

# A Structural Theorem of the Generalized Spline Functions<sup>1</sup>

Adrian Branga

## Abstract

In the introduction of this paper is presented the definition of the generalized spline functions as solutions of a variational problem and are shown some theorems regarding to the existence and uniqueness. The main result of this article consist in a structural theorem of the generalized spline functions based on the properties of the spaces, operator and interpolatory set involved.

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## 1 Introduction

**Definition 1.** *Let  $E_1$  be a real linear space,  $(E_2, \|\cdot\|_2)$  a normed real linear space,  $T : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  an operator and  $U \subseteq E_1$  a non-empty set. The problem of finding the elements  $s \in U$  which satisfy*

$$(1) \quad \|T(s)\|_2 = \inf_{u \in U} \|T(u)\|_2,$$

*is called the general spline interpolation problem, corresponding to the set  $U$ .*

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A solution of this problem, provided that exists, is named *general spline interpolation element*, corresponding to the set  $U$ .

The set  $U$  is called *interpolatory set*.

In the sequel we assume that  $E_1$  is a real linear space,  $(E_2, (\cdot, \cdot)_2, \|\cdot\|_2)$  is a real Hilbert space,  $T : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  is a linear operator and  $U \subseteq E_1$  is a non-empty set.

**Theorem 1.** (Existence Theorem) *If  $U$  is a convex set and  $T(U)$  is a closed set, then the general spline interpolation problem (1) (corresponding to  $U$ ) has at least a solution.*

The proof is shown in the papers [1, 3].

For every element  $s \in U$  we define the set

$$(2) \quad U(s) := U - s.$$

**Lemma 1.** *For every element  $s \in U$  the set  $U(s)$  is non-empty ( $0_{E_1} \in U(s)$ ).*

The result follows directly from the relation (2).

**Theorem 2.** (Uniqueness Theorem) *If  $U$  is a convex set,  $T(U)$  is a closed set and exists an element  $s \in U$  solution of the general spline interpolation problem (1) (corresponding to  $U$ ), such that  $U(s)$  is linear subspace of  $E_1$ , then the following statements are true*

i) *For any elements  $s_1, s_2 \in U$  solutions of the general spline interpolation problem (1) (corresponding to  $U$ ) we have*

$$(3) \quad s_1 - s_2 \in \text{Ker}(T) \cap U(s);$$

ii) *The element  $s \in U$  is the unique solution of the general spline interpolation problem (1) (corresponding to  $U$ ) if and only if*

$$(4) \quad \text{Ker}(T) \cap U(s) = \{0_{E_1}\}.$$

A proof is presented in the papers [1, 2].

**Lemma 2.** *For every element  $s \in U$  the following statements are true*

- i)  $T(U(s))$  is non-empty set ( $0_{E_2} \in T(U(s))$ );
- ii)  $T(U) = T(s) + T(U(s))$ ;
- iii) If  $U(s)$  is linear subspace of  $E_1$ , then  $T(U(s))$  is linear subspace of  $E_2$ .

For a proof see the paper [1].

**Lemma 3.** *For every element  $s \in U$  the set  $(T(U(s)))^\perp$  has the following properties*

- i)  $(T(U(s)))^\perp$  is non-empty set ( $0_{E_2} \in (T(U(s)))^\perp$ );
- ii)  $(T(U(s)))^\perp$  is linear subspace of  $E_2$ ;
- iii)  $(T(U(s)))^\perp$  is closed set;
- iv)  $(T(U(s))) \cap (T(U(s)))^\perp = \{0_{E_2}\}$ .

A proof is shown in the paper [1].

## 2 Main result

**Theorem 3.** *An element  $s \in U$ , such that  $U(s)$  is linear subspace of  $E_1$ , is solution of the general spline interpolation problem (1) (corresponding to  $U$ ) if and only if the following equality is true*

$$(5) \quad T(U) \cap (T(U(s)))^\perp = \{T(s)\}.$$

**Proof.** Let  $s \in U$  be an element, such that  $U(s)$  is linear subspace of  $E_1$ .

1) Suppose that  $s$  is solution of the general spline interpolation problem (1) (corresponding to  $U$ ) and show that the equality (5) is true.

Since  $s \in U$  it is obvious that

$$(6) \quad T(s) \in T(U).$$

Let  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$  be an arbitrary number and  $T(u_1), T(u_2) \in T(U)$  be arbitrary elements ( $u_1, u_2 \in U$ ). From Lemma 2 ii) results that there are the elements  $T(\tilde{u}_1), T(\tilde{u}_2) \in T(U(s))$  ( $\tilde{u}_1, \tilde{u}_2 \in U(s)$ ) so that  $T(u_1) = T(s) + T(\tilde{u}_1), T(u_2) = T(s) + T(\tilde{u}_2)$ . Consequently, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - \lambda)T(u_1) + \lambda T(u_2) &= (1 - \lambda)(T(s) + T(\tilde{u}_1)) + \lambda(T(s) + T(\tilde{u}_2)) = \\ &= T(s) + ((1 - \lambda)T(\tilde{u}_1) + \lambda T(\tilde{u}_2)). \end{aligned}$$

Because  $U(s)$  is linear subspace of  $E_1$ , applying Lemma 2 iii), results that  $T(U(s))$  is linear subspace of  $E_2$ , hence  $(1 - \lambda)T(\tilde{u}_1) + \lambda T(\tilde{u}_2) \in T(U(s))$ . Therefore, we have  $(1 - \lambda)T(u_1) + \lambda T(u_2) \in T(s) + T(U(s))$  and using Lemma 2 ii) we obtain

$$(1 - \lambda)T(u_1) + \lambda T(u_2) \in T(U),$$

i.e.  $T(U)$  is a convex set.

Since  $s \in U$  is solution of the general spline interpolation problem (1) (corresponding to  $U$ ) it follows that

$$\|T(s)\|_2 = \inf_{u \in U} \|T(u)\|_2$$

and seeing the equality  $\{T(u) \mid u \in U\} = \{t \mid t \in T(U)\}$  it obtains

$$(7) \quad \|T(s)\|_2 = \inf_{t \in T(U)} \|t\|_2.$$

Let  $t \in T(U)$  be an arbitrary element ( $u \in U$ ).

We consider a certain  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  and define the element

$$(8) \quad t' = (1 - \alpha)T(s) + \alpha t.$$

Because  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ ,  $T(s), t \in T(U)$  and taking into account that  $T(U)$  is a convex set, from the relation (8) results

$$(9) \quad t' \in T(U).$$

Therefore, from the relations (7), (9) we deduce

$$\|T(s)\|_2 \leq \|t'\|_2$$

and considering the equality (8) we find

$$\|T(s)\|_2 \leq \|(1 - \alpha)T(s) + \alpha t\|_2,$$

which is equivalent to

$$(10) \quad \|T(s)\|_2^2 \leq \|(1 - \alpha)T(s) + \alpha t\|_2^2.$$

Using the properties of the inner product it obtains

$$(11) \quad \begin{aligned} \|(1 - \alpha)T(s) + \alpha t\|_2^2 &= \|T(s) + \alpha(t - T(s))\|_2^2 = \\ &= \|T(s)\|_2^2 + 2\alpha(T(s), t - T(s))_2 + \alpha^2\|t - T(s)\|_2^2. \end{aligned}$$

Substituting the equality (11) in the relation (10) it follows that

$$\|T(s)\|_2^2 \leq \|T(s)\|_2^2 + 2\alpha(T(s), t - T(s))_2 + \alpha^2\|t - T(s)\|_2^2,$$

i.e.

$$2\alpha(T(s), t - T(s))_2 + \alpha^2\|t - T(s)\|_2^2 \geq 0$$

and dividing by  $2\alpha \in (0, 2)$  we obtain

$$(12) \quad (T(s), t - T(s))_2 + \frac{\alpha}{2}\|t - T(s)\|_2^2 \geq 0.$$

Because  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  was chosen arbitrarily it follows that the inequality (12) holds  $(\forall) \alpha \in (0, 1)$  and passing to the limit for  $\alpha \rightarrow 0$  it obtains

$$(T(s), t - T(s))_2 \geq 0.$$

As the element  $t \in T(U)$  was chosen arbitrarily we deduce that the previous relation is true  $(\forall) t \in T(U)$ , i.e.

$$(13) \quad (T(s), t - T(s))_2 \geq 0, \quad (\forall) t \in T(U).$$

Let show that in the relation (13) we have only equality. Suppose that  $(\exists) t_0 \in T(U)$  such that

$$(14) \quad (T(s), t_0 - T(s))_2 > 0.$$

Using the properties of the inner product, from the relation (14) we find

$$(15) \quad (T(s), T(s) - t_0)_2 < 0.$$

Because  $t_0 \in T(U)$  it results that  $T(s) - t_0 \in T(s) - T(U)$  and considering Lemma 2 ii) it obtains  $T(s) - t_0 \in -T(U(s))$ . But,  $U(s)$  being linear subspace of  $E_1$ , applying Lemma 2 iii) we deduce that  $T(U(s))$  is linear subspace of  $E_2$ , hence  $-T(U(s)) = T(U(s))$ . Consequently,  $T(s) - t_0 \in T(U(s))$  and using Lemma 2 ii) we find  $T(s) - t_0 \in T(U) - T(s)$ , i.e.

$$(16) \quad (\exists) t_1 \in T(U) \text{ such that } T(s) - t_0 = t_1 - T(s).$$

From the relations (15) and (16) it follows that there is an element  $t_1 \in T(U)$  so that  $(T(s), t_1 - T(s))_2 < 0$ , which is in contradiction with the relation (13).

Therefore, the relation (13) is equivalent to

$$(17) \quad (T(s), t - T(s))_2 = 0, \quad (\forall) t \in T(U).$$

Let  $\tilde{t} \in T(U(s))$  be an arbitrary element.

Applying Lemma 2 ii) we obtain that  $\tilde{t} \in T(U) - T(s)$ , so there is an element  $t \in T(U)$  such that  $\tilde{t} = t - T(s)$ . Using the relation (17) we deduce

$$(T(s), \tilde{t})_2 = 0.$$

As the element  $\tilde{t} \in T(U(s))$  was chosen arbitrarily we find that the previous relation is true  $(\forall) \tilde{t} \in T(U(s))$ , hence

$$(18) \quad T(s) \in (T(U(s)))^\perp.$$

Consequently, from the relations (6) and (18) it follows that

$$(19) \quad T(s) \in T(U) \cap (T(U(s)))^\perp.$$

Let show that  $T(s)$  is the unique element from  $T(U) \cap (T(U(s)))^\perp$ . Suppose that  $(\exists) g \in T(U) \cap (T(U(s)))^\perp$ , with  $g \neq T(s)$ . Using the properties of the inner product it obtains

$$(20) \quad \|g - T(s)\|_2^2 = (g - T(s), g - T(s))_2 = (g - T(s), g)_2 - (g - T(s), T(s))_2.$$

Because  $g \in T(U)$  we deduce that  $g - T(s) \in T(U) - T(s)$  and applying Lemma 2 ii) we find  $g - T(s) \in T(U(s))$ . Taking into account that  $g \in (T(U(s)))^\perp, T(s) \in (T(U(s)))^\perp$  it results

$$(21) \quad (g - T(s), g)_2 = 0$$

respectively

$$(22) \quad (g - T(s), T(s))_2 = 0.$$

Substituting the equalities (21), (22) in the relation (20) we obtain

$$\|g - T(s)\|_2^2 = 0,$$

i.e.  $g = T(s)$ , which is in contradiction with the assumption made before.

Therefore,  $T(s)$  is the unique element from  $T(U) \cap (T(U(s)))^\perp$ , hence

$$T(U) \cap (T(U(s)))^\perp = \{T(s)\}.$$

2) Suppose that the equality (5) is true and show that  $s$  is solution of the general spline interpolation problem (1) (corresponding to  $U$ ).

Let  $t \in T(U)$  be an arbitrary element.

Applying Lemma 2 ii) we deduce that there is an element  $\tilde{t} \in T(U(s))$  such that  $t = T(s) + \tilde{t}$ . Taking into account that  $T(s) \in (T(U(s)))^\perp$  we find

$$(T(s), \tilde{t})_2 = 0,$$

which is equivalent to

$$(23) \quad (T(s), t - T(s))_2 = 0.$$

Using the properties of the inner product, considering the relation (23) and taking into account the properties of the norm, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \|t\|_2^2 &= \|T(s) + (t - T(s))\|_2^2 = \\ &= \|T(s)\|_2^2 + 2(T(s), t - T(s))_2 + \|t - T(s)\|_2^2 = \\ &= \|T(s)\|_2^2 + \|t - T(s)\|_2^2 \geq \|T(s)\|_2^2, \end{aligned}$$

with equality if and only if  $\|t - T(s)\|_2^2 = 0$ , i.e.  $t = T(s)$ .

The previous relation implies

$$\|T(s)\|_2 \leq \|t\|_2,$$

with equality if and only if  $t = T(s)$ .

As the element  $t \in T(U)$  was chosen arbitrarily we obtain that the previous inequality is true  $(\forall) t \in T(U)$ , i.e.

$$(24) \quad \|T(s)\|_2 \leq \|t\|_2, \quad (\forall) t \in T(U)$$

and the equality is attained in the element  $t = T(s)$ , which is equivalent to

$$\|T(s)\|_2 = \inf_{t \in T(U)} \|t\|_2.$$

Consequently,  $s$  is solution of the general spline interpolation problem (1) (corresponding to  $U$ ).



## References

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Adrian Branga

University "Lucian Blaga" of Sibiu

Department of Mathematics

Dr. I. Rațiu 5-7, Sibiu 550012, Romania

e-mail: [adrian\\_branga@yahoo.com](mailto:adrian_branga@yahoo.com)