SHARP BOUNDS OF THE LANDAU CONSTANTS

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Abstract. The aim of this paper is to establish new bounds of the Landau constants.

1. Introduction and motivation

The Landau constants defined for all positive integers $n$ by

$$G_n = 1 + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{1 \cdot 3}{2 \cdot 4}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6}\right)^2 + \cdots + \left(\frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot \cdots \cdot (2n-1)}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot \cdots \cdot (2n)}\right)^2,$$

play an important role in some extremal problems in complex analysis and in the theory of Fourier series. More precisely, in 1913 Landau [6] proved that $G_n$ is the maximum of the expression $|\sum_{k=1}^{n} a_k|$, with respect to all functions of the form $f(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k z^k$ which is analytic in the unit disk and satisfies $|f(z)| < 1$, for every $|z| < 1$.

In consequence, the problem of approximation of the Landau constants have attracted the attention of many authors. In particular, Landau himself studied the asymptotic behaviour of $G_n$ and showed that

$$G_n \sim \frac{1}{\pi} \ln n,$$

then Watson [7] established the following asymptotic formula

$$G_n = c_0 + \frac{1}{\pi} \ln (n + 1) - \frac{1}{4\pi (n + 1)} + O \left(\frac{1}{n^2}\right) \quad (n \to \infty).$$

Here, and in what follows, $c_0 = \frac{\gamma}{2} (\gamma + 4 \ln 2) = 1.06627\ldots$, and $\gamma = 0.577215\ldots$ is the Euler-Mascheroni constant.

This problem of approximation of the Landau constants was continued in the works of Brutman [3] and Falaleev [5], who proved that for every non-negative integer $n$,

$$1 + \frac{1}{\pi} \ln (n + 1) < G_n < 1.0663 + \frac{1}{\pi} \ln (n + 1),$$

respectively

$$1.0662 + \frac{1}{\pi} \ln \left(\frac{n + 3}{4}\right) < G_n < 1.0916 + \frac{1}{\pi} \ln \left(\frac{n + 3}{4}\right).$$
We improve the upper bound in the following way, that also shows that the constant $3/4$ is the best possible.

**Theorem 1.** For every integer $n \geq 1$, we have

$$c_0 + \frac{1}{\pi} \ln \left( n + \frac{3}{4} \right) < G_n < c_0 + \frac{1}{\pi} \ln \left( n + \frac{3}{4} + \frac{11}{192n} \right).$$

Very recently, Zhao [8, Corollary 1] extended the asymptotic expansion of $G_n$ to

$$G_n = c_0 + \frac{1}{\pi} \ln (n + 1) - \frac{1}{4\pi (n + 1)} + \frac{5}{192\pi (n + 1)^2} + O \left( \frac{1}{(n + 1)^3} \right),$$

as a direct consequence of the following double inequality

$$c_0 + \frac{1}{\pi} \ln (n + 1) - \frac{1}{4\pi (n + 1)} + \frac{5}{192\pi (n + 1)^2} < G_n <$$

$$< c_0 + \frac{1}{\pi} \ln (n + 1) - \frac{1}{4\pi (n + 1)} + \frac{5}{192\pi (n + 1)^2} + \frac{3}{128\pi (n + 1)^3}$$

stated in [8, Theorem 1], as the main result.

In this paper we establish the following double inequality that improves much of Zhao’s results (1.1)–(1.2).

**Theorem 2.** For every integer $n \geq 1$, we have

$$c_0 + \frac{1}{\pi} \ln (n + 1) - \frac{1}{4\pi (n + 1)} + \frac{5}{192\pi (n + 1)^2} + \frac{3}{128\pi (n + 1)^3} - \frac{341}{122880\pi (n + 1)^4} \leq G_n <$$

$$< c_0 + \frac{1}{\pi} \ln (n + 1) - \frac{1}{4\pi (n + 1)} + \frac{5}{192\pi (n + 1)^2} + \frac{3}{128\pi (n + 1)^3} - \frac{341}{122880\pi (n + 1)^4}.$$

and the following asymptotic formula holds:

$$G_n = c_0 + \frac{1}{\pi} \ln (n + 1) - \frac{1}{4\pi (n + 1)} + \frac{5}{192\pi (n + 1)^2} + \frac{3}{128\pi (n + 1)^3} - \frac{341}{122880\pi (n + 1)^4} + O \left( \frac{1}{(n + 1)^5} \right).$$

Another direction for developing the problem of approximation of $G_n$ was opened by Cvijović and Klínowski [4, Theorem 1] who gave some estimates in terms of the digamma function $\psi = \Gamma'/\Gamma$, namely

$$c_0 + \frac{1}{\pi} \psi \left( n + \frac{5}{4} \right) < G_n < 1.0725 + \frac{1}{\pi} \psi \left( n + \frac{5}{4} \right)$$

and

$$0.9883 + \frac{1}{\pi} \psi \left( n + \frac{3}{2} \right) < G_n < c_0 + \frac{1}{\pi} \psi \left( n + \frac{3}{2} \right) \quad (n \geq 0).$$
Motivated by the work of Cvijović and Klinowski [4], Alzer [2, Theorem 1] proved the following double inequality, for every integer \( n \geq 1 \),

\[
(1.5) \quad c_0 + \frac{1}{\pi} \psi(n + \alpha) < G_n < c_0 + \frac{1}{\pi} \psi(n + \beta),
\]

where the constants \( \alpha = \frac{5}{4} \) and \( \beta = \psi^{-1}(\pi(1 - c_0)) = 1.26621... \) are the best possible.

We establish the following double inequality that improves much of the results (1.3)–(1.5) of Cvijović, Klinowski and Alzer, and also shows that the best approximation of the form

\[
G_n \approx c_0 + \frac{1}{\pi} \psi(n + b) \quad (n \to \infty)
\]

is obtained for \( b = \frac{5}{4} \).

**Theorem 3.** For every positive integer \( n \), we have

\[
(2.1) \quad F_n (x) = \ln \Gamma(x + 1) - \left( x + \frac{1}{2} \right) \ln x + x - \frac{1}{2} \ln 2\pi - \sum_{i=1}^{2n} \frac{B_{2i}}{2i(2i - 1)x^{2i-1}}
\]

and

\[
H_n (x) = -\ln \Gamma(x + 1) + \left( x + \frac{1}{2} \right) \ln x - x + \frac{1}{2} \ln 2\pi + \sum_{i=1}^{2n+1} \frac{B_{2i}}{2i(2i - 1)x^{2i-1}}
\]

are completely monotonic (\( B_j \) is the \( j \)th Bernoulli number). In particular, \( F_n > 0 \) and \( H_n > 0 \) and, consequently,

\[
(2.2) \quad s(x) < \ln \Gamma(x + 1) < t(x)
\]

where

\[
s(x) = \ln \sqrt{2\pi} + \left( x + \frac{1}{2} \right) \ln x - x + \frac{1}{12x} - \frac{1}{360x^3} + \frac{1}{1260x^5} - \frac{1}{1680x^7}
\]

and

\[
t(x) = \ln \sqrt{2\pi} + \left( x + \frac{1}{2} \right) \ln x - x + \frac{1}{12x} - \frac{1}{360x^3} + \frac{1}{1260x^5} - \frac{1}{1680x^7} + \frac{1}{1188x^9}.
\]

Then, using (2.2), we get

\[
(2.3) \quad e^{u(x)} < \frac{1}{16^x} \left( \frac{\Gamma(2x + 1)}{(\Gamma(x + 1))^2} \right)^2 < e^{v(x)},
\]

where

\[
u(x) = 2s(2x) - 4t(x) - x \ln 16, \quad v(x) = 2t(2x) - 4s(x) - x \ln 16.
\]
We also use the inequality
\[
\sum_{k=1}^{2p} \left( \frac{(-1)^{k-1}}{k} \right)^t < \ln (1 + t) < \sum_{k=1}^{2p+1} \left( \frac{(-1)^{k-1}}{k} \right)^t \quad (t > 0),
\]
which easily follows from the Taylor formula.

**Proof of Theorem 1.** By direct verification, the required inequalities are true for \( n = 1, 2 \), so we assume \( n \geq 3 \). The sequence
\[
a_n = G_n - c_0 - \frac{1}{\pi} \ln \left( n + \frac{3}{4} \right)
\]
converges to zero and it suffices to show that \( (a_n)_{n \geq 1} \) is strictly decreasing. We have
\[
a_n - a_{n-1} = \frac{1}{16^n} \left( \frac{\Gamma (2n+1)}{(\Gamma (n+1))^2} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{\pi} \ln \left( 1 + \frac{1}{n - \frac{1}{4}} \right) < e^{v(n)} - \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{k=1}^{4} \left( \frac{(-1)^{k-1}}{k} \right)^t \frac{1}{(n - \frac{1}{4})^k},
\]
so we have to prove that \( f (x) < 0 \), where
\[
f (x) = v (x) - \ln \left( \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{k=1}^{4} \left( \frac{(-1)^{k-1}}{k} \right)^t \frac{1}{(x - \frac{1}{4})^k} \right).
\]
We have
\[
f' (x) = \frac{P (x)}{33792x^{10} (4x - 1) (148x - 240x^2 + 192x^3 - 73)},
\]
where
\[
P (x) = 5947392x^{11} - 13381632x^{10} + \cdots - 73.
\]
The polynomial \( P (x + 3) \) has all coefficients positive, so \( P > 0 \) on \([3, \infty)\). Thus \( f \) is strictly increasing on \([3, \infty)\), with \( f (\infty) = 0 \), so \( f (x) < 0 \), for every \( x \in [3, \infty) \).

The sequence
\[
b_n = G_n - c_0 - \frac{1}{\pi} \ln \left( n + \frac{3}{4} + \frac{11}{192n} \right)
\]
converges to zero and it suffices to show that \( (b_n)_{n \geq 1} \) is strictly increasing. We have
\[
b_n - b_{n-1} = \frac{1}{16^n} \left( \frac{\Gamma (2n+1)}{(\Gamma (n+1))^2} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{\pi} \ln \left( 1 + \frac{1 + \frac{11}{192n}}{n - \frac{1}{4} + \frac{11}{192(n-1)}} \right) < e^{u(n)} - \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{k=1}^{5} \left( \frac{(-1)^{k-1}}{k} \right)^t \frac{1}{(x - \frac{1}{4})^k},
\]
so we have to prove that \( g (x) > 0 \), where
\[
g (x) = u (x) - \ln \left( \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{k=1}^{5} \left( \frac{(-1)^{k-1}}{k} \right)^t \frac{1}{(x - \frac{1}{4} + \frac{11}{192(n-1)})^k} \right).
\]
We have
\[
g' (x) = -\frac{Q (x)}{33792x^{10} (192x^2 - 240x + 59) (192x^2 - 192x - 11) R (x)}
\]
where
\[ Q(x) = 39279662575669739520x^{22} - 273610843762924191744x^{21} + \cdots + 116760686592 \]
and
\[ R(x) = 81537269760x^{12} - 448454983680x^{11} + 1085464903680x^{10} + \cdots + 175692. \]
The polynomials \( Q(x + 3) \) and \( R(x + 3) \) have all coefficients positive, so \( g' < 0 \) on \([3, \infty)\). Thus \( g \) is strictly decreasing on \([3, \infty)\), with \( g(\infty) = 0 \), so \( g(x) > 0 \), for every \( x \in [2, \infty) \).

**Proof of Theorem 2.** The required inequalities are true for \( n = 1, 2 \), so we assume \( n \geq 3 \). The sequence
\[
x_n = c_0 + \frac{1}{\pi} \ln (n + 1) - \frac{1}{4\pi(n + 1)} + \frac{5}{192\pi(n + 1)^2} + \frac{3}{128\pi(n + 1)^3} - \frac{341}{122880\pi(n + 1)^4} - \frac{75}{8192\pi(n + 1)^5} - G_n
\]
converges to zero, so it suffices to prove that \((x_n)_{n \geq 1}\) is increasing. In this sense, we have
\[
x_n - x_{n-1} = \frac{1}{\pi} \ln \left(1 + \frac{1}{n} \right) + \frac{1}{4\pi} \left( \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n + 1} \right) - \frac{5}{192\pi} \left( \frac{1}{n^2} - \frac{1}{(n + 1)^2} \right) - \frac{3}{128\pi} \left( \frac{1}{n^3} - \frac{1}{(n + 1)^3} \right) + \frac{341}{122880\pi} \left( \frac{1}{n^4} - \frac{1}{(n + 1)^4} \right) + \frac{75}{8192\pi} \left( \frac{1}{n^5} - \frac{1}{(n + 1)^5} \right) - \frac{1}{16n} \left( \frac{\Gamma(2n + 1)}{\Gamma(n + 1)^2} \right)^2.
\]
Using
\[ \ln \left(1 + \frac{1}{n} \right) > \sum_{k=1}^{10} \frac{(-1)^{k-1}}{kn^k} \]
and (2.3), we get
\[
(2.4) \quad x_n - x_{n-1} > S(n) - \exp v(n),
\]
where
\[
S(n) = \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{k=1}^{10} \frac{(-1)^{k-1}}{kn^k} + \frac{1}{4\pi} \left( \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n + 1} \right) - \frac{5}{192\pi} \left( \frac{1}{n^2} - \frac{1}{(n + 1)^2} \right) - \frac{3}{128\pi} \left( \frac{1}{n^3} - \frac{1}{(n + 1)^3} \right) + \frac{341}{122880\pi} \left( \frac{1}{n^4} - \frac{1}{(n + 1)^4} \right) + \frac{75}{8192\pi} \left( \frac{1}{n^5} - \frac{1}{(n + 1)^5} \right).
\]
Following (2.3), we have to prove that \( h(x) > 0 \), for every \( x \geq 3 \), where
\[ h(x) = \ln S(x) - v(x). \]
We have
\[
h'(x) = -\frac{W(x)}{33792x^{10}(x + 1)T(x)},
\]
where
\[ W(x) = 2894918400x^{18} + 3955584640x^{17} + \cdots + 258048 \]
and
\[ T(x) = 2580480x^{14} + 12257280x^{13} + \cdots - 258048. \]
The polynomials \( W(x+3) \) and \( T(x+3) \) have all coefficients positive, so \( W > 0 \) and \( T > 0 \), on \([3, \infty)\). In consequence, \( h' < 0 \), so \( h \) is strictly decreasing on \([3, \infty)\).

But \( h(\infty) = 0 \), thus \( h(x) > 0 \), for every \( x \in [3, \infty) \).

The sequence
\[
y_n = c_0 + \frac{1}{\pi} \ln(n + 1) - \frac{1}{4\pi(n + 1)} + \frac{5}{192\pi(n + 1)^2} + \cdots \]
converges to zero, so it suffices to prove that \( (y_n)_{n \geq 1} \) is strictly decreasing. In this sense, we have
\[
y_n - y_{n-1} = \frac{1}{\pi} \ln \left( 1 + \frac{1}{n} \right) + \frac{1}{4\pi} \left( \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n + 1} \right) - \frac{5}{192\pi} \left( \frac{1}{n^2} - \frac{1}{(n + 1)^2} \right) - \frac{3}{128\pi} \left( \frac{1}{n^3} - \frac{1}{(n + 1)^3} \right) + \frac{341}{122880\pi} \left( \frac{1}{n^4} - \frac{1}{(n + 1)^4} \right) - \frac{1}{16\pi} \left( \frac{\Gamma(2n + 1)}{(\Gamma(n + 1))^2} \right)^2.
\]

Following (2.5), we have to prove that \( j(x) < 0 \), for every \( x > 0 \), where
\[ j(x) = \ln Z(x) - u(x). \]

We have
\[ j'(x) = \frac{M(x)}{33792x^{10} (x + 1) N(x)}, \]
where
\[
M(x) = 19958400000x^{17} + 26044761600x^{16} + \cdots - 293601280
\]
and
\[
N(x) = 2580480x^{12} + 9676800x^{11} + \cdots + 286720.
\]
As all the coefficients of the polynomials \( M(x+3) \) and \( N(x+3) \) are positive, it results that \( M > 0 \) and \( N > 0 \), on \([3, \infty)\). In consequence, \( j' > 0 \). Finally, \( j < 0 \), on \([3, \infty)\), since \( j \) is strictly increasing, with \( j(\infty) = 0 \). \( \square \)
Proof of Theorem 3. The required inequalities are true for \( n = 1, 2 \) and we assume that \( n \geq 3 \). We prove that the sequence

\[
t_n = G_n - c_0 - \frac{1}{\pi} \psi \left( n + \frac{5}{4} \right) - \frac{1}{64\pi n^2} + \frac{3}{128\pi n^3}
\]

is strictly decreasing. In this sense,

\[
t_n - t_{n-1} = \frac{1}{16^n} \left( \frac{(\Gamma (2n+1))^2}{\Gamma (n+1)} \right)^3 - \frac{1}{\pi (n + \frac{1}{4})} - \frac{1}{64\pi n^2} + \frac{3}{128\pi n^3} - \frac{3}{64\pi (n-1)^2} + \frac{1}{128\pi (n-1)^3}
\]

and we have to prove that \( m < 0 \), where

\[
m(x) = v(x) - \ln \left( \frac{1}{\pi (x + \frac{1}{4})} + \frac{1}{64\pi x^2} - \frac{3}{128\pi x^3} - \frac{1}{64\pi (x - 1)^2} + \frac{3}{128\pi (x - 1)^3} \right).
\]

We have

\[
m'(x) = \frac{L(x)}{33792x^{10}(x-1)(4x+1)(x-29x^2 - 456x^3 + 1520x^4 - 1536x^5 + 512x^6 + 3)},
\]

where

\[
L(x) = 23384064x^{13} - 25681920x^{12} + \cdots + 3.
\]

As the polynomials involved in the expression of \( m' \) have all coefficients positive when we replace \( x \) by \( x + 3 \), it follows that \( m' > 0 \) on \([3, \infty)\). In consequence, \( m \) is strictly increasing with \( m(\infty) = 0 \), so \( m < 0 \).

Now we prove that the sequence

\[
z_n = G_n - c_0 - \frac{1}{\pi} \psi \left( n + \frac{5}{4} \right) - \frac{1}{64\pi n^2} + \frac{3}{128\pi n^3} - \frac{173}{8192\pi n^4}
\]

is strictly increasing. In this sense,

\[
z_n - z_{n-1} = \frac{1}{16^n} \left( \frac{(\Gamma (2n+1))^2}{\Gamma (n+1)} \right)^3 - \frac{1}{\pi (n + \frac{1}{4})} - \frac{1}{64\pi n^2} + \frac{3}{128\pi n^3} - \frac{173}{8192\pi n^4} + \frac{173}{8192\pi (n-1)^4},
\]

and we have to prove that \( n(x) > 0 \), where

\[
n(x) = u(x) - \ln \left( \frac{1}{\pi (x + \frac{1}{4})} + \frac{1}{64\pi x^2} - \frac{3}{128\pi x^3} + \frac{173}{8192\pi x^4}
\]

\[
- \frac{1}{64\pi (x - 1)^2} + \frac{3}{128\pi (x - 1)^3} - \frac{173}{8192\pi (x - 1)^4} \right).
\]

We have

\[
n'(x) = -\frac{K(x)}{33792x^{10}(x-1)(4x+1)J(x)},
\]

where

\[
K(x) = 1175961600x^{14} - 845070336x^{13} + \cdots + 177152.
\]
and
\[
J(x) = 5380x^3 - 1602x^2 - 192x + 24560x^4 - 126464x^5 \\
+ 195584x^6 - 131072x^7 + 32768x^8 + 173.
\]
But the polynomials \(K(x+3)\) and \(J(x+3)\) have all coefficients positive, so \(n' < 0\) on \([3, \infty)\). Finally, \(n(x) > 0\), for every \(x \in [3, \infty)\), since it is strictly decreasing with \(n(\infty) = 0\).

\[\square\]

**Acknowledgement**

The author thanks the anonymous referees for their useful comments and ideas which improved the initial form of this paper.

**References**


