

46. A Generalization of Gauss' Theorem on Arithmetic-Geometric Means

By Takashi ONO

Department of Mathematics, Johns Hopkins University

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§ 1. Introduction and methods. With each continuous map $f: \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^m$ we associate an entire function $f^*(z)$ given by

$$f^*(z) = \int_{S^{n-1}} e^{zN(f(x))} d\omega_{n-1}.^{**}$$

We shall assume throughout that

$$(1.1) \quad f(x) \neq 0 \quad \text{for all } x \in S^{n-1},$$

hence $N(f(x)) > 0$ on S^{n-1} . When it is so, the integral

$$(1.2) \quad \Gamma(f; s) = \int_0^\infty t^{s-1} f^*(-t) dt$$

represents a holomorphic function for $\sigma = \operatorname{Re} s > 0$. We have

$$(1.3) \quad \Gamma(f; s) = \Gamma(s) K(f; s)$$

where $\Gamma(s)$ is the usual gamma function and

$$(1.4) \quad K(f; s) = \int_{S^{n-1}} N(f(x))^{-s} d\omega_{n-1}.$$

By (1.1), $K(f; s)$ is entire and (1.3) yields the meromorphic continuation of $\Gamma(f; s)$ onto \mathcal{C} .

When $n=m=2$, $f(x) = (ax_1, bx_2)$, $0 < a \leq b$ and $s=1/2$, our $K(f; s)$ becomes the complete elliptic integral:

$$K\left(f; \frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{d\theta}{\sqrt{a^2 \cos^2 \theta + b^2 \sin^2 \theta}} = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{d\theta}{\sqrt{a^2 \cos^2 \theta + b^2 \sin^2 \theta}}.$$

Gauss proved, by means of quadratic transformations of theta series,

$$(G) \quad K\left(f; \frac{1}{2}\right) = K\left(f_1; \frac{1}{2}\right), \quad f_1(x) = (a_1 x_1, b_1 x_2)$$

where $a_1 = \sqrt{ab}$, $b_1 = (a+b)/2$.^{**)} The repeated application of (G) yields immediately the relation $K(f; 1/2) = M(a, b)^{-1}$ where $M(a, b)$ means the arithmetic-geometric of a, b .

In this paper, we shall generalize (G) for our $K(f; s)$ defined by (1.4) when $n=m=2p$, $p > \sigma = \operatorname{Re} s > (p-1)/2$ and $f(x) = (ax_1, \dots, ax_p, bx_{p+1}, \dots, bx_{2p})$. The proof depends on the fact that, under the assumptions, $K(f; s)$ can be expressed as a hypergeometric series via

^{*}) We denote by $\langle x, y \rangle$ the standard inner product in \mathbf{R}^n . We put $Nx = \langle x, x \rangle$. The unit sphere is $S^{n-1} = \{x \in \mathbf{R}^n; Nx=1\}$. We denote by $d\omega_{n-1}$ the volume element of S^{n-1} such that the volume of S^{n-1} is 1.

^{**)} See [1] p. 352. See also [7] § 9 and [8] p. 269.

Gegenbauer polynomials. The quadratic transformation of hypergeometric series takes the place of that of theta series in Gauss' case.

Back to the general situation, the Taylor expansion at 0 of the entire function $f^*(z)$ is given by

$$(1.5) \quad f^*(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} K(f; -k) \frac{z^k}{k!}.$$

Therefore, by (1.2), (1.3), (1.5), we have

$$(1.6) \quad \Gamma(f; s) = \Gamma(s) K(f; s) = \int_0^{\infty} t^{s-1} dt \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} K(f; -k) \frac{(-t)^k}{k!}. \quad *)$$

§ 2. Linear maps. When $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is a linear map satisfying (1.1), calling $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ the arbitrarily ordered set of eigenvalues of the quadratic form $N(f(x))$, we have

$$K(f; -k) = \frac{b_k(2; \lambda)}{b_k(2; 1_n)}, \quad 1_n = (1, \dots, 1) \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

where the numbers $b_k(2; \lambda)$ are defined by the generating relation

$$(2.1) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} b_k(2; \lambda) t^k = \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - 4\lambda_i t)^{-1/2}. \quad **)$$

In particular, we have

$$b_k(2; 1_n) = \frac{4^k(n/2, k)}{k!}. \quad ***)$$

Therefore, (1.6) becomes

$$(2.2) \quad \Gamma(f; s) = \int_0^{\infty} t^{s-1} dt \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{b_k(2; \lambda)}{b_k(2; 1_n)} \left(\frac{-t}{4}\right)^k.$$

§ 3. Certain diagonal maps. Assume now that $n = m = 2p$ and consider the following diagonal map

$$f(x) = (ax_1, \dots, ax_p, bx_{p+1}, \dots, bx_{2p}), \quad 0 < a \leq b.$$

Clearly this map satisfies (1.1). In view of the generating relation of the Gegenbauer polynomials:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} C_k^{p/2}(x) z^k = (1 - 2xz + z^2)^{-p/2},$$

the relation (2.1) with $\lambda_1 = \dots = \lambda_p = a^2$, $\lambda_{p+1} = \dots = \lambda_{2p} = b^2$ yields

$$b_k(2; \lambda) = C_k^{p/2} \left(\frac{a^2 + b^2}{2ab} \right) (4ab)^k.$$

Hence (2.2) becomes

$$\Gamma(f; s) = \int_0^{\infty} t^{s-1} dt \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{C_k^{p/2}((a^2 + b^2)/2ab)}{(p, k)} (-abt)^k$$

*) This shows that the values of $K(f; s)$ for $\sigma > 0$ are determined by its values at 0 and negative integers $-k$. Compare Ramanujan's formula (B) on p. 186 of [2]. In [4], [5] we wrote $N_k(f)$ for $K(f, -k)$.

**) See § 1 of [4].

***) $(a, k) = \begin{cases} a(a+1) \cdots (a+k-1), & k \geq 1 \\ 1, & k = 0 \end{cases}, \quad a \in \mathbb{C}, k \in \mathbb{Z}.$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int_0^\infty t^{s-1} e^{-((a^2+b^2)/2)t} {}_0F_1\left(\ ; \frac{p+1}{2} ; \left(\frac{a^2-b^2}{4}t\right)^2\right) dt^{(*)} \\ &= \Gamma(s) \left(\frac{a^2+b^2}{2}\right)^{-s} {}_2F_1\left(\frac{s}{2}, \frac{s+1}{2} ; \frac{p+1}{2} ; \left(\frac{a^2-b^2}{a^2+b^2}\right)^2\right) \\ &= \Gamma(s)(ab)^{-s} {}_2F_1\left(s, p-s ; \frac{p+1}{2} ; -\frac{(b-a)^2}{4ab}\right) \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality is crucial and follows from a quadratic transformation formula of hypergeometric series.**) In other words, we have, by (1.3),

$$(3.1) \quad K(f; s) = (ab)^{-s} {}_2F_1\left(s, p-s ; \frac{p+1}{2} ; -\frac{(b-a)^2}{4ab}\right).$$

In order to use the integral representation of hypergeometric series, assume that $p > \sigma > (p-1)/2$, $\sigma = \text{Re } s$. Then, (3.1) becomes

$$(3.2) \quad K(f; s) = (ab)^{-s} \frac{\Gamma((p+1)/2)}{\Gamma(p-s)\Gamma(s-(p-1)/2)} \times \int_0^1 t^{p-s-1} (1-t)^{s-(p-1)/2-1} \left(1 + \frac{(b-a)^2}{4ab}t\right)^{-s} dt.$$

If we put $t = \sin^2 \theta$, then (3.2) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} K(f; s) &= \frac{2\Gamma((p+1)/2)}{\Gamma(p-s)\Gamma(s-(p-1)/2)} \\ &\quad \times \int_0^{\pi/2} (\sin \theta)^{2p-2s-1} (\cos \theta)^{2s-p} \left(ab + \frac{(b-a)^2}{4} \sin^2 \theta\right)^{-s} d\theta. \end{aligned}$$

Summarizing, we obtain

Theorem. *Let $0 < a \leq b$ and $a_1 = \sqrt{ab}$, $b_1 = (a+b)/2$. Assume that $p > \sigma > (p-1)/2$, $\sigma = \text{Re } s$. Then, we have*

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{S^{2p-1}} \frac{d\omega_{2p-1}}{(a^2(x_1^2 + \dots + x_p^2) + b^2(x_{p+1}^2 + \dots + x_{2p}^2))^s} \\ &= \frac{2\Gamma((p+1)/2)}{\Gamma(p-s)\Gamma(s-(p-1)/2)} \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{(\sin \theta)^{2p-2s-1} (\cos \theta)^{2s-p}}{(a_1^2 \cos^2 \theta + b_1^2 \sin^2 \theta)^s} d\theta. \end{aligned}$$

References

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- [2] G. H. Hardy: Ramanujan. Cambridge Univ. Press (1940).
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*) This follows from the formula (7) on p. 278 of [6].

**) By this we mean the formula

(*) $x^{-2\alpha} {}_2F_1(\alpha, \alpha+1/2; \gamma; (x^2-1)/x^2) = {}_2F_1(2\alpha, 2\gamma-2\alpha-1; \gamma; (1-x)/2)$.

The last equality is the case $\alpha=s/2$, $\gamma=(p+1)/2$, $x=(a^2+b^2)/2ab$. The formula (*) is the same as the one on line 3 from the bottom of p. 50 of [3] via the variable change $z=(x^2-1)/x^2$.

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