

54. On the Logarithmic Gradient of Poincaré Metric

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1. Introduction. Let $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathcal{C}$ be a simply connected domain with at least two boundary points and let $f(z)$ be a conformal mapping of $\mathcal{B} = \{z : |z| < 1\}$ onto \mathcal{D} . The Poincaré metric of \mathcal{D} is defined by

$$(1) \quad \lambda_{\mathcal{D}}(f(z)) |f'(z)| = \lambda_{\mathcal{B}}(z) = 1/(1 - |z|^2), \quad z \in \mathcal{B}.$$

This definition is independent of the choice of conformal mapping and because of this convenient choices available. Namely, let $w \in \mathcal{D}$ and choose the conformal mapping so that $f(0) = w$. Then

$$(2) \quad \lambda_{\mathcal{D}}(w) = 1/|f'(0)|.$$

If $f(z)$ is a conformal mapping of a domain \mathcal{G} onto \mathcal{D} then, from (1) and (2), we have

$$(3) \quad \lambda_{\mathcal{D}}(f(z)) |f'(z)| = \lambda_{\mathcal{G}}(z), \quad z \in \mathcal{G}.$$

Given $z \in \mathcal{D}$, let $d(z, \partial\mathcal{D})$ denote the distance from z to $\partial\mathcal{D}$, it is well-known that

$$(4) \quad 1/4 \leq d(z, \partial\mathcal{D}) \lambda_{\mathcal{D}}(z) \leq 1, \quad z \in \mathcal{D}.$$

Osgood proved in [1] the following

Theorem A. *If $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathcal{C}$ is simply connected and if f is analytic and univalent in \mathcal{D} then*

$$(5) \quad |f''(z)/f'(z)| \leq 8\lambda_{\mathcal{D}}(z)$$

for all $z \in \mathcal{D}$. The inequality is sharp.

Theorem B. *If \mathcal{D} is a proper subdomain of \mathcal{C} and if f is analytic and univalent in \mathcal{D} then*

$$(6) \quad |f''(z)/f'(z)| \leq 4/d(z, \partial\mathcal{D}), \quad z \in \mathcal{D}.$$

The inequality is sharp in the sense that the equality holds for $\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{B}$ and $f(z) = z/(1 - z)^2$.

Our Theorem 1 generalizes the above Theorems A and B, which reveals the relationship of (5) and (6).

Theorem 1. *If $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathcal{C}$ is simply connected domain with at least two boundary points and $f(z)$ is analytic and univalent in \mathcal{D} then*

$$(7) \quad \left| \frac{f''(z)}{f'(z)} \right| \leq \frac{4}{d(z, \partial\mathcal{D})} (4\sqrt{d(z, \partial\mathcal{D})\lambda_{\mathcal{D}}(z)} - 2d(z, \partial\mathcal{D})\lambda_{\mathcal{D}}(z) - 1)$$

for all $z \in \mathcal{D}$, and the inequality is sharp.

For a differentiable function u we shall use the familiar operator

$$u_z = (u_x - iu_y)/2, \quad z = x + iy.$$

If $w = f(z)$ is a conformal mapping of a domain \mathcal{G} onto \mathcal{D} then from (3)

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