

107. On a Certain Class of Univalent Functions

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Let us consider a simply connected polygon which has $2n$ sides parallel to the real axis or imaginary axis in the w -plane. If we call its vertices w_1, w_2, \dots, w_{2n} and denote its interior angles $\pi\alpha_1, \pi\alpha_2, \dots, \pi\alpha_{2n}$ respectively, α_k takes the value $1/2$ or $3/2$, and $\sum_{k=1}^{2n} \alpha_k$ is equal to $2n-2$.

We can construct the function $w=f(z)$ which maps the interior of unit circle $|z|<1$ onto the interior of this polygon by

$$(1) \quad \frac{dw}{dz} = K(z-z_1)^{\alpha_1-1}(z-z_2)^{\alpha_2-1} \dots (z-z_{2n})^{\alpha_{2n}-1},$$

where $z_k = e^{i\theta_k} (0 \leq \theta_1 < \theta_2 < \dots < \theta_{2n} < 2\pi)$ are points on the unit circle $|z|=1$, and k is a constant complex number. The equality (1) is known as Schwarz-Christoffel's formula.

If we put $z_k^{-1} = \varepsilon_k$, we have

$$(2) \quad \frac{dw}{dz} = C(1-\varepsilon_1 z)^{\delta_1} (1-\varepsilon_2 z)^{\delta_2} \dots (1-\varepsilon_{2n} z)^{\delta_{2n}},$$

where C is a constant, δ_k is equal to $1/2$ or $-1/2$ and $\sum_{k=1}^{2n} \delta_k$ is equal to -2 . And square roots in (2) mean to take the branch such that $\sqrt{1} = 1$. The function $\frac{dw}{dz}$ above defined is analytic for

$|z|<1$ and $w=f(z)$ is analytic and univalent for $|z|<1$.

Next we consider a polygon shown in Fig. 1. In this case, we can write signs of δ_k in order and if we take apart suitable four minus signs, we can arrange a sequence of couples $(-+)$ or $(+-)$ as follows,

$$(3) \quad \ominus\ominus(+ -)(- +)\ominus\ominus(- +)(- +)(+ -)(- +)(+ -).$$

We shall denote a class of functions $w=f(z)$ which map the interior of unit circle respectively onto the interior of a polygon which has the nature above mentioned by the symbol S_0 . For a function which belongs to the class S_0 , we have the following theorem.

Theorem. *Let $w=f(z)$ be a function which belongs to the class S_0 , and let*

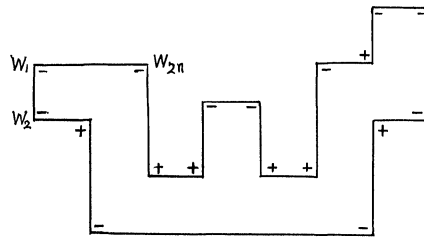


Fig. 1