

Problems and Questions

Chapter 3

1. (Section 3.3) The symmetric q - β -chain is defined by the following Figure A.1.

Its real limit is the η - β -chain (which is symmetric in (α, β)), and its p -adic limit is the symmetric p - β -chain (Sect. 2.1.3). Understand the Martin kernel and the boundary of this symmetric q - β -chain. Note that for this chain $(P^*)\delta_{(0,0)}$ is a probability measure supported at $\{(i, j) \mid N \leq i + j, \max\{i, j\} \leq N\}$, its real limit is supported at $\{(i, j) \mid i + j = N\}$, and its p -adic limit is supported at $\{(i, j) \mid \max\{i, j\} = N\}$.

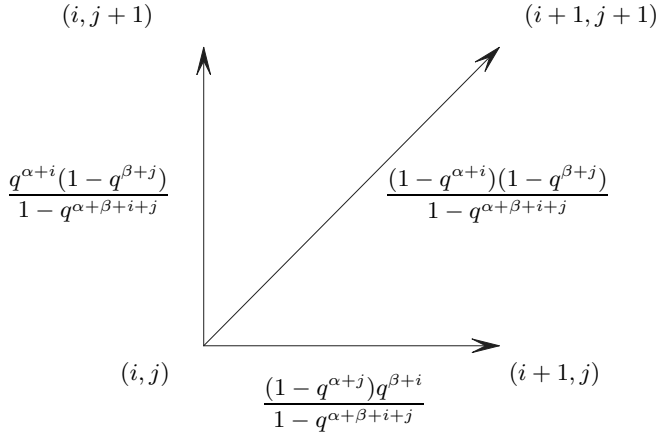


Fig. A.1. The symmetric q - β -chain

Chapter 4

1. (Section 4.5) Find the real γ -chain. Find the η -finite Laguerre basis.

Chapter 6

1. (Section 6.1) Find the q -pure basis. See remark on pp. 112–113 and p. 128 of [Har5].

Chapter 8

1. Determine the idempotent explicitly.

Chapter 9

1. Determine the idempotent explicitly (i.e., find the inverse matrix $(A_{\lambda,\alpha}^*)$ of $(A_{\lambda,\alpha})$).

Chapter 10

1. Get the direct proof of Theorem 10.3.1 without going through the Koornwinder polynomials.
2. There is no q -chain and no η -chain which is analogue of the p -adic chain (like we had in the rank 1 case). The problem is that dividing $GL_d/B_m = \text{Grass}(m, d)$ by B_m kills the Schubert cells but $B_{1,\dots,1} \backslash GL_d/B_m$ preserves them. However $B_{1,\dots,1} \backslash GL_d/B_m(\mathbb{Z}/p^N)$ depends on p (and not just on N). Does there exist some combinatorial quotient $\mathcal{C}_N^{d,m}$ of $B_{1,\dots,1} \backslash GL_d/B_m(\mathbb{Z}/p^N)$ and Markov chain on $\sqcup_N \mathcal{C}_N^{d,m}$? Namely, begin at the closed point and look in which Schubert cell you fall modulo p^N , $N = 1, 2, \dots$ (eventually end up in big open cell with probability 1).
3. There is no explicit description of the idempotent such that

$$\varphi_\lambda = (D^+)^{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2} \rho_{m-1} (D^+)^{\lambda_2 - \lambda_3} \rho_{m-2} \cdots \rho_2 (D^+)^{\lambda_m} \mathbf{1}$$

as we had for intertwiner $GL_d/B_{1,d-1} \longrightarrow GL_d/B_{1,\dots,1}$ in Chapter 7. We need a factorization of the (radial parts) Laplacian Δ as $\Delta = D^+ D$. More generally, let Δ be the Koornwinder 2-nd order differential operator,

$$\Delta = \sum_{1 \leq j \leq m} \phi_j^+(T_j^+ - I) + \phi_j^-(T_j^- - I),$$

where $T_j^\pm \varphi(y_1, \dots, y_m) := \varphi(y_1, \dots, q^{\pm 1} y_j, \dots, y_m)$ and

$$\phi_j^+ := \frac{\prod_{0 \leq i \leq 3} (1 - a_i y_j)}{(1 - y_j^2)(1 - q y_j^2)} \prod_{i \neq j} \frac{(1 - t y_i y_j)(1 - t y_i^{-1} y_j)}{(1 - y_i y_j)(1 - y_i^{-1} y_j)},$$

$$\phi_j^- := \frac{\prod_{0 \leq i \leq 3} (a_i - y_j)}{(1 - y_j^2)(q - y_j^2)} \prod_{i \neq j} \frac{(t - y_i y_j)(t - y_i^{-1} y_j)}{(1 - y_i y_j)(1 - y_i^{-1} y_j)}$$

with $a_i = q^{\alpha_i}$ ($i = 0, \dots, 3$) and $t = q^\gamma$ being parameters. In the case of $m = 1$, Δ is the Askey–Wilson operator which depends on parameters a_i ($i = 0, \dots, 3$ but not on $t = q^\gamma$) and there is such a factorization $\Delta = D^+ D$ (cf. [Har5] pp. 126–127). The Askey–Wilson polynomial φ_λ can be written as $\varphi_\lambda = (D^+)^{\lambda} \mathbf{1}$ for $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$.

4. Normalize the q -algebra of this chapter using the non-symmetric q -numbers (as we do in Chapter 11) so as to have a p -adic limit of the algebra.

Chapter 11

1. Is there a more refined p -adic limit, one that will preserve more of the SL_2 -structure than the limit of (11.2)?

B

Orthogonal Polynomials

Let p be a prime number. Given a probability measure μ on \mathbb{Z}_p , we have its image on \mathbb{Z}/p^N for any N , $\mu_N(a) = \mu(a + p^N \mathbb{Z}_p)$, and the isometric embeddings, and dual orthogonal projection:

$$H_N = \ell^2(\mathbb{Z}/p^N, \mu_N) \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{\hspace{1cm}} \\ \xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}} \end{array} L^2(\mathbb{Z}_p, \mu) = H$$

We want the real analogue of this, and the idea is simple: We replace the locally constant function (defined modulo p^N) by the polynomials (of degree $\leq N$). We shall show that the theory of orthogonal polynomials gives the real analogue.

Let μ be a probability measure on $[-1, 1]$, $H = L^2([-1, 1], \mu)$. Applying the Gram–Schmidt process to the monomials $1, x, x^2, \dots$, we get a sequence of polynomials which are orthogonal in H :

$$\begin{aligned} p_0(x) &= 1, \\ p_1(x) &= x - (x, 1) \cdot 1, \\ p_2(x) &= x^2 - \frac{(x^2, p_1)}{(p_1, p_1)} p_1 - \frac{(x^2, 1)}{(1, 1)} \cdot 1, \\ &\vdots \\ p_n(x) &= x^n - \frac{(x^n, p_{n-1})}{(p_{n-1}, p_{n-1})} p_{n-1} - \dots - \frac{(x^n, 1)}{(1, 1)} \cdot 1. \end{aligned}$$

Here (\cdot, \cdot) denotes the inner product of H ; $(\varphi_1, \varphi_2) := \int_{-1}^1 \varphi_1(x) \overline{\varphi_2(x)} \mu(dx)$. We here normalize the orthogonal polynomials $p_n(x)$ to have the leading coefficient 1. We have

Theorem B.1.

$$p_n(x) = \det \begin{pmatrix} (1, 1) & (1, x) & \cdots & (1, x^n) \\ (x, 1) & (x, x) & \cdots & (x, x^n) \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ (x^{n-1}, 1) & (x^{n-1}, x) & \cdots & (x^{n-1}, x^n) \\ 1 & x & \cdots & x^n \end{pmatrix} \cdot \frac{1}{G_{n-1}},$$

where $G_{n-1} = \det((x^i, x^j))_{0 \leq i, j \leq n-1}$.

Proof. Indeed, the inner product of the determinant with x^j is the same determinant with the bottom row replaced by (x^i, x^j) , and for $j < n$ this row already appears in the determinant, whence it vanishes. So the determinant above is a polynomial of degree n which is orthogonal to all polynomials of degree $< n$ and it has the leading coefficient 1 because of the $1/G_{n-1}$ normalization factor. \square

Note that if we denote the moments of the measure μ by

$$c_n := (x^n, 1) = \int_{-1}^1 x^n \mu(dx),$$

we have $(x^i, x^j) = c_{i+j}$.

Theorem B.2. *All the zeros of $p_n(x)$ are simple and are contained in $(-1, 1)$.*

Proof. Otherwise $p_n(x)$ changes sign in $(-1, 1)$ only in $m < n$ point $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m$. Then $\pm p_n(x) \cdot \prod_{j=1}^m (x - \alpha_j) \geq 0$ in $(-1, 1)$, whence $\pm (p_n, \prod_{j=1}^m (x - \alpha_j)) > 0$. This contradicts the orthogonality of $p_n(x)$ to polynomials of degree $< n$. \square

Theorem B.3. *We have the recursion equation*

$$p_{n+1}(x) = (x + b_n)p_n(x) - d_n p_{n-1}(x),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} d_n &= \frac{h_n}{h_{n-1}}, & h_n &= \|p_n\|^2 = (p_n, p_n), \\ b_n &= k_{n+1} - k_n, & p_n(x) &\equiv x^n + k_n x^{n-1} \pmod{x^{n-2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. The polynomial $p_{n+1} - x \cdot p_n$ is of degree $\leq n$ and is orthogonal to polynomials of degree $\leq n-2$, hence has the form $b_n \cdot p_n - d_n \cdot p_{n-1}$. We get

$$d_n = \frac{(x \cdot p_n - p_{n+1}, p_{n-1})}{(p_{n-1}, p_{n-1})} = \frac{(p_n, x \cdot p_{n-1})}{(p_{n-1}, p_{n-1})} = \frac{(p_n, p_n + (\text{degree} < n))}{(p_{n-1}, p_{n-1})} = \frac{(p_n, p_n)}{(p_{n-1}, p_{n-1})},$$

and modulo x^{n-1}

$$\begin{aligned} b_n \cdot x^n &\equiv b_n \cdot p_n(x) \equiv p_{n+1}(x) - x \cdot p_n(x) \\ &\equiv (x^{n+1} + k_{n+1}x^n) - x(x^n + k_n x^{n-1}) \equiv (k_{n+1} - k_n) \cdot x^n. \end{aligned}$$

\square

Corollary B.4 (Christoffel–Darboux).

$$D_n(x, y) := \sum_{j=0}^n \frac{1}{h_j} p_j(x) p_j(y) = \frac{1}{h_n} \frac{p_{n+1}(x) p_n(y) - p_n(x) p_{n+1}(y)}{x - y}, \quad (x \neq y).$$

and for $y \rightarrow x$:

$$D_n(x, x) := \sum_{j=0}^n \frac{1}{h_j} p_j(x)^2 = \frac{1}{h_n} (p'_{n+1}(x) p_n(x) - p'_n(x) p_{n+1}(x)).$$

Proof. By induction on n . The induction step follows from the equality

$$\begin{aligned} h_n(x - y)(D_n(x, y) - D_{n-1}(x, y)) &= (x - y)p_n(x)p_n(y) \\ &= \left(p_{n+1}(x) - b_n p_n(x) + \frac{h_n}{h_{n-1}} p_{n-1}(x)\right) p_n(y) \\ &\quad - p_n(x) \left(p_{n+1}(y) - b_n p_n(y) + \frac{h_n}{h_{n-1}} p_{n-1}(y)\right) \\ &= (p_{n+1}(x)p_n(y) - p_n(x)p_{n+1}(y)) - \frac{h_n}{h_{n-1}} (p_n(x)p_{n-1}(y) - p_{n-1}(x)p_n(y)). \end{aligned}$$

□

Remark B.5. For $\varphi \in H$, its orthogonal projection $D_n \varphi$ to the subspace $H_n := \text{Span}\{1, x, \dots, x^n\}$ of H spanned by polynomials of degree $\leq n$ is given by

$$\begin{aligned} D_n \varphi(y) &:= \sum_{j=0}^n \frac{(\varphi, p_j)}{(p_j, p_j)} p_j(y) \\ &= \int_{-1}^1 \varphi(x) \sum_{j=0}^n \frac{p_j(x) p_j(y)}{h_j} \mu(dx) \\ &= \int_{-1}^1 \varphi(x) D_n(x, y) \mu(dx) = (\varphi, D_n(\cdot, y)). \end{aligned}$$

Corollary B.6. $p_{n+1}(t)$ is the characteristic polynomial of the operator $D_n x$ of multiplication by x restricted to H_n ;

$$p_{n+1}(t) = \det(t \cdot I_n - D_n x | H_n).$$

Proof. The matrix corresponding to the operator $D_n x$ in the basis $\{p_0, p_1, \dots, p_n\}$ of H_n is by the recursion $x \cdot p_j = p_{j+1} - b_j p_j + d_j p_{j-1}$, given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} -b_0 & d_1 & & & \\ 1 & -b_1 & & & \\ & & \ddots & & \\ 0 & 1 & \ddots & d_j & \\ \vdots & 0 & & -b_j & 0 \\ & \vdots & & 1 & \ddots & d_{n-1} & 0 \\ & & & 0 & -b_{n-1} & d_n \\ & & & \vdots & 1 & -b_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

Expanding the determinant of the characteristic polynomial by the last row, we have

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{n+1}(t) &:= \det \begin{pmatrix} t+b_0 & -d_1 & & & \\ -1 & t+b_1 & & & \\ 0 & -1 & \ddots & -d_j & \\ \vdots & 0 & & t+b_j & 0 \\ & \vdots & & -1 & \ddots & -d_{n-1} & 0 \\ & & & 0 & t+b_{n-1} & -d_n \\ & & & \vdots & -1 & t+b_n \end{pmatrix} \\ &= (t+b_n)Q_n(t) - d_n Q_{n-1}(t). \end{aligned}$$

Hence $Q_{n+1}(t) = p_{n+1}(t)$. □

Given a sequence of points $-1 < \alpha_0 < \alpha_1 < \cdots < \alpha_n < 1$, let

$$L(x) := \prod_{j=0}^n (x - \alpha_j) \quad \text{and} \quad L_j(x) := \frac{L(x)}{(x - \alpha_j)L'(\alpha_j)} = \prod_{i \neq j} \frac{(x - \alpha_i)}{(\alpha_j - \alpha_i)},$$

so that $L_j(\alpha_i) = \delta_{ij}$. Given a function $\varphi(x)$ on $[-1, 1]$, we approximate it by the polynomial of degree $\leq n$,

$$\mathcal{L}_n \varphi(x) = \sum_{j=0}^n \varphi(\alpha_j) L_j(x).$$

Note that if $\varphi(x)$ is a polynomial of degree $\leq n$, then $\mathcal{L}_n \varphi(x) = \varphi(x)$ and hence

$$\int_{-1}^1 \varphi(x) \mu(dx) = \int_{-1}^1 \mathcal{L}_n \varphi(x) \mu(dx) = \sum_{j=0}^n \varphi(\alpha_j) \int_{-1}^1 L_j(x) \mu(dx).$$

We do better if we choose the α_j 's to be the zeros of $p_{n+1}(x)$, that is, $L(x) = p_{n+1}(x)$:

Theorem B.7 (Mechanical Quadrature). For $L(x) = p_{n+1}(x)$, we have

$$\int_{-1}^1 \varphi(x) \mu(dx) = \int_{-1}^1 \mathcal{L}_n \varphi(x) \mu(dx)$$

for all polynomials $\varphi(x)$ of degree $\leq 2n+1$.

Proof. $\varphi(x) - \mathcal{L}_n \varphi(x)$ is a polynomial of degree $\leq 2n+1$ and it vanishes at the α_j 's, so

$$\varphi(x) - \mathcal{L}_n \varphi(x) = p_{n+1}(x) f(x)$$

where $f(x)$ is a polynomial of degree $\leq n$. Therefore

$$(\varphi - \mathcal{L}_n \varphi, 1) = (p_{n+1} f, 1) = (p_{n+1}, f) = 0. \quad \square$$

Thus for $\{\alpha_j^{(n+1)}\}_{j=0,1,\dots,n}$ the zeros of $p_{n+1}(x)$ and the Christoffel numbers

$$\lambda_j^{(n+1)} := \int_{-1}^1 \frac{p_{n+1}(x)}{(x - \alpha_j^{(n+1)}) p'_{n+1}(x)} \mu(dx) = \int_{-1}^1 L_j(x) \mu(dx),$$

we have for any polynomial $\varphi(x)$ of degree $\leq 2n+1$

$$\int_{-1}^1 \varphi(x) \mu(dx) = \int_{-1}^1 \varphi(x) \mu_n(dx)$$

with the finite probability measure

$$\mu_n := \sum_{j=0}^n \lambda_j^{(n+1)} \delta_{\alpha_j^{(n+1)}}.$$

Remark that for $\varphi(x) = L_j(x)^2$ we get

$$\lambda_j^{(n+1)} = \int_{-1}^1 L_j(x)^2 \mu_n(x) = \int_{-1}^1 L_j(x)^2 \mu(dx) > 0,$$

and for $\varphi(x) = 1$,

$$\sum_{j=0}^n \lambda_j^{(n+1)} = \int_{-1}^1 1 \cdot \mu_n(x) = \int_{-1}^1 1 \cdot \mu(dx) = 1.$$

In particular, for polynomials φ_1, φ_2 of degree $\leq n$, we have

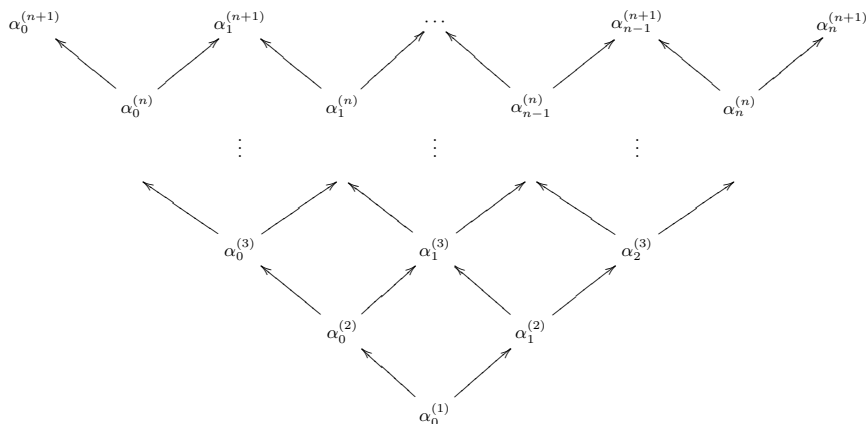
$$\int_{-1}^1 \varphi_1(x) \overline{\varphi_2(x)} \mu_n(x) = \sum_{j=0}^n \lambda_j^{(n+1)} \varphi_1(\alpha_j^{(n+1)}) \overline{\varphi_2(\alpha_j^{(n+1)})} = (\varphi_1, \varphi_2).$$

Thus we can identify H_n isometrically with $\ell_2(\mu_n)$.

Remark also that the zeros $\alpha_j^{(n+1)}$ of $p_{n+1}(x)$ and the zeros $\alpha_j^{(n)}$ of $p_n(x)$, interlace:

$$-1 < \alpha_0^{(n+1)} < \alpha_0^{(n)} < \alpha_1^{(n+1)} < \alpha_1^{(n)} < \dots < \alpha_{n-1}^{(n)} < \alpha_n^{(n+1)} < 1.$$

Thus we have the picture



This is the picture of our Markov chain.

The *classical* orthogonal polynomials $\{p_n(x)\}$ are characterized (modulo translation and dilation $\{p_n(x)\} \sim \{p_n(ax+b)\}$ changing the interval $[-1, 1]$ to an arbitrary interval $[b-a, b+a]$) by any of the following equivalent condition:

1. Hahn: The sequence $\{p'_n(x) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} p_n(x)\}_{n \geq 1}$ are again a sequence of orthogonal polynomials (with respect to another measure μ').
2. Bochner: $p_n(x)$ are the eigenfunctions of a second order differential operator

$$\left(a(x) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + b(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + c(x)\right) p_n(x) = \lambda_n p_n(x).$$

3. Tricomi: $p_n(x)$ can be expressed by a Rodriguez equation

$$p_n(x) = \frac{1}{\gamma_n} \frac{1}{\mu(x)} \frac{\partial^n}{\partial x^n} \mu(x) f(x)^n.$$

These polynomials are either the Jacobi polynomials $p_n^{\alpha, \beta}(x)$, $\mu^{\alpha, \beta}(x) := (1-x)^\alpha (1+x)^\beta$ ($\alpha, \beta > -1$) or their $\beta \rightarrow \infty$ limit, the Laguerre polynomials, or their $\alpha = \beta \rightarrow \infty$ limit, the Hermite polynomials. Replacing $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ in the above by

$$D_q \varphi(x) = \frac{\varphi(x) - \varphi(qx)}{(1-q)x},$$

we get a similar characterization of the q -classical orthogonal polynomials.

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