

# KERGIN INTERPOLANTS AT THE ROOTS OF UNITY APPROXIMATE $C^2$ FUNCTIONS

By

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**Abstract.** We establish a new formula for Kergin interpolation in the plane and use it to prove that the Kergin interpolation polynomials at the roots of unity of a function of class  $C^2$  in a neighborhood of the unit disc  $\mathbb{D}$  converge uniformly to the function on  $\mathbb{D}$ .

## 1. Introduction

A fundamental theorem of constructive real analysis states that the Lagrange interpolation polynomial  $L_d(f)$  at the  $d$ -th Chebyshev points of every Lip1 function  $f$  on  $[-1, 1]$  converges uniformly to  $f$  on  $[-1, 1]$  as  $d \rightarrow \infty$ , i.e.

$$\lim_{d \rightarrow \infty} \|f - L_d(f)\|_{[-1,1]} = 0.$$

(Recall that the  $d$ -th Chebyshev points are the roots of the  $d$ -th Chebyshev polynomial  $T_d(x) := \cos d\theta$ ,  $\cos \theta = x$ .) The difficult part of the proof consists in establishing that the Lebesgue constant  $\Delta_d$  (i.e., the norm of the operator  $L_d$  on  $C[-1, 1]$ ) is equivalent to  $(2/\pi) \log d$  as  $d \rightarrow \infty$  (see, e.g., [R]), for then, if  $p_d$  is the best approximation of  $f$  among the polynomials of degree at most  $d$ , one has

$$\|f - L_d(f)\| \leq (1 + \Delta_d) \|f - p_d\|;$$

whence the convergence follows by the classical Jackson Theorem.

The purpose of this note is to prove a two-dimensional version of this result in which  $[-1, 1]$  is replaced by the unit disc

$$\mathbb{D} := \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x_1^2 + x_2^2 \leq 1\};$$

the Chebyshev nodes, by the vertices of the standard regular  $d$ -polygon (i.e., the  $d$ -th roots of unity)

$$(1.1) \quad e^{kd} := (\cos \theta_{kd}, \sin \theta_{kd}) = e^{i\theta_{kd}}, \quad k = 1, \dots, d$$