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Complex analysis

## On estimates for the coefficients of a polynomial

*Sur les bornes pour les coefficients d'un polynôme*

Suhail Gulzar

Islamic University of Science and Technology, Kashmir, Awantipora 192122, India

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## ABSTRACT

If  $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$  is a polynomial of degree  $n$ , then it was proved by Rahman and Schmeisser [4] that for every  $p \in [0, +\infty]$ ,

$$|a_n| + |a_0| \leq 2 \frac{\|P\|_p}{\|1+z\|_p}.$$

In this paper, various estimates for the coefficients of a polynomial  $P$  are obtained which among other things include the above inequality as a special case.

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## R É S U M É

Si  $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$  est un polynôme de degré  $n$ , Rahman et Schmeisser [4] ont montré que, pour tout  $p \in [0, +\infty]$ , on a

$$|a_n| + |a_0| \leq 2 \frac{\|P\|_p}{\|1+z\|_p}.$$

Nous obtenons ici diverses majorations pour les coefficients d'un polynôme qui, entre autres, incluent l'inégalité ci-dessus comme cas particulier.

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## 1. Introduction and statement of results

Let  $\mathcal{P}_n$  be the set of all polynomials of degree  $n$ . For  $P \in \mathcal{P}_n$  define

$$\|P\|_p := \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} |P(e^{i\theta})|^p d\theta \right)^{1/p} \quad (0 < p < \infty),$$

$$\|P\|_\infty := \max_{|z|=1} |P(z)|$$

E-mail address: [sgmattoo@gmail.com](mailto:sgmattoo@gmail.com).

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and

$$\|P\|_0 := \exp \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |P(e^{i\theta})| d\theta \right).$$

If  $P \in \mathcal{P}_n$  and  $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ , then by Rouché's theorem, the polynomial

$$P(z) + \lambda \|P\|_\infty = a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + (a_0 + \lambda \|P\|_\infty)$$

does not vanish in the unit disk  $|z| < 1$  for any choice of  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $|\lambda| = 1$ . It follows that  $|a_0 + \lambda \|P\|_\infty| \geq |a_n|$  for each  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $|\lambda| = 1$ . By choosing the argument of  $\lambda$  suitably, we get

$$|a_n| + |a_0| \leq \|P\|_\infty. \quad (1.1)$$

This is called Visser's inequality [5]. It is well known that equality holds in (1.1) only when  $a_j = 0$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ . Different variants of this inequality can be found in [3]. Rahman and Schmeisser [4] obtained an  $L_p$  version of inequality (1.1) and proved that if  $P \in \mathcal{P}_n$  and  $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ , then for every  $p \in [0, +\infty]$ ,

$$|a_n| + |a_0| \leq 2 \frac{\|P\|_p}{\|1+z\|_p}. \quad (1.2)$$

In this paper, we first prove the following result, which among other things includes inequalities (1.1) and (1.2) as special cases. More precisely, we prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.1.** *If  $P \in \mathcal{P}_n$  and  $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ , then for each  $0 \leq p < \infty$ ,*

$$|a_n| + \frac{|a_k|}{\binom{n}{k}} \leq 2 \frac{\|P\|_p}{\|1+z\|_p} \quad (1.3)$$

where  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$ .

For  $k = 0$ , inequality (1.3) reduces to (1.2).

If we let  $p \rightarrow \infty$  in (1.3), we obtain the following result, from which the Visser's inequality follows when  $k = 0$ .

**Corollary 1.2.** *If  $P \in \mathcal{P}_n$  and  $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ , then*

$$|a_n| + \frac{|a_k|}{\binom{n}{k}} \leq \|P\|_\infty$$

where  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$ .

Theorem 1.1 can be improved if we restrict ourselves to the class of polynomials having no zero in  $|z| < 1$ . In this direction, we prove:

**Theorem 1.3.** *If  $P \in \mathcal{P}_n$  and  $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$  does not vanish in  $|z| < 1$ , then for each  $0 \leq p < \infty$ ,*

$$|a_n| + \frac{|a_k|}{\binom{n}{k}} \leq 2c_p \frac{\|P\|_p}{\|1+z\|_p}$$

where  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$  and  $c_p = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } k = 0 \\ \frac{1}{\|1+z\|_p} & \text{if } k > 0. \end{cases}$

Note that  $0 < c_p < 1$  for  $k > 0$  and  $p > 0$ .

## 2. Lemmas

We first describe a result of Arestov [1].

For  $\gamma = (\gamma_0, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n) \in \mathbb{C}^{n+1}$  and  $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j \in \mathcal{P}_n$ , we define

$$C_\gamma P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n \gamma_j a_j z^j.$$

The operator  $C_\gamma$  is said to be *admissible* if it preserves one of the following properties:

- (i)  $P(z)$  has all its zeros in  $|z| \leq 1$ ,
- (ii)  $P(z)$  has all its zeros in  $|z| \geq 1$ .

The result of Arestov [1, Theorem 2] may now be stated as follows.

**Lemma 2.1.** Let  $\varphi(x) = \psi(\log x)$ , where  $\psi$  is a convex non-decreasing function on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then for all  $P \in \mathcal{P}_n$  and each admissible operator  $C_{\mathcal{Y}}$ ,

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \varphi(|C_{\mathcal{Y}} P(e^{i\theta})|) d\theta \leq \int_0^{2\pi} \varphi(c(\mathcal{Y})|P(e^{i\theta})|) d\theta$$

where  $c(\mathcal{Y}) = \max(|\gamma_0|, |\gamma_n|)$ .

In particular Lemma 2.1 applies with  $\varphi : x \mapsto x^p$  for every  $p \in (0, \infty)$  and with  $\varphi : x \mapsto \log x$  as well. Therefore, we have for  $0 \leq p < \infty$ ,

$$\left\{ \int_0^{2\pi} |C_{\mathcal{Y}} P(e^{i\theta})|^p d\theta \right\}^{1/p} \leq c(\mathcal{Y}) \left\{ \int_0^{2\pi} |P(e^{i\theta})|^p d\theta \right\}^{1/p}. \tag{2.1}$$

**Lemma 2.2.** If  $P \in \mathcal{P}_n$  and  $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$  does not vanish for  $|z| < 1$ , then for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n - 1$ ,  $\phi$  real and each  $p > 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{2\pi} \left| \left( a_n e^{in\theta} + \frac{a_k}{\binom{n}{k}} e^{ik\theta} \right) e^{i\phi} + \left( \frac{a_{n-k}}{\binom{n}{k}} e^{i(n-k)\theta} + a_0 \right) \right| d\theta \\ \leq \Lambda^p \int_0^{2\pi} |P(e^{i\theta})|^p d\theta \end{aligned}$$

where  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n - 1$  and  $\Lambda = \begin{cases} |1 + e^{i\phi}| & \text{if } k = 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } 0 < k < n. \end{cases}$

**Proof.** Since  $P(z)$  has all its zeros in  $|z| \geq 1$ , then all the zeros of  $P^*(z) = z^n \overline{P(1/\bar{z})}$  lie in  $|z| \leq 1$  and  $|P(z)| = |P^*(z)|$  for  $|z| = 1$ . Therefore  $P^*(z)/P(z)$  is analytic in  $|z| \leq 1$ . By the maximum modulus principle  $|P^*(z)| \leq |P(z)|$  for  $|z| \leq 1$  or equivalently  $|P(z)| \leq |P^*(z)|$  for  $|z| \geq 1$ . By Rouché’s theorem, all the zeros of the polynomial

$$P(z) - \lambda P^*(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n (a_j - \lambda \bar{a}_{n-j}) z^j$$

lie in  $|z| \leq 1$  for every  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $|\lambda| > 1$ . If  $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n$  are roots of  $P(z) - \lambda P^*(z)$ , then  $|z_j| \leq 1$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$  and we have by Viète’s formula for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n - 1$ ,

$$(-1)^{n-k} \left( \frac{a_k + \lambda \bar{a}_{n-k}}{a_n + \lambda \bar{a}_0} \right) = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_{n-k} \leq n} z_{i_1} z_{i_2} \dots z_{i_{n-k}}$$

which gives

$$\left| \frac{a_k + \lambda \bar{a}_{n-k}}{a_n + \lambda \bar{a}_0} \right| \leq \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_{n-k} \leq n} |z_{i_1} z_{i_2} \dots z_{i_{n-k}}| \leq \binom{n}{n-k} = \binom{n}{k}. \tag{2.2}$$

Therefore, all the zeros of the polynomial

$$M(z) = (a_n + \lambda \bar{a}_0) z^n + \frac{a_k + \lambda \bar{a}_{n-k}}{\binom{n}{k}} z^k = a_n z^n + \frac{a_k}{\binom{n}{k}} z^k + \lambda \left( \bar{a}_0 z^n + \frac{\bar{a}_{n-k}}{\binom{n}{k}} z^k \right)$$

lie in  $|z| \leq 1$  for  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $|\lambda| > 1$ . So that if  $r > 1$ , the polynomial

$$M(rz) = a_n (rz)^n + \frac{a_k}{\binom{n}{k}} (rz)^k + \lambda \left( \bar{a}_0 (rz)^n + \frac{\bar{a}_{n-k}}{\binom{n}{k}} (rz)^k \right)$$

has all its zeros in  $|z| < 1$ . This implies

$$\left| a_n(rz)^n + \frac{a_k}{\binom{n}{k}}(rz)^k \right| \leq \left| \bar{a}_0(rz)^n + \frac{\bar{a}_{n-k}}{\binom{n}{k}}(rz)^k \right| \tag{2.3}$$

for  $|z| \geq 1$ . Indeed, if inequality (2.3) is not true, then there exists a point  $w$  with  $|w| \geq 1$  such that

$$\left| a_n(rw)^n + \frac{a_k}{\binom{n}{k}}(rw)^k \right| > \left| \bar{a}_0(rw)^n + \frac{\bar{a}_{n-k}}{\binom{n}{k}}(rw)^k \right|.$$

Since all the zeros of  $P^*(z)$  lie in  $|z| \leq 1$ , then by the similar argument as in (2.2), we have  $|\bar{a}_0| \geq |\bar{a}_{n-k}|/\binom{n}{k}$ , which implies that  $\bar{a}_0(rw)^n + \bar{a}_{n-k}/\binom{n}{k}(rw)^k \neq 0$ . We take

$$\lambda = -\frac{a_n(rw)^n + \frac{a_k}{\binom{n}{k}}(rw)^k}{\bar{a}_0(rw)^n + \frac{\bar{a}_{n-k}}{\binom{n}{k}}(rw)^k},$$

then  $\lambda$  is a well defined complex number with  $|\lambda| > 1$  and with this choice of  $\lambda$ , we obtain  $M(rw) = 0$  where  $|w| \geq 1$ . This contradicts the fact that all the zeros of  $M(rz)$  lie in  $|z| < 1$ . Thus (2.3) holds. Letting  $r \rightarrow 1$  in (2.3) and using continuity, in particular, we obtain

$$\left| a_n z^n + \frac{a_k}{\binom{n}{k}} z^k \right| \leq \left| \bar{a}_0 z^n + \frac{\bar{a}_{n-k}}{\binom{n}{k}} z^k \right| = \left| \frac{a_{n-k}}{\binom{n}{k}} z^{n-k} + a_0 \right| \tag{2.4}$$

for  $|z| = 1$ . Again, since  $|\bar{a}_0| \geq |\bar{a}_{n-k}|/\binom{n}{k}$  then the polynomial  $\frac{a_{n-k}}{\binom{n}{k}} z^{n-k} + a_0$  does not vanish in  $|z| < 1$ . Hence by the maximum modulus principle,

$$\left| a_n z^n + \frac{a_k}{\binom{n}{k}} z^k \right| < \left| \frac{a_{n-k}}{\binom{n}{k}} z^{n-k} + a_0 \right| \quad \text{for } |z| < 1.$$

A direct application of Rouché’s theorem shows that with  $P(z) = a_n z^n + \dots + a_0$ ,

$$C_{\mathcal{Y}} P(z) = \left( a_n z^n + \frac{a_k}{\binom{n}{k}} z^k \right) e^{i\phi} + \left( \frac{a_{n-k}}{\binom{n}{k}} z^{n-k} + a_0 \right)$$

has all its zeros in  $|z| \geq 1$ . Therefore,  $C_{\mathcal{Y}}$  is an admissible operator. Applying (2.1) of Lemma 2.1, the desired result follows immediately for each  $p > 0$ . □

The next two lemmas can be found in [2].

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $\alpha$  be a complex number independent of  $\theta$ , where  $\theta$  is real. Then for each  $p > 0$*

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \left| \alpha + e^{i\theta} \right|^p d\theta = \int_0^{2\pi} \left| 1 + |\alpha| e^{i\theta} \right|^p d\theta.$$

**Lemma 2.4.** *Let  $n$  be a positive integer and  $0 \leq p \leq \infty$ ,*

$$\|1 + z^n\|_p = \|1 + z\|_p.$$

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $n, k$  are positive integers with  $n > k$ . Then for each  $p > 0$ ,*

$$\|\alpha z^n + \beta z^k\|_p \geq \frac{|\alpha| + |\beta|}{2} \|1 + z\|_p. \tag{2.5}$$

**Proof.** If  $\alpha = 0$  then (2.5) follows by the fact  $\|1 + z\|_p < 2$ . Henceforth, we assume that  $\alpha \neq 0$ , therefore by Lemma 2.3 and Lemma 2.4, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|\alpha z^n + \beta z^k\|_p &= |\alpha| \left\| z + \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \right\|_p \\ &= |\alpha| \left\| 1 + \left| \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \right| z \right\|_p. \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

From the inequality

$$\left| \frac{1 + re^{i\theta}}{1 + e^{i\theta}} \right| \geq \frac{1 + r}{2} \quad \text{with } r = \left| \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \right| \text{ and } 0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$$

we deduce

$$|\alpha| \left| 1 + \left| \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \right| e^{i\theta} \right| \geq \frac{|\alpha| + |\beta|}{2} |1 + e^{i\theta}|.$$

This implies

$$|\alpha| \left\| 1 + \left| \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \right| z \right\|_p \geq \frac{|\alpha| + |\beta|}{2} \|1 + e^{i\theta}\|_p.$$

Using this in conjunction with (2.6), the desired result follows.  $\square$

### 3. Proof of theorems

**Proof of Theorem 1.1.** By hypothesis  $P \in \mathcal{P}_n$ , we can write

$$P(z) = P_1(z)P_2(z),$$

where all the zeros of  $P_1(z)$  lie in  $|z| \leq 1$  and all the zeros of  $P_2(z)$  lie in  $|z| > 1$ . First, we suppose that  $P_1(z)$  has no zero on  $|z| = 1$ . Let the degree of polynomial  $P_2(z)$  be  $k$  then the polynomial  $P_2^*(z) = z^k \overline{P_2(1/\bar{z})}$  has all its zeros in  $|z| < 1$  and  $|P_2^*(z)| = |P_2(z)|$  for  $|z| = 1$ . Now consider the polynomial

$$F(z) = P_1(z)P_2^*(z),$$

then all the zeros of  $F(z)$  lie in  $|z| < 1$  and for  $|z| = 1$ ,

$$|F(z)| = |P_1(z)| |P_2^*(z)| = |P_1(z)| |P_2(z)| = |P(z)|.$$

By the maximum modulus principle, it follows that

$$|P(z)| \leq |F(z)| \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1.$$

Since  $F(z) \neq 0$  for  $|z| \geq 1$ , a direct application of Rouché’s theorem shows that the polynomial  $H(z) = P(z) + \lambda F(z)$  has all its zeros in  $|z| < 1$ , for every  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $|\lambda| > 1$ . Let  $F(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n b_j z^j$ , then the polynomial

$$H(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n (a_j + \lambda b_j) z^j$$

has all its zeros in  $|z| < 1$ . If  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$  be roots of  $H(z)$ , then  $|w_j| < 1, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$  and we have by Viète’s formula for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n - 1$ ,

$$(-1)^{n-k} \binom{a_k + \lambda b_k}{a_n + \lambda b_n} = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_{n-k} \leq n} w_{i_1} w_{i_2} \dots w_{i_{n-k}}.$$

Now, proceeding similarly as in Lemma 2.2, we obtain

$$\left| a_n z^n + \frac{a_k}{\binom{n}{k}} z^k \right| \leq \left| b_n z^n + \frac{b_k}{\binom{n}{k}} z^k \right|$$

for  $|z| \geq 1$ . This implies for each  $p > 0$  and  $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$ ,

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \left| a_n e^{in\theta} + \frac{a_k}{\binom{n}{k}} e^{ik\theta} \right|^p d\theta \leq \int_0^{2\pi} \left| b_n e^{in\theta} + \frac{b_k}{\binom{n}{k}} e^{ik\theta} \right|^p d\theta. \tag{3.1}$$

Again, since all the zeros of  $F(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n b_j z^j$  lie in  $|z| < 1$ , similarly as shown before, the polynomial  $b_n z^n + \frac{b_k}{\binom{n}{k}} z^k$  also has all its zeros in  $|z| < 1$ . Therefore, the operator  $C_{\mathcal{Y}}$  defined by

$$C_{\mathcal{Y}} F(z) = b_n z^n + \frac{b_k}{\binom{n}{k}} z^k$$

is admissible. Hence by (2.1) of Lemma 2.1, for each  $p > 0$ , we have

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \left| b_n e^{in\theta} + \frac{b_k}{\binom{n}{k}} e^{ik\theta} \right|^p d\theta \leq (c(\mathcal{Y}))^p \int_0^{2\pi} |F(e^{i\theta})|^p d\theta, \tag{3.2}$$

where  $c(\mathcal{Y}) = \max(|\gamma_0|, |\gamma_n|) = 1$ . Combining inequalities (3.1), (3.2) and noting that  $|M(e^{i\theta})| = |P(e^{i\theta})|$ , we obtain for each  $p > 0$ ,

$$\left\{ \int_0^{2\pi} \left| a_n e^{in\theta} + \frac{a_k}{\binom{n}{k}} e^{ik\theta} \right|^p d\theta \right\}^{1/p} \leq \left\{ \int_0^{2\pi} |P(e^{i\theta})|^p d\theta \right\}^{1/p}.$$

Using this in conjunction with Lemma 2.5, we obtain

$$|a_n| + \frac{|a_k|}{\binom{n}{k}} \leq 2 \frac{\|P(z)\|_p}{\|1+z\|_p}. \tag{3.3}$$

In case  $P_1(z)$  has a zero on  $|z| = 1$ , inequality (3.3) follows by continuity. This proves Theorem 1.1 for  $p > 0$ . To obtain this result for  $p = 0$ , we simply make  $p \rightarrow 0+$ .  $\square$

**Proof of Theorem 1.3.** Since  $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$  does not vanish in  $|z| < 1$ , therefore by (2.4) for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$ ,

$$\left| a_n e^{in\theta} + \frac{a_k}{\binom{n}{k}} z^{ik\theta} \right| \leq \left| \frac{a_{n-k}}{\binom{n}{k}} e^{i(n-k)\theta} + a_0 \right|. \tag{3.4}$$

Also, by Lemma 2.2,

$$\int_0^{2\pi} |G(\theta) + e^{i\phi} Q(\theta)|^p d\theta \leq \Lambda^p \int_0^{2\pi} |P(e^{i\theta})|^p d\theta, \tag{3.5}$$

where  $G(\theta) = a_n e^{in\theta} + \frac{a_k}{\binom{n}{k}} e^{ik\theta}$  and  $Q(\theta) = \frac{a_{n-k}}{\binom{n}{k}} e^{i(n-k)\theta} + a_0$ .

Integrating both sides of (3.5) with respect to  $\phi$  from 0 to  $2\pi$ , we get for each  $p > 0$  and  $\phi$  real

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} |G(\theta) + e^{i\phi} Q(\theta)|^p d\phi d\theta \leq \int_0^{2\pi} \Lambda^p d\phi \int_0^{2\pi} |P(e^{i\theta})|^p d\theta. \tag{3.6}$$

Now for every real  $\phi$  and  $t \geq 1$  and  $p > 0$ , we have

$$\int_0^{2\pi} |t + e^{i\phi}|^p d\phi \geq \int_0^{2\pi} |1 + e^{i\phi}|^p d\phi.$$

If  $G(\theta) \neq 0$ , we take  $t = |Q(\theta)|/|G(\theta)|$ , then by (3.4)  $t \geq 1$  and by using Lemma 2.3 we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{2\pi} |G(\theta) + e^{i\phi} Q(\theta)|^p d\phi &= |G(\theta)|^p \int_0^{2\pi} \left| 1 + e^{i\phi} \frac{Q(\theta)}{G(\theta)} \right|^p d\phi \\ &= |G(\theta)|^p \int_0^{2\pi} \left| e^{i\phi} + \left| \frac{Q(\theta)}{G(\theta)} \right| \right|^p d\phi \\ &\geq |G(\theta)|^p \int_0^{2\pi} |1 + e^{i\phi}|^p d\phi. \end{aligned}$$

For  $G(\theta) = 0$ , this inequality is trivially true. Using this in (3.6), we conclude that, for real  $\phi$ ,

$$\int_0^{2\pi} |G(\theta)|^p d\theta \int_0^{2\pi} |1 + e^{i\phi}|^p d\phi \leq \int_0^{2\pi} \Lambda^p d\phi \int_0^{2\pi} |P(e^{i\theta})|^p d\theta.$$

This implies

$$\left\{ \int_0^{2\pi} \left| a_n e^{in\theta} + \frac{a_k}{\binom{n}{k}} e^{ik\theta} \right|^p d\theta \right\}^{1/p} \leq \frac{\left\{ \int_0^{2\pi} \Lambda^p d\phi \right\}^{1/p} \left\{ \int_0^{2\pi} |P(e^{i\theta})|^p d\theta \right\}^{1/p}}{\left\{ \int_0^{2\pi} |1 + e^{i\phi}|^p d\phi \right\}^{1/p}}$$

which in conjunction with Lemma 2.5, gives

$$|a_n| + \frac{|a_k|}{\binom{n}{k}} \leq 2c_p \frac{\|P(z)\|_p}{\|1+z\|_p}$$

$$\text{where } c_p = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } k = 0 \\ \frac{1}{\|1+z\|_p} & \text{if } k > 0. \end{cases} \quad \square$$

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