# Note on Askey-Wilson *q*-Contour Integral Formula

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## **Abstract**

We use Askey-Wilson q-contour integral formula and the q-Saalschütz's summation to derive a new recurring q-contour integral formula in this paper. Using this formula, we present a simple proof of the Sears' transformation of terminating balanced  $_4\Phi_3$  series.

**Keywords:** q-contour integral, Askey and Wilson q-contour integral, q-Saalschütz's summation formula, Sears' terminating  $_4\Phi_3$  transformation formula

## 1. Introduction and Main Result

We adopt the notations used by Gasper and Rahman (2004). Throughout this paper, it is supposed that 0 < |q| < 1. For any complex parameter a, the q-shifted factorial are defined as

$$(a;q)_0 = 1, (a;q)_n = \prod_{k=0}^{n-1} (1 - aq^k), (a;q)_\infty = \prod_{k=0}^\infty (1 - aq^k), n = 1, 2, \cdots.$$
 (1)

The following compact notation for the multiple q-shifted factorial is used:

$$(a_1, a_2, \cdots, a_m; q)_n = (a_1; q)_n (a_2; q)_n \cdots (a_m; q)_n, m, n = 0, 1, 2, \cdots$$
 (2)

The basic hypergeometric series  ${}_s\Phi_t$  is given by:

$${}_{s}\Phi_{t}\left(\begin{array}{cccc} a_{1}, & a_{2}, & \cdots, & a_{s} \\ b_{1}, & b_{2}, & \cdots, & b_{t} \end{array}; q, x\right) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a_{1}, a_{2} \cdots, a_{s}; q)_{k}}{(q, b_{1}, \cdots, b_{t}; q)_{k}} \left[(-1)^{k} q^{\binom{k}{2}}\right]^{1+t-s} x^{k}, \tag{3}$$

where  $s, t = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ 

For any complex numbers a and b, the polynomial  $P_n(a;b)$  is defined as:

$$P_0(a;b) = 1, P_n(a;b) = (a-b)(a-bq)\cdots(a-bq^{n-1}), n \ge 1.$$
(4)

For  $a \neq 0$ , we define

$$F_n(a;b) = P_n(a;b)P_n(1/a;b).$$
 (5)

Since *q*-integral was introduced by Jackson (1910), it has been studied by many researchers who produced numerous literatures about it (see Andrews & Askey, 1981; Askey, 1981; Askey & Wilson, 1985; Costas-Santos & Sánchez-Lara, 2013; Ismail & Masson, 1994, 1995; Jackson, 1910; Liu, 2003; Wang, 2010). Inspired by Wang (2010), a new of *q*-contour integral formula have been derived in Fang (2014) from the following elegant Askey-Wilson integral formula (consult Askey & Wilson, 1985, Theorem 2.1)

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{C} \frac{(z^{2}, z^{-2}; q)_{\infty}}{(az, a/z, bz, b/z, cz, c/z, dz, d/z; q)_{\infty}} \frac{dz}{z} = \frac{2(abcd; q)_{\infty}}{(q, ab, ac, ad, bc, bd, cd; q)_{\infty}},$$
 (6)

where the contour C is a deformation of unit circle so that the poles of  $1/(az, bz, cz, dz; q)_{\infty}$  lie outside the contour and the origin and poles of  $1/(a/z, b/z, c/z, d/z; q)_{\infty}$  lie inside the contour.

In this paper, we continue to use this method to give a new recurring q-contour integral formula. Using this new recurring formula and the symmetry of the function, we present a simple proof of the famous Sears' transformation of terminating balanced  $_4\Phi_3$  series. And we also present two extension transformation formulas of terminating  $_4\Phi_3$  series which are different from the extension presented in Fang (2007). The main result of this paper is stated as follows:

**Theorem 1** Assume the pairwise products of  $\{a,b,c,d\}$  as a multiset (i.e. both  $a^2$  and ab are considered among the products) do not belong to the set of  $\{q^i, i = 0, -1, -2, \cdots\}$ , and assume that there are no zero factors in the denominator, then

$$\int_{C} \frac{(z^{2}, z^{-2}; q)_{\infty}}{(az, a/z, bz, b/z, cz, c/z, dz, d/z; q)_{\infty}} \prod_{j=1}^{m+1} F_{n_{j}}(z; d_{j}) \frac{dz}{z}$$

$$= (d_{m+1}a, d_{m+1}/a; q)_{n_{m+1}} \sum_{k=0}^{n_{m+1}} \frac{(q^{-n_{m+1}}; q)_{k} q^{k}}{(q, d_{m+1}a, q^{1-n_{m+1}}a/d_{m+1}; q)_{k}}$$

$$\times \int_{C} \frac{(z^{2}, z^{-2}; q)_{\infty}}{(q^{k}az, q^{k}a/z, bz, b/z, cz, c/z, dz, d/z; q)_{\infty}} \prod_{j=1}^{m} F_{n_{j}}(z; d_{j}) \frac{dz}{z}, \tag{7}$$

where  $m, n_j$  are nonnegative integer numbers, and  $j = 1, 2, \dots, m + 1$ .

We can derive the formula (7) from (6) and the following q-Saalschütz's summation (see Gasper & Rahman, 2004, p. 17, Equation (1.7.2)):

$${}_{3}\Phi_{2}\left(\begin{array}{ccc} q^{-n}, & a, & f \\ & h, & afq^{1-n}/h \end{array}; q, q \right) = \frac{(h/a, h/f; q)_{n}}{(h, h/af; q)_{n}}.$$
 (8)

Rewriting (8) as follows:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n} \frac{(q^{-n}; q)_k q^k}{(q, h, q^{1-n} a f/h; q)_k} \frac{1}{(q^k a, q^k f; q)_{\infty}} = \frac{(h/a, h/f; q)_n}{(h, h/a f; q)_n} \frac{1}{(a, f; q)_{\infty}}.$$
 (9)

In (9), replacing (a, f) by (az, a/z) respectively, we get

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n} \frac{(q^{-n};q)_k q^k}{(q,h,q^{1-n}a^2/h;q)_k} \frac{1}{(q^k az,q^k a/z;q)_{\infty}} = \frac{1}{(h,h/a^2;q)_n} \frac{F_n(z;h/a)}{(az,a/z;q)_{\infty}}.$$
 (10)

Both sides of (10) multiply by

$$\frac{(z^2, z^{-2}; q)_{\infty}}{(bz, b/z, cz, c/z, dz, d/z; q)_{\infty}} \prod_{j=1}^{m} F_{n_j}(z; d_j) \frac{1}{z},$$
(11)

then we find that

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n} \frac{(q^{-n};q)_{k}q^{k}}{(q,h,q^{1-n}a^{2}/h;q)_{k}} \frac{(z^{2},z^{-2};q)_{\infty}}{(q^{k}az,q^{k}a/z,bz,b/z,cz,c/z,dz,d/z;q)_{\infty}} \frac{\prod_{j=1}^{m} F_{n_{j}}(z;d_{j})}{z}$$

$$= \frac{1}{(h,h/a^{2};q)_{n}} \frac{(z^{2},z^{-2};q)_{\infty}}{(az,a/z,bz,b/z,cz,c/z,dz,d/z;q)_{\infty}} \prod_{j=1}^{m} F_{n_{j}}(z;d_{j}) \frac{F_{n}(z;h/a)}{z}.$$
(12)

Taking the contour integral on both sides of (12) with respect to variable z, denoting  $n = n_{m+1}$ ,  $h = d_{m+1}a$ , we have the desired result.

**Remark 1** The zero is single pole of the function  $F_{n_j}(z; d_j)(j = 1, 2, \dots, m + 1)$  in Unit Cirle. So we can use the similar method appeared in Askey and Wilson (1985) (or Costas-Santos & Sánchez-Lara, 2013) to deform the Unit Circle. In the context of this paper, convergence of series is no issue at all because they are the terminating series.

## 2. Some Applications

Next, we will give some applications of (7). Since we assume the integrals are the same established condition as Theorem, we omit the condition in the following.

Setting m = 0 in (7), then employing (6), we get

Corollary 1 We have

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{C} \frac{(z^{2}, z^{-2}; q)_{\infty}}{(az, a/z, bz, b/z, cz, c/z, dz, d/z; q)_{\infty}} \frac{F_{n_{1}}(z; d_{1})}{z} dz$$

$$= \frac{2(d_{1}a, d_{1}/a; q)_{n_{1}}(abcd; q)_{\infty}}{(q, ab, ac, ad, bc, bd, cd; q)_{\infty}} \sum_{k=0}^{n_{1}} \frac{(q^{-n_{1}}, ab, ac, ad; q)_{k}q^{k}}{(q, d_{1}a, q^{1-n_{1}}a/d_{1}, abcd; q)_{k}}.$$
(13)

Interchanging a and b in the above identity, we have

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{C} \frac{(z^{2}, z^{-2}; q)_{\infty}}{(az, a/z, bz, b/z, cz, c/z, dz, d/z; q)_{\infty}} \frac{F_{n_{1}}(z; d_{1})}{z} dz$$

$$= \frac{2(d_{1}b, d_{1}/b; q)_{n_{1}}(abcd; q)_{\infty}}{(q, ab, bc, bd, ac, ad, cd; q)_{\infty}} \sum_{k=0}^{n_{1}} \frac{(q^{-n_{1}}, ab, bc, bd; q)_{k}q^{k}}{(q, d_{1}b, q^{1-n_{1}}b/d_{1}, abcd; q)_{k}}.$$
(14)

Combining (14) and (13), then replacing  $(ab, ac, ad, d_1a, q^{1-n_1}a/d_1, abcd)$  by (a, d, c, d, e, f) respectively, giving the famous Sears' transformation of terminating balanced  $_4\Phi_3$  series:

**Proposition 1** We have

$${}_{4}\Phi_{3}\left(\begin{array}{cccc} q^{-n_{1}}, & a, & b, & c \\ & d, & e, & f \end{array}; q, q \right) = \frac{(df/bc, d/a; q)_{n_{1}}}{(d, df/abc; q)_{n_{1}}} {}_{4}\Phi_{3}\left(\begin{array}{cccc} q^{-n_{1}}, & a, & f/c, & f/b \\ & df/bc, & ef/bc, & f \end{array}; q, q \right), (15)$$

provided that  $def = q^{1-n_1}abc$ .

**Remark 2** Interchanging d and f in the above identity, noting that  $def = q^{1-n_1}abc$ , we have  $df/bc = q^{1-n_1}a/e$ ,  $de/bc = q^{1-n_1}a/f$ ,  $df/abc = q^{1-n_1}/e$ . If we substitute them into (15), we can conclude that Sears' transformation of terminating balanced  $_4\Phi_3$  series (see Gasper & Rahman, 2004, p. 360, Equation III. 15) after some simplification:

$${}_{4}\Phi_{3}\left(\begin{array}{cccc} q^{-n_{1}}, & a, & b, & c \\ & d, & e, & f \end{array}; q, q \right) = \frac{(e/a, f/a; q)_{n_{1}}}{(e, f; q)_{n_{1}}} {}_{4}\Phi_{3}\left(\begin{array}{cccc} q^{-n_{1}}, & a, & d/c, & d/b \\ & d, & q^{1-n_{1}}a/e, & q^{1-n_{1}}a/f \end{array}; q, q \right), (16)$$

where  $def = q^{1-n_1}abc$ .

Letting m = 1 in (7), then applying (13), we have

Corollary 2 We have

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{C} \frac{(z^{2}, z^{-2}; q)_{\infty}}{(az, a/z, bz, b/z, cz, c/z, dz, d/z; q)_{\infty}} \frac{F_{n_{2}}(z; d_{2})F_{n_{1}}(z; d_{1})}{z} dz$$

$$= \frac{2(d_{2}a, d_{2}/a; q)_{n_{2}}(abcd; q)_{\infty}}{(q, ab, ac, ad, bc, bd, cd; q)_{\infty}} \sum_{k=0}^{n_{2}} \frac{(q^{-n_{2}}, ab, ac, ad; q)_{k}q^{k}(q^{k}d_{1}a, d_{1}/q^{k}a; q)_{n_{1}}}{(q, d_{2}a, q^{1-n_{2}}a/d_{2}, abcd; q)_{k}}$$

$$\times \sum_{k=0}^{n_{1}} \frac{(q^{-n_{1}}, q^{k}ab, q^{k}ac, q^{k}ad; q)_{k_{1}}q^{k_{1}}}{(q, q^{k}d_{1}a, q^{1-n_{1}+k}a/d_{1}, q^{k}abcd; q)_{k_{1}}}.$$
(17)

Interchanging a with b,  $n_1$  with  $n_2$ ,  $d_1$  with  $d_2$  in the above identity, we have

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{C} \frac{(z^{2}, z^{-2}; q)_{\infty}}{(az, a/z, bz, b/z, cz, c/z, dz, d/z; q)_{\infty}} \frac{F_{n_{1}}(z; d_{1})F_{n_{2}}(z; d_{2})}{z} dz$$

$$= \frac{2(d_{1}b, d_{1}/b; q)_{n_{1}}(abcd; q)_{\infty}}{(q, ab, bc, bd, ac, ad, cd; q)_{\infty}} \sum_{k=0}^{n_{1}} \frac{(q^{-n_{1}}, ab, bc, bd; q)_{k}q^{k}(q^{k}d_{2}b, d_{2}/q^{k}b; q)_{n_{2}}}{(q, d_{1}b, q^{1-n_{1}}b/d_{1}, abcd; q)_{k}}$$

$$\times \sum_{k=0}^{n_{2}} \frac{(q^{-n_{2}}, q^{k}ab, q^{k}bc, q^{k}bd; q)_{k_{1}}q^{k_{1}}}{(q, q^{k}d_{2}b, q^{1-n_{2}+k}b/d_{2}, q^{k}abcd; q)_{k_{1}}}.$$
(18)

From (17) and (18), we obtain the following extension formula of Sears' transformations of terminating  $_4\Phi_3$ :

**Proposition 2** (An extension Sears' transformations of terminating  $_4\Phi_3$ ) We have

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n_2} \frac{(q^{-n}, ab, ac, ad; q)_k q^k (q^k d_1 a, d_1/q^k a; q)_{n_1}}{(q, d_2 a, q^{1-n_2} a/d_2, abcd; q)_k} \times_{4} \Phi_{3} \begin{pmatrix} q^{-n_1}, & q^k ab, & q^k ac, & q^k ad \\ & q^k d_1 a, & q^{1-n_1+k} a/d_1, & q^k abcd & ; & q, & q \end{pmatrix} \\
= \frac{(d_1 b, d_1/b; q)_{n_1}}{(d_2 a, d_2/a; q)_{n_2}} \sum_{k=0}^{n_1} \frac{(q^{-n_1}, ab, bc, bd; q)_k q^k (q^k d_2 b, d_2/q^k b; q)_{n_2}}{(q, d_1 b, q^{1-n_1} b/d_1, abcd; q)_k} \times_{4} \Phi_{3} \begin{pmatrix} q^{-n_2}, & q^k ab, & q^k bc, & q^k bd \\ & q^k d_2 b, & q^{1-n_2+k} b/d_2, & q^k abcd & ; & q, & q \end{pmatrix}. \tag{19}$$

**Remark 3** Setting  $n_2 = 0$ , we get (15) after some rearrangement and simplification.

Putting m = 2 in (7), then applying (17), we find that

Corollary 3 We have

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{C} \frac{(z^{2}, z^{-2}; q)_{\infty}}{(az, a/z, bz, b/z, cz, c/z, dz, d/z; q)_{\infty}} \frac{F_{n_{3}}(z; d_{3})F_{n_{2}}(z; d_{2})F_{n_{1}}(z; d_{1})}{z} dz$$

$$= \frac{2(d_{3}a, d_{3}/a; q)_{n_{3}}(abcd; q)_{\infty}}{(q, ab, ac, ad, bc, bd, cd; q)_{\infty}} \sum_{k=0}^{n_{3}} \frac{(q^{-n_{3}}, ab, ac, ad; q)_{k}q^{k}(q^{k}d_{2}a, d_{2}/q^{k}a; q)_{n_{2}}}{(q, d_{3}a, q^{1-n_{3}}a/d_{3}, abcd; q)_{k}}$$

$$\times \sum_{k_{1}=0}^{n_{2}} \frac{(q^{-n_{2}}, q^{k}ab, q^{k}ac, q^{k}ad; q)_{k_{1}}q^{k_{1}}(q^{k+k_{1}}d_{1}a, d_{1}/q^{k+k_{1}}a; q)_{n_{1}}}{(q, q^{k}d_{2}a, q^{1-n_{2}+k}a/d_{2}, q^{k}abcd; q)_{k_{1}}}$$

$$\times \sum_{k_{2}=0}^{n_{1}} \frac{(q^{-n_{1}}, q^{k+k_{1}}ab, q^{k+k_{1}}ac, q^{k+k_{1}}ad; q)_{k_{2}}q^{k_{2}}}{(q, q^{k+k_{1}}d_{1}a, q^{1-n_{1}+k_{1}+k}a/d_{1}, q^{k+k_{1}}abcd; q)_{k_{2}}}.$$
(20)

Similar as the process of getting Proposition 2.4, interchanging a with b,  $n_1$  with  $n_2$ ,  $d_1$  with  $d_2$  in the above identity, we find that:

**Proposition 3** (Another extension Sears' transformations of terminating  $_4\Phi_3$ ) We have

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n_3} \frac{(q^{-n_3}, ab, ac, ad; q)_k q^k (q^k d_2 a, d_2/q^k a; q)_{n_2}}{(q, d_3 a, q^{1-n_3} a/d_3, abcd; q)_k}$$

$$\times \sum_{k_1=0}^{n_2} \frac{(q^{-n_2}, q^k ab, q^k ac, q^k ad; q)_{k_1} q^{k_1} (q^{k+k_1} d_1 a, d_1/q^{k+k_1} a; q)_{n_1}}{(q, q^k d_2 a, q^{1-n_2+k} a/d_2, q^k abcd; q)_{k_1}}$$

$$\times \sum_{k_2=0}^{n_1} \frac{(q^{-n_1}, q^{k+k_1} ab, q^{k+k_1} ac, q^{k+k_1} ad; q)_{k_2} q^{k_2}}{(q, q^{k+k_1} d_1 a, q^{1-n_1+k+k_1} a/d_1, q^{k+k_1} abcd; q)_{k_2}}$$

$$= \frac{(d_3 b, d_3/b)_{n_3}}{(d_3 a, d_3/a)_{n_3}} \sum_{k=0}^{n_3} \frac{(q^{-n_3}, ab, bc, bd; q)_k q^k (q^k d_1 b, d_1/q^k b; q)_{n_1}}{(q, d_3 b, q^{1-n_3} b/d_3, abcd; q)_k}$$

$$\times \sum_{k_1=0}^{n_1} \frac{(q^{-n_1}, q^k ab, q^k bc, q^k bd; q)_{k_1} q^{k_1} (q^{k+k_1} d_2 b, d_2/q^{k+k_1} b; q)_{n_2}}{(q, q^k d_1 b, q^{1-n_2+k} b/d_1, q^k abcd; q)_{k_1}}$$

$$\times \sum_{k_2=0}^{n_2} \frac{(q^{-n_2}, q^{k+k_1} ab, q^{k+k_1} bc, q^{k+k_1} bd; q)_{k_2} q^{k_2}}{(q, q^{k+k_1} d_2 b, q^{1-n_1+k+k_1} b/d_2, q^{k+k_1} abcd; q)_{k_2}}.$$
(21)

**Remark 4** Letting  $n_3 = n_2 = 0$  in the above identity, we can get (15) again after some rearrangement and simplification. It is easy to see that interchanging a with c, exchanging  $n_1$  and  $n_3$ ,  $d_1$  and  $d_3$ , one can get other transformation formulas.

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