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**ROYDEN ALGEBRAS AND QUASI-ISOMETRIES OF
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The purpose of this paper is to investigate how the purely algebraic structure of the Royden algebra relates to the metric structure of the underlying Riemannian manifold. This investigation is motivated by the question: what potential-theoretic properties are intrinsically determined by Royden algebras.

In order to develop the potential theory systematically on Riemannian 2-manifolds based on the Dirichlet principle, Royden [11, 12] introduced an algebra of continuous functions which now bears his name. A comprehensive survey of this algebra can be found in [14]. Royden algebras are equally powerful in the potential theory for higher dimensional Riemannian manifolds. (Cf. e.g. Nakai [6].)

In the 2-dimensional case we have seen (Nakai [4]) that the algebraic structure of the Royden algebra is characteristic of the quasi-conformal structure of the manifold. In the present paper we shall show that in higher dimensional cases ($m \geq 3$) the algebraic structure of the Royden algebra is characteristic of the quasi-isometric structure of the underlying manifold. Our results will be precisely stated and a program for their proofs given in § 1.

We will consider metric tensors, not necessarily continuous, by which Riemannian structures are given on manifolds. This seems to be the most appropriate frame work for classical potential theory, both from the view point of generality and for technical reasons.

1. Main results.

1. By a Riemannian manifold M we mean a connected, separable, and orientable m -dimensional ($m \geq 2$) differentiable manifold of class C^1 with fundamental tensor

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} g_{11} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & g_{1m} \\ \vdots & & & & \vdots \\ g_{m1} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & g_{mm} \end{pmatrix}$$

satisfying the following conditions:

In each parametric ball or cube¹ B with local parameter $x =$

¹ If we use the terms parametric ball (B, x) , parametric cube (B, x) , or parametric region (B, x) , we always suppose that \bar{B} is compact in M and x is defined in a neighborhood of \bar{B} . We also say that B itself is a parametric ball, cube, or region if x is clearly understood.

(x^1, \dots, x^m) , the local expressions $g_{ij}(x)$ of g_{ij} ($i, j = 1, \dots, m$) of functions of x are Borel measurable in B and there exists a finite constant $k_B \geq 1$ such that

$$(1) \quad k_B^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^m (\xi^i)^2 \leq \sum_{i,j=1}^m g_{ij}(x) \xi^i \xi^j \leq k_B \sum_{i=1}^m (\xi^i)^2$$

for every x in B and for every m -tuple (ξ^1, \dots, ξ^m) of real numbers. Moreover there exists a covering $\{B\}$ of M consisting of parametric balls or cubes B such that

$$(2) \quad 1 \leq k_B \leq \tau$$

for every B of the covering and for some constant $\tau \in (1, \infty)^2$.

We can, therefore, consider the inverse matrix G^{-1} of G . We set

$$G^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} g^{11} & \cdot & \cdot & g^{1m} \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ g^{m1} & \cdot & \cdot & g^{mm} \end{pmatrix}, \quad g = \det G = \begin{vmatrix} g_{11} & \cdot & \cdot & g_{1m} \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ g_{m1} & \cdot & \cdot & g_{mm} \end{vmatrix}.$$

In terms of the local parameter $x = (x^1, \dots, x^m)$, the line element ds on M is given by $ds^2 = \sum_{i,j=1}^m g_{ij}(x) dx^i dx^j$, and since the $g_{ij}(x)$ are Borel measurable, the line integral $\int_\gamma ds$ along any rectifiable curve γ in M can be defined. Therefore the natural distance $\rho_M(p, q)$ of two points p and q in M is given by

$$(3) \quad \rho_M(p, q) = \inf \int_\gamma ds$$

where the infimum is taken with respect to all rectifiable curves γ in M joining p and q .

2. Let M_j ($j = 1, 2$) be two Riemannian manifolds with the natural distances $\rho_j = \rho_{M_j}$ ($j = 1, 2$). A topological mapping T of M_1 onto M_2 is said to be a *quasi-isometry* if there exists a finite constant $K \geq 1$ such that

$$(4) \quad K^{-1} \rho_1(p, q) \leq \rho_2(Tp, Tq) \leq K \rho_1(p, q)$$

for any two points p and q in M_1 . Clearly the inverse mapping T^{-1} of T is also a quasi-isometry of M_2 onto M_1 .

A quasi-isometry T is necessarily a *quasiconformal mapping*, the latter being characterized by the existence of a finite constant $K \geq 1$ such that

² If (g_{ij}) is a continuous positive symmetric tensor, then (1) and (2) are automatically satisfied. Actually, in this case τ may be chosen as close to 1 as we wish.

$$(5) \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\max_{\rho_i(p, p_0)=r} \rho_j(T_i p, T_i p_0)}{\min_{\rho_i(p, p_0)=r} \rho_j(T_i p, T_i p_0)} \leq K$$

at every point p_0 in M_i , where $(i, j) = (1, 2)$ or $(2, 1)$, and $T_1 = T$, $T_2 = T^{-1}$.

3. A function f defined on a parametric cube $B: a^i < x^i < b^i$ ($i = 1, \dots, m$) is said to be *absolutely continuous on lines* (abbreviated as ACL) if it is absolutely continuous on almost all line segments parallel to coordinate axes; explicitly, if we denote by B_i the face of B given by $x^i = a^i$, then the function $f(\zeta + \xi e_i)$, $e_i = (\delta^{i1}, \dots, \delta^{im})$, is absolutely continuous in $\xi \in (a^i, b^i)$ for almost every $\zeta \in B_i$ with respect to the $(m - 1)$ -dimensional Lebesgue measure ($i = 1, \dots, m$). A function f on a Riemannian manifold M is said to be *ACL* if $f|B$ is *ACL* for every parametric cube in M . For such a function f on M the Dirichlet integral $D_M(f)$ over M is defined:

$$(6) \quad D_M(f) = \int \dots \int_M \sum_{i,j=1}^m g^{ij}(x) \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i}(x) \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^j}(x) \sqrt{g(x)} dx^1 \dots dx^m.$$

It may or may not be finite.

We denote by $R(M)$ the class of bounded continuous *ACL* functions f on M which have finite Dirichlet integrals $D_M(f) < \infty$. With the scalar multiplication $(\alpha \cdot f)(p) = \alpha \cdot f(p)$, the addition $(f_1 + f_2) = f_1(p) + f_2(p)$, and the multiplication $(f \cdot g)(p) = f(p) \cdot g(p)$ as its algebraic operations, the class $R(M)$ constitutes an algebra over the field of real numbers, called the *Royden algebra* associated with M . We are interested in the algebraic structure of $R(M)$. Specifically, we ask how the algebraic structure of $R(M)$ relates to the metric structure of M .

4. In a previous paper [4] we saw that if $m = 2$, then the algebraic structure of the Royden algebra $R(M)$ determines and is determined by the quasiconformal structure of M :

THEOREM. *Let M_1 and M_2 be 2-dimensional Riemannian manifolds. If there exists a quasiconformal mapping T of M_1 onto M_2 , then the mapping $f \mapsto f \circ T^{-1}$ is an algebraic isomorphism of $R(M_1)$ onto $R(M_2)$. Conversely, if there exists an algebraic isomorphism $\sigma: f \mapsto f^\sigma$ of $R(M_1)$ onto $R(M_2)$, then there exists a unique quasiconformal mapping T of M_1 onto M_2 such that $f^\sigma = f \circ T^{-1}$ for every f in $R(M_1)$.*

However, in [4], this theorem was proved for Riemann surfaces M_1 and M_2 . It is not necessarily possible to give conformal structures to the M_i compatible with the original metric structures of the M_i

in our present general setting. Therefore, to prove the above theorem, we need a minor modification of the discussion given in [4].

5. In view of the above, our main interest in the present paper is to study what happens when $m \geq 3$. In contrast with the preceding theorem we shall show that if $m \geq 3$, then the algebraic structure of the Royden algebra $\mathbf{R}(M)$ determines and is determined by the quasi-isometric structure of M :

THEOREM. *Let M_1 and M_2 be Riemannian manifolds whose dimensions are greater than or equal to 3. If there exists a quasi-isometry T of M_1 onto M_2 , then the mapping $f \mapsto f \circ T^{-1}$ is an algebraic isomorphism of $\mathbf{R}(M_1)$ onto $\mathbf{R}(M_2)$. Conversely, if there exists an algebraic isomorphism $\sigma: f \mapsto f^\sigma$ of $\mathbf{R}(M_1)$ onto $\mathbf{R}(M_2)$, then there exists a unique quasi-isometry T of M_1 onto M_2 such that $f^\sigma = f \circ T^{-1}$ for every f in $\mathbf{R}(M_1)$.*

In the above theorem, we do not make, for the existence of an algebraic isomorphism σ of $\mathbf{R}(M_1)$ onto $\mathbf{R}(M_2)$, the priori assumption that the dimensions of M_1 and M_2 are the same; this will be a consequence.

6. For the proofs of Theorems in 4 and 5, it is convenient and of independent interest to consider the following class of mappings: A *Dirichlet mapping* is a topological mapping T of M_1 onto M_2 with the property that $f \in \mathbf{R}(M_1)$ if and only if $f \circ T^{-1} \in \mathbf{R}(M_2)$.

We will see in § 2 that for any Dirichlet mapping T there exists a finite constant $K \geq 1$ such that

$$(7) \quad K^{-1}D_{M_1}(f) \leq D_{M_2}(f \circ T^{-1}) \leq KD_{M_1}(f)$$

for every $f \in \mathbf{R}(M_1)$.

By means of inequality (7) we will prove in § 3 that a mapping T of M_1 onto M_2 is a Dirichlet mapping if and only if T is a quasi-conformal mapping ($\dim M_1 = \dim M_2 = 2$) or a quasi-isometry ($\dim M_1 = \dim M_2 \geq 3$). This result in the 2-dimensional case has long been known at least for Riemann surfaces if Dirichlet mappings are supposed to satisfy (7). Thus the emphasis here is again on the characterization of Dirichlet mappings as quasi-isometries in the higher dimensional case.

Dirichlet mappings can also be characterized as mappings which preserve Sobolev (1, 2)-spaces on Riemannian manifolds with $m \geq 3$. This will be discussed in § 4.

Our main theorems in 4 and 5 above can be expressed in the

following unified form: *An algebraic isomorphism of $\mathbf{R}(M_1)$ onto $\mathbf{R}(M_2)$ induces and is induced by a Dirichlet mapping of M_1 onto M_2 .* This will be proved in § 5.

2. Royden algebras.

7. In the Royden algebra $\mathbf{R}(M)$ associated with a Riemannian manifold M , there are the supremum norm $\|f\|_\infty = \sup_{p \in M} |f(p)|$ and the Dirichlet seminorm $\sqrt{D_M(f)}$. Combining these two norms we produce the third norm

$$(8) \quad \|f\| = \|f\|_\infty + \sqrt{D_M(f)}.$$

We also write $\|f\| = \|f\|_M$ and $\|f\|_\infty = \|f\|_{\infty M}$ when an indication of the dependence on M is needed. The norm (8) satisfies, in addition to the usual norm property, the relations $\|1\| = 1$ and $\|f_1 \cdot f_2\| \leq \|f_1\| \cdot \|f_2\|$ for all f_1 and f_2 in $\mathbf{R}(M)$. Therefore $(\mathbf{R}(M), \|\cdot\|)$ constitutes a normed algebra. Moreover we have the following.

PROPOSITION. $(\mathbf{R}(M), \|\cdot\|)$ is a Banach algebra.

What we have to show is the completeness of $\mathbf{R}(M)$ with respect to the norm $\|\cdot\|$. Let $\{f_n\}_1^\infty$ be a $\|\cdot\|$ -Cauchy sequence in $\mathbf{R}(M)$. Since it is also $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ -Cauchy, we can find a bounded continuous function f on M such that $\|f_n - f\|_\infty \rightarrow 0$ ($n \rightarrow \infty$).

Consider the Hilbert space $H(M)$ of Lebesgue measurable 1-forms $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^m a^i(x) dx^i$ with

$$\int \cdots \int_M \sum_{i,j=1}^m g^{ij}(x) a_i(x) a_j(x) \sqrt{g(x)} dx^1 \cdots dx^m < \infty.$$

The inner product (α, β) of α and $\beta = \sum_{i=1}^m b_i(x) dx^i$ is given by

$$(\alpha, \beta) = \int \cdots \int_M \sum_{i,j=1}^m g^{ij}(x) a_i(x) b_j(x) \sqrt{g(x)} dx^1 \cdots dx^m.$$

Clearly $df_n = \sum_{i=1}^m (\partial f_n / \partial x^i) dx^i$ belongs to $H(M)$ and $\{df_n\}_1^\infty$ is a Cauchy sequence in $H(M)$, since

$$(df_n - df_{n+p}, df_n - df_{n+p}) = D_M(f_n - f_{n+p}) \leq \|f_n - f_{n+p}\|.$$

Let $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i(x) dx^i$ be the limit of $\{df_n\}$ in $H(M)$.

Take an arbitrary parametric cube (B, x) and let $k_B \geq 1$ be the constant in (1) for B . Then

$$(9) \quad k_B^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^m \xi_i^2 \leq \sum_{i,j=1}^m g^{ij}(x) \xi_i \xi_j \leq k_B \sum_{i=1}^m \xi_i^2, \quad k_B^{-m} \leq g(x) \leq k_B^m$$

for almost every $x \in B$ and for every m -tuple (ξ_1, \dots, ξ_m) of real numbers. In view of this

$$\int \cdots \int_B \sum_{i=1}^m \left(\frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x^i}(x) - a_i(x) \right)^2 dx^1 \cdots dx^m \leq k_B^{m/2+1} (df_n - \alpha, df_n - \alpha).$$

Therefore the left-hand member converges to zero as n tends to infinity.

Let $B = \{x | c^i < x^i < d^i, i = 1, \dots, m\}$ and let π_i be the largest subset of the face of B determined by $x^i = c^i$ such that every line L perpendicular to $x^i = c^i$ and passing through a point in π_i possesses the following properties: every f_n ($n = 1, 2, \dots$) is absolutely continuous on $L \cap B$, and the a_i are integrable on L . In view of the ACL-property of f_n , we can easily see, by the Fubini theorem, that the complement of π_i in the face of B containing π_i is of $(m-1)$ -dimensional Lebesgue measure zero. For each $x_{0i} = (x_0^1, \dots, x_0^{i-1}, x^i, x_0^{i+1}, \dots, x_0^m) \in L \cap B$ and $x_0 = (x_0^1, \dots, x_0^m) \in L \cap \pi_i$, we obtain

$$f_n(x_{0i}) - f_n(x_0) = \int_{x_0^i}^{x^i} \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x^i}(x_0^1, \dots, x_0^{i-1}, t, x_0^{i+1}, \dots, x_0^m) dt.$$

Since a_i is integrable on $L \cap B$

$$\varphi(x_{0i}) = \int_{x_0^i}^{x^i} a_i(x_0^1, \dots, x_0^{i-1}, t, x_0^{i+1}, \dots, x_0^m) dt$$

can be defined. By the Schwarz inequality and the Fubini theorem, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int \cdots \int_{\pi_i} |f_n(x_{0i}) - f_n(x_0) - \varphi(x_{0i})|^2 dx_0^1 \cdots dx_0^{i-1} dx_0^{i+1} \cdots dx_0^m \\ \leq (x^i)^2 \int \cdots \int_B \left| \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x^i}(x) - a_i(x) \right|^2 dx^1 \cdots dx^m. \end{aligned}$$

On letting $n \rightarrow \infty$, we conclude that

$$\int \cdots \int_{\pi_i} |f_n(x_{0i}) - f_n(x_0) - \varphi(x_{0i})|^2 dx_0^1 \cdots dx_0^{i-1} dx_0^{i+1} \cdots dx_0^m = 0.$$

From this we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_0^1, \dots, x_0^{i-1}, x^i, x_0^{i+1}, \dots, x_0^m) - f(x_0^1, \dots, x_0^m) \\ = \varphi(x_0^1, \dots, x_0^{i-1}, x^i, x_0^{i+1}, \dots, x_0^m) \end{aligned}$$

for every rational x^i and for every $(x_0^1, \dots, x_0^{i-1}, x_0^{i+1}, \dots, x_0^m) \in \pi'_i \subset \pi_i$ with $\pi_i - \pi'_i$ of $(m-1)$ -dimensional Lebesgue measure zero. Since both members of the above equality are continuous in x^i , we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_0^1, \dots, x_0^{i-1}, x^i, x_0^{i+1}, \dots, x_0^m) - f(x_0^1, \dots, x_0^m) \\ = \int_{x_0^i}^{x^i} a_i(x_0^1, \dots, x_0^{i-1}, t, x_0^{i+1}, \dots, x_0^m) dt \end{aligned}$$

for every $x^i \in (c^i, d^i)$ and $(x_0^1, \dots, x_0^{i-1}, x_0^{i+1}, \dots, x_0^m) \in \pi'_i$. Since this is true for every $i = 1, \dots, m$, f is ACL on B and $a_i = \partial f / \partial x^i$ ($i = 1, \dots, m$) almost everywhere on B . Therefore $f \in \mathbf{R}(M)$ and $\|f_n - f\| \rightarrow 0$ ($n \rightarrow \infty$).

8. We denote by $C^1(M)$ the class of C^1 -functions on M . The following will be useful in calculations:

PROPOSITION. $\mathbf{R}(M) \cap C^1(M)$ is dense in $\mathbf{R}(M)$ in the norm $\|\cdot\|$.

For an arbitrary $f \in \mathbf{R}(M)$ and a positive number ε , we have to find a ψ in $\mathbf{R}(M) \cap C^1(M)$ with $\|f - \psi\| < \varepsilon$. Let $\{\varphi_n\}_1^\infty \subset C^1(M)$ be a partition of unity with the following properties: the support of each φ_n is contained in a parametric ball (B_n, x) ; for each compact set K in M , $K \cap B_n = \emptyset$ except for a finite number of n ; $\sum_1^\infty \varphi_n = 1$ on M . Observe that $\varphi_n f \in \mathbf{R}(M)$ ($n = 1, 2, \dots$). If we can find a $\psi_n \in C^1(M)$ with its support in B_n such that $\|\varphi_n f - \psi_n\| < \varepsilon/2^n$, then $\psi = \sum_1^\infty \psi_n$ is well-defined and belongs to $C^1(M)$. Since

$$\|f - \psi\| = \left\| \sum_{n=1}^\infty (\varphi_n f - \psi_n) \right\| \leq \sum_{n=1}^\infty \|\varphi_n f - \psi_n\| < \varepsilon,$$

we see that $\psi \in C^1(M) \cap \mathbf{R}(M)$, i.e. ψ is the required function.

In view of the above, we have only to consider an f in $\mathbf{R}(M)$ whose support is contained in a parametric ball (B, x) . By the regularization method (cf. e.g. Yoshida [17; p. 29, 58]), we can find a C^1 -function ψ in B with its support in B such that

$$\begin{aligned} \|f - \psi\|_{\infty, B} + \left(\int \cdots \int_B \sum_{i=1}^m \left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i}(x) - \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x^i}(x) \right|^2 dx^1 \cdots dx^m \right)^{1/2} \\ < \varepsilon k_B^{-m/2-1} \end{aligned}$$

where k_B is the constant in (1) for B . From this we conclude that $\|f - \psi\| = \|f - \psi\|_B < \varepsilon$.

9. For two functions f_1 and f_2 on M , we define the lattice operations \cup and \cap by $(f_1 \cup f_2)(p) = \max(f_1(p), f_2(p))$ and $(f_1 \cap f_2)(p) = \min(f_1(p), f_2(p))$. The following property of $\mathbf{R}(M)$ is important for our purposes:

PROPOSITION. $\mathbf{R}(M)$ is closed under the lattice operations \cup and \cap , and

$$(10) \quad D_M(f) = D_M(f \cap c) + D_M(f \cup c),$$

$$(11) \quad D_{(f=c)}(f) = D_{(f=c)}(f \cap c) = D_{(f=c)}(f \cup c) = 0$$

for every functions f in $\mathbf{R}(M)$ and every real number c .

Observe that $f_1 \cup f_2 = (f_1 - f_2) \cup 0 + f_2$ and $f_1 \cap f_2 = -((-f_1) \cup (-f_2))$. Therefore to prove that $\mathbf{R}(M)$ is closed under the lattice operations, it is sufficient to show that $f \cup 0 \in \mathbf{R}(M)$ for every $f \in \mathbf{R}(M)$. If f is absolutely continuous on a line segment in a parametric ball, then $f \cup 0$ has the same property. Therefore $f \cup 0$ is ACL on M along with f . It is also clear that if both $\partial f / \partial x^i$ and $\partial(f \cup 0) / \partial x^i$ exist at x , then

$$(12) \quad \left| \frac{\partial(f \cup 0)}{\partial x^i}(x) \right| \leq \left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i}(x) \right|.$$

Therefore $D_M(f \cup 0) \leq D_M(f)$ and we conclude that $f \cup 0 \in \mathbf{R}(M)$.

It is easy to see that (11) implies (10). To prove (11) we only have to treat the case $c = 0$. In view of (12), both $D_{(f=0)}(f \cup 0)$ and $D_{(f=0)}(f \cap 0)$ are dominated by $D_{(f=0)}(f)$. Hence we have to prove that $D_{(f=0)}(f) = 0$. Let (B, x) be an arbitrary parametric cube. In view of

$$D_{(f=0) \cap B}(f) \leq k_B^{m/2+1} \int \cdots \int_{(f=0) \cap B} \sum_{i=1}^m \left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i}(x) \right|^2 dx^1 \cdots dx^m,$$

it is sufficient to show that

$$(13) \quad \int \cdots \int_{(f=0) \cap B} \left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i}(x) \right|^2 dx^1 \cdots dx^m = 0$$

for every $i = 1, \dots, m$. Let $B = \{x \mid c^i < x^i < d^i, i = 1, \dots, m\}$ and let π_i be the largest subset of the face of B determined by $x^i = c^i$ such that, for every line L perpendicular to $x^i = c^i$ and passing through a point in π_i , $f(x)$ is absolutely continuous on $L \cap B$. Since the complement of π_i with respect to the face of B containing π_i is of $(m-1)$ -Lebesgue measure zero, the Fubini theorem assures that (13) is equivalent to

$$\int \cdots \int_{\pi_i} \left(\int_{(f=0) \cap [c^i, d^i]} \left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i}(x) \right|^2 dx^i \right) dx^1 \cdots dx^{i-1} dx^{i+1} \cdots dx^m = 0.$$

Thus to prove (12) it is sufficient to show that

$$(14) \quad \int_E \varphi'(t)^2 dt = 0,$$

where $\varphi(t)$ is absolutely continuous in an interval $[c, d]$ and $E = \{t \in [a, b] \mid \varphi(t) = 0\}$. Let E_1 be the largest subset of E such that $\varphi'(t)$ exists for each $t \in E_1$. Put $E_2 = \{t \in E_1 \mid \varphi'(t) = 0\}$. Pick an arbitrary point t_0 in $E_1 - E_2$. Since $\varphi(t_0) = 0$ and $\varphi'(t_0) \neq 0$, t_0 is an isolated point in E . This shows that $E_1 - E_2$ is at most countably infinite and a fortiori $E_1 - E_2$ has Lebesgue measure zero. Since $E - E_1$ also has Lebesgue measure zero, $\varphi'(t) = 0$ almost everywhere on E . We conclude that (14) is valid.

10. Recall that a homeomorphism T of a Riemannian manifold M_1 onto another M_2 is a Dirichlet mapping if $f \in \mathbf{R}(M_1)$ is equivalent to $f \circ T^{-1} \in \mathbf{R}(M_2)$. We prove here that the induced mapping $f \rightarrow f \circ T^{-1}$ of $\mathbf{R}(M_1)$ onto $\mathbf{R}(M_2)$ has the following continuity property (cf. Nakai [5]):

THEOREM. *For any Dirichlet mapping T of a Riemannian manifold M_1 onto another M_2 , there exists a finite constant $K \geq 1$ such that*

$$(15) \quad K^{-1}D_{M_1}(f) \leq D_{M_2}(f \circ T^{-1}) \leq KD_{M_1}(f)$$

for every function f in $\mathbf{R}(M_1)$.

For simplicity let $S = T^{-1}$ and $S^*f = f \circ S$. Clearly S^* is an algebraic isomorphism of $\mathbf{R}(M_1)$ onto $\mathbf{R}(M_2)$. Since $\mathbf{R}(M_i)$ are Banach algebras ($i = 1, 2$), S^* must be bicontinuous in the norm $\|\cdot\|$ (cf. e.g. Rickart [9]). Hence there exists a finite constant $K \geq 1$ such that

$$(16) \quad K^{-1}\|f\|_{M_1} \leq \|f\|_{M_2} \leq K\|f\|_{M_1}$$

for every function f in $\mathbf{R}(M_1)$. Observe that

$$(17) \quad \|S^*f\|_{\infty, M_2} = \|f\|_{\infty, M_1}, \quad S^*(f_1 \cup f_2) = (S^*f_1) \cup (S^*f_2)$$

for every f, f_1 , and f_2 in $\mathbf{R}(M_1)$.

Let $F = \{f \in \mathbf{R}(M_1) \mid 0 \leq f \leq 1\}$. From (16) it follows that

$$(18) \quad \sqrt{D_{M_2}(S^*f)} \leq K(1 + \sqrt{D_{M_1}(f)})$$

for every $f \in F$. For an arbitrarily fixed function f in F , the functions

$$f_i = n \left(\left(\frac{i-1}{n} \cup f \right) \cap \frac{i}{n} - \frac{i-1}{n} \right) \quad (i = 1, \dots, n)$$

are all in F . In view of (17),

$$S^*f_i = n \left(\left(\frac{i-1}{n} \cup (S^*f) \right) \cap \frac{i}{n} - \frac{i-1}{n} \right) \quad (i = 1, \dots, n).$$

Here we have used the relation $S^*c = c$ for every constant c . Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} D_{M_1}(f_i) &= n^2 D_{M_1} \left(\left(\frac{i-1}{n} \cup f \right) \cap \frac{i}{n} \right), \\ D_{M_2}(S^*f_i) &= n^2 D_{M_2} \left(\left(\frac{i-1}{n} \cup (S^*f) \right) \cap \frac{i}{n} \right) \end{aligned}$$

for every $i = 1, \dots, n$. Repeated use of (9) yields

$$D_{M_1}(f) = \sum_{i=1}^n D_{M_1}\left(\left(\frac{i-1}{n} \cup f\right) \cap \frac{i}{n}\right)$$

and

$$D_{M_2}(S^*f) = \sum_{i=1}^n D_{M_2}\left(\left(\frac{i-1}{n} \cup (S^*f)\right) \cap \frac{i}{n}\right).$$

Therefore

$$(19) \quad n^2 D_{M_1}(f) = \sum_{i=1}^n D_{M_1}(f_i), \quad n^2 D_{M_2}(S^*f) = \sum_{i=1}^n D_{M_2}(S^*f_i).$$

Since $f_i \in F$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$), (18) implies

$$D_{M_2}(S^*f_i) \leq K^2(1 + 2\sqrt{D_{M_1}(f_i)} + D_{M_1}(f_i)) \quad (i = 1, \dots, n).$$

On summing these inequalities with respect to $i = 1, \dots, n$, we obtain by (19)

$$n^2 D_{M_2}(S^*f) \leq K^2\left(n + 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{D_{M_1}(f_i)} + n^2 D_{M_1}(f)\right).$$

Let $i(n)$ be a fixed integer such that $1 \leq i(n) \leq n$ and

$$D_{M_1}(f_{i(n)}) = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} D_{M_1}(f_i).$$

We set

$$u_n = \left(\frac{i(n)-1}{n} \cup f\right) \cap \frac{i(n)}{n}.$$

The above inequality takes on the following form:

$$(20) \quad D_{M_2}(S^*f) \leq K^2 D_{M_1}(f) + n^{-1} K^2 + 2K^2 \sqrt{D_{M_1}(u_n)}.$$

Choose a subsequence $\{n(k)\}_{k=1}^\infty$ of the sequence of positive integers such that $a = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} i(n(k))/n(k)$ exists. Fix an arbitrary positive integer N . Since

$$a - \frac{1}{N} < \frac{i(n(k)) - 1}{n(k)} < \frac{i(n(k))}{n(k)} < a + \frac{1}{N}$$

for all sufficiently large k , we obtain by (10)

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} D_{M_1}(u_{n(k)}) \leq D_{(a-1/N < f < a+1/N)}(f).$$

In view of (11), we conclude that

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} D_{(a-1/N < f < a+1/N)}(f) = D_{(f=a)}(f) = 0$$

and therefore

$$(21) \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} D_{M_1}(u_{n(k)}) = 0.$$

On letting $k \rightarrow \infty$ in (20) with $n = n(k)$, we infer that (21) implies (15).

3. Dirichlet mappings.

11. In this section we will prove the following geometric characterization of Dirichlet mappings:

THEOREM. *A homeomorphism T of a Riemannian manifold M_1 onto another M_2 is a Dirichlet mapping if and only if T is a quasi-conformal mapping of M_1 onto M_2 for $\dim M_1 = \dim M_2 = 2$ and a quasi-isometry of M_1 onto M_2 for $\dim M_1 = \dim M_2 \geq 3$.*

The proof will be given in 12—16. The theorem in the 2-dimensional case is well-known for plane regions M_i . In the higher dimensional case it was proved in Nakai [7] for regions M_i in the m -dimensional Euclidean space ($m \geq 3$). We will show how to modify the proofs for the present situation.

12. In view of (2), we can find a countable covering $\{B_i\}_1^\infty$ of M_1 consisting of parametric regions B_i homeomorphic to a sphere with the following properties: TB_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots$) are parametric regions on M_2 and

$$(22) \quad \max(k_{B_i}, k_{TB_i}) \leq \tau \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots)$$

where τ is a constant in $(1, \infty)$ and k_{B_i} and k_{TB_i} are the constants in (1) for B_i and TB_i . We denote by $D_B(\varphi)$ the Euclidean Dirichlet integral of a function φ on a parametric region B , i.e.

$$D_B(\varphi) = \int \cdots \int_B \sum_{i=1}^m \left| \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x^i}(x) \right|^2 dx^1 \cdots dx^m.$$

13. In nos. 13 and 14, we assume that $\dim M_1 = \dim M_2 = m = 2$. First we assume that T is a quasiconformal mapping of M_1 onto M_2 , i.e. T satisfies (5) for some $K \geq 1$. Choose an arbitrary $B_i = B$ in 12. Then by (22)

$$(23) \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\max_{|h|=r} |T(x+h) - T(x)|}{\min_{|h|=r} |T(x+h) - T(x)|} \leq \tau^2 K$$

for every $x \in B$, with $|x| = |(x^1, \dots, x^m)| = \sum_{i=1}^m |x^i|^2$. Therefore T is a $\tau^2 K$ -quasiconformal mapping of B onto TB with respect to the Euclidean metric.

It is well-known (see e.g. Künzi [2], Gehring [1]) that (23) implies that $\varphi \circ T^{-1}$ is ACL on TB along with φ on B and

$$(24) \quad \tau^{-2} K^{-1} D_B(\varphi) \leq D_{TB}(\varphi \circ T^{-1}) \leq \tau^2 K D_B(\varphi).$$

Again by (22), (24) gives

$$(25) \quad \tau^{-m-4} K^{-1} D_B(\varphi) \leq D_{TB}(\varphi \circ T^{-1}) \leq \tau^{m+4} K D_B(\varphi)$$

where we have used the inequalities $k_B^{-1} \leq (g_{ij}) \leq k_B$ and $k_B^{-m} \leq g \leq k_B^m$. Since (25) is valid for every $B = B_i$, we conclude that $f \in \mathbf{R}(M_1)$ is equivalent to $f \circ T^{-1} \in \mathbf{R}(M_2)$.

14. Conversely assume that T is a Dirichlet mapping of M_1 onto M_2 . We have seen that (15) is valid for some K . Again fix an arbitrary $B = B_i$. Then (15) implies (24) for $\varphi \in \mathbf{R}(M_1)$ with compact support in B . In particular, we deduce that

$$(26) \quad \tau^{-2} K \bmod A \leq \bmod TA \leq \tau^2 K \bmod A$$

for every ring (annulus) A contained in B . Here $\bmod A$ means the harmonic modulus of A given by

$$\bmod A = \frac{2\pi}{D_A(w_A)},$$

where w_A is the harmonic function on A with boundary values 0 at the exterior boundary of A and 1 at the interior boundary of A .

It is again well-known (see e.g. Künzi [2], Gehring [1]) that a homeomorphism T of B onto TB with the property (26) is a $\tau^2 K$ -quasiconformal mapping of B onto TB , i.e. (23) is valid. Since $B = B_i$ is arbitrary, we conclude that (5) holds with K replaced by $\tau^4 K$. Thus the theorem for $\dim M_1 = \dim M_2 = 2$ is proved.

15. In nos. 15 and 16, we assume that $\dim M_1 = \dim M_2 = m \geq 3$. First suppose T is a quasi-isometry of M_1 onto M_2 , i.e. (4) is valid for some K . Fix a $B = B_i$. By (22), we obtain

$$(27) \quad \tau^{-1} K^{-1} |x_1 - x_2| \leq |Tx_1 - Tx_2| \leq \tau K |x_1 - x_2|$$

for every x_1 and x_2 in B . It is clear that $\varphi \circ T^{-1}$ is ACL on TB along with φ on B . By the classical Rademacher [10]—Stepanoff [15] theorem (see also Tsuji [16], Saks [13]), we can compute $D_{TB}(\varphi \circ T^{-1})$ as follows:

$$(28) \quad D_{TB}(\varphi \circ T^{-1}) = \int \cdots \int_B \sum_{i=1}^m \left| \frac{\partial(\varphi \circ T^{-1})}{\partial y^i}(y(x)) \right|^2 |J_y(x)| dx^1 \cdots dx^m,$$

where $y = y(x) = T(x)$ and $J_y(x) = \det(\partial y^j / \partial x^i)$. Observe that

$$(29) \quad \begin{aligned} \left| \frac{\partial(\varphi \circ T^{-1})}{\partial y^i}(y(x)) \right|^2 &= \left| \sum_{j=1}^m \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x^j}(x) \cdot \frac{\partial x^j}{\partial y^i} \right|^2 \\ &\leq \sum_{j=1}^m \left| \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x^j}(x) \right|^2 \cdot \sum_{j=1}^m \left| \frac{\partial x^j}{\partial y^i} \right|^2 \end{aligned}$$

almost everywhere (cf. Nakai [7]). In view of (27), we see that

$$(30) \quad m^{-2}\tau^{-2}K^{-2} \leq \sum_{i,j=1}^m \left| \frac{\partial x^j}{\partial y^i} \right|^2 \leq m^2\tau^2K^2$$

almost everywhere and also

$$(31) \quad (\tau K)^{-m} \leq |J_y(x)| \leq (\tau K)^m$$

almost everywhere. Here we have repeatedly used the measurability of T and T^{-1} , which is a consequence of the Rademacher-Stepanoff theorem cited above. From (28)–(31), it follows that

$$m^{-2}(\tau K)^{-m-2}D_B(\varphi) \leq D_{TB}(\varphi \circ T^{-1}) \leq m^2(\tau K)^{m+2}D_B(\varphi)$$

for every $B = B_i$. Therefore (15) is valid with K replaced by $m^2(\tau K)^{m+2}$. We conclude that $f \in R(M_1)$ is equivalent to $f \circ T^{-1} \in R(M_2)$.

16. We come to the final part of our proof. Assume that T is a Dirichlet mapping of M_1 onto M_2 . Since (15) is valid for some K , we see by (22) that

$$(32) \quad K_1^{-1}D_B(\varphi) \leq D_{TB}(\varphi \circ T^{-1}) \leq K_1D_B(\varphi)$$

for every $B = B_i$ in 12 and every $\varphi \in R(M_1)$ with compact support in B , where $K_1 = \tau K$. The proof in Nakai [7] can be applied to deduce from (32) that

$$(33) \quad K_2^{-1}|x_1 - x_2| \leq |Tx_1 - Tx_2| \leq K_2|x_1 - x_2|$$

for every x_1 and x_2 in B with $|x_1 - x_2|$ sufficiently small. Here K_2 depends only on K_1 but not on B . Again by (22), we obtain (4) with $K = \tau K_2$ for every p and q in M_1 such that $\rho_1(p, q)$ is sufficiently small. By the definition (3) of ρ_1 and ρ_2 , the requirement on the smallness of $\rho_1(p, q)$ can obviously be removed.

4. Sobolev (1, 2)-spaces.

17. Let $W^{1,2}(M)$ be the class of functions f on a Riemannian manifold M such that the $\partial f / \partial x^i$ ($i = 1, \dots, m = \dim M$) exist almost everywhere on M and

$$(34) \quad |||f|||_M = \int \cdots \int_M \left(|f(x)|^2 + \sum_{i,j=1}^m g^{ij}(x) \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i}(x) \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^j}(x) \right) \cdot \sqrt{g(x)} dx^1 \cdots dx^m < \infty.$$

The class $W^{1,2}(M)$ is called the *Sobolev (1, 2)-space* (cf. e.g. Yosida [17]). For simplicity, we write $W(M) = W^{1,2}(M)$.

Let T be a homeomorphism of a Riemannian manifold M_1 onto

another M_2 . For a function φ on M_1 , we define the function $T^*\varphi$ on M_2 by

$$(35) \quad T^*\varphi = \varphi \circ T^{-1}.$$

THEOREM. *For a homeomorphism T of M_1 onto M_2 with $\dim M_1 = \dim M_2 \geq 3$, the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (a) *T is a Dirichlet mapping of M_1 onto M_2 ;*
- (b) *T is a quasi-isometry of M_1 onto M_2 ;*
- (c) *$T^*(W(M_1)) = W(M_2)$.*

The equivalence of (a) and (b) was established in § 3. We only have to show that (c) is equivalent to (a) or (b). The proof is given in 18–19.

18. By the regularization method (cf. 8), we see that $W(M) \cap C^1(M)$ is dense in $W(M)$ with respect to the norm $||| \cdot |||$ and also $W(M) \cap C^1(M)$ is dense in $W(M) \cap C(M)$ with respect to the norm $\| \cdot \|$. From the latter assertion, we deduce

$$(36) \quad R(M) = W(M) \cap C(M) \cap L^\infty(M).$$

Here as usual C stands for continuous and $L^\infty(M)$ is the set of essentially bounded functions on M . Of course $C(M) \cap L^\infty(M)$ is nothing but the class of bounded continuous functions on M . Therefore for every homeomorphism T of M_1 onto M_2

$$(37) \quad T^*(C(M_1) \cap L^\infty(M_1)) = C(M_2) \cap L^\infty(M_2).$$

From (36) and (37), we see that (c) implies $T^*(R(M_1)) = R(M_2)$, i.e. T is a Dirichlet mapping.

19. Take an arbitrary $B = B_i$ in 12. Let $y = y(x)$ be the representation of T considered as a mapping of B onto TB . We saw in 15 that there exists a constant K independent of B such that $K^{-1} \leq J_y(x) \leq K$ almost everywhere on B . Using the $||| \cdot |||$ -denseness of $W(M_1) \cap C^1(M_1)$ in $W(M_1)$, we can deduce a relation similar to (29) for an arbitrary $f \in W(M_1)$. We could have chosen the above constant K so large that $K^{-1} \leq \sum_{i,j=1}^m |\partial x^j / \partial y^i|^2 \leq K$. Then

$$K^{-2} D_B(f) \leq D_{TB}(T^*f) \leq K^2 D_B(f)$$

and also

$$\begin{aligned} K \int \cdots \int_B |f(x)|^2 dx^1 \cdots dx^m &\leq \int \cdots \int_B |(T^*f)(y)|^2 dy^1 \cdots dy^m \\ &\leq K \int \cdots \int_B |f(x)|^2 dx^1 \cdots dx^m. \end{aligned}$$

By (22), we obtain

$$\tau^{-m/2-1}K^{-1}|||f|||_B \leq |||T^*f|||_{TB} \leq \tau^{m/2+1}K|||f|||_B.$$

From this we see that $T^*W(M_1) = W(M_2)$.

5. Royden compactifications.

20. Let p^* be an algebraic homomorphism of $R(M)$ onto the field of real numbers such that $p^*(1) = 1$. Denote by M^* the set of all such p^* . We denote by $R(M)^*$ the dual Banach space of $R(M)$ endowed with the weak star topology. Take an arbitrary $f \in R(M)$ and an arbitrary number $\lambda > \|f\|_\infty$. Observe that $\sqrt{\lambda} \pm f \in R(M)$. For every $p^* \in M^*$, we have

$$\lambda \pm p^*(f) = p^*(\lambda \pm f) = p^*((\sqrt{\lambda} \pm f)^2) = (p^*(\sqrt{\lambda} \pm f))^2 \geq 0.$$

Hence $|p^*(f)| \leq \lambda$ and a fortiori $|p^*(f)| \leq \|f\|_\infty \leq \|f\|$. Therefore M^* is a bounded weakly star closed subspace of $R(M)^*$. This shows that M^* is weakly star compact. Each point $p \in M$ can be viewed as a point in M^* by considering $p(f) = f(p)$ for $f \in R(M)$. It is clear that the original topology of M is identical with the relative weak star topology in $M \subset M^*$.

For $f \in R(M)$, set $f(p^*) = p^*(f)$. Then $f \in C(M)$, the space of bounded continuous functions. We can thus consider $R(M) \subset C(M^*)$. Since the Stone-Weierstrass property is satisfied by $R(M)$, we conclude that $R(M)$ is dense in $C(M^*)$ with respect to the supremum norm. Therefore M is a dense subspace of M^* . Since M is locally compact, $M^* - M$ cannot accumulate at any point in M , i.e. M is open in M^* . We summarize:

The compact Hausdorff space M^ contains M as an open dense subspace; each function in $R(M)$ can be uniquely extended to M^* so as to be in $C(M^*)$; $R(M)$ separates points in M^* , i.e. for every p_1^* and p_2^* in M^* with $p_1^* \neq p_2^*$, there exists an $f \in R(M)$ such that $f(p_1^*) \neq f(p_2^*)$. Any compact Hausdorff space with these properties is identical with M^* .*

We call M^* the *Royden compactification* of M .

21. The Royden compactification is a convenient tool in the study of global potential theory on manifolds based on the Dirichlet principle. It is especially powerful in the classification problem (see Nakai [6]). However, here we are only interested in the topological structure of M^* . First we show (cf. Nakai [3]):

PROPOSITION. *A point p^* in M^* is in M if and only if $\{p^*\}$ is*

a G_δ -set, i.e. the first countability axiom is satisfied at p^* .

If $p^* \in M$, then clearly p^* is a G_δ -set. Suppose p^* is a G_δ -set. Contrary to the assertion, assume $p^* \in M^* - M$. Then there would exist a sequence $\{p_n\}_1^\infty \subset M$ converging to p^* . Take parametric balls (B_n, x_n) ($n = 1, 2, \dots$) with the following properties: $p_n \in B_n$ and $x(p_n) = 0$; $\bar{B}_n \cap \bar{B}_{n'} = \emptyset$ ($n \neq n'$);

$$\overline{\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^\infty \bar{B}_n\right)} - \bigcup_{n=1}^\infty \bar{B}_n = \{p^*\};$$

in each B_n

$$\tau^{-1}(\delta_{ij}) \leq (g_{ij}) \leq \tau(\delta_{ij})$$

almost everywhere. Let $\{a_n\}_1^\infty$ be a sequence such that $0 < a_n < 2^{-n}$ and

$$A_n = \begin{cases} \{x_n \mid a_n^{1/(m-2)} < |x_n| < (2a_n)^{1/(m-2)}\} & (m \geq 3) \\ \{x_n \mid e^{-1/a_n} a_n < |x_n| < a_n\} & (m = 2) \end{cases}$$

is contained in B_n . Denote by A'_n the closed ball bounded by the inner boundary of A_n . Take the function f on M characterized by the following three formulas:

$$f \Big| \left(M - \bigcup_{n=1}^\infty (A_n \cup A'_n) \right) = 0, \quad f \Big| \left(\bigcup_{n=1}^\infty A'_n \right) = 1,$$

and for x in A_n ($n = 1, 2, \dots$),

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - \frac{|x|^{2-m} - a_n^{-1}}{(2a_n)^{-1} - a_n^{-1}} & (m \geq 3) \\ -a_n \log \frac{|x|}{a_n} & (m = 2). \end{cases}$$

Clearly f is bounded, continuous, and ACL on M and

$$D_M(f) = \sum_{n=1}^\infty D_{A_n}(f) \leq \tau^{1+m/2} \sum_{n=1}^\infty D_{A_n}(f).$$

On the other hand, we see by a simple calculation that

$$D_{A_n}(f) = \begin{cases} \Gamma(1 + m/2)^{-1} \pi^{m/2} (m-2) a_n & (m \geq 3) \\ 2\pi a_n & (m = 2). \end{cases}$$

In view of the choice of a_n , we conclude that $D_M(f) < \infty$.

Therefore $f \in R(M)$ and a fortiori f is continuous on M^* . In particular f must be continuous at p^* . Take a point q_n in the outer boundary of A_n for each $n = 1, 2, \dots$. Then since $f(q_n) = 0$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} q_n = p^*$, we would have $f(p^*) = 0$. On the other hand, since $f(p_n) = 1$ ($n = 1, 2, \dots$) and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_n = p^*$, we must have $f(p^*) = 1$.

This is a contradiction, and the proof of the Proposition is herewith complete.

22. Let M_1 and M_2 be Riemannian manifolds. An important consequence of the preceding proposition is the following.

PROPOSITION. *Any homeomorphism T^* of M_1^* onto M_2^* maps M_1 onto M_2 , i.e. $T^*(M_1) = M_2$. The mapping $T = T^*|_{M_1}$ is a homeomorphism of M_1 onto M_2 .*

In fact, let $p \in M_1$. Since p is G_δ in M_1 , T^*p is also G_δ in M_2^* and a fortiori $T^*p \in M_2$. Thus $T^*(M_1) \subset M_2$. By the symmetry, $T^*(M_1) \supset M_2$.

A homeomorphism T of M_1 onto M_2 which can be continued to a homeomorphism of M_1^* onto M_2^* is said to be a *Royden map*. The above theorem shows that the Royden maps exhaust the homeomorphisms of M_1^* onto M_2^* . For potential-theoretic properties and a characterization of Royden maps, we refer to Nakai [6].

23. We are ready to prove the following

THEOREM. *Any algebraic isomorphism σ of the Royden algebra $R(M_1)$ onto $R(M_2)$ induces and is induced by a Dirichlet mapping T of M_1 onto M_2 .*

Let T be a Dirichlet mapping of M_1 onto M_2 . Then the mapping σ defined by $f \mapsto f^\sigma = f \circ T^{-1}$ is clearly an algebraic isomorphism of $R(M_1)$ onto $R(M_2)$.

Conversely, let σ be an algebraic isomorphism of $R(M_1)$ onto $R(M_2)$. For a fixed $p^* \in M_1^*$, define a functional $T^*(p^*)$ on $R(M_2)$ by

$$(T^*(p^*))(f) = f^\tau(p^*)$$

for $f \in R(M_2)$, where $\tau = \sigma^{-1}$. Clearly $T^*(p^*)$ is an algebraic homomorphism from $R(M_2)$ onto the field of real numbers with $(T^*(p^*))(1) = 1$. Therefore $T^*(p^*) \in M_2^*$ and

$$(38) \quad f(T^*(p^*)) = f^\tau(p^*)$$

for every $f \in R(M_2)$.

As a consequence of (38), we deduce that T^* is a homeomorphism of M_1^* onto M_2^* . By Proposition 22, $T^*|_{M_1} = T$ is a homeomorphism of M_1 onto M_2 and (38) takes on the form $f \circ T = f^\tau$ for every $f \in R(M_2)$. Therefore $f^\sigma = f \circ T^{-1}$ for every $f \in R(M_1)$. The proof is thus complete.

24. We are now in a position to prove our main result, Theorems

4 and 5 (cf. § 1). Let T be a quasiconformal mapping of M_1 onto M_2 for $m = 2$, and a quasi-isometry of M_1 onto M_2 for $m \geq 3$. By Theorem 11 in § 3, T is a Dirichlet mapping of M_1 onto M_2 . Therefore T induces an algebraic isomorphism $f \rightarrow f^\sigma = f \circ T^{-1}$ of $R(M_1)$ onto $R(M_2)$.

Conversely, suppose an algebraic isomorphism σ of $R(M_1)$ onto $R(M_2)$ is given. By the above theorem 23, σ is induced by a Dirichlet mapping T of M_1 onto M_2 , i.e. $f^\sigma = f \circ T^{-1}$. Again by Theorem 11 in § 3, T is a quasiconformal mapping of M_1 onto M_2 for $m = 2$, and a quasi-isometry of M_1 onto M_2 for $m \geq 3$.

The proofs of Theorems 4 and 5 are herewith complete.

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