# Generalized Bernstein Type Inequalities for the Higher Derivatives of a Complex Polynomial

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#### Abstract:

Let v(z) be a polynomial of degree m having no zero zero in  $|z| \le a$ ,  $a \ge 1$ , then for  $1 \le T \le a$ , Dewan and Bidkham [J. Math. Anal. Appl., vol. 166, pp. 319-324, 1992] proved

$$\max_{|z|=T} |v'(z)| \le n \frac{(T+a)^{m-1}}{(1+a)^m} \max_{|z|=1} |v(z)|.$$

The result is best possible and extremal polynomial is  $v(z) = (z+a)^m$ .

In this paper, by involving certain co-efficients of the polynomial v(z), we prove a result concerning the estimate of maximum modulus of higher derivatives of v(z), which not only improves as well as generalizes the above result, but also has interesting consequences as special cases.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

It was for the first time, Bernstein [9, 10] investigated an upper bound for the maximum modulus of the first derivative of a complex polynomial on the unit circle in terms the maximum modulus of the polynomial on the same circle and proved the following famous result known as Bernstein's inequality that if v(z) is a polynomial of degree m, then  $\max_{|z|=1} |v'(z)| \le m \max_{|z|=1} |v(z)|$ . (1.1)

Inequality (1.1) is best possible and equality occurs for  $v(z) = \lambda z^m$ ,  $\lambda \neq 0$ , is any complex number.

If we restrict to the class of polynomials having no zero in |z| < 1, then inequality (1.1) can be sharpened as

$$\max_{|z|=1} |v'(z)| \le \frac{m}{2} \max_{|z|=1} |v(z)|.$$
(1.2)

The result is sharp and equality holds in (1.2) for  $v(z) = \alpha + \beta z^m$ , where  $|\alpha| = |\beta|$ .

Inequality (1.2) was conjectured by Erdös and later proved by Lax [7].

Simple proofs of this theorem were later given by de-Bruijn [3], and Aziz and Mohammad [1].

It was asked by Professor R.P. Boas that if v(z) is a polynomial of degree *m* not vanishing in |z| < a, a > 0, then how large can

$$\begin{cases} \max_{|z|=1} |v'(z)| \\ \max_{|z|=1} |v(z)| \end{cases} be?$$

$$(1.3)$$

A partial answer to this problem was given by Malik [8], who proved

**Theorem A.** If v(z) is a polynomial of degree *m* having no zero in the disc |z| < a,  $a \ge 1$ , then

$$\max_{|z|=1} |v'(z)| \le \frac{m}{1+a} \max_{|z|=1} |v(z)|.$$
(1.4)

The result is best possible and equality holds for  $v(z) = (z+a)^m$ .

For the class of polynomials not vanishing in |z| < a,  $a \le 1$ , the precise estimate for maximum of |v'(z)| on |z| = 1, in general, does not seem to be easily obtainable. For quite some time, it was believed that if  $v(z) \ne 0$  in |z| < a,  $a \le 1$ , then the inequality analogous to (1.4) should be

$$\max_{|z|=1} |v(z)| \le \frac{m}{1+a^m} \max_{|z|=1} |v(z)|.$$
(1.5)

till Professor E.B. Saff gave the example  $v(z) = \left(z - \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(z + \frac{1}{3}\right)$  to counter this belief.

Dewan and Bidkham [4] generalized Theorem A by considering any circle that lies in a closed circular annulus of radii 1 and *a* where  $a \ge 1$ . In fact, they prove

**Theorem B.** If v(z) is a polynomial of degree *m* having no zero in |z| < a,  $a \ge 1$ , then for  $1 \le T \le a$ ,

$$\max_{|z|=T} |v'(z)| \le m \frac{(T+a)^{m-1}}{(1+a)^m} \max_{|z|=1} |v(z)|.$$
(1.6)

The result is best possible and extremal polynomial is  $v(z) = (z+a)^m$ .

In this paper, by involving some co-efficients of the polynomial v(z) and also  $\min_{|z|=a} |v(z)|$ , we obtain a result which is an improvement and a generalization of (1.6) by further extending for the *s*th derivative of v(z) and maxima are considered on two different circles lying both inside and on any circle. More precisely, we have

**Theorem.** If  $v(z) = \sum_{\nu=0}^{m} c_{\nu} z^{\nu}$  is a polynomial of degree m having no zero in |z| < a, a > 0, then for  $0 < t \le T \le a$ , and

$$\max_{|z|=T} \left| v^{(s)}(z) \right| \leq \frac{m(m-1)....(m-s+1)}{T^s + \delta_{a,s}} \\
\times \left[ \left( \frac{T+a}{t+a} \right)^m \max_{|z|=t} \left| v(z) \right| - \left\{ \left( \frac{T+a}{t+a} \right)^m - 1 \right\} \min_{|z|=a} \left| v(z) \right| \right]$$
(1.7)

where

 $1 \le s \le m$ ,

$$\delta_{a,s} = \frac{C(m,s) |c_0| a^{s+1} + |c_s| T a^{2s}}{C(m,s) |c_0| T + |c_s| a^{s+1}} \text{ with } C(m,s) = \frac{m!}{s!(m-s)!} \,.$$

The result is best possible for s = 1 and equality in (1.7) holds for  $v(z) = (z+a)^m$ . **Remark 1.1.** Putting t = 1, our theorem gives the following result, which is an improvement of Theorem B.

**Corollary 1.1.** If  $v(z) = \sum_{\nu=0}^{m} c_{\nu} z^{\nu}$  is a polynomial of degree *m* having no zero in  $|z| < a, a \ge 1$ , then for  $1 \le T \le a$ , and  $1 \le s \le m$ ,

$$\max_{|z|=T} \left| v^{(s)}(z) \right| \leq \frac{m(m-1)\dots(m-s+1)}{T^s + \delta_{a,s}}$$
$$\times \left[ \left( \frac{T+a}{1+a} \right)^m \max_{|z|=t} \left| v(z) \right| - \left\{ \left( \frac{T+a}{1+a} \right)^m - 1 \right\} \min_{|z|=a} \left| v(z) \right| \right]$$
(1.8)

where  $\delta_{a,s}$  is as defined in the theorem.

**Remark 1.2.** Corollary 1.1 provides a generalization of a result due to Aziz and Rather [2].

**Remark 1.3.** If we assign T = s = 1 in Corollary 1.1, it reduces to a result of Govil et.al [6].

**Corollary 1.2.** If  $v(z) = \sum_{\nu=0}^{n} c_{\nu} z^{\nu}$  is a polynomial of degree *m* having no zero in |z| < a,  $a \ge 1$ , then

$$\max_{|z|=1} |v'(z)| \le \frac{|c_1|a^2 + m|c_0|}{(1+a^2)m|c_0| + 2|c_1|a^2} \max_{|z|=1} |v(z)|.$$
(1.9)

**Remark 1.4.** Corollary 1.2 is an improved version of a wellknown inequality proved by Malik [8] under the same set of hypotheses.

**Remark 1.5.** If we put s = t = T = a = 1, our theorem gives inequality (1.2), conjectured by Erdös and later proved by Lax [7].

### 2. LEMMA

The following lemmas are needed for the proof of the theorem.

**Lemma 2.1.** If  $v(z) = \sum_{\nu=0}^{m} c_{\nu} z^{\nu}$  is a polynomial of degree *n* such that  $v(z) \neq 0$  for |z| < a,  $a \ge 1$ , then

$$\mu_{a,s} \left| v^{(s)}(z) \right| \le \left| u^{(s)}(z) \right| \text{ for } |z| = 1,$$
(2.1)

and

 $\frac{1}{C(m,s)} \frac{\left|c_{s}\right|}{\left|c_{0}\right|} a^{s} \leq 1,$ 

where

$$u(z)=z^m \overline{v\left(\frac{1}{z}\right)},$$

$$\mu_{a,s} = \frac{C(m,s)|c_0|a^{s+1} + |c_s|a^{2s}}{C(m,s)|c_0| + |c_s|a^{s+1}} \text{ and}$$

C(m,s) is as defined in our theorem.

The above result is due to Aziz and Rather [2].

Lemma 2.2. If  $v(z) = c_0 + \sum_{\nu=\mu}^m c_\nu z^\nu$ ,  $1 \le \mu \le m$ , is a polynomial of degree m such that  $v(z) \ne 0$  in |z| < a, a > 0, then for  $0 < t \le T \le a$ ,  $\max_{|z|=T} |v(z)| \le A \max_{|z|=t} |v(z)| - (A-1) \min_{|z|=a} |v(z)|$ . (2.2)

where

$$A = \left(\frac{T^{\mu} + a^{\mu}}{t^{\mu} + a^{\mu}}\right)^{\frac{m}{\mu}}$$

Equality holds in (2.2) for  $v(z) = (z^{\mu} + a^{\mu})^{\frac{m}{\mu}}$  where *m* is a multiple of  $\mu$ .

This Lemma is due to Dewan et. al [5].

# 3. PROOF OF THE THEOREM

If v(z) has no zero in |z| < a, a > 0 and if  $0 < t \le T \le a$ , then V(z) = v(T z) has no zero in  $|z| < \frac{a}{T}$ ,  $\frac{a}{T} \ge 1$ . Thus, applying Lemma 2.1 to P(z), we get for  $1 \le s \le n$  and |z| = 1,  $\delta'_{a,s} |V^{(s)}(z)| \le |U^{(s)}(z)|$ , (3.1)

where

$$\delta_{a,s}' = \frac{1}{T^s} \left\{ \frac{C(m,s) |c_0| a^{s+1} + |c_s| T a^{2s}}{C(m,s) |c_0| T + |c_s| a^{s+1}} \right\},\$$

and

$$u(z)=z^m \,\overline{v\left(\frac{1}{z}\right)}.$$

Now if f(z) is a polynomial of degree *n* having all its zeros in  $|z| \le 1$ , then  $g(z) = z^m v(\frac{1}{z})$  has no zero in |z| < 1. Hence using inequality (2.1) of Lemma 2.1 with a = 1, we have for |z| = 1

$$|g^{(s)}(z)| \le |f^{(s)}(z)|.$$
 (3.2)

Let  $M = \max_{|z|=1} |V(z)|$ , then for every real or complex number we have for  $\gamma$  with  $|\gamma| > 1$ , it follows by Rouche's theorem that the polynomial  $R(z) = V(z) - \gamma M z^m$  has all its zeros in |z| < 1. Suppose

$$S(z) = z^m \overline{R\left(\frac{1}{z}\right)} = z^m \overline{V\left(\frac{1}{z}\right)} - \overline{\gamma}M = U(z) - \overline{\gamma}M$$
.

Applying (3.2) to R(z), we get for  $1 \le s \le n$  and |z| = 1

$$\left|S^{(s)}(z)\right| \leq \left|R^{(s)}(z)\right|,$$

which implies for |z| = 1

$$|U^{(s)}(z)| \le |V^{(s)}(z) - \gamma M \ m(m-1)....(m-s+1) \ z^{m-s} |.$$
(3.3)

Since V(z) is of degree n, it is evident that the polynomial  $V^{(s)}(z)$  is of degree (n-s) and repeated application of Bernstein's inequality (1.1) to V(z) yields for |z|=1,

$$|V^{(s)}(z)| \le M m(m-1)....(m-s+1).$$
 (3.4)

Further, for suitable choice of the argument of  $\gamma$  in (3.3), we have for |z| = 1,

$$|U^{(s)}(z)| \le |\gamma| M m(m-1)....(m-s+1) - |V^{(s)}(z)||,$$

which become by making limit as  $|\gamma| \rightarrow 1$ 

$$\left| U^{(s)}(z) \right| \le \left| M \ m(m-1)....(m-s+1) - \left| V^{(s)}(z) \right| \right|$$
$$= M \ m(m-1)....(m-s+1) - \left| V^{(s)}(z) \right|. \quad [Using (3.4)]$$

That is for |z| = 1,

$$|V^{(s)}(z)| + |U^{(s)}(z)| \le m(m-1)....(m-s+1)M$$
. (3.5)

Inequality (3.5) in conjunction with inequality (3.1) gives for |z| = 1

$$|V^{(s)}(z)| \le \frac{1}{1+\delta'_{a,s}}m(m-1)....(m-s+1)\max_{|z|=1}|V(z)|.$$

(3.6)

Replacing V(z) by v(Rz), we have

$$T^{s} \left| v^{(s)}(z) \right| \leq \frac{1}{1 + \delta'_{a,s}} m(m-1) \dots (m-s+1) \max_{|z|=T} \left| v(z) \right|.$$

which is equivalent to

$$|v^{(s)}(z)| \leq \frac{1}{T^s + \delta_{a,s}} m(m-1)....(m-s+1) \max_{|z|=T} |v(z)|,$$

(3.7)

where  $\delta_{a,s}$  is as defined in the theorem.

When  $\mu = 1$ , Lemma 2.2 becomes for  $0 < t \le T \le a$ 

$$\max_{|z|=T} |v(z)| \le B \max_{|z|=t} |v(z)| - (B-1) \min_{|z|=a} |v(z)|.$$
(3.8)

where

$$B = \left(\frac{T+a}{t+a}\right)^m.$$

Using inequality (3.8) to inequality (3.7), we obtain the required inequality, and this completes the proof of the theorem.

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