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► **To cite this version:**

Ravi Bhukya, Venkatalakshmi Akavaram, Feng Qi. SOME INEQUALITIES OF THE TURAN TYPE FOR CONFLUENT HYPERGEOMETRIC FUNCTIONS OF THE SECOND KIND: Inequalities of confluent hypergeometric functions. 2018. hal-01701854v1

HAL Id: hal-01701854

<https://hal.science/hal-01701854v1>

Preprint submitted on 6 Feb 2018 (v1), last revised 19 Jan 2020 (v2)

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SOME INEQUALITIES OF THE TURÁN TYPE FOR CONFLUENT HYPERGEOMETRIC FUNCTIONS OF THE SECOND KIND

RAVI BHUKYA, VENKATALAKSHMI AKAVARAM, AND FENG QI

ABSTRACT. In the paper, the authors derive some inequalities of the Turán type for confluent hypergeometric functions of the second kind, for the Mellin transforms, and for the Laplace transforms, and improve some known inequalities of the Turán type.

1. INTRODUCTION

In 1950, P. Turán [15] proved that the Legendre polynomials $P_n(x)$ satisfy

$$P_n(x)P_{n+2}(x) - P_{n+1}^2(x) \leq 0$$

for $|x| \leq 1$ and $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, where the equality holds only if $x = \pm 1$. An inequality of this kind is known as an inequality of the Turán type. This classical inequality has been extended to various special functions. For recent development on this classical inequality, please refer to [2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9] and closely related reference therein.

It is known [1, p. 504–505] that confluent hypergeometric functions of the second kind $\psi(a, c, x)$ are also known as the Tricomi confluent hypergeometric functions, are a special solution of Kummer’s differential equation

$$xy''(x) + (c - x)y'(x) - ay(x) = 0,$$

and have the integral representation

$$\psi(a, c, x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \int_0^\infty t^{a-1} (1+t)^{c-a-1} e^{-xt} dt \quad (1.1)$$

for $a > 0$, $c \in \mathbb{R}$, and $x > 0$, where

$$\Gamma(z) = \int_0^\infty t^{z-1} e^{-t} dt, \quad \Re(z) > 0$$

is the classical Euler gamma function [11, 12, 13, 14].

The Laplace transform and the Mellin transform of a function $f(t)$ are respectively defined by

$$L(s) = \mathcal{L}(f)(s) = \int_0^\infty f(t)e^{-st} dt, \quad s > 0$$

2010 *Mathematics Subject Classification*. Primary 26D15; Secondary 26D20, 26D99, 33C15, 44A10, 44A15.

Key words and phrases. inequality of the Turán type; confluent hypergeometric function of the second kind; improvement; Mellin transform; Laplace transform.

Please cite this article as “Ravi Bhukya, Venkatalakshmi Akavaram, and Feng Qi, *Some inequalities of the Turán type for confluent hypergeometric functions of the second kind*, *Integral Transforms and Special Functions* **29** (2018), in press.”

and

$$M(s) = \mathcal{M}(f)(s) = \int_0^\infty f(t)t^{s-1} dt.$$

These transforms are widely-used integral transforms with many applications in physics and engineering.

In this paper, we will study some Turán type inequalities for confluent hypergeometric functions of the second kind $\psi(a, c, x)$.

2. INEQUALITIES OF TURÁN TYPE

We are now in a position to find some inequality of the Turán type for confluent hypergeometric functions of the second kind. These newly-founded inequalities improve existed inequality of the Turán type in [4, Theorem 2].

Theorem 2.1. *For $x > 0$, $a > 0$, and $c \in \mathbb{R}$, we have*

$$\psi^2(a+1, c, x) < \frac{a+1}{a} \psi(a, c, x) \psi(a+2, c, x). \quad (2.1)$$

Proof. The equality (1.1) can be reformulated as

$$f(a) \triangleq \psi(a, c, x) \Gamma(a) = \int_0^\infty \left(\frac{t}{1+t} \right)^a (1+t)^{c-1} e^{-xt} \frac{1}{t} dt.$$

Replacing a by $\alpha p + (1-\alpha)q$ for $p, q > 0$, $p \neq q$, and $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ and using the well-known Hölder's integral inequality give

$$\begin{aligned} f(\alpha p + (1-\alpha)q) &= \int_0^\infty \left(\frac{t}{1+t} \right)^{\alpha p + (1-\alpha)q} (1+t)^{c-1} e^{-xt} \frac{1}{t} dt \\ &= \int_0^\infty [t^{p-1}(1+t)^{c-p-1} e^{-xt}]^\alpha [t^{q-1}(1+t)^{c-q-1} e^{-xt}]^{1-\alpha} \\ &< \left[\int_0^\infty t^{p-1}(1+t)^{c-p-1} e^{-xt} \right]^\alpha \left[\int_0^\infty t^{q-1}(1+t)^{c-q-1} e^{-xt} \right]^{1-\alpha} \\ &= f^\alpha(p) f^{1-\alpha}(q). \end{aligned}$$

This implies that the function f is strictly logarithmically convex on $(0, \infty)$. Consequently, taking $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$, $p = a$, and $q = a+2$ leads to $f^2(a+1) < f(a)f(a+2)$ which is equivalent to (2.1). The proof of Theorem 2.1 is complete. \square

Theorem 2.2. *For $x > 0$, $0 < a_1, a_2 < a$, and $c \in \mathbb{R}$, we have*

$$\psi^2(a, c, x) < \frac{\Gamma(a_1)\Gamma(a_2)}{\Gamma^2(a)} \psi(a_1, c, x) \psi(a_2, c, x). \quad (2.2)$$

Proof. We continue to adopt the notation $f(a)$ in the proof of Theorem 2.1. Then

$$\begin{aligned} f'(a) &= \frac{d}{da} \left[\int_0^\infty \left(\frac{t}{1+t} \right)^a (1+t)^{c-1} \frac{1}{t} e^{-xt} dt \right] \\ &= \int_0^\infty \left(\frac{t}{1+t} \right)^a \ln \left(\frac{t}{1+t} \right) (1+t)^{c-1} \frac{1}{t} e^{-xt} dt \\ &< 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\ln\left(\frac{t}{1+t}\right) < 0$ for $t > 0$, the function $f(a)$ is decreasing on $(0, \infty)$ with respect to a . Accordingly, for $0 < a_1, a_2 < a$, we have $f(a) < f(a_1)$ and $f(a) < f(a_2)$.

Consequently, it follows that $f^2(a) < f(a_1)f(a_2)$ which is equivalent to (2.2). The proof of Theorem 2.2 is complete. \square

Theorem 2.3. For $x > 0$, $a > 0$, and $c_1, c_2 < c \in \mathbb{R}$, we have

$$\psi(a, c, x)\psi(a, c-1, x) < \psi^2(a, c+1, x) < \psi(a, c, x)\psi(a, c+2, x) \quad (2.3)$$

and

$$\psi(a, c_1, x)\psi(a, c_2, x) < \psi^2(a, c, x). \quad (2.4)$$

Proof. A straightforward computation yields

$$\begin{aligned} \psi'(c) &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \frac{d}{dc} \left[\int_0^\infty t^{a-1} (1+t)^{c-a-1} e^{-xt} dt \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \int_0^\infty t^{a-1} (1+t)^{c-a-1} \ln(1+t) e^{-xt} dt \\ &> 0. \end{aligned}$$

This means that the function $\psi(a, c, x)$ is increasing with respect to $c \in \mathbb{R}$. Hence, for $c_1, c_2 < c$, it follows that $\psi(a, c_1, x) < \psi(a, c, x)$ and $\psi(a, c_2, x) < \psi(a, c, x)$. Consequently, we obtain the inequality (2.4).

Taking $c_1 = c-1$ and $c_2 = c$ and replacing c by $c+1$ in (2.4) deduce that

$$\psi(a, c-1, x)\psi(a, c, x) < \psi^2(a, c+1, x).$$

From this inequality and the inequality $\psi^2(a, c+1, x) < \psi(a, c, x)\psi(a, c+2, x)$ in the paper [4], the inequality (2.3) follows immediately. The proof of Theorem 2.3 is complete. \square

Theorem 2.4. For $x, y > 0$, $a > 0$, $p, q > 0$ such that $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$, and $c \in \mathbb{R}$, we have

$$\psi\left(a, c, \frac{x}{p} + \frac{y}{q}\right) < \psi^{1/p}(a, c, x)\psi^{1/q}(a, c, y). \quad (2.5)$$

Proof. Applying the well-known Hölder integral inequality to the third variable x in $\psi(a, c, x)$ arrives at

$$\begin{aligned} \psi\left(a, c, \frac{x}{p} + \frac{y}{q}\right) &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \int_0^\infty t^{a-1} (1+t)^{c-a-1} e^{-(x/p+y/q)t} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \int_0^\infty [t^{a-1} (1+t)^{c-a-1} e^{-xt}]^{1/p} [t^{a-1} (1+t)^{c-a-1} e^{-yt}]^{1/q} dt \\ &< \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \int_0^\infty t^{a-1} (1+t)^{c-a-1} e^{-xt} dt \right]^{1/p} \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \int_0^\infty t^{a-1} (1+t)^{c-a-1} e^{-yt} dt \right]^{1/q} \\ &= \psi^{1/p}(a, c, x)\psi^{1/q}(a, c, y). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the inequality (2.5) is proved. The proof of Theorem 2.4 is complete. \square

Theorem 2.5. For $x, y > 1$ such that $\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} \leq 1$, $a > 0$, $p, q > 0$ such that $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$, and $c \in \mathbb{R}$, we have

$$\psi\left(a, c, \frac{x^p}{p} + \frac{y^q}{q}\right) < \psi^{1/p}(a, c, px)\psi^{1/q}(a, c, qy). \quad (2.6)$$

Proof. Applying Young's inequality to the third variable x in $\psi(a, c, x)$ results in

$$\begin{aligned} \psi\left(\frac{x^p}{p} + \frac{y^q}{q}\right) &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \int_0^\infty t^{a-1}(1+t)^{c-a-1} e^{-(x^p/p+y^q/q)t} dt \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \int_0^\infty t^{a-1}(1+t)^{c-a-1} e^{-xyt} \\ &\leq \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \int_0^\infty t^{a-1}(1+t)^{c-a-1} e^{-pxt} \right]^{1/p} \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \int_0^\infty t^{q-1}(1+t)^{c-q-1} e^{-qyt} \right]^{1/q} \\ &= \psi^{1/p}(a, c, px) \psi^{1/q}(a, c, qx). \end{aligned}$$

The inequality (4.3) is thus proved. The proof of Theorem 2.5 is complete. \square

Theorem 2.6. For $x, y > 0$, $a > 0$, and $c \in \mathbb{R}$, we have

$$\psi^2(a, c, x+y) < \psi(a, c, x)\psi(a, c, y). \quad (2.7)$$

For $x > 0$, $0 < y < 1$, $a > 0$, and $c \in \mathbb{R}$, we have

$$\psi(a, c, x+y) < \psi(a, c, xy). \quad (2.8)$$

Proof. It is easy to see that the function $\psi(a, c, x)$ is decreasing with respect to $x \in (0, \infty)$. Since $x < x+y$ and $y < x+y$, it follows that $\psi(a, c, x+y) < \psi(a, c, x)$ and $\psi(a, c, x+y) < \psi(a, c, y)$. This means the inequality (2.7).

Similarly, the inequality (2.8) follows readily. The proof of Theorem 2.6 is complete. \square

3. INEQUALITIES OF TURÁN TYPE FOR MELLIN TRANSFORM

Now we discover an inequality of the Turán type for the Mellin transform.

Theorem 3.1. For $s > 0$, the Mellin transform $M(s)$ satisfies

$$F^2(s+1) \leq F(s)F(s+2). \quad (3.1)$$

Proof. Applying the Hölder integral inequality finds that

$$\begin{aligned} M(\alpha p + (1-\alpha)q) &= \int_0^\infty f(t)t^{\alpha p + (1-\alpha)q-1} dt \\ &= \int_0^\infty [f(t)t^{p-1}]^\alpha [f(t)t^{q-1}]^{1-\alpha} dt \\ &\leq \left[\int_0^\infty f(t)t^{p-1} dt \right]^\alpha \left[\int_0^\infty f(t)t^{q-1} dt \right]^{1-\alpha} \\ &= M^\alpha(p)M^{1-\alpha}(q). \end{aligned}$$

This means that the Mellin transform $M(s)$ is strictly logarithmically convex on $(0, \infty)$. Further letting $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$, $p = s$, and $q = s+2$ in the above inequality leads to the inequality (3.1). The proof of Theorem 3.1 is complete. \square

Example 3.1. Entry 17.43.26 in [8] states that

$$M_1(s) = \mathcal{M}(\operatorname{cosech}(x)) = 2(1-2^{-s})\Gamma(s)\zeta(s), \quad s > 1.$$

By Theorem 3.1, it follows readily that

$$M_1^2(s+1) \leq M_1(s)M_1(s+2).$$

After some simplification we acquire

$$\zeta^2(s+1) \leq \left(\frac{s+1}{s}\right) \left[\frac{(1-2^{-s})(1-2^{-s-2})}{(1-2^{-s-1})^2} \right] \zeta(s)\zeta(s+2), \quad s > 1$$

which improves the Turán type inequality for the zeta function in [9].

Example 3.2. Entry 6.3.8 in [10] states that

$$M_2(s) = \mathcal{M}(e^{-ax}(1-e^{-x})^{-1}) = \Gamma(s)\zeta(s, a), \quad s > 0, \quad a > 0.$$

By Theorem 3.1, we derive

$$M_2^2(s+1) \leq M_2(s)M_2(s+2).$$

After some simplification we acquire

$$\zeta^2(s+1, a) \leq \frac{s+1}{s} \zeta(s, a)\zeta(s+2, a), \quad s > 1, \quad a > 0. \quad (3.2)$$

When $a = 1$ in (3.2), we recover the Turán type inequality in [9].

4. INEQUALITIES OF TURÁN TYPE FOR LAPLACE TRANSFORM

Finally we find out an inequality of the Turán type for the Laplace transform.

Theorem 4.1. *The Laplace transform $L(s)$ satisfies*

$$L^2(s+1) \leq L(s)L(s+2), \quad s > 0. \quad (4.1)$$

Proof. By the Hölder integral inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} L(\alpha p + (1-\alpha)q) &= \int_0^\infty f(t)e^{-(\alpha p + (1-\alpha)q)t} dt \\ &= \int_0^\infty [f(t)e^{-pt}]^\alpha [f(t)e^{-qt}]^{1-\alpha} dt \\ &\leq \left[\int_0^\infty f(t)e^{-pt} dt \right]^\alpha \left[\int_0^\infty f(t)e^{-qt} dt \right]^{1-\alpha} \\ &= L^\alpha(p)L^{1-\alpha}(q). \end{aligned}$$

In other words, the Laplace transform $L(s)$ is strictly logarithmically convex on $(0, \infty)$. Specially, setting $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$, $p = s$, and $q = s+2$ in the above inequality leads to (4.1). The proof of Theorem 4.1 is complete. \square

Example 4.1. Entry 4.15.29 in [10] states that

$$L_3(s) = \mathcal{L}((1-e^{-t})^{\nu/2} J_\nu(a(1-e^{-t})^{1/2})) = \Gamma(s) \left(\frac{2}{a}\right)^s J_{\nu+s}(a)$$

for $s > 0$, $a > 0$, $\nu > -1$, where $J_\mu(z)$ denotes Bessel's functions. By Theorem 4.1, it follows that

$$L_3^2(s+1) \leq L_3(s)L_3(s+2)$$

which can be reformulated as

$$J_{\nu+s+1}^2(a) \leq \frac{s+1}{s} J_{\nu+s}(a)J_{\nu+s+2}(a) \quad (4.2)$$

for $s > 0$, $1 > a > 0$, and $\nu > -\frac{1}{2}$.

When taking $\nu = 0$ and replacing s by $s-1$ for $s \geq 1$ in (4.2), we derive an upper bound of the Turán type inequality in [5, Eq. (2.3)] for $0 < a < 1$.

Example 4.2. Entry 4.3.11 in [10] reads that

$$L_4(s) = \mathcal{L}(t^2 - a^2)^{\nu-1/2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \Gamma\left(\nu + \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(\frac{2a}{s}\right)^\nu K_\nu(as) \quad (4.3)$$

for $s, a > 0$ and $\nu > -\frac{1}{2}$, where $K_\mu(z)$ denotes modified Bessel's functions. By Theorem 4.1, it follows that

$$L_4^2(s+1) \leq L_4(s)L_4(s+2)$$

which can be rewritten as

$$K_\nu^2(a(s+1)) \leq \left[\frac{s^2 + 2s + 1}{s(s+2)}\right]^\nu K_\nu(as)K_\nu(a(s+2))$$

for $s, a > 0$ and $\nu > -\frac{1}{2}$.

Remark 4.1. Many other Turán type inequalities can be obtained for functions whose Laplace and Mellin transforms exists. In particular, we can prove some Turán type inequalities for the gamma, beta, extended beta, hypergeometric, error, and compliment error functions.

Acknowledgements. The authors appreciate anonymous reviewers and Professor Yury Brychkov for their valuable comments on and carefully checking up the original version of this paper.

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