

THE SHARP BOUND OF THE THIRD HANKEL DETERMINANT FOR CONVEX FUNCTIONS OF ORDER $-1/2$

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Abstract. We prove the sharp inequality $|H_{3,1}(f)| \leq 1/16$ for the third Hankel determinant $H_{3,1}(f)$ for convex functions of order $-1/2$ i.e., functions f analytic in $z \in \mathbb{D} := \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < 1\}$ with $a_n := f^{(n)}(0)/n!$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $a_1 := 1$, such that

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} > -\frac{1}{2}, \quad z \in \mathbb{D},$$

thus proving a recent conjecture.

1. Introduction

Let \mathcal{H} be the class of all analytic functions in $\mathbb{D} := \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < 1\}$ and let \mathcal{A} denote the subclass of \mathcal{H} with functions $f \in \mathcal{A}$ having Taylor series

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n z^n, \quad a_1 := 1. \tag{1}$$

Let \mathcal{S} be the subfamily of \mathcal{A} , consisting of univalent functions, and $\mathcal{S}^*(\alpha)$ and $\mathcal{C}(\alpha)$ for $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ denote respectively the classes of starlike and convex functions of order α . Then it is well-known that a function $f \in \mathcal{A}$ belongs to $\mathcal{S}^*(\alpha)$ if, and only if,

$$\operatorname{Re} \left(\frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right) > \alpha, \quad z \in \mathbb{D},$$

and that $f \in \mathcal{C}(\alpha)$ if, and only if,

$$\operatorname{Re} \left(1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right) > \alpha, \quad z \in \mathbb{D}.$$

We write $\mathcal{S}^*(0) =: \mathcal{S}^*$, and $\mathcal{C}(0) =: \mathcal{C}$ to denote the classes of starlike and convex functions respectively.

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A function $f \in \mathcal{A}$ belongs to \mathcal{H} , the class of close-to-convex functions if, and only if, there exist $g \in \mathcal{S}^*$ and $\tau \in (-\pi/2, \pi/2)$ such that $\operatorname{Re}[e^{i\tau}(zf'(z)/g(z))] > 0$ for $z \in \mathbb{D}$. The class \mathcal{H} was first formally introduced by Kaplan in 1952 [7], who showed that $\mathcal{H} \subset \mathcal{S}$, so that $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{S}^* \subset \mathcal{H} \subset \mathcal{S}$.

Little attention has been given to $\mathcal{C}(\alpha)$ for $\alpha < 0$. However in 1941, Ozaki [18] showed that functions in \mathcal{A} are univalent if they satisfy the condition

$$\operatorname{Re}\left(1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)}\right) > -\frac{1}{2}, \quad z \in \mathbb{D}, \tag{2}$$

and we denote by $\mathcal{C}(-1/2)$ the class of functions f satisfying (2).

We also note that $\mathcal{C}(-1/2) \subset \mathcal{H}$ follows from the original definition of Kaplan [7], and that Umezawa [23] subsequently proved that functions in $\mathcal{C}(-1/2)$ are not necessarily starlike, but are convex in one direction.

For $q, n \in \mathbb{N}$, the Hankel determinant $H_{q,n}(f)$ of functions $f \in \mathcal{A}$ given by (1) is defined as

$$H_{q,n}(f) := \begin{vmatrix} a_n & a_{n+1} & \cdots & a_{n+q-1} \\ a_{n+1} & a_{n+2} & \cdots & a_{n+q} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n+q-1} & a_{n+q} & \cdots & a_{n+2(q-1)} \end{vmatrix}.$$

General results for Hankel determinants with applications can be found in [2], [22], [19] and [20]. For subclasses of \mathcal{A} , finding bounds of $|H_{q,n}(f)|$ for $q, n \in \mathbb{N}$, is an interesting and significant area of study. Hayman [6] examined the second Hankel determinant $H_{2,2}(f) = a_2a_4 - a_3^2$ for areally mean univalent functions, and recently many other authors have also examined the second Hankel determinant for a variety of subclasses of \mathcal{A} , (see e.g., [3], [4] for further references), often obtaining sharp bounds for $|H_{2,2}(f)|$. The problem of finding sharp bounds for the third Hankel determinant

$$H_{3,1}(f) = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ a_2 & a_3 & a_4 \\ a_3 & a_4 & a_5 \end{vmatrix} = a_3(a_2a_4 - a_3^2) - a_4(a_4 - a_2a_3) + a_5(a_3 - a_2^2) \tag{3}$$

is technically much more difficult.

Finding sharp bounds for Hankel determinants when $f \in \mathcal{H}$ also presents a difficult problem, and even the sharp bound for $|H_{2,2}(f)|$ is not known. Thus finding the sharp bound for $|H_{3,1}(f)|$ when f belongs to a subclass of \mathcal{H} represents a significant advance.

Some sharp bounds for $|H_{3,1}(f)|$ have been found e.g. for convex functions [10], starlike functions [11], starlike functions of order $1/2$ [13], functions $f \in \mathcal{A}$ which satisfy the condition $\operatorname{Re} f(z)/z > \alpha$, $z \in \mathbb{D}$, when $\alpha = 0$ and $\alpha = 1/2$ [9], and functions $f \in \mathcal{A}$ such that $|(z/f(z))^2 - 1| < 1$ for $z \in \mathbb{D}$ [16]. The sharp bound for $|H_{3,1}(f)|$ has also been found when the associate starlike function $g(z) = z$ for $z \in \mathbb{D}$, in the definition of \mathcal{H} which represents perhaps the simplest subclass of \mathcal{H} [8].

We note now that using standard techniques, it is a relatively simple exercise to show that if $f \in \mathcal{C}(-1/2)$, then $|H_{2,2}(f)| \leq 21/64$ and that this inequality is sharp, and

in a recent unpublished paper, Obradović and Tuneski [17] gave the non-sharp bound $|H_{3,1}(f)| < (13/8)^2/30$ for $f \in \mathcal{C}(-1/2)$, and conjectured that the sharp bound is $|H_{3,1}(f)| \leq 1/16$.

In this paper, we prove that $|H_{3,1}(f)| \leq 1/16$ for $f \in \mathcal{C}(-1/2)$, thus confirming this conjecture, and so giving the sharp bound for $|H_{3,1}(f)|$ for a significant subclass of \mathcal{H} .

Since functions in $\mathcal{C}(-1/2)$ can be represented using the Carathéodory class \mathcal{P} , [1] i.e., the class of functions $p \in \mathcal{H}$ of the form

$$p(z) = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n z^n, \quad z \in \mathbb{D}, \tag{4}$$

having a positive real part in \mathbb{D} , the coefficients of functions in $\overline{\mathcal{C}(-1/2)}$ can be expressed in terms of coefficients of functions in \mathcal{P} . We therefore base our analysis on the well-known formula for c_2 (e.g., [21, p. 166]), the formula c_3 due to Libera and Zlotkiewicz [14, 15] and the formula for c_4 recently found in [12], all of which can be conveniently be expressed in the following lemma [12].

LEMMA 1.1. *If $p \in \mathcal{P}$ and is given by (4) with $c_1 \geq 0$, then*

$$c_1 = 2\zeta_1, \tag{5}$$

$$c_2 = 2\zeta_1^2 + 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_2, \tag{6}$$

$$c_3 = 2\zeta_1^3 + 4(1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_1\zeta_2 - 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_1\zeta_2^2 + 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)(1 - |\zeta_2|^2)\zeta_3 \tag{7}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} c_4 = & 2\zeta_1^4 + 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_2(\zeta_1^2\zeta_2^2 - 3\zeta_1^2\zeta_2 + 3\zeta_1^2 + \zeta_2) \\ & + 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)(1 - |\zeta_2|^2)\zeta_3(2\zeta_1 - 2\zeta_1\zeta_2 - \overline{\zeta_2}\zeta_3) \\ & + 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)(1 - |\zeta_2|^2)(1 - |\zeta_3|^2)\zeta_4, \end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

for some $\zeta_1 \in [0, 1]$ and $\zeta_2, \zeta_3, \zeta_4 \in \overline{\mathbb{D}} := \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| \leq 1\}$.

2. Main result

THEOREM 2.1. *If $f \in \mathcal{C}(-1/2)$, then*

$$|H_{3,1}(f)| \leq \frac{1}{16}. \tag{9}$$

The inequality is sharp.

Proof. Let $f \in \mathcal{C}(-1/2)$ and be given by (1). Then by (2),

$$1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} = \frac{3}{2}p(z) - \frac{1}{2}, \quad z \in \mathbb{D}, \tag{10}$$

for some function $p \in \mathcal{P}$ given by (4). Substituting (1) and (4) into (10) and equating coefficients we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} a_2 &= \frac{3}{4}c_1, & a_3 &= \frac{1}{8}(3c_1^2 + 2c_2), & a_4 &= \frac{1}{64}(9c_1^3 + 18c_1c_2 + 8c_3), \\ a_5 &= \frac{3}{640}(9c_1^4 + 36c_1^2c_2 + 32c_1c_3 + 12c_2^2 + 16c_4). \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

Hence from (3) we have

$$\begin{aligned} H_{3,1}(f) &= \frac{1}{20480} [96c_4(4c_2 - 3c_1^2) - 320c_3^2 + 288c_1c_2c_3 + 144c_1^3c_3 \\ &\quad - 252c_1^2c_2^2 + 108c_1^4c_2 - 32c_2^3 - 27c_1^6]. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Since the class $\mathcal{C}(-1/2)$ and the functional $H_{3,1}(f)$ are rotationally invariant, we may assume that $a_2 \geq 0$, i.e., by (11) that $c_1 \in [0, 2]$ ([1], see also [5, Vol. I, p. 80, Theorem 3]). Thus in view of (5) we assume that $\zeta_1 \in [0, 1]$. Using (5)–(8) by straightforward algebraic computation we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 96c_4(4c_2 - 3c_1^2) &= 768 \left[-\zeta_1^6 - (1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_1^4\zeta_2 - (1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_1^4\zeta_2^3 + 3(1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_1^4\zeta_2^2 \right. \\ &\quad - (1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_1^2\zeta_2^2 + 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)^2(3\zeta_1^2\zeta_2^2 + \zeta_1^2\zeta_2^4 - 3\zeta_1^2\zeta_2^3 + \zeta_2^3) \\ &\quad - (1 - \zeta_1^2)(1 - |\zeta_2|^2) \left(2\zeta_1^3\zeta_3 - 2\zeta_1^3\zeta_2\zeta_3 - \zeta_1^2\overline{\zeta_2}\zeta_3^2 \right) \\ &\quad + 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)^2(1 - |\zeta_2|^2) (2\zeta_1\zeta_2\zeta_3 - 2\zeta_1\zeta_2^2\zeta_3 - |\zeta_2|^2\zeta_3^2) \\ &\quad - (1 - \zeta_1^2)(1 - |\zeta_2|^2)(1 - |\zeta_3|^2)\zeta_1^2\zeta_4 \\ &\quad \left. + 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)(1 - |\zeta_2|^2)(1 - |\zeta_3|^2)\zeta_2\zeta_4 \right], \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 320c_3^2 &= 1280 \left[\zeta_1^6 + 4(1 - \zeta_1^2)^2\zeta_1^2\zeta_2^2 - 4(1 - \zeta_1^2)^2\zeta_1^2\zeta_2^3 + (1 - \zeta_1^2)^2\zeta_1^2\zeta_2^4 \right. \\ &\quad + 4(1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_1^4\zeta_2 - 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_1^4\zeta_2^2 + 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)(1 - |\zeta_2|^2)\zeta_1^3\zeta_3 \\ &\quad + (1 - \zeta_1^2)^2(1 - |\zeta_2|^2)^2\zeta_2^2 + 4(1 - \zeta_1^2)^2(1 - |\zeta_2|^2)\zeta_1\zeta_2\zeta_3 \\ &\quad \left. - 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)^2(1 - |\zeta_2|^2)\zeta_1\zeta_2^2\zeta_3 \right], \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 288c_1c_2c_3 &= 2304 \left[\zeta_1^6 + 3(1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_1^4\zeta_2 - (1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_1^4\zeta_2^2 \right. \\ &\quad + 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)^2\zeta_1^2\zeta_2^2 - (1 - \zeta_1^2)^2\zeta_1^2\zeta_2^3 \\ &\quad \left. + (1 - \zeta_1^2)(1 - |\zeta_2|^2)\zeta_1^3\zeta_3 + (1 - \zeta_1^2)^2(1 - |\zeta_2|^2)^2\zeta_1\zeta_2\zeta_3 \right], \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 144c_1^3c_3 &= 2304 \left[\zeta_1^6 + 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_1^4\zeta_2 - (1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_1^4\zeta_2^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (1 - \zeta_1^2)(1 - |\zeta_2|^2)\zeta_1^3\zeta_3 \right], \end{aligned}$$

$$252c_1^2c_2^2 = 4032 \left[\zeta_1^6 + 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_1^4\zeta_2 + (1 - \zeta_1^2)^2\zeta_1^2\zeta_2^2 \right],$$

$$108c_1^4c^2 = 3456 \left[\zeta_1^6 + (1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_1^4\zeta_2 \right],$$

$$32c_2^2 = 256 \left[\zeta_1^6 + 3(1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_1^4\zeta_2 + 3(1 - \zeta_1^2)^2\zeta_1^2\zeta_2^2 + (1 - \zeta_1^2)^3\zeta_2^3 \right],$$

$$27c_1^6 = 1728\zeta_1^6.$$

Substituting the above expression into (12) we obtain

$$H_{3,1}(f) = \frac{1}{320}(1 - \zeta_1^2) \left\{ 4\zeta_1^4\zeta_2 - (1 + 5\zeta_1^2)\zeta_1^2\zeta_2^2 + 4(3\zeta_1^4 - 11\zeta_1^2 + 5)\zeta_2^3 \right. \\ + 4(1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_1^2\zeta_2^4 + 4(1 - |\zeta_2|^2) [2\zeta_1^2 + (1 + 5\zeta_1^2)\zeta_2 - 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_2^2] \zeta_1\zeta_3 \\ + 4(1 - |\zeta_2|^2) \left[3\zeta_1^2\overline{\zeta_2} - (1 - \zeta_1^2)(5 + |\zeta_2|^2) \right] \zeta_3^2 \\ \left. - 12(1 - |\zeta_2|^2)(1 - |\zeta_3|^2) [\zeta_1^2 - 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_2] \zeta_4 \right\}, \tag{13}$$

for some $\zeta_1 \in [0, 1]$ and $\zeta_2, \zeta_3, \zeta_4 \in \mathbb{D}$.

Since $|\zeta_4| \leq 1$, from (13) we obtain

$$|H_{3,1}(f)| \leq \frac{1 - \zeta_1^2}{320} \left\{ |4\zeta_1^4\zeta_2 - (1 + 5\zeta_1^2)\zeta_1^2\zeta_2^2 \right. \\ + 4(3\zeta_1^4 - 11\zeta_1^2 + 5)\zeta_2^3 + 4(1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_1^2\zeta_2^4| \\ + 4(1 - |\zeta_2|^2) |2\zeta_1^2 + (1 + 5\zeta_1^2)\zeta_1\zeta_2 - 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_1\zeta_2^2| |\zeta_3| \\ + 4(1 - |\zeta_2|^2) \left| \left[3\zeta_1^2\overline{\zeta_2} - (1 - \zeta_1^2)(5 + |\zeta_2|^2) \right] \right| \\ \left. - 3|\zeta_1^2 - 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_2| |\zeta_3|^2 + 12(1 - |\zeta_2|^2) |\zeta_1^2 - 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_2| \right\}.$$

A. Suppose that

$$\left| 3\zeta_1^2\overline{\zeta_2} - (1 - \zeta_1^2)(5 + |\zeta_2|^2) \right| - 3|\zeta_1^2 - 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_2| \geq 0.$$

Then

$$|H_{3,1}(f)| \leq \frac{1}{320}h(\zeta_1, |\zeta_2|),$$

where $h : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined by

$$h(x, y) := (1 - x^2) \left\{ 4(2x^3 - 5x^2 + 5) + 4(x^4 + 5x^3 + 3x^2 + x)y \right. \\ + (5x^4 - 16x^3 + 17x^2 + 8x - 16)y^2 + 4[3x^4 - 11x^2 + 5] \\ \left. - 5x^3 - 3x^2 - x \right\} y^3 - 4(x^4 - 2x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x + 1)y^4.$$

We show that $|h(x, y)| \leq 20$ for $(x, y) \in [0, 1] \times [0, 1]$.

A1. Suppose that $3x^4 - 11x^2 + 5 \geq 0$, which holds if, and only if, $x \in [0, x_0]$,

where $x_0 := \sqrt{(11 - \sqrt{61})}/6 \approx 0.729$. Then

$$h(x, y) = (1 - x^2) \left[4(2x^3 - 5x^2 + 5) + 4(x^4 + 5x^3 + 3x^2 + x)y \right. \\ + (5x^4 - 16x^3 + 17x^2 + 8x - 16)y^2 \\ + 4(3x^4 - 5x^3 - 14x^2 - x + 5)y^3 \\ \left. - 4(x^4 - 2x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x + 1)y^4 \right], \quad x \in [0, x_0], y \in [0, 1].$$

I. On the vertices of $[0, x_0] \times [0, 1]$ we have

$$h(0, 0) = 20, \quad h(0, 1) = 16,$$

$$h(x_0, 0) = \frac{\sqrt{61} - 5}{6} \left[8 \left(\frac{11 - \sqrt{61}}{6} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} + \frac{10\sqrt{61}}{3} - \frac{50}{3} \right] \approx 5.839920 < 20,$$

$$h(x_0, 1) = \frac{485\sqrt{61} - 3685}{54} \approx 1.906872 < 20.$$

II. On the sides of $[0, x_0] \times [0, 1]$ we have

(a) If $x = 0$, $y \in (0, 1)$, then

$$h(0, y) = -4y^4 + 20y^3 - 16y^2 + 20 \leq 20, \quad y \in (0, 1),$$

since the above inequality is equivalent to the obviously true inequality

$$-y^2(4 - y)(1 - y) \leq 0, \quad y \in (0, 1).$$

(b) If $y = 0$, $x \in (0, x_0)$, then for $x \in (0, x_0)$,

$$h(x, 0) = 4(1 - x^2)(2x^3 - 5x^2 + 5) = 4(-2x^5 + 5x^4 + 2x^3 - 10x^2 + 5) \leq 20$$

since the last inequality is equivalent to the obviously true inequality

$$-x^2(5 - x)(2 - x^2) \leq 0, \quad x \in (0, x_0).$$

(c) If $y = 1$, $x \in (0, x_0)$, then

$$h(x, 1) = -17x^6 + 56x^4 - 59x^2 + 20 \leq 20, \quad x \in (0, x_0),$$

since the last inequality is equivalent to the obviously true inequality

$$-x^2(17x^4 - 56x^2 + 59) \leq 0, \quad x \in (0, x_0).$$

(d) If $x = x_0$, $y \in (0, 1)$, then

$$\begin{aligned} h(x_0, y) = & \frac{\sqrt{61} - 5}{6} \left\{ \left[8 \left(\frac{11 - \sqrt{61}}{6} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} - 8\sqrt{\frac{11 - \sqrt{61}}{6}} + \frac{10\sqrt{61}}{9} - \frac{86}{9} \right] y^4 \right. \\ & - \left[20 \left(\frac{11 - \sqrt{61}}{6} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} + 4\sqrt{\frac{11 - \sqrt{61}}{6}} - 2\sqrt{61} + 22 \right] y^3 \\ & - \left[16 \left(\frac{11 - \sqrt{61}}{6} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} - 8\sqrt{\frac{11 - \sqrt{61}}{6}} + \frac{53\sqrt{61}}{9} - \frac{364}{9} \right] y^2 \\ & + \left[20 \left(\frac{11 - \sqrt{61}}{6} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} + 4\sqrt{\frac{11 - \sqrt{61}}{6}} - \frac{40\sqrt{61}}{9} + \frac{380}{9} \right] y \\ & \left. + 8 \left(\frac{11 - \sqrt{61}}{6} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} + \frac{10\sqrt{61}}{3} - \frac{50}{3} \right\} =: h_1(y), \quad y \in (0, 1). \end{aligned}$$

Since $h'_1(y) = 0$ only for $y = y_0 \approx 0.467385$, and at y_0 the function h_1 attains its maximum value $h_1(y_0) \approx 8.318$, we have

$$h(x_0, y) = h_1(y) \leq h_1(y_0) < 20, \quad y \in (0, 1).$$

III. It remains to consider the set $(0, x_0) \times (0, 1)$. Then all the real solutions of the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} &= -40x^4 + 80x^3 + 24x^2 - 80x \\ &\quad - (24x^5 + 100x^4 + 32x^3 - 48x^2 - 24x - 4)y \\ &\quad - (30x^5 - 80x^4 + 48x^3 + 72x^2 - 66x - 8)y^2 \\ &\quad - (72x^5 - 100x^4 - 272x^3 + 48x^2 + 152x + 4)y^3 \\ &\quad + (24x^5 - 40x^4 - 48x^3 + 48x^2 + 24x - 8)y^4 = 0, \\ \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} &= (1 - x^2) [4(x^4 + 5x^3 + 3x^2 + x) \\ &\quad + 2(5x^4 - 16x^3 + 17x^2 + 8x - 16)y \\ &\quad + 12(3x^4 - 5x^3 - 14x^2 - x + 5)y^2 \\ &\quad - 16(x^4 - 2x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x + 1)y^3] = 0 \end{aligned}$$

by a numerical computation are the following

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{cases} x_1 \approx -1.355145 \\ y_1 \approx -1.340102 \end{cases} & \quad \begin{cases} x_2 \approx -1.009411 \\ y_2 \approx 6.825166 \end{cases} & \quad \begin{cases} x_3 \approx -0.919818 \\ y_3 \approx 0.405793 \end{cases} \\ \begin{cases} x_4 \approx -0.794482 \\ y_4 \approx -0.849773 \end{cases} & \quad \begin{cases} x_5 \approx 0.047594 \\ y_5 \approx 0.645015 \end{cases} & \quad \begin{cases} x_6 \approx 0.735958 \\ y_6 \approx -0.823670 \end{cases} \\ \begin{cases} x_7 \approx 0.920936 \\ y_7 \approx -0.566691 \end{cases} & \quad \begin{cases} x_8 \approx 1.315340 \\ y_8 \approx 12.353621 \end{cases} & \quad \begin{cases} x_9 \approx 0 \\ y_9 \approx 0 \end{cases} \\ \begin{cases} x_{10} = 1 \\ y_{10} \approx -0.813927 \end{cases} & \quad \begin{cases} x_{11} = 1 \\ y_{11} \approx -0.208735 \end{cases} & \quad \begin{cases} x_{12} = 1 \\ y_{12} \approx 0.980996 \end{cases} \\ \begin{cases} x_{13} = -1 \\ y_{13} = (1 - 2\sqrt{2})/7 \end{cases} & \quad \begin{cases} x_{14} = -1 \\ y_{14} = (1 + 2\sqrt{2})/7 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Thus (x_5, y_5) is the unique critical point of h in $(0, x_0) \times (0, 1)$ with

$$h(x_5, y_5) \approx 18.099624 < 20.$$

A2. Suppose now that $3x^4 - 11x^2 + 5 < 0$, which holds if, and only if, $x \in (x_0, 1]$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} h(x, y) &= (1 - x^2) [4(2x^3 - 5x^2 + 5) + 4(x^4 + 5x^3 + 3x^2 + x)y \\ &\quad + (5x^4 - 16x^3 + 17x^2 + 8x - 16)y^2 \\ &\quad - 4(3x^4 + 5x^3 - 8x^2 + x + 5)y^3 \\ &\quad - 4(x^4 - 2x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x + 1)y^4], \quad x \in (x_0, 1], \quad y \in [0, 1]. \end{aligned}$$

I. On the vertices of $(x_0, 1] \times [0, 1]$, we have

$$h(1, 0) = h(1, 1) = 0.$$

II. On the sides of $(x_0, 1] \times [0, 1]$ we have

(a) If $x = 1$, $y \in (0, 1)$ then

$$h(1, y) = 0, \quad y \in (0, 1).$$

(b) If $y = 0$, $x \in (x_0, 1)$, then for $x \in (0, x_0)$,

$$h(x, 0) = 4(1 - x^2)(2x^3 - 5x^2 + 5) = 4(-2x^5 + 5x^4 + 2x^3 - 10x^2 + 5) \leq 20$$

since the last inequality is equivalent to the obviously true inequality

$$-x^2(5 - x)(2 - x^2) \leq 0, \quad x \in (x_0, 1].$$

(c) If $y = 1$, $x \in (x_0, 1)$, then

$$h(x, 1) = (1 - x^2)(-7x^4 + 49x^2 - 20) = 7x^6 - 56x^4 + 69x^2 - 20 =: h_2(x), \quad x \in [0, 1].$$

Since $h'_2(x) = 42x^5 - 224x^3 + 138x < 0$ for $x \in (0, 1)$, the function h_2 decreases and

$$h(x, 1) = h_2(x) \leq h_2(x_0) < h_2(0) = 16, \quad x \in (x_0, 1).$$

III. It remains to consider the set $(x_0, 1) \times (0, 1)$. Then all real solutions of the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} = & -40x^4 + 80x^3 + 24x^2 - 80x \\ & - (24x^5 + 100x^4 + 32x^3 - 48x^2 - 24x - 4)y \\ & - (30x^5 - 80x^4 + 48x^3 + 72x^2 - 66x - 8)y^2 \\ & + (72x^5 + 100x^4 - 176x^3 - 48x^2 + 104x - 4)y^3 \\ & + (24x^5 - 40x^4 - 48x^3 + 48x^2 + 24x - 8)y^4 = 0, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} = & (1 - x^2) [4(x^4 + 5x^3 + 3x^2 + x) \\ & + 2(5x^4 - 16x^3 + 17x^2 + 8x - 16)y \\ & - 12(3x^4 + 5x^3 - 8x^2 + x + 5)y^2 \\ & - 16(x^4 - 2x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x + 1)y^3] = 0 \end{aligned}$$

by a numerical computation are the following

$$\begin{cases} x_1 \approx -7.031128 \\ y_1 \approx 0.504740 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x_2 \approx -1.669260 \\ y_2 \approx -0.859642 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x_3 \approx -0.954646 \\ y_3 \approx -0.545208 \end{cases} \\ \begin{cases} x_4 \approx -0.926571 \\ y_4 \approx 0.228259 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x_5 \approx -0.728005 \\ y_5 \approx 0.784228 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x_6 \approx 0.004713 \\ y_6 \approx -0.643402 \end{cases} \\ \begin{cases} x_7 \approx 0.564827 \\ y_7 \approx -2.016450 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x_8 \approx 0.886349 \\ y_8 \approx -0.809809 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x_9 \approx 1.216558 \\ y_9 \approx 7.870078 \end{cases} \\ \begin{cases} x_{10} \approx 3.691002 \\ y_{10} \approx -8.082677 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x_{11} = 0 \\ y_{11} = 0 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x_{12} = -1 \\ y_{12} = 2/3 \end{cases} \\ \begin{cases} x_{13} = 1 \\ y_{13} \approx -1.223140 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x_{14} = 1 \\ y_{14} = -0.202956 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x_{15} = 1 \\ y_{15} = 1.342763 \end{cases} . \end{cases}$$

Thus the function h has no critical point in $(x_0, 1) \times (0, 1)$.

B. Suppose that

$$\left| 3\zeta_1^2 \overline{\zeta_2} - (1 - \zeta_1^2)(5 + |\zeta_2|^2) \right| - 3 \left| \zeta_1^2 - 2(1 - \zeta_1^2)\zeta_2 \right| < 0.$$

Then

$$|H_{3,1}(f)| \leq \frac{1}{320}g(\zeta_1, |\zeta_2|),$$

where $g : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} g(x, y) := & (1 - x^2) [4(2x^3 + 3x^2) + 4(x^4 + 5x^3 - 6x^2 + x + 6)y \\ & + (5x^4 - 16x^3 - 11x^2 + 8x)y^2 \\ & + 4(|3x^4 - 11x^2 + 5| - 5x^3 + 6x^2 - x - 6)y^3 \\ & - 4(x^4 - 2x^3 - x^2 + 2x)y^4]. \end{aligned}$$

We show now that $|g(x, y)| \leq 20$ for $(x, y) \in [0, 1] \times [0, 1]$.

B1. Suppose that $3x^4 - 11x^2 + 5 \geq 0$, which holds if, and only if, $x \in [0, x_0]$, where $x_0 := \sqrt{(11 - \sqrt{61})/6} \approx 0.729$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} g(x, y) = & (1 - x^2) [4(2x^3 + 3x^2) + 4(x^4 + 5x^3 - 6x^2 + x + 6)y \\ & + (5x^4 - 16x^3 - 11x^2 + 8x)y^2 + 4(3x^4 - 5x^3 - 5x^2 - x - 1)y^3 \\ & - 4(x^4 - 2x^3 - x^2 + 2x)y^4], \quad x \in [0, x_0], y \in [0, 1]. \end{aligned}$$

I. On the vertices of $[0, x_0] \times [0, 1]$ we have

$$g(0, 0) = 0, \quad g(0, 1) = 20,$$

$$g(x_0, 0) = \frac{2\sqrt{61} - 10}{3} \left[2 \left(\frac{11 - \sqrt{61}}{6} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} - \frac{\sqrt{61}}{6} + \frac{11}{2} \right] \approx 4.440417 < 20,$$

$$g(x_0, 1) = \frac{485\sqrt{61} - 3685}{54} \approx 1.906872 < 20.$$

II. On the sides of $[0, x_0] \times [0, 1]$ we have

(a) If $x = 0$, $y \in (0, 1)$, then

$$g(0, y) = 24y - 4y^3 \leq g(0, 1) = 20, \quad y \in (0, 1).$$

(b) If $y = 0$, $x \in (0, x_0)$, then

$$g(x, 0) = -8x^5 - 12x^4 + 8x^3 + 12x^2 =: g_1(x), \quad x \in [0, x_0].$$

Since

$$g'_1(x) = -40x^4 - 48x^3 + 24x^2 + 24x > 0, \quad x \in (0, x_0),$$

g increases and so

$$g(x, y) = g_1(x) \leq g_1(x_0) = \frac{485\sqrt{61} - 3685}{54} \approx 1.906872 < 20, \quad x \in (0, x_0).$$

Note that g'_1 has in $(0, 1)$ a unique zero at $x \approx 0.7334 \notin (0, x_0)$.

(c) If $y = 1$, $x \in (0, x_0)$, then

$$h(x, 1) = -17x^6 + 56x^4 - 59x^2 + 20 \leq 20, \quad x \in (0, x_0),$$

since the last inequality is equivalent to the obviously true inequality

$$-x^2(17x^4 - 56x^2 + 59) \leq 0, \quad x \in (0, x_0).$$

(d) If $x = x_0$, $y \in (0, 1)$, then

$$\begin{aligned} g(x_0, y) = & \frac{\sqrt{61} - 5}{6} \left\{ \left[8 \left(\frac{11 - \sqrt{61}}{6} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} - 8\sqrt{\frac{11 - \sqrt{61}}{6}} + \frac{16\sqrt{61}}{9} - \frac{116}{9} \right] y^4 \right. \\ & - \left[15 \left(\frac{11 - \sqrt{61}}{6} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} + 4\sqrt{\frac{11 - \sqrt{61}}{6}} + 4\sqrt{61} - 20 \right] y^3 \\ & - \left[16 \left(\frac{11 - \sqrt{61}}{6} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} - 8\sqrt{\frac{11 - \sqrt{61}}{6}} + \frac{11\sqrt{61}}{9} - \frac{46}{9} \right] y^2 \\ & + \left[20 \left(\frac{11 - \sqrt{61}}{6} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} + 4\sqrt{\frac{11 - \sqrt{61}}{6}} + \frac{14\sqrt{61}}{9} + \frac{2}{9} \right] y \\ & \left. + 8 \left(\frac{11 - \sqrt{61}}{6} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} - 2\sqrt{61} + 22 \right\} =: g_2(y), \quad y \in (0, 1). \end{aligned}$$

Observe that $g'_2(y) = 0$ only for $y = y_0 \approx 0.320862$ with $g_2(y_0) \approx 7.353760$. Thus by Part I we deduce that

$$g(x_0, y) = g_2(y) \leq \max\{g(x_0, 0), g(x_0, 1), g_2(y_0)\} \leq 7.36 < 20.$$

III. It remains to consider the set $(0, x_0) \times (0, 1)$. Then all real solutions of the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} &= -40x^4 - 48x^3 + 24x^2 + 24x \\ &\quad - (24x^5 + 100x^4 - 112x^3 - 48x^2 + 96x - 4)y \\ &\quad - (30x^5 - 80x^4 - 64x^3 + 72x^2 + 22x - 8)y^2 \\ &\quad - (72x^5 - 100x^4 - 128x^3 + 48x^2 + 32x + 4)y^3 \\ &\quad + (24x^5 - 40x^4 - 32x^3 + 48x^2 + 8x - 8)y^4 = 0, \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} &= (1 - x^2) [4(x^4 + 5x^3 - 6x^2 + x + 6) \\ &\quad + 2(5x^4 - 16x^3 - 11x^2 + 8x)y \\ &\quad + 12(3x^4 - 5x^3 - 5x^2 - x - 1)y^2 \\ &\quad - 16(x^4 - 2x^3 - x^2 + 2x)y^3] = 0 \end{aligned}$$

by a numerical computation are the following

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{cases} x_1 \approx -3.155561 \\ y_1 \approx -0.458540 \end{cases} & \quad \begin{cases} x_2 \approx -1.158451 \\ y_2 \approx 4.101246 \end{cases} & \quad \begin{cases} x_3 \approx -0.919613 \\ y_3 \approx 0.729786 \end{cases} \\ \begin{cases} x_4 \approx -0.768375 \\ y_4 \approx -0.127076 \end{cases} & \quad \begin{cases} x_5 \approx 0.052913 \\ y_5 \approx -1.489266 \end{cases} & \quad \begin{cases} x_6 \approx 0.190502 \\ y_6 \approx -2.680476 \end{cases} \\ \begin{cases} x_7 \approx 0.898787 \\ y_7 \approx -0.656863 \end{cases} & \quad \begin{cases} x_8 \approx 1.367317 \\ y_8 \approx 14.375248 \end{cases} & \quad \begin{cases} x_9 \approx 1.480316 \\ y_9 \approx -0.804262 \end{cases} \\ \begin{cases} x_{10} = 1 \\ y_{10} \approx 0.981079 \end{cases} & \quad \begin{cases} x_{11} = -1 \\ y_{11} \approx -1.462304 \end{cases} & \quad \begin{cases} x_{12} = -1 \\ y_{12} \approx 0.209961 \end{cases} \\ \begin{cases} x_{13} = -1 \\ y_{13} \approx 1.085675 \end{cases} & & \end{aligned}$$

Thus the function g has no critical point in $(x_0, 1) \times (0, 1)$.

B2. Suppose that $3x^4 - 11x^2 + 5 < 0$, which holds if, and only if, $x \in (x_0, 1]$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} g(x, y) &= (1 - x^2) [4(2x^3 + 3x^2) + 4(x^4 + 5x^3 - 6x^2 + x + 6)y \\ &\quad + (5x^4 - 16x^3 - 11x^2 + 8x)y^2 - 4(3x^4 + 5x^3 - 17x^2 + x + 11)y^3 \\ &\quad - 4(x^4 - 2x^3 - x^2 + 2x)y^4], \quad x \in (x_0, 1], y \in [0, 1]. \end{aligned}$$

I. On the vertices of $(x_0, 1] \times [0, 1]$ we have

$$g(1, 0) = g(1, 1) = 0.$$

II. On the sides of $(x_0, 1] \times [0, 1]$ we have

(a) If $x = 1$, $y \in (0, 1)$, then

$$g(1, y) = 0, \quad y \in (0, 1).$$

(b) If $y = 0$, $x \in (x_0, 1)$, then

$$g(x, 0) = g_1(x), \quad x \in (x_0, 1),$$

where g_1 is defined in Part B1.II(b).

(c) If $y = 1$, $x \in (x_0, 1)$, then

$$g(x, 1) = 7x^6 - 56x^4 + 69x^2 - 20 =: g_3(x), \quad x \in (x_0, 1).$$

Since $g'_3(x) = 42x^5 - 224x^3 + 138x = 0$ only for $x = \sqrt{8/3 - \sqrt{1687}/21} \approx 0.843092$, where g_3 attains its maximum, we deduce that for $x \in (x_0, 1)$,

$$g(x, 1) = g_3(x) \leq g\left(\sqrt{\frac{8}{3} - \frac{\sqrt{1687}}{21}}\right) = \frac{482\sqrt{1687}}{189} - \frac{2740}{27} \approx 3.265804 < 20.$$

III. It remains to consider the set $(x_0, 1) \times (0, 1)$. Then all real solutions of the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} = & -40x^4 - 48x^3 + 24x^2 + 24x \\ & - (24x^5 + 100x^4 - 112x^3 - 48x^2 + 96x - 4)y \\ & - (30x^5 - 80x^4 - 64x^3 + 72x^2 + 22x - 8)y^2 \\ & + (72x^5 + 100x^4 - 320x^3 - 48x^2 + 224x - 4)y^3 \\ & + (24x^5 - 40x^4 - 32x^3 + 48x^2 + 8x - 8)y^4 = 0, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} = & (1 - x^2) [4(x^4 + 5x^3 - 6x^2 + x + 6) \\ & + 2(5x^4 - 16x^3 - 11x^2 + 8x)y \\ & - 12(3x^4 + 5x^3 - 17x^2 + x + 11)y^2 \\ & - 16(x^4 - 2x^3 - x^2 + 2x)y^3] = 0 \end{aligned}$$

by a numerical computation are the following

$$\begin{array}{lll} \begin{cases} x_1 \approx -6.224355 \\ y_1 \approx 0.479164 \end{cases} & \begin{cases} x_2 \approx -0.968969 \\ y_2 \approx 0.414411 \end{cases} & \begin{cases} x_3 \approx -0.831610 \\ y_3 \approx -0.338257 \end{cases} \\ \begin{cases} x_4 \approx -0.772427 \\ y_4 \approx -0.136537 \end{cases} & \begin{cases} x_5 \approx -0.729807 \\ y_5 \approx -0.781026 \end{cases} & \begin{cases} x_6 \approx -0.721994 \\ y_6 \approx 0.753954 \end{cases} \\ \begin{cases} x_7 \approx 0.004694 \\ y_7 \approx -0.426300 \end{cases} & \begin{cases} x_8 \approx 0.590399 \\ y_8 \approx 0.484376 \end{cases} & \begin{cases} x_9 \approx 0.763704 \\ y_9 \approx -0.752592 \end{cases} \\ \begin{cases} x_{10} \approx 0.830666 \\ y_{10} \approx -10.538708 \end{cases} & \begin{cases} x_{11} \approx 0.898772 \\ y_{11} \approx -1.054646 \end{cases} & \begin{cases} x_{12} \approx 1.233102 \\ y_{12} \approx 5.163931 \end{cases} \\ \begin{cases} x_{13} \approx 1.547826 \\ y_{13} \approx -1.289887 \end{cases} & \begin{cases} x_{14} \approx 2.756334 \\ y_{14} \approx -8.717327 \end{cases} & \begin{cases} x_{15} \approx 5.779609 \\ y_{15} \approx -0.380734 \end{cases} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{cases} x_{16} = 1 \\ y_{16} \approx -1.928459 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x_{17} = 1 \\ y_{17} \approx -0.623757 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x_{18} = 1 \\ y_{18} \approx 1.38555 \end{cases} \\ \begin{cases} x_{19} = -1 \\ y_{19} \approx -0.856098 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x_{20} = -1 \\ y_{20} \approx 0.225831 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x_{21} = -1 \\ y_{21} \approx 0.574711 \end{cases} .$$

Thus the function g has no critical point in $(x_0, 1) \times (0, 1)$.

C. Summarizing, we see that the bounds obtained in Parts A and B give

$$|H_{3,1}(f)| \leq \frac{1}{320} \cdot 20 = \frac{1}{16}.$$

We finally note that equality in (9) holds for the function $f \in \mathcal{C}(-1/2)$ satisfying (10) with

$$p(z) := \frac{1+z^3}{1-z^3}, \quad z \in \mathbb{D},$$

for which $a_2 = a_3 = a_5 = 0$, and $a_4 = 1/4$. This completes the proof of the theorem. \square

REMARK 2.2. We note that using Lemma 1.1 it is a relatively simple exercise to prove that $|H_{2,2}(f)| \leq 21/64$ when $f \in \mathcal{C}(-1/2)$, and that this inequality is sharp.

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