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## ON DISTRIBUTION OF ZEROS OF GENERALIZED FUNCTIONS OF MITTAG-LEFFLER'S TYPE

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The following two problems related to the entire function

$$\Phi_{\rho_1, \rho_2}(z, \mu_1, \mu_2) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^n}{\Gamma(\mu_1 + n/\rho_1)\Gamma(\mu_2 + n/\rho_2)}, \quad \rho_1, \rho_2, \mu_1, \mu_2 > 0,$$

are considered.

- (i) For  $0 < \rho_1 \leq 1/2$ , determine the values of  $\mu_1, \rho_2, \mu_2$  such that all zeros of  $\Phi_{\rho_1, \rho_2}(z, \mu_1, \mu_2)$  are negative.
- (ii) For  $1/2 < \rho_1 < 1$ , determine the values of  $\mu_1, \rho_2, \mu_2$  such that all zeros of  $\Phi_{\rho_1, \rho_2}(z, \mu_1, \mu_2)$  are situated outside the angle  $\{z : |\arg z| \leq \pi/(2\rho_1)\}$ .

The results point out several values of  $\mu_1$  and all values of  $\rho_2 > 0, \mu_2 > 0$  with the above properties. Moreover, we obtain some results on  $a$ -points of the function  $\Phi_{\rho_1, \rho_2}(z, \mu_1, \mu_2)$ .

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Рассматриваются следующие две задачи о целой функции

$$\Phi_{\rho_1, \rho_2}(z, \mu_1, \mu_2) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^n}{\Gamma(\mu_1 + n/\rho_1)\Gamma(\mu_2 + n/\rho_2)}, \quad \rho_1, \rho_2, \mu_1, \mu_2 > 0.$$

- (а) Найти для  $0 < \rho_1 \leq 1/2$  такие значения  $\mu_1, \rho_2, \mu_2$ , что все нули  $\Phi_{\rho_1, \rho_2}(z, \mu_1, \mu_2)$  являются отрицательными.
- (б) Найти для  $1/2 < \rho_1 < 1$  такие значения  $\mu_1, \rho_2, \mu_2$ , что все нули  $\Phi_{\rho_1, \rho_2}(z, \mu_1, \mu_2)$  лежат вне угла  $\{z : |\arg z| \leq \pi/(2\rho_1)\}$ .

Полученные результаты гарантируют выполнение этих свойств для многих значений  $\mu_1$  и любых  $\rho_2 > 0, \mu_2 > 0$ . Кроме того, получены некоторые результаты об  $a$ -точках функции  $\Phi_{\rho_1, \rho_2}(z, \mu_1, \mu_2)$ .

**1. Introduction.** Following the definition of M. M. Dzhrbashyan [1], the function

$$\Phi_{\rho_1, \rho_2}(z, \mu_1, \mu_2) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^n}{\Gamma(\mu_1 + n/\rho_1)\Gamma(\mu_2 + n/\rho_2)}, \quad (1)$$

where  $\rho_1, \mu_1$  and  $\rho_2, \mu_2$  are arbitrary positive parameters, is said to be a generalized function of Mittag-Leffler's type.

Primary properties and different applications of the function  $\Phi_{\rho_1, \rho_2}(z, \mu_1, \mu_2)$  are summarized in [1]. The function  $\Phi_{\rho_1, \rho_2}(z, \mu_1, \mu_2)$  is a generalization of the well-known function of Mittag-Leffler's type  $E_\rho(z, \mu) \equiv \Phi_{\rho, \infty}(z, \mu, 1) \equiv \Phi_{\infty, \rho}(z, 1, \mu)$  studied in [2] in detail. The purpose of this paper is to extend some results [3] on distribution of zeros of the function of Mittag-Leffler's type  $E_\rho(z, \mu)$  to the zeros of generalized functions of Mittag-Leffler's type  $\Phi_{\rho_1, \rho_2}(z, \mu_1, \mu_2)$ .

To state the first result, we define the following three transformations mapping the set  $\{(\rho, \mu) : 0 < \rho < 1, \mu > 0\}$  into itself:

$$A: (\rho, \mu) \rightarrow \left(\frac{\rho}{2}, \mu\right); \quad B: (\rho, \mu) \rightarrow \left(\frac{\rho}{2}, \mu + \frac{1}{\rho}\right);$$

$$C: (\rho, \mu) \rightarrow \begin{cases} (\rho, \mu - 1) & \text{for } \mu > 1; \\ (\rho, \mu) & \text{for } 0 < \mu \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

Put

$$W_a = \{(\rho, \mu) : 1/2 < \rho < 1, \mu \in [1/\rho - 1, 1] \cup [1/\rho, 2]\}, \quad W_b = AW_a \cup BW_a.$$

Denote by  $W_i$  the least set containing  $W_b$  and invariant with respect to  $A, B, C$ . Evidently, the set  $W_i$  can be represented in the form

$$W_i = \bigcup (A^{k_{11}} B^{k_{12}} C^{k_{13}} \dots A^{k_{n1}} B^{k_{n2}} C^{k_{n3}}) W_b,$$

where the union is taken over all  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  and over all  $3n$ -tuples  $(k_{11}, k_{12}, k_{13}, \dots, k_{n1}, k_{n2}, k_{n3})$  of nonnegative integers.

In [3], the following theorem is proved.

**Theorem A** ([3, Theorem 3]). *If  $(\rho, \mu) \in W_i$ , then all zeros of  $E_\rho(z, \mu)$  are negative and simple.*

The following theorem is a generalization of Theorem A.

**Theorem 1.** *Assume  $(\rho_1, \mu_1) \in W_i \cup W_j$ , where  $W_i$  is the set described above and*

$$W_j = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ (\rho_1, \mu_1) : \rho_1 \in \left[ \frac{1}{5 \cdot 2^{n-2}}, \frac{A}{2^{n-1}} \right] \cup \{2^{-n}\}, 0 < \mu_1 < 1 + 1/\rho_1 \right\},$$

where

$$A = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{\pi} \arctan \left( \frac{10}{9\pi} \ln \frac{3}{2} \right) (\approx 0.45).$$

Then, for any  $\rho_2 > 0, \mu_2 > 0$ , all zeros of the entire function  $\Phi_{\rho_1, \rho_2}(z, \mu_1, \mu_2)$  are real and negative.

In [3], the following theorem was also proved.

**Theorem B** ([3, Theorem 1]). *Assume that one of the following conditions is satisfied:*

- (i)  $\rho > 1, \mu \in [1, 1 + 1/\rho]$ ;

(ii)  $\rho = 1, \mu \in (0, 2)$ ;

(iii)  $1/2 < \rho < 1, \mu \in [1/\rho - 1, 1] \cup [1/\rho, 2]$ .

Then all zeros of  $E_\rho(z, \mu)$  are situated outside the closed angle  $\left\{ z : |\arg z| \leq \frac{\pi}{2\rho} \right\}$ .

The following theorem is a generalization of Theorem B (iii).

**Theorem 2.** Assume  $1/2 < \rho_1 < 1, \mu_1 \in [1/\rho_1 - 1, 1] \cup [1/\rho_1, 2]$ . Then, for any  $\rho_2 > 0, \mu_2 > 0$ , all zeros of the entire function  $\Phi_{\rho_1, \rho_2}(z, \mu_1, \mu_2)$  are situated outside the closed angle

$$\left\{ z : |\arg z| \leq \frac{\pi}{2\rho_1} \right\}. \tag{2}$$

**2. Proof of Theorem 1.** We use the following well-known Laguerre theorem.

**Theorem C** ([4, p. 269]). Let  $\varphi(\omega)$  be an entire function of genus 0 or 1, real-valued for real values of  $\omega$ , whose all zeros are real and negative. Let  $f(z)$  be an entire function representable in the form

$$f(z) = e^{az+b} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( 1 + \frac{z}{z_n} \right),$$

where  $a$  and all  $z_n$  are positive. If

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n,$$

then

$$g(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \varphi(n) z^n$$

is an entire function whose all zeros are real and negative.

Set

$$f(z) = E_{\rho_1}(z, \mu_1) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^n}{\Gamma(\mu_1 + n/\rho_1)}, \tag{3}$$

$$\varphi(\omega) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\mu_2 + \omega/\rho_2)}. \tag{4}$$

Show that if the values of parameters  $\rho_1, \mu_1, \rho_2, \mu_2$  are taken from the statement of Theorem 1, then the conditions of Theorem C are satisfied, so, by virtue of formulas (1) and (4),

$$\Phi_{\rho_1, \rho_2}(z, \mu_1, \mu_2) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\varphi(n) z^n}{\Gamma(\mu_1 + n/\rho_1)} \tag{5}$$

is an entire function whose all zeros are real and negative.

Consider the function  $f(z)$ . By Theorem A, if  $(\rho_1, \mu_1) \in W_i$ , then all zeros of this function are real and negative. By [3, Theorem 2] and [5, Theorem 1], if  $(\rho_1, \mu_1) \in W_j$ , then all zeros

of this function are also real and negative. Since  $E_{\rho_1}(z, \mu_1)$  is an entire function of order  $\rho_1$  (but  $W_i$  and  $W_j$  have only  $\rho_1 \leq 1/2$ ), by the Hadamard theorem, we have

$$E_{\rho_1}(z, \mu_1) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\mu_1)} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 + \frac{z}{z_n}\right),$$

where all  $z_n$  are positive.

Thus, the function  $f(z)$  satisfies the conditions of Theorem C.

The function  $\varphi(\omega)$  is an entire function of genus 1 vanishing at the points  $\omega_k = -\rho_2(k + \mu_2)$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . All of them are real and negative. Moreover, since  $\varphi(\mathbb{R}) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ , the function  $\varphi(\omega)$  satisfies the conditions of Theorem C. This completes the proof of Theorem 1.

**3. Proof of Theorem 2.** We use the following two lemmas. The first one was also used in [3].

**Lemma A** (Gauss's lemma). *Let  $f(z) \not\equiv 0$  be a meromorphic function representable in the form*

$$f(z) = \frac{\gamma_0}{z} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\gamma_k}{z - a_k},$$

where

$$\gamma_k \geq 0 \quad (k = 0, 1, 2, \dots), \quad \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\gamma_k}{|a_k|} < \infty.$$

If the sequence  $\{a_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$  is contained in the open angle

$$A_{\eta, \delta} = \{z : \eta < \arg z < \eta + \delta\}, \quad \eta \in [0, 2\pi), \quad 0 < \delta \leq \pi, \quad (6)$$

then  $f(z)$  does not vanish outside  $A_{\eta, \delta}$ .

The following lemma is a slight generalization of the Laguerre theorem mentioned above.

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $f(z)$  be an entire function of order  $\rho < 1$ , nonvanishing outside the open angle  $A_{\eta, \delta}$  defined by formula (6). Let  $\varphi(\omega)$  be an entire function of genus 0 or 1, real-valued for real values of  $\omega$ , whose all zeros are real and negative. If*

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n,$$

then

$$g(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \varphi(n) z^n$$

is an entire function whose all zeros are contained in the open angle  $A_{\eta, \delta}$ .

*Proof.* First of all,  $g(z)$  is an entire function. Indeed, by the Hadamard theorem

$$\varphi(\omega) = a e^{\omega b} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 + \frac{\omega}{\alpha_n}\right) e^{-\frac{\omega}{\alpha_n}},$$

where  $\alpha_n > 0$  for all  $n$ .

Since  $(1 + x)e^{-x} \leq 1$  for  $x \geq 0$ , we have  $|\varphi(n)| \leq |a|e^{nb}$ , and hence the series for  $g(z)$  converges everywhere.

Consider the function

$$g_1(z) = f(z) + \frac{z}{\alpha_1} f'(z) = \frac{f(z)z}{\alpha_1} \left( \frac{\alpha_1}{z} + \frac{f'(z)}{f(z)} \right).$$

Show that all zeros of  $g_1(z)$  are contained in  $A_{\eta,\delta}$ .

By the Hadamard theorem

$$f(z) = c \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( 1 - \frac{z}{a_k} \right),$$

where

$$a_k \in A_{\eta,\delta} \ (k = 1, 2, \dots), \quad \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{|a_k|} < \infty.$$

Therefore

$$\frac{f'(z)}{f(z)} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{z - a_k}.$$

By Lemma A, the function  $\frac{\alpha_1}{z} + \frac{f'(z)}{f(z)}$  does not vanish outside  $A_{\eta,\delta}$ . Since, moreover,  $g_1(0) \neq 0$ , we conclude that  $g_1(z)$  does not vanish outside  $A_{\eta,\delta}$ , as well.

Iterating this argument we establish that for any  $n = 2, 3, \dots$

$$g_n(z) = g_{n-1}(z) + \frac{z}{\alpha_n} g'_{n-1}(z)$$

does not vanish outside  $A_{\eta,\delta}$ .

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} g_1(z) &= a_0 + a_1 \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\alpha_1} \right) z + \dots + a_p \left( 1 + \frac{p}{\alpha_1} \right) z^p + \dots, \\ g_2(z) &= a_0 + a_1 \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\alpha_1} \right) \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\alpha_2} \right) z + \dots + a_p \left( 1 + \frac{p}{\alpha_1} \right) \left( 1 + \frac{p}{\alpha_2} \right) z^p + \dots, \\ &\dots\dots\dots \\ g_n(z) &= a_0 + a_1 \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\alpha_1} \right) \dots \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\alpha_n} \right) z + \dots + a_p \left( 1 + \frac{p}{\alpha_1} \right) \dots \left( 1 + \frac{p}{\alpha_n} \right) z^p + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} &g_n \left( \exp \left( b - \sum_1^n \alpha_i^{-1} \right) \tilde{z} \right) = \\ &= a_0 + a_1 e^b \prod_{i=1}^n \left( \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\alpha_i} \right) e^{-\frac{1}{\alpha_i}} \right) \tilde{z} + \dots + a_p e^{pb} \prod_{i=1}^n \left( \left( 1 + \frac{p}{\alpha_i} \right) e^{-\frac{p}{\alpha_i}} \right) \tilde{z}^p + \dots, \end{aligned}$$

and also all zeros of this function are situated inside the angle  $A_{\eta,\delta}$ .

Let

$$G_n(z) = e^{bz} \prod_{i=1}^n \left( 1 + \frac{z}{\alpha_i} \right) e^{-\frac{z}{\alpha_i}}.$$

Then

$$g_n\left(\exp\left(b - \sum_1^n \alpha_i^{-1}\right)\tilde{z}\right) = a_0 + a_1 G_n(1)\tilde{z} + \dots + a_p G_n(p)\tilde{z}^p + \dots .$$

Since

$$G_n(j) \rightarrow \frac{\varphi(j)}{a} \quad (n \rightarrow \infty), \quad j \in \mathbb{N},$$

we have

$$g_n\left(\exp\left(b - \sum_1^n \frac{1}{\alpha_i}\right)\tilde{z}\right) \rightarrow \frac{g(\tilde{z})}{a}$$

uniformly in any finite domain.

In virtue of the Hurwitz theorem, all zeros of the function  $g(\tilde{z})/a$  are exactly limits of the zeros of the function  $g_n(\exp(b - \sum_1^n \alpha_i^{-1})\tilde{z})$ . Hence all zeros of  $g(z)$  are contained in the open angle  $A_{\eta,\delta}$ . □

Let us immediately prove Theorem 2. Let  $f(z)$  and  $\varphi(\omega)$  be the functions defined by formulas (3) and (4), respectively. Show that if the values of parameters  $\rho_1, \mu_1, \rho_2, \mu_2$  are taken from the statement of Theorem 2, then the conditions of Lemma 1 are satisfied, hence, in virtue of formula (5),  $\Phi_{\rho_1, \rho_2}(z, \mu_1, \mu_2)$  is an entire function whose all zeros are situated in the same domain where the zeros of  $f(z)$  are.

Since  $1/2 < \rho_1 < 1$ ,  $\mu_1 \in [1/\rho_1 - 1, 1] \cup [1/\rho_1, 2]$ , by Theorem B(iii), we have that all zeros of  $E_{\rho_1}(z, \mu_1)$  are situated outside the closed angle (2). Therefore  $f(z)$  is an entire function of order  $\rho_1 < 1$  nonvanishing outside the angle  $A_{\eta,\delta}$ , where

$$\eta = \pi/(2\rho_1) \in [0, 2\pi), \quad 0 < \delta = 2\pi - \pi/\rho_1 \leq \pi .$$

The function  $\varphi(\omega)$  also satisfies the conditions of Lemma 1. These conditions can be verified by reasoning as in the proof of Theorem 1. Thus Theorem 2 is proved.

**4.** In conclusion we obtain some results on  $a$ -points of the function  $\Phi_{\rho_1, \rho_2}(z, \mu_1, \mu_2)$ , which are more general than the results on  $a$ -points of the function  $E_\rho(z, \mu)$  obtained in [5]. Namely, we obtain analogues of the following theorems.

**Theorem D** ([5, Theorem 3]). Assume  $\rho > 1/2, a \in \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| \leq R_\rho\}$ , where  $R_\rho = \min\{2\rho - 1, 1\}$ . Then all  $a$ -points of the function  $E_\rho(z, 1)$  are situated outside the closed angle

$$\{z : |\arg z| \leq \pi/(2\rho)\}$$

(if  $a = 1$ , then the point 0 is excluded from the angle).

**Corollary A** ([5, Corollary 1]). Assume  $a \in (-1, 1)$ . If  $(1 + |a|) \cdot 2^{-n-1} \leq \rho < 2^{-n}$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ), then all  $a$ -points of the function  $E_\rho(z, 1)$  are strictly negative.

**Theorem E** ([5, Theorem 4]). Assume  $1/2 < \rho < 1, a \in \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| \leq \rho\}$ . Then all  $a$ -points of the function  $E_\rho(z, 2)$  are situated outside the closed angle

$$\left\{z : |\arg z| \leq \frac{1}{\rho} \arccos \frac{|a|}{\rho}\right\}.$$

We need the following lemma, which is a generalization of Lemma 1.

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $f(z)$  be an entire function of order  $\rho < 1$  whose all  $a$ -points are contained in the open angle  $A_{\eta,\delta}$  defined by formula (6). Let  $\varphi(\omega)$  be an entire function of genus 0 or 1, real-valued for real values of  $\omega$ , whose all zeros are real and negative. If*

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n,$$

then

$$g(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \varphi(n) z^n$$

is an entire function whose all  $a\varphi(0)$ -points are contained in the open angle  $A_{\eta,\delta}$ .

*Proof.* Consider the function  $f(z) - a$ . This function satisfies the conditions of Lemma 1. Since

$$g(z) - a\varphi(0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \varphi(n) z^n + (a_0 - a)\varphi(0),$$

in virtue of Lemma 1 we have that all zeros of the function  $g(z) - a\varphi(0)$  are contained in the same domain where the zeros of the function  $f(z) - a$  are, i. e. in the open angle  $A_{\eta,\delta}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3** (Analogue of Theorem D). *Assume  $1/2 < \rho_1 < 1$ ,  $\rho_2 > 0$ ,  $\mu_2 > 0$ ,  $a \in \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| \leq R_{\rho_1}\}$ , where  $R_{\rho_1} = 2\rho_1 - 1$ . Then all  $a/\Gamma(\mu_2)$ -points of the function  $\Phi_{\rho_1,\rho_2}(z, 1, \mu_2)$  are situated outside the closed angle*

$$\{z : |\arg z| \leq \pi/(2\rho_1)\}$$

(if  $a = 1$ , then the point 0 is excluded from the angle).

**Corollary 1** (Analogue of Corollary A). *Assume  $a \in (-1, 1)$ . If  $(1 + |a|) \cdot 2^{-n-1} \leq \rho_1 < 2^{-n}$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ),  $\rho_2 > 0$ ,  $\mu_2 > 0$ , then all  $a/\Gamma(\mu_2)$ -points of the function  $\Phi_{\rho_1,\rho_2}(z, 1, \mu_2)$  are strictly negative.*

**Theorem 4** (Analogue of Theorem E). *Assume  $1/2 < \rho_1 < 1$ ,  $\rho_2 > 0$ ,  $\mu_2 > 0$ ,  $a \in \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| \leq \rho_1\}$ . Then all  $a/\Gamma(\mu_2)$ -points of the function  $\Phi_{\rho_1,\rho_2}(z, 2, \mu_2)$  are situated outside the closed angle*

$$\left\{z : |\arg z| \leq \frac{1}{\rho_1} \arccos \frac{|a|}{\rho_1}\right\}.$$

To prove these Theorems, it suffices to apply Lemma 2 to the functions

$$f(z) = E_{\rho_1}(z, \mu_1), \quad \varphi(\omega) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\mu_2 + \omega/\rho_2)}.$$

Reasoning as in the proof of Theorem 1, we can prove that the function  $\varphi(\omega)$  satisfies the conditions of Lemma 2 for any  $\rho_2 > 0, \mu_2 > 0$ . If the values of parameters  $\rho_1, \mu_1$  are taken from the statements of Theorems 3 and 4, then the function  $f(z)$  also satisfies the conditions of Lemma 2, as, by Theorems D and E, all its  $a$ -points are situated in the corresponding open angles. The author is deeply grateful to Prof. I. V. Ostrovskii for formulating the problem.

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