

# A discrete limit theorem for the periodic Hurwitz zeta-function

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**Abstract.** In the paper, we prove a limit theorem of discrete type on the weak convergence of probability measures on the complex plane for the periodic Hurwitz zeta-function.

**Keywords:** Hurwitz zeta-function, limit theorem, probability measure, weak convergence.

Let  $s = \sigma + it$  be a complex number,  $\alpha$ ,  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ , be a fixed parameter, and let  $\mathbf{a} = \{a_m : m \in \mathbb{N}_0 = \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}\}$  be a periodic sequence of complex numbers with minimal period  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . The periodic Hurwitz zeta-function  $\zeta(s, \alpha; \mathbf{a})$  is defined, for  $\sigma > 1$ , by the Dirichlet series

$$\zeta(s, \alpha; \mathbf{a}) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_m}{(m + \alpha)^s},$$

and, by using the equality,

$$\zeta(s, \alpha; \mathbf{a}) = \frac{1}{k^s} \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} a_l \zeta\left(s, \frac{\alpha + l}{k}\right),$$

where  $\zeta(s, \alpha)$  is the classical Hurwitz zeta-function, can be meromorphically continued to the whole complex plane with unique simple pole at the point  $s = 1$  with residue

$$a \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{k} \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} a_l.$$

If  $a = 0$ , then the function  $\zeta(s, \alpha; \mathbf{a})$  is entire one.

In [2, 4, 6] and [7], limit theorem on the weak convergence of probability measures on the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$  for the function  $\zeta(s, \alpha; \mathbf{a})$  with parameter  $\alpha$  of various arithmetical types were obtained. In these works, the weak convergence for

$$\frac{1}{T} \text{meas}\{t \in [0, T]: \zeta(\sigma + it, \alpha; \mathbf{a}) \in A\}, \quad A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{C}),$$

where  $\mathcal{B}(S)$  denotes the Borel  $\sigma$ -field of the space  $S$ , and  $\text{meas}A$  is the Lebesgue measure of a measurable set  $A \subset \mathbb{R}$ , was considered.

The theorems obtained are of continuous type because the imaginary part  $t$  can take arbitrary real values. The aim of this note is to prove a discrete limit theorem for the function  $\zeta(s, \alpha; \mathbf{a})$  when  $t$  takes values from the set  $\{h_m: m \in \mathbb{N}_0\}$ , where  $h > 0$  is a fixed number. Define the set

$$L(\alpha, h, \pi) = \left\{ (\log(m + \alpha): m \in \mathbb{N}_0), \frac{\pi}{h} \right\},$$

and the torus

$$\Omega = \prod_{m \in \mathbb{N}_0} \gamma_m,$$

where  $\gamma_m$  is the unit circle  $\{s \in \mathbb{C}: |s| = 1\}$  for all  $m \in \mathbb{N}_0$ . The torus  $\Omega$  is a compact topological group, therefore, on  $(\Omega, \mathcal{B}(\Omega))$ , the probability Haar measure  $m_H$  can be defined. This gives the probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{B}(\Omega), m_H)$ .

Denote by  $\omega(m)$  the projection of an element  $\omega \in \Omega$  to the coordinate space  $\gamma_m$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , and, on the probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{B}(\Omega), m_H)$ , define the complex-valued random element  $\zeta(\sigma, \alpha, \omega; \mathbf{a})$  by the formula

$$\zeta(\sigma, \alpha, \omega; \mathbf{a}) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_m \omega(m)}{(m + \alpha)^\sigma}, \quad \sigma > \frac{1}{2},$$

and denote by  $P_\zeta$  the distribution of  $\zeta(\sigma, \alpha, \omega; \mathbf{a})$ , i.e.,

$$P_\zeta(A) = m_H(\omega \in \Omega: \zeta(\sigma, \alpha, \omega; \mathbf{a}) \in A), \quad A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{C}).$$

**Theorem 1.** *Suppose that the set  $L(\alpha, h, \pi)$  is linearly independent over the field of rational numbers  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and that  $\sigma > \frac{1}{2}$ . Then the probability measure*

$$P_N(A) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{N + 1} \#\{0 \leq m \leq N: \zeta(\sigma + imh, \alpha; \mathbf{a}) \in A\}, \quad A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{C}),$$

converges weakly to the measure  $P_\zeta$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

For the proof of Theorem 1, the following two lemmas involving the set  $L(\alpha, h, \pi)$  are applied. Let

$$Q_N(A) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{N + 1} \#\{0 \leq m \leq N: ((m + \alpha)^{-imh}: m \in \mathbb{N}_0) \in A\}, \quad A \in \mathcal{B}(\Omega).$$

**Lemma 1.** *Suppose that the set  $L(\alpha, h, \pi)$  is linearly independent over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Then  $Q_N$  converges weakly to the Haar measure  $m_H$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .*

Proof of the lemma is given in [3, Lemma 2.3].

For  $\mathbf{a}_h = ((m + \alpha)^{-ih}: m \in \mathbb{N}_0)$ , on the probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{B}(\Omega), m_H)$ , define the transformation  $\psi_h$  by  $\psi_h(\omega) = \mathbf{a}_h \omega$ ,  $\omega \in \Omega$ . Then  $\psi_h$  is a measurable measure preserving transformation.

**Lemma 2.** *Suppose that the set  $L(\alpha, h, \pi)$  is linearly independent over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Then the transformation  $\psi_h$  is ergodic, i.e., if  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\Omega)$  and  $A_h = \psi_h(A)$  differ one from other at most by  $m_H$ -measure zero, then  $m_H(A) = 0$  or  $m_H(A) = 1$ .*

Proof of the lemma is given in [3, Lemma 2.8].

The further proof of Theorem 1 can be divided into following parts: limit theorems for absolutely convergent Dirichlet series, approximation of the function  $\zeta(\sigma, \alpha; \mathbf{a})$  in the mean by absolutely convergent Dirichlet series, limit theorems for  $\zeta(\sigma, \alpha; \mathbf{a})$  and  $\zeta(\sigma, \alpha, \omega; \mathbf{a})$ , and identification of the limit measure.

For  $m \in \mathbb{N}_0$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , define  $\nu_n(m, \alpha) = \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{m+\alpha}{n+\alpha}\right)^{\sigma_1}\right\}$ , where  $\sigma_1 > \frac{1}{2}$  is a fixed number, and set

$$\zeta_n(s, \alpha; \mathbf{a}) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_m \nu_n(m, \alpha)}{(m + \alpha)^s}$$

and

$$\zeta_n(s, \alpha, \omega; \mathbf{a}) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_m \omega(m) \nu_n(m, \alpha)}{(m + \alpha)^s}.$$

Then the latter series both are absolutely convergent for  $\sigma > \frac{1}{2}$ . Moreover, for  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{C})$ , let

$$P_{N,h}(A) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{N+1} \#\{0 \leq m \leq N: \zeta_n(\sigma + imh, \alpha; \mathbf{a}) \in A\},$$

and

$$P_{N,h,\omega}(A) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{N+1} \#\{0 \leq m \leq N: \zeta_n(\sigma + imh, \alpha, \omega; \mathbf{a}) \in A\}.$$

**Lemma 3.** *Suppose that the set  $L(\alpha, h, \pi)$  is linearly independent over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and that  $\sigma > \frac{1}{2}$ . Then  $P_{N,h}$  and  $P_{N,h,\omega}$  both converge weakly to the same probability measure  $P_n$  on  $(\mathbb{C}, \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{C}))$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .*

*Proof.* The lemma is a result of the application of Lemma 1, Theorem 5.1 of [1], and the invariance of the Haar measure.

Lemma 2 is applied to show that, for almost all  $\omega \in \Omega$ , the estimate

$$\int_0^T |\zeta(\sigma + it, \omega; \mathbf{a})|^2 = O(T), \quad T \rightarrow \infty,$$

is valid for  $\sigma > \frac{1}{2}$ . From this, using the Gallagher lemma, Lemma 1.4 of [5], we deduce that, for almost all  $\omega \in \Omega$ , the estimate

$$\frac{1}{N+1} \sum_{m=0}^N |\zeta(\sigma + imh, \alpha, \omega; \mathbf{a})|^2 = O(1), \quad T \rightarrow \infty,$$

is valid for  $\sigma > \frac{1}{2}$ . Analogically, we obtain, for  $\sigma > \frac{1}{2}$ , the bound

$$\frac{1}{N+1} \sum_{m=0}^N |\zeta(\sigma + imh, \alpha; \mathbf{a})|^2 = O(1), \quad T \rightarrow \infty.$$

Using the latter estimates and contour integration, we arrive to the following assertion.

**Lemma 4.** Suppose that the set  $L(\alpha, h, \pi)$  is linearly independent over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and that  $\sigma > \frac{1}{2}$ . Then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \limsup_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N+1} \sum_{m=0}^N |\zeta(\sigma + imh, \alpha; \mathbf{a}) - \zeta_n(\sigma + imh, \alpha; \mathbf{a})| = 0,$$

and, for almost all  $\omega \in \Omega$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \limsup_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N+1} \sum_{m=0}^N |\zeta(\sigma + imh, \alpha, \omega; \mathbf{a}) - \zeta_n(\sigma + imh, \alpha, \omega; \mathbf{a})| = 0.$$

Let, for  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{C})$ ,

$$P_{N,\omega}(A) = \frac{1}{N+1} \#\{0 \leq m \leq N: \zeta(\sigma + imh, \alpha, \omega; \mathbf{a}) \in A\}.$$

**Lemma 5.** Suppose that the set  $L(\alpha, h, \pi)$  is linearly independent over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and that  $\sigma > \frac{1}{2}$ . Then  $P_N$  and  $P_{N,\omega}$  both converge weakly to the same probability measure  $P$  on  $(\mathbb{C}, \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{C}))$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

*Proof.* First we show that the family of probability measures  $\{P_n: n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is tight. Therefore, by the Prokhorov theorem [1], this family is relatively compact. Hence, there exists a sequence  $\{P_{n_k}\} \subset \{P_n\}$  such that  $P_{n_k}$  converges weakly to a certain probability measure  $P$  on  $(\mathbb{C}, \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{C}))$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . This, Lemmas 3 and 4, and Theorem 4.2 of [1] prove the lemma.

*Proof of Theorem 1.* In virtue of Lemma 5, it suffices to show that the measure  $P$  in Lemma 5 coincides with  $P_\zeta$ .

Let  $A$  be an arbitrary continuity set of the measure  $P$ , i.e.,  $P(\partial A) = 0$ , where  $\partial A$  is the boundary of  $A$ . Then Lemma 5 and the equivalent of weak convergence of probability measures in terms of continuity sets, Theorem 2.1 of [1], imply that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N+1} \#\{0 \leq m \leq N: \zeta(\sigma + imh, \alpha, \omega; \mathbf{a}) \in A\} = P(A). \tag{1}$$

Now, on the probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{B}(\Omega), m_H)$ , define the random variable  $\theta$  by the formula

$$\theta(\omega) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \zeta(s, \alpha, \omega; \mathbf{a}) \in A, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Obviously, the expectation  $E\theta$  of the random variable  $\theta$  is given by

$$E\theta = \int_{\Omega} \theta d m_H = m_H(\omega \in \Omega: \zeta(\sigma, \alpha, \omega; \mathbf{a}) \in A) = P_\zeta(A). \tag{2}$$

Now we apply Lemma 1, and obtain by the classical Birkhoff–Khinchine ergodicity theorem that

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N+1} \sum_{m=0}^N \theta(\psi_h^m(\omega)) = E\theta \tag{3}$$

for almost all  $\omega \in \Omega$ . On the other hand, the definitions of the random variable  $\theta$  and the transformation  $\psi_h$  yield the equality

$$\frac{1}{N+1} \sum_{m=0}^N \theta(\psi_h^m(\omega)) = \frac{1}{N+1} \#\{0 \leq m \leq N: \zeta(\sigma + imh, \alpha, \omega; \mathbf{a}) \in A\}.$$

This together with (2) and (3) shows that, for almost all  $\omega \in \Omega$ ,

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N+1} \#\{0 \leq m \leq N: \zeta(\sigma + imh, \alpha, \omega; \mathbf{a}) \in A\} = P_\zeta(A).$$

Hence, in view of (1), we obtain that  $P(A) = P_\zeta(A)$ . Since the set  $A$  was arbitrary, we have that  $P(A) = P_\zeta(A)$  for all continuity sets of the measure  $P$ . However, the continuity sets constitute the determining class, therefore,  $P(A) = P_\zeta(A)$  for all  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{C})$ .

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## REZIUOMĖ

### Diskrečioji ribinė teorema periodinei Hurvico dzeta funkcijai

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Straipsnyje įrodyta diskretaus tipo ribinė teorema, silpnąjį tikimybių matų konvergavimo prasme, periodinei Hurvico dzeta funkcijai kompleksinėje plokštumoje.

*Raktiniai žodžiai:* Hurvico dzeta funkcija, ribinė teorema, silpnasis konvergavimas, tikimybinis matas.