

Hypergeometric Function

Pochhammer Symbol: For a positive integer n , the Pochhammer Symbol is denoted and defined by

$$(a)_n = a(a+1)(a+2)(a+3) \dots \dots \dots \{a+(n-1)\}$$

and $(a)_0 = 1$.

(i) $(a)_n = \frac{\Gamma(a+n)}{\Gamma a}$

(ii) $(a)_{n+1} = a(a+1)_n$

(iii) $(a+n)(a)_n = (a)_{n+1}$

General Hypergeometric Function: The general hypergeometric function is denoted and defined by

$${}_mF_n (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m; b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n; x) = \sum \frac{(a_1)_r \dots (a_m)_r}{(b_1)_r \dots (b_n)_r} \frac{x^r}{r!}$$

It is also denoted by

$${}_mF_n \left[\begin{matrix} a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m; \\ b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n; \end{matrix} x \right]$$

Where

m – refers to number of parameters in numerator

n – refers to number of parameters in denominator.

Kummer’s function: For $m = n = 1$, the function is known as Kummer’s function or confluent hypergeometric function, we have

$${}_1F_1 (a; b; x) = F(a; b; x) = \sum \frac{(a)_n}{(b)_n} \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

$$F(a; b; x) = 1 + \frac{a}{b} \frac{x}{1!} + \frac{a(a+1)}{b(b+1)} \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{a(a+1)(a+2)}{b(b+1)(b+2)} \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots \dots \dots$$

Hypergeometric function: For $m = 2, n = 1$, the function is known as hypergeometric function, we have

$${}_2F_1 (a, b; c; x) = F(a, b; c; x) = \sum \frac{(a)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n} \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

$$F(a, b; c; x) = 1 + \frac{ab}{c} \frac{x}{1!} + \frac{a(a+1)b(b+1)}{c(c+1)} \frac{x^2}{2!} + \dots \dots \dots$$

This is called as **hypergeometric series**.

$$F(a, b; c; x) = F(b, a; c; x)$$

This is **symmetric property** of hypergeometric function.

$x(1-x)\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + [c - (a+b+1)x]\frac{dy}{dx} - aby = 0$ is known as **hypergeometric equation**.

The general solution of this hypergeometric differential equation is given by

$$y = A {}_2F_1(a, b; c; x) + Bx^{1-c} {}_2F_1(1-c+a, 1-c+b; 2-c; x)$$

where A, B are arbitrary constants.

Differentiation of hypergeometric functions:

$$\frac{d}{dx} [F(a, b; c; x)] = \frac{ab}{c} F(a+1, b+1; c+1; x)$$

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} [F(a, b; c; x)] = \frac{(a)_2(b)_2}{(c)_2} F(a+2, b+2; c+2; x)$$

.....

$$\frac{d^n}{dx^n} [F(a, b; c; x)] = \frac{(a)_n(b)_n}{(c)_n} F(a+n, b+n; c+n; x)$$

$$\text{Also } \left[\frac{d^n}{dx^n} [F(a, b; c; x)] \right]_{x=0} = \frac{(a)_n(b)_n}{(c)_n}$$

Integral representation of hypergeometric function:

$$F(a, b; c; x) = \frac{\Gamma c}{\Gamma b \Gamma(c-b)} \int_0^1 t^{b-1} (1-t)^{c-b-1} (1-xt)^{-a} dt$$

Or

$$F(a, b; c; x) = \frac{1}{B(b, c-b)} \int_0^1 t^{b-1} (1-t)^{c-b-1} (1-xt)^{-a} dt \quad \text{if } c > b > 0$$

Recurrence Relations:

$$(a-b)F(a, b; c; x) = a F(a+1, b; c; x) - bF(a, b+1; c; x)$$

Question 1: Prove that $P_n(x) = {}_2F_1\left(-n, n+1; 1; \frac{1-x}{2}\right)$

Solution: Using Rodrigue's formula we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_n(x) &= \frac{1}{n!2^n} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (x^2 - 1)^n \\
 &= \frac{(-1)^n}{n!2^n} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (1 - x^2)^n \\
 &= \frac{(-1)^n}{n!} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} \left[(1-x)^n \frac{(1+x)^n}{2^n} \right] \\
 &= \frac{(-1)^n}{n!} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} \left[(1-x)^n \left\{ 1 - \left(\frac{1-x}{2}\right) \right\}^n \right] \\
 &= \frac{(-1)^n}{n!} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} \left[(1-x)^n \left\{ 1 - n \left(\frac{1-x}{2}\right) + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!} \left(\frac{1-x}{2}\right)^2 - \dots \dots \dots \right\} \right] \\
 &= \frac{(-1)^n}{n!} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} \left[(1-x)^n - \frac{n}{2} (1-x)^{n+1} + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!2^2} (1-x)^{n+2} - \dots \dots \dots \right] \\
 &= \frac{(-1)^n}{n!} \left[(-1)^n n! - (-1)^n \frac{(n+1)!}{1!} \frac{n}{2} (1-x) + (-1)^n \frac{(n+2)!}{2!} \frac{n(n-1)}{2!2^2} (1-x)^2 - \dots \dots \dots \right] \\
 &\quad \because \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (a - bx)^m = (-1)^n b^n \frac{m}{(m-n)!} (a - bx)^{m-n} \\
 &= \frac{(-1)^{2n}}{n!} \left[n! - \frac{n! n(n+1)}{1!} \frac{1}{2} (1-x) + \frac{n! n(n-1)(n+2)(n+1)}{2!} \frac{1}{2!2^2} (1-x)^2 - \dots \dots \dots \right] \\
 &= \left[1 + \frac{-n(n+1)}{1.1!} \frac{(1-x)}{2} + \frac{-n(-n+1)(n+1)(n+2)}{1.2.2!} \left(\frac{1-x}{2}\right)^2 - \dots \dots \dots \right] \\
 &= {}_2F_1\left(-n, n+1; 1; \frac{1-x}{2}\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence $P_n(x) = {}_2F_1\left(-n, n+1; 1; \frac{1-x}{2}\right)$.

Question 2: Prove that

(i) $F(1, b; c; x) = (1-x)^{-1}$

(ii) $\log_e(1+x) = x {}_2F_1(1, 1; 2; -x)$

Solution:

(i) By the definition we know that

$${}_2F_1(a, b; c; x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n} \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

$${}_2F_1(a, b; c; x) = 1 + \frac{ab}{c} \frac{x}{1!} + \frac{a(a+1)b(b+1)}{c(c+1)} \frac{x^2}{2!} + \dots$$

Taking $a = 1, c = b$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} F(1, b; b; x) &= 1 + \frac{1 \cdot b}{b} \frac{x}{1!} + \frac{1(1+1)b(b+1)}{b(b+1)} \frac{x^2}{2!} + \dots \\ &= 1 + \frac{(-1)}{1!} (-x) + \frac{-1 \cdot -2}{2!} (-x)^2 + \dots \\ &= (1-x)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

Hence $F(1, b; c; x) = (1-x)^{-1}$

(ii) We know that the hypergeometric series will be

$${}_2F_1(a, b; c; x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n} \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

$${}_2F_1(a, b; c; x) = 1 + \frac{ab}{c} \frac{x}{1!} + \frac{a(a+1)b(b+1)}{c(c+1)} \frac{x^2}{2!} + \dots$$

Taking $a = 1, b = 1, c = 2$, and $x = -x$, we have

$${}_2F_1(1, 1; 2; -x) = 1 + \frac{1 \cdot 1}{1} \frac{(-x)}{1!} + \frac{1(1+1) \cdot 1 \cdot (1+1)}{2(2+1)} \frac{(-x)^2}{2!} + \dots$$

Multiply by x on both side

$$\begin{aligned} x {}_2F_1(1, 1; 2; -x) &= x - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3} - \dots \\ &= \log_e(1+x) \end{aligned}$$

Hence $x {}_2F_1(1, 1; 2; -x) = \log_e(1+x)$

Question 3: Prove that $P_n(\cos \Theta) = \cos^n \Theta {}_2F_1\left(-\frac{n}{2}, -\frac{n-1}{2}; 1; -\tan^2 \Theta\right)$

Solution: Using Laplace first integral, we have

$$P_n(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\pi \left[x \pm \sqrt{x^2 - 1} \cos \phi \right]^n d\phi$$

Taking $x = \cos \Theta \Rightarrow \sqrt{x^2 - 1} = i \sin \Theta$ Also taking positive sign in the above integral. We get

$$\begin{aligned}
P_n(x) &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\pi [\cos \Theta + i \sin \Theta \cos \phi]^n d\phi \\
&= \frac{\cos^n \Theta}{\pi} \int_0^\pi [1 + i \tan \Theta \cos \phi]^n d\phi
\end{aligned}$$

Using Binomial expansion

$$\begin{aligned}
P_n(x) &= \frac{\cos^n \Theta}{\pi} \int_0^\pi \left[1 + n i \tan \Theta \cos \phi + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!} (i \tan \Theta \cos \phi)^2 \dots \dots \dots \right] d\phi \\
&= \frac{\cos^n \Theta}{\pi} \left[\int_0^\pi 1 d\phi + n i \tan \Theta \int_0^\pi \cos \phi d\phi + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!} (i \tan \Theta)^2 \int_0^\pi (\cos \phi)^2 d\phi \dots \dots \right] \\
&= \frac{\cos^n \Theta}{\pi} \left[\pi + n i \tan \Theta (0) - \frac{n(n-1)}{2!} (\tan^2 \Theta \left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) + \dots \dots) \right] \\
&= \cos^n \Theta \left[1 + \frac{\binom{-n}{2} \binom{-n-1}{2}}{1} \left(-\frac{\tan^2 \Theta}{1!} \right) + \dots \dots \right] \\
&= \cos^n \Theta {}_2F_1 \left(-\frac{n}{2}, -\frac{n-1}{2}; 1; -\tan^2 \Theta \right)
\end{aligned}$$

Hence $P_n(\cos \Theta) = \cos^n \Theta {}_2F_1 \left(-\frac{n}{2}, -\frac{n-1}{2}; 1; -\tan^2 \Theta \right)$

Question 4: If $|x| < 1$ and $\left| \frac{x}{1-x} \right| < 1$, then show that

$${}_2F_1(a, b; c; x) = (1-x)^{-a} {}_2F_1\left(a, c-b; c; \frac{-x}{1-x}\right)$$

Solution: The Integral representation of hypergeometric function will be

$${}_2F_1(a, b; c; x) = \frac{\Gamma c}{\Gamma b \Gamma(c-b)} \int_0^1 t^{b-1} (1-t)^{c-b-1} (1-xt)^{-a} dt \quad (1)$$

Put $1-t = z \Rightarrow dt = -dz$

$$\begin{aligned}
{}_2F_1(a, b; c; x) &= \frac{\Gamma c}{\Gamma b \Gamma(c-b)} \int_1^0 (1-z)^{b-1} z^{c-b-1} (1-x+xz)^{-a} (-dz) \\
&= \frac{\Gamma c (1-x)^{-a}}{\Gamma b \Gamma(c-b)} \int_0^1 (1-z)^{b-1} z^{c-b-1} \left(1 + \frac{xz}{1-x}\right)^{-a} dz \quad (2)
\end{aligned}$$

Also if we take $b = c - b$ and $x = \frac{-x}{1-x}$ in Eq.(1), we have

$${}_2F_1\left(a, c-b; c; \frac{-x}{1-x}\right) = \frac{\Gamma c}{\Gamma(c-b) \Gamma b} \int_0^1 (1-t)^{b-1} t^{c-b-1} \left(1 + \frac{xt}{1-x}\right)^{-a} dt$$

$${}_2F_1\left(a, c-b; c; \frac{-x}{1-x}\right) = \frac{\Gamma c}{\Gamma(c-b)\Gamma b} \int_0^1 (1-z)^{b-1} z^{c-b-1} \left(1 + \frac{xz}{1-x}\right)^{-a} dz \quad (3)$$

From Eq.(2) and (3), we have

$${}_2F_1(a, b; c; x) = (1-x)^{-a} {}_2F_1\left(a, c-b; c; \frac{-x}{1-x}\right)$$

Hence

$$F(a, b; c; x) = (1-x)^{-a} F\left(a, c-b; c; \frac{-x}{1-x}\right)$$

Question 5: Show that

$$(i) \quad {}_2F_1\left(\frac{1}{2}, 1; \frac{3}{2}; x^2\right) = \frac{1}{2x} \log\left(\frac{1+x}{1-x}\right) \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1} x \quad \text{for } |x| < 1$$

$$(ii) \quad \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} F\left(1, b; 1; \frac{x}{b}\right) = e^x$$

Solution:

(i) We know that the hypergeometric series will be

$${}_2F_1(a, b; c; x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n} \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

Replace $a = \frac{1}{2}, b = 1, c = \frac{3}{2}, x = x^2$ in above expression

$$\begin{aligned} {}_2F_1\left(\frac{1}{2}, 1; \frac{3}{2}; x^2\right) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)_n (1)_n}{\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)_n} \frac{x^{2n}}{(1)_n} && \text{as } (1)_n = n! \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)_n}{\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)_n} x^{2n} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdots \left(n - \frac{1}{2}\right)}{3 \cdot 5 \cdots \left(n - \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)} x^{2n} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^{2n}}{2n+1} \\ &= \frac{1}{2x} \left[\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{x^n}{n} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2x} [\log(1+x) - \log(1-x)], \quad \text{for } |x| < 1 \\ &= \frac{1}{2x} \log\left(\frac{1+x}{1-x}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Hence ${}_2F_1\left(\frac{1}{2}, 1; \frac{3}{2}; x^2\right) = \frac{1}{2x} \log\left(\frac{1+x}{1-x}\right)$ for $|x| < 1$

(ii) We know that the hypergeometric series will be

$${}_2F_1(a, b; c; x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n} \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

Replace $a = 1, b = b, c = 1, x = \frac{x}{b}$ in above expression

$${}_2F_1\left(1, b; 1; \frac{x}{b}\right) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(1)_n (b)_n}{(1)_n} \frac{1}{n!} \left(\frac{x}{b}\right)^n$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(b)_n}{n!} \left(\frac{x}{b}\right)^n$$

$$= 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(b)_n}{n!} \left(\frac{x}{b}\right)^n$$

$$= 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{b(b+1)(b+2) \dots (b+n-1) (x)^n}{n! (b)^n}$$

$$F\left(1, b; 1; \frac{x}{b}\right) = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 1 \cdot \left(1 + \frac{1}{b}\right) \left(1 + \frac{1}{b}\right) \left(1 + \frac{1}{b}\right) \dots \left(1 + \frac{1}{b}\right) \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

$$\lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} F\left(1, b; 1; \frac{x}{b}\right) = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left[1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 1 \cdot \left(1 + \frac{1}{b}\right) \left(1 + \frac{1}{b}\right) \left(1 + \frac{1}{b}\right) \dots \left(1 + \frac{1}{b}\right) \frac{x^n}{n!} \right]$$

$$\lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} F\left(1, b; 1; \frac{x}{b}\right) = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

$$\lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} F\left(1, b; 1; \frac{x}{b}\right) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!} = e^x$$

Hence $\lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} F\left(1, b; 1; \frac{x}{b}\right) = e^x$

Theorem 1: Differentiation of hypergeometric functions:

$$\frac{d^n}{dx^n} [F(a, b; c; x)] = \frac{(a)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n} F(a + n, b + n; c + n; x)$$

$$\text{Also } \left[\frac{d^n}{dx^n} [F(a, b; c; x)] \right]_{x=0} = \frac{(a)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n}$$

Proof: We know that the hypergeometric series will be

$${}_2F_1(a, b; c; x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n} \frac{x^n}{n!} \quad (1)$$

Differentiate w. r. t. x on both side, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} [F(a, b; c; x)] &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n} \frac{n x^{n-1}}{n!} \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n} \frac{x^{n-1}}{(n-1)!} \end{aligned}$$

Taking $m = n - 1$

$$= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_{m+1} (b)_{m+1}}{(c)_{m+1}} \frac{x^m}{m!}$$

Using $(a)_{n+1} = a(a+1)_n$ etc

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{a(a+1)_m b(b+1)_m}{c(c+1)_m} \frac{x^m}{m!} \\ &= \frac{ab}{c} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a+1)_m (b+1)_m}{(c+1)_m} \frac{x^m}{m!} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} [F(a, b; c; x)] = \frac{ab}{c} F(a+1, b+1; c+1; x) \quad (2)$$

which shows that the results is true for $n = 1$.

Let us suppose that the results is true for a particular value $n = m$ then

$$\frac{d^m}{dx^m} [F(a, b; c; x)] = \frac{(a)_m (b)_m}{(c)_m} F(a + m, b + m; c + m; x) \quad (3)$$

Differentiate w. r. t. x on both side, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^{m+1}}{dx^{m+1}} [F(a, b; c; x)] &= \frac{(a)_m (b)_m}{(c)_m} \frac{d}{dx} F(a + m, b + m; c + m; x) \\ &= \frac{(a)_m (b)_m (a+m)(b+m)}{(c)_m (c+m)} F(a + m + 1, b + m + 1; c + m + 1; x) \quad \text{from (2)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{d^{m+1}}{dx^{m+1}} [F(a, b; c; x)] = \frac{(a)_{m+1} (b)_{m+1}}{(c)_{m+1}} F(a + m + 1, b + m + 1; c + m + 1; x)$$

Which shows that the result is true for $n = m + 1$ also.

So by mathematical induction, we can say that it is true for every positive integral value of n .

$$\text{Hence } \frac{d^n}{dx^n} [F(a, b; c; x)] = \frac{(a)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n} F(a + n, b + n; c + n; x)$$

Put $x = 0$ in above result, we get

$$\left[\frac{d^n}{dx^n} [F(a, b; c; x)] \right]_{x=0} = \frac{(a)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n}$$

Theorem 2: Integral representation of hypergeometric function

$$F(a, b; c; x) = \frac{\Gamma c}{\Gamma b \Gamma(c - b)} \int_0^1 t^{b-1} (1 - t)^{c-b-1} (1 - xt)^{-a} dt$$

Proof: We know that the hypergeometric series will be

$$\begin{aligned} F(a, b; c; x) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n} \frac{x^n}{n!} \\ F(a, b; c; x) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (a)_n \frac{\Gamma(b + n)}{\Gamma b} \frac{\Gamma c}{\Gamma(c + n)} \frac{x^n}{n!} \\ &= \frac{\Gamma c}{\Gamma b \Gamma(c - b)} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (a)_n \frac{\Gamma(b + n) \Gamma(c - b)}{\Gamma[b + (c + n) - b]} \frac{x^n}{n!} \\ &= \frac{\Gamma c}{\Gamma b \Gamma(c - b)} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (a)_n \frac{\Gamma(b + n) \Gamma(c - b)}{\Gamma[(b + n) + (c - b)]} \frac{x^n}{n!} \\ &= \frac{\Gamma c}{\Gamma b \Gamma(c - b)} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (a)_n B\{(b + n), (c - b)\} \frac{x^n}{n!} \\ &= \frac{\Gamma c}{\Gamma b \Gamma(c - b)} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (a)_n \left(\int_0^1 t^{b+n-1} (1 - t)^{c-b-1} dt \right) \frac{x^n}{n!} \\ &= \frac{\Gamma c}{\Gamma b \Gamma(c - b)} \int_0^1 t^{b-1} (1 - t)^{c-b-1} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (a)_n \frac{(xt)^n}{n!} \right) dt \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (a)_n \frac{(xt)^n}{n!} = (1 - xt)^{-a}$, we get

$$= \frac{\Gamma c}{\Gamma b \Gamma(c - b)} \int_0^1 t^{b-1} (1 - t)^{c-b-1} (1 - xt)^{-a} dt$$

So we have

$$F(a, b; c; x) = \frac{\Gamma c}{\Gamma b \Gamma(c - b)} \int_0^1 t^{b-1} (1 - t)^{c-b-1} (1 - xt)^{-a} dt$$

Theorem 3: Kummer's relation

$$F(a; b; x) = e^x F(b - a; b; -x)$$

Proof: We know that

$$F(a; b; x) = \frac{\Gamma b}{\Gamma b \Gamma(b-a)} \int_0^1 (1-t)^{b-a-1} t^{a-1} e^{xt} dt$$

Put $a = b - a$ and $x = -x$ in above relation, we get

$$F(b - a; b; -x) = \frac{\Gamma b}{\Gamma(b-a)\Gamma a} \int_0^1 (1-t)^{a-1} t^{b-a-1} e^{-xt} dt$$

Taking $1 - t = z$, $dt = -dz$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} F(b - a; b; -x) &= \frac{\Gamma b}{\Gamma(b-a)\Gamma a} \int_1^0 z^{a-1} (1-z)^{b-a-1} e^{-x(1-z)} (-dz) \\ &= \frac{\Gamma b}{\Gamma(b-a)\Gamma a} \int_0^1 z^{a-1} (1-z)^{b-a-1} e^{-x(1-z)} dz \\ &= \frac{\Gamma b e^{-x}}{\Gamma(b-a)\Gamma a} \int_0^1 z^{a-1} (1-z)^{b-a-1} e^{xz} dz \\ &= e^{-x} \cdot \frac{\Gamma b e^{-x}}{\Gamma(b-a)\Gamma a} \int_0^1 z^{a-1} (1-z)^{b-a-1} e^{xz} dz \\ F(b - a; b; -x) &= e^{-x} \cdot F(a; b; x) \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$F(a; b; x) = e^x F(b - a; b; -x)$$

Theorem 4: Contiguity relationship

$$(a - b)F(a, b; c; x) = a F(a + 1, b; c; x) - b F(a, b + 1; c; x)$$

Proof: The given expression in R.H.S is

$$\begin{aligned} &a F(a + 1, b; c; x) - b F(a, b + 1; c; x) \\ &= a \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a+1)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n} \frac{x^n}{n!} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_n (b+1)_n}{(c)_n} \frac{x^n}{n!} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{a(a+1)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n} \frac{x^n}{n!} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_n b(b+1)_n}{(c)_n} \frac{x^n}{n!} \end{aligned}$$

But $a(a+1)_n = (a+n)(a)_n$ and $b(b+1)_n = (b+n)(b)_n$, then we have

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a+n)(a)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n} \frac{x^n}{n!} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_n (b+n)(b)_n}{(c)_n} \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} [(a+n) - (b+n)] \frac{(a)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n} \frac{x^n}{n!} \\
&= (a-b) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n} \frac{x^n}{n!}
\end{aligned}$$

$$a F(a+1, b; c; x) - b F(a, b+1; c; x) = (a-b) F(a, b; c; x)$$

Hence

$$(a-b) F(a, b; c; x) = a F(a+1, b; c; x) - b F(a, b+1; c; x)$$