



**Definition 1.** The Riemann Zeta function is defined as

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

for  $\text{Re}(s) > 1$ .

**Theorem 1.**

$$\zeta(s) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{s-1} + \frac{1}{\Gamma(s)} \int_0^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{e^x - 1} - \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \frac{x^{s-1}}{e^x} dx$$

for  $\text{Re}(s) > 1$ .

*Proof.* Consider the formula

$$\zeta(s) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(s)} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^{s-1}}{e^x - 1} dx$$

true for  $\text{Re}(s) > 1$ , a proof of this relation can be found on our page: "[Relation to the Gamma Function 1](#)".

Notice that:

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^{s-1}}{e^x - 1} dx = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^{s-1}}{e^x - 1} \cdot \frac{e^x}{e^x} dx = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^{s-1}}{e^x} \cdot \frac{e^x}{e^x - 1} dx$$

and use the fact that  $e^x = \frac{e^x - 1}{1 - e^{-x}}$  to obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^{s-1}}{e^x} \cdot \frac{e^x}{e^x - 1} dx &= \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^{s-1}}{e^x} \cdot \frac{e^x - 1}{1 - e^{-x}} \cdot \frac{1}{e^x - 1} dx \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^{s-1}}{e^x} \left[ \frac{e^x - 1}{1 - e^{-x}} \cdot \frac{1}{e^x - 1} + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{x} \right] dx \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^{s-1}}{e^x} \left( \frac{e^x - 1}{1 - e^{-x}} \cdot \frac{1}{e^x - 1} - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{x} \right) dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^{s-1}}{e^x} dx + \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^{s-2}}{e^x} dx. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Notice now that  $\int_0^\infty \frac{x^{s-1}}{e^x} dx = \Gamma(s)$  and  $\int_0^\infty \frac{x^{s-2}}{e^x} dx = \Gamma(s-1)$  by definition. Therefore, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
\zeta(s) &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(s)} \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{s-1}}{e^x - 1} dx \\
&= \frac{1}{\Gamma(s)} \left[ \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{s-1}}{e^x} \left( \frac{e^x - 1}{1 - e^{-x}} \cdot \frac{1}{e^x - 1} - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{x} \right) dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{s-1}}{e^x} dx + \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{s-2}}{e^x} dx \right] \\
&= \frac{1}{\Gamma(s)} \left[ \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{s-1}}{e^x} \left( \frac{e^x - 1}{1 - e^{-x}} \cdot \frac{1}{e^x - 1} - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{x} \right) dx + \frac{1}{2} \Gamma(s) + \Gamma(s-1) \right] \\
&= \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{s-1} + \frac{1}{\Gamma(s)} \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{s-1}}{e^x} \left( \frac{e^x - 1}{1 - e^{-x}} \cdot \frac{1}{e^x - 1} - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{x} \right) dx
\end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

where we used the property of the Gamma function:  $\frac{\Gamma(s-1)}{\Gamma(s)} = \frac{1}{s-1}$ .

Now to obtain the formula we notice that:

$$\frac{e^x - 1}{1 - e^{-x}} \cdot \frac{1}{e^x - 1} = \frac{e^x}{e^x - 1}$$

and also

$$\frac{1}{e^x - 1} + 1 = \frac{1 + e^x - 1}{e^x - 1} = \frac{e^x}{e^x - 1}.$$

Therefore

$$\frac{e^x - 1}{1 - e^{-x}} \cdot \frac{1}{e^x - 1} = \frac{1}{e^x - 1} + 1$$

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$$\frac{e^x - 1}{1 - e^{-x}} \cdot \frac{1}{e^x - 1} - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{e^x - 1} + \frac{1}{2}$$

and we have:

$$\zeta(s) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{s-1} + \frac{1}{\Gamma(s)} \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{s-1}}{e^x} \left( \frac{1}{e^x - 1} - \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{2} \right) dx.$$

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