

A self-reciprocal function

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1. The object of this note is to discover a new function which is its own reciprocal in the Hankel Transform of order zero.

I will make use of the following theorem of Hardy and Titchmarsh¹:—

A necessary and sufficient condition that a function $f(x)$ should be its own J_ν transform is that it should be of the form

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} 2^{1s} \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2}\nu + \frac{1}{2}s\right) \psi(s) x^{-s} ds, \quad (1.1)$$

where $0 < c < 1$, and

$$\psi(s) = \psi(1-s). \quad (1.2)$$

2. I start with the pair of Mellin Transforms²

$$I_n(x) K_n(x), \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}s) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}s + n) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}s)}{4\pi^{\frac{1}{2}} \Gamma(1 + n - \frac{1}{2}s)}, \quad (0 < \sigma < n + \frac{3}{2}),$$

where $I_n(x)$ and $K_n(x)$ are the usual Bessel Functions with imaginary argument.

This gives rise to the integral formula

$$\begin{aligned} I_n(x) K_n(x) &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \cdot \frac{1}{4\pi^{\frac{1}{2}}} \int_{k-i\infty}^{k+i\infty} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}s) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}s + n) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}s)}{\Gamma(1 + n - \frac{1}{2}s)} x^{-s} ds \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{k-i\infty}^{k+i\infty} \frac{\Gamma(s) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}s + n) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}s)}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}s) \Gamma(1 + n - \frac{1}{2}s)} \cdot \frac{x^{-s}}{2^{s+1}} ds, \end{aligned}$$

on using the Duplication Formula for Gamma Functions.

Hence

$$I_n(x) K_n(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{2k-i\infty}^{2k+i\infty} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}u) \Gamma(\frac{1}{4}u + n) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4}u) x^{-\frac{1}{2}u}}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4}u) \Gamma(1 + n - \frac{1}{4}u) 2^{\frac{1}{2}u+2}} du,$$

¹ E. C. Titchmarsh: *The Theory of the Fourier Integral* (Oxford, 1937), §(9.1.9).

² *Ibid.*, §(7.10.8).

so that

$$\begin{aligned} x^{\frac{1}{2}} I_n \left(\frac{1}{4}x^2\right) K_n \left(\frac{1}{4}x^2\right) &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{2k-i\infty}^{2k+i\infty} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}u\right) \Gamma\left(n + \frac{1}{4}u\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4}u\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4}u\right) \Gamma\left(1 + n - \frac{1}{4}u\right)} 2^{2u-2} x^{\frac{1}{2}-u} du \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{2k-\frac{1}{2}-i\infty}^{2k-\frac{1}{2}+i\infty} 2^{2s-i} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}s + \frac{1}{4}\right) \Gamma\left(n + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{4}s\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{5} - \frac{1}{4}s\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{5}{5} + \frac{1}{4}s\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{7}{5} + n - \frac{1}{4}s\right)} x^{-s} ds. \end{aligned}$$

Putting $n = 0$, we get

$$x^{\frac{1}{2}} I_0 \left(\frac{1}{4}x^2\right) K_0 \left(\frac{1}{4}x^2\right) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{2k-\frac{1}{2}-i\infty}^{2k-\frac{1}{2}+i\infty} 2^{2s} \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2}s\right) \psi_1(s) x^{-s} ds, \tag{2.1}$$

where
$$\psi_1(s) = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{5} - \frac{1}{4}s\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{4}s\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{7}{5} - \frac{1}{4}s\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{5}{5} + \frac{1}{4}s\right)} 2^{-i}.$$

As $\psi_1(s)$ satisfies (1.2) it follows that the integral in (2.1) is of the same form as (1.1) with

$$\psi(s) = \psi_1(s)$$

and $\frac{1}{4} < k < \frac{3}{4}$.

It follows that the function on the left-hand side of (2.1) is its own J_0 transform. That is, it satisfies the integral equation

$$x^{\frac{1}{2}} I_0 \left(\frac{1}{4}x^2\right) K_0 \left(\frac{1}{4}x^2\right) = \int_0^\infty (xy)^{\frac{1}{2}} J_0(xy) y^{\frac{1}{2}} I_0 \left(\frac{1}{4}y^2\right) K_0 \left(\frac{1}{4}y^2\right) dy.$$

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