ON THE DIVERGENCE OF HERMITE-FEJÉR TYPE INTERPOLATION WITH EQUIDISTANT NODES

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If f(x) is defined on [-1,1], let $\overline{H}_{1n}(f,x)$ denote the Lagrange interpolation polynomial of degree n (or less) for f which agrees with f at the n+1 equally spaced points $x_{k,n} = -1 + (2k)/n$ ($0 \le k \le n$). A famous example due to S. Bernstein shows that even for the simple function $h(x) \equiv |x|$, the sequence $\overline{H}_{1n}(h,x)$ diverges as $n \to \infty$ for each x in 0 < |x| < 1. A generalisation of Lagrange interpolation is the Hermite-Fejér interpolation polynomial $\overline{H}_{mn}(f,x)$, which is the unique polynomial of degree no greater than m(n+1) - 1 which satisfies $\overline{H}_{mn}^{(p)}(f, x_{k,n}) = \delta_{0,p} f(x_{k,n})$ ($0 \le p \le m - 1, 0 \le k \le n$). In general terms, if m is an even number, the polynomials $\overline{H}_{mn}(f,x)$ seem to possess better convergence properties than the $\overline{H}_{1n}(f,x)$. Nevertheless, D.L. Berman was able to show that for $g(x) \equiv x$, the sequence $\overline{H}_{2n}(g,x)$ diverges as $n \to \infty$ for each x in 0 < |x|. In this paper we extend Berman's result by showing that for any even m, $\overline{H}_{mn}(g,x)$ diverges as $n \to \infty$ for each x in 0 < |x| < 1. Further, we are able to obtain an estimate for the error $|\overline{H}_{mn}(g,x) - g(x)|$.

1. INTRODUCTION

Suppose $-1 \leq x_{0,n} < x_{1,n} < \ldots < x_{n,n} \leq 1$ is an arbitrary system of interpolation nodes. (We shall often write $x_{k,n}$ as x_k .) Let $m \geq 1$ be an integer, and suppose fis a real-valued function defined on [-1,1]. The $(0,1,\ldots,m-1)$ Hermite-Fejér (HF) interpolation polynomial $\overline{H}_{mn}(f,x)$ for f is the unique polynomial of degree at most m(n+1)-1 which satisfies the m(n+1) conditions

$$\begin{cases} \overline{H}_{mn}(f, x_k) = f(x_k) & (k = 0, 1, \dots, n), \\ \overline{H}_{mn}^{(p)}(f, x_k) = 0 & (p = 1, 2, \dots, m - 1; \ k = 0, 1, \dots, n). \end{cases}$$

Note that $\overline{H}_{1n}(f,x)$ is the well-known Lagrange interpolation polynomial for f(x). In 1914, Faber [4] showed that for any system of nodes, there exists a function f(x), continuous on [-1,1], such that $\overline{H}_{1n}(f,x)$ does not converge uniformly to f(x) on [-1,1] as $n \to \infty$. On the other hand, Fejér [5] showed in 1916 that if

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 $x_k = -\cos\left(\left((2k+1)\pi\right)/(2n+2)\right)$ (so the x_k are the zeros of the Chebyshev polynomial $T_{n+1}(x) = \cos\left((n+1)\arccos x\right)$), and if f is continuous on [-1,1], then

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\overline{H}_{2n}(f,x)=f(x),$$

uniformly in [-1,1]. Thus (0,1) HF interpolation seems to possess better convergence properties than Lagrange interpolation.

Fejér's result has prompted many authors to study $(0, 1, \ldots, m-1)$ HF interpolation, particularly when the nodes of interpolation are the zeros of some orthogonal polynomials (such as the Chebyshev polynomials). Much less popular has been a study of $(0, 1, \ldots, m-1)$ HF interpolation based on the equidistant nodes

(1.1)
$$x_{k,n} = x_k = -1 + \frac{2k}{n}$$
 $(k = 0, 1, ..., n)$

One reason for the lack of attention paid to equidistant nodes is a result of Bernstein [2], who showed in 1918 that if $h(x) \equiv |x|$, and the x_k are given by (1.1), then the sequence $\overline{H}_{1n}(h, x)$ diverges as $n \to \infty$ for each x in 0 < |x| < 1. Thus Lagrange interpolation on equidistant nodes diverges for a simple function such as h(x). A quantitative version of Bernstein's result was developed by Byrne, Mills and Smith [3], who showed that if 0 < |x| < 1, then

(1.2)
$$\limsup_{n\to\infty}\frac{1}{n}\log\left|\overline{H}_{1n}(h,x)-h(x)\right|=\frac{1}{2}\left[(1+x)\log(1+x)+(1-x)\log(1-x)\right].$$

(See also Li and Mohapatra [6].)

For (0,1) HF interpolation on the equidistant nodes (1.1), Berman [1] showed in 1958 that even for $g(x) \equiv x$, the sequence $\overline{H}_{2n}(g,x)$ diverges as $n \to \infty$ for each xin 0 < |x| < 1. The only results of this type for $(0,1,\ldots,m-1)$ HF interpolation $(m \ge 3)$ that we have been able to locate in the literature are due to Mendelevič [7]. In particular, Mendelevič showed that if m is even, the $(0,1,\ldots,m-1)$ HF interpolation process based on the equidistant nodes $y_{k,n} = k/n$ $(k = 1, 2, \ldots, n)$ diverges for the function

$$\Psi(x) = \left\{egin{array}{ll} 0 & (0 \leqslant x < 1/2), \ x - 1/2 & (1/2 \leqslant x \leqslant 1), \end{array}
ight.$$

on a set $E \subset [0, 1]$, where E has measure greater than 0.26.

In this paper we shall prove the following theorem that both generalises and quantifies Berman's divergence result, and also provides a simpler example of divergence of $(0,1,\ldots,m-1)$ HF interpolation on equidistant nodes for even m than Mendelevič's example.

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THEOREM 1. Suppose $m \ge 2$ is even, and $g(x) \equiv x$. Then for each x in 0 < |x| < 1, the $(0, 1, \ldots, m-1)$ Hermite-Fejér interpolation polynomials $\overline{H}_{mn}(g, x)$ based on the equidistant nodes

$$x_{k,n} = x_k = -1 + \frac{2k}{n}$$
 $(k = 0, 1, ..., n)$

satisfy

(1.3)

 $\limsup_{n\to\infty}\frac{1}{n}\log\left|\overline{H}_{mn}(g,x)-g(x)\right|=\frac{m}{2}\left[(1+x)\log\left(1+x\right)+(1-x)\log\left(1-x\right)\right].$

The proof of Theorem 1 will be presented in Section 3. We note that since ± 1 are interpolation nodes for all n, then $g(-1) = \overline{H}_{mn}(g, -1)$ and $g(1) = \overline{H}_{mn}(g, 1)$ for all n. Furthermore, since the equidistant nodes are distributed symmetrically about 0, then $\overline{H}_{mn}(f, x)$ is an odd function whenever f(x) is odd. Hence $g(0) = \overline{H}_{mn}(g, 0) = 0$ for all n. Thus Theorem 1 settles the convergence behaviour of $\overline{H}_{mn}(g, x)$ for all x in [-1,1]. We also point out that our proof of Theorem 1 does not readily adapt to the case when $m(\geq 3)$ is an odd number. However, we conjecture that Theorem 1 remains true for all such values of m. (For m = 1, Theorem 1 is false, since $\overline{H}_{mn}(g, x) \equiv g(x)$, although (by (1.2)) it does hold true if g is replaced by $h(x) \equiv |x|$.)

2. PRELIMINARY RESULTS

In this section we introduce further notation and some preliminary results that will be needed for the proof of Theorem 1.

Suppose

(2.1)
$$-1 \leq x_{0,n} < x_{1,n} < \ldots < x_{n,n} \leq 1$$

is a system of interpolatory nodes, and let $m \ge 1$ be an integer. If f(x) is m-1 times differentiable on [-1,1], the $(0,1,\ldots,m-1)$ Hermite interpolation polynomial for fis the unique polynomial $H_{mn}(f,x)$ of degree m(n+1)-1 or less which satisfies

$$H_{mn}^{(p)}(f, x_k) = f^{(p)}(x_k)$$
 $(p = 0, 1, ..., m - 1; k = 0, 1, ..., n).$

 $H_{mn}(f,x)$ can be written in the form

(2.2)
$$H_{mn}(f,x) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} f^{(j)}(x_k) A_{jk}(x),$$

where the polynomials $A_{jk}(x)$ (more precisely, $A_{jkmn}(x)$) are the unique polynomials of degree m(n+1) - 1 or less which satisfy

$$A_{jk}^{(p)}(x_q) = \delta_{jp}\delta_{kq} \qquad (j, p = 0, 1, \dots, m-1; \ k, q = 0, 1, \dots, n).$$

Note that the (0, 1, ..., m-1) HF interpolation polynomial for f can be written as

(2.3)
$$\overline{H}_{mn}(f,x) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} f(x_k) A_{0k}(x).$$

Now, if $g(x) \equiv x$, then $H_{mn}(g, x) \equiv x$. Hence, by (2.2),

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n} x_{k} A_{0k}(x) + \sum_{k=0}^{n} A_{1k}(x) = x$$

for all x in [-1,1], and so by (2.3),

(2.4)
$$x - \overline{H}_{mn}(g,x) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} A_{1k}(x).$$

Thus to prove (1.3) it will suffice to consider $\sum_{k=0}^{n} A_{1k}(x)$.

The following formula for the $A_{jk}(x)$ was developed by Szabados [8, Lemma 1]. Define

(2.5)
$$\omega_n(x) = \prod_{k=0}^n (x - x_k),$$

and put

(2.6)
$$\ell_k(x) = \ell_{kn}(x) = \frac{\omega_n(x)}{\omega'_n(x_k)(x - x_k)} \qquad (k = 0, 1, ..., n)$$

Then

(2.7)
$$A_{jk}(x) = \frac{\ell_k(x)^m}{j!} (x - x_k)^j B_{jk}(x)$$
 $(j = 0, 1, ..., m - 1; k = 0, 1, ..., n),$

where

(2.8)

$$B_{jk}(x) = B_{jkmn}(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{m-j-1} b_{ik}(x-x_k)^i \qquad (j=0,1,\ldots,m-1; \ k=0,1,\ldots,n),$$

and

(2.9)
$$b_{ik} = b_{ikmn} = \frac{\left[\ell_k(x)^{-m}\right]_{x=x_k}^{(i)}}{i!}$$
 $(i = 0, 1, ...; k = 0, 1, ..., n).$

We shall need the following lemma which is also due to Szabados [8, Lemmas 2 and 3].

LEMMA 1. Define

(2.10)
$$a_{ik} = a_{ikmn} = m \sum_{\substack{\nu=0\\\nu\neq k}}^{n} \frac{1}{(x_{\nu} - x_{k})^{i}} \qquad (k = 0, 1, \dots, n; i = 1, 2, \dots),$$

and let $B_{jk}(x)$ and b_{ik} be given by (2.8) and (2.9). Then

(2.11)
$$b_{ik} = \frac{1}{i} \sum_{\nu=1}^{i} a_{\nu k} b_{i-\nu,k} \qquad (k = 0, 1, ..., n; i = 1, 2, ...).$$

Also, there exists a positive number c (depending only on j and m) so that

$$(2.12) B_{jk}(x) \ge c \left(\frac{x-x_k}{x_k-x_{k\pm 1}}\right)^{m-j-1} (-\infty < x < \infty, \ m-j \ odd, \ 0 \le j \le m-1, \ 0 \le k \le n),$$

with one of the signs in $x_{k\pm 1}$.

The formulas and results of this section so far are valid for an arbitrary system (2.1) of nodes. Henceforth we shall assume that the interpolation nodes are the equidistant nodes

(2.13)
$$x_k = -1 + \frac{2k}{n}$$
 $(k = 0, 1, ..., n).$

We now develop an upper bound for $|B_{1k}(x)|$ which, by (2.4) and (2.7), will be useful later when obtaining bounds for $|\overline{H}_{mn}(g,x) - x|$.

LEMMA 2. There exist constants c_{im} (i = 0, 1, ...; m = 1, 2, ...) so that for $n \ge 2$,

(2.14)
$$|b_{ik}| \leq c_{im}(n \log n)^i$$
 $(i = 0, 1, ...; k = 0, 1, ..., n).$

PROOF: From (2.10) and (2.13) we have

$$a_{ik} = m \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^{i} \sum_{\substack{\nu=0\\\nu\neq k}}^{n} \frac{1}{(\nu-k)^{i}} \qquad (k = 0, 1, \dots, n; \ i = 1, 2, \dots),$$
$$|a_{ik}| \leq m \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^{i} \times 2 \sum_{r=1}^{n} \frac{1}{r^{i}} \leq m n^{i} \sum_{r=1}^{n} \frac{1}{r^{i}}.$$

Thus there exist constants c_m (independent of n) so that

(2.15)
$$|a_{ik}| \leq \begin{cases} c_m n \log n & (i = 1; k = 0, 1, ..., n), \\ c_m n^i & (i = 2, 3, ...; k = 0, 1, ..., n). \end{cases}$$

We now prove (2.14) by induction on *i*. Since $\ell_k(x_k) = 1$ for all k, (2.9) yields $b_{0k} = 1$ for all k, and so (2.14) holds true for i = 0 if we define $c_{0m} = 1$. If (2.14) holds true for $i = 0, 1, \ldots, r-1$, then by (2.11) and (2.15) we have

$$\begin{aligned} |b_{rk}| &\leq \frac{1}{r} \sum_{\nu=1}^{r} |a_{\nu k}| \ |b_{r-\nu,k}| \\ &\leq \frac{c_m}{r} \left(n \log n \times c_{r-1,m} (n \log n)^{r-1} + \sum_{\nu=2}^{r} n^{\nu} \times c_{r-\nu,m} (n \log n)^{r-\nu} \right) \\ &= \frac{c_m}{r} (n \log n)^r \left(c_{r-1,m} + \sum_{\nu=2}^{r} \frac{c_{r-\nu,m}}{(\log n)^{\nu}} \right) \\ &\leq \frac{c_m}{r} (n \log n)^r \left(c_{r-1,m} + \sum_{\nu=2}^{r} \frac{c_{r-\nu,m}}{(\log 2)^{\nu}} \right). \end{aligned}$$

On defining

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$$c_{rm} = \frac{c_m}{r} \left(c_{r-1,m} + \sum_{\nu=2}^r \frac{c_{r-\nu,m}}{(\log 2)^{\nu}} \right),$$

the lemma is established.

COROLLARY. There exist constants d_m (m = 1, 2, ...) so that for n = 2, 3, ...,(2.16) $|B_{1k}(x)| \leq d_m (n \log n)^{m-2}$ $(k = 0, 1, ..., n; -1 \leq x \leq 1).$

PROOF: Since $|x - x_k| \leq 2$, (2.8) gives

$$|B_{1k}(x)| \leqslant \sum_{i=0}^{m-2} 2^i |b_{ik}|$$

By Lemma 2 we then have

$$|B_{1k}(x)| \leq \sum_{i=0}^{m-2} 2^i c_{im} (n \log n)^i$$
$$\leq d_m (n \log n)^{m-2},$$

where $d_m = \sum_{i=0}^{m-2} 2^i c_{im}$.

We consider next the polynomials $\ell_k(x)$ as defined by (2.5) and (2.6). Upon writing

(2.17)
$$x = x_j + \frac{2\theta}{n} = -1 + \frac{2}{n}(j+\theta),$$

where $0 \leq \theta < 1$, and using (2.13), we obtain

(2.18)
$$\ell_k(x) = \frac{(-1)^{k+j}(\theta)_{j+1}(1-\theta)_{n-j}}{(j+\theta-k)k!(n-k)!}$$

where

$$(a)_{k} = \begin{cases} 1 & (k = 0), \\ a(a + 1) \dots (a + k - 1) & (k = 1, 2, \dots). \end{cases}$$

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The following lemma will be useful in determining the behaviour of the $\ell_k(x)$ for large n.

LEMMA 3. If |x| < 1, and x is given by (2.17) with $0 \le \theta < 1$, define

(2.19)
$$q(x) = q_n(x) = (1+\theta)_j (2-\theta)_{n-j-1}.$$

Then

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \left(\frac{1}{n} \log q(x) - \log n \right) = -1 - \log 2 + \frac{1}{2} \left[(1+x) \log (1+x) + (1-x) \log (1-x) \right].$$

PROOF: Firstly note from (2.17) that

(2.21)
$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{j}{n}=\frac{1+x}{2},$$

and so $j, n - j \rightarrow \infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Now, (2.19) can be written as

$$q(x) = rac{\Gamma(j+1+ heta)\,\Gamma(n+1-j- heta)}{\Gamma(1+ heta)\,\Gamma(2- heta)},$$

and hence, upon using the asymptotic expansion [9, page 252]

(2.22)
$$\log \Gamma(z) = \left(z - \frac{1}{2}\right) \log z - z + \frac{1}{2} \log (2\pi) + O(z^{-1})$$

as $z \to \infty$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{n}\log q(x) \\ &= \left(\frac{j+1/2+\theta}{n}\right)\log\left(j+1+\theta\right) + \left(\frac{n+1/2-j-\theta}{n}\right)\log\left(n+1-j-\theta\right) - 1 + O(n^{-1}) \\ &= \left(\frac{j+1/2+\theta}{n}\right)\log\left(\frac{j+1+\theta}{n}\right) + \left(\frac{n+1/2-j-\theta}{n}\right)\log\left(\frac{n+1-j-\theta}{n}\right) \\ &+ \log n - 1 + O\left(\frac{\log n}{n}\right). \end{aligned}$$

The lemma is then established by letting $n \to \infty$ and using (2.21).

3. PROOF OF THE THEOREM

We now prove Theorem 1. Since $\overline{H}_{mn}(g, x)$ is odd, we can assume without loss of generality that x < 0. Write $x = -1 + 2(j + \theta)/n$, where $0 \le \theta < 1$. By (2.4) and (2.7) we have

$$\left|x-\overline{H}_{mn}(g,x)\right|=\left|\sum_{k=0}^{n}\ell_{k}(x)^{m}B_{1k}(x)(x-x_{k})\right|.$$

Now, from (2.12), $B_{1k}(x) > 0$ for all x, and so

sgn
$$[\ell_k(x)^m B_{1k}(x)(x-x_k)] = \begin{cases} +1 & (j \ge k), \\ -1 & (j < k). \end{cases}$$

Therefore, on putting n' = [n/2], we obtain

(3.1)
$$\ell_{n'}(x)^{m}B_{1n'}(x)(x_{n'}-x) - \left(\sum_{k=0}^{j}\ell_{k}(x)^{m}B_{1k}(x)(x-x_{k})\right)$$
$$\leq |x-\overline{H}_{mn}(g,x)| \leq \sum_{k=0}^{n}\ell_{k}(x)^{m}B_{1k}(x)|x-x_{k}|.$$

We work firstly with the right hand side of (3.1). Since $|x - x_k| \leq 2$, and $k!(n-k)! \geq (n')!(n-n')!$, we have from (2.16) and (2.18),

$$\left|x-\overline{H}_{mn}(g,x)\right| \leqslant \frac{2d_m(n\log n)^{m-2}}{\left((n')!(n-n')!\right)^m} \sum_{k=0}^n \left(\frac{(\theta)_{j+1}(1-\theta)_{n-j}}{j+\theta-k}\right)^m.$$

Now $(heta(1- heta))/(|j+ heta-k|)\leqslant 1$ for all k, and so

$$\left|\boldsymbol{x}-\overline{H}_{mn}(g,\boldsymbol{x})\right| \leq 2d_m(n+1)(n\log n)^{m-2} \left(\frac{(1+\theta)_j(2-\theta)_{n-j-1}}{(n')!(n-n')!}\right)^m.$$

Thus, with q(x) given by (2.19), we have

(3.2)
$$\frac{1}{n} \log |x - \overline{H}_{mn}(g, x)| \leq \frac{m}{n} \log \left(\frac{q(x)}{(n')!(n-n')!} \right) + O\left(\frac{\log n}{n} \right).$$

From (2.22) it follows that

(3.3)
$$\frac{1}{n}\log((n')!(n-n')!) = \log n - \log 2 - 1 + O\left(\frac{\log n}{n}\right).$$

Hence, by (2.20), we can conclude from (3.2) that

$$(3.4) \limsup_{n\to\infty} \frac{1}{n} \log \left| x - \overline{H}_{mn}(g,x) \right| \leq \frac{m}{2} \left[(1+x) \log \left(1+x\right) + (1-x) \log \left(1-x\right) \right].$$

Next consider the summation term on the left hand side of (3.1). Since $\lim_{n\to\infty} j/n = (1+x)/2 < 1/2$, there exists a number $\alpha < 1/2$ so that $j < \alpha n$ for all n large enough. Then, because $k!(n-k)! = \Gamma(k+1)\Gamma(n-k+1) > \Gamma(\alpha n+1)\Gamma((1-\alpha)n+1)$ for $0 \leq n$ $k \leq j$, we have (as with the derivation of (3.2)),

$$\frac{1}{n}\log\left|\sum_{k=0}^{j}\ell_{k}(x)^{m}B_{1k}(x)(x-x_{k})\right| \leq \frac{m}{n}\log\left(\frac{q(x)}{\Gamma(\alpha n+1)\Gamma((1-\alpha)n+1)}\right) + O\left(\frac{\log n}{n}\right).$$

By (2.22) we can write

$$\frac{1}{n}\log\left(\Gamma(\alpha n+1)\,\Gamma((1-\alpha)n+1)\right) = \log n + \log\left(\alpha^{\alpha}(1-\alpha)^{1-\alpha}\right) - 1 + O\left(\frac{\log n}{n}\right),$$

and so by (2.20) we have (3.5)

$$\limsup_{n\to\infty}\frac{1}{n}\log\left(\sum_{k=0}^{j}\ell_{k}(x)^{m}B_{1k}(x)(x-x_{k})\right)$$
$$\leqslant\frac{m}{2}\left[(1+x)\log\left(1+x\right)+(1-x)\log\left(1-x\right)\right]+km,$$

where $k = -\log 2 - \log \left(\alpha^{\alpha} (1-\alpha)^{1-\alpha} \right) < 0$.

It remains to consider the expression $\ell_{n'}(x)^m B_{1n'}(x)(x_{n'}-x)$ on the left hand side of (3.1). Because $|x_{n'} - x_{n'\pm 1}| = 2/n$, (2.12) gives

$$B_{1n'}(x) \ge c \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^{m-2} (x_{n'}-x)^{m-2} = c(n'-j-\theta)^{m-2},$$

where c depends only on m. Thus

(3.6)
$$\ell_{n'}(x)^m B_{1n'}(x)(x_{n'}-x) \ge \frac{2c}{n(n'-j-\theta)} \left(\frac{q(x)}{(n')!(n-n')!}\right)^m (\theta(1-\theta))^m$$

By Berman [1, Lemma 1] for each x there exists an increasing sequence $\{k_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ of positive integers, and a number a(x) with 0 < a(x) < 1/2, such that if we write

$$x=-1+\frac{2}{k_n}(j+\theta),$$

where $0 \leq \theta < 1$, then $a(x) \leq \theta \leq 1 - a(x)$ for all *n*. Hence we can assume $\theta(1-\theta)$ has a positive lower bound, and then, on using $n' - j - \theta \leq n$, (3.6) can be written in the form

$$\ell_{n'}(x)^m B_{1n'}(x)(x_{n'}-x) \geqslant \frac{c'}{n^2} \left(\frac{q(x)}{(n')!(n-n')!} \right)^m,$$

where c' depends only on m. By (2.20) and (3.3) we can conclude that (3.7)

$$\limsup_{n\to\infty}\frac{1}{n}\log\left(\ell_{n'}(x)^{m}B_{1n'}(x)(x_{n'}-x)\right) \ge \frac{m}{2}\left[(1+x)\log\left(1+x\right)+(1-x)\log\left(1-x\right)\right].$$

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To complete the proof of Theorem 1, we observe that the estimates (3.5) and (3.7) for the terms on the left hand side of (3.1) yield

(3.8)
$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log |x - \overline{H}_{mn}(g, x)| \ge \frac{m}{2} \left[(1+x) \log (1+x) + (1-x) \log (1-x) \right].$$

The required statement (1.3) then follows from (3.4) and (3.8).

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