

# Connection problems on higher order linear $q$ -difference equations

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In this talk, we consider connection problems on higher( $r$ -th) order linear  $q$ -difference equations between around the origin and around the infinity. For the sake of simplicity, we deal with the connection problems on the third order (namely,  $r = 3$ ) linear  $q$ -difference equations.

We study the following “degenerated” third order  $q$ -difference equation:

$$\begin{aligned} & [(a_1 a_2 a_3 x - b_1/q^2) \sigma_q^3 - \{(a_1 a_2 + a_2 a_3 + a_3 a_1)x - (b_1/q^2 + 1/q)\} \sigma_q^2 \\ & + \{(a_1 + a_2 + a_3)x - 1/q\} \sigma_q - x] u(x) = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

The equation (1) has the formal solution around the origin as follows:

$$u_1(x) = {}_3\varphi_1(a_1, a_2, a_3; b_1; q, x) = \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{(a_1, a_2, a_3; q)_n}{(b_1; q)_n (q; q)_n} \left\{ (-1)q^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} \right\}^{-1} x^n.$$

Here,  $\sigma_q$  is the  $q$ -shifted operator  $\sigma_q f(x) = f(qx)$ , the  $q$ -shifted factorial  $(a; q)_n$  is

$$(a; q)_n := \begin{cases} 1, & n = 0, \\ (1-a)(1-aq) \dots (1-aq^{n-1}), & n \geq 1, \end{cases}$$

moreover,  $(a; q)_\infty := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a; q)_n$  and

$$(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m; q)_\infty := (a_1; q)_\infty (a_2; q)_\infty \dots (a_m; q)_\infty.$$

The notation  ${}_r\varphi_s(a_1, \dots, a_r; b_1, \dots, b_s; q, x)$  is the basic hypergeometric series [2]. The equation (1) also has the fundamental system of solutions around the infinity as follow:

$$\begin{aligned} v_1(x) &= x^{-\alpha_1} {}_3\varphi_2(a_1, a_1q/b_1, 0; a_1q/a_2, a_1q/a_3; q, qb_1/a_1a_2a_3x), \\ v_2(x) &= x^{-\alpha_2} {}_3\varphi_2(a_2, a_2q/b_1, 0; a_2q/a_1, a_2q/a_3; q, qb_1/a_1a_2a_3x), \\ v_3(x) &= x^{-\alpha_3} {}_3\varphi_2(a_3, a_3q/b_1, 0; a_3q/a_2, a_3q/a_1; q, qb_1/a_1a_2a_3x), \end{aligned}$$

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where  $a_j = q^{\alpha_j}$ ,  $j = 1, 2, 3$ . The relation between the solution around the origin  $u_1$  and solutions around the infinity  $v_1, v_2$  and  $v_3(x)$  is not so clear. In this talk, we give the relation with the using of the *suitable* resummation method.

We study connection problems on linear  $q$ -difference equations with irregular singular points. Connection problems on second order linear  $q$ -difference equations between the origin and the infinity are studied by G. D. Birkhoff [1]. The first example of connection formula was given by G. N. Watson (This formula is known as “Watson’s formula for the basic hypergeometric series  ${}_2\varphi_1(a, b; c; q, x)$ ”) [7] as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} {}_2\varphi_1(a, b; c; q; x) &= \frac{(b, c/a; q)_\infty (ax, q/ax; q)_\infty}{(c, b/a; q)_\infty (x, q/x; q)_\infty} {}_2\varphi_1(a, aq/c; aq/b; q, cq/abx) \\ &+ \frac{(a, c/b; q)_\infty (bx, q/bx; q)_\infty}{(c, a/b; q)_\infty (x, q/x; q)_\infty} {}_2\varphi_1(b, bq/c; bq/a; q, cq/abx). \end{aligned}$$

However, other connection formulae have not known for a long time. At the beginning of 21st century, C. Zhang has shown some connection formulae of solutions of  $q$ -difference equations with irregular singular points [8, 9, 10] by the  $q$ -Borel-Laplace methods. In connection problems on  $q$ -difference equations, two different types of “the  $q$ -Borel-Laplace resummation methods” are powerful tools. We review these transformations.

### The $q$ -Borel and the $q$ -Laplace transformations of the first kind:

**Definition 1.** For any  $f(x) = \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n x^n$ , the  $q$ -Borel transformation  $\mathcal{B}_q^+$  is

$$(\mathcal{B}_q^+ f)(\xi) = \varphi(\xi) := \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n q^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} \xi^n,$$

the  $q$ -Laplace transformation  $\mathcal{L}_{q,\lambda}^+$  is

$$\left(\mathcal{L}_{q,\lambda}^+ \varphi\right)(x) := \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \frac{\varphi(q^n \lambda)}{\theta\left(\frac{q^n \lambda}{x}\right)}.$$

### The $q$ -Borel and the $q$ -Laplace transformations of the second kind:

**Definition 2.** For  $f(x) = \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n x^n$ , the  $q$ -Borel transformation is defined by

$$g(\xi) = (\mathcal{B}_q^- f)(\xi) := \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n q^{-\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} \xi^n,$$

and the  $q$ -Laplace transformation is given by

$$(\mathcal{L}_q^- g)(x) := \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|\xi|=r} g(\xi) \theta_q \left( \frac{x}{\xi} \right) \frac{d\xi}{\xi}.$$

Here,  $r > 0$  is an enough small number.

These transformations has introduced by J. Sauloy [6]. Recently, I gave connection formulae of the Hahn-Exton  $q$ -Bessel function, the  $q$ -confluent hypergeometric series,  $q$ -Airy function and the divergent series which is related to the Ramanujan function [4, 5, 3] by the using of the  $q$ -Borel-Laplace methods. These functions are solutions of second order  $q$ -difference equations with special parameters.

But connection formulae of higher order  $q$ -difference equations are not clear. In this talk, we give the following theorem with using the  $q$ -Borel-Laplace resummation method:

**Theorem.** For any  $x \in \mathbb{C}^* \setminus [-\lambda; q]$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} {}_3\tilde{\varphi}_1(a_1, a_2, a_3; b_1; q, \lambda, x) &= \mathcal{L}_{q,\lambda}^+ \circ \mathcal{B}_q^+ {}_3\varphi_1(a_1, a_2, a_3; b_1; q, x) \\ &= \frac{(a_2, a_3, b_1/a_1; q)_\infty}{(b_1, a_2/a_1, a_3/a_1; q)_\infty} \frac{\theta(a_1\lambda)}{\theta(\lambda)} \frac{\theta(a_1qx/\lambda)\theta(x)}{\theta(qx/\lambda)\theta(a_1x)} v_1(x) \\ &+ \frac{(a_1, a_3, b_1/a_2; q)_\infty}{(b_1, a_1/a_2, a_3/a_2; q)_\infty} \frac{\theta(a_2\lambda)}{\theta(\lambda)} \frac{\theta(a_2qx/\lambda)\theta(x)}{\theta(qx/\lambda)\theta(a_2x)} v_2(x) \\ &+ \frac{(a_2, a_1, b_1/a_3; q)_\infty}{(b_1, a_2/a_3, a_1/a_3; q)_\infty} \frac{\theta(a_3\lambda)}{\theta(\lambda)} \frac{\theta(a_3qx/\lambda)\theta(x)}{\theta(qx/\lambda)\theta(a_3x)} v_3(x). \end{aligned}$$

Here, the notation  ${}_3\tilde{\varphi}_1(a_1, a_2, a_3; b_1; q, \lambda, x)$  is the  $q$ -Borel-Laplace transform of the *divergent* solution  $u_1(x)$ . The new parameter  $\lambda$  appears in the connection coefficients. We also give the connection matrix for the equation (1). We remark that these coefficients are also new examples of the  $q$ -Stokes coefficients.

## References

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