

# AN APPROXIMATION THEOREM FOR ANALYTIC FUNCTIONS AND ITS APPLICATIONS

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**Abstract**

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MATHEMATICS

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## AN APPROXIMATION THEOREM FOR ANALYTIC FUNCTIONS AND ITS APPLICATIONS

(Presented by Academician M. A. Lavrentiev on 18 VI 1968)

In this note an approximation theorem for analytic functions is proved and its applications in the theory of quasiconformal mappings are indicated. Its proof is based on certain considerations used in <sup>(1,3)</sup>.

1. For a nonnegative integer  $q$ , denote by  $A_q(U)$  the complex Banach space of functions  $\varphi(z)$  analytic in the disk  $U : |z| < 1$ , with norm

$$\|\varphi\|_{A_q(U)} = \iint_U (1 - |z|^2)^q |\varphi(z)| dx dy < \infty.$$

Let  $n$  be a fixed natural number.

**Theorem 1.** For any function  $\varphi(z) \in A_q(U)$  there exists a sequence of rational functions  $r_j(z)$ , having, possibly, simple poles, and only at points of the circumference  $\gamma : |z| = 1$ , satisfying the condition  $\text{Im}[z^n r_j(z)] = 0$  on  $\gamma$  (when  $r_j(z) \neq \infty$ ) and such that

$$\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \iint_U (1 - |z|^2)^q |r_j(z) - \varphi(z)| dx dy = 0. \quad (1)$$

**Proof.** Consider the space  $A_q(U)$  as a real Banach space with the same norm (allowing multiplication of functions  $\varphi(z) \in A_q(U)$  only by real numbers) and denote this real space by  $\tilde{A}_q(U)$ .

Let  $\alpha$  be the set of all rational functions  $r(z)$  with simple poles lying on  $\gamma$ , satisfying the condition  $\text{Im}[z^n r(z)] = 0$  for  $|z| = 1$  (if  $r(z) \neq \infty$ ). The set  $\alpha$  is linear in  $\tilde{A}_q(U)$ . To prove the theorem it suffices to show that if  $l$  is any linear (real) functional in  $\tilde{A}_q(U)$  such that  $l(\varphi) = 0$  for all  $\varphi \in \alpha$ , then  $l = 0$  in  $\tilde{A}_q(U)$ .

For the given functional  $l(\varphi)$  in  $\tilde{A}_q(U)$ , put  $L(\varphi) = l(\varphi) - il(i\varphi)$ . Then  $L(\varphi)$  is a complex linear (bounded) functional in  $A_q(U)$ , and  $l(\varphi) = \text{Re } L(\varphi)$ . By the

Hahn-Banach and F. Riesz-Steinhaus theorems, the functional  $L(\varphi)$  has the form

$$L(\varphi) = \iint_U (1 - |z|^2)^q \nu(z) \varphi(z) dx dy = \iint_U \mu(z) \varphi(z) dx dy, \quad (2)$$

where  $\mu(z)$  is some complex-valued function measurable in  $U$  such that  $(1 - |z|^2)^{-q} \mu(z) = \nu(z) \in L_\infty(U)$ . Put

$$h(z) = -\frac{z^{2n-1} - 1}{\pi} \iint_{|\zeta| < 1} \frac{\mu(\zeta) d\xi d\eta}{(\zeta - z)(\zeta^{2n-1} - 1)}, \quad h_1(z) = (1 + z)h(z), \quad (3)$$

where  $\zeta = \xi + i\eta$ . Let  $a_k = e^{2k\pi i/(2n-1)}$ ,  $k = 0, 1, \dots, 2n-2$ . On the basis of the known properties of the integral

$$-\frac{1}{\pi} \iint_U \frac{\mu(\zeta) d\xi d\eta}{\zeta - z}$$

for  $\mu \in L_\infty(U)$  (see (4), Ch. I, § 6), we conclude that the function  $h(z)$  has the following properties:

- 1)  $h(a_k) = 0$ ,  $k = 0, 1, \dots, 2n-2$ ;
- 2)  $h(z)$  is continuous in the entire  $z$ -plane, and for every disk  $U_R : |z| < R$ ,  $R > 0$ , we have

$$|h(z_1) - h(z_2)| \leq C(R) |z_1 - z_2| |\ln |z_1 - z_2||, \quad |z_1|, |z_2| \leq R, \quad C(R) = \text{const}; \quad (4)$$

- 3)  $h(z)$  has generalized derivatives in the sense of S. L. Sobolev,  $h_z, h_{\bar{z}} \in L_p(U_R)$ ,  $p > 1$ , with  $h_{\bar{z}} = \mu$  for  $z \in U$ ;
- 4)  $h(z)$  is analytic for  $|z| > 1$ , and  $h(z) = O(|z|^{2n-2})$  near  $z = \infty$ .

Let  $l(\varphi) = 0$  for all  $\varphi \in \alpha$ . For any fixed  $z \in \gamma$ ,  $z \neq a_k$  ( $k = 0, 1, \dots, 2n-2$ ), the function  $\Phi_{(z)}(\xi) = (1+z)(\xi-z)^{-1}(\xi^{2n-1}-1)^{-1}$  belongs to the set  $\alpha$ , and

$$-\pi h_1(z) = L(\Phi_{(z)})(z^{2n-1} - 1).$$

Put  $h_2(z) = -\pi h_1(z)/(z^{2n-1} - 1)$ . The function  $h_2(z)$  at the points  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{2n-2}$  may tend to infinity logarithmically; it is continuous at the remaining points of the circle  $|z| = 1$  and bounded at infinity. Since  $l(\Phi_{(z)}) = 0$ , we have  $\text{Re } h_2(z) = 0$  for  $|z| = 1$ ,  $z \neq a_k$ ,  $k = 0, 1, \dots, 2n-2$ . Hence, by the Poisson formula for harmonic functions, we obtain that  $\text{Re } h_2(z) = 0$  everywhere for  $|z| \geq 1$ . Consequently, for  $|z| \geq 1$  we have  $h_2(z) = iC$ , where  $C$  is a real constant. But  $h_2(-1) = 0$ , and therefore  $h_2(z) = 0$  for  $|z| \geq 1$ . It follows that

$$h_1(z) = h(z) = 0 \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1. \quad (5)$$

Denote by  $\delta(z) = 1 - |z|$  the distance from the point  $z \in U$  to  $\gamma$ , assuming  $\delta \leq \delta_0 \leq e^{-2}$ . From (4) and (5) it follows that

$$|h(z)| \leq C_1 \delta(z) \ln \frac{1}{\delta(z)},$$

where  $C_1 = C(1)$ ,  $|z| < 1$ .

We shall prove that for  $q \geq 1$  the stronger estimate

$$|h(z)| \leq 2C_1 [\delta(z)]^{q+1} \ln \frac{1}{\delta(z)}, \quad |z| < 1 \quad (6)$$

holds.

For this purpose, for an arbitrary fixed  $\theta$ ,  $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$ , consider the function

$$\tilde{h}(z) = -\frac{(1 - ze^{i\theta})^q (z^{2n-1} - 1)}{\pi} \iint \frac{(1 - |\zeta|^2)^q \nu(\zeta) d\xi d\eta}{(1 - \zeta e^{i\theta})^q (\zeta - z)(\zeta^{2n-1} - 1)}. \quad (7)$$

Since the generalized derivative  $h_{\bar{z}} - \tilde{h}_{\bar{z}} = 0$  in any disk  $|z| \leq R$ ,  $R > 0$ , we have  $h(z) = \tilde{h}(z) + \Phi(z)$ , where  $\Phi(z)$  is a polynomial of degree  $q + 2n - 2$ . By virtue of (5),  $\tilde{h}(z) = -\Phi(z)$  for  $|z| \geq 1$ , and from (7) it is clear that  $\tilde{h}(z)$  has zeros  $z = e^{-i\theta}$  and  $z = a_k$ ,  $k = 0, 1, \dots, 2n - 2$ , of total multiplicity  $q + 2n - 1$ . Consequently,  $\Phi(z) \equiv 0$ , i.e.  $h(z) \equiv \tilde{h}(z)$ . Hence, applying to the integral on the right-hand side of (7) an inequality analogous to (4), and putting  $\theta = -\arg z$ , we obtain (6).

Following L. Ahlfors<sup>(1)</sup>, we now consider an infinitely differentiable function  $\Lambda(t)$  such that  $\Lambda(t) = 0$  for  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ ,  $\Lambda(t) = 1$  for  $t \geq 2$ , and for an arbitrary positive  $\varepsilon > 0$  put

$$\lambda_\varepsilon(z) = \Lambda[\varepsilon^{-1}(\ln \ln 1/\delta(z))^{-1}]. \quad (8)$$

Taking into account that  $|\partial\delta(z)/\partial\bar{z}| \leq 1$ ,  $\Lambda'(t) = 0$  outside the interval  $1 \leq t \leq 2$ , and  $(\ln \ln 1/\delta)^{-1} = t \leq 2\varepsilon$  for  $t \in [\varepsilon, 2\varepsilon]$ , we shall have

$$|\partial\lambda_\varepsilon/\partial\bar{z}| \leq C_2 \varepsilon^{-1} \delta^{-1} (\ln 1/\delta)^{-1} (\ln \ln 1/\delta)^{-2} \leq 4C_2 \varepsilon \delta^{-1} (\ln 1/\delta)^{-1}, \quad (9)$$

where  $C_2 = \max |\Lambda'(t)|$  for  $1 \leq t \leq 2$ . From (6) and (9) we have

$$|\lambda_{\varepsilon\bar{z}} h(z)| \leq 8C_1 C_2 \varepsilon (1 - |z|^2)^q, \quad |z| < 1. \quad (10)$$

By Green's formula, in view of the finiteness of  $\lambda_\varepsilon(z)$ , for any function  $\varphi \in A_q(U)$  we obtain

$$\iint_U \lambda_\varepsilon \mu \varphi dx dy = \iint_U \lambda_\varepsilon (h\varphi)_{\bar{z}} dx dy - \iint_U \lambda_{\varepsilon\bar{z}} h\varphi dx dy$$

and, consequently, by virtue of (10),

$$\left| \iint_U \lambda_\varepsilon(z) \mu(z) \varphi(z) dx dy \right| \leq C_3 \varepsilon \|\varphi\|_{A_q(U)}, \quad C_3 = 8C_1 C_2. \quad (11)$$

From (11), in view of the equality  $\lim \lambda_\varepsilon(z) = 1$  in the limit as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ , taking (2) into account, we obtain that  $L(\varphi) = 0$ , whence it follows that also  $l(\varphi) = 0$ . Thus the theorem is proved.

**Remark.** As is seen from the proof, the assertion of Theorem 1 remains valid also under the condition that the functions  $r_j(z)$  may have poles only at the points of some set  $E \subset \gamma$ , everywhere dense on  $\gamma$  and containing the points  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{2n-2}$ .

2. We indicate some applications of Theorem 1. Since for  $|z| = 1$  we have  $z = e^{i\psi}$  and  $\text{Im}[r(z) dz^2] = -\text{Im}[z^2 r(z)] d\psi^2$ , it follows from Theorem 1 that

**Theorem 2.** *For any function  $\varphi(z) \in A_q(U)$  there exists a sequence of rational functions  $r_j(z)$ , which may have simple poles, and moreover only at points of the circle  $\gamma : |z| = 1$ , satisfying the condition  $\text{Im}[r_j(z) dz^2] = 0$  on  $\gamma$ , and such that*

$$\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \|r_j(z) - \varphi(z)\|_{A_q(U)} = 0.$$

Theorem 2 makes it possible to establish some properties of extremal quasiconformal mappings.

For fixed  $q$ , denote by  $\Omega_q$  the set of all homeomorphisms  $w = \omega(z)$  of the circle  $\gamma$  onto  $\gamma' : |w| = 1$  that are boundary values of quasiconformal homeomorphisms  $w = f^\mu(z)$  of the disk  $U$  onto  $U' : |w| < 1$  with complex characteristics  $\mu(z) = k\varphi(z)/|\varphi(z)|$ , where  $\varphi \in A_q(U)$ , and  $k = \|\varphi\|_{A_q(U)} < 1$ . Without loss of generality, we shall assume that  $\omega(e^{2\pi li/3}) = e^{2\pi li/3}$ ,  $l = 0, 1, 2$ . Denote by  $w = f^{\mu_m}(z)$  the mapping (with characteristic  $\mu_m(z)$ ) minimizing the dilatation  $K(f)$  in the class of all quasiconformal homeomorphisms of the disk  $U$  onto  $U'$ , sending the given (distinct) points  $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_m$  of the circle  $\gamma$  to the points  $\omega(z_1), \omega(z_2), \dots, \omega(z_m)$ , respectively, for a given  $\omega \in \Omega_q$ , and call such mappings extremal.\* Then the characteristic  $\mu_m(z) = k_m r_m(z)/|r_m(z)|$ , where  $k_m = \text{const} < 1$ , and  $r_m(z)$  is a rational function which may have simple poles at the points  $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_m$  and is such that  $\text{Im}[r_m(z) dz^2] = 0$  for  $|z| = 1$ , while  $r_m(z)$  is determined up to a constant positive factor (see <sup>(2, 5, 7)</sup>). We choose this factor so that  $\|r_m\|_{A_q(U)} = k_m$ . Conversely, by virtue of what was proved in <sup>(2, 7)</sup>, every mapping  $w = f^{\mu_m}(z)$  with characteristic  $\mu_m(z) = \|r_m\|_{A_q(U)} r_m(z)/|r_m(z)|$  of the indicated form is extremal in the class of quasiconformal homeomorphisms of the disk  $U$  onto  $U'$  sending the points  $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_m$  of the circle  $\gamma$ , which are poles of  $r_m(z)$ , to the points  $f^{\mu_m}(z_1), f^{\mu_m}(z_2), \dots, f^{\mu_m}(z_m)$ , respectively.

From Theorem 1 the assertion follows.

Every mapping  $w = f^\mu(z)$  with characteristic  $\mu = \bar{k}\varphi/|\varphi|$ ,  $k < 1$ , with  $\varphi \in A_q(U)$ , is the limit, in the sense of uniform convergence in  $\bar{U}$ , of some sequence of extremal mappings  $w = f^{\mu_m}(z)$  with characteristics  $\mu_m(z) = \bar{k}_m \overline{r_m(z)}/|r_m(z)|$  of the above-indicated form, where  $r_m \rightarrow \varphi$  in  $A_q(U)$ .

\* The dilatation of a mapping  $f$  with characteristic  $\nu(z) = f_{\bar{z}}/f_z$ , where  $\|\nu\|_{L^\infty(U)} = k(f) < 1$ , is the quantity

Here the question remains open whether, for  $q \geq 1$ , every mapping  $w = f^\mu(z)$  with characteristic  $\mu = k\varphi/|\varphi|$ ,  $\varphi \in A_q(U)$ , is extremal (i.e., minimizes the dilatation  $K(f)$ ) in the class of all quasiconformal mappings  $f$  of the disk  $U$  onto  $U'$  that coincide with  $f^\mu$  on  $\gamma$ . (This has been proved only for  $q = 0$  <sup>(6)</sup>.)

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*Note: Figure translations are in progress. See original paper for figures.*

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