

# Second order difference equations for certain families of “discrete” polynomials.

R. Álvarez-Nodarse <sup>1</sup>

*Departamento de Matemáticas. Escuela Politécnica Superior.  
Universidad Carlos III de Madrid. c/ Butarque 15, 28911, Leganés, Madrid, Spain*  
and  
*Instituto Carlos I de Física Teórica y Computacional.  
Universidad de Granada, E-18071 Granada, Spain*

January 5, 1998

Key words and phrases: orthogonal polynomials, second order difference equations  
AMS (MOS) subject classification: **33C45, 42C05.**

## Abstract

In this paper we will consider two algorithms which allow us to obtain second order linear difference equations for certain families of polynomials. The corresponding algorithms can be implemented in any computer algebra system in order to obtain explicit expressions of the coefficients of the difference equations.

## 1 Introduction

In this paper we will describe two algorithms which allow us to find the second order linear difference equation (SODE) which satisfy certain families of polynomials. We will consider two different cases. The first case appears when a polynomial  $\tilde{P}_n$  is given in terms of a known polynomial set  $\{P_n\}$  by

$$q(x; n)\tilde{P}_n(x) = a(x; n)P_n(x) + b(x; n)P_n(x + 1), \quad (1.1)$$

where  $q$ ,  $a$  and  $b$  are some known functions which, in general, depend on  $n$ , and  $P_n$  is a polynomial for which it is known a SODE of the form

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(x; n)\Delta\nabla P_n(x) + \tau(x; n)\Delta P_n(x) + \lambda(x; n)P_n(x) &= 0, \\ \Delta F(x) = F(x + 1) - F(x), \quad \nabla F(x) = F(x) - F(x - 1), \end{aligned} \quad (1.2)$$

where  $\sigma$ ,  $\tau$  and  $\lambda$  are also given functions. The above Eq. can be written in the following equivalent form

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(x; n)P_n(x - 1) - \phi(x; n)P_n(x) + \psi(x; n)P_n(x + 1) &= 0, \\ \psi(x; n) = \sigma(x; n) + \tau(x; n), \quad \phi(x; n) = 2\sigma(x; n) + \tau(x; n) - \lambda(x; n). \end{aligned} \quad (1.3)$$

---

<sup>1</sup>E-mail: [renato@dulcinea.uc3m.es](mailto:renato@dulcinea.uc3m.es) Fax: (+341) 624-94-30

For our purpose it is convenient also to rewrite (1.3) in the form

$$\Sigma(x; n) \Delta^2 P_n(x) + T(x; n) \Delta P_n(x) + \Lambda(x; n) P_n(x) = 0, \quad (1.4)$$

where now,

$$\Sigma(x; n) = \psi(x+1; n), \quad T(x; n) = 2\psi(x+1; n) - \phi(x+1; n),$$

$$\Lambda(x; n) = \sigma(x+1; n) + \psi(x+1; n) - \phi(x+1; n).$$

An example of polynomials  $\tilde{P}_n$  satisfying (1.1) are the *Krall-type* discrete orthogonal polynomials, firstly studied in [1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7]. These polynomials are orthogonal with respect to an inner product  $(p, q)$  defined by the bilinear form  $(x_{i+1} = x_i + 1)$

$$(p, q) = \sum_{x_i=a}^{b-1} p(x_i) q(x_i) \rho(x_i) + \sum_{k=1}^N A_k p(y_k) q(y_k), \quad A_k \geq 0.$$

In other words, these polynomials are obtained via the addition of delta Dirac measures to a positive definite weight function  $\rho$  [11, 14]. A special emphasis was given to the case when  $\rho$  is the classical “*discrete*” weight function corresponding to the classical “discrete” [12] polynomials of Hahn [3], Meixner [1, 2, 6], Kravchuk [2] and Charlier [2, 7] for which the coefficients  $\sigma$ ,  $\tau$  and  $\lambda$  in (1.2) are polynomials such that  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  do not depend of  $n$ ,  $\lambda$  is a constant,  $\text{degree}(\sigma) \leq 2$  and  $\text{degree}(\tau) \equiv 1$ . In all these cases, when one or two delta Dirac measures ( $N = 1$  or  $2$ ) are added to a weight function corresponding to the Hahn, Meixner, Kravchuk and Charlier polynomials at the ends of the interval of orthogonality, it is possible to find for the resulting polynomials an expression similar to (1.1) where  $\tilde{P}_n$  are the new (Krall-type) polynomials and  $P_n$  are the classical ones [4].

The second case appears when the polynomial  $\tilde{P}_n$  is given by

$$q(x; n) \tilde{P}_n(x) = a(x; n) P_n(x) + b(x; n) P_{n-1}(x), \quad (1.5)$$

where  $q$ ,  $a$  and  $b$  are some known functions, in general depending on  $n$  but now the family  $\{P_n\}$  satisfies the following two “*difference-recurrence*” relations

$$\sigma(x; n) \Delta P_n(x) = \tau(x; n) P_n(x) + \gamma(x; n) P_{n-1}(x), \quad (1.6)$$

and

$$\bar{\sigma}(x; n) \Delta P_n(x) = \bar{\tau}(x; n) P_n(x) + \bar{\gamma}(x; n) P_{n+1}(x), \quad (1.7)$$

being  $\sigma$ ,  $\bar{\sigma}$ ,  $\tau$ ,  $\bar{\tau}$ ,  $\gamma$  and  $\bar{\gamma}$  known functions (they should not coincide with the functions given in (1.2).) If the polynomial set  $\{P_n\}$  satisfies a three-term recurrence relation,

$$x P_n(x) = \alpha_n P_{n+1}(x) + \beta_n P_n(x) + \gamma_n P_{n-1}(x), \quad (1.8)$$

then, from the Eq. (1.6) we can easily derive the Eq. (1.7). Here we will suppose that the both equations, (1.6) and (1.7) are known.

Examples of the case (1.5) are the quasi-orthogonal polynomials [8, 9, 10, 13]. They are defined by the expression

$$\tilde{P}_n(x) = A P_n(x) + B P_{n-1}(x), \quad (1.9)$$

being  $A, B$  non-vanishing constants. It is known [9] that, if  $\{P_n\}$  is a sequence of polynomials orthogonal with respect to a measure  $d\mu$  supported in the real line, i.e.,

$$(P_n, P_m) = \int P_n(x)P_m(x)d\mu(x) = 0 \quad \forall n \neq m,$$

then, the corresponding quasi-orthogonal polynomials  $\tilde{P}_n(x) = AP_n(x) + BP_{n-1}(x)$  satisfy the relation

$$(\tilde{P}_n, \tilde{P}_m) = 0, \quad \text{if } |m - n| > 1,$$

i.e., they constitute a quasi-orthogonal family of order 1 [9]. The quasi-orthogonal polynomials have been used to obtain quadrature and interpolating formulas (see e.g. [9, 15]).

We are interested to find the second order difference equation

$$\tilde{\sigma}(x; n) \Delta \nabla \tilde{P}_n(x) + \tilde{\tau}(x; n) \Delta \tilde{P}_n(x) + \tilde{\lambda}(x; n) \tilde{P}_n(x) = 0, \quad (1.10)$$

which satisfy these new polynomials  $\tilde{P}_n$  defined in (1.1) and (1.5), finding, explicitly, the coefficients  $\tilde{\sigma}$ ,  $\tilde{\tau}$  and  $\tilde{\lambda}$ , respectively.

The paper is structured as follows. In sections 2 and 3 we describe two algorithms which allow us to find the SODE for the polynomials  $\tilde{P}_n$  defined by (1.1) (section 2) and for the polynomials defined by (1.5) (section 3). Finally, in section 4, two illustrative examples are worked out.

## 2 Second order linear difference equation for Krall-type polynomials.

Here we will describe an algorithm for finding the second order linear difference equation which satisfy the polynomial  $\tilde{P}_n$  defined by (1.1). We will prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.1** *Suppose that the polynomials  $\{\tilde{P}_n\}$  are defined by (1.1) where the polynomial  $P_n$  is a solution of a SODE of the form (1.3). Then  $\{\tilde{P}_n\}$  satisfy a SODE of the form*

$$\tilde{\sigma}(x; n) \Delta \nabla \tilde{P}_n(x) + \tilde{\tau}(x; n) \Delta \tilde{P}_n(x) + \tilde{\lambda}(x; n) \tilde{P}_n(x) = 0, \quad (2.1)$$

where  $\tilde{\sigma}$ ,  $\tilde{\tau}$  and  $\tilde{\lambda}$  are given explicitly in (2.7).

Proof. We start from the fact that the family of polynomials  $\{\tilde{P}_n\}$  is expressed in terms of the other one  $\{P_n\}$ , which is a solution of the SODE (1.4), by formula (1.1)

$$q(x; n) \tilde{P}_n(x) = a(x; n)P_n(x) + b(x; n)P_n(x + 1). \quad (2.2)$$

The idea is the following: Firstly, we write  $\tilde{P}_n(x + 1)$  and  $\tilde{P}_n(x - 1)$  in terms of the classical ones. To do this we evaluate (2.2) in  $x \pm 1$  and then we use (1.3) to substitute the values  $P_n(x - 1)$  and  $P_n(x + 2)$ . So, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} r(x; n) \tilde{P}_n(x + 1) &= c(x; n)P_n(x) + d(x; n)P_n(x + 1), \\ c(x; n) &= -\sigma(x + 1; n)b(x + 1; n), \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

$$d(x; n) = a(x + 1; n)\psi(x + 1; n) + b(x + 1; n)\phi(x + 1; n),$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
s(x; n)\tilde{P}_n(x-1) &= e(x; n)P_n(x) + f(x; n)P_n(x+1), \\
e(x; n) &= \sigma(x; n)b(x-1; n) + a(x-1; n)\phi(x; n), \\
f(x; n) &= -a(x-1; n)\psi(x; n).
\end{aligned} \tag{2.4}$$

Then, Eqs. (2.2–2.4) yield

$$\begin{vmatrix}
q(x; n)\tilde{P}_n(x) & a(x; n) & b(x; n) \\
r(x; n)\tilde{P}_n(x+1) & c(x; n) & d(x; n) \\
s(x; n)\tilde{P}_n(x-1) & e(x; n) & f(x; n)
\end{vmatrix} = 0, \tag{2.5}$$

where the functions  $q$ ,  $a$  and  $b$  are given (1.1) as well as  $c$ ,  $d$ ,  $e$ ,  $f$ ,  $r$  and  $s$  in (2.3) and (2.4). Expanding the determinant in (2.5) by the first column we get

$$\tilde{\sigma}(x; n)\tilde{P}_n(x-1) + \tilde{\phi}_n(x)\tilde{P}_n(x) + \tilde{\psi}_n(x)\tilde{P}_n(x+1) = 0, \tag{2.6}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{\sigma}(x; n) &= s(x; n)[a(x; n)d(x; n) - c(x; n)b(x; n)], \\
\tilde{\phi}_n(x) &= q(x; n)[c(x; n)f(x; n) - e(x; n)d(x; n)], \\
\tilde{\psi}_n(x) &= r(x; n)[e(x; n)b(x; n) - a(x; n)f(x; n)],
\end{aligned} \tag{2.7}$$

or, equivalently,

$$\tilde{\sigma}(x; n) \Delta \nabla \tilde{P}_n(x) + \tilde{\tau}(x; n) \Delta \tilde{P}_n(x) + \tilde{\lambda}(x; n)\tilde{P}_n(x) = 0, \tag{2.8}$$

where  $\tilde{\tau}(x; n) = \tilde{\psi}(x; n) - \tilde{\sigma}(x; n)$  and  $\tilde{\lambda}(x; n) = \tilde{\psi}(x; n) + \tilde{\sigma}(x; n) + \tilde{\phi}(x; n)$ . ■

### 3 Second order linear difference equation for quasi-orthogonal-type polynomials.

Here we will describe an algorithm for finding the second order linear difference equation which satisfy the polynomials  $\tilde{P}_n$  defined by (1.5).

**Theorem 3.1** *Suppose that the polynomials  $\{\tilde{P}_n\}$  are defined by (1.5) where the polynomial  $P_n$  satisfy the difference-recurrence relations (1.6) and (1.7). Then  $\{\tilde{P}_n\}$  satisfy a SODE of the form*

$$\tilde{\sigma}(x; n) \Delta^2 \tilde{P}_n(x) + \tilde{\tau}(x; n) \Delta \tilde{P}_n(x) + \tilde{\lambda}(x; n)\tilde{P}_n(x) = 0, \tag{3.1}$$

where  $\tilde{\sigma}$ ,  $\tilde{\tau}$  and  $\tilde{\lambda}$  are given explicitly in (3.9).

Proof. We start from Eq. (1.5)

$$q(x; n)\tilde{P}_n(x) = a(x; n)P_n(x) + b(x; n)P_{n-1}(x), \tag{3.2}$$

and we will use the properties (1.6)-(1.7) which the family  $\{P_n\}$  satisfies. The main idea, which is a generalization to the one presented in [17], is the following. We apply the operator  $\Delta$  in (3.2)

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta q(x; n) \tilde{P}_n(x) + q(x+1; n) \Delta \tilde{P}_n(x) &= \\ &= [\Delta a(x; n)] P_n(x) + a(x+1; n) \Delta P_n(x) + [\Delta b(x; n)] P_{n-1}(x) + b(x+1; n) \Delta P_{n-1}(x), \end{aligned}$$

and then multiply it by  $\sigma(x; n) \bar{\sigma}(x; n-1) q(x; n)$  and use (1.6) to eliminate the term  $\Delta P_n(x)$ , (1.7) (changing  $n$  by  $n-1$ ) for  $\Delta P_{n-1}(x)$ , as well as (3.2) for the  $\tilde{P}_n$  polynomial. This allows us to rewrite the above equation as a combination of  $P_n$  and  $P_{n-1}$ ,

$$r(x; n) \Delta \tilde{P}_n(x) = c(x; n) P_n(x) + d(x; n) P_{n-1}(x), \quad (3.3)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} r(x; n) &= \bar{\sigma}(x; n-1) \sigma(x; n) q(x; n) q(x+1; n), \\ c(x; n) &= \bar{\sigma}(x; n-1) \sigma(x; n) [a(x+1; n) q(x; n) - q(x+1; n) a(x; n)] + \\ &\quad + q(x; n) [a(x+1; n) \bar{\sigma}(x; n-1) \tau(x; n) + b(x+1; n) \sigma(x; n) \bar{\gamma}(x; n-1)], \quad (3.4) \\ d(x; n) &= \bar{\sigma}(x; n-1) \sigma(x; n) [b(x+1; n) q(x; n) - q(x+1; n) b(x; n)] + \\ &\quad + q(x; n) [a(x+1; n) \bar{\sigma}(x; n-1) \gamma(x; n) + b(x+1; n) \sigma(x; n) \bar{\tau}(x; n-1)]. \end{aligned}$$

Analogously, applying the operator  $\Delta$  in (3.3) and repeating the same procedure we obtain

$$s(x; n) \Delta^2 \tilde{P}_n(x) = e(x; n) P_n(x) + f(x; n) P_{n-1}(x), \quad (3.5)$$

where, now,

$$\begin{aligned} s(x; n) &= \bar{\sigma}(x; n-1) \sigma(x; n) r(x; n) r(x+1; n), \\ e(x; n) &= \bar{\sigma}(x; n-1) \sigma(x; n) [c(x+1; n) r(x; n) - r(x+1; n) c(x; n)] + \\ &\quad + r(x; n) [c(x+1; n) \bar{\sigma}(x; n-1) \tau(x; n) + d(x+1; n) \sigma(x; n) \bar{\gamma}(x; n-1)], \quad (3.6) \\ f(x; n) &= \bar{\sigma}(x; n-1) \sigma(x; n) [d(x+1; n) r(x; n) - r(x+1; n) d(x; n)] + \\ &\quad + r(x; n) [c(x+1; n) \bar{\sigma}(x; n-1) \gamma(x; n) + d(x+1; n) \sigma(x; n) \bar{\tau}(x; n-1)]. \end{aligned}$$

As before, the expressions (1.5), (3.3) and (3.5) yield

$$\begin{vmatrix} q(x; n) \tilde{P}_n(x) & a(x; n) & b(x; n) \\ r(x; n) \Delta \tilde{P}_n(x) & c(x; n) & d(x; n) \\ s(x; n) \Delta^2 \tilde{P}_n(x) & e(x; n) & f(x; n) \end{vmatrix} = 0, \quad (3.7)$$

where the functions  $q$ ,  $a$  and  $b$  are known from expression (1.1), and  $c$ ,  $d$ ,  $e$ ,  $f$ ,  $r$  and  $s$  can be found from (3.4) and (3.6). Expanding the determinant in (3.7) by the first column

$$\tilde{\sigma}_n(x) \Delta^2 \tilde{P}_n(x) + \tilde{\tau}_n(x) \Delta \tilde{P}_n(x) + \tilde{\lambda}_n(x) \tilde{P}_n(x) = 0, \quad (3.8)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{\sigma}_n(x) &= s(x; n) [a(x; n)d(x; n) - c(x; n)b(x; n)], \\
\tilde{\tau}_n(x) &= r(x; n)[e(x; n)b(x; n) - a(x; n)f(x; n)], \\
\tilde{\lambda}_n(x) &= q(x; n)[c(x; n)f(x; n) - e(x; n)d(x; n)],
\end{aligned} \tag{3.9}$$

or, equivalently,

$$\begin{aligned}
&\tilde{\sigma}(x-1; n)\tilde{P}_n(x+1) + [\tilde{\lambda}(x-1; n) - \tilde{\tau}(x-1; n) + \tilde{\sigma}(x-1; n)]\tilde{P}_n(x) + \\
&+ [\tilde{\tau}(x-1; n) - 2\tilde{\sigma}(x-1; n)]\tilde{P}_n(x-1) = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

■

In the special case of quasi-orthogonal polynomials (1.9), the equations (1.5), (3.3) and (3.5) can be rewritten in a more convenient form

$$\begin{aligned}
q(x; n) &= 1, & a(x; n) &= A, & b(x; n) &= B, & r(x; n) &= \bar{\sigma}(x; n-1)\sigma(x; n), \\
c(x; n) &= A\bar{\sigma}(x; n-1)\tau(x; n) + B\sigma(x; n)\bar{\gamma}(x; n-1), \\
d(x; n) &= A\bar{\sigma}(x; n-1)\gamma(x; n) + B\sigma(x; n)\bar{\tau}(x; n-1). \\
s(x; n) &= \bar{\sigma}(x; n-1)\sigma(x; n)\bar{\sigma}(x+1; n-1)\sigma(x+1; n), \\
e(x; n) &= c(x+1; n)r(x; n) - r(x+1; n)c(x; n) + c(x+1; n)\bar{\sigma}(x; n-1)\tau(x; n) + \\
&+ d(x+1; n)\sigma(x; n)\bar{\gamma}(x; n-1), \\
f(x; n) &= d(x+1; n)r(x; n) - r(x+1; n)d(x; n) + c(x+1; n)\bar{\sigma}(x; n-1)\gamma(x; n) + \\
&+ d(x+1; n)\sigma(x; n)\bar{\tau}(x; n-1).
\end{aligned}$$

Notice that the quasi-orthogonal polynomials of order  $k$  given by the linear combination [13]

$$\tilde{P}_{n+k}(x) = \sum_{i=n}^{n+k} h_i P_i(x), \quad h_n h_{n+k} \neq 0, \quad h_i \text{ constant},$$

where  $P_n$  is an orthogonal family, can be written, by using the three-term recurrence relation (1.8) for the  $P_n$  in the form (1.5) where the coefficients  $a(x; n)$  and  $b(x; n)$  are polynomials in  $x$  of fixed degree  $k$  independent on  $n$ .

The two above described algorithms can be implemented, in a very simple way, in any computer algebra system.

## 4 Applications.

In this section we will apply the above algorithms to the Meixner-Krall and Quasi-orthogonal Meixner polynomials, respectively. To find the explicit expressions for the coefficients  $\tilde{\sigma}$ ,  $\tilde{\tau}$  and  $\tilde{\lambda}$  we have used *Mathematica* [16].

## Meixner-Krall polynomials.

These polynomials satisfy the orthogonality relation (1) with  $N = 1$ ,  $(a, b) = [0, \infty)$  and  $\rho(x) = \frac{\mu^x \Gamma(\gamma+x)}{\Gamma(\gamma)\Gamma(x+1)}$ ,  $\gamma > 0$  and  $0 < \mu < 1$ . Then, Eq. (1.1) is given by [2] ( $A \equiv A_1$ )

$$M_n^{\gamma, \mu, A}(x) = M_n^{\gamma, \mu}(x) + B_n \nabla M_n^{\gamma, \mu}(x), \quad B_n = A \frac{\mu^n (1-\mu)^{\gamma-1} (\gamma)_n}{n! \left(1 + A \sum_{m=0}^{n-1} \frac{(\gamma)_m \mu^m (1-\mu)^\gamma}{m!}\right)}.$$

In this case,

$$\sigma(x; n) = x, \quad \tau(x; n) = (\mu - 1)x + \mu\gamma, \quad \lambda(x; n) = (1 - \mu)n,$$

and

$$q(x; n) = \sigma(x; n), \quad a(x; n) = \sigma(x; n)[1 + B_n] - B_n \phi(x; n), \quad b(x; n) = -B_n \psi(x; n).$$

Then, Theorem 2.1 gives

$$\tilde{\sigma}(x; n) = (1 - x) (B_n \gamma \mu - B_n n - B_n^2 n + B_n \mu n + B_n^2 \mu n - x - B_n x + B_n \mu x),$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\tau}(x; n) = & -(\gamma \mu) - 2 B_n \gamma \mu + B_n \gamma \mu^2 - B_n \gamma^2 \mu^2 + B_n n + B_n^2 n - B_n \mu n - B_n^2 \mu n + \\ & + B_n \gamma \mu n + B_n^2 \gamma \mu n - B_n \gamma \mu^2 n - B_n^2 \gamma \mu^2 n + x + B_n x - \mu x - 2 B_n \mu x + \gamma \mu x + \\ & + 2 B_n \gamma \mu x + B_n \mu^2 x - 2 B_n \gamma \mu^2 x - B_n n x - B_n^2 n x + 2 B_n \mu n x + 2 B_n^2 \mu n x - \\ & - B_n \mu^2 n x - B_n^2 \mu^2 n x - x^2 - B_n x^2 + \mu x^2 + 2 B_n \mu x^2 - B_n \mu^2 x^2, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\lambda}(x; n) = & (-1 + \mu) n (1 + 2 B_n + B_n^2 - B_n \mu - B_n^2 \mu + B_n \gamma \mu - B_n n - B_n^2 n + \\ & + B_n \mu n + B_n^2 \mu n - x - B_n x + B_n \mu x), \end{aligned}$$

which coincide with the result given in [1]. This method also works in the case of the generalized (Krall-type) Kravchuk Charlier and Hahn polynomials [4, 5].

## Quasi-orthogonal Meixner polynomials.

The Quasi-orthogonal Meixner polynomials are defined by

$$Q_n^{\gamma, \mu}(x) = A M_n^{\gamma, \mu}(x) + B M_{n-1}^{\gamma, \mu}(x),$$

and the classical Meixner polynomials satisfy the Eqs. [12]

$$(\mu x + \gamma \mu) \Delta M_n^{\gamma, \mu}(x) = n \mu M_n^{\gamma, \mu}(x) + \frac{n \mu (n - 1 + \gamma)}{1 - \mu} M_{n-1}^{\gamma, \mu}(x),$$

and

$$(\mu x + \gamma \mu) \Delta M_n^{\gamma, \mu}(x) = [(1 - \mu)x - n - \mu\gamma] M_n^{\gamma, \mu}(x) - (1 - \mu) M_{n+1}^{\gamma, \mu}(x),$$

which are of type (1.6) and (1.7) where

$$\sigma(x; n) = \mu(x + \gamma), \quad \tau(x; n) = n\mu, \quad \gamma(x; n) = \frac{n\mu(n - 1 + \gamma)}{1 - \mu},$$

and

$$\bar{\sigma}_n(x) = \mu(x + \gamma), \quad \bar{\tau}_n(x) = (1 - \mu)x - n\gamma\mu, \quad \bar{\gamma}_n(x) = \mu - 1.$$

Then, Theorem 3.1 gives

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\sigma}(x; n) &= A\mu(-A + A\mu + B\mu n)(\gamma + x) - \\ &\quad - B\left(B\mu^2 n(-1 + \gamma + n)(\gamma + x)(1 - \mu)^{-1} + A\mu(\gamma + x)(1 - \gamma\mu - n + x - \mu x)\right), \\ \tilde{\tau}(x; n) &= \frac{1}{1-\mu}(\gamma + x)(1 - \mu - \gamma\mu - n + \mu n + x - \mu x)(A^2 + AB - 2A^2\mu - AB\mu - AB\gamma\mu + A^2\mu^2 + \\ &\quad + AB\gamma\mu^2 - ABn - B^2\mu n + B^2\gamma\mu n + AB\mu^2 n + B^2\mu n^2 + ABx - 2AB\mu x + AB\mu^2 x), \\ \tilde{\lambda}(x; n) &= n(\gamma + x)(-A^2 - AB + 2A^2\mu + AB\mu + AB\gamma\mu - A^2\mu^2 - AB\gamma\mu^2 + ABn + \\ &\quad + B^2\mu n - B^2\gamma\mu n - AB\mu^2 n - B^2\mu n^2 - ABx + 2AB\mu x - AB\mu^2 x).\end{aligned}$$

When  $A = 1$  and  $B = 0$ , a straightforward calculation shows that the above equation transforms in the SODE

$$\mu(x + \gamma + 1) \Delta^2 M_n^{\gamma, \mu}(x) + [(\mu - 1)(x - n + 1) + \mu\gamma] \Delta M_n^{\gamma, \mu}(x) + n(1 - \mu)M_n^{\gamma, \mu}(x) = 0,$$

which is the SODE for the classical Meixner polynomials in the form (1.4). Obviously, the same can be done for the quasi-orthogonal Kravchuk [2], Charlier [2] and Hahn [3] polynomials, as well as, for the quasi-orthogonal polynomials of any order  $k$ .

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The research of the author was supported by Dirección General de Enseñanza Superior (DGES) of Spain under grant PB-96-0120-C03-01. The author thanks to Professor A. Ronveaux and Professor F. Marcellán for their useful suggestions and remarks.

## References

- [1] R. Álvarez-Nodarse and F. Marcellán, Difference equation for modifications of Meixner polynomials. *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* **194** (3) (1995), 250-258.
- [2] R. Álvarez-Nodarse A.G. García, and F. Marcellán, On the properties for modifications of classical orthogonal polynomials of discrete variables. *J. Comput. Appl. Math.* **65**, (1995), 3-18.
- [3] R. Álvarez-Nodarse and F. Marcellán, The modification of classical Hahn polynomials of a discrete variable. *Integral Transform. Spec. Funct.* **4**, (1995), 243-262.
- [4] R. Álvarez-Nodarse and F. Marcellán, The limit relations between generalized orthogonal polynomials. *Indag. Math. N.S.*, **8** (1997), 295-316.
- [5] R. Álvarez-Nodarse, Métodos simbólicos en teoría de aproximación. *Preprint del Departamento de Matemáticas. Universidad Carlos III de Madrid*, No. MA/UC3M/1/1997, (1997).
- [6] H. Bavinck and H. van Haeringen, Difference equations for generalized Meixner polynomials. *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* **184**, (1994), 453-463.
- [7] H. Bavinck and R. Koekoek, On a difference equation for generalizations of Charlier polynomials. *J. Approx. Th.* **81**, (1995), 195-206.
- [8] C. Brezinski, *Padé-type Approximation and General Orthogonal Polynomials*. Birkhauser-Verlag, Basel. 1980.
- [9] T.S. Chihara, *An Introduction to Orthogonal Polynomials*. Gordon and Breach, New York, 1978.



- [10] G. Freud, *Orthogonal Polynomials*. Pergamon Press, Oxford, 1971.
- [11] F. Marcellán and L. Salto, Discrete semi-classical orthogonal polynomials. *J. Difference Equations*. (1997) (in press)
- [12] A.F. Nikiforov, S. K. Suslov, and V. B. Uvarov, *Classical Orthogonal Polynomials of a Discrete Variable*. Springer Series in Computational Physics. Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1991.
- [13] A. Ronveaux, Quasi-orthogonality and differential equations. *J. Comput. Appl. Math.* **29**, (1990), 243-248.
- [14] L. Salto, *Polinomios  $D_w$ -semiclásicos*. Doctoral Dissertation. Universidad de Alcalá de Henares. Madrid 1995. (in Spanish)
- [15] J. A. Shohat, On mechanical quadratures, in particular, with positive coefficients. *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.* **42**, (1937), 461-469
- [16] S. Wolfram, MATHEMATICA. *A system for doing Mathematics by Computer*. Addison-Wesley Publishing Co., New York, 1991.
- [17] A. Zarzo, A. Ronveaux, and J. S. Dehesa, Algebraic and spectral properties of some quasi-orthogonal polynomials encountered in quantum radiation. *J. Math. Phys.* **36**, (1995), 5179-5197.