# Distribution of the Zeros of the Derivatives of the Riemann Zeta Function

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## Outline

## Introduction

#### Zero free regions

- Known zero-free regions
- Finding zero free regions
- New zero free regions

#### Vertical distribution of zeros

- Approximate results
- Zero free line segments
- Locations of zeros

#### Chains of zeros

- Examples
- On the far right
- More examples

## **5** Zeros of $\zeta$ and zeros of $\zeta^{(k)}$

## The Riemann zeta function

#### Definition

$$\zeta(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^s}$$
, where  $s = \sigma + it$  with  $\sigma > 1$ 

Functional equation for  $\zeta(s)$  where  $s \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{1\}$ 

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

 $\zeta(s)$  has a simple pole at s=1

#### **Trivial zeros**

 $\zeta(-2j) = 0$  for  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ 

## The Riemann hypothesis and the derivatives of $\zeta$

Prime number theorem

All non-trivial zeros of  $\zeta$  are in the critical strip  $0 < \sigma < 1$ .

**Riemann hypothesis** 

All non-trivial zeros of  $\zeta$  are of the form  $\frac{1}{2} + it$ .

Speiser 1934

Riemann hypothesis  $\iff \zeta'(\sigma + it)$  has no zeros for  $0 < \sigma < \frac{1}{2}$ 

#### Yildirim 1996

The Riemann hypothesis implies

- $\zeta''$  has no zeros in the strip  $0 \le \sigma < \frac{1}{2}$
- $\zeta'''$  has no zeros in the strip  $0 \le \sigma < \frac{1}{2}$

## Plots of $|\zeta|$ and $|\zeta'|$



#### $|\zeta(\sigma + it)|$ for $0 \le \sigma \le 8$ and $0.1 \le t \le 60$



#### $|\zeta'(\sigma+it)|$ for $0\leq\sigma\leq$ 8 and $0.2\leq t\leq$ 60

## Zeros of $\zeta$ , $\zeta'$ , and $\zeta''$ (Spira 1965)



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## Known zero-free regions

If  $\sigma \geq \ldots$ , then the function has no zero for  $s = \sigma + it$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

	$\zeta$	$\zeta'$	$\zeta''$	$\zeta^{(k)}$ for $k \ge 3$
Hadamard and de la	1			
Vallée-Poussin 1896				
Spira 1965				$\frac{7}{4}k + 2$
Verma and Kaur 1982				1.13588k + 2
Skorokhodov 2003		2.93938	4.02853	

Note that

$$q_2 := rac{\log rac{\log 2}{\log 3}}{\log rac{2}{3}} = 1.13588\dots$$

Zero free regions

Known zero-free regions



## Finding zero free regions

We find  $s = \sigma + it$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \zeta^{(k)}(s) \right| &= \left| \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{\log^k n}{n^s} \right| \\ &\geq \left| \frac{\log^k N}{N^s} \right| - \left| \sum_{n=2}^{N-1} \frac{\log^k n}{n^s} + \sum_{n=N+1}^{\infty} \frac{\log^k n}{n^s} \right| \\ &= \frac{\log^k N}{N^{\sigma}} - \sum_{n=2}^{N-1} \frac{\log^k n}{n^{\sigma}} - \sum_{n=N+1}^{\infty} \frac{\log^k n}{n^{\sigma}} > 0. \end{aligned}$$

That is, for  $N \in \mathbb{N}^{>1}$  we find the regions in  $\mathbb{C}$  where  $\zeta^{(k)}(s)$  is dominated by  $\frac{\log^k N}{N^s}$ .

### Dominant Term





#### There is no dominant term if

$$\frac{\log^k N}{N^{\sigma}} = \left| \frac{\log^k N}{N^{s}} \right| = \left| \frac{\log^k (N+1)}{(N+1)^{s}} \right| = \frac{\log^k (N+1)}{(N+1)^{\sigma}}.$$

This is the case when  $\sigma = \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{q}_N$  where

$$q_N = rac{\log rac{\log (N+1)}{\log N}}{\log rac{N+1}{N}}.$$

In particular

 $q_2 \approx 1.13588, \quad q_3 \approx 0.808484, \quad q_4 \approx 0.668855.$ 

## The head $H_M^k(\sigma)$ and the tail $T_M^k(\sigma)$

Let

$$H_M^k(s) := \sum_{n=2}^{M-1} Q_n^k(s) = \sum_{n=2}^{M-1} \frac{\log^k n}{n^s}$$

and

$$T^k_M(s) := \sum_{n=M+1}^\infty Q^k_n(s) = \sum_{n=M+1}^\infty rac{\log^k n}{n^s}.$$

Our goal will be to show that

$$|\zeta^{(k)}(s)| \ge Q_M^k(\sigma) - H_M^k(\sigma) - T_M^k(\sigma) = Q_M^k(\sigma) \left(1 - \frac{H_M^k}{Q_M^k}(\sigma) - \frac{T_M^k}{Q_M^k}(\sigma)\right) > 0$$

## The head $H_M^k(\sigma)$

$$H_{M}^{k}(\sigma) = \sum_{n=2}^{M-1} \frac{\log^{k} n}{n^{\sigma}} = \sum_{n=2}^{M-1} Q_{n}^{k}(\sigma) = Q_{M}^{k}(\sigma) \left( \frac{Q_{M-1}^{k}}{Q_{M}^{k}}(\sigma) + \dots + \frac{Q_{2}^{k}}{Q_{M}^{k}}(\sigma) \right)$$
$$= Q_{M}^{k}(\sigma) \left( \frac{Q_{M-1}^{k}}{Q_{M}^{k}}(\sigma) \left( 1 + \frac{Q_{M-2}^{k}}{Q_{M-1}^{k}}(\sigma) \left( 1 + \dots \left( 1 + \frac{Q_{2}^{k}}{Q_{3}^{k}}(\sigma) \right) \dots \right) \right) \right)$$

For  $2 \le n \le M$  and  $\sigma \le q_{M-1}k - cM$  where  $c \in \mathbb{R}^{>0}$  a solution of  $1 - \frac{1}{e^c - 1} - \frac{1}{e^c}(1 + \frac{1}{c}) \ge 0$  we have

$$\frac{Q_{n-1}^k}{Q_n^k}(\sigma) \le \left(\frac{n}{n-1}\right)^{-cM} \le \left(\frac{M}{M-1}\right)^{-cM} \le \frac{1}{e^c}.$$

It follows that

$$\frac{H_M^k}{Q_M^k}(\sigma) \le \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(e^c)^n} = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{e^c}} - 1 = \frac{1}{e^c - 1}.$$

## The tail $T_M^k(\sigma)$

For  $\sigma \geq q_M k + c(M+1)$  we have

$$T_{M}^{k}(\sigma) = \sum_{n=M+1}^{\infty} Q_{n}^{j}(\sigma) = \sum_{n=M+1}^{\infty} \frac{\log^{k} n}{n^{\sigma}} \le \int_{M}^{\infty} \frac{\log^{k} x}{x^{\sigma}} dx$$
$$< \frac{\log^{k} M}{M^{\sigma}} \frac{M}{\sigma - 1} \left( 1 + \frac{k}{(\sigma - 1)\log M - k + 1} \right)$$

With  $k \ge k_M = \frac{(2M+1)c}{q_{M-1}-q_m}$  this gives

$$R_{M+1}^k(\sigma) \leq R_{M+1}^{k_M}(q_M k_M + c(M+1)) < \frac{1}{c}.$$

## The head $H_M^k(\sigma)$ and the tail $T_M^k(\sigma)$

#### Now

$$egin{aligned} |\zeta^{(k)}(s)| &\geq Q^k_M(\sigma) - H^k_M(\sigma) - T^k_M(\sigma) \ &= Q^k_M(\sigma) \left(1 - rac{H^k_M}{Q^k_M}(\sigma) - rac{T^k_M}{Q^k_M}(\sigma)
ight) \ &> Q^k_M(\sigma) \left(1 - rac{1}{e^c - 1} - rac{1}{e^c} \left(1 + rac{1}{c}
ight)
ight) \ &\geq 0, \end{aligned}$$

## Zero Free Regions

Let 
$$k \in \mathbb{N}$$
 and  $c \in \mathbb{R}^{>0}$  a solution of  $1 - \frac{1}{e^c - 1} - \frac{1}{e^c}(1 + \frac{1}{c}) \ge 0$ .  
If  $M \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $M > 3$  and

$$q_M k + (M+1)c \le q_{M-1}k - Mc$$

then  $\zeta^{(k)}(s) \neq 0$  for

$$q_M k + (M+1)c \leq \sigma \leq q_{M-1}k - Mc.$$

Zero free regions

New zero free regions

Zeros of 
$$\zeta'$$
,  $\zeta^{(34)}$ ,  $\zeta^{(67)}$ ,  $\zeta^{(100)}$ 



Zero free regions New zero free regions

## Zero-free regions of $\zeta^{(k)}$ in the *k*- $\sigma$ -plane



## Extending the wedges

The tips of the wedges are at  $k_M = \frac{1}{2} \left( (q_M + q_{M-1})k + c \right)$ 



М	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
$k_M$ at tip of wedge	20	77	163	291	465	691	971	1313
$k_M$ at tip of line	19	58	123	220	354	529	748	1014

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## Vertical distribution of non-real zeros

#### Riemann, van Mangoldt 1905

The number of zeros of  $\zeta(\sigma + it)$  with 0 < t < T is

$$N(T) = T \frac{\log T - 1 - \log 2\pi}{2\pi} + O(\log T)$$

#### Berndt 1970

The number of zeros of  $\zeta^{(k)}(\sigma + it)$  with 0 < t < T is

$$N^k(T) = T rac{\log T - 1 - \log 4\pi}{2\pi} + O(\log T)$$

### Berndt's proof

There is  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\zeta^{(k)}(\sigma + it) \neq 0$  for  $\sigma < \alpha$ . (Spira 1970). Let  $\tau > 0$  such that  $\zeta^{(k)}(\sigma + it) \neq 0$  for  $0 < t < \tau$ .



The number of zeros of  $\zeta^{(k)}(\sigma + it)$  with 0 < t < T is

$$N^{k}(T) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{C} \frac{\zeta^{(k+1)}(s)}{\zeta^{(k)}(s)} ds = \frac{I_{1} + I_{2} + I_{3} + I_{4}}{2\pi i} = T \frac{\log T - 1 - \log 4\pi}{2\pi} + O(\log T)$$

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## Some zero-free points

If 
$$\frac{\log^k N}{N^s}$$
 and  $\frac{\log^k (N+1)}{(N+1)^s}$  dominate  $\zeta^{(k)}$  and  
$$\frac{\log^k N}{N^s} = \frac{\log^k (N+1)}{(N+1)^s}$$
there  $\zeta^{(k)}(s) \neq 0$ 

then  $\zeta^{(n)}(s) \neq 0$ .

Real part:

Absolute value:
$$\frac{\log^k N}{N^{\sigma}} = \frac{\log^k (N+1)}{(N+1)^{\sigma}},$$
  
hence  $\sigma = k \cdot q_N$ Real part: $\cos(t \cdot \log N) = \cos(t \cdot \log(N+1))$   
 $\sin(t \cdot \log N) = \sin(t \cdot \log(N+1))$   
hence  $t = \frac{2m\pi}{\log(N+1) - \log(N)}$  for  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ 

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## Zero Free Horizontal Line Segements

#### Lemma

## If $q_M k + (M+1) \log 3 \le \sigma \le q_{M-1}k - M \log 3$ , then $\zeta^{(k)}(s) \ne 0$ for $s = \sigma + i \cdot \frac{2\pi j}{\log(M+1) - \log M}$ .



## Locations of zeros of $\zeta^{(k)}$

If 
$$\frac{\log^k N}{N^s}$$
 and  $\frac{\log^k (N+1)}{(N+1)^s}$  dominate  $\zeta^{(k)}$  and  
$$\frac{\log^k N}{N^s} = -\frac{\log^k (N+1)}{(N+1)^s}$$

there might be a zero of  $\zeta^{(k)}$  close to s.

Absolute value:
$$\frac{\log^k N}{N^{\sigma}} = \frac{\log^k (N+1)}{(N+1)^{\sigma}},$$
  
hence  $\sigma = k \cdot q_N$ Real part: $\cos(t \cdot \log N) = -\cos(t \cdot \log(N+1))$   
 $\sin(t \cdot \log N) = -\sin(t \cdot \log(N+1))$   
hence  $t = \frac{(2m+1)\pi}{\log(N+1) - \log(N)}$  for  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ 

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## Locations of zeros of $\zeta^{(k)}$

The point  $\bullet$  is the only zero of  $\frac{\log^k M}{M^s} + \frac{\log^k M+1}{M+1^s}$  inside the curve  $\gamma \square$ .



We have  $\left|\frac{\log^k M}{M^s} + \frac{\log^k M+1}{M+1^s} - \zeta^{(k)}(s)\right| \le \left|\frac{\log^k M}{M^s} + \frac{\log^k M+1}{M+1^s}\right|$ . By Rouché's Theorem  $\zeta^{(k)}(s)$  has exactly one simple zero inside  $\gamma$ .

## Number of Zeros Between Zero Free Regions

#### Corollary

Let  $N_M^k(T)$  denote the number of zeros  $\rho$  of  $\zeta^{(k)}(s)$  with  $\Im(\rho) \leq T$  and  $q_M k + (M+1) \log 3 \leq \Re(\rho) \leq q_{M-1}k - M \log 3$ . Then, for all  $j \geq 1$ ,

$$N_M^k\left(rac{2\pi j}{\log(M+1)-\log(M)}
ight)=j.$$

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## Zeros of derivatives of $\zeta$ (Skorokhodov 2003)



Chains of zeros On t

On the far right

## Zero Free Regions for $\zeta^{(100)}$ , $\zeta^{(200)}$ , $\zeta^{(400)}$ , $\zeta^{(800)}$



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#### Chains for large k

For  $M \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $M \ge 2$  there is  $K \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$q_{M+1}k + (M+2)c \leq q_Mk - (M+1)c$$
 for all  $k \geq K$ .

For each  $k \ge K$  and each  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$  there is exactly one zero in a rectangular region given by M, k, and j.

There exists a unique corresponding zero of  $\zeta^{(k+1)}(s)$  in the rectangular region given by M, k+1, and j. Thus there is a chain of zeros

$$\zeta^{(\kappa)}(s), \zeta^{(\kappa+1)}(s), \zeta^{(\kappa+2)}(s), \ldots$$

## Zeros of the 1<sup>st</sup> to 40<sup>th</sup> derivatives of $\zeta$



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Zeros of derivatives of  $\zeta$ 

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Zeros of  $\zeta$  and zeros of  $\zeta^{(k)}$ 

## The curves s(c) given by $\zeta(s(c)) - c = 0$ for $c \in [0, 1)$



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Zeros of  $\zeta$  and zeros of  $\zeta^{(k)}$ 

## Zero free regions for $\zeta(s) - c$



Zeros of  $\zeta$  and zeros of  $\zeta^{(k)}$ 

## Zeros of $\zeta$ and zeros of $\zeta^{(k)}$



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Zeros of derivatives of  $\zeta$ 

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