## 50. A Characterization of Haar Subspaces in C[a, b]\*

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Let M be an n-dimensional subspace of the space C[a, b] with Tchebycheff norm:

$$||f|| = \max\{|f(x)|: a \le x \le b\}$$

It is well known that the following conditions are mutually equivalent [1]:

- (A) If a pair of functions in M agrees on any set of n distinct points in [a, b] then they agree on the entire interval [a, b];
- (B) For any basis  $\{g_1, \dots, g_n\}$  of M and for any set of n distinct points  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  in [a, b], the determinant  $\det(g_i(x_j))$  is different from 0;
- (C) Each element f in C[a, b] has a unique best approximation in M (with respect to the Tchebycheff norm).

Any n-dimensional subspace M of C[a, b] satisfying one of the above conditions (A)—(C) is known as a Haar subspace. The purpose of this paper is to show that each one of the above conditions is further equivalent to the following condition:

(D) For each f in C[a, b] which is not identically zero on [a, b] and for each best approximation p in M to f, the following inequality is valid:

(C) $\Rightarrow$ (D). Suppose that (C) is true and let p be a best approximation in M to a non-zero function f in C[a,b]. We may assume that  $p \neq 0$ . Then, from uniqueness,

$$||p-f|| < ||0-f||$$

and therefore,

$$||p|| \le ||p-f|| + ||f|| < ||0-f|| + ||f|| = 2||f||$$

(D) $\Rightarrow$ (B). Suppose that (B) is false. We must show that there exists a nonzero function f in C[a, b] and a best approximation p in M to f

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