# ON THE GROWTH OF UNIVALENT FUNCTIONS

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#### 1. RESULTS

## 1.1. We shall assume that the function

(1.1) 
$$f(z) = z + a_2 z^2 + \cdots$$

is analytic and univalent in |z| < 1. Throughout the paper, cap denotes logarithmic capacity.

THEOREM 1. Let 
$$A(R) = \{z: |f(z)| \ge R\}$$
. Then

(1.2) 
$$\operatorname{cap} A(R) < 1/\sqrt{R} \quad (R > 0).$$

Furthermore, either

(1.3) 
$$\sqrt{R} \operatorname{cap} A(R) \to 0 \quad (R \to \infty),$$

or there is a starlike univalent function  $g(z) = z + \cdots$  such that

$$\left|\log \frac{f(z)}{g(z)}\right| \leq K \left|\log(1-|z|)\right|^{1/2} \quad (|z|<1)$$

for some constant K.

Since  $|\arg g(z)/z| < \pi$ , it follows from (1.4) that

$$|\arg f(z)/z| < K_1 |\log(1 - |z|)|^{1/2}$$
 (|z| < 1).

A slight modification of the proof of Theorem 1 also gives the bound

$$|f(z)| \le K_2^{1/\lambda} |g(z)|^{1-\lambda} (1-|z|)^{-2\lambda} \quad (|z| < 1, \ 0 < \lambda \le 1).$$

The function  $f_{\rm m}(z)=z(1$  -  $z^{\rm m})^{-2/{\rm m}}$  is univalent in  $\left|z\right|<1,$  and it has the property

$$\lim_{R\to\infty}\inf \sqrt{R} \operatorname{cap} A_{m}(R) > 2^{-2/m} \quad (m = 1, 2, \dots).$$

Hence (1.2) is essentially best possible. A result of W. K. Hayman and P. B. Kennedy [5] shows that the right-hand side of (1.4) cannot be replaced by anything smaller than  $o(|\log (1 - |z|)|^{1/2})$ .

1.2. Hayman was the first to prove a regularity theorem of the following kind: Rapid growth of a univalent function implies rather regular behavior. Let

$$M(r) = \max_{|z|=r} |f(z)|.$$

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Then the limit  $\alpha = \lim_{r \to 1} (1 - r)^2 M(r)$  exists, and  $0 \le \alpha \le 1$ . The theorem of Hayman [3, Theorem 2.9], [5], states the following.

Let  $\alpha > 0$ . Then there exists  $\zeta_1$  ( $|\zeta_1| = 1$ ) such that

$$\begin{split} \left| f(r\zeta_1) \right| &\sim \alpha (1-r)^{-2} & (r \to 1), \\ \left| f(z) \right| &\leq K_1(\lambda) \left| z - \zeta_1 \right|^{\lambda - 2} (1-\left| z \right|)^{-\lambda} & (\left| z \right| < 1, \ 0 < \lambda < 2), \end{split}$$

and, as  $|z| \to 1$  with  $|z - \zeta_1| \ge \delta > 0$ ,

(1.5) 
$$\log |f(z)| = o(|\log(1 - |z|)|^{1/2}).$$

These estimates are best possible.

This theorem forms the basis of Hayman's result [2], [3, Theorem 5.7], that  $|a_n|/n \to \alpha$  as  $n \to \infty$ . It should be pointed out that Hayman's theorem is valid for more general class of areally mean univalent functions [4].

The relation between Hayman's result and Theorem 1 will become clearer from the following consequence of Theorem 1. The first part is due to Hayman [3, Theorem 2.7].

THEOREM 2. (i) Let there be a finite or infinite number of distinct points  $\zeta_k$  with  $|\zeta_k| = 1$ , and positive numbers  $\alpha_k$  and  $\beta_k$  such that

$$|f(z)| > \beta_k (1 - |z|)^{-\alpha_k}$$

on some curve  $C_k$  that lies in the unit disk except for its endpoint  $\zeta_k$  . Then

$$(1.7) \sum_{k} \alpha_{k} \leq 2.$$

(ii) Let there be points  $\zeta_k$  (k = 1, ..., m) with  $|\zeta_k|$  = 1, and positive numbers  $\alpha_k$  and  $\beta_k$  with

$$\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_m = 2$$

such that (1.6) holds. Then there exist positive numbers  $\gamma_k$  and  $\gamma_k'$  such that

(1.8) 
$$\gamma_{k}(1-r)^{-\alpha_{k}} < |f(r\zeta_{k})| < \gamma_{k}'(1-r)^{-\alpha_{k}}$$

for 1/2 < r < 1. Also,

(1.9) 
$$\left|\log \frac{f(z)}{g(z)}\right| < K \left|\log (1 - |z|)\right|^{1/2} \quad (|z| < 1),$$

where

(1.10) 
$$g(z) = z \prod_{k=1}^{m} (1 - \bar{\zeta}_k z)^{-\alpha_k}.$$

We call  $\zeta$  ( $|\zeta| = 1$ ) a point of maximal growth if there exists a number  $\beta$  ( $0 < \beta \le 1$ ) such that  $|f(z)| \ge \beta M(r)$  for all points z on some curve ending at  $\zeta$ .

COROLLARY. Let there be m distinct points  $\zeta_1$ , ...,  $\zeta_m$  of maximal growth. Then

(1.11) 
$$M(r) < K_0(1-r)^{-2/m} \quad (0 < r < 1)$$

for some constant K<sub>0</sub>. Furthermore, if

(1.12) 
$$M(r) > \beta_0 (1 - r)^{-2/m} \quad (1/2 < r < 1)$$

for some  $\beta_0 > 0$ , then (1.8), (1.9), and (1.10) hold with

$$\alpha_1 = \cdots = \alpha_m = 2/m$$
.

If we take m = 1, we obtain Hayman's theorem, though in a slightly different form. For instance, (1.9) is only an O-estimate, whereas (1.5) is an o-estimate. On the other hand, (1.9) gives an upper bound for  $|\log f(z)|$ , but (1.5) only for  $\log |f(z)|$ .

### 2. PROOF OF THEOREM 1

2.1. For a compact plane set E, we define

(2.1) 
$$\Delta_{n}(E) = \max_{\substack{z_{1}, \dots, z_{n} \in E \\ \mu \neq \nu}} \frac{\prod_{\substack{n = 1 \\ \mu \neq \nu}} |z_{\mu} - z_{\nu}| \quad (n = 2, 3, \dots)$$

(the points  $z_1$ ,  $\cdots$ ,  $z_n$  for which the maximum is attained are called nth *Fekete points* of E). Then

$$[\Delta_n(E)]^{1/n(n-1)} \searrow \operatorname{cap} E \quad (n \to \infty).$$

Let  $0 < \rho < 1$ . We define

$$A(R, \rho) = \{z: |z| < \rho, |f(z)| > R\}.$$

Because A(R,  $\rho$ ) increases with  $\rho$ ,

(2.3) 
$$\lim_{\rho \to 1} \operatorname{cap} A(R, \rho) = \operatorname{cap} A(R).$$

We may assume that cap A(R) > 0. Then cap  $A(R, \rho) \ge \sigma$  for some  $\sigma > 0$  and  $\rho_0 < \rho < 1$ , and therefore, by (2.2),

(2.4) 
$$\Delta_{n}(A(R, \rho)) \geq \sigma^{n(n-1)} \qquad (\rho_{0} < \rho < 1).$$

2.2. Golusin has proved the following inequality [1, p. 121]: If

$$h(\zeta) = \zeta + b_0 + b_1 \zeta^{-1} + \cdots$$

is unitilent in  $|\zeta| > 1$ , then

(2.5) 
$$\left| \sum_{\mu=0}^{n} \sum_{\nu=0}^{n} c_{\mu} c_{\nu} \log \frac{h(\zeta_{\mu}) - h(\zeta_{\nu})}{\zeta_{\mu} - \zeta_{\nu}} \right| \leq \sum_{\mu=0}^{n} \sum_{\nu=0}^{n} c_{\mu} \bar{c}_{\nu} \log \frac{1}{1 - 1/\zeta_{\mu} \bar{\zeta}_{\nu}}$$

for all  $c_{\nu}$  and  $\left|\zeta_{\nu}\right| > 1$  ( $\nu = 0, 1, \dots, n$ ).

We choose  $z_{\nu} = z_{n\nu}(R, \rho)$  ( $\nu = 1, \dots, n$ ) as nth Fekete points of A(R,  $\rho$ ). We apply Golusin's inequality with  $h(\zeta) = 1/f(\zeta^{-1})$  and  $\zeta_0 = \zeta = 1/z$ ,  $c_0 = c$ , and  $\zeta_{\nu} = 1/z_{\nu}$ ,  $c_{\nu} = 1$  ( $\nu = 1, \dots, n$ ). Taking the negative real part on the left-hand side of (2.5), we find (with the indices  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  ranging from 1 to n)

$$-\Re\left[c^{2}\log h'(\zeta)\right] - 2\Re\left[c\sum_{\nu}\log\frac{h(\zeta) - h(\zeta_{\nu})}{\zeta - \zeta_{\nu}}\right]$$

$$-\sum_{\mu\neq\nu}\sum_{\nu}\log\left|\frac{h(\zeta_{\mu}) - h(\zeta_{\nu})}{\zeta_{\mu} - \zeta_{\nu}}\right| - \sum_{\nu}\log|h'(\zeta_{\nu})|$$

$$\leq |c|^{2}\log\frac{1}{1 - |z|^{2}} + 2\Re\left[c\sum_{\nu}\log\frac{1}{1 - \bar{z}_{\nu}z}\right]$$

$$+\sum_{\mu\neq\nu}\sum_{\nu}\log\frac{1}{1 - z_{\mu}\bar{z}_{\nu}} + \sum_{\nu}\log\frac{1}{1 - |z_{\nu}|^{2}}.$$

The case n = 1 of (2.5) gives

$$\left|\log h'(\zeta)\right| \leq \left|\log (1-\left|\zeta\right|^{-2})\right| \leq \left|\log (1-\left|z\right|)\right|.$$

Since  $|h(\zeta_{\nu})| = 1/|f(z_{\nu})| \le 1/R$ ,

$$\prod_{\mu \neq \nu} |h(\zeta_{\mu}) - h(\zeta_{\nu})| \leq n^{n} R^{-n(n-1)}.$$

Also,  $|\mathbf{z}_{\mu} - \mathbf{z}_{\nu}| \leq |\zeta_{\mu} - \zeta_{\nu}|$ ,  $|\mathbf{z}_{\mu} - \mathbf{z}_{\nu}| \leq |\mathbf{1} - \mathbf{z}_{\mu} \bar{\mathbf{z}}_{\nu}|$ , and  $|\mathbf{z}_{\nu}| \leq \rho$ . We write

$$(2.7) \ \phi_{n}(z) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{\nu=1}^{n} \log \frac{h(\zeta) - h(\zeta_{\nu})}{(\zeta - \zeta_{\nu})(1 - \bar{z}_{\nu} z)} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{\nu=1}^{n} \log \frac{(f(z) - f(z_{\nu}))zz_{\nu}}{(z - z_{\nu})(1 - \bar{z}_{\nu} z)f(z)f(z_{\nu})},$$

and from (2.6) we obtain the inequality

 $-2n\Re\left[c\,\phi_{n}(z)\right]$ 

$$\leq 2 |c|^2 \log \frac{1}{1-|z|} + n \log n - n(n-1) \log R + 2n \log \frac{1}{1-\rho} - 2 \log \Delta_n(A(R,\rho)).$$

The last term arises because of (2.1) and the choice of the points  $z_{\nu}$ . The inequality is valid for all c. We choose  $|c| = n\gamma$  and  $\arg c = \pi - \arg \phi_n(z)$ . After division by  $n^2$ , we find that, for |z| < 1,

$$2\gamma \left|\phi_{n}(z)\right| \leq 2\gamma^{2} \left|\log\left(1-\left|z\right|\right)\right|$$

$$+ \frac{\log n}{n} - \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) \log R - \frac{2}{n} \left| \log (1 - \rho) \right| - \frac{2}{n^2} \log \Delta_n(A(R, \rho)).$$

2.3. It follows from (2.4) and (2.8) (with  $\gamma = 1$ ) that

$$|\phi_{n}(z)| \leq |\log(1-|z|)| + K(R) + \frac{1}{n-1} |\log(1-\rho)| \quad (|z| < 1, \ \rho > \rho_{0}),$$

where K(R) depends only on R and f. By Montel's theorem, some subsequence  $\{\phi_{n_k}(z)\}$  converges locally uniformly in |z|<1, say to  $\phi(z,R,\rho)$ , and clearly

(2.9) 
$$|\phi(z, R, \rho)| \leq |\log(1 - |z|)| + K(R) \quad (|z| < 1, \rho > \rho_0).$$

Let  $n = n_k \to \infty$  in (2.8). Because of (2.2), we see that

(2.10) 
$$2\gamma |\phi(z, R, \rho)| \leq 2\gamma^2 |\log(1 - |z|)| - \log R - 2 \log \operatorname{cap} A(R, \rho).$$

This inequality holds for  $\rho<1$  and  $\gamma>0$ . By (2.9), there exists a sequence  $\{\rho_\ell\}$  such that  $\rho_\ell\to 1$  and such that  $\phi(z,\,R,\,\rho_\ell)\to\phi(z,\,R)$  locally uniformly in |z|<1. Let  $\rho=\rho_\ell\to 1$  in (2.10). We find that

$$(2.11) 2\gamma \left| \phi(z, R) \right| \leq 2\gamma^2 \left| \log \left( 1 - |z| \right) \right| - 2 \log \left[ \sqrt{R} \operatorname{cap} A(R) \right]$$

for |z| < 1,  $\gamma > 0$ . By making  $\gamma \to 0$ , we see that  $\sqrt{R}$  cap  $A(R) \le 1$ , and this proves (1.2). This part of the proof could have been simplified substantially if the aim had only been to prove (1.2) (compare [8]).

2.4. We shall now assume that (1.3) does not hold. Then there exists a sequence  $\left\{R_i\right\}$  such that  $R_i\to\infty$  and

$$\sqrt{R_i}$$
 cap A(R<sub>i</sub>) >  $\alpha$  > 0 (j = 1, 2, ...).

Hence (2.11) implies that

(2.12) 
$$2\gamma |\phi(z, R_i)| \le 2\gamma^2 |\log (1 - |z|)| + 2 \log 1/\alpha \quad (|z| < 1).$$

Therefore we may assume that  $\phi(z, R_j) \to \phi(z)$  locally uniformly in |z| < 1. We let  $j \to \infty$  in (2.12). After dividing by  $2\gamma$ , we find that

$$|\phi(z)| \le \gamma |\log(1 - |z|)| + \gamma^{-1} \log 1/\alpha$$
.

Finally, the choice  $\gamma = \{ |\log \alpha| / |\log (1 - |z|) | \}^{1/2}$  gives the inequality

$$(2.13) |\phi(z)| \leq 2 \{ |\log \alpha| \cdot |\log (1 - |z|)| \}^{1/2} = K |\log (1 - |z|)|^{1/2} (|z| < 1).$$

2.5. We now have to show that

(2.14) 
$$\phi(z) = \log[g(z)/f(z)],$$

where  $g(z) = z + \cdots$  is analytic and starlike in |z| < 1. From (1.1) and (2.7) we deduce that  $\phi_n(0) = 0$ . It follows that  $\phi(0) = 0$ .

Let |z| < r < 1. We can choose an  $R_0$  such that  $|f(z)| < R_0$  for |z| < r. Then  $|z_{\nu}| \ge r$  for  $z_{\nu} \in A(R, \rho)$  if  $R > R_0$  and  $0 < \rho < 1$ . By (2.7),

$$z \phi_{n}'(z) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{\nu=1}^{n} \left( \frac{z f'(z)}{f(z) - f(z_{\nu})} - \frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} + \frac{z_{\nu} + z}{2(z_{\nu} - z)} + \frac{1 + \bar{z}_{\nu} z}{2(1 - \bar{z}_{\nu} z)} \right).$$

Because  $|\mathbf{z}| < \mathbf{r} \le |\mathbf{z}_{\nu}|$  for  $R > R_0$ , it follows that

$$\Re\left[z\,\phi_n'(z)+\frac{z\,f'(z)}{f(z)}\right]\geq \frac{1}{n}\,\sum_{\nu=1}^n\Re\,\frac{z\,f'(z)}{f(z)-f(z_\nu)}\geq -\frac{\left|f'(z)\right|}{R-\left|f(z)\right|}.$$

We keep z fixed and let  $n = n_k \to \infty$  and then  $\rho = \rho_\ell \to 1$ , as in Section 2.3. We find that, for  $R > R_0$  and |z| < r,

$$\Re\left[ \ \mathrm{z} \ \phi^{\scriptscriptstyle\dag}(\mathrm{z}, \ \mathrm{R}) + rac{\mathrm{z} \ \mathrm{f}^{\scriptscriptstyle\dag}(\mathrm{z})}{\mathrm{f}(\mathrm{z})} \ 
ight] \geq - rac{\left| \mathrm{f}^{\scriptscriptstyle\dag}(\mathrm{z}) 
ight|}{\mathrm{R} \ - \ \left| \mathrm{f}(\mathrm{z}) 
ight|} \ .$$

Now let  $R = R_i \rightarrow \infty$ . Then it follows that

(2.15) 
$$\Re \left[ z \phi'(z) + \frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} \right] \geq 0,$$

and this inequality holds for |z| < r for each r < 1, hence for all |z| < 1. We put  $g(z) = f(z) \exp \phi(z)$ . Then g(z) is analytic in |z| < 1, and  $g(z) = z + \cdots$  because  $\phi(0) = 0$  and f'(0) = 1. Also, (2.15) implies that

$$\Re z \frac{g'(z)}{g(z)} \ge 0 \quad (|z| < 1).$$

Hence g(z) is starlike and univalent in |z| < 1, and (2.14) follows.

### 3. PROOF OF THEOREM 2

3.1. LEMMA. Let  $E_k$  (k = 1, ..., m) be compact plane sets with mutual distances at least b > 0. Let  $E = E_1 \cup \cdots \cup E_m$  and cap E < b. Then

(3.1) 
$$\frac{1}{\log(b/\operatorname{cap} E)} \ge \sum_{k=1}^{m} \frac{1}{\log(b/\operatorname{cap} E_k)}.$$

This lower estimate is the converse of the well-known upper estimate for the capacity of the union [6, p. 127].

*Proof.* Let  $n_k$  (k = 1, ..., m) be positive integers, and let  $z_{kl}$ , ...,  $z_{kn_k}$  be  $n_k$ th Fekete points of  $E_k$ . Let  $n = n_1 + \cdots + n_m$ . Then (2.1) implies that

$$\Delta_{n}(E) \geq \prod_{\substack{k=1 \ k \neq \ell}}^{m} \prod_{\substack{\ell=1 \ k \neq \ell}}^{m} \left(\prod_{\substack{\mu=1 \ \nu=1}}^{n_{k}} \prod_{\nu=1}^{n_{\ell}} \left|z_{k\mu} - z_{\ell\nu}\right|\right) \cdot \prod_{\substack{k=1 \ \mu \neq \nu}}^{m} \left(\prod_{\substack{\mu=1 \ \nu=1 \ \mu \neq \nu}}^{n_{k}} \prod_{\nu=1}^{n_{k}} \left|z_{k\mu} - z_{k\nu}\right|\right)$$

$$\geq b^{n(n-1)} \prod_{k=1}^{m} [b^{-n_k(n_k-1)} \Delta_{n_k}(E_k)].$$

It follows that

$$\frac{1}{n(n-1)}\log\,\Delta_n(E)\,-\,\log\,b\,\geq\,\sum_{k=1}^m\,\frac{n_k(n_k-1)}{n(n-1)}\Big(\frac{1}{n_k(n_k-1)}\log\,\Delta_{n_k}(E_k)\,-\,\log\,b\,\Big)\,.$$

If we let  $n_k\to\infty$  so that  $n_k/n\to\delta_k$  (k = 1, ..., m) with  $\delta_1+\cdots+\delta_m$  = 1, then we see from (2.2) that

log cap E - log b 
$$\geq \sum_{k=1}^{m} \delta_k^2 (\log \operatorname{cap} E_k - \log b)$$
.

The choice

$$\delta_{k} = \frac{1}{\log(b/\operatorname{cap} E_{k})} \left( \sum_{\ell=1}^{m} \frac{1}{\log(b/\operatorname{cap} E_{\ell})} \right)^{-1}$$

gives (3.1).

3.2. Let  $\zeta_k$  (k = 1, ..., m) be any points for which (1.6) is satisfied on  $C_k$ . If R is large enough, we can choose  $s_k$  (k = 1, ..., m) so that  $\beta_k (1 - s_k)^{-\alpha_k} = R$ . Let  $C_k$  be orientated towards  $\zeta_k$ , and let  $z_k$  be the last point of  $C_k$  with  $|z_k| = s_k$ . If  $E_k$  is the arc of  $C_k$  between  $z_k$  and  $\zeta_k$ , then  $|z| \geq s_k$  for  $z \in E_k$ , hence, by (1.6),

$$|f(z)| > \beta_k (1 - s_k)^{-\alpha_k} = R \quad (z \in E_k).$$

Consequently  $E_k \subset A(R)$ . Since  $E_k$  is connected,

(3.2) cap 
$$E_k \ge \frac{1}{4} \text{diam } E_k \ge \frac{1}{4} \left| \zeta_k - z_k \right| \ge \frac{1}{4} (1 - s_k) = \frac{1}{4} (\beta_k / R)^{1/\alpha_k} > B_1^{-1} R^{-1/\alpha_k}$$

with some constant B<sub>1</sub>.

We apply the lemma to  $E_1$ ,  $\cdots$ ,  $E_m$ . The mutual distance is at least  $b = \frac{1}{2} \min_{k \neq \ell} \left| \zeta_k - \zeta_\ell \right| \text{ if R is sufficiently large. Therefore (3.1) and (3.2) imply that}$ 

$$\frac{1}{\log(b/\operatorname{cap}[E_1 \cup \cdots \cup E_m])} \ge \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{\alpha_k}{\log R + B_2}.$$

Hence we see from (1.2) that

(3.3) 
$$R^{-1/2} \ge \operatorname{cap} A(R) \ge \operatorname{cap} (E_1 \cup \cdots \cup E_m) \ge (B_3 R)^{-1/\sum_{k=1}^m \alpha_k}$$

Making  $R \to \infty$ , we thus find that  $\alpha_1 + \cdots + \alpha_m \le 2$ . Since this inequality holds for any m (in case there are infinitely many points  $\zeta_k$ ), we obtain (1.7). This proves part (i) of Theorem 2.

3.3. We shall now prove part (ii). Let us first turn to the lower estimate in (1.8). Suppose this is false, say for k = 1,  $\zeta_1$  = 1. Then  $(1 - r_n)^{\alpha_1} |f(r_n)| \to 0$  for some sequence  $r_n \to 1$  - 0. Applying the distortion theorems to the derivative of the function

$$f_n(z) = \left[ f\left(\frac{r_n + z}{1 + r_n z}\right) - f(r_n) \right] / [(1 - r_n^2) f'(r_n)] = z + \cdots,$$

we infer that, for any  $\sigma < 1$ ,

$$(1 - |z|)^{\alpha_1} |f(z)| \rightarrow 0 \quad (z \in H_n(\sigma), n \rightarrow \infty),$$

where  $H_n(\sigma) = \left\{ z: \left| \frac{z - r_n}{1 - r_n z} \right| < \sigma \right\}$ . It follows from (1.6) that  $C_1$  does not meet  $H_n(\sigma)$  for any  $\sigma < 1$  and  $n > n_0(\sigma)$ .

We now proceed as in Section 3.2. Let  $z_1=z_{n1}$  be the last point of  $C_1$  with  $\left|z_{n1}\right|=r_n$ , and let  $E_1=E_{n1}$  be the arc of  $C_1$  between  $z_{n1}$  and 1. We choose  $R=R_n=\beta_1\left(1-r_n\right)^{-\alpha_1}$ . Again,  $E_{n1}\subset A(R_n)$ . Because  $H_n(\sigma)\cap E_{n1}=\emptyset$  for  $\sigma<1$  and  $n>n_0(\sigma)$ , geometric considerations show that diam  $E_{n1}/(1-r_n)\to\infty$  as  $n\to\infty$ . Hence we find instead of (3.2) that

cap 
$$E_{1n} > \lambda_n R_n^{-1/\alpha_1}, \quad \lambda_n \to \infty,$$

while (3.2) holds for  $k = 2, \dots, m$ . Therefore the lemma implies that

cap 
$$A(R_n) > \lambda_n^i R_n^{-1/2}$$
, with  $\lambda_n^i \to \infty$ ,

in contradiction to (1.2).

Next, we prove the upper estimate in (1.8). Let again k = 1,  $\zeta_1$  = 1. Suppose  $(1-r_n)^{\alpha_1}|f(r_n)|=\lambda_n\to\infty$  for some sequence  $\{r_n\}$   $(r_n\to 1$  - 0). We choose  $R_n=|f(r_n)|$  and then  $z_{kn}$   $(k=2,\cdots,m)$  as before, whereas  $z_{1n}=r_n$ . Then  $z_{1n}\in A(R_n)$ . By the maximum principle, there exists a continuum  $E_{1n}\subset A(R_n)$  that connects  $z_{1n}$  with the circle |z|=1. Then, instead of (3.2),

cap 
$$E_{1n} \ge \frac{1}{4} \text{diam } E_{1n} \ge \frac{1}{4} (1 - r_n) \ge \frac{1}{4} \lambda_n^{1/\alpha_1} \, R_n^{-1/\alpha_1}$$
.

Reasoning as in Section 3.2, we deduce that cap  $A(R_n) > \lambda_n' R_n^{-1/2}$ , with  $\lambda_n' \to \infty$ , contrary to (1.2).

3.4. Finally, we have to prove (1.9) together with (1.10). It follows from (3.3) that (1.3) does not hold, so that (1.4) is valid. We have to prove that the starlike function g(z) has the form (1.10).

Every starlike function  $g(z) = z + \cdots$  can be represented [7, Lemma 1] in the form

(3.4) 
$$g(z) = z \exp \left[ - \int_0^{2\pi} \log (1 - e^{-it} z) dp(t) \right],$$

where p(t) increases and has variation 2. It follows that

$$g(z) = z \prod_{k} (1 - e^{-i\theta} k z)^{-p_k} \psi(z).$$

Here  $\theta_k$  and  $p_k > 0$  are the locations and the heights of the jumps, and  $p_1 + p_2 + \cdots \leq 2$ ; furthermore

$$|\psi(z)| = O((1 - |z|)^{-\varepsilon}) \quad (|z| \rightarrow 1)$$

for every  $\epsilon > 0$ . Hence the left-hand inequality (1.8) shows that  $p_k \ge \alpha_k$  ( $e^{i\theta_k} = \zeta_k$ ) if the numbers are suitably ordered. Since

$$2 = \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_m \le p_1 + \dots + p_m \le 2$$
,

it follows that  $\alpha_k = p_k$  (k = 1, ..., m). But  $p_1 + \cdots + p_m = 2$  implies that g(z) has the form (1.10), because the function p(t) in (3.4) becomes a jump function with  $\theta_1$ , ...,  $\theta_m$  as the only discontinuities.

3.5. Proof of the Corollary. Suppose (1.11) does not hold. Then

$$M(r_n) > \lambda_n (1 - r_n)^{-2/m}$$
, with  $\lambda_n \to \infty$ 

for some sequence  $\{r_n\}$   $(r_n \rightarrow 1 - 0)$ . We choose

$$R_n = \beta M(r_n), \quad \beta = \min(\beta_1, \dots, \beta_m)$$

and proceed as in Section 3.2 to show that

cap 
$$A(R_n) > \lambda_n^{1/2} (B_3 R_n)^{-1/2}$$
,

in contradiction to (1.2).

The second part follows immediately from Theorem 2, because of (1.12) and the definition of points of maximal growth.

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