

RECURSION RELATIONS FOR A CLASS OF GENERALIZED
ELLIPTIC INTEGRALS

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ABSTRACT

Our purpose in this note is to provide a number of recursion formulas for $R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma)$, so that the numerical results can be extended to arbitrary parameter values.

RESUMEN

El objeto de esta nota es proveer algunas formulas de recursión para $R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma)$, de manera que los resultados numéricos pueden ser extendidos a valores arbitrarios de los parámetros.

1. INTRODUCTION

Since the introduction of the functions

$$R_{\mu}(k) = \int_0^{\pi} (1 - k^2 \cos^2 \theta)^{-\mu - \frac{1}{2}} d\theta \quad (1)$$

nearly twenty years ago by Epstein and Hubbell [1], these integrals have attracted much attention due to the importance they have in radiation and other problems, and they have been generalized in the series of papers [2-6]. The specific integrals in these papers are all ultimately expressible in terms of the class [4]

$$R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma) = \int_0^{\pi} \frac{\cos^{2\alpha-1}(\theta/2) \sin^{2\gamma-2\alpha-1}(\theta/2)}{(1 - k^2 \cos^2 \theta)^{\mu+1/2}} d\theta; \quad (2)$$

accordingly, we shall formulate our results in terms of this function. Kalla et al. [4] have given exact expressions for (2) in terms of the hypergeometric function and have provided a short table of numerical values. For practical usage it is impor-

tant to have such a table supplemented by a set of recursion formulas so the numerical results can be extended to arbitrary parameter values. Our purpose in this note is to provide a family of such recursion formulas, which are presented in the following section. In part 3 we list a number of limiting cases of $R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma)$, which appear to have independent interest. We do not include the derivation of these results, but, because of the exact expression in [4], they can all be reduced to properties of the hypergeometric function and can be verified accordingly.

2. RECURSION PROPERTIES OF $R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma)$

Through integration by parts in (2), Kalla et al. [4] have shown that

$$R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma) = R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma-1) - R_{\mu}(k, \alpha+1, \gamma). \quad (3)$$

Since in this relation both α and γ are effected, we say that (3) is of type $(\alpha, \gamma)_1$. (The subscript numbers the various relations of this type). Accordingly, we have found the following recursion relations:

$$((\alpha)) \quad R_{\mu}(k, \alpha+1, \gamma) = \frac{(\alpha-1)(1-k^2)}{(\gamma-\alpha)(1+k^2)} R_{\mu}(k, \alpha-1, \gamma)$$

$$- \frac{[(\gamma-2\alpha)(1+k^2) - (2\gamma-2\alpha-2\mu-1)k^2]}{(\gamma-\alpha)(1+k^2)} R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma)$$

$$((\mu)) \quad R_{\mu+1}(k, \alpha, \gamma) = \frac{(\gamma-\mu-1/2)}{(\mu+1/2)(1-k^4)} R_{\mu-1}(k, \alpha, \gamma) + \frac{[(2\mu+1-\gamma)(1+k^2)-(2\mu-2\gamma+2\alpha+1)k^2]}{(\mu+1/2)(1-k^4)} R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma)$$

$$((\alpha, \gamma)_2) \quad R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma) = R_{\mu}(k, \alpha-1, \gamma-1) - R_{\mu}(k, \alpha-1, \gamma)$$

$$((\alpha, \gamma)_3) \quad R_{\mu}(k, \alpha+1, \gamma+1) = \frac{(\alpha-1)(\gamma-1)(1-k^2)}{\gamma(2\gamma-2\mu-1)k^2} \times$$

$$R_{\mu}(k, \alpha-1, \gamma-1) - \frac{[(\gamma-1)(1+k^2)-(2\gamma+2\alpha-2\mu-3)k^2]}{(2\gamma-2\mu-1)k^2} R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma)$$

$$((\mu, \alpha)) \quad R_{\mu+1}(k, \alpha, \gamma) = \frac{\mu+1/2+\alpha-\gamma}{(\mu+1/2)(1+k^2)} R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma) + \frac{(\alpha-1)}{(\mu+1/2)(1+k^2)} R_{\mu}(k, \alpha-1, \gamma)$$

$$((\alpha, \gamma, \mu)_1) \quad R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma) = (1-k^2)^{\alpha-\mu-1/2} \times (1+k^2)^{\gamma-\mu-\alpha-1/2} R_{\gamma-\mu-1}(k, \gamma-\alpha, \gamma)$$

$$((\alpha, \gamma, \mu)_2) \quad R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\gamma-\alpha)(1+k^2)^{\gamma-\alpha-\mu-1/2}}{\Gamma(\gamma-\mu-1/2)\Gamma(\mu+1/2)} R_{\gamma-\alpha-1/2}(k, \gamma-\mu-1/2, \gamma)$$

$$((\alpha, \gamma, \mu)_3 [4]) \quad R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma) = \frac{\alpha-1}{(1-2\mu)k^2} R_{\mu-1}(k, \alpha-1, \gamma-1) - \frac{(\gamma-\alpha-1)}{(1-2\mu)k^2} R_{\mu-1}(k, \alpha, \gamma-1)$$

$$((\alpha, \gamma, \mu)_4 [4]) \quad R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma) = (1+k^2)R_{\mu+1}(k, \alpha, \gamma) - 2k^2 R_{\mu+1}(k, \alpha+1, \gamma+1)$$

$$((\mu, \gamma)_1 [4]) \quad R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma) = (1-k^2)R_{\mu+1}(k, \alpha, \gamma) + 2k^2 R_{\mu+1}(k, \alpha, \gamma+1)$$

$$((\alpha, \gamma, \mu)_5) \quad R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma) =$$

$$(1+k^2)^{-1} R_{\mu-1}(k, \alpha, \gamma) + \frac{2k^2}{1+k} R_{\mu}(k, \alpha+1, \gamma+1)$$

$$((\mu, \gamma)_2 [4]) \quad R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma) =$$

$$(1-k^2)^{-1} R_{\mu-1}(k, \alpha, \gamma) - \frac{2k^2}{1-k^2} R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma+1)$$

3. LIMITING CASES AND SPECIAL VALUES

$$R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \mu+1/2) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\mu-\alpha+1/2)(1-k^2)^{\alpha-\mu-1/2}}{\Gamma(\mu+1/2)(1+k^2)^{\alpha}} \quad (3.1)$$

$$R_{\mu}(k, 1/2-\mu, 1/2) = \frac{\Gamma(\mu)\Gamma(1/2-\mu)}{2\sqrt{\pi}\sqrt{1+k^2}(1-k^2)^{2\mu}} \times \left\{ (1+3k^2 - \sqrt{8k^2(1+k^2)})^{\mu} + (1+3k^2 + \sqrt{8k^2(1+k^2)})^{\mu} \right\} \quad (3.2)$$

$$R_{\mu}(k, \mu+1, 2\mu+1) = \frac{2^{\mu-1} \Gamma^2(\mu)}{\Gamma(2\mu)} \frac{(1-\sqrt{1-k^4})^{\mu}}{k^{4\mu}\sqrt{1+k^2}} \quad (3.3)$$

$$R_{\mu}(k, \mu, 2\mu) = \frac{2^{\mu-1} \Gamma^2(\mu)}{\Gamma(2\mu)(1+k^2)^{1-\mu}} \frac{\sqrt{1+k^2}\sqrt{1-k^2}}{\sqrt{1+k^2}(1+k^4)^{\mu}} \quad (3.4)$$

$$R_{\mu}(3^{-1/2}, \alpha, \gamma) = \sqrt{\pi} \frac{\Gamma(\gamma-\alpha)\Gamma(\alpha)}{\Gamma(\frac{\gamma-\alpha+1}{2})\Gamma(\frac{2\mu+3}{4})} \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^{\mu+1/2} \quad (3.5)$$

$$R_{\mu}(1, \alpha, \gamma) = \frac{\Gamma(\gamma-\alpha)\Gamma(\alpha-\mu-1/2)}{2^{\mu+1/2}\Gamma(\gamma-\mu-1/2)} \quad (3.6)$$

$$R_0(k, 1/2, 1) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{1+k^2}} \kappa\left(\frac{2k}{1+k^2}\right) \quad (3.7)$$

$$R_{1/2}(k, 1, 2) = \frac{1}{2k^2} \ell_n \left(\frac{1+k^2}{1-k^2}\right) \quad (3.8)$$

$$R_{1/2}(k, 1, 3/2) = R_0(k, 1/2, 3/2) = \frac{1+k^2}{4k^2} {}_2F_1\left(\frac{1+3k^2}{1-k^2}\right) \quad (3.9)$$

4. EXAMPLE

Thus, if we require $R_{1/2}(.8, 1.5, 2)$, by using $(\alpha, \gamma, \mu)_1$, we obtain

$$R_{1/2}(k, 1.5, 2) = \sqrt{\frac{1-k^2}{1+k^2}} R_{1/2}(k, .5, 2)$$

so from Table 1. of reference [4] we obtain the value 0.6111602. Through the use of the results given here, R need only be tabulated for

$$0 \leq \mu, \alpha \leq 1 < \gamma < 2$$

with $0 \leq k < 1$.

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