

Zeros of Ultraspherical Polynomials

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Joint work with Martin Muldoon

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Ultraspherical Polynomials $C_n^{(\lambda)}$

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Special case $\alpha = \beta = \lambda - \frac{1}{2}$ of Jacobi polynomials $P_n^{(\alpha, \beta)}$

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The zeros of $C_{n-1}^{(\lambda)}$ and $C_n^{(\lambda)}$ are interlacing:

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D-Duren 2000. A specific number of zeros of $C_n^{(\lambda)}$ collide at the endpoints 1 and -1 of the interval of orthogonality each time λ decreases through the next successive negative half-integer. The location and kinematics of the zeros at each stage of the process are known.

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Quasi-orthogonality: Riesz (Moment Problem), Fejer, Shohat, Chihara...

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D-Muldoon 2015 For $\lambda < 1 - n$, zeros of $\tilde{C}_{n-1}^{(\lambda)}$ interlace zeros of $\tilde{C}_n^{(\lambda)}$

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Connection between **real** zeros of $\tilde{C}_n^{(\lambda)}$ and **real** zeros of $C_n^{(\lambda')}$?

Zeros of ultras and pseudo-ultras

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D-Muldoon 2016 Let $\lambda' = \frac{1}{2} - \lambda - n$

Let $\tilde{x}_{n,k}(\lambda), k = 1, \dots, n$ be the zeros of $\tilde{C}_n^{(\lambda)}$

and $x_{n,k}(\lambda'), k = 1, \dots, n$ be the zeros of $C_n^{(\lambda')}$

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Two real symmetric zeros of ultra have modulus > 1

If $1 - n < \lambda < 2 - n$ two zeros of $\tilde{C}_n^{(\lambda)}$ are pure imaginary

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The factor $q(x) = 1 - x^2$ is the only quadratic multiplicative factor that restores interlacing between the zeros of $C_n^{(\lambda)}(x)$ and the zeros of $q(x)C_{n-1}^{(\lambda)}(x)$ for every choice of $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

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Follows from the bounds derived in D-Muldoon 2016. The extreme zeros of $C_n^{(\lambda)}(x)$ approach ± 1 as n approaches ∞ .

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$\lambda < 1 - n \Leftrightarrow n < -\lambda + 1$ Finite sequence $\{\tilde{C}_n^{(\lambda)}\}_{n=0}^N$, $N = \lfloor -\lambda \rfloor + 1$ $\tilde{C}_n^{(\lambda)}$ has n real zeros **Zeros of $\tilde{C}_{n-1}^{(\lambda)}$ interlace zeros of $\tilde{C}_n^{(\lambda)}$**

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Weight function pseudo-ultras $\lambda < -n$ is $(1 + x^2)^{\lambda - 1/2}$

Open Problem: Weight function (measure) $-n < \lambda < 1 - n$?

Thank you