



ISSN Print: 2394-7500
 ISSN Online: 2394-5869
 Impact Factor: 5.2
 IJAR 2015; 1(13): 459-463
 www.allresearchjournal.com
 Received: 26-10-2015
 Accepted: 29-11-2015

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To study the various methods of univalent function

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Abstract

The study of univalent is one of the main branches of geometric function theory and one of the most fascinating aspects of the theory of analytical functions of a complex variable. Koebe in 1907 in his investigation, Gronwall's proof of the area theorem in 1914 and Bieberbach's assessment for the second coefficient of a normalized univalent function in 1916, showed the finesse of the theory of univalent function. Therefore number of mathematicians were attracted by those interesting problems and motivated to develop various new methods for complex analysis.

Keywords: univalent function, area method and löwner's method

Introduction

Univalent function

A regular or meromorphic function f in a domain B of the extended complex plane \bar{C} such that $f(z_1) \neq f(z_2)$ whenever $z_1 \neq z_2, z_1, z_2 \in B$, that is, f is a one-to-one mapping from B into \bar{C} . The inverse function $z = f^{-1}(w)$ is then also univalent. Multivalent functions (cf. Multivalent function), and in particular p -valent functions, are a generalization of univalent functions.

In the study of univalent functions one of the fundamental problems is whether there exists a univalent mapping from a given domain B onto a given domain B' . A necessary condition for the existence of such a mapping is that B and B' have equal degrees of connectivity (see, for example). If B and B' are simply-connected domains whose boundaries contain more than one point, then this condition is also sufficient (see Riemann theorem), and the problem reduces to mapping a given domain onto a disc. In this connection, a special role is played in the theory of univalent functions on simply-connected domains by the class S of functions f that are regular and univalent on the disc, $\Delta = \{z \in C: |z| < 1\}$, normalized by the conditions, $f(0) = 0, f'(0) = 1$, and having the expansion

$$f(z) = z + c_2 z^2 + \dots + c_n z^n + \dots, z \in \Delta. \quad (1)$$

In the case of multiply-connected domains, mappings of a given multiply-connected domain onto so-called canonical domains are studied. Let $\Sigma(B)$ be the class of functions F that are meromorphic and univalent on a domain B containing the point ∞ , and having an expansion

$$F(z) = z + \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 z^{-1} + \dots + \alpha_n z^{-n} + \dots \quad (2)$$

in a neighbourhood of ∞ . If, $B = \{z \in \bar{C}: |z| > 1\} = \Delta'$, then this class is denoted by Σ .

The basic problems in the theory of univalent functions are the following: 1) the study of the correspondence of boundaries under conformal mapping (see Boundary correspondence (under conformal mapping); Limit elements; Attainable boundary point); 2) obtaining univalence conditions; and 3) the solution of various extremal problems in function theory, in particular obtaining bounds for various functionals and for the range of values of functionals and systems of them in some class or other. Suppose that K is some class (set) of regular or meromorphic functions, and suppose that a complex functional $w = \phi(f)$ (or system of functionals $\{\phi_k(f)\}_k^n = 1$) is given on K . The range of values of the functional

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$\phi(f)$ (or of the system of functionals $\{\phi_k(f)\}_k^n = 1$) on the class K is the set D of points $w = \phi(f)$ in C (respectively, the set in points $(\phi_1(f), \dots, \phi_n(f))$ in n -dimensional complex space C^n) such that $f \in K$. Real-valued functionals are also considered. Any set D' containing D is called a majorant domain of the functional (or of the system of functionals). Knowledge of the range of values of a functional enables one to reduce the solution of a number of extremal problems to simple problems in analysis. For example, if the range of values D is known for the functional $f(z_0)$ $f \in K(z_0 \text{ fixed})$, then the problem of finding upper and lower bounds for $|f(z_0)|$ reduces to finding the points of D farthest from and closest to the point $w = 0$.

The first substantial results in the theory of univalent functions were obtained using the area principle. With the aid of the outer area theorem (1916), L. Bieberbach obtained precise upper and lower bounds for $|f(z)|$ and $|f'(z)|$ for $f \in S$ (see Distortion theorems), gave the bound $|c_2| \leq 2$ for $f \in S$ and conjectured that $|c_n| \leq n$ for $f \in S$ (see Bieberbach conjecture; Coefficient problem). He also found the exact value of the Koebe constant. Bounds were found for the modulus of a function and its derivative, as well as other bounds for the classes of convex, star-like, typically-real, etc., functions (cf. Convex function (of a complex variable); Star-like function; Typically-real function). The convexity radius and the radius of "star-likeness" were found for a number of classes.

The basic methods of the theory of univalent functions and some of the results obtained from them are given below.

1. The method of integral representations.

This method enables one to solve many problems in the theory of functions quite simply, in particular extremal problems in classes of functions that can be represented by means of Stieltjes integrals: convex functions, close-to-convex functions, star-like functions, typically-real functions, and functions with positive real part (see Carathéodory class). A variational method was developed for classes of functions representable by Stieltjes integrals, by means of which a number of extremal problems have been solved. The method of internal variations (cf. internal variations, method of) was developed for such classes.

The convex hulls of certain subclasses of S have been found. In particular, it has been proved that for every star-like function f there exists a non-decreasing function μ on $[0, 2\pi]$ such that $\mu(2\pi) - \mu(0) = 1$ and

$$f(z) = \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{z}{(1 - e^{i\theta}z)^2} d\mu(\theta).$$

See also Integral representation of an analytic function; Parametric representation of univalent functions; Parametric representation method.

2. The method of boundary integration.

With the aid of this method it has been proved, in particular, that an $f \in S$ satisfies the inequality.

$$\left| \frac{z}{f}(z) + c_2z + 1 - |z|^2 - 2 \frac{E(|z|)}{K(|z|)} \right| \leq 2 \left(1 - \frac{E(|z|)}{K(|z|)} \right), |z| < 1,$$

where E and K are complete elliptic integrals (cf. Elliptic integral). If z is fixed ($0 < |z| < 1$), then this inequality determines the range of values of the functional $c_2z + z/f(z)$ on the class S . Stronger versions of the distortion theorems were obtained, and theorems were proved on the distortion of chords in the classes Σ and $\Sigma(B)$ (see Distortion theorems).

See also Method of boundary integration; Area principle.

3. The area method.

Let $\mathfrak{M}(a_1, \dots, a_n)$ be the class of systems of functions $\{f_k(x)\}_k^n = 1$ mapping the disc $\Delta = \{|z| < 1\}$ conformally and univalently onto pairwise disjoint (non-overlapping) domains $B_k \ni \alpha_k$ and normalized by the conditions $f_k(0) = \alpha_k$. The following results have been obtained by means of the area theorem in the class $\mathfrak{M}(\infty, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$:

1) If $\{f_k\}_k^n = 1 \in \mathfrak{M}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n), \alpha_k \neq \infty$, then

$$\prod_{k=1}^n |f'_k(0)|^{|\gamma_k|} \leq \prod_{1 \leq k < l \leq n} |\alpha_k - \alpha_l|^{-2Re(\gamma_k \bar{\gamma}_l)}, \tag{3}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \gamma_k = 0;$$

this inequality generalizes an inequality previously known for real γ_k to the class of complex γ_k .

2) If $\{f_0, f_1\} \in \mathfrak{M}(0, \infty)$, then

$$(4) \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} |f_0(e^{it})|^2 dt \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} |f_1(e^{it})|^{-2} dt \leq 1.$$

For the Bieberbach–Eilenberg functions

$$f(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \alpha_k z^k$$

there follows the inequality

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |\alpha_k|^2 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} |f(e^{it})|^2 dt \leq 1;$$

(4prm)

and conditions have been determined for equality to hold in (4) and (4prm).

Using the area theorem for non-overlapping domains, bounds have been obtained for the approximation to a regular function on a closed multiply-connected domain by a rational function interpolating the given function at nodes uniformly distributed on the boundary of the domain. The range of values of the Schwarzian

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

has been obtained for $F \in \Sigma(B)$, and a number of other ranges of values have been found for classes of functions given on multiply-connected domains .

4. Löwner's method.

K. Löwner himself (1923) found the exact bound $|c_3| \leq 3|c_2|$ for functions $f \in S$ and exact bounds for the coefficients of the expansion of the function inverse to f , in a neighborhood of the point $w = 0$. In particular, an exact form of the rotation theorem in the class S was obtained by this method (see Rotation theorems). The following theorem was proved: For $f \in S$ and given $z \in \Delta$ and $|f(z)|$, the following inequality is valid:

$$(5) |f'(z)| \leq \frac{1}{1-|z|^2} \left| \frac{f(z)}{z} \right|^2 (1-x^2)^{-2} \left| \frac{x}{z} \right|^{4x^2/(1-x^2)},$$

where $x, |x| < |z|$, is determined by the condition

$$\left| \frac{f(x)}{z} \right| (1+x)^2 \left| \frac{z}{x} \right|^{2x/(1+x)} = 1.$$

Inequality (5) is sharp; it implies the following sharp inequalities in the class $S(0 \leq \theta < 2\pi, 0 \leq r < 1)$:

(6)

$$\left. \begin{aligned} |f(re^{i\theta})| + |f(-re^{i\theta})| &\leq \frac{r}{(1-r)^2} + \frac{r}{(1+r)^2}, \\ |f'(re^{i\theta})| + |f'(-re^{i\theta})| &\leq \frac{1+r}{(1-r)^3} + \frac{1-r}{(1+r)^3}. \end{aligned} \right\}$$

By means of distortion theorems it has been established that the Koebe function

$$K_\alpha(z) = z(1 - e^{i\alpha}z)^{-2} \in S$$

(α real) realizes the maximum of the linear measure of covering the circle $|w| = \rho$ by the image $B(r)$ of the disc $\Delta_r = \{|z| < r < 1\}$ under mappings by functions of class S when $\rho > e^{\pi/e}r$. This property of functions of class S implies bounds for the area $\sigma(r)$ of the domain $B(r)$, bounds for the average modulus of a function, and other bounds in the class S ; these are asymptotically sharp as $r \rightarrow 1$.

A convenient reduction of extremal problems on S and some of its subclasses to certain extremal problems on a simpler class has been proposed (see Carathéodory class). This turns out to be applicable to the solution of several extremal problems, in particular to finding the range of values of the system of functionals $\{\ln(f(z)/z), \ln f'(z)\}$ (here $z, 0 < |z| < 1$, is fixed) for $f \in S$.

Löwner's method has been successfully applied to investigate the properties of level curves and to solve extremal problems in the subclass S_M of bounded functions: $f \in S: |f(z)| \leq M, z \in \Delta$.

5. Variational methods.

Boundary and internal variations in the solution of extremal problems lead to differential equations for the boundaries of the extremal domains and for extremal functions, respectively. As a rule, the left-hand side of these equations is a [quadratic differential](#). Various qualitative characteristics of the functions realizing the extremum can be obtained by investigating the properties of the corresponding quadratic differentials. In particular, it turns out that for a large number of extremal problems

in the class S (and in other classes), the extremal function maps the disc Δ onto the whole plane with a finite number of analytic slits. Sometimes the differential equation for the extremal function can be integrated, and one obtains the extremal quantity and all extremal functions in the problem considered. More often one only obtains one or a few equations for the extremal quantity. Some results obtained by variational methods are listed below.

Suppose that $F \in \Sigma$, that $w_k, k = 1, \dots, n, n \geq 2$, do not belong to the image of the domain $\Delta' = \{|z| > 1\}$ under the mapping $w = F(z)$, and that

$$d_n(F) = \prod_{1 \leq k < l \leq n} |w_k - w_l|.$$

It has been proved that

$$d_3(F) = |(w_1 - w_2)(w_2 - w_3)(w_3 - w_1)| \leq 12\sqrt{3},$$

with equality only for

$$F(z) = z(1 + e^{i\alpha} z^{-3})^{2/3},$$

where α is real.

It has been proved that the range of values of the functional

$$w = \sum_{v, v'=1}^n \gamma_v \gamma_{v'} \operatorname{In} \frac{F(\zeta_v) - F(\zeta_{v'})}{\zeta_v - \zeta_{v'}}$$

for $F \in \Sigma$, where γ_v are given numbers not all zero and ζ_v are given points in Δ' , is the disc

$$|w| \leq -\operatorname{Re} \sum_{v, v'=1}^n \gamma_v \bar{\gamma}_{v'} \operatorname{In} (1 - \zeta_v^{-1} \bar{\zeta}_{v'}^{-1}).$$

The problem has been investigated of extremizing $|c_n|, n \geq 1$, in the class S_α of functions $f(z) = c_1 z + c_2 z^2 + \dots$ that are regular and univalent in the disc Δ and do not take on given values $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ in Δ . The special case $n=1$ is the problem of determining a continuum of least capacity (for a consideration of this problem and its generalizations).

Various problems for non-overlapping domains have been investigated by a variational method. Thus, the problem of maximizing the product

$$I_n = \prod_{k=1}^n |f'_k(0)|$$

in the class $\mathfrak{M}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ has been considered. A precise bound has been obtained for the product

$$\prod_{k=1}^n |f'_k(0)|^{\alpha_k},$$

where α_k are any given positive numbers, for $n = 2$ and 3 . This problem is equivalent to the problem of finding the range D of the system of functional $(|f_1(0)|, \dots, |f_n(0)|)$ in the class $\mathfrak{M}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$.

6. The method of the extremal metric.

In the solution of extremal problems by the method of the extremal metric, a fundamental role is played, as a rule, by the metric generated by a certain quadratic differential $Q(z)dz^2$. This is the same quadratic differential that arises in the solution of the problem by the variational method. As an example, two results obtained by this method are given below.

By means of the general coefficient theorem, J.A. Jenkins (1960) has solved the problem of the range of values of the functional $f(z)$ for fixed z in the disc $\Delta = \{|z| < 1\}$ in the class S_r of functions in S with real coefficients c_2, c_3, \dots . In the classes Σ and M , where M is the class of functions $f(0)=0, f'(0) = 1$, that are meromorphic and univalent in the disc Δ , he clarified the influence of the vanishing of a certain number of the initial coefficients on the growth of the subsequent ones. A supplement to the general coefficient theorem has been given in the case when the differential $Q(z)dz^2$ has no poles of order higher than one; in addition, by means of the extremal-metric approach, very general theorems have been established on the covering of curves under a univalent conformal mapping of simply- and doubly-connected domains, including, in particular, a refinement of the result on covering of intervals for functions meromorphic and univalent on the disc, and an analogous result for a circular annulus.

7. The method of symmetrization.

Several complicated extremal problems not lending themselves to solution by other methods have been solved by this method, often in conjunction with others. For example, the following problems are of this kind. For functions f in the class S , a sharp

upper bound has been found for the set of points of the circle $|w| = R, 1/4 \leq R < 1$, not belonging to the image of the disc Δ under the mapping $w = f(z)$. In conjunction with the method of the extremal metric, a sharp upper bound has been found for $|f(z)|$ for fixed, $|z| = r, 0 < r < 1$, for

$$f(z) = z + c_2 z^2 + \dots \in S$$

with given, $c_2 = c = \text{const}, 0 \leq c \leq 2$; the inequalities (6) have been generalized and extended to the class of functions that are p -valent in the mean on the circle:

$$f(z) = z^p + c_p + 1z^{p+1} + \dots$$

(see Multivalent function).

By the method of symmetrization it has been proved that if ϕ is a convex and non-decreasing function on $(-\infty, +\infty)$, then for $f \in S$ and $0 < r < 1$,

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \Phi(\ln |f(re^{it})|) dt \leq \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \Phi(\ln |K(re^{it})|) dt,$$

Where $K(z) = z(1-z)^{-2}$. If equality holds for some $r, 0 < r < 1$, and for some strictly convex function ϕ , then $f(z) = e^{i\alpha} K(e^{i\alpha} z)$, where α is real.

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