

## ON THE CALCULATION OF TWO ESSENTIAL HARMONIC SERIES WITH A WEIGHT 5 STRUCTURE, INVOLVING HARMONIC NUMBERS OF THE TYPE $H_{2n}$

CORNEL IOAN VĂLEAN

*Abstract.* The core of the present paper is represented by the calculation of two essential harmonic series with a weight 5 structure, involving harmonic numbers of the type  $H_{2n}$ . The two main series are evaluated by also exploiting results and strategies presented in the book, *(Almost) Impossible Integrals, Sums, and Series*, 2019.

### 1. Introduction

The central results of the paper are represented by two harmonic series, involving harmonic numbers of the type  $H_{2n}$ .

The  $n$ th generalized harmonic number of order  $m$  is defined by

$$H_n^{(m)} = 1 + \frac{1}{2^m} + \cdots + \frac{1}{n^m},$$

where  $m$  is a positive integer.

We call the two main series presented in the paper *essential* since they are usually a critical part in the derivation process of other such harmonic series.

In the classical sense, by the weight of a harmonic series we understand the value  $W = a_1 + a_2 + \cdots + a_k + a$  we obtain from the summand of the harmonic series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_n^{(a_1)} H_n^{(a_2)} \cdots H_n^{(a_k)}}{n^a},$$

where  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k$ , and  $a$  are positive integers.

By analogy with the series presented above, we may consider that the two main series have a weight 5 structure.

During the calculations we will also make use of results and strategies presented in the book, *(Almost) Impossible Integrals, Sums, and Series*.

---

*Mathematics subject classification* (2010): 26A36, 33B30, 65B10, 40C10, 40G10, 11M06.

*Keywords and phrases:* Harmonic numbers, harmonic series, logarithmic integrals, polylogarithm function, Riemann zeta function, Dirichlet eta function.

## 2. The lemmas and their proofs

LEMMA 1. (Two useful series representations) The following equalities hold:

i)

$$-\log(1+x)\log(1-x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x^{2n} \left( \frac{H_{2n} - H_n}{n} + \frac{1}{2n^2} \right), \quad |x| < 1;$$

ii)

$$\log(1-x)\text{Li}_2(x) = 3 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n^3} - 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x^n \frac{H_n}{n^2} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x^n \frac{H_n^{(2)}}{n}, \quad |x| \leq 1 \wedge x \neq 1,$$

where  $\text{Li}_n$  denotes the Polylogarithm function.

*Proof.* The proofs of both results are straightforward if we apply the Cauchy product of two series (e.g. check the proof presented in [2, Chapter 6, p. 344]).

LEMMA 2. (Special logarithmic integrals) Let  $n$  be a positive integer. The following equalities hold:

i)

$$\int_0^1 x^{n-1} \log(1-x) dx = -\frac{H_n}{n};$$

ii)

$$\int_0^1 x^{2n-1} \log(1+x) dx = \frac{H_{2n} - H_n}{2n}.$$

*Proof.* For a straightforward proof of i), make use of the series representation,  $\log(1-x) = -\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n}$ . Then, for the point ii) we may use that  $\log(1+x) = \log(1-x^2) - \log(1-x)$ , and we see immediately the resulting integrals may be calculated by using i). For an alternative way to the integral i), see [2, Chapter 3, p. 59].

LEMMA 3. (An identity with harmonic numbers) The following equality holds:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_k}{(k+1)(k+n+1)} = \frac{H_n^2 + H_n^{(2)}}{2n}.$$

*Proof.* The present result may be viewed as a particular case of a more general result which may be found in [2, Chapter 4, p. 289] and proved in [2, Chapter 6, p. 372–374] by using *The Master Theorem of Series* defined in [3] and [2, Chapter 4, p. 288–289].

LEMMA 4. (A powerful identity involving harmonic numbers) The following equality holds:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2k+2n+1)2n} = \frac{1}{(2k+1)^2} + \frac{H_{2k}}{2k+1} - \frac{H_k}{2(2k+1)} - \frac{\log(2)}{2k+1}.$$

*Proof.* The calculations are straightforward if we use the partial fraction expansion, add and subtract  $1/(2n+1)$  inside the summand, and then split the series. The details of such an approach may be found in [2, Chapter 6, p. 531].

LEMMA 5. (Two classical Euler sums) The following equalities hold:

i)

$$2 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_k}{k^m} = (m+2)\zeta(m+1) - \sum_{k=1}^{m-2} \zeta(m-k)\zeta(k+1), m \geq 2;$$

ii)

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{k-1} \frac{H_k}{k^{2m}} = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right) \eta(2m+1) - \frac{1}{2} \zeta(2m+1) - \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \eta(2i)\zeta(2m-2i+1),$$

$$m \geq 1,$$

where  $\zeta$  represents the Riemann zeta function and  $\eta$  denotes the Dirichlet eta function.

*Proof.* The result from the point i) is known in the mathematical literature from old times. For example, an elementary solution may be found in [1, Chapter 2, pp. 103–105]. Another way to prove it is based on the identity in Lemma 3, by multiplying its both sides by  $n$  and then considering the differentiation with respect to  $n$ . A solution to the series result from the point ii) may be found in [4].

LEMMA 6. (A bunch of key harmonic series). The following equalities hold:

i)

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_n^{(2)}}{n^3} = 3\zeta(2)\zeta(3) - \frac{9}{2}\zeta(5);$$

ii)

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_n^2}{n^3} = \frac{7}{2}\zeta(5) - \zeta(2)\zeta(3);$$

iii)

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{H_n}{n^3} = \frac{11}{4}\zeta(4) - \frac{7}{4}\log(2)\zeta(3) + \frac{1}{2}\log^2(2)\zeta(2) - \frac{1}{12}\log^4(2)$$

$$- 2\text{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right);$$

iv)

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{H_n^{(2)}}{n^3} = \frac{5}{8} \zeta(2) \zeta(3) - \frac{11}{32} \zeta(5);$$

v)

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{H_n^2}{n^3} &= \frac{2}{15} \log^5(2) - \frac{11}{8} \zeta(2) \zeta(3) - \frac{19}{32} \zeta(5) + \frac{7}{4} \log^2(2) \zeta(3) \\ &\quad - \frac{2}{3} \log^3(2) \zeta(2) + 4 \log(2) \operatorname{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 4 \operatorname{Li}_5\left(\frac{1}{2}\right); \end{aligned}$$

vi)

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{H_n H_n^{(2)}}{n^2} &= \frac{23}{8} \zeta(5) - \frac{7}{4} \log^2(2) \zeta(3) + \frac{2}{3} \log^3(2) \zeta(2) + \frac{15}{16} \zeta(2) \zeta(3) \\ &\quad - \frac{2}{15} \log^5(2) - 4 \log(2) \operatorname{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - 4 \operatorname{Li}_5\left(\frac{1}{2}\right), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\zeta$  represents the Riemann zeta function and  $\operatorname{Li}_n$  denotes the Polylogarithm function.

*Proof.* All the series results are found in [2, Chapter 4, pp. 292–293, pp. 309–312].

### 3. The main theorems and their proofs

**THEOREM 1.** (Main results - the first part) *The following equality holds:*

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_n H_{2n}}{(2n)^3} &= \frac{307}{128} \zeta(5) - \frac{1}{16} \zeta(2) \zeta(3) + \frac{1}{3} \log^3(2) \zeta(2) - \frac{7}{8} \log^2(2) \zeta(3) - \frac{1}{15} \log^5(2) \\ &\quad - 2 \log(2) \operatorname{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - 2 \operatorname{Li}_5\left(\frac{1}{2}\right), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\zeta$  represents the Riemann zeta function and  $\operatorname{Li}_n$  denotes the Polylogarithm function.

*Proof.* Based on Lemma 1, the point i), we obtain by integration that

$$- \int_0^x \frac{\log(1+y) \log(1-y)}{y} dy = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x^{2n} \left( \frac{H_{2n} - H_n}{2n^2} + \frac{1}{4n^3} \right),$$

and if we multiply both sides by  $\log(1+x)/x$  and integrate from  $x=0$  to  $x=1$ , using Lemma 2, the point ii), we have

$$- \int_0^1 \frac{\log(1+x)}{x} \left( \int_0^x \frac{\log(1+y) \log(1-y)}{y} dy \right) dx = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{2n} - H_n}{2n} \left( \frac{H_{2n} - H_n}{2n^2} + \frac{1}{4n^3} \right). \quad (1)$$

If in (1) we integrate by parts, then use  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{2n} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} a_n \right)$  for the series in the right-hand side, and afterwards rearrange, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_n H_{2n}}{(2n)^3} \\
&= \frac{7}{32} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_n}{n^4} - \frac{1}{4} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{H_n}{n^4} + \frac{5}{16} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_n^2}{n^3} - \frac{1}{4} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{H_n^2}{n^3} - \frac{5}{64} \zeta(2) \zeta(3) \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{4} \int_0^1 \frac{\log(1+x) \log(1-x) \operatorname{Li}_2(-x)}{x} dx \\
&= \frac{23}{16} \zeta(5) - \frac{9}{64} \zeta(2) \zeta(3) + \frac{1}{6} \log^3(2) \zeta(2) - \frac{7}{16} \log^2(2) \zeta(3) - \frac{1}{30} \log^5(2) \\
&\quad - \log(2) \operatorname{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - \operatorname{Li}_5\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{4} \int_0^1 \frac{\log(1+x) \log(1-x) \operatorname{Li}_2(-x)}{x} dx, \tag{2}
\end{aligned}$$

where in the calculations we also used Lemma 5, the point  $i$ ) with  $m = 4$ , the point  $ii$ ) with  $m = 2$ , and Lemma 6, the points  $ii$ ) and  $v$ ).

On the other hand, using Lemma 1, the point  $ii$ ), Lemma 2, the point  $i$ ), and then the series results from Lemma 5, the point  $ii$ ) with  $m = 2$ , and Lemma 6, the points  $v$ ) and  $vi$ ), the integral in (2) may be written as

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_0^1 \frac{\log(1+x) \log(1-x) \operatorname{Li}_2(-x)}{x} dx \\
&= \int_0^1 \left( 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} x^{n-1} \frac{H_n}{n^2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} x^{n-1} \frac{H_n^{(2)}}{n} - 3 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{x^{n-1}}{n^3} \right) \log(1-x) dx \\
&= 3 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{H_n}{n^4} - 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{H_n^2}{n^3} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{H_n H_n^{(2)}}{n^2} \\
&= \frac{123}{32} \zeta(5) + \frac{5}{16} \zeta(2) \zeta(3) + \frac{2}{3} \log^3(2) \zeta(2) - \frac{7}{4} \log^2(2) \zeta(3) - \frac{2}{15} \log^5(2) \\
&\quad - 4 \log(2) \operatorname{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - 4 \operatorname{Li}_5\left(\frac{1}{2}\right). \tag{3}
\end{aligned}$$

By combining (2) and (3) the desired result follows.

**THEOREM 2.** (Main results - the second part) *The following equality holds:*

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_n H_{2n}}{(2n+1)^3} &= \frac{1}{12} \log^5(2) + \frac{31}{128} \zeta(5) - \frac{1}{2} \log^3(2) \zeta(2) + \frac{7}{4} \log^2(2) \zeta(3) \\
&\quad - \frac{17}{8} \log(2) \zeta(4) + 2 \log(2) \operatorname{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right),
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\zeta$  represents the Riemann zeta function and  $\operatorname{Li}_n$  denotes the Polylogarithm function.

*Proof.* Using the identity with harmonic numbers in Lemma 3 where we replace  $n$  by  $2n$ , then multiply both sides by  $1/n^2$ , and consider the summation from  $n = 1$  to  $\infty$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{2n}^2}{(2n)^3} + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{2n}^{(2)}}{(2n)^3} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_k}{(k+1)(k+2n+1)n^2} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{4} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{2k-1}}{k(k+n)n^2} \right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{2k}}{(2k+1)(2k+2n+1)n^2} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{2k-1}}{k(k+n)n^2} \right) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{2k}}{2k+1} \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2k+2n+1)n^2} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{2k-1}}{k^2 n^2} \right) - \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{2k-1}}{k^2} \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(k+n)} \right) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{2k}}{(2k+1)^2} \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \right) \\
&\quad - 4 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{2k}}{(2k+1)^2} \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2k+2n+1)2n} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{4} \zeta(2) \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{2k} - 1/(2k)}{k^2} - \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_k(H_{2k} - 1/(2k))}{k^3} + \zeta(2) \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{2k+1} - 1/(2k+1)}{(2k+1)^2} \\
&\quad - 4 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{2k}}{(2k+1)^2} \left( \frac{1}{(2k+1)^2} + \frac{H_{2k}}{2k+1} - \frac{H_k}{2(2k+1)} - \frac{\log(2)}{2k+1} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{8} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_n}{n^4} + \zeta(2) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{2n}}{(2n)^2} + \zeta(2) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{2n+1}}{(2n+1)^2} + 4 \log(2) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{2n+1}}{(2n+1)^3} \\
&\quad + 4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{2n+1}}{(2n+1)^4} - 4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{2n+1}^2}{(2n+1)^3} + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_n H_{2n}}{(2n+1)^3} - \frac{1}{4} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_n H_{2n}}{n^3} \\
&\quad + \zeta(2) - \zeta(2)\zeta(3) - \frac{15}{4} \log(2)\zeta(4) + 4 \log(2),
\end{aligned}$$

and using that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n = a_1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{2n} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{2n+1}$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{2n} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} a_n \right)$ ,

we arrive at

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_n H_{2n}}{(2n+1)^3} \\
&= \frac{3}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_n^2}{n^3} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_n^{(2)}}{n^3} - \frac{1}{2} \zeta(2) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_n}{n^2} - \log(2) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_n}{n^3} - \frac{17}{16} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_n}{n^4} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_n H_{2n}}{(2n)^3} \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{H_n^2}{n^3} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{H_n^{(2)}}{n^3} - \log(2) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{H_n}{n^3} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{H_n}{n^4} \\
&\quad + \frac{15}{8} \log(2)\zeta(4) + \frac{1}{2} \zeta(2)\zeta(3) \\
&= \frac{1}{12} \log^5(2) + \frac{31}{128} \zeta(5) - \frac{1}{2} \log^3(2)\zeta(2) + \frac{7}{4} \log^2(2)\zeta(3) - \frac{17}{8} \log(2)\zeta(4)
\end{aligned}$$

$$+ 2\log(2) \operatorname{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right).$$

In the calculations we have used results from Lemma 4, Lemma 5, the point *i*) with  $m = 2, 3, 4$ , the point *ii*) with  $m = 2$ , Lemma 6, the points *i*), *ii*), *iii*), *iv*), *v*), and Theorem 1.

*Acknowledgement.* Many special thanks to the referee for carefully reading the paper and making valuable suggestions that led to the present version of the paper.

#### REFERENCES

- [1] H.M. SRIVASTAVA, J. CHOI, *Series Associated with the Zeta and Related Functions*, Springer (originally published by Kluwer), Dordrecht, 2001.
- [2] C.I. VĂLEAN, *(Almost) Impossible Integrals, Sums, and Series*, Springer, New York, 2019.
- [3] C.I. VĂLEAN, *A master theorem of series and an evaluation of a cubic harmonic series*, JCA **10**, no.2, 97–107, 2017.
- [4] C.I. VĂLEAN, *A new powerful strategy of calculating a class of alternating Euler sums*, <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/333999069>, 2019.

(Received November 14, 2019)

*Cornel Ioan Vălean*  
Independent researcher  
Teremia Mare, Nr: 632, Timis, 307405, Romania  
e-mail: [cornel2001\\_ro@yahoo.com](mailto:cornel2001_ro@yahoo.com)