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Approximation Properties of Discrete Fourier Sums for Some Piecewise Linear Functions

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Let N be a natural number greater than 1. We select N uniformly distributed points $t_k = 2\pi k/N$ ($0 \leq k \leq N-1$) on $[0, 2\pi]$. Denote by $L_{n,N}(f) = L_{n,N}(f, x)$ ($1 \leq n \leq N/2$) the trigonometric polynomial of order n possessing the least quadratic deviation from f with respect to the system $\{t_k\}_{k=0}^{N-1}$. In other words, the greatest lower bound of the sums $\sum_{k=0}^{N-1} |f(t_k) - T_n(t_k)|^2$ on the set of trigonometric polynomials T_n of order n is attained by $L_{n,N}(f)$. In the present article the problem of function approximation by the polynomials $L_{n,N}(f, x)$ is considered. Using some example functions we show that the polynomials $L_{n,N}(f, x)$ uniformly approximate a piecewise-linear continuous function with a convergence rate $O(1/n)$ with respect to the variables $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and $1 \leq n \leq N/2$. These polynomials also uniformly approximate the same function with a rate $O(1/n^2)$ outside of some neighborhood of function's „crease“ points. Also we show that the polynomials $L_{n,N}(f, x)$ uniformly approximate a piecewise-linear discontinuous function with a rate $O(1/n)$ with respect to the variables x and $1 \leq n \leq N/2$ outside some neighborhood of discontinuity points. Special attention is paid to approximation of 2π -periodic functions f_1 and f_2 by the polynomials $L_{n,N}(f, x)$, where $f_1(x) = |x|$ and $f_2(x) = \text{sign } x$ for $x \in [-\pi, \pi]$. For the first function f_1 we show that instead of the estimate $|f_1(x) - L_{n,N}(f_1, x)| \leq c \ln n/n$ which follows from the well-known Lebesgue inequality for the polynomials $L_{n,N}(f, x)$ we found an exact order estimate $|f_1(x) - L_{n,N}(f_1, x)| \leq c/n$ ($x \in \mathbb{R}$) which is uniform relative to $1 \leq n \leq N/2$. Moreover, we found a local estimate $|f_1(x) - L_{n,N}(f_1, x)| \leq c(\varepsilon)/n^2$ ($|x - \pi k| \geq \varepsilon$) which is also uniform relative to $1 \leq n \leq N/2$. For the second function f_2 we found only a local estimate $|f_2(x) - L_{n,N}(f_2, x)| \leq c(\varepsilon)/n$ ($|x - \pi k| \geq \varepsilon$) which is uniform relative to $1 \leq n \leq N/2$. The proofs of these estimations are based on comparing of approximating properties of discrete and continuous finite Fourier series.

Key words: function approximation, trigonometric polynomials, Fourier series.

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