

# UNIVALENCE OF BESSEL FUNCTIONS

R. K. BROWN

1. **Introduction.** In 1954 M. S. Robertson [2] obtained sufficient conditions for the univalence in the unit circle of functions

$$[W(z)]^{1/\alpha} = \left[ z^\alpha \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n \right]^{1/\alpha}, \quad a_0 = 1,$$

where  $\Re\{\alpha\} \geq 1/2$  and  $W(z)$  is a solution of the differential equation

$$(1.1) \quad W''(z) + p(z)W(z) = 0, \quad |z| < 1.$$

In this paper we employ the methods of Robertson to obtain information concerning the univalence of the functions  $[T(z)]^{1/\nu}$  ( $\nu \neq 0$ ) and  $z^{1-\nu}T(z)$  where

$$T(z) = z^\nu \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n, \quad \Re\{\nu\} \geq 0,$$

is a solution of the differential equation

$$(1.2) \quad T''(z) + \frac{1}{z} T'(z) + q(z)T(z) = 0, \quad |z| < R.$$

In particular we shall first determine a radius of univalence for the normalized Bessel functions  $[J_\nu(z)]^{1/\nu}$  for values of  $\nu$  belonging to the region  $G$  defined by the inequalities  $\Re\{\nu\} > 0$ ,  $|\arg \nu| < \pi/4$ . Then we shall determine the radius of univalence of the functions  $z^{1-\nu}J_\nu(z)$  for values of  $\nu$  belonging to a subset of the closure of  $G$ . When  $\nu$  is real and positive we shall determine the exact radius of star-likeness of both of the above-mentioned classes of normalized Bessel functions.

Our results concerning the functions  $z^{1-\nu}J_\nu(z)$  "sharpen" those of Kreyszig and Todd [1] when  $\nu \geq 0$  and extend their results for complex values of  $\nu$ .

2. **Preliminaries.** Let

$$(2.1) \quad z^2 p^*(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_n^* z^n, \quad p_0^* \leq \frac{1}{4},$$

be regular for  $|z| < R$  and real on the real axis. Given any non-negative constant  $C$ , define

Presented to the Society, September 3, 1959; received by the editors March 10, 1959 and, in revised form, July 8, 1959.

$$(2.2) \quad W_C(z) = z^{\alpha^*} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n^*(C)z^n, \quad a_0^*(C) = 1,$$

to be the unique solution for  $|z| < R$  of the differential equation

$$(2.3) \quad W''(z) + \{C[p^*(z) - p_0^*/z^2] + p_0^*/z^2\}W(z) = 0$$

where  $\alpha^*$  is the larger root of the associated indicial equation.

We now are ready to state the following

LEMMA. Let  $y(\rho)$ ,  $dy(\rho)/d\rho = y'(\rho)$  be real functions, continuous in the real variable  $\rho$  for  $0 < \rho < R$ . For small values of  $\rho$  let

$$y(\rho) = O(\rho^\delta), \quad y'(\rho) = O(\rho^{\delta-1}), \quad \delta > 1/2.$$

Then

$$(2.4) \quad \int_0^r \{C[\rho^2 p^*(\rho) - p_0^*] + p_0^*\} y^2(\rho) \frac{d\rho}{\rho^2} \\ \leq \int_0^r [y'(\rho)]^2 d\rho - \frac{W'_C(r)}{W_C(r)} \cdot y^2(r), \quad 0 < r < R,$$

where  $W_C(z)$  is the solution (2.2) of (2.3).

The proof of this lemma is with obvious modifications the same as that given by Robertson [2] for the case  $R=1$ . We will not reproduce it here.

With the aid of the lemma we are able to prove the following

THEOREM 1. Let  $z^2 p(z)$  be regular for  $|z| < R$  and satisfy the inequality

$$(2.5) \quad \Re\{e^{i\gamma} z^2 p(z)\} \leq \cos \gamma \{C[|z|^2 p^*(|z|) - p_0^*] + p_0^*\}$$

where  $C \geq 0$ ,  $|\gamma| \leq \pi/2$ , and  $z^2 p^*(z)$  is defined in (2.1). With  $p(z)$  chosen in this manner we define

$$(2.6) \quad W(z) = z^\alpha \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n, \quad a_0 = 1, \quad |z| < R,$$

to be the unique solution of (1.1) corresponding to the root with larger real part of the associated indicial equation. Let  $W_C(z)$  be defined as in (2.2). Then

$$(2.7) \quad \Re \left\{ e^{i\gamma} \frac{zW'(z)}{W(z)} \right\} \geq |z| \frac{W'_C(|z|)}{W_C(|z|)} \cos \gamma$$

for all  $|z| \leq \rho < R$ .

PROOF. If in (2.6) we have  $\Re\{\alpha\} > 1/2$  then

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.8) \quad & |W(z)|^2 \Re \left\{ e^{i\gamma} \frac{zW'(z)}{W(z)} \right\} \\
 &= r \cos \gamma \int_0^r |W'|^2 d\rho - r \cdot \int_0^r \Re \{ e^{i\gamma} z^2 p(z) \}_{|z|=\rho} \frac{|W|^2}{\rho^2} d\rho
 \end{aligned}$$

for all  $0 \leq r < R$ .

This equation is known as the “Green’s transform” of (1.1) and in the form (2.8) is due to Robertson [2]. The inequality (2.7) now follows immediately from (2.8), (2.5), and (2.4) with  $y(\rho) = W(\rho)$ .

The proof for the case when  $\Re \{ \alpha \} = 1/2$  in (2.6) follows from the continuity of  $zW'(z)/W(z)$  as a function of  $\alpha$  for  $\Re \{ \alpha \} > 0$  (see [2, p. 258]).

We conclude this section with the definitions of the terms “star-like” and “spiral-like.”

DEFINITION. A function  $f(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n z^n$ ,  $a_1 \neq 0$ , regular for  $|z| < R$  will be called *spiral-like* in  $|z| < R$  if for some real constant  $\gamma$  ( $|\gamma| \leq \pi/2$ ) the function  $f(z)$  satisfies the inequality

$$(2.9) \quad \Re \left\{ e^{i\gamma} \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right\} \geq 0$$

for all  $|z| < R$ . In the special case when  $\gamma = 0$  we say that  $f(z)$  is *star-like* with respect to the origin in  $|z| < R$ .

It was shown by Špaček [3] that (2.9) is sufficient for the univalence in  $|z| < R$  of  $f(z)$  whenever  $f'(0) \neq 0$ .

**3. Bessel’s equation.** In this section we state our two theorems concerning the univalence of normalized solutions of Bessel’s equation

$$(3.1) \quad T''(z) + \frac{1}{z} T'(z) + \left( 1 - \frac{\nu^2}{z^2} \right) T(z) = 0, \quad |z| < R.$$

THEOREM 2. Let the complex number  $\nu$  satisfy the inequalities  $\Re \{ \nu \} > 0$ ,  $|\arg \nu| < \pi/4$ . Then the normalized Bessel function  $[J_\nu(z)]^{1/\nu}$  is regular, univalent, and spiral-like in every circle  $|z| = r < \rho_\mu$  where  $\mu^2 = \Re \{ \nu^2 \}$ ,  $\mu > 0$ , and  $\rho_\mu$  is the smallest positive zero of the function  $J'_\mu(r)$ . In the particular case when  $\nu$  is real and positive the function  $[J_\nu(z)]^{1/\nu}$  is star-like in  $|z| < \rho_\mu$  but is not univalent in any larger circle.

THEOREM 3. Let the complex number  $\nu = x + iy$  satisfy one of the following conditions:

$$(3.2) \quad 0 \leq x < 1 \quad \text{and} \quad y \leq x,$$

$$(3.3) \quad x \geq 1 \quad \text{and} \quad y^2 < 2x - 1.$$

Then the normalized Bessel function  $z^{1-\nu}J_\nu(z)$  is regular, univalent, and spiral-like in every circle  $|z| = r < \rho_\mu^*$  where  $\mu^2 = \Re\{\nu^2\}$ ,  $\mu > 0$ , and  $\rho_\mu^*$  is the smallest positive zero of the function  $rJ_\mu'(r) + \Re\{1-\nu\}J_\mu(r)$ . In the particular case when  $\nu$  is real the function  $z^{1-\nu}J_\nu(z)$  is univalently star-like in  $|z| < \rho_\mu^*$  but is not univalent in any larger circle.

**4. Proof of Theorem 2.** Select any  $\nu$  satisfying the inequalities  $\Re\{\nu\} > 0$ ,  $|\arg \nu| < \pi/4$ , and consider (2.3) with  $\mu^2 = \Re\{\nu^2\}$ ,  $C=1$ , and

$$(4.1) \quad z^2 p^*(z) = z^2 + 1/4 - \mu^2.$$

In this manner we obtain the differential equation

$$(4.2) \quad W''(z) + \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{z^2} (\mu^2 - 1/4) \right] W(z) = 0$$

whose solution  $W_1(z)$  as defined in (2.2) is

$$(4.3) \quad W_1(z) = 2^\mu \Gamma(\mu + 1) z^{1/2} J_\mu(z).$$

Next, by setting

$$(4.4) \quad z^2 p(z) = z^2 + 1/4 - \mu^2$$

in (1.1) we find that the solution  $W(z)$  of (1.1) as defined in (2.1) is

$$(4.5) \quad W(z) = 2^\nu \Gamma(\nu + 1) z^{1/2} J_\nu(z).$$

The solutions given in (4.3) and (4.5) are valid for all finite  $z$ . Moreover,  $z^2 p^*(z)$  and  $z^2 p(z)$  as given in (4.1) and (4.4) satisfy (2.7) for all finite values of  $z$  when  $\gamma=0$  and  $C=1$ . Therefore, from (2.7) it follows that

$$(4.6) \quad \Re \left\{ \frac{zW'(z)}{W(z)} \right\} \geq |z| \frac{W_1'(|z|)}{W_1(|z|)}$$

for all finite values of  $z$ . Thus, from (4.3), (4.5), and (4.6) we have

$$(4.7) \quad \Re \left\{ \frac{zJ_\nu'(z)}{J_\nu(z)} \right\} \geq \frac{rJ_\mu'(r)}{J_\mu(r)}, \quad |z| = r,$$

for all finite  $r$ .

Since  $\mu$  is positive it follows from (4.7) that

$$(4.8) \quad \Re \left\{ \frac{zJ_\mu'(z)}{J_\mu(z)} \right\} \geq 0, \quad |z| \leq \rho_\mu,$$

where  $\rho_\mu$  is the smallest positive zero of  $J_\mu'(r)$ .

We now define

$$(4.9) \quad F_\nu(z) = [J_\nu(z)]^{1/\nu}$$

where  $[J_\nu(z)]^{1/\nu} = (1/\nu) \exp \{ \text{Log } J_\nu(z) \}$  and Log represents the principal branch of the logarithm. Then,

$$(4.10) \quad \Re \left\{ \frac{zF'_\nu(z)}{F_\nu(z)} \right\} = \Re \left\{ \frac{zJ'_\nu(z)}{J_\nu(z)} \right\}$$

and it follows from (4.8) that in every circle  $|z| = r < \rho_\mu$  the function  $F_\nu(z)$  is spiral-like if  $\nu$  is complex and is star-like if  $\nu$  is real and positive.

Clearly, since  $J'_\mu(z)$  vanishes for  $z = \rho_\mu$  the function  $[J_\mu(z)]^{1/\mu}, \mu > 0$ , cannot be univalent in any circle  $|z| = r > \rho_\mu$ .

This completes the proof of Theorem 2.

**5. Proof of Theorem 3.** If in the proof of Theorem 2 we replace  $F_\nu(z)$  in (4.9) by the function

$$(5.1) \quad S_\nu(z) = z^{1-\nu}J_\nu(z), \quad \Re\{\nu\} \geq 0,$$

then since

$$(5.2) \quad \Re \left\{ \frac{zS'_\nu(z)}{S_\nu(z)} \right\} = \Re\{1 - \nu\} + \Re \left\{ \frac{zJ'_\nu(z)}{J_\nu(z)} \right\}$$

it follows from (4.7) that

$$(5.3) \quad \Re \left\{ \frac{zS'_\nu(z)}{S_\nu(z)} \right\} \geq \Re\{1 - \nu\} + \frac{zJ'_\mu(z)}{J_\mu(z)}$$

for all finite  $z$  ( $|z| = r$ ). Then, since (3.2) and (3.3) imply that the right-hand member of (5.3) is positive for sufficiently small values of  $r$ , it follows that

$$(5.4) \quad \Re \left\{ \frac{zS'_\nu(z)}{S_\nu(z)} \right\} \geq 0, \quad |z| \leq \rho_\mu^*,$$

where  $\rho_\mu^*$  is the smallest positive zero of the function

$$rJ'_\mu(r) + \Re\{1 - \nu\}J_\mu(r).$$

For non-negative real values of  $\nu$  the vanishing of  $S'_\nu(z)$  for  $z = \rho_\mu^*$  precludes the possibility that  $S_\nu(z)$  is univalent in any circle  $|z| = r > \rho_\mu^*$ .

We note here that for non-negative real values of  $\nu$  the  $\rho_\mu^*$  of our Theorem 3 is precisely the  $\rho_\nu$  of [1].

6. **Remarks.** We note that if  $T(z) = z^r \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n$ ,  $\Re\{r\} \geq 0$ , satisfies (1.2) for  $|z| < R$ , then the function

$$W(z) = z^{1/2} T(z) = z^\alpha \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n, \quad \Re\{\alpha\} \geq 1/2,$$

satisfies (1.1) with  $z^2 p(z) = z^2 q(z) + 1/4$ . Thus Theorem 1 is applicable to an entire class of functions satisfying (1.2). In particular, therefore, one could obtain results analogous to those of Theorems 2 and 3 for the modified Bessel functions  $I_\nu(z)$ .

Many other results could be obtained by judicious selection of the function  $q(z)$  subject to the conditions of Theorem 1.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. E. O. A. Kreyszig and J. Todd, *The radius of univalence of Bessel functions I*, Notices Amer. Math. Soc. vol. 5 (1958) p. 664.
2. M. S. Robertson, *Schlicht solutions of  $W'' + pW = 0$* , Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. vol. 76 (1954) pp. 254-274.
3. Lad. Špaček, *Contribution à la théorie des fonctions univalentes*, Časopis Pěst. Mat. Fys. vol. 62 (1936) pp. 12-19.

U. S. ARMY SIGNAL R/D LABORATORY,  
FORT MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY