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In the theory of integral functions, the expressions

(1)
$$E(z, p) = (1 - z) \exp \left\{ \sum_{1}^{p} \frac{z^{r}}{r} \right\}, p = 1, 2, \cdots$$

called primary factors, are of some importance, and it is of interest to find upper bounds for |E(z,p)|. Clearly E(z,p)=0 only for z=1, and so for other values, define $f(z,p)=\log |E(z,p)|$. It is known that for suitable constants a_p,b_p the inequalities

(2)
$$f(z, p) \leq a_p |z|^p, |z| \geq 1, z \neq 1$$

(3)
$$f(z, p) \leq b_p |z|^{p+1}, |z| \leq 1, z \neq 1$$

are satisfied; for instance Hille has shown that one may take $a_p = 1 + \sum_{i=1}^{p} 1/r \le 2 + \log p$ and $b_p = 1$.

In this paper, the smallest values of both a_p and b_p are determined, the latter in closed form.

Throughout, we shall write $z = \rho e^{i\theta}$, where without loss of generality $\rho \ge 0$, $0 \le \theta \le \pi$. Then

(4)
$$f(z, p) = \frac{1}{2} \log (1 - 2\rho \cos \theta + \rho^2) + \sum_{1}^{p} \frac{\rho^r}{r} \cos r\theta$$
.

Also, using the Taylor series for $\log (1 - z)$ gives from (1)

$$f(z, p) = - \rho^{p+1} \sum_{0}^{\infty} \frac{\rho^{r}}{p+r+1} \cos{(p+r+1)\theta},$$

provided $\rho < 1$. A further expression is obtained by writing log E(z, p) as an integral of its derivative and taking real parts, to give

$$f(z, p) = \int_0^\rho \frac{t \cos p\theta - \cos (p+1)\theta}{1 - 2t \cos \theta + t^2} t^p dt,$$

provided $\theta \neq 0$ or $\rho < 1$.

The problem considered in this paper is the determination of the maxima of the functions

(6)
$$g(z, p) = \rho^{-p} f(z, p) \text{ for } \rho \ge 1$$

and

$$h(z, p) = \rho^{-p-1} f(z, p)$$
 for $\rho \leq 1$,

and to show where these occur.

1. Summary of results. Henceforth we use a_p and b_p to denote the smallest constants for which (2) and (3) hold. We shall show that both a_p and b_p are monotone decreasing functions of p. The value of a_1 is given by $a_1 = \log(\rho - 1)$ where ρ is the solution of the transcendental equation $(\rho - 1)\log(\rho - 1) = \rho$, $\rho > 1$ and the maximum occurs at $z = \rho$. Also $a_2 = 1$, the maximum occuring at z = 2, and a_∞ is given by the common value of x^{-1} and

$$e^{-x}\Big(\gamma+\int_0^1\!\!rac{e^s-1}{s}ds+\int_1^x\!rac{e^s}{s}ds\Big)$$
 ,

for the unique value of x which makes these expressions equal, γ denoting Euler's constant. For each $p \ge 2$, the maximum occurs at a point z on the real axis which satisfies $1 < z \le 2$.

The z maximizing b_p occur on |z|=1, with $\theta=\pi/(2p+1)$, p=1, 2, 3, \cdots . For p>1 the maximum is unique, but for p=1 it is attained at every point of the arc |z-1|=1, $|z|\leq 1$. We derive the explicit bounds

$$rac{1}{2} \geq b_{\scriptscriptstyle p} > \log \pi/2 + \gamma - \int_{\scriptscriptstyle 0}^{\pi/2} rac{1 - \cos x}{x} dx$$
 ,

and both bounds are sharp. We also have an explicit formula

$$b_{\scriptscriptstyle p} = \log\left(2\sinrac{1}{2}\, heta
ight) + \sum\limits_{\scriptscriptstyle 1}^{\scriptscriptstyle p}rac{1}{r}\cos r heta$$
 ,

where $heta=\pi/(2p+1)$. In particular these results give

$$1.2785 \geq a_p > 0.7423, rac{1}{2} \geq b_p > 0.4719$$
 .

Since $a_2 = 1$ we have therefore

$$\log |E(z, p)| \leq \min (|z|^p, |z|^{p+1}), p = 2, 3, \cdots,$$

and this is sharp.

The numerical values of a_p and b_p are as follows.

p	a_p	b_p
1	1.2785	0.5000
2	1.0000	0.4823
3	0.9123	0.4771
4	0.8691	0.4752
5	0.8435	0.4741
∞	0.7423	0.4719

2. Preliminaries. It is clear that for (2) and (3) to hold, both a_p and b_p must be positive, since for example z=2 and $z=\varepsilon \exp i\pi/(p+1)$ with ε sufficiently small give positive values of f(z,p). We see therefore that not only the point z=1, but also a neighbourhood of this point can be excluded from the discussion. We find by elementary means that

(8)
$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\rho \{ \sin{(p+1)\theta} - \rho \sin{p\theta} \}}{1 - 2\rho \cos{\theta} + \rho^2}$$

$$(\,9\,)\quad \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial \theta^2} = \frac{\partial \{(p+1)\cos{(p+1)\theta} - p\rho\cos{p\theta}\}}{1 - 2\rho\cos{\theta} + \rho^2} - \frac{2\rho\sin{\theta}}{1 - 2\rho\cos{\theta} + \rho^2}\frac{\partial g}{\partial \theta}$$

$$(10) \quad \frac{\partial g}{\partial \rho} = - \frac{pg}{\rho} + \frac{\rho \cos p\theta - \cos (p+1)\theta}{1 - 2\rho \cos \theta + \rho^2}$$

$$(11) \quad \frac{\partial h}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\sin{(p+1)\theta} - \rho \sin{p\theta}}{1 - 2\rho \cos{\theta} + \rho^2}$$

$$(12) \quad \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial \theta^2} = \frac{(p+1)\cos{(p+1)\theta} - p\rho\cos{\theta}}{1 - 2\rho\cos{\theta} + \rho^2} - \frac{2\rho\sin{\theta}}{1 - 2\rho\cos{\theta} + \rho^2} \frac{\partial h}{\partial \theta}$$

$$(13) \quad \frac{\partial h}{\partial \rho} = -\frac{(p+1)h}{\rho} + \frac{\rho\cos p\theta - \cos(p+1)\theta}{\rho(1-2\rho\cos\theta + \rho^2)}.$$

3. The case $\rho=1$. We consider first the unit circle on which of course f, g and h coincide, with $0 \le \theta \le \pi$. Then by (8) we find that $\partial f/\partial \theta = 1/2\cos{(p+(1/2))\theta}\cos{(c(1/2)\theta)}$, and so local maxima occur at $\theta=\beta, 5\beta, 9\beta, \cdots$ where $\beta=\pi/(2p+1)$. We shall show that $f(\beta)>f(5\beta)>f(9\beta)>\cdots$ and hence that $f(\beta)$ is the largest value taken by f(z,p) on |z|=1. For, let $n\ge 0$ with $(4n+5)\beta \le \pi$. Then

$$egin{align*} f((4n+5)eta) &- f((4n+1)eta) = \int_{(4n+5)eta}^{(4n+5)eta} f'(heta) d heta \ &= rac{1}{2} \int_{(4n+1)eta}^{(4n+3)eta} \cosrac{\pi heta}{2eta} \cscrac{1}{2} heta d heta + rac{1}{2} \int_{(4n+3)eta}^{(4n+5)eta} \cosrac{\pi heta}{2eta} \cscrac{1}{2} heta d heta \ &= rac{-eta}{2\pi} \int_{0}^{2\pi} rac{\sinrac{1}{2}\phi}{\sin\left(4n+3-rac{\phi}{\pi}
ight)rac{eta}{2}} \, d\phi + rac{eta}{2\pi} \int_{0}^{2\pi} rac{\sinrac{1}{2}\phi}{\sin\left(4n+3+rac{\phi}{\pi}
ight)rac{eta}{2}} \, d\phi \ &<0 \ , \end{gathered}$$

where we have substituted $\phi = (4n + 3)\pi - \pi\theta/\beta$ in the first integral, and $\phi = -(4n + 3)\pi + \pi\theta/\beta$ in the second.

Thus we obtain in view of (4), that for |z|=1,

(14)
$$f(z, p) \leq \sigma_p = \log\left(2\sin\frac{\pi}{4p+2}\right) + \sum_{1}^{p} \frac{1}{r}\cos\frac{r\pi}{2p+1}$$
.

We now consider σ_p , and prove first that $\sigma_p > \sigma_{p+1}$. Define δ by $\pi = 2(2p+1)(2p+3)\delta$. Then

$$egin{align} \sigma_p - \sigma_{p+1} &= \log rac{\sin{(2p+3)\delta}}{\sin{(2p+1)\delta}} + \sum\limits_1^p rac{1}{r} \{\cos{2(2p+3)r\delta} - \cos{2(2p+1)r\delta} \} \ &- rac{1}{p+1} \cos{2(2p+1)(p+1)\delta} \ &= \lambda(\delta), \; ext{say.} \end{split}$$

Thus if $\lambda(\phi)$ is defined for $0 < \phi \le \delta$ by the same formula with δ replaced by ϕ , we find that as $\phi \to 0$,

$$\lambda(\phi)
ightarrow \log rac{2p+3}{2p+1} - rac{1}{p+1} > 0$$
 .

Also

$$\lambda'(\phi)=\{(2p+3) \operatorname{cosec}\,(2p+3)\phi-(2p+1)\operatorname{cosec}\,(2p+1)\phi\}\operatorname{cos}rac{\pi\phi}{2\delta}\ >0\;.$$

since x cosec x is strictly increasing in $(0, \pi/2)$.

Thus $\lambda(\delta) > 0$, and so

$$\sigma_p > \sigma_{p+1} .$$

Also as $p \to \infty$ we find that

$$egin{aligned} \sigma_p &= \log \left(2 \sin rac{\pi}{4p+2}
ight) + \sum\limits_1^p rac{1}{r} \cos rac{r\pi}{2p+1} \ &= \log rac{\pi}{2p+1} + o(1) + \sum\limits_1^p rac{1}{r} + \sum\limits_1^p rac{1}{r} \left\{ \cos rac{r\pi}{2p+1} - 1
ight\} \ &= \log \pi/2 + \left\{ \sum\limits_1^p rac{1}{r} - \log p
ight\} - \int_0^{\pi/2} rac{1 - \cos x}{x} dx + o(1) \ & o \log rac{1}{2} \pi + \gamma - \int_0^{\pi/2} rac{1 - \cos x}{x} dx = 0.4719 \;. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we find, since $\sigma_1 = 1/2$, that for all p

(16)
$$\frac{1}{2} \ge \sigma_p > 0.4719$$
.

4. The case $\rho \leq 1$. For $\rho \leq 1$, we consider first p=1, where the situation is slightly different from the remaining values of p. Using (11) we see that if $\rho \neq 1$, then for fixed ρ , h has turning values, regarded as a function of θ , only for $\theta=0$, $\theta=\pi$ and $2\cos\theta=\rho$. Using (12) we find that both $\theta=0$ and $\theta=\pi$ give minima, and so for each $\rho \in (0,1)$ we find that

$$h(z,\,1) \le
ho^{-z}\!\!\left(rac{1}{2}\log 1 + rac{1}{2}
ho^{z}
ight) = rac{1}{2}$$
 ,

with equality if and only if $2 \cos \theta = \rho$. Thus we have $b_1 = 1/2$ with equality attained at every point of the arc |z - 1| = 1, $|z| \le 1$.

For $p \ge 2$, the situation is quite different. Clearly whatever b_p with turn out to be, there will be equality in (3) for z = 0. But for $0 < \rho < 2/7$, we find using (5) and (7) that

$$egin{align} h(\pmb{z},\,\pmb{p}) &=& -\sum\limits_0^\infty rac{
ho^r}{p\,+\,r\,+\,1} \cos{(p\,+\,r\,+\,1)} heta \ &< rac{1}{3}\sum\limits_0^\infty \Bigl(rac{2}{7}\Bigr)^r \,=rac{7}{15} < \sigma_p, \,\,\, ext{by (16)} \,\,. \end{align}$$

Thus the maximum of h(z, p) occurs in the closed annulus $2/7 \le \rho \le 1$.

Again consider a fixed value of p < 1. By (11) the greatest value of h, regarded as a function of θ , occurs at a solution of $\sin (p + 1)\theta = \rho \sin p\theta$. $\theta = 0$ is impossible since then $\frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial \theta^2} > 0$ by (12) and $\theta = \pi$ can be neglected since then by (5) and (7) we get

$$h(-\rho, p) = \sum_{0}^{\infty} \frac{\rho^{r}}{p+r+1} (-1)^{p+r} \leq \frac{1}{p+1} \leq \frac{1}{3} < \sigma_{p}$$
.

A glance at the sketch of $y=\sin{(p+1)x/\sin{px}}$ for $x\in(0,\pi)$, shown in Figure 1, reveals that there are precisely p other values of θ to consider, since it is readily shown that each branch of the curve is monotone strictly decreasing. Again we consider the sign of $\partial^2 h/\partial \theta^2$. Since $\rho<1$ we find that for given ρ , the intersection of $y=\rho$ with the rth. branch of the curve satisfies

$$rac{2r-1}{2p+1}\pi < heta < rac{r\pi}{p+1}$$
 ,

whence $p\theta \in ((r-1)\pi, r\pi)$ and $(p+1)\theta \in ((r-(1/2))\pi, r\pi)$. Thus at such a point we find from (12) and substituting for ρ ,

$$\frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial^2 \theta} = \frac{\sin \, p \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} \left\{ \sin \, p \theta \cos \, (p \, + \, 1) \theta \, - \, p \sin \, \theta \right\}$$

and so the second factor is negative. Thus $\partial^2 h/\partial \theta^2 < 0$ only if $\sin p\theta > 0$, i.e. if r is odd. Moreover at a local maximum we have using (13)

$$h = \frac{\sin p\theta}{(p+1)\sin \theta}$$
.

Thus if $\theta \le \pi/2$ we we find that except on the first branch $\theta > 2\pi/p$ and so

$$y = \frac{\sin((p+1)x)}{\sin px}$$

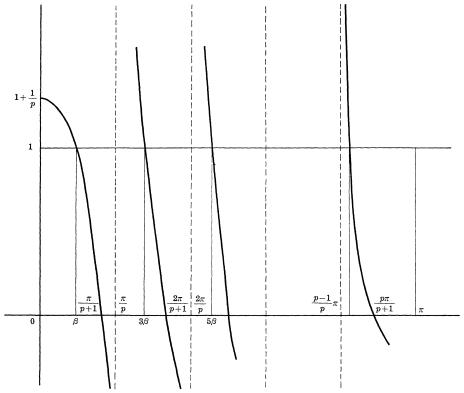


FIGURE 1

$$egin{aligned} h & \leq rac{1}{(p+1)\sin heta} \ & \leq rac{\pi}{2(p+1) heta} \ & \leq rac{p}{4(p+1)} < \sigma_p \;. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly if $\theta \ge \pi/2$ we find that

$$\pi - \theta \geqq \pi - \frac{\pi p}{p+1} = \frac{\pi}{p+1}$$

and so

$$egin{aligned} h & \leq rac{1}{(p+1)\sin heta} \ & \leq rac{1}{p+1} \operatorname{cosec} rac{\pi}{p+1} \ & \leq rac{1}{3} \operatorname{cosec} rac{1}{3} \pi < \sigma_p \ , \end{aligned}$$

since x cosec x increases over $(0, \pi/2)$.

Thus we need only consider the first branch. Let $k(\rho)$ be the value taken by h(z, p) with $\rho \in (0, 1)$ and θ defined by $\rho \sin p\theta = \sin (p+1)\theta$, $\theta \in (0, \pi/(p+1))$. Then

(17)
$$\frac{dk}{d\rho} = \frac{\partial h}{\partial \rho} + \frac{\partial h}{\partial \theta} / \frac{d\rho}{d\theta} = \frac{\partial h}{\partial \rho}$$

$$= -\frac{(p+1)k}{\rho} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\sin p\theta}{\sin \theta} .$$

Thus

$$egin{aligned} rac{d}{d
ho} \Big\{
ho rac{dk}{d
ho} + (p+1)k \Big\} &= rac{d}{d heta} \Big(rac{\sin p heta}{\sin heta} \Big) \Big/ rac{d}{d heta} \Big(rac{\sin (p+1) heta}{\sin p heta} \Big) \ &> 0 \; , \end{aligned}$$

since both $(\sin p\theta)/(\sin \theta)$ and $(\sin (p+1)\theta)/(\sin p\theta)$ decrease over (0, $\pi/(p+1)$). Therefore

$$rac{d}{d
ho}\Bigl\{
ho^{_{p+2}}rac{dk}{d
ho}\Bigr\}=
ho^{_{p+1}}rac{d}{d
ho}\Bigl\{
horac{dk}{dp}+(p+1)k\Bigr\}>0$$
 ,

and so ρ^{p+2} $dk/d\rho$ increases. But as $\rho \to 0$, $\theta \to \pi/(p+1)$, and so using (17) we see that ρ^{p+2} $dk/d\rho \to 0$. Thus for $\rho > 0$, $dk/d\rho > 0$, whence k increases over (0,1). Thus for all such z, $h(z,p) \le k(1) = \sigma_p$ with equality if and only if $z = \exp i\pi/(2p+1)$. This concludes the discussion of this case.

5. The case $\rho \ge 1$. We find that

$$rac{\partial}{\partial heta} \Bigl\{ rac{1}{2} \log \left(1 - 2
ho \cos heta +
ho^{ ext{2}}
ight) +
ho \cos heta \Bigr\} = rac{
ho^{ ext{2}} \sin heta (2 \cos heta -
ho)}{1 - 2
ho \cos heta +
ho^{ ext{2}}}$$

and so if $\rho \ge 2$, $1/2 \log (1 - 2\rho \cos \theta + \rho^2) + \rho \cos \theta \le \log (\rho - 1) + \rho$, whence for $\rho \ge 2$,

$$egin{align} g(z,\,p) &=
ho^{-p} \Big\{ rac{1}{2} \log \left(1 - 2
ho \cos heta +
ho^2
ight) + \sum\limits_1^p rac{
ho^r}{r} \cos r heta \Big\} \ &\leq
ho^{-p} \Big\{ \log \left(
ho - 1
ight) + \sum\limits_1^p rac{
ho^r}{r} \Big\} = g(
ho,\,p) \;. \end{split}$$

Also $g(\rho, 2)$ is decreasing for $\rho > 2$, for by (10) we find that

$$rac{dg(
ho,\,2)}{d
ho}=rac{-\,2}{
ho^3}\log\left(
ho-1
ight)\,-\,rac{
ho-\,2}{
ho^2(
ho-\,1)}$$
 .

But we now see from the definition of g(z, p) that

$$g(\rho, p + 1) = \frac{1}{p+1} + \frac{1}{\rho}g(\rho, p)$$

and so by induction we see that $g(\rho, p)$ decreases for $\rho \ge 2$ for each $p \ge 2$. Thus

(18) for
$$\rho \ge 2$$
, $p \ge 2$ $g(z, p) \le g(z, p)$,

with equality only for z=2.

Consider first the case p=1. If $\rho \leq 2$, we find that for given ρ , g is greatest when $2\cos\theta=\rho$, or $g(z,1)\leq \rho/2\leq 1$ for $\rho\leq 2$. For $2\leq \rho$, we know that $g(z,1)\leq g(\rho,1)=\rho^{-1}\log{(\rho-1)}+1$, and it is easily seen that this expression has precisely one turning value, and that a maximum, which occurs where $(\rho-1)\log{(\rho-1)}=\rho$: This gives $\rho=4.5911$ and then $g(\rho,1)=1.2785$. Thus $a_1=1.2785$.

Secondly, consider p=2. For $\rho \leq 2$ we have

$$egin{align}
ho^2 g(z,2) &= rac{1}{2} \log \left(1 - 2
ho \cos heta +
ho^2
ight) +
ho \cos heta + rac{1}{2}
ho^2 \cos 2 heta \ & \leq rac{1}{2}
ho^2 + rac{1}{2}
ho^2 \cos 2 heta, ext{ as before} \ & \leq
ho^2 \ , \end{aligned}$$

where equality occurs only if $\rho = 2 \cos \theta$ and $\cos 2\theta = 1$ are satisfied simultaneously; this does occur and at the single point z = 2. Thus $a_2 = 1$.

Finally we consider $p \geq 3$, and then in view of (18) we need only consider the annulus $1 \leq |z| \leq 2$. At a local maximum, we obtain from (8), $\rho \sin p\theta = \sin (p+1)\theta$. In view of (9) $\theta = 0$ arises only if $\rho \geq 1 + p^{-1}$, since otherwise $\partial^2 g/\partial \theta^2$ is positive. $\theta = \pi$ can be dismissed, since by (10) a local maximum at such a point would give $g \leq p^{-1} \leq 1/3 < \sigma_p$, by (16). Referring to the figure, we find therefore that we need to consider three cases

- (a) $\theta = 0$ for $\rho \ge 1 + p^{-1}$,
- (b) $0 < \theta \le \pi/(2p+1)$ for $1 \le \rho \le 1 + p^{-1}$,
- (c) values of θ between π/p and $\pi \pi/(p+1)$.

As before the final case can be dismissed, since at such a local maximum we find from (10) that

$$egin{aligned} g &= rac{\sin{(p+1) heta}}{p\sin{ heta}} \ &\leq p^{-1} \operatorname{cosec} rac{\pi}{p+1} \ &= rac{p+1}{\pi p} rac{\pi}{p+1} \operatorname{cosec} rac{\pi}{p+1} \ &\leq rac{p+1}{p} rac{1}{4} \operatorname{cosec} rac{1}{4} \pi \ &\leq rac{1}{3} \operatorname{cosec} rac{1}{4} \pi = rac{1}{3} 2^{1/2} < \sigma_p, ext{ in view of (16) .} \end{aligned}$$

Now in the second case, let $m(\rho)$ be the value taken by g(z, p) when $\rho \sin p\theta = \sin (p+1)\theta$ and $0 < \theta \le \pi/(2p+1)$. Then using (8) and (10) we obtain similarly to (17),

(19)
$$\frac{dm}{d\rho} = \frac{-pm}{\rho} + \frac{\sin p\theta}{\sin \theta} ,$$

and so

$$egin{aligned} rac{d}{d
ho} igl\{
ho^{p+1} rac{dm}{d
ho} igr\} &=
ho^p rac{d}{d
ho} igl\{
ho rac{dm}{d
ho} + pm igr\} \ &=
ho^p rac{d}{d heta} igl\{ rac{\sin{(p+1) heta}}{\sin{ heta}} igr\} / rac{d}{d heta} igl\{ rac{\sin{(p+1) heta}}{\sin{p heta}} igr\} \ &> 0, ext{ as before.} \end{aligned}$$

Thus $\rho^{p+1} dm/d\rho$ increases as ρ increases from 1 to $1 + p^{-1}$. But using (19) we see that when $\rho = 1$,

$$egin{aligned} rac{dm}{d
ho} &= -\ p\sigma_p + \sinrac{p\pi}{2p+1} / \sinrac{\pi}{2p+1} \ &= -\ p\sigma_p + rac{1}{2} \cscrac{\pi}{4p+2} \ &> -\ p\sigma_p \ + (2p+1)/\pi \ &> p(2/\pi - \sigma_p) > 0, ext{ in view of (16).} \end{aligned}$$

Thus $m(\rho)$ is an increasing function of ρ as ρ increases from 1 to $1+p^{-1}$, and in particular $g(1+p^{-1},p)\geq g(z,p)$ for $|z|\leq 1+p^{-1}$. Thus we need only consider case (a).

Let

(20)
$$d_{p} = f(1 + p^{-1}, p)$$

$$= -\log p + \sum_{1}^{p} \frac{1}{r} \left(1 + \frac{1}{p}\right)^{r}$$

$$= -\log p + \sum_{1}^{p} \int_{0}^{1+p^{-1}} t^{r-1} dt$$

$$= -\log p + \int_{0}^{1+p^{-1}} \frac{t^{p} - 1}{t - 1} dt .$$

Thus

$$egin{aligned} arDelta_{p+1} - arDelta_p &= -\log rac{p+1}{p} + \int_0^{1+(p+1)^{-1}} rac{t^{p+1} - t^p}{t-1} dt \ &- \int_{1+(p+1)^{-1}}^{1+p^{-1}} rac{t^p - 1}{t-1} dt \ &= -\log rac{p+1}{p} + rac{1}{p+1} \Big\{ 1 + rac{1}{p+1} \Big\}^{p+1} + \log rac{p+1}{p} \ &- \int_{1+(p+1)^{-1}}^{1+p^{-1}} rac{t^p}{t-1} dt \ &= rac{1}{p+1} \Big\{ 1 + rac{1}{p+1} \Big\}^{p+1} - I, ext{ say .} \end{aligned}$$

To estimate I we observe that for $t > 1 + (p + 1)^{-1}$,

$$rac{d}{dt} \Big(rac{t^{p+2}}{t-1}\Big) = rac{(p+1)t^{p+1}}{(t-1)^2} \Big(t-1-rac{1}{p+1}\Big) > 0 \; ,$$

and so

$$egin{align} I &= \int_{1+(p+1)^{-1}}^{1+p^{-1}} rac{t^{p+2}}{t-1} \, rac{dt}{t^2} \ &> (p+1) \Big\{ 1 + rac{1}{p+1} \Big\}^{p+2} \int_{1+(p+1)^{-1}}^{1+p^{-1}} rac{dt}{t^2} \ &= (p+2) \, \Big\{ 1 + rac{1}{p+1} \Big\}^{p+1} \Big\{ rac{p+1}{p+2} - rac{p}{p+1} \Big\} \ &= rac{1}{p+1} \Big\{ 1 + rac{1}{p+1} \Big\}^{p+1} \, , \end{split}$$

and so

$$\Delta_{n+1} < \Delta_n .$$

From (10) we see that if $\theta=0$, $\partial g/\partial \rho=-pg/\rho+(\rho-1)^{-1}$, and so it is easily verified that $\partial g/\partial \rho>0$ at $z=1+p^{-1}$, and that $\partial g/\partial \rho<0$ at z=2. Thus there exists at least one turning value of g on the real axis between these two points. At such a point $g=\rho/p(\rho-1)$ and so

$$egin{align} rac{\partial^2 g}{\partial
ho^2} &= -rac{p}{
ho} rac{\partial g}{\partial
ho} + rac{pg}{
ho^2} - rac{1}{(
ho-1)^2} \ &= rac{1}{
ho(
ho-1)} - rac{1}{(
ho-1)^2} < 0 \; ,
onumber \end{aligned}$$

and so there is exactly one such turning value, and that a maximum. Now let

(22)
$$\mu(x, p) = g(1 + xp^{-1}, p), x \ge 1.$$

Then using (20) we find

$$egin{aligned} \mu(x,\,p) &= \Big(1+rac{x}{p}\Big)^{-p}\Big\{\lograc{x}{p} + \sum\limits_{1}^{p}rac{1}{r}\Big(1+rac{x}{p}\Big)^{r}\Big\} \ &= \Big(1+rac{x}{p}\Big)^{-p}\Big\{arDelta_{p} + \log x + \sum\limits_{1}^{p}rac{1}{r}\Big\{\Big(1+rac{x}{p}\Big)^{r} - \Big(1+rac{1}{p}\Big)^{r}\Big\}\Big\} \ &= \Big(1+rac{x}{p}\Big)^{-p}\Big\{arDelta_{p} + \log x + \sum\limits_{1}^{p}\int_{1+p-1}^{1+xp-1}t^{r-1}dt\Big\} \ &= \Big(1+rac{x}{p}\Big)^{-p}\Big\{arDelta_{p} + \log x + \int_{1+p-1}^{1+xp-1}rac{t^{p}-1}{t-1}dt\Big\} \ &= \Big(1+rac{x}{p}\Big)^{-p}\Big\{arDelta_{p} + \int_{1}^{x}\Big(1+rac{s}{p}\Big)^{p}rac{ds}{s}\Big\} \ &= A_{p}(x) + B_{p}(x), \ ext{say.} \end{aligned}$$

Now, $(1+x/n)^n$ is an increasing sequence and by (21) \mathcal{L}_n is decresing. Thus $A_{p+1}(x) < A_p(x)$. We shall show that $B_{p+1}(x) \leq B_p(x)$ too. We find that for s < x,

$$egin{split} \left(1+rac{s}{p}
ight)^p \ rac{\dot{}}{\left(1+rac{s}{p+1}
ight)^{p+1}} & = rac{(p+s)^p(p+1+x)^{p+1}}{(p+x)^p(p+1+s)^{p+1}} \ & = rac{p+1+x}{p+1+s} igg\{1+rac{x-s}{p^2+p(x+s+1)+s+sx}igg\}^{-p} \ & > rac{p+1+x}{p+1+s} igg\{1-rac{p(x-s)}{p^2+p(x+s+1)+s+sx}igg\} \ & = rac{p^2+p(2s+1)+s+sx}{p^2+p(2s+1)+s+s^2} > 1 \ , \end{split}$$

since $(1+\varepsilon)^{-p}>1-p\varepsilon$ for every positive ε . Thus

$$\Big(1+rac{x}{p}\Big)^{\!-p}\Big(1+rac{s}{p}\Big)^{\!p}>\Big(1+rac{x}{p+1}\Big)^{\!-p-1}\!\Big(1+rac{s}{p+1}\Big)^{\!p+1}$$

for $1 \le s < x$, and so $B_p(x) \ge B_{p+1}(x)$.

We see therefore that

$$g\Big(1+rac{x}{n+1},\ p+1\Big) < g\Big(1+rac{x}{n},\ p\Big) \leqq a_p$$
 ,

and so $a_{p+1} < a_p$.

Also, since $\mu(x, p) > \mu(x, p + 1)$, we see that

$$\mu(x, p) > \mu(x) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \mu(x, p) = e^{-x} \Big\{ \Delta + \int_{1}^{x} s^{-1} e^{s} ds \Big\}$$
,

where $\Delta = \lim_{p\to\infty} \Delta_p$. Now from (20) we find that

$$egin{align} arDelta_p &= -\log p + \sum\limits_1^p rac{1}{r} + \sum\limits_1^p rac{1}{r} \Big\{ \Big(1 + rac{1}{p} \Big)^r - 1 \Big\} \ &= -\log p + \sum\limits_1^p rac{1}{r} + \sum\limits_1^p \int_0^1 rac{1}{p} \Big(1 + rac{s}{p} \Big)^{r-1} ds \,, \ &= -\log p + \sum\limits_1^p rac{1}{r} + \int_0^1 \Big\{ (1 + rac{s}{p} \Big)^p - 1 \Big\} rac{ds}{s} \,, \end{align}$$

and so

$$\Delta = \gamma + \int_0^1 (e^s - 1) s^{-1} ds = 1.895118$$
.

Now

$$\mu'(x) = -\mu(x) + x^{-1}$$

$$\mu''(x) = -\mu'(x) - x^{-2},$$

and so $\mu(x)$ has precisely one maximum, and at this point $\mu(x) = x^{-1}$, with

$$x^{-1}e^x=arDelta+\int_{_1}^x\!s^{-1}e^sds=arDelta+x^{-1}e^x-e+\int_{_1}^x\!s^{-2}e^sds$$
 ,

or

$$\int_{1}^{x} s^{-2} e^{s} ds = e - \Delta = 0.823164$$
 ,

whence x = 1.3472 and so $\mu_{\text{max}} = 0.7423$.

Thus we find that since $\mu(x, p) > \mu(x)$, we can always choose x such that $\mu(x, p) > 0.7423$, and so $a_p > 0.7423$. Thus as p increases from 2 to ∞ , a_p decreases from 1 to 0.7423.

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