

## ON A CONFLUENT HYPERGEOMETRIC FUNCTION OF TWO VARIABLES

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**Abstract.** R. Garnier derived a system of partial differential equations called an N-dimensional Garnier system, which is a generalization of the sixth Painlevé equation  $P_{VI}$ . The 2-dimensional Garnier system  $G_2$  admits particular solutions expressed in terms of the Appell's hypergeometric function  $F_1(\alpha, \beta, \beta', \gamma, x, y)$  and degenerate systems derived from  $G_2$  also admit ones expressed in terms of confluent hypergeometric functions of two variables obtained from  $F_1(\alpha, \beta, \beta', \gamma, x, y)$ . In this paper we treat one of them, give a triple of linearly independent solutions of this system expanded into convergent series, and near the irregular singular locus  $x = \infty$ , examine the asymptotic behaviour of solutions.

**Keywords.** Confluent hypergeometric function; Asymptotic expansion; Stokes multiplier; Saddle point method

**AMS subject classification.** 33C70, 35C20.

### 1 Introduction

Let  $z_C$  be a function of  $(x, y) \in \mathbf{C}^2$  defined by

$$z_C(x, y) = \int_C \exp\left(\frac{t^3}{3} + yt^2 + xt\right) t^{-\alpha-1} dt. \quad (1)$$

Here  $\alpha (\notin \mathbf{Z})$  is a complex constant and  $C$  is a path such that the integrand vanishes at its terminal points. It is known that  $z_C(x, y)$  satisfies a system of partial differential equations of the form

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_x^2 u &= \partial_y u, \\ \partial_x \partial_y u &= -x \partial_x u - 2y \partial_y u + \alpha u, \\ \partial_y^2 u &= (2xy + \alpha - 1) \partial_x u + (4y^2 - x) \partial_y u - 2\alpha y u, \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

whose solutions constitute a 3-dimensional vector space over  $\mathbf{C}$  (cf.[4]). This system is equivalent to

$$dV = (P(x, y)dx + Q(x, y)dy)V \quad (3)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} P(x, y) &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \alpha & -x & -2y \end{pmatrix}, & Q(x, y) &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \alpha & -x & -2y \\ -2\alpha y & 2xy + \alpha - 1 & 4y^2 - x \end{pmatrix}, \\ V &= {}^t(u, \partial_x u, \partial_y u). \end{aligned}$$