

## On the location of the zeros of polynomials defined by linear recursions

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**Abstract.** Let the polynomials  $G_n(x)$  be defined by the recursive formula  $G_n(x) = p(x)G_{n-1}(x) + q(x)G_{n-2}(x)$  for  $n \geq 2$ , where  $p(x)$ ,  $q(x)$ ,  $G_0(x)$  and  $G_1(x)$  are given polynomials with complex coefficients. The notation  $G_n(x) = G_n(p(x), q(x), G_0(x), G_1(x))$  is also used. In this paper we determine the location of the zeros of polynomials  $G_n(x)$  if  $p(x)$ ,  $q(x)$ ,  $G_0(x)$  and  $G_1(x)$  are special polynomials, and give a bound for the absolute values of the complex zeros of the polynomials  $G_n(ax + b, q, c, dx + e)$  if  $a, b, q, d, e \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $aqcd \neq 0$ . The theorems generalize some earlier results.

### 1. Introduction

Let  $p(x)$ ,  $q(x)$ ,  $G_0(x)$  and  $G_1(x)$  be polynomials with complex coefficients and for  $n \geq 2$  let us define the polynomials  $G_n(x)$  by

$$(1) \quad G_n(x) = p(x)G_{n-1}(x) + q(x)G_{n-2}(x).$$

We assume that neither of the polynomials  $p(x)$  and  $q(x)$  is equal to the zero polynomial and at most one of them is constant, furthermore at most one of the polynomials  $G_0(x)$  and  $G_1(x)$  is the zero polynomial. For brevity we use the notation  $G_n(x) = G_n(p(x), q(x), G_0(x), G_1(x))$ , as well.

With special polynomials we can get the well-known Fibonacci polynomials ( $F_n(x)$ ) and the Chebyshev polynomials of the second kind ( $U_n(x)$ ), namely

$$F_n(x) = G_n(x, 1, 0, 1)$$

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and

$$U_n(x) = G_n(2x, -1, 0, 1).$$

It is known, by trigonometrical identities and  $x = \cos \theta$ , that

$$U_n(x) = \frac{\sin n\theta}{\sin \theta} \quad (\theta \in \mathbb{C}, \theta \neq k\pi, k \in \mathbb{Z}),$$

and so the zeros  $z_k$  of the polynomial  $U_n(x)$  are

$$(2) \quad z_k = \cos \frac{k\pi}{n}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n-1.$$

If we consider the polynomials  $G_n(x)$  as polynomial functions of  $x \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $H$  denotes the set of the roots of the equation  $p^2(x) + 4q(x) = 0$ , then for  $x \in \mathbb{C} \setminus H$

$$(3) \quad G_n(x) = a(x)\alpha^n(x) - b(x)\beta^n(x),$$

where  $\alpha(x)$  and  $\beta(x)$  are the roots of the characteristic equation  $\lambda^2 - p(x)\lambda - q(x) = 0$ , that is

$$(4) \quad \alpha(x) = \frac{p(x) + \sqrt{p^2(x) + 4q(x)}}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \beta(x) = \frac{p(x) - \sqrt{p^2(x) + 4q(x)}}{2},$$

while

$$a(x) = \frac{G_1(x) - \beta(x)G_0(x)}{\alpha(x) - \beta(x)} \quad \text{and} \quad b(x) = \frac{G_1(x) - \alpha(x)G_0(x)}{\alpha(x) - \beta(x)}.$$

Recently, some papers have been published on the zeros of the polynomials  $G_n(x)$ . These papers can be separated into two classes. One class deals with the real zeros of the Fibonacci-type polynomials  $G_n(x, 1, G_0(x), G_1(x))$ . For example, MOORE [7] investigated the maximal real zero  $g_n$  of the polynomials  $G_n(x, 1, -1, x-1)$  and proved that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g_n = 3/2$ . In [5], under some restrictions, we observed the accumulation points of the set of real zeros of the polynomials  $G_n(x, 1, G_0(x), G_1(x))$ , while in [4] an asymptotic formula was given for the maximal real zeros of the polynomials  $G_n(x, 1, a, x \pm a)$  ( $a \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ ).

The second class of the above-mentioned papers, among others, investigated the complex zeros of the Morgan–Voyce-type polynomials  $G_n(x+p, q, G_0(x), G_1(x))$  ( $p, q \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ ). Adopting our notation, SWAMY [9], [10]

derived explicit formulae for the zeros of the polynomials  $G_n(x + 2, -1, 1, x + 1)$ ,  $G_n(x + 2, -1, 1, x + 2)$  and  $G_n(x + p, -q, 1, x + p \pm \sqrt{q})$ . ANDRÉ-JEANNIN [1]–[3] determined the zeros of the polynomials  $G_n(x + 2, -1, 1, x + 3)$ ,  $G_n(x + p, -q, 0, 1)$  and  $G_n(x + p, -q, 2, x + p)$ . These results are based upon the relation between these polynomials and  $U_n(x)$ .

Using linear-algebraic methods, RICCI [8] proved for the complex zeros  $z$  of the polynomials  $G_n(x, 1, 1, x + 1)$  ( $n \geq 1$ ) that  $|z| < 2$ , and a similar result was obtained by us in [6] for the complex zeros of the polynomials  $G_n(x, 1, a, x + b)$  ( $a \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}, b \in \mathbb{R}$ ).

The purpose of this paper is to characterize the zeros of the following polynomials:  $G_n(p(x), q(x), 0, 1)$ ,  $G_n(p(x), q, c_0, c_1)$  ( $q, c_0, c_1 \in \mathbb{C}, c_1 = \pm c_0\sqrt{-q}$ ),  $G_n(p(x), q, c, cp(x) + e)$  ( $q, c, e \in \mathbb{C}, e = 0$  or  $\pm c\sqrt{-q} = e$ ) and to find a bound for the zeros of the polynomials  $G_n(ax + b, q, c, dx + e)$ , where  $a, b, q, c, d, e \in \mathbb{C}, aqcd \neq 0$ . From our results one can get the above-mentioned results of SWAMY, ANDRÉ-JEANNIN, RICCI and MÁTYÁS.

## 2. Results

Write

$$\begin{aligned} d_1(x) &= \gcd(p(x), q(x)), \\ d_2(x) &= \gcd(G_1(x), q(x)), \\ d_3(x) &= \gcd(G_0(x), G_1(x)) \end{aligned}$$

and for  $x \in \mathbb{C}$  let  $\sqrt{x}$  denote one of the complex square roots of  $x$  (for example with  $0 \leq \arg(\sqrt{x}) < \pi$ ).

It is obvious by (1) that if  $d_i(x) = 0$  with some  $i$  ( $i = 1, 2, 3$ ) and a complex  $x = z$ , then  $G_n(z) = 0$  for every  $n \geq 2$ . In the sequel we do not deal with these simple cases, therefore we suppose that  $d_i(x) = 1$  for  $i = 1, 2, 3$ .

It can easily be derived from (3) that for  $n \geq 0$

$$(5) \quad G_n(p(x), q(x), 0, G_1(x)) = G_1(x)G_n(p(x), q(x), 0, 1)$$

and for  $n \geq 1$ , by  $\alpha(x)\beta(x) = -q(x)$ ,

$$(6) \quad G_n(p(x), q(x), G_0(x), 0) = G_0(x)q(x)G_{n-1}(p(x), q(x), 0, 1).$$

Since we have supposed that  $d_3(x) = 1$  and  $d_2(x) = 1$ , thus, in (5),  $G_1(x)$  is a constant, while, in (6),  $G_0(x)$  and  $q(x)$  are constants. Therefore, to determine the zeros of the polynomials  $G_n(p(x), q(x), 0, G_1(x))$  and  $G_n(p(x), q(x), G_0(x), 0)$  is enough to consider the case  $G_n(p(x), q(x), 0, 1)$ .

**Theorem 1.** Let  $n \geq 2$ . Then  $G_n(p(x), q(x), 0, 1) = 0$  with a complex  $x = z$  if and only if  $z$  is a root of the equation

$$(7) \quad p(x) - 2\sqrt{-q(x)} \cos \frac{k\pi}{n} = 0$$

for some  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ .

*Remarks.* Because of the signs of the cosines, the roots of (7) do not depend on the choice of the square root of  $-q(x)$ .

By our theorem, to obtain the zeros of  $G_n(p(x), q(x), 0, 1)$  one has to solve  $n-1$  equations of type (7), where the degree of these equations does not depend on  $n$ .

Using (7), some known results on the zeros of special polynomials can be derived. For instance, let  $z_k, z'_k$  and  $z''_k$  denote the zeros of the Fibonacci ( $F_n(x)$ ), Pell ( $P_n(x) = G_n(2x, 1, 0, 1)$ ) and the Jacobsthal polynomial ( $J_n(x) = G_n(1, 2x, 0, 1)$ ), then

$$z_k = 2i \cos \frac{k\pi}{n}, \quad z'_k = i \cos \frac{k\pi}{n} \quad (k = 1, 2, \dots, n-1)$$

and

$$z''_k = -\frac{1}{8\cos^2 \frac{k\pi}{n}} \quad \left(1 \leq k < \frac{n}{2}\right),$$

respectively.

For the polynomial  $G_n(x+p, -q, 0, 1)$  we get that its zeros  $z'''_k$  are

$$z'''_k = -p + 2\sqrt{q} \cos \frac{k\pi}{n} \quad (k = 1, 2, \dots, n-1),$$

as was shown by ANDRÉ-JEANNIN in [2].

In the following theorem we characterize the zeros of the polynomials  $G_n(p(x), q, c_0, c_1)$ , where  $c_0$  and  $c_1$  are special constants.

**Theorem 2.** Let  $q, c_0, c_1 \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $c_1 = \pm c_0\sqrt{-q}$  and  $n \geq 2$ . For a complex number  $x = z$ , in the case  $c_1 = c_0\sqrt{-q}$ ,  $G_n(p(x), q, c_0, c_1) = 0$  if and only if  $z$  satisfies the equation

$$p(x) - 2\sqrt{-q} \cos \frac{2k-1}{2n-1} \pi = 0,$$

while, in the case  $c_1 = -c_0\sqrt{-q}$ ,  $z$  satisfies the equation

$$p(x) - 2\sqrt{-q} \cos \frac{2k}{2n-1} \pi = 0$$

for some  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ .

Considering the zeros of the polynomials  $G_n(p(x), q, c, cp(x) + e)$ , where  $e$  and  $c$  are special constants, we have:

**Theorem 3.** Let  $n \geq 1, q, c \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}, e \in \mathbb{C}, e = 0$  or  $\pm c\sqrt{-q} = e$ . The zeros of the polynomial  $G_n(p(x), q, c, cp(x) + e)$  are equivalent to the roots of the following equations for some  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ :  
in the case  $e = 0$

$$p(x) - 2\sqrt{-q} \cos \frac{k\pi}{n+1} = 0,$$

in the case  $-c\sqrt{-q} = e$

$$p(x) - 2\sqrt{-q} \cos \frac{2k-1}{2n+1} \pi = 0$$

and in the case  $c\sqrt{-q} = e$

$$p(x) - 2\sqrt{-q} \cos \frac{2k}{2n+1} \pi = 0.$$

*Remark.* The mentioned results on the zeros of the Morgan-Voyce-type polynomials follow from Theorem 3 if we substitute the actual polynomials. For example the zeros  $x = z_k$  of  $G_n(x + p, -q, 1, x + p + \sqrt{q})$  are

$$z_k = -p + 2\sqrt{q} \cos \frac{2k}{2n+1} \pi \quad (k = 1, 2, \dots, n),$$

since in this case  $c\sqrt{-q} = e$ .

Moreover, using linear-algebraic methods, we derive a bound for the zeros of a general class of polynomials  $G_n(ax+b, q, c, dx+e)$ . The following theorem generalizes the result of [6].

**Theorem 4.** Let  $a, b, q, c, d, e \in \mathbb{C}, aqcd \neq 0$  and  $n \geq 1$ . If  $G_n(ax + b, q, c, dx + e) = 0$  for  $x = x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ , then

$$\max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i| \leq \frac{1}{|ad|} \left( \max(|ca\sqrt{q}| + |ae - db|, 2|d\sqrt{q}|) + |bd| \right).$$

*Remark.* According to Theorem 4, for example the zeros of the Fermat–Lucas polynomials  $G_n(3x, -2, 2, 3x)$  satisfy the inequality  $|z| \leq 2\sqrt{2}/3$  for every  $n \geq 1$ .

### 3. Lemmas and proofs

To prove our theorems some auxiliary results are needed.

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $G_n(x) = G_n(p(x), q(x), G_0(x), G_1(x))$  and the degree of  $q(x) \geq 1$ . If  $q(z) = 0$  with a complex  $z$ , then  $G_n(z) \neq 0$  for every  $n \geq 1$ .*

PROOF. By the assumption  $d_2(x) = 1$  we have  $G_1(z) \neq 0$ . If there is an  $n \geq 2$  for which  $G_n(z) = 0$ , then (1) and  $d_1(x) = 1$  imply  $G_{n-1}(z) = 0$ , but this leads to  $G_1(z) = 0$ , which is a contradiction.

According to Lemma 1, the zeros of the polynomial  $q(x)$  can be omitted at the investigation of zeros of the polynomial  $G_n(x)$ . Let  $K = \{z : z \in \mathbb{C}, q(z) = 0\}$  and  $H$  is as before, that is,  $H = \{z : z \in \mathbb{C}, p^2(z) + 4q(z) = 0\}$ .

**Lemma 2.** *For  $x \in \mathbb{C} \setminus (H \cup K)$  and  $n \geq 1$  we have*

$$G_n(p(x), q(x), G_0(x), G_1(x)) = \left(\sqrt{\pm q(x)}\right)^{n-1} G_n\left(\frac{p(x)}{\sqrt{\pm q(x)}}, \pm 1, \sqrt{\pm q(x)}G_0(x), G_1(x)\right),$$

where the same signs are taken together.

PROOF. By (4),

$$\alpha(x) = \frac{p(x) + \sqrt{p^2(x) + 4q(x)}}{2} = \sqrt{\pm q(x)} \frac{\frac{p(x)}{\sqrt{\pm q(x)}} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{p(x)}{\sqrt{\pm q(x)}}\right)^2 \pm 4}}{2}$$

and

$$\beta(x) = \frac{p(x) - \sqrt{p^2(x) + 4q(x)}}{2} = \sqrt{\pm q(x)} \frac{\frac{p(x)}{\sqrt{\pm q(x)}} - \sqrt{\left(\frac{p(x)}{\sqrt{\pm q(x)}}\right)^2 \pm 4}}{2}.$$

The equation  $\lambda^2 - \frac{p(x)}{\sqrt{\pm q(x)}}\lambda - (\pm 1) = 0$  is the characteristic equation of the polynomials  $G_n\left(\frac{p(x)}{\sqrt{\pm q(x)}}, \pm 1, \sqrt{\pm q(x)}G_0(x), G_1(x)\right)$  and let  $\alpha^*(x)$  and  $\beta^*(x)$  denote the roots of it. Then

$$\alpha^*(x)\sqrt{\pm q(x)} = \alpha(x), \quad \beta^*(x)\sqrt{\pm q(x)} = \beta(x)$$

and (3) yield

$$\begin{aligned} & G_n(p(x), q(x), G_0(x), G_1(x)) \\ &= \frac{G_1(x) - \sqrt{\pm q(x)}G_0(x)\beta^*(x)}{\sqrt{\pm q(x)}(\alpha^*(x) - \beta^*(x))} \left(\sqrt{\pm q(x)}\right)^n \alpha^{*n}(x) \\ &\quad - \frac{G_1(x) - \sqrt{\pm q(x)}G_0(x)\alpha^*(x)}{\sqrt{\pm q(x)}(\alpha^*(x) - \beta^*(x))} \left(\sqrt{\pm q(x)}\right)^n \beta^{*n}(x) \\ &= \left(\sqrt{\pm q(x)}\right)^{n-1} G_n\left(\frac{p(x)}{\sqrt{\pm q(x)}}, \pm 1, \sqrt{\pm q(x)}G_0(x), G_1(x)\right). \end{aligned}$$

The next lemma shows a relation between the polynomials  $U_n(x)$  and  $G_n(2x, -1, 1, t)$ , where  $t \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ .

**Lemma 3.** For  $n \geq 1$  and  $t \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$

$$G_n(2x, -1, 1, t) = tU_n(x) - U_{n-1}(x).$$

PROOF. It is easy to verify that  $G_1(2x, -1, 1, t) = t = tU_1(x) - U_0(x)$  and  $G_2(2x, -1, 1, t) = 2xt - 1 = tU_2(x) - U_1(x)$ . Furthermore, we suppose that the statement is true for  $n - 1$  and  $n - 2$  ( $n \geq 3$ ) then, by (1) and our induction hypothesis,

$$\begin{aligned} G_n(2x, -1, 1, t) &= 2xG_{n-1}(2x, -1, 1, t) - G_{n-2}(2x, -1, 1, t) \\ &= 2x(tU_{n-1}(x) - U_{n-2}(x)) - (tU_{n-2}(x) - U_{n-3}(x)) \\ &= t(2xU_{n-1}(x) - U_{n-2}(x)) - (2xU_{n-2}(x) - U_{n-3}(x)) \\ &= tU_n(x) - U_{n-1}(x). \end{aligned}$$

To prove Theorem 4 we need the following lemma.

**Lemma 4.** *Let  $n \geq 1$  and  $a, b \in \mathbb{C}$  ( $a \neq 0$ ). If  $G_n(x, 1, a, x + b) = 0$  for the complex numbers  $x = x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ , then*

$$\max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i| \leq \max(|a| + |b|, 2)$$

for every  $n \geq 1$ .

PROOF. The proof of this lemma can be found in [6]. An outline of the proof is as follows. First one can verify by induction on  $n$  that the polynomial  $G_n(x, 1, a, x + b)$  is the characteristic polynomial of the  $n \times n$  matrix

$$\mathbf{A}_n = \begin{pmatrix} -b & -ai & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -i & 0 & -i & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -i & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & -i & 0 & -i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -i & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Therefore, the roots of  $G_n(x, 1, a, x + b) = 0$  are the eigenvalues of the matrix  $\mathbf{A}_n$ . We get, by Gershgorin's theorem, that the eigenvalues (roots)  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  are in or on the so-called Gershgorin circles. In our case there are only two distinct circles (with distinct midpoints). Their midpoints are  $-b$  and  $0$  in the Gaussian plane, while their radii are  $|a|$  and  $2$ , respectively. From this the inequality

$$\max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i| \leq \max(|a| + |b|, 2)$$

follows immediately for every  $n \geq 1$ .

PROOF of Theorem 1. Using Lemma 2, we get that for  $x \in \mathbb{C} \setminus (H \cup K)$

$$G_n(p(x), q(x), 0, 1) = \left(\sqrt{-q(x)}\right)^{n-1} G_n\left(\frac{p(x)}{\sqrt{-q(x)}}, -1, 0, 1\right).$$

Let

$$(8) \quad 2y = \frac{p(x)}{\sqrt{-q(x)}},$$

then

$$G_n\left(\frac{p(x)}{\sqrt{-q(x)}}, -1, 0, 1\right) = G_n(2y, -1, 0, 1) = U_n(y).$$



By (2),  $U_n(y_k) = 0$  if and only if  $y_k = \cos \frac{k\pi}{n}$  ( $k = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$ ). Therefore, with (8), the zeros of the polynomial  $G_n(p(x), q(x), 0, 1)$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) satisfy the equation  $p(x) - 2\sqrt{-q(x)} \cos \frac{k\pi}{n} = 0$  for some  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$ .

PROOF of Theorem 2. According to Lemma 2 and (3), for  $n \geq 2$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} G_n(p(x), q, c_0, c_1) &= (\sqrt{-q})^{n-1} G_n\left(\frac{p(x)}{\sqrt{-q}}, -1, c_0\sqrt{-q}, c_1\right) \\ &= (\sqrt{-q})^n c_0 G_n\left(\frac{p(x)}{\sqrt{-q}}, -1, 1, \frac{c_1}{c_0\sqrt{-q}}\right). \end{aligned}$$

With

$$(9) \quad 2y = \frac{p(x)}{\sqrt{-q}},$$

one can see that

$$G_n(p(x), q, c_0, c_1) = (\sqrt{-q})^n c_0 G_n\left(2y, -1, 1, \frac{c_1}{c_0\sqrt{-q}}\right),$$

from which, by Lemma 3,

$$G_n(p(x), q, c_0, c_1) = (\sqrt{-q})^n c_0 \left(\frac{c_1}{c_0\sqrt{-q}} U_n(y) - U_{n-1}(y)\right)$$

follows. Therefore,  $G_n(p(x), q, c_0, c_1) = 0$  if and only if

$$\frac{c_1}{c_0\sqrt{-q}} U_n(y) = U_{n-1}(y),$$

hence, with  $y = \cos \theta$  ( $\theta \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{k\pi : k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ ), we get

$$(10) \quad \frac{c_1}{c_0\sqrt{-q}} \frac{\sin n\theta}{\sin \theta} = \frac{\sin(n-1)\theta}{\sin \theta}.$$

In our cases, (10) can easily be solved for every  $n \geq 2$ . That is, if  $c_1 = c_0\sqrt{-q}$  then  $\theta = \frac{2k-1}{2n-1}\pi$  ( $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ) are the solutions of (10), and so we get the distinct values  $y_k$  by

$$y_k = \cos \frac{2k-1}{2n-1}\pi \quad (k = 1, 2, \dots, n-1).$$

If  $c_1 = -c_0\sqrt{-q}$  then the solutions of (10) are  $\theta = \frac{2k}{2n-1}\pi$  ( $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ), and so the distinct values  $y_k$  are

$$y_k = \cos \frac{2k}{2n-1}\pi \quad (k = 1, 2, \dots, n-1).$$

Using (9), the desired formulae can be obtained.

PROOF of Theorem 3. It is easy to see by (1) that for  $n \geq 1$

$$G_n(p(x), q, c, cp(x) + e) = G_{n+1}\left(p(x), q, \frac{e}{q}, c\right).$$

If  $e = 0$  then, by Theorem 1, the zeros of  $G_n(p(x), q, c, cp(x))$  and

$$p(x) - 2\sqrt{-q} \cos \frac{k\pi}{n+1} = 0$$

coincide for some  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

If  $-c\sqrt{-q} = e$  or  $c\sqrt{-q} = e$  then, by Theorem 2, the zeros of the polynomial  $G_n(p(x), q, c, cp(x) + e)$  and the roots of the equations

$$p(x) - 2\sqrt{-q} \cos \frac{2k-1}{2n+1}\pi = 0$$

or

$$p(x) - 2\sqrt{-q} \cos \frac{2k}{2n+1}\pi = 0$$

are the same for some  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , respectively.

PROOF of Theorem 4. By Lemma 2,

$$G_n(ax + b, q, c, dx + e) = (\sqrt{q})^{n-1} G_n\left(\frac{ax + b}{\sqrt{q}}, 1, c\sqrt{q}, dx + e\right).$$

With

$$(11) \quad y = \frac{ax + b}{\sqrt{q}} \quad \left(x = \frac{y\sqrt{q} - b}{a}\right),$$

we get

$$G_n(ax + b, q, c, dx + e) = (\sqrt{q})^{n-1} G_n\left(y, 1, c\sqrt{q}, \frac{d\sqrt{q}}{a}y + \frac{ae - db}{a}\right),$$

from which, by (3),

$$G_n(ax + b, q, c, dx + e) = (\sqrt{q})^n \frac{d}{a} G_n \left( y, 1, \frac{ca}{d}, y + \frac{ae - db}{d\sqrt{q}} \right)$$

follows. According to Lemma 4, the roots  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$  of the equation

$$G_n \left( y, 1, \frac{ca}{d}, y + \frac{ae - db}{d\sqrt{q}} \right) = 0$$

satisfy the inequality

$$\max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |y_i| \leq \max \left( \left| \frac{ca}{d} \right| + \left| \frac{ae - db}{d\sqrt{q}} \right|, 2 \right)$$

for every  $n \geq 1$ . That is, by (11),

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i| &\leq \left| \frac{\sqrt{q}}{a} \right| \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |y_i| + \left| \frac{b}{a} \right| \\ &\leq \left| \frac{\sqrt{q}}{a} \right| \max \left( \left| \frac{ca}{d} \right| + \left| \frac{ae - db}{d\sqrt{q}} \right|, 2 \right) + \left| \frac{b}{a} \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{|ad|} \left( \max(|ac\sqrt{q}| + |ae - bd|, 2|d\sqrt{q}|) + |bd| \right). \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof.

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