

# Characterizing properties of generalized Freud polynomials

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# Extract from *Digital Library of Mathematical Functions*

## §18.32 OP's with Respect to Freud Weights

A *Freud weight* is a weight function of the form

$$\mathbf{18.32.1} \quad w(x) = \exp(-Q(x)), \quad -\infty < x < \infty$$

where  $Q(x)$  is real, even, non-negative, and continuously differentiable. Of special interest are the cases  $Q(x) = x^{2m}$ ,  $m = 1, 2, \dots$ . **No explicit expressions for the corresponding OP's are available.** However, for asymptotic approximations in terms of elementary functions for the OP's, and also for their largest zeros, see [Levin and Lubinsky \[2001\]](#) and [Nevai \[1986\]](#). For a uniform asymptotic expansion in terms of Airy functions for the OP's in the case  $x^4$  see [Bo and Wong \[1999\]](#).

# Orthogonal polynomial sequences

- Given  $\{\mu_n\} \in \mathbb{R}$ , we define the moment functional  $\mathfrak{L} : x^n \rightarrow \mu_n$  on the linear space of polynomials  $\mathcal{P}$ . Assume  $\mu_0 = \mathfrak{L}(1) = 1$ . The inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  for the functional  $\mathfrak{L}$  is given by

$$\langle P_m(x), P_n(x) \rangle = \mathfrak{L}(P_m(x)P_n(x))$$

- Monic** polynomials  $\{P_n(x)\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  **orthogonal** w.r.t. a **moment functional**  $\mathfrak{L}$  related to an **absolutely continuous** Borel measure  $\mu$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ ;  $d\mu(x) = w(x) dx$ ;  $w(x) > 0$  :

$$\mathfrak{L}(P_m(x) P_n(x)) = \langle P_m, P_n \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}} P_m(x) P_n(x) d\mu(x) = h_n \delta_{mn},$$

where the normalization constant  $h_n > 0$  and  $\delta_{mn}$  is the Kronecker delta.

- Monic orthogonal polynomials  $P_n(x)$  satisfy

$$P_{-1}(x) = 0, P_0(x) = 1,$$

$$P_{n+1}(x) = (x - \alpha_n) P_n(x) - \beta_n P_{n-1}(x),$$

$$\alpha_n = \frac{\langle x P_n, P_n \rangle}{\langle P_n, P_n \rangle} \in \mathbb{R}; \quad \beta_n = \frac{\langle P_n, P_n \rangle}{\langle P_{n-1}, P_{n-1} \rangle} > 0, \beta_0 = 1, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}_0,$$

and the constant:

$$h_n = \langle P_n, P_n \rangle = \|P_n\|^2 = \prod_{j=1}^n \beta_j.$$

- To construct  $P_n(x)$  for  $\mathfrak{L}$  :

$$P_n(x) = \frac{1}{\Delta_{n-1}} \begin{vmatrix} \mu_0 & \mu_1 & \cdots & \mu_n \\ \mu_1 & \mu_2 & \cdots & \mu_{n+1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mu_{n-1} & \mu_n & \cdots & \mu_{2n-1} \\ 1 & x & \cdots & x^n \end{vmatrix}, \quad \Delta_n := \det(\mu_{i+j})_{i,j=0}^n > 0.$$

# Classical orthogonal polynomials

- Classical weights satisfy **Pearson's** equation

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\sigma w) = \tau w, \quad (2.1)$$

with  $\deg(\sigma) \leq 2$  and  $\deg(\tau) = 1$ , and bcs :  $\sigma(x) w(x) = 0$  for  $x = a$  and  $x = b$ .

$p_n$	$w(x)$	$\sigma(x)$	$\tau(x)$	interval
Hermite	$\exp(-x^2)$	1	$-2x$	$(-\infty, \infty)$
Laguerre	$x^\alpha \exp(-x), \alpha > -1$	$x$	$1 + \alpha - x$	$(0, \infty)$
Jacobi	$(1-x)^\alpha (1+x)^\beta$	$1-x^2$	$\beta - \alpha - (2 + \alpha + \beta)x$	$[-1, 1]$

- $p_n$ 's are solutions of  $Lp_n = \lambda_n p_n$  where  $L$  is a second order differential operator (Sturm-Liouville) [Bochner, 1929]
- Structural relation:**

$$\sigma(x) (p_n(x))' = \sum_{j=n-1}^{n-r+1} A_{n,j} p_j(x), \quad r = \deg(\sigma) \quad (2.2)$$

- (2.2) together with  $x p_n = a_{n+1} p_{n+1} + b_n p_n + a_n p_{n-1}$ , yields a first order recurrence equation for the recurrence coefficients  $a_n$  and  $b_n$ , which can be solved explicitly.

## Semi-classical orthogonal polynomials

- **Semi-classical weights** satisfy Pearson's equation (2.1) with  $\deg(\sigma) > 2$  or  $\deg(\tau) > 1$ . [Hendriksen, van Rossum, 1977]

weight	$w(x)$	parameters	$\sigma(x)$	$\tau(x)$
-	$\exp(-x^4)$	-	1	$-4x^3$
Airy	$\exp(-\frac{1}{3}x^3 + tx)$	$t > 0$	1	$t - x^2$
Semi-classical Laguerre	$x^\lambda \exp(-x^2 + tx)$	$\lambda > -1$	$x$	$1 + \lambda + tx - 2x^2$
Freud	$\exp(-\frac{1}{4}x^4 - tx^2)$	$x, t \in \mathbb{R}$	1	$-2tx - x^3$
Generalized Freud	$ x ^{2\lambda+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2)$	$\lambda > 0, x, t \in \mathbb{R}$	$x$	$2\lambda + 2 - 2tx^2 - x^4$

- $p_n$  does not satisfy Sturm-Liouville differential equation.
- **Structural relation**

$$\sigma(x)p'_n(x) = \sum_{j=n-s}^{n-r+1} A_{n,j} p_j(x), \quad \begin{cases} r = \deg(\sigma), \\ s = \max\{\deg(\sigma) - 1, \deg(\tau)\} \end{cases} \quad (2.3)$$

(2.3) and  $xp_n(x) = a_{n+1}p_{n+1}(x) + b_n p_n(x) + a_n p_{n-1}(x)$ ,  $n \geq 0$ , yield *second or higher order (non-linear) equations* for the recurrence coefficients  $a_n$  and  $b_n$ .

Example:  $w(x) = \exp(-x^4)$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  [Nevai, 1983]:  $b_n = 0$  (symmetry);

$$4a_n^2 (a_n^2 + a_n^2 + a_n^2) = n, \quad n \geq 2, \quad a_0 = 1, \quad a_1^2 = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{3}{4})}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{4})}, \quad \text{where } \Gamma(z) = \int_0^\infty t^{z-1} e^{-t} dt.$$

# The link to Painlevé equations

- **Some history:** The first non-linear recurrence equation – **Shohat**(1930's) and **Laguerre, Freud** (late 70's) and very recently recognized as discrete Painlevé equations by **Fokas, Its, and Kitaev**. Work by **Magnus** (relation between discrete and continuous Painlevé equations), **Witte, Clarkson, Van Assche, Nijhoff, Spicer, Chen** and **Ismail** extended theory with some more examples.
- **Some Discrete Painlevé eqns:**

$$(d-P_I) \quad x_{n+1} + x_n + x_{n-1} = \frac{z_n + \gamma(-1)^n}{x_n} + \sigma$$

$$(d-P_{II}) \quad x_{n+1} + x_{n-1} = \frac{x_n z_n + \gamma}{1 - x_n^2}$$

$$(d-P_{IV}) \quad (x_{n+1} + x_n)(x_n + x_{n-1}) = \frac{(x_n^2 - \kappa^2)(x_n^2 - \mu^2)}{(x_n + z_n)^2 - \gamma^2}$$

- The continuous fourth Painlevé equation ( $P_{IV}$ )

$$\frac{d^2 q}{dz^2} = \frac{1}{2q} \left( \frac{dq}{dz} \right)^2 + \frac{3}{2} q^3 + 4zq^2 + 2(z^2 - A)q + \frac{B}{q}, \quad (3.1)$$

where  $A$  and  $B$  are constants, which are expressed in terms of parabolic cylinder (Hermite-Weber) functions.



# Semi-classical Laguerre

Theorem (LB-WVA, 2012)

The coefficients  $\alpha_n(t)$  and  $\beta_n(t)$  in the three-term recurrence

$$L_{n+1}^{(\nu)}(x; t) = (x - \alpha_n)L_n^{(\nu)}(x; t) - \beta_n L_{n-1}^{(\nu)}(x; t);$$

associated with the semi-classical Laguerre  $w_\nu(x) = x^\nu \exp(-x^2 + tx)$ ,  $\nu > -1$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^+$  are:

$$(2\alpha_n - t)(2\alpha_{n-1} - t) = \frac{(2\beta_n - n)(2\beta_n - n - \nu)}{\beta_n},$$

$$2\beta_n + 2\beta_{n+1} - \alpha_n(2\alpha_n - t) = 2n + 1 + \nu.$$

For explicit formulations of  $\alpha_n$  and  $\beta_n$ , see [CJ, 2014].

# Discrete Painlevé and more semi-classical weights

**Question:** What semi-classical weights are related to discrete Painlevé equations? Which discrete Painlevé equations do we obtain?

- $w(x) = |x|^\varrho \exp(-x^4)$ ,  $\varrho > -1$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  is related to (d-P<sub>I</sub>). [Magnus, 1986].
- $w(x) = x^\alpha \exp(-x^2)$ ,  $\alpha > -1$  on  $\mathbb{R}^+$  is related to (d-P<sub>IV</sub>) [Sonin-type].
- $w(x; t) = x^\alpha \exp(-x^2 + tx)$ ,  $\alpha > -1$  on  $\mathbb{R}^+$  is related to (P<sub>IV</sub>) [GF-WVA-LZ, 2011].
- $W_\lambda(x) = |x|^{2\lambda+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2)$ ,  $\lambda > -1$ ,  $t, x \in \mathbb{R}$  related to (d-P<sub>I</sub>) and continuous (P<sub>IV</sub>) [LB-WVA, 2011, GF-WVA-LZ, 2012].

# The recurrence coefficient related to Painlevé IV

**Theorem.** (LB-WVA, 2011; GF-WVA-LZ, 2012)

The recurrence coefficients  $\beta_n(t; \lambda)$  in the three term recurrence

$$xS_n(x; t) = S_{n+1}(x; t) + \beta_n(t; \lambda)S_{n-1}(x; t)$$

associated with the weight  $W_\lambda$  satisfy the equation

$$\frac{d^2\beta_n}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{2\beta_n} \left( \frac{d\beta_n}{dt} \right)^2 + \frac{3}{2}\beta_n^3 - t\beta_n^2 + \left( \frac{1}{8}t^2 - \frac{1}{2}A_n \right)\beta_n + \frac{B_n}{16\beta_n}, \quad (3.2)$$

where the parameters  $A_n$  and  $B_n$  are given by

$$\begin{aligned} A_{2n} &= -2\lambda - n - 1, & A_{2n+1} &= \lambda - n, \\ B_{2n} &= -2n^2, & B_{2n+1} &= -2(\lambda + n + 1)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Further  $\beta_n(t)$  satisfies the non-linear difference equation

$$\beta_{n+1} + \beta_n + \beta_{n-1} = \frac{1}{2}t + \frac{2n + (2\lambda + 1)[1 - (-1)^n]}{8\beta_n}, \quad \text{-discrete P}_I \text{ (dP}_I\text{)}.$$

**Remark:** (3.2)  $\equiv$  P<sub>IV</sub> via the transformation  $\beta_n(t; \lambda) = \frac{1}{2}w(z)$ , with  $z = -\frac{1}{2}t$ . Hence

$$\beta_{2n}(t; \lambda) = \frac{1}{2}w(z; -2\lambda - n - 1, -2n^2); \quad \beta_{2n+1}(t; \lambda) = \frac{1}{2}w(z; \lambda - n, -2(\lambda + n + 1)^2),$$

with  $z = -\frac{1}{2}t$ , where  $w(z; A, B)$  satisfies P<sub>IV</sub> (3.1).

Our interest:

What more can be said about properties of polynomials orthogonal with respect to  $W(x) = |x|^{2\lambda+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2)$  ?

# Generalized Freud polynomials

- Let  $\{S_n(x)\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  be monic OPS related to  $W(x) = |x|^{2\lambda+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2)$ .
- Three-term recurrence:

$$xS_n(x) = S_{n+1}(x) + \beta_n(t; \lambda)S_{n-1}(x);$$

where  $S_{-1}(x) = 0$ ,  $S_0(x) = 1$ .

- Symmetric property:**  $S_n(-x) = (-1)^n S_n(x)$ ,  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- The semi-classical Laguerre polynomials  $L_n(w_\nu; x)$  related to  $w_\nu(x) = x^\nu \exp(-x^2 + tx)$ ,  $\alpha > -1$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^+$  via quadratic transformation generates  $S_n(w_\lambda; x)$  with  $W_\lambda(x) = |x|^{2\lambda+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2)$ ,  $\lambda > -1$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  (Chihara, 1978; GF-WVA-LZ, 2012)

$$S_{2n}(x; W_\gamma) = L_n\left(w_{\frac{\gamma-1}{2}}; x^2\right); \quad x_{i,n}\left(w_{\frac{\gamma-1}{2}}\right) = [e_{i,2n}(W_\gamma)]^2,$$

$$S_{2n+1}(x; W_\gamma) = xL_n\left(w_{\frac{\gamma+1}{2}}; x^2\right); \quad x_{i,n}\left(w_{\frac{\gamma+1}{2}}\right) = [e_{i,2n+1}(W_\gamma)]^2.$$

## Basic symmetrization principle

$\int_0^{c^2} P_m(x) P_n(x) w(x) dx = K_n \delta_{mn} \Rightarrow \int_{-c}^c S_m(x) S_n(x) |x| w(x^2) dx = K_n \delta_{mn}$ , where  $\rho(x) = |x| w(x^2)$  is a symmetric:  $\rho(x) = \rho(-x)$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ; i.e.,  $\mu_{2j+1} = 0 \Leftrightarrow b_n = 0$ .

# Properties of generalized Freud polynomials

## Moments of the generalized Freud weight [CJK, 2016]

The first moment,  $\mu_0(t; \lambda)$ , for generalized Freud weight in terms of the integral representation of a parabolic cylinder (Hermite-Weber) function  $D_\nu(\xi)$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mu_0(t; \lambda) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x|^{2\lambda+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2) dx \\
 &= 2 \int_0^{\infty} x^{2\lambda+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2) dx \\
 &= \int_0^{\infty} y^\lambda \exp(-y^2 + ty) dy \\
 &= \frac{\Gamma(\lambda + 1)}{2^{(\lambda+1)/2}} \exp\left(\frac{1}{8}t^2\right) D_{-\lambda-1}\left(-\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}t\right).
 \end{aligned}$$

since the parabolic cylinder function  $D_\nu(\xi)$  has the integral representation

$$D_\nu(\xi) = \frac{\exp(-\frac{1}{4}\xi^2)}{\Gamma(-\nu)} \int_0^{\infty} s^{-\nu-1} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}s^2 - \xi s\right) ds, \quad \Re(\nu) < 0.$$

- The even moments are

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_{2n}(t; \lambda) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^{2n} |x|^{2\lambda+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2) dx \\ &= \frac{d^n}{dt^n} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x|^{2\lambda+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2) dx \right), \\ &= \frac{d^n}{dt^n} \mu_0(t; \lambda), \quad n = 1, 2, \dots\end{aligned}$$

whilst the odd ones are

$$\mu_{2n+1}(t; \lambda) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^{2n+1} |x|^{2\lambda+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2) dx = 0, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

since the integrand is odd.

# Differential-difference equation

Theorem (CJK, 2016)

For the generalized Freud weight  $W_\lambda(x) = |x|^{2\lambda+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2)$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , the monic orthogonal polynomials  $S_n(x; t)$  satisfy the differential-difference equation

$$x \frac{dS_n}{dx}(x; t) = -B_n(x; t) S_n(x; t) + A_n(x; t) S_{n-1}(x; t),$$

where

$$A_n(x; t) = 4x\beta_n(x^2 - \frac{1}{2}t + \beta_n + \beta_{n+1}),$$

$$B_n(x; t) = 4x^2\beta_n + \frac{(2\lambda + 1)[1 - (-1)^n]}{2},$$

with  $\beta_n$ - the recurrence coefficient in the three-term recurrence relation

$$xS_n(x; t) = S_{n+1}(x; t) + \beta_n(t; \lambda)S_{n-1}(x; t).$$

*Proof: Two methods:- Ladder operator method or Shohat's method.*



## Second order linear ODEs

Theorem (CJK, 2016)

For the generalized Freud weight

$$W_\lambda(x) = |x|^{2\lambda+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2), \quad x \in \mathbb{R},$$

the monic orthogonal polynomials  $S_n(x; t)$  satisfy the differential equation

$$\frac{d^2 S_n}{dx^2}(x; t) + R_n(x; t) \frac{d S_n}{dx}(x; t) + T_n(x; t) S_n(x; t) = 0,$$

where

$$R_n(x; t) = -4x^3 + 2tx - \frac{2\lambda + 1}{x} - \frac{2x}{x^2 - \frac{1}{2}t + \beta_n + \beta_{n+1}},$$

$$T_n(x; t) = 4nx^2 + 4\beta_n + 16\beta_n(\beta_n + \beta_{n+1} - \frac{1}{2})(\beta_n + \beta_{n-1} - \frac{1}{2}) \\ - \frac{8\beta_n x^2 + (2\lambda + 1)[1 - (-1)^n]}{x^2 - \frac{1}{2}t + \beta_n + \beta_{n+1}} + (2\lambda + 1)[1 - (-1)^n] \left( t - \frac{1}{2x^2} \right).$$

# The recurrence coefficient $\beta_n(t; \lambda)$

Theorem (CJK, 2016)

The recurrence coefficients  $\beta_n(t; \lambda)$  in the three-term recurrence

$$xS_n(x; t) = S_{n+1}(x; t) + \beta_n(t; \lambda)S_{n-1}(x; t)$$

where  $S_{-1}(x; t) = 0$  and  $S_0(x; t) = 1$  related to the weight  $W_\lambda$  are given by

$$\beta_{2n}(t; \lambda) = \frac{d}{dt} \ln \frac{\tau_n(t; \lambda + 1)}{\tau_n(t; \lambda)}; \quad \beta_{2n+1}(t; \lambda) = \frac{d}{dt} \ln \frac{\tau_{n+1}(t; \lambda)}{\tau_n(t; \lambda + 1)},$$

where  $\tau_n(t; \lambda)$  is the Wronskian given by

$$\tau_n(t; \lambda) = \mathcal{W}(\mu_0, \mu_1, \dots, \mu_{n-1}) = \mathcal{W}\left(\phi_\lambda, \frac{d\phi_\lambda}{dt}, \dots, \frac{d^{n-1}\phi_\lambda}{dt^{n-1}}\right),$$

$$\phi_\lambda(t) = \mu_0(t; \lambda) = \frac{\Gamma(\lambda + 1)}{2^{(\lambda+1)/2}} \exp\left(\frac{1}{8}t^2\right) D_{-\lambda-1}\left(-\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}t\right).$$

with  $D_\nu(\xi)$ , with  $\nu \notin \mathbb{Z}$ , is the parabolic cylinder function.

# Sample recurrence coefficients in terms of $\Phi_\lambda$

The first few recurrence coefficients  $\beta_n(t; \lambda)$  are given by

$$\beta_1(t; \lambda) = \Phi_\lambda,$$

$$\beta_2(t; \lambda) = -\frac{2\Phi_\lambda^2 - t\Phi_\lambda - \lambda - 1}{2\Phi_\lambda},$$

$$\beta_3(t; \lambda) = -\frac{\Phi_\lambda}{2\Phi_\lambda^2 - t\Phi_\lambda - \lambda - 1} - \frac{\lambda + 1}{2\Phi_\lambda},$$

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_4(t; \lambda) &= \frac{t}{2(\lambda + 2)} + \frac{\Phi_\lambda}{2\Phi_\lambda^2 - t\Phi_\lambda - \lambda - 1} \\ &\quad + \frac{(\lambda + 1)(t^2 + 2\lambda + 4)\Phi_\lambda + (\lambda + 1)^2 t}{2(\lambda + 2)[2(\lambda + 2)\Phi_\lambda^2 - (\lambda + 1)t\Phi_\lambda - (\lambda + 1)^2]}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_\lambda(t) &= \frac{d}{dt} \ln \left\{ D_{-\lambda-1} \left( -\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}t \right) \exp \left( \frac{1}{8}t^2 \right) \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}t + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2} \frac{D_{-\lambda} \left( -\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}t \right)}{D_{-\lambda-1} \left( -\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}t \right)}. \end{aligned}$$

# Some of the polynomials

By using the recurrence  $xS_n(x; t) = S_{n+1}(x; t) + \beta_n(t; \lambda)S_{n-1}(x; t)$ , the first few polynomials:

$$S_1(x; t, \lambda) = x,$$

$$S_2(x; t, \lambda) = x^2 - \Phi_\lambda,$$

$$S_3(x; t, \lambda) = x^3 + \frac{t\Phi_\lambda + \lambda + 1}{2\Phi_\lambda} x,$$

$$S_4(x; t, \lambda) = x^4 + \frac{2t\Phi_\lambda^2 - (t^2 + 2)\Phi_\lambda - (\lambda + 1)t}{2(2\Phi_\lambda^2 - t\Phi_\lambda - \lambda - 1)} x^2$$

$$- \frac{2(\lambda + 2)\Phi_\lambda^2 - (\lambda + 1)t\Phi_\lambda - (\lambda + 1)^2}{2(2\Phi_\lambda^2 - t\Phi_\lambda - \lambda - 1)},$$

$$S_5(x; t, \lambda) = x^5 - \frac{2(\lambda + 3)t\Phi_\lambda^2 - (\lambda + 1)(t^2 - 2)\Phi_\lambda - (\lambda + 1)^2 t}{4(\lambda + 2)\Phi_\lambda^2 - 2(\lambda + 1)t\Phi_\lambda - 2(\lambda + 1)^2} x^3$$

$$- \frac{[2(\lambda + 2)^2 - t^2]\Phi_\lambda^2 - (\lambda + 1)(\lambda + 4)t\Phi_\lambda - (\lambda + 1)^2(\lambda + 3)}{4(\lambda + 2)\Phi_\lambda^2 - 2(\lambda + 1)t\Phi_\lambda - 2(\lambda + 1)^2} x.$$

Thank you very much  
for your  
kind attention!

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