

## ON THE MEAN MODULUS OF AN ANALYTIC FUNCTION

E. F. BECKENBACH, W. GUSTIN, AND H. SHNIAD

Throughout this paper  $f=f(z)$  will denote an analytic function of the complex variable  $z$  in the open unit circle  $|z| < 1$ . The circle  $C(r)$ , on which  $|z| = r$ , of radius  $r \geq 0$  about the origin  $z=0$  lies in the region of analyticity of  $f$  provided  $r < 1$ . For every positive real parameter  $t$  ( $0 < t < \infty$ ) the mean of order  $t$  of the modulus of  $f$  on the circle  $C(r)$  is defined as

$$(1) \quad M_t(r; f) = \left[ \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} |f(re^{i\theta})|^t d\theta \right]^{1/t}.$$

For fixed  $f$  and  $r$  this mean modulus  $M_t(r; f)$  as a function of  $t$  is continuous, nonnegative, nondecreasing, and is bounded above by the maximum modulus of  $f$  on  $C(r)$  [1, 2].<sup>1</sup> Therefore the limit of  $M_t(r; f)$  exists as  $t \rightarrow 0$  and  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . This limit is defined to be the mean modulus of  $f$  on  $C(r)$  of order 0 and of order  $\infty$  respectively. It may be shown that the mean modulus of order 0 is the geometric mean of the modulus of  $f$  on  $C(r)$ , which is simply evaluated by Jensen's formula, and that the mean modulus of order  $\infty$  is the maximum modulus of  $f$  on  $C(r)$  [1, 2]. Thus  $M_t(r; f)$  is defined for all parameters  $t$  in the compact infinite interval  $0 \leq t \leq \infty$ .

For fixed  $f$  and  $t$  ( $0 \leq t \leq \infty$ ) the mean modulus  $M_t(r; f)$  as a function of  $r$  in the interval  $0 \leq r < 1$  is continuous, nonnegative, nondecreasing, and, except for the limiting parameters 0 and  $\infty$ , possesses a continuous derivative with respect to  $r$  [1, 3]. Moreover, its logarithm is a nondecreasing convex function of  $\log r$  (for  $t = \infty$  this is the Hadamard three-circle theorem) [1, 3].

We shall be concerned here with the convexity of the mean modulus  $M_t(r; f)$  as a function of  $r$ . Let  $T(f)$  be the set of all parameters  $t$  in the compact infinite interval  $0 \leq t \leq \infty$  such that  $M_t(r; f)$  is a convex function of  $r$  in the interval  $0 \leq r < 1$ . Since  $M_t(r; f)$  is continuous with respect to the parameter  $t$  and since any function which is the limit of convex functions is also convex, the set  $T(f)$  is a closed and hence compact subset of the parameter interval  $0 \leq t \leq \infty$ . The set  $T(f)$  need not, however, coincide with the entire parameter interval and indeed

---

Presented to the Society, December 30, 1947; received by the editors February 16, 1948.

<sup>1</sup> Numbers in brackets refer to the references cited at the end of the paper.