ROCKY MOUNTAIN JOURNAL OF MATHEMATICS Volume 31, Number 4, Winter 2001

EXTENDED RIEMANN ZETA FUNCTIONS

M. ASLAM CHAUDHRY, ASGHAR QADIR, M.T. BOUDJELKHA, M. RAFIQUE AND S.M. ZUBAIR

ABSTRACT. Analogous to recent useful generalizations of the family of gamma functions and beta functions, extensions of the Riemann zeta function are presented, for which the usual properties and representations are naturally and simply extended. In analogy to these extensions, the extended Hurwitz functions are introduced. Hurwitz-type formulae are also proved.

1. Introduction. The zeta function, though originally introduced by Euler, was independently used by Riemann to attack a problem in the theory of prime numbers [4], [8], [11], [13]. It was known that prime numbers become progressively sparser for large values but no explicit expression explaining how they become so was available until the time of Legendre and Gauss. Writing the number of primes less than or equal to n as

(1.1)
$$\pi(n) = \sum_{p \le n} 1,$$

where the summation extends only over the primes. At age 15 Gauss, in 1792, conjectured that as $n \to \infty$,

(1.2)
$$\pi(n) \sim n/\log n.$$

In an attempt to prove the conjecture, Riemann used the zeta function extended to complex variables. (It may be mentioned in passing that though the Riemann proof was incomplete, there is now available an

Copyright ©2001 Rocky Mountain Mathematics Consortium

¹⁹⁹¹ AMS Mathematics Subject Classification. 33B99, 33C15, 11M06, 11M35, 11M99.

Key words and phrases. Gamma function, generalized gamma function, zeta functions, integral transforms.

We deeply regret to inform you that the fourth author, M. Rafique, died on 16 June 1996.

Received by the editors on January 23, 2000, and in revised form on July 18, 2000.