

THE CONSTRAINED COEFFICIENT PROBLEM FOR TYPICALLY REAL FUNCTIONS⁽¹⁾

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ABSTRACT. Let $-2 \leq c \leq 2$. In this paper we find the precise upper and lower bounds on the n th Taylor coefficient a_n of functions $f(z) = z + cz^2 + \sum_{k=3}^{\infty} a_k z^k$ typically real in the unit disk for $n = 3, 4, \dots$. In addition all the extremal functions are identified.

Let $|c| \leq 2$, and denote by $S(c)$ the collection of all functions $f(z) = z + cz^2 + \sum_{k=3}^{\infty} a_k z^k$ analytic and univalent in the unit disk $D = \{z \mid |z| < 1\}$. This class has been studied by Gronwall [9], [10], Nevanlinna [15], Lebedev and Milin [13], Goluzin [7], and Jenkins [11]. More recently Jenkins [1, pp. 159–174] solved the problem of maximizing $|a_n|$, where $f(z) = z + cz^2 + \sum_{k=3}^{\infty} a_k z^k \in S(c)$, for the case $n = 3$. This problem has not been solved for any $n \geq 4$.

The purpose of this paper is to give a complete solution to the analogous constrained coefficient problem for a much simpler class of functions, namely, the typically real functions.

Definition 1. A function $f(z) = z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_k z^k$ analytic in the unit disk D is said to be *typically real* provided $f(z)$ is real if and only if z is real. The class of typically real functions will be denoted by T , and for each c , $-2 \leq c \leq 2$, we call $T(c)$ the collection of all functions $f(z) = z + cz^2 + \sum_{k=3}^{\infty} a_k z^k \in T$.

Rogosinski [18], [19] introduced the class T and established many of its important properties. He showed that if $f(z) = z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_k z^k \in T$, then $|a_n| \leq n$, $n = 2, 3, \dots$. For other proofs of this theorem see [4] and [21]. Robertson [17] used Rogosinski's results to show that each function in T can be represented in the form

$$(1) \quad f(z) = \int_0^\pi \frac{z}{1 - 2z \cos \theta + z^2} d\alpha(\theta),$$

where α is nondecreasing in $[0, \pi]$, and $\alpha(0) = 0$, $\alpha(\pi) = 1$.

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The class $T(c)$ was first studied by Jenkins [12], who found the domain of variability of $f(z)$ and $f'(z)$ when $f \in T(c)$ and z is real. Later Bielecki, Krzyż, and Lewandowski [3] generalized the result for arbitrary z ; Alenicyn [2] solved the same problem for $f(z)$ by a different method. Using the results of Alenicyn, Goluzina [8] obtained sharp bounds for $|f(z)|$, $\arg f(z)$, $\operatorname{Re} f(z)$, and $\operatorname{Im} f(z)$ when $f \in T(c)$.

The next result we shall need appears in [3] and [14].

Theorem 1. *Let Ψ be real-valued and continuous on $[0, \pi]$. Then the functional Φ defined on (1) by*

$$\Phi(f) = \int_0^\pi \Psi(\theta) d\alpha(\theta)$$

assumes its minimum and maximum values in $T(c)$ for a function of the form

$$(2) \quad f(z) = \frac{c-t}{s-t} \frac{z}{1-sz+z^2} + \frac{s-c}{s-t} \frac{z}{1-tz+z^2},$$

where $-2 \leq s \leq c \leq t \leq 2$. If $s = t = c$ we interpret (2) to mean $f(z) = z/(1-cz+z^2)$.

A computation shows that if $f(z) = z + \sum_{k=2}^\infty a_k z^k \in T(c)$ is given by (1), then

$$(3) \quad a_n = \int_0^\pi \frac{\sin n\theta}{\sin \theta} d\alpha(\theta), \quad n = 3, 4, \dots$$

Hence we will study a collection of polynomials that are geometrically similar to the functions $\theta \rightarrow \sin n\theta/\sin \theta$. Our determination of the best upper and lower bounds for a_n , $n = 3, 4, \dots$, will be divided into four parts:

- I. Discussion of the geometrical properties of our collection of polynomials;
- II. Solution of the problem when $|c|$ is small;
- III. Solution of the problem when $|c|$ is near 2;
- IV. Uniqueness of the extremal functions.

Part I. Polynomial geometry. The so-called Chebyshev polynomials of the second kind, denoted by $u_m(x)$, $m = 1, 2, \dots$, satisfy $u_m(\theta) = (\sin(m+1)\theta)/\sin \theta$ for each real θ ; for several properties of these polynomials, see [22]. We shall deal with a similar collection of monic polynomials.

Definition 2. For each n , $n = 1, 2, \dots$, set

$$r = \left[\frac{n-1}{2} \right], \quad P_n(t) = \sum_{k=0}^r (-1)^k \binom{n-k-1}{k} t^{n-2k-1},$$

where t is real.

Definition 3. Denote by c_n the largest critical point of $P_n(t)$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$.

The next lemma establishes several useful characteristics of these polynomials.

Lemma 1. *The $\{P_n(t)\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ have the following properties:*

- (i) P_n is $\begin{smallmatrix} \text{even} \\ \text{odd} \end{smallmatrix}$ if n is $\begin{smallmatrix} \text{odd} \\ \text{even} \end{smallmatrix}$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$
- (ii) $P_n(2 \cos \theta) = (\sin n\theta)/\sin \theta$ for each $\theta \in [-\pi, \pi]$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$
- (iii) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \{P_n(t)\}z^n = z/(1 - tz + z^2)$ for all $z \in D$, $t \in [-2, 2]$.
- (iv) If c and d are critical points of $P_n(t)$ in $[0, \infty)$ and $c < d$, then $|P_n(0)| < |P_n(c)| < |P_n(d)| < P_n(2) = n$, $n = 4, 5, \dots$
- (v) $P_n(c_n) = \min_{t \in [0, 2]} P_n(t)$, and P_n is concave upward in $[c_n, \infty)$, $n = 3, 4, \dots$
- (vi) If $n \geq 4$ is even, then $|P_n(t)| < \frac{1}{2}n|t|$ for all $t \in [-2, 2]$. Equality holds only for $t = 0$, $t = \pm 2$.

Proof. Part (i) is trivial. Next,

$P_1(t) = 1$, $P_2(t) - tP_1(t) = 0$, $P_n(t) = tP_{n-1}(t) - P_{n-2}(t)$, $n = 3, 4, \dots$;
hence the identity $\sin n\theta = 2 \cos \theta \sin(n-1)\theta - \sin(n-2)\theta$ proves part (ii) by induction. Note that $\sin n\theta/\sin \theta = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} e^{i(2k-n+1)\theta}$, hence

$$(4) \quad |(\sin n\theta)/\sin \theta| < n, \text{ equality if and only if } \theta = k\pi \text{ for some integer } k.$$

Hence $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P_n(t)z^n$ converges absolutely in D for each fixed $t \in [-2, 2]$.

Thus $(1 - tz + z^2) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P_n(t)z^n = z$, whence part (iii) follows. Parts (iv) and (v) follow from part (ii) and the properties of the functions $\theta \rightarrow (\sin n\theta)/\sin \theta$ [in particular it should be observed that all critical points of P_n lie in the open interval $(-2, 2)$]. Finally, part (vi) is an easy consequence of (4), therefore Lemma 1 is proven.

The constant concavity of P_n in $[c_n, \infty)$ shall be used in conjunction with the following geometrical result, which can be easily proven analytically: If $y = f(x)$ is a nonlinear polynomial in a neighborhood of $[a, b]$, and if the line through the points $(a, f(a))$ and $(b, f(b))$ is tangent to $y = f(x)$ at $x = a$, then f cannot have constant concavity in (a, b) .

We can now apply Theorem 1 to the constrained coefficient problem. Set

$$H_n(s, t) = \frac{c-t}{s-t} P_n(s) + \frac{s-c}{s-t} P_n(t), \quad -2 \leq s \leq c \leq t \leq 2,$$

where c is fixed. We agree to write $H_n(c, c) = P_n(c)$.

Lemma 2. *If $f(z) = z + cz^2 + \sum_{k=3}^{\infty} a_k z^k \in T(c)$, then a_n satisfies the sharp inequality $\min_{(s,t)} H_n(s, t) \leq a_n \leq \max_{(s,t)} H_n(s, t)$, $n = 3, 4, \dots$*

Proof. In Theorem 1, set $\Psi(\theta) = (\sin n\theta)/\sin \theta$; then by (3) we see that the extremal a_n occurs for a function of the form (2). However, the n th coefficient

of the function in (2) is clearly $H_n(s, t)$, by Lemma 1. Consequently Lemma 2 follows.

In theory, Lemma 2 allows us to find the exact bounds on a_n for each n . In practice, however, determination of the minimum and maximum values of $H_n(s, t)$ is a nontrivial task. It turns out that when the value $|c|$ is sufficiently small we can solve our problem by exploiting the geometric properties of the polynomials $P_n(t)$ in Lemma 1; we can thus avoid working with $H_n(s, t)$ in this case. However, when $|c|$ is near 2, we will be forced to appeal to Lemma 2, which necessitates computation of the absolute minimum and maximum of $H_n(s, t)$ in the rectangle $-2 \leq s \leq c \leq t \leq 2$.

Part II. Solution for small $|c|$. We turn first to the odd coefficients.

Lemma 3. Let $n \geq 3$ be odd and $f(z) = z + cz^2 + \sum_{k=3}^{\infty} a_k z^k \in T(c)$.

(i) We have $a_n \leq n$, with equality if and only if

$$f(z) = \frac{2+c}{4} \frac{z}{(1-z)^2} + \frac{2-c}{4} \frac{z}{(1+z)^2}.$$

(ii) If in addition $|c| \leq c_n$, then $a_n \geq P_n(c_n)$. Equality holds if and only if

$$(5) \quad f(z) = \frac{c_n + c}{2c_n} \frac{z}{1 - c_n z + z^2} + \frac{c_n - c}{2c_n} \frac{z}{1 + c_n z + z^2}.$$

Before proving this lemma we note that (5) can be written as

$$f(z) = \frac{z(1 + cz + z^2)}{(1 - c_n z + z^2)(1 + c_n z + z^2)};$$

hence if $c_n = 0$, we interpret (5) to mean that $f(z) = z/(1 + z^2)$.

Proof. Choose α so that (1) holds. Then (3) and (4) show that $a_n \leq n$ for any function $f \in T$, with equality only for $f(z) = \lambda z/(1 - z)^2 + (1 - \lambda)z/(1 + z)^2$, where $\lambda \in [0, 1]$. In our case we must have $a_2 = 2\lambda - 2(1 - \lambda) = c$, and part (i) follows. Next, by Lemma 1, $a_n = \int_0^\pi P_n(2 \cos \theta) d\alpha(\theta) \geq P_n(\pm c_n) = P_n(c_n)$, with equality only when α is concentrated at $\pm c_n$. That is, if $\theta_n = \cos^{-1}(c_n/2)$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(\theta) &= 0 & \text{if } 0 \leq \theta < \theta_n, \\ &= \lambda_n & \text{if } \theta_n < \theta < \pi - \theta_n, \\ &= 1 & \text{if } \pi - \theta_n < \theta \leq \pi, \end{aligned}$$

where λ_n is some constant. The assumption $|c| \leq c_n$ guarantees that $0 \leq \lambda_n \leq 1$, and the function in (5) clearly results. We have now completed the proof of Lemma 3.

The proof of part (i) can be generalized to show the following result: If $m \geq 2$ is even, $|c| \leq m$, and $f(z) = z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_k z^k \in T$ with $a_m = c$, then $a_n \leq n$, $n = 3, 5, \dots$. Equality holds if and only if

$$f(z) = \frac{m+c}{2m} \frac{z}{(1-z)^2} + \frac{m-c}{2m} \frac{z}{(1+z)^2}.$$

Hence if n is odd, the maximum value of the n th coefficient is not affected by the behavior of any single even coefficient!

The study of even coefficients for fixed a_2 is more complicated.

Definition 4. If $n \geq 4$ is even, put $F_n(t) = (P_n(t) + n)/(t+2)$, $t \in [0, 2]$.

By part (v) of Lemma 1, we are able to conclude that $F_n(t)$ attains its minimum in $[0, 2]$ at one point only.

Definition 5. We call r_n the unique number in $[0, 2]$ which satisfies $F_n(r_n) = \min_{t \in [0, 2]} F_n(t)$.

It easily follows that $c_n < r_n < 2$. Furthermore, if we denote by L the collection of all lines tangent to the curve $y = P_n(t)$ which pass through the point $(-2, -n)$, then the line through the points $(-2, -n)$ and $(r_n, P_n(r_n))$ is the element of L with minimal slope.

We can now partially solve our problem for even coefficients. In doing so we shall motivate the two definitions above.

Lemma 4. Let $n \geq 4$ be even and $f(z) = z + cz^2 + \sum_{k=3}^{\infty} a_k z^k \in T(c)$. Then

$$(c+2)F_n(r_n) - n \leq a_n \leq (c-2)F_n(r_n) + n.$$

Equality holds on the left if and only if $-2 \leq c \leq r_n$ and

$$f(z) = \frac{r_n - c}{r_n + 2} \frac{z}{(1+z)^2} + \frac{c+2}{r_n + 2} \frac{z}{1 - r_n z + z^2},$$

while equality holds on the right if and only if $-r_n \leq c \leq 2$ and

$$f(z) = \frac{r_n + c}{r_n + 2} \frac{z}{(1-z)^2} + \frac{2-c}{r_n + 2} \frac{z}{1 + r_n z + z^2}.$$

Proof. Define a function g on $[0, 2]$ by $g(t) = P_n(t) - F_n(r_n)t$. By computing $F'_n(t)$, we see that $g'(r_n) = 0$. Furthermore, part (v) of Lemma 1 guarantees that $g'(t)$ is increasing in $[c_n, 2]$ and that $\min_{t \in [0, 2]} g(t) = \min_{t \in [c_n, 2]} g(t)$. Hence by definition of $F_n(t)$,

$$(6) \quad \min_{t \in [0, 2]} P_n(t) - F_n(r_n)t = -n + 2F_n(r_n),$$

and equality holds only for $t = r_n$. In particular, we see that $n - 2F_n(r_n) > 0$; thus part (vi) of Lemma 1 yields

$$(7) \quad \max_{t \in [0, 2]} P_n(t) - F_n(r_n)t \leq \max_{t \in [0, 2]} \frac{1}{2}nt - F_n(r_n)t = n - 2F_n(r_n),$$

with equality only for $t = 2$. Combining (6) and (7), we arrive at the inequality

$$(8) \quad \max_{t \in [0, 2]} |P_n(t) - F_n(r_n)t| \leq n - 2F_n(r_n).$$

Now choose α to represent f as in (1). Then

$$a_n = \int_0^\pi (P_n(2 \cos \theta) - 2F_n(r_n) \cos \theta) d\alpha(\theta) + F_n(r_n)c,$$

because $f \in T(c)$. Now $P_n(t)$ is odd, hence (8) yields

$$(9) \quad |a_n - F_n(r_n)c| \leq n - 2F_n(r_n),$$

which is the desired inequality. The maximum in (8) is assumed only at $t = \pm r_n$ and $t = \pm 2$. More explicitly,

$$P_n(-r_n) + F_n(r_n)r_n = P_n(2) - 2F_n(r_n) = n - 2F_n(r_n),$$

$$P_n(r_n) - F_n(r_n)r_n = P_n(-2) + 2F_n(r_n) = 2F_n(r_n) - n.$$

Thus we concentrate α at $+r_n$ and -2 , or at $-r_n$ and $+2$, to achieve equality on the left side or right side of (9), respectively. The indicated extremal functions are clearly the result (note as in Lemma 3 the restrictions on c are necessary to insure that these functions are actually typically real); hence the proof of Lemma 4 is now finished.

A slight modification of an argument due to Schur [20, pp. 130–132] shows that the sequence $\{P_n(c_n)/n\}_{n=3}^\infty$ is strictly increasing, and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P_n(c_n)/n = \cos u_0 = -0.217 \dots$, where u_0 is the unique solution to the equation $u = \tan u$ in $(\pi, 2\pi)$.

Hence

$$(10) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_{2n}(r_{2n})}{2n} = \frac{1 + \cos u_0}{4} = 0.196 \dots,$$

which yields an asymptotic estimate for the magnitude of $F_{2n}(r_{2n})$.

This quantity can be determined explicitly by digital computer programs, and the following table results.

Table 1

Numerical values of $F_n(r_n)$, correct to three decimal places

n	$F_n(r_n)$	n	$F_n(r_n)$	n	$F_n(r_n)$
2	1.000	12	2.416	22	4.342
4	1.000	14	2.797	24	4.730
6	1.313	16	3.182	26	5.119
8	1.668	18	3.567	28	5.508
10	2.038	20	3.954	30	5.898

Part III. Solution for $|c|$ near 2. We have not solved our problem for two cases: n odd, $|c| > c_n$; n even, $|c| > r_n$. Our aim is to show that in these cases the only extremal function is $f(z) = z/(1 - cz + z^2) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} P_k(c)z^k$. We shall show that $H_n(s, t)$ has no absolute minimum in the interior of the rectangle $-2 \leq s \leq c \leq t \leq 2$. The point $s = -2$, $t = +2$ will then be eliminated as a possible minimum point. All other points on the rectangle's boundary correspond to the function given above.

Our first result will apply to both even and odd coefficients.

Lemma 5. Suppose $n \geq 3$, $c_n < c < 2$, $0 < \lambda < 1$, $-2 \leq t_1 < c < t_2 \leq 2$, and $P_n(t_1) \geq P_n(c_n)$. If

$$(11) \quad g(z) = \lambda \frac{z}{1 - t_1 z + z^2} + (1 - \lambda) \frac{z}{1 - t_2 z + z^2} = z + cz^2 + \sum_{k=3}^{\infty} b_k z^k$$

and

$$(12) \quad M_n = \min \left\{ a_n \mid f(z) = z + cz^2 + \sum_{k=3}^{\infty} a_k z^k \in T(c) \right\},$$

then $b_n > M_n$.

Proof. Assume equality holds instead. We easily conclude from parts (iv) and (v) of Lemma 1 that $P_n(t_1) < P_n(t_2)$. Next we claim that $c_n \leq t_1 < c$. For if $t_1 < c_n$, then we could find $s_1 > 0$ so that $P_n(t_1) \geq P_n(t_1 + s_1)$, $c_n \leq t_1 + s_1 < c < t_2$ and $\epsilon > 0$ so that $(1 - \lambda)\epsilon - \lambda s_1 < 0$, $t_1 + s_1 - t_2 + \epsilon < 0$, $P_n(t_2) \geq P_n(t_2 - \epsilon) > P_n(t_1)$, $t_2 - \epsilon \geq c$. But the n th coefficient of the function

$$f_1(z) = \frac{\lambda(t_1 - t_2) + \epsilon}{t_1 + s_1 - t_2 + \epsilon} \frac{z}{1 - (t_1 + s_1)z + z^2} + \frac{s_1 + (1 - \lambda)(t_1 - t_2)}{t_1 + s_1 - t_2 + \epsilon} \frac{z}{1 - (t_2 - \epsilon)z + z^2}$$

is smaller than b_n , a contradiction. Consequently

$$(13) \quad c_n \leq t_1 < c < t_2 \leq 2,$$

as claimed. Now set $b(x) = H_n(x, t_2)$, $-2 < x < c$. By assumption $x = t_1$ is a local minimum of b , thus $P'_n(t_1) = (P_n(t_2) - P_n(t_1))/(t_2 - t_1)$. From the remarks following the proof of Lemma 1, we conclude that $P_n(t)$ cannot have constant concavity in the interval (t_1, t_2) . This fact contradicts (13) and part (v) of Lemma 1, so that the proof is complete.

Corollary 1. *If $n \geq 3$ is odd, $c_n < c < 2$, $0 < \lambda < 1$, $-2 \leq t_1 < c < t_2 \leq 2$, and $g(z)$ is given by (11), then $b_n > M_n$, where M_n is as in (12).*

Proof. By part (i) of Lemma 1, $P_n(t)$ is even; hence the hypotheses of Lemma 5 are satisfied.

The case of even coefficients is more difficult because of the complicated nature of r_n :

Lemma 6. *If $n \geq 4$ is even, $r_n < c < 2$, $0 < \lambda < 1$, $-2 \leq t_1 < c < t_2 \leq 2$, and $g(z)$ and M_n are given by (11) and (12), respectively, then $b_n > M_n$.*

Proof. Assume the assertion is false. In view of Lemma 5, we must have $P_n(t_1) < P_n(c_n)$; hence

$$(14) \quad t_1 < -c_n.$$

We now consider three cases.

Case I. $t_1 = -2$, $t_2 \leq 2$. The point r_n is a local minimum of $F_n(t)$, and $P'_n(t)$ is strictly increasing in (r_n, ∞) ; hence it easily follows that the n th coefficient of

$$f_1(z) = \frac{r_n - c}{r_n + 2} \frac{z}{(1+z)^2} + \frac{c+2}{r_n+2} \frac{z}{1-r_n z + z^2} \in T(c)$$

is smaller than b_n , a contradiction.

Case II. $t_1 > -2$, $t_2 = 2$. By using (14) and Lemma 1, we see that for an appropriate choice of ϵ , the n th coefficient of

$$f_2(z) = \frac{2-c}{2-t_1-\epsilon} \frac{z}{1-(t_1+\epsilon)z+z^2} + \frac{c-t_1-\epsilon}{2-t_1-\epsilon} \frac{z}{(1-z)^2}$$

will be smaller than b_n , another contradiction.

Case III. $t_1 > -2$, $t_2 < 2$. The point (t_1, t_2) is a relative minimum of H_n ; thus $P'_n(t_1) = (P_n(t_2) - P_n(t_1))/(t_2 - t_1) = P'_n(t_2)$. Hence we must have $t_2 = -t_1$. We employ part (vi) of Lemma 1 to deduce that

$$P'_n(t_2) = \frac{P_n(t_2)}{t_2} \leq \frac{P_n(r_n) + n}{r_n + 2} = P'_n(r_n).$$

This result is a contradiction, since $t_2 > c > r_n$, whereas $P'_n(t)$ is strictly increasing in (r_n, ∞) . The proof is now complete.

We can now finish solving our problem, except for the identification of all extremal functions.

Lemma 7. Let $f(z) = z + cz^2 + \sum_{k=3}^{\infty} a_k z^k \in T(c)$ be represented by α in (1). If n is odd and $|c| > |c_n|$, then $a_n \geq P_n(c)$. If n is even, then we have $a_n \geq P_n(c)$ if $c > r_n$, $a_n \leq P_n(c)$ if $c < -r_n$. If α is a step function, then equality holds in any of the three inequalities above if and only if $f(z) = z/(1 - cz + z^2)$.

Proof. First suppose

$$\begin{aligned} c &> c_n && \text{if } n \text{ is odd,} \\ &> r_n && \text{if } n \text{ is even.} \end{aligned}$$

By Corollary 1 and Lemma 6, the absolute minimum of $H_n(s, t)$ is not assumed when $-2 \leq s < c < t \leq 2$. Since $H_n(c, t) = H_n(s, c) = P_n(c)$ for all s and t , the inequality $a_n \geq P_n(c)$ follows from Lemma 2.

Next assume α is a step function. If α has at most two discontinuities, then we can have $a_n = P_n(c)$ if and only if $f(z) = z/(1 - cz + z^2)$. If α has more than two discontinuities, we write $A_{-1} = 0$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(\theta) &= A_0 = 0 && \text{if } 0 \leq \theta \leq \theta_1, \\ &= A_k && \text{if } \theta_k < \theta < \theta_{k+1}, \quad k = 1, \dots, m-1, \\ &= A_m = 1 && \text{if } \theta_m \leq \theta \leq \pi. \end{aligned}$$

By setting $A_{l-1} = A_l$ if necessary, we can assume that the number $\theta_l = \cos^{-1}(c/2)$ occurs among the θ_k , $k = 1, \dots, m$. Then

$$f(z) = (A_l - A_{l-1})z/(1 - cz + z^2) + (1 - A_l + A_{l-1})b(z),$$

where

$$b(z) = \int_0^\pi \frac{z}{1 - 2z \cos \theta + z^2} d\beta(\theta) \in T(c)$$

and β has no discontinuity at θ_l . It is now possible (see [14, Theorem 1]) to find constants $d_1, \dots, d_{m-2} \geq 0$ and nondecreasing step functions $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_{m-2}$ such that

$$\sum_{k=1}^{m-2} d_k = 1, \quad \int_0^\pi \cos \theta d\beta_k(\theta) = c/2, \quad k = 1, \dots, m-2,$$

and

$$\beta(\theta) = \sum_{k=1}^{m-2} d_k \beta_k(\theta)$$

for all but finitely many θ in $[0, \pi]$; each β_k has at most two discontinuities. If $a_n = P_n(c)$, then the n th coefficient of b must also be $P_n(c)$; hence $b(z) = z/(1 - cz + z^2) = f(z)$.

We have now completely proven the lemma for $c > 0$. If $c < 0$, we set $g(z) = -f(-z)$ and apply what we have just shown to g . The desired inequalities follow from part (i) of Lemma 1.

Part IV. Uniqueness of extremal functions. We now state our complete solution to the constrained coefficient problem.

Theorem 2. Suppose $f(z) = z + cz^2 + \sum_{k=3}^{\infty} a_k z^k \in T(c)$.

1. If $n \geq 3$ is odd, then

$$(15) \quad P_n(c_n) \leq a_n \leq n \quad \text{if } |c| \leq c_n,$$

$$(16) \quad P_n(c) \leq a_n \leq n \quad \text{if } |c| \geq c_n.$$

2. If $n \geq 4$ is even, then

$$(17) \quad (c+2)F_n(r_n) - n \leq a_n \leq P_n(c) \quad \text{if } -2 \leq c \leq -r_n,$$

$$(18) \quad (c+2)F_n(r_n) - n \leq a_n \leq (c-2)F_n(r_n) + n \quad \text{if } |c| \leq r_n,$$

$$(19) \quad P_n(c) \leq a_n \leq (c-2)F_n(r_n) + n \quad \text{if } r_n \leq c \leq 2.$$

Equality holds on the left-hand sides only for

$$f(z) = \frac{c_n + c}{2c_n} \frac{z}{1 - c_n z + z^2} - \frac{c_n - c}{2c_n} \frac{z}{1 + c_n z + z^2} \quad \text{in (15);}$$

$$f(z) = \frac{r_n - c}{r_n + 2} \frac{z}{(1+z)^2} + \frac{c+2}{r_n + 2} \frac{z}{1 - r_n z + z^2} \quad \text{in (17), (18);}$$

$$f(z) = \frac{z}{1 - cz + z^2} \quad \text{in (16), (19).}$$

Equality holds on the right-hand sides only for

$$f(z) = \frac{2+c}{4} \frac{z}{(1-z)^2} + \frac{2-c}{4} \frac{z}{(1+z)^2} \quad \text{in (15), (16);}$$

$$f(z) = \frac{z}{1 - cz + z^2} \quad \text{in (17);}$$

$$f(z) = \frac{r_n + c}{r_n + 2} \frac{z}{(1-z)^2} + \frac{2-c}{r_n + 2} \frac{z}{1 + r_n z + z^2} \quad \text{in (18), (19).}$$

Proof. In view of Lemmas 3, 4, and 7, we need only show that if $f(z) = z + cz^2 + \sum_{k=3}^{\infty} a_k z^k$ is extremal for our problem, and α represents f as in (1), then α must be a step function. To do this, let $\theta_1, \dots, \theta_r$ be all the zeros of $((\sin n\theta)/\sin \theta)'$ in $(0, \pi)$, where $0 = \theta_0 < \theta_1 < \dots < \theta_r < \theta_{r+1} = \pi$. Suppose there exists a point θ' in some interval (θ_l, θ_{l+1}) such that α is not constant in any neighborhood of θ' . Using the variational method of Pfaltzgraff and Pinchuk [16, Theorem 4.2], we obtain a function $f_* \in T(c)$ of the form

$$f_*(z) = f(z) - \epsilon \int_e \left[\frac{2z^2 \sin \theta}{(1 - 2z \cos \theta + z^2)^2} + \lambda \sin \theta \right] |\alpha(\theta) - x| d\theta + O(\epsilon^2),$$

where $e \subseteq (\theta_l, \theta_{l+1})$ is a closed interval about θ' , λ and x are constants, and the error term $O(\epsilon^2)$ is uniform on compact subsets of the unit disk. The quantity ϵ can be positive or negative, provided $|\epsilon|$ is sufficiently small. The n th coefficient a_{n*} of f_* is given by

$$a_{n*} = a_n + \epsilon \int_e \left(\frac{\sin n\theta}{\sin \theta} \right)' |\alpha(\theta) - x| d\theta + O(\epsilon^2);$$

hence we conclude that $\int_e ((\sin n\theta)/\sin \theta)' |\alpha(\theta) - x| d\theta = 0$, a contradiction. Consequently, α is constant on (θ_k, θ_{k+1}) , $k = 0, \dots, r$, and the proof is complete.

It should be pointed out that the variational method was used only to show the uniqueness of the extremal function in the case $a_n = P_n(c)$, $f(z) = z/(1 - cz + z^2)$. The rest of the problem was solved on the elementary level.

Theorem 2 yields the following result on odd typically real functions: if $f(z) = z + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{2n+1} z^{2n+1} \in T$, then $P_{2n+1}(c_{2n+1}) \leq a_{2n+1} \leq 2n + 1$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$. Equality holds on the left or right side only for

$$f(z) = \frac{z(1 + z^2)}{(1 + z^2)^2 - c_n z^2} \quad \text{or} \quad f(z) = z \frac{1 + z^2}{(1 - z^2)^2},$$

respectively. This assertion of course holds under the weaker hypothesis that $f''(0) = 0$. (A similar phenomenon occurs in the class S^* of normalized starlike univalent functions. Goluzin [5] shows that if $f(z) = z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_k z^k \in S^*$ then $|a_k| \leq 1$, $k = 3, 5, 7, \dots$, if f is odd. Later [6] he shows that $|a_k| \leq 1$, $k = 3, 4, 5, \dots$, provided only $a_2 = 0$.)

If $f(z) = z + cz^2 + a_3 z^3 + \dots \in T(c)$, then $c^2 - 1 \leq a_3 \leq 3$. The left-hand side easily follows from the Schwarz inequality, but tracing the cases of equality is cumbersome. Note also that if we represent f by (1) and set $\beta(t) = \alpha[\cos^{-1}(-t/2)]$, then

$$-a_2 = \int_{-2}^2 t d\beta(t) = -c, \quad a_3 + 1 - c^2 = \int_{-2}^2 t^2 d\beta(t) - c^2.$$

Thus finding the best bounds on a_3 amounts to minimizing and maximizing the variance of a mass (in fact, probability) distribution when the mean is given. No such interpretation appears possible for higher coefficients a_n , $n \geq 4$.

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