

ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF CONTINUOUS FUNCTIONS IN SERIES OF TCHEBYCHEFF POLYNOMIALS*

BY

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Introduction. Consider a system of orthogonal and normal Tchebycheff polynomials

$$\varphi_n(x) = a_n x^n + \dots \quad (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots; a_n > 0)$$

corresponding to a certain interval (a, b) with the characteristic function $p(x)$ integrable and not negative on (a, b) . Thus we have

$$\int_a^b p(x) \varphi_m(x) \varphi_n(x) dx = \begin{cases} 0, & m \neq n, \\ 1, & m = n. \end{cases}$$

For any function $f(x)$ we have a formal development as follows:

$$(I) \quad f(x) \sim \sum_0^\infty A_i \varphi_i(x), \quad A_i = \int_a^b p(x) f(x) \varphi_i(x) dx,$$

provided, of course, the right hand integrals exist.

Let us write

$$(II) \quad f(x) = \sum_0^n A_i \varphi_i(x) + r_{n,f}(x) \equiv P_{n,f}(x) + r_{n,f}(x).$$

The question arises as to the convergence of the development (I) to $f(x)$ or—what is the same—the behavior of $r_{n,f}(x)$ in (II) for $n \rightarrow \infty$.

The case $(a, b) = (-1, 1)$, $p(x) = 1$ leads to Legendre's polynomials; it has been treated by Professor D. Jackson.†

In this paper we follow the method given by Professor Jackson in order to investigate the convergence of the development (I) involving *Tchebycheff's polynomials in general*. Hereafter, *the interval (a, b) is supposed to be finite, and $f(x)$ to be continuous on (a, b)* .

1. $r_{n,f}(x)$ **expressed as a definite integral**. We obtain easily, using the formulas for A_i ,

$$r_{n,f}(x) = f(x) - \int_a^b p(y) f(y) \sum_0^n \varphi_i(x) \varphi_i(y) dy,$$

* Presented to the Society, April 19, 1924.

† D. Jackson, *On the degree of convergence of a continuous function according to Legendre's polynomials*, these Transactions, vol. 13 (1912), pp. 305–318.

which gives, for $f(x) \equiv 1$,

$$1 = \int_a^b p(y) \sum_0^n \varphi_i(x) \varphi_i(y) dy.$$

Hence,

$$r_{n,f}(x) = \int_a^b p(y) [f(x) - f(y)] K_n(x, y) dy,$$

$$K_n(x, y) = \sum_0^n \varphi_i(x) \varphi_i(y);$$

$$r_{n,f}(x) = \frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} \int_a^b p(y) [f(x) - f(y)] \frac{\varphi_{n+1}(x) \varphi_n(y) - \varphi_n(x) \varphi_{n+1}(y)}{x - y} dy,$$

since

$$K_n(x, y) = \frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} \frac{\varphi_{n+1}(x) \varphi_n(y) - \varphi_n(x) \varphi_{n+1}(y)}{x - y}.*$$

Following Jackson's method we get for any polynomial $Q_n(x)$, of degree $\leq n$,

$$0 = \int_a^b p(y) [Q_n(x) - Q_n(y)] K_n(x, y) dy,$$

$$r_{n,f}(x) = \int_a^b p(y) [\varphi(x) - \varphi(y)] K_n(x, y) dy,$$

$$\varphi(x) \equiv f(x) - Q_n(x).$$

We substitute here for $Q_n(x)$ a special polynomial, namely *the polynomial $T_{n,f}(x)$ of best approximation to $f(x)$ on (a, b) (of degree n).* Thus we get two formulas for $r_{n,f}(x)$:

$$(1) \quad r_{n,f}(x) = \int_a^b p(y) [\varphi(x) - \varphi(y)] K_n(x, y) dy,$$

$$K_n(x, y) = \sum_0^n \varphi_i(x) \varphi_i(y); \quad \varphi(x) \equiv f(x) - T_{n,f}(x);$$

$$(2) \quad r_{n,f}(x) = \frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} \int_a^b p(y) [\varphi(x) - \varphi(y)] \frac{\varphi_{n+1}(x) \varphi_n(y) - \varphi_n(x) \varphi_{n+1}(y)}{x - y} dy.$$

Denote by $E_n(f)$ the *best approximation* on (a, b) of $f(x)$ by means of a polynomial of degree n , i. e.

$$(3) \quad E_n(f) = \max |f(x) - T_{n,f}(x)| \text{ for } a \leq x \leq b.$$

* Darboux, *Mémoire sur l'approximation des fonctions de très grands nombres*, Journal de Mathématiques Pures et Appliquées, ser. 3, vol. 4 (1878), pp. 5-60, 377-416; p. 413.

Using Schwarz's inequality, we get from (1)

$$\begin{aligned} |r_{n,f}(x)| &\leq 2 E_n(f) \sqrt{\int_a^b p(y) dy} \sqrt{\int_a^b p(y) K_n^2(x, y) dy} \\ &= 2 E_n(f) \sqrt{\int_a^b p(y) dy} \sqrt{\sum_0^n \varphi_i^2(x)}, \end{aligned}$$

$$(4) \quad |r_{n,f}(x)| \leq 2 Q E_n(f) \sqrt{K_n(x)} \quad \left(Q^2 = \int_a^b p(y) dy \right),$$

$$(5) \quad K_n(x) \equiv K_n(x, x) = \sum_0^n \varphi_i^2(x).$$

$E_n(f)$, as a function of n , has been investigated by Lebesgue, de la Vallée-Poussin, S. Bernstein, W. Stekloff, and in particular by D. Jackson.*

Table A: $E_n(f)$

| Conditions imposed on $f(x)$ | $E_n(f) =$ | Author |
|---|--|------------------------------|
| 1. $ f(x_2) - f(x_1) \leq \omega(\delta)$ for $ x_2 - x_1 \leq \delta$ ($a \leq x_1, x_2 \leq b$). | $O\left(\omega\left(\frac{b-a}{n}\right)\right)$ | D. Jackson |
| 2. $ f^{(p)}(x_2) - f^{(p)}(x_1) < \lambda x_2 - x_1 ^\alpha$ (Lipschitz condition of order α ($a \leq x_1, x_2 \leq b, \lambda = \text{const.};$ $f^{(0)}(x) \equiv f(x)$)). | $O\left(\frac{1}{n^{p+\alpha}}\right)$ | " |
| 3. $f^{(p)}(x)$ is continuous on (a, b) . | $o\left(\frac{1}{n^p}\right)$ | " |
| 4. $ f(x+\delta) - f(x) \cdot \log \delta < \lambda (= \text{const.})$ | $O\left(\frac{1}{\log n}\right)$ | " |
| 5. $ f(x+\delta) - f(x) \cdot \log \delta \rightarrow 0, \delta \rightarrow 0$ (Dini-Lipschitz condition). | $o\left(\frac{1}{\log n}\right)$ | Lebesgue |
| 6. $0 < N < f^{(n)}(x) < M$ for $a \leq x \leq b$. | $\frac{2N}{n!} < \left(\frac{4}{b-a}\right)^n E_n(f)$ $< \frac{2M}{n!}$ | S. Bernstein; W. Stekloff |
| 7. $f^{(p)}(x)$ exists for every p . | $n^p E_n(f) \rightarrow 0, n \rightarrow \infty,$ for every p | S. Bernstein |

We see from Table A that in order to evaluate $r_{n,f}(x)$ by means of (1, 2, 4), we need to know the order of $\varphi_n(x)$ or $K_n(x)$ with respect to n .

* D. Jackson, *Über die Genauigkeit der Annäherung stetiger Funktionen*, Dissertation, Göttingen, 1911, pp. 1-96.

2. Order of $K_n(x)$ (with respect to n). It can be proved easily that

$$(6) \quad \frac{1}{K_n(z)} = \min \int_a^b p(y) [1 + Z_1(y-z) + \dots + Z_n(y-z)^n]^2 dy^*.$$

Therefore, using the notation $K_n(p; z)$, we conclude that

$$(7) \quad \begin{aligned} p_2(x) \geq p(x) \geq p_1(x) \text{ for } a \leq x \leq b \text{ implies} \\ K_n(p_2; z) \leq K_n(p; z) \leq K_n(p_1; z). \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, to the characteristic function

$$(8) \quad \begin{aligned} p_1(x) &= (x-a)^{\alpha-1}(b-x)^{\beta-1} \Pi(x) & (\alpha, \beta > 0), \\ \Pi(x) &\text{ a polynomial } (\Pi(a)\Pi(b) \neq 0), \end{aligned}$$

there corresponds a special system of Tchebycheff's polynomials, a generalization of Jacobi's polynomials ($\Pi(x) \equiv 1$), and I have obtained the asymptotic expression for $K_n(p_1; z)$ at any point z in $(a, b)^\dagger$.

Thus we have

$$(9) \quad \begin{aligned} K_n(p_1; a) &\sim n^{2\alpha}, & K_n(p_1; b) &\sim n^{2\beta}, \\ K_n(p_1; z) &\sim n^{2m+1}, \end{aligned}$$

z being a root of $\Pi(x)$ of multiplicity $2m \geq 0$ ($a + \varepsilon \leq z \leq b - \varepsilon$) ‡ . These results enable us to prove the following

THEOREM I. (i) Suppose the point $x = z$ be inside the interval (a, b) : $a + \varepsilon \leq z \leq b - \varepsilon$, and that there exist finite numbers $k > -1$, $A > 0$, c, d such that

$$\frac{p(x)}{|x-z|^k} \geq A \text{ for } (a \leq) c \leq x \leq d (\leq b) \quad (c < z < d).$$

Let us take the smallest k possible satisfying the above conditions and $k = 0$ in case $p(z) > 0$. Then $K_n(p; z) = O(n^{2k'+1})$, where k' is the smallest integer $\geq k/2$. In particular $K_n(p; z) = O(n)$ for $k \leq 0$.

(ii) Suppose the point $x = z$ coincides with one of the end points of (a, b) , say $z = a$. If

$$\frac{p(x)}{|x-a|^k} \geq A \quad (k > -1, A > 0; a \leq x \leq c (\leq b)),$$

* See my paper (where the proof is given for $z = 0$), Jacques Chokhate, *Sur le développement de l'intégrale $\int_a^b [p(y)/(x-y)] dy$ en fraction continue et sur les polynômes de Tchebycheff*, Rendiconti del Circolo Matematico di Palermo, vol. 47 (1923), pp. 25-46; p. 41.

† On the asymptotic properties of a certain class of Tchebycheff's polynomials, read before the International Mathematical Congress, Toronto, August, 1924.

‡ Hereafter ε stands for an arbitrarily small but fixed quantity.

then

$$K_n(p; a) = O(n^{2k+2}).$$

Proof. (i) Consider the characteristic function corresponding to the interval (c, d) and defined as follows:

$$p_1(x) = A'(x-z)^{2k'} \text{ in } (c, d) \quad (A' > 0; c < z < d).$$

We have, then, A' being sufficiently small,

$$p(x) \geq p_1(x) \text{ for } c \leq x \leq d.$$

Therefore (see 7,9), since

$$\begin{aligned} \min \int_a^b p(y) [1 + Z_1(y-z) + \dots + Z_n(y-z)^n]^2 dy \\ \geq \min \int_c^d p(y) [1 + Z_1(y-z) + \dots + Z_n(y-z)^n]^2 dy, \\ K_n(p; z) \leq K_n(p_1; z) = O(n^{2k'+1}), \end{aligned} \quad \text{Q. E. D.}$$

In a similar, slightly modified, way we prove the statement (ii) of our theorem. Formula (4) leads to the following

COROLLARY. *If $p(x)$ satisfies the conditions of Theorem I, then*

$$(i) \quad |r_{n,f}(z)| < \tau E_n(f) n^{k'+1/2} \quad (a + \varepsilon \leq z \leq b - \varepsilon),$$

$$(ii) \quad |r_{n,f}(z)| < \tau E_n(f) n^{k+1} \quad ((z-a)(z-b) = 0).^*$$

3. Order of $r_{n,f}(x)$ (with respect to n) (method of D. Jackson).
For any system of Tchebycheff's polynomials the following inequality holds:

$$(10) \quad \frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} < \frac{b-a}{2}.^\dagger$$

Consider two cases:

Case I. *The point $x = z$ is inside the interval (a, b) : $a < c < z < d < b$.*

We write (1, 2) as follows:

$$(11) \quad r_{n,f}(z) = \int_a^{c+\varepsilon} + \int_{c+\varepsilon}^{z-\varepsilon_n} + \int_{z-\varepsilon_n}^{z+\varepsilon_n} + \int_{z+\varepsilon_n}^{d-\varepsilon} + \int_{d-\varepsilon}^b = i_1 + i_2 + i_3 + i_4 + i_5, \\ \varepsilon_n > 0, \quad \varepsilon_n \rightarrow 0 \text{ for } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

* Hereafter we use τ to denote generally a fixed positive quantity, different, of course in different formulas, which does not depend on n .

† J. Chokhate, loc. cit., p. 33.

Here ε denotes a certain fixed positive quantity; n is supposed to be so large and ε so small that we have

$$\varepsilon_n < \varepsilon, \quad c + 2\varepsilon \leq z \leq d - 2\varepsilon.$$

Suppose the system of Tchebycheff's polynomials under consideration subjected to following conditions:

$$(12) \quad p(x) < P (= \text{fixed const.})$$

$$(13) \quad |\varphi_n(x)| < \tau n^\sigma \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots; \sigma > -\tfrac{1}{2}^*) \left\} (c \leq x \leq d),\right.$$

where P, τ, σ do not depend upon x , nor upon n .

Consider first i_1 and i_5 in (11). Here we use formula (2), since $1/|x-y| < \varepsilon$. Using (3, 10) we get

$$|i_1|, |i_5| < \frac{b-a}{2} E_n(f) \left\{ |\varphi_{n+1}(z)| \int_a^b p(y) |\varphi_n(y)| dy + |\varphi_n(z)| \int_a^b p(y) |\varphi_{n+1}(y)| dy \right\};$$

$$(14) \quad |i_1|, |i_5| < \tau E_n(f) n^\sigma,$$

assuming only the condition $|\varphi_n(z)| < \tau n^\sigma$ (since

$$\int_a^b p(y) |\varphi_i(y)| dy < \sqrt{\int_a^b p(y) dy}$$

by Schwarz's inequality). We use the same formula (2) to estimate i_2 and i_4 .

Putting $z - y = u$, we get

$$|i_2|, |i_4| < \tau n^{2\sigma} E_n(f) \int_{\varepsilon_n}^{b-a} \frac{du}{u};$$

$$(15) \quad |i_2|, |i_4| < \tau n^{2\sigma} E_n(f) |\log \varepsilon_n|,$$

under conditions (12, 13). In order to estimate i_3 in (11), we write

$$(16) \quad i_3 = \int_{z-\varepsilon_n}^{z+\varepsilon_n} p(y) [\varphi(z) - \varphi(y)] \sum_0^n g_i(z) \varphi_i(y) dy,$$

which gives

$$|i_3| < \tau E_n(f) \left[\varphi_0^2 + \sum_1^n i^{2\sigma} \right] \int_{z-\varepsilon_n}^{z+\varepsilon_n} p(y) dy;$$

$$(17) \quad |i_3| < \tau E_n(f) n^{2\sigma+1} \varepsilon_n,$$

under conditions (12, 13). If we replace condition (13) by a less restrictive one,

* $\sigma \leq -\frac{1}{2}$ does not occur in applications (see below, p. 544).

$$(18) \quad |g_n(z)| < \tau n^\sigma \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots; \sigma > -\tfrac{1}{2}),$$

we can estimate i_2 , i_4 and i_5 as follows:

Apply Schwarz's inequality to i_2, i_4 in (11). We get, since here $1/|z-y| \leq 1/\epsilon_n$,

$$(19) \quad |i_2|, |i_4| < \tau \frac{E_n(f)}{\epsilon_n} n^\sigma$$

assuming only the condition (18). Assuming two conditions, (12) and (18), we get

$$(20) \quad |i_2|, |i_4| < \tau \frac{E_n(f)}{\sqrt{\epsilon_n}} n^\sigma.$$

Similarly, applying Schwarz's inequality to i_3 in (16), we get

$$(21) \quad |i_3| < \tau E_n(f) \sqrt{\int_{a+\epsilon}^{z-\epsilon_n} \frac{dy}{(z-y)^2}} \sqrt{\int_a^b p(y) K_n^2(z, y) dy};$$

$$(22) \quad |i_3| < \tau E_n(f) \sqrt{\epsilon_n} \sqrt{K_n(z)} \quad (\text{under conditions (12)});$$

$$(23) \quad |i_3| < \tau E_n(f) \sqrt{\epsilon_n} n^{\sigma+1} \quad (\text{under conditions (12, 18)}).$$

Case II. $(z-a)(z-b) = 0$; say $z = b$. Assume, as above,

$$(24) \quad p(x) < P$$

$$(25) \quad |g_n(x)| < \tau n^\sigma \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots; \sigma > -\tfrac{1}{2}) \left\{ (a \leq) c \leq x \leq b \right\},$$

or

$$(26) \quad |g_n(b)| < \tau n^\sigma \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots; \sigma > -\tfrac{1}{2}).$$

Write (1,2) as follows:

$$r_{n,f}(b) = \int_a^{c+\epsilon} + \int_{c+\epsilon}^{b-\epsilon_n} + \int_{b-\epsilon_n}^b = i_1 + i_2 + i_3,$$

$$\epsilon_n > 0, \quad \epsilon_n \rightarrow 0 \text{ for } n \rightarrow \infty; \quad \epsilon > 0; \quad \epsilon_n < \epsilon; \quad c + z\epsilon < b.$$

Following the preceding discussion we estimate i_1, i_2, i_3 in a manner quite similar to that given above and find similar results.

We proceed to specify the infinitesimal ϵ_n . Take $\epsilon_n = n^{-\beta}$, with $\beta > 0$, and choose β so as to make $r_{n,f}(z)$ of the highest order possible with respect to $1/n$. The results thus found (using the expressions above for i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4, i_5) are summarized in the following table.

* Similar inequality for $|i_4|$.

Table B: $r_{n,f}(x)$

| Case | Conditions imposed on $p(x)$, $q_n(x)$ | | | $ r_{n,f}(z) < \tau E_n(f) h_n^*$ with $h_n =$ |
|---|---|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| | $p(x)$ is | $q_n(x) < \tau n^\sigma$ for | with σ | |
| 1. $a < c < z < d < b$ | bounded for $c \leq x \leq d$ | $c \leq x \leq d$ | < 0 | n^σ (impossible; see below) |
| 2. " | " | " | $0 \leq \sigma < \frac{1}{4}$ | $n^{2\sigma} \log n$ |
| 3. " | " | " | $\sigma \geq \frac{1}{4}$ | $n^{\sigma+1/4}$ |
| 4. " | " | at the point $x = z$ | $\sigma > -\frac{1}{2}$ | $n^{\sigma+1/4}$ |
| 5. Same results hold in case $(z-a)(z-b) = 0$ under analogous conditions imposed on $p(x)$ and $q_n(x)$. | | | | |
| 6. | no conditions | at the point $x = z$ | $\sigma > -\frac{1}{2}$ | $n^{\sigma+1/2}$ |
| 7. any | no conditions | | | $\sqrt{K_n(z)}^\dagger$ |

The most interesting case is

$$(26) \quad \sigma = 0; \quad |r_{n,f}(z)| < \begin{cases} \tau E_n(f) \log n & \text{(under conditions (12, 13)),} \\ \tau E_n(f) n^{1/4} & \text{(under conditions (12, 18)),} \\ \tau E_n(f) n^{1/2} & \text{(under condition (18)).} \end{cases}$$

The condition (18) with $\sigma = 0$ holds, for instance, in the case of the characteristic function (8) (see second footnote on page 540) at any point $x = z$ [$(z-a)(z-b) \neq 0$], where $\Pi(z) \neq 0$.

Another case, where we have (18) satisfied with $\sigma = 0$, is given by G. Szegő.[‡]

It remains to prove that *it is impossible to have (12, 13) with $\sigma < 0$* (see Table B, case 1).

In fact, the contrary assumption gives

$$(27) \quad \frac{r_{n,f}(x)}{n^\sigma} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{for } n \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{uniformly} \quad (\sigma < 0; c < c' \leq x \leq d' < d),$$

since $E_n(f) \rightarrow 0$ with $1/n$ for every continuous function.

Writing in general $E_n(f; a, b)$, we get, from the very definition of this quantity,

$$E_n(f; c', d') \leq \max |r_{n,f}(x)| \quad \text{for } c' \leq x \leq d'.$$

* τ is a fixed constant, not depending on n , nor on z (see (12, 13)).

† In some cases we know the order of $K_n(z)$, but not that of $q_n(z)$.

‡ G. Szegő, *Über den asymptotischen Ausdruck von Polynomen*, *Mathematische Annalen*, vol. 86 (1922), pp. 114–140; p. 139.

Therefore, according to (27),

$$E_n(f; c', d') = o(n^\sigma) \quad \text{with } \sigma < 0,$$

for every continuous function, which is impossible, because, as was established by D. Jackson,* for any $\sigma < 0$ there always exists a continuous function $f(x)$, for which

$$\frac{E_n(f; c', d')}{n^\sigma} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{for } n \rightarrow \infty, \quad \text{Q. E. D.}^\dagger$$

4. **Order of $\varphi_n(x)$ (with respect to n).**[‡] We modify slightly our notations for Tchebycheff's polynomials and write in general, the characteristic function being $p(x)$,

$$(28) \quad \varphi_n(p; x) = a_n(p) x^n + \dots \quad (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots; a_n(p) > 0).$$

We shall proceed to compare $\varphi_n(p; x)$ and $\varphi_n(q; x)$ corresponding to the same interval (a, b) .

For this purpose consider

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{p,q} &= \int_a^b q(x) [\varphi_n(q; x) - \varphi_n(p; x)]^2 dx = i_1 - 2i_2 + i_3, \\ i_1 &= \int_a^b q(x) \varphi_n^2(q; x) dx = 1, \\ (29) \quad i_2 &= \int_a^b q(x) \varphi_n(p; x) \varphi_n(q; x) dx = \frac{a_n(p)}{a_n(q)}, \\ i_3 &= \int_a^b q(x) \varphi_n^2(p; x) dx = 1 + \int_a^b [q(x) - p(x)] \varphi_n^2(p; x) dx \\ &= 1 + \theta_1 \left(\frac{q-p}{p} \right)_{\max} \quad (|\theta_1| \leq 1), \end{aligned}$$

where in general $(u)_{\max}$, $(u)_{\min}$ stand for the least upper and greatest lower bound respectively (or maximum and minimum) of $|u(x)|$ in (a, b) .

We make use now of following inequalities:

$$\left(\frac{q}{p} \right)_{\min} < \frac{a_n^2(p)}{a_n^2(q)} < \left(\frac{q}{p} \right)_{\max}, \S$$

* Loc. cit., p. 56.

† But we may have $|\varphi_n(x)| < \tau n^\sigma$ with $\sigma < 0$ at a certain point $x = z$; e. g., for the polynomials of Jacobi (p. 540), with $\alpha, \beta < \frac{1}{2}$ at $x = a, b$ ($\sigma = \alpha - \frac{1}{2}, \beta - \frac{1}{2}$, respectively).

‡ The results of this paragraph are summarized in my article *Sur les polynomes de Tchebycheff*, Comptes Rendus, vol. 178 (1924), p. 2229. Here they are somewhat generalized.

§ J. Chokhate, *Sur quelques propriétés des polynomes de Tchebycheff*, Comptes Rendus, vol. 166 (1918), pp. 28-30.

which give

$$(30) \quad \left| \frac{a_n(p)}{a_n(q)} - 1 \right| < \left(\frac{q-p}{p} \right)_{\max}.$$

Thus we have, using (29),

$$(31) \quad \begin{aligned} i_2 &= 1 + \theta_2 \left(\frac{q-p}{p} \right)_{\max} & (|\theta_2| \leq 1), \\ \Delta_{p,q} &= \delta_n \left(\frac{q-p}{p} \right)_{\max} & (0 < \delta_n < 3). \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, $Q_n(x)$ being an arbitrary polynomial of degree $\leq n$, we have

$$(32) \quad \begin{aligned} Q_n(x) &= \sum_0^n A_i \varphi_i(q; x), \quad A_i = \int_a^b q(x) Q_n(x) \varphi_i(q; x) dx, \\ |Q_n(x)| &\leq \sqrt{\sum_0^n A_i^2} \sqrt{\sum_0^n \varphi_i^2(q; x);} \\ |Q_n(x)| &\leq \sqrt{\int_a^b q(x) Q_n^2(x) dx} \sqrt{K_n(q; x)}, \quad K_n(q; x) \equiv \sum_0^n \varphi_i^2(q; x). \end{aligned}$$

Apply (32) to the polynomial $\varphi_n(p; x) - \varphi_n(q; x)$ and use (31). We get

$$(33) \quad \left. \begin{aligned} |\varphi_n(p, x) - \varphi_n(q; x)| &< \tau \sqrt{\left(\frac{q-p}{p} \right)_{\max}} \sqrt{K_n(q; x)} \\ |\varphi_n(p; x) - \varphi_n(q; x)| &< \tau \sqrt{\left(\frac{q-p}{q} \right)_{\max}} \sqrt{K_n(p; x)} \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (0 < \tau < \sqrt{3}).$$

Formulas (30, 33) lead to following

THEOREM II. Suppose that $q(x)$, containing a parameter α , tends for $\alpha \rightarrow \alpha_0$ to $p(x)$ uniformly in (a, b) , and that $p(x) \geq p_{\min} > 0$ in (a, b) . Then $\varphi_n(q; x) \rightarrow \varphi_n(p; x)$ uniformly in (a, b) , and $a_n(q)$ under the above conditions tends uniformly (with respect to n) to $a_n(p)$.

Proof. ε being chosen as small as we please, take $|\alpha - \alpha_0|$ sufficiently small in order to give, for $a \leq x \leq b$,

$$\begin{aligned} |q(x) - p(x)| &< \frac{p_{\min}}{2}, \\ |q(x) - p(x)| &< \frac{\varepsilon^2 p_{\min}}{6 K_n}, \\ |q(x) - p(x)| &< \varepsilon p_{\min}, \quad \text{for } a \leq x \leq b, \end{aligned}$$

where $K_n = \max K_n(p; x)$ in (a, b) . Then

$$\begin{aligned} q_{\min} &> \frac{p_{\min}}{2}, & \left(\frac{q-p}{p} \right)_{\max} &< \frac{2(q-p)_{\max}}{p_{\min}}, \\ | \varphi_i(p; x) - \varphi_i(q; x) | &< \epsilon & (i = 0, 1, \dots, n; a \leq x \leq b), \\ \left| \frac{a_n(p)}{a_n(q)} - 1 \right| &< \epsilon & \text{for every } n, \quad \text{Q. E. D.} \end{aligned}$$

Consider first two special systems of Tchebycheff's polynomials:

$$(34) \quad \begin{aligned} &\varphi_n(p; x) \text{ with } p(x) = (x-a)^{\alpha-1}(b-x)^{\beta-1} \Pi(x), \\ &(\alpha, \beta > 0; \Pi(a) \Pi(b) \neq 0; \Pi(x) \text{ a polynomial of degree } s; \end{aligned}$$

$$(35) \quad \begin{aligned} &\varphi_n(q; x) \text{ with } q(x) = (x-a)^{\alpha-1}(b-x)^{\beta-1}, \\ &(\alpha, \beta > 0) \text{ (polynomials of Jacobi).} \end{aligned}$$

We have used these polynomials above (see pages 540, 544). We are now interested in finding what are the relations between $\varphi_n(p; x)$, $K_n(p; x)$ and the degree s of $\Pi(x)$ in (34).

For this purpose consider the development

$$(36) \quad \Pi(x) \varphi_n(p; x) = \sum_0^{n+s} A_i \varphi_i(q; x), \quad A_i = \int_a^b p(x) \varphi_n(p; x) \varphi_i(q; x) dx,$$

where, as we see immediately,

$$(37) \quad A_0 = A_1 = \dots = A_{n-1} = 0.$$

On the other hand, as is well known,

$$(38) \quad \begin{aligned} &| \varphi_n(q; z) | < \tau & (a + \epsilon \leq z \leq b - \epsilon), \\ &| \varphi_n(q; a) | < \tau n^{\alpha-1/2}, & | \varphi_n(q; b) | < \tau n^{\beta-1/2}, \end{aligned}$$

where τ does not depend on z , nor on n .

Hence, (36, 37) give

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi(x) | \varphi_n(p; x) | &\leq \sqrt{\int_a^b p(x) \Pi(x) \varphi_n^2(p; x) dx} \sqrt{\sum_n^{n+s} \varphi_i^2(q; x)} \\ &\leq \sqrt{\Pi_{\max}} \sqrt{\sum_n^{n+s} \varphi_i^2(q; x)}. \end{aligned}$$

Using (38), we get, n being sufficiently large (since $\varphi_n(q; x)$ does not depend on s):

$$(39) \quad H(z) |g_n(p; z)| < \tau \sqrt{s} \quad (a + \varepsilon \leq z \leq b - \varepsilon),$$

$$(40) \quad |g_n(p; z)| < \tau \sqrt{s} \quad ((a <) c + \varepsilon \leq z \leq d - \varepsilon (< b); H(x) \neq 0 \text{ in } (c, d)),$$

$$|g_n(p; a)| < \tau \sqrt{s} n^{\alpha-1/2}; \quad |g_n(p; b)| < \tau \sqrt{s} n^{\beta-1/2},$$

where τ does not depend on z , nor on n , nor on s .

Formulas (40) answer the question stated above.

We return now to the general case. Assume that there exists a certain interval (c, d) such that

$$(41) \quad p(x) \text{ is continuous and positive for } c \leq x \leq d \text{ (} a \leq c; d \leq b \text{)}.$$

Consider the polynomial $T_{m,p}(x)$ of best approximation to $p(x)$ in (c, d) of sufficiently large degree m . The polynomial $T_{m,p}(x)$ is also positive in (c, d) . Now introduce the functions $g_n(q; x)$, with

$$(42) \quad \begin{aligned} q(x) &\equiv T_{m,p}(x) \text{ in } (c, d), \\ &\equiv p(x) \text{ in } (a, c) \text{ and } (d, b). \end{aligned}$$

We can apply (33), which gives (since $(q - p)_{\max} = E_m(p)$)

$$(43) \quad |g_n(p; x) - g_n(q; x)| < \tau \sqrt{E_m(p) K_n(p; x)},$$

where τ does not depend on x , nor on n , nor on m .*

We assume that m and n are increasing indefinitely, but $m/n \rightarrow 0$. Formula (43) combined with (40) (where $p(x)$, s , a , b must be replaced respectively by $q(x)$, m , c , d , and $\alpha = \beta = 1$, since $q(x) > 0$ for $c \leq x \leq d$) and with the results of Theorem I (page 540) gives, m and n being sufficiently large, the fundamental formula

$$(44) \quad \begin{aligned} |g_n(p; z)| &< \tau [\sqrt{m} + \sqrt{n E_m(p)}] \quad (c + \varepsilon \leq z \leq d - \varepsilon), \\ |g_n(p; c)|, |g_n(p; d)| &< \tau \sqrt{n} [\sqrt{m} + \sqrt{n E_m(p)}] \end{aligned}$$

under condition (41), where τ does not depend on z , nor on n , nor on m , and $\varepsilon > 0$ is arbitrarily small, but fixed.

In order to derive from (44) all the conclusions available, we take

$$m = \text{integral part of } n^\beta \text{ with } 0 < \beta < 1, n \rightarrow \infty.$$

* Formula (43) holds also for (a, b) infinitely large, provided (c, d) is finite.

Then

$$m \rightarrow \infty, n \rightarrow \infty, \frac{m}{n} \rightarrow 0, \frac{m}{n^\beta} \rightarrow 1, E_m(p) \rightarrow 0.$$

We can now use Table A (page 539), β being chosen so as to make the right-hand member in (44) of the highest order possible with respect to $1/n$. The results thus obtained are summarized in the following Table.

Table C: $\varphi_n(p; x)$

| Conditions imposed on $p(x)$ | z | $\varphi_n(p; z) =$ |
|---|---|---|
| 1. $p(x)$ is continuous and positive for $(a \leq) c \leq x \leq d (\leq b)$. | $c + \varepsilon \leq z \leq d - \varepsilon$ | $O(n^{1/2})$ |
| 1, and 2. $ p^{(k)}(x_2) - p^{(k)}(x_1) < \lambda x_2 - x_1 ^\alpha$ for $c \leq x_1, x_2 \leq d$; $p^{(0)}(x) \equiv p(x)$ (in particular for $k=0, \alpha=1$: Lipschitz condition). | " | $O(n^{1/2(1+k+\alpha)})^*$ |
| 1, and 3. $p^{(k)}(x)$ is continuous for $c \leq x \leq d$. | " | $O(n^{1/2(1+k)})$ |
| 1, and 4. $p(x)$ is indefinitely differentiable in (c, d) . | " | $O(n^\sigma), \sigma > 0$ arbitrarily small |
| 5-8. Same conditions as in 1-4 above. | $a = c \leq z \leq d = b$ | 1/2 must be added to each of the exponents of n in 1-4 above. |

The Tables A, B, C, as well as the results of § 2 (concerning $K_n(p; x)$) enable us to determine the convergence and the order (with respect to n) of the remainder of the development of a continuous function into a series according to Tchebycheff's polynomials of a given type.

Many theorems can be formulated in this way. As an illustration, we state the following:

THEOREM III. Suppose $f(x)$ is continuous in a given finite interval (a, b) and satisfies the condition

$$|f(x_2) - f(x_1)| \leq \omega(\delta) \text{ for } |x_1 - x_2| \leq \delta \quad (a \leq x_1, x_2 \leq b).$$

* See G. Szegő, loc. cit., p. 139.

Then, in the development

$$f(x) = \sum_0^n A_i q_i(x) + r_{n,f}(x), \quad A_i = \int_a^b p(x) f(x) q_i(x) dx,$$

where
$$p(x) = (x-a)^{\alpha-1} (b-x)^{\beta-1} \Pi(x) \quad (\alpha, \beta > 0),$$

$$\Pi(x) \text{ a polynomial } (\Pi(a) \Pi(b) \neq 0),$$

we have

$$r_{n,f}(z) = O\left(\omega\left(\frac{b-a}{n}\right) \log n\right)^*$$

at any point $x = z$ inside (a, b) , provided $\Pi(z) \neq 0$. In particular, the development under consideration converges to $f(x)$ uniformly for $c + \varepsilon \leq x \leq d - \varepsilon$ ($a \leq c$; $d \leq b$; $\varepsilon > 0$ arbitrarily small, but fixed), if $f(x)$ satisfies a Dini-Lipschitz condition, provided the interval (c, d) contains no roots of $\Pi(x)$.

In the particular case $\alpha = \beta = 1$, $\Pi(x) \equiv 1$, we get the results obtained by D. Jackson, as was mentioned above.

* This follows from Table A₁, Table B₂ and p. 544.