

ON n -WIDTHS OF PERIODIC FUNCTIONS

CHEN HANLIN (陈翰麟)*

Abstract

Let $\tilde{B}_p^{r,1} = \{f: f^{(r-1)}$ is abs. cont. on $I=[a, b]$, f is periodic with period $H(=b-a)$, $f(x_1)=0$, $\|f^{(r)}\|_p \leq 1\}$, where x_1 is any fixed point in $[a, b]$. The author finds the Kolmogorov, Gel'fand, linear, and Berustein n -widths of $\tilde{B}_p^{r,1}$ in $L^p(I)$ for n odd, $\infty > p > 1$. The optimal subspaces and operators are also found.

§ 1. Introduction

Let X be a normed linear space and K a subspace of X . The n -width of K relative to X , in the sense of Kolmogorov, is given by

$$d_n(K, X) = \inf_{X_n} \sup_{a \in K} \inf_{x \in X_n} \|a - x\|_X,$$

where X_n runs over the totality of n -dimensional subspaces of X . If there exists an n -dimensional subspace X_n^* , for which

$$d_n(K, X) = \sup_{a \in K} \inf_{x \in X_n^*} \|a - x\|_X,$$

then X_n^* is said to be optimal.

The linear n -width of K in X is defined by

$$\delta_n(K, X) = \inf_{P_n} \sup_{x \in K} \|x - P_n(x)\|,$$

where the P_n ranges over the set of continuous linear operators of X into X of rank at most n , i.e., whose range is of dimension at most n . If $\delta_n(K, X) = \sup\{\|x - P_n^*(x)\| \mid x \in K\}$ and $\text{rank } P_n^* \leq n$, then P_n^* is said to be optimal for $\delta_n(K, X)$.

The Gel'fand n -width of K in X is given by

$$d^n(K, X) = \inf_{L_n} \sup_{x \in K \cap L_n} \|x\|,$$

where L_n ranges over all closed subspaces of codimension at most n . If $d^n(K, X) = \sup\{\|x\| \mid x \in K \cap L_n^*\}$ and $\text{codim } L_n^* \leq n$, then L_n^* is said to be optimal for $d^n(K, X)$.

The Bernstein n -width of K in X is given by

$$b_n(K, X) = \sup_{X_{n+1}} \sup\{\lambda \mid \lambda S(X_{n+1}) \subseteq K\},$$

* Manuscript received November, 9, 1988.

* Institute of Mathematics, Academia Sinica, Beijing, China.

where $S(X_{n+1}) = \{x | x \in X_{n+1}, \|x\| \leq 1\}$ and X_{n+1} ranges over all subspaces of dimension at least $n+1$. If $\dim X_{n+1}^* \geq n+1$, and $b_n(K, X)S(X_{n+1}^*) \subseteq K$, then X_{n+1}^* is said to be optimal for $b_n(K, X)$.

The Sobolev space $\tilde{W}_p^r[a, b]$ of periodic real-valued functions on $I = [a, b]$ ($b - a = H$, $H > 0$) is defined by $\tilde{W}_p^r = \tilde{W}_p^r(I) = \{f | f^{(r-1)} \text{ abs. cont., } f^r \in L^p(I), f^{(i)}(a) = f^{(i)}(b) \text{ for } i = 0, r-1\}$. Set $\tilde{B}_p^r = \{f | f \in \tilde{W}_p^r(I), \|f^{(r)}\|_p \leq 1\}$. One of the important problems in the study of n -width has been the determination of the n -width and the characterization of optimal subspaces and operators when $A = \tilde{B}_p^r$ and $X = L^q(I)$ for $p, q \geq 1$. In [1] Buslaev and Tichomiroy claimed that $d_{2L-1}(\tilde{B}_p^r, L^q(I)) = d_{2L}(\tilde{B}_p^r, L^q(I))$ for $L = 1, 2, \dots$ and $p \geq q$, but there are no results on linear, Bernstein's and Gel'fand's n -widths.

It has been conjectured that the four n -widths (or three of them) are equal for all p, q such that $\infty \geq p \geq q \geq 1$. This conjecture was proved for some special cases, i. e., 1) $p = \infty$ and $q \in [1, \infty]$, 2) $p \in [1, \infty]$ and $q = 1$, 3) $p = q = 2$ [2]. In this paper, we study the $(2m-1)$ -widths of class $\tilde{B}_p^{r,1}$ in $L^p(I)$, prove that the four widths are equal to some quantity, and find the corresponding optimal subspaces and operators. The motivation of this work is the paper [3] by Pinkus, where the author proved the conjecture for non-periodic cases.

§ 2. Preliminaries and Definitions

Given an interval $I = [a, b]$, $b - a = H$, $H > 0$.

Definition 1. Let $f \in L^1(I)$. We say that $S(f, I) = S(f) = n$, if there exist $n+1$ disjoint ordered intervals $\{I_j\}_{j=1}^{n+1}$ (by ordered we mean that $x < y$ for all $x \in I_j$, $y \in I_{j+1}$, $j = 1, \dots, n$) whose union is $[a, b]$ and such that $\varepsilon(-1)^j f \geq 0$ a. e. on I_j , $j = 1, \dots, n+1$, with constant $\varepsilon = 1$ or -1 , and $\text{meas}\{x: x \in I_j, f(x) \neq 0\} > 0$, $j = 1, \dots, n+1$. If no such n exists, we set $S(f) = \infty$.

Let $y = (y_1, \dots, y_s) \in R^s \setminus \{0\}$. The number $S_0(y)$ of cyclic variations of sign of y is given by $S_0(y) = \max S^-(y_i, y_{i+1}, \dots, y_s, y_1, \dots, y_i) = S^-(y_k, \dots, y_s, y_1, \dots, y_k)$, where k is any integer for which $y_k \neq 0$.

This definition of cyclic variations is of sign only for discrete numbers, the following definition is for functions.

Definition 2. Let $f \in L^1(I)$, f is an H -periodic function, the number $S_0(f, I)$ of cyclic variations of sign of f is given by $S(f, I)$ if $S(f, I)$ is even, and by $S(f, I) + 1$ if $S(f, I)$ is odd, where $S(f, I)$ is defined in Definition 1.

Definition 3. Let $g_i \in C[I]$, $i = 1, \dots, s$. We say that g is a WT-system on I if

$$G \begin{pmatrix} g_1, & \dots, & g_s \\ 1, & \dots, & s \end{pmatrix} = \det(g_j(y_i))_{i,j=1}^s \geq 0$$

for all choices of $a \leq y_1 < \dots < y_s \leq b$.

Lemma 2.1. If $U = \{g_i\}_1^s$ is a WT-system on I , then

$$S\left(\sum_{i=1}^s a_i g_i\right) \leq s-1,$$

and conversely, if the above inequality holds, then either U or $\bar{U} = \{g_1, \dots, g_{s-1}, -g_s\}$ is a WT-system on I (see [5]).

Definition 4. Set $\mu_r(x-y) = (b-a)^{r-1} B_r\left(\frac{x-y}{b-a}\right)$ where $B_r(x)$ is the Bernoulli polynomial of degree r on $[0, 1]$ (see [4]). μ_r has the following properties

$$\mu_r(x-y) = (-1)^r \mu_r(y-x), \quad \mu_r \in C^{r-2}(R^1) (r \geq 2), \quad (1)$$

$$\int_I \mu_r(x-y) dy = 0, \quad \frac{d\mu_r(x-y)}{dx} = \mu_{r-1}(x-y), \quad (2)$$

$$\mu_1(x-y) = \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{x-y}{H} & x < y \leq b, \\ \frac{1}{2} - \frac{x-y}{H} & a \leq y < x. \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

For $f \in \tilde{B}_p^r$, the following formulas are valid

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{b-a} \int_I f(y) dy + (\mu_r * f^{(r)})(x), \quad (4)$$

where

$$(f_1 * f_2)(x) = \int_I f(x-y) f_2(y) dy.$$

If f vanishes at x_1 , then

$$f(x) = \int_I V(x, y) f^{(r)}(y) dy, \quad (5)$$

where $V(x, y) = \mu_r(x-y) - \mu_r(x_1-y)$.

Let $y(t) = c + (\mu_r * \varphi)(t)$. Then

$$y^{(r)}(t) = \varphi(t) - \frac{1}{H} \int_I \varphi(y) dy.$$

Definition 5. A real H -periodic, continuous function G has property B , if for every choice of $a \leq y_1 < \dots < y_L < a+H$ and for each L , the subspace

$$X_L = \left\{ b + \sum_{i=1}^L b_i G(\cdot - y_i) : \sum_{i=1}^L b_i = 0 \right\}$$

is of dimension L , and is a WT-system for L odd.

The proof of the following lemma can be found in [2].

Lemma 2.2. G has property B . Let $\phi \in L^1[a, b]$ be such that $\phi \perp 1$, meas $\{x | \phi(x) = 0\} = 0$, and ϕ has $2m$ sign changes on $[a, b]$ (considered cyclically). By this we mean that there exist points $a \leq y_1 < y_2 < \dots < y_{2m} < b$, for which $\varepsilon \phi(y) (-1)^i > 0$ a.e. $y \in (y_i, y_{i+1})$, $i = \overline{0, 2m}$, where $y_0 = a$ and $y_{2m+1} = b$, and $\varepsilon = 1$ or -1 . Assume that $\psi(x) = c + (G * \phi)(x)$ has $2m$ zeros at $a \leq x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_{2m} < b$. Then for any given data $\{c_i\}_1^{2m}$, there exists a unique function f in

$$X_{2m} = \left\{ b + \sum_{i=1}^{2m} b_i G(\cdot - y_i) \mid \sum_{i=1}^{2m} b_i = 0 \right\}$$

such that $f(x_i) = c_i$, $i = \overline{1, 2m}$.

Lemma 2.3. For each $r \geq 2$, $\mu_r(t-r)$ satisfies property B.

Lemma 2.4. Let A be a closed, convex, centrally symmetric subset of a normed linear space X . Then

$$\delta_n(A, X) \geq d_n(A, X), \quad d^n(A, X) \geq b_n(A, X).$$

We now define a class of functions D as follows

$$D = \{ \varphi : \varphi \in L^p(I), \varphi(x+h) = -\varphi(x), x \in I, \varphi(2a-x) = -\varphi(x) \}. \quad (6)$$

If $\varphi \in D$, then the function $(\mu_r * \varphi)(x)$ enjoys the following properties

$$(\mu_r * \varphi)(x+h) = -(\mu_r * \varphi)(x), \quad (7)$$

$$(\mu_r * \varphi)(2a-x) = (-1)^{r+1} (\mu_r * \varphi)(x), \quad (8)$$

$$(\mu_r * \varphi)(\beta + \kappa h) = 0, \quad \kappa = 1, \dots, 2m, \quad (9)$$

where

$$\beta = \begin{cases} a & \text{if } r \text{ even,} \\ a+h/2 & \text{if } r \text{ odd.} \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

In fact, (7) and (8) simply follow from (6), and they imply (9).

By the same reason, the function

$$E(x) = \int_I \mu_r(x-y) \operatorname{sgn} \left(\sin \frac{\pi(y-a)}{h} \right) dy$$

vanishes at $x_\kappa = \beta + \kappa h$, κ being an integer. Let $Z(E)$ (or $Z_c(E, I)$) be the number of zeros of E on $[a, b)$, counting multiplicities, then $2m \leq Z(E) \leq S_c(\operatorname{sgn} E^{(r)}, I) = 2m$; therefore, $Z(E) = 2m$. $\{x_\kappa\}_{\kappa=1}^{2m}$ are simple zeros of E on $[a, b)$ and $E(x)$ does not vanish elsewhere.

Set $y_\kappa = a + \kappa h$, $T(x, y) = \mu_r(x-y) - \mu_r(x-y_1)$. According to Lemma 2, we conclude that the matrix

$$T_{2m} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \dots & \dots & 1 \\ T(x_1, y_2) & T(x_2, y_2) & \dots & T(x_{2m}, y_2) \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ T(x_1, y_{2m}) & T(x_2, y_{2m}) & \dots & T(x_{2m}, y_{2m}) \end{pmatrix}$$

is non-singular.

Let $L(x, y) = T(x, y) - T(x_1, y)$; By a simple calculation, the matrix

$$L_{2m} = \begin{pmatrix} L(x_2, y_2) & \dots & L(x_2, y_{2m}) \\ L(x_3, y_2) & \dots & L(x_3, y_{2m}) \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ L(x_{2m}, y_2) & \dots & L(x_{2m}, y_{2m}) \end{pmatrix} \quad (11)$$

is also non-singular, and

$$\det L_{2m} = \det T_{2m} \neq 0, \quad (12)$$

where

$$x_\kappa = \beta + \kappa h, \quad y_\kappa = a + \kappa h, \quad \kappa \in \mathbf{Z}. \quad (13)$$

We have

Theorem 1. Let $1 < p < \infty$, $r \geq 2$. There is a function $\hat{\phi}$ in D , $\|\hat{\phi}\|_p = 1$, which solves the following extremal problem

$$\sup\{\|\mu_r * \varphi\|_p : \|\varphi\|_p \leq 1, \varphi \in D\} = \sup\left\{\frac{\|\mu_r * \varphi\|_p}{\|\varphi\|_p}, \varphi \in D\right\} = \|\mu_r * \hat{\phi}\|_p. \quad (14)$$

Denote the extremal value by

$$\eta = \|\mu_r * \hat{\phi}\|_p. \quad (15)$$

Set

$$\bar{L}(x, y) = \det L \begin{pmatrix} x, x_2, & \dots, & x_{2m} \\ y, y_2, & \dots, & y_{2m} \end{pmatrix} / \det L_{2m}, \quad M(x, y) = |\bar{L}(x, y)|.$$

Then

$$\eta = \sup\{\|\bar{L} * \varphi\|_p : \|\varphi\|_p \leq 1, \varphi \in D\} = \|\bar{L} * \hat{\phi}\|_p \quad (16)$$

$$= \sup\left\{\|M * \psi\|_p : \psi(x) = \varphi(x) \operatorname{sgn}\left(\sin \frac{\pi(x-\alpha)}{h}\right), \varphi \in D\right\} \\ = \|M * \hat{\psi}\|_p, \quad \hat{\psi}(x) = \hat{\phi}(x) \operatorname{sgn}\left(\sin \frac{\pi(x-\alpha)}{h}\right). \quad (17)$$

The function $\hat{\phi}$ satisfies the equation

$$\int_I \mu_r(x-y) N(x) dx = J(y), \quad y \in I, \quad \hat{f}(x) = (\mu_r * \hat{\phi})(x), \quad (18)$$

$$N(x) = |\hat{f}(x)|^{p-1} \operatorname{sgn} \hat{f}(x), \quad J(y) = \eta^p |\hat{\phi}(y)|^{p-1} \operatorname{sgn} \hat{\phi}(y),$$

and J is continuous on I . There are $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \{-1, 1\}$ such that

$$\operatorname{sgn}(\lambda_1 \hat{\phi}(y)) = \operatorname{sgn}\left(\sin\left(\frac{\pi(y-\alpha)}{h}\right)\right), \quad y \in I, \quad (19)$$

$$\operatorname{sgn}(\lambda_2 \hat{f}(x)) = \operatorname{sgn}\left(\sin\left(\frac{\pi(x-\beta)}{h}\right)\right), \quad x \in I, \quad (20)$$

Proof From the weak compactness theorem, there exists a function $\hat{\phi}$ in D which solves the extremal problem (14). Assume $\varphi \in D$. Then, for any $t \in \mathbb{R}^1$, the function $\hat{\phi} + t\varphi$ is also in D . Set $G(t) = \|\mu_r * (\hat{\phi} + t\varphi)\|_p / \|\hat{\phi} + t\varphi\|_p$; since $G'(0) = 0$ we have $\int_I F(y) \varphi(y) dy = 0$ for any $\varphi \in D$, where $F(y) = \int_I \mu_r(x-y) N(x) dx - J(y)$, $F(y)$ is in D ; thus $\int_I F(y)^2 dy = 0$, i.e., $F(y) = 0$ a.e. for $y \in I$. $\int_I \mu_r(x-y) N(x) dx$ is continuous on I ; by modifying the value of $\hat{\phi}(y)$ on a set of measure zero, $\hat{\phi}(y)$ (and $J(y)$) will also be continuous. Therefore we have (18). Assume $\varphi \in D$, and set $f = \mu_r * \varphi$. From (9), $f(x_n) = 0$ and

$$(L * \varphi)(x) = f(x), \quad \text{for any } \varphi \in D, \quad (21)$$

$$(\bar{L} * \varphi)(x) = f(x) - R_{2m-1}(f(\cdot))(x) = f(x), \quad (22)$$

where $R_{2m-1}(g)$ is the interpolation from $\operatorname{span}\{L(\cdot, y_2), \dots, L(\cdot, y_{2m})\}$ to $g(\cdot)$ at $\{x_j\}_{j=2}^{2m}$. Therefore

$$(L * \varphi)(x) = f(x) = (\bar{L} * \varphi)(x), \quad \text{for any } \varphi \in D \text{ and } x \in I, \quad (23)$$

(16) follows from (23) and (14).

By a simple calculation, $\bar{L}(x, y)$ can also be presented as

$$\bar{L}(x, y) = T(x, y) + \sum_{j=1}^{2m} b_j T(x_j, y), \quad 1 + \sum_{j=1}^{2m} b_j = 0. \quad (24)$$

Similarly, then we also have

$$\bar{L}(x, y) = T(x, y) + \sum_{j=1}^{2m} d_j T(x, y_j), \quad 1 + \sum_{j=1}^{2m} d_j = 0. \quad (25)$$

From (25) and Lemma 2.3, Lemma 2.1, we have

$$2m \leq S_c(\bar{L}(\cdot, y), I) \leq 2m, \quad y \text{ fixed}. \quad (26)$$

Similarly,

$$2m \leq S_c(\bar{L}(x, \cdot), I) \leq 2m, \quad x \text{ fixed}. \quad (27)$$

We conclude that $(\bar{L}(x, y) \ (y \text{ fixed}))$ can only have simple zeros at $x = \{x_j\}_{j=1}^{2m}$. Similarly, when x is fixed, $\bar{L}(x, y)$ only has simple zeros at $y = \{y_j\}_{j=1}^{2m}$. Thus from (13) we have

$$\bar{L}(x, y) = \lambda \operatorname{sgn}\left(\sin\left(\frac{\pi(x-\beta)}{h}\right)\right) |\bar{L}(x, y)| \operatorname{sgn}\left(\sin\left(\frac{\pi(y-\alpha)}{h}\right)\right), \quad (28)$$

where $\lambda = 1$ or -1 .

From (28) we have (17). Now we prove (19), (20).

Since $\hat{\phi} \in D$, from (7) and (18) $\hat{f} \perp 1$, $N \perp 1$, then $2m \leq S_c(\hat{\phi}, I) = S_c(J, I) \leq Z(J) \leq Z(J^{(r-1)}) \leq S_c(N, I) = S_c(\hat{f}, I) \leq Z(\hat{f}) \leq Z(\hat{f}^{(r-1)}) \leq S_c(\hat{\phi}, I)$, where $Z(g)$ denotes the number of zeros of g on $[a, b]$. We conclude that J, \hat{f} only have simple zeros. Thus, (20) follows. Since J has no zero interval, this implies that $\hat{\phi}$ has no zero interval. From (17) and $M(x, y) \geq 0$, $\hat{\psi}(x)$ must keep constant sign on I . Therefore, $\hat{\psi}(x)$ changes sign only at $y_\kappa (\kappa = 1, \dots, 2m)$, these are the only zeros (in I) of function $J(y)$, (19) is true.

Let

$$\omega = \sup_{\varphi \in L^p(I)} \frac{\|\bar{L} * \varphi\|_p}{\|\varphi\|_p}. \quad (29)$$

We have

Theorem 2. $\infty > p > 1$, there exists a function $\varphi_0 \in L^p(I)$ and a function $f_0 = \bar{L} * \varphi_0$ satisfying $\omega = \|f_0\|_p / \|\varphi_0\|_p$, f_0 satisfies

$$\int_I \bar{L}(x, y) |f_0(x)|^{p-1} \operatorname{sgn} f_0(x) dx = \omega^p |\varphi_0(y)|^{p-1} \operatorname{sgn} \varphi_0(y), \quad (30)$$

$$s \hat{\phi}(y) \varphi_0(y) \geq 0 \text{ a.e., } s = 1 \text{ or } -1, \quad (31)$$

$$\left| \int_I \bar{L}(x, y) \hat{\phi}(y) dy \right| = \int_I M(x, y) |\hat{\phi}(y)| dy = |\hat{f}(x)|, \quad (32)$$

$$\int_I \bar{L}(x, y) |(\bar{L} * \hat{\phi})(x)|^{p-1} \operatorname{sgn}(\bar{L} * \hat{\phi})(x) dx = J(y), \quad (33)$$

$$\omega = \eta. \quad (34)$$

Proof From the compactness consideration, there is a function φ_0 in $L^p(I)$, φ_0 attains the extremal value in (29). Equation (30) follows from a proof parallel

to the one of Theorem 1. From (28), we have

$$\int_I \left| \int_I \bar{L}(x, y) \varphi_0(y) dy \right|^p dx = \int_I \left| \int_I \bar{L}(x, y) \right| \left| \varphi_0(y) \right| \operatorname{sgn} \left(\varphi_0(y) \sin \frac{\pi(y-a)}{h} \right) dy dx.$$

Since φ_0 attains the extremal value, $\operatorname{sgn} \left(\varphi_0(y) \sin \frac{\pi(y-a)}{h} \right)$ must be a constant; thereby, (31) is true. (32) follows from (19), (28), (23) and (18).

From the definition of $\bar{L}(x, y)$ and $J(y_i) = 0$ we have

$$\int_I \bar{L}(x, y) N(x) dx = \int_I L(x, y) N(x) dx = J(y). \quad (35)$$

Combine it with (32) and (18) we obtain (33).

Set

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\varphi}_0(x) &= \varphi_0(x) / \|\varphi_0\|_p, \quad \tilde{f}_0(x) = (\bar{L} * \tilde{\varphi}_0)(x), \quad \hat{f}(x) = (\mu_r * \hat{\varphi})(x), \\ H_0(y) &= \omega^p |\tilde{\varphi}_0(y)|^{p-1} \operatorname{sgn} \tilde{\varphi}_0(y). \end{aligned}$$

From (19), (20), (28); it follows that

$$|(\bar{L} * \tilde{\varphi}_0)(x)| = |(M * |\tilde{\varphi}_0|)(x)|, \quad \operatorname{sgn}(\bar{L} * \tilde{\varphi}_0)(x) = \varepsilon \lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda \operatorname{sgn} \hat{f}(x). \quad (36)$$

Combining it with (30) we have

$$\int_I M(x, y) |(M * |\tilde{\varphi}_0|)(x)|^{p-1} dx = |H_0(y)|. \quad (37)$$

From (23), (28)

$$|\hat{f}(x)| = \int_I M(x, y) |\hat{\varphi}(y)| dy = (M * |\hat{\varphi}|)(x), \quad \lambda \lambda_1 \lambda_2 = 1. \quad (38)$$

Since $\hat{f} = \bar{L} * \hat{\varphi}$, from (38), (33) and (28) we have

$$\int_I M(x, y) |(M * |\hat{\varphi}|)(x)|^{p-1} dx = |J(y)|. \quad (39)$$

From (31), $\tilde{\varphi}_0(y)$ changes sign at $\{y_j\}_1^{2m}$. Then $H_0(y_i) = 0$, $J(y)$ has simple zeros at $\{y_j\}_1^{2m}$, and does not vanish elsewhere. Therefore $|H_0(y)/J(y)| < \infty$ for $y \in I$, there is a constant $\hat{\alpha}$ such that $\hat{\alpha} = \inf\{\alpha : |H_0(y)| \leq \alpha |J(y)|, y \in I\}$. Then

$$\omega^{\frac{p}{p-1}} |\tilde{\varphi}_0(y)| \leq \hat{\alpha}^{\frac{1}{p-1}} \eta^{\frac{p}{p-1}} |\hat{\varphi}(y)|$$

for $y \in I$, and $\omega^{\frac{p}{p-1}} (M * |\tilde{\varphi}_0|)(x) \leq \hat{\alpha}^{\frac{1}{p-1}} \eta^{\frac{p}{p-1}} (M * |\hat{\varphi}|)(x)$ for $x \in I$. Combining them with (39), (37), we get $|H_0(y)| \leq \hat{\alpha} \left(\frac{\eta}{\omega} \right)^p |J(y)|$ for $y \in I$. Thus we have $\eta \geq \omega$.

From (14), (15), (9) and (29) we have $\omega \geq \eta$; (34) is true.

set

$$\varphi_j(y) = |\hat{\varphi}(y)| \Omega_j(y), \quad \Omega_j(y) = \begin{cases} 1, & y \in (y_j, y_{j+1}), \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

$$j = 1, \dots, 2m, \quad y_{2m+1} = y_1 + H.$$

$$g_j(h) = \begin{cases} \int_I \mu_r(x-y) \varphi_j(y) dy, & j = 1, \dots, 2m, \\ 1, & j = 2m+1. \end{cases} \quad (40)$$

Define

$$F_{2m} = \left\{ g_\alpha : g_\alpha(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{2m+1} \alpha_j g_j(x), \sum_{j=1}^{2m} \alpha_j = 0 \right\}. \quad (41)$$

Let $\int_{y_j}^{y_{j+1}} |\hat{\phi}(y)|^p dy = d_j$ ($j = \overline{1, 2m}$). We consider the extremal problem

$$\inf_{g_\alpha \in F_{2m}} \frac{\|g_\alpha\|_p}{\|\varphi_\alpha\|_p}, \quad g_\alpha(x) = \alpha_{2m+1} + \int_I \mu_r(x, y) \varphi_\alpha(y) dy, \quad (42)$$

$\varphi_\alpha(y) = \sum_{j=1}^{2m} \alpha_j \varphi_j(y)$, $\sum_{j=1}^{2m} \alpha_j = 0$. Evidently, there is a function $\varphi^*(y) = \sum_{j=1}^{2m} \alpha_j^* \varphi_j(y)$, and a constant α_{2m+1}^* such that the function $g^* = \sum_{j=1}^{2m} \alpha_j^* g_j + \alpha_{2m+1}^*$ solves the problem (42).

$$\inf_{g_\alpha \in F_{2m}} \frac{\|g_\alpha\|_p}{\|\varphi_\alpha\|_p} = \frac{\|g^*\|_p}{\|\varphi^*\|_p} = \xi. \quad (43)$$

Set $F(\alpha) = F(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{2m+1}) = \|g_\alpha\|_p / \|\varphi_\alpha\|_p$, differentiate $F(\alpha)$ with respect to α_κ and set $\alpha = \alpha^*$, we have $\left. \frac{\partial F(\alpha)}{\partial \alpha_\kappa} \right|_{\alpha=\alpha^*} = 0$ for $\kappa = \overline{1, \dots, 2m+1}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_I g_\kappa(x) |g^*(x)|^{p-1} \operatorname{sgn} g^*(x) dx &= \xi^p d_\kappa |\alpha_\kappa^*|^{p-1} \operatorname{sgn} \alpha_\kappa^*, \quad \kappa = \overline{1, 2m}, \\ \int_I |g(x)|^{p-1} \operatorname{sgn} g^*(x) dx &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (44)$$

From (18) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_I g_\kappa(x) |\hat{f}(x)|^{p-1} \operatorname{sgn} \hat{f}(x) dx &= \eta^p d_\kappa (-1)^\kappa, \quad \kappa = \overline{1, 2m} \\ \int_I |\hat{f}(x)|^{p-1} \operatorname{sgn} \hat{f}(x) dx &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (45)$$

Set $E(x) = |\hat{f}(x)|^{p-1} \operatorname{sgn} \hat{f}(x) - |g^*(x)|^{p-1} \operatorname{sgn} g^*(x)$, $E \perp 1$, let

$$E_\kappa = \int_I g_\kappa(x) E(x) dx = d_\kappa |\eta^p (-1)^\kappa - \xi^p |\alpha_\kappa^*|^{p-1} \operatorname{sgn} \alpha_\kappa^*|.$$

If $\eta > \xi$ and $|\alpha_j^*| \leq 1$ ($j = \overline{1, \dots, 2m}$), then $E_0(E_1, \dots, E_{2m}) = 2m$; thereby, $2m \leq S_0\left(\int_I \mu_r(x, \cdot) E(x) dx, I\right) \leq Z_0\left(\int_I \mu_r(x, \cdot) E(x) dx, I\right) \leq S_0(E(\cdot), I) = S_0(\hat{f}(\cdot) - g^*(\cdot), I) \leq S_0(\hat{\phi}(\cdot) - \varphi^*(\cdot), I)$. Normalize $\{\alpha_j^*\}_{j=1}^{2m}$ so that $|\alpha_j^*| \leq 1$ for all j and $\alpha_\kappa^* = (-1)^\kappa$. Moreover, with no loss of generality, we assume that $\operatorname{sgn} \hat{\phi}(y) = (-1)^j$ for $y \in (y_j, y_{j+1})$. Then, $S_0(\hat{\phi}(\cdot) - \varphi^*(\cdot), I) \leq 2m - 2$; it leads to a contradiction $2m \leq 2m - 2$. Thus we conclude $\eta \leq \xi$. Since

$$\hat{f}(x) = \lambda_2 \sum_{\kappa=1}^{2m} (-1)^\kappa g_\kappa(x),$$

we have $\xi = \eta$ and the following

Theorem 3. Let F_{2m} be defined as in (40), (41). Then

$$\inf_{g_\alpha \in F_{2m}} (\|g_\alpha\|_p / \|\varphi_\alpha\|_p) = \eta,$$

where η is the number defined in (14), (15).

We now define a class of functions \hat{B}_p^r :

$$\hat{B}_p^r = \{f: f = \mu_r * \varphi, \varphi \perp 1, \|\varphi\|_p \leq 1, f(\beta + h) = 0\},$$

where β is defined as in (10). We have the following

Theorem 4. If $1 < p < \infty$, then

$$\begin{aligned}\delta_{2m-1}(\hat{B}_p^r, L^p(I)) &= d_{2m-1}(\hat{B}_p^r, L^p(I)) = d^{2m-1}(\hat{B}_p^r, L^p(I)) \\ &= b_{2m-1}(\hat{B}_p^r, L^p(I)) = \|\hat{f}\|_p = \eta.\end{aligned}\quad (46)$$

(a) R_{2m-1} is an optimal rank $2m-1$ operator for $\delta_{2m-1}(\hat{B}_p^r, L^p(I))$, R_{2m-1} is defined as in (22).

(b) $F_{2m} = \text{Span}\left\{g_{am} = \alpha_{2m+1} + \sum_1^{2m} \alpha_j g_j, \sum_1^{2m} \alpha_j = 0\right\}$ is optimal for $b_{2m-1}(\hat{B}_p^r, L^p(I))$.

(c) $Z_{2m-1} = \text{Span}\{Z: Z \in \hat{B}_p^r, Z(x_j) = 0, j=2, \dots, 2m\}$ is optimal for $d^{2m-1}(\hat{B}_p^r, L^p(I))$.

(d) $X_{2m-1} = \text{Span}\{\mu_r(x_2 - y) - \mu_r(x_1 - y), \dots, \mu_r(x_{2m} - y) - \mu_r(x_1 - y)\}$ is optimal for $d_{2m-1}(\hat{B}_p^r, L^p(I))$.

Proof From (29), (34), (21) and (22) we have

$$\eta \geq \sup_{f \in \hat{B}_p^r} \|f - R_{2m-1}(f)\|_p \geq \delta_{2m-1}(\hat{B}_p^r, L^p(I)). \quad (47)$$

From Theorem 3,

$$b_{2m-1}(\hat{B}_p^r, L^p(I)) \geq \eta. \quad (48)$$

Then Theorem 4 follows from (47), (48) and Lemma 2.4.

Let x_1 be any point in the interval $I_c = [c, d]$. The subclass $\tilde{B}_p^{r,1}$ of \tilde{B}_p^r is defined by $\tilde{B}_p^{r,1} = \{f: f^{(r-1)}$ abs. cont. on $I_c = [c, d]$, f is periodic with period $H = d - c$, $\|f^{(r)}\|_{p, [c, d]} \leq 1, f(x_1) = 0\}$ where

$$\|g\|_{p, [c, d]} = \left(\int_c^d |g(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p}.$$

Set

$$h = H/2m, a = \begin{cases} x_1 - h, & r \text{ even,} \\ x_1 - \frac{3h}{2}, & r \text{ odd,} \end{cases} \quad b = a + H,$$

$\|g\|_p = \|g\|_{p, [a, b]} = \left(\int_a^b |g(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p}$. Let β be defined as in (10). The subclass \tilde{B}_p^r is defined as in Theorem 4. Since each function f in $\tilde{B}_p^{r,1}$ (or in \tilde{B}_p^r) may be regarded as the function on the real line, and $\|g\|_{p, [a, b]} = \|g\|_{p, [c, d]}$, thereby $\tilde{B}_p^{r,1} = \tilde{B}_p^r$, we therefore have the following

Theorem 5. If $1 < p < \infty$, then $\delta_{2m-1}(\tilde{B}_p^{r,1}, L^p) = d_{2m-1}(\tilde{B}_p^{r,1}, L^p) = d^{2m-1}(\tilde{B}_p^{r,1}, L^p) = b_{2m-1}(\tilde{B}_p^{r,1}, L^p) = \|\hat{f}\|_p = \eta$. The optimal subspace and operators are described as in Theorem 4.

Acknowledgement. I would like to acknowledge Mr. Chun Li for his helpful discussions and the simplification for the proof of Theorem 1. During the Spring semester of 1988, as a Visiting Professor at the Center for Approximation Theory at Texas A & M University, I benefited by many discussions with Professor Charles Chui and his graduate students. I also appreciate Ms. Robin Bronson for her very

nice typing.

References

- [1] Buslaev, A. P., Tichominov, V. M., Some questions of nonlinear analysis and approximation theory, *Dokl. Akad. Nauk. SSSR*, **283** (1985), 13—18.
- [2] Pinkus, A., n -widths in approximation theory, Berlin-Heidelberg-New York: Springer-Verlag (1985).
- [3] Pinkus, A., n -widths of Sobolev spaces, *Const. Approx. Th.*, **1:1** (1985), 15—62.
- [4] Korneichuk, N. P., Extremal problems in approximation theory, Nauka, Moscow (1976).
- [5] Schumaker, L. L., Spline functions, Basic theory, John Wiley & Sons, Inc. New York etc. (1981).