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12f. Riemann and $\zeta(s)$

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1. Riemann's explicit formula
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[Riemann 1859] exhibited a *precise* relationship between primes and zeros of $\zeta(s)$. A similar idea applies to any zeta or L -function with *analytic continuation*, *functional equation*, and *Euler product*.

It took more than 40 years for [Hadamard 1893], [vonMangoldt 1895], and others to complete Riemann's sketch of the *Explicit Formula* relating primes to zeros of the Euler-Riemann zeta function. The *idea* is that equating the Euler product and Riemann-Hadamard product for zeta allows extraction of an *exact formula* for a weighted counting of primes in terms of a sum over zeros of zeta. ^[1]

An essential supporting point is *meromorphic continuation* of $\zeta(s)$ via *integral representation(s)* of $\zeta(s)$ in terms of *theta function(s)*. ^[2] Further, these integral representations give *vertical growth estimates*, allowing invocation of Hadamard's theorem on product expansions of entire functions.

A key in analytic continuation and functional equation of $\zeta(s)$ is the functional equation of theta series, from the *Poisson summation formula*, from the representability of smooth functions by their *Fourier series*.

Asymptotics of $\Gamma(s)$ and the functional equation of $\zeta(s)$ bound the vertical growth of $\zeta(s)$, allowing application of the Hadamard product result.

1. Riemann's explicit formula

The dramatic [Riemann 1859] on the relation between primes and zeros of the zeta function anticipated many ideas undeveloped in Riemann's time. Thus, the following sketch, very roughly following Riemann, is not a proof, but exhibits what is *needed* to produce a proof.

Riemann knew from Euler that $\zeta(s)$ has an *Euler product* expansion

$$\zeta(s) = \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{1}{n^s} = \prod_{p \text{ prime}} \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{p^s}} \quad (\text{for } \operatorname{Re} s > 1)$$

As below, [Riemann 1859] proved that $\zeta(s)$ has a *meromorphic continuation* so that $(s-1)\zeta(s)$ is *entire*, with $0 = \zeta(0) = \zeta(-2) = \zeta(-4) = \dots$ ^[3] The negative even integers are the *trivial zeros* of $\zeta(s)$. Riemann

[1] [Guinand 1947] and [Weil 1952], [Weil 1972] observed that such classical formulas are equalities of values of a natural *distribution*, in the sense of *generalized functions*.

[2] Theta functions are examples of *automorphic forms*. For practical purposes, *modular form* and *automorphic form* are synonyms, despite some sources' attempts to insist upon delicately precise meanings.

[3] The vanishing at negative even integers is not clear at all, but will follow from the *functional equation*. Even so, Euler had already done computations with divergent series that could be interpreted as suggesting this!

imagined that $\zeta(s)$ has a *product expansion* in terms of its zeros^[4]

$$(s-1)\zeta(s) = e^{a+bs} \prod_{\rho} \left(1 - \frac{s}{\rho}\right) e^{s/\rho} \cdot \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 + \frac{s}{2n}\right) e^{-s/2n} \quad (\rho \text{ non-trivial zero of } \zeta, \text{ for all } s \in \mathbb{C})$$

[Hadamard 1893] proved this. *Then*, taking logarithmic derivatives of

$$(s-1) \prod_p \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{p^s}} = e^{a+bs} \prod_{\rho} \left(1 - \frac{s}{\rho}\right) e^{s/\rho} \cdot \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 + \frac{s}{2n}\right) e^{-s/2n} \quad (\operatorname{Re} s > 1)$$

using $-\log(1-x) = x + x^2/2 + x^3/3 + \dots$ on the left-hand side gives

$$\frac{1}{s-1} - \sum_{m \geq 1, p} \frac{\log p}{p^{ms}} = b + \sum_{\rho} \left(\frac{1}{s-\rho} + \frac{1}{\rho}\right) + \sum_n \left(\frac{1}{s+2n} - \frac{1}{2n}\right)$$

A slight rearrangement:

$$\sum_{m \geq 1, p} \frac{\log p}{p^{ms}} = \frac{1}{s-1} - b - \sum_{\rho} \left(\frac{1}{s-\rho} + \frac{1}{\rho}\right) - \sum_n \left(\frac{1}{s+2n} - \frac{1}{2n}\right) \quad (\text{for } \operatorname{Re} s > 1)$$

Diverging slightly from Riemann's original treatment, apply the Perron identity^[5] (see Appendix)

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\sigma-i\infty}^{\sigma+i\infty} \frac{Y^s}{s} ds = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\sigma-iT}^{\sigma+iT} \frac{Y^s}{s} ds = \begin{cases} 1 & (\text{for } Y > 1) \\ 0 & (\text{for } 0 < Y < 1) \end{cases} \quad (\text{for } \sigma > 0)$$

to the log-derivative identity multiplied by X^s/s . Assuming legitimacy of application of the Perron identity *term-wise* to X^s/s times the left-hand side,

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\sigma-i\infty}^{\sigma+i\infty} \frac{X^s}{s} \sum_{m,p} \frac{\log p}{p^{ms}} ds = \sum_{m,p} \log p \cdot \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\sigma-i\infty}^{\sigma+i\infty} \frac{X^s \cdot p^{-ms}}{s} ds = \sum_{p^m < X} \log p$$

Assuming legitimacy of using *residues* term-wise to evaluate X^s/s times the right-hand side, with $\sigma > 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\sigma-i\infty}^{\sigma+i\infty} \frac{X^s}{s} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{s-1} - b - \sum_{\rho} \left(\frac{1}{s-\rho} + \frac{1}{\rho}\right) - \sum_n \left(\frac{1}{s+2n} - \frac{1}{2n}\right)\right) ds \\ &= (X-1) - b - \sum_{\rho} \left(\frac{X^{\rho}}{\rho} + \frac{1}{-\rho} + \frac{1}{\rho}\right) - \sum_n \left(\frac{X^{-2n}}{-2n} + \frac{1}{2n} - \frac{1}{2n}\right) = X - (b+1) - \sum_{\rho} \frac{X^{\rho}}{\rho} + \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{X^{-2n}}{2n} \end{aligned}$$

This gives [vonMangoldt 1893]'s reformulation of **Riemann's Explicit Formula**:

$$\sum_{p^m < X} \log p = X - (b+1) - \sum_{\rho} \frac{X^{\rho}}{\rho} + \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{X^{-2n}}{2n}$$

^[4] Euler's evaluation of $\sum_n \frac{1}{n^2}$ by imagining (and later proving) $\sin \pi z = \pi z \prod_n \left(1 - \frac{z^2}{n^2}\right)$ was well known, as was Euler's product expansion of the inverse of the Gamma-function $\Gamma(s) = \int_0^{\infty} t^s e^{-t} \frac{dt}{t}$ as $\frac{1}{\Gamma(s)} = ze^{\gamma z} \prod_n \left(1 + \frac{z}{n}\right) e^{-z/n}$.

^[5] Perron's identity is completely standard by now, but was not part of Riemann's approach. Invocation of the Perron identity allows a somewhat simpler approach than Riemann's original, due to von Mangoldt and others.

More precisely, because of the way the Perron integral transform is applied, and the fragility of the convergence,

$$\sum_{p^m < X} \log p = X - (b+1) - \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{|\operatorname{Im}(\rho)| < T} \frac{X^\rho}{\rho} + \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{X^{-2n}}{2n}$$

[1.1] **Remark:** As in Riemann's original, the above sketch has gaps. The existence and convergence of the Hadamard product needs *generalities* about Weierstraß-Hadamard product expressions for entire functions of prescribed growth, and *specifics* about the vertical growth of the *analytic continuation* of $\zeta(s)$. The analytic continuation of $\zeta(s)$ is discussed in the next section, and growth properties later. The growth properties depend on Stirling-Laplace asymptotics of the Gamma function $\Gamma(s)$, and the *Phragmén-Lindelöf* theorem [Phragmén-Lindelöf 1908].

[1.2] **Non-trivial zeros ρ of $\zeta(s)$** The convergent Euler product shows that $\zeta(s) \neq 0$ in the half-plane $\operatorname{Re}(s) > 1$. The analytic continuation and functional equation (below), and relatively elementary properties of $\Gamma(s)$ show that the only possible non-trivial zeros are in the *critical strip* $0 \leq \operatorname{Re}(s) \leq 1$. In 1896, Hadamard and de la Vallée-Poussin independently proved that there are no zeros on the edges $\operatorname{Re}(s) = 0, 1$ of the critical strip, and used this to prove the *Prime Number Theorem*. The functional equation shows that if ρ is a non-trivial zero, then $1 - \rho$ is a non-trivial zero. The property $\zeta(\bar{s}) = \overline{\zeta(s)}$ shows that if ρ is a non-trivial zero, then $\bar{\rho}$ is a non-trivial zero.

[1.3] The Riemann Hypothesis

After the main term X in the right-hand side of the explicit formula, the next-largest terms would be the X^ρ/ρ summands, with $0 \leq \operatorname{Re}(\rho) \leq 1$ due to the Euler product and functional equation. The *Riemann Hypothesis* is that all the non-trivial zeros ρ have $\operatorname{Re}(\rho) = \frac{1}{2}$. With a bound like $T \log T$ on the number of zeros below height T , proven later, the Riemann hypothesis is equivalent to an error term of order $X^{\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon}$ in the Prime Number Theorem, for all $\varepsilon > 0$.

2. Analytic continuation and functional equation of $\zeta(s)$

The following ideas gained publicity and significance from Riemann, but were apparently known earlier, to some degree.

The key is that the completed zeta function has an *integral representation* in terms of an *automorphic form*, the simplest *theta function*. Both the *analytic continuation* and the *functional equation* of zeta follow from this integral representation using a functional equation of the theta function, from *Poisson summation*, from *Fourier series*.

[2.1] **Elementary-but-insufficiently-enlightening argument for analytic continuation** Simple calculus can extend the domain of $\zeta(s)$ as far to the left as we want. The idea is to pay attention to *quantitative* aspects of the integral test. First, by comparison to $\int_1^\infty \frac{dx}{x^s}$, the sum $\zeta(s) = \sum_1^\infty \frac{1}{n^s}$ converges for $\operatorname{Re}(s) > 1$.

To push this further, it is standard to proceed as follows.

$$\zeta(s) - \frac{1}{s-1} = \zeta(s) - \int_1^\infty \frac{dx}{x^s} = \sum_n \left(\frac{1}{n^s} - \int_n^{n+1} \frac{dx}{x^s} \right) = \sum_n \left(\frac{1}{n^s} - \frac{1}{s-1} \left[\frac{1}{n^{s-1}} - \frac{1}{(n+1)^{s-1}} \right] \right)$$

Even for complex s , we have a Taylor-Maclaurin expansion with *error term*

$$(n+1)^{1-s} = \left(n \cdot \left(1 + \frac{1}{n} \right) \right)^{1-s} = n^{1-s} \cdot \left(1 + \frac{1-s}{n} + O\left(\frac{1}{n^2}\right) \right) = \frac{1}{n^{s-1}} - \frac{s-1}{n^s} + O\left(\frac{s-1}{n^{s+1}}\right)$$

The constant in the big-O term is *uniform* in n for fixed s . Thus,

$$\frac{1}{n^s} - \frac{1}{s-1} \left[\frac{1}{n^{s-1}} - \frac{1}{(n+1)^{s-1}} \right] = \frac{1}{n^s} - \frac{1}{n^s} + \frac{1}{s-1} O\left(\frac{1}{n^{s+1}}\right) = O\left(\frac{1}{n^{s+1}}\right)$$

That is, for fixed^[6] $\operatorname{Re}(s) > 0$, we have *absolute convergence* of

$$\sum_n \left(\frac{1}{n^s} - \frac{1}{s-1} \left[\frac{1}{n^{s-1}} - \frac{1}{(n+1)^{s-1}} \right] \right) \quad (\text{for } \operatorname{Re}(s) > 0)$$

in the larger region $\operatorname{Re}(s) > 0$.

[2.2] **Remark:** Iterating the idea of approximating sums by integrals gives a comparable extension to $\operatorname{Re}(s) > -\ell$ for all ℓ , as Euler already effectively found, systematically by *Euler-Maclaurin summation*. However, such continuations give no clues about functional equations, and certainly not about Riemann's explicit formula.

[2.3] **Slight modernization of Riemann's argument** We update Riemann's idea to avoid needless artifacts. Both the original and this update are archetypes.^[7] Let $f(x)$ be *any* very well-behaved function on \mathbb{R} , that is, infinitely differentiable, and it and all its derivatives are rapidly decreasing at infinity. These are *Schwartz functions*, after [Schwartz 1950/51]. Further, take f *even*, that is $f(-x) = f(x)$. The even Schwartz function f is a *dummy*, insofar as only its general properties are used. In effect, Riemann's choice was the Gaussian $f(x) = e^{-\pi x^2}$, based on connections to Jacobi's theta functions, as we see along the way. A *theta function*^[8] associated to the even Schwartz function f is

$$\theta_f(y) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} f(y \cdot n) \quad (\text{for } y > 0)$$

[6] In fact, the big-O constant is also *uniform* for s in compacts inside $\operatorname{Re}(s) > 0$. Thus, the series converges *locally uniformly on compacts*, so does give a *holomorphic* function.

[7] Riemann's original line of argument was brought to completion by [Hecke 1918/20]. Substantial modernization occurred in [Matchett 1946], [Iwasawa 1950/52], [Iwasawa 1952], and [Tate 1950/1967]. In particular, these sources observed that certain details involving *theta functions* were less essential than previously believed. Nevertheless, the *automorphic* nature of theta functions was *also* important in its own right. [Müntz 1922] and [Müntz 1924] presaged Iwasawa and Tate, and do what we do here, but seem not well known.

[8] Again, Riemann used $f(u) = e^{-\pi u^2}$, and, consistent with an existing convention at the time, in effect defined

$$\theta(iy) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} f(\sqrt{y} \cdot n) \quad (\text{with Gaussian } f(u) = e^{-\pi u^2})$$

That is, the argument of θ is iy rather than y , and \sqrt{y} enters on the right side, rather than y . Further, the Gaussian extends to an *entire* function, and this theta function extends to a holomorphic function, the simplest *Jacobi theta function*, on the upper half-plane \mathfrak{H} :

$$\theta(z) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} e^{\pi i n^2 z} \quad (\text{with } z \in \mathfrak{H})$$

and associated *Gamma function*^[9]

$$\Gamma_f(s) = \int_0^\infty t^s f(t) \frac{dt}{t}$$

First, we have the *integral representation*, from which will follow the meromorphic continuation and functional equation:

[2.4] **Proposition:** $\int_0^\infty y^s \frac{\theta_f(y) - f(0)}{2} \frac{dy}{y} = \Gamma_f(s) \cdot \zeta(s)$ (for $\operatorname{Re}(s) > 1$)

Proof: The $n = 0$ (constant) term $f(0)$ of $\theta_f(y)$ is the only summand not rapidly decreasing. The even-ness of f makes the $\pm n$ terms have equal contributions to $\theta_f(y)$. Thus, interchanging sum and integral, and replacing y by y/n ,

$$\int_0^\infty y^s \frac{\theta_f(y) - f(0)}{2} \frac{dy}{y} = \sum_{n \geq 1} \int_0^\infty y^s f(y/n) \frac{dy}{y} = \sum_{n \geq 1} n^{-s} \int_0^\infty y^s f(y) \frac{dy}{y} = \sum_{n \geq 1} n^{-s} \Gamma_f(s)$$

as claimed. ///

[2.5] **Remark:** The measure $\frac{dy}{y}$ is the natural multiplication-invariant measure on the positive reals.

[2.6] **Theorem:** The completed zeta function $\Gamma_f(s) \cdot \zeta(s)$ has a meromorphic continuation to $s \in \mathbb{C}$, and $s(s-1) \cdot \Gamma_f(s) \cdot \zeta(s)$ is *entire*.

[2.7] **Remark:** Repeated integration by parts shows that $\Gamma_f(s)$ itself has a meromorphic continuation:

$$\Gamma_f(s) = \int_0^\infty t^s f(t) \frac{dt}{t} = \int_0^\infty \frac{t^{s+1}}{s} f'(t) \frac{dt}{t} = \int_0^\infty \frac{t^{s+2}}{s(s+1)} f''(t) \frac{dt}{t} = \int_0^\infty \frac{t^{s+3}}{s(s+1)(s+2)} f'''(t) \frac{dt}{t} = \dots$$

Since all the derivatives of f are of rapid decay, these expressions give an extension of $\Gamma_f(s)$ to $s \in \mathbb{C}$ except for at worst $s = 0, -1, -2, -3, \dots$

Proof: Break the integral of the integral representation into two parts:

$$\Gamma_f(s) \cdot \zeta(s) = \int_1^\infty y^s \frac{\theta_f(y) - f(0)}{2} \frac{dy}{y} + \int_0^1 y^s \frac{\theta_f(y) - f(0)}{2} \frac{dy}{y}$$

It is not hard to check that $\frac{\theta_f(y) - \theta_f(0)}{2}$ is rapidly decreasing at $+\infty$, so the integral on $[1, \infty)$ is absolutely convergent (and uniformly for s in compacts) for all $s \in \mathbb{C}$.

The behavior of $\theta_f(y)$ as $y \rightarrow 0^+$ is harder to analyze, and is best done by the following device.

The trick is to convert the integral on $[0, 1]$ to an integral over $[1, \infty)$, up to two elementary terms. The new integral over $[1, \infty)$ will involve the theta function $\theta_{\hat{f}}$ attached to the *Fourier transform*

$$\hat{f}(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{-2\pi i x \xi} f(\xi) d\xi$$

[9] With Gaussian $f(x) = e^{-\pi x^2}$, this construction gives an exponential multiple of the standard Gamma function at $\frac{s}{2}$:

$$\Gamma_f(s) = \int_0^\infty t^s e^{-\pi x^2} \frac{dx}{x} = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty t^{\frac{s}{2}} e^{-\pi x} \frac{dx}{x} = \frac{1}{2} \pi^{-\frac{s}{2}} \int_0^\infty t^{\frac{s}{2}} e^{-x} \frac{dx}{x} = \frac{1}{2} \pi^{-\frac{s}{2}} \Gamma\left(\frac{s}{2}\right)$$

of f . We grant for the moment that Fourier transform maps the Schwartz space to itself, as is directly verifiable in concrete examples such as the Gaussian $f(x) = e^{-\pi x^2}$. Simply by changing variables in the integral, we recall a homogeneity property of the Fourier transform:

$$\widehat{f}(x/y) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{-2\pi i \frac{x}{y} \xi} f(\xi) d\xi = |y| \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{-2\pi i x \xi} f(y\xi) d\xi = |y| \cdot (f \circ y)^\wedge(x)$$

by replacing ξ by ξy in the integral, where $(f \circ y)(\xi) = f(y\xi)$. We grant ourselves the standard *Poisson summation formula*

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} F(n) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \widehat{F}(n) \quad (\text{for Schwartz functions } F)$$

(See the Supplement for proof.) Letting $F(x) = f(yx)$ and using the homogeneity property of Fourier transform, this is

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} f(y \cdot n) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \frac{1}{y} \widehat{f}\left(\frac{1}{y} \cdot n\right) \quad (\text{for } y > 0)$$

Thus,

$$\theta_f(y) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} f(y n) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \frac{1}{y} \widehat{f}(n) = \frac{1}{y} \cdot \theta_{\widehat{f}}\left(\frac{1}{y}\right)$$

This gives a way to flip the interval $[0, 1]$ to $[1, \infty)$, by replacing y by $1/y$, accommodating the anomalous terms for $n = 0$ separately:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 y^s \frac{\theta_f(y) - f(0)}{2} \frac{dy}{y} &= \int_0^1 y^s \frac{\frac{1}{y} \theta_{\widehat{f}}\left(\frac{1}{y}\right) - f(0)}{2} \frac{dy}{y} = \int_0^1 y^s \frac{\frac{1}{y} \theta_{\widehat{f}}\left(\frac{1}{y}\right) - \frac{1}{y} \widehat{f}(0)}{2} + \frac{\frac{1}{y} \widehat{f}(0) - f(0)}{2} \frac{dy}{y} \\ &= \int_1^\infty y^{-s} \frac{y \theta_{\widehat{f}}(y) - y \widehat{f}(0)}{2} + \int_0^1 y^s \frac{\frac{1}{y} \widehat{f}(0) - f(0)}{2} \frac{dy}{y} \\ &= \int_1^\infty y^{1-s} \frac{\theta_{\widehat{f}}(y) - \widehat{f}(0)}{2} \frac{dy}{y} + \frac{\widehat{f}(0)}{2} \int_0^1 y^{s-1} \frac{dy}{y} - \frac{f(0)}{2} \int_0^1 y^s \frac{dy}{y} \\ &= \int_1^\infty y^{1-s} \frac{\theta_{\widehat{f}}(y) - \widehat{f}(0)}{2} \frac{dy}{y} + \frac{\widehat{f}(0)}{2} \frac{1}{s-1} - \frac{f(0)}{2} \frac{1}{s} \end{aligned}$$

The integral on $[1, \infty)$ is entire in s , since $\theta_{\widehat{f}}(y) - \widehat{f}(0)$ is rapidly decreasing at ∞ . The two elementary terms have obvious meromorphic continuations. Thus,

$$\Gamma_f(s) \cdot \zeta(s) = \int_1^\infty \left(y^s \frac{\theta_{\widehat{f}}(y) - \widehat{f}(0)}{2} + y^{1-s} \frac{\theta_{\widehat{f}}(y) - \widehat{f}(0)}{2} \right) \frac{dy}{y} + \frac{\widehat{f}(0)}{2} \frac{1}{s-1} - \frac{f(0)}{2} \frac{1}{s}$$

Again, the integral is *entire*, and the elementary terms give the only poles, which are at $s = 0, 1$. ///

[2.8] **Remark:** The expression

$$\Gamma_f(s) \cdot \zeta(s) = \int_1^\infty \left(y^s \frac{\theta_{\widehat{f}}(y) - \widehat{f}(0)}{2} + y^{1-s} \frac{\theta_{\widehat{f}}(y) - \widehat{f}(0)}{2} \right) \frac{dy}{y} + \frac{\widehat{f}(0)}{2} \frac{1}{s-1} - \frac{f(0)}{2} \frac{1}{s}$$

gives a bit more information than the bare statement of the theorem, namely, it tells the residues of the poles at $s = 0, 1$, and shows a certain potential symmetry, as in the following.

For f with $\widehat{f} = f$ Riemann's original symmetrical result is recovered:

[2.9] **Theorem:** (*Riemann*) The *completed* zeta function

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

has an analytic continuation to $s \in \mathbb{C}$, except for simple poles at $s = 0, 1$, and has the *functional equation*

$$\xi(1-s) = \xi(s)$$

Proof: Various means show that $f(x) = e^{-\pi x^2}$ is its own Fourier transform. Thus, the expression in the proof of the previous theorem becomes symmetrical in $s \leftrightarrow 1-s$, and the artifact of the coefficient of $\frac{1}{2}$ on both sides can be discarded. ///

[2.10] **Remark:** The leading factor $\pi^{-s/2} \Gamma(\frac{s}{2})$ should *not* be construed as objectionable in any way, but, rather, as something that really does *belong* with $\zeta(s)$. The $\pi^{-s/2} \Gamma(\frac{s}{2})$ is called the **gamma factor** for $\zeta(s)$. In the context of the *Euler product* the modern viewpoint is that the gamma factor is a further Euler factor corresponding to the *prime* ∞ .^[10]

3. Appendix: Perron identity

These contour-integral identities extract information from spectral identities and function-theoretic identities. *One* spectral identity is transformed into *another*, by a Fourier transform. Choices are made to heighten an *asymmetry*, wherein one side is seemingly elementary, and the other is whatever it must be.

[3.1] **Heuristic** The best-known identity starts from the *idea* that for $\sigma > 0$

$$\int_{\sigma-i\infty}^{\sigma+i\infty} \frac{X^s}{s} ds = \begin{cases} 1 & (\text{for } X > 1) \\ 0 & (\text{for } 0 < X < 1) \end{cases} \quad (\text{convergence?})$$

The *idea* of the proof of this identity is that, for $X > 1$, the contour of integration slides indefinitely to the left, eventually vanishing, picking up the residue at $s = 0$, while for $0 < X < 1$, the contour slides indefinitely to the right, eventually vanishing, picking up *no* residues.

The *idea* of the application is that this identity can extract *counting* information from a meromorphic continuation of a Dirichlet series: for example, from

$$\sum_n \frac{a_n}{n^s} = f(s) \quad (\text{left-hand side convergent for } \text{Re } s > 1)$$

we would have

$$\sum_{n < X} a_n = \text{sum of residues of } X^s f(s)/s$$

That is, the *counting* function $\sum_{n < X} a_n$ is *extracted* from the analytic object $\sum_{\lambda} a_n/n^s$ by the contour integration. With f a logarithmic derivative, such as $f(s) = \zeta'(s)/\zeta(s)$, the poles of f are mostly the zeros of ζ .

[10] An insight of modern times is that the completion \mathbb{R} should whenever possible be put on an even footing with the other p -adic completions \mathbb{Q}_p of \mathbb{Q} . Thus, although there is no actual prime ∞ in \mathbb{Z} (or anywhere else), the objects that accompany genuine primes p and completions \mathbb{Q}_p often have analogues for \mathbb{R} , so we *backform* to refer to the *prime* ∞ . One attempt to be less bold in this regard is to speak of *places* rather than *primes*, but there's little point in fretting about this.

However, the tails of these integrals are fragile.

[3.2] **Simple precise assertion** The elegant simplicity of the idea about moving lines of integration must be elaborated for correctness: for fixed $\sigma > 0$, for $T > 0$, we claim that

$$\int_{\sigma-iT}^{\sigma+iT} \frac{X^s}{s} ds = \begin{cases} 1 + O_\sigma\left(\frac{X^\sigma}{T \cdot |\log X|}\right) & (\text{for } X > 1) \\ O_\sigma\left(\frac{X^\sigma}{T \cdot |\log X|}\right) & (\text{for } 0 < X < 1) \end{cases}$$

The proof is a precise form of the idea of sliding vertical contours. That is, for $X > 1$, consider the contour integral around the rectangle with *right* edge $\sigma \pm iT$, namely, with vertices $\sigma - iT$, $\sigma + iT$, $-B + iT$, $-B - iT$, with $B \rightarrow +\infty$. For $0 < X < 1$ consider the contour integral around the rectangle with *left* edge $\sigma \pm iT$, namely, with vertices $\sigma - iT$, $\sigma + iT$, $B + iT$, $B - iT$, with $B \rightarrow +\infty$.

For both $X > 1$ and $0 < X < 1$, the $\pm(B \pm iT)$ edge of the rectangle is dominated by

$$\int_{-T}^T \frac{e^{-B|\log X|}}{|B \pm it|} dt \ll T \cdot \frac{e^{-B|\log X|}}{B} \rightarrow 0 \quad (\text{as } B \rightarrow +\infty)$$

in both cases, the top and bottom edges of the rectangle are dominated by

$$X^\sigma \cdot \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-u|\log X|}}{|(\sigma \pm u) + iT|} du \ll X^\sigma \cdot \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-u|\log X|}}{T} du \ll \frac{X^\sigma}{T \cdot |\log X|}$$

This proves the claim. Replacing X by e^X in the estimate gives the equivalent

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\sigma-iT}^{\sigma+iT} \frac{e^{sX}}{s} ds = \begin{cases} 1 + O_\sigma\left(\frac{e^{\sigma X}}{T \cdot X}\right) & (\text{for } X > 0) \\ O_\sigma\left(\frac{e^{\sigma X}}{T \cdot |X|}\right) & (\text{for } X < 0) \end{cases}$$

[3.3] **Hazards** When the quantity X above is summed, especially if the summation is over a set whose precise specifications are difficult, the denominators of the big-O error terms may blow up. In situations such as

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\sigma-iT}^{\sigma+iT} \left(\sum_j a_j e^{-sX_j} \right) \frac{e^{sX}}{s} ds = \sum_{j: X_j < X} a_j + \sum_j a_j \cdot O_\sigma\left(\frac{e^{\sigma(X-X_j)}}{T \cdot |X - X_j|}\right)$$

the distribution of the values X_j has an obvious effect on the convergence of the error term.

[3.4] **The other side of the equation** A desired and plausible conclusion such as

$$\lim_T \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\sigma-iT}^{\sigma+iT} f(s) \frac{e^{sX}}{s} ds = (\text{sum of } \text{Res}_{s=\rho} f(s) \cdot \frac{e^{\rho X}}{\rho})$$

summed over poles ρ of f in the left half-plane $\text{Re } s < \sigma$, requires that the contour integrals over the other three sides of the rectangle with side $\sigma \pm iT$ go to 0, and that the tails of the vertical integral go to 0. The integral over the large rectangle will be evaluated with X large positive, so the decay condition applies to f to the *left*. The left side of the rectangle will go to 0 for large enough positive X when $f(s)$ has at worst exponential growth to the left, that is, when $f(s) \ll e^{-C|\text{Re } s|}$ for *some* large-enough C and $\text{Re } s \rightarrow -\infty$. The top and bottom are more fragile, since e^{sX}/s does not have strong decay vertically.

Not unexpectedly, the *poles* of f near $\sigma + iT$ may *bunch up* as T grows, so that a contour integral must be **threaded** between them, and the corresponding integral will be somewhat larger simply because of proximity to these poles. This contribution to vertical growth of f is significant in examples.

[3.5] **Variant identities** When X^s/s is altered to help convergence of the integral against the *counting* aspect is inevitably altered. The proofs of variants follow the same straightforward line as above for the simplest case. For $\theta > 0$ and $1 \leq \ell \in \mathbb{Z}$,

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\sigma-iT}^{\sigma+iT} \frac{X^s}{s(s+\theta)(s+2\theta)\dots(s+\ell\theta)} ds = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\ell!\theta^\ell}(1-X^{-\theta})^\ell + O_\sigma\left(\frac{X^\sigma}{T^{2\cdot|\log X|}}\right) & (\text{for } X > 1) \\ O_\sigma\left(\frac{X^\sigma}{T^{2\cdot|\log X|}}\right) & (\text{for } 0 < X < 1) \end{cases}$$

Indeed, the residues at the poles $0, -\theta, -2\theta, \dots, -\ell\theta$ sum to

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{X^0}{(0+\theta)(0+2\theta)\dots(0+(\ell-1)\theta)(0+\ell\theta)} + \frac{X^{-\theta}}{(-\theta+0)(-\theta+\theta)\dots(-\theta+(\ell-1)\theta)(-\theta+\ell\theta)} \\ & + \frac{X^{-2\theta}}{(-2\theta+0)(-2\theta+\theta)\dots(-2\theta+\ell\theta)} + \dots + \frac{X^{-\ell\theta}}{(-\ell\theta+0)(-\ell\theta+\theta)\dots(-\ell\theta+(\ell-1)\theta)} \\ & = \frac{1}{\ell!\theta^\ell} - \frac{X^{-\theta}}{1!(\ell-1)!\theta^\ell} + \frac{X^{-2\theta}}{2!(\ell-2)!\theta^\ell} + \dots \pm \frac{X^{-\ell\theta}}{\ell!0!\theta^\ell} = \frac{(1-X^{-\theta})^\ell}{\ell!\theta^\ell} \end{aligned}$$

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