

follows, by a theorem due to E. W. Chittenden, that\*  $S$  converges relatively uniformly on the sum of all the point sets of this collection. But this sum is  $E - E_0$ .

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## THE THEORY OF CLOSURE OF TCHEBYCHEFF POLYNOMIALS FOR AN INFINITE INTERVAL†

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1. *The Theorem of Closure.* Suppose we have a function  $p(x)$ , not negative in a given interval  $(a, b)$ , for which all the integrals

$$\int_a^b p(x)x^n dx, \quad (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots)$$

exist. It is well known that we can form a normal and orthogonal system of polynomials

$$\varphi_n(x) = a_n x^n + \dots, \quad a_n > 0, \quad (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots),$$

uniquely determined by means of the relations

$$\int_a^b p(x)\varphi_m(x)\varphi_n(x)dx = \begin{cases} 0, & m \neq n, \\ 1, & m = n. \end{cases}$$

We call these polynomials *Tchebycheff polynomials* corresponding to the interval  $(a, b)$  with the *characteristic function*  $p(x)$ . The simplest example is given by Legendre polynomials, corresponding to the interval  $(-1, +1)$  with  $p(x) = 1$ .

The most important application of Tchebycheff polynomials is their use in the development of functions into

\* E. W. Chittenden, *Relatively uniform convergence of sequences of functions*, TRANSACTIONS OF THIS SOCIETY, vol. 15 (1914), pp. 197-201. As Chittenden observes, this is an extension of a theorem given by E. H. Moore on page 87 of his *Introduction to a Form of General Analysis*, loc. cit.

† Presented to the Society, December 29, 1923.