

A Remez-Type Theorem for Homogeneous Polynomials

A. Kroó*, E. B. Saff† and M. Yattselev

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).

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

AMS Classification: 41A17, 31A15

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

*Research conducted while visiting the Center For Constructive Approximation at Vanderbilt University. Supported by the OTKA grant #T034531.

†The research of this author was supported, in part, by the U.S. National Science Foundation grant DMS-0296026.

the Remez problem outlined above consists in estimating the quantity

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

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, $R_n^*(K, \delta) \rightarrow 1$ when $\delta \rightarrow 0$ for every fixed n , but finding the rate of this convergence is a nontrivial matter.

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 $0 < \delta < 1/2$

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

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 $r : S^{d-1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ 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 $r \in \text{Lip}_M \alpha$, $0 < \alpha \leq 2$, if for every $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \in S^{d-1}$

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

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

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

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

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 $0 < \delta < 1$

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

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

Our main result is the following.

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

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

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 $r \in \text{Lip}_M 1$ with some M depending on K_r . This leads to

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

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

Remark. Note that (4) is better than (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 $s_{d-1} \{ \mathbf{x} \in S^{d-1} : |p(\mathbf{x})| > 1 \} \leq \delta^{d-1}$, then*

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

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 $\mu_d(K) = 1$, $d \geq 3$, $0 < \delta < 1$. Then for any $E \subset K$ with $\mu_d(E) \leq \delta^{d-1}$ and any $\mathbf{x}^* \in K$ there exists a 2-dimensional plane L_2^* passing through $\mathbf{0}$ and \mathbf{x}^* such that $\mu_2(E \cap L_2^*) \leq c_K \delta$, 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 $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \rho, \bar{\varphi})$, where $x_1, \rho \in \mathbb{R}$, $\bar{\varphi} \in T^{d-2} := [-\pi/2, \pi/2]^{d-2}$, and $(\rho, \bar{\varphi})$ 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

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

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

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-a}^a \int_{-a}^a \chi_E(x_1, \rho, \bar{\varphi}^*) |\rho|^{d-2} d\rho dx_1 &\leq \delta^{d-1} \int_{-a}^a \int_{-a}^a \chi_K(x_1, \rho, \bar{\varphi}^*) |\rho|^{d-2} d\rho dx_1 \\ &\leq c'_K \delta^{d-1}. \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

Fixing this $\bar{\varphi}^*$ 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 $\bar{\varphi}^*$. It is clear that $\mathbf{x}^*, \mathbf{0} \in L_2^*$.

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

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

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

$$\begin{aligned} c'_K \delta^{d-1} &\geq \int_{-a}^a \int_{-a}^a \chi_E(t, \rho, \bar{\varphi}^*) |\rho|^{d-2} d\rho dt \geq 2 \int_{-a}^a \int_0^{\gamma(t)/2} \rho^{d-2} d\rho dt \\ &\geq \int_{-a}^a \frac{\gamma(t)^{d-1}}{2^{d-2}(d-1)} dt \geq \frac{c''_K}{2^{d-2}(d-1)} \left(\int_{-a}^a \gamma(t) dt \right)^{d-1}. \end{aligned}$$

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 $(\nabla f_K)(t\mathbf{x}) = \nabla f_K(\mathbf{x})$, $t > 0$, $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}$.

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 $L : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ 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 $L : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ 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

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

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

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

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

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

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 $\|L\|, \|L^{-1}\| \leq c_0$ 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 $2 \leq j \leq d$,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In the case $1 < \alpha \leq 2$ 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

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

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 $T_n^{\omega, \delta}(t^2)$ be the normalized Chebyshev polynomial of degree $2n$ on $A_\delta := [-1, -\delta] \cup [\delta, 1]$ with the weight $\omega(|t|)$, i.e.

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

and there exist $n+1$ points $\delta \leq y_0 < \dots < y_n \leq 1$ such that

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

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 $\mathcal{P}_n(\delta)$ the set of real univariate algebraic polynomials of degree $\leq n$ such that

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

Then the following lemma holds:

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

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

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

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

It is easy to see that ψ is a monotone increasing mapping of \tilde{E} onto $[\delta, 1]$, $\psi(x) \geq x$, $x \in \tilde{E}$, and $\psi(y) - \psi(x) \leq y - x$ for $x, y \in \tilde{E}$, $y > x$. Let $x_0 < \dots < x_n$

be points in \tilde{E} such that $y_j = \psi(x_j)$, $0 \leq j \leq n$. From the properties of ψ we deduce that $y_j = x_j + \delta_j$ with $\delta_j \geq 0$ and $\delta_k \geq \delta_j$ whenever $k < j$.

By Lagrange interpolation formula we have

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

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

$$\frac{x_k^2}{x_j^2 - x_k^2} \leq \frac{y_k^2}{y_j^2 - y_k^2}. \quad (12)$$

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

$$\frac{x_k^2}{x_k^2 - x_j^2} = 1 + \frac{x_j^2}{x_k^2 - x_j^2} \leq 1 + \frac{y_j^2}{y_k^2 - y_j^2} = \frac{y_k^2}{y_k^2 - y_j^2}. \quad (13)$$

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

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

□

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*

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

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

$$|P_n(0)| \leq e^{ng_\alpha(\delta)}, \quad (15)$$

where

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

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

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

where

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

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

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

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

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

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 $x \rightarrow \infty$, we get

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

and so

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

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

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

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

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

where

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 $\text{supp}(\tilde{\mu}_\alpha) = [\delta^2, 1]$, where as above, $\tilde{\mu}_\alpha$ is the weighted equilibrium measure for $\exp(-\tilde{Q}_\alpha(t))$ on $[\delta^2, 1]$. It is readily verified that

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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*

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

such that

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

where

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

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

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

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

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

or, equivalently

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

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 $0 < \delta \leq 1/2$

$$g_\alpha(\delta) \asymp \varphi_\alpha(\delta) \asymp g_\alpha^*(\delta), \quad (31)$$

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

Proof. Fix $0 < \alpha \leq 2$. 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.

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 &:= \int_{\delta^2}^{1/2} \log \left[\frac{t^{\alpha/2} + \delta^\alpha}{(t - \delta^2)^{\alpha/2}} \right] \frac{dt}{\sqrt{(1-t)(t - \delta^2)}} \\ &= \delta \int_1^{1/2\delta^2} \log \left[\frac{1 + u^{\alpha/2}}{(u-1)^{\alpha/2}} \right] \frac{du}{\sqrt{(1 - \delta^2 u)(u-1)}} \\ &\asymp \delta \int_1^{1/2\delta^2} \log \left[\frac{1 + u^{\alpha/2}}{(u-1)^{\alpha/2}} \right] d(\sqrt{u-1}) \\ &\asymp \delta \sqrt{u-1} \log \left[\frac{1 + u^{\alpha/2}}{(u-1)^{\alpha/2}} \right] \Big|_1^{1/2\delta^2} + \delta \int_1^{1/2\delta^2} \frac{u^{-1+\alpha/2} + 1}{(u^{\alpha/2} + 1)\sqrt{u-1}} du \\ &\asymp \delta^\alpha + \varphi_\alpha(\delta) \asymp \varphi_\alpha(\delta). \end{aligned}$$

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 $s_{d-1}(E) \leq s_{d-1}(\partial K_r) \delta^{d-1}$ and $0 < \delta \leq 1/2$. 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,

$$\mu_d(E_h) \leq cs_{d-1}(E) \leq c\delta^{d-1} \quad (32)$$

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 $\mathbf{0}$ and \mathbf{x}^* such that $\mu_2(E_h \cap L_2^*) \leq c\delta$ with a $c > 0$ depending only on K_r . Moreover, $h|_{L_2^*} \in H_n^2$, and $\tilde{K} := \partial K_r \cap L_2^*$ is a star-like surface in \mathbb{R}^2 containing \mathbf{x}^* , which satisfies the $\text{Lip}_M \alpha$ property. Moreover, $m(\tilde{K}) \geq m(K_r)$, $M(\tilde{K}) \leq M(K)$, $M^*(\tilde{K}) \leq M^*(K)$, i.e. Lemmas 2 and 3 can be applied to \tilde{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

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

where $r^*(\varphi) := r(\cos \varphi, \sin \varphi)$, and $r^* \in \text{Lip}_{\tilde{M}} \alpha$ on $[0, 2\pi]$ with some $\tilde{M} > 0$ 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 $1 < \alpha \leq 2$. Otherwise, by Lemma 2 there exists a regular linear transformation $L : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ 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 $r^* \in \text{Lip}_{M_2} \alpha$, $M_2 > 0$ depending only on K_r . Then by Lemma 3 there exists an $a > 0$ such that

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

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

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

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

$$\begin{aligned} h(r_\alpha^*(\varphi) \cos \varphi, r_\alpha^*(\varphi) \sin \varphi) &= (r_\alpha^*(\varphi))^{2m} \sum_{j=0}^{2m} a_j \cos^j \varphi \sin^{2m-j} \varphi \\ &= (1 + |\tan \varphi|^\alpha)^{-2m/\alpha} \sum_{j=0}^{2m} a_j \tan^{2m-j} \varphi = \frac{p_{2m}(t)}{(1 + |t|^\alpha)^{2m/\alpha}} \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

and

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

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

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

□

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 $\alpha \neq 1$ 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 $1 < \alpha \leq 2$,

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

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

References

- [B] D. Benko, Approximation by Weighted Polynomials, *J. Approx. Theory* **120** (2003), 153-182.

- [BG] Yu. Brudnyi and M.I. Ganzburg, A certain extremal problem for polynomials in n -variables, *Izv. Akad. Nauk SSSR* **37** (1973), 344-355. — *Math. USSR Izvestija* **7** (1973), 345-356.
- [E] T. Erdélyi, Remez-type inequalities on the size of generalized polynomials, *J. London Math. Soc.* (2) **45** (1992), 255-264.
- [ELS] T. Erdélyi, X. Li and E.B. Saff, Remez- and Nikolskii-type inequalities for logarithmic potentials, *SIAM J. Math. Anal.* **25** (1994), 365-383.
- [KS] A. Kroó and D. Schmidt, Some extremal problems for multivariate polynomials on convex bodies, *J. Approx. Theory* **90** (1997), 415-434.
- [KSt] S. Karlin and W.J. Studden, *Tchebycheff Systems, with Applications in Analysis and Statistics*, Interscience Publishers, New York, 1966.
- [K1] A. Kroó, On Remez-type inequalities for polynomials in \mathbb{R}^m and \mathbb{C}^m , *Analysis Math.* **27** (2001), 55-70.
- [K2] A. Kroó, On Approximation by Ridge Functions, *Constr. Approx.* **13** (1997), 447-460.
- [LP] V.Ya. Lin and A. Pinkus, Fundamentality of ridge functions, *J. Approx. Theory* **75** (1993), 295-311.
- [Re] M. Reimer, *Constructive Theory of Multivariate Functions*, B. I. Wissenschaftsverlag, Mannheim, 1990.
- [R] E.J. Remez, Sur une propriété des polynômes de Tchebycheff, *Comm. Inst. Sci. Kharkov* **13** (1936), 93-95.
- [ST] E.B. Saff and V. Totik, *Logarithmic Potentials with External Fields*, Springer, New York, 1997.

A. Kroó
 Alfréd Rényi Mathematical
 Institute of the Hungarian
 Academy of Sciences
 P.O. Box 127
 H-1364, Budapest
 HUNGARY
 kroo@renyi.hu

E.B. Saff
 Center for Constructive
 Approximation
 Department of Mathematics
 Vanderbilt University
 Nashville, TN 37240
 USA
 esaff@math.vanderbilt.edu

M. Yattselev
 Center for Constructive
 Approximation
 Department of Mathematics
 Vanderbilt University
 Nashville, TN 37240
 USA
 yattselev@math.vanderbilt.edu