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# Estimates of derivatives of simplest fractions and other questions

#### V.I. Danchenko

**Abstract.** The approximation properties of simplest fractions (s.f.'s), that is, of the logarithmic derivatives of complex polynomials, have recently become a subject of intensive research. These properties of s.f.'s prove to have many similarities with those of polynomials. For instance, one has for them analogues of Mergelyan's and Jackson's classical results on uniform polynomial approximation. In connection with approximation by s.f.'s estimates of the Markov–Bernstein kind for derivatives of s.f.'s on various subsets of the complex plane arouse interest. Such estimates are obtained in this paper on circles, straight lines and their intervals, and some applications of these estimates are indicated. Several other questions relating to approximation properties of s.f.'s are also considered.

Bibliography: 28 titles.

### §1. Introduction

By a simplest fraction (s.f.) of degree  $n, n \ge 1$ , of the complex variable  $z \in \mathbb{C}$  we mean a rational function of the following form:

$$\rho(z) = \rho_n(z) = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{z - z_k},$$
(1)

that is, the logarithmic derivative of a complex variable (some of the points  $z_k \in \mathbb{C}$  can be equal). The approximation properties of s.f.'s have recently become an object of intensive study (see [1]–[8]). For this reason one is interested in estimates of the Markov–Bernstein kind for s.f.'s on various subsets K of the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ , that is, in estimates of the following form:

$$|\rho'(z)| \leq A(z, K, n, \|\rho\|_K), \qquad \|\rho\|_K = \sup\{|\rho(t)| : t \in K\}, \quad z \in K, \qquad (2)$$

where A is a positive quantity that is finite at each point  $z \in K$  and depends only on the indicated parameters (but is independent of the location of the poles of the s.f.  $\rho$ ). In what follows we consider only sets K of the simplest form: circles, straight lines, and straight line intervals. As is known, in the class of rational functions of general form (of arbitrary fixed degree n) there can be no estimates of the form (2) at any point of a set K of the above form (see, for instance, [9]). Moreover, there exist

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no estimates either in the class of rational functions representable as a difference of s.f.'s. One example here is the s.f.  $f_{a,b}(z) = (z-a)^{-1} - (z-b)^{-1}$ , where K does not separate the points a and b,  $a \neq b$ . Then  $f'_{a,b}(z) = -f_{a,b}((z-a)^{-1} + (z-b)^{-1})$  and for each  $z \in K$  one can clearly find  $a \to b \to z$  such that both  $||f_{a,b}||_K \to 0$  and  $|f'_{a,b}(z)| \to \infty$ . For an s.f. (1) there exist estimates of the form (2), and in the case of bounded sets K they are similar to inequalities of Bernstein type for derivatives of polynomials (see §§ 6, 7). Moreover, one can find estimates of s.f.'s also on unbounded sets. For instance, it is shown in [10] that for  $x \in \mathbb{R} = (-\infty, \infty)$ , for an s.f. of the form (1) with  $\operatorname{Im} z_k > 0, k = 1, \ldots, n$ , we have the inequalities

$$|\operatorname{Re} \rho'(x)| + |\operatorname{Im} \rho'(x)| \leq 2 \operatorname{Im} \rho(x) (|\operatorname{Re} \rho(x)| + ||\operatorname{Re} \rho||_{\mathbb{R}}) \leq 4 ||\rho||_{\mathbb{R}}^2$$

and for each s.f.  $\rho$  of the first degree the first inequality here becomes an equality for some real x. Other precise inequalities of this type hold on  $\mathbb{R}$  and other sets of the above-mentioned form. One can find the proofs of the main results in §§ 4–7. In § 8 we consider some additional properties of s.f.'s. Some of our results here were published in the Proceedings of Conferences [6]–[8].

#### §2. Auxiliary results

Let G be a simply connected domain in the extended complex plane  $\overline{\mathbb{C}}$ , with boundary  $\gamma$  that is a piecewise analytic curve in  $\overline{\mathbb{C}}$ , that is, it consists of finitely many regular Jordan analytic arcs  $\gamma_m$ . (Each arc  $\gamma_m$  is the image on the Riemann sphere of the interval [0, 1] under a locally conformal map.) Here  $\gamma$  is not necessarily a simple curve: it can be a two-sided bounded or unbounded cut. We shall call points  $z \in \gamma$  distinct from  $\infty$  and the end-points of the arcs  $\gamma_m$  regularity points of  $\gamma$ . We denote by w = w(z) a fixed univalent conformal map of the domain Gonto the unit disc D : |w| < 1. We fix n and some points  $z_k \in G$ ,  $k = 1, \ldots, n$ , distinct from  $\infty$  (points with distinct indices are not necessarily distinct). In what follows we often write w in place of w(z) for  $z \in \overline{G}$  and v in place of  $w(\zeta)$  for  $\zeta \in \gamma$ . For  $w_k = w(z_k)$  we set

$$B(z) = \prod_{k=1}^{n} \frac{w - w_k}{1 - w\overline{w_k}}, \quad \tau(\zeta) = \frac{w'(\zeta)}{w(\zeta)}, \quad \mu(\zeta) = \frac{B'(\zeta)}{\tau(\zeta)B(\zeta)} = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{1 - |w_k|^2}{|v - w_k|^2} > 0,$$
(3)

where  $\zeta \in \gamma$  is a regularity point of the curve  $\gamma$  (at such a point  $\zeta$  the quantity  $\tau(\zeta)$  is well defined, finite, and non-zero). For fixed real  $\varphi$  we consider the fraction

$$f(z,\varphi) = \frac{1}{B(z) - e^{i\varphi}},$$

where we choose  $\varphi$  such that all the roots  $\zeta_k \in \gamma$ ,  $k = 1, \ldots, n$ , of the equation  $B(\zeta) = e^{i\varphi}$  are regularity points of  $\gamma$ . In view of the definition of  $\mu$ , we can write down the expansion of  $f(z, \varphi)$  into elementary fractions (with respect to the variable w = w(z) the function  $f(z, \varphi)$  is a rational function):

$$f(z,\varphi) = a + \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{1}{B(\zeta_k)} \frac{w'(\zeta_k)B(\zeta_k)}{v_k B'(\zeta_k)} \frac{v_k}{w - v_k} = a + e^{-i\varphi} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\mu(\zeta_k)} \frac{v_k}{w - v_k},$$

where a is a finite constant and  $v_k = w(\zeta_k)$ ,  $|v_k| = 1$  for all k. We now calculate the z-derivatives of both sides of this equality and after a simple transformation taking account of (3) obtain

$$\frac{B'(z)}{B(z)} \frac{w}{w'(z)} \frac{B(z)e^{i\varphi}}{(B(z) - e^{i\varphi})^2} = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{\mu(\zeta_k)} \frac{v_k w}{(w - v_k)^2}, \qquad w = w(z).$$

Since for real x, y we have

$$\frac{e^{ix}e^{iy}}{(e^{ix} - e^{iy})^2} = -\frac{1}{4}\operatorname{cosec}^2\frac{x-y}{2},\qquad(4)$$

substituting in the above identity  $z = \zeta \in \gamma$ ,  $B(\zeta) = e^{i\beta}$ ,  $v = w(\zeta) = e^{i\alpha}$ , and  $v_k = w(\zeta_k) = e^{i\alpha_k}$  we obtain

$$\mu(\zeta) = \sin^2 \frac{\beta - \varphi}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{\mu(\zeta_k)} \operatorname{cosec}^2 \frac{\alpha - \alpha_k}{2}.$$
 (5)

We shall require one further identity. Consider the expansion in simplest fractions (with respect to w = w(z)):

$$\frac{1}{w} \frac{e^{i\varphi}}{B(z) - e^{i\varphi}} = \frac{1}{w} \frac{e^{i\varphi}}{B_0 - e^{i\varphi}} + \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{\mu(\zeta_k)} \frac{1}{w - v_k}, \qquad B_0 = (-1)^n \prod_{k=1}^n w_k,$$

after which, multiplying both sides by w, setting  $w\to\infty$  and performing simple transformations we obtain

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\mu(\zeta_k)} = \frac{e^{i\varphi}}{(-1)^n \prod_{k=1}^{n} 1/\overline{w_k} - e^{i\varphi}} - \frac{e^{i\varphi}}{B_0 - e^{i\varphi}} = \frac{1 - |B_0|^2}{|B_0 - e^{i\varphi}|^2} \,. \tag{6}$$

#### §3. Main lemma

Consider the functions

$$f_1(z) = \frac{P(w)}{\prod_{k=1}^n (w - w_k)}, \quad f_2(z) = \frac{Q(w)}{\prod_{k=1}^n (1 - w\overline{w_k})}, \qquad f(z) = f_1(z) + f_2(z),$$
(7)

where P(w) and Q(w) are arbitrary polynomials of degree at most n and where, as before, w = w(z),  $w_k = w(z_k)$ ,  $z_k \in G$ ,  $|w_k| < 1$  (points with distinct indices can be the same).

**Lemma 1.** At each regularity point  $\zeta$  of  $\gamma$ ,

$$\sin \frac{\beta - \varphi}{2} \left( f_1'(\zeta) e^{i(\beta - \varphi)/2} + f_2'(\zeta) e^{-i(\beta - \varphi)/2} \right)$$
$$= \frac{\tau(\zeta)}{2i} f(\zeta) \mu(\zeta) - \frac{\tau(\zeta)}{2i} \sin^2 \frac{\beta - \varphi}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{f(\zeta_k)}{\mu(\zeta_k)} \operatorname{cosec}^2 \frac{\alpha - \alpha_k}{2}$$
$$= \frac{\tau(\zeta)}{2i} \sin^2 \frac{\beta - \varphi}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{f(\zeta) - f(\zeta_k)}{\mu(\zeta_k)} \operatorname{cosec}^2 \frac{\alpha - \alpha_k}{2}, \tag{8}$$

where the real parameters  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , are defined by the relations

$$v = w(\zeta) = e^{i\alpha}, \qquad B(\zeta) = e^{i\beta},$$

and  $\varphi$  is an arbitrary real number such that all the roots  $\zeta_k$ , k = 1, ..., n, of the equation  $B(z) = e^{i\varphi}$ ,  $z \in \gamma$ , are regularity points of the curve  $\gamma$ , and  $\beta - \varphi \neq 2\pi l$  for integer l,  $w(\zeta_k) = e^{i\alpha_k}$ .

*Proof.* For fixed  $\zeta \in \gamma$  and  $\varphi \neq \beta + 2\pi l$  consider the function

$$F(z) = F(z,\varphi) = \frac{f_1(z)B(z) + f_2(z)e^{i\varphi}}{B(z) - e^{i\varphi}}.$$

This function is rational in the variable w = w(z), with poles only at the points  $v_k = w(\zeta_k) = e^{i\alpha_k}$ . Hence, in view of the definition (3), we obtain

$$F(z) = A + \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{w'(\zeta_k)e^{i\varphi}}{v_k B'(\zeta_k)} \frac{v_k f(\zeta_k)}{w - v_k} = A + \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{v_k f(\zeta_k)}{\mu(\zeta_k)(w - v_k)},$$

where A is a finite constant. Consequently, for  $z = \zeta \in \gamma$  and  $v = w(\zeta) = e^{i\alpha}$  (see also (4)),

$$F'(\zeta) = -\tau(\zeta) \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{f(\zeta_k)}{\mu(\zeta_k)} \frac{vv_k}{(v-v_k)^2} = \frac{\tau(\zeta)}{4} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{f(\zeta_k)}{\mu(\zeta_k)} \operatorname{cosec}^2 \frac{\alpha - \alpha_k}{2} \,. \tag{9}$$

On the other hand,

$$F'(z) = \frac{f_1'(z)B(z)}{B(z) - e^{i\varphi}} + \frac{f_2'(z)e^{i\varphi}}{B(z) - e^{i\varphi}} - \frac{f(z)e^{i\varphi}B'(z)}{(B(z) - e^{i\varphi})^2}.$$

It is easy to verify that for  $z = \zeta \in \gamma$  and  $B(\zeta) = e^{i\beta}$  we have the equalities

$$\frac{B(\zeta)}{B(\zeta) - e^{i\varphi}} = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - i \operatorname{ctg} \frac{\beta - \varphi}{2} \right), \qquad \frac{e^{i\varphi}}{B(\zeta) - e^{i\varphi}} = -\frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + i \operatorname{ctg} \frac{\beta - \varphi}{2} \right),$$
$$\frac{e^{i\varphi}B'(\zeta)}{(B(\zeta) - e^{i\varphi})^2} = \frac{B'(\zeta)}{B(\zeta)} \frac{e^{i\varphi}B(\zeta)}{(B(\zeta) - e^{i\varphi})^2} = -\frac{1}{4} \mu(\zeta)\tau(\zeta)\operatorname{cosec}^2 \frac{\beta - \varphi}{2}.$$

Hence we can write the above expression for F'(z) as follows:

$$2\sin^2\frac{\beta-\varphi}{2}F'(\zeta) = i\sin\frac{\varphi-\beta}{2}\left(f'_1(\zeta)e^{i(\beta-\varphi)/2} + f'_2(\zeta)e^{-i(\beta-\varphi)/2}\right) + \frac{1}{2}f(\zeta)\mu(\zeta)\tau(\zeta).$$

Comparing this equality with (9) we obtain the first equality in (8), which, in view of (5), yields the second equality in (8). The proof of Lemma 1 is complete.

*Remark.* Methods similar to the ones used in Lemma 1 and based on various interpolation identities, were used by Bernstein [11], Szegő [12], Akhiezer, Levin [13], [14], Videnskii [15], Rusak [16], Pekarskii [17], and many other authors. This approach was widely used for the derivation of precise inequalities of Markov–Bernstein type for derivatives of rational, algebraic, and entire functions, in the analysis of extremal properties of Chebyshëv–Markov fractions, and in other questions.

#### §4. Consequences of Lemma 1

**4.1.** For  $\zeta$  and  $\beta$  fixed as in the lemma we set  $t = t(\varphi) = (\beta - \varphi)/2$ . Since the equalities in (8) hold for all admissible t described in Lemma 1 and therefore, by continuity, also for all  $t \neq \pi l$ , the following result is a consequence of (5) and the first equality in (8).

**Theorem 1.** At each regularity point  $\zeta$  of the curve  $\gamma$  the functions (7) have the following estimate for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ :

$$|\sin t| |f_1'(\zeta)e^{it} + f_2'(\zeta)e^{-it}| \leq \frac{|\tau(\zeta)|}{2}(|f(\zeta)| + ||f||_{\gamma})\mu(\zeta).$$
(10)

**4.2.** Setting  $t = t(\varphi) = (\beta - \varphi)/2$  we isolate the real and imaginary parts of the expressions  $f'_1(\zeta) = u_1 + iv_1$ ,  $f'_2(\zeta) = u_2 + iv_2$ , and

$$W(\zeta, t) := \sin t \left( f_1'(\zeta) e^{it} + f_2'(\zeta) e^{-it} \right) = U(\zeta, t) + iV(\zeta, t),$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} 2U(\zeta,t) &= (v_1 - v_2)\cos(2t) + (u_1 + u_2)\sin(2t) + v_2 - v_1, \\ 2V(\zeta,t) &= (u_2 - u_1)\cos(2t) + (v_2 + v_1)\sin(2t) + u_1 - u_2, \\ 2|W(\zeta,t)|^2 &= -C\cos(4t) - B\sin(4t) - A\cos(2t) + 2B\sin(2t) + A + C, \end{aligned}$$

where  $A = (u_1 - u_2)^2 + (v_1 - v_2)^2$ ,  $B = u_1 v_2 - u_2 v_1$ ,  $C = u_1 u_2 + v_1 v_2$ .

**Theorem 1a.** Let  $\zeta \in \gamma$  be a regularity point of the curve  $\gamma$ . Then the quantities  $W_1(\zeta), \ldots, W_8(\zeta)$  defined below have the estimate  $2^{-1}|\tau(\zeta)|(|f(\zeta)| + ||f||_{\gamma})\mu(\zeta)$ :

$$\begin{split} W_1(\zeta) &= \frac{1}{2} \Big( \sqrt{(v_1 - v_2)^2 + (u_1 + u_2)^2} + |v_1 - v_2| \Big), \\ W_2(\zeta) &= \frac{1}{2} \Big( \sqrt{(u_1 - u_2)^2 + (v_1 + v_2)^2} + |u_1 - u_2| \Big), \\ W_3(\zeta) &= \sqrt{(u_1 - u_2)^2 + (v_1 - v_2)^2}, \qquad W_4(\zeta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{u_1^2 + v_1^2 + u_2^2 + v_2^2}, \\ W_5(\zeta) &= \sqrt{|u_1 v_2 - u_2 v_1|}, \qquad W_6(\zeta) = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{u_1^2 + v_1^2 + u_2^2 + v_2^2 + u_1 u_2 + v_1 v_2}, \\ W_7(\zeta) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{\frac{k_2^2}{8k_1} + k_1 + A + C}, \qquad k_2 \leqslant 4k_1, \\ W_8(\zeta) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{k_2 - k_1 + A + C}, \qquad k_2 \geqslant 4k_1, \end{split}$$

where  $k_1 = \sqrt{B^2 + C^2}$ ,  $k_2 = \sqrt{A^2 + 4B^2}$ . In particular, for all  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  the same estimate holds for  $W_9(\zeta) = \sqrt{k_1 + A + C}/\sqrt{2}$ .

*Proof.* The quantities  $W_1(\zeta)$  and  $W_2(\zeta)$  are equal to the maximum values (in the *t*-variable) of the quantities  $|U(\zeta,t)|$  and  $|V(\zeta,t)|$ , respectively. The estimate of  $W_3(\zeta)$  is a consequence of (10) and the equality  $W_3(\zeta) = |W(\zeta,\pi/2)|$ . The estimates of  $W_{4,5,6}(\zeta)$  follow from (10), the equalities between  $||W(\zeta,\pi/4)|^2 \pm |W(\zeta,-\pi/4)|^2|$ 

and  $2W_4^2(\zeta)$  and  $2W_5^2(\zeta)$ , and the equality  $2W_6^2(\zeta) = |W(\zeta, \pi/6)|^2 + |W(\zeta, -\pi/6)|^2$ . Finally, in the estimates of  $W_7(\zeta)$  and  $W_8(\zeta)$  we have

$$2\max_{t}|W(\zeta,t)|^{2} \ge \min_{\alpha}\max_{\tau}(k_{1}\cos(2\tau)+k_{2}\cos(\tau-\alpha)+A+C).$$

An easy analysis shows that the min max on the right-hand side is attained for  $\alpha = \pi/2$ , in which case the maximum on the right-hand side is easy to calculate: for the corresponding values of  $k_1$ ,  $k_2$  it is equal to  $2W_7^2(\zeta)$  and  $2W_8^2(\zeta)$ .

**4.3.** Consider the domain  $G = \mathbb{C}^+$  that is the open upper half-plane, and let  $\{z_1, \ldots, z_n\} \subset \mathbb{C}^+$  be a fixed set of points. Let

$$w(z) = \frac{z-i}{z+i};$$

then by the definition of (3), for real x we obtain

$$\tau(x) = \frac{2i}{x^2 + 1}, \quad \mu(x) = (x^2 + 1) \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{\operatorname{Im} z_k}{|x - z_k|^2}, \qquad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Consider the rational functions

$$R_1(z) = \frac{P(z)}{\prod_{k=1}^n (z - z_k)}, \quad R_2(z) = \frac{Q(z)}{\prod_{k=1}^n (z - \overline{z_k})}, \qquad R(z) = R_1(z) + R_2(z),$$

where P(z) and Q(z) are arbitrary polynomials of degree at most n. The following result is a consequence of Theorems 1 and 1a (for  $f_{1,2} = R_{1,2}$ ).

**Theorem 2.** Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $u_1 = \operatorname{Re} R'_1(x)$ ,  $v_1 = \operatorname{Im} R'_1(x)$ ,  $u_2 = \operatorname{Re} R'_2(x)$ , and  $v_2 = \operatorname{Im} R'_2(x)$ . Then the quantities  $W_1(x), \ldots, W_9(x)$  listed in Theorem 1a have the following estimate:

$$W_m(x) \leq \frac{1}{2}(|R(x)| + ||R||_{\mathbb{R}})\mu_1(x), \qquad \mu_1(x) := \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{2\operatorname{Im} z_k}{|x - z_k|^2}, \quad m = 1, \dots, 9.$$

A similar estimate of |W(x,t)| holds for each real t.

The estimate of  $W_3(x)$  and Rusak's result in [16] yield the inequalities

$$|R'_1(x) \pm R'_2(x)| \leqslant ||R||_{\mathbb{R}} \mu_1(x).$$
(11)

*Remark.* In [16] Rusak obtained inequality (11) with '+' sign and pointed out that it was extremal, that is, became an equality for some rational function  $R = R_1 + R_2$ . See also inequalities (14). In [17], Theorem 3.1, Pekarskiĭ obtained inequalities of the form (11) for either component  $R_{1,2}(z)$ :

$$|R'_1(x)| \leqslant \|R\|_{\mathbb{R}} \sum \frac{2 \operatorname{Im} t_k}{|x - t_k|^2}, \qquad |R'_2(x)| \leqslant \|R\|_{\mathbb{R}} \sum \frac{2 |\operatorname{Im} t'_m|}{|x - t'_m|^2},$$

where the sums are taken over all the poles  $t_k \in \mathbb{C}^+$  and  $t'_m \in \mathbb{C}^-$  of the functions  $R_1$ and  $R_2$ . These inequalities produce both inequalities in (11) for an arbitrary mutual positioning of the poles of the rational functions  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ , but with coefficient 2 on the right-hand side.

We point out that inequalities (11) have been generalized to various metrics and more general domains in [17]–[21] (where the authors obtain estimates that are sharp in order, but not extremal). For instance, estimates of type (11) have been obtained for domains G with rectifiable boundaries  $\gamma$  of bounded linear density [20] (that is, the length of the part of  $\gamma$  lying in an arbitrary disc of radius r is at most  $A(\gamma)r$ ).

In the case of the upper half-plane one can refine the estimate of  $W_1$  and  $W_2$ since the coefficient  $i\tau(\zeta)$  in (8) is real. Then, comparing the real (imaginary) parts in (8) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \left| R_1'(x) + \overline{R_2'(x)} \right| + \left| \operatorname{Im} \left( R_1'(x) + \overline{R_2'(x)} \right) \right| &\leq \left( |\operatorname{Re} R(x)| + ||\operatorname{Re} R||_{\mathbb{R}} \right) \mu_1(x), \\ \left| R_1'(x) - \overline{R_2'(x)} \right| + \left| \operatorname{Re} \left( R_1'(x) - \overline{R_2'(x)} \right) \right| &\leq \left( |\operatorname{Im} R(x)| + ||\operatorname{Im} R||_{\mathbb{R}} \right) \mu_1(x), \end{aligned}$$

so that for  $R_2 = 0$  we have the inequalities

$$|R'_{1}(x)| + |\operatorname{Im} R'_{1}(x)| \leq (|\operatorname{Re} R_{1}(x)| + ||\operatorname{Re} R_{1}||_{\mathbb{R}})\mu_{1}(x),$$
(12)

$$|R'_{1}(x)| + |\operatorname{Re} R'_{1}(x)| \leq (|\operatorname{Im} R_{1}(x)| + ||\operatorname{Im} R_{1}||_{\mathbb{R}})\mu_{1}(x).$$
(13)

We point out that (12) becomes an identity for each fraction  $R_1(z) = 1/(z - z_0)$  with single pole  $z_0 \in \mathbb{C}^+$ . The estimates (12) and (13) complement the following result of Rusak (see [16], Theorem 1):

$$|R'_{1}(x)| \leq \|\operatorname{Re} R_{1}\|_{\mathbb{R}}\mu_{1}(x), \qquad |R'_{1}(x)| \leq \|\operatorname{Im} R_{1}\|_{\mathbb{R}}\mu_{1}(x).$$
(14)

**4.4.** Let  $G = g_r = \{z : |z| > r\}$  be the exterior of a disc of some positive radius r, and let  $\{z_1, \ldots, z_n\} \subset g_r$  be a fixed point set. Let w(z) = r/z. Then by the definition (3) we obtain

$$\tau(\zeta) = -\frac{1}{\zeta}, \quad \mu_2(\zeta) := \mu(\zeta) = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{|z_k|^2 - r^2}{|\zeta - z_k|^2}, \qquad |\zeta| = r$$

For rational functions

$$R_1(z) = \frac{P(z)}{\prod_{k=1}^n (z - z_k)}, \quad R_2(z) = \frac{Q(z)}{\prod_{k=1}^n (r^2 - z\overline{z_k})}, \qquad R(z) = R_1(z) + R_2(z),$$

where P(z) and Q(z) are arbitrary polynomials of degrees at most n, the following result is a consequence of Theorems 1 and 1a (for  $f_{1,2} = R_{1,2}$ ).

**Theorem 3.** Let  $|\zeta|=r$ ,  $u_1=\operatorname{Re} R'_1(\zeta)$ ,  $v_1=\operatorname{Im} R'_1(\zeta)$ ,  $u_2=\operatorname{Re} R'_2(\zeta)$ ,  $v_2=\operatorname{Im} R'_2(\zeta)$ . Then the quantities  $W_1(\zeta),\ldots,W_9(\zeta)$  listed in Theorem 1a have the following estimates:

$$W_m(\zeta) \leq (2r)^{-1}(|R(\zeta)| + ||R||_{\gamma_r})\mu_2(\zeta), \qquad m = 1, \dots, 9.$$

where  $\gamma_r$  is the boundary of the domain  $g_r$ . A similar estimate of  $|W(\zeta, t)|$  holds for each real t.

The estimate for  $W_3(x)$  and above-mentioned Rusak's inequality in [16] yield the following relations:

$$r|R'_1(\zeta) \pm R'_2(\zeta)| \le ||R||_{\gamma_r} \mu_2(\zeta).$$
 (15)

We point out that Pekarskii [17] obtained similar estimates for the components  $R_{1,2}$  (see our remark to Theorem 2).

We can complement Theorem 3 as follows. Let  $\theta \in (0,1]$ , M > 0. We say that a function R(z) belongs to the class  $\operatorname{Lip}(M, \theta, \gamma_r)$  on the circle  $\gamma_r = \{\zeta : |\zeta| = r\}$  if

$$|R(re^{it_1}) - R(re^{it_2})| \leq Mr^{\theta} \left| \sin \frac{t_1 - t_2}{2} \right|^{\theta}$$

**Theorem 3a.** The following estimates of a rational function of the above-indicated form  $R = R_1 + R_2$  belonging to the class  $(M, \theta, \gamma_r)$  hold for  $m = 1, \ldots, 9$  and  $\zeta \in \gamma_r$ :

$$W_m(\zeta) \leqslant \frac{M}{2r^{1-\theta}} (1+\mu_2(\zeta))^{1-\theta/2}.$$
 (16)

*Proof.* We denote the right-hand side of (8) (the last expression) by  $A(\zeta, \varphi)$ . Then in view of Hölder's inequality  $(1/p = 1 - \theta/2, 1/q = \theta/2)$  and equalities (5)and (6), one obtains

$$|A(\zeta,\varphi)| \leqslant \frac{M}{2r^{1-\theta}} \sin^2 \frac{\beta-\varphi}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{\mu_2(\zeta_k)} \left| \operatorname{cosec} \frac{\alpha-\alpha_k}{2} \right|^{2-\theta}$$
  
$$\leqslant \frac{M}{2r^{1-\theta}} \left( \sin^2 \frac{\beta-\varphi}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{\mu_2(\zeta_k)} \operatorname{cosec}^2 \frac{\alpha-\alpha_k}{2} \right)^{1-\theta/2} \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{\mu_2(\zeta_k)} \right)^{\theta/2}$$
  
$$\leqslant \frac{M}{2r^{1-\theta}} \mu_2^{1-\theta/2}(\zeta) \left( \frac{1+|B|}{1-|B|} \right)^{\theta/2}, \qquad B = (-1)^n \prod_{k=1}^n \frac{r}{z_k}, \tag{17}$$

for  $\zeta = re^{-i\alpha}$ ,  $\zeta_k = re^{-i\alpha_k}$ , where  $\varphi$  is arbitrary. Since  $\varphi$  can be arbitrary, the estimates of the quantities  $W_m(\zeta)$ ,  $m = 1, \ldots, 9$ , proceed in the same way. If in place of R we now consider a variation of it, namely, the new rational function

$$\widetilde{R}(z) = R(z) + (z - z_0)^{-1}$$

with sufficiently large  $|z_0|$ , then setting  $z_0 \to \infty$ , by the estimates (17) for the corresponding quantities  $\widetilde{W}_m(\zeta)$  one obtains (16).

#### $\S$ 5. Estimates for derivatives of an s.f. on a straight line

**5.1.** Let  $f_n(z) = \rho_n(z) + R(z)$  be a rational function such that  $\rho_n$  is an s.f. of the form (1) with set of poles  $P_n = \{z_1, \ldots, z_n\}$  lying in the open upper half plane  $\mathbb{C}^+$ , where R is an arbitrary rational function with poles in the open lower half plane  $\mathbb{C}^-$ ,  $R(\infty) \neq \infty$ . We now prove an auxiliary result on the separation of the singularities of an s.f.

**Lemma 2.** The following estimate holds:

$$\|\rho_n\|_{\mathbb{R}} \leqslant (1+\varepsilon_n) \ln n \cdot \|f_n\|_{\mathbb{R}}, \qquad n \ge 2, \tag{18}$$

where the positive  $\varepsilon_n$  approach zero as  $n \to \infty$  (the  $\varepsilon_n$  depend only n). The estimate is sharp in order in the following sense: there exists a sequence of functions of the above-indicated form  $\tilde{f}_n(z) = \tilde{\rho}_n(z) + \tilde{R}_n(z)$  such that  $\|\tilde{\rho}_n\|_{\mathbb{R}} \ge 25^{-1} \ln n \cdot \|\tilde{f}_n\|_{\mathbb{R}}$  for integer  $n \ge 100$ .

Recall for comparison that for arbitrary rational functions  $\rho_n$  of degree at most n in a similar problem of the separation of singularities, in place of  $\ln n$  one has the coefficient n, which is the precise order (see, for instance, [17], [21]–[23]).

Proof. We set  $f = f_n$ ,  $\rho = \rho_n$  and shall assume that  $||f|| = ||f||_{\mathbb{R}} = 1$  (we can always achieve this after a transformation of the form f(z/||f||)/||f|| preserving the form of the s.f.). Then, as shown in [10], Theorem 1, for the distance dist $(P_n, \mathbb{R})$ of the set  $P_n = \{z_1, \ldots, z_n\}$  from the axis  $\mathbb{R}$  we have dist $(P_n, \mathbb{R}) \ge B \ln \ln n \cdot \ln^{-1} n$ for  $n \ge 3$  (with some positive absolute constant B; this estimate is independent of the particular form of R(z); one can assume that R is an arbitrary function in the Hardy class  $H^{\infty}(\mathbb{C}^+)$ ).

In addition, it is shown in Lemma 1 of [10] that on the line  $\text{Im } z = -h, h \in (0, n)$ , we have the inequality  $|\rho(x - ih)| \leq (1/2) \ln(2en/h)$  for real x. Assume that  $\delta > 0$  and let  $h = n^{-1-\delta}$ . Then  $|\rho(x - ih)| \leq (1 + \delta/2) \ln(en)$ , and therefore

$$\begin{aligned} |\rho(x)| &\leqslant |\rho(x-ih)| + |\rho(x) - \rho(x-ih)| \\ &\leqslant \left(1 + \frac{\delta}{2}\right) \ln(en) + \frac{1}{n^{1+\delta}} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{1}{|x - z_k|^2} \leqslant \left(1 + \frac{\delta}{2}\right) \ln(en) + \frac{1}{n^{\delta}} \frac{\ln^2 n}{B^2 \ln^2 \ln n} \end{aligned}$$

Selecting a sequence  $\delta = \delta_n > 0$  convergent to zero sufficiently slowly so that the second term in the above majorant approaches zero as  $n \to \infty$  we obtain inequality (18).

**Example 1.** For a corroboration of the sharpness of the order we can take for example the s.f.  $\tilde{\rho}_n$  in [10], § 4.1:

$$\widetilde{\rho}(z) = \widetilde{\rho}_n(z) = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{z - ki} + \frac{b'(z)}{b(z) - a}, \qquad b(z) = b_n(z) = \prod_{k=1}^n \frac{z + ki}{z - ki},$$

where  $a = a(n) = (-1)^n \ln(n+1)$ , and we set  $\tilde{f}_n(z) = \tilde{\rho}(z) + \tilde{R}_n(z)$ ,  $\tilde{R}_n(z) = \overline{\tilde{\rho}(\overline{z})}$ . It is easy to see that  $\tilde{f}_n$  has the form indicated in Lemma 2 and for  $n \ge 100$  has the following properties (for more detailed computations the reader can consult §4.1 of [10]):

- (a) the distance between its poles and the axis  $\mathbb{R}$  is less that  $2^{-1} \ln \ln n \cdot \ln^{-1} n$  (we do not require this property here);
- (b) for  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  one has

$$|\tilde{\rho}(0)| \ge \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{\ln n - 1} \left| \frac{b'(0)}{b(0)} \right| = \frac{\ln n - 3}{\ln n - 1} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{1}{k} > \frac{2}{5} \ln n, \qquad n \ge 100,$$

and, in addition,

$$|\tilde{f}_n(x)| = 2|\operatorname{Re}\tilde{\rho}(x)| \leqslant \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{2|x|}{x^2 + k^2} + \frac{2}{\ln(n+1) - 1} \frac{|b'(x)|}{|b(x)|} \leqslant 10, \qquad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

The proof of Lemma 2 is complete.

**5.2.** We now proceed to estimates of the derivatives of an s.f. on the real axis  $\mathbb{R}$ .

**Theorem 4.** Let  $\rho_n(z)$  be an s.f. of the form (1) with set of poles  $\{z_1, \ldots, z_n\}$  lying in  $\mathbb{C}^+$ , and let R be a rational function with simple poles from the set  $\{\overline{z}_1, \ldots, \overline{z}_n\}$  such that  $R(\infty) \neq \infty$ . Then the inequalities

$$|\rho'_n(x) \pm R'(x)| \leqslant 2 \|\rho_n + R\|_{\mathbb{R}} \operatorname{Im} \rho_n(x)$$
(19)

hold. Moreover,

$$|\rho'_{n}(x)| \leq (|\rho_{n}(x)| + \|\rho_{n}\|_{\mathbb{R}}) \operatorname{Im} \rho_{n}(x),$$
(20)

$$|\operatorname{Im} \rho_n'(x)| \leqslant (|\operatorname{Re} \rho_n(x)| + ||\operatorname{Re} \rho_n||_{\mathbb{R}}) \operatorname{Im} \rho_n(x), \qquad (21)$$

$$|\operatorname{Re}\rho_n'(x)| \leqslant (|\operatorname{Im}\rho_n(x)| + ||\operatorname{Im}\rho_n||_{\mathbb{R}}) \operatorname{Im}\rho_n(x), \qquad (22)$$

$$\rho'_n(x)| + |\operatorname{Im} \rho'_n(x)| \leq 2(|\operatorname{Re} \rho_n(x)| + ||\operatorname{Re} \rho_n||_{\mathbb{R}}) \operatorname{Im} \rho_n(x),$$
(23)

$$\rho'_n(x)| + |\operatorname{Re}\rho'_n(x)| \leq 2(|\operatorname{Im}\rho_n(x)| + ||\operatorname{Im}\rho_n||_{\mathbb{R}})\operatorname{Im}\rho_n(x).$$
(24)

Here relations (21) and (23) become equalities (the first relation at some point  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and the second on the whole of  $\mathbb{R}$ ) for each s.f.  $\rho(x)$  of the first degree.

*Proof.* Inequalities (19) follow from (11), (20), and the estimate for  $W_3$  in Theorem 2 (for  $R_1(z) = \rho_n(z)$ ,  $R_2(z) = 0$ ). The same estimate yields inequalities (21) and (22) for  $\overline{R_2(\overline{z})} = R_1(z) = \rho_n(z)$  and  $-\overline{R_2(\overline{z})} = R_1(z) = \rho_n(z)$ , respectively. Inequalities (23) and (24) follow from (12) and (13).

**Theorem 4a.** Under the assumptions of Theorem 4,

$$|\rho_n'(x) \pm R'(x)| \leqslant (2 + \varepsilon_n) \ln n \cdot \|\rho_n + R\|_{\mathbb{R}}^2, \qquad n \ge 2,$$
(25)

where the positive  $\varepsilon_n$  approach zero as  $n \to \infty$  (the  $\varepsilon_n$  depend only on n). The estimate is sharp in order in the following sense: for each integer  $n \ge 100$  there exists an s.f.  $\tilde{f}_n(z) = \tilde{\rho}_n(z) + \tilde{R}_n(z)$  of the form indicated in Theorem 4 such that  $\|\tilde{f}'_n\|_{\mathbb{R}} \ge 50^{-1} \ln n \cdot \|\tilde{f}_n\|_{\mathbb{R}}^2$ .

*Proof.* Inequality (25) follows by (19) and Lemma 2. For an example demonstrating the sharpness one can take the s.f.  $\tilde{\rho} = \tilde{\rho}_n$  of Example 1 and set  $\tilde{R}_n(z) = \overline{\tilde{\rho}(\bar{z})}$ . Then

$$\widetilde{\rho}'(x) = \frac{b}{b-a} \left(\frac{b'}{b}\right)^2 + \frac{b}{b-a} \left(\frac{b'}{b}\right)' - \left(\frac{b'}{b}\right)^2 \left(\frac{b}{b-a}\right)^2 - \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{(x-ki)^2},$$

where  $a = a(n) = (-1)^n \ln(n+1)$ ,  $b = b_n(x)$ . We observe that here for x = 0 the absolute value of the first term on the right-hand side is greater that  $4 \ln n$ , the second term vanishes, and the sum of the absolute values of the last two terms is bounded by an absolute constant  $A \leq 12$  (we bear in mind that the set of poles of the s.f.  $\tilde{\rho}_n$  is symmetric relative to the imaginary axis). Hence we obtain the lower bound

$$\frac{|f'_n(0)|}{2} = |\widetilde{\rho}'(0)| \ge 4\ln n - A > \ln n, \qquad n \ge 100,$$

so that in view of the estimate  $\|\tilde{f}_n\|_{\mathbb{R}} \leq 10$  (see Example 1), we see that the estimate (25) is sharp in order.

**5.3.** In the case of an arbitrary mutual positioning of the poles of  $\rho_n$  and R (having the form indicated in the beginning of §5.1) there exists no estimate of the kind of (19), (25). This is a consequence of the following well-known fact: there exist no estimates of the Bernstein kind for derivatives of rational functions of general form (see, for instance, Dolzhenko [9]). However, if  $R = \tilde{\rho}$  is also an s.f., then such an estimate is possible.

**Theorem 4b.** Let  $\rho$  and  $\tilde{\rho}$  be s.f.'s such that the set of poles of the first fraction lies in  $\mathbb{C}^+$  and that of the second lies in  $\mathbb{C}^-$ . Then

$$|\rho'(x)| + |\widetilde{\rho}'(x)| \leqslant A \|\rho + \widetilde{\rho}\|_{\mathbb{R}}^2 (\ln^2(en) + \ln^2(e\widetilde{n})), \tag{26}$$

where n and  $\tilde{n}$  are the degrees of the s.f.'s  $\rho$  and  $\tilde{\rho}$ , respectively, and A is a positive absolute constant.

Inequality (26) is an immediate consequence of Lemma 2 and the estimate (23) applied separately to each of the fractions  $\rho$  and  $\tilde{\rho}$ .

#### §6. Estimates of derivatives of an s.f. on the circle

**6.1.** Let  $f_n(z) = \rho_n(z) + R(z)$  be a rational function, where  $\rho_n$  is an s.f. of the form (1) with set of poles  $P_n = \{z_1, \ldots, z_n\}$  in the domain  $g_r = \{z : |z| > r\}$ , r > 0, where R is an arbitrary rational function with poles inside the circle  $\gamma_r = \{z : |z| = r\}$  such that  $R(\infty) = 0$ . We shall prove an analogue of Lemma 2 for circles. We set  $\rho = \rho_n$ ,  $M = ||f_n||_{\gamma_r}$ .

**Lemma 3.** The following estimate holds for  $n \ge n_0(rM)$ :

$$\|\rho_n\|_{\gamma_r} \leqslant 3\ln n \cdot M + \frac{1}{nr} \,. \tag{27}$$

Here one can set  $n_0(x) = 10^3(x^2 + 1)$ .

*Proof.* We shall use in the proof the following inequality from Theorem 6 in [10] for the distance  $dist(P_n, \gamma_r)$  between the set  $P_n = \{z_1, \ldots, z_n\}$  and the circle  $\gamma_r$ :

dist
$$(P_n, \gamma_r) \ge \frac{1}{2} \frac{r}{n+1} \left( \ln \frac{n+1}{1+2Mr\ln(3n)} - 2 \right),$$
 (28)

provided that  $n \ge 4(r^2M^2 + 1)$ . Hence it is easy to see that  $dist(P_n, \gamma_r) \ge r/n$  for  $n \ge n_0(rM) = 10^3(r^2M^2 + 1)$ .

In the case of  $R(\infty) = 0$  it follows by Cauchy's integral formula that  $|\rho(0)| \leq M$ and  $|\rho'(z)| \leq Mr/(r^2 - |z|^2)$ , where |z| < r. Integrating the last inequality over the radial interval  $L_n = [0, a_n]$ ,  $a_n = r(1 - n^{-4})e^{it}$  for some fixed  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  we obtain

$$|\rho(z)| \leq |\rho(0)| + \frac{M}{2} \ln \frac{r+|z|}{r-|z|}, \quad z \in L_n, \qquad |\rho(a_n)| \leq M + 2M \ln(2n).$$

Hence taking account of the inequality  $dist(P_n, \gamma_r) > r/n, n \ge n_0$ , we obtain

$$|\rho(e^{it})| \leq |\rho(a_n)| + |\rho(e^{it}) - \rho(a_n)| \leq M(1 + 2\ln(2n)) + \frac{1}{nr},$$

which proves (27) since t can be arbitrary.

*Remark.* The estimate (28) is independent of the form of the function R(z); we can assume that R is an arbitrary function in the Hardy class  $H^{\infty}(g_r)$  such that  $R(\infty) = 0$  (see [10]). It is easy to see from (28) that for all positive integers n we have

$$\operatorname{dist}(P_n, \gamma_r) \ge a(M, r) \frac{\ln n}{n}, \qquad (29)$$

where the positive quantity a(M, r) depends only on  $M = ||f_n||_{\gamma_r}$  and r.

Inequalities of the type of (28), (29), and therefore ones similar to (27) hold also if one replaces  $g_r$  by the exterior  $G(\gamma)$  of a Jordan curve  $\gamma$  with the generalized Lyapunov property:

dist
$$(P_n, \gamma) \ge a_1(M, \gamma) \frac{\ln n}{n}$$
,  $\|\rho_n\|_{\gamma} \le a_2(M, \gamma) \ln n$ , (30)

where the positive quantities  $a_{1,2}(M,\gamma)$  depend only on M and  $\gamma$ . Recall that by the generalized Lyapunov property of a smooth curve one means that the modulus of continuity  $\omega(r)$  of the argument of its tangent satisfies the Dini condition as a function of arc-length s:  $\int_0^\infty \frac{\omega(s)}{s} ds < \infty$ .

In fact, let  $z = \psi(w)$  be a conformal univalent map of the exterior of the unit disc  $\{g_1 : |w| > 1\}$  onto  $G(\gamma)$  such that  $\psi(\infty) = \infty$ . By a result of Warshawski [24],

$$0 < A_1(\gamma) \leq |\psi'(w)| \leq A_2(\gamma) < \infty, \qquad w \in g_1.$$
(31)

We observe that

$$\psi'(w)f_n(\psi(w)) = \psi'(w)R(\psi(w)) + \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\psi'(w)}{\psi(w) - z_k} = F(w) + \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{w - w_k},$$

where  $z_k = \psi(w_k)$ , and F(w) is a function in the class  $H^{\infty}(g_1)$  such that  $F(\infty) = 0$ . It follows from (29) and (31) that  $|w_k| - 1 \ge a_3(M, \gamma)n^{-1} \ln n$  for all k. Hence (31) yields the first inequality in (30), while the proof of the second is perfectly similar to the proof of Lemma 2.

6.2. The following results hold.

**Theorem 5.** For r > 0 let  $\rho_n(z)$  be an s.f. of the form (1) with set of poles  $\{z_1, \ldots, z_n\}$  lying in the exterior of the circle  $\gamma_r$ , and let R be a rational function with simple poles belonging to the set  $\{r^2/\overline{z_1}, \ldots, r^2/\overline{z_n}\}$  such that  $R(\infty) \neq \infty$ . Then the two inequalities

$$\|\rho'_n \pm R'\|_{\gamma_r} \leqslant \|f_n\|_{\gamma_r} (nr^{-1} + 2\|\rho_n\|_{\gamma_r}), \qquad f_n = \rho_n + R \tag{32}$$

hold.

This result is a consequence of (15) and the equality

$$\mu_2(\zeta) = \operatorname{Re}\left(\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{z_k + \zeta}{z_k - \zeta}\right) = n - 2\operatorname{Re}(\zeta\rho_n(\zeta)).$$

**Theorem 5a.** Under the assumptions of Theorem 5, for  $R(\infty) = 0$  one has

$$\|\rho'_n \pm R'\|_{\gamma_r} \leqslant n \|f_n\|_{\gamma_r} (r^{-1} + \varepsilon_n), \tag{33}$$

where  $\varepsilon_n = 6n^{-1}(r^{-1} + \ln n \cdot ||f_n||_{\gamma_r})$  and  $n \ge n_0(r||f_n||_{\gamma_r})$ , and the quantity  $n_0$  is defined in Lemma 3. The estimate (33) is sharp in order in the following sense: for an arbitrary integer  $n \ge 2$  and arbitrary positive r there exists an s.f.  $\tilde{\rho}_n$  of degree n with poles in  $g_r$  such that  $\|\tilde{\rho}_n\|_{\gamma_r} \le 1$  and  $\|\tilde{\rho}'_n\|_{\gamma_r} \ge r^{-1}(n-1)$ .

*Proof.* Inequality (33) is a consequence of (27) and (32). For an example of an s.f. one can take  $\tilde{\rho}_n = nz^{n-1}(z^n - Ar^n)^{-1}$  with A = 1 + n/r. Then calculations yield

$$\|\widetilde{\rho}_n\|_{\gamma_r} \leqslant \frac{n}{r(A-1)} = 1, \qquad |\widetilde{\rho}_n'(r)| = \frac{n}{r^2} \frac{(n-1)A+1}{(A-1)^2} > \frac{n-1}{r},$$

which proves the second part of Theorem 5a concerning the sharpness of the estimate.

#### §7. Estimates of derivatives of s.f. on an interval

Assume that all the poles of an s.f.  $\rho(z) = \rho_n(z)$  of the form (1) lie outside an interval [-a, a], a > 0. We shall assume in addition that  $\rho(x), x \in \mathbb{R}$ , takes only real values, so that the set of poles  $z_k$  is symmetric relative to the real axis. Let  $\|\rho\|_{[-a,a]}^* = \max_{x \in [-a,a]} |\sqrt{a^2 - x^2} \rho(x)|.$ 

**Theorem 6.** Let  $\rho(x) = \rho_n(x)$  be a real-valued s.f. Then for  $n \ge n_0(\|\rho\|_{[-a,a]}^*)$  (the value of  $n_0$  was defined in Lemma 3),

$$(a^{2} - x^{2})|\rho'(x)| \leq |x\rho(x)| + n \|\rho\|_{[-a,a]}^{*}(1 + \varepsilon_{n}),$$
(34)

where  $\varepsilon_n = 6n^{-1} \ln n \cdot (1 + \|\rho\|_{[-a,a]}^*)$ . The estimate (34) is sharp in order in the following sense: for all a > 0 and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists an s.f.  $\tilde{\rho}(x) = \tilde{\rho}_n(x)$  of the above-indicated form such that

$$\|\widetilde{\rho}\|_{[-a,a]}^* \leq 1, \qquad \max_{x \in [-a,a]} |(a^2 - x^2)\widetilde{\rho}'(x) - x\widetilde{\rho}(x)| \ge n.$$
(35)

Proof. It is sufficient to prove (34) for a = 1. In fact, for a > 0 and x = at,  $t \in [-1, 1], x \in [-a, a]$ , we can define an s.f.  $\rho_0$  by the equality  $\rho_0(t) = a\rho(at)$ . Then  $(1 - t^2)|\rho'_0(t)| = (a^2 - x^2)|\rho'(x)|, t\rho_0(t) = x\rho(x), \sqrt{1 - t^2}\rho_0(t) = \sqrt{a^2 - x^2}\rho(x)$ . Thus, if (34) holds for  $\rho_0$  with a = 1, then it holds also for  $\rho(x)$  with arbitrary a > 0.

Making the change of variable z = (w + 1/w)/2,  $z_k = (w_k + 1/w_k)/2$ , where we assume for definiteness that  $|w_k| > 1$ , we verify directly that

$$\rho(z) = \frac{2w}{w^2 - 1} F(w), \qquad F(w) = \sum_{k=1}^n \left(\frac{1}{ww_k - 1} + \frac{w}{w - w_k}\right), \tag{36}$$

$$(z^2 - 1)\rho'(z) + z\rho(z) = wF'(w), \qquad z = \frac{w + 1/w}{2};$$
 (37)

here each  $z \neq \pm 1$  corresponds to two distinct values of w with product 1. By (36) and the equality  $\sqrt{1-x^2} = |v^2 - 1|/|2v|$ , which holds, for  $x \in [-1, 1]$  and  $w = v = e^{it}$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$|F(v)| = \sqrt{1 - x^2} |\rho(x)| \leq ||\rho||_{[-1,1]}^*, \qquad x = \frac{v + 1/v}{2}.$$

We observe that the set of points  $w_k$  is symmetric relative to the real axis, therefore the set of poles of F(w) is symmetric relative to the unit circle. Hence by (37), (15), and the last inequality we obtain

$$(1-x^{2})|\rho'(x)| \leq |x\rho(x)| + |F'(v)| \leq |x\rho(x)| + ||F||_{\gamma_{1}}\mu_{2}(v) \leq |x\rho(x)| + ||\rho||_{[-1,1]}^{*}\mu_{2}(v),$$

$$\mu_{2}(v) = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{|w_{k}|^{2} - 1}{|v - w_{k}|^{2}},$$
(38)

for x = (v + 1/v)/2. We now take into account the inequality

$$\mu_2(v) = n - 2\operatorname{Re}(v\mathscr{R}(v)) \leqslant n + 2\|\mathscr{R}\|_{\gamma_1}, \qquad \mathscr{R}(v) = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{v - w_k}$$

By Lemma 3,  $|\mathscr{R}(v)| \leq 3 \ln n \cdot ||F||_{\gamma_1} + 1/n \leq 3 \ln n \cdot (1 + ||\rho||^*_{[-1,1]})$ , therefore  $||\mu_2||_{\gamma_1} \leq n(1 + \varepsilon_n)$  with  $\varepsilon_n = 6n^{-1} \ln n \cdot (1 + ||\rho||^*_{[-1,1]})$  for  $n \geq n_0(||F||_{\gamma_1})$ , which in combination with (38) proves inequality (34).

**Example 2.** It is sufficient to present an example substantiating the sharpness of the estimate (34) with a = 1. Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and let  $w_k$ ,  $k = 1, \ldots, n$ , be the roots of the equation  $w^n - A = 0$  for some A > 1. Then from (36) we obtain

$$\tilde{\rho}(z) = \tilde{\rho}_n(z) = \frac{2w}{w^2 - 1} \tilde{F}(w) = \frac{2nw}{w^2 - 1} \frac{A(w^{2n} - 1)}{(w^n A - 1)(w^n - A)}.$$
(39)

Let A be a solution of the equation  $2An(A-1)^{-2} = 1$ . Then for w = v, |w| = |v| = Z1,  $x \in (-1, 1)$ , taking account of the equality  $\sqrt{1 - x^2} = |v^2 - 1|/2$  we obtain

$$|\tilde{\rho}(x)| \leq \frac{2An}{(A-1)^2} \min\left\{\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}, n\right\}, \qquad \|\tilde{\rho}\|_{\gamma_1}^* \leq \frac{2An}{(A-1)^2} = 1.$$
 (40)

Simple calculations for |v| = 1 yield (see (37))

$$(1-x^2)\widetilde{\rho}'(x) - x\widetilde{\rho}(x) = -v\widetilde{F}'(v) = 2An^2 \operatorname{Re}\left(\frac{v^n}{(v^n - A)^2}\right).$$

At the points v such that  $v^n = 1$ , the last expression is equal to  $2An^2(A-1)^{-2} = n$ ; comparing this with (40) we obtain (35) (for a = 1).

We point out that from (39), using the substitution  $w = e^{it}$ ,  $t = \cos x$ , one obtains a representation of the s.f.  $\tilde{\rho}(x)$  in terms of the Chebyshëv polynomials  $T_n(x) = \cos n \cos^{-1} x$ :

$$\widetilde{\rho}(x) = 2n \frac{T_{n-1}(x) - T_{n+1}(x)}{2T_n(x) - T_{n-2}(x) - T_{n+2}(x) + (A+1/A)(T_2(x)-1)}, \qquad n \ge 2$$

(a reducible fraction).

## §8. Several additional properties of s.f.'s and their generalizations

8.1. Zolotarev and Chebyshëv problems for s.f.'s. An analogue of the Zolotarev problem for s.f.'s can be stated as follows. Let  $\delta \in (0, 1/2)$ ,  $\Delta_1 = [-1+\delta, -\delta]$ ,  $\Delta_2 = [\delta, 1-\delta]$ . For an s.f.  $\rho$  of the form (1) we set  $m_{\delta}(\rho) = \min\{|\rho(x)| : x \in \Delta_1\}$  and

$$\lambda_n(\delta) = \sup\left\{\frac{m_\delta(\rho)}{\|\rho\|_{\Delta_2}} : \deg \rho \leqslant n\right\}, \qquad n = 1, 2, \dots,$$
(41)

where one takes the sup over all the s.f.'s (1) of degree at most n. One must find the precise growth order of the quantities  $\lambda_n(\delta)$ .

As Example 2 shows, for each fixed  $\delta$ ,  $\lambda_n(\delta)$  grows more rapidly than each power  $n^{\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha > 1$ . In fact, let  $A = n^{\alpha}$ . The s.f.  $\tilde{\rho}(x)$  in Example 2 has the following properties. Its poles lie on the ellipse

$$z = \frac{1}{2} \left( a + \frac{1}{a} \right) \cos t + \frac{i}{2} \left( a - \frac{1}{a} \right) \sin t, \qquad t \in [0, 2\pi], \quad a = a_n = \sqrt[n]{A}.$$
(42)

Hence they are located in the ((a - 1/a)/2)-neighbourhood of the interval [-1, 1], and moreover,

$$\frac{1}{2}\left(a-\frac{1}{a}\right)\leqslant b_n=2\alpha\frac{\ln n}{n}$$

provided that  $b_n \leq 2$  (the last relation holds, for instance, if  $n \geq e^{\alpha}$ ). In addition (see (40)),  $\sqrt{1-x^2} |\tilde{\rho}(x)| \leq 3n^{1-\alpha}$  for  $x \in [-1,1]$  and  $n \geq n_0(\alpha)$ .

Then the s.f.  $\rho_0(x) = 2\tilde{\rho}(2x-1)$  has similar properties with respect to the interval [0, 1]: all its poles lie in the  $(\alpha(\ln n)/n)$ -neighbourhood of [0, 1] and, in addition,  $\|\rho_0\|_{\Delta_2} \leq 6n^{1-\alpha}(\delta(1-\delta))^{-1/2}$ . It follows by the first property that for sufficiently large *n* the function  $|\rho_0(x)|$  increases on  $[-1, -\delta]$  and attains its minimum at x = -1; moreover,  $|\rho_0(-1)| > n/2$ . Thus, for each  $\delta \in (0, 1/2)$  and  $n \geq n_1(\alpha) \geq n_0(\alpha)$  we have  $\lambda_n(\delta) \geq 12^{-1}(\delta(1-\delta))^{1/2}n^{\alpha}$ .

An analogue of the Chebyshëv problem for s.f.'s can be stated as follows. Find an s.f. of degree n having the least deviation from zero on [-1,1] in the norm  $\|\cdot\|_{[-1,1]}^*$  among all the s.f.'s  $\rho_n$  of the form (1) with distance  $d(\rho_n)$  from the set of poles to the interval [-1,1] not exceeding 1. Example 2 shows that for  $A = 2^n$  all the poles of  $\tilde{\rho}_n(x)$  lie in the  $\frac{3}{4}$ -neighbourhood of the interval [-1,1], and moreover,  $\|\tilde{\rho}\|_{[-1,1]}^* \leq 2^{n+1}n(2^n-1)^{-2} \approx n2^{-n+1}$ . Is this the precise order? Some lower bounds for the least deviation in question under the assumption  $d(\rho_n) \leq 1$  were obtained in [25]. It is shown there, for instance, that if  $\|\rho_n\|_{[-1,1]} \leq b^{-n-1}$  for some b > 2, then all the poles of the s.f.  $\rho_n$  lie outside the ellipse of the form (42) with a = b/2.

**8.2.** Approximation properties of s.f.'s and polynomials have much in common (see [1]–[4]). For instance, one has an analogue of Mergelyan's theorem on uniform approximation by simplest fractions of complex-valued functions f(z) on compact subsets E of the complex plane.

**Theorem** [1], [2]. A function f(z) that is continuous on a compact subset E of  $\mathbb{C}$  with connected complement and analytic at its interior points can be uniformly approximated on E to an arbitrary accuracy by simplest fractions.

We say that a compact subset E of  $\mathbb{C}$  is of class  $\mathscr{A}$  if it separates no points in the plane and one can connect two arbitrary points of it by a rectifiable curve of length at most A lying in E; here A = A(E) is a finite quantity. Let  $\mathscr{R}_n = \mathscr{R}_n(f, E)$ and  $\mathscr{E}_n = \mathscr{E}_n(f, E)$  be the smallest uniform deviations on E of the function f from the sets of s.f.'s and polynomials of degree at most n, respectively. As shown in [1] and [2], if  $E \in \mathscr{A}$ , then  $\mathscr{R}_{[n\ln(1/\mathscr{E}_n)]} < C\mathscr{E}_n$ , C = C(f, E),  $n \ge n_0(f, E)$ . Let f be a complex-valued function satisfying the assumptions of Mergelyan's theorem on E. For fixed  $b \in E \in \mathscr{A}$  we set  $\alpha(f; z) = \int_b^z f(t) dt$ , where the integral is taken over a rectifiable curve in E joining b to  $z \in E$ . Kosukhin [4] has shown that the deviations  $\mathscr{R}_{n+1}(f, E)$  and  $\mathscr{E}_n(fe^{\alpha(f; \cdot)}, E)$  are weakly equivalent on the above-defined class  $\mathscr{A}$  of compact sets  $E: \mathscr{R}_{n+1}(f, E) \asymp \mathscr{E}_n(fe^{\alpha(f; \cdot)}, E)$ .

Consider now special fractions of the following form:

$$\theta(z) = \frac{\rho_{1,n_1}(z) - \rho_{2,n_2}(z)}{\rho_{3,n_3}(z) - \rho_{4,n_4}(z)},$$
(43)

where the  $\rho_{s,n_s}(z)$ ,  $s = 1, \ldots, 4$ , are s.f.'s of the form (1) and of degree at most  $n_s$ . This slightly more complicated form of fractions results in significantly stronger approximation properties. We have the following result.

**Theorem 7** [6]. Let E be an arbitrary compact set, R(z) a rational function of degree  $n \ge 1$ , and  $r = ||R||_E < \infty$ . Then for  $p \ge 5r$  there exists a fraction of the form (43) with degrees  $n_1$ ,  $n_2$ ,  $n_3$ ,  $n_4$  not exceeding pn such that  $||\theta - R||_E \le 2e^r r^{p+1}/p!$ .

For a positive integer p we set

$$q_p(z) = \sum_{k=0}^p \frac{1}{k!} R^k(z), \qquad \delta_p(z) = R'(z) - \frac{q'_p(z)}{q_p(z)}.$$

**Lemma 4** [2]. For  $z \in E$  and  $p \ge 5r$  one has  $p! |\delta_p(z)| \le |R'(z)| 2e^r r^p$ .

In fact,  $\delta_p(z) = R'(z)R^p(z)/(p!q_p(z))$ ; furthermore, for  $z \in E$  and  $p \ge 5r$  we have

$$|q_p(z)| \ge e^{-r} - \sum_{k=p+1}^{\infty} \frac{|R(z)|^k}{k!} \ge e^{-r} - \frac{r^{p+1}}{(p+1)!} \left(1 + \frac{re^r}{p+1}\right) \ge \frac{e^{-r}}{2}, \qquad r = \|R\|_E.$$

Proof of Theorem 7. Let  $\theta(z) = (q'_p(z)/q_p(z))/(R'(z)/R(z))$ . Then taking account of Lemma 4 we obtain

$$R(z) = \theta(z) + \delta_p(z) \frac{R(z)}{R'(z)}, \qquad |\delta_p(z)| \left| \frac{R(z)}{R'(z)} \right| \leq 2e^r \frac{r^{p+1}}{p!}.$$

It follows from Theorem 7 that if for some function f its best uniform approximations  $R_n = R_n(f, E)$  on E by rational functions of degree at most n decrease to zero as  $n \to \infty$ , then for its best uniform approximations  $\Theta_n = \Theta_n(f, E)$  by fractions of the form (43) of degree at most n we have the estimate  $\Theta_{[n \ln(1/R_n)]} \leq C(f)R_n$ ,  $n \geq n_0(f)$ . For instance, for the best uniform approximations  $\Theta_n(|x|, [-1, 1])$  of |x| on the interval [-1, 1] we obtain  $\Theta_n(|x|, [-1, 1]) \leq C \exp(-\sqrt[3]{n})$ . Recall for comparison that the corresponding rational approximations by polynomials have order 1/n (Bernstein), and the ones by rational functions of general form have order  $\exp(-\pi\sqrt{n})$  (Newman [26], Bulanov [27], Vyacheslavov [28]).

**8.3.** We now present an application of approximation by s.f.'s to numerical differentiation of analytic functions. The corresponding results are a joint work [7]. Let  $z_0 \in D$  (the unit disc) and let s and n be fixed positive integers. For integer  $p \ge 1$  we set

$$\alpha(z) = -\frac{1}{s} \frac{1}{(z - z_0)^s}, \qquad A = A_s(z_0) = \frac{1}{s} \frac{1}{(1 - |z_0|)^s}, \qquad q(z) = \sum_{k=0}^p \frac{\alpha^k(z)}{k!}.$$

Then for  $z \in \gamma = \{z : |z| = 1\}$  and  $p \ge 5A$ , by Lemma 4 we obtain

$$\frac{1}{(z-z_0)^{s+1}} - \frac{q'(z)}{q(z)} = \frac{1}{p! s^p} \frac{(-1)^p}{(z-z_0)^{sp+s+1}} \frac{1}{q(z)}, \qquad |q(z)| \ge \frac{e^{-A}}{2}.$$

We point out that it follows, in particular, by a similar estimate for q(z) with  $\alpha(z) = z$  that all the roots  $z_m$  of the equation  $\sum_{k=0}^p z^k/k! = 0$  satisfy the inequality  $|z_m| \ge p/5, m = 1, \ldots, p$ . It is also easy to show (on the basis of Rouché's theorem) that  $|z_m| \le 2p$ .

Thus,

$$\int_{\gamma} \left| \frac{1}{(z-z_0)^{s+1}} - \frac{q'(z)}{q(z)} \right| |dz| \leq \frac{2e^{A+p}}{(ps)^p} \int_{\gamma} \frac{|dz|}{|z-z_0|^{sp+s+1}} \leq 4\pi e^{A+p} As \left(\frac{A}{p}\right)^p.$$
(44)

The estimate of the last integral I proceeds as follows (we set  $\beta = (sp+s+1)/2 \ge 1$ and  $b = |z_0|$ ):

$$\begin{split} I &= 2 \int_0^\pi \frac{d\varphi}{(1-2b\cos\varphi+b^2)^\beta} = \int_0^\infty \frac{4(1+t^2)^{\beta-1}}{((1-b)^2(1+t^2)+4bt^2)^\beta} \, dt \\ &= \frac{4}{(1-b)^{2(\beta-1)}} \int_0^\infty \frac{((1-b)^2+(1-b)^2t^2)^{\beta-1}}{((1-b)^2+(1+b)^2t^2)^\beta} \, dt \\ &\leqslant \frac{4}{(1-b)^{2(\beta-1)}} \int_0^\infty \frac{((1-b)^2+(1+b^2)t^2)^{\beta-1}}{((1-b)^2+(1+b)^2t^2)^\beta} \, dt = \frac{2\pi}{(1-b)^{2\beta-1}(1+b)} \, . \end{split}$$

Next, we have  $q'(z)/q(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{ps} (z - \zeta_k)^{-1} - ps(z - z_0)^{-1}$ , where the  $\zeta_k = z_0 + \tau_k^{-1}$  are the zeros of q(z) and the  $\tau_k$  are the roots of the equation (in t)

$$\sum_{m=0}^{p} \frac{(-1)^m}{m!} \left(\frac{t^s}{s}\right)^m = 0.$$
(45)

Let f be a holomorphic function in D. If all the points  $\zeta_k$  lie in D, then for sufficiently small positive  $\varepsilon$  we have

$$\frac{1}{s!}f^{(s)}(z_0) + psf(z_0) - \sum_{k=1}^{ps} f(\zeta_k) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|z|=1-\varepsilon} f(z) \left(\frac{1}{(z-z_0)^{s+1}} - \frac{q'(z)}{q(z)}\right) dz.$$

Hence (44) yields the following result.

**Theorem 8.** Let f be a holomorphic function in the unit disc D;  $||f|| = ||f||_D < \infty$ . Then at points  $z_0 \in D$ , for positive integers s and  $p > 5A = 5s^{-1}(1 - |z_0|)^{-s}$  one has

$$\frac{1}{s!} f^{(s)}(z_0) \approx -psf(z_0) + \sum_{k=1}^{ps} f(\zeta_k)$$

with the following error bound:

$$\left|\frac{1}{s!}f^{(s)}(z_0) + psf(z_0) - \sum_{k=1}^{ps} f(\zeta_k)\right| \le 2||f||e^{p+A}As\left(\frac{A}{p}\right)^p,$$

where the  $\zeta_k = z_0 + \tau_k^{-1} \in D$  and the  $\tau_k$  are the roots of equation (45), and where

$$\left(\frac{ps}{5}\right)^{1/s} \leqslant |\tau_k| \leqslant (2ps)^{1/s}.$$

**8.4.** We now present another application of the estimates (14). Consider the fraction

$$R(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{n} A_k (z - a_k)^{-1},$$
(46)

where the  $A_k$  are arbitrary quantities and  $a_k \in \mathbb{C}^+$ . Then for real positive  $\lambda$ ,

$$V := \sum_{k=1}^{n} A_k e^{i\lambda a_k} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i\lambda x} R(x) \, dx = \frac{1}{2\pi \lambda} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i\lambda x} R'(x) \, dx$$

Using (14) we now obtain

$$|V| \leqslant \frac{\|\operatorname{Re} R\|_{\mathbb{R}}}{2\pi\lambda} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mu_1(x) \, dx = \frac{n}{\pi\lambda} \|\operatorname{Re} R\|_{\mathbb{R}}.$$
(47)

One can also obtain the same estimates with  $\operatorname{Re} R(x)$  replaced by  $\operatorname{Im} R(x)$ .

We use inequality (47) for the estimate of the rate of decrease as  $x \to +\infty$  of solutions v(x) of the equation  $v^{(n)} + c_{n-1}v^{(n-1)} + \cdots + c_0v = 0$  with constant coefficients  $c_k$ , provided that the roots  $z_k$ ,  $k = 1, \ldots, n$ , of the characteristic polynomial  $P(z) = z^n + c_{n-1}z^{n-1} + \cdots + c_0$  lie in the left half-plane. For compactness we assume that all the roots  $z_k$  are simple. For fixed quantities  $A_1, \ldots, A_n$  we consider the fractions

$$R_0(z) = R_0(\{A_k\}, z) = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{A_k}{z - z_k}, \qquad r_0(y) = \operatorname{Im} R_0(iy),$$

and set  $||r_0|| = \max\{|r_0(y)| : -\infty < y < \infty\}.$ 

**Theorem 9.** The estimate  $|v(x)| \leq n ||r_0|| x^{-1}$  holds for x > 0 for solutions of the form  $v(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{n} A_k e^{xz_k}$ ,  $\operatorname{Re} z_k < 0$ . A similar estimate with  $r_0(y) = \operatorname{Re} R_0(iy)$  in place of  $r_0(y) = \operatorname{Re} R_0(iy)$  also holds.

In fact, it is sufficient to consider in (46) the fraction R(z) with poles  $a_k = -iz_k$ lying in  $\mathbb{C}^+$ . Since Re  $R(x) = -r_0(x)$ , the required bounds are consequences of (47).

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