

36. A Note on the Rational Approximations to $\tanh \frac{1}{k}$

By Takeshi OKANO

Department of Mathematics, Saitama Institute of Technology
(Communicated by Shokichi IYANAGA, M. J. A., June 8, 1993)

§ 1. Introduction. I. Shiokawa [4] proved the following theorem.

Theorem A. *Let k be a positive integer. Then there is a positive constant C depending only on k such that*

$$\left| \tanh \frac{1}{k} - \frac{p}{q} \right| > C \frac{\log \log q}{q^2 \log q}$$

for all integers p and q with $q \geq 3$.

The purpose of this note is to prove the following theorem which shows that constant C in Theorem A is an effectively computable number depending only on $k \geq 2$.

Theorem. *Let k and N be positive integers with $k \geq 2$ and $N \geq 10$, and let p_n/q_n be the n -th convergent of $\tanh \frac{1}{k}$. Let γ_N and δ_n be defined by*

$$\gamma_N = 2 \left(k + \frac{k+1}{N-1/2} \right) \left(1 + \frac{\log \log (2k(N+1)/e)}{\log(N+1)} \right)$$

and

$$\delta_n = \frac{(k(2n+1) + 2) \log \log q_n}{\log q_n},$$

respectively. Let γ be any constant such that

$$\gamma \geq \max\{\gamma_N, \gamma_N^*\},$$

where

$$\gamma_N^* = \max\{\delta_n \mid 1 \leq n < N\}.$$

Then

$$\left| \tanh \frac{1}{k} - \frac{p}{q} \right| > \frac{\log \log q}{\gamma q^2 \log q}$$

for all integers p and q with $q \geq 2$.

We now record two corollaries of the theorem.

Corollary 1. *For all integers p and q with $q \geq 2$,*

$$\left| \tanh \frac{1}{2} - \frac{p}{q} \right| > \frac{\log \log q}{6q^2 \log q}.$$

Corollary 2. *For all integers p and q with $q \geq 2$,*

$$\left| \tanh \frac{1}{3} - \frac{p}{q} \right| > \frac{\log \log q}{9q^2 \log q}.$$

§ 2. Lemma. Lemma. *Under the same assumptions as in Theorem,*

$$\left| \tanh \frac{1}{k} - \frac{p}{q} \right| > \frac{\log \log q}{\gamma_N q^2 \log q}$$