# GENERALIZED POLYNOMIAL APPROXIMATION

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#### ABSTRACT

We estimate the rate of covergence to functions in the spaces  $L^p[0,1]$  and C[0,1] by polynomial of the form  $\Sigma_{\lambda}a_{\lambda}x^{\lambda}$ , where the  $\lambda$ 's are positive real numbers and 0.

## Introduction

We will use the following notation:

$$\Lambda = \{1, x^{\lambda_1}, \dots, x^{\lambda_n}\} \quad 0 < \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < \dots < \lambda_n$$
$$\|f\|_p = \left(\int_0^1 |f(t)|^p dt\right)^{1/p}$$
$$\|f\|_{\infty} = \sup_{\substack{t \in [0,1]\\ P_A \in [\Lambda]}} \|f(t)\|$$

Our goal in this paper is to determine the degree of approximation possible to functions in the spaces  $L^p[0,1]$  and C[0,1] by "polynomials"  $P_{\Lambda}$  in the span of  $\Lambda$ . More specifically, we seek the approximation index  $I_p$ , that is, the smallest possible number  $\eta_p(\Lambda)$  such that for any  $f \in L^p$ ,

$$d_p(f;\Lambda) \leq 2W_p(f;\eta_p).$$

Here  $W_p$  denotes the  $L^p$  modulus of continuity of f. (To simplify notation, we use the symbol  $L^{\infty}$  to denote the space of continuous functions.)

Recent research ([1], [6], [7]) has yielded the following results:

(A) If  $2 \le p \le \infty$  and  $\lambda_m \ge 2m$ ,  $m = 1, 2, \dots n$ ,  $I_p$  is equivalent (equal within a constant factor) to

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$$\exp\left(-2\sum_{m}\frac{1}{\lambda_{m}}\right).$$

(B) If p = 2 or  $p = \infty$ ,  $I_p$  is equivalent to  $\max_{\text{Re}\,z=1} |B_p(z)/z|$ , where  $B_p(z)$  is the Blaschke product with zeros at  $\lambda_m + 1/p$ .

Note that (A) gives a handy formula for  $I_p$  in the  $L^p$  spaces,  $2 \le p \le \infty$  under the growth condition  $\lambda_m \ge 2m$ . (B) gives the complete answer in the special cases p = 2 or  $p = \infty$ . Furthermore, the rather complicated expression in (B) has a simple equivalent also in the "nonseparated" cases. That is, setting  $\varepsilon_p = \max_{\text{Re}\,z=1} |B_p(z)/z|$ , we have

(1) 
$$C_2\left(\sum_m \lambda_m\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \leq \varepsilon_p \leq C_1\left(\sum_m \lambda_m\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}}, \quad \text{for each } 1 \leq p \leq \infty,$$

as long as  $\lambda_{m+1} - \lambda_m \leq 2$ . See [7].

Our conjecture is that  $\varepsilon_p$  is the correct formula (up to a constant factor) for the approximation index in all the  $L^p$ -spaces. The results we prove will show that it serves as an upper bound under very general conditions and also serves as a lower bound for  $2 \leq p \leq \infty$  and under the added hypothesis  $\lambda_m \geq 2m$  also for  $1 \leq p < 2$ . For future reference, then, we record the equivalent formula for  $\varepsilon_p$ also in the "separated" case. There, a comparison of Theorems (A) and (B) shows

(2) 
$$C_2 \exp\left(-2\sum_m \frac{1}{\lambda_m}\right) \leq \varepsilon_p \leq C_1 \exp\left(-2\sum_m \frac{1}{\lambda_m}\right)$$

as long as  $\lambda_m \ge 2m$  for all m. In fact (2) holds for each  $1 \le p \le \infty$ .

#### 1. Upper bounds

THEOREM 1. There exists a constant A > 0 such that for any  $f \in L^p[0, 1]$ , there exists  $P_{\Lambda}$  with  $||f - P_{\Lambda}||_p < 2 W_p(f; A\varepsilon_p)$  if any one of the following conditions is satisfied:

- (a)  $2 \leq p \leq \infty$
- (b)  $1 \leq p < 2, \lambda_m \geq m$  for all m
- (c)  $1 \leq p < 2$ ,  $\lambda_{m+1} \lambda_m \leq 1$  for all m.

Since  $\lambda_{m+1} - \lambda_m \ge 1$  for all *m* implies  $\lambda_m \ge m$  for all *m*, cases (b) and (c) form a pair of "separated" and "nonseparated" cases.

Our method of proof will consist of first approximating by an ordinary N-th degree polynomial and then reapproximating the monomials by  $\Lambda$ -polynomials.

This is the method introduced by Von Golitschek [9] and Leviatan [5] and recently used by Newman [6]. We will need the following lemmas:

LEMMA 1. Suppose  $f \in L^p[-1,1]$  with  $||f'||_p \leq 1$ . Then there exists an N-th degree polynomial  $P_N(x)$  such that

(3) 
$$\begin{aligned} \|f - P_N\|_p &\leq A_1/N \\ \|P'_N\| &\leq A_2 N^{1/p}. \end{aligned}$$

PROOF. For even periodic L<sup>p</sup>-functions  $g(\theta)$  on  $[-\pi, \pi]$  with  $||g'||_p \leq 1$ , the even trigonometric approximation  $T_N(\theta)$  given by the Jackson kernel satisfies  $||g - T_N||_p \leq C_1/N$  while  $|T'_N| \leq C_2 N^{1/p}$ . See [4, p. 2]. For  $f \in L^p[-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}]$ , we obtain (3) by making the usual transformation  $x = \cos \theta$ ,  $g(\theta) = f(\cos \theta)$ . Finally, a second change of variables shows that (3) holds for the interval [-1, 1], as desired.

LEMMA 2. For any 
$$p \ge 1$$
 and  $k \ge 1$ ,  $|B_p(k)| \le k^k \varepsilon_p^k$ .

**PROOF.** The proof is given in [6] under the hypothesis that k is a positive integer, but the proof is identical as long as  $k \ge 1$ .

LEMMA 3. In each of the cases (a), (b) and (c) and for any positive integer k, there exists a  $\Lambda$ -polynomial  $P_{\Lambda}$  such that

 $||x^{k} - P_{\Lambda}(x)||_{p} \leq B^{k+1}(k+1)^{k+1}\varepsilon_{p}^{k+(1/p)},$ 

B an absolute positive constant.

PROOF OF LEMMA 3. Here we must consider each case separately:

Case a.  $2 \leq p \leq \infty$ .

We begin by noting that the  $L^p$  distance of  $x^k$  to  $\Lambda$  is given by

$$\sup \int_0^1 x^k g(x) dx$$

where the supremum is taken over all functions  $g \in L^q$  [0,1] of norm one and s.t.  $\int_0^1 x^{\lambda m} g(x) dx = 0$  for all *m*. Given such a function g(x), we set

$$F(z) = \int_0^1 x^{z-1/p} g(x) dx$$

and note that F(z) is an analytic function in the right half-plane with zeros at the points  $\lambda_m + 1/p$ , so that

J. BAK ET AL.

$$F(z) = B_p(z) G(z).$$

To estimate G(z), we rewrite F(z) as an integral over the half-line

$$F(z) = \int_0^\infty e^{-tz} e^{-t/q} g(e^{-t}) dt = B_p(z) G(z).$$

Noting then that  $||e^{-t/q}g(e^{-t})||_q$  on  $[0, \infty) = 1$  and |B(iy)| = 1 for all y, we can apply Young's inequality [10, p. 316] to conclude

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |G(iy)|^p \, dy \leq 2\pi.$$

Finally, since G(z) is analytic in the right half-plane

$$G(k) = \frac{k}{\pi i} \int_{I} G(z) dz / (z-k)(z+k)$$

where I is the imaginary axis and by Hölder's inequality

$$|G(k)| \leq (2\pi)^{1/p}(k/\pi) \int_{I} |dz|/|z-k|^{q}|z+k|^{q})^{1/q}$$

and a direct estimate shows

$$\left| G(k) \right| \leq \left( 2/k \right)^{1/p}.$$

Recalling that the L<sup>p</sup> distance of  $x^k$  to  $\Lambda$  is bounded by  $\sup_F F(k + 1/p)$ , we have for some  $P_{\Lambda}$ ,

$$\| x^{k} - P_{\Lambda} \|_{p} \leq |B_{p}(k+1/p)G(k+1/p)| \leq 2 |B_{p}(k+1/p)|$$

and an application of Lemma 2 completes the proof.

Case b.  $1 \leq p < 2, \lambda_m \geq m$ .

Our proof here rests on the following inequality derived in [1]. (Interestingly, it was used there to obtain a *lower* bound in the conjugate spaces.)

DEFINITION. Suppose  $F(z) = \int_0^\infty e^{-tz} f(t) dt$ ,

$$||F(z)||_{A_n} = ||f(t)||_p \text{ on } [0,\infty].$$

**PROPOSITION.** 

$$\|B(z)/(z+k)\|_{Ap} \leq 3 \text{ for } 1 \leq p \leq 2.$$

The proposition is proven in [1, p. 452] for  $\lambda_m \ge 2m$  but is evidently true for  $\lambda_m \ge \delta m$ , where  $\delta > 0$  is arbitrary but fixed. While the proof there involves k = 1, the arguments are quite general.

Now, by a partial fraction decomposition

340

Vol. 15, 1973 GENERALIZED POLYNOMIAL APPROXIMATION

$$B(z)/(z+k) = B(-k)/(z+k) + \sum A_{\lambda}/(z+\lambda).$$

Thus

$$B(z)/(z+k) = B(-k) \int_0^\infty e^{-tz} (e^{-tk} - \sum C_{\lambda} e^{-t\lambda}) dt$$

so that according to the above proposition,

$$\| e^{-tk} - \sum C_{\lambda} e^{-t\lambda} \|_{p}$$
 on  $[0, \infty] \leq 3 |B(-k)|^{-1} = 3 |B(k)|$ .

The standard transformation  $e^{-t} = x$  shows then that

$$||x^{k-1/p} - \sum C_{\lambda} x^{\lambda-(1/p)}||_{p}$$
 on  $[0,1] \leq 3|B(k)|$ 

or, equivalently,

$$\|x^k - P_{\Lambda}(x)\|_p \leq 3|B_p(k+1/p)|$$

so that again by Lemma 2, the proof is complete.

Case c.  $1 \leq p < 2, \lambda_{m+1} - \lambda_m \leq 1.$ 

Our proof here rests on the ability to approximate  $x^{k+1}$  in the uniform norm and the explicit representation for  $\varepsilon_p$  given in (1).

We begin by considering, for any k, the set of monomials  $\{x^{\mu_m}\}$ , where  $\mu_m = (k + 1/k)\lambda_m$ . If we set

$$B_p^*(z) = \prod_m \frac{z - (\mu_m + 1/p)}{z + (\mu_m + 1/p)} \text{ and } \eta_p = \max_{\text{Re } z = 1} \left| \frac{B_p^*(z)}{z} \right|,$$

we have by Case (a)

$$\| t^{k+1} - \sum C_m t^{\mu_m} \|_{\infty} \leq 2(k+1)^{k+1} \eta_{\infty}^{k+1}$$

for some choice of coefficients  $C_0, C_1, \dots, C_n$ . Furthermore since  $||f(t^{\alpha})||_{\infty}$ =  $||f(t)||_{\infty}$  for any  $\alpha > 0$ , we can make the change of variables  $t^{k+1} = x^k$  and conclude

$$\|x^{k} - \Sigma C_{m} x^{\lambda_{m}}\|_{p} \leq \|x^{k} - \Sigma C_{m} x^{\lambda_{m}}\|_{\infty} \leq 2(k+1)^{k+1} \eta_{\infty}^{k+1}$$

for all  $p \geq 1$ .

Finally, since both of the sets  $\{x^{\lambda m}\}$  and  $\{x^{\mu m}\}$  have exponents which are separated by less than two, we can apply (1) to conclude

$$\varepsilon_p \geq B_1(\Sigma\lambda_m)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \geq B_2(\Sigma\mu_m)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \geq B_3\eta_{\infty}$$

so that

$$\|x^k - \sum C_m x^{\lambda_m}\|_p \leq B^{k+1}(k+1)^{k+1} \varepsilon_p^{k+1}$$

and the proof is complete.

**PROOF OF THEOREM 1.** Let f be such that  $||f'||_p \leq 1$ ; we will show the existence of a polynomial  $P_{\Lambda}$  such that  $||f - P_{\Lambda}|| \leq A \cdot \varepsilon_p$  (the reduction to this special case is contained e.g. in [1]).

Let  $P_N(x)$  be the N-th degree approximator guaranteed by Lemma 1 and recall that

(4) 
$$|Q'_N| \leq 1 \Rightarrow |Q'^{(k)}(0)| \leq N^{k-1}$$
 [8, p. 226].

Thus if

$$P_N(x) = \sum a_k x^k, |a_k| \le A_2 N^{k-1+1/p}/k!.$$

Finally taking  $P_{\Lambda}(x) = \sum a_k R_k(x)$  where  $R_k$  is the best A-approximator to  $x^k$  we have by Lemma 3,

$$\|f - P_{\Lambda}\|_{p} \leq \|f - P_{N}\|_{p} + \|P_{N} - P_{\Lambda}\|_{p}$$
$$\leq \frac{A_{1}}{N} + \sum_{k=1}^{N} \frac{N^{k-1+1/p} A_{3}^{k} (k+1)^{k+1} \varepsilon_{p}^{k+1/p}}{k!}.$$

Choosing  $N = \frac{1}{6A_3 \cdot \varepsilon_p}$ ,

$$\|f - P_{\Lambda}\|_{p} \leq A_{4}\varepsilon_{p} + \varepsilon_{p}A_{5}\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k \cdot \left(\frac{2e}{6}\right)^{k}$$

and the proof is complete.

REMARK. As we mentioned in the proof of Case (b) the methods used could be applied as well under the somewhat weaker condition  $\lambda_m \ge \delta m$ ,  $\delta > 0$ . Nevertheless, not all cases are covered by Theorem 1 and one may wonder whether under some unusual conditions  $I_p$  may actually be much larger then  $\varepsilon_p$ . In the following sense this is impossible.

Proceeding as in the proof of Case (a), one could show using rough estimates that for any  $p \ge 1$  and positive integer k,

$$\left\|x^{k}-P_{\Lambda}(x)\right\|_{p} \leq A(k+1)^{k+1}\varepsilon_{p}^{k+1/p}\left|\log\varepsilon_{p}\right|^{1/p}$$

for some  $P_{\Lambda}$ . This result may then be used as in the proof of Theorem 1 to show that

$$I_p \leq A\varepsilon_p \big| \log \varepsilon_p \big|^{1/p}$$

in all L<sup>p</sup>-spaces, and with no restrictions on  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ .

## 2. Approximation to differentiable functions

A second theorem of Jackson [4, p. 12] states that for any  $f \in C^1[0, 1]$  there exists an N-th degree polynomial  $P_N$  such that

$$\|f - P_N\|_{\infty} \leq AW(f'; 1/N)/N.$$

Stated equivalently in terms of certain basic functions  $f \in C^1[0, 1]$  with  $|f''| \leq 1$ , the theorem asserts that there exists  $P_N$  such that  $||f - P_N|| \leq A/N^2$ . Corresponding results hold for functions in  $C^j[0, 1]$ ,  $(1/N^2$  is replaced by  $1/N^{j+1}$ ), and in all the *L*<sup>p</sup>-spaces as well. We wish to generalize these theorems in the direction of Muntz-approximation that is, we will prove

THEOREM 2. Let  $\varepsilon_p$  be as before and assume the hypothesis of Theorem 1 is satisfied. Furthermore, supplement  $\Lambda$  to include the monomials  $x, x^2, \dots, x^j$ . Then for any j-times differentiable  $f \in L^p[0, 1]$ , there exists  $P_{\Lambda}$  such that

$$\|f - P_{\Lambda}\|_{p} \leq A \varepsilon_{p}^{j} W_{p}(f; \varepsilon_{p}).$$

REMARKS. To simplify notation, we will deal with the case j = 1 although the method generalizes easily. Also, we will confine ourselves to differentiable functions such that  $|f''|_p \leq 1$ . We then seek to demonstrate the existence of a function  $P_{\Lambda}$  such that

$$\|f - P_{\Lambda}\|_{p} \leq A\varepsilon_{p}^{2}$$

(the reduction to this special case and a proof under the hypotheses  $\lambda_m \ge 2m$ ,  $p \ge 2$  are contained in [1]).

**PROOF OF THEOREM 2.** We first use Jackson's method to approximate f by an *N*-th degree polynomial. Since  $|f''|_p \leq 1$ , by (3) we can find  $Q_N$  s.t.

$$||f' - Q'_N||_p \leq 1/N$$
 with  $|Q''_N| \leq N^{1/p}$ .

But then  $N(f - Q_N)$  has a bounded derivative  $(L^p)$  and we can find  $R_N$  s.t.

$$\|N(f-Q_N)-R_N\|_p\leq \frac{1}{N}$$
 with  $|R'_N|\leq N^{1/p}$ .

Taking  $P_N = Q_N + R_N/N$ , we have

$$\left\|f-P_{N}\right\| \leq 1/N^{2}.$$

Also if  $P_N(x) = \sum a_k x^k$ ,  $|a_k| \leq A N^{k-2+1/p}/k!$  for  $k \geq 2$ .

This follows from the two inequalities  $|Q_N''| \leq N^{1/p}$  and  $|R_N'/N| \leq N^{-1+1/p}$  and (4).

Once again, reapproximating  $P_N(x)$  by  $P_{\Lambda}(x) = \sum a_k Q_k(x)$  where  $Q_k$  is the best  $\Lambda$ -approximator to  $x^k$ , we obtain by Lemma 3

$$\begin{split} \left\| f - P_{\Lambda} \right\| &\leq \left\| f - P_{N} \right\| + \left\| P_{N} - P_{\Lambda} \right\| \\ &\leq A/N^{2} + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} N^{k-2+1/p} B^{k+1} (k+1)^{k+1} \varepsilon_{p}^{k+1/p} / k!. \end{split}$$

Choosing  $N = 1/6 B\varepsilon_p$  as before we obtain

$$\left\|f-P_{\Lambda}\right\| \leq C\varepsilon_{p}^{2}$$

and the proof is complete.

# 3. Lower Bounds

THEOREM 3. There exists a function  $f \in L^p[0,1]$  such that  $d_p(f,\Lambda) \ge A$  $W_p(f; \varepsilon_p)$  where A is an absolute positive constant (independent of f and  $\Lambda$ ) if either  $2 \le p \le \infty$  or  $1 \le p < 2$  and  $\lambda_k \ge 2k$  for all k.

**PROOF.** First assume  $2 \le p \le \infty$ . Our proof is based on some ideas and results from [1, 6]. Let  $I_p = \sup_{\|f'\|_p \le 1} d_p(f, \Lambda)$ , then  $I_p$  has a useful representation

(5) 
$$I_p = \sup_{g \in L^q[0,1]} \|G\|_q / \|g\|_q$$
 where  $g \perp P_\Lambda$  and  $G(x) = \int_0^{\infty} g(t) dt$ .

Given  $g \in L^q[0,1]$  such that  $g \perp P_{\Lambda}$  set

$$F(z) = \int_0^1 t^{z-1/p} g(t) dt.$$

Then F(z) is analytic for Re z > 0 and vanishes for  $z = \lambda_i + 1/p$   $i = 0, 1, \dots, n$ . Also integration by parts yields

$$F(z) = -\left(z - \frac{1}{p}\right) \int_0^1 t^{z - (1/p) - 1} G(t) dt$$

so that

$$\frac{F(z+1)}{z+(1/q)} = - \int_0^1 t^{z-(1/p)} G(t) dt \, .$$

Following [1, p. 451] we make a change of variable to obtain

$$F(z) = \int_0^\infty e^{-zt} h(t) dt$$

and

Vol. 15, 1973 GENERALIZED POLYNOMIAL APPROXIMATION

$$\frac{F(z+1)}{z+(1/q)} = \int_0^\infty e^{-zt} H(t) dt$$

where  $h(t) = g(e^{-t})e^{-t/q}$  and  $H(t) = G(e^{-t})e^{-t/q}$  so that  $||h||_q$  on  $[0, \infty) = ||g||_q$ on [0, 1] and  $||H||_q$  on  $[0, \infty) = ||G||_q$  on [0, 1]. Since

$$\frac{F(iy+1)}{iy+(1/q)}$$

is the Fourier transform of H(t) it follows by Young's inequality that

(6) 
$$\left\|\frac{F(iy+1)}{iy+(1/q)}\right\|_{p} \leq (2\Pi)^{1/p} \left\|H\right\|_{q}.$$

Now F(z) may be factorized into  $F(z) = B_p(z)A(z)$  where  $B_p(z)$  is the Blaschke product vanishing at  $z = \lambda_i + 1/p$   $i = 0, 1, \dots, n$  and A(z) is analytic in the right half-plane. Hence

(7) 
$$\left\|\frac{F(iy+1)}{iy+(1/q)}\right\|_{p} = \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |A(iy+1)|^{p} L(y)^{p/2} dy\right)^{1/p}$$

where

$$L(y) = \frac{1}{y^2 + \frac{1}{q^2}} \prod_{i=0}^{n} \frac{y^2 + \left(\lambda_i - 1 + \frac{1}{p}\right)^2}{y^2 + \left(\lambda_i + 1 + \frac{1}{p}\right)^2},$$

and we will use this to estimate

$$\left\|\frac{F(iy+1)}{iy+(1/q)}\right\|_{\mu}$$

from below. We do this in much the same way as [7]. Let  $\gamma_i = \lambda_i + 1/p$   $i = 0, \dots, n$ . Then for  $y \ge 0$ 

(8) 
$$\frac{L'(y)}{L(y)} = \sum_{i=0}^{n} \left[ \frac{2y}{y^{2} + (\gamma_{i} - 1)^{2}} - \frac{2y}{y^{2} + (\gamma_{i} + 1)^{2}} \right] - \frac{2y}{y^{2} + \frac{1}{q^{2}}}$$
$$= 8y \sum_{i=0}^{n} \frac{\gamma_{i}}{\left[ y^{2} + (\gamma_{i} - 1)^{2} \right] \left[ y^{2} + (\gamma_{i} + 1)^{2} \right]} - \frac{2y}{y^{2} + \frac{1}{q^{2}}}$$
$$\ge -\frac{2y}{y^{2}i + \frac{1}{q^{2}}} \ge -q.$$

345

J. BAK ET AL.

Let  $t \ge 0$  be the point where L(y) assumes its maximum and put  $M = L(t)^{1/2}$ . Then integrating (8) from t to t + u, u > 0, we obtain

$$\log \frac{L(t+u)}{M^2} \ge -qu \text{ or } L(t+u) \ge M^2 e^{-qu}$$

for all u > 0. In particular

(9) 
$$L(y) \ge M^2 e^{-q}, \quad t \le y \le t+1.$$

Now choose

$$F(z) = \frac{4z^2 s^2 B_p(z)}{(z+s)^2 (z+1-it)}$$

where  $s = \sqrt{1 + t^2}$ . This function has been used by Newman [6] for the case  $p = \infty$ . For this F(z)

$$A(z) = \frac{4z^2s^2}{(z+s)^2(z+1-it)}.$$

From (7) and (9)

$$\begin{split} \left\| \frac{F(iy+1)}{iy+(1/q)} \right\|_{p} &\geq M e^{-q/2} \left( \int_{t}^{t+1} \left( \frac{4\left|1+iy\right|^{2}s^{2}}{\left|1+iy+s\right|^{4}\left|1+iy+1-it\right|} \right)^{p} dy \right)^{1/p} \\ &= M e^{-q/2} \left( \int_{t}^{t+1} \left( \frac{4(1+y^{2})^{2}s^{4}}{\left((1+s)^{2}+y^{2}\right)^{4}(4+(y-t)^{2})} \right)^{p/2} dy \right)^{1/p}. \end{split}$$

Now for  $t \leq y \leq t+1$ 

$$\frac{(1+y^2)s^2}{\left[(1+s)^2+y^2\right]^2} = \frac{(1+y^2)(1+t^2)}{\left[\left(1+\sqrt{1+t^2}\right)^2+y^2\right]^2}$$
$$\geq \frac{(1+t^2)^2}{\left[1+2\sqrt{1+t^2}+1+t^2+(1+t)^2\right]^2}$$
$$\geq \frac{(1+t^2)^2}{\left[6(1+t^2)\right]^2} = \frac{1}{36}.$$

Therefore

(10) 
$$\left\|\frac{F(iy+1)}{iy+(1/q)}\right\|_{p} \geq \frac{M}{18}e^{-q/2} \left(\int_{t}^{t+1} \frac{dy}{[4+(y-t)^{2}]^{p/2}}\right)^{1/p}$$
$$= \frac{Me^{-q/2}}{18} \left(\int_{0}^{1} \frac{dy}{(4+y^{2})^{p/2}}\right)^{1/p}$$
$$= CM.$$

Evidently M is equivalent to  $\varepsilon_p$  thus (6) and (10) imply

(11) 
$$\|H\|_q \geq K\varepsilon_p$$

We now find an absolute upper bound for  $||h||_q 1 < q < 2$  and once this is done our theorem follows by (5) and (11).

To this end we introduce the following notation of Bak and Newman [1, p. 451]. Denote by  $||f||_{A_2}$  the  $L^q$ -norm of the inverse Fourier transform of f. Newman [6, (14)] proved that

(12) 
$$||F(iy)||_{A_1} \leq 6.$$

Also by Parseval's equality and Newman [6, (12)]

(13) 
$$||F(iy)||_{A_2} = \sqrt{2\pi} ||F(iy)||_2$$
  
=  $\sqrt{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |F(iy)|^2 dy^{1/2}$   
 $\leq \sqrt{2}\pi.$ 

Combining (12) and (13) it follows that  $||F(iy)||_{Aq}$  is bounded by an absolute constant for all 1 < q < 2 and this completes the proof for  $2 \le p \le \infty$ . Thus let us assume  $1 \le p < 2$ .

Our proof will be based on two lemmas. The first one assures us that the monomial  $x^{1-1/p}$  can be approximated  $(L^p)$  to within a constant times  $\varepsilon_p$  by the derivative of some  $\Lambda$ -polynomial.

LEMMA 1. Let 
$$\Lambda' = \{x^{\mu_1}, x^{\mu_2}, \dots, x^{\mu_{n-1}}\}$$
 where  $\mu_k = \lambda_{k+1} - 1$  then  
 $d_p(x^{1-1/p}, \Lambda') \leq A_1 \varepsilon_p$ .

PROOF OF LEMMA 1. According to Lemma 3b of Theorem 1,

$$d_{p}(x^{1-1/p}, \Lambda') \leq \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} \left| \frac{\mu_{k} - 1 + 1/p}{\mu_{k} + 1 + 1/p} \right| = \prod_{2}^{n} \frac{\lambda_{k} - 2 + 1/p}{\lambda_{k} + 1/p}$$
$$\leq \exp\left(-2\sum_{k=3}^{n} 1/\lambda_{k}\right) \leq A_{1}\varepsilon_{p}$$

by the left-hand inequality in (2).

Lemma 2.  $d_p(x^{2-1/p};\Lambda) \ge A_2 \varepsilon_p^2$ .

PROOF OF LEMMA 2. Again, we will use the fact that

$$d_p(f;\Lambda) \ge \Big| \int_0^1 \phi(x) f(x) dx \Big|$$

for any  $\phi \in L_q$  such that  $\phi \perp \Lambda$  and  $\|\phi\|_q \leq 1$ .

Choose  $\phi$  so that

$$\int_0^1 \phi(x) x^z dx = \frac{z B_p(z+1/p)}{5(z+2)^3}$$

Since  $B_p(\lambda + (1/p)) = 0, \phi \perp \Lambda$ . We wish to show  $\|\phi\|_q \leq 1$ . Note, then, that if we make the transformation  $x = e^{-t}$  and set z = iy - 1/p, we have

$$\int_0^\infty \phi(e^{-t})e^{-t/q}e^{-ity}dt = \frac{(iy-1/p)B_p(iy)}{5(iy+2-1/p)^3}$$

so that

$$\phi(e^{-t})e^{-t/q} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{(iy-1/p)B_p(iy)e^{ity}}{5(iy+2-(1/p))^3} dy$$

and by Young's inequality

$$\|\phi(e^{-t})e^{-t/q}\|_q$$
 on  $[0,\infty] \leq 1$ .

Returning to the unit interval, we have shown that  $\|\phi\|_q \leq 1$ . Thus

$$d_p(x^{2-1/p};\Lambda) \ge \int_0^1 \phi(x) x^{2-1/p} dx = \frac{\left(2-\frac{1}{p}\right) B_p(2)}{5\left(4-\frac{1}{p}\right)^3}.$$

The proof follows then by noting that by the hypothesis on  $\{\lambda_k\}$ 

$$|B_p(2)| \ge A_1 \exp\left(-4\Sigma \frac{1}{\lambda}\right) \ge A_2 \varepsilon_p^2$$

the latter inequality following from the right-hand inequality in (2).

**PROOF OF THOEREM 3.** We will exhibit a function f such that

$$||f'||_p \leq 1$$
, while  $d_p(f; \Lambda) \geq A\varepsilon_p$ .

Choose  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  so that  $\sum a_k x^{\lambda_k - 1}$  is the best  $\Lambda'$  approximation to  $x^{1 - 1/p}$  and let

$$f(x) = \left[x^{2-1/p} - \sum \frac{(2-1/p)a_k}{\lambda_k} x^{\lambda_k}\right] / 2A_1 \varepsilon_p.$$

By Lemma 1,

Vol. 15, 1973

while on the other hand

$$d_p(f;\Lambda) = d_p\left(\frac{x^{2-(1/p)}}{2A_1\varepsilon_p};\Lambda\right) \ge \frac{A_2}{2A_1}\varepsilon_p$$

by Lemma 2, and the proof is complete.

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349