

Two Generalized Trigonometric Fibonacci Sequences

S.P. Pethe

Flat No. 1, Premsagar Housing Society
Mahatma Nagar, Road D-2
Nasik - 422 007, INDIA

and

R.M. Fernandes

Goa University, Taligao
Department of Mathematics
Goa - 403 202, INDIA

1 Introduction

This paper arises out of the Note 2 in [6]. First major generalization of the Fibonacci Sequence was formulated and studied by Horadam in his papers [2, 3, 4] He defined $\{W_n\} = \{W_n(a, b; p, q)\}$ given by

$$W_n = pW_{n-1} - qW_{n-2} \quad (n \geq 2)$$

with initial values,

$$W_0 = a \quad \text{and} \quad W_1 = b.$$

Binet's formula and the exponential generating function $E(x)$ of $\{W_n\}$ are respectively given by

$$W_n = \frac{l\alpha^n - m\beta^n}{2d}$$

and

$$E(x) = \frac{le^{\alpha x} - me^{\beta x}}{2d},$$

where α, β are the distinct roots of $x^2 - px + q = 0$ and l, m and d are given by

$$l = 2(b - a\beta), \quad m = 2(b - a\alpha) \quad \text{and} \quad d = \alpha - \beta = \sqrt{p^2 - 4q} \quad (1.1)$$

It is clear that the Fibonacci Number Sequence $\{F_n\}$ is given by

$$F_n = W_n\{0, 1; 1, -1\}.$$

The exponential generating function $E_0(x)$ of $\{F_n\}$ is given by

$$E_0(x) = \frac{e^{\alpha_1 x} - e^{\beta_1 x}}{\sqrt{5}} \quad (1.2)$$

where α_1, β_1 are the distinct roots of $x^2 - x - 1 = 0$. In [1], Elmore uses (1.2) to formulate his generalization of F_n . He defines $E_n(x) = E_0^{(n)}(x)$, so that

$$E_n(x) = \frac{\alpha_1^n e^{\alpha_1 x} - \beta_1^n e^{\beta_1 x}}{\sqrt{5}} \quad (n \geq 1). \quad (1.3)$$

Note that $E_n(0) = F_n$.

Taking α, β as distinct roots of $x^2 - px + q = 0$ and using a similar process, we define

$$E_n^*(x) = \frac{\alpha^n e^{\alpha x} - \beta^n e^{\beta x}}{d}$$

where

$$d = \alpha - \beta$$

We easily see that

$$E_n^*(x) = pE_{n-1}^*(x) - qE_{n-2}^*(x).$$

Further

$$E_n^*(0) = F_n^*,$$

with

$$F_0^* = 0, \quad F_1^* = 1,$$

but

$$F_n^* = pF_{n-1}^* - qF_{n-2}^*.$$

Walton and Horadam [8] extended Elmore's results by obtaining another generalization of the Fibonacci Sequence from the generating function of $W_n(a, b; 1, -1)$. They start with

$$H_0(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{5}} [le^{\alpha i x} - me^{\beta i x}]$$

where l, m and d are as defined in (1.1) and then define

$$H_n(x) = H_0^{(n)}(x)$$

so that

$$H_n(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{5}} [l\alpha_i^n e^{\alpha_i x} - m\beta_i^n e^{\beta_i x}] \quad (n \geq 1). \quad (1.4)$$

Note from (1.1) that for $a = 0$ and $b = 1$, (1.4) reduces to (1.3). Also observe that

$$H_n(0) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{5}} [l\alpha_i^n - m\beta_i^n] = W_n(a, b, ; 1, -1),$$

so that for $a = 0, b = 1$,

$$H_n(0) = F_n.$$

We use Generalized Circular Functions to achieve two more generalizations of the Fibonacci Sequence.

2 Generalized circular functions

Let $r \geq 1$ be any fixed positive integer. The Generalized Circular Functions $N_{r,j}(t)$ and $M_{r,j}(t)$ are defined as

$$N_{r,j}(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^{nr+j}}{(nr+j)!}, \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, r-1 \quad (2.1)$$

and

$$M_{r,j}(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n t^{nr+j}}{(nr+j)!}, \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, r-1 \quad (2.2)$$

Observe that $N_{1,0}(t) = e^t$, $N_{2,0}(t) = \cosh t$, $N_{2,1}(t) = \sinh t$ and $M_{1,0}(t) = e^{-t}$, $M_{2,0}(t) = \cos t$ and finally $M_{2,1}(t) = \sin t$. Mikusinski [5] studied these functions and proved some of their basic properties. The notation and some of the results used here are found in [7]. Differentiating (2.1) and (2.2) term by term, it is clear that

$$N_{r,j}^{(p)}(t) = \begin{cases} N_{r,j-p}(t), & 0 \leq p \leq j \\ N_{r,r+j-p}(t), & 0 \leq j < p \leq r \end{cases} \quad (2.3)$$

and

$$M_{r,j}^{(p)}(t) = \begin{cases} M_{r,j-p}(t), & 0 \leq p \leq j \\ -M_{r,r+j-p}(t), & 0 \leq j < p \leq r \end{cases} \quad (2.4)$$

In particular, note from (2.3) and (2.4) that

$$\left. \begin{aligned} N^r_{r,j}(t) &= N_{r,j}(t) \\ M^r_{r,j}(t) &= -M_{r,j}(t) \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (2.5)$$

so that, in general,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} N^{nr}_{r,j}(t) &= N_{r,j}(t) \\ M^{nr}_{r,j}(t) &= (-1)^n M_{r,j}(t) \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (2.6)$$

for $n \geq 1$.

3 Definition and preliminary results

Definition 3.1 Let $r \geq 1$ be a fixed integer and $j = 0, 1, \dots, r-1$. Let

$$S_{j,0}(x) = \frac{1}{2d} [lN_{r,j}(\alpha^*x) - mN_{r,j}(\beta^*x)], \quad (3.1)$$

where α, β are distinct roots of $x^2 - px + q = 0$, $\alpha^* = \alpha^{1/r}$, $\beta^* = \beta^{1/r}$ and l, m and d are as defined in (1.1).

Note that

$$\alpha + \beta = p \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha\beta = q. \quad (3.2)$$

Now, define a sequence of Generalized Trigonometric Fibonacci Functions $\{S_{j,n}(x)\}$ as follows:

$$S_{j,1}(x) = S^r_{j,0}(x),$$

$$S_{j,2}(x) = S^{2r}_{j,0}(x),$$

and, in general,

$$S_{j,n}(x) = S^{(nr)}_{j,0}(x), \quad n \geq 1.$$

Then from (2.6) and (3.1) we get,

$$S_{j,1}(x) = \frac{1}{2d} [l\alpha N_{r,j}(\alpha^*x) - m\beta N_{r,j}(\beta^*x)],$$

$$S_{j,2}(x) = \frac{1}{2d} [l\alpha^2 N_{r,j}(\alpha^*x) - m\beta^2 N_{r,j}(\beta^*x)],$$

and, in general,

$$S_{j,n}(x) = \frac{1}{2d} [l\alpha^n N_{r,j}(\alpha^*x) - m\beta^n N_{r,j}(\beta^*x)], \quad n \geq 1. \quad (3.3)$$

Reduction to Fibonacci sequence

Observe from (2.1) that

$$N_{r,j}(0) = \begin{cases} 0, & j \neq 0 \\ 1, & j = 0. \end{cases}$$

Hence, it is clear that

$$S_{0,n}(x) = P_n(x)$$

where $P_n(x)$ is as defined in (3.4) of [6]. For $p = 1, q = -1, r = 1$ and $j = 0$, $S_{j,n}(x)$ reduces to Walton and Hordam's generalized Fibonacci Function $H_n(x)$ as defined in (4.1) of [8]. If, in addition to the above particular values, $a = 0$ and $b = 1$, then $S_{j,n}(x)$ reduces to Elmore's function $E_n(x)$. Finally, if in addition, $x = 0$ then $S_{j,n}(x)$ reduces to F_n .

For typographical convenience, we write $S_n(x)$ for $S_{j,n}(x)$ in the following sections.

Recurrence relation for $S_n(x)$.

$S_n(x)$ satisfies the following recurrence relation

$$S_n(x) = pS_{n-1}(x) - qS_{n-2}(x). \quad (3.4)$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RHS} &= \frac{p}{2d} [l\alpha^{n-1}N_{r,j}(\alpha^*x) - m\beta^{n-1}N_{r,j}(\beta^*x)] \\ &= \frac{q}{2d} [l\alpha^{n-2}N_{r,j}(\alpha^*x) - m\beta^{n-2}N_{r,j}(\beta^*x)] \\ &= \frac{1}{2d} \{ l\alpha^{n-2}N_{r,j}(\alpha^*x)[p\alpha - q] - m\beta^{n-2}N_{r,j}(\beta^*x)[p\beta - q] \}. \end{aligned}$$

As α, β are the distinct roots of $x^2 - px + q = 0$, we have $p\alpha - q = \alpha^2$ and $p\beta - q = \beta^2$, using which we easily get the result.

Some preliminary results

(A) Binets's Formula: $S_n(x)$ is given by

$$S_n(x) = \frac{1}{d} [(S_1(x) - \beta S_0(x))\alpha^n + (\alpha S_0(x) - S_1(x))\beta^n].$$

(B) Generating Function $S(t)$ and $S_n(x)$ is given by

$$S(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} S_n(x)t^n = \frac{S_0(x) - pS_0(x)t + S_1(x)t}{1 - pt + qt^2}$$

(C) Exponential Generating Function $E(t)$ for $S_n(x)$ is given by

$$E(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{S_n(x)t^n}{n!} = \frac{1}{d} [(S_1(x) - \beta S_0(x))e^{\alpha t} - (S_1(x) - \alpha S_0(x))e^{\beta t}].$$

(D)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_{n+1}(x)}{S_n(x)} = \begin{cases} \beta & \text{if } \left| \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \right| < 1, \\ \alpha & \text{if } \left| \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \right| < 1. \end{cases}$$

(E)

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} S_n(x) = \frac{S_{n+2}(x) - S_1(x) - (p-1)[S_{n+1}(x) - S_0(x)]}{p-q-1}$$

All the above results are easily proved by using (3.4) and by noting that α, β are the roots of $x^2 - px + q = 0$.

4 Various identities for $S_n(x)$

Again, for the sake of convenience, we write:

$$T_n(l, \alpha; x) \text{ for } l\alpha^n N_{r,j}(\alpha^* x)$$

and

$$T_n(m, \beta; x) \text{ for } m\beta^n N_{r,j}(\beta^* x).$$

Note that with this notation

$$S_n(x) = S_{j,n}(x) = \frac{1}{2d} [T_n(l, \alpha; x) - T_n(m, \beta; x)].$$

The following identities correspond to identities (4.2) to (4.8) in [6].

$$S_{n-1}(x)S_{n+1}(x) - S_n^2(x) = \frac{-T_n(l, \alpha; x)T_n(l, \beta; x)}{4q},$$

$$S_n(x)E_{n+1}^*(x) - qS_{n-1}(x)E_n^*(x) =$$

$$\frac{1}{2d} [e^{\alpha x} T_{n+r}(l, \alpha; x) - e^{\beta x} T_{n+r}(m, \beta; x)],$$

where $E_n^*(x)$ is Elmore's Function as defined in section 1.

$$S_n(u)E_{s+1}^*(v) - qS_{n-1}(u)E_s^*(v) = \frac{1}{2d} [e^{\alpha v} T_{n+s}(l, \alpha; x) - e^{\beta v} T_{n+s}(m, \beta; x)],$$

$$S_n^2(x) - qS_{n-1}^2(x) = \frac{1}{4d} [\alpha^{-1}T_n^2(l, \alpha; x) - \beta^{-1}T_n^2(m, \beta; x)],$$

$$S_{n+1}^2(x) - q^2S_{n-1}^2(x) = \frac{p}{4d} [T_n^2(l, \alpha; x) - T_n^2(m, \beta; x)],$$

$$S_{n-k+1}(x)S_{n+k+1}(x) - S_{n+1}^2(x) = \\ -\frac{1}{4d^2} [T_{n-k+1}(l, \alpha; x)T_{n-k+1}(m, \beta; x)](\alpha^k - \beta^k)^2,$$

$$S_n(x)S_{n+l+1}(x) - S_{n-k}S_{n+k+l+1}(x) = \\ \frac{1}{4d^2q^k} T_n(l, \alpha; x)T_n(m, \beta; x)(\alpha^k - \beta^k)(\alpha^{k+l+1} - \beta^{k+l+1}).$$

All the above identities are proved in a way similar to that in [6]. The proofs are therefore omitted. Observe that for $j = 0$, all the above identities are reduced to corresponding identities in [6], and in turn to the corresponding ones in [8] for $p = 1, q = -1, r = 1$ and $j = 0$. These, in turn, reduce to the corresponding identities for the Fibonacci Sequence for the particular values indicated in Section (3.2).

5 Associated generalized trigonometric Fibonacci sequence

The Associated Fibonacci Sequence, denoted by $\{F_n^*\}$, is defined by the following recurrence relation:

$$F_n^* = -F_{n-1}^* + F_{n-2}^*, \quad n \geq 2,$$

with the initial values

$$F_0^* = 0 \text{ and } F_1^* = -1.$$

The first few terms of this sequence are

$$0, -1, 1, -2, 3, -5, 8, -13.$$

It is easily proved by mathematical induction that

$$F_n^* = (-1)^n F_n.$$

Note that if the roots of $x^2 + x - 1 = 0$ are α_1^1 and β_1^1 , then $\alpha_1^1 = -\alpha_1$ and $\beta_1^1 = -\beta_1$. Binet's formula for F_n^* is easily obtained as:

$$\begin{aligned} F_n^* &= (-1)^n F_n \\ &= \frac{(-1)^n \alpha_1^n - (-1)^n \beta_1^n}{\sqrt{5}} \\ &= \frac{\alpha_1^n - \beta_1^n}{\sqrt{5}}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$F_n^* = W_n(0, -1; -1, -1).$$

One similarly defines the Associated Extended Fibonacci Sequence $\{W_n\}$ by the relation

$$W_n^* = (-1)^n W_n = \frac{l\alpha^{l^*} - m\beta^{l^*}}{2d}.$$

Then, it is easily proved that W_n^* satisfies the recurrence relation

$$W_n^* = -pW_{n-1}^* - qW_{n-2}^*, \quad n \geq 2$$

with

$$W_0^* = a \quad \text{and} \quad W_1^* = -b.$$

In other words $W_n^* = (a, -b; -p, q)$.

We now define the Associated Generalized Trigonometric Fibonacci Sequence $S_{j,n}^*(x)$. Let $r \geq 1$ be a fixed integer and $j = 0, 1, \dots, r-1$. Let,

$$S_{j,0}^* = \frac{1}{2d} [lM_{r,j}(\alpha^* x) - mM_{r,j}(\beta^* x)] \quad (5.1)$$

where α, β are distinct roots of $x^2 - px + q = 0$, $\alpha^* = \alpha^{1/r}$, $\beta^* = \beta^{1/r}$ and l, m and d are as defined in (1.1). Now define $\{S_{j,n}^*(x)\}$ as follows:

$$S_{j,1}^*(x) = S_{j,0}^{*(r)}(x),$$

$$S_{j,2}^*(x) = S_{j,0}^{*(2r)}(x),$$

and, in general,

$$S_{j,n}^*(x) = S_{j,0}^{*(nr)}(x), \quad n \geq 1.$$

Then, from (2.6) and (5.1), we get

$$S_{j,1}^*(x) = \frac{1}{2d} [-l\alpha M_{r,j}(\alpha^* x) + m\beta M_{r,j}(\beta^* x)],$$

$$S_{j,2}^*(x) = \frac{1}{2d} [-l\alpha^2 M_{r,j}(\alpha^* x) + m\beta^2 M_{r,j}(\beta^* x)],$$

and, in general,

$$S_{j,n}^*(x) = \frac{(-1)^n}{2d} [-l\alpha^n M_{r,j}(\alpha^* x) - m\beta^n M_{r,j}(\beta^* x)], \quad n \geq 1$$

If $p = 1, q = -1, j = 0$ and $r = 1$, we have, from (5.2),

$$\begin{aligned} S_{0,n}^*(x) &= \frac{(-1)^n}{2d} [l\alpha^n e^{-\alpha x} - m\beta^n e^{-\beta x}] \\ &= (-1)^n H_n(-x), \end{aligned}$$

where $H_n(x)$ is Walton and Horadam's Generalized Fibonacci Sequence as defined in (4.1) of [8].

Now Observe from (2.2) that

$$M_{r,j}(0) = \begin{cases} 0, & j \neq 0, \\ 1, & j = 0. \end{cases}$$

Hence, from (5.2), we get

$$\begin{aligned} S_{0,n}^*(0) &= \frac{(-1)^n}{2d} [l\alpha^n - m\beta^n] \\ &= \frac{1}{2d} [l\alpha^n - m\beta^n] \\ &= W_n^*. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, if $p = 1, q = -1, r = 1$ and $a = 0, b = 1$, then we have $l = m = 2$ and $d = \sqrt{5}$. Hence we get,

$$\begin{aligned} S_{0,n}^* &= \frac{(-1)^n (\alpha^n - \beta^n)}{\sqrt{5}} \\ &= F_n^*. \end{aligned}$$

6 Various results for $S_{j,n}^*(x)$

We now list below various identities for $S_{j,n}^*(x)$ which are parallel to those in sections (3.3), (3.4). Proofs also go parallel to those for $S_{j,n}(x)$ and hence are omitted. We write $S_n^*(x)$ for $S_{j,n}^*(x)$.

(1) $S_n^*(x)$ satisfies the following recurrence relation:

$$S_n^*(x) = -pS_{n-1}^* - qS_{n-2}^*.$$

In what follows α^l, β^l are the roots of $x^2 + px + q = 0$. Obviously $\alpha^l = -\alpha$ and $\beta^l = -\beta$.

(2) Binet's Formula for $S_n^*(x)$ is given by

$$S_n^*(x) = \frac{1}{d} \left[(\beta^l S_0^*(x) - S_1^*(x)) \alpha^{ln} + (S_1^*(x) - \alpha^l S_0^*(x)) \beta^l \right].$$

(3) Generating Function $S^*(t)$ of $S_n^*(x)$ is given by

$$S^*(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} S_n^*(x) t^n = \frac{S_0^*(x) + p S_0^*(x)(t) + S_1^*(x)(t)}{1 + pt + qt^2}$$

(4) Exponential Generating Function $E^*(t)$ for $S_n^*(x)$ is given by

$$E^*(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{S_n^*(x) t^n}{n!} = \frac{(-S_1^*(x) + \beta^l S_0^*(x)) e^{\alpha^l t} + (S_1^*(x) - \alpha^l S_0^*(x)) e^{\beta^l t}}{d}.$$

(5)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_{n+1}^*(x)}{S_n^*(x)} = \begin{cases} \beta & \text{if } \left| \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \right| < 1, \\ \alpha & \text{if } \left| \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \right| < 1. \end{cases}$$

(6)

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} S_n^* = \frac{(p+1) [-S_{m+1}^*(x) + S_0^*(x)] + S_1^*(x) - S_{m+2}^*(x)}{p+q+1}$$

In what follows, we write, for fixed integer $r \geq 1$, $T_n^*(l, \alpha; x)$ for $l\alpha^n M_{r,j}(\alpha^* x)$ and $T_n^*(m, \beta; x)$ for $m\beta^n M_{r,j}(\beta^* x)$.

(7)

$$S_{n-1}^*(x) S_{n+1}^*(x) - S_n^{*2}(x) = -\frac{1}{4q} T_n^*(l, \alpha; x) T_n^*(m, \beta; x).$$

(8)

$$S_n^*(x) E_{n+1}^*(x) + q S_{n-1}^*(x) E_n^*(x) = \frac{(-1)^n}{2d} [e^{\alpha x} T_{n+s}^*(l, \alpha; x) - e^{\beta x} T_{n+s}^*(m, \beta; x)].$$

(9)

$$S_n^*(u)E_{s+1}^*(v) + qS_{n-1}^*(u)E_s^*(v) = \frac{(-1)^n}{2d} [e^{\alpha v} T_{n+s}^*(l, \alpha; u) - e^{\beta v} T_{n+s}^*(m, \beta; u)].$$

(10)

$$S_n^{*2}(x) - qS_{n-1}^{*2}(x) = \frac{1}{4d} [\alpha^{-1} T_n^{*2}(l, \alpha; x) - \beta^{-1} T_n^*(m, \beta; x)].$$

(11)

$$S_n^{*2}(x) - q^2 S_{n-1}^{*2}(x) = \frac{p}{4d} [T_n^{*2}(l, \alpha; x) - T_n^{*2}(m, \beta; x)].$$

(12)

$$S_{n-k+1}^*(x)S_{n+k+1}^*(x) - S_{n+1}^{*2}(x) = \frac{1}{4d^2} [T_{n-k+1}^*(l, \alpha; x)T_{n-k+1}^*(m, \beta; x)] (\alpha^k - \beta^k)^2.$$

(13)

$$S_n^*(x)S_{n+l+1}^*(x) - S_{n-k}^*(x)S_{n+k+l+1}^*(x) = \frac{(-1)^{l+1}}{4d^2 q^k} S_n^*(l, \alpha; x)S_n^*(m, \beta; x)(\alpha^k - \beta^k)(\alpha^{l+k+1} - \beta^{l+k+1}).$$

All the above identities are reducible to those for W_n^* and then, in turn, for F_n^* .

References

- [1] M. Elmore. Fibonacci functions. *The Fibonacci Quarterly*, 5(4):371-382, 1967.
- [2] A.F. Horadam. A generalized fibonacci sequence. *The American mathematical Monthly*, 68(5):455-459, 1961.
- [3] A.F. Horadam. Basic properties of a certain generalized sequence of numbers. *The Fibonacci Quarterly*, 3(3):161-176, 1965.
- [4] A.F. Horadam. Special properties of the sequence $W_n(a, b; p, q)$. *The Fibonacci Quarterly*, 5(5):424-434, 1967.

- [5] J.G. Mikusinski. Sur les fonctions

$$k_n(x) = \sum_{v=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^v x^{n+kv}}{(n+kv)!} \quad (k = 1, 2, \dots; n = 0, 1, \dots, k-1)^n.$$

. *Annales de la Societe Polonaize de Mathematique*, 21:46–51, 1948.

- [6] S.P. Pethe and C.N. Phadte. A generalization of the Fibonacci sequence. *Applications of Fibonacci Numbers*, 5:465–472, 1993.
- [7] S.P. Pethe and A. Sharma. Functions analogous to completely convex functions. *Rocky Mountain Journal of Mathematics*, 3(4):591–617, 1973.
- [8] J.E. Walton and A.F. Horadam. Some aspects of generalized Fibonacci numbers. *The Fibonacci Quarterly*, 12(3):241–250, 1974.

This electronic publication and its contents are ©copyright 1995 by Ulam Quarterly. Permission is hereby granted to give away the journal and its contents, but no one may “own” it. Any and all financial interest is hereby assigned to the acknowledged authors of the individual texts. This notification must accompany all distribution of Ulam Quarterly.