

Quintuple Product Identities

There are many ways to express quintuple products and I explain four of them. Ramanujan transformed the quintuple product identity into expressions for which the coefficients turn out to be the positive integers except for multiples of 3.

The concepts are illustrated using examples from Python programs that use the symbolic programming features of Sympy. For detailed explanations, derivations, and proofs, see Chapter 5 of *An Introduction to q-analysis* by Warren P. Johnson, Chapter 1 of *Number theory in the Spirit of Ramanujan* by Bruce C. Berndt, and “The Quintuple Product Identity” by Shaun Cooper in the *International Journal of Number Theory*, 2006, Vol. 2, No.1.

1 Quintuple Product Identity from Chen-Chu-Gu Identity

The quintuple product identity is the infinite form of the Chen-Chu-Gu identity, which was discussed in my article Curious and Complicated q-Binomial Theorems. Starting with the finite Chen-Chu-Gu identity, letting m and n go to infinity, assuming $|q| < 1$ and $z \neq 0$, and some algebraic manipulation results in the quintuple product identity

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} q^{\frac{n(3n-1)}{2}} z^{3n} (1 - zq^n) = (z; q)_{\infty} \left(\frac{q}{z}; q \right)_{\infty} (q; q)_{\infty} (z^2 q; q^2)_{\infty} \left(\frac{q}{z^2}; q^2 \right)_{\infty}.$$

Note that the first three factors in the quintuple product are the same as the three factors of the alternative form of Jacobi’s triple product identity (see my article Triple Product Identities).

2 Quintuple Product Alternative

Starting with the previous quintuple product identity and replacing q with q^6 , replacing z with zq^3 , and multiplying by zq results in a useful alternative form: $\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} q^{(3n+1)^2} (z^{3n+1} - z^{-(3n+1)}) =$

$$q(z - z^{-1})(zq^3; q^6)_{\infty} \left(\frac{q^3}{z}; q^6 \right)_{\infty} (q^6; q^6)_{\infty} (z^2 q^{12}; q^{12})_{\infty} \left(\frac{q^{12}}{z^2}; q^{12} \right)_{\infty}$$

From the results shown in Tables 3 and 4, this alternative quintuple product identity is very close to being true for $|q| < 1$ and $z \neq 0$. It has excellent convergence even for $inf = 50$.

Table 3: Quintuple Product Alternative Convergence	
Percent Difference (green: less than 0.001%)	
$inf = 50$	$inf = 100$ and 1000
-50 -46 -42 -38 -34 -30 -26 -22 -18 -14 -10 -6 -2 2 6 10 14 18 22 26 30 34 38 42 46 50	-50 -46 -42 -38 -34 -30 -26 -22 -18 -14 -10 -6 -2 2 6 10 14 18 22 26 30 34 38 42 46 50
0.04	0.04
0.09	0.09
0.14	0.14
0.19	0.19
0.24	0.24
0.29	0.29
0.34	0.34
0.39	0.39
0.44	0.44
0.49	0.49
0.54	0.54
0.59	0.59
0.64	0.64
0.69	0.69
0.74	0.74
0.79	0.79
0.84	0.84
0.89	0.89
0.94	0.94
0.99	0.99

Table 4: Quintuple Product Alternative Convergence	
Difference (green: less than 10)	
$inf = 50$	$inf = 100$ and 1000
-50 -46 -42 -38 -34 -30 -26 -22 -18 -14 -10 -6 -2 2 6 10 14 18 22 26 30 34 38 42 46 50	-50 -46 -42 -38 -34 -30 -26 -22 -18 -14 -10 -6 -2 2 6 10 14 18 22 26 30 34 38 42 46 50
0.04	0.04
0.09	0.09
0.14	0.14
0.19	0.19
0.24	0.24
0.29	0.29
0.34	0.34
0.39	0.39
0.44	0.44
0.49	0.49
0.54	0.54
0.59	0.59
0.64	0.64
0.69	0.69
0.74	0.74
0.79	0.79
0.84	0.84
0.89	0.89
0.94	0.94
0.99	0.99

5 Quintuple Product Ramanujan

In 1916 Ramanujan made interesting observations about the coefficients in the expansions of two versions of the quintuple product identity. See “The Quintuple Product Identity” by Shaun Cooper in the *International Journal of Number Theory*, 2006, Vol. 2, No.1.

Version 1: Starting with a version of the summation $\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} q^{(3n^2+n)/2} (z^{3n} - z^{-3n-1})$, divide by $x - 1$

and let $x \rightarrow 1$ to obtain $\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} q^{(3n^2+n)/2} (6n + 1)$.

The first 10 terms are $1*q^{**0} - 5*q^{**1} + 7*q^{**2} - 11*q^{**5} + 13*q^{**7} - 17*q^{**12} + 19*q^{**15} - 23*q^{**22} + 25*q^{**26} - 29*q^{**35} + 31*q^{**40}$.

Ramanujan observed that the coefficients are the odd positive integers, omitting multiples of 3.

Version 2: Starting with a version of the summation $\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} q^{3n^2+2n} (z^{3n} - z^{-3n-2})$ divide by $1 - x^2$ and

let $x \rightarrow -1$ to obtain $\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{3n^2+2n} (3n + 1)$.

The first 10 terms are $1*q^{**0} + 2*q^{**1} - 4*q^{**5} - 5*q^{**8} + 7*q^{**16} + 8*q^{**21} - 10*q^{**33} - 11*q^{**40} + 13*q^{**56} + 14*q^{**65}$.

Ramanujan observed that the coefficients are the positive integers, omitting multiples of 3.