

Exact sum rules for spectral zeta functions of
homogeneous 1D quantum oscillators,
revisited

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1D Schrödinger operators: $\hat{H}_N = -d^2/dq^2 + |q|^N$, $q \in \mathbb{R}$, $N = 1, 2, \dots$

- Spectral zeta functions $Z_N^\#(s)$ (convergent for $\text{Re } s > \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{N}$):

$$Z_N(s) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (E_k^{[N]})^{-s}, \quad Z_N^{\text{P}}(s) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k (E_k^{[N]})^{-s}, \quad Z_N^\pm(s) = \frac{1}{2}[Z_N \pm Z_N^{\text{P}}](s),$$

- Spectral determinants $D_N^\#(\lambda) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \det(\hat{H}_N + \lambda)^\#$ (zeta-regularized):
defined through their logarithms, e.g.,

$$\log \det(\hat{H}_N + \lambda) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} -\partial_s Z_N(s, \lambda)|_{s=0}, \quad Z_N(s, \lambda) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (E_k^{[N]} + \lambda)^{-s}.$$

Fundamental (convergent) expansion:

$$\log D_N^\#(\lambda) \equiv -Z_N^{\#'}(0) - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{Z_N^\#(n)}{n} (-\lambda)^n.$$

Our sum rules are *exact identities on the spectral-zeta values at $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$* , that mainly result from the *exact WKB method via exact functional equations for the spectral determinants*.

WKB: Wentzel–Kramers–Brillouin (initially asymptotic) method



Figure 1: My walk to and from high school took me every day - unknowingly at the time - alongside the house where L. Brillouin was born, in the city of Sèvres, France.

Exact WKB approaches

Exact WKB analysis, assuming 1D potentials analytic in the complex q -plane, sees the usual complex-WKB equations for the Schrödinger wave function $\psi(q)$ as an encoding of its analytical continuation in q , a *fully exact* operation.

Its growth around 1980 owes much to important earlier works:

- microlocal analysis in the *analytic* category: ramified Cauchy problem (Leray), analytic pseudodifferential operators (Boutet de Monvel–Krée), hyperfunctions and microfunctions (Sato–Kawai–Kashiwara);
- Borel-transform approaches to perturbative series (Bender–Wu, Zinn-Justin) and to semiclassical expansions in particular (Balian–Bloch);
- Dingle’s treatment of asymptotic series using terminants;
- Sibuya’s direct approach yielding exact functional equations for Stokes multipliers.

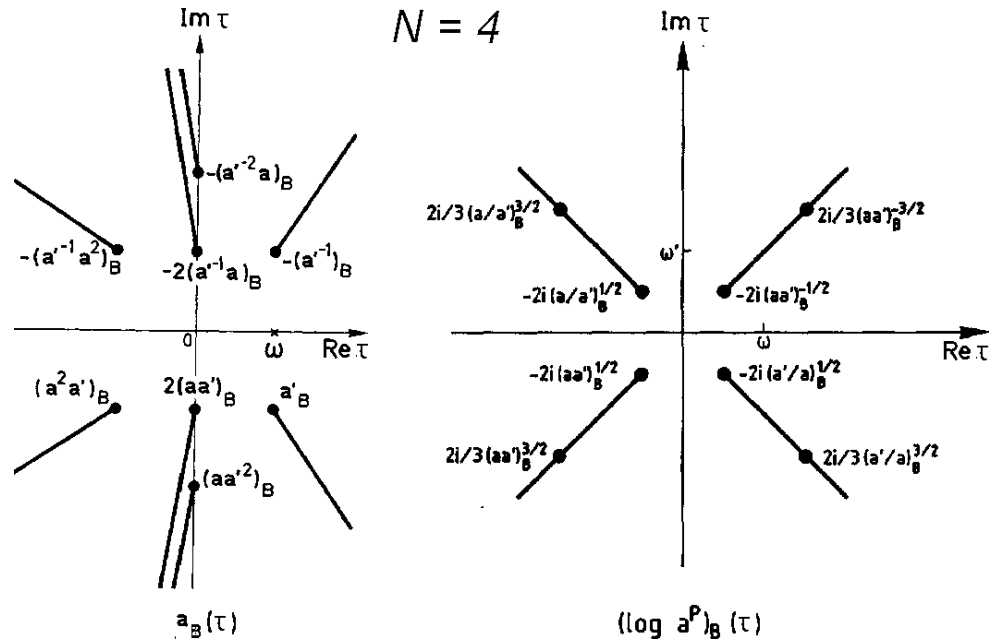
First came partial analyticity results in the Borel plane for the pure quartic potential (Balian–Parisi–AV).

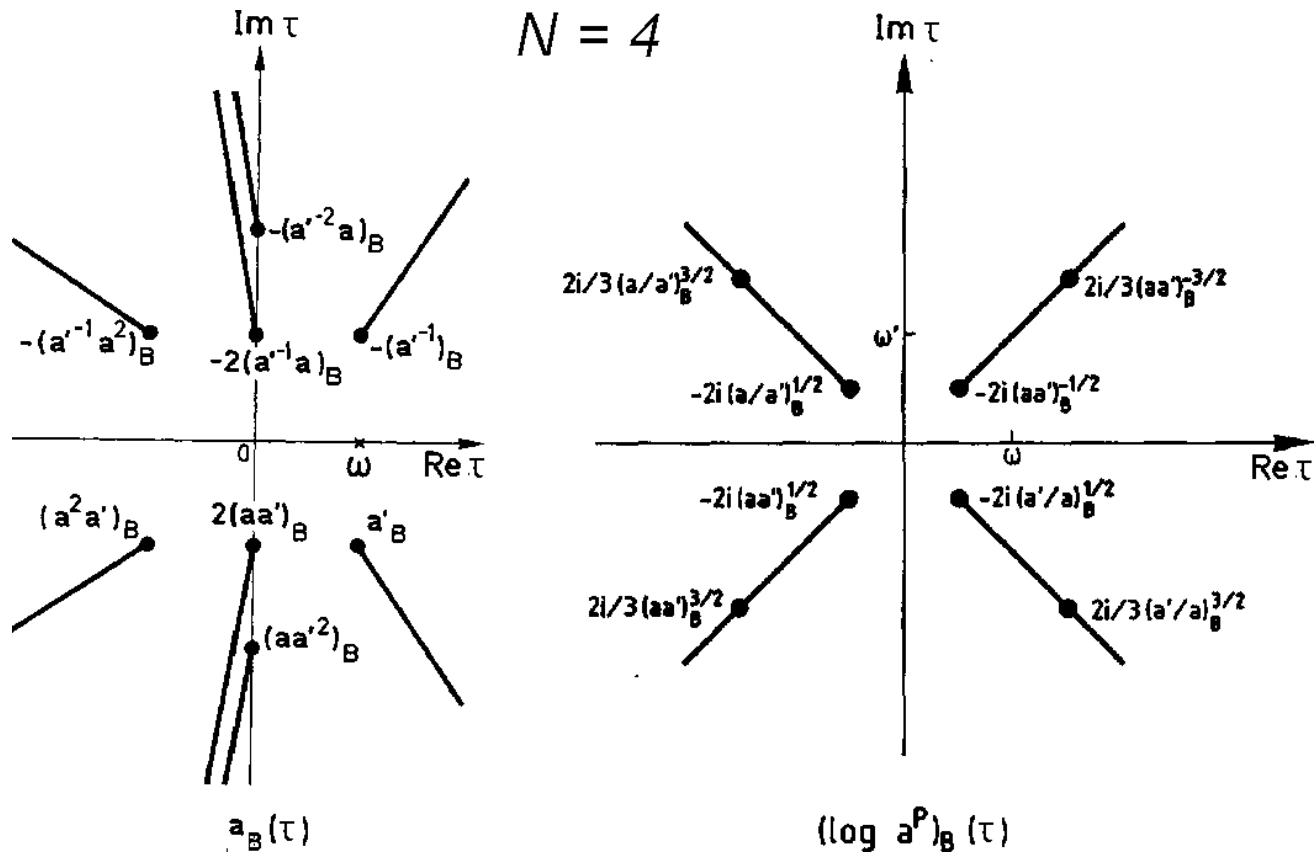
Asymptotic WKB results (large variable: $x \equiv \lambda^{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{N}} \propto 1/\hbar \rightarrow +\infty$):

$$\log D(\lambda) - a_0 x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \log a(\lambda) \sim \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_m x^{1-2m}$$

$$\log D^P(\lambda) - \frac{1}{2} \log \lambda \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \log a^P(\lambda) \sim \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_m^P x^{-Nm}.$$

Then, with Borel transform specified as $(x^{-\alpha})_B \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \tau^\alpha / \alpha!$, exact WKB analysis predicts (quartic example):





Borel resummation converts that information into a *functional relation* (now for general $N \neq 2$, with $\nu \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{N+2}$),

$$\log a^P(e^{4i\nu\pi} \lambda) - \log a^P(\lambda) = -2i \arcsin [D(e^{4i\nu\pi} \lambda)D(\lambda)]^{-1/2} \Rightarrow$$

$$\sin \left[\nu\pi + \frac{i}{2} (\log D^P(e^{2i\nu\pi} \lambda) - \log D^P(e^{-2i\nu\pi} \lambda)) \right] = [D(e^{2i\nu\pi} \lambda)D(e^{-2i\nu\pi} \lambda)]^{-1/2},$$

later reduced to an equivalent bilinear functional equation

$$\begin{aligned} e^{i\nu\pi} D_N^+(\lambda) D_N^-(e^{4i\nu\pi} \lambda) - e^{-i\nu\pi} D_N^+(e^{4i\nu\pi} \lambda) D_N^-(\lambda) &= 2i & (N \neq 2) \\ &= 2i e^{-i\pi\lambda/4} & (N = 2). \end{aligned}$$

Enforcing the compatibility of such functional relations with the above expansions for $\log D_N^\#(\lambda)$ at $\lambda = 0$ generates *polynomial identities* on the zeta-values $Z'_N(0), Z_N^\#(n)$ ($n = 1, 2, \dots$): “exact-WKB sum rules”.

Even later, the above functional equation gave rise to:

- 1) exact quantization conditions,
- 2) the ODE/IM correspondence.

For neither of these further developments do we currently have Borel-plane (resurgent) equivalents.

Explicit cases: $N = 2, N = 1$

$N = 2$ (harmonic oscillator):

\hat{H}_2 has the explicit spectrum $\{E_k^{[N=2]} = 2k + 1\}_{k=0,1,\dots}$ giving spectral zeta- (= respectively Dirichlet lambda- and beta-) functions:

$$Z_2(s) = (1 - 2^{-s})\zeta(s), \quad Z_2^P(s) = \beta(s).$$

and the spectral determinants

$$D_2(\lambda) = 2^{-\lambda/2} \sqrt{2\pi} / \Gamma\left(\frac{1+\lambda}{2}\right), \quad D_2^P(\lambda) = 2 \Gamma\left(\frac{3+\lambda}{4}\right) / \Gamma\left(\frac{1+\lambda}{4}\right),$$

The functional equation for the determinants can be split as

$$D_2(\lambda)D_2(-\lambda) = 2 \cos \frac{1}{2}\pi\lambda, \quad D_2^P(\lambda)/D_2^P(-\lambda) = \cot \frac{1}{4}\pi(1 - \lambda),$$

both expressing the *reflection formula for the Gamma function*.

If we now take the logarithms and expand around $\lambda = 0$, then identify the resulting sides order by order:

- $\log [D_2(\lambda)D_2(-\lambda)] = \log [2 \cos \frac{1}{2}\pi\lambda] \Rightarrow$

$$2 \left[-Z_2'(0) - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{Z_2(2m)}{2m} \lambda^{2m} \right] \equiv \log 2 - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{|G_{2m}|}{4m(2m)!} (\pi\lambda)^{2m},$$
by integrating $\tan \frac{1}{2}\pi\lambda = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{|G_{2m}|}{(2m)!} (\pi\lambda)^{2m-1}$ (G_{2m} : Genocchi numbers);

- $\log [D_2^P(\lambda)/D_2^P(-\lambda)] = \log [\cot \frac{1}{4}\pi(1-\lambda)] \Rightarrow$

$$2 \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{Z_2^P(2m+1)}{2m+1} \lambda^{2m+1} \equiv \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{|E_{2m}|}{(2m+1)!} (\frac{1}{2}\pi\lambda)^{2m+1},$$
by integrating $\sec \frac{1}{2}\pi\lambda = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{|E_{2m}|}{(2m)!} (\frac{1}{2}\pi\lambda)^{2m}$ (E_{2m} : Euler numbers).

Then, overall: $Z_2'(0) = -\frac{1}{2} \log 2$, and (with B_{2m} : Bernoulli numbers)

$$\begin{aligned}
Z_2(2m) &= \frac{\pi^{2m}}{4(2m)!} |G_{2m}| \quad (m > 0), & Z_2^P(2m+1) &= \frac{(\frac{1}{2}\pi)^{2m+1}}{2(2m)!} |E_{2m}| \\
\Updownarrow & & \Updownarrow & \\
\zeta(2m) &= \frac{(2\pi)^{2m} |B_{2m}|}{2(2m)!}, & \beta(2m+1) &= \frac{(\frac{1}{2}\pi)^{2m+1}}{2(2m)!} |E_{2m}|.
\end{aligned}$$

$N = 1$ (the potential $|q|$)

\hat{H}_1 has the spectral determinants $D_1^+(\lambda) = -2\sqrt{\pi}\text{Ai}'(\lambda)$, $D_1^-(\lambda) = 2\sqrt{\pi}\text{Ai}(\lambda)$.

A property exceptional to $N = 1$ determinants is that $\text{Ai}(\lambda)$ obeys a *linear differential equation* (Airy's equation), making its Taylor coefficients at $\lambda = 0$ fully explicit: $\text{Ai}^{(n)}(0) = 3^{(n-2)/3}\pi^{-1} \sin \frac{2}{3}(n+1)\pi \Gamma(\frac{n+1}{3})$. Thereby, $\log D_1^\pm(\lambda)$ also expand to any order in closed form:

$$\begin{aligned} Z_1^{+'}(0) &= \frac{1}{2} \log[\sqrt{3}/(2\rho)], & Z_1^{-'}(0) &= \frac{1}{2} \log[\sqrt{3} \rho/2] && \text{(regularized sums),} \\ Z_1^+(1) &= 0, & Z_1^-(1) &= -\rho && \text{(" "),} \\ Z_1^+(2) &= 1/\rho, & Z_1^-(2) &= \rho^2, \\ Z_1^+(3) &= 1, & Z_1^-(3) &= \frac{1}{2} - \rho^3, \\ &\vdots & &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

with $\rho \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} D_1^{\text{P}}(0) = -\text{Ai}'(0)/\text{Ai}(0) = 3^{5/6}(2\pi)^{-1}\Gamma(2/3)^2 (\approx 0.729011133)$.

Exact-WKB sum rules for the potentials $|q|^N$ ($N = 1, 2, \dots$):

countably many *exact identities* for the spectral zeta functions $Z_N^\#(s)$, specifically for the values at nonnegative integers $Z'_N(0)$ and $Z_N^\#(n)$ ($n = 1, 2, \dots$):

$$\begin{aligned}
 (n = 0 :) \quad Z'_N(0) &= \log \sin \nu\pi \quad \left[\nu \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{N+2} \right] \\
 -\cot \nu\pi \sin 2\nu\pi Z_N^{\text{P}}(1) + \cos 2\nu\pi Z_N(1) &= 0 \quad [\text{indeterminacy for } N = 2] \\
 -\cot \nu\pi \sin 4\nu\pi Z_N^{\text{P}}(2) + \cos 4\nu\pi Z_N(2) &= -4 \cos^2 \nu\pi Z_N^{\text{P}}(1)^2 \\
 -\cot \nu\pi \sin 6\nu\pi Z_N^{\text{P}}(3) + \cos 6\nu\pi Z_N(3) &= 4 \cos^2 \nu\pi [2 \cos^2 \nu\pi Z_N^{\text{P}}(1)^3 \\
 &\quad - 3 \cos 2\nu\pi Z_N^{\text{P}}(1) Z_N^{\text{P}}(2)] \\
 &\quad \vdots \\
 -\cot \nu\pi \sin 2n\nu\pi Z_N^{\text{P}}(n) + \cos 2n\nu\pi Z_N(n) &= \mathcal{P}_{N,n} \{ Z_N^{\text{P}}(m) \}_{1 \leq m < n} \\
 &\quad \vdots
 \end{aligned}$$

with $\mathcal{P}_{N,n}$: homogeneous polynomials of degree n if $\deg[Z_N^{\text{P}}(m)] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} m$.

Classic closed forms for 1D potentials $|q|^N$ ($N = 1, 2, \dots$)

For $n = 0$ and 1, all $Z_N^\#(n)$ -values are known *in closed form*, thanks to a *known solution* of the particular ODE $\hat{H}_N u = 0 : u(q) = \sqrt{q} K_\nu(2\nu q^{1+N/2})$
 (for $q > 0$, then continued) $\left[\nu \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{N+2} \right]$

$$n = 0 : \quad (Z_N^P)'(0) = \log[\nu^{N\nu} \Gamma(\nu)/\Gamma(1-\nu)], \quad Z_N'(0) = \log \sin \nu\pi ;$$

(the exact-WKB method only catches $Z_N'(0)$);

$$n = 1 : \quad Z_N^P(1) = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} (2\nu)^{2N\nu} \frac{\Gamma(2\nu)\Gamma(3\nu)}{\Gamma(1-\nu)\Gamma(2\nu + \frac{1}{2})}, \quad Z_N(1) = \frac{\tan 2\nu\pi}{\tan \nu\pi} Z_N^P(1)$$

by Weber–Schafheitlin integral formulae;

(here the exact-WKB method only catches the *ratio* $Z_N(1)/Z_N^P(1)$).

*

$n = 2$: now the exact-WKB method adds *new* closed-form results:

$$\cot \nu\pi \sin 4\nu\pi Z_N^P(2) - \cos 4\nu\pi Z_N(2) = \frac{\pi(2\nu)^{4N\nu}}{4} \left[\frac{\Gamma(\nu)\Gamma(3\nu)}{\Gamma(1-2\nu)\Gamma(2\nu + \frac{1}{2})} \right]^2 .$$

Table 1: N even: the left-hand sides in the exact-WKB sum rules give $Z_N(n)$ for $n = \ell(\frac{1}{2}N+1)$, $Z_N^P(n)$ for $N \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$, $n = \frac{1}{2}j(\frac{1}{2}N+1)$ (j odd).

$n \setminus N$	2	4	6	8	10	...
0	$Z'_2, Z_{2\#}'$	$Z'_4, Z_{4\#}'$	$Z'_6, Z_{6\#}'$	$Z'_8, Z_{8\#}'$	$Z'_{10}, Z_{10\#}'$...
1	Z_2^P	←		$*, Z_N^\#$	→	...
2	Z_2	*	Z_6^P	*	*	*
3	Z_2^P	Z_4	*	*	Z_{10}^P	*
4	Z_2	*	Z_6	*	*	...
5	Z_2^P	*	*	Z_8	*	...
6	Z_2	Z_4	Z_6^P	*	Z_{10}	...
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮

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$n \setminus N$	2	4	6	8	10	...
0	$Z'_2, Z_{2\#}'$	$Z'_4, Z_{4\#}'$	$Z'_6, Z_{6\#}'$	$Z'_8, Z_{8\#}'$	$Z'_{10}, Z_{10\#}'$...
1	Z_2^P	←	$*, Z_N^\#$	→		...
2	Z_2	*	Z_6^P	*	*	*
3	Z_2^P	Z_4	*	*	Z_{10}^P	*
4	Z_2	*	Z_6	*	*	...
5	Z_2^P	*	*	Z_8	*	...
6	Z_2	Z_4	Z_6^P	*	Z_{10}	...
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮

Table 2: N even. Top 4 rows: $n = 0, 1$ closed-form values; bottom 4 rows ($n = 0$ to 3): exact-WKB sum rules; the two sets share the middle 2 rows.

$N :$	2	4	6
$Z_N^{\text{P}'}(0)$	$\log[2^{-3/2}\Gamma(\frac{1}{4})^2/\pi]$	$\log[2^{-7/3}3^{1/3}\Gamma(\frac{1}{3})^4/\pi^2]$	$\log[2^{-9/4}\Gamma(\frac{1}{8})/\Gamma(\frac{7}{8})]$
$Z_N^{\text{P}}(1)$	$\pi/4$	$2^{-11/3}3^{-1/3}\Gamma(\frac{1}{3})^5/\pi^2$	$2^{-7/4}\pi\Gamma(\frac{5}{4})/\Gamma(\frac{7}{8})^2$
$Z'_N(0)$	$-\frac{1}{2}\log 2$	$-\log 2$	$\frac{1}{2}\log[(2-\sqrt{2})/4]$
$Z_N(1)$	∞	$3Z_4^{\text{P}}(1)$	$(1+\sqrt{2})Z_6^{\text{P}}(1)$
$n = 2$	$Z_2(2) = 2Z_2^{\text{P}}(1)^2$ $= \pi^2/8$	$3Z_4^{\text{P}}(2) + Z_4(2) = 6Z_4^{\text{P}}(1)^2$	$Z_6^{\text{P}}(2) = \sqrt{2}Z_6^{\text{P}}(1)^2$ $= \frac{1}{8}[\pi\Gamma(\frac{5}{4})]^2/\Gamma(\frac{7}{8})^4$
$n = 3$	$Z_2^{\text{P}}(3) =$ $2Z_2^{\text{P}}(1)^3$ $= \pi^3/32$	$Z_4(3) =$ $\frac{9}{2}[-Z_4^{\text{P}}(1)^3 + Z_4^{\text{P}}(1)Z_4^{\text{P}}(2)]$ $= \frac{1}{6}Z_4(1)^3 - \frac{1}{2}Z_4(1)Z_4(2)$	$(\sqrt{2}+1)Z_6^{\text{P}}(3) + Z_6(3) =$ $-(3\sqrt{2}+4)Z_6^{\text{P}}(1)^3 +$ $3(2+\sqrt{2})Z_6^{\text{P}}(1)Z_6^{\text{P}}(2)$ $= \frac{(3+\sqrt{2})[\pi\Gamma(\frac{5}{4})]^3}{2^{19/4}\Gamma(\frac{7}{8})^6}$

Table 3: N odd: the left-hand sides in the exact-WKB sum rules give $Z_N(n)$ for $n = \ell(N+2)$, $Z_N^\pm(n)$ for $n = (\ell + \frac{1}{2})(N+2) \mp \frac{1}{2}$ (ℓ integer).

$n \setminus N$	1	3	5	7	9	...
0	$Z_1', Z_1^{\#}'$	$Z_3', Z_3^{\#}'$	$Z_5', Z_5^{\#}'$	$Z_7', Z_7^{\#}'$	$Z_9', Z_9^{\#}'$...
1	$Z_1^+, Z_1^\#$	←		$*, Z_N^\#$	→	...
2	$Z_1^-, Z_1^\#$	Z_3^+	*	*	*	*
3	$Z_1, Z_1^\#$	Z_3^-	Z_5^+	*	*	*
4	$Z_1^+, Z_1^\#$	*	Z_5^-	Z_7^+	*	*
5	$Z_1^-, Z_1^\#$	Z_3	*	Z_7^-	Z_9^+	*
6	$Z_1, Z_1^\#$	*	*	*	Z_9^-	...
7	$Z_1^+, Z_1^\#$	Z_3^+	Z_5	*	*	...
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮

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$n \setminus N$	1	3	5	7	9	...
0	$Z_1', Z_1^{\#}'$	$Z_3', Z_3^{\#}'$	$Z_5', Z_5^{\#}'$	$Z_7', Z_7^{\#}'$	$Z_9', Z_9^{\#}'$...
1	$Z_1^+, Z_1^\#$	←		$*, Z_N^\#$	→	...
2	$Z_1^-, Z_1^\#$	Z_3^+	*	*	*	*
3	$Z_1, Z_1^\#$	Z_3^-	Z_5^+	*	*	*
4	$Z_1^+, Z_1^\#$	*	Z_5^-	Z_7^+	*	*
5	$Z_1^-, Z_1^\#$	Z_3	*	Z_7^-	Z_9^+	*
6	$Z_1, Z_1^\#$	*	*	*	Z_9^-	...
7	$Z_1^+, Z_1^\#$	Z_3^+	Z_5	*	*	...
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮

Table 4: N odd. $N=1$ column: $\rho = \frac{3^{5/6}}{2\pi} \Gamma(\frac{2}{3})^2$. $N=3$ column: $\phi = \frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{5}+1)$.

$N :$	1	3
$Z_N^{\text{P}'}(0)$	$-\log \rho$	$\log[5^{-3/5} \Gamma(\frac{1}{5}) / \Gamma(\frac{4}{5})]$
$Z_N^{\text{P}}(1)$	ρ	$(\frac{2}{5})^{1/5} \phi^{-1} \sqrt{\pi} \Gamma(\frac{6}{5}) / \Gamma(\frac{9}{10})$
$Z'_N(0)$	$\log[\sqrt{3}/2]$	$\frac{1}{2} \log[(5 - \sqrt{5})/8]$
$Z_N(1)$	$-Z_1^{\text{P}}(1)$	$(2 + \sqrt{5}) Z_3^{\text{P}}(1)$
$n = 2$	$Z_1^-(2) = Z_1^{\text{P}}(1)^2$ $= \rho^2$	$Z_3^+(2) = \phi Z_3^{\text{P}}(1)^2$ $= (\frac{2}{5})^{2/5} \phi^{-1} \pi [\Gamma(\frac{6}{5}) / \Gamma(\frac{9}{10})]^2$
$n = 3$	$Z_1(3) = \frac{1}{2} Z_1^{\text{P}}(1)^3 + \frac{3}{2} Z_1^{\text{P}}(1) Z_1^{\text{P}}(2)$ $= \frac{5}{2} Z_1(1)^3 - \frac{3}{2} Z_1(1) Z_1(2)$ $= \frac{3}{2} - \rho^3$	$Z_3^-(3) =$ $-(\phi + \frac{1}{2}) Z_3^{\text{P}}(1)^3 + \frac{3}{2} Z_3^{\text{P}}(1) Z_3^{\text{P}}(2)$