

NECESSARY CONDITIONS FOR THE CONVERGENCE OF  
 CARDINAL HERMITE SPLINES AS THEIR DEGREE  
 TENDS TO INFINITY

BY

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ABSTRACT. Let  $\mathfrak{S}_{n,s}$  denote the class of cardinal Hermite splines of degree  $n$  having knots of multiplicity  $s$  at the integers. In this paper we show that if  $f_n \rightarrow f$  uniformly on  $\mathbf{R}$ , where  $f_n \in \mathfrak{S}_{i_n,s}$ ,  $i_n \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , and  $f$  is bounded, then  $f$  is the restriction to  $\mathbf{R}$  of an entire function of exponential type  $< s$ . In proving this result, we need to derive some extremal properties of certain splines  $\mathfrak{E}_{n,s} \in \mathfrak{S}_{n,s}$ , in particular that  $\|\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}\|_\infty$  minimises  $\|S\|_\infty$  over  $S \in \mathfrak{S}_{n,s}$  with  $\|S^{(\nu)}\|_\infty = \|\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}^{(\nu)}\|_\infty$ .

1. Introduction. For  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  and  $1 \leq s \leq n$ , let

$$\mathfrak{F}_{n,s} = \{f \in C^{n-s}(\mathbf{R}): f|(\nu, \nu + 1) \in C^{n-1}[(\nu, \nu + 1)] \text{ and}$$

$$f^{(n-1)} \text{ absolutely continuous on } (\nu, \nu + 1), \forall \nu \in \mathbf{Z}\}.$$

We let  $\mathfrak{S}_{n,s}$  denote the set of all cardinal spline functions of degree  $n$  in  $\mathfrak{F}_{n,s}$ , i.e.,

$$\mathfrak{S}_{n,s} = \{S \in C^{n-s}(\mathbf{R}): S|(\nu, \nu + 1) \in \pi_n, \forall \nu \in \mathbf{Z}\},$$

where  $\pi_n$  denotes the set of all polynomials of degree at most  $n$ .

Throughout this paper,  $\|f\|$  will denote  $\text{ess sup}_{x \in \mathbf{R}} |f(x)|$ .

In [6] Lipow and Schoenberg have shown that for odd  $n$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq \frac{1}{2}(n + 1)$ , and any function  $f$  with  $f^{(\nu)}$  of power growth on  $\mathbf{R}$ ,  $\nu = 0, 1, \dots, s - 1$ , there is a unique  $S_{n,s} \in \mathfrak{S}_{n,s}$  of power growth such that  $S_{n,s}^{(\nu)}$  interpolates  $f^{(\nu)}$  at the integers. In [8] Marsden and Riemenschneider have shown that if  $f$  is the Fourier-Stieltjes transform of a measure on  $(-s\pi, s\pi)$ , then  $S_{n,s}^{(\nu)} \rightarrow f^{(\nu)}$  uniformly on  $\mathbf{R}$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\nu = 0, 1, \dots, s - 1$ . The case  $s = 1$  had previously been proved by Schoenberg [10] who established in [11] the partial converse that if  $f$  is bounded on  $\mathbf{R}$  and  $S_{n,1} \rightarrow f$  uniformly on  $\mathbf{R}$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , then  $f$  is the restriction to  $\mathbf{R}$  of an entire function of exponential type  $< \pi$ .

In §4 of this paper we generalise Schoenberg's result by showing, in particular, that for any  $s = 1, 2, \dots$ , if  $f$  is bounded on  $\mathbf{R}$  and  $S_{n,s} \rightarrow f$  uniformly on  $\mathbf{R}$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , then  $f$  is the restriction to  $\mathbf{R}$  of an entire function

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of exponential type  $\leq s\pi$ . To establish this result we need some extremal properties of certain splines  $\mathfrak{E}_{n,s} \in \mathfrak{S}_{n,s}$  which may be regarded as generalisations of the Euler splines employed in [11]. For odd  $s$  these were defined by Cavaretta in [1]. In §2 we define  $\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}$  for even  $s$  and show that for all  $s$ ,  $f \in \mathfrak{F}_{n,s}$ ,  $\|f\| < 1 = \|\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}\|$  and  $\|f^{(n)}\| < \|\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}^{(n)}\|$  implies

$$|f^{(k)}(\nu + 1)| < |\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}^{(k)}(\nu + 1)|, \quad \forall \nu \in \mathbf{Z} \text{ and } k = n - s, \dots, n - 1.$$

In [1] Cavaretta shows that for odd  $s$ ,  $S = \mathfrak{E}_{n,s}$  minimises  $\|S\|$  over all  $S \in \mathfrak{S}_{n,s}$  with

$$S^{(n)}(\nu, \nu + 1) = (-1)^\nu \|\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}^{(n)}\|, \quad \forall \nu \in \mathbf{Z}.$$

In §3 we show that for all  $s$ ,  $S = \mathfrak{E}_{n,s}$  actually minimises  $\|S\|$  over all  $S \in \mathfrak{S}_{n,s}$  with  $\|S^{(n)}\| = \|\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}^{(n)}\|$ .

**2. The Euler-Chebyshev splines.** In [1] Cavaretta shows there are functions  $\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}$  in  $\mathfrak{S}_{n,s}$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  and odd  $s < n$ , characterised by the following properties:

$$\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}(x + 1) = (-1)^s \mathfrak{E}_{n,s}(x), \quad \forall x \in \mathbf{R}, \quad (2.1)$$

$\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}(x)$  equioscillates between  $-1$  and  $1$  at points

$$0 < \beta_1 < \dots < \beta_s < 1, \quad (2.2)$$

$$\mathfrak{E}_{n,s} \text{ is even or odd about } x = \frac{1}{2} \text{ as } n \text{ is even or odd}, \quad (2.3)$$

$$\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}^{(n)}(x) > 0 \text{ on } (0, 1). \quad (2.4)$$

We now construct functions  $\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}$  in  $\mathfrak{S}_{n,s}$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  and even  $s < n$  which are also characterised by properties (2.1)–(2.4).

We shall need the following lemma. Its proof is almost identical to that of Proposition 1 in [1] and so will be omitted.

**LEMMA 1.** Let  $\{f_1(x), \dots, f_k(x)\}$  be a Chebyshev system in  $[a, b]$  and define

$$g_i(x) = (x - a)(x - b)f_i(x), \quad i = 1, \dots, k.$$

Let  $F(x)$  be a continuous function on  $[a, b]$  which vanishes at  $a$  and  $b$ . Then there exists a unique linear combination  $\sum_{i=1}^k a_i g_i(x)$  of best approximation in the uniform norm to  $F(x)$ . This best approximation is uniquely characterised by a  $(k + 1)$ -point equioscillation property, i.e. there exist  $k + 1$  points  $a < x_1 < \dots < x_{k+1} < b$  where the error function assumes the value of its norm with alternating signs.

We first consider the case of odd  $n$ . For any  $p, q$ ,  $1 < q < p$ , we define

$$V_{2p+1, 2q} = \left\{ f \in \pi_{2p+1} \left| \left[ 0, \frac{1}{2} \right] : f^{(2i)}(0) = 0, \quad i = 0, \dots, p - q, \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. f^{(2j)}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 0, \quad j = 0, \dots, p \right\}.$$

It follows from the theory of Jerome and Schumaker [3] and Lorentz [7]

that  $\dim V_{2p+1,2q} = q$  and any  $f$  in  $V_{2p+1,2q}$  has at most  $q + 1$  zeros in  $[0, \frac{1}{2}]$ . Thus if  $x(x - \frac{1}{2})f_i(x)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, q$ , form a basis for  $V_{2p+1,2q}$ , then  $\{f_1(x), \dots, f_q(x)\}$  form a Chebyshev system on  $[0, \frac{1}{2}]$ .

Now take any odd  $n$  and even  $s$ ,  $4 \leq s < n$ , and take any  $f$  in  $V_{n,s}$  with  $f^{(n)} > 0$ . Let  $F$  denote the best approximation to  $f$  in the uniform norm in  $V_{n-2,s-2}$ . Then by Lemma 1,  $f - F$  equioscillates at points  $0 < \beta_1 < \dots < \beta_{s/2} < \frac{1}{2}$ . Let  $G = (f - F)/\|f - F\|$  and define  $\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}$  in  $\mathfrak{S}_{n,s}$  by

$$\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}(x) = \begin{cases} G(x), & 0 \leq x < \frac{1}{2}, \\ (-1)^n G(1 - x), & \frac{1}{2} \leq x < 1, \end{cases}$$

$$\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}(x + 1) = \mathfrak{E}_{n,s}(x), \quad \forall x \in \mathbf{R}. \tag{2.5}$$

For  $s = 2$ , let  $G$  be the element of  $V_{n,2}$  with  $\|G\| = 1$  and  $G^{(n)} > 0$ , and again define  $\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}$  by (2.5). Since  $G(0) = G(\frac{1}{2}) = 0$ ,  $\exists \beta_1 \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$  with  $|G(\beta_1)| = 1$ , and so  $\mathfrak{E}_{n,2}$  equioscillates at  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2 = 1 - \beta_1$ . Thus for all even  $s$ ,  $\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}$  is characterised by properties (2.1) to (2.4).

Next consider even  $n$ . For any  $p, q$ ,  $0 < q < p$ , define

$$V_{2p,2q} = \left\{ f \in \pi_{2p} \left[ 0, \frac{1}{2} \right] : f^{(2i+1)}(0) = 0, \quad i = 0, \dots, p - q - 1, \right.$$

$$\left. f^{(2j+1)}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 0, \quad j = 0, \dots, p - 1 \right\}.$$

Then  $\dim V_{2p,2q} = q + 1$  and any  $f$  in  $V_{2p,2q}$  has at most  $q$  zeros in  $[0, \frac{1}{2}]$ . Thus any basis for  $V_{2p,2q}$  forms a Chebyshev system.

Now take even  $n$  and even  $s$ ,  $2 \leq s < n$ , and take any  $f$  in  $V_{n,s}$  with  $f^{(n)} > 0$ . Let  $F$  denote the best approximation to  $f$  in the uniform norm in  $V_{n-2,s-2}$ . Then  $f - F$  equioscillates at points  $0 \leq \beta_1 < \dots < \beta_{s/2+1} < \frac{1}{2}$ . Now  $f' - F'$  is in  $V_{n-1,s}$  and so has at most  $\frac{1}{2}s - 1$  zeros in  $(0, \frac{1}{2})$ . Thus  $\beta_1 = 0$  and  $\beta_{s/2+1} = \frac{1}{2}$ . Let  $G = (f - F)/\|f - F\|$  and define  $\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}$  in  $\mathfrak{S}_{n,s}$  by (2.5). Then again  $\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}$  is characterised by properties (2.1)–(2.4).

We note that, for  $m = 1, 2, \dots$ ,

$$\mathfrak{E}_{2m-1,1}(x) = (-1)^m \mathfrak{E}_{2m-1}(x),$$

$$\mathfrak{E}_{2m,1}(x) = (-1)^m \mathfrak{E}_{2m}\left(x - \frac{1}{2}\right), \tag{2.6}$$

where  $\mathfrak{E}_n$  denotes the Euler spline of degree  $n$ , see [11].

We also note that, for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ,

$$\mathfrak{E}_{n,n}(x) = T_n(2x - 1), \quad \forall x \in [0, 1],$$

where  $T_n$  denotes the Chebyshev polynomial of degree  $n$ .

It therefore seems appropriate to refer to  $\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}$  as Euler-Chebyshev splines, or ET-splines, following the similar terminology introduced by Cavaretta in [1]. They satisfy the following extremal property which is related to a theorem of Kolmogorov (see [2]).

**THEOREM 1.** *Suppose  $f$  in  $\mathcal{F}_{n,s}$  satisfies*

$$\|f\| < 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \|f^{(n)}\| < \|\mathcal{E}_{n,s}^{(n)}\|, \tag{2.7}$$

then

$$|f^{(k)}(\nu + )| < |\mathcal{E}_{n,s}^{(k)}(\nu + )|, \quad \forall \nu \in \mathbf{Z}, \quad k = n - s, \dots, n - 1.$$

**PROOF.** We use an elementary and powerful technique introduced by Cavaretta [2].

Without loss of generality we may take  $\nu = 0$ . Suppose  $f$  in  $\mathcal{F}_{n,s}$  satisfies (2.7) and is periodic of period an even integer  $K$ . We shall assume  $|f^{(k)}(0 + )| > |\mathcal{E}_{n,s}^{(k)}(0 + )|$  for some  $k$ ,  $n - s < k < n - 1$ , and reach a contradiction. Choose  $\lambda$  so that  $\lambda f^{(k)}(0 + ) = \mathcal{E}_{n,s}^{(k)}(0 + )$  and let  $g = \mathcal{E}_{n,s} - \lambda f$ , noting that  $g$  is also periodic of period  $K$ .

Since  $\|\lambda f\| < \|\mathcal{E}_{n,s}\|$  and because of the equioscillation of  $\mathcal{E}_{n,s}$ ,  $g$  has at least  $Ks$  distinct zeros per period. Thus, by repeated application of Rolle's theorem,  $g^{(n-s)}$  has at least  $Ks$  distinct zeros per period. If  $k = n - s$ , then  $g^{(n-s)}(0) = 0$  and so  $g^{(n-s+1)}$  has at least  $K(s - 1) + 1$  zeros per period which are not at integers. If  $k > n - s$ , then  $g^{(n-s+1)}$  has at least  $K(s - 1)$  zeros per period which are not at integers, and so  $g^{(k)}$  has at least  $K(n - k)$  zeros per period which are not at integers. But  $g^{(k)}(0 + ) = 0$  and so  $g^{(k+1)}$  has at least  $K(n - k - 1) + 1$  changes of sign per period which are not at integers. Thus for all  $k$ ,  $g^{(n)}$  has at least one change of sign per period which is not at an integer. But this contradicts  $|\lambda f^{(n)}(x)| < |\mathcal{E}_{n,s}^{(n)}(x)|$  in every interval  $(\nu, \nu + 1)$ ,  $\nu \in \mathbf{Z}$ .

We may extend to nonperiodic  $f$  in precisely the same manner as in [2].  $\square$

**3. An extremal property of ET-splines.** For  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ,  $1 < s < n$ , and numbers  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_s, \lambda$ , we define

$$\Pi_n(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_s; \lambda) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & \cdots & 1 & (1 - \lambda) & 0 & 0 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 0 \\ \alpha_1 & & \alpha_s & 1 & (1 - \lambda) & 0 & & & & \cdot \\ \alpha_1^2 & \cdots & \alpha_s^2 & 1 & \binom{2}{1} & (1 - \lambda) & & & & \cdot \\ \cdot & & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & & & \cdot \\ \cdot & & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & & \cdot & & \cdot \\ \cdot & & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & & & & 0 \\ = & \alpha_1^{n-s} & \cdots & \alpha_s^{n-s} & 1 & \binom{n-s}{1} & \binom{n-s}{2} & \cdots & \binom{n-s}{n-s-1} & (1 - \lambda) \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & & \cdot & \cdot \\ \alpha_1^n & \cdots & \alpha_s^n & 1 & \binom{n}{1} & \binom{n}{2} & \cdots & \binom{n}{n-s-1} & \binom{1}{n-s} \end{vmatrix}$$

This determinant has the following properties, which follow from the work of Micchelli [9] or by using the method of Lee and Sharma [5].

For fixed  $0 < \alpha_1 < \alpha_2 < \dots < \alpha_s < 1$ ,  $\Pi_n(\lambda) \equiv \Pi_n(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_s; \lambda)$  is a polynomial in  $\lambda$  with real distinct roots of sign  $(-1)^s$ . If  $\alpha_1 > 0$ ,  $\Pi_n(\lambda) = a\lambda^{n-s+1} + \dots$ , where sign  $a = (-1)^{(s+1)(n+s+1)}$ . If  $\alpha_1 = 0$ ,  $\Pi_n(\lambda) = a\lambda^{n-s} + \dots$ , where sign  $a = (-1)^{(s+1)(n+s)}$ . If the nonzero  $\alpha_i, i = 1, \dots, s$ , are symmetric about  $\frac{1}{2}$ , then  $\Pi_n(\lambda)$  is reciprocal.

Now fix  $0 < \alpha_1 < \alpha_2 < \dots < \alpha_s < 1$  and take  $r, 1 < r < s$ . For  $x \in [0, 1]$  we define

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi(x, \lambda) &= \Pi_n(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{r-1}, x, \alpha_{r+1}, \dots, \alpha_s; \lambda) \\ &= p_0(x)\lambda^{n-s+1} + p_1(x)\lambda^{n-s} + \dots + p_{n-s+1}(x). \end{aligned}$$

Then it is easy to show that

$$\frac{\partial^j}{\partial x^j} \Pi(1, \lambda) = \lambda \frac{\partial^j}{\partial x^j} \Pi(0, \lambda), \quad j = 0, \dots, n - s, \tag{3.1}$$

and

$$\Pi(\alpha_i, \lambda) = 0, \quad i \neq r. \tag{3.2}$$

We now define the ‘B-spline’

$$B_r(x) = \begin{cases} p_\nu(x - \nu), & x \in [\nu, \nu + 1), \quad \nu = 0, \dots, n - s + 1, \\ 0, & x < 0 \text{ and } x \geq n - s + 2. \end{cases}$$

From (3.1) we see that  $B_r \in \mathfrak{S}_{n,s}$  and from (3.2) we have  $B_r(\alpha_i + \nu) = 0$  for all  $\nu \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $i \neq r$ . Also

$$\sum_{\nu=-\infty}^{\infty} B_r(x + \nu)t^\nu = t^{n-s+1}\Pi(x, t^{-1}), \quad x \in [0, 1). \tag{3.3}$$

Now assume

$$\Pi_n(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_s; (-1)^s) \neq 0. \tag{3.4}$$

Then following the method of Schoenberg [11], we may write

$$\left\{ \sum_{\nu=-\infty}^{\infty} B_r(\nu + \alpha_r)t^\nu \right\}^{-1} = \sum_{\nu=-\infty}^{\infty} \omega_\nu t^\nu, \tag{3.5}$$

where the series is convergent on some annulus about  $|t| = 1$  and  $|\omega_\nu| = O(\beta^\nu)$  as  $\nu \rightarrow \pm\infty$  for some  $0 < \beta < 1$ .

We now define the ‘fundamental spline’

$$L_r(x) = \sum_{\nu=-\infty}^{\infty} \omega_\nu B_r(x - \nu).$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} L_r(k + \alpha_r) &= \sum_{\nu=-\infty}^{\infty} \omega_\nu B_r(k + \alpha_r - \nu) \\ &= \delta_{k0}, \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ by (3.5).} \end{aligned}$$

It follows from the theory of [9] that if  $S \in \mathcal{S}_{n,s}$  is of power growth, then

$$S(x) = \sum_{r=1}^s \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} S(k + \alpha_r) L_r(x - k). \tag{3.6}$$

Now take  $x$  in  $(0, 1)$ . Then

$$\frac{\partial^n}{\partial x^n} \Pi(x, \lambda) = (-1)^{n+r+1} n! \Pi_{n-1}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{r-1}, \alpha_{r+1}, \dots, \alpha_s; \lambda).$$

So, by (3.3),

$$\sum_{\nu=-\infty}^{\infty} B_r^{(n)}(\nu + x) t^\nu = (-1)^{n+r+1} n! t^{n-s+1} \Pi_{n-1}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{r-1}, \alpha_{r+1}, \dots, \alpha_s; t^{-1}) \tag{3.7}$$

Now

$$L_r^{(n)}(k + x) = \sum_{\nu=-\infty}^{\infty} \omega_\nu B_r^{(n)}(k + x - \nu)$$

and so

$$\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} L_r^{(n)}(k + x) t^k = \left( \sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} \omega_i t^i \right) \left( \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} B_r^{(n)}(j + x) t^j \right).$$

So by (3.7), (3.5) and (3.3),

$$\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} L_r^{(n)}(k + x) t^k = \frac{(-1)^{n+r+1} n! \Pi_{n-1}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{r-1}, \alpha_{r+1}, \dots, \alpha_s; t^{-1})}{\Pi_n(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_s; t^{-1})}. \tag{3.8}$$

Then from (3.8) and the properties of  $\Pi_n(\lambda)$ , we have the following result.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} L_r^{(n)}(k + x) t^k &= \frac{(-1)^{r+s} K \Pi_{i=1}^{n-s+1}(1 + \mu_i t)}{\Pi_{j=1}^{n-s+1}(1 - \lambda_j t)} \quad \text{if } \alpha_1 > 0, \\ &= \frac{(-1)^{r+s+1} K \Pi_{i=1}^{n-s}(1 + \mu_i t)}{\Pi_{j=1}^{n-s}(1 - \lambda_j t)} \quad \text{if } \alpha_1 = 0, \quad r > 1, \\ &= \frac{K \Pi_{i=1}^{n-s+1}(1 + \mu_i t)}{t \Pi_{j=1}^{n-s}(1 - \lambda_j t)} \quad \text{if } \alpha_1 = 0, \quad r = 1, \end{aligned}$$

where  $K, \mu_i, \lambda_j$  are constants (depending on  $r, n, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_s$ ) with  $K > 0$  and  $\text{sign } \mu_i = \text{sign } \lambda_j = (-1)^s, \forall i, j$ .

We therefore have (see [4, p. 395]),

$$\text{sign } L_r^{(n)}(k + x) = \begin{cases} (-1)^{q+r+k} & s \text{ odd,} \\ (-1)^{q+r+1}, & s \text{ even,} \end{cases}$$

where

$$q = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \alpha_1 > 0, \\ 0, & \text{if } \alpha_1 = 0. \end{cases} \tag{3.9}$$

We are now in a position to prove our result.

**THEOREM 2.** *If  $S \in \mathfrak{S}_{n,s}$  satisfies  $\|S\| < 1$ , then  $\|S^{(n)}\| < \|\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}^{(n)}\|$ .*

**PROOF.** Take  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_s$  as in (2.2). By (2.3) we know the nonzero  $\beta_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, s$ , are symmetric about  $\frac{1}{2}$  and so  $\Pi_n(\beta_1, \dots, \beta_s; \lambda)$  is a reciprocal polynomial in  $\lambda$ . If  $n$  and  $s$  are both even or both odd, then  $\beta_1 = 0$ . Otherwise  $\beta_1 > 0$ . Thus in all cases,  $\Pi_n(\beta_1, \dots, \beta_s; \lambda)$  is a polynomial in  $\lambda$  of even degree and so

$$\Pi_n(\beta_1, \dots, \beta_s; (-1)^s) \neq 0.$$

Since (3.4) is satisfied, we may define the ‘fundamental spline’  $L_r$  for  $r = 1, \dots, s$ . Then for any  $S \in \mathfrak{S}_{n,s}$  satisfying  $\|S\| < 1$ , we have from (3.6),

$$\begin{aligned} |S^{(n)}(x)| &= \left| \sum_{r=1}^s \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} S(k + \beta_r) L_r^{(n)}(x - k) \right| \\ &< \sum_{r=1}^s \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} |L_r^{(n)}(x - k)|, \quad \forall x \in \mathbf{R}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.10}$$

But it follows from (3.9) and (2.2) that equality is attained in (3.10) for  $S = \mathfrak{E}_{n,s}$ .  $\square$

For  $s = 1$  this result was proved by Schoenberg [11], and for  $s = n$  the result follows immediately from the properties of Chebyshev polynomials.

It is clear from the proof of Theorem 2 that the condition  $\|S\| < 1$  in the statement of the theorem can be replaced by the weaker condition

$$|S(k + \beta_i)| < 1, \quad \forall k \in \mathbf{Z}, \quad i = 1, \dots, s.$$

**4. Limits of cardinal splines.** We need a further property of ET-splines.

**LEMMA 2.** *For  $s = 1, 2, \dots$ , there are constants  $K_s$  such that  $\|\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}^{(v)}\| < K_s (s\pi)^n$  for all  $n > s$  and  $v = 0, \dots, n$ .*

**PROOF.** First suppose  $s$  is odd,  $s = 2t - 1$ . It follows from the work of [1] that for any  $n > s$ ,

$$\mathfrak{E}_{n,s} = \mathfrak{E}_{n,1} + \mu_1 \mathfrak{E}_{n-2,1} + \dots + \mu_{t-1} \mathfrak{E}_{n-2t+2,1}, \tag{4.1}$$

where  $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_{t-1}$  are chosen to minimise  $\|\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}\|$ .

We first consider odd  $n > s$ . Then it follows from (4.1) and (2.6) that we may write

$$\mathfrak{E}_{n,s} = (-1)^{(n+1)/2} \phi_n / \|\phi_n\|,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_n(x) &= \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos(2r-1)\pi x}{(2r-1)^{n+1}} + \lambda_1^{(n)} \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos(2r-1)\pi x}{(2r-1)^{n-1}} \\ &\quad + \dots + \lambda_{t-1}^{(n)} \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos(2r-1)\pi x}{(2r-1)^{n-2t+3}} \\ &= \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos(2r-1)\pi x}{(2r-1)^{n+1}} \{1 + \lambda_1^{(n)}(2r-1)^2 + \dots + \lambda_{t-1}^{(n)}(2r-1)^{2t-2}\}, \end{aligned}$$

and  $\lambda_1^{(n)}, \dots, \lambda_{t-1}^{(n)}$  are chosen to minimise  $\|\phi_n\|$ .

Let  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{t-1}$  be the unique solution of the equations

$$1 + (2r-1)^2\lambda_1 + \dots + (2r-1)^{2t-2}\lambda_{t-1} = 0, \quad r = 1, \dots, t-1.$$

Let

$$\psi_n(x) = \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos(2r-1)\pi x}{(2r-1)^{n+1}} \{1 + \lambda_1(2r-1)^2 + \dots + \lambda_{t-1}(2r-1)^{2t-2}\}.$$

Then  $\|(2t-3)^{n+1}\psi_n\| \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Since  $\|\phi_n\| < \|\psi_n\|$ ,  $\|(2t-3)^{n+1}\phi_n\| \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and so for  $r = 1, \dots, t-1$ ,

$$\left(\frac{2t-3}{2r-1}\right)^{n+1} \{1 + \lambda_1^{(n)}(2r-1)^2 + \dots + \lambda_{t-1}^{(n)}(2r-1)^{2t-2}\} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

So  $\lambda_i^{(n)} \rightarrow \lambda_i$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, t-1$ . Thus

$$(2t-1)^{n+1}\phi_n(x) = f_n(x) + a_n \cos(2t-1)\pi x + O\left(\left[\frac{2t-1}{2t+1}\right]^n\right)$$

where  $f_n(x)$  is of the form  $\sum_{r=1}^{t-1} b_r \cos(2r-1)\pi x$  and

$$a_n \rightarrow a = 1 + (2t-1)^2\lambda_1 + \dots + (2t-1)^{2t-2}\lambda_{t-1} \neq 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Now for each  $n$ , there is an integer  $j$ ,  $1 < j < 2t-1$ , such that

$$f_n\left(\frac{j}{2t-1}\right) a_n \cos j\pi > 0,$$

and so

$$(2t-1)^{n+1} \left| \phi_n\left(\frac{j}{2t-1}\right) \right| > |a_n| + O\left(\left[\frac{2t-1}{2t+1}\right]^n\right).$$

So  $\exists \delta > 0$  such that

$$s^{n+1} \|\phi_n\| > \delta, \quad \forall n > s. \tag{4.2}$$

Writing

$$g_n(x) = \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos(2r-1)\pi x}{(2r-1)^{n+1}},$$



we have

$$\|g_n^{(\nu)}\| < \pi^\nu \left( 1 + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \dots \right) < 2\pi^\nu$$

for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  and  $\nu < n$ . Also  $\|g_n^{(n)}\| = 2\|g_n^{(n-1)}\| < 4\pi^{n-1}$ . So

$$\|\phi_n^{(\nu)}\| < 4\pi^{n-1} \{ 1 + |\lambda_1^{(n)}| + \dots + |\lambda_{l-1}^{(n)}| \}, \quad \nu < n,$$

and so there is a constant  $K$  such that

$$\|\phi_n^{(\nu)}\| < K\pi^n \quad \text{for all } n > s \text{ and } \nu < n. \tag{4.3}$$

Thus

$$\|\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}^{(\nu)}\| = \|\phi_n^{(\nu)}\| / \|\phi_n\| < \frac{Ks}{\delta} (s\pi)^n, \quad \forall n > s, \quad \nu < n,$$

by (4.2) and (4.3).

The result for even  $n$  follows similarly.

Next suppose  $s$  is even,  $s = 2t$ . We first note that

$$\mathfrak{E}_{n,2}^{(n-1)}(x) / \|\mathfrak{E}_{n,2}^{(n)}\| = x - \frac{1}{2}, \quad \forall x \in (0, 1).$$

So

$$\mathfrak{E}_{n,2} = (-1)^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} h / \|h\|,$$

where

$$h(x) = \begin{cases} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k^n} \cos 2k\pi(x - \frac{1}{2}) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2k)^n} & \text{if } n \text{ even,} \\ \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k^n} \sin 2k\pi(x - \frac{1}{2}) & \text{if } n \text{ odd.} \end{cases}$$

It follows that for even  $n$ ,

$$\mathfrak{E}_{n,s} = (-1)^{n/2} \phi_n / \|\phi_n\|,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_n(x) = & \mu + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k^n} \cos 2k\pi(x - \frac{1}{2}) + \lambda_1^{(n)} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k^{n-2}} \cos 2k\pi(x - \frac{1}{2}) \\ & + \dots + \lambda_{l-1}^{(n)} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k^{n-2l+2}} \cos 2k\pi(x - \frac{1}{2}), \end{aligned}$$

and  $\mu, \lambda_1^{(n)}, \dots, \lambda_{l-1}^{(n)}$  are chosen to minimise  $\|\phi_n\|$ .

For odd  $n$ ,

$$\mathfrak{E}_{n,s} = (-1)^{(n-1)/2} \phi_n / \|\phi_n\|,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_n(x) = & \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k^n} \sin 2k\pi(x - \frac{1}{2}) + \lambda_1^{(n)} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k^n} \sin 2k\pi(x - \frac{1}{2}) \\ & + \dots + \lambda_{l-1}^{(n)} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k^{n-2l+2}} \sin 2k\pi(x - \frac{1}{2}), \end{aligned}$$

and  $\lambda_1^{(n)}, \dots, \lambda_{l-1}^{(n)}$  are chosen to minimise  $\|\phi_n\|$ .

The result now follows by the same method as for odd  $s$ .  $\square$

We now apply Lemma 2 and Theorems 1 and 2 in proving the following:

**LEMMA 3.** *For  $s = 1, 2, \dots$ , there are constants  $L_s$  such that if  $S$  in  $\mathfrak{S}_{n,s}$  satisfies  $\|S\| < 1$ , then  $\|S^{(k)}\| < L_s(s\pi)^k$ , for all  $n > s$  and  $k \leq n - s$ .*

**PROOF.** Take  $S$  in  $\mathfrak{S}_{n,s}$  with  $\|S\| < 1$ . Then by Theorem 2,  $\|S^{(n)}\| < \|\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}^{(n)}\|$ . So by Theorem 1,

$$|S^{(k)}(\nu +)| \leq |\mathfrak{E}_{n,s}^{(k)}(\nu +)|, \quad \forall \nu \in \mathbf{Z}, \quad k = n - s + 1, \dots, n - 1.$$

So by Lemma 2,

$$\|S^{(n)}\| < K_s(s\pi)^n \tag{4.4}$$

and

$$|S^{(k)}(\nu +)| < K_s(s\pi)^n, \quad \forall \nu \in \mathbf{Z}, \quad k = n - s + 1, \dots, n - 1. \tag{4.5}$$

It follows from (4.4) and (4.5) for  $k = n - 1$  that  $\|S^{(n-1)}\| < 2K_s(s\pi)^n$ . Proceeding in this manner we deduce that

$$\|S^{(n-s+1)}\| < sK_s(s\pi)^n. \tag{4.6}$$

Let  $T(x) = S(Mx)$ , where  $M = [\frac{1}{2}K_s s^{n+1} \pi^s]^{-1/(n-s+1)}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} |T^{(n-s+1)}(x)| &= M^{n-s+1} |S^{(n-s+1)}(x)| \\ &< [\frac{1}{2}K_s s^{n+1} \pi^s]^{-1} sK_s(s\pi)^n \quad (\text{by (4.6)}) \\ &= 2\pi^{n-s} < \|\mathfrak{E}_{n-s+1}^{(n-s+1)}\|. \end{aligned}$$

So by a theorem of Kolmogorov (see [2]), for  $k \leq n - s$ ,

$$\|T^{(k)}\| \leq \|\mathfrak{E}_{n-s+1}^{(k)}\| < 2\pi^k \quad (\text{see [11]}). \tag{4.7}$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} \|S^{(k)}\| &= M^{-k} \|T^{(k)}\| < M^{-k} 2\pi^k \quad (\text{by (4.7)}) \\ &= 2[\frac{1}{2}K_s(s\pi)^s]^{k/(n-s+1)} (s\pi)^k < L_s(s\pi)^k, \end{aligned}$$

where  $L_s = \max\{2, K_s(s\pi)^s\}$ .  $\square$

By the method of Schoenberg [11], we may deduce from Lemma 3 our final result.

**THEOREM 3.** *For a given natural number  $s$ , suppose  $f_n \in \mathcal{S}_{i_n, s}$ , where  $i_n \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . If  $f_n \rightarrow f$  uniformly on  $\mathbf{R}$  and  $f$  is bounded, then  $f$  is the restriction to  $\mathbf{R}$  of an entire function of exponential type  $< s$ .*

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