

# Representations of the Quantum Algebra $su_q(1, 1)$ and Discrete $q$ -Ultraspherical Polynomials

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**Abstract.** We derive orthogonality relations for discrete  $q$ -ultraspherical polynomials and their duals by means of operators of representations of the quantum algebra  $su_q(1, 1)$ . Spectra and eigenfunctions of these operators are found explicitly. These eigenfunctions, when normalized, form an orthonormal basis in the representation space.

*Key words:* Quantum algebra  $su_q(1, 1)$ ; representations; discrete  $q$ -ultraspherical polynomials

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## 1 Representations of $su_q(1, 1)$ with lowest weights

The aim of this paper is to study orthogonality relations for the discrete  $q$ -ultraspherical polynomials and their duals by means of operators of representations of the quantum algebra  $su_q(1, 1)$ .

Throughout the sequel we always assume that  $q$  is a fixed positive number such that  $q < 1$ . We use (without additional explanation) notations of the theory of special functions and the standard  $q$ -analysis (see, for example, [1]).

The quantum algebra  $su_q(1, 1)$  is defined as an associative algebra, generated by the elements  $J_+$ ,  $J_-$ ,  $q^{J_0}$  and  $q^{-J_0}$ , subject to the defining relations

$$\begin{aligned} q^{J_0} q^{-J_0} &= q^{-J_0} q^{J_0} = 1, \\ q^{J_0} J_{\pm} q^{-J_0} &= q^{\pm 1} J_{\pm}, \\ [J_-, J_+] &= \frac{q^{J_0} - q^{-J_0}}{q^{1/2} - q^{-1/2}}, \end{aligned}$$

and the involution relations  $(q^{J_0})^* = q^{J_0}$  and  $J_{\pm}^* = J_{\mp}$ . (We have replaced  $J_-$  by  $-J_-$  in the common definition of the algebra  $U_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$ ; see [2, Chapter 3].)

We are interested in representations of  $su_q(1, 1)$  with lowest weights. These irreducible representations are denoted by  $T_l^+$ , where  $l$  is a lowest weight, which can be *any complex number* (see, for example, [3]). They act on the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  with the orthonormal basis  $|n\rangle$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . The representation  $T_l^+$  can be given in the basis  $|n\rangle$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , by the formulas

$$\begin{aligned} q^{\pm J_0} |n\rangle &= q^{\pm(l+n)} |n\rangle, \\ J_+ |n\rangle &= \frac{q^{-(n+l-1/2)/2}}{1-q} \sqrt{(1-q^{n+1})(1-q^{2l+n})} |n+1\rangle, \\ J_- |n\rangle &= \frac{q^{-(n+l-3/2)/2}}{1-q} \sqrt{(1-q^n)(1-q^{2l+n-1})} |n-1\rangle. \end{aligned}$$

For positive values of  $l$  the representations  $T_l^+$  are  $*$ -representations. For studying discrete  $q$ -ultraspherical polynomials we use the representations  $T_l^+$  for which  $q^{2l-1} = -a$ ,  $a > 0$ . They are not  $*$ -representations. But we shall use operators of these representations which are symmetric or self-adjoint. Note that  $q^l$  is a pure imaginary number.

## 2 Discrete $q$ -ultraspherical polynomials and their duals

There are two types of discrete  $q$ -ultraspherical polynomials [4]. The first type, denoted as  $C_n^{(a)}(x; q)$ ,  $a > 0$ , is a particular case of the well-known big  $q$ -Jacobi polynomials. For this reason, we do not consider them in this paper. The second type of discrete  $q$ -ultraspherical polynomials, denoted as  $\tilde{C}_n^{(a)}(x; q)$ ,  $a > 0$ , is given by the formula

$$\tilde{C}_n^{(a)}(x; q) = (-i)^n C_n^{(-a)}(ix; q) = (-i)^n {}_3\phi_2(q^{-n}, -aq^{n+1}, ix; i\sqrt{aq}, -i\sqrt{aq}; q, q). \quad (1)$$

(Here and everywhere below under  $\sqrt{a}$ ,  $a > 0$ , we understand a positive value of the root.)

The polynomials  $\tilde{C}_n^{(a)}(x; q)$  satisfy the recurrence relation

$$x\tilde{C}_n^{(a)}(x; q) = A_n \tilde{C}_{n+1}^{(a)}(x; q) + C_n \tilde{C}_{n-1}^{(a)}(x; q), \quad (2)$$

where

$$A_n = \frac{1 + aq^{n+1}}{1 + aq^{2n+1}}, \quad C_n = A_n - 1 = \frac{aq^{n+1}(1 - q^n)}{1 + aq^{2n+1}}.$$

Note that  $A_n \geq 1$  and, hence, coefficients in the recurrence relation (2) satisfy the conditions  $A_n C_{n+1} > 0$  of Favard's characterization theorem for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . This means that these polynomials are orthogonal with respect to a positive measure. Orthogonality relation for them is derived in [4]. We give here an approach to this orthogonality by means of operators of representations  $T_l^+$  of  $\text{su}_q(1, 1)$ .

Dual to the polynomials  $C_n^{(a)}(x; q)$  are the polynomials  $D_n^{(a)}(\mu(x; a)|q)$ , where  $\mu(x; a) = q^{-x} + aq^{x+1}$ . These polynomials are a particular case of the dual big  $q$ -Jacobi polynomials, studied in [5], and we do not consider them. Dual to the polynomials  $\tilde{C}_n^{(a)}(x; q)$  are the polynomials

$$\tilde{D}_n^{(a)}(\mu(x; -a)|q) := {}_3\phi_2(q^{-x}, -aq^{x+1}, q^{-n}; i\sqrt{aq}, -i\sqrt{aq}; q, -q^{n+1}). \quad (3)$$

For  $a > 0$  these polynomials satisfy the conditions of Favard's theorem and, therefore, they are orthogonal. We derive an orthogonality relation for them by means of operators of representations  $T_l^+$  of  $\text{su}_q(1, 1)$ .

## 3 Representation operators $I$ and $J$

Let  $T_l^+$  be the irreducible representation of  $\text{su}_q(1, 1)$  with lowest weight  $l$  such that  $q^{2l-1} = -a$ ,  $a > 0$  (note that  $a$  can take any positive value). We consider the operator

$$I := \alpha q^{J_0/4} (J_+ A + A J_-) q^{J_0/4} \quad (4)$$

of the representation  $T_l^+$ , where  $\alpha = (a^2/q)^{1/2}(1 - q)$  and

$$A = \frac{q^{(J_0-l+2)/2} \sqrt{(1 - a^2 q^{J_0-l+1})(1 + aq^{J_0-l+1})}}{\sqrt{(1 + a^2 q^{2J_0-2l+1})(1 + a^2 q^{2J_0-2l+2})(1 + a^2 q^{2J_0-2l+3})}}.$$

We have the following formula for the symmetric operator  $I$ :

$$\begin{aligned} I|n\rangle &= a_n|n+1\rangle + a_{n-1}|n-1\rangle, \\ a_{n-1} &= (a^2q^{n+1})^{1/2} \left( \frac{(1-q^n)(1+a^2q^n)}{(1+a^2q^{2n-1})(1+a^2q^{2n+1})} \right)^{1/2}. \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

The operator  $I$  is bounded. We assume that it is defined on the whole representation space  $\mathcal{H}$ . This means that  $I$  is a self-adjoint operator. Actually,  $I$  is a Hilbert–Schmidt operator since  $a_{n+1}/a_n \rightarrow q^{1/2}$  when  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Thus, a spectrum of  $I$  is simple (since it is representable by a Jacobi matrix with  $a_n \neq 0$ ), discrete and have a single accumulation point at 0 (see [6, Chapter VII]).

To find eigenvectors  $\psi_\lambda$  of the operator  $I$ ,  $I\psi_\lambda = \lambda\psi_\lambda$ , we set

$$\psi_\lambda = \sum_n \beta_n(\lambda)|n\rangle.$$

Acting by  $I$  upon both sides of this relation, one derives

$$\sum_n \beta_n(\lambda)(a_n|n+1\rangle + a_{n-1}|n-1\rangle) = \lambda \sum_n \beta_n(\lambda)|n\rangle,$$

where  $a_n$  are the same as in (5). Collecting in this identity factors at  $|n\rangle$  with fixed  $n$ , we obtain the recurrence relation for the coefficients  $\beta_n(\lambda)$ :  $a_n\beta_{n+1}(\lambda) + a_{n-1}\beta_{n-1}(\lambda) = \lambda\beta_n(\lambda)$ . Making the substitution

$$\beta_n(\lambda) = [(a^2q; q)_n (1 + a^2q^{2n+1}) / (q; q)_n (1 + a^2q)a^{2n}]^{1/2} q^{-n(n+3)/4} \beta'_n(\lambda)$$

we reduce this relation to the following one

$$A_n\beta'_{n+1}(\lambda) + C_n\beta'_{n-1}(\lambda) = \lambda\beta'_n(\lambda),$$

where

$$A_n = \frac{1 + a^2q^{n+1}}{1 + a^2q^{2n+1}}, \quad C_n = \frac{a^2q^{n+1}(1 - q^n)}{1 + a^2q^{2n+1}}.$$

It is the recurrence relation (2) for the discrete  $q$ -ultraspherical polynomials  $\tilde{C}_n^{(a^2)}(\lambda; q)$ . Therefore,  $\beta'_n(\lambda) = \tilde{C}_n^{(a^2)}(\lambda; q)$  and

$$\beta_n(\lambda) = \left( \frac{(-a^2q; q)_n (1 + a^2q^{2n+1})}{(q; q)_n (1 + a^2q)a^{2n}} \right)^{1/2} q^{-n(n+3)/4} \tilde{C}_n^{(a^2)}(\lambda; q). \quad (6)$$

For the eigenfunctions  $\psi_\lambda(x)$  we have the expansion

$$\psi_\lambda(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{(-a^2q; q)_n (1 + a^2q^{2n+1})}{(q; q)_n (1 + a^2q)a^{2n}} \right)^{1/2} q^{-n(n+3)/4} \tilde{C}_n^{(a^2)}(\lambda; q)|n\rangle. \quad (7)$$

Since a spectrum of the operator  $I$  is discrete, only a discrete set of these functions belongs to the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  and this discrete set determines the spectrum of  $I$ .

We intend to study the spectrum of  $I$ . It can be done by using the operator

$$J := q^{-J_0+l} - a^2q^{J_0-l+1}.$$

In order to determine how this operator acts upon the eigenvectors  $\psi_\lambda$ , one can use the  $q$ -difference equation

$$\begin{aligned} (q^{-n} - a^2 q^{n+1}) \tilde{C}_n^{(a^2)}(\lambda; q) &= -a^2 q \lambda^{-2} (\lambda^2 + 1) \tilde{C}_n^{(a^2)}(q\lambda; q) \\ &+ \lambda^{-2} a^2 q (1 + q) \tilde{C}_n^{(a^2)}(\lambda; q) + \lambda^{-2} (\lambda^2 - a^2 q^2) \tilde{C}_n^{(a^2)}(q^{-1}\lambda; q) \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

for the discrete  $q$ -polynomials polynomials. Multiply both sides of (8) by  $d_n |n\rangle$ , where  $d_n$  are the coefficients of  $\tilde{C}_n^{(a^2)}(\lambda; q)$  in the expression (6) for the coefficients  $\beta_n(\lambda)$ , and sum up over  $n$ . Taking into account formula (7) and the fact that  $J |n\rangle = (q^{-n} - a^2 q^{n+1}) |n\rangle$ , one obtains the relation

$$J \psi_\lambda = -a^2 q \lambda^{-2} (\lambda^2 + 1) \psi_{q\lambda} + \lambda^{-2} a^2 q (1 + q) \psi_\lambda + \lambda^{-2} (\lambda^2 - a^2 q^2) \psi_{q^{-1}\lambda} \quad (9)$$

which is used below.

## 4 Spectrum of $I$ and orthogonality of discrete $q$ -ultraspherical polynomials

Let us analyse a form of the spectrum of  $I$  by using the representations  $T_l^+$  of the algebra  $\text{su}_q(1, 1)$  and the method of paper [7]. If  $\lambda$  is a spectral point of  $I$ , then (as it is easy to see from (9)) a successive action by the operator  $J$  upon the eigenvector  $\psi_\lambda$  leads to the vectors  $\psi_{q^m \lambda}$ ,  $m = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$ . However, since  $I$  is a Hilbert–Schmidt operator, not all these points can belong to the spectrum of  $I$ , since  $q^{-m} \lambda \rightarrow \infty$  when  $m \rightarrow \infty$  if  $\lambda \neq 0$ . This means that the coefficient  $\lambda^{-2} (\lambda^2 - a^2 q^2)$  at  $\psi_{q^{-1}\lambda}$  in (9) must vanish for some eigenvalue  $\lambda$ . There are two such values of  $\lambda$ :  $\lambda = aq$  and  $\lambda = -aq$ . Let us show that both of these points are spectral points of  $I$ . We have

$$\tilde{C}_n^{(a^2)}(aq; q) = {}_2\phi_1(q^{-n}, a^2 q^{n+1}; -aq; q, q) = a^2 q^{n(n+1)}.$$

Likewise,

$$\tilde{C}_n^{(a^2)}(-aq; q) = a^2 q^{n(n+1)}.$$

Hence, for the scalar product  $\langle \psi_{aq}, \psi_{aq} \rangle$  in  $\mathcal{H}$  we have the expression

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(1 + a^2 q^{2n+1}) (-a^2 q; q)_n}{(1 + a^2 q)(q; q)_n a^{2n} q^{n(n+3)/2}} \tilde{C}_n^{(a^2)}(aq; q)^2 &= \frac{(-a^2 q^2, -q; q)_\infty}{(-a^2 q^2; q^2)_\infty} \\ &= \left( \frac{(-a^2 q^3; q^2)_\infty}{(q; q^2)_\infty} \right) < \infty. \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Similarly,

$$\langle \psi_{-aq}, \psi_{-aq} \rangle = (-a^2 q^2, -1; q)_\infty / (-a^2 q^2; q^2)_\infty < \infty.$$

Thus, the values  $\lambda = aq$  and  $\lambda = -aq$  are the spectral points of  $I$ .

Let us find other spectral points of the operator  $I$ . Setting  $\lambda = aq$  in (9), we see that the operator  $J$  transforms  $\psi_{aq}$  into a linear combination of the vectors  $\psi_{aq^2}$  and  $\psi_{aq}$ . We have to show that  $\psi_{aq^2}$  belongs to the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ , that is, that

$$\langle \psi_{aq^2}, \psi_{aq^2} \rangle = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(1 + a^2 q^{2n+1}) (-a^2 q; q)_n}{(1 + a^2 q)(q; q)_n a^{2n}} q^{-n(n+3)/2} \tilde{C}_n^{(a^2)}(aq^2; q)^2 < \infty.$$

It is made in the same way as in the case of big  $q$ -Jacobi polynomials in paper [7]. The above inequality shows that  $\psi_{aq^2}$  is an eigenvector of  $I$  and the point  $aq^2$  belongs to the spectrum of  $I$ . Setting  $\lambda = aq^2$  in (9) and acting similarly, one obtains that  $\psi_{aq^3}$  is an eigenvector of  $I$  and the point  $aq^3$  belongs to the spectrum of  $I$ . Repeating this procedure, one sees that  $\psi_{aq^n}$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , are eigenvectors of  $I$  and the set  $aq^n$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , belongs to the spectrum of  $I$ . Likewise, one concludes that  $\psi_{-aq^n}$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , are eigenvectors of  $I$  and the set  $-aq^n$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , belongs to the spectrum of  $I$ . Let us show that the operator  $I$  has no other spectral points.

The vectors  $\psi_{aq^n}$  and  $\psi_{-aq^n}$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , are linearly independent elements of the representation space  $\mathcal{H}$ . Suppose that  $aq^n$  and  $-aq^n$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , constitute the whole spectrum of  $I$ . Then the set of vectors  $\psi_{aq^n}$  and  $\psi_{-aq^n}$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , is a basis of  $\mathcal{H}$ . Introducing the notations  $\Xi_n := \psi_{aq^{n+1}}$  and  $\Xi'_n := \psi_{-aq^{n+1}}$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , we find from (9) that

$$\begin{aligned} J\Xi_n &= -q^{-2n-1}(1 + a^2q^{2(n+1)})\Xi_{n+1} + d_n\Xi_n - q^{-2n}(1 - q^{2n})\Xi_{n-1}, \\ J\Xi'_n &= -q^{-2n-1}(1 + a^2q^{2(n+1)})\Xi'_{n+1} + d_n\Xi'_n - q^{-2n}(1 - q^{2n})\Xi'_{n-1}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $d_n = q^{-2n-1}(1 + q)$ .

As we see, the matrix of the operator  $J$  in the basis  $\Xi_n, \Xi'_n$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , is not symmetric, although in the initial basis  $|n\rangle$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , it was symmetric. The reason is that the matrix  $M := (a_{mn} a'_{m'n'})$  with entries

$$a_{mn} := \beta_m(aq^{n+1}), \quad a'_{m'n'} := \beta_{m'}(-aq^{n'+1}), \quad m, n, m', n' = 0, 1, 2, \dots,$$

where  $\beta_m(dq^{n+1})$ ,  $d = \pm a$ , are coefficients (6) in the expansion

$$\psi_{dq^{n+1}} = \sum_m \beta_m(dq^{n+1}) |n\rangle,$$

is not unitary. (This matrix  $M$  is formed by adding the columns of the matrix  $(a'_{m'n'})$  to the columns of the matrix  $(a_{mn})$  from the right.) It maps the basis  $\{|n\rangle\}$  into the basis  $\{\psi_{aq^{n+1}}, \psi_{-aq^{n+1}}\}$  in the representation space. The nonunitarity of the matrix  $M$  is equivalent to the statement that the basis  $\Xi_n, \Xi'_n$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , is not normalized. In order to normalize it we have to multiply  $\Xi_n$  by appropriate numbers  $c_n$  and  $\Xi'_n$  by numbers  $c'_n$ . Let

$$\hat{\Xi}_n = c_n\Xi_n, \quad \hat{\Xi}'_n = c'_n\Xi'_n, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots,$$

be a normalized basis. Then the operator  $J$  is symmetric in this basis and has the form

$$\begin{aligned} J\hat{\Xi}_n &= -c_{n+1}^{-1}c_nq^{-2n-1}(1 + a^2q^{2(n+1)})\hat{\Xi}_{n+1} + d_n\hat{\Xi}_n - c_{n-1}^{-1}c_nq^{-2n}(1 - q^{2n})\hat{\Xi}_{n-1}, \\ J\hat{\Xi}'_n &= -c'_{n+1}^{-1}c'_nq^{-2n-1}(1 + a^2q^{2(n+1)})\hat{\Xi}'_{n+1} + d_n\hat{\Xi}'_n - c'_{n-1}^{-1}c'_nq^{-2n}(1 - q^{2n})\hat{\Xi}'_{n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

The symmetricity of the matrix of the operator  $J$  in the basis  $\{\hat{\Xi}_n, \hat{\Xi}'_n\}$  means that for coefficients  $c_n$  we have the relation

$$c_{n+1}^{-1}c_nq^{-2n-1}(1 + a^2q^{2(n+1)}) = c_n^{-1}c_{n+1}q^{-2n-2}(1 - q^{2(n+1)}).$$

The relation for  $c'_n$  coincides with this relation. Thus,

$$\frac{c_n}{c_{n-1}} = \frac{c'_n}{c'_{n-1}} = \sqrt{\frac{q(1 + a^2q^{2n})}{1 - q^{2n}}}.$$

This means that

$$c_n = C \left( \frac{q^n(-a^2q^2; q^2)_n}{(q^2; q^2)_n} \right)^{1/2}, \quad c'_n = C' \left( \frac{q^n(-a^2q^2; q^2)_n}{(q^2; q^2)_n} \right)^{1/2},$$

where  $C$  and  $C'$  are some constants.

Therefore, in the expansions

$$\hat{\Xi}_n \equiv \sum_m \hat{a}_{mn} |m\rangle, \quad \hat{\Xi}_n(x) \equiv \sum_m \hat{a}'_{mn} |m\rangle$$

the matrix  $\hat{M} := (\hat{a}_{mn} \hat{a}'_{mn})$  with entries  $\hat{a}_{mn} = c_n \beta_m(aq^n)$  and  $\hat{a}'_{mn} = c_n \beta_m(cq^n)$  is unitary, provided that the constants  $C$  and  $C'$  are appropriately chosen. In order to calculate these constants, one can use the relations  $\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} |\hat{a}_{mn}|^2 = 1$  and  $\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} |\hat{a}'_{mn}|^2 = 1$  for  $n = 0$ . Then these sums are multiples of the sum in (10), so we find that

$$C = C' = \left( \frac{(-a^2q^2; q^2)_{\infty}}{(-a^2q^2, -q; q)_{\infty}} \right)^{1/2} = \left( \frac{(q; q^2)_{\infty}}{(-a^2q^3; q^2)_{\infty}} \right)^{1/2}.$$

The orthogonality of the matrix  $\hat{M} \equiv (\hat{a}_{mn} \hat{a}'_{mn})$  means that

$$\sum_m \hat{a}_{mn} \hat{a}_{mn'} = \delta_{nn'}, \quad \sum_m \hat{a}'_{mn} \hat{a}'_{mn'} = \delta_{nn'}, \quad \sum_m \hat{a}_{mn} \hat{a}'_{mn'} = 0, \quad (11)$$

$$\sum_n (\hat{a}_{mn} \hat{a}'_{m'n} + \hat{a}'_{mn} \hat{a}_{m'n}) = \delta_{mm'}. \quad (12)$$

Substituting the expressions for  $\hat{a}_{mn}$  and  $\hat{a}'_{mn}$  into (12), one obtains the relation

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-a^2q^2; q^2)_n q^n}{(q^2; q^2)_n} \left[ \tilde{C}_m^{(a^2)}(aq^{n+1}) \tilde{C}_{m'}^{(a^2)}(aq^{n+1}) + \tilde{C}_m^{(a^2)}(-aq^{n+1}) \tilde{C}_{m'}^{(a^2)}(-aq^{n+1}) \right] \\ &= \frac{(-a^2q^3; q^2)_{\infty}}{(q; q^2)_{\infty}} \frac{(1+a^2q)(q; q)_m a^{2m} q^{m(m+3)/2}}{(1+a^2q^{2m+1})(-a^2q; q)_m} \delta_{mm'}. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

This identity must give an orthogonality relation for the discrete  $q$ -ultraspherical polynomials  $\tilde{C}_m^{(a^2)}(y) \equiv \tilde{C}_m^{(a^2)}(y; q)$ . An only gap, which appears here, is the following. We have assumed that the points  $aq^{n+1}$  and  $-aq^{n+1}$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , exhaust the whole spectrum of the operator  $I$ . If the operator  $I$  would have other spectral points  $x_k$ , then on the left-hand side of (13) would appear other summands  $\mu_{x_k} \tilde{C}_m^{(a^2)}(x_k; q) \tilde{C}_{m'}^{(a^2)}(x_k; q)$ , which correspond to these additional points. Let us show that these additional summands do not appear. For this we set  $m = m' = 0$  in the relation (13) with the additional summands. This results in the equality

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{(-a^2q^2; q^2)_{\infty}}{(-a^2q^2, -q; q)_{\infty}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(aq, -aq; q)_n q^n}{(q, -q; q)_n} \\ &+ \frac{(-a^2q^2; q)_{\infty}}{(-a^2q^2, -q; q)_{\infty}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(aq, -aq; q)_n q^n}{(q, -q; q)_n} + \sum_k \mu_{x_k} = 1. \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

In order to show that  $\sum_k \mu_{x_k} = 0$ , take into account formula (2.10.13) in [1]. By means of this formula it is easy to show that the relation (14) without the summand  $\sum_k \mu_{x_k}$  is true. Therefore, in (14) the sum  $\sum_k \mu_{x_k}$  does really vanish and formula (13) gives an orthogonality relation for the discrete  $q$ -ultraspherical polynomials.

The relation (13) and the results of Chapter VII in [6] shows that *the spectrum of the operator  $I$  coincides with the set of points  $aq^{n+1}$ ,  $-aq^{n+1}$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$*

## 5 Dual discrete $q$ -ultraspherical polynomials

Now we use the relations (11). They give the orthogonality relation for the set of matrix elements  $\hat{a}_{mn}$  and  $\hat{a}'_{mn}$ , considered as functions of  $m$ . Up to multiplicative factors, they coincide with the functions

$$\begin{aligned} F_n(x; a^2) &:= {}_3\phi_2(x, a^2q/x, aq^{n+1}; iaq, -iaq; q, q), & n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \\ F'_n(x; a^2) &:= {}_3\phi_2(x, a^2q/x, -aq^{n+1}; iaq, -iaq; q, q), & n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \end{aligned}$$

considered on the corresponding sets of points.

Applying the relation (III.12) of Appendix III in [1] we express these functions in terms of dual  $q$ -ultraspherical polynomials. Thus we obtain expressions for  $\hat{a}_{mn}$  and  $\hat{a}'_{mn}$  in terms of these polynomials. Substituting these expressions into the relations (11) we obtain the following orthogonality relation for the polynomials  $\tilde{D}_n^{(a^2)}(\mu(m; a^2)|q)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{(1 + a^2q^{2m+1})(-a^2q; q)_m}{(1 + a^2q)(q; q)_m} q^{m(m-1)/2} \tilde{D}_n^{(a^2)}(\mu(m; -a^2)|q) \tilde{D}_{n'}^{(a^2)}(\mu(m; -a^2)|q) \\ = \frac{2(-a^2q^3; q^2)_{\infty}}{(q; q^2)_{\infty}} \frac{(q^2; q^2)_n q^{-n}}{(-a^2q^2; q^2)_n} \delta_{nn'}. \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

This orthogonality relation coincides with the sum of two orthogonality relations (9) and (10) in [4]. The orthogonality measure in (15) is not extremal since it is a sum of two extremal measures.

In order to obtain orthogonality relations (9) and (10) of [4], from the very beginning, instead of operator  $I$ , we have to consider operators  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  of the representation  $T_l^+$  of the algebra  $U_{q^2}(\mathfrak{su}_{1,1})$ , which are appropriate for obtaining the orthogonality relations for the sets of polynomials  $\tilde{C}_{2k}^{(a)}(\sqrt{a}q^{s+1}; q)$ ,  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , and  $\tilde{C}_{2k+1}^{(a)}(\sqrt{a}q^{s+1}; q)$ ,  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , from Section 2 in [4]. Then going to the orthogonality relations for dual sets of polynomials in the same way as above, we obtain the extremal orthogonality relations (9) and (10) of [4].

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