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**PRESERVATION OF  $l$ -INDEX BOUNDEDNESS UNDER ZEROS SHIFTS**

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For entire functions represented by canonical products with zeros on a finite system of curves of regular rotation conditions on shifts of zeros preserving boundedness of  $l$ -index are found.

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Для целых функций, заданных каноническими произведениями с нулями на конечной системе кривых правильного вращения, найдены условия на смещения нулей, при которых сохраняется ограниченность  $l$ -индекса этих функций.

**1. Introduction.** Let  $\Lambda$  be the class of positive continuous functions  $l$  on  $[0, +\infty)$  and  $Q$  be the class of functions  $l \in \Lambda$  such that  $l(r + O(1/l(r))) = O(l(r))$  ( $r \rightarrow +\infty$ ).

For  $l \in \Lambda$  an entire function  $f$  is said to be of bounded  $l$ -index [1] if there exists  $N \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  such that  $\frac{|f^{(n)}(z)|}{n!l^n(|z|)} \leq \max \left\{ \frac{|f^{(k)}(z)|}{k!l^k(|z|)} : 0 \leq k \leq N \right\}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  and  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ . For  $l(x) \equiv 1$  we obtain the definition of an entire function of bounded index (see [2]).

If  $a_k \in \mathbb{C}$  are zeros of an entire function  $f$ , we put  $n(r, z_0, 1/f) = \sum_{|a_k - z_0| \leq r} 1$ , and  $G_q(f) = \bigcup_k \left\{ z : |z - a_k| \leq \frac{q}{l(|a_k|)} \right\}$  for  $l \in \Lambda$ ,  $q \in (0, +\infty)$ .

G. Fricke [3], [1, p.128] has proved that an entire function  $f$  of exponential type is a function of bounded index if and only if  $|f'(z)/f(z)| \leq M(\rho) < +\infty$  for arbitrary  $\rho > 0$  and all  $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus G_\rho(f)$  with  $l(x) \equiv 1$ .

In the general case we have the following criterion ([4], [1, p.27]).

**Lemma 1.** *If  $l \in Q$  then an entire function  $f$  is of bounded  $l$ -index if and only if*

- 1) *for every  $q > 0$  there exists  $P(q) > 0$  such that  $|f'(z)/f(z)| \leq P(q)l(|z|)$  for all  $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus G_q(f)$  and*
- 2) *for every  $q > 0$  there exists  $n^*(q) \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $n(q/l(|z_0|), z_0, 1/f) \leq n^*(q)$  for each  $z_0 \in \mathbb{C}$ .*

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Suppose that  $f$  is of bounded index. Then ([5], [1, p. 69])  $\ln M_f(r) = O(r)$ ,  $r \rightarrow +\infty$ ,  $M_f(r) = \max\{|f(z)| : |z| = r\}$ . Therefore, by the Hadamard representation theorem either

$$f(z) = Az^m \pi(z), \quad \pi(z) = \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{z}{a_k}\right), \quad \text{if } \int_1^{\infty} \frac{\ln M_f(r)}{r^2} dr < +\infty, \quad (2)$$

or

$$f(z) = Az^m e^{az} \pi(z), \quad \pi(z) = \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{z}{a_k}\right) e^{z/a_k}, \quad \text{if } \int_1^{\infty} \frac{\ln M_f(r)}{r^2} dr = +\infty, \quad (3)$$

where  $A \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $a_k \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  and  $|a_k| \nearrow +\infty$   $k \rightarrow +\infty$ .

For a sequence  $\psi = (\psi_k)$ ,  $k \geq 0$ , we define

$$f_{\psi}(z) = A(z - \psi_0)^m \pi_{\psi}(z), \quad \pi_{\psi}(z) = \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{z}{a_k + \psi_k}\right), \quad \text{if } \int_1^{\infty} \frac{\ln M_f(r)}{r^2} dr < +\infty, \quad (4)$$

and

$$f_{\psi}(z) = A(z - \psi_0)^m e^{az} \pi_{\psi}(z), \quad \pi_{\psi}(z) = \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{z}{a_k + \psi_k}\right) e^{z/(a_k + \psi_k)},$$

$$\text{if } \int_1^{\infty} \frac{\ln M_f(r)}{r^2} dr = +\infty. \quad (5)$$

In [6] M. M. Sheremeta has proved that if zeros  $(a_k)$  of the entire function  $f$ , which is necessary of the exponential type, lay on a finite number of rays gone from the origin, and  $\psi_k = O(1)$ , then the entire function  $f_{\psi}$  is also of bounded index. On the other hand, for every positive continuous nondecreasing to  $+\infty$  function  $\xi$  on  $[0, +\infty)$  there exist an entire function  $f$  of bounded index and a sequence  $\psi$  such that  $|\psi_k| \leq \xi(k)$  and  $f_{\psi}$  is of unbounded index. It was conjectured [7] that it should be true without any restriction on zeros.

We are going to generalize the mentioned result of Sheremeta on boundedness of index for the functions  $f_{\psi}$  in two directions. First, we consider functions  $f$  with zeros on a finite number of so called *curves of regular rotation* introduced and investigated by Balashov (see for example [8]). Second, we provide unimprovable sufficient conditions for  $l$ -index boundedness of the functions  $f_{\psi}$ .

## 2. Functions with zeros on curves of regular rotation.

Recall the notion of the regular rolling curve ([8]). Let

$$L^{\gamma} = (z = re^{i\gamma(r)} : 0 \leq r_0 \leq r < \infty),$$

where  $r_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\gamma : [r_0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . The curve  $L^{\gamma}$  is called a *curve of regular rotation* if  $\gamma \in C^1[r_0, \infty)$ , and there exists

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow +\infty} r\gamma'(r) = c \in [0, +\infty).$$

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $f$  be a function of bounded index, and all its zeros, except, possibly, a finite number, lie on a finite number of curves of regular rotation. If  $\sup_k |\psi_k| < +\infty$ , then the function  $f_{\psi}$  is also of bounded index.*

*Remark 1.* Let  $p$  be an entire function,  $q$  be a function of bounded index and  $f(z) = p(z)q(z)$ . By the multiplication theorem [3], [1, p.34]  $f$  is of bounded index if and only if  $p$  is of bounded index. Since  $q(z) = P(z)e^{az}$ , where  $a \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $P(z)$  is a polynomial, is a function of bounded index, in order to prove Theorem 1 it is sufficient to consider canonical products (2) and (3).

*Remark 2.* The condition  $\sup_k |\psi_k| < +\infty$  cannot be improved.

**Corollary 1.** *Let  $f$  satisfy the conditions of Theorem 1,  $\varphi_k \in [-\pi, \pi)$ ,  $\psi_k = a_k e^{i\varphi_k} - a_k$ . Then  $f_\psi$  with zeros  $b_k = a_k e^{i\varphi_k}$  is of bounded index provided that  $\sup_k |a_k \varphi_k| < +\infty$ .*

In particular, if we rotate an infinite number of zeros of a function  $f$ , which is of bounded index, on a fixed angle, then  $f_\psi$  can be of unbounded index.

**Example 1.** Consider the function

$$\pi(z) = \frac{\sin \pi z}{z} = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{z}{n}\right) e^{z/n} \left(1 + \frac{z}{n}\right) e^{-z/n} = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{z^2}{n^2}\right). \quad (6)$$

Let  $\varphi = (\varphi_n)$  be a sequence of positive numbers. Rotate every negative zero  $-n$  on the angle  $\varphi_n$ . We obtain the canonical product

$$\pi_\varphi(z) = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{z}{n}\right) \exp\left\{\frac{z}{n}\right\} \left(1 + \frac{z}{ne^{i\varphi_n}}\right) \exp\left\{\frac{-z}{ne^{i\varphi_n}}\right\}. \quad (7)$$

For this product we define as in [9, p. 42] the value

$$\delta(r) = \left| \sum_{n \leq r} \left(\frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{ne^{i\varphi_n}}\right) \right| = \sum_{n \leq r} \frac{|1 - e^{i\varphi_n}|}{n}.$$

If  $\varphi_n \equiv \varphi > 0$ , then  $\delta(r) = +\infty$ , and by the Lindelöf theorem [9, p.42]  $\pi_\varphi$  has order 1 and maximal type, thus cannot be of bounded index. If  $\varphi_n \rightarrow 0$  ( $n \rightarrow +\infty$ ), then  $\delta(r) = +\infty$  as far as  $\sum_n \varphi_n/n$  diverges. And again  $\pi_\varphi$  is of unbounded index.

To prove Theorem 1 we need the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $(a_k)$  be a sequence of complex numbers lying on a curve of regular rotation  $L_\varphi^\gamma$  ordered by increasing moduli, and satisfying the condition  $|a_{k+1} - a_k| > h > 0$  ( $k \geq 1$ ). Then for arbitrary  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$*

$$|a_{k+1}| - |a_k| > \frac{\alpha h}{\sqrt{1 + c^2}}, \quad k \rightarrow +\infty,$$

where  $c = c(\gamma)$  is a constant from the definition of  $L_\varphi^\gamma$ .

*Proof.* Consider  $L^\gamma$ . Since  $a_k = |a_k|e^{i\gamma(|a_k|)}$  and  $r\gamma'(r) \rightarrow c$  ( $r \rightarrow +\infty$ ), for sufficiently large  $k$  we have

$$\gamma(|a_{k+1}|) - \gamma(|a_k|) = \int_{|a_k|}^{|a_{k+1}|} \gamma'(t) dt = (c + o(1)) \int_{|a_k|}^{|a_{k+1}|} \frac{dt}{t}.$$

Suppose that  $|a_{k+1}| - |a_k| \leq \alpha h / \sqrt{1 + c^2}$  for some  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  and a sequence of values  $k$  tending to  $+\infty$ . Then  $|a_k| \sim |a_{k+1}|$  and

$$\gamma(|a_{k+1}|) - \gamma(|a_k|) = |c + o(1)|(|a_{k+1}| - |a_k|)/|a_k| \rightarrow 0$$

on this sequence of  $k \uparrow +\infty$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} a_{k+1} - a_k &= |a_{k+1}|e^{i\gamma(|a_{k+1}|)} - |a_k|e^{i\gamma(|a_{k+1}|)} + |a_k|e^{i\gamma(|a_{k+1}|)} - |a_k|e^{i\gamma(|a_k|)} = \\ &= (|a_{k+1}| - |a_k|)e^{i\gamma(|a_{k+1}|)} + |a_k|e^{i\gamma(|a_k|)}(e^{i(\gamma(|a_{k+1}|) - \gamma(|a_k|))} - 1) = \\ &= (|a_{k+1}| - |a_k|)e^{i\gamma(|a_k|)}e^{i(\gamma(|a_{k+1}|) - \gamma(|a_k|))} + |a_k|e^{i\gamma(|a_k|)}(i(\gamma(|a_{k+1}|) - \gamma(|a_k|))(1 + o(1))) = \\ &= e^{i\gamma(|a_k|)}(|a_{k+1}| - |a_k|)(1 + ic + o(1)). \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,

$$h \leq |a_{k+1} - a_k| \leq (1 + o(1))\sqrt{1 + c^2}(|a_{k+1}| - |a_k|) \leq (1 + o(1))\alpha h,$$

which is impossible, because  $\alpha < 1$ . This contradiction proves the lemma.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 1.* Let  $\pi(z)$  be a canonical product of form (2) or (3) of bounded index with zeros lying on a finite number of curves of regular rotation  $L_j = L^{\gamma_j}$ ,  $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ ,  $c = \max_j c_j$ , and  $\sup_{k \geq 1} |\psi_k| = H < +\infty$ . Set  $h = 3H$ . Then,  $h/2 - |\psi_k| \geq H/2 > 0$ ,  $k \geq 1$ . On the other hand, by Lemma 1 for any  $s > 0$  there exists  $n^*(s) \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $z_0 \in \mathbb{C}$  we have  $n(s, z_0, 1/\pi) \leq n^*(s)$ . Put  $s = 3H\sqrt{1 + c^2}$ , thus,  $n(3H\sqrt{1 + c^2}, z_0, 1/\pi) \leq n^*(3H\sqrt{1 + c^2})$ ,  $z_0 \in \mathbb{C}$ , i.e. for any zero  $a_k$  there are at most  $n^*(3H\sqrt{1 + c^2}) - 1$  zeros  $a_l$  with

$$|a_l - a_k| \leq 3H\sqrt{1 + c^2}, \quad l \neq k. \quad (8)$$

Obviously, every sequence  $(a_l^{(j)})$  of those zeros  $(a_l)$  which lie in  $L^{\gamma_j}$  still satisfies (8) (and every  $a_n$  belongs only to one sequence  $(a_l^{(j)})$ ,  $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ ). Therefore, every  $(a_l^{(j)})$  can be represented as a union of at most  $n^*(3H\sqrt{1 + c^2})$  sequences  $(a_l^{(j,k)})$  ordered by increasing moduli and satisfying  $|a_{l+1}^{(j,k)} - a_l^{(j,k)}| > 3H\sqrt{1 + c^2}$ ,  $l \geq 1$ ,  $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ . By Lemma 2  $|a_{l+1}^{(j,k)}| - |a_l^{(j,k)}| \geq 3H = h$ . By Theorem 3 from [6] the canonical product  $\pi_{\psi}^{j,k}(z)$  with zeros  $\{a_l^{(j,k)}\}$  is of bounded index. Now, by the multiplication theorem  $\pi_{\psi}(z) = \prod_{j,k} \pi_{\psi}^{j,k}$  is also of bounded index.  $\square$

### 3. $l$ -index boundedness of $\pi_{\psi}$ .

We shall consider cases (2) and (3) separately. First, let  $f(z)$  be of form (2). It is natural to consider  $l$ -index boundedness of  $f$  with  $l(r) = o(1)$  ( $r \rightarrow +\infty$ ),  $l \in Q$  (see, for example [10]).

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $l(r)$  be a nonincreasing function on  $[0, +\infty)$  such that  $rl(r) \nearrow +\infty$  as  $r \rightarrow +\infty$ , and  $f(z)$  of form (2) be of bounded  $l$ -index with positive zeros. If  $|\psi_k| \leq \frac{K_1}{l(a_k)}$  ( $k \geq 1$ ) where  $K$  is a constant, then  $\pi_{\psi}(z)$  of form (4) is of bounded  $l$ -index.*

*Proof of Theorem 2.* Remark that our assumptions on  $l(r)$  imply ([10]) that  $l \in Q$ . Moreover, it is easy to see that  $2l(2r) \geq l(r) \geq l(2r)$ ,  $r \geq 0$ .

By Lemma 1 we have

$$(\forall z_0 \in \mathbb{C}) : n(q/l(|z_0|), z_0, 1/f) \leq n^*(q). \quad (9)$$

Define the sequence  $R_n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ , by the equalities  $R_0 = 0$ ,  $R_n = R_{n-1} + 6K_1/l(R_{n-1})$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $l(r)$  nonincreasing,  $R_n \uparrow +\infty$  ( $n \uparrow +\infty$ ). By (9) a number of zeros  $a_n$  on  $[R_{2(n-1)}, R_{2n}]$  does not exceed  $n(6K_1/l(R_{2n-1}), R_{2n-1}, 1/f) \leq n^*(6K_1)$ . Set  $I_n = (R_n, R_{n+1}]$ .

From each interval  $I_{2m}$  we choose one from zeros (if there exists) of  $\pi$  and construct a canonical product  $\pi_1^*$  by such zeros, then we choose another second zero (if there exists) of  $\pi$  and construct a canonical product  $\pi_2^*$  by such zeros etc. So we construct the  $n_1 \leq n^*$  canonical products  $\pi_j^*$  with zeros  $a_k^{(j)}$  satisfying the condition

$$a_{k+1}^{(j)} - a_k^{(j)} \geq \frac{6K_1}{l(a_{k+1}^{(j)} - 2/l(a_{k+1}^{(j)}))} \geq \frac{3K_1}{l(a_{k+1}^{(j)})}, \quad k \geq k_0.$$

Choosing by analogy zeros of  $\pi$  from each interval  $I_{2m+1}$ , we construct  $n_2 \leq n^*$  canonical products  $\pi_j^{**}$  with zeros satisfying the same condition.

Hence,  $\pi(z) = \prod_{j=1}^{n_1+n_2} \pi_j$ , where  $\pi_j$  are canonical products with zeros  $a_k^{(j)}$  satisfying the condition  $a_{k+1}^{(j)} - a_k^{(j)} \geq \frac{3K_1}{l(a_{k+1}^{(j)})}$ . Let  $(b_k^{(j)})$  be the corresponding sequence constructed by  $(b_k)$ ,  $b_k = a_k + \psi_k$ . Then, we have  $(j \in \{1, \dots, n_1 + n_2\})$

$$|b_{k+1}^{(j)}| - |b_k^{(j)}| \geq a_{k+1}^{(j)} - \frac{K_1}{l(a_{k+1}^{(j)})} - a_k^{(j)} - \frac{K_1}{l(a_k^{(j)})} \geq \frac{K_1}{l(a_{k+1}^{(j)})} \geq \frac{K_1}{2l(|b_{k+1}^{(j)}|)}, \quad k \geq k_0. \quad (10)$$

Clearly,

$$\left| \frac{\pi'_\psi(z)}{\pi_\psi(z)} - \frac{\pi'(z)}{\pi(z)} \right| \leq \sum_{j=1}^{n_1+n_2} \left| \frac{\pi'_{j,\psi}(z)}{\pi_{j,\psi}(z)} - \frac{\pi'_j(z)}{\pi_j(z)} \right|. \quad (11)$$

Let  $q \in (0, 3K_1/2)$ ,  $\rho \in (0, \sigma)$ , where  $0 < \sigma < K_1/2$ ,  $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus (G_\rho(\pi) \cup G_q(\pi_\psi))$ . We need two lemmas.

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $l(r)$  be positive and either  $l(r)$  is nonincreasing and  $rl(r) \nearrow +\infty$ , or  $l(r)$  is nondecreasing and  $l(r)r^{-\kappa} \searrow 0$  as  $r \rightarrow +\infty$ , for some  $\kappa \geq 1$ ,  $(d_k)$  a sequence of positive numbers such that  $d_{k+1} - d_k \geq h/l(d_{k+1})$  ( $k \geq 1$ ), and  $s \geq 0$ . Then for every  $r > 0$*

a)

$$\sum_{d_k > r} \frac{1}{d_k^s l(d_k)} = O\left(\frac{1}{r^{s-1}}\right), \quad s > 1;$$

b)

$$\sum_{d_k \leq r} \frac{d_k^s}{l(d_k)} = O(r^{s+1}), \quad s \geq 0.$$

*Remark 3.* Under the assumptions of Lemma 3  $l \in Q$  (cf. [10, p.124]) and  $\frac{1}{C_1}l(r) \leq l(2r) \leq C_1l(r)$ ,  $r > 0$  where  $C_1$  is a positive constant.

**Lemma 4.** *Let  $l(r)$  satisfy the conditions of Theorem 2,  $|c_{k+1}| - |c_k| \geq 3K_1/l(|c_{k+1}|)$ ,  $|\psi_k| \leq K_1/l(|c_k|)$  ( $k \geq 1$ ). Then for every  $\rho \in (0, 3K_1/2)$ ,  $q \in (0, \sigma)$ , where  $\sigma < K_1/2$ , there exists  $P = P(\rho, q) > 0$  such that*

$$(\forall z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus (G_\rho \cup G_{q\psi})) : \left| \sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} \left( \frac{1}{z - c_k} - \frac{1}{z - c_k - \psi_k} \right) \right| \leq P(\rho, q)l(|z|),$$

where

$$G_\rho = \bigcup_k \left\{ z : |z - c_k| \leq \frac{\rho}{l(|c_k|)} \right\}, \quad G_{q\psi} = \bigcup_k \left\{ z : |z - c_k - \psi_k| \leq \frac{q}{l(|c_k + \psi_k|)} \right\}.$$

*Proof of Lemma 3.* Define inductively  $r_{n+1} = r_n + 1/l(r_n)$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , where  $r_1 \in (0, d_1)$ .

From the condition  $d_{k+1} - d_k \geq h/l(d_{k+1})$  ( $k \geq 1$ ) it follows that  $n_d(r_{n+1} - r_n) \leq n^*(h)$ , where  $n_d(r) = \sum_{d_k \leq r} 1$  is the counting function of the sequence  $(d_k)$ . If  $l$  is nonincreasing, we have  $r_n \geq r_1 + (n-1)/l(r_1) \rightarrow +\infty$  ( $n \rightarrow +\infty$ ). Otherwise  $l$  is nondecreasing, and in this case if  $(r_n)$  is bounded above, say by  $r_* \in (0, +\infty)$ , then  $l(r_n) \leq l(r_*)$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Therefore,  $r_{n+1} \geq r_1 + n/l(r_*)$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , that contradicts the assumption on boundedness of  $(r_n)$ . Hence,  $r_n \uparrow +\infty$  ( $n \rightarrow +\infty$ ) in any case.

Further arguments concern the case when  $l(r)$  is nonincreasing and  $rl(r) \nearrow +\infty$ . In the other case arguments are similar. Differences can be overcome using Remark 3.

Let  $r \geq r_1$ , then  $r \in [r_m, r_{m+1})$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Using the definition of  $(r_k)$ , and  $l \in Q$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{d_k > r} \frac{1}{d_k^s l(d_k)} &\leq \sum_{k=m}^{+\infty} \sum_{r_k < d_j \leq r_{k+1}} \frac{1}{d_j^s l(d_j)} \leq \\ &\leq \sum_{k=m}^{+\infty} \frac{n_d(r_{k+1}) - n_d(r_k)}{r_k^s l(r_{k+1})} \leq n^*(h) \sum_{k=m}^{+\infty} \frac{r_{k+2} - r_{k+1}}{r_k^s} = \\ &= O\left(\sum_{k=m}^{+\infty} \int_{r_{k+1}}^{r_{k+2}} \frac{dt}{t^s}\right) = O\left(\int_r^{+\infty} \frac{dt}{t^s}\right) = O\left(\frac{1}{r^{s-1}}\right), \quad r \rightarrow +\infty. \end{aligned}$$

Assertion a) is proved. Let us prove b). Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{d_k \leq r} \frac{d_k^s}{l(d_k)} &\leq \sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{r_k < d_j \leq r_{k+1}} \frac{d_j^s}{l(d_j)} \leq \\ &\leq \sum_{k=1}^m r_{k+1}^s \frac{n_d(r_{k+1}) - n_d(r_k)}{l(r_{k+1})} \leq n^*(h) \sum_{k=1}^m r_k^s (r_{k+2} - r_{k+1}) = \\ &= O\left(\sum_{k=1}^m \int_{r_{k+1}}^{r_{k+2}} t^s dt\right) = O\left(\int_{r_2}^{r_{m+2}} t^s dt\right) = O\left(r_{m+2}^{s+1}\right) = O(r^{s+1}), \quad r \rightarrow +\infty. \end{aligned}$$

□

*Proof of Lemma 4.* Let  $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus (G_\rho(\pi) \cup G_q(\pi_\psi))$  and  $|c_n| \leq |z| \leq |c_{n+1}|$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} \left( \frac{1}{z - c_k} - \frac{1}{z - c_k - \psi_k} \right) \right| &\leq \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{|\psi_k|}{|z - c_k| |z - c_k - \psi_k|} + \\ &+ \frac{|\psi_n|}{|z - c_n| |z - c_n - \psi_n|} + \frac{|\psi_{n+1}|}{|z - c_{n+1}| |z - c_{n+1} - \psi_{n+1}|} + \sum_{k=n+2}^{\infty} \frac{|\psi_k|}{|z - c_k| |z - c_k - \psi_k|}. \end{aligned}$$

Using conditions of the lemma we obtain for  $|c_k| \geq |z|/2$

$$\begin{aligned} \min\{|z - c_k|, |z - c_k - \psi_k|\} &\geq |c_n| - |c_k| - |\psi_k| \geq \sum_{m=k}^{n-1} (|c_{m+1}| - |c_m|) - \frac{K_1}{l(|c_k|)} \geq \\ &\geq \sum_{m=k}^{n-1} \frac{h}{l(|c_{m+1}|)} - \frac{K_1}{l(|c_k|)} \geq \frac{h(n - k - \frac{1}{3})}{l(|c_n|/2)}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\substack{|c_k| \geq |z|/2 \\ k \leq n+1}} \frac{|\psi_k|}{|z - c_k||z - c_k - \psi_k|} &\leq \sum_{\substack{|c_k| \geq |z|/2 \\ k \leq n+1}} \frac{K_1/l(|c_k|)}{h^2(n-k-1/3)^2} \leq \\ &\leq \frac{K_1 l(\frac{|c_n|}{2})}{h^2} \sum_{k \leq n-1} \frac{1}{(n-k-\frac{1}{3})^2} \leq \frac{32K_1}{h^2} l(|z|). \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Applying Lemma 3 b) with  $s = 0$ , we obtain

$$\sum_{|c_k| \leq |z|/2} \frac{|\psi_k|}{|z - c_k||z - c_k - \psi_k|} \leq \sum_{|c_k| \leq |z|/2} \frac{8K_1}{|z|^2 l(|c_k|)} \leq \frac{K_2}{|z|} \leq K_3 l(|z|). \quad (13)$$

Next, for  $k \geq n+2$  we have

$$\min\{|c_k - z|, |c_k - \psi_k - z|\} \geq |c_k| - |\psi_k| - |c_{n+1}| \geq \sum_{m=n+2}^k \frac{h}{l(|c_m|)} - \frac{K_1}{l(|c_k|)} \geq \frac{h(k-n-\frac{4}{3})}{l(|c_{n+2}|)}.$$

Hence, using Lemma 3 a), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k \geq n+2} \frac{|\psi_k|}{|z - c_k||z - c_k - \psi_k|} &\leq \sum_{\substack{|c_k| \leq 2|z| \\ k \geq n+2}} \frac{\frac{K_1}{l(|c_k|)}(l(|c_{n+2}|))^2}{h^2(k-n-\frac{4}{3})^2} + \sum_{|a_k| \geq 2|z|} \frac{8|\psi_k|}{|c_k|^2} \leq \\ &\leq \frac{8K_1}{h^2} l(|z|) + \sum_{|c_k| \geq 2|z|} \frac{K_1}{|c_k|^2 l(|c_k|)} \leq \frac{8K_1}{h^2} l(|z|) + \frac{K_4}{|z|} \leq K_5 l(|z|). \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

Finally, since  $z \notin (G_\rho \cup G_{q\psi})$ , we have

$$\frac{|\psi_n|}{|z - c_n||z - c_n - \psi_n|} + \frac{|\psi_{n+1}|}{|z - c_{n+1}||z - c_{n+1} - \psi_{n+1}|} \leq \frac{K_1}{\rho} \left( \frac{1}{|z - c_n - \psi_n|} + \frac{1}{|z - c_{n+1} - \psi_{n+1}|} \right).$$

Whence it is easy to conclude (see [10, (8), p.127]) that

$$\frac{|\psi_n|}{|z - c_n||z - c_n - \psi_n|} + \frac{|\psi_{n+1}|}{|z - c_{n+1}||z - c_{n+1} - \psi_{n+1}|} \leq K(\rho, q) l(|z|). \quad (15)$$

The assertion of the lemma follows from (12)–(15).  $\square$

Proceed the proof of Theorem 2. Fix any  $j \in \{1, n_1 + n_2\}$  and consider

$$\left| \frac{\pi'_{j,\psi}(z)}{\pi_{j,\psi}(z)} - \frac{\pi'_j(z)}{\pi_j(z)} \right| = \left| \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \frac{\psi_k^{(j)}}{(z - a_k^{(j)})(z - b_k^{(j)})} \right|.$$

We can apply Lemma 4 to  $(a_k^{(j)})$  with  $h = K_1/2$ . It implies that

$$\left| \frac{\pi'_{j,\psi}(z)}{\pi_{j,\psi}(z)} - \frac{\pi'_j(z)}{\pi_j(z)} \right| \leq P_j(\rho, q) l(|z|), \quad z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus (G_\rho(\pi_j) \cup G_q(\pi_{j,\psi})).$$

Then

$$\left| \frac{\pi'_\psi(z)}{\pi_\psi(z)} - \frac{\pi'(z)}{\pi(z)} \right| \leq \sum_{j=1}^{n_1+n_2} P_j(\rho, q)l(|z|) = P(\rho, q)l(|z|) < +\infty,$$

for such  $z$ . Since  $\pi(z)$  is a function of bounded  $l$ -index, by Lemma 1 we have  $|\pi'(z)/\pi(z)| \leq P_1(\rho)l(|z|)$ ,  $z \notin G_\rho(\pi)$ . Hence,

$$\left| \frac{\pi'_\psi(z)}{\pi_\psi(z)} \right| \leq (P_1(\rho) + P(\rho, q))l(|z|), \quad z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \bigcup_{k \geq 1} (C'_k \cup C''_k), \quad (16)$$

where  $C'_k = \{z : |z - a_k - \psi| \leq q/l(|a_k|)\}$ ,  $C''_k = \{z : |z - a_k| \leq \rho/l(|a_k|)\}$ , Now, let  $q \in (0, 3K_1/2)$  and  $\rho = q/3$ .

If  $C''_j \subset \bigcup_{k \geq 1} C'_k$  then we can omit  $C''_j$  in the exceptional set of estimate (16). If  $C''_j \cap (\bigcup_{k \geq 1} C'_k) = \emptyset$  then (16) holds on  $\partial C''_j$ , and by the maximum modulus principle it holds on  $C''_j$ . Finally, if  $C''_j \cap (\bigcup_{k \geq 1} C'_k) \neq \emptyset$  and  $\text{Int} C''_j \cap \partial (\bigcup_{k \geq 1} C'_k) \neq \emptyset$  then  $C''_j \cap \tilde{C}_k = \emptyset$ ,  $\tilde{C}_k = \{z : |z - a_k - \psi_k| \leq q/(3l(|a_k|))\}$ . Hence, (16) holds on  $C''_j$  with  $P_1(q/3) + P(q/3, q/3)$ . Hence, we have (16) for all  $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus (\bigcup_{k \geq 1} C'_k)$ , i.e. for all  $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus G_q(\pi)$ . By Lemma 1,  $\pi_\psi$  is of bounded index. Theorem 2 is proved.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $l(r)$  be a nondecreasing function on  $[0, +\infty)$  such that  $l(r)/r \searrow 0$  as  $r \rightarrow +\infty$ , and  $f(z)$  of form (3) be of bounded  $l$ -index with positive zeros. If  $|\psi_k| \leq \frac{K_1}{l(a_k)}$  ( $k \geq 1$ ), then  $\pi_\psi(z)$  of form (5) is of bounded  $l$ -index.*

*Proof.* Let  $\pi, \pi_\psi$  be the canonical products from (3) and from (5), respectively. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{\pi'_\psi(z)}{\pi_\psi(z)} - \frac{\pi'(z)}{\pi(z)} \right| &\leq \left| \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{b_k} - \frac{1}{a_k} + \frac{1}{z - b_k} - \frac{1}{z - a_k} \right) \right| \leq \\ &\leq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{|\psi_k|}{|a_k||b_k|} + \left| \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\psi_k}{(z - a_k)(z - b_k)} \right|. \end{aligned}$$

So we deal with an extra summand  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{|\psi_k|}{|a_k||b_k|}$  and another conditions on an index  $l(r)$ . In view of Remark 3 we can apply the arguments similar to that in the proof of Theorem 2 to prove

$$\left| \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\psi_k}{(z - a_k)(z - b_k)} \right| \leq P(\rho, q)l(|z|), \quad z \notin G_\rho(\pi) \cup G_q(\pi_\psi).$$

Further,

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{|\psi_k|}{|a_k||b_k|} \leq \sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} \frac{2K_1}{|a_k|^2 l(|a_k|)} < +\infty.$$

Standard arguments finish the proof of Theorem 3.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.** *Let  $f$  and  $l$  satisfy the conditions of Theorem 3,  $\varphi_k \in [-\pi, \pi)$ ,  $\psi_k = a_k e^{i\varphi_k} - a_k$ . Then  $f_\psi$  with zeros  $b_k = a_k e^{i\varphi_k}$  is of bounded index provided that  $\sup_k |a_k \varphi_k| l(|a_k|) < +\infty$ .*

*Remark 4.* In general, we cannot change the condition  $|\psi_k| = O(1/l(|a_k|))$  in Theorems 2 and 3 by the condition  $|\psi_k| = O(\gamma_k/l(|a_k|))$ , where  $(\gamma_k)$  is unbounded.

**Example 2.** Indeed, consider the function

$$g(z) = \prod_{k=1}^{+\infty} \left(1 - \frac{z^2}{n^{2/\rho}}\right).$$

It has order  $\rho$ , and is of genus 1 or 2 when  $\rho \in (0, 2)$ , with zeros  $a_n = n^{1/\rho}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$ . It is easy to check (cf. [4]) that  $g$  is of bounded  $l$ -index with  $l(r) = r^{\rho-1}$ . Hence,  $l(|a_n|) = n^{\frac{\rho-1}{\rho}}$ . Suppose that  $\gamma_n \nearrow +\infty$  ( $n \rightarrow +\infty$ ). Without loss of generality we may assume that  $\gamma_n = o(n)$  ( $n \rightarrow \infty$ ). Let  $n_{k+1} > 2n_k$  ( $k \geq 1$ ). Since

$$a_{n_k + [\gamma_{n_k}]} = (n_k + [\gamma_{n_k}])^{\frac{1}{\rho}} \leq n_k^{\frac{1}{\rho}} + \frac{2\gamma_{n_k} n_k^{1/\rho-1}}{\rho} \leq a_{n_k} + \frac{4\gamma_{n_k + [\gamma_{n_k}]}}{\rho l(a_{n_k + [\gamma_{n_k}]})},$$

we can put  $b_m = a_{n_k}$  for  $m \in \{n_k + 1, \dots, n_k + [\gamma_{n_k}]\}$ . Then

$$|a_m - b_m| \leq a_{n_k + [\gamma_{n_k}]} - a_{n_k} \leq \gamma_m \frac{1}{l(|a_m|)}.$$

But  $a_{n_k}$  is a zero of  $g_\psi$  of the multiplicity  $[\gamma_{n_k}] \rightarrow +\infty$  ( $k \rightarrow +\infty$ ). By Lemma 1 1) this contradicts to  $l$ -index boundedness of  $g_\psi$ .

#### 4. Further results.

1) Evidently, the assumption that zeros of  $f$  are positive in Theorems 2 and 3 is not necessary. Of course, it is sufficient to require that zeros lay on a finite number of rays gone from the origin as well as on a finite number of curves of regular rotation, because one can prove an analogue of Lemma 2 with  $h/l(|a_k|)$  instead of  $h$ . This is possible, because  $r + 1/l(r) \sim r$  ( $r \rightarrow +\infty$ ) under our restrictions on  $l(r)$ .

2) One can extend the assertion of Theorem 3 on canonical products of an arbitrary genus  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  with the aid of Lemma 3. The condition  $l(r)/r \searrow 0$  does not hold for arbitrary  $p$ , in general. But we can replace it by  $l(r)r^{-\kappa} \searrow 0$  ( $r \rightarrow +\infty$ ) for some  $\kappa \geq p$ .

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