

Machin-type formulas for pi

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Abstract. This note presents some Machin-type formulas for pi.

J. Machin (1680-1751):

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = 4 \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{5}\right) - \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{239}\right)$$

Part 1

1. The polynomial equation.

$$f(x) = x^5 - 4x + 1 = 0 \quad (1)$$

2. $f(x) = 0$ is not solvable by radicals.

3. Theorem (Galois). A polynomial $f \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ is solvable by radicals if and only if its Galois group $Gal(f)$ is soluble.

4. Maple: $Gal(f)$:

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"5T5", { "S(5)" }, "-", 120,
{ "(15)", "(25)", "(35)", "(45)" }
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$$Order(G) = 120$$

G is not soluble

5. Roots

$$f(x) = 0 \Rightarrow x = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5\} \quad (2)$$

$$x_1, x_2, x_3 \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$x_4 = a + bi \in \mathbb{C}, i = \sqrt{-1}$$

$$x_5 = a - bi \in \mathbb{C}$$

$$x_1 = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{1}{4} + \dots \right)^5 \right)^5 \quad (3)$$

$$x_2 = \sqrt[4]{4 - \frac{1}{\sqrt[4]{4 - \frac{1}{\sqrt[4]{4 - \dots}}}}} \quad (4)$$

$$x_3 = -\sqrt[5]{1 + 4\sqrt[5]{1 + 4\sqrt[5]{1 + \dots}}} \quad (5)$$

$$a = -\left(\frac{x_1 + x_2 + x_3}{2} \right) \quad (6)$$

$$b = \sqrt{-\left(x_1 x_2 x_3 \right)^{-1} - \left(\frac{x_1 + x_2 + x_3}{2} \right)^2} \quad (7)$$

6. Roots: approximate values

$$x_1 = 0.25024534\dots$$

$$x_2 = 1.34324608\dots$$

$$x_3 = -1.47081820\dots$$

$$x_4 = -0.06133\dots + i \times 1.42087\dots$$

$$x_5 = -0.06133\dots - i \times 1.42087\dots$$

7. Graphics.

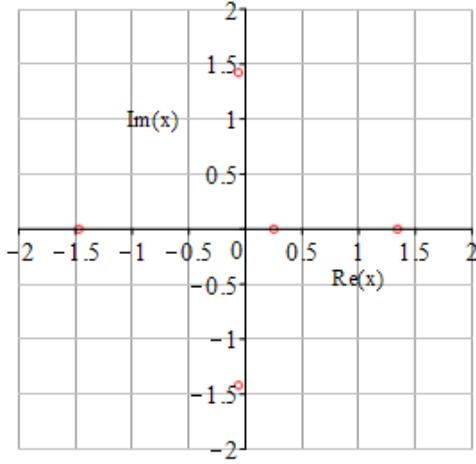


Fig. 1 , $\bullet f(x)=0$.

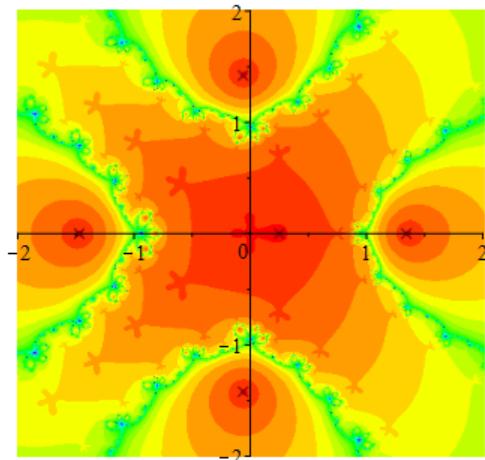


Fig. 2 , Newton-Julia set for $f(z)$.

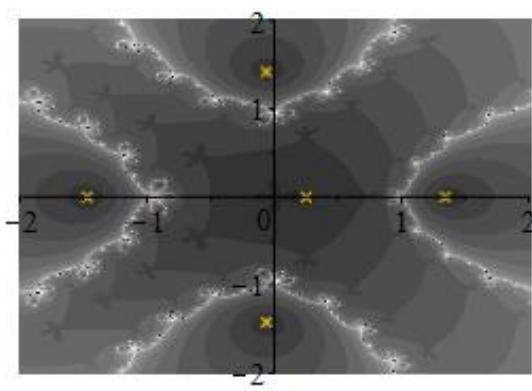


Fig. 3 , Newton-Julia set for $f(z)$.

8. Some Machin-type formulas.

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \tan^{-1}(x_1) - \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_2}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_3}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{a^2 + b^2 - 4a - 1}{2(a^2 + b^2 + a - 1)}\right) \quad (8)$$

$$\frac{\pi}{2} = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_1}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_2}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_3}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{a^2 + b^2 + 6a - 1}{3a^2 + 3b^2 - 2a - 3}\right) \quad (9)$$

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \tan^{-1}(x_1) + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1 + x_1 - x_1^2 + x_1^3 - x_1^4}{2}\right) \quad (10)$$

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_2}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x_2^4 - x_2^3 + x_2^2 - x_2 - 1}{2}\right) \quad (11)$$

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \tan^{-1}(x_1^5) + \tan^{-1}\left(1 - \frac{x_1^4}{2}\right) \quad (12)$$

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_2^5}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x_2^4}{2} - 1\right) \quad (13)$$

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_3^5}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x_3^4}{2} - 1\right) \quad (14)$$

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \tan^{-1}(x_1^2) + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{4 + x_1 + 3x_1^2 - x_1^3 - 3x_1^4}{5}\right) \quad (15)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\pi}{4} &= \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_2^2}\right) + \\ &+ \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{3x_2^4 + x_2^3 - 3x_2^2 - x_2 - 4}{5}\right) \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\pi}{4} &= \tan^{-1}(u) + \\ &+ \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1 - 2u + 2u^2 - 2u^3 + 2u^4}{2047}\right) \quad (17) \\ u &= 4x_1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\pi}{4} &= \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_2}\right) + \\ &+ \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{3}{2} - \frac{5}{2x_2} + \frac{5}{2x_2^2} - \frac{5}{2x_2^3} + \frac{1}{2x_2^4}\right) \quad (18) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\pi}{4} &= \tan^{-1}\left(-\frac{1}{x_3}\right) + \\ &+ \tan^{-1}\left(x_3^4 + x_3^3 + x_3^2 + x_3 - 2\right) \quad (19) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\pi}{4} &= \tan^{-1}\left(-\frac{1}{x_3}\right) + \\ &+ \tan^{-1}\left(2 + \frac{3}{x_3} + \frac{3}{x_3^2} + \frac{3}{x_3^3} - \frac{1}{x_3^4}\right) \quad (20) \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_2^5}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(1 - \frac{1}{2x_2}\right) \quad (21)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\pi}{4} &= \tan^{-1}(x_1 + x_1^2) + \\ &+ \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{3 - 2x_1 + 2x_1^2 - 2x_1^4}{5}\right) \quad (22) \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \tan^{-1}(x_1 + x_1^5) + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{3 - 2x_1^4}{5}\right) \quad (23)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\pi}{4} &= \tan^{-1}(x_1^2 + x_1^3) + \\ &+ \tan^{-1}\left(-3 + 18x_1 - 12x_1^2 + 8x_1^3 - 6x_1^4\right) \quad (24) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\pi}{4} &= \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_2} + \frac{1}{x_2^3}\right) + \\ &+ \tan^{-1}\left(83 - \frac{122}{x_2} + \frac{178}{x_2^2} - \frac{262}{x_2^3} + \frac{56}{x_2^4}\right) \quad (25) \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_2^4} + \frac{1}{x_2^5}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{3}{5} - \frac{2}{5x_2}\right) \quad (26)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\pi}{4} &= \tan^{-1}\left(-\frac{1}{x_3} + \frac{1}{x_3^3}\right) + \\ &+ \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{3}{5} + \frac{6}{5x_3} + \frac{6}{5x_3^2} - \frac{2}{5x_3^3}\right) \quad (27) \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_3^4} + \frac{1}{x_3^5}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{3}{5} - \frac{2}{5x_3}\right) \quad (28)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\pi}{4} &= \tan^{-1}(1 - 2x_1) + \\ &+ \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1 - x_1 - x_1^2 - x_1^3 - x_1^4}{2}\right) \quad (29) \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \tan^{-1}(x_2 - 1) + \tan^{-1}(7 - 2x_2^4) \quad (30)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\pi}{4} &= -\tan^{-1}\left(1 - \frac{1}{x_2}\right) + \\ &+ \tan^{-1}\left(-1 + \frac{8}{x_2^3} - \frac{2}{x_2^4}\right) \quad (31) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\pi}{4} &= \tan^{-1}\left(1 - \frac{2}{x_2}\right) + \\ &+ \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{2x_2} + \frac{3}{2x_2^2} + \frac{3}{2x_2^3} - \frac{1}{2x_2^4}\right)\end{aligned}\quad (32)$$

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \tan^{-1}(x_1 - 1) + \tan^{-1}(7 - 2x_1^4) \quad (33)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\pi}{4} &= \tan^{-1}\left(-1 - \frac{1}{x_3}\right) + \\ &+ \tan^{-1}\left(-1 - \frac{8}{x_3^3} + \frac{2}{x_3^4}\right)\end{aligned}\quad (34)$$

$$\frac{3\pi}{4} = \tan^{-1}(2x_3^4 - 7) + \tan^{-1}(1 - x_3) \quad (35)$$

Part 2

9. For x_1, x_2, x_3

$$x_1 = \frac{14}{3} - \frac{1}{3} \sqrt{84 - \frac{133}{\sqrt{84 - \frac{133}{\sqrt{84 - \dots}}}}} \quad (36)$$

$$x_2 = \frac{14}{3} - \frac{1}{3} \left\{ \frac{19}{12} + \frac{1}{84} \left(\frac{19}{12} + \frac{1}{84} \left(\frac{19}{12} + \dots \right)^3 \right)^3 \right\} \quad (37)$$

$$x_3 = \frac{14}{3} + \frac{1}{3} \sqrt[3]{133 + 84\sqrt[3]{133 + 84\sqrt[3]{133 + \dots}}} \quad (38)$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\pi}{4} + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{3}{52}\right) &= \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_1}\right) + \\ &+ \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_2}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_3}\right)\end{aligned}\quad (39)$$

10. For x_1, x_2, x_3

$$x_1 = \frac{14}{3} - \frac{1}{3} \sqrt{84 - \frac{187}{\sqrt{84 - \frac{187}{\sqrt{84 - \dots}}}}} \quad (40)$$

$$x_2 = \frac{14}{3} - \frac{1}{3} \left\{ \frac{187}{84} + \frac{1}{84} \left(\frac{187}{84} + \frac{1}{84} \left(\frac{187}{84} + \dots \right)^3 \right)^3 \right\} \quad (41)$$

$$x_3 = \frac{14}{3} + \frac{1}{3} \sqrt[3]{187 + 84\sqrt[3]{187 + 84\sqrt[3]{187 + \dots}}} \quad (42)$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\pi}{4} + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{2}{53}\right) &= \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_1}\right) + \\ &+ \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_2}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_3}\right)\end{aligned}\quad (43)$$

11. For x_1, x_2, x_3

$$x_1 = \frac{14}{3} - \frac{1}{3} \sqrt{75 - \frac{196}{\sqrt{75 - \frac{196}{\sqrt{75 - \dots}}}}} \quad (44)$$

$$x_2 = \frac{14}{3} - \frac{1}{3} \left\{ \frac{196}{75} + \frac{1}{75} \left(\frac{196}{75} + \frac{1}{75} \left(\frac{196}{75} + \dots \right)^3 \right)^3 \right\} \quad (45)$$

$$x_3 = \frac{14}{3} + \frac{1}{3}\sqrt[3]{196 + 75\sqrt[3]{196 + 75\sqrt[3]{196 + \dots}}} \quad (46)$$

We have

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_1}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_2}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_3}\right) \quad (47)$$

12. For x_1, x_2, x_3

$$x_1 = \frac{10}{3} - \frac{1}{3}\sqrt{120 - \frac{470}{\sqrt{120 - \frac{470}{\sqrt{120 - \dots}}}}} \quad (48)$$

$$x_2 = \frac{10}{3} - \frac{1}{3}\left\{ \frac{47}{12} + \frac{1}{120}\left(\frac{47}{12} + \frac{1}{120}\left(\frac{47}{12} + \dots \right)^3 \right)^3 \right\} \quad (49)$$

$$x_3 = \frac{10}{3} + \frac{1}{3}\sqrt[3]{470 + 120\sqrt[3]{470 + 120\sqrt[3]{470 + \dots}}} \quad (50)$$

We have

$$\frac{\pi}{2} = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_1}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_2}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x_3}\right) \quad (51)$$

Part 3

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\pi}{4} &= \tan^{-1}\left(\cos\frac{2\pi}{9}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(\cos\frac{4\pi}{9}\right) + \\ &+ \tan^{-1}\left(\left(\tan\frac{\pi}{18}\right)^2\right) - \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{14}\right) \end{aligned} \quad (52)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\pi}{4} &= \tan^{-1}\left(\sin\frac{\pi}{15}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(\sin\frac{2\pi}{15}\right) - \\ &- \tan^{-1}\left(\sin\frac{4\pi}{15}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(\sin\frac{7\pi}{15}\right) + \\ &+ \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{961 - 552\sqrt{3}}{97}\right) \end{aligned} \quad (53)$$

References

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3. D.H. Lehmer, On Arctangent Relations for pi, The American Mathematical Monthly, (1938), pp. 657-664.
4. C. Störmer, Sur l'application de la théorie des nombres entiers complexes a la solutions en nombres rationnels
 $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n, k$ de l' équation
 $c_1 \tan^{-1} x_1 + c_2 \tan^{-1} x_2 + \dots +$
 $+ c_n \tan^{-1} x_n = k \frac{\pi}{4}$

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