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# Mathematica Balkanica

Mathematical Society of South-Eastern Europe  
A quarterly published by  
the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences – National Committee for Mathematics

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## Functions of Bounded Boundary Rotation of Complex Order

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Presented by M. Putinar

A function  $f(z)$  analytic in the unit disk  $E$ , normalized by the conditions  $f(0)=0, f'(0)=1$  and  $f'(z) \neq 0$  in  $E$  is said to belong to  $V_k(b)$ , where  $b$  is a nonzero complex number if

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \left| \operatorname{Re} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{b} \cdot \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right) \right| d\theta \leq k\pi$$

for all  $z = re^{i\theta} \in E$ .

In this paper we obtain various representation theorems and using an invariant transformation we obtain the sharp radius of convexity for the class  $V_k(b)$ . Using Ahlfors's criterion for univalence we determine a condition on  $k$  and  $b$  for which a function belonging to  $V_k(b)$  is univalent. Also using Goluzin's method of variation of parameters we have solved an extremal problem in the class  $V_k(b)$  and used it to obtain the sharp distortion and rotation bounds for the functions in the class. Further by employing a technique due to Krzyż, we determine the sharp radius of close-to-convexity of the class  $V_k(b)$ .

### 1. Introduction

Let  $A$  be the class of functions  $f(z)$  regular in the unit disk  $E = \{Z : |z| < 1\}$  and normalized by the conditions  $f(0)$  and  $f'(0)=1$ .

**Definition.** A function  $f(z) \in A, f'(z) \neq 0$  in  $E$  is said to belong to the class  $V_k(b)$ , where  $b$  is a non-zero complex number if

$$(1.1) \quad \int_0^{2\pi} \left| \operatorname{Re} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{b} \cdot \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right) \right| d\theta \leq k\pi$$

for all  $z = re^{i\theta} \in E$ .

The functions of the class  $V_k(b)$  are said to be functions of bounded boundary rotation of complex order  $b$ . For different values of  $k$  and  $b$ ,  $V_k(b)$  reduces to important subclasses studied by various authors.

- (i)  $V_k(1)$  is the well-known class  $V_k$  of functions of bounded boundary rotation at most  $k\pi$  introduced by V. Paatero [12].

- (ii)  $V_k(1-\rho)$  is the class introduced by K. S. Padmanabhan and R. Parvatham [13].
- (iii)  $V_k(\cos \alpha e^{-i\alpha})$  is the class introduced by E. J. Moulis, Jr. [8].
- (iv)  $V_k[(1-\beta)\cos \alpha e^{-i\alpha}]$  is studied by the author [19].
- (v)  $V_2(b)$  is the class of convex functions of complex order  $b$  introduced by P. Wiatrowski [21] and also studied by M. A. Nasr and M. A. Aouf [10]. Also  $V_2(\cos \alpha e^{-i\alpha})$  has been studied by R. J. Libera and M. R. Ziegler [7] and  $V_2[(1-\beta)\cos \alpha e^{-i\alpha}]$  has been studied by P. N. Chichra [2], P. I. Sizuk [17] and the author [18].

Hence the results obtained in this paper generalize the results due to [7], [8], [10], [18], [19].

### 2. Preliminary Results

Let  $M_k$  denote the class of functions  $\mu(t)$  of bounded variation with

$$\int_0^{2\pi} d\mu(t) = 2 \quad \text{and} \quad \left| \int_0^{2\pi} 1 d\mu(t) \right| \leq k.$$

**Lemma 1.** *If  $f(z) \in V_k(b)$  there exists a function  $\mu(t) \in M_k$  such that*

$$(2.1) \quad f'(z) = \exp \left\{ -b \int_0^{2\pi} \log(1 - ze^{it}) d\mu(t) \right\}.$$

**Proof.** If  $f(z) \in V_k(b)$  then (1.1) is satisfied for all  $z \in E$ . Hence by a theorem due to V. Paatero [12] there exists a function  $\mu(t) \in M_k$  such that

$$1 + \frac{1}{b} \cdot \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1 + ze^{it}}{1 - ze^{it}} d\mu(t).$$

A little simplification and an integration gives the desired result.

**Lemma 2.**  *$f(z) \in V_k(b)$  if and only if there exists a function  $g(z) \in V_k(1) = V_k$  such that*

$$(2.2) \quad f'(z) = [g'(z)]^b.$$

**Proof.** Differentiating (2.2) logarithmically we get

$$1 + \frac{1}{b} \cdot \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} = 1 + \frac{zg''(z)}{g'(z)}$$

$$\therefore \int_0^{2\pi} \left| \operatorname{Re} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{b} \cdot \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right) \right| d\theta = \int_0^{2\pi} \left| \operatorname{Re} \left( 1 + \frac{zg''(z)}{g'(z)} \right) \right| d\theta,$$

where  $z = re^{i\theta} \in E$ .

Hence the result follows.

**Lemma 3.**  $f(z) \in V_k(b)$  if and only if there exist two functions  $g(z)$  and  $h(z)$  in  $V_2(b) = C(b)$  such that

$$(2.3) \quad f'(z) = \frac{[g'(z)]^{\frac{k}{4} + \frac{1}{2}}}{[h'(z)]^{\frac{k}{4} - \frac{1}{2}}}.$$

**Proof.** For every function  $\mu(t) \in M_k$  there exist two non-decreasing functions  $u(t)$  and  $v(t)$  such that  $\mu(t) = u(t) - v(t)$

and 
$$\int_0^{2\pi} du(t) \leq \frac{k}{2} + 1, \quad \int_0^{2\pi} dv(t) \leq \frac{k}{2} - 1.$$

Now using the representation (2.1), (2.3) follows.

**Theorem 1.** If  $f(z) = z + a_2 z^2 + a_3 z^3 + \dots \in V_k(b)$  then

$$(2.4) \quad |a_2| \leq \frac{k}{2} \cdot |b|.$$

The result is sharp.

**Proof.** If  $f(z) \in V_k(b)$  then by Lemma 2 there exists a function  $g(z) = z + b_2 z^2 + \dots \in V_k(1)$  such that

$$f'(z) = [g'(z)]^b.$$

$$\therefore 1 + 2a_2 z + 3a_3 z^2 + \dots = [1 + 2b_2 z + 3b_3 z^2 + \dots]^b.$$

Comparing the coefficients we get  $a_2 = b_2$ . But  $|b_2| \leq \frac{k}{2}$  [11]. Hence  $|a_2| \leq \frac{k}{2} \cdot |b|$ .

Equality in (2.4) can be obtained for a function  $f(z)$  of the form

$$(2.5) \quad f'(z) = \left[ \frac{(1 - \varepsilon_1 z)^{\frac{k}{2} - 1}}{(1 - e_1 z)^{\frac{k}{2} + 1}} \right]^b, \quad |\varepsilon_1| = |e_1| = 1$$

for  $\varepsilon_1 = -1$  and  $e_1 = 1$ .

**Theorem 2.** Let  $f(z) \in V_k(b)$  and  $x \in E$ . Then the function  $F(z)$  defined by

$$(2.6) \quad F(z) = \frac{f'\left(\frac{z+x}{1+\bar{x}z}\right)}{f'(x)(1+\bar{x}z)^{2b}} \quad F(0) = 0$$

also belongs to  $V_k(b)$ .

**Proof.** Now  $f(z) \in V_k(b)$ , hence by Lemma 2 there exists a function  $g(z) \in V_k(1)$  such that  $f'(z) = [g'(z)]^b$ . M. S. Robertson [15] has shown that  $G(z)$  defined by

$$G(z) = \frac{g\left(\frac{z+x}{1+\bar{x}z}\right) - g(x)}{g'(x) \cdot (1-|x|^2)} \text{ is also in } V_k(1),$$

whenever  $g(z)$  is in  $V_k(1)$ . Hence there exists a function  $F(z) \in V_k(b)$  such that  $F'(z) = [G'(z)]^b$ .

$$\therefore F'(z) = \frac{g'\left(\frac{z+x}{1+\bar{x}z}\right)}{[g'(x)]^b \cdot (1+\bar{x}z)^{2b}} = \frac{f'\left(\frac{z+x}{1+\bar{x}z}\right)}{f'(x) \cdot (1+\bar{x}z)^{2b}},$$

which completes the proof of the theorem.

**Theorem 3.** If  $f(z) \in V_k(b)$  then  $f(z)$  is convex for  $|z| < r_0$ , where  $r_0$  is the least positive root of the equation

$$(2.7) \quad 1 - k \cdot |b| \cdot r + (2 \operatorname{Re} b - 1)r^2 = 0.$$

The result is sharp.

**Proof.** If  $f(z) \in V_k(b)$  then  $F(z)$  defined by (2.6) also belongs to  $V_k(b)$ . If  $F(z) = z + A_2 z^2 + \dots$  then from (2.4),  $|A_2| \leq \frac{k}{2} \cdot |b|$ .

But 
$$A_2 = \frac{F''(0)}{2!} = \frac{1}{2} \{ (1-|x|^2) \frac{f''(x)}{f'(x)} - 2b \cdot \bar{x} \}.$$

Replacing  $x$  by  $z$  and using the above inequality, we get

$$\left| \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} - \frac{2b|z|^2}{1-|z|^2} \right| \leq \frac{k \cdot |b| \cdot |z|}{1-|z|^2}.$$

Therefore,

$$\operatorname{Re} \left( 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right) \geq \frac{1 - k \cdot |b| \cdot r + (2 \operatorname{Re} b - 1)r^2}{1 - r^2},$$

where  $r = |z|$ . Hence  $\operatorname{Re} \left( 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right) > 0$ , for  $|z| < r_0$ , where  $r_0$  is the least positive root of the equation (2.7).

The result is sharp for a function  $f(z)$  defined by (2.5), where

$$\varepsilon_1 = \frac{r - e^{-i\delta}}{1 - re^{-i\delta}}, \quad e_1 = \frac{r + e^{-i\delta}}{1 + re^{-i\delta}}, \quad \delta = \arg b \text{ at } z = r.$$

If  $b = (1 - \beta) \cos \alpha e^{-i\alpha}$ , we get a result obtained by the author [19].

**Theorem 4.** A function  $f(z) \in V_k(b)$  is univalent in  $E$  if  $|b| < \frac{1}{k}$ .

**Proof.** If  $f(z) \in V_k(b)$  then

$$\left| (1 - |z|^2) \frac{f''(z)}{f'(z)} - 2b \cdot |z|^2 \right| \leq k|b| \cdot |z| < k|b|.$$

Then by using L. V. Ahlfors's [1] criterion for univalence where  $c = 2b$ ,  $f(z)$  is univalent if  $k|b| < 1$ , i.e.  $|b| < \frac{1}{k}$ .

If  $b = (1 - \rho) \cos \alpha e^{-i\alpha}$ , Theorem 4 reduces to a result obtained by E. J. Moulis Jr. [9].

### 3. Distortion and Rotation Bounds

By using G. M. Goluzin's [4] method of variation of parameters we have solved an extremal problem for the class  $V_k(b)$ . This method has been previously used by B. Pinchuk [14], E. M. Silvia [16] author [18] to study some important subclasses. We omit the details, for they are similar to those of B. Pinchuk [14], E. M. Silvia [16] and the author [18].

**Theorem 5.** Let  $w \neq 0$  be a point of  $E$  and let  $F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n+1})$  be analytic in a neighbourhood of each point

$$F(f'(w), f''(w), \dots, f^{(n)}(w); w), \quad f(z) \in V_k(b).$$

Then the functional  $J(f') = \operatorname{Re} F(f'(w), f''(w), \dots, f^{(n)}(w), w)$  attains its maximum or minimum in  $V_k(b)$  only for a function of the form

$$(3.1) \quad f'(z) = \prod_{j=1}^M (1 - \varepsilon_j z)^{b v_j} \cdot \prod_{j=1}^N (1 - e_j z)^{-b u_j},$$

where

$$\sum_{j=1}^N u_j \leq \frac{k}{2} + 1, \quad \sum_{j=1}^M v_j \leq \frac{k}{2} - 1,$$

and  $1 \varepsilon_j = |e_j| = 1$ .

Thus choosing  $J(f') = \operatorname{Re} \log f'(z)$  ( $n = 1$ ) or  $J(f') = \operatorname{Im} \log f'(z)$  in the above theorem the maximum or minimum of  $J(f')$  can be attained only for a function of the form (2.5). Using elementary calculus we can prove the following theorems. Throughout the rest of the paper we assume that  $b = c + id$ .

**Theorem 6. (Distortion)** If  $f(z) \in V_k(b)$  then for  $|z| = r < 1$

$$(3.2) \quad L(r) \leq \log |f'(z)| \leq M(r).$$

where

$$L(r) = \left(\frac{k}{2} - 1\right) \cdot c \cdot \log \frac{\sqrt{|b|^2 - d^2 r^2 - cr}}{|b|} - \left(\frac{k}{2} + 1\right) \cdot c \cdot \log \frac{\sqrt{|b|^2 - d^2 r^2 + cr}}{|b|} - kd \cdot \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{dr}{|b|}\right)$$

and

$$M(r) = \left(\frac{k}{2} - 1\right) \cdot c \cdot \log \frac{\sqrt{|b|^2 - d^2 r^2 + cr}}{|b|} - \left(\frac{k}{2} + 1\right) \cdot c \cdot \log \frac{\sqrt{|b|^2 - d^2 r^2 - cr}}{|b|} + kd \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{dr}{|b|}\right).$$

The result is sharp.

**Theorem 7. (Rotation)** If  $f(z) \in V_k(b)$  then for  $|z| = r < 1$ ,

$$(3.3) \quad P(r) \leq \arg f'(z) \leq Q(r),$$

where

$$P(r) = \left(\frac{k}{2} - 1\right) \cdot d \cdot \log \frac{\sqrt{|b|^2 - c^2 r^2 - dr}}{|b|} - \left(\frac{k}{2} + 1\right) \cdot d \cdot \log \frac{\sqrt{|b|^2 - c^2 r^2 + dr}}{|b|} - ck \cdot \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{cr}{|b|}\right)$$

and

$$Q(r) = \left(\frac{k}{2} - 1\right) \cdot d \cdot \log \frac{\sqrt{|b|^2 - c^2 r^2 + dr}}{|b|} - \left(\frac{k}{2} + 1\right) \cdot d \cdot \log \frac{\sqrt{|b|^2 - c^2 r^2 - dr}}{|b|} + ck \cdot \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{cr}{|b|}\right).$$

The result is sharp.

If  $b = (1 - \beta) \cos \alpha e^{-i\alpha}$  Theorems 6 and 7 reduce to Theorems 11 and 12 of the author [19]. If  $k = 2$ , we get the results obtained by M. A. Nasr and M. A. Aouf [10]. For  $b = 1$ , we get the well-known [14] results for the class  $V_k$ .

#### 4. Radius of close-to-convexity

In [5], W. Kaplan has shown that a function  $f(z) \in A$  and  $f'(z) \neq 0$  in  $E$  maps  $|z| = r < 1$  onto a close-to-convex curve if and only if

$$\arg [z_2 f'(z_2)] - \arg [z_1 f'(z_1)] \geq -\pi$$

for all  $z_1$  and  $z_2$  satisfying  $z_2 = z_1 e^{i\theta}$ ,  $0 < \theta < 2\pi$  and  $|z_2| = |z_1| = r$ . By using the techniques introduced by J. Krzyz [6] we find the sharp radius of close-to-convexity of the class  $V_k(b)$ .

**Theorem 8.** Let  $r_0$  be the radius of convexity of  $V_k(b)$  and let  $x_0 = \cos \frac{\theta_0}{2}$  be the unique root in  $(0, 1]$  of the equation

$$(4.1) \quad Ax^4 - Bx^2 + C = 0,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} A &= 16(1-c)^2 \cdot r^4 + 4k^2 d^2 r^4, \\ B &= 4k^2 d^2 r^4 + k^2 r^2 |b|^2 (1-r^2)^2 \\ &\quad + 8(1-c)r^2(1+r^2)[1+(1-2c)r^2], \\ C &= (1+r^2)^2 [1+(1-2c)r^2]^2 \end{aligned}$$

for  $r \in [r_0, 1)$ ,  $x = \cos \frac{\theta}{2}$ ,  $0 \leq \theta < \pi$

and

$$\begin{aligned} (4.2) \quad \Delta(r) &= \theta_0 + 2c \cdot \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{r^2 \sin \theta_0}{1 - r^2 \cos \theta_0} \right) \\ &\quad + \left( \frac{k}{2} - 1 \right) d \cdot \log \left\{ \left[ (1-r^2)^2 + \frac{4d^2 r^2 \sin^2 \theta_0 / 2}{|b|^2} \right]^{1/2} + \frac{2dr}{|b|} \cdot \sin \frac{\theta_0}{2} \right\} \\ &\quad - \left( \frac{k}{2} + 1 \right) d \cdot \log \left\{ \left[ (1-r^2)^2 + \frac{4d^2 r^2 \sin^2 \theta_0 / 2}{|b|^2} \right]^{1/2} + \frac{2dr}{|b|} \cdot \sin \frac{\theta_0}{2} \right\} \\ &\quad - kc \cdot \sin^{-1} \left\{ \frac{2cr \sin \theta_0 / 2}{|b|(1-2r^2 \cos \theta_0 + r^4)^{1/2}} \right\} + 2d \cdot \log(1-r^2). \end{aligned}$$

The radius of close-to-convexity of  $V_k(b)$  is the unique root  $r_1$  of the equation  $\Delta(r) = -\pi$  in the interval  $(r_0, 1)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\Delta(r, \theta) = \inf \arg \left\{ \frac{z_2 \cdot f'(z_2)}{z_1 \cdot f'(z_1)} \right\}$

$$f(z) \in V_k(b),$$

where  $z_1, z_2$  are any two points satisfying  $|z_1| = r < 1$ ,  $z_2 = z_1 e^{i\theta}$ ,  $0 < \theta < 2\pi$  and the argument is so chosen as to vary continuously from an initial value of zero.

Let  $f(z) \in V_k(b)$ . Then from Theorem 2,  $F(z)$  defined by



$$F'(z) = \frac{f' \left( \frac{z+x}{1+\bar{x}z} \right)}{f'(x) \cdot (1+\bar{x}z)^{2b}}, \quad F(0) = 0$$

is also in  $V_k(b)$ . Let  $w_0 = \frac{z_2 - z_1}{1 - \bar{z}_1 \cdot z_2}$ .

Hence

$$(4.3) \quad F'(w_0) = \frac{f'(z_2)}{f'(z_1)} \cdot \left\{ \frac{1 - \bar{z}_1 \cdot z_2}{1 - |z_1|^2} \right\}^{2b}.$$

$$\Delta(r, \theta) = \arg \frac{z_2}{z_1} \left\{ \frac{1 - |z_1|^2}{1 - \bar{z}_1 \cdot z_2} \right\}^{2b} + \inf_{F \in V_k(b)} \arg F'(w_0).$$

Also we have

$$|w_0| = r \left\{ \frac{2(1 - \cos \theta)}{1 - 2r^2 \cos \theta + r^4} \right\}^{1/2}$$

and

$$\arg \frac{z_2}{z_1} \left\{ \frac{1 - |z_1|^2}{1 - \bar{z}_1 \cdot z_2} \right\}^{2b} = \theta + 2c \cdot \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{r^2 \sin \theta}{1 - r^2 \cos \theta} \right)$$

$$+ 2d \cdot \log \left\{ \frac{1 - r^2}{(1 - 2r^2 \cos \theta + r^4)^{1/2}} \right\}.$$

Using these results and Theorem 7 in (4.3), we get

$$(4.4) \quad \Delta(r, \theta) = \theta + 2c \cdot \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{r^2 \sin \theta}{1 - r^2 \cos \theta} \right)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{k}{2} - 1 \right) \cdot d \cdot \log \left\{ [(1 - r^2)^2 + \frac{4d^2 r^2}{|b|^2} \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2}]^2 - \frac{2dr}{|b|} \cdot \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \right\}$$

$$- \left( \frac{k}{2} + 1 \right) \cdot d \cdot \log \left\{ [(1 - r^2)^2 + \frac{4d^2 r^2}{|b|^2} \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2}]^{1/2} + \frac{2dr}{|b|} \cdot \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \right\}$$

$$- ck \sin^{-1} \left\{ \frac{2cr \sin \theta/2}{|b| \cdot (1 - 2r^2 \cos \theta + r^4)^{1/2}} \right\} + 2d \log(1 - r^2).$$

Further there exists a function  $f(z) \in V_k(b)$  for which equality holds in (4.4), for fixed  $z_1$  and  $z_2$  letting  $g(z)$  in  $V_k(b)$  be defined by

$$f'(z) = \frac{g' \left( \frac{z - z_1}{1 - \bar{z}_1 \cdot z} \right)}{g'(-z_1) \cdot (1 - \bar{z}_1 \cdot z)^{2b}}, \quad f(0) = 0$$

it follows that

$$\Delta(r, \theta) = \arg \left\{ \frac{z_2 g'(z_2)}{z_1 g'(z_1)} \right\}.$$

Let  $\Delta(r) = \inf_{0 \leq \theta < 2\pi} \Delta(r, \theta)$ . Then  $\Delta(r)$  is a decreasing function of  $r$  and the radius of close-to-convexity is the root  $r_1$  of the equation  $\Delta(r) = -\pi$ , provided such a root exists.

We now show that  $\Delta(r)$  is given by (4.2) and establish the existence of the root  $r_1$ .

Since  $r_0$  is the radius of convexity of  $V_k(b)$ ,  $\Delta(r) \geq 0$  for  $r \leq r_0$ ,  $\Delta(r_0) = 0$  and so  $r_1 > r_0$ . Thus, we assume that  $r \in [r_0, 1)$ .

Differentiating (4.4) w.r.t.  $\theta$ , we get

$$\frac{\partial \Delta(r, \theta)}{\partial \theta} = \frac{P(x) - Q(x)}{R(x)}, \text{ where}$$

$$P(x) = (1 + r^2)[1 + (1 - 2c)r^2] - 4(1 - c) \cdot r^2 x^2$$

$$Q(x) = kr|b|x \left[ (1 - r^2)^2 + \frac{4d^2 r^2}{|b|^2} (1 - x^2) \right]^{1/2}$$

$$R(x) = (1 + r^2)^2 - 4r^2 x^2,$$

where

$$x = \cos \frac{\theta}{2}.$$

Now for  $\theta \in [\pi, 2\pi)$ ,  $\frac{\partial \Delta(r, \theta)}{\partial \theta}$  has no zeros and for  $\theta \in (0, \pi)$ , the zeros of  $\frac{\partial \Delta(r, \theta)}{\partial \theta}$  correspond to the roots of  $H(x) = (P(x))^2 - (Q(x))^2 = 0$ , i.e.,  $H(x) = A \cdot x^4 - Bx^2 + C = 0$ , where  $A, B, C$  are as given in the statement of the theorem.

The roots of  $H(x) = 0$  are

$$x_0 = \left[ \frac{B - \sqrt{B^2 - 4AC}}{2A} \right]^{1/2};$$

$$x_1 = \left[ \frac{B + \sqrt{B^2 - 4AC}}{2A} \right]^{1/2}.$$

Now  $H(0) = (1 + r^2)^2 [1 + (1 - 2c)r^2]^2 > 0$  and

$$H(1) = A - B + C = (1 - r^2)^2 \{1 + kr|b| + (2c - 1)r^2\} \{1 - kr|b| + (2c - 1)r^2\} < 0$$

if and only if  $r \in (r_0, 1)$ .

Hence there exists a root in  $(0, 1)$  of the equation  $H(x) = 0$  for  $r \in (r_0, 1)$ . Since  $B - A - C > 0$  for  $r \in (r_0, 1)$ ,  $x_1 > 1$ .

Hence  $x_0$  is the only root of  $H(x)=0$  in  $(0, 1)$ .

It can be easily verified that  $\frac{\partial^2 \Delta(r, \theta)}{\partial \theta^2} > 0$  for  $\theta \in (0, \pi)$ . Therefore minimum of  $\Delta(r, \theta)$  is attained at  $x=x_0=\cos \frac{\theta_0}{2}$  which yields (4.2).

We have  $\Delta(r_0)=0$  and  $\Delta(r) \rightarrow -\infty$  as  $r \rightarrow 1^-$ . Hence  $\Delta(r)$  is a continuous decreasing function of  $r$ , therefore there exists a unique root  $r_1$  of the equation  $\Delta(r)=-\pi$  in the interval  $(r_0, 1)$  and this root  $r_1$  is the radius of close-to-convexity of  $V_k(b)$ . This completes the proof of the theorem.

The above theorem generalizes the results of the author [18] and [20] when  $b=\cos \alpha e^{-i\alpha}$  and  $b=1-\rho$ , M. A. Nasr and M. A. Aouf [10] when  $k=2$ , H. B. Coonce and M. R. Ziegler [3] when  $b=1$  and that of R. J. Libera and M. R. Ziegler [7] when  $b=\cos \alpha e^{-i\alpha}$  and  $k=2$ .

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Received 01.03.1988