

# Wallis's constant

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## ABSTRACT

In this note, we give some formulas related to Wallis's constant

## I. Introduction

Wallis's constant is the real solution  $(x^3 - 2x - 5)_1 = 2.09455 \dots$  to the cubic equation  $x^3 - 2x - 5 = 0$ . It was solved by Wallis (1616-1703) to illustrate Newton's method for numerical equation solving.

Notation:  $W = 2.0945514815423 \dots$

In this note, we give some formulas related to Wallis's constant.

## II. Formulas

Entry 1.

$$W = \sqrt[3]{\frac{45 - \sqrt{1929}}{18}} + \sqrt[3]{\frac{45 + \sqrt{1929}}{18}} \quad (1)$$

$$W = \sqrt[3]{\frac{5}{2} - \sqrt{\frac{643}{108}}} + \sqrt[3]{\frac{5}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{643}{108}}} \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{1}{W} = \frac{1}{15} \left( -2 + \sqrt[3]{\frac{659 - 15\sqrt{1929}}{2}} + \sqrt[3]{\frac{659 + 15\sqrt{1929}}{2}} \right) \quad (3)$$

Entry 2.

$$W = \sqrt[3]{5 + 2\sqrt[3]{5 + 2\sqrt[3]{5 + \dots}}} \quad (4)$$

$$W = \sqrt{2 + \frac{5}{\sqrt{2 + \frac{5}{\sqrt{2 + \dots}}}}} \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{1}{W^2} = \left( \frac{1}{5} - \frac{2}{5} \left( \frac{1}{5} - \frac{2}{5} \left( \frac{1}{5} - \dots \right)^{2/3} \right)^{2/3} \right)^{2/3} \quad (6)$$

Entry 3.

$$c(n) = \sum_{k=\lfloor n/3 \rfloor}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} 2^{3k-n} \cdot 5^{n-2k} \binom{k}{n-2k} \Rightarrow \frac{c(n+1)}{c(n)} \rightarrow W \quad (7)$$

$$c(n) = \{1, 0, 2, 5, 4, 20, 33, 60, 166, 285, 632, \dots\} \quad (8)$$

Entry 4.

$$\frac{5}{W^3} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\Gamma\left(1 + \frac{2n}{3}\right)}{\Gamma\left(2 - \frac{n}{3}\right) n!} \left( -\frac{2}{\sqrt[3]{25}} \right)^n \quad (9)$$

Entry 5.

$$\frac{\pi}{8} = \int_0^{(W-2)/2} \frac{5 + 12x + 6x^2}{1 - 20x + 176x^2 + 472x^3 + 448x^4 + 192x^5 + 32x^6} dx \quad (10)$$

Entry 6.

$$\pi = 4 \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{99}\right) + 8 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} W^{-2n-3} 2^n \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/3 \rfloor} \frac{(-1)^k (2^{-k} + 2^{-3k})}{2k+1} \binom{n-k}{n-3k} \quad (11)$$

$$\pi = 4 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n 5^{2n+1}}{2n+1} W^{-6n-3} + 4 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} W^{-2n-2} \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \frac{(-1)^k}{2k+1} \binom{n}{n-2k} \quad (12)$$

Entry 7.

$$\pi = 6 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} W^{-n-2} \sum_{k=\lfloor n/4 \rfloor}^{\lfloor n/3 \rfloor} \frac{2^{6k-2n} \cdot 5^{4k-n}}{2n-6k+1} \binom{2n-6k}{n-3k} \binom{n-2k}{4k-n} \quad (13)$$

Entry 8.

$$W = 2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a(n) 10^{-n} \quad (14)$$

$$a(n) = -6 \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} a(k) a(n-k-1) - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \sum_{m=0}^{n-k-1} a(k) a(m) a(n-k-m-1), \quad a(0) = 0, a(1) = 1 \quad (15)$$

$$a(n) = \{1, 0, -6, -1, 72, 30, -1077, -756, 17976, 18132, -320112, \dots\} \quad (16)$$

Entry 9.

$$\pi = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{m=0}^k (-1)^k 2^{2n-2m+2} \cdot 5^{2m} W^{-2n-2k-2m-5} \binom{n}{k} \binom{k}{m} \left( \frac{15W^2}{2n+2k+2m+3} - \frac{10}{2n+2k+2m+5} \right) \quad (17)$$

$$\pi = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \left( \frac{2}{5} \right)^{2n+2} \left( \frac{25}{25+W^6} \right)^{n+1} \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} (-1)^k \left( \frac{15W^{2n+2k+3}}{2n+2k+3} {}_2F_1 \left( \{n+1, 1\}, \left\{ \frac{2n+2k+9}{6} \right\}, \frac{W^6}{25+W^6} \right) - \frac{10W^{2n+2k+1}}{2n+2k+1} {}_2F_1 \left( \{n+1, 1\}, \left\{ \frac{2n+2k+7}{6} \right\}, \frac{W^6}{25+W^6} \right) \right) \quad (18)$$

Entry 10.

$$\pi = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} W^{-3n-2} \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \frac{(25k-3) 2^{2k+2} \cdot 5^{n-2k}}{\binom{3k}{k}} \binom{n+k}{n-2k} \quad (19)$$

Remarks:

$$\pi = 4 \left( 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{9} - \frac{1}{11} + \dots \right) \quad (20)$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \frac{(-1)^k}{2k+1} \binom{n}{n-2k} = \left( \frac{1+i}{2} \right) \left( \frac{(1-i)^n - i(1+i)^n}{n+1} \right), \quad i = \sqrt{-1} \quad (21)$$

$${}_2F_1(a, b, \{c\}, z) \text{ is the Gauss hypergeometric function} \quad (22)$$

$$\Gamma(x) \text{ is the Gamma function} \quad (23)$$

$$\lfloor x \rfloor \text{ is the Floor function} \quad (24)$$

### III. References

1. Sloane, N.J.A. Sequence A007493
2. Wells, D. The Penguin Dictionary of Curious and Interesting Numbers. Middlesex, England: Penguin Books, p.45, 1986.
3. Weisstein, E.W. "Wallis's constant". From MathWorld