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# New variations on the six exponentials theorem

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S. Ramanujan.– Highly composite numbers, Proc. London Math. Soc. **2** 14 (1915), 347–409.

For  $n \ge 1$  let d(n) denote the number of divisors of n. A superior highly composite number is a positive integer n for which there exists  $\epsilon > 0$  such that the function  $d(m)/m^{\epsilon}$  reaches its maximum at n. The first superior highly composite numbers are

 $2, 6, 12, 60, 120, 360, 2520, 5040, 55440, 720720, \ldots$ 

and their successive quotients are prime numbers

 $3, 2, 5, 2, 3, 7, 2, 11, 13, 2, 3\ldots$ 

L. Alaoglu, P. Erdős.– On highly composite and similar numbers, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc., **56** (1944), 448–469.

Colossally abundant numbers : replace

$$d(n) = \sum_{d|n} 1$$

by

$$\sigma(n) = \sum_{d|n} d$$

Quotients of consecutive colossally abundant numbers are prime.

¿ If x is a real number such that  $p_1^x$  and  $p_2^x$  are rational integers for two distinct primes  $p_1$  and  $p_2$ , then  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ ?

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L. Alaoglu, P. Erdős.– On highly composite and similar numbers, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc., **56** (1944), 448–469.

S. Lang.– Nombres transcendants, Sém. Bourbaki 18ème année (1965/66), N° 305.

S. Lang.– Algebraic values of meromorphic functions, II, Topology, **5** (1966), 363–370.

S. Lang.- Introduction to Transcendental Numbers; Addison-Wesley 1966.

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K. Ramachandra.– Contributions to the theory of transcendental numbers (I); Acta Arith., **14** (1968), 65–72; (II), id., 73–88.

K. Ramachandra.- *Lectures on transcendental numbers*; The Ramanujan Institute, Univ. of Madras, 1969, 72 p.

**Six Exponentials Theorem** (special case). If x is a real number such that  $p_1^x$ ,  $p_2^x$  and  $p_3^x$  are rational integers for three distinct primes  $p_1$ ,  $p_2$  and  $p_3$ , then  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ . **Six Exponentials Theorem** (special case). If x is a real number such that  $p_1^x$ ,  $p_2^x$  and  $p_3^x$  are rational integers for three distinct primes  $p_1$ ,  $p_2$  and  $p_3$ , then  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Six Exponentials Theorem (again a special case). If x is a complex number such that  $\alpha_1^x$ ,  $\alpha_2^x$  and  $\alpha_3^x$  are algebraic for three multiplicatively independent numbers  $\alpha_1$ ,  $\alpha_2$  and  $\alpha_3$ , then  $x \in \mathbf{Q}$ .

**Six Exponentials Theorem.** If  $x_1, x_2$  are two complex numbers which are **Q**-linearly independent, if  $y_1, y_2, y_3$  are three complex numbers which are **Q**-linearly independent, then one at least of the six numbers

$$e^{x_i y_j}$$
  $(i = 1, 2, j = 1, 2, 3)$ 

is transcendental.

**Six Exponentials Theorem.** If  $x_1, x_2$  are two complex numbers which are **Q**-linearly independent, if  $y_1, y_2, y_3$  are three complex numbers which are **Q**-linearly independent, then one at least of the six numbers

$$e^{x_i y_j}$$
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is transcendental.

Set

$$x_i y_j = \lambda_{ij}$$
  $(i = 1, 2; j = 1, 2, 3).$ 

A  $2 \times 3$  matrix has rank one iff it is of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1y_1 & x_1y_2 & x_1y_3 \\ x_2y_1 & x_2y_2 & x_2y_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

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Denote by  $\mathbf{Q}$  the set of algebraic numbers and define

$$\mathcal{L} = \{ \log \alpha \; ; \; \alpha \in \overline{\mathbf{Q}}^{\times} \}. = \{ \lambda \in \mathbf{C} \; ; \; e^{\lambda} \in \overline{\mathbf{Q}}^{\times} \}.$$

Six Exponentials Theorem (logarithmic form). For i = 1, 2and j = 1, 2, 3, let  $\lambda_{ij} \in \mathcal{L}$ . Assume  $\lambda_{11}, \lambda_{12}, \lambda_{13}$  are linearly independent over  $\mathbf{Q}$  and also  $\lambda_{11}, \lambda_{21}$  are linearly independent over  $\mathbf{Q}$ . Then the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{11} & \lambda_{12} & \lambda_{13} \\ \lambda_{12} & \lambda_{22} & \lambda_{23} \end{pmatrix}$$

has rank 2.

### Four Exponentials Conjecture

History.

A. Selberg (50's).

Th. Schneider(1957) - first problem.

- S Lang (60's).
- K. Ramachandra (1968).

Leopoldt's Conjecture on the p-adic rank of the units of an algebraic number field (non vanishing of the p-adic regulator).

Four Exponentials Conjecture (exponential form). Let  $x_1, x_2$ be two Q-linearly independent complex numbers and  $y_1, y_2$  also two Q-linearly independent complex numbers. Then one at least of the four numbers

 $e^{x_1y_1}, e^{x_1y_2}, e^{x_2y_1}, e^{x_2y_2}$ 

is transcendental.

Four Exponentials Conjecture (logarithmic form). For i = 1, 2 and j = 1, 2, let  $\alpha_{ij}$  be a non zero algebraic number and  $\lambda_{ij}$  a complex number satisfying  $e^{\lambda_{ij}} = \alpha_{ij}$ . Assume  $\lambda_{11}, \lambda_{12}$  are linearly independent over  $\mathbf{Q}$  and also  $\lambda_{11}, \lambda_{21}$  are linearly independent over  $\mathbf{Q}$ . Then

 $\lambda_{11}\lambda_{22} \neq \lambda_{12}\lambda_{21}.$ 

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 $\lambda_{11}\lambda_{22} \neq \lambda_{12}\lambda_{21}.$ 

#### Notice:

$$\lambda_{11}\lambda_{22} - \lambda_{12}\lambda_{21} = \det \begin{vmatrix} \lambda_{11} & \lambda_{12} \\ \lambda_{12} & \lambda_{22} \end{vmatrix}.$$

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#### Algebraic independence of logarithms of algebraic numbers

**Conjecture** Let  $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n$  be non zero algebraic numbers. For  $1 \leq j \leq n$  let  $\lambda_j \in \mathbb{C}$  satisfy  $e^{\lambda_j} = \alpha_j$ . Assume  $\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n$  are linearly independent over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Then  $\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n$  are algebraically independent.

#### Algebraic independence of logarithms of algebraic numbers

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Write  $\lambda_j = \log \alpha_j$ .

If  $\log \alpha_1, \ldots, \log \alpha_n$  are **Q**-linearly independent then they are algebraically independent.

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#### **Open problem:**

 $\mathsf{transc.deg}_{\mathbf{Q}}\mathbf{Q}(\mathcal{L}) \geq 2?$ 

Homogeneous quadratic relations (Four Exponentials Conjecture):

$$\lambda_1 \lambda_2 = \lambda_3 \lambda_4 ?$$

Transcendence of  $\alpha^{(\log \beta)/\log \gamma}$  :

 $(\log \alpha)(\log \beta) = (\log \gamma)(\log \delta)?$ 

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Non homogeneous quadratic relations:

 $(\log \alpha)(\log \beta) = \log \gamma$ 

Open problem: Transcendence of  $2^{\log 2}$ :

 $(\log 2)^2 = \log \gamma?$ 

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#### Non homogeneous relations

**Three Exponentials Conjecture** (logarithmic form). Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$  be three elements in  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $\gamma$  a non zero algebraic number. Assume  $\lambda_1 \lambda_2 = \gamma \lambda_3$ . Then  $\lambda_1 \lambda_2 = \gamma \lambda_3 = 0$ .

#### Non homogeneous relations

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Special case:  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \log \alpha$ ,  $\gamma = 1$ : transcendence of  $\alpha^{\log \alpha}$ ? Example: transcendence of  $e^{\pi^2}$ ?

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**Three Exponentials Conjecture** (exponential form). Let  $x_1, x_2, y$  be non zero complex numbers and  $\gamma$  a non zero algebraic number. Then one at least of the three numbers

$$e^{x_1y}, e^{x_2y}, e^{\gamma x_1/x_2}$$

 $is\ transcendental.$ 

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**Five Exponentials Theorem** (exponential form). If  $x_1, x_2$  are **Q**-linearly independent,  $y_1, y_2$  are **Q**-linearly independent and  $\gamma$  is a non zero algebraic number, then one at least of the five numbers

 $e^{x_1y_1}, e^{x_1y_2}, e^{x_2y_1}, e^{x_2y_2}, e^{\gamma x_2/x_1}$ 

 $is\ transcendental.$ 

Five Exponentials Theorem (exponential form). If  $x_1, x_2$  are Q-linearly independent,  $y_1, y_2$  are Q-linearly independent and  $\gamma$  is a non zero algebraic number, then one at least of the five numbers

$$e^{x_1y_1}, e^{x_1y_2}, e^{x_2y_1}, e^{x_2y_2}, e^{\gamma x_2/x_1}$$

is transcendental.

**Five Exponentials Theorem** (logarithmic form). For i = 1, 2 and j = 1, 2, let  $\lambda_{ij} \in \mathcal{L}$ . Assume  $\lambda_{11}, \lambda_{12}$  are linearly independent over  $\mathbf{Q}$ . Further let  $\gamma \in \overline{\mathbf{Q}}^{\times}$  and  $\lambda \in \mathcal{L}$ . Then the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{11} & \lambda_{12} & \gamma \\ \lambda_{21} & \lambda_{22} & \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

has rank 2.

Sharp Six Exponentials Theorem (logarithmic form). For i = 1, 2 and j = 1, 2, 3, let  $\lambda_{ij} \in \mathcal{L}$  and  $\beta_{ij} \in \overline{\mathbf{Q}}$ . Assume  $\lambda_{11}, \lambda_{12}, \lambda_{13}$  are linearly independent over  $\mathbf{Q}$  and also  $\lambda_{11}, \lambda_{21}$  are linearly independent over  $\mathbf{Q}$ . Then the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{11} + \beta_{11} & \lambda_{12} + \beta_{12} & \lambda_{13} + \beta_{13} \\ \lambda_{21} + \beta_{21} & \lambda_{22} + \beta_{22} & \lambda_{23} + \beta_{23} \end{pmatrix}$$

has rank 2.

Sharp Six Exponentials Theorem (exponential form). If  $x_1, x_2$ are two complex numbers which are Q-linearly independent, if  $y_1, y_2, y_3$  are three complex numbers which are Q-linearly independent and if  $\beta_{ij}$  are six algebraic numbers such that

$$e^{x_i y_j - \beta_{ij}} \in \overline{\mathbf{Q}} \quad for \quad i = 1, 2, \ j = 1, 2, 3,$$

then  $x_i y_j = \beta_{ij}$  for i = 1, 2 and j = 1, 2, 3.

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Sharp Six Exponentials Theorem (exponential form). If  $x_1, x_2$ are two complex numbers which are Q-linearly independent, if  $y_1, y_2, y_3$  are three complex numbers which are Q-linearly independent and if  $\beta_{ij}$  are six algebraic numbers such that

$$e^{x_i y_j - \beta_{ij}} \in \overline{\mathbf{Q}} \quad for \quad i = 1, 2, \ j = 1, 2, 3,$$

then 
$$x_i y_j = \beta_{ij}$$
 for  $i = 1, 2$  and  $j = 1, 2, 3$ .

The sharp six exponentials Theorem implies the five exponentials Theorem: set  $y_3 = \gamma/x_1$  and use Baker's Theorem for checking that  $y_1, y_2, y_3$  are linearly independent over **Q**.

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**A consequence of the sharp six exponentials Theorem:** *One at least of the two numbers* 

$$e^{\lambda^2} = \alpha^{\log \alpha}, \ e^{\lambda^3} = \alpha^{(\log \alpha)^2}$$

is transcendental.

$$\operatorname{rank} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \lambda & \lambda^2 \\ \lambda & \lambda^2 & \lambda^3 \end{pmatrix} = 1.$$

First proof in 1970 (also by W.D. Brownawell) as a consequence of a result of algebraic independence.

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**Sharp Four Exponentials Conjecture** (exponential form). If  $x_1, x_2$  are two complex numbers which are Q-linearly independent, if  $y_1, y_2$ , are two complex numbers which are Qlinearly independent and if  $\beta_{11}, \beta_{12}, \beta_{21}, \beta_{22}$  are four algebraic numbers such that the four numbers

$$e^{x_1y_1-\beta_{11}}, e^{x_1y_2-\beta_{12}}, e^{x_2y_1-\beta_{21}}, e^{x_2y_2-\beta_{22}}$$

are algebraic, then  $x_i y_j = \beta_{ij}$  for i = 1, 2 and j = 1, 2.

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Sharp Four Exponentials Conjecture (logarithmic form). For i = 1, 2 and j = 1, 2, let  $\lambda_{ij} \in \mathcal{L}$  and  $\beta_{ij} \in \overline{\mathbf{Q}}$ . Assume  $\lambda_{11}, \lambda_{12}$  are linearly independent over  $\mathbf{Q}$  and also  $\lambda_{11}, \lambda_{21}$  are linearly independent over  $\mathbf{Q}$ . Then

$$\det \begin{vmatrix} \lambda_{11} + \beta_{11} & \lambda_{12} + \beta_{12} \\ \lambda_{21} + \beta_{21} & \lambda_{22} + \beta_{22} \end{vmatrix} \neq 0.$$

**Sharp Three Exponentials Conjecture** (exponential form). If  $x_1, x_2, y$  are non zero complex numbers and  $\alpha, \beta_1, \beta_2, \gamma$  are algebraic numbers such that the three numbers

$$e^{x_1y-\beta_1}, e^{x_2y-\beta_2}, e^{(\gamma x_1/x_2)-\alpha},$$

are algebraic, then either  $x_2y = \beta_2$  or  $\gamma x_1 = \alpha x_2$ .

**Sharp Three Exponentials Conjecture** (exponential form). If  $x_1, x_2, y$  are non zero complex numbers and  $\alpha, \beta_1, \beta_2, \gamma$  are algebraic numbers such that the three numbers

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are algebraic, then either  $x_2y = \beta_2$  or  $\gamma x_1 = \alpha x_2$ .

Sharp Three Exponentials Conjecture (logarithmic form). Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$  be three elements of  $\mathcal{L}$  with  $\lambda_1 \lambda_3 \neq 0$  and  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \gamma$  four algebraic numbers. Then

$$\det \begin{vmatrix} \lambda_1 + \beta_1 & \gamma \\ \lambda_2 + \beta_2 & \lambda_3 + \beta_3 \end{vmatrix} \neq 0.$$

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**Sharp Five Exponentials Conjecture.** If  $x_1, x_2$  are **Q**-linearly independent, if  $y_1, y_2$  are **Q**-linearly independent and if  $\alpha, \beta_{11}, \beta_{12}, \beta_{21}, \beta_{22}, \gamma$  are six algebraic numbers with  $\gamma \neq 0$  such that

$$e^{x_1y_1-\beta_{11}}, e^{x_1y_2-\beta_{12}}, e^{x_2y_1-\beta_{21}}, e^{x_2y_2-\beta_{22}}, e^{(\gamma x_2/x_1)-\alpha}$$

are algebraic, then  $x_i y_j = \beta_{ij}$  for i = 1, 2, j = 1, 2 and also  $\gamma x_2 = \alpha x_1$ .

**Sharp Five Exponentials Conjecture.** If  $x_1, x_2$  are **Q**-linearly independent, if  $y_1, y_2$  are **Q**-linearly independent and if  $\alpha, \beta_{11}, \beta_{12}, \beta_{21}, \beta_{22}, \gamma$  are six algebraic numbers with  $\gamma \neq 0$  such that

$$e^{x_1y_1-\beta_{11}}, e^{x_1y_2-\beta_{12}}, e^{x_2y_1-\beta_{21}}, e^{x_2y_2-\beta_{22}}, e^{(\gamma x_2/x_1)-\alpha}$$

are algebraic, then  $x_i y_j = \beta_{ij}$  for i = 1, 2, j = 1, 2 and also  $\gamma x_2 = \alpha x_1$ .

Difficult case: when  $y_1, y_2, \gamma/x_1$  are Q-linearly dependent.

Example:  $x_1 = y_1 = \gamma = 1$ .

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**Sharp Five Exponentials Conjecture.** If  $x_1, x_2$  are **Q**-linearly independent, if  $y_1, y_2$  are **Q**-linearly independent and if  $\alpha, \beta_{11}, \beta_{12}, \beta_{21}, \beta_{22}, \gamma$  are six algebraic numbers with  $\gamma \neq 0$  such that

$$e^{x_1y_1-\beta_{11}}, e^{x_1y_2-\beta_{12}}, e^{x_2y_1-\beta_{21}}, e^{x_2y_2-\beta_{22}}, e^{(\gamma x_2/x_1)-\alpha}$$

are algebraic, then  $x_i y_j = \beta_{ij}$  for i = 1, 2, j = 1, 2 and also  $\gamma x_2 = \alpha x_1$ .

**Consequence:** Transcendence of the number  $e^{\pi^2}$ .

**Proof.** Set  $x_1 = y_1 = 1$ ,  $x_2 = y_2 = i\pi$ ,  $\gamma = 1$ ,  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $\beta_{11} = 1$ ,  $\beta_{ij} = 0$  for  $(i, j) \neq (1, 1)$ .

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Denote by  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  the  $\overline{\mathbf{Q}}$ -vector space spanned by 1 and  $\mathcal{L}$  (linear combinations of logarithms of algebraic numbers with algebraic coefficients):

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{L}} = \left\{ \beta_0 + \sum_{h=1}^{\ell} \beta_h \log \alpha_h \; ; \; \ell \ge 0, \; \alpha' \text{s in } \overline{\mathbf{Q}}^{\times}, \; \beta' \text{s in } \overline{\mathbf{Q}} \right\}$$

**Strong Six Exponentials Theorem (***D. Roy***).** If  $x_1, x_2$ are  $\overline{\mathbf{Q}}$ -linearly independent and if  $y_1, y_2, y_3$  are  $\overline{\mathbf{Q}}$ -linearly independent, then one at least of the six numbers

$$x_i y_j$$
  $(i = 1, 2, j = 1, 2, 3)$ 

does not belong to  $\mathcal{L}$ .

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**Strong Four Exponentials Conjecture.** If  $x_1, x_2$  are  $\overline{\mathbf{Q}}$ -linearly independent and if  $y_1, y_2$ , are  $\overline{\mathbf{Q}}$ -linearly independent, then one at least of the four numbers

 $x_1y_1, x_1y_2, x_2y_1, x_2y_2$ 

does not belong to  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ .

**Strong Three Exponentials Conjecture.** If  $x_1, x_2, y$  are non zero complex numbers with  $x_1/x_2 \notin \overline{\mathbf{Q}}$  and  $x_1/x_2 \notin \overline{\mathbf{Q}}$ , then one at least of the three numbers

 $x_1y, \quad x_2y, \quad x_2/x_1$ 

is not in  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ .

**Strong Five Exponentials Conjecture.** Let  $x_1, x_2$  be  $\overline{\mathbf{Q}}$ -linearly independent and  $y_1, y_2$  be  $\overline{\mathbf{Q}}$ -linearly independent. Then one at least of the five numbers

 $x_1y_1, x_1y_2, x_2y_1, x_2y_2, x_1/x_2$ 

does not belong to  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ .

	12 statements
	Three exponentials
sharp	Four exponentials
strong	Five exponentials
	Six exponentials

	12 statements	
	Three exponentials	
sharp	Four exponentials	Conjecture
strong	Five exponentials	Theorem
	Six exponentials	

#### 12 statements

Three exponentials

sharp	Four exponentials	Conjecture
strong	Five exponentials	Theorem
	Six exponentials	

Three exponentials: three conjectures Four exponentials: three conjectures Six exponentials: three theorems Five exponentials: two conjectures (for sharp and strong) one theorem

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Alg. indep. C
$$\Downarrow$$
Strong 3 exp C  $\Leftarrow$  Strong 4 exp C  $\Rightarrow$  Strong 5 exp C  $\Rightarrow$  Strong 6 exp T $\Downarrow$  $\Downarrow$  $\Downarrow$  $\Downarrow$  $\Downarrow$ Sharp 3 exp C  $\Leftarrow$  Sharp 4 exp C  $\Rightarrow$  Sharp 5 exp C  $\Rightarrow$  Sharp 6 exp T $\Downarrow$  $\downarrow$ <

#### **Remark:**

The sharp 6 exponentials Theorem implies the 5 exponentials Theorem.

#### **Consequences of the 4 exponentials Conjecture**

$$\begin{split} \lambda_{11} &- \frac{\lambda_{12}\lambda_{21}}{\lambda_{22}} \neq 0, \\ \frac{\lambda_{11}}{\lambda_{12}} &- \frac{\lambda_{21}}{\lambda_{22}} \neq 0, \end{split}$$

$$\frac{\lambda_{11}\lambda_{22}}{\lambda_{12}\lambda_{21}} \neq 0,$$

$$\lambda_{11}\lambda_{22} - \lambda_{12}\lambda_{21} \neq 0.$$

#### **Consequence of the sharp 4 exponentials Conjecture**

Let  $\lambda_{ij}$  (i = 1, 2, j = 1, 2) be four non zero logarithms of algebraic numbers.

#### **Consequence of the sharp 4 exponentials Conjecture**

Let  $\lambda_{ij}$  (i = 1, 2, j = 1, 2) be four non zero logarithms of algebraic numbers.

Assume

$$\lambda_{11} - \frac{\lambda_{12}\lambda_{21}}{\lambda_{22}} \in \overline{\mathbf{Q}}.$$

Then

 $\lambda_{11}\lambda_{22} = \lambda_{12}\lambda_{21}.$ 

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Proof. Assume

$$\lambda_{11} - \frac{\lambda_{12}\lambda_{21}}{\lambda_{22}} = \beta \in \overline{\mathbf{Q}}.$$

Use the sharp four exponentials conjecture with

$$(\lambda_{11} - \beta)\lambda_{22} = \lambda_{12}\lambda_{21}.$$

#### **Consequence of the strong 4 exponentials Conjecture**

Let  $\lambda_{ij}$  (i = 1, 2, j = 1, 2) be four non zero logarithms of algebraic numbers.

Assume

$$\frac{\lambda_{11}\lambda_{22}}{\lambda_{12}\lambda_{21}}\in\overline{\mathbf{Q}}.$$

Then

 $\frac{\lambda_{11}\lambda_{22}}{\lambda_{12}\lambda_{21}} \in \mathbf{Q}.$ 

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**Proof:** Assume

$$\frac{\lambda_{11}\lambda_{22}}{\lambda_{12}\lambda_{21}} = \beta \in \overline{\mathbf{Q}}.$$

Use the strong four exponentials conjecture with

 $\lambda_{11}\lambda_{22} = \beta\lambda_{12}\lambda_{21}.$ 

#### **Consequence of the strong 4 exponentials Conjecture**

Let  $\lambda_{ij}$  (i = 1, 2, j = 1, 2) be four non zero logarithms of algebraic numbers.

Assume

$$rac{\lambda_{11}}{\lambda_{12}} - rac{\lambda_{21}}{\lambda_{22}} \in \overline{\mathbf{Q}}.$$

Then

- either  $\lambda_{11}/\lambda_{12} \in \mathbf{Q}$  and  $\lambda_{21}/\lambda_{22} \in \mathbf{Q}$
- or  $\lambda_{12}/\lambda_{22} \in \mathbf{Q}$  and

$$\frac{\lambda_{11}}{\lambda_{12}} - \frac{\lambda_{21}}{\lambda_{22}} \in \mathbf{Q}.$$

### Remark: $\frac{\lambda_{11}}{\lambda_{12}} - \frac{b\lambda_{11} - a\lambda_{12}}{b\lambda_{12}} = \frac{a}{b}$

**Proof:** Assume 
$$\frac{\lambda_{11}}{\lambda_{12}} - \frac{\lambda_{21}}{\lambda_{22}} = \beta \in \overline{\mathbf{Q}}.$$

#### Use the strong four exponentials conjecture with

$$\lambda_{12}(\beta\lambda_{22}+\lambda_{21})=\lambda_{11}\lambda_{22}.$$

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Question: Let  $\lambda_{ij}$  (i = 1, 2, j = 1, 2) be four non zero logarithms of algebraic numbers. Assume

$$\lambda_{11}\lambda_{22} - \lambda_{12}\lambda_{21} \in \overline{\mathbf{Q}}.$$

Deduce

 $\lambda_{11}\lambda_{22} = \lambda_{12}\lambda_{21}.$ 

Question: Let  $\lambda_{ij}$  (i = 1, 2, j = 1, 2) be four non zero logarithms of algebraic numbers. Assume

$$\lambda_{11}\lambda_{22} - \lambda_{12}\lambda_{21} \in \overline{\mathbf{Q}}.$$

Deduce

$$\lambda_{11}\lambda_{22} = \lambda_{12}\lambda_{21}.$$

Answer: This is a consequence of the Conjecture on algebraic independence of logarithms of algebraic numbers.

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#### **Consequences of the strong 6 exponentials Theorem**

Let  $\lambda_{ij}$  (i = 1, 2, j = 1, 2, 3) be six non zero logarithms of algebraic numbers. Assume

- $\lambda_{11}, \lambda_{21}$  are linearly independent over Q and
- $\lambda_{11}, \lambda_{12}, \lambda_{13}$  are linearly independent over **Q**.

• One at least of the two numbers

$$\lambda_{12} - \frac{\lambda_{11}\lambda_{22}}{\lambda_{21}}, \quad \lambda_{13} - \frac{\lambda_{11}\lambda_{23}}{\lambda_{21}}$$

is transcendental.

• One at least of the two numbers

$$\frac{\lambda_{12}\lambda_{21}}{\lambda_{11}\lambda_{22}}, \quad \frac{\lambda_{13}\lambda_{21}}{\lambda_{11}\lambda_{23}}$$

is transcendental.

• One at least of the two numbers

$$\frac{\lambda_{12}}{\lambda_{11}} - \frac{\lambda_{22}}{\lambda_{21}}, \quad \frac{\lambda_{13}}{\lambda_{11}} - \frac{\lambda_{23}}{\lambda_{21}}$$

is transcendental.

• Also one at least of the two numbers

$$\frac{\lambda_{21}}{\lambda_{11}} - \frac{\lambda_{22}}{\lambda_{12}}, \quad \frac{\lambda_{21}}{\lambda_{11}} - \frac{\lambda_{23}}{\lambda_{13}}$$

is transcendental.

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Replacing  $\lambda_{21}$  by 1.

• One at least of the two numbers

$$\lambda_{12} - \lambda_{11}\lambda_{22}, \quad \lambda_{13} - \lambda_{11}\lambda_{23}$$

 $is\ transcendental.$ 

• The same holds for

$$\frac{\lambda_{12}}{\lambda_{11}} - \lambda_{22}, \quad \frac{\lambda_{13}}{\lambda_{11}} - \lambda_{23}.$$

is transcendental.

• Finally one at least of the two numbers

$$\frac{\lambda_{11}\lambda_{22}}{\lambda_{12}}, \quad \frac{\lambda_{11}\lambda_{23}}{\lambda_{13}}$$

is transcendental, and also one at least of the two numbers

$$\frac{1}{\lambda_{11}} - \frac{\lambda_{22}}{\lambda_{12}}, \quad \frac{1}{\lambda_{11}} - \frac{\lambda_{23}}{\lambda_{13}}.$$

is transcendental.

#### Missing:

One at least of the two numbers

$$\lambda_{12}\lambda_{21} - \lambda_{22}\lambda_{11}, \quad \lambda_{13}\lambda_{21} - \lambda_{23}\lambda_{11}$$

 $is\ transcendental\ ?$ 

**Theorem.** Let  $\lambda_{ij}$  (i = 1, 2, j = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) be ten non zero logarithms of algebraic numbers. Assume •  $\lambda_{11}, \lambda_{21}$  are linearly independent over **Q** and

•  $\lambda_{11}, \ldots, \lambda_{15}$  are linearly independent over  $\mathbf{Q}$ . Then one at least of the four numbers

$$\lambda_{1j}\lambda_{21} - \lambda_{2j}\lambda_{11}, \quad (j = 2, 3, 4, 5)$$

 $is\ transcendental.$ 

#### **Further related transcendence results**

**Theorem** (W.D. Brownawell, M. W., 1970) For i = 1, 2 and j = 1, 2, let  $\alpha_{ij}$  be a non zero algebraic number and  $\lambda_{ij}$  a complex number satisfying  $e^{\lambda_{ij}} = \alpha_{ij}$ . Assume  $\lambda_{11}, \lambda_{12}$  are linearly independent over  $\mathbf{Q}$  and also  $\lambda_{11}, \lambda_{21}$  are linearly independent over  $\mathbf{Q}$ . Then one at least of the following two statements holds

• 
$$\lambda_{11}\lambda_{22} \neq \lambda_{12}\lambda_{21}$$

• the field  $\mathbf{Q}(\lambda_{11}, \lambda_{12}, \lambda_{21}\lambda_{22})$  has transcendence degree  $\geq 2$ .

#### Consequences

• One at least of the two numbers  $e^e$ ,  $e^{e^2}$  is transcendental.

• For  $\lambda \in \mathcal{L} \setminus \{0\}$ , one at least of the two numbers  $e^{\lambda^2}$ ,  $e^{\lambda^3}$  is transcendental.

One at least of the two following statements is true:

 the two numbers e and π are algebraically independent
 the number e<sup>π<sup>2</sup></sup> is transcendental.

• For  $\lambda \in \mathcal{L} \setminus \{0\}$ , one at least of the two following statements is true:

• the two numbers e and  $\lambda$  are algebraically independent • the number  $e^{\lambda^2}$  is transcendental.

#### Generalization

**Theorem** (D. Roy–M. W., 1995) Let  $Q \in \mathbf{Q}[X_1, \ldots, X_n]$  be a homogeneous quadratic polynomial and  $\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n$  be elements in  $\mathcal{L}$  such that

$$Q(\lambda_1,\ldots,\lambda_n)=0.$$

Assume the field  $\mathbf{Q}(\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n)$  has transcendence degree 1 over  $\mathbf{Q}$ . Then the point  $(\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n)$  belongs to a linear subspace of  $\mathbf{C}^n$  contained in the hypersurface Q = 0.

Next step: investigate the transcendence of numbers

 $Q(\lambda_1,\ldots,\lambda_n).$ 

### Happy Birthday Professor Ramachandra!

Number Theory Conference 2003, Bangalore