

# The Transcendence of $e$

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## Abstract

This work contains a formalisation of the proof that Euler's number  $e$  is transcendental. The proof follows the standard approach of assuming that  $e$  is algebraic and then using a specific integer polynomial to derive two inconsistent bounds, leading to a contradiction.

This approach can be found in many different sources; this formalisation mostly follows a PlanetMath article [1] by Roger Lipsett.

## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Proof of the Transcendence of <math>e</math></b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	Various auxiliary facts . . . . .	1
1.2	General facts about polynomials . . . . .	2
1.3	Main proof . . . . .	2

## 1 Proof of the Transcendence of $e$

**theory** *E-Transcendental*

**imports**

*HOL-Complex-Analysis.Complex-Analysis*

*HOL-Number-Theory.Number-Theory*

*HOL-Computational-Algebra.Polynomial*

*Polynomial-Interpolation.Ring-Hom-Poly*

**begin**

**hide-const (open)** *UnivPoly.coeff UnivPoly.up-ring.monom*

**hide-const (open)** *Module.smult Coset.order*

### 1.1 Various auxiliary facts

**lemma** *fact-dvd-pochhammer*:

**assumes**  $m \leq n + 1$

**shows** *fact m dvd pochhammer (int n - int m + 1) m*

*<proof>*

**lemma** *prime-elem-int-not-dvd-neg1-power*:

*prime-elim*  $(p :: \text{int}) \implies \neg p \text{ dvd } (-1) \wedge n$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** *nat-fact [simp]*:  $\text{nat } (\text{fact } n) = \text{fact } n$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** *prime-dvd-fact-iff-int*:  
 $p \text{ dvd fact } n \iff p \leq \text{int } n$  **if** *prime*  $p$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** *power-over-fact-tendsto-0*:  
 $(\lambda n. (x :: \text{real}) \wedge n / \text{fact } n) \longrightarrow 0$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** *power-over-fact-tendsto-0'*:  
 $(\lambda n. c * (x :: \text{real}) \wedge n / \text{fact } n) \longrightarrow 0$   
 ⟨proof⟩

## 1.2 General facts about polynomials

**lemma** *fact-dvd-higher-pderiv*:  
 $[\text{fact } n :: \text{int}] \text{ dvd } (\text{pderiv } \wedge n) p$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** *fact-dvd-poly-higher-pderiv-aux*:  
 $(\text{fact } n :: \text{int}) \text{ dvd poly } ((\text{pderiv } \wedge n) p) x$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** *fact-dvd-poly-higher-pderiv-aux'*:  
 $m \leq n \implies (\text{fact } m :: \text{int}) \text{ dvd poly } ((\text{pderiv } \wedge n) p) x$   
 ⟨proof⟩

## 1.3 Main proof

**lemma** *lindemann-weierstrass-integral*:  
**fixes**  $u :: \text{complex}$  **and**  $f :: \text{complex poly}$   
**defines**  $df \equiv \lambda n. (\text{pderiv } \wedge n) f$   
**defines**  $m \equiv \text{degree } f$   
**defines**  $I \equiv \lambda f u. \text{exp } u * (\sum j \leq \text{degree } f. \text{poly } ((\text{pderiv } \wedge j) f) 0) -$   
 $(\sum j \leq \text{degree } f. \text{poly } ((\text{pderiv } \wedge j) f) u)$   
**shows**  $((\lambda t. \text{exp } (u - t) * \text{poly } f t) \text{ has-contour-integral } I f u) (\text{linepath } 0 u)$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**locale** *lindemann-weierstrass-aux* =  
**fixes**  $f :: \text{complex poly}$   
**begin**

**definition**  $I :: \text{complex} \Rightarrow \text{complex}$  **where**  
 $I u = \text{exp } u * (\sum j \leq \text{degree } f. \text{poly } ((\text{pderiv } \wedge j) f) 0) -$   
 $(\sum j \leq \text{degree } f. \text{poly } ((\text{pderiv } \wedge j) f) u)$

**lemma** *lindemann-weierstrass-integral-bound*:

**fixes**  $u :: \text{complex}$   
**assumes**  $C \geq 0 \wedge t. t \in \text{closed-segment } 0 \ u \implies \text{norm } (\text{poly } f \ t) \leq C$   
**shows**  $\text{norm } (I \ u) \leq \text{norm } u * \exp (\text{norm } u) * C$   
*<proof>*

**end**

**lemma** *poly-higher-pderiv-aux1*:

**fixes**  $c :: 'a :: \text{idom}$   
**assumes**  $k < n$   
**shows**  $\text{poly } ((\text{pderiv } \sim k) ([:-c, 1:] \wedge^n * p)) \ c = 0$   
*<proof>*

**lemma** *poly-higher-pderiv-aux1'*:

**fixes**  $c :: 'a :: \text{idom}$   
**assumes**  $k < n \ [:-c, 1:] \wedge^n \ \text{dvd } p$   
**shows**  $\text{poly } ((\text{pderiv } \sim k) \ p) \ c = 0$   
*<proof>*

**lemma** *poly-higher-pderiv-aux2*:

**fixes**  $c :: 'a :: \{\text{idom}, \text{semiring-char-0}\}$   
**shows**  $\text{poly } ((\text{pderiv } \sim n) ([:-c, 1:] \wedge^n * p)) \ c = \text{fact } n * \text{poly } p \ c$   
*<proof>*

**lemma** *poly-higher-pderiv-aux3*:

**fixes**  $c :: 'a :: \{\text{idom}, \text{semiring-char-0}\}$   
**assumes**  $k \geq n$   
**shows**  $\exists q. \text{poly } ((\text{pderiv } \sim k) ([:-c, 1:] \wedge^n * p)) \ c = \text{fact } n * \text{poly } q \ c$   
*<proof>*

**lemma** *poly-higher-pderiv-aux3'*:

**fixes**  $c :: 'a :: \{\text{idom}, \text{semiring-char-0}\}$   
**assumes**  $k \geq n \ [:-c, 1:] \wedge^n \ \text{dvd } p$   
**shows**  $\text{fact } n \ \text{dvd } \text{poly } ((\text{pderiv } \sim k) \ p) \ c$   
*<proof>*

**lemma** *e-transcendental-aux-bound*:

**obtains**  $C$  **where**  $C \geq 0$   
 $\wedge x. x \in \text{closed-segment } 0 \ (\text{of-nat } n) \implies$   
 $\text{norm } (\prod_{k \in \{1..n\}}. (x - \text{of-nat } k :: \text{complex})) \leq C$   
*<proof>*

**theorem** *e-transcendental-complex*:  $\neg \text{algebraic } (\exp \ 1 :: \text{complex})$

*<proof>*

**corollary** *e-transcendental-real*:  $\neg \text{algebraic } (\exp \ 1 :: \text{real})$

*<proof>*

**end**

## **References**

- [1] R. Lipsett. Planetmath. <http://planetmath.org/prooffindemannweierstrassentheoremundthateandpiaretranscendental>, 2007.