

# Semi-classical orthogonal polynomials and the Painlevé equations

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**Kent**



# Outline

1. Introduction

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2. Properties of the **second Painlevé equation**

$$\frac{d^2q}{dz^2} = 2q^3 + zq + \alpha$$

- Hamiltonian structure
- Bäcklund transformations and associated difference equations
- Airy solutions

# Outline

1. Introduction
2. Properties of the second Painlevé equation
3. Properties of the **fourth Painlevé equation**

$$\frac{d^2q}{dz^2} = \frac{1}{2q} \left( \frac{dq}{dz} \right)^2 + \frac{3}{2}q^3 + 4zq^2 + 2(z^2 - \alpha)q + \frac{\beta}{q} \quad \mathbf{P_{IV}}$$

- Hamiltonian structure
- Parabolic cylinder function solutions

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2. Properties of the second Painlevé equation
3. Properties of the fourth Painlevé equation
4. Orthogonal polynomials

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4. Orthogonal polynomials
5. Semi-classical orthogonal polynomials and the fourth Painlevé equation

- **Semi-classical Hermite weight**

$$\omega(x; t) = |x|^\nu \exp(-x^2 + tx), \quad x, t \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \nu > -1$$

- **Generalized Freud weight**

$$\omega(x; t) = |x|^{2\nu+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2), \quad x, t \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \nu > 0$$

# Outline

1. Introduction
2. Properties of the second Painlevé equation
3. Properties of the fourth Painlevé equation
4. Orthogonal polynomials
5. Semi-classical orthogonal polynomials and the fourth Painlevé equation
6. Orthogonal polynomials on complex contours

$$\omega(x; t) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{3}x^3 + tx\right), \quad t > 0$$

on the curve  $\mathcal{C}$  from  $e^{2\pi i/3}\infty$  to  $e^{-2\pi i/3}\infty$ .

# Outline

1. Introduction
2. Properties of the second Painlevé equation
3. Properties of the fourth Painlevé equation
4. Orthogonal polynomials
5. Semi-classical orthogonal polynomials and the fourth Painlevé equation
6. Orthogonal polynomials on complex contours
7. Conclusions



# Painlevé Equations

$$\frac{d^2q}{dz^2} = 6q^2 + z \quad \mathbf{P_I}$$

$$\frac{d^2q}{dz^2} = 2q^3 + zq + A \quad \mathbf{P_{II}}$$

$$\frac{d^2q}{dz^2} = \frac{1}{q} \left( \frac{dq}{dz} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{z} \frac{dq}{dz} + \frac{Aq^2 + B}{z} + Cq^3 + \frac{D}{q} \quad \mathbf{P_{III}}$$

$$\frac{d^2q}{dz^2} = \frac{1}{2q} \left( \frac{dq}{dz} \right)^2 + \frac{3}{2}q^3 + 4zq^2 + 2(z^2 - A)q + \frac{B}{q} \quad \mathbf{P_{IV}}$$

$$\frac{d^2q}{dz^2} = \left( \frac{1}{2q} + \frac{1}{q-1} \right) \left( \frac{dq}{dz} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{z} \frac{dq}{dz} + \frac{(q-1)^2}{z^2} \left( Aq + \frac{B}{q} \right) \\ + \frac{Cq}{z} + \frac{Dq(q+1)}{q-1} \quad \mathbf{P_V}$$

$$\frac{d^2q}{dz^2} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{q} + \frac{1}{q-1} + \frac{1}{q-z} \right) \left( \frac{dq}{dz} \right)^2 - \left( \frac{1}{z} + \frac{1}{z-1} + \frac{1}{q-z} \right) \frac{dq}{dz} \\ + \frac{q(q-1)(q-z)}{z^2(z-1)^2} \left\{ A + \frac{Bz}{q^2} + \frac{C(z-1)}{(q-1)^2} + \frac{Dz(z-1)}{(q-z)^2} \right\} \quad \mathbf{P_{VI}}$$

with  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$  and  $D$  arbitrary constants.

# Painlevé $\sigma$ -Equations

$$\left(\frac{d^2\sigma}{dz^2}\right)^2 + 4\left(\frac{d\sigma}{dz}\right)^3 + 2z\frac{d\sigma}{dz} - 2\sigma = 0 \quad \mathbf{S_I}$$

$$\left(\frac{d^2\sigma}{dz^2}\right)^2 + 4\left(\frac{d\sigma}{dz}\right)^3 + 2\frac{d\sigma}{dz}\left(z\frac{d\sigma}{dz} - \sigma\right) = \frac{1}{4}\beta^2 \quad \mathbf{S_{II}}$$

$$\left(z\frac{d^2\sigma}{dz^2} - \frac{d\sigma}{dz}\right)^2 + 4\left(\frac{d\sigma}{dz}\right)^2\left(z\frac{d\sigma}{dz} - 2\sigma\right) + 4z\vartheta_\infty\frac{d\sigma}{dz} = z^2\left(z\frac{d\sigma}{dz} - 2\sigma + 2\vartheta_0\right) \quad \mathbf{S_{III}}$$

$$\left(\frac{d^2\sigma}{dz^2}\right)^2 - 4\left(z\frac{d\sigma}{dz} - \sigma\right)^2 + 4\frac{d\sigma}{dz}\left(\frac{d\sigma}{dz} + 2\vartheta_0\right)\left(\frac{d\sigma}{dz} + 2\vartheta_\infty\right) = 0 \quad \mathbf{S_{IV}}$$

$$\left(z\frac{d^2\sigma}{dz^2}\right)^2 - \left[2\left(\frac{d\sigma}{dz}\right)^2 - z\frac{d\sigma}{dz} + \sigma\right]^2 + 4\prod_{j=1}^4\left(\frac{d\sigma}{dz} + \kappa_j\right) = 0 \quad \mathbf{S_V}$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dz}\left[z(z-1)\frac{d^2\sigma}{dz^2}\right]^2 + \left[\frac{d\sigma}{dz}\left\{2\sigma - (2z-1)\frac{d\sigma}{dz}\right\} + \kappa_1\kappa_2\kappa_3\kappa_4\right]^2 = \prod_{j=1}^4\left(\frac{d\sigma}{dz} + \kappa_j^2\right) \quad \mathbf{S_{VI}}$$

where  $\beta$ ,  $\vartheta_0$ ,  $\vartheta_\infty$  and  $\kappa_1, \dots, \kappa_4$  are arbitrary constants.

# Classical Special Functions

- **Airy, Bessel, Whittaker, Kummer, hypergeometric functions**
- Special solutions in terms of rational and elementary functions (for certain values of the parameters)
- Solutions satisfy **linear** ordinary differential equations and **linear** difference equations
- Solutions related by **linear** recurrence relations

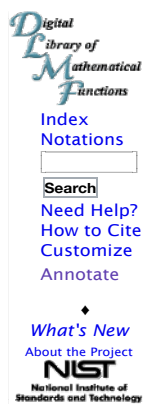
# Classical Special Functions

- **Airy, Bessel, Whittaker, Kummer, hypergeometric functions**
- Special solutions in terms of rational and elementary functions (for certain values of the parameters)
- Solutions satisfy **linear** ordinary differential equations and **linear** difference equations
- Solutions related by **linear** recurrence relations

## Painlevé Transcendents — Nonlinear Special Functions

- Special solutions such as rational solutions, algebraic solutions and special function solutions (for certain values of the parameters)
- Solutions satisfy **nonlinear** ordinary differential equations and **nonlinear** difference equations
- Solutions related by **nonlinear** recurrence relations

- The Painlevé equations are a chapter in the “**Digital Library of Mathematical Functions**”, which is a rewrite/update of **Abramowitz & Stegun’s “Handbook of Mathematical Functions”**. This was published online, see <http://dlmf.nist.gov/32>, in 2010 and in the book “**NIST Handbook of Mathematical Functions**”, by Cambridge University Press [Edited by **FWJ Olver, Lozier, Boisvert & Clark**].



## Chapter 32 Painlevé Transcendents

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Notation	Applications
32.1 Special Notation	32.13 Reductions of Partial Differential Equations
Properties	32.14 Combinatorics
32.2 Differential Equations	32.15 Orthogonal Polynomials
32.3 Graphics	32.16 Physical
32.4 Isomonodromy Problems	Computation
32.5 Integral Equations	32.17 Methods of Computation
32.6 Hamiltonian Structure	
32.7 Bäcklund Transformations	
32.8 Rational Solutions	
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# Special function solutions of Painlevé equations

	<b>Number of (essential) parameters</b>	<b>Special function</b>	<b>Number of parameters</b>	<b>Associated orthogonal polynomial</b>
$P_I$	0	—		
$P_{II}$	1	<b>Airy</b> $Ai(z), Bi(z)$	0	—
$P_{III}$	2	<b>Bessel</b> $J_\nu(z), I_\nu(z), K_\nu(z)$	1	—
$P_{IV}$	2	<b>Parabolic</b> $D_\nu(z)$	1	<b>Hermite</b> $H_n(z)$
$P_V$	3	<b>Kummer</b> $M(a, b, z), U(a, b, z)$ <b>Whittaker</b> $M_{\kappa, \mu}(z), W_{\kappa, \mu}(z)$	2	<b>Associated Laguerre</b> $L_n^{(k)}(z)$
$P_{VI}$	4	<b>hypergeometric</b> ${}_2F_1(a, b; c; z)$	3	<b>Jacobi</b> $P_n^{(\alpha, \beta)}(z)$

# Properties of the Second Painlevé Equation

$$\frac{d^2q}{dz^2} = 2q^3 + zq + \alpha$$

$P_{II}$

- **Hamiltonian structure**
- **Bäcklund transformations and associated difference equations**
- **Airy solutions**

# Hamiltonian Representation

$P_{II}$  can be written as the **Hamiltonian system**

$$\frac{dq}{dz} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}_{II}}{\partial p} = p - q^2 - \frac{1}{2}z, \quad \frac{dp}{dz} = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}_{II}}{\partial q} = 2qp + \alpha + \frac{1}{2} \quad \mathbf{H}_{II}$$

where  $\mathcal{H}_{II}(q, p, z; \alpha)$  is the Hamiltonian defined by

$$\mathcal{H}_{II}(q, p, z; \alpha) = \frac{1}{2}p^2 - (q^2 + \frac{1}{2}z)p - (\alpha + \frac{1}{2})q$$

Eliminating  $p$  then  $q$  satisfies  $P_{II}$  whilst eliminating  $q$  yields

$$p \frac{d^2 p}{dz^2} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{dp}{dz} \right)^2 + 2p^3 - zp^2 - \frac{1}{2}(\alpha + \frac{1}{2})^2 \quad \mathbf{P}_{34}$$

## Theorem

(Okamoto [1986])

The function  $\sigma(z; \alpha) = \mathcal{H}_{II} \equiv \frac{1}{2}p^2 - (q^2 + \frac{1}{2}z)p - (\alpha + \frac{1}{2})q$  satisfies

$$\left( \frac{d^2 \sigma}{dz^2} \right)^2 + 4 \left( \frac{d\sigma}{dz} \right)^3 + 2 \frac{d\sigma}{dz} \left( z \frac{d\sigma}{dz} - \sigma \right) = \frac{1}{4}(\alpha + \frac{1}{2})^2 \quad \mathbf{S}_{II}$$

and conversely

$$q(z; \alpha) = \frac{2\sigma''(z) + \alpha + \frac{1}{2}}{4\sigma'(z)}, \quad p(z; \alpha) = -2 \frac{d\sigma}{dz}$$

is a solution of  $\mathbf{H}_{II}$ .



# Bäcklund Transformations & Associated Difference Equations

Suppose that  $q(z; \alpha)$  is a solution of  $P_{II}$

$$\frac{d^2q}{dz^2} = 2q^3 + zq + \alpha$$

Then the Bäcklund transformations (**Gambier [1910]**)

$$q(z; \alpha + 1) = -q(z; \alpha) - \frac{2\alpha + 1}{2q^2(z; \alpha) + 2q'(z; \alpha) + z}$$

$$q(z; \alpha - 1) = -q(z; \alpha) - \frac{2\alpha - 1}{2q^2(z; \alpha) - 2q'(z; \alpha) + z}$$

are also solutions of  $P_{II}$ . Eliminating  $q'(z; \alpha)$  yields

$$\frac{2\alpha + 1}{q(z; \alpha + 1) + q(z; \alpha)} + \frac{2\alpha - 1}{q(z; \alpha) + q(z; \alpha - 1)} + 4q^2(z; \alpha) + 2z = 0$$

Hence setting

$$q_{\alpha \pm 1} = q(z; \alpha \pm 1), \quad q_{\alpha} = q(z; \alpha)$$

gives

$$\boxed{\frac{2\alpha + 1}{q_{\alpha+1} + q_{\alpha}} + \frac{2\alpha - 1}{q_{\alpha} + q_{\alpha-1}} + 4q_{\alpha}^2 + 2z = 0}$$

which is known as alt-d $P_I$  (**Fokas, Grammaticos & Ramani [1993]**).

## Airy Solutions of $P_{II}$ , $P_{34}$ and $S_{II}$

$$\frac{d^2q}{dz^2} = 2q^3 + zq + \alpha \quad P_{II}$$

$$p \frac{d^2p}{dz^2} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{dp}{dz} \right)^2 + 2p^3 - zp^2 - \frac{1}{2} \left( \alpha + \frac{1}{2} \right)^2 \quad P_{34}$$

$$\left( \frac{d^2\sigma}{dz^2} \right)^2 + 4 \left( \frac{d\sigma}{dz} \right)^3 + 2 \frac{d\sigma}{dz} \left( z \frac{d\sigma}{dz} - \sigma \right) = \frac{1}{4} \left( \alpha + \frac{1}{2} \right)^2 \quad S_{II}$$

### Theorem

$P_{II}$ ,  $P_{34}$  and  $S_{II}$  have solutions expressible in terms of the Riccati equation

$$\varepsilon \frac{dq}{dz} = q^2 + \frac{1}{2}z, \quad \varepsilon = \pm 1 \quad (1)$$

if and only if  $\alpha = n + \frac{1}{2}$ , with  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , which has solution

$$q(z) = -\varepsilon \frac{d}{dz} \ln \varphi(z)$$

where

$$\varphi(z) = \cos\left(\frac{1}{2}\theta\right) \text{Ai}(\zeta) + \sin\left(\frac{1}{2}\theta\right) \text{Bi}(\zeta), \quad \zeta = -2^{-1/2}z$$

with  $\text{Ai}(\zeta)$  and  $\text{Bi}(\zeta)$  the **Airy functions** and  $\theta$  is an arbitrary constant.

# Airy Solutions of $P_{II}$ , $P_{34}$ and $S_{II}$

$$\frac{d^2 q_n}{dz^2} = 2q_n^3 + zq_n + n + \frac{1}{2} \quad P_{II}$$

$$p_n \frac{d^2 p_n}{dz^2} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{dp_n}{dz} \right)^2 + 2p_n^3 - zp_n^2 - \frac{1}{2}n^2 \quad P_{34}$$

$$\left( \frac{d^2 \sigma_n}{dz^2} \right)^2 + 4 \left( \frac{d\sigma_n}{dz} \right)^3 + 2 \frac{d\sigma_n}{dz} \left( z \frac{d\sigma_n}{dz} - \sigma \right) = \frac{1}{4}n^2 \quad S_{II}$$

## Theorem

*Let*

$$\varphi(z; \theta) = \cos\left(\frac{1}{2}\theta\right) \text{Ai}(\zeta) + \sin\left(\frac{1}{2}\theta\right) \text{Bi}(\zeta), \quad \zeta = -2^{-1/2}z$$

*with  $\theta$  an arbitrary constant,  $\text{Ai}(\zeta)$  and  $\text{Bi}(\zeta)$  **Airy functions**, and  $\tau_n(z)$  be the Wronskian*

$$\tau_n(z; \theta) = \mathcal{W} \left( \varphi, \frac{d\varphi}{dz}, \dots, \frac{d^{n-1}\varphi}{dz^{n-1}} \right)$$

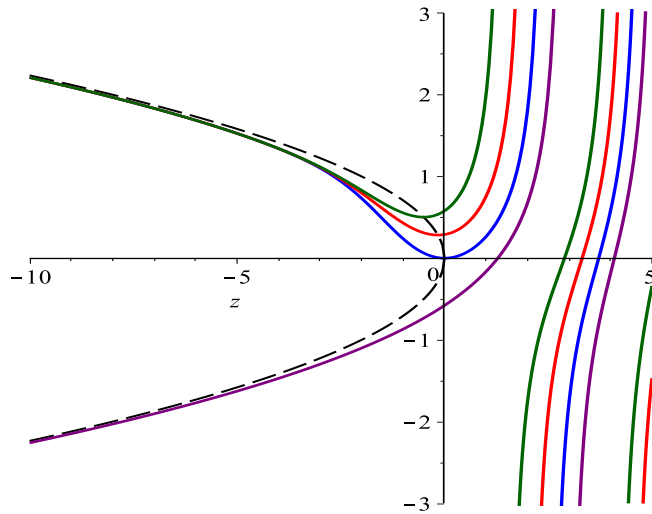
*then*

$$q_n(z; \theta) = \frac{d}{dz} \ln \frac{\tau_n(z; \theta)}{\tau_{n+1}(z; \theta)}, \quad p_n(z; \theta) = \frac{d^2}{dz^2} \ln \tau_n(z; \theta), \quad \sigma_n(z; \theta) = \frac{d}{dz} \ln \tau_n(z; \theta)$$

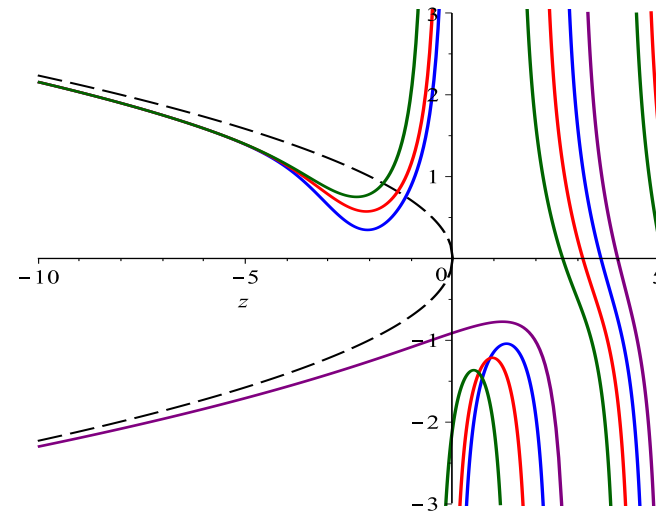
*respectively satisfy  $P_{II}$ ,  $P_{34}$  and  $S_{II}$ , with  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .*

# Airy Solutions of $P_{II}$

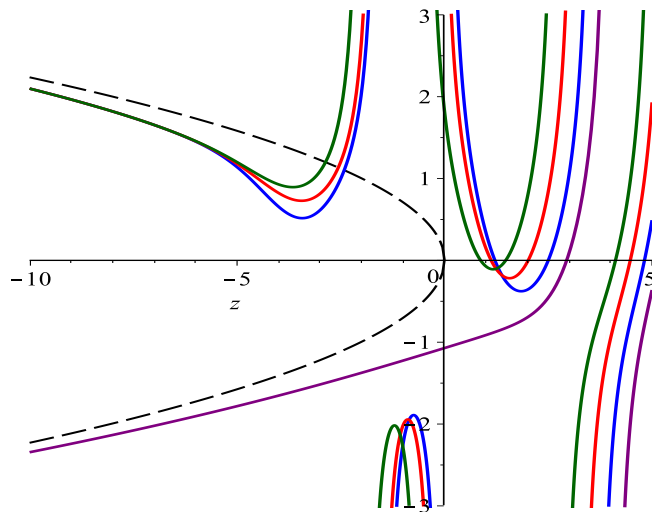
$$q_n(z; \theta) = \frac{d}{dz} \ln \frac{\tau_n(z; \theta)}{\tau_{n+1}(z; \theta)}$$



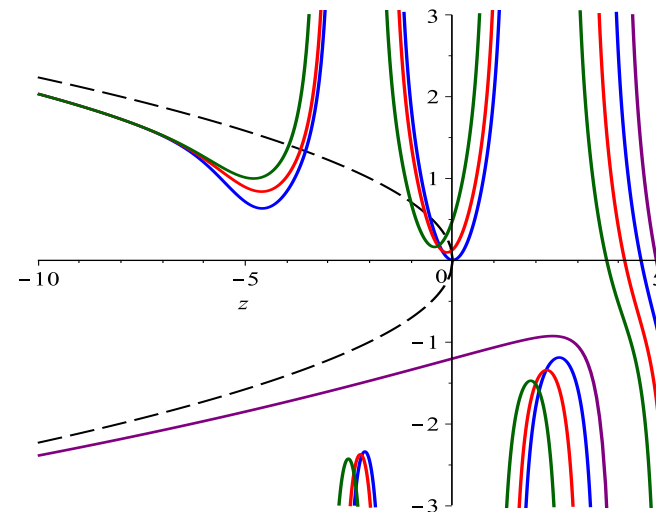
$n = 0, \theta = 0, \frac{1}{3}\pi, \frac{2}{3}\pi, \pi$



$n = 1, \theta = 0, \frac{1}{3}\pi, \frac{2}{3}\pi, \pi$



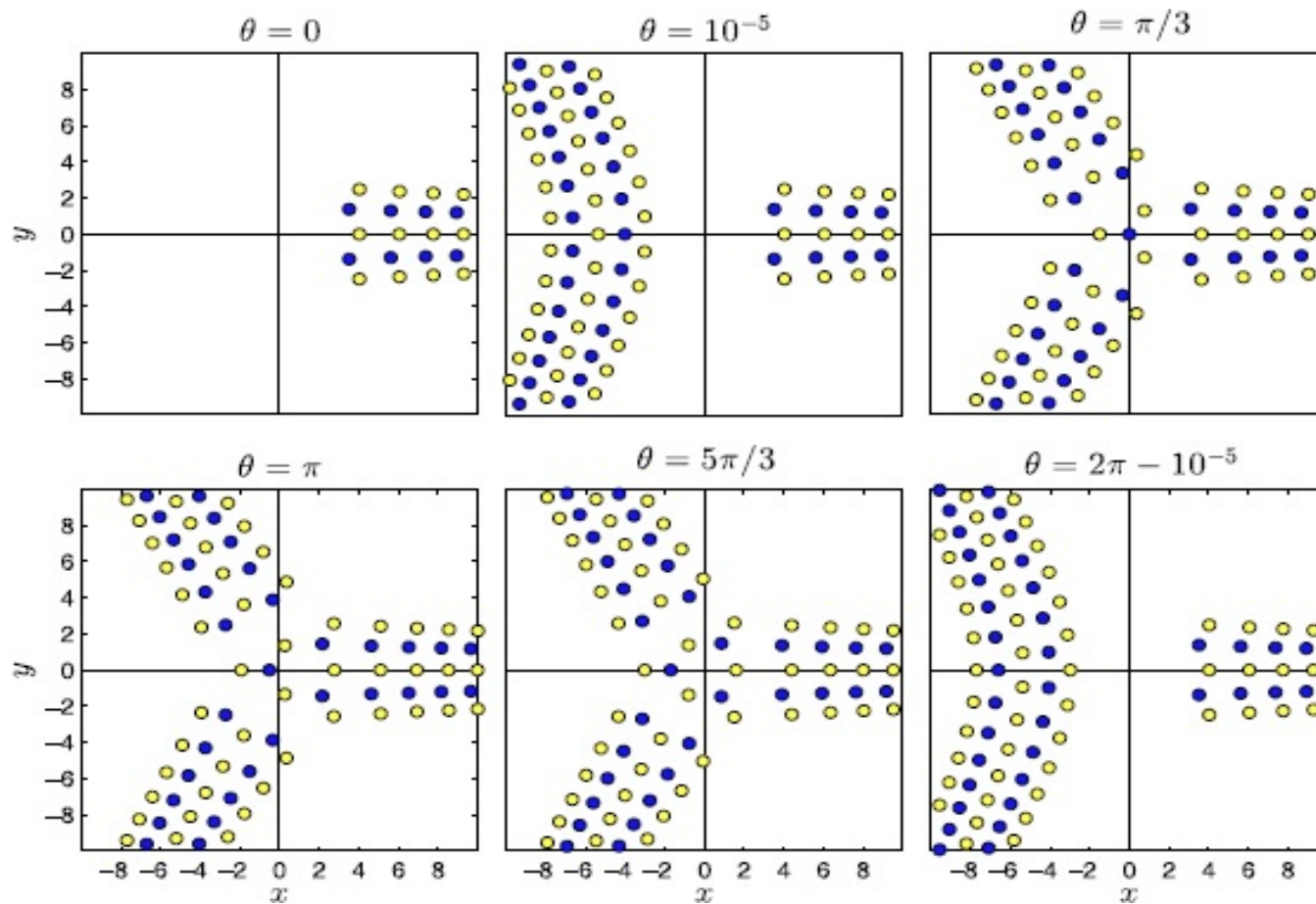
$n = 2, \theta = 0, \frac{1}{3}\pi, \frac{2}{3}\pi, \pi$



$n = 3, \theta = 0, \frac{1}{3}\pi, \frac{2}{3}\pi, \pi$

# Airy Solutions of $P_{II}$ with $\alpha = \frac{5}{2}$ (Fornberg and Weideman [2014])

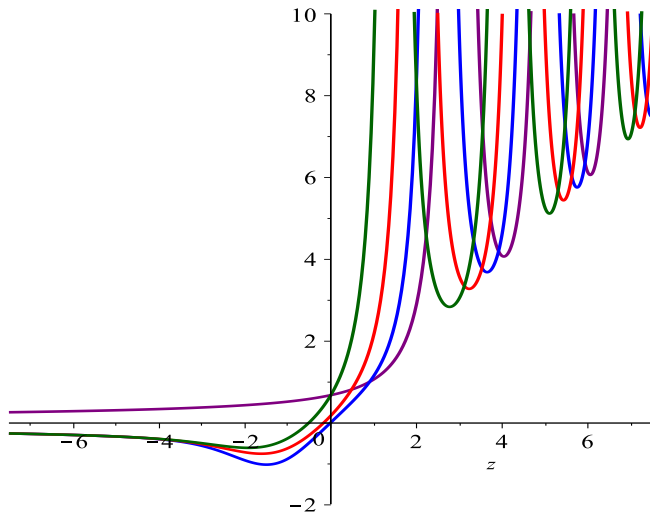
$$q(z; \frac{5}{2}) = \frac{d}{dz} \ln \frac{\mathcal{W}(\varphi, \varphi')}{\mathcal{W}(\varphi, \varphi', \varphi'')}, \quad \varphi(z) = \cos(\frac{1}{2}\theta) \text{Ai}(-2^{-1/3}z) + \sin(\frac{1}{2}\theta) \text{Bi}(-2^{-1/3}z)$$



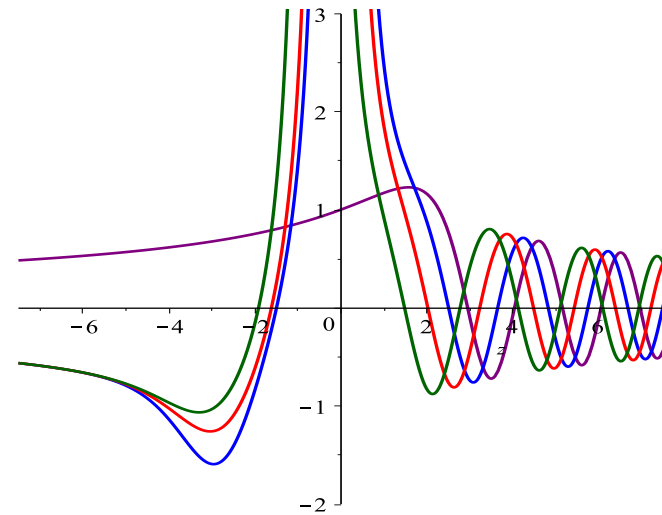
**blue/yellow** denote poles with residue  $+1/-1$

# Airy Solutions of $P_{34}$

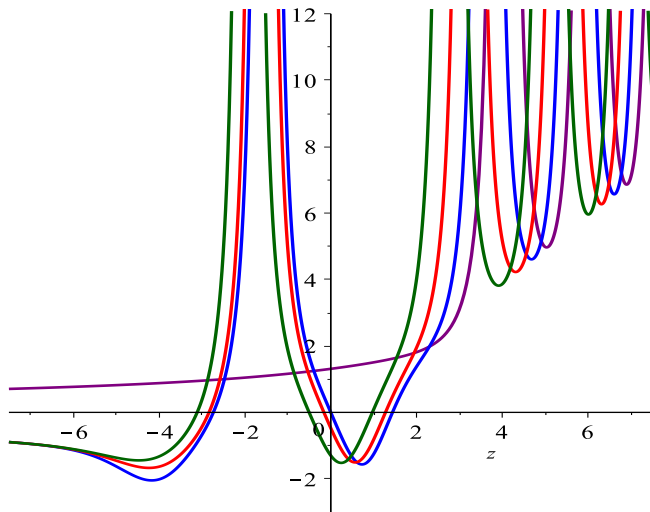
$$p_n(z; \theta) = \frac{d^2}{dz^2} \ln \tau_n(z; \theta)$$



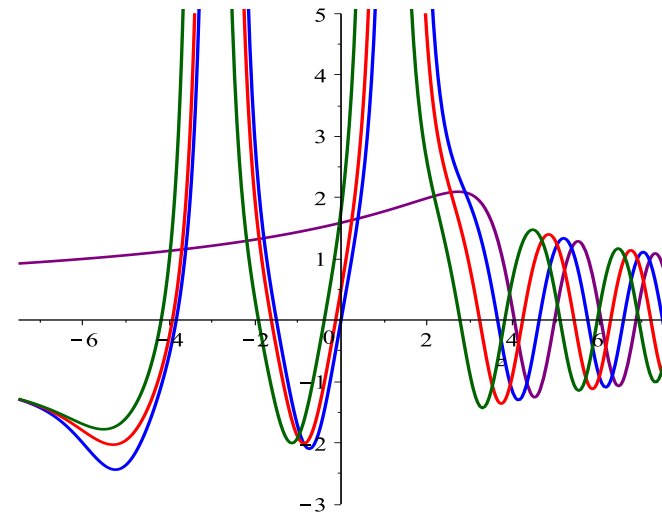
$$n = 1, \theta = 0, \frac{1}{3}\pi, \frac{2}{3}\pi, \pi$$



$$n = 2, \theta = 0, \frac{1}{3}\pi, \frac{2}{3}\pi, \pi$$



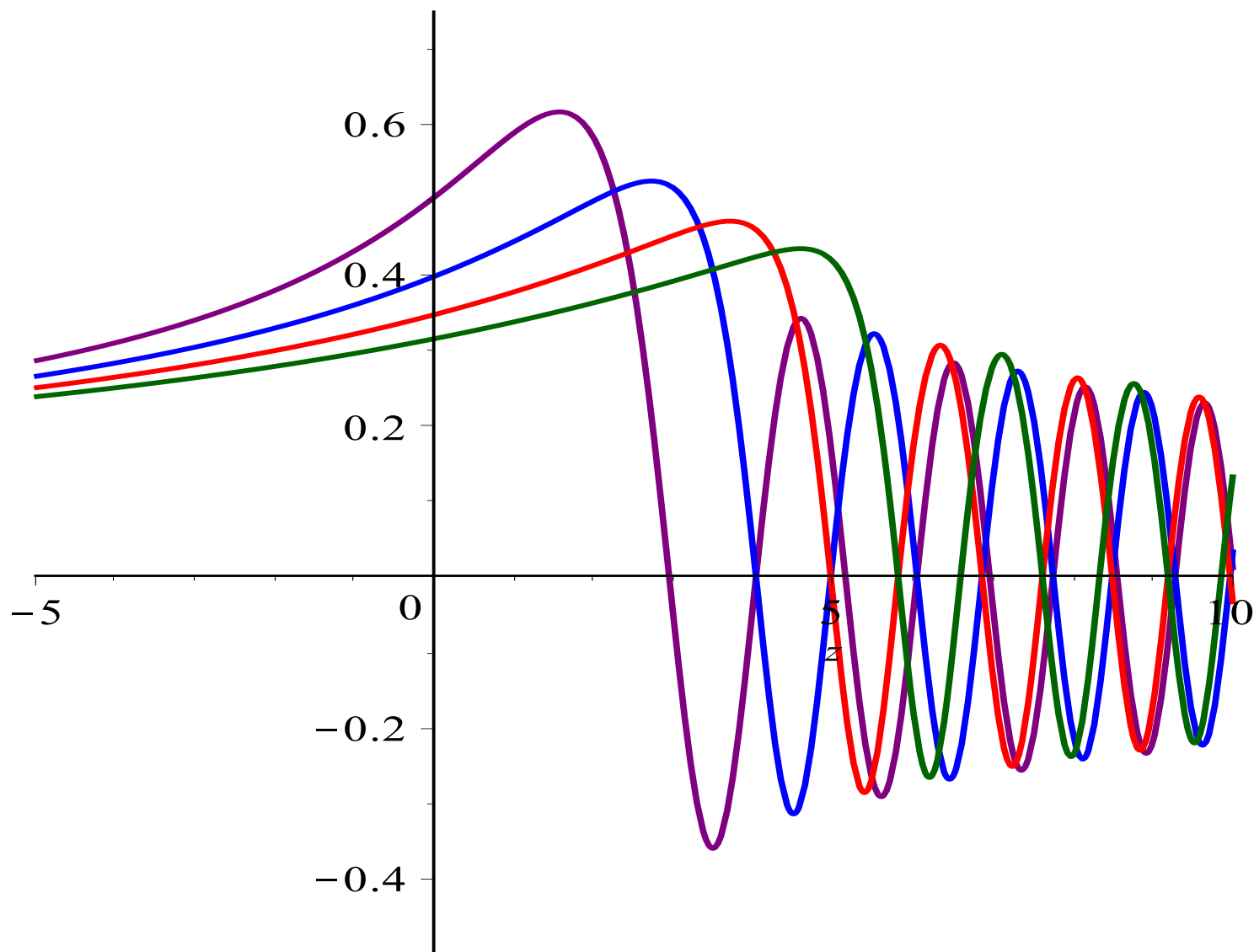
$$n = 3, \theta = 0, \frac{1}{3}\pi, \frac{2}{3}\pi, \pi$$



$$n = 4, \theta = 0, \frac{1}{3}\pi, \frac{2}{3}\pi, \pi$$

# Airy Solutions of $P_{34}$

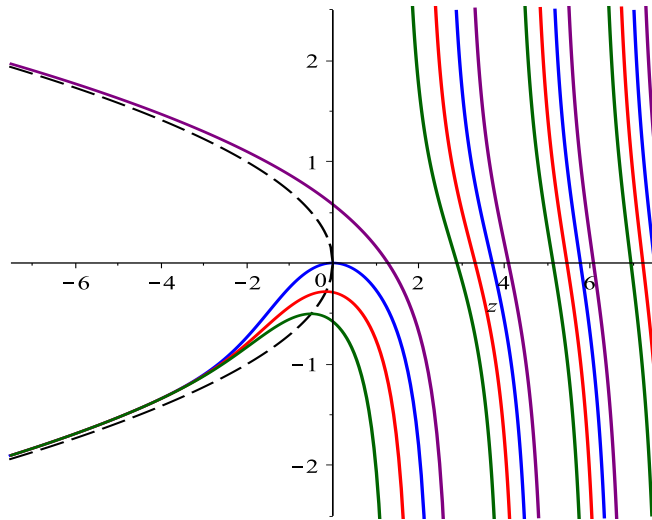
$$p_n(z; \theta) = \frac{d^2}{dz^2} \ln \tau_n(z; \theta)$$



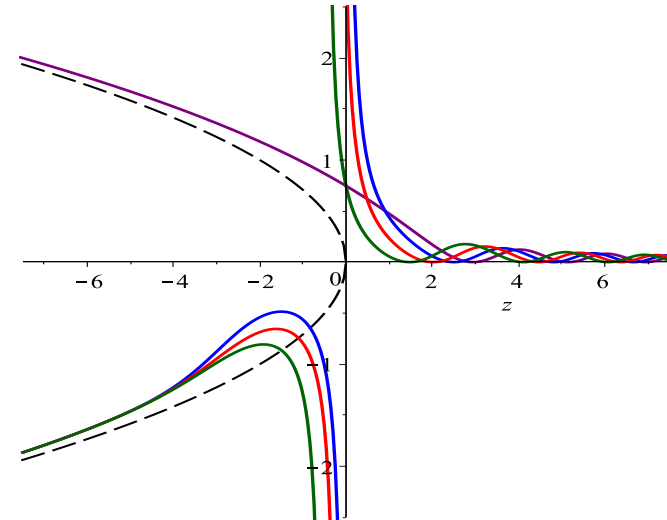
Plots of  $p(z; 0)/n$  for  $n = 2, 4, 6, 8$

# Airy Solutions of $S_{II}$

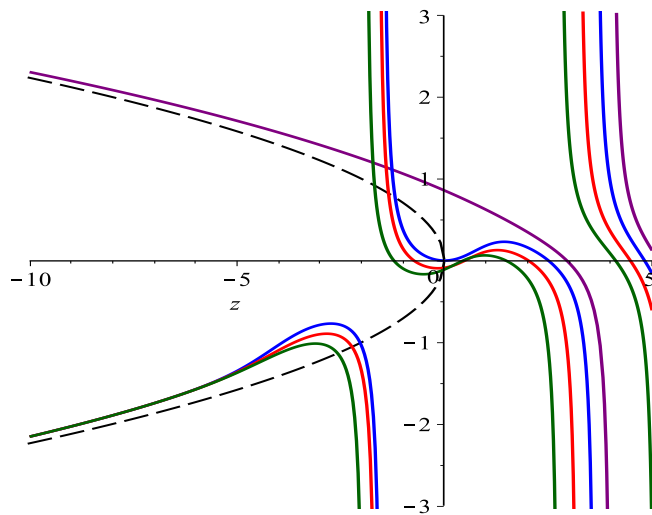
$$\sigma_n(z; \theta) = \frac{d}{dz} \ln \tau_n(z; \theta)$$



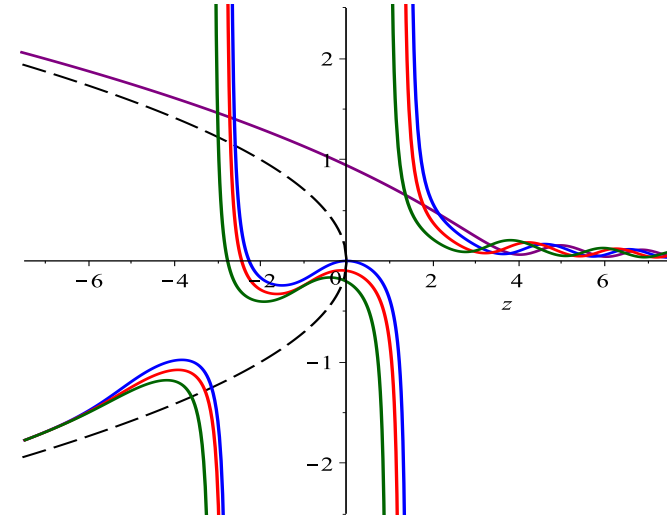
$$n = 1, \theta = 0, \frac{1}{3}\pi, \frac{2}{3}\pi, \pi$$



$$n = 2, \theta = 0, \frac{1}{3}\pi, \frac{2}{3}\pi, \pi$$



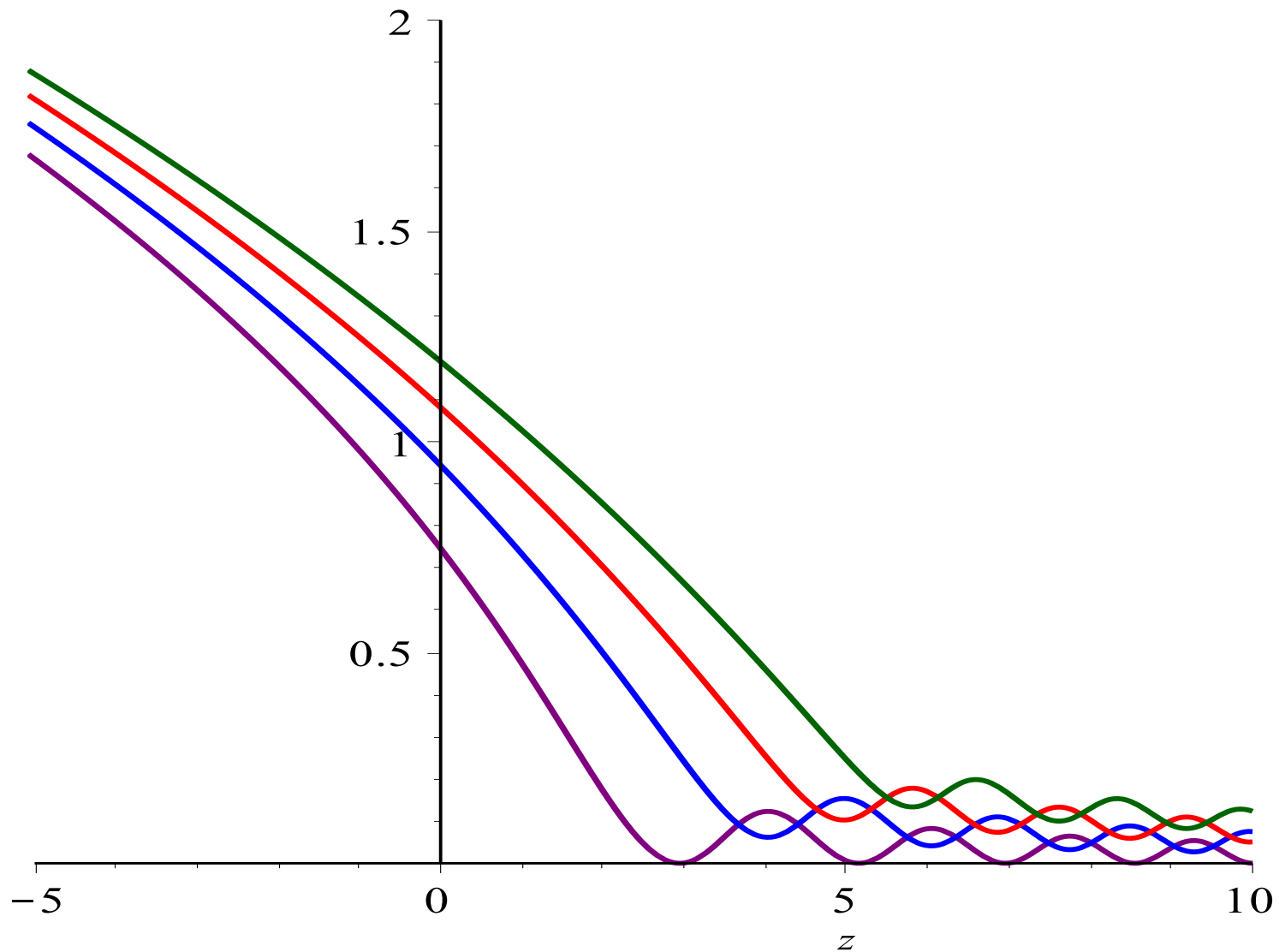
$$n = 3, \theta = 0, \frac{1}{3}\pi, \frac{2}{3}\pi, \pi$$



$$n = 4, \theta = 0, \frac{1}{3}\pi, \frac{2}{3}\pi, \pi$$



**Airy Solutions of  $S_{II}$**   $\sigma_n(z; 0) = \frac{d}{dz} \ln \mathcal{W}(\varphi, \varphi', \dots, \varphi^{(n-1)}), \varphi = \text{Ai}(-2^{-1/3}z)$



Plots of  $\sigma_n(z; 0)/n$  for  $n = 2, 4, 6, 8$

# Properties of the Fourth Painlevé Equation and the Fourth Painlevé $\sigma$ -Equation

$$\frac{d^2q}{dz^2} = \frac{1}{2q} \left( \frac{dq}{dz} \right)^2 + \frac{3}{2}q^3 + 4zq^2 + 2(z^2 - A)q + \frac{B}{q} \quad \mathbf{P}_{\text{IV}}$$

$$\left( \frac{d^2\sigma}{dz^2} \right)^2 - 4 \left( z \frac{d\sigma}{dz} - \sigma \right)^2 + 4 \frac{d\sigma}{dz} \left( \frac{d\sigma}{dz} + 2\vartheta_0 \right) \left( \frac{d\sigma}{dz} + 2\vartheta_\infty \right) = 0 \quad \mathbf{S}_{\text{IV}}$$

- **Hamiltonian Representation**
- **Parabolic Cylinder Function Solutions**

# Hamiltonian Representation of $\mathbf{P}_{IV}$

$\mathbf{P}_{IV}$  can be written as the **Hamiltonian system**

$$\frac{dq}{dz} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}_{IV}}{\partial p} = 4qp - q^2 - 2zq - 2\vartheta_0$$
$$\frac{dp}{dz} = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}_{IV}}{\partial q} = -2p^2 + 2pq + 2zp - \vartheta_\infty$$

where  $\mathcal{H}_{IV}(q, p, z; \vartheta_0, \vartheta_\infty)$  is the Hamiltonian defined by

$$\mathcal{H}_{IV}(q, p, z; \vartheta_0, \vartheta_\infty) = 2qp^2 - (q^2 + 2zq + 2\vartheta_0)p + \vartheta_\infty q$$

Eliminating  $p$  then  $q$  satisfies

$$\frac{d^2q}{dz^2} = \frac{1}{2q} \left( \frac{dq}{dz} \right)^2 + \frac{3}{2}q^3 + 4zq^2 + 2(z^2 + \vartheta_0 - 2\vartheta_\infty - 1)q - \frac{2\vartheta_0^2}{q}$$

which is  $\mathbf{P}_{IV}$  with  $A = 1 - \vartheta_0 + 2\vartheta_\infty$  and  $B = -2\vartheta_0^2$ , whilst eliminating  $q$  then  $p$  satisfies

$$\frac{d^2p}{dz^2} = \frac{1}{2p} \left( \frac{dp}{dz} \right)^2 + 6p^3 - 8zp^2 + 2(z^2 - 2\vartheta_0 + \vartheta_\infty + 1)p - \frac{\vartheta_\infty^2}{2p}$$

and letting  $p = -\frac{1}{2}q$  gives  $\mathbf{P}_{IV}$  with  $A = 2\vartheta_0 - \vartheta_\infty - 1$  and  $B = -2\vartheta_\infty^2$ .

# Theorem

(Okamoto [1986])

*The function*

$$\sigma(z; \vartheta_0, \vartheta_\infty) = \mathcal{H}_{\text{IV}} \equiv 2qp^2 - (q^2 + 2zq + 2\vartheta_0)p + \vartheta_\infty q$$

*where  $q$  and  $p$  satisfy the Hamiltonian system*

$$\frac{dq}{dz} = 4qp - q^2 - 2zq - 2\vartheta_0, \quad \frac{dp}{dz} = -2p^2 + 2pq + 2zp - \vartheta_\infty \quad \mathbf{H}_{\text{IV}}$$

*satisfies the second-order, second-degree equation*

$$\left(\frac{d^2\sigma}{dz^2}\right)^2 - 4\left(z\frac{d\sigma}{dz} - \sigma\right)^2 + 4\frac{d\sigma}{dz}\left(\frac{d\sigma}{dz} + 2\vartheta_0\right)\left(\frac{d\sigma}{dz} + 2\vartheta_\infty\right) = 0 \quad \mathbf{S}_{\text{IV}}$$

*Conversely, if  $\sigma(z; \vartheta_0, \vartheta_\infty)$  is a solution of  $\mathbf{S}_{\text{IV}}$ , then*

$$q(z; \vartheta_0, \vartheta_\infty) = \frac{\sigma'' - 2z\sigma' + 2\sigma}{2(\sigma' + 2\vartheta_\infty)}, \quad p(z; \vartheta_0, \vartheta_\infty) = \frac{\sigma'' + 2z\sigma' - 2\sigma}{4(\sigma' + 2\vartheta_0)}$$

*are solutions of the Hamiltonian system  $\mathbf{H}_{\text{IV}}$ .*

# Parabolic Cylinder Function Solutions of $P_{IV}$

## Theorem

Suppose  $\tau_{\nu,n}(z; \varepsilon)$  is given by

$$\tau_{\nu,n}(z; \varepsilon) = \mathcal{W} \left( \varphi_{\nu}(z; \varepsilon), \varphi'_{\nu}(z; \varepsilon), \dots, \varphi_{\nu}^{(n-1)}(z; \varepsilon) \right), \quad n \geq 1$$

where  $\tau_{\nu,0}(z; \varepsilon) = 1$  and  $\varphi_{\nu}(z; \varepsilon)$  satisfies

$$\frac{d^2 \varphi_{\nu}}{dz^2} - 2\varepsilon z \frac{d\varphi_{\nu}}{dz} + 2\varepsilon \nu \varphi_{\nu} = 0, \quad \varepsilon^2 = 1$$

Then solutions of  $P_{IV}$

$$\frac{d^2 q}{dz^2} = \frac{1}{2q} \left( \frac{dq}{dz} \right)^2 + \frac{3}{2} q^3 + 4zq^2 + 2(z^2 - A)q + \frac{B}{q}$$

are given by

$$q_{\nu,n}^{[1]}(z) = -2z + \varepsilon \frac{d}{dz} \ln \frac{\tau_{\nu,n+1}(z; \varepsilon)}{\tau_{\nu,n}(z; \varepsilon)}, \quad (A_1, B_1) = (\varepsilon(2n - \nu), -2(\nu + 1)^2)$$

$$q_{\nu,n}^{[2]}(z) = \varepsilon \frac{d}{dz} \ln \frac{\tau_{\nu,n+1}(z; \varepsilon)}{\tau_{\nu+1,n}(z; \varepsilon)}, \quad (A_2, B_2) = (-\varepsilon(n + \nu), -2(\nu - n + 1)^2)$$

$$q_{\nu,n}^{[3]}(z) = -\varepsilon \frac{d}{dz} \ln \frac{\tau_{\nu+1,n}(z; \varepsilon)}{\tau_{\nu,n}(z; \varepsilon)}, \quad (A_3, B_3) = (\varepsilon(2\nu - n + 1), -2n^2)$$

# Parabolic Cylinder Function Solutions of $S_{IV}$

## Theorem

Suppose  $\tau_{\nu,n}(z; \varepsilon)$  is given by

$$\tau_{\nu,n}(z; \varepsilon) = \mathcal{W} \left( \varphi_{\nu}(z; \varepsilon), \varphi'_{\nu}(z; \varepsilon), \dots, \varphi_{\nu}^{(n-1)}(z; \varepsilon) \right), \quad n \geq 1$$

where  $\tau_{\nu,0}(z; \varepsilon) = 1$  and  $\varphi_{\nu}(z; \varepsilon)$  satisfies

$$\frac{d^2 \varphi_{\nu}}{dz^2} - 2\varepsilon z \frac{d\varphi_{\nu}}{dz} + 2\varepsilon \nu \varphi_{\nu} = 0, \quad \varepsilon^2 = 1$$

Then solutions of  $S_{IV}$

$$\left( \frac{d^2 \sigma}{dz^2} \right)^2 - 4 \left( z \frac{d\sigma}{dz} - \sigma \right)^2 + 4 \frac{d\sigma}{dz} \left( \frac{d\sigma}{dz} + 2\vartheta_0 \right) \left( \frac{d\sigma}{dz} + 2\vartheta_{\infty} \right) = 0$$

are given by

$$\sigma_{\nu,n}(z) = \frac{d}{dz} \ln \tau_{\nu,n}(z; \varepsilon), \quad (\vartheta_0, \vartheta_{\infty}) = (\varepsilon(\nu - n + 1), -\varepsilon n)$$

$$\frac{d^2\varphi_\nu}{dz^2} - 2\varepsilon z \frac{d\varphi_\nu}{dz} + 2\varepsilon\nu\varphi_\nu = 0, \quad \varepsilon^2 = 1 \quad (*)$$

- If  $\nu \notin \mathbb{Z}$

$$\varphi_\nu(z; \varepsilon) = \begin{cases} \{C_1 D_\nu(\sqrt{2}z) + C_2 D_\nu(-\sqrt{2}z)\} \exp\left(\frac{1}{2}z^2\right), & \text{if } \varepsilon = 1 \\ \{C_1 D_{-\nu-1}(\sqrt{2}z) + C_2 D_{-\nu-1}(-\sqrt{2}z)\} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}z^2\right), & \text{if } \varepsilon = -1 \end{cases}$$

- If  $\nu = n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , with  $n \geq 0$

$$\varphi_n(z; \varepsilon) = \begin{cases} C_1 H_n(z) + C_2 \exp(z^2) \frac{d^n}{dz^n} \{\operatorname{erfi}(z) \exp(-z^2)\}, & \text{if } \varepsilon = 1 \\ C_1 H_n(iz) + C_2 \exp(-z^2) \frac{d^n}{dz^n} \{\operatorname{erfc}(z) \exp(z^2)\}, & \text{if } \varepsilon = -1 \end{cases}$$

- If  $\nu = -n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , with  $n \geq 1$

$$\varphi_{-n}(z; \varepsilon) = \begin{cases} C_1 H_{n-1}(iz) \exp(z^2) + C_2 \frac{d^{n-1}}{dz^{n-1}} \{\operatorname{erfc}(z) \exp(z^2)\}, & \text{if } \varepsilon = 1 \\ C_1 H_{n-1}(z) \exp(-z^2) + C_2 \frac{d^{n-1}}{dz^{n-1}} \{\operatorname{erfi}(z) \exp(-z^2)\}, & \text{if } \varepsilon = -1 \end{cases}$$

with  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  arbitrary constants,  $D_\nu(\zeta)$  the **parabolic cylinder function**,  $H_n(z)$  the **Hermite polynomial**,  $\operatorname{erfc}(z)$  the **complementary error function** and  $\operatorname{erfi}(z)$  the **imaginary error function**.

# Orthogonal Polynomials

- Some History
- Monic orthogonal polynomials
- Semi-classical orthogonal polynomials



## Some History

- The relationship between semi-classical orthogonal polynomials and integrable equations dates back to **Shohat [1939]**, **Freud [1976]**, **Bonan & Nevai [1984]**.
- **Fokas, Its & Kitaev [1991, 1992]** identified these integrable equations as **discrete Painlevé equations**.
- **Magnus [1995]** considered the **Freud weight**

$$\omega(x; t) = \exp(-x^4 + tx^2), \quad x, t \in \mathbb{R},$$

and showed that the coefficients in the three-term recurrence relation can be expressed in terms of solutions of

$$q_n(q_{n-1} + q_n + q_{n+1}) + 2tq_n = n$$

which is **discrete P<sub>I</sub>** (dP<sub>I</sub>), as shown by **Bonan & Nevai [1984]**, and

$$\frac{d^2q_n}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{2q_n} \left( \frac{dq_n}{dt} \right)^2 + \frac{3}{2}q_n^3 + 4tq_n^2 + 2(t^2 + \frac{1}{2}n)q_n - \frac{n^2}{2q_n}$$

which is **P<sub>IV</sub>** with  $A = -\frac{1}{2}n$  and  $B = -\frac{1}{2}n^2$ . The connection between the Freud weight and solutions of dP<sub>I</sub> and P<sub>IV</sub> is due to **Kitaev [1988]**.

## 18.32 OP's with Respect to Freud Weights

A *Freud weight* is a weight function of the form

$$18.32.1 \quad w(x) = \exp(-Q(x)), \quad -\infty < x < \infty,$$

where  $Q(x)$  is real, even, nonnegative, and continuously differentiable. Of special interest are the cases  $Q(x) = x^{2m}$ ,  $m = 1, 2, \dots$ . No explicit expressions for the corresponding OP's are available. However, for asymptotic approximations in terms of elementary functions for the OP's, and also for their largest zeros, see Levin and Lubinsky (2001) and Nevai (1986). For a uniform asymptotic expansion in terms of Airy functions (§9.2) for the OP's in the case  $Q(x) = x^4$  see Bo and Wong (1999).

# Monic Orthogonal Polynomials

Let  $P_n(x)$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , be the **monic orthogonal polynomials** of degree  $n$  in  $x$ , with respect to the positive weight  $\omega(x)$ , such that

$$\int_a^b P_m(x)P_n(x) \omega(x) dx = h_n \delta_{m,n}, \quad h_n > 0, \quad m, n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

One of the important properties that orthogonal polynomials have is that they satisfy the three-term recurrence relation

$$xP_n(x) = P_{n+1}(x) + \alpha_n P_n(x) + \beta_n P_{n-1}(x)$$

where the recurrence coefficients are given by

$$\alpha_n = \frac{\tilde{\Delta}_{n+1}}{\Delta_{n+1}} - \frac{\tilde{\Delta}_n}{\Delta_n}, \quad \beta_n = \frac{\Delta_{n+1}\Delta_{n-1}}{\Delta_n^2}$$

with

$$\Delta_n = \begin{vmatrix} \mu_0 & \mu_1 & \dots & \mu_{n-1} \\ \mu_1 & \mu_2 & \dots & \mu_n \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mu_{n-1} & \mu_n & \dots & \mu_{2n-2} \end{vmatrix}, \quad \tilde{\Delta}_n = \begin{vmatrix} \mu_0 & \mu_1 & \dots & \mu_{n-2} & \mu_n \\ \mu_1 & \mu_2 & \dots & \mu_{n-1} & \mu_{n+1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \mu_{n-1} & \mu_n & \dots & \mu_{2n-3} & \mu_{2n-1} \end{vmatrix}$$

and  $\mu_k = \int_a^b x^k \omega(x) dx$  are the **moments** of the weight  $\omega(x)$ .

# Further Properties

- The Hankel determinant

$$\Delta_n = \begin{vmatrix} \mu_0 & \mu_1 & \dots & \mu_{n-1} \\ \mu_1 & \mu_2 & \dots & \mu_n \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mu_{n-1} & \mu_n & \dots & \mu_{2n-2} \end{vmatrix}, \quad \mu_k = \int_a^b x^k \omega(x) dx$$

also has the integral representation

$$\Delta_n = \frac{1}{n!} \int_a^b \dots \int_a^b \prod_{\ell=1}^n \omega(x_\ell) \prod_{1 \leq j < k \leq n} (x_j - x_k)^2 dx_1 \dots dx_n, \quad n \geq 1$$

which is the **partition function** in random matrix theory.

- The monic polynomials  $P_n(x)$  can be uniquely expressed as

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

- The normalization constants can be expressed as

$$h_n = \frac{\Delta_{n+1}}{\Delta_n}, \quad h_0 = \Delta_1 = \mu_0$$

## Example — Hermite polynomials

**Hermite polynomials** are orthogonal with respect to the weight

$$\omega(x) = \exp(-x^2), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$$

In this case

$$\mu_{2k} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^{2k} \exp(-x^2) dx = \frac{\sqrt{\pi} (2k)!}{2^{2k} k!}, \quad \mu_{2k+1} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^{2k+1} \exp(-x^2) dx = 0$$

so

$$\Delta_n = \begin{vmatrix} \mu_0 & \mu_1 & \cdots & \mu_{n-1} \\ \mu_1 & \mu_2 & \cdots & \mu_n \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mu_{n-1} & \mu_n & \cdots & \mu_{2n-2} \end{vmatrix} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n(n-1)/2} \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} (k!), \quad \tilde{\Delta}_n = 0$$

and therefore

$$\alpha_n = 0, \quad \beta_n = \frac{\Delta_{n+1} \Delta_{n-1}}{\Delta_n^2} = \frac{1}{2}n$$

which gives the three-term recurrence relation

$$P_{n+1}(x) = xP_n(x) - \frac{1}{2}nP_{n-1}(x)$$

where

$$P_n(x) = 2^{-n} H_n(x)$$

with  $H_n(x)$  the **Hermite polynomial**.

# Semi-classical Orthogonal Polynomials

Consider the **Pearson equation** satisfied by the weight  $\omega(x)$

$$\frac{d}{dx}[\sigma(x)\omega(x)] = \tau(x)\omega(x)$$

- **Classical orthogonal polynomials:**  $\sigma(x)$  and  $\tau(x)$  are polynomials with  $\deg(\sigma) \leq 2$  and  $\deg(\tau) = 1$

	$\omega(x)$	$\sigma(x)$	$\tau(x)$
<b>Hermite</b>	$\exp(-x^2)$	1	$-2x$
<b>Laguerre</b>	$x^\nu \exp(-x)$	$x$	$1 + \nu - x$
<b>Jacobi</b>	$(1-x)^\alpha(1+x)^\beta$	$1-x^2$	$\beta - \alpha - (2 + \alpha + \beta)x$

- **Semi-classical orthogonal polynomials:**  $\sigma(x)$  and  $\tau(x)$  are polynomials with either  $\deg(\sigma) > 2$  or  $\deg(\tau) > 1$

	$\omega(x)$	$\sigma(x)$	$\tau(x)$
<b>Airy</b>	$\exp(-\frac{1}{3}x^3 + tx)$	1	$t - x^2$
<b>semi-classical Hermite</b>	$ x ^\nu \exp(-x^2 + tx)$	$x$	$1 + \nu + tx - 2x^2$
<b>Generalized Freud</b>	$ x ^{2\nu+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2)$	$x$	$2\nu + 2 + 2tx^2 - 4x^4$

If the weight has the form

$$\omega(x; t) = \omega_0(x) \exp(tx)$$

where the integrals  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^k \omega_0(x) \exp(tx) dx$  exist for all  $k \geq 0$ .

- The recurrence coefficients  $\alpha_n(t)$  and  $\beta_n(t)$  satisfy the **Toda system**

$$\frac{d\alpha_n}{dt} = \beta_n - \beta_{n+1}, \quad \frac{d\beta_n}{dt} = \beta_n(\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1})$$

- The  $k$ th moment is given by

$$\mu_k(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^k \omega_0(x) \exp(tx) dx = \frac{d^k}{dt^k} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \omega_0(x) \exp(tx) dx \right) = \frac{d^k \mu_0}{dt^k}$$

- Since  $\mu_k(t) = \frac{d^k \mu_0}{dt^k}$ , then  $\Delta_n(t)$  and  $\tilde{\Delta}_n(t)$  can be expressed as Wronskians

$$\Delta_n(t) = \mathcal{W} \left( \mu_0, \frac{d\mu_0}{dt}, \dots, \frac{d^{n-1}\mu_0}{dt^{n-1}} \right) = \det \left[ \frac{d^{j+k}\mu_0}{dt^{j+k}} \right]_{j,k=0}^{n-1}$$

$$\tilde{\Delta}_n(t) = \mathcal{W} \left( \mu_0, \frac{d\mu_0}{dt}, \dots, \frac{d^{n-2}\mu_0}{dt^{n-2}}, \frac{d^n\mu_0}{dt^n} \right) = \frac{d}{dt} \Delta_n(t)$$

## Semi-classical Hermite Weight

$$\omega(x; t) = |x|^\nu \exp(-x^2 + tx), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \nu > -1$$

- **PAC & K Jordaan**, “The relationship between semi-classical Laguerre polynomials and the fourth Painlevé equation”, *Constr. Approx.*, **39** (2014) 223–254



# Semi-classical Hermite weight

Consider the **semi-classical Hermite weight**

$$\omega(x; t) = |x|^\nu \exp(-x^2 + tx), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \nu > -1$$

- If  $\nu \notin \mathbb{N}$ , then the moment  $\mu_0(t; \nu)$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_0(t; \nu) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x|^\nu \exp(-x^2 + tx) dx \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} x^\nu \exp(-x^2 + tx) dx + \int_0^{\infty} x^\nu \exp(-x^2 - tx) dx \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(\nu + 1) \exp(\frac{1}{8}t^2)}{2^{(\nu+1)/2}} \left\{ D_{-\nu-1}\left(-\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}t\right) + D_{-\nu-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}t\right) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

since the parabolic cylinder function  $D_\nu(\zeta)$  has the integral representation

$$D_\nu(\zeta) = \frac{\exp(-\frac{1}{4}\zeta^2)}{\Gamma(-\nu)} \int_0^{\infty} s^{-\nu-1} \exp(-\frac{1}{2}s^2 - \zeta s) ds$$

- If  $\nu = 2N$ , with  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  then

$$\mu_0(t; 2N) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^{2N} \exp(-x^2 + tx) dx = \sqrt{\pi} \left(-\frac{1}{2}i\right)^{2N} H_{2N}\left(\frac{1}{2}it\right) \exp\left(\frac{1}{4}t^2\right)$$

since the Hermite polynomial,  $H_n(z)$ , has the integral representation

$$H_n(z) = \frac{2^n}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (z + ix)^n \exp(-x^2) dx$$

- If  $\nu = 2N + 1$ , with  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  then

$$\mu_0(t; 2N + 1) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^{2N} |x| \exp(-x^2 + tx) dx = \sqrt{\pi} \frac{d^{2N+1}}{dt^{2N+1}} \left\{ \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{1}{2}t\right) \exp\left(\frac{1}{4}t^2\right) \right\}$$

as for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^n |x| \exp(-x^2 + tx) dx \\ &= \frac{d^n}{dt^n} \left\{ \int_0^{\infty} x \exp(-x^2 + tx) dx + \int_0^{\infty} x \exp(-x^2 - tx) dx \right\} \\ &= \frac{d^{n+1}}{dt^{n+1}} \left\{ \int_0^{\infty} \exp(-x^2 + tx) dx - \int_0^{\infty} \exp(-x^2 - tx) dx \right\} \\ &= \frac{d^{n+1}}{dt^{n+1}} \left[ \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{\pi} \left\{ 1 + \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{1}{2}t\right) \right\} \exp\left(\frac{1}{4}t^2\right) - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{\pi} \left[ 1 - \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{1}{2}t\right) \right] \exp\left(\frac{1}{4}t^2\right) \right\} \\ &= \sqrt{\pi} \frac{d^{n+1}}{dt^{n+1}} \left\{ \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{1}{2}t\right) \exp\left(\frac{1}{4}t^2\right) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

since

$$\int_0^{\infty} \exp(-x^2 + tx) dx = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{\pi} \left\{ 1 + \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{1}{2}t\right) \right\} \exp\left(\frac{1}{4}t^2\right)$$

- The moment  $\mu_k(t; \nu)$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_k(t; \nu) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^k |x|^\nu \exp(-x^2 + tx) dx \\ &= \frac{d^k}{dt^k} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x|^\nu \exp(-x^2 + tx) dx \right) = \frac{d^k \mu_0}{dt^k}\end{aligned}$$

- The Hankel determinant  $\Delta_n(t; \nu)$  is given by

$$\Delta_n(t; \nu) = \det \left[ \mu_{j+k}(t; \nu) \right]_{j,k=0}^{n-1} \equiv \mathcal{W} \left( \mu_0, \frac{d\mu_0}{dt}, \dots, \frac{d^{n-1}\mu_0}{dt^{n-1}} \right)$$

where

$$\mu_0(t; \nu) = \begin{cases} \frac{\Gamma(\nu + 1) \exp(\frac{1}{8}t^2)}{2^{(\nu+1)/2}} \left\{ D_{-\nu-1} \left( -\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}t \right) + D_{-\nu-1} \left( \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}t \right) \right\}, & \nu \notin \mathbb{N} \\ \sqrt{\pi} \left( -\frac{1}{2}i \right)^{2N} H_{2N} \left( \frac{1}{2}it \right) \exp \left( \frac{1}{4}t^2 \right), & \nu = 2N \\ \sqrt{\pi} \frac{d^{2N+1}}{dt^{2N+1}} \left\{ \operatorname{erf} \left( \frac{1}{2}t \right) \exp \left( \frac{1}{4}t^2 \right) \right\}, & \nu = 2N + 1 \end{cases}$$

# Theorem

(PAC & Jordaan [2014])

The recurrence coefficients  $\alpha_n(t; \nu)$  and  $\beta_n(t; \nu)$  in the three-term recurrence relation

$$xP_n(x; t) = P_{n+1}(x; t) + \alpha_n(t; \nu)P_n(x; t) + \beta_n(t; \nu)P_{n-1}(x; t),$$

for monic polynomials orthogonal with respect to the semi-classical Hermite weight

$$\omega(x; t) = |x|^\nu \exp(-x^2 + tx), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \nu > -1$$

are given by

$$\alpha_n(t; \nu) = \frac{d}{dt} \ln \frac{\Delta_{n+1}(t; \nu)}{\Delta_n(t; \nu)}, \quad \beta_n(t; \nu) = \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \ln \Delta_n(t; \nu)$$

where  $\Delta_n(t; \nu)$  is the Hankel determinant

$$\Delta_n(t; \nu) = \det \left[ \mu_{j+k}(t; \nu) \right]_{j,k=0}^{n-1} \equiv \mathcal{W} \left( \mu_0, \frac{d\mu_0}{dt}, \dots, \frac{d^{n-1}\mu_0}{dt^{n-1}} \right)$$

with

$$\mu_0(t; \nu) = \begin{cases} \frac{\Gamma(\nu + 1) \exp(\frac{1}{8}t^2)}{2^{(\nu+1)/2}} \left\{ D_{-\nu-1} \left( -\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}t \right) + D_{-\nu-1} \left( \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}t \right) \right\}, & \nu \notin \mathbb{N} \\ \sqrt{\pi} \left( -\frac{1}{2}i \right)^{2N} H_{2N} \left( \frac{1}{2}it \right) \exp \left( \frac{1}{4}t^2 \right), & \nu = 2N \\ \sqrt{\pi} \frac{d^{2N+1}}{dt^{2N+1}} \left\{ \operatorname{erf} \left( \frac{1}{2}t \right) \exp \left( \frac{1}{4}t^2 \right) \right\}, & \nu = 2N + 1 \end{cases}$$

## Remarks:

- The Hankel determinant  $\Delta_n(t; \nu)$  satisfies the **Toda equation**

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} \ln \Delta_n(t; \nu) = \frac{\Delta_{n-1}(t; \nu) \Delta_{n+1}(t; \nu)}{\Delta_n^2(t; \nu)}$$

and the **fourth-order, bi-linear equation**

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_n \frac{d^4 \Delta_n}{dt^4} - 4 \frac{d^3 \Delta_n}{dt^3} \frac{d \Delta_n}{dt} + 3 \left( \frac{d^2 \Delta_n}{dt^2} \right)^2 - \left( \frac{1}{4} t^2 + 4n + 2\nu \right) \left\{ \Delta_n \frac{d^2 \Delta_n}{dt^2} - \left( \frac{d \Delta_n}{dt} \right)^2 \right\} \\ + \frac{1}{4} t \Delta_n \frac{d \Delta_n}{dt} + \frac{1}{2} n(n + \nu) \Delta_n^2 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

- The function  $S_n(t; \nu) = \frac{d}{dt} \ln \Delta_n(t; \nu)$  satisfies

$$4 \left( \frac{d^2 S_n}{dt^2} \right)^2 - \left( t \frac{d S_n}{dt} - S_n \right)^2 + 4 \frac{d S_n}{dt} \left( 2 \frac{d S_n}{dt} - n \right) \left( 2 \frac{d S_n}{dt} - n - \nu \right) = 0$$

which is equivalent to  $S_{IV}$ , the  $P_{IV}$   $\sigma$ -equation (let  $S_n(t; \nu) = \frac{1}{2} \sigma(z)$ , with  $z = 2t$ ), so

$$\alpha_n(t; \nu) = S_{n+1}(t; \nu) - S_n(t; \nu), \quad \beta_n(t; \nu) = \frac{d}{dt} S_n(t; \nu)$$

## Recurrence coefficients for $\omega(x; t) = x^2 \exp(-x^2 + tx)$

$$\alpha_0(t) = \frac{1}{2}t + \frac{2t}{t^2 + 2}$$

$$\alpha_1(t) = \frac{1}{2}t + \frac{4t^3}{t^4 + 12} - \frac{2t}{t^2 + 2}$$

$$\alpha_2(t) = \frac{1}{2}t + \frac{6t(t^4 + 12 - 4t^2)}{t^6 - 6t^4 + 36t^2 + 72} - \frac{4t^3}{t^4 + 12}$$

$$\alpha_3(t) = \frac{1}{2}t + \frac{8t^3(t^4 + 60 - 12t^2)}{t^8 - 16t^6 + 120t^4 + 720} - \frac{6t(t^4 + 12 - 4t^2)}{t^6 - 6t^4 + 36t^2 + 72}$$

$$\alpha_4(t) = \frac{1}{2}t + \frac{10t(t^8 + 216t^4 + 720 - 24t^6 - 480t^2)}{t^{10} - 30t^8 + 360t^6 - 1200t^4 + 3600t^2 + 7200} - \frac{8t^3(t^4 + 60 - 12t^2)}{t^8 - 16t^6 + 120t^4 + 720}$$

$$\beta_1(t) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2(t^2 - 2)}{(t^2 + 2)^2}$$

$$\beta_2(t) = 1 - \frac{4t^2(t^2 - 6)(t^2 + 6)}{(t^4 + 12)^2}$$

$$\beta_3(t) = \frac{3}{2} - \frac{6(t^4 - 12t^2 + 12)(t^6 + 6t^4 + 36t^2 - 72)}{(t^6 - 6t^4 + 36t^2 + 72)^2}$$

$$\beta_4(t) = 2 - \frac{8t^2(t^4 - 20t^2 + 60)(t^8 + 72t^4 - 2160)}{(t^8 - 16t^6 + 120t^4 + 720)^2}$$

Hence, using the three-term recurrence relation

$$P_{n+1}(x; t) = [x - \alpha_n(t)]P_n(x; t) - \beta_n(t)P_{n-1}(x; t), \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

then

$$P_1(x; t) = x - \frac{t(t^2 + 6)}{2(t^2 + 2)}$$

$$P_2(x; t) = x^2 - \frac{t(t^4 + 4t^2 + 12)}{t^4 + 12}x + \frac{t^6 + 6t^4 + 36t^2 - 72}{4(t^4 + 12)}$$

$$P_3(x; t) = x^3 - \frac{3t(t^6 - 2t^4 + 20t^2 + 120)}{2(t^6 - 6t^4 + 36t^2 + 72)}x^2 + \frac{3(t^8 + 40t^4 - 240)}{4(t^6 - 6t^4 + 36t^2 + 72)}x - \frac{t(t^8 + 72t^4 - 2160)}{8(t^6 - 6t^4 + 36t^2 + 72)}$$

$$P_4(x; t) = x^4 - \frac{2t(t^8 - 12t^6 + 72t^4 + 240t^2 + 720)}{t^8 - 16t^6 + 120t^4 + 720}x^3 + \frac{3(t^{10} - 10t^8 + 80t^6 + 1200t^2 - 2400)}{2(t^8 - 16t^6 + 120t^4 + 720)}x^2 - \frac{t(t^{10} - 10t^8 + 120t^6 - 240t^4 - 1200t^2 - 7200)}{2(t^8 - 16t^6 + 120t^4 + 720)}x + \frac{t^{12} - 12t^{10} + 180t^8 - 480t^6 - 3600t^4 - 43200t^2 + 43200}{16(t^8 - 16t^6 + 120t^4 + 720)}$$

## Generalized Freud Weight

$$\omega(x; t) = |x|^{2\nu+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \nu > 0$$

- **PAC, K Jordaan, & A Kelil**, “On a generalized Freud weight”, preprint (2015).



# Generalized Freud weight

For the **generalized Freud weight**

$$\omega(x; t) = |x|^{2\nu+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$$

the moments are

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_0(t; \nu) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x|^{2\nu+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2) dx \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} y^{\nu+1} \exp(-y^2 + ty) dy \\ &= 2^{-(\nu+1)/2} \Gamma(\nu + 1) \exp(\frac{1}{8}t^2) D_{-\nu-1}(-\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}t) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{2n}(t; \nu) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^{2n} |x|^{2\nu+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2) dx \\ &= (-1)^n \frac{d^n}{dt^n} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x|^{2\nu+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2) dx \right) \\ &= (-1)^n \frac{d^n \mu_0}{dt^n}, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{2n+1}(t; \nu) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^{2n+1} |x|^{2\nu+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2) dx \\ &= 0, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots \end{aligned}$$

We note that

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_{2n}(t; \nu) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^{2n} |x|^{2\nu+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2) dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x|^{2\nu+2n+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2) dx \\ &= \mu_0(t; \nu + n).\end{aligned}$$

Also, when  $\nu = n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , then

$$D_{-n-1}\left(-\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}t\right) = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2\pi} \frac{d^n}{dt^n} \left\{ \left[1 + \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{1}{2}t\right)\right] \exp\left(\frac{1}{8}t^2\right) \right\},$$

where  $\operatorname{erf}(z)$  is the **error function**.

# Theorem

(PAC, Jordaan & Kelil [2015])

The recurrence coefficient  $\beta_n(t)$  in the three-term recurrence relation

$$xP_n(x; t) = P_{n+1}(x; t) + \beta_n(t)P_{n-1}(x; t),$$

is given by

$$\beta_{2n}(t; \nu) = \frac{d}{dt} \ln \frac{\tau_n(t; \nu + 1)}{\tau_n(t; \nu)}, \quad \beta_{2n+1}(t; \nu) = \frac{d}{dt} \ln \frac{\tau_{n+1}(t; \nu)}{\tau_n(t; \nu + 1)}$$

where  $\tau_n(t; \nu)$  is the Wronskian given by

$$\tau_n(t; \nu) = \mathcal{W} \left( \phi_\nu, \frac{d\phi_\nu}{dt}, \dots, \frac{d^{n-1}\phi_\nu}{dt^{n-1}} \right)$$

with

$$\phi_\nu(t) = \mu_0(t; \nu) = \frac{\Gamma(\nu + 1)}{2^{(\nu+1)/2}} \exp\left(\frac{1}{8}t^2\right) D_{-\nu-1}\left(-\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}t\right)$$

# Theorem

(PAC, Jordaan & Kelil [2015])

The recurrence coefficient  $\beta_n(t)$  in the three-term recurrence relation

$$xP_n(x; t) = P_{n+1}(x; t) + \beta_n(t)P_{n-1}(x; t),$$

is given by

$$\beta_{2n}(t; \nu) = \frac{d}{dt} \ln \frac{\tau_n(t; \nu + 1)}{\tau_n(t; \nu)}, \quad \beta_{2n+1}(t; \nu) = \frac{d}{dt} \ln \frac{\tau_{n+1}(t; \nu)}{\tau_n(t; \nu + 1)}$$

where  $\tau_n(t; \nu)$  is the Wronskian given by

$$\tau_n(t; \nu) = \mathcal{W} \left( \phi_\nu, \frac{d\phi_\nu}{dt}, \dots, \frac{d^{n-1}\phi_\nu}{dt^{n-1}} \right)$$

with

$$\phi_\nu(t) = \mu_0(t; \nu) = \frac{\Gamma(\nu + 1)}{2^{(\nu+1)/2}} \exp\left(\frac{1}{8}t^2\right) D_{-\nu-1}\left(-\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}t\right)$$

**Remark:** The function  $S_n(t; \nu) = \frac{d}{dt} \ln \tau_n(t; \nu)$  satisfies

$$4 \left( \frac{d^2 S_n}{dt^2} \right)^2 - \left( t \frac{dS_n}{dt} - S_n \right)^2 + 4 \frac{dS_n}{dt} \left( 2 \frac{dS_n}{dt} - n \right) \left( 2 \frac{dS_n}{dt} - n - \nu \right) = 0$$

which is equivalent to  $\mathbf{S}_{\text{IV}}$ , the  $\mathbf{P}_{\text{IV}}$   $\sigma$ -equation, so

$$\beta_{2n}(t; \nu) = S_n(t; \nu + 1) - S_n(t; \nu), \quad \beta_{2n+1}(t; \nu) = S_n(t + 1; \nu) - S_n(t; \nu + 1)$$

# Theorem

The recurrence coefficients  $\beta_n(t)$  satisfy the equation

$$\frac{d^2\beta_n}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{2\beta_n} \left( \frac{d\beta_n}{dt} \right)^2 + \frac{3}{2}\beta_n^3 - t\beta_n^2 + \left( \frac{1}{8}t^2 - \frac{1}{2}A_n \right)\beta_n + \frac{B_n}{16\beta_n} \quad (1)$$

which is equivalent to  $\mathbf{P}_{IV}$ , where the parameters  $A_n$  and  $B_n$  are given by

$$\begin{aligned} A_{2n} &= -2\nu - n - 1, & A_{2n+1} &= \nu - n \\ B_{2n} &= -2n^2, & B_{2n+1} &= -2(\nu + n + 1)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Further  $\beta_n(t)$  satisfies the nonlinear difference equation

$$\beta_{n+1} + \beta_n + \beta_{n-1} = \frac{1}{2}t + \frac{2n + (2\nu + 1)[1 - (-1)^n]}{8\beta_n} \quad (2)$$

which is known as **discrete  $\mathbf{P}_I$** .

# Theorem

The recurrence coefficients  $\beta_n(t)$  satisfy the equation

$$\frac{d^2\beta_n}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{2\beta_n} \left( \frac{d\beta_n}{dt} \right)^2 + \frac{3}{2}\beta_n^3 - t\beta_n^2 + \left( \frac{1}{8}t^2 - \frac{1}{2}A_n \right)\beta_n + \frac{B_n}{16\beta_n} \quad (1)$$

which is equivalent to  $\mathbf{P}_{IV}$ , where the parameters  $A_n$  and  $B_n$  are given by

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which is known as **discrete  $\mathbf{P}_I$** .

**Remark:** The link between the differential equation (1) and the difference equation (2) is given by the Bäcklund transformations

$$\beta_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2\beta_n} \frac{d\beta_n}{dt} - \frac{1}{2}\beta_n + \frac{1}{4}t + \frac{c_n}{4\beta_n}, \quad \beta_{n-1} = -\frac{1}{2\beta_n} \frac{d\beta_n}{dt} - \frac{1}{2}\beta_n + \frac{1}{4}t + \frac{c_n}{4\beta_n}$$

with  $c_n = \frac{1}{2}n + \frac{1}{4}(2\nu + 1)[1 - (-1)^n]$ .

The first few recurrence coefficients are:

$$\beta_1(t) = \Phi_\nu$$

$$\beta_2(t) = -\frac{2\Phi_\nu^2 - t\Phi_\nu - \nu - 1}{2\Phi_\nu}$$

$$\beta_3(t) = -\frac{\Phi_\nu}{2\Phi_\nu^2 - t\Phi_\nu - \nu - 1} - \frac{\nu + 1}{2\Phi_\nu}$$

$$\beta_4(t) = \frac{t}{2(\nu + 2)} + \frac{\Phi_\nu}{2\Phi_\nu^2 - t\Phi_\nu - \nu - 1} + \frac{(\nu + 1)(t^2 + 2\nu + 4)\Phi_\nu + (\nu + 1)^2 t}{2(\nu + 2)[2(\nu + 2)\Phi_\nu^2 - (\nu + 1)t\Phi_\nu - (\nu + 1)^2]}$$

$$\beta_5(t) = -\frac{2\nu t}{\nu + 1} - \frac{2(\nu + 1)}{t} - \frac{2\nu(2t^2 + \nu + 1)\Phi_\nu - 4\nu^2 t}{(\nu + 1)[(\nu + 1)\Phi_\nu^2 + 2\nu t\Phi_\nu - 2\nu^2]} - \frac{2[\nu t^2 + (\nu + 1)(2\nu + 1)]\Phi_\nu^2 + 2\nu t(t^2 + 4\nu + 5)\Phi_\nu - 4\nu^2 t^2 - 8\nu^2(\nu + 1)}{t[t\Phi_\nu^3(t) + (2t^2 - 2\nu + 1)\Phi_\nu^2 - 6\Phi_\nu \nu t + 4\nu^2]}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_\nu(t) &= \frac{d}{dt} \ln \left\{ D_{-\nu-1} \left( -\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}t \right) \exp \left( \frac{1}{8}t^2 \right) \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}t + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2} \frac{D_{-\nu} \left( -\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}t \right)}{D_{-\nu-1} \left( -\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}t \right)}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, using the three-term recurrence relation

$$P_{n+1}(x; t) = xP_n(x; t) - \beta_n(t)P_{n-1}(x; t), \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

with

$$P_0(x; t) = 1, \quad P_{-1}(x; t) = 0, \quad \beta_0(t) = 0$$

then the first few polynomials are given by

$$P_1(x; t) = x$$

$$P_2(x; t) = x^2 - \Phi_\nu$$

$$P_3(x; t) = x^3 + 2 \frac{t\Phi_\nu - \nu}{\Phi_\nu} x$$

$$P_4(x; t) = x^4 + 2 \frac{t\Phi_\nu^2 + (2t^2 + 1)\Phi_\nu - 2\nu t}{\Phi_\nu^2 + 2t\Phi_\nu - 2\nu} x^2 - 2 \frac{(\nu + 1)\Phi_\nu^2 + 2\nu t\Phi_\nu - 2\nu^2}{\Phi_\nu^2 + 2t\Phi_\nu - 2\nu}$$

$$P_5(x; t) = x^5 + 2 \frac{(\nu + 2)t\Phi_\nu^2 + \nu(2t^2 - 1)\Phi_\nu - 2\nu^2 t}{(\nu + 1)\Phi_\nu^2 + 2\nu t\Phi_\nu - 2\nu^2} x^3 + \frac{2[2t^2 - (\nu + 1)^2]\Phi_\nu^2 - 4\nu(\nu + 3)t\Phi_\nu + 4(\nu + 2)\nu^2}{(\nu + 1)\Phi_\nu^2 + 2\nu t\Phi_\nu - 2\nu^2} x$$

where

$$\Phi_\nu(t) = 2t - \sqrt{2} \frac{D_{1-\nu}(\sqrt{2}t)}{D_{-\nu}(\sqrt{2}t)}$$



## Theorem

(PAC, Jordaan & Kelil [2015])

Suppose that the monic polynomials  $Q_n(x; t)$  are generated by the three-term recurrence relation

$$xQ_n(x; t) = Q_{n+1}(x; t) + \frac{1}{4}[1 - (-1)^n]t Q_{n-1}(x; t),$$

with  $Q_0(x; t) = 1$  and  $Q_1(x; t) = x$  and the monic polynomials  $P_n(x; t)$  arise from the generalized Freud weight

$$\omega(x; t) = |x|^{2\nu+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{2n}(x; t) &= (x^2 - \frac{1}{2}t)^n \\ Q_{2n+1}(x; t) &= x(x^2 - \frac{1}{2}t)^n \end{aligned}$$

and in the limit as  $t \rightarrow \infty$

$$\begin{aligned} P_{2n}(x; t) &\rightarrow (x^2 - \frac{1}{2}t)^n = Q_{2n}(x; t) \\ P_{2n+1}(x; t) &\rightarrow x(x^2 - \frac{1}{2}t)^n = Q_{2n+1}(x; t) \end{aligned}$$

This is due to the fact that for the generalized Freud weight, as  $t \rightarrow \infty$

$$\beta_{2n}(t) \rightarrow 0, \quad \beta_{2n+1}(t) \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}t$$

# Theorem

(PAC, Jordaan & Kelil [2015])

*For the generalized Freud weight*

$$\omega(x; t) = |x|^{2\nu+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2)$$

*the monic orthogonal polynomials  $P_n(x; t)$  satisfy the differential-difference equation*

$$\frac{dP_n}{dx}(x; t) = -B_n(x; t)P_n(x; t) + A_n(x; t)P_{n-1}(x; t)$$

*where*

$$A_n(x; t) = 4 \left( x^2 - \frac{1}{2}t + \beta_n + \beta_{n+1} \right) \beta_n$$
$$B_n(x; t) = 4x\beta_n + \frac{(2\nu + 1)[1 + (-1)^{n+1}]}{2x}$$

*with  $\beta_n(t)$  the recurrence coefficient in the three-term recurrence relation*

$$P_{n+1}(x; t) = xP_n(x; t) - \beta_n(t)P_{n-1}(x; t)$$

# Theorem

(PAC, Jordaan & Kelil [2015])

*For the generalized Freud weight*

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$$B_n(x; t) = 4x\beta_n + \frac{(2\nu + 1)[1 + (-1)^{n+1}]}{2x}$$

*with  $\beta_n(t)$  the recurrence coefficient in the three-term recurrence relation*

$$P_{n+1}(x; t) = xP_n(x; t) - \beta_n(t)P_{n-1}(x; t)$$

**For Hermite polynomials  $H_n(x)$  and Laguerre polynomials  $L_n^{(\alpha)}(x)$ :**

$$\frac{d}{dx}H_n(x) = 2nH_{n-1}(x), \quad \frac{d}{dx}L_n^{(\alpha)}(x) = \frac{n}{x}L_n^{(\alpha)}(x) - \frac{n + \alpha}{x}L_{n-1}^{(\alpha)}(x)$$

# Theorem

(PAC, Jordaan & Kelil [2015])

*For the generalized Freud weight*

$$\omega(x; t) = |x|^{2\nu+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2)$$

*the monic orthogonal polynomials  $P_n(x; t)$  satisfy the differential equation*

$$\frac{d^2 P_n}{dx^2}(x; t) + R_n(x; t) \frac{dP_n}{dx}(x; t) + T_n(x; t) P_n(x; t) = 0$$

*where*

$$R_n(x; t) = -4x^3 + 2tx - \frac{2\nu + 1}{x} - \frac{2x}{x^2 - \frac{1}{2}t + \beta_n + \beta_{n+1}}$$

$$T_n(x; t) = 4nx^2 + 4\beta_n + 16(\beta_n + \beta_{n+1} - \frac{1}{2})(\beta_n + \beta_{n-1} - \frac{1}{2})\beta_n \\ - \frac{8x^2\beta_n + (2\nu + 1)[1 + (-1)^{n+1}]}{x^2 - \frac{1}{2}t + \beta_n + \beta_{n+1}} + (2\nu + 1)[1 + (-1)^{n+1}] \left( t - \frac{1}{2x^2} \right)$$

*with  $\beta_n(t)$  the recurrence coefficient in the three-term recurrence relation*

$$P_{n+1}(x; t) = xP_n(x; t) - \beta_n(t)P_{n-1}(x; t)$$

# Theorem

(PAC, Jordaan & Kelil [2015])

*For the generalized Freud weight*

$$\omega(x; t) = |x|^{2\nu+1} \exp(-x^4 + tx^2)$$

*the monic orthogonal polynomials  $P_n(x; t)$  satisfy the differential equation*

$$\frac{d^2 P_n}{dx^2}(x; t) + R_n(x; t) \frac{dP_n}{dx}(x; t) + T_n(x; t) P_n(x; t) = 0$$

*where*

$$R_n(x; t) = -4x^3 + 2tx - \frac{2\nu + 1}{x} - \frac{2x}{x^2 - \frac{1}{2}t + \beta_n + \beta_{n+1}}$$

$$T_n(x; t) = 4nx^2 + 4\beta_n + 16\left(\beta_n + \beta_{n+1} - \frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\beta_n + \beta_{n-1} - \frac{1}{2}\right)\beta_n \\ - \frac{8x^2\beta_n + (2\nu + 1)[1 + (-1)^{n+1}]}{x^2 - \frac{1}{2}t + \beta_n + \beta_{n+1}} + (2\nu + 1)[1 + (-1)^{n+1}] \left(t - \frac{1}{2x^2}\right)$$

*with  $\beta_n(t)$  the recurrence coefficient in the three-term recurrence relation*

$$P_{n+1}(x; t) = xP_n(x; t) - \beta_n(t)P_{n-1}(x; t)$$

**For Hermite and Laguerre polynomials:**

$$\frac{d^2 H_n}{dx^2} - 2x \frac{dH_n}{dx} + 2nH_n = 0, \quad \frac{d^2 L_n^{(\alpha)}}{dx^2} + \frac{\alpha + 1 - n}{x} \frac{dL_n^{(\alpha)}}{dx} + \frac{n}{r} L_n^{(\alpha)} = 0$$

## Orthogonal polynomials on complex contours

$$\omega(x; t) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{3}x^3 + tx\right), \quad t > 0$$

- **PAC, A Loureiro & W Van Assche**, “Unique positive solution for the alternative discrete Painlevé I equation”, arXiv:1508.04916 (2015).

Consider the semi-classical Airy weight

$$\omega(x; t) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{3}x^3 + tx\right), \quad t > 0$$

on the curve  $\mathcal{C}$  from  $e^{2\pi i/3}\infty$  to  $e^{-2\pi i/3}\infty$ . The moments are

$$\mu_0(t) = \int_{\mathcal{C}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{3}x^3 + tx\right) dx = \text{Ai}(t)$$

$$\mu_k(t) = \int_{\mathcal{C}} x^k \exp\left(-\frac{1}{3}x^3 + tx\right) dx = \frac{d^k}{dt^k} \text{Ai}(t) = \text{Ai}^{(k)}(t)$$

where  $\text{Ai}(t)$  is the **Airy function**, the Hankel determinant is

$$\Delta_n(t) = \mathcal{W}(\text{Ai}(t), \text{Ai}'(t), \dots, \text{Ai}^{(n-1)}(t))$$

with  $\Delta_0(t) = 1$ , and the recursion coefficients are

$$\alpha_n(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \ln \frac{\Delta_{n+1}(t)}{\Delta_n(t)} = \frac{d}{dt} \ln \frac{\mathcal{W}(\text{Ai}(t), \text{Ai}'(t), \dots, \text{Ai}^{(n)}(t))}{\mathcal{W}(\text{Ai}(t), \text{Ai}'(t), \dots, \text{Ai}^{(n-1)}(t))}$$

$$\beta_n(t) = \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \ln \Delta_n(t) = \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \ln \mathcal{W}(\text{Ai}(t), \text{Ai}'(t), \dots, \text{Ai}^{(n-1)}(t))$$

with

$$\alpha_0(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \ln \text{Ai}(t) = \frac{\text{Ai}'(t)}{\text{Ai}(t)}, \quad \beta_0(t) = 0$$

The recurrence coefficients  $\alpha_n(t)$  and  $\beta_n(t)$  satisfy the discrete system

$$\begin{aligned}(\alpha_n + \alpha_{n-1})\beta_n - n &= 0 \\ \alpha_n^2 + \beta_n + \beta_{n+1} - t &= 0\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

and the differential system (Toda)

$$\frac{d\alpha_n}{dt} = \beta_{n+1} - \beta_n, \quad \frac{d\beta_n}{dt} = \beta_n(\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1})\tag{2}$$

Eliminating  $\alpha_{n-1}$  and  $\beta_{n+1}$  between (1) and (2) yields

$$\frac{d\alpha_n}{dt} = -\alpha_n - 2\beta_n + t, \quad \frac{d\beta_n}{dt} = 2\alpha_n\beta_n - n\tag{3}$$

Letting  $x_n = -\beta_n$  and  $y_n = -\alpha_n$  in (1) and (2) yields

$$\begin{aligned}x_n + x_{n+1} &= y_n^2 - t \\ x_n(y_n + y_{n-1}) &= n\end{aligned}\tag{4}$$

and

$$\frac{dx_n}{dt} = x_n(y_{n-1} - y_n), \quad \frac{dy_n}{dt} = x_{n+1} - x_n\tag{5}$$

Eliminating  $x_{n+1}$  and  $y_{n-1}$  between (4) and (5) yields

$$\frac{dy_n}{dt} = y_n^2 - 2x_n - t, \quad \frac{dx_n}{dt} = -2x_ny_n + n\tag{6}$$



Consider the system

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy_n}{dt} &= y_n^2 - 2x_n - t \\ \frac{dx_n}{dt} &= -2x_n y_n + n\end{aligned}$$

- Eliminating  $x_n$  yields

$$\frac{d^2 y_n}{dt^2} = 2y_n^3 - 2ty_n - 2n - 1$$

which is equivalent to

$$\frac{d^2 q}{dz^2} = 2q^3 + zq + n + \frac{1}{2}$$

i.e.  $\mathbf{P_{II}}$  with  $A = n + \frac{1}{2}$ .

- Eliminating  $y_n$  yields

$$\frac{d^2 x_n}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{2x_n} \left( \frac{dx_n}{dt} \right)^2 + 4x_n^2 + 2tx_n - \frac{n^2}{2x_n}$$

which is equivalent to

$$\frac{d^2 v}{dz^2} = \frac{1}{2v} \left( \frac{dv}{dz} \right)^2 - 2v^2 - zv - \frac{n^2}{2v}$$

an equation known as  $\mathbf{P_{34}}$ .

## The Airy solutions of the equations

$$\frac{d^2 y_n}{dt^2} = 2y_n^3 - 2ty_n - 2n - 1, \quad y_0(t) = -\frac{\text{Ai}'(t)}{\text{Ai}(t)}$$

$$\frac{d^2 x_n}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{2x_n} \left( \frac{dx_n}{dt} \right)^2 + 4x_n^2 + 2tx_n - \frac{n^2}{2x_n}, \quad x_0(t) = 0$$

are

$$y_n(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \ln \frac{\tau_n(t)}{\tau_{n+1}(t)} = \frac{d}{dt} \ln \frac{\mathcal{W}(\text{Ai}(t), \text{Ai}'(t), \dots, \text{Ai}^{(n-1)}(t))}{\mathcal{W}(\text{Ai}(t), \text{Ai}'(t), \dots, \text{Ai}^{(n)}(t))}$$

$$x_n(t) = -\frac{d^2}{dt^2} \ln \tau_n(t) = -\frac{d^2}{dt^2} \ln \mathcal{W}(\text{Ai}(t), \text{Ai}'(t), \dots, \text{Ai}^{(n-1)}(t))$$

where

$$\tau_n(t) = \mathcal{W}(\text{Ai}(t), \text{Ai}'(t), \dots, \text{Ai}^{(n-1)}(t)), \quad n \geq 1$$

and  $\tau_0(t) = 1$ .

As  $t \rightarrow \infty$

$$y_n(t) = t^{1/2} + \frac{2n+1}{4t} - \frac{12n^2+12n+5}{32t^{5/2}} + \frac{(2n+1)(16n^2+16n+15)}{64t^4} + \mathcal{O}(t^{-11/2})$$

$$x_n(t) = \frac{n}{2t^{1/2}} - \frac{n^2}{4t^2} + \frac{5n(4n^2+1)}{64t^{7/2}} - \frac{n^2(8n^2+7)}{16t^5} + \mathcal{O}(t^{-13/2})$$

$$x_n + x_{n+1} = y_n^2 - t \quad (1a)$$

$$x_n(y_n + y_{n-1}) = n \quad (1b)$$

Solving (1b) for  $x_n$  and substituting in (1a) yields

$$\frac{n+1}{y_n + y_{n+1}} + \frac{n}{y_n + y_{n-1}} = y_n^2 - t \quad (2)$$

which is known as **alt-dP<sub>I</sub>** (Fokas, Grammaticos & Ramani [1993]).

Consider the Bäcklund transformations

$$y_{n+1} = -y_n + \frac{2(n+1)}{y_n^2 + y_n' - t} \quad (3a)$$

$$y_{n-1} = -y_n + \frac{2n}{y_n^2 - y_n' - t} \quad (3b)$$

Eliminating  $y_n'$  yields alt-dP<sub>I</sub> (2), whilst letting  $n \rightarrow n+1$  in (3b) and substituting (3a) yields

$$\frac{d^2 y_n}{dt^2} = 2y_n^3 - 2ty_n - 2n - 1 \quad (4)$$

which is equivalent to **P<sub>II</sub>** [ $y_n(t) = -2^{1/3}q(z)$ ,  $t = -2^{-1/3}z$ , with  $\alpha = n + \frac{1}{2}$ ].

**Remark:** The system (1) can also be written as

$$x_{n+1} = y_n^2 - x_n - t, \quad y_{n+1} = -y_n + \frac{n+1}{y_n^2 - x_n - t}$$

# Theorem

(PAC, Loureiro & Van Assche [2015])

*For positive values of  $t$ , there exists a unique solution of*

$$\begin{aligned}x_n + x_{n+1} &= y_n^2 - t \\x_n(y_n + y_{n-1}) &= n\end{aligned}$$

*with  $x_0(t) = 0$  for which  $x_{n+1}(t) > 0$  and  $y_n(t) > 0$  for all  $n \geq 0$ . This solution corresponds to the initial value*

$$y_0(t) = -\frac{Ai'(t)}{Ai(t)}.$$

## Theorem

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## Theorem

(PAC, Loureiro & Van Assche [2015])

*For positive values of  $t$ , there exists a unique solution of*

$$\frac{n+1}{y_n + y_{n+1}} + \frac{n}{y_n + y_{n-1}} = y_n^2 - t$$

*for which  $y_n(t) \geq 0$  for all  $n \geq 0$ . This solution corresponds to the initial values*

$$y_0(t) = -\frac{Ai'(t)}{Ai(t)}, \quad y_1(t) = -y_0(t) + \frac{1}{y_0^2(t) - t}$$

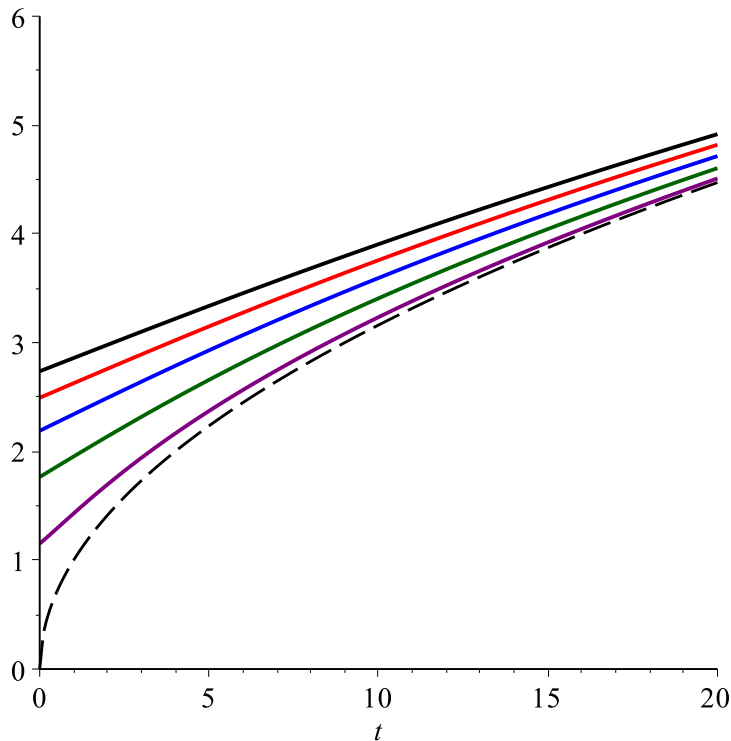
**Lemma** *If  $0 < t_1 < t_2$  then*

$$y_n(t_1) < y_n(t_2), \quad x_n(t_1) > x_n(t_2)$$

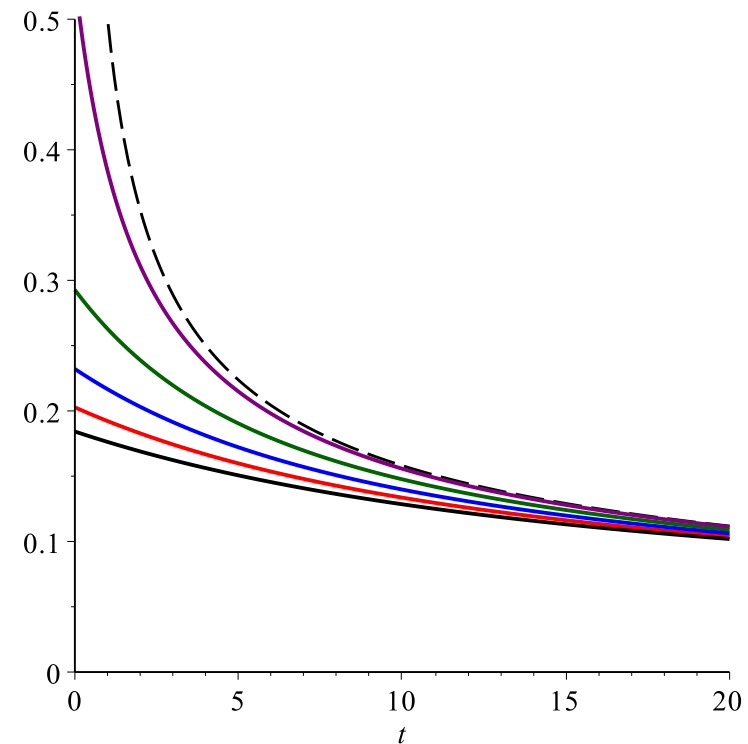
*i.e.  $y_n(t)$  is monotonically increasing and  $x_n(t)$  is monotonically decreasing.*

**Lemma** *For fixed  $t$  with  $t > 0$  then*

$$\sqrt{t} < y_n(t) < y_{n+1}(t), \quad \frac{1}{2\sqrt{t}} > \frac{x_n(t)}{n} > \frac{x_{n+1}(t)}{n+1}$$



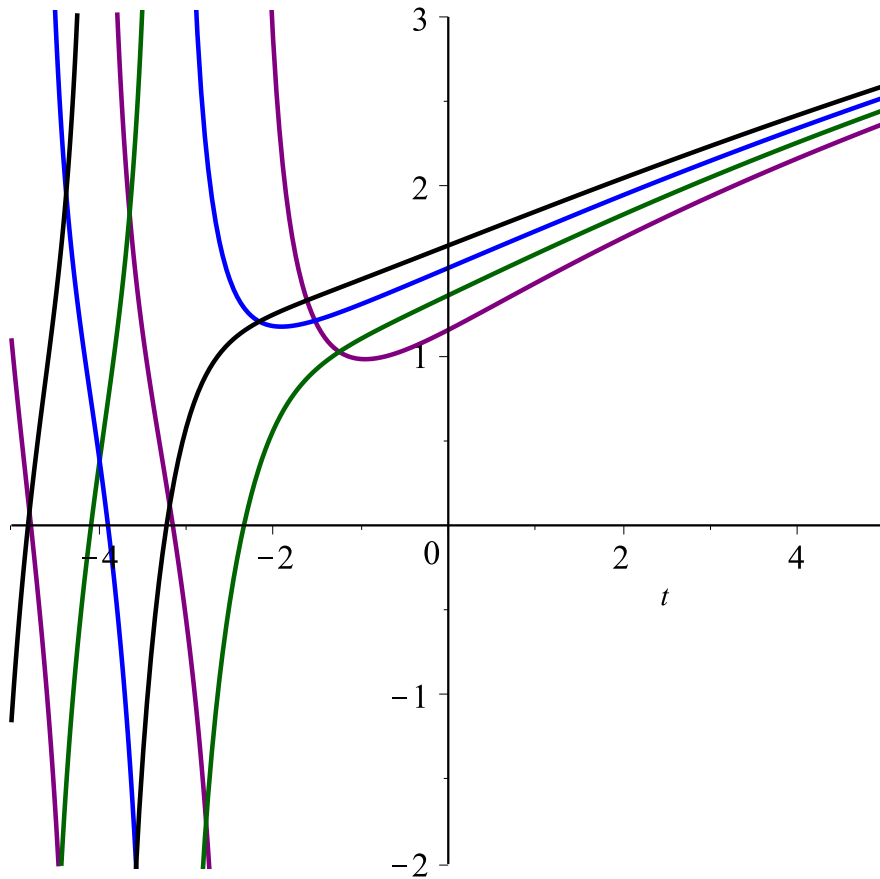
$y_n(t)$ ,  $n = 1, 5, 10, 15, 20$



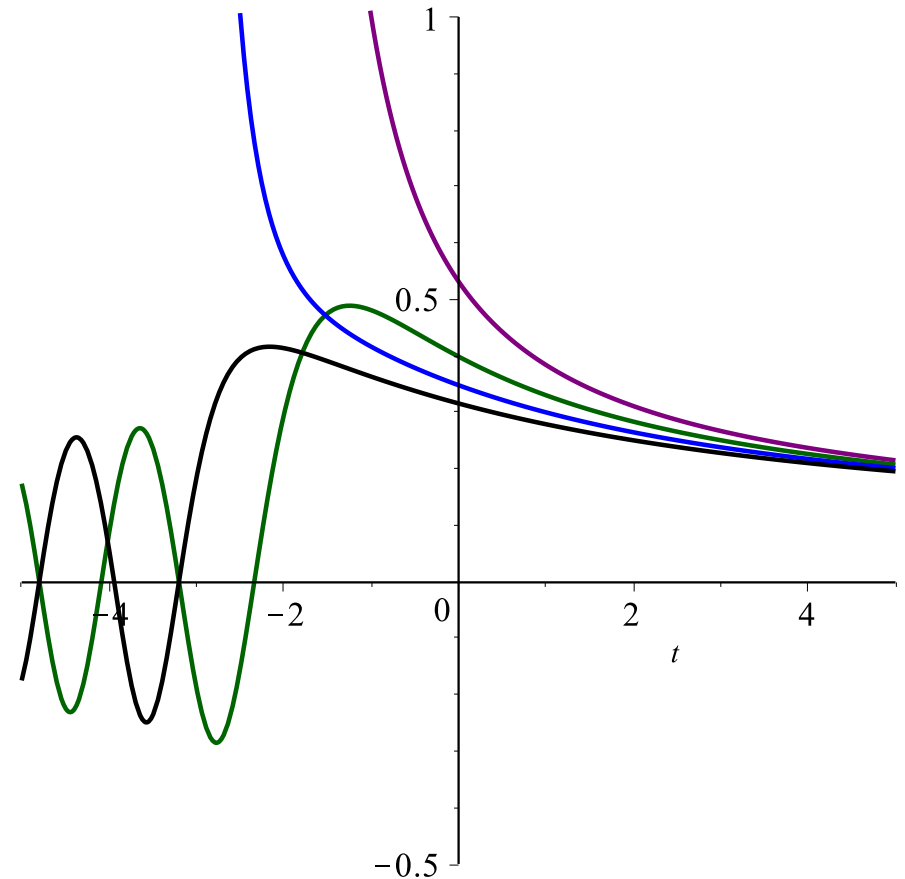
$\frac{1}{n}x_n(t)$ ,  $n = 1, 5, 10, 15, 20$

**Question:** What happens if we don't require that  $t > 0$ ?

$$y_n(t) = -\frac{d}{dt} \ln \frac{\tau_n(t)}{\tau_{n+1}(t)}, \quad x_n(t) = -\frac{d^2}{dt^2} \ln \tau_n(t), \quad \tau_n(t) = \left[ \frac{d^{j+k}}{dt^{j+k}} \text{Ai}(t) \right]_{j,k=0}^{n-1}$$



$y_n(t)$ ,  $n = 1, 2, 3, 4$

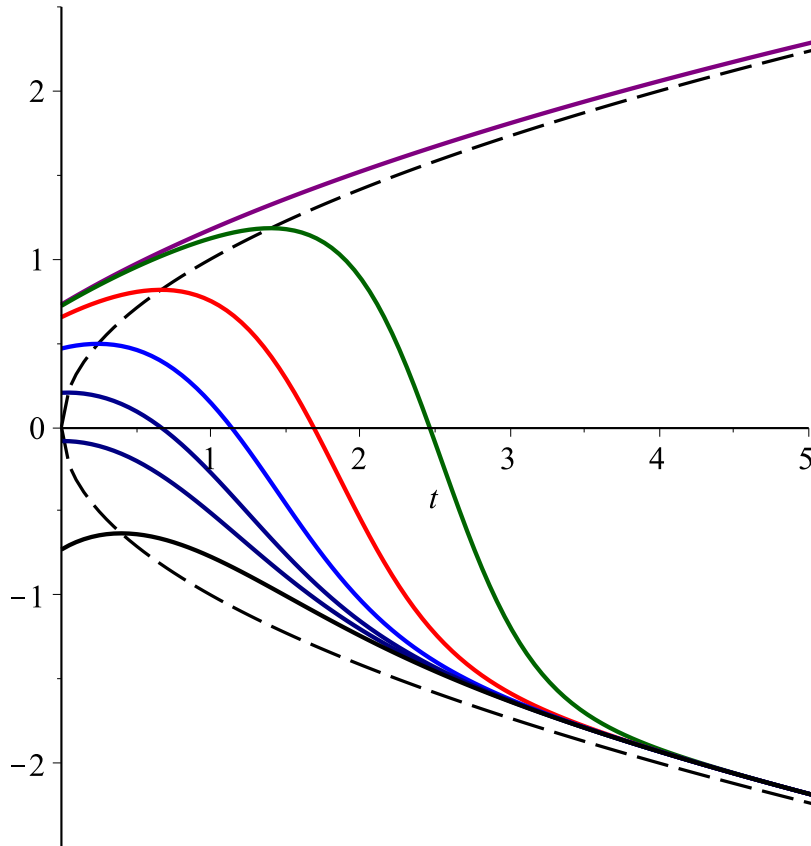


$\frac{1}{n}x_n(t)$ ,  $n = 1, 2, 3, 4$

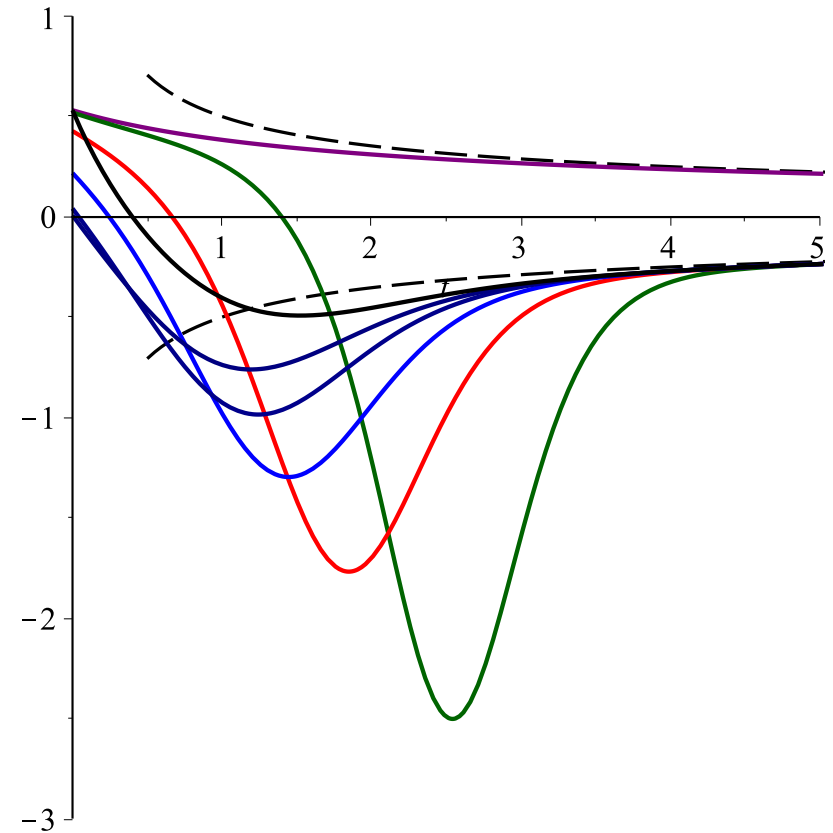
**Question:** What happens if we have a linear combination of  $\text{Ai}(t)$  and  $\text{Bi}(t)$ ?

$$y_0(t; \theta) = -\frac{d}{dt} \ln \varphi(t; \theta), \quad x_1(t; \theta) = -\frac{d^2}{dt^2} \ln \varphi(t; \theta)$$

$$\varphi(t; \theta) = \cos(\theta) \text{Ai}(t) + \sin(\theta) \text{Bi}(t)$$



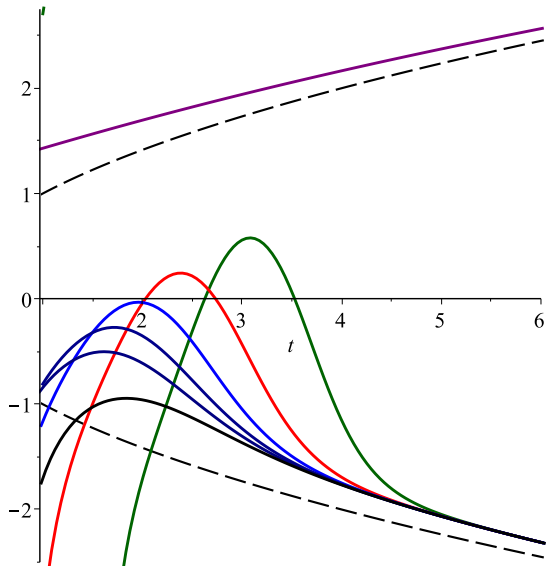
$y_0(t; \theta)$



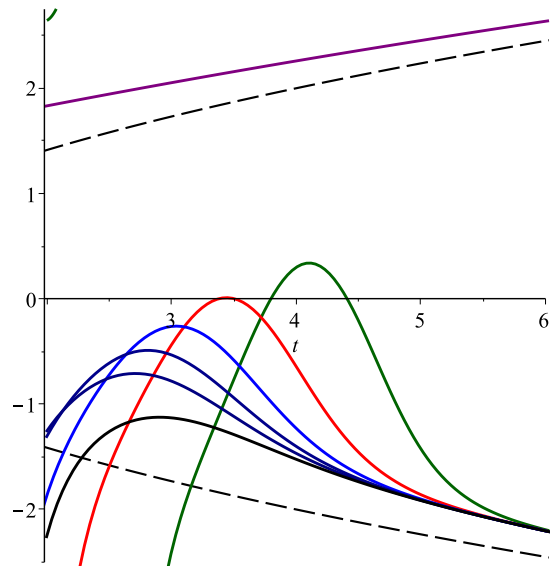
$x_1(t; \theta)$

$$\theta = 0, \frac{1}{1000}\pi, \frac{1}{100}\pi, \frac{1}{25}\pi, \frac{1}{10}\pi, \frac{1}{5}\pi, \frac{1}{2}\pi$$

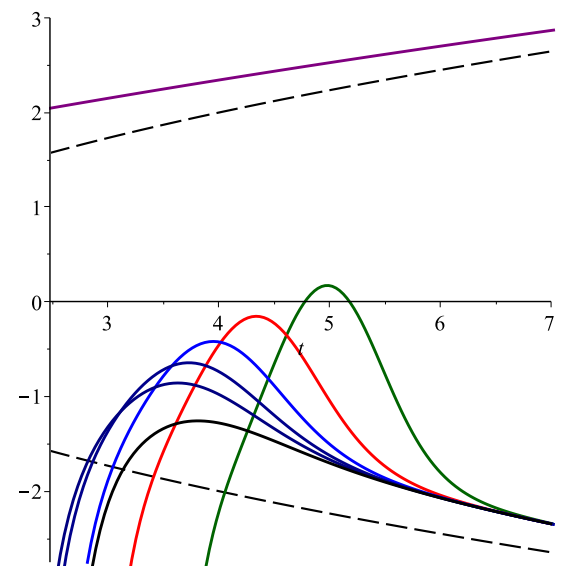




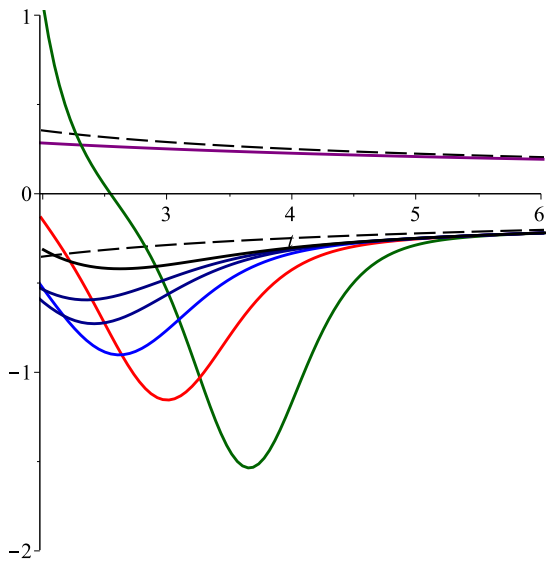
$y_1(t; \theta)$



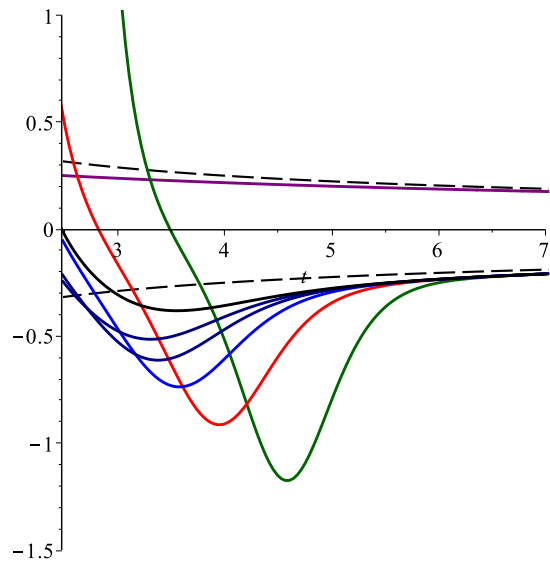
$y_2(t; \theta)$



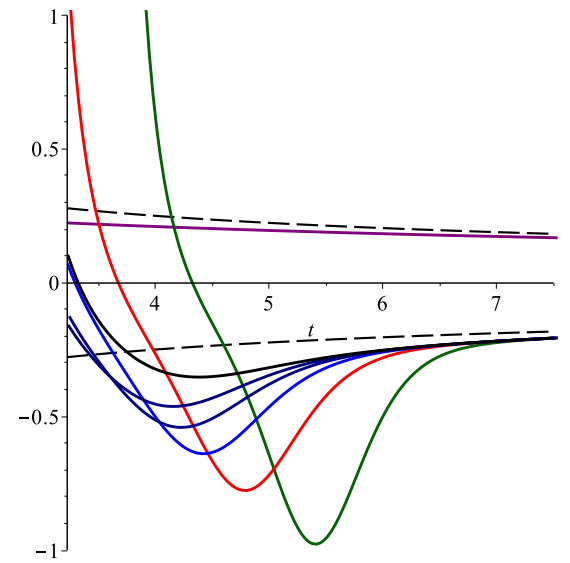
$y_3(t; \theta)$



$\frac{1}{2}x_2(t; \theta)$



$\frac{1}{3}x_3(t; \theta)$



$\frac{1}{4}x_4(t; \theta)$

# Conclusions

- The coefficients in the three-term recurrence relations associated with semi-classical generalizations of orthogonal polynomials can often be expressed in terms of solutions of the Painlevé equations.
- These recursion coefficients can be expressed as Hankel determinants which arise in the solution of the Painlevé equations, in particular the Painlevé  $\sigma$ -equations, the second-order, second-degree equations associated with the Hamiltonian representation of the Painlevé equations.
- These Hankel determinants arise in the special cases of the Painlevé equations when they have solutions in terms of the classical special functions, the “classical solutions” of the Painlevé equations.
- The moments of the semi-classical weights provide the link between the orthogonal polynomials and the associated Painlevé equation.
- These ideas can be extended to orthogonal polynomials in other contexts:
  - \* **discrete orthogonal polynomials** (PAC [2013]); and
  - \* **orthogonal polynomials on the unit circle** (PAC & Smith [2015]).
- These results illustrate the increasing significance of the Painlevé equations in the field of orthogonal polynomials and special functions.

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## Examples Associated with the Fifth Painlevé Equation

$$\frac{d^2q}{dz^2} = \left( \frac{1}{2q} + \frac{1}{q-1} \right) \left( \frac{dq}{dz} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{z} \frac{dq}{dz} + \frac{(q-1)^2}{z^2} \left( Aq + \frac{B}{q} \right) + \frac{Cq}{z} + \frac{Dq(q+1)}{q-1} \quad \mathbf{P}_V$$

$$\left( z \frac{d^2\sigma}{dz^2} \right)^2 = \left[ 2 \left( \frac{d\sigma}{dz} \right)^2 - z \frac{d\sigma}{dz} + \sigma \right]^2 - 4 \prod_{j=1}^4 \left( \frac{d\sigma}{dz} + \kappa_j \right) \quad \mathbf{S}_V$$

The **Kummer functions**  $M(a, b, z)$  and  $U(a, b, z)$  have the integral representations

$$M(a, b, z) = \frac{\Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b-a)} \int_0^1 e^{zs} s^{a-1} (1-s)^{b-a-1} ds$$

$$U(a, b, z) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \int_0^\infty e^{-zs} s^{a-1} (1+s)^{b-a-1} ds$$

- For the **perturbed Jacobi weight (Basor, Chen & Ehrhardt [2010])**

$$\omega(x; z) = x^{\alpha-1} (1+x)^{\beta-1} e^{-zx}, \quad x \in [0, 1], \quad \alpha > 0, \quad \beta > 0$$

the moments are given by

$$\mu_0(z; \alpha, \beta) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)} e^{-z} M(\alpha, \alpha+\beta, z), \quad \mu_k(z; \alpha, \beta) = (-1)^k \frac{d^k}{dz^k} \mu_0(z; \alpha, \beta)$$

- For the **Pollaczek-Jacobi weight (Chen & Dai [2010])**

$$\omega(x; z) = x^{\alpha-1} (1-x)^{\beta-1} e^{-z/x}, \quad x \in [0, 1], \quad \alpha > 0, \quad \beta > 0$$

the  $k$ th moment is

$$\mu_k(z; \alpha, \beta) = \Gamma(\beta) e^{-z} U(\beta, 1-\alpha-k, z)$$

For both these weights  $H_n(z) = z \frac{d}{dz} \ln \Delta_n(z)$ , with  $\Delta_n(z) = \det \left[ \mu_{j+k}(z) \right]_{j,k=0}^{n-1}$ , satisfies an equation which is equivalent to a special case of  $S_V$ , the  $P_V$   $\sigma$ -equation.

# Theorem

(Okamoto [1987]; Forrester & Witte [2002])

*Special function solutions of the  $P_V$   $\sigma$ -equation*

$$\left( z \frac{d^2 \sigma}{dz^2} \right)^2 - \left\{ 2 \left( \frac{d\sigma}{dz} \right)^2 - z \frac{d\sigma}{dz} + \sigma \right\}^2 + 4 \prod_{j=1}^4 \left( \frac{d\sigma}{dz} + \kappa_j \right) = 0 \quad S_V$$

*are given by*

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(z) = & z \frac{d}{dz} \ln \tau_n(\varphi_{\alpha, \beta}) - \frac{1}{4}(3n + 2\alpha - \beta - 1)z \\ & - \frac{5}{8}n^2 - \frac{1}{4}(2\alpha - 3\beta - 1)n - \frac{1}{8}(2\alpha - \beta - 1)^2 \end{aligned}$$

*for the parameters*

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa_1 &= \frac{1}{4}(2\alpha - \beta - n - 1), & \kappa_3 &= \frac{1}{4}(2\alpha - \beta + 3n - 1) \\ \kappa_2 &= -\frac{1}{4}(2\alpha + \beta + n - 3), & \kappa_4 &= -\frac{1}{4}(2\alpha - 3\beta + n + 1) \end{aligned}$$

*where  $\tau_n(\varphi_{\alpha, \beta})$  is the determinant given by*

$$\tau_n(\varphi_{\alpha, \beta}) = \det \left[ \left( z \frac{d}{dz} \right)^{j+k} \varphi_{\alpha, \beta}(z) \right]_{j, k=0}^{n-1}$$

*with*

$$\varphi_{\alpha, \beta}(z) = C_1 M(\alpha, \beta, z) + C_2 U(\alpha, \beta, z)$$

$C_1$  and  $C_2$  arbitrary constants,  $M(\alpha, \beta, z)$  and  $U(\alpha, \beta, z)$  **Kummer functions.**

## Deformed Laguerre weight

Consider orthogonal polynomials with the respect to the **deformed Laguerre weight**

$$\omega(x; z) = x^\nu (x + z)^\lambda e^{-x}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^+, \quad \nu > 0, \quad \lambda > 0$$

Define the Hankel determinant

$$\Delta_n(z; \nu, \lambda) = \det \left[ \mu_{j+k}(z; \nu, \lambda) \right]_{j,k=0}^{n-1}$$

where

$$\mu_k(z; \nu, \lambda) = \int_0^\infty x^{\nu+k} (x + z)^\lambda e^{-x} dx$$

which can be evaluated in terms of the **Kummer function**  $U(a, b, z)$ . **Chen & McKay [2012]** (also **Basor, Chen & McKay [2013]**) show that

$$H_n(z; \nu, \lambda) = z \frac{d}{dz} \ln \Delta_n(z; \nu, \lambda)$$

satisfies

$$\left( z \frac{d^2 H_n}{dz^2} \right)^2 = \left[ (z + 2n + \nu + \lambda) \frac{dH_n}{dz} - H_n + n\lambda \right]^2 - 4 \frac{dH_n}{dz} \left( \frac{dH_n}{dz} + \lambda \right) \left[ z \frac{dH_n}{dz} - H_n + n(n + \nu + \lambda) \right]$$

which is equivalent to a special case of  $S_V$ , the  $P_V$   $\sigma$ -equation.



## Remarks

- For the **deformed Laguerre weight**

$$\omega(x; z) = x^\nu (x + z)^\lambda e^{-x}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^+, \quad \nu > 0, \quad \lambda > 0$$

the  $k$ th moment is

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_k(z; \nu, \lambda) &= \int_0^\infty x^{\nu+k} (x + z)^\lambda e^{-x} dx \\ &= z^{\nu+\lambda+k+1} \int_0^\infty s^{\nu+k} (1 + s)^\lambda e^{-sz} ds \\ &= \Gamma(\nu + k + 1) z^{\nu+\lambda+k+1} U(\nu + k + 1, \nu + \lambda + k + 2, t) \end{aligned}$$

with  $U(a, b, z)$  the **Kummer function** of the second kind.

- In the special case of the deformed Laguerre weight when  $\lambda = m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_k(z; \nu, m) &= \int_0^\infty x^{\nu+k} (x + z)^m e^{-x} dx \\ &= \Gamma(\nu + k + 1) z^{\nu+m+k+1} U(\nu + k + 1, \nu + m + k + 2, t) \\ &= \Gamma(\nu + k + 1) (-1)^m m! L_m^{(-\nu-m-k-1)}(z) \end{aligned}$$

with  $L_n^{(\alpha)}(z)$  the **Laguerre polynomial**, since

$$z^{\alpha+m} U(\alpha, \alpha + m + 1, z) = (-1)^m m! L_m^{(-\alpha-m)}(z), \quad m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$$

# Discontinuous Laguerre weight

## (PAC & Smith)

Consider the **discontinuous Laguerre weight**

$$\omega(x; z) = \{1 - \xi \mathcal{H}(x - z)\} |x - z|^\lambda x^\nu \exp(-x), \quad \nu, \lambda > 0, \quad x, z \in \mathbb{R}^+$$

with  $\mathcal{H}(x)$  the Heaviside step function.

Since

$$\int_0^z x^\nu (z - x)^\lambda e^{-x} dx = B(\lambda + 1, \nu + 1) z^{\nu+\lambda+1} e^{-z} M(\lambda + 1, \nu + \lambda + 2, z)$$

$$\int_z^\infty x^\nu (x - z)^\lambda e^{-x} dx = \Gamma(\lambda + 1) z^{\nu+\lambda+1} e^{-z} U(\lambda + 1, \nu + \lambda + 2, z)$$

with  $B(a, b) = \Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)/\Gamma(a+b)$  the **Beta function**, and  $M(a, b, z)$  and  $U(a, b, z)$  the **Kummer functions**, then

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_0(z; \nu, \lambda) &= \int_0^\infty [1 - \xi \mathcal{H}(x - z)] x^\nu |x - z|^\lambda e^{-x} dx \\ &= \int_0^z x^\nu (z - x)^\lambda e^{-x} dx + (1 - \xi) \int_z^\infty x^\nu (x - z)^\lambda e^{-x} dx \\ &= z^{\nu+\lambda+1} e^{-z} \{B(\lambda + 1, \nu + 1) M(\lambda + 1, \nu + \lambda + 2, z) \\ &\quad + (1 - \xi)\Gamma(\lambda + 1)U(\lambda + 1, \nu + \lambda + 2, z)\} \end{aligned}$$

Define the Hankel determinant

$$\Delta_n(z; \nu, \lambda) = \det \left[ \mu_{j+k}(z; \nu, \lambda) \right]_{j,k=0}^{n-1}$$

then

$$H_n(z; \nu, \lambda) = z \frac{d}{dz} \ln \Delta_n(z; \nu, \lambda)$$

satisfies

$$z^2 \left( \frac{d^2 H_n}{dz^2} \right)^2 = \left[ (z + 2n + \nu + \lambda) \frac{dH_n}{dz} - H_n + (2n + 2\nu + \lambda)n \right]^2 - 4 \left( \frac{dH_n}{dz} + n \right) \left( \frac{dH_n}{dz} + n + \nu \right) \left[ z \frac{dH_n}{dz} - H_n + (n + \nu + \lambda)n \right]$$

which is equivalent to a special case of  $S_V$ , the  $P_V$   $\sigma$ -equation. Specifically, letting

$$H_n(z; \nu, \lambda) = \sigma - \frac{1}{4}(2n + \nu - \lambda)z + \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{2}n(\nu + \lambda) + \frac{1}{8}(\nu - \lambda)^2$$

yields

$$\left( z \frac{d^2 \sigma}{dz^2} \right)^2 - \left\{ 2 \left( \frac{d\sigma}{dz} \right)^2 - z \frac{d\sigma}{dz} + \sigma \right\}^2 + 4 \prod_{j=1}^4 \left( \frac{d\sigma}{dz} + \kappa_j \right) = 0 \quad S_V$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa_1 &= \frac{1}{2}n + \frac{3}{4}\nu + \frac{1}{4}\lambda, & \kappa_3 &= -\frac{1}{2}n - \frac{1}{4}\nu - \frac{3}{4}\lambda \\ \kappa_2 &= \frac{1}{2}n - \frac{1}{4}\nu + \frac{1}{4}\lambda, & \kappa_4 &= -\frac{1}{2}n - \frac{1}{4}\nu + \frac{1}{4}\lambda \end{aligned}$$

