

# Quasiconformal mappings and

# Teichmüller Theory

Dec 2020

- Grötzsch problem
- Quasiconformal mappings
- Ahlfors - Bers theorem
- Teichmüller theory

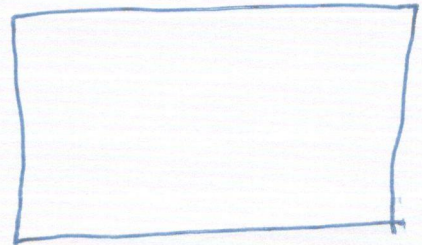
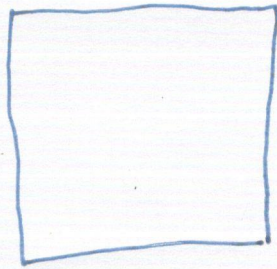


# Grötsch

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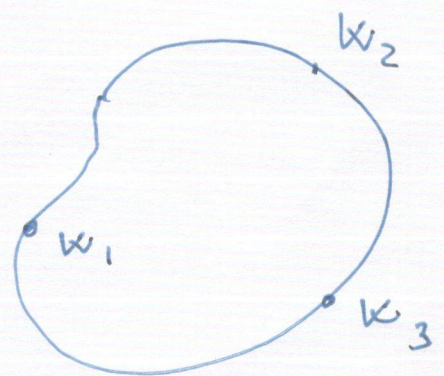
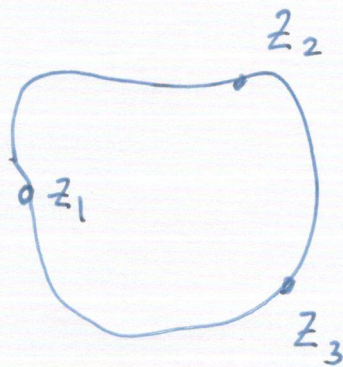
$Q$  is a square

$R$  is a rectangle  $\neq$  square



What is the most near conformal map from  $Q$  to  $R$ ?

Well known: For a conformal map one can prescribe 3 pts on the boundary



but not 4.



$$w = f(z) \quad C^1 \text{ homeo}$$

the tangent map (derivative)

can be written as

$$\begin{cases} du = u_x dx + u_y dy \\ dv = v_x dx + v_y dy \end{cases}$$

Complex notation

$$dw = f_z dz + f_{\bar{z}} d\bar{z}$$

$$f_z = \frac{1}{2} (f_x - i f_y)$$

$$f_{\bar{z}} = \frac{1}{2} (f_x + i f_y)$$

The Riemannian distance is

$$du^2 + dv^2 = E dx^2 + 2F dx dy + G dy^2$$

$$E = u_x^2 + v_x^2$$

$$F = u_x u_y + v_x v_y$$

$$G = u_y^2 + v_y^2$$

Eigen values: 
$$\begin{vmatrix} E - \lambda & F \\ F & G - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

In finitesimal ellipses are mapped to circles.



$$f_z = \frac{1}{2}(u_x + v_y) + \frac{i}{2}(v_x - u_y)$$

(3)

$$f_{\bar{z}} = \frac{1}{2}(u_x - v_y) + \frac{i}{2}(v_x + u_y)$$

$$|f_z|^2 - |f_{\bar{z}}|^2 = u_x v_y - u_y u_x = J$$

(Jacobian)

We will consider the sense preserving case when  $J > 0$ ,  $|f_{\bar{z}}| < |f_z|$

$$\text{Now } dw = f_z dz + f_{\bar{z}} d\bar{z}$$

gives

$$(|f_z| - |f_{\bar{z}}|) |dz| \leq |dw| \leq (|f_z| + |f_{\bar{z}}|) |dz|$$

Ratio of major axis to minor axis is

$$D_f = \frac{|f_z| + |f_{\bar{z}}|}{|f_z| - |f_{\bar{z}}|} \geq 1$$

$D_f$  Dilation

$$\text{Also } d_f = \frac{|f_{\bar{z}}|}{|f_z|} < 1$$

$$D_f = \frac{1 + d_f}{1 - d_f}, \quad d_f$$



Introduce complex dilatation as

$$\mu_f = \frac{f_{\bar{z}}}{f_z}, \quad |\mu_f| = d_f$$

Max correspond to

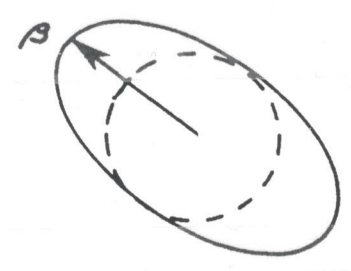
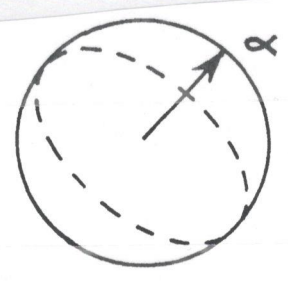
$$\arg dz = \alpha = \frac{1}{2} \arg \mu$$

Min to

$$\arg dz = \alpha \pm \frac{\pi}{2}$$

In w plane dir of major axis

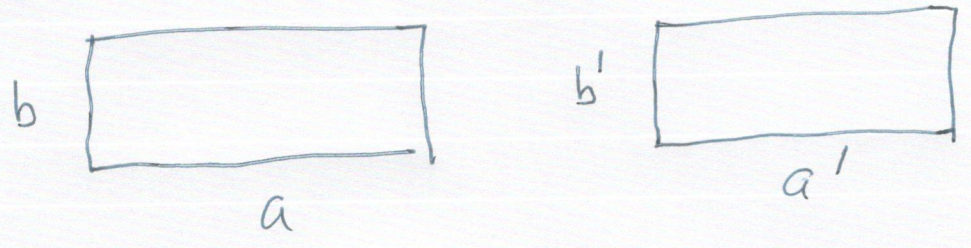
is  $\arg dw = \beta, \quad \beta - \alpha = \arg f_z$





Let  $R$  be a rectangle with sides  $a, b$   
 $R'$  " " " "  $a', b'$

Can assume  $\frac{a}{b} \leq \frac{a'}{b'}$



$$a' \leq \int_0^a |df(x+iy)| \leq \int_0^a (|f_z| + |f_{\bar{z}}|) dx$$

$$a'b \leq \int_0^a \int_0^b (|f_z| + |f_{\bar{z}}|) dx dy$$

$$a'^2 b^2 \leq \int_0^a \int_0^b \left( \frac{|f_z| + |f_{\bar{z}}|}{|f_z| - |f_{\bar{z}}|} \right) dx dy \int_0^a \int_0^b (|f_z|^2 - |f_{\bar{z}}|^2)$$

$$= a'b' \int_0^a \int_0^b D_f dx dy$$

$$\frac{\frac{a'}{b'}}{\frac{a}{b}} \leq \sup D_f$$

Min attained for

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{a'}{a} + \frac{b'}{b} \right) z + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{a'}{a} - \frac{b'}{b} \right)$$

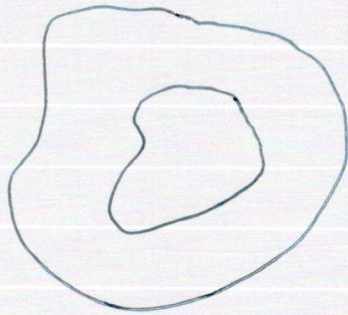


## Similar problem

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Equivalence of annuli

An annular domain



can always be mapped to a circular annular domain  $r_1 < |z| < r_2$

but two annuli

$$A_1 = \{ r_1 < |z| < r_2 \}$$

$$A_2 = \{ R_1 < |w| < R_2 \}$$

are conformally equivalent iff  $\frac{r_2}{r_1} = \frac{R_2}{R_1}$

there is a "Grötzsch" problem mapping

$$\{ 1 < |z| < R_1 \} \rightarrow \{ 1 < |w| < R_2 \}.$$

The extremal map is

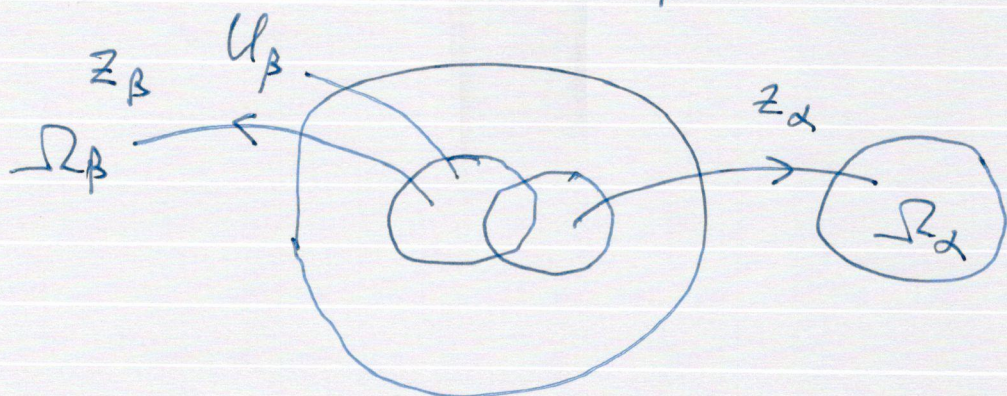
$$re^{i\varphi} \rightarrow \exp \left\{ B \log r \right\} e^{i\varphi}$$

$$B = \frac{\log R_2}{\log R_1}$$



# Riemann Surfaces.

One-dimensional Complex manifold



$\exists$  atlas  $z_\alpha: U_\alpha \rightarrow \Omega_\alpha$

$$z_\alpha \circ z_\beta^{-1} \Big|_{z_\beta(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta)}$$

holomorphic

What is the structure of Riemann surfaces?

Fundamental theorem. (Koebe)

There are only 3 conformally inequivalent simply connected

Riemann surfaces

1)  $\hat{\mathbb{C}} = \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$  (elliptic)

2)  $\mathbb{C}$  (parabolic)

3) Unit disk  $\mathbb{D} \cong \mathbb{H}$ , upper halfplane (hyperbolic)



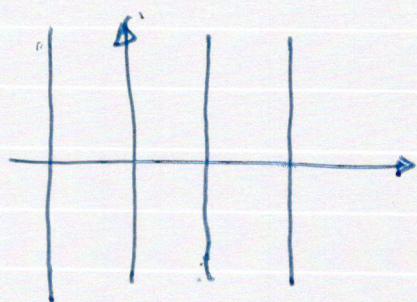
The only elliptic Riemann surface is  $\hat{\mathbb{C}}$

⑧

There are three parabolic R S

1)  $\mathbb{C}$  itself

2)  $\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}$



3)  $\mathbb{C}/(\mathbb{Z} + \mathbb{Z}\tau)$ ,  $\text{Im } \tau > 0$

Note  $\mathbb{C}/(\tau_1\mathbb{Z} + \tau_2\mathbb{Z})$

and  $\mathbb{C}/(\tau_1'\mathbb{Z} + \tau_2'\mathbb{Z})$

are equivalent if  $\frac{\tau_2}{\tau_1} = \frac{\tau_2'}{\tau_1'}$

The upper half plane

$$H = \{ \tau : \text{Im } \tau > 0 \}$$

is the parameter space for parabolic

Riemann surfaces top. equiv

to a torus



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This is the "first" example of a  
Teichmüller space

3) Hyperbolic Riemann surfaces  $\mathbb{X}$

This is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{H}/\Gamma$

$\Gamma$  discrete subgroup of Möbius transformations  
of self maps of  $\mathbb{H}$ . ( $PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$ ).

$\Gamma$  discrete if  $\{g^n z_0\}_{n=-\infty}^{\infty}$  discrete

Special case  $\mathbb{X}$  is compact.

Then the topological type is determined  
by its genus  $g$ ,  $g \geq 2$ .

The Teichmüller space is complex  
 $3g-3$  dimensional (real  $6g-6$  dim).

Royden's theorem. This Teichmüller  
space has the structure



# Isotermal coordinates

Suppose  $X$  is a Riemannian manifold

Its Riemannian metric is given by

$$ds^2 = E dx^2 + 2F dx dy + G dy^2$$

In complex coordinates  $z = x + iy$   
it takes the form

$$ds^2 = \lambda |dz + \mu d\bar{z}|^2$$

$$\lambda, \mu \text{ smooth } \|\mu\|_\infty < 1$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{4} (E + G + 2\sqrt{EG - F^2})$$

$$\mu = (E - G + 2iF) / \lambda$$

In isotermal coordinates  $w = u + iv$   
the metric takes the form

$$ds^2 = \rho (du^2 + dv^2) \quad , \quad \rho > 0 \text{ smooth}$$

The complex coordinate  $w = u + iv$   
satisfies

$$\rho |dw|^2 = \rho |w_z|^2 \left| dz + \frac{w_{\bar{z}}}{w_z} d\bar{z} \right|^2$$

$w = u + iv$  isotermal if

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial \bar{z}} = \mu \frac{\partial w}{\partial z}$$



In the real analytic case

existence of solutions to the Beltrami equation was proved by Gauss

If  $\|\mu\|_\infty < 1$  Morrey proved the existence

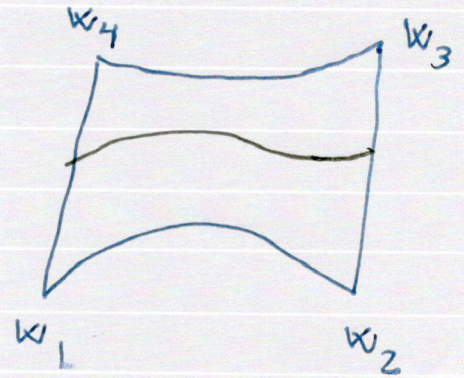
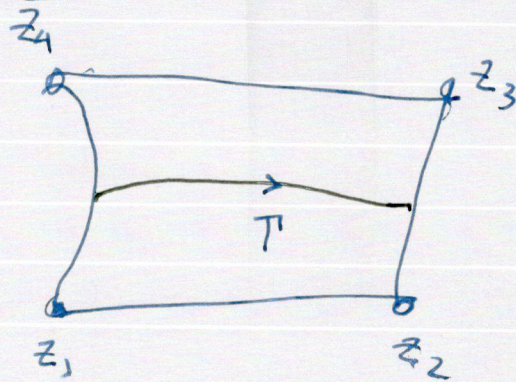
Ahlfors & Bers proved the existence for  $\|\mu\|_\infty < 1$  and also analytic dependence of the solution as a function of  $\mu$

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Question



# Modules of path families



$Q$  quadrilateral

$\mathcal{T}$  path family (joining  $(z_1, z_4)$  to  $(z_2, z_3)$ )

$\mathcal{P}$  family means non-negative Borel-measurable functions

$p \in \mathcal{P}$  is admissible if

$$\int_{\gamma} p |dz| \geq 1 \quad \forall \gamma \in \mathcal{T}$$

$$M(\mathcal{T}) = \inf_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \iint p^2 dx dy$$

Def. Given a domain  $A$ ,  $f: A \rightarrow A'$  sense preserving homeomorphism

Consider all Quadrilaterals in  $A$

$$K = \sup_Q \frac{M(f(Q)(f(z_1), f(z_2), f(z_3), f(z_4)))}{M(Q(z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4))}$$

(max dilatation)



If  $K < \infty$   $f$  is  $K$ -quasiconformal

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A quasiconformal map has  $L^2_{loc}$  derivatives  
(actually  $L^p_{loc}$  for some  $p > 2$ )

Thm: A sense preserving homeomorphism  
is  $K$ -quasiconformal if

1.  $f$  is ACL (absolute cont. on lines)
2.  $\max_{\alpha} |\partial_{\alpha} f(z)| \leq K \min_{\alpha} |\partial_{\alpha} f(z)|$



Thm (Ahlfors-Bers)

Suppose  $\mu$  is bounded on  $\mathbb{C}$  and

$$\|\mu\|_\infty < 1$$

Then there is a homeomorphism  $f$  satisfying

$$(1) \quad f_{\bar{z}} = \mu f_z \quad \text{for a.e. } z$$

If  $f, g$  are quasiconformal maps with complex dilatations  $\mu_f$  and  $\mu_g$

Then

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

$\xi = g(z)$

Uniqueness theorem. Suppose  $f, g$  are quasiconformal so that  $\mu_f = \mu_g$

then  $f \circ g^{-1}$  is conformal

Cor. Two solutions of (1) are equivalent up to a Moebius transformation



## The compactly supported case

Theorem. Suppose  $\mu \in L^\infty$  and compactly supported.

Suppose  $\|\mu\|_\infty \leq k < 1$

Then there is  $p = p(k) > 2$  so that there is a unique  $f$  normalized so that

$$\begin{cases} f(z) = z + O\left(\frac{1}{z}\right) \\ f(0) = 0 \end{cases}$$

satisfying  $f_{\bar{z}} = \mu f_z$

so that  $f_{\bar{z}}$  and  $f_z - 1 \in L^p$

$f$  is a homeomorphism analytic outside  $\text{supp}(\mu)$ .

Cauchy-Green formula. Suppose  $D \subset \mathbb{C}$  Jordan domain and  $f \in C^1$ . Then

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\partial D} \frac{f(\xi)}{\xi - z} d\xi - \frac{1}{\pi} \iint_D \frac{f_{\bar{z}}(\xi)}{\xi - z} dA$$

( $dA = d\xi d\eta$ )

For  $\varphi \in C_0^1$  we can define

$$S\varphi(z) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \iint \frac{\varphi(\xi)}{\xi - z} d\xi d\eta$$



Thm. Suppose that  $\mu \in L^\infty$  and compactly supported. Suppose  $\|\mu\|_\infty \leq k < 1$

Then there is  $p = p(k) > 2$  so that there is  $f$  normalized so that

$$f(z) \begin{cases} \int f(z) = z + O(\frac{1}{z}) \\ f(0) = 0 \end{cases}$$

satisfying  $f_{\bar{z}} = \mu f_z$

so that  $f_{\bar{z}}$  and  $f_z^{-1} \in L^p$

$f$  is a homeomorphism, analytic outside  $\text{supp}(\mu)$

Pf. Suppose  $f \in QC'(k, R)$  (Quasiconformal &  $C^1$ )

Cauchy-Green formula is

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|\xi|=r} \frac{f(\xi)}{\xi-z} d\xi - \frac{1}{\pi} \iint \frac{f_{\bar{z}}(\xi)}{\xi-z} d\xi d\eta$$

If we look for a solution  $f(z) = z + O(\frac{1}{z})$

Replace  $f(z) \rightarrow z$  in first integral

$$f(z) - z = - \frac{1}{\pi} \iint \frac{f_{\bar{z}}(\xi)}{\xi-z} d\xi d\eta$$

$$\equiv \int_{|\xi| < R} f_{\bar{z}}$$



$f = S\varphi$  is a solution of

(17)

$$\bar{\partial} f = f_{\bar{z}} = \varphi$$

Pf. Suppose  $f \in QC'(K, R)$ , ( $K$ -qc. &  $C^1$ )  
and in  $|z| > R$   
Cauchy-Green's formula becomes

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|\xi|=r} \frac{f(\xi)}{\xi-z} d\xi - \frac{1}{\pi} \iint_{|\xi|<r} \frac{f_{\bar{z}}(\xi)}{\xi-z} d\xi d\eta$$

for  $r > R$

We look for a solution to the  
Betrami equation with  $f(z) = z + O\left(\frac{1}{z}\right)$   
at  $\infty$

Can replace  $f(z)$  by  $z$  in first  
integral

$$f(z) - z = -\frac{1}{\pi} \iint_{|\xi|<R} \frac{f_{\bar{z}}(\xi)}{\xi-z} d\xi d\eta$$

$$= S f_{\bar{z}}$$

For  $\varphi \in C^1_0$ ,  $S\varphi(z) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \iint \frac{\varphi(\xi)}{\xi-z} d\xi d\eta$   
is a solution of  $\bar{\partial}$

$$\iint \chi_{\bar{z}}(z) (S\varphi)(z) dx dy = - \iint \chi(\xi) \varphi(\xi) d\xi d\eta$$



By formally differentiating

$$S\varphi(z) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \iint \frac{\varphi(\xi)}{\xi-z} d\xi d\eta$$

we get

$$T\varphi(z) = (S\varphi)_z(z) = \frac{1}{\pi} \iint \frac{\varphi(\xi)}{(\xi-z)^2} d\xi d\eta$$

One can prove that for  $\varphi \in C'_0$

$$T\varphi = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\pi} \iint_{|\xi-z| > \epsilon} \frac{\varphi(\xi)}{(\xi-z)^2} d\xi d\eta$$

exists by Cauchy-Green's formula

$$\text{Then } T(f_{\bar{z}}) = (Sf_{\bar{z}})_z = f_z$$

T maps  $f_{\bar{z}}$  to  $f_z$

T can be extended to  $L^p, 1 < p < \infty$

Important fact

$$1) \|T\varphi\|_2 = \|\varphi\|_2$$

T is a Fourier multiplier

$$\mathcal{F}: \frac{1}{z^2} \rightarrow \frac{\omega^2}{|\omega|^2}$$



$$\|T\varphi\|_p \leq C_p \|\varphi\|_p, \quad 1 < p < \infty$$

$C_p \rightarrow 1$  for as  $p \rightarrow 2$

Differentiate

$$f(z) - z = -\frac{1}{\pi} \iint_{|\xi| < R} \frac{f_{\bar{z}}(\xi)}{\xi - z} d\xi d\eta$$

with respect to  $z$

We get

$$f_z - 1 = T(f_{\bar{z}})$$

$$\text{Introduce } \begin{cases} f_{\bar{z}} = \mu f_z \\ g = f_z - 1 \end{cases}$$

We get an integral equation for  $g$

$$g = T(\mu(1+g)) = T(\mu g) + T\mu$$

Introduce the operator

$$U_\mu = T(\mu g)$$

Then

$$(I - U_\mu)g = T\mu$$

$$\|U_\mu g\|_p \leq \underbrace{C_p k}_{< 1} \|g\|_p$$



$$g = (I - U_\mu)^{-1} (T_\mu)$$

$$(I - U_\mu)^{-1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} U_\mu^n$$

$$\| (I - U_\mu)^{-1} \| \leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (kC_p)^n = \frac{1}{1 - kC_p}$$

$$g = (I - U_\mu)^{-1} T(\mu) \in L^p$$

Now go back to

$$f(z) - z = S f_{\bar{z}}$$

Define  $f$  by

$$f(z) = z + S(\underbrace{\mu g + \mu}_{\mu(1+g)})$$

$$\mu(1+g) = \mu f_z$$

$$f_{\bar{z}} = \mu g + \mu = \mu(1+g)$$

$$f_z = 1 + T(\mu g + \mu) = 1 + g$$

$g$  solves integral eq

$$\text{Hence } f_{\bar{z}} = \mu f_z$$



## Uniqueness

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Suppose  $F$  is another solution of

$$F_{\bar{z}} = \mu F_z$$

$$\text{with } F_{\bar{z}}, F_z^{-1} \in L^p$$

$$\text{Define } G = F_z^{-1}$$

If  $h$  has distr. der in  $L^p$

$$\text{then } h_z = T(h_{\bar{z}})$$

$$\text{Then } G = T(F_{\bar{z}})$$

$$G = (I - U_\mu)^{-1} T(\mu)$$

$$\text{Then } G = g, \quad F_z = f_z$$

$$F_{\bar{z}} = f_{\bar{z}}$$

$$\text{Hence } F = f + C$$

$C = 0$  because of normalization at  $\infty$ .

We also have to prove that  $\varphi$

is a homeomorphism

In  $C^1$ -case this follows since

$$\gamma_f > 0$$

and  $f \rightarrow 1$  near  $\infty$



The general case

Write  $\mu = \mu_1 + \mu_2$ ,  $\mu_1 = 0$  near  $\infty$   
 $\mu_2 = 0$  near  $0$

Wish to find  $\lambda$  so that

$$f^\lambda \circ f^{\mu_2} = f^\mu$$

$$f^\lambda = f^\mu \circ f^{-\mu_2}$$

$$\lambda = \left[ \left( \frac{\mu - \mu_2}{1 - \mu \bar{\mu}_2} \right) \left( \begin{array}{c} f^{\mu_2} \\ z \\ \bar{f}^{\mu_2} \\ \bar{z} \end{array} \right) \right] \circ (f^{\mu_2})^{-1}$$