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**Stirling Numbers for Complex Arguments:  
Asymptotics and Identities**

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**Abstract** We derive asymptotic expansions for the Stirling numbers of real arguments as defined by Flajolet and Prodinger. We also generalize certain classical identities for Stirling numbers with integral arguments to real or complex arguments.

**Keywords** Stirling numbers, asymptotic enumeration.

**AMS subject classification** 5A05, 5A16