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**ON CONFORMAL MAPPING OF NEARLY CIRCULAR
REGIONS**

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Introduction. A Jordan curve C in the w -plane, starshaped with respect to $w = 0$ and represented in polar coordinates by $\rho(\theta)e^{i\theta}$, will be said to satisfy an ε -condition ($\varepsilon \geq 0$) if

$$(0.1) \quad \begin{aligned} & \text{(i) } \rho(\theta) \text{ is absolutely continuous in } \langle -\pi, +\pi \rangle \\ & \text{(ii) } \left| \frac{\rho'}{\rho}(\theta) \right| \leq \varepsilon \text{ for almost all } \theta \text{ in } \langle -\pi, +\pi \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Sometimes the condition

$$(0.2) \quad 1 \leq \rho(\theta) \leq 1 + \varepsilon \text{ for all } \theta \text{ in } \langle -\pi, +\pi \rangle$$

will be added.

Let $w = f(z)$ be the conformal mapping of $|z| < 1$ to the interior of C such that $f(0) = 0$, $f'(0) > 0$. Then one can ask: How "close" is $f(z)$ to the identity mapping z ? This question has been studied by many authors, notably Marchenko [3] and, more recently, by Warschawski [9–14] and Specht [7]. For example, Marchenko stated:

THEOREM A. *If C satisfies an ε -condition and also (0.2), then*

$$(0.3) \quad |f(z) - z| \leq K \cdot \varepsilon \quad (|z| \leq 1)$$

for a universal constant K .

Furthermore, estimates for $M_p[f(z) - z]$ and $M_p[f'(z) - 1]$ have been given [9] where we write, for example,

$$\|f(z) - z\|_p \equiv M_p[f(z) - z] = \left\{ \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} |f(re^{i\varphi}) - re^{i\varphi}|_p d\varphi \right\}^{1/p} \quad (p > 0; |z| = r < 1).$$

In this connection, the theorem of M. Riesz [6] on conjugate harmonic functions is of importance.

THEOREM B. *Let $f(z) = u(z) + iv(z)$ be regular in $|z| < 1$ and $v(0) = 0$, so that $v(z)$ is a "normed conjugate" of $u(z)$. Then for every $p > 1$*

$$(0.4) \quad M_p[v(z)] \leq A_p M_p[u(z)] \quad (|z| = r < 1),$$

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where A_p is a constant that depends on p only; one can take $A_2 = 1$, $A_p \leq 2p$ ($p \geq 2$) and $A_{p'} = A_p$ for $p^{-1} + p'^{-1} = 1$. If the right-hand side of (0.4) is bounded in $0 \leq r < 1$, then $f(re^{i\varphi})$ has radial boundary values of class L_p almost everywhere and (0.4) holds for $r = 1$.

In this paper we would like to make a few remarks about Marchenko's theorem and about estimates for $M_p[f'(z) - 1]$. First, we give a new proof of Theorem A which we hope is slightly simpler than Specht's [7] while giving only a slightly larger constant K . Next we ask whether we could replace the condition (0.1.ii) by the assumption of convexity of C and still get (0.3). A counter example is constructed in I.2. Then Specht's method of proof is used to give a localized version of Theorem A, in which the ε -condition is fulfilled only for a part of C .

In the second part of the paper we obtain new estimates for $M_p[f'(z) - 1]$. Their source is a sharp and best possible estimate for $\int_0^{2\pi} [\theta'(\varphi)]^{\pm p} d\varphi$ where $\theta(\varphi) = \arg f(e^{i\varphi})$. It avoids the restriction $\varepsilon < 1$ of Warschawski [9] and gives all values of p for which $M_p[\theta'(\varphi)] < \infty$ or $M_p[f'(z)]$ remains bounded for all $r = |z| < 1$.

PART I

I.1. New proof of Marchenko's theorem. While Specht's approach to Theorem A depends on a suitable integral representation of $\theta(\varphi) - \varphi$ ([7], p. 187), and Warschawski's on an estimate of $M_2[f'(e^{i\varphi}) - 1]$ ([9], p. 566), our proof will depend on a sharp estimate of $M_2[\theta'(\varphi) - 1]$. We shall prove:

THEOREM 1. *If the Jordan curve C satisfies an ε -condition and also (0.2) for some $\varepsilon \geq 0$, then $|f(z) - z| \leq K(\varepsilon) \cdot \varepsilon$ in $|z| \leq 1$, where $K(\varepsilon) \leq 3.7$ for all $\varepsilon \geq 0$ and $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} K(\varepsilon) = \sqrt{1 + \pi^2/3} \sim 2.1$.*

Specht's proof yields another function $\bar{K}(\varepsilon)$ with $\bar{K}(\varepsilon) \leq 3.3$ and $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \bar{K}(\varepsilon) = \sqrt{1 + (2 \log 2)^2} \sim 1.7$. The best possible bounds are not known.

In order to prove the theorem, we need the following

LEMMA. *Let $F(x)$ be absolutely continuous in $\langle 0, 2\pi \rangle$, periodic with 2π and $\int_0^{2\pi} F(x) dx = 0$, and assume $F'(x) \in L_2(0, 2\pi)$. Then for all x in $\langle 0, 2\pi \rangle$*

$$(1.1) \quad |F(x)| \leq \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{3}} \|F'(x)\|_2.$$

This lemma is also used in Friberg's thesis ([2], p. 14 ff). The constant $\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{3}}$ cannot be improved as $F(x) = \frac{x^2}{4} - \frac{\pi}{2}x + \frac{\pi^2}{6}$ ($0 \leq x \leq 2\pi$) shows.

Proof. It suffices to estimate $F(0)$. For that we expand $F(x)$ in its Fourier series $F(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx)$ and get

$$|F(0)| = \left| \sum_1^{\infty} a_n \right| \leq \sum_1^{\infty} |a_n| \cdot n \frac{1}{n} \leq \left[\sum_1^{\infty} n^2 a_n^2 \right]^{1/2} \left[\sum_1^{\infty} n^{-2} \right]^{1/2}.$$

The first factor is at most $[\sum_1^{\infty} n^2 (a_n^2 + b_n^2)]^{1/2} = \sqrt{2} \|F'(x)\|_2$, by Parseval's equality, the second is $\pi/\sqrt{6}$.

Proof of the theorem. Putting $f(e^{i\varphi}) = \rho(\theta) e^{i\theta}$, $\theta = \theta(\varphi)$, we first estimate $|\theta(\varphi) - \varphi|$ if ε is assumed to be < 1 . By the lemma, it is sufficient to estimate $\|\theta'(\varphi) - 1\|_2$. To do this, we note that $\log(f(z)/z) = u(z) + iv(z)$ is regular in $|z| < 1$, continuous in $|z| \leq 1$, and $v(0) = 0$ since $f'(0) > 0$, so that v is a normed conjugate of u : $v = K[u]$. On $|z| = 1$ this gives

$$(1.2) \quad \theta(\varphi) - \varphi = K[\log \rho(\theta(\varphi))], \quad \theta(\varphi + h) - (\varphi + h) = K[\log \rho(\theta(\varphi + h))]$$

and hence

$$\frac{\theta(\varphi + h) - \theta(\varphi)}{h} - 1 = K \left[\frac{\log \rho(\theta(\varphi + h)) - \log \rho(\theta(\varphi))}{h} \right].$$

By (0.1), for all φ and $h > 0$

$$|\log \rho(\theta(\varphi + h)) - \log \rho(\theta(\varphi))| = \left| \int_{\theta(\varphi)}^{\theta(\varphi+h)} \frac{\rho'}{\rho}(t) dt \right| \leq \varepsilon |\theta(\varphi + h) - \theta(\varphi)|,$$

and therefore

$$(1.3) \quad \left\| \left| \frac{\theta(\varphi + h) - \theta(\varphi)}{h} - 1 \right| \right\|_2 = \left\| \left[\quad \right] \right\|_2 \leq \varepsilon \left\| \left| \frac{\theta(\varphi + h) - \theta(\varphi)}{h} \right| \right\|_2.$$

Now we claim that

$$(1.4) \quad \left\| \left| \frac{\theta(\varphi + h) - \theta(\varphi)}{h} - 1 \right| \right\|_2^2 = \left\| \left| \frac{\theta(\varphi + h) - \theta(\varphi)}{h} \right| \right\|_2^2 - 1.$$

To show this, we write the left-hand side as

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \left[\frac{\theta(\varphi + h) - \theta(\varphi)}{h} - 1 \right]^2 d\varphi &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \left[\frac{\theta(\varphi + h) - \theta(\varphi)}{h} \right]^2 d\varphi + 1 \\ &\quad - 2 \frac{1}{2\pi h} \int_0^{2\pi} \{ [\theta(\varphi + h) - (\varphi + h)] - [\theta(\varphi) - \varphi] + h \} d\varphi, \end{aligned}$$

Since $\theta(\varphi) - \varphi$ is periodic with 2π , the last term is -2 , and (1.4) follows. Together with (1.3) we get $\|[\theta(\varphi + h) - \theta(\varphi)]/h - 1\|_2 \leq \varepsilon^2/(1 - \varepsilon^2)$ for all $h > 0$. But since C is rectifiable, $\theta(\varphi)$ is absolutely continuous [5] and hence $\theta'(\varphi)$ exists almost everywhere, and Fatou's lemma yields now for $h \rightarrow 0$

$$(1.5) \quad \|\theta'(\varphi) - 1\|_2 \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{\sqrt{1 - \varepsilon^2}}.$$

This, incidentally, is a best possible estimate; see Theorem 6.

Now we apply our lemma to $F(\varphi) = \theta(\varphi) - \varphi$, the condition $\int_0^{2\pi} F(\varphi)d\varphi = 0$ following from (1.2), and we get for all φ

$$(1.6) \quad |\theta(\varphi) - \varphi| \leq \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{3}} \frac{\varepsilon}{\sqrt{1 - \varepsilon^2}}.$$

From this we obtain an estimate of $|f(z) - z|$. An elementary consideration gives

$$(1.7) \quad |f(z) - z|^2 \leq \varepsilon^2 + (1 + \varepsilon)[\theta(\varphi) - \varphi]^2 \text{ on } |z| = 1;$$

note that $1 \leq |f(e^{i\varphi})| \leq 1 + \varepsilon$. Together with (1.6) we obtain

$$(1.8) \quad |f(z) - z| \leq \varepsilon \left\{ 1 + \frac{\pi^2}{3(1 - \varepsilon)} \right\}^{1/2}$$

for $|z| = 1$ and hence, by the maximum principle, for $|z| \leq 1$; this is valid whenever $\varepsilon < 1$. For all $\varepsilon \leq 20/27$ the factor of ε is ≤ 3.7 ; for $\varepsilon > 20/27$ we have

$$|f(z) - z| \leq 1 + \varepsilon + 1 = 2 + \varepsilon < \frac{54}{20} \varepsilon + \varepsilon = 3.7 \varepsilon.$$

This proves $K(\varepsilon) \leq 3.7$ for all $\varepsilon \geq 0$, and (1.8) gives $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} K(\varepsilon) = \sqrt{1 + \pi^2/3}$.

Specht ([7], p. 188) obtains $|\theta(\varphi) - \varphi| \leq \varepsilon(2 \log 2 + \varepsilon)$. Combining this for $\varepsilon \leq 0.9$ with $|f(z) - z| \leq \varepsilon + |\theta(\varphi) - \varphi|$ ($|z| = 1$) and taking $|f(z) - z| \leq 2 + \varepsilon$ for $\varepsilon > 0.9$, one obtains $\bar{K}(\varepsilon) \leq 3.3$ for all $\varepsilon > 0$; for $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ use (1.7).

1.2. Convex regions. Our next problem is to decide whether Marchenko's theorem remains valid if the condition $|\rho'/\rho| \leq \varepsilon$ is replaced by the convexity of C . To study a suitable counter example, it will be convenient to use the following localization theorem.

¹ This also follows directly from $\|\theta'\|_2 \leq (1 - \varepsilon^2)^{-1/2}$ ([8], p. 26) and $\|\theta' - 1\|_2^2 = \|\theta'\|_2^2 - 1$, but we wanted to give an independent proof of (1.5).

² The application of Warschawski's inequality ([8], p. 18) would have given a slightly larger bound for K in Theorem 1,

THEOREM 2. Let $C: \rho(\theta)e^{i\theta}$ be a Jordan curve, starshaped with respect to $w = 0$ and contained in $1 \leq |w| \leq 1 + \varepsilon$, and let $w = f(z)$ with $f(0) = 0$, $f'(0) > 0$ map $|z| < 1$ conformally to the interior of C ; put $\theta(\varphi) = \arg f(e^{i\varphi})$.

Then to every δ , $0 < \delta < \pi$, corresponds a constant $D = D(\delta)$ such that

$$(1.9) \quad \left| [\theta(\varphi) - \varphi] - \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\varphi-\delta}^{\varphi+\delta} \log \rho(\theta(t)) \operatorname{ctg} \frac{\varphi-t}{2} dt \right| \leq D \cdot \varepsilon$$

for all φ , the integral being a Cauchy principal value.

Proof. Since $\theta(\varphi) - \varphi$ is a normed conjugate of $\log \rho(\theta(\varphi))$ (see (1.2)), we have

$$\theta(\varphi) - \varphi = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\varphi-\pi}^{\varphi+\pi} \log \rho(\theta(t)) \operatorname{ctg} \frac{\varphi-t}{2} dt = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\varphi-\delta}^{\varphi+\delta} + \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[\int_{\varphi-\pi}^{\varphi-\delta} + \int_{\varphi+\delta}^{\varphi+\pi} \right].$$

In the last term $|\operatorname{ctg}[(\varphi-t)/2]|$ is bounded by $\operatorname{ctg}[\delta/2]$ while $0 \leq \log \rho(\theta(t)) \leq \varepsilon$. This proves (1.9) with $D(\delta) = \operatorname{ctg}[\delta/2]$.

Furthermore, we shall use another theorem of Marchenko ([3], p. 289) which, in the generalization by Warschawski ([10], p. 343), reads as follows. Let R be a simply connected region containing $w = 0$ whose boundary is contained in $1 \leq |w| \leq 1 + \varepsilon$. Let λ be such that any two points in R with distance $< \varepsilon$ may be connected in R by an arc of diameter $< \lambda$. If $f(z)$ is the normalized mapping of $|z| < 1$ to R , then

$$(1.10) \quad |f(z) - z| \leq M\varepsilon |\log \varepsilon| + M_1\lambda$$

for two absolute constants M and M_1 . Ferrand ([1], p. 133) states without proof that one can take $M = 1/\pi$ as the best possible constant; note that in her paper the boundary is assumed to be in $1 - \varepsilon \leq |w| \leq 1 + \varepsilon$. Obviously $\lambda \leq 3\varepsilon$ if R is starshaped with respect to $w = 0$.

Now we shall study the following family of conformal maps. Let the Jordan curve $C = C(\varepsilon)$ ($0 < \varepsilon < 1/2$) be defined as follows:

$$|w| = 1 \quad \text{if } -\pi \leq \arg w \leq 0,$$

$$|w| = 1 + \varepsilon \quad \text{if } 0 < \theta_2 \leq \arg w \leq \frac{\pi}{2} + \kappa, \text{ where } 0 < \kappa < \frac{\pi}{2} \text{ and}$$

$$\sin \kappa = 1/(1 + \varepsilon),$$

and where these two circular arcs are connected by straight line segments. The angle θ_2 will also depend on ε and is subject to

$$(1.11) \quad \theta_2 \rightarrow 0 \text{ and } \frac{\theta_2}{\varepsilon |\log \varepsilon|} \rightarrow +\infty \quad (\varepsilon \rightarrow 0).$$

Let $w = f(z)$ map $|z| < 1$ to the interior of C with $f(0) = 0$, $f(0) > 0$ and let

$$f(e^{i\varphi_1}) = 1 = e^{i\theta_1}, \quad f(e^{i\varphi_2}) = (1 + \varepsilon)e^{i\theta_2}.$$

By (1.10) we have for all φ and ε

$$(1.12) \quad |\theta(\varphi) - \varphi| \leq M\varepsilon |\log \varepsilon| + O(\varepsilon),$$

in particular $\varphi_1 \rightarrow 0$, $\varphi_2 \rightarrow 0$ ($\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$). We therefore get from Theorem 2

$$\begin{aligned} \theta(\varphi_1) - \varphi_1 &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi/2}^{+\pi/2} \log \rho(\theta(t)) \operatorname{ctg} \frac{\varphi_1 - t}{2} dt + O(\varepsilon), \\ |\theta(\varphi_1) - \varphi_1| &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\varphi_1}^{+\pi/2} \log \rho(\theta(t)) \operatorname{ctg} \frac{t - \varphi_1}{2} dt + O(\varepsilon) > \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\varphi_2}^{+\pi/2} + O(\varepsilon); \end{aligned}$$

note that $\rho(\theta(t)) = 1$ for t in $\langle \pi/2, \varphi_1 \rangle$. The last integral is equal to

$$\log(1 + \varepsilon) \int_{\varphi_2}^{+\pi/2} \operatorname{ctg} \frac{t - \varphi_1}{2} dt = 2 |\log(\varphi_2 - \varphi_1)| \varepsilon + O(\varepsilon).$$

Here we have by (1.11) and (1.12)

$$\varphi_2 - \varphi_1 = \theta_2 - \theta_1 + O(\varepsilon |\log \varepsilon|) = (\theta_2 - \theta_1)(1 + o(1)) = \theta_2(1 + o(1)),$$

so that altogether we obtain

$$(1.13) \quad |\theta(\varphi_1) - \varphi_1| > \frac{|\log \theta_2|}{\pi} \varepsilon + O(\varepsilon) \quad (\varepsilon \rightarrow 0).$$

Before we specialize (1.13), we remark that for the regions considered here

$$(1.14) \quad |f(z) - z| = |\theta(\varphi) - \varphi| + O(\varepsilon) \quad (z = e^{i\varphi}).$$

We have namely on $|z| = 1$

$$2 \sin \frac{\theta(\varphi) - \varphi}{2} \leq |f(z) - z| \leq 2 \sin \frac{\theta(\varphi) - \varphi}{2} + (|f(z)| - 1).$$

By (1.12), $|\theta(\varphi) - \varphi| = O(\varepsilon |\log \varepsilon|)$ and (1.14) follows.

We now make two special choices of $\theta_2 = \theta_2(\varepsilon)$, always subject to (1.11). For our first choice $\theta_2(\varepsilon) = \varepsilon |\log \varepsilon|^2$ we obtain from (1.13) and (1.14)

$$|f(z) - z| \geq \frac{\varepsilon |\log \varepsilon|}{\pi} (1 + o(1)) \quad (z = e^{i\varphi_1}; \varepsilon \rightarrow 0).$$

Thus we proved that the best constant M in (1.10) must satisfy $M \geq 1/\pi$, in agreement with Ferrand.

Next we choose θ_2 such that $1 = (1 + \varepsilon) \cos \theta_2$, which makes $C(\varepsilon)$ convex. If we insert $\theta_2 = \sqrt{2\varepsilon} + O(\varepsilon)$ in (1.13), we obtain

$$|f(z) - z| \geq \frac{\varepsilon |\log \varepsilon|}{2\pi} (1 + o(1)) \quad (z = e^{i\varphi_1}; \varepsilon \rightarrow 0).$$

THEOREM 3. *If $C(\varepsilon)$ is the family of convex curves defined by $\cos \theta_2(\varepsilon) = [1/1 + \varepsilon]$, we have*

$$\max_{|z|=1} |f(z) - z| \geq \frac{\varepsilon |\log \varepsilon|}{2\pi} (1 + o(1)) \quad (\varepsilon \rightarrow 0).$$

In particular, Theorem A does not hold if the condition $|\rho'(\theta)/\rho(\theta)| \leq \varepsilon$ is replaced by the convexity of C .

I.3. Localization of the theorem of Marchenko. In I.1 we have seen that Theorem A can be proved with a quite satisfactory constant K by a "global" method, a method involving means rather than the function itself. Nevertheless, Specht's proof of Theorem A, directly aiming at $|\theta(\varphi) - \varphi|$, has besides giving a slightly better constant the advantage of being useful to obtain a localization of Theorem A, where $|\rho'/\rho| \leq \varepsilon$ is known only for a part of C .

We begin with the following localization of Specht's representation theorem ([7], p. 187).

THEOREM 4. *Let $C : \rho(\theta)e^{i\theta}$ be a Jordan curve, starshaped with respect to $w = 0$ which satisfies:*

- (i) $1 \leq \rho(\theta) \leq 1 + \varepsilon$ for all θ and some $\varepsilon \geq 0$;
- (ii) $\rho(\theta)$ has bounded difference quotients for θ in $\langle a, b \rangle$.

Then to every $\delta > 0$ corresponds an $\varepsilon_0 = \varepsilon_0(\delta) > 0$ and a constant $N(\delta)$ such that for $\varepsilon < \varepsilon_0$ we have

$$(1.15) \quad \left| [\theta(\varphi) - \varphi] - \frac{1}{\pi} \int_a^b \log \left| \sin \frac{t(\theta) - \varphi}{2} \right| \frac{\rho'(\theta)}{\rho(\theta)} d\theta \right| \leq N(\delta) \cdot \varepsilon,$$

for all φ in $\langle a + \delta, b - \delta \rangle$ for which $\theta'(\varphi)$ and $\rho'(\theta(\varphi))$ exist and $\theta'(\varphi) \neq 0$, i.e. for almost all φ in $\langle a + \delta, b - \delta \rangle$.

Here $t = t(\theta)$ is the inverse function of $\theta(t)$, and the integral exists as a Lebesgue integral.

Proof. For our fixed $\delta > 0$, choose $\varepsilon_0(\delta)$ such that $\alpha = \theta^{-1}(a)$ and $\beta = \theta^{-1}(b)$ satisfy $|\alpha - a| < \delta/2, |\beta - b| < \delta/2$; this is asserted by (1.10) or (1.12) as soon as $\varepsilon < \varepsilon_0$. Then we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \theta(\varphi) - \varphi &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\varphi-\pi}^{\varphi+\pi} [\log \rho(\theta(t)) - \log \rho(\theta(\varphi))] \operatorname{ctg} \frac{\varphi - t}{2} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} [\quad] \operatorname{ctg} \frac{\varphi - t}{2} dt + O(\varepsilon); \end{aligned}$$

compare Theorem 2. Now one applies partial integration to the integral as in Specht's proof, and (1.15) follows.

Now we can prove the following localization of Theorem A.

THEOREM 5. *Let $C : \rho(\theta)e^{i\theta}$ be a rectifiable Jordan curve, starshaped with respect to $w = 0$ which satisfies*

- (i) $1 \leq \rho(\theta) \leq 1 + \varepsilon$ for all θ and some $\varepsilon \geq 0$,
- (ii) $|\rho(\theta + \tau) - \rho(\theta)| \leq \rho(\theta) |\tau| \varepsilon$ for all θ in $\langle a, b \rangle$ and all real τ .

Then to every $\delta > 0$ corresponds a constant $K_1(\delta)$ such that

$$(1.16) \quad |f(z) - z| \leq K_1(\delta) \cdot \varepsilon \text{ for } z = e^{i\varphi}, \varphi \text{ in } \langle a + \delta, b - \delta \rangle.$$

Proof. It suffices to prove this for small ε . Condition (ii) implies that we can estimate the integral term in (1.15) by

$$(1.17) \quad \varepsilon \left| \frac{1}{\pi} \int_a^b \log \left| \sin \frac{t(\theta) - \varphi}{2} \right| d\theta \right| \leq -\varepsilon \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\varphi-\pi}^{\varphi+\pi} \log \left| \sin \frac{t - \varphi}{2} \right| \theta'(t) dt \leq \varepsilon(2 \log 2 + \varepsilon)$$

(see [7], p. 188). Hence $|\theta(\varphi) - \varphi| \leq K_2(\delta) \cdot \varepsilon$ for almost all φ in $\langle a + \delta, b - \delta \rangle$. By continuity, this holds for all φ in $\langle a + \delta, b - \delta \rangle$, and (1.16) follows.

REMARK. By a simple approximation argument it is seen that the rectifiability of C , needed for the last inequality in (1.17), is not necessary for the validity of Theorem 5.

PART II

II. 1. Sharp estimates for the means of $\theta'(\varphi)$. Our aim is now to give an estimate for $M_p[f'(z) - 1]$ if C satisfies an ε -condition. As a first step we prove the following

THEOREM 6. *Let $C : \rho(\theta)e^{i\theta}$ be a Jordan curve, starshaped with respect to $w = 0$, which satisfies an ε -condition for some $\varepsilon \geq 0$, and*

let $w = f(z)$ with $f(0) = 0$ map $|z| < 1$ conformally to the interior of C . Then $\theta(\varphi) = \arg f(e^{i\varphi})$ satisfies

$$(2.1) \quad \int_0^{2\pi} [\theta'(\varphi)]^{\pm p} d\varphi < \infty \text{ if } 0 \leq p < \frac{\pi}{2 \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon}.$$

More precisely, we have

$$(2.2) \quad \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} [\theta'(\varphi)]^p d\varphi \leq \frac{(\cos \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon)^p}{\cos(p \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon)} \text{ if } 1 \leq p < \frac{\pi}{2 \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon}$$

$$\leq 1 \quad \text{if } 0 \leq p \leq 1$$

and

$$(2.3) \quad \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} |\theta'(\varphi)|^{-p} d\varphi \leq \frac{1}{(\cos \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon)^p \cos(p \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon)}$$

$$\text{if } 0 \leq p < \frac{\pi}{2 \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon}.$$

Moreover, the bounds in (2.2) and (2.3), as well as the upper bound for p in (2.1), are best possible.

REMARKS. a. It easily follows from F. Riesz's theorem ([5], p. 95), that not only $\theta = \theta(\varphi)$ but also its inverse $\varphi = \varphi(\theta)$ is an absolutely continuous and monotonically increasing function, whenever C satisfies an ε -condition for some $\varepsilon \geq 0$. The substitution $\varphi = \varphi(\theta)$ in (2.1) is therefore permissible³ and gives

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} [\theta'(\varphi)]^{\pm p} d\varphi = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} [\varphi'(\theta)]^{1 \mp p} d\theta \text{ if } 0 \leq p < \frac{\pi}{2 \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon},$$

so that (2.2) and (2.3) contain also estimates for the means of $\varphi'(\theta)$. In particular, since $\pi/(2 \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon) > 1$, (2.3) is always applicable for $p = 1$, and we obtain that $\varphi'(\theta) \in L_2$ whenever C satisfies an ε -condition for some $\varepsilon \geq 0$. (For $\theta'(\varphi) \in L_2$ we need $\varepsilon < 1$.)

b. For $p = 2$ the bounds in (2.2) and (2.3) become $(1 - \varepsilon^2)^{-1}$ (see [8], p. 26) and $(1 + \varepsilon^2)/(1 - \varepsilon^2)$.

Proof. We begin with three preliminary remarks. First, we have $|\rho'(\theta)/\rho(\theta)| \leq \varepsilon$ for all θ , for which $\rho'(\theta)$ exists. For by (0.1)

$$|\log \rho(\theta + h) - \log \rho(\theta)| = \left| \int_{\theta}^{\theta+h} \frac{\rho'(t)}{\rho(t)} dt \right| \leq \varepsilon |h|,$$

for all θ and $h \neq 0$; this implies our proposition.

³ See C. Caratheodory, Vorlesungen über reelze Funktionen, Leipzig und Berlin, 1927, pages 563 and 556.

Next, since C is rectifiable, we know by F. Riesz's theorem ([5], p. 95; see also [16], p. 157 ff.) that

(i) $f(e^{i\varphi})$ is absolutely continuous, so that $[df(e^{i\varphi})/de^{i\varphi}]$ exists almost everywhere and is integrable; furthermore

(ii) $f'(z) \in H_1$, i.e. $\int_0^{2\pi} |f'(re^{i\varphi})| d\varphi \leq A < \infty$ for all $r < 1$.

We claim that

$$(2.4) \quad f'(re^{i\varphi}) \rightarrow \frac{df(e^{i\varphi})}{de^{i\varphi}} \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1, \text{ for almost all } \varphi.$$

To prove this, let $f'(re^{i\varphi}) \rightarrow h(e^{i\varphi})$ ($r \rightarrow 1$, almost all φ), so that by (ii) $h(e^{i\varphi})$ is integrable and $\int_0^{2\pi} |f'(re^{i\varphi}) - h(e^{i\varphi})| d\varphi \rightarrow 0$ ($r \rightarrow 1$). Therefore, for any fixed φ_0 ,

$$[f(re^{i\varphi_0}) - f(r)] - r \int_0^{\varphi_0} h(e^{i\varphi}) ie^{i\varphi} d\varphi = r \int_0^{\varphi_0} [f'(re^{i\varphi}) - h(e^{i\varphi})] ie^{i\varphi} d\varphi \rightarrow 0 \quad (r \rightarrow 1)$$

that is

$$f(e^{i\varphi_0}) = f(1) + \int_0^{\varphi_0} h(e^{i\varphi}) ie^{i\varphi} d\varphi.$$

Differentiation yields $[df(e^{i\varphi})/de^{i\varphi}] = h(e^{i\varphi})$ almost everywhere, which is (2.4). From now on we shall put $[df(e^{i\varphi})/de^{i\varphi}] = f'(e^{i\varphi})$ whenever this exists.

Finally, since $f' \in H_1$ and $f' \neq 0$, one knows (see, e.g., [4], p. 56) that $f'(e^{i\varphi})$ vanishes only on a null set.

To start the proof of theorem, let M be the set of all φ in $\langle 0, 2\pi \rangle$ for which (i) $f'(e^{i\varphi})$ exists and is $\neq 0$ and (ii) $\lim_{r \rightarrow 1} f'(re^{i\varphi}) = f'(e^{i\varphi})$; by our above remarks, M is of measure 2π .

We consider now the function $g(z) = zf'(z)/f(z)$, regular and $\neq 0$ in $|z| < 1$, $g(0) = 1$, and put

$$F(z) = \log g(z) = \log |g(z)| + i \arg g(z) = u(z) + iv(z),$$

which is regular in $|z| < 1$ and vanishes at $z = 0$. We study $u(z)$, $v(z)$ for $|z| \rightarrow 1$.

(a) Since

$$(2.5) \quad \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} = \left\{ 1 - i \frac{\rho'(\theta(\varphi))}{\rho(\theta(\varphi))} \right\} \theta'(\varphi) \quad (z = e^{i\varphi}, \varphi \in M)$$

we have $\theta'(\varphi) \neq 0$ ($\varphi \in M$) and furthermore

$$|g(re^{i\varphi})| \rightarrow \theta'(\varphi) \left| 1 + \frac{\rho'}{\rho} i \right| = \frac{\theta'(\varphi)}{\cos \beta(\theta(\varphi))} \quad (r \rightarrow 1, \varphi \in M)$$

where $\beta(\theta)$ denotes the angle between $\arg w = \theta$ and the normal to C at $(\rho(\theta), \theta)$. Hence

$$u(re^{i\varphi}) \rightarrow \log \frac{\theta'(\varphi)}{\cos \beta(\theta(\varphi))} = u(e^{i\varphi}) \quad (r \rightarrow 1, \varphi \in M).$$

(b) On the other hand we have for $v(z)$

$$\begin{aligned} v(re^{i\varphi}) &= \arg g(re^{i\varphi}) \rightarrow \arg f'(e^{i\varphi}) + \varphi - \arg f(e^{i\varphi}) \\ &= \beta(\theta(\varphi)) = v(e^{i\varphi}) \quad (r \rightarrow 1, \varphi \in M). \end{aligned}$$

In particular, $\beta(\theta)$ exists for $\theta = \theta(\varphi)$, $\varphi \in M$, and hence by our first remark $|\beta(\theta(\varphi))| \leq \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon$ ($\varphi \in M$).

(c) This implies that $|v(re^{i\varphi})| \leq \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon$ for $r < 1$. For $v(re^{i\varphi})$ is harmonic in $r < 1$ and clearly represents the angle between $\arg w = \theta$ and the normal to the level curve corresponding to $|z| = r$, which is again starshaped. Thus $|v(re^{i\varphi})| < \pi/2$, and $v(re^{i\varphi})$ can therefore be represented by its Poisson integral in $r < 1$. Since the boundary values are $\leq \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon$, also $|v(re^{i\varphi})| \leq \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon$ ($r < 1$).

For the main part of the proof, we apply a method of Zygmund ([15], p. 286). Let $p > 0$ and consider

$$(2.6) \quad 1 = e^{\pm pF(0)} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|z|=r<1} \frac{e^{\pm pF(z)}}{z} dz = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{|z|=r<1} e^{\pm pu(z)} \cos[pv(z)] d\varphi.$$

By (c) and our assumption on p , we have $|pv(z)| \leq p \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon < \pi/2$, so that the integrand in the last integral is positive for all $r < 1$ and φ . Recalling (a) and (b), an application of Fatou's lemma yields

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_M e^{\pm pu(e^{i\varphi})} \cos[pv(e^{i\varphi})] d\varphi \leq 1$$

that is

$$(2.7) \quad \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_M [\theta'(\varphi)]^{\pm p} \frac{\cos [p\beta(\theta(\varphi))]}{[\cos \beta(\theta(\varphi))]^{\pm p}} d\varphi \leq 1.$$

Now we note that $|\beta(\theta(\varphi))| \leq \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon$ ($\varphi \in M$), and the fact that

$$\frac{\cos px}{(\cos x)^p} \text{ is monotonically } \begin{array}{l} \text{decreasing in } 0 \leq x < \pi/2p \text{ if } p > 1 \\ \text{increasing in } 0 \leq x < \pi/2 \text{ if } 0 < p < 1. \end{array}$$

This proves our estimates (2.2) and (2.3)

We now show that our bounds are best possible. More precisely: *For every $\varepsilon \geq 0$ and for every p with $0 \leq p < \pi/(2 \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon)$, there exists a curve C such that Theorem 6 holds with equality in (2.2) and (2.3), respectively.*

For $\varepsilon = 0$, and for $\varepsilon > 0$, $0 \leq p \leq 1$ in (2.2), we simply let C be

$|w| = 1$, $\theta'(\varphi) \equiv 1$. For $\varepsilon > 0$ and the other two cases in (2.2) and (2.3) we consider the curve $C: \rho(\theta) = e^{\varepsilon i \theta}$ ($|\theta| \leq \pi$), which is composed of two pieces of logarithmic spirals that meet in $w = 1$ and $w = -e^{\varepsilon \pi}$. Let $f(z)$ be such that $f(1) = 1$ and $f(-1) = -e^{\varepsilon \pi}$.

We claim that for this mapping we have equality in (2.7) whenever $0 \leq p < \pi/(2 \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon)$. Since $\operatorname{tg} \beta(\theta(\varphi)) = \pm \varepsilon$ for all $\varphi \neq 0, \pi$, this would immediately give equality in (2.2) and (2.3).

To prove equality in (2.7), we study the behaviour of $f'(z)$ in $|z| < 1$. The curve C is composed of two analytic arcs meeting at angles $\alpha_1 \pi$ and $\alpha_2 \pi$ with $\alpha_1 = 1 + [2/\pi] \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon$ and $\alpha_2 = 1 - [2/\pi] \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon$. By a theorem of Warschawski ([13], p. 835), we have therefore

$$(2.8) \quad f'(z)(z - 1)^{-(2/\pi) \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon} \rightarrow C_1 \neq 0 (z \rightarrow 1) \\ \text{and } f'(z)(z + 1)^{+(2/\pi) \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon} \rightarrow C_2 \neq 0 (z \rightarrow -1),$$

for unrestricted approach within $|z| < 1$. Thus,

$$f'(z)(z + 1)^{(2/\pi) \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon} \text{ and } [f'(z)]^{-1}(z - 1)^{(2/\pi) \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon}$$

are continuous in $|z| \leq 1$, and we have for $re^{i\varphi}$, $0 \leq r < 1$, $0 < |\varphi| < \pi$,

$$|f'(re^{i\varphi})| \leq \frac{\text{const}}{(\pi - |\varphi|)^{(2/\pi) \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon}} \text{ and } |f'(re^{i\varphi})|^{-1} \leq \frac{\text{const}}{|\varphi|^{(2/\pi) \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon}}.$$

Therefore, if $2p \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon < \pi$, $\exp\{\pm pu(re^{i\varphi})\} = |g(re^{i\varphi})|^{\pm p}$ is bounded by an integrable function, uniformly for all r in $0 \leq r < 1$, so that Lebesgue's convergence theorem can be applied to (2.6) for $r \rightarrow 1$, giving equality in (2.7).

Finally, also the bound on p is best possible. For this we simply note that by (2.5) and (2.8)

$$[\theta'(\varphi)]^{-1} |\varphi|^{+(2/\pi) \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon} \geq D_1 > 0 \text{ near } \varphi = 0 \\ \text{and } \theta'(\varphi) \cdot (\pi - |\varphi|)^{+(2/\pi) \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon} \geq D_2 > 0$$

near $\varphi = \pi$, so that for $p = \pi/(2 \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon)$ the functions $[\theta'(\varphi)]^p$ and $[\theta'(\varphi)]^{-p}$ are not integrable.

COROLLARY. *Under the assumptions of Theorem 6, we have for $0 \leq r < 1$*

$$(2.9) \quad \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} |f'(re^{i\varphi})|^{\pm p} d\varphi \leq \frac{\max [\rho(\theta)]^{\pm p}}{\cos(p \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon)} \text{ if } 0 \leq p < \frac{\pi}{2 \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon}.$$

For $p = \pi/(2 \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon)$, the left-hand side need not be uniformly bounded in $0 \leq r < 1$.

⁴ See also a similar estimate for smooth curves ([11], p. 254).

For the proof we note that by (2.6)

$$1 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{|z|=r < 1} |g(z)|^{\pm p} \cos [p v(z)] d\varphi .$$

Recalling $|p v(z)| \leq p \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon$ and that $|z/f(z)|^{\pm p}$ assumes its minimum for $|z| = 1$, we arrive at (2.9).

II.2. An estimate for $M_p[f'(z) - 1]$. Theorem 6 enables us to derive an estimate for the mean of $f'(z) - 1$, which is small for small ε .

THEOREM 7. *Let $C: \rho(\theta)e^{i\theta}$ be a Jordan curve, starshaped with respect to $w = 0$, which satisfies an ε -condition and which lies in the ring $1 \leq |w| \leq 1 + \varepsilon$ for some $\varepsilon \geq 0$. Let $w = f(z)$ with $f(0) = 0$, $f'(0) > 0$ map $|z| < 1$ conformally to the interior of C . Then we have for all r with $0 \leq r < 1$*

$$(2.10) \quad M_p[f'(re^{i\varphi}) - 1] \leq \left\{ (1 + \varepsilon) \frac{\cos \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon}{[\cos (p \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon)]^{1/p}} + e^\varepsilon \right\} (1 + A_p) \cdot \varepsilon$$

$$\text{if } 1 < p < \frac{\pi}{2 \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon} ,$$

where A_p denotes the constant in Riesz's Theorem B. The upper bound for p is best possible⁵.

This improves a theorem of Warschawski ([9], p. 566) with respect to the restrictions on ε and p .

Proof. We first estimate $M_p[\{z f'(z)/f(z)\} - 1]$ (see [9], p. 565) and write by (2.5)

$$\frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} - 1 = (\theta'(\varphi) - 1) - i \frac{\rho'(\theta)}{\rho(\theta)} \theta'(\varphi) \quad (z = e^{i\varphi}) .$$

Since the left-hand side vanishes at $z = 0$, Riesz's theorem gives

$$M_p[\theta'(\varphi) - 1] \leq A_p M_p \left[\frac{\rho'(\theta(\varphi))}{\rho(\theta(\varphi))} \theta'(\varphi) \right] \leq A_p M_p[\theta'(\varphi)] \cdot \varepsilon .$$

With (2.2) and Minkowski's inequality we obtain

$$(2.11) \quad M_p \left[\frac{e^{i\varphi} f'(e^{i\varphi})}{f(e^{i\varphi})} - 1 \right] \leq (1 + A_p) M_p[\theta'(\varphi)] \cdot \varepsilon$$

$$\leq (1 + A_p) \frac{\cos \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon}{[\cos (p \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon)]^{1/p}} \cdot \varepsilon .$$

⁵ For $0 < p \leq 1$ an estimate can be obtained by an application of Hölder's inequality.

Next, we use the estimate

$$M_p[f'(z) - 1] \leq (1 + \varepsilon)M_p \left[\frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} - 1 \right] + M_p \left[\frac{f(z)}{z} - 1 \right] \quad (|z| = r < 1),$$

where the last term is $\leq (1 + A_p)e^\varepsilon \varepsilon$; see [9], p. 564-566. Combining this with (2.11) and using the monotonicity of $M_p\{zf'(z)/f(z)\} - 1$ with respect to r , we arrive at (2.10).

For $p = \pi/(2 \operatorname{arctg} \varepsilon)$, $M_p[f'(re^{i\varphi}) - 1]$ need not be uniformly bounded in $0 \leq r < 1$. To see this, one has to modify our example in II.1 slightly in an obvious way so that it satisfies also $1 \leq \rho(\theta) \leq 1 + \varepsilon$; note that only the angle $\pi\alpha_2$ is of importance.

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