

POSITIVE INTERPOLATORY QUADRATURE RULES GENERATED BY SOME BIORTHOGONAL POLYNOMIALS

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ABSTRACT. Interpolatory quadrature rules whose abscissas are zeros of a biorthogonal polynomial have proved to be useful, especially in numerical integration of singular integrands. However, the positivity of their weights has remained an open question, in some cases, since 1980. We present a general criterion for this positivity. As a consequence, we establish positivity of the weights in a quadrature rule introduced by the second author in 1980, generated by a polynomial that is biorthogonal to $(\log x)^j$, $0 \leq j \leq n-1$.

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1. INTRODUCTION AND RESULTS

Let (a, b) be a real interval and $w : (a, b) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ be such that $\int_a^b x^j w(x) dx$ is defined and finite for $0 \leq j \leq n$. Let p_n be a monic polynomial with distinct zeros $\{x_j\}_{j=1}^n$ in (a, b) . Then, as an approximation to $\int_a^b f(x) w(x) dx$, we may determine an interpolatory quadrature rule

$$(1.1) \quad I_n[f] = \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j f(x_j)$$

that integrates exactly polynomials P of degree $\leq n-1$:

$$(1.2) \quad I_n[P] = \int_a^b Pw.$$

We say that I_n is the *interpolatory rule generated by p_n and w* . Of course the classical example is Gauss quadrature, where p_n is the n th orthogonal polynomial for the weight w , but there are many other useful such quadratures.

When p_n is a *biorthogonal polynomial*, that is, when

$$(1.3) \quad \int_a^b p_n \varphi_j w = 0, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n,$$

for some functions $\{\varphi_j\}_{j=1}^n$, the numerical efficacy of such rules has been demonstrated by Sidi [12], [13], and by Sidi and Lubinsky [17]. We note that in these papers, the p_n are derived by applying the transformations of Levin and of Sidi to appropriate moment series of Stieltjes functions. For a brief summary of these transformations, see for example [15, Chapter 19].

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The earliest choice of biorthogonal polynomials p_n related to numerical quadrature seem to be the *Sidi polynomials* $D_n^{(\alpha,\beta)}$ of [12], given by

$$D_n^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^{n-i} \binom{n}{i} (\beta + i + 1)^{\alpha+n} x^i,$$

where $\alpha, \beta > -1$. If α is a nonnegative integer, these admit the Rodrigues type representation

$$D_n^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x) = (-1)^n x^{-\beta-1} \left(x \frac{d}{dx} \right)^{\alpha+n} [x^{\beta+1} (1-x)^n].$$

For general $\alpha, \beta > -1$, these polynomials satisfy the biorthogonality relation (1.3) with $w(x) = (\log x^{-1})^\alpha x^\beta$, $(a, b) = (0, 1)$ and $\varphi_j(x) = (\log x)^{j-1}$, see [16]. That is,

$$(1.4) \quad \int_0^1 D_n^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x) (\log x^{-1})^{j+\alpha} x^\beta dx = 0, \quad 0 \leq j \leq n-1.$$

These polynomials first arose in the theory of convergence acceleration, but the associated quadrature rules turned out to be very accurate in numerical integration of functions with endpoint singularities. The asymptotic behavior of $D_n^{(0,0)}$ was determined in [4].

The biorthogonal polynomials of [13] and [17] satisfy (1.3) with $w(x) = x^\alpha e^{-x}$, $(a, b) = (0, \infty)$ and $\varphi_j(x) = e^{-\sigma_j x}$, see [14] and [17]. A detailed study of the zero distribution of these polynomials was undertaken in [5]. Related biorthogonal polynomials have been investigated in [6], [7].

Now, the limited numerical computations carried out in [12] suggest that the weights $\{\lambda_j\}_{j=1}^n$ of the interpolatory rule generated by $D_n^{(0,0)}$ for the integral $\int_0^1 f(x) dx$ might be positive for all n , but this was not known at the time of publication of [12]. In fact, this problem has remained open since 1980. It is that positivity that is one of the main results of this paper.

More generally, we shall consider a continuously differentiable, strictly increasing, function $\varphi : (a, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, and the monic polynomial p_n of degree n determined by the conditions

$$(1.5) \quad \int_a^b p_n \varphi^j w = 0, \quad 0 \leq j \leq n-1.$$

Thus we are choosing $\varphi_j = \varphi^{j-1}$, $1 \leq j \leq n$, in (1.3).

Recall that a function g is said to be m *absolutely monotone* in an interval J if $g^{(m)}$ exists there and

$$g^{(j)} > 0 \text{ in } J \text{ for } 0 \leq j \leq m.$$

If

$$(-1)^j g^{(j)} > 0 \text{ in } J \text{ for } 0 \leq j \leq m,$$

g is said to be m *completely monotone* in J . Our main result is:

Theorem 1.1

Let $n \geq 1$ and $\varphi : (a, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a strictly increasing function with $n-1$ continuous derivatives, and let ψ denote its inverse function, with domain of definition

$I = \{\varphi(x) : x \in (a, b)\}$. Assume that for each $\beta \in I$, the function

$$(1.6) \quad g(t) = \frac{1}{\psi(\beta) - \psi(t)}, \quad t \in I \setminus \{\beta\},$$

is $n-1$ absolutely monotone in $I \cap (-\infty, \beta)$ and $-g$ is $n-1$ completely monotone in $I \cap (\beta, \infty)$. Let $w : (a, b) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ be such that $\int_a^b x^j \varphi(x)^k w(x) dx$ is defined and finite for $0 \leq j \leq n$ and $0 \leq k \leq n-1$. Let p_n be the monic polynomial of degree n determined by the biorthogonality conditions (1.5). Then the weights $\{\lambda_j\}_{j=1}^n$ in the interpolatory rule I_n generated by p_n and w are all positive.

We can also prove positivity of the quadrature weights when the weight w is replaced by $w|\varphi|$:

Theorem 1.2

Assume the hypotheses of Theorem 1.1, and in addition, that φ is of one sign in (a, b) . Then the weights $\{\lambda_j\}_{j=1}^n$ in the interpolatory rule I_n generated by p_n and $\hat{w} = w|\varphi|$ are all positive.

Corollary 1.3

Let $\alpha, \beta > -1$ and $n \geq 1$. Let $w(x) = (\log x^{-1})^\alpha x^\beta$ or $w(x) = (\log x^{-1})^{\alpha+1} x^\beta$, $x \in (0, 1)$. Then the weights $\{\lambda_j\}_{j=1}^n$ in the interpolatory rule generated by the Sidi polynomials $D_n^{(\alpha, \beta)}$ and the weight w are positive.

Remarks

(a) It is interesting that the conditions for the positivity of the weights $\{\lambda_j\}_{j=1}^n$, namely the absolute/complete monotonicity above, depend only on φ . Once these are satisfied, we obtain positivity for every weight w . Of course p_n , and hence the abscissas themselves, and the values of the weights, depend on w .

(b) The positivity of the weights has implications for convergence of the numerical quadratures as $n \rightarrow \infty$, as well as for associated rational approximations. It is curious that, despite the positivity of $\{\lambda_j\}_{j=1}^n$ for all n , it was shown in [4] that the zeros of the $\left\{D_n^{(0,0)}\right\}_{n=1}^\infty$ do not admit the arcsin distribution. All the abscissas of the classical quadratures admit arcsine distribution, so this seems to be the first specific case of this phenomenon. The possible distributions of convergent interpolatory quadrature rules were explored in [1], where in particular it was shown that at least half of the nodes of such quadratures must have arcsin distribution.

(c) There are well developed criteria [8], [9], [10], [11] for positivity of the weights $\{\lambda_j\}_{j=1}^n$ in general interpolatory quadratures, but these do not readily yield our results.

We can extend Theorem 1.2 to the case where the abscissas $\{x_j\}$ are generated by the polynomial p_n satisfying (1.5), but the weights $\{\lambda_j\}$ are determined by a different weight v :

Theorem 1.4

Let $n \geq 1$ and $\varphi : (a, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a strictly increasing function with $n-1$ continuous derivatives, and let ψ denote its inverse function, with domain of definition $I = \{\varphi(x) : x \in (a, b)\}$. Let $v, w : (a, b) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ be such that $\int_a^b x^j \varphi(x)^k w(x) dx$

and $\int_a^b x^j \varphi(x)^k v(x) dx$ are defined and finite for $0 \leq j \leq n$ and $0 \leq k \leq n-1$. Let p_n be the monic polynomial of degree n determined by the biorthogonality conditions (1.5). Assume that for each $\beta \in I$, the function

$$(1.7) \quad g(t) = \frac{(v/w)(\psi(t))}{\psi(\beta) - \psi(t)}, \quad t \in I \setminus \{\beta\},$$

is $n-1$ absolutely monotone in $I \cap (-\infty, \beta)$ and $-g$ is $n-1$ completely monotone in $I \cap (\beta, \infty)$. Then the weights $\{\lambda_j\}_{j=1}^n$ in the interpolatory rule I_n generated by p_n and v are all positive.

Corollary 1.5

Let $\alpha, \beta > -1, \sigma \in (0, 1)$ and $n \geq 1$. Let $w(x) = (\log x^{-1})^\alpha x^\beta$ and $v(x) = (\log x^{-1})^\alpha x^{\beta+\sigma}$, $x \in (0, 1)$. Then the weights $\{\lambda_j\}_{j=1}^n$ in the interpolatory rule generated by the Sidi polynomials $D_n^{(\alpha, \beta)}$ and the weight v are positive.

This paper is organized as follows: in section 2, we shall present a more general criterion for positivity, and present examples. In Section 3, we shall prove Theorems 1.1, 1.2 and Corollary 1.3.

2. A GENERAL CRITERION

In this section, we assume that $\varphi_j : (a, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $1 \leq j \leq n$, and that $\{\varphi_j\}_{j=1}^n$ forms a Chebyshev system. That is, if

$$(2.1) \quad \mathcal{S} = \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^n c_j \varphi_j : c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R} \right\},$$

then each element of \mathcal{S} either has at most $n-1$ distinct zeros or is identically zero. Moreover, we assume that $w : (a, b) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ is such that $\int_a^b x^k \varphi_j(x) w(x) dx$ is defined and finite for all $1 \leq j \leq n$, $0 \leq k \leq n$. Moreover, p_n is the monic polynomial of degree n determined by the biorthogonality conditions (1.3). It is easily seen that p_n exists, and is given by

$$p_n(x) = (-1)^n \frac{\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x & x^2 & \dots & x^n \\ \int_a^b \varphi_1 w & \int_a^b x \varphi_1 w & \int_a^b x^2 \varphi_1 w & \dots & \int_a^b x^n \varphi_1 w \\ \int_a^b \varphi_2 w & \int_a^b x \varphi_2 w & \int_a^b x^2 \varphi_2 w & \dots & \int_a^b x^n \varphi_2 w \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \int_a^b \varphi_n w & \int_a^b x \varphi_n w & \int_a^b x^2 \varphi_n w & \dots & \int_a^b x^n \varphi_n w \end{bmatrix}}{\det \begin{bmatrix} \int_a^b \varphi_1 w & \int_a^b x \varphi_1 w & \dots & \int_a^b x^{n-1} \varphi_1 w \\ \int_a^b \varphi_2 w & \int_a^b x \varphi_2 w & \dots & \int_a^b x^{n-1} \varphi_2 w \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \int_a^b \varphi_n w & \int_a^b x \varphi_n w & \dots & \int_a^b x^{n-1} \varphi_n w \end{bmatrix}}.$$

That the denominator determinant is non-zero follows easily from our hypothesis that $\{\varphi_j\}_{j=1}^n$ forms a Chebyshev system. Likewise the latter hypothesis ensures that p_n has n real simple zeros in (a, b) .

Theorem 2.1

Assume that for each $\alpha \in (a, b)$, and each set of distinct points $\{s_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1} \subset (a, b) \setminus \{\alpha\}$, there exists $Q \in \mathcal{S}$ such that

$$h(x) = \frac{1}{x - \alpha} - Q(x), \quad x \in (a, b) \setminus \{\alpha\}$$

changes sign at each s_j , and has no other zeros in (a, b) . Then all the weights $\{\lambda_j\}_{j=1}^n$ in the interpolatory rule I_n generated by p_n and w are all positive.

Proof

Let

$$\ell_j(x) = \frac{p_n(x)}{p'_n(x_j)(x - x_j)}$$

denote the j th fundamental polynomial of Lagrange interpolation, so that

$$\lambda_j = \int_a^b \ell_j w.$$

Because of the biorthogonality condition (1.3), we can also write for any $Q \in \mathcal{S}$,

$$\lambda_j = \int_a^b \frac{p_n(x)}{p'_n(x_j)} \left\{ \frac{1}{x - x_j} - Q(x) \right\} w(x) dx.$$

We now choose $Q \in \mathcal{S}$ to be such that $\frac{1}{x - x_j} - Q(x)$ changes sign at each x_k with $k \neq j$, and has no other zeros. (Thus $\alpha = x_j$ and $\{s_k\}_{k=1}^{n-1} = \{x_k\}_{k=1}^n \setminus \{x_j\}$.) Then the integrand

$$f(x) = \frac{p_n(x)}{p'_n(x_j)} \left\{ \frac{1}{x - x_j} - Q(x) \right\}$$

has "double" zeros at x_k with $k \neq j$, and no other zeros. Here by a double zero, we mean that it has a zero at x_k , but does not change sign there. Moreover, there are no other zeros, and $f(x_j) = 1$. It follows that $f > 0$ in (a, b) except at finitely many points, and so $\lambda_j > 0$. ■

Examples

(I) Let $\varphi_j(x) = x^{j-1}$, $1 \leq j \leq n$. Let $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\{s_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1} \subset \mathbb{R} \setminus \{\alpha\}$ be distinct. Let Q be the polynomial of degree $\leq n - 2$ such that for $1 \leq j \leq n - 1$,

$$(2.2) \quad Q(s_j) = \frac{1}{s_j - \alpha}.$$

Then

$$S(x) = 1 - (x - \alpha)Q(x)$$

is a polynomial of degree $\leq n - 1$, that has zeros at $\{s_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$, and assumes the value 1 at α . Hence it has simple zeros at $\{s_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$ and no other zeros. Then the hypotheses of Theorem 2.1 are satisfied, so we have another variant of a proof that the Gauss quadrature rule for the weight w has positive weights.

(II) Let $\{I_j\}_{j=1}^n$ be intervals in $[0, \infty)$ with I_j to the left of I_{j+1} for each j . We allow their endpoints to touch. Let μ_j be a finite positive Borel measure on I_j with positive measure on the interior of I_j . Let

$$\varphi_j(x) = \int_{I_j} \frac{1}{x + t} d\mu_j(t), \quad x \in [0, \infty).$$

Let α and $\{s_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$ be distinct points in $(0, \infty)$. We assume that $\{s_j\}_{j=1}^n$ are in increasing order. Again, we choose Q to be the linear combination of $\{\varphi_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$ that satisfies (2.2) for each $1 \leq j \leq n-1$. It is well known, and easy to see, that

$$\frac{1}{x-\alpha} - Q(x) = \frac{\det \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{x-\alpha} & \varphi_1(x) & \varphi_2(x) & \cdots & \varphi_{n-1}(x) \\ \frac{1}{s_1-\alpha} & \varphi_1(s_1) & \varphi_2(s_1) & \cdots & \varphi_{n-1}(s_1) \\ \frac{1}{s_2-\alpha} & \varphi_1(s_2) & \varphi_2(s_2) & \cdots & \varphi_{n-1}(s_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{1}{s_{n-1}-\alpha} & \varphi_1(s_{n-1}) & \varphi_2(s_{n-1}) & \cdots & \varphi_{n-1}(s_{n-1}) \end{bmatrix}}{\det \begin{bmatrix} \varphi_1(s_1) & \varphi_2(s_1) & \cdots & \varphi_{n-1}(s_1) \\ \varphi_1(s_2) & \varphi_2(s_2) & \cdots & \varphi_{n-1}(s_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \varphi_1(s_{n-1}) & \varphi_2(s_{n-1}) & \cdots & \varphi_{n-1}(s_{n-1}) \end{bmatrix}}.$$

(Our discussion will show why the denominator determinant does not vanish). Using the form of φ_j , we see that

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{x-\alpha} - Q(x) \\ &= \int_{I_1} \int_{I_2} \cdots \int_{I_{n-1}} \frac{D}{E} d\mu_1(t_1) d\mu_2(t_2) \cdots d\mu_{n-1}(t_{n-1}), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$D = \det \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{x-\alpha} & \frac{1}{x+t_1} & \frac{1}{x+t_2} & \cdots & \frac{1}{x+t_{n-1}} \\ \frac{1}{s_1-\alpha} & \frac{1}{s_1+t_1} & \frac{1}{s_1+t_2} & \cdots & \frac{1}{s_1+t_{n-1}} \\ \frac{1}{s_2-\alpha} & \frac{1}{s_2+t_1} & \frac{1}{s_2+t_2} & \cdots & \frac{1}{s_2+t_{n-1}} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{1}{s_{n-1}-\alpha} & \frac{1}{s_{n-1}+t_1} & \frac{1}{s_{n-1}+t_2} & \cdots & \frac{1}{s_{n-1}+t_{n-1}} \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$E = \det [\varphi_k(s_j)]_{1 \leq j, k \leq n-1}.$$

Using the formula for Cauchy determinants [2, p. 195], we obtain

$$D = \frac{\prod_{j=1}^{n-1} (s_j - x) (t_j + \alpha)}{(x - \alpha) \prod_{j=1}^{n-1} (x + t_j) (s_j - \alpha)} \frac{\prod_{1 \leq j < k \leq n-1} (s_k - s_j) (t_k - t_j)}{\prod_{1 \leq j, k \leq n-1} (t_j + s_k)}.$$

We may assume that the $\{s_j\}$ are in increasing order. Moreover, our hypothesis that I_j is to the left of I_{j+1} forces $t_k - t_j \geq 0$ for $k \geq j$. Then we see that in the range of integration, the sign of D is determined only by the sign of $\prod_{j=1}^{n-1} (s_j - x)$,

and the sign of $(x - \alpha) \prod_{j=1}^{n-1} (s_j - \alpha)$. More precisely,

$$D = \frac{\prod_{j=1}^{n-1} (s_j - x)}{(x - \alpha) \prod_{j=1}^{n-1} (s_j - \alpha)} C,$$

where $C = C(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_{n-1}, t_1, t_2, \dots, t_{n-1}, \alpha, x) > 0$ in the range of integration, except when $t_k = t_j$ for some $k > j$. Since each μ_j has positive measure on the interior of I_j , we see that D changes sign, as a function of x , only at $\{s_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$, and has no other zeros. Similarly $E > 0$. Thus the hypotheses of Theorem 2.1 are fulfilled.

Two special cases are of interest: when μ_j is a unit mass at $\beta_j \in I_j^0$, for each j , so that

$$\varphi_j(x) = \frac{1}{x + \beta_j}, 1 \leq j \leq n.$$

This case can also be reduced to that of a Gauss quadrature for the weight $w(x) / \prod_{j=1}^n (x + \beta_j)$.

A second is where $I_j = [a_j, b_j]$ and $d\mu_j(t) = dt$ on I_j , so that

$$\varphi_j(x) = \log \frac{x + b_j}{x + a_j}, 1 \leq j \leq n.$$

3. PROOFS

We shall make use of

Lemma 3.1

Let $-\infty \leq \alpha < \xi < \infty$, let $m \geq 1$, and $f : (\alpha, \xi] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function for which $f^{(m+1)}$ exists in $(\alpha, \xi]$, and $f^{(j)} > 0$ in $(\alpha, \xi]$, $0 \leq j \leq m + 1$. Let π_m be a polynomial of degree $\leq m$, and let m_1 be the total multiplicity of zeros of $f - \pi_m$ in $[\alpha, \xi]$, and m_2 be the total multiplicity of zeros of π_m in $[\xi, \infty)$. Then

$$(3.1) \quad m_1 + m_2 \leq m + 1.$$

Proof

For the case where $\alpha = -\infty$, this appears in [3, p. 30, Lemma 5.3]. The proof for the above case is exactly the same. Alternatively, one can extend f to $(-\infty, \alpha]$ in such a way that the first $m + 1$ derivatives exist and remain positive, and apply Freud's lemma as stated. The number of zeros of $f - \pi_m$ in $[\alpha, \xi]$ does not exceed the number in $(-\infty, \xi]$. ■

Lemma 3.2

Let ψ and I be as in Theorem 1. Let $\beta \in I$. Let $\{y_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$ be distinct points in $I \setminus \{\beta\}$, and

$$g(t) = \frac{1}{\psi(\beta) - \psi(t)}, t \in I \setminus \{\beta\}.$$

Then there exists a polynomial R of degree $\leq n-2$ such that $g-R$ has sign changes at $\{y_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$, and no other zeros in I .

Proof

Define

$$f_1(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\psi(\beta) - \psi(t)}, & t \in I \cap (-\infty, \beta) \\ 0, & t \in I \cap (\beta, \infty) \end{cases}$$

and

$$f_2(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & t \in I \cap (-\infty, \beta) \\ \frac{1}{\psi(\beta) - \psi(t)}, & t \in I \cap (\beta, \infty) \end{cases}.$$

Then

$$g = f_1 + f_2.$$

The idea is to apply Lemma 3.1 to f_1 giving a suitable polynomial S , and apply Lemma 3.1 to $-f_2(-t)$, on a suitable interval, giving a polynomial T , after mapping the variable back. We then set

$$R = S + T.$$

Let us assume

$$y_1 < y_2 < \dots < y_{j-1} < \beta < y_j < \dots < y_{n-1},$$

and set $y_0 = \inf I$ and $y_n = \sup I$. Let S be the polynomial of degree $\leq n-2$ that interpolates to f_1 at $\{y_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$. Then $f_1 - S$ has $m_1 \geq j-1$ zeros in $I \cap (-\infty, \beta)$ and S has $m_2 \geq n-j$ zeros in (β, ∞) . By Lemma 3.1,

$$m_1 + m_2 \leq n-1$$

$$\Rightarrow m_1 = j-1 \text{ and } m_2 = n-j.$$

It follows that $f_1 - S$ has simple zeros at y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{j-1} , and S has simple zeros at $y_j, y_{j+1}, \dots, y_{n-1}$, and no other zeros. From this we can determine the sign pattern of $f_1 - S$ and S .

By choosing $\xi = y_{j-1}$ in Lemma 3.1, we see that S has no zeros in (y_{j-1}, y_j) . Moreover, $S(y_{j-1}) = f_1(y_{j-1}) > 0 = S(y_j)$. Thus, as $f_1 - S$ has a sign change at y_{j-1} , as does S at y_j ,

$$(3.2) \quad \begin{aligned} S &> 0 \text{ in } (y_{j-1}, y_j); \\ f_1 - S &> 0 \text{ in } (y_{j-1}, \beta). \end{aligned}$$

Because of the simplicity of the zeros of S and $f_1 - S$ at the $\{y_k\}$, we deduce that

$$(3.3) \quad \text{sign}(S) = (-1)^k \text{ in } (y_{j-1+k}, y_{j+k}), 0 \leq k \leq n - j;$$

$$(3.4) \quad \text{sign}(f_1 - S) = (-1)^k \text{ in } (y_{j-k-1}, y_{j-k}), 1 \leq k \leq j - 1.$$

Next, let T be the polynomial of degree $\leq n - 2$ that interpolates to f_2 at $\{y_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$. Since $-f_2(-t)$ and $-T(-t)$ satisfy the hypotheses of Lemma 3.1 on an appropriate interval, we see that by exactly the same reasoning as for f_2 , that T has simple zeros at y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{j-1} , and $f_2 - T$ has simple zeros at $y_j, y_{j+1}, \dots, y_{n-1}$, and no other zeros. Moreover, $T(y_{j-1}) = 0 > f_2(y_j) = T(y_j)$.

As $f_2 - T$ has a sign change at y_j , as does T at y_{j-1} ,

$$(3.5) \quad \begin{aligned} T &< 0 \text{ in } (y_{j-1}, y_j); \\ f_2 - T &< 0 \text{ in } (\beta, y_j). \end{aligned}$$

Because of the simplicity of the zeros of T and $f_2 - T$ at the $\{y_k\}$, we deduce that

$$(3.6) \quad \text{sign}(T) = (-1)^{k+1} \text{ in } (y_{j-k-1}, y_{j-k}), 1 \leq k \leq j-1;$$

$$(3.7) \quad \text{sign}(f_2 - T) = (-1)^{k+1} \text{ in } (y_{j-1+k}, y_{j+k}), 1 \leq k \leq n-j.$$

From (3.4) and (3.6), we deduce that in (y_{j-k-1}, y_{j-k}) , $1 \leq k \leq j-1$, both $f_1 - S$ and $-T$ have sign $(-1)^k$, so

$$g - R = (f_1 - S) - T \text{ has sign } (-1)^k.$$

Next, from (3.3) and (3.7), we deduce that in (y_{j-1+k}, y_{j+k}) , $1 \leq k \leq n-j$, both $f_2 - T$ and $-S$ have sign $(-1)^{k+1}$, so

$$g - R = (f_2 - T) - S \text{ has sign } (-1)^{k+1}.$$

Finally in (y_{j-1}, β) , $f_1 - S$ and $-T$ are positive, so $g - R$ is positive; and in (β, y_j) , $f_2 - T$ and $-S$ are negative, so $g - R$ is negative. We have shown that $g - R$ has sign changes at all the $\{y_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$, and no other zeros. ■

Proof of Theorem 1.1

We must verify that for each $\alpha \in (a, b)$, and each set of distinct $\{s_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$ in $(a, b) \setminus \{\alpha\}$, there is a generalized polynomial

$$Q(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} c_j \varphi(x)^j$$

such that $\frac{1}{x-\alpha} - Q(x)$ changes sign at each of the $\{s_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$, and has no other zeros in (a, b) . We make the changes of variable $x = \psi(t)$, $\alpha = \psi(\beta)$, $s_j = \psi(y_j)$. Also set

$$R(t) = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} c_j t^j.$$

Then we have to find a polynomial R of degree $\leq n-1$ such that $\frac{1}{\psi(t)-\psi(\beta)} - R(t)$ has sign changes at $\{y_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$ and no other zeros in I . Such a polynomial, even of degree $\leq n-2$, was constructed in the previous lemma (just multiply the polynomial there by -1). Then Theorem 2.1 gives the positivity of the weights generated by p_n and w . ■

Proof of Theorem 1.2

We return to the idea of proof of Theorem 2.1. Let σ denote the sign of φ in (a, b) . The j th weight in the quadrature generated by p_n and $\hat{w} = w|\varphi|$ is

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_j &= \int_a^b \frac{p_n(x)}{p'_n(x_j)} \frac{1}{x-x_j} w(x) |\varphi(x)| dx \\ &= \sigma \int_a^b \frac{p_n(x)}{p'_n(x_j)} \left\{ \frac{1}{x-x_j} - R(\varphi(x)) \right\} w(x) \varphi(x) dx, \end{aligned}$$

for any algebraic polynomial R of degree $\leq n-2$. Of course, we have used the biorthogonality condition (1.5). The trick of the proof is to recall that in the proof of Theorem 1.2, we only needed a polynomial R of degree $n-2$ (and not $n-1$) to ensure that $\frac{1}{x-x_j} - R(\varphi(x))$ has sign changes at $\{x_k\}_{k=1}^n \setminus \{x_j\}$, and no other zeros in (a, b) . The result then follows. ■

Proof of Corollary 1.3 for $w(x) = (\log x^{-1})^\alpha x^\beta$

The polynomials $D_n^{(\alpha, \beta)}$ are biorthogonal to $(\log x)^j$, $0 \leq j \leq n-1$, with the weight $w(x) = (\log x^{-1})^\alpha x^\beta$, $x \in (0, 1)$. Here $\varphi(x) = \log x$ and the inverse function is $\psi(t) = e^t$, $t \in (-\infty, 0)$. We have to show that for each $\gamma \in (-\infty, 0)$, the function

$$g(t) = \frac{1}{e^\gamma - e^t}, \quad t \in (-\infty, 0) \setminus \{\gamma\}$$

is $n-1$ absolutely monotone in $(-\infty, \gamma)$ and $-g$ is $n-1$ completely monotone in $(\gamma, 0)$. For $t \in (-\infty, \gamma)$, we write

$$g(t) = \frac{1}{e^\gamma (1 - e^{t-\gamma})} = e^{-\gamma} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (e^{t-\gamma})^k.$$

Then for such t , and each fixed $j \geq 0$,

$$g^{(j)}(t) = e^{-\gamma} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k^j (e^{t-\gamma})^k > 0,$$

and the term by term differentiation is justified by (locally) uniform convergence of the differentiated series. For $t \in (\gamma, \infty)$, we have

$$-g(t) = \frac{1}{e^t(1 - e^{\gamma-t})} = e^{-\gamma} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (e^{\gamma-t})^{k+1}$$

and then

$$-(-1)^j g^{(j)}(t) = e^{-\gamma} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (k+1)^j (e^{\gamma-t})^{k+1} > 0.$$

Thus the hypotheses of Theorem 1.1 are fulfilled. ■

Proof of Corollary 1.3 for $w(x) = (\log x^{-1})^{\alpha+1} x^\beta$

This follows immediately from Theorem 1.2 with $|\varphi(x)| = |\log x| = \log x^{-1}$, and the previous considerations. ■

Proof of Theorem 1.4

The weights in the quadrature rule generated by p_n and v satisfy

$$\lambda_j = \int_a^b \frac{p_n(x)}{p'_n(x_j)} \left[\frac{(v/w)(x)}{x - x_j} - Q(\varphi(x)) \right] w(x) dx,$$

for any algebraic polynomial Q of degree $\leq n-1$, in view of (1.5). We can then follow the same proof as is in Theorem 2.2 and 1.2, with an obvious modification of Lemma 3.2. ■

Proof of Corollary 1.5

Following the same lines as in the proof of Corollary 1.3, we let

$$\begin{aligned} g(t) &= \frac{(v/w)(\psi(t))}{\psi(\beta) - \psi(t)} \\ &= \frac{e^{\sigma t}}{e^\gamma - e^t}, t \in (-\infty, 0) \setminus \{\gamma\}. \end{aligned}$$

For $t \in (-\infty, \gamma)$, we see

$$g(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} e^{(k+\sigma)t - (k+1)\gamma},$$

and for $t \in (\gamma, 0)$,

$$-g(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} e^{(\sigma-k-1)t + k\gamma},$$

so can proceed as for Corollary 1.3. ■

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