



# Complex Variables and Elliptic Equations

## An International Journal

ISSN: 1747-6933 (Print) 1747-6941 (Online) Journal homepage: <http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/gcov20>

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To cite this article: Yan Hui Zhang, Kit Ian Kou, Guan Tie Deng & Tao Qian (2017) The generalized Matsaev theorem on growth of subharmonic functions admitting a lower bound in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , Complex Variables and Elliptic Equations, 62:5, 642-653, DOI: [10.1080/17476933.2016.1234464](https://doi.org/10.1080/17476933.2016.1234464)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/17476933.2016.1234464>



Published online: 25 Sep 2016.



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# The generalized Matsaev theorem on growth of subharmonic functions admitting a lower bound in $\mathbb{R}^n$

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## ABSTRACT

We generalize Matsaev's theorem for subharmonic functions from two to higher dimension. The proofs are nontrivial and constructive.

## ARTICLE HISTORY

Received 11 July 2016  
Accepted 30 August 2016

## COMMUNICATED BY

Y. Xu

## KEYWORDS

Lower bound; upper bound;  
Cartwright's class; growth

## AMS SUBJECT CLASSIFICATIONS

31C05; 31C99

## 1. Introduction

In 1960, Matsaev [1] proved the following Theorem.

**Theorem 1.1:** Suppose an entire function  $f(z)$  in complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$  has a lower bound

$$|f(z)| \geq \exp \left\{ -Mr^\rho \frac{1}{|\sin \alpha|^k} \right\}, \quad z = re^{i\alpha} \in \mathbb{C}, \quad (1)$$
$$r > 0, \quad \rho > 1, \quad k \geq 0.$$

Then the function  $f(z)$  is of order  $\rho$  and finite type.

Note: Throughout,  $M$  stands for various values which may depend on  $\rho$  or  $k$ , but not on  $z$  or  $f(z)$ , not necessarily the same on any two occurrences.

The Matsaev Theorem has been found various applications in mathematics.[2–7] The inequalities like (1) are crucial in many problems, since they are intrinsically connected with the estimates of the Cauchy-type integrals.[8] A special attention of the related studies has been paid to dealing with the Matsaev theorem on subharmonic functions in the half space of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . [8,9]

The proof of Matsaev theorem consists of two steps, each having an independent interest. In the first step, a certain upper bound is significantly improved from the lower bound by using Carleman's and R.Nevanlinna's formulas studied in [10]. Then in the

second step, the theorem is derived from this upper bound. This two-step procedure has also applied to many related studies by others.

Matseav proved the following result of subharmonic functions on the upper bound in the plane which plays a basic role in proving Matsaev's theorem ([11, p.212, Theorem 3]), which can be viewed as a far-reaching generalization of the well-known Liouville theorem on bounded entire functions.[8]

**Theorem 1.2:** *Let  $u(z)$  be a subharmonic function in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$  which satisfies the estimate*

$$u(z) \leq M \frac{1 + r^\rho}{|\sin \alpha|^l}, \quad z = re^{i\alpha} \in \mathbb{C}, \rho > 1, l \geq 0. \quad (2)$$

*Then  $u(z)$  is of order  $\rho$  and finite type.*

Other results of this type can be seen in [11]. Govorrov and Zhuravleva [5] generalized Theorem 1.2 to analytic functions in the upper half-plane. One form of related estimates are seen in [6], where Rashkovskii proved a version of Matsaev's theorem for subharmonic functions  $u(z)$  in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$  and his assumptions were imposed on an integral norm of the negative part  $u^- = u^+ - u$  with  $u^+(z) = \max\{u(z), 0\}$ .

Most recently Kheyfits [8] extended Rashkovskii's result to subharmonic functions (Theorem 1.3) with respect to the stationary Schrodinger operator  $L_c$ , i.e. the weak solutions of the inequality

$$-L_c u \equiv \Delta u - c(x)u \geq 0,$$

where  $\Delta$  is the Laplace operator. Subsolutions of this inequality are called  $c$ -subharmonic functions. Correspondingly, solutions of the equation

$$\Delta u - c(x)u = 0$$

are called  $c$ -harmonic functions. Kheyfits's result on the upper bound is stated as follows.

**Theorem 1.3:** *Let  $u$  be a  $c$ -harmonic function in  $\mathbb{H} \cup -\mathbb{H}$ ,  $c$ -subharmonic or continuous in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , such that*

$$u(x) \leq M \frac{1 + r^\rho}{|\cos \theta_1|^l}, \quad \rho > \rho_k, l \geq 0, \quad (3)$$

*in which  $\rho_k$  is a constant with respect to  $n$  and  $k < \infty$ . Then*

$$u(x) \leq M(1 + r^\rho), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad (4)$$

*where the spherical coordinates in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  are defined by*

$$x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n) = (r, \theta), \quad \theta = (\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_{n-1}),$$

*such that*

$$\cos \theta_1 = x_n/r, \quad 0 < \theta_1 < \pi.$$

*Here  $\mathbb{H} = \{x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n, x_n > 0\}$  is the upper half space of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .*

By using Theorem 1.3, Kheyfits obtained an interesting version of Matsaev theorem on  $c$ -harmonic functions. Let  $B(r)$  be the open ball of radius  $r$  centred at the point  $0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $S(r) = \partial B(r)$  and  $B_+(r) = B(r) \cap \mathbb{H}$ . Set

$$K(r) = \partial \mathbb{H} \setminus S(r), \quad 1 \leq r < \infty, \quad \text{and} \quad K(1, r) = K(r) \setminus \overline{K(1)}.$$

Kheyfits's version of Matsaev theorem is the following result.

**Theorem 1.4:** *Let  $c$  belong to  $\mathcal{C}(\mathbb{H})$ , and  $u(x)$  be a  $c$ -harmonic function in  $\mathbb{H}$ , which is continuous up to the boundary  $\partial\mathbb{H}$ . Suppose*

$$|u(x)| \leq M$$

*in the unit half-ball  $\overline{B_+}$ . Also suppose that the negative part of  $u$  has an integral estimate*

$$\int_{S_+} u^-(r, \theta) \cos \theta_1 d\sigma(\theta) \leq M(1 + r^\rho), \quad (5)$$

*with  $\rho > \rho_k = \frac{2-n+\chi_k}{2}$ , and its boundary values satisfy*

$$V_1(r) \int_{K(1,r)} u^-(y') \frac{W_1(|y'|)}{|y'|} dy' \leq M(1 + r^\rho), \quad (6)$$

*in which*

$$V_1(r) = Mr^{(2-n+\chi_k)/2}(1 + o(1)), \quad r \rightarrow \infty,$$

*and*

$$W_1(r) = Mr^{(2-n-\chi_k)/2}(1 + o(1)), \quad r \rightarrow \infty,$$

*are two solutions of*

$$-y'' - (n-1)r^{-1}y' + \lambda r^{-2} + q(r)y(r) = 0, \quad 0 < r < \infty, \lambda = n-1,$$

*where  $\chi_k = \sqrt{n^2 + 4k}$ . Then for all  $x$  in  $\mathbb{H}$*

$$\max_{\theta \in S} u(x) \leq M(1 + |x|^\rho),$$

*that is,  $u$  has the growth of at most order  $\rho$  and normal type in  $\mathbb{H}$ .*

In this paper, we present generalized Matsaev results on growth of subharmonic functions admitting a lower bound in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Different from all the others, my approach is based on techniques developed in papers. [10,12–14]

The generalization in this paper not only includes Theorem 1.1 as a special case, but also generalizes the half space result in Theorem 1.4 to the entire space. The work in this paper is a continuation of the study on the growth of harmonic functions and subharmonic functions in the upper half-space conducted in [8,10,12–16]. It is also a further development of the study of the Maximum Principle (e.g. [8,10,17]) and operator theory (e.g. [2,4]).

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we introduce some basic concepts to be used throughout the paper. The refinement of the upper bound for a subharmonic function in  $\mathbb{H}$  will be presented and proved in Section 3. This is a high-dimensional version of Theorem 1.2.

The statement and proof of the generalized Matsaev theorem of subharmonic functions admitting a lower bound for  $\rho > 1$  and  $\rho \leq 1$  are provided in Sections 4 and 5, respectively. Both Sections 4 and 5 generalize the results in Theorems 1.1 and 1.4.

## 2. Preliminaries

This section introduces some notations, please refer to [10,18] for more details.

For  $n \geq 2$ , the hyperplane  $\mathbb{R}^{n-1} \times \{0\} = \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$  is the boundary of  $\mathbb{H}$ , which is also denoted by  $\partial\mathbb{H}$ . One can define the lower half-space by

$$-\mathbb{H} = \{x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n), x_n < 0\}.$$

Taking

$$x' = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1})$$

into account, set

$$x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = (x', x_n).$$

In the sense of Lebesgue measure

$$dx' = dx_1 \cdots dx_{n-1}, \quad dx = dx' dx_n.$$

Let  $|x|$  denote the Euclidean norm. Then

$$|x'|^2 = x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \cdots + x_{n-1}^2, \quad |x|^2 = |x'|^2 + x_n^2.$$

The unit vector based on  $x (\neq 0)$  will be denoted by  $\frac{x}{|x|}$ ,  $x \neq 0$ . For simplicity, a point  $x' \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$  is often identified with  $(x', 0)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and is identified with the projection of  $x$  onto the hyperplane  $\partial\mathbb{H}$ . The notation  $B(x_j, \rho_j)$  represents the open ball on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with centre  $x_j \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and radius  $\rho_j > 0$ .

According to [19], let  $\varphi$  be the angle between  $x \in \partial\mathbb{H}$  and the  $n$ th unit coordinate vector, i.e.

$$x_n = |x| \sin \varphi, \quad |x'| = |x| \cos \varphi, \quad 0 \leq \varphi < \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

A function  $u$  defined in  $\mathbb{H}$  with values in  $[-\infty, \infty)$  is called *subharmonic* [20] if

- (1)  $u$  is upper semicontinuous;
- (2) for every compact subset  $K$  of  $\mathbb{H}$  and every continuous function  $v$  on  $K$  which is harmonic in the interior of  $K$ , the inequality  $u \leq v$  is valid in  $K$  if it holds in  $\partial K$ .

Let  $f$  be a complex-valued function defined in an open set  $D$  contained in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ , i.e.  $D \subset \mathbb{C}$ . Write

$$f = u(x, y) + iv(x, y),$$

where  $u$  and  $v$  are real valued. We may induce a function  $\vec{f}$  from  $f$ , defined on the induced set  $\vec{D} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , as follows:

$$\vec{f}(x) = u(|x'|, x_n) + \frac{x'}{|x'|} v(|x'|, x_n), \quad x \in \vec{D}. \quad (7)$$

The function  $\vec{f}$  will be called the *induced function* from  $f$ .

Let  $I$  be a domain on the unit sphere  $S \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . We always assume that the boundary  $\partial\mathbb{H}$  with respect to  $S$  is not a polar set in the light of the classical potential theory. Let

$$K^I = \{x = (r, \theta) \in \mathbb{R}^n, 0 < r < \infty, \theta \in I\}$$

be a cone generated by the domain  $I$ . Truncated cones are denoted by

$$K_r^I = K^I \cap B(0, r).$$

Recall that a subharmonic function  $h(x)$  belongs to Cartwright's class  $C$ , if

$$|h(x)| < (\sigma + \varepsilon)|x|, \quad x > M, \quad (8)$$

in which  $0 < \sigma < +\infty$  is a constant, and

$$\int_{\partial \mathbb{H}} \frac{h^+(x')}{1 + |x'|^n} dx' < \infty. \quad (9)$$

The following two lemmas [14] will be used in this paper.

**Lemma 2.1:** For a Cartwright's class  $C$  function  $h(x)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} h(x) &= \sigma_+ x_n + o(|x|), \quad x_n \geq 0; \\ h(x) &= \sigma_- x_n + o(|x|), \quad x_n \leq 0, \end{aligned}$$

hold in  $\mathbb{H} \setminus G$  and  $-\mathbb{H} \setminus G$ , respectively, where  $0 < \sigma_{\pm} < +\infty$ ,  $G = \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} B(x_j, \rho_j)$ , and  $\rho_j > 0$  such that

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{\rho_j}{|x_j|} \leq \rho_j, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots$$

**Lemma 2.2:** For a subharmonic function  $h(x)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to belong to the Cartwright's class  $C$  it is sufficient and necessary that the function  $h(x)$  have positive harmonic majorants in the upper and lower half-space  $\mathbb{H}$  and  $-\mathbb{H}$ , respectively, here  $-\mathbb{H}$  is the lower half space defined as above.

### 3. Refinement of the upper bound

We now investigate the refinement of the upper bound for subharmonic functions in  $\mathbb{H}$ .

To begin, we cite the following Phragmén–Lindelöf theorem [21] for the subharmonic functions.

**Theorem 3.1:** Let  $u(x)$  be a subharmonic function in a cone  $K^I$ , where  $I$  is a regular domain on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and

$$M(r, u) = \sup \{u(x) : x \in K_r^I\}.$$

If

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} r^{-\mu^+} M(r, u) \leq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \sup_{x \in \partial K_r^I} u(x) \leq M,$$

Then

$$u(x) \leq M, \quad x \in K^I.$$

The positive solution  $\mu^+$  of the quadratic equation

$$\mu(\mu + n - 2) = \lambda_0$$

is called the characteristics constants of the domain  $I$ , here  $\lambda_0$  is the least positive eigenvalue of the Beltrami operator in cone  $K^I \cap \{|x| = 1\}$  for functions vanishing at the boundary of this region.

By Theorem 3.1 and the methods of [8,11], we will be able to prove the following theorem, which is similar to Theorem 1.3.

**Theorem 3.2:** Let  $u(x)$  be a subharmonic function in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  which satisfies the estimate

$$u(x) \leq M \frac{1 + |x|^\rho}{|\sin \varphi|^l}, \quad \rho > 1, \quad l > 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad (10)$$

$$|x'| = |x| \cos \varphi, \quad x_n = |x| \sin \varphi, \quad 0 < \varphi < \pi.$$

Then

$$u(x) \leq M (1 + r^{2\rho}), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n. \quad (11)$$

**Proof:** Without loss of generality, we assume  $l > \frac{1}{4}$ . Then  $\frac{\pi}{8l} < \frac{\pi}{2}$ . We consider the triangle  $abc$  having the vertices

$$\begin{aligned} a &= \left( 2 \csc \frac{\pi}{8l}, 0, \dots, 0 \right), \\ b &= \left( 0, 0, \dots, 2 \sec \frac{\pi}{8l} \right), \\ c &= \left( -2 \csc \frac{\pi}{8l}, 0, \dots, 0 \right), \end{aligned}$$

and a point

$$d = \left( 0, 0, \dots, -2 \sec \frac{\pi}{8l} \right),$$

denote by  $\Gamma$  the boundary of the rhombus with vertices at the points  $a, b, c, d$ .

Similar to [8], we set

$$h(x) = \frac{1}{|x + a|^{2l} |x - a|^{2l}}$$

for  $x$  on side  $ab$ .

If  $l \leq \frac{n}{2}$ ,  $h(x)$  is subharmonic within  $\Gamma$ , and the following can be shown:

$$h(x) \geq \frac{M}{|\sin \theta|^{2l}} \quad (12)$$

on  $\Gamma$ .

In fact, we first apply the Sine Rule in  $\triangle oax$  to obtain

$$\frac{|x - a|}{\sin \theta} = \frac{|x|}{\sin \frac{\pi}{8l}},$$

$\theta$  is the angle between vectors  $\vec{ox}$  and  $\vec{oa}$ . Applying the Sine Rule again in  $\triangle axc$ , we get

$$\frac{|x + a|}{\sin \frac{\pi}{8l}} = \frac{|x - a|}{\sin \psi},$$

where  $\psi$  is the angle between vectors  $\vec{ox} + \vec{oa}$  and  $\vec{oa}$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 h(x) &= \frac{1}{|x+a|^{2l}|x-a|^{2l}} \\
 &= \frac{(\sin \frac{\pi}{8l})^{2l} (\sin \psi)^{2l}}{|x|^{2l} |\sin^{2l} \theta|}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Letting

$$M = \frac{(\sin \frac{\pi}{8l})^{2l} (\sin \psi)^{2l}}{|x|^{2l}}, \quad -\frac{\pi}{8l} \leq \psi \leq \frac{\pi}{8l}.$$

We see that (12) is proved.

Noting that  $\Gamma$  contains the projection of unit sphere to the plane of rhombus and applying the maximum principle to the function

$$u(rx) - h(x),$$

we see  $u(x)$  is bounded above inside  $\Gamma$  and

$$\begin{aligned}
 u(x) &\leq \max_{|x|=1} h(x) + \max_{x \in \Gamma} [u(rx) - h(x)] \\
 &\leq M + \max_{0 \leq \theta \leq \pi} \left( \frac{Mr^\rho}{|\sin \theta|^l} - \frac{M}{|\sin \theta|^{2l}} \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\max_{0 \leq \theta \leq \pi} \left( \frac{Mr^\rho}{|\sin \theta|^l} - \frac{M}{|\sin \theta|^{2l}} \right) = Mr^{2\rho},$$

applying Theorem 3.1 within cone  $K^I$ , we obtain the desired inequality in the theorem.  $\square$

#### 4. Growth of subharmonic functions for $\rho > 1$

In this section, we present the generalized Matsaev theorem of subharmonic functions admitting a lower bound for  $\rho > 1$ . To prove the result, we need the following theorem [10] that provides a lower bound derived from an upper one for harmonic functions in  $\mathbb{H}$ .

**Theorem 4.1:** *Let  $u(x)$  be a harmonic function in the half space  $\mathbb{H}$  with continuous boundary values on the boundary hyperplane  $\mathbb{R}^{n-1}$ . Suppose*

$$u(x) \leq Kr^\rho, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, r = |x| \geq 1, \rho > n-1, \quad (13)$$

and

$$|u(x)| \leq K, \quad |x| \leq 1, x_n > 0. \quad (14)$$

Then

$$u(x) \geq -CK \frac{(1+r^\rho)}{|\sin \varphi|^{n-1}}, \quad (15)$$

where

$$x_n = |x| \sin \varphi, |x'| = |x| \cos \varphi, \quad 0 < \varphi < \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

The estimate provided by the above theorem is important for studying harmonic functions and their growth properties since the assumption of the theorem is weaker



than that of the Maximum Principle. Note that the theorem reduces to the well-known theorem in [11] when  $n = 2$ .

The following is the generalized Matsaev theorem on growth of subharmonic functions admitting a lower for  $\rho > 1$ .

**Theorem 4.2:** *Suppose a subharmonic function  $u(x)$  has the lower bound*

$$u(x) \geq -Mr^\rho \frac{1}{|\sin \varphi|^k}, \quad \rho > 1, k \geq 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad (16)$$

$$x_n = |x| \sin \varphi.$$

*Then  $u$  has the growth of order  $\rho$  and normal type in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .*

**Proof:** Let  $u(x)$  be a subharmonic function satisfying (16). Without loss of generality, we assume that  $u(x) \neq 0$  for  $|x| \leq 1$ , and hence

$$|u(x)| \geq M, \quad |x| \leq 1. \quad (17)$$

We choose  $\gamma$  and  $\varphi$  such that

$$1 < \gamma < \min(2, \rho), 0 < \varphi < \pi \left(1 - \frac{1}{\gamma}\right),$$

and consider the function

$$u_{\gamma, \varphi}(y) = u\left(y^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} \omega\right),$$

in which  $y = (y', y_n) \in \mathbb{H}$  with

$$y' = |y| \cos \theta \quad \text{and} \quad y_n = |y| \sin \theta, \quad y^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} = \left(y_1^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}, \dots, y_n^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}\right),$$

and  $\omega = (\omega', \omega_n) \in \mathbb{H}$  with

$$|\omega| = 1, |\omega'| = \cos \frac{\varphi}{2}, \quad \text{and} \quad \omega_n = \sin \frac{\varphi}{2},$$

here  $\theta$  and  $\frac{\varphi}{2}$  are the angles between  $y$  and  $\hat{e}_n$ ,  $\omega$  and  $\hat{e}_n$ , respectively.  $y^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} \omega$  is the induced function from  $\zeta^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} e^{i\frac{\varphi}{2}}, \zeta = re^{i\theta} \in \mathbb{C}$ .

Note that  $u_{\gamma, \varphi}(y)$  is a harmonic function in the closed upper half-space  $\overline{\mathbb{H}}$ , which satisfies the following

$$|u(x)| \leq \frac{M|x|^\rho}{|\sin \varphi|^k} \leq \frac{M}{|\sin \varphi|^k}, \quad |x| = |y^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} \omega| \leq 1.$$

Recall that  $y$  and  $\omega$  are in the induced space of  $\mathbb{H}$ ,

$$|u(x)| \leq \frac{M}{\left|\sin \left(\frac{\theta}{\gamma} + \frac{\varphi}{2}\right)\right|^k} \leq \frac{M}{\left|\csc \frac{\varphi}{2}\right|^k} = K.$$

Therefore  $u_{\gamma, \varphi}(y)$  satisfies the following estimate

$$u_{\gamma, \varphi}(y) \geq -|y|^{\frac{\rho}{\gamma}} \left|\csc \left(\frac{\varphi}{2} + \frac{\theta}{\gamma}\right)\right|^k \geq -M|y|^{\frac{\rho}{\gamma}} \left|\csc \left(\frac{\varphi}{2}\right)\right|^k. \quad (18)$$

By Theorem 4.1 and  $-u_{\gamma,\varphi}(y)$ , the estimates (17) and (18) yield the upper bound

$$u_{\gamma,\varphi}(y) \leq M|y|^{\frac{\rho}{\gamma}} \left| \csc\left(\frac{\varphi}{2}\right) \right|^k \csc \theta.$$

In order to estimate the function  $u(x)$ , we know that  $0 < \gamma \frac{\varphi}{2} < \pi$ , and set  $y = (r\omega)^\gamma$  in (18). By the definition of  $u_{\gamma,\varphi}(y)$  we obtain the estimate

$$u(x) = u_{\gamma,\varphi}[(r\omega)^\gamma] \leq Mr^\rho \left| \csc\left(\frac{\varphi}{2}\right) \right|^k \csc \frac{\gamma\varphi}{2} \leq Mr^\rho (\csc \varphi)^{k+1}, \quad (19)$$

within the cone

$$\left\{ x \in \mathbb{H}, 0 < \varphi < \pi \left( 1 - \frac{1}{\gamma} \right) \right\}.$$

In the same way the estimate is proved for

$$0 > \varphi > -\pi \left( 1 - \frac{1}{\gamma} \right).$$

If we replace  $u(x)$  by  $u(-x)$ , we find that (19) holds within the cone

$$\left\{ x \in \mathbb{H}, |\pi - \varphi| < \pi \left( 1 - \frac{1}{\gamma} \right) \right\}.$$

It remains to obtain the estimate of  $u(x)$  within the cone

$$\left\{ x \in \mathbb{H}, |x'| = |x| \cos \varphi, x_n = |x| \sin \varphi, \pi \left( 1 - \frac{1}{\gamma} \right) < \varphi < \frac{\pi}{\gamma} \right\}.$$

For this purpose we set  $y = v^\gamma$  in (18), where

$$v = (v', v_n) \in \mathbb{H} \text{ with } v' = r \cos \left( \phi - \frac{\varphi}{2} \right) \text{ and } v_n = r \sin \left( \phi - \frac{\varphi}{2} \right),$$

and obtain

$$u(y) = [u_{\gamma,\varphi}(v)]^\gamma \leq M(1 + r^\rho).$$

The same estimate is obviously true for

$$-\frac{\pi}{\gamma} < \varphi < -\pi \left( 1 - \frac{1}{\gamma} \right).$$

Combining all the estimates, we obtain

$$u(x) \leq \frac{M(1 + |x|^\rho)}{|\sin \varphi|^l},$$

with  $l = k + 1$ . Then, Theorem 4.2 follows immediately from Theorem 3.2.  $\square$

When  $n = 2$ , the above theorem reduces to Theorem 1.1 where  $u(z) = \log |f(z)|$ . In addition, the theorem generalizes the half space result in Theorem 1.4 to the entire space.

## 5. Growth of subharmonic functions for $\rho \leq 1$

As for the subharmonic functions admitting a lower bound for  $\rho \leq 1$ , we have the following generalized Matsaev result, whose proof utilizes an approach different from that in the previous section.

**Theorem 5.1:** *Suppose a subharmonic function  $h(x)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  has the lower bound*

$$h(x) \geq -M \frac{1 + |x|^\rho}{x_n^k}, \quad x_n = |x| \sin \varphi, \quad 0 \leq \rho < 1, \quad k > 0. \quad (20)$$

*Then it belongs to Cartwright's class C.*

**Proof:** To begin with, we consider the subharmonic function  $-h(x)$  in the half-space  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n, x_n > 1\}$ . By (20)

$$-h(x) \leq -M(1 + |x|^\rho), \quad \rho < 1, \quad x_n \geq 1. \quad (21)$$

Hence  $-h(x)$  has a positive harmonic majorant in the upper half-space  $\mathbb{H}$ , and then has the following representation [20] ( $P_{128}$ , Theorem 3.1.8' and  $P_{186}$ , Theorem 3.3.16)

$$\begin{aligned} -h(x) = & -\frac{1}{(n-2)w_n} \int_{\mathbb{H}} h(y+e) \left[ \frac{1}{|x-y+e|^{n-2}} - \frac{1}{|x-\tilde{y}+e|^{n-2}} \right] dy \\ & - \frac{2(x_n-1)}{nw_n} \int_{\partial\mathbb{H}} \frac{h(y'+e)}{|x-y'+e|^n} dy' + M(x_n-1), \quad x_n > 1, \end{aligned}$$

in which

$$e = (0, \dots, 0, 1),$$

and

$$\tilde{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}, -y_n)$$

is the reflection of  $y$  onto the hyperplane  $\partial\mathbb{H}$ , where

$$\int_{\mathbb{H}} \frac{h(y+e)}{1+|y|^n} dy < \infty, \quad (22)$$

and

$$\int_{\partial\mathbb{H}} \frac{h(y'+e)}{1+|y'|^n} dy' < \infty. \quad (23)$$

By Lemma 2.1

$$-h(x) < (\sigma + \varepsilon)|x|, \quad \sigma = \max(\sigma_+, \sigma_-),$$

holds for  $|x| > M, x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Therefore,

$$h(x) < (\sigma + \varepsilon)|x|, \quad |x| > M, \quad (24)$$

in the half-space

$$\mathbb{H}_1 = \{x = (x', x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n, x_n \geq 1\}$$

and

$$\{x = (x', x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n, x_n \leq -1\}.$$

Applying Theorem 4.1 in

$$\{|y_n| \leq 1\}$$

for

$$-h(x) - Mx',$$

we have

$$|-h(x)| < (\sigma + \varepsilon)|x|.$$

Note that condition (23) yields the convergence of the integral

$$\frac{2(x_n - 1)}{w_n} \int_{\partial \mathbb{H}} \frac{h(y' + e)}{|x - y' + e|^n} dy', \quad x_n > 1,$$

which defines a positive harmonic function in  $\mathbb{H}_1$  with boundary values on the hyperplane

$$\{x = (x', x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n, x_n = 1\}$$

coinciding with  $h(y' + e)$ . Thus  $h(x)$  has a positive harmonic majorant in the half-space

$$\{x = (x', x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n, x_n < 1\}.$$

Similarly,  $h(x)$  has a positive harmonic majorant in the half-space

$$\{x = (x', x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n, x_n > -1\}.$$

Therefore,  $h(x)$  has a positive majorant in both  $\mathbb{H}$  and  $-\mathbb{H}$ . Applying Lemma 2.2, we conclude that  $h(x)$  belongs to the Cartwright's class C.  $\square$

## Disclosure statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

## Funding

The work was supported by NSFC [grant number 11501015]; NSFC [grant number 10901166]; Macau Government FDCT [grant number 099/2012/A3].

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