## Universal Character and *q*-Painlevé Equations

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The universal character, defined by K. Koike [1], is a polynomial attached to a pair of partitions and is a generalization of the Schur polynomial. In this talk, we introduce an integrable system of *q*-difference equations satisfied by the universal character, and call it the (*lattice*) *q*-UC *hierarchy*. We regard it as generalizing the *q*-KP hierarchy. Suitable similarity and periodic reductions of the hierarchy yield the *q*-difference Painlevé equations of types  $A_{2g+1}^{(1)}$  ( $g \ge 1$ ),  $D_5^{(1)}$ , and  $E_6^{(1)}$ . As its consequence, a class of algebraic solutions of the *q*-Painlevé equations is rapidly obtained by means of the universal character. The reduction procedure above is clearly understood in the level of  $\tau$ -functions. So, we shall also present an algebrogeometric approach to  $\tau$ -functions of the *q*-Painlevé equations.

## **References and Literature for Further Reading**

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