

Conformally natural extension of homeomorphisms of the circle

by

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1. Conformal naturality

Let G be the group of all conformal automorphisms of $D = \{z \in \mathbb{C}; |z| < 1\}$, and G_+ the subgroup, of index two in G , of orientation preserving maps. The group G_+ consists of the transformations

$$z \mapsto \lambda \frac{z-a}{1-\bar{a}z}$$

with $|\lambda|=1$ and $|a|<1$. For each such a , the map

$$g_a: z \mapsto \frac{z-a}{1-\bar{a}z} \tag{1.1}$$

in G_+ takes a into 0 and 0 into $-a$.

The group G operates on D , on $S^1 = \partial D$, on the set $\mathcal{P}(S^1)$ of probability measures on S^1 , on the vector space $\mathcal{T}(D)$ of continuous vector fields on D , etc. Explicitly

$$\begin{aligned} g \cdot z &= g(z) \quad \text{if } z \in D \cup S^1, \\ (g \cdot \mu)(A) &= g_* \mu(A) = \mu(g^{-1}(A)) \quad \text{if } \mu \in \mathcal{P}(S^1) \text{ and } A \subset S^1 \text{ is a Borel set,} \\ (g \cdot v)(g(z)) &= g_*(v)(g(z)) = v(z) g'(z) \quad \text{if } v \in \mathcal{T}(D), z \in D, \text{ and } g \in G_+, \\ (g \cdot v)(g(z)) &= g_*(v)(g(z)) = \bar{v}(z) g'_z(z) \quad \text{if } v \in \mathcal{T}(D), z \in D, \text{ and } g \in G \setminus G_+. \end{aligned}$$

(We use the notations g'_z and $g'_z f$ for the complex derivatives of the function $g(z)$, and we

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