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► **To cite this version:**

Marc-Antoine Coppo. Generalized Glaisher-Kinkelin constants and Blagouchine's integrals. 2022.  
hal-03197403v17

**HAL Id: hal-03197403**

**<https://hal.univ-cotedazur.fr/hal-03197403v17>**

Preprint submitted on 2 Mar 2022 (v17), last revised 18 Oct 2023 (v22)

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# Generalized Glaisher-Kinkelin constants and Blagouchine's integrals

Marc-Antoine Coppo

*Université Côte d'Azur, CNRS, LJAD (UMR 7351), Nice, France*

*Courriel : coppo@unice.fr*

**Abstract.** The main purpose of this short article is to highlight the existence of a close connection between a family of complex integrals introduced by Blagouchine and some notable mathematical constants, namely the generalized Glaisher-Kinkelin constants (also known as the Bendersky constants) which occur quite naturally in number theory and analysis.

**Keywords.** Glaisher-Kinkelin constants, Bendersky generalized gamma function, infinite series with zeta values, complex integration.

## 1 Introduction

The aim of this article is to establish a link between the family of complex integrals  $\{\mathcal{J}_{k,p}\}$  (for integers  $k \geq 0$  and  $p \geq 1$  with  $p$  odd) defined by

$$\mathcal{J}_{k,p} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{\zeta(\frac{p}{2} + ix)}{(2k + p + 2ix) \cosh(\pi x)} dx,$$

and a sequence of notable mathematical constants, namely the generalized Glaisher-Kinkelin constants (also known as the Bendersky constants) which occur quite naturally in analysis and number theory (see Definition 1). Blagouchine [3] introduced these integrals in the cases  $p = 1$  and  $p = 3$ . To show this close connection, we make use of a relation between the integral  $\mathcal{J}_{k,p}$  and the alternating series

$$\sum_{n=N_p}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{\zeta(n)}{n+k} \quad \text{with } N_p = \max(2, \frac{p+1}{2})$$

which can be deduced from the residue theorem (see Proposition 1). These series have been studied in detail in our previous article [7]. In particular, this enables us

to give a general expression of the integrals  $\mathcal{J}_{k,1}$  and  $\mathcal{J}_{k,3}$  in terms of the generalized Glaisher-Kinkelin constants for all positive integers  $k$  (see Corollary 1).

Recently, Candelpergher [5] has generalized the relation between  $\mathcal{J}_{k,p}$  and the alternating series with zeta values by using another method (see Proposition 2). As a corollary, this allows us to give a representation of the Dirichlet series

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{\zeta(n)}{n^s}$$

which is valid for any complex number  $s$  with  $\operatorname{Re}(s) > \frac{1}{2}$  (see Corollary 2).

## 2 Generalized Glaisher-Kinkelin constants

**Definition 1** ([1, 9, 11]). For any integer  $k \geq 0$ , the constant  $A_k$  are usually defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \ln A_0 &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \sum_{n=1}^N \ln n - \left( N + \frac{1}{2} \right) \ln N + N \right\}, \\ \ln A_1 &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \sum_{n=1}^N n \ln n - \left( \frac{N^2}{2} + \frac{N}{2} + \frac{1}{12} \right) \ln N + \frac{N^2}{4} \right\}, \\ \ln A_2 &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \sum_{n=1}^N n^2 \ln n - \left( \frac{N^3}{3} + \frac{N^2}{2} + \frac{N}{6} \right) \ln N + \frac{N^3}{9} - \frac{N}{12} \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

and more generally

$$\ln A_k = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \sum_{n=1}^N n^k \ln n - P_k(N) \ln N + Q_k(N) \right\},$$

where  $P_k$  and  $Q_k$  are polynomials of degree  $k+1$  that can be explicitly computed (see e.g. [11, Eq. (1.1)]). The numbers  $A_k$  for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  are called the *generalized Glaisher-Kinkelin constants* (sometimes called the *Bendersky constants*). Adamchik [1, Proposition 4] has given an alternative expression of the constants  $A_k$  in terms of the derivatives of the Riemann zeta function. More precisely, we have the expression

$$\ln A_k = \frac{H_k B_{k+1}}{k+1} - \zeta'(-k), \quad (1)$$

where  $H_n$  are the harmonic numbers (with the usual convention  $H_0 = 0$ ) and  $B_n$  are the Bernoulli numbers.

**Example 1.** The constant  $A_0$  is the Stirling constant:

$$A_0 = \exp(-\zeta'(0)) = \sqrt{2\pi},$$

the constant  $A_1$  is the classical Glaisher-Kinkelin constant:

$$A_1 = \exp \left\{ \frac{1}{12} - \zeta'(-1) \right\} = \exp \left\{ \frac{1}{12}(\gamma + \ln 2\pi) - \frac{\zeta'(2)}{2\pi^2} \right\},$$

$\gamma$  being the Euler constant, and

$$A_2 = \exp(-\zeta'(-2)) = \exp \left\{ \frac{\zeta(3)}{4\pi^2} \right\}.$$

More generally, the following relations:

$$\zeta'(-2k) = (-1)^k \frac{(2k)!}{2(2\pi)^{2k}} \zeta(2k+1) \quad (k \geq 1),$$

and

$$\zeta'(1-2k) = (-1)^{k+1} \frac{(2k)!}{k(2\pi)^{2k}} \zeta'(2k) + \frac{B_{2k}}{2k} (H_{2k-1} - \gamma - \ln 2\pi) \quad (k \geq 1),$$

which are easily derived by differentiation of the functional equation for the zeta function, enable to deduce from Adamchik's formula (1) the expressions

$$\ln A_{2k-1} = (-1)^k \frac{(2k)!}{k(2\pi)^{2k}} \zeta'(2k) + \frac{B_{2k}}{2k} (\gamma + \ln 2\pi) \quad (k \geq 1), \quad (2)$$

and

$$\ln A_{2k} = (-1)^{k+1} \frac{(2k)!}{2(2\pi)^{2k}} \zeta(2k+1) \quad (k \geq 1). \quad (3)$$

*Remark 1.* Bendersky [2] introduced for the first time the sequence of numbers  $A_k$  without any consideration of their relation with the  $\zeta$ -function. From the point of view of the summation of divergent series, the constants  $A_k$  can be interpreted as follows: let  $\sum_{n \geq 1}^{\mathcal{R}} n^k \ln n$  denotes the  $\mathcal{R}$ -sum of the divergent series  $\sum_{n \geq 1} n^k \ln n$  (i.e. the sum of the series in the sense of Ramanujan's summation method [4]), then, for any integer  $k \geq 0$ , we have (see [4, p. 68] and [2, p. 280]):

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \geq 1}^{\mathcal{R}} n^k \ln n &= -\zeta'(-k) - \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} \\ &= \ln A_k - \frac{H_k B_{k+1}}{k+1} - \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} \\ &= \int_0^1 \ln \Gamma_k(x+1) dx, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Gamma_k$  is the Bendersky generalized gamma function [2, p. 279]. This function verifies

$$\Gamma_k(n+1) = 1^{1^k} 2^{2^k} \cdots n^{n^k} \quad \text{for any integer } n \geq 1.$$

In particular, we have  $\Gamma_0 = \Gamma$ , and  $\Gamma_1 = K$ , where  $K$  stands for the Kinkelin-Bendersky hyperfactorial function which can be defined (see e.g. [10, Definition 3]) by the relation

$$\ln K(x) = \frac{x^2 - x}{2} - \frac{x}{2} \ln 2\pi + \int_0^x \ln \Gamma(u) du \quad (x \geq 0).$$

Unaware of Bendersky's work and following an idea of Milnor, Kurokawa and Ochiai [8, Theorem 2] have given an expression of the function  $\Gamma_k$  in terms of the derivative of the Hurwitz zeta function  $\zeta(s, x)$  at  $s = -k$ . Precisely, they show that

$$\ln \Gamma_k(x) = \zeta'(-k, x) - \zeta'(-k) \quad \text{for } x > 0 \text{ and } k \geq 0,$$

a formula which generalizes a classical formula for  $\Gamma$  (see [6, Definition 9.6.13]) and can be seen as the analogue of Adamchik's formula for  $A_k$ .

### 3 Blagouchine's integrals and series with zeta values

**Definition 2.** For any non-negative integer  $k$  and positive odd integer  $p$ , the integral  $\mathcal{J}_{k,p}$  is defined by

$$\mathcal{J}_{k,p} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{\zeta(\frac{p}{2} + ix)}{(2k + p + 2ix) \cosh(\pi x)} dx.$$

**Proposition 1.** We have the following relations:

$$\mathcal{J}_{k,1} = \frac{\gamma}{k+1} - \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} - \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{\zeta(n)}{n+k}, \quad (4)$$

and

$$\mathcal{J}_{k,p} = (-1)^{\frac{p+1}{2}} \sum_{n=\frac{p+1}{2}}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{\zeta(n)}{n+k} \quad \text{for } p = 3, 5, 7, \dots \quad (5)$$

*Proof.* For  $k \geq 0$ , let us consider the function

$$f_k(z) = \frac{\zeta(z)}{(k+z) \sin(\pi z)}.$$

The function  $f_k$  has poles at integers  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . For  $n \geq 2$ , the residue of  $f_k$  at  $z = n$  is

$$\operatorname{Res}(f_k; n) = \frac{(-1)^n \zeta(n)}{(n+k)\pi}.$$

For  $n = 1$ ,  $f_k$  has a double pole and

$$\operatorname{Res}(f_k; 1) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \left( \frac{\gamma}{k+1} - \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} \right).$$

Applying the residue theorem, we get

$$-\frac{1}{2i\pi} \int_{\operatorname{Re}(z)=p/2} f_k(z) dz = \sum_{n > \frac{p}{2}} \operatorname{Res}(f_k; n).$$

This leads to formulas (4) and (5).  $\square$

**Corollary 1.** We have

$$\mathcal{J}_{k,1} = \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} (-1)^j \binom{k}{j} \ln A_j - \frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} \quad (k \geq 1), \quad (6)$$

and

$$\mathcal{J}_{k,3} = \frac{\gamma}{k+1} - \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} - \mathcal{J}_{k,1} = \frac{\gamma}{k+1} + \frac{1}{k} - \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} (-1)^j \binom{k}{j} \ln A_j \quad (k \geq 1). \quad (7)$$

*Proof.* From [7, Proposition 1], we have

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{\zeta(n)}{n+k} = \frac{\gamma}{k+1} + \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} (-1)^j \binom{k}{j} \zeta'(-j) + \frac{1}{k} + \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \binom{k}{j} \frac{B_{j+1} H_j}{j+1} \quad (k \geq 1).$$

By Adamchik's formula (1), this expression may be rewritten as follows:

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{\zeta(n)}{n+k} = \frac{\gamma}{k+1} + \frac{1}{k} - \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} (-1)^j \binom{k}{j} \ln A_j \quad (k \geq 1).$$

Then, using the relation (4) and (5), we get the expressions (6) and (7).  $\square$

**Example 2.** For  $p = 1$  and the first values of  $k$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{J}_{0,1} &= -1, \\ \mathcal{J}_{1,1} &= \frac{1}{2} \ln 2\pi - \frac{5}{4}, \\ \mathcal{J}_{2,1} &= \frac{1}{3} \ln 2\pi - \frac{1}{6} \gamma - \frac{11}{18} + \frac{\zeta'(2)}{\pi^2}, \\ \mathcal{J}_{3,1} &= \frac{1}{4} \ln 2\pi - \frac{1}{4} \gamma - \frac{19}{48} + \frac{3}{2\pi^2} \zeta'(2) + \frac{3}{4\pi^2} \zeta(3). \end{aligned}$$

## 4 Further generalization

Using a Fourier transform method, Candelpergher [5, Eq. (7)] recently proved the following beautiful relation which is a natural generalization of (4).

**Proposition 2.** for  $k \geq 0$  and  $\operatorname{Re}(s) > \frac{1}{2}$ , we have

$$2^{s-1} \mathcal{J}_{k,1}(s) = \frac{\gamma}{(k+1)^s} - \frac{s}{(k+1)^{s+1}} - \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{\zeta(n)}{(n+k)^s}. \quad (8)$$

with

$$\mathcal{J}_{k,1}(s) := \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{\zeta(\frac{1}{2} + ix)}{(2k+1+2ix)^s \cosh(\pi x)} dx$$

Applying (8) with  $k=0$  allows us to deduce the following identity:

**Corollary 2.**

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{\zeta(n)}{n^s} = \gamma - s - \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{\zeta(\frac{1}{2} + ix)}{(\frac{1}{2} + ix)^s \cosh(\pi x)} dx \quad (\operatorname{Re}(s) > \frac{1}{2}). \quad (9)$$

**Example 3.** For  $s=1$ , the representation

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{\zeta(n)}{n} = \gamma$$

is regained (since  $\mathcal{J}_{0,1}(1) = -1$ ), and for  $s=2$ , formula (9) gives the relation

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{\zeta(n)}{n^2} = \gamma - 2 - \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{\zeta(\frac{1}{2} + ix)}{(\frac{1}{2} + ix)^2 \cosh(\pi x)} dx. \quad (10)$$

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