

# XII. conformal mapping of polygons, harmonic function

## §1 Schwarz-Christoffel formula [Ahlfors, §2.2 of ch. 6]

i)  $P$ : polygon  $D$ : unit disk

Lemma a conformal equivalence  $f: P \rightarrow D$  extends to a homeomorphism  $F: \bar{P} \rightarrow \bar{D}$

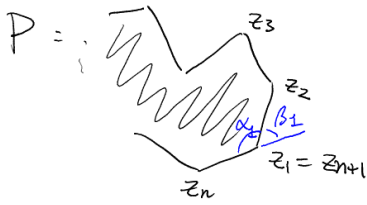
pf: According to the discussion last time, it extends to a continuous map  $F: \bar{P} \rightarrow \bar{D}$  (note that the discussion works at the vertex as well)

Similarly,  $g = f^{-1}: D \rightarrow P$  admits a continuous extension  $G: \bar{D} \rightarrow \bar{P}$

For any  $z \in P$ ,  $G \circ F(z) = z$ . For any  $w \in D$ ,  $F \circ G(w) = w$

If  $z \in \partial P$ ,  $\exists z_n \in P$  such that  $z_n \rightarrow z \Rightarrow G \circ F(z) = z$

By the same token,  $F \circ G(w) = w \quad \forall w \in \partial D$  \*



$z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n, z_{n+1} = z_1$ : vertices of  $P$  in counter clockwise

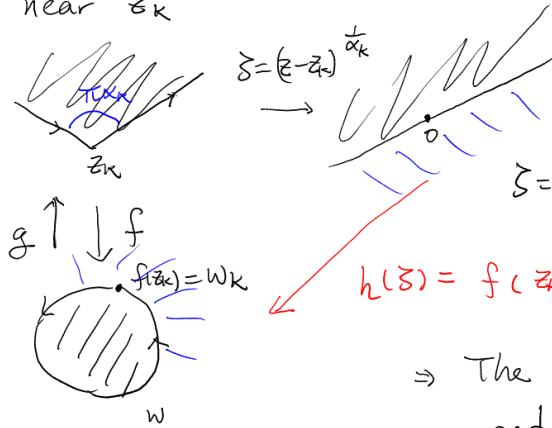
order  $\left( \begin{matrix} \parallel \\ \parallel \\ \parallel \\ \parallel \\ \parallel \end{matrix} \right) z_{j+1}$ :  $P$  is on the left hand side

$$\pi \alpha_j = \text{angle at } z_j = \arg \frac{z_{j+1} - z_j}{z_j - z_{j-1}} \in (0, 2\pi)$$

$$\pi \beta_j = \text{outer angles} = \pi(1 - \alpha_j) \quad \text{note that } \sum_{j=1}^n \beta_j = 2$$

$$\beta_j \in (-1, 1)$$

ii) locally, near  $z_k$



Consider  $(z - z_k)^{1/\alpha_k}$  (some branch)

The map "flattens" the corner.

$\zeta = (z - z_k)^{1/\alpha_k} \in$  near 0, and some half-plane

$$\Rightarrow z = z_k + \zeta^{\alpha_k} \quad (\text{with suitable branch})$$

$$h(\zeta) = f(z_k + \zeta^{\alpha_k})$$

$\Rightarrow$  The Schwarz reflection principle applies, and  $h(\zeta)$  is analytic on a neighborhood of 0

Moreover, since  $h$  is originally injective on the half plane  $\Rightarrow h'(0) \neq 0$

Hence, we can invert  $h$  for  $w$  near  $w_k$  and  $\zeta$  near 0

$$\Rightarrow \zeta = (w - w_k) A_k(w) \quad A_k(w) : \text{analytic near } w_k \text{ and } A_k(w_k) \neq 0$$

It follows that  $w \mapsto \zeta = (w - w_k) A_k(w) = (z - z_k)^{1/\alpha_k}$

$$\Rightarrow g(w) \text{ near } w_k \text{ is } z_k + (w - w_k)^{\alpha_k} \underbrace{(A_k(w))^{\alpha_k}}_{\text{nonzero, analytic near } w_k}$$

iii) global (putting together the local picture at each  $k$ ) ?

$g'(w)$  is nonzero for  $w \in D$ , also for  $w \in \partial D \setminus \{w_1, \dots, w_n\}$

near  $z_k$ ,  $g(w) = z_k + (w-w_k)^{\alpha_k} (A_k(w))^{\alpha_k}$   
 $\Rightarrow g'(w) = \alpha_k (w-w_k)^{\alpha_k-1} (A_k(w))^{\alpha_k} + (w-w_k)^{\alpha_k} \frac{d}{dw} (A_k(w))^{\alpha_k}$   
 $\Rightarrow (w-w_k)^{\beta_k} g'(w) = \alpha_k (A_k(w))^{\alpha_k} + (w-w_k) \frac{d}{dw} (A_k(w))^{\alpha_k}$

It follows that  $B(w) = g'(w) \prod_{k=1}^n (w-w_k)^{\beta_k}$  is analytic, and nowhere zero on  $\bar{D}$

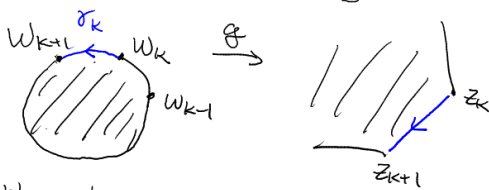
[ More precisely,  $(w-w_k)^{\beta_k} g'(w)$  has a removable singularity at  $w=w_k$ , and has nonzero value at  $w=w_k$  ]

iv) claim  $B(w) = \text{constant}$

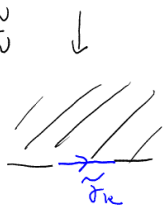
Consider  $\log B(w) = \log |B(w)| + i \arg(B(w))$

$w_k = e^{i\theta_k} \quad w_{k+1} = e^{i\theta_{k+1}}$

Consider  $w = e^{i\theta} \quad \theta_j < \theta < \theta_{j+1}$  (for some  $j$ )



$i \frac{1-w}{1+w}$

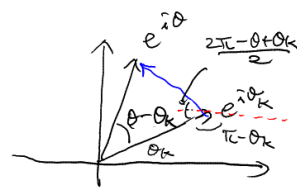


$\tilde{g}'|_{\tilde{\sigma}_k}$  has constant argument / angle  
 $\arg \tilde{g}'|_{\tilde{\sigma}_k} = C'_k = \arg g|_{e^{i\theta}} - (C_k - \theta)$   
 independent of  $\theta \in (\theta_k, \theta_{k+1})$

$\left[ \frac{d}{dw} \left( i \frac{1-w}{1+w} \right) = \frac{-2i}{(1+e^{i\theta})^2} \xrightarrow{\arg} C_k - \arg(1+e^{i\theta})^2 = C_k - \theta \right]$

$\Rightarrow \arg g'(w)|_{e^{i\theta}} = C_k + C'_k - \theta$

$\arg \prod_k (w-w_k)^{\beta_k} = \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \left( \frac{\theta}{2} + \frac{\theta_k}{2} \right) = \theta + C''_k$



$\Rightarrow \arg(w-w_k) = 2\pi - (\pi - \theta_k) - (\pi - \frac{\theta}{2} + \frac{\theta_k}{2}) = \frac{\theta}{2} + \frac{\theta_k}{2}$

$\Rightarrow \arg(B(w))$  is constant on each  $\sigma_k \subset \partial D$

By continuity,  $\arg(B(w)) = C \quad \forall |w|=1$

Since  $\log B(w)$  is analytic on  $\bar{D}$ , Cauchy integral formal

$\Rightarrow \arg B(0) = C$

Consider  $\exp(i \log B(w)) = e^{-\arg B(w)} e^{i \log |B(w)|}$

$\max_{\bar{D}} \exp(i \log B(w)) \leq C = \exp(i \log B(0))$

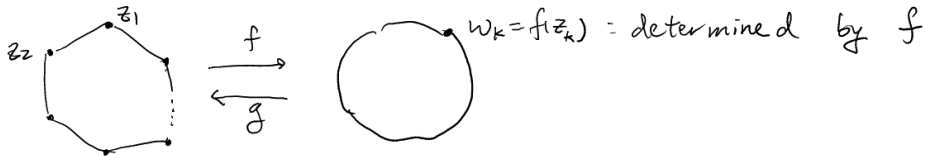
$\Rightarrow$  it is a constant function

$\Rightarrow$  so is  $B(w)$ ,  $B(w) = g'(w) \prod_{k=1}^n (w-w_k)^{\beta_k} = C_1$

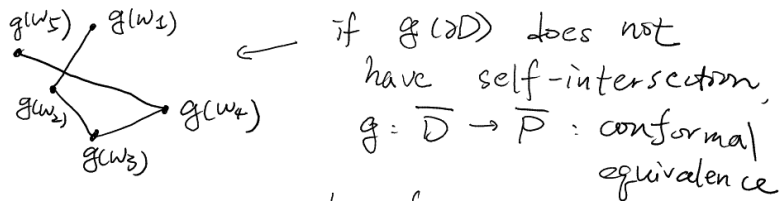
v) Thus,  $g'(w) = C_1 \prod_k (w-w_k)^{-\beta_k}$

$\Rightarrow g(w) = C_1 \int \prod_k (w-w_k)^{-\beta_k} dw + C_2$  : the conformal map from disk to polygon  
(the Schwarz-Christoffel formula)

mk it is not that precise



Say it differently, if we just choose  $\{w_k\} \subset \partial D$ , and  $\{\beta_k\}$  with  $\sum \beta_k = 2$ , then  $g(\partial D)$  might be

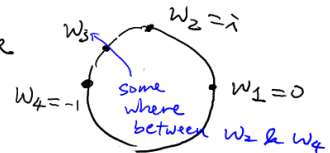


§2 rectangle [Ahlfors, § 2.3 of ch. 6]

(proof uses argument principle)

i) By  $\text{Aut}(D)$ , we can arrange the position of  $w_1, w_2, w_3$  Exercise

Focus on the rectangle case, we may assume



ii)  $D$  is conformally equivalent to  $\mathbb{H}$

By the similar argument

$$g(w) = \int \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} (w - \frac{z_k}{\bar{z}_k})^{-\beta_k} dw : \mathbb{H} \rightarrow \text{polygon}$$

$\mathbb{R} = \partial \mathbb{H}$

(assume  $f(w_n) = \infty$ )

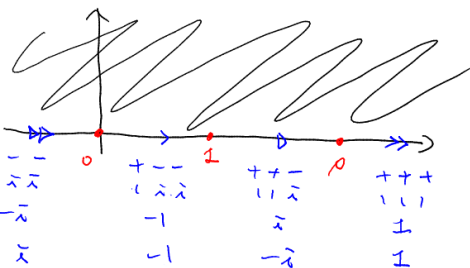
In the rectangle case,

$\beta_k = \frac{1}{2}$ , and we may assume  $(z_1, z_2, z_3) = (0, 1, \rho \in (1, \infty))$

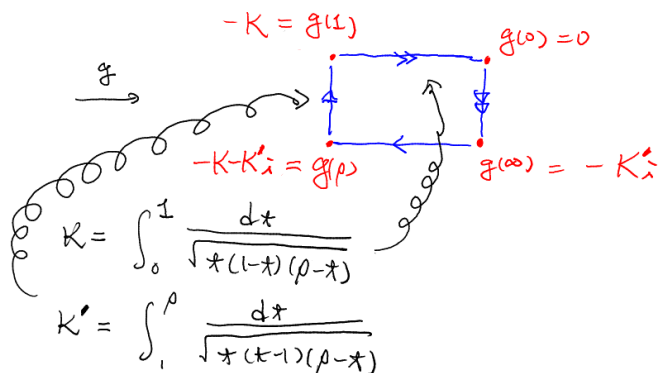
iii)  $g(w) = \int_0^w \frac{dw}{\sqrt{w(w-1)(w-\rho)}}$  for  $w \in \overline{\mathbb{H}}$

(this is an elliptic integral)

Take the branch so that  $\sqrt{w}, \sqrt{w-1}, \sqrt{w-\rho} \in$  first quadrant for  $w \in \overline{\mathbb{H}}$   
(we will see why immediately)



$w, w-1, w-\rho$   
square root  
inverse



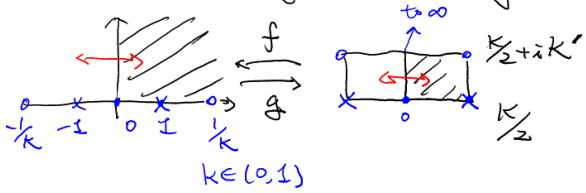
$$K = \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x(1-x)(\rho-x)}}$$

$$K' = \int_1^\rho \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x(x-1)(\rho-x)}}$$

about  $\rightarrow$  :  $K = \int_\rho^\infty \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x(x-1)(x-\rho)}}$   $x = \frac{\rho}{s}$

about  $\rightarrow$  :  $K' = \int_0^\infty \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x(x+1)(x+\rho)}}$  (one can find the similar change of variable)

iv) more symmetric way:



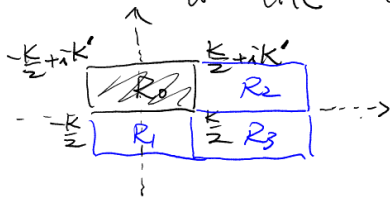
$$\Rightarrow g(w) = \int_0^w \frac{dw}{\sqrt{(1-w^2)(1-k^2w^2)}}$$

from  $((w-1)(w+1)(w-\frac{1}{k})(w+\frac{1}{k}))^{-\frac{1}{2}}$

where  $K = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{dx}{\sqrt{(1-x^2)(1-k^2x^2)}}$

$K' = \int_{1/k}^1 \frac{dx}{\sqrt{(1-x^2)(1-k^2x^2)}}$

v) in any case, we can apply the reflection principle on  $f$  to tile the whole  $\mathbb{C}$

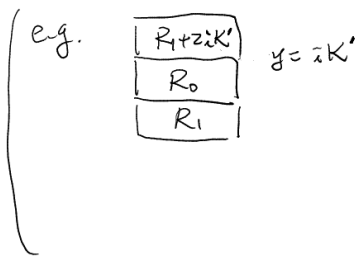


for  $z \in R_1 \Rightarrow f(z) = \overline{f(\bar{z})}$

for  $z \in R_2 \Rightarrow f(z) = \overline{f(K-\bar{z})}$

for  $z \in R_3 \Rightarrow \dots$  ↳ reflection along  $x = \frac{K}{2}$

$\Rightarrow$  It is not hard to see that the extension is doubly periodic with period  $2K$  &  $2K'i$  :  $f(z+2K) = f(z) = f(z+2K'i)$



$z \in R_1$   
 $z + 2iK' \in R_1 + 2iK'$   
 ↳ reflect along  $y = iK'$   
 $\overline{z + 2iK' - iK'} + iK' = \bar{z}$   
 $f(z + 2iK') = \overline{f(\bar{z})} = \text{that on } R_1$

(elliptic function)

### §3 more on harmonic functions [Ahlfors, §3 of ch. 6]

goal use Dirichlet problem to study the conformal equivalence between multiply connected regions

i) Poisson formula

$D = \text{unit disk}$   $u = \text{harmonic on } D, \text{ continuous on } \bar{D}$   
 $\Rightarrow u(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} u(e^{i\theta}) d\theta$

[By constructing its conjugate harmonic and Cauchy integral formula]

$u(z) = ?$   $\tilde{u}(\xi) = u\left(\frac{\xi+z}{1+\bar{z}\xi}\right)$

$u(z) = \tilde{u}(0) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \tilde{u}(e^{i\phi}) d\phi$   
 $= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} u\left(\frac{e^{i\phi}+z}{1+\bar{z}e^{i\phi}}\right) d\phi$

$$\text{let } e^{i\theta} = \frac{e^{i\theta} + z}{1 + \bar{z}e^{i\theta}} \Rightarrow e^{i\theta} = \frac{e^{i\theta} - z}{1 - \bar{z}e^{i\theta}}$$

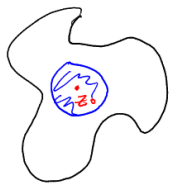
$$e^{i\theta} d\theta = \left( \frac{e^{i\theta}}{1 - \bar{z}e^{i\theta}} + \frac{e^{i\theta} \bar{z} (e^{i\theta} - z)}{(1 - \bar{z}e^{i\theta})^2} \right) d\theta$$

$$\Rightarrow d\theta = \left( \frac{e^{i\theta}}{e^{i\theta} - z} + \frac{\bar{z}}{e^{i\theta} - z} \right) d\theta = \frac{1 - |z|^2}{|e^{i\theta} - z|^2} d\theta$$

$$\Rightarrow u(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1 - |z|^2}{|e^{i\theta} - z|^2} u(e^{i\theta}) d\theta$$

check Given  $u \in C^0(\partial D)$ , the above formula defines a harmonic function on  $D$ , with  $\lim_{z \rightarrow e^{i\theta}} u(z) = u(e^{i\theta})$

ii) mean-value property



$u \in C^0(\Omega)$  is said to obey the mean value property

if  $u(z_0) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} u(z_0 + re^{i\theta}) d\theta$  if  $\overline{B(z_0; r)} \subset \Omega$

lemma  $u$  has no maximum/minimum unless  $u = \text{constant}$

pf: if  $\max_{\Omega} u = u(z_0)$

$$u(z_0) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} u(z_0 + re^{i\theta}) d\theta \leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} u(z_0) d\theta = u(z_0)$$

$$\Rightarrow u(z_0 + re^{i\theta}) = u(z_0) \quad \dots \times$$

thm  $u$  is necessarily harmonic (note that NO  $C^2$ -assumption is imposed here)

pf: Choose any  $\overline{B(z_0; r)} \subset \Omega$ .

Poisson formula produces  $v$  on  $\overline{B(z_0; r)}$

$$\text{such that } \begin{cases} \Delta v = 0 & \text{on } B(z_0; r) \\ v = u & \text{on } \partial B(z_0; r) \end{cases}$$

$\Rightarrow u - v = 0$  on  $\partial B(z_0; r)$ , satisfies the mean-value property on  $B(z_0; r)$

By the max/min principle,  $u - v \equiv 0$  on  $\overline{B(z_0; r)}$   $\times$

iii) Harnack's principle



By Poisson,  $u(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\rho^2 - |z|^2}{|\rho e^{i\theta} - z|^2} u(\rho e^{i\theta}) d\theta$

Both  $u_0$  &  $u(z)$  are determined by  $u(\rho e^{i\theta})$  relation?

Denote  $|z|$  by  $r$ ,

$$\rho - r \leq |\rho e^{i\theta} - z| \leq \rho + r$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\rho - r}{\rho + r} = \frac{\rho^2 - r^2}{(\rho + r)^2} \leq \frac{\rho^2 - r^2}{|\rho e^{i\theta} - z|^2} \leq \frac{\rho^2 - r^2}{(\rho - r)^2} = \frac{\rho + r}{\rho - r}$$

Hence,  $\frac{\rho - r}{\rho + r} u_0 \leq u(z) \leq \frac{\rho + r}{\rho - r} u_0$  (the Harnack inequality)

provided  $u(\rho e^{i\theta}) \geq 0 \quad (\Rightarrow u(z) \geq 0 \quad \forall z \in B(0; \rho))$

thm  $\Omega_n \rightarrow \Omega$  (exhaustion)

$u_n(z)$ : harmonic on  $\Omega_n$

→ monotone increasing

$\forall z \in \Omega$  if  $u_n(z) \leq u_{n+1}(z)$  for  $n \geq N(z)$

Then, either  $u_n(z) \rightarrow \infty$

or  $u(z)$ : harmonic on  $\Omega$

uniformly on any compact subset

pf: If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n(z_0) = \infty$  for some  $z_0 \in \Omega$

choose  $r > 0$  such that  $\overline{B(z_0; 2r)} \subset \Omega$

By Harnack  $\Rightarrow u_n(z) - u_{n_0}(z) \geq \frac{1}{3} (u_n(z_0) - u_{n_0}(z_0))$

or  $u_n(z) \geq \frac{1}{3} u_n(z_0) + (u_{n_0}(z) - \frac{1}{3} u_{n_0}(z_0))$

$\forall n \geq n_0$   
 $z \in \overline{B(z_0; r)}$

$\Rightarrow u_n(z) \rightarrow \infty$  uniformly on  $\overline{B(z_0; r)}$

If  $u(z_0)$  is finite, choose  $r$  so that  $\overline{B(z_0; 2r)} \subset \Omega$

again by Harnack,  $0 \leq u_n(z) - u_m(z) \leq 3(u_n(z_0) - u_m(z_0))$

$\forall n \geq m, z \in \overline{B(z_0; r)}$

$\Rightarrow$  convergence is controlled by the convergence at  $z_0$

hence uniform on  $\overline{B(z_0; r)}$  \*