PREASSIGNED VALUES OF |F(x)|

identical transformation  $A \rightarrow A$ . Then  $\overline{U}$  may be chosen of type  $\Delta$ , and the number  $(\Gamma \cdot \Delta)$  obtained is precisely (24).

Let us recall in concluding that the same formulas hold for transformations of compact metric HLC spaces. They are spaces endowed with a strong type of local connectedness in the sense of homology, analogous to that possessed by the so-called absolute neighborhood retracts.<sup>†</sup>

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

## CIRCLES IN WHICH |F(x)| HAS A SINGULARITY OR ASSUMES PREASSIGNED VALUES

## BY J. W. CELL

Let k be a given positive integer and let  $a_0$  and  $a_k \neq 0$  be two given constants. Let  $F_k(x)$  be any member whatever of the class  $C_k$  of functions which are regular in the neighborhood of the origin and which there have the expansion

$$F_k(x) = a_0 + a_k x^k + a_{k+1} x^{k+1} + \cdots,$$

where  $a_0$  and  $a_k$  are the two given constants.

THEOREM 1. Let  $\eta(a_0, a_1) = 0$  if  $|a_0| = 1$ . In case  $|a_0| < 1$ , let  $\eta(a_0, a_1) = \{1 - |a_0|^2\} / |a_1|$ , and if  $|a_0| > 1$ , let  $\eta(a_0, a_1) = \{2|a_0|\log|a_0|\} / |a_1|$ . Then in or on the circle  $|x| = \eta(a_0, a_1)$ , either  $F_1(x)$  has a singularity or  $|F_1(x)|$  assumes the value one. Moreover, no smaller radius will do for the whole class of functions  $C_1$ .

COROLLARY.  $\eta(a_0, 1) = |a_1| \eta(a_0, a_1).$ 

**PROOF.** If  $|a_0| = 1$ , the theorem is granted, so we shall henceforth suppose that this is not the case. If  $a_0 = re^{i\alpha}$ ,  $(r \ge 0)$ , we define  $E(x) = e^{-i\alpha}F_1(x)$ . Then  $|E(x)| = |F_1(x)|$  and hence we may, with no loss of generality in the proof, suppose that  $a_0$  is real and non-negative.

CASE 1.  $0 \le a_0 < 1$ . There exists a positive number  $\eta$  such that for  $|x| \le \eta$ ,  $F_1(x)$  is regular and  $|F_1(x)| < 1$ . Now form

(1) 
$$G(x) = \frac{F_1(x) - a_0}{-a_0 F_1(x) + 1}$$

1937.]

<sup>†</sup> See Duke Mathematical Journal, vol. 2 (1936), pp. 435-442.