

# A NOTE ON THE MELLIN CONVOLUTION OF FUNCTIONS AND ITS RELATION TO RIESZ CRITERION AND RIEMANN HYPOTHESIS

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- **ABSTRACT:** In this paper we study how the Mellin convolution of functions  $f$  and  $g$  ( $f * g$ ) and how is related to the Riesz criterion for the Riemann Hypothesis, the idea is to establish a Fredholm integral equation of First kind for the Riesz function and the Hardy function.

## 1. MELLIN CONVOLUTION OF FUNCTIONS:

Given two functions  $f$  and  $g$ , we can define the Mellin Convolution ( $f * g$ ) by the two equivalent integral forms

$$(f * g) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dt}{t} f\left(\frac{x}{t}\right) g(t^{-1}) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dt}{t} f(xt) g(t) \quad (1.1)$$

This operator is linear ( $f * (\lambda g + \mu h) = \lambda(f * g) + \mu(f * h)$ ), and associative ( $f * (g * h) = (f * g) * h$ ), another main property is the ‘Convolution Theorem’, if we define the Mellin transform of  $f$  and  $g$ ,  $\hat{F}(s) = \int_0^{\infty} dt f(t) t^{s-1}$  and  $\hat{G}(s) = \int_0^{\infty} dt g(t) t^{s-1}$  this theorem tells that the Mellin transform of the Convolution theorem is the product of the Mellin transforms of  $f$  and  $g$   $M[(f * g)] = \hat{F}(s)\hat{G}(-s)$

**Proof:** If we take the integral  $\int_0^{\infty} x^{s-1} dx$  to both sides, and introduce the change of variable  $z = xt$  inside of the double integral involving  $x$  and  $t$ .

$$\int_0^{\infty} (f * g)(x) x^{s-1} dx = \int_0^{\infty} dt \int_0^{\infty} dx f(xt) g(t) \frac{dt}{t} x^{s-1} = \hat{F}(s) \int_0^{\infty} dt g(t) t^{-s-1} \quad (1.2)$$

The last factor is just  $\hat{F}(s)\hat{G}(-s)$ , so our Convolution Theorem is proved, the main and direct application of this theorem is the solution of the Convolution integral equation  $\int_0^\infty dxK(xt)y(t)\frac{dt}{t} = h(x)$  for some given  $K(xt)$  and  $h(x)$ , then the solution for  $y(t)$  can be described by the Mellin-Cahen integral

$$y(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} \frac{\hat{H}(-s)}{\hat{K}(-s)} \frac{ds}{t^s} \quad \int_0^\infty dtK(t)t^{s-1} = \hat{K}(s) \quad \int_0^\infty dt h(t)t^{s-1} = \hat{H}(s) \quad (1.3)$$

Here 'c' is a real constant chosen in a manner so all the poles of  $\frac{\hat{H}}{\hat{K}}(-s)$  lie on the left of the line in the complex plane defined by  $\text{Re}(c)$ .

## 2. RIESZ AND HARDY CRITERION AND RIEMANN HYPOTHESIS:

Given an infinite sum  $\sum_{n=0}^\infty a_n$  we can define its Borel transform and its 'sum'  $B(S)$

$$B(a_n, x) = \sum_{n=0}^\infty \frac{a_n}{\Psi(n+1)} x^n \quad \Psi(n+1) = \int_0^\infty dtg(t)t^n \quad B(S) = \int_0^\infty dtg(t)B(a_n, x) \quad (2.1)$$

(2.1) can give the sum of the series (providing the integral is convergent and well defined) no matter if the series is convergent or divergent, for example it gives the correct value of the Grandi's series  $1-1+1-1+1-1+\dots = -1/2$ , and the correct expansion for the exponential integral  $\int_x^\infty \frac{e^{-t}}{t} dt$ , by evaluation of the divergent series

(except when  $x=0$ )  $\sum_{n=0}^\infty (-x)^n n!$  via the Laplace transform  $\int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-t}}{1+xt} dt$ , this results with

$\Psi(n+1) = n!$  were known to Borel, the general result (2.1) appeared in the paper by Leopold Nachbin as a generalization of Borel series to the case when  $B(a_n, x) \neq O(e^{ax})$  (see reference [5]). Apart from the linearity of the Borel transform and its sum  $B(S)$ , we have another interesting property  $S = B(S)$ , the usual 'sum' in the sense of addition gives the same result as the Borel transform  $B(S)$

Example:  $\frac{1}{1+x} = \sum_{n=0}^\infty (-x)^n$  its Borel transform is  $B(a_n, xt) = \sum_{n=0}^\infty \frac{(-1)^n}{n!} (xt)^n = e^{-xt}$

and its sum  $B(S, x) = \int_0^\infty dt e^{-t(1+x)} = \frac{1}{1+x}$   $S = B(S)$  are equal just because the power

series expansion of  $(1+x)^{-1}$  is convergent on the interval  $(-1, 1)$

We will exploit this property in order to study and give an integral equation for the following Hardy and Riesz criterion for the Riemann Hypothesis

- *Riesz criterion and Riemann Hypothesis:*

Hardy [3] and Riesz provided two different criteria for the truth of Riemann Hypothesis based on the growth of two different power series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$  involving the Riemann zeta:

$$Riesz(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1} x^n}{(n-1)! \zeta(2n)} = O(x^{1/4+\varepsilon}) \quad H(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^n}{n! \zeta(2n+1)} = O(x^{-1/4+\varepsilon}) \quad (2.2)$$

Here  $\varepsilon$  is any positive real number, and  $O(x^{1/4+\varepsilon})$  means that there is a positive constant 'C' so  $f(x) \leq Cx^{1/4+\varepsilon}$ , that is if Riemann Hypothesis is true then  $Riesz(x) \leq Cx^{1/4+\varepsilon}$  and  $H(x) \leq Dx^{-1/4+\varepsilon}$  for both positive 'C' and 'D' (see [7]).

Using the Mellin convolution of two functions ( $f * g$ ) and the properties of convolution theorem, we can give an integral equation representation for the Riesz and Hardy functions via a Fredholm integral of first kind with Kernel  $\left[ \sqrt{\frac{x}{t}} \right]$  in the form:

$$1 - e^{-x} = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dt}{t} \left[ \sqrt{\frac{x}{t}} \right] Riesz(t) \quad \sqrt{x}(e^{-x} - 1) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dt}{\sqrt{t}} \left[ \sqrt{\frac{x}{t}} \right] \left( \frac{H}{2} + t\dot{H} \right) \quad x > 0 \quad (2.3)$$

- With  $\dot{H} = \frac{dH}{dt}$ , from the representation  $\zeta(2s) = s \int_0^1 dt \left[ \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}} \right] t^{s-1}$  we have that

$Riesz(t) = O(t^{1/2+\varepsilon})$  due to the 'Prime Number theorem'. In order to give a proof for the Riesz function integral equation inside (2.3) we should recall the properties of the Mellin integral transforms for Riesz function,  $M\{Riesz(t)\} = \frac{\Gamma(s+1)}{\zeta(-2s)}$ , the inverse of the Floor function  $[x]$  and the Riemann Zeta are related by the integral

$$\zeta(2s) = s \int_0^1 dt \left[ \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}} \right] t^{s-1} \quad \text{valid for } \text{Re}(s) > 1, \text{ using the properties and definition of}$$

Gamma function for positive 's'  $\int_0^{\infty} dt e^{-t} t^{s-1} = \Gamma(s)$  and the 'Mellin Convolution

theorem' we find  $-\Gamma(s) = \frac{\Gamma(s+1)}{\zeta(-2s)} \cdot \frac{\zeta(-2s)}{-s} = -\Gamma(s)$ , so we can give an immediate

justification for the first integral equation inside (2.3) for the Riesz function. A proof based on the fact that for a infinite (and convergent) power series its Borel generalized transform and its 'normal' or usual definition of sum are equal so  $S = B(s)$ , is the following :

- First we use the known expansion  $1 - e^{-x} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{x^n}{n!} \quad (2.4)$

- We use the Mellin integral representation valid for  $n \geq 1$   $\zeta(2n) = n \int_0^1 dt \left[ \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}} \right] t^{n-1}$

- The Riesz(t) function has the power series  $Riesz(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1} x^n}{(n-1)! \zeta(2n)}$ , now if we use that  $S = B(S)$  since the power series defining the Riesz function is convergent we get the result

$$1 - e^{-x} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{x^n}{n!} = \int_0^1 \frac{dt}{t} \left[ \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}} \right] \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1} (xt)^n}{\zeta(2n) (n-1)!} \right) \quad (2.5)$$

The final expression inside (2.5) is just the Riesz(xt) so with a change of variable  $y=xt$  and the fact that for  $x < 1$ , then  $[x] = 0$ , we can see that the series expansion of Riesz(t) solves the integral equation (2.3) for 'x' positive, in order to give a proof for Hardy's series we must use the properties

$$x \frac{dH}{dx} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n n x^n}{n! \zeta(2n+1)} \quad \frac{\zeta(2n+1)}{n+1/2} = \int_0^1 dt \left[ \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}} \right] t^{n-1/2} \quad n \geq 1 \quad (2.6)$$

In order to prove (2.3) we have used simply the fact  $S = B(S)$ , in a previous paper [2] we investigated a similar procedure to solve integral equation with Kernel

$$g(s) = \int_0^{\infty} dt K(st) f(t), \text{ and applied this to solve and obtain an expression for the Prime}$$

$$\text{counting function } \pi(x) = \sum_{p \leq x} 1 \text{ via the series expansion } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{\zeta(n+1) \Gamma(n+1)} (\log x)^n,$$

since the Prime number theorem imposes a bound to the Prime number counting

$$\text{function } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\pi(x) \log x}{x} = 1 \text{ then for big 'n' } a_n \approx \frac{1}{n} \text{ (formally), these } \{a_n\} \text{ come from}$$

the expansion of  $\log \zeta(s)$  into a power series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n s^{-n}$  valid for  $\text{Re}(s) > 1$  with

$$a_n = \int_C \frac{dz}{z^{n+1}} \log \zeta(z) \text{ for a certain contour 'C' inside complex plane, the proof again is based on the fact } S = B(S)$$

$$\log \zeta(s) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n s^{-n} = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dt}{e^t - 1} \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \frac{(ts^{-1})^n}{\zeta(n+1)n!} \right) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dy}{e^{sy} - 1} \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \frac{y^n}{\zeta(n+1)n!} \right) \quad (2.7)$$

To prove (2.7) we have used the Generalized Borel transform involving the Zeta

$$\text{function } \zeta(n+1) \Gamma(n+1) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dt}{e^t - 1} t^n, \text{ and an appropriate change of variable, the last}$$

expression inside (2.7) is  $\pi(e^t)$  due to the Fredholm integral equation of First kind

$$\text{satisfied by the Prime Number counting function } \frac{\log \zeta(s)}{s} = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dt}{e^{st} - 1} \frac{\pi(e^t)}{t} \text{ as it can be}$$

seen in , Apostol [1] (for other issues involving Number theory treated on this paper , this is perhaps the best introductory reference ).

An alternative definition of equations (2.3) exists if we take the representation of Riemann Zeta as the Mellin transform involving the fractional part of x

$$\int_0^{\infty} dt \operatorname{frac}\left(\frac{1}{t}\right) t^{s-1} dt = -\frac{\zeta(s)}{s} \quad \operatorname{frac}(t) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin(2\pi kx)}{k} \quad (2.8)$$

In (2.8) the ‘fractional part function’ is understood in terms of Fourier Analysis to be proportional to the sawtooth function , its derivative is the distribution  $-2\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \cos(2\pi kx)$ , which is zero everywhere except for  $x = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$  using again the property of the Borel resummation algorithm  $S = B(S)$  the integral equations for Riesz and Hardy functions become

$$e^{-x} - 1 = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dt}{t} \operatorname{frac}\left(\sqrt{\frac{x}{t}}\right) \operatorname{Riesz}(t) \quad \sqrt{x}(1 - e^{-x}) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dt}{\sqrt{t}} \operatorname{frac}\left(\sqrt{\frac{x}{t}}\right) \left(\frac{H}{2} + t\dot{H}\right) \quad (2.9)$$

The main advantage of using (2.8) instead of (2.6) is that (2.6) is easier for practical calculations involving the Fourier expansion in order to check if the RH is true so

$\operatorname{Riesz}(z) = O(z^{1/4+\varepsilon})$  , another problem comes as  $x \rightarrow 0$  for  $\left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}\right]$  this problem can be avoided using the Fourier representation for the fractional part of ‘x’ ,the fact that we can take the Mellin transform of  $\left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}\right]$  or  $\operatorname{frac}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{t}}\right)$  in order to define the Borel sum

B(S) comes from the ‘regularized’ integral  $\int_0^{\infty} t^{s-1} dt = 0$  valid for every s and the definition of the fractional part as  $t - [t]$ .

According to Wolf [7] the solution to the Riesz function in(2.9) as  $x \rightarrow \infty$  should be

$\operatorname{Riesz}(x) = Cx^{1/4} \sin\left(\phi - \frac{\gamma_1}{2} \log x\right)$  with  $\gamma_1 \approx 14.134725\dots$  (imaginary part of the first non-trivial zero for Riemann Zeta ) ,  $C = 7.775 \cdot 10^{-5}$  and  $\phi = -0.54916\dots$  some computer calculations are still to be made in order to check if this is correct.

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