

# ORTHOGONAL POLYNOMIALS

## I: Legendre

*Name:* Legendre      *Symbol:*  $P_n(x)$       *Interval:*  $[-1, 1]$   
*Differential Equation:*  $(1 - x^2)y'' - 2xy' + n(n + 1)y = 0$

Explicit Expression:  $P_n(x) = \frac{1}{2^n} \sum_{m=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} (-1)^m \binom{n}{m} \binom{2n-2m}{n} x^{n-2m}$

Recurrence Relation:  $(n+1)P_{n+1}(x) = (2n+1)xP_n(x) - nP_{n-1}(x)$

Weight: 1

Standardization:  $P_n(1) = 1$

Norm:  $\int_{-1}^{+1} [P_n(x)]^2 dx = \frac{2}{2n+1}$

Rodrigues' Formula:  $P_n(x) = \frac{(-1)^n}{2^n n!} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} \{(1-x^2)^n\}$

Generating Function:  $R^{-1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n(x) z^n, -1 < x < 1, |z| < 1,$   
 $R = \sqrt{1-2xz+z^2}$

Inequality:  $|P_n(x)| \leq 1, -1 \leq x \leq 1.$

**II: Tschebysheff, First Kind**

Name: Tschebysheff, First Kind      Symbol:  $T_n(x)$       Interval:  $[-1, 1]$

Differential Equation:  $(1-x^2)y - xy' + n^2y = 0$

Explicit Expression:  $\frac{n}{2} \sum_{m=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} (-1)^m \frac{(n-m-1)!}{m!(n-2m)!} (2x)^{n-2m} = \cos(n \arccos x) = T_n(x)$

Recurrence Relation:  $T_{n+1}(x) = 2xT_n(x) - T_{n-1}(x)$

Weight:  $(1-x^2)^{-1/2}$

Standardization:  $T_n(1) = 1$

Norm:  $\int_{-1}^{+1} (1-x^2)^{-1/2} [T_n(x)]^2 dx = \begin{cases} \pi/2, & n \neq 0 \\ \pi, & n = 0 \end{cases}$

Rodrigues' Formula:  $\frac{(-1)^n (1-x^2)^{1/2} \sqrt{\pi}}{2^{n+1} \Gamma(n + \frac{1}{2})} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} \{(1-x^2)^{n-(1/2)}\} = T_n(x)$

Generating Function:  $\frac{1-xz}{1-2xz-z^2} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} T_n(x) z^n, -1 < x < 1, |z| < 1$

Inequality:  $|T_n(x)| \leq 1, -1 \leq x \leq 1.$

**III: Tschebysheff, Second Kind**

Name: Tschebysheff, Second Kind      Symbol  $U_n(x)$       Interval:  $[-1, 1]$

Differential Equation:  $(1-x^2)y'' - 3xy' + n(n+2)y = 0$

Explicit Expression:  $U_n(x) = \sum_{m=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} (-1)^m \frac{(m-n)!}{m!(n-2m)!} (2x)^{n-2m}$   
 $U_n(\cos \theta) = \frac{\sin[(n+1)\theta]}{\sin \theta}$

Recurrence Relation:  $U_{n+1}(x) = 2xU_n(x) - U_{n-1}(x)$

Weight:  $(1-x^2)^{1/2}$       Standardization:  $U_n(1) = n+1$

Norm:  $\int_{-1}^{+1} (1-x^2)^{1/2} [U_n(x)]^2 dx = \frac{\pi}{2}$

Rodrigues' Formula:  $U_n(x) = \frac{(-1)^n (n+1) \sqrt{\pi}}{(1-x^2)^{1/2} 2^{n+1} \Gamma(n + \frac{3}{2})} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} \{(1-x^2)^{n+(1/2)}\}$

Generating Function:  $\frac{1}{1-2xz+z^2} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} U_n(x) z^n, -1 < x < 1, |z| < 1$

Inequality:  $|U_n(x)| \leq n+1, -1 \leq x \leq 1.$

**IV: Jacobi**

Name: Jacobi      Symbol:  $P_n^{(\alpha, \beta)}(x)$       Interval:  $[-1, 1]$

Differential Equation:  $(1-x^2)y'' + [\beta - \alpha - (\alpha + \beta + 2)x]y' + n(n + \alpha + \beta + 1)y = 0$

*Explicit Expression:*  $P_n^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x) = \frac{1}{2^n} \sum_{m=0}^n \binom{n+\alpha}{m} \binom{n+\beta}{n-m} (x-1)^{n-m} (x+1)^m$

*Recurrence Relation:*

$$\begin{aligned} & 2(n+1)(n+\alpha+\beta+1)(2n+\alpha+\beta)P_{n+1}^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x) \\ &= (2n+\alpha+\beta+1)[(\alpha^2-\beta^2)+(2n+\alpha+\beta+2)(2n+\alpha+\beta)x]P_n^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x) \\ & \quad - 2(n+\alpha)(n+\beta)(2n+\alpha+\beta+2)P_{n-1}^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x) \end{aligned}$$

*Weight:*  $(1-x)^\alpha(1+x)^\beta; \alpha, \beta > 1$

*Standardization:*  $P_n^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x) = \binom{n+\alpha}{n}$

*Norm:*  $\int_{-1}^{+1} (1-x)^\alpha(1+x)^\beta [P_n^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x)]^2 dx = \frac{2^{\alpha+\beta+1} \Gamma(n+\alpha+1) \Gamma(n+\beta+1)}{(2n+\alpha+\beta+1)n! \Gamma(n+\alpha+\beta+1)}$

*Rodrigues' Formula:*  $P_n^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x) = \frac{(-1)^n}{2^n n! (1-x)^\alpha (1+x)^\beta} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} \{(1-x)^{n+\alpha} (1+x)^{n+\beta}\}$

*Generating Function:*  $R^{-1}(1-z+R)^{-\alpha}(1+z+R)^{-\beta} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 2^{-\alpha-\beta} P_n^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x) z^n,$

$$R = \sqrt{1-2xz+z^2}, \quad |z| < 1$$

*Inequality:*  $\max_{-1 \leq x \leq 1} |P_n^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x)| = \begin{cases} \binom{n+q}{n} \sim n^q \text{ if } q = \max(\alpha, \beta) \geq -\frac{1}{2} \\ |P_n^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x')| \sim n^{-1/2} \text{ if } q < -\frac{1}{2} \\ x' \text{ is one of the two maximum points nearest } \frac{\beta-\alpha}{\alpha+\beta+1} \end{cases}$

#### V: Generalized Laguerre

*Name:* Generalized Laguerre    *Symbol:*  $L_n^{(\alpha)}(x)$     *Interval:*  $[0, \infty]$

*Differential Equation:*  $xy'' + (\alpha+1-x)y' + ny = 0$

*Explicit Expression:*  $L_n^{(\alpha)}(x) = \sum_{m=0}^n (-1)^m \binom{n+\alpha}{n-m} \frac{1}{m!} x^m$

*Recurrence Relation:*  $(n+1)L_n^{(\alpha)} + 1(x) = [(2n+\alpha+1)-x]L_n^{(\alpha)}(x) - (n+\alpha)L_n^{(\alpha)} - 1(x)$

*Weight:*  $x^\alpha e^{-x}, \alpha > -1$     *Standardization:*  $L_n^{(\alpha)}(x) = \frac{(-1)^n}{n!} x^n + \dots$

*Norm:*  $\int_0^\infty x^\alpha e^{-x} [L_n^{(\alpha)}(x)]^2 dx = \frac{\Gamma(n+\alpha+1)}{n!}$

*Rodrigues' Formula:*  $L_n^{(\alpha)}(x) = \frac{1}{n! x^\alpha e^{-x}} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} \{x^{n+\alpha} e^{-x}\}$

*Generating Function:*  $(1-z)^{-\alpha-1} \exp\left(\frac{xz}{z-1}\right) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} L_n^{(\alpha)}(x) z^n$

*Inequality:*  $|L_n^{(\alpha)}(x)| \leq \frac{\Gamma(n+\alpha+1)}{n! \Gamma(\alpha+1)} e^{x/2}, \quad \begin{matrix} x \geq 0 \\ \alpha > 0 \end{matrix}$   
 $|L_n^{(\alpha)}(x)| \leq \left[2 - \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+n+1)}{n! \Gamma(\alpha+1)}\right] e^{x/2}, \quad \begin{matrix} x \geq 0 \\ -1 < \alpha < 0 \end{matrix}$

#### VI: Hermite

*Name:* Hermite    *Symbol:*  $H_n(x)$     *Interval:*  $[-\infty, \infty]$

*Differential Equation:*  $y'' - 2xy' + 2ny = 0$

*Explicit Expression:*  $H_n(x) = \sum_{m=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \frac{(-1)^m n! (2x)^{n-2m}}{m!(n-2m)!}$

*Recurrence Relation:*  $H_{n+1}(x) = 2xH_n(x) - 2nH_{n-1}(x)$

*Weight:*  $e^{-x^2}$     *Standardization:*  $H_n(1) = 2^n x^n + \dots$

*Norm:*  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} [H_n(x)]^2 dx = 2^n n! \sqrt{\pi}$

*Rodrigues' Formula:*  $H_n(x) = (-1)^n e^{x^2} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (e^{-x^2})$

*Generating Function:*  $e^{-x^2+2zx} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} H_n(x) \frac{z^n}{n!}$

*Inequality:*  $|H_n(x)| e^{x^2/2} k 2^{n/2} \sqrt{n!} k \approx 1.086435$