

# FUNCTIONS $q$ -ORTHOGONAL WITH RESPECT TO THEIR OWN ZEROS

LUIS DANIEL ABREU

ABSTRACT: In [4], G. H. Hardy proved that, under certain conditions, the only functions satisfying

$$\int_0^1 f(\lambda_m t) f(\lambda_n t) dt = 0 \quad (1)$$

where the  $\lambda_n$ 's are the zeros of  $f$ , are the Bessel functions. We replace the above integral by the Jackson  $q$ -integral and give the  $q$ -analogue of Hardy's result.

KEYWORDS:  $q$ -difference equations,  $q$ -Bessel functions,  $q$ -integral.

AMS SUBJECT CLASSIFICATION (2000): Primary 42C05, 33D45; Secondary 39A13.

## 1. Introduction

The orthogonality relations

$$\int_0^1 \sin(m\pi t) \sin(n\pi t) dt = 0 \quad (2)$$

if  $m \neq n$  and, for Bessel functions  $J_\nu$  and their  $n$ th zero  $j_{\nu n}$ ,

$$\int_0^1 t J_\nu(j_{\nu m} t) J_\nu(j_{\nu n} t) dt = 0 \quad (3)$$

lead J. M. Whittaker to call such functions *orthogonal with respect to their own zeros* [13]. It is known that, under some restrictions, the only such functions are the Bessel functions. This was shown by G. H. Hardy in [4]. For a remarkable big class of functions he proved that, denoting by  $\lambda_n$  the  $n$ th zero of  $f$ , if  $f$  satisfies

$$\int_0^1 f(\lambda_m t) f(\lambda_n t) dt = 0 \quad (4)$$

then  $f$  must be a Bessel function. The classes of functions considered by Hardy were defined in terms of the position of their zeros and their growth as entire functions, in the following terms:

---

*Date:* November 2, 2004.

Partial financial assistance by Centro de Matemática da Universidade de Coimbra.

**Definition 1.** *The class  $A$  is constituted by all entire functions  $f$  of order less than two or of order two and minimal type of the form*

$$f(z) = z^\nu \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{z^2}{\lambda_n^2}\right) \quad (5)$$

where  $\nu > -\frac{1}{2}$ . The class  $B$  is constituted by all entire functions  $f$  of the form

$$f(z) = z^\nu F(z) \quad (6)$$

where  $\nu > -\frac{1}{2}$  and  $F(z)$  is an entire function with real but not necessarily positive zeros, and of order one, or of order one and minimal type, with  $F(0) \neq 0$ .

Hardy proved that, if they satisfy (4), the functions on the class  $A$  must be of the form  $Kz^{\frac{1}{2}}J_{\nu-1/2}(cz)$  and the functions on the class  $B$  must be of the form  $KJ_{2\nu}(cz^{1/2})$ . We will replace (4) with the slightly more general orthogonality relation

$$\int_0^1 f(\lambda_m t) f(\lambda_n t) d\mu(t) = 0 \quad (7)$$

where  $d\mu(t)$  is a positive defined measure in the real line and the  $\lambda_n$ 's are the zeros of  $f$ .

This paper is organized as follows. In the second section we derive a sampling theorem for this functions that was implicit in Hardy's work. Then, specializing the measure in (7) in order to obtain the Jackson  $q$ -integral, we will formulate the  $q$ -version of the problem, and derive the  $q$ -difference equations satisfied by the functions  $f$ . For the class  $A$  we will recognize the resulting  $q$ -difference equation as being a parametrization of the second order  $q$ -difference equation derived by Meijer and Swarttouw [12] and thus prove that the only functions in class  $A$  that are  $q$ -orthogonal with respect to their own zeros are the third Jackson  $q$ -Bessel functions.

## 2. Kramer kernels and Lagrange type interpolation formulas

Suppose that  $f$  satisfies (7). If  $f \in A$ , it is possible to prove that the set  $\{f(\lambda_n t)\}$  is complete in  $L_q^2[\mu, (0, 1)]$  and

$$\frac{\int_0^1 f(zt) f(\lambda_n t) d\mu(t)}{\int_0^1 |f(x\lambda_n)|^2 d\mu(x)} = \frac{2\lambda_n}{f'(\lambda_n)} \frac{f(z)}{z^2 - \lambda_n^2} \quad (8)$$

This was done in [4] for the case  $d\mu(t) = dx$  and the proof remains the same if a general real positive measure  $d\mu(t)$  is used. If  $f \in B$ , the set  $\{f(\lambda_n t)\}$  is complete in  $L^2_q[\mu, (0, 1)]$  and

$$\frac{\int_0^1 f(zt)f(\lambda_n t)d\mu(t)}{\int_0^1 |f(t\lambda_n)|^2 d\mu(t)} = \frac{f(z)}{f'(\lambda_n)(z - \lambda_n)} \quad (9)$$

In the next sections the measure  $d\mu(t)$  will be specialized in order to obtain the  $q$ -integral.

The above formulas can be seen from the point of view of Kramer sampling Lema. Kramer sampling Lema [11] states that if  $\{K(x, \lambda_n)\}$  is an orthogonal basis for  $L^2(\mu, I)$  and, for some  $u \in L^2(\mu, I)$   $g$  can be written in the form

$$g(x) = \int_I u(t)K(t, x)d\mu(t) \quad (10)$$

then  $g$  admits the sampling expansion

$$g(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g(\lambda_n)S_n(x) \quad (11)$$

where

$$S_n(x) = \frac{\int_I K(t, \lambda_n)K(t, x)d\mu(t)}{\int_I |K(t, \lambda_n)|^2 d\mu(t)} \quad (12)$$

The kernel  $K(x, t)$  is called a Kramer kernel. Sometimes the integral above can be evaluated explicitly. For instance, when  $K(x, t)$  it is the solution of a regular Sturm Liouville eigenvalue problem, the Kramer type sampling expansion becomes a Lagrange type interpolation formula, with

$$S_n(x) = \frac{L(x)}{L'(t)(x - \lambda_n)} \quad (13)$$

where

$$L(t) = \prod_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{t}{\lambda_k}\right) \quad (14)$$

As remarked by Everitt, Nasri-Roudsari and Rehberg in [2], the question of whether there exists a Lagrange interpolation formula for every Kramer kernel is open. The identities (8) and (9) provide an answer to this question when  $K(x, t) = f(xt)$  (these sort of kernels are usually said to be of the Watson type) and  $f$  in the classes  $A$  and  $B$  above. A simple application of Kramer's Lema yields the following

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $f$  satisfy (7). If  $f$  is in the class  $A$  then, every function  $g$  of the form*

$$g(t) = \int_0^1 u(x)f(xt)d\mu(x) \quad (15)$$

*has the sampling expansion*

$$g(t) = 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g(\lambda_n) \frac{2\lambda_n}{f'(\lambda_n)} \frac{f(t)}{t^2 - \lambda_n^2} \quad (16)$$

*If  $f$  is in the class  $B$  then every function  $g$  of the form (15) has the sampling expansion*

$$g(t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g(\lambda_n) \frac{f(t)}{f'(\lambda_n)(t - \lambda_n)} \quad (17)$$

Special cases of (16) are known when  $f$  is the Bessel [5] or the  $q$ -Bessel function [1]. These sampling theorems were originally obtained using special function formulae and the unitary property of the Hankel and the  $q$ -Hankel transform [10].

### 3. Functions $q$ -orthogonal with respect to their own zeros

**3.1. Basic definitions and facts.** Following the standard notations in [3], consider  $0 < q < 1$  and define the  $q$ -shifted factorial for  $n$  finite and different from zero as

$$(a; q)_n = (1 - q)(1 - aq) \dots (1 - aq^{n-1}) \quad (18)$$

and the zero and infinite cases as

$$(a; q)_0 = 1 \quad (19)$$

$$(a; q)_{\infty} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a; q)_n \quad (20)$$

The  $q$ -difference operator  $D_q$  is

$$D_q f(x) = \frac{f(x) - f(qx)}{(1 - q)x} \quad (21)$$

The  $q$ -analogue of the rule of the differentiation of a product is

$$D_q [f(x)g(x)] = f(qx)D_q g(x) + g(x)D_q f(x) \quad (22)$$

and the  $q$ -integral in the interval  $(0, 1)$  is

$$\int_0^z f(t) d_q t = (1 - q) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} f(zq^k) zq^k \quad (23)$$

It is possible to define an inner product by setting

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_0^1 f(t) g(t) d_q t \quad (24)$$

The resulting Hilbert space is commonly denoted by  $L_q^2(0, 1)$ . We will say that a function  $f \in L_q^2(0, 1)$  is  $q$ -orthogonal with respect to its own zeros in the interval  $(0, 1)$  if it satisfies the orthogonality relation

$$\int_0^1 f(\lambda_m t) f(\lambda_n t) d_q t = 0 \quad (25)$$

that is,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} f(\lambda_m q^k) f(\lambda_n q^k) q^k = 0 \quad (26)$$

if  $n \neq m$ . An example of a function satisfying such an orthogonality relation is the third Jackson  $q$ -Bessel function  $J_\nu^{(3)}$  (also known in the literature as the Hahn-Exton  $q$ -Bessel function) defined by the power series

$$J_\nu^{(3)}(x; q) = \frac{(q^{\nu+1}; q)_\infty}{(q; q)_\infty} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{q^{n(n+1)/2}}{(q^{\nu+1}; q)_n (q; q)_n} x^{2n+\nu} \quad (27)$$

Or equivalently, denoting by  $j_{n\nu}(q)$  the  $n$ th zero of  $J_\nu^{(3)}(x; q)$ , by the infinite product representation

$$J_\nu^{(3)}(x; q) = \frac{(q^{\nu+1}; q)_\infty}{(q; q)_\infty} x^\nu \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( 1 - \frac{x^2}{j_{n\nu}^2(q)} \right) \quad (28)$$

The equivalence of both definitions is an easy consequence of the Hadamard factorization theorem. It is well known [9] that, if  $n \neq m$ ,

$$\int_0^1 x J_\nu^{(3)}(qx j_{n\nu}(q^2); q^2) J_\nu^{(3)}(qx j_{m\nu}(q^2); q^2) d_q x = 0 \quad (29)$$

This function was discussed in the context of quantum groups by Koelink [8] and the central concepts regarding its role in  $q$ -harmonic analysis were

introduced by Koornwinder and Swarttouw [9]. The  $J_\nu^{(k)}$ ,  $k = 1, 2, 3$  notation for the Jackson analogues of the Bessel function is due to Ismail [6], [7].

**3.2.  $q$ -difference equations.** In [12], Meijer and Swarttouw proved that the general solution of the  $q$ -difference equation

$$D_q^2 y(z) + \frac{1}{z} D_q y(z) + \left[ \frac{q^{2-\nu}}{(1-q)^2} - \frac{(1-q^\nu)(1-q^{-\nu})}{(1-q)^2 z^2} \right] y(qz) = 0 \quad (30)$$

is

$$H_\nu(x) = AJ_\nu^{(3)}(x; q^2) - BY_\nu(x; q^2) \quad (31)$$

where  $Y_\nu(x; q^2)$  is a  $q$ -analogue of  $Y_\nu(x)$ , the classical second solution of the Bessel differential equation. The function  $Y_\nu(x; q^2)$  is defined, if  $\nu$  is not an integer, as

$$Y_\nu(x; q) = \frac{\Gamma_q(\nu)\Gamma_q(1-\nu)}{\pi} \{ \cos(\pi\nu)q^{\nu/2} J_\nu^{(3)}(x; q) - J_{-\nu}^{(3)}(xq^{-\nu/2}; q) \} \quad (32)$$

and, for  $n$  an integer, as the limit

$$Y_n(x; q) = \lim_{\nu \rightarrow n} Y_\nu(x; q) \quad (33)$$

It is clear that, if  $\nu > 0$  then  $Y_\nu$  is unbounded near  $x = 0$ .

**Lemma 1.** *The general solution of the equation*

$$D_q^2 y(z) + \left[ \frac{M^2 q^{\frac{3}{2}-\nu}}{(1-q^2)} - \frac{(1-q^{\nu-\frac{1}{2}})(1-q^{-\nu-\frac{1}{2}})}{(1-q^2)z^2} \right] y(qz) = 0 \quad (34)$$

is given by

$$f(z) = z^{\frac{1}{2}} \{ AJ_\nu^{(3)}(Mx; q^2) - BY_\nu(Mx; q^2) \} \quad (35)$$

*Proof:* Set

$$y(x) = x^{\frac{1}{2}} H_\nu(Mx) \quad (36)$$

Apply the operator  $D_q$  to (36) and use (22) to obtain

$$MD_q H_\nu(Mx) = x^{-\frac{1}{2}} D_q y(x) + \frac{1-q^{-\frac{1}{2}}}{1-q} x^{-\frac{3}{2}} y(qx) \quad (37)$$

Now, to evaluate the second  $q$ -difference, apply again the operator  $D_q$  to (36), but switch the role of the functions  $f$  and  $g$  in the formula (22). The result is

$$MD_q H_\nu(Mx) = q^{-\frac{1}{2}} x^{-\frac{1}{2}} D_q y(x) + \frac{1-q^{-\frac{1}{2}}}{1-q} x^{-\frac{3}{2}} y(x) \quad (38)$$

Applying the operator  $D_q$  to both members gives

$$M^2 D_q^2 H_\nu(Mx) = \tag{39}$$

$$q^{-1}x^{-\frac{1}{2}}D_q^2 y(x) - q^{-1}x^{-\frac{3}{2}}D_q y(x) + \frac{(1 - q^{-\frac{1}{2}})(1 - q^{-\frac{3}{2}})}{(1 - q)^2}x^{-\frac{5}{2}}y(qx) \tag{40}$$

Using these expressions it is not hard to see that the change of variable (36) transforms equation (30) in (34). This proves the lemma.  $\blacksquare$

**3.3. The main results.** Observe that the  $q$ -integral (23) is a Riemann-Stieltjes integral with respect to a step function having infinitely many points of increase at the points  $q^k$ , with the jump at the point  $q^k$  being  $q^k$ . If we call this step function  $\Psi_q(t)$  then  $d\Psi_q(t) = d_q t$ .

**Theorem 2.** *If  $f$  is in the class  $A$  and satisfies (25) then  $f$  must be of the form*

$$f(x) = z^{\frac{1}{2}} K J_{\nu-1/2}^{(3)}(Mx; q^2) \tag{41}$$

where

$$M^2 = -aq^{-3}(1 - q^2)(1 - q^{2\nu+1}) \tag{42}$$

$$a = -2 \sum \frac{1}{\lambda_n^2} \tag{43}$$

and  $K$  is a real constant.

*Proof:* Take in (8)  $\mu(t) = \Psi_q(t)$  to obtain

$$\int_0^1 f(zt)f(\lambda_n t)d_q t = \frac{2A_n \lambda_n}{f'(\lambda_n)} \frac{f(z)}{z^2 - \lambda_n^2} \tag{44}$$

With minor adaptations, the argument used in [4, page 41 ] can be extended to the  $q$ -case to deduce, from the completeness of  $\{f(\lambda_n t)\}$  and identity (44), the following  $q$ -integral equation for  $f(z)$

$$a \int_0^z u^{\nu+2} f(u) d_q u = (az^2 + 2) \int_0^z u^\nu f(u) d_q u - 2 \frac{1 - q}{1 - q^{2\nu+1}} z^{\nu+1} f(z) \tag{45}$$

where  $a = -2 \sum 1/\lambda_n^2$ . Then, applying the operator  $D_q$  to both members of this equation and dividing by  $z$  produces

$$2q^{\nu+1} z^\nu \frac{1 - q}{1 - q^{2\nu+1}} D_q f(z) \tag{46}$$

$$-2q^{\nu+1} \frac{1 - q^\nu}{1 - q^{2\nu+1}} z^{\nu-1} f(z) - a(q + 1) \int_0^{qz} u^\nu f(u) d_q u = 0 \tag{47}$$

Using the  $D_q$  operator again and multiplying the resulting equation by the factor

$$(1 - q^{2\nu+1})(1 - q)^{-1}q^{-2\nu-1}z^{-\nu}/2 \quad (48)$$

yields

$$D_q^2 f(z) - \left[ \frac{(1 - q^\nu)(1 - q^{\nu-1})q^{-\nu}}{(1 - q)^2 z^2} + \frac{a(1 + q)(1 - q^{2\nu+1})q^{-\nu-1}}{1 - q} \right] f(qz) = 0 \quad (49)$$

Observe that replacing  $\nu$  by  $\nu - \frac{1}{2}$  and  $M$  by the value given by (42) in (34) gives (49). Therefore, the general solution of (49) is

$$f(x) = z^{\frac{1}{2}} \{ A J_{\nu-1/2}^{(3)}(Mx; q^2) - B Y_{\nu-1/2}(Mx; q^2) \} \quad (50)$$

with  $M$  as in (42). But as we have seen,  $Y_\nu$  is unbounded near  $x = 0$  and  $f$  is analytic at  $x = 0$ . This implies  $B = 0$ . Therefore, (41) holds.  $\blacksquare$

**Remark 1.** *This agrees with orthogonality relation (29). To see this, just replace in (41)  $\nu$  by  $\nu + \frac{1}{2}$ . The result is*

$$f(x) = A z^{\frac{1}{2}} J_\nu^{(3)}(Mx; q^2) \quad (51)$$

with

$$M^2 = -a q^{-3} (1 - q^2)(1 - q^{2\nu+2}) \quad (52)$$

To evaluate  $a$ , take the logarithmic derivative in (28) and set  $x = 0$ . This yields

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{j_{n\nu}^2(q^2)} = \frac{q^2}{(1 - q^2)(1 - q^{2\nu+2})} \quad (53)$$

Therefore  $M = q$ .

If  $f \in B$  it is also possible to find the  $q$ -difference equation satisfied by  $f$ .

**Theorem 3.** *If  $f$  is in the class  $B$  and  $f$  satisfies (25) then  $f$  must satisfy the following  $q$ -difference equation:*

$$D_q^2 f(z) + \frac{1}{qz} D_q f(z) - \left[ \frac{(1 - q^\nu)(1 - q^{\nu-1})}{(1 - q^2)q^{\nu+1}z^2} - \frac{(1 - q^{2\nu+1})(a + 1)}{(1 + q)q^{\nu+2}z} \right] f(qz) = 0 \quad (54)$$

where  $a = F(0)$ .



*Proof:* Take in (9)  $\mu(t) = \Psi_q(t)$  to obtain

$$\int_0^1 f(zt)f(\lambda_nt)d_qt = \frac{A_n}{f'(\lambda_n)} \frac{f(z)}{z - \lambda_n} \quad (55)$$

The integral equation obtained this time is

$$a \int_0^z u^{\nu+1} f(u) d_q u = (az + 2) \int_0^z u^\nu f(u) d_q u - \frac{1 - q}{1 - q^{2\nu+1}} z^{\nu+1} f(z) \quad (56)$$

Use of the  $q$ -difference operator as in Theorem 2 establishes (54). ■

## References

- [1] L. D. Abreu, *A  $q$ -Sampling Theorem related to the  $q$ -Hankel transform*, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. (to appear).
- [2] W. N. Everitt, Nasri-Roudsari, G.; Rehberg, J. *A note on the analytic form of the Kramer sampling theorem*. Results Math. **34** (1998), no. 3-4, 310–319.
- [3] G. Gasper and M. Rahman, *Basic Hypergeometric Series*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, 1990.
- [4] G. H. Hardy, *Notes on special systems of orthogonal functions (II): On functions orthogonal with respect to their own zeros*, J. Lond. Math. Soc. **14**, (1939) 37-44.
- [5] J. R. Higgins, *An interpolation series associated with the Bessel-Hankel transform*, J. Lond. Math. Soc. **5**, (1972) 707-714.
- [6] M. E. H. Ismail, *The Zeros of Basic Bessel functions, the functions  $J_{\nu+ax}(x)$ , and associated orthogonal polynomials*, J. Math. Anal. Appl. **86** (1982), 1-19.
- [7] M. E. H. Ismail, *Some properties of Jackson's third  $q$ -Bessel function*, unpublished manuscript.
- [8] H. T. Koelink, *The quantum group of plane motions and the Hahn-Exton  $q$ -Bessel function*. Duke Math. J. **76** (1994), no. 2, 483–508.
- [9] H. T. Koelink, R. F. Swarttouw, *On the zeros of the Hahn-Exton  $q$ -Bessel Function and associated  $q$ -Lommel polynomials*, J. Math. Anal. Appl. **186**, (1994), 690-710.
- [10] T. H. Koornwinder, R. F. Swarttouw, *On  $q$ -analogues of the Fourier and Hankel transforms*. Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. **333** (1992), no. 1, 445–461.
- [11] H. P. Kramer, *A generalized sampling theorem*. J. Math. Phys. **38** 1959/60 68–72.
- [12] R. F., Swarttouw, H. G Meijer, *A  $q$ -analogue of the Wronskian and a second solution of the Hahn-Exton  $q$ -Bessel difference equation*. Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. **120** (1994), no. 3, 855–864.
- [13] J. M. Whittaker, *Interpolatory function theory* (1935).

LUIS DANIEL ABREU  
 DEPARTAMENTO DE MATEMÁTICA DA, UNIVERSIDADE DE COIMBRA  
 E-MAIL ADDRESS: daniel@mat.uc.pt