

# Convergence of Modified Lagrange Interpolation to $L_p$ -Functions Based on the Zeros of Orthonormal Polynomials with Freud Weights

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We consider the “Freud weight”  $W_Q^2(x) = \exp(-Q(x))$ . let  $1 < p < \infty$ , and let  $L_n^*(f)$  be a modified Lagrange interpolation polynomial to a measurable function  $f \in \{f; \text{ess sup}_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |f(x)| W_Q(x)(1+|x|)^\alpha < \infty\}$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ . Then we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [|f(x) - L_n^*(f; x)| W_Q(x)(1+|x|)^{-\alpha}]^p dx = 0$ , where  $A$  is a constant depending on  $p$  and  $\alpha$ . © 1998 Academic Press

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $Q: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be even and continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $Q''$  be continuous on  $(0, \infty)$ , and let  $Q' > 0$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Furthermore, we assume that for some  $A, B > 1$ ,

$$A \leq \{(d/dx)(xQ'(x))\}/Q'(x) \leq B, \quad x \in (0, \infty).$$

Then we call this a Freud weight

$$W_Q^2(x) = \exp\{-Q(x)\}. \quad (1.1)$$

The weight  $W_\beta^2(x) = \exp\{-|x|^\beta\}$ ,  $\beta > 1$ , is a typical example. For  $u > 0$ , the Mhaskar–Rahmanov–Saff number  $a_u$  is defined as the positive root of the equation

$$u = (2/\pi) \int_0^1 a_u t Q'(a_u t) (1-t^2)^{-(1/2)} dt, \quad u > 0. \quad (1.2)$$

By [6, (5.5)] we have

$$a_n/n \sim 1/Q'(a_n) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty. \quad (1.3)$$

For the weight  $W_Q^2(x) = W_\beta^2(x) = \exp\{-|x|^\beta\}$ ,  $\beta > 0$ , Mhaskar and Saff [11] show that  $a_n$  takes the simple form  $a_n = \mu_\beta n^{1/\beta}$ ,  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , where  $\mu_\beta$  is a constant depending only on  $\beta$ .

Let  $\Pi_n$  denote the class of real polynomials of degree at most  $n$ . We define orthonormal polynomials  $\{p_n(x)\} = \{p_n(W_Q^2; x)\}$ ,  $p_n \in \Pi_n$ , with respect to  $W_Q^2$ , that is,

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p_m(x) p_n(x) W_Q^2(x) dx = \delta_{nm} = \begin{cases} 0, & m \neq n, \\ 1, & m = n. \end{cases}$$

We denote the zeros of  $p_n(x)$  by  $x_{kn}$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , where

$$x_{nm} < x_{n-1, n} < \dots < x_{1n}.$$

Let  $L_n(f) \in \Pi_{n-1}$  be the Lagrange interpolation polynomial to  $f$  at the zeros  $\{x_{kn}\}$  of  $p_n(W_Q^2; x)$ , which is defined to be a unique polynomial such that

$$L_n(f; x) = \sum_{k=1}^n f(x_{kn}) \iota_{kn}(x),$$

where the fundamental polynomials  $\iota_{kn}$  are defined by

$$\iota_{kn}(x) = p_n(x) / \{(x - x_{kn}) p'_n(x_{kn})\}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Neval [13] showed the following.

**THEOREM A.** *Let  $f$  be a continuous function on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Assume that  $f$  satisfies*

$$\lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} f(x)(1 + |x|) \exp(-x^2/2) = 0.$$

*Then*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [|f(x) - L_n(f; x)| \exp(-x^2/2)]^p dx = 0$$

*holds for every  $p > 1$ .*

Knopfmacher and Lubinsky [4] obtained an extension of Theorem A, which relates to a general Freud weight, and they also investigated the approximation of some function with finitely many singularities by certain

modified Lagrange interpolation polynomials. Furthermore, Lubinsky and Matjila [7] provided the following nice result.

**THEOREM B.** *Let the weight  $W_Q^2(x)$  be defined by (1.1), and let  $1 < p < \infty$ ,  $\Delta \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ , and  $\hat{\alpha} = \min(\alpha, 1)$ . Then for*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [|f(x) - L_n(f; x)| W_Q(x)(1 + |x|)^{-\Delta}]^p dx = 0,$$

to hold for every continuous function  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  satisfying

$$\lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} |f(x)| W_Q(x)(1 + |x|)^\alpha = 0, \tag{1.4}$$

if  $p \leq 4$ , it is necessary and sufficient that

$$\Delta > -\hat{\alpha} + (1/p);$$

and if  $p > 4$  and  $\alpha \neq 1$ , it is necessary and sufficient that

$$a_n^{1/p - (\hat{\alpha} + \Delta)} > n^{(1/6)(1 - 4/p)} = o(1), \quad n \rightarrow \infty;$$

and if  $p > 4$  and  $\alpha = 1$ , it is necessary and sufficient that

$$a_n^{1/p - (\hat{\alpha} + \Delta)} > n^{(1/6)(1 - 4/p)} = o(1/\log n), \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Let  $1 < p < \infty$ . Our purpose in this paper is to approximate certain functions which are not always continuous by our modified Lagrange interpolation polynomials. To obtain our theorem we shall apply the Lubinsky and Matjila result for a continuous function.

We need some classes of functions on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Let

$$S = \left\{ s; s(t) = \sum_{i=1}^m s_i \chi(I_i; t), \bigcup_{i=1}^m I_i = [c, d], I_i = [c_i, d_i], \right. \\ \left. c_{i+1} = d_i, s_i \in \mathbb{R} (i = 1, 2, \dots, m), 1 \leq m < \infty, -\infty < c < d < \infty \right\}, \tag{1.5}$$

where  $\chi(I_i; t)$  is the characteristic function on  $I_i$ . Then for each  $\alpha > 0$  we define the class  $E(\alpha, W_Q)$  by

$$E(\alpha, W_Q) = \{ f; \text{for each } \varepsilon > 0 \text{ there exists } s \in S \text{ such that} \\ \text{ess sup}_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |f(x) - s(x)| W_Q(x)(1 + |x|)^\alpha < \varepsilon \}. \tag{1.6}$$

If  $f \in C(\mathbb{R})$  satisfies (1.4), then  $f \in E(\alpha, W_Q)$ , and if

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} f_i \chi(I_i; x), \quad I_i \cap I_j = \emptyset \quad (i \neq j), f_i \in \mathbb{R} \quad (i = 1, 2, 3, \dots),$$

and for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $a(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that

$$|f(x)| W_Q(x)(1 + |x|)^\alpha < \varepsilon, \quad |x| \geq a(\varepsilon),$$

then  $f \in E(\alpha, W_Q)$ .

Let  $f$  be integrable on any compact interval  $[a, b]$ . Then we define a modified Lagrange interpolation polynomial  $L_n^*(f; x)$  by

$$L_n^*(f; x) = \sum_{k=1}^n f_n(x_{kn}) \iota_{kn}(x),$$

where  $\varepsilon_n = \delta a_n/n$  for a certain constant  $\delta > 0$  small enough and

$$f_n(x_{kn}) = (1/\varepsilon_n) \int_{\varepsilon_{kn}^-}^{\varepsilon_{kn}^+} f(x_{kn} + t) dt, \quad (1.7)$$

$$\varepsilon_{kn}^+ = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x_{kn} \geq 0, \\ \varepsilon_n & \text{for } x_{kn} < 0, \end{cases} \quad \varepsilon_{kn}^- = \begin{cases} -\varepsilon_n & \text{for } x_{kn} \geq 0, \\ 0 & \text{for } x_{kn} < 0. \end{cases}$$

The function

$$f_n(x) = (1/\varepsilon_n) \int_{\varepsilon_n^-}^{\varepsilon_n^+} f(x + t) dt,$$

$$\varepsilon_n^+ = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x \geq 0, \\ \varepsilon_n & \text{for } x < 0, \end{cases} \quad \varepsilon_n^- = \begin{cases} -\varepsilon_n & \text{for } x \geq 0, \\ 0 & \text{for } x < 0, \end{cases}$$

gives a mean value of  $f$  in the neighborhood  $(x - \varepsilon_n, x)$  or  $(x, x + \varepsilon_n)$ . If  $f$  is continuous at  $x$ , then by (1.3) we have  $f_n(x) \rightarrow f(x)$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Here our modified Lagrange interpolation polynomial  $L_n^*(f; x)$  satisfies  $L_n^*(f; x_{kn}) = L_n(f_n; x_{kn}) = f_n(x_{kn})$ .

Now, our theorem is the following.

**THEOREM.** *Let  $1 < p < \infty$ . Then for every function  $f \in E(\alpha, W_Q)$  and each number  $\Delta$  satisfying the condition in Theorem B, we have*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [|f(x) - L_n^*(f; x)| W_Q(x)(1 + |x|)^{-\Delta}]^p dx = 0. \quad (1.8)$$

2. NOTATIONS AND PRELIMINARIES

Throughout this paper  $c_1, c_2, \dots$  will denote positive constants independent of  $n$  and  $x$ , and the letter  $c$  denotes a constant which may differ at each different occurrence, even in the same chain of inequalities. Let  $c(a, b, \dots)$  mean a constant depending on  $a, b, \dots$ . We need some lemmas.

For a constant  $M > 0$ , we define a subset  $S_M$  of  $S$  in (1.5) by

$$S_M = \{s: s \in S, |s(x)| W_Q(x)(1 + |x|)^\alpha \leq M \ (x \in \mathbb{R})\}. \tag{2.1}$$

Let  $f \in E(\alpha, W_Q)$  be defined by (1.6). Then we see

$$\operatorname{ess\,sup}_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |f(x)| W_Q(x)(1 + |x|)^\alpha = M_f < \infty. \tag{2.2}$$

Let  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ . Then we find a step function  $s \in S_M$ , where  $M = M_f + 1$ , satisfying

$$\operatorname{ess\,sup}_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |f(x) - s(x)| W_Q(x)(1 + |x|)^\alpha < \varepsilon. \tag{2.3}$$

We need to construct a continuous function  $f_{se} \in C(\mathbb{R})$ . Put

$$a_u = \max\{|c_1 - 1|, |d_m + 1|\},$$

where  $[c_1, d_m]$  is the compact support of  $s \in S_M$ , and  $a_u$  is Mhaskar–Rahmanov–Saff number in (1.2). Let

$$0 < \kappa < (1/4) \min[a_u/u, |c_i - d_i| \ (i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, m)].$$

Now, we define the continuous function  $f_{se} \in C(\mathbb{R})$  by

$$f_{se}(x) = \begin{cases} \text{linear} & \begin{cases} \text{on } [d_i, d_i + \kappa] & \text{for } |s(c_i)| < |s(d_i + \kappa)|, \text{ or} \\ \text{on } [d_i - \kappa, d_i] & \text{for } |s(d_i + \kappa)| < |s(c_i)|, \\ & i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, m, \quad \text{and} \end{cases} \\ s(x) & \text{for otherwise,} \end{cases} \tag{2.4}$$

and we set

$$E_s = \{x; f_{se}(x) \neq s(x), x \in \mathbb{R}\}, \quad E_s^* = \{x; x = t + u\kappa, |u| \leq 1, t \in E_s\}. \tag{2.5}$$

Here we suppose

$$\operatorname{Meas.} E_s^* = 3(m + 1) \kappa < \varepsilon < 1. \tag{2.6}$$

For each  $f_{s\varepsilon}$  we consider the function

$$\Psi_n(x) = \Psi_n(f_{s\varepsilon}; x) = (1/\varepsilon_n) \int_{\varepsilon_{kn}^-}^{\varepsilon_{kn}^+} \{f_{s\varepsilon}(x) - f_{s\varepsilon}(x+t)\} dt, \quad (2.7)$$

where  $\varepsilon_n = \delta a_n/n$ , and  $\varepsilon_{kn}^+$ ,  $\varepsilon_{kn}^-$  are defined in (1.7). By the simple observation we obtain the following lemma with respect to the function  $\Psi_n$ .

LEMMA 2.1. *Let the conditions (2.1)–(2.6) be satisfied. Then*

$$(i) \quad \Psi_n(x) = 0, \quad x \notin E_s^*, \quad (2.8)$$

$$(ii) \quad |\Psi_n(x)| \leq (M_f M_{Q\alpha}/\kappa) \varepsilon_n \{W_Q(x)(1+|x|)^\alpha\}^{-1}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad (2.9)$$

where  $M = M_f + 1$  for  $M_f$  in (2.2), and  $M_{Q\alpha} = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} W_Q(x)(1+|x|)^\alpha$ .

*Proof.* Let  $[c_1, d_m]$  be the compact support of  $s \in S_M$ , where  $M = M_f + 1$ . By the definition of  $f_{s\varepsilon}$

$$\Psi_n(x) = 0, \quad x \notin E_s^*,$$

that is, we have (2.8).

The definition of  $f_{s\varepsilon}$  means  $|f_{s\varepsilon}(x+t) - f_{s\varepsilon}(x)| \leq (2M_f/\kappa) |t|$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & |\Psi_n(x)| W_Q(x)(1+|x|)^\alpha \\ & \leq (1/\varepsilon_n) \int_{\varepsilon_{kn}^-}^{\varepsilon_{kn}^+} |f_{s\varepsilon}(x) - f_{s\varepsilon}(x+t)| dt W_Q(x)(1+|x|)^\alpha \\ & \leq (2M_f/\kappa)(1/\varepsilon_n) \int_0^{\varepsilon_n} t dt W_Q(x)(1+|x|)^\alpha \\ & \leq (M_f M_{Q\alpha}/\kappa) \varepsilon_n. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently, we have (2.9). ■

For  $f \in E(\alpha, W_Q)$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  we consider the function  $f_{s\varepsilon} \in C(\mathbb{R})$  in (2.4). Let  $\Psi_n$  be defined by (2.7), and let us take  $0 < \sigma < 1/2$  and  $\kappa$  small enough satisfying (2.6). The inequality (2.9) means that for  $n \geq n(f_{s\varepsilon}, Q, \alpha, \delta)$  large enough

$$|\Psi_n(x)| W_Q(x) \leq \varepsilon(1+|x|)^{-\alpha}. \quad (2.10)$$

The following two lemmas are obtained by Lubinsky and Matjila (see (2.8) and (2.10)).

LEMMA 2.2 [7, Lemma 3.4]. *Let  $\Delta$  be defined in Theorem B. For each  $1 < p < \infty$  we have*

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-\sigma_{a_n}}^{\sigma_{a_n}} |L_n(\Psi_n; x) W_{\mathcal{Q}}(x)(1 + |x|)^{-\Delta}|^p dx \leq c\varepsilon,$$

where  $c$  is independent of  $\varepsilon$ ,  $n$ , and  $\{\Psi_n(x)\}$ .

LEMMA 2.3 [7, Lemma 3.2]. *Let  $\Delta$  be defined in Theorem B. For each  $1 < p < \infty$  we have*

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{|x| \geq \sigma_{a_n}} |L_n(\Psi_n; x) W_{\mathcal{Q}}(x)(1 + |x|)^{-\Delta}|^p dx \leq c\varepsilon,$$

where  $c$  is independent of  $\varepsilon$ ,  $n$ , and  $\{\Psi_n(x)\}$ .

### 3. PROOF OF THE THEOREM

Let  $f \in E(\alpha, W_{\mathcal{Q}})$ , and let  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ . Then there exists  $s \in S$  such that

$$\operatorname{ess\,sup}_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |f(x) - s(x)| W_{\mathcal{Q}}(x)(1 + |x|)^{\alpha} \leq \varepsilon. \tag{3.1}$$

Thus we see that there exists  $a(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that

$$\operatorname{ess\,sup}_{|x| \geq a(\varepsilon)} |f(x)| W_{\mathcal{Q}}(x)(1 + |x|)^{\alpha} \leq \varepsilon.$$

Especially for  $\varepsilon = 1$  there exists  $M_f > 0$  such that

$$\operatorname{ess\,sup}_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |f(x)| W_{\mathcal{Q}}(x)(1 + |x|)^{\alpha} \leq M_f < \infty. \tag{3.2}$$

If we put  $M = M_f + 1$ , then by (3.1) and (3.2) we obtain  $s \in S_M$ . Applying Lemmas 2.2 and 2.3, we see

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |L_n(\Psi_n; x) W_{\mathcal{Q}}(x)(1 + |x|)^{-\Delta}|^p dx \leq c\varepsilon. \tag{3.3}$$

By (3.1)

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \{ |f(x) - s(x)| W_{\mathcal{Q}}(x)(1 + |x|)^{-\Delta} \}^p dx \\ & \leq \varepsilon^p \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (1 + |x|)^{-(\Delta + \alpha)p} dx \leq c\varepsilon^p. \end{aligned} \tag{3.4}$$

We can show that for each  $x \in \mathbb{R}$

$$|s(x) - f_{s\varepsilon}(x)| W_{\mathcal{Q}}(x) \leq 2(M_f + 1) M_{\mathcal{Q}\alpha} (1 + |x|)^{-\alpha},$$

where  $M_f$  and  $M_{\mathcal{Q}\alpha}$  are the constants in Lemma 2.1 (by the definition of  $f_{s\varepsilon}$  we remark  $|f_{s\varepsilon}(x)| \leq |s(x)|$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ). Hence we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \{|s(x) - f_{s\varepsilon}(x)| W_{\mathcal{Q}}(x)(1 + |x|)^{-A}\}^p dx \\ & \leq 2(M_f + 1) M_{\mathcal{Q}\alpha} \int_{E_s^*} (1 + |x|)^{-(A+\alpha)p} dx \\ & \leq c(M_f + 1) M_{\mathcal{Q}\alpha} \varepsilon. \end{aligned} \tag{3.5}$$

By (3.4) and (3.5) we see that

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\{f(x) - f_{s\varepsilon}(w)\} W_{\mathcal{Q}}(x)(1 + |x|)^{-A}|^p dx \leq c\varepsilon. \tag{3.6}$$

Thus by (3.3), (3.6), and Theorem B we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\{f(x) - L_n^*(f; x)\} W_{\mathcal{Q}}(x)(1 + |x|)^{-A}|^p dx \right]^{1/p} \\ & \leq \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\{f(x) - f_{s\varepsilon}(x)\} W_{\mathcal{Q}}(x)(1 + |x|)^{-A}|^p dx \right]^{1/p} \\ & \quad + \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\{f_{s\varepsilon}(x) - L_n(f_{s\varepsilon}; x)\} W_{\mathcal{Q}}(x)(1 + |x|)^{-A}|^p dx \right]^{1/p} \\ & \quad + \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left| L_n \left( f_{s\varepsilon} - (1/\varepsilon_n) \int_{\varepsilon_{kn}}^{\varepsilon_{kn}^+} f_{s\varepsilon}(\cdot + t) dt; x \right) W_{\mathcal{Q}}(x)(1 + |x|)^{-A} \right|^p dx \right]^{1/p} \\ & \leq c\varepsilon, \end{aligned}$$

for  $n$  large enough. Since  $\varepsilon > 0$  is arbitrary, we have (1.8).

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