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Note: On a Generalization of Schwarz' Lemma.

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1. In the treatment of the extremal problem within the family of normalized analytic functions generated by the conformal maps of the equiangular Schwarz' triangles lying in the unit circle onto a straight equilateral triangle, let us say [1], we stated a generalization of Schwarz' Lemma of which we gave a direct proof for the particular case at hand (1).

Here we wish to present a formal proof which is based essentially on a method of proof due to L. Ahlfors [2] and Z. Nehari [3].

We first recall preliminary notions and notations which will be used in the sequel.

A topologically invariant definition of an abstract Riemann surface is as follows:

(1) We profit of the occasion to correct two misprints in [1], i.e., p. 249, line 83, in place of "inequality" read "equality", p. 250, line 21, in place of "inequality" read "equality".
Let \( \mathcal{W} \) be a connected topological Hausdorff space such that every point \( w \) is contained in at least one neighborhood \( N_w \) homeomorphic to the unit circle \( | \omega | < 1 \). If \( h_w \) is a topological mapping of \( N_w \) onto \( | \omega | < 1 \) we may require also the condition \( h_w(\omega) = 0 \). \( \omega \) is called a local parameter for \( w \). Let \( N_w, N_{w'} \) be two overlapping neighborhoods and \( \omega, \omega' \) the corresponding local parameters. Denote by \( N_{w,w'} \) the intersection \( N_w \cap N_{w'} \) and by
\[
N_{\omega} = h_w(N_{w,w'}), \ N_{\omega'} = h_{w'}(N_{w,w'}) \text{ its image in } | \omega | < 1, \ | \omega' | < 1 \text{ respectively. If } h_w \text{ and } h_{w'} \text{ are such that } N_{\omega'} = h_{w'}, \ h_w^{-1}(N_{\omega}) \text{ is directly conformal then } \mathcal{W} \text{ is called a Riemann surface.}
\]

At every point \( w \) of \( \mathcal{W} \) we introduce a Riemannian metric of the form
\[
(1) \quad ds = \lambda | d\omega |
\]
where \( \lambda \) is defined in \( | \omega | < 1 \), is positive and of class \( C_2 \). \( \lambda \) depends on the choice of the local parameter but \( ds \) does not.

Finally the Gaussian curvature of the metric (1) is given by
\[
(2) \quad K = - (\Delta \log \lambda)/\lambda^2
\]
Again (2) is independent of the choice of \( \omega \). If \( K \leq 0 \), then \( \Delta \log \lambda \geq 0 \) and therefore \( \log \lambda \) is subharmonic. Conversely if \( \log \lambda \) is subharmonic then \( \Delta \log \lambda \geq 0 \) and therefore \( K \leq 0 \).

We shall consider negative curvatures with the upper bound equal to \(-4\). In this case \( \lambda \) satisfies the condition
\[
\Delta \log \lambda \geq 4 \lambda^2
\]
or upon setting \( u = \log \lambda \)
\[
(3) \quad \Delta u \geq 4e^{2u}
\]

2. Let \( \mathcal{W} \) be a Riemann surface, \( a \) a point on \( \mathcal{W} \) and \( a \) its projection on the \( \omega \)-plane, then by definition
\[
w - a = c_n \omega^n + \cdots, \ c_n \neq 0, \ n \geq 1
\]
If \( n = 1 \) we say that \( a \) is a regular point. If \( n > 1 \) we say that \( a \) is a branch point of order \( n - 1 \), \( n \) is the number of sheets containing \( a \). In the latter case \( \omega \) is called a local uniformizing parameter for \( a \).

We now state the theorem to be proved.
Theorem: Let \( w = f(z) \) be analytic in the unit circle \( |z| < 1 \), save branch points of finite order. Suppose \( f'(z) < \infty \) in \( |z| < 1 \). If the metric \( ds \) of the Riemann surface \( \mathcal{M} \) generated by \( w \) has a negative curvature \( \leq -4 \) at every point, then

\[
d s \leq d \sigma
\]

where \( d \sigma \) is the well known hyperbolic metric of the unit circle.

Proof: Let \( \mathcal{Z} \) and \( \mathcal{W} \) be the two conformally equivalent Riemann surfaces with respect to \( w = f(z) \), the latter being single valued on the finitely many sheeted Riemann surface \( \mathcal{Z} \) lying over the unit circle \( |z| < 1 \). We introduce the metric \( ds = \lambda |dw| \) where \( w \) is the projection of \( w^{(1)} \), \( \lambda > 0 \) is of Class \( C_2 \) and \( ds \) has a curvature \( \leq -4 \) at every point of \( \mathcal{W} \). We have

\[
d s = \lambda_z |dz| = \lambda |d w|
\]

and

\[
\lambda_z = \lambda |f'(z)|
\]

Then everywhere on the Riemann surface \( \mathcal{Z} \), \( u = \log \lambda_z \) satisfies the inequality (3) with the exception of the points at which \( f'(z) = 0 \).

Furthermore (3) holds at the branch points at which \( f'(z)=0 \). For, at such points \( f'(z) < \infty \), so that \( f(z) \) remains conformal.

We wish to compare the metric \( ds \) with the hyperbolic metric

\[
d \sigma = \frac{|dz|}{1 - |z|^2}
\]

when these metrics are carried over the Riemann surface \( \mathcal{Z} \).

For an arbitrary \( R < 1 \), we set

\[
u = \log \frac{R}{R - |z|^2}, \quad |z| < R
\]

We have

(4) \( \Delta u = 4e^{2u} \)

Combining (3) and (4) we get

(5) \( \Delta (u - \nu) \geq 4(e^{2u} - e^{2\nu}) \)

(1) In other words the variable \( w \) is used as a local parameter for some neighborhood of each point \( \mathcal{W} \).
(5) holds at every point of the Riemann surface $S_R \subset \mathbb{S}$ lying over the circle $|z| < R$, except at the points for which $f'(z) = 0$. As we know (5) holds also at the branch points at which $f'(z) \neq 0$.

Let $E$ denote the open point set in $S_R$ for which

$$u > v$$

It is clear that $E$ cannot contain any point of $S_R$ at which $f'(z) = 0$. Hence by (5)

$$\Delta(u - v) > 0$$

holds in $E$. We conclude that $u - v$ is subharmonic in $E$ except at the branch points of $S_R$ inside $E$.

Hence $u - v$ can have no maximum at any interior point of $E$ which is not a branch point. Let us verify that $u - v$ can have no local maximum at these branch points either. $\zeta$ being a local uniformizing parameter for a branch point $a$ in $E$, we have

$$z - a = c_n \zeta^n + \cdots \quad n \geq 2, \quad c_n \neq 0$$

It is well known that

$$\Delta_\zeta(u - v) = \Delta_\zeta (u - v) \left| \frac{dz}{d\zeta} \right|^2$$

By (6) it follows that in the neighborhood of $\zeta = 0$

$$\Delta_\zeta(u - v) \geq 0$$

On the other hand $u - v$ as a function of $\zeta$ being single valued and of Class $C_2$ in the neighborhood of $\zeta = 0$ is subharmonic there. Consequently it can have no local maximum at $\zeta = 0$. Hence $u - v$ considered as a function of $z$ can have no local maximum at $a$. The conclusion is that $u - v$ can have no maximum at any interior point of $E$ without exception. Hence $u - v$ must approach its least upper bound on a sequence tending to the boundary of $E$. But $E$ can have no boundary point on $|z| = R$ since $v$ becomes positively infinite as $z$ tends to this circumference, while $f'(z)$ is finite. For a boundary point of $E$ inside $|z| = R$, since $u - v$ is continuous for all $|z| < R$, we must have $u - v = 0$ that is, $u - v$ cannot be maximum at such boundary points either. Thus a contradiction is reached thereby implying that the set $E$ must be empty. Hence $u \leq v$ must hold for all points $|z| < R$. As $R$ is arbitrary it must hold for $R \to 1$. 
Consequently we have for all $|z| < 1$

$$\lambda_z \leq \frac{1}{1 - |z|^2}$$

Multiplying both sides by $|dz|$ we get finally

$$ds \leq d\sigma$$

Literature


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