

SERIES IN LE ROY TYPE FUNCTIONS: THEOREMS IN  
THE COMPLEX PLANE

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Abstract

Series defined by means of the Le Roy type functions are considered in this paper. These series are studied in the complex plane and their behaviour is investigated 'near' the boundaries of their domains of convergence.

**Key words:** Le Roy functions and generalizations, series in Le Roy type functions, Abel theorem, Tauber theorem

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**1. Introduction.** In two recent papers GERHOLD [1] and, independently, GARRA and POLITO [2] introduced the new special function (see also [3])

$$(1) \quad F_{\alpha, \beta}^{(\gamma)}(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^k}{[\Gamma(\alpha k + \beta)]^\gamma}, \quad z \in \mathbb{C}, \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}, \gamma > 0,$$

which turns out to be an entire function of the complex variable  $z$  for all values of the parameters such that

$$(2) \quad \Re(\alpha) > 0, \beta \in \mathbb{C}, \gamma > 0.$$

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As a matter of fact, the entire function (1) is introduced for the values of parameters  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $\beta > 0$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ , and on a later stage its definition is extended to the range (2) by GARRAPPA, ROGOSIN and MAINARDI [3].

The function  $F_{\alpha,\beta}^{(\gamma)}(z)$  is closely related to the classical modified Bessel function of the first kind  $I_0(2\sqrt{z})$ , as well as to the 2-parametric Mittag-Leffler function  $E_{\alpha,\beta}(z)$  (see the recent monographs [4] and [5]). It is also closely related to the multi-index generalizations of  $E_{\alpha,\beta}(z)$  (with  $2m$  and  $3m$  parameters,  $m = 1, 2, \dots$ , i.e. the so-called multi-index Mittag-Leffler functions (for their definitions and properties see e. g. [5–9]). Actually, if the parameter  $\gamma$  is a positive integer, the function  $F_{\alpha,\beta}^{(\gamma)}$  can be presented by the multi-index Mittag-Leffler functions. The function (1) is also related to the so-called Le Roy function  $F^{(\gamma)}$ , named after the great French mathematician Édouard Louis Emmanuel Julien Le Roy (1870–1954), namely  $F^{(\gamma)}(z) = F_{1,1}^{(\gamma)}(z)$ . Le Roy himself used it in [10] to study the asymptotics of the analytic continuation of the sum of power series. This reason for the origin of Le Roy function sounds somehow close to Mittag-Leffler’s idea to introduce the function  $E_\alpha(z)$  for the aims of analytic continuation (we have to note that Mittag-Leffler and Le Roy were working on this idea in competition). The Le Roy function is involved in the solution of problems of various types; in particular it has been recently used in the construction of a Conway–Maxwell–Poisson distribution [11] which is important due to its ability to model count data with different degrees of over- and under-dispersion [12, 13].

For the sake of brevity, we often use in this paper the name Le Roy type function for the function  $F_{\alpha,\beta}^{(\gamma)}$  defined by (1).

In the series of papers [14–16, 18], as well as in the recent book [5], we studied series in different systems of special functions of Fractional calculus, and we proved various results connected with their convergence in the complex plane. In this paper, we discuss the results for the Le Roy type functions (1), previously obtained, which are needful here. We consider series in Le Roy type functions and investigate their behaviour ‘near’ the boundaries of their domains of convergence.

**2. Inequalities and asymptotic formula.** For our purpose we need the family of functions

$$(3) \quad F_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^k}{[\Gamma(\alpha k + n)]^\gamma}, \quad z \in \mathbb{C}; \quad n \in \mathbb{N}, \quad \alpha > 0, \quad \gamma > 0,$$

where  $\mathbb{N}$  means the set of positive integers. Below is given an inequality, connected to the functions (3) and an asymptotic formula for them. Namely, the following results, proved by the author in [18], are formulated.

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and let  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$  be a nonempty*

compact set. Then there exists an entire function  $\vartheta_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}$  such that

$$(4) \quad F_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z) = \frac{1}{[\Gamma(n)]^\gamma} (1 + \vartheta_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z)), \quad z \in \mathbb{C}.$$

Moreover, there exists a constant  $C = C(K)$ ,  $0 < C < \infty$ , such that

$$(5) \quad \max_{z \in K} |\vartheta_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z)| \leq C \frac{[\Gamma(n)]^\gamma}{[\Gamma(\alpha + n)]^\gamma},$$

for all the natural numbers  $n$ .

**Theorem 1.** Let  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ ;  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ . Then

$$(6) \quad F_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z) = \frac{1}{[\Gamma(n)]^\gamma} (1 + \vartheta_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z)), \quad \vartheta_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty,$$

uniformly in the max-norm on the compact sets in  $\mathbb{C}$ .

**Remark 1.** According to the asymptotic formula (6), it follows that there exists a natural number  $M$  such that the functions  $[\Gamma(n)]^\gamma F_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z)$  do not vanish for any  $n$  great enough (say  $n > M$ ).

**3. Series in Le Roy type functions.** For simplicity of studying, we introduce auxiliary functions, related to the Le Roy functions, adding  $\tilde{F}_{\alpha,0}^{(\gamma)}(z)$  just for completeness, namely:

$$(7) \quad \tilde{F}_{\alpha,0}^{(\gamma)}(z) = 1, \quad \tilde{F}_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z) = z^n [\Gamma(n)]^\gamma F_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z), \quad n \in \mathbb{N}; \quad \alpha > 0, \quad \gamma > 0,$$

and we study the series in these functions:

$$(8) \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \tilde{F}_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z),$$

for  $z \in \mathbb{C}$  and with complex coefficients  $a_n$  ( $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ).

Our main objective is to study the convergence of the series (8) in the complex plane. Such kind of results may be useful for studying the solutions of some fractional order differential and integral equations, expressed in terms of series (or series of integrals) in special functions of the type (7) (as for example in Kiryakova [19] in a more general case).

**4. Cauchy–Hadamard type theorem and corollaries.** Let us denote by  $D(0; R)$  the open disk with the radius  $R$  and centred at the origin, and let the circle  $C(0; R)$  be its boundary, i.e.  $D(0; R) = \{z : |z| < R\}$  and  $C(0; R) = \{z : |z| = R\}$  ( $z \in \mathbb{C}$ ). In this section we discuss results, mainly obtained in [18], corresponding to the classical Cauchy–Hadamard theorem and Abel lemma for the power series. The theorem of the Cauchy–Hadamard type for the series (8) is formulated below.

**Theorem 2** (of Cauchy–Hadamard type). *Let  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ . Then the domain of convergence of the series (8) with complex coefficients  $a_n$  is the disk  $D(0; R) = \{z : |z| < R\}$  with a radius of convergence*

$$(9) \quad R = 1 / \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} (|a_n|)^{1/n}.$$

*The cases  $R = 0$  and  $R = \infty$  are included in the general case.*

Thus, the considered series (8) absolutely converges in the disk  $D(0; R)$  with the radius  $R$ , given by (9), like in the classical theory of the power series. Additionally, it turns out that the convergence of the discussed series is uniform inside the disk, i.e., the following corollary, similar to the classical Abel lemma, holds.

**Corollary 2.1.** *Let  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ , and let the series (8) converge at the point  $z_0 \neq 0$ . Then it converges absolutely in the disk  $D(0; |z_0|)$  and on the compact subsets of the disk  $D(0; R)$  ( $R$  defined by (9)), as well.*

Theorem 2 and Corollary 2.1 have been obtained in [18]. Here we give one more corollary.

**Corollary 2.2.** *Let  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ , and let the series (8) diverge at the point  $z_0 \neq 0$ . Then it is divergent for each  $z$  with  $|z| > |z_0|$ .*

**Proof.** Assuming the opposite, the trueness of the corollary follows by getting a contradiction.  $\square$

Note that the very disk of convergence is not obligatorily a region of uniform convergence and on its boundary the series may even be divergent. More precise results, connected with the behaviour of the series (8) ‘near’ the boundary  $C(0; R)$  are obtained and discussed in the next sections.

**5. Abel type theorem.** Let  $z_0 \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $0 < R < \infty$ ,  $|z_0| = R$  and  $g_\varphi$  be an arbitrary angular region with size  $2\varphi < \pi$  and with a vertex at the point  $z = z_0$ , which is symmetric with respect to the straight line passing through the points 0 and  $z_0$ , and let  $d_\varphi$  be the part of the angular region  $g_\varphi$ , closed between the angle’s arms and the arc of the circle centred at the point 0 and touching the arms of the angle. The following inequality is verified for  $z \in d_\varphi$  ([5], p. 21):

$$(10) \quad |z - z_0| \cos \varphi < 2(|z_0| - |z|).$$

The next theorem refers to the uniform convergence of the series (8) in the set  $d_\varphi$  and the limit of its sum at the point  $z_0$ , provided  $z \in D(0; R) \cap g_\varphi$ .

**Theorem 3** (of Abel type). *Let  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  be a sequence of complex numbers,  $R$  be the real number defined by (9) and  $0 < R < \infty$ . If  $f(z; \alpha, \gamma)$  is the sum of the series (8) in the region  $D(0; R)$ , i.e.*

$$f(z; \alpha, \gamma) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \tilde{F}_{\alpha, n}^{(\gamma)}(z), \quad z \in D(0; R),$$

*and this series converges at the point  $z_0$  of the boundary  $C(0; R)$ , then:*

(i) The following relation holds

$$(11) \quad \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} f(z; \alpha, \gamma) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \tilde{F}_{\alpha, n}^{(\gamma)}(z_0),$$

provided  $z \in D(0; R) \cap g_\varphi$ .

(ii) The series (8) converges uniformly in the max-norm on compact subsets of the region  $d_\varphi$ .

**Idea of proof.** Beginning with (i), we consider the difference

$$(12) \quad \Delta(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \tilde{F}_{\alpha, n}^{(\gamma)}(z_0) - f(z; \alpha, \gamma) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (\tilde{F}_{\alpha, n}^{(\gamma)}(z_0) - \tilde{F}_{\alpha, n}^{(\gamma)}(z))$$

and represent it in the form

$$\Delta(z) = \sum_{n=0}^k a_n (\tilde{F}_{\alpha, n}^{(\gamma)}(z_0) - \tilde{F}_{\alpha, n}^{(\gamma)}(z)) + \sum_{n=k+1}^{\infty} a_n (\tilde{F}_{\alpha, n}^{(\gamma)}(z_0) - \tilde{F}_{\alpha, n}^{(\gamma)}(z)).$$

According to Remark 1, there exists a positive integer  $M$  such that  $\tilde{F}_{\alpha, n}^{(\gamma)}(z_0) \neq 0$  when  $n > M$ . Let  $k > M$  and  $p > 0$ . By using the notations

$$\beta_k = 0, \beta_m = \sum_{n=k+1}^m a_n \tilde{F}_{\alpha, n}^{(\gamma)}(z_0), \quad m > k, \quad \gamma_n(z) = 1 - \tilde{F}_{\alpha, n}^{(\gamma)}(z) / \tilde{F}_{\alpha, n}^{(\gamma)}(z_0),$$

and the Abel transformation (see in ([20], vol.1, Ch.1, p.32, 3.4:7)) for the expres-

sion  $\sum_{n=k+1}^{k+p} a_n (\tilde{F}_{\alpha, n}^{(\gamma)}(z_0) - \tilde{F}_{\alpha, n}^{(\gamma)}(z)) = \sum_{n=k+1}^{k+p} (\beta_n - \beta_{n-1}) \gamma_n(z)$ , we obtain:

$$\sum_{n=k+1}^{k+p} a_n (\tilde{F}_{\alpha, n}^{(\gamma)}(z_0) - \tilde{F}_{\alpha, n}^{(\gamma)}(z)) = \beta_{k+p} \gamma_{k+p}(z) - \sum_{n=k+1}^{k+p-1} \beta_n (\gamma_{n+1}(z) - \gamma_n(z)).$$

In order to estimate the module of the difference (12) we consider the last relation and we firstly find the estimations of  $|\gamma_{n+1}(z) - \gamma_n(z)|$  and  $|\gamma_{k+p}(z)|$ . For this purpose, letting the natural number  $n > k$ , we apply the Schwarz lemma (see in ([20], vol.1, Ch.1, p.317)) for them. Let now  $\varepsilon$  be a positive number. After additional estimations, bearing in mind (10), we establish that there exists  $\delta =$

$\delta(\varepsilon)$  such that inequality  $|\Delta(z)| = \left| \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (\tilde{F}_{\alpha, n}^{(\gamma)}(z_0) - \tilde{F}_{\alpha, n}^{(\gamma)}(z)) \right| < \varepsilon$  holds, provided  $z \in d_\varphi$  and  $|z - z_0| < \delta(\varepsilon)$ , which proves equality (11).

In order to prove (ii), we also use inequality (10) which is the crucial point of the proof. So, let  $z \in d_\varphi$ . Setting

$$(13) \quad S_k(z) = \sum_{n=0}^k a_n \tilde{F}_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z), \quad S_k(z_0) = \sum_{n=0}^k a_n \tilde{F}_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z_0), \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} S_k(z_0) = s,$$

we obtain  $S_{k+p}(z) - S_k(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{k+p} a_n \tilde{F}_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z) - \sum_{n=0}^k a_n \tilde{F}_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z) = \sum_{n=k+1}^{k+p} a_n \tilde{F}_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z)$ .

According to Remark 1, there exists a natural number  $N_0$  such that  $\tilde{F}_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z_0) \neq 0$  when  $n > N_0$ . Let  $k > N_0$  and  $p > 0$ . Then, using the denotation  $\gamma_n(z; z_0) = \tilde{F}_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z) / \tilde{F}_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z_0)$ , we can write the difference  $S_{k+p}(z) - S_k(z)$  as follows:

$$S_{k+p}(z) - S_k(z) = \sum_{n=k+1}^{k+p} (\beta_n - \beta_{n-1}) \gamma_n(z; z_0),$$

with  $\beta_n = S_n(z_0) - s$ . Applying after that the Abel transformation (see in ([20], vol.1, ch.1, p.32, 3.4:7)), we estimate the module  $|S_{k+p}(z) - S_k(z)|$  in a similar way to (i), and so we succeed to prove the theorem.  $\square$

**6. Tauber type theorem.** In this section we provide two theorems, inverse of Theorem 3. We consider the series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$ ,  $a_n \in \mathbb{C}$ . Let  $z_0 \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $|z_0| = R$ ,  $0 < R < \infty$ ,  $\tilde{F}_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z_0) \neq 0$  for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . For the sake of brevity, denote

$$F_{n,\alpha,\gamma}^*(z; z_0) = \frac{\tilde{F}_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z)}{\tilde{F}_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z_0)}.$$

Let the series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n F_{n,\alpha,\gamma}^*(z; z_0)$  be convergent for  $|z| < R$  and

$$(14) \quad F(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n F_{n,\alpha,\gamma}^*(z; z_0), \quad |z| < R.$$

**Theorem 4** (of Tauber type). *If  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  is a sequence of complex numbers with*

$$(15) \quad \lim\{na_n\} = 0,$$

*and there exists*

$$(16) \quad \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} F(z) = S \quad (|z| < R, z \rightarrow z_0 \text{ radially}),$$

*then the series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$  is convergent and  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n = S$ .*

**Idea of proof.** Let  $z$  belong to the segment  $[0, z_0]$ . By using the asymptotic formula (6) for the Le Roy type functions, we obtain:

$$(17) \quad a_n F_{n,\alpha,\gamma}^*(z; z_0) = a_n \left(\frac{z}{z_0}\right)^n \frac{1 + \vartheta_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z)}{1 + \vartheta_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z_0)} = a_n \left(\frac{z}{z_0}\right)^n \left(1 + \tilde{\vartheta}_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z; z_0)\right).$$

Then  $\tilde{\vartheta}_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z; z_0) = O\left(\frac{1}{n^{\alpha\gamma}}\right)$ , due to (5) and the  $\Gamma$ -functions quotient property.

Let us write  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n F_{n,\alpha,\gamma}^*(z; z_0)$  in the form

$$(18) \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n F_{n,\alpha,\gamma}^*(z; z_0) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \left(\frac{z}{z_0}\right)^n \left(1 + \tilde{\vartheta}_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z; z_0)\right),$$

Denoting  $w_n(z) = a_n \left(\frac{z}{z_0}\right)^n \tilde{\vartheta}_{\alpha,n}^{(\gamma)}(z; z_0)$ , we consider the series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} w_n(z)$  and we prove that

$$(19) \quad \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} w_n(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} w_n(z) = 0.$$

Then, bearing in mind (14) and (18), we can obtain that

$$(20) \quad \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} F(z) = \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n F_{n,\alpha,\gamma}^*(z; z_0) = S = \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \left(\frac{z}{z_0}\right)^n.$$

Now, from (20) and by the classical Tauber theorem for the power series, it follows that the series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$  converges and  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n = S$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 5** (of Littlewood type). *If  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  is a sequence of complex numbers with  $a_n = O(1/n)$ , and there exists  $\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} F(z) = S$  ( $|z| < R, z \rightarrow z_0$  radially),*

*then the series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$  is convergent and  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n = S$ .*

Ending we note that the proof of Theorem 5, as well as the specific details of the proofs, following the ideas given here, will be provided elsewhere.

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