

**TAU METHOD APPROXIMATION
 OF A GENERALIZED EPSTEIN-HUBBELL
 ELLIPTIC-TYPE INTEGRAL**

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ABSTRACT. We consider the evaluation of a recent generalization of the Epstein-Hubbell elliptic-type integral using the tau method approximation with a Chebyshev polynomial basis. This also leads to an approximation of Lauricella's hypergeometric function of three variables. Numerical results are given for polynomial approximations of degree 6.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Epstein-Hubbell elliptic-type integral

$$\Omega_j(k) = \int_0^\pi (1 - k^2 \cos \vartheta)^{-j-1/2} d\vartheta, \quad 0 \leq k < 1, j = 0, 1, 2, \dots,$$

occurs in connection with certain problems related to the computation of the radiation field off-axis from a uniform circular disk radiating according to an arbitrary angular distribution law [2, 5]. It has undergone a number of generalizations [1], the most recent of which was introduced by Kalla and Tuan [8] in the form

$$\Lambda_{(\lambda, \gamma, \mu)}^{(\alpha, \beta)}(\rho, \delta; k) = \int_0^\pi \frac{\cos^{2\alpha-1}(\vartheta/2) \sin^{2\beta-1}(\vartheta/2)}{(1 - k^2 \cos \vartheta)^{\mu+1/2}} [1 - \rho \sin^2(\vartheta/2)]^{-\lambda} [1 + \delta \cos^2(\vartheta/2)]^{-\gamma} d\vartheta,$$

where $0 \leq k < 1$. In this paper, the tau method is used to obtain polynomial approximations to the above integral when the parameters and exponents are real numbers¹ such that $\alpha, \beta > 0$; $|\delta|, |\rho| < 1$.

Introducing a new variable $\omega = \sin^2(\vartheta/2)$ transforms the above integral into the form

$$(1) \quad \Lambda_{(\lambda, \gamma, \mu)}^{(\alpha, \beta)}(\rho, \delta; k) = (1 + \delta)^{-\gamma} (1 - k^2)^{-\mu-1/2} \int_0^1 \omega^{\beta-1} (1 - \omega)^{\alpha-1} v(\omega) d\omega,$$

where $v(\omega)$ is given by

$$(2) \quad v(\omega) = (1 - \rho\omega)^{-\lambda} (1 - \delta_0\omega)^{-\gamma} (1 - k_0\omega)^{-\mu-1/2}$$

Received by the editor May 16, 1998.

1991 *Mathematics Subject Classification*. Primary 33C65, 41A10; Secondary 65D20.

Key words and phrases. Tau method approximation, elliptic-type integrals, hypergeometric functions.

¹With the exception of k , they are assumed to be complex numbers in [8].

and $\delta_0 = \delta/(1 + \delta)$, $k_0 = 2k^2/(k^2 - 1)$ for $0 \leq k < 1$. The function $v(\omega)$ solves the linear differential equation

$$(3) \quad \mathcal{D}v := P_0(\omega)v' - P_1(\omega)v = 0, \quad v(0) = 1,$$

with variable coefficients

$$P_0(\omega) = 1 - A_0\omega + B_0\omega^2 - C_0\omega^3, \quad P_1(\omega) = A_1 - B_1\omega + C_1\omega^2,$$

in which $A_0 = \rho + \delta_0 + k_0$, $B_0 = \rho\delta_0 + \rho k_0 + \delta_0 k_0$, $C_0 = \rho\delta_0 k_0$ and

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 &= \lambda\rho + \gamma\delta_0 + (\mu + \tfrac{1}{2})k_0, \\ B_1 &= (\lambda + \gamma)\rho\delta_0 + (\lambda + \mu + \tfrac{1}{2})\rho k_0 + (\gamma + \mu + \tfrac{1}{2})\delta_0 k_0, \\ C_1 &= (\lambda + \gamma + \mu + \tfrac{1}{2})C_0, \end{aligned}$$

The integral (1) is also expressed in terms of Lauricella's hypergeometric function of three variables $F_D^{(3)}$ (see [3] and [8]):

$$(4) \quad \begin{aligned} &\Lambda_{(\lambda, \gamma, \mu)}^{(\alpha, \beta)}(\rho, \delta; k) \\ &= B(\alpha, \beta)(1 + \delta)^{-\gamma}(1 - k^2)^{-\mu - 1/2} F_D^{(3)}(\beta, \lambda, \gamma, \mu + \tfrac{1}{2}; \alpha + \beta; \rho, \delta_0, k_0), \end{aligned}$$

where $B(\alpha, \beta)$ denotes the beta function. The asymptotic behavior of Λ as k tends to 1 is treated in [8], where it is separated into two cases depending on whether or not $\mu - \beta + 1/2$ is an integer. The required approximation of the integral Λ in (1) is obtained from the tau method approximant of $v(\omega)$ in conjunction with the identity

$$(5) \quad \int_0^1 x^{r-1}(1-x)^{s-1} dx = \frac{\Gamma(r)\Gamma(s)}{\Gamma(r+s)} = B(r, s).$$

2. TAU METHOD APPROXIMATION

This method is based on the idea of an 'economized approximation' due to Lanczos [9, 10]. In what follows, the recursive formulation of the tau method is applied (see [11, 12]). The linear operator \mathcal{D} acting on ω^n ($n \geq 0$) yields

$$\mathcal{D}\omega^n = n\omega^{n-1} - (nA_0 + A_1)\omega^n + (nB_0 + B_1)\omega^{n+1} - (nC_0 + C_1)\omega^{n+2}.$$

If $Q_i(\omega)$ is defined in such a way that $\mathcal{D}Q_i = \omega^i$, then by the linearity of \mathcal{D} the above equation becomes

$$\mathcal{D}\omega^n = \mathcal{D}[nQ_{n-1} - (nA_0 + A_1)Q_n + (nB_0 + B_1)Q_{n+1} - (nC_0 + C_1)Q_{n+2}],$$

and this in turn leads to the recurrence relation

$$(6) \quad nQ_{n-1} - (nA_0 + A_1)Q_n + (nB_0 + B_1)Q_{n+1} - (nC_0 + C_1)Q_{n+2} = \omega^n,$$

which generates the *canonical polynomials* Q_n . Three special cases are to be considered at this point:

1. If $C_0 \neq 0$, then $\{Q_0, Q_1, 1, \omega, \dots, \omega^{n-2}\}$ is the generating set for $Q_n, n \geq 2$.
2. If $C_0 = 0$ and $nB_0 + B_1 \neq 0$ for all $n \geq 0$, then Q_n is generated by the set $\{Q_0, 1, \omega, \dots, \omega^{n-1}\}$ for $n \geq 1$.
3. If $C_0 = B_0 = B_1 = 0$, then $C_1 = 0$ and the generating set is $\{1, \omega, \dots, \omega^n\}, n \geq 0$.

Let $T_n^*(\omega)$ denote the n -th Chebyshev polynomial defined on the unit interval with coefficients $c_j^{(n)}$ ($j = 0, 1, \dots, n$) given by

$$c_j^{(n)} = (-1)^{n+j} 2^{2j-1} \left[2 \binom{n+j}{n-j} - \binom{n+j-1}{n-j} \right].$$

For a fixed positive integer N , we define the polynomial

$$(7) \quad V(\omega) = \sum_{i=0}^{\nu} \tau_i \sum_{j=0}^{N+\nu-i} c_j^{(N+\nu-i)} Q_j(\omega),$$

where $\nu = 2, 1$ or 0 according to the special cases 1–3, respectively. Hence V is an exact solution to the perturbed equation

$$(8) \quad \mathcal{D}V = \sum_{i=0}^{\nu} \tau_i T_{N+\nu-i}^*$$

derived from (3) with the same initial condition $V(0) = 1$. The unknown τ parameters are determined from the initial condition on V and, if applicable, by setting the coefficients of Q_0 and/or Q_1 in (7) equal to zero. The resulting accuracy of V depends on how small these τ parameters are, which in turn depends on the prescribed degree N . After some algebraic manipulations on (7), V is expressed in the form

$$(9) \quad V(\omega) = \sum_{n=0}^N a_n \omega^n,$$

in which $a_0 = 1$ while the other coefficients are given in terms of the constant parameters $\alpha, \beta, \lambda, \dots$. We now replace v in (1) with V and use (5) to get

$$(10) \quad \int_0^1 \omega^{\beta-1} (1-\omega)^{\alpha-1} V(\omega) d\omega = \sum_{n=0}^N B(\alpha, \beta+n) a_n = B(\alpha, \beta) \sum_{n=0}^N \frac{(\beta)_n}{(\alpha+\beta)_n} a_n,$$

where $(\cdot)_n$ is the Pochhammer symbol. Then the desired approximation of (1) becomes

$$(11) \quad \Lambda_{(\lambda, \gamma, \mu)}^{(\alpha, \beta)}(\rho, \delta; k) \simeq B(\alpha, \beta) (1+\delta)^{-\gamma} (1-k^2)^{-\mu-1/2} \sum_{n=0}^N \frac{(\beta)_n}{(\alpha+\beta)_n} a_n,$$

and a comparison of this equation with (4) leads to the following approximation of Lauricella’s function:

$$(12) \quad F_D^{(3)}(\beta, \lambda, \gamma, \mu + \frac{1}{2}; \alpha + \beta; \rho, \delta_0, k_0) \simeq \sum_{n=0}^N \frac{(\beta)_n}{(\alpha+\beta)_n} a_n$$

These approximations are valid for values of $k < 1$, and we need to resort to the asymptotic formulas for Λ as $k \rightarrow 1$ (see [8]).

3. NUMERICAL RESULTS

We have used *Mathematica* [13] for the algebraic manipulations and to obtain numerical results. However, because of the extreme complexity of the algebraic expressions involved we were unable to present the relevant formulas in closed form. Therefore, it is more convenient to define the desired values for the parameters $\alpha, \beta, \lambda, \dots$, etc., before computing the coefficients in the polynomial $V(\omega)$ and, consequently, the approximate values of Λ in (11). To test the validity of the tau method, the special case where $\delta = \rho = 0$ and $\beta = \gamma - \alpha$ is considered (case 3 above); this leads to

$$\Lambda_{(\lambda, \gamma, \mu)}^{(\alpha, \gamma - \alpha)}(0, 0; k) = R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma),$$

in which λ plays an idle role. The elliptic-type integrals R were developed in [4, 6, 7]. For the case at hand, the canonical polynomials are given by

$$Q_n = - \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{n!}{i!} \left[\prod_{j=i}^n \frac{1}{k_0(j + \mu + 1/2)} \right] \omega^i, \quad n \geq 0,$$

and, according to (7), $V(\omega) = \tau_0 \sum c_n^{(N)} Q_n(\omega)$ with

$$\tau_0 = - \left[\sum_{n=0}^N c_n^{(N)} \frac{n!}{(\mu + 1/2)_{n+1}} \left(\frac{k^2 - 1}{2k^2} \right)^{n+1} \right]^{-1}.$$

Two factors, namely k and μ , determine the magnitude of τ_0 , and hence the error $v - V$. As k approaches 1, the terms in the summation above come very close to zero, which leads to a large value for τ_0 regardless of the choice of N . On the other hand, for a fixed $k < 1$, large values of μ also lead to large τ_0 but, nevertheless, this difficulty may be overcome by a proper choice of N , or by using the recursion relations on μ [4], namely

$$\begin{aligned} R_{\mu}(k, \alpha, \gamma) &= \frac{\gamma - \mu + 1/2}{(\mu - 1/2)(1 - k^4)} R_{\mu-2}(k, \alpha, \gamma) \\ &+ \frac{(2\mu - \gamma - 1)(1 + k^2) - (2\mu - 2\gamma + 2\alpha - 1)k^2}{(\mu - 1/2)(1 - k^4)} R_{\mu-1}(k, \alpha, \gamma). \end{aligned}$$

For $k \leq 0.5$ and a polynomial approximation of degree $N = 6$ our results are found to be in agreement with those tabulated in [6].

With the same degree of approximation $N = 6$, numerical values for the general case of Λ according to (11) are computed for different values of the parameters (Table 1). Moreover, keeping all the other parameters fixed, the behavior of Λ as k approaches 1 is noted for the cases where $\mu - \beta + 1/2$ is not an integer (Table 2), a positive integer (Table 3) and a negative integer (Table 4); the errors at $k = 0.95$ are found to be, respectively, 1, 0.85 and 0.0014. This is also evident from the increasing values of $|\tau|$ as k approaches 1.

TABLE 1. Values of Λ as in (11) for different values of the parameters

α	0.50	0.50	1.00	0.50	2.00
β	0.50	1.00	0.50	2.00	0.50
γ	0.25	-0.75	-1.00	1.50	-0.50
δ	0.33	-0.50	-0.50	0.90	-0.33
k	0.01	0.20	0.30	0.50	0.10
λ	-2.00	1.00	1.33	-0.50	0.50
μ	-3.50	1.50	2.00	-1.00	1.00
ρ	-0.25	0.66	0.66	-0.82	0.25
$ \tau_0 $	9.0×10^{-14}	6.3×10^{-5}	3.5×10^{-4}	4.3×10^{-5}	7.6×10^{-11}
$ \tau_1 $	6.0×10^{-9}	2.8×10^{-3}	7.8×10^{-3}	6.8×10^{-4}	1.4×10^{-8}
$ \tau_2 $	1.6×10^{-7}	1.6×10^{-2}	3.7×10^{-2}	2.7×10^{-3}	3.1×10^{-7}
Λ	3.871035	3.513762	2.355496	1.525855	1.183366
α	1.00	1.50	1.50	1.00	2.00
β	1.00	1.00	1.50	1.50	2.00
γ	0.50	-0.25	0.75	2.00	1.00
δ	0.33	-0.33	0.50	0.90	0.50
k	0.10	0.01	0.20	0.66	0.30
λ	-1.66	0.10	-1.33	-0.10	-1.10
μ	-3.00	0.25	-2.00	-0.25	-1.50
ρ	-0.25	0.25	-0.66	-0.82	-0.66
$ \tau_0 $	5.0×10^{-11}	4.0×10^{-13}	3.7×10^{-8}	1.2×10^{-4}	1.9×10^{-7}
$ \tau_1 $	2.3×10^{-8}	7.3×10^{-9}	3.0×10^{-6}	1.3×10^{-3}	7.0×10^{-6}
$ \tau_2 $	5.1×10^{-7}	1.3×10^{-7}	2.5×10^{-5}	3.2×10^{-3}	4.8×10^{-5}
Λ	1.139618	0.636796	0.502315	0.397895	0.188224

TABLE 2. $\alpha = 1.5, \beta = 1, \gamma = -0.25, \delta = -0.33, \lambda = 0.1, \mu = 0.25, \rho = 0.25, \mu - \beta + 1/2 = -0.25$ non-integer

k	$ \tau_0 $	$ \tau_1 $	$ \tau_2 $	Λ
0.10	4.4×10^{-11}	7.0×10^{-9}	1.4×10^{-7}	0.6376688
0.30	7.7×10^{-10}	3.3×10^{-9}	2.3×10^{-7}	0.6456921
0.50	8.0×10^{-8}	2.8×10^{-7}	1.1×10^{-5}	0.6675759
0.70	2.0×10^{-5}	6.9×10^{-5}	2.8×10^{-3}	0.7209109
0.90	3.6×10^{-3}	1.2×10^{-2}	5.1×10^{-1}	0.8777903
0.95	2.3×10^{-2}	7.9×10^{-2}	3.2	0.9503844

TABLE 3. $\alpha = 2, \beta = 0.5, \gamma = -0.5, \delta = -0.33, \lambda = 0.5, \mu = 1, \rho = 0.25, \mu - \beta + 1/2 = 1$ positive integer

k	$ \tau_0 $	$ \tau_1 $	$ \tau_2 $	Λ
0.10	7.6×10^{-11}	1.4×10^{-8}	3.1×10^{-7}	1.183366
0.30	9.0×10^{-10}	9.7×10^{-9}	4.3×10^{-7}	1.273127
0.50	3.3×10^{-7}	8.5×10^{-7}	4.5×10^{-5}	1.516813
0.70	8.2×10^{-5}	2.0×10^{-4}	1.1×10^{-2}	2.191343
0.90	1.2×10^{-2}	2.8×10^{-2}	1.6	5.774337
0.95	6.4×10^{-2}	1.6×10^{-1}	8.8	10.697969

TABLE 4. $\alpha = 1.5, \beta = 1.5, \gamma = 0.75, \delta = 0.5, \lambda = -1.33, \mu = -2, \rho = -0.66, \mu - \beta + 1/2 = -3$ negative integer

k	$ \tau_0 $	$ \tau_1 $	$ \tau_2 $	Λ
0.10	7.0×10^{-9}	2.0×10^{-6}	1.9×10^{-5}	0.4995507
0.30	1.3×10^{-7}	5.3×10^{-6}	3.9×10^{-5}	0.5071118
0.50	1.2×10^{-6}	2.5×10^{-5}	1.2×10^{-4}	0.5240502
0.70	1.2×10^{-5}	1.9×10^{-4}	5.8×10^{-4}	0.5539706
0.90	7.9×10^{-4}	6.8×10^{-3}	2.6×10^{-2}	0.6021379
0.95	9.0×10^{-3}	5.6×10^{-2}	5.4×10^{-1}	0.6170454

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The author wishes to thank Professor Shyam Kalla for introducing him to this problem.

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