

# On Jackson Estimate for Müntz Rational Approximation in $L^p_{[0,1]}$ Spaces

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**Abstract:** Let  $\Lambda = \{\lambda_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  be a sequence of real numbers, and  $\lambda_n \searrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Suppose that  $\lambda_n \leq Mn^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , where  $M > 0$  is an absolute constant. The present paper considers the Müntz rational approximation rate in  $L^p_{[0,1]}$  spaces and gets

$$R_n(f, \Lambda)_{L^p} \leq C_M \omega(f, n^{-\frac{1}{2}})_{L^p}$$

for  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ .

**Key words:** Müntz rational functions;  $L^p$  spaces; approximation rate.

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## 1. Introduction

Let  $L^p[0, 1]$  be the space of all  $p$ -power integrable functions on  $[0, 1]$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ . When  $p = \infty$ , it can be understood as  $C_{[0,1]}$ , that is, the space of all continuous functions on  $[0, 1]$ . For any given real sequence  $\{\lambda_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ , denote by  $\Pi_n(\Lambda)$  the set of Müntz polynomials of degree  $n$ , that is, all linear combinations of  $\{x^{\lambda_1}, x^{\lambda_2}, \dots, x^{\lambda_n}\}$ , and let  $R_n(\Lambda)$  be the Müntz rational functions of degree  $n$ , that is,

$$R_n(\Lambda) = \left\{ \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)} : P(x), Q(x) \in \Pi_n(\Lambda), Q(x) \geq 0, x \in [0, 1] \right\}.$$

If  $Q(0) = 0$ , we require that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)}$  exist and be finite. For  $f \in L^p[0, 1]$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ , define

$$R_n(f, \Lambda)_{L^p} = \inf_{r \in R_n(\Lambda)} \|f - r\|_{L^p},$$

$$\omega(f, t)_{L^p} = \sup_{|h| \leq t} \|f(x+h) - f(x)\|_{L^p},$$

where  $\|\cdot\|_{L^p}$  is the usual  $L^p$ - norm, that is

$$\|f\|_{L^p} = \left\{ \int_0^1 |f(x)|^p dx \right\}^{\frac{1}{p}}, \quad 1 \leq p < \infty,$$

$$\|f\|_{L^\infty} = \|f\|_C = \max_{0 \leq x \leq 1} |f(x)|.$$

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In the past dozens of years, there have been a few good works on rational Müntz approximation rate<sup>[1-3,5-9]</sup>. Here, we want to remind the readers of a special Müntz system  $\{x^{\lambda_n}\}$ , that is,  $\{\lambda_n\}$  satisfy  $\lambda_n \searrow 0$  ( $\lambda_n \searrow 0$  means  $\lambda_n$  strictly decreasing to 0), and  $\lambda_n \leq Mn^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  for every  $n \geq 1$ . The second named author did the original work on this subject in [8]:

**Theorem 1** *Given  $M > 0$ . Let  $\{\lambda_n\}$  be a sequence with  $\lambda_n \searrow 0$ , suppose that  $\lambda_n \leq Mn^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , then for any  $f \in C_{[0,1]}$ , we have*

$$R_n(f, \Lambda) \leq C_M \omega(f, n^{-\frac{1}{2}}),$$

where  $C_M$  is a positive constant only depending on  $M$ .

Recently, we<sup>[7]</sup> generalized the above result to include the general  $L^p[0, 1]$  spaces and established the following theorem

**Theorem 2** *Given  $M > 0$ . Let  $\{\lambda_n\}$  be a sequence with  $\lambda_n \searrow 0$ , and let  $\lambda_n \leq Mn^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . Then for any  $f \in L^p_{[0,1]}$ ,  $1 < p \leq \infty$ , there is a positive constant  $C_{M,p}$  only depending on  $M$  and  $p$  such that*

$$R_n(f, \Lambda)_{L^p} \leq C_{M,p} \omega(f, n^{-\frac{1}{2}})_{L^p}.$$

However, it is not a satisfactory result yet. First,  $C_{M,p}$  is a positive constant depending not only on  $M$  but also on  $p$ . So a natural problem comes: whether can  $C_{M,p}$  be replaced by  $C_M$  only depending on  $M$ ? Secondly, the method used in [7] cannot give any result for  $p = 1$ . These problems could be hard without using the efficient tool, the Hardy-Littlewood maximum functions, which played a very important role in [7]. The present paper will give positive answers to these problems by employing a new method and by constructing a new type of Müntz rational functions. We obtain the following theorem

**Theorem 3** *Given  $M > 0$ . Let  $\{\lambda_n\}$  be a real sequence with  $\lambda_n \searrow 0$ , and let  $\lambda_n \leq Mn^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . Then for any  $f \in L^p_{[0,1]}$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ , there is a positive constant  $C_M$  only depending on  $M$  such that*

$$R_n(f, \Lambda)_{L^p} \leq C_M \omega(f, n^{-\frac{1}{2}})_{L^p}.$$

Throughout the paper,  $C$  always denotes an absolute constant, and  $C_M$  a positive constant only depending on  $M$ . Their values may be different in different circumstances.

## 2. Auxiliary lemmas

Let  $P_k(x, a_0, a_1, \dots, a_k)$  denote the  $k$ -th divided difference of  $(\frac{x}{e})^\alpha$  with respect to  $\alpha$  at  $\alpha = a_0, a_1, \dots, a_k$ , that is,

$$P_0(x, a_0) = \left(\frac{x}{e}\right)^{a_0},$$

$$P_k(x, a_0, a_1, \dots, a_k) = \frac{P_{k-1}(x, a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{k-1}) - P_{k-1}(x, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k)}{a_0 - a_k}.$$

Set

$$P_k(x) = P_{(n+k)^2}(x, \lambda_{n^2}, \lambda_{n^2+1}, \dots, \lambda_{n^2+(n+k)^2})$$

for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ , and

$$P_n(x) = P_{(2n)^2}(x, \lambda_{5n^2}, \lambda_{5n^2+1}, \dots, \lambda_{9n^2}).$$

By the mean value theorem,

$$P_k(x) = \left(\frac{x}{e}\right)^{\eta_k} \frac{\log^{(n+k)^2}\left(\frac{x}{e}\right)}{((n+k)^2)!}, \quad (1)$$

$$\lambda_{n^2+(n+k)^2} \leq \eta_k \leq \lambda_{n^2}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n-1,$$

and

$$P_n(x) = \left(\frac{x}{e}\right)^{\eta_n} \frac{\log^{4n^2}\left(\frac{x}{e}\right)}{(4n^2)!}, \quad (2)$$

$$\lambda_{9n^2} \leq \eta_n \leq \lambda_{5n^2}.$$

Define

$$x_j = \frac{n+1}{n+1-j}, \quad t_j = e^{1-x_j}, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

In particular, let  $t_0 = 1$  and  $t_{n+1} = 0$ . For any  $f \in C_{[0,1]}$ , we define

$$\begin{aligned} L_n(f, x) &= \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^{(n+j)^2} ((n+j)^2)! f(t_j) \prod_{i=1}^j x_i^{-((n+i)^2-(n+i-1)^2)} P_j(x)}{\sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^{(n+j)^2} ((n+j)^2)! \prod_{i=1}^j x_i^{-((n+i)^2-(n+i-1)^2)} P_j(x)} \\ &= \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n f(t_j) \prod_{i=1}^j x_i^{-((n+i)^2-(n+i-1)^2)} \left(-\log \frac{x}{e}\right)^{(n+j)^2} \left(\frac{x}{e}\right)^{\eta_j}}{\sum_{j=1}^n \prod_{i=1}^j x_i^{-((n+i)^2-(n+i-1)^2)} \left(-\log \frac{x}{e}\right)^{(n+j)^2} \left(\frac{x}{e}\right)^{\eta_j}} \quad (\text{from (1), (2)}) \\ &:= \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n f(t_j) Q_j(x)}{\sum_{j=1}^n Q_j(x)} := \sum_{j=1}^n f(t_j) r_j(x), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$Q_j(x) := \prod_{i=1}^j x_i^{-((n+i)^2-(n+i-1)^2)} \left(-\log \frac{x}{e}\right)^{(n+j)^2} \left(\frac{x}{e}\right)^{\eta_j},$$

$$r_j(x) := \frac{Q_j(x)}{\sum_{j=1}^n Q_j(x)}, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

We estimate  $r_j(x)$  first.

**Lemma 1** For any  $x \in [t_{j+1}, t_j]$ ,  $0 \leq j \leq n$ , we have

$$r_k(x) \leq C_M e^{-C_M |j-k|}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n. \quad (3)$$

**Proof** In fact, from Zhou<sup>[8]</sup>, we have

$$Q_j^{-1}(x) Q_k(x) \leq C_M e^{-C_M |j-k|}.$$

By the definition of  $r_k(x)$ , (3) holds.

**Lemma 2** For any  $f \in L^p_{[0,1]}$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ , define

$$K(f, h)_{L^p} = \inf_g \{ \|f - g\|_{L^p} + h \|g'\|_{L^p} \},$$

where  $g \in AC_{[0,1]}$ , that is,  $g$  is an absolute continuous function on  $[0, 1]$ , then

$$K(f, h)_{L^p} \sim \omega(f, h)_{L^p}, \quad 1 \leq p \leq \infty.$$

It is a well-known result in [4]. From Lemma 2, we have the following Lemma 3 immediately.

**Lemma 3** For any  $f \in L^p_{[0,1]}$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ , there is a  $g \in AC_{[0,1]}$  such that

$$\|f - g\|_{L^p} \leq C\omega(f, \frac{1}{n})_{L^p}, \quad \|g'\|_{L^p} \leq Cn\omega(f, \frac{1}{n})_{L^p}.$$

### 3. Proof of Theorem 3

In view of Theorem 2, we only need to show Theorem 3 in the case  $1 \leq p < \infty$ . For any  $f \in L^p_{[0,1]}$ , take a function  $g$  satisfying the properties of Lemma 3. Furthermore, set

$$L_n(g, x) = \sum_{k=1}^n r_k(x) \frac{1}{t_{k-1} - t_k} \int_{t_k}^{t_{k-1}} g(u) du.$$

By the definition of  $r_k(x)$ , we have  $L_n(1, x) = 1$ , and  $L_n(g, x) \in R(\Lambda_{9n^2})$ . In some sense,  $L_n(g, x)$  is very similar to the usual Kantorovich-type operators in  $L^p[0, 1]$  spaces although there is still some minor difference. Here we use  $g$  instead of  $f$  directly to construct the rational function. It enables us to avoid the proof of the boundness of operators, which may be very difficult to do. Note  $L_n(g, x) \in R(\Lambda_{9n^2})$ . Theorem 3 will be proved if the following inequality holds:

$$\|L_n(g, x) - f(x)\|_{L^p} \leq C_M \omega(f, \frac{1}{n})_{L^p}.$$

Applying Lemma 3, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|L_n(g, x) - f(x)\|_{L^p} &\leq \|L_n(g, x) - g(x)\|_{L^p} + \|f(x) - g(x)\|_{L^p} \\ &\leq \|L_n(g, x) - g(x)\|_{L^p} + C\omega(f, \frac{1}{n})_{L^p}, \end{aligned}$$

so that we only need to show that

$$\|L_n(g, x) - g(x)\|_{L^p} \leq C\omega(f, \frac{1}{n})_{L^p}. \quad (4)$$

Assume that  $1 < p < \infty$ . The case  $p = 1$  can be treated in a similar and easier way. It is not difficult to verify that, for  $1 \leq j \leq n - 1$ , it holds that

$$|t_j - t_{j+1}| = |e^{1-x_j} - e^{1-x_{j+1}}| \leq Cn^{-1}e^{-x_j}x_j^2 \leq Cn^{-1},$$

and

$$|t_0 - t_1| = |1 - e^{-\frac{1}{n}}| \leq \frac{1}{n}, \quad |t_n - t_{n+1}| = e^{-n} \leq \frac{1}{n}.$$

Hence, for any  $x \in [t_{k+1}, t_k]$ ,  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$ , we have

$$|x - t_j| \leq C(|k - j| + 1)n^{-1}, \quad j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n. \quad (5)$$

Without loss of generality, we always assume that  $C_M \geq 1$ . From Lemma 1, for any  $x \in [t_{j+1}, t_j]$ ,  $0 \leq j \leq n$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^n r_k^{\frac{p}{2p-2}}(x) &\leq C_M^{\frac{p}{2p-2}} \sum_{k=1}^n \exp\left(\frac{-pC_M|j-k|}{2p-2}\right) \\ &\leq C_M^{\frac{p}{2p-2}} \left(\sum_{s=1}^{\infty} e^{-Cs/2}\right)^{\frac{p}{p-1}} \leq C_M^{\frac{p}{p-1}}. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Using (6) and applying the Hölder's inequality repeatedly, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|L_n(g, x) - g(x)\|_{L^p}^p &\leq \int_0^1 \left| \sum_{k=1}^n r_k(x) \frac{1}{t_{k-1} - t_k} \int_{t_k}^{t_{k-1}} |g(u) - g(x)| du \right|^p dx \\ &\leq \int_0^1 \left( \sum_{k=1}^n r_k^{\frac{p}{2p-2}}(x) \right)^{p-1} \left( \sum_{k=1}^n r_k^{\frac{p}{2}}(x) \left| \frac{1}{t_{k-1} - t_k} \right|^p \left| \int_{t_k}^{t_{k-1}} \left| \int_x^u |g'(t)| dt \right| du \right|^p \right) dx \\ &\leq C_M^p \int_0^1 \sum_{k=1}^n r_k^{\frac{p}{2}}(x) \left| \frac{1}{t_{k-1} - t_k} \right|^p \left| \int_{t_k}^{t_{k-1}} \left| \int_x^u |g'(t)| dt \right| du \right|^p dx \\ &\leq C_M^p \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} \sum_{k=1}^n \int_{t_j}^{t_{j-1}} r_k^{\frac{p}{2}}(x) \left| \frac{1}{t_{k-1} - t_k} \right|^p |t_k - t_{k-1}|^p \left| \int_{x^*}^{t^*} |g'(t)| dt \right|^p dx, \end{aligned}$$

where we take  $x^* = t_{j-1}$ ,  $t^* = t_k$ , when  $j < k$ , and take  $x^* = t_j$ ,  $t^* = t_{k-1}$ , when  $j \geq k$ . We continue the above process. By using (3), (5) and Hölder's inequality again, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|L_n(g, x) - g(x)\|_{L^p}^p &\leq C_M^p \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} \sum_{k=1}^n e^{-C_M|j-k|p/2} |x^* - t^*|^{p-1} \int_{t_j}^{t_{j-1}} \left| \int_{x^*}^{t^*} |g'(t)|^p dt \right| dx \\ &\leq C_M^p \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} \sum_{k=1}^n e^{-C_M|j-k|p/2} |x^* - t^*|^{p-1} |t_{j-1} - t_j| \left| \int_{x^*}^{t^*} |g'(t)|^p dt \right| \\ &\leq C_M^p n^{-p} \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} \sum_{k=1}^n e^{-C|j-k|p/2} (|j-k|^p + 1) \left| \int_{x^*}^{t^*} |g'(t)|^p dt \right| \\ &\leq C_M^p n^{-p} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} \sum_{k=1, k \neq j}^n e^{-C_M|j-k|p/2} |j-k|^p \left| \int_{x^*}^{t^*} |g'(t)|^p dt \right| + \sum_{j=1}^n \left| \int_{x^*}^{t^*} |g'(t)|^p dt \right| \right\} \\ &:= I_1 + I_2. \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to verify that

$$\begin{aligned} I_2 &\leq C_M^p n^{-p} \sum_{j=1}^n \int_{t_j}^{t_{j-1}} |g'(t)|^p dt \leq C_M^p n^{-p} \int_0^1 |g'(t)|^p dt \\ &\leq C_M^p n^{-p} \|g'(t)\|_{L^p}^p, \end{aligned}$$

while

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_1 &\leq C_M^p n^{-p} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} \sum_{k=1}^n e^{-C_M|j-k|p/2} |j-k|^p \left| \int_{x^*}^{t^*} |g'(t)|^p dt \right| \right\} \\
 &\leq C_M^p n^{-p} \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} \sum_{k=1}^n e^{-C_M|j-k|p/2} |j-k|^p \left[ \left| \int_{t_{j+1}}^{t_k} |g'(t)|^p dt \right| + \left| \int_{t_{k+1}}^{t_j} |g'(t)|^p dt \right| \right] \\
 &\leq C_M^p n^{-p} \sum_{m=1}^n e^{-C_M m p/2} m^p \sum_{|j-k|=m} \left[ \left| \int_{t_{j-1}}^{t_k} |g'(t)|^p dt \right| + \left| \int_{t_{k-1}}^{t_j} |g'(t)|^p dt \right| \right] \\
 &\leq C_M^p n^{-p} \sum_{m=1}^n e^{-C_M m p/2} m^{p+1} \int_0^1 |g'(t)|^p dt \\
 &\leq C_M^p n^{-p} \left( \sum_{m=1}^n e^{-C_M m/2} m^2 \right)^p \|g'(t)\|_{L^p}^p \leq C_M^p n^{-p} \|g'(t)\|_{L^p}^p.
 \end{aligned}$$

Altogether with Lemma 3, we get

$$\|L_n(g, x) - g(x)\|_{L^p}^p \leq C_M^p n^{-p} \|g'(t)\|_{L^p}^p \leq C_M^p \omega\left(f, \frac{1}{n}\right)_{L^p}^p,$$

and thus Inequality (4), consequently. Theorem 3 is proved.

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## $L^p_{[0,1]}$ 空间 Müntz 有理逼近的 Jackson 型估计

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**摘要:** 设  $\Lambda = \{\lambda_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  为正的实数数列, 且当  $n \rightarrow \infty$  时, 有  $\lambda_n \searrow 0$ . 本文给出了当  $\lambda_n \leq Mn^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , (其中  $M > 0$  为一正常数) 时 Müntz 系统  $\{x^{\lambda_n}\}$  的有理函数在  $L^p_{[0,1]}$  空间的逼近速度, 主要结论为  $R_n(f, \Lambda)_{L^p} \leq C_M \omega(f, n^{-\frac{1}{2}})_{L^p}$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ .

**关键词:** Müntz 有理函数;  $L^p$  空间; 逼近速度.