

REFINED KOLMOGOROV-CRITERIONS FOR BEST RATIONAL
CHEBYSHEV-APPROXIMATION

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1. Introduction. This paper deals with refinements of the well-known local and global Kolmogorov-criterions for best rational Chebyshev-approximations. These results were derived in [2] using an optimization theoretical approach, which included also rational approximation problems with certain side-conditions. In this paper we present a slightly modified proof in the case of rational Chebyshev-approximation without side-conditions. Further we give a slight extension to the space $C_0(T)$. We begin here by recalling some definitions and earlier results. In Section 2 we prove the refined Kolmogorov-criterions, in Section 3 we apply these refinements to prove a strong uniqueness theorem.

Let S be a locally compact Hausdorff-space and let $C_0(S)$ denote the real vector space of all continuous functions $x : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ vanishing at infinity, i.e. for each $\varepsilon > 0$ the set

$$\{s \in S \mid |x(s)| \geq \varepsilon\}$$

is compact. We assume that $C_0(S)$ is endowed with the norm

$$\|x\|_\infty := \sup \{|x(s)| \mid s \in S\}.$$

Let $g_1, g_2, \dots, g_\ell, h_1, h_2, \dots, h_m \in C(S)$ be such that

$$\bigcap_{s \in S} \{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^m \mid \sum_{i=1}^m \beta_i h_i(s) > 0\}$$

is non-empty and define $N := m + \ell$;

$$B(s) := (g_1(s), g_2(s), \dots, g_\ell(s), 0, 0, \dots, 0)$$

$$C(s) := (0, 0, \dots, 0, h_1(s), h_2(s), \dots, h_m(s)).$$

Define the sets

$$U := \bigcap_{s \in S} \{v \in \mathbb{R}^N \mid \langle C(s), v \rangle > 0\}$$

and

$$V := \left\{ \frac{\langle B, v \rangle}{\langle C, v \rangle} \in C(S) \mid v \in U \right\},$$

where $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ denotes the usual inner product in \mathbb{R}^N .

An element $r_0 = \frac{\langle B, v_0 \rangle}{\langle C, v_0 \rangle}$ in V is said to be a best approximation to an element x in $C_0(T)$, if

$$\|x - r_0\|_\infty = \inf_{r \in V} \|x - r\|_\infty.$$

For each x in $C_0(S)$ we denote by M_x the following set

$$M_x := \{s \in S \mid |x(s)| = \|x\|_\infty\}.$$

A best approximation to x in V can be characterized by each of the following criterions:

Theorem 1 (*Local Kolmogorov criterion*).

An element $r_0 \in V$ is a best approximation to x from V if and only if

$$\forall_{v \in \mathbb{R}^N} \min_{s \in M_{x-r_0}} (x(s) - r_0(s)) (\langle B(s) - r_0(s)C(s), v \rangle) \leq 0.$$

Theorem 2 (*Global Kolmogorov criterion*)

An element $r_0 \in V$ is a best approximation to x from V if and only if

$$\forall_{r \in V} \min_{s \in M_{x-r_0}} (x(s) - r_0(s)) (r(s) - r_0(s)) \leq 0.$$

For the refinement of these criterions, we introduce critical signatures. A signature ε on S is a continuous mapping of a non-empty closed subset of S into $\{-1, 1\}$. To define critical signatures, we introduce for each $r_0 \in V$ the linear space

$$L(r_0) := \{\langle r_0 C - b, v \rangle \in C(S) \mid v \in \mathbb{R}^N\}.$$

Choose a basis $\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_d$ of $L(r_0)$, and define for each $s \in S$ the vector

$$G(s) := (\varphi_1(s), \varphi_2(s), \dots, \varphi_d(s)).$$

Then, a signature ε on S is called critical (with respect to r_0 in V) iff

$$0 \in \text{con} \{ \varepsilon(s)G(s) \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid t \in \text{DOM}(\varepsilon) \}.$$

A critical signature is called primitive, if it does not contain properly any other critical signature. For $x \neq 0$, there is a natural signature ε_x defined by $\varepsilon_x(s)x(s) = \|x\|_\infty$.

We need the following result of [2].

Lemma 3. Let A be a non-empty bounded subset of \mathbb{R}^N and $(A_\lambda)_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$ be a family of subsets of A such that $A = \bigcup A_\lambda$ and for each $\lambda \in \Lambda$

$$0 \in \text{con}(A_\lambda) \quad \& \quad 0 \notin \text{con}(\tilde{A}_\lambda) \quad \text{if} \quad \tilde{A}_\lambda \subsetneq A_\lambda.$$

Then there exists a constant $K_0 > 0$ such that

$$(a) \quad \forall_{v \in \mathbb{R}^N} \quad \inf_{w \in A} \langle v, w \rangle \leq -K_0 \|v\|_2 \psi_v,$$

$$(b) \quad \forall_{v \in \mathbb{R}^N} \quad \inf_{w \in A} \langle v, w \rangle \leq -K_0 \|v\|_2 \sup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \psi_v^\lambda,$$

where ψ_v^λ denotes the angle between v and $H_\lambda^\perp := (\text{span } A_\lambda)^\perp$, and $\|\cdot\|_2$ denotes the Euclidean norm.

II. Refined Kolmogorov criterions. In the following use the abbreviation $w := B - r_0 C$, where r_0 is a fixed element of V . For each signature ε we define the linear space

$$V(\varepsilon) := \bigcap_{s \in \text{DOM}(\varepsilon)} \{v \in \mathbb{R}^N \mid \langle w(s), v \rangle = 0\},$$

and for each $v \in \mathbb{R}^N$ let $\phi_v(\varepsilon)$ denote the angle between v and $V(\varepsilon)$. We denote by Λ_0 the set of all primitive critical signatures contained in ε_{x-r_0} , where $x \in C(S) \setminus V$. Further we introduce the set

$$\Gamma_0 := \Gamma_{x-r_0} := \bigcup_{\varepsilon \in \Lambda_0} \text{DOM}(\varepsilon)$$

and denote the restriction of ε_{x-r_0} to Γ_0 by $\tilde{\varepsilon}_0$.

Then we have the following refinement of the local Kolmogorov criterion:

Theorem 4. Let r_0 be a best approximation to $x \in C_0(S) \setminus V$ from V . Then there exists a constant $K > 0$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} (a) \quad & \forall_{v \in \mathbb{R}^N} \min_{s \in M_{x-r_0}} (x(s) - r_0(s)) \langle B(s) - r_0(s) C(s), v \rangle \\ & \leq -K \|v\|_{2\varphi_V(\tilde{\epsilon}_0)} ; \\ (b) \quad & \forall_{v \in \mathbb{R}^N} \min_{s \in M_{x-r_0}} (x(s) - r_0(s)) \langle B(s) - r_0(s) C(s), v \rangle \\ & \leq -K \|v\|_{2 \sup_{\epsilon \in \Lambda_0} \varphi_V(\epsilon)} . \end{aligned}$$

Proof. The non-empty set

$$A := \{\tilde{\epsilon}_0(s)w(s) \in \mathbb{R}^N \mid s \in \Gamma_0\}$$

is boundet, since it is contained in the compact set

$$\{\epsilon_{x-r_0}(s)w(s) \in \mathbb{R}^N \mid s \in M_{x-r_0}\}.$$

By definition of Λ_0 we have

$$A = \bigcup_{\epsilon \in \Lambda_0} A_\epsilon ,$$

where

$$A_\epsilon := \{\epsilon_{x-r_0}(s)w(s) \in \mathbb{R}^N \mid \epsilon \in \text{DOM}(\epsilon)\}.$$

Since ϵ is a primitive critierical signature, we have $0 \in \text{con}(A_\epsilon)$ and $0 \notin \text{con}(F)$ for each $F \subsetneq A_\epsilon$ (for a proof compare [2]). By Lemma 3 there exists a constant $K_0 > 0$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} (a) \quad & \forall_{v \in \mathbb{R}^N} \min_{s \in M_{x-v_0}} (x(s) - r_0(s)) \langle w(s), v \rangle \\ & \leq \inf_{s \in \Gamma_{x-v_0}} (x(s) - r_0(s)) \langle w(s), v \rangle \\ & \leq -K_0 \|x - r_0\|_\infty \|v\|_{2\varphi_V(\tilde{\epsilon}_0)} \\ & =: -K \|v\|_{2\varphi_V(\tilde{\epsilon}_0)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
(b) \quad & \forall v \in \mathbb{R}^N \quad \min_{s \in M_{x-v_0}} (x(s) - r_0(s)) \langle B(s) - r_0(s)C(s), v \rangle \\
& \leq \inf_{s \in \Gamma_{x-v_0}} \|x - r_0\|_{\infty} \varepsilon_{x-r_0}(s) \langle w(s), v \rangle \\
& \leq -K_0 \|x - r_0\|_{\infty} \|v\|_2 \sup_{\varepsilon \in \Lambda_0} \varphi v(\varepsilon) \\
& =: -K \|v\|_2 \sup_{\varepsilon \in \Lambda_0} \varphi v(\varepsilon). \quad \square
\end{aligned}$$

With the aid of Theorem 4 we derive the following refinement of the global criterion:

Theorem 5. Let r_0 be a best approximation for $x \in C_0(S) \setminus V$ from V . Then there exists a constant $K_1 > 0$ such that

$$\begin{aligned}
(a) \quad & \forall r \in V \quad \min_{s \in M_{x-v_0}} (x(s) - r_0(s))(r(s) - r_0(s)) \leq -K_1 \varphi_V(\tilde{\varepsilon}_0); \\
(b) \quad & \forall r \in V \quad \min_{s \in M_{x-v_0}} (x(s) - r_0(s))(r(s) - r_0(s)) \leq -K_1 \sup_{\varepsilon \in \Lambda_0} \varphi_V(\varepsilon),
\end{aligned}$$

where $v \in U$ is such that $r = \frac{\langle B, v \rangle}{\langle C, v \rangle}$.

Proof. Let $\tilde{s} \in M_{x-v_0}$ be such that

$$(x(\tilde{s}) - r_0(\tilde{s})) \langle w(\tilde{s}), v \rangle = \min_{s \in M_{x-v_0}} (x(s) - r_0(s)) \langle B(s) - r_0(s)C(s), v \rangle.$$

Then, by using Theorem 4 we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \min_{s \in M_{x-v_0}} (x(s) - r_0(s))(r(s) - r_0(s)) \\
& = \min \frac{(x(s) - r_0(s)) \langle B(s) - r_0(s)C(s), v \rangle}{\langle C(s), v \rangle} \\
& \leq \frac{(x(\tilde{s}) - r_0(\tilde{s})) \langle B(\tilde{s}) - r_0(\tilde{s})C(\tilde{s}), v \rangle}{\langle C(\tilde{s}), v \rangle} \\
& \leq -\frac{K \varphi_V(\tilde{\varepsilon}_0)}{\|C\|_{\infty} \|v\|} =: -K_1 \varphi_V(\tilde{\varepsilon}_0),
\end{aligned}$$

which proves (a).

Since $V(\tilde{\varepsilon}_0) \subset V(\varepsilon)$, for each $\varepsilon \in \Lambda_0$, we have $\varphi_V(\tilde{\varepsilon}_0) \geq \varphi_V(\varepsilon)$, which implies (b). \square

In the case of linear problems the refined Kolmogorov criterion can be stated in a more simplified way. Consider the particular situation

$$B(s) := (g_1(s), g_2(s), \dots, g_\ell(s), 0),$$

$$C(s) := (0, 0, \dots, 0, 1),$$

where g_1, g_2, \dots, g_ℓ are linearly independent functions of $C(s)$.

For any signature ε we introduce the linear subspaces

$$V_L(\varepsilon) := \bigcap_{s \in \text{DOM}(\varepsilon)} \{b \in \mathbb{R}^\ell \mid \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} b_i g_i(s) = 0\}$$

and

$$V_R(\varepsilon) := \bigcap_{s \in \text{DOM}(\varepsilon)} \{v \in \mathbb{R}^{\ell+1} \mid \langle B(s), v \rangle = 0\}.$$

Let $I : \mathbb{R}^\ell \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\ell+1}$ be the injection defined by

$$\forall_{b \in \mathbb{R}^\ell} I(b) := (b, 0),$$

and let $P_R : \mathbb{R}^{\ell+1} \rightarrow V_R(\varepsilon)$ and $P_L : \mathbb{R}^\ell \rightarrow V_L(\varepsilon)$ be the projections associated with the spaces $V_R(\varepsilon)$ and $V_L(\varepsilon)$ respectively. Then we have

$$P_R \circ I = I \circ P_L.$$

Theorem 6 (*Refined linear Kolmogorov criterion*).

Let g_0 be a best approximation to $x \in C_0(S) \setminus V$ from V . Then there exists a real number $K_2 > 0$ such that

$$(a) \quad \forall_{g \in V} \min_{s \in M_{x-g_0}} (x(s) - g_0(s)g(s)) \leq -K_2 \|g\|_\infty \cdot \theta_g(\varepsilon_0)$$

$$(b) \quad \forall_{g \in V} \min_{s \in M_{x-g_0}} (x(s) - g_0(s))g(s) \leq -K_2 \|g\|_\infty \cdot \sup_{\varepsilon \in \Lambda_0} \theta_g(\varepsilon),$$

where $\theta_g(\varepsilon)$ denotes the angle between $V_L(\varepsilon)$ and b , $g = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} b_i g_i$,

Proof. We can assume $g_0 = 0$. Let $g = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} b_i g_i$ be given. By using Theorem 4 with $v = I(b) + e_{\ell+1}$ we have for a suitable $K_3 > 0$

$$\begin{aligned}
\min_{s \in M_{x-g_0}} (x(s) - g_0(s))g(s) \\
&\leq -K_3 \|I(b) + e_{\ell+1}\|_2 \sin \varphi_V(\tilde{\varepsilon}_0) \\
&= -K_3 \|I(b) + e_{\ell+1} - P_R(I(b) + e_{\ell+1})\|_2 \\
&= -K_3 \|I(b) - P_R \circ I(b)\|_2 \\
&= -K_3 \|I(b) - I \circ P_L(b)\|_2 \\
&= -K_3 \|b - P_L(b)\|_2 \\
&= -K_3 \|b\|_2 \sin \theta_g(\tilde{\varepsilon}_0) \leq -K_2 \|g\|_\infty \theta_g(\tilde{\varepsilon}) ,
\end{aligned}$$

which proves (a).

Statement (b) follows from (a) by using the fact $\theta_g(\varepsilon_0) \geq \theta_g(\varepsilon)$ for each $\varepsilon \in \Lambda_0$. \square

Remark. Theorem 6 improves a result of Brosowski[1], who derived a weaker estimate with $\theta_g^2(\varepsilon)$ instead of $\theta_g(\varepsilon)$ for the case of a finite Λ_0 .

III. Strong uniqueness. For each $r_0 \in V$ we define the linear subspace

$$H_0 := \bigcap_{s \in S} \{ v \in \mathbb{R}^N \mid \langle B(s) - r_0(s)C(s), v \rangle = 0 \} ,$$

and for each $v \in \mathbb{R}^N$ let φ_v be the angle between v and H_0 . The linear subspace H_0 has dimension $N - d$, where $d := \dim L(r_0)$.

An element r_0 in V is called a strongly unique best approximation of the function x in $C_0(S)$ from V , if there exists a constant $K_3 :=$

$K_3(x) > 0$ such that for all $r = \frac{\langle B, v \rangle}{\langle C, v \rangle}$ in V one has

$$(*) \quad \|x - r\|_\infty \geq \|x - r_0\|_\infty + K_3 \varphi_v$$

In the normal case (i.e. $\dim H_0 = 1$) the condition (*) is equivalent to the usual definition of strong unicity, i.e.

$$\|x - r\|_\infty \geq \|x - r_0\|_\infty + K_4 \|r - r_0\|_\infty .$$

For a proof and a discussion of earlier results compare the paper [2].

Theorem 7. An element r_0 in V is a strongly unique best approximation to x in $C_0(S) \setminus V$ from V if and only if there exists points s_1, s_2, \dots, s_d in Γ_0 such that the vectors

$$B(s_i) - r_0(s_i)C(s_i) \in \mathbb{R}^N, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, d$$

are linearly independent.

Proof. (1) Assume that there exist points s_1, s_2, \dots, s_d in Γ_0 such that the vectors

$$B(s_i) - r_0(s_i)C(s_i), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, d$$

are linearly independent. We show that $H_0 = V(\tilde{\epsilon}_0)$. The inclusion $H_0 \subset V(\tilde{\epsilon}_0)$ is clear. On the other hand there exist signatures $\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \dots, \epsilon_k$ in Λ_0 such that

$$\{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_d\} \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^k \text{DOM}(\epsilon_i).$$

The linear subspace

$$H^\sharp := \bigcap_{i=1}^d \{v \in \mathbb{R}^N \mid \langle B(s_i) - r_0(s_i)C(s_i), v \rangle = 0\}$$

has dimension $N - d$ and contains $V(\tilde{\epsilon}_0)$. Thus we have

$$H_0 \subset V(\tilde{\epsilon}_0) \subset H^\sharp.$$

Since $\dim H_0 = N - d$, we have

$$H_0 = V(\tilde{\epsilon}_0) = H^\sharp.$$

Consequently, we have $\varphi_v = \varphi_v(\tilde{\epsilon}_0)$ for each $v \in \mathbb{R}^N$. By Theorem 5 there exists a constant $K_1 > 0$ and a point $s \in M_{x-r_0}$ such that

$$(x(s) - r_0(s))(r(s) - r_0(s)) \leq -K_1\varphi_v(\tilde{\epsilon}_0) = -K_1\varphi_v.$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|x - r\|_\infty &\geq \epsilon_{x-r_0}(s)(x(s) - r(s)) \\ &= \epsilon_{x-r_0}(s)(x(s) - r_0(s)) - \epsilon_{x-r_0}(s)(r(s) - r_0(s)) \\ &\geq \|x - r_0\|_\infty + \frac{K_1\varphi_v}{\|x - r_0\|_\infty} \\ &=: \|x - r_0\|_\infty + K_3\varphi_v. \end{aligned}$$

(2) To prove the necessity of the condition we use the following

Lemma 8. Let ε_0 be a critical signature (with respect to r_0 in V) on S ; define the sets

$$\Gamma_0 := \cup \{ \text{DOM}(\varepsilon) \subset S \mid \varepsilon \in \varepsilon_0 \text{ \& \; } \varepsilon \text{ primitive critical} \}$$

and

$$S_1 := \text{span}\{B(s) - r_0(s)C(s) \in \mathbb{R}^N \mid s \in \Gamma_0\}.$$

If $d_1 := \dim S_1 < d := \dim L(r_0)$, then there exists an element

$$v \in S_1^\perp \cap H_0^\perp, v \neq 0,$$

such that

$$(*) \quad \forall_{s \in \text{DOM}(\varepsilon_0)} \varepsilon_0(s) \langle r_0(s)C(s) - B(s), v \rangle \leq 0.$$

The proof of the lemma is similar to the first part of the proof (b) \Rightarrow (a) of Theorem 4.1 in [2].

Assume now that r_0 is a strongly unique best approximation to x in $C_0(S) \setminus V$. Consider

$$S_1 := \text{span}\{r_0(s)C(s) - B(s) \in \mathbb{R}^N \mid s \in \Gamma_0\},$$

let $d_1 := \dim S_1$ and assume by contradiction $d_1 < d$. By Lemma 8 there exists an element

$$v \in S_1^\perp \cap H_0^\perp, v \neq 0,$$

which satisfies condition (*) of Lemma 8 with $\varepsilon_0 = \varepsilon_{x-r_0}$.

Define a sequence of positive real numbers (τ_n) such that $\tau_n < 1$, and $\tau_n \rightarrow 0$ for $n \rightarrow \infty$, and

$$v_n := (1 - \tau_n)v_0 + \tau_n v$$

belongs to U . Since $v_0 \in H_0$ and $v \in H_0^\perp$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sin \varphi_n &= \frac{\|v_n - P v_n\|_2}{\|v_n\|_2} = \frac{\tau_n \|v\|_2}{\|v_n\|_2} \\ &= \frac{\tau_n \|v\|_2}{\|(1 - \tau_n)v_0 + \tau_n v\|_2} \geq K_0 \tau_n, \end{aligned}$$

with a suitable constant $K_0 > 0$, $\varphi_n := \varphi_{v_n}$, and where P denotes the projection associated with H_0 . Of course we have also $\varphi_n \geq K\tau_n$ with a suitable $K > 0$.

For each $n \in \mathbb{N}$ choose a point $s_n \in S$ and a sign $\eta_n \in \{-1, 1\}$ such that

$$\|x - r_n\|_\infty = \eta_n(x(s_n) - r_n(s_n)) ,$$

$$\text{where } r_n := \frac{\langle B, v_n \rangle}{\langle C, v_n \rangle} .$$

There is an infinite subset $N_0 \subset \mathbb{N}$ such that either

$$\{(\eta_n, s_n) \in \{-1, 1\} \times S \mid n \in N_0\}$$

consists of a single point, say $(\bar{\eta}, \bar{s})$, or, by compactness of $\{-1, 1\} \times S$,

$$\{(\eta_n, s_n) \in \{-1, 1\} \times S \mid n \in N_0\}$$

has an accumulation point $(\bar{\eta}, \bar{s})$ in $\{-1, 1\} \times S$. By hypothesis, we have with a suitable constant $K_3 > 0$ and for all $n \in N_0$ the inequality

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &< K_3 K \tau_n \leq K_3 \varphi_n \\ &\leq \|x - r_n\|_\infty - \|x - r_0\|_\infty \\ &\leq \eta_n(x(s_n) - r_n(s_n)) - \eta_n(x(s_n) - r_0(s_n)) \\ &= \eta_n(r_0(s_n) - r_n(s_n)) \\ &= \frac{\tau_n \eta_n \langle r_0(s_n) C(s_n) - B(s_n), v \rangle}{\langle C(s_n), v_n \rangle} , \end{aligned}$$

which implies

$$0 < K_3 K \frac{\eta_n \langle r_0(s_n) C(s_n) - B(s_n), v \rangle}{\langle C(s_n), v_n \rangle} .$$

By continuity and since $\bar{\eta}(x(\bar{s}) - r_0(\bar{s})) = \|x - r_0\|_\infty$, we have

$$0 < K_3 K \leq \frac{\bar{\eta} \langle r_0(\bar{s}) C(\bar{s}) - B(\bar{s}), v \rangle}{\langle C(\bar{s}), v_0 \rangle} \leq 0 ,$$

a contradiction. □

Literature

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