

# An improved estimate on the degree of approximation to functions of bounded variation by certain operators

VIJAY GUPTA\*  
AQUIL AHMAD\*\*

University of Roorkee, INDIA

**ABSTRACT.** In [5] Guo introduced a modification  $\hat{M}_n(f, x)$  of the Meyer-König-Zeller operators  $M_n(f, x)$  and gave an estimate on the rate of convergence to  $f$  of the modified operators when  $f$  is a function of bounded variation. In the present paper we establish a sharp estimate on the operators  $\hat{M}_n(f, x)$  using some results in probability theory.

**Keywords and phrases.** Approximation operators, rate of convergence of approximation operators, functions of bounded variation, random variables, probability distributions, moments and means, Bernstein polynomials.

**1991 Mathematics Subject Classification.** Primary 41A30. Secondary 41A36.

## 1. Introduction

For the Meyer-König-Zeller operators (see [3]) one has

$$M_n(f, x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} p_{n,k}(x) f\left(\frac{k}{n+k}\right), \quad p_{n,k}(x) = \binom{n+k-1}{k} x^k (1-x)^n.$$

---

\* Research supported by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, India.

\*\* On Study Leave from Dept. of Mathematics & Statistics, University of Kashmir, Srinagar (J & K), India.

Recently, Guo [5] introduced an integral modification of these operators by

$$\hat{M}_n(f, x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p_{n,k+1}(x) \frac{(n+k-2)(n+k-3)}{(n-2)} \int_0^1 p_{n-2,k-1}(t) f(t) dt. \quad (1.1)$$

Cheng [2] studied the rate of convergence of  $M_n(f, x)$  to  $f(x)$  when  $f$  is a function of bounded variation. Guo ([4], [5]) estimated the rate of convergence of Durrmeyer operators and integrated Meyer-König-Zeller operators  $M_n(f, x)$  using a probabilistic approach.

Guo [5] has also given an estimate for the rate of convergence to  $f$  of  $\hat{M}_n(f, x)$  when  $f$  is function of bounded variation, as below

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $f$  be a function of bounded variation of  $[0, 1]$ ,  $x \in (0, 1)$ . Then, for  $n$  sufficiently large,*

$$|\hat{M}_n(f, x) - \frac{1}{2}\{f(x+) + f(x-)\}| \leq \frac{7}{nx} \sum_{k=1}^n V_{x-x/\sqrt{k}}^{x+(1-x)/\sqrt{k}}(g_x) + \frac{50}{\sqrt{n} x^{3/2}} |f(x+) - f(x-)|,$$

where

$$g_x(t) = \begin{cases} f(t) - f(x+), & x < t \leq 1 \\ 0, & t = x \\ f(t) - f(x-), & 0 \leq t < x, \end{cases}$$

and  $V_a^b(g_x)$  is the total variation of  $g_x$  on  $[a, b]$ .

In the present paper we establish a sharper estimate than the above by using some results in probability theory.

## 2. Auxiliary results

The following results will be needed to prove our main theorem.

**Lemma 2.1.** [1, p. 104 & 110]. (*Berry-Esseen Theorem*). *Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be  $n$  independent and identically distributed (i. i. d) random variables with zero mean and a finite absolute third moment. If  $\rho_2 \equiv E(X_1^2) > 0$ , then*

$$\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |F_n(x) - \varphi(x)| \leq (0.409) \ell_{3,n},$$

where  $F_n$  is the distribution function of  $(X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n)/\sqrt{n\rho_2}$ ,  $\varphi$  is the standard normal distribution function and  $\ell_{3,n}$  is the Liapounov ratio given by

$$\ell_{3,n} = \left( \frac{\rho_3}{\rho_2^{3/2}} \right) n^{-1/2}, \quad \rho_3 = E(|X_1|^3).$$

**Lemma 2.2** [6]. If  $\{\xi_i\}(i = 1, 2, \dots)$  are independent random variables with the same geometric distribution

$$p(\xi_i = k) = x^k(1 - x), \quad x \in (0, 1), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots,$$

then

$$E(\xi_i) = \frac{x}{1 - x}, \quad \rho_2 = E(\xi_i - E(\xi_i))^2 = \frac{x}{(1 - x)^2}$$

and  $\eta_n = \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i$  is a random variable with distribution

$$P(\eta_n = k) = \binom{n+k-1}{k} x^k (1-x)^n. \quad (2.1)$$

**Lemma 2.3.** If  $y$  is a positive valued random variable with a non-degenerate probability distribution then (by Schwarz's inequality)

$$E(y^3) \leq (E(y^2) \cdot E(y^4))^{1/2},$$

provided  $E(y^2), E(y^3)$  and  $E(y^4) < \infty$ .

**Lemma 2.4.** For  $k \in N$  and  $x \in (0, 1)$ ,

$$p_{n,k}(x) \leq 19/(6\sqrt{n} x^{3/2}), \quad n = 1, 2, \dots \quad (2.2)$$

*Proof.* By (2.1) we have

$$\begin{aligned} p_{n,k}(x) &= P(\eta_n = k) = P(k-1 < \eta_n \leq k) \\ &= P\left(\frac{k-1-nx/(1-x)}{\sqrt{nx/(1-x)}} < \frac{\eta_n - nx/(1-x)}{\sqrt{nx/(1-x)}} \leq \frac{k-nx/(1-x)}{\sqrt{nx/(1-x)}}\right), \end{aligned}$$

and using Lemma 2.1 we obtain

$$\left| P(\eta_n = k) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{\frac{k-1-nx/(1-x)}{\sqrt{nx/(1-x)}}}^{\frac{k-nx/(1-x)}{\sqrt{nx/(1-x)}}} e^{-t^2/2} dt \right| < \frac{2(0.409)\rho_3}{\sqrt{n} \rho_2^{3/2}}. \quad (2.3)$$

Next, we estimate  $\rho_3$ . By an easy computation we have

$$\begin{cases} T_0(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x^k(1-x) = 1, \\ T_1(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} kx^k(1-x) = \frac{x}{1-x}, \\ T_2(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k^2x^k(1-x) = \frac{x(1+x)}{(1-x)^2}, \\ T_3(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k^3x^k(1-x) = \frac{x^3+4x^2+x}{(1-x)^3}, \\ T_4(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k^4x^k(1-x) = \frac{x^4+11x^3+11x^2+x}{(1-x)^4}. \end{cases} \quad (2.4)$$

Also, if  $M_r(x) (\equiv \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (k - \frac{x}{1-x})^r x^k (1-x))$  stands for the central moment of order  $r$  about the mean  $\frac{x}{1-x}$ , it is easily checked, by using (2.4), that

$$M_2(x) = \sum_{j=0}^2 \binom{2}{j} T_{2-j}(x) (T_1(x))^j (-1)^j = \frac{x}{(1-x)^2}$$

and that

$$M_4(x) = \sum_{j=0}^4 \binom{4}{j} T_{4-j}(x) (T_1(x))^j (-1)^j = \frac{x^3 + 7x^2 + x}{(1-x)^4}.$$

Thus, in view of Lemma 2.3, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_3 &\leq (M_2(x) \cdot M_4(x))^{1/2} = \left( \frac{x}{(1-x)^2} \cdot \frac{x^3 + 7x^2 + x}{(1-x)^4} \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq \frac{3}{(1-x)^3}, \quad x \in (0, 1). \end{aligned}$$

So, the right hand side of (2.3) is less than  $8/(3\sqrt{n} x^{3/2})$ , and the absolute value of the second term on the left hand side of (2.3) is less than  $(1-x)/\sqrt{2\pi n x}$ , i.e., than  $1/(2\sqrt{n} x^{3/2})$  (as  $1/\sqrt{2\pi} < 1/2$  and  $x \in (0, 1)$ ).

Hence

$$p_{n,k}(x) = P(\eta_n = k) \leq \frac{19}{6\sqrt{n} x^{3/2}}.$$

**Lemma 2.5 [5].** For  $k \geq 1, x \in (0, 1)$  and  $n > 2$ , we have

$$\sum_{j=0}^{k-1} p_{n-1,j}(x) = \frac{(n+k-2)(n+k-3)}{n-2} \int_x^1 p_{n-2,k-1}(t) dt.$$

**Lemma 2.6.** For  $k \geq 1, x \in (0, 1)$  and  $n > 2$ , we have

$$\left| \sum_{j=2}^{k+1} p_{n,j}(x) - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} p_{n-1,j}(x) \right| \leq 19/(6\sqrt{n} x^{3/2}).$$

*Proof.* Since

$$\sum_{j=0}^{k+1} p_{n,j}(x) = P(\eta_n \leq k+1) \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} p_{n-1,j}(x) = P(\eta_{n-1} \leq k-1),$$

Lemma 2.1 gives

$$\left| \sum_{j=0}^{k+1} p_{n,j}(x) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\frac{k+1-nx/(1-x)}{\sqrt{nx/(1-x)}}} e^{-t^2/2} dt \right| < \frac{4}{3\sqrt{n} x^{3/2}}$$

$$\left| \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} p_{n-1,j}(x) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\frac{k-1-(n-1)x/(1-x)}{\sqrt{(n-1)x/(1-x)}}} e^{-t^2/2} dt \right| < \frac{4}{3\sqrt{(n-1)} x^{3/2}}.$$

On the other hand,

$$p_{n,0}(x) + p_{n,1}(x) = o\left(\frac{1}{n}\right).$$

Hence, for  $n$  sufficiently large we have

$$\left| \sum_{j=2}^{k+1} p_{n,j}(x) - \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} p_{n-1,j}(x) \right| < \frac{8}{3\sqrt{n} x^{3/2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{I_{n,k}} e^{-t^2/2} dt$$

$$\leq \frac{19}{6\sqrt{n} x^{3/2}}$$

where  $I_{n,k} = \left[ \frac{k-1-nx/(1-x)}{\sqrt{nx/(1-x)}}, \frac{k-nx/(1-x)}{\sqrt{nx/(1-x)}} \right]$ , and the lemma is proved.

**Lemma 2.7** [5]. For all  $x \in (0, 1)$  and  $n$  sufficiently large we have

$$\hat{M}_n((t-x)^2, x) = \frac{2x(1-x)^2}{n-2} + o\left(\frac{1}{n^2}\right),$$

$$\hat{M}_n((t-x)^4, x) \leq \frac{8}{n^2}.$$

**Lemma 2.8.** Let  $K_n(x, t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(n+k-2)(n+k-3)}{n-2} p_{n,k+1}(x) p_{n-2,k-1}(x)$ .

If  $n$  is sufficiently large, then:

(i) For  $0 \leq y < x$ ,

$$\int_0^y K_n(x, t) dt \leq \frac{3x(1-x)^2}{n(x-y)^2}.$$

(ii) For  $x < z \leq 1$ ,

$$\int_y^1 K_n(x, t) dt \leq \frac{3x(1-x)^2}{n(y-x)^2}.$$

The proof of this lemma easily follows from Lemma 2.7.

### 3. Main result

In this section, we state and prove the following theorem:

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $f$  be a function of bounded variation on  $[0, 1]$ ,  $x \in (0, 1)$ . Then, for sufficiently large  $n$ , we have*

$$\left| \hat{M}_n(f, x) - \frac{1}{2} \{f(x+) + f(x-)\} \right| \leq \frac{7}{nx} \sum_{k=1}^n V_{x-x/\sqrt{k}}^{x+x/\sqrt{k}}(g_x) + \frac{4.75}{\sqrt{n} x^{3/2}} |f(x+) - f(x-)|,$$

where  $g_x(t)$  and  $V_a^b(g_x)$  are defined as in Theorem 1.1.

*Proof.* First

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \hat{M}_n(f, x) - \frac{1}{2} \{f(x+) + f(x-)\} \right| \\ \leq \hat{M}_n(g_x, x) + \frac{1}{2} |f(x+) - f(x-)| \cdot |\hat{M}_n(\text{Sign}(t-x), x)| \end{aligned}$$

Thus, to estimate the left hand side we need estimates for  $\hat{M}_n(g_x, x)$  and  $\hat{M}_n(\text{Sign}(t-x), x)$ .

To estimate  $\hat{M}_n(\text{Sign}(t-x), x)$ , we first decompose it into two parts as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{M}_n(\text{Sign}(t-x), x) &= \int_0^1 \text{Sign}(t-x) K_n(x, t) dt \\ &= \int_x^1 K_n(x, t) dt - \int_0^x K_n(x, t) dt = A_n(x) - B_n(x), \text{ say.} \end{aligned}$$

Making use of Lemma 2.5, we have

$$\begin{aligned} A_n(x) &= \int_x^1 K_n(x, t) dt \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p_{n, k+1}(x) \frac{(n+k-2)(n+k-3)}{n-2} \int_x^1 p_{n-2, k-1}(t) dt \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( p_{n, k+1}(x) \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} p_{n-1, j}(x) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Now, from Lemma 2.6, it follows that

$$\left| A_n(x) - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( p_{n, k+1}(x) \sum_{j=2}^{k+1} p_{n, j}(x) \right) \right| \leq 19/(6\sqrt{n} x^{3/2}).$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } S &= \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left( p_{n,k}(x) \sum_{j=2}^k p_{n,j}(x) \right) \\ &= p_{n,2}p_{n,2} + p_{n,3}(p_{n,2} + p_{n,3}) + \cdots + p_{n,m}(p_{n,2} + p_{n,3} + \cdots + p_{n,m}) + \cdots \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} &(p_{n,2} + p_{n,3} + \cdots + p_{n,m} + \cdots)(p_{n,2} + p_{n,3} + \cdots + p_{n,m} + \cdots) \\ &= p_{n,2}(p_{n,2} + \cdots + p_{n,m} + \cdots) + \cdots + p_{n,m}(p_{n,2} + \cdots + p_{n,m} + \cdots) + \cdots \\ &= 1 + o\left(\frac{1}{n}\right), \end{aligned}$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} &p_{n,2}(p_{n,3} + p_{n,4} + \cdots) + p_{n,3}(p_{n,4} + p_{n,5} + \cdots) + \cdots \\ &\quad + p_{n,m}(p_{n,m+1} + p_{n,m+2} + \cdots) + \cdots \\ &= p_{n,3}p_{n,2} + p_{n,4}(p_{n,2} + p_{n,3}) \\ &\quad + p_{n,5}(p_{n,2} + p_{n,3} + p_{n,4}) + \cdots \\ &= 1 - S + o\left(\frac{1}{n}\right), \end{aligned}$$

Now, we can easily obtain that

$$p_{n,2}^2 + p_{n,3}^2 + \cdots + p_{n,m}^2 + \cdots = 2S - 1 + o\left(\frac{1}{n}\right),$$

and using Lemma 2.4, that

$$\left| S - \frac{1}{2} \right| \leq \frac{19}{12\sqrt{n} x^{3/2}} \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} p_{n,k}(x) + o\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) \leq \frac{19}{12\sqrt{n} x^{3/2}}.$$

Hence

$$\left| A_n(x) - \frac{1}{2} \right| \leq \frac{19}{4\sqrt{n} x^{3/2}}.$$

On the other hand,

$$A_n(x) + B_n(x) = \int_0^1 K_n(x, t) dt = 1 + o\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$$

Therefore,

$$|A_n(x) - B_n(x)| = \left| 2A_n(x) - 1 + o\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) \right| \leq \frac{19}{2\sqrt{n} x^{3/2}}. \quad (3.2)$$

Since the estimate of  $\hat{M}_n(g_x, x)$  is exactly the same as given in [5], we thus have, by using Lemma 2.8, that

$$|\hat{M}_n(g_x, x)| \leq \frac{7}{nx} \sum_{k=1}^n V_{x-x/\sqrt{k}}^{x+(1-x)/\sqrt{k}}(g_x). \quad (3.3)$$

Combining the estimates (3.1)-(3.3), the theorem follows.

*Remark.* It may be shown paralleling [5] that our Theorem 3.1 is essentially the best; i.e., it can not be asymptotically improved.

## References

1. R. N. BHATTACHARYA AND R. R. RAO, *Normal Approximation and Asymptotic Expansions*, Wiley, New York, 1976.
2. F. CHENG, *On the rate of convergence of Bernstein polynomials of functions of bounded variation*, J. Approx. Theory **39** (1983), 259-274.
3. R. A. DEVORE, *The Approximation of Continuous Functions by Positive Linear Operators*, Lecture Notes in Math, Springer, New York, 1972.
4. S. GUO, *On the rate of convergence of the Durrmeyer operator for function of bounded variation*, J. Approx. Theory **51** (1987), 183-192.
5. S. GUO, *Degree of approximation to function of bounded variation by certain operators*, Approx. Theory and its Appl. **4:2** (1988), 9-18.
6. Z. WANG, *Fundamental Theory of Probability and its Applications*, (in chinese), Beijing, 1979.

(Recibido en febrero de 1995)

VIJAY GUPTA & AQUIL AHMAD  
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS  
UNIVERSITY OF ROORKEE  
ROORKEE-247667  
(U. P.), INDIA  
e-mail: aqldxrma@uor.ernet.in