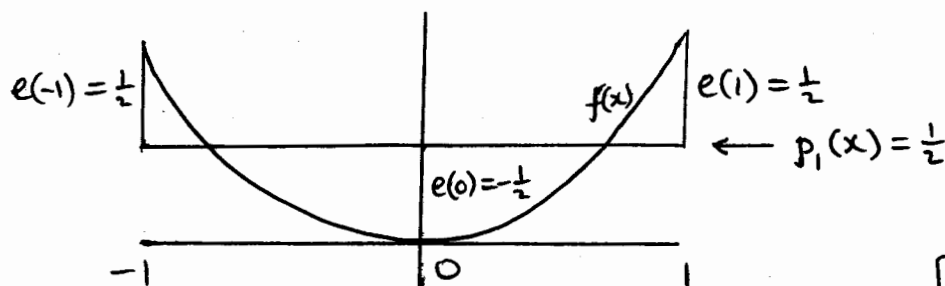


Solution Notes

Context: Chebyshev characterisation theorem.

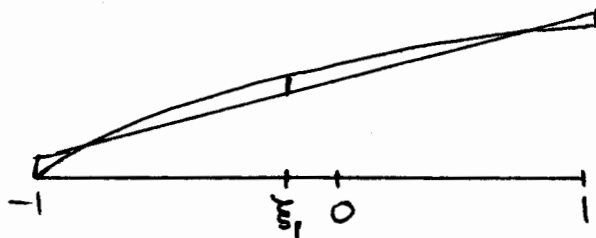
(a)



[3 marks]

(b) $f(x) = \frac{x+1}{x+\frac{5}{3}}$, $f(-1)=0$, $f(0)=0.6$, $f(1)=0.75$

$$f'(x) = \frac{x + \frac{5}{3} - (x+1)}{(x + \frac{5}{3})^2} = \frac{\frac{2}{3}}{(x + \frac{5}{3})^2} > 0 \text{ for all } x$$



Clearly ± 1 are extrema of $e(x)$. The third extremum in $[-1, 1]$ is at ξ_1 , where $e'(\xi_1) = 0$, and $\xi_1 < 0$.

Write $p_1(x) = ax + b$.

$$e(x) = \frac{x+1}{x+\frac{5}{3}} - (ax+b)$$

$$e(-1) = a - b, \quad e(+1) = \frac{3}{4} - a - b$$

From the theorem, $e(-1) = -e(\xi_1) = e(+1)$

$$\text{so } a - b = \frac{3}{4} - a - b \quad \therefore a = \frac{3}{8}.$$

$$e'(x) = \frac{\frac{2}{3}}{(x + \frac{5}{3})^2} - a$$

$$\text{so } e'(\xi_1) = 0 \Rightarrow (\xi_1 + \frac{5}{3})^2 = \frac{2}{3a} = \frac{16}{9}$$

$$\therefore \xi_1 + \frac{5}{3} = \frac{4}{3}$$

$$\therefore \xi_1 = -\frac{1}{3}.$$

over

Now $e(-1) = -e(-\frac{1}{3})$

so $\frac{5}{8} - b = -\frac{3}{8} + b \quad \therefore b = \frac{1}{2}$

so $p_1(x) = \frac{3}{8}x + \frac{1}{2}$

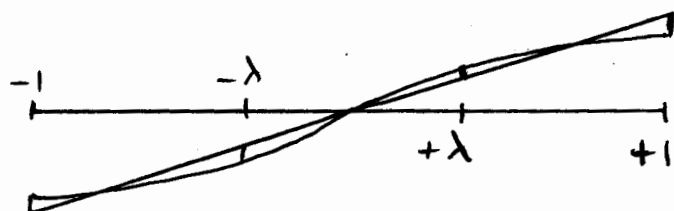
[9 marks]

(C) If $f(x) = x/(9x^2+16)$ then $f(-x) = -f(x)$, i.e. $f(x)$ is an odd function, so the best approximation only contains odd powers of x , by symmetry, and must be of the form $p_2(x) = ax$.

$f(0) = 0, f(1) = 1/25$

$f'(x) = \frac{9x^2+16-18x^2}{(9x^2+16)^2} = \frac{16-9x^2}{(9x^2+16)^2} > 0$ for $x \in [-1, 1]$

$f'(0) = 1/16, f'(1) = 7/625$



$e'(x) = f'(x) - a$

$e'(\lambda) = 0 \Rightarrow a = f'(\lambda) = \frac{16-9\lambda^2}{(9\lambda^2+16)^2} \quad (1)$

Also $e(1) = -e(\lambda)$ so

$\frac{1}{25} - a = a\lambda - \frac{\lambda}{9\lambda^2+16}$

$\therefore a(1+\lambda) = \frac{9\lambda^2+25\lambda+16}{25(9\lambda^2+16)} = \frac{(9\lambda+16)(1+\lambda)}{25(9\lambda^2+16)}$

$\therefore a = \frac{9\lambda+16}{25(9\lambda^2+16)} \quad (2)$

If $\lambda = 4/9$ then (1) and (2) should yield the same value of a .

(1) gives $a = \frac{16 - 16/9}{(16/9 + 16)^2} = \frac{9}{16} \cdot \frac{8}{100} = \frac{9}{200}$

(2) gives $a = \frac{4+16}{25(16/9+16)} = \frac{20 \cdot 9}{25 \cdot 160} = \frac{9}{200}$

[8 marks]