

# Computational aspects of complex orthogonal polynomials

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Computational complex analysis

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# Orthogonal polynomials

Classical theory, after Szegő, Chihara, Ismail...:

Given a positive **weight function**  $w(x)$  on  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ , such that

$$\mu_k = \int_I x^k w(x) dx < \infty, \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots,$$

one can construct a family of monic **orthogonal polynomials**  $P_n(x)$  such that

$$\int_I P_n(x) x^k w(x) dx = \begin{cases} 0, & k = 0, 1, \dots, n-1, \\ h_n, & k = n, \end{cases}$$

- $P_n(x)$  exists uniquely, it has degree  $n$ .
- $P_n(x)$  can (in principle!) be computed using Gram–Schmidt.

# Orthogonal polynomials

Alternative (important!) formulation, in terms of the **Hankel determinant**

$$D_n = \det(\mu_{j+k})_{j,k=0,1,\dots,n-1}, \quad n \geq 1,$$

one can show that

$$P_n(x) = \frac{1}{D_n} \begin{vmatrix} \mu_0 & \mu_1 & \dots & \mu_{n-1} & \mu_n \\ \mu_1 & \mu_2 & \dots & \mu_n & \mu_{n+1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \mu_{n-1} & \mu_n & \dots & \mu_{2n-2} & \mu_{2n-1} \\ 1 & x & \dots & x^{n-1} & x^n \end{vmatrix} = x^n + \dots$$

is the  $n$ -th (monic) orthogonal polynomial with respect to  $w(x)$ .

$P_n(x)$  is well defined provided that  $D_n \neq 0$ .

# Orthogonal polynomials

Classical cases:

| Family   | Weight                            | Interval      | Parameters           |
|----------|-----------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Hermite  | $w(x) = e^{-x^2}$                 | $\mathbb{R}$  | -                    |
| Laguerre | $w(x) = x^\alpha e^{-x}$          | $(0, \infty)$ | $\alpha > -1$        |
| Jacobi   | $w(x) = (1-x)^\alpha (1+x)^\beta$ | $(-1, 1)$     | $\alpha, \beta > -1$ |

# Some deformations

- Basor, Chen & Ehrhardt (2009):

$$w(x, t) = (1-x)^\alpha (1+x)^\beta e^{-tx}, \quad \alpha, \beta > -1, \quad x \in (-1, 1).$$

- Chen & Its (2010), Xu, Dai & Zhao 2014:

$$w(x, t) = x^\alpha e^{-x-t/x}, \quad \alpha > -1, \quad x \in (0, \infty).$$

- Van Assche, Filipuk & Zhang (2014), Clarkson, Loureiro, Van Assche (2015):

$$w(x, t) = e^{-x^3+tx}, \quad x \in \Gamma \subset \mathbb{C}.$$

- Boelen & Van Assche (2010), Clarkson & Jordaan (2014):

$$w(x, t) = x^\lambda e^{-x^2+tx}, \quad \lambda > -1, \quad x \in (0, \infty).$$

- Dai & Kuijlaars 2014, modified Laguerre weight:

$$w(x) = x^{-n+\nu} e^{-Nx} (x-1)^{2b}, \quad x > 0.$$

- Chen & Dai 2010 , Chen, Chen & Fang 2015,  
Pollaczek–Jacobi weight:

$$w(x; t, \alpha, \beta) = x^\alpha (1-x)^\beta e^{-t/x}, \quad x \in (0, 1), \quad \alpha, \beta > -1, \quad t \geq 0.$$

- Dai & Zhang 2009, generalised Jacobi weight:

$$w(x) = (x-t)^\gamma x^\alpha (1-x)^\beta, \quad x \in (0, 1), \quad \alpha, \beta > 0, \quad t < 0, \quad \gamma \in \mathbb{R}.$$

# Motivation 1: Complex OPs and numerical quadrature

In numerical analysis, construction of **Gaussian quadrature** rules:  
a quadrature rule

$$\int_a^b f(x)w(x)dx \approx \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j f(x_j)$$

has maximum degree of exactness  $2n - 1$  if and only if the nodal polynomial  $p_n(x) = \prod_{k=1}^n (x - x_k)$  satisfies

$$\int_a^b p_n(x)q(x)w(x)dx = 0, \quad q \in \mathbb{P}_{n-1}$$

where  $w(x)$  is positive and has finite moments.

# Motivation 1: Complex OPs and numerical quadrature

In the study of oscillatory integrals

$$I[f] = \int_a^b f(x)e^{i\omega g(x)} dx, \quad \omega \gg 1,$$

direct Gaussian quadrature is not efficient or reliable (the number of sampling points scales with  $\omega$ ).

One alternative is to deform  $[a, b]$  into the complex plane along paths of **steepest descent** and then integrate.

An interesting example:  $g(x) = \frac{x^3}{3} - cx$ , with  $c \in (0, 1)$ .



# Motivation 1: Complex OPs and numerical quadrature

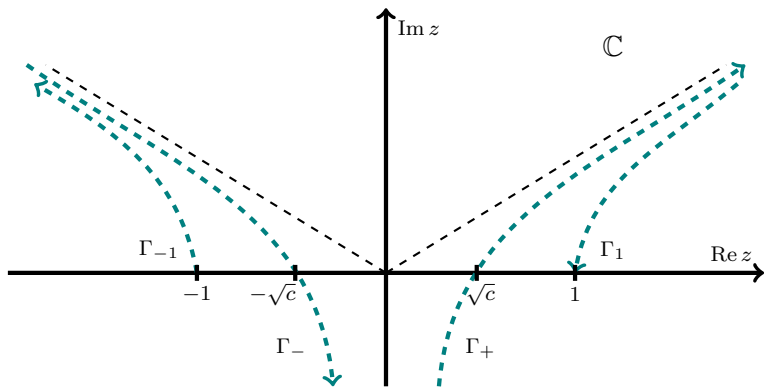
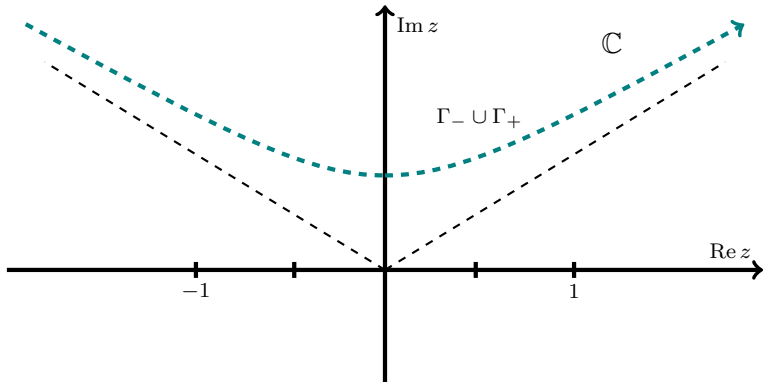


Figure: Steepest descent paths for the oscillator  $g(x) = \frac{x^3}{3} - cx$ .

# Motivation 1: Complex OPs and numerical quadrature

- Standard approach: parametrize the paths, discretise and use Gauss–Laguerre or Gauss–Hermite quadrature.
- One not so standard approach: can we construct **one** quadrature rule for the path  $\Gamma := \Gamma_+ \cup \Gamma_-$ ?



# Motivation 1: Complex OPs and numerical quadrature

This leads to consider (formal, complex, non-Hermitian) OPs defined as

$$\int_{\Gamma} p_n^{\delta}(z) z^k e^{i(\frac{z^3}{3} - \delta z)} dz = 0, \quad z = 0, 1, \dots, n-1,$$

with the scaled parameter  $\delta = c\omega^{2/3}$ .

Random matrix perspective (cubic log-gas model): [Bleher, D. 2012, 2015](#), [Bleher, D., Yattselev 2017](#).

Do  $p_n^{\delta}(z)$  exist for any  $n$  and  $\delta$ ?

# Motivation 1: Complex OPs and numerical quadrature

We can study the Hankel determinant

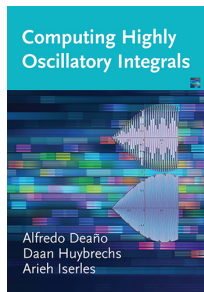
$$H_n(\delta) = \det (\mu_{j+k}(\delta))_{j,k=0}^{n-1}, \quad \mu_m(\delta) = \int_{\Gamma} z^m e^{i(\frac{z^3}{3} - \delta z)} dz,$$

and try to determine regimes for which  $H_n(\delta) \neq 0$ .

- D., Huybrechs & Kuijlaars 2010,
- Huybrechs, Kuijlaars & Lejon 2013, 2018.

A. DEAÑO, D. HUYBRECHS, A. ISERLES

Computing Highly Oscillatory Integrals  
*SIAM, 2018.*



## Motivation 2. SFS of Painlevé equations

Special function solutions of **Painlevé differential equations** can be written as Wronskian determinants:

$$\tau_n(z) = \det \left( \frac{D^{j+k}}{Dz^{j+k}} \varphi(z) \right)_{j,k=0,1,\dots,n-1},$$

where  $\varphi(z)$  is a **seed function**, a classical special function (Airy, Bessel, hypergeometric...).

For instance, for  $P_{II}$

$$u''(z) = zu + 2u^3 + \alpha, \quad \alpha \in \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z},$$

then special function solutions are generated by

$$\varphi(z) = C_1 \operatorname{Ai}(-2^{-1/3}z) + C_2 \operatorname{Bi}(-2^{-1/3}z).$$

## Motivation 2. SFS of Painlevé equations

Information about these solutions, for finite  $n$  and as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and/or  $z \rightarrow \infty$ , can be obtained as follows:

- Match the seed function and its derivatives with the moments of a suitable weight function (in general complex!).
- Rewrite the Wronskian determinant as a Hankel determinant  $D_n$  for this new weight function.
- Use the machinery of asymptotics of OPs (Riemann–Hilbert or other) to obtain asymptotics for  $H_n$ .

Similar ideas for rational solutions have been used by Bertola, Bothner 2015, Balogh, Bertola, Bothner 2016, Buckingham 2017, Miller, Sheng 2017...

For special function solutions of  $P_{II}$ , D. 2018.

## Motivation 3. Random matrix theory

For  $n \geq 1$ , the **Hankel determinant**

$$D_n = \det(\mu_{j+k})_{j,k=0,1,\dots,n-1}, \quad \mu_m = \int_a^b x^m w(x) dx,$$

can be related, via Heine's formula,

$$D_n = \frac{1}{n!} \int_I \cdots \int_I \prod_{1 \leq j < k \leq n} (x_k - x_j)^2 \prod_{j=1}^n w(x_j) dx_j,$$

with the **partition function** of a **Hermitian random matrix ensemble**.

**Non-Hermitian random matrix ensembles:**

Hermitian, planar complex OPs  $\rightarrow$  non-Hermitian, contour OPs!

D., Simm <https://arxiv.org/abs/1909.06334>

- Approximation theory: **Padé approximants**.
- Differential equations, in particular **spectral methods**.
- ...



# Orthogonal polynomials. Further properties.

OPs satisfy a **three-term recurrence relation**:

$$xp_n(x) = p_{n+1}(x) + \beta_n(x)p_n(x) + \gamma_n^2 p_{n-1}(x),$$

with initial values  $p_{-1}(x) = 0$  and  $p_0(x) = 1$ . In matrix form,

$$x\mathbf{p}_n(x) = J_n\mathbf{p}_n(x) + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} p_n(x),$$

where  $\mathbf{p}_n(x) = [p_0(x), p_1(x), \dots, p_{n-1}(x)]^\top$ , while

$$J_n = \text{diag}(\gamma_k^2, \beta_k, 1)_{k=0,1,2,\dots,n-1}$$

is a (tridiagonal) **Jacobi matrix**.

In classical cases, use explicit formula or (fast) asymptotic methods as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , Hale & Townsend, 2013, Townsend, Trogdon & Olver 2016, Gil & Segura 2018.

**Non-classical cases:** how to compute recurrence coefficients?

- Moment methods.
- Modified moment methods.
- Linear Algebra methods (Golub–Welsch): eigenvalues/eigenvectors of  $J_n$ .

General reference:

W. Gautschi. Orthogonal polynomials. Computation and Approximation. OUP, 2004.

# Integrability properties

We write the TTRR and **ladder relations** (difference-differential equations) as follows:

$$\mathbf{p}_n(x) = \begin{pmatrix} P_n(x) \\ -2\pi i h_{n-1}^{-1}(z) P_{n-1}(x) \end{pmatrix},$$

then

$$\mathbf{p}_{n+1}(x) = U_n(x)\mathbf{p}_n(x), \quad \frac{d}{dx}\mathbf{p}_n(x) = V_n(x)\mathbf{p}_n(x),$$

where  $U_n(x), V_n(x)$  are rational functions in  $x$ . More precisely,

$$U_n(x) = \begin{pmatrix} x - \beta_n & -\frac{h_{n-1}\gamma_n^2}{2\pi i} \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Compatibility says that

$$U'_n(x) + U_n(x)V_n(x) = V_{n+1}(x)U_n(x).$$

# Integrability properties

Similarly, if  $w(x, t)$  depends on extra parameter(s), then we write

$$\frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{p}_n(x, t) = W_n(x, t)\mathbf{p}_n(x, t),$$

and impose compatibility between these three systems:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{p}_{n+1}(x, t) &= U_n(x, t)\mathbf{p}_n(x, t), & \frac{d}{dx}\mathbf{p}_n(x, t) &= V_n(x)\mathbf{p}_n(x, t), \\ \frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{p}_n(x, t) &= W_n(x)\mathbf{p}_n(x, t). \end{aligned}$$

Rule of thumb:

$(x, n) \rightarrow$  string equations: discrete Painlevé.

$(t, n) \rightarrow$  evolution equations: Toda, Langmuir, Ablowitz–Ladik...

$(t, x) \rightarrow$  continuous Painlevé.

# String equations

For example, if  $w(x, t) = e^{i(\frac{z^3}{3} - \delta z)}$ , then compatibility implies the following **string equations**:

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma_{n+1}^2 &= \delta - \gamma_n^2 - \beta_n^2 \\ \beta_{n+1} &= \frac{i(n+1)}{\gamma_{n+1}^2} - \beta_n.\end{aligned}$$

See [Huybrechs, Kuijlaars & Lejon 2013, 2018](#). The initial values are

$$\beta_0(\delta) = -i \frac{\text{Ai}'(-\delta)}{\text{Ai}(-\delta)}, \quad \gamma_0^2(\delta) = 0.$$

Eliminating  $\gamma_{n+1}^2$  and writing  $\beta_n = ib_n$ , we get

$$\frac{n+1}{b_{n+1} + b_n} + \frac{n}{b_n + b_{n-1}} = b_n^2 + \delta$$

which is alternative discrete  $P_I$ , [Clarkson, Loureiro & Van Assche, 2018](#). They prove that there is a unique solution for which  $b_n(\delta) > 0$  for all  $n \geq 0$ .

# String equations

Can we use these nonlinear recursions?

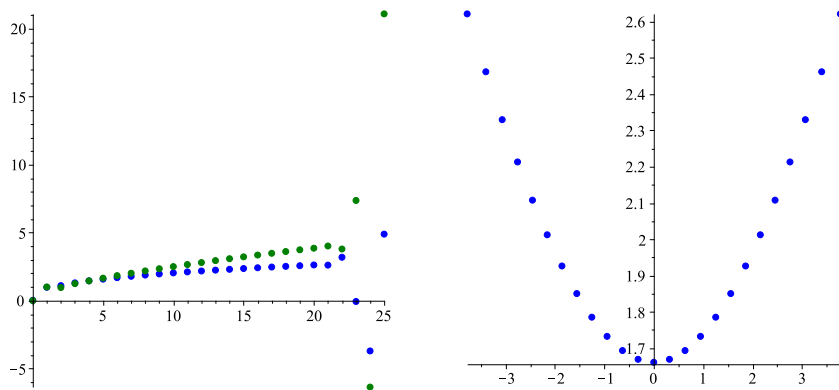


Figure: Recurrence coefficients  $\text{Im } \beta_n$  (left, blue) and  $\gamma_n^2$  (left, green), computed from string equations with 20 digits, and location of the zeros of  $P_n(z)$  for  $\delta = 1$  (right).

# String equations

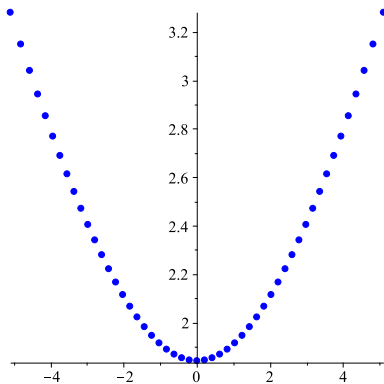
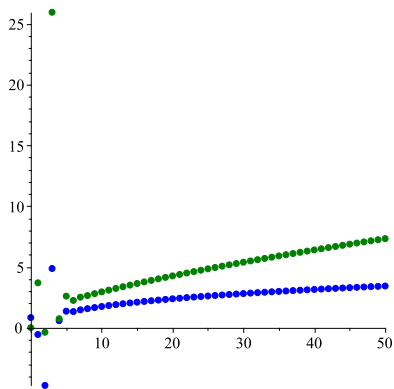


Figure: Recurrence coefficients  $\text{Im } \beta_n$  (left, blue) and  $\gamma_n^2$  (left, green), computed from string equations with 60 digits, and location of the zeros of  $P_n(z)$  for  $\delta = 3$  (right).

- Other examples shown in the book of [W. Van Assche, 2018](#).
- More complicated cases given when parameters that appear as discontinuities of the weight function. For example

$$w(x; v, \alpha, s) = |x - v|^\alpha e^{-x^2} \begin{cases} s, & x < v, \\ 1, & x > v, \end{cases}$$

with  $\alpha > -1$ ,  $s > 0$  and  $v \in \mathbb{R}$ . [Charlier, D. 2017](#).

Sometimes this leads to more general cases of special function solutions of Painlevé equations.



# Related problems

- Instability related to the choice of special functions as initial values? Minimal solutions in the linear case?
- Boundary value problem (with asymptotic behaviour as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ) instead of initial value one for the string equations?
- [Bleher & Its 2003](#) propose minimization of the Hamiltonian

$$H(\gamma, \beta) = n \operatorname{tr} V(J_n) - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k \ln \gamma_k^2,$$

where the weight function is  $w(x) = e^{-nV(x)}$ . In particular,

$$w(x, t) = e^{-n(\frac{g}{4}x^4 + \frac{t}{2}x^2)}, \quad \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Is this a possibility for other weights?

- Fredholm determinant techniques? [Bornemann 2010](#).
- Numerical solution of the corresponding RHP for orthogonal polynomials? [Olver & Trogdon 2015...](#)

That's all for now...  
Thank you for your attention!