# UNCERTAINTY PRINCIPLES FOR THE q-HANKEL TRANSFORM

#### LUIS DANIEL ABREU

ABSTRACT: We prove two propositions related to the support of functions and their q-Hankel transform. The first says that if a function f and its q-Hankel transform both vanish at the points  $q^{-n}$ , n=1,2,... then f must vanish identically. The second asserts that if f is supported at [0,T] and its q-Hankel transform at  $[0,\Omega]$  then  $\Omega T \geq (q;q)_{\infty}^2$ .

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#### 1. Introduction

The Fourier transform of a  $L^1(\mathbf{R})$  function supported on a finite interval (a,b)

$$f^{\hat{}}(\omega) = \int_{a}^{b} f(t)e^{-\omega it}dt \tag{1}$$

defines an entire function. Therefore, if f itself has compact support, then it must vanish identically since it vanishes on a set with an accumulation point. By Fourier inversion f itself must vanish identically. This is the most simple manifestation of the uncertainty principle of Fourier analysis which says, in general, that a function and its transform cannot be simultaneously small. The present note pretends to address the question of how to prove such a statement if, instead of the Lebesgue measure, one is working with a measure without an accumulation point outside the interval (a, b).

Consider a number q in the real interval (0,1). The prototype of the situation just described is the discrete Jackson q-integral

$$\int_0^\infty f(t) d_q t = (1 - q) \sum_{n = -\infty}^\infty f(q^n) q^n.$$
 (2)

where the spectrum of the measure is  $\{q^n\}_{n=-\infty}^{\infty}$  which has zero as the only accumulation point. Using the q-integral and a suitable chosen q-analogue of

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the Bessel function (which we will define in the next section), Koornwinder and Swarttouw defined in [5] a q-analogue of the Hankel transform,  $H_q^{\nu}f$ , setting

$$(H_q^{\nu} f)(x) = \int_0^{\infty} (xt)^{\frac{1}{2}} J_{\nu}^{(3)}(xt; q^2) f(t) d_q t$$
 (3)

For the transform  $H_q^{\nu}f$ , we will prove that, in a convenient normalized space, if f and  $H_q^{\nu}f$  vanish at all the points of the spectrum outside the interval (0,1), then f must vanish in the equivalent classes of the normalized space considered. The presentation is organized as follows. In the next section we introduce the notions about q-calculus to be used in the remaining of the paper. In the third section we prove our main theorem and deduce from it a proposition about uniqueness sets in a certain Hilbert space of entire functions. In the last section we obtain some estimates on the kernel of the integral transform and use them to conclude, from a general proposition due to de Jeu [6], that the length of the support of f times the length of the support of  $H_q^{\nu}f$  must be bigger than a certain positive quantity, paralleling a classical result about Fourier transforms.

## 2. Basic definitions and facts

The third Jackson q-Bessel function or the Hahn-Exton q-Bessel function is defined by

$$J_{\nu}(z;q) = \frac{(q^{\nu+1};q)_{\infty}}{(q;q)_{\infty}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{q^{n(n+1)/2}}{(q^{\nu+1};q)_n(q;q)_n} z^{2n+\nu}$$
(4)

The notation  $J_{\nu}^{(3)}(z;q)$  is used to distinguish it from the other two known q-Bessel functions. Since this is the only Bessel function appearing on the text, we will drop the superscript for shortness of the notations and write  $J_{\nu}(z;q) = J_{\nu}^{(3)}(z;q)$ . The symbols in the above definitions are

$$(a;q)_n = (1-q)(1-aq)\dots(1-aq^{n-1})$$
(5)

with the zero and infinite cases as

$$(a;q)_0 = 1 \tag{6}$$

$$(a;q)_{\infty} = \lim_{n \to \infty} (a;q)_n = \prod_{k=0}^{\infty} (1 - aq^n)$$
 (7)

The infinite product above can be written in series form by means of the the Euler formula:

$$(z;q)_{\infty} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{q^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}}}{(q;q)_n} x^n$$
 (8)

The q-integral in the finite interval (0, a) is

$$\int_0^a f(t) \, d_q t = (1 - q) \, a \sum_{n=0}^\infty f(aq^n) \, q^n \tag{9}$$

and in the interval  $(0, \infty)$ 

$$\int_{0}^{\infty} f(t) d_{q}t = (1 - q) \sum_{n = -\infty}^{\infty} f(q^{n}) q^{n}$$
(10)

We will denote by  $L_q^p(X)$  the Banach space induced by the norm

$$||f||_p = \left[ \int_X |f(t)|^p d_q t \right]^{\frac{1}{p}}.$$
 (11)

For entire indices, the functions  $J_n(x;q)$  are generated by the relation, valid for |xt| < 1,

$$\frac{\left(qxt^{-1};q\right)_{\infty}}{\left(xt;q\right)_{\infty}} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} J_n(x;q)t^n \tag{12}$$

It was shown in [5] that the q-Hankel transform satisfies the inversion formula

$$f(t) = \int_0^\infty (xt)^{\frac{1}{2}} (H_q^{\nu} f)(x) J_{\nu}(xt; q^2) d_q x = (H_q^{\nu} (H_q^{\nu} f))(t)$$
 (13)

where t takes the values  $q^k, k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

# 3. A vanishing theorem for the q-Hankel transform

The main tool in the proof of the main result in this section is the following completeness criterion, derived in [2] as a consequence of the Phragmén-Lindelöf principle for functions of order less than one.

**Theorem A.** Let f and g be defined by their power series expansions as  $f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n z^{2n}$  and  $g(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n b_n z^{2n}$ . Denote by  $\lambda_n$  the nth zero of g. If the order of f is less than one, then the sequence  $\{f(\lambda_n x)\}$  is complete  $L_g(0,1)$  if, as  $n \to \infty$ ,

$$\frac{a_n}{b_n} \to 0 \tag{14}$$

Now we formulate and proof our main result, which is an uncertainty principle of a qualitative nature. Essentially it says that a  $L_q^1(\mathbf{R}^+)$  function and its q-Hankel transform cannot be both simultaneously supported inside the interval (0,1).

**Theorem 1.** Let  $f \in L_q^1(\mathbf{R}^+)$  such that both f and its q-Hankel transform vanish at the points  $q^{-n}$ ,  $n \in \mathbf{N}_0$ , then

$$f(q^k) = 0, k \in \mathbf{Z}.\tag{15}$$

that is,  $f \equiv 0$  almost everywhere in  $L_q^1(\mathbf{R}^+)$ . If f is analytic then f must vanish identically in the whole complex plane.

**Proof**. Let  $f \in L^1_q(\mathbf{R}^+)$ . If  $f(q^{-n}) = 0, n \in \mathbf{N}_0$ , then the q-Hankel transform of f is

$$H_q^{\nu} f(\omega) = \int_0^1 (\omega t)^{\frac{1}{2}} J_{\nu} \left(\omega t; q^2\right) f(t) d_q t. \tag{16}$$

Our second assumption says that

$$(H_q^{\nu} f)(q^{-n}) = 0, n \in \mathbf{N}_0 \tag{17}$$

therefore, setting  $\omega = q^{-n}$  in (16) gives

$$\int_0^1 (q^{-n}t)^{\frac{1}{2}} J_{\nu} (q^{-n}t; q^2) f(t) d_q t = 0, n \in \mathbf{N}_0$$
 (18)

Now, in the set up of Theorem A take  $f(z) = J_{\nu}(z; q^2)$  and  $g(z) = (z^2; q^2)_{\infty}$ . Using (4) and (8) together with the trivial observation that  $\{q^{-n}\}$  is the sequence of zeros of g gives that, if  $\nu > -1$ , the sequence  $\{J_{\nu}(q^{-n}x; q^2)\}$  is complete in  $L_q^1(0,1)$ . This, together with (18) implies that  $f \equiv 0$  in  $L_q^1(0,1)$ , that is,

$$f(q^n) = 0, n \in \mathbf{N}_0 \tag{19}$$

Combining this with the assumption  $f(q^{-n}) = 0, n \in \mathbb{N}_0$  gives

$$f(q^k) = 0, k \in \mathbf{Z} \tag{20}$$

This proves that  $f \equiv 0$  almost everywhere in  $L_q^1(\mathbf{R}^+)$ . Since the set  $\{q^k, k \in \mathbf{Z}\}$  has an accumulation point, if f is analytic then it must be the null function.  $\square$ 

Following [1] we introduce the space

$$PW_{q}^{\nu} = \left\{ f \in L_{q}^{2}\left(\mathbf{R}^{+}\right) : f\left(x\right) = \int_{0}^{1} (tx)^{\frac{1}{2}} J_{\nu}\left(xt; q^{2}\right) u\left(t\right) d_{q}t, u \in L_{q}^{2}\left(0, 1\right) \right\}$$
(21)

This can be interpreted as a q-Bessel version of the Paley Wiener space of bandlimited functions. Clearly,  $PW_q^{\nu}$  is a Hilbert space of analytic functions. Observe also that, if  $(H_q^{\nu}f)(q^{-n}) = 0, n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then taking into account definitions (9) and (2),  $f = (H_q^{\nu}(H_q^{\nu}f))$  is of the form required in (21). Using these concepts, we have the following consequence of the vanishing theorem:

Corollary 1.  $\Gamma = \{q^{-n}, n \in \mathbb{N}\}\ is\ a\ set\ of\ uniqueness\ for\ the\ space\ PW_q^{\nu}$ .

**Proof**. Take  $f \in PW_q^{\nu}$  such that  $f(q^{-n}) = 0, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If f is of the form required in (21) then  $f = H_q^{\nu}u^*$  where  $u^* \in L_q^2(\mathbb{R}^+)$  is obtained from  $u \in L_q^2(0,1)$  by prescribing  $u(q^{-n}) = 0, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . By the inversion formula (13),  $u^* = H_q^{\nu}f$ . We conclude that  $H_q^{\nu}f(q^{-n}) = 0, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . By Theorem 1,  $f \equiv 0$ .  $\square$ 

**Remark 1.** Observe that we proved the following characterization of  $PW_q^{\nu}$ :

$$PW_{q}^{\nu} = \left\{ f \in L_{q}^{2}(\mathbf{R}^{+}) : \left(H_{q}^{\nu}f\right)\left(q^{-n}\right) = 0, n \in \mathbf{N} \right\}$$
 (22)

The property  $(H_q^{\nu}f)(q^{-n}) = 0, n \in \mathbb{N}$  can thus be seen as a sort of "q-Hankel-bandlimitedness". It was shown in [1] that there are many features in this space analogous to the classical Paley Wiener space, including a sampling theorem and a reproducing kernel.

### 4. An uncertainty principle

With the purpose of extending the Donoho and Stark uncertainty principle [3] to an abstract setting, de Jeu [6] obtained a very general proposition, from which we just quote a special case.

**Theorem B** If there is a Plancherel theorem for the integral transform in  $L^2(X)$  whose kernel is K(x,t), then, if the support of f is T and the support of  $(Kf)(x) = \int_X K(x,t)f(t)d\mu(t)$  is  $\Omega$ , the following inequality holds:

$$\|\mathbf{1}_{T\times\Omega}K(x,t)\|_{L^{2}(\mu,X)\times L^{2}(\mu,X)} \ge 1$$
 (23)

In order to use Theorem B to extract more valuable information about the size of the supports in our study of the q-Hankel transform, we must first obtain bounds for its kernel.

**Lemma 1.** If  $\nu \geq 0$  and  $|x| < q^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ , the inequality holds:

$$|J_{\nu}(x;q)| \le \frac{1}{(q;q)_{\infty}} \tag{24}$$

**Proof**. If  $\nu > 0$ ,  $y > -\frac{1}{2}$  and  $x \in \mathbf{R}$ , the following q-analogue of the Sonine integral was proved in [1]:

$$\frac{(q;q)_{\infty}}{(q^{\nu};q)_{\infty}}x^{-\nu}J_{y+\nu}(x;q) = \int_{0}^{1} t^{\frac{y}{2}} \frac{(tq;q)_{\infty}}{(tq^{\nu};q)_{\infty}} J_{y}(xt^{\frac{1}{2}};q)d_{q}t$$
 (25)

Setting y = 0 in (25) and taking absolute values gives

$$|J_{\nu}(x;q)| \le \left| x^{\nu} \frac{(q^{\nu};q)_{\infty}}{(q;q)_{\infty}} \right| \int_{0}^{1} \left| \frac{(tq;q)_{\infty}}{(tq^{\nu};q)_{\infty}} J_{0}(xt^{\frac{1}{2}};q) \right| d_{q}t$$
 (26)

We need to estimate the integrand in (25). For the infinite product, observe that if 0 < t < 1, then

$$\frac{(tq;q)_{\infty}}{(tq^{\nu};q)_{\infty}} < \frac{1}{(q^{\nu};q)_{\infty}} \tag{27}$$

Now we will show that, if t < 1 and  $|x| < q^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  then

$$\left|J_0(xt^{\frac{1}{2}};q)\right| \le 1\tag{28}$$

This can be seen using a generating function argument as follows. Substituting t by  $t^{-1}q$  in (12) and multiplying the two resulting identities gives, if  $|xq| < |t| < |x|^{-1}$  (which holds if  $|x| < q^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  and |xt| < 1)

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} t^{n-m} q^m J_n(x;q) J_m(x;q) = 1$$
(29)

Equating coefficients of  $t^0$  in (29) reveals that, if  $|x| < q^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ ,  $\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} q^k \left[ J_k(x;q) \right]^2 = 1$ . In particular,

$$|J_k(x;q)| \le q^{-\frac{k}{2}}, \ k = 0, 1, \dots$$
 (30)

Now, if t < 1 and  $|x| < q^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  we also have  $|xt| < q^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ . Setting k = 0 in (30) gives (28). Using this estimates in (26) together with (27) gives

$$|J_{\nu}(x;q)| \le \left| x^{\nu} \frac{1}{(q;q)_{\infty}} \right|. \tag{31}$$

This proves the lemma.  $\Box$ 

We can now state a proposition providing information of a quantitative nature about the supports of f and  $H_q^{\nu}f$ .

**Theorem 2.** Suppose that  $\nu \geq 0$ . If the support of f is contained in [0,T] and the support of  $H_a^{\nu}f$  is contained in  $[0,\Omega]$ , then

$$\Omega T \ge (q; q)_{\infty}^2 \tag{32}$$

**Proof**. First observe that if  $\Omega T \geq 1$  then the proposition is trivial, since  $(q;q)_{\infty} < 1$ . Thus we can assume without loss of generalization that  $\Omega T < 1$ . In this case we have |xt| < 1 in the square  $[0,T] \times [0,\Omega]$  and the use of (24) together with the definition of the q-integral gives

$$\left\| \mathbf{1}_{T \times \Omega}(x,t) (xt)^{\frac{1}{2}} J_{\nu} (xt;q^{2}) \right\|_{L_{q}^{2}(X) \times L_{q}^{2}(X)} = \int_{0}^{\Omega} \left[ \int_{0}^{T} \left[ (tx)^{\frac{1}{2}} J_{\nu} (xt;q^{2}) \right]^{2} d_{q}t \right] d_{q}x$$
(33)

$$\leq \int_0^{\Omega} \int_0^T \left[ \frac{1}{(q;q)_{\infty}} \right]^2 d_q t d_q x = \frac{\Omega T}{(q;q)_{\infty}^2} \tag{34}$$

now observe that applying Theorem B to the q-Hankel transform gives

$$1 \le \left\| \mathbf{1}_{T \times \Omega} (xt)^{\frac{1}{2}} J_{\nu} (xt; q^{2}) \right\|_{L_{a}^{2}(X) \times L_{a}^{2}(X)}$$
 (35)

and the result is proved.  $\square$ 

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Luis Daniel Abreu

DEPARTAMENTO DE MATEMÁTICA DA UNIVERSIDADE DE COIMBRA

E-mail address: daniel@mat.uc.pt