HIROSHIMA MATH. J.
21 (1991), 1–21

Discrete subgroups of convergence type of $U(1, n; C)$

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(Received December 15, 1989)

Introduction

Let C be the field of complex numbers. Let $V = V^{1,n}(C)$ $(n \geqq 1)$ denote the vector space C^{n+1}, together with the unitary structure defined by the Hermitian form

$$\Phi(z^*, w^*) = -\overline{z_0^*}w_0^* + \overline{z_1^*}w_1^* + \cdots + \overline{z_n^*}w_n^*$$

for $z^* = (z_0^*, z_1^*, \ldots, z_n^*)$ and $w^* = (w_0^*, w_1^*, \ldots, w_n^*)$ in V. An automorphism g of V, that is, a linear bijection such that $\Phi(g(z^*), g(w^*)) = \Phi(z^*, w^*)$ for z^*, $w^* \in V$, will be called a *unitary transformation.* We denote the group of all unitary transformations by $U(1, n; C)$. Let $V_0 = \{z^* \in V | \Phi(z^*, z^*) = 0\}$ and $V_- = \{z^* \in V | \Phi(z^*, z^*) < 0\}$. It is clear that V_0 and V_- are invariant under $U(1, n; C)$. Set $V^* = V_- \cup V_0 - \{0\}$. Let π: $V^* \to \pi(V^*)$ be the projection map defined by $\pi(z_0^*, z_1^*, \ldots, z_n^*) = (z_1^* z_0^{*-1}, z_2^* z_0^{*-1}, \ldots, z_n^* z_0^{*-1})$. Set $H^n(C) = \pi(V_-)$. Let $\overline{H^n(C)}$ denote the closure of $H^n(C)$ in the projective space $\pi(V^*)$. An element g of $U(1, n; C)$ operates in $\pi(V^*)$, leaving $\overline{H^n(C)}$ invariant. Since $H^n(C)$ is identified with the complex unit ball $B^n = B^n(C) = \{z = (z_1, z_2, \ldots, z_n) \in C^n | \|z\|^2 = \Sigma_{k=1}^n |z_k|^2 < 1\}$, we regard a unitary transformation as a transformation operating on B^n. Therefore discrete subgroups of $U(1, n; C)$ are considered to be generalizations of Fuchsian groups.

Our purpose in this paper is to extend results for Fuchsian groups to those for discrete subgroups of $U(1, n; C)$.

Our work is divided into four sections. In Section 1 we consider the Laplace-Beltrami equation. We show in Theorem 1.4 the relation between the type of a discrete subgroup of $U(1, n; C)$ and the existence of a certain automorphic function in B^n. Using this fact, we shall prove in Theorem 1.6 that if G is a discrete subgroup of convergence type, then $\Sigma_{g \in G}(1 - \|g(z)\|)^n$ is uniformly bounded in B^n. In Section 2 we shall discuss the properties of M-harmonic and of M-subharmonic functions. Section 3 is devoted to giving sufficient conditions for a discrete subgroup to be of convergence type. In Section 4 we define a point of approximation and show in Theorem 4.6 that if a

This research was partially supported by Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (No. 60740101, 61740109), Ministry of Education.