# On characterization of Dirichlet $L$-functions 

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1. Introduction. Let $L(s, f)$ denote the Dirichlet series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(n) / n^{s}$. If $f$ is purely recurring, then $L(s, f)$ is absolutely convergent for $\operatorname{Re}(s)>1$ and

$$
L(s, f)=\frac{1}{N^{s}} \sum_{n=1}^{N} f(n) \zeta(s, n / N),
$$

where $N$ is a period of $f$ and

$$
\zeta(s, x)=\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x+n)^{s}}
$$

is the Hurwitz zeta function. We know that $L(s, f)$ can be extended analytically to the whole plane as a meromorphic function of order one and has only a simple pole with residue $(f(1)+\ldots+f(N)) / N$ at $s=1$ unless $f(1)+\ldots+f(N)=0$, in which case there exists no pole in the whole plane and $L(s, f)$ is convergent for $\operatorname{Re}(s)>0$. We call $f$ even (resp. odd) modulo $N$ if, extending it periodically to all integers, $f(-x)=(-1)^{d} f(x)$ with $d=0$ (resp. $d=1$ ). Schnee [6] showed the functional equation

$$
\left(\frac{N}{\pi}\right)^{s / 2} \Gamma\left(\frac{s+d}{2}\right) L(s, f)=i^{-d}\left(\frac{N}{\pi}\right)^{(1-s) / 2} \Gamma\left(\frac{1-s+d}{2}\right) L\left(1-s, T_{N} f\right),
$$

where

$$
T_{N} f(x)=\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{n=1}^{N} f(n) \exp \left(\frac{2 \pi i n x}{N}\right) .
$$

We list some of the above properties of $L(s, f)$ as
(A) The Dirichlet series expansion of $L(s, f)$ is absolutely convergent for $\operatorname{Re}(s)>1$.
(B) $L(s, f)$ can be continued into the whole plane to a meromorphic function of finite order with a finite number of poles.
(C) For a non-negative integer $d$ and a positive number $N$ a functional equation holds in the form

$$
\left(\frac{N}{\pi}\right)^{s / 2} \Gamma\left(\frac{s+d}{2}\right) L(s, f)=\left(\frac{N}{\pi}\right)^{(1-s) / 2} \Gamma\left(\frac{1-s+d}{2}\right) L(1-s, g)
$$

where $L(s, g)$ is convergent in a half-plane.
In Section 2 we shall prove that (A), (B), and (C) characterize Dirichlet series with recurrent coefficients, following Chandrasekharan-Narashimhan [3] and modifying Siegel's proof [7] of Hamburger's theorem [4] on the Riemann zeta function. In Section 3 we characterize Dirichlet $L$-functions without using Euler products. We shall use Dirichlet $L$-functions in Section 4 to give a characterization of finite Dirichlet series in a way different from Toyoizumi's results in [8]. In Section 5 we shall extend the concept of equivalence and conductors of Dirichlet characters to general periodic functions.

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## 2. Characterization of recurring coefficients

Lemma 2.1. For functions $f \neq 0$, properties (A), (B) and (C) imply that $N$ is a positive integer, the number $d$ is 0 or $1, f$ is purely recurring, even or odd modulo $N$ according as $d=0$ or 1 , and $g=i^{-d} T_{N} f$.

Proof (for more details see Chandrasekharan-Narashimhan [3]). We put

$$
\phi(s)=(2 N)^{s} L(2 s-d, f), \quad \psi(s)=(2 N)^{s} L(2 s-d, g)
$$

The given functional equation becomes

$$
(2 \pi)^{-s} \Gamma(s) \phi(s)=(2 \pi)^{s-\delta} \Gamma(\delta-s) \psi(\delta-s)
$$

where $\delta=d+1 / 2$.
Let $\alpha, \beta$ be positive numbers such that

$$
\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{f(n)}{n^{2 \alpha-d}}, \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(n)}{n^{2 \beta-d}}
$$

converge absolutely. By (A) we may choose $\alpha<1+d$ (in fact, any $\alpha>$ $(1+d) / 2$ would do).

We see from (B) and the functional equation that $\phi(s)$ has at most a finite number of poles $r$, all in the strip $\delta-\beta<\operatorname{Re}(r)<\alpha$.

We start off from the integral

$$
\frac{1}{2 \pi i} \int_{(\alpha)} \Gamma(s) \phi(s) x^{-s} d s \quad(x>0)
$$

over the vertical line $(\alpha)$ with real point $\alpha$. By the formula

$$
\frac{1}{2 \pi i} \int_{(\alpha)} \frac{\Gamma(s)}{y^{s}} d s=e^{-y} \quad(y>0)
$$

putting in the series representation of $L(s, f)$, it is, on the one hand,

$$
\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(n) n^{d} e^{-n^{2} x /(2 N)}
$$

The series representations and the functional equation together with the Phragmén-Lindelöf principle, $L(s, f)$ being of finite order, imply in a standard way that $|\phi(s)|$ can be estimated by a power of $|\operatorname{Im}(s)|$ in any given vertical strip. This enables one, on the other hand, to push the line of integration to $(\delta-\beta)$.

Using the functional equation,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{2 \pi i} \int_{(\delta-\beta)} \Gamma(s) \phi(s) x^{-s} d s & =\frac{1}{2 \pi i} \int_{(\delta-\beta)} \Gamma(\delta-s) \psi(\delta-s)(2 \pi)^{2 s-\delta} x^{-s} d s \\
& =\frac{1}{2 \pi i} \int_{(\beta)} \Gamma(s) \psi(s)(2 \pi)^{\delta-s} x^{s-\delta} d s \\
& =\left(\frac{2 \pi}{x}\right)^{\delta} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g(n) n^{d} e^{-2 \pi^{2} n^{2} /(N x)}
\end{aligned}
$$

by a similar calculation in the last step as above.
It remains to collect the residues of $\Gamma(s) \phi(s) x^{-s}$. At any given pole $r$ of order $q$ the residue is of the form

$$
x^{-r} P_{r}(\log x),
$$

where $P_{r}$ is a polynomial of degree $\leq q$ with constant coefficients. Denoting by $P(x)$ their (finite) sum,

$$
P(x)=\sum_{r} x^{-r} P_{r}(\log x),
$$

we get
(*) $\quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(n) n^{d} e^{-n^{2} x /(2 N)}$

$$
=\left(\frac{2 \pi}{x}\right)^{d+1 / 2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g(n) n^{d} e^{-2 \pi^{2} n^{2} /(N x)}+P(x) .
$$

Following Siegel's idea, we multiply $(*)$ throughout by $x^{d} e^{-s^{2} x /(2 N)}$ first with $s>0$, and integrate with respect to $x$ over $(0, \infty)$. The left hand side
becomes

$$
F_{1}(s)=(2 N)^{d+1} \Gamma(d+1) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{f(n) n^{d}}{\left(s^{2}+n^{2}\right)^{d+1}}
$$

and using the formula

$$
\int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-(a x+b / x)}}{\sqrt{x}} d x=\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}} e^{-2 \sqrt{a b}} \quad(a, b>0)
$$

the first term on the right becomes

$$
F_{2}(s)=(2 \pi)^{d+1} \sqrt{N} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} s^{-1} g(n) n^{d} e^{-2 \pi n s / N}
$$

both the resulting series being absolutely convergent.
Finally, the second term on the right becomes

$$
F_{3}(s)=\int_{0}^{\infty} x^{d} P(x) e^{-s^{2} x /(2 N)} d x
$$

The latter is a finite linear combination of integrals, absolutely convergent by $\operatorname{Re}(d-r)>d-\alpha>-1$, of the type

$$
\int_{0}^{\infty} x^{d-r}(\log x)^{m} e^{-s^{2} x /(2 N)} d x=\int_{0}^{\infty}\left(\frac{y}{s^{2}}\right)^{d-r}(\log y-2 \log s)^{m} e^{-y /(2 N)} \frac{d y}{s^{2}}
$$

with integers $m \geq 0$. This is $s^{2 r-2 d-2}$ multiplied by a polynomial in $\log s$ and we see that $F_{3}(s)$ can be extended to a single-valued regular function in the whole plane with the non-positive real axis deleted.

Our formula for $F_{2}(s)$ extends $s F_{2}(s)$ to a function regular and periodic with period $i N$ for $\operatorname{Re}(s)>0$.

Finally, the series representation of $F_{1}(s)$ does, in fact, converge for all complex $s \neq \pm i n(n=1,2, \ldots)$ representing a meromorphic function in the whole plane with poles of order $d+1$ at $\pm i n$ only (unless $f(n)=0$ ).

From the periodicity of $s F_{1}(s)-s F_{3}(s)=s F_{2}(s)$ we see that $N$ is a positive integer and

$$
\lim _{s \rightarrow i n} F_{1}(s) s(s-i n)^{d+1}=(-i)^{d} N^{d+1} \Gamma(d+1) f(n)
$$

is periodic in $n$ with period $N$.
Denote by $f_{\mathrm{E}}$ and $f_{\mathrm{O}}$ the even and the odd part of $f$ modulo $N$, respectively. Using $L(s, f)=L\left(s, f_{\mathrm{E}}\right)+L\left(s, f_{\mathrm{O}}\right)$ in (C), the functional equations for $L\left(s, f_{\mathrm{E}}\right)$ and $L\left(s, f_{\mathrm{O}}\right)$ and the formula

$$
\frac{\Gamma(s / 2)}{\Gamma((1-s) / 2)}=\frac{2^{1-s}}{\sqrt{\pi}} \Gamma(s) \cos \frac{s \pi}{2}
$$

we get

$$
L\left(s, T_{N} f_{\mathrm{E}}\right) \cos \frac{s \pi}{2}-i L\left(s, T_{N} f_{\mathrm{O}}\right) \sin \frac{s \pi}{2}=G(s) L(s, g) \cos \frac{(s-d) \pi}{2}
$$

where

$$
G(s)= \begin{cases}\prod_{j=0}^{d-1} \frac{s+j}{s-d+1+2 j} & \text { if } d>1 \\ 1 & \text { if } d=0 \text { or } 1\end{cases}
$$

Putting $s=4 r+1+d$ for any positive integer $r$ large enough, we get $L(4 r+$ $1+d, h)=0$, where $h=-\sin (d \pi / 2) T_{N} f_{\mathrm{E}}-i \cos (d \pi / 2) T_{N} f_{\mathrm{O}}$, implying $h=0$. Therefore, $T_{N} f_{\mathrm{E}}=0$ or $T_{N} f_{\mathrm{O}}=0$ according as $d \equiv 1$ or $0 \bmod 2$ and

$$
L\left(s, g-i^{-d} T_{N} f\right)=(1-G(s)) L(s, g)
$$

The rational function $1-G(s)$ is thus the quotient of two Dirichlet series. Such a quotient or its reciprocal tends to a finite limit with an exponential speed, $O\left(e^{-a s}\right)$ as $s \rightarrow+\infty$, a speed a non-constant rational function cannot produce. Our $G(s)$ is only constant, $G(s) \equiv 1$ if $d=0$ or 1 , implying also $g-i^{-d} T_{N} f=0$. The proof of Lemma 2.1 is complete.
3. Characterization of Dirichlet $L$-functions. Apostol ([1], [2]) characterizes Dirichlet $L$-functions corresponding to primitive characters by functional equation and Euler product. We replace the latter by an algebraic condition.

Proposition 3.1. Let $f \neq 0$ satisfy (A), (B) and (C), the latter with $g=W \bar{f}$, where $W$ is a constant. By Lemma 2.1, $N$ is an integer and assume that $f(n)=0$ if $(n, N)>1$ and that the field $Q_{f}$ generated by the values $f(n)$ is algebraic over the rationals and is linearly disjoint from the Nth cyclotomic field $C_{N}$. Then $f$ is a constant multiple of a primitive character $\bmod N$.

Proof. By Lemma 2.1 we also know that $f$ is purely recurring with $\operatorname{period} N$ and $T_{N} f=i^{d} W \bar{f}$.

Our algebraic assumption means that for any $m$ relatively prime to $N$ there is an automorphism $\tau_{m}$ of the composite field $Q_{f} C_{N}$ such that $\tau_{m}$ leaves $Q_{f}$ invariant and $\tau_{m}\left(e^{2 \pi i / N}\right)=e^{2 \pi i m / N}$.

We get

$$
\begin{aligned}
\tau_{m}\left(\sqrt{N}\left(T_{N} f\right)(k)\right) & =\tau_{m}\left(\sum_{n=1}^{N} f(n) e^{2 \pi i n k / N}\right) \\
& =\sum_{n=1}^{N} f(n) e^{2 \pi i m n k / N}=\sqrt{N}\left(T_{N} f\right)(m k)
\end{aligned}
$$

and by the identity $T_{N} f=i^{d} W \bar{f}$,

$$
\sqrt{N} i^{d} W \overline{f(m k)}=\tau_{m}\left(\sqrt{N} i^{d} W \overline{f(k)}\right)=\tau_{m}\left(\sqrt{N} i^{d} W\right) \overline{f(k)} .
$$

Putting $k=1$ here we get

$$
\sqrt{N} i^{d} W \overline{f(m)}=\tau_{m}\left(\sqrt{N} i^{d} W\right) \overline{f(1)} .
$$

This shows that $f(1) \neq 0$, otherwise $f=0$, a contradiction. We may assume $f(1)=1$ and dividing the last two equations we have

$$
f(m k)=f(m) f(k) .
$$

If $(m, N)>1$ then this holds trivially, both sides vanishing. Hence $f$ is a character $\bmod N$ satisfying $\left(T_{N} f\right)(1)=i^{d} W \overline{f(1)}=i^{d} W$, i.e. $\left(T_{N} f\right)(n)=$ $\left(T_{N} f\right)(1) \cdot \overline{f(n)}$. Such a character is known to be primitive (see e.g. [1], Lemma 1 or [5]) and the proof is complete.

We remark that Dirichlet characters do not always satisfy the algebraic condition, but Proposition 3.1 enables us to characterize e.g. the Legendre symbol by assuming $f$ to be rational-valued.

## 4. Characterization of finite series. If in

$$
F(s)=\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{c_{n}}{n^{s}}
$$

$c_{n}=0$ for $n$ large enough and $\chi(n)$ is any Dirichlet character, then

$$
L(s, f)=F(s) L(s, \chi)
$$

has the purely recurring coefficients

$$
f(n)=c_{n} * \chi(n)=\sum_{d \mid n} c_{d} \chi(n / d) .
$$

Conversely, we have
Theorem 4.1. If for each Dirichlet character $\chi$ there is an $N$ such that $f(n+N)=f(n)$ for $n$ large enough, then $F(s)$ is a finite series.

Proof. Denoting by $\mu$ the Möbius function we see that

$$
F(s)=\frac{L(s, f)}{L(s, \chi)}=L(s, f) L(s, \mu \chi)
$$

is a Dirichlet series absolutely convergent for $\operatorname{Re}(s)>1$, representing a meromorphic function of order $\leq 1$ in the whole plane.

We first claim that for any given complex number $s(\neq 1)$ there is a Dirichlet character $\chi$ such that $L(s, \chi) \neq 0$. Since $L(s, f)$ can only have a first order pole at $s=1$ as its only singularity, it will follow that $F(s)$ is regular for $s \neq 1$. Using the zeta function, $\zeta(s)=L(s, \chi)$ with $\chi=1$, having
the same singularity at $s=1$, we shall even find that $F(s)$ is an entire function.

To prove the claim we first note that $\zeta(s, x)(0<x<1)$, also a regular function in $s$ in the whole plane with the exception of $s=1$, satisfies

$$
\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial^{m} \zeta(s, x)}{\partial x^{m}} & =(-1)^{m} s(s+1) \ldots(s+m-1) \zeta(s+m, x) \\
& =(-1)^{m} s(s+1) \ldots(s+m-1) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x+n)^{s+m}}
\end{aligned}
$$

for $\operatorname{Re}(s+m)>1$, implying

$$
\left|\frac{\partial^{m} \zeta(s, x)}{\partial x^{m}}\right| \sim \frac{|s(s+1) \ldots(s+m-1)|}{(x+1)^{\operatorname{Re}(s+m)}} \rightarrow \infty
$$

as $m \rightarrow \infty$, provided that $s \neq 1,0,-1,-2, \ldots$ Hence $\zeta(s, x)$ cannot vanish identically in $x$ for such an $s$ and there exists a rational number $x=p / q$, $0<p<q,(p, q)=1$, such that $\zeta(s, p / q) \neq 0$. Now,

$$
\frac{1}{q^{s}} \zeta\left(s, \frac{p}{q}\right)=\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n q+p)^{s}}=\sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \equiv p(\bmod q)}}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^{s}}
$$

can be represented as a linear combination of Dirichlet $L$-functions $\bmod q$, showing that at least one of them does not vanish.

As to the remaining cases $s=0,-1,-2, \ldots$, we have $\zeta(s) \neq 0(s=$ $0,-1,-3, \ldots)$ and $L(s, \chi) \neq 0(s=-2,-4, \ldots)$ for any odd character $\chi$.

For the rest of the proof we fix our Dirichlet $L$-function e.g. as $\zeta(s)$ and use the single relation

$$
F(s) \zeta(s)=L(s, f)
$$

$f$, being ultimately recurring, can be written as $f_{\infty}+f_{\mathrm{E}}+f_{\mathrm{O}}$; here $f_{\infty}(n)$ vanishes for $n$ large enough, $f_{\mathrm{E}}$ and $f_{\mathrm{O}}$ are purely recurring with period $N$, even and odd, respectively.

From the respective functional equations we have

$$
\zeta(-k)=L\left(-k, f_{\mathrm{E}}\right)=0
$$

for even, positive integers $k$, implying

$$
0=L(-k, f)=L\left(-k, f_{\infty}\right)+L\left(-k, f_{\mathrm{O}}\right)
$$

From the functional equation of $f_{\mathrm{O}}$ we see that

$$
\left|L\left(-k, f_{\mathrm{O}}\right)\right|>e^{\frac{1}{2} k \log k}
$$

for even $k$ large enough, unless $T_{N} f_{\mathrm{O}}=0, f_{\mathrm{O}}=0$. The finite series $L\left(s, f_{\infty}\right)$ also tends to infinity but at a smaller rate, only exponentially, as $s \rightarrow-\infty$, unless it is a constant.

We conclude first that $f_{\mathrm{O}}=0$ and then $f_{\infty}=0$. Hence $f=f_{\mathrm{E}}$ and

$$
F(s)=\frac{L\left(s, f_{\mathrm{E}}\right)}{\zeta(s)} .
$$

By the respective functional equations

$$
F(s)=N^{1 / 2-s} \frac{L\left(1-s, T_{N} f_{\mathrm{E}}\right)}{\zeta(1-s)}
$$

implying for $\operatorname{Re}(s) \leq-1$

$$
|F(s)| \leq c N^{1 / 2-\operatorname{Re}(s)} .
$$

An entire function of finite order, representable by a Dirichlet series for $\operatorname{Re}(s)>1$ and satisfying an estimate like this is a finite series. A proof of this standard fact runs e.g. as follows.

By the Phragmén-Lindelöf principle $F(s)$ is bounded in any fixed vertical strip. The coefficient formula,

$$
c_{n}=\lim _{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2 T} \int_{\sigma-i T}^{\sigma+i T} F(s) n^{s} d s,
$$

valid first for $\sigma>1$, but by the above boundedness for any $\sigma$, implies

$$
\left|c_{n}\right| \leq c N^{1 / 2-\sigma} n^{\sigma} \quad(\sigma \leq-1),
$$

and letting $\sigma \rightarrow-\infty$ gives $c_{n}=0(n>N)$. (This proof even allows for a finite number of singularities, compare with Toyoizumi [8].)
5. An equivalence relation. In the set of all convergent Dirichlet series, we define the equivalence $L(s, f) \sim L(s, g)$ if there exist two nonzero finite series $L\left(s, h_{1}\right)$ and $L\left(s, h_{2}\right)$ such that $L\left(s, h_{0}\right)=L(s, f) L\left(s, h_{1}\right)-$ $L(s, g) L\left(s, h_{2}\right)$ is a finite series. If $D_{i}$ is the least common multiple of integers $d$ such that $h_{i}(d) \neq 0$, then this means

$$
\sum_{d \mid\left(n, D_{1}\right)} f(n / d) h_{1}(d)-\sum_{d \mid\left(n, D_{2}\right)} g(n / d) h_{2}(d)=0
$$

for $n$ large enough. The conductor of $L(s, f)$ can be defined as the minimum of the primitive period of $g$ for which $L(s, g) \sim L(s, f)$ and $g$ is purely recurring.

Theorem 5.1. Our conductor of a Dirichlet L-function coincides with the ordinary conductor of the associated character.

Proof. Assume that $L(s, \chi) \sim L(s, f)$, that is, for $n$ large enough

$$
\sum_{d \mid\left(n, D_{1}\right)} \chi(n / d) h_{1}(d)=\sum_{d \mid\left(n, D_{2}\right)} f(n / d) h_{2}(d) .
$$

Let $M$ denote the primitive period of $f$. By putting $r n$ as $n$ in the above identity, where $r \equiv 1(\bmod M)$ and $\left(r, D_{1} D_{2}\right)=1$, the right hand side is invariant and the left hand side is multiplied by $\chi(r)$. There exist infinitely many $n$ such that the left hand side is not zero, otherwise $L(s, \chi) L\left(s, h_{1}\right)$ would be a finite series. Therefore $\chi(r)=1$.

If $\chi$ belongs to the modulus $q$ and $a_{1} \equiv a_{2}(\bmod (q, M)),\left(a_{1}, q\right)=$ $\left(a_{2}, q\right)=1$, then we can find an $r$ with the above properties such that in addition $r a_{1} \equiv a_{2}(\bmod q)$. This implies $\chi\left(a_{1}\right)=\chi\left(a_{2}\right)$, i.e. $\chi$ can be defined $\bmod (q, M)$ and the conductor of $\chi$ is $\leq(q, M) \leq M$.

The rest is obvious.
Two characters are said to be equivalent if their corresponding primitive characters are the same.

Corollary 5.2. Dirichlet L-functions are equivalent if and only if their associated characters are equivalent.

Proof. Assume in the identity in Theorem 5.1 that $f$ is also a character. Putting $r n$ as $n$ with $\left(r, D_{1} D_{2}\right)=1$, the left and right hand sides are multiplied by $\chi(r)$ and $f(r)$, respectively. Since the two sides are not identically zero, we have $\chi(r)=f(r)$ for $\left(r, D_{1} D_{2}\right)=1$, so that $\chi$ and $f$ are equivalent.

Proposition 5.3. Any positive integer $N$ except for 2 is the conductor of a Dirichlet series.

Proof. According to Corollary 5.2 there exists a Dirichlet series with conductor $N$ if $N \equiv 0,1$ or $3 \bmod 4$. We show that the conductor of the Dirichlet series

$$
L(s, f)=\sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \equiv 1(\bmod N)}}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^{s}}
$$

is $N$ if $N \equiv 2(\bmod 4)$. Assume that $L(s, f) \sim L(s, g)$, where $g$ is purely recurring with primitive period $M<N$. We have

$$
\sum_{d \mid\left(n, D_{1}\right)} f(n / d) h_{1}(d)=\sum_{d \mid\left(n, D_{2}\right)} g(n / d) h_{2}(d)
$$

for $n$ large enough, but both sides being purely recurring, in fact for all $n$. This means

$$
L(s, g) / L(s, f)=L\left(s, h_{1}\right) / L\left(s, h_{2}\right) .
$$

The left hand side is an ordinary Dirichlet series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a(n) / n^{s}$ because $f(1) \neq 0$ and we see from the right hand side that $a(n)=0$ if $\left(n, D_{1} D_{2}\right)=1$. Let $d_{1}$ be the least integer such that $a\left(d_{1}\right) \neq 0$.

In any case except $2 M=N$ we can find an integer (even a prime) $q$ satisfying $q \equiv 1(\bmod M), q \not \equiv 1(\bmod N)$ and $\left(q, D_{1} D_{2}\right)=1$. From the
identity

$$
g(n)=\sum_{d \mid n} a(d) f(n / d)
$$

we get

$$
\begin{aligned}
g\left(d_{1}\right) & =a\left(d_{1}\right) f(1)=a\left(d_{1}\right) \neq 0 \\
g\left(d_{1} q\right) & =a\left(d_{1}\right) f(q)=a\left(d_{1}\right) \cdot 0=0
\end{aligned}
$$

contradicting the fact that by $d_{1} \equiv d_{1} q(\bmod M), g\left(d_{1}\right)=g\left(d_{1} q\right)$.
In the exceptional case $2 M=N$ we have $M$ odd since $N \equiv 2(\bmod 4)$ and we can find an integer $q$ satisfying $2 q \equiv 1(\bmod M),\left(q, D_{1} D_{2}\right)=1$. We get $g\left(2 d_{1} q\right)=g\left(d_{1}\right) \neq 0$ as established above, contradicting the fact that

$$
g\left(2 d_{1} q\right)=a\left(d_{1}\right) f(2 q)+a\left(2 d_{1}\right) f(q)=0
$$

since $2 q \not \equiv 1(\bmod N), N$ being even and $q \equiv(M+1) / 2 \not \equiv 1(\bmod N)$, provided that $M>1$.

The identity

$$
a+\frac{b}{2^{s}}+\frac{a}{3^{s}}+\frac{b}{4^{s}}+\ldots=\left(a-\frac{a-b}{2^{s}}\right) \zeta(s)
$$

shows that no series has conductor $N=2$.
Proposition 5.4. Let $f$ and $g$ be purely recurring with period $N$, such that $f(n)=g(n)=0$ for $(n, N)>1$. If $L(s, f) \sim E(s, g)$ and $g \neq 0$, then $f=\vartheta g$ with a constant $\vartheta$.

Proof. Let $\chi$ run over the characters $\bmod N$. Under our assumption we have the representations

$$
f=\sum_{\chi} c_{\chi} \chi, \quad g=\sum_{\chi} d_{\chi} \chi
$$

with constants $c_{\chi}, d_{\chi}$.
The relation

$$
L(s, f) L\left(s, h_{1}\right)-L(s, g) L\left(s, h_{2}\right)=L\left(s, h_{0}\right)
$$

can be rewritten as

$$
\sum_{\chi}\left(c_{\chi} L\left(s, h_{1}\right)-d_{\chi} L\left(s, h_{2}\right)\right) L(s, \chi)=: \sum_{\chi} L\left(s, h_{\chi}\right) L(s, \chi)=L\left(s, h_{0}\right)
$$

$\left(L\left(s, h_{*}\right)\right.$ all denoting finite series) or, in terms of the coefficients,

$$
\sum_{\chi} \sum_{d \mid n} h_{\chi}(d) \chi(n / d)=0
$$

for $n$ large enough.
Assuming that not all $h_{\chi}=0$, let $q$ be the least value such that there is a $\chi$ with $h_{\chi}(q) \neq 0$. Applying the identity for $n=p q$ with a prime $p$ large
enough, we get

$$
\sum_{\chi} h_{\chi}(q) \chi(p)=\sum_{\chi} \sum_{d \mid p q} h_{\chi}(d) \chi(p q / d)=0
$$

Since large primes $p$ represent all reduced residue classes $\bmod N$, it follows that $\sum_{\chi} h_{\chi}(q) \chi=0$ and $h_{\chi}(q)=0$ for all $\chi$, a contradiction. We infer that $L\left(s, h_{\chi}\right)=L\left(s, h_{0}\right)=0$ for all $\chi$.

We get $c_{\chi} L(s, f)-d_{\chi} L(s, g)=0$ for any $\chi$ and, since not all $d_{\chi}=0$, the statement follows.

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