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A Statistical Perspective for Improving Approximation by Modified Szasz Operator

1Ashok Sahai,2Robin Antoine and 3Peter Chami and 3M. Raghunadh Acharya
1Department of Mathematics and Computer Science,
The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago
3Department of Statistics and Computer Science,
Aurora’s Post Graduate College, Osmania University, Hyderabad andhra Pradesh, India

Abstract: We have proposed and studied another modification of the Szasz Operator that arises from a statistical perspective of the problem. The study is supported and illustrated by an empirical simulation study aimed at illustrating the potential numerical improvement for some well known simple functions.

Key words: Polynomial approximation modified Szasz-Mirkjan operator, simulated empirical study

INTRODUCTION

Szasz (1950) proposed the following generalization of the well known Bernstein’s polynomials extending it to the infinite interval:

\[ S_n(f,x) = \left[ e^{-x} \sum_{k=0}^{n} \frac{(nx)^k}{k!} f(\frac{k}{n}) \right] \]

for all \( f \in C_{[0,1]} \)

Heinz-Gerd Lehnhoff (1981), in particular, proposed the Modified Szasz-Mirkjan Operator:

\[ S_n(f,x) = \left[ \sum_{k=1}^{n} T_k f(\frac{k}{n}) \right] \left[ e^{\exp(ux)} \right] \]

for \( x \in C[0,1], f \in C[0,1] \).

Where, \( T_k = (nx)^k/k!, A_k = 0, \ldots, n \).

Motivated by the above modification, we have proposed analogously, though slightly differently, a Modified Szasz Operator, as follows:

\[ MS[n] = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{n} T_k f(\frac{k}{n})}{\sum_{k=1}^{n} T_k} \quad (1.0.1) \]

The aforesaid Modified Szasz Operator \( MS[v] \) will approximate the function \( f(\xi) \) using its values at equidistant 'knots' in the interval [0, 1]. This would be without loss of generality, as the approximation would also hold for \( X[a,b] \), and it holds conversely. Essentially, \( X[0,1] \) and \( X[a,b] \) are identical, for all practical purposes; they are linearly isometric as normed spaces, order isomorphic as lattices, and isomorphic as algebras (rings).

Further, we have proposed and studied, in what follows, a computerizable Iterative Algorithm with the motivation of having improved approximation by the aforesaid operator \( MS[v] \), using the same information, namely, the values of the function at the stipulated knots.

MOTIVATING OBSERVATION AND THE ITERATIVE ALGORITHM

Before we go into the details of the Iterative Algorithm for improved approximation by our Modified Szasz Operator, \( MS[v] \), we observe the motivating fact seminal to its proposition. Whereas, all the approximating polynomials are concerned with the knots and the weight functions defined over these knots; none of them completely uses the information available about the unknown function (targeted for the Approximation), through the known values of the function at these knots. Such information could well be used in constructing or modifying the weight function, possibly gainfully.

In fact, as per the Statistical Perspective, such an information should be used gainfully in all the estimation problems and the approximation problem is an estimation problem per this perspective, as we are essentially estimating the unknown function through our weight function, defined at the chosen Knots for the approximation operator, at hand.

Corresponding Author: Ashok Sahai, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science,
The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago

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In fact, if we consider ourselves to the polynomial approximation by Positive Linear Operators, we could well observe the fact that the weights may be interpreted as probabilities, in the context of using the Operator, say, \( Ov \) (\( \xi \)) the desirable/well known Statistical Property of Asymptotic Unbiasedness ensures that the Mathematical Expectation (the value on an average) of our approximating polynomial, namely the estimate \( Ov(\xi) \) must approach the function, as the number of knots used, namely \( v \) becomes very large:

\[
E \hat{O}_v(\xi)(v) \approx \xi; \text{ as } v \rightarrow 1
\]

In the above context and using the aforesaid Statistical Perspective of the approximation being an estimation problem, the estimated error could well be interpreted as the estimated Bias. Therefore, if we reduce this bias to make the estimate better, we should be accelerating the asymptotic convergence of the approximating polynomial. This will be feasible, inasmuch as we would be reducing the Error in approximation at each iteration, using the currently available estimate of the error to bring the approximating polynomial closer to the (unknown) function.

Let us denote the Error by \( E(\xi) \) then:

\[
E(x) = MS[n][f](x) - f(x)
\]

However, \( E(\xi) \) is unknown since \( f(\xi) \) is unknown. Therefore, we have to estimate it and we do so by using the same Modified Szasz polynomial \( MS[v](\xi) \): The only difference would consist in the fact that we have \( E \) in place of \( f \) and analogously the values of this unknown Error Function are readily available through the difference between the Known and the Estimated values of the function at these knots: \( k/n \), respectively.

Hence, if we define the resultant estimating polynomial (of degree \( n \), most) by \( E[v](\xi) \), (keeping in mind implicitly that \( MS[v](\xi) \) is the approximating polynomial, without complicating the notations by explicit incorporation of this fact in our notation), we have

\[
E[n](\xi)(x) = MS[n](f)(x) - f(x)
\]

Also, as we use this polynomial as an Estimated Bias and proceed with the correction, the resultant Improved Szasz approximating polynomial, at the first go/iteration, say \( I(1)MS[v](\xi) \) will be:

\[
I(1)MS[n][f](x) = MS[n](f)(x) - E[n](f)(x) = MS[n][f](x) - MS[n][f](x)\]

\[
[1-(1-MS[n])^2](f)(x)
\]

If we proceed exactly analogously for the Improved Szasz approximating polynomial at the second iteration, we will be led to:

\[
I(2)MS[n][f](x) = I(1)MS[n][f](x) - MS[n][f](x) + MS[n][f](x) - MS[n][f](x) + MS[n][f](x)
\]

Thus, in general, if we proceed exactly analogously for the Improved Szasz approximating polynomial at the iteration, we will be led to:

\[
I(k)MS[n][f](x) = [1 - (1 - MS[n])^k](f)(x)
\]

Now, we note that since it is intractable analytically to assess the achieved improvement in Approximation by the Modified Szasz Operator \( MS[v] \) through the aforesaid Iterative Improvement Algorithm, we resort to an Empirical Simulation Study to obtain a numerical measure of the goodness of the Algorithm, as in the following section. It could well be noted that the Algorithm is evidently Computerizable for its execution.

THE EMPIRICAL SIMULATION STUDY

To illustrate the gain in efficiency by using our proposed Iterative Algorithm of Improvement of Modified Szasz Polynomial Approximation, we have carried out an Empirical Study. We have taken the example-cases of \( v = 2, 4, 7 \) and \( 10 \), (i.e., \( v = 3, 5, 8 \) and \( 11 \) as knots) in the empirical study to numerically illustrate the relative gain in efficiency in using the Algorithm vis-
\-a-vis the Modified Szasz Polynomial in each example-case of the \( v \) value.

Essentially, the empirical study is a Simulation Empirical Study, because we would have to assume that the function being tried to be approximated, namely \( f(\xi) \) (it will then be approximating the function \( f(x) \) in the interval \( [0,1] \), \{the standard Conventional interval for the Approximation of the function \( f(\xi) \)\}) being known to us.

Once again, we have confined to the illustrations of the relative gain in efficiency by the iterative improvement to the approximation of the following four illustrative functions in the interval \( [0,1] \):

\[ f(\xi) = \exp(\xi), \ln(2+\xi), \sin(2+\xi), 10^\xi \]

These would be approximated in the interval \( [0,1] \) by the Modified Szasz Operator \( MS[v] \) and subsequently also approximated by using the Computerizable Iterative Improvement Algorithm.
To illustrate the POTENTIAL of improvement with our proposed Iterative Algorithm, we have considered THREE Iterations and the numerical values of four quantities, namely three Percentage Relative Errors (PRE) corresponding to our Improvement Iterations (\(\# = 1\) or 2 or 3), (PRE \(\#\) ML\(n(n)\)) and the Modified Szasz Polynomial (PRE \(\#\) MS\(n)\)). Also, we consider the corresponding three Percentage Relative Gains (PRG) by using our Proposed Iterative Algorithmic Modified Szasz Polynomial subsequent upon the approximation by Modified Szasz Polynomial, (PRG \(\#\) MS\(n)\); \(\# = 1(1)3\)). Now, these quantities are defined, as follows.

The Percentage Relative Error using Modified Szasz polynomial with \(n\) intervals in \([0; 1]\), i.e., \((k-1) = (n-1)\); \(k=v)\), \(k = 1\) (1) \(v\):

\[
\text{PRE}_{\#}(n) = \frac{\int (f(x) - \text{MS}[n] f(x))dx}{\int f(x)dx} \times 100
\]

The Percentage Relative Errors respective to the Modified Szasz Polynomial and respective to the First, Second and the Third Algorithmic Improvement Iteration Polynomials have been tabulated respectively, for each of the examples and the number of approximation Knots/Intervals. Also, the Percentage Relative Gains by using the proposed Algorithmic Improvement Iteration: \(I \#\) (e.g., 1, 2, or 3) Polynomials with the \(n\) intervals in \([0; 1]\) over using solely the Modified Szasz Polynomial for the approximation of the (targeted) function, \(f\), are tabulated in the appendix.

\[
\text{PRG}_{\#} \text{MS}[n] = \frac{\text{PRE}_{\#} \text{MS}[n]}{\text{PRE}_{\#}(n)}\times 100; \# = 1 or 2 or 3
\]

These aforesaid SEVEN numerical quantities have been computed using Maple 10, for all the four illustrative functions mentioned in the preceding Section 3, for four values of \(v\), namely \(v = 2; 4; 7\) and 10. These values have been tabulated in the appendix. Table A.1-A.4 contain these values when the function \(f(x)\) has been taken as \(\exp(x); \ln(2+\xi); \sin(2+\xi)\) and \(10^v\), respectively. The Percentage Relative Errors (PRE’s) for our Algorithmic Iterative Polynomial Approximations are progressively lower with each subsequent iteration, as compared to that for the Modified Szasz Polynomial Approximation, for all the illustrative functions.

Consequently, the Percentage Relative Gains (PRGs) due to the use of our proposed Algorithmic Iterative Polynomial Approximations vis-à-vis the Modified Szasz Polynomial Approximation are also increasing progressively with each subsequent iteration, for all the illustrative functions.

Lastly, it is very heartening to note that when we use ten \((n = 10)\) intervals, i.e., eleven knots for the polynomial approximation, the Percentage Relative Gain (PRG) becomes quite significant for the third iteration. Otherwise also, the speed of convergence is highly accelerated by the Iterative Algorithmic improvement in the Modified Szasz Polynomial, using the statistical perspective reducing the Bias in the Estimator/Approximating Polynomial. It is worth noting again that the Modified Szasz Operator is nothing but the weighted average of the data, i.e., the known values of the unknown function \(f\) at the \(v+1\) knots.

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