

## Bounds for the second Hankel determinant of certain bi-univalent functions

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**Abstract:** We investigate the second Hankel determinant inequalities for a certain class of analytic and bi-univalent functions. Some interesting applications of the results presented here are also discussed.

**Key words:** Bi-univalent functions, bi-starlike, bi-Bázilevič, second Hankel determinant

### 1. Introduction

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  denote the class of functions of the form

$$f(z) = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n z^n, \quad (1.1)$$

which are analytic in the open unit disk  $\mathbb{U} = \{z : z \in \mathbb{C} \text{ and } |z| < 1\}$ . Furthermore, by  $\mathcal{S}$  we will show the family of all functions in  $\mathcal{A}$  that are univalent in  $\mathbb{U}$ .

Some of the important and well-investigated subclasses of the univalent function class  $\mathcal{S}$  include (for example) the class  $\mathcal{S}^*(\beta)$  of starlike functions of order  $\beta$  in  $\mathbb{U}$  and the class  $\mathcal{K}(\beta)$  of convex functions of order  $\beta$  in  $\mathbb{U}$ . By definition, we have

$$\mathcal{S}^*(\beta) := \left\{ f : f \in \mathcal{A} \text{ and } \Re \left( \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right) > \beta; z \in \mathbb{U}; 0 \leq \beta < 1 \right\}$$

and

$$\mathcal{K}(\beta) := \left\{ f : f \in \mathcal{A} \text{ and } \Re \left( 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right) > \beta; z \in \mathbb{U}; 0 \leq \beta < 1 \right\}.$$

The arithmetic means of some functions and expressions are very frequently used in mathematics, especially in geometric function theory. Making use of the arithmetic means Mocanu [19] introduced the class of  $\alpha$ -convex ( $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$ ) functions (later called Mocanu-convex functions) as follows:

$$\mathcal{M}(\alpha) := \left\{ f : f \in \mathcal{S} \text{ and } \Re \left( (1 - \alpha) \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} + \alpha \left( 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right) \right) > 0; z \in \mathbb{U} \right\}.$$

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In [17], it was shown that if the above analytical criteria hold for  $z \in \mathbb{U}$ , then  $f$  is in the class of starlike functions  $\mathcal{S}^*(0)$  for  $\alpha$  real and is in the class of convex functions  $\mathcal{K}(0)$  for  $\alpha \geq 1$ . In general, the class of  $\alpha$  convexity.

It is well known that every function  $f \in \mathcal{S}$  has an inverse  $f^{-1}$ , defined by

$$f^{-1}(f(z)) = z \quad (z \in \mathbb{U})$$

and

$$f(f^{-1}(w)) = w \quad \left( |w| < r_0(f); r_0(f) \geq \frac{1}{4} \right),$$

where

$$f^{-1}(w) = w - a_2w^2 + (2a_2^2 - a_3)w^3 - (5a_2^3 - 5a_2a_3 + a_4)w^4 + \dots \tag{1.2}$$

A function  $f \in \mathcal{A}$  is said to be bi-univalent in  $\mathbb{U}$  if both  $f(z)$  and  $f^{-1}(z)$  are univalent in  $\mathbb{U}$ . Let  $\sigma$  denote the class of bi-univalent functions in  $\mathbb{U}$  given by (1.1).

For  $0 \leq \beta < 1$ , a function  $f \in \sigma$  is in the class  $S_\sigma^*(\beta)$  of bi-starlike function of order  $\beta$ , or  $\mathcal{K}_{\sigma,\beta}$  of bi-convex function of order  $\beta$  if both  $f$  and  $f^{-1}$  are respectively starlike or convex functions of order  $\beta$ . A function  $f$  is in the class  $\mathcal{M}_\Sigma^\alpha(\beta)$  of bi-Mocanu convex function of order  $\beta$  if both  $f$  and  $f^{-1}$  are respectively Mocanu convex function of order  $\beta$ . For a brief history and interesting examples of functions that are in (or are not in) the class  $\sigma$ , together with various other properties of the bi-univalent function class  $\sigma$ , one can refer the work of Srivastava et al. [26] and references therein. Various subclasses of the bi-univalent function class  $\sigma$  were introduced and nonsharp estimates on the first two coefficients  $|a_2|$  and  $|a_3|$  in the Taylor–Maclaurin series expansion (1.1) were found in several recent investigations (see, for example, [2, 4, 7, 10, 16, 22, 24]). However, the problem of finding the coefficient bounds on  $|a_n|$  ( $n = 3, 4, \dots$ ) for functions  $f \in \sigma$  is still an open problem.

For integers  $n \geq 1$  and  $q \geq 1$ , the  $q$ th Hankel determinant is defined as

$$H_q(n) = \begin{vmatrix} a_n & a_{n+1} & \cdots & a_{n+q-1} \\ a_{n+1} & a_{n+2} & \cdots & a_{n+q-2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n+q-1} & a_{n+q-2} & \cdots & a_{n+2q-2} \end{vmatrix} \quad (a_1 = 1).$$

The Hankel determinant plays an important role in the study of singularities (see [8]). This is also important in the study of power series with integral coefficients [5, 8]. The properties of the Hankel determinants can be found in [27]. The Hankel determinants  $H_2(1) = a_3 - a_2^2$  and  $H_2(2) = a_2a_4 - a_3^2$  are well known as Fekete–Szegő and second Hankel determinant functionals, respectively. Furthermore, Fekete and Szegő [9] introduced the generalized functional  $a_3 - \delta a_2^2$ , where  $\delta$  is some real number. In 1969, Keogh and Merkes [14] discussed the Fekete–Szegő problem for classes  $\mathcal{S}^*$  and  $\mathcal{K}$ . Recently, several authors investigated upper bounds for the Hankel determinant of functions belonging to various subclasses of univalent functions (see [1, 6, 13, 15, 18, 20, 21] and the references therein). On the other hand, Zaprawa [28, 29] extended the study of the Fekete–Szegő problem for certain subclasses of bi-univalent function class  $\sigma$ . Following Zaprawa [28, 29], the Fekete–Szegő problem for functions belonging to various other subclasses of bi-univalent functions were considered in [3, 12, 23]. Very recently, the upper bounds of  $H_2(2)$  for the classes  $S_\sigma^*(\beta)$  and  $\mathcal{K}_\sigma(\beta)$  were discussed by Deniz et al. [7].

Next we state the following lemmas that we shall use to establish the desired bounds in our study.

**Lemma 1.1** [25] *If the function  $p \in \mathcal{P}$  is given by the series*

$$p(z) = 1 + c_1z + c_2z^2 + c_3z^3 + \dots, \tag{1.3}$$

*then the following sharp estimate holds:*

$$|c_k| \leq 2, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots. \tag{1.4}$$

**Lemma 1.2** [11] *If the function  $p \in \mathcal{P}$  is given by the series (1.3), then*

$$\begin{aligned} 2c_2 &= c_1^2 + x(4 - c_1^2) \\ 4c_3 &= c_1^3 + 2c_1(4 - c_1^2)x - c_1(4 - c_1^2)x^2 + 2(4 - c_1^2)(1 - |x|^2)z \end{aligned}$$

*for some  $x, z$  with  $|x| \leq 1$  and  $|z| \leq 1$ .*

Inspired by [7, 28], we consider the following subclass of the function class  $\sigma$ .

For  $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$  and  $0 \leq \beta < 1$ , a function  $f \in \sigma$  given by (1.1) is said to be in the class  $\mathcal{M}_\sigma^\alpha(\beta)$  if the following conditions are satisfied:

$$\Re \left( (1 - \alpha) \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} + \alpha \left( 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right) \right) \geq \beta \quad (z \in \mathbb{U})$$

and for  $g = f^{-1}$

$$\Re \left( (1 - \alpha) \frac{wg'(w)}{g(w)} + \alpha \left( 1 + \frac{wg''(w)}{g'(w)} \right) \right) \geq \beta \quad (w \in \mathbb{U}).$$

The class was introduced and studied by Li and Wang [16], and the study was further extended by Ali et al. [2]. In this paper we shall obtain the functional  $H_2(2)$  for functions  $f$  belonging to the class  $\mathcal{M}_\sigma^\alpha(\beta)$  and its special classes.

## 2. Bounds for the second Hankel determinant

We begin this section with the following theorem:

**Theorem 2.1** *Let  $f$  of the form (1.1) be in  $\mathcal{M}_\sigma^\alpha(\beta)$ . Then*

$$|a_2a_4 - a_3^2| \leq \begin{cases} \frac{4(1-\beta)^2}{3(1+\alpha)^3(1+3\alpha)} [4(1-\beta)^2 + (1+\alpha)^2] ; \\ \beta \in \left[ 0, 1 - \frac{(1+\alpha)[3(1+3\alpha) + \sqrt{9(1+3\alpha)^2 - 48(1+\alpha)(1+3\alpha) + 128(1+2\alpha)^2}]}{16(1+2\alpha)} \right] \\ \frac{(1-\beta)^2}{(1+\alpha)(1+3\alpha)} \frac{[(1-\beta)^2(1+3\alpha)(13+7\alpha) - 12(1-\beta)(1+\alpha)(1+2\alpha)(1+3\alpha) - 4(1+\alpha)^2(9\alpha^2 + 8\alpha + 2)]}{[16(1-\beta)^2(1+2\alpha) - 6(1-\beta)(1+\alpha)(1+3\alpha)](1+2\alpha) + (1+\alpha)^2[3(1+\alpha)(1+3\alpha) - 8(1+2\alpha)^2]} ; \\ \beta \in \left( 1 - \frac{(1+\alpha)[3(1+3\alpha) + \sqrt{9(1+3\alpha)^2 + 128(1+2\alpha)^2}]}{32(1+2\alpha)}, 1 \right). \end{cases}$$

**Proof** Let  $f \in \mathcal{M}_\sigma^\alpha(\beta)$ . Then:

$$(1 - \alpha) \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} + \alpha \left( 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right) = \beta + (1 - \beta)p(z) \tag{2.1}$$

and

$$(1 - \alpha) \frac{wg'(w)}{g(w)} + \alpha \left( 1 + \frac{wg''(w)}{g'(w)} \right) = \beta + (1 - \beta)q(w), \tag{2.2}$$

where  $p, q \in \mathcal{P}$  and defined by

$$p(z) = 1 + c_1z + c_2z^2 + c_3z^3 + \dots \tag{2.3}$$

and

$$q(z) = 1 + d_1w + d_2w^2 + d_3w^3 + \dots \tag{2.4}$$

It follows from (2.1), (2.2), (2.3), and (2.4) that

$$(1 + \alpha)a_2 = (1 - \beta)c_1 \tag{2.5}$$

$$2(1 + 2\alpha)a_3 - (1 + 3\alpha)a_2^2 = (1 - \beta)c_2 \tag{2.6}$$

$$3(1 + 3\alpha)a_4 - 3(1 + 5\alpha)a_2a_3 + (1 + 7\alpha)a_2^3 = (1 - \beta)c_3 \tag{2.7}$$

and

$$-(1 + \alpha)a_2 = (1 - \beta)d_1 \tag{2.8}$$

$$(3 + 5\alpha)a_2^2 - (2 + 4\alpha)a_3 = (1 - \beta)d_2 \tag{2.9}$$

$$(12 + 30\alpha)a_2a_3 - (10 + 22\alpha)a_2^3 - (3 + 9\alpha)a_4 = (1 - \beta)d_3. \tag{2.10}$$

From (2.5) and (2.8), we find that

$$c_1 = -d_1 \tag{2.11}$$

and

$$a_2 = \frac{1 - \beta}{1 + \alpha}c_1. \tag{2.12}$$

Now, from (2.6), (2.9), and (2.12), we have

$$a_3 = \frac{(1 - \beta)^2}{(1 + \alpha)^2}c_1^2 + \frac{1 - \beta}{4 + 8\alpha}(c_2 - d_2). \tag{2.13}$$

From (2.7) and (2.10), we also find that

$$a_4 = \frac{(2 + 8\alpha)(1 - \beta)^3}{(3 + 9\alpha)(1 + \alpha)^3}c_1^3 + \frac{5(1 - \beta)^2}{8(1 + \alpha)(1 + 2\alpha)}c_1(c_2 - d_2) + \frac{1 - \beta}{6(1 + 3\alpha)}(c_3 - d_3). \tag{2.14}$$

We can then establish that

$$\begin{aligned} |a_2a_4 - a_3^2| = & \left| \frac{-1}{3} \frac{(1 - \beta)^4}{(1 + \alpha)^3(1 + 3\alpha)}c_1^4 + \frac{(1 - \beta)^3}{8(1 + \alpha)^2(1 + 2\alpha)}c_1^2(c_2 - d_2) \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{(1 - \beta)^2}{6(1 + \alpha)(1 + 3\alpha)}c_1(c_3 - d_3) - \frac{(1 - \beta)^2}{16(1 + 2\alpha)^2}(c_2 - d_2)^2 \right|. \end{aligned} \tag{2.15}$$

According to Lemma 1.2 and (2.11), we write

$$c_2 - d_2 = \frac{(4 - c_1^2)}{2}(x - y) \tag{2.16}$$

and

$$c_3 - d_3 = \frac{c_1^3}{2} + \frac{c_1(4 - c_1^2)(x + y)}{2} - \frac{c_1(4 - c_1^2)(x^2 + y^2)}{4} + \frac{(4 - c_1^2)[(1 - |x|^2)z - (1 - |y|^2)w]}{2} \tag{2.17}$$

for some  $x, y, z$ , and  $w$  with  $|x| \leq 1$ ,  $|y| \leq 1$ ,  $|z| \leq 1$ , and  $|w| \leq 1$ . Using (2.16) and (2.17) in 2.15, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |a_2a_4 - a_3^2| &= \left| \frac{-(1 - \beta)^4c_1^4}{3(1 + \alpha)^3(1 + 3\alpha)} + \frac{(1 - \beta)^3c_1^2(4 - c_1^2)(x - y)}{16(1 + \alpha)^2(1 + 2\alpha)} + \frac{(1 - \beta)^2c_1}{6(1 + \alpha)(1 + 3\alpha)} \right. \\ &\quad \times \left[ \frac{c_1^3}{2} + \frac{c_1(4 - c_1^2)(x + y)}{2} - \frac{c_1(4 - c_1^2)(x^2 + y^2)}{4} \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. + \frac{(4 - c_1^2)[(1 - |x|^2)z - (1 - |y|^2)w]}{2} \right] - \frac{(1 - \beta)^2(4 - c_1^2)^2}{64(1 + 2\alpha)^2}(x - y)^2 \right| \\ &\leq \frac{(1 - \beta)^4}{3(1 + \alpha)^3(1 + 3\alpha)}c_1^4 + \frac{(1 - \beta)^2c_1^4}{12(1 + \alpha)(1 + 3\alpha)} + \frac{(1 - \beta)^2c_1(4 - c_1^2)}{6(1 + \alpha)(1 + 3\alpha)} \\ &\quad + \left[ \frac{(1 - \beta)^3c_1^2(4 - c_1^2)}{16(1 + \alpha)^2(1 + 2\alpha)} + \frac{(1 - \beta)^2c_1^2(4 - c_1^2)}{12(1 + \alpha)(1 + 3\alpha)} \right] (|x| + |y|) \\ &\quad + \left[ \frac{(1 - \beta)^2c_1^2(4 - c_1^2)}{24(1 + \alpha)(1 + 3\alpha)} - \frac{(1 - \beta)^2c_1(4 - c_1^2)}{12(1 + \alpha)(1 + 3\alpha)} \right] (|x|^2 + |y|^2) \\ &\quad + \frac{(1 - \beta)^2(4 - c_1^2)^2}{64(1 + 2\alpha)^2}(|x| + |y|)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $p \in \mathcal{P}$ , then  $|c_1| \leq 2$ . Letting  $c_1 = c$ , we may assume without restriction that  $c \in [0, 2]$ . Thus, for  $\gamma_1 = |x| \leq 1$  and  $\gamma_2 = |y| \leq 1$ , we obtain

$$|a_2a_4 - a_3^2| \leq T_1 + T_2(\gamma_1 + \gamma_2) + T_3(\gamma_1^2 + \gamma_2^2) + T_4(\gamma_1 + \gamma_2)^2 = F(\gamma_1, \gamma_2),$$

$$\begin{aligned} T_1 &= T_1(c) = \frac{(1 - \beta)^4}{3(1 + \alpha)^3(1 + 3\alpha)}c^4 + \frac{(1 - \beta)^2c^4}{12(1 + \alpha)(1 + 3\alpha)} + \frac{(1 - \beta)^2c(4 - c^2)}{6(1 + \alpha)(1 + 3\alpha)} \geq 0 \\ T_2 &= T_2(c) = \frac{(1 - \beta)^3c^2(4 - c^2)}{16(1 + \alpha)^2(1 + 2\alpha)} + \frac{(1 - \beta)^2c^2(4 - c^2)}{12(1 + \alpha)(1 + 3\alpha)} \geq 0 \\ T_3 &= T_3(c) = \frac{(1 - \beta)^2c^2(4 - c^2)}{24(1 + \alpha)(1 + 3\alpha)} - \frac{(1 - \beta)^2c(4 - c^2)}{12(1 + \alpha)(1 + 3\alpha)} \leq 0 \\ T_4 &= T_4(c) = \frac{(1 - \beta)^2(4 - c^2)^2}{64(1 + 2\alpha)^2} \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Now we need to maximize  $F(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)$  in the closed square  $\mathbb{S} := \{(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) : 0 \leq \gamma_1 \leq 1, 0 \leq \gamma_2 \leq 1\}$  for  $c \in [0, 2]$ . We must investigate the maximum of  $F(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)$  according to  $c \in (0, 2)$ ,  $c = 0$ , and  $c = 2$  taking into account the sign of  $F_{\gamma_1\gamma_1}F_{\gamma_2\gamma_2} - (F_{\gamma_1\gamma_2})^2$ .

First, let  $c \in (0, 2)$ . Since  $T_3 < 0$  and  $T_3 + 2T_4 > 0$  for  $c \in (0, 2)$ , we conclude that

$$F_{\gamma_1\gamma_1}F_{\gamma_2\gamma_2} - (F_{\gamma_1\gamma_2})^2 < 0.$$

Thus, the function  $F$  cannot have a local maximum in the interior of the square  $\mathbb{S}$ . Now we investigate the maximum of  $F$  on the boundary of the square  $\mathbb{S}$ .

For  $\gamma_1 = 0$  and  $0 \leq \gamma_2 \leq 1$  (similarly  $\gamma_2 = 0$  and  $0 \leq \gamma_1 \leq 1$ ), we obtain

$$F(0, \gamma_2) = G(\gamma_2) = T_1 + T_2\gamma_2 + (T_3 + T_4)\gamma_2^2.$$

(i) The case  $T_3 + T_4 \geq 0$  : In this case for  $0 < \gamma_2 < 1$  and any fixed  $c$  with  $0 < c < 2$ , it is clear that  $G'(\gamma_2) = 2(T_3 + T_4)\gamma_2 + T_2 > 0$ ; that is,  $G(\gamma_2)$  is an increasing function. Hence, for fixed  $c \in (0, 2)$ , the maximum of  $G(\gamma_2)$  occurs at  $\gamma_2 = 1$  and

$$\max G(\gamma_2) = G(1) = T_1 + T_2 + T_3 + T_4.$$

(ii) The case  $T_3 + T_4 < 0$  : Since  $T_2 + 2(T_3 + T_4) \geq 0$  for  $0 < \gamma_2 < 1$  and any fixed  $c$  with  $0 < c < 2$ , it is clear that  $T_2 + 2(T_3 + T_4) < 2(T_3 + T_4)\gamma_2 + T_2 < T_2$  and so  $G'(\gamma_2) > 0$ . Hence, for fixed  $c \in (0, 2)$ , the maximum of  $G(\gamma_2)$  occurs at  $\gamma_2 = 1$  and also for  $c = 2$  we obtain

$$F(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) = \frac{4(1 - \beta)^2}{3(1 + \alpha)^3(1 + 3\alpha)} [4(1 - \beta)^2 + (1 + \alpha)^2]. \tag{2.18}$$

Taking into account the value (2.18) and the cases  $i$  and  $ii$ , for  $0 \leq \gamma_2 < 1$  and any fixed  $c$  with  $0 \leq c \leq 2$ ,

$$\max G(\gamma_2) = G(1) = T_1 + T_2 + T_3 + T_4.$$

For  $\gamma_1 = 1$  and  $0 \leq \gamma_2 \leq 1$  (similarly  $\gamma_2 = 1$  and  $0 \leq \gamma_1 \leq 1$ ), we obtain

$$F(1, \gamma_2) = H(\gamma_2) = (T_3 + T_4)\gamma_2^2 + (T_2 + 2T_4)\gamma_2 + T_1 + T_2 + T_3 + T_4.$$

Similarly to the above cases of  $T_3 + T_4$ , we get that

$$\max H(\gamma_2) = H(1) = T_1 + 2T_2 + 2T_3 + 4T_4.$$

Since  $G(1) \leq H(1)$  for  $c \in (0, 2)$ ,  $\max F(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) = F(1, 1)$  on the boundary of the square  $\mathbb{S}$ . Thus, the maximum of  $F$  occurs at  $\gamma_1 = 1$  and  $\gamma_2 = 1$  in the closed square  $\mathbb{S}$ .

Let  $K : (0, 2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

$$K(c) = \max F(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) = F(1, 1) = T_1 + 2T_2 + 2T_3 + 4T_4. \tag{2.19}$$

Substituting the values of  $T_1, T_2, T_3$ , and  $T_4$  in the function  $K$  defined by (2.19) yields

$$\begin{aligned} K(c) = & \frac{(1 - \beta)^2}{48(1 + \alpha)^3(1 + 2\alpha)^2(1 + 3\alpha)} \{ [16(1 - \beta)^2(1 + 2\alpha)^2 \\ & - 6(1 - \beta)(1 + \alpha)(1 + 2\alpha)(1 + 3\alpha) - 8(1 + \alpha)^2(1 + 2\alpha)^2 + 3(1 + \alpha)^3(1 + 3\alpha)] c^4 \\ & + 24(1 + \alpha) [(1 - \beta)(1 + 2\alpha)(1 + 3\alpha) + 2(1 + \alpha)(1 + 2\alpha)^2 - (1 + \alpha)^2(1 + 3\alpha)] c^2 \\ & + 48(1 + \alpha)^3(1 + 3\alpha) \}. \end{aligned}$$

Assume that  $K(c)$  has a maximum value in an interior of  $c \in (0, 2)$ , by elementary calculation, we find

$$K'(c) = \frac{(1-\beta)^2}{12(1+\alpha)^3(1+2\alpha)^2(1+3\alpha)} \{ [16(1-\beta)^2(1+2\alpha)^2 - 6(1-\beta)(1+\alpha)(1+2\alpha)(1+3\alpha) - 8(1+\alpha)^2(1+2\alpha)^2 + 3(1+\alpha)^3(1+3\alpha)] c^3 + 12(1+\alpha) [(1-\beta)(1+2\alpha)(1+3\alpha) + 2(1+\alpha)(1+2\alpha)^2 - (1+\alpha)^2(1+3\alpha)] c \}.$$

After some calculations we conclude the following cases:

**Case 1** Let

$$[16(1-\beta)^2(1+2\alpha) - 6(1-\beta)(1+\alpha)(1+3\alpha)](1+2\alpha) + (1+\alpha)^2[3(1+\alpha)(1+3\alpha) - 8(1+2\alpha)^2] \geq 0;$$

that is,

$$\beta \in \left[ 0, 1 - \frac{(1+\alpha)[3(1+3\alpha) + \sqrt{9(1+3\alpha)^2 - 48(1+\alpha)(1+3\alpha) + 128(1+2\alpha)^2}]}{16(1+2\alpha)} \right].$$

Therefore,  $K'(c) > 0$  for  $c \in (0, 2)$ . Since  $K$  is an increasing function in the interval  $(0, 2)$ , the maximum point of  $K$  must be on the boundary of  $c \in (0, 2]$ ; that is,  $c = 2$ . Thus, we have

$$\max_{0 < c < 2} K(c) = K(2) = \frac{4(1-\beta)^2}{3(1+\alpha)^3(1+3\alpha)} [4(1-\beta)^2 + (1+\alpha)^2].$$

**Case 2** Let

$$[16(1-\beta)^2(1+2\alpha) - 6(1-\beta)(1+\alpha)(1+3\alpha)](1+2\alpha) + (1+\alpha)^2[3(1+\alpha)(1+3\alpha) - 8(1+2\alpha)^2] < 0;$$

that is,

$$\beta \in \left[ 1 - \frac{(1+\alpha)[3(1+3\alpha) + \sqrt{9(1+3\alpha)^2 - 48(1+\alpha)(1+3\alpha) + 128(1+2\alpha)^2}]}{16(1+2\alpha)}, 1 \right].$$

Then  $K'(c) = 0$  implies the real critical point  $c_{0_1} = 0$  or

$$c_{0_2} = \sqrt{\frac{-12(1+\alpha)[(1-\beta)(1+2\alpha)(1+3\alpha) + 2(1+\alpha)(1+2\alpha)^2 - (1+\alpha)^2(1+3\alpha)]}{[16(1-\beta)^2(1+2\alpha) - 6(1-\beta)(1+\alpha)(1+3\alpha)](1+2\alpha) + (1+\alpha)^2[3(1+\alpha)(1+3\alpha) - 8(1+2\alpha)^2]}}.$$

When

$$\beta \in \left( 1 - \frac{(1+\alpha)[3(1+3\alpha) + \sqrt{9(1+3\alpha)^2 - 48(1+\alpha)(1+3\alpha) + 128(1+2\alpha)^2}]}{16(1+2\alpha)}, 1 - \frac{(1+\alpha)[3(1+3\alpha) + \sqrt{9(1+3\alpha)^2 + 128(1+2\alpha)^2}]}{32(1+2\alpha)} \right),$$

we observe that  $c_{0_2} \geq 2$ ; that is,  $c_{0_2}$  is out of the interval  $(0, 2)$ . Therefore, the maximum value of  $K(c)$  occurs at  $c_{0_1} = 0$  or  $c = c_{0_2}$ , which contradicts our assumption of having the maximum value at the interior point of  $c \in [0, 2]$ .

When  $\beta \in \left(1 - \frac{(1+\alpha)[3(1+3\alpha)+\sqrt{9(1+3\alpha)^2+128(1+2\alpha)^2}}{32(1+2\alpha)}, 1\right)$ , we observe that  $c_{0_2} < 2$ ; that is,  $c_{0_2}$  is an interior of the interval  $[0, 2]$ . Since  $K''(c_{0_2}) < 0$ , the maximum value of  $K(c)$  occurs at  $c = c_{0_2}$ . Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{0 \leq c \leq 2} K(c) &= K(c_{0_2}) \\ &= \frac{(1-\beta)^2}{(1+\alpha)(1+3\alpha)} \frac{[(1-\beta)^2(1+3\alpha)(13+7\alpha)-12(1-\beta)(1+\alpha)(1+2\alpha)(1+3\alpha)-4(1+\alpha)^2(9\alpha^2+8\alpha+2)]}{[16(1-\beta)^2(1+2\alpha)-6(1-\beta)(1+\alpha)(1+3\alpha)](1+2\alpha)+(1+\alpha)^2[3(1+\alpha)(1+3\alpha)-8(1+2\alpha)^2]}. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof. □

**Remark 2.2** For  $\alpha = 0$  and  $\alpha = 1$ , Theorem 2.1 would reduce to known results in [7, Theorem 2.1, Theorem 2.3].

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