

# Matrix factorizations and orthogonal polynomials

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## 1 Introduction

Let  $\mathbb{N}_0$  denote the set

$$\mathbb{N}_0 = \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\} = 0, 1, 2, \dots,$$

and  $L$  be a linear functional acting on the space of polynomials  $\mathbb{C}[x]$ , i.e., belonging to the dual vector space  $\mathbb{C}^*[x]$ :

$$L[ap + bq] = aL[p] + bL[q], \quad a, b \in \mathbb{C}, \quad p, q \in \mathbb{C}[x].$$

The numbers

$$\mu_n = L[x^n] \in \mathbb{C}, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}_0,$$

are called the **moments** of  $L$ .

If we have a sequence of polynomials  $p_n(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x]$ ,

$$\deg(p_n) = n, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}_0,$$

satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} L[x^k p_n] &= 0, \quad 0 \leq k < n, \\ L[x^n p_n] &= h_n \neq 0, \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , we say that  $\{p_n\}$  is a family of **orthogonal polynomials** with respect to  $L$ . Examples include Legendre, Chebyshev, Jacobi, Hermite,

Gegenbauer, Laguerre, Charlier, Kravchuk, Meixner, Hahn polynomials, and many others!

If  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and

$$p_n(x) = \sum_{j=0}^n c_j x^j,$$

we have

$$L[x^k p_n] = \sum_{j=0}^n c_j L[x^{k+j}] = \sum_{j=0}^n \mu_{k+j} c_j,$$

and using (1), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=0}^n \mu_{k+j} c_j &= 0, \quad 0 \leq k < n, \\ \sum_{j=0}^n \mu_{n+j} c_j &= h_n \neq 0. \end{aligned}$$

If we introduce the **Hankel matrix**

$$M_{i,j} = \mu_{i+j}, \quad 0 \leq i, j \leq n,$$

we can write

$$M \begin{bmatrix} c_0 \\ c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ h_n \end{bmatrix},$$

and we will have a unique solution if the **Hankel determinants**  $\Delta_n$  satisfy

$$\Delta_n = \det_{0 \leq i, j \leq n} (\mu_{i+j}) \neq 0, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

We say that  $L$  is a **quasi-definite functional** if  $\Delta_n \neq 0$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , and  $L$  is a **positive-definite functional** if  $\Delta_n > 0$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ .

## 2 Main theory

### 2.1 Definitions

We begin with a few definitions.

**Definition 1** A *semi-infinite matrix*  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{\infty \times \infty}$  is a function  $A : \mathbb{N}_0 \times \mathbb{N}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ . We write

$$A(i, j) = A_{i,j}.$$

(i) We say that  $A$  is an **upper triangular matrix** if

$$A_{i,j} = 0, \quad i > j.$$

We say that  $U$  is a **unit upper triangular (UUT)** matrix if  $A$  is upper triangular and

$$A_{i,i} = 1, \quad i \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

In other words,

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & A_{0,1} & A_{0,2} \\ 0 & 1 & A_{1,2} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(ii) We say that  $A$  is a **lower triangular matrix** if

$$A_{i,j} = 0, \quad i < j.$$

We say that  $A$  is a **unit lower triangular (ULT)** matrix if  $L$  is lower triangular and

$$A_{i,i} = 1, \quad i \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

In other words,

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ A_{1,0} & 1 & 0 \\ A_{2,0} & A_{2,1} & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Definition 2** We say that  $\vec{q} \in \mathbb{C}[x]^{\infty \times 1}$  is a **basis** of  $\mathbb{C}[x]$  if  $q_n(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x]$  and  $\deg(q_n) = n$ .

We say that  $\vec{q}$  is a **monic basis** if  $q_n(x)$  is a monic polynomial for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ,

$$q_n(x) = x^n + \dots.$$

The basis that we will use in our examples is constructed with the falling factorials.

**Example 3** The basis of **falling factorial** (or binomial) polynomials is defined by  $\phi_0(x) = 1$  and

$$\phi_n(x) = \prod_{j=0}^{n-1} (x - j), \quad n \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (2)$$

Using the definition (2), we immediately obtain the recurrence relation

$$\phi_{n+1}(x) = (x - n) \phi_n(x). \quad (3)$$

**Definition 4** We define the **Pochhammer** (or rising factorial) polynomials by  $(x)_0 = 1$  and

$$(x)_n = \prod_{k=0}^{n-1} (x + k), \quad n \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (4)$$

**Remark 5** The Pochhammer polynomials can be generalized to complex values of  $n$  using the formula [6, 5.2.5]

$$(x)_n = \frac{\Gamma(x+n)}{\Gamma(x)}, \quad -(x+n) \notin \mathbb{N}_0, \quad (5)$$

where  $\Gamma(z)$  is the Gamma function.

The Pochhammer polynomials satisfy many identities (HW #1), including the recurrence [5, 18:5:12]

$$(x)_{n+m} = (x)_n (x+n)_m, \quad n, m \in \mathbb{N}_0, \quad (6)$$

the change of sign identity

$$(-x)_n = (-1)^n (x - n + 1)_n, \quad (7)$$

and the ratio formulas [5, 18:5:10]

$$\frac{(x-m)_n}{(x)_n} = \frac{(x-m)_m}{(x-m+n)_m} = \frac{(1-x)_m}{(1-x-n)_m}, \quad n, m \in \mathbb{N}_0. \quad (8)$$

We see from (2), (4), and (7) that the polynomials  $\phi_n(x)$  and  $(x)_n$  are related by (HW #2)

$$\phi_n(x) = (-1)^n (-x)_n = (x - n + 1)_n. \quad (9)$$

Note that from (5) and (9), we get

$$\phi_n(x) = \frac{\Gamma(x+1)}{\Gamma(x-n+1)} = n! \binom{x}{n}. \quad (10)$$

The falling factorial polynomials are eigenvalues of the **forward difference operator** (acting on the variable  $x$ ) defined by

$$\Delta f(x) = f(x+1) - f(x).$$

In fact, we have the following result.

**Lemma 6** For all  $i, j \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , we have

$$\Delta^i \phi_j(x) = \phi_i(j) \phi_{j-i}(x). \quad (11)$$

Note that from (2) we see that

$$\phi_i(j) = 0, \quad i > j,$$

and therefore

$$\Delta^i \phi_j(x) = 0, \quad i > j.$$

**Proof.** HW #2. ■

Using the Pochhammer polynomials we can construct the generalized hypergeometric function.

**Definition 7** The *generalized hypergeometric function*  ${}_pF_q$  is defined by [6, 16.2]

$${}_pF_q \left( \begin{matrix} a_1, \dots, a_p \\ b_1, \dots, b_q \end{matrix} ; z \right) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a_1)_k \cdots (a_p)_k}{(b_1)_k \cdots (b_q)_k} \frac{z^k}{k!}. \quad (12)$$

**Remark 8** The convergence of the series (12) depends on the values of  $p$  and  $q$ . We have three different cases to consider:

1. If  $p < q + 1$ ,  ${}_pF_q$  is an entire function of  $z$ .
2. If  $p = q + 1$ ,  ${}_pF_q$  is analytic inside the unit circle,  $|z| < 1$ .
3. If  $p > q + 1$ ,  ${}_pF_q$  diverges for  $z \neq 0$ , unless one or more of the top parameters  $a_i$  is a negative integer. If we take  $a_1 = -N$ , with  $N \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , then  ${}_pF_q$  becomes a polynomial of degree  $N$ .

For example, we can write the exponential generating function of the Pochhammer polynomials as a  ${}_1F_0$  function.

**Example 9** Using the binomial theorem and (10), we have

$$(1+z)^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \binom{x}{n} z^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\phi_n(x)}{n!} z^n, \quad |z| < 1.$$

From (9), we get

$${}_1F_0 \left( \begin{matrix} x \\ - \end{matrix} ; z \right) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (x)_n \frac{z^n}{n!} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \phi_n(-x) \frac{z^n}{n!} = (1-z)^{-x}, \quad |z| < 1. \quad (13)$$

In the next section, we will need the following result.

**Proposition 10** *The polynomials  $\phi_n(x)$  satisfy the connection formula*

$$\phi_n(x)\phi_m(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{n}{k} \binom{m}{k} k! \phi_{n+m-k}(x). \quad (14)$$

**Proof.** Can you find one? Maybe using symbolic computation? ■

## 2.2 Linear functionals

**Definition 11** *Let  $L : \mathbb{C}[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a linear functional and  $\vec{q} \in \mathbb{C}[x]^{\infty \times 1}$  be a monic basis.*

(i) *The numbers*

$$\nu_n = L[q_n], \quad n \in \mathbb{N}_0,$$

*are called the (**generalized**) moments of  $L$ . We write*

$$\vec{\nu} = L[\vec{q}] \in \mathbb{C}[x]^{\infty \times 1}.$$

(ii) *We define the **Gram matrix**  $G$  by*

$$G = L[\vec{q} \vec{q}^T] \in \mathbb{C}^{\infty \times \infty}.$$

As an example, we consider the following linear functional.

**Example 12** *Let  $L : \mathbb{C}[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be defined by*

$$L[q] = \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} q(x) \frac{z^x}{x!}, \quad q \in \mathbb{C}[x]. \quad (15)$$

*The moments of  $L$  on the falling factorial basis are given by*

$$\nu_n(z) = L[\phi_n] = \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} \phi_n(x) \frac{z^x}{x!}.$$

*We can show (HW #3) that*

$$\nu_n(z) = z^n e^z. \quad (16)$$

*Using (16) and (14), we obtain (HW #4)*

$$G_{i,j} = L[\phi_i, \phi_j] = e^z z^{i+j} {}_2F_0 \left( \begin{matrix} -i, -j \\ - \end{matrix}; z^{-1} \right). \quad (17)$$

**Remark 13** Note that the matrix  $G$  defined by (17) is symmetric, and all the entries are finite sums, since the hypergeometric series terminates for all  $i, j \in \mathbb{N}_0$ . Also,  $z = 0$  is not a singularity of  $G_{i,j}$ , since the power  $z^{i+j}$  cancels the powers of  $z^{-1}$ .

**Definition 14** We say that  $L$  is a **quasi-definite functional** with respect to a monic basis  $\vec{q} \in \mathbb{C}[x]^{\infty \times 1}$  if the matrix  $L[\vec{q} \ \vec{q}^T]$  admits the LDL decomposition [3, 4.12]

$$L[\vec{q} \ \vec{q}^T] = G = CHC^T, \quad (18)$$

where  $C \in \mathbb{C}^{\infty \times \infty}$  is a ULT matrix and  $H \in \mathbb{C}^{\infty \times \infty}$  is a nonsingular diagonal matrix

$$H_{i,j} = h_i \delta_{i,j}, \quad h_i \neq 0, \quad i, j \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

If  $h_i > 0$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , we say that  $L$  is a **positive-definite functional**.

**Proposition 15** If  $L$  is a quasi-definite functional with respect to  $\vec{q}$ , then we can compute the entries of  $C$  and  $H$  in (18) by the following iterative formula:

$$\begin{aligned} h_0 &= G_{0,0}, \quad C_{i,0} = \frac{G_{i,0}}{h_0}, \quad C_{i,i} = 1, \quad i \in \mathbb{N}_0, \\ C_{i,j} &= 0, \quad i < j, \end{aligned}$$

and for  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} C_{i,j} &= \frac{1}{h_j} \left( G_{i,j} - \sum_{k=0}^{j-1} C_{i,k} C_{j,k} h_k \right), \quad j = 1, \dots, i-1, \quad (19) \\ h_i &= G_{i,i} - \sum_{k=0}^{i-1} (C_{i,k})^2 h_k. \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** Let  $i \geq j$ . Then, since  $C$  is a ULT matrix we have  $C_{j,k} = 0$ ,  $j < k$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} G_{i,j} &= (CHC^T)_{i,j} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} C_{i,k} h_k C_{j,k} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^j C_{i,k} h_k C_{j,k} = C_{i,j} h_j + \sum_{k=0}^{j-1} C_{i,k} h_k C_{j,k}. \end{aligned}$$

Solving for  $C_{i,j}$ , we get

$$C_{i,j} = \frac{1}{h_j} \left( G_{i,j} - \sum_{k=0}^{j-1} C_{i,k} h_k C_{j,k} \right).$$

In particular, when  $i = j$

$$1 = C_{i,i} = \frac{1}{h_i} \left[ G_{i,i} - \sum_{k=0}^{i-1} (C_{i,k})^2 h_k \right].$$

■

**Example 16** Let the matrix  $G$  be defined by (17). Since

$$h_0 = G_{0,0} = e^z, \quad C_{i,0} = \frac{G_{i,0}}{G_{0,0}} = z^i,$$

we can use (19), and obtain

$$h_1 = ze^z, \quad h_2 = 2z^2e^z, \quad h_3 = 6z^3e^z, \dots,$$

and

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ z & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ z^2 & 2z & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ z^3 & 3z^2 & 3z & 1 & 0 \\ z^4 & 4z^3 & 6z^2 & 4z & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We see that the matrices  $C$  and  $H$  in the LDL decomposition (18) have entries (HW #5)

$$C_{i,j} = \binom{i}{j} z^{i-j}, \quad i, j \in \mathbb{N}_0, \quad (20)$$

and  $H_{i,j} = h_i \delta_{i,j}$ , with

$$h_i = i! z^i e^z, \quad i \in \mathbb{N}_0. \quad (21)$$

We conclude that  $L$  is a quasi-definite functional if  $z \neq 0$ . The functional  $L$  will be positive definite if  $z > 0$ .



## 2.3 Orthogonal polynomials

In this section, we introduce sequences of polynomials orthogonal with respect to linear functionals.

**Definition 17** *If  $L$  is a quasi-definite functional with respect to  $\vec{q}$ , we define the sequence of **monic orthogonal polynomials (MOPS)** with respect to  $L$  by*

$$\vec{p} = C^{-1}\vec{q} \in \mathbb{C}[x]^{\infty \times 1}. \quad (22)$$

**Example 18** *Let the matrix  $C$  be defined by (20). Let*

$$\begin{aligned} A_{i,j} &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^{i-k} C_{i,k} C_{k,j} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^{i-k} \binom{i}{k} z^{i-k} \binom{k}{j} z^{k-j} \\ &= z^{i-j} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^{i-k} \binom{i}{k} \binom{k}{j}, \quad i, j \in \mathbb{N}_0. \end{aligned}$$

Then (HW #5),

$$\begin{aligned} A_{i,j} &= 0, \quad i < j \\ A_{i,j} &= 1, \quad i = j. \end{aligned}$$

If  $i > j$ , we get

$$A_{i,j} = z^{i-j} \sum_{k=j}^i (-1)^{i-k} \binom{i}{k} \binom{k}{j},$$

and using (10)

$$A_{i,j} = z^{i-j} \sum_{k=j}^i (-1)^{i-k} \binom{i}{k} \frac{\phi_j(k)}{j!}.$$

If we use the formula for higher order differences [7, 6.1]

$$\Delta^p f(x) = \sum_{j=0}^p \binom{p}{j} (-1)^{p-j} f(x+j), \quad (23)$$

we see that

$$A_{i,j} = \frac{z^{i-j}}{j!} [\Delta^i \phi_j(x)]_{x=0}, \quad i > j.$$

But since  $\phi_j(x)$  is a polynomial of degree  $j$ , and  $i > j$

$$A_{i,j} = 0, \quad i > j.$$

We conclude that

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^{i-k} C_{i,k} C_{k,j} = A_{i,j} = \delta_{i,j}, \quad i, j \in \mathbb{N}_0,$$

and therefore

$$(C^{-1})_{i,k} = (-1)^{i-k} C_{i,k}. \quad (24)$$

The polynomials  $\vec{p} = C^{-1} \vec{\phi}$  are known as (monic) **Charlier polynomials** [4, 6.1]. Using (20) and (24), we get

$$p_n(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (C^{-1})_{n,j} \phi_j(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-j} \binom{n}{j} z^{n-j} \phi_j(x).$$

From (10) and (9), we have

$$\binom{n}{j} = \frac{\phi_j(n)}{j!} = \frac{(-1)^j (-n)_j}{j!}.$$

Therefore,

$$(-z)^{-j} \binom{n}{j} \phi_j(x) = (-1)^j \binom{n}{j} j! (-1)^j \phi_j(x) \frac{(-z)^{-j}}{j!} = (-n)_j (-x)_j \frac{(-z)^{-j}}{j!},$$

and we obtain the hypergeometric representation [1]

$$p_n(x) = (-z)^n {}_2F_0 \left( \begin{matrix} -n, -x \\ - \end{matrix} ; -z^{-1} \right).$$

**Theorem 19** *Let  $L$  be a quasi-definite functional with respect to  $\vec{q}$  and  $\vec{p}$  be the corresponding MOPS. Then,*

(i) *The polynomials  $p_n(x)$  satisfy the **orthogonality relation***

$$L[\vec{p} \vec{p}^T] = H. \quad (25)$$

(ii) *We have*

$$L[\vec{p}] = h_0 \vec{e}_0, \quad (26)$$

where

$$(\vec{e}_k)_j = \delta_{k,j}.$$

(iii) If  $\vec{\psi}$  is a monic basis of  $\mathbb{C}[x]$ , then

$$L \begin{bmatrix} \vec{p} & \vec{\psi}^T \end{bmatrix} = HU,$$

where  $U$  is a UUT matrix. In other words, for all  $i, j \in \mathbb{N}_0$

$$L[p_i \psi_j] = \begin{cases} h_i, & i = j \\ 0, & i > j \end{cases}. \quad (27)$$

**Proof.** (i) Using (22), we have

$$L \begin{bmatrix} \vec{p} & \vec{p}^T \end{bmatrix} = L \begin{bmatrix} C^{-1} \vec{q} & \vec{q}^T C^{-T} \end{bmatrix} = C^{-1} G C^{-T} = H,$$

where

$$C^{-T} = (C^T)^{-1} = (C^{-1})^T.$$

(ii) Using (25), we have

$$(L[\vec{p}])_j = L[p_j] = L[p_j p_0] = h_0 \delta_{j,0}.$$

(iii) If  $\vec{\psi}$  is a monic basis of  $\mathbb{C}[x]$ , then there exists a ULT matrix  $A$  such that

$$\vec{\psi} = A \vec{q}.$$

Using (22), we get

$$L \begin{bmatrix} \vec{p} & \vec{\psi}^T \end{bmatrix} = L \begin{bmatrix} C^{-1} \vec{q} & \vec{q}^T A^T \end{bmatrix} = C^{-1} G A^T = H C^T A^T.$$

Since  $C$  and  $A$  are ULT matrices, the matrix  $C^T A^T$  is UUT. ■

**Example 20** *Meixner polynomials.* Using (15), (21) and (25), we obtain the orthogonality relation for the (monic) Meixner polynomials [1]

$$\sum_{x=0}^{\infty} p_n(x) p_m(x) (a)_x \frac{z^x}{x!} = e^z n! z^n \delta_{n,m}, \quad n, m \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

**Definition 21** Let  $\vec{p}$  be the MOPS with respect to a quasi-definite functional  $L$ . We define the **Jacobi matrix**  $J \in \mathbb{C}^{\infty \times \infty}$  by

$$J = L [x \vec{p} \quad \vec{p}^T] H^{-1}. \quad (28)$$

**Theorem 22** (i) The Jacobi matrix  $J$  defined by (28) is a tridiagonal matrix with entries

$$J_{i,j} = \delta_{i+1,j} + \beta_i \delta_{i,j} + \gamma_i \delta_{i-1,j}, \quad (29)$$

where the coefficients  $\beta_i, \gamma_i$  are given by

$$\beta_i = \frac{L [xp_i^2]}{h_i}, \quad i \in \mathbb{N}_0,$$

$\gamma_0 = 0$  and

$$\gamma_i = \frac{L [xp_i p_{i-1}]}{h_{i-1}} = \frac{h_i}{h_{i-1}} \neq 0, \quad i \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (30)$$

(ii) The polynomials  $\vec{p}$  satisfy the eigenvalue equation

$$J \vec{p} = x \vec{p}. \quad (31)$$

By linearity, this extends to

$$q(x) \vec{p} = q(J) \vec{p}, \quad q \in \mathbb{C}[x]. \quad (32)$$

(iii) Let  $q \in \mathbb{C}[x]$ . Then,  $q(J) H$  is a symmetric matrix.

(iv) Let  $q \in \mathbb{C}[x]$  be given by

$$q(x) = \vec{p}^T \vec{\omega}, \quad \vec{\omega} \in \mathbb{C}[x]^{\infty \times 1}. \quad (33)$$

Then,

$$\omega_k = \frac{h_0}{h_k} [q(J)]_{k,0}. \quad (34)$$

**Proof.** (i) Using (27) in two different ways, we have

$$L [p_i \quad xp_j] = \begin{cases} h_i, & i = j + 1 \\ 0, & i > j + 1 \end{cases},$$

and

$$L [p_j \quad xp_i] = \begin{cases} h_j, & j = i + 1 \\ 0, & j > i + 1 \end{cases}.$$

Thus, from (28) we obtain

$$(JH)_{i,j} = 0, \quad j \notin \{i-1, i, i+1\}.$$

The three nonzero entries are given by

$$J_{i,i-1}h_{i-1} = L[xp_i p_{i-1}] = h_i,$$

$$J_{i,i}h_i = L[xp_i^2] = h_i\beta_i,$$

and

$$J_{i,i+1}h_{i+1} = L[xp_i p_{i+1}] = h_{i+1}.$$

(ii) Representing  $x\vec{p}$  with respect to the basis  $\vec{p}$ , we have

$$x\vec{p} = M\vec{p},$$

for some matrix  $M$ . Multiplying by  $\vec{p}^T$  and applying  $L$  on both sides of the equation, we get

$$JH = L[x\vec{p} \vec{p}^T] = ML[\vec{p} \vec{p}^T] = MH,$$

where we have used (25) and (28). Since  $H$  is nonsingular,  $M = J$ .

(iii) Using (32), we have

$$L[q\vec{p} \vec{p}^T] = L[q(J)\vec{p} \vec{p}^T] = q(J)L[\vec{p} \vec{p}^T] = q(J)H.$$

But on the other hand,

$$L[q\vec{p} \vec{p}^T] = L[\vec{p} \vec{p}^T q] = L[\vec{p} \vec{p}^T q(J^T)] = Hq(J^T).$$

Therefore,

$$[q(J)H]^T = H^T[q(J)]^T = Hq(J^T) = q(J)H. \quad (35)$$

(iv) From (33), we have

$$L[\vec{p}q] = L[\vec{p} \vec{p}^T \vec{\omega}] = H\vec{\omega}.$$

Using (32),

$$L[\vec{p}q] = L[q\vec{p}] = L[q(J)\vec{p}] = q(J)L[\vec{p}].$$

Finally, from (26)

$$q(J)L[\vec{p}] = q(J)h_0\vec{e}_0.$$

Thus, we conclude that

$$h_j\omega_j = (H\vec{\omega})_j = \sum_k [q(J)]_{j,k} h_0\delta_{k,0} = h_0[q(J)]_{j,0}.$$

■

**Corollary 23** Let  $\vec{p}$  be the MOPS with respect to a quasi-definite functional  $L$ . Then, the polynomials  $\vec{p}$  satisfy the **three-term recurrence relation**

$$xp_n = p_{n+1} + \beta_n p_n + \gamma_n p_{n-1}, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}_0, \quad (36)$$

with initial conditions

$$p_{-1} = 0, \quad p_0 = 1.$$

The following result is known as the Modified Chebyshev algorithm [2, 2.1.7].

**Proposition 24** Let  $\vec{p}$  be the MOPS with respect to a quasi-definite functional  $L$  and  $\vec{q}$  be a monic basis of  $\mathbb{C}[x]$  satisfying

$$x\vec{q} = T\vec{q}, \quad (37)$$

where  $T$  is a tridiagonal matrix with entries

$$T_{i,j} = \delta_{i+1,j} + \eta_i \delta_{i,j} + \xi_i \delta_{i-1,j}. \quad (38)$$

Let the "modified moments" be defined by

$$R = L[\vec{q} \vec{p}^T].$$

Then, the entries of  $R$  satisfy the recurrence

$$R_{i,j+1} = R_{i+1,j} + (\eta_i - \beta_j) R_{i,j} + \xi_i R_{i-1,j} - \gamma_j R_{i,j-1},$$

with initial values

$$R_{i,-1} = 0, \quad R_{i,0} = L[q_i] = \nu_i, \quad i \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

Moreover, the coefficients in the three-term recurrence relation (36) are given by

$$\beta_i = \eta_i + \frac{R_{i+1,i}}{R_{i,i}} - \frac{R_{i,i-1}}{R_{i-1,i-1}}, \quad (39)$$

and

$$\gamma_i = \frac{R_{i,i}}{R_{i-1,i-1}}. \quad (40)$$

**Proof.** Let  $A$  be the ULT matrix satisfying

$$\vec{q} = A \vec{p}.$$

Then,

$$R = L [\vec{q} \vec{p}^T] = L [A \vec{p} \vec{p}^T] = AH. \quad (41)$$

Hence,  $R$  is a lower triangular matrix and

$$R_{i,i} = h_i. \quad (42)$$

Using (31) and (37), we have

$$T \vec{q} \vec{p}^T = x \vec{q} \vec{p}^T = \vec{q} x \vec{p}^T = \vec{q} \vec{p}^T J^T,$$

and therefore

$$TR = L [T \vec{q} \vec{p}^T] = L [\vec{q} \vec{p}^T J^T] = R J^T.$$

Using (29) and (38), we get

$$R_{i+1,j} + \eta_i R_{i,j} + \xi_i R_{i-1,j} = R_{i,j+1} + \beta_j R_{i,j} + \gamma_j R_{i,j-1}. \quad (43)$$

Since  $R$  is a lower triangular matrix, we have

$$R_{i,j} = 0, \quad i < j, \quad (44)$$

and setting  $i = j - 1$  in (43), we obtain

$$\gamma_j = \frac{R_{j,j}}{R_{j-1,j-1}}. \quad (45)$$

Note that from (42) and (45) we have

$$\gamma_j = \frac{h_j}{h_{j-1}},$$

in agreement with (30).

If we set  $i = j$  in (43) and use (45) and (44), we obtain

$$\beta_j = \eta_j + \frac{R_{j+1,j} - \gamma_j R_{j,j-1}}{R_{j,j}} = \eta_j + \frac{R_{j+1,j}}{R_{j,j}} - \frac{R_{j,j-1}}{R_{j-1,j-1}}.$$

Finally, solving for  $R_{i,j+1}$  in (43), we get

$$R_{i,j+1} = R_{i+1,j} + (\eta_i - \beta_j) R_{i,j} + \xi_i R_{i-1,j} - \gamma_j R_{i,j-1}.$$

■

**Example 25** *Charlier polynomials.* The falling factorial polynomials satisfy the 3-term recurrence relation (3). Comparing with (38), we see that

$$\eta_n = n, \quad \xi_n = 0,$$

and therefore

$$T_{i,j} = \delta_{i+1,j} + i\delta_{i,j}.$$

Using (41), we get

$$R_{i,j} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} C_{i,k} H_{k,j} = C_{i,j} h_j = \binom{i}{j} z^{i-j} j! z^j e^z = e^z j! \binom{i}{j} z^i.$$

Finally, using (39) and (40) we obtain [1]

$$\beta_n = n + \frac{R_{n+1,n}}{R_{n,n}} - \frac{R_{n,n-1}}{R_{n-1,n-1}} = n + z, \quad (46)$$

and

$$\gamma_n = \frac{R_{n,n}}{R_{n-1,n-1}} = nz. \quad (47)$$

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