

all integral functions $f(z)$ satisfying the conditions $f(t) \in L_1$, $\Im f \in L_1$, $|f(z)| < K_{f,\epsilon} \exp \{ (2\alpha + \epsilon) |z| \}$. The proof is based upon a result due to Plancherel and Pólya.¹²

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¹² Commentarii Mathematici Helvetici, vol. 10 (1937-1938), pp. 110-163, §27.

THE BEHAVIOR OF CERTAIN STIELTJES CONTINUED FRACTIONS NEAR THE SINGULAR LINE

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1. **Introduction.** We consider here continued fractions of the form¹

$$(1.1) \quad f(z) = \frac{g_0}{1 +} \frac{g_1 z}{1 +} \frac{(1 - g_1)g_2 z}{1 +} \frac{(1 - g_2)g_3 z}{1 +} + \dots,$$

in which $g_0 \geq 0$, $0 \leq g_n \leq 1$, ($n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$), it being agreed that the continued fraction shall terminate in case some partial numerator vanishes identically. There exists a monotone non-decreasing function $\phi(u)$, $0 \leq u \leq 1$, such that

$$(1.2) \quad f(z) = \int_0^1 \frac{d\phi(u)}{1 + zu};$$

and, conversely, every integral of this form is representable by such a continued fraction. Put $M(f) = \text{l.u.b.}_{|z| < 1} |f(z)|$. Then $M(f) \leq 1$ if and only if the continued fraction can be written in the form

$$(1.3) \quad f(z) = \frac{h_1}{1 +} \frac{(1 - h_1)h_2 z}{1 +} \frac{(1 - h_2)h_3 z}{1 +} + \dots,$$

in which $0 \leq h_n \leq 1$, ($n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$). These functions are analytic in the interior of the z -plane cut along the real axis from $z = -1$ to $z = -\infty$.

The principal object of this paper is to prove the following theorem:

THEOREM 1.1. *If $0 < h_n < 1$, ($n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$), and $h_n \rightarrow 1/2$ in such a way that the series $\sum |h_n - 1/2|$ converges, then the function $f(z)$ given*

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¹ H. S. Wall, *Continued fractions and totally monotone sequences*, Transactions of this Society, vol. 48 (1940), pp. 165-184.