

# Elliptic Functions

## Classification of elliptic integrals

## §1.3 Classification of elliptic integrals

Recall: Indefinite integrals of the form

$$\int R(x) dx, \quad R(x) : \text{rational function}$$

can be expressed in terms of elementary functions:

rational functions, log, arctan.

Indefinite integrals of the form

$$\int R(x, \sqrt{\varphi(x)}) dx,$$

$R(x, s)$  : rational function,  $\varphi(x)$  : quadratic polynomial

can be reduced to an integral of rational functions, using trigonometric functions and their inverse.

Examples:

$$\begin{aligned}\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} &= \int \frac{d \sin \theta}{\cos \theta} && (x = \sin \theta) \\ &= \int \frac{\cos \theta d\theta}{\cos \theta} = \int d\theta = \theta = \arcsin x.\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\int \sqrt{1+x^2} dx &= 2 \int \frac{(1+t^2)^2}{(1-t^2)^2} dt && \left(x = \frac{2t}{1-t^2}\right) \\ &= \dots \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(x \sqrt{1+x^2} + \log(x + \sqrt{1+x^2})\right).\end{aligned}$$

If  $\deg \varphi(x) \geq 3$ , in general, integrals  $\int R(x, \sqrt{\varphi(x)}) dx$  cannot be expressed in terms of elementary functions.

Note: for simplicity, coefficients of  $R(x, s)$  and  $\varphi(x) \in \mathbb{C}$ . For example,

$$\arctan x = \int \frac{dx}{1+x^2} = \frac{1}{2i} \int \left( \frac{1}{x-i} - \frac{1}{x+i} \right) dx = \frac{\log(x-i) - \log(x+i)}{2i}.$$

$\implies$  In  $\mathbb{C}$ , we do not need  $\arctan$ .

Definition:

$\varphi(x)$ : polynomial of degree 3 or 4 without multiple roots,

$R(x, s)$ : rational function,

$\implies$  integrals of the form  $\int R(x, \sqrt{\varphi(x)}) dx$  are called the elliptic integrals.

(When  $\deg \varphi(x) \geq 5$ : *hyperelliptic* integrals.)

The case  $\deg \varphi(x) = 3$  and  $\deg \varphi(x) = 4$  are essentially the same!

Example:  $\deg \varphi(x) = 3$ .

$$\varphi(x) = a(x - \alpha_1)(x - \alpha_2)(x - \alpha_3),$$

$\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$ : distinct by assumption.

Take a fractional linear transformation:  $x = T(y) = \frac{Ay + B}{Cy + D}$ , such that

- $C + D = 0$ , i.e.,  $T(1) = \infty$ .
- $T(\infty) = A/C \neq \alpha_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, 3$ ), i.e.,  $\beta_i := T^{-1}(\alpha_i) \neq \infty$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \implies x - \alpha_i &= \frac{Ay + B}{Cy + D} - \frac{A\beta_i + B}{C\beta_i + D} \\ &= \text{const.} \times \frac{y - \beta_i}{y - 1}. \quad \left( \text{const.} = \frac{A - \alpha_i C}{C} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
R(x, \sqrt{\varphi(x)}) &= R \left( \frac{Ay + B}{Cy + D}, \text{const.} \sqrt{\frac{(y - \beta_1)(y - \beta_2)(y - \beta_3)}{(y - 1)^3}} \right) \\
&= R \left( \frac{Ay + B}{Cy + D}, \text{const.} \frac{\sqrt{(y - \beta_1)(y - \beta_2)(y - \beta_3)(y - 1)}}{(y - 1)^2} \right) \\
&= \tilde{R}(y, \sqrt{(y - \beta_1)(y - \beta_2)(y - \beta_3)(y - 1)}).
\end{aligned}$$

( $\tilde{R}(y, t)$ : new rational function) and

$$dx = \frac{dx}{dy} dy = \frac{AD - BC}{(Cy + D)^2} dy.$$

$$\implies \int R(x, \sqrt{\varphi(x)}) dx = \int \tilde{\tilde{R}}(y, \sqrt{\psi(y)}) dy,$$

$$\psi(y) = (y - \beta_1)(y - \beta_2)(y - \beta_3)(y - 1), \quad \tilde{\tilde{R}}(y, t) = \tilde{R}(y, t) \times \frac{AD - BC}{(Cy + D)^2}.$$

Exercise:

$$\int R(x, \sqrt{\varphi(x)}) dx \quad (\deg \varphi = 4) \rightsquigarrow \int R'(y, \sqrt{\psi(y)}) dy \quad (\deg \psi = 3).$$

Hereafter  $\deg \varphi(x) = 4$ .

Note:

- $\varphi(x) = \prod_{i=1}^4 (x - \alpha_i)$  has four parameters  $(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_4)$ .

- fractional linear transformations  $\frac{Ax + B}{Cx + D}$  ( $AD - BC = 1$ ) determined by three parameters.

$\implies$  remains four – three = one parameter.

In fact, may assume

$$\varphi(x) = \varphi_k(x) = (1 - x^2)(1 - k^2x^2),$$

by using a fractional linear transformation  $T$ , such that

$$(T\alpha_1, T\alpha_2, T\alpha_3, T\alpha_4) = (1, k^{-1}, -1, -k^{-1}).$$

Exercise:

(i) Express  $k$  in terms of the cross ratio  $\lambda = \frac{(\alpha_1 - \alpha_3)(\alpha_2 - \alpha_4)}{(\alpha_1 - \alpha_4)(\alpha_2 - \alpha_3)}$  of  $(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_4)$ .

(ii) Show that such  $T$  exists.

(iii)  $\int R(x, \sqrt{\varphi(x)}) dx \rightsquigarrow \int R_k(y, \sqrt{(1 - y^2)(1 - k^2y^2)}) dy$ .



Theorem (Legendre-Jacobi standard forms):

Any elliptic integral is a linear combination of

- elementary functions (combinations of rational functions, log, inverse trigonometric functions and  $\sqrt{\varphi(x)}$ ),

- $\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{(1-x^2)(1-k^2x^2)}}$  (*elliptic integral of the first kind*),

- $\int \sqrt{\frac{1-k^2x^2}{1-x^2}} dx = \int \frac{1-k^2x^2}{\sqrt{(1-x^2)(1-k^2x^2)}} dx$   
(*elliptic integral of the second kind*),

- $\int \frac{dx}{(x^2-\alpha^2)\sqrt{(1-x^2)(1-k^2x^2)}} dx$ ,  $\alpha$ : parameter  
(*elliptic integral of the third kind*). □

$k$ : modulus of the elliptic integral.

Proof:

May assume  $\varphi(x) = \sqrt{(1-x^2)(1-k^2x^2)}$ .

$s := \sqrt{\varphi(x)}$ , i.e.,  $s^2 = \varphi(x)$ .

$R(x, s)$ : rational function  $\implies \exists$  polynomials  $P_1(x), P_2(x), Q_1(x), Q_2(x)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} R(x, \sqrt{\varphi(x)}) &= \frac{P_1(x) + P_2(x)s}{Q_1(x) + Q_2(x)s} \\ &= \frac{(P_1(x) + P_2(x)s)(Q_1(x) - Q_2(x)s)}{(Q_1(x) + Q_2(x)s)(Q_1(x) - Q_2(x)s)} \\ &= \frac{\tilde{P}_1(x) + \tilde{P}_2(x)s}{Q_1(x)^2 - Q_2(x)^2\varphi(x)} \quad (\tilde{P}_1(x), \tilde{P}_2(x) : \text{polynomials}) \\ &= R_1(x) + \tilde{R}_2(x)s \quad (R_1(x), R_2(x) : \text{rational functions}) \\ &= R_1(x) + \frac{R_2(x)}{s} \quad (R_2(x) = \tilde{R}_2(x)\varphi(x)). \end{aligned}$$

$$\int R(x, \sqrt{\varphi(x)}) dx = \int R_1(x) dx + \int \frac{R_2(x)}{s} dx.$$

Since the rational function  $R_2(x)$  is expanded as

$$R_2(x) = (\text{polynomial}) + \sum_{j=1}^M \sum_{n=1}^{n_j} \frac{a_{jn}}{(x - \alpha_j)^n},$$

the integral  $\int R(x, \sqrt{\varphi(x)}) dx$  is a linear combination of

- the integral of a rational function  $R_1(x)$ ,
- $I_n := \int \frac{x^n}{s} dx$  ( $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ),
- $J_n(\alpha) := \int \frac{dx}{(x - \alpha)^n s}$  ( $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ).

## Recurrence relations:

- recurrence relations among  $I_n$ 's: integrate the relation,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx} x^n s &= nx^{n-1} s + \frac{x^n}{2s} \frac{d\varphi}{dx} \\ &= \frac{nx^{n-1}\varphi(x)}{s} + \frac{x^n(\text{polynomial of deg} = 3)}{s} \\ \implies x^n s &= \begin{cases} c_{n+3}I_{n+3} + \cdots + c_n I_n + c_{n-1}I_{n-1}, & (n \neq 0), \\ c_3 I_3 + \cdots + c_0 I_0, & (n = 0). \end{cases}\end{aligned}$$

$\xrightarrow{\text{induction}}$   $I_n$  ( $n \geq 3$ ) = a linear combination of (polynomial)  $\times s$ ,  $I_2$ ,  $I_1$ ,  $I_0$ .

- recurrence relations among  $J_n(\alpha)$ 's: For  $n \geq 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} \frac{s}{(x - \alpha)^n} &= \frac{-ns}{(x - \alpha)^{n+1}} + \frac{1}{2(x - \alpha)^n} \frac{d\varphi}{dx} \\ &= \frac{1}{(x - \alpha)^{n+1} s} \left( -n\varphi(x) + \frac{x - \alpha}{2} \frac{d\varphi}{dx} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{(x - \alpha)^{n+1} s} \sum_{i=0}^4 d_{n,i} (x - \alpha)^i, \end{aligned}$$

where  $d_{n,0} = -n\varphi(\alpha)$ ,  $d_{n,1} = \left(\frac{1}{2} - n\right) \varphi'(\alpha)$ .

Integrating this relation we have

$$\frac{s}{(x - \alpha)^n} = d_{n,0} J_{n+1} + \cdots + d_{n,4} J_{n-3}.$$

1.  $\varphi(\alpha) \neq 0 \Rightarrow d_{n,0} \neq 0$ .

$J_{n+1}$  is a linear combination of  $J_n, \dots, J_{n-3}$  and  $\frac{s}{(x-\alpha)^n}$ .

$\xrightarrow{\text{induction}} J_n$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) = a linear combination of  $J_1, J_0, J_{-1}, J_{-2}$  and (rational function)  $\times s$ .

2.  $\varphi(\alpha) = 0 \Rightarrow \varphi'(\alpha) \neq 0$ . Hence  $d_{n,0} = 0, d_{n,1} \neq 0$ .

$J_n$  is a linear combination of  $J_{n-1}, \dots, J_{n-3}$  and  $\frac{s}{(x-\alpha)^n}$ .

$\xrightarrow{\text{induction}} J_n$  ( $n \geq 1$ ) = a linear combination of  $J_0, J_{-1}, J_{-2}$  and (rational function)  $\times s$ .

On the other hand,  $J_{-2} = \int \frac{(x-\alpha)^2}{s} dx, J_{-1} = \int \frac{x-\alpha}{s} dx$  and  $J_0 = \int \frac{dx}{s}$  are linear combinations of  $I_0, I_1$  and  $I_2$ .

Summarising, in any case,  $\int R(x, \sqrt{\varphi(x)}) dx$  is a linear combination of integrals of rational functions, (rational function)  $\times \sqrt{\varphi(x)}$  and

$$I_0 = \int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{\varphi(x)}},$$

$$I_1 = \int \frac{x dx}{\sqrt{\varphi(x)}},$$

$$I_2 = \int \frac{x^2 dx}{\sqrt{\varphi(x)}},$$

$$J_1(\alpha) = \int \frac{dx}{(x - \alpha)\sqrt{\varphi(x)}}.$$

- $I_0$ : the elliptic integral of the first kind.

- $$I_1 = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{dt}{\sqrt{(1-t)(1-kt)}} \quad (x = t^2)$$

= elementary function (inverse trigonometric function).

- $$I_2 = \int \frac{\frac{1}{k^2}(1 - (1 - k^2x^2))}{\sqrt{(1-x^2)(1-k^2x^2)}} dx = \frac{1}{k^2}I_0 - \frac{1}{k^2} \int \sqrt{\frac{1-k^2x^2}{1-x^2}} dx.$$

= (elliptic integral of the first kind) + (the second kind).

- $$J_1 = \int \frac{(x + \alpha) dx}{(x^2 - \alpha^2)\sqrt{(1-x^2)(1-k^2x^2)}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{dt}{(t - \alpha^2)\sqrt{(1-t)(1-k^2t)}} + \alpha \int \frac{dx}{(x^2 - \alpha^2)\sqrt{(1-x^2)(1-k^2x^2)}}$$

= (elementary function) + (elliptic integral of the third kind).

□



Another standard forms (Riemann standard form):

$$\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x(1-x)(1-\lambda x)}},$$

$$\int \frac{x dx}{\sqrt{x(1-x)(1-\lambda x)}},$$

$$\int \frac{dx}{(x-\alpha)\sqrt{x(1-x)(1-\lambda x)}}.$$