

Characterization of Generalized Bessel Polynomials in Terms of Polynomial Inequalities*

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Generalized Bessel polynomials (GBPs) are characterized as the extremal polynomials in certain inequalities in L^2 norm of Markov type. © 1998 Academic Press

1. INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT OF RESULTS

Generalized Bessel polynomials $y_n(x; \alpha, \beta)$ are defined by

$$y_n(x; \alpha, \beta) := \sum_{k=0}^n (-n)_k (n + \alpha - 1)_k \frac{(-x/\beta)^k}{k!} \\ = {}_2F_0(-n, n + \alpha - 1; -; -x/\beta), \quad (1)$$

where $(a)_k$ denotes the Pochhammer symbol, $(a)_0 := 1$, $(a)_k := a(a+1) \cdots (a+k-1)$, $k \geq 1$. For $\alpha = \beta = 2$ they reduce to the simple Bessel polynomials $y_n(x) := y_n(x; 2, 2)$. A recent review of Srivastava [5] contains comprehensive historical information and new results about GBPs. Here we mention only the following orthogonality relation given in [5]:

$$\int_0^\infty x^{\alpha-2} e^{-\beta/x} y_j(x; \alpha, \beta) y_m(x; \alpha, \beta) dx \\ = \beta^{\alpha-1} \frac{j!}{1 - \alpha - 2j} \Gamma(2 - \alpha - j) \delta_{jm}, \quad (2)$$

$$\operatorname{Re}(\alpha) < 1 - m - j, \quad \operatorname{Re}(\beta) > 0, \quad m, j \in \mathbb{N}_0 := \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}.$$

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Even though the parameter β does not have essential influence in our investigation, we keep it in order to maintain the common notation $y_n(x; \alpha, \beta)$.

Observe that, for $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$, $\beta > 0$, $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$, and $2n < 1 - \alpha$,

$$\|p\|_{\alpha, \mathcal{P}_n} = \left(\int_0^\infty x^{\alpha-2} e^{-\beta/x} p^2(x) dx \right)^{1/2} \quad (3)$$

is a well-defined norm in the space $\mathcal{P}_n$ of real algebraic polynomials of degree not exceeding n . Then under the same restrictions on α , β , and n , $\|p'\|_{\alpha+2, \mathcal{P}_{n-1}}$ is well defined because the inequalities $2n < 1 - \alpha$ and $2(n-1) < 1 - (\alpha+2)$ are equivalent.

First we prove an inequality of Markov type for the norm (3) for which GBPs are the extremal polynomials:

THEOREM 1. *Let $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$, $\beta > 0$, $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$, and $2n < 1 - \alpha$. For every $p \in \mathcal{P}_n$ and any positive integer k , $k \leq n$,*

$$\|p^{(k)}\|_{\alpha+2k, \mathcal{P}_{n-k}} \leq \left(\frac{n!}{(n-k)!} \prod_{j=1}^k (4 - \alpha - n - 3j) \right)^{1/2} \|p\|_{\alpha, \mathcal{P}_n}. \quad (4)$$

Moreover, for each k , $k = 1, \dots, n$, equality is attained if and only if p is a constant multiple of $y_n(x; \alpha, \beta)$.

It is clear that the expression $n!/(n-k)! \prod_{j=1}^k (4 - \alpha - n - 3j)$, which appears in the best constant

$$M_n(k, \alpha) = \left(\frac{n!}{(n-k)!} \prod_{j=1}^k (4 - \alpha - n - 3j) \right)^{1/2}$$

in (4), is positive because $2n < 1 - \alpha$.

Inequalities similar to (4) which characterize the classical Jacobi and general Laguerre polynomials are obtained by the second author in [1] and independently by Guessab and Milovanović [2] and Min [4]. Chapter 6 of Milovanović, Mitrinović, and Rassias's book [3] provides complete information about various inequalities for polynomials.

Next we shall prove an inequality of Markov type for a special type of "quasi-polynomials." Let $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$, $\beta > 0$, $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$, and $2n < -1 - \alpha$. The set of "quasi-polynomials $\mathcal{Q}_n(\alpha)$ " is defined by

$$\mathcal{Q}_n(\alpha) := \{q(x) = x^\alpha e^{-\beta/x} p(x) : p \in \mathcal{P}_n\}.$$

Then $\mathcal{Q}_n(\alpha)$ can be equipped with the norm

$$\|q\|_{\alpha, \mathcal{Q}_n(\alpha)} = \left(\int_0^\infty x^{-\alpha} e^{\beta/x} q^2(x) dx \right)^{1/2}. \quad (5)$$

Since for any $q \in \mathcal{Q}_n(\alpha)$ its derivative belongs to $\mathcal{Q}_{n+1}(\alpha - 2)$ and the restriction $2n < -1 - \alpha$ is equivalent to $2(n + 1) < -1 - (\alpha - 2)$, then $\|q'\|_{\alpha, \mathcal{Q}_{n+1}(\alpha-2)}$ is well defined.

THEOREM 2. *Let $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$, $\beta > 0$, $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$, and $2n < -1 - \alpha$. Then the inequality*

$$\|q'\|_{\alpha-2, \mathcal{Q}_{n+1}(\alpha-2)} \leq ((n+1)(-\alpha-n))^{1/2} \|q\|_{\alpha, \mathcal{Q}_n(\alpha)} \quad (6)$$

holds for every $q \in \mathcal{Q}_n(\alpha)$. Moreover, equality is attained if and only if q is a constant multiple of $x^\alpha e^{-\beta/x} y'_{n+1}(x; \alpha, \beta)$.

Note that the expression $(n+1)(-\alpha-n)$ which appears on the right-hand side of (6) is positive because $2n < -1 - \alpha$.

2. PROOFS

It is well known that the generalized Bessel polynomial of degree n satisfies the second-order differential equation

$$x^2 y'' + (\alpha x + \beta) y' - n(n + \alpha - 1) y = 0. \quad (7)$$

Obviously, this can be rewritten in the self-adjoint form:

$$(x^\alpha e^{-\beta/x} y')' = n(n + \alpha - 1) x^{\alpha-2} e^{-\beta/x} y. \quad (8)$$

It follows immediately from (1) that

$$y'_n(x; \alpha, \beta) = \frac{n(n + \alpha - 1)}{\beta} y_{n-1}(x; \alpha + 2, \beta). \quad (9)$$

Proof Theorem 1. First we prove (4) for $k = 1$. Let p be an arbitrary polynomial of degree n . Under the restrictions on α , β , and n , the polynomials $y_0(x; \alpha, \beta), \dots, y_n(x; \alpha, \beta)$ are orthogonal polynomials. Hence they form a basis in $\mathcal{P}_n$ and p can be uniquely represented in the form $p(x) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j \tilde{y}_j(x; \alpha, \beta)$, where

$$\tilde{y}_j(x; \alpha, \beta) := \left(\frac{1 - \alpha - 2j}{\beta^{\alpha-1} j! \Gamma(2 - \alpha - j)} \right)^{1/2} y_j(x; \alpha, \beta), \quad j = 0, \dots, n,$$

are the orthonormalized GBPs. Therefore

$$\|p\|_{\alpha, \mathcal{P}_n}^2 = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j^2.$$

Since $p'(x) = \sum_{j=1}^n a_j \tilde{y}'_j(x; \alpha, \beta)$ then (9) yields

$$p'(x) = \sum_{j=1}^n a_j \left(\frac{1 - \alpha - 2j}{\beta^{\alpha-1} j! \Gamma(2 - \alpha - j)} \right)^{1/2} \\ \times \frac{j(j + \alpha - 1)}{\beta} y_{j-1}(x; \alpha + 2, \beta).$$

Note that the polynomials $y_0(x; \alpha + 2, \beta), \dots, y_{n-1}(x; \alpha + 2, \beta)$ are orthogonal on $(0, \infty)$ with respect to the weight function $x^\alpha e^{-\beta/x}$. The requirement $\alpha < 1 - 2n$ is equivalent to $\alpha + 2 < 1 - 2(n - 1)$. Therefore we can apply (2) for $\alpha = \alpha + 2$ and $m, j \leq n - 1$. Thus

$$\|p'\|_{\alpha+2, \mathcal{P}_{n-1}}^2 = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1 - \alpha - 2j}{\beta^{\alpha-1} j! \Gamma(2 - \alpha - j)} \frac{j^2(j + \alpha - 1)^2}{\beta^2} \beta^{\alpha+1} \\ \times \frac{(j - 1)!}{1 - \alpha - 2j} \Gamma(1 - \alpha - j) a_j^2 \\ = \sum_{j=1}^n j(1 - \alpha - j) a_j^2.$$

The statement of the theorem for $k = 1$ will be proved if we show that the solution of the extremal problem

$$\max \left\{ \sum_{j=0}^n j(1 - \alpha - j) a_j^2 : \sum_{j=0}^n a_j^2 = 1, a_0, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{R}, \sum_{j=0}^n a_j^2 \neq 0 \right\} \quad (10)$$

is $M_n^2(1, \alpha)$ and it is attained for $a_0 = \dots = a_{n-1} = 0$. It is well known and easy to see that (10) is equivalent to the problem of determining

$$\max_{1 \leq j \leq n} j(1 - \alpha - j).$$

Since $f(j) := j(1 - \alpha - j)$ is a concave binomial with zeros at 0 and $1 - \alpha$, then f is an increasing function of j for $j \in (0, (1 - \alpha)/2)$. On the other hand, the requirement $\alpha < 1 - 2n$ is equivalent to $n < (1 - \alpha)/2$. Hence $f(j) < f(n)$ for $j = 0, \dots, n - 1$. Therefore the solution of the extremal problem (10) is $n(1 - \alpha - n) = M_n^2(1, \alpha)$ and the maximal value is attained only for $a_0 = \dots = a_{n-1} = 0$ and an arbitrary nonzero a_n . This completes the proof for $k = 1$. The inequalities (4) for $k = 2, \dots, n$ follow by repeated application of that for $k = 1$.

Proof of Theorem 2. Let $q \in \mathcal{Q}_n(\alpha)$ be arbitrary. Since the polynomials $y'_1(x; \alpha, \beta), \dots, y'_{n+1}(x; \alpha, \beta)$ form a basis in $\mathcal{Q}_n(\alpha)$, then q can be uniquely represented in the form $q(x) = x^\alpha e^{-\beta/x} \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} a_j y'_j(x; \alpha, \beta)$. Keeping in

mind that under the restrictions on α , β , and n , the polynomials $y'_j(x; \alpha, \beta)$, $j = 1, \dots, n+1$, are orthogonal on $(0, \infty)$ with respect to the weight function $x^\alpha e^{-\beta/x}$, and using (9) and (2) for $\alpha = \alpha + 2$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|q\|_{\alpha, \mathcal{Q}_n}^2 &= \int_0^\infty x^\alpha e^{-\beta/x} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n+1} a_j y'_j(x; \alpha, \beta) \right)^2 dx \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} a_j^2 \|y'_j(x; \alpha, \beta)\|_{\alpha+2, \mathcal{P}_{n-1}}^2 \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} a_j^2 \beta^{\alpha-1} j^2 (j + \alpha - 1)^2 \frac{(j-1)!}{1 - \alpha - 2j} \Gamma(1 - \alpha - j). \quad (11) \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, (8) yields

$$q'(x) = x^{\alpha-2} e^{-\beta/x} \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} a_j j(j + \alpha - 1) y_j(x; \alpha, \beta).$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|q'\|_{\alpha-2, \mathcal{Q}_{n+1}}^2 &= \int_0^\infty x^{\alpha-2} e^{-\beta/x} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n+1} a_j j(j + \alpha - 1) y_j(x; \alpha, \beta) \right)^2 dx \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} a_j^2 \beta^{\alpha-1} j^2 (j + \alpha - 1)^2 \frac{j!}{1 - \alpha - 2j} \Gamma(2 - \alpha - j). \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Introducing the notation

$$b_j^2 := a_j^2 \beta^{\alpha-1} j^2 (j + \alpha - 1)^2 \frac{(j-1)!}{1 - \alpha - 2j} \Gamma(1 - \alpha - j),$$

we can rewrite (11) and (12) in the form

$$\|q\|_{\alpha, \mathcal{Q}_n}^2 = \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} b_j^2$$

and

$$\|q'\|_{\alpha-2, \mathcal{Q}_{n+1}}^2 = \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} j(1 - \alpha - j) b_j^2,$$

respectively. Note that the requirements of the theorem are equivalent to $n + 1 < (1 - \alpha)/2$. Then the same reasoning as in the proof of Theorem 1 completes the proof.

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