



Some complete monotonicity properties for the (p, q) -gamma function

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ABSTRACT

For the $\Gamma_{p,q}$ -function, we derive several properties and characteristics related to convexity, log-convexity and complete monotonicity. Similar properties and characteristics of the corresponding (p, q) -analogue $\psi_{p,q}(x)$ of the digamma or the ψ -function have also been established. By applying the main results in this paper when $p \rightarrow \infty$ and $q \rightarrow 1$, we obtain all of the results given in several earlier works by (for example) Krasniqi, Shabani, and other authors. Some potential areas of applications of the results presented in this paper are also indicated.

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1. Introduction

The familiar (Euler) gamma function $\Gamma(x)$ is defined (for $x > 0$) by

$$\Gamma(x) = \int_0^\infty t^{x-1} e^{-t} dt \quad (x > 0).$$

The digamma (or psi-) function $\psi(x)$ is defined (for $x > 0$) as the logarithmic derivative of Euler's gamma function $\Gamma(x)$, that is, by

$$\psi(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \{\log \Gamma(x)\} = \frac{\Gamma'(x)}{\Gamma(x)}.$$

The following integral and series representations are known (see [1,18,23]):

$$\psi(x) = -\gamma + \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-t} - e^{-xt}}{1 - e^{-t}} dt = -\gamma - \frac{1}{x} + \sum_{n=1}^\infty \frac{x}{n(n+x)} \quad (x > 0), \quad (1.1)$$

where γ denotes the Euler–Mascheroni constant defined by (see also a recent work [7])

$$\gamma = -\psi(1) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} - \log n \right) \cong 0.57721\,56649\,01532\,86060\,65120\,90082\,40243\,1042 \dots \quad (1.2)$$

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Euler also introduced the following interesting variant of the gamma function $\Gamma(x)$ (see [3,21]):

$$\Gamma_p(x) = \frac{p! p^x}{x(x+1)\dots(x+p)} = \frac{p^x}{x(1+\frac{x}{1})\dots(1+\frac{x}{p})} \quad (1.3)$$

$$(x > 0; p \in \mathbb{N} := \{1, 2, 3, \dots\} = \mathbb{N}_0 \setminus \{0\}),$$

so that

$$\Gamma(x) = \lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \Gamma_p(x). \quad (1.4)$$

The p -analogue of the ψ -function is defined as the logarithmic derivative of the Γ_p -function as follows (see [16]):

$$\psi_p(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \{\log \Gamma_p(x)\} = \frac{\Gamma'_p(x)}{\Gamma_p(x)}. \quad (1.5)$$

The following representations for the functions $\Gamma_p(x)$ and $\psi_p(x)$ hold true:

$$\Gamma_p(x) = \int_0^p \left(1 - \frac{t}{p}\right)^p t^{x-1} dt, \quad (1.6)$$

$$\psi_p(x) = \log p - \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-xt}(1 - e^{-(p+1)t})}{1 - e^{-t}} dt \quad (1.7)$$

and

$$\psi_p^{(m)}(x) = (-1)^{m+1} \cdot \int_0^\infty \frac{t^m e^{-xt}}{1 - e^{-t}} (1 - e^{-(p+1)t}) dt. \quad (1.8)$$

Jackson [9–11] (see also [23,25]) defined the basic (or q -) analogue of the gamma function as follows:

$$\Gamma_q(x) = \frac{(q; q)_\infty}{(q^x; q)_\infty} (1 - q)^{1-x} \quad (0 < q < 1) \quad (1.9)$$

and

$$\Gamma_q(x) = \frac{(q^{-1}; q^{-1})_\infty}{(q^{-x}; q^{-1})_\infty} (q - 1)^{1-x} q^{\binom{x}{2}} \quad (q > 1), \quad (1.10)$$

where, and in what follows,

$$(a; q)_\infty = \frac{(a; q)_\infty}{(aq^j; q)_\infty} \quad \text{and} \quad (a; q)_\infty = \prod_{j=0}^\infty (1 - aq^j)$$

and

$$[\lambda] := \frac{1 - q^\lambda}{1 - q}, \quad [0]! := 1 \quad \text{and} \quad [n]! := [1][2][3] \dots [n] \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}).$$

The basic (or q -) gamma function $\Gamma_q(x)$ has the following integral representation (see, for details, [9–11]):

$$\Gamma_q(t) = \int_0^\infty x^{t-1} E_q^{-qx} d_q x,$$

where E_q^x defined by

$$E_q^x := \sum_{j=0}^\infty q^{\frac{j(j-1)}{2}} \frac{x^j}{[j]!} = [(1 + (1 - q)x; q)]_\infty$$

is the q -analogue of the classical exponential function e^x . The q -analogue of the ψ -function is defined (for $0 < q < 1$) as the logarithmic derivative of the q -gamma function, that is, by (see also [17])

$$\psi_q(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \{\log \Gamma_q(x)\} = \frac{\Gamma'_q(x)}{\Gamma_q(x)}.$$

Many properties of the q -gamma function were derived by Askey [4] (see also [23, p. 490 et seq.]).

It is well-known that

$$\lim_{q \rightarrow 1^-} \Gamma_q(x) \rightarrow \Gamma(x) \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{q \rightarrow 1^-} \psi_q(x) \rightarrow \psi(x).$$

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