

**Zeitschrift:** Commentarii Mathematici Helvetici  
**Herausgeber:** Schweizerische Mathematische Gesellschaft  
**Band:** 53 (1978)

**Artikel:** Asymptotic FitzGerald inequalities.  
**Autor:** Bshouty, Daoud / Hengartner, Walter  
**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-40764>

### **Nutzungsbedingungen**

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

### **Conditions d'utilisation**

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

### **Terms of use**

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

**Download PDF:** 25.01.2026

**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>**

## Asymptotic FitzGerald inequalities

DAOUD BSHOUTY AND WALTER HENGARTNER\*

*Dedicated to Professor Albert Pfluger on his seventieth birthday*

**Abstract.** In this article we use the asymptotic behavior of the positive semi-definite FitzGerald matrix to get by elementary means Hayman's Regularity Theorem and a sharpening of an approximation theorem of Lebedev. Moreover we show that there is an absolute constant  $n_0$  such that for any  $f = z + a_2 z^2 + \dots \in S$  with  $|a_2| < 1.78$  we have  $|a_n| < n$  for all  $n > n_0$ .

### 1. Introduction

Let  $S$  denote the class of all normalized univalent functions  $f(z) = z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_k z^k$  defined in the unit disk  $U = \{z; |z| < 1\}$ . The Bieberbach Conjecture states that for functions in  $S$  one has  $b_n = |a_n| \leq n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . It is known to be true for  $n \leq 6$ . The best known estimate for all coefficients is  $b_n \leq (1.069)n$  (Horowitz [1976]). On the other hand Hayman's Regularity Theorem (Hayman [1955]) states that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n/n \leq 1$  for each  $f \in S$ , and that equality holds only for the Koebe-functions  $k(z) = z/(1 - \eta z)^2$ ,  $|\eta| = 1$ , for which  $b_n = n$ . This implies that  $b_n \leq n$  for  $n \geq n_0(f)$ .

The first author (Bshouty [1976a, 1976b]) has shown, that (a) if  $b_2 < 1.61$ , then  $b_n < n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , (b) if  $b_2 < 1.75$ , then there is an absolute constant  $n_0$  (independent of  $f$ ) such that  $a_n < n$  for all  $n > n_0$ .

The proofs of these two results were based on the FitzGerald inequalities and uses lengthy calculations. In this paper we investigate the asymptotic behavior of the FitzGerald inequalities to get by elementary means Hayman's Regularity Theorem, an improvement of the above result (b) and a sharpening of an approximation theorem in  $S$ .

This research was done during our stay at the Forschungsinstitut für Mathematik der E.T.H. Zürich. We wish to express our thanks to the members of the institute as well as to the secretaries.

---

\* This research was supported in part by the National Research Council of Canada A-7339 and the Forschungsinstitut für Mathematik der E.T.H., Zürich.

## 2. Asymptotic behavior of the elements of the FitzGerald matrix

The following theorem, due to FitzGerald [1972], is given in another formulation (Pommerenke [1975]):

**THEOREM A (FitzGerald Inequalities)** *Let  $f(z) = z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_k(f)z^k$  be in  $S$  and define*

$$q_{mn}(f) = q_{nm}(f) = \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n+m-1} \beta_j(m, n) b_j^2(f) \right) - b_m^2(f) b_n^2(f) \quad (1)$$

where  $b_j(f) = |a_j(f)|$ ;  $\beta_j(m, n) = \beta_j(n, m)$ ,  $j \in \mathbf{N}$ , and for  $m < n$ :

$$\beta_j(m, n) = \begin{cases} m - |j - n| & \text{for } |j - n| < m \\ 0 & \text{if otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then the FitzGerald matrix

$$Q(f) = (q_{m,n}(f))_{m,n \in \mathbf{N}} \quad (2)$$

is positive semi-definite.

The elements  $q_{mn}$  are complicated in themselves and it is not easy to handle them, but asymptotically they behave nicely. The following lemma approximates  $q_{mn}$  for large  $n$ .

**LEMMA 1.** *Let  $\{f_k\}$ ,  $k \in \mathbf{N}$ , be a sequence in  $S$  that converges locally uniformly to a function  $f \in S$ . Denote by*

$$\delta_n = \sup_k b_n(f_k)/n \quad \text{and} \quad \delta = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \delta_n \quad (3)$$

Then for any  $\beta$  with

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n(f_n)/n \leq \beta \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n(f_n)/n \quad (4)$$

there is a subsequence  $\{f_{n_k}\}$ ;  $k \in \mathbf{N}$ ,  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , such that for fixed  $m$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} q_{mn_k}(f_{n_k})/n_k^2 = [m^2 - b_m^2(f)] \cdot \beta^2 \quad (5)$$

and

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} q_{n_k n_k}(f_{n_k})/n_k^4 \leq (7/6)\delta^2 - \beta^4 \quad (6)$$

*Proof.* Let us first note that for  $m < n$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n+m-1} \beta_j(m, n) = \sum_{j=n-m+1}^{n+m-1} \beta_j(m, n) = m^2 \quad (7)$$

and

$$\sum_{j=1}^{2n-1} j^2 \cdot \beta_j(n, n) = n^2(7n^2 - 1)/6 \leq 7n^4/6 \quad (8)$$

In addition, we have for  $k = \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots, \pm m$

$$|b_n^2 - b_{n-k}^2| = O(n^{3/2}) \quad \text{for } n \rightarrow \infty \quad (9)$$

that follows directly from the FitzGerald inequalities (see e.g. Pommerenke [1975] and Horowitz [1972]). Note that we could replace in (9)  $O(n^{3/2})$  by  $O(n)$  using a result of Milin that  $|b_n - b_{n-1}| \leq 4.18$  for  $f \in S$ .

The relations (1) and (7) and the definition of the  $\beta_j(m, n)$  give for fixed  $m < n$ :

$$\begin{aligned} q_{mn}(f_n) - (m^2 - b_m^2(f_n)) \cdot b_n^2(f_n) &= \sum_{j=1}^{n+m-1} \beta_j(m, n)[b_j^2(f_n) - b_n^2(f_n)] \\ &= \sum_{j=n-m+1}^{n+m-1} \beta_j(m, n)[b_j^2(f_n) - b_n^2(f_n)] = O(n^{3/2}) \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Now choose a subsequence  $\{f_{n_k}\}$  of  $\{f_n\}$  such that  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} b_{n_k}(f_{n_k})/n_k = \beta$  and (5) is established.

For (6) we use this argument. Given  $\gamma > \delta$ , then there is an  $n_0(\gamma)$  such that  $b_n(f_k) < \gamma \cdot n$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and for all  $n > n_0(\gamma)$ . Choose  $\{f_{n_k}\}$  as before; thus for  $n_k > n_0(\gamma)$  we have by (1), (8) and using the fact that  $\beta_j(n_k, n_k) = j$  for  $1 \leq j \leq n_0(\gamma) < n_k$ :

$$\begin{aligned} q_{n_k n_k}(f_{n_k}) + b_{n_k}^4(f_{n_k}) &= \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n_0(\gamma)} + \sum_{j=n_0(\gamma)+1}^{2n_k-1} \right) \beta_j(n_k, n_k) b_j^2(f_{n_k}) \\ &\leq (1.069) \cdot \sum_{j=1}^{n_0(\gamma)} \beta_j(n_k, n_k) \cdot j^2 + \sum_{j=n_0(\gamma)+1}^{2n_k-1} \gamma^2 \cdot j^2 \cdot \beta_j(n_k, n_k) \\ &\leq \text{const}(\gamma) + 7\gamma^2 n_k^4/6. \end{aligned}$$

Divide both sides by  $n_k^4$  and pass to the limit. The result (6) follows, if we let  $\gamma$  tend to  $\delta$  by choosing simultaneously an appropriate subsequence of  $\{f_{n_k}\}$ .

Let now  $\{g_n \in S\}$ ,  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , satisfy

$$\sup \{b_n(f); f \in S\} = b_n(g_n). \quad (10)$$

The asymptotic Bieberbach limit  $\alpha$  is given by

$$\alpha = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n(g_n)/n. \quad (11)$$

Evidently  $\alpha \geq 1$ .

**COROLLARY.** *There exists a subsequence  $\{g_{n_k}\}$ ,  $k \in \mathbf{N}$  of  $\{g_n\}$ ,  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , such that*

(a)  $g_{n_k}$  converges locally uniformly to a function  $g \in S$

(b)  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} q_{mn_k}(g_{n_k})/n_k^2 = (m^2 - b_m^2(g)) \cdot \alpha^2$

(c)  $\limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} q_{n_k n_k}(g_{n_k})/n_k^4 \leq (7\alpha^2/6) - \alpha^4$ .

*Proof.* Take first a subsequence  $\{g_{n_k}\}$ ,  $k \in \mathbf{N}$  of  $\{g_n\}$ ,  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , such that  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} b_{n_k}(g_{n_k})/n_k = \alpha$  and then a subsequence of it such that (a) holds.

### 3. Hayman's regularity theorem:

Before we study the asymptotic FitzGerald inequalities in the general form, we want to show the procedure at the simple case  $f_n = f \in S$  for all  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , by proving in a elementary way Hayman's Regularity Theorem. The idea of the method is significant for all what follows. Another lengthier proof was done by Horowitz [1972].

We consider for  $j_1 < j_2 < \dots < j_p$  the principal minor

$$Q(j_1, j_2, \dots, j_p)(f) = (q_{j_i j_t}(f))_{1 \leq i \leq p, 1 \leq t \leq p} \quad (12)$$

of the positive semi-definite matrix  $Q(f)$  in (2) corresponding to the FitzGerald inequalities for a given function  $f \in S$ . The matrix (12) is again positive semi-

definite. Denote by

$$\alpha = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n(f)/n \quad \text{and} \quad \tau = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n(f)/n.$$

We apply Lemma 1 with  $f_n = f$ ,  $\delta = \sigma$  and  $\beta_p \in [\tau, \sigma]$  to the last row and last column of  $Q(j_1, \dots, j_p)(f)$ , after dividing both of them by  $j_p^2$ . This means that we let  $j_1, \dots, j_{p-1}$  to be fixed and pick then according to Lemma 1 a subsequence  $\{n_k\}$  from  $j_p$  such that  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} b_{n_k}(f)/n_k = \beta_p \in [\tau, \sigma]$ . Since the elementwise limit of a finite positive semi-definite matrix stays positive semi-definite and since the addition of a positive term to a diagonal element does not effect the positive semi-definiteness, we conclude that the matrix  $Q(j_1, j_2, \dots, j_{p-1}, \beta_p)(f)$  with the elements:

$$\begin{cases} q_{j_i j_t}(f) & \text{for } 1 \leq s \leq p-1, 1 \leq t \leq p-1 \\ \beta_p^2(j_s^2 - b_{j_s}^2(f)) & \text{for } 1 \leq s \leq p-1, t = p \\ \beta_p^2(j_t^2 - b_{j_t}^2(f)) & \text{for } s = p, 1 \leq t \leq p-1 \\ 7\sigma^2/6 - \beta_p^4 & \text{for } s = p, t = p \end{cases}$$

is positive semi-definite. Note that  $\beta_p < 1.07$ . Therefore there is no confusion about  $j_p$  and  $\beta_p$  in the above notation. This same procedure we apply to the  $(p-1)^{\text{th}}$  column and  $(p-1)^{\text{th}}$  row in letting  $j_1, j_2, \dots, j_{p-2}$  fixed. After dividing both of them by  $j_{p-1}^2$  we choose again a subsequence  $\{n_k\}$  from  $j_{p-1}$ , such that  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} b_{n_k}(f)/n_k = \beta_{p-1} \in [\tau, \sigma]$ . Then the matrix  $Q(j_1, j_2, \dots, j_{p-2}, \beta_{p-1}, \beta_p)(f)$  with the elements:

$$\begin{cases} q_{j_i j_t}(f) & \text{for } 1 \leq s \leq p-2, 1 \leq t \leq p-2 \\ \beta_t^2(j_s^2 - b_{j_s}^2(f)) & \text{for } 1 \leq s \leq p-2, p-1 \leq t \leq p \\ \beta_s^2(j_t^2 - b_{j_t}^2(f)) & \text{for } p-1 \leq s \leq p, 1 \leq t \leq p-2 \\ 7\sigma^2/6 - \beta_t^4 & \text{for } t = s, p-1 \leq t \leq p \\ \beta_p^2(1 - \beta_{p-1}^2) & \text{for } s = p-1, t = p \quad \text{and} \quad s = p, t = p-1 \end{cases} \quad (13)$$

is again positive semi-definite.

We continue by the same way for the  $(p-2)^{\text{th}}$  column and  $(p-2)^{\text{th}}$  row and so on. We finally get that the  $p \times p$  matrix  $Q(\beta_1, \dots, \beta_p)$  with the elements

$$\begin{cases} \beta_s^2(1 - \beta_t^2) & \text{for } s > t \\ \beta_t^2(1 - \beta_s^2) & \text{for } t > s \\ 7\sigma^2/6 - \beta_t^4 & \text{for } t = s, 1 \leq t \leq p \end{cases} \quad (14)$$

is again positive semi-definite.

Now we want to show that  $\sigma = \tau \leq 1$  and that equality holds only for the Koebe-functions.

First we put in (14)  $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \dots = \beta_p = \sigma$ . The matrix  $Q(\sigma, \sigma, \dots, \sigma)$  we denote (for later purposes) by  $M_p(\sigma)$  and their elements are

$$m_{st}(\sigma) = \begin{cases} 7\sigma^2/6 - \sigma^4 & \text{for } s = t \\ \sigma^2(1 - \sigma^2) & \text{for } s \neq t \end{cases} \quad (15)$$

The determinant of  $M_p(\sigma)$  is  $\sigma^{2p}(6p - 6\sigma^2p + 1)/6^p$  and has to be non-negative for all  $p \in \mathbf{N}$ , that implies  $\sigma \leq 1$ .

Next put  $j_1 = 2$ ,  $\beta_2 = \beta_3 = \dots = \beta_{p+1} = \sigma$ . The determinant of  $Q(2, \sigma, \sigma, \dots, \sigma)(f)$  is then

$$q_{22} \cdot \sigma^{2p}(6p - 6\sigma^2p + 1)/6^p - p \cdot (4 - b_2^2)^2 \sigma^{2p-1}/6^{p-1} \geq 0$$

for all  $p \in \mathbf{N}$ . We assume now that  $\sigma = 1$ , then

$$q_{22} \geq (4 - b_2^2)^2 6p \quad \text{for all } p \in \mathbf{N}$$

that implies  $b_2 = 2$ . By the area theorem it follows that  $f$  is a Koebe-function for which  $b_n = n$  and therefore  $\sigma = \tau = 1$ .

It remains to show that  $\sigma = \tau$  for  $0 < \sigma < 1$ . Choose  $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \dots = \beta_n = \tau$  and  $\beta_{n+1} = \beta_{n+2} = \dots = \beta_{2n} = \sigma$ . The determinant of  $Q(\tau, \tau, \dots, \tau, \sigma, \sigma, \dots, \sigma)$  is  $\sigma^{2n} 6^{-2(n-1)} (7\sigma^2 - 6\tau^2)^{n-1} \cdot \{n^2[\tau^2(1 - \sigma^2)(1 - \tau^2) - \sigma^2(1 - \tau^2)^2] + 0(n)\} \geq 0$  for all  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ . Since  $\tau < 1$  and  $\sigma > 0$  we have  $\tau^2(1 - \sigma^2) \geq \sigma^2(1 - \tau^2)$  that implies  $\tau \geq \sigma$ ; i.e.  $\tau = \sigma$ .

#### 4. Asymptotic FitzGerald inequalities

Let  $\{f_n\}$ ,  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , be a sequence of univalent functions in  $S$  that converges locally uniformly to a function  $f \in S$ . With  $c(f_n)$  we denote the limit

$$c(f_n) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} b_k(f_n)/k \quad (16)$$

which by Hayman's Regularity Theorem exists. We may assume that the limit

$$d = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c(f_n) \quad (17)$$

exists. Otherwise we pick a subsequence of  $\{f_n\}$ ,  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ .

For each fixed  $f_n, n > q-1$  we consider the principal minor  $Q(j_1, j_2, \dots, j_{q-1}, n, j_{q+1}, \dots, j_p)(f_n)$  of  $Q(f_n)$  in (2) where  $j_1 < j_2 < \dots < j_{q-1} < n < j_{q+1} < \dots < j_p$ . We apply now the same procedure as before in section 3 to the columns and rows  $j_p, j_{p-1}, \dots, j_{q+1}$ . The obtained matrix  $Q(j_1, j_2, \dots, j_{q-1}, n, c(f_n), c(f_n), \dots, c(f_n))(f_n)$  is positive semi-definite.

Next, we go with  $n$  to infinity and keep  $j_1, \dots, j_{q-1}$  fixed. Choose  $\beta$  with

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n(f_n)/n \leq \beta \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n(f_n)/n.$$

By Lemma 1 we have a subsequence  $\{f_{n_k}\}, k \in \mathbb{N}$ , of  $\{f_n\}, n \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} b_{n_k}(f_{n_k})/n_k = \beta$  and such that the relations (5) and (6) in Lemma 1 hold. After dividing the  $j_q^{\text{th}}$  column and row of  $Q(j_1, \dots, j_{q-1}, n_k, c(f_{n_k}), \dots, c(f_{n_k}))(f_{n_k})$  by  $n_k^2$  we let  $n_k$  go to infinity. The elements  $q_{j_s j_t}(f_{n_k}), 1 \leq s, t \leq q-1$  contain only the first  $2j_{q-1}$  coefficients of  $f_{n_k}$ ; therefore  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} q_{j_s j_t}(f_{n_k}) = q_{j_s j_t}(f)$  for  $1 \leq s, t \leq q-1$ . We denote the so obtained positive semi-definite matrix with  $Q(j_1, \dots, j_{q-1}, \beta, d, d, \dots, d)(f)$ .

Once more we apply the procedure described in section 3 to  $j_{q-1}, j_{q-2}, \dots, j_r$  with respect to the function  $f$ . The result is

**THEOREM 1** (Asymptotic FitzGerald inequalities) *Let  $\{f_n\}, n \in \mathbb{N}$ , be a sequence of functions in  $S$ , such that*

a)  $f_n$  converges locally uniformly to a function  $f \in S$

b)  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n(f_n)/n \leq \beta \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n(f_n)$

c)  $c(f) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n(f)/n$

d)  $d = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c(f_n)$

*Then  $A = Q(j_1, j_2, \dots, j_{r-1}, c(f), \dots, c(f), \beta, d, \dots, d)(f)$  is a positive semi-definite matrix.*

Denote by  $E_{mn}$  the  $m \times n$  matrix whose elements are all equal to be one. Moreover let  $H_{mn}(f)$  be the  $m \times n$  matrix defined by its elements  $h_{st}(f) = j_t^2 - b_j^2(f)$ . With the notation of  $Q(j_1, \dots, j_{r-1})(f)$  in (12),  $M_p(x)$  in (15), and  $\delta$  in (3) the

matrix  $A$  has the following form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} Q(j_1, \dots, j_{r-1}(f), & c(f)H_{r-1,q-r}(f), & \beta^2 H_{r-1,1}(f), & d^2 H_{r-1,p-q}(f) \\ c(f)H_{r-1,q-r}^T(f), & M_{q-r}(c(f)), & \beta^2(1-c^2(f))E_{q-r,1}, & d^2(1-c^2(f))E_{q-r,p-q} \\ \beta^2 H_{r-1,1}^T(f), & \beta^2(1-c^2(f))E_{1,q-r}, & (7\delta^2/6-\beta^4)E_{1,1}, & d^2(1-\beta^2)E_{1,p-q} \\ d^2 H_{r-1,p-q}^T(f), & d^2(1-c^2(f))E_{p-q,q-r}, & d^2(1-\beta^2)E_{p-q,1}, & M_{p-q}(d) \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $H^T$  is the transposed matrix of  $H$ .

## 5. Applications

For the first two applications we need

**LEMMA 2.** *Let  $\{f_n\}$ ,  $n \in \mathbf{N}$  be a sequence of univalent functions in  $S$ , that converges locally uniformly to a function  $f$  in  $S$  and suppose that  $c(f) > 0$ . Then  $7\delta^2 c^2(f) \geq 6\beta^4$ , where  $\beta$  is chosen as in Theorem 1 and  $\delta$  is defined in (3).*

*Proof.* Consider the  $(n+1) \times (n+1)$  principal minor  $Q(c(f), \dots, c(f), \beta)$  of the matrix  $A$  in Theorem 1. Then its determinant is with  $c = c(f)$ :

$$(c^2/6)^n (1-c^2)[n(7\delta^2-6\beta^4/c^2)+\beta^4/c^4]+c^{2n}6^{-(n+1)}(7\delta^2-6\beta^4/c^2) \geq 0,$$

**THEOREM 2.** *For  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , let  $g_n$  be in  $S$  such that  $b_n(g_n) = \sup(b_n(f); f \in S)$  (see (10)). Then we have for any limit function  $g$  of  $\{g_n\}$ ,  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ :  $c(g) \geq 0.92$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\{g_{n_k}\}$ ,  $k \in \mathbf{N}$  be a subsequence of  $\{g_n\}$ ,  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , that converges locally uniformly to  $g$ . We take  $\beta = \delta$ . Note that  $\delta$  of this subsequence is at least one.

First we show that  $c(g) > 0$ . In fact the determinant of the  $2 \times 2$  submatrix  $Q(c(g), \delta)$  of  $A$  is

$$(7c^2(g)-6c^4(g))(7\delta^2-6\delta^4)/36-\delta^4(1-c^2(g))^2 \geq 0$$

that excludes  $c(g) = 0$ .

Now apply Lemma 2 to  $f_k = g_{n_k}$  and we get  $c^2(g) \geq 6\delta^2/7 \geq 6/7$  or  $c(g) \geq \sqrt{6/7} > 0.92$ .

**THEOREM 3.** *Let  $f(z) = z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_k z^k$  be in  $S$ . If  $|a_2| < 1.78$ , then there is an absolute constant  $n_0$  (independent of  $f$ ), such that  $|a_n| < n$  for all  $n > n_0$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose, to the contrary, that there exists a sequence  $\{h_k\}$ ,  $k \in \mathbf{N}$ , of univalent functions in  $S$  such that

- a)  $h_k$  converges locally uniformly to a function  $h_0 \in S$ ,
- b)  $b_2(h_k) < 1.78$ ,
- c)  $b_{n_k}(h_k) \geq n_k$  for a sequence  $n_k$  going to infinity.

We pick now for each  $n_k$  one of the functions of  $\{h_j\}$ ,  $j = 0, 1, \dots$ , that maximizes  $b_{n_k}$  and denote it by  $f_k$ . We choose a subsequence  $\{f_{k_j}\}$ ,  $j \in \mathbf{N}$ , of  $\{f_k\}$ ,  $k \in \mathbf{N}$ , that converges locally uniformly to a function  $f \in S$  and we take  $\beta = \delta \geq 1$ . Evidently  $b_2(f) \leq 1.78$ .

As before  $c(f) > 0$ , since  $\text{Det } Q(c(f), \delta) \geq 0$  implies for  $c(f) = 0$  that  $\delta = 0$ . By Lemma 2 we have

$$7c^2(f)\delta^2 - 6\delta^4 \geq 0 \quad \text{or} \quad c^2(f) \geq 6\delta^2/7 \geq 6/7.$$

This implies by a theorem of Jenkin and Hayman (see Hayman [1958]), that  $b_2(f) > 1.78$  that contradicts the assumptions.

Let  $S_x = \{f \in S; c(f) = x\}$ . Given  $0 \leq x_1 < x_2 \leq 1$ , Lebedev [1941] proved that each function in  $S_{x_2}$  can be approximated locally uniformly by univalent functions in  $S_{x_1}$ . We show that the converse is not true for any function in  $S_{x_1}$ .

**THEOREM 4.** *Let  $0 \leq x_1 < x_2 \leq 1$ . Then no function in  $S_{x_1}$  can be approximated locally uniformly by functions in  $S_{x_2}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\{f_n\}$ ,  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , be a sequence in  $S_{x_2}$  that converges locally uniformly to a function  $f \in S$ . We consider the  $2n \times 2n$  principal minor  $Q(c(f), \dots, c(f), d, \dots, d)$  with  $n$  elements  $d = x_2$  of the matrix  $A$  in Theorem 1. Its determinant is

$$c^{2n}(f)d^{2n}6^{2-2n}\{n^2(1-c^2)(1-d^2/c^2)+0(n)\} \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

For  $c(f) = 0$  we get from the determinant of  $Q(c(f), d)$  that  $d = 0$ , what is a contradiction of the assumption. Let  $c(f) > 0$ . Then we have, for  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , that  $c^2(f) \geq d^2$ , i.e.  $f \in S_x$ ,  $x \geq x_2$ .

**COROLLARY.** *The functional  $c(f)$  is upper semi-continuous on  $S$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\{f_n\}$ ,  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , be sequence in  $S$ . We pick a subsequence  $\{f_{n_k}\}$ ,  $k \in \mathbf{N}$  of  $\{f_n\}$ ,  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , such that

- a)  $f_{n_k}$  converges locally uniformly to a function  $f \in S$
- b)  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} c(f_{n_k}) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} c(f_n) = d$ .

Applying the proof of Theorem 4 the Corollary follows.

*Remarks.* Using the same method as above for Theorem 2, 3 and 4 we get the following results:

1) The principal minor  $Q(k, c(f), \dots, c(f))$  of the matrix  $A$  gives rise to

$$q_{kk}(1 - c^2(f)) \geq c^2(f)(k^2 - b_k^2(f))^2 \quad \text{for all } k \in \mathbf{N}$$

This gives a bound of  $c(f)$  in terms of  $b_k(f)$ . Take for example  $k = 2$ . Then

$$(1 + 2b_2^2 + b_3^2 - b_2^4)(1 - c^2(f)) \geq c^2(f)(4 - b_2^2)^2.$$

Note that the problem of estimating  $c(f)$  as a function of  $b_2(f)$  was completely solved by Jenkins [1954] even for a larger class of functions.

2) Let  $\{g_n\}$ ,  $n \in \mathbf{N}$  be a sequence in  $S$  that satisfies (10) and denote by  $\alpha$  the asymptotic Bieberbach limit in (11). Take a subsequence  $\{g_{n_k}\}$ ,  $k \in \mathbf{N}$  of  $\{g_n\}$ ,  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , such that

a)  $g_{n_k}$  converges locally uniformly to a function  $g$  in  $S$ ,

b)  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} b_{n_k}(g_{n_k})/n_k = \alpha$ ,

The  $(2n+1) \times (2n+1)$  principal minor  $Q(c(g), \dots, c(g), \alpha, d, \dots, d)$  gives rise to

$$(7c^2(g) - 6\alpha^2)(6\alpha^2 - 5d^2) \geq d^2c^2(g).$$

This inequality does not say much unless some lower bound of  $d$  is known. If one can show the continuity of the functional  $c(\cdot)$  for a specific subsequence  $\{g_{n_k}\}$ ,  $k \in \mathbf{N}$ , of above, then one can conclude the Asymptotic Bieberbach Conjecture  $\alpha = c(g) = d = 1$ .

## REFERENCES

- BSHOUTY, D. H. [1976a] *The Bieberbach conjecture for univalent functions with small second coefficients*. Math. Z. 149, 183–187.  
 —, [1976b] *The FitzGerald inequalities and a generalization of the Bieberbach conjecture*. Doctoral thesis, Technion I.I.T., Haifa.  
 FITZGERALD, C. H. [1972] *Quadratic inequalities and coefficient estimates for schlicht functions*. Arch. rat. Mech. Analysis 46, 356–368.  
 FRIEDLAND, S. [1975] *Generalized Hadamard inequality and its applications*. Linear and Multilinear Algebra 2, 327–334.  
 HAYMAN, W. K. [1955] *The asymptotic behaviour of  $p$ -valent functions*. Proc. Lon. Math. Soc. (3) 5, 257–284.  
 —, [1958] *Multivalent functions*, Cambridge Univ. Press.

- HOROWITZ, D. A. [1974] *Applications of quadratic inequalities in the theory of semivalent functions. Doctoral thesis.* Univ. of California, San Diego.
- , [1976] *A refinement for coefficient estimates of univalent functions*, Proc. A.M.S., 54, 176–178.
- JENKINS, J. P. [1954] *On a problem of Gronwall*, Ann. of Math. 59, 490–504.
- LEBEDEV, N. A. [1974] *On Hayman's regularity theorem*. Zap. Nauch. Sem. Leningrad. Otdel. Math. Inst. Steklov (LOMI) 44, 93–99, 187.
- POMMERENKE, Ch. [1975] *Univalent functions*, Göttingen: Vandenhoeck und Ruprecht.

*Forschungsinstitut für Mathematik  
ETH-Zürich*

Received August 8, 1977