# Some recurrence relations for the generalized basic hypergeometric functions \*

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#### Abstract

In the present paper, we express the generalized basic hypergeometric function  $_r\Phi_s(\cdot)$  (for r=s+1) in terms of an iterated q-integrals involving the basic analogue of the Gauss's hypergeometric function. Further, using the relations between q-contiguous hypergeometric series, we obtain some recurrence relations for the generalized basic hypergeometric functions of one variable.

#### 1 Introduction

The generalized basic hypergeometric series cf. Gasper and Rahman [4] is given by

$${}_{r}\Phi_{s}\left(a_{1},\cdots,a_{r};b_{1},\cdots,b_{s};\ q,x\right) = {}_{r}\Phi_{s}\left[\begin{array}{ccc}a_{1},\cdots,a_{r}&;\\&q,x\\b_{1},\cdots,b_{s}&;\end{array}\right]$$

$$= {}_{r}\Phi_{s}\left[(a_{r});(b_{s});\ q,x\right] = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a_{1},\cdots,a_{r};q)_{n}}{(q,b_{1},\cdots,b_{s};q)_{n}}\ x^{n}\left\{(-1)^{n}q^{n(n-1)/2}\right\}^{(1+s-r)},$$

$$(1.1)$$

where for real or complex a

$$(a;q)_n = \begin{cases} 1 & ; \text{if } n = 0\\ (1-a)(1-aq)\cdots(1-aq^{n-1}) & ; \text{if } n \in N, \end{cases}$$
 (1.2)

is the q-shifted factorial, r and s are positive integers, and variable x, the numerator parameters  $a_1, \dots, a_r$ , and the denominator parameters  $b_1, \dots, b_s$  being any complex quantities provided that

$$b_j \neq q^{-m}, m = 0, 1, \dots; j = 1, 2, \dots, s.$$

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If |q| < 1, the series (1.1) converges absolutely for all x if  $r \le s$  and for |x| < 1 if r = s + 1. This series also converges absolutely if |q| > 1 and  $|x| < |b_1 b_2 \cdots b_s|/|a_1 a_2 \cdots a_r|$ .

Further, in terms of the q-gamma function, (1.2) can be expressed as

$$(a;q)_n = \frac{\Gamma_q(a+n)(1-q)^n}{\Gamma_q(a)}, \qquad n > 0,$$
 (1.3)

where the q-gamma function (cf. Gasper and Rahman [4]) is given by

$$\Gamma_q(a) = \frac{(q;q)_{\infty}}{(q^a;q)_{\infty}(1-q)^{a-1}} = \frac{(q;q)_{a-1}}{(1-q)^{a-1}},$$
(1.4)

where  $a \neq 0, -1, -2, \cdots$ .

The theory of basic hypergeometric functions of one and more variables has a wide range of applications in various fields of Mathematical, Physical and Engineering Sciences, namely-Number theory, Partition theory, Combinatorial analysis, Lie theory, Fractional calculus, Integral transforms, Quantum theory etc. (see [1,2,4,5])

In the present work, we express the generalized basic hypergeometric function  $_{s+1}\Phi_s(\cdot)$  in terms of an iterated q-integrals involving the q-Gauss hypergeometric function  $_2\Phi_1(\cdot)$ . Using q-contiguous relations for  $_2\Phi_1(\cdot)$ , we obtain some recurrence relations for the generalized basic hypergeometric functions of one variable. The above mentioned technique is a q-version of the technique used by Galué and Kalla [3].

# 2 Integral representation

In this section, we express the generalized basic hypergeometric function  ${}_{r}\Phi_{s}(\cdot)$  (for r=s+1) in terms of an iterated integral involving the basic analogue of Gauss hypergeometric function.

**Theorem:** Let  $Re(b_{s-i}) > 0$ , for all  $i = 0, 1, \dots, s-2$  and |q| < 1, then the iterated q-integral representation of s+1 $\Phi_s(\cdot)$  is given by

$$s+1\Phi_{s} \begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha}, q^{\beta}, a_{3}, a_{4}, \cdots, a_{s}, a_{s+1} & ; \\ q^{\gamma}, b_{2}, b_{3}, \cdots, b_{s} & ; \end{bmatrix} = \prod_{i=0}^{s-2} \Gamma_{q} \begin{bmatrix} b_{s-i} \\ a_{s+1-i}, b_{s-i} - a_{s+1-i} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\times \underbrace{\int_{0}^{1} \cdots \int_{0}^{1} \prod_{i=0}^{s-2} t_{i+1}^{a_{s+1-i}-1} (t_{i+1}q; q)_{b_{s-i}-a_{s+1-i}-1} }_{(s-1)times}$$

$$\times_2 \Phi_1 \begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha}, q^{\beta} & ; \\ & q, t_{s-1} \cdots t_2 t_1 x \\ q^{\gamma} & ; \end{bmatrix} d_q t_{s-1} \cdots d_q t_2 d_q t_1, \quad (2.1)$$

where |x| < 1 and  $|t_{s-1} \cdots t_2 t_1 x| < 1$ .

**Proof:** To prove the theorem, we consider the well-known q-integral representation of  ${}_{r}\Phi_{s}(\cdot)$ , namely

$${}_{r}\Phi_{s}\begin{bmatrix} a_{1}, \cdots, a_{r} & ; \\ b_{1}, \cdots, b_{s} & ; \end{bmatrix} = \Gamma_{q}\begin{bmatrix} b_{s} \\ a_{s+1}, b_{s} - a_{s+1} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\times \int_{0}^{1} t^{a_{r}-1} (tq; q)_{b_{s}-a_{r}-1} {}_{r-1}\Phi_{s-1}\begin{bmatrix} a_{1}, \cdots, a_{r-1} & ; \\ b_{1}, \cdots, b_{s-1} & ; \end{bmatrix} d_{q}t, (2.2)$$

which is the generalization of q-analogue of Euler's integral representation, namely (cf. Gasper and Rahman [4, eqn.(1.11.9), p.19])

$${}_{2}\Phi_{1}\begin{bmatrix} q^{a}, q^{b} & ; \\ & q, x \\ q^{c} & ; \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\Gamma_{q}(c)}{\Gamma_{q}(b)\Gamma_{q}(c-b)} \int_{0}^{1} t^{b-1} (tq; q)_{c-b-1} \times {}_{1}\Phi_{0} \begin{bmatrix} q^{a} & ; \\ & q, tx \\ - & ; \end{bmatrix} d_{q}t. \quad (2.3)$$

Therefore, relation (2.2) can also be written as

$$\begin{array}{c}
s+1\Phi_{s} \begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha}, q^{\beta}, a_{3}, a_{4}, \cdots, a_{s}, a_{s+1} & ; \\ q^{\gamma}, b_{2}, b_{3}, \cdots, b_{s} & ; \end{bmatrix} = \Gamma_{q} \begin{bmatrix} b_{s} \\ a_{s+1}, b_{s} - a_{s+1} \end{bmatrix} \\
\times \int_{0}^{1} t_{1}^{a_{s+1}-1} (t_{1}q; q)_{b_{s}-a_{s+1}-1} {}_{s}\Phi_{s-1} \begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha}, q^{\beta}, a_{3}, a_{4}, \cdots, a_{s} & ; \\ q^{\gamma}, b_{2}, b_{3}, \cdots, b_{s-1} & ; \end{bmatrix} d_{q}t_{1}.$$

Repeating the process in the right-hand side of (2.4), we get

$$\begin{array}{c}
s+1\Phi_{s} \begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha}, q^{\beta}, a_{3}, a_{4}, \cdots, a_{s}, a_{s+1} & ; \\ q^{\gamma}, b_{2}, b_{3}, \cdots, b_{s} & ; \end{bmatrix} = \Gamma_{q} \begin{bmatrix} b_{s} \\ a_{s+1}, b_{s} - a_{s+1} \end{bmatrix} \\
\times \Gamma_{q} \begin{bmatrix} b_{s-1} \\ a_{s}, b_{s-1} - a_{s} \end{bmatrix} \int_{0}^{1} \int_{0}^{1} t_{2}^{a_{s}-1} (t_{2}q; q)_{b_{s-1}-a_{s}-1} t_{1}^{a_{s+1}-1} (t_{1}q; q)_{b_{s}-a_{s+1}-1} \\
\times s-1\Phi_{s-2} \begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha}, q^{\beta}, a_{3}, a_{4}, \cdots, a_{s-1} & ; \\ q^{\gamma}, b_{2}, b_{3}, \cdots, b_{s-2} & ; \end{bmatrix} d_{q}t_{2}d_{q}t_{1}. \quad (2.5)
\end{array}$$

Successive operations (s-3) times in the right-hand side of (2.5) leads to the desired result (2.1)

### 3 Recurrence relations

In this section, as an application of the integral representation for  $_{s+1}\Phi_s(.)$ , given by (2.1), we shall derive certain recurrence relation for the generalized basic hypergeometric series.

Using the relation between q-contiguous basic hypergeometric functions [4, p.22]

$${}_{2}\Phi_{1}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha}, q^{\beta} & ; \\ q^{\gamma-1} & ; \end{bmatrix} - {}_{2}\Phi_{1}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha}, q^{\beta} & ; \\ q^{\gamma} & ; \end{bmatrix} = q^{\gamma} x \frac{(1 - q^{\alpha})(1 - q^{\beta})}{(q - q^{\gamma})(1 - q^{\gamma})} \times {}_{2}\Phi_{1}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha+1}, q^{\beta+1} & ; \\ q^{\gamma+1} & ; \end{bmatrix}, \quad (3.1)$$

we get

$${}_{2}\Phi_{1}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha}, q^{\beta} & ; & & \\ & q, t_{s-1} \cdots t_{2} t_{1} x \\ q^{\gamma} & ; & & q, t_{s-1} \cdots t_{2} t_{1} x \end{bmatrix} = {}_{2}\Phi_{1}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha}, q^{\beta} & ; & & \\ & q, t_{s-1} \cdots t_{2} t_{1} x \\ q^{\gamma-1} & ; & & q, t_{s-1} \cdots t_{2} t_{1} x \end{bmatrix}$$

$$- q^{\gamma} t_{s-1} \cdots t_{2} t_{1} x \frac{(1 - q^{\alpha})(1 - q^{\beta})}{(q - q^{\gamma})(1 - q^{\gamma})} {}_{2}\Phi_{1}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha+1}, q^{\beta+1} & ; & & \\ & q^{\gamma+1} & ; & & q, t_{s-1} \cdots t_{2} t_{1} x \\ & & & q, t_{s-1} \cdots t_{2} t_{1} x \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(3.2)$$

On substituting value from relation (3.2) in the right-hand side of the result (2.1), we have

$$\begin{split} s+1\Phi_s \left[ \begin{array}{c} q^{\alpha}, q^{\beta}, a_3, a_4, \cdots, a_s, a_{s+1} & ; \\ q^{\gamma}, b_2, b_3, \cdots, b_s & ; \end{array} \right] &= \prod_{i=0}^{s-2} \Gamma_q \left[ \begin{array}{c} b_{s-i} \\ a_{s+1-i}, b_{s-i} - a_{s+1-i} \end{array} \right] \\ &\times \underbrace{\int_0^1 \cdots \int_0^1 \prod_{i=0}^{s-2} t_{i+1}^{a_{s+1}-i-1} (t_{i+1}q;q)_{b_{s-i}-a_{s+1-i}-1}}_{(s-1)times} \\ &\times {}_2\Phi_1 \left[ \begin{array}{c} q^{\alpha}, q^{\beta} & ; \\ q^{\gamma} - 1 & ; \end{array} \right] d_q t_{s-1} \cdots d_q t_2 d_q t_1 \\ &- q^{\gamma} \; x \; \frac{(1-q^{\alpha})(1-q^{\beta})}{(q-q^{\gamma})(1-q^{\gamma})} \prod_{i=0}^{s-2} \Gamma_q \left[ \begin{array}{c} b_{s-i} \\ a_{s+1-i}, b_{s-i} - a_{s+1-i} \end{array} \right] \\ &\times \underbrace{\int_0^1 \cdots \int_0^1 \prod_{i=0}^{s-2} t_{i+1}^{1+a_{s+1-i}-1} \left( t_{i+1}q;q \right)_{b_{s-i}-a_{s+1-i}-1}}_{(s-1)times} \end{split}$$

$$\times {}_{2}\Phi_{1} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} q^{\alpha+1}, q^{\beta+1} & ; & \\ & q, t_{s-1} \cdots t_{2} t_{1} x \\ q^{\gamma+1} & ; & \end{array} \right] d_{q} t_{s-1} \cdots d_{q} t_{2} d_{q} t_{1}. \quad (3.3)$$

Again, on making use of the result (2.1), the above result (3.3) leads to the following recurrence relation:

$$s+1\Phi_{s}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha}, q^{\beta}, a_{3}, a_{4}, \cdots, a_{s}, a_{s+1} & ; \\ q^{\gamma}, b_{2}, b_{3}, \cdots, b_{s} & ; \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= s+1\Phi_{s}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha}, q^{\beta}, a_{3}, a_{4}, \cdots, a_{s}, a_{s+1} & ; \\ q^{\gamma-1}, b_{2}, b_{3}, \cdots, b_{s} & ; \end{bmatrix} - q^{\gamma} x \frac{(1-q^{\alpha})(1-q^{\beta})}{(q-q^{\gamma})(1-q^{\gamma})}$$

$$\times \prod_{i=0}^{s-2} \left[ \frac{(1-q^{a_{s+1-i}})}{(1-q^{b_{s-i}})} \right]_{s+1}\Phi_{s}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha+1}, q^{\beta+1}, a_{3}q, a_{4}q, \cdots, a_{s}q, a_{s+1}q & ; \\ q^{\gamma+1}, b_{2}q, b_{3}q, \cdots, b_{s}q & ; \end{bmatrix},$$
where  $Re(b_{s-i}) > 0$ , for all  $i = 0, 1, \cdots, s-2$  and  $|x| < 1$ .

Similarly, if we consider the following q-contiguous relations (cf. Gasper and Rahman [4, p.22])

$${}_{2}\Phi_{1}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha+1}, q^{\beta} & ; \\ q^{\gamma} & ; \end{bmatrix} - {}_{2}\Phi_{1}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha}, q^{\beta} & ; \\ q^{\gamma} & ; \end{bmatrix} = q^{\alpha} x \frac{(1-q^{\beta})}{(1-q^{\gamma})}$$

$$\times {}_{2}\Phi_{1}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha+1}, q^{\beta+1} & ; \\ q^{\gamma+1} & ; \end{bmatrix}, \quad (3.5)$$

$${}_{2}\Phi_{1}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha+1}, q^{\beta} & ; \\ q^{\gamma+1} & ; \end{bmatrix} - {}_{2}\Phi_{1}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha}, q^{\beta} & ; \\ q^{\gamma} & ; \end{bmatrix} = q^{\alpha} x \frac{(1-q^{\gamma-\alpha})(1-q^{\beta})}{(1-q^{\gamma+1})(1-q^{\gamma})}$$

$$\times {}_{2}\Phi_{1}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha+1}, q^{\beta+1} & ; \\ q^{\gamma+2} & ; \end{bmatrix}, \quad (3.6)$$

and

$${}_{2}\Phi_{1}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha+1}, q^{\beta-1} & ; \\ q^{\gamma} & ; \end{bmatrix} - {}_{2}\Phi_{1}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha}, q^{\beta} & ; \\ q^{\gamma} & ; \end{bmatrix} = q^{\alpha} x \frac{(1 - q^{\beta-\alpha+1})}{(1 - q^{\gamma})} \times {}_{2}\Phi_{1}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha+1}, q^{\beta} & ; \\ q^{\gamma+1} & ; \end{bmatrix}.$$
(3.7)

and make use of the result (2.1), we obtain the following respective recurrence relations for generalized basic hypergeometric functions, namely

$$s+1\Phi_{s} \begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha}, q^{\beta}, a_{3}, a_{4}, \cdots, a_{s}, a_{s+1} & ; \\ q^{\gamma}, b_{2}, b_{3}, \cdots, b_{s} & ; \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= s+1\Phi_{s} \begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha+1}, q^{\beta}, a_{3}, a_{4}, \cdots, a_{s}, a_{s+1} & ; \\ q^{\gamma}, b_{2}, b_{3}, \cdots, b_{s} & ; \end{bmatrix} - q^{\alpha}x \frac{(1-q^{\beta})}{(1-q^{\gamma})}$$

$$\times \prod_{i=0}^{s-2} \left[ \frac{(1-q^{a_{s+1-i}})}{(1-q^{b_{s-i}})} \right] s+1\Phi_{s} \begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha+1}, q^{\beta+1}, a_{3}q, a_{4}q, \cdots, a_{s}q, a_{s+1}q & ; \\ q^{\gamma+1}, b_{2}q, b_{3}q, \cdots, b_{s}q & ; \end{bmatrix},$$

$$(3.8)$$

where  $Re(b_{s-i}) > 0$ , for all  $i = 0, 1, \dots, s-2$  and |x| < 1.

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$$s+1\Phi_{s}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha}, q^{\beta}, a_{3}, a_{4}, \cdots, a_{s}, a_{s+1} & ; \\ q^{\gamma}, b_{2}, b_{3}, \cdots, b_{s} & ; \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= s+1\Phi_{s}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha+1}, q^{\beta-1}, a_{3}, a_{4}, \cdots, a_{s}, a_{s+1} & ; \\ q^{\gamma}, b_{2}, b_{3}, \cdots, b_{s} & ; \end{bmatrix} - q^{\alpha}x \frac{(1-q^{\beta-\alpha+1})}{(1-q^{\gamma})}$$

$$\times \prod_{i=0}^{s-2} \left[ \frac{(1-q^{a_{s+1-i}})}{(1-q^{b_{s-i}})} \right]_{s+1}\Phi_{s}\begin{bmatrix} q^{\alpha+1}, q^{\beta}, a_{3}q, a_{4}q, \cdots, a_{s}q, a_{s+1}q & ; \\ q^{\gamma+1}, b_{2}q, b_{3}q, \cdots, b_{s}q & ; \end{bmatrix},$$

$$(3.10)$$

where  $Re(b_{s-i}) > 0$ , for all  $i = 0, 1, \dots, s-2$  and |x| < 1.

## 4 Special cases

In view of the limit formulae

$$\lim_{q \to 1^{-}} \Gamma_{q}(a) = \Gamma(a) \quad and \quad \lim_{q \to 1^{-}} \frac{(q^{a}; q)_{n}}{(1 - q)^{n}} = (a)_{n} , \qquad (4.1)$$

where

$$(a)_n = a(a+1)\cdots(a+n-1),$$
 (4.2)

one can note that the result (2.1) is the q-extension of the known result due to Galu $\acute{e}$  and Kalla [3, eqn.(4), p.52], namely

$$\begin{array}{c}
s+1F_{s} \left[ \begin{array}{c} \alpha, \beta, a_{3}, a_{4}, \cdots, a_{s}, a_{s+1} & ; \\ \gamma, b_{2}, b_{3}, \cdots, b_{s} & ; \end{array} \right] = \prod_{i=0}^{s-2} \Gamma \left[ \begin{array}{c} b_{s-i} \\ a_{s+1-i}, b_{s-i} - a_{s+1-i} \end{array} \right] \\
\times \underbrace{\int_{0}^{1} \cdots \int_{0}^{1} \prod_{i=0}^{s-2} t_{i+1}^{a_{s+1-i}-1} (1 - t_{i+1})^{b_{s-i} - a_{s+1-i}-1} \\
\times {}_{2}F_{1} \left[ \begin{array}{c} \alpha, \beta & ; \\ t_{s-1} \cdots t_{2} t_{1} x \end{array} \right] dt_{s-1} \cdots dt_{2} dt_{1}, \quad (4.3)
\end{array}$$

where  $Re(b_{s-i}) > 0$ , for all  $i = 0, 1, \dots, s-2$ , |x| < 1 and  $|t_{s-1} \dots t_2 t_1 x| < 1$ .

Similarly, if we let  $q \to 1^-$  and use the formula (1.4), then the results (3.4) and (3.8)-(3.10) correspond to the recurrence relations for generalized hypergeometric functions.

We conclude with the remark that the results deduced in the present article appears to be a new contribution to the theory of basic hypergeometric series. Secondly, one can easily obtain number of recurrence relations for the basic hypergeometric functions by the applications of iterated q-integral representation for  $_r\Phi_s(.)$ .

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