

ANALYTIC FUNCTIONS WITH UNIVALENT DERIVATIVES AND ENTIRE FUNCTIONS OF EXPONENTIAL TYPE

BY S. M. SHAH

ABSTRACT. Functions f , analytic and univalent in the unit disc, and such that all successive derivatives $f^{(k)}$ are univalent in this disc, are necessarily transcendental entire functions of exponential type. These functions, and functions f having an infinite number of derivatives $f^{(n_k)}$ univalent in the unit disc, are discussed. Entire functions of bounded index are of exponential type and their properties are also discussed.

1. Introduction. Let $f(z)$ be analytic in the unit disc $D : |z| < 1$. We say that f is univalent in D if for each pair of distinct points z_1, z_2 in D , $f(z_1) \neq f(z_2)$. In §§1–4 we give a brief survey of functions analytic and¹ univalent in D . Functions f such that $f(z)$ and each successive derivative $f^{(k)}(z)$ are univalent in D are considered next in §5. Such functions f must be transcendental entire functions of exponential type. Related problems of functions f such that $f(z)$ and a sequence of derivatives $f^{(n_k)}(z)$ are univalent or of functions f such that $f(z)$ is entire and $f^{(k)}(z)$ is univalent in $|z| < \rho_k$ ($\rho_k > 0$) are considered in §§6–10. This is followed by a section (§11) on multivalent functions and three sections (§§12–14) on functions of bounded index. An entire function $f(z)$ is said to be of bounded index if there exists an integer N , independent of z , such that

$$(1.1) \quad \max_{0 \leq s \leq N} \left\{ \frac{|f^{(s)}(z)|}{s!} \right\} \geq \frac{|f^{(j)}(z)|}{j!},$$

for $j = 1, 2, \dots$ and for all z . The smallest such integer N is called the index of f . An entire function f of bounded index N is of exponential type not exceeding $(N + 1)$. Finally we mention some unsolved problems.

2. Conditions for the univalence of f . Let

$$(2.1) \quad f(z) = \sum_0^{\infty} a_n z^n, \quad |z| < 1.$$

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¹ In this article we shall not consider meromorphic univalent functions.

If $a_1 \neq 0$ and

$$(2.2) \quad \sum_2^\infty n|a_n| \leq |a_1|,$$

then f is analytic and univalent in D and continuous on the closure of D . To prove this, let $z_1, z_2 \in D$, $\max_{i=1,2} |z_i| = r < 1$, $z_1 \neq z_2$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{f(z_2) - f(z_1)}{z_2 - z_1} \right| &= \left| a_1 + \sum_2^\infty a_n (z_2^{n-1} + z_2^{n-1} z_1 + \cdots + z_1^{n-1}) \right| \\ &\geq |a_1| - \sum_2^\infty n|a_n|r^{n-1} > 0. \end{aligned}$$

This implies that f is univalent in D . Further, for every $N \geq 1$,

$$\sum_0^N |a_n| \leq |a_0| + |a_1| + \sum_2^\infty \frac{n|a_n|}{n} \leq |a_0| + \frac{3|a_1|}{2},$$

and continuity of f follows.

If the radius of convergence of the series in (2.1) defining f is R , then f is univalent in $|z| < \rho \leq R$, if $a_1 \neq 0$ and

$$(2.3) \quad \sum_{n=2}^\infty n|a_n|\rho^{n-1} \leq |a_1|.$$

Let f be analytic in D . If f is univalent in D then $f'(z) \neq 0$ in D [32, p. 23]. If

$$(2.4) \quad \operatorname{Re}(af'(z)) > 0, \quad z \in D,$$

for some complex number a , $|a| = 1$, then f is univalent in D . This follows immediately from the following integral expression

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{a(f(z_2) - f(z_1))}{z_2 - z_1} \right\} = \int_0^1 \operatorname{Re} \{ af'((1-w)z_1 + wz_2) \} dw.$$

Another criterion for univalence of f ([62]; see also [29]) is as follows. Let

$$\{w, z\} = \left(\frac{f''}{f'} \right)' - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{f''}{f'} \right)^2$$

be the Schwarzian derivative of $w = f(z)$ with respect to z . In order that $w = f(z)$ be univalent in D it is necessary that

$$|(w, z)| \leq 6/(1 - |z|^2)^2$$

and sufficient that

$$|(w, z)| \leq 2/(1 - |z|^2)^2.$$

Becker [2] has recently proved that f is univalent in D if

$$\left| \frac{f''(z)}{f'(z)} \right| \leq \frac{1}{(1 - |z|^2)}.$$

3. Class S . Let S denote the collection of functions f analytic and univalent in D and normalized by the conditions $f(0) = 0$, $f'(0) = 1$. Thus $f \in S$ can be written as

$$(3.1) \quad f(z) = z + \sum_2^{\infty} a_n z^n, \quad |z| < 1.$$

Bieberbach [6] proved in 1916 that, for $f \in S$,

$$(3.2) \quad |a_2| \leq 2$$

with equality if and only if

$$(3.3) \quad f(z) = K_{\alpha}(z) \equiv z/(1 - ze^{i\alpha})^2 \quad (\alpha \text{ real}).$$

This function K_{α} (Koebe function) maps D on the whole plane slit radially from $w = -\frac{1}{4}e^{-i\alpha}$ to infinity. It is extremal not only for a_2 but also for a number of other problems. Since $|a_n| = n$, $n = 2, 3, \dots$ for this function K_{α} , it was conjectured that, for $f \in S$,

$$(3.4) \quad |a_n| \leq n, \quad n = 2, 3, \dots,$$

with equality only for the Koebe function. This conjecture, called the Bieberbach conjecture, was proved for $n = 3$ by Loewner [58] in 1923, for $n = 4$ by Charzynski and Schiffer ([18]; see also [30]) in 1960, and for $n = 6$ by Pederson [66] in 1968 and Ozawa [64] in 1969 independently of each other. Garabedian and Schiffer [31] proved that (3.4) holds for a function $f \in S$ which is “close enough” to the Koebe function and Aharonov has shown (3.4) to hold if $|a_2| < 0.867$ ([1]; see also [9]).

For each fixed $f \in S$, Hayman (see [38, pp. 112–113]) has shown that $|a_n| \leq n$ ($n > n_0(f)$). For all $n \geq 2$, Littlewood proved in 1925 (see [38, p. 10]) that $|a_n| < en$. This estimate has recently been improved to $|a_n| < 1.081n$ ($n \geq 2$) by Carl H. Fitzgerald (see also [32, p. 612]).

4. Subclasses of S . A function $f \in S$ is said to be starlike univalent in D , or briefly starlike in D if $f(D)$ is starlike with respect to the origin $w = 0$. A necessary and sufficient condition for $f \in S$ to be starlike in D is that [63, pp. 220–222], [38, pp. 14–16],

$$(4.1) \quad \operatorname{Re}(zf'(z)/f(z)) > 0, \quad |z| < 1.$$

We shall denote this subclass of functions by S^* . From (4.1) it is easy to obtain, for $f \in S^*$, the following integral representation formula

$$(4.2) \quad z \frac{f'(z)}{f(z)} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1 + ze^{-it}}{1 - ze^{-it}} dV(t)$$

where $V(t)$ is an increasing function of t , $V(t) - t$ has period 2π and $(1/2\pi) \int_0^{2\pi} dV(t) = 1$. A second subclass of S is the class of convex univalent functions. We say that $f \in S$ is convex univalent in D if $f(D)$ is a convex set. We denote this subclass of S by K . A necessary and sufficient condition for $f \in S$ to be in K is that [38, pp. 140–141], [32, p. 166],

$$(4.3) \quad \operatorname{Re}(1 + zf''(z)/f'(z)) > 0, \quad |z| < 1.$$

If $f \in K$ then $|a_n| \leq 1$. If $f \in S^*$ then $|a_n| \leq n$.

A third subclass of functions is the class of close-to-convex functions introduced by Kaplan [46]. A function $f \in S$ is close-to-convex if and only if

$$(4.4) \quad \operatorname{Re}(f'(z)/\phi'(z)) > 0, \quad |z| < 1,$$

where $\phi(z)/\phi'(0) \in K$. (If f is analytic in D and satisfies the close-to-convex condition (4.4) then it is univalent.) For this class (3.4) also holds. If f is defined by (2.1) and satisfies (2.2) and if $f(0) = 0, f'(0) \neq 0$, then f is starlike in D [33]. From this we can conclude that if [33]

$$(4.5) \quad \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} k^2 |a_k| \leq |a_1|$$

then f is convex in D .

For more information on various problems of univalent function theory we refer the reader to five excellent survey articles by Bernardi [3], Hayman [39], Goluzin [32, pp. 577–628], Goodman [35] and Robertson [73]. We list some recent papers in the bibliography at the end and refer to an exhaustive bibliography by Bernardi [4], for books and periodical literature up to 1965.

5. Functions with univalent derivatives. Let $f \in S$ and let E denote the subclass

$$(5.1) \quad E = \{f \mid f \in S, f^{(k)} \text{ is univalent in } D \text{ for } k = 1, 2, \dots\}.$$

If $f \in E$ then f must be a transcendental entire function of exponential type, that is,

$$(5.2) \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log M(r, f)}{r} \equiv T^* < \infty,$$

where as usual $M(r, f) = \max_{|z|=r} |f(z)|$. (Note that functions, for which $0 \leq T^* < \infty$, and in particular functions of order less than one, are all

functions of exponential type.) More precisely we have [84]

$$(5.3) \quad |f(z)| \leq \frac{\exp(2\alpha|z|) - 1}{2\alpha},$$

where $\alpha = \sup\{|a_2| : f \in E\}$ and

$$(5.4) \quad \pi/2 \leq \alpha < 1.7208.$$

To prove this we note that if $f \in E$ then $a_{n+1} \neq 0$. Define F_n in D by

$$F_n(z) = \frac{f^{(n)}(z) - n!a_n}{(n+1)!a_{n+1}}.$$

Then $F_n \in E$ and we have

$$|a_{n+2}| \leq \frac{2\alpha|a_{n+1}|}{n+2}.$$

An inductive argument gives $|a_n| \leq (2\alpha)^{n-1}/n!$ ($n \geq 2$). This implies that f is entire and satisfies (5.3). Since $|a_2^2 - a_3| \leq 1 - \{M(1)\}^{-2}$ ([44], [88]), we have

$$\alpha^2 \leq 3(1 - 4\alpha^2/(e^{2\alpha} - 1)^2).$$

This implies the right-hand inequality in (5.4). To complete the proof of (5.4) we observe that $\phi(z) = (\exp(\pi z) - 1)/\pi \in E$ and a_2 for this function is $\pi/2$.

We note here that the property of univalence is only one of the properties which forces f to be entire. Consider a property (A) which a function analytic in D is able to possess. We say that (A) is an admissible property provided the following hold: (i) If f has (A) then $f'(0) \neq 0$. (ii) If f has (A) and if b and c are complex numbers with $b \neq 0$, then the function $F(z) = bf(z) + c$ also has (A). Let T be the family of functions f , analytic in D , of the form (3.1). Let $T(A)$ be the subclass of T such that if $f \in T(A)$ then $f^{(n)}$ has property (A) for $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$. Suppose that $T(A)$ is not empty and let $\alpha_A = \sup\{|a_2| : f \in T(A)\}$. If $\alpha_A < \infty$ and $f \in T(A)$ then f is a transcendental entire function of exponential type not greater than $2\alpha_A$ [86]. For instance one can take property (A) to be property (K). We say that f has (K) if f is convex univalent in D . Then (K) is an admissible property. Further $\alpha_K = \sup\{|a_2| : f \in T(K)\}$ lies between $\frac{1}{2}$ and 0.6838 [86].

6. Not all derivatives univalent. Let f be defined in D by (2.1) and let $\{n_k\}_1^\infty$ be a sequence of strictly increasing positive integers. Suppose that each $f^{(n_k)}$ is univalent in D . Let R be the radius of convergence of the series in (2.1). If the sequence $\{n_k\}$ does not increase very rapidly, we may have $R > 1$. Thus, for instance [86],

$$(6.1) \quad \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} (n_1 \cdots n_k)^{1/n_k} \leq R \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} 4^{k/n_k} \leq 4R.$$

From (6.1) it is easy to show that if $n_{k+1} - n_k = o(\log k)$ then $R = \infty$ and f is entire. If $n_{k+1} - n_k = O(1)$ then f is of exponential type.

A more general result of this type is as follows. Let $\phi(x)$ and $\theta(x)$ be two slowly oscillating functions (see [86] and the references given there) and let $1 \leq \phi(k) \leq n_k - n_{k-1} \leq \theta(k)$ for $k = 2, 3, \dots$. If each $f^{(n_k)}$ is univalent in D and

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\theta(k) \log \theta(k)}{\phi(k) \log k} = \alpha < 1,$$

then f is an entire function of order not greater than $1/(1 - \alpha)$.

If however the sequence $\{n_k\}$ increases very rapidly, say

$$n_{k+1} \geq n_k \log n_k \log \log n_k,$$

then R may not exceed unity. In fact there exists [86] a function f , analytic in D and an increasing sequence of positive integers $\{n_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$ such that f and each $f^{(n_k)}$ map D univalently onto convex domains and yet the unit circle is the natural boundary of f .

7. Derivatives with varying radii of univalence. Let $\rho(f)$ be the largest number with the property that f is analytic and univalent in an open disc about the origin of radius ρ . We shall write $\rho(f^{(n)}) = \rho_n$. Suppose now that f is defined by $f(z) = \sum_0^{\infty} a_n z^n$. Let R denote the radius of convergence of this series. Then we have [85]

$$(7.1) \quad \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \rho_n \leq 4R,$$

and

$$(7.2) \quad R \log 2 \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \rho_n.$$

If $|a_{n-1}/a_n|$ is ultimately a nondecreasing sequence, then

$$(7.3) \quad R \log 2 \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \rho_n \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \rho_n \leq 4R.$$

Thus (a) if f is a transcendental entire function then $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \rho_n = \infty$, and (b) if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \rho_n = \infty$, then f is a transcendental entire function. (See also [85, Theorem 3].) The converse of (a) is false. There exists a function f analytic in the unit disc and in no larger disc $|z| < R$, where $R > 1$, such that $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \rho_n = \infty$. The converse of (b) is also false [85].

8. Radii of univalence and entire functions. Let f be a transcendental entire function of order Λ and lower order λ (see [8, p. 8]). When $0 < \Lambda < \infty$, let $T = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \log M(r)/r^\Lambda$ denote the type and $t =$

$\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \log M(r)/r^\Lambda$ denote the lower type. The following theorems are due to Boas, Pólya and Takenaka respectively.

THEOREM A [7]. *If $f(z)$ is a transcendental entire function and if*

$$(8.1) \quad T^* = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log M(r)}{r} < \log 2,$$

then there is a sequence $\{n_p\}_{p=1}^\infty$ such that $\rho_{n_p} = \rho(n_p) \geq 1$ for all p .

Levinson [56] supplied a second proof of this. Boas also pointed out that, if $T^* = 0$, then

$$(8.2) \quad \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \rho_n = \infty.$$

THEOREM B [67]. *If $f(z)$ is a transcendental entire function of order Λ , then*

$$(8.3) \quad \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \rho_n}{\log n} \leq \frac{1 - \Lambda}{\Lambda} \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \rho_n}{\log n}.$$

THEOREM C [92]. *If $\{\alpha_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ is a sequence of complex numbers of modulus not exceeding one and if $f(z)$ is an entire function of exponential type less than $\log 2$, then $f(z)$ vanishes identically if $f^{(n)}(\alpha_n) = 0$, $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$.*

We give improved versions of these theorems. Let us denote by $v(r)$ ($0 < r < +\infty$) the central index of the series $f(z) = \sum_0^\infty a_n z^n$ for $|z| = r$. Then

$$|a_n|r^n \leq |a_{v(r)}|r^{v(r)}, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Let

$$(8.4) \quad \begin{aligned} \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{v(r)}{r} &= \gamma, \\ \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{v(r)}{r} &= \delta. \end{aligned}$$

Then we have [85]

$$(8.5) \quad \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \max(1, n\rho_n)}{\log n} \leq \frac{1}{\Lambda},$$

$$(8.6) \quad \frac{1 - \lambda}{\lambda} \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \rho_n}{\log n},$$

$$(8.7) \quad \frac{\log 2}{\delta} \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \rho_n$$

and

$$(8.8) \quad \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{\Lambda-1} \rho_n^\Lambda \leq \frac{4^\Lambda}{\Lambda T}.$$

Hence if $\Lambda > 1$, $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \rho_n = 0$ and if $\Lambda = 1$, then since $\delta \leq t^*$ ($= \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \log M(r)/r \leq T^*$),

$$(8.9) \quad \frac{\log 2}{t^*} \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \rho_n; \quad \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \rho_n \leq \frac{4}{T^*}.$$

The inequalities (8.5)–(8.6) imply Theorem B and (8.7) implies Theorem A. Theorem C follows immediately from (8.7) since $\rho(f^{(n)}) \leq r_{n+1}^*$ where r_k^* denotes the absolute value of the zero z_k^* of $f^{(k)}$ which is nearest to the origin. (If $f^{(k)}$ has no zero then $r_k^* = \infty$.)

For entire functions defined by gap power series, (8.6) and (8.7) give, in general, better results than Theorems A–C. Let

$$(8.10) \quad f(z) = \sum a_{n_k} z^{n_k} \quad (a_{n_k} \neq 0, k = 1, 2, \dots),$$

be a transcendental entire function and suppose that

$$(8.11) \quad \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} \log n_k / \log n_{k+1} = \chi < 1.$$

Then $\lambda \leq \Lambda \chi$ [93] and (8.5) and (8.6) give more information than Theorem B. If we suppose now that $\Lambda \geq 1$ but $\Lambda \chi < 1$ then $\lambda < 1$, $\delta = 0$ and (8.7) implies that $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \rho_n = \infty$. Thus Theorems A and C hold for every function f , of any finite order Λ and of the form (8.10) with gaps satisfying the condition (8.11) and $\Lambda \chi < 1$.

If $f(z) = \sum_0^\infty a_n z^n$ and $|a_n/a_{n+1}|$ is ultimately a nondecreasing function of n , tending to ∞ , then f is entire and [85]

$$(8.12) \quad \frac{\log 2}{\gamma} \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \rho_n \leq \frac{4}{\gamma},$$

$$(8.13) \quad \frac{\log 2}{\delta} \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \rho_n \leq \frac{4}{\delta}.$$

9. Whittaker constant. Consider again Theorem A and let α be the least upper bound of all numbers which can replace $\log 2$ in Theorem A. Read [71] has shown that $\alpha \geq 0.7259$. Let W be the least upper bound of numbers which can replace $\log 2$ in Theorem C. This number is called the Whittaker constant. It is known that (see [71], [11] and the references given there) $0.7259 \leq W < 0.7378$ but the exact value is unknown. Recently Buckholtz [11] has shown that $\alpha = W$.

A simple example of a function f of order one such that each of f, f', f'', \dots has a zero in the closed disc $|z| \leq 1$ is $f(z) = \sin(\pi z/4) - \cos(\pi z/4)$.

There exist extremal functions for this problem. In fact Evgrafov (see [11]) has shown that there is an entire function f of exponential type W such that each of f, f', f'', \dots has a zero in the disc $|z| \leq 1$.

Mention must be made here of a related result due to Erdős and Renyi [26]. Let f be entire and denote by $x = H(y)$ the inverse function of $y = \log M(x)$. Then

$$\liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{H(k)}{kr_k^*} \leq \frac{e}{\log 2}.$$

10. Functions in E . (i) Consider first a function f defined by the power series (2.1) and suppose that $a_n \neq 0$, $n|(a_n/a_{n-1})| \leq \log 2$ for $n = 2, 3, \dots$. Then f is entire and it can be shown that $(f(z) - a_0)/a_1 \in E$.

(ii) We now consider functions with all zeros on a ray. Let Ω denote the family of transcendental entire functions f of the form

$$(10.1) \quad f(z) = ze^{\beta z} \prod_1^N (1 - z/z_k)$$

where $0 \leq N \leq \infty$ (if $N = 0$, the product disappears) and (a) all z_k have the same argument, (b) $\beta z_1 \leq 0$ and (c) $1 < |z_1| \leq |z_2| \leq \dots$. If $f \in \Omega$ and is univalent in D then [87]

$$(10.2) \quad |\beta| + \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{1}{|z_k| - 1} \leq 1.$$

In fact (10.2) holds if and only if f is starlike in D and all its derivatives are close-to-convex there. Further, if $\{z_k^{(1)}\}_{k=0}^N$ are the zeros of f' , then f and all its derivatives are univalent in D and map D onto convex domains if and only if [87]

$$(10.3) \quad |\beta| + \sum_{k=0}^N \frac{1}{|z_k^{(1)}| - 1} \leq 1.$$

This result implies that $E \cap \Omega = S \cap \Omega$ and that $f \in E \cap \Omega$ if and only if (10.2) holds.

(For the univalence of an entire function of any order see [61].)

(iii) If all zeros of f do not lie on a ray then some derivative f', f'', \dots may have zeros in the unit disc (e.g., $f(z) = \sin(\pi z/2)/(\pi/2)$) and then f will not belong to E . If however f is of genus zero, and $f(0) = 0, f'(0) = 1$, and the zeros are widely spaced, then $f \in E$. We shall say that a function f has “fourly-spaced” zeros if

$$(10.4) \quad |z_1| \geq 4, \quad |z_{k+1}| \geq 4^k |z_k|, \quad k \geq 1.$$

Let

$$(10.5) \quad P(z) = \prod_1^{\infty} (1 - z/z_k), \quad f(z) = zP(z).$$

Then [78], $f \in E$. It is possible to improve the constant 4.

11. Multivalent functions. A function f is said to be p -valent in D if it is analytic in D , if the equation

$$(11.1) \quad f(z) = w$$

has p distinct roots in D for some particular w , and if for each complex w , equation (11.1) does not have more than p roots in D . The function f is also said to have valence p in D . When $p = 1$, f is univalent in D .

Goodman [34] considered the sum $(f + g)/2$ and the product $(fg)^{1/2}$ when f and g both belong to S and showed that there exist two pairs of functions f_1, g_1 and f_2, g_2 each function belonging to S such that the sum $(f_1 + g_1)/2$ and, the product $(f_2(z)g_2(z))^{1/2} = z + \dots$, both have valence ∞ in D .

We now define areally mean p -valent (a.m.p.v.) functions. Let p be a positive number and denote by $n(w)$ the number of roots of the equation (11.1) in D . If f is analytic in D and, for every positive R ,

$$(11.2) \quad \frac{1}{\pi R^2} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^R n(\rho e^{i\phi}) \rho \, d\rho \, d\phi \leq p,$$

then f is said to be a.m.p.v. in D . A condition for f to be a.m.p.v. is as follows. Let

$$(11.3) \quad \sum_1^{\infty} |a_n| = \bar{S} < |a_0|, \quad \sum_1^{\infty} n|a_n|^2 = A < \infty.$$

Then $f(z) = \sum_0^{\infty} a_n z^n$ is a.m.p.v. in D for all large p such that ([39], [68])

$$(11.4) \quad |a_0| > (A/p)^{1/2} + \bar{S}.$$

If f is a.m.p.v. in D and is normalized and $p = 1$, then $|a_2| \leq 2$ [89]. A bound on $|f'|$ is given by the following theorem due to Cartwright, Spencer and Hayman.

THEOREM [38, p. 31]. Suppose that $f(z) = \sum_0^{\infty} a_n z^n$ is a.m.p.v. in D . Then

$$M(r, f) < A(p)\mu_p(1 - r)^{-2p} \quad (0 < r < 1),$$

where $\mu_p = \max_{0 \leq v \leq p} |a_v|$ and $A(p) \leq (p + 2)2^{3p-1} \exp(p\pi^2 + \frac{1}{2})$.

This upper bound on the constant $A(p)$ is due to Jenkins and Oikawa

[45]. In §5(i) we have seen that if $f \in S$ and each $f^{(k)}$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots$) is univalent in D then f is a transcendental entire function of exponential type. This result holds under a less restrictive hypothesis. Suppose f is not a polynomial and each $f^{(k)}$ ($k = 0, 1, \dots$) is a.m.p.v. in D . Then [81], f is an entire function of exponential type not exceeding $A(p)e(P + 2)^{2p}(P + 1)$ where $P = [p]$ is integer part of p . If each $f^{(n_j)}$, $j = 1, 2, \dots$, is a.m.p.v. in D and

$$(11.5) \quad \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} (n_{j+1} - n_j) = \infty, \quad n_j = O\left(\sum_{k=1}^j \log n_k\right),$$

then also f must be entire.

12. Entire functions of bounded index. Let $f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n(z - a)^n$ be an entire function. Since the coefficients tend to zero, there exists a smallest integer $N_a \geq 0$ such that $|A_{N_a}| \geq |A_n|$ for all n . If the integers N_a are all bounded above then f is said to be of bounded index and the smallest integer N , such that for all numbers a , $N_a \leq N$, is called the index of f (cf., [55], [36]). This is equivalent to the definition given in §1. As we pointed out a function of bounded index N is of exponential type not exceeding $N + 1$. This result is sharp [76]. Denote the class of all functions of bounded index by B . The functions e^z , $\sin z$, $\cos z$ are all in B .

The Bessel function $J_k(z)$ of integer order k is of index N such that $k \leq N \leq 2k - 1$ ([52]; see also [60]). Any entire function f satisfying a linear differential equation [77]

$$(12.1) \quad P_0(z) \frac{d^n f}{dz^n} + P_1(z) \frac{d^{n-1} f}{dz^{n-1}} + \cdots + P_n(z) f = Q(z),$$

where P_j ($j = 0, 1, \dots, n$) and Q are polynomials and $\deg P_j \leq \deg P_0$ is in class B .

Functions with zeros of arbitrarily large multiplicity are obviously of unbounded index. But there are functions [79] of unbounded index and having simple zeros.

The asymptotic properties of $\log M(r, f)$ do not help to prove the boundedness (or the unboundedness) of the index, except that if $T^* = \infty$ then $f \in CB$ (the class of entire functions of unbounded index). In fact if F is any transcendental entire function then there are two entire functions $g \in CB$ [70] and $f \in CE$ (the class of entire functions not belonging to E) such that

$$\log M(r, g) \sim \log M(r, F) \sim \log M(r, f).$$

For f we simply take $f(z) = F(z) - F''(0)z^2/2!$.

We mentioned in §11 that there exist functions f and g in S such that $(f + g)/2$ is not in S . Pugh [69] showed that the sum of two functions each in B , need not be in B .

The class B is not closed under differentiation. There exists [80] an entire function F in B such that the derivative F' is in CB . If the derivative f' is of bounded index $N_{f'}$, f is also of bounded index N_f and $N_f \leq N_{f'} + 1$ [80].

The functions P and f defined by (10.4) and (10.5) are both in B . (Cf. [70]. The constant 5 in [70] has been improved to 4 by Mrs. Amy King in her Ph.D dissertation.) In fact, we have, for all z ,

$$\max\{|P(z)|, |P'(z)|\} \geq |P^{(n)}(z)|, \quad n = 2, 3, \dots.$$

Furthermore each $P^{(k)}$, $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, is of index 1.

Consider now functions with real zeros a_n . Suppose $a_1 > 0$, $a_{n+1} - a_n \geq b_n$ ($n \geq 1$) where the sequence $\{b_n\}_1^\infty$ is positive and nondecreasing and $\sum_1^\infty 1/nb_n < \infty$. Then [82],

$$(12.2) \quad f(z) = e^{\alpha z + \beta} \prod_1^\infty (1 - z/a_n),$$

where α and β are any complex numbers, is in B . If in (12.2) we assume that $a_1 > 0$, $a_{n+1}/a_n \geq \gamma > 1$, then each $f^{(k)}$, $k = 0, 1, \dots$, is in B [54].

We can consider entire functions f satisfying conditions similar to (1.1) and obtain the conclusion that f must be of exponential type [37], [83].

(a) Let $p \geq 1$ and

$$I(l, r) = \left\{ \int_0^{2\pi} |f^{(l)}(re^{i\theta})|^p d\theta \right\}^{1/p}.$$

Let c be a positive constant. Suppose that there exists a positive integer N (independent of z) such that for $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N$, the following inequality

$$\sum_{j=0}^N \frac{I(k+j, r)}{j!} \geq c \sum_{j=N+1}^\infty \frac{I(k+j, r)}{j!}$$

holds for all z with $|z| = r$ sufficiently large. Then f is of exponential type and

$$T^* \leq 1 + 2 \log(1 + 1/c) + \log(2N)!.$$

(b) Let c be a positive constant. Suppose that there exist two non-negative integers k and N (independent of z) such that f satisfies one of the following, for all z with $|z|$ sufficiently large:

$$(i) \quad \sum_{j=0}^N \frac{|f^{(k+j)}(z)|}{j!} \geq c \sum_{j=N+1}^\infty \frac{|f^{(k+j)}(z)|}{j!},$$

$$(ii) \quad \sum_{j=0}^N \frac{M(r, f^{(k+j)})}{j!} \geq c \sum_{j=N+1}^\infty \frac{M(r, f^{(k+j)})}{j!},$$

then f is of exponential type and

$$T^* \leq \max \left\{ N, \min_{1 \leq j \leq N} \left(\frac{(N+j)!(N+1)}{(N!)c} \right)^{1/j}, \left(\frac{(2N+1)!}{(N!)c} \right)^{1/(N+1)} \right\}.$$

13. The space of entire functions. Following Iyer [43] we define a metric on the space of all entire functions Γ . (This space includes all polynomials and constant zero.) Let $f(z) = \sum_0^\infty a_n z^n$ and $g(z) = \sum_0^\infty b_n z^n \in \Gamma$ and define

$$d(f, g) = \sup \{|a_0 - b_0|, |a_n - b_n|^{1/n}: n = 1, 2, \dots\}.$$

Then d is a metric and (Γ, d) is a complete metric space [43]. Let

$$B_n = \{f \in (\Gamma, d) | f \text{ is of index not exceeding } n\}.$$

We consider $B = \bigcup_{n=0}^\infty B_n$ as a subspace of (Γ, d) . It can be shown that [25] B_n is nowhere dense in B and thus B is of the first category.

14. Some applications to summability methods. Let f be entire and $\{z_i\}_{i=0}^\infty$ a sequence of complex numbers. We define the matrix transformation $A(f, z_i) = (a_{n,k})$ by

$$f(z) = \sum_{k=0}^\infty a_{n,k} (z - z_n)^k \quad \text{for } n = 0, 1, \dots$$

We now state some recent results of Fricke and Powell.

I [28]. If $f \in B$ then $A(f, z_i) = (a_{n,k})$ is not regular for any sequence $\{z_i\}_{i=0}^\infty$. (A transformation $A = (a_{n,k})$ is regular if it transforms every convergent sequence into a sequence converging to the same limit. See [41, p. 43].)

Define a sequence $\{a_n\}_0^\infty$ to be entire if $f(z) = \sum_0^\infty a_n z^n$ is an entire function. An entire sequence $\{a_n\}_0^\infty$ is said to be a sequence of bounded index if $f(z) = \sum_0^\infty a_n z^n \in B$. We denote by ε the set of all entire sequences and by \mathcal{B} the set of all entire sequences of bounded index. An infinite matrix $A = (a_{n,k})$ of complex numbers which transforms ε into ε is said to be an ε - ε method (entire method).

II [27]. A matrix $A = (a_{n,k})$ is an ε - ε method if and only if for each integer $q > 0$, there exists an integer $p > 0$ and a constant $M > 0$ such that

$$|a_{n,k}| q^n \leq M p^k \quad \text{for all } n, k = 0, 1, \dots$$

Let $A'(f, z_i) = (b_{n,k})$ denote the transpose of $A(f, z_i) = (a_{n,k})$, that is, $b_{n,k} = a_{k,n}$.

III [28]. If $f \in B$ then for any sequence $\{z_i\}_{i=0}^\infty$, $A'(f, z_i) = (b_{n,k})$ is an ε - ε method if and only if for each integer $n > 0$ there exist an integer $p > 0$ and a constant $M > 0$ such that

$$|f^{(n)}(z_k)| \leq p^k M \quad \text{for } k = 0, 1, \dots$$

The condition that $f \in B$ is essential in III.

We now define the l - l method. Let s be the set of all sequences of complex numbers. Let

$$l = \left\{ x = \{x_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty} \in s \mid \sum_0^{\infty} |x_n| < \infty \right\}.$$

A matrix $A = (a_{n,k})$ that maps l into itself is said to be an l - l method. Knopp and Lorentz [49] proved that a matrix $A = (a_{n,k})$ is an l - l method if and only if there exists a constant $M > 0$ such that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |a_{n,k}| \leq M \quad \text{for } k = 0, 1, \dots$$

IV [28]. Let $f \in B$ and $\{z_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$ be a sequence of complex numbers. If either $A(f, z_i) = (a_{n,k})$ or $A'(f, z_i) = (b_{n,k})$ is an l - l method then $A'(f, z_i)$ is an ε - ε method.

Finally we give a matrix which transforms \mathcal{B} into \mathcal{B} .

Let the Taylor matrix $T(\xi) = (a_{n,k})$ be defined by

$$\begin{aligned} a_{n,k} &= \binom{k}{n} (1 - \xi)^{n+1} \xi^{k-n}, & \text{if } k \geq n, \\ &= 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{aligned}$$

where ξ is a complex number.

V [28]. The Taylor matrix $T(\xi) = (a_{n,k})$ transforms \mathcal{B} into \mathcal{B} for any complex number ξ .

15. Conjectures and open problems. We now list some problems and conjectures connected with two classes E and B .

CONJECTURE 1. If ϕ is any transcendental entire function such that

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log M(r, \phi)}{r} \leq \pi,$$

there exists an entire function $f \in E$ such that $\log M(r, \phi) \sim \log M(r, f)$ ($r \rightarrow \infty$).

CONJECTURE 2. If ϕ is any entire function of exponential type, there exists an entire function $f \in B$ such that $\log M(r, \phi) \sim \log M(r, f)$ ($r \rightarrow \infty$).

For some theorems of this type, but not connected with E or B , see [22], [19], [20].

CONJECTURE 3. $W = 2/e$.

CONJECTURE 4. If $\sum_{p=1}^{\infty} 1/n_p = \infty$ and $\rho(f^{(n_p)}) \geq 1$ for $p = 1, 2, \dots$, then f is entire.

In the following problems 1–4, $f \in E$.

1. What is the smallest zero that f can have? (Exclude $z = 0$.)
2. What is the largest circle center origin covered by $f(D)$?
3. Find bounds on $|a_2^2 - a_3|$.
4. Find $\alpha = \sup\{|a_2| \mid f \in E\}$.
5. Find $\alpha_K = \sup\{|a_2| \mid f \in T(K)\}$.
6. Let f be entire and satisfy a differential equation of the form (12.1). Assume P_j ($j = 0, 1, \dots, n$) and Q are polynomials and $\deg P_j \leq \deg P_0$. Then f is of bounded index. Find an estimate for the index.

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DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40506