Applications of harmonic functions in transcendental dynamics

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Eremenko's conjecture (1989):

All the components of I(f) are unbounded.



 $M(r) = \max_{|z|=r} |f(z)|, \text{ for } r > 0.$



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Definition (Bergweiler and Hinkkanen, 1999)

 $A_R(f) = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |f^n(z)| \ge M^n(R) \ \forall \ n \in \mathbb{N}\}$



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$$J(f) = \partial A(f)$$

• All the components of *A*(*f*) are unbounded.



The first is a strong version of Hadamard convexity

Lemma (Convexity)

 $\log M(r^c, f^n) \ge c \log M(r, f^n)$

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The second follows from a refinement of Eremenko's proof that $I(f) \neq \emptyset$, based on Wiman-Valiron theory.

Lemma (Eremenko points)

Given $\epsilon > 0$,

$$A_r(f) \cap \{z : r \leq |z| \leq r(1+\epsilon)\} \neq \emptyset,$$

for all $r \geq R = R(f, \epsilon)$.

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$$\delta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\log r}} < \min\{1, \frac{b-a}{4\pi}\}.$$

Then (a)

$$m(\rho, f) \geq M(\rho, f)^{1-\delta}, \text{ for } \rho \in \mathcal{A}(r^{a+2\pi\delta}, r^{b-2\pi\delta}).$$

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(b) f behaves like a monomial in $A(r^{a+2\pi\delta}, r^{b-2\pi\delta})$.

Proof of
$$m(\rho, f) \ge M(\rho, f)^{1-\delta}$$
, for $\rho \in A(r^{a+2\pi\delta}, r^{b-2\pi\delta})$

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$$t_1 \in S' = \{t : (a+2\pi\delta) \log r < \Re t < (b-2\pi\delta) \log r\}$$

of radius $2\pi\delta \log r = 2\pi/\delta$.

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• For $t_2 \in S'$ with $\Re t_2 = \Re t_1$ and $|\Im t_2 - \Im t_1| \le \pi$, we have

$$\frac{U(t_2)}{U(t_1)} \geq \frac{2\pi/\delta - \pi}{2\pi/\delta + \pi} \geq 1 - \delta.$$

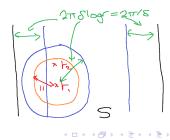
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Applications to wandering domains

Let *U* be a component of F(f) and let U_n denote the component of F(f) containing $f^n(U)$.

Definition

A component U of F(f) is a wandering domain if

 $U_n \neq U_m$, whenever $n \neq m$.



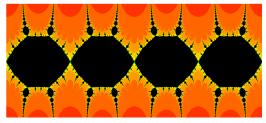
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 $f(z) = z + \sin z + 2\pi$

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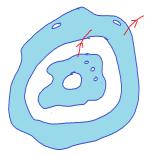
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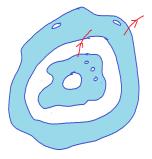


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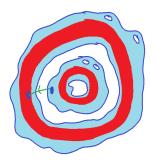
If U is a multiply connected wandering domain then there exist sequences (r_n) and (R_n) such that, for large n,

 $U_n \supset \{z : r_n \leq |z| \leq R_n\}, \text{ where } R_n/r_n \to \infty \text{ as } n \to \infty.$

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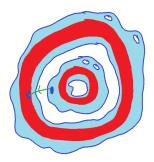
$$\mathsf{B}_n = \mathsf{A}(\mathsf{r}_n^{\mathsf{a}_n}, \mathsf{r}_n^{\mathsf{b}_n}) \subset U_n$$

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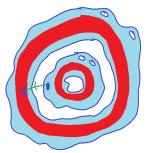
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f behaves like a large degree monomial inside B_n .

Proof of Bergweiler + R + S result

Let *U* be a multiply connected wandering domain, and $z_0 \in U$.

The functions

$$h_n(z) = \frac{\log |f^n(z)|}{\log |f^n(z_0)|}$$

are positive harmonic in *U*, with $h_n(z_0) = 1$.



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- *h* is non-constant: using Zheng's Theorem, Eremenko points Lemma and convexity Lemma, ∃*z*₁ ∈ *U* with

$$h(z_1) \ge \liminf \frac{\log |f^n(z_1)|}{\log |f^n(z_0)|} \ge \lim \frac{\log M^n(2|z_0|)}{\log M^n(|z_0|)} > 1.$$

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• Show $h_n \rightarrow h$ in U.

$$h_n(z) = \frac{\log |f^n(z)|}{\log |f^n(z_0)|} \to h(z),$$

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- Take $B(z_1, r) \subset U$ and consider $g_n(z) = \frac{\log f^n(z)}{\log |f^n(z_0)|}$. We have $g_n \to g$ analytic in $B(z_1, r)$ and so $\exists \alpha > 0$,

$$f^n(B(z_1,r)) \supset A(|f^n(z_1)|^{1-\alpha}, |f^n(z_1)|^{1+\alpha}) = A_n$$
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Boundaries of simply connected wandering domains

Question If *U* is an escaping wandering domain (i.e. $U \subset I(f)$), is $\partial U \subset I(f)$?

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If U is an escaping simply connected wandering domain, then $\partial U \cap I(f)^c$ has zero harmonic measure in U.



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Corollary

 $I(f) \cup \{\infty\}$ is connected.



Question If *U* is an escaping wandering domain (i.e. $U \subset I(f)$), is $\partial U \subset I(f)$? If *U* is multiply connected then $\overline{U} \subset A(f)$.

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Corollary

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Theorem (R+S, 2011)

If U is a component of F(f) and $\partial U \cap I(f)$ has positive harmonic measure in U, then $U \subset I(f)$.

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and hence $\omega(z_0, \bigcap_{m=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{n \ge m} A_n, U) = 0.$



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Step 1 By Löwner's Lemma,

$$\omega(z_0, A_n, U) \leq \omega(z_n = f^n(z_0), E_n = f^n(A_n), U_n).$$

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Step 2 Consider the sets

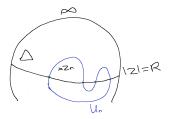
•
$$\Delta = \{z : |z| > R\} \cup \{\infty\}$$

•
$$E_n = \partial U_n \cap \{z : |z| \le R\}$$

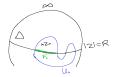
• V_n is component of $U_n \cap \Delta$ containing z_n

• $F_n = \partial V_n \cap \{z : |z| = R\}$ By the extended maximum principle

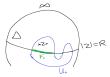
 $\omega(z, E_n, U_n) \leq \omega(z, F_n, \Delta), \text{ for } z \in V_n.$



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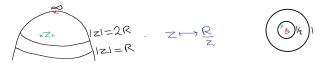


Step 3 Choose *N* so that $|z_n| = |f^n(z_0)| > 2R$ for $n \ge N$.





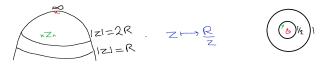
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Step 5 Since $F_n \subset U_n$, the sets F_n are distinct and so

$$\sum_{n\geq N}\omega(z_n,F_n,\Delta)\leq 3\sum_{n\geq N}\omega(\infty,F_n,\Delta)\leq 3.$$