Comparison of Bernstein Polynomials with the Metrical Means of Kantorovitch

ERICH VAN WICKEREN

Lehrstuhl A für Mathematik, RWTH Aachen, Templergraben 55, D-5100 Aachen, West Germany

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In 1934 Kantorovitch modified the Bernstein polynomials B_n by means of metrical means to yield a nonlinear polynomial process B_n^* which approximates measurable functions almost everywhere. The present paper is concerned with the pointwise comparison of B_n and B_n^* on C[0, 1] (the space of continuous functions on [0, 1]). We establish direct estimates of the form $|(B_n f - f)(x)| \leq |(B_n^* f - f)(x)| + \omega(3n^{-1/3}, f)$ with the first modulus of continuity ω . On the other hand, it is the main purpose of this paper to show that this inequality can not be strengthened to $|(B_n f - f)(x)| \leq C_x |(B_n f - f)(x)|$ so that B_n^* is not a pointwise extension of B_n on C[0, 1]. To this end, a previous condensation principle is applied concerning nonlinear functionals which assures the nonvalidity of this last inequality for x on a dense, in fact, residual, set of [0, 1].

1. INTRODUCTION

For $f \in C[0, 1]$, the space of continuous functions on [0, 1] (endowed with the usual sup-norm $\|\cdot\|_{C}$), it is well known that the Bernstein polynomials ($n \in \mathbb{N}$:= set of natural numbers)

$$B_n f := \sum_{k=0}^n f(k/n) p_{kn}, \qquad p_{kn}(x) := \binom{n}{k} x^k (1-x)^{n-k},$$

converge uniformly to f, i.e.,

$$\lim_{n\to\infty} \|B_n f - f\|_C = 0.$$

Kantorovitch [11] modified these polynomials in the form that the point

functionals f(k/n) are substituted by metrical means given via ($\mathbb{R} :=$ set of reals, $E \subset [0, 1]$ with Lebesgue measure meas E > 0)

$$M(E, f) := \sup\{u \in \mathbb{R} : m(u; E, f) \ge \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{meas} E\},\$$

$$m(u; E, f) := \operatorname{meas}\{v \in E : f(v) \ge u\}.$$

(1.1)

Indeed, this yields pointwise convergence a.e. also for measurable functions f by the polynomials

$$B_{n}^{*}f := \sum_{k=0}^{n} M(E_{kn}, f) p_{kn},$$

$$E_{kn} := \left[\frac{k}{n} - \delta_{n}, \frac{k}{n} + \delta_{n}\right] \cap [0, 1], \qquad \delta_{n} = 3n^{-1/3}.$$
(1.2)

In this paper we consider the (pointwise) comparison of the two processes B_n and B_n^* on C[0, 1], in particular the problem whether B_n^* is indeed an extension of B_n . Thereby it should be noted that B_n^* is not linear, even not sublinear, so that comparison theorems for (sub-) linear operators do not apply here.

In Section 2 we first establish direct estimates of the form

$$|(B_n^*f - f)(x)| \le |(B_n f - f)(x)| + \omega(\delta_n, f),$$

$$|(B_n f - f)(x)| \le |(B_n^*f - f)(x)| + \omega(\delta_n, f)$$
(1.3)

where ω is the first modulus of continuity (cf. (2.9)). On the other hand, it is shown in Section 3 that (1.3) can *not* be strengthened to

$$|(B_n^*f - f)(x)| \le C_{x,f} |(B_n f - f)(x)| \le C_{x,f}^* |(B_n^*f - f)(x)|$$
(1.4)

for some constants $C_{x,f}$, $C_{x,f}^*$, independent of $n \in \mathbb{N}$. This will be achieved by a quantitative condensation principle (cf. Theorem 3.2) developed in [13; 14]; it delivers a counterexample $f_0 \in C[0, 1]$ such that both inequalities of (1.4) are false even for x of a dense, indeed residual set of [0, 1]. Moreover, this condensation principle simultaneously yields the sharpness of (cf. Theorem 2.2)

$$|(B_n^*f - f)(x)| \leq 3\omega(\delta_n, f)$$

for the same counterexample f_0 and for x on the same dense set.

Besides these results let us mention that the techniques used in Section 3 show how one may obtain condensation of singularities in a concrete (but nonlinear) situation by using resonance and condensation principles developed in a general frame work (see [3–8; 13; 14] and the literature cited there, also for further applications).

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2. DIRECT COMPARISON THEOREMS

Let us first establish some elementary properties of the (nonsublinear) functional M(E, f).

- LEMMA 2.1. Let $f \in C[0, 1]$ and $E \subset [0, 1]$ with meas E > 0.
 - (a) M(E, f) is uniquely determined by

 $m(M(E, f); E, f) \ge \frac{1}{2} \text{ meas } E,$ (2.1)

$$m(M(E, f) + \varepsilon; E, f) < \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{meas} E \qquad (\varepsilon > 0)$$
(2.2)

so that for $u \in \mathbb{R}$

$$m(u; E, f) < \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{meas} E \Rightarrow M(E, f) < u,$$
(2.3)

$$m(u; E, f) \ge \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{meas} E \Rightarrow M(E, f) \ge u.$$
 (2.4)

(b) For $b \ge 0$, $c \in \mathbb{R}$ one has

$$M(E, c) = c, \tag{2.5}$$

$$M(E, f + c) = M(E, f) + c,$$
(2.6)

$$M(E, bf) = bM(E, f), \qquad (2.7)$$

$$|f(v) - g(v)| \le b$$
 for all $v \in E \Rightarrow |M(E, f) - M(E, g)| \le b$. (2.8)

Proof. Obviously, $u_0 := M(E, f)$ is well defined since f is bounded. Now m(u; E, f) is decreasing and continuous in u (cf. [1, p. 23]) so that there exists $u_n > u_0 - 1/n$ such that

$$\frac{1}{2}$$
 meas $E \leq m(u_n; E, f) \leq m(u_0 - 1/n; E, f) \to m(u_0; E, f)$.

Hence the supremum in (1.1) is attained at u_0 so that one has (2.1), (2.2), and thus (2.3), (2.4), respectively, as well as the uniqueness. Moreover, (2.5) is obvious whereas (2.6) follows by substituting x = u - c so that

$$M(E, f + c) = \sup\{x + c : m(x; E, f) \ge \frac{1}{2} \max E\} = M(E, f) + c.$$

Analogously, one has (2.7) with x = u/b (b > 0). If $f(v) \le g(v)$ for $v \in E$, then by (2.1)

$$\frac{1}{2}$$
 meas $E \leq m(M(E, f); E, f) \leq m(M(E, f); E, g)$

so that $M(E, f) \leq M(E, g)$ by (2.4). Hence, (2.8) is a consequence of (2.6) and

$$f(v) - b \leq g(v) \leq f(v) + b \qquad (v \in E).$$

Obviously, B_n^* is uniformly bounded on C[0, 1] in view of (2.8) (take $g = 0, b = ||f||_C$). But this implies the continuity of B_n^*f only at f = 0 since B_n^* is non-subadditive. However, the following theorem establishes continuity on the whole space, in fact in terms of the first modulus of continuity

$$\omega(t, f) := \sup\{|f(x) - f(x+h)| : x, x+h \in [0, 1], |h| \le t\}.$$
 (2.9)

THEOREM 2.2. For $n \in \mathbb{N}$ the operator $B_n^* f - f$ is continuous on C[0, 1], in fact $(f, g \in C[0, 1], cf. (1.2))$

$$\|(B_n^*f - f) - (B_n^*g - g)\|_C \leq 3\omega(\delta_n, f - g).$$
(2.10)

In particular, one has the direct approximation estimate

$$\|\boldsymbol{B}_{n}^{*}f - f\|_{C} \leq 3\omega(\delta_{n}, f).$$

$$(2.11)$$

Proof. Let us first note that (cf. [2, p. 26])

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n} p_{kn}(x) = 1, \qquad (2.12)$$

$$\sum_{|k/n-x|>\delta_n} p_{kn}(x) \leqslant \delta_n/108.$$
(2.13)

For $x \in [0, 1]$ one has in view of (2.8) for $0 \le k \le n$, $v \in E_{kn}$,

$$\begin{split} |v-x| \leqslant |v-k/n| + |k/n-x| \leqslant \delta_n + |k/n-x|, \\ |(f(v)-f(x)) - (g(v)-g(x))| \leqslant \omega(\delta_n + |k/n-x|, f-g), \\ |M(E_{kn}, f-f(x)) - M(E_{kn}, g-g(x))| \leqslant \omega(\delta_n + |k/n-x|, f-g). \end{split}$$

Therefore (2.10) follows by (2.6), (2.12), (2.13),

$$\begin{split} |(B_{n}^{*}f - f)(x) - (B_{n}^{*}g - g)(x)| \\ &\leq \sum_{k=0}^{n} p_{kn}(x) |M(E_{kn}, f - f(x)) - M(E_{kn}, g - g(x))| \\ &\leq \sum_{|k/n - x| \leq \delta_{n}} p_{kn}(x) \,\omega(2\delta_{n}, f - g) + \sum_{|k/n - x| > \delta_{n}} p_{kn}(x) \,\omega(1, f - g) \\ &\leq \omega(2\delta_{n}, f - g) + (\delta_{n}/108) \,\omega(1, f - g) \leq 3\omega(\delta_{n}, f - g), \end{split}$$

the latter inequality being a consequence of (cf. [12, p. 99])

$$\omega(s, f)/s \leq 2\omega(t, f)/t \qquad (0 < t < s).$$

Thus $B_n^* f - f$ is continuous, and (2.11) follows by setting g = 0 (cf. (2.5)).

To compare B_n , B_n^* (in pointwise sense) one may proceed analogously to deduce

THEOREM 2.3. Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $x \in [0, 1]$, and $f \in C[0, 1]$. Then (1.3) holds true.

Proof. Since $|f(v) - f(k/n)| \le \omega(\delta_n, f)$ for $0 \le k \le n$, $v \in E_{kn}$, one obtains in view of (2.6), (2.8),

$$|M(E_{kn}, f) - f(k/n)| \le \omega(\delta_n, f)$$

so that (1.3) follows, noting that by (2.12)

$$|(B_n^*f - B_n f)(x)| \leq \sum_{k=0}^n |M(E_{kn}, f) - f(k/n)| p_{kn}(x) \leq \omega(\delta_n, f).$$

Of course, (1.3) does not deliver direct comparison estimates of B_n and B_n^* on account of the additional term $\omega(\delta_n, f)$. However, in the following section it will be shown that these inequalities cannot be strengthened to the form (1.4).

3. CONDENSATION OF SINGULARITIES WITH RATES

Let ω be a positive function on $(0, \infty)$ such that (0 < s < t)

(i)
$$\omega(s) \leq \omega(t)$$
, (ii) $\lim_{t \to 0+} \omega(t) = 0$, (3.1)

(i)
$$s/\omega(s) \le t/\omega(t)$$
, (ii) $\lim_{t \to 0+} t^{1/3}/\omega(t) = 0$ (3.2)

(e.g., $\omega(t) = t^{\alpha}$, $0 < \alpha < \frac{1}{3}$). Moreover, let $A_{\omega} = \{A_n\}$, $A_{\omega}^* = \{A_n^*\}$ be positive sequences tending to infinity such that

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} A_n / n^{1/2} \omega(1/n) = 0,$$
 (3.3)

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} A_n^* / n^{1/3} \omega(1/n) = 0$$
 (3.4)

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(e.g., $A_n = (n^{1/2}\omega(1/n))^{\beta}$, $A_n^* = (n^{1/3}\omega(1/n))^{\gamma}$, $0 < \beta$, $\gamma < 1$). The following theorem establishes the sharpness of (2.11) (cf. (3.5), (3.6)) as well as the nonvalidity of (1.4) (cf. (3.7), (3.8)), pointwise on a residual set in [0, 1]. Recall that Λ is a residual set in [0, 1] if it is the complement of a set of first (Baire) category. Then Λ is dense and of second (Baire) category by Baire's theorem.

THEOREM 3.1. For any ω , A_{ω} , A_{ω}^* subject to (3.1)–(3.4), respectively, there exists a function $f_{\omega} \in C[0, 1]$ and a residual set $A_{\omega} \subset [0, 1]$ such that for each $x \in A_{\omega}$

$$\omega(t, f_{\omega}) \leq 4\omega(t) \qquad (t > 0), \tag{3.5}$$

$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} |(B_n^* f_\omega - f_\omega)(x)| / \omega(\delta_n) \ge 1,$$
(3.6)

$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{|(B_n^* f_\omega - f_\omega)(x)|}{|(B_n f_\omega - f_\omega)(x)|} \frac{1}{A_n} \ge 1,$$
(3.7)

$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{|(B_n f_\omega - f_\omega)(x)|}{|(B_n^* f_\omega - f_\omega)(x)|} \frac{1}{A_n^*} \ge 1.$$
(3.8)

The proof of this theorem is based on the following condensation principle with rates developed in [13; 14] by means of Baire category arguments (here it is quoted for the particular Banach space C[0, 1]): let Ibe a countable index set, let Λ_i , $i \in I$, be dense, countable subsets of [0, 1], and set

Lip 1 := {
$$f \in C[0, 1]$$
: $\omega(t, f) = \mathcal{O}_f(t), t \to 0 +$ }.

For $i \in I$ consider sequences $\{T_{ni}\}, \{V_{ni}\}\$ of continuous operators on C[0, 1] into itself (not necessarily sublinear).

THEOREM 3.2. Let $h_{ni} \in \text{Lip 1}$ be given such that for each $i \in I$, $x \in \Lambda_i$, $f \in \text{Lip 1}$ $(M > 0, 0 < c_i \leq \infty, 0 < b_i < \infty, 0 < \varphi_{ni} = \varphi_i(1)$ for $n \to \infty$)

$$\sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \|h_{ni}\|_{C} =: N_{i} < \infty, \tag{3.9}$$

$$\omega(t, h_{ni}) \leq M \min\{1, t/\varphi_{ni}\} \qquad (n \in \mathbb{N}, t > 0), \tag{3.10}$$

$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} |[T_{ni}(\omega(\varphi_{ni}) h_{ni} + f)](x)| / \omega(\varphi_{ni}) \ge c_i, \qquad (3.11)$$

$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} |[V_{ni}(\omega(\varphi_{ni}) h_{ni} + f)](x)| / \omega(\varphi_{ni}) \leq b_i.$$
(3.12)

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Then there exists $f_{\omega} \in C[0, 1]$ and a residual set $\Lambda_{\omega} \subset [0, 1]$ such that for each $x \in \Lambda_{\omega}$,

$$\omega(t, f_{\omega}) \leq M\omega(t) \qquad (t > 0), \tag{3.13}$$

$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{|T_{ni} f_{\omega}(x)|}{\max\{b_i \omega(\varphi_{ni}), |V_{ni} f_{\omega}(x)|\}} \ge \frac{c_i}{b_i}.$$
(3.14)

Proof of Theorem 3.1. Consider the dense countable index sets $(I = \{1, 2, 3\})$

$$\begin{split} &\Lambda_1 = \big\{ 6p/q \in (0, 1) \colon p, \, q \in \mathbb{N} \big\}, \qquad \Lambda_2 = \big\{ p/2^q \in (0, 1) \colon p, \, q \in \mathbb{N} \big\}, \\ &\Lambda_3 = \big\{ (p+1/4)/5^q \in (0, 1) \colon p, \, q \in \mathbb{N} \big\}, \end{split}$$

and the continuous operators (cf. Theorem 2.2)

$$T_{n1}f = B_n^* f - f, \qquad V_{n1}f = 0,$$

$$T_{n2}f = B_{2^n}^* f - f, \qquad V_{n2}f = A_{2^n}(B_{2^n}f - f),$$

$$T_{n3}f = B_{5^n}f - f, \qquad V_{n3}f = A_{5^n}^*(B_{5^n}^*f - f).$$

To construct the elements h_{ni} consider the 1-periodic function H given by $H(v) = 4 |v|, |v| \le \frac{1}{2}$, so that H is continuous with $0 \le H(v) \le 2$. Then one has for $0 \le u \le 1$, $a \in \mathbb{R}$ by substituting $z = v - a - \frac{1}{2}$

$$m(u; [a, a+1], H(v)) = m(u; [-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}], H(z)) = 1 - u/2.$$
 (3.15)

Moreover, for $a \in (q-1, q]$, $q \in \mathbb{N}$, it follows that

$$m(u; [-a, a], H) = 2m(u; [0, a], H)$$

= 2 $\sum_{p=1}^{q-1} m(u; [p-1, p], H) + 2m(u; [q-1, a], H)$
 $\leq 2(q-1)(1-u/2) + 2 < 2a(1-u/2) + 2$

or

$$\geq 2(q-1)(1-u/2) \geq 2a(1-u/2)-2.$$
 (3.16)

Next we will show that $(x \in (0, 1), n \to \infty)$,

$$[B_n^*H(nv)](x) = 1 + \mathcal{O}(n^{-1/3}), \qquad (3.17)$$

$$[B_n^* H(v/2\delta_n)](x) = 1 + \mathcal{O}(n^{-1/3}).$$
(3.18)

To this end, let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ be such that $2\delta_n \le x \le 1 - 2\delta_n$. Consider first those k with $\delta_n \le k/n \le 1 - \delta_n$. Then one obtains with z = nv - k and (3.16)

$$m\left(1+\frac{2}{3}\left(-1\right)^{r}n^{-2/3}; E_{kn}, H(nv)\right)$$

= $\frac{1}{n}m\left(1+\frac{2}{3}\left(-1\right)^{r}n^{-2/3}; \left[-3n^{2/3}, n^{2/3}\right], H(z)\right) \begin{cases} <\delta_{n}, r=0, \\ \ge\delta_{n}, r=1, \end{cases}$

which implies by (2.3), (2.4),

$$1 - \frac{2}{3}n^{-2/3} \leq M(E_{kn}, H(nv)) < 1 + \frac{2}{3}n^{-2/3}.$$

For the other k one has $|k/n - x| \ge \delta_n$ so that in view of (2.12), (2.13),

$$[B_n^*H(nv)](x) = 1 + \mathcal{O}(n^{-2/3}) + \mathcal{O}\left(\sum_{|k/n-x| \ge \delta_n} p_{kn}(x)\right) = 1 + \mathcal{O}(n^{-1/3}).$$

Similarly one obtains (3.18) since with $z = v/2\delta_n$ and (3.15)

$$m(u; E_{kn}, H(v/2\delta_n)) = 2\delta_n m(u; [k/6n^{2/3} - \frac{1}{2}, k/6n^{2/3} + \frac{1}{2}], H(z))$$

= $(1 - u/2)$ meas E_{kn} ,
$$M(E_{kn}, H(v/2\delta_n)) = 1 \qquad (\delta_n \le k/n \le 1 - \delta_n).$$

Now set $h_{ni}(v) = H(v/\varphi_{ni})$ with

$$\varphi_{n1} = 2\delta_n, \qquad \varphi_{n2} = 2^{-n}, \qquad \varphi_{n3} = 5^{-n}$$

so that (3.9) follows with $N_i = 2$ and (3.10) with M = 4. To verify (3.11), (3.12), $b_i = c_i = 1$ (the situation for V_{n1} is trivial) consider first the (linear) Bernstein polynomials. Let $x = p/2^q \in A_3$ and $n \ge q$. Then

$$h_{n2}(x) = H(p2^{n-q}) = 0, (3.19)$$

in particular, $h_{n2}(k/2^n) = 0$ so that $(V_{n2}h_{n2})(x) = 0$. In view of (cf. [2, p. 27])

$$|(B_n f - f)(x)| \leq \frac{3}{2}\omega(n^{-1/2}, f) = \mathcal{O}(n^{-1/2}) \qquad (f \in \text{Lip 1})$$
(3.20)

and (3.3) this yields (3.12) since

$$|[V_{n2}(\omega(\varphi_{n2}) h_{n2} + f)(x)]| / \omega(\varphi_{n2}) \leq |(V_{n2}f)(x)| / \omega(\varphi_{n2}) = o(1).$$

On the other hand, for $x = (p + 1/4)/5^q \in \Lambda_3$ one has $(n \ge q + 1)$

$$x/\varphi_{n3} = p5^{n-q} + \sum_{j=0}^{n-q-1} 5^j + \frac{1}{4} = :K_n + \frac{1}{4},$$

$$h_{n3}(x) = H(K_n + \frac{1}{4}) = H(\frac{1}{4}) = 1$$
(3.21)

so that $|(T_{n3}h_{n3})(x)| = 1$, since $h_{n3}(k/5^n) = H(k) = 0$. Thus (3.11) follows by (3.2)(ii), (3.20), since

$$|[T_{n3}(\omega(\varphi_{n3}) h_{n3} + f)](x)|/\omega(\varphi_{n3})| \ge |(T_{n3}h_{n3})(x)| + \mathcal{O}(5^{-n/2}/\omega(5^{-n})) = 1 + o(1).$$

Concerning the metrical means, note first that in view of (2.7), (2.10), (3.2)(ii), (3.4)

$$\begin{split} |[T_{ni}(\omega(\varphi_{ni}) h_{ni} + f)](x)| / \omega(\varphi_{ni}) \\ & \geq \begin{cases} |(T_{n1}h_{n1})(x)| + \mathcal{O}(\delta_n/\omega(2\delta_n)) = |(T_{n1}h_{n1})(x)| + o(1) \\ |(T_{n2}h_{n2})(x)| + \mathcal{O}(2^{-n/3}/\omega(2^{-n})) = |(T_{n2}h_{n2})(x)| + o(1), \end{cases} \\ |[V_{n3}(\omega(\varphi_{n3}) h_{n3} + f)](x)| / \omega(\varphi_{n3}) \\ & \leq |(V_{n3}h_{n3})(x)| + \mathcal{O}(A_{5^n}^* 5^{-n/3}/\omega(5^{-n})) = |(V_{n3}h_{n3})(x)| + o(1). \end{split}$$

Then for $x = 6p/q \in \Lambda_1$ and for the subsequence $n_j = 2^{3j}q^3$ it follows by (3.18) that

$$h_{n,1}(x) = H(6pq2^{j}/pq) = 0,$$
 $(T_{n,1}h_{n,1})(x) = 1 + o(1).$

Moreover, by (3.1)(ii), (3.4), (3.17), (3.19), (3.21),

$$(T_{n_2}h_{n_2})(x) = 1 + o(1) \qquad (x \in \Lambda_2),$$

$$|(V_{n_3}h_{n_3})(x)| = \mathcal{O}(A_{2^n}^* 5^{-n/3}) = o(1) \qquad (x \in \Lambda_3)$$

so that the metrical means also fulfill (3.11), (3.12). Thus (3.13), (3.14) yield the assertions.

Note that (3.7), (3.8) are valid simultaneously for the same x and f_{ω} because the limites superiores may be realized by different subsequences of \mathbb{N} , depending on x.

Finally, let us mention that uniform boundedness and condensation principles (but *without* rates) were developed in [9; 10] for nonlinear operators, too. This led to the definition of asymptotically subadditive operators in [9; 10] whereby the metrical means were one of the typical examples. However, an application was not given there since the operators

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 B_n^* are uniformly bounded on C[0, 1]. But, as it is shown here, the condensation principle Theorem 3.2 can be applied to this process for the Lipschitz class (3.5).

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