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A MODIFIED CRITERION OF BOUNDEDNESS  $L$ -INDEX IN DIRECTION

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A new criterion of boundedness of  $L$ -index in direction is obtained.

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Получен новый критерий ограниченности  $L$ -индекса по направлению.

**1. Introduction.** Let  $L(z)$  be a positive continuous function on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , and let  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}$ . An entire function of  $F(z)$ ,  $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$ , is called (see [1]–[3]) a function of *bounded  $L$ -index in the direction  $\mathbf{b}$* , if there exists  $m_0 \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  such that for every  $m \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  and every  $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$  the following inequality is valid:

$$\frac{1}{m!L^m(z)} \left| \frac{\partial^m F(z)}{\partial \mathbf{b}^m} \right| \leq \max \left\{ \frac{1}{k!L^k(z)} \left| \frac{\partial^k F(z)}{\partial \mathbf{b}^k} \right| : 0 \leq k \leq m_0 \right\}, \quad (1)$$

where

$$\frac{\partial^0 F(z)}{\partial \mathbf{b}^0} = F(z), \quad \frac{\partial F(z)}{\partial \mathbf{b}} = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial F(z)}{\partial z_j} b_j = \langle \mathbf{grad} F, \bar{\mathbf{b}} \rangle, \quad \frac{\partial^k F(z)}{\partial \mathbf{b}^k} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \left( \frac{\partial^{k-1} F(z)}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k-1}} \right), \quad k \geq 2.$$

The least such integer  $m_0 = m_0(\mathbf{b})$  is called the  *$L$ -index in the direction  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{C}^n$  of the function  $F(z)$*  and is denoted by  $N_{\mathbf{b}}(F, L) = m_0$ .

In the case of  $n = 1$  and  $L(z) = l(z)$ ,  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ , we obtain the definition of a function of bounded  $l$ -index, and in the case  $L(z) \equiv 1$  we get the definition of a function of bounded index.

For  $\eta > 0$ ,  $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}$  and a function  $L : \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  we define

$$\lambda_1^{\mathbf{b}}(z, t_0, \eta) = \inf \left\{ \frac{L(z + t\mathbf{b})}{L(z + t_0\mathbf{b})} : |t - t_0| \leq \frac{\eta}{L(z + t_0\mathbf{b})} \right\},$$

$\lambda_1^{\mathbf{b}}(z, \eta) = \inf \{ \lambda_1^{\mathbf{b}}(z, t_0, \eta) : t_0 \in \mathbb{C} \}$ ,  $\lambda_1^{\mathbf{b}}(\eta) = \inf \{ \lambda_1^{\mathbf{b}}(z, \eta) : z \in \mathbb{C}^n \}$ , and also

$$\lambda_2^{\mathbf{b}}(z, t_0, \eta) = \sup \left\{ \frac{L(z + t\mathbf{b})}{L(z + t_0\mathbf{b})} : |t - t_0| \leq \frac{\eta}{L(z + t_0\mathbf{b})} \right\},$$

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$\lambda_2^{\mathbf{b}}(z, \eta) = \sup\{\lambda_2^{\mathbf{b}}(z, t_0, \eta) : t_0 \in \mathbb{C}\}$ ,  $\lambda_2^{\mathbf{b}}(\eta) = \sup\{\lambda_2^{\mathbf{b}}(z, \eta) : z \in \mathbb{C}^n\}$ .

By  $Q_{\mathbf{b}}^n$  we denote the class of all functions  $L$  for which the following condition holds for all  $\eta \geq 0$

$$0 < \lambda_1^{\mathbf{b}}(\eta) \leq \lambda_2^{\mathbf{b}}(\eta) < +\infty.$$

In a recent paper [1] the authors prove the following criterion of boundedness of the  $L$ -index in direction, which will be used several times throughout this paper.

**Theorem 1** ([1]). *Let  $L \in Q_{\mathbf{b}}^n$ . An entire function  $F(z)$ ,  $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$ , is of bounded  $L$ -index in the direction  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{C}^n$  if and only if for each  $\eta > 0$  there exist numbers  $n_0 = n_0(\eta) \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  and  $P_1 = P_1(\eta) \geq 1$  such that for every  $t_0 \in \mathbb{C}$  and every  $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$  there exists  $k_0 = k_0(t_0, z) \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ , with  $0 \leq k_0 \leq n_0$  and the inequality*

$$\max \left\{ \left| \frac{\partial^{k_0} F(z + t\mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k_0}} \right| : |t - t_0| \leq \frac{\eta}{L(z + t_0\mathbf{b})} \right\} \leq P_1 \left| \frac{\partial^{k_0} F(z + t_0\mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k_0}} \right|$$

holds.

The notation  $L \asymp L^*$  means that for some  $\theta_1, \theta_2$ ,  $0 < \theta_1 \leq \theta_2 < +\infty$  and all  $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$  the inequality  $\theta_1 L(z) \leq L^*(z) \leq \theta_2 L(z)$  holds.

We will need the following theorem from [1].

**Theorem 2** ([1]). *Let  $L, L^* \in Q_{\mathbf{b}}^n$ ,  $L \asymp L^*$ . An entire function  $F(z)$ ,  $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$ , is of bounded  $L^*$ -index in the direction  $\mathbf{b}$  if and only if  $F$  is of bounded  $L$ -index in the direction  $\mathbf{b}$ .*

In [1] we prove the following criteria of boundedness of the  $L$ -index in direction in the form of an estimate of the maximum modulus on a larger circle by the maximum modulus on a smaller one.

**Theorem 3** ([1]). *Let  $L \in Q_{\mathbf{b}}^n$ . An entire function  $F(z)$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  is a function of bounded  $L$ -index in the direction  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{C}^n$  if and only if for any  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  such that  $0 < r_1 < r_2 < +\infty$ , there exists a number  $P_1 = P_1(r_1, r_2) \geq 1$  such that for each  $z^0 \in \mathbb{C}^n$  and  $t_0 \in \mathbb{C}$  the next inequality is valid*

$$\begin{aligned} & \max \left\{ |F(z^0 + t\mathbf{b})| : |t - t_0| = \frac{r_2}{L(z^0 + t_0\mathbf{b})} \right\} \leq \\ & \leq P_1 \max \left\{ |F(z^0 + t\mathbf{b})| : |t - t_0| = \frac{r_1}{L(z^0 + t_0\mathbf{b})} \right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

**Theorem 4** ([1]). *Let  $L \in Q_{\mathbf{b}}^n$ . An entire function  $F(z)$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  is a function of bounded  $L$ -index in the direction  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{C}^n$  if and only if there exist numbers  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ ,  $0 < r_1 < r_2 < +\infty$ , and  $P_1 \geq 1$  such that for all  $z^0 \in \mathbb{C}^n$  and  $t_0 \in \mathbb{C}$  the inequality (2) holds.*

These theorems distinguish the universal quantifier and the existential quantifiers for  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  such that  $0 < r_1 < r_2 < +\infty$ .

Hence the following **question** arises naturally: *is it possible to change the quantifiers in the other criteria of boundedness of  $L$ -index in direction* (see [1]).

**2. Main result.** Using Fricke's idea from [4] a modification of Theorem 1 is obtained.

**Theorem 5.** Let  $L \in Q_{\mathbf{b}}^n$ . An entire function  $F(z)$ ,  $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$ , is a function of bounded  $L$ -index in the direction  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{C}^n$  if and only if there exist constants  $\eta > 0$ ,  $n_0 = n_0(\eta) \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  and  $P_1 = P_1(\eta) \geq 1$  such that for every  $t_0 \in \mathbb{C}$  and every  $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$  there exists  $k_0 = k_0(t_0, z) \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ , with  $0 \leq k_0 \leq n_0$  and the inequality

$$\max \left\{ \left| \frac{\partial^{k_0} F(z + t\mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k_0}} \right| : |t - t_0| \leq \frac{\eta}{L(z + t_0\mathbf{b})} \right\} \leq P_1 \left| \frac{\partial^{k_0} F(z + t_0\mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k_0}} \right|$$

holds.

*Proof of Theorem 5. Necessity.* If  $F(z)$  is of bounded  $L$ -index in the direction  $\mathbf{b}$ , then it follows directly from Theorem 1 that the necessity condition of Theorem 5 is satisfied.

*Sufficiency.* Suppose that there exists  $\eta > 0$ ,  $n_0 = n_0(\eta) \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  and  $P_1 = P_1(\eta) \geq 1$  such that for each  $t_0 \in \mathbb{C}$  and each  $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$  there exists  $k_0 = k_0(t_0, z) \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ , with  $0 \leq k_0 \leq n_0$  and

$$\max \left\{ \left| \frac{\partial^{k_0} F(z + t\mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k_0}} \right| : |t - t_0| \leq \frac{\eta}{L(z + t_0\mathbf{b})} \right\} \leq P_1 \left| \frac{\partial^{k_0} F(z + t_0\mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k_0}} \right|. \quad (3)$$

If  $\eta > 1$  then we choose  $j_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $P_1 \leq \eta^{j_0}$ . But if  $\eta \in (0; 1]$  then we choose  $j_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\frac{j_0!k_0!}{(j_0+k_0)!} P_1 < 1$ . Such a  $j_0$  exists because

$$\frac{j_0!k_0!}{(j_0+k_0)!} P_1 = \frac{k_0!}{(j_0+1)(j_0+2) \cdots (j_0+k_0)} P_1 \rightarrow 0, \quad j_0 \rightarrow \infty.$$

Applying Cauchy's formula to the function  $F(z + t\mathbf{b})$  as a function of one complex variable  $t$  with  $j \geq j_0$  we have that for each  $t_0 \in \mathbb{C}$  and each  $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$  there exists an integer  $k_0 = k_0(t_0, z)$  with  $0 \leq k_0 \leq n_0$

$$\frac{\partial^{k_0+j} F(z + t_0\mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k_0+j}} = \frac{j!}{2\pi i} \int_{|t-t_0|=\frac{\eta}{L(z+t_0\mathbf{b})}} \frac{1}{(t-t_0)^{j+1}} \frac{\partial^{k_0} F(z + t\mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k_0}} dt.$$

Therefore, in view of (3), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{j!} \left| \frac{\partial^{k_0+j} F(z + t_0\mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k_0+j}} \right| &\leq \frac{L^j(z + t_0\mathbf{b})}{\eta^j} \max \left\{ \left| \frac{\partial^{k_0} F(z + t\mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k_0}} \right| : |t - t_0| = \frac{\eta}{L(z + t_0\mathbf{b})} \right\} \leq \\ &\leq P_1 \frac{L^j(z + t_0\mathbf{b})}{\eta^j} \left| \frac{\partial^{k_0} F(z + t_0\mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k_0}} \right|, \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

that is by the choice of  $j_0$  for  $\eta > 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{(k_0+j)!L^{k_0+j}(z + t_0\mathbf{b})} \left| \frac{\partial^{k_0+j} F(z + t_0\mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k_0+j}} \right| &\leq \frac{j!k_0!}{(j+k_0)!} \frac{P_1}{\eta^j} \frac{1}{k_0!L^{k_0}(z + t_0\mathbf{b})} \left| \frac{\partial^{k_0} F(z + t_0\mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k_0}} \right| \leq \\ &\leq \eta^{j_0-j} \frac{1}{k_0!L^{k_0}(z + t_0\mathbf{b})} \left| \frac{\partial^{k_0} F(z + t_0\mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k_0}} \right| \leq \frac{1}{k_0!L^{k_0}(z + t_0\mathbf{b})} \left| \frac{\partial^{k_0} F(z + t_0\mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k_0}} \right| \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

for all  $j \geq j_0$ .

Since by the assumptions of the theorem the numbers  $n_0 = n_0(\eta)$ ,  $j_0 = j_0(\eta)$  are independent of  $z$  and  $t_0$ , and  $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$  and  $t_0 \in \mathbb{C}$  are arbitrary, the inequality (5) is equivalent to the assertion that  $F(z)$  is of bounded  $L$ -index in the direction  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $N_{\mathbf{b}}(F, L) \leq n_0 + j_0$ .

If  $\eta \in (0, 1)$  then in view of (4) we have for all  $j \geq j_0$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{(k_0 + j)! L^{k_0+j}(z + t_0 \mathbf{b})} \left| \frac{\partial^{k_0+j} F(z + t_0 \mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k_0+j}} \right| &\leq \frac{j! k_0! P_1}{(j + k_0)! \eta^j k_0! L^{k_0}(z + t_0 \mathbf{b})} \frac{1}{\left| \frac{\partial^{k_0} F(z + t_0 \mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k_0}} \right|} \leq \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\eta^j k_0! L^{k_0}(z + t_0 \mathbf{b})} \left| \frac{\partial^{k_0} F(z + t_0 \mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k_0}} \right| \end{aligned}$$

or, by the choice of  $j_0$ ,

$$\frac{1}{(k_0 + j)! L^{k_0+j}(z + t_0 \mathbf{b})} \left| \frac{\partial^{k_0+j} F(z + t_0 \mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k_0+j}} \right| \leq \frac{1}{k_0! L^{k_0}(z + t_0 \mathbf{b})} \left| \frac{\partial^{k_0} F(z + t_0 \mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}^{k_0}} \right|.$$

Thus the function  $F$  is of bounded  $\tilde{L}$ -index in the direction  $\mathbf{b}$ , where  $\tilde{L}(z) = \frac{L(z)}{\eta}$ . Then, by Theorem 2,  $F$  is of bounded  $L$ -index in the direction  $\mathbf{b}$ .  $\square$

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