

IDENTITIES CONNECTED WITH RAMANUJAN’S CONTINUED FRACTION

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My guide Prof. Bhaskar Srivastava initiated me in this study and I am thankful to him for his continuous help.

Abstract. We give Lambert series and some interesting identities for a continued fraction of Ramanujan.

1 Introduction

Rogers-Ramanujan continued fraction

$$R(q) = 1 + \frac{q}{1 + \frac{q^2}{1 + \frac{q^3}{1 + \frac{q^4}{\dots}}}} = \frac{(q^2; q^5)_\infty (q^3; q^5)_\infty}{(q; q^5)_\infty (q^4; q^5)_\infty} \tag{1.1}$$

was extensively considered by Andrews [6, 7, 8], Hirschhorn [12, 13]. Recently H. M. Srivastava et al.[16] derived some results on q -series and associated continued fractions . In [17] H. M. Srivastava et al. found interesting identities associated with Rogers-Ramanujan continued fraction $R(q)$. In [18] H. M. Srivastava et al. gave some q -identities involving Jacobi’s theta-function. Chandrashekar Adiga et al. [2] considered function of order eleven of Rogers-Ramanujan type, gave modular relations and also partition-theoretic interpretation for some modular identities. In [2] Chandrashekar Adiga et al. established two q -series representations of a Ramanujan’s continued fraction.They also gave integral representations.

Apart from Rogers-Ramanujan continued fraction, Ramanujan considered many more continued fraction. One of them more interesting continued fraction [10, Entry 12, p. 24] is

$$\frac{(a^2 q^3; q^4)_\infty (b^2 q^3; q^4)_\infty}{(a^2 q; q^4)_\infty (b^2 q; q^4)_\infty} = \frac{1}{1 - ab} + \frac{(a - bq)(b - aq)}{(1 - ab)(q^2 + 1)} + \frac{(a - bq^3)(b - aq^3)}{(1 - ab)(q^4 + 1)} + \dots \tag{1.2}$$

Adiga, Berndt, Bhargava and Watson [1] gave a proof of (1.2). L. Jacobsen [14] gave another simpler proof, though involving time consuming calculation. In the end L. Jacobsen observes that if $|ab| < 1$ and $|q| > 1$ the continued fraction in (1.2) converges to

$$\frac{(a^2/q^3; 1/q^4)_\infty (b^2/q^3; 1/q^4)_\infty}{(a^2/q; 1/q^4)_\infty (b^2/q; 1/q^4)_\infty}$$

which further shows the beautiful symmetry in the continued fraction. We make $q \rightarrow q^3$ and take $a = q^{5/2}$, $b = q^{1/2}$ in (1.2) to get the continued fraction.

$$P(q) = \frac{(q^4, q^8; q^{12})_\infty}{(q^2, q^{10}; q^{12})_\infty} = \frac{1}{1 + 1 - q^3} + \frac{(q^{5/2} - q^{7/2})(q^{1/2} - q^{11/2})}{(1 - q^3)(q^6 + 1)} + \frac{(q^{5/2} - q^{19/2})(q^{1/2} - q^{23/2})}{(1 - q^3)(q^{12} + 1)} + \dots \tag{1.3}$$

In this paper we have found Lambert series and certain identities for continued fraction $P(q)$.

We shall be using the following standard notations throughout this paper.
Let $|q| < 1$

$$(a)_0 = (a; q)_0 = 1,$$

$$(a)_n = (a; q)_n = \prod_{k=0}^{n-1} (1 - aq^k), \quad n \geq 1,$$

$$(a)_\infty = (a; q)_\infty = \prod_{k=0}^{\infty} (1 - aq^k),$$

Jacobi’s triple-product identity in Ramanujan’s notation

$$f(a, b) = (-a; ab)_\infty (-b; ab)_\infty (ab; ab)_\infty, \quad |ab| < 1,$$

Bilateral basic hypergeometric series

$${}_r\psi_r = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{(a_1, \dots, a_r; q)_n}{(b_1, \dots, b_r; q)_n} z^n, \quad \left| \frac{b_1, \dots, b_r}{a_1, \dots, a_r} \right| < |z| < 1.$$

2 Generalized Lambert Series

The Generalized Lambert series is of the form

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^{\epsilon n} q^{\lambda n^2} R(q^n), \quad \text{where } \epsilon = 0 \text{ or } 1, \lambda > 0 \tag{2.1}$$

and $R(x)$ is a rational function of x .

We have Ramanujan’s ${}_1\psi_1$ summation formula [11, p. 138]

$${}_1\psi_1(a; b; q, z) = \frac{(q, b/a, az, q/az; q)_\infty}{(b, q/a, z, b/az; q)_\infty}, \quad |b/a| < |z| < 1. \tag{2.2}$$

Bilateral basic hypergeometric series

$${}_1\psi_1(a; b; q, z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{(a; q)_n}{(b; q)_n} z^n \tag{2.3}$$

For $0 < i \leq 11, 0 < j \leq 11$ and $i + j \neq 12$, we have

$$\frac{1}{1 - q^j} {}_1\psi_1(q^j; q^{12+j}; q^{12}, q^i) = \frac{1}{1 - q^j} \frac{(q^{12}, q^{12+j}/q^j, q^{i+j}, q^{12}/q^{i+j}; q^{12})_\infty}{(q^{12+j}, q^{12}/q^j, q^i, q^{12+j}/q^{i+j}; q^{12})_\infty}$$

$$\frac{1}{1 - q^j} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{(q^j; q^{12})_n}{(q^{12+j}; q^{12})_n} q^{in} = \frac{1}{1 - q^j} \frac{(q^{12}, q^{12+j}/q^j, q^{i+j}, q^{12}/q^{i+j}; q^{12})_\infty}{(q^j; q^{12})_\infty (q^{12+j}, q^{12}/q^j, q^i, q^{12+j}/q^{i+j}; q^{12})_\infty}$$

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{(q^j; q^{12})_n}{(q^j; q^{12})_{n+1}} q^{in} = \frac{(q^{12}, q^{12})_\infty^2 (q^{i+j}; q^{12})_\infty (q^{12-i-j}; q^{12})_\infty}{(q^j; q^{12})_\infty (q^{12-j}; q^{12})_\infty (q^i; q^{12})_\infty (q^{12-i}; q^{12})_\infty}$$

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{q^{in}}{1 - q^{12n+j}} = \frac{(q^{12}, q^{12})_\infty^2 (q^{i+j}; q^{12})_\infty (q^{12-i-j}; q^{12})_\infty}{(q^j; q^{12})_\infty (q^{12-j}; q^{12})_\infty (q^i; q^{12})_\infty (q^{12-i}; q^{12})_\infty} \tag{2.4}$$

We have the identity [9, p. 58],

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{in}}{1 - q^{12n+i}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} q^{12n^2+2in} \frac{1 + q^{12n+i}}{1 - q^{12n+i}} \tag{2.5}$$

Let

$$P(q) = \frac{S(q)}{T(q)}$$

where

$$T(q) = \frac{1}{(q^4; q^{12})_\infty (q^8; q^{12})_\infty (q^{12}; q^{12})_\infty},$$

$$S(q) = \frac{1}{(q^2; q^{12})_\infty (q^{10}; q^{12})_\infty (q^{12}; q^{12})_\infty}.$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} (q^{12}; q^{12})_\infty^3 S(q) &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^\infty \frac{q^n}{1 - q^{12n+10}}, \text{ for } i = 1, j = 10 \\ &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^\infty \frac{q^{10n}}{1 - q^{12n+1}}, \text{ for } i = 10, j = 1 \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (q^{12}; q^{12})_\infty^3 T(q) &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^\infty \frac{q^{2n}}{1 - q^{12n+8}}, \text{ for } i = 2, j = 8 \\ &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^\infty \frac{q^{8n}}{1 - q^{12n+2}}, \text{ for } i = 8, j = 2 \end{aligned} \tag{2.7}$$

$$(q^{12}; q^{12})_\infty^3 \frac{S^2(q)}{T(q)} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^\infty \frac{q^{2n}}{1 - q^{12n+2}}, \text{ for } i = 2, j = 2. \tag{2.8}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (q^{12}; q^{12})_\infty^3 S(q) &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^\infty \frac{q^{2n}}{1 - q^{12n+5}}, \text{ for } i = 2, j = 5 \\ &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^\infty \frac{q^{5n}}{1 - q^{12n+2}}, \text{ for } i = 5, j = 2 \end{aligned} \tag{2.9}$$

$$(q^{12}; q^{12})_\infty^3 T(q) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^\infty \frac{q^{4n}}{1 - q^{12n+4}}, \text{ for } i = 4, j = 4 \tag{2.10}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(q^{12}; q^{12})_\infty^2}{(q^6; q^{12})_\infty^2} P(q) &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^\infty \frac{q^{2n}}{1 - q^{12n+6}}, \text{ for } i = 2, j = 6 \\ &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^\infty \frac{q^{6n}}{1 - q^{12n+2}}, \text{ for } i = 6, j = 2 \end{aligned} \tag{2.11}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(q^{12}; q^{12})_\infty^2}{(q^6; q^{12})_\infty^2} \frac{1}{P(q)} &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^\infty \frac{q^{4n}}{1 - q^{12n+6}}, \text{ for } i = 4, j = 6 \\ &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^\infty \frac{q^{6n}}{1 - q^{12n+4}}, \text{ for } i = 6, j = 4 \end{aligned} \tag{2.12}$$

By equation (2.5), equation (2.8) becomes

$$(q^{12}; q^{12})_\infty^3 \frac{S^2(q)}{T(q)} = \sum_{n=0}^\infty q^{12n^2+4n} \frac{1 + q^{12n+2}}{1 - q^{12n+2}} \tag{2.13}$$

By equation (2.6) and (2.7)

$$P(q) = \frac{\sum_{n=-\infty}^\infty \frac{q^n}{1 - q^{12n+10}}}{\sum_{n=-\infty}^\infty \frac{q^{2n}}{1 - q^{12n+8}}} \tag{2.14}$$

$$P(q) = \frac{\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{q^{10n}}{1-q^{12n+1}}}{\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{q^{8n}}{1-q^{12n+2}}} \tag{2.15}$$

By equation (2.7) and (2.8)

$$P^2(q) = \frac{\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{q^{2n}}{1-q^{12n+2}}}{\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{q^{2n}}{1-q^{12n+8}}} \tag{2.16}$$

$$P^2(q) = \frac{\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{q^{2n}}{1-q^{12n+2}}}{\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{q^{8n}}{1-q^{12n+2}}} \tag{2.17}$$

By equation (2.4) for $i = 5, j = 1$ and $q \rightarrow q^2$

$$(q^{12}; q^{12})_{\infty}^3 S(q) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{q^{10n}}{1-q^{24n+2}} \tag{2.18}$$

By equation (2.4) for $i = 4, j = 2$ and $q \rightarrow q^2$

$$(q^{12}; q^{12})_{\infty}^3 T(q) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{q^{8n}}{1-q^{24n+4}} \tag{2.19}$$

By equation (2.8) and (2.10)

$$P^{-2}(q) = \frac{\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{q^{4n}}{1-q^{12n+4}}}{\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{q^{2n}}{1-q^{12n+2}}} \tag{2.20}$$

with the help of equation (2.5) in (2.20), we have

$$P^{-2}(q) = \frac{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} q^{12n^2+8n} \frac{1+q^{12n+4}}{1-q^{12n+4}} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} q^{12n^2+16n+4} \frac{1+q^{12n+8}}{1-q^{12n+8}}}{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} q^{12n^2+4n} \frac{1+q^{12n+2}}{1-q^{12n+2}} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} q^{12n^2+20n+8} \frac{1+q^{12n+10}}{1-q^{12n+10}}} \tag{2.21}$$

3 Some Identities for $P(q)$

Now we prove interesting identities related to $P(q)$.

$$(i) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n q^{6n^2-2n}}{(q^2; q^{12})_{n+1}} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n q^{6n^2+14n+8}}{(q^{10}; q^{12})_{n+1}} = (q^{12}; q^{12})_{\infty} P(q) \tag{3.1}$$

$$(ii) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n q^{2n^2+2n}}{(q^2; q^4)_{n+1}} + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2-4n} = \frac{(q^4; q^4)_{\infty}}{P(q)} \tag{3.2}$$

$$(iii) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n q^{2n^2+10n+10}}{(q^6; q^4)_{n+1}} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2-8n+2} (1+q^{24n+8}) = \frac{(q^4; q^4)_{\infty}}{P(q)} \tag{3.3}$$

Proof. (i)

By using quintuple product identity [10, p. 82] of the form

$$\frac{(q; q)_{\infty} (x^2; q)_{\infty} (q/x^2; q)_{\infty}}{(x; q)_{\infty} (q/x; q)_{\infty}} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{\frac{n(3n-1)}{2}} x^{3n} (1+xq^n)$$

Replace $q \rightarrow q^{12}, x \rightarrow q^2$ and transfer the term $(q^{12}; q^{12})_{\infty}$ to right hand side, we get

$$P(q) = \frac{1}{(q^{12}; q^{12})_{\infty}} \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{18n^2} + \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{18n^2+12n+2} \right) \tag{3.4}$$

Replace $n \rightarrow -(n+1)$ in both sum of the expression, we get

$$P(q) = -\frac{1}{(q^{12}; q^{12})_{\infty}} \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{18n^2+36n+18} + \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{18n^2+24n+8} \right) \tag{3.5}$$

By Rogers-fine identity [4, p. 564]

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a; q)_n t^n}{(b; q)_{n+1}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a; q)_n (at/b; q)_n b^n t^n q^{n^2} (1 - atq^{2n})}{(b; q)_{n+1} (t; q)_{n+1}}. \tag{3.6}$$

Let $q \rightarrow q^{12}$, $a = q^4/t$, $b = q^2$, $t \rightarrow 0$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n q^{6n^2-2n}}{(q^2; q^{12})_{n+1}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{18n^2} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{18n^2+12n+2} \tag{3.7}$$

Replace $n \rightarrow -(n + 1)$, in both sum of right hand side, we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n q^{6n^2-2n}}{(q^2; q^{12})_{n+1}} = - \sum_{n=-1}^{-\infty} (-1)^n q^{18n^2+36n+18} - \sum_{n=-1}^{-\infty} (-1)^n q^{18n^2+24n+8} \tag{3.8}$$

Let $q \rightarrow q^{12}$, $a = q^{20}/t$, $b = q^{10}$, $t \rightarrow 0$ again in (3.6), we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n q^{6n^2+14n}}{(q^{10}; q^{12})_{n+1}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{18n^2+24n} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{18n^2+36n+10} \tag{3.9}$$

Multiplying both side by q^8 we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n q^{6n^2+14n+8}}{(q^{10}; q^{12})_{n+1}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{18n^2+24n+8} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{18n^2+36n+18} \tag{3.10}$$

Subtracting equation (3.10) from equation (3.8) and using (3.5), we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n q^{6n^2-2n}}{(q^2; q^{12})_{n+1}} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n q^{6n^2+14n+8}}{(q^{10}; q^{12})_{n+1}} = (q^{12}; q^{12})_{\infty} P(q) \tag{3.11}$$

which proves (i)

□

Proof. (ii)

Let $q \rightarrow q^4$, $a = q^4/t$, $b = q^2$, $t \rightarrow 0$ in (3.6), we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n q^{2n^2+2n}}{(q^2; q^4)_{n+1}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2+4n} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2+8n+2} \tag{3.12}$$

Replace $n \rightarrow -(n + 1)$ in second sum of right hand side, we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n q^{2n^2+2n}}{(q^2; q^4)_{n+1}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2+4n} - \sum_{n=-1}^{-\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2+4n} \tag{3.13}$$

Adding and subtracting $\sum_{n=-1}^{-\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2+4n}$ in above equation, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n q^{2n^2+2n}}{(q^2; q^4)_{n+1}} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2+4n} + \sum_{n=-1}^{-\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2+4n} \\ &\quad - 2 \sum_{n=-1}^{-\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2+4n} \end{aligned} \tag{3.14}$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n q^{2n^2+2n}}{(q^2; q^4)_{n+1}} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2+4n} - 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2+4n} \tag{3.15}$$

By Jacobi Triple Product Identity

$$(x; q)_\infty (q/x; q)_\infty (q; q)_\infty = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} x^n \tag{3.16}$$

Let $q \rightarrow q^{12}$, $x \rightarrow q^2$ dividing both side by $(q^4; q^4)_\infty$, we have

$$\frac{1}{P(q)} = \frac{1}{(q^4; q^4)_\infty} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2+4n} \tag{3.17}$$

Using (3.17) in (3.15), we get

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n q^{2n^2+2n}}{(q^2; q^4)_{n+1}} + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2+4n} = \frac{(q^4; q^4)_\infty}{P(q)} \tag{3.18}$$

which proves (ii). □

Proof. (iii)

Let $q \rightarrow q^4$, $a = q^{12}/t$, $b = q^6$, $t \rightarrow 0$, again in (3.6), we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n q^{2n^2+10n}}{(q^6; q^4)_{n+1}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2+16n} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2+20n+6} \tag{3.19}$$

Replace $n \rightarrow -(n + 1)$, in second sum of right hand side, we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n q^{2n^2+10n}}{(q^6; q^4)_{n+1}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2+16n} - \sum_{n=-1}^{-\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2-8n-8} \tag{3.20}$$

Adding and subtracting the term $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2-8n-8}$ in above equation, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n q^{2n^2+10n}}{(q^6; q^4)_{n+1}} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2+16n} - \sum_{n=-1}^{-\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2-8n-8} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2-8n-8} \\ &\quad + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2-8n-8} \end{aligned} \tag{3.21}$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n q^{2n^2+10n+8}}{(q^6; q^4)_{n+1}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2-8n} (1 + q^{24n+8}) - \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2-8n} \tag{3.22}$$

Replace $n \rightarrow (n - 1)$ in (3.17), we have

$$\frac{1}{P(q)} = -\frac{1}{(q^4; q^4)_\infty} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2-8n+2} \tag{3.23}$$

Using equation (3.23) in equation (3.22), we get

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n q^{2n^2+10n+10}}{(q^6; q^4)_{n+1}} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{6n^2-8n+2} (1 + q^{24n+8}) = \frac{(q^4; q^4)_\infty}{P(q)}$$

which proves (iii). □

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