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RECENT PROGRESS ON THE GASCA-MAEZTU CONJECTURE

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Abstract

An *n*-poised set in two dimensions is a set of nodes admitting unique bivariate interpolation with polynomials of total degree at most n. We are interested in poised sets with the property that all fundamental polynomials are products of linear factors. In 1982, M. Gasca and J. I. Maeztu [1] conjectured that every such set necessarily contains n + 1collinear nodes. Up to now, this conjecture has only been proved for $n \leq 5$ ([2], [3], [4], [5]).

A key argument is the maximal possible number of lines containing a certain number of nodes, and the possible number of uses of such lines. e.g., a line containing only one node can not be used at all, due to the uniqueness of the fundamental polynomials; and a so-called maximal line containing n + 1 nodes has to be used by all the remaining nodes. We present recent results on the number of such uses.

Keywords: polynomial interpolation, poised set, fundamental polynomial, maximal line, Gasca-Maeztu conjecture.

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