4.6 Schwarz's Lemma

Proof. Let f be as in the statement of the theorem. Set b = f(a) and consider the function

$$F = \phi_b \circ f \circ \phi_{-a}$$

defined on the unit disc $B_1(0)$; see Figure 4.19. Then F maps $B_1(0)$ to $\overline{B_1(0)}$ and we have

$$F(0) = \phi_b \circ f \circ \phi_{-a}(0) = \phi_b(f(a)) = 0,$$

and moreover $|F(z)| \le 1$ for all |z| < 1. It follows from Lemma 4.6.1 that

$$|F(w)| = |\phi_b \circ f \circ \phi_{-a}(w)| \le |w|,$$

so letting $\phi_{-a}(w) = z$ and $\phi_a(z) = w$, we get $|\phi_b \circ f(z)| \le |\phi_a(z)|$ for $z \in B_1(0)$. Using the definition of ϕ_b we deduce (4.6.5).

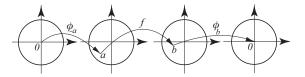


Fig. 4.19 The function $F = \phi_b \circ f \circ \phi_{-a}$.

Now consider $F'(0) = (\phi_b \circ f \circ \phi_{-a})'(0)$. Applying the chain rule, we write

$$F'(0) = \phi'_b(f(\phi_{-a}(0))f'(\phi_{-a}(0))\phi'_{-a}(0)).$$

Since $\phi'_{-a}(0) = 1 - |a|^2$ and $\phi_{-a}(0) = a$ we obtain

$$(\phi_b \circ f \circ \phi_{-a})'(0) = \frac{1 - |b|^2}{(1 - |b|^2)^2} f'(a)(1 - |a|^2) = f'(a) \frac{1 - |a|^2}{1 - |b|^2}.$$

By Lemma 4.6.1 this number should have modulus at most 1, thus we obtain (4.6.6).

Suppose now that equality holds in (4.6.5) for some $z \neq a$ or that equality holds in (4.6.6). Then by Lemma 4.6.1 we must have $\phi_b \circ f \circ \phi_{-a}(z) = cz$ for |c| = 1, so then $f \circ \phi_{-a}(z) = \phi_{-b}(cz)$ and leting $\phi_{-a}(z) = w$, we see that $f(w) = \phi_{-b}(c\phi_a(w))$. Using Proposition 4.6.2 we write

$$f(w) = \phi_{-b}(c\phi_a(w)) = c\phi_{-b\overline{c}}(\phi_a(w)) = c\frac{1-b\overline{a}\overline{c}}{1-\overline{b}ac}\phi_{\frac{a-b\overline{c}}{1-b\overline{a}\overline{c}}}(z) = d\phi_q(z),$$

with

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$$d = c \frac{1 - b \overline{a} \overline{c}}{1 - \overline{b} a c}, \qquad q = -\phi_a(b \overline{c}), \quad \text{(note } |d| = 1, |q| < 1),$$

thus f must be a Möbius transformation times a unimodular constant.

Example 4.6.4. Let f be an analytic map from the unit disc to itself. (a) If f fixes a point a in the unit disc, i.e., f(a) = a, show that $|f'(a)| \le 1$. (b) Show that $|f(0)|^2 + |f'(0)| \le 1$.