

# Estimates of Weights in Gauss-Type Quadrature

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**1. Introduction.** It may readily be verified that the angular distance  $\Delta\theta = \theta_{i+1,n} - \theta_{i,n}$  between the zeros  $\theta_{i,n}$  of the Legendre polynomial  $P_n(\cos \theta)$  in  $\cos \theta$  is roughly constant for large  $n$ . From the quadrature formula itself the weights may be estimated to a corresponding degree of accuracy. Direct asymptotic estimates of the weights corresponding to  $\cos \theta = 0$  in the  $(2n + 1)$ -point Gaussian quadrature are all available from Stirling's formula in the cases considered below. We here replace the  $P_n$  by  $C_n^\lambda$ , the Gegenbauer polynomials (effectively, tesseral harmonics or ultraspherical polynomials) of order  $\lambda > 0$ , and the  $H_n$  in the single limiting set of Hermite polynomials. Explicit formulas are derived: but the estimates for the general weights have a precision limited by the corresponding precision of the estimates of the zeros.

**2. The Quadrature Formula.** The Lagrange interpolation formula

$$(1) \quad \begin{aligned} f(x) &= \sum_i \frac{P(x)f(x_i)}{P'(x_i)(x - x_i)}, & P(x_i) &= 0, \\ P'(x_i) &\neq 0, & i &= 1, 2, \dots, n, \end{aligned}$$

algebraically valid for polynomials  $f$  of degree  $\nu < n$ , the degree of  $P$ , has a rather limited direct use in polynomial approximation theory. Combined with various restrictions on  $P$  to be in a basis of a set of polynomials with suitable properties, it becomes more useful.

Let  $P^*(x)$  be of degree  $n + 1$ , so that  $P^*(x) = axP(x) - bP(x) - cP_*(x)$  for constants  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$ ,  $P_*$  representing a polynomial of degree  $\nu < n$ . We set

$$K(x, t) = K(t, x) = \frac{P^*(x)P(t) - P^*(t)P(x)}{x - t},$$

a polynomial of degree  $n$  in  $x$  for each  $t$ , so that

$$K(x, t) = aP(x)P(t) + cK_*(x, t),$$

$K_*$  being defined in terms of  $P$  and  $P_*$  exactly as  $K$  is determined by  $P^*$  and  $P$ . In particular,  $K(x, x) = P(x)P^*(x) - P^*(x)P'(x)$ ; and (1) is modified to become

$$(2) \quad f(x) = \sum_i \frac{K(x, x_i)}{K(x_i, x_i)} f(x_i).$$

A suitable normalization with respect to a fixed integrable weight function  $w$ , essentially positive over the interval  $I$  of integration, is

$$\int_I K(x, x_i) w(x) dx = 1,$$

so that (2) becomes

$$(3) \quad \int_I f(x) w(x) dx = \sum_i f(x_i) W_i,$$

where

$$(4) \quad W_i = \frac{1}{K(x_i, x_i)}$$

is the formula for the weights.

From the above,

$$K_n(x, t) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i p_i(x) p_i(t),$$

the indices  $j$  indicating the degrees of the polynomials  $p_j$ . Referring to (1), for example, we set

$$p_n(t) \doteq k_n t^n - \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} c_{j,n} p_i(t), \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots,$$

where

$$(5) \quad \begin{aligned} p_0(t) &= k_0 > 0, & \int_I w(t) dt &= \frac{1}{k_0^2}, \\ \int_I p_n(t) p_j(t) w(t) dt &= 0, & 0 \leq j < n, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\int_I \{p_n(t)\}^2 w(t) dt = 1.$$

The inductive definition is complete if we assume  $k_n > 0$ . Indeed, for an arbitrary polynomial  $P$ ,

$$(5') \quad P(t) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j k_j t^j = \sum_{j=0}^n a_{j,n} p_j(t),$$

the  $a_{j,n}$  being determined uniquely by the  $a_j$  and  $k_j$ , where  $\int_I k_j t^j p_j(t) w(t) dt = 1$ , so that

$$(6) \quad x p_n(x) = \frac{k_n}{k_{n+1}} p_{n+1}(x) + b_n p_n(x) + \frac{k_{n-1}}{k_n} p_{n-1}(x) + \sum_{j=0}^{n-2} b_{j,n} p_j(x)$$

in any case, with  $b_{j,n} = 0$  by (5). Then

$$(7) \quad \begin{aligned} K_n(x, t) &= \sum_{j=0}^n p_j(x) p_j(t) \\ &= \frac{k_n}{k_{n+1}} \frac{p_{n+1}(x) p_n(t) - p_n(x) p_{n+1}(t)}{x - t}, \quad \text{and} \\ K_n(x, x) &= \sum_{j=0}^n \{p_j(x)\}^2 \\ &= \frac{k_n}{k_{n+1}} \{p'_{n+1}(x) p_n(x) - p'_n(x) p_{n+1}(x)\} \\ &= \int_I \{K_n(x, t)\}^2 w(t) dt, \end{aligned}$$

these being the standard Christoffel formulae (see [1]).

If  $f$  is of degree  $2n - 1$  or less, the quotient  $Q$  of  $f$  by  $p_n$  is uniquely determined, with remainder  $p_*(t) = f(t) - Q(t)p_n(t)$  of degree  $n - 1$  or less. Then, if  $p_n(x_i) = 0$ ,  $n$  being fixed,

$$(8) \quad \begin{aligned} \int_I p_*(t)w(t) dt &= \int_I f(t)w(t) dt, \text{ by (5), and} \\ \int_I f(t)w(t) dt &= \sum_i W_i f(x_i), \end{aligned}$$

as before. (The formulae (7) guarantee the separation of  $n$  distinct zeros in  $I$ .)

**3. Sums of Squares.** The Cesàro-one sums

$$\sigma_n(x, t) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} K_j(x, t)$$

are expressed in the way suggested by Christoffel's method as follows:

$$(9) \quad \begin{aligned} n(x-t)^2 \sigma_n(x, t) &= \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \frac{k_j}{k_{j+1}} (b_j - b_{j+1}) \{p_{j+1}(x)p_j(t) + p_{j+1}(t)p_j(x)\} \\ &+ \frac{k_{n-1}}{k_{n+1}} \{p_{n+1}(x)p_{n-1}(t) + p_{n-1}(x)p_{n+1}(t)\} \\ &- 2 \left( \frac{k_{n-1}}{k_n} \right)^2 p_n(x)p_n(t) + 2 \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} p_j(x)p_j(t) \left\{ \left( \frac{k_j}{k_{j+1}} \right)^2 - \left( \frac{k_{j-1}}{k_j} \right)^2 \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $b_j = \int_I t \{p_j(t)\}^2 w(t) dt$  and  $k_{-1} = 0$ .

Beginning with  $k_2(b_1 - b_0)/k_1 = c_{1,2}$ , we see that  $b_j = b_{j+1}$  for all  $j$  if and only if  $w$  is symmetric over  $I$ . After a translation, we may assume in this case that the  $p_i(t)$  are alternately even and odd polynomials. We assume that this condition holds in the sequel.

Let

$$\Lambda_j(x) = \frac{k_{j-1}}{k_j} p_{j-1}(x) - \frac{k_j}{k_{j+1}} p_{j+1}(x),$$

so that

$$4 \frac{k_{j-1}}{k_{j+1}} p_{j+1}(x)p_{j-1}(x) = x^2 \{p_j(x)\}^2 - \{\Lambda_j(x)\}^2.$$

Then, for suitable constants  $c_n$ , we set

$$(10) \quad \begin{aligned} L_n(x) &= (c_n^2 - x^2) \{p_n(x)\}^2 + \{\Lambda_n(x)\}^2 \\ &= 4 \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \{p_j(x)\}^2 \left\{ \left( \frac{k_j}{k_{j+1}} \right)^2 - \left( \frac{k_{j-1}}{k_j} \right)^2 \right\} + \left\{ c_n^2 - 4 \left( \frac{k_{n-1}}{k_n} \right)^2 \right\} \{p_n(x)\}^2. \end{aligned}$$

To make this formulation of sums of squares useful, the weight function  $w$  is further restricted.

**4. Gegenbauer Polynomials.** See [1].

The expansion of  $\rho^{-2\lambda} = (1 - 2rt + r^2)^{-\lambda}$  as a power series in  $r$ ,

$$(1 - rz)^{-\lambda} (1 - r\bar{z})^{-\lambda} = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} C_j^{\lambda}(t) r^j,$$

subject to

$$z + \bar{z} = 2t = 2 \cos \theta, \quad z\bar{z} = 1, \quad 0 \leq r < 1,$$

determines the Gegenbauer polynomials  $C_n^\lambda$  of order  $\lambda > 0$ . If  $y$  is any successively differentiable function of  $\rho$ ,

$$r^2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial r^2} + \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = r^2 \frac{d^2 y}{d\rho^2}.$$

In the above case,  $y = \rho^{-2\lambda}$ , so  $d^2 y/d\rho^2 + ((2\lambda + 1)/\rho)(dy/d\rho) = 0$ , and so

$$r^2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial r^2} + (2\lambda + 1)r \frac{\partial y}{\partial r} + (1 - t^2) \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = (2\lambda + 1)t \frac{\partial y}{\partial t}.$$

Comparing coefficients in the power series, we have

$$(11) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ (1 - t^2)^{\lambda+1/2} \frac{dC_n^\lambda(t)}{dt} \right\} = -n(n + 2\lambda)(1 - t^2)^{\lambda-1/2} C_n^\lambda(t).$$

Multiplying by  $C_j^\lambda(t)$ , alternating the indices  $n$  and  $j$ , and subtracting, then integrating from  $t = -1$  to  $t = 1$ , we have

$$C_j^\lambda(t) = \sqrt{h_j} p_j(t),$$

the  $\{p_j\}$  being orthogonal (with property (5)) with respect to  $w$ ,

$$w(t) = (1 - t^2)^{\lambda-1/2}.$$

Here,

$$\int_{-1}^{+1} \{C_j^\lambda(t)\}^2 w(t) dt = h_j,$$

easily calculated explicitly. From the definition above, using the series and the binomial theorem,

$$C_n^\lambda(\cos \theta) = \sum_{j=0}^n \binom{\lambda + j - 1}{j} \binom{\lambda + n - j - 1}{n - j} \cos(\overline{n - 2j\theta}),$$

so

$$|C_n^\lambda(t)| \leq C_n^\lambda(1) = \binom{2\lambda + n - 1}{n}, \quad -1 \leq t \leq 1,$$

if  $\lambda > 0$ .

We may make direct use of the Christoffel formulae (7), comparison of terms in a linear expansion, and induction, to obtain

$$2h_n k_0^2(n + \lambda) = \lambda \binom{n + 2\lambda - 1}{n},$$

$$4 \left( \frac{k_{n-1}}{k_n} \right)^2 = \frac{n(n + 2\lambda - 1)}{(n + \lambda)(n - 1 + \lambda)},$$

and

$$(12) \quad \lambda! 2^{2\lambda} (n + \lambda) \{C_n^\lambda(t)\}^2 = \pi \binom{2\lambda + n - 1}{n} \lambda(2\lambda)! \{p_n(t)\}^2.$$

Also,

$$\frac{k_{n-1}}{k_n} p_{n-1}(0) = -\frac{k_n}{k_{n+1}} p_{n+1}(0),$$

so that

$$(13) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \{p_{2n}(0)\}^2 = \frac{2}{\pi}$$

and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_n(1)(n + \lambda)^{-2\lambda} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \frac{2^\lambda 2!}{(2\lambda)!},$$

the relative errors in the corresponding approximations being of (order)  $O(1/(n + \lambda)^2)$  uniformly in  $n$  for fixed  $\lambda$  by Stirling's formula.

We set  $z = (1 - t^2)^{\lambda/2} p_n(t)$ , and find

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = (n + \lambda)(1 - t^2)^{\lambda/2-1} \Lambda_n(t),$$

using (6) and (11). If

$$L_n(t) = \{p_n(t)\}^2(1 - t^2) + \{\Lambda_n(t)\}^2,$$

(11) becomes

$$(14) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \{L_n(t)(1 - t^2)^{\lambda-1}\} = -\frac{2\lambda(1 - \lambda)}{n + \lambda} (1 - t^2)^{\lambda-2} p_n(t) \Lambda_n(t).$$

From the above quadratic relation, and (6),

$$2\sqrt{(1 - t^2)} |p_n(t) \Lambda_n(t)| \leq L_n(t).$$

Differentiating the logarithm of  $L_n$ , and integrating, we have

$$\log \left\{ \frac{L_n(t)}{L_n(0)} (1 - t^2)^{\lambda-1} \right\} < \frac{|\lambda(1 - \lambda)|}{n + \lambda} \frac{|t|}{\sqrt{(1 - t^2)}}, \quad 0 < |t| < 1.$$

In particular,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} L_n(t)(1 - t^2)^{\lambda-1} = 2/\pi$ ,  $-1 < t < 1$ .

However, relation (10) now reads as follows:

$$L_n(t) = -2 \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \frac{\lambda(1 - \lambda) \{p_j(t)\}^2}{(j - 1 + \lambda)(j + \lambda)(j + 1 + \lambda)} - \frac{\lambda(1 - \lambda) \{p_n(t)\}^2}{(n + \lambda - 1)(n + \lambda)},$$

whence

$$(15) \quad \begin{aligned} L_n(t)(1 - t^2)^{\lambda-1} &= \{p_n(t)\}^2(1 - t^2)^\lambda + \{\Lambda_n(t)\}^2(1 - t^2)^{\lambda-1} \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi} - \frac{\lambda(1 - \lambda) \{p_n(t)\}^2(1 - t^2)^{\lambda-1}}{(n + \lambda)(n + \lambda + 1)} \\ &\quad + 2 \sum_{j=n+1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda(1 - \lambda) \{p_j(t)\}^2(1 - t^2)^{\lambda-1}}{(j - 1 + \lambda)(j + \lambda)(j + 1 + \lambda)}. \end{aligned}$$

The maximum of  $z^2 = \{p_n(t)\}^2(1 - t^2)^\lambda$  in any subinterval of  $I$  with endpoints  $t = x_i$  or  $t = \pm 1$ , corresponds only to  $\Lambda_n(t) = 0$ , so that if

$$(n + \lambda)(n + \lambda + 1)(1 - t^2) \geq \frac{|\lambda(1 - \lambda)|}{\epsilon},$$

$$p_n(t)(1 - t^2)^\lambda(1 \pm \epsilon) < \frac{2}{\pi},$$

and, otherwise,

$$p_n(1)(1 - t^2)^\lambda$$

is uniformly bounded, by (12) and (13).

On the other hand, if  $p_n(x_i) = 0$ ,

$$\{\Lambda(x_i)\}^2(1 - x_i^2)^{\lambda-1} = \frac{2}{\pi} + \frac{2\lambda(1 - \lambda)}{1 - x_i^2} \sum_{j=n+1}^{\infty} \frac{\{p_j(x_i)\}^2(1 - x_i^2)^\lambda}{(j - 1 + \lambda)(j + \lambda)(j + 1 + \lambda)},$$

where

$$\sum_{j=n+1}^{\infty} \frac{\{p_j(x)\}^2(1 - x^2)^\lambda}{(j - 1 + \lambda)(j + \lambda)(j + 1 + \lambda)} < \frac{1 + \epsilon_n'}{\pi(n + \lambda)^2}$$

and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \epsilon_n' = 0$ , if  $|\pm 1 + x| > \delta$ , any fixed positive number. That is, if  $|\pm 1 + x_i| > \delta$ ,

$$(16) \quad \frac{1}{W_i} = K_n(x_i, x_i) = \frac{\Lambda_n(x_i)p_n'(x_i)}{2} = \frac{n + \lambda}{2} \frac{\{\Lambda_n(x_i)\}^2}{1 - x_i^2},$$

and for such zeros  $x = x_i$ ,

$$(17) \quad W_i \cong \frac{\pi}{n + \lambda} (1 - x_i^2)^\lambda,$$

with a relative-error estimate

$$(18) \quad \frac{|\lambda(1 - \lambda)|}{(n + \lambda)^2(1 - x_i^2)}$$

for both upper and lower bounds.

If  $n$  is an odd number, and  $x_i = 0$ , we easily compute

$$\frac{1}{W_i} = \frac{n + \lambda}{\pi} \left\{ 1 + \frac{\lambda(1 - \lambda)}{2n^2} + \frac{\lambda(1 - \lambda)^2}{n^3} + \dots \right\},$$

using Stirling's formula, for the corresponding median weight  $W_i$ . The precision of the estimate here is easily controlled; but in the general case the sums of squares seem difficult to handle with precision.

**5. Spacing of Zeros.** Let  $v = p_n'(t)/p_n(t)$ . Using (11), we find

$$(1 - t^2) \frac{dv}{dt} = (2\lambda + 1)tv - n(n + 2\lambda) - (1 - t^2)v^2.$$

Combining this with the Christoffel formulae, using induction and the result  $|p_n(t)| \leq p_n(1)$ , we have

$$v \leq \frac{p_n'(1)}{p_n(1)} = \frac{n(n + 2\lambda)}{2\lambda + 1} \quad \text{if } x_n < t \leq 1,$$

$x = x_n$  being the zero of  $p_n(t)$  nearest  $t = 1$ . Since  $(p_n(x_n) - p_n(1))/(x_n - 1) < p_n'(1)$ , we have  $x_n < 1 - (2\lambda + 1)/(n(n + 2\lambda))$ .

In general, if we set  $t = \sin \phi$ , the equivalent differential relation

$$-\frac{d}{d\phi} \left\{ \arctan \left[ \frac{\Lambda_n(t)}{p_n(t)\sqrt{(1-t^2)}} \right] \right\} = n + \lambda + \frac{\lambda(1-\lambda)}{n+\lambda} \frac{\{p_n(t)\}^2}{L_n(t)}, \quad x_i < t < x_{i+1},$$

gives us the necessary information concerning the spacing of the zeros. We have

$$\pi = \Delta \arctan \left[ \frac{\Lambda_n(t)}{p_n(t)\sqrt{(1-t^2)}} \right] = (n + \lambda)\Delta\phi_i + \frac{\lambda(1-\lambda)}{n+\lambda} \int_{\phi_i}^{\phi_{i+1}} \frac{\{p_n(t)\}^2}{L_n(t)} d\phi,$$

where  $x_i = \sin \phi_i$  and  $\Delta\phi_i = \phi_{i+1} - \phi_i$ .

**6. Hermite Polynomials.** From the defining formulas, we easily obtain

$$\left(\frac{d}{dt}\right)^m \{C_n^\lambda(t)\} = 2^n \binom{\lambda + m - 1}{m} C_{n-m}^{\lambda+m}(t)$$

by induction on  $m$ . Among other results, relations between the tesseral harmonics of Legendre,

$$P_n^{(m)}(t) = (1-t^2)^{m/2} \left(\frac{d}{dt}\right)^m \{P_n(t)\},$$

$$P_n(t) = C_n^\lambda(t) \quad \text{for } \lambda = \frac{1}{2},$$

and the Gegenbauer polynomials follow. Formally, the trigonometric basis is given by  $\lambda = 0$  and  $\lambda = 1$ .

If  $t^2 = s^2/2\lambda$ ,  $s$  being fixed, and  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ , we have

$$w(t) \rightarrow e^{-s^2/2}.$$

For the bounded  $n$  and  $s$ ,

$$C_n^\lambda(t) \xrightarrow{n} H_n(s), \quad \text{if } \lambda \rightarrow \infty,$$

the corresponding Hermite polynomial.

Let

$$\frac{d}{dt} \{H_n(t)e^{-t^2/2}\} = -H_{n+1}(t)e^{-t^2/2}, \quad H_0(t) = 1,$$

for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Then

$$H_n'(t) = nH_{n-1}(t),$$

by Leibnitz' rule for successive differentiation. It follows immediately that

$$H_n(x) = \sum_{j < (n+1)/2} \binom{n}{2j} (-1)^j C_j x^{n-2j}$$

for a single set of coefficients  $\{C_j\}$ . Since

$$tH_n(t) = nH_{n-1}(t) + H_{n+1}(t)$$

from the pair of relations given above, we have the Christoffel formulae

$$H_n(x, t) = \sum_{j=0}^n \frac{H_j(x)H_j(t)}{j!} = \frac{H_{n+1}(x)H_n(t) - H_n(x)H_{n+1}(t)}{n!(x-t)}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} H_n(x, x) &= \sum_{j=0}^n \frac{H_j^2(x)}{j!} = \frac{(n+1)H_n^2(x) - nH_{n+1}(x)H_{n-1}(x)}{n!} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} H_n^2(x, t) e^{-t^2/2} dt. \end{aligned}$$

To arrive at the last result, we make use of

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-(x^2+t^2)/2} dx dt = 2\pi,$$

or the limits given above. Since

$$\sqrt{(2\pi)} e^{-x^2/2} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-t^2/2+ixt} t^n dt$$

we have

$$\sqrt{(2\pi)} H_n(x) e^{-x^2/2} = (-i)^n \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-t^2/2+ixt} t^n dt.$$

Let  $z = e^{-t^2/4} H_n(t)$ , so that

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = e^{-t^2/4} \left\{ nH_{n-1}(t) - \frac{t}{2} H_n(t) \right\}$$

and

$$\frac{d^2z}{dt^2} = -z \left( n + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{t^2}{4} \right).$$

Then

$$(tz)^2 - 4 \left( \frac{dz}{dt} \right)^2 = 4ne^{-t^2/2} H_{n-1}(t) H_{n+1}(t),$$

so that

$$e^{-z^2/2} \left\{ \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \frac{H_j^2(x)}{j!} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{H_n^2(x)}{n!} \right\} = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \frac{H_j^2(0)}{j!} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{H_n^2(0)}{n!} - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^x te^{-t^2/2} \frac{H_n^2(t)}{n!} dt$$

from the Christoffel formula. We do not obtain different results from the formulation of the Cesàro-one sums, in this case. We define

$$L_n(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \left\{ \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \frac{H_j^2(x)}{j!} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{H_n^2(x)}{n!} \right\},$$



so that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} L_n(0) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}}.$$

Then, also,

$$L_n(x)e^{-x^2/2} = L_n(0) - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{n}} \int_0^x t \frac{H_n^2(t)}{n!} e^{-t^2/2} dt,$$

so here

$$\sqrt{n}L_n(t)e^{-t^2/2} = \frac{1}{n!} \left\{ \left( \frac{dz}{dt} \right)^2 + \left( n + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{t^2}{4} \right) z^2 \right\},$$

and

$$\lim_n L_n(x)e^{-x^2/2} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}}.$$

The formula for the weights  $W_i$  corresponding to  $H_n(x_i) = 0$  becomes

$$\frac{1}{W_i} = H_n(x_i, x_i) = \sqrt{n}L_n(x_i),$$

so

$$W_i \cong \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2n}} e^{-x_i^2/2},$$

with a relative error estimate

$$\frac{x_i^2}{2n - \delta} \quad \text{if} \quad x_i^2 < 2(1 + \delta).$$

If we consider the Fourier sine expansion over the interval  $(a, a + \pi/k)$  between zeros  $x = a, x = b = a + \pi/k$ , of  $H_n(x)e^{-x^2/4}$ , we have

$$\int_a^b \left\{ \left( \frac{dz}{dt} \right)^2 - k^2 z^2 \right\} dt > 0.$$

Now

$$\int_a^b \left\{ \left( \frac{dz}{dt} \right)^2 - \left( n + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{t^2}{4} \right) z^2 \right\} dt = 0,$$

so that

$$b - a > \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{(4n + 2 - a^2)}}.$$

Otherwise,  $dz/dt < 0$  if  $t^2 \geq 4n + 2$ . We cannot have  $z = 0$  there, since  $z > 0$  if  $t \rightarrow \infty$  for fixed  $n$ . Then

$$b^2 < 4n + 2.$$

We may point out that the estimates, for Cesàro-one and related sums, remain useful in establishing convergence properties of the expansions of functions (e.g., of bounded variation) as series of orthogonal polynomials.

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1. A. ERDÉLYI ET AL., *Higher Transcendental Functions*, Vol. II, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1953, Chapter 10, p. 174. MR **15**, 419.