## GENERALIZATION OF A FORMULA OF HAYMAN AND ITS APPLICA-TION TO THE STUDY OF RIEMANN'S ZETA FUNCTION

BY

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**1. Introduction.** In [5] Hayman considers functions  $f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \alpha_n z^n$ , analytic inside |z| < R ( $\leq \infty$ ) and satisfying some additional conditions and obtains for their coefficients  $\alpha_n$  an asymptotic estimate which generalizes Stirling's formula  $1/n! \sim (e/n)^n (2\pi n)^{-1/2}$ , to which it reduces in the case  $f(z) = e^z$ .

In the first part of the present paper, we obtain an asymptotic series for the coefficients  $\alpha_n$  of an appropriate class of functions f(z); this is the analog of the well-known asymptotic series for the factorials, to which it reduces in the case  $f(z) = e^{z}$ .

In the second part, we use the results of the first part, in order to prove that a certain condition, necessary for the validity of the Riemann hypothesis, is in fact satisfied.

## Part I

**2. Notations and main results.** Let  $f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \alpha_n z^n$  be a function analytic inside the circle |z| < R  $(\leq \infty)$ , real on the real axis and such that  $\lim_{x\to R} f(x) = \infty$ . Set

$$a_1(z) = z \frac{d(\log f(z))}{dz} = z(f'(z)/f(z))$$

and define inductively for  $\nu > 1$ ,

$$a_{\nu}(z) = z \frac{da_{\nu-1}(z)}{dz}.$$

Let A be the class of real-valued functions a(x) such that, for  $\nu \geq 3$ ,  $a_{\nu}(x) \leq a(x)$  for sufficiently large x (which might depend on  $\nu$ ). We assume furthermore, that there exists a function  $\delta(x)$ , satisfying the following conditions for some  $a \in A$ :

(i) 
$$\lim_{x\to R} \delta_2(x) a_2(x) = \infty;$$

(ii) 
$$\lim_{x\to R} \delta^{\circ}(x)a(x) = 0$$

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