

**ANOTHER METHOD FOR PADMANABHAM'S  
TRANSFORMATION FORMULA FOR EXTON'S TRIPLE  
HYPERGEOMETRIC SERIES  $X_8$**

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ABSTRACT. The object of this note is to derive Padmanabham's transformation formula for Exton's triple hypergeometric series  $X_8$  by using a different method from that of Padmanabham's. An interesting special case is also pointed out.

**1. Introduction and preliminaries**

In 1982, Exton [3] introduced a set of 20 triple hypergeometric series  $X_1$  to  $X_{20}$  of which we recall here the definition of  $X_8$ :

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{aligned} & X_8(a, b, c; d, e, f; x, y, z) \\ &= \sum_{m, n, p=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_{2m+n+p} (b)_n (c)_p x^m y^n z^p}{(d)_m (e)_n (f)_p m! n! p!}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $(\alpha)_n$  denotes the Pochhammer symbol defined by

$$(1.2) \quad (\alpha)_n = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \quad (\alpha \neq 0, -1, -2, \dots; n = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$$

The precise three-dimensional region of convergence of (1.1) is given by Srivastava and Karlsson [9, p. 101, Entry 41a]:

$$4r = (s + t - 1)^2, \quad |x| < r, \quad |y| < s, \quad \text{and} \quad |z| < t,$$

where the positive quantities  $r$ ,  $s$  and  $t$  are associated radii of convergence. For details about this function and many other three-variables hypergeometric functions, one refers to Srivastava and Karlsson [9].

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Exton [3] gave the following Laplace integral representation of (1.1):

$$(1.3) \quad X_8(a, b, c; d, e, f; x, y, z) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \int_0^\infty e^{-u} u^{a-1} {}_0F_1(-; d; u^2 x) {}_1F_1(b; e; uy) {}_1F_1(c; f; uz) du,$$

provided  $\Re(a) > 0$ .

It may be remarked in passing that  $X_8$  reduces to Horn's function  $H_4$  when  $z \rightarrow 0$  and the Appell's function  $F_2$  when  $x \rightarrow 0$ .

Srivastava and Panda [11, p. 423, Eq. (26)] presented a definition of a general double hypergeometric function:

$$(1.4) \quad F_{l:m;n}^{p:q;k} \left[ \begin{matrix} (a_p) & : & (b_q) & ; & (c_k) & ; & x, y \\ (\alpha_l) & : & (\beta_m) & ; & (\gamma_n) & ; & \end{matrix} \right] = \sum_{r,s=0}^{\infty} \frac{\prod_{j=1}^p (a_j)_{r+s} \prod_{j=1}^q (b_j)_r \prod_{j=1}^k (c_j)_s x^r y^s}{\prod_{j=1}^l (\alpha_j)_{r+s} \prod_{j=1}^m (\beta_j)_r \prod_{j=1}^n (\gamma_j)_s r! s!},$$

where the several cases of convergence conditions are given in [10, p. 64]. Note that Srivastava and Panda's function (1.4) is more general than the one defined by Kampé de Fériet [5] (*cf.* Appell et Kampé de Fériet [1, p. 150, Eq. (29)]).

In 2003, Padmanabham [6] obtained the following result for  $X_8$ :

$$(1.5) \quad X_8(a, b, b; d, c, c; x, -x, x) = F_{0:3;1}^{2:2;0} \left[ \begin{matrix} \frac{1}{2}a, \frac{1}{2}a + \frac{1}{2} & : & b, c - b & ; & - - - & ; & x^2, 4x \\ - - - - & : & c, \frac{1}{2}c, \frac{1}{2}c + \frac{1}{2} & ; & d & ; & \end{matrix} \right]$$

by employing the following result due to Ramanujan [4] involving product of two generalized hypergeometric series:

$$(1.6) \quad {}_1F_1(a; b; x) \times {}_1F_1(a; b; -x) = {}_2F_3 \left( a, b - a; b, \frac{1}{2}b, \frac{1}{2}b + \frac{1}{2}; \frac{x^2}{4} \right).$$

Consider the special case of (1.5) when  $c = 2b$ :

$$(1.7) \quad X_8(a, b, b; d, 2b, 2b; x, -x, x) = F_{0:2;1}^{2:1;0} \left[ \begin{matrix} \frac{1}{2}a, \frac{1}{2}a + \frac{1}{2} & : & b & ; & - - & ; & x^2, 4x \\ - - - - & : & 2b, b + \frac{1}{2} & ; & d & ; & \end{matrix} \right].$$

It is interesting here to point out that, instead of (1.6), the identity (1.7) can also be established by using the following well-known Preece's identity [7] involving product of two generalized hypergeometric series:

$$(1.8) \quad {}_1F_1(a; 2a; x) \times {}_1F_1(a; 2a; -x) = {}_1F_2 \left( a; 2a, a + \frac{1}{2}; \frac{x^2}{4} \right).$$

We will derive Padmanabham's transformation formula (1.5) for Exton's triple hypergeometric series  $X_8$  by using a different method from that of Padmanabham's. For our purpose, we recall here Dixon's theorem [8, p. 250] for

the well poised  ${}_3F_2(1)$ :

$$(1.9) \quad {}_3F_2 \left[ \begin{matrix} a, b, c \\ 1+a-b, 1+a-c \end{matrix} ; 1 \right] = \frac{\Gamma(1+\frac{1}{2}a)\Gamma(1+a-b)\Gamma(1+a-c)\Gamma(1+\frac{1}{2}a-b-c)}{\Gamma(1+a)\Gamma(1+\frac{1}{2}a-b)\Gamma(1+\frac{1}{2}a-c)\Gamma(1+a-b-c)} (\Re(a-2b-2c) > -2).$$

We also recall the following well-known identities involving the Pochhammer symbol in (1.2) (see [8, p. 6–8]):

$$(1.10) \quad (\alpha)_{n-p} = \frac{(-1)^p (\alpha)_n}{(1-\alpha-n)_p} \quad \text{and} \quad (n-p)! = \frac{(-1)^p n!}{(-n)_p} \quad (\alpha = 1);$$

$$(1.11) \quad (\alpha)_{2n} = 2^{2n} \left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)_n \left(\frac{\alpha}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\right)_n;$$

$$(1.12) \quad \frac{\Gamma(\alpha-n)}{\Gamma(\alpha)} = \frac{(-1)^n}{(1-\alpha)_n};$$

$$(1.13) \quad (\alpha)_m (\alpha+m)_n = (\alpha)_{m+n}.$$

**2. Derivation of (1.5)**

Replacing  $c$  by  $b$ ,  $e$  and  $f$  by  $c$ ,  $y$  by  $-x$ , and  $z$  by  $x$  in (1.1), we have

$$X_8 := X_8(a, b, b; d, c, c; x, -x, x) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_{2m+n+p} (b)_n (b)_p (-1)^n x^{m+n+p}}{(d)_m (c)_n (c)_p m! n! p!},$$

which, upon using  $(a)_{2m+n+p} = (a)_{2m} (a+2m)_{n+p}$ , becomes

$$(2.1) \quad X_8 = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_{2m} x^m}{(d)_m m!} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a+2m)_{n+p} (b)_n (b)_p (-1)^n x^{n+p}}{(c)_n (c)_p n! p!}.$$

By making use of the well-known formal manipulation for double series (for more related formulas, see [2]):

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_{k, n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=0}^n A_{k, n-k}$$

in (2.1), we obtain

$$(2.2) \quad X_8 = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_{2m} x^m}{(d)_m m!} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{p=0}^n \frac{(a+2m)_n (b)_{n-p} (b)_p (-1)^{n-p} x^n}{(c)_p (c)_{n-p} (n-p)! p!}.$$

Applying (1.10) and (1.11) to (2.2), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 X_8 &= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{\left(\frac{a}{2}\right)_m \left(\frac{a}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\right)_m (4x)^m}{(d)_m m!} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a+2m)_n (b)_n (-x)^n}{(c)_n n!} \\
 &\quad \cdot \sum_{p=0}^n \frac{(-n)_p (b)_p (1-c-n)_p}{(1-n-b)_p (c)_p p!} \\
 (2.3) \quad &= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{\left(\frac{a}{2}\right)_m \left(\frac{a}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\right)_m (4x)^m}{(d)_m m!} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a+2m)_n (b)_n (-x)^n}{(c)_n n!} \\
 &\quad \cdot {}_3F_2 \left[ \begin{matrix} -n, b, 1-n-c \\ 1-n-b, c \end{matrix}; 1 \right].
 \end{aligned}$$

Applying Dixon's theorem (1.9) to  ${}_3F_2(1)$  in (2.3), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 X_8 &= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{\left(\frac{a}{2}\right)_m \left(\frac{a}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\right)_m (4x)^m}{(d)_m m!} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a+2m)_n (b)_n (-x)^n}{(c)_n n!} \\
 (2.4) \quad &\quad \cdot \mathcal{A}(b, c; n),
 \end{aligned}$$

where, for convenience,

$$\mathcal{A}(b, c; n) := \frac{\Gamma(c) \Gamma(1-b-n) \Gamma(c-b+\frac{1}{2}n) \Gamma(1-\frac{1}{2}n)}{\Gamma(c-b) \Gamma(c+\frac{1}{2}n) \Gamma(1-b-\frac{1}{2}n) \Gamma(1-n)}.$$

By making use of Legendre's duplication formula for the Gamma function:

$$\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \Gamma(2\alpha) = 2^{2\alpha-1} \Gamma(\alpha) \Gamma\left(\alpha + \frac{1}{2}\right),$$

we have

$$\mathcal{A}(b, c; n) = \frac{\Gamma(c) \Gamma(1-b-n) \Gamma(c-b+\frac{1}{2}n)}{\Gamma(c-b) \Gamma(c+\frac{1}{2}n) \Gamma(1-b-\frac{1}{2}n)} \cdot \frac{2^n \Gamma(\frac{1}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}n)},$$

from which we see that

$$(2.5) \quad \mathcal{A}(b, c; n) = 0$$

whenever  $n$  is an odd positive integer.

Considering (2.5), we can rewrite  $X_8$  in (2.4) as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 X_8 &= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{\left(\frac{a}{2}\right)_m \left(\frac{a}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\right)_m (4x)^m}{(d)_m m!} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a+2m)_{2n} (b)_{2n} x^{2n}}{(c)_{2n} (2n)!} \\
 (2.6) \quad &\quad \cdot \frac{\Gamma(c) \Gamma(1-b-2n) \Gamma(c-b+n)}{\Gamma(c-b) \Gamma(c+n) \Gamma(1-b-n)} \cdot \frac{2^{2n} \Gamma(\frac{1}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}-n)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

If we employ (1.11), (1.12), and (1.13) in (2.6), we finally obtain

$$X_8 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}a\right)_{m+n} \left(\frac{1}{2}a + \frac{1}{2}\right)_{m+n} (b)_n (c-b)_n x^{2n} (4x)^m}{(c)_n \left(\frac{1}{2}c\right)_n \left(\frac{1}{2}c + \frac{1}{2}\right)_n (d)_m n! m!},$$

which, upon using (1.4), leads to the desired formula (1.5).

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