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COMMENT

**On the Clebsch–Gordan coefficients for the two-parameter quantum algebra  $SU(2)_{p,q}$**

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**Abstract.** We show that the Clebsch–Gordan coefficients for the  $SU(2)_{p,q}$  algebra depend on a single parameter  $Q = \sqrt{pq}$ , contrary to the explicit calculation of Smirnov and Wehrhahn.

Recently, the Clebsch–Gordan problem for the two-parameter quantum algebra  $SU(2)_{p,q}$  was analysed [Smirnov and Wehrhahn 1992]. It was claimed that the corresponding Clebsch–Gordan coefficients do depend on the two deforming parameters  $p$  and  $q$ .

In this comment we show that the Clebsch–Gordan coefficients depend effectively only on one parameter  $Q = \sqrt{pq}$ , and that  $SU(2)_{p,q}$  is isomorphic to  $SU(2)_Q$ , both as algebras and Hopf co-algebras. Our results are in agreement with Drinfeld (1989).

We recall the  $SU(2)_{p,q}$  algebra defined by Smirnov and Wehrhahn (1992) ( $p$  and  $q$  are real parameters):

$$\begin{aligned}
 [J_0, J_{\pm}] &= \pm J_{\pm} \\
 [J_+, J_-]_{p,q} &= J_+ J_- - pq^{-1} J_- J_+ = [2J_0]_{p,q} \\
 [2J_0]_{p,q} &= \frac{q^{2J_0} - p^{-2J_0}}{q - p^{-1}} \\
 (J_0)^+ &= J_0 \quad (J_{\pm})^+ = J_{\mp}.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{1}$$

The coproduct  $\Delta$  is:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Delta(J_{\pm}) &= J_{\pm} \otimes p^{-J_0} + q^{J_0} \otimes J_{\pm} \\
 \Delta(J_0) &= J_0 \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes J_0.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{2}$$

The finite dimensional unitary irreducible representation (IRREP)  $D^j$  of spin  $j$  contains the highest weight vector  $|jj\rangle$ , satisfying

$$\begin{aligned}
 J_0 |jj\rangle &= j |jj\rangle \\
 J_+ |jj\rangle &= 0 \\
 \langle jj | jj \rangle &= 1.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{3}$$

The other orthonormalized states of IRREP  $D^j$ ,  $|jm\rangle$ , with  $-j \leq m \leq j$ , satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} J_+ |jm\rangle_{p,q} &= (pq^{-1})^{1/2(j-m-1)} \sqrt{[j-m]_{p,q} [j+m+1]_{p,q}} |jm+1\rangle_{p,q} \\ J_- |jm\rangle_{p,q} &= (pq^{-1})^{1/2(j-m)} \sqrt{[j+m]_{p,q} [j-m+1]_{p,q}} |jm-1\rangle_{p,q} \\ J_0 |jm\rangle_{p,q} &= m |jm\rangle_{p,q}. \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Now, we define the  $SU(2)_Q$  algebra with three generators  $(J_\pm)_Q$  and  $(J_0)_Q$ :

$$\begin{aligned} [(J_0)_Q, (J_\pm)_Q] &= \pm (J_\pm)_Q \\ [(J_+)_Q, (J_-)_Q] &= [2(J_0)_Q]_Q \\ [n]_Q &= \frac{Q^n - Q^{-n}}{Q - Q^{-1}} = (p/q)^{1/2(n-1)} [n]_{p,q} \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

with the coproduct

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta((J_\pm)_Q) &= (J_\pm)_Q \otimes Q^{-(J_0)_Q} + Q^{+(J_0)_Q} \otimes (J_\pm)_Q \\ \Delta((J_0)_Q) &= (J_0)_Q \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes (J_0)_Q. \end{aligned}$$

The relations between the  $SU(2)_{p,q}$  generators and the  $SU(2)_Q$  generators are

$$\begin{aligned} J_+ &= (q/p)^{1/2(J_0-1/2)} (J_+)_Q \\ J_- &= (q/p)^{1/2(J_0+1/2)} (J_-)_Q \\ J_0 &= (J_0)_Q. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

It is easy to show that relations (7) map equations (1) and equations (5) one into another. Moreover, the  $SU(2)_{p,q}$  coproduct is identical to the  $SU(2)_Q$  coproduct,  $\Delta_{p,q} \equiv \Delta_Q$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{p,q}(J_0) &= \Delta_Q(J_0) = J_0 \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes J_0 \\ \Delta_{p,q}(J_\pm) &= \Delta_Q(J_\pm) = \Delta_Q((q/p)^{1/2(J_0 \mp 1/2)} (J_\pm)_Q) \\ &= J_\pm \otimes p^{-J_0} + q^{J_0} \otimes J_\pm. \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

This is also true for the antipode  $\gamma_{p,q} \equiv \gamma_Q$ , the counit  $\varepsilon_{p,q} \equiv \varepsilon_Q$ , the states  $|jm\rangle_{p,q} \equiv |jm\rangle_Q$  and the Casimir operator  $(C_2)_{p,q} \equiv (C_2)_Q$ . Thus we have proved the Hopf-algebra isomorphism between  $SU(2)_{p,q}$  and  $SU(2)_Q$ . As a consequence of this isomorphism, the  $p, q$  Clebsch–Gordan coefficients of  $SU(2)_{p,q}$  should be identical to those of  $SU(2)_Q$ .

Returning to the Smirnov and Wehrhahn paper, one can immediately show, using our equation (5) and  $[n]_{p,q} = (q/p)^{(n-1)/2} [n]_Q$ , that all the equations in section 2 of their paper can be reduced to the equations with single parameter  $Q$ . Particularly, the states in equation (2.7) can be written as  $|jm\rangle_{p,q} = |jm\rangle_Q$ . Therefore, the projection operator  $P^j_{mm'} = |jm\rangle \langle jm'|$  also has to be expressed in terms of the  $Q$ -parameter only. However, their projection operator, eq. (3.7), is wrong since it explicitly depends on the  $(p/q)$  parameter and does not satisfy the projection property  $(P^j_{mm'})^2 = P^j_{mm'}$ . Hence, all the subsequent formulae in section 5 (starting with the equation (5.3)) are incorrect. For example, the Clebsch–Gordan coefficients given in table 1 do not satisfy the orthonormality relations (4.10).

The correct formula for the projection operator should read

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_{mm'}^j &= \left(\frac{p}{q}\right)^{-1/4(j-m)(j-m-1)} \sqrt{\frac{[j+m]_{p,q}!}{[2j]_{p,q}![j-m]_{p,q}!}} J_-^{j-m} P^j J_+^{j-m'} \\
 &\times \left(\frac{p}{q}\right)^{-1/4(j-m')(j-m'-1)} \sqrt{\frac{[j+m']_{p,q}!}{[2j]_{p,q}![j-m']_{p,q}!}} \\
 &\equiv (P_{mm'}^j)_Q.
 \end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

Using this projector we obtain the Clebsch–Gordan coefficients which depend on the single parameter  $Q$ . In this way, these Clebsch–Gordan coefficients are identical to those for  $SU(2)_Q$ :

$$\langle j_1 m_1 j_2 m_2 | JM \rangle_{p,q} = \langle j_1 m_1 j_2 m_2 | JM \rangle_{Q=\sqrt{pq}} \tag{10}$$

for all  $j_1, m_1, j_2, m_2, J$  and  $M$ .

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**References**

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