

# Li coefficients and the quadrilateral zeta function

Kajtaz H. Bllaca, Kamel Mazhouda, and Takashi Nakamura @

*Abstract.* In this note, we study the Li coefficients  $\lambda_{n,a}$  for the quadrilateral zeta function. Furthermore, we give an arithmetic and asymptotic formula for these coefficients. Especially, we show that for any fixed  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists a > 0 such that  $\lambda_{2n-1,a} > 0$  and  $\lambda_{2n,a} < 0$ .

## 1 Introduction and statement of main results

## 1.1 Li coefficients

The Riemann hypothesis (RH) is a critical question in analytic number theory. As such, it is interesting to examine different ways to frame it, which may shed more light on its resolution. In 1997, Xian-Jin Li has discovered a new positivity criterion for the RH. In [10], he defined the Li coefficients for the Riemann zeta function as

$$\lambda_n = \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \frac{d^n}{ds^n} \left[ s^{n-1} \log \xi(s) \right]_{s=1},$$

where  $\xi$  is the completed Riemann zeta function defined by

$$\xi(s) = s(s-1)\pi^{-s/2}\Gamma(s/2)\zeta(s),$$

which satisfies  $\xi(s) = \xi(1-s)$  and gave a simple equivalence criterion for the RH: RH is true if and only if these coefficients are nonnegative for every positive integer n. The Li coefficients  $\lambda_n$  can be written as follows:

$$\lambda_n = \sum_{\rho}^* \left[ 1 - \left( 1 - \frac{1}{\rho} \right)^n \right] = \lim_{T \to \infty} \sum_{\rho: |\operatorname{Im}(\rho)| \le T} \left[ 1 - \left( 1 - \frac{1}{\rho} \right)^n \right],$$

where the sum runs over the nontrivial zeros of the Riemann zeta function counted with multiplicity. This criterion is generalized by Bombieri and Lagarias [4] for any arbitrarily multiset of numbers assuming certain convergence conditions. Voros [19, Section 3.3] has proved that the RH true is equivalent to the growth of  $\lambda_n$  as  $\frac{1}{2}n\log n$  determined by its archimedean part, while the RH false is equivalent to the oscillations of  $\lambda_n$  with exponentially growing amplitude, determined by its finite part. The Li

Received by the editors May 21, 2023; revised March 25, 2024; accepted March 26, 2024. Published online on Cambridge Core April 8, 2024.

The third author was partially supported by JSPS grant 22K03276.

AMS subject classification: 11M26, 11M35.

Keywords: Li's coefficients, the quadrilateral zeta function, Riemann Hypothesis.



coefficients were generalized in two ways: by generalizing these coefficients to various sets of functions (the Selberg class, the class of automorphic L-functions, zeta function on function fields,...[8, 11, 17]) and by introducing new parameter in its definition (see [12]). The Li coefficients (and its generalizations) have generated a lot of research interest due to its applicability and simplicity.

# 1.2 Quadrilateral zeta function

Recall the definitions of Hurwitz and periodic zeta functions. The Hurwitz zeta function  $\zeta(s, a)$  is defined by the series

$$\zeta(s,a) := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n+a)^s}, \qquad \sigma > 1, \quad 0 < a \le 1.$$

The function  $\zeta(s,a)$  is a meromorphic function with a simple pole at s=1 whose residue is 1 (see, for example, [1, Section 12]). The periodic zeta function  $\operatorname{Li}_s(e^{2\pi i a})$  is defined by

$$\operatorname{Li}_{s}(e^{2\pi i a}) := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{2\pi i n a}}{n^{s}}, \qquad \sigma > 1, \quad 0 < a \le 1$$

(see, for instance, [1, Exercise 12.2]). Note that the function  $\text{Li}_s(e^{2\pi i a})$  with 0 < a < 1 is analytically continuable to the whole complex plane since  $\text{Li}_s(e^{2\pi i a})$  does not have any pole, that is shown by the fact that the Dirichlet series of  $\text{Li}_s(e^{2\pi i a})$  converges uniformly in each compact subset of the half-plane  $\sigma > 0$  when 0 < a < 1 (see, for example, [9, p. 20]). For  $0 < a \le 1/2$ , we define zeta functions

$$\begin{split} Z(s,a) &\coloneqq \zeta(s,a) + \zeta(s,1-a), \qquad P(s,a) \coloneqq \operatorname{Li}_s(e^{2\pi i a}) + \operatorname{Li}_s(e^{2\pi i (1-a)}), \\ 2Q(s,a) &\coloneqq Z(s,a) + P(s,a), \qquad \xi_Q(s,a) \coloneqq s(s-1)\pi^{-s/2}\Gamma(s/2)Q(s,a). \end{split}$$

We can see that Q(s, a) is meromorphic functions with a simple pole at s = 1. In addition, we have  $Q(0, a) = -1/2 = \zeta(0)$  and  $\xi_Q(s, a) = \xi_Q(1 - s, a)$ , which is proved by

(1.1) 
$$Q(1-s,a) = \Gamma_{\cos}(s)Q(s,a), \qquad \Gamma_{\cos}(s) := \frac{2\Gamma(s)}{(2\pi)^s}\cos\left(\frac{\pi s}{2}\right)$$

(see [13, Theorem 1.1]). Moreover, the function Q(s, a) has the following properties. When a = 1/6, 1/4, 1/3, and 1/2, the RH holds true if and only if all nonreal zeros of Q(s, a) are on the line Re(s) = 1/2 (see [14, Proposition 1.3]). Let  $N_Q^{CL}(T)$  be the number of the zeros of Q(s, a) on the line segment from 1/2 to 1/2 + iT. In [13, Theorem 1.2], the third author proved that for any  $0 < a \le 1/2$ , there exist positive constants A(a) and  $T_0(a)$  such that

$$N_{\mathcal{Q}}^{\mathcal{CL}}(T) \ge A(a)T$$
 whenever  $T \ge T_0(a)$ .

Next, let  $N_F(T)$  count the number of nonreal zeros of a function F(s) having |Im(s)| < T. Then, for any  $0 < a \le 1/2$ ,

$$N_{\zeta}(T)-N_{Q}(T)=O_{a}(T),$$

and the third author [14, Proposition 1.8] proved that

$$N_Q(T) = \frac{T}{\pi} \log T - \frac{T}{\pi} \log(2e\pi a^2) + O_a(\log T).$$

Furthermore, he [14, Theorem 1.1] proved that there is a unique absolute  $a_0 \in (0, 1/2)$  such that

$$Q(1/2, a) > 0 \iff 0 < a < a_0.$$

In addition, it is proved in [14, Corollary 1.2] that all real zeros of Q(s, a) are simple and are located only at the negative even integers just like  $\zeta(s)$  if and only if  $a_0 < a \le 1/2$ . Let us note by  $Z_Q$  the set of all nontrivial zeros  $\rho_a$  of  $\xi_Q(s, a)$ . Since it is an entire function of order 1, one has

where  $e^A = 1/2$ ,  $B = \frac{Q'}{Q}(0, a) - 1 - \frac{\gamma + \log \pi}{2}$ , and  $\gamma$  denotes the Euler constant. Note that Q'(0, a) is given explicitly in [14, Theorem 1.5].

#### 1.3 Main results

Recall that  $\zeta(1-s) = \Gamma_{\cos}(s)\zeta(s)$  and  $Q(1-s,a) = \Gamma_{\cos}(s)Q(s,a)$  by (1.1). However, the function Q(s,a) does not have an Euler product except for a=1/6,1/4,1/3, and 1/2. Hence, the function Q(s,a) is a suitable object to consider the influence of not Riemann's functional equation but an Euler product to zeros of zeta functions. We show a criterion for nonvanishing of Q(s,a) in terms of the positivity of the Li coefficients, an arithmetic and asymptotic formula for these coefficients in Theorems 1.1, 1.2, and 1.4, respectively. It should be emphasized that  $\lambda_{n,a}$  defined in (1.3) are the first Li coefficients that we can explicitly give  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\lambda_{n,a} < 0$ . There is a possibility that this fact would give an idea to find negative Li coefficients for  $\zeta(s)$  if they would exist.

For  $n \neq 0$ , the Li coefficients attached to Q(s, a) nonvanishing at zero are defined by the sum

$$\lambda_{n,a} := \sum_{\rho_a \in Z_O}^* \left( 1 - \left( 1 - \frac{1}{\rho_a} \right)^n \right) = \lim_{T \longmapsto \infty} \sum_{|\operatorname{Im}(\rho_a)| \le T}^* \left( 1 - \left( 1 - \frac{1}{\rho_a} \right)^n \right).$$

The symmetry  $\rho_a \longmapsto 1 - \rho_a$  in the set  $Z_Q$  of nontrivial zeros of Q(s, a) implies that  $\lambda_{-n,a} = \overline{\lambda_{n,a}} = \lambda_{n,a}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . So,  $\lambda_{n,a}$  are real. We have also

(1.3) 
$$\lambda_{n,a} := \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \frac{d^n}{ds^n} \left[ s^{n-1} \log \xi_Q(s,a) \right]_{s=1}.$$

Moreover, from (1.2), we have (see [4, Equations (2.3) and (2.4)] or [17, Appendix A])

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda_{n+1,a} s^n = \frac{d}{ds} \log \left[ \xi_Q \left( \frac{1}{1-s}, a \right) \right].$$

As an analogue of Li coefficients for the Riemann zeta function, we have the following.

**Theorem 1.1** The function Q(s, a) does not vanish when Re(s) > 1/2 if and only if  $\lambda_{n,a} \ge 0$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

An arithmetic formula for  $\lambda_{n,a}$  is stated in the following theorems.

**Theorem 1.2** We have

$$\lambda_{n,a} = 1 - \frac{n}{2} (\log(4\pi) + \gamma) + \sum_{k=2}^{n} (-1)^{k} {n \choose k} (1 - 2^{-k}) \zeta(k) + \sum_{k=1}^{n} {n \choose k} \gamma_{Q}(k-1),$$

where  $\gamma_{\rm O}(n)$  are defined as follows:

$$\frac{Q'}{Q}(s+1,a) + \frac{1}{s} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \gamma_Q(n) s^n.$$

**Theorem 1.3** For a = 1/2, 1/3, 1/4, 1/6, under the RH, we have

$$\lambda_{n,a} = \frac{n}{2}\log n + \frac{n}{2}\left(\gamma - 1 - \log 2\pi\right) + O(\sqrt{n}\log n).$$

For a fixed  $l \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have the following asymptotic formula of  $\lambda_{l,a}$  when  $a \to +0$ . We can see that there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\lambda_{n,a} < 0$  by Theorem 1.1 and the fact that Q(s,a) does not satisfy an analogue of the RH when  $a \in \mathbb{Q} \cap (0,1/2) \setminus \{1/6,1/4,1/3\}$  (see [14, Proposition 1.4]). Clearly, this argument gives no information on the frequency of  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the smallest  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\lambda_{n,a} < 0$  and so on. However, the next theorem implies that  $\lambda_{2n,a} < 0$  if we fix any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and then we take a > 0 sufficiently small.

**Theorem 1.4** Fix  $l \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then it holds that

$$\lambda_{l,a} = \frac{(-1)^{l+1}}{(2a)^l} + O_l(a^{1-l}|\log a|), \qquad a \to +0.$$

*Especially, for any fixed*  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ *, there are a* > 0 *such that* 

$$\lambda_{2n-1,a} > 0$$
 and  $\lambda_{2n,a} < 0$ .

## 2 Proofs

#### 2.1 Proof of Theorem 1.1

Since  $\lambda_{-n,a}=\overline{\lambda_{n,a}}=\lambda_{n,a}$  for all  $n\in\mathbb{N}$ , then  $\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_{-n,a})=\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_{n,a})=\lambda_{n,a}$ . Using that  $\xi_Q(s,a)$  is an entire function of order 1, and its zeros lie in the critical strip  $0<\operatorname{Re}(s)<1$ , we obtain that the series  $\sum_{\rho\in Z_Q}\frac{1+|\operatorname{Re}(\rho)|}{(1+|\rho|)^2}$  is convergent. Application of [4, Theorem 1] to the multiset  $Z_Q$  of zeros of Q(s,a) gives that  $\operatorname{Re}(\rho)\leq 1/2$  if and only if  $\lambda_{n,a}\geq 0$  for all  $n\in\mathbb{N}$ . Now, the application of the same theorem to the multiset  $1-Z_Q=Z_Q$  gives  $\operatorname{Re}(\rho)\geq 1/2$  if and only if  $\lambda_{n,a}\geq 0$ . This completes the proof.

Theorem 1.1 can also be proved by the same argument used in [5, Theorem 1], which is due to Oesterlé.

#### 2.2 Proof of Theorem 1.2

From the expression of  $\xi_Q(s, a)$ , one has

$$\frac{\xi_Q'}{\xi_Q}(s,a) = \frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{s-1} - \frac{1}{2}\log \pi + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\Gamma'}{\Gamma}(s/2) + \frac{Q'}{Q}(s,a),$$

which is rewritten as

(2.1) 
$$\frac{\xi_Q'}{\xi_Q}(s+1,a) = \frac{1}{s+1} + \frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{2}\log \pi + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\Gamma'}{\Gamma}((s+1)/2) + \frac{Q'}{Q}(s+1,a).$$

Note that Q(s, a) is a meromorphic function on the whole complex plane, which is holomorphic everywhere except for a simple pole at s = 1 with residue 1 (see [13, Section 2.1]). Let us define the coefficients  $\gamma_O(n)$  and  $\tau_O(n)$  as follows:

$$(2.2) \qquad \frac{Q'}{Q}(s+1,a) + \frac{1}{s} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \gamma_Q(n) s^n$$

and

(2.3) 
$$-\frac{1}{2}\log \pi + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\Gamma'}{\Gamma}((s+1)/2) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \tau_Q(n)s^n.$$

By Equation (1.2), one has

$$\log \xi_Q(s, a) = \log \xi_Q(0, a) - \sum_{\rho_a \in Z_Q} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{m \rho^m} s^m.$$

From the functional equation for the function  $\xi_Q(s, a)$ , in the neighborhood of s = 0, we have

(2.4) 
$$\frac{\xi_Q'}{\xi_Q}(s+1,a) = -\frac{\xi_Q'}{\xi_Q}(-s,a) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} (-1)^m \sum_{\rho_a \in Z_O} \frac{1}{\rho^{m+1}} s^m.$$

Comparing Equations (2.1)–(2.4), we get

$$(-1)^m \sum_{\rho_a \in Z_Q} \frac{1}{\rho^{m+1}} = (-1)^m + \gamma_Q(m) + \tau_Q(m),$$

for  $m \ge 0$ . Hence, the definition of  $\lambda_{n,a}$  yields

$$\lambda_{n,a} = \sum_{k=1}^{n} (-1)^{k-1} \binom{n}{k} \sum_{\rho_a \in Z_Q} \frac{1}{\rho^k} = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{n} \binom{n}{k} \gamma_Q(k-1) + \sum_{k=1}^{n} \binom{n}{k} \tau_Q(k-1),$$

where

$$\tau_Q(0) = -\frac{1}{2}\log \pi + \frac{1}{2}\psi(1/2) \text{ and } \tau_Q(k-1) = (-1)^k \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2m+1)^k}$$

using that  $\psi(z) = -\gamma - \frac{1}{z} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{z}{k(k+z)}$ . Here,  $\psi(s) = \frac{\Gamma'}{\Gamma}(s)$  is the logarithmic derivative of the Gamma function. Since  $\psi(1/2) = -\gamma - 2\log 2$ , we obtain

$$\begin{split} \lambda_{n,a} &= 1 - \frac{n}{2} (\log(4\pi) + \gamma) + \sum_{k=2}^{n} (-1)^{k} \binom{n}{k} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2m+1)^{k}} + \sum_{k=1}^{n} \binom{n}{k} \gamma_{Q}(k-1) \\ &= 1 - \frac{n}{2} (\log(4\pi) + \gamma) + \sum_{k=2}^{n} (-1)^{k} \binom{n}{k} (1 - 2^{-k}) \zeta(k) + \sum_{k=1}^{n} \binom{n}{k} \gamma_{Q}(k-1). \end{split}$$

The equality above implies Theorem 1.2.

#### 2.3 Proof of Theorem 1.3

Let us note that

$$\sum_{k=2}^{n} (-1)^{k} \binom{n}{k} (1 - 2^{-k}) \zeta(k) = \sum_{k=2}^{n} (-1)^{l} \binom{n}{k} \frac{\zeta(k, 1/2)}{2^{k}},$$

where  $\zeta(s, a)$  is the Hurwitz zeta function defined in Section 1.2. With the notation of Flajolet and Vespas [7, Lines 2–4, p. 70], this is  $A_n(1, 2)$  and which is equal to

$$\frac{n}{2}\psi(n)+n\left(\gamma-\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{2}\log 2\right)+o(1).$$

where the o(1) error term above is exponentially small and oscillating and equal to

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{n}{\pi}\right)^{1/4} \exp\left(-\sqrt{2\pi n}\right) \cos\left(\sqrt{2\pi n} - \frac{5\pi}{8}\right) + O\left(n^{-1/4} e^{-\sqrt{2\pi n}}\right).$$

Then we have

$$\lambda_{n,a} = \frac{n}{2} \log n + \frac{n}{2} (\gamma - 1 - \log 2\pi) + \sum_{k=1}^{n} \binom{n}{k} \gamma_{Q}(k-1) + O(1).$$

It remains to prove that

(2.5) 
$$\sum_{k=1}^{n} \binom{n}{k} \gamma_{Q}(k-1) = O(\sqrt{n} \log n).$$

To do so, we follow very closely the lines of the proof of the corresponding result in [8, Theorem 6.1] or [16, Lemma 3.3] and it will be shortened. We use the following kernel function:

$$k_n(s) := \left(1 + \frac{1}{s}\right)^n - 1 = \sum_{k=1}^n \binom{n}{k} \frac{1}{s^k}.$$

The residue theorem gives

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n} \binom{n}{k} \gamma_Q(k-1) = \frac{1}{2i\pi} \int_C k_n(s) \left( -\frac{Q'}{Q}(s+1,a) \right) ds,$$

where *C* is a contour enclosing the point s = 0 counterclockwise on a circle of small enough positive radius. The residue comes entirely from the singularity at s = 0, as no other singularities lie inside the contour. Let  $T = \sqrt{n} + \varepsilon_n$ , for some  $0 < \varepsilon_n < 1$ .

Now we follow very closely the lines in [16, pp. 1106–1107] using that the function  $\frac{Q'}{Q}(s, a)$  satisfies the properties<sup>1</sup>

$$\frac{Q'}{Q}(s,a) = \sum_{\rho_a; |\text{Im}(\rho_a - s)| < 1} \frac{1}{s - \rho_a} + O(\log(1 + |s|)),$$

for -2 < Re(s) < 2 and

$$\left|\frac{Q'}{Q}(s+1,a)\right| = O(\log^2 T),$$

for  $-2 \le \text{Re}(s) \le 2$ , and we get

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n} {n \choose k} \gamma_Q(k-1) = \lambda_{-n,a,T} + O(\sqrt{n} \log n),$$

where

$$\lambda_{-n,a,T} = \sum_{\rho_a \in Z_0; |Im(\rho_a| \le T}^* \left( 1 - \left( 1 - \frac{1}{\rho_a} \right)^n \right),$$

with  $T = \sqrt{n} + \varepsilon_n$ . For a = 1/2, 1/3, 1/4, 1/6, under the RH, since  $\left|1 - \frac{1}{\rho_a}\right| = 1$  and using formula of  $N_Q(T)$  given in Section 1.2, we obtain  $\lambda_{n,a,T} = O(T \log T + 1)$ . Therefore, Equation (2.5) follows from that  $\lambda_{-n,a,\sqrt{n}} = \lambda_{-n,a,\sqrt{n}} = O(\sqrt{n} \log n)$ .

**Remark** Since 2Q(s, a) := Z(s, a) + P(s, a), from Corollary 2.3 below and [6, Equation (1.18)], we obtain

$$\gamma_Q(n) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \delta_n(a) + \frac{(-1)^n}{n!} (l_n(a) + l_n(1-a)) \right),$$

where  $\delta_n(a) = \frac{|\log a|^n}{an!} + O(1)$  and  $l_n(a)$  are the coefficients in the expansion of  $\operatorname{Li}_s(e^{2\pi i a})$  at s = 1; for  $a \notin \mathbb{Z}$ , one has

$$\operatorname{Li}_{s}(e^{2\pi i a}) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n}}{n!} l_{n}(a) (s-1)^{n}.$$

## 2.4 Proof of Theorem 1.4

To show Theorem 1.4, we quote the following lemmas from [2, 3].

Lemma 2.1 [3, Theorem 1] We set

$$(s-1)\zeta(s,a) = 1 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \gamma_n(a)(s-1)^{n+1}, \quad 0 < a \le 1.$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>These properties are well known for the Riemann zeta function. The proof for the function Q(s, a) is exactly the same since the Riemann–von Mangoldt formula holds for Q(s, a) (see [14, Proposition 2.5] or [18, p. 217]).

Then it holds that

$$\gamma_n(a) = \frac{(-1)^n}{n!} \lim_{m \to \infty} \left( \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{\log^n(k+a)}{k+a} - \frac{\log^{n+1}(m+a)}{n+1} \right).$$

**Lemma 2.2** [2, Equation (26)] Let  $0 < a \le 1$ , and let n be a nonnegative integer. Then one has

$$\zeta^{(n)}(0,a) = \left(\frac{1}{2} - a\right) |\log a|^n - n! + n! a \sum_{m=n}^{\infty} \frac{|\log a|^m}{m!} + (-1)^n n \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\varphi(x) \log^{n-1}(x+a)}{(x+a)^2} dx - (-1)^n n(n-1) \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\varphi(x) \log^{n-2}(x+a)}{(x+a)^2} dx,$$

where  $\varphi(x) = \int_0^x (y - \lfloor y \rfloor - 1/2) dy$  is periodic with period 1 and satisfies  $2\varphi(x) = x(x-1)$  if  $0 \le x \le 1$ .

By using the lemmas above, we immediately obtain the following.

Corollary 2.3 When a > 0 is sufficiently small,

$$(s-1)Z(s,a) = 2 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta_n(a)(s-1)^{n+1}, \qquad \delta_n(a) = \frac{|\log a|^n}{an!} + O(1),$$
$$Z(s,a) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \varepsilon_n(a)s^n, \qquad \varepsilon_n(a) = O(|\log a|^n).$$

**Proof** The first formula and estimation are easily proved by Lemma 2.1 (see also [3, Theorem 2]). For the first integral in Lemma 2.2, one has

$$\int_0^1 \frac{\varphi(x) \log^{n-1}(x+a)}{(x+a)^2} dx \ll \int_0^1 \frac{\log^{n-1}(x+a)}{x+a} dx = O(|\log a|^n),$$

$$\int_1^\infty \frac{\varphi(x) \log^{n-1}(x+a)}{(x+a)^2} dx \ll \int_1^\infty \frac{\log^{n-1}(x+a)}{(x+a)^2} dx = O(1)$$

from x < x + a when x, a > 0. In addition, we have

$$a\sum_{m=n}^{\infty} \frac{|\log a|^m}{m!} \le a\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{|\log a|^m}{m!} = ae^{|\log a|} = ae^{-\log a} = 1, \qquad 0 < a < 1/2.$$

Hence, we obtain

$$\zeta(s,a) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\zeta^{(n)}(0,a)}{n!} s^n, \qquad \zeta^{(n)}(0,a) = O(|\log a|^n).$$

Therefore, we have  $\varepsilon_n(a) = O(|\log a|^n)$  and the second formula in this corollary by the definition of Z(s,a) and  $Z(0,a) = \zeta(0,a) + \zeta(0,1-a) = 0$  (see [15, Equation (4.11)]).

**Proof of Theorem 1.4** Recall the functional equation

$$Z(1-s,a) = \Gamma_{\cos}(s)P(s,a), \qquad \Gamma_{\cos}(s) \coloneqq \frac{2\Gamma(s)}{(2\pi)^s}\cos\left(\frac{\pi s}{2}\right)$$

(see [15, Lemma 4.11]). By using  $\Gamma_{\cos}(s)\Gamma_{\cos}(1-s)=1$ , we have

$$2Q(s,a) = Z(s,a) + P(s,a) = Z(s,a) + \Gamma_{\cos}(1-s)Z(1-s,a).$$

Let |s-1| be sufficiently small. Then, by  $\lim_{s\to 1}(s-1)Q(s,a)=1$ , the equation above, and the definitions of Q(s,a) and  $\xi_Q(s,a)$ , we have

$$\begin{split} &\frac{d^{l}}{ds^{l}} \Big[ s^{l-1} \log \xi_{Q}(s,a) \Big]_{s=1} = \frac{d^{l}}{ds^{l}} \Big[ s^{l-1} \log \big( (s-1)Q(s,a) \big) + s^{l-1} \log \big( s\pi^{-s/2}\Gamma(s/2) \big) \Big]_{s=1} \\ &= \frac{d^{l}}{ds^{l}} \Big[ s^{l-1} \log \bigg( \frac{s-1}{2} \Big( Z(s,a) + \Gamma_{\cos}(1-s)Z(1-s,a) \Big) \Big) \Big]_{s=1} + O_{l}(1) \\ &= \frac{d^{l}}{ds^{l}} \Big[ s^{l-1} \log \bigg( 1 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \Big( \delta'_{n}(a) + \varepsilon'_{n}(a) \Big) (s-1)^{n+1} \bigg) \Big]_{s=1} + O_{l}(1), \end{split}$$

where  $\delta'_n(a)$  and  $\varepsilon'_n(a)$  are defined by

$$\delta'_n(a) := \frac{\delta_n(a)}{2}, \qquad (s-1)\Gamma_{\cos}(1-s)Z(1-s,a) = 2\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \varepsilon'_n(a)(s-1)^{n+1}.$$

Clearly, the second estimation in Corollary 2.3 implies

$$Z(1-s,a) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \varepsilon_n(a)(1-s)^n, \qquad \varepsilon_n(a) = O(|\log a|^n).$$

Thus, we can see that  $\varepsilon_n'(a) = O(|\log a|^{n+1})$  from  $\lim_{s\to 1} (s-1)\Gamma_{\cos}(1-s) = -2$  and the fact that the function  $(s-1)\Gamma_{\cos}(1-s)$  does not depend on a. Put  $\eta_n(a) := \delta_n'(a) + \varepsilon_n'(a)$ . Then, for  $n \ge 0$ , we have

(2.6) 
$$\eta_n(a) = \frac{1}{n!} \frac{|\log a|^n}{2a} + O(|\log a|^{n+1}), \qquad a \to +0$$

by Corollary 2.3. By virtue of

$$(a_0x + a_1x^2 + a_2x^3 + \cdots)^m = a_0^m x^m + {m \choose 1} a_0^{m-1} a_1 x^{m+1} + \cdots$$

$$(a_0x + a_1x^2 + a_2x^3 + \cdots)^{m-1} = a_0^m x^{m-1} + {m-1 \choose 1} a_0^{m-2} a_1 x^m + \cdots$$

$$\vdots$$

$$(a_0x + a_1x^2 + a_2x^3 + \cdots)^1 = \cdots + a_m x^m + \cdots,$$

where  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $a_m, x \in \mathbb{C}$ , the coefficient of  $(s-1)^l$  in the function

$$f(s,a) := \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{m+1}}{m} \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \eta_n(a) (s-1)^{n+1} \right)^m$$

is expressed as

$$(2.7) \qquad \frac{(-1)^{l+1}}{l} \left(\eta_0(a)\right)^l + \frac{(-1)^l}{l-1} \binom{l-1}{1} \eta_0(a)^{l-2} \eta_1(a) + \dots + \frac{(-1)^{l+1}}{1} \eta_{l-1}(a).$$

Note that the function above is estimated by

$$(2.8) \quad \frac{(-1)^{l+1}}{l} \left(\eta_0(a)\right)^l + O_l\left(\eta_0(a)^{l-2}\eta_1(a)\right) = \frac{(-1)^{l+1}}{l} (2a)^{-l} + O_l\left(a^{1-l}|\log a|\right)$$

from (2.6) when  $a \rightarrow +0$ . We can find that

$$(s-1)\Big(Z(s,a)+\Gamma_{\cos}(1-s)Z(1-s,a)\Big)=1+\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\eta_n(a)(s-1)^{n+1}$$

is analytic when |s-1| < 1 form the poles of Z(s, a) and  $\Gamma_{\cos}(1-s)$ . So we can choose |s-1| > 0 such that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |\eta_n(a)| |s-1|^{n+1} < \frac{1}{2}.$$

Then, from (2.7), the Leibniz product rule, the definition of  $\eta_n(a)$ , and the Taylor expansion of  $\log(1+x)$  with |x| < 1, one has

$$\begin{split} \frac{d^{l}}{ds^{l}} \Big[ s^{l-1} \log \xi_{Q}(s,a) \Big]_{s=1} &= \frac{d^{l}}{ds^{l}} \Big[ s^{l-1} f(s,a) \Big]_{s=1} + O_{l}(1) \\ (b) &= \binom{l}{l} \frac{(-1)^{l+1}}{l} l! (\eta_{0}(a))^{l} + O_{l} (\eta_{0}(a)^{l-2} \eta_{1}(a)) \\ (b) &+ \binom{l}{l-1} (l-1) \frac{(-1)^{l}}{l-1} (l-1)! (\eta_{0}(a))^{l-1} + O_{l} (\eta_{0}(a)^{l-3} \eta_{1}(a)) \\ (b) &+ \dots + \binom{l}{l} (l-1)! \frac{(-1)^{l+1}}{l} (\eta_{0}(a))^{l} + O_{l}(1). \end{split}$$

Note that ( $\flat$ ) comes from  $f^{(l)}(s, a)$ , ( $\flat$ ) is deduced by  $f^{(l-1)}(s, a)$ , and ( $\sharp$ ) derives from  $f^{(1)}(s, a)$ ,  $f^{(0)}(s, a)$ , and  $O_l(1)$  in the left-hand side of the formula above. Therefore, by (2.8), we obtain

$$\frac{d^{l}}{ds^{l}} \left[ s^{l-1} \log \xi_{Q}(s, a) \right]_{s=1} = (-1)^{l+1} (l-1)! (\eta_{0}(a))^{l} + O_{l}(\eta_{0}(a)^{l-2} \eta_{1}(a)) 
= (-1)^{l+1} \frac{(l-1)!}{(2a)^{l}} + O_{l}(a^{l-l} | \log a|),$$

which implies Theorem 1.4.

At the end of the paper, we give numerical computation for  $\lambda_{n,a}$  by Mathematica 13.0. Let

$$\lambda_{n,a}^{[k]} := \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \frac{d^n}{ds^n} \left[ s^{n-1} \log \xi_Q(s,a) \right]_{s=1-10^{-k}}, \qquad \lambda_{n,a}^* := \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{(2a)^n}.$$

Then, we have the following.

For n = 1, we have

$$\begin{array}{lll} a:=2^{-17} & \lambda_{1,a}^{[10]}=65,537... & \lambda_{1,a}^{[10]}/\lambda_{1,a}^*=1.00001... \\ a:=2^{-18} & \lambda_{1,a}^{[10]}=131,074... & \lambda_{1,a}^{[10]}/\lambda_{1,a}^*=1.00002... \\ a:=2^{-19} & \lambda_{1,a}^{[10]}=262,151... & \lambda_{1,a}^{[10]}/\lambda_{1,a}^*=1.00003... \\ a:=2^{-17} & \lambda_{1,a}^{[11]}=65,536.6... & \lambda_{1,a}^{[11]}/\lambda_{1,a}^*=1.00001... \\ a:=2^{-18} & \lambda_{1,a}^{[11]}=131,073... & \lambda_{1,a}^{[11]}/\lambda_{1,a}^*=1.00001... \\ a:=2^{-19} & \lambda_{1,a}^{[11]}=262,145... & \lambda_{1,a}^{[11]}/\lambda_{1,a}^*=1.00000... \\ a:=2^{-18} & \lambda_{1,a}^{[12]}=655,365... & \lambda_{1,a}^{[12]}/\lambda_{1,a}^*=1.00001... \\ a:=2^{-18} & \lambda_{1,a}^{[12]}=131,073... & \lambda_{1,a}^{[12]}/\lambda_{1,a}^*=1.00000... \\ a:=2^{-19} & \lambda_{1,a}^{[12]}=262,145... & \lambda_{1,a}^{[12]}/\lambda_{1,a}^*=1.00000... \\ \end{array}$$

For n = 2, we have

**Acknowledgements** The authors want to thank the anonymous referees for their many insightful comments and suggestions.

# References

- [1] T. M. Apostol, *Introduction to analytic number theory*, Undergraduate Texts in Mathematics, Springer, New York, 1976.
- [2] T. M. Apostol, Formulas for higher derivatives of the Riemann zeta function. Math. Comput. 44(1985), no. 169, 223–232.
- [3] B. C. Berndt, On the Hurwitz zeta-function. Rocky Mountain J. Math. 2(1972), no. 1, 151-157.
- [4] E. Bombieri and J. Lagarias, *Complements to Li's criterion for the Riemann hypothesis*. J. Number Theory 77(1999), 274–287.
- [5] F. Brown, Li's criterion and zero-free regions of L-functions. J. Number Theory 111(2005), 1–32.
- [6] M. W. Coffey, Series representations for the Stieltjes constants. Rocky Mountain J. Math. 44(2014), no. 2, 443–477.
- [7] P. Flajolet and L. Vepstas, On differences of zeta values. J. Comput. Appl. Math. 220(2008), nos. 1–2, 58–73.
- [8] J. C. Lagarias, Li coefficients for automorphic L-functions. Ann. Inst. Fourier (Grenoble) 57(2007), 1689–1740.
- [9] A. Laurinčikas and R. Garunkštis, The Lerch zeta-function, Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht, 2002.
- [10] X.-J. Li, *The positivity of a sequence of numbers and the Riemann hypothesis*. J. Number Theory 65(1997), 325–333.
- [11] K. Mazhouda and L. Smajlović, Evaluation of the Li coefficients on function fields and applications. Eur. J. Math. 5(2019), no. 2, 540–550.

- [12] K. Mazhouda and B. Sodaïgui, *The Li–Sekatskii coefficients for the Selberg class*. Int. J. Math. 33(2022), no. 12, Article no. 2250075, 23 pp.
- [13] T. Nakamura, The functional equation and zeros on the critical line of the quadrilateral zeta function. J. Number Theory 233(2022), 432–455.
- [14] T. Nakamura, On Lerch's formula and zeros of the quadrilateral zeta function. Preprint, 2022, arXiv:2001.01981.
- [15] T. Nakamura, On zeros of bilateral Hurwitz and periodic zeta and zeta star functions. Rocky Mountain J. Math. 53(2023), no. 1, 157–176.
- [16] S. Omar and K. Mazhouda, The Li criterion and the Riemann hypothesis for the Selberg class II. J. Number Theory 130(2010), no. 4, 1109–1114.
- [17] L. Smajlović, On Li's criterion for the Riemann hypothesis for the Selberg class. J. Number Theory 130(2010), no. 4, 828–851.
- [18] E. C. Titchmarsh, Theory of the Riemann zeta-function. 2nd ed., Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1986.
- [19] A. Voros, Sharpenings of Li's criterion for the Riemann hypothesis. Math. Phys. Anal. Geom. 9(2006), 53–63.

Department of Mathematics, University of Prishtina, Mother Theresa, No. 5, 10000 Prishtina, Kosovo e-mail: kajtaz.bllaca@uni-pr.edu

Higher Institute of Applied Sciences and Technology, University of Sousse, Sousse 4003, Tunisia INSA Hauts-De-France, University Polytechnique Hauts-De-France, FR CNRS 2037, CERAMATHS, F-59313 Valenciennes. France

e-mail: kamel.mazhouda@fsm.rnu.tn

Department of Liberal Arts, Faculty of Science and Technology, Tokyo University of Science, 2641 Yamazaki, Noda-shi, Chiba-ken 278-8510, Japan

e-mail: nakamuratakashi@rs.tus.ac.jp