Research Article

Optimal Simultaneous Approximation via $\mathcal{A}$-Summability

Francisco Aguilera, 1 Daniel Cárcenas-Morales, 2 and Pedro Garrancho 1

1 Departamento de Matemáticas, I.E.S. Virgen del Carmen, 23008 Jaén, Spain
2 Departamento de Matemáticas, Universidad de Jaén, Campus Las Lagunillas s/n, 23071 Jaén, Spain

Correspondence should be addressed to Daniel Cárcenas-Morales; cardenas@ujaen.es

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Abstract

We present optimal convergence results for the $m$th derivative of a function by sequences of linear operators. The usual convergence is replaced by $\mathcal{A}$-summability, with $\mathcal{A}$ being a sequence of infinite matrices with nonnegative real entries, and the operators are assumed to be $m$-convex. Saturation results for nonconvergent but almost convergent sequences of operators are stated as corollaries.

1. Introduction

The notion of almost convergence of a sequence introduced by Lorentz [1] in 1948 entered the Korovkin-type approximation theory (see [2]) through the papers of King and Swetits [3] and Mohapatra [4]. A step forward was given by Swetits [5] in 1979 who applied in the theory the more general notion of $\mathcal{A}$-summability that Bell [6] had introduced a few years earlier.

After Swetits, within a shape preserving approximation setting and using as well $\mathcal{A}$-summability, one finds in the literature two recent papers of the authors, [7, 8], where they studied, on one hand, qualitative and quantitative Korovkin-type results, and on the other, results on asymptotic formulas. In this paper we continue this line of work which naturally takes us to the topic of saturation. Indeed, after having established an asymptotic formula, a natural way to keep on is to study optimal results to control the goodness of the approximation errors. Here saturation enters the picture. Now, before detailing our specific aim, we present the general framework of the paper which includes the definition of $\mathcal{A}$-summability.

Let $\mathcal{A} := \{A^{(n)} = [a_{kj}^{(n)}]\}$ be a sequence of infinite matrices with nonnegative real entries; then a sequence of real numbers $\{x_j\}$ is said to be $\mathcal{A}$-summable to $\ell$ if (whenever the series below converges for all $k$ and $n$)

$$
\lim_{k \to \infty} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} a_{kj}^{(n)} x_j = \ell \quad \text{uniformly for } n \in \mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, \ldots\}.
$$

Notice that $\mathcal{A}$-summability extends classical convergence, matrix summability, the Cesaro summability, and almost convergence amongst others.

Now, let $m \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$, let $C^m[a,b]$ denote the space of all $m$-times continuously differentiable functions on the real interval $[a, b]$, let $D^m$ denote the usual $m$th differential operator, and finally, let $\mathcal{L} = \{L_j : C^m[a,b] \to C^m[a,b]\}$ be a sequence of linear operators fulfilling the following properties:

(P0) for each $f \in C^m[a,b]$ and $x \in [a,b]$, $D^m L_j f(x)$ is $\mathcal{A}$-summable to $D^m f(x)$, or equivalently

$$
\mathcal{A}^k_{\mathcal{L}^m} f(x) := \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} a_{kj}^{(m)} D^m L_j f(x)
$$

converges to $D^m f$ as $k$ tends to infinity, uniformly in $n$. 


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(P1) each \( L_j \) is \( m \)-convex; that is, it maps \( m \)-convex functions onto \( m \)-convex functions; recall that a function \( f \in C^m[a,b] \) is said to be \( m \)-convex whenever \( D^m f(t) \geq 0 \) for all \( t \in [a,b] \).

(P2) there exists a sequence of real positive numbers \( \lambda_k \to +\infty \) and three strictly positive functions \( w_0, w_1, \) and \( w_2 \) defined on \( (a,b) \) with \( w_i \in C^{m-i}(a,b) \) such that for \( f \in C^m(a,b), m+2 \)-times differentiable in some neighborhood of a point \( x \in (a,b) \),

\[
\lim_{k \to +\infty} \lambda_k \left( a_{D^m f}^{kn}(x) - D^m f(x) \right) = \frac{1}{w_2} D^1 \left( \frac{1}{w_1} D^1 \left( \frac{1}{w_0} D^m f \right) \right)(x)
\]

uniformly in \( n \).

The asymptotic formula (3) informs us that the order of convergence of \( a_{D^m f}^{kn}(x) \) towards \( D^m f(x) \) is not better than \( \lambda_k^{-1} \) if the right-hand side of (3) is different from 0. Thus, \( \lambda_k^{-1} \) is called the optimal order of convergence, and those functions that possess it form the saturation class. As for our specific aim with this paper, the results of Section 2 give us information about this saturation class, while Section 3 is devoted to state a sort of converse result of asymptotic formulae. We follow the line of two respective papers of two of the authors, namely [9, 10], which at the same time have formulae. We follow the line of two respective papers of two of the authors, namely [9, 10], which at the same time have formulae. We follow the line of two respective papers of two of the authors, namely [9, 10], which at the same time have formulae.

2. Saturation Results

In this section we obtain local saturation results in the approximation process of \( a_{D^m f}^{kn}(x) \) towards \( D^m f(x) \). Firstly we state without proof three lemmas; Lemma 1 coincides with [10, Lemma 1], Lemma 2 follows the same pattern as [10, Lemma 2], and finally Lemma 3 is a very direct consequence of (P1).

Lemma 1. Let \( J \) be a bounded open subinterval of \( [a,b] \). Let \( g, h \in C(J) \) and \( t_0, t_1, t_2 \in J \) such that \( t_0 \in (t_1, t_2) \), \( g(t_0) = g(t_1) = g(t_2) = 0 \). Then there exist a real number \( \epsilon < 0 \), a solution of the differential equation (4) on \( J \), say \( z \), and a point \( x \in (t_1, t_2) \) such that \( \epsilon h(x) + z(x) = g(x) \) and, for all \( t \in (t_1, t_2) \), \( \epsilon h(t) + z(t) \geq g(t) \).

Lemma 2. Let \( f, g \in C^m[a,b] \) and let \( x \in (a,b) \). Assume that there exists a neighborhood \( N_x \) of \( x \) where \( D^m f \leq D^m g \). Then

\[
a_{D^m f}^{kn}(x) \leq a_{D^m g}^{kn}(x) + o^{\alpha(n)}(\lambda_k^{-1})^n .
\]

Lemma 3. \( f \in C^m[a,b] \) is a solution of the differential equation (4) in some neighborhood of \( x \in (a,b) \) if and only if

\[
a_{D^m f}^{kn}(x) - D^m f(x) = o^{\alpha(n)}(\lambda_k^{-1})^n .
\]

The following two propositions, of interest by themselves, prepare the way to prove the announced results. An important role is played by the notion of convexity with respect to the extended complete Tchebychev system \( \{u_0, u_1\} \) that here we relate to the monotonic convergence of the process and allows us to compare the degree of approximation for two different functions.

Proposition 4. Let \( f \in C^m[a,b]; \) then

(a) \( D^m f \) is convex with respect to \( \{u_0, u_1\} \) on \( (a,b) \) if and only if for each \( x \in (a,b) \)

\[
a_{D^m f}^{kn}(x) \leq D^m f(x) + o^{\alpha(n)}(\lambda_k^{-1})^n ,
\]

(b) if \( a_{D^m f}^{kn}(x) \leq a_{D^m f}^{kn+1}(x) + o^{\alpha(n)}(\lambda_k^{-1})^n \) for all \( x \in (a,b) \), then \( D^m f \) is convex with respect to \( \{u_0, u_1\} \) on \( (a,b) \).

Proof. (a) Let \( x \in (a,b) \). Assume that \( D^m f \) is convex with respect to \( \{u_0, u_1\} \) on \( (a,b) \) and let \( z \in \langle u_0, u_1 \rangle \) such that

\[
z(x) = D^m f(x) , \quad D^1 z(x) = D^1_1 D^m f(x) (x)
\]

(here \( D^1 \) denotes the right first derivative operator). Then, from [11, Lemma 2.2], we have that \( z(t) \leq D^m f(t) \) for all

Finally, if \( a^{(n)}(\beta_k) \) is a double sequence of real numbers such that \( \lim_{k \to +\infty} a^{(n)}(\beta_k) = 0 \) uniformly in \( n \in \mathbb{N} \) and \( \beta_k \) is another sequence of real numbers with \( \lim_{k \to +\infty} \beta_k = 0 \), then we use the notation \( a^{(n)}(\beta_k) \) to indicate that

\[
\lim_{k \to +\infty} a^{(n)}(\beta_k) = 0 \quad \text{uniformly in } n \in \mathbb{N} .
\]
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\( t \in (a, b) \), and directly from Lemma 2, if we take \( Z \in C^m[a, b] \) such that \( D^m Z(t) = z(t) \) for all \( t \in (a, b) \), we derive that

\[
\mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} Z(x) \leq \mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} f(x) + o^{(n)} \left( \lambda_k^{-1} \right),
\]

or equivalently

\[
\mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} Z(x) - D^m Z(x) \leq \mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} f(x) - D^m f(x) + o^{(n)} \left( \lambda_k^{-1} \right).
\]

Finally we apply Lemma 3 to the function \( Z \) and obtain the required inequality as follows:

\[
\mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} f(x) \geq D^m f(x) + o^{(n)} \left( \lambda_k^{-1} \right).
\]

To prove the converse we assume the contrary; that is, that \( D^m f \) is not convex with respect to \( \{u_0, u_1\} \) on \( (a, b) \); then there exist three points \( x_1, x_2, x_3 \) such that

\[
a < x_1 < x < x_2 < b, \quad S(D^m f, x_1, x_2) < D^m f(s),
\]

where \( S(D^m f, x_1, x_2) \) is the unique function of the space \( \{u_0, u_1\} \) which interpolates \( D^m f \) at \( x_1 \) and \( x_2 \).

Now we apply Lemma 1 with \( h = u_1 \) and \( g = D^m f - S(D^m f, x_1, x_2) \) and derive the existence of \( \varepsilon < 0 \), a solution \( \bar{z} \) of \( \varepsilon = 0 \) and \( z \in [x_1, x_2] \) satisfying

\[
e u_2(t) + \bar{z}(t) \geq D^m f(t) - S(D^m f, x_1, x_2)(t), \quad t \in (x_1, x_2),
\]

\[
e u_2(s_1) + \bar{z}(s_1) = D^m f(s_1) - S(D^m f, x_1, x_2)(s_1).
\]

Let us take \( U_1, \bar{Z}, \bar{S} \in C^m[a, b] \) such that \( D^m U_1 = u_1, D^m \bar{Z} = \bar{z} \) and \( D^m \bar{S} = S(D^m f, x_1, x_2) \) on \( (a, b) \) and apply then Lemma 2 taking into account (15). This yields that

\[
e \mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} U_1(s_1) + \mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} \bar{Z}(s_1)
\]

\[
\geq \mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} f(s_1) - \mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} \bar{S}(s_1) + o^{(n)} \left( \lambda_k^{-1} \right).
\]

After introducing equality (16) we get

\[
\left( \mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} U_2(s_1) - D^m U_2(s_1) \right) + \mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} \bar{Z}(s_1) - D^m \bar{Z}(s_1)
\]

\[
\geq \mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} f(s_1) - D^m f(s_1) - \left( \mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} \bar{S}(s_1) - D^m \bar{S}(s_1) \right)
\]

\[
+ o^{(n)} \left( \lambda_k^{-1} \right).
\]

Finally, multiplying by \( \lambda_k \) and applying (P2) we obtain the following inequality which contradicts our assumption:

\[
\varepsilon \geq \mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} f(s_1) - D^m f(s_1) + o^{(n)} \left( \lambda_k^{-1} \right).
\]

(b) If \( \mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} f(x) \geq \mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} f(x) + o^{(n)}(\lambda_k^{-1}) \) for \( x \in (a, b) \), then directly from (P0) we have that \( \mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} f(x) \geq D^m f(x) + o^{(n)}(\lambda_k^{-1}) \) and it suffices to use (a) to complete the proof.

**Proposition 5.** Let \( M \geq 0 \) and let \( f, w \in C^m[a, b] \). Then the following items are equivalent

(i) \( MD^m f \) are convex with respect to \( \{u_0, u_1\} \) on \( (a, b) \),

(ii) for each \( x \in (a, b) \)

\[
|\mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} f(x) - D^m f(x)| \leq M \left( \mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} w(x) - D^m w(x) \right) + o^{(n)} \left( \lambda_k^{-1} \right).
\]

**Proof.** It suffices to apply Proposition 4 replacing \( f \) by \( Mw \pm f \).

With appropriate choices of the function \( w \) and applying the results of [11], we give two saturation results; the first one is stated in terms of classic Lipschitz spaces, while the second one puts across the relationship with the asymptotic formula.

**Theorem 6.** Let \( f \in C^m[a, b] \). Then

\[
\lambda_k \left| \mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} f(x) - D^m f(x) \right| \leq \frac{M}{w_2(x)} + o^{(n)}(1),
\]

\[
x \in (a, b)
\]

if only if, on \( (a, b) \)

\[
\Delta T D^m f = w_1^{-1} D^1 \left( w_0^{-1} (D^m f) \right) \in \text{Lip}_M.
\]

**Proof.** Take \( w \in C^m[a, b] \) such that \( D^m w(t) = w_0(t) \int_t^1 w_1(t) \int_0^1 dt_2 dt_1 \) and then apply Proposition 5. Thus the result follows directly after using (P2) and [11, Theorem 3.2] taking into account that \( \mathcal{A}(D^m w) = w_0^{-1} \).

**Theorem 7.** Let \( f \in C^m[a, b] \). Then

\[
\lambda_k \left| \mathcal{A}_{D^n_{m, \omega}} f(x) - D^m f(x) \right| \leq M + o^{(n)}(1), \quad x \in (a, b)
\]

if and only if, almost everywhere on \( (a, b) \)

\[
\frac{1}{w_2} D^1 \left( \frac{1}{w_1} D^1 \left( \frac{1}{w_0} D^m f \right) \right) \leq M.
\]

**Proof.** Take \( w \in C^m[a, b] \) such that \( D^m w(t) = w_0(t) \int_t^1 w_1(t) \int_0^1 dt_2 dt_1 \) and then apply Proposition 5. Thus the result follows directly after using (P2) and [11, Theorem 3.2] taking into account that \( \mathcal{A}(D^m w) \equiv 1 \).

**3. Converse Result of the Asymptotic Formula**

This section is devoted to give a converse result of the asymptotic formula stated in (3). It turns to be an extension of the results of [12]. A rough statement of the problem would read as follows: under the general framework of the
paper, assume the existence of a function \( g \) such that for \( f \in C^m[a,b] \),
\[
\lim_{k \to +\infty} \lambda_k \left( \mathcal{A}_{D^n}^{k,n} f(x) - D^m f(x) \right) = g(x) \quad \text{uniformly in } n.
\]
(25)
Is \( f \) \( m+2 \)-times differentiable at \( x \)? Is it true that \( \mathcal{D}(D^m f) = g^2 \)?

The answer, affirmative in certain sense, represents the content of this section. We will make use of two lemmas. We state them without proof as they resemble closely [10, Lemmas 3, 4].

**Lemma 8.** Let \( f \in C^m[a,b] \). If
\[
\lim_{k \to +\infty} \lambda_k \left( \mathcal{A}_{D^n}^{k,n} f(x) - D^m f(x) \right) \geq 0, \quad x \in (a,b),
\]
then \( D^m f \) is convex with respect to \( \{u_0, u_1\} \) on \((a,b)\).

**Lemma 9.** Let \( x \in (a,b) \) and let \( H \in C^m[a,b] \) such that for all \( t \in (a,b) \) \( D^m H(t) = u_0(t) \int_a^x h(s) u_1(s) ds \); then
\[
\lim_{t \to x} H(t) = h(x) - \lim_{t \to x} \lambda_k \left( \mathcal{A}_{D^n}^{k,n} H(x) - D^m H(x) \right),
\]
(27)
\[
\lim_{t \to x} \lambda_k \left( \mathcal{A}_{D^n}^{k,n} H(x) - D^m H(x) \right) \leq \frac{h(t) - h(x)}{W_2(t) - W_2(x)}.
\]
(28)
then almost everywhere on \((a,b)\), \( \psi = \mathcal{D}(D^m f) \).
Proof. It follows the same pattern as [10, Theorem 1]. We detail it however for the sake of completeness. Let \( \Psi(t) = \int_a^t \rho(s) \int_a^s \psi(v) w_2(v) dv ds \), and let \( G \in C^m[a,b] \) such that for all \( t \in (a,b) \)
\[
D^m G(t) = D^m f(t) - \Psi(t).
\]
(29)
For \( q \in \mathbb{N} \), let \( m_q \) and \( M_q \) be, respectively the minor and major functions of \( \psi \) with respect to \( w_2 \) such that
\[
\left| m_q(t) - \int_a^t \psi(s) w_2(s) ds \right| < \frac{1}{q}, \quad t \in (a,b),
\]
(30)
\[
\left| M_q(t) - \int_a^t \psi(s) w_2(s) ds \right| < \frac{1}{q}, \quad t \in (a,b),
\]
whose existence is guaranteed from the theory of Lebesgue integration (see e.g., [14]). In particular it follows that
\[
\lim_{t \to x} \frac{m_q(t) - m_q(x)}{W_2(t) - W_2(x)} \leq \psi(x) \leq \lim_{t \to x} \frac{M_q(t) - M_q(x)}{W_2(t) - W_2(x)}.
\]
(31)
From the assumptions and Lemma 9, if we consider \( m_q \in C^m[a,b] \) such that for all \( t \in (a,b) \) \( D^m m_q(t) = u_0(t) \int_a^t m_q(s) w_1(s) ds \), we have that
\[
\lim_{k \to +\infty} \lambda_k \left( \mathcal{A}_{D^n}^{k,n} m_q - D^m m_q \right)(x) \leq \lim_{t \to x} \frac{m_q(t) - m_q(x)}{W_2(t) - W_2(x)} \leq \psi(x) \leq \lim_{k \to +\infty} \lambda_k \left( \mathcal{A}_{D^n}^{k,n} m_q - D^m m_q \right)(x),
\]
(32)
\[
\lim_{k \to +\infty} \lambda_k \left( \mathcal{A}_{D^n}^{k,n} (f - \overline{m}) - D^m (f - \overline{m}) \right)(x) \geq 0.
\]
(33)
Now Lemma 8 yields that for each \( q \in \mathbb{N}, D^m (f - \overline{m}) \) is convex with respect to \( \{u_0, u_1\} \) on \((a,b)\). Letting \( q \) tend to infinity we derive that \( D^m G \) is convex respect to \( \{u_0, u_1\} \) on \((a,b)\). If we proceed this way with \( M_q \), we conclude that \( -D^m G \) is convex respect to \( \{u_0, u_1\} \) on \((a,b)\) as well. Hence, in this interval \( \mathcal{D}(D^m G) = 0 \) and consequently, almost everywhere on \((a,b)\)
\[
\mathcal{D}(D^m f) = \mathcal{D}(\Psi),
\]
(34)
from where the proof follows recalling the definition of \( \Psi \) at the top of the proof, the one of \( \mathcal{D} \) in (4), and finally using (P2).

4. Applications

In this section we illustrate the use of some of the results of the paper. We will make use of the asymptotic formulae obtained in [8, Section 3] to state some saturation results for the classical Bernstein operators and for a modification of them. Here we consider almost convergence, as a particular case of \( \mathcal{A} \)-summability. We refer the reader to [8, Subsections 3.1, 3.2] for further details.

4.1 Saturation of Bernstein Operators and Almost Convexity.

Let \( p_0(x) = x(1 - x) \).

**Corollary 11.** Let \( M > 0 \) and \( f \in C^3[0,1] \); then
\[
\left| \frac{k}{\log k} \sum_{j=0}^{m+1} \frac{1}{k} D^j B_j f(x) - D^3 f(x) \right| \leq M \frac{1}{2(1-x)^2} + o((1)) \quad x \in (0,1)
\]
(35)
if and only if

\[ p_b^3 \left( \frac{1}{e_2} D^4 f + \frac{2}{e_3} D^3 f \right) \in \text{Lip}_M \quad \text{on} \quad (0,1). \]  

(36)

Corollary 12. Let \( M > 0 \) and \( f \in C^3[0,1] \); then

\[ \frac{k}{\log k} \left| \sum_{j=n}^{nk-1} \frac{1}{k} D^3 B_j f(x) - D^3 f(x) \right| \leq M + o(n) (1), \]

(37)

if and only if

\[ \left| D^3 \left( p_b D^2 f \right) \right| \leq M \quad \text{a.e. on} \quad (0,1). \]  

(38)

4.2. Saturation of Modified Bernstein Operators and Almost Convexity. Here we consider the sequence of linear operators \( L_j \) given in [8, Subsection 3.2].

Corollary 13. Let \( M > 0 \) and \( f \in C[0,1] \); then

\[ \frac{k}{\log k} \left| \sum_{j=n}^{nk-1} \frac{1}{k} L_j f(x) - f(x) \right| \leq M \frac{x(1-x)}{2} + o(n) (1), \]

(39)

if and only if

\[ D^1 f \in \text{Lip}_{M^1} \quad \text{on} \quad (0,1). \]  

(40)

Corollary 14. Let \( M > 0 \) and \( f \in C[0,1] \); then

\[ \frac{k}{\log k} \left| \sum_{j=n}^{nk-1} \frac{1}{k} L_j f(x) - f(x) \right| \leq M + o(n) (1), \quad x \in (0,1) \]

(41)

if and only if

\[ \left| (p_b D^2 f) \right| \leq M \quad \text{a.e. on} \quad (0,1). \]  

(42)

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