

ON DEFORMATIONS OF HOPF MAPS AND HYPERGEOMETRIC SERIES

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Introduction

Let \mathbf{R}^n denote the Euclidean space of dimension $n \geq 1$ with the standard inner product $\langle x, y \rangle$ and the norm $Nx = \langle x, x \rangle$. We shall denote by $d\omega_{n-1}$ the volume element of the unit sphere $S^{n-1} = \{x \in \mathbf{R}^n; Nx = 1\}$ normalized so that the volume of S^{n-1} is 1.

With each continuous map $f: S^{n-1} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^m$, we shall associate a function $f^*(z)$ of a complex variable z by

$$f^*(z) = \int_{S^{n-1}} e^{z\langle f(x), x \rangle} d\omega_{n-1}.$$

Clearly $f^*(z)$ is an entire function and its Taylor expansion is given by

$$f^*(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} N_k(f) \frac{z^k}{k!}$$

where

$$N_k(f) = \int_{S^{n-1}} N(f(x))^k d\omega_{n-1}.$$

When f is spherical, i.e. when f maps S^{n-1} in S^{m-1} , we have $f^*(z) = e^z$. When we are given a family $\{f_t\}$, $0 \leq t \leq 1$, of maps: $S^{n-1} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^m$ such that f_0 is spherical, we have a family $\{f_t^*\}$ of entire functions beginning with $f_0^* = e^z$ and ending with some advanced function f_1^* .

Here is an illustrative example: consider the family

$$f_t(x) = (x_1^2 - x_2^2, 2(1+t)^{1/2}x_1x_2), \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1.$$

The map $f_0: S^1 \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^2$ is spherical since it is the squaring $x \mapsto x^2$ in $C = \mathbf{R}^2$. Passing to the polar coordinates, we have $N(f_t(x)) = 1 + t \sin^2 2\theta$ and

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$$\begin{aligned}
 f_i^*(z)e^{-z} &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} e^{z \sin^2 2\theta} d\theta = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdots (2k-1)}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdots 2k} \frac{(tz)^k}{k!} \\
 &= {}_1F_1(1/2; 1; tz),
 \end{aligned}$$

a Kummer’s hypergeometric series.

The purpose of this paper is to find similar relations between certain deformations of classical Hopf fibrations $S^3 \rightarrow S^2$, $S^7 \rightarrow S^4$, $S^{15} \rightarrow S^8$ and Kummer’s hypergeometric series.

§ 1. Prerequisites

As for proofs of formulas below, see our earlier paper [2].

The symbols Z, Q, R, C, H, O denote the set of integers, rational numbers, real numbers, complex numbers, Hamilton’s quaternions and Cayley’s octonions, respectively. The set of nonnegative real numbers is denoted by R_+ . For a subset M of R , we put $M_+ = M \cap R_+$. The set of all $(m \times n)$ -matrices over a field K is written $K_{m,n}$. If $m = n$, we write K_m for $K_{m,m}$. For a symmetric matrix $A \in K_n$ and vectors $x \in K^n$, we put $A[x] = {}^t xAx$, the quadratic form of A . For $a \in C, k \in Z_+$, the Appell’s symbol is:

$$(a, k) = \begin{cases} a(a+1) \cdots (a+k-1) & \text{if } k \geq 1 \\ 1 & \text{if } k = 0. \end{cases}$$

We have the duplication formula: $(2a, 2k) = 4^k(a, k)(a+1/2, k)$. For $a = (a_1, \dots, a_p) \in C^p, b = (b_1, \dots, b_q) \in C^q$, the (generalized) hypergeometric series is defined by

$${}_pF_q(a; b; z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a_1, k) \cdots (a_p, k)}{(b_1, k) \cdots (b_q, k)} \frac{z^k}{k!}.$$

${}_2F_1$ and ${}_1F_1$ are also called Gauss’ and Kummer’s series, respectively. For $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) \in R^n$ and $\nu \in Z_+$, the numbers $b_\nu(2; \lambda)$ are defined by the generating relation:

$$(1.1) \quad \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} b_\nu(2; \lambda) t^\nu = \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - 4\lambda_i t)^{-1/2}.$$

In particular, we have

$$(1.2) \quad b_\nu(2; 1_n) = \frac{4^\nu (n/2, \nu)}{\nu!} \quad \text{for } 1_n = (1, \dots, 1) \in Z_+^n.$$

When $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ is the set of eigenvalues of a quadratic form $q(x)$ on R^n , we have

$$(1.3) \quad \int_{S^{n-1}} q(x)^\nu d\omega_{n-1} = \frac{b_\nu(2; \lambda)}{b_\nu(2; 1_n)} .$$

For a continuous map $f: S^{n-1} \rightarrow R^m$, we put

$$(1.4) \quad f_\nu(\xi) = \int_{S^{n-1}} \langle \xi, f(x) \rangle^\nu d\omega_{n-1}, \quad \xi \in R^m ,$$

$$(1.5) \quad \sigma_\nu(f) = \int_{S^{m-1}} f_\nu(\xi) d\omega_{m-1}, \quad \nu \in Z_+ .$$

Then, we have

$$(1.6) \quad N_k(f) = \int_{S^{n-1}} N(f(x))^k d\omega_{n-1} = \frac{b_k(2; 1_m)}{b_k(2; 1)} \sigma_{2k}(f) \quad k \in Z_+ .$$

§ 2. Quadratic maps of type (S)

Let $f: R^n \rightarrow R^m$ be a quadratic map. By definition, each component $f_i(x)$, $1 \leq i \leq m$, of $f(x)$ is a quadratic form on R^n and we can write $f_i(x) = A_i[x]$ with a symmetric matrix A_i in R_n . We shall obtain a general formula for the number $N_k(f)$. In view of (1.4), (1.5), (1.6), we shall consider $f_{2k}(\xi)$ and $\sigma_{2k}(f)$ in order. Since $\langle \xi, f(x) \rangle = \xi_1 f_1(x) + \dots + \xi_m f_m(x) = \xi_1 A_1[x] + \dots + \xi_m A_m[x]$, we have

$$(2.1) \quad \langle \xi, f(x) \rangle = A[x] \quad \text{with } A = \xi_1 A_1 + \dots + \xi_m A_m .$$

Let $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ be the eigenvalues of A . Then, by (1.3), (1.4) we have

$$(2.2) \quad f_{2k}(\xi) = \frac{b_{2k}(2; \lambda)}{b_{2k}(2; 1_n)} .$$

From (1.3), (1.5), (1.6), (2.2), it follows that

$$N_k(f) = \beta_k \int_{S^{m-1}} b_{2k}(2; \lambda) d\omega_{m-1}$$

where

$$\beta_k = \frac{b_k(2; 1_m)}{b_k(2; 1) b_{2k}(2; 1_n)} .$$

Using (1.2) three times and the duplication formula for Appell's symbol twice, we can determine β_k explicitly and we get

$$(2.3) \quad N_k(f) = \frac{(m/2, k)k!}{4^{2k}(n/4, k)((n+2)/4, k)} \int_{S^{m-1}} b_{2k}(2; \lambda) d\omega_{m-1}.$$

In view of (1.1), the main problem is to determine the eigenvalues of the symmetric matrix $A = \xi_1 A_1 + \cdots + \xi_m A_m$. In order to facilitate the argument, let us make the following assumptions on the quadratic map $f: \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^m$ in terms of the matrix A in (2, 1).

(2.4) DEFINITION. We shall say that a quadratic map $f: \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^m$ is of type (S) if the following conditions are satisfied:

(S1) n is even: $n = 2p$,

(S2) the trace of A is zero,

(S3) $A^2 = a1_{2p}$ where $a = a(\xi)$ is a positive definite quadratic form on \mathbf{R}^m .

(2.5) PROPOSITION. Suppose that $f: \mathbf{R}^{2p} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^m$ is a quadratic map of type (S). Notation being as in (2.4), let $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{2p})$ be the set of eigenvalues of A . Then, after a necessary arrangement of λ_i 's, we have $\lambda_1 = \dots = \lambda_p = \sqrt{a}$ and $\lambda_{p+1} = \dots = \lambda_{2p} = -\sqrt{a}$.

Proof. Let T be an orthogonal matrix in \mathbf{R}_{2p} such that

$${}^t TAT = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & \lambda_{2p} \end{pmatrix}.$$

By (S3) we have $({}^t TAT)^2 = {}^t TA^2T = a1_{2p}$ and so $\lambda_i^2 = a$ for all i , $1 \leq i \leq 2p$. Our assertion then follows at once from (S2). Q.E.D.

Now, back to the formula (2.3), if f is of type (S), we have, by (1.1),

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} b_{2k}(2; \lambda) t^\nu &= (1 - 4\sqrt{a}t)^{-p/2} (1 + 4\sqrt{a}t)^{-p/2} \\ &= (1 - 4^2 a t^2)^{-p/2} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{p}{2, k} \frac{4^{2k} a^k}{k!} t^{2k}, \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$(2.6) \quad b_{2k}(2; \lambda) = \binom{p}{2, k} \frac{4^{2k} a^k}{k!}, \quad k \in \mathbf{Z}_+.$$

Combining (2.3) and (2.6), with $n = 2p$, we get

$$(2.7) \quad N_k(f) = \frac{(m/2, k)}{((p+1)/2, k)} \int_{S^{m-1}} a^k d\omega_{m-1} \quad \text{when } f \text{ is of type (S).}$$

Call $\mu = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_m)$ the eigenvalues of $a = a(\xi)$; by (S3) all μ_i are positive. From (1.2), (1.3), (2.7), it follows that

$$(2.8) \quad N_k(f) = \frac{k!}{4^k((p+1)/2, k)} b_k(2; \mu) \quad \text{when } f \text{ is of type (S)}.$$

A further determination of $N_k(f)$ depends on μ , the eigenvalues of $a = a(\xi)$, via (1.1), again.

As an illustrative example, let us consider the case where $p = 1$, $m = 2$, i.e. the case of a pair of binary quadratic forms:

$$(2.9) \quad f(x) = \begin{pmatrix} f_1(x) \\ f_2(x) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 x_1^2 + 2\beta_1 x_1 x_2 - \alpha_1 x_2^2 \\ \alpha_2 x_1^2 + 2\beta_2 x_1 x_2 - \alpha_2 x_2^2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus, we have

$$A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & \beta_1 \\ \beta_1 & -\alpha_1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A_2 = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_2 & \beta_2 \\ \beta_2 & -\alpha_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

and $A = \xi_1 A_1 + \xi_2 A_2$. Clearly the trace of A is zero. If we assume that $\alpha_1 \beta_2 - \alpha_2 \beta_1 \neq 0$, one verifies easily that f is of type (S) with

$$A^2 = a(\xi) = (\alpha_1^2 + \beta_1^2)\xi_1^2 + 2(\alpha_1 \alpha_2 + \beta_1 \beta_2)\xi_1 \xi_2 + (\alpha_2^2 + \beta_2^2)\xi_2^2,$$

this being positive definite. The characteristic polynomial of the matrix of $a(\xi)$ is

$$(2.10) \quad t^2 - (\alpha_1^2 + \alpha_2^2 + \beta_1^2 + \beta_2^2)t + (\alpha_1 \beta_2 - \alpha_2 \beta_1)^2.$$

Now, by (1.1), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} b_k(2; \mu) t^k &= (1 - 4\mu_1 t)^{-1/2} (1 - 4\mu_2 t)^{-1/2} \\ &= (1 - 4(\mu_1 + \mu_2)t + \mu_1 \mu_2 (4t)^2)^{-1/2} = (1 - 2xz + z^2)^{-1/2} \end{aligned}$$

with $x = (\mu_1 + \mu_2)/2(\mu_1 \mu_2)^{1/2}$, $z = 4(\mu_1 \mu_2)^{1/2}t$. In view of the well-known generating relation of the Legendre polynomials;

$$(1 - 2xz + z^2)^{-1/2} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P_k(x) z^k,$$

we have

$$(2.11) \quad b_k(2; \mu) = 4^k (\mu_1 \mu_2)^{k/2} P_k\left(\frac{\mu_1 + \mu_2}{2(\mu_1 \mu_2)^{1/2}}\right).$$

From (2.8), (2.10), (2.11), it follows that

$$N_k(f) = |\alpha_1\beta_2 - \alpha_2\beta_1|^k P_k\left(\frac{\alpha_1^2 + \alpha_2^2 + \beta_1^2 + \beta_2^2}{2|\alpha_1\beta_2 - \alpha_2\beta_1|}\right).$$

For simplicity, put $\Delta = |\alpha_1\beta_2 - \alpha_2\beta_1|$ and $\sigma = \alpha_1^2 + \alpha_2^2 + \beta_1^2 + \beta_2^2$. Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned} f^*(z) &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} N_k(f) \frac{z^k}{k!} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P_k\left(\frac{\sigma}{2\Delta}\right) \frac{(\Delta z)^k}{k!} \\ &= e^{\sigma z/2} {}_0F_1\left(; 1; \left(\frac{z}{4}\right)^2 (\sigma^2 - 4\Delta^2)\right).^{1)} \end{aligned}$$

If, in particular, $\alpha_1 = 1$, $\alpha_2 = 0$, $\beta_1 = 0$, $\beta_2 = (1+t)^{1/2}$, then $\sigma = 2+t$, $\Delta = (1+t)^{1/2}$ and we get

$$f^*(z) = f_t^*(z) = e^{(1+t/2)z} {}_0F_1\left(; 1; \left(\frac{tz}{4}\right)^2\right)$$

which is consistent with the formula $f_t^*(z) = e^z {}_1F_1(1/2; 1; tz)$ of the example in the introduction as can be verified directly.

§3. Deformations of Hopf maps

Throughout this section, we shall denote by X one of the algebras \mathbf{R} , \mathbf{C} , \mathbf{H} , \mathbf{O} , of real numbers, complex numbers, Hamilton's quaternions and Cayley's octonions, respectively. Using the standard basis, X may be identified with the Euclidean space, \mathbf{R}^p , $p = 1, 2, 4, 8$, with the inner product $\langle x, y \rangle$ and the norm $Nx = \langle x, x \rangle = \bar{x}x = x\bar{x}$ where $x \mapsto \bar{x}$ is the standard involution of X . We put $Tx = \bar{x} + x$, the trace of x . Then, we have

$$(3.1) \quad \langle x, y \rangle = 1/2T(\bar{x}y).$$

The following properties of the trace

$$(3.2) \quad T(xy) = T(yx), \quad T((xy)z) = T(x(yz))$$

are very useful because the algebra X itself is not necessarily commutative and associative.

Let f_t , $t > -1$, be the quadratic map $\mathbf{R}^{2p} = X \times X \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{1+p} = \mathbf{R} \times X$ defined by

$$(3.3) \quad f_t(z) = (Nx - Ny, 2(1+t)^{1/2}xy), \quad z = (x, y) \in \mathbf{R}^{2p} = X \times X.$$

1) See [1] p. 233, line 2.

When $t = 0$, f_0 induces a map of S^{2p-1} onto S^p which is the classical Hopf fibration.

(3.4) PROPOSITION. For each $t > -1$, the map $f_t: \mathbf{R}^{2p} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{1+p}$ defined by (3.3) is of type (S).

Proof. Let A_t be the symmetric matrix in \mathbf{R}_{2p} such that

$$\langle \zeta, f_t(z) \rangle = A_t[z], \quad z = (x, y) \in X \times X, \quad \zeta = (\xi, \eta) \in \mathbf{R} \times X.$$

Substituting (3.3) in the left hand side, we have

$$(3.5) \quad \langle \zeta, f_t(z) \rangle = \xi(Nx - Ny) + 2(1 + t)^{1/2} \langle \eta, xy \rangle.$$

By (3.1), (3.2), we have

$$(3.6) \quad \langle \eta, xy \rangle = \frac{1}{2}T(\bar{\eta}(xy)) = \frac{1}{2}T(\overline{xy}\eta) = \frac{1}{2}T(\bar{y}(\bar{x}\eta)) = \frac{1}{2}T(\bar{x}(\eta\bar{y})) = \langle x, \eta\bar{y} \rangle.$$

Since, for each $\eta \in X$, the map $y \mapsto \eta\bar{y}$ is a linear endomorphism of X , there is a matrix $B(\eta)$ in \mathbf{R}_p such that

$$(3.7) \quad \eta\bar{y} = B(\eta)y, \quad \text{for all } y \in X.$$

Hence, from (3.5), (3.6), it follows that

$$\langle \zeta, f_t(z) \rangle = \xi(Nx - Ny) + 2(1 + t)^{1/2} \langle x, B(\eta)y \rangle.$$

From this, one verifies easily that

$$\langle \zeta, f_t(z) \rangle = A_t[z] \quad \text{with} \quad A_t = \begin{pmatrix} \xi_p^1 & (1 + t)^{1/2}B(\eta) \\ (1 + t)^{1/2}B(\eta) & -\xi_p^1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Therefore, f_t satisfies (S1), (S2) of (2.4). Next, we shall show that

$$(3.8) \quad {}^tB(\eta)B(\eta) = B(\eta){}^tB(\eta) = (N\eta)^{1p}.$$

In fact, using (3.1), (3.2), (3.7), we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle {}^tB(\eta)x, y \rangle &= \langle x, B(\eta)y \rangle = \langle x, \eta\bar{y} \rangle = \frac{1}{2}T(\bar{x}(\eta\bar{y})) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}T(\bar{y}(\bar{x}\eta)) = \langle y, \bar{x}\eta \rangle = \langle \bar{x}\eta, y \rangle, \quad \text{for all } y \in X, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that

$$(3.9) \quad {}^tB(\eta)x = \bar{x}\eta.$$

From (3.7), (3.9), we have

$$\begin{aligned} {}^tB(\eta)B(\eta)y &= {}^tB(\eta)\eta\bar{y} = (y\bar{\eta})\eta = (N\eta)y, \\ B(\eta){}^tB(\eta)x &= B(\eta)\bar{x}\eta = \eta(\bar{\eta}x) = (N\eta)x, \end{aligned}$$

which proves (3.8). It follows from (3.8) that

$$A_t^2 = a1_{2p} \quad \text{with} \quad a = a(\zeta) = \xi^2 + (1 + t)N\eta.$$

Since $a(\zeta)$ is positive definite for $t > -1$, f_t satisfies (S3) of (2.4). Q.E.D.

Having verified that f_t is of type (S), we may use (2.7), with $m = p + 1$, and get

$$N_k(f_t) = \int_{S^p} a^k d\omega_p.$$

Since $\xi^2 + N\eta = N\zeta = 1$ on S^p , we have

$$N_k(f_t) = \int_{S^p} (1 + tN\eta)^k d\omega_p = \sum_{j=0}^k \binom{k}{j} t^j \int_{S^p} (N\eta)^j d\omega_p.$$

Now, the eigenvalues of the quadratic form $N\eta$ on \mathbf{R}^{p+1} are $\mu = (0, 1, \dots, 1) \in \mathbf{R}^{p+1}$, and so, by (1.2), (1.3),

$$\int_{S^p} (N\eta)^j d\omega_p = \frac{b_j(2; \mu)}{b_j(2; 1_{p+1})} = \frac{j!}{4^j((p+1)/2, j)} b_j(2; \mu).$$

On the other hand, since

$$\prod_{t=1}^{p+1} (1 - 4\mu_t t)^{-1/2} = (1 - 4t)^{-p/2} = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \binom{p}{2, j} \frac{4^j t^j}{j!},$$

by (1.1), we have

$$b_j(2; \mu) = \frac{(p/2, j)4^j}{j!}.$$

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} N_k(f_t) &= \sum_{j=0}^k \binom{k}{j} t^j \frac{(p/2, j)}{((p+1)/2, j)} = \sum_{j=0}^k \frac{(-k, j)(p/2, j)}{((p+1)/2, j)} \frac{(-t)^j}{j!} \\ &= {}_2F_1\left(-k, \frac{p}{2}; \frac{p+1}{2}; -t\right). \end{aligned}$$

Finally, we have

$$\begin{aligned} f_t^*(z) &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} N_k(f_t) \frac{z^k}{k!} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^k}{k!} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-k, j)(p/2, j)}{((p+1)/2, j)} \frac{(-t)^j}{j!} \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{(p/2, j)(-t)^j}{((p+1)/2, j)j!} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-k, j)}{k!} z^k, \end{aligned}$$

where the inner sum is equal to

$$\sum_{k \geq j} (-1)^j \binom{k}{j} \frac{j!}{k!} z^k = (-1)^j \sum_{k \geq j} \frac{z^k}{(k-j)!} = (-1)^j z^j e^z.$$

Therefore, we obtain

$$f_t^*(z) = e^z F_1\left(\frac{p}{2}; \frac{p+1}{2}; tz\right).$$

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