

The Riemann Hypothesis

Shekhar Suman

April 2020

Subject Classification code- 11M26

Keywords- Riemann Zeta function; Analytic Continuation; Critical strip; Critical line.

1 Abstract

The Riemann Zeta function is defined as

$$\zeta(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 1/n^s, \Re(s) > 1$$

The Zeta function is holomorphic in the complex plane except for a pole at $s = 1$. The trivial zeros of $\zeta(s)$ are $-2, -4, -6, \dots$. Its non trivial zeros lie in the critical strip $0 < \Re(s) < 1$.

The Riemann Hypothesis states that all the non trivial zeros lie on the critical line $\Re(s) = 1/2$.

2 Proof

Define a function $\zeta^*(s)$ as,

$$\zeta^*(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^s}, \Re(s) > 0.$$

Let, $s = \sigma + it$, $\sigma > 0$.

$$\zeta^*(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^{\sigma+it}}, \sigma > 0.$$

$$\zeta^*(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n e^{-it \ln n}}{n^{\sigma}}, \sigma > 0.$$

$$\zeta^*(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \cos(t \ln n)}{n^{\sigma}} - i \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \sin(t \ln n)}{n^{\sigma}}, \sigma > 0.$$

Since, for $\sigma > 0$, $\frac{1}{n^{\sigma}}$ is monotonic

and $\frac{1}{n^{\sigma}} \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Also $|\sum_{n=1}^N (-1)^n \cos(t \ln n)|$ is bounded.

So, by Dirichlet's test (see [6]), $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \cos(t \ln n)}{n^{\sigma}}$ is convergent

for $\sigma > 0$

Similarly, by Dirichlet's test (see [6]), $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \sin(t \ln n)}{n^{\sigma}}$ is convergent

for $\sigma > 0$

Thus, $\zeta^*(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \cos(t \ln n)}{n^{\sigma}} - i \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \sin(t \ln n)}{n^{\sigma}}$, $\sigma > 0$ is convergent.

$$\zeta(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^s}, \Re(s) > 1$$

$$\zeta^*(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^s}, \Re(s) > 0.$$

$$\zeta(s) + \zeta^*(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^s} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^s}, \Re(s) > 0.$$

$$\zeta(s) + \zeta^*(s) = [1 + \frac{1}{2^s} + \frac{1}{3^s} + \frac{1}{4^s} + \dots] + [-1 + \frac{1}{2^s} - \frac{1}{3^s} + \frac{1}{4^s} - \dots]$$

$$\zeta(s) + \zeta^*(s) = \frac{2}{2^s} + \frac{2}{4^s} + \dots$$

$$\zeta(s) + \zeta^*(s) = \frac{2}{2^s} (\frac{1}{1^s} + \frac{1}{2^s} + \dots)$$

$$\zeta(s) + \zeta^*(s) = \frac{2}{2^s} \zeta(s)$$

$$\zeta(s) = \frac{\zeta^*(s)}{2^{1-s}-1}.$$

The Right hand side is convergent for $\Re(s) > 0$.

Thus, $\zeta(s)$ has an analytic continuation to $\Re(s) > 0$ defined as,

$$\zeta(s) = \frac{\zeta^*(s)}{2^{1-s}-1}, \Re(s) > 0$$

Let, us assume, $\zeta(s) = 0$, $0 < \Re(s) < 1$

$$\Rightarrow \zeta^*(s) = 0, 0 < \Re(s) < 1$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^s} = 0$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^{\sigma+it}} = 0, 0 < \sigma < 1$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n e^{-it \ln n}}{n^{\sigma}} = 0$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \cos(t \ln n)}{n^{\sigma}} - i \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \sin(t \ln n)}{n^{\sigma}} = 0, 0 < \sigma < 1.$$

Equating real and imaginary parts to 0,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \cos(t \ln n)}{n^{\sigma}} = 0$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \sin(t \ln n)}{n^{\sigma}} = 0 \tag{1}$$

$\sin(t \ln n) \leq 1$, so, Equation (1) gives

$$0 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \sin(t \ln n)}{n^{\sigma}} \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^{\sigma}}$$

$$0 \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^{\sigma}} \tag{2}$$

$$0 < \sigma < 1 \Rightarrow 1 < n^{\sigma} < n.$$

$$\frac{1}{n^{\sigma}} < 1.$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^\sigma} < \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \tag{3}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n = 0, \text{ if } n \text{ is even}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n = -1, \text{ if } n \text{ is odd}$$

Equation (3) gives,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^\sigma} < 0.$$

which contradicts (2), since by (2), $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^\sigma} \geq 0$

So, our assumption that $\zeta(s) = 0$, $0 < \Re(s) < 1$ is wrong.

Thus, $\zeta(s) \neq 0$, $0 < \Re(s) < 1$

Thus, we have disproved the Riemann Hypothesis.

3 References

1. E. C. Titchmarsh, D. R. Heath-Brown - The theory of the Riemann Zeta function [2nd ed] Clarendon Press; Oxford University Press (1986).
2. Kevin Broughan - Equivalents of the Riemann Hypothesis: Arithmetic Equivalents Cambridge University Press (2017).
3. Kevin Broughan - Equivalents of the Riemann Hypothesis: Analytic Equivalents Cambridge University Press (2017) .
4. A Monotonicity of Riemann's Xi function and a reformulation of the Riemann Hypothesis, Periodica Mathematica Hungarica - May 2010.
4. H.M Edwards - Riemann's Zeta function- Academic Press (1974).
5. Tom M. Apostol - Introduction to Analytical Number Theory (1976).
6. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dirichlet>