_0(a; z) = \frac{1}{(1-z)^a}, \quad |z| < 1 \quad \therefore \quad {}_1F_0\left(k+1; \frac{1}{2}\right) = 2^{k+1}. \quad (4)$$

It is simple to see that:

$$\sum_{n=k}^{\infty} \binom{n}{k} \frac{1}{2^{n-k}} = \sum_{q=0}^{\infty} \binom{q+k}{k} \frac{1}{2^q} = {}_1F_0\left(k+1; \frac{1}{2}\right), \quad (5)$$

Then (3) implies the relation:

$$(1 - 2^{1-s})\zeta(s) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{(k+1)^s} \sum_{n=k}^{\infty} \binom{n}{k} \frac{1}{2^{n+1}},$$

That is [8, 9]:

$$\zeta(s) = \frac{1}{1 - 2^{1-s}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^{n+1}} \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \binom{n}{k} (k+1)^{-s} \quad (6)$$

obtained by Hasse [4] and Sondow [5, 6] for arbitrary $s \neq 1$.

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