

***q*-umbral calculus, the key to *q*-calculus**

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We first outline the foundations of the authors *q*-umbral calculus, which consists of an infinite alphabet A of letters or umbrae, with two dual *q*-additions, the Nalli-Ward-Alsalam (NWA) *q*-addition and the Jackson-Hahn-Cigler (JHC) *q*-addition. The Carlitz-Gould operator can be described by the JHC, and the NWA is both commutative and associative. The tilde operator makes a connection between *q*-hypergeometric functions, Γ_q -functions and Jacobi elliptic functions possible. The NWA decides the convergence region of 50% of the *q*-Appell- and *q*-Lauricella functions, and implies the possibility of certain *q*-complex numbers with similar properties as complex numbers. We can also introduce matrix pseudo-groups as the *q*-exponential function of ordinary matrix Lie algebras. This new kind of matrix Lie groups has two multiplications, corresponding to NWA and JHC, supplied with an associative structure.

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