# Some Positive Results and Counterexamples in Comonotone Approximation 

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Let $f$ be a continuous function on $[-1,1]$, which changes its monotonicity finitely many times in the interval, say $s$ times. We discuss the validity of Jackson-type estimates for the approximation of $f$ by algebraic polynomials that are comonotone with it. While we prove the validity of the Jackson-type estimate involving the Ditzian-Totik modulus of continuity and a constant which depends only on $s$, we show by counterexamples that in many cases this is not so, even for functions which possess locally absolutely continuous derivatives. These counterexamples are given when there are certain relations between $s$, the number of changes of monotonicity, and $r$, the number of derivatives. For other cases we do have some Jackson-type estimates and another paper will be devoted to that. © 1997 Academic Press

## 1. INTRODUCTION AND MAIN RESULTS

The first Jackson-type estimate in the approximation of a nondecreasing $f \in C[-1,1]$ by nondecreasing polynomials was obtained by Lorentz and Zeller [LoZ] who proved that

$$
\begin{equation*}
E_{n}^{(1)}(f) \leqslant c \omega\left(f, \frac{1}{n+1}\right), \quad n \geqslant 0, \tag{1.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $E_{n}^{(1)}(f)$ denotes the degree of approximation of $f$ by nondecreasing algebraic polynomials of degrees $\leqslant n, c$ an absolute constant and $\omega(f, t)$ the modulus of continuity of $f$.

As usual, we denote by $W^{r}$ the space of functions $f$ which possess an absolutely continuous $(r-1)$ st derivative on $[-1,1]$ and $\left\|f^{(r)}\right\|<\infty$, where

$$
\|g\|:=\operatorname{esssup}\{|g(x)|: x \in[-1,1]\} .
$$

For a nondecreasing $f \in W^{r}$ with $r=1$, (1.1) yields inequality

$$
\begin{equation*}
E_{n}^{(1)}(f) \leqslant c(r) \frac{\left\|f^{(r)}\right\|}{(n+1)^{r}}, \quad n \geqslant r-1 . \tag{1.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

This inequality holds as well for a nondecreasing $f \in W^{r}$, for any $r \geqslant 2$; for $r=2$ it is due to Lorentz [Lo], and for $r>2$ it is due to DeVore [De].

Inequality (1.2) can be extended to the "bigger" space $B^{r}$, namely, the space of functions $f$ which possess a focally absolutely continuous $(r-1)$ st derivative in $(-1,1)$, such that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|\varphi^{r} f^{(r)}\right\|<\infty, \tag{1.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\varphi(x):=\sqrt{1-x^{2}}$.
For a nondecreasing function $f \in B^{r}$ it follows that

$$
\begin{equation*}
E_{n}^{(1)}(f) \leqslant c(r) \frac{\left\|\varphi^{r} f^{(r)}\right\|}{(n+1)^{r}}, \quad n \geqslant r-1 . \tag{1.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

For $r=1,2$, (1.4) is due to Leviatan [Le], and for $r>2$ it is due to Dzyubenko et al. [DzLiS].

Now let $f \in C[-1,1]$ change monotonicity finitely many times, say $s \geqslant 1$, in the interval, and we wish to approximate $f$ by polynomials $p_{n} \in \mathscr{P}_{n}$, the space of polynomials of degree not exceeding $n$, which are comonotone with $f$. To be specific, let $s \geqslant 1$ and let $\mathbb{Y}_{s}$ be the set of all collections $Y:=\left\{y_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{s}$ of points, $-1<y_{s}<\cdots<y_{1}<1$. For $Y \in \mathbb{Y}_{s}$ we set

$$
\Pi(x, Y):=\prod_{i=1}^{s}\left(x-y_{i}\right)
$$

and denote by $\Delta^{(1)}(Y)$ the set of functions $f \in C[-1,1]$ which change monotonicity at the points $y_{i}$, and which are nondecreasing in $\left(y_{1}, 1\right)$, that is, $f$ is nondecreasing in the intervals $\left(y_{2 j+1}, y_{2 j}\right)$ and it is nonincreasing in $\left(y_{2 j}, y_{2 j-1}\right)$.

Note that if $f \in \Delta^{(1)}(Y)$, then evidently $f^{\prime}$ exists almost everywhere in $(-1,1)$, and

$$
f^{\prime}(x) \Pi(x, Y) \geqslant 0, \quad \text { a.e. } \quad \text { in }(-1,1) .
$$

Conversely, if $f \in C^{1}(-1,1)$ and

$$
f^{\prime}(x) \Pi(x, Y) \geqslant 0, \quad x \in(-1,1)
$$

then $f \in \Delta^{(1)}(Y)$.
Put

$$
\mathbb{Y}:=\bigcup_{s} \mathbb{Y}_{s}
$$

Then, we call a collection $Y \in \mathbb{Y}, s$-admissible for $f$ and write $Y \in A_{s}(f)$, if $Y \in \mathbb{Y}_{s}$ and $f \in \Delta^{(1)}(Y)$. We write $f \in \Delta^{(1, s)}$, if $A_{s}(f) \neq \varnothing$. Note that a function may belong at the same time to different classes $\Delta^{\left(1, s_{1}\right)}$ and $\Delta^{\left(1, s_{2}\right)}$ (that is, with $s_{1} \neq s_{2}$ ).

For $Y \in \mathbb{Y}$ and $f \in C[-1,1]$ we denote

$$
\begin{equation*}
E_{n}^{(1)}(f, Y):=\inf \left\{\left\|f-p_{n}\right\|: p_{n} \in \Delta^{(1)}(Y) \cap \mathscr{P}_{n}\right\} \tag{1.5}
\end{equation*}
$$

For $f \in \Delta^{(1, s)}$ set

$$
\begin{equation*}
E_{n}^{(1, s)}(f):=\sup _{Y \in A_{s}(f)} E_{n}^{(1)}(f, Y) \tag{1.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
e_{n}^{(1, s)}(f):=\inf _{Y \in A_{s}(f)} E_{n}^{(1)}(f, Y) . \tag{1.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

The first Jackson-type estimates for comonotone polynomial approximation were obtained independently by Iliev [I] and Newman [N] who proved that for $f \in \Delta^{(1, s)}$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
E_{n}^{(1, s)}(f) \leqslant c(s) \omega\left(f, \frac{1}{n+1}\right), \quad n \geqslant 0 . \tag{1.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

If $f \in \Delta^{(1, s)} \cap W^{r}$ with $r=1$, then (1.8) yields the inequality

$$
\begin{equation*}
E_{n}^{(1, s)}(f) \leqslant c(r, s) \frac{\left\|f^{(r)}\right\|}{(n+1)^{r}}, \quad n \geqslant r-1 . \tag{1.9}
\end{equation*}
$$

This inequality is valid also for $f \in \Delta^{(1, s)} \cap W^{r}$, for any $r \geqslant 2$. For $r=2$ it is due to Beatson and Leviatan [BLe], while for $r>2$ it is due to Gilewicz and Shevchuk [GS].

For a function $f \in \Delta^{(1)}(Y)$, where $Y \in \mathbb{Y}$, Leviatan [Le] proved that

$$
\begin{equation*}
E_{n}^{(1)}(f, Y) \leqslant c(Y) \omega^{\varphi}\left(f, \frac{1}{n+1}\right), \quad n \geqslant 0 \tag{1.10}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $c(Y)$ is a constant depending only on $Y$, and

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \omega^{\varphi}(f, t) \\
& \quad:=\sup _{0<h \leqslant t} \sup \left\{\left|f\left(x+\frac{h}{2} \varphi(x)\right)-f\left(x-\frac{h}{2} \varphi(x)\right)\right|: x \pm \frac{h}{2} \varphi(x) \in[-1,1]\right\}
\end{aligned}
$$

is a Ditzian-Totik modulus of continuity.
In Section 2 we will strengthen (1.8) and (1.10) by proving the following
Theorem 1. If $f \in \Delta^{(1, s)}$, then

$$
\begin{equation*}
E_{n}^{(1, s)}(f) \leqslant c(s) \omega^{\varphi}\left(f, \frac{1}{n+1}\right), \quad n \geqslant 0 \tag{1.11}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $c(s)$ is a constant depending only on $s$.
For $f \in \Delta^{(1, s)} \cap B^{r}$ with $r=1$, (1.11) yields the inequality

$$
\begin{equation*}
E_{n}^{(1, s)}(f) \leqslant c(r, s) \frac{\left\|\varphi^{r} f^{(r)}\right\|}{(n+1)^{r}}, \quad n \geqslant r-1 . \tag{1.12}
\end{equation*}
$$

In a forthcoming article we shall prove (1.12) for $f \in^{(1, s)} \cap B^{r}$, with $r>2 s+2$. We also conjecture that (1.12) holds for $r-2=1=s$. On the other hand, we will prove in the following that for all other cases (1.12) is false. Indeed, we will show in Section 3 the following

Theorem 2. Let the constant $A>0$ be arbitrary and let $s \geqslant 1$ and $2 \leqslant r \leqslant 2 s+2$, excluding $r-2=1=s$. Then, for any $n$, there exists a function $f=f_{s, r, n} \in \Delta^{(1, s)} \cap B^{r}$, for which

$$
\begin{equation*}
E_{n}^{(1, s)}(f) \geqslant e_{n}^{(1, s)}(f) \geqslant A\left\|\varphi^{r} f^{(r)}\right\| . \tag{1.13}
\end{equation*}
$$

## 2. PROOF OF THEOREM 1

1. First we need some notation of [Dzj], [GS], and [S], and we make use of some arguments therein. Namely, for each $j=0, \ldots$, $n$, we set $x_{j}:=x_{j, n}:=\cos (j \pi / n), h_{j}:=x_{j-1}-x_{j}, x_{-1}:=1$, and $x_{n+1}:=-1$. We fix an arbitrary collection $Y \in A_{s}(f)$, and denote $\Pi(x):=\Pi(x, Y)$. Let

$$
O_{i}:=O_{i, n}(Y):=\left(x_{j+1}, x_{j-2}\right), \quad \text { if } \quad y_{i} \in\left[x_{j}, x_{j-1}\right),
$$

and set

$$
\begin{equation*}
O:=O(n ; Y):=\bigcup_{i=1}^{s} O_{i} . \tag{2.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

For $j=1, \ldots, n$ we write $j \in H:=H(n, Y)$ if $\left[x_{j}, x_{j-1}\right] \cap O=\varnothing$. Note that if $n>3 s$, then $H \neq \varnothing$.

For each $j=1, \ldots, n$, we denote

$$
\chi_{j}(x):=\chi_{j, n}(x):= \begin{cases}0, & x \leqslant x_{j} \\ 1, & x>x_{j}\end{cases}
$$

we set

$$
\beta_{j}^{0}:=\beta_{j, n}^{0}:= \begin{cases}(j-1 / 4) \pi / n, & j<n / 2, \\ (j-3 / 4) \pi / n, & j \geqslant n / 2,\end{cases}
$$

and

$$
\bar{\beta}_{j}:=\bar{\beta}_{j, n}:=(j-1 / 2) \pi / n,
$$

and define

$$
x_{j}^{0}:=x_{j, n}^{0}:=\cos \beta_{j}^{0} ; \quad \bar{x}_{j}:=\bar{x}_{j, n}:=\cos \bar{\beta}_{j} .
$$

Note that
$t_{j}(x):=t_{j, n}(x):=\left(x-x_{j}^{0}\right)^{-2} \cos ^{2} 2 n \arccos x+\left(x-\bar{x}_{j}\right)^{-2} \sin ^{2} 2 n \arccos x$ is an algebraic polynomial of degree $4 n-2$ satisfying

$$
\min \left\{\left(x-x_{j}^{0}\right)^{-2},\left(x-\bar{x}_{j}\right)^{-2}\right\} \leqslant t_{j}(x) \leqslant \max \left\{\left(x-x_{j}^{0}\right)^{-2},\left(x-\bar{x}_{j}\right)^{-2}\right\} .
$$

For $j \in H$ we write

$$
d_{j}:=d_{j, n}(b ; Y):=\int_{-1}^{1} t_{j}^{b}(y) \Pi(y) d y,
$$

with $b=6(s+1)$. Then applying Dzjadyk's arguments (see [Dzj, p. 274; S, Lemma 17.2; or GS, Lemma 4.1], we get for $j \in H$,

$$
\frac{d_{j}}{\Pi\left(x_{j}\right)}>c_{0} h_{j}^{1-2 b}
$$

for some constant $c_{0}=c_{0}(s)$, depending only on $s$. Finally we put

$$
T_{j}(x):=T_{j, n}(x ; b ; Y):=\frac{1}{d_{j}} \int_{-1}^{x} t_{j}^{b}(y) \Pi(y) d y
$$

which are algebraic polynomials of degree $\leqslant 48 \mathrm{sn}$. It is readily seen that

$$
\begin{equation*}
T_{j}^{\prime}(x) \Pi(x) \Pi\left(x_{j}\right) \geqslant 0, \quad x \in[-1,1] \tag{2.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

and we conclude by proving that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|\sum_{j \in H}\left|\chi_{j}-T_{j}\right|\right\| \leqslant c_{1}, \tag{2.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $c_{1}=c_{1}(s)$ is a constant which depends only on $s$. Indeed, for all $i=1, \ldots, s ; j \in H$; and $x \in[-1,1]$ we have

$$
\left|\frac{x-y_{i}}{x_{j}-y_{i}}\right| \leqslant\left|\frac{x-x_{j}}{x_{j}-y_{i}}\right|+1 \leqslant 3\left|\frac{x-x_{j}}{h_{j}}\right|+1<3 \frac{\left|x-x_{j}\right|+h_{j}}{h_{j}} .
$$

Thus,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left|T_{j}^{\prime}(x)\right| & =\left|\frac{\Pi(x)}{d_{j}}\right| t_{j}^{b}(x) \leqslant c_{0}^{-1} h_{j}^{2 b-1}\left|\frac{\Pi(x)}{\Pi\left(x_{j}\right)}\right| t_{j}^{b}(x) \\
& \leqslant 3^{s} c_{0}^{-1} h_{j}^{2 b-1}\left(\frac{\left|x-x_{j}\right|+h_{j}}{h_{j}}\right)^{s} \max \left\{\left(x-x_{j}^{0}\right)^{-2 b},\left(x-\bar{x}_{j}\right)^{-2 b}\right\} \\
& \leqslant c_{2} h_{j}^{2 b-1-s}\left(\left|x-x_{j}\right|+h_{j}\right)^{s-2 b} \leqslant c_{2} h_{j}^{2}\left(\left|x-x_{j}\right|+h_{j}\right)^{-3},
\end{aligned}
$$

for some $c_{2}=c_{2}(s)$. Hence, for any $j \in H$ and $x \in[-1,1]$, we have

$$
\left|\chi_{j}(x)-T_{j}(x)\right|=\left|\int_{x}^{a} T_{j}^{\prime}(u) d u\right|<\frac{c_{2}}{2} h_{j}^{2}\left(\left|x-x_{j}\right|+h_{j}\right)^{-2}
$$

where $a=-1$ if $x_{j} \leqslant x$, and $a=1$ if $x_{j}>x$. Therefore

$$
\sum_{j \in H}\left|\chi_{j}(x)-T_{j}(x)\right| \leqslant \frac{c_{2}}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{n} h_{j}^{2}\left(\left|x-x_{j}\right|+h_{j}\right)^{-2}<c_{1},
$$

which is (2.3).
2. Next we show that the polynomial

$$
\begin{equation*}
V(x)=V_{n}(x, f, Y):=f(-1)+\sum_{j \in H}\left(f\left(x_{j-1}\right)-f\left(x_{j}\right)\right) T_{j}(x), \tag{2.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

of degree $\leqslant 48 s n$, has the properties

$$
\begin{equation*}
V^{\prime}(x) \Pi(x) \geqslant 0, \quad x \in[-1,1] \tag{2.5}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\|f-V\|<c_{3} \omega(\pi / n) \tag{2.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $c_{3}=c_{3}(s)$ depends only on $s$, and for convenience in notation we set $\omega(\cdot):=\omega^{\varphi}(f, \cdot)$. In other words, since $Y \in A_{s}(f)$ is arbitrary, then

$$
\begin{equation*}
E_{48 s n}^{(1, s)}(f) \leqslant c_{3} \omega(\pi / n) \tag{2.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

Indeed, we note that since $f \in \Delta^{(1)}(Y)$, we have

$$
\left(f\left(x_{j-1}\right)-f\left(x_{j}\right)\right) \Pi\left(x_{j}\right) \geqslant 0, \quad j \in H
$$

hence (2.2) implies (2.5).
In order to prove (2.6) we observe that for all $j=1, \ldots, n$,

$$
x_{j-1}-x_{j}<\frac{\pi}{n} \varphi\left(\frac{x_{j-1}+x_{j}}{2}\right)
$$

whence

$$
\left|f\left(x_{j-1}\right)-f\left(x_{j}\right)\right| \leqslant \omega(\pi / n)
$$

and (2.3) yields

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|\sum_{j \in H}\left(f\left(x_{j-1}\right)-f\left(x_{j}\right)\right)\left(T_{j}-\chi_{j}\right)\right\| \leqslant c_{1} \omega(\pi / n) \tag{2.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

Now, for $x \in\left(x_{v}, x_{v-1}\right], v=1, \ldots, n$, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
S(x):=f(-1)+\sum_{j=1}^{n}\left(f\left(x_{j-1}\right)-f\left(x_{j}\right)\right) \chi_{j}(x)=f\left(x_{\mu-1}\right) \tag{2.9}
\end{equation*}
$$

therefore

$$
\begin{equation*}
\|S-f\| \leqslant \omega(\pi / n) \tag{2.10}
\end{equation*}
$$

Finally, we have the representation

$$
\begin{aligned}
f(x)-V(x)= & (f(x)-S(x))+\sum_{j \in H}\left(f\left(x_{j-1}\right)-f\left(x_{j}\right)\right)\left(\chi_{j}(x)-T_{j}(x)\right) \\
& +\sum_{j \notin H}\left(f\left(x_{j-1}\right)-f\left(x_{j}\right)\right) \chi_{j}(x)
\end{aligned}
$$

in which the second sum has no more than $3 s$ terms, so that it does not exceed $3 s \omega(\pi / n)$. Combining this with (2.8), (2.10), we obtain (2.6) with $c_{3}=c_{1}+1+3 s$.

Theorem 1 for $n>48 s$ now follows by (2.7), while for $n \leqslant 48 s$ one has

$$
E_{n}^{(1, s)}(f) \leqslant E_{0}^{(1, s)}(f) \leqslant\|f-f(0)\| \leqslant \omega(2) \leqslant c \omega\left(\frac{1}{n+1}\right)
$$

## 3. PROOF OF THEOREM 2.

We begin by setting

$$
g_{r}(x):=C_{r} \begin{cases}-(1+x)^{r / 2} \log (1+x) & r \text { even }  \tag{3.1}\\ (1+x)^{r / 2} & r \geqslant 3, \text { odd }\end{cases}
$$

where $C_{r}$ is so chosen that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|\varphi^{r} g_{r}^{(r)}\right\|=1 \tag{3.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

Also denote $M_{r}:=\left\|g_{r}\right\|$. With $\rho:=[(r+1) / 2]$, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\lim _{x \rightarrow-1+} g_{r}^{(\rho)}(x)=\infty \tag{3.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

and for $j>\rho$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
(-1)^{j-\rho} g_{r}^{(j)}(x)>0, \quad-1<x<1 . \tag{3.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

Without loss of generality we may assume that $n \geqslant r-1$.
The proof is divided into three different cases: (a) $s<r \leqslant 2 s$; (b) $\max (3,2 s)<r \leqslant 2 s+2$; and (c) $1<r \leqslant s+1$.
(a) Note that in this case $\rho \leqslant s<r$, so that, in view of (3.3) and (3.4), there exists $x_{0} \in(-1,1)$, for which

$$
\begin{equation*}
g_{r}^{(\rho)}(x) \geqslant n^{2 \rho}\left(A+M_{r}\right), \quad-1<x \leqslant x_{0} . \tag{3.5}
\end{equation*}
$$

We take $Y$ : $-1<y_{s}<\cdots<y_{1}<x_{0}$, and let

$$
\ell_{s-1}(x):=\ell_{s-1}\left(x ; g_{r}^{\prime} ; y_{1}, \ldots, y_{s}\right)
$$

be the Lagrange polynomial of degree not exceeding $s-1$ interpolating $g_{r}^{\prime}$ at the points $Y$. Define

$$
f:=(-1)^{s+1-\rho}\left(g_{r}-L_{s}\right),
$$

where

$$
L_{s}(x):=\int_{-1}^{x} \ell_{s-1}(u) d u
$$

(For a similar construction see Kopotun [K].)
Then
$f^{\prime}(x)=(-1)^{s+1-\rho} \Pi(x)\left[y_{1}, \ldots, y_{s}, x ; g_{r}^{\prime}\right]=(-1)^{s+1-\rho} \Pi(x) g_{r}^{(s+1)}(\theta) / s!$,
for some $\theta \in(-1,1)$, where $\left[y_{1}, \ldots, y_{s}, x ; g\right]$ denotes the divided difference of $g$ at $y_{1}, \ldots, y_{s}$ and $x$. Hence by (3.4), $f \in \Delta^{(1)}(Y)$ and $A_{s}(f)=\{Y\}$. Also, since $s<r$, it follows by (3.2) that $\left\|\varphi^{r} f^{(r)}\right\|=1$.

Now assume to the contrary that there exists a polynomial $P_{n} \in \mathscr{P}_{n} \cap \Delta^{(1)}(Y)$ such that

$$
\left\|f-P_{n}\right\|<A,
$$

and put

$$
Q_{n}:=(-1)^{s+1-\rho} P_{n}+L_{s} .
$$

Then

$$
\left\|g_{r}-Q_{n}\right\|=\left\|f-P_{n}\right\|,
$$

whence

$$
\left\|Q_{n}\right\| \leqslant\left\|Q_{n}-g_{r}\right\|+\left\|g_{r}\right\|<A+M_{r},
$$

which by Markov's inequality implies

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|Q_{n}^{(\rho)}\right\|<n^{2 \rho}\left(A+M_{r}\right) . \tag{3.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

On the other hand, since $\rho \leqslant s$, we have for some $\tau \in\left(-1, x_{0}\right)$ that

$$
Q_{n}^{(\rho)}(\tau)=(\rho-1)!\left[y_{1}, \ldots, y_{\rho} ; Q_{n}^{\prime}\right]=(\rho-1)!\left[y_{1}, \ldots, y_{\rho} ; g_{r}^{\prime}\right]=g_{r}^{(\rho)}(\theta),
$$

where $\theta \in\left(-1, x_{0}\right)$. Note that in the second equality we have used the fact that $g_{r}^{\prime}\left(y_{j}\right)=\ell_{s-1}\left(y_{j}\right)$ and $P_{n}^{\prime}\left(y_{j}\right)=0, j=1, \ldots, \rho$. By virtue of (3.5),

$$
\left\|Q_{n}^{(\rho)}\right\| \geqslant g_{r}^{(\rho)}(\theta) \geqslant n^{2 \rho}\left(A+M_{r}\right)
$$

contradicting (3.6). This completes the proof of Case a.
(b) In this case $2 s+1 \leqslant r \leqslant 2 s+2$ (where the case $r-2=1=s$ is excluded). Then $\rho=s+1$ and, as before, there exists an $x_{0} \in(-1,1)$ for which (3.5) holds. Again we take $Y:-1<y_{s}<\cdots<y_{1}<x_{0}$. Now let

$$
\ell_{s+1}(x):=\ell_{s+1}\left(x ; g_{r}^{\prime} ; y_{1}, \ldots, y_{s} ; x_{0}, x_{0}\right)
$$

be the Lagrange-Hermite polynomial of degree not exceeding $s+1$ which interpolates $g_{r}^{\prime}$ at the points $Y$ and at $x_{0}$, and which interpolates $g_{r}^{\prime \prime}$ at $x_{0}$. We define

$$
f:=g_{r}-L_{s+2},
$$

where

$$
L_{s+2}(x):=\int_{-1}^{x} \ell_{s+1}(u) d u .
$$

Then

$$
f^{\prime}(x)=\Pi(x)\left(x-x_{0}\right)^{2}\left[y_{1}, \ldots, y_{s}, x_{0}, x_{0}, x ; g_{r}^{\prime}\right] .
$$

Hence

$$
f^{\prime}(x)=\Pi(x)\left(x-x_{0}\right)^{2} g_{r}^{(\rho+2)}(\theta) /(\rho+1)!,
$$

for some $\theta \in(-1,1)$. By (3.4), we conclude that $f \in \Delta^{(1)}(Y)$ and $A_{s}(f)=\{Y\}$, and because $s+2<r$ (here is where we have to exclude $r-2=1=s$ ), it follows by virtue of (3.2) that $\left\|\varphi^{r} f^{(r)}\right\|=1$.

Now, we assume that there exists a polynomial $P_{n} \in \mathscr{P}_{n} \cap \Delta^{(1)}(Y)$ such that

$$
\left\|f-P_{n}\right\|<A
$$

and we put

$$
Q_{n}:=P_{n}+L_{s+2}
$$

Then, as before, we obtain

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|Q_{n}^{(\rho)}\right\|<n^{2 \rho}\left(A+M_{r}\right) . \tag{3.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

On the other hand, since $\ell_{s+1}$ interpolates $g_{r}^{\prime}$ at the points $Y$ and at $x_{0}$, and since $P_{n} \in \Delta^{(1)}(Y)$, we have for some $\tau, \theta \in\left(-1, x_{0}\right)$ that

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left|Q_{n}^{(\rho)}(\tau)\right| & =(\rho-1)!\left[y_{1}, \ldots, y_{s}, x_{0}: Q_{n}^{\prime}\right] \\
& =(\rho-1)!\left[y_{1}, \ldots, y_{s}, x_{0}: \ell_{s+1}\right]+\frac{P_{n}^{\prime}\left(x_{0}\right)}{\Pi\left(x_{0}\right)} \\
& \geqslant(\rho-1)!\left[y_{1}, \ldots, y_{s}, x_{0}: g_{r}^{\prime}\right] \\
& =g_{r}^{(\rho)}(\theta) \geqslant n^{2 \rho}\left(A+M_{r}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

This contradicts (3.7) and concludes the proof of Case b.
(c) In this case we need a somewhat different approach. We take $x_{0} \in(-1,1)$ to satisfy

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left|g_{r}^{(r-1)}\left(x_{0}\right)\right| \geqslant n^{2(r-1)}\left(A+M_{r}+1\right), \tag{3.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

and we put

$$
\tilde{g}_{r}(x):=(-1)^{r-\rho} \frac{1}{(r-1)!} \int_{x_{0}}^{x}(x-u)^{r-1} g_{r}^{(r)}(u) d u, \quad-1 \leqslant x \leqslant 1 .
$$

Define

$$
f(x):=\left\{\begin{array}{ll}
\tilde{g}_{r}(x), & x \geqslant x_{0}  \tag{3.9}\\
0, & x<x_{0}
\end{array} .\right.
$$

Then, by virtue of (3.2), $\left\|\varphi^{r} f^{(r)}\right\| \leqslant 1$. Now we observe that

$$
T_{r-1}:=(-1)^{r-\rho} g_{r}-\tilde{g}_{r}
$$

is the Taylor polynomial of degree $r-1$ at $x_{0}$, of the function $(-1)^{r-\rho} g_{r}$, and in particular

$$
T_{r-1}^{(r-1)}(x) \equiv(-1)^{r-\rho} g_{r}^{(r-1)}\left(x_{0}\right) .
$$

Assume to the contrary that there exists a collection $Y \in A_{s}(f)$, that is, $Y:-1<y_{s}<\cdots<y_{1} \leqslant x_{0}$, and a polynomial $P_{n} \in \mathscr{P}_{n} \cap \Delta^{(1)}(Y)$ satisfying

$$
\left\|f-P_{n}\right\|<A
$$

and set

$$
Q_{n}:=P_{n}+T_{r-1} .
$$

Then, for $x_{0} \leqslant x \leqslant 1$,

$$
f(x)-P_{n}(x)=\tilde{g}_{r}(x)-P_{n}(x)=(-1)^{r-\rho} g_{r}(x)-Q_{n}(x),
$$

hence

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left|Q_{n}(x)\right| \leqslant\left|g_{r}(x)\right|+\left|f(x)-P_{n}(x)\right|<A+M_{r} . \tag{3.10}
\end{equation*}
$$

By virtue of (3.2), it follows that for $-1 \leqslant x<x_{0}$,

$$
\left|\tilde{g}_{r}(x)\right| \leqslant \frac{1}{(r-1)}\left|\int_{-1}^{x_{0}} \frac{(1+u)^{r-1}}{\varphi^{r}(u)} d u\right|<1 .
$$

Thus, for $-1 \leqslant x<x_{0}$,

$$
\left|Q_{n}(x)\right| \leqslant\left|P_{n}(x)\right|+\left|g_{r}(x)\right|+\left|\tilde{g}_{r}(x)\right|<A+M_{r}+1,
$$

which together with (3.10) gives

$$
\left\|Q_{n}\right\|<A+M_{r}+1
$$

and hence

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|Q_{n}^{(r-1)}\right\|<n^{2(r-1)}\left(A+M_{r}+1\right) . \tag{3.11}
\end{equation*}
$$

On the other hand, for some $\tau, \theta \in\left(-1, x_{0}\right)$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left|Q_{n}^{(r-1)}(\tau)\right| & =(r-2)!\left|\left[y_{1}, \ldots, y_{r-1} ; Q_{n}^{\prime}\right]\right|=(r-2)!\left|\left[y_{1}, \ldots, y_{r-1} ; T_{r-1}^{\prime}\right]\right| \\
& =\left|T_{r-1}^{(r-1)}(\theta)\right|=\left|g_{r}^{(r-1)}\left(x_{0}\right)\right| \geqslant n^{2(r-1)}\left(A+M_{r}+1\right),
\end{aligned}
$$

contradicting (3.11). Note that here we made use of the fact that $r-1 \leqslant s$ and that $P_{n} \in \Delta^{(1)}(Y)$. This completes Case c and therefore concludes the proof of our theorem.

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