

II Superattracting case.

We study in details the extension of the Böttcher coordinate Φ on the basin of attraction associated to a superattracting germ.

Notice that to extend dynamically the map Φ ($\Phi \circ f = \tilde{f} \circ \Phi, \tilde{f}(z) = z^d$)

we should be able to give a meaning to: $\tilde{f}^{-n} \circ \Phi = f^n \circ \Phi = (\Phi \circ f^n)^{\frac{1}{d^n}}$

This is not always possible (for example when $\exists z \neq 0 \in U, f^n(z) = z$, or if U is not simply connected). ~~$\Phi = z(1 + f(z))$; $\Phi \circ f^n(z) = z^n$~~

But we can extend $|\Phi|$ on the whole basin, by setting:

$$|\Phi|(z) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |\Phi(f^n(z))|^{\frac{1}{d^n}}$$

We now study the locus where Φ is injective. To do so, we consider a local inverse Ψ defined on some small disk \mathbb{D}_ε .

Theorem: There exists a unique open disk \mathbb{D}_r of maximal radius $0 < r \leq 1$ such that Ψ extends holomorphically to $\Psi: \mathbb{D}_r \rightarrow U_0$.

If $r = 1$, then $\Psi: \mathbb{D}_1 \rightarrow U_0$ is a biholomorphism, and $U_0 \cap C_f = \{p\}$.

If $r < 1$, then there exists another critical point: $z \in U_0 \cap C_f, z \in \partial \Psi(\mathbb{D}_r)$

Proof: As in the attracting case we can extend Ψ (by checking for example the radius of convergence of the power series Ψ at 0).

It ~~must~~ can hence extend to some maximal radius $r \leq 1$.

(~~in~~ $r \leq 1$ since $w^{d^n} \rightarrow 0$ when $|w| < 1$)

• Ψ has no critical points in \mathbb{D}_r .

In fact, if $\exists w, \Psi'(w) = 0$, then:

$$\Psi(w^{\delta}) = f(\Psi(w)) \Rightarrow \Psi'(w^{\delta}) = f'(\Psi(w)) \cdot \Psi'(w) = 0.$$

This would give a sequence of critical points accumulating to 0, which is impossible.

Hence Ψ is locally one-to-one (i.e., a covering map $\Psi: \mathbb{D}_r \rightarrow \Psi(\mathbb{D}_r) \subset \mathbb{D}_0$), and $\{(w_1, w_2) \mid w_1 \neq w_2, \Psi(w_1) = \Psi(w_2)\} \subset \mathbb{D}_r \times \mathbb{D}_r$ is a closed set.

We show that Ψ is actually 1-to-1.

The map $|\Phi|: \mathbb{D}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ satisfies $|\Phi - \Psi(w)| = |w|$ on a small neighborhood of 0, and hence on \mathbb{D}_r by analytic continuation.

Suppose $\Psi(w_1) = \Psi(w_2)$ with $w_1 \neq w_2$. Applying $|\Phi|$, we get $|w_1| = |w_2|$.
By taking w' close to w_1 , we can find w'' close to w_2 so that $\Psi(w') = \Psi(w'')$ (because Ψ is a covering map).
By taking w', w'' with $|w'| < |w''|$, we get a contradiction.

Take such (w_1, w_2) so that $|w_j|$ is minimal (i.e., because of closedness).

We have two cases now:

• $r \geq 1$: then $\mathbb{D}_0 = \Psi(\mathbb{D})$: Suppose otherwise, then $\Psi(\mathbb{D})$ has some boundary point $z_0 \in \mathbb{D}_0$. Take $w_n \in \mathbb{D}$, $\Psi(w_n) \rightarrow z_0$, we deduce that $|\Phi(\Psi(w_n))| \rightarrow 1$.
 $\Rightarrow |\Phi(z_0)| = 1$, a contradiction because $\mathbb{I}(\mathbb{D}_0) \subset \mathbb{I}(\mathbb{D})$.

• $r < 1$. In this case, the proof of existence of a critical point is analogous to the attracting case.

□

Applications to polynomial dynamics

Let $P \in \mathbb{C}[z]$ be a polynomial, $\deg P = d \geq 2$.

Write $P(z) = a_d z^d + a_{d-1} z^{d-1} + \dots + a_0$. Up to linear change of coordinates, we may assume $a_d = 1$. (monic). (and $a_{d-1} = 0$, "centered" polynomial)

Then ∞ is a superattracting fixed point and $J = \hat{\mathbb{C}} \setminus U_{\infty}$ basin of attraction

the Böttcher coordinate of ∞ can be used to study the properties of $J(f)$ for $f \in \mathbb{C}[z]$

Def: The filled Julia set of $f \in \mathbb{C}[z]$ is the set $K(f)$ of points with bounded orbit: $K(f) = \hat{\mathbb{C}} \setminus U_{\infty}$.

Lemma: $\forall f \in \mathbb{C}[z], \deg f \geq 2, K = K(f)$ is compact, with connected complement, and $\partial K = J(f)$.

K is the union of all bounded components U of the Fatou set $\mathbb{C} \setminus J$. (called Fatou components). Any such component is necessarily simply connected.

Proof: As noticed above, $K = \hat{\mathbb{C}} \setminus U_{\infty}$, and by previous results $\partial U_{\infty} = J(f)$. Hence K is compact, and $\partial K = \partial U_{\infty} = J(f)$.

We must show that U_{∞} is connected. Let U be any bounded Fatou component. Let $\epsilon_0 > 0$ be such that $|f(z)| > \lambda |z|^d, \lambda > 1, |z| > \epsilon_0 \Rightarrow |f^n(z)| \rightarrow \infty \forall n, |z| > \epsilon_0$.

then $|f^n(z)| \leq \epsilon_0 \forall z \in U, \forall n \geq 0$.

otherwise, by the max. modulus principle, $\exists \tilde{z} \in \partial U \subset J, \exists \epsilon > 0, |f^n(\tilde{z})| > \epsilon_0 \Rightarrow |f^n(\tilde{z})| \rightarrow \infty$, which is a contradiction ($\tilde{z} \in J(f)$).

thus every bounded Fatou component is in $K(f)$, and the unique unbounded component in $\mathbb{C} \setminus K = \mathbb{C} \cap U_{\infty}$.

It remains to prove that U is simply connected

let γ be a simple closed curve lying in U , and V the bounded component of $\mathbb{C} \setminus \gamma$.



By the maximum modulus principle, $V \subset K(f)$

In particular, $V \cap J(f) = \emptyset$, and since $\partial U \subset J(f)$, we get $V \subset U$, and U is simply connected

Theorem (Connectivity of $J(f)$, $K(f)$ for polynomials)

let $f \in \mathbb{C}[z]$, $\deg f = d \geq 2$.

• If $(f^{-1}(c) \cap \mathbb{C}) \subset K$ (all critical points in \mathbb{C} have bounded orbit), then $K(f)$ and $J(f)$ are connected, and U_{∞} is conformally isomorphic to \mathbb{D} .

Under the Böttcher coordinate at ∞ , $\hat{\Phi}: U_{\infty} \rightarrow \hat{\mathbb{C}} \setminus \overline{\mathbb{D}}$. $\hat{\Phi} \circ f = \hat{\Phi}^d$. $\hat{\Phi}(z) = w^d$.
opportunistically modified

• If at least one critical point of f belongs to $\mathbb{C} \setminus K(f)$ (has unbounded orbit), then $K(f)$ and $J(f)$ have uncountably many connected components.

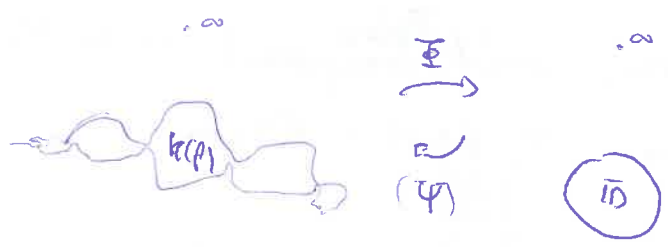
Proof.

$f: \hat{\mathbb{C}} \rightarrow \hat{\mathbb{C}}$ has a superattracting point at ∞ . (of degree $d = \deg f$)

Consider the Böttcher coordinate at ∞ , ~~opportunistically~~ ^{retained} ~~rather~~ $\hat{\Phi}$, sends a small neighborhood of $\infty \in \hat{\mathbb{C}} \setminus K(f) = U_{\infty}(f)$ to a small neighborhood of ∞ in $\hat{\mathbb{C}} \setminus \overline{\mathbb{D}}$.

It satisfies:

$$\hat{\Phi} \circ f(z) = (\hat{\Phi}(z))^d$$



Assume $U_\infty \cap C_f \cap C = \emptyset$.

then we have seen that the local inverse Ψ of Φ extends to a conformal isomorphism $\hat{C} \setminus K \xrightarrow{\Psi} \hat{C} \setminus \overline{D}$.

Consider an annulus $A_{1+\epsilon} = \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid 1 < |z| < 1+\epsilon\}$.

then $\Psi(A_{1+\epsilon})$ is a connected set in $\mathbb{C} \setminus K(f)$, and $\overline{\Psi(A_{1+\epsilon})} \supset S(f)$.

(being $U_\infty = U_\infty^\circ$ connected by the previous lemma (consequence of max. mod. principle))

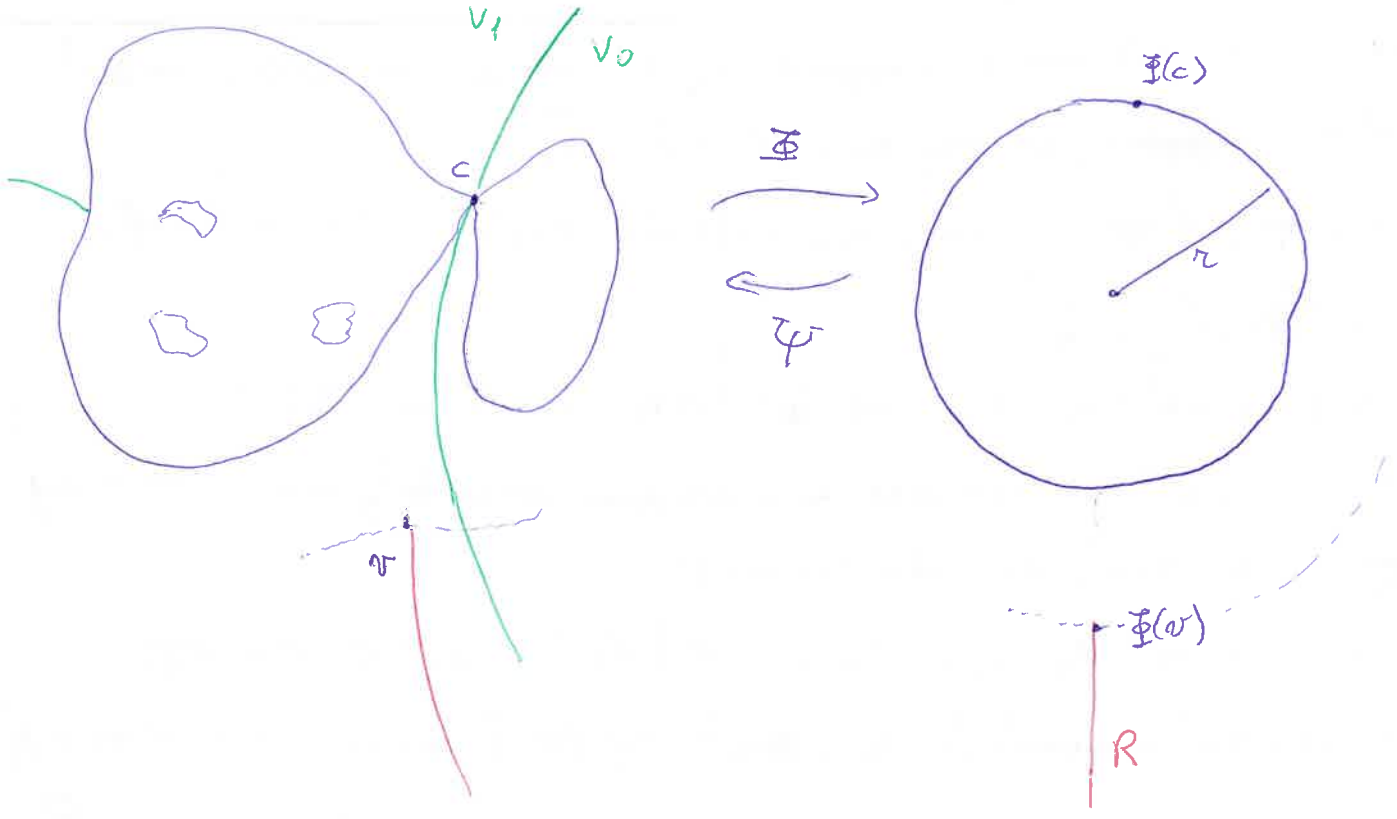
Then $S = \bigcap_{\epsilon > 0} \overline{\Psi(A_{1+\epsilon})}$ is also connected, and K also is (being $S = \partial K$ connected, K closed)

2) Suppose there is at least one critical point in $\mathbb{C} \setminus K(f) = \mathcal{A}(f) \setminus \{\infty\}$.

In this case, $\exists r > 1$ such that Ψ extends to a conformal isomorphism

$$\Psi: \mathbb{C} \setminus \overline{D}_r \xrightarrow{\cong} U \subset \mathbb{C} \setminus K(f); \quad U = \Psi(\mathbb{C} \setminus \overline{D}_r)$$

Moreover, $\partial U \subset \mathbb{C} \setminus K$ is compact and contains at least one critical point of f .



Take c a critical point on ∂U . set $v = f(c)$ its critical value, that belongs to U ($|\Im(v)| = r^d > r$)

let $R = [1, \infty) \cdot \Im(v)$ and $R' = \Psi(R)$.
 R' is called "external ray" of v .

Def: external ray: a set of the form $\Psi(R)$, $R = \{t e^{i\alpha} \mid 0 \leq t \leq \infty, t \geq t_0\}$
 \uparrow
fixed ($\alpha > \alpha_0$) \leftarrow closed
 \leftarrow open
 $t_0 \geq 1$.

Consider the full inverse image $f^{-1}(R') \subset \bar{U}$.

It consists of d distinct external rays, corresponding to the d distinct components of $\sqrt[d]{R} \subset \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{D}_r$.

Each such external ray ends at some solution z of $f(z) = v$.

being c a critical point and $f(c) = v$, at least two external rays, say R'_1 and R'_2 , land at c , and $\mathbb{C} \setminus (R'_1 \cup R'_2)$ is the disjoint union of two connected open sets V_0, V_1 .

Claim: $f(V_k)$ contains $\mathbb{C} \setminus R'$ $\forall k=0,1$.

In fact: $f(V_k)$ is a open set. We show that its boundary is contained in R' .

let $\hat{w} \in \partial f(V_k)$. Pick $z_j \in V_k$ so that $f(z_j) \rightarrow \hat{w}$. $\{z_j\}$ is bounded (~~contains~~ ∞ (or we would have a subsequence $z_{j_n} \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow \hat{w} = \infty$ contradiction)).

\Rightarrow up to taking a subsequence, we may assume $z_j \rightarrow \frac{1}{z} \in \bar{V}_k$

(if $\frac{1}{z} \in V_k$, being f open, we would have $f(\frac{1}{z}) = \hat{w} \in f(V_k) \Rightarrow \frac{1}{z} \in \partial V_k = R'_1 \cup R'_2$ and $\hat{w} \in f(R'_1 \cup R'_2) \subseteq R'$.)

Hence $f(V_k) \supseteq \mathbb{C} \setminus R' \supseteq K \supseteq J$. Set $I_k = J \cap V_k$. We $f(I_0) = f(I_1) = J$.

In particular $J = I_0 \cup I_1$ is disconnected, hence contains uncountably many connected comp.

~~Similarly~~ Moreover, $K = K_0 \cup K_1$ is also disconnected

Inductively, we can set $K_{d_0 \dots d_n} = K_{d_0 \dots d_{n-1}} \cap f^{-1}(K_{d_n})$, and get uncountably

many connected components for K_0 . (the same for J repeats a theorem we saw in §4)



Other applications to polynomial dynamics.

• The Green Function.

Let $f \in \mathbb{C}[z]$ be a polynomial of degree $d \geq 2$, and Φ the Böttcher coordinate at infinity as defined above, Φ : defined from a nbhd of $\infty \in \hat{\mathbb{C}} \setminus K$ to a nbhd of $\hat{\mathbb{C}} \setminus \bar{D}$.

The function $|\Phi|$ extends continuously to $\mathcal{A}_\infty = \hat{\mathbb{C}} \setminus K$, taking values $|\Phi(z)| > 1$ (consider this map as $\mathbb{C} \setminus K \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \setminus \bar{D}$).

Definition: The Green Function (or the canonical potential function) associated to f (or better, $K(f)$) is the map $G: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ defined by.

$$G(z) = \begin{cases} 0 & z \in K \\ \log |\Phi(z)| = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{d^k} \log |f^{\circ k}(z)| > 0 & z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus K \end{cases}$$

($\log |\Phi(z)|$ is harmonic, and use () $|\Phi(z)| > 1$)*

Notice that G is continuous everywhere, and harmonic on $\mathbb{C} \setminus J(f)$.

Moreover, it satisfies: $G(f(z)) \stackrel{(*)}{=} d \cdot G(z)$ ($G \circ f = dG$).

The curves $G = \text{constant} > 0$ are called equipotentials.

• Mandelbrot set.

Consider polynomials of degree 2. up to affine conjugacy, they are all given by $P_c(z) = z^2 + c$, $c \in \mathbb{C}$. Notice that $E(P_c) = \{0\}$.

The set $\mathcal{M} = \{c \in \mathbb{C} \mid (f_c^n(0))_n \text{ is bounded}\}$ is exactly the set of parameters c so that $J(P_c)$ is connected.

Local connectivity and external rays.

Assume we are in the case of $P \in \mathbb{C}[z]$, $\deg P \geq 2$, and $J(P)$ connected.

The Böttcher coordinate gives an isomorphism $\Phi: \mathbb{C} \setminus K(P) \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \setminus \bar{D}$, defined by

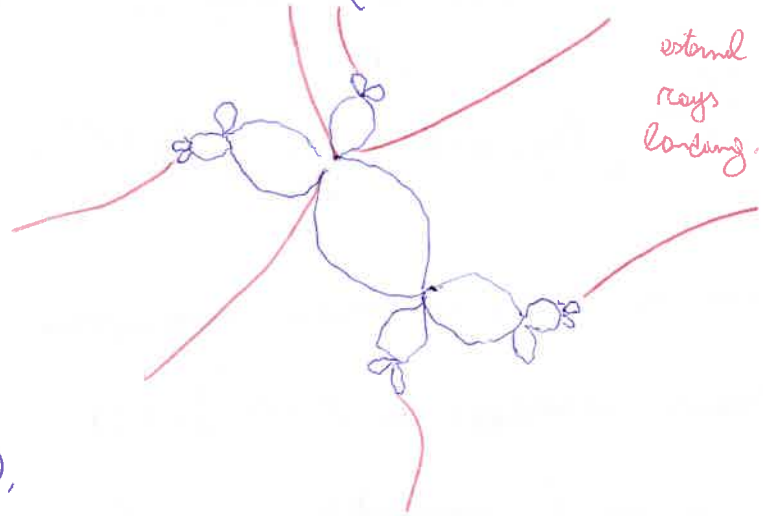
$\forall t \in \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$
Denote by $R_t = \{ \rho e^{2\pi i t} \mid \rho > 1 \}$. Its image $\psi(R_t) = R'_t$ is called the external ray associated to t .

Notice that, if $\tilde{P}(z) = z^d$, then $\tilde{P}(R_t) = R_{dt}$, and the action of \tilde{P} on $\{R_t\} \cong \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$

and hence of f on $\{R'_t\}$, is conjugated to $\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$
 $t \mapsto dt \pmod{\mathbb{Z}}$

Def: we say that the ray R'_t lands at a point $z(t) \in J(P)$ if.

$$z(t) = \lim_{\rho \rightarrow 1^+} \psi(\rho e^{2\pi i t})$$



Properties:

• If R'_t lands at $z(t)$, then R'_{dt} lands at $z(dt) = P(z(t))$. Moreover,

every R'_{t+j} lands to a preimage of $z(t)$,

and all such preimages are landing points.

• The set $\{t \in \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z} \mid R'_t \text{ does not land}\}$ has measure 0.

(Corollary)

Theorem: The following conditions are equivalent.

• $\forall t \in \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$, R'_t lands to a point $z(t)$, and ∂J is C^0 .

• $J(P)$ is locally connected ($\forall z \in J(P)$, $B(z, \epsilon) \cap J$ is connected for $\epsilon \ll 1$)
(Theorem 1.1)

• $K(P)$ is locally connected.

• $\psi: \mathbb{C} \setminus \bar{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \setminus K$ extends continuously over $\partial \bar{D}$, sending $e^{2\pi i t} \mapsto z(t) \in J(P)$.

In this case, $\gamma: \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow J(P)$ is semiconjugated to $t \mapsto dt$ in \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z} : $\gamma(dt) = P(\gamma(t))$.

See [Milnor, § 17, 18] for further details: uses a topological theory of prime ends ^{by} Carathéodory.