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On the univalence of certain integral transform

Oswaldo Venegas

Universidad Católica de Temuco, Chile

Rodrigo Hernández

Universidad Adolfo Ibañez, Chile

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Abstract

We study the univalence of f_α , define as a integral of the power α of f' , in terms of the values of α when f belongs to certain subclasses of univalent functions.

Key Words : *Univalent functions, Schwarzian derivatives, Integral transform.*

1. Introduction

Let \mathcal{S} be the set of all holomorphic and univalent functions in the unit disk $= \{z : |z| < 1\}$, normalized with $f(0) = 0$ and $f'(0) = 1$. Let α be a complex number and defined the function f_α as

$$(1.1) \quad f_\alpha(z) = \int_0^z f'(w)^\alpha dw.$$

The power in the mapping f_α is defined via the branch of $\log f'(w)$ for which $\log f'(0) = 0$.

It is trivial to check that given any $f \in \mathcal{S}$, if either $\alpha = 1$ or $\alpha = 0$, the corresponding function f_α belongs to \mathcal{S} . Nevertheless, the question of determining the values of α for which the function f_α are in \mathcal{S} when $f \in \mathcal{S}$ is not so easy.

Royster showed that, in general, f_α fails to be univalent for $|\alpha| > 1/3$ and $\alpha \neq 1$. See ([9]).

Pfaltzgraff in [7], proved that for any given univalent function f in unit disk normalized as above, if $|\alpha| \leq 1/4$, then $f_\alpha \in \mathcal{S}$. It is an open problem to determine if (in general) f_α is univalent when $\frac{1}{4} < |\alpha| \leq \frac{1}{3}$.

If we let f belong to some particular subclasses of functions in \mathcal{S} (concretely, if f is convex or close-to-convex), we can determine completely the values of $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ for which $f_\alpha \in \mathcal{S}$. [5, p. 152]].

The main purpose of this work is to determinate the values of α for which the function f_α is univalent when f belongs to certain subclasses of \mathcal{S} defined by certain conditions related to univalence criteria. Specifically, the Nehari and Pokornyi's criteria. See [6].

Recall that the Schwarzian derivative of a locally univalent function f on a simply connected domain is defined by

$$(1.2) \quad Sf = \left(\frac{f''}{f'}\right)' - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{f''}{f'}\right)^2.$$

It is well known that the Schwarzian derivative is invariant under Möbius transformations. It has turned out to be a very useful tool in the study of certain geometric properties of locally univalent functions. For instance, it can be used to get either necessary or sufficient conditions for the global univalence, or to obtain certain geometric conditions on the range of the

function. Nehari ([6]) proved that if a locally univalent analytic function f in the unit disk satisfies

$$(1.3) \quad |Sf(z)| \leq \frac{2}{(1 - |z|^2)^2}, \quad |z| < 1,$$

then f is univalent. The constant $C = 2$ is sharp.

The *Nehari class* \mathcal{N} is the set of functions f defined in for which $f(0) = 0$, $f'(0) = 1$, and such that (1.3) holds. This class was studied in [2]. Obviously $\mathcal{N} \subset \mathcal{S}$. Related to \mathcal{N} is the class \mathcal{N}_l defined as the family of functions in \mathcal{N} such that $f''(0) = 0$. Note that this normalization can be obtained by considering the function $f/(1 - a_2f)$ where $2a_2 = f''(0)$, instead of f .

Other important univalence criteria, established by Pokornyi and proved by Nehari in [6], says that if f is a locally univalent mapping defined in and

$$(1.4) \quad |Sf(z)| \leq \frac{4}{1 - |z|^2}, \quad z \in,$$

then f is univalent in the unit disk. We define \mathcal{P}_l as the class of all analytic functions in the unit disk with the normalizations $f(0) = 0$, $f'(0) = 1$, and $f''(0) = 0$ and satisfying (1.4).

We will obtain sufficient conditions for the univalence of f_α when f belongs to the classes \mathcal{N}_l or \mathcal{P}_l .

2. Results

Let $f(z) = z + a_2z^2 + \dots$ be a function in \mathcal{S} . The well known coefficient estimate $|a_2| \leq 2$, due to Bieberbach ([4, 5, 8]), implies that for any $|z| < 1$,

$$(1 - |z|^2) \left| z \frac{f''}{f'}(z) \right| \leq 6.$$

This inequality is satisfied by the function f_α as in (1.1) with $6|\alpha|$ instead of 6. Using the Becker criterion for univalence (see [1], [4] or [8]) it follows that f_α is univalent if $|\alpha| \leq 1/6$.

If f satisfies equations (1.3) or (1.4) and $f''(0) = 0$, then the constant 6 above can be improved, as the following lemma asserts. The proof of the lemma uses the same argument as in [3, Lemma 1].

Lemma 1. Let f be a locally univalent mapping with $f''(0) = 0$, satisfying $|Sf(z)| \leq 2p(|z|)$ for all $|z| < 1$, where $p(x) \geq 0$ is a continuous function defined in $(-1, 1)$. Then, for all $|z| < 1$,

$$\left| \frac{f''}{f'}(z) \right| \leq w(|z|),$$

where $w(x)$ is the solution of

$$w' - \frac{1}{2}w^2 = 2p(x), \quad w(0) = 0.$$

Proof 1. Notice that $y = f''/f'$ is a solution of

$$y' - \frac{1}{2}y^2 = Sf, \quad y(0) = 0.$$

Consider the real function $u(x) = |y(x)|$ which is differentiable whenever $y(x) \neq 0$. Note that $u'(x) \leq |y'(x)|$. Define $h = u - w$ in the interval $(0, 1)$.

Since $|Sf(z)| \leq 2p(|z|)$, we get that

$$\begin{aligned} h'(x) &= (u(x) - w(x))' \leq |y'(x)| - w'(x) \\ &\leq |Sf(x)| - 2p(x) + \frac{1}{2}(|y(x)|^2 - w^2(x)) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2}(u(x) + w(x))(u(x) - w(x)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(u(x) + w(x))h(x). \end{aligned}$$

Using that $h(0) = 0$, we obtain $h(x) \leq 0$ for all $x \in (0, 1)$. Then $|y(x)| \leq w(x)$ for all such x .

Along other rays from the origin we consider the function $u(t) = |y(tz_0)|$, $|z_0| = 1$. The same argument shows now that $u(t) \leq w(|z|)$, and the lemma is proved.

Corollary 1. Let $f \in \mathcal{N}_r$, then

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

Proof 2. The function $w(x) = 2x/(1-x^2)$ defined for $x \in (0, 1)$ is solution of

$$w' - \frac{1}{2}w^2 = \frac{2}{(1-x^2)^2}.$$

Use Lemma 1 to finish the proof.

Theorem 2. Let $f \in \mathcal{N}_t$. Then,

(i) if $|\alpha| \leq 1/2$, the function $f_\alpha \in \mathcal{S}$,

(ii) if $|\alpha|(|1 - \alpha| + 1) \leq 1$, then $f_\alpha \in \mathcal{N}_t$.

Proof 3. (i) Since $f'_\alpha(z) = (f'(z))^\alpha$, we obtain

$$(2.1) \quad \frac{f''_\alpha}{f'_\alpha}(z) = \alpha \frac{f''}{f'}(z).$$

By Corollary 2.2, we have that

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

But $|\alpha| \leq 1/2$, so that f_α satisfies the hypothesis of Becker's criterion of univalence which implies that f_α is univalent in .

(ii) Using (2.1) we get that $f''_\alpha(0) = \alpha f''(0) = 0$. Straightforward computations show that

$$(2.2) \quad Sf_\alpha(z) = \alpha \left[Sf(z) + \frac{1-\alpha}{2} \left(\frac{f''}{f'}(z) \right)^2 \right].$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} |Sf_\alpha(z)| &\leq 2|\alpha| \left(\frac{1 + |1 - \alpha||z|^2}{(1 - |z|^2)^2} \right) \\ &\leq \frac{2(|\alpha|(|1 - \alpha| - 1) + 2|\alpha|)}{(1 - |z|^2)^2} \leq 2 \frac{(|\alpha|(|1 - \alpha| + 1))}{(1 - |z|^2)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Since $|\alpha|(|1 - \alpha| + 1) \leq 1$, we conclude

$$|Sf_\alpha(z)| \leq \frac{2}{(1 - |z|^2)^2}.$$

Hence, $f_\alpha \in \mathcal{N}_r$.

Corollary 2. *If $f \in \mathcal{P}_r$, then*

$$(2.3) \quad \left| \frac{f''}{f'}(z) \right| \leq \frac{4|z|}{(1 - |z|^2)}.$$

Proof 4. *The real function $w(x) = 4x/(1 - x^2)$ is a solution of*

$$w' - \frac{1}{2}w^2 = \frac{4}{(1 - x^2)}, \quad w(0) = 0.$$

Use Lemma 1, to obtain (2.3).

Remark 1. *Using Lemma 1, we can show that given any $f \in \mathcal{P}_r$, the corresponding function f_α is univalent if $|\alpha| \leq 1/4$. This was already proved in [7].*

Theorem 3. *Let f be a locally univalent analytic mapping in \mathcal{P}_r . Then, if $4|\alpha(1 - \alpha)| \leq 1$ and $2|1 - \alpha| \geq 1$, then $f_\alpha \in \mathcal{N}_r$.*

Proof 5. *A straightforward computation shows*

$$\begin{aligned} |Sf_\alpha(z)| &\leq |\alpha| \left(|Sf(z)| + \left| \frac{1 - \alpha}{2} \left| \frac{f''}{f'}(z) \right|^2 \right) \right) \\ &\leq 4|\alpha| \frac{(1 - |z|^2) + 2|1 - \alpha||z|^2}{(1 - |z|^2)^2} \leq 4|\alpha| \frac{1 + (2|1 - \alpha| - 1)|z|^2}{(1 - |z|^2)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Since α satisfies that $2|1 - \alpha| - 1 \geq 0$, the last expression is less than or equal to $2(4|\alpha(1 - \alpha)|)/(1 - |z|^2)^2 \leq 2$. This implies that $f \in \mathcal{N}_r$.

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Oswaldo Venegas

Departamento de Cs. Matemáticas y Físicas,
Facultad de Ingeniería,
Universidad Católica de Temuco,
Chile,
e-mail : ovenegas@uct.cl

and

Rodrigo Hernández

Facultad de Ingeniería y Ciencias,
Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez,
Av. Padre Hurtado 750,
Viña del Mar,
Chile,
e-mail: rodrigo.hernandez@uai.cl