

On the regions containing zeros and zero free regions of a Polynomial

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Abstract

If $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$, $a_j \geq a_{j-1}$, $a_0 > 0$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ is a polynomial of degree n , then according to a classical result of Eneström-Kakeya, all the zeros of $P(z)$ lie in $|z| \leq 1$. Joyal (et al) [9] extended Theorem A to the polynomials whose coefficients are monotonic but not necessarily non-negative. In this paper, I will prove some extensions and generalizations of this result by relaxing the hypothesis.

Key words: Polynomial, Zeros, Eneström-Kakeya Theorem

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1. INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENTS OF RESULTS

Let $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ be a polynomial of degree n , then concerning the distribution of zeros of $P(z)$, Eneström and Kakeya [10, 11] proved the following interesting result.

Theorem A. Let $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ be a polynomial of degree n such that

$$(1) \quad a_n \geq a_{n-1} \geq \dots \geq a_1 \geq a_0 > 0,$$

then $P(z)$ has all its zeros in $|z| \leq 1$.

In the literature [1-11], there exist several extensions and generalizations of this Theorem. Joyal *et al* [9] extended Theorem A to the polynomials whose coefficients are monotonic but not necessarily non-negative. In fact they proved the following result.

Theorem B. Let $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ be a polynomial of degree n such that

$$a_n \geq a_{n-1} \geq \dots \geq a_1 \geq a_0,$$

then $P(z)$ has all its zeros in the disk

$$|z| \leq \frac{1}{|a_n|} (|a_n| - a_0 + |a_0|).$$

In this paper, I will prove some generalizations and extensions of Theorem B and hence of the Theorem A i.e Eneström-Keakeya Theorem. In this direction I first present the following interesting result in which we relax the hypothesis and hence is a generalization of Theorem B. In fact, I prove the following:

Theorem 1. Let $P(z) = a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + a_p z^p + a_{p-1} z^{p-1} + \dots + a_1 z + a_0$ be a polynomial of degree n satisfying $a_p \geq a_{p-1} \geq \dots \geq a_1 \geq a_0, p = 0, 1, \dots, n$ and $M_p = \sum_{j=p+1}^n |a_j - a_{j-1}|$, then all the zeros of $P(z)$ lie in the disk

$$|z| \leq \frac{M_p + a_p - a_0 + |a_0|}{|a_n|}$$

Remark 1. For $p = n$, Theorem 1 reduces to Theorem B.

Applying Theorem 1 to the polynomial $P(tz)$, we get the following result:

Corollary 1. Let $P(z) = a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + a_p z^p + a_{p-1} z^{p-1} + \dots + a_1 z + a_0$ be a polynomial of degree n such that for any $t > 0$,

$$t^p a_p \geq t^{p-1} a_{p-1} \geq \dots \geq t a_1 \geq a_0, p = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

then all the zeros of $P(z)$ lie in the disk

$$|z| \leq \sum_{j=p+1}^n \frac{|t a_j - a_{j-1}|}{t^{n-j+1} |a_n|} + \frac{t^p a_p - a_0 + |a_0|}{t^n |a_n|}$$

The following result follows from Corollary 1 by taking $p = 0$.

Corollary 2. Let $P(z) = a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 z + a_0$ be a polynomial of degree n , then for any $t > 0$ all the zeros of $P(z)$ lie in the disk

$$|z| \leq \sum_{j=0}^n \frac{|t a_j - a_{j-1}|}{t^{n-j+1} |a_n|}.$$

We also prove the following result which gives the lower bound for the moduli of zeros of a polynomial. In other words it provides the zero free region for polynomials.

Theorem 2. Let $P(z) = a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + a_p z^p + a_{p-1} z^{p-1} + \dots + a_1 z + a_0$ be a polynomial of degree n satisfying $a_p \geq a_{p-1} \geq \dots \geq a_1 \geq a_0, p = 0, 1, \dots, n$ and $M_p = \sum_{j=p+1}^n |a_j - a_{j-1}|$, then $P(z)$ does not vanish in

$$|z| < \text{Min} \left\{ 1, \frac{|a_0|}{|a_n| + M_p + a_p - a_0} \right\}$$

For $p = n$, Theorem 2 reduces to the following result:

Corollary 3. Let $P(z) = a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 z + a_0$ be a polynomial of degree n satisfying $a_n \geq a_{p-1} \geq \dots \geq a_1 \geq a_0$ then $P(z)$ does not vanish in

$$|z| < \frac{|a_0|}{|a_n| + a_n - a_0}.$$

The bound is attained by the polynomial $P(z) = z^n + z^{n-1} + \dots + z + 1$.

Next we prove the following more general result which is also a generalization of Theorem B.

Theorem 3. Let $P(z) = a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + a_p z^p + \dots + a_1 z + a_0$ be a polynomial of degree n satisfying

$$a_p \geq a_{p-1} \geq \dots \geq a_0, \quad 0 \leq p \leq n$$

and

$$\text{Max}_{|z|=1} \left| \sum_{j=p+1}^n (a_j - a_{j-1}) z^{n-j} \right| \leq M,$$

then all the zeros of $P(z)$ lie in

$$|z| \leq \max \left(1, \frac{|a_0| - a_0 + a_p + M}{|a_n|} \right).$$



Remark 2. Let $\text{Max}_{|z|=1} \left| \sum_{j=p+1}^n (a_j - a_{j-1})z^j \right|$ is attained at $z = e^{i\alpha}$, then,

$$M = \left| \sum_{j=p+1}^n (a_j - a_{j-1})e^{i\alpha} \right|$$

$$\leq \sum_{j=p+1}^n |a_j - a_{j-1}| = M_p, \quad 0 \leq p \leq n,$$

where M_p is defined as in Theorem 1. Thus

$$M \leq M_p, \quad 0 \leq p \leq n.$$

From this, we conclude that Theorem 3 is a refinement of Theorem 1.

The following result is an immediate consequence of the Theorem 3.

Corollary 4. Let $P(z) = a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 z + a_0$ be a polynomial of degree n , then all the zeros of $P(z)$ lie in

$$|z| \leq \frac{M}{|a_n|},$$

where

$$M = \text{Max}_{|z|=1} \left| \sum_{j=0}^n (a_j - a_{j-1})z^{n-j} \right|.$$

1 Proofs of the Theorems

Proof of Theorem 1. Consider the polynomial

$$\begin{aligned} F(z) &= (1 - z)P(z) \\ &= (1 - z)(a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 z + a_0) \\ &= a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 z + a_0 - a_n z^{n+1} \\ &\quad - a_{n-1} z^n - \dots - a_0 z \\ &= -a_n z^{n+1} + (a_n - a_{n-1})z^n + (a_{n-1} - a_{n-2})z^{n-1} \\ &\quad + \dots + (a_1 - a_0)z + a_0. \end{aligned}$$

This gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 |F(z)| &\geq |a_n z^{n+1}| - \left\{ |a_n - a_{n-1}| |z|^n + |a_{n-1} - a_{n-2}| |z|^{n-1} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \dots + |a_{p+1} - a_p| |z|^{p+1} + \dots + |a_1 - a_0| |z| + |a_0| \right\} \\
 &= |z|^n \left\{ |a_n| |z| - \left(|a_n - a_{n-1}| + \frac{|a_{n-1} - a_{n-2}|}{|z|} \right. \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left. + \dots + \frac{|a_{p+1} - a_p|}{|z|^{n-p-1}} + \dots + \frac{|a_1 - a_0|}{|z|^{n-1}} + \frac{|a_0|}{|z|^n} \right) \right\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, let $|z| > 1$, so that $\frac{1}{|z|^{n-j}} < 1, 0 \leq j \leq n$, then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 |F(z)| &> |z|^n \left\{ |a_n| |z| - \left(|a_n - a_{n-1}| + |a_{n-1} - a_{n-2}| \right. \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left. + \dots + |a_{p+1} - a_p| + \dots + |a_1 - a_0| + |a_0| \right) \right\} \\
 &= |z|^n \left\{ |a_n| |z| - \left(|a_n - a_{n-1}| + |a_{n-1} - a_{n-2}| + \dots \right. \right.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left. + |a_{p+1} - a_p| + a_p - a_{p-1} + \cdots + a_1 - a_0 + |a_0| \right\} \\
 = & |z|^n \left\{ |a_n||z| - \left(\sum_{j=p+1}^n |a_j - a_{j-1}| + a_p - a_0 + |a_0| \right) \right\} \\
 = & |z|^n \left\{ |a_n||z| - \left(M_p + a_p - a_0 + |a_0| \right) \right\} \\
 & > 0, \text{ if } |z||a_n| > \left(M_p + a_p - a_0 + |a_0| \right), \\
 \text{i, e if } & |z| > \frac{\left(M_p + a_p - a_0 + |a_0| \right)}{|a_n|}
 \end{aligned}$$

where $M_p = \sum_{j=p+1}^n |a_j - a_{j-1}|$. Thus all the zeros of $F(z)$ whose modulus is greater than 1 lie in the disk

$$|z| \leq \frac{1}{|a_n|} \left(M_p + a_p - a_0 + |a_0| \right).$$

But those zeros of $F(z)$ whose modulus is less than or equal to 1 already satisfy the above inequality and all the zeros of $P(z)$ are also the zeros of $F(z)$. Hence

it follows that all the zeros of $P(z)$ lie in the disk

$$|z| \leq \frac{1}{|a_n|} \left(M_p + a_p - a_0 + |a_0| \right).$$

This completes the proof of Theorem 1.

Proof of Theorem 2. Consider the reciprocal polynomial

$$R(z) = z^n P(1/z) = a_0 z^n + a_1 z^{n-1} + \dots + a_p z^{n-p} + \dots + a_n.$$

Let

$$\begin{aligned} S(z) &= (1-z)R(z) \\ &= -a_0 z^{n+1} + (a_0 - a_1)z^n + \dots \\ &\quad + (a_p - a_{p+1})z^{n-p} + \dots + (a_{n-1} - a_n)z + a_n. \end{aligned}$$

This gives

$$\begin{aligned} |S(z)| &\geq |a_0||z|^{n+1} - \left\{ |a_0 - a_1||z|^n + \dots + |a_p - a_{p+1}||z|^{n-p} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \dots + |a_{n-1} - a_n||z| + |a_n| \right\} \\ &= |z|^n \left\{ |a_0||z| - \left(|a_0 - a_1| + \dots + \frac{|a_p - a_{p+1}|}{|z|^p} \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. + \dots + \frac{|a_{n-1} - a_n|}{|z|^{n-1}} + \frac{|a_n|}{|z|^n} \right) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Now, let $|z| > 1$, so that $\frac{1}{|z|^{n-j}} < 1, 0 \leq j \leq n$, then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 |S(z)| &\geq |z|^n \left\{ |a_0||z| - \left(|a_0 - a_1| + \dots + |a_p - a_{p+1}| + \dots \right. \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left. + |a_{n-1} - a_n| + |a_n| \right) \right\} \\
 &= |z|^n \left\{ |a_0||z| - \left(|a_1 - a_0| + \dots + |a_{p+1} - a_p| + |a_p - a_{p-1}| \right. \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left. + \dots + |a_n - a_{n-1}| + |a_n| \right) \right\} \\
 &= |z|^n \left\{ |a_0||z| - \left(a_p - |a_0| + |a_n| + \sum_{j=p+1}^n |a_j - a_{j-1}| \right) \right\} \\
 &= |z|^n \left\{ |a_0||z| - \left(a_p - |a_0| + |a_n| + M_p \right) \right\} \\
 &\quad > 0, \text{ if} \\
 &\quad |z| > \frac{1}{|a_0|} \left\{ a_p - |a_0| + |a_n| + M_p \right\},
 \end{aligned}$$

where $M_p = \sum_{j=p+1}^n |a_j - a_{j-1}|$. Thus all the zeros of $S(z)$ whose modulus is greater than 1 lie in

$$|z| \leq \frac{1}{|a_0|} \left\{ a_p - |a_0| + |a_n| + M_p \right\}.$$

Hence all the zeros of $S(z)$ and hence of $R(z)$ lie in

$$|z| \leq \text{Max} \left\{ 1, \frac{1}{|a_0|} \left(a_p - |a_0| + |a_n| + M_p \right) \right\}.$$

Therefore all the zeros of $P(z)$ lie in

$$|z| \geq \text{Min} \left\{ 1, \frac{|a_0|}{a_p - |a_0| + |a_n| + M_p} \right\}.$$

$$|z| \geq \text{Min} \left\{ 1, \frac{|a_0|}{a_p - |a_0| + |a_n| + M_p} \right\}.$$

Thus the polynomial $P(z)$ does not vanish in

$$|z| < \text{Min} \left(1, \frac{|a_0|}{a_p - |a_0| + |a_n| + M_p} \right).$$

This completes the proof of Theorem 2.

Proof of Theorem 3. Consider the polynomial

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(z) &= (1 - z)P(z) \\
 &= (1 - z)(a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 z + a_0) \\
 &= a_n z^n + \dots + a_1 z + a_0 - a_n z^{n+1} - a_{n-1} z^n - \dots - a_0 z \\
 &= -a_n z^{n+1} + (a_n - a_{n-1})z^n + \dots + (a_{p+1} - a_p)z^{p+1} \\
 &\quad + (a_p - a_{p-1})z^p + \dots + (a_2 - a_1)z^2 + (a_1 - a_0)z + a_0 \\
 &= R(z) - a_n z^{n+1},
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 R(z) &= (a_n - a_{n-1})z^n + \dots + (a_{p+1} - a_p)z^{p+1} + (a_p - a_{p-1})z^p \\
 &\quad + \dots + (a_1 - a_0)z + a_0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$\begin{aligned}
 R^*(z) &= z^n R(1/z) \\
 &= a_0 z^n + (a_1 - a_0)z^{n-1} + \dots + (a_p - a_{p-1})z^{n-p} \\
 &\quad + (a_{p+1} - a_p)z^{n-p-1} + \dots + (a_n - a_{n-1}).
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
 |R^*(z)| &\leq |a_0 z^n + (a_1 - a_0)z^{n-1} \dots + (a_p - a_{p-1})z^{n-p}| \\
 &\quad + |(a_{p+1} - a_p)z^{n-p-1} + \dots + (a_n - a_{n-1})| \\
 &\leq |a_0||z|^n + |(a_1 - a_0)||z|^{n-1} + \dots + |(a_p - a_{p-1})||z|^{n-p} + \left| \sum_{j=p+1}^n (a_j - a_{j-1})z^{n-j} \right| \\
 &\leq |a_0| + a_p - a_0 + M, \text{ for } |z| = 1,
 \end{aligned}$$

where M is defined as in the statement of the Theorem. Hence by maximum modulus principle, it follows that

$$|R^*(z)| \leq |a_0| + a_p - a_0 + M, \text{ for } |z| \leq 1.$$

Therefore

$$|R(z)| \leq |z|^n(|a_0| + a_p - a_0 + M), \text{ for } |z| \geq 1.$$

This gives for $|z| > 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} |F(z)| &\geq |a_n z^{n+1}| - |R(z)| \\ &\geq |a_n z^{n+1}| - z^n(|a_0| + a_p - a_0 + M) \\ &= |a_n| |z|^n \left\{ |z| - \frac{|a_0| + a_p - a_0 + M}{|a_n|} \right\} \\ &> 0, \text{ if} \\ |z| &> \frac{|a_0| + a_p - a_0 + M}{|a_n|}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus all zeros of $F(z)$ whose modulus is greater than 1 lie in the disk

$$|z| \leq \frac{|a_0| + a_p - a_0 + M}{|a_n|}.$$

Therefore all zeros of $F(z)$ lie in the disk

$$|z| \leq \text{Max} \left\{ 1, \frac{|a_0| + a_p - a_0 + M}{|a_n|} \right\}.$$

But all the zeros of $P(z)$ are also the zeros of $F(z)$. Hence it follows that all the zeros of $P(z)$ lie in the disk

$$|z| \leq \text{Max} \left\{ 1, \frac{|a_0| + a_p - a_0 + M}{|a_n|} \right\}.$$

This completes the proof of Theorem 3.

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