ON UNIFORM PERFECTNESS OF LIMIT SETS OF KLEINIAN GROUPS AND JULIA SETS OF RATIONAL FUNCTIONS

TOSHIYUKI SUGAWA

ABSTRACT. In this talk, we shall give a definition of uniformly perfect sets and then discuss the fundamental properties of these sets. As typical and important examples, we shall refer to the limit sets of Kleinian groups and the Julia sets of rational functions on the Riemann sphere.

A closed set E containing at least three points in the Riemann sphere $\widehat{\mathbb{C}}$ is said to be uniformly perfect if there exists a constant 0 < c < 1 such that $E \cap \{z \in \mathbb{C}; cr < |z-a| < r\} \neq \emptyset$ for any $a \in E \setminus \{\infty\}$ and 0 < r < diamE. We set $D = \widehat{\mathbb{C}} \setminus E$. This is equivalent to any of the following.

- (1) $M_D = \sup_A m(A) < +\infty$, where A runs over all ring domains in D separating E and m(A) denotes the modulus of A, i.e., A is conformally equivalent to $\{z \in \mathbb{C}; 1 < |z| < e^{m(A)}\}.$
- (2) $M_D^\circ = \sup_A m(A) < +\infty$, where A runs over all round annuli in D separating E and the round annulus means a ring domain of the form $\{r_1 < |z-a| < r_2\}$.
- (3) $\inf_{\alpha} \ell_D(\alpha) > 0$, where the infimum is taken over all non-trivial closed curves in D and $\ell_D(\alpha)$ denotes the hyperbolic length of the curve α .

Remark that the domain constants M_D and L_D can be defined for (a disjoint union of) arbitrary hyperbolic Riemann surfaces. And further we set $L_D^* = \inf_{\alpha} \ell_D(\alpha)$, where the infimum is taken over all non-trivial closed curves in D not homotopic to any puncture. Of course, $L_D \geq L_D^*$ and if $L_D^* > 0$ we will say that D is of Lehner type.

It is known that a uniformly perfect set is of positive Hausdorff dimension ([2]). More precisely, it holds that (cf. [5]),

$$\operatorname{H-dim} E \ge \frac{\log 2}{\log(2e^{M_D^\circ} + 1)} \ge \frac{\log 2}{M_D^\circ + \log 3}.$$

Pommerenke [4] proved that the limit set of a finitely generated non-elementary Kleinian group is uniformly perfect. In this talk, we shall generalize this result. Let G be a non-elementary Kleinian group with the region of discontinuity $\Omega(G)$. For sim-

plicity, we assume that G is torsion-free. (Actually, we shall state the corresponding result in the general case.)

Theorem 1. If the quotient surface $\Omega(G)/G$ is of Lehner type, then the limit set $\Lambda(G) = \widehat{\mathbb{C}} \setminus \Omega(G)$ is uniformly perfect.

As for the Julia set of a rational function of degree ≥ 2 , first Pommerenke [4] showed that it is uniformly perfect in the hyperbolic case. Afterwards, Mañé-da Rocha [3] and Hinkkanen [1] proved independently the uniform perfectness of the Julia sets in general case. But, their proof were done by contradiction, so no explicit bounds are given. In this talk, we shall provide a geometric lower bound for the constant L_{Ω} , where Ω is the Fatou set of a rational function f of degree $d \geq 2$.

Let $\operatorname{Crit}(f)$ be the set of critical points of f in Ω . We note that $\#\operatorname{Crit}(f) \leq 2d-2$. Put

$$C_1 = \min_{v_1 \neq v_2 \in f(\operatorname{Crit}(f))} 2d_{\Omega}(v_1, v_2), \quad C_2 = \min_{v \in f(\operatorname{Crit}(f))} 4\iota_{\Omega}(v)$$

where d_{Ω} and ι_{Ω} denote the hyperbolic distance and the injectivity radius in Ω , respectively. And let A_1, \dots, A_t be the complete system of representatives of the cycles of Herman rings of f. We note here that, by Shishikura's theorem, $0 \leq t \leq d-2$, in particular, if d = 2 there are no Herman rings. Put $C_3 = \min\{L_{A_1}, \dots, L_{A_t}\}$, then we have the next

Theorem 2. For an arbitrary rational function $f : \widehat{\mathbb{C}} \to \widehat{\mathbb{C}}$ of degree $d \ge 2$, the following holds.

$$L_{\Omega_f} \ge \min\{C_1, C_2, C_3\}.$$

Actually, the above theorem follows from a somewhat stronger result.

References

- 1. HINKKANEN, A. Julia sets of rational functions are uniformly perfect, *Math. Proc. Cambridge Philos. Soc.*, **113** (1993), 543–559.
- JÄRVI, P. AND VUORINEN, M. Uniformly perfect sets and quasiregular mappings, J. London Math. Soc., 54 (1996), 515-529.
- MAÑÉ, R. AND DA ROCHA, L. F. Julia sets are uniformly perfect, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc., 116 (1992), 251-257.
- 4. POMMERENKE, C. On uniformly perfect sets and Fuchsian groups, Analysis, 4 (1984), 299-321.
- 5. SUGAWA, T. Various domain constants related to uniform perfectness, Preprint (1997).

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, KYOTO UNIVERSITY, 606-01 SAKYO-KU, KYOTO CITY, JAPAN

E-mail address: sugawa@kusm.kyoto-u.ac.jp