

**AN EXTENSION OF  
 ASKEY-WILSON'S  $q$ -BETA INTEGRAL  
 AND ITS APPLICATIONS**

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1. One of the remarkable  $q$ -extensions of the classical beta integral evaluated by Askey and Wilson [3] is:

If  $\max(|a|, |b|, |c|, |d|) < 1$ , then

$$\int_{-1}^1 w(z; a, b, c, d) dz = K, \text{ where}$$

$$w(z; a, b, c, d) = \frac{h(z; 1)h(z; -1)h(z; \sqrt{q})h(z; -\sqrt{q})}{h(z; a)h(z; b)h(z; c)h(z; d)\sqrt{1-z^2}},$$

$$(1.1) \quad h(z; a) = \prod_{n=0}^{\infty} (1 - 2azq^n + q^{2n})$$

$$= (ae^{i\theta}, ae^{-i\theta}; q)_{\infty}, \quad z = \cos \theta,$$

$$(a; q)_{\infty} = \prod_{j=0}^{\infty} (1 - aq^j), \text{ whenever it converges,}$$

$$(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n; q)_{\infty} = (a_1; q)_{\infty} \dots (a_n; q)_{\infty}$$

and

$$K = \frac{2\pi(abcd; q)_{\infty}}{(q, ab, ac, ad, bc, bd, cd; q)_{\infty}}.$$

Nassrallah and Rahman [6] used (1.1) to obtain  $q$ -analogues of Euler's integral representation of Gauss's hypergeometric series  ${}_2F_1$ :

$$(1.2) \quad \int_{-1}^1 w(z; a, b, c, d) \frac{h(z; \lambda)}{h(z; f)} dz$$

$$= K \frac{(\lambda a, \lambda b, \lambda c, abc f; q)_{\infty}}{(af, bf, cf, \lambda abc; q)_{\infty}} \cdot {}_8W_7 \left[ \frac{\lambda abc}{q}; bc, ac, ab, \lambda/d, \lambda/f; q, df \right],$$

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