Algebraic Aspects of the Dirichlet Problem

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3 Meromorphic Extensions of Solutions



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3 Meromorphic Extensions of Solutions





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- 3 Meromorphic Extensions of Solutions
- A Gentler Version

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 Ω is a bounded domain in $\mathbb{R}^2,$ $\partial\Omega$ consists of finitely many non-intersecting Jordan curves. Consider the Dirichlet Problem (DP)

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$$\begin{cases} \Delta u = 0, & \text{in } \Omega \\ u = v & \text{on } \partial \Omega, \end{cases}$$
(1)

where the data $v \in C(\partial \Omega)$.



Remarks

 If Ω is a disk, or, more generally, the interior of an ellipse, and the data v is a polynomial, then the solution u is also a polynomial (holds even in higher dimensions!).

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QUESTION. When is the solution u a rational function of x and y as well?

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Some History

If Ω = {z : |z| < 1}, then for every rational data v the solution u of the (DP) is also rational. (2003) W. Ross and T. Fergusson, also follows from a general result of P. Ebenfelt (1992)

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Let Ω be a bounded, simply connected domain in \mathbb{R}^2 . The following are equivalent:



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Let Ω be a bounded, simply connected domain in \mathbb{R}^2 . The following are equivalent:

(i) The Riemann map $\phi: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbf{D}$ is rational.

(ii) The solution u of the DP is rational for every data $v \in C(\partial \Omega)$ that is the restriction of a rational function R(z) without poles on $\partial \Omega$.

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Yet Another Characterization of Disks

QUESTION. Does the property "All Rational Data \Rightarrow Rational Solutions of DP" characterize disks in two dimensions?

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(i) Ω is a disk.

(ii) The solution u(x, y) of the DP is rational for every data $v \in C(\partial \Omega)$ that is the restriction of a rational function R(x, y) whose polar variety does not meet $\partial \Omega$.

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ROAD MAP TO PROOF

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 $\bullet \ \Omega$ is simply connected, all Bergman reproducing kernels are rational

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- Accordingly, the Schwarz function S(z) of ∂Ω (z̄ = S(z)on ∂Ω) is a rational function. P. Davis' theorem ⇒ that Ω is a disk.

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If the solution $u(z, \overline{z})$ to the DP extends as a meromorphic function to a \mathbb{C}^2 -neighborhood of V for every data $v \in C(\partial\Omega)$ that is the restriction of a polynomial $R(z, \overline{z})$,

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If the solution $u(z, \overline{z})$ to the DP extends as a meromorphic function to a \mathbb{C}^2 -neighborhood of V for every data $v \in C(\partial\Omega)$ that is the restriction of a polynomial $R(z, \overline{z})$, then the inverse $\phi^{-1} : \mathbb{D} \to \Omega$ is a rational function (i.e., Ω is a "quadrature domain").

\mathbb{C}^2 views

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example

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- The data v extends as polynomial R(z, w) to \mathbb{C}^2 .
- An obstruction to matching on V any polynomial R(z, w) with a sum of meromorphic functions
 R(z, w) = F(z) + G(w), F, G meromorphic near V, would
 be, for example, a continuum family of finite atomic measures
 μ_t on V which annihilate ALL sums f(z) + g(w), with f, g
 holomorphic near supp μ_t.

Lightning Bolts: an example



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Lightning Bolts

 A complex "lightning bolt" (LB) is a finite set of points (vertices) p₀, q₀, p₁, ..., p_n, q_n in C² such that each complex line connecting p_j to q_j or q_j to p_{j+1} is either "horizontal" or "vertical".

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- LB is closed if $p_0 = q_n$. Every closed LB has an even number of vertices.

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• The measure μ is an annihilating measure for all holomorphic functions in \mathbb{C}^2 representable in the form f(z) + g(w).

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A HISTORICAL REMARK.

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- Independently, L. Hansen and H. S. Shapiro were the first to consider in 1994 the simplest closed complex LB with 4 vertices ("rectangles") in connection with the functional equations arising from continuation of solutions to the DP.

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The crux in the proof is an explicit construction.

The technical subtlety of the construction reduces to the following;

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and then proceed at each step changing the "type" of line emanating from a newly obtained vertex to the opposite from the type of the complex line on which we have arrived at the vertex, of course, avoiding critical values and critical points of V, a finite set.

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The difficulty is to show that the process will terminate rather than produce a LB with infinitely many vertices running away to infinity.

For this we have to resort to the specific construction of a rather special family of grids of points obtained as orbits of a special finite subgroup of the monodromy group with two generators.

Closing a LB



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A simplified version of Thm.II

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Notation: If p is a polynomial p^* denotes the polynomial obtained from p by conjugating all the coefficients. A similar notation is used for rational functions as well.

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(ii) Moreover, assume also that the complexified variety $W := \{(z, w) : Q(z, w) := p(z)p^*(w) - q(z)q^*(w) = 0\}$ is irreducible in \mathbb{C}^2 , i.e., coincides with the complexified boundary V of $\partial\Omega$.

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Sketch of Proof of Thm IV (i)

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• Fix ξ in Ω .



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• Fix ξ in Ω . Consider the Dirichlet problem with data $(z - \xi)^{-1}$.

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- g maps Ω onto a multi-sheeted disk.
- The argument principle implies that g may only have one zero in Ω, so g is a rational Riemann map of Ω on the disk, and we can set φ := g.

An illustration I

Tilustrations I: Imwoo $\varphi = \frac{\varphi}{\varphi_{a}} = \frac{\varphi}{\varphi_{a}}$ p, q = polynomials $\partial \Omega = \left\{ \overline{z} : P(\frac{z}{q}) = \frac{P(z)}{q(z)} \right\}$ $= \left\{ \overline{z} : \frac{p(z)}{q(z)} = \frac{p^{*}(\overline{z})}{q^{*}(\overline{z})} \right\}$

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Sketch of Proof of Thm IV (ii)

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Sketch of Proof of Thm IV (ii)

• Ω is not a disk \Rightarrow the degree *m* of ϕ is at least 2.

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- Construct a (continual) family of closed lightning bolts $M := \{A = (a, c), B = (a, d), C = (b, c), D = (b, d)\}$ with four vertices on the variety W(= V, complexified $\partial\Omega$).

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- For every rational harmonic function u in \mathbb{C}^2 such that u = f(z) + g(w), f, g rational, find a (family) of closed rectangles M with vertices A, B, C, D on V whose vertices stay away from the poles of either f or g on V.

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Taking the data to be a polynomial v in z and w such that v(A) = v(B) = v(C) = 0 while v(D) = 1 we arrive at a contradiction. Hence the degree of φ must be 1 and Ω is a disk.

An illustration II: the LB we want



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$$\phi(a) = \phi(b) = \phi^*(c) = \phi^*(d).$$

• Let ζ be such that $\{\phi^{-1}(\zeta)\}$ consists of *m* distinct points and $\infty \notin \{\phi^{-1}(\zeta)\}$. Choose $a \neq b$ in $\{\phi^{-1}(\zeta)\}$ and $c \neq d$ in $\{(\phi^*)^{-1}(\zeta)\}$.

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Now

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$$M := \{A = (a, c), B = (a, d), C = (b, c), D = (b, d)\}$$

is a "rectangle" on the variety $W = \{(z, w) : Q(z, w) = 0\}$. But W is the same as V, the "complexified" $\partial \Omega$.

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E. Lundberg 2009, LB for the TV-screen

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E. Lundberg 2009, LB for the TV-screen



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E. Lundberg 2009, LB for the TV-screen



(The fact that the solution of the DP with the data $x^2 + y^2$ in the TV screen $x^4 + y^4 \le 1$ develops countably many singularities outside is due to P. Ebenfelt, 1992.)

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More examples of LB for cubics, E. Lundberg, 2009

The cubic $8x(x^2 - y^2) + 57x^2 + 77y^2 - 49 = 0$

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The cubic
$$8x(x^2 - y^2) + 57x^2 + 77y^2 - 49 = 0$$



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The LB in the section of \mathbb{C}^2 , defined by $\{(x, iy) : x, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$:

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THANK YOU!

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