

Since  $g_2=0$ ,  $g_3=1$ , it is easy to prove inductively that  $C_n=0$  unless  $n\equiv 0$  modulo 3. Substitution in (2) shows that  $zf(z)$  is a function of  $z^3$ , so that

$$f(\eta z) = \eta^2 f(z), \quad \eta^3 = 1.$$

This shows that  $f(-\eta^2 h(z)) = \eta f(-h(z))$ , and the proof of the equivalence of the various expressions for  $G$  in (5) is complete.

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## ON THE BOUNDARY BEHAVIOR OF FUNCTIONS MEROMORPHIC IN THE UNIT DISK

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1. **Introduction.** Let  $f(z)$  be meromorphic in  $D: \{|z| < 1\}$ , and suppose that the values assumed by  $f(z)$  in  $D$  lie in a domain  $G$  whose boundary  $\Gamma$  has positive logarithmic capacity. Then  $f(z)$  is of bounded characteristic in  $D$  and has finite radial limits  $f(e^{i\theta}) = \lim_{r \rightarrow 1} f(re^{i\theta})$  at almost all points  $e^{i\theta}$  on  $C: \{|z| = 1\}$ . (For this and more general theory of meromorphic functions, see [4, pp. 208 ff.].) The class of functions satisfying these conditions and having the additional property that  $f(e^{i\theta})$  belongs to  $\Gamma$  almost everywhere on  $C$  has been studied by O. Lehto [3] and D. A. Storvick [6], who called it *class (L)*.

If  $A$  is a sequence of points in  $D$  satisfying  $\sum_{a \in A} (1 - |a|) < \infty$ , the Blaschke product with respect to  $A$  in  $D$  is the function  $B(z; A) = \prod_{a \in A} [ |a|(a-z)/a(1-\bar{a}z) ]$ . The present note arises from a suggestion by Professor Storvick that the following theorem, established in [1], be extended to functions in class (L). Here we denote by  $A'$  the derived set of  $A$ .

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $E$  be a set on  $C$ . A necessary and sufficient condition*

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that there exist a Blaschke product  $B(z; A)$  for which  $B(e^{i\theta}) = \lim_{r \rightarrow 1} B(re^{i\theta}; A)$  is defined and of modulus one at every point of  $C$  and such that  $A' = E$  is that  $E$  be closed and nowhere dense on  $C$ .

2. Let  $G$  be a domain whose boundary  $\Gamma$  has positive logarithmic capacity.

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $f(z)$  be a function of class (L) with respect to  $G$  and  $\Gamma$ , and suppose that  $f(e^{i\theta}) = \lim_{r \rightarrow 1} f(re^{i\theta})$  exists and belongs to  $\Gamma$  for every  $e^{i\theta}$  on  $C$ . Then if  $a$  is any point of  $G$  and  $A = \{z \in D: f(z) = a\}$ ,  $A'$  is closed and nowhere dense on  $C$ .*

We note first that  $A$  is not empty, since O. Lehto [3, p. 12] showed that any omitted value of  $f$  in  $G$  is a radial limit for  $f(z)$ . Also from [3, p. 12], if  $A$  is finite then  $a$  must be a boundary value for  $f(z)$ , unless  $G$  is simply-connected and  $f(z) = \rho[R(z)]$  for  $R(z)$  rational,  $|R(z)| \leq 1$ ,  $|R(e^{i\theta})| = 1$ , and  $w = \rho(z)$  a schlicht function mapping  $D$  onto  $G$ . In the latter case  $f(z)$  assumes each of its values only finitely many times, and the theorem is clearly true.

For the case when  $A$  is infinite,  $A' \cap D = \emptyset$  since  $f(z)$  is meromorphic in  $D$ , and  $A'$  is closed. For any point  $e^{i\theta}$  of  $A'$ ,  $f(e^{i\theta}) = \lim_{r \rightarrow 1} f(re^{i\theta})$  is a point  $\gamma(\theta)$  of  $\Gamma$ . That is, the radial cluster set,  $C_r(f, e^{i\theta})$ , for  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  is a single point  $\gamma(\theta)$ . However, the interior cluster set,  $C_D(f, e^{i\theta})$ , for  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  contains at least the points  $a$  and  $\gamma(\theta)$ . Thus for  $e^{i\theta}$  in  $A'$  we have  $C_D(f, e^{i\theta}) \neq C_r(f, e^{i\theta})$ . By a theorem of E. F. Collingwood [2, p. 378],  $A'$  must be a set of category I on  $C$ . Since  $A'$  is closed,  $A'$  is necessarily nowhere dense on  $C$ . (The method of proof that  $A'$  is nowhere dense on  $C$  was originally suggested to the author by Professor K. Noshiro for use in the proof of Theorem 1.)

3. In the special case that  $G$  is simply-connected and its boundary  $\Gamma$  is a Jordan curve, we prove the following

**THEOREM 3.** *Let  $a$  be any point of a simply-connected domain  $G$  whose boundary  $\Gamma$  is a Jordan curve. Let  $E$  be a closed nowhere dense set on  $C$ . Then there exists a function, analytic in  $D$ , such that: (i)  $f(z)$  assumes its values in  $G$ ; (ii) for every  $e^{i\theta}$  on  $C$  the limit  $\lim_{r \rightarrow 1} f(re^{i\theta}) = f(e^{i\theta})$  exists and belongs to  $\Gamma$ ; (iii) if  $A = \{z \in D: f(z) = a\}$ , then  $A' = E$ .*

If  $\rho = g(w)$  is a conformal mapping of  $G$  onto  $\{|\rho| < 1\}$  with  $g(a) = 0$ ,  $g'(a) > 0$ , then  $g$  can be extended to a homeomorphism of  $G \cup \Gamma$  onto  $\{|\rho| \leq 1\}$ , and we can consider the mapping  $w = g^{-1}(\rho)$  as a homeomorphism of  $\{|\rho| \leq 1\}$  onto  $G \cup \Gamma$  which is analytic in  $\{|\rho| < 1\}$  and assumes values there in  $G$ .

By Theorem 1, since  $E$  is closed and nowhere dense on  $C$ , there

exists a Blaschke product  $B(z; H)$  in  $D$  with radial limits of modulus one at every point of  $C$  such that  $H' = E$ . (Here  $H$  is the set of zeros for  $B(z; H)$  in  $D$ , and  $\sum_{h \in H} (1 - |h|) < \infty$ .) We let  $\rho = B(z; H)$  and define  $w = g^{-1}[B(z; H)]$  for  $z$  in  $D$ .

The image under  $B(z; H)$  of  $D$  is the disk  $\{|\rho| < 1\}$ , since W. Seidel [5] showed that any omitted value in  $\{|\rho| < 1\}$  is a radial limit value for  $B(z; H)$  at some point of  $C$ . It is easily verified that  $w = f(z)$  is analytic in  $D$  and satisfies (i), (ii), and (iii).

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