

# On zeros of the Lerch zeta-function. III

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## 1. Introduction

Let  $s = \sigma + it$  be a complex variable. The Lerch zeta-function  $L(\lambda, \alpha, s)$ , for  $\sigma > 1$ , is defined by the following Dirichlet series

$$L(\lambda, \alpha, s) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{e^{2\pi i \lambda m}}{(m + \alpha)^s},$$

where  $\lambda, \alpha$  are real numbers,  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ , and by analytic continuation otherwise (see [5], [6]). Further we suppose that  $0 < \lambda < 1$ .

In [4] A. Laurinčikas for the function

$$Z(s, \lambda) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} e^{2\pi i \lambda m} m^{-s} = e^{2\pi i \lambda} L(\lambda, 1, s), \quad \sigma > 1,$$

$\lambda = a/q$ ,  $(a, q) = 1$ ,  $0 < a < q$ , obtained the following zero-distribution results.

**Theorem A.** *Suppose that  $q$  is a prime number. Then there exists a constant  $c = c(\lambda)$  such that for sufficiently large  $T$  the function  $Z(s, \lambda)$  has more than  $cT$  zeros in the region*

$$\sigma > 1, \quad |t| < T.$$

**Theorem B.** *Suppose there exist at least two primitive characters modulo  $q$ . Then for any  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2$ ,  $1/2 < \sigma_1 < \sigma_2 < 1$ , there exists a constant  $c = c(\lambda, \sigma_1, \sigma_2) > 0$  such that for sufficiently large  $T$  the function  $Z(s, \lambda)$  has more than  $cT$  zeros in the region*

$$\sigma_1 < \sigma < \sigma_2, \quad |t| < T.$$

By  $A_T(\lambda, \alpha; a, b)$  we will denote the following assertion: For any  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2$ ,  $a < \sigma_1 < \sigma_2 < b$ , there exists a constant  $c = c(\lambda, \alpha, \sigma_1, \sigma_2) > 0$  such that for sufficiently large  $T$  the function  $L(\lambda, \alpha, s)$  has more than  $cT$  zeros in the rectangle

$$\sigma_1 < \sigma < \sigma_2, \quad |t| < T.$$

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In [1] for the Lerch zeta function the following results were obtained.

**Theorem C.** *Let  $\alpha$  be a nonrational number. Then there exists  $\delta = \delta(\lambda, \alpha)$ ,  $0 < \delta < \alpha$ , such that the assertion  $A_T(\lambda, \alpha; 1, 1 + \delta)$  is true.*

*If  $\alpha$  is a transcendental number, then we can take  $\delta = 0.6\alpha$ .*

**Theorem D.** *Let  $\alpha$  be a transcendental number. Then the assertion  $A_T(\lambda, \alpha; 1/2, 1)$  is true.*

Let  $N(\lambda, \alpha, \sigma, T)$  denote the number of zeros of  $L(\lambda, \alpha, s)$  in the region  $\{s \mid \operatorname{Re} s > \sigma, 0 < \operatorname{Im} s \leq T\}$ . In [2] it is proved that

$$L(\lambda, \alpha, s) \neq 0, \quad \text{for } \sigma \geq 1 + \alpha. \quad (1)$$

In this note we investigate the upper bounds for the number of zeros of the Lerch zeta function. Let  $B_\eta$  denote a number bounded by a constant depending on  $\eta$ .

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $1/2 \leq \sigma_0 \leq 1 + \alpha$ , then*

$$\int_{\sigma_0}^{1+\alpha} N(\lambda, \alpha; \sigma, T) d\sigma = \sigma_0 T \log \alpha + \int_0^T \log |L(\lambda, \alpha, \sigma_0 + it)| dt + B \log T, \quad T \rightarrow \infty.$$

By  $\zeta(s, \alpha)$  we denote the Hurwitz zeta-function, i.e.

$$\zeta(s, \alpha) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(m + \alpha)^s}, \quad \sigma > 1,$$

where  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ .

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $\sigma > 1/2$ , then for any fixed  $1/2 < \sigma_1 < \sigma$  and  $T \rightarrow \infty$ , we have*

$$N(\lambda, \alpha; \sigma, T) \leq \frac{\log(\alpha^{2\sigma_1} \zeta(2\sigma_1, \alpha))}{2(\sigma - \sigma_1)} T + R(\sigma_1, T),$$

where

$$R(\sigma_1, T) = \begin{cases} B_{\sigma_1} T^{2-2\sigma_1} & \text{for } \frac{1}{2} < \sigma_1 < 1, \\ B_{\sigma_1} \log T & \text{for } \sigma_1 \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

## 2. Lemmas

We will use a lemma of Littlewood [7, §9.9]. Let  $\varphi(s)$  is a meromorphic function on the rectangle  $D$  with vertices  $\alpha+i0, \beta+i0, \beta+iT, \alpha+iT$ , and let  $\varphi(s)$  be regular and nonvanishing on the line  $\sigma = \beta$ . Then  $\varphi(s)$  be regular in some neighbourhood of the line  $T = \beta$ . In this neighbourhood we define a function  $F(s) = \log \varphi(s)$ , by choosing some branch of the  $\log \varphi(s)$ . On other points of the rectangle we define  $F(s)$  by continuation of the  $\log(\beta + it)$  left from  $\beta + it$  to  $\sigma + it$ . If a zero is reached, we use

$$F(s) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow +0} F(\sigma + it + i\varepsilon).$$

Let  $\nu(\sigma', T)$  mean a difference between a number of zeros and a number of poles of  $\varphi(s)$  in a rectangle  $\sigma' < \sigma \leq \beta, 0 < t \leq T$ . Then we have the following lemma.

### Lemma 1.

$$\int F(s) \, ds = -2\pi i \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} \nu(\sigma, T) \, d\sigma$$

where the integral on the left we take around the contour of  $D$ .

**Lemma 2.** For any  $\sigma_0, \sigma > \sigma_0$ , we have

$$L(\lambda, \alpha, s) = B_{\lambda} |t|^k.$$

where  $k = k(\sigma_0)$ .

Lemma is proved in [2].

**Lemma 3.** Let  $\sigma > 1/2$ . Then, for  $T \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\int_0^T |L(\lambda, \alpha, s)|^2 \, dt = \zeta(2\sigma, \alpha)T + r(\sigma, T),$$

where

$$r(\sigma, T) = \begin{cases} B_{\sigma} T^{2-2\sigma}, & \text{for } \frac{1}{2} < \sigma < 1, \\ B_{\sigma} \log T, & \text{for } \sigma = 1, \\ B_{\sigma}, & \text{for } \sigma > 1. \end{cases}$$

For the proof see [4].

### 3. Proofs of theorems

*Proof of Theorem 1.* Let  $\sigma_1 > 1 + \alpha$  be arbitrary large number and be not an ordinate of the zero of the  $L(\lambda, \alpha, s)$ . Then from Lemma 1 and (1) we have for  $1/2 \leq \sigma_0 \leq 1 + \alpha$  that

$$\begin{aligned} 2\pi \int_{\sigma_0}^{1+\alpha} N(\sigma, T; \lambda, \alpha) d\sigma &= \int_0^T \log |L(\lambda, \alpha, \sigma_0 + it)| dt \\ &- \int_0^T \log |L(\lambda, \alpha, \sigma_1 + it)| dt + \int_{\sigma_0}^{\sigma_1} \arg L(\sigma + iT) d\sigma + K(\sigma_0, \sigma_1) \\ &= I_1 + I_2 + I_3 + K(\sigma_0, \sigma_1) \end{aligned}$$

where  $K(\sigma_0, \sigma_1)$  does not depend on  $T$ .

First we evaluate the integral  $I_2$ .

$$\begin{aligned} I_2 &= \int_0^T \log \left| \alpha^{-\sigma_1 - it} \left( 1 + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{2\pi i \lambda m}}{\left(\frac{m+\alpha}{\alpha}\right)^{\sigma_1 + it}} \right) \right| dt \\ &= -\sigma_1 T \log \alpha + \int_0^T \log \left| 1 + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{2\pi i \lambda m}}{\left(\frac{m+\alpha}{\alpha}\right)^{\sigma_1 + it}} \right| dt = I_{21} + I_{22}. \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

It is clear, that there exists  $\sigma' > 1 + \alpha$ , such that a modulo of the sum in  $I_{22}$  is less than 1 for  $\sigma_1 > \sigma'$  and  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . For such  $\sigma_1$  by the Maclaurin formula we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} I_{22} &= \int_0^T \operatorname{Re} \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n} \left( \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{2\pi i \lambda m}}{\left(\frac{m+\alpha}{\alpha}\right)^{\sigma_1 + it}} \right)^n \right] \right) dt \\ &= \operatorname{Re} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n} \sum_{m_1=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m_2=1}^{\infty} \dots \sum_{m_n=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{2\pi i \lambda (m_1 + m_2 + \dots + m_n)}}{\left(\frac{(m_1 + \alpha)(m_2 + \alpha) \dots (m_n + \alpha)}{\alpha^n}\right)^{\sigma_1}} \\ &\quad \times \int_0^T \left( \frac{\alpha}{(m_1 + \alpha)(m_2 + \alpha) \dots (m_n + \alpha)} \right)^{it} dt \\ &= B \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \left( \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\alpha}{m + \alpha}\right)^{\sigma_1} \right)^n. \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

We can choose  $\sigma_1$  big enough such that

$$\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\alpha}{m + \alpha}\right)^{\sigma_1} < 1.$$

From this and (3) we have that

$$I_{22} = B,$$

and from (2)

$$I_2 = -\sigma_1 T \log \alpha + B.$$

Now it remains to estimate the  $I_3$ . We define two functions

$$\Phi(s) = e^{iT \log \alpha} L(\lambda, \alpha, s), \quad \Phi_1(s) = e^{iT \log \alpha} L(1 - \lambda, \alpha, s)$$

Then

$$I_3 = \int_{\sigma_0}^{\sigma_1} \arg \Phi(\sigma + it) \, d\sigma - (\sigma_1 - \sigma_0) T \log \alpha. \quad (4)$$

It is easily seen that the leading terms of the Dirichlet series for  $\Phi(s)$  and  $\Phi_1(s)$  are positive at  $s = \sigma_1 + iT$ . Denote by  $q$  the number of zeros of  $\operatorname{Re} \Phi(s)$  on the interval  $J = (\sigma_0 + iT, \sigma_1 + iT)$ , and divide  $J$  into at most  $q + 1$  subintervals in each of which  $\operatorname{Re} \Phi(s)$  is of constant sign. Then the variation of  $\arg \Phi(s)$  does not exceed  $\pi$  in each subinterval, and we obtain

$$\left| \arg \Phi(s) \Big|_{\sigma_1 + iT}^{\sigma_0 + iT} \right| \leq (q + 1)\pi. \quad (5)$$

To estimate  $q$  we set

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{2} (\Phi(z + iT) + \overline{\Phi_1(\bar{z} + iT)}).$$

First we note that  $f(z)$  is an entire function, and if  $z = \sigma$  is real, then

$$f(\sigma) = \operatorname{Re} \Phi(\sigma + iT). \quad (6)$$

Let  $n(\varrho)$  stand for the number of zeros of  $f(z)$  in the disc  $|z - \sigma_1| \leq \varrho$ , and let  $r = 2(\sigma_1 - \sigma_0)$ ,  $r_1 = r/2$ . Then, clearly,

$$\int_0^r \frac{n(\varrho)}{\varrho} \, d\varrho \geq n(r_1) \int_{r_1}^r \frac{ds}{\varrho} = n(r_1) \log 2,$$

and the well-known Jensen theorem yield

$$n(r_1) \leq \frac{1}{2\pi \log 2} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(re^{i\theta} + \sigma_1)| \, d\theta - \frac{1}{\log 2} \log |f(\sigma_1)|. \quad (7)$$

By (6)

$$f(\sigma_1) = \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{1}{\alpha^{\sigma_1}} + \frac{1}{\alpha^{\sigma_1}} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{2\pi i \lambda m}}{\left(\frac{\alpha+m}{\alpha}\right)^{\sigma_1+iT}} \right) \geq \frac{1}{\alpha^{\sigma_1}} - \frac{1}{\alpha^{\sigma_1}} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\left(\frac{\alpha+m}{\alpha}\right)^{\sigma_1}}.$$

For sufficiently large  $\sigma_1$  this is  $\geq 1/(2\alpha)^{\sigma_1}$ , say. Hence and from (7), using Lemma 2, we obtain that

$$n(r_1) = B \log T. \quad (8)$$

By (6), the number of zeros of  $\operatorname{Re} \Phi(s)$  on  $J$  is equal to the same number of zeros of  $f(z)$  on  $(\sigma_0, \sigma_1)$ . By the definition  $(\sigma_0, \sigma_1)$  is contained in the disc  $|z - \sigma_1| \leq r_1$ . This, (8), (5) and (4) show that

$$I_3 = -(\sigma_1 - \sigma_0)T \log \alpha + B \log T.$$

The theorem is proved for  $T$  is not an ordinate of the zero of the  $L(\lambda, \alpha, s)$ . For others  $T$  theorem is true in view of a continuity.

*Proof of Theorem 2.* Using the concavity of the logarithm, from Lemma 3, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^T \log |L(\lambda, \alpha, \sigma + it)| \, dt &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \log |L(\lambda, \alpha, \sigma + it)|^2 \, dt \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} T \log \left( \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T |L(\lambda, \alpha, \sigma + it)|^2 \, dt \right) = \frac{1}{2} T \log \left( \zeta(2\sigma, \alpha) + \frac{r(\sigma, T)}{T} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Then in view of Theorem 1 we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} N(\lambda, \alpha; \sigma, T) &\leq \frac{1}{\sigma - \sigma_1} \int_{\sigma_1}^{\sigma} N(\lambda, \alpha; \sigma, T) \, d\sigma \leq \frac{1}{\sigma - \sigma_1} \int_{\sigma_1}^{1+\alpha} N(\lambda, \alpha; \sigma, T) \, d\sigma \\ &= \frac{1}{\sigma - \sigma_1} \left( \frac{T}{2} \log \left( \zeta(2\sigma_1, \alpha) + \frac{r(\sigma_1, T)}{T} \right) + \sigma_1 T \log \alpha + B \log T \right). \end{aligned}$$

From this the theorem follows.

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## Apie Lercho dzeta funkcijos nulius. III

R. Garunkštis

Straipsnyje nagrinejami Lercho dzeta funkcijos nulių skaičiaus įverčiai iš viršaus.