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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

THREE RAMANUJAN CONTINUED FRACTIONS WITH MODULARITY

YOONJIN LEE¹ AND YOON KYUNG PARK^{2,*}

ABSTRACT. We study three Ramanujan continued fractions $c(\tau)$, $W(\tau)$ and $T(\tau)$. In fact, $c(\tau)$ and $W(\tau)$ are modular functions of level 16, and $T(\tau)$ is a modular function of level 32. We first prove that the values of $c(\tau)$ and $W(\tau)$ can generate the ray class field modulo 4 over an imaginary quadratic field K. We also prove that $2/(1 - c(\tau))$, $1/W(\tau)$, $T(\tau) + 1/T(\tau)$ are algebraic integers for any imaginary quadratic quantity τ . Furthermore, we find the modular equations of $c(\tau)$, $T(\tau)$ and $W(\tau)$ for any level, and we show that $c(\tau)$ and $W(\tau)$ satisfy the Kronecker's congruence. We can express the value $c(r\tau)$ (respectively, $T(r\tau)$, $W(r\tau)$) in terms of radicals for any positive rational number r when the value $c(\tau)$ (respectively, $T(\tau)$, $W(\tau)$) can be written as radicals.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Rogers-Ramanujan continued fraction $r(\tau)$ is a continued fraction which is written in two letters by Ramanujan to Hardy [16, pp. xxvii, xxviii], and it is defined by

$$r(\tau) = \frac{q^{1/5}}{1 + \frac{q}{1 + \frac{q^2}{1 + \frac{q^3}{1 + \cdots}}}} \qquad (q := e^{2\pi i \tau}).$$

Ramanujan's letters contain several theorems including the evaluation of $r(\tau)$ and the relations between $r(\tau)$ and $r(n\tau)$ (n = 2, ..., 5). These amazing results are recently proved by the theory of modular forms [3, 6, 7] because $r(\tau)$ is a generator of the field of modular functions on $\Gamma(5)$.

There are several works which are motivated by Ramanujan's work. Among them, we introduce the following three continued fractions $c(\tau), T(\tau)$ and $W(\tau)$:

$$c(\tau) = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{2q}{1 - q^2 + \frac{q^2(1 + q^2)^2}{1 - q^6 + \frac{q^4(1 + q^4)^2}{1 - q^{10} + \dots}}},$$

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Key words and phrases. Ramanujan continued fraction, Modular function, Class field theory.

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