

Lacunarity with respect to orthogonal polynomial sequences

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Lacunarity has been studied in a variety of settings: on the circle group T with dual \mathbf{Z} , on compact abelian groups G with dual \hat{G} , on compact (nonabelian) groups resp. on the space of conjugacy classes of compact groups and on compact hypergroups with dual Σ . For references we recommend [11]. In view of the classical case T and \mathbf{Z} a most natural setting to study lacunarity are orthogonal polynomial sequences. In fact to many orthogonal polynomial sequences there corresponds a hypergroup structure on $\mathbf{N}_0 = \mathbf{N} \cup \{0\}$ having as dual a compact subset D_S of \mathbf{R} , see [8]. In this way a set $E \subseteq \mathbf{N}_0$ is a Sidon set if each bounded sequence can be represented on E as a (generalized) Fourier—Stieltjes transform. We emphasize that D_S is in general not a hypergroup under pointwise operations. Thus only \mathbf{N}_0 bears an algebraic structure in contrast to the situations above.

Combining two recent results, Theorem 3.2 of [14] and Chapter 4, ad(a) of [8], we can deduce that with respect to Jacobi polynomials $P_n^{(\alpha, \beta)}(x)$, where $\alpha \cong \beta > -1$ and in addition $\beta \cong -1/2$ or $\alpha + \beta \cong 0$, but $\alpha \neq -1/2$, a set E is a Sidon set if and only if E is finite. This result suggests to perform further investigations on the subject.

We assume that the polynomial sequences satisfy a certain positivity property. This property and its consequences are presented in Section I. Sidonicity is the subject of II. In III there is shown that \mathbf{N}_0 is never a Sidon set. The fact that some orthogonal polynomial sequences admit only finite Sidon sets is established in IV. The existence of infinite Sidon sets is studied in section V.

I. Property (P)

At first we have to set up some notation. Let $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}, (b_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}, (c_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be three real-valued sequences such that $a_n > 0, c_n > 0, b_n \geq 0$ and $a_n + b_n + c_n = 1$. Further fixing $a_0 > 0, b_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $a_0 + b_0 = 1$ define

$$P_0(x) = 1, \quad P_1(x) = \frac{1}{a_0}x - \frac{b_0}{a_0},$$

$$P_{n+1}(x) = \frac{1}{a_n}P_1(x)P_n(x) - \frac{b_n}{a_n}P_n(x) - \frac{c_n}{a_n}P_{n-1}(x), \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Then $(P_n(x))$ is an orthogonal polynomial sequence. Write the linearization of the products $P_m(x)P_n(x), 1 \leq m \leq n$, by

$$P_m(x)P_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{2m} g(m, n, n+m-k)P_{n+m-k}(x).$$

The coefficients $g(m, n, n+m-k)$ are uniquely determined by the sequences $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}, (b_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}, (c_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$. We require throughout this paper that the positivity property

$$(P) \quad g(m, n, n+m-k) \geq 0$$

is satisfied.

This assumption yields that $(P_n(x))$ is closely related to a commutative hypergroup structure on $\mathbb{N}_0 = \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$. The convolution on \mathbb{N}_0 is defined by

$$p_m * p_n = \sum_{k=0}^{2m} g(m, n, n+m-k)p_{n+m-k}, \quad 1 \leq m \leq n,$$

where p_n is the point measure of $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$. The involution is the identity on \mathbb{N}_0 and the zero is the unit element. Each character on \mathbb{N}_0 is given by $\alpha_x: \mathbb{N}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, where $x \in D_S$,

$$D_S = \{x \in \mathbb{R}: (P_n(x))_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \text{ is bounded}\} \text{ and } \alpha_x(n) = P_n(x).$$

Further the character space $\hat{\mathbb{N}}_0$ is homeomorphic to D_S . For details we refer to [8]. Many prominent examples of $(P_n(x))$ satisfying property (P) can be found in [8], [9], [10].

The Haar measure h on the hypergroup \mathbb{N}_0 is given by

$$h(0) = 1, \quad h(1) = \frac{1}{c_1}, \quad h(n) = \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} a_k / \prod_{k=1}^n c_k, \quad n = 2, 3, \dots$$

The Plancherel measure π on D_S is the orthogonalization measure of $(P_n(x))$:

$$\int_{D_S} P_n(x)P_m(x)d\pi(x) = \begin{cases} 1/h(n) & \text{if } n = m \\ 0 & \text{if } n \neq m. \end{cases}$$

We have $\text{supp } \pi \subseteq D_S \subseteq [1 - 2a_0, 1]$.

For an absolutely convergent function $f \in l^1(\mathbb{N}_0) = l^1(\mathbb{N}_0, h)$ define the Fourier transform \hat{f} on D_S by

$$\hat{f}(x) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} f(n) P_n(x) h(n).$$

For a Radon measure $\mu \in M(D_S)$ denote the inverse Fourier—Stieltjes transform $\check{\mu}$ on \mathbb{N}_0 by

$$\check{\mu}(n) = \int_{D_S} P_n(x) d\mu(x).$$

We shall say that D_S is a hypergroup with respect to pointwise multiplication, if for $x, y \in D_S$ there exists a probability measure $p_x * p_y \in M(D_S)$ such that

- (i) $P_n(x) P_n(y) = \int_{D_S} P_n(z) dp_x * p_y(z)$ for each $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$, and
- (ii) D_S is a hypergroup with this convolution, the identity as involution and $1 \in D_S$ as unit;

compare Chapters 1, 4 of [8]. We recall that D_S is in general not a hypergroup with respect to pointwise multiplication.

II. Sidon sets

We assume throughout this paper that $(P_n(x))$ is an orthogonal polynomial sequence defined by $(a_n), (b_n), (c_n)$ satisfying property (P). We abbreviate $S = \text{supp } \pi$ and interpret $M(S)$ as a subspace of $M(D_S)$ and $L^1(D_S) = L^1(D_S, \pi)$ as a subspace of $M(S)$. We write $\|f\|_S = \sup \{|f(x)| : x \in S\}$ for a function $f \in C(D_S)$. Let E be a subset of \mathbb{N}_0 . As usual $l^\infty(E)$ denotes the space of all bounded functions on E , $c_0(E)$ the space of all functions on E vanishing at infinity, $M(E)$ the space of all bounded measures on E and $\text{Trig}_E(D_S)$ the linear span of $\{P_n(x) : n \in E\}$. We shall call E a Sidon set if $l^\infty(E) = M(S) \hat{\ } | E$.

Proposition 1. *Let $E \subseteq \mathbb{N}_0$. The following are equivalent:*

- (a) E is a Sidon set.
- (b) $L^1(D_S) \hat{\ } | E = c_0(E)$.
- (c) $M(E) \hat{\ } | S$ is sup-norm closed in $C(S)$.
- (d) There exists a constant $B > 0$ such that $\|\mu\| \leq B \|\hat{\mu}\|_S$ for each $\mu \in M(E)$.
- (e) There exists a constant $B > 0$ such that $\|f\|_1 \leq B \|f\|_S$ for each $f \in \text{Trig}_E(D_S)$.
- (f) Given $\varphi : E \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$, there exists some $\mu \in M(S)$ such that $\sup \{|\check{\mu}(n) - \varphi(n)| : n \in E\} < 1$.

Proof. Since the set of measures having finite support in E is norm-dense in $M(E)$, property (d) is equivalent to (e). Using Proposition 1 of [10] define the operator

$A: L^1(D_S) \rightarrow c_0(E)$, $A(g) = \check{g}|E$, $g \in L^1(D_S)$. The adjoint operator $A^*: M(E) \rightarrow L^\infty(D_S)$ satisfies for $g \in C(D_S)$ and $\mu \in M(E)$:

$$\int_{D_S} A^*(\mu)(x) \cdot g(x) d\pi(x) = \sum_{n \in E} A(g)(n) \mu(n) = \int_{D_S} \hat{\mu}(x) \cdot g(x) d\pi(x).$$

Thus $A^*(\mu)|S = \hat{\mu}|S$. By Lemma 12.2B of [6] the operator A^* is injective. Now Theorem (E.9) of [5] yields the equivalence of (b), (c) and (d). Define $B: M(E) \rightarrow C(S)$, $B(\mu) = \hat{\mu}|S$. For the adjoint operator $B^*: M(S) \rightarrow l^\infty(E)$ we deduce that $B^*(v) = \check{v}|E$ for $v \in M(S)$. The injectivity of B , Corollary (E.8) and Theorem (E.10) of [5] imply the equivalence of (a) and (c). There remains to prove that (f) implies (d). First deduce that in (d) it is sufficient to consider only real-valued measures $\mu \in M^{\mathbb{R}}(E)$ having finite support. Now assume that (d) does not hold. Then there exists for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$ a measure $\lambda_n \in M^{\mathbb{R}}(E)$ such that $\|\lambda_n\| = 1$, $\|\hat{\lambda}_n\|_S < 1/n$, and the sets $F_n = \text{supp } \lambda_n$ are finite and pairwise disjoint. In fact having already chosen appropriate $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m \in M^{\mathbb{R}}(E)$ observe that $E' = E \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^m F_k$ is not a Sidon set, too. Hence there exists a measure $\lambda_{m+1} \in M^{\mathbb{R}}(E') \subseteq M^{\mathbb{R}}(E)$ such that $\|\lambda_{m+1}\| = 1$, $\|\lambda_{m+1}\|_S < 1/(m+1)$ and $F_{m+1} = \text{supp } \lambda_{m+1}$ finite. Define $\varphi: E \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$ by $\varphi(k)\lambda_n(K) = |\lambda_n(k)|$ for $k \in F_n$ and $\varphi(k) = 1$ for k elsewhere. By (f) there exist $\mu \in M(S)$ and $\delta > 0$ such that $|\check{\mu}(k) - \varphi(k)| \leq 1 - \delta$ for each $k \in E$. We may assume that $\check{\mu}(k) \in \mathbb{R}$. One obtains that

$$|\check{\mu}\lambda_n(k) - |\lambda_n(k)|| = |\check{\mu}(k) - \varphi(k)| |\lambda_n(k)| \leq (1 - \delta) |\lambda_n(k)|$$

and then $0 \leq \delta |\lambda_n(k)| \leq \check{\mu}(k) \lambda_n(k)$ for each $k \in E$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Hence for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$ we have

$$\int_S \hat{\lambda}_n(x) d\mu(x) = \sum_{k \in F_n} \lambda_n(k) \check{\mu}(k) \geq \delta \sum_{k \in F_n} |\lambda_n(k)| = \delta.$$

This is in contradiction to

$$\left| \int_S \hat{\lambda}_n(x) d\mu(x) \right| \leq \int_S |\hat{\lambda}_n(x)| d|\mu|(x) \leq \frac{|\mu|(S)}{n},$$

and we have shown that (f) implies (d).

Remark. There holds an appropriate version of Proposition 1 for any discrete hypergroup K .

If $f \in C(D_S)$ satisfies $\check{f}(n) = 0$ for each $n \notin E$ we write $f \in C_E(D_S)$. Comparing with the group case, see e.g. Theorem 1.3 of [11], one might notice the failure of the following property (*) in the above list of equivalences

$$(*) \quad C_E(D_S)^\vee \subseteq l^1(\mathbb{N}_0).$$

We know the following partial results:

Proposition 2. Let $E \subseteq \mathbb{N}_0$.

(a) If E satisfies property (*) then E is a Sidon set.

(b) If D_S is a hypergroup with respect to pointwise multiplication, then E is a Sidon set if and only if E fulfils property (*).

Proof. (a) Using (*) the map $f|_S \rightarrow \check{f}$, $C_E(D_S)|_S \rightarrow l^1(E)$ is an isomorphism such that $\|f\|_S \cong \|\check{f}\|_1$. By the open mapping theorem there exists a constant $B > 0$ such that $\|\check{f}\|_1 \cong B\|f\|_S$ for each $f \in C_E(D_S)$. In particular condition (e) of Proposition 1 is valid.

(b) We refer to Theorem 2.2 of [13]. Note that $\hat{D}_S = \mathbb{N}_0$, see Proposition 2 of [8].

For $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $f \in C(D_S)$ denote $S_n(f)(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \check{f}(k) P_k(x) h(k)$. Further for $E \subseteq \mathbb{N}_0$ let

$$U_E(D_S) = \{f \in C_E(D_S) : S_n f \rightarrow f \text{ uniformly on } S\}.$$

Proposition 3. Let $E \subseteq \mathbb{N}_0$. The following are equivalent:

(a) E is a Sidon set.

(b) $U_E(D_S)^\vee \subseteq l^1(\mathbb{N}_0)$.

Proof. At first assume that E is a Sidon set. Let $f \in U_E(D_S)$. Since $S_n f \in M(E)^\wedge$ we have that $f|_S$ is an element of the uniform closure of $M(E)^\wedge|_S$. By condition (c) of Proposition 1 it follows that $f|_S \in M(E)^\wedge|_S$. Hence $\check{f} \in l^1(\mathbb{N}_0)$.

Now assume that (b) is valid and E is not a Sidon set. Write $E = \{n_1, n_2, \dots\}$. Let $N_0 = 0$. For $j \in \mathbb{N}$ there exist $N_j \in \mathbb{N}$, $\lambda_j \in M(E)$ such that $\lambda_j = \sum_{k=N_{j-1}+1}^{N_j} c_k P_{n_k}$, $\|\lambda_j\| = 1/j$, $\|\hat{\lambda}_j\|_S \leq 1/2^j$. Define $g(x) = \sum_{j=1}^\infty \hat{\lambda}_j(x)$ for $x \in S$, and let f be a continuous extension of g to D_S . Then $\check{f}(n) = 0$ for $n \notin E$ and $\check{f}(n_k) = c_k/h(n_k)$. Hence $S_{N_j}(f) \xrightarrow{j} f$ uniformly on S . For $N_j < n \leq N_{j+1}$ we obtain

$$\|S_n(f) - S_{N_j}(f)\|_S \leq \left\| \sum_{k=N_{j+1}}^n \check{f}(k) P_k h(k) \right\|_S \leq \sum_{k=N_{j+1}}^n |c_k| \leq 1/(j+1).$$

Thus $S_n(f) \xrightarrow{n} f$ uniformly on S , i.e. $f \in U_E(D_S)$. But $\sum_{n=0}^\infty |\check{f}(n)|h(n) = \infty$, a contradiction.

III. \mathbb{N}_0 is not a Sidon set

If we assume that D_S is a hypergroup with respect to pointwise multiplication, Theorem 2.11 of [13] or Theorem 2.5 of [10] yield that \mathbb{N}_0 is not a Sidon set. We shall show that this is true without any assumption on D_S . Our proof is motivated by [3]. In $l^\infty(\mathbb{N}_0)^*$ let τ denote the weak-* topology. Let j be the canonical embedding of

$l^1(\mathbb{N}_0)$ into $l^\infty(\mathbb{N}_0)^*$. The set

$$\mathcal{M} = \{\varphi \in l^\infty(\mathbb{N}_0)^* : \varphi(f) \geq 0 \text{ for } f \geq 0, \varphi(1) = 1\}$$

is convex and τ -compact. $M^1(\mathbb{N}_0) = \{g \in l^1(\mathbb{N}_0) : g(n) \geq 0, \|g\|_1 = 1\}$ acts as a commutative semigroup of τ -continuous operators of \mathcal{M} in \mathcal{M} , where

$$g * \varphi(f) = \varphi(g * f), \quad f \in l^\infty(\mathbb{N}_0), \quad g \in M^1(\mathbb{N}_0), \quad \varphi \in \mathcal{M}.$$

The Markov–Kakutani fixed point theorem yields $\psi \in \mathcal{M}$ such that $g * \psi = \psi$, i.e. $\psi(g * f) = \psi(f)$ for each $g \in M^1(\mathbb{N}_0)$, $f \in l^\infty(\mathbb{N}_0)$. Using the notation of means we have shown that there exists a mean on $l^\infty(\mathbb{N}_0)$ which is invariant under $f \mapsto g * f$, $g \in M^1(\mathbb{N}_0)$.

Lemma 1. *There exists a sequence (g_k) , $g_k \in M^1(\mathbb{N}_0)$, such that $\hat{g}_k(x) \xrightarrow{k} 0$ for each $x \in D_S$, $x \neq 1$.*

Proof. Let ψ be an invariant mean according to the above arguments. By Goldstine’s theorem [2, p. 424], there is a sequence (h_k) , $h_k \in l^1(\mathbb{N}_0)$, $\|h_k\|_1 \leq 1$ such that $jh_k \xrightarrow{k} \psi$ in the τ -topology. Note that $l^1(\mathbb{N}_0)$ is separable. Consider the Jordan decompositions $h_k = h_{1k} - h_{2k} + ih_{3k} - ih_{4k}$. Since $\psi \in \mathcal{M}$ we may assume that $h_{3k} = h_{4k} = 0$. Further $1 \geq \|h_{1k} - h_{2k}\|_1 = \hat{h}_{1k}(1) + \hat{h}_{2k}(1)$ and $\hat{h}_k(1) = \hat{h}_{1k}(1) - \hat{h}_{2k}(1) \xrightarrow{k} 1$ imply that $\hat{h}_{1k}(1) \xrightarrow{k} 1$ and $\hat{h}_{2k}(1) \xrightarrow{k} 0$. Let $g_k = h_{1k} / \hat{h}_{1k}(1)$, k sufficiently large. Fix $x \in D_S$, $x \neq 1$. Then

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} g_k(n) p_1 * \alpha_x(n) \xrightarrow{k} \psi(p_1 * \alpha_x) = \psi(\alpha_x)$$

and

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} g_k(n) p_1 * \alpha_x(n) = P_1(x) \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} g_k(n) \alpha_x(n) \xrightarrow{k} P_1(x) \psi(\alpha_x).$$

Since $P_1(x) \neq 1$, we have $\hat{g}_k(x) \xrightarrow{k} 0$.

Proposition 4. *Let $\varphi \in \mathcal{M}$ be invariant on $M(D_S)^\vee$, i.e. $\varphi(g * \check{v}) = \varphi(\check{v})$ for each $g \in M^1(\mathbb{N}_0)$, $v \in M(D_S)$. Then $\varphi(\check{v}) = v(\{1\})$ for $v \in M(D_S)$.*

Proof. The argument in Lemma 1 yields a sequence (h_k) , $h_k \in M^1(\mathbb{N}_0)$, such that $\sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}_0} h_k(n) f(n) \xrightarrow{k} \varphi(f)$, $f \in l^\infty(\mathbb{N}_0)$. In particular $\hat{h}_k(1) = 1$ and $\hat{h}_k(x) \rightarrow 0$ for $x \neq 1$. Since

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} h_k(n) \check{v}(n) = \int_{D_S} \hat{g}_k(x) dv(x),$$

we obtain by the dominated convergence theorem $\varphi(\check{v}) = v(\{1\})$.

Now given $f \in l^\infty(\mathbb{N}_0)$ let $\mathcal{O}(f)$ be the weak- $*$ closure of $\{g * f : g \in M^1(\mathbb{N}_0)\}$.

Proposition 5. *Let $f \in l^\infty(\mathbb{N}_0)$ such that the constant function $c \in \mathcal{O}(f)$. Then there exists $\psi \in \mathcal{M}$ such that ψ is invariant on $M(D_S)^\vee$ and $\psi(f) = c$.*

Proof. Let (h_k) be a sequence such that $h_k * f \xrightarrow{k} c$ in the weak- $*$ topology. By Lemma 1 we may assume that in addition $h_k(x) \xrightarrow{k} 0$ for $x \neq 1$. Let ψ be a τ -cluster point of (jh_k) in $l^\infty(\mathbb{N}_0)^*$. Then $\psi \in \mathcal{M}$ and for $g \in M^1(\mathbb{N}_0)$, $v \in M(D_S)$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(g * \check{v}) &= \lim_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} h_k(n) g * \check{v}(n) = \lim_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} h_k * g(n) \check{v}(n) = \\ &= \lim_{D_S} \int h_k(x) \hat{g}(x) dv(x) = v(\{1\}) = \psi(\check{v}). \end{aligned}$$

Further $\psi(f) = \lim_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} h_k(n) f(n) = \lim_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} h_k * f(0) = c$.

Theorem 1. *$M(D_S)^\vee$ is a proper subspace of $l^\infty(\mathbb{N}_0)$, i.e. \mathbb{N}_0 is not a Sidon set.*

Proof. We present a function $f \in l^\infty(\mathbb{N}_0)$ such that $\mathcal{O}(f)$ contains the two constants 1 and 0. Then by Proposition 4 and 5 the assertion follows. Let

$$f(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 5^i, 5^i + 1, \dots, 5^i + 2 \cdot 5^i - 1 \text{ and } n = 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } n = 5^i + 2 \cdot 5^i, \dots, 5^{i+1} - 1, \text{ where } i \in \mathbb{N}_0. \end{cases}$$

Let $n_i = 2 \cdot 5^i$. One easily obtains that $p_{n_i} * f(m) \xrightarrow{i} 1$. For $n_i = 4 \cdot 5^i$ we have $p_{n_i} * f(m) \xrightarrow{i} 0$. In fact choose $i \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $m + 1 \leq 5^i$.

IV. Orthogonal polynomial sequences admitting only finite Sidon sets

Let A be a finite subset of D_S . Denote $M_A(D_S) = \{\mu \in M(D_S) : |\mu|(A) = 0\}$. Obviously $M(D_S) = M(A) \oplus M_A(D_S)$.

Proposition 6. *Assume that there exists a finite subset A of D_S such that $M_A(D_S)^\vee \subseteq c_0(\mathbb{N}_0)$. Then the Sidon sets are exactly the finite subsets of \mathbb{N}_0 .*

Proof. Assume that $E \subseteq \mathbb{N}_0$ is an infinite Sidon set. Since $M(D_S) = M(A) \oplus M_A(D_S)$ we obtain that

$$l^\infty(E) = M(S)^\vee | E \subseteq V + c_0(E),$$

where V is a space with dimension at most $|A|$. But E being infinite, $c_0(E)$ has infinite codimension in $l^\infty(E)$.

Assume that for each $x, y \in D_S$ there exists a (not necessarily positive) measure $\mu_{x,y} \in M(D_S)$ such that

$$(i) P_n(x)P_n(y) = \int_{D_S} P_n(z) d\mu_{x,y}(z),$$

$$(ii) \|\mu_{x,y}\| \leq M, \quad M \text{ a constant independent of } x, y.$$

Using conditions (i) and (ii) we can show that given $f \in C(D_S)$ the map $(x, y) \rightarrow \mu_{x,y}(f)$ is continuous, compare e.g. Proposition 1 of [8]. Hence we can define a “quasi-convolution” of two measures $\mu, \nu \in M(D_S)$ by

$$\mu * \nu(f) = \int_{D_S} \int_{D_S} \mu_{x,y}(f) d\mu(x) d\nu(y).$$

By (i) $\mu * \nu(P_n) = \mu(P_n)\nu(P_n)$ is valid for each $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$.

We present now examples for which Proposition 6 applies. The Jacobi-polynomials $P_n^{(\alpha, \beta)}(x)$ are orthogonal on $D_S = [-1, 1]$ with respect to $d\pi(x) = (1-x)^\alpha \cdot (1+x)^\beta dx$ (up to normalization). The sequences $(P_n^{(\alpha, \beta)}(x))$ satisfy property (P) for $\alpha \geq \beta > -1$, $\alpha + \beta + 1 \geq 0$, see Chapter 3(a) of [8]. The generalized Tchebichef polynomials $T_n^{(\alpha, \beta)}(x)$ are orthogonal on $D_S = [-1, 1]$ with respect to $d\pi(x) = (1-x^2)^\alpha |x|^{2\beta+1} dx$ (up to normalization) and satisfy property (P) for $\beta > -1$, $\alpha \geq \beta + 1$, see Chapter 3(f) of [8]. Finally we consider polynomials $G_n^a(x)$ studied by Geronimus. They are orthogonal on $D_S = [-1, 1]$ with respect to $(1-x^2)^{1/2}/(1-\mu x^2)$, $\mu = a - a^2/4$ and satisfy property (P) for $a \geq 2$, see Chapter 3(g)(i) of [8].

Theorem 2. *The set $E \subseteq \mathbb{N}_0$ is a Sidon set if and only if E is finite in case*

- (a) $P_n(x) = P_n^{(\alpha, \beta)}(x)$ the Jacobi polynomials with $\alpha \geq \beta > -1$, $\alpha + \beta + 1 \geq 0$ and $\alpha \neq -1/2$.
- (b) $P_n(x) = T_n^{(\alpha, \beta)}(x)$ the generalized Tchebichef polynomials with $\beta > -1$, $\alpha \geq \beta + 1$.
- (c) $P_n(x) = G_n^a(x)$ with $a > 2$.

Proof. (a) Fix $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $\alpha \geq \beta > -1$, $\alpha + \beta + 1 \geq 0$ and choose $A = \{-1, 1\}$. By Gasper’s theorem of [4] and (2.3), (2.4) of [7] there exist for $x, y \in D_S = [-1, 1]$ measures $\mu_{x,y} \in M(D_S)$ such that the above conditions (i) and (ii) are satisfied. First consider the case $\alpha + \beta + 1 > 0$. If $x, y \in]-1, 1[$ then $d\mu_{x,y}(z) = K(x, y, z) d\pi(z)$, see [4]. Let $\mu \in M_A(D_S)$. We show that $\mu * \mu \in L^1(D_S, \pi)$. Let $B \subseteq D_S$ be a Borel set such that $\pi(B) = 0$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} |\mu * \mu(B)| &\leq \int_{D_S \setminus A} \int_{D_S \setminus A} |\mu_{x,y}(B)| |d|\mu|(x)| |d|\mu|(y) + \\ &+ \int_A \int_{D_S} |\mu_{x,y}(B)| |d|\mu|(x)| |d|\mu|(y) + \int_{D_S} \int_A |\mu_{x,y}(B)| |d|\mu|(x)| |d|\mu|(y). \end{aligned}$$

Since $\mu \in M_A(D_S)$, the second and third integrals are zero. Since the measures $\mu_{x,y}$, $-1 < x, y < 1$, are absolutely continuous, the first integral is zero. Hence $\check{\mu}\check{\mu} = (\mu * \mu)^\vee \in c_0(\mathbb{N}_0)$ by Proposition 1 of [10]. Then obviously $\check{\mu} \in c_0(\mathbb{N}_0)$ and Proposition 6 applies. If $\beta > -1$, $\alpha > -1/2$ and $\alpha + \beta + 1 = 0$ then given $x, y \in]-1, 1[$ we have $d\mu_{x,y}(z) = K(x, y, z) d\pi(z) + dv_{x,y}(z)$, where $v_{x,y} = 0$ if $x \neq -y$ and $v_{x,y} = \delta_{-1/2}$ if $x = -y$. If $\mu \in M_A(D_S)$ and $\pi(B) = 0$ we obtain now $\mu * \mu(B) =$

$-cp_{-1}(B)=0$, $c = \int_{D_S \setminus A} \int_{D_S \setminus A} v_{x,y}(\{-1\})d\mu(x)d\mu(y)$. Hence $\check{\mu} - c\alpha_{-1} \in c_0(\mathbb{N}_0)$.

Using the recurrence formula of $P_n(x)$ and $\alpha + \beta + 1 = 0$ an induction argument shows that

$$\alpha_{-1}(n) = P_n(-1) = \prod_{k=0}^{n-1} (\alpha - k) / \prod_{k=1}^n (\alpha + k), \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Hence $\lim |\alpha_{-1}(n)| = (\Gamma(1 - |\alpha|) / \Gamma(|\alpha|)) \lim \Gamma(|\alpha| + n) / \Gamma(1 - |\alpha| + n) = 0$, because of $-1/2 < \alpha < 0$. Thus $\alpha_{-1} \in c_0(\mathbb{N}_0)$ and consequently $\check{\mu} \in c_0(\mathbb{N}_0)$.

(b) Choose again $A = \{-1, 1\}$. Using Theorem 1 of [7] an argument as in (a) yields that $M_A(D_S) \subseteq c_0(\mathbb{N}_0)$.

(c) Derive from [8] or from Chapter VI, (13.4) of [1] that

$$G_n^a(x) = (a / (n(a-2) + 2)) P_n^{(-1/2, -1/2)}(x) + (((a-2)(n-1)) / (n(a-2) + 2)) P_n^{(1/2, 1/2)}(x).$$

For $A = \{-1, 1\}$ and $\mu \in M_A(D_S)$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \check{\mu}(n) &= (a / (n(a-2) + 2)) \int_{D_S} P_n^{(-1/2, -1/2)}(x) d\mu(x) + \\ &+ (((a-2)(n-1)) / (n(a-2) + 2)) \int_{D_S} P_n^{(1/2, 1/2)}(x) d\mu(x). \end{aligned}$$

Since $|\int_{D_S} P_n^{(-1/2, -1/2)}(x) d\mu(x)| \leq \|\mu\|$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ and $\int_{D_S} P_n^{(1/2, 1/2)}(x) d\mu(x) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$ by (a), we have $\check{\mu} \in c_0(\mathbb{N}_0)$ provided $a > 2$.

Remark. The assertion of Theorem 2(a) follows by Theorem 3.2 of [14] and Chapter 4(a) of [8] provided we require that in addition $\beta \geq -1/2$ or $\alpha + \beta \geq 0$.

V. Infinite Sidon sets

Finally we consider orthogonal polynomial sequences $(P_n(x))$ having infinite Sidon sets. Let $E = \{n_1, n_2, \dots\} \subseteq \mathbb{N}_0$ and $m, N \in \mathbb{N}, N \geq m$. Denote by

$$E_N^m = \{p_{n_{i_1}} * p_{n_{i_2}} * \dots * p_{n_{i_m}} \in M^1(\mathbb{N}_0) : 1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_m \leq N\}$$

and call E a *Rider set* if there exists a constant $B \geq 1$ such that

$$\lim_N \sum_{\mu \in E_N^m} \mu(\{0\}) \leq B^m \quad \text{for each } m \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Lemma 2. Let E be a Rider set. There exists a constant $C \geq 1$ such that $\lim_N \sum_{\mu \in E_N^m} \mu(\{k\}) \leq C^m h(k)$ for each $k \in \mathbb{N}_0, m \in \mathbb{N}$.

Proof. Write $E = \{n_1, n_2, \dots\}$. Let $\beta = 1/(2B)$, where B is the constant of the Rider set E . Consider for $N \in \mathbb{N}$ the Riesz products

$$R_N(x) = \prod_{k=1}^N (1 + \beta P_{n_k}(x)).$$

Obviously $R_N(x) = 1 + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_N(k) P_k(x)$, where $c_N(k) = \sum_{m=1}^N (\sum_{\mu \in E_N^m} \mu(\{k\})) \beta^m$.

Now conclude as in the proof of Lemma 3.1 of [12], compare also [11, p. 28], that

$$\|R_N\|_1 = 1 + c_N(0) \leq 1 + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} 2^{-m} = 2.$$

Hence for $k \in \mathbb{N}$, $c_N(k)/h(k) = |R_N^\vee(k)| \leq \|R_N\|_1 \leq 2$ and then $\lim_N \sum_{\mu \in E_N^m} \mu(\{k\}) \leq (2B)^m 2h(k) \leq C^m h(k)$, where $C = 4B$.

Lemma 3. Let E be a Rider set with $0 \notin E$, and let $C \geq 1$ be the corresponding constant of Lemma 2. Let $0 < \varepsilon < 1$. Given $\varphi: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $\|\varphi\|_E \leq 1$ there exists a positive measure $\mu \in M(S)$ such that $\|\mu\| \leq \varepsilon + 2C^2/\varepsilon$, $|\check{\mu}(k)| \leq \varepsilon$ for each $k \in E \cup \{0\}$ and $|\check{\mu}(k) - \varphi(k)/h(k)| \leq \varepsilon$ for $k \in E$.

Proof. We have again to modify the arguments of Theorem 3.2 in [12] or of [11, p. 28–29]. Write $E = \{n_1, n_2, \dots\}$. Let $\beta = \varepsilon/(2C^2)$ and

$$R_N(x) = \prod_{k=1}^N (1 + \beta \varphi(n_k) P_{n_k}(x)) = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^N \beta \varphi(n_k) P_{n_k}(x) + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} d_N(k) P_k(x),$$

where $|d_N(k)| \leq \sum_{m=2}^N (\sum_{\mu \in E_N^m} \mu(\{k\})) \beta^m$. Then

$$\|R_N\|_1 \leq 1 + |d_N(0)| \leq 1 + \sum_{m=2}^{\infty} (C\beta)^m \leq 1 + \varepsilon\beta.$$

Further for $n_k \in E$ and $N \geq k$

$$|h(n_k) R_N^\vee(n_k) - \beta \varphi(n_k)| \leq |d_N(n_k)| \leq \sum_{m=2}^{\infty} (C\beta)^m h(n_k) \leq \varepsilon \beta h(n_k).$$

For $n \in E \cup \{0\}$ we have $|R_N^\vee(n)| = |d_N(n)|/h(n) \leq \varepsilon\beta$. Alaoglu's theorem and a normalization by $1/\beta$ yields the appropriate positive measure μ .

Theorem 3. Let E be a finite union of Rider sets and assume that $\sup_{k \in E} \{h(k)\} < \infty$. Then E is a Sidon set.

Proof. Assume $0 \notin E$. As in [11, pp. 29–30] one obtains that Lemma 3 is valid for a finite union of Rider sets. Let $M = \sup \{h(k) : k \in E\}$. Given $\psi: E \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$ consider $\varphi: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $\varphi(n) = \psi h(n)/M$, $n \in E$. There exists a positive measure $\mu \in M(S)$

such that

$$|\check{\mu}(k) - \psi(k)/M| \leq 1/(2M) \text{ for } k \in E.$$

Define $v = M\mu$. By Proposition 1(f) E is a Sidon set. Finally let $0 \in E$. Given $\psi: E \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$ we know that there exists a measure such that $|\check{\mu}(k) - \psi(k)| \leq 1/2$ for $k \in E \setminus \{0\}$. Define $\alpha = \psi(0) - \check{\mu}(0)$. Replace μ by $\mu + \alpha\pi$ establishing that E is a Sidon set.

Corollary. Assume that $\sup \{h(k): k \in \mathbb{N}\} < \infty$. If $E = \{n_1, n_2, \dots\} \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ satisfies $n_{k+1}/n_k \geq q$ for $k \in \mathbb{N}$, where $q > 1$ is a constant, then E is a Sidon set.

Proof. It is sufficient to consider the case $q \geq 3$, compare e.g. [11, p. 23]. Then for $m, N \in \mathbb{N}$, $2 \leq m \leq N$ and $1 \leq n_{i_1} < n_{i_2} < \dots < n_{i_m} \leq N$ we obtain $n_{i_m} - (n_{i_{m-1}} + \dots + n_{i_1}) \geq n_{i_m}(q-2)/(q-1) \geq 0$. Hence $0 \notin \text{supp } p_{n_{i_1}} * \dots * p_{n_{i_m}}$. Consequently E is a Rider set.

We present now examples with bounded Haar function h (and property (P)). Of course the Tchebichef polynomials of first kind, $T_n(x) = P_n^{(-1/2, -1/2)}(x) = \cos n\varphi$, $\cos \varphi = x$, $\varphi \in [0, \pi]$, have the Haar function $h(0) = 1$, $h(n) = 2$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$. A class containing $(T_n(x))$ is studied in Chapter 3(g) (ii) of [8]. For $a \geq 2$ these polynomials $T_n(x; a)$ have the representation

$$T_1(x; a) = x, \quad T_n(x; a) = (a/2(a-1))T_n(x) + ((a-2)/2(a-1))T_{n-2}(x), \quad n \geq 2.$$

The Haar function is $h(0) = 1$, $h(1) = a$, $h(n) = 2(a-1)$, $n \geq 2$. We introduce an extension depending on two parameters $a, b \geq 2$. Let $a_1 = (a-1)/a$, $c_1 = 1/a$, $a_2 = (b-1)/b$, $c_2 = 1/b$, $a_n = c_n = 1/2$ if $n = 3, 4, \dots$ and $b_n = 0$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Further let $a_0 = 1$, $b_0 = 0$. By the recursion formula, see Section I, there is defined an orthogonal polynomial sequence $(T_n(x; a, b))$ with the representation

$$T_1(x; a, b) = x, \quad T_2(x; a, b) = (a/2(a-1))T_2(x) + ((a-2)/2(a-1))T_0(x),$$

$$T_3(x; a, b) = (ab/4(a-1)(b-1))T_3(x) +$$

$$+ (((a-2)(b-2) + (a-2)b + (b-2)a)/4(a-1)(b-1))T_1(x),$$

$$T_n(x; a, b) = (ab/4(a-1)(b-1))T_n(x) + (2(a-2)/4(a-1))T_{n-2}(x) +$$

$$+ (a(b-2)/4(a-1)(b-1))T_{n-4}(x) \text{ if } n = 3, 4, \dots$$

$(T_n(x; a, b))$ satisfies property (P). In fact the coefficients $g(m, n, n+m-k)$, $m \leq n$, $0 \leq k \leq 2m$, can be computed directly using formula (1) of [8]. Obviously $g(m, n, n+m-k) = 0$ for $k = 1, 3, \dots, 2m-1$. We omit the coefficients $g(m, n, n+m-k)$

for $m=2, 3, 4$ noting only their positivity. The general formulas for $5 \leq m \leq n$ are

$$8(a-1)(b-1) \cdot g(m, n, n+m-2k) = \begin{cases} ab & \text{if } k = 0 \\ (a-2)(b-2) + b(a-2) & \text{if } k = 1 \\ a(b-2) & \text{if } k = 2 \\ 0 & \text{if } k = 3, \dots, m-3 \end{cases}$$

and for $k=m-2$

$$8(a-1)(b-1) \cdot g(m, n, n-m+4) = \begin{cases} 2a(b-2) & \text{if } n = m \\ a(b-2) & \text{if } n = m+1, \dots, \end{cases}$$

for $k=m-1$

$$8(a-1)(b-1) \cdot g(m, n, n-m+2) =$$

$$= \begin{cases} 2b(a-2) & \text{if } n = m \\ (a-2)(b-2) + b(a-2) + a(b-2) & \text{if } n = m+1 \\ (a-2)(b-2) + b(a-2) & \text{if } n = m+2, \dots, \end{cases}$$

and for $k=m$

$$8(a-1)(b-1) \cdot g(m, n, n-m) = \begin{cases} 4 & \text{if } n = m \\ 2a & \text{if } n = m+1 \\ ab & \text{if } n = m+2, \dots \end{cases}$$

The Haar function is

$$h(0) = 1, \quad h(1) = a, \quad h(2) = b(a-1), \quad h(n) = 2(a-1)(b-1) \quad \text{if } n = 3, 4, \dots$$

Remark. The above example suggests the way how to define a general class of polynomials depending on an arbitrary number of parameters and having bounded Haar function. A study of this class, such as representations and orthogonality relations, will be given in another paper.

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