

# Hypergeometric integral transforms

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The following integral formula plays an essential role in Cormack's 1981 study [1] of the line Radon transform in the plane:

$$2 \int_r^s \frac{sT_n(p/s)}{\sqrt{s^2 - p^2}} \frac{rT_n(p/r)}{\sqrt{p^2 - r^2}} \frac{dp}{p} = \pi, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}, 0 < r < s, \quad (1)$$

where  $T_n$  denotes the Chebyshev polynomial defined by  $T_n(\cos \theta) = \cos n\theta$ . A few years later, Cormack [2] extended his method to the Radon transform on certain hypersurfaces in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , using a similar formula with Chebyshev polynomials replaced by Gegenbauer's.

All these polynomials may be viewed as hypergeometric functions. Here we shall prove in Section 2 a more general integral formula (Proposition 3) and an inversion formula for a general hypergeometric integral transform (Theorem 4). These results are applied to Chebyshev polynomials in Section 3.

For the reader's convenience we give self-contained proofs, only sketched in the appendices to Cormack's papers [1] and [2]. No previous knowledge of hypergeometric functions is assumed; the basics are given in Section 1.

## 1 Hypergeometric functions

Let  $a, b, c, z$  denote complex numbers. For  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , let

$$(a)_k := a(a+1) \cdots (a+k-1) \text{ if } k \geq 1, \quad (a)_0 := 1.$$

For instance the classical binomial series may be written as

$$(1-z)^{-a} = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} (a)_k \frac{z^k}{k!}, \quad |z| < 1, \quad (2)$$

where  $(1-z)^{-a}$  denotes the principal value. It is useful to note that  $(a)_k = \Gamma(a+k)/\Gamma(a)$  if  $a \notin -\mathbb{N}$ , where  $\Gamma(s) := \int_0^\infty e^{-x} x^{s-1} dx$  is Euler's Gamma function.

Assuming  $c \notin -\mathbb{N}$  from now on, the **hypergeometric function** is defined by the series

$$F(a, b; c; z) := \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \frac{(a)_k (b)_k}{(c)_k} \frac{z^k}{k!}, \quad (3)$$

absolutely convergent for  $|z| < 1$ . When dealing with more general hypergeometric functions, it is customary to denote by  ${}_2F_1(a, b; c; z)$  our  $F(a, b; c; z)$ . Some properties of  $F$ , such as the symmetry

$$F(a, b; c; z) = F(b, a; c; z), \quad (4)$$

are obvious from this definition. Some others follow from Euler's integral representation

$$F(a, b; c; z) = \frac{\Gamma(c)}{\Gamma(b)\Gamma(c-b)} \int_0^1 t^{b-1}(1-t)^{c-b-1}(1-tz)^{-a} dt, \quad (5)$$

valid for  $\operatorname{Re} c > \operatorname{Re} b > 0$ . Indeed, let us assume  $|z| < 1$  to begin with. Expanding  $(1-tz)^{-a}$  by (2) and remembering Euler's Beta function

$$B(x, y) := \int_0^1 t^{x-1}(1-t)^{y-1} dt = \frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(x+y)}, \quad \operatorname{Re} x > 0, \operatorname{Re} y > 0, \quad (6)$$

it is readily checked that the right-hand side of (5) equals the series (3) for  $|z| < 1$ . Then (5) allows extending  $F$  to an analytic function of  $z$  on the cut plane  $\mathbb{C} \setminus D$  where  $D := [1, \infty[$ .

We shall need the following formula, due to Pfaff, with  $(1-z)(1-z') = 1$  that is  $z' := z/(z-1)$ :

$$F(a, b; c; z') = (1-z)^a F(a, c-b; c; z), \quad \operatorname{Re} c > \operatorname{Re} b > 0, z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus D. \quad (7)$$

To prove (7) note that  $z'$  belongs to  $\mathbb{C} \setminus D$  if and only if  $z$  belongs to this set and, setting  $t = 1-s$  in (5), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} F(a, b; c; z') &= \frac{\Gamma(c)}{\Gamma(b)\Gamma(c-b)} (1-z)^a \int_0^1 s^{c-b-1}(1-s)^{b-1}(1-sz)^{-a} ds \\ &= (1-z)^a F(a, c-b; c; z). \end{aligned}$$

For  $|z| < 1$  small enough both sides of (7) can be expanded as convergent power series in  $z$ ; the identification of their coefficients gives a sequence of equalities between rational functions of  $a, b, c$ . It follows that (7) remains valid for all  $a, b, c$  (with  $c \notin -\mathbb{N}$ ), provided that  $|z| < 1$  and  $|z'| < 1$  (meaning that 0 is closer to  $z$  than 1, i.e.  $\operatorname{Re} z < 1/2$ ).

Switching  $z$  for  $z'$  in (7) we have  $(z')' = z$  and, remembering  $(1-z)(1-z') = 1$  and the symmetry (4),

$$F(a, b; c; z) = (1-z')^a F(a, c-b; c; z') = (1-z)^{-a} F(c-b, a; c; z'),$$

for  $|z| < 1$  and  $\operatorname{Re} z < 1/2$  at least. By (7) again

$$F(c-b, a; c; z') = (1-z)^{c-b} F(c-b, c-a; c; z),$$

therefore, using the symmetry,

$$F(a, b; c; z) = (1-z)^{c-a-b} F(c-a, c-b; c; z). \quad (8)$$

The identity (8), due to Euler, thus holds for  $|z| < 1$ ,  $\operatorname{Re} z < 1/2$ , and any  $a, b, c$  (with  $c \notin -\mathbb{N}$ ). It extends to  $|z| < 1$  and, if  $\operatorname{Re} c > \operatorname{Re} b > 0$ , to all  $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus D$ .

**Variante.** For  $\operatorname{Re} c > \operatorname{Re} b > 0$ , (8) may also be proved directly from (5): assuming  $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus D$  is real, that is  $z < 1$ , the result follows from the change  $t = (1-s)/(1-sz)$ ,  $0 < s < 1$ , then extends analytically to all  $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus D$ .

## 2 Some hypergeometric integral formulas

We begin with an extension of Euler's formula (5) (obtained for  $b = c$ ).

**Lemma 1** *Let  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $\operatorname{Re} d > \operatorname{Re} c > 0$  and  $|z| < 1$ . Then*

$$\int_0^1 t^{c-1}(1-t)^{d-c-1}F(a, b; c; tz)dt = \frac{\Gamma(c)\Gamma(d-c)}{\Gamma(d)}F(a, b; d; z).$$

**Proof.** Expanding  $F$  by (3) the integral becomes

$$\sum_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \frac{(a)_m (b)_m}{(c)_m} \frac{z^m}{m!} \int_0^1 t^{c+m-1}(1-t)^{d-c-1} dt = \sum_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \frac{(a)_m (b)_m}{(c)_m} \frac{\Gamma(c+m)\Gamma(d-c)}{\Gamma(d+m)} \frac{z^m}{m!}$$

by (6). But  $\Gamma(c+m) = (c)_m \Gamma(c)$ ,  $\Gamma(d+m) = (d)_m \Gamma(d)$  and the lemma follows. ■

**Lemma 2** *Let  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, k, z \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $\operatorname{Re} k > \operatorname{Re} \gamma > 0$ . Let  $z' = z/(z-1)$ . Then, for  $|z| < 1$  and  $\operatorname{Re} z < 1/2$ ,*

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 t^{k-\gamma-1}(1-t)^{\gamma-1}F(\alpha, \beta; \gamma; (1-t)z')F(k-\alpha, k-\beta; k-\gamma; tz)dt = \\ = \frac{\Gamma(\gamma)\Gamma(k-\gamma)}{\Gamma(k)}(1-z)^{\alpha+\beta-k}. \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** Since  $|z'| < 1$  we can expand the first hypergeometric factor by (3) and the integral becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \frac{(\alpha)_m (\beta)_m}{(\gamma)_m} \frac{z'^m}{m!} \int_0^1 t^{k-\gamma-1}(1-t)^{\gamma+m-1}F(k-\alpha, k-\beta; k-\gamma; tz)dt = \\ = \sum_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \frac{(\alpha)_m (\beta)_m}{(\gamma)_m} \frac{z'^m}{m!} \frac{\Gamma(k-\gamma)\Gamma(\gamma+m)}{\Gamma(k+m)}F(k-\alpha, k-\beta; k+m; z), \end{aligned}$$

by Lemma 1 with  $a = k - \alpha$ ,  $b = k - \beta$ ,  $c = k - \gamma$ ,  $d = k + m$ . But  $\Gamma(\gamma + m) = (\gamma)_m \Gamma(\gamma)$ ,  $\Gamma(k + m) = (k)_m \Gamma(k)$  and, by (8),

$$F(k-\alpha, k-\beta; k+m; z) = (1-z)^{\alpha+\beta+m-k}F(\alpha+m, \beta+m; k+m; z).$$

Since  $z'(1-z) = -z$  our integral is therefore

$$\frac{\Gamma(\gamma)\Gamma(k-\gamma)}{\Gamma(k)}(1-z)^{\alpha+\beta-k} \sum_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \frac{(\alpha)_m (\beta)_m}{(k)_m} F(\alpha+m, \beta+m; k+m; z) \frac{(-z)^m}{m!}.$$

To conclude we observe that term by term derivation of  $F(\alpha, \beta; k; z)$  gives

$$\frac{(\alpha)_m (\beta)_m}{(k)_m} F(\alpha+m, \beta+m; k+m; z) = \left(\frac{d}{dz}\right)^m F(\alpha, \beta; k; z).$$

The above sum  $\sum_m$  is now, by Taylor's formula,

$$\sum_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \left(\frac{d}{dz}\right)^m F(\alpha, \beta; k; z) \frac{(-z)^m}{m!} = F(\alpha, \beta; k; z-z) = 1.$$

This implies our claim. ■

**Proposition 3** Assuming  $0 < x < y < 2x$  and  $a, b, c, k \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $\operatorname{Re} k > \operatorname{Re} c > 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_x^y (y-u)^{c-1} (u-x)^{k-c-1} F\left(a, b; c; 1 - \frac{u}{y}\right) F\left(-a, -b; k-c; 1 - \frac{u}{x}\right) u^{-k} du = \\ = \frac{\Gamma(c)\Gamma(k-c)}{\Gamma(k)} x^{-c} y^{c-k} (y-x)^{k-1}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $F(-a, -b; k-c; z)$  is an analytic function of  $z$  in a domain containing  $]-\infty, 0]$  (for instance if  $\operatorname{Re} k > \operatorname{Re}(c-b) > \operatorname{Re} c > 0$ ), the result remains valid whenever  $0 < x < y$ .

**Proof.** (i) Let us assume first  $0 < x < y < 2x$ , so that  $|1 - u/x| < 1$  and  $|1 - u/y| < 1$  in the integral. Thanks to Euler's identity (8) applied to both hypergeometric functions:

$$\begin{aligned} F\left(a, b; c; 1 - \frac{u}{y}\right) F\left(-a, -b; k-c; 1 - \frac{u}{x}\right) = \\ = \left(\frac{u}{y}\right)^{c-a-b} F\left(c-a, c-b; c; 1 - \frac{u}{y}\right) \left(\frac{u}{x}\right)^{k-c+a+b} F\left(k+a-c, k+b-c; k-c; 1 - \frac{u}{x}\right), \end{aligned}$$

the factor  $u^{-k}$  disappears in the integral, which becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{y}{x}\right)^{a+b-c} x^{-k} \int_x^y (y-u)^{c-1} (u-x)^{k-c-1} F\left(c-a, c-b; c; 1 - \frac{u}{y}\right) \times \\ \times F\left(k-c+a, k-c+b; k-c; 1 - \frac{u}{x}\right) du. \end{aligned}$$

Setting  $u = (1-t)x + ty$  with  $0 \leq t \leq 1$  and  $z := 1 - \frac{y}{x} \in ]-1, 0[$  we have  $z' = \frac{z}{z-1} = 1 - \frac{x}{y} \in ]0, 1/2[$ . Since  $1 - \frac{u}{y} = (1-t)z'$  and  $1 - \frac{u}{x} = tz$  the integral is now

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{y}{x}\right)^{a+b-c} x^{-k} (y-x)^{k-1} \int_0^1 t^{k-c-1} (1-t)^{c-1} F(c-a, c-b; c; (1-t)z') \times \\ \times F(k-c+a, k-c+b; k-c; tz) dt, \end{aligned}$$

and the result follows by Lemma 2, applied with  $\alpha = c-a$ ,  $\beta = c-b$ ,  $\gamma = c$ .

(ii) Only assuming  $0 < x < y$  we have  $1 - u/x < 0$  and  $1 - u/y \in ]0, 1[$ . If  $F(-a, -b; k-c; z)$  is analytic in a domain containing  $]-\infty, 0]$  (e.g. if  $\operatorname{Re}(k-c) > \operatorname{Re}(-b) > 0$ ), the integral is an analytic function of  $(x, y)$  in this domain and we can extend the result of (i). ■

**Theorem 4** Let  $\mathcal{D}^+$  denote the space of functions  $f \in C^\infty(]0, \infty[)$  which vanish identically on a neighborhood of  $+\infty$ . For  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $\operatorname{Re} c > 0$ , the integral transform  $f \mapsto \varphi$  defined by

$$\varphi(y) := \int_y^\infty (x-y)^{c-1} F\left(a, b; c; 1 - \frac{y}{x}\right) f(x) dx, \quad y > 0,$$

maps  $\mathcal{D}^+$  into itself and is inverted by

$$f(x) = \frac{(-1)^k}{\Gamma(c)\Gamma(k-c)} \int_x^\infty (y-x)^{k-c-1} F\left(-a, -b; k-c; 1 - \frac{y}{x}\right) \varphi^{(k)}(y) dy, \quad x > 0,$$

where  $\varphi^{(k)}$  is the  $k$ -th derivative of  $\varphi$ . This inversion formula holds true if  $k$  is any integer such that  $k > \operatorname{Re} c > 0$  and  $F(-a, -b; k - c; z)$  is an analytic function of  $z$  in a domain containing  $]-\infty, 0]$ .

**Proof.** Let  $f \in \mathcal{D}^+$  with  $f(x) = 0$  for  $x \geq A > 0$ . Then  $\varphi(u) = 0$  for  $u \geq A$  and, for  $0 < u \leq A$ ,

$$\varphi(u) = \int_u^A (v-u)^{c-1} F\left(a, b; c; 1 - \frac{u}{v}\right) f(v) dv.$$

Since  $0 \leq 1 - \frac{u}{v} \leq 1 - \frac{u}{A} < 1$  in the integral, it follows that  $\varphi \in \mathcal{D}^+$ .

Let  $F_1(z) := F(a, b; c; z)$  and  $F_2(z) := F(-a, -b; k - c; z)$  for short. Multiplying by  $(u-x)^{k-c-1} u^{-k} F_2\left(1 - \frac{u}{x}\right)$  for  $x > 0$  and integrating on  $u \in [x, \infty[$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_x^\infty (u-x)^{k-c-1} u^{-k} F_2\left(1 - \frac{u}{x}\right) \varphi(u) du = \\ &= \int_x^\infty f(v) dv \int_x^v (v-u)^{c-1} (u-x)^{k-c-1} F_1\left(1 - \frac{u}{v}\right) F_2\left(1 - \frac{u}{x}\right) u^{-k} du \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(c)\Gamma(k-c)}{\Gamma(k)} x^{-c} \int_x^\infty (v-x)^{k-1} v^{c-k} f(v) dv \quad (9) \end{aligned}$$

by Proposition 3.

Let  $g(x) := \int_x^\infty (v-x)^{k-1} v^{c-k} f(v) dv$ . It is now easily checked that  $g^{(k)}(x) = (-1)^k (k-1)! x^{c-k} f(x)$ , so that the above integral allows reconstructing  $f$  from  $\varphi$ . Indeed (9) is, with  $u = tx$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} g(x) &= \frac{\Gamma(k)}{\Gamma(c)\Gamma(k-c)} x^c \int_x^\infty (u-x)^{k-c-1} u^{-k} F_2\left(1 - \frac{u}{x}\right) \varphi(u) du \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(k)}{\Gamma(c)\Gamma(k-c)} \int_1^\infty (t-1)^{k-c-1} t^{-k} F_2(1-t) \varphi(tx) dt, \end{aligned}$$

therefore

$$(-1)^k x^{c-k} f(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(c)\Gamma(k-c)} \int_1^\infty (t-1)^{k-c-1} F_2(1-t) \varphi^{(k)}(tx) dt.$$

The result follows, changing again the variable  $t$  for  $y = tx$ . ■

### 3 Application to Chebyshev polynomials

The Chebyshev polynomials  $T_n$  (defined by  $T_n(\cos \theta) = \cos n\theta$ ) may be written as hypergeometric functions. Lemma 5 will serve as a preparation for Lemma 6.

**Lemma 5** For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \geq 1$ , and  $z \in \mathbb{C}$

$$T_n(z) = F\left(n, -n; \frac{1}{2}; \frac{1-z}{2}\right).$$

**Proof.** The Chebyshev polynomials are characterized by the recurrence relation (easily checked for  $z = \cos \theta$ )

$$T_{n+1}(z) + T_{n-1}(z) = 2zT_n(z) \text{ for } n \geq 1, T_0(z) = 1, T_1(z) = z.$$

Let

$$F_n(x) := F\left(n, -n; \frac{1}{2}; x\right) = 1 + \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{(n)_k (-n)_k x^k}{(1/2)_k k!},$$

a finite sum actually since  $(-n)_k = 0$  for  $k > n$ . Then  $F_0(x) = 1$ ,  $F_1(x) = 1 - 2x$  and (setting  $z = 1 - 2x$ ) we wish to prove that, for  $n \geq 1$ ,

$$2F_n(x) - F_{n+1}(x) - F_{n-1}(x) = 4xF_n(x).$$

Setting  $z = 1 - 2x$  it will follow that  $F_n((1-z)/2) = F_n(x)$  satisfies the same recurrence relation as  $T_n(z)$ , hence  $T_n(z) = F_n((1-z)/2)$  as claimed.

For  $n \geq 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & 2F_n(x) - F_{n+1}(x) - F_{n-1}(x) = \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^n \left\{ \frac{2(n)_k (-n)_k - (n+1)_k (-n-1)_k - (n-1)_k (-n+1)_k}{(1/2)_k} \right\} \frac{x^k}{k!}. \end{aligned}$$

But

$$(a+1)_k = (a)_k \frac{a+k}{a}, \quad (a-1)_k = (a)_k \frac{a-1}{a+k-1}$$

and the coefficient of  $x^k/k!$  becomes, after some elementary computations,

$$\{\dots\} = 4 \frac{(n)_k}{n+k-1} \frac{(-n)_k}{n-k+1} \frac{\frac{1}{2}-k}{(1/2)_k} k = 4 \frac{(n)_{k-1} (-n)_{k-1}}{(1/2)_{k-1}} k.$$

Thus

$$2F_n(x) - F_{n+1}(x) - F_{n-1}(x) = 4 \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{(n)_{k-1} (-n)_{k-1}}{(1/2)_{k-1}} \frac{x^k}{(k-1)!} = 4xF_n(x).$$

■

**Lemma 6** For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} T_n(t) &= F\left(\frac{n}{2}, -\frac{n}{2}; \frac{1}{2}; 1-t^2\right), \quad t \in \mathbb{R} \\ &= tF\left(\frac{1+n}{2}, \frac{1-n}{2}; \frac{1}{2}; 1-t^2\right), \quad t > 0. \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** This result might be inferred from the previous lemma by means of a quadratic transformation of the hypergeometric function ([3], p. 111, formula (2)). Here is an elementary proof, based on  $(1 - \cos 2\theta)/2 = 1 - \cos^2 \theta$ .

(i) For  $n = 2p$ ,  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ , Lemma 5 with  $z = \cos 2\theta$  gives

$$T_{2p}(\cos \theta) = \cos 2p\theta = T_p(\cos 2\theta) = F\left(p, -p; \frac{1}{2}; 1 - \cos^2 \theta\right),$$

implying the identity of these polynomials in  $t = \cos \theta$ .

(ii) For  $n = 2p-1$ ,  $p \geq 1$ , the equality  $\cos 2p\theta = T_p(\cos 2\theta)$  implies  $-2p \sin 2p\theta = -2T_p'(\cos 2\theta) \sin 2\theta$ . Thus

$$\cos(2p-1)\theta = \cos \theta \cos 2p\theta + \sin \theta \sin 2p\theta$$

may be written as

$$\begin{aligned} T_{2p-1}(\cos \theta) &= \cos \theta T_p(\cos 2\theta) + \frac{1}{p} \sin \theta \sin 2\theta T_p'(\cos 2\theta) \\ &= \cos \theta \left[ T_p(\cos 2\theta) + \frac{1}{p}(1 - \cos 2\theta)T_p'(\cos 2\theta) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Considering the factor  $[\dots]$  we note that, by Lemma 5,

$$T_p(z) + \frac{1}{p}(1-z)T_p'(z) = F\left(p, -p; \frac{1}{2}; \frac{1-z}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{p} \frac{1-z}{2} F'\left(p, -p; \frac{1}{2}; \frac{1-z}{2}\right).$$

But, for a general hypergeometric series (3),

$$bF(a, b; c; x) + xF'(a, b; c; x) = bF(a, b+1; c; x),$$

an immediate consequence of  $b(b)_k + k(b)_k = b(b+1)_k$ . With  $a = p$ ,  $b = -p$ ,  $c = 1/2$  we infer the following polynomial identity:

$$T_p(z) + \frac{1}{p}(1-z)T_p'(z) = F\left(p, 1-p; \frac{1}{2}; \frac{1-z}{2}\right).$$

With  $z = \cos 2\theta$  we conclude that

$$T_{2p-1}(\cos \theta) = \cos \theta F\left(p, 1-p; \frac{1}{2}; 1 - \cos^2 \theta\right).$$

Replacing  $\cos \theta$  by  $t$ , the right-hand side therefore extends to an analytic function of  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  (actually a polynomial).

(iii) We have thus proved the first result of the lemma for  $n$  even, resp. the second for  $n$  odd. The second, resp. first, then follows by Euler's formula (8).

■

**Application of Proposition 3.** Let  $0 < r < s$ . Setting  $x = r^2$ ,  $y = s^2$  and  $u = p^2$  in Proposition 3 with  $a = n/2$ ,  $b = -n/2$ ,  $c = 1/2$ ,  $k = 1$ , Lemma 6 gives  $F(a, b; c; z) = F(-a, -b; k - c; z) = T_n(\sqrt{1-z})$ , analytic in  $\mathbb{C} \setminus [1, \infty[$ , and we obtain formula (1):

$$\begin{aligned} \int_r^s (s^2 - p^2)^{-1/2} (p^2 - r^2)^{-1/2} T_n\left(\frac{p}{r}\right) T_n\left(\frac{p}{s}\right) 2p^{-1} dp &= (\Gamma(1/2))^2 r^{-1} s^{-1} \\ &= \pi/rs. \end{aligned}$$

See also Gorenflo and Vessella [4] p. 119 for a direct elementary proof of this equality.

**Application of Theorem 4.** Cormack's study of the line Radon transform in the plane led him to consider the transform  $f \mapsto \varphi$  defined by

$$\varphi(p) = \int_p^\infty f(s) T_n\left(\frac{p}{s}\right) \frac{2s ds}{\sqrt{s^2 - p^2}}, \quad p > 0,$$

where  $f$ , resp.  $\varphi$ , is the  $n$ -th coefficient in the Fourier series expansion of a function on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  in polar coordinates, resp. of its Radon transform on lines. Let  $g(x) := f(\sqrt{x})$  and  $\psi(y) := \varphi(\sqrt{y})$ . Changing  $s$  for  $t = s^2$  we obtain, in view of Lemma 6,

$$\psi(y) = \int_y^\infty F\left(\frac{n}{2}, -\frac{n}{2}; \frac{1}{2}; 1 - \frac{y}{x}\right) g(x) \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x-y}}.$$

Theorem 4, with  $a = n/2$ ,  $b = -n/2$ ,  $c = 1/2$ ,  $k = 1$  yields the inversion formula

$$g(x) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_t^\infty F\left(-\frac{n}{2}, \frac{n}{2}; \frac{1}{2}; 1 - \frac{y}{x}\right) \frac{\psi'(y) dy}{\sqrt{y-x}},$$

that is, with  $x = r^2$  and  $y = p^2$ ,

$$f(r) = g(r^2) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_r^\infty T_n\left(\frac{p}{r}\right) \frac{\varphi'(p) dp}{\sqrt{p^2 - r^2}}.$$

More generally, Theorem 4 yields inversion formulas for the Radon transform on certain families of hypersurfaces in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , with Fourier series replaced by spherical harmonics expansions and Chebyshev's polynomials by Gegenbauer's; see Cormack [2].

## References

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