

Zbl 491.41001

Erdős, Paul; Vertesi, P.

On the almost everywhere divergence of Lagrange interpolation. (In English)
Approximation and function spaces, Proc. int. Conf., Gdansk 1979, 270- 278 (1981).

[For the entire collection see Zbl 471.00018.]

In a previously published paper, *P. Erdős* [Acta Math. Acad. Sci. Hung. 9, 381-388 (1958; Zbl 083.29001)] stated without proof that if $(x_{kn})_{1 \leq k \leq n, 1 \leq n}$ denotes a triangular matrix of knots in the compact interval $I = [-1, +1]$ ordered such that $x_{n,n} < x_{n-1,n} < \dots < x_{1,n}$ ($n \geq 1$) holds then there exists a continuous function $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that the sequence $(L_n f)_{n \geq 1}$ of Lagrange interpolation polynomials $L_n = \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n} f(x_{kn}) \ell_{kn}$ diverges almost everywhere in I . In fact $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} |L_n f(x)| = \infty$ for almost all $x \in I$. The authors give a brief account of the preliminary results in this direction (G. Faber, S. Bernstein, G. Grünwald, J. Marcinkiewicz, A. A. Privalov, P. Turán, P. Erdős) and point out a sketch of the proof. The detailed proof is rather long and quite complicated, although it uses only elementary techniques. One of its important ingredients is the following result: Lemma. Let $A > 0$ be an arbitrary fixed number and consider an arbitrary integer $m \geq m_0(A)$. For any integer $n \geq n_0(m)$ exists a set $H_n \subset I$ for which $\text{meas}(H_n) \leq 1/\ln \ln m$ and

$$\sum_{\substack{1 \leq k \leq n \\ x_k \notin I_{j(x),n}}} |\ell_{kn}(x)| \geq (\ln m)^{1/3} \text{geq} 2A \quad (n \geq n_0(m))$$

where $I_{j(x),m}$ denotes that interval of the equivalent partition of I in m subintervals which contains the point $x \in I \setminus H_n$. — Details of the proof (about 300 pages) will be published in a paper to appear in Acta Math. Acad. Sci. Hung.

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Classification:

41A05 Interpolation

Keywords:

almost everywhere divergence; triangular matrix of knots; Lagrange interpolation polynomials