Orthogonal Polynomials on the Unit Circle: From Szegő to Simon

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Abstract. The theory of orthogonal polynomials on the unit circle has experienced an unparalleled growth lately, due primarily to Barry Simon and his collaborators whose discoveries led to a substantial reevaluation of perceptions as to the nature of orthogonal polynomials on the unit circle and their applicability. We overview the evolution of the theory focusing on Simon's contribution in the area.