

## SOME NEW RESULTS ON QUASI-ORTHOGONAL NUMBERS

Selmo Tauber

Portland State University, Portland, OR 97201  
(Submitted April 1987)

### 1. Introduction

As far as is known to this author, the term "Quasi-Orthogonality" was first introduced by K. S. Miller in [1]:

Given two sets of numbers  $A(m, n)$  and  $B(m, n)$  such that  $m, n, s \in \mathbb{Z}$ , and  $A(m, n), B(m, n) = 0$  for  $n < 0, m < 0$ , and  $n < m$ , they are said to be quasi-orthogonal to each other if

$$\sum_{s=m}^n A(s, n)B(m, s) = \delta(m, n) \quad (1)$$

where  $\delta(m, n)$  is the Kronecker delta.

Equivalently, we can say that if  $A(n)$  is the square, and triangular matrix of elements  $A(m, n)$  of  $n$  rows, and  $B(n)$  the square and triangular matrix of elements  $B(m, n)$  of  $n$  rows, then

$$A(n)B(n) = I, \quad (2)$$

i.e., the two matrices are inverse of each other.

H. W. Gould has compared the different aspects of quasi-orthogonality and studied some of its properties [2].

In this paper we shall be concerned with the so-called BILINEARLY RECURRENT orthogonal numbers, i.e., numbers satisfying recurrence relations of the form:

$$A(m, n) = f_1(m, n)A(m-1, n-1) + f_2(m, n)A(m, n-1); \quad (3)$$

$$B(m, n) = f_3(m, n)B(m-1, n-1) + f_4(m, n)B(m, n-1). \quad (4)$$

The problem to solve is the following: knowing  $f_1$  and  $f_2$ , find  $f_3$  and  $f_4$ , or, since the problem is symmetric, knowing  $f_3$  and  $f_4$ , find  $f_1$  and  $f_2$ .

So far, only the following cases have been studied:

Case 1:  $f_1 = N(n), f_2 = M(n),$

$$f_3 = 1/[N(m+1)], f_4 = -M(m+1)/[N(m+1)]. \text{ Cf. [3].}$$

Case 2:  $f_1 = P(m), f_2 = K(n) + M(m+1),$

$$f_3 = 1/P(n), f_4 = -[K(m+1) + M(n)]/P(n). \text{ Cf. [3].}$$

Other cases of quasi-orthogonal numbers have been studied but they are not of the bilinearly recurrent kind.

The final aim is to obtain a general case where the functions  $f_i$  are all of the form  $f_i(m, n)$ . This result has thus far been impossible to reach.

In this paper we study

Case 3:  $f_1(m, n) = \alpha(m)\beta(n), f_2(m, n) = \eta(n),$

$$f_3(m, n) = 1/\alpha(n)\beta(m), f_4(m, n) = -\eta(m+1)/\alpha(n)\beta(m+1).$$

### 2. P-Polynomials and A-Numbers

Let  $J$  be the set of positive numbers and zero, i.e.,  $J = [0, Z^+]$ . We assume that  $m, n, k, s \in J$ , and that  $a(m, n)$ ,  $b(m)$ , and  $c(m)$  are defined, and not equal to zero, also that  $x > 0$ .

Consider the polynomial

$$P(n, x) = \sum_{m=0}^n a(m, n)A(m, n)x^m = \prod_{k=1}^n [b(k) + c(k)x], \quad (5)$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} P(n+1, x) &= \sum_{m=0}^{n+1} a(m, n+1)A(m, n+1)x^m \\ &= \prod_{k=1}^{n+1} [b(k) + c(k)x] = [b(n+1) + c(n+1)x]P(n, x) \\ &= [b(n+1) + c(n+1)x] \sum_{m=0}^n a(m, n)A(m, n)x^m. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

By comparing the coefficients of  $x^{m+1}$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} a(m+1, n+1)A(m+1, n+1) &= c(n+1)a(m, n)A(m, n) \\ &\quad + b(n+1)a(m+1, n)A(m+1, n) \end{aligned}$$

or, since  $a(m+1, n+1) \neq 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} A(m+1, n+1) &= c(n+1) \frac{a(m, n)}{a(m+1, n+1)} A(m, n) \\ &\quad + b(n+1) \frac{a(m+1, n)}{a(m+1, n+1)} A(m+1, n), \end{aligned}$$

or again,

$$\begin{aligned} A(m, n) &= c(n) \frac{a(m-1, n-1)}{a(m, n)} A(m-1, n-1) \\ &\quad + b(n) \frac{a(m, n-1)}{a(m, n)} A(m, n-1). \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

This is the recurrence relation for the numbers  $A(m, n)$ .

### 3. B-Numbers

We express  $x^n$  in terms of  $P$ -polynomials as defined in Section 2, thus

$$\begin{aligned} x^n &= \sum_{s=0}^n \lambda(s, n)B(s, n)P(s, x) \\ &= \sum_{s=0}^n \lambda(s, n)B(s, n) \left[ \sum_{m=0}^s a(m, s)A(m, s)x^m \right], \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

where the numbers  $\lambda(s, n)$  are defined, and different from zero, for  $s, n \in J$ , and  $B(s, n)$  satisfy the conditions of Section 1.

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} x^n &= \sum_{s=0}^n \sum_{m=0}^s \lambda(s, n)a(m, s)B(s, n)A(m, s)x^m \\ &= \sum_{m=0}^n x^m \left[ \sum_{s=m}^n \lambda(s, n)a(m, s)B(s, n)A(m, s) \right], \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

which shows that the quantity in brackets, i.e., the coefficient of  $x^m$  must be equal to  $\delta_m^n$ .

To assure the quasi-orthogonality of the numbers  $A(m, s)$  and  $B(s, n)$  it is necessary to assume that

$$\lambda(s, n)\alpha(m, s) = 1. \tag{10}$$

This result can be obtained in the following way:

For  $m = n$ , we take  $\lambda(s, n)\alpha(n, s) = 1$ , i.e.,  $\lambda(s, n) = 1/\alpha(n, s)$ .

For  $m \neq n$ , i.e., for  $m < n$ , it is necessary to write

$$\alpha(m, s) = \alpha_1(m)\alpha_2(s), \lambda(s, n) = \lambda_1(s)\lambda_2(n),$$

with  $\lambda_1(s) = 1/\alpha_2(s)$ , so that

$$\lambda(s, n)\alpha(m, s) = \lambda_2(n)\alpha_1(m),$$

which, substituted into (9), gives

$$\begin{aligned} x^n &= \sum_{m=0}^n \lambda_2(n)\alpha_1(m)x^m \left[ \sum_{s=m}^n B(s, n)A(m, s) \right] \\ &= \sum_{m=0}^n \lambda_2(n)\alpha_1(m)x^m \delta_m^n, \end{aligned} \tag{9a}$$

which is satisfied if  $\lambda_2(n) = 1/\alpha_1(n)$ .

We summarize this result by writing

$$\lambda(s, n) = [1/\alpha_2(s)]\lambda_2(n),$$

or

$$\lambda(s, n) = 1/\alpha(n, s) = 1/\alpha_1(n)\alpha_2(s).$$

Under these conditions, clearly (9) can be written as

$$x^n = \sum_{m=0}^n x^m \delta_n^m \tag{11}$$

and

$$\sum_{s=m}^n B(s, n)A(m, s) = \delta_n^m. \tag{12}$$

On the other hand,

$$x^{n+1} = x^n \cdot x = \left[ \sum_{s=0}^n \lambda(s, n)B(s, n)P(s, x) \right] x. \tag{12a}$$

Since, according to (6),

$$P(s+1, x) = [b(s+1 + c(s+1)x)P(s, n)], \tag{13}$$

it follows that

$$xP(s, x) = [P(s+1, x) - b(s+1)P(s, x)]/c(s+1) \tag{14}$$

so that, substituting into (12a), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} x^{n+1} &= \sum_{s=0}^n \lambda(s, n)B(s, n) \left[ \frac{P(s+1, x)}{c(s+1)} - \frac{b(s+1)}{c(s+1)} P(s, x) \right] \\ &= \sum_{s=0}^{n+1} \lambda(s, n+1)B(s, n+1)P(s, x). \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

Comparing the coefficients of  $P(s+1, x)$ , we see that

$$\lambda(s+1, n+1)B(s+1, n+1) = \frac{\lambda(s, n)}{c(s+1)} B(s, n) - \frac{\lambda(s+1, n)b(s+2)}{c(s+2)} B(s+1, n) \quad (16)$$

or

$$B(s+1, n+1) = \frac{\lambda(s, n)}{\lambda(s+1, n+1)c(s+1)} B(s, n) - \frac{\lambda(s+1, n)b(s+2)}{\lambda(s+1, n+1)c(s+2)} B(s+1, n), \quad (17)$$

or again,

$$B(s, n) = \frac{\lambda(s-1, n-1)}{\lambda(s, n)c(s)} B(s-1, n-1) - \frac{\lambda(s, n-1)b(s+1)}{\lambda(s, n)c(s+1)} B(s, n-1). \quad (18)$$

Equation (18) is a first form of the recurrence relation for the  $B$ -numbers.

#### 4. Evaluation of $a(m, n)$

According to (4) and (7), we can write:

$$c(n) \frac{a(m-1, n-1)}{a(m, n)} = f_1(m, n); \quad (19)$$

$$b(n) \frac{a(m, n-1)}{a(m, n)} = f_2(m, n). \quad (20)$$

From (20), we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} b(n)a(m, n-1) &= f_2(m, n)a(m, n) \\ b(n-1)a(m, n-2) &= f_2(m, n-1)a(m, n-1) \\ b(n-2)a(m, n-3) &= f_2(m, n-2)a(m, n-2) \\ &\vdots \\ b(2)a(m, 1) &= f_2(m, 2)a(m, 2) \end{aligned}$$

and multiplying through and simplifying,

$$\left[ \prod_{k=2}^n b(k) \right] a(m, 1) = a(m, n) \left[ \prod_{k=2}^n f_2(m, k) \right]$$

or

$$a(m, n) = a(m, 1) \left[ \prod_{k=2}^n \frac{b(k)}{f_2(m, k)} \right] \quad (21)$$

and

$$a(m-1, n-1) = a(m-1, 1) \left[ \prod_{k=2}^{n-1} b(k)/f_2(m-1, k) \right]. \quad (22)$$

Substituting (21) and (22) into (19), we obtain

$$c(n)a(m-1, 1) \left[ \prod_{k=2}^{n-1} b(k)/f_2(m-1, k) \right]$$

$$= \alpha(m, 1) \left[ \prod_{k=2}^n b(k)/f_2(m, k) \right] f_1(m, n)$$

which, after simplification, gives

$$\alpha(m, 1) = \alpha(m - 1, 1) [c(n)/b(n)] \cdot \left[ \prod_{k=2}^{n-1} f_2(m, k)/f_2(m - 1, k) \right] [f_2(m, n)/f_1(m, n)] \quad (23)$$

or

$$\alpha(m, 1) = \alpha(m - 1, 1)\Omega(m), \quad (24)$$

since the left-hand member of (23) is independent of  $n$ , i.e.,

$$\Omega(m) = [c(n)/b(n)] \left[ \prod_{k=2}^{n-1} f_2(m, k)/f_2(m - 1, k) \right] [f_2(m, n)/f_1(m, n)]. \quad (25)$$

To eliminate  $n$  in the right-hand member of (25), we assume that

$$f_1(m, n) = \alpha(m)\beta(n), \text{ and } f_2(m, n) = \delta(m)\eta(n).$$

Equation (25) can then be written as

$$\Omega(m) = [c(n)/b(n)] [\delta(m)/\delta(m - 1)]^{n-2} [\delta(m)\eta(n)/\alpha(m)\beta(n)].$$

In order to have the right-hand side independent of  $n$ , it is necessary to assume that

$$[c(n)/b(n)] [\eta(n)/\beta(n)] = A = \text{Const.}, \quad (26)$$

and

$$\delta(m)/\delta(m - 1) = 1, \quad (27)$$

i.e.,  $\delta(m) = B = \text{Const.}$  We may also assume that  $A = B = 1$ , i.e.,

$$f_2(m, n) = f_2(n) = \eta(n), \quad (28)$$

$$[c(n)/b(n)] [\eta(n)/\beta(n)] = 1. \quad (29)$$

It follows that  $\Omega(m) = 1/\alpha(m)$  and, returning to (24), we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(m, 1) &= \alpha(m - 1)/\alpha(m) \\ \alpha(m - 1, 1) &= \alpha(m - 2)/\alpha(m - 1) \\ \alpha(m - 2, 1) &= \alpha(m - 3)/\alpha(m - 2) \\ &\vdots \\ \alpha(2, 1) &= \alpha(1, 1)/\alpha(2), \end{aligned}$$

and multiplying through, we obtain

$$\alpha(m, 1) = \alpha(1, 1) \left[ \prod_{j=2}^m 1/\alpha(j) \right]. \quad (30)$$

Substituting (30) into (21), we obtain

$$\alpha(m, n) = \alpha(m, 1) \prod_{k=2}^n b(k)/f_2(m, k) = \alpha(1, 1) \prod_{j=2}^m \frac{1}{\alpha(j)} \prod_{k=2}^n \frac{b(k)}{\eta(k)}. \quad (31)$$

In the following examples we shall show how the results so obtained can be used to solve the proposed problem.

5. Example I

Given  $A(m + 1, n + 1) = mnA(m, n) + A(m + 1, n)$ , which we rewrite in the form of (4),

$$A(m, n) = (m - 1)(n - 1)A(n - 1, n - 1) + A(m, n - 1),$$

so that  $f_1 = (m - 1)(n - 1)$ , i.e.,  $\alpha(m) = m - 1$ ,  $\beta(n) = n - 1$ ,  $f_2 = \eta(n) = 1$ .

Equation (26) gives

$$c(n)/b(n) = \beta(n)/\eta(n) = n - 1,$$

and from (31) we obtain, with  $\alpha(1, 1) = 1$ ,

$$a(m, n) = \prod_{j=2}^m \frac{1}{j-1} \prod_{k=2}^n b(k) = X(n)/(m-1)!, \quad X(n) = \prod_{k=2}^n b(k).$$

From (10), it follows that, since  $\lambda(s, n)\alpha(m, s) = 1$ ,

$$\lambda(s, n) = (n - 1)!/X(s).$$

From (18), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} f_3 &= \lambda(s - 1, n - 1)/\lambda(s, n)c(s) \\ &= [(n - 2)!/X(s - 1)][X(s)/(n - 1)!c(s)]. \end{aligned}$$

As we have shown in this example,  $c(n)/b(n) = n - 1$ , so  $c(n) = (n - 1)b(n)$  and  $f_3 = 1/(n - 1)(s - 1)$ . Again, from (18), we obtain  $f_4 = -1/s(n - 1)$ . It follows that the  $B$ -numbers satisfy the relation

$$B(s, n) = [1/(n - 1)(s - 1)]B(s - 1, n - 1) - [1/(n - 1)s]B(s, n - 1).$$

For  $A(1, 1) = B(1, 1) = 1$ , we present a table of the  $A$ - and  $B$ -numbers:

		$A(m, n)$					$B(m, n)$				
$n \backslash m$		1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
1	1	1					1				
2	1	1					-1	1			
3	1	3	4				$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$		
4	1	6	22	36			$-\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{7}{24}$	$-\frac{11}{72}$	$\frac{1}{36}$	
5	1	10	70	300	576		$\frac{1}{24}$	$-\frac{5}{64}$	$\frac{85}{1728}$	$-\frac{25}{1728}$	$\frac{1}{576}$

6. Evaluation of  $f_3$  and  $f_4$

As we have seen in Section 4, it is necessary to assume that

$$f_1(m, n) = \alpha(m)\beta(n) \quad \text{and} \quad f_2(m, n) = \eta(n).$$

From (31),  $a(m, n)$ , and (10) and its consequences, it follows that  $\lambda(s, n) = 1/\alpha(n, s)$ . Thus

$$\lambda(s, n) = \left[ \prod_{j=2}^n \alpha(j) \right] \left[ \prod_{k=2}^n \eta(k)/b(k) \right]. \tag{32}$$

Then it follows from (18) that

$$f_3(s, n) = \lambda(s - 1, n - 1)/\lambda(s, n)c(s) = 1/\alpha(n)\beta(s) \tag{33}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} f_4(s, n) &= -\lambda(s, n - 1)b(s + 1)/\lambda(s, n)c(s + 1) \\ &= -\eta(s + 1)/\alpha(n)\beta(s + 1). \end{aligned} \tag{34}$$

The results of Example I can be checked easily using (33) and (34).

7. Example II

Given

$$A(m + 1, n + 1) = \frac{n^2}{m} A(m, n) + A(m + 1, n).$$

We rewrite this in the form of (3), i.e.,

$$A(m, n) = [(n - 1)^2/(m - 1)]A(m - 1, n - 1) + A(m, n - 1).$$

It follows that

$$f_1(m, n) = \alpha(m)\beta(n) = (n - 1)^2/(m - 1),$$

$$f_2 = 1,$$

$$f_3(m, n) = (n - 1)/(m - 1)^2,$$

and  $f_4(m, n) = -(n - 1)/m^2,$

so that

$$B(m, n) = [(n - 1)/(m - 1)^2]B(m - 1, n - 1) - [(n - 1)/m^2]B(m, n - 1).$$

For  $A(1, 1) = 1$ , we give here the values of the  $A$ - and  $B$ -numbers for  $m, n \leq 5$ .

		$A(m, n)$					$B(m, n)$				
$n \backslash m$		1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
1	1	1					1				
2	1	1					-1	1			
3	1	5	2				2	$-\frac{5}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$		
4	1	14	$\frac{49}{2}$	6			-6	$\frac{63}{8}$	$-\frac{49}{24}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	
5	1	30	$\frac{273}{2}$	$\frac{410}{3}$	24		24	$-\frac{255}{8}$	$\frac{1897}{216}$	$-\frac{205}{216}$	$\frac{1}{24}$

References

1. K. S. Miller. *An Introduction to the Calculus of Finite Differences, and Difference Equations*. New York, 1960.
2. H. W. Gould. "The Construction of Orthogonal and Quasi-Orthogonal Number Sets." *Amer. Math. Monthly* 72 (1965):591-602.
3. S. Tauber. "On Quasi-Orthogonal Numbers." *Amer. Math. Monthly* 69 (1962): 365-372.