

## SEMI-CUBICALLY HYPONORMAL WEIGHTED SHIFTS WITH STAMPFLI'S SUBNORMAL COMPLETION

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**ABSTRACT.** Let  $\alpha : 1, (1, \sqrt{x}, \sqrt{y})^\wedge$  be a weight sequence with Stampfli's subnormal completion and let  $W_\alpha$  be its associated weighted shift. In this paper we discuss some properties of the region  $\mathcal{U} := \{(x, y) : W_\alpha \text{ is semi-cubically hyponormal}\}$  and describe the shape of the boundary of  $\mathcal{U}$ . In particular, we improve the results of [19, Theorem 4.2].

### 1. Introduction

Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a separable infinite dimensional complex Hilbert space and let  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  be the algebra of all bounded linear operators on  $\mathcal{H}$ . A bounded operator  $T$  is said to be *subnormal* if it is the restriction of a normal operator to an invariant subspace ([15]). An operator  $T$  in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is called *hyponormal* if  $T^*T \geq TT^*$ . In [5], Curto defined some classes of weak subnormality between hyponormality and subnormality in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ , for examples, *k-hyponormality* and weak *k-hyponormality*. The weakly *k-hyponormal* weighted shift (whose definition will be defined below) is the main model in this paper. For a positive integer  $k$ , an operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is said to be *weakly k-hyponormal* if for every polynomial  $p$  of degree  $k$  or less,  $p(T)$  is hyponormal ([5, 8, 11, 12]). An operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is called *semi-weakly k-hyponormal* if  $T + sT^k$  is hyponormal for  $s \in \mathbb{C}$  ([13]). It is obvious that a weakly *k-hyponormal* operator is semi-weakly *k-hyponormal*. In particular, weak 2-hyponormality is equivalent to semi-weak 2-hyponormality. The weak 2-hyponormality (weak 3-hyponormality, semi-weak 3-hyponormality, resp.) is referred to as the *quadratic hyponormality* (*cubic hyponormality*, *semi-cubic hyponormality*, resp.). In particular, the quadratic hyponormality makes an important role in the study of gap on operator properties such as flatness, completion, and backward extension theory since 1990 (see, for instance, [1, 4, 6, 9, 10, 14, 16, 20]). In [6], Curto proved that a

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2-hyponormal weighted shift with two equal weights  $\alpha_n = \alpha_{n+1}$  for some non-negative integer  $n$  has the flatness property, i.e.,  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \dots$ . Moreover, he obtained a quadratically hyponormal weighted shift with first two equal weights which does not satisfy flatness ([6]). Also in [17], they showed that the weighted shift  $W_\alpha$  with  $\alpha : \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}, \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}, \sqrt{\frac{n+1}{n+2}}$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) is not cubically hyponormal. Hence the following question arises naturally ([7]):

**Problem 1.1.** Describe all quadratically hyponormal weighted shifts with first two equal weights.

Recently Li-Cho-Lee in [18] proved that if a weighted shift  $W_\alpha$  is cubically hyponormal with first two equal weights, then  $W_\alpha$  has the flatness property. The structure of semi-cubically hyponormal weighted shifts has been studied by several authors (cf. [2, 3, 19]). To detect the structure of semi-cubically hyponormal weighted shifts, the following problem arises naturally:

**Problem 1.2.** Describe all semi-cubically hyponormal weighted shifts with first two equal weights.

As a study of Problem 1.2 it is worthwhile to describe the region  $\mathcal{U} = \{(x, y) : W_\alpha \text{ is semi-cubically hyponormal}\}$  for weighted shifts  $W_\alpha$  with weight sequence  $\alpha : 1, (1, \sqrt{x}, \sqrt{y})^\wedge$ , where  $(1, \sqrt{x}, \sqrt{y})^\wedge$  is Stampfli's subnormal completion. Recall that Curto-Jung studied the shape of the region  $\{(x, y) : W_\alpha \text{ is quadratically hyponormal}\}$  in [9]. In this paper we describe the region  $\mathcal{U}$  in detail as a parallel study.

This note consists of four sections. In Section 2 we recall characterizations for semi-cubic hyponormality of a weighted shift  $W_\alpha$  with weight sequence  $\alpha : 1, (1, \sqrt{x}, \sqrt{y})^\wedge$ . In Section 3, we describe the geometric shapes of the region  $\mathcal{U}$  above. In Section 4, we discuss some remarks concerning the extremality of the region  $\mathcal{U}$ .

Throughout this note we denote  $\mathbb{R}_+$  for the set of nonnegative real numbers. For a region  $\mathcal{V}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2(= \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R})$ , we denote the boundary of  $\mathcal{V}$  by  $\partial\mathcal{V}$ .

Some of the calculations in this paper were aided by using the software tool *Mathematica* ([22]).

## 2. Preliminaries

We recall Stampfli's subnormal completion of three values ([21]). Let  $\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2$  be the first three weights in  $\mathbb{R}_+$  such that  $\alpha_0 < \alpha_1 < \alpha_2$  (to avoid the flatness)<sup>1</sup>. Define

$$(2.1) \quad \hat{\alpha}_n = \left( \Psi_1 + \frac{\Psi_0}{\alpha_{n-1}^2} \right)^{1/2}, \quad n \geq 3,$$

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<sup>1</sup>If  $W_\alpha$  is a subnormal weighted shift such that  $\alpha_0 = \alpha_1$  or  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2$ , then  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \dots$ .

where

$$\Psi_0 = -\frac{\alpha_0^2 \alpha_1^2 (\alpha_2^2 - \alpha_1^2)}{\alpha_1^2 - \alpha_0^2}, \quad \Psi_1 = \frac{\alpha_1^2 (\alpha_2^2 - \alpha_0^2)}{\alpha_1^2 - \alpha_0^2}.$$

This produces a bounded sequence  $\hat{\alpha} := \{\hat{\alpha}_i\}_{i=0}^\infty$ , where  $\hat{\alpha}_i = \alpha_i$  ( $0 \leq i \leq 2$ ) such that its associated weighted shift  $W_{\hat{\alpha}}$  is subnormal. As usual, we write  $(\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2)^\wedge$  for this weight sequence  $\hat{\alpha}$  induced by (2.1).

We now recall a characterization of the semi-cubic hyponormality of weighted shifts  $W_\alpha$  with weight sequence  $\alpha : 1, (1, \sqrt{x}, \sqrt{y})^\wedge$ .

**Lemma 2.1** ([19, Th. 4.1]). *Let  $\alpha : 1, (1, \sqrt{x}, \sqrt{y})^\wedge$  with  $1 < x < y$  be a weight sequence and let  $W_\alpha$  be its associated weighted shift. Then  $W_\alpha$  is semi-cubically hyponormal if and only if  $f(x, y) := \sum_{i=0}^9 \zeta_i y^i \geq 0$ , where*

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta_0 &= x^8, \quad \zeta_1 = -x^5 + 8x^6 - 18x^7 + 2x^8, \\ \zeta_2 &= x^2 - 8x^3 + 39x^4 - 108x^5 + 131x^6 - 20x^7 + x^8, \\ \zeta_3 &= -3x + 32x^2 - 151x^3 + 338x^4 - 298x^5 - 12x^6 + 10x^7, \\ \zeta_4 &= 4 - 42x + 169x^2 - 274x^3 + 40x^4 + 276x^5 - 43x^6 - 4x^7, \\ \zeta_5 &= 16x - 130x^2 + 359x^3 - 330x^4 - 75x^5 + 34x^6, \\ \zeta_6 &= -2x + 38x^2 - 172x^3 + 260x^4 - 34x^5 - 6x^6, \\ \zeta_7 &= -x + 4x^2 + 17x^3 - 74x^4 + 18x^5, \\ \zeta_8 &= -2x^2 + 6x^3 + 7x^4 - 2x^5, \quad \zeta_9 = -x^3. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\alpha(x, y) : 1, (1, \sqrt{x}, \sqrt{y})^\wedge$  with  $1 < x < y$  be a weight sequence with Stampfli's subnormal completion tail and let  $W_{\alpha(x, y)}$  be the associated weighted shift. For our convenience, we denote  $x = 1 + h$  and  $y = 1 + h + k$  ( $h, k \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ). Then we can rewrite the polynomials in Lemma 2.1 as following

$$(2.2) \quad p(h, k) := f(1 + h, 1 + h + k) = -\sum_{i=0}^9 \xi_i(h) k^i \geq 0,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_0(h) &= 2h^9 (h + 1)^4, \quad \xi_1(h) = h^8 (16h + 7) (h + 1)^3, \\ \xi_2(h) &= 4h^6 (3h + 14h^2 + 14h^3 - 1) (h + 1)^2, \\ \xi_3(h) &= h^5 (h + 1) (3h + 98h^2 + 190h^3 + 112h^4 - 4), \\ \xi_4(h) &= h^4 (2h + 109h^2 + 322h^3 + 356h^4 + 140h^5 - 5), \\ \xi_5(h) &= 2h^3 (h + 1) (5h + 46h^2 + 88h^3 + 56h^4 - 1), \\ \xi_6(h) &= h^2 (h + 1) (13h + 64h^2 + 104h^3 + 56h^4 - 1), \\ \xi_7(h) &= h^2 (h + 1) (34h + 42h^2 + 16h^3 + 9), \\ \xi_8(h) &= 2h (4h + h^2 + 2) (h + 1)^2, \quad \xi_9(h) = (h + 1)^3. \end{aligned}$$

For  $\alpha(x, y) : 1, (1, \sqrt{x}, \sqrt{y})^\wedge$  with  $x = 1 + h$  and  $y = 1 + h + k$  ( $h, k \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ), we denote

$$\mathcal{R} := \{(h, k) : W_{\alpha(x, y)} \text{ is semi-cubically hyponormal}\}$$

and

$$\mathcal{R}_q := \{(h, k) : W_{\alpha(x, y)} \text{ is quadratically hyponormal}\}.$$

Then it follows from [19, Theorem 4.2] that both  $\mathcal{R} \setminus \mathcal{R}_q$  and  $\mathcal{R}_q \setminus \mathcal{R}$  are nonempty sets, *indeed*, a line segment  $\{(\frac{1}{100}, k) : \beta_1 \leq k < \alpha_1\}$  (or  $\{(\frac{1}{100}, k) : \beta_2 < k \leq \alpha_2\}$ ) contains in  $\mathcal{R} \setminus \mathcal{R}_q$  (or  $\mathcal{R}_q \setminus \mathcal{R}$ , respectively), where  $\alpha_1 \approx 0.000787776068\dots$ ,  $\alpha_2 \approx 0.0422764016\dots$ ,  $\beta_1 \approx 0.000786885627\dots$ , and  $\beta_2 \approx 0.0402782805\dots$ ; see the proof of [19, Theorem 4.2]. In the next section, the polynomial in (2.2) can be used to describe the shape of  $\mathcal{R}$  as a crucial parts.

### 3. The shape of the region with semi-cubic hyponormality

Let  $\alpha(x, y) : 1, (1, \sqrt{x}, \sqrt{y})^\wedge$  with  $1 < x < y$  be a weight sequence as usual and let  $W_{\alpha(x, y)}$  be the associated weighted shift with  $x = 1 + h$  and  $y = 1 + h + k$  ( $h, k \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ). We may replace  $k$  by  $th$ , where  $t$  is a positive real number. Then  $p(h, k)$  in (2.2) can be represented by

$$\begin{aligned} p(h, k) &= p(h, th) \\ &= h^8 (\phi_0(t) + \phi_1(t)h + \phi_2(t)h^2 + \phi_3(t)h^3 + \phi_4(t)h^4 + \phi_5(t)h^5), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_0(t) &= 4t^2 + 4t^3 + 5t^4 + 2t^5 + t^6, \\ \phi_1(t) &= -2 - 7t - 4t^2 + t^3 - 2t^4 - 8t^5 - 12t^6 - 9t^7 - 4t^8 - t^9, \\ \phi_2(t) &= -8 - 37t - 76t^2 - 101t^3 - 109t^4 - 102t^5 - 77t^6 - 43t^7 - 16t^8 - 3t^9, \\ \phi_3(t) &= -12 - 69t - 180t^2 - 288t^3 - 322t^4 - 268t^5 - 168t^6 - 76t^7 - 22t^8 - 3t^9, \\ \phi_4(t) &= -8 - 55t - 168t^2 - 302t^3 - 356t^4 - 288t^5 - 160t^6 - 58t^7 - 12t^8 - t^9, \\ \phi_5(t) &= -2 - 16t - 56t^2 - 112t^3 - 140t^4 - 112t^5 - 56t^6 - 16t^7 - 2t^8. \end{aligned}$$

For brevity, we set

$$(3.1) \quad \rho(h, t) = \phi_0(t) + \phi_1(t)h + \phi_2(t)h^2 + \phi_3(t)h^3 + \phi_4(t)h^4 + \phi_5(t)h^5.$$

Then  $W_{\alpha(x, y)}$  is semi-cubically hyponormal if and only if  $\rho(h, t) \geq 0$  for all positive numbers  $h$  and  $t$ . We will detect the set

$$\mathcal{C} := \{(h, th) | \rho(h, t) = 0 \text{ and } h > 0, t > 0\} \cup \{(0, 0)\}$$

to consider the region of semi-cubic hyponormality of  $W_{\alpha(x, y)}$  below. In fact, the set  $\mathcal{C}$  will be a curve (see Lemma 3.1).

**Lemma 3.1.** *The set  $\mathcal{C}$  is a loop with polar form of  $r = f(\theta)$ ,  $0 \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$ . Therefore  $\mathcal{R}$  is a starlike region with nonempty interior and  $\mathcal{C} = \partial\mathcal{R}$ .*

*Proof.* First we fix  $t = t_0 > 0$ . Since  $\phi_i(t_0)$  ( $i = 1, \dots, 5$ ) is negative obviously,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial h} \rho(h, t_0) = \phi_1(t_0) + 2\phi_2(t_0)h + 3\phi_3(t_0)h^2 + 4\phi_4(t_0)h^3 + 5\phi_5(t_0)h^4$$

is negative for  $h > 0$ . Then it follows that  $\rho(h, t_0)$  is decreasing in  $h$ . Since  $\phi_0(t_0)$  is positive, the equation  $\rho(h, t_0) = 0$  of  $h$  has a unique solution.  $\square$

The following corollary improves the results of [19, Theorem 4.2], and its proof follows from the fact that the boundaries of  $\mathcal{R}_q$  and  $\mathcal{R}$  are loops with polar forms of  $r = f(\theta)$ ,  $0 \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$ .

**Corollary 3.2.** *Under the above notation, we have the following assertions:*

- (i)  $\mathcal{R}_q \cap \mathcal{R}$  is a starlike region with nonempty interior,
- (ii)  $\mathcal{R} \setminus \mathcal{R}_q$  and  $\mathcal{R}_q \setminus \mathcal{R}$  are regions with nonempty interiors.

We now consider the tangent line to the closed curve  $\mathcal{C}$  near the origin.

**Lemma 3.3.** *The tangent line to  $\mathcal{C}$  converges to the  $x$ -axis as  $(h, t) \rightarrow (0^+, 0^+)$  and it converges to the  $y$ -axis as  $(k, t) \rightarrow (0^+, \infty)$ .*

*Proof.* We mimic the proof of [9, Lemma 4.7]. From  $k = th$ , we have

$$(3.2) \quad \frac{dk}{dh} = \frac{dt}{dh}h + t.$$

Since  $\rho(h, t) = 0$  on  $\mathcal{C}$ , we get

$$\frac{dt}{dh} = -\frac{\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial h}}{\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t}} = -\frac{\phi_1(t) + 2\phi_2(t)h + 3\phi_3(t)h^2 + 4\phi_4(t)h^3 + 5\phi_5(t)h^4}{\phi'_0(t) + \phi'_1(t)h + \phi'_2(t)h^2 + \phi'_3(t)h^3 + \phi'_4(t)h^4 + \phi'_5(t)h^5}.$$

Furthermore, we have

$$\lim_{(h,t) \rightarrow (0^+, 0^+)} \frac{dk}{dh} = \lim_{(h,t) \rightarrow (0^+, 0^+)} \frac{dt}{dh}h.$$

Since  $\lim_{(h,t) \rightarrow (0^+, 0^+)} \frac{dt}{dh} = \infty$ , by using the L'Hospital's rule and some elementary computations, we can obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{(h,t) \rightarrow (0^+, 0^+)} \frac{dt}{dh}h &= \lim_{(h,t) \rightarrow (0^+, 0^+)} \frac{h}{\frac{dh}{dt}} = \lim_{(h,t) \rightarrow (0^+, 0^+)} \frac{1}{\frac{d}{dh} \left( \frac{dh}{dt} \right)} \\ &= \lim_{(h,t) \rightarrow (0^+, 0^+)} \frac{1}{\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{dh}{dt} \right) \frac{dt}{dh} + \frac{\partial}{\partial h} \left( \frac{dh}{dt} \right)} \\ &= \lim_{(h,t) \rightarrow (0^+, 0^+)} \frac{F_1(h, t)}{F_2(h, t)} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

for some polynomials  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  of  $h$  and  $t$  (see <http://arxiv.org/pdf/1803.03349.pdf> for expressions of  $F_1$  and  $F_2$ ) such that

$$\lim_{(h,t) \rightarrow (0^+, 0^+)} F_1(h, t) = 0 \text{ and } \lim_{(h,t) \rightarrow (0^+, 0^+)} F_2(h, t) = 32.$$

Similarly, we have  $\lim_{(k,t) \rightarrow (0^+, \infty)} \frac{dk}{dh} = \infty$ . Hence the proof is complete.  $\square$

We now set

$$(3.3) \quad h_M = \max\{h : (h, k) \in \mathcal{R}, k \in \mathbb{R}_+\}, \quad k_M = \max\{k : (h, k) \in \mathcal{R}, h \in \mathbb{R}_+\}.$$

Obviously two maximum values  $h_M$  and  $k_M$  are well defined. Recall that the problem [9, Problem 5.1] which is finding the values or expressions of  $\max\{h : (h, k) \in \mathcal{R}_q, k \in \mathbb{R}_+\}$  and  $\max\{k : (h, k) \in \mathcal{R}_q, h \in \mathbb{R}_+\}$  are not solved yet. Hence it is worthwhile finding extremal values  $h_M$  and  $k_M$ . We discuss the values of  $h_M$  and  $k_M$  below.

**Lemma 3.4.** *Under the same notation in (3.3), we have  $0 < h_M < \frac{14}{100}$ .*

*Proof.* We can obtain that

$$\rho\left(\frac{14}{100}, t\right) = \frac{1}{156250000} \sum_{k=0}^9 c_k t^k,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} c_0 &= -73892007, \quad c_1 = -299457081, \quad c_2 = 217020204, \quad c_3 = 195013758, \\ c_4 &= 243084610, \quad c_5 = -308008392, \quad c_6 = -424167096, \quad c_7 = -364763406, \\ c_8 &= -146669607, \quad c_9 = -32408775. \end{aligned}$$

This can be represented by

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^9 c_k t^k &< 10^7(-29t + 30t^2 + 20t^3 + 25t^4 - 30t^5 - 40t^6 - 35t^7 - 10t^8 - 3t^9) \\ &= 10^7 t(-29 + 30t + 20t^2 + 25t^3 - 30t^4 - 40t^5 - 35t^6 - 10t^7 - 3t^8) \\ &= 10^7 t((-4 + 20t^2 - 30t^4) + (-5 + 25t^3 - 35t^6) - 10t^7 - 3t^8 - \eta(t)) \\ &= 10^7 t\left(-A^2 - 5B^2 - \frac{101}{84} - 10t^7 - 3t^8 - \eta(t)\right), \end{aligned}$$

where  $A = \sqrt{30}t^2 - \sqrt{\frac{10}{3}}$ ,  $B = \sqrt{7}t^3 - \frac{5}{\sqrt{28}}$  and  $\eta(t) = 20 - 30t + 40t^5$ . Here, since  $\eta(t)$  has exactly one critical number  $\sqrt[4]{\frac{3}{20}}$  on  $\mathbb{R}_+$  and  $\eta''(t) > 0$  on  $\mathbb{R}_+$ ,  $\eta(t)$  has a positive minimum at  $\sqrt[4]{\frac{3}{20}}$ . So,  $\rho\left(\frac{14}{100}, t\right)$  is negative and since  $\mathcal{C}$  is a loop in the first quadrant,  $\mathcal{C}$  lies on the left side of a line  $h = \frac{14}{100}$ .  $\square$

Recall Descartes' rule of signs that if  $p(x)$  is a polynomial with real coefficients, then the number of positive roots either is equal to the number of variations in sign of  $p(x)$  or is less than that number by an even number; and the number of negative roots either is equal to the number of variations in sign of  $p(-x)$  or is less than that number by an even number.

**Lemma 3.5.** *Given  $h > 0$ , there exist at most two roots (possibly a double root)  $k_0 > 0$  such that  $p(h, k_0) = 0$ .*

*Proof.* According to Lemma 3.4, it is sufficient to consider  $h < \frac{14}{100}$ . Recall that

$$p(h, k) = - \sum_{i=0}^9 \xi_i(h) k^i,$$

where  $\xi_i(h)$  are shown in (2.2). Here, all of the coefficients of  $\xi_i(h)$ ,  $i = 0, 1, 7, 8, 9$  are positive and  $\xi_i(h)$ ,  $i = 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$  has one variation in sign, so it has exactly one positive root  $\epsilon_i$  for  $i = 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$ , respectively. Especially,  $\epsilon_6 \approx 0.0584537$  and  $\epsilon_2, \epsilon_3, \epsilon_4, \epsilon_5 > \frac{14}{100}$ , so  $\xi_2(h), \xi_3(h), \xi_4(h), \xi_5(h)$  are negative for  $h < \frac{14}{100}$ . Hence the signs of the coefficients of  $p(h, k)$  change twice as a polynomial in  $k$  for  $h < \frac{14}{100}$ . By Descartes' rule of signs, it follows that for fixed  $h > 0$ , the equation  $p(h, k) = 0$  of  $k$  has no or two roots.  $\square$

We may obtain the following lemma similarly.

**Lemma 3.6.** *Given  $k > 0$ , there exist at most two roots (possibly a double root)  $h_0 > 0$  such that  $p(h_0, k) = 0$ .*

Note that  $\mathcal{C}$  consists of two functions  $k = f_1(h)$  and  $k = f_2(h)$  on the interval  $(0, h_M]$ . Similarly,  $\mathcal{C}$  consists of two functions  $h = g_1(k)$  and  $h = g_2(k)$  on the interval  $(0, k_M]$ .

Combining above lemmas, we obtain the main theorem of this paper.

**Theorem 3.7.** *The region  $\mathcal{R}$  is a simply connected with boundary  $\partial\mathcal{R}$  such that*

- (i)  $\partial\mathcal{R}$  is a loop with polar form  $r = f(\theta)$ ,  $0 \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$ ,
- (ii) the tangent lines of  $\partial\mathcal{R}$  near origin  $(0, 0)$  converge to the  $x$ - and  $y$ -axes,
- (iii)  $\text{card}(\partial\mathcal{R} \cap \{(a, k) : k \in \mathbb{R}\}) = 2$ , where  $0 < a < h_M$ ,
- (iv)  $\text{card}(\partial\mathcal{R} \cap \{(h, b) : h \in \mathbb{R}\}) = 2$ , where  $0 < b < k_M$ .<sup>2</sup>

#### 4. Further remarks

Let  $\alpha(x, y) : 1, (1, \sqrt{x}, \sqrt{y})^\wedge$  be a weight sequence with  $x = 1 + h$  and  $y = 1 + h + k$  ( $h, k \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ). Recall that  $h_M$  and  $k_M$  are well defined (see Section 3). The problems of expressions about the extremal values  $h_M$  and  $k_M$  are a parallel ones which were suggested as a question in [9, Prob. 5.1]. So it is worth describing the extremal values  $h_M$  and  $k_M$ . For this purpose, we denote

$$(4.1) \quad Q := Q(h, t) = \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \sum_{i=0}^5 \phi'_i(t) h^i.$$

From (3.2), we obtain

$$\frac{dk}{dh} = \frac{dt}{dh} h + t = \frac{S}{Q},$$

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<sup>2</sup> $\text{card}(\cdot)$  denotes for the cardinality of  $\cdot$ .

for a polynomial

$$(4.2) \quad S := S(h, t) = \sum_{j=0}^4 \nu_j(t) h^j,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \nu_0(t) &= 8t^2 + 12t^3 + 20t^4 + 10t^5 + 6t^6, \\ \nu_1(t) &= 2 - 4t^2 + 2t^3 - 6t^4 - 32t^5 - 60t^6 - 54t^7 - 28t^8 - 8t^9, \\ \nu_2(t) &= 16 + 37t - 101t^3 - 218t^4 - 306t^5 - 308t^6 - 215t^7 - 96t^8 - 21t^9, \\ \nu_3(t) &= 36 + 138t + 180t^2 - 322t^4 - 536t^5 - 504t^6 - 304t^7 - 110t^8 - 18t^9, \\ \nu_4(t) &= 32 + 165t + 336t^2 + 302t^3 - 288t^5 - 320t^6 - 174t^7 - 48t^8 - 5t^9, \\ \nu_5(t) &= 10 + 64t + 168t^2 + 224t^3 + 140t^4 - 56t^6 - 32t^7 - 6t^8. \end{aligned}$$

Hence we arrive at the following proposition.

**Proposition 4.1.** *Under the notation as in (3.3), we have that*

- (i)  $h_M = \max \{h : \rho(h, t) = 0 \text{ and } Q(h, t) = 0\}$ ,
  - (ii)  $k_M = \max \{th : \rho(h, t) = 0 \text{ and } S(h, t) = 0\}$ ,
- where  $\rho(h, t)$ ,  $Q(h, t)$  and  $S(h, t)$  are as in (3.1), (4.1) and (4.2), respectively.

Before closing this note, we describe the curvature of  $\partial\mathcal{R}$  for the further information above the shape of  $\mathcal{R}$ . Since  $k = th$ ,

$$\frac{d^2k}{dh^2} = \frac{d^2t}{dh^2} h + 2 \frac{dt}{dh},$$

and since  $\rho(h, t) = 0$  on  $\mathcal{C}$ ,

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \frac{dt}{dh} + \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial h} = 0.$$

By differentiation with respect to  $h$ , we obtain that

$$\left[ \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial t^2} \frac{dt}{dh} + \frac{\partial}{\partial h} \left( \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \right) \right] \frac{dt}{dh} + \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \frac{d^2t}{dh^2} + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial h} \right) \frac{dt}{dh} + \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial h^2} = 0.$$

Then

$$(4.3) \quad \frac{d^2t}{dh^2} = - \frac{\left( \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial t^2} \frac{dt}{dh} + \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial h \partial t} \right) \frac{dt}{dh} + \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial t \partial h} \frac{dt}{dh} + \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial h^2}}{\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t}}.$$

It follows from (4.3) that

$$\frac{d^2k}{dh^2} = \frac{2(t+1)P}{Q^3},$$

where a polynomial  $P := P(h, t)$  as follows:

$$(4.4) \quad P(h, t) = \sum_{j=0}^{14} \mu_j(t) h^j$$



(see <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1803.03349.pdf> for detail expression). Hence the curvature  $\kappa$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  can be represented by

$$\kappa = \frac{\left| \frac{d^2 k}{dh^2} \right|}{\left( 1 + \left( \frac{dk}{dh} \right)^2 \right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} = \frac{2(t+1)|P|}{(Q^2 + S^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}}.$$

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