

COMMUNICATIONS

DE LA FACULTÉ DES SCIENCES
DE L'UNIVERSITÉ D'ANKARA

Série A: Mathématiques, Physique et Astronomie

TOME 21 A

ANNÉE 1972

On The Constant a

by

C. ULUÇAY

5

Faculté des Sciences de l'Université d'Ankara
Ankara, Turquie

Communications de la Faculté des Sciences de l'Université d'Ankara

Comité de Rédaction de la Série A

C. Uluçay, E. Erdik, N. Doğan

Secrétaire de publication

N. Gündüz

La Revue "Communications de la Faculté des Sciences de l'Université d'Ankara" est un organe de publication englobant toutes les disciplines scientifiques représentées à la Faculté: Mathématiques pures et appliquées, Astronomie, Physique et Chimie théorique, expérimentale et technique, Géologie, Botanique et Zoologie.

La Revue, à l'exception des tomes I, II, III, comprend trois séries

Série A: Mathématiques, Physique et Astronomie.

Série B: Chimie.

Série C: Sciences naturelles.

En principe, la Revue est réservée aux mémoires originaux des membres de la Faculté. Elle accepte cependant, dans la mesure de la place disponible, les communications des auteurs étrangers. Les langues allemande, anglaise et française sont admises indifféremment. Les articles devront être accompagnés d'un bref sommaire en langue turque.

On The Constant a

C. ULUÇAY

De La Faculté Des Sciences De L'Université D'Ankara

SUMMARY

Let S be the class of functions

$$w = f(z) = z + a_2 z^2 + a_3 z^3 + \dots$$

analytic and schlicht in the unit disc $|z| < 1$. Let r_f denote the least upper bound of the radii of all open discs contained in the map of $w = f(z)$ that is schlicht for $|z| < 1$ and has $f'(0) = 1$. Then

$$a = \min_{f \in S} r_f$$

is the Landau constant. It is shown that $a_3 = 0$. As an immediate consequence $a > .629$

Let S be the class of functions

$$w = f(z) = z + a_2 z^2 + a_3 z^3 + \dots,$$

analytic and schlicht in the unit disc $|z| < 1$. For the purpose of obtaining a lower bound on a (defined below), Landau [1] considered a subclass T for which $|f'(z)|(1 - |z|^2) \leq 1$. He showed that $a_2 = 0$, $|a_3| \leq 1/3$. In the present paper we reobtain Landau's results by using the definition of a Bloch function of the third kind introduced by R. M. Robinson [2] and Marty's variation [3], while $a_3 = 0$ follows from geometric considerations and an interior variation due to Schiffer [4,5]. $a_3 = 0$ has been conjectured earlier by the author. It simplifies and yields at the same time a correct proof of the lower bound. In the opinion of this writer it is hopeless to obtain the bound under consideration without first proving that $a_3 = 0$. In addition to this, the important symmetry condition $F = 0$ (Theorem 4) is also derived. Namely, we conclude with the remarkable characterization that there is a schlicht disc

of radius a , lying in the map of a Bloch function of the third kind, centered at the origin, and such that its size is determined by a unique triplet of boundary points which lie at the vertices of an equilateral triangle inscribed in the circle.

Definition. Let r_f denote the least upper bound of the radii of all open discs contained in the map of $w = f(z)$ that is schlicht for $|z| < 1$ and has $f'(0) = 1$. Then

$$a = \min_{f \in S} r_f$$

is the Landau constant.

Definition. If the map of $w = f(z)$ contains no schlicht open disc of radius greater than a , then f is called a Bloch function of the third kind.

In the following we shall use the abbreviation B. F. for a Bloch function of the third kind.

Theorem 1. Let $w = f(z)$ be a B. F. Then $a_2 = 0$, $|a_3| \leq 1/3$.

Proof. Following Marty [3], set

$$f((z + \varepsilon)/(1 + \bar{\varepsilon}z)) - f(\varepsilon) = f'(\varepsilon) (1 - |\varepsilon|^2) z + \dots$$

Here the variation used is the translation $w^* = w - f(\varepsilon)$, and the corresponding mapping function is

$$f^*(z) = f'(\varepsilon) (1 - |\varepsilon|^2) z + \dots$$

We have

$$f'(\varepsilon) (1 - |\varepsilon|^2) = 1 + 2a_2\varepsilon + o(\varepsilon).$$

Since in the translation the least upper bound is preserved and that $\arg \varepsilon$ is arbitrary, it follows that $a_2 = 0$.

Next, calculating higher terms, i.e.,

$$f'(\varepsilon) (1 - |\varepsilon|^2) = 1 + 3a_3\varepsilon^2 - |\varepsilon|^2 + o(\varepsilon^3),$$

it follows from the same argument that $|a_3| \leq 1/3$.

Lemma 1. Let w_1, w_2, w_3 , be three distinct points on the complex w plane. Let A_w be the area of the disc C whose circumference c contains these three points. Then A_w is given by the formula

$$A_w = \frac{\pi |w_2 - w_3|^2}{2 - 2 \operatorname{Re} \frac{w_1 - w_3}{w_1 - w_3} \cdot \frac{w_1 - w_2}{w_1 - w_2}}$$

Proof. Let r_w be the radius of the disc C . Then by elementary geometry

$$r_w = \frac{|w_2 - w_3|}{2 \sin \theta}.$$

Here

$$\theta = \sphericalangle (w_1 w_2, w_1 w_3), \quad 0 < \theta < \pi.$$

Hence

$$(1) \quad A_w = \frac{\pi |w_2 - w_3|^2}{4 \sin^2 \theta}.$$

Now, put

$$W = \frac{w_1 - w_3}{w_1 - w_2}.$$

Then

$$\frac{w_1 - w_3}{w_1 - w_3} \cdot \frac{\overline{w_1 - w_2}}{w_1 - w_2} = W / \overline{W}.$$

But

$$\theta = \arg W,$$

and so

$$W / \overline{W} = e^{2i\theta} = \cos 2\theta + i \sin 2\theta$$

Hence,

$$\cos 2\theta = \operatorname{Re}(W / \overline{W}) = \operatorname{Re} \frac{w_1 - w_3}{w_1 - w_3} \cdot \frac{\overline{w_1 - w_2}}{w_1 - w_2}.$$

Carrying the value of $\cos 2\theta$ in formula (1) we obtain the desired result.

Lemma 2. Consider the transformation

$$(2) \quad w^* = w + \varepsilon/w$$

where ε is real and sufficiently small. Let w_i^* be the image of w_i , $i = 1, 2, 3$. Let C_w^* be the disc whose circumference c_w^* contains the points w_i^* , $i = 1, 2, 3$, and A_w^* its area. Then

$$A_w^* = A_w (1 + 2 \varepsilon \operatorname{Im} F) + O(\varepsilon^2),$$

where

$$F = \frac{\cot \theta}{w_1 w_3} - \frac{\cot \theta}{w_1 w_2} - \frac{i}{w_2 w_3}.$$

Proof. The area A_w^* of the disc C_w^* whose circumference c_w^* contains the points w_i^* , $i = 1, 2, 3$ is given by the formula of Lemma 1, i.e.,

$$(3) \quad A_w^* = \frac{\pi |w_2^* - w_3^*|^2}{2 - 2 \operatorname{Re} \frac{w_1^* - w_3^*}{w_1^* - w_3^*} \frac{w_1^* - w_2^*}{w_1^* - w_2^*}}$$

Setting (2) into (3), we obtain

$$A_w^* = A_w - 2\pi\varepsilon \left(\operatorname{Im} \left(\frac{1}{w_1 w_3} - \frac{1}{w_1 w_2} \right) \operatorname{Re} i(W/\bar{W}) \right. \\ \left. + (1 - \operatorname{Re} W/\bar{W}) \operatorname{Re} \frac{1}{w_2 w_3} \right) \frac{|w_2 - w_3|^2}{(1 - \operatorname{Re} W/\bar{W})^2} + O(\varepsilon^2),$$

from which the formula follows.

In connection with (2) we recall the following variational formula due to Schiffer [4]. Let R be the map of $f \in S$. Denote by Γ the boundary of R . Let w_0 be a fixed point in R and consider the transformation

$$(4) \quad w^* = w + \frac{\varepsilon}{w - w_0}$$

where ε is a complex number. If $|\varepsilon|$ is sufficiently small, then $w^*(w)$ is univalent on Γ and maps it into Γ^* that is the boundary of a new simply connected region [4,5]. The function $f^*(z)$ which maps the unit disc $|z| < 1$, conformally onto R^* is given by

$$f^*(z) = f(z) + \varepsilon \left\{ \frac{zf'(z)}{z_0 f'(z_0)^2 (z_0 - z)} + \frac{1}{f(z) - f(z_0)} + \frac{f'(z)}{f(z_0)} \right\} \\ + \bar{\varepsilon} \left\{ \frac{z^2 f'(z)}{\bar{z}_0 f'(z_0)^2 (1 - \bar{z}_0 z)} - \frac{z^2 f'(z)}{f(z_0)} \right\} + o(\varepsilon), \quad |z_0| < 1.$$

The leading coefficient a_1^* in the expansion of f^* about the origin is obtained by calculating

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \frac{f^*(z)}{z},$$

Namely,

$$(5) \quad a_1^* = 1 + \varepsilon \left\{ \frac{1}{z_0^2 f'(z_0)^2} - \frac{1-2a_2 f(z_0)}{f(z_0)^2} \right\} + o(\varepsilon)$$

Putting in (5), $a_2 = 0$ and letting $z_0 \rightarrow 0$, we find

$$(6) \quad a_1^* = 1 - 4a_3 \varepsilon + o(\varepsilon)$$

From here on we shall assume $\varepsilon > 0$, and unless stated otherwise f will denote a B. F.

Further, we introduce through the one-parameter family of B. F., i. e., $e^{i\varphi} f(e^{-i\varphi} z)$, a real parameter φ , $0 \leq \varphi \leq 2\pi$, corresponding to the rotations φ of the complex w -plane. Then R^* , f^* , a_1^* should read respectively $R^*(\varphi)$, $f^*(z, \varphi)$, $a_1^*(\varphi)$ with

$$a_1^*(\varphi) = 1 - 4a_3 \varepsilon e^{-2i\varphi} + o(\varepsilon),$$

where $o(\varepsilon)$ is uniform with respect to φ . For each φ

$$r_f^*(\varphi), \quad r_F^*(\varphi) = \frac{r_f^*(\varphi)}{|a_1^*(\varphi)|},$$

will denote the l. u. b. of the radii of all schlicht discs contained in $R^*(\varphi)$ and in the map of

$$F^*(z, \varphi) = f^*(z, \varphi)/a_1^*(\varphi)$$

respectively.

Lemma 3. If f is a B. F., then $r_f^*(\varphi) - a$ has a constant sign for all φ , as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$.

Proof. We observe that for fixed φ , ε determines uniquely R^* and the map of F^* , and thereby r_f^* and r_F^* respectively. Hence for fixed φ there is a one to one continuous correspondence between r_F^* and r_f^* and for $\varepsilon = 0$

$$r_f^* = r_F^* = a$$

Further, for convenience we set

$$s_f^* = r_f^* - a, \quad s_F^* = r_F^* - a$$

and let

$$t^*(\varphi) = s_F^*(\varphi) - s_f^*(\varphi)$$

since $s_F^* \geq 0$ for all φ , then for sufficiently small values of s_f^* , the representative curve $\Gamma\varphi$ of the pairs (s_F^*, s_f^*) , resulting from the one to one continuous correspondence, for each fixed φ , between r_F^* and r_f^* , lies in the right half-plane $s_F^* \geq 0$. Now, $t^*(\varphi)$, for $\varepsilon \geq 0$, vanishes only on the half-line defined by $s_f^* = s_F^*$ in which case $\Gamma\varphi$ may reduce to a point, namely, the origin. Hence, outside of this line, for $\varepsilon > 0$; $t^*(\varphi) < 0$ with $\Gamma\varphi$ lying in the angle determined by the half-lines $s_f^* \geq 0$, $s_f^* = s_F^*$, and $t^*(\varphi) > 0$ with $\Gamma\varphi$ lying in the supplementary angle defined by the half-lines $s_f^* = s_F^*$, $s_f^* \leq 0$. Next, if there exists a curve $\Gamma\varphi$ lying in an angle arbitrarily small with vertex at the origin and containing the s_F^* -axis, then $f^*(z, \varphi)$ being compact and therefore $\Gamma\varphi$ continuous, it follows that for $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $\Gamma\varphi$ lying on the s_F^* axis. This is impossible, since for this $\Gamma\varphi$, $s_f^* = 0$, while in view of $t^*(\varphi) > 0$, $s_F^* > 0$. Same contradiction is reached for a curve $\Gamma\varphi$ lying on the s_f^* -axis. Hence, in view of the continuity of $\Gamma\varphi$ with respect to φ , it follows that the curves $\Gamma\varphi$ for all φ , either lie in a subangle of the angle defined by the $s_f^* > 0$ axis and s_F^* axis, or in a subangle of the angle defined by the $s_f^* < 0$ -axis and s_F^* -axis.

Lemma 4. Let $f \in S$. Suppose that a is the l. u. b. of all schlicht discs contained in the map of f . Then f assumes the interior of at least one schlicht circle of radius a lying at finite distance.

Proof. Suppose that in the map R of f , there are no schlicht discs of radius a lying at finite distance. There are two possible cases. (i) R is the whole plane such that every point of the plane is either an interior point or a boundary point of R . Then there is at least one *end* point e of a boundary continuum γ . By suppressing a subcontinuum containing e , one may increase the inner radius of R without increasing the value of a . (ii) In the alternative case, there is a boundary arc γ , such that it is possible to replace a part of γ by an arc lying outside of R so as to increase the inner radius of R without increasing the value of a . These contradictions establish the lemma.

Corollary. If f is a B. F., then the map of f contains at least one schlicht disc of radius a lying at finite distance.

Lemma 5. Let f be a B. F. For each fixed φ , $F^*(z, \varphi)$ assumes univalently the interior of at least one circle C_F^* of radius r_F^* , lying at finite distance.

Proof. Assuming the contrary, $F^*(z, \varphi)$ for φ fixed, assumes univalently the interior of a circle C_∞^* of radius r_F^* lying at infinite distance. This implies the existence of a circle C_∞ of radius a lying at infinite distance in R and such that $C_\infty^* \rightarrow C_\infty$ as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$. But since (2) preserves the size of a circle lying at infinity, it follows that $r_f^* = a$. Then by the one to one continuous correspondence, for a fixed φ , between r_F^* and r_f^* we have $r_F^* = a$, and the conclusion is reached in view of Lemma 4.

Lemma 6. Let f be a B. F., and R^* the map of f^* . Let C_f^* denote a schlicht disc of radius r_f^* lying in R^* at finite distance. Then formula of Lemma 2 holds, up to an error term of higher order.

Proof. Suppose that on the circumference c_f^* of C_f^* lie three boundary points (omitted values) w_i^* , $i = 1, 2, 3$. Since, as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, the circumference c_f^* tends to the circumference c of C with radius a , then $w_i^* \rightarrow w_i$ lying on c . Let c^* be the image of c under (2). c_f^* intersects c^* at the neighboring points \tilde{w}_i^* of w_i^* (it is possible that some or all of the points \tilde{w}_i^* coincide with w_i^*). Consequently, the images \tilde{w}_i of \tilde{w}_i^* under (2) being on c , the formula of Lemma 2 is applicable to the disc C_f^* whose circumference c_f^* contains the points \tilde{w}_i^* , and whose area is A_f^* . On the other hand, since as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, the points $\tilde{w}_i \rightarrow w_i$, we may write

$$\tilde{w}_i = w_i + \varepsilon_i, \quad i = 1, 2, 3,$$

where $\varepsilon_i \rightarrow 0$ as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$. Hence formula of Lemma 2 holds, up to an error term of higher order. Namely,

$$(7) \quad A_f^* = \pi a^2 (1 + 2\varepsilon \operatorname{Im} F) + o(\varepsilon).$$

It is possible that the size of C_f^* may be fixed by only two boun-

dary points w_1^* , w_3^* , such will be the case, e. g., of C_f^* rolling along and between two parallel arcs which are parts of the boundary of R^* , then the foregoing argument is still applicable, and formula (7) is valid, except that w_2 ($\neq w_1, w_3$) is any fixed point on c .

Lemma 7. Introducing the parameter φ , we may write for a fixed F ,

$$(8) \quad r_f^*(\varphi) = a (1 + \varepsilon \operatorname{Im} e^{-2i\varphi} F) + o(\varepsilon)$$

and

$$(9) \quad r_{F^*}(\varphi) = a (1 + \varepsilon \operatorname{Im} e^{-2i\varphi} (F + 4ia_3)) + o(\varepsilon)$$

Proof. Indeed, assuming, say, $r_f^*(\varphi) \geq a$ (lemma 3) we know (lemma 5) that to each φ it can be associated in $R^*(\varphi)$ a disc $C_f^*(\varphi)$ with radius $r_f^*(\varphi)$ given by the formula

$$r_f^*(\varphi) = a (1 + \varepsilon \operatorname{Im} e^{-2i\varphi} F\varphi) + o(\varepsilon)$$

where $F\varphi$ is the symmetric function associated with the disc $C\varphi$ in R , with radius a , and such that $C_f^*(\varphi) \rightarrow C\varphi$ as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$. For the purpose of identifying $C\varphi$ with $F\varphi$, it is important to think of $F\varphi$ as a form rather than as a number. Accordingly, for the identification purpose it is then preferable to write $F\varphi$ in the equivalent symmetric form

$$F\varphi = -i \frac{\sum_{j=1}^{j=3} w_j \tan \theta_j}{w_1 w_2 w_3 \sum_{j=1}^{j=3} \tan \theta_j}.$$

Next, we note that for each φ the disc $C\varphi$, and thereby $C_f^*(\varphi)$, is uniquely determined within the totality of the discs of radius a in R , as soon as $\operatorname{Im} e^{-2i\varphi} F\varphi$ is minimum, with $|\operatorname{Re} e^{-2i\varphi} F\varphi|$ minimum, and, say, $\operatorname{Re} e^{-2i\varphi} F\varphi > 0$, whenever there are two $F\varphi$'s with the above specifications. Hence, under these specifications for $F\varphi$, we conclude that there is a one to one correspondence between $C_f^*(\varphi)$ and $C\varphi$ as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, and that $C_f^*(\varphi)$, now uniquely defined by $r_f^*(\varphi)$ is continuous in φ , so is $C\varphi$. In conc-

lusion, as φ varies from 0 to 2π , $C\varphi$ (or $F\varphi$) either remains fixed (or constant), or else, rolls continuously along two non intersecting parallel boundary continua lying at finite distance. The simple closed curve described by the center of $C\varphi$ and lying in the interior of R , contains one of the two continua which may consist of a single point. This contradicts however, the simply connectivity of R . So $F\varphi$ must be constant.

Theorem 2. If f is a B. F., then $F = 0$.

Proof. From relation (8) we can write

$$s_f^* = a \varepsilon \operatorname{Im} e^{-2i\varphi} F + o(\varepsilon).$$

Since by Lemma 3, $s_f^*(\varphi)$ has a constant sign for all φ , it is clear that

$$(10) \quad F = 0.$$

Theorem 3. If f is a B. F., then $a_3 = 0$.

Proof. From relation (9) we can write

$$s_F^*(\varphi) = a \varepsilon \operatorname{Im} e^{-2i\varphi} (F + 4ia_3) + o(\varepsilon)$$

Since $s_F^*(\varphi) \geq 0$ for all φ , it follows that

$$F + 4ia_3 = 0$$

In view of Theorem 2, we have

$$a_3 = 0$$

One verifies at once that (10) holds for w_1, w_2, w_3 lying at the vertices of an equilateral triangle, centre at the origin. In fact we can state the following remarkable theorem.

Theorem 4. $F = 0$ holds if and only if w_1, w_2, w_3 lie at the vertices of an equilateral triangle, centre at the origin.

Proof. First we remark that $F = 0$ is not affected when the w plane undergoes an homothetic transformation or a rotation or both. Now, $F = 0$ can be written as

$$(11) \quad \tan \theta = \frac{i}{w_1} (w_3 - w_2).$$

We recall that θ is the angle at the vertex w_1 . Applying the foregoing transformations so that w_1 goes over into i , then w_2, w_3 will go respectively over, say, ω_2, ω_3 . Accordingly (11) takes the form

$$\tan \theta = \omega_3 - \omega_2.$$

This last equation implies that the vector $\omega_2\omega_3$ must be parallel to the real axis. Similarly, should we have defined θ to be the angle at the other vertices, we would end up with the same conclusion. But the only triangle whose sides are successively parallel to the real axis when the w plane undergoes the foregoing transformations so as to take respectively the vertices into i , is evidently the equilateral triangle with centre at the origin.

As an immediate consequence of Theorem 3 we have

Theorem 5. $a > .629$.

Proof. Suppose that $f(z)$ is a B. F. and omits the value c . The function

$$F(z) = \frac{cf(z)}{c-f(z)} = z + b_2z^2 + b_3z^3 + \dots$$

where $b_2 = 1/c, b_3 = 1/c^2$, is analytic and schlicht for $|z| < 1$. Goluzin's inequality

$$|b_3 - \alpha b_2^2| \leq 2e^{\frac{-2\alpha}{1-\alpha}} + 1,$$

for all $0 < \alpha < 1$, takes the form

$$\frac{1 - \alpha}{|c|^2} \leq 2e^{\frac{-2\alpha}{1-\alpha}} + 1.$$

For the particular value $\alpha = .45$, we obtain

$$|c| > .629$$

If c is nearest to the origin then $a \geq |c|$. Hence $a > .629$.

Remark. It should be noticed that $a_3=0$ and the lower bound thereof would follow at once from a known property of a B. F., [6], i. e., R is the whole plane such that every point of the plane is either an interior or a boundary point of R . Indeed, since (2) preserves the size of a schlicht disc of radius a lying at infinity in R , the corresponding radius of the disc at infinity in the map of $F^*(z, \varphi)$ is $a/|a_1^*(\varphi)|$. But $r_F^*(\varphi) \geq a$, and à fortiori $|a_1^*(\varphi)| \leq 1$, or $\text{Re } e^{-2i\varphi} a_3 \geq 0$, i. e., $a_3 = 0$. This follows also from (9) where $F=0$ as $w \rightarrow \infty$.

LITERATURE

- [1] E. Landau, Über die Blochsche Konstante... MZ. vol 30. (1929)
- [2] R. M. Robinson, Bloch Functions, Duke Math. J. vol. 2. (1936)
- [3] F. Marty, Sur le module des coefficients de Mac Laurin d'une fonction univalente, C. R. Acad. Sci. Paris, vol, 198, (1934)
- [4] M. Schiffer, Appendix-Dirichlet's Principle, Conformal mapping, and Minimal surfaces, Interscience Publishers, N. Y. (1950)
- [5] C. Uluçay, Note on Schiffer's Variation Formula, Archiv der Math. Fasc. 4, Vol, VII, (1956)
- [6] C. Uluçay, Communications de la Fac. des Sciences de l'Un. d'Ankara, Série A, Tome VI, Fasc. 1, 1954.

ÖZET

$|z| < 1$ daresinde

$$w = f(z) = z + a_2 z^2 + a_3 z^3 + \dots$$

analitik ve schlicht fonksiyonlarının S sınıfını gözönüne alalım. $w = f(z)$ tasvirinin ihtiva ettiği bütün schlicht açık dairelerin yarıçaplarının en küçük üst sınırını r_f ile gösterelim.

$$a = \min_{f \in S} r_f$$

Landau sabitidir. Gösteriliyor ki, $f \in S$ üçüncü nevi bir Bloch fonksiyonu ise, bu takdirde $a_3 = 0$. Bunun bir neticesi olarak $a > .629$.

Prix de l'abonnement annuel

Turquie : 15 TL ; Étranger : 30 TL.

Prix de ce numéro : 5 TL (pour la vente en Turquie).

Prière de s'adresser pour l'abonnement à : Fen Fakültesi
Dekanlığı Ankara, Turquie.