



## AN OPERATOR PRESERVING INEQUALITIES BETWEEN POLYNOMIALS

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ABSTRACT. Let  $P(z)$  be a polynomial of degree at most  $n$ . We consider an operator  $B$ , which carries a polynomial  $P(z)$  into

$$B[P(z)] := \lambda_0 P(z) + \lambda_1 \left(\frac{nz}{2}\right) \frac{P'(z)}{1!} + \lambda_2 \left(\frac{nz}{2}\right)^2 \frac{P''(z)}{2!},$$

where  $\lambda_0$ ,  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  are such that all the zeros of

$$u(z) = \lambda_0 + c(n, 1)\lambda_1 z + c(n, 2)\lambda_2 z^2$$

lie in the half plane

$$|z| \leq \left| z - \frac{n}{2} \right|.$$

In this paper, we estimate the minimum and maximum moduli of  $B[P(z)]$  on  $|z| = 1$  with restrictions on the zeros of  $P(z)$  and thereby obtain compact generalizations of some well known polynomial inequalities.

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $P_n$  be the class of polynomials  $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$  of degree at most  $n$  then

$$(1.1) \quad \max_{|z|=1} |P'(z)| \leq n \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)|$$

and

$$(1.2) \quad \max_{|z|=R>1} |P(z)| \leq R^n \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)|.$$

Inequality (1.1) is an immediate consequence of a famous result due to Bernstein on the derivative of a trigonometric polynomial (for reference see [6, 9, 14]). Inequality (1.2) is a simple deduction from the maximum modulus principle (see [15, p.346], [11, p. 158, Problem 269]).

Aziz and Dawood [3] proved that if  $P(z)$  has all its zeros in  $|z| \leq 1$ , then

$$(1.3) \quad \min_{|z|=1} |P'(z)| \geq n \min_{|z|=1} |P(z)|$$

and

$$(1.4) \quad \min_{|z|=R>1} |P(z)| \geq R^n \min_{|z|=1} |P(z)|.$$

Inequalities (1.1), (1.2), (1.3) and (1.4) are sharp and equality holds for a polynomial having all its zeros at the origin.

For the class of polynomials having no zeros in  $|z| < 1$ , inequalities (1.1) and (1.2) can be sharpened. In fact, if  $P(z) \neq 0$  in  $|z| < 1$ , then

$$(1.5) \quad \max_{|z|=1} |P'(z)| \leq \frac{n}{2} \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)|$$

and

$$(1.6) \quad \max_{|z|=R>1} |P(z)| \leq \left( \frac{R^n + 1}{2} \right) \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)|.$$

Inequality (1.5) was conjectured by Erdős and later verified by Lax [7], whereas Ankeny and Rivlin [1] used (1.5) to prove (1.6). Inequalities (1.5) and (1.6) were further improved in [3], where under the same hypothesis, it was shown that

$$(1.7) \quad \max_{|z|=1} |P'(z)| \leq \frac{n}{2} \left\{ \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)| - \min_{|z|=1} |P(z)| \right\}$$

and

$$(1.8) \quad \max_{|z|=R>1} |P(z)| \leq \left( \frac{R^n + 1}{2} \right) \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)| - \left( \frac{R^n - 1}{2} \right) \min_{|z|=1} |P(z)|.$$

Equality in (1.5), (1.6), (1.7) and (1.8) holds for polynomials of the form  $P(z) = \alpha z^n + \beta$ , where  $|\alpha| = |\beta|$ .

Aziz [2], Aziz and Shah [5] and Shah [17] extended such well-known inequalities to the polar derivatives  $D_\alpha P(z)$  of a polynomial  $P(z)$  with respect to a point  $\alpha$  and obtained several sharp inequalities. Like polar derivatives there are many other operators which are just as interesting (for reference see [13, 14]). It is an interesting problem, as pointed out by Professor Q. I. Rahman to characterize all such operators. As an attempt to this characterization, we consider an operator  $B$  which carries  $P \in P_n$  into

$$(1.9) \quad B[P(z)] := \lambda_0 P(z) + \lambda_1 \left( \frac{nz}{2} \right) \frac{P'(z)}{1!} + \lambda_2 \left( \frac{nz}{2} \right)^2 \frac{P''(z)}{2!},$$

where  $\lambda_0, \lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  are such that all the zeros of

$$(1.10) \quad u(z) = \lambda_0 + c(n, 1)\lambda_1 z + c(n, 2)\lambda_2 z^2$$

lie in the half plane

$$(1.11) \quad |z| \leq \left| z - \frac{n}{2} \right|,$$

and prove some results concerning the maximum and minimum moduli of  $B[P(z)]$  and thereby obtain compact generalizations of some well-known theorems.

We first prove the following theorem and obtain a compact generalization of inequalities (1.3) and (1.4).

**Theorem 1.1.** *If  $P \in P_n$  and  $P(z) \neq 0$  in  $|z| > 1$ , then*

$$(1.12) \quad |B[P(z)]| \geq |B[z^n]| \min_{|z|=1} |P(z)|, \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1.$$

*The result is sharp and equality holds for a polynomial having all its zeros at the origin.*

Substituting for  $B[P(z)]$ , we have for  $|z| \geq 1$ ,

$$(1.13) \quad \left| \lambda_0 P(z) + \lambda_1 \left(\frac{nz}{2}\right) P'(z) + \lambda_2 \left(\frac{nz}{2}\right)^2 \frac{P''(z)}{2!} \right| \\ \geq \left| \lambda_0 z^n + \lambda_1 \left(\frac{nz}{2}\right) n z^{n-1} + \lambda_2 \left(\frac{nz}{2}\right)^2 \frac{n(n-1)}{2} z^{n-2} \right| \min_{|z|=1} |P(z)|,$$

where  $\lambda_0, \lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  are such that all the zeros of (1.10) lie in the half plane represented by (1.11).

**Remark 1.2.** If we choose  $\lambda_0 = 0 = \lambda_2$  in (1.13), and note that in this case all the zeros of  $u(z)$  defined by (1.10) lie in (1.11), we get

$$|P'(z)| \geq n|z|^{n-1} \min_{|z|=1} |P(z)|, \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1,$$

which in particular gives inequality (1.3). Next, choosing  $\lambda_1 = 0 = \lambda_2$  in (1.13), which is possible in a similar way, we obtain

$$|P(z)| \geq |z|^n \min_{|z|=1} |P(z)|, \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1.$$

Taking in particular  $z = Re^{i\theta}$ ,  $R \geq 1$ , we get

$$|P(Re^{i\theta})| \geq R^n \min_{|z|=1} |P(z)|,$$

which is equivalent to (1.4).

As an extension of Bernstein's inequality, it was observed by Rahman [12], that if  $P \in P_n$ , then

$$|P(z)| \leq M, \quad |z| = 1$$

implies

$$(1.14) \quad |B[P(z)]| \leq M |B[z^n]|, \quad |z| \geq 1.$$

As an improvement to this result of Rahman, we prove the following theorem for the class of polynomials not vanishing in the unit disk and obtain a compact generalization of (1.5) and (1.6).

**Theorem 1.3.** *If  $P \in P_n$ , and  $P(z) \neq 0$  in  $|z| < 1$ , then*

$$(1.15) \quad |B[P(z)]| \leq \frac{1}{2} \{ |B[z^n]| + |\lambda_0| \} \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)|, \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1.$$

*The result is sharp and equality holds for a polynomial whose zeros all lie on the unit disk.*

Substituting for  $B[P(z)]$  in inequality (1.15), we have for  $|z| \geq 1$ ,

$$(1.16) \quad \left| \lambda_0 P(z) + \lambda_1 \left(\frac{nz}{2}\right) P'(z) + \lambda_2 \left(\frac{nz}{2}\right)^2 \frac{P''(z)}{2} \right| \\ \leq \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \left| \lambda_0 z^n + \lambda_1 \left(\frac{nz}{2}\right) n z^{n-1} + \lambda_2 \left(\frac{nz}{2}\right)^2 \frac{n(n-1)}{2} z^{n-2} \right| + |\lambda_0| \right\} \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)|,$$

where  $\lambda_0, \lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  are such that all the zeros of (1.10) lie in the half plane represented by (1.11).

**Remark 1.4.** Choosing  $\lambda_0 = 0 = \lambda_2$  in (1.16) which is possible, we get

$$|P'(z)| \leq \frac{n}{2} |z|^{n-1} \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)|, \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1$$

which in particular gives inequality (1.5). Next if we take  $\lambda_1 = 0 = \lambda_2$  in (1.16) which is also possible, we obtain

$$|P(z)| \leq \frac{1}{2} \{|z|^n + 1\} \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)|,$$

for every  $z$  with  $|z| \geq 1$ . Taking  $z = Re^{i\theta}$ , so that  $|z| = R \geq 1$ , we get

$$|P(Re^{i\theta})| \leq \frac{1}{2} (R^n + 1) \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)|,$$

which in particular gives inequality (1.6).

As a refinement of Theorem 1.3, we next prove the following theorem, which provides a compact generalization of inequalities (1.7) and (1.8).

**Theorem 1.5.** *If  $P \in P_n$ , and  $P(z) \neq 0$  in  $|z| < 1$  then for  $|z| \geq 1$ ,*

$$(1.17) \quad |B[P(z)]| \leq \frac{1}{2} \left[ \{|B[z^n]| + |\lambda_0|\} \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)| - \{|B[z^n]| - |\lambda_0|\} \min_{|z|=1} |P(z)| \right].$$

*Equality holds for the polynomial having all zeros on the unit disk.*

Substituting for  $B[P(z)]$  in inequality (1.17), we get for  $|z| \geq 1$ ,

$$(1.18) \quad \left| \lambda_0 P(z) + \lambda_1 \left(\frac{nz}{2}\right) P'(z) + \lambda_2 \left(\frac{nz}{2}\right)^2 \frac{P''(z)}{2} \right| \\ \leq \frac{1}{2} \left[ \left\{ \left| \lambda_0 z^n + \lambda_1 \left(\frac{nz}{2}\right) n z^{n-1} + \lambda_2 \left(\frac{nz}{2}\right)^2 \frac{n(n-1)}{2} z^{n-2} \right| + |\lambda_0| \right\} \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)| \right. \\ \left. - \left\{ \left| \lambda_0 z^n + \lambda_1 \left(\frac{nz}{2}\right) n z^{n-1} + \lambda_2 \left(\frac{nz}{2}\right)^2 \frac{n(n-1)}{2} z^{n-2} \right| - |\lambda_0| \right\} \min_{|z|=1} |P(z)| \right],$$

where  $\lambda_0, \lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  are such that all the zeros of  $u(z)$  defined by (1.10) lie in (1.11).

**Remark 1.6.** Inequality (1.7) is a special case of inequality (1.18), if we choose  $\lambda_0 = 0 = \lambda_2$ , and inequality (1.8) immediately follows from it when  $\lambda_1 = 0 = \lambda_2$ .

If  $P \in P_n$  is a self-inversive polynomial, that is, if  $P(z) \equiv Q(z)$ , where  $Q(z) = z^n \overline{P(1/\bar{z})}$ , then [10, 16],

$$(1.19) \quad \max_{|z|=1} |P'(z)| \leq \frac{n}{2} \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)|.$$

Lastly, we prove the following result which includes inequality (1.19) as a special case.

**Theorem 1.7.** *If  $P \in P_n$  is a self-inversive polynomial, then for  $|z| \geq 1$ ,*

$$(1.20) \quad |B[P(z)]| \leq \frac{1}{2} \{|B[z^n]| + |\lambda_0|\} \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)|.$$

*The result is best possible and equality holds for  $P(z) = z^n + 1$ .*

Substituting for  $B[P(z)]$ , we have for  $|z| \geq 1$ ,

$$(1.21) \quad \left| \lambda_0 P(z) + \lambda_1 \left(\frac{nz}{2}\right) P'(z) + \lambda_2 \left(\frac{nz}{2}\right)^2 \frac{P''(z)}{2} \right| \\ \leq \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \left| \lambda_0 z^n + \lambda_1 \left(\frac{nz}{2}\right) n z^{n-1} + \lambda_2 \left(\frac{nz}{2}\right)^2 \frac{n(n-1)}{2} z^{n-2} \right| + |\lambda_0| \right\} \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)|,$$

where  $\lambda_0, \lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  are such that all the zeros of  $u(z)$  defined by (1.10) lie in (1.11).

**Remark 1.8.** If we choose  $\lambda_0 = 0 = \lambda_2$  in inequality (1.21), we get

$$|P'(z)| \leq \frac{n}{2} |z|^{n-1} \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)|, \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1,$$

from which inequality (1.19) follows immediately.

Also if we take  $\lambda_1 = 0 = \lambda_2$  in inequality (1.21), we obtain the following:

**Corollary 1.9.** *If  $P \in P_n$  is a self-inversive polynomial, then*

$$(1.22) \quad |P(z)| \leq \frac{|z|^n + 1}{2} \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)|, \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1.$$

*The result is best possible and equality holds for the polynomial  $P(z) = z^n + 1$ . Inequality (1.22) in particular gives*

$$\max_{|z|=R>1} |P(z)| \leq \frac{R^n + 1}{2} \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)|.$$

## 2. LEMMAS

For the proofs of these theorems we need the following lemmas. The first lemma follows from Corollary 18.3 of [8, p. 65].

**Lemma 2.1.** *If all the zeros of a polynomial  $P(z)$  of degree  $n$  lie in a circle  $|z| \leq 1$ , then all the zeros of the polynomial  $B[P(z)]$  also lie in the circle  $|z| \leq 1$ .*

The following two lemmas which we need are in fact implicit in [12, p. 305]; however, for the sake of completeness we give a brief outline of their proofs.

**Lemma 2.2.** *If  $P \in P_n$ , and  $P(z) \neq 0$  in  $|z| < 1$ , then*

$$(2.1) \quad |B[P(z)]| \leq |B[Q(z)]| \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1,$$

where  $Q(z) = z^n \overline{P(1/\bar{z})}$ .

*Proof of Lemma 2.2.* Since  $Q(z) = z^n \overline{P(1/\bar{z})}$ , therefore  $|Q(z)| = |P(z)|$  for  $|z| = 1$  and hence  $Q(z)/P(z)$  is analytic in  $|z| \leq 1$ . By the maximum modulus principle,  $|Q(z)| \leq |P(z)|$  for  $|z| \leq 1$ , or equivalently,  $|P(z)| \leq |Q(z)|$  for  $|z| \geq 1$ . Therefore, for every  $\beta$  with  $|\beta| > 1$ , the polynomial  $P(z) - \beta Q(z)$  has all its zeros in  $|z| \leq 1$ . By Lemma 2.1, the polynomial  $B[P(z) - \beta Q(z)] = B[P(z)] - \beta B[Q(z)]$  has all its zeros in  $|z| \leq 1$ , which in particular gives

$$|B[P(z)]| \leq |B[Q(z)]|, \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1.$$

This proves Lemma 2.2. □

**Lemma 2.3.** *If  $P \in P_n$ , then for  $|z| \geq 1$ ,*

$$(2.2) \quad |B[P(z)]| + |B[Q(z)]| \leq \{|B[z^n]| + |\lambda_0|\} \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)|,$$

where  $Q(z) = z^n \overline{P(1/\bar{z})}$ .

*Proof of Lemma 2.3.* Let  $M = \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)|$ , then  $|P(z)| \leq M$  for  $|z| \leq 1$ . If  $\lambda$  is any real or complex number with  $|\lambda| > 1$ , then by Rouché's theorem,  $P(z) - \lambda M$  does not vanish in  $|z| \leq 1$ . By Lemma 2.2, it follows that

$$(2.3) \quad |B[P(z) - M\lambda]| \leq |B[Q(z) - M\lambda z^n]|, \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1.$$

Using the fact that  $B$  is linear and  $B[1] = \lambda_0$ , we have from (2.3)

$$(2.4) \quad |B[P(z) - M\lambda\lambda_0]| \leq |B[Q(z)] - M\lambda B[z^n]|, \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1.$$

Choosing the argument of  $\lambda$ , which is possible by (1.14) such that

$$|B[Q(z)] - M\lambda B[z^n]| = M|\lambda| |B[z^n]| - |B[Q(z)]|,$$

we get from (2.4)

$$(2.5) \quad |B[P(z)]| - M|\lambda||\lambda_0| \leq M|\lambda| |B[z^n]| - |B[Q(z)]| \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1.$$

Making  $|\lambda| \rightarrow 1$  in (2.5) we get

$$|B[P(z)]| + |B[Q(z)]| \leq \{|B[z^n]| + |\lambda_0|\} M$$

which is (2.2) and Lemma 2.3 is completely proved.  $\square$

### 3. PROOFS OF THE THEOREMS

*Proof of Theorem 1.1.* If  $P(z)$  has a zero on  $|z| = 1$ , then  $m = \min_{|z|=1} |P(z)| = 0$  and there is nothing to prove. Suppose that all the zeros of  $P(z)$  lie in  $|z| < 1$ , then  $m > 0$ , and we have  $m \leq |P(z)|$  for  $|z| = 1$ . Therefore, for every real or complex number  $\lambda$  with  $|\lambda| < 1$ , we have  $|m\lambda z^n| < |P(z)|$ , for  $|z| = 1$ . By Rouché's theorem, it follows that all the zeros of  $P(z) - m\lambda z^n$  lie in  $|z| < 1$ . Therefore, by Lemma 2.1, all the zeros of  $B[P(z) - m\lambda z^n]$  lie in  $|z| < 1$ . Since  $B$  is linear, it follows that all the zeros of  $B[P(z) - m\lambda B[z^n]]$  lie in  $|z| < 1$ , which gives

$$(3.1) \quad m|B[z^n]| \leq |B[P(z)]|, \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1.$$

Because, if this is not true, then there is a point  $z = z_0$ , with  $|z_0| \geq 1$ , such that

$$(m|B[z^n]|)_{z=z_0} > (|B[P(z)]|)_{z=z_0}.$$

We take  $\lambda = (|B[P(z)]|)_{z=z_0} / (m|B[z^n]|)_{z=z_0}$ , so that  $|\lambda| < 1$  and for this value of  $\lambda$ ,  $B[P(z)] - m\lambda B[z^n] = 0$  for  $|z| \geq 1$ , which contradicts the fact that all the zeros of  $B[P(z) - m\lambda B[z^n]]$  lie in  $|z| < 1$ . Hence from (3.1) we conclude that

$$|B[P(z)]| \geq |B[z^n]| \min_{|z|=1} |P(z)|, \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1,$$

which completes the proof of Theorem 1.1.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 1.3.* Combining Lemma 2.2 and Lemma 2.3 we have

$$\begin{aligned} 2|B[P(z)]| &\leq |B[P(z)]| + |B[Q(z)]| \\ &\leq \{|B[z^n]| + |\lambda_0|\} \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)|, \end{aligned}$$

which gives inequality (1.15) and Theorem 1.3 is completely proved.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 1.5.* If  $P(z)$  has a zero on  $|z| = 1$  then  $m = \min_{|z|=1} |P(z)| = 0$  and the result follows from Theorem 1.3. We suppose that all the zeros of  $P(z)$  lie in  $|z| > 1$ , so that  $m > 0$  and

$$(3.2) \quad m \leq |P(z)|, \quad \text{for } |z| = 1.$$

Therefore, for every complex number  $\beta$  with  $|\beta| < 1$ , it follows by Rouché's theorem that all the zeros of  $F(z) = P(z) - m\beta$  lie in  $|z| > 1$ . We note that  $F(z)$  has no zeros on  $|z| = 1$ , because if for some  $z = z_0$  with  $|z_0| = 1$ ,

$$F(z_0) = P(z_0) - m\beta = 0,$$

then

$$|P(z_0)| = m|\beta| < m$$

which is a contradiction to (3.2). Now, if

$$G(z) = z^n \overline{F(1/\bar{z})} = z^n \overline{P(1/\bar{z})} - \bar{\beta}mz^n = Q(z) - \bar{\beta}mz^n,$$

then all the zeros of  $G(z)$  lie in  $|z| < 1$  and  $|G(z)| = |F(z)|$  for  $|z| = 1$ . Therefore, for every  $\gamma$  with  $|\gamma| > 1$ , the polynomial  $F(z) - \gamma G(z)$  has all its zeros in  $|z| < 1$ . By Lemma 2.1 all zeros of

$$B[F(z) - \gamma G(z)] = B[F(z)] - \gamma B[G(z)]$$

lie in  $|z| < 1$ , which implies

$$(3.3) \quad B[F(z)] \leq B[G(z)], \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1.$$

Substituting for  $F(z)$  and  $G(z)$ , making use of the facts that  $B$  is linear and  $B[1] = \lambda_0$ , we obtain from (3.3)

$$(3.4) \quad |B[P(z)] - \beta m \lambda_0| \leq |B[Q(z)] - \bar{\beta} m B[z^n]|, \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1.$$

Choosing the argument of  $\beta$  on the right hand side of (3.4) suitably, which is possible by (3.1), and making  $|\beta| \rightarrow 1$ , we get

$$|B[P(z)]| - m|\lambda_0| \leq |B[Q(z)]| - m|B[z^n]|, \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1.$$

This gives

$$(3.5) \quad |B[P(z)]| \leq |B[Q(z)]| - \{|B[z^n]| - \lambda_0\} m, \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1.$$

Inequality (3.5) with the help of Lemma 2.3, yields

$$2|B[P(z)]| \leq |B[P(z)]| + |B[Q(z)]| - \{|B[z^n]| - \lambda_0\} m \\ \leq \{|B[z^n]| + \lambda_0\} \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)| - \{|B[z^n]| - \lambda_0\} \min_{|z|=1} |P(z)|, \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1,$$

which is equivalent to (1.17) and this proves Theorem 1.5 completely. □

*Proof of Theorem 1.7.* Since  $P(z)$  is a self-inversive polynomial, we have

$$P(z) \equiv Q(z) = z^n \overline{P(1/\bar{z})}.$$

Equivalently

$$(3.6) \quad B[P(z)] = B[Q(z)].$$

Lemma 2.3 in conjunction with (3.6) gives

$$2|B[P(z)]| \leq \{|B[z^n]| + \lambda_0\} \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)|,$$

which is (1.20) and this completes the proof of Theorem 1.7. □

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