where \( M \) is independent of \( n \) and \( z \).

There can be developed extensions of the above results to approximation on an arbitrary analytic Jordan curve or on more general point sets bounded by analytic Jordan curves, by rational functions with poles in prescribed points or uniformly distributed on given curves. The present results are intended primarily as illustrations of this general theory.

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NOTE ON THE COEFFICIENTS OF THE CYCLOTOMIC POLYNOMIAL

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Erdös\(^1\) has proved that if \( A_n \) denotes the largest coefficient (in absolute value) of the \( n \)th cyclotomic polynomial, then for infinitely many \( n \)

\[
A_n > \exp \left\{ c_1 (\log n)^{4/3} \right\}.
\]

He also conjectured that a much stronger statement may be true, namely that\(^2\)

\[
(A) \quad A_n > \exp \left\{ n^{(c_{14}/\log \log n)} \right\}
\]

holds for some \( c_{14} \) and infinitely many \( n \), but pointed out that this would be a best result, since

\[
(B) \quad A_n < \exp \left\{ n^{(c_{14}/\log \log n)} \right\}
\]

for some \( c_{14} \) and all \( n \). Erdös suppressed the proof of (B), because his proof was complicated. It is the purpose of this note to give the following short proof of (B).

The cyclotomic polynomial \( F_n(x) = \prod_{d|n} (1-x^d)^{\mu(n/d)} \) is majorized by the power series

\[
\prod_{d|n} (1 + x^d + x^{2d} + \cdots ).
\]

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\(^2\) Formulas (A) and (B) were printed incorrectly in Erdös’ paper (on the bottom of p. 182).
Since $F_n(x)$ is of degree less than $n$, it is also in fact majorized by the polynomial

$$\prod_{d\mid n} (1 + x^d + x^{2d} + \cdots + x^{(n/d-1)d}).$$

Hence $A_n$ is less than the sum of the coefficients of this polynomial. Thus, if $d(n)$ denotes the number of divisors of $n$, we have for sufficiently large $n$

$$A_n < \prod_{d\mid n} (n/d) = n^{d(n)/2} = \exp \left\{ \frac{1}{2} d(n) \log n \right\}
< \exp \left\{ \frac{1}{2} 2^{(1+\varepsilon/2) \log n / \log \log n / \log n} \right\}
< \exp \left\{ 2^{(1+\varepsilon) \log n / \log \log n} \right\}
= \exp \left\{ n^{(1+\varepsilon) \log 2 / \log \log n} \right\},$$

where we have used Wigert's estimation$^8$ of $d(n)$. Thus (B) is proved.

*Added in proof:* In a paper to be published in *Portugaliae Mathematica*, Erdős has given a proof of (A) (for some positive $c_{18}$ and infinitely many $n$).

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