

## HERMITE'S FORMULA FOR $q$ -GAMMA FUNCTION

MANSOUR MAHMOUD AND RAVI P. AGARWAL

(Communicated by N. Elezović)

*Abstract.* In this paper, we presented the Raabe's integral and Hermite's formula for  $q$ -gamma function  $\Gamma_q(x)$ ,  $0 < q < 1$ . We deduced new proofs of the formulas  $\frac{\Gamma_q'(x)}{\Gamma_q(x)}$  and  $q$ -Gauss's multiplication using the Hermite's formula of  $\Gamma_q(x)$  and H. Jack's technique [11]. Also, we deduced new double inequality of  $\Gamma_q(x)$ .

### 1. Introduction

The  $q$ -gamma function was introduced by Thomae [20] and later by Jackson [12] (see also [18]) by the infinite product

$$\Gamma_q(x) = \frac{(q; q)_\infty}{(q^x; q)_\infty} (1-q)^{1-x}; \quad x \neq 0, -1, -2, \dots, \quad (1)$$

where  $q$  is a fixed real number  $0 < q < 1$ . Here we use the following notation [8]:

$$(a; q)_0 = 1, \\ (a; q)_k = \prod_{j=0}^{k-1} (1 - aq^j); \quad k \in \mathbb{N}.$$

This function is a  $q$ -analogue of the gamma function since we have

$$\lim_{q \rightarrow 1} \Gamma_q(x) = \Gamma(x).$$

As same as the gamma function is fundamental in the theory of special functions, the  $q$ -gamma function is significant in the study of  $q$ -analysis, specially in the theory of the  $q$ -hypergeometric series [2], [8], [9], [13]. There have been a lot of literature about the  $q$ -gamma function, in particular its inequalities, functional equations, monotonicity and complete monotonicity properties. For more information, please refer to [1], [6], [7], [10], [14], [19] and the references therein.

Mahmoud [14] use the technique of E. Artin [3] in determining the classical gamma function by a combination of some functional equations to present the following Theorem for  $\Gamma_q(x)$ :

*Mathematics subject classification* (2010): 33D05, 26D07, 65Q20.

*Keywords and phrases:*  $q$ -gamma function, functional equations, Raabe's integral, Hermite's formula, inequality,  $q$ -Gauss's multiplication.

**THEOREM 1.** *The  $q$ -gamma function ( $0 < q < 1$ ) is the only  $C^2$ -function  $f_q(x)$  which is positive for  $x > 0$  and which satisfies the equations*

$$f_q(x + 1) = [x]_q f_q(x), \tag{2}$$

$$f_{q^p}(x) \Gamma_q(x) = f_q(x) \Gamma_{q^p}(x), \quad p \in \mathbb{N} \tag{3}$$

and

$$f_{q^2}(x/2) f_{q^2}((x + 1)/2) = ([2]_q)^{1-x} \frac{(q^2; q^2)_\infty^2}{(q; q)_\infty} (1 - q^2)^{1/2} f_q(x), \tag{4}$$

where the  $q$ -number  $[x]_q = \frac{1 - q^x}{1 - q}$ .

The Raabe’s integral for the ordinary gamma function is given by

$$\int_x^{x+1} \log \Gamma(t) dt = x \log x - x + \frac{1}{2} \log 2\pi, \quad \text{for } x > 0 \tag{5}$$

and the Hermite’s formula is given by

$$\int_0^1 (t - 1/2) \frac{d}{dt} \log \Gamma(x + t) dt = \log \Gamma(x) + (1/2 - x) \log x + x - \frac{1}{2} \log 2\pi, \quad \text{for } x > 0. \tag{6}$$

In 2008, an interesting extension of Raabe’s integral to the  $p$ -adic Gamma function has appeared in [5]. Also, in 2013, Mező [15] generalized the Raabe-formula to the  $q$ -log gamma function by giving an integral formula for  $\Gamma_q$  when  $q > 1$ .

In this paper, we will present the Raabe’s integral and the Hermite’s formula for the  $q$ -gamma function  $\Gamma_q(x)$ ,  $0 < q < 1$ . Using the Hermite’s formula of  $\Gamma_q(x)$  and the facts of the Theorem 1, we will present new proofs of a  $q$ -analogy of the relation

$$\frac{\Gamma'(x)}{\Gamma(x)} = -\frac{1}{x} - \gamma - \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{x+r} - \frac{1}{r} \right) \tag{7}$$

and a  $q$ -analogy of the Gauss’s multiplication formula

$$\Gamma(x/p) \Gamma((x + 1)/p) \dots \Gamma((x + p - 1)/p) = \frac{(2\pi)^{\frac{p-1}{2}}}{p^{x-1/2}} \Gamma(x), \quad p \in \mathbb{N}. \tag{8}$$

In the following sequel we will consider that the function  $\Gamma_q(x)$  satisfies only the conditions of Theorem 1.

### 2. Raabe’s integral and Hermite’s formula for $\Gamma_q(x)$

For  $x > 0$ , consider the function

$$G_q(x) = \int_x^{x+1} \log \Gamma_q(t) dt = \int_0^1 \log \Gamma_q(x + t) dt, \tag{9}$$

then

$$G_q(x) = \frac{-1}{\log q} Li_2(q^x) - x \log(1 - q) + c_q, \quad (10)$$

where the polylogarithm function  $Li_n(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{z^k}{k^n}$ . As  $x \rightarrow 0^+$ , we get

$$c_q = \int_0^1 \log \Gamma_q(t) dt + \frac{\pi^2}{6 \log q}. \quad (11)$$

By integrating the relation (4) from 0 to 1, we obtain

$$2 \left[ c_{q^2} - \log(q^2, q^2)_{\infty} - \frac{1}{2} \log(1 - q^2) \right] = c_q - \log(q, q)_{\infty} - \frac{1}{2} \log(1 - q). \quad (12)$$

Now if  $f(q) = c_q - \log(q, q)_{\infty} - \frac{1}{2} \log(1 - q)$ , we get

$$2^n f(q^{2^n}) = f(q), \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

If we put  $q^{2^n} = w$ , we obtain

$$f(q) \ln q = f(w) \ln w$$

and hence

$$f(q) = \frac{\alpha}{\ln q}, \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Then

$$c_q = \frac{\alpha}{\ln q} + \log \left( (q, q)_{\infty} \sqrt{1 - q} \right)$$

and

$$G_q(0) = \frac{\alpha}{\ln q} + \delta_q, \quad (13)$$

where

$$\delta_q = \log \left( e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{6 \log q}} (q, q)_{\infty} \sqrt{1 - q} \right).$$

Using the relation [17]

$$\delta_q = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\delta_{n,q}),$$

where

$$\delta_{n,q} = \log \left( \frac{[n]_q!}{[n]_q^n \sqrt{[n]_q}} \right) - \frac{Li_2(1 - q^n)}{\log q}$$

and  $[n]_q! = [1]_q! [2]_q! \dots [n]_q!$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then

$$\lim_{q \rightarrow 1} \delta_{n,q} = \ln \left( \frac{n! e^n}{n^n \sqrt{n}} \right)$$

and using Stirling's formula

$$n! \sim \sqrt{2n\pi} (n/e)^n,$$

we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{q \rightarrow 1} \delta_{n,q} = \ln \sqrt{2\pi}.$$

Hence

$$\lim_{q \rightarrow 1} \delta_q = \ln \sqrt{2\pi}. \tag{14}$$

and using the relation (5), we get

$$\lim_{q \rightarrow 1} G_q(0) = \ln \sqrt{2\pi}. \tag{15}$$

Now using the relation (13) as  $q \rightarrow 1$  with the relations (14) and (15), we have  $\alpha = 0$  and

$$c_q = \log \left[ (q, q)_\infty \sqrt{1-q} \right]. \tag{16}$$

Hence we obtain the following result:

**THEOREM 2.** (Raabe’s integral for  $\Gamma_q(x)$ ) For  $x > 0$  and  $0 < q < 1$ ,

$$G_q(x) = \int_x^{x+1} \log \Gamma_q(t) dt = \log \left[ (q, q)_\infty (1-q)^{1/2-x} \right] - \frac{1}{\log q} Li_2(q^x). \tag{17}$$

Now for  $x > 0$ , consider the function

$$R_q(x) = \int_0^1 (t - 1/2) \frac{d}{dt} \log \Gamma_q(x+t) dt. \tag{18}$$

On integrating by parts, then

$$R_q(x) = \frac{1}{2} \log [x]_q + \log \Gamma_q(x) - G_q(x). \tag{19}$$

Hence we obtain the following result:

**THEOREM 3.** (Hermite’s formula for  $\Gamma_q(x)$ ) For  $x > 0$  and  $0 < q < 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} R_q(x) &= \int_0^1 (t - 1/2) \frac{d}{dt} \log \Gamma_q(x+t) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \log [x]_q + \log \Gamma_q(x) - \log \left[ (q, q)_\infty (1-q)^{1/2-x} \right] + \frac{1}{\log q} Li_2(q^x). \end{aligned} \tag{20}$$

**THEOREM 4.** For  $x > 0$  and  $0 < q < 1$ ,

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \log \Gamma_q(x) > 0. \tag{21}$$

*Proof.* Using equation (2), we get

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \log \Gamma_q(x) > \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \log \Gamma_q(x+1)$$

and hence

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \log \Gamma_q(x) > \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \log \Gamma_q(x+n); \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Then

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \log \Gamma_q(x) > h(q), \quad (22)$$

where

$$h(q) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \log \Gamma_q(t).$$

Using equation (4), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \log \Gamma_q(t) &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \log \Gamma_{q^2}(t/2) + \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \log \Gamma_{q^2}((t+1)/2) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \log \Gamma_{q^2}(t) = \dots = \frac{1}{2^n} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \log \Gamma_{q^{2^n}}(t). \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$h(q) = \frac{1}{2^n} h(q^{2^n}).$$

If we put  $q^{2^n} = w$ , we obtain

$$\frac{h(q)}{\ln q} = \frac{h(w)}{\ln w}$$

and hence

$$h(q) = \beta \ln q, \quad \beta \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Now

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} G_q(x) = \frac{-q^x \ln q}{1 - q^x} = \int_0^1 \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \ln \Gamma_q(x+t) dt$$

and using that the  $q$ -gamma function ( $0 < q < 1$ ) is positive and  $C^2$ -function for  $x > 0$ , we have

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{-q^x \ln q}{1 - q^x} = \int_0^1 \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \ln \Gamma_q(x+t) dt.$$

Then

$$h(q) = \int_0^1 h(q) dt = \int_0^1 \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \ln \Gamma_q(x+t) dt = 0$$

and using the inequality (22), we obtain the inequality (21).  $\square$

Now we will define a  $(q, n)$ -analog of Euler's constant by:

$$\gamma_{q,n} = -\log[n]_q - \frac{\log q}{1-q} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{q^i}{[i]_q}; \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots, \quad (23)$$

which give us the  $q$ -analog of Euler’s constant

$$\gamma_q = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \gamma_{q,n} = \log(1 - q) - \frac{\log q}{1 - q} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^i}{[i]_q}, \tag{24}$$

given by Bradley [4], where  $\gamma = \lim_{q \rightarrow 1} \gamma_q$  is the ordinary Euler’s constant.

**THEOREM 5.** For  $x > 0$  and  $0 < q < 1$ ,

$$\frac{\Gamma'_q(x)}{\Gamma_q(x)} = -\gamma_q + \frac{q^x \log q}{1 - q^x} + \log q \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{q^{i+x}}{1 - q^{i+x}} - \frac{q^i}{1 - q^i} \right]. \tag{25}$$

*Proof.* Using the Hermite’s formula (20), we get

$$\frac{\Gamma'_q(x)}{\Gamma_q(x)} = \frac{q^x \log q}{2(1 - q^x)} + \log[x]_q + \int_0^1 (t - 1/2) \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \log \Gamma_q(x + t) dt$$

and replace  $x$  by  $x + n + 1$  to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\Gamma'_q(x + n + 1)}{\Gamma_q(x + n + 1)} &= \frac{q^{x+n+1} \log q}{2(1 - q^{x+n+1})} + \log[x + n + 1]_q \\ &\quad + \int_0^1 (t - 1/2) \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \log \Gamma_q(x + n + t + 1) dt \end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

Now using the relation (2), we have

$$\Gamma_q(x + n + 1) = [x + n]_q [x + n - 1]_q \dots [x + 1]_q [x]_q \Gamma_q(x)$$

then

$$\frac{\Gamma'_q(x)}{\Gamma_q(x)} = \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{q^{x+i} \log q}{1 - q^{x+i}} + \frac{\Gamma'_q(x + n + 1)}{\Gamma_q(x + n + 1)}.$$

Using the relation (23), we get

$$\frac{\Gamma'_q(x)}{\Gamma_q(x)} = -\gamma_{q,n} - \log[n]_q + \frac{q^x \log q}{1 - q^x} + \log q \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{q^{i+x}}{1 - q^{i+x}} - \frac{q^i}{1 - q^i} \right] + \frac{\Gamma'_q(x + n + 1)}{\Gamma_q(x + n + 1)}. \tag{27}$$

The relations (26) and (27) give us the following formula

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\Gamma'_q(x)}{\Gamma_q(x)} &= -\gamma_{q,n} - \log[n]_q + \frac{q^x \log q}{1 - q^x} + \log q \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{q^{i+x}}{1 - q^{i+x}} - \frac{q^i}{1 - q^i} \right] + \frac{q^{x+n+1} \log q}{2(1 - q^{x+n+1})} \\ &\quad + \log[x + n + 1]_q + \int_0^1 (t - 1/2) \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \log \Gamma_q(x + n + t + 1) dt. \end{aligned} \tag{28}$$

As  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\Gamma'_q(x)}{\Gamma_q(x)} &= -\gamma_q + \frac{q^x \log q}{1 - q^x} + \log q \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{q^{i+x}}{1 - q^{i+x}} - \frac{q^i}{1 - q^i} \right] \\ &\quad + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 (t - 1/2) \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \log \Gamma_q(x + n + t + 1) dt. \end{aligned} \tag{29}$$

But for  $0 \leq t \leq 1$  and using  $\frac{d^2}{dt^2} \log \Gamma_q(x+n+t+1) \geq 0$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_0^1 (t-1/2) \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \log \Gamma_q(x+n+t+1) dt \right| &\leq \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \log \Gamma_q(x+n+t+1) dt \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dx} \int_0^1 \frac{d}{dt} \log \Gamma_q(x+n+t+1) dt \\ &\leq \frac{q^{x+n+1} \log q}{2(q-1)} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\frac{\Gamma'_q(x)}{\Gamma_q(x)} = -\gamma_q + \frac{q^x \log q}{1-q^x} + \log q \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{q^{i+x}}{1-q^{i+x}} - \frac{q^i}{1-q^i} \right]. \quad \square$$

COROLLARY 1. For  $0 < q < 1$ ,

$$\Gamma'_q(1) = -\gamma_q. \quad (30)$$

COROLLARY 2. For  $x > 0$  and  $0 < q < 1$ ,

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \log \Gamma_q(x) = (\log q)^2 \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{x+i}}{(1-q^{x+i})^2}. \quad (31)$$

When  $q \rightarrow 1$ , we obtain the following relations for the ordinary gamma function:

$$\frac{\Gamma'(x)}{\Gamma(x)} = -\gamma - \frac{1}{x} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{1}{i} - \frac{1}{x+i} \right],$$

$$\Gamma'(1) = -\gamma$$

and

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \log \Gamma(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x+i)^2}.$$

THEOREM 6. For  $x > 0$  and  $0 < q < 1$ ,

$$\frac{q^x(1+q^x)(\log q)^3}{384(1-q^x)^3} < R_q(x) + \frac{q^x \log q}{12[x]_q} < 0 \quad (32)$$

*Proof.* Integrating parts of (18), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_q(x) &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 (t - t^2) \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \log \Gamma_q(x+t) dt \\
 &= \frac{1}{12} \int_0^1 \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \log \Gamma_q(x+t) dt + \int_0^1 \left( \frac{-1}{12} + \frac{t}{2} - \frac{t^2}{2} \right) \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \log \Gamma_q(x+t) dt \\
 &= \frac{1}{12} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \int_0^1 \log \Gamma_q(x+t) dt + \int_0^1 \left( \frac{t^3}{6} - \frac{t^2}{4} + \frac{t}{12} \right) \frac{d^3}{dt^3} \log \Gamma_q(x+t) dt \\
 &= \frac{1}{12} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} G_q(x) - \frac{1}{24} \int_0^1 t^2(1-t)^2 \frac{d^4}{dt^4} \log \Gamma_q(x+t) dt \\
 &= \frac{-q^x \log q}{12[x]_q} - \frac{1}{24} \int_0^1 t^2(1-t)^2 \frac{d^4}{dt^4} \log \Gamma_q(x+t) dt.
 \end{aligned}$$

But  $R_q(x) > 0$  and  $\frac{d^4}{dt^4} \log \Gamma_q(x+t) = (\log q)^4 \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{x+t+i}[1+4q^{x+t+i}+q^{2(x+t+i)}]}{(1-q^{x+i})^4}$ , then

$$R_q(x) < \frac{-q^x \log q}{12[x]_q}. \tag{33}$$

Also, for  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ ,  $t^2(1-t)^2 \leq (\frac{1}{2})^2(1-\frac{1}{2})^2 = \frac{1}{16}$  and

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^1 t^2(1-t)^2 \frac{d^4}{dt^4} \log \Gamma(x+t) dt &< \frac{1}{16} \int_0^1 \frac{d^4}{dt^4} \log \Gamma(x+t) dt \\
 &< \frac{1}{16} \frac{d^4}{dx^4} G_q(x) \\
 &< \frac{1}{16} \frac{q^x(1+q^x)(\log q)^3}{(q^x-1)^3}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$R_q(x) > \frac{q^x(1+q^x)(\log q)^3}{384(1-q^x)^3} - \frac{q^x \log q}{12[x]_q}. \quad \square \tag{34}$$

**COROLLARY 3.** For  $x > 0$  and  $0 < q < 1$ ,

$$\frac{(q; q)_{\infty}(1-q)^{1-x}}{\sqrt{1-q^x}} e^{\frac{q^x(1+q^x)(\log q)^3}{384(1-q^x)^3} - \frac{q^x \log q}{12[x]_q} - \frac{Li_2(q^x)}{\log q}} < \Gamma_q(x) < \frac{(q; q)_{\infty}(1-q)^{1-x}}{\sqrt{1-q^x}} e^{-\frac{q^x \log q}{12[x]_q} - \frac{Li_2(q^x)}{\log q}}. \tag{35}$$

**COROLLARY 4.** For  $0 < q < 1$ ,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} R_q(x) = 0. \tag{36}$$



### 3. $q$ -Gauss's multiplication formula

For  $x > 0$  and integers  $n > 0$ , consider the function

$$M_q(x) = \Gamma_{q^n} \left( \frac{x}{n} \right) \Gamma_{q^n} \left( \frac{x+1}{n} \right) \dots \Gamma_{q^n} \left( \frac{x+n-1}{n} \right). \quad (37)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \log M_q(x) &= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \log \Gamma_{q^n} \left( \frac{x+i}{n} \right) \\ &= (\log q)^2 \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{nk+x+i}}{1 - q^{nk+x+i}} \\ &= (\log q)^2 \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \frac{(1 - q^{n+nr}) q^{(r+1)(x+nk)}}{1 - q^{r+1}} \\ &= (\log q)^2 \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{x(r+1)}}{1 - q^{r+1}} \\ &= (\log q)^2 \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} q^{(r+1)(x+p)} \\ &= (\log q)^2 \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{x+p}}{1 - q^{x+p}} \end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \log M_q(x) = \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \log \Gamma_q(x). \quad (38)$$

By solving the equation (38), we obtain

$$M_q(x) = b e^{cx} \Gamma_q(x), \quad (39)$$

where  $b$  and  $c$  depend on  $n$ . Using the relation (2) for  $\Gamma_q(x)$ , we get

$$M_q(x+1) = \left[ \frac{x}{n} \right]_{q^n} M_q(x) = \left[ \frac{x}{n} \right]_q M_q(x).$$

Hence

$$M_q(x) = b e^{c(x+1)} [n]_q \Gamma_q(x) \quad (40)$$

and the comparison between (39) and (40) give us that

$$c = -\log[n]_q.$$

Now

$$M_q(x) = b [n]_q^{-x} \Gamma_q(x)$$

then

$$\log b = x \log [n]_q + \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} \log \Gamma_{q^n} \left( \frac{x+r}{n} \right) - \log \Gamma_q(x) \tag{41}$$

Using the relation (20), we have

$$\log \Gamma_q(x) = \frac{-1}{2} \log [x]_q + \log(q, q)_\infty + (1/2 - x) \log(1 - q) - \frac{1}{\log q} Li_2(q^x) + R_q(x). \tag{42}$$

Also,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} \log \Gamma_{q^n} \left( \frac{x+r}{q^n} \right) &= \frac{-1}{2} \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} \log \left[ \frac{x+r}{n} \right]_{q^n} + \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{x+r}{n} \right) \log(1 - q^n) \\ &\quad + n \log(q^n, q^n)_\infty - \frac{1}{n \log q} \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} Li_2(q^{x+r}) + \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} R_{q^n} \left( \frac{x+r}{n} \right) \\ &= \frac{-1}{2} \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} \log \left[ \frac{x+r}{n} \right]_{q^n} + n \log(q^n, q^n)_\infty + \left( \frac{1}{2} - x \right) \log(1 - q^n) \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{n \log q} \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} Li_2(q^{x+r}) + \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} R_{q^n} \left( \frac{x+r}{n} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Then we get

$$\begin{aligned} \log b &= \frac{-1}{2} \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} \log \left[ \frac{x+r}{n} \right]_{q^n} + n \log(q^n, q^n)_\infty - \frac{1}{n \log q} \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} Li_2(q^{x+r}) + \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} R_{q^n} \left( \frac{x+r}{n} \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \log [x]_q - \log(q, q)_\infty + \frac{Li_2(q^x)}{\log q} - R_q(x) + \frac{1}{2} \log [n]_q \end{aligned} \tag{43}$$

When  $x \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain

$$\log b = \log \left[ \frac{(q^n, q^n)_\infty^n (1 - q)^{\frac{n-1}{2}} [n]_q}{(q, q)_\infty} \right]. \tag{44}$$

Then we get the following result:

**THEOREM 7.** (*q*-Gauss’s multiplication formula) *For  $x > 0$ ,  $0 < q < 1$  and integers  $n > 0$*

$$\Gamma_{q^n} \left( \frac{x}{n} \right) \Gamma_{q^n} \left( \frac{x+1}{n} \right) \dots \Gamma_{q^n} \left( \frac{x+n-1}{n} \right) = \frac{(q^n, q^n)_\infty^n (1 - q)^{\frac{n-1}{2}} [n]_q^{1-x}}{(q, q)_\infty} \Gamma_q(x). \tag{45}$$

*Acknowledgements.* The authors are very grateful to the referee’s careful reading and the valuable suggestions, which greatly improved the quality of the paper.

## REFERENCES

- [1] H. ALZER AND A. Z. GRINSPHAN, *Inequalities for the gamma and  $q$ -gamma functions*, J. Approx. Th., **144**, (2007), 67–83.
- [2] G. E. ANDREWS, R. ASKEY AND R. ROY, *Special functions*, Encyclopedia of Mathematics and its Applications, Vol. **1**, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1999.
- [3] E. ARTIN, *The Gamma function*, translated by M. Butler, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, New York, 1964.
- [4] D. M. BRADLEY, *Multiple  $q$ -zeta values*, Journal of Algebra, **283**, (2005), 752–798.
- [5] H. COHEN AND E. FRIEDMAN, *Raabe's formula for  $p$ -adic gamma and zeta functions*, Ann. Inst. Fourier, Grenoble, **58**, (2008), 363–376.
- [6] P. GAO, *Some completely monotonic functions involving the  $q$ -gamma function*, Math. Inequal. Appl., **17**, 2 (2014), 451–460.
- [7] P. GAO, *Some monotonicity properties of gamma and  $q$ -gamma functions*, ISRN Math. Anal., (2011) 2011, Art. ID 375715, 15 pp.
- [8] G. GASPER AND M. RAHMAN, *Basic hypergeometric series*, second edition Cambridge Univ. Press, 1990.
- [9] M. E. H. ISMAIL, *Classical and Quantum Orthogonal Polynomials in one variable*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2005.
- [10] M. E. H. ISMAIL AND M. E. MULDOON, *Higher monotonicity properties of  $q$ -gamma and  $q$ -psi functions*, Advances in Dynamical Systems and Applications, **8**, 2 (2013), 247–259.
- [11] H. JACK, *The Gamma function without infinite products*, Proceedings of the Edinburgh Mathematical Society (Series 2), **14**, (1965), 249–253.
- [12] F. H. JACKSON, *On  $q$ -definite integrals*, Quart. J. Pure and Appl. Math., **41**, (1910), 193–203.
- [13] R. KOEKOEK, P. A. LESKY AND R. F. SWARTTOUW, *Hypergeometric orthogonal polynomials and their  $q$ -analogues*, Springer Monographs in Mathematics, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 2010.
- [14] M. MAHMOUD, *On the functional equations of the  $q$ -gamma function*, Aequat. Math., **89**, (2015), 1041–1050.
- [15] I. MEZŐ, *A  $q$ -Raabe formula and an integral of the fourth Jacobi theta function*, Journal of Number Theory, **133**, 2 (2013), 692–704.
- [16] D. S. MOAK, *The  $q$ -gamma function for  $q > 1$* , Aequat. Math., **20**, (1980), 278–285.
- [17] A. SALEM, *Three classes of the Stirling formula for the  $q$ -factorial function*, Tamsui Oxford Journal of Information and Mathematical Sciences, **29**, 3 (2013), 285–293.
- [18] H. M. SRIVASTAVA AND J. CHOI, *Zeta and  $q$ -Zeta functions and associated series and integrals*, Amsterdam, London and New York: Elsevier Science Publishers, 2012.
- [19] F. QI, *A completely monotonic function related to the  $q$ -trigamma function*, Politehn. Univ. Bucharest Sci. Bull. Ser. A–Appl. Math. Phys., **76**, 1 (2014), 107–114.
- [20] J. THOMAE, *Beitrage zur Theorie der durch die Heinesche Reihe*, J. reine angew. Math., **70**, (1869), 258–281.

(Received July 2, 2014)

Mansour Mahmoud  
 Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science  
 Mansoura University  
 Mansoura 35516, Egypt  
 e-mail: mansour@mans.edu.eg

Ravi P. Agarwal  
 Department of Mathematics, Texas A & M University  
 Kingsville 700 University Blvd, Kingsville, TX 78363-8202, USA  
 e-mail: agarwal@tamuk.edu