

REMARK ON A SUMMATION FORMULA FOR THE SERIES

$${}_4F_3(1)$$

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ABSTRACT. We aim to prove a known summation formula for the series ${}_4F_3(1)$ by mainly using a similar method as in [2], which is different from that in [3]. The method of proof here as well as that in [2] is potentially useful in getting some other summation formulas for ${}_pF_q$.

1. Introduction

Throughout this paper, let ${}_pF_q$ denote the generalized hypergeometric series (see, for details, e.g., [6], [7], [8, Section 1.5]). We begin by recalling the following two summation formulas for the series ${}_3F_2$ and ${}_4F_3$ (see, e.g., [7, p. 245])

$${}_3F_2 \left[\begin{matrix} a, 1 + \frac{1}{2}a, b; \\ \frac{1}{2}a, 1 + a - b; \end{matrix} -1 \right] = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}a + \frac{1}{2}) \Gamma(1 + a - b)}{\Gamma(1 + a) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}a - b)} \tag{1.1}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} &{}_4F_3 \left[\begin{matrix} a, 1 + \frac{1}{2}a, b, c; \\ \frac{1}{2}a, 1 + a - b, 1 + a - c; \end{matrix} 1 \right] \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}a + \frac{1}{2}) \Gamma(1 + a - b) \Gamma(1 + a - c) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}a - b - c)}{\Gamma(1 + a) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}a - b + \frac{1}{2}) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}a - c + \frac{1}{2}) \Gamma(1 + a - b - c)}. \end{aligned} \tag{1.2}$$

For our present investigation, we also recall the following two summation formulas due to Kim et al. [3]:

$$\begin{aligned} &{}_3F_2 \left[\begin{matrix} a, b, 1 + d; \\ 1 + a - b, d; \end{matrix} -1 \right] \\ &= \left(1 - \frac{a}{2d}\right) \frac{\Gamma(1 + \frac{1}{2}a) \Gamma(1 + a - b)}{\Gamma(1 + a) \Gamma(1 + \frac{1}{2}a - b)} + \frac{a}{2d} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}a + \frac{1}{2}) \Gamma(1 + a - b)}{\Gamma(1 + a) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}a - b + \frac{1}{2})} \end{aligned} \tag{1.3}$$

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and

$$\begin{aligned}
 & {}_4F_3 \left[\begin{matrix} a, b, c, d+1; \\ 1+a-b, 1+a-c, d; \end{matrix} 1 \right] \\
 &= \left(1 - \frac{a}{2d} \right) \frac{\Gamma(1 + \frac{1}{2}a) \Gamma(1+a-b) \Gamma(1+a-c) \Gamma(1 + \frac{1}{2}a - b - c)}{\Gamma(1+a) \Gamma(1+a-b-c) \Gamma(1 + \frac{1}{2}a - b) \Gamma(1 + \frac{1}{2}a - c)} \\
 &+ \frac{a}{2d} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}a) \Gamma(1+a-b) \Gamma(1+a-c) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}a - b - c)}{\Gamma(1+a) \Gamma(1+a-b-c) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}a - b) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}a - c)}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{1.4}$$

Remark 1. The identities (1.1) and (1.2) are obvious special cases of (1.3) and (1.4), respectively. Taking the limit in (1.4) as $c \rightarrow \infty$ yields (1.3).

Setting $b = -n$ ($n \in \mathbb{N}_0$) in (1.3) and (1.4), respectively, we obtain the following interesting identities:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & {}_3F_2 \left[\begin{matrix} -n, b, 1+d; \\ 1+a+n, d; \end{matrix} -1 \right] \\
 &= \left(1 - \frac{a}{2d} \right) \frac{(1+a)_n}{(1 + \frac{1}{2}a)_n} + \frac{a}{2d} \cdot \frac{(1+a)_n}{(\frac{1}{2}a + \frac{1}{2})_n}
 \end{aligned} \tag{1.5}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 & {}_4F_3 \left[\begin{matrix} -n, a, b, d+1; \\ 1+a+n, 1+a-b, d; \end{matrix} 1 \right] \\
 &= \left(1 - \frac{a}{2d} \right) \frac{(1+a)_n (1 + \frac{1}{2}a - c)_n}{(1 + \frac{1}{2}a)_n (1+a-c)_n} \\
 &+ \frac{a}{2d} \cdot \frac{(1+a)_n (\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}a - c)_n}{(\frac{1}{2}a + \frac{1}{2})_n (1+a-c)_n}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{1.6}$$

Here and in the following, let \mathbb{C} , \mathbb{N} and \mathbb{Z}_0^- be the sets of complex numbers, positive integers and non-positive integers, respectively, and let $\mathbb{N}_0 := \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$.

Kim et al. [3] established the result (1.3) with the help of classical Kummer’s summation theorem and its contiguous results in [5] and established the result (1.4) with the help of classical Dixon’s summation theorem and its contiguous result in [4]. Very recently, Choi et al. [2] have proved an extended Watson’s summation theorem for the series ${}_4F_3(1)$ in [3] by mainly using a known summation formula for ${}_3F_2(1/2)$. Here, similarly as in [2], we aim to prove (1.4) by mainly using (1.3).

2. Derivation of (1.4)

Let \mathcal{L} be the left side of (1.4). Expressing ${}_4F_3$ as the series, we obtain

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k (a)_k (b)_k (1+d)_k}{(1+a-b)_k (d)_k k!} \left\{ \frac{(-1)^k (c)_k}{(1+a-c)_k} \right\}, \tag{2.1}$$

where $(\lambda)_n$ is the Pochhammer symbol defined (for $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$) by (see [8, p. 2 and pp. 4-6]):

$$\begin{aligned} (\lambda)_n &:= \begin{cases} 1 & (n = 0) \\ \lambda(\lambda + 1) \dots (\lambda + n - 1) & (n \in \mathbb{N}) \end{cases} \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(\lambda + n)}{\Gamma(\lambda)} \quad (\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{Z}_0^-), \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

where Γ is the familiar Gamma function.

Using the following identity (cf., [6, p. 69, Exercise 5])

$${}_2F_1 \left[\begin{matrix} -k, a + k; \\ 1 + a - c; \end{matrix} 1 \right] = \frac{(-1)^k (c)_k}{(1 + a - c)_k} \quad (k \in \mathbb{N}_0)$$

in (2.1), we have

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k (a)_k (b)_k (1 + d)_k}{(1 + a - b)_k (d)_k k!} {}_2F_1 \left[\begin{matrix} -k, a + k; \\ 1 + a - c; \end{matrix} 1 \right]. \quad (2.3)$$

Expressing ${}_2F_1$ in (2.3) as the series, we get

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^k \frac{(-1)^k (a)_k (b)_k (1 + d)_k (-k)_m (a + k)_m}{(1 + a - b)_k (d)_k (1 + a - c)_m k! m!},$$

which, upon using the identities

$$(\alpha)_k (\alpha + k)_m = (\alpha)_{k+m} \quad (\alpha \in \mathbb{C}; k, m \in \mathbb{N}_0) \quad (2.4)$$

and

$$(-k)_m = \frac{(-1)^m k!}{(k - m)!},$$

yields

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^k \frac{(-1)^{k+m} (a)_{k+m} (b)_k (1 + d)_k}{(1 + a - b)_k (1 + a - c)_m (d)_k m! (k - m)!}. \quad (2.5)$$

Applying the following formal manipulation of double series (see, e.g., [1], [6, p. 57, Lemma 10(2)])

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^k A(m, k) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} A(m, k + m),$$

we obtain

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k (a)_{k+2m} (b)_{k+m} (1 + d)_{k+m}}{(1 + a - b)_{k+m} (d)_{k+m} (1 + a - c)_m m! k!}. \quad (2.6)$$

Using (2.4) in (2.6), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} &= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_{2m} (b)_m (1+d)_m}{(1+a-b)_m (1+a-c)_m (d)_m m!} \\ &\quad \times \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k (a+2m)_k (b+m)_k (1+d+m)_k}{(1+a-b+m)_k (d+m)_k k!}, \end{aligned}$$

which, upon expressing the inner series as ${}_3F_2$, gives

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} &= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_{2m} (b)_m (1+d)_m}{(1+a-b)_m (1+a-c)_m (d)_m m!} \\ &\quad \times {}_3F_2 \left[\begin{matrix} a+2m, b+m, 1+d+m; \\ 1+a-b+m, d+m; \end{matrix} -1 \right]. \end{aligned} \tag{2.7}$$

Finally, using (1.3) to evaluate the ${}_3F_2$ in (2.7), after some simplification, we find that the resulting right side of (2.7) leads to the right side of (1.4).

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