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# UNIVERSAL BASES AND GREEDY ALGORITHMS<sup>1</sup>

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ABSTRACT. We suggest a three step strategy to find a good basis (dictionary) for nonlinear  $m$ -term approximation. The first step consists of solving an optimization problem for a given function class  $F$ , when we optimize over a collection  $\mathbb{D}$  of bases (dictionaries). The second step is devoted to finding a universal basis (dictionary)  $\mathcal{D}_u \in \mathbb{D}$  for a given pair  $(\mathcal{F}, \mathbb{D})$  of collections:  $\mathcal{F}$  of function classes and  $\mathbb{D}$  of bases (dictionaries). The third step deals with constructing a theoretical algorithm that realizes near best  $m$ -term approximation with regard to  $\mathcal{D}_u$  for function classes from  $\mathcal{F}$ .

We work this strategy out in the model case of anisotropic function classes and the set of orthogonal bases. The results are positive. We construct a natural tensor-product-wavelet type basis and prove that it is universal. Moreover, we prove that greedy algorithm realizes near best  $m$ -term approximation with regard to this basis for all anisotropic function classes.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

In this paper we discuss in the model case of anisotropic function classes a general approach of how to choose a good basis (dictionary) for approximation. This approach consists of several steps. We concentrate here on nonlinear approximation and compare realizations of this approach for linear and nonlinear approximations. The first step in this approach is an optimization problem. In both cases (linear and nonlinear) we begin with a function class  $F$  in a given Banach space  $X$  with a norm  $\|\cdot\| := \|\cdot\|_X$ . A classical example of optimization problem in the linear case is the problem of finding (estimating) the Kolmogorov width

$$d_m(F, X) := \inf_{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_m} \sup_{f \in F} \inf_{c_1, \dots, c_m} \left\| f - \sum_{j=1}^m c_j \varphi_j \right\|.$$

This concept allows us to choose among various Chebyshev methods (best approximation) having the same dimension of the approximating subspace the one which has the best accuracy. The asymptotic behavior (in the sense of order) of the sequence  $\{d_m(F, X)\}_{m=1}^\infty$  is known for a number of function classes and Banach spaces. It turned out that in many cases, for instance, in the case  $F = W_p^r$  is a standard Sobolev class and  $X = L_p$ , the optimal (in the sense of order)  $m$ -dimensional subspaces can be formed as subspaces spanned by  $m$  elements from one orthogonal system. We describe this for the multivariate periodic Hölder-Nikol'skii classes  $NH_p^R$ . We define these classes in the following way. The class  $NH_p^R$ ,

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$R = (R_1, \dots, R_d)$  and  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ , is the set of periodic functions  $f \in L_p([0, 2\pi]^d)$  such that for each  $l_j = [R_j] + 1$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, d$ , the following relations hold

$$(1.1) \quad \|f\|_p \leq 1, \quad \|\Delta_t^{l_j, j} f\|_p \leq |t|^{R_j}, \quad j = 1, \dots, d,$$

where  $\Delta_t^{l_j, j}$  is the  $l$ -th difference with step  $t$  in the variable  $x_j$ . In the case  $d = 1$   $NH_p^R$  coincides with the standard Hölder class  $H_p^R$ . It is known (see for instance [T1]) that

$$(1.2) \quad d_m(NH_p^R, L_p) \asymp m^{-g(R)}, \quad 1 \leq p \leq \infty,$$

where

$$g(R) := \left( \sum_{j=1}^d R_j^{-1} \right)^{-1}.$$

It is also known that the subspaces of trigonometric polynomials  $\mathcal{T}(R, l)$  with frequencies  $k$  satisfying the inequalities

$$|k_j| \leq 2^{g(R)l/R_j}, \quad j = 1, \dots, d,$$

can be chosen to realize (1.2). In this case  $l$  is set to be the largest satisfying  $\dim \mathcal{T}(R, l) \leq m$ . We stress here that optimal (in the sense of order) subspaces  $\mathcal{T}(R, l)$  are different for different  $R$  and formed from the same (trigonometric) system.

A nonlinear analog of the Kolmogorov  $m$ -width setting was discussed in [T2]. In [T2] we replace the Chebyshev method of best approximation from a linear subspace of dimension  $m$  by best  $m$ -term approximation with regard to a given orthogonal basis and optimize over all orthogonal bases. Thus in the nonlinear case we formulate an optimization problem in a Banach space  $X$  for a pair of function class  $F$  and collection  $\mathbb{D}$  of bases (dictionaries)  $\mathcal{D}$ :

$$\sigma_m(f, \mathcal{D})_X := \inf_{g_i \in \mathcal{D}, c_i, i=1, \dots, m} \left\| f - \sum_{i=1}^m c_i g_i \right\|_X;$$

$$\sigma_m(F, \mathcal{D})_X := \sup_{f \in F} \sigma_m(f, \mathcal{D})_X;$$

$$\sigma_m(F, \mathbb{D})_X := \inf_{\mathcal{D} \in \mathbb{D}} \sigma_m(F, \mathcal{D})_X.$$

In this paper we consider only the case  $\mathbb{D} = \mathbb{O}$  – the set of all orthogonal bases on a given domain. In Section 3 we prove that

$$(1.3) \quad \sigma_m(NH_q^R, \mathbb{O})_{L_p} \asymp m^{-g(R)}$$

for

$$1 < q < \infty, \quad 2 \leq p < \infty, \quad g(R) > (1/q - 1/p)_+.$$

It is important to remark that the basis  $U^d$  studied in [T2] realizes (1.3) for all  $R$  (see the definition of  $U^d$  in Section 3). We introduce the following definition of universal dictionary.

**Definition 1.1.** Let two collections  $\mathcal{F}$  of function classes and  $\mathbb{D}$  of dictionaries be given. We say that  $\mathcal{D} \in \mathbb{D}$  is universal for the pair  $(\mathcal{F}, \mathbb{D})$  if there exists a constant  $C$  which may depend only on  $\mathcal{F}, \mathbb{D}$ , and  $X$  such that for any  $F \in \mathcal{F}$  we have

$$\sigma_m(F, \mathcal{D})_X \leq C \sigma_m(F, \mathbb{D})_X.$$

The second step in our approach is to look for a universal basis (dictionary) for approximation. The mentioned above result on the basis  $U^d$  means that  $U^d$  is universal for the pair  $(\mathcal{F}_q([A, B]), \mathbb{O})$  and the space  $X = L_p([0, 2\pi]^d)$  for  $A, B \in \mathbb{Z}_+^d$  such that  $g(A) > (1/q - 1/p)_+$ ,  $1 < q < \infty$ ,  $2 \leq p < \infty$ , where

$$\mathcal{F}_q([A, B]) := \{NH_q^R \quad : \quad 0 < A_j \leq R_j \leq B_j < \infty, \quad j = 1, \dots, d\}.$$

It is interesting to compare this result on universal basis in nonlinear approximation with the corresponding result in the linear setting. We define the index  $\kappa(m, \mathcal{F}, X)$  of universality for a collection  $\mathcal{F}$  with respect to the Kolmogorov width in  $X$ :

$$\kappa(m, \mathcal{F}, X) := L(m, \mathcal{F}, X)/m,$$

where  $L(m, \mathcal{F}, X)$  is the smallest number among those  $L$  for which there is a system of functions  $\{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^L$  such that for each  $F \in \mathcal{F}$  we have

$$\sup_{f \in F} \inf_{c_1, \dots, c_L} \|f - \sum_{i=1}^L c_i \varphi_i\| \leq d_m(F, X).$$

It is proved in [T3] (see also [T1, Ch.3, S.5]) that for any  $A, B \in \mathbb{Z}_+^d$  such that  $B_j > A_j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, d$ , we have

$$(1.4) \quad \kappa(m, \mathcal{F}_p([A, B]), L_p) \gg (\log m)^{d-1}, \quad 1 < p < \infty.$$

The estimate (1.4) implies that there is no Chebyshev methods universal for a nontrivial collection of anisotropic function classes. Thus, from the point of view of existence of universal methods the nonlinear setting has an advantage over the linear setting.

After two steps of realizing our approach in the nonlinear approximation we get a universal dictionary  $\mathcal{D}_u$  for a collection of function classes  $\mathcal{F}$ , say,  $U^d$  for  $\mathcal{F}_q([A, B])$ . This means that the dictionary  $\mathcal{D}_u$  is well desinged for best  $m$ -term approximation of functions from function classes in the given collection. The third step is to find an algorithm (theoretical first) to realize best (near best)  $m$ -term approximation with regard to  $\mathcal{D}_u$ . It turned out that in the model case of  $\mathcal{F}_q([A, B])$  and the basis  $U^d$  there is a simple algorithm which realizes near best  $m$ -term approximation for classes  $NH_q^R$ . This is thresholding or greedy type algorithm. We give the definition of greedy algorithm for a general basis. Let  $\Psi := \{\psi_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$  be a basis for  $X$ . Represent  $f \in X$  in the form

$$f = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k(f, \Psi) \psi_k.$$

Then  $\|c_k(f, \Psi)\psi_k\| \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . We enumerate the summands in the decreasing order

$$\|c_{k_1}(f, \Psi)\psi_{k_1}\| \geq \|c_{k_2}(f, \Psi)\psi_{k_2}\| \geq \dots$$

and define the  $m$ -th greedy approximant as

$$G_m^X(f, \Psi) := \sum_{i=1}^m c_{k_i}(f, \Psi)\psi_{k_i}.$$

We prove in Sections 2 and 3 that (1.3) can be realized by greedy algorithm  $G_m^{L_p}(f, U^d)$ . Namely,

$$(1.5) \quad \sup_{f \in NH_q^R} \|f - G_m^{L_p}(f, U^d)\|_{L_p} \asymp m^{-g(R)},$$

for

$$1 < q, p < \infty, \quad g(R) > (1/q - 1/p)_+.$$

In this paper we realize three steps of our approach in the model case of periodic anisotropic function classes  $NH_q^R$ . However, we present the results in sufficiently general form to include wavelet type bases.

Section 4 is devoted to one more good property of the basis  $U^d$ . We prove there that soft thresholding algorithm with regard to an unconditional basis is a mapping from the Lipschitz class.

## 2. THE UPPER ESTIMATES FOR ANISOTROPIC FUNCTION CLASSES

We consider in this section a basis  $\Psi := \{\psi_I\}_{I \in D}$  enumerated by dyadic intervals  $I$  of  $[0, 1]^d$ ,  $I = I_1 \times \dots \times I_d$ ,  $I_j$  is a dyadic interval of  $[0, 1]$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, d$ , which satisfies certain properties. Let  $L_p := L_p(\Omega)$  with normalized Lebesgue measure on  $\Omega$ ,  $|\Omega| = 1$ . First of all we assume that for all  $1 < q, p < \infty$  and  $I \in D$ ,  $D := D([0, 1]^d)$  is the set of all dyadic intervals of  $[0, 1]^d$ , we have

$$(2.1) \quad \|\psi_I\|_p \asymp \|\psi_I\|_q |I|^{1/p-1/q},$$

with constants independent of  $I$ . This property can be easily checked for a given basis.

Next, assume that for any  $s = (s_1, \dots, s_d) \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ ,  $s_j \geq 0$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, d$ , and any  $\{c_I\}$  we have for  $1 < p < \infty$

$$(2.2) \quad \left\| \sum_{I \in D_s} c_I \psi_I \right\|_p^p \asymp \sum_{I \in D_s} \|c_I \psi_I\|_p^p,$$

where

$$D_s := \{I = I_1 \times \dots \times I_d \in D \quad : \quad |I_j| = 2^{-s_j}, \quad j = 1, \dots, d\}.$$

This assumption allows us to estimate the  $L_p$ -norm of a dyadic block in terms of Fourier coefficients.

The third assumption is that  $\Psi$  is a basis satisfying the Littlewood-Paley inequality. This means the following. Let  $1 < p < \infty$  and  $f \in L_p$  has an expansion

$$f = \sum_I f_I \psi_I.$$

We assume that

$$(2.3) \quad \lim_{\min_j \mu_j \rightarrow \infty} \|f - \sum_{s_j \leq \mu_j, j=1, \dots, d} \sum_{I \in D_s} f_I \psi_I\|_p = 0,$$

and

$$(2.4) \quad \|f\|_p \asymp \left\| \left( \sum_s \left| \sum_{I \in D_s} f_I \psi_I \right|^2 \right)^{1/2} \right\|_p.$$

Let  $\mu \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ ,  $\mu_j \geq 0$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, d$ . Denote by  $\Psi(\mu)$  the subspace of polynomials of the form

$$\psi = \sum_{s_j \leq \mu_j, j=1, \dots, d} \sum_{I \in D_s} c_I \psi_I.$$

We begin studying approximative properties of  $\Psi$  satisfying (2.1)–(2.4) by two lemmas.

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $1 < q < p < \infty$ . Then for any  $f \in \Psi(\mu)$  and  $h > 0$  we have*

$$(2.5) \quad \#\{I : \|f_I \psi_I\|_p \geq h\} \ll \|f\|_q^q h^{-q} 2^{(1-q/p)\|\mu\|_1},$$

with a constant independent of  $f$ ,  $h$ ,  $\mu$ .

*Proof.* Denote

$$A(f, h) := \{I : \|f_I \psi_I\|_p \geq h\}; \quad N(f, h) := \#A(f, h)$$

and

$$A_s(f, h) := A(f, h) \cap D_s; \quad N_s(f, h) := \#A_s(f, h).$$

We estimate first  $N_s(f, h)$ . Denote

$$\delta_s(f) := \sum_{I \in D_s} f_I \psi_I.$$

By (2.2) and (2.1) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\delta_s(f)\|_q^q &= \left\| \sum_{I \in D_s} f_I \psi_I \right\|_q^q \asymp \sum_{I \in D_s} \|f_I \psi_I\|_q^q \geq \\ &\sum_{I \in A_s(f, h)} \|f_I \psi_I\|_q^q \gg \sum_{I \in A_s(f, h)} \|f_I \psi_I\|_p^q 2^{(q/p-1)\|s\|_1} \geq h^q 2^{(q/p-1)\|s\|_1} N_s(f, h). \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$(2.6) \quad N_s(f, h) \ll \|\delta_s(f)\|_q^q h^{-q} 2^{(1-q/p)\|s\|_1}.$$

In order to derive the estimate (2.5) from (2.6) we need the following two inequalities

$$(2.7) \quad \left( \sum_s \|\delta_s(f)\|_p^{p_l} \right)^{1/p_l} \ll \|f\|_p \ll \left( \sum_s \|\delta_s(f)\|_p^{p_u} \right)^{1/p_u}$$

with  $p_l := \max(2, p)$  and  $p_u := \min(2, p)$ .

The relation (2.7) is a corollary of the Littlewood-Paley inequalities (2.4) and the following inequalities.

**Lemma 2.2.** *For any finite collection  $\{f_s\}$  of functions in  $L_p$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ , we have*

$$\left(\sum_s \|f_s\|_p^{p_l}\right)^{1/p_l} \leq \left\| \left(\sum_s |f_s|^2\right)^{1/2} \right\|_p \leq \left(\sum_s \|f_s\|_p^{p_u}\right)^{1/p_u}.$$

*Proof.* We prove first the upper estimate. For  $p = \infty$  it is obvious. Let  $2 \leq p < \infty$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \left(\sum_s |f_s|^2\right)^{1/2} \right\|_p &= \left\| \sum_s |f_s|^2 \right\|_{p/2}^{1/2} \leq \\ & \left(\sum_s \left\| |f_s|^2 \right\|_{p/2}\right)^{1/2} = \left(\sum_s \|f_s\|_p^2\right)^{1/2}. \end{aligned}$$

Let now  $1 \leq p \leq 2$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \left(\sum_s |f_s|^2\right)^{1/2} \right\|_p &= \left( \int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_s |f_s|^2\right)^{p/2} \right)^{1/p} \leq \\ & \left( \int_{\Omega} \sum_s |f_s|^p \right)^{1/p} = \left(\sum_s \|f_s\|_p^p\right)^{1/p}. \end{aligned}$$

We proceed now to the lower estimate. Again for  $p = \infty$  it is obvious. Let  $2 \leq p < \infty$ . Then we have

$$\left\| \left(\sum_s |f_s|^2\right)^{1/2} \right\|_p \geq \left\| \left(\sum_s |f_s|^p\right)^{1/p} \right\|_p = \left(\sum_s \|f_s\|_p^p\right)^{1/p}.$$

For  $1 \leq p \leq 2$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\{ \|f_s\|_p \}\|_{l_2} &= \left\| \left\{ \int_{\Omega} |f_s|^p \right\} \right\|_{l_{2/p}}^{1/p} \leq \\ & \left( \int_{\Omega} \|\{ |f_s|^p \}\|_{l_{2/p}} \right)^{1/p} = \left\| \left(\sum_s |f_s|^2\right)^{1/2} \right\|_p. \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 2.2 is now proved.

We return to the proof of Lemma 2.1. Using (2.6) and (2.7) we get in the case  $q < 2$

$$\begin{aligned} N(f, h) &= \sum_{s \leq \mu} N_s(f, h) = \sum_{s \leq \mu} N_s(f, h) 2^{-(1-q/p)\|s\|_1} 2^{(1-q/p)\|s\|_1} \leq \\ & \left(\sum_{s \leq \mu} (N_s(f, h) 2^{-(1-q/p)\|s\|_1})^{q_l/q} \right)^{q/q_l} \left(\sum_{s \leq \mu} 2^{(1-q/p)\|s\|_1(1-q/q_l)^{-1}}\right)^{1-q/q_l} \ll \\ & h^{-q} \left(\sum_{s \leq \mu} \|\delta_s(f)\|_q^{q_l}\right)^{q/q_l} 2^{(1-q/p)\|\mu\|_1} \ll h^{-q} \|f\|_q^q 2^{(1-q/p)\|\mu\|_1}. \end{aligned}$$

In the case  $2 \leq q < \infty$  we get similarly

$$N(f, h) \leq \left(\sum_{s \leq \mu} N_s(f, h) 2^{-(1-q/p)\|s\|_1}\right) 2^{(1-q/p)\|\mu\|_1} \ll$$

$$h^{-q} \left( \sum_{s \leq \mu} \|\delta_s(f)\|_q^q \right) 2^{(1-q/p)\|\mu\|_1} \ll h^{-q} \|f\|_q^q 2^{(1-q/p)\|\mu\|_1}.$$

This completes the proof of Lemma 2.1.

Denote by  $T_h^p$  the thresholding mapping:

$$T_h^p(f) := \sum_{I: \|f_I \psi_I\|_p \geq h} f_I \psi_I.$$

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $1 < q < p < \infty$ . Then for each  $f \in \Psi(\mu)$  we have*

$$\|f - T_h^p(f)\|_p \ll h^{1-q/p} (\|f\|_q 2^{(1/q-1/p)\|\mu\|_1})^{q/p}.$$

*Proof.* We estimate first  $\|\delta_s(f - T_h^p(f))\|_p$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\delta_s(f - T_h^p(f))\|_p^p &\ll \sum_{I \in D_s \setminus A_s(f, h)} \|f_I \psi_I\|_p^p \leq h^{p-q} \sum_{I \in D_s} \|f_I \psi_I\|_p^q \ll \\ &h^{p-q} \sum_{I \in D_s} \|f_I \psi_I\|_q^q 2^{(1-q/p)\|s\|_1} \ll h^{p-q} \|\delta_s(f)\|_q^q 2^{(1-q/p)\|s\|_1}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$(2.8) \quad \|\delta_s(f - T_h^p(f))\|_p \ll h^{1-q/p} (\|\delta_s(f)\|_q 2^{(1/q-1/p)\|s\|_1})^{q/p}.$$

Next, using the Hölder inequality with a parameter  $\frac{pq}{p_u q}$  we get from (2.7) and (2.8) that

$$\begin{aligned} \|f - T_h^p(f)\|_p &\ll \left( \sum_{s \leq \mu} \|\delta_s(f - T_h^p(f))\|_p^{p_u} \right)^{1/p_u} \ll \\ &h^{1-q/p} \left( \sum_{s \leq \mu} \|\delta_s(f)\|_q^{qp_u/p} 2^{(1/q-1/p)\|s\|_1 qp_u/p} \right)^{1/p_u} \ll \\ &h^{1-q/p} \left( \sum_{s \leq \mu} \|\delta_s(f)\|_q^{qu} \right)^{q/(pqu)} (2^{(1/q-1/p)\|\mu\|_1})^{q/p} \ll \\ &h^{1-q/p} (\|f\|_q 2^{(1/q-1/p)\|\mu\|_1})^{q/p}. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of Lemma 2.3.

*Remark 2.1.* Let  $h > 0$  be given. Denote

$$A^=(f, h) := \{I \quad : \quad \|f_I \psi_I\|_p = h\}.$$

Take any subset  $Y \subseteq A^=(f, h)$  and denote

$$T_{h,Y}^p(f) := \sum_{I \in A^=(f, h) \setminus Y} f_I \psi_I.$$



It is not difficult to see that Lemma 2.3 holds with  $T_h^p$  replaced by  $T_{h,Y}^p$  with any  $Y \subseteq A^=(f, h)$  and the constant in the estimate does not depend on  $Y$ .

We define now a function class. Let  $R = (R_1, \dots, R_d)$ ,  $R_j > 0$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, d$ , and as above

$$g(R) := \left( \sum_{j=1}^d R_j^{-1} \right)^{-1}.$$

For natural numbers  $l$  denote

$$\Psi(R, l) := \Psi(\mu), \quad \mu_j = [g(R)l/R_j], \quad j = 1, \dots, d.$$

We define the class  $H_q^R(\Psi)$  as the set of functions  $f \in L_q$  representable in the form

$$f = \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} t_l, \quad t_l \in \Psi(R, l), \quad \|t_l\|_q \leq 2^{-g(R)l}.$$

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $1 < q, p < \infty$  and  $g(R) > (1/q - 1/p)_+$ . Then for  $\Psi$  satisfying (2.1)–(2.4) we have*

$$\sup_{f \in H_q^R(\Psi)} \|f - G_m^{L_p}(f, \Psi)\|_p \ll m^{-g(R)}.$$

*Proof.* We need some simple properties of the Fourier series of functions in  $H_q^R(\Psi)$ . Denote

$$S(f, R, l) := \sum_{s_j \leq [g(R)l/R_j], j=1, \dots, d} \delta_s(f);$$

$$f_{R,l} := S(f, R, l+1) - S(f, R, l).$$

It is easy to derive from the definition of  $H_q^R(\Psi)$  that

$$(2.9) \quad \|f - S(f, R, l)\|_q \ll 2^{-g(R)l} \quad \text{and} \quad \|f_{R,l}\|_q \ll 2^{-g(R)l}.$$

We consider first the case  $q < p$ . Take  $h > 0$  and specify  $n$  such that

$$2^{-(n+1)(g(R)+1/p)} < h \leq 2^{-n(g(R)+1/p)}.$$

Then for a function  $f \in H_q^R(\Psi)$  by (2.9) and Lemma 2.1 we get

$$(2.10) \quad \#\{I \quad : \quad \|f_I \psi_I\|_p \geq h\} \ll$$

$$2^n + h^{-q} \sum_{l \geq n} 2^{-g(R)lq + (1-q/p)l} \ll 2^n.$$

We estimate now the  $L_p$ -norm of

$$f_h := f - T_h^p(f).$$

We have

$$(2.11) \quad \|f_h\|_p \leq \|S(f_h, R, n)\|_p + \sum_{l \geq n} \|S(f_h, R, l+1) - S(f_h, R, l)\|_p.$$

By (2.9) and Lemma 2.3 we get

$$(2.12) \quad \|S(f_h, R, l+1) - S(f_h, R, l)\|_p \ll h^{1-q/p} 2^{(-g(R)l+(1/q-1/p)l)q/p}.$$

For  $S(f_h, R, n)$  we have

$$(2.13) \quad \|S(f_h, R, n)\|_p \leq \sum_{s_j \leq [g(R)n/R_j], j=1, \dots, d} \|\delta_s(f_h)\|_p \ll \sum_{s_j \leq [g(R)n/R_j], j=1, \dots, d} h 2^{\|s\|_1/p} \ll h 2^{n/p}.$$

Combining (2.12) and (2.13) we get from (2.11)

$$(2.14) \quad \|f_h\|_p \ll 2^{-g(R)n}.$$

Taking into account (2.10) and Remark 2.1 we get from here the estimate in Theorem 2.1 for  $q < p$ . It is clear it implies the general case  $1 < q, p < \infty$ .

### 3. APPROXIMATION OF ANISOTROPIC HÖLDER-NIKOL'SKII CLASSES

We study here  $m$ -term approximation in the  $L_p$ -norm of functions from classes  $NH_q^R$  with regard to the basis  $U^d := U \times \dots \times U$ .

We define the system  $U := \{U_I\}$  in the univariate case. Denote

$$U_n^+(x) := \sum_{k=0}^{2^n-1} e^{ikx} = \frac{e^{i2^n x} - 1}{e^{ix} - 1}, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots;$$

$$U_{n,k}^+(x) := e^{i2^n x} U_n^+(x - 2\pi k 2^{-n}), \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, 2^n - 1;$$

$$U_{n,k}^-(x) := e^{-i2^n x} U_n^+(-x + 2\pi k 2^{-n}), \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, 2^n - 1.$$

It will be more convenient for us to normalize in  $L_2$  the system of functions  $\{U_{m,k}^+, U_{n,k}^-\}$  and enumerate it by dyadic intervals. We write

$$U_I(x) := 2^{-n/2} U_{n,k}^+(x) \quad \text{with} \quad I = [(k+1/2)2^{-n}, (k+1)2^{-n})$$

and

$$U_I(x) := 2^{-n/2} U_{n,k}^-(x) \quad \text{with} \quad I = [k2^{-n}, (k+1/2)2^{-n}).$$

Denote

$$D_n^+ := \{I : I = [(k+1/2)2^{-n}, (k+1)2^{-n}), \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, 2^n - 1\}$$

and

$$D_n^- := \{I : I = [k2^{-n}, (k+1/2)2^{-n}), \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, 2^n - 1\},$$

$$D_0 := [0, 1), \quad D := \cup_{n \geq 0} (D_n^+ \cup D_n^-) \cup D_0.$$

It is easy to check that for any  $I, J \in D$ ,  $I \neq J$  we have

$$\langle U_I, U_J \rangle = (2\pi)^{-1} \int_0^{2\pi} U_I(x) \bar{U}_J(x) dx = 0,$$

and

$$\|U_I\|_2^2 = 1.$$

We use the notations for  $f \in L_1$

$$f_I := \langle f, U_I \rangle = (2\pi)^{-1} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \bar{U}_I(x) dx; \quad \hat{f}(k) := (2\pi)^{-1} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) e^{-ikx} dx$$

and

$$\delta_s^+(f) := \sum_{k=2^s}^{2^{s+1}-1} \hat{f}(k) e^{ikx}; \quad \delta_s^-(f) := \sum_{k=-2^{s+1}+1}^{-2^s} \hat{f}(k) e^{ikx}; \quad \delta_0(f) := \hat{f}(0).$$

Then for each  $s$  and  $f \in L_1$  we have

$$\delta_s^+(f) = \sum_{I \in D_s^+} f_I U_I; \quad \delta_s^-(f) = \sum_{I \in D_s^-} f_I U_I; \quad \delta_0(f) = f_{[0,1)}.$$

Moreover, the following important for us analog of Marcinkiewicz theorem holds

$$(3.1) \quad \|\delta_s^+(f)\|_p^p \asymp \sum_{I \in D_s^+} \|f_I U_I\|_p^p; \quad \|\delta_s^-(f)\|_p^p \asymp \sum_{I \in D_s^-} \|f_I U_I\|_p^p$$

for  $1 < p < \infty$  with constants depending only on  $p$ . We note that (3.1) and boundedness of operators  $\delta_s^+$ ,  $\delta_s^-$  as operators from  $L_p$  into  $L_p$ ,  $1 < p < \infty$ , imply

$$\|\delta_s^+(f) + \delta_s^-(f)\|_p^p \asymp \sum_{I \in D_s^+ \cup D_s^-} \|f_I U_I\|_p^p,$$

that is the property (2.2) from Section 2.

We remark that

$$(3.2) \quad \|U_I\|_p \asymp |I|^{1/p-1/2}, \quad 1 < p \leq \infty,$$

which implies for any  $1 < q, p < \infty$

$$(3.3) \quad \|U_I\|_p \asymp \|U_I\|_q |I|^{1/p-1/q}.$$

This relation gives the property (2.1) from Section 2. In the multivariate case of  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_d)$  we define the system  $U^d$  as the tensor product of the univariate systems  $U$ . Let  $I = I_1 \times \dots \times I_d$ ,  $I_j \in D$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, d$ , then

$$U_I(x) := \prod_{j=1}^d U_{I_j}(x_j).$$

For  $s = (s_1, \dots, s_d)$  and  $\epsilon = (\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_d)$ ,  $\epsilon_j = +$  or  $-$ , denote

$$D_s^\epsilon := \{I : I = I_1 \times \dots \times I_d, \quad I_j \in D_{s_j}^{\epsilon_j}, \quad j = 1, \dots, d\}.$$

It is easy to see that (3.2) and (3.3) are also true in the multivariate case. It is not difficult to derive from (3.1) that for any  $\epsilon$  we have

$$\|\delta_s^\epsilon(f)\|_p^p \asymp \sum_{I \in D_s^\epsilon} \|f_I U_I\|_p^p,$$

and

$$(3.4) \quad \left\| \sum_{\epsilon} \delta_s^\epsilon(f) \right\|_p^p \asymp \sum_{I \in \cup_{\epsilon} D_s^\epsilon} \|f_I U_I\|_p^p, \quad 1 < p < \infty,$$

with constants depending only on  $p$  and  $d$ . Here we denote

$$\delta_s^\epsilon(f) := \sum_{k \in \rho(s, \epsilon)} \hat{f}(k) e^{i(k, x)}$$

where

$$\rho(s, \epsilon) := \epsilon_1 [2^{s_1}, 2^{s_1+1} - 1) \times \dots \times \epsilon_d [2^{s_d}, 2^{s_d+1} - 1).$$

The convergence

$$(3.5) \quad \lim_{\min_j \mu_j \rightarrow \infty} \left\| f - \sum_{s_j \leq \mu_j, j=1, \dots, d} \sum_{\epsilon} \delta_s^\epsilon(f) \right\|_p = 0, \quad 1 < p < \infty,$$

and the Littlewood-Paley inequalities

$$(3.6) \quad \|f\|_p \asymp \left\| \left( \sum_s \left| \sum_{\epsilon} \delta_s^\epsilon(f) \right|^2 \right)^{1/2} \right\|_p$$

are well-known. Thus  $U^d$  satisfies the properties (2.1)–(2.4) from Section 2.

Denote for given  $R$  and  $n$

$$E_n^R(f)_p := \inf_{t \in T(R, n)} \|f - t\|_p.$$

It is known (see [T1], Ch.2, S3) that for  $f \in NH_q^R$  we have

$$(3.7) \quad E_n^R(f)_q \ll 2^{-g(R)n}.$$

This implies that for some  $C > 0$  we have

$$NH_q^R \subset H_q^R(U^d)C := \{f \quad : \quad f/C \in H_q^R(U^d)\}.$$

Therefore Theorem 2.1 gives.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $1 < q, p < \infty$ ; then for  $R$  such that  $g(R) > (1/q - 1/p)_+$  we have*

$$\sup_{f \in NH_q^R} \|f - G_m^{L_p}(f, U^d)\|_p \ll m^{-g(R)}.$$

We discuss now a question of what other systems  $\Psi$  satisfying (2.1)–(2.4) are also good for approximating the classes  $NH_q^R$ . The following lemma combined with Theorem 2.1 gives a sufficient condition.

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $R = (R_1, \dots, R_d) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^d$  and  $1 \leq q \leq \infty$  be given and  $A$  be a number such that  $A > R_j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, d$ . Assume that a basis  $\Phi := \{\phi_I\}_{I \in D([0,1])}$  of functions on a single variable has the following approximative property. For any  $0 < r < A$  we have*

$$E_n(H_q^r, \Phi)_q := \sup_{f \in H_q^r} \inf_{c_I} \|f - \sum_{|I| \geq 2^{-n}} c_I \phi_I\|_q \ll 2^{-rn}.$$

Then for  $\Phi^d := \Phi \times \dots \times \Phi$  we have

$$E_n^R(NH_q^R, \Phi^d)_q := \sup_{f \in NH_q^R} \inf_{c_I} \|f - \sum_{|I_j| \geq 2^{-ng(R)/R_j}, j=1, \dots, d} c_I \phi_I\|_q \ll 2^{-g(R)n}$$

and for smoe constant  $C$

$$NH_q^R \subset H_q^R(\Phi)C.$$

*Proof.* We get from (3.7) that each  $f \in NH_q^R$  has a representation

$$(3.8) \quad f = \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} t_l; \quad t_l \in \mathcal{T}(R, l); \quad \|t_l\|_q \ll 2^{-g(R)l}.$$

We study first the multivariate analogs of approximation of functions on a single variable. Fix  $1 \leq j \leq d$  and define

$$E_{n,j}(f, \Phi)_q := \inf_{c_I(x^j)} \|f(x) - \sum_{|I| \geq 2^{-n}} c_I(x^j) \phi_I(x_j)\|_q,$$

where  $x^j := (x_1, \dots, x_{j-1}, x_{j+1}, \dots, x_d)$ .

For any trigonometric polynomial  $t \in \mathcal{T}(R, l)$  we can estimate  $E_{n,j}(t, \Phi)_q$  using the following two arguments. The first one is trivial

$$(3.9) \quad E_{n,j}(t, \Phi)_q \leq \|t\|_q.$$

The second one uses the Bernstein inequality: for any  $x^j$  we have

$$(3.10) \quad \|D_{x_j}^r t(\cdot, x^j)\|_q \leq C \|t(\cdot, x^j)\|_q 2^{rg(R)l/R_j},$$

where the  $L_q$ -norm is taken only in the variable  $x_j$ . The inequity (3.10) implies that for any  $x^j$  we have

$$t(\cdot, x^j) \in H_q^r C' 2^{rg(R)l/R_j} \|t(\cdot, x^j)\|_q$$

and, therefore, for  $0 < r < A$  we get by our assumption that

$$(3.11) \quad E_{n,j}(t, \Phi)_q \ll 2^{r(g(R)l/R_j - n)} \|t\|_q.$$

We take now  $f \in NH_q^R$  and prove that

$$E_{n,j}(f, \Phi)_q \ll 2^{-nR_j}.$$

We choose a number  $r$  such that  $R_j < r < A$  and use the representation (3.8). Applying (3.11) for  $l \leq L := nR_j/g(R)$  and (3.9) for  $l > L$  we obtain

$$(3.12) \quad E_{n,j}(f, \Phi)_q \ll \sum_{l \leq L} 2^{-rn} 2^{g(R)(r/R_j - 1)l} + \sum_{l > L} 2^{-g(R)l} \ll 2^{-nR_j}.$$

We use now the following inequality

$$(3.13) \quad E_n^R(f, \Phi^d)_q \leq C(p, d) \sum_{j=1}^d E_{g(R)n/R_j, j}(f, \Phi)_q,$$

which is an analog of Bernstein's theorem (see [B] and also [P], [Ti], [T4]). We prove here Theorem 3.2 that is a more general inequality than (3.13). The inequality (3.13) combined with (3.12) implies for  $f \in NH_q^R$  that

$$E_n^R(f, \Phi^d)_q \ll 2^{-g(R)n}.$$

This completes the proof of Lemma 3.1.

We prove now an analog of the Bernstein theorem mentioned above. Let  $X$  be a Banach space and let  $\Psi$  be a basis for  $X$ . For a given set  $G$  of indices denote

$$E_G(f)_X := \inf_{c_i, i \in G} \|f - \sum_{i \in G} c_i \psi_i\|_X.$$

Consider a projector  $S_G$  which maps a function  $f \in X$  to

$$S_G(f) := \sum_{i \in G} c_i(f) \psi_i \quad \text{where} \quad f = \sum_i c_i(f) \psi_i.$$

If  $G$  is finite then the operator  $S_G$  is a bounded operator from  $X$  onto

$$X_G := \text{span}\{\psi_i\}_{i \in G}.$$

In the case of infinite  $G$  we define

$$X_G := \overline{\text{span}}\{\psi_i\}_{i \in G}$$

and assume that  $G$  is such that the operator  $S_G$  is a bounded operator from  $X$  onto  $X_G$ . In the case of unconditional basis  $\Psi$  the operator  $S_G$  is bounded for all  $G$  with the norm bound independent of  $G$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let two sets  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  of indices be such that*

$$(3.14) \quad \|S_{G_j}\|_{X \rightarrow X} \leq B, \quad j = 1, 2.$$

*Denote  $G := G_1 \cap G_2$ . Then for any  $f \in X$  we have*

$$E_G(f)_X \leq \frac{1}{2}(B+1)^2(E_{G_1}(f)_X + E_{G_2}(f)_X).$$

*Proof.* We estimate  $\|f - S_G(f)\|_X$ . Let us represent

$$S_G(f) = S_{G_1}(f) - S_{G_1 \setminus G_2}(f)$$

and estimate

$$(3.15) \quad \|f - S_G(f)\|_X \leq \|f - S_{G_1}(f)\|_X + \|S_{G_1 \setminus G_2}(f)\|_X.$$

By the assumption (3.14) we get

$$(3.16) \quad \|f - S_{G_1}(f)\|_X \leq (B+1)E_{G_1}(f)_X.$$

Next, we have

$$(3.17) \quad \|S_{G_1 \setminus G_2}(f)\|_X \leq B(B+1)E_{G_2}(f)_X.$$

Combining (3.16) and (3.17) we obtain from (3.15)

$$(3.18) \quad \|f - S_G(f)\|_X \leq (B+1)(E_{G_1}(f)_X + BE_{G_2}(f)_X).$$

Changing the roles of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  we get in the same way

$$(3.19) \quad \|f - S_G(f)\|_X \leq (B+1)(BE_{G_1}(f)_X + E_{G_2}(f)_X).$$

Adding (3.18) and (3.19) we get the required inequality.

We prove now the lower estimates in best  $m$ -term approximation. These proofs are similar to the corresponding ones from [T2, S.4].

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $1 < q, p < \infty$ . Then for  $R$  such that  $g(R) > (1/q - 1/p)_+$  we have*

$$\sigma_m(NH_q^R, U^d)_p \gg m^{-g(R)}.$$

*Proof.* We need a concept of the entropy numbers. For a bounded set  $F$  in a Banach space  $X$  we denote for integer  $m$

$$\epsilon_m(F, X) := \inf\{\epsilon : \exists f_1, \dots, f_{2^m} \in X : F \subset \cup_{j=1}^{2^m} (f_j + \epsilon B(X))\},$$

where  $B(X)$  is the unit ball of Banach space  $X$  and  $f_j + \epsilon B(X)$  is the ball of radius  $\epsilon$  with the center at  $f_j$ .

In this proof we use the following estimates

$$(3.20) \quad \epsilon_m(NH_q^R, L_p) \asymp m^{-g(R)}, \quad 1 \leq q, p, \leq \infty, \quad g(R) > (1/q - 1/p)_+.$$

These estimates should be considered known and can be derived, for instance, from the finite dimensional results (see [S]) by standard arguments of discretization. The estimates (3.20) will be used in the general method which roughly speaking states that  $m$ -term approximations with regard to any reasonable basis are bounded from below by the entropy numbers. We formulate now one result from [T5] (see Th.4 with  $b = 0$ ).

Assume a system  $\Psi := \{\psi_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$  of elements in  $X$  satisfies the condition:

(VP) There exist three positive constants  $A_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , and a sequence  $\{n_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$ ,  $n_{k+1} \leq A_1 n_k$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , such that there is a sequence of the de la Vallée-Poussin type operators  $V_k$  with the properties

$$(3.21) \quad \begin{aligned} V_k(\psi_j) &= \lambda_{k,j} \psi_j, & \lambda_{k,j} &= 1 \quad \text{for } j = 1, \dots, n_k; & \lambda_{k,j} &= 0 \quad \text{for } j > A_2 n_k, \\ \|V_k\|_{X \rightarrow X} &\leq A_3, & k &= 1, 2, \dots \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 3.4.** *Assume that for some  $a > 0$  we have*

$$\epsilon_m(F, X) \geq C_1 m^{-a}, \quad m = 2, 3, \dots$$

*Then if a system  $\Psi$  satisfies the condition (VP) and also satisfies the following condition*

$$(3.22) \quad E_n(F, \Psi) := \sup_{f \in F} \inf_{c_1, \dots, c_n} \|f - \sum_{j=1}^n c_j \psi_j\|_X \leq C_2 n^{-a}, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots;$$

*we have*

$$\sigma_m(F, \Psi)_X \gg m^{-a}.$$

We use this theorem with  $\Psi = U^d$  and  $X = L_p$ . As a sequence of operators  $V_n$  we take

$$\begin{aligned} V_n(f) &:= \sum_{|I_j| \geq 2^{-ng(R)/R_j}, j=1, \dots, d} f_I U_I = \\ &\sum_{s_j \leq 2^{ng(R)/R_j - 1}, j=1, \dots, d} \sum_{\epsilon} \delta_s^\epsilon(f). \end{aligned}$$

It is well known that for any  $1 < p < \infty$

$$\|V_n\|_{L_p \rightarrow L_p} \leq C(p, d).$$

The relation (3.22) follows from (3.7). Thus Theorem 3.3 follows from Theorem 3.4 and the estimates (3.20).



**Theorem 3.5.** *For any orthogonal basis  $\Phi$  we have for  $R$  such that  $g(R) > (1/q - 1/p)_+$*

$$\sigma_m(NH_q^R, \Phi)_2 \gg m^{-g(R)}, \quad 1 \leq q \leq \infty.$$

*Proof.* The proof of this theorem is similar to the univariate case (see [K]). We shall not carry it out here and formulate only the key lemma of the proof (see [K, Corollary 2]).

**Lemma 3.2.** *There exists an absolute constant  $C_0 > 0$  such that for any orthonormal basis  $\Phi$  and any  $N$ -dimensional cube*

$$B_N(\Psi) := \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^N a_j \psi_j, \quad |a_j| \leq 1, \quad j = 1, \dots, N; \right.$$

$$\left. \Psi := \{\psi_j\}_{j=1}^N \quad \text{an orthonormal system} \right\}$$

we have

$$\sigma_m(B_N, \Phi)_2 \geq \frac{3}{4} N^{1/2}$$

if  $m \leq C_0 N$ .

#### 4. SOFT THRESHOLDING IS A LIPSCHITZ MAPPING

In this section we assume that a basis  $\Psi = \{\psi_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$  is an unconditional normalized ( $\|\psi_k\| = 1, k = 1, 2, \dots$ ) basis for  $X$ .

**Definition 4.1.** *A basis  $\Psi = \{\psi_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$  of a Banach space  $X$  is said to be unconditional if for every choice of signs  $\theta = \{\theta_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$ ,  $\theta_k = 1$  or  $-1$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , the linear operator  $M_\theta$  defined by*

$$M_\theta \left( \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k \psi_k \right) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k \theta_k \psi_k$$

is a bounded operator from  $X$  into  $X$ .

The uniform boundedness principle implies that the unconditional constant

$$K := K(X, \Psi) := \sup_{\theta} \|M_\theta\|$$

is finite.

The following theorem is a well known fact about unconditional bases (see [LT], p.19).

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $\Psi$  be an unconditional basis for  $X$ . Then for every choice of bounded scalars  $\{\lambda_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$ , we have*

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda_k a_k \psi_k \right\| \leq 2K \sup_k |\lambda_k| \left\| \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k \psi_k \right\|$$

(in the case of real Banach space  $X$  we can take  $K$  instead of  $2K$ ).

In numerical implementation of nonlinear  $m$ -term approximation one usually prefers to employ the strategy known as thresholding (see [D, S.7.8]) instead of greedy algorithm. We define and study here the soft thresholding. Let a real function  $v(x)$  defined for  $x \geq 0$  satisfies the following relations

$$(4.1) \quad v(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{for } x \geq 1 \\ 0, & \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq 1/2, \end{cases}$$

$$(4.2) \quad |v(x)| \leq A, \quad x \in [0, 1];$$

there is a constant  $C_L$  such that for any  $x, y \in [0, \infty)$  we have

$$(4.3) \quad |v(x) - v(y)| \leq C_L |x - y|.$$

Let

$$f = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k(f) \psi_k.$$

We define a soft thresholding mapping  $T_{\epsilon, v}$  as follows. Take  $\epsilon > 0$  and set

$$T_{\epsilon, v}(f) := \sum_k v(|c_k(f)|/\epsilon) c_k(f) \psi_k.$$

Theorem 4.1 implies that

$$(4.4) \quad \|T_{\epsilon, v}(f)\| \leq 2KA \|f\|.$$

We prove now that the mapping  $T_{\epsilon, v}$  satisfies the Lipschitz condition with a constant independent of  $\epsilon$ .

**Theorem 4.2.** *For any  $\epsilon$  and any functions  $f, g \in X$  we have*

$$\|T_{\epsilon, v}(f) - T_{\epsilon, v}(g)\| \leq (3A + 2C_L)2K \|f - g\|.$$

*Proof.* Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be fixed. We use for simplicity the following abbreviated notations:

$$v_k(f) := v(|c_k(f)|/\epsilon), \quad v_k(g) := v(|c_k(g)|/\epsilon).$$

Then we have

$$(4.5) \quad T_{\epsilon, v}(f) - T_{\epsilon, v}(g) = \sum_k (c_k(f)v_k(f) - c_k(g)v_k(g)) \psi_k =$$

$$\sum_k (c_k(f) - c_k(g))v_k(f)\psi_k + \sum_k c_k(g)(v_k(f) - v_k(g))\psi_k =: \Sigma_1 + \Sigma_2.$$

For the first sum we have by Theorem 4.1

$$(4.6) \quad \|\Sigma_1\| \leq 2K\|\{v_k(f)\}\|_{l_\infty}\|f - g\| \leq 2KA\|f - g\|.$$

In order to estimate the second sum we introduce the set

$$\Lambda(g, \epsilon) := \{k \quad : \quad |c_k(g)| \geq \epsilon\}$$

and write

$$\Sigma_2 = \sum_{k \in \Lambda(g, \epsilon)} c_k(g)(v_k(f) - v_k(g))\psi_k + \sum_{k \notin \Lambda(g, \epsilon)} c_k(g)(v_k(f) - v_k(g))\psi_k =: \Sigma'_2 + \Sigma''_2.$$

Let us estimate first  $\Sigma''_2$ . We have

$$|c_k(g)(v_k(f) - v_k(g))| \leq \epsilon C_L \|c_k(f) - c_k(g)\| / \epsilon \leq C_L |c_k(f) - c_k(g)|.$$

We get from here by Theorem 4.1

$$(4.7) \quad \|\Sigma''_2\| \leq 2KC_L\|f - g\|.$$

We proceed to estimating  $\Sigma'_2$ . Represent  $\Sigma'_2$  in the form

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma'_2 &= \sum_{k \in \Lambda(g, \epsilon) \cap \Lambda(f, \epsilon)} c_k(g)(v_k(f) - v_k(g))\psi_k + \\ &\sum_{k \in \Lambda(g, \epsilon) \setminus \Lambda(f, \epsilon)} c_k(g)(v_k(f) - v_k(g))\psi_k =: \Sigma'_{2,1} + \Sigma'_{2,2}. \end{aligned}$$

For  $k$  in the first sum we have from the definition of  $v$  that  $v_k(f) = v_k(g) = 1$  and thus  $\Sigma'_{2,1} = 0$ . Let us estimate now the following sum

$$\Sigma := \sum_{k \in \Lambda(g, \epsilon) \setminus \Lambda(f, \epsilon)} c_k(f)(v_k(f) - v_k(g))\psi_k.$$

Similarly to  $\Sigma''_2$  we get

$$(4.8) \quad \|\Sigma\| \leq 2KC_L\|f - g\|.$$

Next, we have

$$(4.9) \quad \|\Sigma'_2 - \Sigma\| = \left\| \sum_{k \in \Lambda(g, \epsilon) \setminus \Lambda(f, \epsilon)} (c_k(g) - c_k(f))(v_k(f) - v_k(g))\psi_k \right\| \leq 2K2A\|f - g\|.$$

Combining the estimates (4.5)–(4.9) we complete the proof of Theorem 4.2.

Theorem 4.2 provides a way of constructing greedy type algorithms which have the Lipschitz property. For instance one can use a soft thresholding algorithm with regard to  $U^d$  to approximate functions from classes  $NH_q^R$  and also from classes  $MW_q^r$  and  $MH_q^r$  with bounded mixed derivative or difference (see [T2]). A problem of constructing a continuous mapping in  $m$ -term approximation was discussed in [Du]. The following remarks will be useful in this regard.

1). The system  $U^d$  is an unconditional basis for  $L_p$ ,  $1 < p < \infty$ . See [W] for  $d = 1$ . The general case  $d > 1$  follows from the case  $d = 1$  by standard arguments (see for instance [DKT]).

2). Denote by  $T_\epsilon$  the thresholding algorithm, i.e.  $T_\epsilon := T_{\epsilon,u}$  with  $u(x) = 1$  for  $x \geq 1$  and  $u(x) = 0$  otherwise. Then by Theorem 4.1 we have

$$(4.10) \quad \|f - T_{\epsilon,v}(f)\| \leq 2KA \|f - T_\epsilon(f)\|.$$

Thus, if we have upper estimates for thresholding algorithm  $T_\epsilon$  (greedy algorithm) then we can derive from them the corresponding upper estimates for soft thresholding algorithm.

In [KT] we studied the concept of greedy basis, i.e. a basis  $\Psi$  such that for each  $f \in X$  we have

$$\|f - G_m(f, \Psi)\| \leq G\sigma_m(f, \Psi), \quad m = 1, 2, \dots,$$

with a constant  $G$  independent of  $f$  and  $m$ . Denote

$$m(f, \epsilon) := \#\{k \quad : \quad |c_k(f)| \geq \epsilon\}.$$

Then (4.10) implies that if  $\Psi$  is a greedy basis we have for each  $f \in X$

$$(4.11) \quad \|f - T_{\epsilon,v}(f)\| \leq G'\sigma_{m(f,\epsilon)}(f, \Psi).$$

We note here that (4.11) implies that  $\Psi$  is a greedy basis. The proof of this statement uses the arguments from [KT] and can be carried out as follows. We have proved in [KT] (see Theorem 1) that  $\Psi$  is greedy iff  $\Psi$  is unconditional and democratic.

**Definition 4.2.** *We say that a basis  $\Psi = \{\psi_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$  is a democratic basis if for any two finite sets of indices  $P$  and  $Q$  with the same cardinality  $\#P = \#Q$  we have*

$$(1.2) \quad \left\| \sum_{k \in P} \psi_k \right\| \leq D \left\| \sum_{k \in Q} \psi_k \right\|$$

with a constant  $D := D(X, \Psi)$  independent of  $P$  and  $Q$ .

Using the arguments from [KT] which were used to prove that greedy basis is unconditional and democratic we prove that (4.11) implies that  $\Psi$  is unconditional and democratic. It remains to apply Theorem 1 from [KT] to complete the proof.

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