

# Introduction

We would describe more explicitly what was stated in Preface.

The Riemann zeta function  $\zeta(\cdot)$  is defined on the half-plane  $\operatorname{Re} s > 1$  by the Dirichlet series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^s}$  where  $n^s = e^{s \log n}$ . This function is holomorphic there and is also expressed by the Euler product  $\prod_{p:\text{prime}} \frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{p^s}}$ . Moreover  $\zeta(\cdot)$  is analytically continuable to a meromorphic function on the whole complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$  that is holomorphic except  $s = 1$  and has a simple pole at  $s = 1$  with residue 1. Let us denote this meromorphic function by the same  $\zeta(\cdot)$ .

By the Euler product above,  $\zeta(s) \neq 0$  for  $\operatorname{Re} s > 1$ . It is shown that  $\zeta(s) \neq 0$  on the line  $\operatorname{Re} s = 1$ , and thus there are no zeros of  $\zeta(\cdot)$  in the closed half-plane  $\operatorname{Re} s \geq 1$ . From the functional equation of  $\zeta(\cdot)$ , it is seen that its zeros in the closed half-plane  $\operatorname{Re} s \leq 0$  are negative even integers  $-2, -4, -6, \dots$ , which are called the *trivial zeros*. The Riemann hypothesis is concerned with *non-trivial zeros*, namely the zeros in the strip  $0 < \operatorname{Re} s < 1$ , and states that all non-trivial zeros are on the line  $\operatorname{Re} s = \frac{1}{2}$ . Since  $\zeta(s) \neq 0$  for  $\operatorname{Re} s > \frac{1}{2}$  under this hypothesis, the log zeta function  $\log \zeta$  can be defined as a holomorphic function on the domain  $G'$ , the half-plane  $\operatorname{Re} s > \frac{1}{2}$  excluding the line segment  $(\frac{1}{2}, 1]$  with the derivative  $\frac{\zeta'(s)}{\zeta(s)}$  and the value  $\log \frac{\pi^2}{6}$  at  $s = 2$ . In other words,  $\log \zeta$  is a primitive function of  $\frac{\zeta'}{\zeta}$  on  $G'$  with the value  $\log \frac{\pi^2}{6}$  at  $s = 2$ . Unfortunately, the Riemann hypothesis is not yet proved to hold valid at the moment, so that a modification of this definition is necessary. In fact, in place of  $G'$ , we have only to take a simply connected domain  $G$  of  $\mathbb{C}$  such that  $G$  contains the half-plane  $\operatorname{Re} s > 1$  but no zeros of  $\zeta(\cdot)$ .

When  $\sigma > 1$ , it is easily seen from the Dirichlet series expression of  $\zeta(\cdot)$  that  $|\zeta(\sigma + \sqrt{-1}t)| \leq \zeta(\sigma)$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . Thus  $\zeta(\sigma + \sqrt{-1}t)$  takes the value in the closed disc with center at origin and radius  $\zeta(\sigma)$ . Then how is the case when  $\sigma \leq 1$ ? Since, by the functional equation of  $\zeta(\cdot)$ , the value of  $\zeta(1-s)$  is computed from that of  $\zeta(s)$  immediately, we may restrict ourselves to the case when  $\frac{1}{2} \leq \sigma \leq 1$ . In the early 1910s, H. Bohr obtained many results about the behavior of  $\zeta(\cdot)$  on the strip  $\frac{1}{2} < \operatorname{Re} s \leq 1$ . Among them, the following is an answer of the question above [cf. Bohr [2]]:

**Theorem 1** For  $\frac{1}{2} < \sigma \leq 1$ , the set  $\{\log \zeta(\sigma + \sqrt{-1}t); t \in \mathbb{R} \text{ with } \sigma + \sqrt{-1}t \in G\}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{C}$ .

In fact, since  $\zeta(\sigma + \sqrt{-1}t) = e^{\log \zeta(\sigma + \sqrt{-1}t)}$ , it is seen from the theorem that the set  $\{\zeta(\sigma + \sqrt{-1}t); t \in \mathbb{R}\}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{C}$  [cf. Bohr-Courant [4]]. According as  $\sigma > 1$  or  $\sigma \leq 1$ , the behavior of  $\zeta(\sigma + \sqrt{-1}\cdot)$ , i.e.,  $\zeta(\cdot)$  on the line  $\operatorname{Re} s = \sigma$  changes drastically.

Bohr much studied about the value-distribution of  $\zeta(\cdot)$ , which motivated him to develop the theory of almost periodic functions. It was in the 1930s that he, together with