ON THE CONFORMAL MAPPING OF MULTIPLY
CONNECTED REGIONS(1)

BY

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It is the object of this paper to set forth a proof of Theorem 1 below, to
the effect that an arbitrary plane region $D$ bounded by a finite number of
mutually disjoint Jordan curves can be mapped one to one and conformally
onto a region $\Delta$ bounded by two level loci of a function which is the product
of linear factors with exponents (positive and negative) not necessarily ra-
tional; the boundary curves of $D$ can be divided arbitrarily into two classes,
which correspond respectively to the two level loci bounding $\Delta$. We establish
also a limiting case (Theorem 3) of Theorem 1, in which such an arbitrary
region $D$ can be mapped one to one and conformally onto a region $\Delta$ bounded
by a single level locus of a function of the kind already mentioned, where
arbitrary points interior to $D$ can be made to correspond to the zeros of that
function. Theorem 1 includes the classical theorem on the mapping of a
region $D$ bounded by two disjoint Jordan curves onto a circular annulus, and
Theorem 3 includes the Riemann mapping theorem on the mapping of a
Jordan region. In both Theorem 1 and Theorem 3 the maps are essentially
unique (Theorems 2 and 4).

Both Theorems 1 and 3 present new canonical maps for multiply con-
nected regions, maps that are especially useful in the study of level loci of
various functions, namely Green's functions, linear combinations of Green's
functions, and harmonic measures—and in the study of the orthogonal tra-
jectories of these loci. It is desirable to develop methods for the effective
determination of these maps. The maps are useful certainly in the study of
approximation [Walsh, 1955], although the applications have not yet been
 carried as far as possible, and the maps are presumably useful also in other
parts of analysis.

De la Vallée Poussin [1930] and later Julia [1934] have studied the con-
formal mapping of an arbitrary multiply connected region onto a region
bounded by the whole or (more commonly) parts of one or several lemniscates,
namely level loci of a polynomial. Julia uses also the level loci of certain ra-
tional functions, especially those with fundamental circles, not considered
here. De la Vallée Poussin states [1931] our Theorem 1 for the case $\nu = 1$,
namely the case that the boundary curves of $D$ are divided into two classes

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one of which contains but a single curve; however, his proof refers for details back to his preceding papers [1930, 1930a] which are not without flaw [de la Vallée Poussin, 1931a], so even for his case a new treatment would seem to be appropriate.

The present paper is the elaboration of two notes [Walsh, 1954] which contain the outlines of the proofs of Theorems 1 and 3, but without indication of Theorems 2 and 4.

I

**Theorem 1.** Let $D$ be a region of the extended $z$-plane whose boundary consists of mutually disjoint Jordan curves $B_1, B_2, \cdots, B_\mu; C_1, C_2, \cdots, C_\nu, \mu \nu \neq 0$. There exists a conformal map of $D$ onto a region $\Delta$ of the extended $z$-plane, one to one and continuous in the closures of the two regions, where $\Delta$ is defined by

$$1 < | T(Z) | < e^{1/r},$$

$$T(Z) = \prod \frac{A(Z - a_1)^{M_1} (Z - a_2)^{M_2} \cdots (Z - a_\mu)^{M_\mu}}{(Z - b_1)^{N_1} (Z - b_2)^{N_2} \cdots (Z - b_\nu)^{N_\nu}},$$

$$\sum M_j = \sum N_j = 1, \quad r > 0.$$

The exponents $M_j$ and $N_j$ are positive but need not be rational. The locus $| T(Z) | = 1$ consists of $\mu$ mutually disjoint Jordan curves, respective images of the $B_j$, which separate $\Delta$ from the $a_j$; the locus $| T(Z) | = e^{1/r}$ consists of $\nu$ mutually disjoint Jordan curves, respective images of the $C_j$, which separate $\Delta$ from the $b_j$.

We have written $T(Z)$ in the form where all the $a_j$ and $b_j$ are finite, but it is evident that an arbitrary linear transformation of the $z$-plane can be made, so that in particular an $a_j$ or a $b_j$ may be infinite. In such a case, the form of $T(Z)$ is to be modified by simply omitting the factor corresponding to the point at infinity. In the sequel we use the form of $T(Z)$ and of similar functions as given in (1), with the tacit understanding that a zero or infinity at the infinite point is not excluded, even though the form in (1) then requires modification.

We postpone treatment of the case $\mu = \nu = 1$, for which the conclusion is classical, and suppose $\mu \geq 2$, which involves if necessary interchanging the roles of the $B_j$ and the $C_j$. We take also the Jordan curves $B_j$ and $C_j$ analytic, which is possible by a preliminary conformal transformation, and we suppose that $D$ lies interior to $C_1$.

The function $T(Z)$ is transcendental, if the exponents are irrational. As a first part of the proof, we now show that $D$ can be approximated by a region bounded by two level loci of a rational function.

There exists a unique function $u(z)$ harmonic in $D$, continuous in the closure $\overline{D}$ of $D$, equal to zero and unity on the $B_j$ and $C_j$ respectively. Then $u(z)$ is harmonic also slightly beyond the curves $B_j$ and $C_j$, let us say in the closure of a finite region $D'$ which contains $\overline{D}$ and whose boundary consists of $\mu + \nu$ analytic Jordan curves, respectively $B'_1, B'_2, \cdots, B'_\mu, C'_1, C'_2, \cdots, C'_\nu$. 

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near the $B_j$ and $C_j$. We can choose this boundary as $B' = \sum B'_j : u(z) = -\delta_1 (< 0)$ and $C' = \sum C'_j : u(z) = -\delta = 1 + \delta_1$. The conjugate $v(z)$ of $u(z)$ is not single valued in $D'$; nevertheless Green's formula valid for $z$ in $D'$ can be written [Walsh, 1935, §§8.7, 9.12; 1950, §§7.1, 8.1]

$$u(z) = \int_0^\tau \log |z - t| \, ds - \int_\tau^{2\tau} \log |z - t| \, ds - \delta,$$

(2) $\int_0^\tau ds = \frac{1}{2\pi} dv$, $\tau = \int_{B'} ds = \int_{C'} ds > 0$.

The integrals in (2) are to be taken over $B'$ and $C'$ respectively. The number $\tau$, a kind of modulus of $D$, and a conformal invariant, does not depend on $\delta_1$. We can suppose that the derivative of the function $u(z) + iv(z)$ does not vanish in the closure of the point sets $-\delta_1 < u(z) < 0, 1 < u(z) < -\delta$ in $D'$. Then on the boundary of $D'$ we have $\partial u/\partial s = 0, \partial v/\partial s \neq 0$; thus $v(z)$ is monotonic on $B'$ and on $C'$. On the boundary of $D'$, if $\eta$ denotes interior normal we have $(\partial u/\partial \eta)ds = -(\partial v/\partial \eta)ds = -dv$; on $B'$ we have $\partial u/\partial \eta > 0$, and on $C'$ we have $\partial u/\partial \eta < 0$.

We express the integrals in (2) as the limits of their Riemann sums; let the $\alpha_k$ and $\beta_k$, depending on $n$, divide $B'$ and $C'$ respectively in $n$ equal parts—equal with respect to the parameter $\sigma$, not necessarily equal with respect to arc length. For $z$ on any compact in $D'$ we have uniformly

$$u_n(z) \equiv \sum_1^n \frac{1}{n} \log |z - \alpha_k| - \sum_1^n \frac{1}{n} \log |z - \beta_k| - \delta \to u(z);$$

the uniformity of convergence is a consequence of the uniform continuity of the functions involved, which in turn is a consequence of the boundedness of those harmonic functions.

It follows that $D$ is approached by $D_n : 0 < u_n(z) < 1$, a region bounded by $\mu$ Jordan curves forming one level locus and by $\nu$ Jordan curves forming another level locus of a rational function(1), approached in the sense that if $\mu + \nu$ arbitrary mutually disjoint annular regions (neighborhoods of the $B_j$ and $C_j$) are given containing the $B_j$ and $C_j$ respectively, then for $n$ sufficiently large the $\mu + \nu$ bounding curves of $D_n$ lie in, and separate the boundary curves of, these annular regions. For instance let us choose as a neighborhood of $B_1$ an annular region $\alpha$ in $D'$ bounded by one Jordan curve of each of the loci

(1) We have here a general result, that arbitrary finite sets of Jordan curves $B_j, C_j$ bounding a region $D$ can be approximated by respective level loci of a rational function whose zeros and poles lie exterior to $D$; the analyticity of the curves $B_j$ and $C_j$ is not essential. The limiting case where $\mu = \nu = 1$ and $C_j$ reduces to the point at infinity was established by Hilbert in 1897; the rational function is a polynomial. The present method is a generalization of that of Hilbert, involving rational functions more general than polynomials, and has been used a number of times by the present writer (loc. cit.).
\( u(z) = \delta_2 \) and \( u(z) = -\delta_2, \ 0 < \delta_2 < \delta_1 < 1/2. \) For \( n \) sufficiently large we have in the closure of \( \alpha \) the inequality \( |u(z) - u_n(z)| < \delta_2/2, \) hence on these respective curves \( \delta_2/2 < u_n(z) < 3\delta_2/2, \ -3\delta_2/2 < u_n(z) < -\delta_2/2. \) The locus \( u_n(z) = 0 \) obviously separates these two curves, that locus cuts neither curve, and (by the principle of maximum for harmonic functions) that locus consists in \( \alpha \) of a single analytic Jordan curve. Application of a similar argument simultaneously for all curves \( B_j, C_j, \) shows that for \( n \) sufficiently large the locus \( u_n(z) = 0 \) consists of \( \mu \) curves respectively near the \( B_j, \) and the locus \( u_n(z) = 1 \) consists of \( \nu \) curves respectively near the \( C_j; \) these loci can contain no other points; for instance, in the interior of the curve \( u_n(z) = 0 \) which lies near \( B_1 \) there lie certain points \( \alpha_k \) but no points \( \beta_k, \) so we have \( u_n(z) < 0 \) throughout that interior, again by the principle of maximum for harmonic functions. Each compact \( K \) in \( D \) lies in all the \( D_n \) for \( n \) sufficiently large \( (n \) depending on \( K)\), and each compact \( K \) exterior to \( D \) lies exterior to all the \( D_n \) for \( n \) sufficiently large \( (n \) depending on \( K)\).

The region \( D_n \) is defined by the inequalities

\[
1 < \left| R_n(z) \right| < e^{n/\tau}, \quad R_n(z) = e^{-n\delta_1/\tau} \prod_{1}^{n} \frac{z - \alpha_k}{z - \beta_k} = e^{n(u_n + i\nu_n)/\tau},
\]

where \( v_n(z) \) is conjugate to \( u_n(z) \) in \( D' \); thus \( D_n \) is bounded by two level loci of a rational function. As a second step in the proof, we proceed to show that \( D_n \) can be mapped onto a plane region bounded by two level loci of a simpler rational function likewise of degree \( n, \) having precisely \( \mu \) distinct zeros and \( \nu \) distinct poles.

The equation \( w = R_n(z) \) defines the conformal map of the extended \( z \)-plane onto a Riemann surface \( \sigma_0 \) of \( n \) sheets over the extended \( w \)-plane, and the image of \( D_n \) is the totality of points \( w \) of \( \sigma_0 \) satisfying \( 1 < \left| w \right| < e^{n/\tau}, \) a connected set bounded wholly by points of the circles \( \left| w \right| = 1 \) and \( \left| w \right| = e^{n/\tau}. \)

**Lemma 1.** If the function \( f(z) \) is analytic except for precisely \( p \) poles and if \( f(z) \neq 0 \) in a bounded region \( E \) bounded by a finite number of Jordan curves, and if we have \( |f(z)| = m \) on the entire boundary of \( E, \) then \( f(z) \) takes every value \( w_0, \ |w_0| > m, \) precisely \( p \) times in \( E. \) The image of \( E \) under the transformation \( w = f(z) \) is the portion \( \left| w \right| > m \) of the extended \( w \)-plane covered precisely \( p \) times.

When \( z \) traces the boundary of \( E, \) arg \( [f(z) - w_0] \) for \( |w_0| > m \) has zero net increase, but when \( z \) traces small circles about the respective poles of \( f(z), \) on each of which we have \( |f(z)| > |w_0|, \) then arg \( [f(z) - w_0] \) increases in totality \( 2\pi p, \) so \( f(z) \) takes on the value \( w_0 \) in \( E \) precisely \( p \) times. By the principle of maximum modulus, \( f(z) \) takes on no value of modulus less than or equal to \( m \) in \( E, \) so the lemma is established. It is a corollary that if \( f(z) \) is analytic in such a region \( E \) and has there precisely \( p \) zeros, and if we have \( |f(z)| = m \) on the entire boundary of \( E, \) then \( f(z) \) takes every value \( w_0, \ |w_0| < m, \)
precisely \( p \) times in \( E \). The image of \( E \) under the transformation \( w = f(z) \) is the portion \( |w| < m \) of the \( w \)-plane covered precisely \( p \) times. For the proof, we merely apply the lemma to the function \( 1/f(z) \).

If \( E \) in Lemma 1 is bounded by a finite number of analytic Jordan curves, and if \( f(z) \) is still analytic on the boundary, we can apply Lemma 1 to a region \( E_1 \) containing the closure \( \overline{E} \) of \( E \), \( E_1 \) being bounded by a finite number of Jordan curves on which we have \( |f(z)| = m_1 \). We must have \( m_1 < m \), for the boundary of \( E \) lies interior to \( E_1 \). The entire locus \( |f(z)| = m \) in \( E_1 \) is the boundary of \( E \), which therefore under the transformation \( w = f(z) \) covers the circle \( |w| = m \) precisely \( p \) times.

For \( n \) sufficiently large, the complement of \( D_n \) (with respect to the extended \( z \)-plane) consists of \( \mu \) regions containing respectively, let us say, \( m_1, m_2, \ldots, m_\mu \) points \( \alpha_j \), and \( \nu \) regions containing respectively \( n_1, n_2, \ldots, n_\nu \) points \( \beta_j \); the \( m_k \) and \( n_k \) depend on \( n \). It is easily proved that we have \( (\sum m_j = \sum n_j = n) \).

\[
\frac{m_j}{n} \to \frac{1}{\tau} \int_{B_j} d\sigma = M_j, \quad \frac{n_j}{n} \to \frac{1}{\tau} \int_{C_j} d\sigma = N_j, \quad \sum M_j = \sum N_j = 1;
\]
equations (4) define the \( M_j \) and \( N_j \) and the integrals may be taken over the \( B_j \) and \( C_j \) instead of the \( B_j' \) and \( C_j' \).

The \( \mu + \nu \) regions of the \( z \)-plane complementary to \( D_n \) are simply connected and are mapped by \( w = R_n(z) \) onto \( \mu \) simply connected subregions of \( \sigma_0 \) covering the disc \( |w| < 1 \) precisely \( m_j \) times and \( \nu \) subregions of \( \sigma_0 \) covering the region \( |w| > e^{\pi/\tau} \) precisely \( n_j \) times, by Lemma 1. Since \( u(z) + iv(z) \) has no critical points on or near the boundary of \( D \), neither does \( R_n(z) \), and the boundaries of these \( \mu + \nu \) subregions of \( \sigma_0 \) consist of circles traced monotonically \( m_j \) and \( n_j \) times. Indeed, on these boundaries \( \arg w = n\pi/\tau \) varies monotonically.

Following a method used by Julia [1934, p. 82], we now form a new Riemann surface \( \sigma_1 \) by replacing the \( j \)th one of the \( \mu \) subregions of \( \sigma_0 \) by a subregion containing \( m_j \) sheets with a single branch point \( w = 0 \) of the Riemann surface for the inverse of \( w = z^{m_j} \) covering the region \( |w| < 1 \), and replacing the \( j \)th one of the \( \nu \) subregions of \( \sigma_0 \) by a subregion containing \( n_j \) sheets with a single branch point \( w = \infty \) of the Riemann surface for the inverse of \( w = z^{n_j} \) covering \( |w| > e^{\pi/\tau} \). This replacement can be made continuously along the boundaries \( |w| = 1 \) and \( |w| = e^{\pi/\tau} \) so that \( \sigma_1 \) is smooth in each of its \( n \) sheets above these boundaries, except of course for the branch lines. Since \( \sigma_0 \) is the image of the extended plane, and since each of the \( \mu + \nu \) subregions of \( \sigma_0 \) is simply connected and replaced continuously by a simply connected region, also \( \sigma_1 \) is topologically the image of the extended plane, and (Schwarz) can be mapped conformally and one to one onto the extended \( w \)-plane. Since \( \sigma_1 \) covers each point of the extended \( w \)-plane precisely \( n \) times, this mapping function is rational of degree \( n \), necessarily of the form
\[ w = S_n(Z) = \frac{A_n(Z - a_1^*)^{m_1}(Z - a_2^*)^{m_2} \cdots (Z - a_n^*)^{m_n}}{(Z - b_1^*)^{n_1}(Z - b_2^*)^{n_2} \cdots (Z - b_n^*)^{n_n}}, \quad \sum m_i = \sum n_i = n; \]

the \( a_j \) and \( b_j \) (depending on \( n \)) are distinct, exterior to the image \( \Delta_n : 1 < |S_n(Z)| < e^{n \pi} \) of \( D_n \) in the \( Z \)-plane.

The great advantage of replacing \( \sigma_0 \) by \( \sigma_i \) is this relatively simple form of the function \( S_n(Z) \) which defines the region \( \Delta_n \). We have now mapped the region \( D_n \) approximating \( D \) onto \( \Delta_n \). It remains to allow \( n \) to become infinite, and by studying the conformal maps of these variable regions \( D_n \) and \( \Delta_n \) complete the proof of Theorem 1.

By a suitable linear transformation of the \( Z \)-plane we may choose \( a_0 = 0 \), \( a_i^* = 1 \), \( b_i^* = \infty \) independent of \( n \). As \( n \to \infty \) there exists a partial sequence of \( n \) such that all the numbers \( A_n^{1/n}, a_j, b_j \) approach limits \( A, a_j, b_j \); only this partial sequence of the \( n \) is to be considered henceforth; by virtue of (4) the inequalities which define \( \Delta_n \) approach the form (1), defining a region \( \Delta \). We proceed to show that \( D \) can be mapped onto \( \Delta \).

The transformation \( R_n(z) = S_n(Z) \) of \( D_n \) onto \( \Delta_n \) can be written \( Z = Z_n(z) \). The functions \( Z_n(z) \) admit in \( D_n \) the exceptional values \( 0, 1, \infty \), hence even if not defined throughout \( D \) form a normal family in every closed subregion of \( D \) and also in \( D \). Henceforth we consider only a subsequence of values \( n \) such that the \( Z_n(z) \) uniformly approach a limit \( Z_0(z) \) on every compact in \( D \). This function \( Z_0(z) \) cannot be identically constant; for instance if we have \( Z_0(z) = \mathbf{c} \neq 0 \), we choose a Jordan curve \( \Gamma \) in \( D \) near \( B_1 \) and surrounding \( B_1 \). The image of \( \Gamma \) under \( Z = Z_n(z) \) surrounds \( Z = 0 \), whence

\[ \arg Z_n(z) \r = 2 \pi, \]

which contradicts \( Z_n(z) \to g \) uniformly on \( \Gamma \). Similarly (by use of an auxiliary linear transformation) \( Z_n(z) \to \infty \) in \( D \) is seen to be impossible. Then the function \( Z = Z_0(z) \) is univalent in \( D \), and maps \( D \) onto some region \( \Delta_0 \) of the \( Z \)-plane. The region \( \Delta_0 \) like \( D \) is bounded by \( \mu + \nu \) mutually disjoint continua, the respective images of the \( B_j \) and \( C_j \). If \( \Gamma_j \) is an analytic Jordan curve in \( D \) near \( B_j \) and surrounding \( B_j \), we have

\[ \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma_j} \frac{Z_0'(z)dz}{Z_n(z) - a_j^*} = \begin{cases} 0, & j \neq k, \\ 1, & j = k, \end{cases} \]

and this integral approaches the value

\[ \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma_j} \frac{Z_0'(z)dz}{Z_0(z) - a_k} = \begin{cases} 0, & j \neq k, \\ 1, & j = k. \end{cases} \]

It is to be noted that \( Z_0(z) \) does not assume the value \( a_k \) interior to \( D \), as we shall shortly prove (Lemma 2), so the denominator of the integrand in (5) is bounded from zero. Consequently the image of \( \Gamma_j \) under \( Z = Z_0(z) \) contains \( a_j \) in its interior but contains none of the points \( a_k \) with \( k \neq j \). Similar reasoning
regarding the points $b_k$ shows that the points $a_j$ and $b_k$ are all distinct, that none lies in $\Delta_0$, and that a Jordan curve in $D$ separating $B_j$ or $C_j$ from all the other curves $B_k$ and $C_k$ has for its image in $\Delta_0$ a Jordan curve which separates the image of $B_j$ or $C_j$ from the images of all the other curves $B_k$ and $C_k$.

In our further detailed study of the mapping of variable regions, we make use of the ideas of Carathéodory [1932, §§120–123]; compare also Bieberbach [1931, p. 13].

**Lemma 2.** Let the functions $f_n(z)$ analytic and univalent in a region $D^0$ converge uniformly on every compact in $D^0$ to a function $f_0(z)$ which is not identically constant and therefore univalent. Let $w = f_0(z)$ map $D^0$ onto a region $\Delta_0$ of the $w$-plane, and let $\Delta'_0$ be a closed subregion of $\Delta_0$. Then for $n$ sufficiently large, the image of $D^0$ by $w = f_n(z)$ covers $\Delta'_0$.

Hurwitz’s theorem assures us that if $w_0$ is any point in $\Delta_0$, then for $n$ sufficiently large every $f_n(z)$ takes the value $w_0$ in $D^0$; Lemma 2 refers to uniformity with respect to all $w_0$ in $\Delta'_0$.

Let $\Gamma$ be a Jordan curve or a sum of a finite number of Jordan curves in $D^0$ whose image under the map $w = f_0(z)$ lies in $\Delta_0 - \Delta'_0$ and separates $\Delta'_0$ from the boundary of $\Delta_0$. For $z$ on $\Gamma$ and for all $n$ sufficiently large we have uniformly for all $w_0$ in $\Delta'_0$.

$$\left| \frac{f_n(z) - f_0(z)}{f_0(z) - w_0} \right| < 1,$$

so by Rouché’s theorem $f_n(z) - w_0$ has the same number of zeros in the region bounded by $\Gamma$ as does $f_0(z) - w_0$, namely one. Lemma 2 is established.

The functions $Z_n(z)$ are not necessarily defined throughout the whole region $D$ of Theorem 1, but are defined (for $n$ sufficiently large) on every closed subregion. The function $Z_0(z)$ cannot assume the value $a_k$ interior to $D$, for if it did it would assume interior to $D$ all values in a fixed neighborhood of $a_k$, hence by Lemma 2 also $Z_n(z)$ would assume for $n$ sufficiently large in a closed subregion of $D$ all values in a neighborhood of $a_k$, in particular $Z_n(z)$ would assume there the value $a_k'$, contrary to our definition of $\Delta_n$.

All the regions $\Delta_n$ for $n$ sufficiently large contain the image of an arbitrary closed subregion of $D$ under the transformation $Z = Z_0(z)$. The distinct points $a_j$ and $b_j$ used to define $\Delta_n$ approach distinct limits $a_j$ and $b_j$, so the regions $\Delta_n$ approach their kernel, the region $\Delta$ defined by (1); of course the function $|S_n(Z)|^{1/n}$ for fixed $Z$ is a continuous function of the variables $A_{ij}, a_j', b_j', m_j, n_j$. The term kernel more precisely consists of the neighborhood of a specific point $Z_1$ plus fixed closed regions containing that neighborhood which lie in all the $\Delta_n$ for $n$ sufficiently large. In the present case, any point $Z_1$ of $\Delta$ can be chosen, for two arbitrary points $Z_1$ and $Z_2$ of $\Delta$ lie in some closed region which is contained in all the $\Delta_n$ for $n$ sufficiently large. The function $Z = Z_0(z)$ maps $D$ onto some subregion $\Delta_0$ of $\Delta$. 

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We turn now to the consideration of the inverses $z = z_n(Z)$ of the functions $Z = Z_n(z)$. The $z_n(Z)$ are univalent in the respective regions $\Delta_n$, hence for sufficiently large $n$ are univalent in an arbitrary closed subregion of $\Delta$. The functional values $z = z_n(Z)$ lie in $D_n$, hence are bounded, so in $\Delta$ the sequence forms a normal family; henceforth we consider only a subsequence which converges to some function $\xi(Z)$ in $\Delta$, uniformly in any closed subregion of $\Delta$. The function $\xi(Z)$ is either identically constant or univalent in $\Delta$. If $z_0$ is any fixed point of $D$, we write

\[(6)\quad Z_n(z_0) = Z_n \to Z_0(z_0), \quad z_n(Z_n) = z_0,\]

and the points $Z_n$ lie in $\Delta_0$, for sufficiently large index, because $Z_0(z_0)$ lies in $\Delta_0$. Since the $Z_n$ lie in $\Delta_0$ for $n$ sufficiently large, and since they approach $Z_0(z_0)$ in $\Delta_0$, we have, by (6), $z_n(Z_n) = z_n[Z_n(z_0)] = z_0 \to \xi[Z_0(z_0)]$. That is to say, $\xi(Z)$ is the inverse function of $Z_0(z)$ for $z$ in $D$ and $Z$ in $\Delta$. By a similar argument it follows that $Z_0(z)$ is the inverse function of $\xi(Z)$, for $Z$ in $\Delta$ and for $z$ in a suitable subregion of $D$, namely the image of $\Delta$ under the transformation $z = \xi(Z)$; compare Lemma 2.

The transformation $Z = Z_0(z)$ maps $D$ onto a subregion $\Delta_0$ of $\Delta$, but every value $Z_1$ in $\Delta$ is taken on by $Z_0(z)$ at some point $z_1 = \xi(Z_1)$ in $D$. Since $Z_0(z)$ is univalent in $D$, it follows that $Z = Z_0(z)$ maps $D$ conformally and one to one onto $\Delta$.

The well known studies of the boundary behavior of the conformal mapping of Jordan regions, due to Carathéodory and Montel, establishing continuity and one-to-oneness in the closed regions, apply with no essential change in the present conditions, and show that the conformal map of $D$ onto $\Delta$ can be extended so as to be one to one and continuous in the closed regions involved. Theorem 1 is established.

The proof of Theorem 1 as given does not include the classical case $\mu = \nu = 1$, but the construction of the Riemann surface $\sigma_1$ is valid, and the transformation $R_n(z) = S_n(Z)$ maps $D_n$ onto $\Delta_n$, which may be taken as $1 < |S_n(Z)| < e^{1/r}$,

\[S_n(Z) = \frac{A_n(Z - a'_n)}{(Z - b'_n)^n},\]

which with the choice $a'_1 = 0, b'_1 = \infty$ becomes $S_n(Z) = A_nZ^n$. Then $\Delta_n$ can be expressed as

\[1 < |A_nZ^n| < e^{1/r};\]

two such regions for different values of $A_n$ can be mapped onto each other by a dilatation with the origin fixed, so finally we choose $\Delta_n$ as $1 < |Z| < e^{1/r}$. This region is independent of $n$, and the remainder of the proof of Theorem 1, continued study of the transformation $R_n(z) = S_n(Z) = Z^n$, can be carried through even more simply than in the general case.

Indeed, the case $\mu = \nu = 1$ is included in a larger category which, as we now
show, can be treated still more simply. Here is included for instance also the case \( \mu = 2, \nu = 1 \), \( M_1 = M_2 \), for which it is sufficient that \( B_1 \) and \( B_2 \) be mutually symmetric in a line \( L \) in which \( C_1 \) is symmetric.

If the numbers \( M_j \) and \( N_j \) of Theorem 1 defined by (4) are all rational, the region \( \Delta \) is bounded by two level loci of a rational function. For if the integer \( N \) is suitably chosen, the numbers \( NM_j \) and \( NN_j \) are all integers, \( [T(Z)]^N \) is a rational function of \( Z \) of degree \( N \), and (1) can be written

\[
1 < | [T(Z)]^N | < e^{N/\tau}.
\]

For this case Theorem 1 can be established without use of the two infinite sequences of regions \( D_n \) and \( \Delta_n \). Since the numbers

\[
NM_j = \frac{N}{\tau} \int_{B_j} d\sigma, \quad NN_j = \frac{N}{\tau} \int_{C_j} d\sigma,
\]

are integers, the increase in \( N\nu(z)/2\pi\tau \) as \( z \) traces any one of the curves \( B_j \), \( C_j \) is integral. Then the function \( w = e^{N(u+iv)/\tau} \) is single valued in \( D \) and maps \( D \) conformally onto a Riemann surface \( \sigma_0 \); the image \( D_0 \) of \( D \) is the annulus \( 1 < |w| < e^{N/\tau} \) covered precisely \( N \) times. We use here an extension of Lemma 1, which concerns an arbitrary function \( f(z) \) analytic in a closed multiply connected region \( E \) bounded by a finite number of mutually disjoint Jordan curves, and we suppose \( |f(z)| = m_0 \) on several components \( P_1 \) of the boundary of \( E \), \( |f(z)| = m_1 (> m_0) \) on the remaining part \( P_2 \) of the boundary, \( f(z) \neq 0 \) in \( E \); it follows that each value \( w, m_0 < |w| < m_1 \), is assumed by \( f(z) \) in \( E \) the same number of times, namely the quotient by \( 2\pi \) of the increase in \( \arg f(z) \) over \( P_1 \). We return to the region \( D \); as \( z \) traces \( \sum C_j \), \( \arg e^{N(u+iv)/\tau} \) is increased by precisely \( 2\pi N \). Moreover, as \( z \) traces each of the curves \( B_j \) or \( C_j \), \( \arg e^{N(u+iv)/\tau} \) changes monotonically and is increased by precisely \(-2\pi NM_j \) or \( 2\pi NN_j \), so \( w \) traces each of the \( \mu + \nu \) boundary curves \( |w| = 1 \) or \( |w| = e^{N/\tau} \) monotonically \(-NM_j \) or \( NN_j \) times. The Riemann surface \( \sigma_0 \) contains the image not merely of \( \overline{D} \) but even of \( D' \), but is not known to cover the entire extended \( w \)-plane. Nevertheless continuous adjunction to \( D_0 \) of \( \mu + \nu \) closed simply connected subregions \( |w| \leq 1 \) and \( |w| \geq e^{N/\tau} \) of the Riemann surfaces for the inverses of \( w = z^{NM_j} \) and \( w = z^{NN_j} \) constructs a new Riemann surface \( \sigma_1 \) over the entire extended \( w \)-plane which is the topological image of the extended \( z \)-plane, namely \( D \) plus the closures of \( \mu + \nu \) Jordan regions exterior to \( D \) whose boundaries are respectively the \( B_j \) and \( C_j \). Schwarz's theorem now asserts that \( \sigma_1 \) can be mapped one to one and conformally onto the extended \( Z \)-plane. The mapping function is of the form \( w = [T(Z)]^N \), and the one to one conformal image of \( D \) is the region \( (1') \).

The proof just given is especially simple in the case \( \mu = \nu = 1 \), for then \( N = 1 \) and \( T(Z) \) is of degree one; the extended \( w \)-plane and extended \( Z \)-plane may be taken as identical. The proof is also simple in the case \( \mu = 2, \nu = 1, \ M_1 = M_2 \), for then \( N = 2 \) and we may choose for instance \( [T(Z)]^2 = A_0(Z^2 - 1) \).
II

It is evident that the region $\Delta$ of Theorem 1 is not uniquely determined, for one can still transform the $z$-plane by an arbitrary linear transformation. Indeed, any possible region $\Delta$, an image of $D$, may be found from a single such region $\Delta$ by a linear transformation:

**Theorem 2.** Let $D$ be a region of the $z$-plane defined by the inequality

$$1 < |R(z)| < e^{1/\tau}, \quad R(z) = \frac{A(z - a_1)^m \cdots (z - a_p)^{m_p}}{(z - b_1)^n \cdots (z - b_q)^{n_q}},$$

$$\sum m_i = \sum n_j = 1,$$

and whose boundary consists of mutually disjoint Jordan curves $B_1, B_2, \ldots, B_p, C_1, C_2, \ldots, C_q$, where $B_j$ separates $a_j$ from $D$ and $C_j$ separates $b_j$ from $D$. Let $\Delta$ be a region of the $Z$-plane defined by

$$1 < |R_1(Z)| < e^{1/\tau'}, \quad R_1(Z) = \frac{A'(Z - a'_1)^{m'_1} \cdots (Z - a'_p)^{m'_p}}{(Z - b'_1)^{n'_1} \cdots (Z - b'_q)^{n'_q}},$$

$$\sum m'_i = \sum n'_j = 1,$$

and whose boundary consists of mutually disjoint Jordan curves $B'_1, B'_2, \ldots, B'_p, C'_1, C'_2, \ldots, C'_q$, where $B'_j$ separates $a'_j$ from $\Delta$ and $C'_j$ separates $b'_j$ from $\Delta$. If there exists a one to one conformal transformation of $D$ onto $\Delta$ so that each $B_j$ corresponds to $B'_j$ and each $C_j$ corresponds to $C'_j$, then the transformation is a linear transformation of the complex variable $z$, defined throughout the extended planes $z$ and $Z$. We have $\tau = \tau'$, $m_i = m'_i$, $n_j = n'_j$. If arg $A'$ is suitably chosen, we have $R(z) = R_1(Z)$.

If $D$ is an arbitrary region whose boundary consists of $\mu + \nu$ Jordan curves, $\mu + \nu > 2$, those curves can be separated into two classes containing respectively $\mu$ and $\nu$ curves in a wide variety of ways, and so also with $\Delta$; compare Theorem 1. Theorem 2 is not concerned with all possible maps of $D$ onto $\Delta$, but with merely a certain map where we suppose that two classes of curves bounding $D$ correspond respectively to two classes of curves bounding $\Delta$.

If there exists a one-to-one conformal transformation of $D$ onto $\Delta$, that transformation can be extended so as to be one-to-one and continuous in the closed regions, so it is possible to consider the correspondence of boundary curves. Indeed, the Jordan curves bounding both $D$ and $\Delta$ are analytic, so the transformation is even one to one and analytic in larger regions $D'$ and $\Delta'$ containing respectively the closures $\overline{D}$ and $\overline{\Delta}$ of $D$ and $\Delta$.

For the present we suppose that $D$ and $\Delta$ contain respectively the points $z = \infty$ and $Z = \infty$. Let $U(z)$ be the unique function harmonic in $D$, continuous in $\overline{D}$, equal to zero and unity on $B = \sum B_j$ and $C = \sum C_j$ respectively. Similarly let $U'(Z)$ be the unique function harmonic in $\Delta$, continuous in $\overline{\Delta}$, equal to zero and unity on $B' = \sum B'_j$ and $C' = \sum C'_j$ respectively. Let $V(z)$ and $V'(Z)$ be conjugate to $U(z)$ and $U'(Z)$. If the given transformation is $Z = Z(z)$,
we have \( U'[Z(z)] = U(z), \ V'[Z(z)] = V(z), \) if the determinations of the multi-
form functions \( V(z) \) and \( V'(Z) \) are suitably chosen. The function \( \log |R(z)| \)

is harmonic in \( D \) and takes the values zero and \( 1/\tau \) on \( B \) and \( C \), so for \( z \) in \( D \) we have \( |R(z)| = e^{U(z)/\tau}, R(z) = e^{U(z) + iV(z)/\tau}, \) and similarly for \( Z \) in \( \Delta \) we have

\( |R_1(Z)| = e^{U'(Z)/\tau'}, R_1(Z) = e^{U'(Z) + iV'(Z)/\tau'} \), again for suitable determination of \( V(z) \) and \( V'(Z) \).

The numbers \( a_j, b_j, a'_j, b'_j \) are all finite; for the positive directions on the boundary curves with respect to \( D \) and \( \Delta \) we have

\[
\begin{align*}
[\arg R(z)]_{B_j} &= -2\pi m_j, \quad [\arg R(z)]_{C_j} = 2\pi n_j, \\
[\arg R_1(Z)]_{B'_j} &= -2\pi m'_j, \quad [\arg R_1(Z)]_{C'_j} = 2\pi n'_j.
\end{align*}
\]

On the other hand we have

\[
\begin{align*}
[\arg R(z)]_{B_j} &= [V(z)/\tau]_{B_j}, \quad [\arg R(z)]_{C_j} = [V(z)/\tau]_{C_j},
\end{align*}
\]

with similar equations for functions of \( Z \), whence

\[
\begin{align*}
[V(z)/\tau]_B &= -2\pi \sum m_j = -2\pi, \\
[V'(Z)/\tau']_{B'} &= -2\pi \sum m'_j = -2\pi,
\end{align*}
\]

\( \tau = \tau', m_j = m'_j, n_j = n'_j. \)

If now \( D \) and \( \Delta \) are bounded, say interior to \( C_1 \) and \( C'_1 \) respectively, the functions \( R(z) \) and \( R_1[Z(z)] \) are analytic in \( \overline{D} \), different from zero there, with

\[
\left| \frac{R(z)}{R_1[Z(z)]} \right| = 1
\]

on the boundary \( B + C \) of \( D \). Then this quotient is identically constant in \( D \), and by changing \( \arg A' \) if necessary we may write

\[
(7) \quad R(z) \equiv R_1[Z(z)];
\]

this identity is valid not merely in \( \overline{D} \) but also throughout \( D' \), and indeed wherever the functions involved may be continued analytically from \( D' \). We now keep \( A \) and \( A' \) fixed.

The functions \( U(z) \) and \( U'(Z) \) have each precisely \([Walsh, 1950, p. 274]\)
\( \mu + \nu - 2 \) critical points in \( D \) and \( \Delta \); this is the total number of critical points of \( R(z) \) and \( R_1(Z) \), so the latter functions have all their critical points in \( D \) and \( \Delta \) respectively.

Let \( D_1 \) be the region whose boundary is \( B_1 \) which belongs to the complement of \( \overline{D} \), and \( \Delta_1 \) the region whose boundary is \( B'_1 \) which belongs to the complement of \( \overline{\Delta} \). When \( z \) moves from \( D \) across \( B_1 \) into \( D_1 \), the point \( Z(z) \) moves from \( \Delta \) across \( B'_1 \) into \( \Delta_1 \); in \( D_1 \) we have \( |R(z)| < 1 \) and in \( \Delta_1 \) we have \( |R_1(Z)| < 1 \), so by (7) the point \( z \) cannot leave \( D_1 \) if \( Z \) remains in \( \Delta_1 \), nor can \( Z \) leave \( \Delta_1 \) if \( z \) remains in \( D_1 \).
The correspondence between \( z \) and \( Z \) defined by (7) involves the equation \( |R(z)| = |R_1(Z)| \), and the level curves in \( D \) and \( \Delta \) of these two functions \( R(z) \) and \( R_1(Z) \) correspond to each other. These level curves pass one through each point of \( D_1 \) and \( \Delta_1 \) (except of course \( z = a_1 \) and \( Z = a'_1 \)), have no multiple points in \( D_1 \) and \( \Delta_1 \) (because \( R(z) \) and \( R_1(Z) \) have no critical points there), and by the principle of maximum modulus each level curve is an analytic Jordan curve containing \( a_1 \) or \( a'_1 \) in its interior. When \( z \) or \( Z \) traces such a level curve in the positive sense, \( \arg [R(z)] \) or \( \arg [R_1(Z)] \) increases by \( 2\pi m_1 = 2\pi m'_1 \). The orthogonal trajectories to these level curves are the loci \( \arg [R(z)] = \text{const} \) and \( \arg [R_1(Z)] = \text{const} \), which can be considered as Jordan arcs in \( D_1 \) and \( \Delta_1 \) from \( a_1 \) and \( a'_1 \) to \( B_1 \) and \( B'_1 \); any two such loci have no point of intersection in \( D_1 \) and \( \Delta_1 \) except \( a_1 \) or \( a'_1 \) unless they coincide throughout. One such locus extends from \( a_1 \) to each point of \( B_1 \) and one from \( a'_1 \) to each point of \( B'_1 \), and cuts each level curve in \( D_1 \) and \( \Delta_1 \) once and only once.

Equation (7) sets up a one-to-one analytic correspondence between the points of \( D_1 \) and those of \( \Delta_1 \). For fixed \( \theta \), let \( \alpha \) and \( \alpha' \) be respective loci \( \arg R(z) = \theta \) in \( D_1 \) and \( \arg R_1(Z) = \theta \) in \( \Delta_1 \); on the subarc of \( \alpha \) in \( D' \) and its image under the conformal map we have points \( z \) and \( Z \) corresponding to each other by (7). All along \( \alpha \) and \( \alpha' \) we now set up a correspondence by requiring \( |R(z)| = |R_1(Z)| \); this correspondence is one to one in \( D_1 \) and \( \Delta_1 \). We extend this correspondence continuously from \( \alpha \) and \( \alpha' \) in the same sense along each level locus in \( D_1 \) and the corresponding level locus in \( \Delta_1 \), allowing \( \arg R(z) \) and \( \arg R_1(Z) \) to vary continuously and setting up the correspondence by means of the equation \( \arg R(z) = \arg R_1(Z) \); the total change of both \( \arg R(z) \) and \( \arg R_1(Z) \) along each level curve is precisely \( 2\pi m_1 \). We thus have defined a one-to-one correspondence between the points \( z \) of \( D_1 - a_1 \) and the points \( Z \) of \( \Delta_1 - a'_1 \) which coincides in \( D_1 \cdot D' \) and \( \Delta_1 \cdot \Delta' \) with the analytic extension of the given conformal map. This correspondence in \( D_1 - a_1 \) and \( \Delta_1 - a'_1 \) is defined locally by equation (7), and is analytic, for if we set \( R(z) = w = R_1(Z) \), then \( w \) is an analytic function of \( z \) and \( Z \) is an analytic function of \( w \), since \( R_1'(Z) \neq 0 \) in \( \Delta_1 \); hence \( Z \) is an analytic function of \( z \). This function is continuous even at \( z = a_1 \) if we define \( Z(a_1) \) as \( a'_1 \), hence (Riemann) is analytic also for \( z = a_1 \).

The reasoning just given applies to each of the \( \mu + \nu \) regions into which the \( z \)-plane is separated by \( D \), and to the analogous \( \mu + \nu \) regions of the \( Z \)-plane, and shows that equation (7) defines a one to one conformal map not merely of \( D \) onto \( \Delta \) but of the extended \( z \)-plane onto the extended \( Z \)-plane. Such a map is necessarily defined by a linear transformation, so Theorem 2 is established.

If one chooses \( a_1 = a'_1 = 0 \), \( b_1 = b'_1 = \infty \), this linear transformation must be of the form \( Z = \lambda z \), \( \lambda \neq 0 \), so \( D \) and \( \Delta \) are similar figures—this condition of similarity is both necessary and sufficient that \( D \) and \( \Delta \) be conformally repre-
sentable on each other, with $B_1$ and $C_1$ corresponding respectively to $B'_1$ and $C'_1$.

Theorem 2 naturally applies to the conformal transformations of a region $D$ into itself, where $\sum B_j$ is invariant. If we again suppose $D$ in the canonical form of Theorem 2 with $a_1 = a'_1 = 0$, $b_1 = b'_1 = \infty$ (the conditions $a_1 = a'_1$, $b_1 = b'_1$ are equivalent to requiring that $B_1$ and $C_1$ shall be invariant), a transformation which carries $D$ into itself must be of the form $Z = \lambda z$ with $|\lambda| = 1$; otherwise a point $z_0$ of $D$ could be carried into the points $\lambda z_0$, $\lambda^2 z_0$, $\lambda^3 z_0$, etc., which approach 0 or $\infty$, which is impossible. Then a necessary and sufficient condition that $D$ admit a conformal transformation into itself (with $a_1 = a'_1 = 0$, $b_1 = b'_1 = \infty$) other than the identity is that $D$ admit a rotation about 0 into itself. A necessary condition is that the sets of numbers $m_2, m_3, \ldots, m_\mu$ and $n_2, n_3, \ldots, n_\nu$ each fall into $\rho$ identical groups, where $\rho$ is an integer greater than unity; the rotation about 0 will then be through the angle $2\pi/\rho$; but this condition is not sufficient.

It is clear that in the case $\mu = 1, \nu = 2$ with $n_1 = n_2$ (or $\mu = 2, \nu = 1$ with $m_1 = m_2$) the region $D$ always admits a conformal transformation into itself, for one can fix $a_1$ while interchanging $b_1$ and $b_2$ (or fix $b_1$ while interchanging $a_1$ and $a_2$) by a linear transformation.

III

We proceed to show the validity of the limiting case of Theorem 1 where in the hypothesis the numbers $M_j$ are kept fixed but the curves $B_j$ are allowed to shrink to points:

**Theorem 3.** Let $D$ be a region of the $z$-plane whose boundary consists of mutually disjoint Jordan curves $C_1, C_2, \ldots, C_\nu$, let $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_M$ be arbitrary distinct points of $D$, and let $M_1, M_2, \ldots, M_\mu$ be arbitrary positive numbers with $\sum M_j = 1$. Then there exists a conformal map of $D$ onto a region $\Delta$ of the $z$-plane, one-to-one and continuous in the closed regions, where $\Delta$ is defined by

$$|T(Z)| < 1, \quad T(Z) = \frac{A(Z - a_1)^{M_1}(Z - a_2)^{M_2} \cdots (Z - a_M)^{M_\mu}}{(Z - b_1)^{N_1}(Z - b_2)^{N_2} \cdots (Z - b_N)^{N_\nu}},$$

where $N_j > 0$, $\sum N_j = 1$.

The $a_j$ are the respective images of the $\alpha_j$; the locus $|T(Z)| = 1$ consists of $\nu$ analytic Jordan curves, which are respective images of the $C_j$, and which separate $\Delta$ from the $b_j$.

Theorem 3 is of particular interest in the case $\mu = 1$, for if then we choose $a_1 = \infty$, $\Delta$ is defined by

$$| (Z - b_1)^{N_1}(Z - b_2)^{N_2} \cdots (Z - b_N)^{N_\nu} | > |A|.$$
\( \mu = 1 \) and \( a_1 = \infty \), the boundary of \( \Delta \) is a lemniscate. Theorem 3 includes the Riemann mapping theorem for a region bounded by a single Jordan curve.

The proof of Theorem 3 is so similar to that of Theorem 1 that we omit most of the details. We omit for the present the classical case \( \mu = \nu = 1 \), and thanks to a preliminary transformation we suppose the Jordan curves \( C_j \) to be analytic, with \( D \) interior to \( C_1 \).

If \( g_j(z) \) is Green's function for \( D \) with pole in \( \alpha_j \), we set

\[
u(z) = M_1 g_1(z) + M_2 g_2(z) + \cdots + M_\mu g_\mu(z),
\]

a function harmonic in \( D \) except in the points \( \alpha_j \), and which can be extended harmonically across each \( C_j \) so as to be harmonic in a closed region \( D' \) which contains the closure \( \overline{D} \) of \( D \) and whose boundary \( C': u(z) = -\delta (\langle 0 \rangle) \) consists of \( \nu \) analytic Jordan curves near the respective \( C_j \). If \( v(z) \) denotes the conjugate of \( u(z) \), we assume the derivative of \( u(z) + iv(z) \) not to vanish in the closure of the annular regions \( D' - \overline{D} \). The formula of Green, valid for \( z \) in \( D' \), can be written [Walsh, 1935, p. 215]

\[
(9) \
u(z) = \int_0^1 \log | z - t | \, d\sigma - \sum_{i=1}^{\mu} M_i \log | z - \alpha_i | - \delta, \\
\int_{C'} d\sigma = 1.
\]

The integral in (9) is to be taken over \( C' \).

Let the \( \beta_k \) (depending on \( n \)) divide \( C' \) into \( n \) parts equal with respect to the parameter \( \sigma \), and let integers \( m_j \) (depending on \( n \)) be chosen so that \( \sum m_j = n \), \( m_j/n \rightarrow M_j \). On any closed set in the region \( D' - \sum \alpha_j \) we have uniformly as \( n \rightarrow \infty \)

\[
u_n(z) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \log | z - \beta_k | - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{\mu} m_i \log | z - \alpha_i | - \delta \rightarrow u(z).
\]

As \( n \rightarrow \infty \), the region \( D \) is approximated by the region \( D_n: u_n(z) > 0 \), a region bounded by \( \nu \) Jordan curves near (for \( n \) sufficiently large as close as desired to) the \( C_j \). Thus \( D_n \) is defined by

\[
| R_n(z) | > 1, \quad R_n(z) = e^{-n\delta(z - \beta_1)(z - \beta_2) \cdots (z - \beta_n)} \\
\frac{(z - \alpha_1)^{m_1}(z - \alpha_2)^{m_2} \cdots (z - \alpha_\mu)^{m_\mu}}{(z - \beta_1)(z - \beta_2) \cdots (z - \beta_n)} \\
e^n(u_n + iv_n),
\]

where \( v_n(z) \) is conjugate to \( u_n(z) \) in \( D' \). Each compact \( K \) of \( D \) lies in all the \( D_n \) for \( n \) sufficiently large, and each compact \( K \) exterior to \( D \) lies exterior to all the \( D_n \) sufficiently large.

The equation \( w = R_n(z) \) defines the conformal map of the extended \( z \)-plane onto an \( n \)-sheeted Riemann surface \( \sigma_0 \) over the extended \( w \)-plane, and the
image \(|w| > 1\) of \(D_n\) is connected, having \(\mu\) branch points at infinity of respective orders \(m_j-1\), and having for boundary \(\nu\) circumferences \(|w|=1\) of respective multiplicities \(n_j\), namely the numbers of the \(\beta\) on the respective components of \(C'\), with \(n_j/n \to \int_{C_j} d\sigma = N_j\) (definition of \(N_j\)). The \(\nu\) regions of the \(z\)-plane complementary to \(D_n\) have as images \(\nu\) simply connected regions of \(\sigma_0\), covering \(|w| < 1\) respectively \(n_j\) times; the boundaries of these regions consist of the circle \(|w| = 1\) traced monotonically \(n_j\) times.

We construct a new Riemann surface \(\sigma_1\) over the \(w\)-plane by replacing continuously each of these \(\nu\) regions of \(\sigma_0\) by the portion \(|w| < 1\) of the \(n_j\)-sheeted Riemann surface for the inverse of \(w = z^{n_j}\), having then but a single branch point, namely \(w = 0\). Thus \(\sigma_1\) like \(\sigma_0\) is the topological image of the extended plane and covers each point of the \(w\)-plane precisely \(n\) times, hence can be mapped conformally onto the extended \(Z\)-plane, by the transformation \(w = S_n(Z)\),

\[
S_n(Z) = \frac{A_n(Z - b'_1)^{m_1}(Z - b'_2)^{m_2} \cdots (Z - b'_\nu)^{m_\nu}}{(Z - a'_1)^{m_1}(Z - a'_2)^{m_2} \cdots (Z - a'_\mu)^{m_\mu}},
\]

\(\sum m_j = \sum n_j = n\); the \(a'_j\) and \(b'_j\) (depending on \(n\)) are all distinct, and the \(b'_j\) are exterior to the image \(\Delta_n:|S_n(Z)| > 1\) of \(D_n\), while \(a'_j\) lies interior to \(\Delta_n\) as the image of \(\alpha_j\). By a linear transformation of the \(Z\)-plane let us choose \(a'_1 = 0, b'_1 = 1, b'_2 = \infty\) independent of \(n\) (if \(\nu = 1\) we choose \(a'_2 = \infty\) instead of \(b'_2 = \infty\)). We write the transformation \(R_n(z) = S_n(Z)\) as \(Z = Z_n(z)\).

If we denote by \(D_0\) the region \(D_n - \alpha_1\) (if \(\nu = 1\) we choose \(D_n - \alpha_1 - \alpha_2\)), the functions \(Z_n(z)\) admit the exceptional values 0, 1, \(\infty\) in \(D_0\), hence form a normal family in \(D - \alpha_1 - \alpha_2\). We have also

\[\arg Z_n(z) \mid_{\Gamma} = 2\pi,\]

where \(\Gamma\) is a curve in \(D\) surrounding \(\alpha_1\) but not surrounding any other \(\alpha_j\), so no limit function of the sequence \(Z_n(z)\) can be identically constant in \(D_0\); every such limit function must be univalent in \(D - \alpha_1\) and indeed in \(D\).

As \(n \to \infty\), the inequality \(|S_n(Z)| > 1\) defining \(\Delta_n\) approaches the form (8), if we choose a subsequence of the \(n\) such that all the numbers \(A_i^{1/n}, a_j', b_j'\) approach limits. The remainder of the proof of Theorem 3 now follows closely that of Theorem 1, and is left to the reader.

The proof of Theorem 3 as indicated requires but minor modifications to apply to the case \(\mu = \nu = 1\), for then \(S_n(Z)\) is of the form

\[\frac{A_n(Z - b'_1)^n}{(Z - a'_1)^n}.
\]

The choice \(a'_1 = 0, b'_1 = \infty\) yields a family of regions \(\Delta_n\) depending on \(A_n\) which are all trivially conformally equivalent, so we may choose \(A_n = 1\) and complete the proof using a region \(\Delta_n\) which does not depend on \(n\). However, in
this proof of the Riemann mapping theorem for a region bounded by a Jordan curve, we have used the fact that such a curve may be taken as analytic, and have also used Schwarz's theorem on the conformal map of an arbitrary Riemann surface topologically equivalent to the sphere.

In Theorem 3 (compare Theorem 1) the numbers \( m_j \) and \( N_j \) may all be rational, in which case the region \( \Delta \) is bounded by a level locus of the rational function \( [T(Z)]^N \), where the integer \( N \) is so chosen that the numbers \( NM_j \) and \( NN_j \) are all integers. It follows from this choice of \( N \) that the function \( w = e^{N(u+iv)} \) is single valued in \( D \) and maps \( D \) onto the subregion \( |w| > 1 \) of an \( N \)-sheeted Riemann surface \( \sigma_0 \) over a portion of the extended \( w \)-plane. The Riemann surface \( \sigma_0 \) can be replaced by a simpler \( N \)-sheeted Riemann surface \( \sigma_1 \) over the extended \( w \)-plane without modifying the image of \( D \), and the proof of Theorem 3 (like that of Theorem 1) can be completed without use of the infinite sequences of regions \( D_n \) and \( \Delta_n \).

IV

The map of Theorem 3, like that of Theorem 1, is uniquely determined except for a possible linear transformation:

**Theorem 4.** Let \( D \) be a region of the \( z \)-plane defined by the inequality

\[
|R(z)| < 1,
\]

\[
R(z) = \frac{A(z - a_1)(z - a_2)^{m_2} \cdots (z - a_n)^{m_n}}{(z - b_1)^{n_1}(z - b_2)^{n_2} \cdots (z - b_n)^{n_n}},
\]

\[\sum m_i = \sum n_i = 1,\]

and whose boundary consists of mutually disjoint Jordan curves \( C_1, C_2, \ldots, C_n \), which separate the \( b_j \) respectively from \( D \). Let \( \Delta \) be a region of the \( z \)-plane defined by the inequality

\[
|R_1(Z)| < 1,
\]

\[
R_1(Z) = \frac{A'(Z - a_1')(Z - a_2')^{m_2} \cdots (Z - a_n')^{m_n}}{(Z - b_1')^{n_1}(Z - b_2')^{n_2} \cdots (Z - b_n')^{n_n}},
\]

\[\sum n_i' = 1,\]

and whose boundary consists of mutually disjoint Jordan curves \( C_1', C_2', \ldots, C_n' \), which separate the \( b_j' \) respectively from \( \Delta \). If there exists a one to one conformal transformation of \( D \) onto \( \Delta \) so that the \( a_j \) correspond respectively to the \( a_j' \), then this correspondence can be continued beyond \( D \) and \( \Delta \) as a linear transformation of the extended \( z \)-plane onto the extended \( Z \)-plane. We have \( n_j = n_j' \), and if \( \arg A' \) is suitably chosen, \( R(z) = R_1(Z) \).

An element of contrast between Theorem 1 and Theorem 3 is that in the former the numbers \( m_j \) are determined initially by the properties of \( D \), whereas in the latter theorem the (positive) \( m_j \) are entirely arbitrary, subject merely to the restriction \( \sum m_j = 1 \). Theorem 4 is false if the respective exponents in the numerator of \( R_1(Z) \) are not supposed equal to those in the
numerator of $R(z)$, as we shall prove. We choose an arbitrary region $D_0$ bounded by $\nu$ mutually disjoint Jordan curves, and points $\alpha_1$, $\alpha_2$, $\cdots$, $\alpha_\mu$ in $D_0$; then we can choose two different sets of exponents $m_1$, $m_2$, $\cdots$, $m_\mu$ and $m'_1$, $m'_2$, $\cdots$, $m'_\mu$ with $\sum m_j = \sum m'_j = 1$, and there exist by Theorem 3 two distinct maps of $D_0$ onto the regions $D$ and $\Delta$ of Theorem 4 but with the exponents $m'_j$ instead of the $m_j$ in the definition of $R_1(z)$. That is to say, this region $D$ can be mapped one to one and conformally onto $\Delta$, with coincidence of the two images of each $\alpha_j$, but clearly the map cannot be extended so as to be a linear transformation of the extended $z$-plane onto the extended $Z$-plane.

If $g_j(z)$ denotes Green's function for $D$ with pole in $a_j$, in $D$ we have $\log |R(z)| = \sum m_j g_j(z)$, and if $g'_j(z)$ denotes Green's function for $\Delta$ with pole in $a'_j$, in $\Delta$ we have $\log |R_1(z)| = \sum m'_j g'_j(z)$. However, Green's function is invariant under a one-to-one conformal transformation, so if the given transformation of Theorem 4 is $Z = Z(z)$, throughout $D$ we have $g'_j[Z(z)] = g_j(z)$, whence $|R_1[Z(z)]| = |R(z)|$. The quotient $R(z)/R_1[Z(z)]$ is analytic throughout $D$ and does not vanish there, so by a change in the argument of $A'$ if necessary we may write throughout $D$

$$R(z) = R_1[Z(z)] \tag{10}$$

If $\epsilon (>0)$ is sufficiently small, the loci $|R(z)| = \epsilon$ and $|R_1(z)| = \epsilon$ lie in $D$ and $\Delta$ respectively and consist each of $\mu$ small curves about the points $a_j$ and the points $a'_j$. It follows from (10) that the given conformal map $Z = Z(z)$ transforms the region $1 < |1/R(z)| < 1/\epsilon$ onto the region $1 < |1/R_1(z)| < 1/\epsilon$, so Theorem 4 follows from Theorem 2.

We add a few further remarks relative to the conformal transformations of a multiply connected region $D$ into itself, where $\sum B_j$ is invariant, a topic to which Theorem 2 applies, and we naturally use the canonical form of Theorem 2 for $D$. A linear transformation which carries $D$ into itself can be neither parabolic, hyperbolic, nor loxodromic, for none of these transformations is periodic; each such transformation carries an analytic Jordan curve $B_j$ or $C_j$ which is not a circle through the fixed points (or for a parabolic transformation through the fixed point) into an infinity of distinct images, hence cannot transform $D$ into itself.

We consider then an elliptic transformation $T$ which transforms $D$ into $D$, where now $\mu + \nu > 2$, and we choose the fixed points of $T$ as zero and infinity. If $\rho (>1)$ is the smallest integer for which $T^\rho$ is the identity, an integer which must exist by virtue of $\mu + \nu > 2$, each point $a_j$ or $b_j$ other than 0 and $\infty$ belongs to a set of $\rho$ points $a_j$ or $b_j$, a set which is transformed into itself by $T$ (a rotation about 0), and for which $m_j$ or $n_j$ does not depend on $j$. Each curve $B_j$ or $C_j$ which is not a Jordan curve with $\rho$-fold rotational symmetry about 0 containing 0 in its interior thus belongs to a set of $\rho$ curves $B_j$ or $C_j$, a set invariant under $T$. No curve $B_j$ or $C_j$ can be a circle with center 0, for if it were the corresponding $a_j$ or $b_j$ would be 0 or $\infty$, and Schwarz reflection of the
harmonic function \( \log |R(z)| \) in this circle with center 0 shows that \( \mu + \nu \leq 2 \). If 0 is not a point \( a_j \) or \( b_j \), it is a zero of the derivative \( R'(z) \), for in the field of force [Walsh, 1950, p. 89] which determines the zeros of \( R'(z) \) the point 0 is a point of zero force for each set of \( \rho \) points \( a_j \) and \( b_j \). One sees by interchanging the roles of 0 and \( \infty \) that \( \infty \) also is either a point \( a_j \) or \( b_j \) or a zero of \( R'(z) \).

Each zero of \( R'(z) \) lies in \( D \), for \( D \) contains \( \mu + \nu - 2 \) such zeros [Walsh, 1950, p. 274], and \( R'(z) \) has precisely \( \mu + \nu - 2 \) zeros. The conditions on \( \Gamma \) that we have established as necessary are easily seen to be sufficient, so in conclusion we have: If \( \mu + \nu > 2 \), the region \( D \) in canonical form admits a conformal transformation into itself with \( \sum B_j \) invariant if and only if \( D \) and \( \sum B_j \) are invariant with respect to an elliptic transformation \( T \) whose \( p \)th power is the identity; each fixed point of \( T \) is either an \( a_j \), a \( b_j \), or a zero of \( R'(z) \), the latter being necessarily in \( D \).

When \( D \) is given, there exist at most \( \mu + \nu - 2 \) distinct zeros of \( R'(z) \). The number \( \rho \) is a divisor of \( \mu, \mu - 1, \) or \( \mu - 2 \) according as 0, 1, or 2 fixed points of \( T \) are points \( a_j \), and \( \rho \) is likewise a divisor of \( \nu, \nu - 1, \) or \( \nu - 2 \) according as 0, 1, or 2 fixed points of \( T \) are points \( b_j \). Then for any given \( D \), only relatively few transformations \( T \) are possible, especially in view of the equality necessary among the \( m_j \) and \( n_j \). It should not be difficult to examine all the possible transformations to identify those which carry \( D \) into itself.

Of course this study of the transformations of \( D \) into itself is essentially the study of the automorphisms of the function \( |R(z)| \); each such automorphism corresponds to an elliptic transformation \( T \), essentially involving a multiple symmetry with each fixed point of \( T \) either an \( a_j \), a \( b_j \), or a critical point of \( R(z) \).

In the study of interpolation or approximation to a given analytic function \( f(z) \), it is often necessary to cover a given region by the level curves of a harmonic function, a function which depends on the particular procedure of interpolation or approximation. Both the degree of approximation to \( f(z) \) and the regions of convergence of the approximating functions depend primarily on the regions of analyticity of \( f(z) \) with respect to this system of curves. Theorem 3 is especially useful for this purpose of interpolation and approximation because if a given function \( f(Z) \) is analytic in \( \Delta \), the \( a_j \) can be chosen as points of interpolation for a series of rational functions whose poles lie in the \( b_j \). Theorem 1 is likewise useful, because a function \( f(Z) \) analytic in \( \Delta \) is the sum of two component functions analytic in the respective regions \( |T(Z)| > 1 \) and \( |T(Z)| < e^{1/r} \); interpolation series of rational functions for these two components using first the \( b_j \) as points of interpolation and the \( a_j \) as poles of the rational functions, then interchanging these roles of the \( a_j \) and the \( b_j \),—such a series is analogous to and even a generalization of Laurent's series, and gives a useful representation of the given \( f(Z) \) [compare Walsh, 1955].
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Bibliography


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