

On Ramanujan's Theta Functions

Vijay Yadav, Manoj Kumar Pathak* and Rajnish Kant Upadhyay**,

Department of Mathematics,

T.D.P.G. College, Jaunpur-222002 (U.P.) India

* Department of Mathematics, R.S.K.D.P.G. College, Jaunpur

** Department of Mathematics, S.N.P.G. College, Azamgarh

Abstract: In this paper we shall attempt to establish certain Lambert series representations for Ramanujan's theta functions and evaluate certain integrals involving these theta functions with the help of Lambert series representations.

Key words and phrases: Basic hypergeometric functions, Lambert series, Ramanujan's theta functions.

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1. Introduction, Notations and Definitions

Ramanujan's general theta function $f(a, b)$ is defined by

$$f(a, b) = \sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} a^{n(n+1)/2} b^{n(n-1)/2}, \quad |ab| < 1 \quad (1.1)$$

Most important special cases of (1.1) are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(q) = f(q, q) &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} q^{n^2} = \frac{[-q; -q]_{\infty}}{[q; -q]_{\infty}} = \frac{[q^2; q^2]_{\infty} [-q; q^2]_{\infty}}{[q; q^2]_{\infty} [-q^2; q^2]_{\infty}} \\ &= [q^2; q^2]_{\infty} [-q; q^2]_{\infty}, \end{aligned} \quad (1.2)$$

$$\Psi(q) = f(q, q^3) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} q^{n(n+1)/2} = \frac{[q^2; q^2]_{\infty}}{[-q; q^2]_{\infty}} \quad (1.3)$$

$$f(-q) = f(-q, -q^2) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-)^n q^{n(3n+1)/2} = [q; q]_{\infty}. \quad (1.4)$$

we shall also have the occasion to use the function $\chi(q)$ given by

$$\chi(-q) = [q; q^2]_{\infty}, \quad (1.5)$$