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ON FUNCTIONS OF CLASS U

BY

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On functions of class U

1. Introduction. We begin with

Definition. Let f(z) $(z=re^{i\theta})$ be regular and bounded: |f(z)| < 1 in |z| < 1. If $|f(e^{i\theta})| = 1$ almost everywhere on the arc $A(e^{i\theta}: \Theta_1 < \Theta < \Theta_2)$, then we call f(z) a function of class $U(\Theta_1, \Theta_2)$. Instead of $U(0, 2\pi)$, we write simply U.

R. Nevanlinna [14] was the first to point out the interest which lies in the class U. G. Hössjer [6], W. Seidel [24] and O. Frostman [2-4] have made important contributions to the theory of class U, which was extended in various directions by many authors. (K. Noshiro [16-18], M. Tsuji [26], A. J. Lohwater [10-12], M. Ohtsuka [20,21], O. Lehto [7-9], D. A. Storvick [25]).

In this note, we shall establish some new properties of functions of class U or $U(\Theta_1, \Theta_2)$. Our main theorems read as follows:

Theorem 1. Suppose that $f(z) \in U$, and it has at least one singular point on |z|=1. Then the following propositions hold:

(1) the set S of singularities of f(z) lying on |z|=1 coincides with the set of the limit points of the α - points ($|\alpha|<1$) of f(z), except for a set of values α of capacity zero.

(2) f(z) is meromorphic in $|z| \leq \infty$, except for the set S on |z|=1, which is of linear measure zero.

Theorem 2. Let f(z) $(z=re^{i\theta})$ belong to class $U(\Theta_1, \Theta_2)$. If f(z) is not regular on the arc $A(e^{i\theta}: \Theta_1 < \Theta < \Theta_2)$, then the following propositions hold:

(1) the set S of singularities of f(z) on A is the closure of the union $M_1 \cup M_2$, where $M_1 = A \cap E(e^{i\circ}: \alpha \in R(f, e^{i\circ}))^{1}$, $M_2 = A \cap E(e^{i\circ}: \alpha = f(e^{i\circ}))$, and α is any fixed point of modulus less than 1.

(2) f(z) is meromorphic in the sector: $\Theta_1 < \Theta < \Theta_2$, $0 \leq r \leq \infty$, except for the set S of linear measure zero lying on A.

(3) if at least two values in |w| < 1 are omitted by w=f(z) in the neighborhood of A, then S is a perfect set, whose linear measure is zero but whose capacity is positive.

¹⁾ $R(f, e^{i\theta})$ is the range of values at $e^{i\theta}$, which is defined as the set of values a such that $\lim_{n \to \infty} z_n = e^{i\theta}$, $|z_n| < 1$, $f(z_n) = a$.

Remark. Part (3) was proved by P.J. Myrberg [13] (K. Noshiro [19] p. 20) in the special case where w=f(z) is a function which maps |z|<1 onto the universal covering surface of a domain obtained by excluding from |w|<1 a set of capacity zero with at least two points.

2. Lemmas. In order to establish our theorems, we need some lemmas. Lemma 1. For |a| < 1,

(2.1)
$$\left|\frac{z-a}{1-\bar{a}z}\right| < \exp\left\{\frac{2(1-|a|)}{\left|\frac{1}{\bar{z}}-a\right|^2}\right\}.$$

Proof: By the inequality $\log (1+x) \leq x$ for $x \leq 0$, we have for $|z| \leq 1$, |a| < 1,

$$\begin{split} \log |(z-a) / (1-\bar{a}z)| &= 1/2 \cdot \log \left\{ 1 + (|z|^2 - 1) (1-|a|^2) / |1-\bar{a}z|^2 \right\} \\ &\leq 1/2 \cdot (|z|^2 - 1) (1-|a|^2) / |1-\bar{a}z|^2 \\ &< 2(1-|a|) / |1/\bar{z}-a|^2. \end{split}$$

Hence, (2.1) holds for $|z| \ge 1$, |a| < 1. On the other hand, we evidently have

(2.2)
$$|(z-a)| (1-\bar{a}z)| < 1$$
 for $|z| < 1$, $|a| < 1$.

By (2.1) and (2.2), Lemma 1 is established. Lemma 2. Put

$$ar{a}(a{-}z) \mid |a| \; (1{-}ar{a}z) = 1 + f(z) \qquad (0{<}|a|{<}1)$$

and suppose that

$$(2.3) |z-e^{i\varphi}| \leq \varepsilon, \quad |a-e^{i\varphi}| \geq 2\delta \quad |1/\bar{a}-e^{i\varphi}| \geq 2\delta,$$

where $0 < 1 - |a| < \delta^2/4$, $0 < 2\varepsilon < \delta < 1/2$.

Then

$$|f(z)| < \{(1-|a|) + \frac{4}{\delta^2} (1-|a|)^2\} \frac{2+\varepsilon}{\delta}.$$

Proof: By simple calculation,

$$|f(z)| < (1-|a|) (|(z-a)/(\bar{a}z-1)|) (1+|z|)/|z-a|.$$

Hence, by Lemma 1,

 $(2.4) \qquad |f(z)| < (1-|a|) \quad \exp \left\{ 2(1-|a|) \ / \ |1/\bar{z}-a|^2 \right\} \cdot (1+|z|) \ / \ |z-a| \ .$

Since $|z-e^{i\varphi}| \leq \varepsilon$ means that $|1/\bar{z}-e^{i\varphi}| < 2\varepsilon$ for $0 < \varepsilon < 1/2$, (2.3) yields

 $|z{-}a|{>}\delta$, $|1/\bar{z}{-}a|{>}\delta$,

so that, by (2.4)

(2.5)
$$|f(z)| < (1-|a|) \exp \{2(1-|a|)/\delta^2\} \cdot (2+\varepsilon)/\delta$$
.

By the inequality $e^x < 1+2x$ for 0 < x < 1/2, we obtain on account of (2.3) and (2.5)

$$|f(z)| < (1-a|) \{1+4/\delta^2 \cdot (1-|a|)\} \cdot (2+\varepsilon)/\delta$$
,

which was to be proved.

Lemma 3. Put

$$B(z) = \prod_{n=1}^{+\infty} \bar{a}_n / |a_n| \cdot (a_n - z) / (1 - \bar{a}_n z) ,$$

where $\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} (1-|a_n|) < +\infty$. For B(z) to be singular at $z = e^{i\varphi}$, it is necessary and sufficient that $z = e^{i\varphi}$ is a limit point of $\{a_n\}$.

Proof: Since the zeros of B(z) do not accumulate at a regular point, it is sufficient to prove that, if $z=e^{i\varphi}$ is not a limit point of $\{a_n\}$, B(z) is regular at $z=e^{i\varphi}$.

Suppose that $z=e^{i\varphi}$ is not a limit point of $\{a_n\}$. Then there exists a positive constant δ such that

$$(2.6) |a_n - e^{i\varphi}| \ge 2\delta , \ |1/\bar{a}_n - e^{i\varphi}| \ge 2\delta$$

for $0 < \delta < 1/2$, n = 1, 2, ...

 \mathbf{Put}

$$|\bar{a}_n/|a_n| \cdot (a_n-z) / (1-\bar{a}_nz) = 1+f_n(z)$$
.

By the convergence of $\sum (1-|a_n|)$, we can find a sufficiently large integer N such that

(2.7)
$$0 < 1 - |a_n| < \delta^2/4$$
 for $n \ge N$.

If we choose ε such that $0 < \varepsilon < \delta/2 < 1/4$, then by (2.6), (2.7) and Lemma 2,

$$\left|f_n(z)\right| < \left\{\left(1 - \left|a_n\right|\right) + \frac{4}{\delta^2}\left(1 - \left|a_n\right|\right)^2\right\} \frac{2 + \varepsilon}{\delta}$$

for $|z - e^{i\varphi}| \leq \varepsilon$, $n \geq N$, so that, on account of the convergence of $\sum (1 - |a_n|)$, it follows that $\sum f_n(z)$ is uniformly convergent for $|z - e^{i\varphi}| \leq \varepsilon$. Since $f_n(z)$ is regular in $|z - e^{i\varphi}| \leq \varepsilon$, $B(z) = \Pi(1 + f_n(z))$ is also regular in $|z - e^{i\varphi}| \leq \varepsilon$, which was to be proved.

Lemma 4. B(z) is meromorphic in $|z| \leq \infty$, except for a set of linear measure zero lying on |z| = 1.

Proof: For |z| > 1, we can put

$$1/B(z) = \prod_{n=1}^{+\infty} |a_n|/\bar{a}_n \cdot (1/z - \bar{a}_n) / (\bar{a}_n/z - 1)$$
.

By the convergence of $\sum (1 - |\bar{a}_n|)$, 1/B(z) is regular in |z| > 1 and it has zeros at $\{1/\bar{a}_n\}$. In other words, B(z) is meromorphic in |z| > 1, and it has poles at $\{1/\bar{a}_n\}$.

By Lemma 3, the set of singular points coincides with the set of the limit points of $\{a_n\}$. Hence it is sufficient to prove that the set E of the limit points of $\{a_n\}$ is of linear measure zero. By F. Riesz's theorem ([22]; R. Nevanlinna [14], p. 207) the radial limit $B(e^{i\varphi})$ is of modulus one for almost all φ . Hence, by Egoroff's theorem, we can find suitable positive constants ε , δ and a closed set E^* lying on |z| = 1 such that $m(CE^*) < \varepsilon$, $1/2 \leq |B(re^{i\varphi})| < 1$ for $\varphi \in E^*$, $1 - \delta \leq r < 1$. Therefore, the set E is contained in CE^* . Letting $\varepsilon \to 0$, we see that m(E) = 0, which proves Lemma 4.

Lemma 5. If $f(z) \in U$, then, except for a set of values α , $|\alpha| < 1$, of capacity zero, we can put

$$(f(z) - \alpha) / (1 - \overline{\alpha}f(z)) = B(z)$$
,

where B(z) is the Blaschke product extended over the *a*-points of f(z).¹⁾

Lemma 6. Let D be a simply connected domain of hyperbolic type, E a closed set of capacity zero contained in the boundary Γ , and z_0 a point of E. Suppose that f(z) is regular and bounded in the common part of D and a certain neighborhood of z_0 . We denote by $C_D(f, z_0)$ and $C_{\Gamma-E}(f, z_0)$ the interior cluster set and the boundary cluster set, respectively.²⁾ If $\Omega = C_D(f, z_0) - C_{\Gamma-E}(f, z_0)$ (open set) is not empty, then w = f(z) takes every value, with one possible exception, belonging to Ω_n infinitely often in any neighborhood of z_0 , where Ω_n is any component of Ω .³⁾

Lemma 7. Put

$$F(z) = rac{1}{2\pi} \int\limits_{-\pi}^{\pi} (e^{i \varphi} + z) / (e^{i \varphi} - z) \ d\mu(\varphi) \ ,$$

where

(i)
$$\int\limits_{-\pi}^{+\pi} \left| d\mu(\varphi) \right| < + \infty$$
 ,

¹⁾ Frostman [2], p. 111.

²⁾ For these definitions, we refer to K. Noshiro's book [19], p. 1-2.

³⁾ Noshiro [19], p. 25.

(ii) $\mu'(\varphi) = 0$ almost everywhere on the arc $A(e^{i\varphi}: \varphi_1 < \varphi < \varphi_2)$. Then the following alternatives are possible:

- (1) F(z) is regular on A.
- (2) F(z) has an enumerable number of poles of first order on A.
- (3) $\lim_{r \to 1} R[F(re^{iq})] = \pm \infty$ for a non-enumerable set of points on A.¹⁾

Proof: If $\mu(\varphi)$ is constant on A, we can put

$$F(z) = rac{1}{2\pi} \int \limits_{CA} (e^{i arphi} + z) \, / \, (e^{i arphi} - z) \, \, d \mu(arphi) \, ,$$

where CA denotes the complementary set of A with respect to $(-\pi, +\pi)$. Hence, F(z) is regular on A.

If $\mu(\varphi) \equiv \text{constant on } A$, $\mu(\varphi)$ admits the following representation:

$$\mu(arphi)=\mu_1(arphi)+\mu_2(arphi)+\mu_3(arphi)\;,$$

where all functions $\mu_i(\varphi)$ (i = 1, 2, 3) are of bounded variation; $\mu_1(\varphi)$ is continuous and $\mu'_1(\varphi) = 0$ almost everywhere on A, $\mu_2(\varphi)$ is absolutely continuous and $\mu_3(\varphi)$ is a step-function. Since $\mu'(\varphi) = 0$ almost everywhere on A, $\mu_2(\varphi) = 0$ on A.

If $\mu_1(\varphi)$ is constant, then $\mu_3(\varphi)$ is certainly not constant. In this case, we can put

(2.8)
$$F(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{CA} (e^{i\varphi} + z) / (e^{i\varphi} - z) d\mu(\varphi) + \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} (e^{i\varphi_n} + z) / (e^{i\varphi_n} - z) \cdot J_n,$$

where $\{e^{iq_n}\} \subset A$ and $\sum |J_n| < +\infty$. Therefore F(z) has an enumerable number of poles of first order on A.

If $\mu_1(\varphi)$ is not constant, then $\mu'_1(\varphi) = \pm \infty$ at a non-denumerable set of points on A. (Schlesinger and Plessner [23], §43). Since $\mu_3(\varphi)$ is discontinuous at an enumerable set of points on A, there exists a nondenumerable set E of points on A such that $\mu'_1(\varphi) = \pm \infty$ and $\mu_3(\varphi)$ is continuous at $e^{i\varphi} \in E$. Therefore

(2.9)
$$\mu'(\varphi) = \pm \infty \text{ for } e^{i\varphi} \in E.$$

Since

$$R[F(z)] = rac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} (1-r^2) / (1+r^2-2r \cos{(\Theta-\varphi)}) \ d\mu(\varphi) \, ,$$

1) $R(F(re^{i\varphi}))$ is the real part of $F(re^{i\varphi})$.

 $z = re^{iq}$, we have by (2.9) and by Fatou's theorem

$$\lim_{t \to 1} R[F(re^{i\varphi})] = \pm \infty \text{ for } e^{i\varphi} \in E.$$

Thus Lemma 7 is completely established.

3. Proof of Theorem 1. By Lemma 5, we can put

(3.1)
$$(f(z) - \alpha) / (1 - \overline{\alpha}f(z)) = B(z) ,$$

except for an exceptional set of values α of capacity zero, where B(z) is the Blaschke product extended over the α -points ($|\alpha| < 1$) of f(z). If $z = e^{i\varphi}$ is not a limit point of α -points, then, by Lemma 3, B(z) is regular and of modulus one at $z = e^{i\varphi}$. By (3.1)

(3.2)
$$f(z) = (B(z) + \alpha) / (1 + \overline{\alpha}B(z))$$

so that f(z) is also regular at $z = e^{i\varphi}$. On the other hand, a limit point of α -points is evidently a singular point of f(z). Thus, the set Sof singularities of f(z) lying on |z| = 1 coincides with the set of the limit points of α -points, except perhaps for exceptional values α of capacity zero, which proves statement (1) in Theorem 1.

By (1) and Lemma 3, the set S coincides with the set of singularities of B(z) lying on |z| = 1. Hence by (3.2) and Lemma 4, f(z) is meromorphic in $|z| \leq \infty$, except for the set S of linear measure zero lying on |z| = 1, which proves statement (2) in Theorem 1.

4. Proof of Theorem 2 (1). Since the closure $\overline{M_1 \cup M_2}$ of $M_1 \cup M_2$ is evidently contained in the set S of singularities of f(z) on A, to establish part (1) it is sufficient to prove that f(z) is regular at the complementary set of $\overline{M_1 \cup M_2}$ with respect to A.

Taking account of

$$(f(z) - \alpha) / (1 - \overline{\alpha} f(z)) \in U(\Theta_1, \Theta_2),$$

we can decompose it as follows (W. Seidel [24] p. 204)

(4.1)
$$(f(z) - \alpha) / (1 - \overline{\alpha}f(z)) = e^{i\beta} \cdot B(z) \exp(F(z)),$$

where β is a real constant, B(z) the Blaschke product extended over the α -points of f(z),

$$F(z) = rac{1}{2\pi} \int\limits_{-\pi}^{+\pi} (e^{iarphi} + z) \, / \, (e^{iarphi} - z) \, \, d\mu(arphi) \, ,$$

 $\mu(\varphi)$ a monotonic non-increasing function of φ , and $\mu(\varphi) = 0$ almost everywhere on $A(e^{i\varphi}; \Theta_1 < \varphi < \Theta_2)$.

 \mathbf{Put}

$$(4.2) e^{i\theta} \in A \cap C(M_1 \cup M_2).$$

Since $z = e^{io}$ is not a limit point of the *a*-points, by Lemma 3, B(z) is regular and of modulus one at $z = e^{io}$. In a sufficiently small neighborhood of $z = e^{io}$, the following three cases are possible by Lemma 7. (1) F(z) is regular at $z = e^{io}$, and $\lim R[F(re^{io})] = 0$ as $r \to 0$.

(2) F(z) has an enumerable number of poles $\{e^{i\varphi_n}\}$ of first order, and $\lim R[F(re^{i\varphi_n})] = -\infty$ as $r \to 0$. (Since $\mu(\varphi)$ is non-increasing, in (2.8) we have $J_n < 0$, so that by arguments entirely similar to those applied by W. Seidel ([24], pp. 205-206), we conclude that $\lim R[F(re^{i\varphi})] = -\infty$).

(3) $\lim R[F(re^{iq})] = -\infty$ for a non-enumerable set of points. (For, $\mu(q)$ is non-increasing).

In both cases (2) and (3), the right-hand side of (4.1) tends to zero, so that there exists at least one point $z = e^{i\varphi}$ in a sufficiently small neighborhood of $z = e^{i\varphi}$ such that $\lim f(re^{i\varphi}) = \alpha$, which is contrary to (4.2). Hence, only case (1) is possible.

Thus, the right-hand side of (3.1) is regular and of modulus one at $z = e^{i\theta}$. Since

$$f(z) = (G(z) + \alpha) / (1 + \overline{\alpha}G(z)),$$

where $G(z) = e^{i\beta} \cdot B(z) \cdot \exp(F(z))$, f(z) is also regular at $z = e^{i\beta}$, which was to be proved.

5. Corollaries of Theorem 2 (1). As an immediate consequence of Theorem 2 (1), we obtain

Corollary 1. Let f(z) belong to class $U(\Theta_1, \Theta_2)$. If f(z) is not regular on the arc $A(e^{i\Theta}: \Theta_1 < \Theta < \Theta_2)$, and $\alpha(|\alpha| < 1)$ is omitted by f(z) in a neighborhood of A, then there exists at least one point $z = e^{i\varphi}$ on A such that

$$\lim_{r\to 1} f(re^{i\varphi}) = \alpha \; .$$

It is an extension of W. Seidel's theorem ([24], p. 205).

If we apply Theorem 2 (1) to a sequence of arcs $\{A_n\}$ containing a singular point $z_0 = e^{i\theta_0}$ whose lengths tend to zero as $n \to \infty$, then we obtain the following result of Seidel ([24], p. 211).

Corollary 2. Let w = f(z) belong to class $U(\Theta_1, \Theta_2)$. If f(z) is singular at $z_0 = e^{i\Theta_0}$ on the arc $A(e^{i\Theta} : \Theta_1 < \Theta < \Theta_2)$, then the cluster set of f(z) at z_0 is $|w| \leq 1$.

Let $z_0 = e^{i\theta_0}$ be an isolated singular point on A. Then there exists a sufficiently small arc A_0 containing z_0 such that f(z) is regular on A_0 except for $z = z_0$. Applying Corollary 1 to the arc A_0 , we conclude that if a value α ($|\alpha| < 1$) is omitted it is the radial limit at z_0 , so that there exists at most one omitted value. Hence we obtain **Corollary 3.** Let w = f(z) belong to class $U(\Theta_1, \Theta_2)$. If there exists an isolated singular point $z_0 = e^{i\Theta_0}$ on the arc $A(e^{i\Theta}:\Theta_1 < \Theta < \Theta_2)$, then at most one value in |w| < 1 is omitted by f(z) in the neighborhood of z_0 .

As an immediate consequence of Corollary 3, we have

Corollary 4. Let w = f(z) belong to class $U(\Theta_1, \Theta_2)$. If f(z) is not regular on the arc $A(e^{io}: \Theta_1 < \Theta < \Theta_2)$, and at least two values in |w| < 1 are omitted by f(z) in the neighborhood of A, then the set of singularities of f(z) on A is perfect.

This is an extension of W. Seidel's theorem. ([24], p. 213).

6. Proof of Theorem 2 (2)—(3). Since $\lim |f(re^{i\theta})| = 1$ almost everywhere on A, by Egoroff's theorem we can find suitable positive constants ε , δ , δ' and a closed set E contained in A such that

$$m(A-E) < \varepsilon$$
,
 $0 \leq |\alpha| < 1 - \delta \leq |f(re^{i\theta})| < 1$ for $1 - \delta$ $\leq r < 1$, $\Theta \in E$.

Hence, by Theorem 2 (1), the set S of singularities on A is contained in A-E. Letting $\varepsilon \to 0$, we have m(S) = 0. Then, with the function relation $f(z) = 1/\overline{f(1/\overline{z})}$ for $|z| \ge 1$, f(z) can be continued analytically beyond the open arcs A_n , where $A-S = \bigcup A_n$, which proves (2).

If at least two values in |w| < 1 are omitted by w = f(z) in the neighborhood of A, then by Theorem 2 (1) and Corollary 4, S is a perfect set of linear measure zero. Suppose that S is of capacity zero. Then, by Lemma 6 and Corollary 2, f(z) assumes every value in |w| < 1 infinitely often with one possible exception in the neighborhood of S, which is contrary to the hypothesis. Hence S is of positive capacity, which proves (3).

7. An application of Lemma 7. By Lemma 7, we can establish

Corollary 5. If w = f(z) belongs to class $U(\Theta_1, \Theta_2)$, and it is not regular on the arc $A(e^{i\Theta}: \Theta_1 < \Theta < \Theta_2)$, then every value on |w| = 1 is assumed by f(z) infinitely often on A.

Corollary 5 is an extension of W. Seidel's theorem ([24], p. 208), but it is a special case of Caldéron-Domingues-Zygmund's theorem [1] (M. Ohtsuka [21], p. 299).

Proof: For any real λ , $F(z) = (f(z) + e^{i\lambda}) / (f(z) - e^{i\lambda})$ is a regular function in |z| < 1 such that

$$R(F(z)) < 0$$
 in $|z| < 1$

R(F(z)) = 0 almost everywhere on A.

Hence, by Herglotz's theorem [5] (R. Nevanlinna [15], p. 196) we can put

$$F(z) = rac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} (e^{i \varphi} + z) / (e^{i \varphi} - z) \, d\mu(\varphi) + i eta \, ,$$

where β is a real constant, $\mu(\varphi)$ a monotonic non-increasing function of φ and $\mu'(\varphi) = 0$ almost everywhere on $A(e^{i\varphi}: \Theta_1 < \Theta < \Theta_2)$.

By Lemma 7, the following cases are possible:

- (1) F(z) is regular on A.
- (2) F(z) has a finite number of poles $\{e^{iq_n}\}$ (n = 1, 2, ..., k) of first order on A.
- (3) F(z) has an infinite number of poles $\{e^{i\varphi_n}\}$ of first order on A.
- (4) $\lim_{r \to 1} R(F(re^{i\varphi})) = -\infty$ for a non-enumerable set of points on A.

In case (1), $f(z) = e^{i\lambda} \cdot (F(z) + 1) / (F(z) - 1)$ is also regular on A. For, if $F(z) \rightarrow 1$ as $z \rightarrow z_0 \in A$, f(z) is unbounded in the neighborhood of z_0 , which is contrary to the hypothesis. Hence, case (1) is impossible.

In case (2), f(z) tends to $e^{i\lambda}$ uniformly as $z \rightarrow e^{i\varphi_n}$ (n = 1, 2, ..., k), so that, by Corollary 2, $z = e^{i\varphi_n}$ (n = 1, 2, ..., k) is a regular point. Hence, f(z) is regular on A, which is evidently impossible. Therefore, only cases (3) and (4) are possible. Hence, $e^{i\lambda}$ is assumed infinitely often on A. Since $e^{i\lambda}$ is arbitrary, Corollary 5 is proved.

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