Zeros On the Critical Line I: The Existence of Infinitely Many Zeros on the Critical Line

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Introduction

Although every attempt of proving the Riemann Hypothesis, that all nontrival zeros of $\zeta(s)$ line on $\sigma=\frac{1}{2}$, has failed, it is proved by G. H. Hardy in 1914 that $\zeta(s)$ has infinitely many zeros on $\sigma=\frac{1}{2}$

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Hardy's proof employs the functional equations, $\xi(s)$ and $\Xi(t)$, for the Riemann zeta function $\zeta(s)$: he managed to show the correspondence of zeros between $\zeta(s)$ on $\sigma=\frac{1}{2}$ and $\Xi(t)$ on the real line, and proving the existence of infinitely many zeros for $\Xi(t)$ on the real line.

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The Functional Equations for the Zeta Function:

$$\xi(s) := \frac{1}{2}s(s-1)\pi^{-\frac{1}{2}s}\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}s\right)\zeta(s) \tag{1}$$

$$\Xi(t) := \xi\left(\frac{1}{2} + it\right) = -\frac{1}{2}\left(t^2 + \frac{1}{4}\right)\pi^{-\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{2}t}\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2}it\right)\zeta\left(\frac{1}{2} + it\right) \tag{2}$$

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Proof of Lemma 1 (1/3)

By Euler's integral formula, when $\sigma > 0$,

$$\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}s\right) = \int_0^\infty e^{-u} u^{\frac{1}{2}s-1} du$$

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Hence if $\sigma > 1$, we sum over n to find:

$$\frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}s\right)\zeta(s)}{\pi^{\frac{1}{2}s}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \int_{0}^{\infty} x^{\frac{1}{2}s-1} e^{-n^{2}\pi x} dx$$

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the inversion is justified by absolute convergent

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$$\zeta(s) = \frac{\pi^{\frac{1}{2}s}}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}s)} \int_0^\infty x^{\frac{1}{2}s-1} \psi(x) dx \tag{4}$$

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Also we see for x > 0,

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-n^2 \pi x} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-n^2 \pi \frac{1}{x}}$$

$$2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-n^2 \pi x} + e^{-0^2 \pi x} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} \left(2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-n^2 \pi \frac{1}{x}} + e^{-0^2 \pi \frac{1}{x}} \right)$$

$$2 \psi(x) + 1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} \left(2 \psi \left(\frac{1}{x} \right) + 1 \right)$$
(5)

$$\pi^{-\frac{1}{2}s}\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}s)\zeta(s) = \int_0^1 x^{\frac{1}{2}s-1}\psi(x) \, dx + \int_1^\infty x^{\frac{1}{2}s-1}\psi(x) \, dx$$

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$$= \frac{1}{s-1} - \frac{1}{s} + \int_0^1 v^{\frac{1}{2}s-\frac{3}{2}}\psi(\frac{1}{v}) \, dv + \int_1^\infty x^{\frac{1}{2}s-1}\psi(x) \, dx$$

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$$= \frac{1}{s(s-1)} + \int_{1}^{\infty} x^{-\frac{1}{2}s-\frac{1}{2}}x^{\frac{1}{2}s-1}\psi(x) dx$$

The middle equation (4) in the previous slide gives:

$$\pi^{-\frac{1}{2}s}\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}s)\zeta(s) = \int_0^1 x^{\frac{1}{2}s-1}\psi(x) dx + \int_1^\infty x^{\frac{1}{2}s-1}\psi(x) dx$$

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By analytic continuation, we see that the R.H.S. is unchanged if we replace s by 1-s, therefore:

$$\pi^{-\frac{1}{2}s}\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}s)\zeta(s) = \pi^{-\frac{1}{2}(1-s)}\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}(1-s))\zeta((1-s))$$

Multiply by $\frac{1}{2}s(s-1)$ yields Lemma 1

$$\int_0^\infty \left(t^2 + \frac{1}{4} \right)^{-1} \Xi(t) \cos(xt) \, dt = \frac{1}{2} \pi \left\{ e^{\frac{1}{2}x} - 2e^{-\frac{1}{2}x} \psi(e^{-2x}) \right\} \tag{6}$$

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Proof of Lemma 2 (1/2)

This is a special case of which the integral involving $\Xi(t)$ of the form

$$\Phi(x) = \int_0^\infty f(t)\Xi(t)\cos(xt)\,dt \text{ that can be evaluated.}$$

Where $f(t) := |\phi(it)|^2 = \phi(it)\phi(-it)$, ϕ analytic.

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Let $y = e^x$:

$$\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \phi(it)\phi(-it)\Xi(t)y^{it} dt$$

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$$\begin{split} \Phi(x) &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \phi(it) \phi(-it) \Xi(t) y^{it} \, dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \phi(it) \phi(-it) \xi\left(\frac{1}{2} + it\right) y^{it} \, dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2i\sqrt{y}} \int_{\frac{1}{2} - i\infty}^{\frac{1}{2} + i\infty} \phi\left(s - \frac{1}{2}\right) \phi\left(\frac{1}{2} - s\right) \xi(s) y^{s} \, ds \end{split}$$

$$\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{2i\sqrt{y}} \int_{\frac{1}{3}-i\infty}^{\frac{1}{2}+i\infty} \phi\left(s - \frac{1}{2}\right) \phi\left(\frac{1}{2} - s\right) (s - 1) \Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{2}s\right) \pi^{-\frac{1}{2}s} \zeta(s) y^s ds$$

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Now put $\phi(s) = \left(s + \frac{1}{2}\right)^{-1}$, $\left(\text{so } |\phi(it)|^2 = \left(t^2 + \frac{1}{4}\right)^{-1}\right)$ we have:

$$\Phi(x) = -\frac{1}{2i\sqrt{y}} \int_{\frac{1}{2}-i\infty}^{\frac{1}{2}+i\infty} \frac{1}{s} \Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{2}s\right) \pi^{-\frac{1}{2}s} \zeta(s) y^{s} ds$$

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Inserting back $y = e^x$, we get the desired integral:

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Proof of Theorem (1/5)

Since $\Xi(t) = \xi\left(\frac{1}{2} + it\right) = -\frac{1}{2}\left(t^2 + \frac{1}{4}\right)\pi^{-\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{2}t}\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2}it\right)\zeta\left(\frac{1}{2} + it\right)$ is an even integrable function of t (by Lemma 1), and is real for real t.

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A zero of $\zeta(s)$ on $\sigma=\frac{1}{2}$ therefore corresponds to a real zero of $\Xi(t)$, thus it suffices to show that $\Xi(t)$ has infinitely many real zeros.

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Putting $x = -i\alpha$ in (6), Lemma 2, we have

$$\frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \left(t^2 + \frac{1}{4} \right)^{-1} \Xi(t) \cosh(\alpha t) \, dt = e^{-\frac{1}{2}\alpha} - 2e^{\frac{1}{2}i\alpha} \psi(e^{2i\alpha})$$
$$= 2\cos\frac{1}{2}\alpha - 2e^{\frac{1}{2}i\alpha} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} + \psi(e^{2i\alpha}) \right\}$$

Since $\zeta(\frac{1}{2}+it)=\mathcal{O}(t^A)$, $\Xi(t)=\mathcal{O}(t^Ae^{-\frac{1}{4}\pi t})$, and the last integral may be differentiated w.r.t. α any number of times provided that $\alpha<\frac{1}{4}\pi$.

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$$\frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \left(t^2 + \frac{1}{4} \right)^{-1} \Xi(t) t^{2n} \cosh(\alpha t) dt = \frac{(-1)^n \cos(\frac{1}{2}\alpha)}{2^{2n-1}} - 2\left(\frac{d}{d\alpha}\right)^{2n} e^{\frac{1}{2}i\alpha} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} + \psi(e^{2i\alpha}) \right\}$$

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Next we show that the last term tends to 0 as $\alpha \to \frac{1}{4}\pi$.

Again use (5), the property of $\psi(x)$ exploited in Lemma 1:

$$\psi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}\psi\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\psi(i+\delta) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-n^2 \pi (i+\delta)} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n e^{-n^2 \pi \delta}$$

It follows:
$$\psi(i+\delta) = 2\psi(4\delta) - \psi(\delta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\delta}}\psi\Big(\frac{1}{4\delta}\Big) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\delta}}\psi\Big(\frac{1}{\delta}\Big) - \frac{1}{2}$$

Hence $\frac{1}{2} + \psi(x)$ and all its derivatives tend to zero as $x \to i$ along any route in an angle $|\arg(x-i)| < \frac{1}{2}\pi$

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Hence $\frac{1}{2} + \psi(x)$ and all its derivatives tend to zero as $x \to i$ along any route in an angle $|\arg(x-i)| < \frac{1}{2}\pi$

We have thus proved that

$$\lim_{\alpha \to \frac{1}{4}\pi} \int_0^\infty \left(t^2 + \frac{1}{4} \right)^{-1} \Xi(t) t^{2n} \cosh(\alpha t) \, dt = \frac{(-1)^n \pi \cos(\frac{1}{8}\pi)}{2^{2n}} \tag{7}$$

It follows:
$$\psi(i+\delta) = 2\psi(4\delta) - \psi(\delta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\delta}}\psi\left(\frac{1}{4\delta}\right) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\delta}}\psi\left(\frac{1}{\delta}\right) - \frac{1}{2}$$

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Suppose now $\Xi(t)$ were ultimately of one sign (for the sake of contradiction), say positive (negative can be shown by the same reason) for $t \geq T$, then

$$\lim_{\alpha \to \frac{1}{4}\pi} \int_{T}^{\infty} \left(t^2 + \frac{1}{4} \right)^{-1} \Xi(t) t^{2n} \cosh(\alpha t) dt = L > 0$$

For all $\alpha < \frac{1}{4}\pi$ and T' > T,

$$0 < \int_{T}^{T'} \left(t^2 + \frac{1}{4}\right)^{-1} \Xi(t) t^{2n} \cosh(\alpha t) dt \le L$$

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Thus the following integral converges due to the L.H.S. of (7), and converges with respect to α for $0 \le \alpha \le \frac{1}{4}\pi$:

$$\int_0^\infty \left(t^2 + \frac{1}{4} \right)^{-1} \Xi(t) t^{2n} \cosh\left(\frac{1}{4}\pi t\right) dt = \frac{(-1)^n \pi \cos\left(\frac{1}{8}\pi\right)}{2^{2n}} \tag{8}$$

for every n.

Equation (8) on the previous slide, however, is impossible, since when taking n odd, the R.H.S. is negative, therefore

$$\int_{T}^{\infty} (t^{2} + \frac{1}{4})^{-1} \Xi(t) t^{2n} \cosh\left(\frac{1}{4}\pi t\right) dt < -\int_{0}^{T} (t^{2} + \frac{1}{4})^{-1} \Xi(t) t^{2n} \cosh\left(\frac{1}{4}\pi t\right) dt < KT^{2n}$$

where K is independent of n.

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But by hypothesis $(\Xi(t) > 0 \text{ for } t \ge T)$, there is a positive m = m(T) where $\left(t^2 + \frac{1}{4}\right)^{-1}\Xi(t) \ge m \text{ for } 2T \le t \le 2T + 1$:

$$\int_{T}^{\infty} \left(t^2 + \frac{1}{4}\right)^{-1} \Xi(t) t^{2n} \cosh\left(\frac{1}{4}\pi t\right) dt \ge \int_{2T}^{2T+1} m t^{2n} dt \ge m (2T)^{2n}$$

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Hence, $m2^{2n} < K$, which is false for sufficiently large n.

