

The Psi function and its zeros on the complex plane

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The Psi function

I defined the **Psi function** as the sum of reciprocals of factorials to the s power:

$$\psi(s) := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n!)^s} \quad s \in \mathbb{C} \quad (1)$$

The zeros of the Psi function on the complex plane

I found interesting studying **the zeros of the Psi function** from a computational point of view with MATLAB/Octave and Mathematica.

I formulate two conjectures:

Conjecture 1: the non-trivial zeros of the Psi function are all in the **critical strip** $0 < \text{Re}(s) \leq 1$.

Conjecture 2: the non-trivial zeros of the Psi function are all in the strip $0 < \text{Re}(s) \leq 0.73$.

A proposal for a new mathematical constant

Below is a sequence of graphs of the levels (contour) of the function $\log_{10}(\text{abs}(\psi(s)))$ for s belonging to the complex plane.

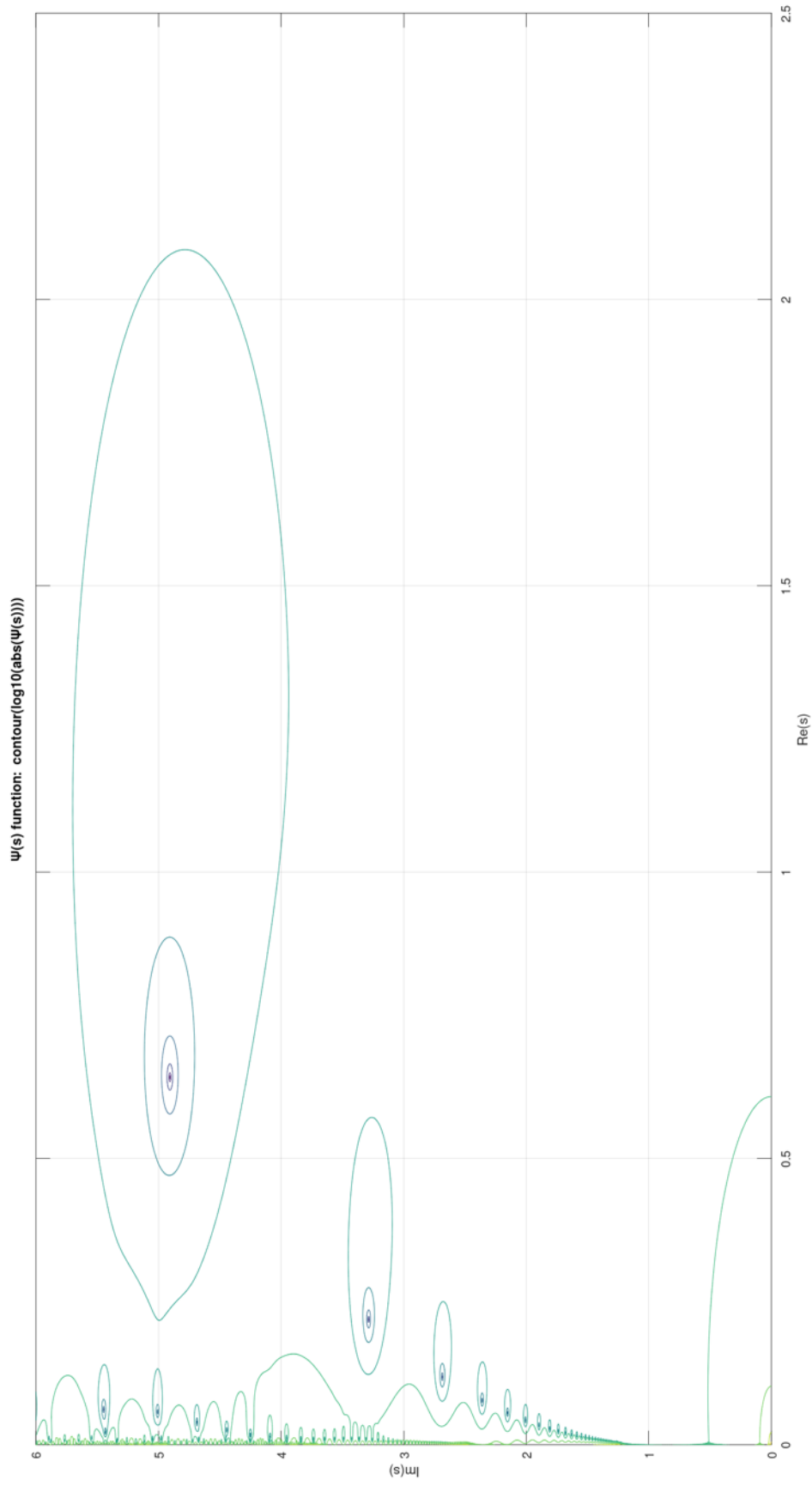
In the first graph, the **first zero in the semi-plane** $\text{Re}(s) \geq \frac{1}{2}$ is in evidence.

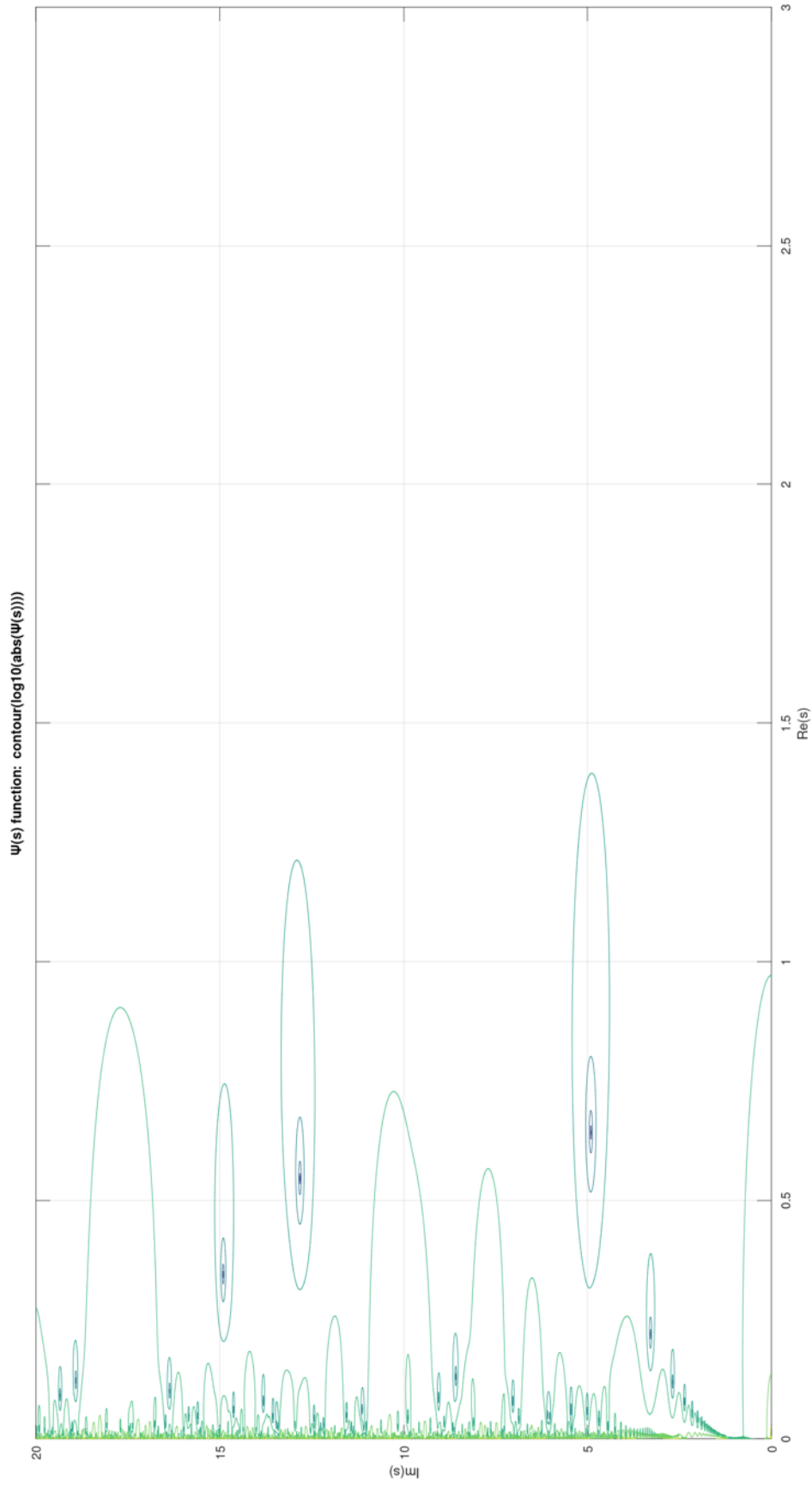
His position is approximately $s_1 \approx 0.6418158643 + 4.9068764351i$.

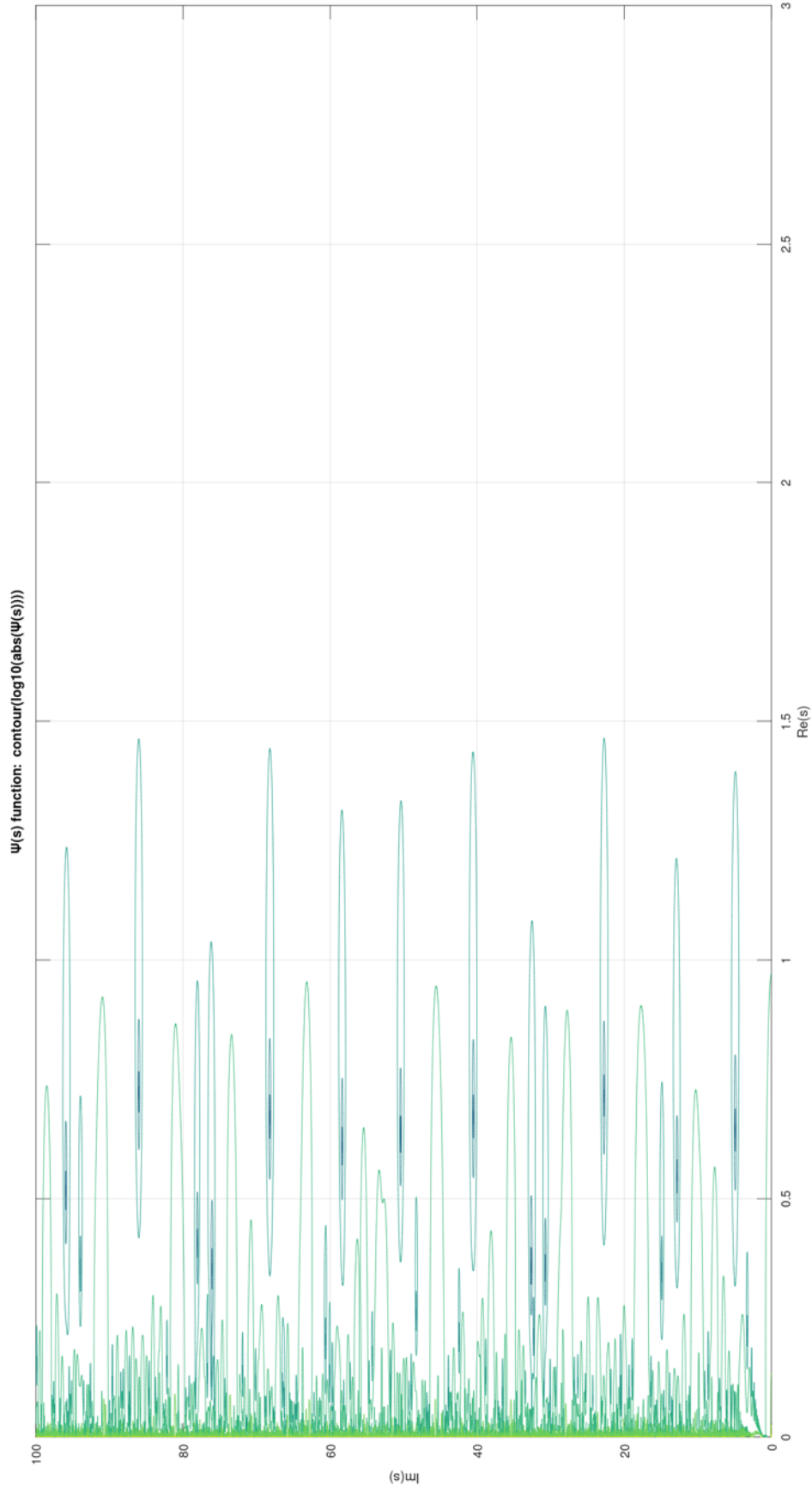
$\text{Im}(s_1) \approx 4.9068764351$ seems to be a **new mathematical constant**.

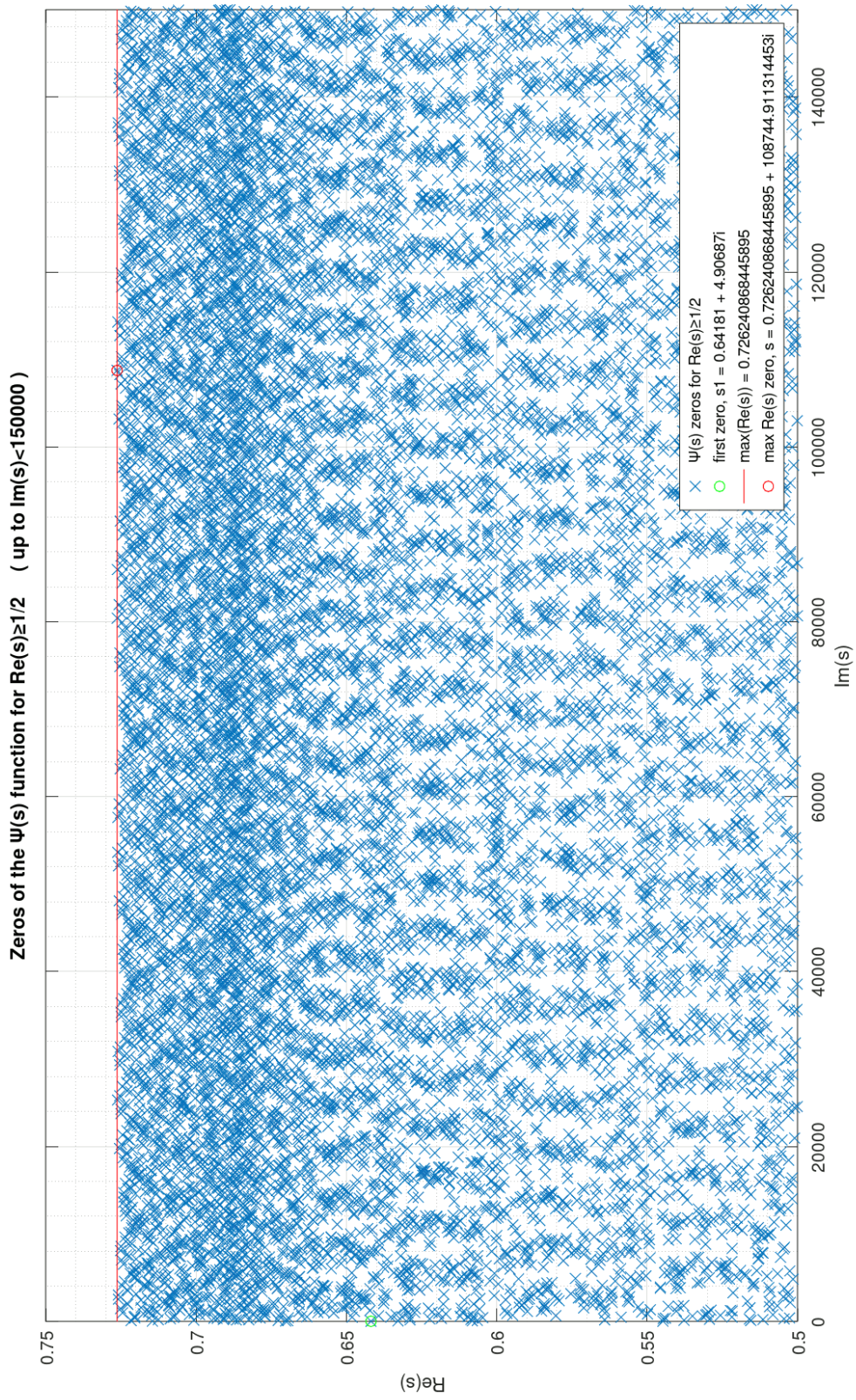
A search in the OEIS Foundation database <https://oeis.org/> is negative.

Also unsuccessful was a search for a composed constant (see at the end).





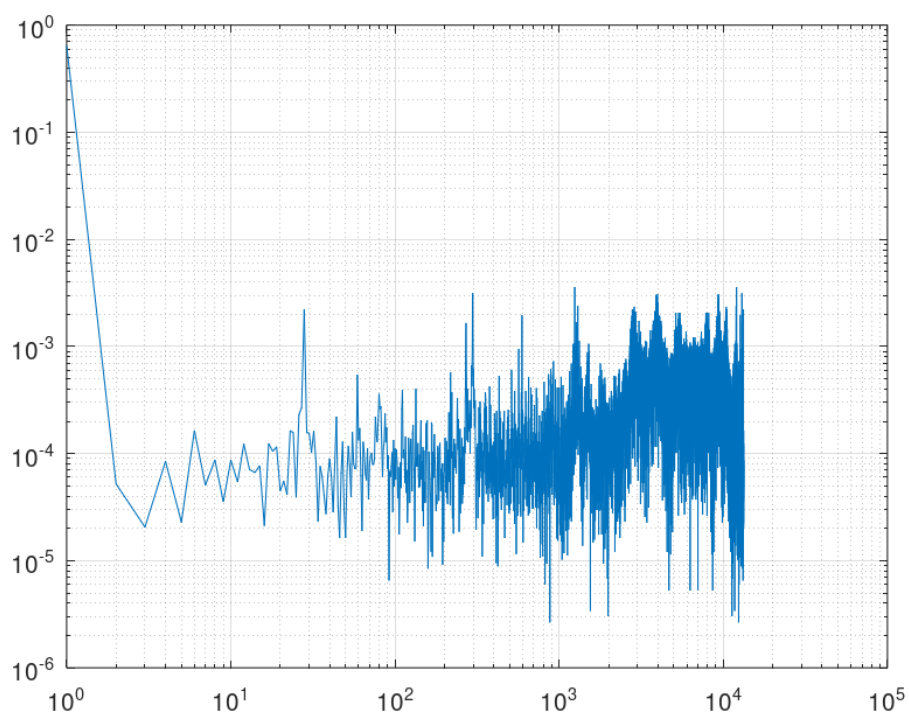




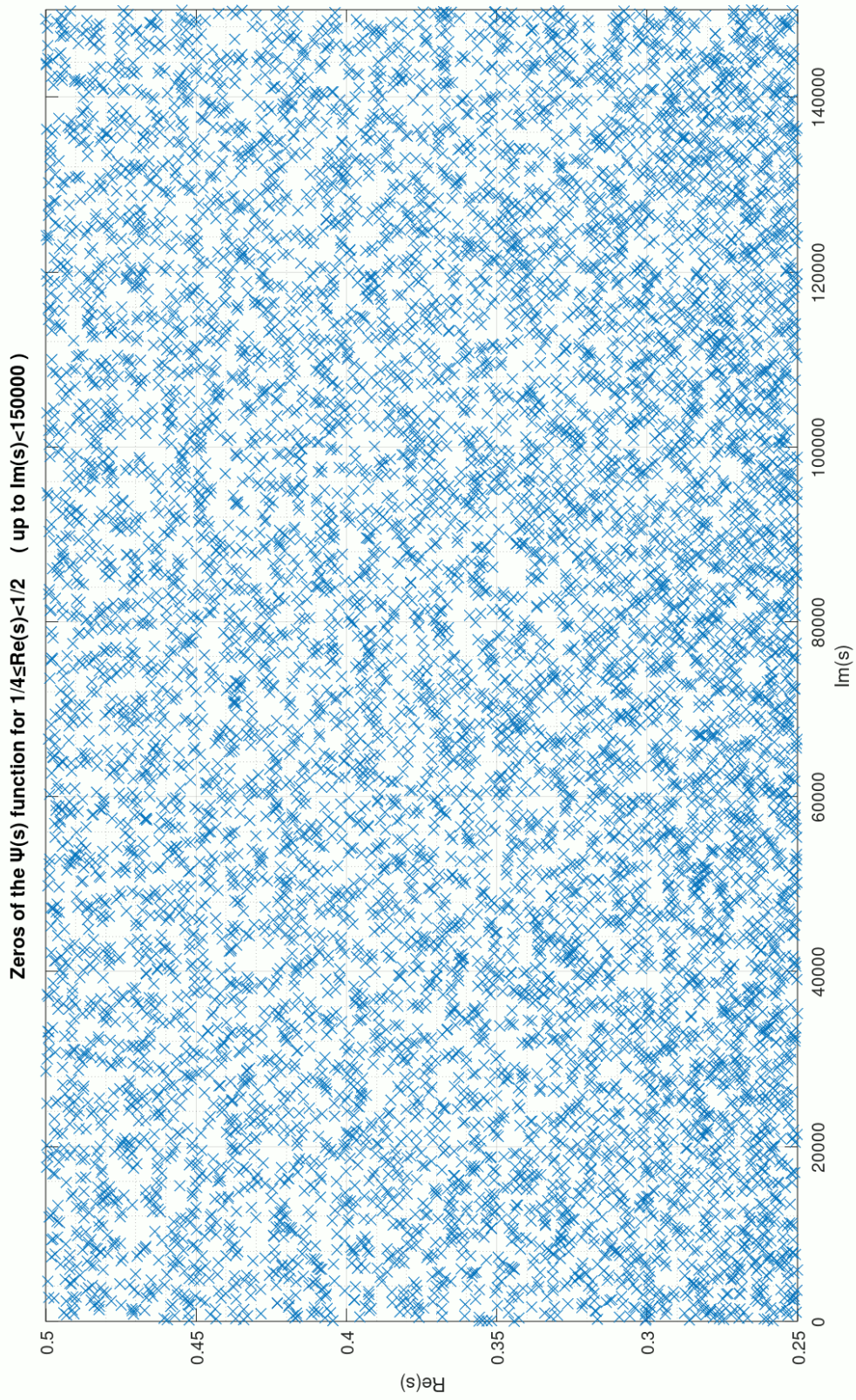
Seeing the previous graph of the first 13283 zeros ($0 \leq \text{Im}(s) \leq 150000$) for $\text{Re}(s) \geq \frac{1}{2}$, it seems that some kind of periodic pattern is present in the positions of the zeros. An FFT analysis of the coordinates of the zeros reveals something similar.

Furthermore, both conjectures 1 and 2 seem true.

FFT analysis of the zeros real part (for $\text{Re}(s) \geq 1/2$)



In the successive graph there are the first 9486 zeros ($0 \leq \text{Im}(s) \leq 150000$) for the strip $\frac{1}{4} \leq \text{Re}(s) < \frac{1}{2}$.

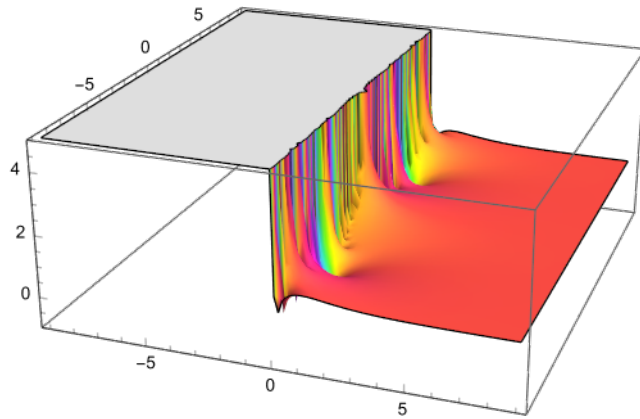


```
In[*]:= (* Approximate Psi(s) function *)
```

```
Psi[s_, nmax_] := ParallelSum[1 / n! ^ s, {n, 1, nmax}]
```

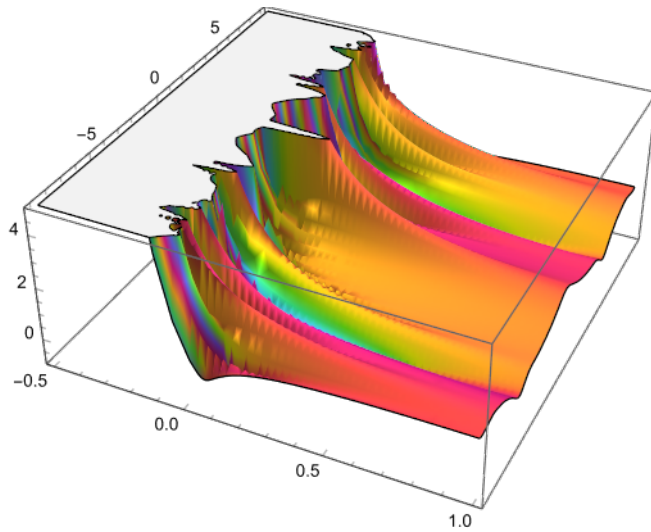
```
ComplexPlot3D[Psi[s, 10], {s, -9 - 9 I, 9 + 9 I}, PlotRange -> {-1, 5}]
```

```
Out[*]=
```



```
ComplexPlot3D[Psi[s, 10], {s, -1/2 - 9 I, 1 + 9 I}, PlotRange -> {-1, 5}]
```

```
Out[*]=
```



(* The s1 zero *)

```
In[ ]:= FindRoot[{Re[Psi[x + y * I, 1000]], Im[Psi[x + y * I, 1000]]},
  {{x, 1 / 2}, {y, 5}}, WorkingPrecision -> 50]
```

Out[]=

```
{x -> 0.64181586433314113248112139394951847372318338379012,
 y -> 4.9068764351428513475351082583558535315328564648993}
```

```
In[ ]:= FindRoot[{Re[Psi[x + y * I, 1000]], Im[Psi[x + y * I, 1000]]},
  {{x, 1 / 2}, {y, 5}}, WorkingPrecision -> 150]
```

Out[]=

```
{x ->
 0.64181586433314113248112139394951847372318338379011717460518622276258051706496979.
 1362762127145058179633534712208669467283714546798848631625316442136767, y ->
 4.90687643514285134753510825835585353153285646489933763520288952487008096849160406.
 011106519694492018106732629379978481024986065008293255799891424877982}
```

```
In[ ]:= FindRoot[{Re[Psi[x + y * I, 1000]], Im[Psi[x + y * I, 1000]]},
  {{x, 1 / 2}, {y, 5}}, WorkingPrecision -> 200]
```

Out[]=

```
{x ->
 0.64181586433314113248112139394951847372318338379011717460518622276258051706496979.
 136276212714505817963353471220866946728371454679884863162531644213676681386342214.
 014473677286328546523427080926215482659, y ->
 4.90687643514285134753510825835585353153285646489933763520288952487008096849160406.
 011106519694492018106732629379978481024986065008293255799891424877981697719647867.
 89243286585094776786735969645818985011}
```

(* Other examples of zeros *)

```
In[*]:= FindRoot[{Re[Psi[x + y * I, 2000]], Im[Psi[x + y * I, 2000]]},
  {{x, 1336 / 1000000}, {y, 1 + 4705 / 1000000}}, WorkingPrecision -> 50]
```

```
Out[*]=
{x -> 0.0013361234465891396568602622971086091779190211534074,
 y -> 1.0047047214630754990772104173473400204889209870526}
```

```
In[*]:= FindRoot[{Re[Psi[x + y * I, 20000]], Im[Psi[x + y * I, 20000]]},
  {{x, 1336 / 1000000}, {y, 1 + 4705 / 1000000}}, WorkingPrecision -> 50]
```

```
Out[*]=
{x -> 0.0013361234423282565356094057650499049578042780328027,
 y -> 1.0047047214631007857421115748599516575637423334916}
```

```
In[*]:= FindRoot[{Re[Psi[x + y * I, 1000]], Im[Psi[x + y * I, 1000]]},
  {{x, 670 / 1000}, {y, 40 + 516 / 1000}}, WorkingPrecision -> 50]
```

```
Out[*]=
{x -> 0.67022547274446564754942561921853627239573382162093,
 y -> 40.516540228521088324200375633146033781651332005560}
```

```
In[*]:= FindRoot[{Re[Psi[x + y * I, 1000]], Im[Psi[x + y * I, 1000]]},
  {{x, 721 / 1000}, {y, 86 + 2 / 1000}}, WorkingPrecision -> 50]
```

```
Out[*]=
{x -> 0.72159477459801208832092300307574122028151736384671,
 y -> 86.002031717653971712641931481424395869298288479074}
```

```
In[*]:= FindRoot[{Re[Psi[x + y * I, 1000]], Im[Psi[x + y * I, 1000]]},
  {{x, 200 / 1000}, {y, 512 + 787 / 1000}}, WorkingPrecision -> 50]
```

```
Out[*]=
{x -> 0.19977206033939305741111784335367081276729571786498,
 y -> 512.78788254499022664698311303017535684680849482170}
```

```
In[*]:= FindRoot[{Re[Psi[x + y * I, 1000]], Im[Psi[x + y * I, 1000]]},
  {{x, 611 / 1000}, {y, 1019 + 180 / 1000}}, WorkingPrecision -> 50]
```

```
Out[*]=
{x -> 0.61144000424789254536789403748651182040962005969469,
 y -> 1019.1796100394148909618609953176907836874492265833}
```

0.6919053669 + 149998.1372808481 i

```
In[ ]:= FindRoot[{Re[Psi[x + y * I, 1000]], Im[Psi[x + y * I, 1000]]},
  {x, 692 / 1000}, {y, 149998 + 137 / 1000}, WorkingPrecision -> 50]
```

```
Out[ ]:=
{x -> 0.69190536689323821234606604538539980100012880561469,
 y -> 149998.13728084803537276334254075480663772664388012}
```

0.726240868445895 + 108744.911314453 i

(* The zero with maximum Re(s) (Im(s) < 150000) *)

```
In[ ]:= FindRoot[{Re[Psi[x + y * I, 1000]], Im[Psi[x + y * I, 1000]]},
  {x, 726 / 1000}, {y, 108744 + 911 / 1000}, WorkingPrecision -> 50]
```

```
Out[ ]:=
{x -> 0.72624086844586790634634422045970079610134134053575,
 y -> 108744.91131445345894385570366150252207947684867118}
```

```
(* Factorial *)
Table[{n, n!}, {n, 1, 40}] // Column
```

```
Out[ ]=
```

```
{1, 1}
{2, 2}
{3, 6}
{4, 24}
{5, 120}
{6, 720}
{7, 5040}
{8, 40320}
{9, 362880}
{10, 3628800}
{11, 39916800}
{12, 479001600}
{13, 6227020800}
{14, 87178291200}
{15, 1307674368000}
{16, 20922789888000}
{17, 355687428096000}
{18, 6402373705728000}
{19, 121645100408832000}
{20, 2432902008176640000}
{21, 51090942171709440000}
{22, 112400072777607680000}
{23, 25852016738884976640000}
{24, 620448401733239439360000}
{25, 1551121004333098598400000}
{26, 403291461126605635584000000}
{27, 10888869450418352160768000000}
{28, 304888344611713860501504000000}
{29, 8841761993739701954543616000000}
{30, 26525285981219105863630848000000}
{31, 82228386541779228172556288000000}
{32, 26313083693369353016721801216000000}
{33, 86833176188118864955181944012800000}
{34, 29523279903960414084761860964352000000}
{35, 10333147966386144929666513375232000000}
{36, 3719933267899012174679994481508352000000}
{37, 137637530912263450463159795815809024000000}
{38, 5230226174666011117600072241000742912000000}
{39, 203978820811974433586402817399028973568000000}
{40, 815915283247897734345611269596115894272000000}
```

(* Some examples of contributions to the summation *)

In[*]:= N[1 / (200!) ^ (1 / 2)]

Out[*]=
 3.56087×10^{-188}

In[*]:= N[1 / (200!) ^ (1 / 4)]

Out[*]=
 1.88703×10^{-94}

In[*]:= N[1 / (200!) ^ (1 / 1000)]

Out[*]=
0.421797

In[*]:= N[1 / (2000!) ^ (1 / 1000)]

Out[*]=
 1.83857×10^{-6}

In[*]:= N[1 / (20000!) ^ (1 / 1000)]

Out[*]=
 4.59981×10^{-78}

(* Im(s1) : Search for a composed constant *)

```
zero = 4.9068764351428513475351082583558535315
```

```
lista = {Pi, Pi^3, Sqrt[Pi], E, E^2, E^3, Sqrt[E], Zeta[2], Zeta[3], Zeta[4], Zeta[5],
  1/2, 1/3, 1/4, 1/5, 1/7, 1/9, 1/11, 1/13, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, Sqrt[2],
  Sqrt[3], Sqrt[5], Sqrt[6], Sqrt[7], Sqrt[10], Erf[1], GoldenRatio, GoldenAngle, Sin[1], EulerGamma,
  -StieltjesGamma[1], Catalan, Glaisher, Khinchin, ChampernowneNumber[10]}
```

```
lista2 = (DeleteDuplicates[Subsets[#1, 6] &] [lista]
```

```
lista3 = Exp[Total[Log[lista2], {2}]]
```

```
N[lista3, 10]
```

(* N[Abs[lista3-zero],6] *)

```
delta = lista3 - zero;
```

```
If[Min[Abs[delta]] < 0.0000001, 1000, 0]
```

```
If[Min[Abs[delta + 1]] < 0.0000001, 1000, 0]
```

```
If[Min[Abs[delta - 1]] < 0.0000001, 1000, 0]
```

```
If[Min[Abs[delta + 1/2]] < 0.0000001, 1000, 0]
```

```
If[Min[Abs[delta - 1/2]] < 0.0000001, 1000, 0]
```

Out[*]=

```
4.9068764351428513475351082583558535315
```

Out[*]=

```
{π, π3, √π, e, e2, e3, √e, π2/6, Zeta[3], π4/90, Zeta[5], 1/2, 1/3,
  1/4, 1/5, 1/7, 1/9, 1/11, 1/13, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, √2, √3, √5,
  √6, √7, √10, Erf[1], GoldenRatio, GoldenAngle, Sin[1], EulerGamma,
  -StieltjesGamma[1], Catalan, Glaisher, Khinchin, ChampernowneNumber[10]}
```

Out[*]=

```
{ {}, {π}, {π3}, {√π}, {e}, ... 9531031 ...,
  {Sin[1], EulerGamma, -StieltjesGamma[1], Glaisher, Khinchin, ChampernowneNumber[10]},
  {Sin[1], EulerGamma, Catalan, Glaisher, Khinchin, ChampernowneNumber[10]},
  {Sin[1], -StieltjesGamma[1], Catalan, Glaisher, Khinchin, ChampernowneNumber[10]},
  {EulerGamma, -StieltjesGamma[1], Catalan, Glaisher, Khinchin, ChampernowneNumber[10]} }
```

Full expression not available (original memory size: 4.2 GB)



Out[*]=

```
{1, π, π3, √π, e, ... 9531031 ...,
  -EulerGamma Glaisher Khinchin ChampernowneNumber[10] Sin[1] StieltjesGamma[1],
  Catalan EulerGamma Glaisher Khinchin ChampernowneNumber[10] Sin[1],
  -Catalan Glaisher Khinchin ChampernowneNumber[10] Sin[1] StieltjesGamma[1],
  -Catalan EulerGamma Glaisher Khinchin ChampernowneNumber[10] StieltjesGamma[1]}
```

Full expression not available (original memory size: 3 GB)



Out[*]=

```
{1.000000000, 3.141592654, 31.00627668, 1.772453851, 2.718281828,
  ... 9531031 ..., 0.01503724305, 0.1891565932, 0.02386213352, 0.01636847558}
```

Full expression not available (original memory size: 0.9 GB)



Out[*]=
0

Out[*]=
0

Out[*]=
0

Out[*]=
0

Out[*]=
0

(* Im(s1) : Continued fraction analysis *)

```
FindRoot[{Re[Psi[x + y * I, 2000]], Im[Psi[x + y * I, 2000]]},
  {x, 642 / 1000}, {y, 4 + 907 / 1000}], WorkingPrecision -> 1300]
```

Out[*]=

```
{x ->
  0.64181586433314113248112139394951847372318338379011717460518622276258051706496979.
  136276212714505817963353471220866946728371454679884863162531644213676681386342214.
  014473677286328546523427080926215482659479846249916772492289981881602237283118520.
  224441733305593875858538500963161583572755706478906179621021863582393239954271300.
  503502042856687435114521357650184029138357836279597641018323977079283298040458696.
  731233952852112935835391970426094563136419697930464740539224604774622139270410310.
  883300773670887868723255714605758361472626859853516634028910492511180426434028687.
  469000619271547376321921267183053622038356028968164050943866084904974890274292374.
  447804960526525767810002287049574748726328086291789851695525285462162494026507574.
  409428793197081474784375042756618935839178364120591994589823921547751413933949664.
  928169905469287001947076676493780660278262779008511797583880293665325425591240943.
  440197237970925898648481904212149184271654322901455568241021109578630241268664621.
  478071706202434014264749702504989616415505963629366941652805857284605274284474455.
  707409634355217714580370355168509142392733687679688854005664553058471638547030321.
  463797883424477441208860865195679249633625851126577967203915388651776118255555097.
  522165229613271427591423164133783708352684905277676601248274086947278355049865055.
  38354, y ->
  4.90687643514285134753510825835585353153285646489933763520288952487008096849160406.
  011106519694492018106732629379978481024986065008293255799891424877981697719647867.
  892432865850947767867359696458189850113066290730661163382959563711283636246554538.
  625931100616959500717821440100831297284353752563899725222486732424080246881024436.
  476822698977545287852117588467627983378497928237204133439200760220176455332413095.
  927618670017106975125537969090901282059969946969312936208257707365556006004179229.
  465530153123264287211246495825043838207728909226565103494263397562423968007420895.
  872609475341080560619069066527838141275945106530265008503736348761000663072981081.
  316512212681275478633034411846669135671790444853471372638060302960421000405484683.
  877142583697078634966482414766363394485439385050048739051424110820935291533803587.
  639688330694992681321634092378634336942330072999423307993381790609195131059278099.
  426223854295990204032347432446554574335708979998882199510715783327002681548879243.
  605424013369974190584732910136843718270760145419240880993313563108919689318688074.
  699814138410071194343613796537519549618072151976698738858435327732348177365633853.
  549679221828253366020757153655341617928906793558384781839689666936592212099246055.
  045083010654624082674625659576589323831859522696385479439657550270486404280608434.
  4431}
```

```
In[*]:= zero = %[[2]] [[2]]
```

```
Out[*]=
```

```
4.9068764351428513475351082583558535315328564648993376352028895248700809684916040601 \
11065196944920181067326293799784810249860650082932557998914248779816977196478678924 \
32865850947767867359696458189850113066290730661163382959563711283636246554538625931 \
10061695950071782144010083129728435375256389972522248673242408024688102443647682269 \
89775452878521175884676279833784979282372041334392007602201764553324130959276186700 \
17106975125537969090901282059969946969312936208257707365556006004179229465530153123 \
26428721124649582504383820772890922656510349426339756242396800742089587260947534108 \
05606190690665278381412759451065302650085037363487610006630729810813165122126812754 \
78633034411846669135671790444853471372638060302960421000405484683877142583697078634 \
96648241476636339448543938505004873905142411082093529153380358763968833069499268132 \
16340923786343369423300729994233079933817906091951310592780994262238542959902040323 \
47432446554574335708979998882199510715783327002681548879243605424013369974190584732 \
91013684371827076014541924088099331356310891968931868807469981413841007119434361379 \
65375195496180721519766987388584353277323481773656338535496792218282533660207571536 \
55341617928906793558384781839689666936592212099246055045083010654624082674625659576 \
5893238318595226963854794396575502704864042806084344431
```

```
In[*]:= ContinuedFraction[zero, 1000]
```

```
Out[*]=
```

```
{4, 1, 9, 1, 2, 1, 4, 1, 1, 1, 5, 8, 28, 2, 3, 1, 1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 1, 11, 3, 2, 2, 3, 1, 4, 10,
4, 3, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 6993, 1, 3, 1, 1, 6, 5, 3, 4, 1, 2, 5, 1, 3, 3, 4, 5, 6, 3, 15, 17,
2, 1, 130, 1, 2, 9, 1, 5, 1, 4, 8, 2, 1, 1, 4, 2, 2, 1, 7, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 10, 1, 4, 1, 1,
1, 6, 2, 1, 34, 1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 13, 2, 6, 7, 5, 1, 1, 1, 3, 1, 2, 9, 2, 3, 22, 1, 9, 1, 2,
1, 13, 1, 3, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 25, 100, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 4, 1, 1, 2, 2, 42, 1, 10, 5, 1,
13, 2, 1, 3, 15, 1, 6, 5, 86, 4, 2, 49, 11, 1, 1, 5, 4, 2, 3, 1, 1, 4, 3, 1, 1, 4, 3, 5,
1, 3, 1, 1, 6, 4, 1, 1, 1, 6, 28, 1, 8, 2, 2, 1, 4, 1, 7, 1, 6, 2, 11, 3, 3, 4, 75, 1, 2,
1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 1, 4, 2, 1, 1, 10, 1, 86, 1, 3, 1, 1, 20, 2, 9, 1, 10, 154, 6, 1, 4, 1, 2,
1, 1, 1, 80, 1, 12, 5, 7, 10, 24, 2, 1, 2, 1, 3, 42, 3, 1, 1, 1, 3, 1, 6, 1, 1, 1, 27, 1,
3, 15, 1, 5, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 3, 1, 1, 1, 30, 95, 1, 1, 9, 1, 2, 79, 2, 20, 5, 4, 4,
14, 1, 1, 8, 1, 1, 3, 1, 5, 4, 5, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 4, 12, 1, 29, 1, 2, 1, 1, 3, 1, 1,
1, 1, 6, 21, 1, 6, 1, 1, 4, 2, 8, 1, 54, 2, 1, 2, 1, 3, 4, 4, 1, 3, 6, 1, 1, 1, 7, 1, 2,
1, 10, 1, 4, 2, 1, 1, 1, 10, 1, 2, 2, 1, 5, 10, 2, 2, 1, 23, 1, 9, 2, 1, 3, 2, 1, 1, 2, 2,
3, 39, 1, 4, 1, 4, 1, 2, 35, 23, 13, 2, 1, 3, 21, 2, 58, 1, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 11,
1, 58, 1, 4, 1, 149, 1, 2, 3, 1, 1, 3, 10, 11, 7, 2, 1, 1, 3, 5, 5, 4, 29, 5, 6, 1, 2, 1,
2, 2, 5, 3, 7, 3, 24, 1, 14, 2, 26, 2, 6, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 5, 1, 2, 4, 2, 5, 10, 3, 1, 1,
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13, 2, 1, 1, 1, 5, 6, 2, 1, 1, 9, 1, 42, 6, 14, 12, 1, 2, 2, 1, 1, 1, 4, 1, 1, 2, 5, 1, 4}
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(* Conjecture 3: irrational and transcendental number ??? *)

Conclusions

By definition, in some mode, the **Psi function** is a “part” of the **Riemann’s Zeta function**.

The zeros of the Psi function seems to be in the **critical strip** $0 < \text{Re}(s) \leq 1$.

I proposed as **new mathematical constant** the imaginary part of the first zero of the Psi function in the semi-strip $\text{Re}(s) \geq \frac{1}{2}$: **$\text{Im}(s_1) \approx 4.9068764351$** .

I’m sorry, but I have not found reference materials really regarding a function like the Psi function and the study of its zeros.

References

- 1) <https://oeis.org/A091131>
- 2) <https://oeis.org/A058303>
- 3) <https://mathworld.wolfram.com/FactorialSums.html>
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