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# Shape Preserving Approximation: the Final Frontier???

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**Research supported by NSERC of Canada**

The logo for the Institute of Industrial Mathematical Sciences (iims) features the lowercase letters 'iims' in a bold, orange font. To the left of the text is a stylized orange graphic consisting of several overlapping, curved lines that resemble a complex mathematical shape or a network structure.

**iims**

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# Shape Preserving Approximation: the Final Frontier???

*“There has been an alarming increase in the number  
of things we know nothing about.”*

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# Overview

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- Smoothness vs. Approximation Orders: the “right” estimates, the “right” moduli of smoothness, characterization of approximation spaces, etc.
- Shape Preserving Approximation: definitions, approximation orders, comparison of the errors of shape preserving and unconstrained approximation, relative  $n$ -width with constraints, recent developments, open problems, etc.
- Remarks and Final Conclusions

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# Smoothness vs. Approximation Order: classics



## Smoothness vs. Approx. Order: trigonometric polynomials

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Function  $f$  is “smooth enough”

$\iff$   $f$  can be approximated well enough

**Theorem (Bernstein [1912])** *A continuous  $2\pi$ -periodic function  $f$  belongs to Lip  $\alpha$  class, i.e., is such that  $\omega(f, t) = O(t^\alpha)$ ,  $0 < \alpha < 1$ , if and only if*

$$E_n^*(f) \leq Cn^{-\alpha}.$$

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**Theorem (Zygmund [1945])** *A continuous  $2\pi$ -periodic function  $f$  is such that  $\omega_2(f, t) = O(t)$  if and only if*

$$E_n^*(f) \leq Cn^{-1}.$$

## Smoothness vs. Approx. Order: algebraic polynomials

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$f \in \mathbb{C}[-1, 1]$  belongs to  $\text{Lip } \alpha$ ,  $0 < \alpha < 1$ , class

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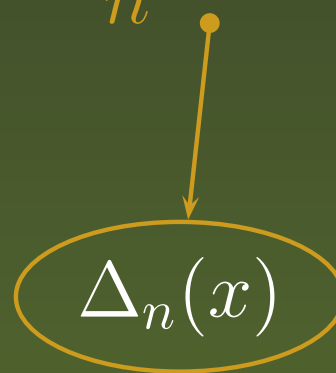
**Theorem (Nikolskii [1946], Timan [1951], Dzyadyk [1956])**  
 *$f \in \mathbb{C}[-1, 1]$  belongs to  $\text{Lip } \alpha$ ,  $0 < \alpha < 1$ , if and only if there exists a sequence of polynomials  $p_n(x)$  such that*

$$|f(x) - p_n(x)| \leq C \left( \frac{\sqrt{1-x^2}}{n} + \frac{1}{n^2} \right)^\alpha, \quad x \in [-1, 1].$$

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$$\Delta_n(x)$$

## Spaces $\text{Lip}(\alpha, p)$ and $\text{Lip}^*(\alpha, p)$ : $0 < p \leq \infty$

Let  $\alpha = r + \beta$ , where  $r \in \mathbb{N}_0$  and  $0 < \beta \leq 1$ .

**Lipschitz space:**

$$\text{Lip}(\alpha, p) := \left\{ f \mid \omega(f^{(r)}, t)_p \leq Ct^\beta \right\}$$

**Generalized Lipschitz space:**

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## Pointwise estimates by algebraic polynomials: $p = \infty$

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### **Theorem (Timan, Dzyadyk, Freud, Brudnyi)**

$f \in \text{Lip}^*(\alpha, \infty)$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ , if and only if there exists a sequence of polynomials  $p_n(x)$  such that

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**Question:**  $E_n(f) = O(n^{-\alpha}) \iff ???$

# Uniform estimates by algebraic polynomials

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## Theorem (Ditzian, Totik, Ivanov, Tachev)

Let  $0 < p \leq \infty$  and  $0 < \alpha < k$ . For  $f \in \mathbb{L}_p$  we have

$$E_n(f)_p = O(n^{-\alpha}) \iff \begin{cases} \omega_k^\varphi(f, t)_p = O(t^\alpha) \\ \tau_k(f, 1, \Delta_n(x))_{p,p} = O(t^\alpha) \end{cases}$$

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Ditzian-Totik modulus of smoothness:

$$\omega_k^\varphi(f, t)_p := \sup_{0 < h \leq t} \|\Delta_{h\varphi(\cdot)}^k(f, \cdot)\|_p,$$

where  $\varphi(x) := \sqrt{1 - x^2}$ .



# Uniform estimates by algebraic polynomials

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Ivanov modulus of smoothness (Sendov  $q = \infty$ ):

$$\tau_k(f, \psi, \delta)_{q,p} = \|\psi(\cdot) \omega_k(f, \cdot, \delta(\cdot))_q\|_p,$$

where

$$\omega_k(f, x, \delta(x))_q^q = \frac{1}{2\delta(x)} \int_{-\delta(x)}^{\delta(x)} |\Delta_\nu^k(f, x)|^q d\nu.$$

## Spaces $\text{Lip}_\varphi^*(\alpha, p)$ : $0 < p \leq \infty$

Let  $\alpha = r + \beta$ , where  $r \in \mathbb{N}_0$  and  $0 < \beta \leq 1$ , and  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ .

$\mathbb{B}^r H_{[\beta]+1}^{t^\beta}(p)$  or  $\hat{H}_p^\alpha$  or  $\text{Lip}_\varphi^*(\alpha, p)$  space :

$$\text{Lip}_\varphi^*(\alpha, p) := \left\{ f \mid \omega_{[\alpha]+1}^\varphi(f, t)_p \leq Ct^\alpha \right\}$$

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$$\text{Lip}_\varphi^*(\alpha, p) := \left\{ f \mid \omega_{[\beta]+1, r}^\varphi(f^{(r)}, t)_p \leq Ct^\beta \right\}$$

The Ditzian-Totik weighted modulus of smoothness:

$$\omega_{k, r}^\varphi(f, t)_p := \sup_{0 < h \leq t} \left\| \varphi_{kh}^r(\cdot) \Delta_{h\varphi(\cdot)}^k(f, \cdot) \right\|_p,$$

where  $\varphi_\delta(x) := \sqrt{\left(1 - x - \frac{\delta}{2}\varphi(x)\right) \left(1 + x - \frac{\delta}{2}\varphi(x)\right)}$

## Uniform estimates by algebraic polynomials: $\text{Lip}_\varphi^*(\alpha, p)$ spaces

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**Theorem** *Let  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$  and  $\alpha > 0$ . Then*

$$E_n(f)_p = O(n^{-\alpha}) \iff f \in \text{Lip}_\varphi^*(\alpha, p).$$

## Uniform estimates by algebraic polynomials: $\text{Lip}_\varphi^*(\alpha, p)$ spaces

**Theorem** *Let  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$  and  $\alpha > 0$ . Then*

$$E_n(f)_p = O(n^{-\alpha}) \iff f \in \text{Lip}_\varphi^*(\alpha, p).$$

For example,

$$E_n(f)_p = O(n^{-3}) \iff \omega_{2,2}^\varphi(f'', t)_p = O(t)$$

$$E_n(f)_p = O(n^{-2.5}) \iff \omega_{1,2}^\varphi(f'', t)_p = O(t^{1/2})$$

$$E_n(f)_p = O(n^{-10}) \iff \omega_{2,9}^\varphi(f^{(9)}, t)_p = O(t)$$

# Some conclusions

The “right estimates” for approximation by algebraic polynomials should be in terms of:

$$p = \infty: \omega_k(f, \Delta_n(x)) \text{ or } \omega_k(f^{(r)}, \Delta_n(x))$$

$$p \leq \infty: \omega_k^\varphi(f, n^{-1})_p \text{ or } \omega_{k,r}^\varphi(f^{(r)}, n^{-1})_p \text{ or } \\ \tau_k(f, 1, \Delta_n(x))_{p,p}$$

They allow characterization of classes of functions with prescribed order of approximation, and so are exact in this sense.

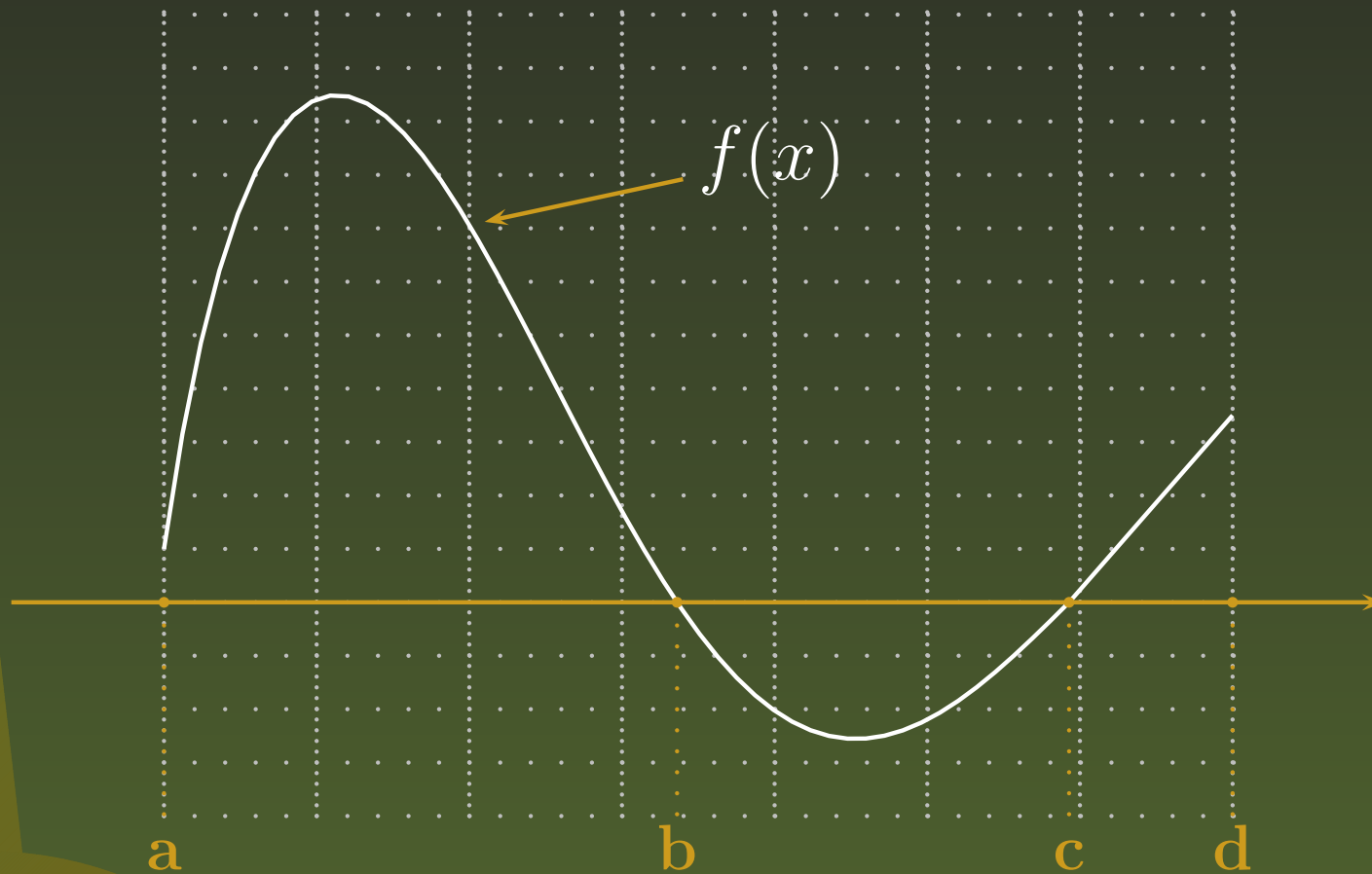
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# Shape Preserving Approximation (SPA)

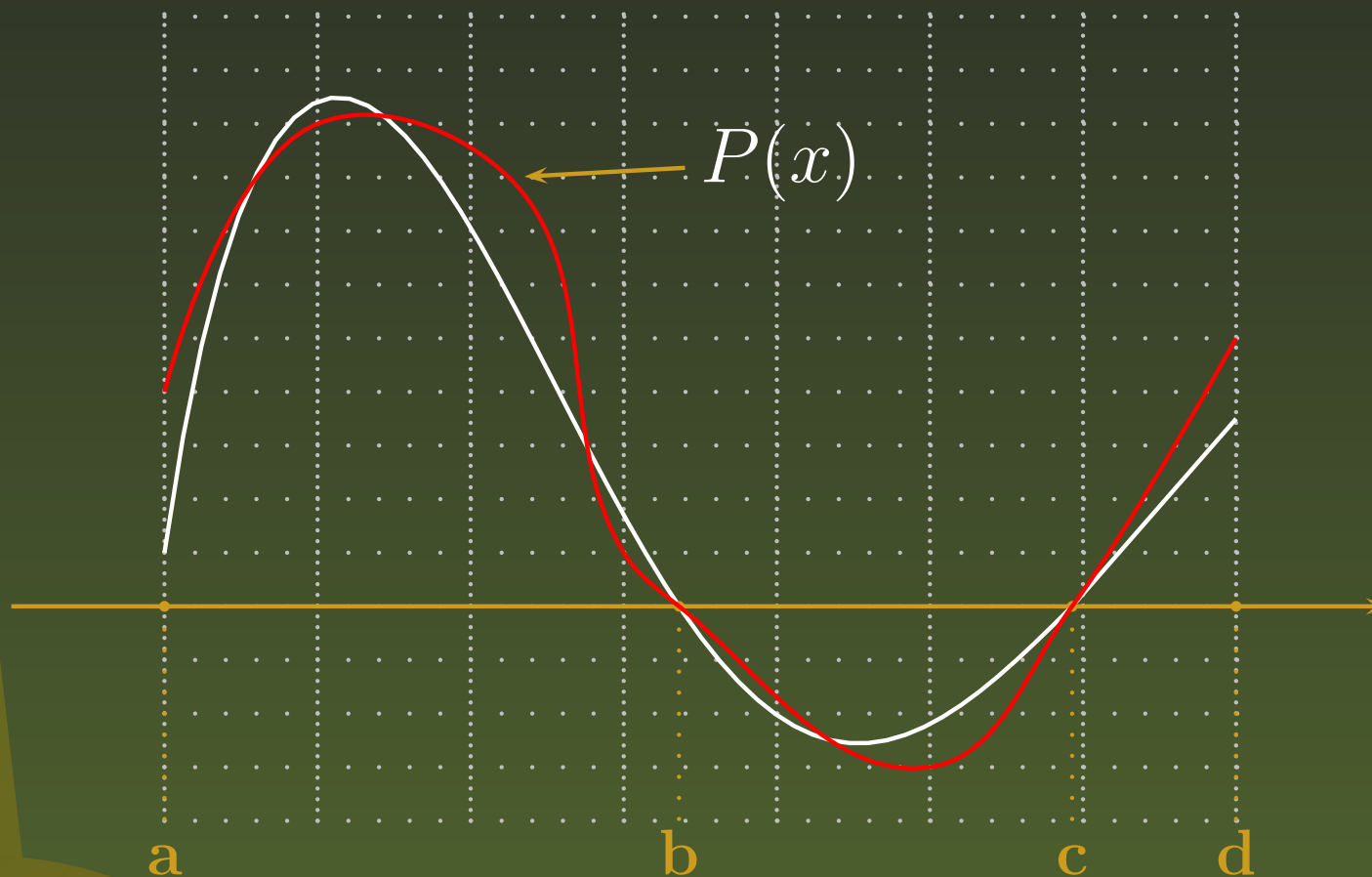


# Shape Preserving Approximation (SPA): examples





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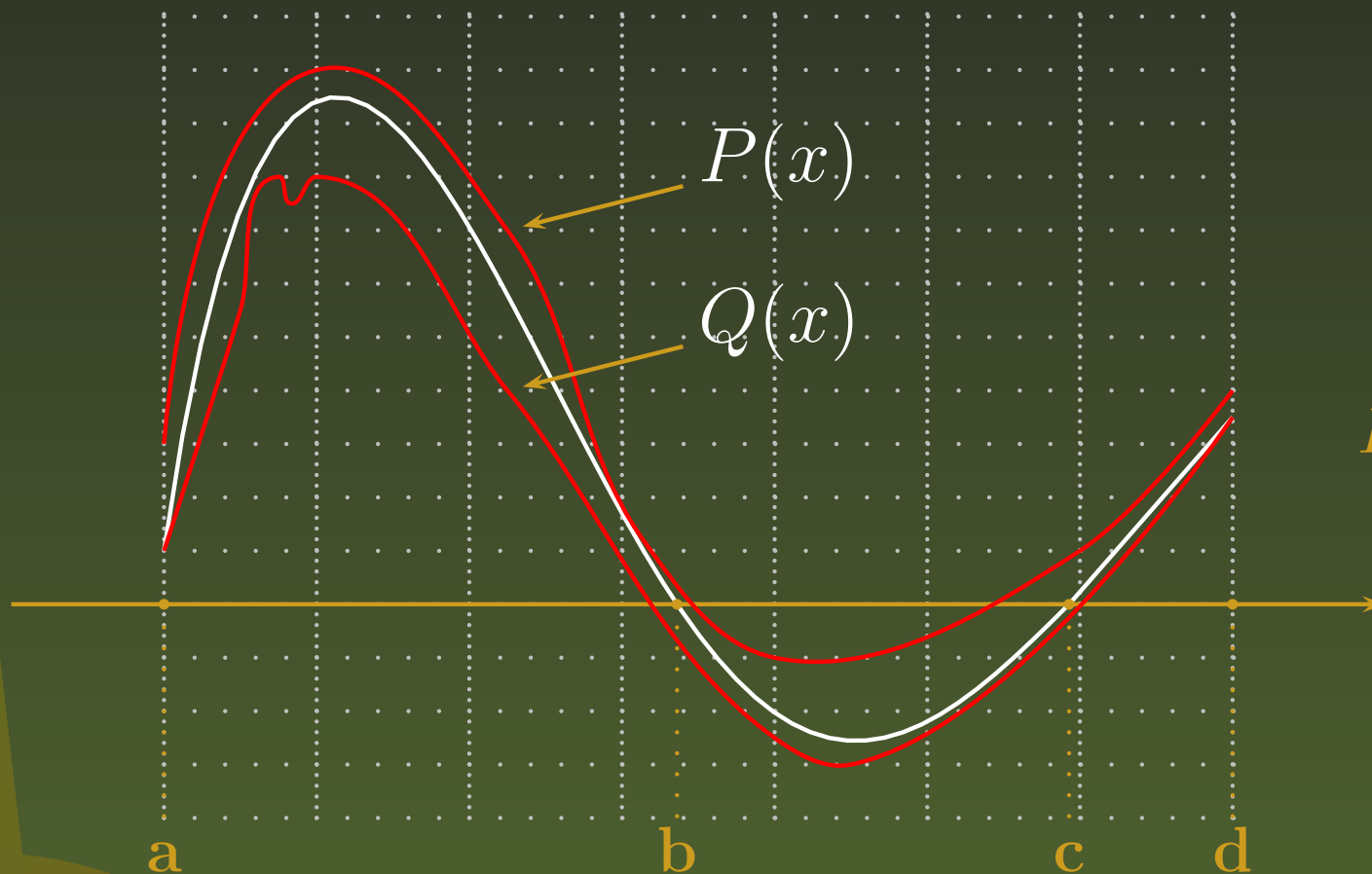


**Copositive approximation**

$$Y_s = \{b, c\}, s = 2$$
$$f, P \in \Delta^0(Y_s)$$

$$E_n^{(0)}(f, Y_s)_p := \inf \{ \|f - P\|_p \mid f(x) \cdot P(x) \geq 0 \}$$

# Shape Preserving Approximation (SPA): examples

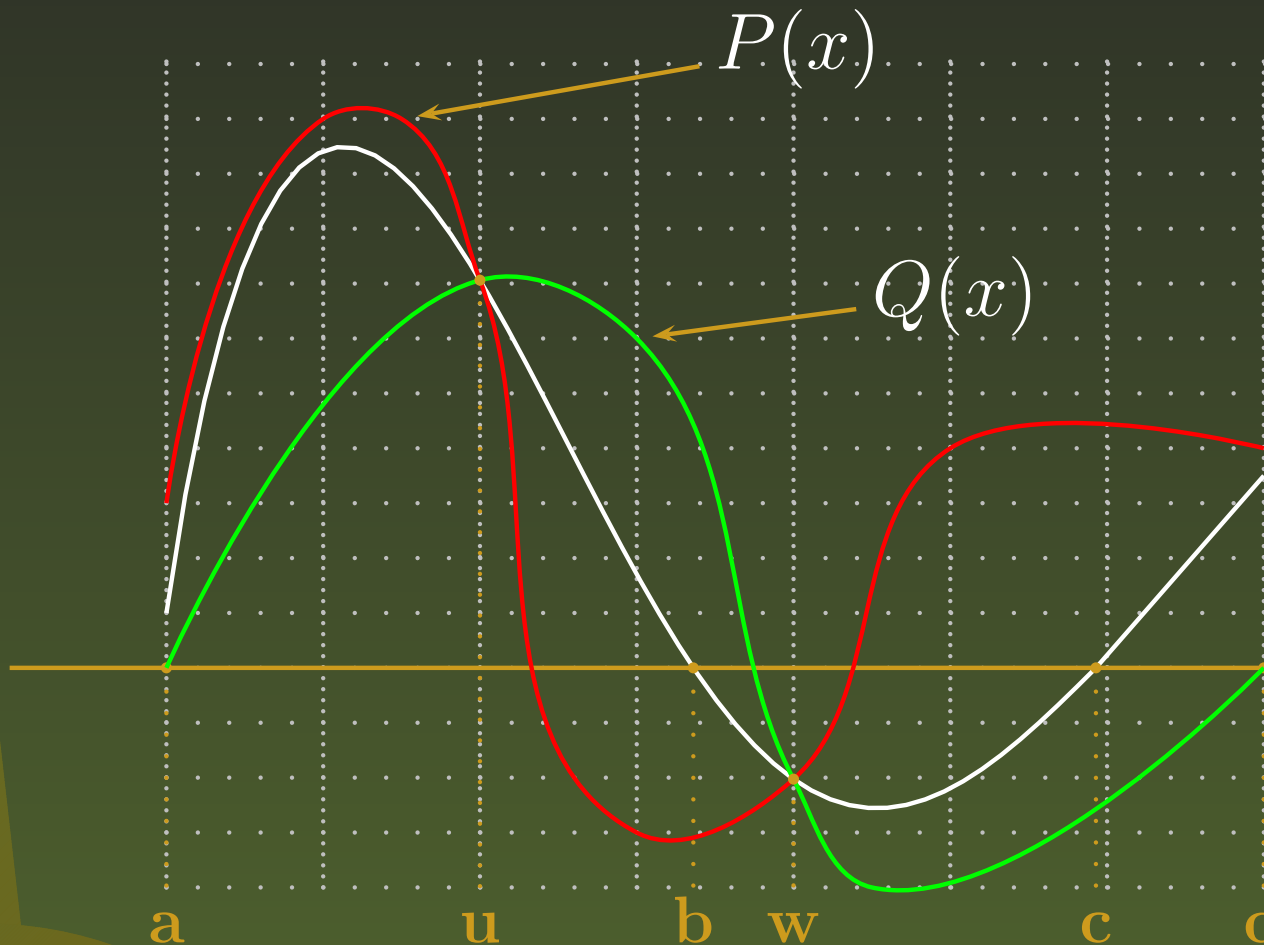


**Onesided approximation**

$$P - f, f - Q \in \Delta^0$$

$$\tilde{E}_n(f)_p := \inf \{ \|P - Q\|_p \mid Q \leq f \leq P \}$$

# Shape Preserving Approximation (SPA): examples

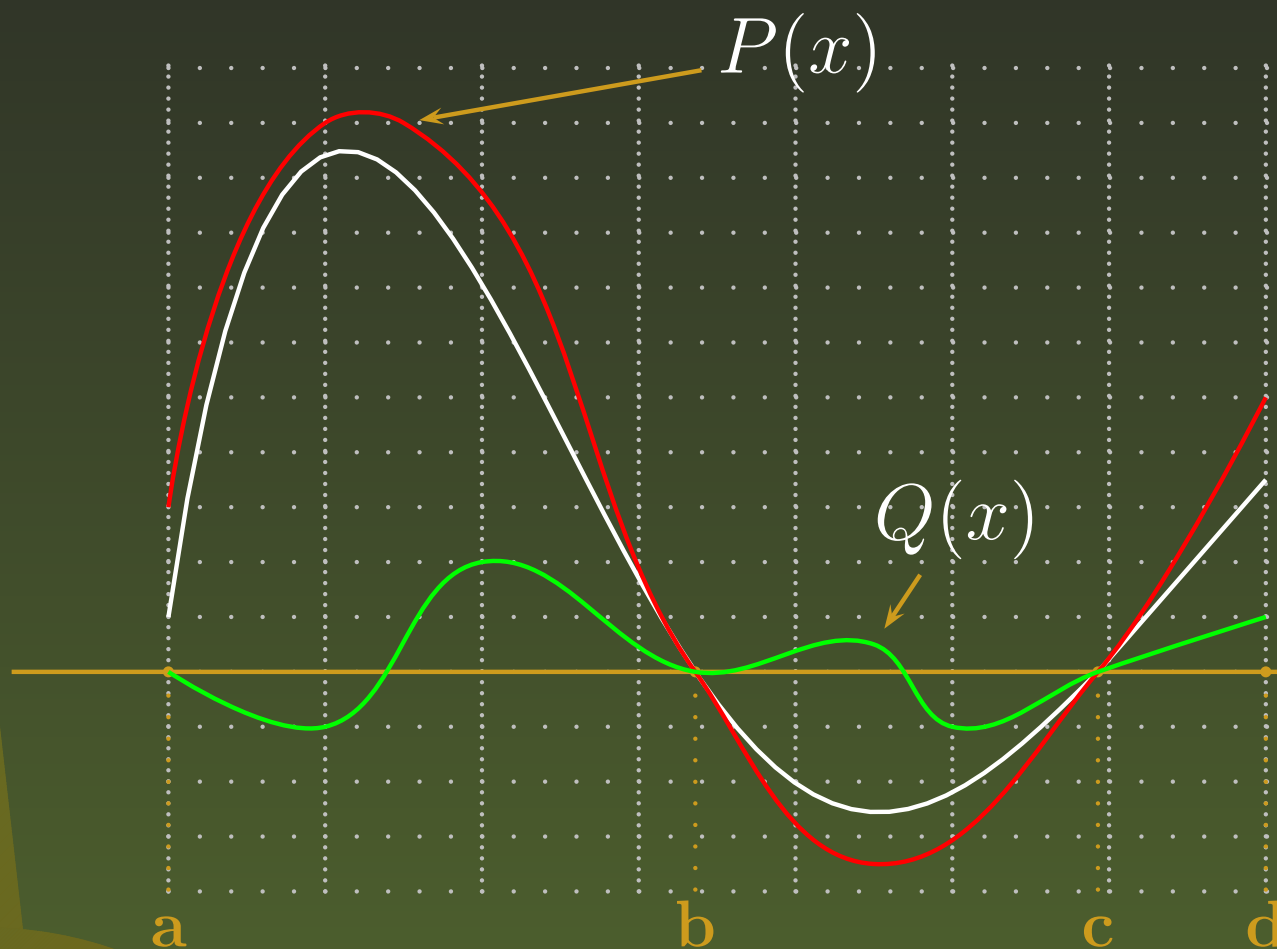


**Intertwining  
approximation:  
Hu, K., Yu [1997]**

$$Y_s = \{u, w\}, s = 2$$
$$P - f, f - Q \in \Delta^0(Y_s)$$

$$\tilde{E}_n(f, Y_s)_p := \inf \{ \|P - Q\|_p \mid P - f, f - Q \in \Delta^0(Y_s) \}$$

# Shape Preserving Approximation (SPA): examples



**Intertwining  
vs. Copositive**

$$Y_s = \{b, c\}, s = 2$$

$$P - f, f - Q \in \Delta^0(Y_s)$$

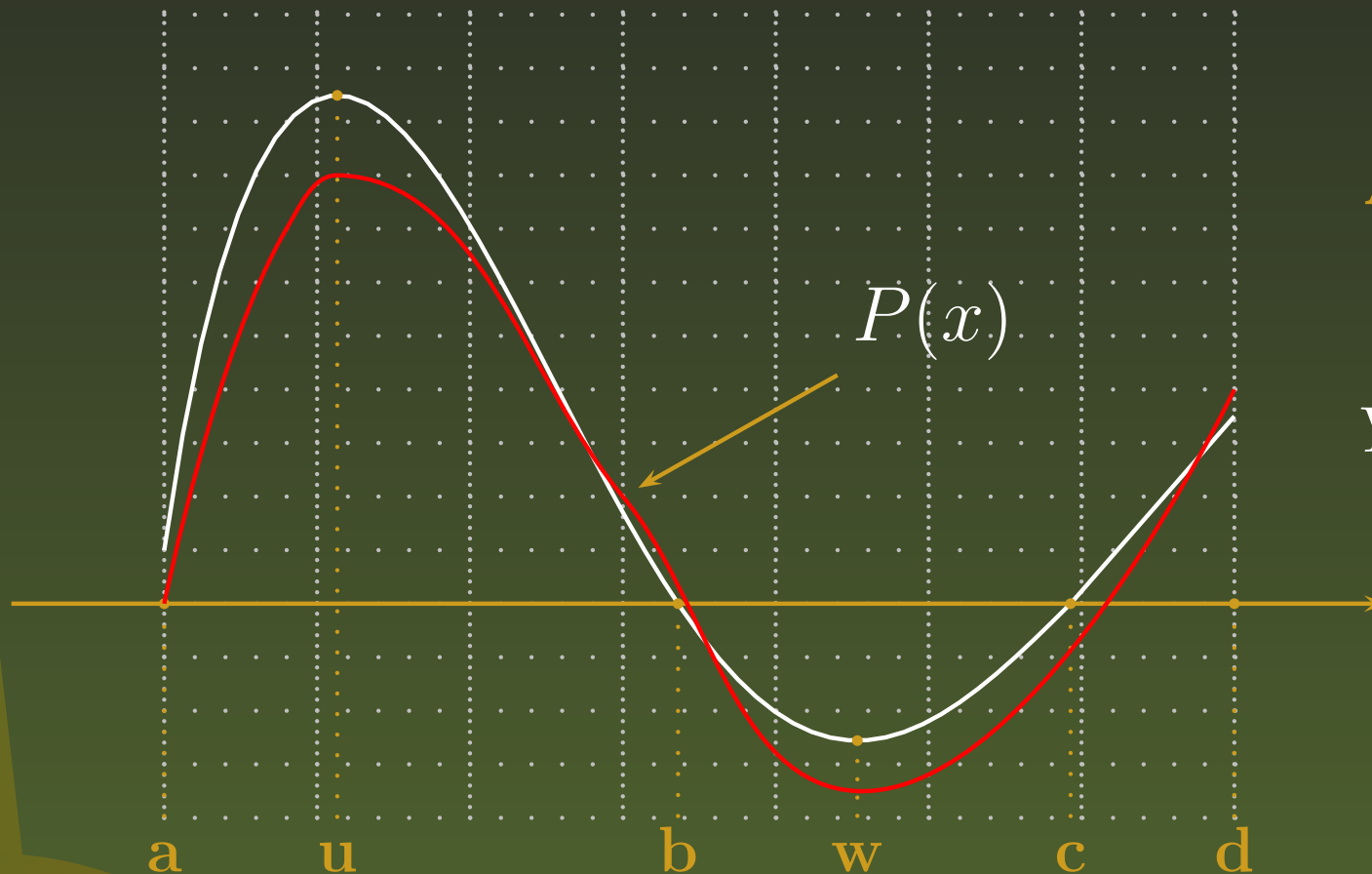
$$\rightarrow P \in \Delta^0(Y_s)$$

$$E_n^{(0)}(f, Y_s) \leq \tilde{E}_n(f, Y_s)_p$$

# Shape Preserving Approximation (SPA): examples

## Comonotone Approximation

$$Y_s = \{u, w\}, s = 2$$
$$P' \in \Delta^0(Y_s)$$



$$E_n^{(1)}(f, Y_s)_p := \inf \{ \|f - P\|_p \mid P'(x) \cdot f'(x) \geq 0 \}$$

## $q$ -monotone approximation: definition

**Definition:** A function  $f : [a, b] \mapsto \mathbb{R}$  is  $q$ -monotone on  $[a, b]$  if its  $q$ th divided differences  $[x_0, \dots, x_q]f$  are  $\geq 0$  for all choices of  $(q + 1)$  distinct points  $x_0, \dots, x_q$  in  $[a, b]$ . **Notation:**  $f \in \Delta^q[a, b]$  or  $f \in \Delta^q$

Let  $Y_s := \{y_i\}_{i=1}^s$  be such that  $y_0 := a < y_1 < \dots < y_s < b =: y_{s+1}$  if  $s \geq 1$ , and  $Y_0 := \emptyset$ .

**Definition:** A function  $f : [a, b] \mapsto \mathbb{R}$  is said to be in  $\Delta^q(Y_s)$  iff  $f$  is  $q$ -monotone on  $[a, y_1]$  and changes its  $q$ -monotonicity at the points in  $Y_s$ , i.e.,  $(-1)^i f \in \Delta^q[y_i, y_{i+1}]$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq s$ . **Notation:**  $f \in \Delta^q(Y_s)$ .

**Ex:**  $\Delta^2$  is the set of all convex functions;

$\{(g, h) \mid g - f, f - h \in \Delta^0(Y_s)\}$  is the set of all intertwining pairs with respect to  $Y_s$

## Errors of $q$ -monotone approximation: notation

- $E(f, Y)_X := \inf_{p \in Y} \|f - p\|_X$ : unconstrained
- $E^{(q)}(f, Y)_X := E(f, Y \cap \Delta^q)_X = \inf_{p \in Y \cap \Delta^q} \|f - p\|_X$ :  $q$ -monotone
- $E_n(f)_p := E(f, \Pi_n)_{\mathbb{L}_p}$  and  $E_n^{(q)}(f)_p := E(f, \Pi_n \cap \Delta^q)_{\mathbb{L}_p}$ :  
approximation by polynomials of degree  $\leq n$  in  $\mathbb{L}_p$  (quasi) norm
- $\sigma_{N,r}(f)_p := E(f, \mathcal{S}_{N,r})_{\mathbb{L}_p}$  and  $\sigma_{N,r}^{(q)}(f)_p := E(f, \mathcal{S}_{N,r} \cap \Delta^q)_{\mathbb{L}_p}$ :  
approximation by splines of order  $r$  with  $N - 1$  free knots

## SPA: orders of approximation

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Question: How does  $E(f, Y)_X$  compare to  $E^{(q)}(f, Y)_X$ ?



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**Obvious:**  $E(f, Y)_X \leq E^{(q)}(f, Y)_X$

**Would be nice:**  $E^{(q)}(f, Y)_X \leq CE(f, Y)_X, f \in \Delta^q.$

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**Onesided and positive approximation in  $\mathbb{C}[a, b]$ :**

$f \in \mathbb{C}[a, b]: E_n(f)_\infty \leq \tilde{E}_n(f)_\infty \leq 2E_n(f)_\infty$

$f \in \mathbb{C}[a, b] \cap \Delta^0: E_n(f)_\infty \leq E_n^{(0)}(f)_\infty \leq 2E_n(f)_\infty$

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$f \in \mathbb{C}[a, b] \cap \Delta^0: E_n(f)_\infty \leq E_n^{(0)}(f)_\infty \leq 2E_n(f)_\infty$

**Theorem (Lorentz and Zeller [1969])** For  $q \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists a function  $f \in \Delta^q$  such that  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{E_n^{(q)}(f)_p}{E_n(f)_p} = \infty.$

## SPA: orders of approximation

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**Question:** Since, for  $f \in \Delta^q$ ,  $E_n^{(q)}(f)_p \leq C E_n(f)_p$  is not possible in general, and since the “next best thing” is

$$E_n(f)_p \leq \frac{C}{n^r} E_{n-r}(f^{(r)})_p$$

what about

$$E_n^{(q)}(f)_p \leq \frac{C}{n^r} E_{n-r}(f^{(r)})_p \quad ???$$

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**Onesided and positive approximation:**

$$f \in \mathbb{W}_p^1[a, b]: \tilde{E}_n(f)_p \leq \frac{C}{n} E_{n-1}(f')_p \quad (\text{Stojanova [1988]})$$

$$f \in \mathbb{W}_p^1[a, b] \cap \Delta^0: E_n^{(0)}(f)_p \leq \frac{C}{n} E_{n-1}(f')_p$$

## $f \in \Delta^q$ : orders of $q$ -monotone approximation

$$E_n^{(q)}(f)_p \leq (b-a)E_{n-1}^{(q-1)}(f')_p, \quad 1 \leq p \leq \infty$$

**Proof:** Let  $f \in \mathbb{C}^1[a, b] \cap \Delta^q$  (note that  $f \in \Delta^q$  is automatically in  $\mathbb{C}^1(a, b)$  if  $q \geq 3$ ), and let  $P_n(x) := \int_a^x q_{n-1}(t) dt + f(a)$ , where  $E_{n-1}^{(q-1)}(f')_p = \|f' - q_{n-1}\|_p$ . Then  $P'_n(x) = q_{n-1}(x) \in \Delta^{q-1}$  (i.e.,  $P_n \in \Delta^q$ ), and by Hölder's inequality

$$\begin{aligned} E_n^{(q)}(f)_p &\leq \|f - P_n\|_p = \left\| \int_a^x (f'(t) - P'_n(t)) dt \right\|_p \\ &\leq (b-a)^{1/p} \|f' - P'_n\|_1 \leq (b-a) \|f' - q_{n-1}\|_p \\ &= (b-a) E_{n-1}^{(q-1)}(f')_\infty \end{aligned}$$



## $f \in \Delta^q$ : orders of $q$ -monotone approximation

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Corollaries:

$$0 \leq \mu \leq q : E_n^{(q)}(f)_p \leq (b - a)^\mu E_{n-\mu}^{(q-\mu)}(f^{(\mu)})_p$$

$$\mu = q - 2 : E_n^{(q)}(f)_p \leq C E_{n-q+2}^{(2)}(f^{(q-2)})_p$$

$$\mu = q : E_n^{(q)}(f)_p \leq C E_{n-q}^{(0)}(f^{(q)})_p$$

$$p = \infty : E_n^{(q)}(f)_\infty \leq C E_{n-q}(f^{(q)})_\infty$$

## $f \in \Delta^q$ : orders of $q$ -monotone approximation

$$f \in \Delta^q, p = \infty: E_n^{(q)}(f)_\infty \leq C E_{n-q}(f^{(q)})_\infty$$

For each  $q \in \mathbb{N}$ , there is an absolute constant  $C_0 > 0$  such that, for any  $n \geq q$ , a function  $f \in \mathbb{C}^q[a, b] \cap \Delta^q$  exists such that

$$E_n^{(q)}(f)_\infty \geq C_0 E_{n-q}(f^{(q)})_\infty > 0 \quad (\text{Leviatan and Shevchuk [1995]})$$

$$f \in \Delta^q, 1 \leq p < \infty: E_n^{(q)}(f)_p \leq C E_{n-q}^{(0)}(f^{(q)})_p$$

For any  $q \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \geq q$ ,  $0 < p < \infty$ , and  $A > 0$  there exists  $f \in \mathbb{C}^\infty[a, b] \cap \Delta^q$  such that

$$E_n^{(q)}(f)_p \geq A E_{n-q}(f^{(q)})_p \quad (\text{K. [1995]})$$

and so even  $E_n^{(q)}(f)_p \leq C E_{n-q}(f^{(q)})_p$  is NOT true.



## Intertwining and Copositive approximation: open problems

Recall the definition of intertwining approximation:

$$\tilde{E}_n(f, Y_s)_p := \inf \{ \|P - Q\|_p \mid P - f, f - Q \in \Delta^0(Y_s) \}$$

**Open Problem (intertwining approx.):** Let  $0 < p \leq \infty$ . Does there exist an  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\tilde{E}_n(f, Y_s)_p \leq \frac{C}{n^r} E_{n-r}(f^{(r)})_p$  ???

**Open Problem (copositive approx.):** Let  $0 < p \leq \infty$ . Does there exist an  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $E_n^{(0)}(f, Y_s)_p \leq \frac{C}{n^r} E_{n-r}(f^{(r)})_p$  ???

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- $E_n^{(0)}(f, Y_s)_p \leq \tilde{E}_n(f, Y_s)_p$  and so **intertwining  $\rightarrow$  copositive (positive answer) and copositive  $\rightarrow$  intertwining (negative answer)**

■  $1 \leq p < \infty$ :  $E_n^{(0)}(f, Y_s)_p \not\leq C\omega_3(f', 1)_p$  and so  $r$  cannot be 1

# Some conclusions

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In general, Shape Preserving Approximation by **polynomials and fixed knot splines** requires special treatment since estimates do not follow from unconstrained results.

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In general, Shape Preserving Approximation by **polynomials and fixed knot splines** requires special treatment since estimates do not follow from unconstrained results.

**Question 1:** Can we say the same about approximation from other spaces? e.g. approximation by **free knot splines**?

**Question 2:**  $E_n^{(q)}(f, Y_s)_p \leq C E_n(f)_p$ ,  $f \in \Delta^q(Y_s) \cap V$ ???

For example,  $V =$  piecewise polynomial functions.

## SPA: splines with fixed knots

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Usual proof of direct (positive) results:

Function  $f$  of certain shape  $\rightarrow$  shape preserving (SP) splines with fixed knots (e.g. Chebyshev knots)  $\rightarrow$  SP polynomials

**Open Problem:** Let  $0 < p \leq \infty$ , and suppose a spline (or PP)  $g \in \Delta^q(Y_s)$ . Prove or disprove that

$$E_n^{(q)}(g, Y_s)_p \leq C E_n(g)_p$$

or

$$E_n^{(q)}(g, Y_s)_p \leq C \omega_m^\varphi(g, n^{-1})_p.$$

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# SPA by free knot splines and a different kind of $q$ -monotone approximation



## $q$ -monotone approximation: free knot splines

Recall:  $\mathcal{S}_{N,r}$  is the set of all PP of order  $r$  with  $N$  pieces;

$\sigma_{N,r}(f)_p := E(f, \mathcal{S}_{N,r})_{\mathbb{L}_p}$ ;  $\sigma_{N,r}^{(q)}(f)_p := E(f, \mathcal{S}_{N,r} \cap \Delta^q)_{\mathbb{L}_p}$ ; and

$$\tilde{\sigma}_{N,r}^{(q)}(f)_p := E(f, \mathcal{S}_{N,r} \cap \mathbb{C}^{r-2} \cap \Delta^q)_{\mathbb{L}_p}$$

**Theorem (K. and Shadrin [2003])** *Let  $q, r, N \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $r \geq q$ , and  $0 < p \leq \infty$ . Then, there exist constants  $c_0 = c_0(r)$  and  $c_1 = c_1(r, p)$  such that, for all  $f \in \Delta^q \cap \mathbb{L}_p$ ,*

$$\tilde{\sigma}_{c_0 N, r}^{(q)}(f)_p \leq c_1 \sigma_{N, r}(f)_p.$$

$q = 1, 2$ : Leviatan and Shadrin [1997], Petrov [1996]

$q = 3, p = \infty$ : Petrov [1998]

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$q = 1, 2$ : Leviatan and Shadrin [1997], Petrov [1996]

$q = 3, p = \infty$ : Petrov [1998]



## A different kind of $q$ -monotone approximation

Approximation by  $q$ -monotone functions: functions which are not in  $\Delta^q$  are approximated by elements of the entire convex cone  $\Delta^q$  (Damas, Marano, Ubhaya, Zwick).

Applications in SPA. Main idea: given  $f \in \Delta^q$ , take  $s \in \mathcal{S}_{N,r}$ , a best (unconstrained) free knot spline approximant to  $f$  (i.e.,  $\|f - s\|_p = \sigma_{N,r}(f)_p$ ), and then correct  $s$  to  $s^* \in \Delta^q$ , a best approximant to  $s$  from  $\Delta^q$ . Hence,

$$\|s - s^*\|_p = \inf_{g \in \Delta^q} \|s - g\|_p \leq \|s - f\|_p,$$

and so

$$C(p)\|f - s^*\|_p \leq \|f - s\|_p + \|s - s^*\|_p \leq 2\|f - s\|_p = 2\sigma_{N,r}(f)_p.$$

# Approximation of (non- $q$ -monotone) splines by $q$ -monotone f-s

$$\|s - s^*\|_{\mathbb{L}_p[a,b]} = \inf_{g \in \Delta^q} \|s - g\|_{\mathbb{L}_p[a,b]}$$

Properties of  $s^*$ :

$\mathfrak{Z} := \{z | s(z) = s^*(z)\}$  is closed

If the difference  $s - s^*$  has no zeros inside  $(c, d) \subset (a, b) \setminus \mathfrak{Z}$ , then  $s^* \in \mathcal{S}_{\lfloor q/2 \rfloor + 1, q}[c, d]$ . Hence, if  $s - s^*$  has  $m - 1 < \infty$  distinct zeros in  $(c, d)$ , then  $s^* \in \mathcal{S}_{m(\lfloor q/2 \rfloor + 1), q}[c, d]$ .

**Conclusion:** For  $r \geq q \geq 2$ ,  $0 < p \leq \infty$ , let  $s \in \mathcal{S}_{N,r} \cap \mathbb{C}$ . Then there is  $s^* \in \Delta^q$ , a best approximant to  $s$  from  $\Delta^q$ , which is a piecewise polynomial of order  $r$ .

# Approximation by $q$ -monotone functions: open problem

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## Open Problem

Let  $s \in \mathcal{S}_{N,r}$  (or, more generally, there is a partition of  $[a, b]$  into  $O(N)$  subintervals  $[a_i, b_i]$  such that  $\pm s$  is in  $\Delta^q$  on each of  $[a_i, b_i]$  – this means that  $s$  is a piecewise  $q$ -monotone function on  $[a, b]$  with at most  $O(N)$  pieces), and let  $\mathcal{P}_{\Delta^q}(s)_p$  denote the set of all best  $q$ -monotone approximants to  $s$  from  $\Delta^q$  on  $[a, b]$  in the  $\mathbb{L}_p$  (quasi) norm.

**Prove or disprove:** There exists a  $s^* \in \mathcal{P}_{\Delta^q}(s)_p$  such that  $s - s^*$  has at most  $O(N)$  sign changes.

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# Rates of Unconstrained and Shape Preserving Approximation: pointwise and uniform estimates

## Monotone and Convex Approximation: pointwise estimates

**Theorem** *Let  $\alpha > 0$ . If for a nondecreasing (convex) function  $f \in \mathbb{C}[-1, 1]$  and  $\forall n > \alpha$  there is a polynomial  $p_{n-1}$  such that*

$$|f(x) - p_{n-1}(x)| \leq \Delta_n(x)^\alpha, \quad x \in [-1, 1],$$

*then  $\forall n > \alpha$  there is a nondecreasing (convex) polynomial  $p_{n-1}^*$  satisfying*

$$|f(x) - p_{n-1}^*(x)| \leq C(\alpha)\Delta_n(x)^\alpha, \quad x \in [-1, 1].$$

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Monotone Case:

DeVore and Yu [1985]:  $0 < \alpha < 2$

Shevchuk [1989]:  $\alpha \geq 2$

## Monotone and Convex Approximation: pointwise estimates

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$$|f(x) - p_{n-1}^*(x)| \leq C(\alpha)\Delta_n(x)^\alpha, \quad x \in [-1, 1].$$

Convex Case:

Yu [1985], Leviatan [1986]:  $0 < \alpha < 2$

Mania [ $\leq$  1992]:  $\alpha > 2$

K. [1994]:  $\alpha = 2$

## Monotone Approximation by polynomials: uniform estimates

---

### Theorem (K. and Listopad [1994])

Let  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $\alpha \neq 2$ , and let  $f \in \Delta^1$  be such that for each  $n > \alpha$

$$E_n(f) \leq n^{-\alpha}.$$

Then

$$E_n^{(1)}(f) \leq C(\alpha)n^{-\alpha}.$$

For  $\alpha = 2$  this conclusion is not correct.



## Convex Approximation by polynomials: uniform estimates

---

### Theorem (K. and Listopad [1994])

Let  $\alpha \in (0, 3) \cup (4, \infty)$ , and let  $f \in \Delta^2$  be such that for each  $n > \alpha$

$$E_n(f) \leq n^{-\alpha}.$$

Then

$$E_n^{(2)}(f) \leq C(\alpha)n^{-\alpha}.$$

For  $\alpha \in [3, 4]$  this conclusion is not correct.

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# Relative $n$ -widths with constraints: applications in $q$ -monotone approximation

## Relative $n$ -widths with the constraints

- Let  $W \subset X$ ,  $V \subset X$ , and let  $\mathbb{M}^n(X, V)$  be the set of all linear manifolds  $M^n$ ,  $\dim M^n \leq n$  such that  $M^n \cap V \neq \emptyset$ .

The quantity

$$d_n(W, V)_X := \inf_{M^n \in \mathbb{M}^n} \sup_{f \in W} E(f, M^n \cap V)_X$$

is the *relative  $n$ -width of  $W$  with the constraint  $V$  in  $X$*   
(Kononov)

- Remark: if  $V = X$ , then  $d_n(W, V)_X = d_n(W)_X$  – Kolmogorov  $n$ -width

# Shape preserving widths of Sobolev-type classes of $q$ -monotone f-s

- $V := \Delta_+^q \mathbb{L}_{p'} := \mathbb{L}_{p'} \cap \Delta^q$
- $W := \Delta_+^q \mathbb{W}_p^r := \mathbb{W}_p^r \cap \Delta^q$  where  $\mathbb{W}_p^r := \{f \mid \|f^{(r)}\|_{\mathbb{L}_p} \leq 1\}$
- $d_n(\Delta_+^q \mathbb{W}_p^r, \Delta_+^q \mathbb{L}_{p'})_{\mathbb{L}_{p'}} := \inf_{M^n \in \mathbb{M}^n} \sup_{f \in \Delta_+^q \mathbb{W}_p^r} E(f, M^n \cap \Delta_+^q \mathbb{L}_{p'})_{\mathbb{L}_{p'}}$

**Theorem (Konovalov and Leviatan [2003])** *Let  $r \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $q \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $1 \leq p, p' \leq \infty$ . For  $3 \leq q \leq r$ ,*

$$d_n(\Delta_+^q \mathbb{W}_p^r, \Delta_+^q \mathbb{L}_{p'})_{\mathbb{L}_{p'}} \asymp n^{-r+q-3+1/p}, \quad n \geq r,$$

*and, if  $q = r + 1$ ,  $r \geq 2$ , then*

$$d_n(\Delta_+^{r+1} \mathbb{W}_p^r, \Delta_+^{r+1} \mathbb{L}_{p'})_{\mathbb{L}_{p'}} \asymp n^{-2}, \quad n \geq r.$$

## Corollaries: applications in $q$ -monotone polynomial approximation

- If  $3 \leq q \leq r$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$  and  $f \in \mathbb{W}_p^r$ , then the rate of approximation  $E_n^{(q)}(f)_p$  is asymptotically **not faster than**  $n^{-r+q-3+1/p}$ .
- If  $q \geq 3$  and  $r = q - 1$ , then this rate is **not faster than**  $n^{-2}$ .

Corollary (Jackson type estimates): The estimates

$$E_n^{(q)}(f)_p \leq Cn^{-3}\omega(f^{(3)}, 1/n)_p$$

and, hence,

$$E_n^{(q)}(f)_p \leq C\omega_4(f, 1/n)_p$$

are not true for  $q \geq 3$  ( $0 < p < \infty$ ) and  $q \geq 4$  ( $0 < p \leq \infty$ ).

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**Corollary ( $q \geq 4$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ ):** Let  $q \geq 4$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$  and  $\alpha > 2$ . Then there exists a function  $f \in \Delta^q \cap \mathbb{W}_p^{[\alpha]}$  such that

$$E_n(f)_p \leq Cn^{-\alpha},$$

and, at the same time,

$$E_n^{(q)}(f)_p \not\leq Cn^{-\alpha}.$$

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- If  $q \geq 3$  and  $r = q - 1$ , then this rate is **not faster than**  $n^{-2}$ .

**Corollary ( $q = 3, p = 1$ ):** Let  $q = 3, p = 1$  and  $\alpha > 2$ . Then there exists a function  $f \in \Delta^3 \cap \mathbb{W}_1^{[\alpha]}$  such that

$$E_n(f)_1 \leq Cn^{-\alpha},$$

and, at the same time,

$$E_n^{(3)}(f)_1 \not\leq Cn^{-\alpha}.$$

## Jackson type estimates for $q$ -monotone approximation: $p = \infty$

**Bondarenko and Prymak:** If  $p = \infty$ ,  $q \geq 4$ , and  $r \leq q - 2$ , then the rate of  $E_n^{(q)}(f)_\infty$  asymptotically cannot be faster than  $n^{-2}$  for all  $f \in \mathbb{C}^r$ :  $E_n^{(q)}(x_+^{q-1}) \geq c_q n^{-2}$ .

**Corollary:** The estimate  $E_n^{(q)}(f)_\infty \leq C\omega_3(f, 1/n)_\infty$  is not true for  $q \geq 4$ .

**Shvedov [1981]:** The estimate  $E_n^{(3)}(f)_\infty \leq C\omega_5(f, 1/n)_\infty$  is not true in general.

**Bondarenko:**  $E_n^{(3)}(f)_\infty \leq C\omega_3^\varphi(f, 1/n)_\infty$

**Open Problem:** Prove or disprove the estimate

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**Ma and Yu [1989]:**  $E_n^{(q)}(f)_\infty \leq C\omega_2(f, 1/n)_\infty$

In fact, they proved:  $E_n^{(q)}(f)_p \leq C\omega_2(f, 1/n)_p$  for  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ .

**Cao and Gonska [1994]:** For  $f \in \mathbb{C}[-1, 1] \cap \Delta^q$ ,  $q \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists an algebraic polynomial  $p_n \in \Delta^q$  of degree  $O(n)$  such that

$$|f(x) - p_n(x)| \leq C\omega_2(f, \sqrt{1-x^2}/n), \quad -1 \leq x \leq 1.$$

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$$|f(x) - p_n(x)| \leq C\omega_2(f, \sqrt{1-x^2}/n), \quad -1 \leq x \leq 1.$$

**Open Problem:** Prove/disprove the above estimates for  $p < \infty$ , especially positive results – not much seems to be known if  $q > 2$ , and investigation of cases  $q = 1$  and  $q = 2$  is far from complete.

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# Appendix: SPA in terms of $\omega_{k,r}^{\varphi}(f^{(r)}, \delta)_{\infty}$ moduli



Skip Appendix

**Monotone approximation:**  $E_n^{(1)}(f)_\infty \leq Cn^{-r}\omega_{k,r}^\varphi(f^{(r)}, n^{-1})_\infty$

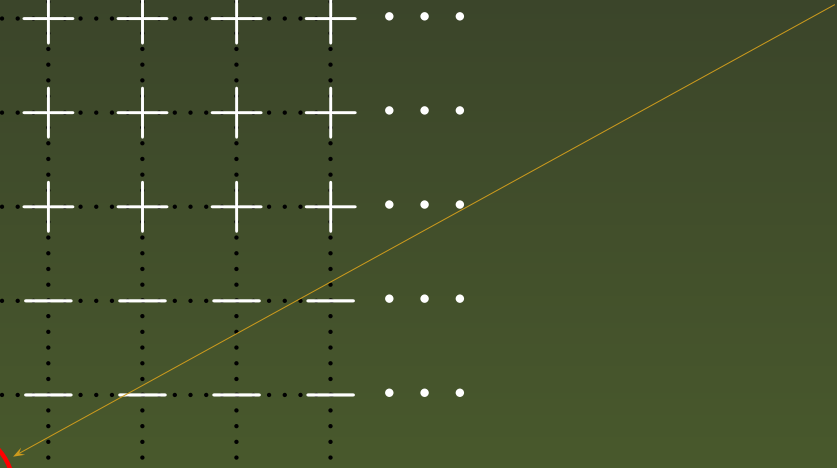
<b>r</b>	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
7	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
6	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
2	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	...
1	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	...
0		+	+	-	-	-	-	-	...
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	<b>k</b>



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<b>r</b>	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
7	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
6	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
2	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	...
1	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	...
0	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	...
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	<b>k</b>

Shvedov [1981]



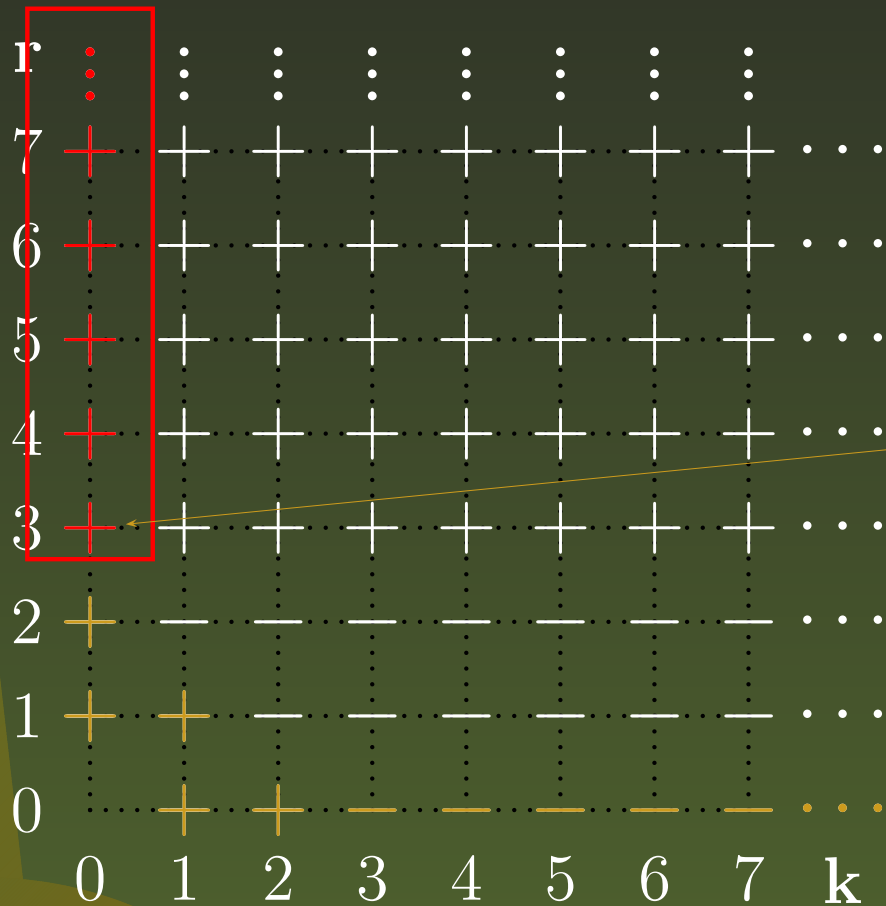
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<b>r</b>	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
7	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
6	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
2	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	...
1	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	...
0	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	...
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	<b>k</b>

Yu [1987], Leviatan [1988]



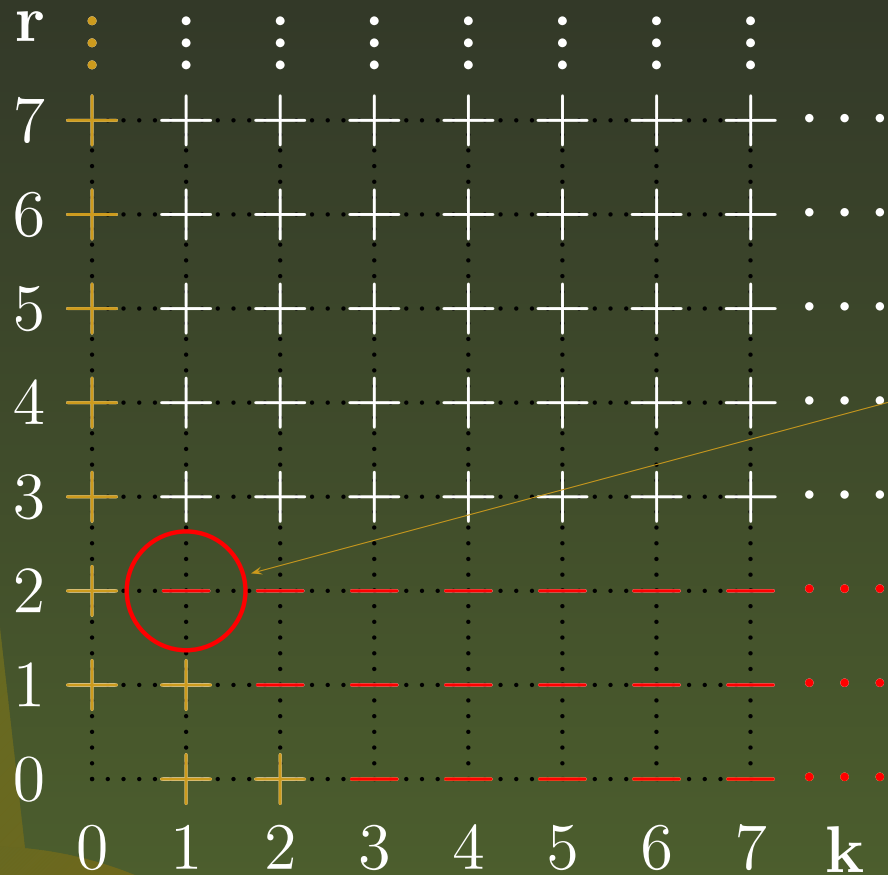
**Monotone approximation:**  $E_n^{(1)}(f)_\infty \leq Cn^{-r}\omega_{k,r}^\varphi(f^{(r)}, n^{-1})_\infty$



Dzubenko, Listopad, Shevchuk [1993]

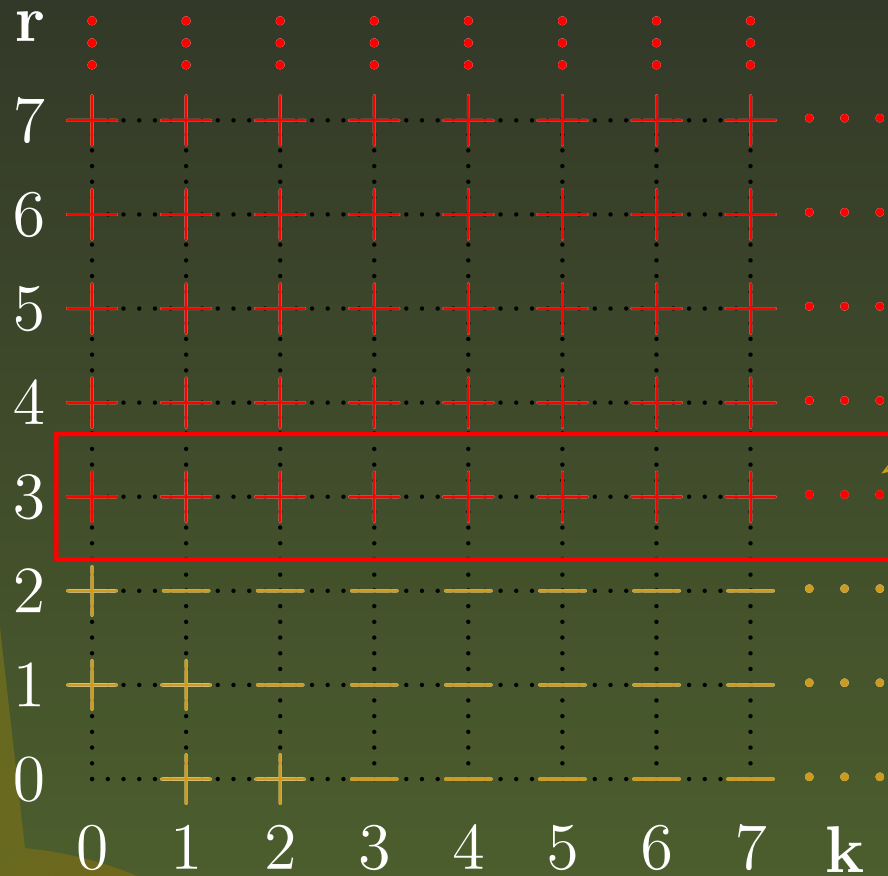


**Monotone approximation:**  $E_n^{(1)}(f)_\infty \leq Cn^{-r}\omega_{k,r}^\varphi(f^{(r)}, n^{-1})_\infty$

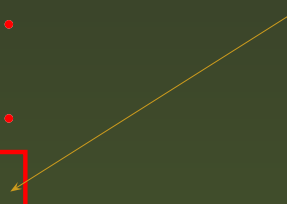


K. and Listopad [1994]

**Monotone approximation:**  $E_n^{(1)}(f)_\infty \leq Cn^{-r}\omega_{k,r}^\varphi(f^{(r)}, n^{-1})_\infty$



K. [1995]



**Convex approximation:**  $E_n^{(2)}(f)_\infty \leq Cn^{-r}\omega_{k,r}^\varphi(f^{(r)}, n^{-1})_\infty$

<b>r</b>	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
7	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
6	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	...
3	+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	...
2	+	+	—	—	—	—	—	—	...
1	+	+	+	—	—	—	—	—	...
0		+	+	+	—	—	—	—	...
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	<b>k</b>



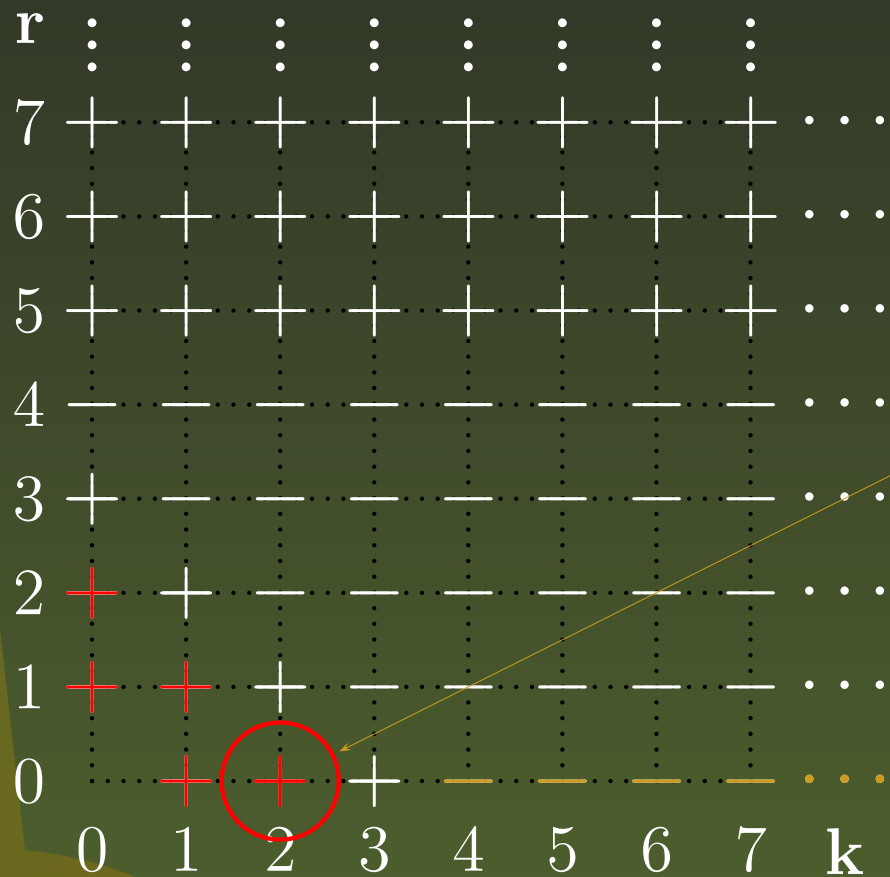
**Convex approximation:**  $E_n^{(2)}(f)_\infty \leq Cn^{-r} \omega_{k,r}^\varphi(f^{(r)}, n^{-1})_\infty$

<b>r</b>	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
7	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
6	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	...
3	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	...
2	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	...
1	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	...
0	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	...
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	<b>k</b>

Shvedov [1981]



**Convex approximation:**  $E_n^{(2)}(f)_\infty \leq Cn^{-r}\omega_{k,r}^\varphi(f^{(r)}, n^{-1})_\infty$



Leviatan [1986]

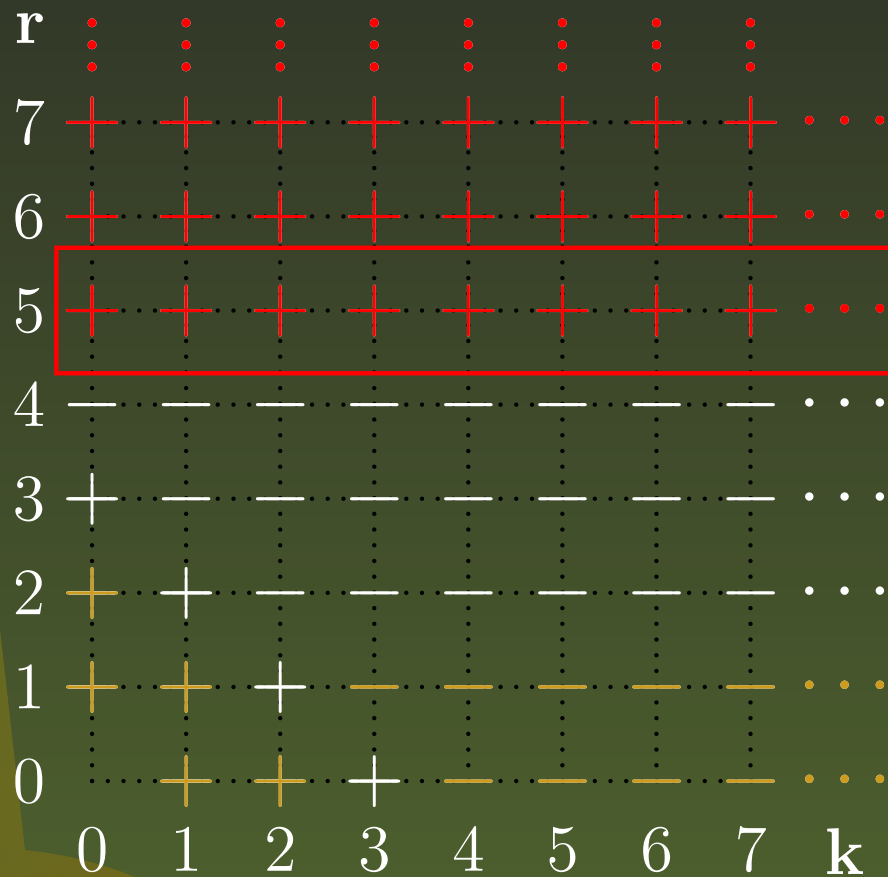
**Convex approximation:**  $E_n^{(2)}(f)_\infty \leq Cn^{-r} \omega_{k,r}^\varphi(f^{(r)}, n^{-1})_\infty$

<b>r</b>	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
7	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
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5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	...
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	...
3	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	...
2	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	...
1	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	...
0		+	+	+	-	-	-	-	...
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	<b>k</b>

**Mania [1991]**

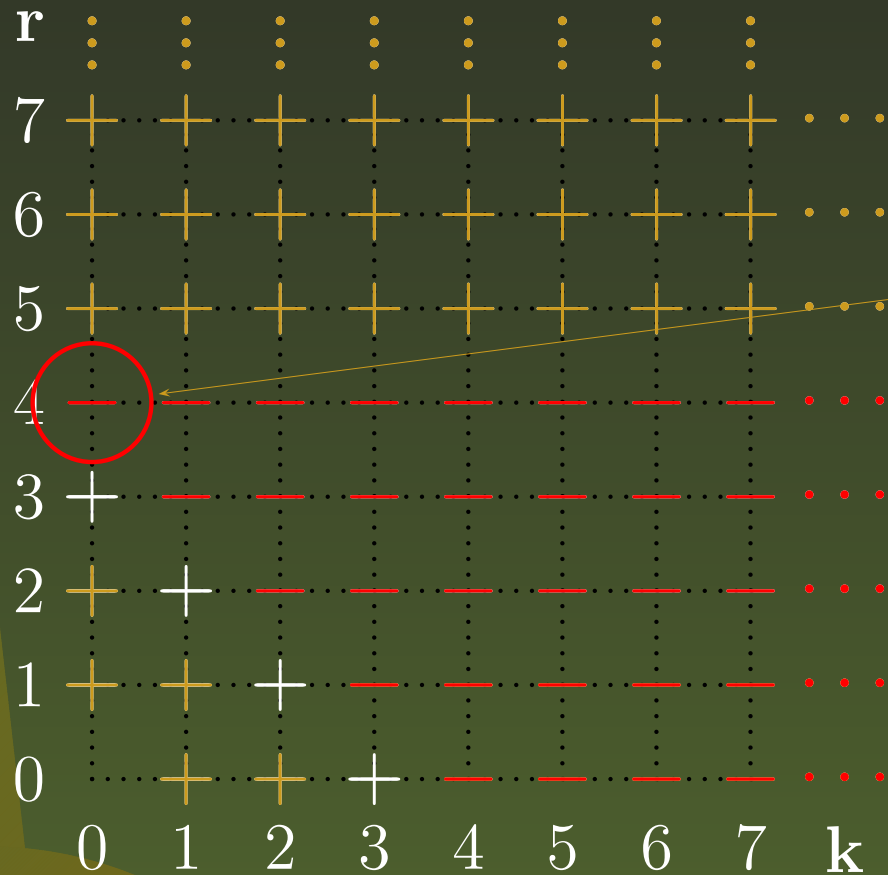


**Convex approximation:**  $E_n^{(2)}(f)_\infty \leq Cn^{-r}\omega_{k,r}^\varphi(f^{(r)}, n^{-1})_\infty$



K. [1995]

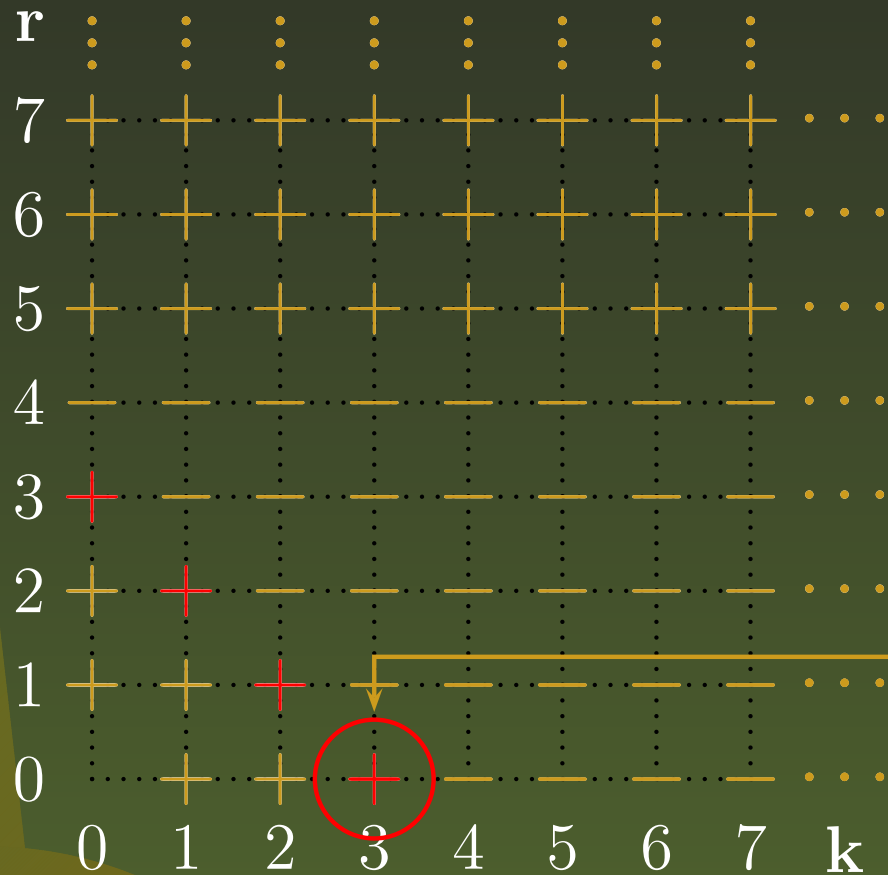
**Convex approximation:**  $E_n^{(2)}(f)_\infty \leq Cn^{-r}\omega_{k,r}^\varphi(f^{(r)}, n^{-1})_\infty$



K. [1992]



**Convex approximation:**  $E_n^{(2)}(f)_\infty \leq Cn^{-r}\omega_{k,r}^\varphi(f^{(r)}, n^{-1})_\infty$



K. [1994]

Hu, Leviatan, Yu [1994]:

$$E_n^{(2)}(f)_\infty \leq C\omega_3(f, n^{-1})_\infty$$

## Remarks

### ■ Direct results for SPA in the $\mathbb{L}_p$ (quasi) norm

Remark 1:  $1 \leq p < \infty$  is essentially different from  $p = \infty$

Example. Ma and Yu [1988], Shevchuk [1989]:  $E_n^{(1)}(f)_\infty \leq Cn^{-1}\omega_m(f', n^{-1})_\infty$

However,  $E_n^{(1)}(f)_p \leq C\omega_2(f', 1)_p$  is NOT true in general for  $0 < p < \infty$ .

Remark 2:  $0 < p < 1$  is essentially different from  $p \geq 1$

Example. Unconstrained:  $\forall A > 0 \forall B \in \mathbb{R} \forall 0 < p < 1 \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \exists f \in \mathbb{A}C$  s.t.

$E_n(f)_p \geq An^B \|f'\|_p$ .

Convex ( $0 < p < 1$ ):  $E_n^{(2)}(f)_p \leq Cn^{-1}\omega(f', n^{-1})_p$

However,  $\forall m \geq 2 \exists 0 < p < 1$  s.t.  $E_n^{(2)}(f)_p \leq C\omega_2(f^{(m)}, 1)_p$  is not true in general.

### ■ “Co”-approximation (*i.e.*, copositive, intertwining, comonotone, coconvex, co- $q$ -monotone).

Remark: nothing (*i.e.*, no direct results) is known if  $q \geq 3$ .

## Remarks

- **Simultaneous SPA**: SPA of a function together with its derivatives
- **Weak SPA**
- **Interpolatory SPA**
- SPA approximation by **rational** functions (convex: **B. Gao, D. J. Newman, V. A. Popov**)
- Constants depending on the function  $f$

Example. **Shvedov [1981]**:  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \forall A > 0 \exists f \in \Delta^1$  s.t.  $E_n^{(1)}(f)_\infty > A\omega_3(f, 1)_\infty$

**Leviatan and Shevchuk [1998]**:  $\forall f \in \Delta^1: E_n^{(1)}(f)_\infty \leq C\omega_3(f, 1/n)_\infty, n \geq N(f)$

- Estimates involving Ivanov moduli of smoothness  $\tau_k(f, \psi, \delta)_{q,p}$  as well as generalized Ditzian-Totik moduli  $\omega_k^{\varphi^\lambda}(f, \delta)_p, 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$

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“A mathematical theory is not to be considered complete until you have made it so clear that you can explain it to the first man whom you meet on the street.” (David Hilbert)

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Thank You!