

# The regularity of growth of entire functions whose zeros are hyperplanes

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Let  $f(z)$  be an entire function (of  $n$  variables) of finite order  $\rho$  and normal type  $\sigma$ . We then define  $h_r(z) = \overline{\lim}_{r \rightarrow \infty} r^{-\rho} \ln |f(rz)|$ ,  $r > 0$  (resp.  $h_c(z) = \overline{\lim}_{|u| \rightarrow \infty} |u|^{-\rho} \ln |f(uz)|$ ,  $u \in \mathbf{C}$ ) and the smallest upper-semicontinuous majorant  $h_r^*(z) = \overline{\lim}_{z' \rightarrow z} h_r(z')$  (resp.  $h_c^*(z) = \overline{\lim}_{z' \rightarrow z} h_c(z')$ ). This is plurisubharmonic and satisfies the condition  $h_r^*(tz) = t^\rho h_r^*(z)$ ,  $t > 0$ , (resp.  $h_c^*(uz) = |u|^\rho h_c^*(z)$ ,  $u \in \mathbf{C}$ ); it is called the radial (resp. circular) indicator function of  $f$ .

For  $n = 1$ , the function  $h_r(z)$  is continuous, and so  $h_r^*(z) = h_r(z)$  (see [4] or Lemma 1 below), but this is no longer necessarily the case for either  $h_r^*(z)$  or  $h_c^*(z)$  for  $n \geq 2$ , [3]. In [1], we undertook a study of the relationship between the distribution of the zeros of  $f(z)$  and the local continuity of the function  $h_r^*(z)$ . We investigate here a condition on the zeros which implies the global continuity of  $h_r^*(z)$ .

If the function  $f(z)$  as a function of several variables depends only upon a single variable, say  $z_1$ , and  $f(0) \neq 0$ , then  $h_r^*(z) = h_r(z)$  and the two are continuous. The zeros are then presented by hyperplanes parallel to the hyperplane  $z_1 = 0$ . We generalize this result in the following way:

**THEOREM.** *Let  $f(z)$  be an entire function of order  $\rho$  and normal type  $\sigma$  such that  $f(0) \neq 0$  and the zeros of  $f(z)$  are hyperplanes. Then  $h_r^*(z) = h_r(z)$  and there are constants  $T$  (depending only on  $\sigma$  and  $\rho$ ) and  $\alpha$  (depending only on  $\rho$ ) such that  $|h_r(w) - h_r(w')| \leq T \|w - w'\|^\alpha$  for  $\|w\| = \|w'\| = 1$ . In particular,  $h_r^*(z)$  is continuous.*

*Remark 1.* We will assume, without loss of generality, that we use the Euclidean norm. The value of  $T$  depends upon the choice of the norm, but  $\alpha$  is independent of the norm chosen.