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*The double Riemann zeta function*

The double Riemann zeta function  $(\zeta \otimes \zeta)(s)$  is defined by a double Euler product over pairs of primes  $(p, q)$ . Any nontrivial zero  $\rho$  of  $(\zeta \otimes \zeta)(s)$  is given by a sum of zeros of  $\zeta(s)$ . Namely, there exists a pair of zeros  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  such that  $\rho = \rho_1 + \rho_2$ . The aim of this talk is to introduce a basic theory of the double Riemann zeta function, and discuss its possible applications.

The first possibility is to enlarge the zero-free region of  $\zeta(s)$ . We obtain an explicit form of the  $(p, q)$ -Euler factors and show that the double Euler product is absolutely convergent in  $\Re(s) > 2$ . Conjecturally it should be convergent in  $\Re(s) > 3/2$ , which implies that  $\zeta(s)$  is zero-free in  $\Re(s) > 3/4$ . Thus any improvement of our current result would give a new result toward the RH.

The second application is to improve the ratio  $N_0(T)/N(T)$ . Since a zero  $\rho = \rho_1 + \rho_2$  is simple only if both  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  are simple, an estimate of the ratio of simple zeros for  $(\zeta \otimes \zeta)(s)$  can possibly improve the ratio  $N_0(T)/N(T)$  for  $\zeta(s)$ .