

Bounds for the Zeros of Polynomials

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Abstract: Let $p(z)$ be a polynomial of degree n , $p(z) = \sum_{v=0}^n a_v z^v$ and also let

$\text{Re}(a_j) = \alpha_j, \text{Im}(a_j) = \beta_j$. In this paper we have obtained a zero-free region in terms of α_j and β_j , and also obtained the number of zeros that can lie in a prescribed region. Our result sharpens as well as generalizes the earlier known results.

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1-Introduction and Statement of Results

The following results are well known in the theory of the distribution of zeros of polynomial.

Theorem A: - If $p(z) = \sum_{v=0}^n a_v z^v$ be a polynomial of degree n with the coefficients satisfying the condition

$$a_n \geq a_{n-1} \geq a_{n-2} \geq \dots \geq a_1 \geq a_0 > 0,$$

then all zeros of $p(z)$ lie in $|z| \leq 1$.

This is known as Eneström-Kakeya theorem [2, 4].

Theorem B: - If $p(z) = \sum_{v=0}^n a_v z^v$ be a polynomial of degree n . If $a_j = \alpha_j + i\beta_j$ and $\text{Re}(a_k) = \alpha_k, \text{Im}(a_k) = \beta_k$ for $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$ and

$$\alpha_n \geq \alpha_{n-1} \geq \alpha_{n-2} \geq \dots \geq \alpha_1 \geq \alpha_0 \geq 0, \quad \text{with } \alpha_n > 0,$$

then $p(z)$ has all its zeros in the ring-shaped region given by

$$\frac{|a_0|}{R_1^{n-1} [2R_1\alpha_n + R_1|\beta_n| - (\alpha_0 + |\beta_0|)]} \leq |z| \leq R_1 = 1 + \frac{1}{\alpha_n} \left[2 \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} |\beta_k| + |\beta_n| \right]$$

The above result is due to Govil and Rahman [3].

Theorem C: - If $p(z) = \sum_{v=0}^n a_v z^v$ be a polynomial of degree n with complex coefficients. Let

$\text{Re}(a_k) = \alpha_k, \text{Im}(a_k) = \beta_k$ and a positive number t can be found such that

$$0 \leq \alpha_0 \leq t\alpha_1 \leq t^2\alpha_2 \leq \dots \leq t^k\alpha_k \geq t^{k+1}\alpha_{k+1} \geq \dots \geq t^n\alpha_n > 0, \quad 0 \leq k \leq n$$

$$0 \leq \beta_0 \leq t\beta_1 \leq t^2\beta_2 \leq \dots \leq t^s\beta_s \geq t^{s+1}\beta_{s+1} \geq \dots \geq t^n\beta_n > 0, \quad 0 \leq s \leq n,$$

then all the zeros of $p(z)$ lie in the disk $|z| \leq \frac{t}{|a_n|} \left\{ 2 \left(\frac{t^k\alpha_k + t^s\beta_s}{t^n} \right) - (\alpha_n + \beta_n) \right\}$

The above result is due to Aziz and Mohammad [1].

The above result does not give zero-free region inside disk and is based upon the assumption that all a_j 's and β_j 's are positive numbers. We have improved and generalized this result by obtaining a zero-free region inside the disk and also maximum number of zeros in prescribed region. We have also assumed that a_j 's and β_j 's may take any negative or positive values. More precisely we prove

Theorem: -Let $p(z) = \sum_{v=0}^n a_v z^v$ be a polynomial of degree n . If $a_j = \alpha_j + i\beta_j$ and for some real number $t > 0$,

$$\alpha_0 \leq t\alpha_1 \leq t^2\alpha_2 \leq \dots \leq t^{k-1}\alpha_{k-1} \leq t^k\alpha_k \geq \dots \geq t^n\alpha_n,$$

$$\beta_0 \leq t\beta_1 \leq t^2\beta_2 \leq \dots \leq t^{s-1}\beta_{s-1} \leq t^s\beta_s \geq \dots \geq t^n\beta_n,$$

where α_0 and β_0 are not simultaneously zero.

Then no zeros lie in $\frac{t^2|a_0|}{M_1} \geq |z|$ and number of zeros lying in $\frac{t^2|a_0|}{M_1} \leq |z| \leq \delta t$, ($0 < \delta < 1$) does not exceed

$$\frac{1}{\log 1/\delta} \log \left[\frac{t^n \{ |a_n| - (\alpha_n + \beta_n) \} + \{ |a_0| - (\alpha_0 + \beta_0) \} + 2(t^k\alpha_k + t^s\beta_s)}{|a_0|} \right],$$

where

$$M_1 = t^{n+1} \{ (|a_n| - \alpha_n) + (|\beta_n| - \beta_n) \} + 2t(t^k\alpha_k + t^s\beta_s) - t(\alpha_0 + \beta_0).$$

Corollary: - If in this theorem we take $\alpha_j > 0$ and $\beta_j > 0$, then all the zeros of $p(z)$ as per the conditions of theorem C lie in

$$|z| \geq \frac{t|a_0|}{2(t^k\alpha_k + t^s\beta_s) - (\alpha_0 + \beta_0)}.$$

This result is an improvement of Theorem C.

2-Proof of Theorem

Proof of the theorem: - Let $F(z) = (t - z)p(z)$

$$= (t - z)(a_0 + a_1z + a_2z^2 + \dots + a_nz^n)$$

$$F(z) = ta_0 + \sum_{j=1}^n (ta_j - a_{j-1})z^j - a_nz^{n+1}$$

For $|z| \leq t$

$$\begin{aligned}
 |F(z)| &\leq t|a_0| + t^{n+1}|a_n| + \sum_{j=1}^n |ta_j - a_{j-1}|t^j \\
 &\leq t|a_0| + t^{n+1}|a_n| + \sum_{j=1}^n \left\{ |t\alpha_j - \alpha_{j-1}| + |t\beta_j - \beta_{j-1}| \right\} t^j \\
 &\leq t|a_0| + t^{n+1}|a_n| + \sum_{j=1}^k |t\alpha_j - \alpha_{j-1}|t^j + \sum_{j=k+1}^n |t\alpha_j - \alpha_{j-1}|t^j + \sum_{j=1}^s |t\beta_j - \beta_{j-1}|t^j \\
 &+ \sum_{j=s+1}^n |t\beta_j - \beta_{j-1}|t^j \\
 &\leq t|a_0| + t^{n+1}|a_n| + 2\alpha_k t^{k+1} - t\alpha_0 - t^{n+1}\alpha_n + 2\beta_s t^s - t\beta_0 - t^{n+1}\beta_n \\
 &\leq t^{n+1} \left\{ |a_n| - (\alpha_n + \beta_n) \right\} + t \left\{ |a_0| - (\alpha_0 + \beta_0) \right\} + 2t(t^k \alpha_k + t^s \beta_s) \\
 &= M \text{ (Let)}
 \end{aligned}$$

Further $F(0) = ta_0 \neq 0$.

Now it is known that [5, p-171] if $G(z)$ is regular, $G(0) \neq 0$ and $|G(z)| \leq M$ for $|z| \leq R$, then the number of zeros of $G(z)$ in $|z| \leq \delta R$, ($0 < \delta < 1$) does not exceed $\frac{1}{\log 1/\delta} \log \frac{M}{|G(0)|}$. Applying this fact to $F(z)$, we get the maximum number of zeros of $F(z)$ and hence $p(z)$ that can lie in $|z| \leq \delta t$ as

$$\frac{1}{\log 1/\delta} \log \left[\frac{t^n \left\{ |a_n| - (\alpha_n + \beta_n) \right\} + \left\{ |a_0| - (\alpha_0 + \beta_0) \right\} + 2(t^k \alpha_k + t^s \beta_s)}{|a_0|} \right]$$

This proves the first part of the theorem.

Now to show no zeros lie in $|z| \leq \frac{t^2|a_0|}{M_1}$, we proceed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(z) &= (t - z)p(z) \\
 &= (t - z)(a_0 + a_1z + a_2z^2 + \dots + a_nz^n)
 \end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$F(z) = ta_0 - a_nz^{n+1} + \sum_{j=1}^n (ta_j - a_{j-1})z^j$$

or

$$F(z) = ta_0 + h(z),$$

where

$$h(z) = -a_nz^{n+1} + \sum_{j=1}^n (ta_j - a_{j-1})z^j.$$

Now for $|z| = t$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Max}_{|z|=t} |h(z)| &\leq |a_n|t^{n+1} + \sum_{j=1}^n |ta_j - a_{j-1}|t^j \\
 &\leq (|\alpha_n| + |\beta_n|)t^{n+1} + \sum_{j=1}^n \left\{ |t\alpha_j - \alpha_{j-1}| + |t\beta_j - \beta_{j-1}| \right\} t^j \\
 &\leq (|\alpha_n| + |\beta_n|)t^{n+1} + \sum_{j=1}^n |t\alpha_j - \alpha_{j-1}|t^j + \sum_{j=1}^n |t\beta_j - \beta_{j-1}|t^j \\
 &\leq (|\alpha_n| + |\beta_n|)t^{n+1} + 2\alpha_k t^{k+1} - t\alpha_0 - t^{n+1}\alpha_n + 2\beta_s t^{s+1} - t\beta_0 - t^{n+1}\beta_n \\
 &\leq t^{n+1} \left\{ (|\alpha_n| - \alpha_n) + (|\beta_n| - \beta_n) \right\} + 2t(t^k \alpha_k + t^s \beta_s) - t(\alpha_0 + \beta_0) \\
 &= M_1 \text{ (Let)}
 \end{aligned}$$

By Schwarz's lemma

$$|h(z)| \leq M_1 \frac{|z|}{t} \quad \text{For } |z| \leq t.$$

Therefore $F(z) = ta_0 + h(z)$ implies that

$$\begin{aligned}
 |F(z)| &\geq t|a_0| - |h(z)| \\
 &\geq t|a_0| - M_1 \frac{|z|}{t} \\
 &> 0
 \end{aligned}$$

if

$$|z| < \frac{t^2|a_0|}{M_1}.$$

This implies that $F(z)$ and hence $p(z)$ does not vanish if

$$|z| < \frac{t^2|a_0|}{M_1}.$$

This proves the desired result.

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