Electronic Transactions on Numerical Analysis. Volume 30, pp. 26-53, 2008. Copyright © 2008, Kent State University. ISSN 1068-9613. ETNA Kent State University http://etna.math.kent.edu

GEGENBAUER POLYNOMIALS AND SEMISEPARABLE MATRICES*

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Abstract. In this paper, we develop a new $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$ algorithm for converting coefficients between expansions in different families of Gegenbauer polynomials up to a finite degree n. To this end, we show that the corresponding linear mapping is represented by the eigenvector matrix of an explicitly known diagonal plus upper triangular semiseparable matrix. The method is based on a new efficient algorithm for computing the eigendecomposition of such a matrix. Using fast summation techniques, the eigenvectors of an $n \times n$ matrix can be computed explicitly with $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ arithmetic operations and the eigenvector matrix can be applied to an arbitrary vector at cost $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$. All algorithms are accurate up to a prefixed accuracy ε . We provide brief numerical results.

Key words. Gegenbauer polynomials, polynomial transforms, semiseparable matrices, eigendecomposition, spectral divide-and-conquer methods

AMS subject classifications. 42C10, 42C20, 15A18, 15A23, 15A57, 65T50, 65Y20

*Received March 6, 2007. Accepted for publication November 16, 2007. Published online on May 1, 2008. Recommended by V. Olshevsky.

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