

Contents

CHAPTER ONE. FUNDAMENTALS

1-1	Introduction	1
1-2	The approximation problem	2
1-3	The general approach to the approximation problem	3
1-4	The L_p norms	4
1-5	The Tchebycheff norm and the Polya algorithm	8
1-6	Linear spaces	10
1-7	Choice of form and norm	15
1-8	Existence theorems	23

CHAPTER TWO. LEAST SQUARES AND ORTHOGONAL FUNCTIONS

2-1	Introduction	30
2-2	Least-squares approximation	31
2-3	Orthogonal functions	34
2-4	Functions orthogonal on finite point sets	40
2-5	Approximation on an interval as the limit of approximation on a finite point set	42
2-6	Orthogonalization	45

CHAPTER THREE. TCHEBYCHEFF APPROXIMATION

3-1	Introduction	52
3-2	The characterization of best approximations	55
3-3	Uniqueness	60
3-4	Continuous dependence	62
3-5	Approximation on finite subsets	65
3-6	The de la Vallée Poussin algorithm	66
3-7	Unisolvant functions	70
3-8	Rational functions	74
3-9	The limits of a Tchebycheff type theory—existence	80
3-10	The limits of a Tchebycheff type theory—existence and characterization	82
3-11	The limits of a Tchebycheff type theory—uniqueness	87

CHAPTER FOUR. APPROXIMATION IN THE L_1 NORM

4-1	Introduction	94
4-2	The convex set K	95
4-3	The tangent planes of K	96
4-4	Characterization of best L_1 approximations	102
4-5	Uniqueness and Tchebycheff sets	106
4-6	Polynomials and trigonometric sums	110
4-7	Finite point sets	112

CHAPTER FIVE. THE WEIERSTRASS THEOREM AND
DEGREE OF CONVERGENCE

5-1	Introduction	119
5-2	The Weierstrass theorem	120
5-3	Fourier series	124
5-4	Kernels	131
5-5	The degree of convergence	133

CHAPTER SIX. COMPUTATIONAL METHODS

6-1	Introduction	144
6-2	Expansions from analysis	144
6-3	Transformations of known expansions	147
6-4	Telescoping procedures	154
6-5	The method of descent	158
6-6	The method of descent for polytopes	164
6-7	Descent mappings	168
6-8	The method of ascent for Tchebycheff approximation	171
6-9	Approximation theory and programming	180
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	193
	INDEX	201