

APPROXIMATION AND GENERALIZED GROWTH OF SOLUTIONS TO A CLASS OF ELLIPTIC PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

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Abstract: In the present paper, we study the approximation and growth of solutions to a class of elliptic partial differential equations. The characterizations of generalized order and generalized type of solutions to a class of elliptic partial differential equations have been obtained in terms of approximation errors.

Keywords: Helmholtz type equation, regular solution, analytic function, approximation errors, generalized order, generalized type.

1. Introduction

Following McCoy [4], we first give some definitions. A Helmholtz type equation is given by

$$\mathcal{L}[H] := [\partial_{rr} + r^{-1}\partial_r + r^{-2}\partial_{\theta\theta} + F(r^2)]H(r, \theta) = 0. \quad (1.1)$$

Here (r, θ) are polar coordinates and F is an entire function. Let $H(r, \theta) = H(r, e^{i\theta})$ be a regular solution of (1.1) in some sufficiently small star-shaped neighborhood Ω about origin. Let R be the radius of convergence of this regular solution. Following Bergman [1], we have

$$H(r, \theta) = \mathbb{B}[f(z)] = \int_{-1}^{+1} E(r^2, t) f(\sigma) d\mu(t),$$

where $z = re^{i\theta} \in \Omega, \sigma = z(1 - t^2)/2$, $d\mu(t) = (1 - t^2)^{-1/2} dt$, and the associated function f is analytic for $2z \in \Omega$. The Taylor series expansion of the kernel $E(r^2, t)$ is given as

$$E(r^2, t) = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} t^{2n} Q^{(2n)}(r^2).$$

For a fixed $r \geq 0$, the kernel $E(r^2, t)$ is analytic for $t \in [-1, +1]$ and for every fixed $t \in [-1, +1]$, it is entire for $r \geq 0$. The Taylor coefficients $Q^{(2n)}(r^2)$ are entire function solutions of the system

$$\frac{\partial (Q^{(2)}(r^2))}{\partial r^2} + 2F(r^2) = 0, \quad Q^{(0)}(r^2) = 1,$$

$$(2n + 1) \frac{\partial (Q^{(2n+2)}(r^2))}{\partial r^2} + 2 \frac{\partial (r^2 Q^{(2n)}(r^2))}{\partial r^2} + F(r^2) Q^{(2n)}(r^2) - n \frac{\partial (Q^{(2n)}(r^2))}{\partial r^2} = 0,$$

$$Q^{(2n+2)}(r^2)|_{r=0} = 0, \quad n = 1, 2, 3 \dots$$

McCoy [4] defined the basic set of particular solutions

$$\Phi_n(r, e^{i\theta}) = [r^n G_n(r^2) / R^n G_n(R^2)] e^{in\theta}$$

normalized by the conditions

$$\Phi_n(r, e^{i\theta}) = e^{in\theta}, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, 3 \dots$$

Here

$$G_n(r^2) = \int_{-1}^{+1} E(r^2, t) (1 - t^2)^n d\mu(t).$$

This set is complete relative to compact convergence on a disk $D_R = \{z : |z| < R\}$. Let $\text{Im}(D_R)$ be the space of regular solutions of (1.1) on D_R . Then $H \in \text{Im}(D_R)$ has the expansion in a uniformly convergent series

$$H(r, e^{i\theta}) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \Phi_n(r, e^{i\theta}),$$

where $\{a_n\}$ is a sequence of real numbers. If $A(D_R)$ is the space of analytic functions on D_R , then $f \in A(D_R)$ has the Taylor series expansion

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n, \quad z \in D_R.$$

McCoy [4] associated H with the analytic function f by defining an integral operator as given below:

$$H(r, e^{i\theta}) = T_\varepsilon[f(z)] = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|\zeta|=1-\varepsilon} K_R(\zeta) f(z/\zeta) d\zeta/\zeta, \quad z = re^{i\theta}/R,$$

where $\varepsilon > 0$ is arbitrarily small. The kernel for this integral operator defined over the basis $\{\Phi_n\}$ is given by

$$K_R(\zeta) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \zeta^n [G_n(r^2)/G_n(R^2)].$$

For $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists an integer $N(\varepsilon)$ such that for all $n \geq N(\varepsilon)$, we have

$$(1 - \varepsilon) \leq |G_n(r^2)/G_n(R^2)| \leq (1 + \varepsilon).$$

Thus we can say that the kernel of this operator has uniformly convergent expansion. The above integral operator maps the function $f \in A(D_{R(1-\varepsilon)})$ onto regular solution $H \in \text{Im}(D_{R(1-\varepsilon)})$ and the disk of regularity of H coincides with the disk of analyticity of f . The maximum modulus of H on D_r is given by

$$M(r, H) = \max\{|H(s, e^{i\theta})| : s \leq r\}.$$

Let H be regular on the closure Δ^* of the unit disk $\Delta = \{z : |z| < 1\}$ and define the norm of H as

$$\|H\| = \begin{cases} \|H\|_p = [\int\int_{\Delta^*} |H|^p r dr d\theta]^{1/p}, & 1 \leq p < \infty, \\ \|H\|_\infty = \lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} M(r, H). \end{cases}$$

The spaces of polynomial solutions of fixed degree $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ are given by

$$\Pi_n = \left\{ P : P(r, e^{i\theta}) = \sum_{k=0}^n c_k \Phi_k(r, e^{i\theta}), c_k \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$

We define the approximation errors $E_n(H)$ (see [4]) by

$$E_n(H) = \inf_P \{ \|H - P\| : P \in \Pi_n \}, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

The definition of order and type for regular solution H are the same as those for the associated analytic function f (see [4], pp. 209). Hence the order ρ of regular solution H on D_R is given by

$$\rho = \lim_{r \rightarrow R^-} \sup \frac{\ln^+ \ln^+ M(r, H)}{\ln[R/(R - r)]},$$

where

$$\ln^+ x = \begin{cases} \ln x, & x > 1; \\ 0, & 0 < x \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

Further, for $0 < \rho < \infty$ the type σ of regular solution H on D_R is given by

$$\sigma = \lim_{r \rightarrow R^-} \sup \frac{\ln^+ M(r, H)}{[R/(R - r)]^\rho}.$$

McCoy [4] obtained the characterizations of order and type of function H in terms of approximation errors. Later, in [5], using the concept of index, McCoy studied the growth of entire solutions of the Helmholtz equation. Using the concept of (p, q) growth, Kumar [3] studied the relation between the growth and Chebyshev approximation of entire function solutions of Helmholtz equation. Srivastava and Kumar [7] obtained the characterizations of generalized growth of function H in terms of approximation errors and Taylor series coefficients. It is clear from the above that the definition of σ is not valid if the order $\rho = \infty$. For such cases, following Janik [2] and Seremeta [6] we define the generalized order and generalized type of function H . Hence, let L^0 denote the class of functions h satisfying the following conditions:

- (i) h is defined on $[a, \infty)$ and is positive, strictly increasing, differentiable and $h(x)$ tends to ∞ as $x \rightarrow \infty$,
- (ii) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{h\{(1+1/\psi(x))x\}}{h(x)} = 1$, for every function ψ such that $\psi(x) \rightarrow \infty$ as x tends to ∞ .
- (iii) let Λ denote the class of functions h satisfying condition (i) and

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{h(cx)}{h(x)} = 1, \quad c > 0,$$

i.e., h is slowly increasing.

For $\alpha \in \Lambda$ and $\beta \in L^0$ we define the generalized order of H as

$$\rho(\alpha, \beta, H) = \lim_{r \rightarrow R^-} \sup \frac{\alpha[\ln^+ M(r, H)]}{\beta[R/(R-r)]}. \tag{1.2}$$

Further, for $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \Lambda$ and $0 < \rho < \infty$, we define the generalized type of H as

$$\sigma(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, H) = \lim_{r \rightarrow R^-} \sup \frac{\alpha[\ln^+ M(r, H)]}{\beta\{\gamma[R/(R-r)]\}^\rho}. \tag{1.3}$$

If $\rho(\alpha, \beta, H)$ defined as above is zero then the analytic function is of generalized order zero and $\sigma(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, H)$ is no longer defined. For such functions we give the modified definition of generalized order. Hence for $\alpha(x) \in \Lambda$, we define the generalized order $\rho(\alpha, H)$, ($0 \leq \rho(\alpha, H) < \infty$) of H on D_R as

$$\rho(\alpha, H) = \lim_{r \rightarrow R^-} \sup \frac{\alpha[\ln^+ M(r, H)]}{\alpha[\ln\{R/(R-r)\}]}. \tag{1.4}$$

Also for $\beta(x) \in L^0$ and $1 < \rho(\alpha, H) < \infty$, we define the generalized type $\sigma(\beta, \rho, H)$ of H on D_R as

$$\sigma(\beta, \rho, H) = \lim_{r \rightarrow R^-} \sup \frac{\beta[\ln^+ M(r, H)]}{(\beta[\ln\{R/(R-r)\}])^\rho}. \tag{1.5}$$

In the present paper we have obtained the characterizations of generalized order and type defined by (1.2) and (1.3). We have also obtained the characterizations of generalized slow growth of function H in terms of approximation errors.

2. Generalized (α, β) -growth

We now prove

Theorem 1. *Let H be a regular solution of (1.1) having the series expansion $H(r, e^{i\theta}) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \Phi_n(r, e^{i\theta})$. For $\alpha \in \Lambda, \beta \in L^0$ and positive numbers x and μ_1 , set $U(x, \mu_1) = \beta^{-1}\{\mu_1 \alpha(x)\}$. Assume that $\alpha(x/U(x, \mu_1)) \cong [1 + o(x)]\alpha(x)$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$. Then H is the restriction of a solution H_1 whose disk of regularity is $D_R(R > 1)$ and having generalized order $\rho(0 < \rho < \infty)$ if and only if*

$$\rho = \rho(\alpha, \beta, H) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\alpha(n)}{\beta \{n / \ln^+(E_n(H)R^n)\}}. \tag{2.1}$$

Proof. Write

$$\eta_1 = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\alpha(n)}{\beta \{n / \ln^+(E_n(H)R^n)\}}. \tag{2.2}$$

Now first we prove that $\eta_1 \leq \rho$. From (1.2), for $\mu_1 > \rho$ and r sufficiently close to R , we have

$$\log^+ M(r, H_1) \leq \alpha^{-1}[\mu_1 \beta \{R/(R-r)\}].$$

Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be arbitrary such that $v = (R^{-1} + \varepsilon) < 1$. Following McCoy ([4], pp.208), we have

$$E_k(H) \leq \frac{\pi K(\varepsilon)v^k}{1-v}; \quad k = n, n+1, \dots,$$

where $K(\varepsilon)$ is a finite positive number. Let us put $r = v^{-1}$. Then $1 < r < R$. For sufficiently small ε, r is close to R and $\pi K(\varepsilon) \leq M(r, H)$. Hence we have

$$E_k(H) \leq \frac{M(r, H)}{(r-1)r^{k-1}} \leq \frac{M(r, H_1)}{(r-1)r^{k-1}}, \quad 1 < r < R, \quad k \geq n. \tag{2.3}$$

Hence for every r sufficiently close to R and large n , we get

$$\ln^+(E_n(H)R^n) \leq O(1) - n \ln(r/R) + \alpha^{-1}[\mu_1 \beta \{R/(R-r)\}].$$

Putting

$$r = r_n = R [1 - 1/U(n/U(n, \mu_1^{-1}), \mu_1^{-1})],$$

we get

$$\ln^+(E_n(H)R^n) \leq O(1) - n \ln [1 - 1/U(n/U(n, \mu_1^{-1}), \mu_1^{-1})] + n/U(n, \mu_1^{-1}).$$

Now using the properties of logarithm and assumptions of the theorem for $\alpha(x)$ and $\beta(x)$, we get for sufficiently large values of n ,

$$\ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n) \leq C_1 \frac{n}{\beta^{-1} \{\mu_1^{-1} \alpha(n)\}},$$

where C_1 is a positive constant. Hence by using the properties of β , we get

$$\frac{\alpha(n)}{\beta \{n / \ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n)\}} \leq \mu_1.$$

Now proceeding to limits as $n \rightarrow \infty$, we get $\eta_1 \leq \mu_1$. Since $\mu_1 > \rho$ is arbitrary, therefore we get $\eta_1 \leq \rho$.

Now we will prove that $\rho \leq \eta_1$. Let us assume that $0 \leq \eta_1 < \infty$ otherwise for $\eta_1 = \infty$, the inequality obviously holds. Therefore for a given $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a positive integer n_0 such that for all $n > n_0$, we have

$$0 \leq \frac{\alpha(n)}{\beta \{n / \ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n)\}} \leq \eta_1 + \varepsilon = \eta_1^*$$

or

$$E_n(H)r^n \leq r^n R^{-n} \exp \left[n / \beta^{-1} \left\{ (\eta_1^*)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right]. \tag{2.4}$$

Now from the property of maximum modulus, we have

$$M(r, H) \leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} E_n(H)r^n$$

or

$$M(r, H) \leq \sum_{n=0}^{n_0} E_n(H)r^n + \sum_{n=n_0+1}^{\infty} r^n R^{-n} \exp \left[n / \beta^{-1} \left\{ (\eta_1^*)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right]$$

or

$$M(r, H) \leq A_1 r^{n_0} + \sum_{n=n_0+1}^{\infty} r^n R^{-n} \exp \left[n / \beta^{-1} \left\{ (\eta_1^*)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right], \tag{2.5}$$

where A_1 is a positive real constant. We take

$$N(r) = \left[\alpha^{-1} \left(\eta_1^* \beta \left\{ \left[\ln \left\{ R / (N + 1)r \right\} \right]^{-1} \right\} \right) \right],$$

where $[x]$ denotes the integer part of $x \geq 0$. Since $\alpha \in \Lambda$ and $\beta \in L^0$, the integer $N(r)$ is well defined. Now if r is sufficiently large, then from (2.4) we have

$$\begin{aligned} M(r, H) &\leq A_1 r^{n_0} + r^{N(r)} \sum_{n_0+1 \leq n \leq N(r)} R^{-n} \exp \left[n / \beta^{-1} \left\{ (\eta_1^*)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right] \\ &+ \sum_{n > N(r)} r^n R^{-n} \exp \left[n / \beta^{-1} \left\{ (\eta_1^*)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right] \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned}
 M(r, H) &\leq A_1 r^{n_0} + r^{N(r)} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} R^{-n} \exp \left[n/\beta^{-1} \left\{ (\eta_1^*)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right] \\
 &\quad + \sum_{n>N(r)} r^n R^{-n} \exp \left[n/\beta^{-1} \left\{ (\eta_1^*)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right].
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{2.6}$$

Now we have

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(R^{-n} \exp \left[n/\beta^{-1} \left\{ (\eta_1^*)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right] \right)^{1/n} = \frac{1}{R} < 1.$$

Hence the first series on right hand side of (2.6) converges to a positive real constant A_2 . So from (2.6) we get

$$M(r, H) \leq A_1 r^{n_0} + A_2 r^{N(r)} + \sum_{n>N(r)} r^n R^{-n} \exp \left[n/\beta^{-1} \left\{ (\eta_1^*)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right]$$

or

$$M(r, H) \leq A_1 r^{n_0} + A_2 r^{N(r)} + \sum_{n>N(r)} r^n R^{-n} \exp[n \ln\{R/(N+1)r\}]$$

or

$$M(r, H) \leq A_1 r^{n_0} + A_2 r^{N(r)} + \sum_{n>N(r)} \left(\frac{1}{N+1} \right)^n$$

or

$$M(r, H) \leq A_1 r^{n_0} + A_2 r^{N(r)} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{N+1} \right)^n.
 \tag{2.7}$$

It can be easily seen that the series in (2.7) converges to a positive real constant A_3 . Therefore from (2.7), we get

$$M(r, H) \leq A_2 r^{N(r)} [1 + o(1)]$$

or

$$\ln^+ M(r, H) \leq [1 + o(1)] \left[\alpha^{-1} (\bar{\eta}_1 \beta \{ [\ln\{R/(N+1)r\}]^{-1} \}) \right] \ln r$$

or

$$\ln^+ M(r, H) \leq [1 + o(1)] \alpha^{-1} \left[\{ \eta_1^* + \delta_1 \} \beta \{ [\ln\{R/(N+1)r\}]^{-1} \} \right],$$

where $\delta_1 > 0$ is suitably small. Hence

$$\alpha[\ln^+ M(r, H)] \leq \{ \eta_1^* + \delta_1 \} \beta \{ [1 + o(1)]^{-1} [\ln(R/r)]^{-1} \}.$$

Thus for r sufficiently close to R , we get

$$\frac{\alpha[\ln^+ M(r, H)]}{\beta \{ [1 + o(1)]^{-1} [R/(R-r)] \}} \leq \eta_1^* + \delta_1.$$

Proceeding to limits as $r \rightarrow R$ and using the property of β , we get

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow R^-} \sup \frac{\alpha[\ln^+ M(r, H)]}{\beta \{R/(R-r)\}} \leq \eta_1^* + \delta_1.$$

Since ε and δ_1 are arbitrarily small, therefore finally we get $\rho \leq \eta_1$. Combining this with the earlier inequality obtained, we get $\rho = \eta_1$.

Now from (2.2), for every $\lambda_1 > \eta_1$ and for sufficiently large n , we have

$$\frac{\alpha(n)}{\beta \{n/\ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n)\}} \leq \lambda_1$$

or

$$E_n(H)R^n \leq \exp [n/\beta^{-1} \{\lambda_1^{-1}\alpha(n)\}].$$

Hence proceeding to limits as $n \rightarrow \infty$, we get

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup (E_n(H)R^n)^{1/n} \leq 1.$$

Since $\eta_1 > 0$, the sequence $(E_n(H)R^n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is unbounded, whence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup (E_n(H)R^n)^{1/n} \geq 1.$$

Hence finally we get

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup (E_n(H)R^n)^{1/n} = 1.$$

Thus following McCoy ([4], Theorem 1) we claim that the regular solution H can be continuously extended to a regular solution whose disk of regularity is $D_R (R > 1)$.

Let us put

$$H_1(r, e^{i\theta}) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} E_n(H)\Phi_n(r, e^{i\theta}).$$

Now we show that H_1 is the required continuation of H and $\rho(\alpha, \beta, H_1) = \eta_1$. For every $\lambda_1 > \eta_1$ and for sufficiently large n , we have

$$E_n(H)R^n \leq \exp [n/\beta^{-1} \{\lambda_1^{-1}\alpha(n)\}].$$

Now as in the proof of this theorem (see (2.4) to (2.7) above), we claim that

$$\rho(\alpha, \beta, H_1) \leq \lambda_1.$$

Since $\lambda_1 > \eta_1$ is arbitrary, so we get

$$\rho(\alpha, \beta, H_1) \leq \eta_1.$$

Also following the proof of first part given above, we get

$$\eta_1 \leq \rho(\alpha, \beta, H_1).$$

Hence finally we get $\rho(\alpha, \beta, H_1) = \eta_1$. This completes the proof of Theorem 1. ■

Next we prove

Theorem 2. *Let H be a regular solution of (1.1) and have the series expansion $H(r, e^{i\theta}) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \Phi_n(r, e^{i\theta})$. For positive x, μ_2 and ρ , we set*

$$V(x, \mu_2, \rho) = \gamma^{-1} \{ [\beta^{-1} (\mu_2 \alpha(x))]^{1/\rho} \}.$$

Assume that for $\alpha(x), \beta(x), \gamma(x) \in \Lambda$,

$$V \left(\frac{n(\rho + 1)}{\rho V(n/\rho, 1/\mu_2, \rho + 1)}, \frac{1}{\mu_2}, \rho \right) \cong [1 + o(n)] V(n/\rho, 1/\mu_2, \rho + 1) \quad \text{as } x \rightarrow \infty.$$

Then H is the restriction of a solution H_1 whose disk of regularity is $D_R (R > 1)$ and having generalized type $\sigma (0 < \sigma < \infty)$ if and only if

$$\sigma = \sigma(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, H_1) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\alpha(n/\rho)}{\beta \left\{ \left[\gamma \left\{ (\rho + 1) \left[\rho \ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n)^{1/n} \right]^{-1} \right\} \right]^{(\rho+1)} \right\}}.$$

Proof. Write

$$\eta_2 = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\alpha(n/\rho)}{\beta \left\{ \left[\gamma \left\{ (\rho + 1) \left[\rho \ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n)^{1/n} \right]^{-1} \right\} \right]^{(\rho+1)} \right\}}. \tag{2.8}$$

Now first we prove that $\eta_2 \leq \sigma$. From (1.3), for $\mu_2 > \sigma$ and r sufficiently close to R , we have

$$\ln^+ M(r, H_1) \leq \alpha^{-1} [\mu_2 \beta \{ [\gamma \{ R/(R - r) \}]^\rho \}].$$

Thus as in the proof of Theorem 1, here we have

$$\ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n) \leq O(1) - n \ln(r/R) + \alpha^{-1} [\mu_2 \beta \{ [\gamma \{ R/(R - r) \}]^\rho \}].$$

Putting

$$r = r_n = R \left[1 - \left\{ V \left(\frac{n(\rho + 1)}{\rho V(n/\rho, 1/\mu_2, \rho + 1)}, \frac{1}{\mu_2}, \rho \right) \right\}^{-1} \right],$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned} \ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n) &\leq O(1) - n \ln \left[1 - \left\{ V \left(\frac{n(\rho + 1)}{\rho V(n/\rho, 1/\mu_2, \rho + 1)}, \frac{1}{\mu_2}, \rho \right) \right\}^{-1} \right] \\ &\quad + n \frac{\rho + 1}{\rho} \left[\gamma^{-1} \left\{ [\beta^{-1} \{ \mu_2^{-1} \alpha(n/\rho) \}]^{1/(\rho+1)} \right\} \right]^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Now using the properties of logarithm and assumptions of theorem, we get for sufficiently large values of n

$$\ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n) \leq C_2 n \frac{\rho+1}{\rho} \left[\gamma^{-1} \left\{ [\beta^{-1} \{ \mu_2^{-1} \alpha(n/\rho) \}]^{1/(\rho+1)} \right\}^{-1} \right],$$

where C_2 is a positive constant. Hence by using the properties of α, β and γ , we get

$$\frac{\alpha(n/\rho)}{\beta \left\{ \left[\gamma \left\{ (\rho+1) \left[\rho \ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n)^{1/n} \right]^{-1} \right\} \right]^{(\rho+1)} \right\}} \leq \mu_2.$$

Now proceeding to limits as $n \rightarrow \infty$ we get $\eta_2 \leq \mu_2$. Since $\mu_2 > \sigma$ is arbitrary, therefore finally we get $\eta_2 \leq \sigma$. Now we will prove that $\sigma \leq \eta_2$. If $\eta_2 = \infty$, then there is nothing to prove. So let us assume that $0 \leq \eta_2 < \infty$. Therefore for a given $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $n_0 \in N$ such that for all $n > n_0$, we have

$$0 \leq \frac{\alpha(n/\rho)}{\beta \left\{ \left[\gamma \left\{ (\rho+1) \left[\rho \log^+ (E_n(H)R^n)^{1/n} \right]^{-1} \right\} \right]^{(\rho+1)} \right\}} \leq \eta_2 + \varepsilon = \eta_2^*$$

or

$$E_n(H)R^n \leq \exp \left\{ n \frac{\rho+1}{\rho} \left[\gamma^{-1} \left\{ [\beta^{-1} \{ (\eta_2^*)^{-1} \alpha(n/\rho) \}]^{1/(\rho+1)} \right\}^{-1} \right] \right\} \tag{2.9}$$

or

$$E_n(H)r^n \leq r^n R^{-n} \exp \left\{ n \frac{\rho+1}{\rho} \left[\gamma^{-1} \left\{ [\beta^{-1} \{ (\eta_2^*)^{-1} \alpha(n/\rho) \}]^{1/(\rho+1)} \right\}^{-1} \right] \right\}.$$

Now from the property of maximum modulus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} M(r, H) &\leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} E_n(H)r^n \\ &\leq \sum_{n=0}^{n_0} E_n(H)r^n \\ &\quad + \sum_{n=n_0+1}^{\infty} r^n R^{-n} \exp \left\{ n \frac{\rho+1}{\rho} \left[\gamma^{-1} \left\{ [\beta^{-1} \{ (\eta_2^*)^{-1} \alpha(n/\rho) \}]^{1/(\rho+1)} \right\}^{-1} \right] \right\} \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} M(r, H) &\leq B_1 r^{n_0} + \sum_{n=n_0+1}^{\infty} r^n R^{-n} \\ &\quad \times \exp \left\{ n \frac{\rho+1}{\rho} \left[\gamma^{-1} \left\{ [\beta^{-1} \{ (\eta_2^*)^{-1} \alpha(n/\rho) \}]^{1/(\rho+1)} \right\}^{-1} \right] \right\}, \end{aligned} \tag{2.10}$$

where B_1 is a positive real constant. We take

$$N(r) = \left[\rho \alpha^{-1} \left\{ \eta_2^* \beta \left([\gamma \{ (\rho + 1) [\rho \ln \{ R / (N + 1) r \}]^{-1} \}]^{(\rho + 1)} \right) \right\} \right],$$

where $[x]$ denotes the integer part of $x \geq 0$. Since $\alpha(x), \beta(x), \gamma(x) \in \Lambda$, the integer $N(r)$ is well defined. Now if r is sufficiently close to R , then from (2.10) we have

$$\begin{aligned} M(r, H) &\leq B_1 r^{n_0} \\ &+ r^{N(r)} \sum_{n_0+1 \leq n \leq N(r)} R^{-n} \exp \left\{ n \frac{\rho + 1}{\rho} \left[\gamma^{-1} \left\{ [\beta^{-1} \{ (\eta_2^*)^{-1} \alpha(n/\rho) \}]^{1/(\rho+1)} \right\} \right]^{-1} \right\} \\ &+ \sum_{n > N(r)} r^n R^{-n} \exp \left\{ n \frac{\rho + 1}{\rho} \left[\gamma^{-1} \left\{ [\beta^{-1} \{ (\eta_2^*)^{-1} \alpha(n/\rho) \}]^{1/(\rho+1)} \right\} \right]^{-1} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} M(r, H) &\leq B_1 r^{n_0} \\ &+ r^{N(r)} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} R^{-n} \exp \left\{ n \frac{\rho + 1}{\rho} \left[\gamma^{-1} \left\{ [\beta^{-1} \{ (\eta_2^*)^{-1} \alpha(n/\rho) \}]^{1/(\rho+1)} \right\} \right]^{-1} \right\} \\ &+ \sum_{n > N(r)} r^n R^{-n} \exp \left\{ n \frac{\rho + 1}{\rho} \left[\gamma^{-1} \left\{ [\beta^{-1} \{ (\eta_2^*)^{-1} \alpha(n/\rho) \}]^{1/(\rho+1)} \right\} \right]^{-1} \right\}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.11}$$

Now we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup \left(R^{-n} \exp \left\{ n \frac{\rho + 1}{\rho} \left[\gamma^{-1} \left\{ [\beta^{-1} \{ (\eta_2^*)^{-1} \alpha(n/\rho) \}]^{1/(\rho+1)} \right\} \right]^{-1} \right\} \right)^{1/n} \\ = \frac{1}{R} < 1. \end{aligned}$$

Hence the first series in (2.11) converges to a positive real constant B_2 . Hence from (2.11), we get

$$\begin{aligned} M(r, H) &\leq B_1 r^{n_0} + B_2 r^{N(r)} \\ &+ \sum_{n > N(r)} r^n R^{-n} \exp \left\{ n \frac{\rho + 1}{\rho} \left[\gamma^{-1} \left\{ [\beta^{-1} \{ (\eta_2^*)^{-1} \alpha(n/\rho) \}]^{1/(\rho+1)} \right\} \right]^{-1} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

or

$$M(r, H) \leq B_1 r^{n_0} + B_2 r^{N(r)} + \sum_{n > N(r)} r^n R^{-n} \exp [n \ln \{ R / (N + 1) r \}]$$

or

$$M(r, H) \leq B_1 r^{n_0} + B_2 r^{N(r)} + \sum_{n > N(r)} \left(\frac{1}{N + 1} \right)^n$$

or

$$M(r, H) \leq B_1 r^{n_0} + B_2 r^{N(r)} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{N+1} \right)^n. \tag{2.12}$$

It can be easily seen that the series in (2.12) converges to a positive real constant B_3 . Therefore from (2.12), we get

$$M(r, H) \leq B_1 r^{n_0} + B_2 r^{N(r)} + B_3 \leq B_2 r^{N(r)} [1 + o(1)]$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} \ln^+ M(r, H) &\leq [1 + o(1)] \\ &\times \left[\rho \alpha^{-1} \left\{ \eta_2^* \beta \left([\gamma \{(\rho + 1) [\rho \ln \{R/(N + 1)r\}]^{-1}\}]^{(\rho+1)} \right) \right\} \right] \ln r, \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} \ln^+ M(r, H) &\leq [1 + o(1)] \\ &\times \left[\alpha^{-1} \left\{ (\eta_2^* + \delta_2) \beta \left([\gamma \{(\rho + 1) [\rho \ln \{R/(N + 1)r\}]^{-1}\}]^{(\rho+1)} \right) \right\} \right], \end{aligned}$$

where $\delta_2 > 0$ is suitably small. Hence

$$\alpha [\ln^+ M(r, H)] \leq (\eta_2^* + \delta_2) \beta \left([\gamma \{(\rho + 1) [\rho \ln \{R/(N + 1)r\}]^{-1}\}]^{(\rho+1)} \right).$$

When r is sufficiently close to R , then by using properties of β and γ , we get

$$\frac{\alpha [\ln^+ M(r, H)]}{\beta \{[\gamma \{R/(R - r)\}]^\rho\}} \leq \eta_2^* + \delta_2.$$

Since ε and δ_2 are arbitrarily small, proceeding to limits as $r \rightarrow R^-$, we get

$$\sigma \leq \eta_2. \tag{2.13}$$

Now as in Theorem 1 we can similarly prove that the regular solution H can be continuously extended to a regular solution whose disk of regularity is $D_R (R > 1)$. Let us put

$$H_1(r, e^{i\theta}) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} E_n(H) \Phi_n(r, e^{i\theta}).$$

Now we claim that H_1 is the required continuation of H and $\sigma(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, H_1) = \eta_2$. From (2.8), for every $\lambda_2 > \eta_2$ and for sufficiently large n , we have

$$E_n(H) R^n \leq \exp \left\{ n \frac{\rho + 1}{\rho} \left[\gamma^{-1} \left\{ [\beta^{-1} \{(\lambda_2)^{-1} \alpha(n/\rho)\}]^{1/(\rho+1)} \right\} \right]^{-1} \right\}.$$

Now as in the proof of this theorem (see (2.9) to (2.13)), we claim that

$$\sigma(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, H_1) \leq \lambda_2.$$

Since $\lambda_2 > \eta_2$ is arbitrary, so finally we get

$$\sigma(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, H_1) \leq \eta_2.$$

Also following the proof of first part given above, we get

$$\eta_2 \leq \sigma(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, H_1).$$

Hence finally we get $\sigma(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, H_1) = \eta_2$. This completes the proof of Theorem 2. ■

3. Functions of generalized slow growth

In this section we give the characterizations of generalized order and type for functions of slow growth. We have

Theorem 3. *Let H be a regular solution of (1.1) and have the series expansion $H(r, e^{i\theta}) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \Phi_n(r, e^{i\theta})$. Then for $\alpha(x) \in \Lambda$, H is a restriction of a solution H_1 whose disk of regularity is $D_R(R > 1)$ and having generalized order $\rho(\alpha, H_1)$ if and only if*

$$\rho(\alpha, H_1) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\alpha(n)}{\alpha [\log^+ \{n / \ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n)\}]}.$$

Proof. First we assume that H has an extension H_1 whose disk of regularity is $D_R(R > 1)$ and is of generalized order $\rho(\alpha, H_1)$. We write $\rho(\alpha, H_1) = \rho$ and

$$\zeta_1 = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\alpha(n)}{\alpha [\log^+ \{n / \ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n)\}]} \tag{3.1}$$

First we prove that $\zeta_1 \leq \rho$. As shown above, from (2.3) we have

$$E_k(H) \leq \frac{M(r, H)}{(r - 1)r^{k-1}}, \quad 1 < r < R, \quad k \geq n \tag{3.2}$$

Also using (1.4), for arbitrarily small $\varepsilon > 0$ and $r > r_0(\varepsilon)$, we have

$$M(r, H) \leq \exp(\alpha^{-1} \{\rho^* \alpha [\ln \{R / (R - r)\}]\}), \tag{3.3}$$

where $\rho^* = \rho + \varepsilon$. From (3.2) and (3.3), we get

$$\ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n) \leq -\ln^+(r - 1) - n \ln^+(r/R) + \alpha^{-1} \{\rho^* \alpha [\ln \{R / (R - r)\}]\}.$$

Write $F(x, c_1) = \alpha^{-1} \{c_1 \alpha(x)\}$, where x and c_1 are positive real numbers. Now putting $r = r_n$, where

$$r_n = R \left(1 - \left[\exp \left\{ F \left(n / \exp \left\{ F \left(n, (\rho^*)^{-1} \right) \right\}, (\rho^*)^{-1} \right) \right\} \right]^{-1} \right),$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned} \ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n) &\leq -\ln^+(r_n - 1) \\ &\quad - n \ln^+ \left(1 - \left[\exp \left\{ F \left(n / \exp \left\{ F \left(n, (\rho^*)^{-1} \right) \right\}, (\rho^*)^{-1} \right) \right\} \right]^{-1} \right) \\ &\quad + n / \exp \left\{ F \left(n, (\rho^*)^{-1} \right) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Now using the properties of logarithm, we get for sufficiently large value of n

$$\ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n) \leq \{1 + o(1)\} \left[n / \exp \left\{ F \left(n, (\rho^*)^{-1} \right) \right\} \right].$$

From the above inequality, we get

$$\alpha^{-1} \left\{ (\rho^*)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \leq \{1 + o(1)\} \ln^+ \left\{ n / \ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n) \right\}$$

or

$$\alpha(n) \leq \rho^* \alpha \left[\{1 + o(1)\} \ln^+ \left\{ n / \ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n) \right\} \right]$$

or

$$\frac{\alpha(n)}{\alpha \left[\ln^+ \left\{ n / \ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n) \right\} \right]} \leq \rho^* \frac{\alpha \left[\{1 + o(1)\} \ln^+ \left\{ n / \ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n) \right\} \right]}{\alpha \left[\ln^+ \left\{ n / \ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n) \right\} \right]}.$$

Proceeding to limits as $n \rightarrow \infty$ and using the properties of $\alpha(x)$, we get $\zeta_1 \leq \rho^*$. Since $\varepsilon > 0$ is arbitrarily small, we finally get $\zeta_1 \leq \rho$.

Now we will prove that $\rho \leq \zeta_1$. If $\zeta_1 = \infty$, then there is nothing to prove. So let us assume that $0 \leq \zeta_1 < \infty$. Therefore for a given $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $n_0 \in N$ such that for all $n > n_0$, we have

$$0 \leq \frac{\alpha(n)}{\alpha \left[\log^+ \left\{ n / \log^+ (E_n(H)R^n) \right\} \right]} \leq \zeta_1 + \varepsilon = \zeta_1^*$$

or

$$E_n(H)R^n \leq \exp \left\{ n / \exp \left[\alpha^{-1} \left\{ (\zeta_1^*)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right] \right\} \tag{3.4}$$

or

$$E_n(H)r^n \leq r^n R^{-n} \exp \left\{ n / \exp \left[\alpha^{-1} \left\{ (\zeta_1^*)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right] \right\}.$$

Now from the property of maximum modulus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} M(r, H_1) &\leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} E_n(H)r^n \leq \sum_{n=0}^{n_0} E_n(H)r^n \\ &\quad + \sum_{n=n_0+1}^{\infty} r^n R^{-n} \exp \left\{ n / \exp \left[\alpha^{-1} \left\{ (\zeta_1^*)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right] \right\} \end{aligned}$$

or

$$M(r, H_1) \leq A_1 r^{n_0} + \sum_{n=n_0+1}^{\infty} r^n R^{-n} \exp \left\{ n / \exp \left[\alpha^{-1} \left\{ (\zeta_1^*)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right] \right\}, \quad (3.5)$$

where A_1 is a positive real constant. We take

$$W_1(r) = \left[\alpha^{-1} \left\{ \zeta_1^* \alpha \left[\ln \{ \ln [R / (\delta_1 + 1) r] \}^{-1} \right] \right\} \right],$$

where $\delta_1 > 0$ is arbitrarily small and $[x]$ denotes the integer part of $x \geq 0$. Since $\alpha(x) \in \Lambda$, the integer $W_1(r)$ is well defined. Now if r is sufficiently large, then from (3.5), we have

$$\begin{aligned} M(r, H_1) &\leq A_1 r^{n_0} + r^{W_1(r)} \\ &\quad \times \sum_{n_0+1 \leq n \leq W_1(r)} R^{-n} \exp \left\{ n / \exp \left[\alpha^{-1} \left\{ (\zeta_1^*)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right] \right\} \\ &\quad + \sum_{n > W_1(r)} r^n R^{-n} \exp \left\{ n / \exp \left[\alpha^{-1} \left\{ (\zeta_1^*)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right] \right\} \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} M(r, H_1) &\leq A_1 r^{n_0} + r^{W_1(r)} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} R^{-n} \exp \left\{ n / \exp \left[\alpha^{-1} \left\{ (\zeta_1^*)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right] \right\} \\ &\quad + \sum_{n > W_1(r)} r^n R^{-n} \exp \left\{ n / \exp \left[\alpha^{-1} \left\{ (\zeta_1^*)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right] \right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

Now we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup \left(R^{-n} \exp \left\{ n / \exp \left[\alpha^{-1} \left\{ (\zeta_1^*)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right] \right\} \right)^{1/n} = \frac{1}{R} < 1.$$

Hence the first series in (3.6) converges to a positive real constant A_2 . So from (3.6), we get

$$\begin{aligned} M(r, H_1) &\leq A_1 r^{n_0} + A_2 r^{W_1(r)} \\ &\quad + \sum_{n > W_1(r)} r^n R^{-n} \exp \left\{ n / \exp \left[\alpha^{-1} \left\{ (\zeta_1^*)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right] \right\} \\ &\leq A_1 r^{n_0} + A_2 r^{W_1(r)} + \sum_{n > W_1(r)} r^n R^{-n} \exp [n \ln \{ R / (\delta_1 + 1) r \}] \\ &\leq A_1 r^{n_0} + A_2 r^{W_1(r)} + \sum_{n > W_1(r)} [1 / (\delta_1 + 1)]^n \end{aligned}$$

or

$$M(r, H_1) \leq A_1 r^{n_0} + A_2 r^{W_1(r)} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [1 / (\delta_1 + 1)]^n. \quad (3.7)$$

It can be easily seen that the series in (3.7) converges to a positive real constant A_3 . Therefore from (3.7), we get

$$M(r, H_1) \leq A_1 r^{n_0} + A_2 r^{W_1(r)} + A_3 \leq A_2 r^{W_1(r)} [1 + o(1)]$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} \ln^+ M(r, H_1) &\leq [1 + o(1)] W_1(r) \ln r \\ &\leq [1 + o(1)] \left[\alpha^{-1} \left\{ \zeta_1^* \alpha \left[\ln \{ \ln [R / (\delta_1 + 1) r] \}^{-1} \right] \right\} \right] \ln r \\ &\leq O(1) \left[\alpha^{-1} \left\{ \zeta_1^* \alpha \left[\ln \{ \ln [R / (\delta_1 + 1) r] \}^{-1} \right] \right\} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\delta_1 > 0$ is arbitrarily small, for r sufficiently close to R , we get

$$\ln^+ M(r, H_1) \leq O(1) \left[\alpha^{-1} \left\{ \zeta_1^* \alpha \left[\ln \{ R / (R - r) \} \right] \right\} \right]$$

or

$$\alpha \left[\ln^+ M(r, H_1) \right] \leq \zeta_1^* \alpha \left[\ln \{ R / (R - r) \} \right] + O(1)$$

Thus for r sufficiently close to R , we get

$$\frac{\alpha \left[\ln^+ M(r, H_1) \right]}{\alpha \left[\ln \{ R / (R - r) \} \right]} \leq \zeta_1^* + o(1).$$

Proceeding to limits as $r \rightarrow R^-$, we get

$$\rho \leq \zeta_1^*.$$

Since $\varepsilon > 0$ is arbitrarily small, therefore finally we get

$$\rho \leq \zeta_1. \tag{3.8}$$

Now from (3.1), for every $\lambda_1 > \zeta_1$ and for sufficiently large value of n , we have

$$\frac{\alpha(n)}{\alpha \left[\log^+ \left\{ n / \log^+ (E_n(H) R^n) \right\} \right]} \leq \lambda_1$$

or

$$E_n(H) R^n \leq \exp \left\{ n / \exp \left[\alpha^{-1} \left\{ (\lambda_1)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right] \right\}.$$

Now for sufficiently large value of n , we get

$$[E_n(H) R^n]^{1/n} \leq 1.$$

Proceeding to limits as $n \rightarrow \infty$, we get

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} [E_n(H) R^n]^{1/n} \leq 1.$$

Since $\eta_1 > 0$, the sequence $(E_n(H)R^n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is unbounded, whence

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} [E_n(H)R^n]^{1/n} \geq 1.$$

Hence finally we get

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} [E_n(H)R^n]^{1/n} = 1.$$

Thus following McCoy ([4], Theorem 1) we claim that the regular solution H can be continuously extended to a regular solution whose disk of regularity is $D_R(R > 1)$. Let us put

$$H_1(r, e^{i\theta}) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} E_n(H)\Phi_n(r, e^{i\theta}).$$

Now we claim that H_1 is the required continuation of H and $\rho(\alpha, H_1) = \zeta_1$. For every $\lambda_1 > \zeta_1$ and for sufficiently large value of n , we have

$$E_n(H)R^n \leq \exp \left\{ n / \exp \left[\alpha^{-1} \left\{ (\lambda_1)^{-1} \alpha(n) \right\} \right] \right\}.$$

Now as in the proof of this theorem [(3.4) to (3.8)], we claim that

$$\rho(\alpha, H_1) \leq \lambda_1.$$

Since $\lambda_1 > \zeta_1$ is arbitrary, so we get

$$\rho(\alpha, H_1) \leq \zeta_1.$$

Also following the proof of first part given above, we get

$$\zeta_1 \leq \rho(\alpha, H_1).$$

So finally we get

$$\rho(\alpha, H_1) = \zeta_1.$$

This completes the proof of Theorem 3. ■

Next we have

Theorem 4. *Let H be a regular solution of (1.1) and have the series expansion $H(r, e^{i\theta}) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \Phi_n(r, e^{i\theta})$. Then for $1 < \rho < \infty$ and $\beta(x) \in L^0$, H is a restriction of a solution H_1 whose disk of regularity is $D_R(R > 1)$ and having generalized type $\sigma(\beta, \rho, H_1)$ if and only if*

$$\sigma(\beta, \rho, H_1) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\beta(n)}{(\beta [\log^+ \{ n / \ln^+ (E_n(H)R^n) \}])^\rho}.$$

Proof. The proof of the above theorem follows on the lines of proof of Theorem 2 and Theorem 3. Hence we omit the proof. ■

Next we have

Theorem 5. *Let H be a regular solution of (1.1) and have the series expansion $H(r, e^{i\theta}) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \Phi_n(r, e^{i\theta})$. Then for $\alpha(x) \in \Lambda$ the generalized order $\rho(\alpha, H)$ ($0 \leq \rho(\alpha, H) < \infty$) of H is given by*

$$\rho(\alpha, H) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\alpha(n)}{\alpha \left[\ln^+ \left\{ n / \ln^+ (|a_n| R^n) \right\} \right]}.$$

Proof. The proof is similar to Theorem 3 above and ([7], Theorem 2.1). Hence the proof is omitted. ■

Lastly we have

Theorem 6. *Let H be a regular solution of (1.1) and have the series expansion $H(r, e^{i\theta}) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \Phi_n(r, e^{i\theta})$. Then for $1 < \rho < \infty$ and $\beta(x) \in L^0$ the generalized type $\sigma(\beta, \rho, H)$ of H is given by*

$$\sigma(\beta, \rho, H) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\beta(n)}{(\beta \left[\ln^+ \left\{ n / \ln^+ (|a_n| R^n) \right\} \right])^\rho}.$$

Proof. The proof is similar to Theorem 2 above and ([7], Theorem 2.2). Hence the proof is omitted. ■

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