

## Best $L_1$ -Approximation

HANS STRAUSS

*Institut für Angewandte Mathematik, Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg,  
8520 Erlangen, West Germany*

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### INTRODUCTION

Recently best  $L_1$ -approximation of continuous functions was extensively studied.

Galkin [2] and Strauss [10] showed that the problem of best approximation of continuous functions by polynomial splines has a unique solution. Micchelli [5] considered best  $L_1$ -approximation by weak Chebyshev subspaces and studied a class of functions for which the best approximation is the unique solution of an interpolation problem with nodes independent of the functions. DeVore [1] has established a very nice condition for unique one-sided best  $L_1$ -approximation which is very useful in applications to special functions.

In this paper we give first, a similar condition ensuring uniqueness of best  $L_1$ -approximation. This condition can be considered a generalized Haar condition. Using it, we give a short proof of uniqueness of best  $L_1$ -approximation from subspaces of spline functions.

Then we consider the relationship between best  $L_1$ -approximation and certain classes of perfect splines. We characterize best  $L_1$ -approximations from spline subspaces using perfect splines. We construct bounds for the error of best  $L_1$ -approximations from spline subspaces which satisfy certain boundary conditions. These estimates have an application in numerical integration.

### 1. UNIQUENESS IN $L_1$ -APPROXIMATION

In this section we shall develop conditions ensuring that the best approximation of a continuous function in the  $L_1$ -norm is unique.

We shall need the following notation: Let  $C[a, b]$  be the space of continuous real-valued functions on the interval  $[a, b]$  normed by

$\|f\| = \int_a^b |f(x)| dx$ . If  $f \in C[a, b]$  then  $Z(f) = \{x \in [a, b] : f(x) = 0\}$ , and two zeros  $x_1, x_2$  of  $f$  are said to be *separated* if there is an  $x_0, x_1 < x_0 < x_2$ , such that  $f(x_0) \neq 0$ .

The following condition will turn out to be very important for uniqueness in  $L_1$ -approximation.

**DEFINITION 1.1.** Let  $V = \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  be a subspace of  $C[a, b]$  such that every function  $v$  in  $V$  has only a finite number of separated zeros. We say that the subspace  $V$  satisfies *condition A*, if there exists, for every nonzero  $v$  in  $V$  and every finite subset  $Z_1 = \{t_1, \dots, t_r\}$  of  $Z(v) \cap (a, b)$ , a nonzero  $w$  in  $V$  such that

- (a)  $(-1)^i w(x) \geq 0$  for  $x \in [t_{i-1}, t_i]$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, r + 1$ , where  $t_0 = a$ ,  $t_{r+1} = b$ ;
- (b) if  $v$  vanishes on an open subset of  $[a, b]$ , then  $w$ , too, vanishes there.

A similar condition concerning one-sided  $L_1$ -approximation was suggested by DeVore [1].

**EXAMPLE 1.2.** Every finite dimensional Chebyshev subspace of  $C[a, b]$  satisfies condition A.

In Section 3 we show that subspaces of spline functions with fixed knots also satisfy condition A.

Condition A can be considered a generalized Haar condition.

Next we shall need the following results on  $L_1$ -approximation.

**THEOREM 1.3.** Let  $V = \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  be an  $n$ -dimensional subspace of  $C[a, b]$  and  $f$  be a function in  $C[a, b]$ :

- (a) The function  $v_0$  in  $V$  is a best  $L_1$ -approximation from  $V$  to  $f$ , i.e.,  $\|f - v_0\| \leq \|f - v\|$  for all  $v$  in  $V$ , if and only if

$$\left| \int_a^b v(x) \operatorname{sgn}(f - v_0)(x) dx \right| \leq \int_{Z(f-v_0)} |v(x)| dx$$

for all  $v$  in  $V$ .

- (b) Let  $v_1, v_2$  be two best  $L_1$ -approximations then

$$(f(x) - v_1(x))(f(x) - v_2(x)) \geq 0, \quad x \in [a, b].$$

*Proof.* See Rice [8, pp. 104, 107].

**THEOREM 1.4.** Let  $V$  be an  $n$ -dimensional subspace of  $C[a, b]$  satisfying

condition A. Then every function  $f$  in  $C[a, b]$  has a unique best  $L_1$ -approximation from  $V$ .

*Proof.* Let  $v_1, v_2$  be two best approximations to  $f$ . We conclude from Theorem 1.3 that

$$(f(x) - v_1(x))(f(x) - v_2(x)) \geq 0, \quad x \in [a, b].$$

W.l.o.g., we may assume that  $v_2 = 0$ . Then it is obvious that  $(1/2)v_1$  is also a best approximation. Moreover, we have

$$|f(x) - (1/2)v_1(x)| = (1/2)|f(x) - v_1(x)| + (1/2)|f(x)|.$$

Hence it follows from  $|f(x) - (1/2)v_1(x)| = 0$  that  $|f(x) - v_1(x)| = |f(x)| = 0$ . Therefore,  $v_1(x) = 0$  if  $f(x) - (1/2)v_1(x) = 0$ .

Now we conclude from condition A that there exists a nonzero  $v_0$  in  $V$  satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} (f(x) - (1/2)v_1(x))v_0(x) &\geq 0, \quad x \in [a, b], \\ (f(x_0) - (1/2)v_1(x_0))v_0(x_0) &\neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

for some  $x_0$  and the measure of the set  $\{x: x \in Z(v_1), x \notin Z(v_0)\}$  is zero. Therefore

$$\left| \int_a^b \operatorname{sgn}(f(x) - (1/2)v_1(x))v_0(x) dx \right| > 0.$$

Moreover, it follows that

$$\int_{Z(f - (1/2)v_1)} |v_0(x)| dx = 0.$$

We conclude from Theorem 1.3 that  $(1/2)v_1$  is not a best approximation. This contradiction proves the theorem.

## 2. SUBSPACES OF SPLINE FUNCTIONS

In this section we consider subspaces of spline functions with fixed knots satisfying certain boundary conditions.

Let  $S$  be the subspace of polynomial spline functions with fixed knots,  $a < x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_m < b$ , having multiplicities  $m_1, \dots, m_r$ , respectively. Hence every  $s$  in  $S$  has the form

$$s(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i x^i + \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^{m_i} b_{ij} (x - x_i)^{n-j}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m m_i = k, \quad 0 < m_i \leq n.$$

Let  $I \subset \{0, \dots, n-1\}$  and  $J \subset \{0, \dots, n-1\}$  be two preassigned subsets of the set of indices  $\{0, \dots, n-1\}$

$$I = \{i_r\}_{r=1}^p, \quad J = \{j_r\}_{r=1}^q.$$

We denote by  $S(C)$ , where  $C = \{I, J\}$  the subspace of  $S$  satisfying

$$S(C) = \{s \in S : s^{(i)}(a) = 0, i \in I,$$

$$s^{(j)}(b) = 0, j \in J\}.$$

Corresponding to  $I$  and  $J$  we define the sets

$$I' = \{n-i-1 : i \in \{0, \dots, n-1\} \setminus I\} = \{i'_r\}_{r=1}^{n-p},$$

$$J' = \{n-j-1 : j \in \{0, \dots, n-1\} \setminus J\} = \{j'_r\}_{r=1}^{n-q}.$$

It follows that  $(I')' = I$  and  $(J')' = J$ .

We shall also need the following definitions.

A subset  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  of linearly independent functions of  $C[a, b]$  is called a *weak Chebyshev system* if every function  $v$  in  $V = \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  has at most  $n-1$  sign changes on  $[a, b]$ . The subspace  $V$  is called a *weak Chebyshev subspace*. The subset  $\{v_i\}_1^n$  is called a *complete weak Chebyshev system* if the subsets  $\{v_i\}_1^k$  are weak Chebyshev systems for  $k = 1, \dots, n$ . The subspace  $V$  is called a *complete weak Chebyshev subspace* if  $V$  contains a basis  $\{v_i\}_1^n$  which is a complete weak Chebyshev system.

It will be necessary that the sets  $I$  and  $J$  satisfy certain conditions.

Let  $I$  and  $J$  be subsets of  $\{0, \dots, n-1\}$  such that

$$M_{r-1} + r \geq v, \quad v = 1, \dots, n, \quad (2.1)$$

where  $r = n + k - p - q \geq 0$  and  $M_r$  counts the number of terms in  $\{i_1, \dots, i_p, j_1, \dots, j_q\}$  less than or equal to  $v$ .

LEMMA 2.1. *Let  $S(C)$  be given where  $C = \{I, J\}$  satisfy conditions (2.1). Then  $S(C)$  is weak Chebyshev subspace of dimension  $r = n + k - p - q$ .*

*Proof.* This result is shown by Micchelli and Pinkus [7] for simple knots but it is also true for multiple knots.

LEMMA 2.2. *Suppose that  $I$  and  $J$  satisfy conditions (2.1). Then the corresponding subsets  $I'$  and  $J'$  satisfy*

$$M'_{v-1} + k \geq v, \quad v = 1, \dots, n, \quad (2.2)$$

where  $M'_v$  counts the number of terms in  $\{i'_1, \dots, i'_{n-p}, j'_1, \dots, j'_{n-q}\}$  less than or equal to  $v$ .

*Proof.* It can be shown that  $M'_{v-1} = 2v - p - q + M_{n-v-1}$ ,  $v = 1, \dots, n-1$ , and it follows from the assumptions that  $M_{n-v-1} + r \geq n - v$ ,  $v = 1, \dots, n-1$ . Since  $r = n + k - p - q$  we obtain  $M'_{v-1} + k \geq v$ ,  $v = 1, \dots, n-1$ . Moreover,  $M'_{n-1} + k = 2n - p - q + k = r + n$ . This proves the lemma.

Henceforth it is always required that the boundary conditions  $C$  of  $S(C)$  satisfy conditions (2.1).

### 3. UNIQUENESS IN $L_1$ -APPROXIMATION FOR SUBSPACES OF SPLINE FUNCTIONS

Uniqueness in  $L_1$ -approximation for subspaces of spline functions has been shown in [2, 10]. Here we want to give a simple proof of uniqueness using the results of Section 1. Moreover, we consider approximation problems satisfying certain boundary conditions. These results can be applied to numerical integration.

LEMMA 3.1. *Let  $V$  be an  $n$ -dimensional weak Chebyshev subspace of  $C[a, b]$ .*

(a) *Then  $V$  is a complete weak Chebyshev subspace.*

(b) *Given  $a = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_{n-1} < x_n = b$ . Then there exists a nontrivial  $v$  in  $V$  such that*

$$(-1)^{i+1} v(x) \geq 0, \quad x_{i-1} < x < x_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

*Proof.* (a) See Sommer and Strauss [9].

(b) See Jones and Karlovitz [3].

Now we shall show the following result:

THEOREM 3.2. *The subspace  $S(C)$  satisfies condition A.*

*Proof.* Let  $s$  be a function of  $S(C)$ . We shall distinguish the following cases:

(a) Suppose that  $s$  has no zero interval. According to Lemma 2.1,  $S(C)$  is a weak Chebyshev subspace. It follows from Lemma 3.1(a) that

$S(C)$  is a complete weak Chebyshev subspace. Assume that  $s$  has the zeros  $U = \{u_i\}_1^t$ ,  $t < r$ , on  $(a, b)$ . Let  $U_1 = \{v_i\}_1^r$  be a subset of  $U$ . Then there exists a weak Chebyshev subspace of dimension  $v + 1$  of  $S(C)$ . It follows from Lemma 3.1 that there is a nontrivial  $s_1 \in S(C)$

$$\begin{aligned} (-1)^i s_1(x) \geq 0, \quad x \in [v_{i-1}, v_i], \quad i = 1, \dots, v + 1, \\ v_0 = a, \quad v_{r+1} = b. \end{aligned}$$

(b) The function  $s$  has a zero interval. Assume that  $[x_i, x_j]$  is a subinterval such that  $s(x) = 0$ ,  $x \in [x_i, x_j]$  and  $s$  has no zero interval on  $[a, x_i]$ . We define

$$\begin{aligned} V_1 = \{s|_{[a, x_j]} : s \in S, s^{(i)}(a) = 0, i \in I, \\ s^{(j)}(x_i) = 0, j \in 0, \dots, m - m_i - 1\}. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $U = \{u_i\}_1^t$  be the set of zeros of  $s$  on  $(a, x_i)$  and let  $\{v_i\}_1^r$  be a subset of  $U$ . It follows from (a) that there exists some  $\bar{s} \in V_1$  satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} (-1)^i \bar{s}(x) \geq 0, \quad x \in [v_{i-1}, v_i], \quad i = 1, \dots, v + 1, \\ v_0 = x_0, \quad v_{r+1} = x_i. \end{aligned}$$

Then we define  $s_1 \in S(C)$  by  $s_1(x) = \bar{s}(x)$ ,  $x \in [a, x_i]$  and  $s_1(x) = 0$  elsewhere.

(c) Similarly a function  $s_1$  can be constructed if  $x_i = a$ ,  $x_j < b$ .

This proves that  $S(C)$  satisfies condition A.

Now we shall study an approximation problem satisfying boundary conditions. Let the subspace  $S$  in  $C[a, b]$  be given. Let  $C = \{I, J\}$  be boundary conditions satisfying (2.1). Suppose that  $g$  in  $C[a, b]$  is a function such that  $g^{(i_p)}(a)$  exists if  $I \neq \emptyset$  and  $g^{(j_q)}(b)$  exists if  $J \neq \emptyset$ . We define

$$\begin{aligned} V_g(C) = \{s \in S : s^{(i)}(a) = g^{(i)}(a), i \in I, \\ s^{(j)}(b) = g^{(j)}(b), j \in J\}. \end{aligned}$$

It is well-known that  $V_g(C) \neq \emptyset$  if  $I$  and  $J$  satisfy (2.1).

**THEOREM 3.3.** *There is a unique function  $s_0$  in  $V_g(C)$  satisfying  $\|g - s_0\| \leq \|g - s\|$  for all  $s \in V_g(C)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\bar{s}$  be a function of  $V_g(C)$ . We define  $f = g - \bar{s}$ . It follows from Theorem 1.4 and Theorem 3.2 that there exists a unique best  $L_1$ -approximation  $s_1$  from  $S(C)$  to  $f$ . Hence  $s_0 = \bar{s} + s_1$  is the unique function satisfying  $\|g - s_0\| \leq \|g - s\|$ ,  $s \in V_g(C)$ .

Finally we shall give an example that unicity is not true for weak Chebyshev subspaces, in general.

EXAMPLE 3.4. We define the following functions on  $[0, 5]$ . Let

$$v_1(x) = 1,$$

$$v_2(x) = \begin{cases} -1 + x & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 0 & 1 \leq x \leq 4, \\ x - 4 & 4 < x \leq 5 \end{cases}$$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - x & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 0 & 1 \leq x \leq 4 \\ x - 4 & 4 < x \leq 5 \end{cases}$$

Then every function of  $V = \text{span}\{v_1, v_2\}$  has at most one sign change, i.e.,  $V$  is a weak Chebyshev subspace. On the other hand, we have for  $0 \leq c < 1$  that

$$\int_0^5 v_2(x) \operatorname{sgn}(f - cv_2)(x) dx = 0,$$

$$2a = \left| \int_0^5 v_1(x) \operatorname{sgn}(f - cv_2)(x) dx \right| < \int_{Z(f - cv_2)} |v_1(x)| dx = 3.$$

Hence we conclude from Theorem 1.3 that  $cv_2, 0 \leq c < 1$ , are best approximations to  $f$ .

#### 4. $L_1$ -APPROXIMATION AND PERFECT SPLINES

In this section we shall show that best  $L_1$ -approximation for subspaces of spline functions is closely related to certain classes of perfect splines.

A *perfect spline* of degree  $n$  ( $n \geq 1$ ) with  $r$  knots on  $[a, b]$  is a function of the form

$$P(x) = c \left( x^n + 2 \sum_{i=1}^r (-1)^i (x - u_i)_+^n \right) + \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} a_j x^j \tag{4.1}$$

where  $c, a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}$  are real constants and the knots  $\{u_i\}$  satisfy  $a < u_1 < \dots < u_r < b$ .

Let  $S$  be the subspace of Section 2. Suppose that  $f$  and  $s$  are two functions such that  $f \in C^{(n)}[a, b]$  and  $s \in S$ .

Repeated integration by parts yields the identity

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_a^b (f - s)(x) P^{(n)}(x) dx \\
 &= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (-1)^i (f - s)^{(i)}(x) P^{(n-i-1)}(x) \Big|_a^b \\
 &+ \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^{m_i} (-1)^{n-j} (f - s)^{(n-j)}(x) P^{(j-1)}(x) \Big|_{x_i^-}^{x_i^+} \\
 &+ (-1)^n \int_a^b f^{(n)}(x) P(x) dx.
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.2}$$

The following class of perfect splines will be very important.

Let  $S(C)$  be a subspace where  $C = \{I, J\}$  satisfies (2.1). Suppose that  $C' = \{I', J'\}$  are the boundary conditions corresponding to  $C$ . Let  $P(C')$  be the set of perfect splines of degree  $n$  satisfying

$$\begin{aligned}
 & P^{(i)}(a) = 0, \quad i \in I', \quad P^{(j)}(b) = 0, \quad j \in J', \\
 & P^{(j)}(x_i) = 0, \quad j = 0, \dots, m_i - 1 \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, m, \\
 & |P^{(n)}(x)| = 1.
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.3}$$

It is said that the class  $P(C')$  corresponds to  $S(C)$ .

LEMMA 4.1. *There exists a perfect spline  $P$  in  $P(C')$  with at most  $n + k - p - q$  knots.*

*Proof.* See Karlin [4].

LEMMA 4.2. *Let  $h$  be a function such that  $h(x) = \varepsilon(-1)^i$  a.e. on  $(t_{i-1}, t_i)$ , where  $a = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_{r+1} = b$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, r + 1$  and  $\varepsilon \in \{-1, 1\}$  satisfying*

$$\int_a^b s(x) h(x) dx = 0$$

*for all  $s \in S(C)$ . Then there exists a perfect spline  $P \in P(C')$  satisfying  $P^{(n)} = h$  a.e.*

*Proof.* Let  $P(x)$  be of the form (4.1) where  $t_i = u_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, r$ . Then we determine the coefficients  $a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}$  of  $P$  such that the first  $n$  conditions of (4.3) are satisfied. Since the boundary conditions  $C'$  satisfy (2.2) the set  $\{a_i\}$  is uniquely determined. Then it is possible to prove with identity (4.3) where  $f \equiv 0$  that the other conditions of (4.3) are also satisfied. (See also [11, Theorem 2.3].)



Henceforth we shall always consider a function  $g$  and a subset  $V_g(C)$  satisfying the properties of Section 3.

**THEOREM 4.3.** *Let  $s_0$  be a function in  $V_g(C)$  such that  $g - s_0$  vanishes only on a set of measure zero. Then  $s_0$  is a best  $L_1$ -approximation to  $g$  out of  $V_g(C)$  if and only if there exists a perfect spline  $P$  in  $P(C')$  where  $P(C')$  corresponds to  $S(C)$  such that  $P^{(n)} = \text{sgn}(g - s_0)$  a.e.*

*Proof.* (a) Let  $s_0$  be a best approximation. Then it follows from Theorem 1.3 that

$$\int_a^b s(x) \text{sgn}(g(x) - s_0(x)) dx = 0, \quad s \in S(C).$$

Hence it follows from Lemma 4.2 that there exists a  $P$  in  $P(C')$  satisfying  $P^{(n)} = \text{sgn}(g - s_0)$  a.e.

(b) There is a  $P$  ( $C'$ ) such that  $P^{(n)} = \text{sgn}(g - s_0)$  a.e. Let  $f \equiv 0$  in (4.2). Then it follows from this identity that

$$\int_a^b s(x) P^{(n)}(x) dx = 0, \quad s \in S(C).$$

We conclude from Theorem 1.3 and  $P^{(n)} = \text{sgn}(g - s_0)$  a.e. that 0 is a best approximation from  $S(C)$  to  $g - s_0$ . Hence  $s_0$  is a best approximation to  $g$  out of  $V_g(C)$ .

**THEOREM 4.4.** *Let  $s_0$  be a best  $L_1$ -approximation to  $g$  in  $C^{(n)}[a, b]$  out of  $V_g(C)$ . Suppose that  $g - s_0$  vanishes only on a set of measure zero.*

(a) *Then*

$$\|g - s_0\| \geq \left| \int_a^b g^{(n)}(x) P(x) dx \right|$$

for all  $P$  in  $P(C')$ .

(b) *There exists a  $P_0$  in  $P(C')$  such that*

$$\|g - s_0\| = \left| \int_a^b g^{(n)}(x) P_0(x) dx \right|.$$

*Proof.* (a) It follows from  $|P^{(n)}(x)| = 1$  that

$$\int_a^b |g(x) - s_0(x)| dx \geq \left| \int_a^b (g(x) - s_0(x)) P^{(n)}(x) dx \right|$$

for all  $P$  in  $P(C')$ . Then we conclude from (4.2) that

$$\left| \int_a^b (g(x) - s_0(x)) P^{(n)}(x) dx \right| = \left| \int_a^b g^{(n)}(x) P(x) dx \right|.$$

(b) Let  $P_0$  be the perfect spline of Theorem 4.3 corresponding to the best approximation  $s_0$ . Then

$$\int_a^b |g(x) - s_0(x)| dx = \left| \int_a^b (g(x) - s_0(x)) P_0^{(n)}(x) dx \right|.$$

Now the assertion follows as in (a).

## 5. ESTIMATES

In this section we want to estimate the error in  $L_1$ -approximation for some special problems. The estimates have an application in numerical integration.

**THEOREM 5.1.** *Let  $g$  in  $C^{(n)}|a, b|$  and  $V_g(C)$  be given. Suppose that  $s_0$  is a best  $L_1$ -approximation to  $g$  out of  $V_g(C)$  and  $g - s_0$  vanishes only on a set of measure zero. Then there exists a  $P_0$  in  $P(C')$  satisfying*

$$\|g - s_0\| \leq \|P_0\|_{\infty} \|g^{(n)}\|$$

where  $\|P_0\|_{\infty} = \max_{a < x < b} |P_0(x)|$ .

*Proof.* We conclude from Theorem 4.4(b) that there is a perfect spline  $P_0$  in  $P(C')$  such that

$$\|g - s_0\| = \left| \int_a^b g^{(n)}(x) P_0(x) dx \right|.$$

Hence

$$\|g - s_0\| \leq \|P_0\|_{\infty} \|g^{(n)}\|.$$

Micchelli, Rivlin and Winograd [6] proved the following result.

**LEMMA 5.2.** *Let  $P_0$  be a perfect spline of degree  $n$  satisfying  $P(x_i) = 0$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, k + 1$  for  $0 = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_{k+1}$ . Then*

$$\|P\|_{\infty} \leq k_i \|P^{(n)}\|_{\infty}, \quad i = 1, 2$$

where

$$k_1 = \Delta^n/4n, \quad k_2 = ((n-1)^{n-1}/n!)(\Delta/2)^n \quad (5.1)$$

and  $\Delta = \max_{i=0, \dots, k} \{|x_{i+1} - x_i|\}$ .

**THEOREM 5.3.** *Let  $g$  in  $C^{(n)}[0, 1]$  be given. Suppose that  $V_g(C) = \{s \in S: (g-s)^{(i)}(0) = (g-s)^{(i)}(1) = 0, i = 0, \dots, n-2\}$ , where  $0 = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_k < x_{k+1} = 1$  are the knots of  $S$ . Suppose that  $s_0$  is a best  $L_1$ -approximation to  $g$  out of  $V_g(C)$  and  $g-s_0$  vanishes only on a set of measure zero. Then*

$$\|g - s_0\| \leq k_i \|g^{(n)}\|, \quad i = 1, 2$$

where  $k_1, k_2$  are defined in (5.1).

*Proof.* We conclude from Theorem 5.1 that there exists a perfect spline  $P_0$  satisfying  $P_0(x_i) = 0, i = 0, \dots, k+1, \|P_0^{(n)}\|_\infty = 1$  and

$$\|g - s_0\| \leq \|P_0\|_\infty \|g^{(n)}\|.$$

Then the assertions follow from Lemma 5.2.

*Remark.* These results can be applied in numerical integration. The relationship between  $L_1$ -approximation with spline functions and best quadrature formulae was studied by Strauss [11] in detail. Using the theorems of this section we are able to give estimates for the remainder functionals of these best quadrature formulae.

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