BOCKY MOUNTAIN JOURNAL OF MATHEMATICS Volume 30, Number 1, Spring 2000

AN EXPLICIT ZERO-FREE REGION FOR THE RIEMANN ZETA-FUNCTION

YUANYOU CHENG

ABSTRACT. This paper gives an explicit zero-free region for the Riemann zeta-function derived from the Vinogradov-Korobov method. We prove that the Riemann zeta-function does not vanish in the region $\sigma \ \geq \ 1 \, - \, .00105 \log^{-2/3} |t|$ $(\log \log |t|)^{-1/3}$ and $|t| \ge 3$.

1. Introduction. It is now well known that the problem involving prime numbers can be related to the study of the Riemann zetafunction. In 1860, Riemann in [17] showed that the key to the deeper investigation of the distribution of the primes lies in the study of the function which is now called the Riemann zeta-function. Let $s = \sigma + it$ be a complex variable. For $\sigma > 1$, the Riemann zeta-function is defined as

(1)
$$\zeta(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^s}.$$

The above series converges absolutely and uniformly on the half plane $\sigma \geq \sigma_0$ for any $\sigma_0 > 1$. It can be extended to be a regular function on the whole complex plane \mathbf{C} , except at s = 1, which is the only pole of the Riemann zeta-function and at which the function has residue 1. The general definition of the Riemann zeta-function may be referred to by its functional equation. That is,

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

Here Γ is the factorial function of a complex variable and $\Gamma(n) = (n-1)!$ for every positive integer n. The pole of Γ at s = 0 corresponds to that of $\zeta(s)$ at s = 1. The other poles of Γ at s = -n for positive integers

Received by the editors on June 26, 1998, and in revised form on September 25, 1998.

¹⁹⁹¹ AMS Mathematics Subject Classification. 11E01. Key words and phrases. Riemann zeta-function, zero-free region, Vinogradov-Korobov method, explicit.

Copyright ©2000 Rocky Mountain Mathematics Consortium

n cancel with the so-called trivial zeros of the Riemann zeta-function, which are s = -2n for all positive integers *n*. For reference, one may see [7, 9, 12, 16] or [21].

The Riemann hypothesis states that all nontrivial zeros of $\zeta(s)$ are on the line $\sigma = 1/2$, which is not proved or disproved. There exist weaker results concerning the zero-free region for the Riemann zeta-function. It is not difficult to show that $\zeta(s) \neq 0$ for $\sigma > 1$; we shall include it in the next section for completeness. It was proved independently by Hadamard, see [8] and de la Vallée Poussin, see [23], in 1896 that $\zeta(s) \neq 0$ for $\sigma \geq 1$. In 1899, de la Vallée Poussin established in [24] that $\zeta(s)$ does not have zeros in the region

$$\sigma > 1 - \frac{A}{\log t}, \quad t \ge t_0,$$

where A and t_0 are positive constants. For reference, one may see [7]. Rosser in [19] gave this result with A = 1/19 and $t_0 = 1400$ in 1939 for estimating on primes. In fact, the number A can be sharpened if we allow a bigger t_0 . Rosser, and later with Schoenfeld, used A = 1/17.71for $t_0 = 1468$ and A = 1/17.51 with $t_0 = e^{9.99}$, see [18] and [20]. For another explicit result, one may also see [5], in which Chen and Wang gave a zero-free region in the form

$$\sigma > 1 - \frac{0.057812}{\log \log x} \quad \text{and} \quad |t| \le \log x,$$

for $x \ge e^{20000}$. In 1922, Littlewood, see [2], proved that $\zeta(s) \ne 0$ in the region

$$\sigma > 1 - A \frac{\log \log t}{\log t}, \quad t \ge t_0,$$

where A and t_0 are positive constants. This result was based on an upper bound on exponential sums, see [2] or [27]. An explicit zero-free region has useful applications in number theory. For reference, one may see the above-mentioned paper of Rosser, that of Rosser and Schoenfeld, or [5].

The widest known zero-free region for the Riemann zeta-function is in the form of

(3)
$$\sigma > 1 - \frac{A}{\log^{2/3} t (\log \log t)^{1/3}}, \text{ and } t \ge t_0,$$

where A and t_0 are positive constants. For reference, one may see [25, 26, 13] or the above-mentioned book [12]. For more information on this topic, one may see [14]. The establishment of this kind of zero-free region is based on an upper bound for the Riemann zeta-function derived from the Vinogradov-Korobov method. In [6], the following result is given.

Lemma 1. For $\sigma \ge (1/2)$ and $t \ge 2$, we have (4) $|\zeta(s)| \le At^{B(\sigma)} \log^{2/3} t$,

where A is 175 and

(a)
$$B(\sigma) = 46(1-\sigma)^{3/2}$$
 if $\sigma \le 1$;
(b) $B(\sigma) = 0$ if $\sigma > 1$.

The best known upper bound for the Riemann zeta-function in the region considered in Lemma 1 is due to Heath-Brown [11], who claims (4) with constant in $B(\sigma)$ being 18.8, but with the constant A inexplicit. For our application, we will need a completely explicit estimate as afforded by Lemma 1.

The purpose of this paper is to give a zero-free region in the form of (3) explicitly. Like the results in [19, 18, 20] and [5], this explicit zero-free region can be used to obtain explicit results concerning the distribution of prime numbers, see [4]. The main result in this paper is as follows:

Theorem. The Riemann zeta-function does not vanish in the region $\sigma \ge 1 - 0.00101 \log^{-2/3} |t| (\log \log |t|)^{-1/3}$ and $|t| \ge 3$.

2. Some estimates on $\zeta(s)$ and $(\zeta'(s)/\zeta(s))$. Let us begin with an elementary result measuring the size of $\zeta(\sigma)$ for real number σ . We use the decreasing property of $u^{-\sigma}$ as a function of u. We have $(n+1)^{-\sigma} < \int_n^{n+1} u^{-\sigma} du < n^{-\sigma}$; if we sum all sides of this inequality over the set of all positive integers n, noting that the resulting series is convergent for $\sigma > 1$, we get $\zeta(\sigma) - 1 < \int_1^\infty u^{-\sigma} d\sigma < \zeta(\sigma)$. This gives

(5)
$$\frac{1}{\sigma-1} < \zeta(\sigma) < \frac{\sigma}{\sigma-1}, \text{ for } \sigma > 1.$$

By the property of convergent series, we can differentiate (1) term by term. We get

(6)
$$\zeta'(s) = -\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\log n}{n^s} \quad \text{for } \sigma > 1.$$

Noting that the function $u^{-\sigma} \log u$ is decreasing for $u \geq 3$, we have that $n^{-\sigma} \log n < \int_{n-1}^{n} u^{-\sigma} \log u \, du$ for $n \geq 4$. Similar to that in the proof of (5), we get $\zeta'(\sigma) + 2^{-\sigma} \log 2 + 3^{-\sigma \log 3} > -\int_{3}^{\infty} u^{-\sigma} \log u \, du$. It follows that

$$-\zeta'(\sigma) < \frac{1.001}{(\sigma-1)^2}$$
 for $1 < \sigma < 1.05$

In the last step, we have used the fact $\int_{3}^{\infty} u^{-\sigma} \log u \, du = (1 = \sigma \log 3 - \log 3)(\sigma - 1)^{-2}3^{1-\sigma}$ and $3^{-\sigma+1}(1 + \sigma \log 3 - \log 3) + (\sigma - 1)^2 \times (2^{-\sigma} \log 2 + 3^{-\sigma} \log 3) \leq 1.001$ for $1 < \sigma < 1.05$. Recalling (5), we obtain

(7)
$$-\frac{\zeta'(\sigma)}{\zeta(\sigma)} < \frac{1.001}{\sigma - 1} \quad \text{for } 1 < \sigma < 1.05.$$

The following identity is called Euler's product identity for the Riemann zeta-function. For $\sigma > 1$, we have

(8)
$$\zeta(s) = \prod_{p} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^s}\right)^{-1},$$

where p runs through the set of all prime numbers. This identity is an analytic equivalence for the proposition that every natural number can be factorized into prime powers in one and only one way. Using this identity, we can show that $\zeta(s) \neq 0$ for $\sigma > 1$. We have

$$\frac{1}{|\zeta(s)|} = \left|\prod_{p} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^s}\right)\right| \le \prod_{p} \left(1 + \frac{1}{p^\sigma}\right) \le \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^\sigma}.$$

The last expression is $\zeta(\sigma)$. Recalling (5), we get

(9)
$$|\zeta(s)| > \frac{\sigma - 1}{\sigma}.$$

This gives

(10)
$$\zeta(s) \neq 0 \quad \text{for } \sigma > 1.$$

Both (9) and (10) shall be needed later in this paper.

We may take logarithms on both sides of (8), in view of convergences for the resulting series. It gives us

(11)
$$\log \zeta(s) = -\sum_{p} \log \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^s}\right) \quad \text{for } \sigma > 1.$$

Hadamard and de la Vallée Poussin used this equation in proving $\zeta(s) \neq 0$ for $\sigma \geq 1$, see [7]. A similar technique involved in their proofs shall be used in Section 4. We shall not need $\zeta(s) \neq 0$ for $\sigma = 1$ for the following argument.

Differentiating both sides of (11), we get

(12)
$$-\frac{\zeta'(s)}{\zeta(s)} = \sum_{p} \frac{\log p}{p^s - 1} \quad \text{for } \sigma > 1.$$

The justification of the differentiation term by term is done by noting that, for any arbitrary $\delta > 0$, $|(p^s - 1)^{-1} \log p| < p^{-(\sigma-\delta)}$ for sufficiently large p, $\sum_p p^{-(\sigma-\delta)} < \sum_n n^{-(\sigma-\delta)}$, and the last series is uniformly convergent for $\sigma \ge \sigma_0$ for any $\sigma_0 > 1$. We then rewrite the right side of (11), getting

$$\sum_{p} \frac{\log p}{p^{s} - 1} = \sum_{p} \log p \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{p^{ms}} = \sum_{p,m} \frac{\log p}{p^{ms}},$$

where the sum is taken over all prime numbers p and all positive integers m. The last double series is absolutely convergent for $\sigma > 1$. We define $\Lambda(n) = \log p$ whenever n is a power of a prime number p or $\Lambda(n) = 0$. The equation (12) becomes

(13)
$$-\frac{\zeta'(s)}{\zeta(s)} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\Lambda(n)}{n^s} \quad \text{for } \sigma > 1.$$

The function Λ is the von Mangoldt Lambda-function.

It is this equation (13) which is used in the estimation on the zeros of the Riemann zeta-function. We shall need another tool connecting the upper bound as in (4) for $\zeta(s)$ to that for $-(\zeta'(s)/\zeta(s))$ as well as to the zeros of $\zeta(s)$; see next section.

3. An analytic tool. Traditionally, for the purpose of connecting the upper bound for $\zeta(s)$ to that for $-\zeta'(s)/\zeta(s)$, we have Landau's lemma, see [2], though a different approach can be found in [15]. The following lemma and its proof can be found in [10].

Lemma 2. Suppose that f(s) is regular in the disc $|s - s_0| \leq r$ and nonvanishing both at $s = s_0$ and on the circle $|s - s_0| = r$. Let $\rho_k = s_0 + r_k e^{i\theta_k}$ be the zeros of f(s) in the disc and n_k the multiplicity of ρ_k . Then

$$-\Re\left(\frac{f'(s_0)}{f(s_0)}\right) = -\frac{1}{\pi r} \int_{-(\pi/2)}^{(3\pi/2)} \cos(\theta) \log|f(s_0 + re^{i\theta})| \\ + \sum_{\rho_k} n_k \left(\frac{1}{r_k} - \frac{r_k}{r^2}\right) \cos(\theta_k).$$

By the assumption of Lemma 2, we have $(1/r_k) - (r_k/r^2) > 0$. We shall apply Lemma 2 only in the case of $(\pi/2) < \theta_k < 3(\pi/2)$, so that $\cos(\theta_k) < 0$. We see that every term in the last sum is negative. We have the following corollaries.

Corollary 1. Assume the same as in Lemma 2 and $(\pi/2) < \theta_k < (3\pi/2)$. Then

(14)
$$-\Re\left(\frac{f'(s_0)}{f(s_0)}\right) \le -\frac{1}{\pi r} \int_0^{2\pi} \cos(\theta) \log |f(s_0) + re^{i\theta}| \, d\theta.$$

If $\rho_0 = s_0 + r_0 e^{i\theta_0}$ is one of the zeros of f(s) with multiplicity n_0 such that $\Im(s_0)$, then $\theta_0 = \pi$ and $\cos(\theta_0) = -1$. In this case we have

$$n_0 \left(\frac{1}{r_0} - \frac{r_0}{r^2}\right) \le -\frac{1}{r_0} + \frac{r_0}{r^2} = -\Re \frac{1}{s_0 - \rho_0} + \frac{r_0}{r^2} \le -\Re \frac{1}{s_0 - \rho_0} + \frac{1}{r}.$$

Thus we get the following corollary.

Corollary 2. Assume the same as in Corollary 1. If $\rho_0 = s_0 + r_0 e^{i\theta_0}$ is one of the zeros of f(s) such that $\Im(\rho_0) = \Im(s_0)$, then

(15)
$$-\Re\left(\frac{f'(s_0)}{f(s_0)}\right) \le -\frac{1}{\pi r} \int_0^{2\pi} \cos\theta \log |f(s_0 + re^{i\theta})| \, d\theta - \Re \frac{1}{s_0 - \rho_0} + \frac{1}{r}.$$

To apply Lemma 2, we shall assume that $t_0 \ge e^{e^3}$. For brevity, we denote $L_1 = \log(4t_0 + 1/3)$ and $L_2 = \log(L_1)$. Then we let $\sigma_0 = 1 + \kappa L_1^{-2/3} L_1^{-1/3}$ for some $0 < \kappa < 1$. We have $s_0 = \sigma_0 + it_0$. We note by recalling (10) that the Riemann zeta-function does not vanish at any point s_0 . Then we let $r = \lambda L_1^{-2/3} L_2^{-1/3} + \varepsilon$ for some $0 < \lambda < 1$ and ε a positive number tending to zero. We note here that $r < (L_2/L_1)^{2/3} < (3/e^3)^{2/3} < 1/3$.

Suppose s is on the circle $|s-s_0| \leq r$. Then $\sigma = \Re(s) = \sigma_0 + r \cos(\theta)$, where $\theta = \arg(s-s_0)$. By the condition that $\sigma_0 > 1$, we have

$$\sigma - 1 > r\cos(\theta).$$

We shall now calculate the integral involved for $-(\pi/2) < \theta < (\pi/2)$ and $(\pi/2) < \theta < (3\pi/2)$ separately.

If $-(\pi/2) < \theta < (\pi/2)$, then $\cos(\theta) > 0$. Recalling (9), we have $\log |\zeta(s)| > \log(\sigma - 1) - \log(1.05)$. Using (16), we get $\log |\zeta(s)| > \log r + \log(\cos \theta) - \log(1.05)$ and

$$-\log|\zeta(s)| < \log\frac{1}{r} + \log\frac{1}{\cos\theta} + 0.05.$$

It follows that

(17)
$$-\frac{1}{\pi r} \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} \cos\theta \log|\zeta(s)| \, d\theta \le \frac{2}{\pi r} \log\frac{1}{r} + \frac{2(1-\log 2)}{\pi r} + \frac{1}{10\pi r}$$

Here we have used the fact that $-\int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} \cos\theta \log(\cos\theta) d\theta = 2(1-\log 2).$

If $(\pi/2) \le \theta \le (3\pi/2)$, then $\cos \theta \le 0$. Similarly, but recalling (4) and using (16), we get

$$\log |\zeta(s)| \le B(\sigma) \log t + \frac{2}{3} \log \log t + \log A,$$

and $B(\sigma) \leq Br^{3/2}(-\cos\theta)^{3/2}$. Note that

$$\int_{\pi/2}^{3\pi/2} (-\cos\theta)^{5/2} \, d\theta = 1.4377... < 1.438.$$

It follows that

(18)
$$-\frac{1}{\pi r} \int_{\pi/2}^{3\pi/2} \cos\theta \log |\zeta(s)| \, d\theta$$
$$\leq \frac{1.438B}{\pi} r^{1/2} \log t + \frac{4}{3\pi r} \log \log t + \frac{2\log A}{\pi r}.$$

Combining (17) and (18), we obtain

(19)
$$-\frac{1}{\pi r} \int_0^{2\pi} \cos\theta \log |\zeta(s)| \, d\theta \le \frac{2}{\pi r} \log \frac{1}{r} + \frac{1.438B}{\pi} r^{1/2} \log t \\ + \left(\frac{4}{3} \log \log t + 2\log A + 0.714\right) \frac{1}{\pi r}.$$

Recalling the definition of r, we deduce

(19a)
$$\frac{2}{\pi r} \log \frac{1}{r} < \frac{4 - 2 \log \lambda}{3\pi \lambda} L_1^{2/3} L_2^{1/3},$$

from the fact that $\log(1/\lambda) + (2/3)\log\log(4t_0 + (1/3)) < ((4-2\log\lambda)/3)\log\log(4t_0 + (1/3));$

(19b)
$$\frac{1.438B}{\pi}r^{1/2}\log t \le \frac{1.438B\lambda^{1/2}}{\pi}L_1^{2/3}L_2^{1/3};$$

and

(19c)
$$\frac{4\log\log t/3 + 2\log A + 0.714}{\pi r} \leq \left(\frac{4}{3\pi\lambda} + \frac{3^{2/3}(2\log A + 0.714)}{\pi e^2\lambda}\right) L_1^{2/3} L_2^{1/3}.$$

142

It follows that

(20)
$$-\frac{1}{\pi r} \int_0^{2\pi} \cos \theta \log |\zeta(s)| \, d\theta \le C L_1^{2/3} L_2^{1/3},$$

where

$$C = C(A, B, \lambda)$$

= $\frac{4 - 2\log\lambda}{3\pi\lambda} + \frac{1.438B\lambda^{1/2}}{\pi}d + \frac{4}{3\pi\lambda} + \frac{3^{2/3}(2\log A + 0.714)}{\pi e^2\lambda}.$

Applying Corollaries 1 and 2 of Lemma 2, we get

(21)
$$-\Re\left(\frac{\zeta'(s_0)}{\zeta(s_0)}\right) \le CL_1^{2/3}L_2^{1/3};$$

and if $\rho_0 = \mu_0 + it_0$ is a zero of $\zeta(s)$, then

(22)
$$-\Re\left(\frac{\zeta'(s_0)}{\zeta(s_0)}\right) \le (C+\lambda^{-1})L_1^{2/3}L_2^{1/3} - \frac{1}{\sigma_0 - \mu_0}.$$

4. The final step. We should have recourse to a trigonometric inequality. The inequality serves for the same purpose as $3 + 4 \cos \theta + \cos(2\theta) > 0$, see [7]. We may choose different ones from those in [3] and [10] to suboptimize the results. Let us use the following arbitrary form. Let a, b, c and d be positive numbers. Let $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, \eta$ be determined by

(23a)
$$\alpha = \frac{5}{8}b^2d^2 + \frac{1}{2}a^2d^2 + 2abcd + \frac{1}{2}b^2c^2 + a^2c^2,$$

(23b)
$$\beta = \frac{3}{2}abd^2 + \frac{3}{2}b^2cd + 2a^2cd + 2abc^2,$$

(23c)
$$\gamma = \frac{1}{2}a^2 + 2abcd + \frac{1}{2}b^2c^2 + \frac{1}{2}b^2d^2,$$

(23d)
$$\delta = \frac{1}{2}abd^2 + \frac{1}{2}b^2cd,$$

(23e)
$$\eta = \frac{1}{8}b^2d^2.$$

143

Then

(24)
$$\alpha + \beta \cos(\theta) + \gamma \cos(2\theta) + \delta \cos(3\theta) + \eta \cos(4\theta) = (a + b \cos\theta)^2 (c + d \cos\theta)^2 \ge 0.$$

Recalling (13), we have

$$-\Re\left(\frac{\zeta'(s)}{\zeta(s)}\right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\Lambda(n)}{n^{\sigma}} \cos(t).$$

It follows from (24) that

$$(25) \quad -\alpha \Re\left(\frac{\zeta'(\sigma)}{\zeta(\sigma)}\right) - \beta \Re\left(\frac{\zeta'(\sigma+it)}{\zeta(\sigma+it)}\right) - \gamma \Re\left(\frac{\zeta'(\sigma+2it)}{\zeta(\sigma+2it)}\right) \\ - \delta \Re\left(\frac{\zeta'(\sigma+3it)}{\zeta(\sigma+3it)}\right) - \eta \Re\left(\frac{\zeta'(\sigma+4it)}{\zeta(\sigma+4it)}\right) \ge 0.$$

Now, suppose that $\rho = \mu + i\nu$ is a zero of $\zeta(s)$ with $\mu > (1/2)$ and $\nu \ge e^{e^3}$. We shall take $t_0 = k\nu$ where k = 1, 2, 3 or 4. For each k = 1, 2, 3 or 4, using the definition of σ_0 in Section 3, we let $s_0 = \sigma_0 + it_0$ be the center for the circle on which we are applying corollaries of Lemma 2. Recall that $\zeta(s_0) \ne 0$. Also, by choosing the value of ε in the definition of r while λ is fixed, we may assume that there is no zero of $\zeta(s)$ on the circle $|s - s_0| = r$, since there exist at most finitely many zeros in any finite region for any regular function. Recalling (10) and $\sigma_0 > 1$, we know that all zeros must have angles in the range $(\pi/2) < \theta < (3\pi/2)$ with respect to the center s_0 . Using (7) to $-\Re(\zeta'(\sigma_0)/\zeta(\sigma_0)), (21)$ to $-\Re(\zeta'(\sigma_0 + kit_0)/\zeta(\sigma_0 + kit_0)),$ for k = 2, 3 and 4, (22) to $-\Re(\zeta'(\sigma_0 + it_0)/\zeta(\sigma_0 + it_0))$ and (25), we obtain

$$\frac{1.001\alpha}{\sigma_0-1}-\frac{\beta}{\sigma_0-\mu}+DL_1^{2/3}L_2^{1/3}\geq 0,$$

or

$$\frac{\beta}{\sigma_0 - \mu} \le DL_1^{2/3}L_2^{1/3} + \frac{1.001\alpha}{\sigma_0 - 1},$$

where

$$D = (\beta + \gamma + \delta + \eta)C + \beta\lambda^{-1},$$

with C being defined in (20). From this, we get

$$1 - \mu \ge \frac{\beta}{DL_1^{2/3}L_2^{1/3} + 1.001\alpha(\sigma_0 - 1)^{-1}} - (\sigma_0 - 1).$$

Substituting σ_0 by its definition, we acquire

(26)
$$1 - \mu \ge \vartheta L_1^{-2/3} L_2^{-1/3}$$

where

$$\vartheta = [D + 1.001\alpha\kappa^{-1}]^{-1}\beta - \kappa.$$

We want to optimize ϑ as a function of κ with fixed a, β and D. We may instead consider the function $f(x) = (\beta/(D + \alpha x)) - (1/x)$ with $x = \kappa^{-1}$. The critical point is $x = D(\sqrt{\alpha}(\sqrt{\beta} - \sqrt{\alpha}))^{-1}$. This leads to

(27)
$$\vartheta = \frac{(\sqrt{\beta} - \sqrt{\alpha})(\beta - 0.001\alpha - \sqrt{\alpha\beta})}{D(\sqrt{\beta} + 0.001\sqrt{\alpha})}$$

Conclude that we have proved that the Riemann zeta-function does not have zeros in the region

$$\sigma > 1 - \vartheta \log^{-2/3} \left(4t + \frac{1}{3} \right) \left(\log \log \left(4t + \frac{1}{3} \right) \right)^{-1/3}, \quad t \ge e^{e^3},$$

with

$$\vartheta = \frac{(\sqrt{\beta} - \sqrt{\alpha})(\beta - 0.001\alpha - \sqrt{\alpha\beta})}{(\sqrt{\beta} + 0.001\sqrt{\alpha})(\beta + \gamma + \delta + \eta)C\beta\lambda^{-1}}$$

where

$$C = \frac{4 - 2\log\lambda}{3\pi\lambda} + \frac{1.438B\lambda^{1/2}}{\pi} + \frac{4}{3\pi\lambda} + \frac{3^{2/3}(2\log A + 0.714)}{\pi e^2\lambda},$$

with any $0 < \lambda < 1$, A and B from the upper bound in the form of (4), a, b, c and d are any positive numbers, and $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$ and η are subject to (23a) through (23e).

In the case that A = 175 and B = 46, we choose $\lambda = 0.43$. It gives C = 18.5. We use a = 5, b = 3, c = 1 and d = 1 in (24), getting $\vartheta = (1/951)$. In [22], it is proved that $\zeta(s) \neq 0$ for $\sigma > 1/2$ and $0 \leq t \leq 545$, 439, 823.215. The last number is greater than e^{e^3} . We let

t > 3/5. It follows that t > (e - 1/3)/4 or 4t + 1/3 > 0. Conclude that we have proved that $\zeta(s)$ does not have zeros in the region

(28)
$$\sigma > 1 - \frac{1}{951 \log^{2/3} (4t + 1/3) (\log \log(4t + 1/3))^{1/3}}$$
 and $t > 3/5$

Recalling Theorem 26 in [20] that the Riemann zeta-function does not have zeros in the region

$$\sigma > 1 - 0.0571 \log^{-1} t$$
 and $t \ge e^{9.99}$,

we may only use (28) for $t \ge e^{e^{14.7988}}$. Note that

$$\frac{\log^{2/3}(4t+1/3)(\log\log(4t+1/3))^{1/3}}{\log^{2/3}t(\log\log t)^{1/3}} < \frac{952}{951}$$

for $t \ge e^{e^{14.7988}}$. We obtain

(29)
$$\sigma > 1 - \frac{1}{952 \log^{2/3} t (\log \log t)^{1/3}}$$
 and $t \ge 3$

To finish the proof of the main result, we resort to the "symmetric" property of the Riemann zeta-function. That is,

$$\zeta(\bar{s}) = \overline{\zeta(s)}.$$

For $\sigma > 1$, this can be realized easily by using the definition of (1) and is in fact valid everywhere. The latter can be proved by analytical continuation and the principle of reflection, see [1]. This tells us that the Riemann zeta-function does not have zero in the region similar to (29) but with t being replaced by |t|. We finish the proof of the main result.

Acknowledgments. I want to thank Professor Carl Pomerance for introducing me to this field and for several helpful suggestions during the writing process of this paper. I also want to thank the referee for a careful reading of the paper and helpful suggestions.

REFERENCES

1. L.V. Ahlfors, Complex analysis, 2nd ed., McGraw-Hill, New York, 1966.

2. K. Chandrasekhara, Arithmetical functions, Grundlehren Math. Wiss. 167, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1970.

3. J. Chen, *The exceptional set of Goldbach numbers* (II), Scientia Sinica **26** (1983), 714–731.

4. ——, Explicit estimate on prime numbers, in preparation.

5. J. Chen and T. Wang, On distribution of primes in an arithmetical progression, Sci. China Ser. A **33** (1990), 397–408.

6. Yuanyou (Fred) Chen, An explicit upper bound for the Riemann zeta-function near the line $\sigma = 1$, Rocky Mountain J. Math. **29** (1999), 115–140.

7. H. Davenport, *Multiplicative number theory*, 2nd ed., Springer-Verlag, New York, 1980.

8. J. Hadamard, Sur la distribution des zéros de la fonction $\zeta(s)$ et ses conséquences arithmétiques, Bull. Soc. Math. France **24** (1896), 199–220.

9. G.H. Hardy and E.M. Wright, An introduction to the theory of numbers, 5th ed., Oxford Sci. Publ., Oxford Univ. Press, NY, 1979.

10. D.R. Heath-Brown, Zero-free regions of $\zeta(s)$ and $L(s, \chi)$, Proc. Amalfi Conf. Analytic Number Theory, Maiori, 1989, 195–200.

11. D.R. Heath-Brown, personal communication.

12. A. Ivic, The Riemann zeta-function, John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1985.

13. N.M. Korobov, *Exponential sums and their applications*, Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht, Boston, 1992.

14. H.L. Montgomery, Ten lectures on the interface between analytic number theory and harmonic analysis, Providence, RI, 1994.

15. Y. Motohashi, On Vinogradov's zero-free region for the Riemann zeta-function, Proc. Japan Acad. Ser. A Math. Sci. 54 (1978).

16. P. Ribenboim, *The book of prime number records*, 2nd ed.,, Springer-Verlag, New York, 1989.

17. B. Riemann, Über die Anzahl der Primzahlen unter einer gegebenen Gröse, Monatsberichte der Königlichen Preussischen Akademie der Wissenschafen zu Berlin aus dem Jahre **1859** (1860), 671–680.

18. J.B. Rosser, *Explicit bounds for some functions of prime numbers*, Amer. J. Math. 63 (1941), 211–232.

19. ——, The n-th prime is greater than $n \log n$, Proc. London Math. Soc. **45** (1945), 21–44.

20. J.B. Rosser and Schoenfeld, Approximate formulas for some functions of prime numbers, Illinois J. Math. 6 (1962), 64–94.

21. E.C. Titchmarsh, *The theory of the Riemann Zeta-function*, 2nd ed. (D.R. Heathbrown, ed.), Oxford Univ. Press, Oxford, 1986.

22. J. van de Lune, H.J.J. te Riele and D.T. Winter, On the zeroes of the Riemann zeta-function in the critical strip, IV, Math. Comp. **47** (1986), 667–681.

23. C.-J. de la Vallée Poussin, Recherches analytiques sur la théorie des normbres; Première partie: La fonction $\zeta(s)$ de Riemann et les nombres premiers en général, Ann. Soc. Sci. Bruxelles Sér. I **20** (1896), 183–256.

24.——, Mémoires couronnés et autres memoires publiés par l'Acad. Roy. des Sciences, des Letters et des Beaux-Arts de Belgique, vol. 59, 1899–1900.

25. I.M. Vinogradov, *The method of trigonometrical sums in the theory of numbers*, 2nd ed., Trav. Inst. Math. Steklov, 1937; Interscience Publishers, London, 1955 (English translation).

26. _____, Selected works, translated from Russian, Springer-Verlag, 1985.

27. H. Weyl, Über die Gleichverteilung von Azhlen mod. Eins., Math. Annal. 77 (1916), 313–352.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, NORTH CAROLINA A & T STATE UNIVERSITY, GREENSBORO, NC 27411 *E-mail address:* ycheng@math.ncat.edu