Communications in Mathematical Physics © Springer-Verlag 1994

On the Distribution of Zeros of a Ruelle Zeta-Function

A. Eremenko¹*, G. Levin², M. Sodin³

¹ Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907, USA

² Institute of Mathematics, Hebrew University, Jerusalem 91904, Israel

³ Institute of Low Temperature Physics and Engineering, Kharkov, 310164, Ukraine

Received: 14 January 1993/in revised form: 22 March 1993

Abstract: We study the limit distribution of zeros of a Ruelle ζ -function for the dynamical system $z \mapsto z^2 + c$ when c is real and $c \to -2 - 0$ and apply the results to the correlation functions of this dynamical system.

Consider the dynamical system defined by the complex polynomial map $f_c: z \mapsto z^2 + c$, where c < -2. We use the notions and results of the iteration theory of rational functions (see for example [5]). Denote by f_c^{*n} the n^{th} iterate of the function f_c . The Julia set $J(f_c)$ is a Cantor set on the real line. So in particular all finite periodic points are real. This system is expanding (hyperbolic) on its Julia set. When c = -2 the Julia set is the segment [-2, 2] and the map $P = f_{-2}$ is not expanding anymore. We have the conjugation

$$P \circ \phi = \phi \circ Q , \qquad (1)$$

where $\phi: [0, 1] \rightarrow [-2, 2], t \mapsto 2 \cos \pi t$ and

$$Q = \begin{cases} t \mapsto 2t & 0 \leq t \leq 1/2 , \\ t \mapsto 2 - 2t, & 1/2 \leq t \leq 1 . \end{cases}$$

Remark that the chaotic dynamic of P on [-2,2] was investigated by J. von Neuman and S. Ulam on one of the first computers.

We are going to study the dynamics of f_c , c < -2 when $c \rightarrow -2$ and then compare it with the behavior of the limit system *P*. The chaotic dynamics of f_c has to be described in probabilistic terms. This can be done by introducing an appropriate invariant probability measure σ_c on the Julia set. We will show that the rate of asymptotic decrease of correlation functions of the system (f_c, v_c) changes dramatically when we pass to the limit system as $c \rightarrow -2$.

Our tool is the Thermodynamic Formalism [12–15]. Let us introduce the main objects of this theory in our particular case. Consider the Fréchet space $C^{\infty}(U)$ of

^{*} Supported by NSF grant DMS-9101798