A REMEZ-TYPE THEOREM FOR HOMOGENEOUS POLYNOMIALS

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ABSTRACT. Remez-type inequalities provide upper bounds for the uniform norms of polynomials p on given compact sets K, provided that $|p(x)| \leq 1$ for every $x \in K \setminus E$, where E is a subset of K of small measure. In this paper we prove sharp Remez-type inequalities for homogeneous polynomials on star-like surfaces in $\mathbb{R}^d$. In particular, this covers the case of spherical polynomials (when $d = 2$ we deduce a result of T. Erdélyi for univariate trigonometric polynomials).

An important question of constructive function theory is the study of the rate of change of polynomials. For instance, given a polynomial p and a compact set K one is interested in the size of p *outside* of K under the assumption that $||p||_K := \max_{x\in K} |p(x)| = 1$. This problem has been widely studied both for real polynomials (Chebyshev-type inequalities) and complex polynomials (Bernstein-Walsh-type inequalities). An equally interesting dual problem consists in estimating the size of the polynomials *inside* the given set under the same normalization. In other words, we are interested in *lower* bounds for $||p||_{K\setminus E}$ provided that $||p||_K = 1$ and E is a subset of K of small Lebesgue measure. This is the so-called Remez-type problem for polynomials. Such estimates turned out to be instrumental in proving Markov-Bernstein-type inequalities for derivatives of polynomials and Nikolskii-type inequalities comparing the size of polynomials in different norms. Hence they are considered a basic tool in approximation theory.

Let P_n^d be the space of polynomials of d real variables and total degree $\leq n$, $\mu_d(\cdot)$ stands for the Lebesgue measure in $\mathbb{R}^d$, $d \geq 1$, $K \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ is a compact set. Then the Remez problem outlined above consists in estimating the quantity

$$(1) \quad R_n^*(K,\delta) := \sup\left\{ \frac{||p||_K}{||p||_{K\setminus E}} : \; p \in P_n^d,\ E \subset K,\ \mu_d(E) \leq \mu_d(K)\delta^d \right\}, 0 < \delta < 1.$$

Thus $R_n^*(K,\delta)$ measures how small is $||p||_{K\setminus E}$ relative to $||p||_K$ if $E \subset K$ is a subset of measure $\leq \mu_d(K)\delta^d$. The main goal is to estimate $R_n^*(K,\delta)$ in terms of n and δ. Clearly, $R_n^*(K,\delta)$ tends to 1 when δ tends to 0 for every fixed n and "fat" compact set K, but finding the exact rate of this convergence is a nontrivial matter. (Recall, that K is called fat if the closure of its interior coincides with K.)

2000 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* 41A17, 31A15.

Key words and phrases. Remez-type inequalities, homogeneous polynomials, star-like surfaces, logarithmic potential, equilibrium measure, Fekete polynomials.

The research by the first author was conducted while visiting the Center For Constructive Approximation at Vanderbilt University. Supported by the OTKA grant #T034531. The research of the second author was supported, in part, by the U.S. National Science Foundation grant DMS-0296026.

The first result related to the above problem was given by Remez [R] who showed that when $d=1$ and $K=[0,1]$ we have

$$R_n^*([0,1],\delta)=T_n\left(\frac{1+\delta}{1-\delta}\right),$$

where $T_n(x):=\frac{1}{2}\{(x+\sqrt{x^2-1})^n+(x-\sqrt{x^2-1})^n\}$ is the Chebyshev polynomial of first kind. This yields that for $0<\delta<1/2$

$$\frac{1}{n}\log R_n^*([0,1],\delta)\asymp\sqrt{\delta}. \tag{2}$$

Extensions of this result were given for trigonometric polynomials (Erdélyi [E]), complex polynomials (Erdélyi-Li-Saff [ELS]), and multivariate polynomials of total degree $\leq n$ (Brudnyi-Ganzburg [BG], Kroó-Schmidt [KS], Kroó [K1]).

In this paper we shall study the multivariate Remez problem for *homogeneous* polynomials. Homogeneous polynomials arise naturally as the approximating tool in problems related to neural networks and approximation by ridge functions (see e.g. [K2], [LP]). This leads to the necessity of extending the classical polynomial inequalities to homogeneous polynomials, with the Remez inequality being one of the basic ones.

Let $H_n^d:=\{\sum_{|\mathbf{k}|_1=n}a_{\mathbf{k}}\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}},a_{\mathbf{k}}\in\mathbb{R}\}$, $\mathbf{x}\in\mathbb{R}^d$, be the space of homogeneous polynomials of d variables and degree n. (Here $|\mathbf{k}|_1$ stands for the ℓ_1-norm of $\mathbf{k}\in\mathbb{Z}_+^d$. For $\mathbf{x}\in\mathbb{R}^n$ we denote by $|\mathbf{x}|$ the ℓ_2-norm.) A natural domain for the study of homogeneous polynomials is a *star-like surface*. Let $r:S^{d-1}\to\mathbb{R}^+$ be a continuous even mapping of the unit sphere $S^{d-1}:=\{\mathbf{x}\in\mathbb{R}^d:\ |\mathbf{x}|=1\}$ into the positive real axis $\mathbb{R}^+$. Then a star-like surface and a star-like domain corresponding to r are defined, respectively, by

$$\begin{aligned}\partial K_r &:= \{\mathbf{u}\,r(\mathbf{u}):\ \mathbf{u}\in S^{d-1}\}\\ K_r &:= \{t\mathbf{x}:\ \mathbf{x}\in\partial K_r,\ t\in[0,1]\}.\end{aligned}$$

We shall say that $r\in\mathrm{Lip}_M\alpha$, $0<\alpha\leq 2$, if for every $\mathbf{x}_1,\mathbf{x}_2\in S^{d-1}$

$$\begin{aligned}&|r(\mathbf{x}_1)-r(\mathbf{x}_2)|\leq M|\mathbf{x}_1-\mathbf{x}_2|^\alpha \ \text{ if } 0<\alpha\leq 1\\ &|\nabla r(\mathbf{x}_1)-\nabla r(\mathbf{x}_2)|\leq M|\mathbf{x}_1-\mathbf{x}_2|^{\alpha-1} \ \text{ if } 1<\alpha\leq 2.\end{aligned}$$

(Naturally, if $1<\alpha\leq 2$ the existence of the gradient ∇r of r is assumed.)

It is shown in [K1] that for $r\in\mathrm{Lip}_M\alpha$ and $0<\delta<1/2$ we have

$$\frac{1}{n}\log R_n^*(K_r,\delta)=O\left(\delta^{\alpha d/(2d+2\alpha-2)}\right) \tag{3}$$

and this estimate is sharp, in general. Note that if K_r is convex (so that $\alpha=1$), then the upper bound of (3) is the same as in (2). Moreover, in case when $\alpha=2$ (C^2-domain) we get from (3) that

$$\frac{1}{n}\log R_n^*(K_r,\delta)=O\left(\delta^{\frac{d}{d+1}}\right).$$

The above estimates provide sharp Remez-type results for polynomials in P_n^d.

Now we shall introduce a quantity similar to (1) for homogeneous polynomials on a star-like domain K_r. Since the norm of homogeneous polynomials is attained on the boundary ∂K_r of K_r, the exceptional set E should be a subset of ∂K_r, and its size will be measured by its Lebesgue surface measure $s_{d-1}(E)$ in $\mathbb{R}^d$. Now set for any $0<\delta<1$

$$R_n(K_r,\delta):=\sup\left\{\frac{||h||_{\partial K_r}}{||h||_{\partial K_r\setminus E}}\,:\,h\in H_n^d,\,E\subset\partial K_r,\,s_{d-1}(E)\le s_{d-1}(\partial K_r)\delta^{d-1}\right\},$$

$$\varphi_\alpha(\delta):=\begin{cases}\delta^\alpha, & 0<\alpha<1\\ \delta\log\frac{1}{\delta}, & \alpha=1\\ \delta, & 1<\alpha\le 2.\end{cases}$$

Our main result is the following.

Main Theorem. *Let $K_r\subset\mathbb{R}^d$ ($d\ge 2$) be a star-like domain with $r\in \mathrm{Lip}_M\alpha$, $0<\alpha\le 2$. Then with some $c_1>0$ independent of n and δ we have*

$$\frac{1}{n}\log R_n(K_r,\delta)\le c_1\varphi_\alpha(\delta),\ 0<\delta\le 1/2. \tag{4}$$

Moreover, this estimate is sharp in the sense that a similar lower bound holds for certain K_r as above.

Clearly, whenever K_r is a *convex body*, then $r\in\mathrm{Lip}_M 1$ with some M depending on K_r. This leads to

Corollary 1. *For any 0-symmetric convex body K in $\mathbb{R}^d$,*

$$\frac{1}{n}\log R_n(K,\delta)\le c_1\delta\log\frac{1}{\delta},\ \ 0<\delta\le 1/2.$$

Remark. Note that (4) is better that (3) by roughly a square root factor. For instance, for $\alpha=1$ (i.e. convex surface)

$$\frac{1}{n}\log R_n(K_r,\delta)=O\left(\delta\log\frac{1}{\delta}\right)$$

while for $\alpha=2$ (smooth surface) we have

$$\frac{1}{n}\log R_n(K_r,\delta)=O(\delta).$$

This improvement of the rate of the Remez function $R_n(K_r,\delta)$ is related to the special algebraic structure of homogeneous polynomials.

Consider the space of *spherical* polynomials $P_n^d(S^{d-1})$, where $Q(K)$ denotes the restriction of functions from Q to the subset $K\subset\mathbb{R}^d$. It is known that $P_n^d(S^{d-1})=H_n^d(S^{d-1})+H_{n-1}^d(S^{d-1})$, i.e., any $p\in P_n^d$ equals on S^{d-1} the sum of 2 homogeneous polynomials of degrees n and $n-1$ (see [Re], p. 43). Moreover, one of the homogeneous polynomials is even and the other one is odd. Thus, if $p\in P_n^d(S^{d-1})$ and $|p|>1$ on a subset of S^{d-1} of measure at most δ^{d-1}, then it is easily seen that the moduli of the corresponding homogeneous polynomials can exceed 1 on sets of measure at most $2\delta^{d-1}$. Hence the above theorem implies the following Remez-type inequality for spherical polynomials

Corollary 2. *If* $p \in P_n^d(S^{d-1})$ *and* $s_{d-1}\left\{\mathbf{x} \in S^{d-1} : |p(\mathbf{x})| > 1\right\} \le \delta^{d-1}$, *then*

$$\|p\|_{S^{d-1}} \le \exp\{cn\delta\},$$

where $c > 0$ *depends only on* d.

Note that for $d = 2$ (univariate trigonometric polynomials) this result was obtained by T. Erdélyi [E].

The proof of the main result will be based on several lemmas. First we shall need some auxiliary geometric results which will reduce the problem to the study of 2-dimensional "diamond-shaped" domains (Lemmas 1—3). Then the problem will be transformed to a Remez-type problem for weighted univariate polynomials on $\mathbb{R}$. The study of this problem will require potential-theoretic methods (Lemmas 4—7).

Lemma 1. *Let* $K \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ *be a compact set with* $\mu_d(K) = 1$, $d \ge 3$, $0 < \delta < 1$. *Then for any* $E \subset K$ *with* $\mu_d(E) \le \delta^{d-1}$ *and any* $\mathbf{x}^* \in K$ *there exists a 2-dimensional plane* L_2^* *passing through* 0 *and* $\mathbf{x}^*$ *such that* $\mu_2(E \cap L_2^*) \le c_K\delta$, *where* $c_K > 0$ *depends only on* K.

Proof. We may assume that $\mathbf{x}^* = (1,0,\dots,0)$. Any $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_d) \in \mathbb{R}^d$ can be written in cylindrical coordinates as $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \rho, \overline{\varphi})$, where $x_1, \rho \in \mathbb{R}$, $\overline{\varphi} \in T^{d-2} := [-\pi/2, \pi/2]^{d-2}$, and $(\rho, \overline{\varphi})$ are the spherical coordinates in $\mathbb{R}^{d-1}$. Clearly, there exists an $a > 0$ such that $x_1, \rho \in [-a, a]$ whenever $\mathbf{x} \in K$. Then, using that $\mu_d(K) = 1$, we get

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_d(E) &= \int_{T^{d-2}}\int_{-a}^{a}\int_{-a}^{a}\chi_E(x_1,\rho,\overline{\varphi})|\rho|^{d-2}J(\overline{\varphi})dx_1 d\rho d\overline{\varphi}\\ &\le \delta^{d-1} = \delta^{d-1}\int_{T^{d-2}}\int_{-a}^{a}\int_{-a}^{a}\chi_K(x_1,\rho,\overline{\varphi})|\rho|^{d-2}J(\overline{\varphi})dx_1 d\rho d\overline{\varphi}\end{aligned}$$

where χ_E and χ_K are the characteristic functions of E and K, respectively, and $\rho^{d-2}J(\overline{\varphi})$ is the Jacobian of the spherical transformation in $\mathbb{R}^{d-1}$; $J(\overline{\varphi}) \ge 0$, $\overline{\varphi} \in T^{d-2}$. Therefore, for some $\overline{\varphi}^* \in T^{d-2}$,

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{-a}^{a}\int_{-a}^{a}\chi_E(x_1,\rho,\overline{\varphi}^*)|\rho|^{d-2}d\rho dx_1 &\le \delta^{d-1}\int_{-a}^{a}\int_{-a}^{a}\chi_K(x_1,\rho,\overline{\varphi}^*)|\rho|^{d-2}d\rho dx_1\\ &\le c_K'\delta^{d-1}.\end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

Fixing this $\overline{\varphi}^*$ we get a 2-dimensional plane $L_2^* := \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d : \mathbf{x} = (t\mathbf{x}^*, \rho\mathbf{u}^*),\ t, \rho \in \mathbb{R}\}$, where $\mathbf{u}^*$ is a point on S^{d-2} with spherical coordinates $\overline{\varphi}^*$. It is clear that $\mathbf{x}^*, 0 \in L_2^*$.

Now set $\gamma(t) := \mu_1\{\rho : \chi_E(t, \rho, \overline{\varphi}^*) = 1\}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_2(E \cap L_2^*) &= \mu_2\{(t,\rho) : \chi_E(t,\rho,\overline{\varphi}^*) = 1\}\\ &= \int_{-a}^{a}\int_{-a}^{a}\chi_E(t,\rho,\overline{\varphi}^*)d\rho dt = \int_{-a}^{a}\gamma(t)dt.\end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

Then by (5), (6) and Hölder's inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} c'_K\delta^{d-1} &\geq \int_{-a}^{a}\int_{-a}^{a}\chi_E(t,\rho,\overline{\varphi}^*)|\rho|^{d-2}d\rho dt \geq 2\int_{-a}^{a}\int_{0}^{\gamma(t)/2}\rho^{d-2}d\rho dt \\ &\geq \int_{-a}^{a}\frac{\gamma(t)^{d-1}}{2^{d-2}(d-1)}dt \geq \frac{c''_K}{2^{d-2}(d-1)}\left(\int_{-a}^{a}\gamma(t)dt\right)^{d-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, using (6),

$$\mu_2(E\cap L_2^*) = \int_{-a}^{a}\gamma(t)dt \leq c_K\delta.$$

□

Let $K := K_r \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ be a star-like set and denote by

$$f_K(\mathbf{x}) := \inf\{\beta > 0 : \mathbf{x}/\beta \in K\} = \frac{|\mathbf{x}|}{r(\mathbf{x}/|\mathbf{x}|)}$$

the Minkowski functional of K. We shall say that K is *regular* if f_K is continuously differentiable on its boundary ∂K. Note that $f_K(\mathbf{x}) \leq 1$ if and only if $\mathbf{x} \in K$, $f_K(\mathbf{x}) = 1$ for $\mathbf{x} \in \partial K$, $f_K(t\mathbf{x}) = tf_K(\mathbf{x})$, $t > 0$, and thus $f_K(\mathbf{x}) = \langle \nabla f_K(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}\rangle$ and $(\nabla f_K)(t\mathbf{x}) = \nabla f_K(\mathbf{x})$, $t > 0$, $\mathbf{x} \neq 0$.

Set $\mathbf{e}_j = (\delta_{ij})_{i=1}^d \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $1 \leq j \leq d$. (As usual $\delta_{ij} = 0$ if $i \neq j$, and $\delta_{ii} = 1$.) Furthermore, if $L : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^d$ is a regular linear transformation, that is L is a nonsingular matrix, then $||L||$ stands for its ℓ_2-norm, $L(D) := \{L\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{x} \in D\}$, $D \subset \mathbb{R}^d$. In addition, for a star-like set K, put

$$\begin{aligned} M(K) &:= \sup\{|\mathbf{x}| : \mathbf{x} \in K\}, \\ m(K) &:= \inf\{|\mathbf{x}| : \mathbf{x} \in \partial K\}, \\ M^*(K) &:= \sup\{|\nabla f_K(\mathbf{x})| : \mathbf{x} \in S^{d-1}\}. \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 2. *Let $K \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ be a star-like set such that ∇f_K exists and is bounded on S^{d-1}. For any $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_d) \in \partial K$ there exists a regular linear transformation $L : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^d$ and a star-like set D such that $L(D) = K$, $L\mathbf{e}_1 = \mathbf{y}$, $\nabla f_D(\mathbf{e}_1) = \mathbf{e}_1$, and $||L||, ||L^{-1}|| \leq c_0$ with some $c_0 > 0$ depending only on $M(K)$ and $M^*(K)$.*

Proof. Without loss of generality we may assume (using a rotation) that $\nabla f_K(\mathbf{y}) = t\mathbf{e}_1$, $t > 0$. Note that whenever $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ we have

$$\langle \nabla f_K(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}\rangle = D_{\mathbf{x}} f_K(\mathbf{x}) = f_K(\mathbf{x}). \tag{7}$$

Hence, using that $f_K(\mathbf{y}) = 1$ for $\mathbf{y} \in \partial K$,

$$1 = \langle \nabla f_K(\mathbf{y}), \mathbf{y}\rangle = ty_1, \tag{8}$$

that is, $y_1 > 0$. Now, define $L : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^d$ by

$$L\mathbf{e}_1 = \mathbf{y},\ L\mathbf{e}_j = \mathbf{e}_j,\ 2 \leq j \leq d. \tag{9}$$

Clearly, $D := L^{-1}(K)$ is star-like and we have by (8)

$$M(K) \geq |\mathbf{y}| \geq y_1 = \frac{1}{t} = \frac{1}{|\nabla f_K(\mathbf{y})|} \geq \frac{1}{M^*(K)}.$$

It is a routine exercise to verify that $||L||, ||L^{-1}|| \le c_0$ with a $c_0 > 0$ depending only on $M(K)$, $M^*(K)$. Moreover, if $D := L^{-1}(K)$, i.e., $L(D) = K$, then $f_D(\mathbf{x}) = f_K(L\mathbf{x})$, and $\nabla f_D(\mathbf{x}) = L^T \nabla f_K(L\mathbf{x})$. Hence, by (9), for any $2 \le j \le d$,

$$\left\langle \nabla f_D(\mathbf{e}_1), \mathbf{e}_j \right\rangle = \left\langle L^T \nabla f_K(L\mathbf{e}_1), \mathbf{e}_j \right\rangle = \left\langle \nabla f_K(\mathbf{y}), L\mathbf{e}_j \right\rangle = \left\langle t\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_j \right\rangle = 0.$$

Thus $\nabla f_D(\mathbf{e}_1) = \lambda \mathbf{e}_1$ where, by (7) and (9),

$$\lambda = \langle \nabla f_D(\mathbf{e}_1), \mathbf{e}_1 \rangle = f_D(\mathbf{e}_1) = f_K(L\mathbf{e}_1) = f_K(\mathbf{y}) = 1.$$

□

Lemma 3. *Let $K \subset \mathbb{R}^2$, $K = \{(\rho\cos\varphi, \rho\sin\varphi) : 0 \le \rho \le r(\varphi),\ 0 \le \varphi \le 2\pi\}$, where $r > 0$, $r \in \mathrm{Lip}_M \alpha$, $0 < \alpha \le 2$ on $[0, 2\pi]$, $r'(\pi/2) = 0$, when $1 < \alpha \le 2$. Assume that $r(\pi/2) = 1$. Then there exists an $a > 0$ depending only on M, α, $m(K)$, $M(K)$ such that*

$$K_\alpha := \left\{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 :\ y > 0,\ y^\alpha \le 1 - a|x|^\alpha\right\} \subset K.$$

Proof. Let first $0 < \alpha \le 1$. Set $a := 3(M+1)r_0^{-\alpha}$, where $r_0 := m(K)$. Moreover, set

$$K_1 := \left\{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 :\ 0 \le y \le 1 - a|x|^\alpha\right\}.$$

Assume that for some $(x,y) \in \partial K \cap K_1$, $(x,y) \ne (0,1)$. Then $x = r(\varphi)\cos\varphi$, $y = r(\varphi)\sin\varphi$, $0 \le \varphi \le \pi$, $\varphi \ne \pi/2$ and $0 \le y \le 1 - a|x|^\alpha$. Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} a|x|^\alpha &\le |y-1| = |r(\varphi)\sin\varphi - 1| \le |r(\varphi) - 1| + |\sin\varphi - 1| \le M\left|\frac{\pi}{2} - \varphi\right|^\alpha + \left|\frac{\pi}{2} - \varphi\right| \\ &\le \frac{\pi}{2}(M+1)\left|\frac{\pi}{2} - \varphi\right|^\alpha \le (M+1)\frac{5}{2}|\cos\varphi|^\alpha \le \frac{5}{2}\frac{(M+1)}{r_0^\alpha}|x|^\alpha, \end{aligned}$$

which is impossible by the choice of a. Hence we have that $K \supset K_1 \supset K_\alpha$.

In the case $1 < \alpha \le 2$ we set $a := 9(MR_0^{\alpha-1} + 1)r_0^{-\alpha}$, where $R_0 := M(K)$. Then the assertion will follow from the estimates

$$\begin{aligned} a|x|^\alpha &\le |y-1| \le |y^\alpha - 1| = |r^\alpha(\varphi)\sin^\alpha\varphi - 1| \le |r^\alpha(\varphi) - 1| + |\sin^\alpha\varphi - 1| \\ &\le \alpha R_0^{\alpha-1}|r'(\xi) - r'(\pi/2)|\left|\frac{\pi}{2} - \varphi\right| + \alpha|\sin^{\alpha-1}\zeta\cos\zeta|\left|\frac{\pi}{2} - \varphi\right| \\ &\le \alpha M R_0^{\alpha-1}\left|\frac{\pi}{2} - \varphi\right|^\alpha + \alpha\left|\frac{\pi}{2} - \varphi\right|^2 \le 8\frac{\left(MR_0^{\alpha-1} + 1\right)}{r_0^\alpha}|x|^\alpha, \end{aligned}$$

where ξ, ζ are some constants between φ and $\pi/2$.

□

Let ω be a nonincreasing positive continuous function on $[0,1]$, $0 < \delta < 1$, and let $T_n^{\omega,\delta}\left(t^2\right)$ be the normalized Chebyshev polynomial of degree $2n$ on $A_\delta := [-1, -\delta] \cup [\delta, 1]$ with the weight $\omega(|t|)$, i.e.

$$\left|T_n^{\omega,\delta}\left(t^2\right)\omega(|t|)\right| \le 1,\ t \in A_\delta,\ \deg T_n^{\omega,\delta}(\cdot) = n,$$

and there exist $n+1$ points $\delta \le y_0 < \cdots < y_n \le 1$ such that

$$T_n^{\omega,\delta}\left(y_j^2\right) = \frac{(-1)^{n-j}}{\omega(|y_j|)},\ j = \overline{0,n}.$$

This polynomial exists by the Chebyshev theorem, since $\{t^k\omega(|t|)\}_{k=0}^{n-1}$ forms a T-system (cf. [KSt]) on $[0,1]$.

Denote by $\mathscr{P}_n(\delta)$ the set of real univariate algebraic polynomials of degree $\le n$ such that

$$\mu_1\left\{t\in[-1,1]:\left|\omega(|t|)p\left(t^2\right)\right|\ge 1\right\}=2\delta.$$

Then the following lemma holds:

Lemma 4. *Let ω, $T_n^{\omega,\delta}$, $\mathscr{P}_n(\delta)$ be defined as above. Then for any $p\in\mathscr{P}_n(\delta)$*

$$|p(0)|\le|T_n^{\omega,\delta}(0)|. \tag{10}$$

Proof. Denote by $\widetilde{E}:=\{t\in[0,1]:\ \omega(t)|p(t^2)|\le 1\}$, $E^+:=[0,1]\setminus\widetilde{E}$. Clearly, $\mu_1(E^+)=\delta$, $\mu_1(\widetilde{E})=1-\delta$. Let ψ be the transformation of $[0,1]$ shifting $\widetilde{E}$ to the right onto $[\delta,1]$ (or equivalently shifting E^+ to the left into $(0,\delta)$.) That is,

$$\psi(x):=\begin{cases}1-\mu_1\{t\in\widetilde{E}:\ t>x\}, & x\in\widetilde{E}\\ \delta-\mu_1\{t\in E^+:\ t>x\}, & x\in E^+.\end{cases}$$

It is easy to see that ψ is a monotone increasing mapping of $\widetilde{E}$ onto $[\delta,1]$, $\psi(x)\ge x$, $x\in\widetilde{E}$, and $\psi(y)-\psi(x)\le y-x$ for $x,y\in\widetilde{E}$, $y>x$. Let $x_0<\cdots<x_n$ be points in $\widetilde{E}$ such that $y_j=\psi(x_j)$, $0\le j\le n$. From the properties of ψ we deduce that $y_j=x_j+\delta_j$ with $\delta_j\ge 0$ and $\delta_k\ge\delta_j$ whenever $k<j$.

By Lagrange interpolation formula we have

$$|p(0)|=\left|\sum_{j=0}^{n}p(x_j^2)\prod_{k=0,k\neq j}^{n}\left(\frac{-x_k^2}{x_j^2-x_k^2}\right)\right|\le\sum_{j=0}^{n}\frac{1}{\omega(|x_j|)}\prod_{k=0,k\neq j}^{n}\left(\frac{x_k^2}{|x_j^2-x_k^2|}\right). \tag{11}$$

Since $x_k<x_j$ and $\delta_k\ge\delta_j$ whenever $k<j$, we have for $y_j=x_j+\delta_j$ and $y_k=x_k+\delta_k$,

$$\frac{x_k^2}{x_j^2-x_k^2}\le\frac{y_k^2}{y_j^2-y_k^2}. \tag{12}$$

Inequality (12) implies that for $k>j$ we have

$$\frac{x_k^2}{x_k^2-x_j^2}=1+\frac{x_j^2}{x_k^2-x_j^2}\le 1+\frac{y_j^2}{y_k^2-y_j^2}=\frac{y_k^2}{y_k^2-y_j^2}. \tag{13}$$

Hence combining inequalities (11), (12), and (13) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}|p(0)| &\le \sum_{j=0}^{n}\frac{1}{\omega(|y_j|)}\prod_{k=0,k\neq j}^{n}\left(\frac{y_k^2}{|y_j^2-y_k^2|}\right)=\sum_{j=0}^{n}\frac{(-1)^{n-j}}{\omega(|y_j|)}\prod_{k=0,k\neq j}^{n}\left(\frac{y_k^2}{y_j^2-y_k^2}\right)\\ &= \sum_{j=0}^{n}T_n^{\omega,\delta}(y_j^2)\prod_{k=0,k\neq j}^{n}\left(\frac{y_k^2}{y_j^2-y_k^2}\right)=|T_n^{\omega,\delta}(0)|.\end{aligned}$$

□

For the next needed lemma we shall appeal to potential theory.

Lemma 5. *Suppose that for some α and δ with $\alpha > 0$ and $0 < \delta < 1$ there holds*

$$\frac{|P_n(x)|}{(1+|x|^\alpha)^{n/\alpha}} \leq 1 \ \text{ for } \ \delta \leq |x| \leq 1, \tag{14}$$

where P_n is a polynomial of degree at most n. Then

$$|P_n(0)| \leq e^{n g_\alpha(\delta)}, \tag{15}$$

where

$$g_\alpha(\delta) := \frac{1}{\alpha\pi}\int_{\delta^2}^1 \log\left[\frac{t^{\alpha/2}+\delta^\alpha}{(t-\delta^2)^{\alpha/2}}\right]\frac{dt}{\sqrt{(1-t)(t-\delta^2)}}. \tag{16}$$

Proof. Put $p_n(x) := (x/\delta)^n P_n(\delta/x) = P_n(0)(x/\delta)^n + \cdots$. Then (14) gives

$$\omega_\alpha^n(x)|p_n(x)| \leq 1 \ \text{ for } \ \delta \leq |x| \leq 1, \tag{17}$$

where

$$\omega_\alpha(x) := e^{-Q_\alpha(x)}, \ \ Q_\alpha(x) := \frac{1}{\alpha}\log\left(1+\left|\frac{x}{\delta}\right|^\alpha\right). \tag{18}$$

We shall verify the following
Claim: There exists a probability measure μ_α with support $A_\delta := [-1,-\delta]\cup[\delta,1]$ and a constant F_α such that

$$Q_\alpha(x) = F_\alpha - U^{\mu_\alpha}(x) \ \text{ for } \ \delta \leq |x| \leq 1, \tag{19}$$

where

$$U^{\mu_\alpha}(x) := \int_{A_\delta} \log\frac{1}{|x-t|}d\mu_\alpha(t)$$

is the logarithmic potential for μ_α.

Assuming the validity of (19), we can rewrite (17) as

$$\frac{1}{n}\log|p_n(x)| + U^{\mu_\alpha}(x) \leq F_\alpha \ \text{ for } \ \delta \leq |x| \leq 1. \tag{20}$$

But the left-hand side of (20) is subharmonic in $\overline{\mathbb{C}}\setminus\{x : \ \delta \leq |x| \leq 1\}$, where $\overline{\mathbb{C}}$ denotes the extended complex plane. Hence (20) holds for all $x \in \overline{\mathbb{C}}$. Letting $x \to \infty$, we get

$$\frac{1}{n}\log|P_n(0)| \leq F_\alpha + \log\delta,$$

and so

$$|P_n(0)| \leq e^{n(F_\alpha + \log\delta)}. \tag{21}$$

We remark that μ_α is the *weighted equilibrium measure* (cf. [ST, Chapter I]) for the weight ω_α on the set A_δ. To obtain a formula for F_α, it is convenient to make the change of variables $t = x^2$. By [ST, Theorem IV.1.10(f)], we have

$$d\mu_\alpha(x) = \frac{1}{2}d\widetilde{\mu}_\alpha(t) \ \text{ and } \ F_\alpha = \frac{1}{2}\widetilde{F}_\alpha, \tag{22}$$

where $\widetilde{\mu}_\alpha$ is the weighted equilibrium measure for the weight $\widetilde{\omega}_\alpha(t) = \left[\omega_\alpha\left(\sqrt{t}\right)\right]^2$ on $[\delta^2, 1]$, and $\widetilde{F}_\alpha$ is the corresponding weighted Robin constant such that

$$U^{\widetilde{\mu}_\alpha}(x) + \widetilde{Q}_\alpha(t) = \widetilde{F}_\alpha \ \text{ for } \ t \in \operatorname{supp}(\widetilde{\mu}_\alpha), \tag{23}$$

where

$$\widetilde{Q}_\alpha(t) := \log \frac{1}{\widetilde{\omega}_\alpha(t)} = \frac{2}{\alpha} \log \left[1 + \left(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\delta}\right)^\alpha\right]. \tag{24}$$

From our claim we have $\operatorname{supp}(\widetilde{\mu}_\alpha) = [\delta^2, 1]$, and hence $\widetilde{F}_\alpha = -F([\delta^2, 1])$, where $F(K)$ is the "F-functional" of Mhaskar and Saff (cf. [ST, Theorem IV.1.5(b)]). This gives

$$\widetilde{F}_\alpha = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\delta^2}^1 \widetilde{Q}_\alpha(t) \frac{dt}{\sqrt{(1-t)(t-\delta^2)}} - \log \left[\frac{1-\delta^2}{4}\right], \tag{25}$$

where we have used the facts that $\operatorname{cap}([\delta^2, 1]) = (1-\delta^2)/4$, and the unweighted equilibrium measure (Robin measure) for the interval $[\delta^2, 1]$ is

$$d\lambda_\delta(t) := \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{dt}{\sqrt{(1-t)(t-\delta^2)}}, \ \delta^2 \le t \le 1. \tag{26}$$

Since (26) is a unit measure and, as is well-known, $U^{\lambda_\delta}(s) = -\log[(1-\delta^2)/4]$ for all $s \in [\delta^2, 1]$, we obtain from (22), (24) and (25) that

$$\begin{aligned} F_\alpha + \log \delta &= \frac{1}{2}\left[\widetilde{F}_\alpha + \log\left(\delta^2\right)\right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\int_{\delta^2}^1 \left[\widetilde{Q}_\alpha(t) + \log\left(\delta^2\right) + \log \frac{1}{|t-s|}\right] d\lambda_\delta(t) \\ &= \frac{1}{\alpha\pi}\int_{\delta_2}^1 \log\left[\frac{t^{\alpha/2} + \delta^\alpha}{|t-s|^{\alpha/2}}\right] \frac{dt}{\sqrt{(1-t)(t-\delta^2)}} \end{aligned}$$

for every $s \in [\delta^2, 1]$. Taking $s = \delta^2$ we see from (21) that the estimate (15) holds.

It remains to verify the claim concerning (19). For this purpose it is equivalent and more convenient to establish that $\operatorname{supp}(\widetilde{\mu}_\alpha) = [\delta^2, 1]$, where as above, $\widetilde{\mu}_\alpha$ is the weighted equilibrium measure for $\exp(-\widetilde{Q}_\alpha(t))$ on $[\delta^2, 1]$. It is readily verified that

$$(t-\delta^2)\widetilde{Q}_\alpha'(t) = \frac{t^{\alpha/2} - \delta^2 t^{\alpha/2-1}}{\delta^\alpha + t^{\alpha/2}}$$

is increasing on $[\delta^2, 1]$. Thus the support of $\widetilde{\mu}_\alpha$ is an interval (cf. [ST, Theorem IV.1.10(c)], [B, Theorem 9]). Also, since $\widetilde{Q}_\alpha'(t) > 0$, it follows from [ST, Theorem IV.1.11(ii)], [B, Theorem 10(ii)] that $\operatorname{supp}(\widetilde{\mu}_\alpha) = [\delta^2, b]$ for some $\delta^2 < b \le 1$. To show that $b = 1$, assume the contrary. Then

$$F\left([\delta^2, \beta]\right) = \log\left(\operatorname{cap}[\delta^2, \beta]\right) - \frac{1}{\pi}\int_{\delta^2}^\beta \widetilde{Q}_\alpha(t) \frac{dt}{\sqrt{(\beta-t)(t-\delta^2)}}$$

must attain its maximum for $\beta = b$. Consequently,

$$\left.\frac{d}{d\beta} F([\delta^2, \beta])\right|_{\beta=b} = 0,$$

which after setting $y=-1+2(t-\delta^2)/(\beta-\delta^2)$ gives

$$1=\frac{1}{\pi}\int_{-1}^{1}(\beta-\delta^2)\left(\frac{t^{\alpha/2-1}}{\delta^\alpha+t^{\alpha/2}}\right)\left(\frac{y+1}{2}\right)\frac{dy}{\sqrt{1-y^2}} \tag{27}$$

when $\beta=b$. But (27) is impossible since

$$(\beta-\delta^2)\left(\frac{t^{\alpha/2-1}}{\delta^\alpha+t^{\alpha/2}}\right)\left(\frac{y+1}{2}\right)=(t-\delta^2)\widetilde{Q}'_\alpha(t)<1$$

for $|y|<1$. Thus $b=1$ and so $\operatorname{supp}(\widetilde{\mu}_\alpha)=[\delta^2,1]$, which completes the proof of (15). □

Concerning sharpness of Lemma 5 we establish

Lemma 6. *For each $\alpha>0$ and $0<\delta<1$ there exists a sequence of polynomials $\{P_n^{\delta,\alpha}\}$, $\deg P_n^{\delta,\alpha}=n$ satisfying*

$$\frac{|P_n(x)|}{(1+|x|^\alpha)^{n/\alpha}}\leq 1 \text{ for } |x|\geq\delta, \tag{28}$$

such that

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}|P_n^{\delta,\alpha}(0)|^{1/n}=e^{g_\alpha^*(\delta)}, \tag{29}$$

where

$$g_\alpha^*(\delta):=\frac{1}{\alpha\pi}\int_0^1\log\left(1+\frac{\delta^\alpha}{t^{\alpha/2}}\right)\frac{dt}{\sqrt{t(1-t)}}. \tag{30}$$

Proof. Set

$$P_n^{\delta,\alpha}(x):=\frac{x^n\Phi_n(\delta/x)}{||\omega_\alpha^n\Phi_n||_{[-1,1]}},$$

where $\Phi_n(x)$ is the *Fekete polynomials associated with weight ω_α* (cf. [ST, Section III.1]) and ω_α is defined by (18). Then

$$p_n^{\delta,\alpha}(x):=\left(\frac{x}{\delta}\right)^n P_n^{\delta,\alpha}\left(\frac{\delta}{x}\right)=\frac{\Phi_n(x)}{||\omega_\alpha^n\Phi_n||_{[-1,1]}}.$$

Thus, by construction, $P_n^{\delta,\alpha}$ satisfies (28). It follows from [ST, Corollary III.1.10] that

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{1}{n}\log\left(\frac{|\Phi_n(z)|}{||\omega_\alpha^n\Phi_n||_{[-1,1]}}\right)=F_\alpha^*-U^{\mu_\alpha^*}(z),\ \forall z\in\mathbb{C}\setminus[-1,1],$$

where μ_α^* is the weighted equilibrium measure for the weight ω_α on the interval $[-1,1]$, and F_α^* is the corresponding modified Robin constant. Existence of μ_α^* and F_α^* can be shown exactly in the same way as it was done in Lemma 5.

Now, since for each n, the function $\frac{1}{n}\log|p_n^{\delta,\alpha}(z)|+U^{\mu_\alpha^*}(z)$ is harmonic at ∞, we deduce that

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\left(\frac{1}{n}\log|p_n^{\delta,\alpha}(z)|+U^{\mu_\alpha^*}(z)\right)\bigg|_{z=\infty}=F_\alpha^*,$$

or, equivalently

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\left(\frac{1}{n}\log|P_n^{\delta,\alpha}(0)|-\log\delta\right)=F_\alpha^*.$$

Then the assertion of the lemma can be derived in a similar fashion as in Lemma 5.

□

Concerning the behavior of the quantities $g_\alpha(\delta)$ and $g_\alpha^*(\delta)$ we prove the following.

Lemma 7. *Let α and δ be defined as in Lemmas 5 and 6 and let $g_\alpha(\delta)$ be defined by* (16), *$g_\alpha^*(\delta)$ be defined by* (30). *Then for $0<\delta\le 1/2$*

$$g_\alpha(\delta)\asymp\varphi_\alpha(\delta)\asymp g_\alpha^*(\delta), \tag{31}$$

where $f(\delta)\asymp g(\delta)$ means that $c_2 g(\delta)\le f(\delta)\le c_1 g(\delta)$, $0<\delta\le 1/2$ with positive constants c_1,c_2 depending only on α.

Proof. Fix $0<\alpha\le 2$. By (16) we have that

$$g_\alpha(\delta):=\frac{1}{\alpha\pi}\int_{\delta^2}^{1}\log\left[\frac{t^{\alpha/2}+\delta^\alpha}{(t-\delta^2)^{\alpha/2}}\right]\frac{dt}{\sqrt{(1-t)(t-\delta^2)}}=\frac{1}{\alpha\pi}\left(\int_{\delta^2}^{1/2}+\int_{1/2}^{1}\right).$$

We shall estimate these last two integrals separately.

$$\begin{aligned}
I_1 &:= \int_{\delta^2}^{1/2}\log\left[\frac{t^{\alpha/2}+\delta^\alpha}{(t-\delta^2)^{\alpha/2}}\right]\frac{dt}{\sqrt{(1-t)(t-\delta^2)}}\\
&= \delta\int_{1}^{1/2\delta^2}\log\left[\frac{1+u^{\alpha/2}}{(u-1)^{\alpha/2}}\right]\frac{du}{\sqrt{(1-\delta^2u)(u-1)}}\\
&\asymp \delta\int_{1}^{1/2\delta^2}\log\left[\frac{1+u^{\alpha/2}}{(u-1)^{\alpha/2}}\right]d\left(\sqrt{u-1}\right)\\
&\asymp \delta\sqrt{u-1}\,\log\left[\frac{1+u^{\alpha/2}}{(u-1)^{\alpha/2}}\right]\Bigg|_{1}^{1/2\delta^2}+\delta\int_{1}^{1/2\delta^2}\frac{u^{-1+\alpha/2}+1}{(u^{\alpha/2}+1)\sqrt{u-1}}du\\
&\asymp \delta^\alpha+\varphi_\alpha(\delta)\asymp\varphi_\alpha(\delta).
\end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see that for $t\in[1/2,1]$

$$\log\left[\frac{t^{\alpha/2}+\delta^\alpha}{(t-\delta^2)^{\alpha/2}}\right]\asymp\delta^\alpha.$$

Hence

$$I_2:=\int_{1/2}^{1}\log\left[\frac{t^{\alpha/2}+\delta^\alpha}{(t-\delta^2)^{\alpha/2}}\right]\frac{dt}{\sqrt{(1-t)(t-\delta^2)}}\asymp\delta^\alpha.$$

Combining estimates for I_1 and I_2 we obtain the first part of (31).

The same type of arguments can be applied to derive that $g_\alpha^*(\delta)\asymp\varphi_\alpha(\delta)$.

□

We are now ready to give the

Proof of the Main Theorem. Let $h \in H_n^d$, $E \subset \partial K_r$ with $s_{d-1}(E) \le s_{d-1}(\partial K_r)\delta^{d-1}$ and $0 < \delta \le 1/2$. We may assume that $||h||_{\partial K_r \setminus E} = 1$ and $s_{d-1}(\partial K_r) = 1$. Now we need a proper upper bound for $||h||_{\partial K_r}$. Set

$$E_h := \{t\mathbf{x} : \, t \in [0,1], \, \mathbf{x} \in \partial K_r, \, |h(\mathbf{x})| > 1\}.$$

Clearly,

$$\mu_d(E_h) \le c s_{d-1}(E) \le c\delta^{d-1} \tag{32}$$

with some $c > 0$ depending only on K_r. Now the proof can be completed in several steps.

Step 1. First using Lemma 1 we can reduce our problem to the 2-dimensional case. Indeed, if $||h||_{\partial K_r} = |h(\mathbf{x}^*)|$ with some $\mathbf{x}^* \in \partial K_r$ then by Lemma 1 and (32) there exists a 2-dimensional plane L_2^* passing through 0 and $\mathbf{x}^*$ such that $\mu_2(E_h \cap L_2^*) \le c\delta$ with a $c > 0$ depending only on K_r. Moreover, $h\Big|_{L_2^*} \in H_n^2$, and $\widetilde{K} := \partial K_r \cap L_2^*$ is a star-like surface in $\mathbb{R}^2$ containing $\mathbf{x}^*$, which satisfies the $\mathrm{Lip}_M\alpha$ property. Moreover, $m(\widetilde{K}) \ge m(K_r)$, $M(\widetilde{K}) \le M(K)$, $M^*(\widetilde{K}) \le M^*(K)$, i.e. Lemmas 2 and 3 can be applied to $\widetilde{K}$ with the corresponding constants being independent of $\mathbf{x}^*$. Hence we may assume that $d = 2$.

Step 2. Now we shall use Lemmas 2 and 3 to reduce the problem to "diamond-shaped" domains. For $K_r \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ we have in polar coordinates

$$K_r = \{(\rho, \varphi) : \, 0 \le \rho \le r^*(\varphi), \, 0 \le \varphi \le 2\pi\}$$

where $r^*(\varphi) := r(\cos\varphi, \sin\varphi)$, and $r^* \in \mathrm{Lip}_{\widetilde{M}}\alpha$ on $[0, 2\pi]$ with some $\widetilde{M} > 0$ depending only on K_r. We may assume that $\mathbf{x}^* = (1, 0)$. In addition, in view of Lemma 2 we may also assume without loss of generality that ∂K_r possesses a vertical tangent line at $\mathbf{x}^*$ if $1 < \alpha \le 2$. Otherwise, by Lemma 2 there exists a regular linear transformation $L : \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2$ such that $L\mathbf{x}^* = \mathbf{x}^*$, $D = L^{-1}(K_r)$, $\mathbf{x}^* \in \partial D$, and $\nabla f_D(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{x}^*$. Hence h can be replaced by $h^*(\mathbf{x}) = h(L\mathbf{x}) \in H_n^2$, and K_r by the star-like domain D corresponding to some $r^* \in \mathrm{Lip}_{M_2}\alpha$, $M_2 > 0$ depending only on K_r. Then by Lemma 3 there exists an $a > 0$ such that

$$K_\alpha := \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \, |x|^\alpha + a|y|^\alpha \le 1\} \subset K_r. \tag{33}$$

Since a depends only on K_r we may set $a = 1$. Recalling that $\mu_2(E_h) \le c\delta$ we obtain from (33) that

$$\begin{aligned} &\mu_1 \left\{\varphi \in [0, 2\pi] : \left| h\left(r_\alpha^*(\varphi)\cos\varphi, r_\alpha^*(\varphi)\sin\varphi\right)\right| > 1\right\} \\ &\le \mu_1\{\varphi \in [0, 2\pi] : |h(r^*(\varphi)\cos\varphi, r^*(\varphi)\sin\varphi)| > 1\} \le \frac{2\mu_2(E_h)}{m^2(K_r)} \le c_1\delta, \end{aligned} \tag{34}$$

where $r_\alpha^*(\varphi) := (|\cos\varphi|^\alpha + |\sin\varphi|^\alpha)^{-1/\alpha}$, $m(K_r) := \inf\{|\mathbf{x}| : \mathbf{x} \in \partial K_r\}$.

Step 3. Finally, we transform the problem to weighted univariate polynomials. We may assume that n is even since otherwise $h(x, y)$ can be multiplied by x. So let $n = 2m$.

Clearly, given that $h(x,y)=\sum_{j=0}^{2m} a_j x^j y^{2m-j}$ we have

$$h\left(r_\alpha^*(\varphi)\cos\varphi, r_\alpha^*(\varphi)\sin\varphi\right) = (r_\alpha^*(\varphi))^{2m}\sum_{j=0}^{2m} a_j \cos^j\varphi \sin^{2m-j}\varphi$$

$$= (1+|\tan\varphi|^\alpha)^{-2m/\alpha}\sum_{j=0}^{2m} a_j \tan^{2m-j}\varphi = \frac{p_{2m}(t)}{(1+|t|^\alpha)^{2m/\alpha}} \tag{35}$$

where $t := \tan\varphi$, $p_{2m}(t) := \sum_{j=0}^{2m} a_j t^{2m-j}$. By (34)

$$\mu_1\left\{t\in[-1,1] : \frac{|p_{2m}(t)|}{(1+|t|^\alpha)^{2m/\alpha}} > 1\right\} \le 2c_1\delta. \tag{36}$$

In addition, $|p_{2m}(0)| = |h(1,0)| = |h(\mathbf{x}^*)|$. Thus we arrive at the extremal problem of finding the maximal value of $|p_{2m}(0)|$ under condition (36). Evidently, it can be assumed that p_{2m} is even, i.e., $p_{2m}(t) = q_m(t^2)$. Finally, using Lemmas 4, 5 and 7 we obtain

$$|h(\mathbf{x}^*)| = |p_{2m}(0)| \le e^{cm\varphi_\alpha(\delta)},$$

which gives the upper bound of the theorem.

In order to verify the sharpness of the above upper bound we proceed as follows. By Lemmas 6 and 7 there exists a sequence of univariate polynomials $P_n^{\delta,\alpha}$ of degree n satisfying (28) such that

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{1}{n}\log|P_n^{\delta,\alpha}(0)| \ge c\varphi_\alpha(\delta).$$

Reversing transformation (35) we obtain homogeneous polynomials $h_n^{\delta,\alpha}\in H_n^2$ such that by (28)

$$\mu_1\{(x,y)\in\mathbb{R}^2 : |x|^\alpha+|y|^\alpha=1,\ |h_n^{\delta,\alpha}(x,y)|>1\} \le c\delta,$$

and

$$\frac{1}{n}\log|h_n^{\delta,\alpha}(1,0)| \ge c_1\varphi_\alpha(\delta).$$

Then the lower bound of the theorem holds for the star-like surface

$$K := \{(x_1,\dots,x_d)\in\mathbb{R}^d : |x_1|^\alpha+|x_2|^\alpha = 1,\ |x_j|\le 1,\ 3\le j\le d\}.$$

□

Remark. While Lemma 6 yields the sharpness of Lemma 5 and hence the main theorem, it does not provide an explicit expression for the extremal polynomials. Nevertheless, in the special case when $\alpha\ne 1$ extremal polynomials can be given explicitly; namely, in the case when $0<\alpha<1$ we can take

$$P_{2n}^{\delta,\alpha}(x) := (1+\delta^\alpha - x^2)^n,$$

and, for $1<\alpha\le 2$,

$$P_{2n}^{\delta,\alpha}(x) := T_n\left(\frac{2x^2-9-\delta^2}{9-\delta^2}\right),$$

where $T_n(x) := \cos n\arccos x$ is the Chebyshev polynomial.

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