

1-1-2010

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### Recommended Citation

KORUOĞLU, ÖZDEN and ŞAHİN, RECEP (2010) "Generalized Fibonacci sequences related to the extended hecke groups and an application to the extended modular group," *Turkish Journal of Mathematics*: Vol. 34: No. 3, Article 3. <https://doi.org/10.3906/mat-0902-33>

Available at: <https://dctubitak.researchcommons.org/math/vol34/iss3/3>

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## Generalized Fibonacci sequences related to the extended hecke groups and an application to the extended modular group

Özden Koruoğlu and Recep Şahin

### Abstract

The extended Hecke groups  $\overline{H}(\lambda_q)$  are generated by  $T(z) = -1/z$ ,  $S(z) = -1/(z + \lambda_q)$  and  $R(z) = 1/\bar{z}$  with  $\lambda_q = 2 \cos(\pi/q)$  for  $q \geq 3$  integer. In this paper, we obtain a sequence which is a generalized version of the Fibonacci sequence given in [6] for the extended modular group  $\overline{\Gamma}$ , in the extended Hecke groups  $\overline{H}(\lambda_q)$ . Then we apply our results to  $\overline{\Gamma}$  to find all elements of the extended modular group  $\overline{\Gamma}$ .

**Key Words:** Extended Hecke groups, extended modular group, Fibonacci numbers

### 1. Introduction

In [4], Erich Hecke introduced the groups  $H(\lambda)$  generated by two linear fractional transformations

$$T(z) = -\frac{1}{z} \quad \text{and} \quad U(z) = z + \lambda,$$

where  $\lambda$  is a fixed positive real number. Let  $S = TU$ , i.e.

$$S(z) = -\frac{1}{z + \lambda}.$$

E. Hecke showed that  $H(\lambda)$  is discrete if and only if  $\lambda = \lambda_q = 2 \cos \frac{\pi}{q}$ ,  $q \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $q \geq 3$ , or  $\lambda \geq 2$ . These groups have come to be known as the *Hecke Groups*, and we will denote them  $H(\lambda_q)$ ,  $H(\lambda)$ , for  $q \geq 3$ ,  $\lambda \geq 2$ , respectively. Hecke group  $H(\lambda_q)$  is the Fuchsian group of the first kind when  $\lambda = \lambda_q$  or  $\lambda = 2$ , and  $H(\lambda)$  is the Fuchsian group of the second kind when  $\lambda > 2$ . In this study, we will focus the case  $\lambda = \lambda_q$ ,  $q \geq 3$ . Hecke group  $H(\lambda_q)$  is isomorphic to the free product of two finite cyclic groups of orders 2 and  $q$  and it has a presentation

$$H(\lambda_q) = \langle T, S \mid T^2 = S^q = I \rangle \cong C_2 * C_q. \quad (1)$$

In the literature, the Hecke groups  $H(\lambda_q)$  and their normal subgroups have been extensively studied in

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*AMS Mathematics Subject Classification:* 20H10, 11F06, 11B39.

many aspects (see [1], [2] and [5]).

The extended Hecke group, denoted by  $\overline{H}(\lambda_q)$ , has been defined in [11] and [12] by adding the reflection  $R(z) = 1/\bar{z}$  to the generators of the Hecke group  $H(\lambda_q)$ . In [11], [12] and [14], some normal subgroups of the extended Hecke groups  $\overline{H}(\lambda_q)$  (commutator subgroups, even subgroups, principal congruence subgroups, Fuchsian subgroups) and some relations between them were studied. The extended Hecke group  $\overline{H}(\lambda_q)$  has the presentation

$$\langle T, S, R \mid T^2 = S^q = R^2 = I, RT = TR, RS = S^{q-1}R \rangle \cong D_2 *_{\mathbb{Z}_2} D_q. \tag{2}$$

The Hecke group  $H(\lambda_q)$  is a subgroup of index 2 in  $\overline{H}(\lambda_q)$ . It is clear that  $\overline{H}(\lambda_q) \subset PGL(2, \mathbb{Z}[\lambda_q])$  when  $q > 3$  and  $\overline{H}(\lambda_q) = PGL(2, \mathbb{Z}[\lambda_q])$  when  $q = 3$ .

Throughout this paper, we identify each matrix  $A$  in  $GL(2, \mathbb{Z}[\lambda_q])$  with  $-A$ , so that they each represent the same element of  $\overline{H}(\lambda_q)$ . Thus we can represent the generators of the extended Hecke group  $\overline{H}(\lambda_q)$  as

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, S = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & \lambda_q \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } R = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

If  $q = 3$ , then the extended Hecke group  $\overline{H}(\lambda_3)$  is the extended modular group  $\overline{\Gamma} = PGL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ . The extended modular group  $\overline{\Gamma}$  has been intensively studied. For examples of these studies see [6], [15]. In [13], they have investigated the power and free subgroups of the extended modular group  $\overline{\Gamma}$ .

In [6], Jones and Thornton found that there is a relationship between Fibonacci numbers and the entries of a matrix representation of an element of the extended modular group  $\overline{\Gamma}$ . If

$$f = RTS = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in \overline{\Gamma},$$

then the  $k^{\text{th}}$  power of  $f$  is

$$f^k = \begin{pmatrix} f_{k-1} & f_k \\ f_k & f_{k+1} \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $f_k$  is the Fibonacci sequence defined by  $f_0 = 0$ ,  $f_1 = 1$  and  $f_k = f_{k-1} + f_{k-2}$ .

Also, there are some papers related with relationships between Pell-numbers, Fibonacci and Lucas numbers and modular group in [8], [9] and [10].

In this paper, we obtain a sequence which is a generalized version of the Fibonacci sequence given in [6] for the extended modular group  $\overline{\Gamma}$ , in the extended Hecke groups  $\overline{H}(\lambda_q)$ . Then we apply our results to  $\overline{\Gamma}$  to find all elements of the extended modular group  $\overline{\Gamma}$ . In fact, in [16], Özgür found two sequences which are generalization of Fibonacci sequence and Lucas sequence in the Hecke groups  $H(\sqrt{q})$ ,  $q \geq 5$  prime. The Hecke groups  $H(\sqrt{q})$ ,  $q \geq 5$  prime, are Fuchsian groups of the second kind and they do not contain any anti-automorphism. Since our studied groups contain reflections, they are *NEC* groups. To obtain the results given in Section 2 we use same method used in [16].

**2. Generalized Fibonacci sequences in the extended Hecke groups  $\overline{H}(\lambda_q)$**

Firstly, let

$$h = TSR = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_q & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } f = RTS = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & \lambda_q \end{pmatrix}$$

from  $\overline{H}(\lambda_q)$ .

**Lemma 1** For the element  $h = TSR$  in  $\overline{H}(\lambda_q)$ , the  $k^{\text{th}}$  power of  $h$  is as follows,

$$h^k = \begin{pmatrix} a_k & a_{k-1} \\ a_{k-1} & a_{k-2} \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $a_0 = 1$ ,  $a_1 = \lambda_q$  and  $a_k = \lambda_q a_{k-1} + a_{k-2}$ , for  $k \geq 2$ .

**Proof.** In order to prove, first of all, let us show

$$h^k = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_q a_{k-1} + b_{k-1} & a_{k-1} \\ a_{k-1} & b_{k-1} \end{pmatrix}.$$

For this we use induction method. Let

$$h = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ c_1 & d_1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } h^k = \begin{pmatrix} a_k & b_k \\ c_k & d_k \end{pmatrix}.$$

If we continue using  $h = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_q & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , we find  $h^2$  as

$$h^2 = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_q & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_q & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + \lambda_q^2 & \lambda_q \\ \lambda_q & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_q a_1 + b_1 & a_1 \\ a_1 & b_1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus the correct result for  $k = 2$  is obtained. Now, let us assume that

$$h^{k-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_q a_{k-2} + b_{k-2} & a_{k-2} \\ a_{k-2} & b_{k-2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Finally  $h^k$  is found as

$$\begin{aligned} h^k &= \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_q a_{k-2} + b_{k-2} & a_{k-2} \\ a_{k-2} & b_{k-2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_q & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} a_{k-2} + \lambda_q(\lambda_q a_{k-2} + b_{k-2}) & b_{k-2} + \lambda_q a_{k-2} \\ b_{k-2} + \lambda_q a_{k-2} & a_{k-2} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_q a_{k-1} + b_{k-1} & a_{k-1} \\ a_{k-1} & b_{k-1} \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Notice that  $b_2 = a_1$ ,  $b_{k-1} = a_{k-2}$  and  $b_k = a_{k-1}$ . Together with these, due to the boundary condition of  $a_0 = 1$ , we get  $b_1 = a_0$  and

$$h^k = \begin{pmatrix} a_k & a_{k-1} \\ a_{k-1} & a_{k-2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Therefore, we get a real number sequence  $a_k$ . The definition and boundary conditions of this sequence are

$$\begin{aligned} a_k &= \lambda_q a_{k-1} + a_{k-2}, \text{ for } k \geq 2, \\ a_0 &= 1, a_1 = \lambda_q. \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

□

Similar to the previous theorem we can give the following corollary.

**Corollary 2** *The  $k^{\text{th}}$  power of  $f$  is*

$$f^k = \begin{pmatrix} a_{k-1} & a_k \\ a_k & a_{k+1} \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $a_0 = 1$ ,  $a_1 = \lambda_q$  and  $a_k = \lambda_q a_{k-1} + a_{k-2}$ , for  $k \geq 2$ .

Notice that this result coincides with the ones given by Jones and Thornton in [6, p. 28].

We mentioned a sequence  $a_k$  in the Lemma 1. Now, let us give the general formula of this sequence  $a_k$ . We will get a generalized Fibonacci sequence by this formula.

**Proposition 3** *For all  $k \geq 2$ ,*

$$a_k = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}} \left[ \left( \frac{\lambda_q + \sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}}{2} \right)^{k+1} - \left( \frac{\lambda_q - \sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}}{2} \right)^{k+1} \right]. \tag{4}$$

**Proof.** To solve the equation (3), let  $a_k$  to be a characteristic polynomial  $r^k$ . Then we get the equation

$$r^k = \lambda_q r^{k-1} + r^{k-2} \Rightarrow r^2 - \lambda_q r - 1 = 0.$$

The roots of this equation are

$$r_{1,2} = \frac{\lambda_q \pm \sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}}{2}.$$

Benefiting from these roots  $r_{1,2}$ , we will reach a general formula of  $a_k$ . If we write  $a_k$  as combinations of the roots  $r_{1,2}$ , we get

$$a_k = A \left( \frac{\lambda_q + \sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}}{2} \right)^k + B \left( \frac{\lambda_q - \sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}}{2} \right)^k.$$

Notice that  $a_0 = 1$  and  $a_1 = \lambda_q$ , we can compute constants  $A$  and  $B$ .

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= 1 = A + B, \\ a_1 &= \lambda_q = A \left( \frac{\lambda_q + \sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}}{2} \right) + B \left( \frac{\lambda_q - \sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}}{2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$2\lambda_q = A(\lambda_q + \sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}) + (1 - A)(\lambda_q - \sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}).$$

Hence constants  $A$  and  $B$  are

$$A = \frac{\lambda_q + \sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}}{2\sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}} \text{ and } B = \frac{\sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4} - \lambda_q}{2\sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}}.$$

As the last step, we get the formula of  $a_k$  as

$$\begin{aligned} a_k &= \left( \frac{\lambda_q + \sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}}{2\sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}} \right) \left( \frac{\lambda_q + \sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}}{2} \right)^k + \left( \frac{\sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4} - \lambda_q}{2\sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}} \right) \left( \frac{\lambda_q - \sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}}{2} \right)^k \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}} \left[ \left( \frac{\lambda_q + \sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}}{2} \right)^{k+1} - \left( \frac{\lambda_q - \sqrt{\lambda_q^2 + 4}}{2} \right)^{k+1} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

□

This formula, as seen, is a generalized Fibonacci sequence. If  $\lambda_q = 1$ , we get the common Fibonacci sequence used in the literature. Here  $a_k = h_{k+1}$  is the  $(k + 1)^{\text{th}}$  Fibonacci number. Also, the Fibonacci sequence is

$$a_k = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left[ \left( \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{k+1} - \left( \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{k+1} \right] = h_{k+1}.$$

So we get

$$h^k = \begin{pmatrix} h_{k+1} & h_k \\ h_k & h_{k-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

in the extended modular group  $\bar{\Gamma}$ .

This outcome is very important for us. Since, in the following section of this paper, we get all the elements of the extended modular group  $\bar{\Gamma}$  by using the Fibonacci numbers. Thus the extended modular group  $\bar{\Gamma}$  and related topics can be studied more thoroughly by the help of these results in future works.

### 3. An application to the extended modular group

Now we give an application of our findings given above to the extended modular group  $\bar{\Gamma}$ .

From [3] and [7], we know that the following matrices are called blocks in the modular group and the extended modular group:

$$TS = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } TS^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

Let  $W(T, S, R)$  be a reduced word in  $\bar{\Gamma}$  such that the sum of exponents of  $R$  is even number; then this word is

$$S^i(TS)^{m_0}(TS^2)^{n_0} \dots (TS)^{m_k}(TS^2)^{n_k}T^j \quad (6)$$

and  $W(T, S, R)$  is a reduced word in  $\bar{\Gamma}$  such that the sum of exponents of  $R$  is odd number, then this word is

$$RS^i(TS)^{m_0}(TS^2)^{n_0} \dots (TS)^{m_k}(TS^2)^{n_k}T^j \quad (7)$$

for  $i = 0, 1, 2$  and  $j = 0, 1$ . The exponents of blocks are positive integers, but  $m_0$  and  $n_k$  may be zero. This representation is general and called a *block reduced form*, abbreviated as *BRF* in [7].

We can write any reduced word in *BRF* by these blocks. For examples, the word  $TSTSTSTTS^2TS^2TS$  in *BRF* is  $(TS)^3(TS^2)^2(TS)$  and the word  $RTS^2RTS^2R$  in *BRF* is  $R(TS^2)(TS)$ .

By using these *BRF*'s, in [3], Fine has studied trace classes in the modular group  $\Gamma$ . Then, in [7], Koruoğlu et al. have investigated trace classes in the extended modular group  $\bar{\Gamma}$ .

Now we need the following matrices to get the main results in the extended modular group  $\bar{\Gamma}$ .

$$f = RTS = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad h = RTS^2 = TSR = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (8)$$

These matrices are important for our work and specific cases of  $f$  and  $h$  given in Section 2 for  $\lambda_q = 1$ . To obtain each element in the forms (6) or (7) in  $\bar{\Gamma}$  by powers of  $h$  and  $f$ , we need the following definition.

**Definition 4**  $f$  and  $h$  are called new blocks. The word  $W(T, S, R)$  in *BRF* is called a new block reduced form abbreviated as *NBRF* if  $W(T, S, R)$  is obtained by powers of  $h$  and  $f$ .

Now we give the following corollary.

**Corollary 5** Each reduced word in the extended modular group  $\bar{\Gamma}$  has a *NBRF*.

**Proof.** Let  $W(T, S, R)$  be a reduced word in  $\bar{\Gamma}$ . Then in  $BRF$ ,  $W(T, S, R)$  is either

$$S^i(TS)^{m_0}(TS^2)^{n_0}\dots(TS)^{m_k}(TS^2)^{n_k}T^j,$$

or

$$RS^i(TS)^{m_0}(TS^2)^{n_0}\dots(TS)^{m_k}(TS^2)^{n_k}T^j.$$

For the blocks  $TS$  and  $TS^2$  in  $W(T, S, R)$ , we obtain the relations  $TS = Rf = hR$  and  $TS^2 = Rh = fR$ . Therefore, if these relations are written instead of  $TS$  and  $TS^2$  in  $W(T, S, R)$ , we get desired result.  $\square$

By using the Corollary 5 we can find all elements of the extended modular group  $\bar{\Gamma}$  by powers of  $h$  and  $f$ . Now, let us give an application by using results we found so far.

**Example 6** Let the word in  $BRF$ ,

$$W = (TS^2)(TS)^2(TS^2)(TS)^2,$$

be in the extended modular group  $\bar{\Gamma}$ . Owing to the relations  $TS = Rf = hR$  and  $TS^2 = Rh = fR$ ,

$$W = (Rh)(Rf)(Rf)(Rh)(Rf)(Rf).$$

Therefore, this word in  $NBRF$  is obtained as

$$\begin{aligned} W = f^2h^3f &= \begin{pmatrix} f_1 & f_2 \\ f_2 & f_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} h_4 & h_3 \\ h_3 & h_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_0 & f_1 \\ f_1 & f_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

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Received 27.02.2009

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