

## $q$ -EXTENSION OF THE $p$ -ADIC GAMMA FUNCTION

BY

NEAL KOBLITZ

**ABSTRACT.**  $p$ -adic functions depending on a parameter  $q$ ,  $0 < |q - 1|_p < 1$ , are defined which extend Y. Morita's  $p$ -adic gamma function and the derivative of J. Diamond's  $p$ -adic log-gamma function in the same way as the classical  $q$ -gamma function  $\Gamma_q(x)$  extends  $\Gamma(x)$ . Properties of these functions which are analogous to the basic identities satisfied by  $\Gamma_q(x)$  are developed.

**1. Introduction.** A generalized gamma function  $\Gamma_q(x)$ , depending on a parameter  $0 < q < 1$ , was introduced and studied by F. H. Jackson, R. Askey, G. E. Andrews and others. Defined as

$$\Gamma_q(x) = (1 - q)^{1-x} \frac{(1 - q)(1 - q^2)(1 - q^3) \cdots}{(1 - q^x)(1 - q^{x+1})(1 - q^{x+2}) \cdots},$$

it satisfies relations which generalize the well-known identities for the gamma function, and in the limit as  $q \rightarrow 1^-$  it becomes  $\Gamma(x)$ .

The purpose of this article is to construct and study the properties of a natural  $q$ -extension  $\Gamma_{p,q}$  of Morita's  $p$ -adic gamma function  $\Gamma_p$  [13] and a  $q$ -extension  $\psi_{p,q}$  of the derivative of Diamond's  $p$ -adic log-gamma function  $G_p$  [4]. Recall that  $\Gamma_p$  is a function from the  $p$ -adic integers  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  to the  $p$ -adic units  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$  defined by

$$\Gamma_p(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow x} (-1)^n \prod'_{j < n} j,$$

where  $n$  runs over positive integers and  $\prod'$  means that indices  $j$  divisible by  $p$  are omitted. On the other hand,  $G_p$  is a function on the complement of  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  in  $\Omega_p$  (where  $\Omega_p$  is the  $p$ -adic completion of the algebraic closure of the field  $\mathbb{Q}_p$  of  $p$ -adic numbers, with norm  $|\cdot|_p$  for which  $|p|_p = p^{-1}$ ). It is defined as

$$G_p(x) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} p^{-N} \sum_{0 < j < p^N} (x + j)(\log_p(x + j) - 1),$$

where  $\log_p$  is the Iwasawa  $p$ -adic logarithm [7]. Although  $G_p$  is not  $\log_p \Gamma_p$ , it has the following two connections with  $\log_p \Gamma_p$  (see [4] and [6]). (1) If we let  $G_p^*(x) = G_p(x) - G_p(x/p)$ , which is defined on the complement of  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$  by the same formula as  $G_p$  with  $\Sigma$  replaced by  $\Sigma'$ , then  $G_p^*(x) = \log_p \Gamma_p(x)$  for  $x \in p\mathbb{Z}_p$ . (2)  $\log_p \Gamma_p(x) = \sum_{0 < j < p, x+j \notin p\mathbb{Z}_p} G_p((x + j)/p)$  for  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ .

For simplicity suppose  $p > 2$ .

---

Received by the editors October 2, 1979 and, in revised form, November 14, 1979.

AMS (MOS) subject classifications (1970). Primary 12B40; Secondary 33A15.

Key words and phrases. Gamma function,  $p$ -adic functions,  $q$ -extension, Euler constants.

© 1980 American Mathematical Society  
0002-9947/80/0000-0357/\$03.25

## 2. $q$ -extension of $\Gamma_p$ .

THEOREM 1. Let  $t \in \Omega_p$ ,  $|t|_p < 1$ ,  $t \neq 0$ . Set  $q = 1 + t$ , and for any  $n$  define

$$\Gamma_{p,q}(n) = (-1)^n \prod'_{j < n} \frac{1 - q^j}{1 - q}.$$

Then  $\Gamma_{p,q}$  extends to a continuous function on  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ , and  $\lim_{q \rightarrow 1} \Gamma_{p,q} = \Gamma_p$ .

PROOF. We first prove two general lemmas.

LEMMA 1. Let  $P_1(X), \dots, P_h(X) \in \mathbb{Q}[X]$ . Then there exists  $Q(X) \in \mathbb{Q}[X]$  such that for all  $n$

$$\sum_{i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_h < n} P_1(i_1) \cdots P_h(i_h) = Q(n).$$

PROOF OF LEMMA. Use induction on  $h$ . For  $h = 1$  the lemma follows because  $\sum_{i_1=1}^{n-1} i_1^l$  is a polynomial in  $n$  for any  $l$ . Suppose the lemma holds for  $h - 1$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_h < n} P_1(i_1) \cdots P_h(i_h) &= \sum_{i_2 < \dots < i_h < n} \left( \sum_{i_1 < i_2} P_1(i_1) \right) P_2(i_2) \cdots P_h(i_h) \\ &= \sum_{i_2 < \dots < i_h < n} (Q_1(i_2) P_2(i_2)) P_3(i_3) \cdots P_h(i_h) \end{aligned}$$

by the lemma for  $h = 1$ . But this is of the form  $Q(n)$  by the lemma for  $h - 1$  applied to the polynomials  $Q_1 P_2, P_3, \dots, P_h$ .

LEMMA 2. Let  $P_k(X) \in \mathbb{Q}[X]$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ ;  $A_j(t) = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} P_k(j)t^k \in \mathbb{Q}[[t]]$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots$ . Then there exist  $Q_k(X) \in \mathbb{Q}[X]$  such that for all  $n$ ,

$$\prod_{j < n} A_j(t) = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} Q_k(n)t^k.$$

PROOF OF LEMMA. For each  $k$  let  $s = \{s_1, \dots, s_h\}$  run through the set  $S$  of partitions of ordered positive integers  $s_i$  whose sum is  $k$ . The coefficient of  $t^k$  in  $\prod_{j < n} A_j(t)$  is clearly

$$\sum_{s \in S} \sum_{i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_h < n} P_{s_1}(i_1) \cdots P_{s_h}(i_h).$$

Since the first sum is finite, this is a polynomial in  $n$  by Lemma 1.

PROOF OF THEOREM 1. Let  $P_k(X) = (X - 1)(X - 2) \cdots (X - k)/(k + 1)!$ . Then

$$\frac{1 - q^j}{1 - q} = \frac{(1 + t)^j - 1}{t} = j \left( 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} P_k(j)t^k \right).$$

Further let  $\tilde{n} = [(n - 1)/p] + 1$ , and let  $\tilde{P}_k(X) = P_k(pX)$ . Finally, let

$$A_j(t) = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} P_k(j)t^k, \quad \tilde{A}_j(t) = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \tilde{P}_k(j)t^k.$$

Then

$$\Gamma_{p,q}(n) = \Gamma_p(n) \frac{\prod_{j < n} A_j(t)}{\prod_{j < \tilde{n}} \tilde{A}_j(t)}.$$

By Lemma 2, the quotient can be written  $(1 + \sum Q_k(n)t^k)/(1 + \sum \tilde{Q}_k(\tilde{n})t^k)$ .

Note that  $\Gamma_{p,q}(n) = (-1)^n \prod_{j < n, p \nmid j} (1 + (1+t) + \cdots + (1+t)^{j-1}) \in \mathbb{Z}[t]$ , and hence  $\Gamma_{p,q}(n)/\Gamma_p(n) = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} R_k(n)t^k \in \mathbb{Z}_p[[t]]$  for each  $n$  (where the  $R_k$  are some functions of  $n$ ), i.e.,  $|R_k(n)|_p < 1$  for all  $k, n$ . Since each  $R_k$  is a finite expression in  $Q_{k_1}$  and  $\tilde{Q}_{k_2}$ ,  $k_1, k_2 \leq k$ , and since each  $\tilde{Q}_{k_2}$  depends continuously on  $\tilde{n}$  and hence on  $n$ , and  $Q_{k_1}$  is just a polynomial in  $n$ , it follows that  $R_k$  is a bounded (by 1) continuous function of  $n$ . Since  $|t|_p < 1$ , the theorem follows. Q.E.D.

THEOREM 2.

(1)

$$\Gamma_{p,q}(x+1)/\Gamma_{p,q}(x) = \begin{cases} -(1-q^x)/(1-q) & \text{if } x \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*, \\ -1 & \text{if } x \in p\mathbb{Z}_p. \end{cases}$$

(2)

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{p,q}(x) \Gamma_{p,q^m}\left(\frac{1}{m}\right) \Gamma_{p,q^m}\left(\frac{2}{m}\right) \cdots \Gamma_{p,q^m}\left(\frac{m-1}{m}\right) \\ = \Gamma_{p,q^m}\left(\frac{x}{m}\right) \Gamma_{p,q^m}\left(\frac{x+1}{m}\right) \cdots \Gamma_{p,q^m}\left(\frac{x+m-1}{m}\right) \left(\frac{1-q^m}{1-q}\right)^{x-\tilde{x}} \end{aligned}$$

for any  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  and any positive integer  $m$  prime to  $p$ , where  $\tilde{\cdot}$  is the unique continuous extension to  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  of the map  $n \mapsto \tilde{n} = [(n-1)/p] + 1$  used in the proof of Theorem 1. (If  $x = a_0 + a_1p + a_2p^2 + \cdots$ , then  $\tilde{x} = (a_1 + 1) + a_2p + a_3p^2 + \cdots$  if  $a_0 \neq 0$  and  $a_1 + a_2p + a_3p^2 + \cdots$  if  $a_0 = 0$ . Note that  $(1-q^m)/(1-q)$  is a  $p$ -adic unit, and the exponent can be written  $a_0 - p + (p-1)\tilde{x}$  if  $a_0 \neq 0$  and  $(p-1)\tilde{x}$  if  $a_0 = 0$ .)

(3)

$$\Gamma_{p,q}(x) \Gamma_{p,1/q}(1-x) = -(-q)^{\tilde{x}-x}.$$

PROOF. Since both sides of (1), (2) and (3) are continuous in  $x$ , it suffices to prove them for  $x = n$ . In that case (1) follows immediately from the definition.

(2) For fixed  $m$  let  $A_n$  denote the left side of (2) for  $x = n$ , and let  $B_n$  denote the right side. We prove that  $A_n = B_n$  by induction on  $n$ . Trivially  $A_1 = B_1$ . Suppose  $A_n = B_n$ . We have

$$\frac{A_{n+1}}{A_n} = \frac{\Gamma_{p,q}(n+1)}{\Gamma_{p,q}(n)} = \begin{cases} -(1-q^n)/(1-q) & \text{if } p \nmid n, \\ -1 & \text{if } p \mid n, \end{cases}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{B_{n+1}}{B_n} &= \frac{\Gamma_{p,q^m}(n/m+1)}{\Gamma_{p,q^m}(n/m)} \left(\frac{1-q^m}{1-q}\right)^{1+\tilde{n}-(\widetilde{n+1})} \\ &= \begin{cases} (-(1-q^n)/(1-q^m)) \cdot ((1-q^m)/(1-q)) & \text{if } p \nmid n, \\ -1 \cdot 1 & \text{if } p \mid n. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $A_{n+1}/A_n = B_{n+1}/B_n$ , and so  $A_{n+1} = B_{n+1}$ . This completes the induction.

(3) is easily proved by induction in the same way as (2). Q.E.D.

REMARKS. 1. Comparing parts (2) and (3) of Theorem 2 gives support for a comment once made by B. H. Gross that the Euler reflection formula for the gamma function should be thought of as the  $(-1)$ -case of the multiplication formula. The right side of (3) can be written as

$$\Gamma_{p,q}(1) \left( \frac{1 - q^{-1}}{1 - q} \right)^{x - \bar{x}}$$

(recall  $\Gamma_{p,q}(1) = -1$ ). This similarity between the multiplication and the reflection formulas for  $\Gamma_p$  was not clear until we looked at its  $q$ -extension  $\Gamma_{p,q}$ .

2. In the classical case the type of argument in Theorem 2 above will quickly reveal that  $\Gamma_q(x)\Gamma_{1/q}(1-x)(-q)^x$  is periodic of period 1 (where we use D. Moak's  $\Gamma_q$  for  $q > 1$  [11] to define  $\Gamma_{1/q}(1-x)$ ). But this periodic function is not a constant (as any continuous function on  $\mathbf{Z}_p$  with period 1 must be); it turns out to equal a constant divided by the theta-function

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^{-(n+x)} q^{(n+x-1/2)^2/2}.$$

### 3. Table of properties.

gamma function	Classical Case its $q$ -extension ( $0 < q < 1$ )
(1) $\Gamma(n+1) = n!$	$\Gamma_q(n+1) = \prod_{j=1}^n (1 + q + q^2 + \cdots + q^{j-1})$
(2) $\frac{\Gamma(x+1)}{\Gamma(x)} = x$ , $\Gamma(1) = 1$	$\frac{\Gamma_q(x+1)}{\Gamma_q(x)} = \frac{(1-q^x)}{(1-q)}$ , $\Gamma(1) = 1$ .
$\Gamma$ and $\Gamma_q$ are uniquely characterized by (2) together with convexity of their logarithm.	
(3) $\Gamma(x)\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{m}\right) \cdots \Gamma\left(\frac{m-1}{m}\right)$ $= \Gamma\left(\frac{x}{m}\right)\Gamma\left(\frac{x+1}{m}\right) \cdots$ $\Gamma\left(\frac{x+m-1}{m}\right) m^{x-1}$ for any positive integer $m$	$\Gamma_q(x)\Gamma_{q^m}\left(\frac{1}{m}\right) \cdots \Gamma_{q^m}\left(\frac{m-1}{m}\right)$ $= \Gamma_{q^m}\left(\frac{x}{m}\right)\Gamma_{q^m}\left(\frac{x+1}{m}\right) \cdots$ $\Gamma_{q^m}\left(\frac{x+m-1}{m}\right) \left(\frac{(1-q^m)}{(1-q)}\right)^{x-1}$ for any positive integer $m$
(4) $\Gamma(x) \cdot \Gamma(1-x) = \frac{\pi}{\sin(\pi x)}$	$\Gamma_q(x)\Gamma_q(1-x)$ $= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{(1-q)(-1)^n q^{n(n+1)/2}}{(1-q^{n+x})}$
(5) $\text{dlog } \Gamma(1) = -\gamma$	$\text{dlog } \Gamma_q(1) = -\gamma_q$ .

$p$ -adic Case

gamma function

its  $q$ -extension ( $0 < |q - 1|_p < 1$ )

$$\begin{aligned}
 (1) \quad \Gamma_p(n+1) &= (-1)^{n+1} \prod_{j=1}^n j & \Gamma_{p,q}(n+1) &= (-1)^{n+1} \prod_{j=1}^n \\
 & & & \cdot (1 + q + q^2 + \cdots + q^{j-1}) \\
 (2) \quad \frac{\Gamma_p(x+1)}{\Gamma_p(x)} &= \begin{cases} -x & \text{if } x \in \mathbf{Z}_p^*, \\ -1 & \text{if } x \in p\mathbf{Z}_p, \end{cases} & \frac{\Gamma_{p,q}(x+1)}{\Gamma_{p,q}(x)} &= \begin{cases} -\frac{(1-q^x)}{(1-q)} & \text{if } x \in \mathbf{Z}_p^*, \\ -1 & \text{if } x \in p\mathbf{Z}_p, \end{cases} \\
 \Gamma_p(1) &= -1 & \Gamma_{p,q}(1) &= -1.
 \end{aligned}$$

$\Gamma_p$  and  $\Gamma_{p,q}$  are uniquely characterized by (2) together with continuity.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3) \quad \Gamma_p(x) \Gamma_p\left(\frac{1}{m}\right) \cdots \Gamma_p\left(\frac{m-1}{m}\right) &= \Gamma_p\left(\frac{x}{m}\right) \Gamma_p\left(\frac{x+1}{m}\right) \cdots \\
 & \Gamma_p\left(\frac{x+m-1}{m}\right) m^{x-\bar{x}} & \Gamma_{p,q}(x) \Gamma_{p,q^m}\left(\frac{1}{m}\right) \cdots \Gamma_{p,q^m}\left(\frac{m-1}{m}\right) \\
 & = \Gamma_{p,q^m}\left(\frac{x}{m}\right) \Gamma_{p,q^m}\left(\frac{x+1}{m}\right) \\
 & \cdots \Gamma_{p,q^m}\left(\frac{x+m-1}{m}\right) \left(\frac{1-q^m}{1-q}\right)^{x-\bar{x}} \\
 & \text{for any positive integer } m & \text{for any positive integer } m \\
 & \text{prime to } p & \text{prime to } p
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (4) \quad \Gamma_p(x) \cdot \Gamma_p(1-x) &= (-1)^{x-\bar{x}} \Gamma_p(1) & \Gamma_{p,q}(x) \cdot \Gamma_{p,1/q}(1-x) \\
 & = (-q)^{\bar{x}-x} \Gamma_{p,q}(1)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (5) \quad \text{dlog } \Gamma_p(0) &= -(1-1/p)\gamma_p & \text{dlog } \Gamma_{p,q}(0) &= -(1-1/p)\gamma_{p,q} \\
 & & & \text{(see below)}
 \end{aligned}$$

Finally,  $\Gamma_q \rightarrow \Gamma$  as  $q \rightarrow 1^-$ , and  $\Gamma_{p,q} \rightarrow \Gamma_p$  as  $q \rightarrow 1$ .

**4.  $q$ -extension of  $G'_p$ .** For  $x \in \Omega_p$  let  $d(x) = \min_{z \in \mathbf{Z}_p} |x - z|_p$  be the distance from  $x$  to  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ . For  $q = 1 + t$ ,  $|t|_p < 1$ , let  $\epsilon_q = 1/(\log_p q|_p \cdot p^{1/(p-1)})$ , and let  $D_q = \{x \in \Omega_p \mid 0 < d(x) < \epsilon_q\}$ . Thus, if  $\text{ord}_p t > 1/(p-1)$ , we have  $\epsilon_q = 1/(|t|_p \cdot p^{1/(p-1)}) > 1$  and  $D_q = \{x \in \Omega_p - \mathbf{Z}_p \mid |x|_p < \epsilon_q\}$ ; as  $q \rightarrow 1$ ,  $D_q$  expands to all of  $\Omega_p - \mathbf{Z}_p$ .

If  $x \in D_q$ , say  $|x - z|_p < \epsilon_q$  with  $z \in \mathbf{Z}_p$ , then  $q^x = q^{ze^{(x-z)\log_p q}}$ , and so  $q^x$  is a locally analytic function on  $D_q$ . Since also  $q^x \neq 1$  here, it follows that  $\log_p(1 - q^x)$  is locally analytic on  $D_q$ . We can then define

$$\begin{aligned}
 \psi_{p,q}(x) &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} p^{-N} \sum_{0 \leq j < p^N} \log_p \frac{1 - q^{x+j}}{1 - q} \\
 &= -\log_p(1 - q) + \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} p^{-N} \sum_{0 \leq j < p^N} \log_p(1 - q^{x+j}),
 \end{aligned}$$

which exists and is locally analytic on  $D_q$  by Theorem 2 of [4]. Clearly  $\psi_{p,q} \rightarrow G'_p$  as  $q \rightarrow 1$ .

We can define  $\psi_{p,q}^*(x)$ —a  $q$ -extension of  $G_p^{*'}—by replacing  $d(x)$  by  $d^*(x) = \min_{z \in \mathbb{Z}_p} |x - z|_p$ ,  $D_q$  by  $D_q^* = \{x \in \Omega_p | 0 < d^*(x) < \varepsilon_q\}$ , and  $\Sigma$  by  $\Sigma'$  in the definition of  $\psi_{p,q}$ . Then$

$$\psi_{p,q}^*(x) = \psi_{p,q}(x) - \frac{1}{p} \psi_{p,q^p}\left(\frac{x}{p}\right) - \frac{1}{p} \log_p \frac{1 - q^p}{1 - q} \quad \text{for } x \in D_q.$$

We first show the relationship between  $\psi_{p,q}(x)$  and  $d \log_p \Gamma_{p,q}(x)/dx$ .

THEOREM 3.

(1)

$$\psi_{p,q}^*(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \log_p \Gamma_{p,q}(x) \quad \text{for } x \in p\mathbb{Z}_p;$$

(2)

$$\frac{d}{dx} \log_p \Gamma_{p,q}(x) = \frac{1}{p} \sum_{\substack{0 \leq j < p \\ x+j \notin p\mathbb{Z}_p}} \psi_{p,q^p}\left(\frac{x+j}{p}\right) + \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) \log_p \frac{1 - q^p}{1 - q} \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbb{Z}_p.$$

Note that if  $\text{ord}_p(q - 1) > 1/(p - 1)$ , then  $\varepsilon_q > 1$  and  $\varepsilon_{q^p} > p$ , so that  $x \in D_q^*$  and  $(x + j)/p \in D_{q^p}$ . But even if  $\text{ord}_p(q - 1) \leq 1/(p - 1)$ , in which case we may have  $x \notin D_q^*$  and  $(x + j)/p \notin D_{q^p}$ , still  $\psi_{p,q}^*(x)$  in (1) and  $\psi_{p,q^p}((x + j)/p)$  in (2) are well defined because  $x \in p\mathbb{Z}_p$  and  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ , respectively.

PROOF. (1) By the definition of  $\Gamma_{p,q}$ , for  $x \in p\mathbb{Z}_p$  we have

$$p^{-N} (\log_p \Gamma_{p,q}(x + p^N) - \log_p \Gamma_{p,q}(x)) = p^{-N} \sum'_{0 \leq j < p^N} \log_p \frac{1 - q^{x+j}}{1 - q},$$

and taking the limit as  $N \rightarrow \infty$  gives (1).

(2) The sum on the right in (2) is equal to

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} p^{-N-1} \sum_{\substack{0 \leq j < p^N \\ 0 \leq k < p \\ x+k \notin p\mathbb{Z}_p}} \log_p \frac{1 - q^{p((x+k)/p+j)}}{1 - q^p} \\ &= - \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) \log_p \frac{1 - q^p}{1 - q} + \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} p^{-N} \sum_{\substack{0 \leq j < p^N \\ x+j \notin p\mathbb{Z}_p}} \log_p \frac{1 - q^{x+j}}{1 - q} \\ &= - \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) \log_p \frac{1 - q^p}{1 - q} + \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} p^{-N} (\log_p \Gamma_{p,q}(x + p^N) - \log_p \Gamma_{p,q}(x)) \\ &= - \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) \log_p \frac{1 - q^p}{1 - q} + \frac{d}{dx} \log_p \Gamma_{p,q}(x). \quad \text{Q.E.D.} \end{aligned}$$

The next theorem, giving identities for  $\psi_{p,q}$ , should be compared with the table in §3.

THEOREM 4. For  $x \in D_q$ ,

(1)

$$\psi_{p,q}(x+1) - \psi_{p,q}(x) = -\frac{q^x \log_p q}{1-q^x} = \frac{d}{dx} \log_p \frac{1-q^x}{1-q},$$

(2)

$$\psi_{p,q}(x) - \frac{1}{m} \sum_{h=0}^{m-1} \psi_{p,q^m}\left(\frac{x+h}{m}\right) = \log_p \frac{1-q^m}{1-q} = \frac{d}{dx} \log_p \left(\frac{1-q^m}{1-q}\right)^{x-1}$$

for any positive integer  $m$  (not necessarily prime to  $p$ ),

(3)

$$\psi_{p,q}(x) - \psi_{p,1/q}(1-x) = -\log_p q = \frac{d}{dx} \log_p (-q)^{-x}.$$

PROOF. (1) This follows by Theorem 4 of [4]:

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{p,q}(x+1) - \psi_{p,q}(x) &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} p^{-N} \left( \log_p \frac{1-q^{x+p^N}}{1-q} - \log_p \frac{1-q^x}{1-q} \right) \\ &= \frac{d}{dx} \log_p \frac{1-q^x}{1-q}. \end{aligned}$$

(2) By Theorem 1(ii) of [4],  $\psi_{p,q}(x)$  can also be written (for any  $m$ ) as

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{mp^N} \sum_{0 \leq j < mp^N} \log_p \frac{1-q^{x+j}}{1-q}.$$

Then the left side in (2) equals

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{mp^N} \sum_{0 \leq j < mp^N} \log_p \frac{1-q^{x+j}}{1-q} \right. \\ \left. - \frac{1}{mp^N} \sum_{0 \leq j < p^N} \sum_{0 \leq h < m} \log_p \frac{1-q^{m((x+h)/m+j)}}{1-q^m} \right) \\ = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{mp^N} \sum_{0 \leq j < mp^N} \left( \log_p \frac{1-q^{x+j}}{1-q} - \log_p \frac{1-q^{x+j}}{1-q^m} \right) = \log_p \frac{1-q^m}{1-q}. \end{aligned}$$

(3)

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{p,q}(x) - \psi_{p,1/q}(1-x) &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} p^{-N} \sum_{0 \leq j < p^N} \left( \log_p \frac{1-q^{x+j}}{1-q} - \log_p \frac{1-q^{-(1-x+p^N-1-j)}}{1-q^{-1}} \right) \\ &= -\log_p q + \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} p^{-N} \sum_{0 \leq j < p^N} \log_p \frac{1-q^{x+j}}{1-q^{x+j-p^N}}. \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned}\log_p \frac{1 - q^{x+j}}{1 - q^{x+j-p^N}} &= -\log_p \left( 1 - \frac{q^{x+j}}{1 - q^{x+j}} (q^{-p^N} - 1) \right) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k} \frac{q^{(x+j)k}}{(1 - q^{x+j})^k} (q^{-p^N} - 1)^k,\end{aligned}$$

and

$$q^{-p^N} - 1 = (1 + t)^{-p^N} - 1 = -p^N t + p^N(p^N + 1)t^2/2 - \dots,$$

it quickly follows that the last limit is zero. Q.E.D.

Finally, we give  $q$ -extensions of Diamond's  $p$ -adic Euler constants [4]. If  $r, f \in \mathbf{Z}$ ,  $f \geq 1$ , and if  $\text{ord}_p(r/f) < 0$ , then define

$$\gamma_{p,q}(r, f) = - \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{fp^N} \sum_{\substack{0 \leq j < fp^N \\ j \equiv r \pmod{f}}} \log_p \frac{1 - q^j}{1 - q}.$$

Also set

$$\gamma_{p,q} = \frac{p}{p-1} \sum_{j=1}^{p-1} \gamma_{p,q}(j, p) = - \frac{p}{p-1} \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} p^{-N} \sum'_{0 \leq j < p^N} \log_p \frac{1 - q^j}{1 - q}.$$

Then it is easy to prove the following two theorems, which generalize Theorem 14 in [4].

**THEOREM 5.** (1) If  $d|(r, f)$ , then

$$f\gamma_{p,q}(r, f) = (f/d)\gamma_{p,q^d}(r/d, f/d) - \log_p \frac{1 - q^d}{1 - q}.$$

(2)  $\gamma_{p,q}(r, f) = \gamma_{p,1/q}(f - r, f) + (1/f)\log_p q$ .

(3) If  $b$  is a positive integer, then  $\gamma_{p,q}(r, f) = \sum_{j=0}^{b-1} \gamma_{p,q}(r + jf, bf)$ .

**THEOREM 6.** (1) If  $\text{ord}_p(r/f) < 0$  and  $0 < r < f$ , then

$$\psi_{p,q^f}(r/f) = -\log_p \frac{1 - q^f}{1 - q} - f\gamma_{p,q}(r, f).$$

(2)  $\psi_{p,q}^*(0) = \Gamma'_{p,q}(0) = -(1 - 1/p)\gamma_{p,q}$ .

**REMARKS.** 1. In [4] Diamond denotes a limit of the form  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} p^{-N} \sum_{0 \leq j < p^N} f(j, x)$  by  $\int f(u, x) du$ . This is the Riemann sum definition of the integral over  $\mathbf{Z}_p$  with respect to the Haar distribution  $\mu_{\text{Haar}}(j + p^N \mathbf{Z}_p) = p^{-N}$  if one chooses  $j$  as the representative "point" in the "interval"  $j + p^N \mathbf{Z}_p$ ; since  $\mu_{\text{Haar}}$  is not bounded, the limit of the Riemann sums does not exist independently of the choice of representative. The relationship between  $\mu_{\text{Haar}}$  and the  $\mu_z$  in [9] given by  $\mu_z(j + p^N \mathbf{Z}_p) = z^j/(1 - z^{p^N})$  is as follows. If we choose  $z = q$  with  $|q - 1|_p < 1$  (but  $q$  not a  $p$ th-power root of 1), then  $\mu_q$  is an unbounded distribution, and  $d\mu_{\text{Haar}} = -q^{-u} \log_p q \, d\mu_q = (d/du)(q^{-u}) \, d\mu_q$  in the sense that



$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{0 \leq j < p^N} f(j, x) \mu_{\text{Haar}}(j + p^N \mathbf{Z}_p) \\ = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{0 \leq j < p^N} f(j, x) (-q^{-j} \log_p q) \mu_q(j + p^N \mathbf{Z}_p). \end{aligned}$$

2. If we wanted to construct a  $q$ -extension  $G_{p,q}$  of  $G_p$  having the form  $G_{p,q}(x) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} p^{-N} \sum_{0 \leq j < p^N} f(x + j)$ , we would have to find an  $f$  whose derivative is  $\log_p((1 - q^x)/(1 - q))$ . It is not clear what a natural choice for such an  $f$  might be. However, one could use the technique in [9] to define a "twisted"  $G_{p,q}$  by

$$G_{p,q,\xi}(x) = - \int_{\mathbf{Z}_p} \log_p \frac{1 - q^{x+u}}{1 - q} d\mu_{\xi}(u) \quad \text{for } x \in D_q,$$

where  $\xi^r = 1$ ,  $\xi \neq 1$ ,  $p \nmid r$ , and  $\mu_{\xi}(j + p^N \mathbf{Z}_p) = \xi^j / (1 - \xi^{p^N})$ . This function satisfies

(1)

$$\xi G_{p,q,\xi}(x + 1) - G_{p,q,\xi}(x) = \log_p \frac{1 - q^x}{1 - q},$$

(2)

$$G_{p,q,\xi}(x) - \sum_{h=0}^{m-1} \xi^h G_{p,q,\xi^m} \left( \frac{x+h}{m} \right) = \frac{1}{1-\xi} \log_p \frac{1 - q^m}{1 - q},$$

(3)

$$G_{p,q,\xi}(x) + \xi^{-1} G_{p,q^{-1},\xi^{-1}}(1-x) = \frac{1}{1-\xi} \log_p q.$$

In conclusion, I would like to thank Richard Askey and Dennis Stanton for stimulating correspondence and conversations.

# REFERENCES

1. R. Askey, *The  $q$ -gamma and  $q$ -beta functions*, *Applicable Anal.* **8** (1978), 125–141.
2. ———, *Ramanujan's extensions of the gamma and beta functions*, *Amer. Math. Monthly* (to appear).
3. L. Carlitz,  *$q$ -Bernoulli numbers and polynomials*, *Duke Math. J.* **15** (1948), 987–1000.
4. J. Diamond, *The  $p$ -adic log gamma function and  $p$ -adic Euler constants*, *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.* **233** (1977), 321–337.
5. ———, *On the values of  $p$ -adic  $L$ -functions at positive integers*, *Acta Arith.* (to appear).
6. B. Ferrero and R. Greenberg, *On the behavior of  $p$ -adic  $L$ -functions at  $s = 0$* , *Invent. Math.* **50** (1978), 91–102.
7. K. Iwasawa, *Lectures on  $p$ -adic  $L$ -functions*, Princeton Univ. Press, Princeton, N. J., 1972.
8. F. H. Jackson, *On  $q$ -definite integrals*, *Quart. J. Pure and Appl. Math.* **41** (1910), 193–203.
9. N. Koblitz, *A new proof of certain formulas for  $p$ -adic  $L$ -functions*, *Duke Math. J.* **46** (1979), 455–468.
10. T. Kubota and H. W. Leopoldt, *Eine  $p$ -adische Theorie der Zetawerte. I*, *J. Reine Angew. Math.* **214/215** (1965), 328–339.
11. D. Moak, *The  $q$ -gamma function for  $q > 1$* , *Aequationes Math.* (to appear).
12. ———, *University of Wisconsin Dissertation* (to appear).
13. Y. Morita, *A  $p$ -adic analogue of the  $\Gamma$ -function*, *J. Fac. Sc. Univ. Tokyo Sect. IA Math.* **22** (1975), 255–266.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98195