UNBOUNDED COMPOSITION OPERATORS ON $H^2(B_2)$

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ABSTRACT. Examples are given of holomorphic self-maps of the unit ball on \mathbb{C}^2 which induce unbounded composition operators on the Hardy space H^2 . In particular, an example is given which is one-to-one on the closed ball. Also, a valence condition on the boundary of this ball is given which is sufficient for unboundedness of the induced composition operator.

1. Introduction. Let B_n be the open unit ball in \mathbb{C}^n and let $H^2 = H^2(B_n)$ be the Hardy space on B_n . If ϕ is a holomorphic mapping of B_n into B_n , then the composition operator $C_{\phi}: f \to f \circ \phi$ maps holomorphic functions on B_n into holomorphic functions. If n = 1, it is well known that C_{ϕ} is a bounded operator on H^2 (see [5], e.g.). For n > 1, there are many examples (see [1, 2]) which show that C_{ϕ} need not be bounded. These examples exhibit a "collapsing" property on the boundary ∂B_n of B_n . For instance ϕ may map an arc on ∂B_n to a point on ∂B_n . The main result of this note is the construction (Theorem 2) of a mapping $\Phi: \overline{B}_2 \to \overline{B}_2$ which is holomorphic and one-to-one on \overline{B}_2 and such that C_{ϕ} is unbounded on H^2 . Φ is in fact a polynomial mapping.

B. MacCluer and J. Shapiro show in [4, Theorem 6.4] that if $\phi: B_n \to B_n$ is one-to-one and if the derivative of ϕ^{-1} is bounded on $\phi(B_n)$, then C_{ϕ} is bounded on H^2 (see also [1, Theorem 2]). Our example shows that even for one-to-one mappings, some additional hypothesis on ϕ must be imposed to guarantee that C_{ϕ} is bounded. Example 4 is also related to the above theorem. In Theorem 1 we give a valence condition on ϕ which is sufficient for unboundedness of C_{ϕ} . All of our results rely on the following Carleson measure criterion for boundedness of C_{ϕ} .

THEOREM [3]. Suppose that $\phi: B \to B$ is holomorphic and that $\mu = \sigma(\phi^*)^{-1}$. Then C_{ϕ} is bounded on H^2 if and only if there is a C > 0 so that $\mu(S(\varsigma, t)) \leq Ct^2$ for all $\varsigma \in \partial B$ and t > 0. In this case we say that μ is a σ -Carleson measure.

W. Rudin's book [6] will be used as a standard reference. We will restrict our attention to $B_2 = B$. For $\phi: B \to B$, write $\phi = (\phi_1, \phi_2)$. Let σ denote surface measure on ∂B . If $\varsigma \in \partial B$, set $\phi^*(\varsigma) = \lim_{r \to 1} \phi(r\varsigma)$; so $\phi^*: \partial B \to \overline{B}$. Further define $S(\varsigma, t) = \{z \in \overline{B}: |1 - \langle z, \varsigma \rangle| < t\}$. Here $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ denotes the usual complex inner product in \mathbb{C}^2 , and t > 0. Let $Q(\varsigma, t) = S(\varsigma, t) \cap \partial B$.

2. A criterion for unboundedness. In this section we prove the following.

THEOREM 1. Suppose that $\phi: B \to B$ is holomorphic on B and that ϕ' is uniformly bounded on B. If $\sup{\operatorname{card}(\phi^*)^{-1}(\xi): \xi \in \partial B} = \infty$, then C_{ϕ} is unbounded on H^2 .

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The proof of this theorem depends on the following lemma. We assume the smoothness hypothesis of Theorem 1.

LEMMA 1. Suppose that $\phi(0) = 0$. Then there exist positive numbers A and δ which satisfy the following. If $\varsigma, \xi \in \partial B$ and $\phi^*(\varsigma) = \xi$, then $\phi^*(Q(\varsigma, t)) \subset S(\varsigma, At)$ for all $0 < t < \delta$.

PROOF. ϕ has a continuous extension to \overline{B} , which we can also denote by ϕ . In fact ϕ is Lipschitz on \overline{B} . Thus there is a D > 0 so that if $z, w \in \overline{B}$ and |z - w| < t, then $|\phi(z) - \phi(w)| < Dt$. Let e = (1, 0). Consider the case that $\zeta = \xi = e$. Set

$$L = \liminf_{z \to e} \frac{1 - |\phi(z)|^2}{1 - |z|^2}.$$

Then by the Julia-Carathéodory theory [6, pp. 174–181], $L = \lim_{r \to 1} D_1 \phi_1(re)$. Note that $L \ge 1$ by the Schwarz Lemma. For 0 < c < 1, consider the ellipsoids

$$E_c = \left\{ z \in B \colon \frac{|z_1 - (1 - c)|^2}{c^2} + \frac{|z_2|^2}{c} < 1 \right\}.$$

By [6, Theorem 8.54], we have $\phi(E_c) \subset E_{Lc}$ if c < 1/L. Also note that $E_c \subset S(e, 2c)$.

Now if $z \in Q(e,t)$, we have $|1-z_1| < t$, so that $|z_1| > 1-t$. Hence $|z_2|^2 = 1 - |z_1|^2 < 2t - t^2$. If follows that $(1 - 2t, z_2) \in E_{2t}$. Thus $(1 - 2t, z_2) \in S(e, 4t)$, so that $\phi(1 - 2t, z_2) \in S(e, 4tL)$.

Set $\delta = 1/2L$. Suppose that $0 < t < \delta$, and $z \in Q(e, t)$. Then $|z - (1 - 2t, z_2)| \le |1 - z_1| + 2t < 3t$, so that $|\phi(z) - \phi(1 - 2t, z_2)| < D(3t)$. Thus $|1 - \phi_1(z)| < 4tL + 3tD$, and the lemma holds with A = 4L + 3D.

For the general case choose unitaries U and $V: \mathbb{C}^2 \to \mathbb{C}^2$ with $Ue = \zeta$ and $V\xi = e$. Apply the first part of the proof to the map $\lambda = V \circ \phi \circ U$. There are positive numbers A and δ so that $\lambda(Q(e,t)) \subset S(e,At)$ for $0 < t < \delta$. Since $U(Q(e,t)) = Q(\zeta,t)$ and $V^{-1}(S(e,At)) = S(\xi,At)$, we have $\phi(Q(\zeta,t)) \subset S(\xi,At)$.

Finally, note that A depends on the Lipschitz constant D and on L. But $L \leq \sup\{\|\phi'(z)\|: z \in B\}$, so that both δ and A can be chosen independent of ς and ξ .

PROOF OF THEOREM 1. Since an automorphism of B induces a bounded composition operator, we may assume that $\phi(0) = 0$. Fix a positive integer n. Suppose that $\xi \in \partial B$ and $\operatorname{card}(\phi^*)^{-1}(\xi) \ge n$. Choose $\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \ldots, \zeta_n \in \partial B$ so that $\phi^*(\zeta_k) = \xi$, $1 \le k \le n$. Choose A and δ as in Lemma 1. Then choose t_0 with $0 < t_0 \le \delta$ and so that if $0 < t < t_0$, the sets $Q(\zeta_1, t), \ldots, Q(\zeta_n, t)$ are pairwise disjoint. Thus

$$\sigma(\phi^*)^{-1}(S(\xi,At)) \geq \sigma\left(\bigcup_{1}^n Q(\varsigma_k,t)\right) \approx nt^2.$$

Since n is arbitrary, it is clear that $\sigma(\phi^*)^{-1}$ is not a Carleson measure, and the theorem is proven.

3. Examples.

EXAMPLE 1. This example is a slight variant of an example shown to us by J. P. Rosay. Let

$$\psi(z_1, z_2) = \frac{1}{2}(1 + z_1^2 + z_2^2, z_2(1 - z_1^2 - z_2^2)).$$

If $z \in \overline{B}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi(z)|^2 &= \frac{1}{4} (1 + 2\operatorname{Re}(z_1^2 + z_2^2) + |z_1^2 + z_2^2|^2 + |z_1|^2 (1 - 2\operatorname{Re}(z_1^2 + z_2^2) + |z_1^2 + z_2^2|^2)) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} (2 + 2|z_1^2 + z_2^2|^2) \leq 1. \end{aligned}$$

Further, $|\psi(z)| = 1$ if and only if $z_1^2 + z_2^2 = 1$, in which case $\psi(z) = e$. Thus $(\psi^*)^{-1}(e)$ is the unit circle C in the Re z_1 , Re z_2 plane. Hence C_{ψ} is unbounded on H^2 , by Theorem 1. It can be shown directly that $\sigma(\psi^*)^{-1}(S(e,t)) \approx t^{3/2}$. We observe some additional properties of ψ . Consider the complex Jacobian $J\psi$ on \overline{B} . It is easy to check that $J\psi$ vanishes only on C and on the complex line $z_1 = 0$. Also if z and w are in $\overline{B} - C$ and $\psi(z) = \psi(w)$, we have $z_1 = \pm w_1$ and $z_2 = w_2$. Thus ψ is a two-to-one map on $\overline{B} - C$. ψ is one-to-one on $\{z \in B : \operatorname{Re} z_1 > 0\}$.

EXAMPLE 2. Let $\rho(z_1, z_2) = (1 - \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}(1 - z_1^2 - z_2^2), \frac{1}{2}z_2(1 - z_1^2 - z_2^2))$. Here $\sqrt{-}$ denotes the principal branch of the square root. Then ρ shares may properties with ψ . An application of the Schwarz Lemma shows that $|\rho_1(z)| \leq |\psi_1(z)|$ for $z \in B$. It follows that $\rho(\overline{B} - C) \subset B$. Also $\rho(c) = \{e\}$, and ρ is two-to-one on $\overline{B} - C$. ρ is continuous on \overline{B} , but ρ' is not bounded on B.

We will show that C_{ρ} is compact on H^2 . First we show that $\rho(B)$ is contained in a Koranyi approach region $D_{\alpha}(e) = \{z \in B : |1 - z_1| < (\alpha/2)(1 - |z|^2)\}.$

Let $E_1 = \{z \in \overline{B} : |1 - z_1^2 - z_2^2| < \frac{1}{4}\}$ and $E_2 = \overline{B} - E_1$. Then $\sup\{|\rho(z)| : z \in E_2\} < 1$, so we have $\rho(E_2) \subset D_{\alpha_0}(e)$ for some $\alpha_0 > 0$. If $z \in E_1$, then

$$|\rho(z)|^2 \le 1 - 2\operatorname{Re}\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}(1 - z_1^2 - z_2^2)} + \frac{1}{2}|1 - z_1^2 - z_2^2| + \frac{1}{4}|1 - z_1^2 - z_2^2|^2.$$

Thus

$$1 - |\rho(z)|^2 \ge 2\operatorname{Re}\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}(1 - z_1^2 - z_2^2)} - |1 - z_1^2 - z_2^2|.$$

But $\operatorname{Re}(1 - z_1^2 - x_2^2) \ge 0$, so

$$\operatorname{Re}\sqrt{1-z_1^2-z_2^2} \ge rac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|1-z_1^2-z_2^2|^{1/2}.$$

Hence

$$egin{aligned} 1 - |
ho(z)|^2 &\geq |1 - z_1^2 - z_2^2|^{1/2}(1 - |1 - z_1^2 - z_2^2|^{1/2}) \ &\geq rac{1}{2}|1 - z_1^2 - z_2^2|^{1/2} = rac{1}{2}|1 -
ho_1(z)|. \end{aligned}$$

So $\rho(B) \subset D_{\alpha}(e)$, where $\alpha = \max(\alpha_0, 4)$.

By the computation mentioned in Example 1, we have

$$\sigma(\rho^*)^{-1}(S(e,t)) = \sigma(\psi^*)^{-1}(S(e,2t^2)) \approx t^3.$$

By [3, Lemma 2.1, (ii)], C_{ρ} is compact.

We now construct a biholomorphism Φ of B into B which is a homeomorphism of \overline{B} onto $\Phi(\overline{B})$ and such that C_{Φ} is unbounded on H^2 . Let ψ be as in Example 1 and let

$$\phi(z) = \frac{1}{25}(18 + 9z_1 - 2z_1^2 + 2z_2^2, 9z_2 - 4z_1z_2).$$

We will consider the map $\Phi = \psi \circ \phi$. Our first step is to study ϕ .

LEMMA 2. Let $f(z) = 18+9z-2z^2$. If $|z| \le r < 1$ and $z \ne r$, then |f(z)| < f(r). PROOF. Let $z = re^{i\theta} = x + iy$, 0 < r < 1. Then

$$\begin{split} |f(z)|^2 &= 18 + 9^2 r^2 + 2^2 r^4 + 2 \cdot 9 \cdot 18x - 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 18(x^2 - y^2) - 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 9r^2 x \\ &= 468 + 153r^2 + 4r^4 - 144(1 - x)^2 + 36x(1 - r^2) \\ &\leq 468 + 153r^2 + 4r^4 - 144(1 - r)^2 + 36r(1 - r^2) = f(r)^2, \end{split}$$

with equality if and only if x = r.

NOTE. g(z) = f(z)/25 is the second Taylor polynomial at z = 1 of the automorphism $A(z) = (z + 2/3)(1 + 2z/3)^{-1}$ of the unit disc Δ . Using Lemma 2, one can see that $g(\Delta) \subset \Delta$. Also g is univalent on $\overline{\Delta}$, g(1) = 1, and the range of g has second order contact at 1 with the unit circle.

LEMMA 3. ϕ is one-to-one on \overline{B} .

PROOF. Suppose that $\phi(z) = \phi(w)$ with $z, w \in \overline{B}$. Then $9z_1 - 2z_1^2 + 2z_2^2 = 9w_1 - 2w_1^2 + 2w_2^2$, so that $(z_1 - w_1)(9 - 2z_1 - 2w_1) = 2(w_2 - z_2)(w_2 + z_2)$. Hence $|z_1 - w_1| \le \frac{4}{5}|w_2 - z_2|$.

Also $9z_2 - 4z_1z_2 = 9w_2 - 4w_1w_2$ so that $(9 - 4z_1)(z_2 - w_2) = 4w_2(z_1 - w_1)$. Thus $|z_2 - w_2| \le \frac{4}{5}|z_1 - w_1|$, and z = w.

LEMMA 4. $\phi(e) = e$, and $\phi(\overline{B} - \{e\}) \subset B$.

PROOF. For $z \in \partial B$, write $z_1 = re^{i\theta} = x + iy$. Then $|z_2| = \sqrt{1 - r^2}$. Lemma 2 is used in the following inequality.

$$\begin{split} 25 |\phi(z)|^2 &\leq (|18+9z_1-2z_1^2|+2|z_2|^2)^2 + |z_2|^2|9 - 4z_1|^2 \\ &\leq |f(z_1)|^2 + 4f(r)(1-r^2) + 4(1-r^2)^2 + (1-r^2)(81-72x+16r^2) \\ &= 468 + 153r^2 + 4r^4 - 144(1-x)^2 + 36x(1-r^2) \\ &+ 4(18+9r-2r^2)(1-r^2) \\ &+ 4(1-r^2)^2 + (1-r^2)(81-72x+16r^2) \\ &= 625 - 144(1-x)^2 + 36(1+r)(1-r)(r-x) \leq 625 \end{split}$$

since $36(1+r)(1-r)(r-x) \le 72(1-x)^2 \le 144(1-x)^2$. Also note that equality holds if and only if r = x = 1.

The motivation behind the formula for ϕ is that if z_1 and z_2 are real, then $\phi_1(z_1, z_2) = \operatorname{Re} g(z_1 + iz_2)$ and $\phi_2(z_1, z_2) = \operatorname{Im} g(z_1 + iz_2)$. Since $g(\Delta) \subset \Delta$, one can hope that $\phi(B) \subset B$. Further, the curve $\phi(C)$ has second order tangency at e to C.

THEOREM 2. $\Phi(\overline{B}) \subset \overline{B}$, Φ is a homeomorphism of B onto $\Phi(\overline{B})$, and C_{Φ} is unbounded on H^2 .

PROOF. Since ϕ and ψ both map \overline{B} into \overline{B} , we have $\Phi(\overline{B}) \subset \overline{B}$. Also $\operatorname{Re} \phi_1(f) > 0$ for $z \in \overline{B}$ and ψ is one-to-one on $B \cap \{z : \operatorname{Re} z_1 > 0\}$. Hence Lemmas 3 and 4 show that Φ is a homeomorphism. It remains to show that C_{Φ} is unbounded. Now

$$\Phi_1(z) = rac{1}{2} \left[1 + rac{1}{25^2} ((18 + 9z_1 - 2z_1^2 + 2z_2^2)^2 + (9z_2 - 4z_1z_2)^2)
ight],$$

and a computation shows that

$$1 - \Phi_1(z) = \frac{1}{1250} [144(1 - z_1)^2 + (1 - z_1^2 - z_2^2)(157 - 36z_1 + 4z_1^2 + 4z_2^2)].$$

Thus,

(1)
$$|1-\Phi_1(z)| \leq \frac{1}{6}(|1-z_1|^2+|1-z_1^2-z_2^2|)$$
 for $z \in \overline{B}$.

We will show that $\lim_{t>0} (\sigma(\Phi^*)^{-1}(S(e,t))/t^2) = \infty$ so that $\sigma(\Phi^*)^{-1}$ is not a Carleson measure.

Consider the parametrization of ∂B given by $(z_1, z_2) = (\sqrt{1 - \rho}e^{i\theta_1}, \sqrt{\rho}e^{i\theta_2});$ $0 \le \rho \le 1, -\pi < \theta_1, \theta_2 \le \pi$. It is easy to check that $d\sigma = d\rho d\theta_1 d\theta_2$. For 0 < t < 1, let

$$B_t = \{(\sqrt{1-\rho}e^{i\theta_1}, \sqrt{\rho}e^{i\theta_2}) \colon 0 < \theta_1 < t, \ 0 < \theta_2 < \pi, \rho < \min\{\sqrt{t}, (t/\theta_2)\}.$$

The following estimates show that $B_t \subset (\Phi^*)^{-1}(S(e,t))$. Suppose that $z \in B_t$. Then

(2)
$$|1-z_1|^2 = 1 + |z_1|^2 - 2|z_1|\cos\theta_1 \le (1-|z_1|)^2 + \theta_1^2$$
$$= (1 - \sqrt{1-\rho})^2 + \theta_1^2 < \rho^2 + \theta_1^2 < t + t^2 < 2t.$$

Also

(3) $|1 - z_1^2 - z_2^2| = |1 - (1 - \rho)e^{2i\theta_1} - \rho e^{2i\theta_2}| \le \rho |1 - e^{2i\theta_2}| + (1 - \rho)|1 - e^{2i\theta_1}|$ $< 2\rho\theta_2 + 2\theta_1 < 2t + 2t = 4t.$

Thus from (1), (2), and (3), $|1 - \Phi_1(z)| < \frac{1}{6}(2t + 4t) = t$. Finally,

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(B_t) &= \int_0^t d\theta_1 \left[\int_0^{\sqrt{t}} d\theta_2 \int_0^{\sqrt{t}} d\rho + \int_{\sqrt{t}}^{\pi} d\theta_2 \int_0^{t/\theta_2} d\rho \right] = t^2 + t \int_{\sqrt{t}}^{\pi} \frac{t}{\theta_2} d\theta_2 \\ &= t^2 + t^2 \ln \pi + t^2 \ln \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}} \ge \frac{t^2}{2} \ln \frac{1}{t}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus $\sigma(\Phi^*)^{-1}$ is not a Carleson measure.

 Φ is the simplest one-to-one map we have been able to construct which induces an unbounded composition operator. However, motivated by inequalities (2) and (3), we can construct a simple (quadratic) mapping Λ of B into B which is two-to-one on \overline{B} and so that C_{Λ} is unbounded.

EXAMPLE 3. Consider $\Lambda(z) = \frac{1}{9}(5+5z_1-z_1^2+\frac{3}{2}z_2^2,z_2^2)$. Just as in Lemma 2, one can show that

$$|5+5z_1-z_1^2| \le 5+5r-r^2 \quad ext{if } |z_1|=r<1.$$

Thus if $z \in \partial B$ and $|z_1| = r$, we have

$$egin{aligned} |\Lambda(z)|^2 &\leq |\Lambda_1(z)| + |\Lambda_2(z)|^2 \leq rac{1}{9} \left(|5+5z_1-z_1^2|+rac{3}{2}|z_2|^2
ight) + rac{1}{81} (1-r^2)^2 \ &\leq rac{1}{9} [5+5r-r^2+rac{3}{2} (1-r^2)+rac{1}{9} (1+r)^2 (1-r)^2] \ &\leq rac{1}{9} \left[9 - rac{5}{2} (1-r)^2 + rac{4}{9} (1-r)^2
ight] \leq 1, \end{aligned}$$

with equality only if $z_1 = r = 1$. Thus $\Lambda(\overline{B} - \{e\}) \subset B$. It is elementary to check that $\Lambda(z) = \Lambda(w)$ if ond only if $z_2^2 = w_2^2$, so that Λ is two-to-one on \overline{B} .

$$egin{aligned} 1-\Lambda_1(z) &= 1-rac{1}{9}\left(5+5z_1-z_1^2+rac{3}{2}z_2^2
ight) \ &= rac{1}{18}[5(1-z_1)^2+3(1-z_1^2-z_2^2)], \end{aligned}$$

so the same argument as in the end of the proof of Theorem 2 shows that $\sigma(\Lambda^*)^{-1}$ is not a Carleson measure. We close with the following example.

EXAMPLE 4. Let $\phi(z) = \frac{1}{2}(1+z_1, z_2)$ and let ψ be as in Example 1. Set $\Phi = \psi \circ \phi$. Then just as for the map of Theorem 2, we have that Φ is a homeomorphism of \overline{B} onto $\Phi(\overline{B})$, $\Phi(e) = e$, and $\Phi(\overline{B} - \{e\}) \subset B$. Also the derivative of Φ^{-1} is unbounded near e. We claim that C_{Φ} is bounded, even though the MacCluer-Shapiro Theorem [4, Theorem 6.4] does not apply. The proof is somewhat tedious, and we only give an outline. We must show that there is a C > 0 so that if $\zeta \in \partial B$ and t > 0, then $\sigma(\Phi^*)^{-1}(S(\zeta, t)) \leq Ct^2$. Since on the complement of a neighborhood of e, $|\Phi^*|$ is strictly less than 1, we need only consider ζ near 1. Then if $z \in Q(\zeta, t)$ and t is small, we will also have z near e. If $|1 - \langle \Phi(z), \zeta \rangle| < t$, then

(4)
$$\frac{|\varsigma_1|}{8} \left| \frac{8}{\varsigma_1} - 4 - (1+z_1)^2 - z_2^2 \right| - \frac{|\varsigma_2| |z_2|}{16} |4 - (1+z_1)^2 - z_2^2| < t.$$

But

(5)
$$\begin{aligned} |4 - (1 + z_1)^2 - z_2^2| &\leq |1 - z_1| \, |3 + z_1| + (1 - |z_1|^2) \\ &\leq 4|1 - z_1| + 2|1 - z_1| = 6|1 - z_1|. \end{aligned}$$

Let $\lambda = 2\sqrt{2/\varsigma_1 - 1} - 1$. Then $|\lambda| > 1$ and λ is near 1. (6) $|8/\varsigma_1 - 4 - (1+z_1)^2 - z_2^2| \ge |\lambda - z_1| |\lambda + 2 + z_1| - |z_2|^2$

$$\geq 3|\lambda-z_1|-2(1-|z_1|)\geq |\lambda-$$

From (4), (5), and (6) we have

(7)
$$\frac{|\varsigma_1|}{8}|\lambda - z_1| - \frac{\sqrt{1 - |\varsigma_1|^2}\sqrt{1 - |z_1|^2}}{16}6|1 - z_1| < t.$$

Some computation shows that

$$\sqrt{1-|\varsigma_1|^2}\sqrt{1-|z_1|^2} \le 2\left(2\sqrt{2-|\varsigma_1|}-1-|z_1|\right) \le 2|\lambda-z_1|.$$

 z_1 .

Hence if ς and z are sufficiently near e that $|\varsigma_1|/8 > \frac{1}{10}$ and $|1 - z_1| < \frac{1}{20}$, then from (7),

$$rac{1}{20}|\lambda-z_1|-rac{1}{20}|\lambda-z_1| < t.$$

Thus $z \in Q((\lambda/|\lambda|, 0), 20t)$. We can take C = 400.

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