
**The Clebsch-Gordan coefficients for the quantum group $S_\mu U(2)$
and q -Hahn polynomials**by H.T. Koelink¹ and T.H. Koornwinder²¹ *Mathematical Institute, University of Leiden, P.O. Box 9512, 2300 RA Leiden, the Netherlands*² *Centre for Mathematics and Computer Science, P.O. Box 4079, 1009 AB Amsterdam, the Netherlands*

Communicated by Prof. T.A. Springer at the meeting of December 19, 1988**ABSTRACT**

The tensor product of two unitary irreducible representations of the quantum group $S_\mu U(2)$ is decomposed in a direct sum of unitary irreducible representations with explicit realizations. The Clebsch-Gordan coefficients yield the orthogonality relations for q -Hahn and dual q -Hahn polynomials.

INTRODUCTION

There are many special functions of hypergeometric type which admit a group theoretic interpretation. (See Vilenkin [12].) For q -hypergeometric series only a few interpretations were known. (See [8], § 1 for an overview.) Nowadays, quantum groups, as introduced by Woronowicz [13] and Drinfeld [3], offer lots of possibilities for group theoretic interpretations of q -hypergeometric series.

For instance, the little q -Jacobi polynomials appear as matrix elements of irreducible representations of the quantum group $S_\mu U(2)$. Their orthogonality relations are implied by the Schur orthogonality relations for compact matrix quantum groups (cf. [13], theorem 5.7). See [8], [9] and [11]. For one of the q -analogues of the Krawtchouk polynomials there also exists a group theoretic interpretation. (See [8].)

In this paper we will show that the q -Hahn and dual q -Hahn polynomials admit a quantum group theoretic interpretation, quite analogous to an interpretation of (dual) Hahn polynomials in terms of Clebsch-Gordan coefficients

for $SU(2)$ (cf. Koornwinder [7]). Here we will closely follow the approach of [7], where the decomposition of the tensor product of two irreducible representations was realized in terms of a basis of homogeneous polynomials in four variables by the matrix elements of the irreducible representations.

In section 1 we will recall some facts from the theory of q -hypergeometric series. The reader will find some facts about the quantum group $S_\mu U(2)$ and its representations in section 2. The tensor product of two unitary irreducible representations will be decomposed in section 3, which furnishes a new proof of theorem 5.11 of [14] (i.e. our theorem 3.4). The Clebsch-Gordan coefficients will be defined in section 4. The essential symmetry relations for the Clebsch-Gordan coefficients will be derived in a simple algebraic way. However, in section 5 we have to do hard computational work in order to obtain the expression (5.3). The orthogonality relations for the q -Hahn and dual q -Hahn polynomials will be a relatively easy consequence of this expression.

After we completed this manuscript a preprint by Kirillov and Reshetkhin ([6]) reached us, where they also give (without proof) explicit expressions for the Clebsch-Gordan coefficients for the quantized universal enveloping algebra $U_q(\mathfrak{sl}(2))$ (cf. [5]). However, they do not express them as q -Hahn polynomials.

1. q -HYPERGEOMETRIC FUNCTIONS

In this section we state some definitions concerning q -hypergeometric functions. Some q -hypergeometric orthogonal polynomials are also discussed, as well as some identities for q -hypergeometric functions.

Let $1 \neq q \in \mathbb{C}$. For $a \in \mathbb{C}$, $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ the q -shifted factorial is defined by

$$(1.1) \quad (a; q)_k = \prod_{i=0}^{k-1} (1 - aq^i)$$

and if $|q| < 1$ we also have

$$(1.2) \quad (a; q)_\infty = \prod_{i=0}^{\infty} (1 - aq^i).$$

The product of n q -shifted factorials is denoted by

$$(a_1, \dots, a_n; q)_k = (a_1; q)_k \cdots (a_n; q)_k.$$

We also have q -combinatorial coefficients. For $n, k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$, $n \geq k \geq 0$,

$$(1.3) \quad \begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix}_q = \frac{(q; q)_n}{(q; q)_k (q; q)_{n-k}} = \begin{bmatrix} n \\ n-k \end{bmatrix}_q.$$

Then

$$\begin{bmatrix} n \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}_q = 1 = \begin{bmatrix} n \\ n \end{bmatrix}_q$$

and the q -combinatorial coefficients satisfy the following recurrence relation:

$$(1.4) \quad \begin{bmatrix} n+1 \\ k \end{bmatrix}_q = q^k \begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix}_q + \begin{bmatrix} n \\ k-1 \end{bmatrix}_q.$$

For $r \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ the q -hypergeometric series ${}_{r+1}\phi_r$ is defined by

$$(1.5) \quad {}_{r+1}\phi_r \left(\begin{matrix} a_1, \dots, a_{r+1}; \\ b_1, \dots, b_r \end{matrix}; q, z \right) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a_1, \dots, a_{r+1}; q)_k}{(b_1, \dots, b_r, q; q)_k} z^k.$$

The radius of convergence is 1 for generic values of the parameters. For us the most interesting case arises when $a_1 = q^{-n}$ ($n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$) while the parameters b_1, \dots, b_r are not of the form $1, q^{-1}, \dots, q^{-n}$. Then (1.5) is a well defined terminating series with summation from 0 to n .

There is a q -analogue of the Chu-Vandermonde formula ([4], (1.5.3))

$$(1.6) \quad {}_2\phi_1 \left(\begin{matrix} q^{-n}, b \\ c \end{matrix}; q, q \right) = \frac{(c/b; q)_n}{(c; q)_n} b^n.$$

The *little q -Jacobi polynomials* are also defined in terms of a ${}_2\phi_1$ series:

$$(1.7) \quad p_n(x; a, b|q) = {}_2\phi_1 \left(\begin{matrix} q^{-n}, abq^{n+1} \\ aq \end{matrix}; q, qx \right).$$

They are orthogonal polynomials. (See [1].)

The q -Hahn polynomials are defined in terms of a ${}_3\phi_2$ series:

$$(1.8) \quad \mathcal{Q}_n(x) = \mathcal{Q}_n(x; a, b, N|q) = {}_3\phi_2 \left(\begin{matrix} q^{-n}, abq^{n+1}, x \\ aq, q^{-N} \end{matrix}; q, q \right)$$

for $N \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ and $n \in \{0, 1, \dots, N\}$. They are orthogonal polynomials and the explicit orthogonality relation is

$$(1.9) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \sum_{x=0}^N \mathcal{Q}_m(q^{-x}) \mathcal{Q}_n(q^{-x}) \frac{(aq; q)_x (bq; q)_{N-x}}{(q, q)_x (q; q)_{N-x}} (aq)^{-x} \\ = \delta_{mn} \frac{(abq^2; q)_N (aq)^{-N}}{(q; q)_N} \frac{(1-abq)(q, bq, abq^{N+2}; q)_n}{(1-abq^{2n+1})(aq, abq, q^{-N}; q)_n} \\ \times (-aq)^n q^{\binom{n}{2} - Nn}. \end{array} \right.$$

(See [4], (7.2.22).)

The *dual q -Hahn polynomials* are also defined in terms of a terminating ${}_3\phi_2$ series:

$$(1.10) \quad \mathcal{R}_n(\mu(x)) = \mathcal{R}_n(\mu(x); a, b, N|q) = {}_3\phi_2 \left(\begin{matrix} q^{-n}, abq^{x+1}, q^{-x} \\ aq, q^{-N} \end{matrix}; q, q \right)$$

for $N \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ and $n \in \{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ and $\mu(x) = q^{-x} + q^{x+1}ab$. They are orthogonal polynomials and the explicit orthogonality relation can be derived from the orthogonality relations for the q -Racah polynomials. (See [2], (1.17)–(1.19) and p. 28, 29.) The relation is the following

$$(1.11) \quad \begin{cases} \sum_{x=0}^N \mathcal{R}_m(\mu(x)) \mathcal{R}_n(\mu(x)) \frac{(1-abq^{2x+1})(aq, abq, q^{-N}; q)_x}{(1-abq)(q, bq, abq^{N+2}; q)_x} \\ \times (-aq)^{-x} q^{Nx-1} \\ = \delta_{mn} \frac{(abq^2; q)_N (aq)^{-N}}{(bq; q)_N} \frac{(q, b^{-1}q^{-N}; q)_n}{(aq, q^{-N}; q)_n} (abq)^n. \end{cases}$$

Note that for $x, n \in \mathbb{Z}_+, 0 \leq x, n \leq N$

$$(1.12) \quad \mathcal{R}_n(\mu(x); a, b; N|q) = \mathcal{Q}_x(q^{-n}; a, b; N|q)$$

and that (1.11) is equivalent to (1.9).

We will also need a transformation for the ${}_3\phi_2$ series. It is (see [4], (3.2.5))

$$(1.13) \quad {}_3\phi_2\left(\begin{matrix} q^{-n}, a, b \\ d, e \end{matrix}; q, \frac{deq^n}{ab}\right) = \frac{(e/a; q)_n}{(e; q)_n} {}_3\phi_2\left(\begin{matrix} q^{-n}, a, d/b \\ d, aq^{1-n}/e \end{matrix}; q, q\right).$$

2. THE QUANTUM GROUP $S_\mu U(2)$ AND ITS REPRESENTATION THEORY

The matrix elements of the representations of the quantum group $S_\mu U(2)$ are considered in this section.

Fix $\mu \in [-1, 1] \setminus \{0\}$. We are primarily interested in the case $|\mu| < 1$. Let A be the unital C^* -algebra generated by α and γ subject to the relations

$$(2.1) \quad \begin{cases} \alpha^* \alpha + \gamma^* \gamma = I; \quad \alpha \alpha^* + \mu^2 \gamma \gamma^* = I \\ \gamma \gamma^* = \gamma^* \gamma; \quad \alpha \gamma = \mu \gamma \alpha; \quad \alpha \gamma^* = \mu \gamma^* \alpha. \end{cases}$$

(For the construction of A see [14], § 1.)

Let

$$(2.2) \quad u = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & -\mu \gamma^* \\ \gamma & \alpha^* \end{pmatrix}.$$

Woronowicz ([13], [14]) has proved that $S_\mu U(2) = (A, u)$ is a compact matrix quantum group (a quantum group for short). For $\mu = 1$ we can identify (A, u) with $SU(2)$.

The comultiplication is the unital C^* -algebra homomorphism $\Phi : A \rightarrow A \otimes A$ such that (see [14], (1.13))

$$(2.3) \quad \begin{cases} \Phi(\alpha) = \alpha \otimes \alpha - \mu \gamma^* \otimes \gamma, \\ \Phi(\gamma) = \gamma \otimes \alpha + \alpha^* \otimes \gamma. \end{cases}$$

Fix $l \in \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}_+$ and let $n \in \{-l, -l+1, \dots, l-1, l\}$. Then, using (2.3) and (2.1), we have

$$(2.4) \quad \left\{ \begin{aligned} & \Phi \left(\left[\begin{array}{c} 2l \\ l-n \end{array} \right]_{\mu^{-2}}^{1/2} \alpha^{l-n} \gamma^{l+n} \right) \\ &= \left[\begin{array}{c} 2l \\ l-n \end{array} \right]_{\mu^{-2}}^{1/2} (\alpha \otimes \alpha - \mu \gamma^* \otimes \gamma)^{l-n} (\gamma \otimes \alpha + \alpha^* \otimes \gamma)^{l+n} \\ &= \sum_{m=-l}^l t_{n,m}^{l,\mu} \otimes \left[\begin{array}{c} 2l \\ l-m \end{array} \right]_{\mu^{-2}}^{1/2} \alpha^{l-m} \gamma^{l+m}. \end{aligned} \right.$$

Evidently, $t_{n,m}^{l,\mu} \in \mathcal{A}$, where \mathcal{A} denotes the $*$ -subalgebra of A generated by the matrix elements of u defined in (2.2). Using the coassociativity ([13], (1.7)),

$$(\Phi \otimes \text{id}) \circ \Phi = (\text{id} \otimes \Phi) \circ \Phi,$$

on (2.4) we obtain

$$(2.5) \quad \Phi(t_{n,m}^{l,\mu}) = \sum_{k=-l}^l t_{n,k}^{l,\mu} \otimes t_{k,m}^{l,\mu}.$$

So the matrix $(t_{n,m}^{l,\mu})_{n,m=-l,\dots,l}$ defines a smooth representation $t^{l,\mu}$ of $S_\mu U(2)$ in \mathbb{C}^{2l+1} (cf. [13]).

Define

$$(2.6) \quad \delta = \alpha^*; \quad \beta = -\mu \gamma^*,$$

then the relations (2.1) become

$$(2.7) \quad \left\{ \begin{aligned} & \alpha\beta = \mu\beta\alpha; \quad \alpha\gamma = \mu\gamma\alpha; \quad \gamma\delta = \mu\delta\gamma; \quad \beta\delta = \mu\delta\beta; \\ & \alpha\delta - \mu^2\delta\alpha = (1 - \mu^2)I; \quad \gamma\beta = \beta\gamma; \quad \alpha\delta - \mu\beta\gamma = I. \end{aligned} \right.$$

So we can identify \mathcal{A} with $\mathcal{A}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta)$ the unital algebra of polynomials in non-commuting variables α, β, γ and δ with relations (2.7). Write $a(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta)$ for a specific algebraic expression in the non-commuting variables α, β, γ and δ for some $a \in \mathcal{A}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta)$. Interchanging β and γ yields an isomorphism of $\mathcal{A}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta)$ which we denote by

$$a(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta) \mapsto a(\alpha, \gamma, \beta, \delta).$$

Write $\tilde{a}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta)$ for the same algebraic expression as $a(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta)$ with the order of the factors in each term inverted. Interchanging α and δ yields an anti-isomorphism which we denote by

$$a(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta) \mapsto \tilde{a}(\delta, \beta, \gamma, \alpha).$$

We state some results on the representations $t^{l,\mu}$ and its matrix elements $t_{n,m}^{l,\mu}$. (See [8].)

PROPOSITION 2.1. ([8]) The matrix elements $t_{n,m}^{l,\mu}$ satisfy the following symmetry relations:

$$(2.8) \quad t_{n,m}^{l,\mu}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta) = t_{m,n}^{l,\mu}(\alpha, \gamma, \beta, \delta),$$

$$(2.9) \quad t_{n,m}^{l,\mu}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta) = (t_{n,-m}^{l,\mu})^{-1}(\delta, \gamma, \beta, \alpha),$$

$$(2.10) \quad t_{n,m}^{l,\mu}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta) = (t_{-m,n}^{l,\mu})^{-1}(\delta, \beta, \gamma, \alpha).$$

THEOREM 2.2. ([8], [9], [11]) For $m \geq n \geq -m$ we have

$$(2.11) \quad t_{n,m}^{l,\mu}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta) = c_{n,m}^{l,\mu} \delta^{m+n} p_{l-m}(-\mu^{-1}\beta\gamma; \mu^{2(m-n)}; \mu^{2(m+n)} | \mu^2) \beta^{m-n},$$

where p_{l-m} denotes a little q -Jacobi polynomial (see (1.7)) and

$$(2.12) \quad c_{n,m}^{l,\mu} = \left[\begin{matrix} l-n \\ m-n \end{matrix} \right]_{\mu^2}^{1/2} \left[\begin{matrix} l+m \\ m-n \end{matrix} \right]_{\mu^2}^{1/2} \mu^{-(m-n)(l-m)}.$$

Note that we can obtain an expression for $t_{n,m}^{l,\mu}$ in the remaining cases by proposition 2.1.

THEOREM 2.3. ([8], see also [9], [14], § 5) The representations $t^{l,\mu}$ ($l \in \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}_+$) form a complete system of inequivalent irreducible unitary representations of the quantum group $S_\mu U(2)$.

See [13] for the meaning of this theorem.

3. DECOMPOSITION OF THE TENSOR PRODUCT $t^{l_1,\mu} \otimes t^{l_2,\mu}$

In this section we decompose the unitary representation $t^{l_1,\mu} \otimes t^{l_2,\mu}$ into a sum of unitary representations. We also give explicit realizations of these representations.

From [14], theorem 1.2 we know that $\alpha^k \gamma^m \beta^n$ and $\gamma^m \beta^n \delta^k$ form a basis for \mathcal{A} . Let \mathcal{A}_d be the linear subspace of \mathcal{A} spanned by all $\alpha^k \gamma^m \beta^n$ and $\gamma^m \beta^n \delta^k$ with $k+m+n=d$ for $d=0, 1, \dots$. Then $\dim(\mathcal{A}_d) = (d+1)^2$.

Let \mathcal{A}^d be the linear subspace of \mathcal{A} spanned by all $\alpha^{d_1} \gamma^{d_2} \beta^{d_3} \delta^{d_4}$ with $d_1 + d_2 + d_3 + d_4 = d$.

PROPOSITION 3.1.

$$\mathcal{A}^d = \bigoplus_{j=0,1,\dots,[d/2]} \mathcal{A}_{d-2j}.$$

PROOF. From (see (2.7))

$$(3.1) \quad \begin{cases} \alpha^{d_1} \gamma^{d_2} \beta^{d_3} \delta^{d_4} = \alpha^{d_1} \gamma^{d_2} (\alpha\delta - \mu\beta\gamma) \beta^{d_3} \delta^{d_4} \\ = \mu^{-(d_2+d_3)} \alpha^{d_1+1} \gamma^{d_2} \beta^{d_3} \delta^{d_4+1} - \mu \alpha^{d_1} \gamma^{d_2+1} \beta^{d_3+1} \delta^{d_4} \end{cases}$$

we see that $\mathcal{A}^{d-2j} \subset \mathcal{A}^d$, $j=0, 1, \dots, [d/2]$. Since $\mathcal{A}_{d-2j} \subset \mathcal{A}^{d-2j}$ we have

$$\bigoplus_{j=0,1,\dots,[d/2]} \mathcal{A}_{d-2j} \subset \mathcal{A}^d.$$

Since the $\alpha^k \gamma^m \beta^n$ and $\gamma^m \beta^n \delta^k$ form a basis of \mathcal{A} we see that

$$\dim \left(\bigoplus_{j=0,1,\dots,[d/2]} \mathcal{A}_{d-2j} \right) = \sum_{j=0}^{[d/2]} (d-2j+1)^2 = \binom{d+3}{3} \leq \dim(\mathcal{A}^d).$$

But the dimension of \mathcal{A}^d is smaller than or equal to the dimension of the space of homogeneous polynomials of degree d in four variables, which is $\binom{d+3}{3}$. \square

COROLLARY 3.2. The monomials $\alpha^{d_1}\gamma^{d_2}\beta^{d_3}\delta^{d_4}$ ($d_1 + d_2 + d_3 + d_4 = d$) constitute a basis for \mathcal{A}^d .

The equality (3.1) can be generalized into the following, which will be useful in the sequel.

LEMMA 3.3. For $d_1, d_2, d_3, d_4, k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ we have

$$\alpha^{d_1}\gamma^{d_2}\beta^{d_3}\delta^{d_4} = \sum_{i=0}^k (-\mu)^i \mu^{-(d_2+d_3)(k-i)} \begin{bmatrix} k \\ i \end{bmatrix}_{\mu^{-2}} \alpha^{d_1+k-i}\gamma^{d_2+i}\beta^{d_3+i}\delta^{d_4+k-i}.$$

PROOF. By repeating (3.1) we see that we have an expression like

$$\alpha^{d_1}\gamma^{d_2}\beta^{d_3}\delta^{d_4} = \sum_{i=0}^k A_i^k \alpha^{d_1+k-i}\gamma^{d_2+i}\beta^{d_3+i}\delta^{d_4+k-i}.$$

To calculate A_i^k we apply (3.1) to every term of the sum on the right hand side. This yields the following recurrence relation for A_i^k :

$$(3.2) \quad A_i^{k+1} = \mu^{-(d_2+d_3)-2i} A_i^k - \mu A_{i-1}^k.$$

Now put $A_i^k = (-\mu)^i \mu^{-(d_2+d_3)(k-i)} B_i^k$, then (3.2) yields a recurrence relation for B_i^k :

$$(3.3) \quad B_i^{k+1} = (\mu^{-2})^i B_i^k + B_{i-1}^k.$$

Since $A_0^0 = B_0^0 = 1$ we have from (1.4) the solution $B_i^k = \begin{bmatrix} n \\ i \end{bmatrix}_{\mu^{-2}}$ for the relation (3.3). \square

Now we consider $\mathcal{A}^{e,f}$, the linear span of the monomials $\alpha^{e_1}\gamma^{e_2}\beta^{f_1}\delta^{f_2}$ with $e_1 + e_2 = e$ and $f_1 + f_2 = f$. Note that (3.1) immediately yields

$$(3.4) \quad \mathcal{A}^{e,f} \subset \mathcal{A}^{e+1, f+1}.$$

We make $\mathcal{A}^{2l_1, 2l_2}$ into a Hilbert space by declaring the following basis orthonormal

$$(3.5) \quad \psi_{n_1, n_2}^{l_1, l_2, \mu} = \left[\begin{matrix} 2l_1 \\ l_1 - n_1 \end{matrix} \right]_{\mu^{-2}}^{1/2} \left[\begin{matrix} 2l_2 \\ l_2 - n_2 \end{matrix} \right]_{\mu^{-2}}^{1/2} \alpha^{l_1 - n_1} \gamma^{l_1 + n_1} \beta^{l_2 - n_2} \delta^{l_2 + n_2},$$

$n_1 \in \{-l_1, \dots, l_1\}$, $n_2 \in \{-l_2, \dots, l_2\}$. This is possible because of corollary 3.2.

From (2.3) and (2.6) it follows that

$$\Phi \left(\left[\begin{matrix} 2l \\ l - n \end{matrix} \right]_{\mu^{-2}}^{1/2} \beta^{l-n} \delta^{l+n} \right) = \sum_{m=-l}^l t_{n, m}^{l, \mu} \otimes \left[\begin{matrix} 2l \\ l - m \end{matrix} \right]_{\mu^{-2}}^{1/2} \beta^{l-m} \delta^{l+m}.$$

This and (2.4) imply

$$(3.6) \quad \Phi(\psi_{n_1, n_2}^{l_1, l_2, \mu}) = \sum_{m_1=-l_1}^{l_1} \sum_{m_2=-l_2}^{l_2} t_{n_1, m_1}^{l_1, \mu} t_{n_2, m_2}^{l_2, \mu} \otimes \psi_{m_1, m_2}^{l_1, l_2, \mu}.$$

This proves that Φ acting on $\mathcal{A}^{2l_1, 2l_2}$ gives a realization of the tensor product $t^{l_1, \mu} \bigoplus t^{l_2, \mu}$. Taking into account the Hilbert space structure of $\mathcal{A}^{2l_1, 2l_2}$ we see that $t^{l_1, \mu} \bigoplus t^{l_2, \mu}$ is unitary.

From proposition 5.2 of [8] (or from theorem 2.2 and lemma 3.3) and (3.4) we know that

$$t_{n,m}^{l,\mu} \in \mathcal{A}^{l-m, l+m} \subset \mathcal{A}^{l-m+i, l+m+i}$$

for $i \in \mathbb{Z}_+$. In particular, if we take $m = l_2 - l_1$ and $l = |l_1 - l_2|, |l_1 + l_2| + 1, \dots, l_1 + l_2$, we have

$$(3.7) \quad t_{n, l_2 - l_1}^{l, \mu} \in \mathcal{A}^{l+l_1-l_2+i, l-l_1+l_2+i} = \mathcal{A}^{2l_1, 2l_2}$$

for $i = l_1 + l_2 - l$.

Theorems 2.3 and theorem 5.7(i) of [13] imply that all $t_{n, l_2 - l_1}^{l, \mu}$ are linearly independent and (2.5) yields

$$(3.8) \quad \Phi(t_{n, l_2 - l_1}^{l, \mu}) = \sum_{m=-l}^l t_{n,m}^{l,\mu} \otimes t_{m, l_2 - l_1}^{l,\mu}.$$

If we define $\mathcal{A}_l^{2l_1, 2l_2}$ to be the linear span of $t_{n, l_2 - l_1}^{l, \mu}$, $n = -l, \dots, l$, then Φ acting on $\mathcal{A}_l^{2l_1, 2l_2}$ gives a realization of the representation $t^{l, \mu}$.

THEOREM 3.4.

$$\mathcal{A}^{2l_1, 2l_2} = \bigoplus_{l=|l_1-l_2|}^{l_1+l_2} \mathcal{A}_l^{2l_1, 2l_2}$$

and

$$t^{l_1, \mu} \bigoplus t^{l_2, \mu} \cong \bigoplus_{l=|l_1-l_2|}^{l_1+l_2} t^{l, \mu}.$$

PROOF. We need only to prove the first statement in view of (3.6) and (3.8). This follows from (3.7) and

$$\sum_{l=|l_1-l_2|}^{l_1+l_2} (2l+1) = (2l_1+1)(2l_2+1). \quad \square$$

REMARK. Theorem 3.4 is theorem 5.11 of [14], but the proof is new.

THEOREM 3.5. (i) For suitable complex constants $a_{l_1, l_2}^{l, \mu} \neq 0$

$$(3.9) \quad \varphi_j^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu} = a_{l_1, l_2}^{l, \mu} t_{j, l_2 - l_1}^{l, \mu},$$

$j = -l, \dots, l$, constitute an orthonormal basis for $\mathcal{A}_l^{2l_1, 2l_2}$.

(ii) The constant $a_{l_1, l_2}^{l, \mu}$ is uniquely determined by the condition

$$(3.10) \quad (\varphi_l^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu}, \psi_{l_1, l_1 - l_1}^{l_1, l_2, \mu}) > 0.$$

Then

$$(3.11) \quad a_{l_1, l_2}^{l, \mu} = (-\mu)^{l-l_1-l_2} \left\{ \frac{(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{2l_1} (\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{2l_2} (1 - \mu^{-2(1+2l)})}{(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1+l_2-l} (\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1+l_2+l+1}} \right\}^{1/2}.$$

PROOF. (i) This follows from theorem 3.4, (3.8) and from [11], theorem 5.8, propositions 2.2 and 2.3.

To prove (ii) we use

$$t_{l_1, l_2 - l_1}^{l_1, \mu}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta) = \left[\begin{matrix} 2l \\ l + l_1 - l_2 \end{matrix} \right]_{\mu^{-2}}^{1/2} \gamma^{l+l_1-l_2} \delta^{l-l_1+l_2}$$

by (2.5) and the q -binomial theorem (see [8], lemma 2.1). Hence, using lemma 3.3, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_l^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta) &= a_{l_1, l_2}^{l, \mu} \left[\begin{matrix} 2l \\ l + l_1 - l_2 \end{matrix} \right]_{\mu^{-2}}^{1/2} \sum_{i=0}^{l_1+l_2-l} \mu^{- (l_1-l_2+l)(l_1+l_2-l-i)} \\ &\times (-\mu)^i \left[\begin{matrix} l_1+l_2-l \\ i \end{matrix} \right]_{\mu^{-2}} \left[\begin{matrix} 2l_1 \\ l_1+l_2-l-i \end{matrix} \right]_{\mu^{-2}}^{-1/2} \left[\begin{matrix} 2l_2 \\ i \end{matrix} \right]_{\mu^{-2}}^{-1/2} \psi_{l_1-l_2+l, l_2-i}^{l_1, l_2, \mu}. \end{aligned}$$

So (3.10) implies (take $i = l_1 + l_2 - l$) that

$$(3.12) \quad a_{l_1, l_2}^{l, \mu} (-1)^{l_1+l_2-l} > 0.$$

Now, $\varphi_j^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu}$ and $\psi_{n_1, n_2}^{l_1, l_2, \mu}$ are orthonormal bases, so

$$(3.13) \quad \left\{ \begin{aligned} 1 &= |a_{l_1, l_2}^{l, \mu}|^2 \left[\begin{matrix} 2l \\ l + l_1 - l_2 \end{matrix} \right]_{\mu^{-2}}^{l_1+l_2-l} \sum_{j=0}^{l_1+l_2-l} \mu^{-2(l_1-l_2+l)j} \mu^{2(l_1+l_2-l-j)} \\ &\times \left[\begin{matrix} l_1+l_2-l \\ j \end{matrix} \right]_{\mu^{-2}}^2 \left[\begin{matrix} 2l_1 \\ j \end{matrix} \right]_{\mu^{-2}}^{-1} \left[\begin{matrix} 2l_2 \\ l_1+l_2-l-j \end{matrix} \right]_{\mu^{-2}}^{-1} \\ &= |a_{l_1, l_2}^{l, \mu}|^2 \mu^{2(l_1+l_2-l)} \frac{(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{2l} (\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1+l_2-l}}{(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1-l_2+l} (\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{2l_2}} \\ &\times {}_2\varphi_1 \left(\begin{matrix} \mu^{2(l_1+l_2-l)}, \mu^{-2(l-l_1+l_2+1)} \\ \mu^{4l_1} \end{matrix}; \mu^{-2}, \mu^{-2} \right) \\ &= |a_{l_1, l_2}^{l, \mu}|^2 \mu^{2(l_1+l_2-l)} \frac{(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1+l_2-l} (\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1+l_2+l+1}}{(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{2l_1} (\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{2l_2} (1 - \mu^{-2(l+2l)})}. \end{aligned} \right.$$

In the last step we used the Chu-Vandermonde formula (1.6). Finally, (3.12) and (3.13) imply (3.11). \square

4. THE CLEBSCH-GORDAN COEFFICIENTS FOR $S_\mu U(2)$

The Clebsch-Gordan coefficients are defined in this section. Some of their properties will be derived.

Since we have two orthonormal bases in $\mathcal{A}^{2l_1, 2l_2}$, we can consider the unitary matrix which maps one basis onto the other. Its matrix elements are called the *Clebsch-Gordan coefficients* $C_{j_1, j_2, j}^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu}$:

$$(4.1) \quad \varphi_j^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu} = \sum_{j_1=-l_1}^{l_1} \sum_{j_2=-l_2}^{l_2} C_{j_1, j_2, j}^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu} \psi_{j_1, j_2}^{l_1, l_2, \mu}.$$

PROPOSITION 4.1. If $j \neq j_1 + j_2$, then

$$C_{j_1, j_2, j}^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu} = 0.$$

PROOF. We need the notion of a *quantum subgroup* of a quantum group $G = (A, u)$. This is a quantum group $K = (B, v)$ such that there exists a surjective unital C^* -algebra homomorphism $\pi : A \rightarrow B$ such that

$$(4.2) \quad \Phi_K \circ \pi = (\pi \otimes \pi) \circ \Phi_G,$$

where Φ_K and Φ_G denote the comultiplication of K and G .

Now let t^G be a matrix representation of G , then $t^K = \pi t^G = (\pi t_{ij}^G)_{i,j}$ is a matrix representation of K because of (4.2).

Take $B = C(\mathbb{T})$, the unital commutative C^* -algebra of continuous functions on the unit circle \mathbb{T} . Pick $f \in C(\mathbb{T})$ defined by $f(z) = z$ for $z \in \mathbb{T}$ and put

$$v = \begin{pmatrix} f & 0 \\ 0 & f^* \end{pmatrix}.$$

It is easy to check that the unital C^* -homomorphism of the C^* -algebra A of $S_\mu U(2)$ into $C(\mathbb{T})$ generated by

$$\pi(\alpha) = f; \quad \pi(\gamma) = 0$$

makes $(C(\mathbb{T}), v)$ into a quantum subgroup of $S_\mu U(2)$. (See [8], [10].)

Apply $\pi \otimes \text{id}$ on the last equality in (2.4) to obtain (cf. [8], § 4)

$$(4.3) \quad \pi(t_{n,m}^{l,\mu}) = \delta_{nm} f^{-2n}.$$

Apply $(\pi \otimes \text{id}) \circ \Phi$ to (4.1) and use (3.6), (3.8) and (4.3) to obtain the following equality in $\mathcal{B} \otimes \mathcal{A}$, where \mathcal{B} denotes the $*$ -subalgebra of $C(\mathbb{T})$ generated by the elements of v ,

$$f^{-2j} \otimes \varphi_j^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu} = \sum_{j_1 = -l_1}^{l_1} \sum_{j_2 = -l_2}^{l_2} f^{-2(j_1 + j_2)} \otimes C_{j_1, j_2, j}^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu} \psi_{j_1, j_2}^{l_1, l_2, \mu}.$$

This proves the proposition. □

REMARK 4.2. If we define a quantum subgroup $K = (B, v)$ of $G = (A, u)$ with $u \in M_n(A)$ and $v \in M_m(B)$, if $m = n$ and if there exists a unital C^* -algebra homomorphism $\pi : A \rightarrow B$ with

$$\pi(u_{ij}) = v_{ij} \quad \forall i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\},$$

then we have automatically (4.2) and the surjectivity of π . Also

$$\kappa_K \circ \pi = \pi \circ \kappa_G,$$

where κ_K and κ_G denote the coinverse (see [13], def. 1.1.) of K and G , and $\pi(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{B}$.

Because of proposition 4.1 it is sufficient to consider $C_{j_1, j_2, j}^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu}$ with $|l_1 - l_2| \leq l_1 + l_2$; $|j| \leq l$; $|j_1| \leq l_1$; $|j_2| \leq l_2$; $j = j_1 + j_2$. Here $|j| \leq l$ means $j \in \{-l, \dots, l\}$. To narrow this area under consideration even more we will prove symmetry

relations for the Clebsch-Gordan coefficients. We have the following relation in $\mathcal{A}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta)$:

$$(4.4) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\phi_j^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta)}{\{(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{2l_1}(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{2l_2}\}^{1/2}} = \\ \sum_{\substack{l_1 \\ j_1 = -l_1}} \sum_{\substack{l_2 \\ j_2 = -l_2}} \frac{C_{j_1, j_2, j}^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu} \alpha^{l_1 - j_1} \gamma^{l_1 + j_1} \beta^{l_2 - j_2} \delta^{l_2 + j_2}}{\{(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1 - j_1}(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1 + j_1}(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_2 - j_2}(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_2 + j_2}\}^{1/2}}. \end{array} \right.$$

Because $\mu \in [-1, 1] \setminus \{0\}$ we see that the Clebsch-Gordan coefficients are real. Since $\phi_j^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta) = a_{l_1, l_2, j, l_2 - l_1}^{l, \mu} t_{n, m}^{l, \mu}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta)$ (see (2.8), (2.9) and (2.10)) yield symmetry relations for $\phi_j^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta)$.

$$(4.5) \quad \frac{\phi_j^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta)}{\{(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{2l_1}(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{2l_2}\}^{1/2}} = \frac{\phi_{l_2 - l_1}^{1/2(l_1 + l_2 - j), 1/2(l_1 + l_2 + j), l, \mu}(\alpha, \gamma, \beta, \delta)}{\{(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1 + l_2 - j}(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1 + l_2 + j}\}^{1/2}}$$

$$(4.6) \quad = \frac{(\phi_{-j}^{l_2, l_1, l, \mu})^{\sim}(\delta, \gamma, \beta, \alpha)}{\{(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{2l_2}(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{2l_1}\}^{1/2}}$$

$$(4.7) \quad = \frac{(\phi_{l_1 - l_2}^{1/2(l_1 + l_2 + j), 1/2(l_1 + l_2 - j), l, \mu})^{\sim}(\delta, \beta, \gamma, \alpha)}{\{(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1 + l_2 + j}(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1 + l_2 - j}\}^{1/2}}.$$

Combination of (4.4) and (4.5), of (4.4) and (4.6) and of (4.4) and (4.7) gives the following symmetry relations for the Clebsch-Gordan coefficients. (Of course we use corollary 3.2 as well.)

PROPOSITION 4.3. The Clebsch-Gordan coefficients $C_{j_1, j_2, j}^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu}$ satisfy the following relations:

$$\begin{aligned} C_{j_1, j_2, j}^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu} &= C_{1/2(-l_1 + l_2 + j_1 - j_2), 1/2(-l_1 + l_2 - j_1 + j_2), l_2 - l_1}^{1/2(l_1 + l_2 - j), 1/2(l_1 + l_2 + j), l, \mu} \\ &= C_{-j_2, -j_1, -j}^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu} \\ &= C_{1/2(l_1 - l_2 + j_1 - j_2), 1/2(l_1 - l_2 - j_1 + j_2), l_1 - l_2}^{1/2(l_1 + l_2 + j), 1/2(l_1 + l_2 - j), l, \mu}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we can restrict ourselves to one of the following four subsets in the $(l_1, l_2, l, j_1, j_2, j)$ -space:

$$(4.8) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{(i)} \quad l_1 - l_2 \leq j \leq l_2 - l_1 \leq l \leq l_1 + l_2; \quad -l_1 \leq j_1 \leq l_1; \quad j = j_1 + j_2; \\ \text{(ii)} \quad l_2 - l_1 \leq j \leq l_1 - l_2 \leq l \leq l_1 + l_2; \quad -l_2 \leq j_2 \leq l_2; \quad j = j_1 + j_2; \\ \text{(iii)} \quad j \leq l_1 - l_2 \leq -j \leq l \leq l_1 + l_2; \quad -l_1 \leq j_1; \quad -l_2 \leq j_2; \quad j = j_1 + j_2; \\ \text{(iv)} \quad -j \leq l_1 - l_2 \leq j \leq l \leq l_1 + l_2; \quad j_1 \leq l_1; \quad j_2 \leq l_2; \quad j = j_1 + j_2. \end{array} \right.$$

5. EXPRESSION OF THE CLEBSCH-GORDAN COEFFICIENTS IN TERMS OF q -HAHN POLYNOMIALS

We derive an explicit expression for the Clebsch-Gordan coefficients in terms of q -Hahn polynomials. This will allow us to prove the orthogonality relations for the q -Hahn polynomials.

First of all we need a generating function for the Clebsch-Gordan coefficients. We restrict ourselves to case (i) of (4.8). Then it follows from (4.4), (3.11), theorem 2.2 and (1.7) that

$$(5.1) \quad \left\{ \begin{aligned} & C_{j_1, j_2, j}^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu} \alpha^{l_1 - j_1} \gamma^{l_1 + j_1} \beta^{l_2 - j_2} \delta^{l_2 + j_2} \\ & \sum_{j_1 = -l_1}^{l_1} \frac{(\mu^{-1}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1 - j_1} (\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1 + j_1} (\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_2 - j_2} (\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_2 + j_2}}{\{(\mu^{-1}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1 - j_1} (\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1 + j_1} (\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_2 - j_2} (\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_2 + j_2}\}^{1/2}} \\ & = \frac{(-\mu)^{-l_1 - l_2 + l} \mu^{-(l + l_1 - l_2)(l_2 - l_1 - j)} (1 - \mu^{-2(1 + 2l)})^{1/2}}{(\mu^2; \mu^2)_{l_2 - l_1 - j} (\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1 + l_2 - l} (\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1 + l_2 + l + 1}}^{1/2} \\ & \times \left\{ \frac{(\mu^2; \mu^2)_{l - j} (\mu^2; \mu^2)_{l + l_2 - l_1}}{(\mu^2; \mu^2)_{l + l_1 - l_2} (\mu^2; \mu^2)_{l + j}} \right\}^{1/2} \delta^{l_2 - l_1 + j} \beta^{l_2 - l_1 - j} \\ & \times \sum_{k=0}^{l + l_1 - l_2} \frac{(\mu^{-2(l + l_1 - l_2)}; \mu^2)_k (\mu^{2(l - l_1 + l_2 + 1)}; \mu^2)_k}{(\mu^{2(l_2 - l_1 - j + 1)}; \mu^2)_k (\mu^2; \mu^2)_k} (-\mu\beta\gamma)^k. \end{aligned} \right.$$

In the right hand side we use

$$\begin{aligned} & \delta^{l_2 - l_1 + j} \beta^{l_2 - l_1 - j} (\beta\gamma)^k = \mu^{-(l_2 - l_1 - j + 2k)(l_2 - l_1 + j)} \\ & \times \sum_{i=0}^{2l_1 - k} (-\mu)^i \mu^{-(l_2 - l_1 - j + 2k)(2l_1 - k - i)} \begin{bmatrix} 2l_1 - k \\ i \end{bmatrix}_{\mu^{-2}} \\ & \times \alpha^{2l_1 - k - i} \gamma^{k + i} \beta^{l_2 - l_1 - j + k + i} \delta^{l_2 + l_1 + j - k - i} \end{aligned}$$

by lemma 3.3 and the commutation relations (2.7). Put $j_1 = k + i - l_1$ and change summation

$$\sum_{k=0}^{l + l_1 - l_2} \sum_{i=0}^{2l_1 - k} = \sum_{j_1 = -l_1}^{l_1} \sum_{k=0}^{(l + l_1 - l_2) \wedge (l_1 + j_1)}.$$

After some manipulation with q -shifted factorials we obtain

$$(5.2) \quad \left\{ \begin{aligned} & C_{j_1, j_2, j}^{l_1, l_2, l, \mu} = (-\mu)^{-l_2 + l + j_1} \frac{(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{2l_1}}{(\mu^2; \mu^2)_{-l_1 + l_2 - j}} \\ & \times \left\{ \frac{(1 - \mu^{-2(1 + 2l)}) (\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_2 - j_2} (\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_2 + j_2}}{(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1 + l_2 - l} (\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1 + l_2 + l + 1} (\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1 - j_1} (\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_{l_1 + j_1}} \right\}^{1/2} \\ & \times \left\{ \frac{(\mu^2; \mu^2)_{l - l_1 + l_2} (\mu^2; \mu^2)_{l - j}}{(\mu^2; \mu^2)_{l + l_1 - l_2} (\mu^2; \mu^2)_{l + j}} \right\}^{1/2} \mu^{-(l_2 - l_1 - j)(l + l_1 + j - j_1)} \\ & \times {}_3\phi_2 \left(\begin{matrix} \mu^{-2(l_1 - l_2 + l)}, \mu^{2(l - l_1 + l_2 + 1)}, \mu^{-2(l_1 + j_1)} \\ \mu^{2(l_2 - l_1 - j + 1)}, \mu^{-4l_1} \end{matrix}; \mu^2, \mu^{-2(l_2 + j_2)} \right). \end{aligned} \right.$$

Transform (5.2) using

$$(\mu^{-2}; \mu^{-2})_k = (-1)^k \mu^{-k(k+1)} (\mu^2; \mu^2)_k.$$

Next we introduce

$$x = l_1 - j; \quad n = l_1 - l_2 + l; \quad N = 2l_1,$$

$$a = -l_1 + l_2 + j; \quad b = -l_1 + l_2 - j.$$

Then (4.8) (i) is equivalent to the condition that x, n, N, a and b are integers and

$$0 \leq x \leq N; \quad 0 \leq n \leq N; \quad a \geq 0; \quad b \geq 0.$$

If we also use a transformation rule for the ${}_3\phi_2$ (see (1.13) with $a = \mu^{2(n+a+b+1)}$, $b = \mu^{-2(N-x)}$, $d = \mu^{-2N}$ and $e = \mu^{2(b+1)}$), then we can recognize a q -Hahn polynomial \mathcal{Q}_n . The result is

$$(5.3) \quad \left\{ \begin{aligned} & C_{1/2N-x, 1/2(a-b-N)+x, 1/2(a-b)}^{1/2N, 1/2N+a+b, n+1/2(a+b), \mu} = (-1)^{N+n-x} \frac{(\mu^2; \mu^2)_N}{\mu^2; \mu^2}_b \\ & \times \left\{ \frac{(\mu^2; \mu^2)_{N-x+b} (\mu^2; \mu^2)_{x+a} (\mu^2; \mu^2)_{n+b} (\mu^2; \mu^2)_{n+a+b} (1 - \mu^{2(1+2n+a+b)})}{(\mu^2; \mu^2)_{N-n} (\mu^2; \mu^2)_{N+n+a+b+1} (\mu^2; \mu^2)_{N-x} (\mu^2; \mu^2)_x (\mu^2; \mu^2)_n (\mu^2; \mu^2)_{n+a}} \right\}^{1/2} \\ & \times \mu^{(N-x)(a+1)+n(a+n)} \frac{(\mu^{-2(n+a)}; \mu^2)_n}{(\mu^{2(b+1)}; \mu^2)_n} \mathcal{Q}_n(\mu^{-2x}; \mu^{2a}, \mu^{2b}; N | \mu^2). \end{aligned} \right.$$

Since the Clebsch-Gordan coefficients are matrix elements of a unitary matrix we have

$$(5.4) \quad \sum_{x=0}^N C_{1/2N-x, 1/2(a-b-N)+x, 1/2(a-b)}^{1/2N, 1/2N+a+b, n+1/2(a+b), \mu} C_{1/2N-x, 1/2(a-b-N)+x, 1/2(a-b)}^{1/2N, 1/2N+a+b, m+1/2(a+b), \mu} = \delta_{mn}.$$

Combination of (5.3) and (5.4) and $q = \mu^2$ yields

$$(5.5) \quad \sum_{x=0}^N \frac{(q; q)_{N-x+b} (q; q)_{x+a}}{(q; q)_x (q; q)_{N-x}} q^{-x(a+1)} \mathcal{Q}_n(q^{-x}) \mathcal{Q}_m(q^{-x}) = c_n \delta_{mn},$$

where $\mathcal{Q}_n(q^{-x}) = \mathcal{Q}_n(q^{-x}; q^a, q^b; N | q)$ and

$$(5.6) \quad \left\{ \begin{aligned} & c_n = \frac{(q; q)_{N-n} (q; q)_{N+n+a+b+1} (q; q)_n (q; q)_{n+a}}{(q; q)_{n+b} (q; q)_{n+a+b} (1 - q^{1+2n+a+b})} q^{-N(a+1)-n(a+n)} \\ & \times \frac{(q; q)_b^2 (q^{b+1}; q)_n^2}{(q; q)_N^2 (q^{-(n+a)}; q)_n^2}. \end{aligned} \right.$$

When we divide both sides of (5.5) by $(q; q)_a (q; q)_b$ we obtain the orthogonality relations (1.9) for the q -Hahn polynomials with a, b replaced by q^a, q^b . Since $q = \mu^2 \in (0, 1)$ we can use analytic continuation to obtain (1.9) for arbitrary a, b .

Of course we also have orthogonality relations dual to (5.4):

$$(5.7) \quad \sum_{n=0}^N C_{1/2N-x, 1/2(a-b-N)+x, 1/2(a-b)}^{1/2N, 1/2N+a+b, n+1/2(a+b), \mu} C_{1/2N-y, 1/2(a-b-N)+y, 1/2(a-b)}^{1/2N, 1/2N+a+b, n+1/2(a+b), \mu} = \delta_{xy}.$$

Substitution of (5.3) and (1.12) in (5.7) yields the orthogonality relations (1.11) for the dual q -Hahn polynomials with a, b replaced by q^a, q^b and n and x interchanged.

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