

# Correctness, proof completeness, and novelty audit

## Positivity of Nearly Linearly Recurrent Sequences

Amaury Pouly, Mahsa Shirmohammadi, James Worrell

|                |                                                                           |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Paper          | arXiv:2508.00944v3                                                        |
| Source version | Submitted 26 July, 2026; v1 submitted 31 July, 2025; announced July 2025. |
| Audit date     | August 15, 2026                                                           |
| Prompt         | Standardized prompt                                                       |
| Novelty cutoff | July 31, 2025                                                             |
| Paper license  | CC BY 4.0                                                                 |
| Scope          | Statements, proofs, and novelty only                                      |

**Important limitation.** AI-generated analysis. This report is not a correctness certificate or a substitute for expert scrutiny. A Correct status may coexist with yellow typos or minor formal corrections that do not affect substantive soundness. It means that this audit found no unresolved substantive error under the stated criteria; it is not formal verification and should remain open to expert challenge and correction.

### SUMMARY

|    |            |                         |
|----|------------|-------------------------|
| 01 | Statements | Correct                 |
| 02 | Proofs     | Correct                 |
| 03 | Novelty    | No non-novelty findings |

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## 01 / STATEMENTS

# Statements

## Correct

The order-two positivity decision procedure and the two transcendence theorems are supported under their stated algebraicity, spectral, and independence hypotheses.

## Theorem 1: Positivity is decidable for order-two nearly linear recurrences

Pages 6–7 · Theorem 1 and Equations (7)–(10) · arXiv:2508.00944v3

## Correct

Minimizing each control contribution independently gives the exact pointwise minimum sequence in Equation (9). If a power of the companion matrix has positive real spectrum, eventual signs and all required partial sums are effective linear recurrences. In the remaining complex-conjugate cases, density of the irrational rotation settles spectral radius at least one. For spectral radius below one, Theorem 2 makes the computable limiting value nonzero, so approximation with an effective tail bound eventually determines its sign and reduces positivity to finitely many algebraic comparisons. The case split and all root-of-unity and modulus tests are effective.

## Theorem 2: Transcendence of the absolute-value series for a conjugate pair

Pages 7–14 · Theorem 2, Propositions 4–6, and Claims 8–9 · arXiv:2508.00944v3

## Correct

The convergent denominators of the irrational argument produce recurrences for  $u_m = a\lambda^m + \bar{a}\bar{\lambda}^m$  whose absolute-value failures occur only at visits to two shrinking intervals. Proposition 6 gives both the required sparseness and the upper return-time bound. Truncating the resulting identity yields a linear form that is exponentially smaller than its height, while Claims 8 and 9 verify both hypotheses of Lemma 7. Multiplicative independence of  $\lambda/\bar{\lambda}$  and the divergence of the relevant exponent differences then exclude every finite-ratio alternative supplied by the Subspace Theorem.

## Theorem 12: Transcendence for simple recurrences with two dominant roots

Pages 16–23 · Theorem 12 and Propositions 13–17 · arXiv:2508.00944v3

## Correct

The cited lower bound for nondegenerate algebraic recurrences makes the sign of the sequence eventually equal to the sign of its two dominant conjugate terms. The higher-order recurrence in Equation (28), the shrinking-interval description of its exceptional indices, and the non-cancellation argument in Propositions 14–17 are valid under multiplicative independence of all characteristic roots. The height estimates and visit-gap bounds in Claims 18 and 19 meet Lemma 7's hypotheses, and Proposition 16 excludes each possible constant quotient of two distinct  $S$ -unit coordinates.

## 02 / PROOFS

# Proofs

## Correct

The reductions, recurrence identities, continued-fraction return estimates, and Subspace-Theorem arguments supporting the central results are correct and complete. No substantive or literal defect survived the mandatory finding gate.

## Theorem 1 reduction: The bang-bang minimum and four spectral cases are exhaustive

Pages 4–7 · Sections 2.2–2.3 · arXiv:2508.00944v3

### Correct and complete

Equation (8) chooses the correct endpoint of  $[\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_1]$  for each independent control coefficient and therefore gives the actual minimum at each time. The real-spectrum and root-of-unity cases reduce to effectively signed interleaved recurrences. In the non-torsion complex cases, the three alternatives  $|\lambda| > 1$ ,  $|\lambda| = 1$ , and  $|\lambda| < 1$  are handled with the correct inequality directions. In the last case, exponential convergence supplies an effective index after the nonzero limit's sign has been isolated.

## Lemma 7: The required lower bound for an $S$ -integer plus $S$ -units

Pages 10–16 · Lemma 7 and Appendix A · arXiv:2508.00944v3

### Correct and complete

The normalized absolute values satisfy the product formula used in the height calculations. The first inequality confines the tuple to finitely many proper subspaces by the stated  $p$ -adic Subspace Theorem; eliminating the non-unit coordinate in each resulting hyperplane reduces to the standard finite-ratio theorem for sums of  $S$ -units. The one-coordinate residual case is correctly closed by Northcott finiteness. These are exactly the alternatives used later.

## Proof of Theorem 2: Exceptional visits and height inequalities

Pages 8–14 · Propositions 4–6 and Section 4.2 · arXiv:2508.00944v3

### Correct and complete

Each component of  $J_n$  has length  $2|\epsilon_n| > |\epsilon_n| + |\epsilon_{n+1}|$ , so Proposition 4 gives the claimed return bound. Four subintervals of length  $|\epsilon_n|$  give the five-visit separation estimate, and best approximation yields the  $q_{n+1}$  gap. The choices  $t = s + 4$  and Equations (22)–(23) give the two strict height inequalities in the required directions. Every quotient of distinct unit coordinates then has either unbounded modulus exponent or an unbounded non-torsion phase exponent, so it cannot take values in one fixed finite set infinitely often.

## Proof of Theorem 12: Higher-order non-cancellation and final Subspace-Theorem step

Pages 17–23 · Appendix B · arXiv:2508.00944v3

### Correct and complete

Multiplicative independence prevents cancellation of the monomials isolated in Proposition 14. Proposition 15 correctly rules out persistent visits whose indices are affine functions of  $q_n$ , and Proposition 16 applies that fact to all possible monomial quotients. This proves the equivalence of the exceptional sets in Proposition 17. The degree- $d$  bounds on the remaining monomials give Claims 18–19, and the three quotient cases at the end exhaust all distinct coordinates of the constructed linear form.

## Material cited inputs: External results are invoked in their stated regimes

Pages 4, 7, 15–17, and 24–25 · cited recurrence, height, and Subspace-Theorem inputs · arXiv:2508.00944v3

### Correct and complete

Low-order LRS positivity is used only in order three; the recurrence-separation bound is applied to a nondegenerate dominant conjugate pair; and Schlickewei’s theorem is applied over a number field with a finite place set containing every Archimedean place and every denominator needed to make the characteristic roots units. The paper verifies the additional height inequalities required by its specialized Lemma 7 rather than assuming them.

03 / NOVELTY

# Novelty

No non-novelty findings

No non-novelty findings.

**METHOD**

# Scope and decision rules

This audit addressed only the correctness of central statements, the correctness and completeness of proofs, and evidence-backed non-novelty. It did not evaluate importance, exposition, style, suitability for publication, or author reputation.

An adverse finding is included only where the report can give a direct calculation, counterexample, formal contradiction, or a verifiable source establishing the precise claim. An inability to verify is kept distinct from a demonstrated defect. Technical compression is not treated as incompleteness when the omitted reasoning is recoverable and correct.

Before any finding was recorded, the argument was closed under immediate, mechanically checkable consequences of facts already established. An observation was suppressed when the printed conclusion followed by elementary logic, direct substitution, weakening, inclusion, or verified monotonicity and no substantive proof obligation or textual correction remained.

Typographical errors and minor formal corrections remain fully visible in yellow with their locations and repairs. When such a defect is unambiguous, local, and harmless to the paper's substantive conclusions, it does not lower the overall statements or proofs status from Correct.

The novelty panel reports only central results for which a verifiable primary source predating the earliest public version that contains the result proves the same statement up to notation, or from which the statement follows directly and immediately. It contains no positive novelty certifications and no entries based merely on an unsuccessful literature search.

All mathematical expressions in this report are compiled by LaTeX. The web presentation independently validates and renders the corresponding expressions with KaTeX.

## Sources checked

1. Source paper: [arXiv:2508.00944v3](#)

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## APPENDIX

# Standardized prompt

*You are a mathematical auditor. Evaluate only the correctness of the paper’s central statements, the correctness and completeness of its proofs, and evidence-backed non-novelty. Do not make editorial comments or evaluate importance, exposition, style, or suitability for publication. Keep the report neutral, precise, and professional.*

## PART 1 — CORRECTNESS OF THE MAIN STATEMENTS

*Identify the paper’s central statements and assess each one separately using exactly one of these outcomes:*

- *Correct: the statement has a correct, verifiable proof; or, despite a defect in the printed proof, you can give a fully verified repair or independent proof.*
- *Incorrect: you can give strong formal evidence that the statement as written is false, preferably a counterexample or a complete contradiction.*
- *Not able to verify: the supplied proof does not establish the statement, and you can neither supply a fully verified proof nor disprove it.*

*For every adverse or unverified outcome, restate the exact claim and hypotheses, identify its location in the reviewed version, and give the decisive reasoning. Do not infer that a theorem is false merely because its printed proof is defective.*

*Assign the overall statements status by the following priority:*

1. *Contains wrong statements, if at least one central statement is Incorrect.*
2. *Contains unsupported statements, if no central statement is Incorrect but at least one is Not able to verify.*
3. *Correct, if every central statement is Correct, apart from any typographical or minor formal findings allowed by Part 4.*

## PART 2 — CORRECTNESS AND COMPLETENESS OF THE PROOFS

*Audit the proofs of the central statements and every material internal or cited input on which they depend. For each proof or proof segment, use the narrowest supported outcome:*

- *Correct and complete: every substantive step is verifiable and no case or crucial nontrivial step is missing.*
- *Incorrect as written: a displayed calculation, inference, lemma, or cited application is formally false or inapplicable.*
- *Incomplete as written: a necessary substantive step or case is missing, even though no explicit contradiction has been proved.*
- *Not able to verify: the available paper and sources are insufficient to decide whether the step is valid.*

*Do not flag omitted routine details, compressed arguments, or “analogously” steps when the omitted reasoning is recoverable and correct. For every defect, identify its smallest exact location, explain its downstream dependency, and classify any proposed repair as one of:*

- *Verified repair: supply enough reasoning to verify that the repair works throughout every affected use.*
- *Plausible repair only: describe the possible repair but do not treat it as established.*
- *No repair supplied.*

*Assign the overall proofs status by the following priority:*

1. *Contains incorrect or incomplete proofs, if at least one proof is Incorrect as written or Incomplete as written.*
2. *Contains unverified proofs, if there is no proved incorrectness or incompleteness but at least one material proof is Not able to verify.*
3. *Correct, if all audited proofs are Correct and complete, apart from any typographical or minor formal findings allowed by Part 4.*

## PART 3 — NOVELTY OF THE MAIN STATEMENTS

*This is a one-sided, evidence-only check. Evaluate only central results. Report a result only when a verifiable primary source, publicly available before the earliest public version of the paper that contains the result, proves the same statement up to a change of notation, or when the result follows directly and immediately from such an earlier theorem.*

For each non-novelty finding, provide the earlier source, its public date, the exact theorem or proposition, and an explicit hypothesis-and-conclusion mapping. A later source cannot establish non-novelty. Do not flag a result merely because an easier proof exists or because it follows through a nontrivial argument. Do not flag a result that the paper itself explicitly presents as known, a survey item, or an alternative proof.

Mention only statements that meet this non-novelty threshold. Say nothing about statements for which no such evidence was found: do not certify novelty, list unsuccessful searches, or add statement-level “no prior source found” entries. If the list is empty, the section may say only “No non-novelty findings.”

#### PART 4 — TECHNICAL AND EVIDENTIARY RULES

1. Criticism must never be overstated. Call a statement incorrect, a proof incorrect or incomplete, or a result non-new only when strong formal evidence supports that exact judgment. Otherwise use Not able to verify where that outcome exists, or remain silent in the novelty section.

2. Review a specified paper version. Give exact page, theorem, equation, or proof locations; restate relevant quantifiers and hypotheses; and check domains, endpoints, parameter ranges, constants, and dependencies explicitly. Apply a defect only to the regimes and downstream results that actually depend on it.

3. Immediate-consequence closure: when deciding whether a conclusion is supported, treat the argument as including every immediate formal consequence of facts established earlier in the paper and available at that point. An immediate formal consequence is a local, mechanically checkable inference using only definitions already in force, elementary logic, direct substitution or renaming, weakening of an inequality or set inclusion, or a monotonicity or symmetry property explicit in a definition or already proved.

4. Such an inference must introduce no new lemma, estimate, construction, case analysis, limiting or compactness argument, external result, or new issue of uniformity or parameter dependence. Check the direction of monotonicity and the dependence of every threshold or constant explicitly. Do not exchange pointwise and uniform conclusions, change exceptional sets, interchange quantifiers or limits, or extend an endpoint under this rule unless the required fact was already established.

5. If the claimed conclusion follows after immediate-consequence closure, it is fully supported. Do not report a gap, unsupported statement, minor formal correction, or recommendation to add an explanatory sentence, and do not mention the suppressed item in the report. This suppression does not apply to a genuine typographical error as defined below, because a typo is a literal notation defect that still requires a textual correction. For example, if  $P(\delta)$  is proved for every sufficiently small  $\delta > 0$  and  $P$  is immediately monotone in the required direction, then the claim that  $P(\delta)$  holds for every  $\delta > 0$  requires no correction; the omitted monotonicity step is exposition rather than an audit finding.

6. Immediate-consequence closure permits reconstruction of an omitted inference; it does not permit silent alteration of the printed domain, hypotheses, or quantifiers of an intermediate statement later invoked outside its stated scope. If formal validity requires changing the text of that statement or its stated range, report the appropriate finding even when the repair is easy. Thus a result stated only for  $t > 0$  and subsequently applied at  $t = 0$  remains a formal scope mismatch unless the endpoint case was separately established before the application.

7. Apply this mandatory gate before recording any adverse, unverified, typographical, or minor formal finding: (a) identify the exact assertion or inference alleged to be defective; (b) reconstruct the strongest conclusion following from the preceding argument after all admissible immediate formal consequences are added; (c) identify the specific defect that remains — a formally demonstrated falsehood, a concrete nontrivial unresolved proof obligation, or a genuine domain, hypothesis, quantifier, or notation mismatch requiring a textual correction; and (d) state the evidence and minimal repair. If no specific defect remains, or if the only possible addition would be explanatory, suppress the finding entirely. Use Not able to verify only when a precise, nontrivial unresolved obligation can be identified.

8. A typographical error is an incorrect symbol, index, exponent, sign, variable name, or notation mismatch whose unique intended correction is mechanically determined from the surrounding text and does not alter the mathematical argument. Report it in yellow as Typo, with the printed text, correction, exact location, and reason it is harmless. It does not lower an overall status.

9. A minor formal correction is a boundary, endpoint, or displayed parameter-range defect that can be repaired consistently in every affected statement by a local change, without a new argument, without invalidating any related result or application, and without creating another substantive defect. Report it in yellow as Minor formal correction, with the same details. It does not lower an overall status.

10. Do not use either minor category if more than one materially different repair is possible; if the repair changes the substance or scope of a central result; if an excluded case is used later; if the correction fails to propagate consistently; or if a new mathematical idea is required. In such cases use the strongest substantive classification actually supported by evidence.

11. Write every mathematical expression as valid, compilable LaTeX. Use ... for inline mathematics and

...

for displayed mathematics, with balanced delimiters and braces. Do not leave raw LaTeX commands outside math delimiters.

12. Separate theorem truth from the correctness of the printed proof. A theorem can be *Correct* in Part 1 because of a fully verified independent proof while its printed proof is adverse in Part 2. Conversely, a defective proof alone never licenses an *Incorrect* theorem classification.

Organize the report under Parts 1–3 and apply Part 4 throughout. Do not add editorial commentary, scores, rankings, recommendations, or a list of suppressed observations.

## END OF REPORT

Each claim in this prototype report remains open to independent challenge and revision.