

# **Backward iteration in the unit ball**

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## One-dimensional case

### Forward iteration

Let  $f$  be analytic self-map of  $\mathbb{D} = \{z : |z| < 1\}$

n-th iterate of  $f$   $f_n = \underbrace{f \circ \dots \circ f}_{n \text{ times}}$

By **Schwarz's lemma**,  $f$  is a contraction in the pseudo-hyperbolic metric

$$d(z, w) = \left| \frac{z - w}{1 - \bar{w}z} \right|$$

### **Theorem (Denjoy-Wolff)**

If a self-map of the disk  $f$  is not an elliptic automorphism, then there exist a unique point  $p \in \bar{\mathbb{D}}$  such that the sequence  $f_n(z)$  converges uniformly on compact subsets to  $p$ .

if  $p \in \mathbb{D}$ , then  $f(p) = p$  and  $|f'(p)| < 1$

if  $p \in \partial\mathbb{D}$ , then  $f(p) = p$  and  $0 < f'(p) \leq 1$  in the sense of non-tangential limits

The point  $p$  is called the **Denjoy-Wolff point** of  $f$ .

Cases:

1.  $p \in \mathbb{D}$   $f$  is called elliptic

2.  $p \in \partial\mathbb{D}$ ,  $f'(p) < 1$  hyperbolic

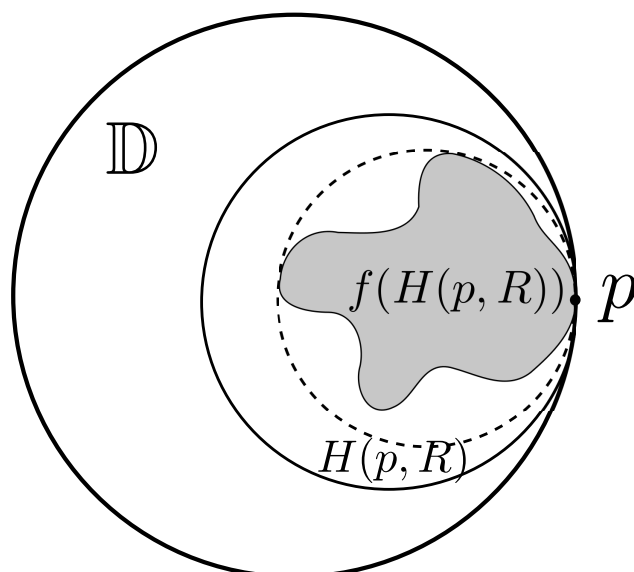
3.  $p \in \partial\mathbb{D}$ ,  $f'(p) = 1$  parabolic

If  $p \in \partial\mathbb{D}$ , **Julia's lemma** holds for the point  $p$ , and multiplier  $c = f'(p) \leq 1$ :

$$\forall R > 0 \quad f(H(p, R)) \subseteq H(p, cR),$$

where  $H(p, R)$  is a horocycle at  $p \in \partial\mathbb{D}$  of radius  $R$  :

$$H(p, R) := \left\{ z \in \mathbb{D} : \frac{|p - z|^2}{1 - |z|^2} < R \right\}$$



## Backward iteration

Backward-iteration sequence:

$$\{z_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}, f(z_{n+1}) = z_n \text{ for } n = 0, 1, 2 \dots$$

The sequence  $d(z_n, z_{n+1})$  is increasing, so we need a bound on the pseudo-hyperbolic step:

$$d(z_n, z_{n+1}) \leq a < 1$$

### Theorem (Poggi-Corradini, 2003)

Let  $\{z_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  be a backward-iteration sequence for analytic self-map of the disk  $f$  with bounded pseudo-hyperbolic step  $d(z_n, z_{n+1}) \leq a < 1$ . Then:

1.  $z_n \rightarrow q \in \partial\mathbb{D}$ , and  $q$  is a fixed point with a well-defined multiplier  $f'(q) < \infty$
2. If  $q \neq p$ , then  $q$  is a **boundary repelling fixed point** (BRFP) (i.e.  $f'(q) > 1$ ). If  $q = p$ ,  $f$  is of parabolic type.
3. When  $q$  is BRFP, the convergence  $z_n \rightarrow q$  is non-tangential.
4. If  $q = p$ , then  $w_n \rightarrow q$  tangentially.

## Multi-dimensional case

$$\mathbb{C}^N, \text{ inner product } (Z, W) = \sum_{j=1}^N Z_j \overline{W_j}$$

$$\|Z\|^2 = (Z, Z)$$

$$\text{Unit ball } \mathbb{B}^N = \{Z \in \mathbb{C}^N : \|Z\| < 1\}$$

**Julia's lemma** in  $\mathbb{B}^N$ :

Let  $f$  be a holomorphic self-map of  $\mathbb{B}^N$  and  $X \in \partial\mathbb{B}^N$  such that

$$\liminf_{Z \rightarrow X} \frac{1 - \|f(Z)\|}{1 - \|Z\|} = \alpha < \infty$$

Then there exists a unique  $Y \in \partial\mathbb{B}^N$  such that  $\forall R > 0$   $f(H(X, R)) \subset H(Y, \alpha R)$ .

**Horosphere** of center  $X \in \partial\mathbb{B}^N$  and radius  $R > 0$ :

$$H(X, R) = \left\{ Z \in \mathbb{B}^N : \frac{|1 - (Z, X)|^2}{1 - \|Z\|^2} < R \right\}$$

Multi-dimensional version of Denjoy-Wolff theorem holds:

**Theorem (MacCluer, 1983)**

If  $f$  has no fixed points in  $\mathbb{B}^N$ , then  $f_n$  converges uniformly on compacta to  $p \in \partial\mathbb{B}^N$ , the number  $c := \liminf_{Z \rightarrow p} \frac{1 - \|f(Z)\|}{1 - \|Z\|} \in (0, 1]$  is a multiplier of  $f$  at  $p$ .

$f$  is called hyperbolic if  $c < 1$  and parabolic if  $c = 1$ .

**Siegel domain:**

$$\mathbb{H}^N = \{(z, w) \in \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}^{N-1} : \operatorname{Re} z > \|w\|^2\}$$

Cayley transform:  $\mathcal{C} : \mathbb{B}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{H}^N$

$$\mathcal{C}((z, w)) = \left( \frac{1 + z}{1 - z}, \frac{w}{1 - z} \right)$$

$$\mathcal{C}^{-1}((z, w)) = \left( \frac{z - 1}{z + 1}, \frac{2w}{z + 1} \right)$$

**Theorem 1.** Let  $f$  be a analytic self-map of  $\mathbb{B}^N$  of hyperbolic type (with Denjoy-Wolff point  $p \in \partial\mathbb{B}^N$ ),  $\{Z_n\}$  be a backward-iteration sequence with bounded pseudo-hyperbolic step  $d_{\mathbb{B}^N}(Z_n, Z_{n+1}) \leq a < 1$ . Then:

1. There exists a point  $\partial\mathbb{B}^N \ni \tau \neq p$  such that  $Z_n \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} \tau$
2.  $\{Z_n\}$  stays in a Koranyi region
3. Julia's lemma holds for  $\tau$  with multiplier  $\alpha \geq \frac{1}{c}$ , where  $c$  is the multiplier at  $p$ .

Since  $\alpha \geq \frac{1}{c} > 1$ , the point  $q \in \partial\mathbb{B}^N$  is called the **boundary repelling fixed point (BRFP)** for  $f$ .

**Characterization** of BRFP in terms of backward-iteration sequences: Every backward-iteration sequence with bounded hyperbolic step converges to a BRFP; and if BRFP is isolated, then we can construct a backward-iteration sequence with bounded hyperbolic step that converges to it.

## Conjugations

**1-dimensional case, forward iteration** (Valiron, 1931):

$$\psi \circ f = \frac{1}{c}\psi,$$

where  $\psi : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{H}$  is an analytic map to a half-plane.

**1-dimensional case, backward iteration** (Poggi-Corradini, 2000): an analytic self-map of the unit disc  $\mathbb{D}$   $f$  with BRFP  $1 \in \partial\mathbb{D}$  and multiplier  $\alpha$  at 1 can be conjugated to the automorphism  $\eta(z) = (z - a)/(1 - az)$ , where  $a = (\alpha - 1)/(\alpha + 1)$ :

$$\psi \circ \eta(z) = f \circ \psi(z),$$

via an analytic map  $\psi$  of  $\mathbb{D}$  with  $\psi(\mathbb{D}) \subseteq \mathbb{D}$ , which has non-tangential limit 1 at 1.

**N-dimensional case, forward iteration** (Bracci, Gentili, Poggi-Corradini): conjugation to a multiplication via  $\psi : \mathbb{B}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{H}$ .

(Bracci, Gentili, 2005):  $f$  is conjugated to its linear part, assuming some regularity at the Denjoy-Wolff point.



**Theorem 2.** Suppose  $f : \mathbb{H}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{H}^N$  is an analytic function of hyperbolic type and 0 is an isolated boundary repelling fixed point for  $f$  with multiplier  $1 < \alpha < \infty$ . Then  $f$  is conjugated to the automorphism  $\eta(z, w) = (\alpha z, \sqrt{\alpha} w)$

$$\psi \circ \eta(Z) = f \circ \psi(Z),$$

via an analytic intertwining map  $\psi$ .

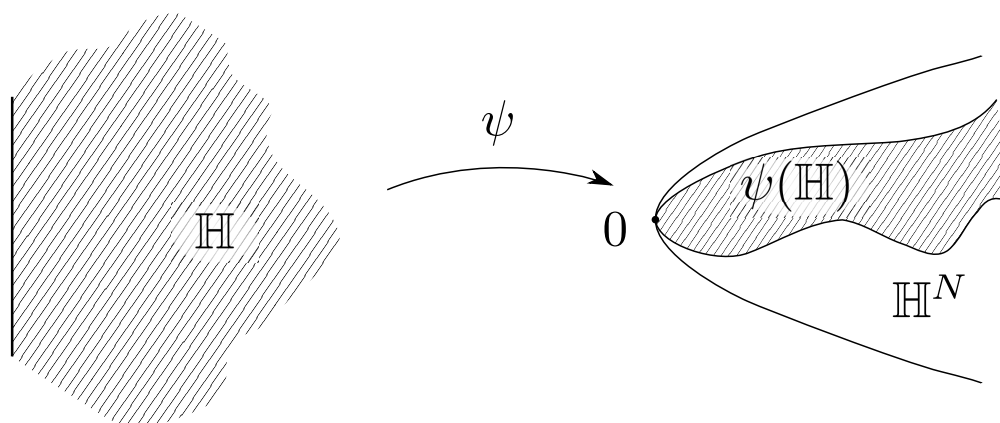
**Construction** of  $\psi$ :

$$\psi = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \{f_n \circ \tau_n \circ p_1\}$$

where  $p_1(z, w) := (z, 0)$  is the projection on the first (radial) dimension, so

$$\psi(z, w) = \psi(z, 0)$$

and is essentially one-dimensional map.



## Conjugation for expandable maps

Definition: An analytic map  $f : \mathbb{H}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{H}^N$  is called **expandable** at 0 if

$$f(z, w) = (\alpha z + o(|z|), Aw + o(|z|^{1/2})).$$

In particular, 0 is a fixed point of  $f$  and  $\alpha$  is the multiplier of  $f$  at 0.

**Theorem 3.** Let  $f$  be expandable at 0, of hyperbolic type, and let the matrix  $A$  be diagonal, and WLOG

$$|a_{j,j}| = \sqrt{\alpha} \text{ for } j = 1 \dots L$$

$$|a_{j,j}| < \sqrt{\alpha} \text{ for } j = L + 1 \dots N - 1.$$

Then  $f$  is conjugated to the automorphism  $\eta(z, w) = (\alpha z, \Omega \sqrt{\alpha} w)$  ( $\Omega$  is a rotation):

$$\psi \circ \eta(Z) = f \circ \psi(Z),$$

via an analytic intertwining map

$\psi(z, w) = \psi(p_L(z, w))$ , where  $p_L$  is a projection on the first  $L + 1$  dimensions.

## Open questions

1. "Best possible" intertwining map
2. Number of BRFP
3. Uniqueness of the intertwining map
4. Parabolic and "elliptic" cases