

Published by Faculty of Sciences and Mathematics, University of Niš, Serbia Available at: http://www.pmf.ni.ac.rs/filomat

Four double series involving $\zeta(3)$

Wenchang Chua,b

^aSchool of Mathematics and Statistics, Zhoukou Normal University, Henan, China
^bDepartment of Mathematics and Physics, University of Salento, Lecce 73100, Italy

Abstract. Four double series involving $\zeta(3)$ are evaluated in closed form by calculating definite integrals. Three examples are also illustrated by the hypergeometric series approach.

1. Introduction and Outline

Let $\zeta(z)$ be the usual Riemann zeta function defined by

$$\zeta(z) := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^z}$$
, where $\Re(z) > 1$.

In a letter to Euler, Goldbach posed the problem to evaluate the double series

$$\zeta(\lambda,\mu):=\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\frac{1}{n^{\lambda}}\sum_{k=1}^{n}\frac{1}{k^{\mu}},\quad \text{where}\quad \lambda,\mu\in\mathbb{N}\quad \text{with}\quad \lambda>1.$$

This led Euler to examine the nowadays so-called "multiple zeta functions" extensively. One of his beautiful formulae is recorded below

$$2\zeta(\lambda,1) = \lambda \zeta(\lambda+1) - \sum_{j=1}^{\lambda-2} \zeta(j+1)\zeta(\lambda-j), \text{ where } \lambda > 1.$$

In particular for $\lambda = 2$, we get immediately

$$\zeta(2,1) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{1}{k} = \sum_{n \ge k} \frac{1}{n^2 k} = \zeta(3).$$

Recently, there have been growing interests (cf. [1, 2, 4, 5, 7–10] and [12–15, 17–20]) in finding closed form expressions and interrelations for the multiple Euler sums. Observe that the above series can be interpreted

2020 Mathematics Subject Classification. Primary 11M06; Secondary 33C20

Keywords. Multiple Euler sum, Integration by parts, Classical hypergeometric series.

Received: 17 May 2022; Accepted: 18 August 2022

Communicated by Paola Bonacini

Email address: chu.wenchang@unisalento.it (Wenchang Chu)

as the subseries of the divergent one " $\sum_{n,k} \frac{1}{n^2 k}$ " consisting of only the terms with indices n > k (under the main diagonal). This suggests the author to recall the following well–known series

$$\frac{\pi^2}{6} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} = 2\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \ln 2 = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k-1}}{k}$$

and consider their tensor products

$$\Omega(1,-1) = \sum_{n,k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{n^2 k} = -\frac{\pi^2}{6} \ln 2,$$

$$\Omega(-1,-1) = \sum_{n = 1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+k}}{n^2 k} = \frac{\pi^2}{12} \ln 2.$$

Define, in general, the bivariate series by

$$\Omega(x,y) = \sum_{n k=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n y^k}{n^2 k}.$$
 (1)

Then there are four subseries divided by the main diagonal "n = k":

$$\Omega_{>}(x,y) = \sum_{n>k} \frac{x^n y^k}{n^2 k}, \quad \Omega_{\geq}(x,y) = \sum_{n\geq k} \frac{x^n y^k}{n^2 k};$$

$$\Omega_{<}(x,y) = \sum_{n \le k} \frac{x^n y^k}{n^2 k}, \quad \Omega_{\le}(x,y) = \sum_{n \le k} \frac{x^n y^k}{n^2 k}.$$

The aim of this short article is to focus entirely on the subseries of $\Omega(\pm 1, \pm 1)$ and to evaluate them in closed form. Four remarkable formulae are highlighted, in anticipation, as follows:

$$\begin{split} &\Omega_{>}(1,1) = \sum_{n>k} \frac{1}{n^2 k} = \zeta(2,1) = \zeta(3), \\ &\Omega_{>}(1,-1) = \sum_{n>k} \frac{(-1)^k}{n^2 k} = \zeta(3) - \frac{\pi^2}{4} \ln 2, \\ &\Omega_{>}(-1,1) = \sum_{n>k} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^2 k} = \frac{\zeta(3)}{8}, \\ &\Omega_{>}(-1,-1) = \sum_{n>k} \frac{(-1)^{n+k}}{n^2 k} = \frac{\pi^2}{4} \ln 2 - \frac{13}{8} \zeta(3); \end{split}$$

where the first one is well–known, while the other three values also involve $\zeta(3)$.

These values will be determined in the next section by calculating definite integrals in conjunction with power series expansions. Some of them will alternatively be illustrated in Section 3 by the hypergeometric series approach.

2. Integration Method

For $|x| \le 1$, write the sum in terms of a definite integral

$$\sum_{n=k+1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n^2} = \sum_{n=k+1}^{\infty} \int_0^x \frac{d\tau}{\tau} \int_0^{\tau} T^{n-1} dT$$

$$= \sum_{n=k+1}^{\infty} \int_0^x T^{n-1} dT \int_T^x \frac{d\tau}{\tau}$$

$$= \int_0^x \left\{ \sum_{n=k+1}^{\infty} T^{n-1} \right\} \ln(x/T) dT$$

$$= \int_0^x \frac{T^k \ln(x/T)}{1 - T} dT.$$

By substitution, we can further reformulate the double series

$$\Omega_{>}(x,y) = \sum_{n>k} \frac{x^n y^k}{n^2 k} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{y^k}{k} \int_0^x \frac{T^k \ln(x/T)}{1 - T} dT$$
$$= \int_0^x \frac{\ln(x/T)}{1 - T} \Big\{ \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(Ty)^k}{k} \Big\} dT$$

and

$$\Omega_{\geq}(x,y) = \sum_{n \geq k} \frac{x^n y^k}{n^2 k} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{y^k}{k} \int_0^x \frac{T^{k-1} \ln(x/T)}{1 - T} dT$$
$$= \int_0^x \frac{\ln(x/T)}{T(1 - T)} \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(Ty)^k}{k} \right\} dT,$$

which yield the following definite integral expressions

$$\Omega_{>}(x,y) = \int_{0}^{x} \frac{\ln(T/x)\ln(1-Ty)}{1-T} dT,$$
(2)

$$\Omega_{\geq}(x,y) = \int_0^x \frac{\ln(T/x)\ln(1-Ty)}{T(1-T)} dT.$$
 (3)

Now we are in position to determine the values of the double series by computing the corresponding integrals for specific "x, $y = \pm 1$ ".

2.1. $\Omega_{>}(1,1)$

There are different proofs (see [5, 6] for example) for the value of $\Omega_{>}(1,1)$. For completeness, we show it by making use of two integrals:

$$\int_0^1 T^{n-1} \ln(T) dT = \frac{-1}{n^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \int_0^1 T^{n-1} \ln^2(T) dT = \frac{2}{n^3}.$$

In fact, by integration by parts, it is almost routine check that

$$\Omega_{>}(1,1) = \int_{0}^{1} \frac{\ln(T) \ln(1-T)}{T} dT$$

$$= -\int_{0}^{1} \ln(T) \left\{ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{T^{n-1}}{n} \right\} dT$$

$$= -\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \int_{0}^{1} T^{n-1} \ln(T) dT$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{3}} = \zeta(3).$$

The same value can alternatively be obtained as follows:

$$\Omega_{>}(1,1) = \int_{0}^{1} \frac{\ln(T) \ln(1-T)}{T} dT
= \frac{\ln^{2}(T) \ln(1-T)}{2} \Big|_{0}^{1} + \int_{0}^{1} \frac{\ln^{2}(T)}{2(1-T)} dT
= \int_{0}^{1} \frac{\ln^{2}(T)}{2} \Big\{ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} T^{n-1} \Big\} dT
= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \int_{0}^{1} T^{n-1} \ln^{2}(T) dT
= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{3}} = \zeta(3).$$

2.2. $\Omega_{>}(1,-1)$

Expanding $(1-T)^{-1}$ into the geometric series

$$\frac{1}{1-T} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} T^{n-1} \quad \text{and} \quad \int_{0}^{T} T^{n-1} \ln(T) = \frac{T^{n}}{n} \ln T - \frac{T^{n}}{n^{2}}$$

we can proceed by making use of integration by parts

$$\int_0^1 T^{n-1} \ln(T) \ln(1+T) dT = \left\{ \frac{T^n}{n} \ln(T) - \frac{T^n}{n^2} \right\} \ln(1+T) \Big|_0^1$$
$$- \int_0^1 \left\{ \frac{T^n}{n(1+T)} \ln(T) - \frac{T^n}{n^2(1+T)} \right\} dT$$
$$= \frac{-\ln 2}{n^2} - \int_0^1 \left\{ \frac{T^n \ln(T)}{n(1+T)} - \frac{T^n}{n^2(1+T)} \right\} dT.$$

This leads us to the expression

$$\Omega_{>}(1,-1) = \int_{0}^{1} \frac{\ln(T)\ln(1+T)}{1-T} dT$$
$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \int_{0}^{1} \frac{T^{n}}{n^{2}(1+T)} dT - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \int_{0}^{1} \frac{T^{n}\ln(T)}{n(1+T)} dT - \frac{\pi^{2}}{6}\ln 2.$$

Evaluating further the integrals

$$\int_0^1 \frac{T^n}{1+T} dT = \sum_{k=1}^\infty (-1)^{k-1} \int_0^1 T^{n+k-1} dT = \sum_{k=1}^\infty \frac{(-1)^{k-1}}{n+k}$$
 (4)

and

$$\int_0^1 \frac{T^n \ln(T)}{1+T} dT = \sum_{k=1}^\infty (-1)^{k-1} \int_0^1 T^{n+k-1} \ln(T) dT = \sum_{k=1}^\infty \frac{(-1)^k}{(n+k)^2};$$
 (5)

then making substitution, we can simplify the expression

$$\Omega_{>}(1,-1) = \int_{0}^{1} \frac{\ln(T)\ln(1+T)}{1-T} dT
= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{2}} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k-1}}{n+k} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k}}{(n+k)^{2}} - \frac{\pi^{2}}{6} \ln 2
= -\sum_{n < m} \frac{(-1)^{m+n}}{n^{2}m} - \sum_{m > n} \frac{(-1)^{m+n}}{m^{2}n} - \frac{\pi^{2}}{6} \ln 2 \qquad \boxed{m = n+k}
= -\Omega_{<}(-1,-1) - \Omega_{>}(-1,-1) - \frac{\pi^{2}}{6} \ln 2
= \zeta(3) - \frac{\pi^{2}}{4} \ln 2,$$

where the last passage is justified by

$$\Omega(-1,-1) = \frac{\pi^2}{12} \ln 2 = \zeta(3) + \Omega_{<}(-1,-1) + \Omega_{>}(-1,-1).$$

2.3. $\Omega_{>}(-1,1)$

Analogously, from the integral expression

$$\Omega_{>}(-1,1) = \int_{0}^{-1} \frac{\ln(-T)\ln(1-T)}{1-T} dT
= -\int_{0}^{1} \frac{\ln(T)\ln(1+T)}{1+T} dT \qquad \boxed{T \to -T}
= \int_{0}^{1} \frac{\ln^{2}(1+T)}{2T} dT,$$

we can manipulate further the series

$$\begin{split} \Omega_{>}(-1,1) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{2n} \int_{0}^{1} T^{n-1} \ln(1+T) dT \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{2n} \left\{ \frac{T^{n}}{n} \ln(1+T) \Big|_{0}^{1} - \int_{0}^{1} \frac{T^{n}}{n(1+T)} dT \right\} \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n}}{2n^{2}} \int_{0}^{1} \frac{T^{n}}{1+T} dT - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n} \ln 2}{2n^{2}} \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n}}{2n^{2}} \int_{0}^{1} \frac{T^{n}}{1+T} dT + \frac{\pi^{2}}{24} \ln 2. \end{split}$$

By invoking (4), the above sum can further be reduced to

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2n^2} \int_0^1 \frac{T^n}{1+T} dT = \sum_{n,k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+k-1}}{2n^2(n+k)} = \frac{-1}{2} \sum_{n < m} \frac{(-1)^m}{mn^2} \qquad \boxed{m = n+k}$$

$$= \frac{-1}{2} \Omega_{<}(1,-1) = \frac{-1}{2} \left\{ \Omega(1,-1) + \frac{3}{4} \zeta(3) - \Omega_{>}(1,-1) \right\}$$

$$= \frac{-1}{2} \left\{ -\frac{\pi^2}{6} \ln 2 + \frac{3}{4} \zeta(3) - \zeta(3) + \frac{\pi^2}{4} \ln 2 \right\} = \frac{\zeta(3)}{8} - \frac{\pi^2}{24} \ln 2.$$

Consequently we arrive at the closed formula

$$\Omega_{>}(-1,1) = \int_{0}^{1} \frac{\ln^{2}(1+T)}{2T} dT = \frac{\zeta(3)}{8}.$$

Alternatively, for 0 < T < 1, if making use of the geometric series

$$\frac{1}{T} = \frac{1}{(1+T)-1} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1+T)^{k+1}},$$

and then evaluating the integrals

$$\int_0^1 \frac{\ln^2(1+T)}{1+T} dT = \frac{\ln^3(2)}{3},$$

$$\int_0^1 \frac{\ln^2(1+T)}{(1+T)^{k+1}} dT = \frac{2}{k^3} - \frac{2}{k^3 \cdot 2^k} - \frac{2\ln 2}{k^2 \cdot 2^k} - \frac{\ln^2(2)}{k \cdot 2^k},$$

we can derive the following expression

$$\begin{split} \Omega_{>}(-1,1) &= \int_{0}^{1} \frac{\ln^{2}(1+T)}{2T} dT \\ &= \frac{\ln^{3}(2)}{6} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \frac{2}{k^{3}} - \frac{2}{k^{3} \cdot 2^{k}} - \frac{2 \ln 2}{k^{2} \cdot 2^{k}} - \frac{\ln^{2}(2)}{k \cdot 2^{k}} \right\} \\ &= \zeta(3) - \text{Li}_{3}(\frac{1}{2}) - \ln 2 \text{Li}_{2}(\frac{1}{2}) - \frac{\ln^{3}(2)}{3}, \end{split}$$

where the polylogarithm function is defined by the power series

$$\mathrm{Li}_n(y) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{y^k}{k^n}.$$

Thanks to the two known equations

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Li}_2(\frac{1}{2}) &= \frac{\pi^2}{12} - \frac{\ln^2(2)}{2}, \\ \text{Li}_3(\frac{1}{2}) &= \frac{\ln^3(2)}{6} - \frac{\pi^2}{12} \ln 2 + \frac{21}{24} \zeta(3); \end{aligned}$$

we confirm again

$$\Omega_{>}(-1,1) = \int_{0}^{1} \frac{\ln^{2}(1+T)}{2T} dT = \frac{\zeta(3)}{8}$$

2.4. $\Omega_{>}(-1,-1)$

Finally, we turn to evaluate the integral

$$\Omega_{>}(-1,-1) = \int_{0}^{-1} \frac{\ln(-T)\ln(1+T)}{1-T} dT$$
$$= -\int_{0}^{1} \frac{\ln(T)\ln(1-T)}{1+T} dT \qquad \boxed{T \to -T}$$

By means of integration by parts, we have

$$\Omega_{>}(-1,-1) = -\int_{0}^{1} \frac{\ln(T)\ln(1-T)}{1+T} dT = \int_{0}^{1} \frac{\ln(1+T)\ln(1-T)}{T} dT$$
$$-\ln(T)\ln(1+T)\ln(1-T)\Big|_{0}^{1} - \int_{0}^{1} \frac{\ln(T)\ln(1+T)}{1-T} dT$$
$$= \int_{0}^{1} \frac{\ln(1+T)\ln(1-T)}{T} dT - \Omega_{>}(1,-1).$$

Denote by H_n the harmonic number

$$H_0 = 0$$
 and $H_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k}$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

According to the equality

$$\int_0^1 T^{n-1} \ln(1-T) dT = -\frac{H_n}{n},$$

we can evaluate the integral

$$\int_0^1 \frac{\ln(1+T)\ln(1-T)}{T} dT = \sum_{n=1}^\infty \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n} \int_0^1 T^{n-1} \ln(1-T) dT$$
$$= \sum_{n=1}^\infty (-1)^n \frac{H_n}{n^2} = \Omega_{\ge}(-1,1)$$
$$= \Omega_{>}(-1,1) - \frac{3}{4}\zeta(3).$$

Therefore, we find that

$$\begin{split} \Omega_{>}(-1,-1) &= \Omega_{>}(-1,1) - \frac{3}{4}\zeta(3) - \Omega_{>}(1,-1) \\ &= \frac{\zeta(3)}{8} - \frac{3}{4}\zeta(3) - \zeta(3) + \frac{\pi^2}{4}\ln 2 \\ &= \frac{\pi^2}{4}\ln 2 - \frac{13}{8}\zeta(3). \end{split}$$

From the four summation formulae established for $\Omega_{>}(\pm 1, \pm 1)$ in this section, we can deduce other double series $\Omega(\pm 1, \pm 1)$ labeled by "<, \leq , \geq ". For example, among the four series $\Omega_{<}(\pm 1, \pm 1)$, two series " $\Omega_{<}(1, 1)$ and $\Omega_{<}(-1, 1)$ " are divergent, while two convergent ones are evaluated by

$$\Omega_{<}(1,-1) = \frac{\pi^2}{12} \ln 2 - \frac{\zeta(3)}{4},$$

$$\Omega_{<}(-1,-1) = \frac{5}{8}\zeta(3) - \frac{\pi^2}{6} \ln 2.$$

3. Hypergeometric Series Approach

For an indeterminate α and a nonnegative integer n, define the shifted factorial by $(\alpha)_0 \equiv 1$ and

$$(\alpha)_n = \alpha(\alpha+1)\cdots(\alpha+n-1)$$
 for $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Then the classical hypergeometric series (cf. Bailey [3]) reads as

$$_{p}H_{q}\begin{bmatrix} a_{1}, a_{2}, \cdots, a_{p} \\ b_{1}, b_{2}, \cdots, b_{q} \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^{n}}{n!} \frac{(a_{1})_{n}(a_{2})_{n} \cdots (a_{p})_{n}}{(b_{1})_{n}(b_{2})_{n} \cdots (b_{q})_{n}}.$$

There exist numerous hypergeometric series identities in the literature. Some of them have been shown powerful to prove summation formulae involving harmonic numbers (see [6, 11]). The strategy consists of two steps. The first one is to extract the initial coefficient of x from hypergeometric terms. Let $[x^m]\phi(x)$ stand for the coefficient of x^m in the formal power series $\phi(x)$. Then it is trivial to check the following relations:

$$[x]\frac{(1+x)_n}{n!} = H_n$$
 and $[x]\frac{n!}{(1-x)_n} = H_n$.

Another step is to do the same from the Γ -function quotient. Recalling, for the Γ -function (cf. [16, §11]), the Weierstrass product

$$\Gamma(z) = z^{-1} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ (1 + 1/n)^z / (1 + z/n) \right\}$$

and the logarithm-differentiation

$$\frac{\Gamma'(z)}{\Gamma(z)} = -\gamma + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{z-1}{(n+1)(n+z)}$$

with the Euler constant

$$\gamma = \lim_{n \to \infty} \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{1}{k} - \ln n \right\},\,$$

we can derive the following expansions (cf. [6])

$$\Gamma(1-z) = \exp\left\{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sigma_k}{k} z^k\right\},$$

$$\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2} - z\right) = \sqrt{\pi} \exp\left\{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\tau_k}{k} z^k\right\},$$

where the Riemann Zeta sequences $\{\sigma_k, \tau_k\}$ are defined by

$$\sigma_1 = \gamma,$$
 $\sigma_m = \zeta(m), \ m = 2, 3, \cdots$
 $\tau_1 = \gamma + 2 \ln 2,$ $\tau_m = (2^m - 1)\zeta(m), \ m = 2, 3, \cdots$

Now we are going to illustrate the hypergeometric approach through three examples.

3.1. $\Omega_{>}(1,1)$

Recall the Gauss summation theorem (cf. Bailey [3, §1.3])

$$_2F_1\begin{bmatrix} x, & x \\ & 1 \end{bmatrix} 1 = \frac{\Gamma(1-2x)}{\Gamma^2(1-x)}.$$

Then we can express $\Omega_{>}(1,1)$ in terms of the coefficient

$$\Omega_{>}(1,1) = \sum_{n>k} \frac{1}{n^2 k} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{n-1}}{n^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [x^3] {}_{2}F_{1} \begin{bmatrix} x, & x \\ & 1 \end{bmatrix} 1$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [x^3] \frac{\Gamma(1-2x)}{\Gamma^2(1-x)} = \zeta(3).$$

3.2. $\Omega_{>}(-1,1)$

In view of the Kummer summation theorem (cf. Bailey [3, §2.3])

$$_2F_1\begin{bmatrix} x, & x \\ & 1 \end{bmatrix} - 1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\Gamma(1 + \frac{x}{2})}{\Gamma(1 + x)\Gamma(1 - \frac{x}{2})}$$

we can express $\Omega_{>}(-1,1)$ in terms of the coefficient

$$\Omega_{>}(-1,1) = \sum_{n>k} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^2 k} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{H_{n-1}}{n^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [x^3] {}_{2}F_{1} \begin{bmatrix} x, & x \\ & 1 \end{bmatrix} - 1$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [x^3] \frac{\Gamma(1 + \frac{x}{2})}{\Gamma(1 + x)\Gamma(1 - \frac{x}{2})} = \frac{\zeta(3)}{8}.$$

However, we fail to rederive the formulae for both $\Omega_{>}(1,-1)$ and $\Omega_{>}(-1,-1)$. Instead, we succeed in proving an extra identity in the next subsection.

3.3. $\Omega_{\geq}(\frac{1}{2},1)$

Recall Bailey's summation theorem (cf. Bailey [3, §2.4])

$$\mathcal{B}(x,y) = {}_{2}F_{1}\begin{bmatrix} x, & 1-x \\ & 1+y \end{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1+y}{2})\Gamma(\frac{2+y}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{1+x+y}{2})\Gamma(\frac{2-x+y}{2})}.$$

According to the linear relation "2x = (k + x) - (k - x)", the contiguous series can be written in terms of \mathcal{B} -series

$$_{2}F_{1}\begin{bmatrix} x, -x \\ 1+y \end{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{B}(x, y) + \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{B}(-x, y).$$

Then we can evaluate the series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_n}{n^2 \cdot 2^n} = [x^2 y]_2 F_1 \begin{bmatrix} x, -x \\ 1+y \end{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= [x^2 y] \left\{ \frac{\mathcal{B}(x, y) + \mathcal{B}(-x, y)}{2} \right\}$$

$$= [x^2 y] \mathcal{B}(x, y) = \zeta(3) - \frac{\pi^2}{12} \ln 2.$$

This is equivalent to the following interesting identity

$$\Omega_{\geq}(\frac{1}{2},1) = \zeta(3) - \frac{\pi^2}{12} \ln 2.$$

References

- [1] G. Almkvist, A. Granville, Borwein and Bradley's Apéry–like formulae for $\zeta(4n+3)$, Exper. Math. 8 (1999) 197–203.
- [2] T. Amdeberhan, Faster and faster convergent series for $\zeta(3)$, Electron. J. Combin. 3 (1996) #R13.
- [3] W. N. Bailey, Generalized Hypergeometric Series, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1935.
- [4] J. M. Borwein, D. M. Bradley, Empirically determined Apéry–like formulae for $\zeta(4n+3)$, Exper. Math. 6(3) (1997) 181–194.
- [5] J. M. Borwein, D. M. Bradley, Thirty-two Goldbach variations, arXiv:math/0502034v2 [math.NT] 3 Nov 2005.
- [6] W. Chu, Hypergeometric series and the Riemann zeta function, Acta Arith. 82 (1997) 103–118.
- [7] W. Chu, Symmetric functions and the Riemann zeta series, Indian J. Pure Appl. Math. 31(12) (2000) 1677–1689.
- [8] W. Chu, Hypergeometric approach to Apéry-like series, Integral Transforms Spec. Funct. 28(7) (2017) 505-518.
- [9] W. Chu, Alternating series of Apéry-type series for the Riemann zeta function, Contrib. Discrete Math. 15(3) (2020) 108-116.
- [10] W. Chu, Further Apéry-like series for Riemann zeta function, Math. Notes. 109(1) (2021) 136-146.
- [11] W. Chu, L. De Donno, Hypergeometric series and harmonic number identities, Adv. Appl. Math. 34(1) (2005) 123–137.
- [12] M. E. Hoffman, Multiple harmonic series, Pacific J. Math. 152(2) (1992) 275–290.
- [13] L. J. Mordell, On the evaluation of some multiple series, J. London Math. Soc. 33(3) (1958) 368–371.
- [14] M. R. Murty, K. Sinha, Multiple Hurwitz zeta functions, Proc. Sympos. Pure Math. 75 (2006) 135–156.
- [15] A. Van der Poorten, A proof that Euler missed. . . Apéry's proof of the irrationality of ζ(3), Math. Intelligencer 1 (1978/1979) 195–203.
- [16] E. D. Rainville, Special Functions, New York, The Macmillan Company, 1960.
- [17] T. Rivoal, Simultaneous generation of Koecher and Almkvist–Granville's Apéry–like formulae, Exper. Math. 13(4) (2004) 503–508
- [18] L. P. Teo, Alternating double Euler sums, hypergeometric identities and a theorem of Zagier, arXiv:1705.01269v1 [math.CV] 3 May 2017
- [19] L. Tornheim, Harmonic double series, Amer. J. Math. 72(2) (1950) 303–314.
- [20] D. Zagier, Evaluation of the multiple zeta values $\zeta(2,\cdots,2,3,2,\cdots,2)$, Ann. Math. 175 (2012) 977–1000.