

# A note on the length of starlike functions

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## Abstract

Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be the class of analytic functions  $f(z)$  normalized with  $f(0) = 0$  and  $f'(0) = 1$  which are univalent in the open unit disk  $\mathbb{U}$ . Also, let  $\mathcal{S}^*$  denote the subclass of  $\mathcal{S}$  consisting of functions  $f(z)$  which are starlike with respect to the origin in  $\mathbb{U}$ . For  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}^*$ , Ch. Pommerenke [J. London Math. Soc. 37(1962), 209 - 224] has shown the estimates for the length of the image curve of the circle  $|z| = r < 1$ . The object of the present paper is to derive the generalized theorem of the result due to Ch. Pommerenke.

## 1 Introduction

Let  $\mathcal{S}$  denote the set of functions  $f(z)$  of the form

$$f(z) = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n z^n$$

that are analytic and univalent in the open unit disk  $\mathbb{U} = \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid |z| < 1\}$ . A function  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}$  is called starlike with respect to the origin if it satisfies

$$\operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} \right) > 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}).$$

We denote by  $\mathcal{S}^*$  the subclass of  $\mathcal{S}$  consisting of all starlike functions with respect to the origin in  $\mathbb{U}$ . In 1962, Pommerenke [6] has shown

**Theorem A** *Let  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}^*$  and suppose that*

$$M(r) = \operatorname{Max}_{|z|=r < 1} |f(z)| \leq \frac{1}{(1-r)^\alpha} \quad (0 < \alpha \leq 2).$$

*Then*

$$L(r) = \int_0^{2\pi} r |f'(re^{i\theta})| d\theta \leq \frac{A(\alpha)}{(1-r)^\alpha},$$

*where  $A(\alpha)$  depends only on  $\alpha$  and  $L(r)$  denotes the length of  $C(r)$  which is the image of the circle  $|z| = r < 1$  under the mapping  $w = f(z)$ .*

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Pommerenke [6, Remarks in p.214] has given the comments that Theorem A can not be improved any more, except for the factor  $A(\alpha)$ . This is true, but it is not absolutely perfect, because the order of infinity for  $M(r)$  depends not only  $(1-r)^{-\alpha}$  but  $(\log(1-r)^{-1})^\beta$ .

In 1958, Hayman [1] has proved that if  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}$  and  $1/2 < \alpha \leq 2$ , then

$$M(r) = O\left(\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right)^\alpha\right)$$

implies that

$$L(r) = O\left(\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right)^\alpha\right).$$

Littlewood [4] has shown that this implication breaks down for small  $\alpha$ . On the other hand, Thomas [7] has obtained

**Theorem B** *Let  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}^*$ . Then*

$$L(r) = O\left(\sqrt{B(r)} \log\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right)\right) \quad (\text{as } r \rightarrow 1),$$

where  $B(r)$  is the area enclosed by the curve  $C(r)$  which is the image curve of the circle  $|z| = r < 1$  under the mapping  $w = f(z)$ .

It is the purpose of this paper to generalize Theorem A by Pommerenke [6].

## 2 Main theorem

To discuss our main theorem, we need the following lemma due to Pommerenke [6] (or also due to Hayman [1]).

**Lemma** *If  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}$ , then, for  $\lambda > 1$ ,*

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} |f(re^{i\theta})|^\lambda dt \leq \lambda^2 \int_0^r \frac{M(\rho)^\lambda}{\rho} d\rho \quad (0 < r < 1).$$

Now, we give

**Theorem** *Let  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}^*$  and suppose that*

$$M(r) = \text{Max}_{|z|=r < 1} |f(z)| = O\left(\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right)^\alpha \left(\log\frac{1}{1-r}\right)^\beta\right),$$

where  $0 < \alpha < k \leq 2$ ,  $k > 1$ , and  $\beta > 0$ . Then we have

$$L(r) = O\left(\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right)^\alpha \left(\log\frac{1}{1-r}\right)^{\beta+1-\frac{\alpha}{k}}\right)$$

for  $0 < \alpha < k - 1$ , and

$$L(r) = O\left(\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right)^{2\alpha(1-\frac{1}{k})+2-k} \left(\log\frac{1}{1-r}\right)^\beta\right)$$

for  $0 < k - 1 \leq \alpha < k$ .

**Proof** Application of the Hölder's inequality gives us that

$$\begin{aligned} L(r) &= \int_0^{2\pi} r |f'(re^{i\theta})| d\theta = \int_0^{2\pi} \left| \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right| |f(z)| d\theta \\ &\leq \left( \int_0^{2\pi} \left| \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right|^{\frac{k}{k-\alpha}} d\theta \right)^{\frac{k-\alpha}{k}} \left( \int_0^{2\pi} |f(z)|^{\frac{k}{\alpha}} d\theta \right)^{\frac{\alpha}{k}} \\ &= I^{\frac{k-\alpha}{k}} J^{\frac{\alpha}{k}}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $k > \alpha$ ,

$$I = \int_0^{2\pi} \left| \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right|^{\frac{k}{k-\alpha}} d\theta$$

and

$$J = \int_0^{2\pi} |f(z)|^{\frac{k}{\alpha}} d\theta.$$

By Keogh [2, Theorem 1], it is well known that

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \left| \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right| d\theta = O\left(\log\frac{1}{1-r}\right) \quad (\text{as } r \rightarrow 1).$$

On the other hand, we see that

$$\left| \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right| = O\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right) \quad (\text{as } r \rightarrow 1)$$

by Nehari [5]. Thus, we have the following estimates for  $0 < \alpha < k - 1$  that

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \int_0^{2\pi} \left| \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right| \left| \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right|^{\frac{\alpha}{k-\alpha}} d\theta \\ &= \left( O\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right)^{\frac{\alpha}{k-\alpha}} \right) \int_0^{2\pi} \left| \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right| d\theta \\ &= O\left(\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right)^{\frac{\alpha}{k-\alpha}} \left(\log\frac{1}{1-r}\right)\right) \quad (\text{as } r \rightarrow 1), \end{aligned}$$

which shows that

$$I^{\frac{k-\alpha}{k}} = O\left(\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right)^{\frac{\alpha}{k}} \left(\log\frac{1}{1-r}\right)^{\frac{k-\alpha}{k}}\right).$$

In order to consider for the case  $0 < k-1 \leq \alpha < k$ , we have to recall here the following result by Littlewood [3, p.484] that if  $f(z)$  is subordinate to  $F(z)$  in  $\mathbb{U}$ , then for each  $r$  ( $0 \leq r < 1$ ) and each  $k$  ( $k \geq 0$ ),

$$\int_0^{2\pi} |f(re^{i\theta})|^k d\theta \leq \int_0^{2\pi} |F(re^{i\theta})|^k d\theta.$$

Since  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}^*$ , we see that

$$\frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \prec \frac{1+z}{1-z} \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}),$$

where the symbol  $\prec$  means the subordination. Applying the result by Littlewood [3], we have for  $1 < k \leq 2$  that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{2\pi} \left| \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right|^k d\theta &\leq \int_0^{2\pi} \left| \frac{1+z}{1-z} \right|^k d\theta \leq \int_0^{2\pi} \left| \frac{1+z}{1-z} \right|^2 d\theta \\ &= O\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right) \quad (\text{as } r \rightarrow 1). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, for the case of  $0 < k-1 \leq \alpha < k$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \int_0^{2\pi} \left| \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right|^k \left| \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right|^{\frac{k(\alpha-k+1)}{k-\alpha}} d\theta \\ &= \left( O\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right)^{\frac{k(\alpha-k+1)}{k-\alpha}} \right) \int_0^{2\pi} \left| \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right|^k d\theta \\ &= O\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right)^{\frac{(k-1)(\alpha-k+1)+1}{k-\alpha}} \quad (\text{as } r \rightarrow 1), \end{aligned}$$

which implies that

$$I^{\frac{k-\alpha}{k}} = O\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right)^{(1-\frac{1}{k})\alpha-(k-2)}.$$

Next, we have to consider  $J$  by using the lemma due to Pommerenke [6]. By using the lemma and Schwarz lemma, we have, for  $0 < \alpha < k$ , that

$$J = \int_0^{2\pi} |f(z)|^{\frac{k}{\alpha}} d\theta \leq \frac{2k^2\pi}{\alpha^2} \int_0^r \frac{1}{\rho} M(\rho)^{\frac{k}{\alpha}} d\rho$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\leq \frac{2k^2\pi}{\alpha^2} \int_0^r \frac{1}{\rho} \left\{ \frac{\rho}{(1-\rho)^\alpha} \left( \log \frac{1}{1-\rho} \right)^\beta \right\}^{\frac{k}{\alpha}} d\rho \\
&= \frac{2k^2\pi}{\alpha^2} \int_0^r \frac{\rho^{\frac{k}{\alpha}-1}}{(1-\rho)^k} \left( \log \frac{1}{1-\rho} \right)^{\frac{k\beta}{\alpha}} d\rho \\
&\leq \frac{2k^2\pi}{\alpha^2} \int_0^r \left( \frac{1}{1-\rho} \right)^k \left( \log \frac{1}{1-\rho} \right)^{\frac{k\beta}{\alpha}} d\rho \\
&\leq \frac{2k^2\pi}{\alpha^2} \left( \log \frac{1}{1-r} \right)^{\frac{k\beta}{\alpha}} \int_0^r \left( \frac{1}{1-\rho} \right)^k d\rho \\
&= O \left( \left( \frac{1}{1-r} \right)^{k-1} \left( \log \frac{1}{1-r} \right)^{\frac{k\beta}{\alpha}} \right) \quad (\text{as } r \rightarrow 1),
\end{aligned}$$

which gives us that

$$J^{\frac{\alpha}{k}} = O \left( \left( \frac{1}{1-r} \right)^{\frac{\alpha(k-1)}{k}} \left( \log \frac{1}{1-r} \right)^\beta \right).$$

Consequently, we conclude that, for  $0 < \alpha < k - 1$ ,

$$L(r) = O \left( \left( \frac{1}{1-r} \right)^\alpha \left( \log \frac{1}{1-r} \right)^{\beta+1-\frac{\alpha}{k}} \right),$$

and, for  $0 < k - 1 \leq \alpha < k$ ,

$$L(r) = O \left( \left( \frac{1}{1-r} \right)^{2\alpha(1-\frac{1}{k})+(2-k)} \left( \log \frac{1}{1-r} \right)^\beta \right).$$

This completes the proof of our main theorem.

Taking  $k = 2$  in Theorem, we have

**Corollary** *Let  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}^*$  and suppose that*

$$M(r) = \text{Max}_{|z|=r < 1} |f(z)| = O \left( \left( \frac{1}{1-r} \right)^\alpha \left( \log \frac{1}{1-r} \right)^\beta \right),$$

where  $0 < \alpha < 2$  and  $\beta > 0$ . Then we have

$$L(r) = O \left( \left( \frac{1}{1-r} \right)^\alpha \left( \log \frac{1}{1-r} \right)^{\beta+1-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \right) \quad (\text{for } 0 < \alpha < 1)$$

and

$$L(r) = O \left( \left( \frac{1}{1-r} \right)^\alpha \left( \log \frac{1}{1-r} \right)^\beta \right) \quad (\text{for } 1 \leq \alpha < 2).$$

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