

## 22. On the Distribution of the Zeros of the Riemann Zeta Function in Short Intervals

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(Communicated by Shokichi IYANAGA, M. J. A., March 12, 1990)

**§ 1. Introduction.** Let  $\zeta(s)$  be the Riemann zeta function. In [2] and [5], the author has shown that for  $T > T_0$ ,  $0 < \Delta \ll 1$  and for each integer  $k \geq 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^T (S(t+\Delta) - S(t))^{2k} dt \\ &= \frac{(2k)!}{(2\pi)^{2k} k!} T (2 \log(2 + \Delta \log T))^k + O(T (\log(2 + \Delta \log T))^{k - (1/2)}), \end{aligned}$$

where we put  $S(t) = (1/\pi) \arg \zeta(1/2 + it)$  as usual. This formula has been proved to be powerful in the theory of the Riemann zeta function (cf. [7], [9] and [10], for example). Recently, some attentions have been paid to it from the view point of the comparison with the distribution of the eigenvalues of the Gaussian Unitary Ensembles (cf. [1], [3], [7] and [12]).

In the present article, we shall assume the Riemann Hypothesis and refine the above result for  $k=1$  as follows. To state our result we put

$$F(a) \equiv F(a, T) \equiv \left( \frac{T}{2\pi} \log \frac{T}{2\pi} \right)^{-1} \sum_{0 < \gamma, \gamma' \leq T} \left( \frac{T}{2\pi} \right)^{ia(\gamma - \gamma')} \frac{4}{4 + (\gamma - \gamma')^2},$$

where  $a \geq 0$ ,  $\gamma$  and  $\gamma'$  run over the imaginary parts ( $\neq 0$ ) of the zeros of  $\zeta(s)$ .

**Theorem.** *Suppose that  $0 < \Delta = o(1)$ . Then we have for  $T > T_0$ ,*

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^T (S(t+\Delta) - S(t))^2 dt \\ &= \frac{T}{\pi^2} \left\{ \int_0^{\Delta \log(T/2\pi)} \frac{1 - \cos(a)}{a} da + \int_1^\infty \frac{F(a)}{a^2} \left( 1 - \cos \left( a \Delta \log \frac{T}{2\pi} \right) \right) da \right\} + o(T). \end{aligned}$$

We shall prove this by applying Goldston [8] while we have applied Selberg [13] to prove our previous mean value theorem described above.

Some applications of this theorem will be discussed in the forthcoming paper [6].

**§ 2. Proof of Theorem.** We shall use first the following Goldston's explicit formula for  $S(t)$  (cf. p. 157 of [8]). For  $t > 1$ ,  $t \neq \gamma$ ,  $x = (T/2\pi)^\beta$  and  $0 \leq \beta \leq 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} S(t) &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\Lambda(n) \sin(t \log n)}{\sqrt{n} \log n} f\left(\frac{\log n}{\log x}\right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{\gamma} h((t-\gamma) \log x) + O\left(\frac{1}{t \log^2 x}\right) + O\left(\frac{\sqrt{x}}{t^2 \log^2 x}\right) \\ &= -A(t) + B(t) + O\left(\frac{1}{t \log^2 x}\right) + O\left(\frac{\sqrt{x}}{t^2 \log^2 x}\right), \text{ say,} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Lambda(x)$  is the von-Mangoldt function,

$$f(u) = \frac{\pi u}{2} \cot\left(\frac{\pi u}{2}\right) \quad \text{and} \quad h(v) = \sin v \int_0^\infty \frac{u}{u^2 + v^2} \frac{du}{\sinh u}.$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} S &\equiv \int_0^T (S(t+\Delta) - S(t))^2 dt \\ &= -\int_0^T (A(t+\Delta) - A(t))^2 dt - 2 \int_0^T (S(t+\Delta) - S(t))(A(t+\Delta) - A(t)) dt \\ &\quad + \int_0^T (B(t+\Delta) - B(t))^2 dt + O\left(\frac{x}{\log^4 x}\right) \\ &= S_1 + S_2 + S_3 + O\left(\frac{x}{\log^4 x}\right), \quad \text{say.} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_1 &= -\frac{1}{\pi^2} \sum_{m, n \leq x} \frac{\Lambda(m)\Lambda(n)}{\sqrt{mn} \log m \log n} f\left(\frac{\log m}{\log x}\right) f\left(\frac{\log n}{\log x}\right) \\ &\quad \times \int_0^T (\sin((t+\Delta) \log m) - \sin(t \log m)) (\sin((t+\Delta) \log n) - \sin(t \log n)) dt \\ &= -\frac{T}{\pi^2} \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\Lambda^2(n)}{n \log^2 n} f^2\left(\frac{\log n}{\log x}\right) (1 - \cos(\Delta \log n)) + O\left(x \frac{\log \log x}{\log x}\right). \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_2 &= 2 \int_0^T S(t)(A(t+\Delta) + A(t-\Delta) - 2A(t)) dt + O\left(\Delta \frac{\log T}{\log \log T} \frac{\sqrt{x}}{\log x}\right) \\ &= \frac{4}{\pi} \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\Lambda(n)}{\sqrt{n} \log n} f\left(\frac{\log n}{\log x}\right) (\cos(\Delta \log n) - 1) \\ &\quad \times \int_0^T S(t) \sin(t \log n) dt + O\left(\Delta \frac{\log T}{\log \log T} \frac{\sqrt{x}}{\log x}\right) \\ &= -\frac{2T}{\pi^2} \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\Lambda^2(n)}{n \log^2 n} f\left(\frac{\log n}{\log x}\right) (\cos(\Delta \log n) - 1) + O\left(x \frac{\log \log x}{\log x}\right), \end{aligned}$$

where the last integral is evaluated in [4].

Thus we get

$$\begin{aligned} S_1 + S_2 &= \frac{T}{\pi^2} \sum_{p \leq x} \frac{1}{p} (\cos(\Delta \log p) - 1) \left( f^2\left(\frac{\log p}{\log x}\right) - 2f\left(\frac{\log p}{\log x}\right) \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{T}{\pi^2} \sum_{r=2, p^r \leq x} \frac{1}{p^r \log^2 p^r} (\cos(\Delta \log p^r) - 1) \left( f^2\left(\frac{\log p^r}{\log x}\right) - 2f\left(\frac{\log p^r}{\log x}\right) \right) \\ &\quad + O\left(x \frac{\log \log x}{\log x}\right) \\ &= S_4 + S_5 + O\left(x \frac{\log \log x}{\log x}\right), \quad \text{say,} \end{aligned}$$

where  $p$  runs over the prime numbers.

$$\begin{aligned} S_5 &\ll T \left\{ \sum_{r=2, p^r \leq \min(x, e^{\sqrt{1/\Delta}})} \frac{\sin^2((\Delta/2) \log p^r)}{p^r \log^2 p^r} + \sum_{r=2, p^r > e^{\sqrt{1/\Delta}}} \frac{1}{p^r \log^2 p^r} \right\} \\ &= O(T\Delta^2). \end{aligned}$$

Here we notice that with the Euler constant  $C_0$ ,

$$\sum_{p \leq u} \frac{1}{p} = \log \log u + C_0 + \sum_p \left( \log \left( 1 - \frac{1}{p} \right) + \frac{1}{p} \right) + r(u),$$

$$r(u) \ll \frac{\log u}{\sqrt{u}} \quad \text{for } u > u_0.$$

Using this we get

$$S_4 = \frac{T}{\pi^2} \left\{ \int_0^\beta \frac{\cos(a\Delta \log(T/2\pi)) - 1}{a} \left( \frac{\pi a}{2\beta} \cot \left( \frac{\pi a}{2\beta} \right) - 1 \right)^2 da \right. \\ \left. - \int_0^\beta \frac{\cos(a\Delta \log(T/2\pi)) - 1}{a} da \right\} \\ - \frac{T}{\pi^2} \int_0^{\beta \log 2 / \log x} \frac{\cos(a\Delta \log(T/2\pi)) - 1}{a} \left( \left( \frac{\pi a}{2\beta} \right)^2 \cot^2 \left( \frac{\pi a}{2\beta} \right) - 2 \frac{\pi a}{2\beta} \cot \left( \frac{\pi a}{2\beta} \right) \right) da \\ - \frac{T}{\pi^2} (\cos(\Delta \log 2) - 1) \left( f^2 \left( \frac{\log 2}{\log x} \right) - 2f \left( \frac{\log 2}{\log x} \right) \right) r(2-0) + O \left( \frac{T}{\log x} \right) + O(T\Delta^2) \\ = \frac{T}{\pi^2} \left\{ \int_0^\beta \frac{\cos(a\Delta \log(T/2\pi)) - 1}{a} \left( \frac{\pi a}{2\beta} \cot \left( \frac{\pi a}{2\beta} \right) - 1 \right)^2 da \right. \\ \left. - \int_0^\beta \frac{\cos(a\Delta \log(T/2\pi)) - 1}{a} da \right\} + O \left( \frac{T}{\log x} \right) + O(T\Delta^2).$$

We shall next evaluate  $S_3$ .

$$S_3 = 2 \int_0^T B^2(t) dt - 2 \int_0^T B(t+\Delta)B(t) dt + O(\Delta \log^2 T).$$

Using the argument in pp. 158–160 of [8], we get

$$-2 \int_0^T B(t+\Delta)B(t) dt = -\frac{2}{\pi^2} \sum_{r,r'} \int_0^T h((t+\Delta-r) \log x) h((t-r') \log x) dt \\ = -\frac{2}{\pi^2} \sum_{0 < r,r' \leq T} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h((t+\Delta-r) \log x) h((t-r') \log x) dt + O(\log^3 T) \\ = -\frac{2}{\pi^2 \log x} \sum_{0 < r,r' \leq T} \hat{k}((r-r'-\Delta) \log x) + O(\log^3 T),$$

where  $k(u) = \left( \frac{1}{2u} - \frac{\pi^2}{2} \cot(\pi^2 u) \right)^2$  for  $|u| \leq \frac{1}{2\pi}$ , and  $= \frac{1}{4u^2}$  for  $|u| > \frac{1}{2\pi}$  and  $\hat{k}(u)$  is the Fourier transform of  $k(u)$ . Thus we get

$$S_3 = \frac{2}{\pi^2 \log x} \sum_{0 < r,r' \leq T} (\hat{k}((r-r') \log x) - \hat{k}((r-r'-\Delta) \log x)) + O(\log^3 T).$$

Here we notice that

$$\sum_{0 < r,r' \leq T} \text{Min} \left( 1, \frac{1}{((r-r'-\Delta) \log x)^2} \right) \frac{(r-r')^2}{4+(r-r')^2} \\ = \left\{ \sum_{\substack{0 < r,r' \leq T \\ |(r-r'-\Delta) \log x| \geq \Delta \log x}} + \sum_{\substack{0 < r,r' \leq T \\ |(r-r'-\Delta) \log x| < \Delta \log x}} \right\} \text{Min} \left( 1, \frac{1}{((r-r'-\Delta) \log x)^2} \right) \frac{(r-r')^2}{4+(r-r')^2} \\ = U_1 + U_2, \text{ say.} \\ U_1 \ll \frac{1}{\log^2 x} \sum_{0 < r,r' \leq T} \frac{1}{4+(r-r')^2} \ll T \frac{\log^2 T}{\log^2 x}. \\ U_2 \ll \Delta^2 \sum_{\substack{0 < r,r' \leq T \\ |r-r'-\Delta| \leq 1/\log x}} \cdot 1 + \Delta^2 \sum_{1 \leq n < \Delta \log x} \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{\substack{0 < r,r' \leq T \\ n/\log x < |r-r'-\Delta| \leq (n+1)/\log x}} \cdot 1 \\ = U_3 + U_4, \text{ say,}$$

where we suppose that  $U_4=0$  if  $\Delta \log x \leq 1$ . To estimate the last two terms we apply the following lemma.

**Lemma.** *Suppose that  $a \ll T^A$  with some positive constant  $A$ . Then we have*

$$\sum_{0 < \gamma \leq T, \gamma + a > 0} S(\gamma + a) \ll T \log T.$$

To prove this, we use Selberg's explicit formula for  $S(t)$  [13] and the author's theorem in [4]. The details will appear in [6].

Using this we get

$$\begin{aligned} U_3 &\ll \Delta^2 \sum_{0 < \gamma \leq T} \sum_{\gamma - \Delta - 1/\log x \leq \gamma' \leq \gamma - \Delta + 1/\log x} 1 \\ &\ll \Delta^2 T \frac{\log^2 T}{\log x} + \Delta^2 \left| \sum_{0 < \gamma \leq T} S\left(\gamma - \Delta + \frac{1}{\log x}\right) \right| + \Delta^2 \left| \sum_{0 < \gamma \leq T} S\left(\gamma - \Delta - \frac{1}{\log x}\right) \right| \\ &\ll \Delta^2 T \log T. \\ U_4 &\ll \Delta^2 T \frac{\log^2 T}{\log x} + \Delta^2 \sum_{1 \leq n < \Delta \log x} \frac{1}{n^2} \left| \sum_{0 < \gamma \leq T} S\left(\gamma - \Delta + \frac{n}{\log x}\right) \right| \\ &\quad + \Delta^2 \sum_{1 \leq n < \Delta \log x} \frac{1}{n^2} \left| \sum_{0 < \gamma \leq T} S\left(\gamma - \Delta - \frac{n}{\log x}\right) \right| \\ &\ll \Delta^2 T \log T. \end{aligned}$$

Thus by p. 162 of [8], we get

$$\begin{aligned} S_3 &= \frac{T \log(T/2\pi)}{\pi^4 \beta \log x} \int_0^\infty F(a) k\left(\frac{a}{2\pi\beta}\right) \left(1 - \cos\left(a\Delta \log \frac{T}{2\pi}\right)\right) da + O\left(\frac{T}{\log T}\right) + O(T\Delta^2) \\ &= \frac{T}{\pi^2} \left\{ \int_0^\beta \frac{1}{a} \left(1 - \frac{\pi a}{2\beta} \cot\left(\frac{\pi a}{2\beta}\right)\right)^2 \left(1 - \cos\left(a\Delta \log \frac{T}{2\pi}\right)\right) da \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int_\beta^1 \frac{(1 - \cos(a\Delta \log(T/2\pi)))}{a} da + \int_1^\infty \frac{F(a)}{a^2} \left(1 - \cos\left(a\Delta \log \frac{T}{2\pi}\right)\right) da \right\} \\ &\quad + O\left(T\left(\Delta^2 + \sqrt{\frac{\log \log T}{\log T}}\right)\right), \end{aligned}$$

where we use Montgomery's ([11]) and Goldston-Montgomery's ([9]) results on  $F(a)$  for  $0 \leq a \leq 1$ , in particular, Lemma 8 of [9].

Combining all of our evaluations, we get

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \frac{T}{\pi^2} \left\{ \int_0^{\Delta \log(T/2\pi)} \frac{1 - \cos(a)}{a} da + \int_1^\infty \frac{F(a)}{a^2} \left(1 - \cos\left(a\Delta \log \frac{T}{2\pi}\right)\right) da \right\} \\ &\quad + O\left(T\left(\Delta^2 + \sqrt{\frac{\log \log T}{\log T}}\right)\right). \end{aligned}$$

This implies our theorem as described in the introduction.

**§ 3. Concluding remarks.**

3-1. 
$$\int_0^{\Delta \log(T/2\pi)} \frac{1 - \cos(a)}{a} da = \log\left(\Delta \log \frac{T}{2\pi}\right) + C_0 - Ci\left(\Delta \log \frac{T}{2\pi}\right).$$

By Theorem 2 of Goldston [8], we have

$$\left| \int_1^\infty \frac{F(a)}{a^2} \left(1 - \cos\left(a\Delta \log \frac{T}{2\pi}\right)\right) da \right| \leq 2 \int_1^\infty \frac{F(a)}{a^2} da < 4.$$

3-2. If we assume also Montgomery's conjecture [11] on  $F(a)$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_1^\infty \frac{F(a)}{a^2} \left(1 - \cos\left(a\Delta \log \frac{T}{2\pi}\right)\right) da \\
&= \int_1^\infty \frac{1}{a^2} \left(1 - \cos\left(a\Delta \log \frac{T}{2\pi}\right)\right) da + o(1) \\
&= 1 - \cos\left(\Delta \log \frac{T}{2\pi}\right) + \frac{\pi}{2} \Delta \log \frac{T}{2\pi} - \Delta \log \frac{T}{2\pi} \cdot Si\left(\Delta \log \frac{T}{2\pi}\right) + o(1).
\end{aligned}$$

Thus putting  $\Delta = \frac{2\pi\alpha}{\log(T/2\pi)}$ , we get for  $0 < \alpha = o(\log T)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_0^T \left(S\left(t + \frac{2\pi\alpha}{\log(T/2\pi)}\right) - S(t)\right)^2 dt \\
&= \frac{T}{\pi^2} \{\log(2\pi\alpha) + C_0 - Ci(2\pi\alpha) + 1 - \cos(2\pi\alpha) + \pi^2\alpha - 2\pi\alpha Si(2\pi\alpha) + o(1)\}.
\end{aligned}$$

In fact, for any  $\alpha > 0$  the right hand side is nothing but the GUE part of Berry's formula (19) conjectured in [1] (cf. also [3], [7] and Odlyzko's various comments on this in [12]).

The author wishes to express his gratitude to Prof. Andrew Odlyzko who has kindly sent [12] to the author.

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