INEQUALITIES CONCERNING ULTRASPHERICAL POLYNOMIALS AND BESSEL FUNCTIONS

OTTO SZÁSZ

1. Introduction. Ultraspherical polynomials are defined by the recurrence formula

\[(1.1) (n + 1)P_{n+1}^\lambda(x) = 2(n + \lambda)xP_n^\lambda(x) - (n + 2\lambda - 1)P_{n-1}^\lambda(x),\]

with \(P_0 = 1, \quad P_1^\lambda = 2\lambda x\). Thus we have

\[2P_2^\lambda = 2\lambda[2(1 + \lambda)x^2 - 1],\]

and so on.

For \(\lambda = 1/2\) we get the Legendre polynomials \(P_n(x)\). They satisfy the following interesting inequality:

\[(1.2) \quad \Delta_n(x) = [P_n(x)]^2 - [P_{n-1}(x)][P_{n+1}(x)] \geq 0, \quad n \geq 1, \quad -1 \leq x \leq 1,\]

with equality for \(x = \pm 1\). This result is due to P. Turán, as stated in a recent paper by G. Szegö, where four elegant proofs of the theorem are given. The first proof (similar to that of Turán) is based on Mehler’s formula, while the third proof is based on the identity

\[\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{P_n(x)}{n!} z^n = e^{xz}J_0[(1 - x^2)^{1/2} z],\]

and on the fact that the Bessel function \(J_0\) has all its roots real.

Szegö remarks that the formula

\[\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{P_n^\lambda(x)}{P_n^\lambda(1)} \frac{z^n}{n!} = 2^{\lambda-1/2} \Gamma(\lambda + 1/2) e^{xz} [(1 - x^2)^{1/2} z]^{1/2-\lambda} J_{\lambda-1/2}[(1 - x^2)^{1/2} z], \lambda > -1/2, \]

and analogous formulas for Laguerre and Hermite polynomials yield inequalities analogous to (1.2) for ultraspherical, Laguerre, and

---

1 This paper was written at the Institute for Numerical Analysis of the National Bureau of Standards, with the financial support of the Office of Naval Research of the U. S. Navy Department.


Presented to the Society, September 7, 1948; received by the editors December 28, 1948.

256
Hermite polynomials. Thus

\[(1.3)\] \[\left(\frac{P^\lambda_n(x)}{P^\lambda_n(1)}\right)^2 - \frac{P^\lambda_{n-1}(x)P^\lambda_{n+1}(x)}{P^\lambda_{n-1}(1)P^\lambda_{n+1}(1)} \leq 0, \quad \lambda > -1/2.\]

We have,\(^3\) for \(\lambda > -1/2,\)

\[(1.4)\] \[P^\lambda_n(1) = C_{n+2\lambda-1,n} = \frac{2\lambda \Gamma(n + 2\lambda)}{n! \Gamma(2\lambda + 1)}, \quad n = 0, 1, \ldots .\]

so that (1.3) can be restated as

\[n(n + 2\lambda)\left[P^\lambda_n(x)\right]^2 \geq (n + 1)(n + 2\lambda - 1)P^\lambda_{n-1}(x)P^\lambda_{n+1}(x);\]

with \(\lambda = 1/2,\) this reduces to the inequality (1.2).

We write \(F_n(x)\) for \(P^\lambda_n(x)/P^\lambda_n(1);\) then (1.3) becomes \(\Delta_n(x) = \left[F_n(x)\right]^2 - F_{n-1}(x)F_{n+1}(x) \geq 0,\) and equality holds for \(x = 1.\) We have

\[F_0(x) = 1, \quad F_1(x) = x, \quad F_2(x) = \frac{2(1 + \lambda)x^2 - 1}{1 + 2\lambda}, \ldots .\]

For \(0 < \lambda < 1\) we derive a sharper inequality, employing essentially the recursion formula (1.1). The result is

\[(1.5)\] \[\frac{\lambda [1 - F^2_n(x)]}{(n + \lambda - 1)(n + 2\lambda)} \leq \Delta_n(x) < \frac{2\lambda \Gamma(2\lambda)}{\lambda + 1} \frac{\Gamma(n)}{\Gamma(n + 2\lambda)};\]

\(-1 \leq x \leq 1.\) In particular, for \(\lambda = 1/2,\)

\[\frac{1 - [P_n(x)]^2}{(2n - 1)(n + 1)} \leq \Delta_n(x) < \frac{2n + 1}{3n(n + 1)} ;\]

the smallness of \(\Delta_n\) indicates that the inequality (1.2) is rather deep.

For Bessel functions we shall establish the inequality

\[(1.6)\] \[J^2_\mu(t) - J^2_{\mu-1}(t)J^2_{\mu+1}(t) > \frac{1}{\mu + 1} J^2_\mu(t), \quad \mu > 0, t \text{ real.}\]

It seems particularly interesting that the procedure is very much the same in deriving (1.5) and (1.6), and is based mainly on the respective recurrence relations.

2. Ultraspherical polynomials; \(\lambda < 1.\) From (1.1) and (1.4), we obtain

\[(n + 1)F_{n+1}(x) = 2(n + \lambda)xF_n(x) \frac{\Gamma(n + 2\lambda)(n + 1)}{\Gamma(n + 1 + 2\lambda)} - (n + 2\lambda - 1)F_{n-1}(x) \frac{\Gamma(n + 2\lambda - 1)n(n + 1)}{\Gamma(n + 1 + 2\lambda)},\]

or

\[(2.1) \quad F_{n+1}(x) = \frac{2(n + \lambda)x}{n + 2\lambda} F_n(x) - \frac{n}{n + 2\lambda} F_{n-1}(x), \quad n \geq 1.\]

It follows that

\[(2.2) \quad F_{n+1}(x)F_n(x) = \frac{2(n + \lambda)}{n + 2\lambda} xF_n^2(x) - \frac{n}{n + 2\lambda} F_{n-1}(x)F_n(x).\]

From (2.1) we get

\[F_n(x) = \frac{2(n + \lambda - 1)x}{n + 2\lambda - 1} F_{n-1}(x) - \frac{(n - 1)}{n + 2\lambda - 1} F_{n-2}(x), \quad n \geq 2,\]

whence substitution into (2.2) yields

\[2x(n + \lambda) \frac{F_n^2(x)}{n + 2\lambda}\]

\[= F_{n+1}(x) \left\{ \frac{2(n + \lambda - 1)}{n + 2\lambda - 1} xF_{n-1}(x) - \frac{n - 1}{n + 2\lambda - 1} F_{n-2}(x) \right\} + \frac{n}{n + 2\lambda} F_{n-1}(x) \left\{ \frac{2(n + \lambda - 1)}{n + 2\lambda - 1} xF_{n-1}(x) - \frac{n - 1}{n + 2\lambda - 1} F_{n-2}(x) \right\}
\]
\[= \frac{2nx(n + \lambda - 1)}{(n + 2\lambda - 1)(n + 2\lambda)} F_{n-1}(x) + F_{n+1}(x) \frac{2(n + \lambda - 1)}{n + 2\lambda - 1} xF_{n-1}(x)
\]
\[- \left\{ \frac{(n - 1)}{n + 2\lambda - 1} F_{n-2}(x) \left\{ \frac{2(n + \lambda)x}{n + 2\lambda} F_n(x) - \frac{n}{n + 2\lambda} F_{n-1}(x) \right\} + \frac{(n - 1)n}{(n + 2\lambda - 1)(n + 2\lambda)} F_{n-2}(x)F_{n-1}(x) \right\}
\]
\[= \frac{2n(n + \lambda - 1)x}{(n + 2\lambda - 1)(n + 2\lambda)} F_{n-1}(x) + 2x \frac{n + \lambda - 1}{n + 2\lambda - 1} F_{n-1}(x)F_{n+1}(x)
\]
\[- \left\{ \frac{2(n - 1)(n + \lambda)x}{(n + 2\lambda - 1)(n + 2\lambda)} F_{n-2}(x)F_n(x), \quad n \geq 2.\right\]
(2.3) \[(n + \lambda)(n + 2\lambda - 1)F_n^2(x) - (n + \lambda - 1)(n + 2\lambda)F_{n-1}(x)F_{n+1}(x) = D^0_n(x),\]

then

\[
D^\lambda_n(x) = n(n + \lambda - 1)F_{n-1}^2(x) - (n - 1)(n + \lambda)F_{n-2}(x)F_n(x)
\]

\[
= \left\{ (n + \lambda - 1)(n + 2\lambda - 2)F_{n-1}^2(x) - (n + \lambda - 2)(n + 2\lambda - 1)F_{n-2}(x)F_n(x) \right\}
\]

\[
\cdot \left\{ (n + \lambda - 1)(n + 2\lambda - 2)(n - 1)(n + \lambda) \right\}
\frac{(n + \lambda - 2)(n + 2\lambda - 1)}{(n + \lambda - 2)(n + 2\lambda - 1) + F_{n-1}^2(x)}
\]

\[
\cdot \left\{ n(n + \lambda - 1) \right\}
\frac{(n - 1)(n + \lambda)}{(n + \lambda - 2)(n + 2\lambda - 1) - (n - 1)(n + \lambda)(n + 2\lambda - 2)}
\]

\[
= D^\lambda_{n-1}(x) \frac{(n - 1)(n + \lambda)}{(n + \lambda - 2)(n + 2\lambda - 1)} + (n + \lambda - 1)F_{n-1}^2(x)
\]

\[
\cdot \frac{n(n + \lambda - 2)(n + 2\lambda - 1) - (n - 1)(n + \lambda)(n + 2\lambda - 2)}{(n + \lambda - 2)(n + 2\lambda - 1)}
\]

Let

\[(2.4) \quad g_n = g_{n-1} \frac{(n + \lambda - 2)(n + 2\lambda - 1)}{(n - 1)(n + \lambda)}, \quad n \geq 2, \quad g_1 = 1;
\]

then

\[(2.5) \quad g_nD^\lambda_n(x) = g_{n-1}D^\lambda_{n-1}(x) + 2\lambda(\lambda - 1) \frac{n + \lambda - 1}{(n - 1)(n + \lambda)} g_{n-1}F_{n-1}^2(x),
\]

where, from (2.3),

\[(2.6) \quad D^\lambda_1(x) = 2\lambda(1 + \lambda)F_1^2(x) - \lambda(1 + 2\lambda)F_0F_2(x)
\]

\[= \lambda \left\{ 2(1 + \lambda)x^2 - 2(1 + \lambda)x^2 + 1 \right\}
\]

\[= \lambda.
\]

From (2.4), we have
\[ g_n = \prod_{i=2}^{n} \frac{(\nu + \lambda - 2)(\nu + 2\lambda - 1)}{(\nu - 1)(\nu + \lambda)} = \frac{\lambda(\lambda + 1) \prod_{i=2}^{n} (\nu + 2\lambda - 1)}{(n - 1)(n + \lambda - 1)(n + \lambda)} \]

\[ = \frac{\lambda(\lambda + 1)}{(n + \lambda - 1)(n + \lambda)} \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} \left(1 + \frac{2\lambda}{\nu}\right) = O(n^{2\lambda-2}), \text{ as } n \to \infty. \]

It is well known [cf. O. P. pp. 80, 166] that, for \( \lambda > 0, \)

\[ \max_{-1 \leq x \leq 1} |P_n^\lambda(x)| = P_n^\lambda(1) = C_{n+2\lambda-1,n}, \]

so that

\[ |F_n(x)| \leq P_n(1) = 1. \]

Hence

\[ \frac{n + \lambda}{n(n + \lambda + 1)} g_n f_n^2(x) \leq \frac{g_n}{n} = O(n^{2\lambda-2}). \]

We now consider the case \( 0 < \lambda < 1; \) it follows from (2.9) that the series

\[ \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} \{g_{n-i}D_{n-i-1}^\lambda(x) - g_nD_n^\lambda(x)\} \]

is uniformly convergent in \( -1 \leq x \leq 1, \) and from (2.5), (2.6) we have

\[ \lambda - \lim_{n \to \infty} g_nD_n^\lambda(x) = 2\lambda(1 - \lambda) \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{(n + \lambda)g_n}{n(n + \lambda + 1)} F_n^2(x). \]

We write

\[ \lim_{n \to \infty} g_nD_n^\lambda(x) = \lambda \left\{ 1 - 2(1 - \lambda) \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{(n + \lambda)g_n}{n(n + \lambda + 1)} F_n^2(x) \right\} \]

\[ = \chi(x), \]

a continuous function of \( x \) in \( -1 \leq x \leq 1. \) It follows from (2.8) and (2.10) that

\[ \chi(x) \geq \chi(1) = \lambda \left\{ 1 - 2(1 - \lambda) \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{(n + \lambda)g_n}{n(n + \lambda + 1)} \right\}. \]

We next show that
\( (2.12) \quad \chi(1) = \lim g_n D_n^\lambda(1) = 0. \)

From (2.3), we have

\( (2.13) \quad D_n^\lambda(1) = (n + \lambda)(n + 2\lambda - 1) - (n + \lambda - 1)(n + 2\lambda) = \lambda, \)

and from (2.7), for \( 0 < \lambda < 1 \), we see that \( g_n \to 0 \); this proves (2.12).

It now follows from (2.11) that

\[ \chi(x) \geq 0 = 1 - 2(1 - \lambda) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(n + \lambda)g_n}{n(n + \lambda + 1)}, \]

so that

\[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(n + \lambda)g_n}{n(n + \lambda + 1)} = \frac{1}{2(1 - \lambda)}, \quad 0 < \lambda < 1. \]

Note that by (2.7) we have

\[ g_n = \frac{\lambda(n + 1)\Gamma(n + 2\lambda)}{\Gamma(1 + 2\lambda)(n + \lambda - 1)(n + \lambda)\Gamma(n)} \sim \frac{\lambda(n + 1)}{\Gamma(1 + 2\lambda)} n^{2\lambda - 2}. \]

From (2.5) and (2.6) we get

\( (2.14) \quad g_n D_n^\lambda(x) = \lambda - 2\lambda(1 - \lambda) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{g_n(\nu + \lambda)F_n^2(x)}{\nu(\nu + \lambda + 1)}; \)

furthermore

\[ g_n D_n^\lambda(x) = \chi(x) + 2\lambda(1 - \lambda) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{g_n(\nu + \lambda)F_n^2(x)}{\nu(\nu + \lambda + 1)}. \]

Now from (2.8), (2.12), and (2.13) it follows that

\[ g_n D_n^\lambda(x) = 2\lambda(1 - \lambda) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{g_n(\nu + \lambda)}{\nu(\nu + \lambda + 1)} \left\{ 1 - F_n^2(x) \right\} \]

\[ + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{g_n(\nu + \lambda)}{\nu(\nu + \lambda + 1)} \geq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{g_n(\nu + \lambda)}{\nu(\nu + \lambda + 1)} \]

\[ = g_n D_n^\lambda(1) = \lambda g_n. \]

It follows from (2.14) that, uniformly in \(-1 \leq x \leq 1, \)

\( (2.15) \quad g_n D_n^\lambda(x) \downarrow \chi(x), \quad \text{as } n \to \infty; \)

furthermore,
From (2.16) we have

\[ g_n D_n^\lambda(x) \leq g_1 D_1^\lambda = \lambda. \]

From (2.15) we have

\[ g_n D_n^\lambda(x) < g_1 D_1^\lambda = \lambda. \]

From (2.3), (2.13), and (2.16) we obtain

\[ D_n^\lambda(x) = (n + \lambda - 1)F_n - (n + 2\lambda)\{F_n - F_{n-1}F_{n+1}\} \]

so that

\[ \Delta_n^\lambda = FB_n - F_{n-1}F_{n+1} \geq \frac{\lambda(1 - F_n^\lambda)}{(n + \lambda - 1)(n + 2\lambda)}, \]

and

\[ n^2 \Delta_n^\lambda \rightarrow \frac{\Gamma(1 + 2\lambda)}{\lambda(\lambda + 1)} \chi(x), \]

uniformly in \(-1 \leq x \leq 1\).

Summarizing, we have the following theorem:

**Theorem 1.** Denote by \( P_n^\lambda(x) \) the ultraspherical polynomial and let

\[ F_n(x) = \frac{P_n^\lambda(x)}{P_n^\lambda(1)}, \quad \Delta_n^\lambda = F_n^\lambda - F_{n-1}F_{n+1}. \]

If \( 0 < \lambda < 1 \), then \( n^2 \Delta_n^\lambda \) tends uniformly to a non-negative function, and

\[ \frac{\lambda(1 - F_n^\lambda)}{(n + \lambda - 1)(n + 2\lambda)} \leq \Delta_n^\lambda < \frac{\Gamma(1 + 2\lambda)}{\lambda + 1} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(n)}{\Gamma(n + 2\lambda)}, \]

\(-1 \leq x \leq 1\).

In particular for \( \lambda = 1/2 \) (the Legendre polynomial), we have

\[ \frac{1 - (P_n(x))^2}{(2n - 1)(n + 1)} \leq (P_n(x))^2 - P_{n-1}P_{n+1} < \frac{2n + 1}{3n(n + 1)}. \]

3. The case \( \lambda > 1 \). Let now \( \lambda > 1 \); from (2.14) we have

\[ g_n D_n^\lambda(x) = \lambda + 2\lambda(\lambda - 1) \sum_{\nu=1}^{\nu=1} \frac{g_n(\nu + \lambda)}{\nu(\nu + \lambda + 1)} F_n^\lambda(x), \]
so that \( g_nD_n^\lambda(x) \) increases as \( n \) increases. Hence

\[
g_nD_n^\lambda(x) \geq \lambda,
\]
or

\[
(n + \lambda - 1)(n + 2\lambda)g_n\Delta_n^\lambda(x) + \lambda g_nF_n^\lambda(x) \geq \lambda = D_n^\lambda(1).
\]

Furthermore

\[
g_nD_n^\lambda(x) \leq g_nD_n^\lambda(1) = \lambda + 2\lambda(\lambda - 1)\sum_{\nu=1}^{n-1} \frac{g_n(\nu + \lambda)}{\nu(\nu + \lambda + 1)} = g_n\lambda.
\]

Thus

\[
\Delta_n^\lambda(x) \geq \frac{\lambda}{(n + \lambda - 1)(n + 2\lambda)g_n} - \frac{\lambda F_n^\lambda(x)}{(n + \lambda - 1)(n + 2\lambda)},
\]

and

\[
\Delta_n^\lambda(x) \leq \frac{\lambda(1 - F_n^\lambda(x))}{(n + \lambda - 1)(n + 2\lambda)}.
\]

In this case, from (2.7), we have \( g_n \uparrow \infty \), and

\[
\Delta_n^\lambda(x) = O(n^{-2}), \quad \text{as} \ n \to \infty.
\]

Finally, for \( \lambda = 1 \), we have

\[
F_n(x) = \frac{\sin (n + 1)\theta}{(n + 1) \sin \theta}, \quad x = \cos \theta,
\]

\[
g_nD_n^\lambda(x) = g_1D_1^\lambda = 1, \quad g_\lambda = 1, \quad D_n^\lambda(x) = 1,
\]

\[
n(n + 2)\Delta_n(x) = 1 - F_n^\lambda(x).
\]

4. An application. If \( P_{n+1}(x) = 0 \), then from (2.17) we obtain

\[
\frac{1 - P_n^\lambda(x)}{(n + 1)(2n - 1)} \leq P_n^\lambda(x) < \frac{2n + 1}{3n(n + 1)},
\]
or

\[
\frac{1}{n(2n + 1)} \leq P_n^\lambda(x) < \frac{2n + 1}{3n(n + 1)}.
\]

If \( P_n(t) = 0 \), then
\[
\frac{1}{(n(2n + 1))^{1/2}} \leq |P_n(x)| = \left| \int_t^x P'_n(u) \, du \right|
\]
which yields a lower bound for \(|x - t|\). To this end we employ the formula [O. P. p. 83]
\[
\frac{d}{dx} P_n^\lambda(x) = 2\lambda P_n^{\lambda+1}(x),
\]
so that, for \(\lambda = 1/2\),
\[
P_n'(x) = P_{n-1}(x);
\]
hence, from (1.5), for \(\lambda = 3/2\),
\[
|P_n'(x)| \leq C_{n+1,n-1} = (3/2)n(n + 1);
\]
equality holds for \(x = \pm 1\).
It follows that
\[
\frac{1}{(n(2n + 1))^{1/2}} < |x - t| (3/2)n(n + 1),
\]
or
\[
|x - t| > 2/3n^{-3/2}(2n + 1)^{-1/2}(n + 1)^{-1},
\]
where \(P_{n+1}(x) = 0, P_n(t) = 0\).

5. Hermite polynomials. The situation is simpler for Hermite polynomials \(H_n(x)\), defined by
\[
H_{n+1}(x) = 2xH_n(x) - 2nH_{n-1}(x), \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots ,
\]
\[
H_0 = 1, \quad H_1 = 2x.
\]
In this case [see Amer. Math. Monthly vol. 55 (1948) solution of problem 4215, pp. 34–35],
\[
\frac{1}{2^{n+1}n!} \left\{ H_{n+1}^2 - H_nH_{n+2} \right\} = \sum_{r=0}^{n} \frac{1}{\nu!2^\nu} H_n^2,
\]
hence monotone increasing, as \(n\) increases.

6. Bessel functions. The Bessel function of order \(\mu\) is defined for \(\mu > -1\) by the power series
\[
J_\mu(t) = (t/2)^\mu \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^\nu(t/2)^{2\nu}}{\nu!\Gamma(\mu + \nu + 1)}.
\]
It satisfies the recursion formula

\begin{equation}
J_{\mu+1}(t) = \frac{2\mu}{t} J_\mu(t) - J_{\mu-1}(t), \quad \mu > 0.
\end{equation}

We write

\begin{equation}
\Lambda_\mu(t) = \frac{(2/t)^\mu \Gamma(\mu + 1)}{\mu} J_\mu(t) = \Lambda_\mu(-t).
\end{equation}

It then follows from (6.2) that

\begin{equation}
\frac{t^2 \Lambda_{\mu+1}(t)}{4\mu(\mu + 1)} = \Lambda_\mu(t) - \Lambda_{\mu-1}(t),
\end{equation}

and

\begin{align*}
\Lambda_\mu^2(t) &= \frac{t^2}{4\mu(\mu + 1)} \Lambda_\mu(t) \Lambda_{\mu+1}(t) + \Lambda_{\mu-1}(t) \Lambda_\mu(t) \\
&= \frac{t^2}{4\mu(\mu + 1)} \Lambda_{\mu+1}(t) \left\{ \frac{4\mu(\mu - 1)}{t^2} (\Lambda_{\mu-1}(t) - \Lambda_{\mu-2}(t)) \right\} \\
&\quad + \Lambda_{\mu-1}(t) \Lambda_\mu(t).
\end{align*}

Thus, using (6.4) again, we have

\begin{align*}
\Lambda_\mu &= \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu + 1} (\Lambda_{\mu+1} \Lambda_{\mu-1} - \Lambda_{\mu+1} \Lambda_{\mu-2}) \\
&\quad + \frac{4\mu(\mu - 1)}{t^2} \Lambda_{\mu-1}(\Lambda_{\mu-1} - \Lambda_{\mu-2}),
\end{align*}

and

\begin{align*}
\Lambda_\mu^2 - \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu + 1} \Lambda_{\mu-1} \Lambda_{\mu+1} &= \frac{4\mu(\mu - 1)}{t^2} \Lambda_{\mu-1}(\Lambda_{\mu-1} - \Lambda_{\mu-2}) \\
&\quad - \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu + 1} \Lambda_{\mu-2} \{ \Lambda_\mu - \Lambda_{\mu-1} \} \frac{4\mu(\mu + 1)}{t^2} \\
&= \frac{4\mu(\mu - 1)}{t^2} \Lambda_{\mu-1} - \frac{4\mu(\mu - 1)}{t^2} \Lambda_{\mu-2} \Lambda_\mu.
\end{align*}

If we put

\begin{equation}
D_\mu(t) = \Lambda_\mu^2 - \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu + 1} \Lambda_{\mu-1} \Lambda_{\mu+1},
\end{equation}

and
\[ \Delta_\mu(t) = \Lambda_\mu - \Lambda_{\mu-1} \Lambda_{\mu+1}, \]

then we have

\[ D_\mu = \frac{4\mu(\mu - 1)}{t^2} \Delta_{\mu-1}, \]

and

\[ \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu + 1} \Delta_\mu = D_\mu - \frac{2}{\mu + 1} \Delta_\mu. \]

Now from (6.5) we get

\[ D_\mu(t) = \frac{4\mu^2(\mu - 1)}{(\mu - 2)t^2} D_{\mu-1}(t) - \frac{8\mu(\mu - 1)}{(\mu - 2)t^2} \frac{2}{\mu} \Delta_{\mu-1} \quad (\mu \neq 2); \]

hence

\[ \frac{t^{2\mu} D_\mu(t)}{4\mu^2(\mu - 1)\Gamma^2(\mu + 1)} = \frac{t^{2(\mu - 1)} D_{\mu-1}(t)}{4\mu^2(\mu - 2)\Gamma^2(\mu)} - \frac{2t^{2(\mu-1)} \Lambda_{\mu-1}}{4\mu^2(\mu - 2)\Gamma^2(\mu)}. \]

It follows that the sequence

\[ Q_{\mu+r}(t) = \frac{t^2(\mu + r) D_{\mu+r}(t)}{4\mu^2(\mu + r - 1)\Gamma^2(\mu + r + 1)}, \quad \nu = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, \]

is monotone decreasing as \( \nu \) increases. Furthermore

\[ D_1(t) = \Lambda_1^2(t), \quad D_2(t) = \frac{8}{t^2} \Delta_2(t). \]

It is known\(^4\) that

\[ |\Lambda_\mu(t)| \leq \Lambda_\mu(0) = 1, \quad t \text{ real}; \]

hence

\[ Q_\mu(t) \to 0 \quad \text{as } \mu \to \infty, \]

and, from (6.7),

\[ Q_\mu(t) = 2 \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^{2(\mu+r)} \Lambda_{\mu+r}^2(t)}{4\mu^2(\mu + r - 1)\Gamma^2(\mu + r + 1)}, \quad \mu > 1, \]

the series being uniformly convergent. It now follows that
\[ D_\mu(t) > 0, \quad \text{for } \mu > 1, \text{ } t \text{ real}; \]
hence, from (6.6), we have
\[ \Delta_{\mu-1}(t) > 0, \quad \mu > 1, \]
or, in terms of the Bessel functions,
\[
J_\mu^2(t) - J_{\mu-1}(t)J_{\mu+1}(t) > \frac{1}{\mu + 1} J_\mu^2(t), \quad \mu > 0, \text{ } t \text{ real}. 
\]
If, for example, \( \mu = 3/2 \), we get
\[
t \sin^2 t - 3 \cos t(\sin t - t \cos t) > 0 \quad \text{for } t > 0.
\]
We state the main result of this section as:

**Theorem 2.** If \( J_\mu(t) \) denotes the Bessel function of index \( \mu \), defined by (6.1), then, for \( \mu > 0 \) and all real values of \( t \),
\[
J_\mu^2(t) - J_{\mu-1}(t)J_{\mu+1}(t) > \frac{1}{\mu + 1} J_\mu^2(t).
\]