



## CERTAIN SUFFICIENCY CONDITIONS ON GAUSSIAN HYPERGEOMETRIC FUNCTIONS

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ABSTRACT. The author aims at finding certain conditions on  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  such that the normalized Gaussian hypergeometric function  $zF(a, b; c; z)$  given by

$$F(a, b; c; z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a, n)(b, n)}{(c, n)(1, n)} z^n, \quad |z| < 1,$$

is in certain subclasses of analytic functions. A particular operator acting on  $F(a, b; c; z)$  is also discussed.

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

As usual, let  $\mathcal{A}$  denote the class of functions of the form

$$(1.1) \quad f(z) = z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_k z^k,$$

analytic in the open unit disk  $\Delta = \{z : |z| < 1\}$ , and  $\mathcal{S}$  denote the subclass of  $\mathcal{A}$  that are univalent in  $\Delta$ . We begin with the following.

**Definition 1.1** ([2]). Let  $f \in \mathcal{A}$ ,  $0 \leq k < \infty$ , and  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ . Then  $f \in k - UCV(\alpha)$  if and only if

$$(1.2) \quad \operatorname{Re} \left\{ 1 + \frac{z f''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} \geq k \left| \frac{z f''(z)}{f'(z)} \right| + \alpha.$$

This class generalizes various other classes which are worthy of mention. The class  $k - UCV(0)$ , called the  $k$ -Uniformly convex is due to [11], and has its geometric characterization given in the following way: Let  $0 \leq k < \infty$ . The function  $f \in \mathcal{A}$  is said to be  $k$ -uniformly convex in  $\Delta$ ,  $f$  is convex in  $\Delta$ , and the image of every circular arc  $\gamma$  contained in  $\Delta$ , with center  $\zeta$ , where  $|\zeta| \leq k$ , is convex.

The class  $0 - UCV(\alpha) = \mathcal{K}(\alpha)$  is the well-known class of convex functions of order  $\alpha$  that satisfy the analytic conditions

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} > \alpha.$$

In particular, for  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $f$  maps the unit disk onto the convex domain (for details, see [8]).

The class  $1 - UCV(0) = UCV$  [9] describes geometrically the domain of values of the expression

$$p(z) = 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)}, \quad z \in \Delta,$$

as  $f \in UCV$  if and only if  $p$  is in the conic region

$$\Omega = \{\omega \in \mathbb{C} : (\operatorname{Im} \omega)^2 < 2 \operatorname{Re} \omega - 1\}.$$

The classes  $UCV$  and  $S_p$  are unified and studied using certain fractional calculus operator methods found in [18]. We refer to [10, 11, 12] and references therein for basic results related to this paper.

The Gaussian hypergeometric function  $f(z) = zF(a, b; c; z)$ ,  $z \in \Delta$ , given by the series

$$F(a, b; c; z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a, n)(b, n)}{(c, n)(1, n)} z^n$$

is the solution of the homogenous hypergeometric differential equation

$$z(1-z)w''(z) + [c - (a+b+1)z]w'(z) - abw(z) = 0$$

and has rich applications in various fields such as conformal mappings, quasiconformal theory, continued fractions and so on.

Here  $a, b, c$  are complex numbers such that  $c \neq 0, -1, -2, -3, \dots$ ,  $(a, 0) = 1$  for  $a \neq 0$ , and for each positive integer  $n$ ,  $(a, n) := a(a+1)(a+2) \cdots (a+n-1)$  is the Pochhammer symbol. In the case of  $c = -k$ ,  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ,  $F(a, b; c; z)$  is defined if  $a = -j$  or  $b = -j$  where  $j \leq k$ . In this situation,  $F(a, b; c; z)$  becomes a polynomial of degree  $j$  in  $z$ . Results regarding  $F(a, b; c; z)$  when  $\operatorname{Re}(c - a - b)$  is positive, zero or negative are abundant in the literature. In particular when  $\operatorname{Re}(c - a - b) > 0$ , the function  $F(a, b; c; z)$  is bounded. This and the zero balanced case  $\operatorname{Re}(c - a - b) = 0$  are discussed in detail by many authors (for example, see [19, 25, 1]). For interesting results regarding  $\operatorname{Re}(c - a - b) < 0$ , see [26] and references therein.

The hypergeometric function  $F(a, b; c; z)$  has been studied extensively by various authors and play an important role in Geometric Function Theory. It is useful in unifying various functions by giving appropriate values to the parameters  $a, b$ , and  $c$ . We refer to [3, 17, 29, 27, 20, 21, 25] and references therein for some important results. In particular, the close-to-convexity (in turn the univalence), convexity, starlikeness, (for details on these technical terms we refer to [8, 5]) and various other properties of these hypergeometric functions were examined based on the conditions on  $a, b$ , and  $c$  in [21].

The observation that  $1 + z = F(-1, -1; 1; z)$  is convex in  $\Delta$  and its normalized form  $z(1+z) = zF(-1, -1; 1; z)$  is not even univalent in  $\Delta$  clearly exhibits that the normalized functions need not inherit the properties that non-normalized functions have. Even though, the starlikeness and close-to-convexity of the normalized hypergeometric functions  $zF(a, b; c; z)$  are discussed in detail by many authors (see [21, 25, 16]), many results on the convexity of

$zF(a, b; c; z)$  do not seem to be available in the literature except the non-convexity condition discussed in [25], the convexity condition for  $a = 1$  solved completely in [24], and a weaker condition for convexity given by [32]. There is also a sufficient condition for  $F(a, b; c; z)$  to be in  $k-UCV(0)$  given in [12], which gives the convexity condition when  $k = 0$ .

**Theorem 1.1** ([12]). *Let  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , and  $a, b \in \mathbb{C}$ . Let  $a, b$  and  $c$  satisfy the conditions  $c > |a| + |b| + 2$  and*

$$(1.3) \quad \frac{|ab|\Gamma(c)\Gamma(c - |a| - |b| - 2)}{\Gamma(c - |a|)\Gamma(c - |b|)} (|ab| - |a| - |b| + 2c - 3) \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

Then  $zF(a, b; c; z)$  is convex in  $\Delta$ .

**Remark 1.2.** We note that for the case  $a = 1$ , the convexity condition for  $zF(1, b; c; z)$  obtained in [24] does not require (1.3) and hence is stronger than Theorem 1.1.

Also, for  $\tau \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  we introduce the class  $P_\gamma^\tau(\beta)$ , with  $0 \leq \gamma < 1$  and  $\beta < 1$  as

$$P_\gamma^\tau(\beta) := \left\{ f \in \mathcal{A} : \left| \frac{(1 - \gamma)\frac{f(z)}{z} + \gamma f'(z) - 1}{2\tau(1 - \beta) + (1 - \gamma)\frac{f(z)}{z} + \gamma f'(z) - 1} \right| < 1, \quad z \in \Delta \right\}.$$

We list a few particular cases of this class discussed in the literature.

- (1) The class  $P_1^\tau(\beta)$  is given in [4] and discussed for the operator  $I_{a,b;c}(f)(z) = zF(a, b; c; z) * f(z)$  in [7].
- (2) The class  $P_\gamma^\tau(\beta)$  for  $\tau = e^{i\eta} \cos \eta$  where  $\pi/2 < \eta < \pi/2$  is given in [14] and discussed by many authors with reference to the Carlson–Schaffer operator  $G_{b,c}(f)(z) = zF(1, b; c; z) * f(z)$  using duality techniques for various values of  $\gamma$  (for example, see [1, 6, 14, 15, 19, 22]).

To be more specific, the properties of certain integral transforms of the type

$$V_\lambda(f) = \int_0^1 \lambda(t) \frac{f(tz)}{t} dt, \quad f \in P_\gamma^{(e^{i\eta} \cos \eta)}(\beta)$$

with  $\beta < 1$ ,  $\gamma < 1$  and  $|\eta| < \pi/2$ , under suitable restrictions on  $\lambda(t)$  was discussed by many authors [6, 14, 19, 22]. In particular, if

$$\lambda(t) = \frac{\Gamma(c)}{\Gamma(b)\Gamma(b-c)} t^{b-1} (1-t)^{c-b-1},$$

then  $V_{\lambda(f)}$  is the well known Carlson–Schaffer operator  $G_{b,c}(f)(z)$ .

## 2. MAIN RESULTS

If  $f \in \mathcal{A}$  such that  $f$  has the power series expansion

$$(2.1) \quad f(z) = z - \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n z^n, \quad a_n \geq 0$$

then  $f$  is one main subclass of  $\mathcal{S}$  and is denoted by  $\mathcal{T}$ . This class is due to H. Silverman [30] and has many interesting results (see [30] and [31]).

In the line of  $k-UCV(\alpha)$ , the following class was defined in [2].

**Definition 2.1** ([2]). Let  $k-UCT(\alpha)$  be the class of functions  $f(z)$  of the form (2.1) that satisfy the condition (1.2).

Using the analytic condition (1.2) and a Alexander type theorem, the following classes are defined in [2].

**Definition 2.2** ([2]). Let  $0 \leq k < \infty$ , and  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ . Then

(1)  $f \in k - \mathcal{S}_p(\alpha)$  if and only if  $f$  has the form (1.1) and satisfies the condition

$$(2.2) \quad \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right\} \geq k \left| \frac{zf'(z)}{f'(z)} - 1 \right| + \alpha.$$

(2)  $f \in k - \mathcal{S}_pT(\alpha)$  if and only if  $f$  has the form (2.1) and satisfies the inequality given by the expression (2.2).

For  $k = 0$ , we obtain the well-known class of starlike functions of order  $\alpha$ , which has the analytic characterization  $\operatorname{Re} \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} > \alpha$  with  $z \in \Delta$ . In particular, for  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $f$  maps the unit disk onto the starlike domain (for details, see [8]). We further note that,  $1 - \mathcal{S}_p(\alpha)$  is the well-known class discussed in [28]. We also need the following sufficient condition on the coefficients for the functions in the class  $k - UCV(\alpha)$ .

**Lemma 2.1** ([2]). A function  $f(z)$  of the form (1.1) is in  $k - UCV(\alpha)$  if it satisfies the condition

$$(2.3) \quad \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n [n(1+k) - (k+\alpha)] a_n \leq 1 - \alpha.$$

It was also found that the condition (2.3) is necessary and sufficient for  $f$  to be in  $k - UCT(\alpha)$ . Further that the condition

$$(2.4) \quad \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} [n(1+k) - (k+\alpha)] a_n \leq 1 - \alpha$$

is sufficient for  $f$  to be in  $k - \mathcal{S}_p(\alpha)$  and it is both necessary and sufficient for  $f$  to be in  $k - \mathcal{S}_pT(\alpha)$ .

Another sufficient condition is also given for the class  $k - UCV$  in [11] which is given by the following

**Lemma 2.2** ([11]). Let  $f \in \mathcal{S}$  and be of the form (1.1). If for some  $k$ ,  $0 \leq k < \infty$ , the inequality

$$(2.5) \quad \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1)|a_n| \leq \frac{1}{k+2},$$

holds true, then  $f \in k - UCV$ . The number  $1/(k+2)$  cannot be increased.

It is interesting to observe that sufficient conditions for  $f \in k - \mathcal{S}_p$ , analogous to (2.5), cannot be obtained by replacing  $a_n$  by  $a_n/n$  as in many other situations.

Sufficiency conditions for  $zF(a, b; c; z)$  to be in the class  $k - UCV(\alpha)$  using the condition (2.1), and to be in the class  $k - \mathcal{S}_p(\alpha)$  using the condition (2.4) were obtained in [33] (see also [13]). In [11], it is proved that  $zF(a, b; c; z)$  is in  $k - UCV$  by applying the condition (2.5).

**Theorem 2.3.** Let  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}$  and be of the form (1.1). If  $f$  is in  $P_{\gamma}^{\tau}(\beta)$ , then

$$(2.6) \quad |a_n| \leq \frac{2|\tau|(1-\beta)}{1+\gamma(n-1)}.$$

The estimate is sharp.

It is easy to find the sufficient condition for  $f(z)$  to be in  $P_{\gamma}^{\tau}(\beta)$  under standard techniques. Hence we state the result without proof.

**Theorem 2.4.** Let  $f(z)$  be of the form (1.1). Then a sufficient condition for  $f(z)$  to be in  $P_\gamma^\tau(\beta)$  is

$$(2.7) \quad \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} [1 + \gamma(n-1)] |a_n| \leq |\tau|(1-\beta).$$

This condition is also necessary if  $f(z)$  is of the form (2.1) and  $\tau = 1$ .

**Theorem 2.5.** Let  $a, b, c$  and  $\gamma$  satisfy any one of the following conditions such that  $T_i(a, b, c, \gamma) \leq |\tau|(1-\beta)$  for  $i = 1, 2, 3$ .

(i)  $a, b > 0, c > a + b$  and

$$T_1(a, b, c, \gamma) = \left(1 + \frac{\gamma ab}{c}\right) \frac{\Gamma(c)\Gamma(c-a-b)}{\Gamma(c-a)\Gamma(c-b)}.$$

(ii)  $-1 < a < 0, b > 0, c > 0$  and

$$T_2(a, b, c, \gamma) = \frac{\Gamma(c-a-b)\Gamma(c)}{\Gamma(c-a)\Gamma(c-b)} \left(1 + \frac{\gamma|ab|}{(c-a-b)}\right) + \frac{\gamma|ab|}{c} - \frac{\gamma(a, 2)(b, 2)}{(c, 2)}.$$

(iii)  $a, b \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}, c > |a| + |b|$  and

$$T_3(a, b, c, \gamma) = \gamma + \frac{\Gamma(c-|a|-|b|-1)\Gamma(c)}{\Gamma(c-|a|)\Gamma(c-|b|)} (c-|a|-|b|-1 + \gamma|ab|).$$

Then  $zF(a, b; c; z)$  is in  $P_\gamma^\tau(\beta)$ .

Since  $a = \bar{b}$  is useful in characterizing polynomials with positive coefficients when  $b$  is some negative integer, we give the corresponding result independently.

**Corollary 2.6.** Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}, a = \bar{b}, c > 2\text{Re}b$  and  $T_4(a, b, c, \gamma) \leq |\tau|(1-\beta)$  where

$$T_4(a, b, c, \gamma) = \gamma + \frac{\Gamma(c-2\text{Re}b-1)\Gamma(c)}{\Gamma(c-b)\Gamma(c-\bar{b})} (c-2\text{Re}b-1 + \gamma|b|^2).$$

Then  $zF(\bar{b}, b; c; z)$  is in  $P_\gamma^\tau(\beta)$ .

In the above theorem, if we take  $a = 1$ , we get the result for operator  $G_{b,c}(f)(z)$  which we give independently as

**Theorem 2.7.** Let  $b > 0$  and

$$\frac{(c + \gamma b)(c - 1)}{c(c - b - 1)} \leq |\tau|(1 - \beta).$$

Then the incomplete beta function  $\phi(b; c; z) := zF(1, b; c; z)$  is in  $P_\gamma^\tau(\beta)$ .

When  $f(z) = -\log(1-z)$ , consider the operator of the form

$$(2.8) \quad G(a, b; c; z) = \int_0^z F(a, b; c; t) dt.$$

The sufficient condition for the operator  $G(a, b; c; z)$  to be in  $\mathcal{K}(\alpha)$  and  $\mathcal{S}^*(\alpha)$  is given in [32] and extended to the class  $k-UCV(\alpha)$  and  $k-S_p(\alpha)$  in [33].

**Theorem 2.8.** Let  $0 < a \neq 1, 0 < b \neq 1$  and  $c > a+b+1$  such that  $T(a, b, c, \gamma) \leq 1 + |\tau|(1-\beta)$  where

$$(2.9) \quad T(a, b, c, \gamma) = \frac{\Gamma(c-a-b)\Gamma(c)}{\Gamma(c-a)\Gamma(c-b)} \left( \gamma + \frac{(1-\gamma)(c-a-b)}{(a-1)(b-1)} \right) - \frac{(1-\gamma)(c-1)}{(a-1)(b-1)}.$$

Then  $G(a, b; c; z)$  is in  $P_\gamma^\tau(\beta)$ .

**Corollary 2.9.** Let  $a = \bar{b}$ ,  $0 < b \neq 1$ , and  $c > 2\text{Re}b + 1$  such that  $T(\bar{b}, b, c, \gamma) \leq 1 + |\tau|(1 - \beta)$  where

$$T(\bar{b}, b, c, \gamma) = \frac{\Gamma(c - 2\text{Re}b)\Gamma(c)}{\Gamma(c - \bar{b})\Gamma(c - b)} \left( \gamma + \frac{(1 - \gamma)(c - 2\text{Re}b)}{|b - 1|^2} \right) - \frac{(1 - \gamma)(c - 1)}{|b - 1|^2}.$$

Then  $G(\bar{b}, b; c; z)$  is in  $P_\gamma^r(\beta)$ .

We note that an equivalent of Theorem 2.8 cannot be given for the Carlson–Schaffer operator  $G_{b,c}(f)(z) = zF(1, b; c; z) * f(z)$  [3].

We give here another sufficiency condition for  $G(a, b; c; z)$  to be in  $k - UCV(0)$  using the sufficiency condition (2.5) of  $k - UCV(0)$  given in [11]. A simple computation of applying (2.5) in the series representation of  $G(a, b; c; z)$  gives the following result immediately. We omit the proof.

**Theorem 2.10.** Let  $a > -1$ ,  $b > -1$  and  $c > a + b + 2$  such that for all  $0 \leq k < \infty$ ,

$$(2.10) \quad \frac{(a + 1)(b + 1)}{(c + 1)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(c - a - b - 1)\Gamma(c + 1)}{\Gamma(c - a)\Gamma(c - b)} \leq \frac{1}{k + 2}.$$

Then  $zF(a, b; c; z)$  is in  $k - UCV(0) =: k - UCV$ .

The following results are immediate.

**Corollary 2.11.** Let  $b > -1$ ,  $a = \bar{b}$  and  $c > 2 + \text{Re}b$  such that for all  $0 \leq k < \infty$ ,

$$\frac{|b + 1|^2}{(c + 1)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(c - \text{Re}b - 1)\Gamma(c + 1)}{\Gamma(c - \bar{b})\Gamma(c - b)} \leq \frac{1}{k + 2}.$$

Then  $zF(\bar{b}, b; c; z)$  is in  $k - UCV(0) = k - UCV$ .

**Corollary 2.12.** Let  $b > -1$  and  $c > b + 3$  such that for all  $0 \leq k < \infty$ ,

$$\frac{2(b + 1)}{(c + 1)} \cdot \frac{c(c - 1)}{(c - b - 1)(c - b - 2)} \leq \frac{1}{k + 2}.$$

Then the incomplete function  $\phi(b; c; z)$  is in  $k - UCV(0) = k - UCV$ . In particular, when  $k = 0$ ,  $\phi(b; c; z)$  is convex in  $\Delta$ .

### 3. PROOFS OF THEOREMS 2.3, 2.5 AND 2.8

We need the following result and we state this as

**Lemma 3.1.** Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $c > 0$ . Then we have the following:

(i) For  $a, b > 0$ ,  $c > a + b + 1$ ,

$$(3.1) \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(n + 1)(a, n)(b, n)}{(c, n)(1, n)} = \frac{\Gamma(c - a - b)\Gamma(c)}{\Gamma(c - a)\Gamma(c - b)} \left[ \frac{ab}{c - 1 - a - b} + 1 \right].$$

(ii) For  $a \neq 1$ ,  $b \neq 1$  and  $c \neq 1$  with  $c > \max\{0, a + b - 1\}$ ,

$$(3.2) \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a, n)(b, n)}{(c, n)(1, n + 1)} = \frac{1}{(a - 1)(b - 1)} \left[ \frac{\Gamma(c + 1 - a - b)\Gamma(c)}{\Gamma(c - a)\Gamma(c - b)} - (c - 1) \right].$$

(iii) For  $a \neq 1$  and  $c \neq 1$  with  $c > \max\{0, 2\text{Re}a - 1\}$ ,

$$(3.3) \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{|(a, n)|^2}{(c, n)(1, n + 1)} = \frac{1}{|a - 1|^2} \left[ \frac{\Gamma(c + 1 - 2\text{Re}a)\Gamma(c)}{\Gamma(c - a)\Gamma(c - \bar{a})} - (c - 1) \right].$$

The results in this lemma are part of Lemma 3.1 given in [23] and we omit details.

*Proof of Theorem 2.3.* Since  $f \in P_\gamma^\tau(\beta)$ , we have

$$1 + \frac{1}{\tau} \left\{ (1 - \gamma) \frac{f(z)}{z} + \gamma f'(z) - 1 \right\} = \frac{1 + (1 - 2\beta)w(z)}{1 - w(z)},$$

where  $w(z)$  is analytic in  $\Delta$  and satisfies the condition  $w(0) = 0$ ,  $|w(z)| < 1$  for  $z \in \Delta$ . Hence we have

$$\frac{1}{\tau} \left( (1 - \gamma) \frac{f(z)}{z} + \gamma f'(z) - 1 \right) = w(z) \left\{ 2(1 - \beta) + \frac{1}{\tau} \left( (1 - \gamma) \frac{f(z)}{z} + \gamma f'(z) - 1 \right) \right\}.$$

Using (1.1) and  $w(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n z^n$  we have

$$\left[ 2(1 - \beta) + \frac{1}{\tau} \left( \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} [1 + \gamma(n - 1)] a_n z^{n-1} \right) \right] \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n z^n \right] = \frac{1}{\tau} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} [1 + \gamma(n - 1)] a_n z^{n-1}.$$

Equating the coefficients of the above expression, we observe that the coefficient  $a_n$  in the right hand side of the above expression depends only on  $a_2, \dots, a_{n-1}$  and the left hand side of the above expression. This gives

$$\begin{aligned} \left[ 2(1 - \beta) + \frac{1}{\tau} \left( \sum_{n=2}^{k-1} [1 + \gamma(n - 1)] a_n z^{n-1} \right) \right] w(z) \\ = \frac{1}{\tau} \sum_{n=2}^k [1 + \gamma(n - 1)] a_n z^{n-1} + \sum_{n=k+1}^{\infty} d_n z^{n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Using  $|w(z)| < 1$ , this reduces to the inequality

$$\begin{aligned} \left| 2(1 - \beta) + \frac{1}{\tau} \left( \sum_{n=2}^{k-1} [1 + \gamma(n - 1)] a_n z^{n-1} \right) \right| \\ > \left| \frac{1}{\tau} \sum_{n=2}^k [1 + \gamma(n - 1)] a_n z^{n-1} + \sum_{n=k+1}^{\infty} d_n z^{n-1} \right|. \end{aligned}$$

Squaring the above inequality and integrating around  $|z| = r$ ,  $0 < r < 1$ , and letting  $r \rightarrow 1$  we obtain

$$4(1 - \beta)^2 \geq \frac{1}{|\tau|^2} [1 + \gamma(n - 1)]^2 |a_n|^2$$

which gives the desired result. Equality holds for the function

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{\gamma z^{1-\frac{1}{\gamma}}} \int_0^z w^{1-\frac{1}{\gamma}} \left[ 1 + \frac{2(1 - \beta)\tau w^{n-1}}{1 - 2^{n-1}} \right] dw.$$

□

*Proof of Theorem 2.5.* Clearly  $zF(a, b; c; z)$  has the series representation of the form (1.1) where

$$a_n = \frac{(a, n - 1)(b, n - 1)}{(c, n - 1)(1, n - 1)}.$$

Hence it suffices to prove that

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} [1 + \gamma(n - 1)] |a_n| \leq |\tau|(1 - \beta).$$

It is easy to see that

$$(3.4) \quad S := \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} [1 + \gamma(n-1)]a_n \\ = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(a, n)(b, n)}{(c, n)(1, n)} + \gamma \frac{ab}{c} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(a+1, n-2)(b+1, n-2)}{(c+1, n-2)(1, n-2)}.$$

**Case 1 (i).** Let  $a, b > 0$  and  $c > a + b$ . An easy computation using hypothesis (i) of the theorem and

$$F(a, b; c; 1) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a, n)(b, n)}{(c, n)(1, n)} = \frac{\Gamma(c)\Gamma(c-a-b)}{\Gamma(c-a)\Gamma(c-b)},$$

where  $a, b > 0$  and  $c > a + b$ , gives the required result.

**Case 2 (ii).** Let  $-1 < a < 0, b > 0$  and  $c > 0$ . Then (3.4) gives

$$S = \frac{|ab|}{c} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a+1, n)(b+1, n)}{(c+1, n)(1, n+1)} + \gamma \frac{|ab|}{c} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a+1, n)(b+1, n)}{(c+1, n)(1, n)} \\ = \frac{|ab|}{c} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a+1, n)(b+1, n)}{(c+1, n)(1, n+1)} + \gamma \frac{|ab|}{c} \cdot \frac{(a+1)(b+1)}{c+1} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(a+2, n)(b+2, n)}{(c+2, n)(1, n+1)}.$$

Using (3.2), we easily get that the above expression is equivalent to

$$\frac{|ab|}{c} \left\{ \frac{1}{|ab|} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(c-a-b)\Gamma(c+1)}{\Gamma(c-a)\Gamma(c-b)} - \frac{c}{|ab|} \right\} \\ + \gamma \frac{|ab|}{c} \cdot \frac{(a+1)(b+1)}{(c+1)} \left\{ \frac{1}{(a+1)(b+1)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(c-a-b-1)\Gamma(c+2)}{\Gamma(c-a)\Gamma(c-b)} \right. \\ \left. - \frac{(c+1)}{(a+1)(b+1)} - 1 \right\}$$

which by hypothesis (ii) of the theorem gives the result.

**Case 3 (iii).** Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $c > |a| + |b|$ . Since  $|(a, n)| \leq (|a|, n)$ , we have from (3.4),

$$S := \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} [1 + \gamma(n-1)]|a_n| \\ = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} [1 + \gamma(n+1)]|a_{n+2}| \\ \leq \frac{|ab|}{c} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(|a|+1, n)(|b|+1, n)}{(c+1, n)(1, n+1)} + \gamma \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1) \frac{(|a|, n+1)(|b|, n+1)}{(c, n+1)(1, n+1)}.$$

The right hand side of the above expression can be written as

$$(3.5) \quad \frac{|ab|}{c} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(|a|+1, n)(|b|+1, n)}{(c+1, n)(1, n+1)} + \gamma \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (n+1) \frac{(|a|, n)(|b|, n)}{(c, n)(1, n)} - \gamma \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(a, n)(b, n)}{(c, n)(1, n)}.$$

Now using (3.2) we get the first part of the expression (3.5) as

$$\frac{|ab|}{c} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(|a|+1, n)(|b|+1, n)}{(c+1, n)(1, n+1)} = \frac{\Gamma(c-|a|-|b|)\Gamma(c)}{\Gamma(c-|a|)} \Gamma(c-|b|) - 1.$$

Similarly using (3.1) we get the second part of the expression (3.5) as

$$\gamma \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (n+1) \frac{(|a|, n)(|b|, n)}{(c, n)(1, n)} = \gamma \frac{\Gamma(c - |a| - |b|)\Gamma(c)}{\Gamma(c - |a|)\Gamma(c - |b|)} \left( \frac{|ab|}{c - 1 - |a| - |b|} + 1 \right).$$

Since the third part of the expression (3.5) is  $zF(a, b; c; 1) - 1$ , combining these three parts and using hypothesis (iii) of the theorem we obtain the required result. □

*Proof of Theorem 2.8.* Clearly we have

$$G(a, b; c; z) = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(a, n-1)(b, n-1)}{(c, n-1)(1, n)} z^n =: z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} A_n z^n,$$

and it suffices to prove that

$$(3.6) \quad \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} [1 + \gamma(n-1)] |A_n| \leq 1 + |\tau|(1 - \beta).$$

The left hand side of the above inequality can be expressed as

$$(1 - \gamma) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(a, n)(b, n)}{(c, n)(1, n+1)} + \gamma \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(a, n)(b, n)}{(c, n)(1, n)}$$

which by using (3.2) and  $F(a, b; c; 1)$  gives (2.9). □

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