

Lecture 2:

The geometric definition of quasiconformality:

Definition A homeomorphism f of $G \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ is K -quasiconformal ($k \geq 1$) if f is orientation preserving and for any quadrilateral $Q \subset G$, we have

$$\frac{1}{K}M(Q) \leq M(f(Q)) \leq KM(Q) \quad (1)$$

Note that it is an equivalent definition to replace the quadrilateral Q by rectangles with sides parallel to the axes, topological annuli, or the set of curves in the domain G .

The modulus of an annulus is related to the geometry:

Theorem. For every $E, F \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, $n \geq 2$ continua (i.e. compact connected sets), there exists two increasing functions ϕ_0 and ϕ_1 with $\phi_0(\infty) = \infty$ and $\phi_1(0) = 0$ such that

$$\phi_0 \left(\frac{\text{dist}(E, F)}{\min\{\text{diam}(E), \text{diam}(F)\}} \right) \leq \frac{1}{M(\Gamma, E, F)} \leq \phi_1 \left(\frac{\text{dist}(E, F)}{\min\{\text{diam}(E), \text{diam}(F)\}} \right) \quad (2)$$

Corollary. If f is K -quasiconformal in \mathbb{R}^n , then $f(\mathbb{R}^n) = \mathbb{R}^n$

Note that if f is a conformal map from the disk to a domain G , and $\gamma: [0, 1) \rightarrow G$ is a curve in G such that $\lim_{t \rightarrow 1} \gamma(t)$ exists, then $\lim_{t \rightarrow 1} f^{-1}(\gamma(t))$ exists.

Lecture 3:

Definition A homeomorphism $f : (X, d_X) \rightarrow (Y, d_Y)$ is called H -quasi-symmetric, if for every (x, r) , we have

$$H(f, x, r) = \frac{\max_{|y-x|=r} |f(x) - f(y)|}{\min_{|y-x|=r} |f(x) - f(y)|} \quad (3)$$

Definition The linear dilatation of f is $H_f(x) = \overline{\lim}_{r \rightarrow 0} H(f, x, r)$

Theorem. If f is a k -quasiconformal homeomorphism of \mathbb{R}^n , then f is H -quasi-symmetric, with $H := H(k, n)$

In the rest of the lecture, f is a diffeomorphism.

Clever Notations:

Lemma. The following are easy to prove:

- If $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ linear, then $f(z) = az + b\bar{z}$
- If f is totally differentiable at z_0 , then

$$f(z) = f(z_0) + \partial f(z_0)(z - z_0) + \overline{\partial f(z_0)}\overline{(z - z_0)} + o(|z - z_0|)$$

where,

$$\partial f(z_0) = \frac{1}{2}(f_x(z_0) - if_y(z_0))$$

and

$$\overline{\partial f(z_0)} = \frac{1}{2}(f_x(z_0) + if_y(z_0))$$

with $f = u + iv$, $f_x = u_x + iv_x$ and $f_y = u_y + iv_y$.

Remark:

If f is complex differentiable at $z_0 \iff \overline{\partial f(z_0)} = 0$.

The Jacobian is given by

$$Jf(z_0) = |\partial f(z_0)|^2 - |\overline{\partial f(z_0)}|^2$$

Then, we have

$$Jf(z_0) > 0 \iff |\partial f(z_0)| > |\overline{\partial f(z_0)}|$$

Example:

Let $f(z) = |z|^2 = z\bar{z}$. then, $\partial f = \bar{z}$ and $\overline{\partial f} = z$

Exercise:

If $g(z, w)$ is an analytic function in both variables, and if $f(z) = g(z, \bar{z})$, then

$$\partial f(z) = g_z(z, \bar{z})$$

and

$$\overline{\partial f(z)} = g_w(z, \bar{z})$$

Definition Complex dilatation of f

$$\mu_f(z) = \frac{\bar{\partial}f(z)}{\partial f(z)} \text{ with } |\mu_f| < 1$$

Lemma.

$$H_f(z) = \overline{\lim_{r \rightarrow 0}} H(f, z, r) = \frac{|\partial f(z)| + |\bar{\partial}f(z)|}{|\partial f(z)| - |\bar{\partial}f(z)|} = \frac{|Df(z)|^2}{Jf(z)} = \frac{1 + |\mu(z)|}{1 - |\mu(z)|}$$

Proof. We do this for f linear since by the above lemma it is easy consequence to prove it for differentiable functions f .

Let $f(z) = az + b\bar{z}$ with $z = re^{it}$

Then,

$$f(z) = |a|e^{i\alpha}re^{it} + |b|e^{i\beta}re^{-it} = r \left(|a|e^{i(\alpha+t)} + |b|e^{i(\beta-t)} \right)$$

The maximum for the above expression is attained when $\alpha + t = \beta - t$ and hence $t_0 = \frac{\beta - \alpha}{2}$

The minimum for the above expression is attained when $\alpha + t = \beta - t + \pi$ and hence $t_1 = \frac{\beta - \alpha}{2} + \frac{\pi}{2}$

On the other hand, $\mu = \frac{\bar{\partial}f}{\partial f} = \frac{b}{a}$ □

Exercise:

$$\text{Prove } \mu_{f \circ g^{-1}}(g(z)) = \frac{\mu_f(z) - \mu_g(z)}{1 - \mu_f(z)\overline{\mu_g(z)}} \left(\frac{\partial g(z)}{|\partial g(z)|} \right)^2$$

Lecture 4:

Theorem. If f is an orientation preserving diffeomorphism, then TFAE:

- a- $\sup_{z \in G} |\mu_f(z)| = \|\mu\|_\infty = k < 1$
- b- $\frac{1}{K}M(\Gamma) \leq M(f\Gamma) \leq KM(\Gamma)$ with $K = \frac{1+k}{1-k} \geq 1$

Proof. 1 \implies 2

Fix $\Gamma \subset G$, and fix ρ admissible for $f(\Gamma)$. Set $\tilde{\rho}(z) := \rho(f(z))|Df(z)|$. Then,

$$l_{\tilde{\rho}}(\gamma) = \int_{\gamma} \tilde{\rho} |dz| = \int_a^b \rho(f(\gamma(t))) |Df(\gamma(t))| |\dot{\gamma}(t)| dt \geq \int_a^b \rho(f(\gamma(t))) |f(\dot{\gamma}(t))| dt \geq \int_{f \circ \gamma} \rho(w) |dw|$$

Then,

$$\int \tilde{\rho}^2 dx dy = \int \rho(f(z))^2 |Df(z)|^2 dx dy = \int \rho(f(z))^2 \cdot Jf(z) \frac{1+\mu}{1-\mu} dx dy \leq \frac{1+k}{1-k} \int \rho^2(w) du dv$$

Thus, $M(\Gamma) \leq KM(f\Gamma)$.

The inverse inequality is proved just by taking the an admissible ρ in G and pushing it forward, and repeating the calculation.

2 \implies 1

Fix $z \in G$ and $r > 0$. Let Q_r be the square of side length r and direction $\frac{1}{2} \arg \mu(z)$. Fix ϵ , and construct a comparison rectangle. Then, $M(f(Q_r)) \geq M(R_{r,\epsilon})$ for $r \leq r_0(\epsilon)$. Letting $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$, we have

$$\frac{L}{l} = \frac{|\partial f| + |\bar{\partial} f|}{|\partial f| - |\bar{\partial} f|} = \frac{1 + |\mu|}{1 - |\mu|} \leq M(f(Q)) \leq KM(Q) = K$$

□

Example:

Consider the radial stretch $f(z) = z \cdot |z|^{k-1}$, $k > 0$

f is a diffeomorphism of $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$

Write $f(z) = z(z\bar{z})^{\frac{k-1}{2}} = (z)^{\frac{k+1}{2}} (\bar{z})^{\frac{k-1}{2}}$

Then, $\partial f = \frac{k+1}{2} (z)^{\frac{k-1}{2}} (\bar{z})^{\frac{k-1}{2}}$

And, $\bar{\partial} f = \frac{k-1}{2} (z)^{\frac{k+1}{2}} (\bar{z})^{\frac{k-3}{2}}$

So, $\frac{\bar{\partial} f}{\partial f} = \frac{k-1}{k+1} \frac{z}{\bar{z}}$

$\implies \mu_f = k \frac{z}{\bar{z}}$, so by the theorem, f is quasi-conformal in $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$

Lemma. If f is quasi-conformal in $G \setminus \{z_0\}$, then it is conformal in G .

Proof. exercise

□