

## On the Minimum of Some Subharmonic Function

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1. Let  $u(z)$  be a subharmonic function on the compact domain in  $z$ -plane. Then it is well-known that  $u(z)$  attains its maximum on the boundary of  $D$ . But the problem where is the minimum occurs in certain circumstances.

Now let  $U$  denote a closed disc and  $P_i \notin U$ , ( $i=1, \dots, n$ ) and  $P \in U$  be  $n$  fixed points and a moving point, respectively. We consider the following function

$$(1) \quad f_n(P) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\overline{PP}_i^k} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{|z - z_i|^k}, \quad (k > 0)$$

where  $\overline{PP}_i$  denotes the distance between  $P$  and  $P_i$  and  $z$  and  $z_i$  represent complex numbers corresponding to  $P$  and  $P_i$ . Since each term of (1) is a absolute value of the regular function, it is obvious that  $f_n(P)$  is subharmonic in  $U$ . The former author gave some results about the minimum of (1) in the case that  $k=2$  and  $n$  points are located in the special situations ([1]). Here we treat such similar problem in the case of  $k=3$ .

2. Let  $D_{0,0}$  be a closed unit disc bounded by the unit circle  $C_{0,0}$ . Next we describe the six circles  $C_{1,j_1}$  ( $j_1=1, \dots, 6$ ) with equal radii 1 so that  $C_{1,j_1}$  ( $j_1=1, \dots, 6$ ) are tangent externally with each other around  $C_{0,0}$  and hence the segments, which join the centers of  $C_{1,j_1}$  successively, constitute a regular hexagon  $R_1$ , where the center of  $C_{1,1}$  has the coordinates  $(2,0)$  with respect to rectangular coordinate system. Further we describe the twelve circles  $C_{2,j_2}$  ( $j_2=1, 2, \dots, 12$ ) with equal radii 1 so that  $C_{2,j_2}$  ( $j_2=1, 2, \dots, 12$ ) are tangent externally with each other around  $C_{1,j_1}$  and hence the segments, which join the centers of  $C_{2,j_2}$  successively, constitute a regular hexagon  $R_2$ , where the center of  $C_{2,1}$  has the coordinates  $(4,0)$ . We continue such procedure by turns. Generally, we describe the  $6n$  circles  $C_{n,j_n}$  ( $j_n=1, 2, \dots, 6n$ ) with equal radii 1 so that  $C_{n,j_n}$  ( $j_n=1, 2, \dots, 6n$ ) are tangent externally with each other around  $C_{n-1,j_{n-1}}$  and hence the segments, which join the centers of  $C_{n,j_n}$  successively, constitute a regular hexagon  $R_n$ , where the center of  $C_{n,1}$  has the coordinates  $(2n, 0)$ . We call the first index  $i$  and the second  $j_i$  of  $C_{i,j_i}$   $i$ -th rank and  $j_i$ -th emission, respectively. It

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is obvious that the total number of circles  $C_{0,0}$  and  $C_{i,j_i}$  ( $i=1,2, \dots, n; j_i=1,2, \dots, 6i$ ) is equal to  $3n(n+1)+1$ .

Let us denote the center of  $C_{i,j_i}$  by  $z_{i,j_i}$ . Let  $P$  be a moving point in  $D_{0,0}$ , which has the coordinates  $(x, y)$ ,  $z=x+iy$ . We consider the following subharmonic function

$$(2) \quad f_{n,j_n}(z) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j_i=1}^{6i} \frac{1}{|z-z_{i,j_i}|^3}, \quad \forall z \in D_{0,0}.$$

The purpose of this paper is to determine the point at which  $f_{n,j_n}$  attains its minimum in  $D_{0,0}$ . This problem occurred in the investigation whether there exist or not Kleinian groups whose singular sets have positive  $\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)$ -dimensional measure ([2]). It seems very easy to solve this problem, but the calculation is very difficult and complicated.

3. Now we shall give the main theorem.

Theorem A.  $f_{n,j_n}(z)$  attains its minimum at the origin.

For the proof we prepare the following theorem as lemma.

Theorem B. Let  $P_1=P(2, \pi)$ ,  $P_2=P(2, \frac{\pi}{3})$  and  $P_3=P(2, -\frac{\pi}{3})$  be fixed points in the complex  $z$ -plane, and  $P=P(r, \theta)$  moves in the fixed closed unit disc  $U: |z| \leq 1$ , where  $(r, \theta)$  denote the polar coordinates. Then the function

$$f_3(P) = \sum_{j=1}^3 \frac{1}{|PP_j|^3} = \sum_{j=1}^3 \frac{1}{|z-z_j|^3}, \quad z_j = 2e^{\left(\frac{5-2j}{3}\right)\pi i},$$

( $j=1,2,3$ )

attains its minimum at the origin.

If Theorem B establishes, then Theorem A is easily proved from it. For the function  $f_{n,j_n}(z)$  is decomposed into pieces consisting of three terms, each of which corresponds to centers of three circles so that such centers are vertices of an equilateral triangle with centroid at the origin. We can apply Theorem B to each piece, since we can consider that the distances from the origin to the fixed points and the radius of  $U$  in Theorem B are relative.

Therefore if each piece attains its minimum at the origin, then it is easily seen that the sum of pieces attains also its minimum at the origin.

4. Now let us prove Theorem B. For this purpose we must prepare three lemmas. We transfer  $P_1$  to the origin  $O$  and consider the function

$$(3) \quad f_1^*(P) = f_3(P) - \overline{PP_1}^{-3} = \overline{PP_2}^{-3} + \overline{PP_3}^{-3}.$$

From the symmetry of the figure we may consider the behavior of  $f_1^*(P)$  in the upper half plane. Denote by  $C$  the center:  $(2, 0)$  of  $U$  and by  $H$  the point of contact at which the tangent  $OP_2$  intersect with the boundary circle of  $U$ . Hereafter we use polar coordinates only. Describe a circle with the radius  $OH$  and the center at  $O$  and denote the intersecting point with  $OC$  by  $R$ . Denote by  $A_1$  the closed domain bounded

by segments HC, RC and the circular arc  $\widehat{HR}$ . Extend the segment OC to the positive direction and denote the intersecting point of the extension with the boundary circle by Q. Further we denote the intersecting point of segment  $CP_2$  with the boundary circle of  $U$  by D. Then we obtain a closed domain  $A_2$  bounded by the sector CQD. Take a point P in  $A_1 \cup A_2$ . Fix  $r$  of the coordinates  $(r, \theta)$  of P and rotate the radius vector OP around the origin O until OP intersects the segment CH or  $CP_2$  and denote by  $\theta_0(r)$  the rotating angle.

Then we have the following

Lemma 1. Fix  $r$  in  $\sqrt{\frac{10}{3}} \leq r < 2\sqrt{3}$ . Then the function  $f_1^*(P)$  is a monotone increasing function of  $\theta$  in  $0 \leq \theta \leq \theta_0(r)$ .

*Proof.* It is easily seen that  $f_1^*(P)$  is represented in the form :

$$\begin{aligned} (4) \quad f_1^*(P) &= \left\{ r^2 + 12 - 4\sqrt{3} \cos\left(\theta - \frac{\pi}{6}\right) \right\}^{-\frac{3}{2}} \\ &\quad + \left\{ r^2 + 12 - 4\sqrt{3} \cos\left(\theta + \frac{\pi}{6}\right) \right\}^{-\frac{3}{2}} \\ &= (4\sqrt{3}r)^{-\frac{3}{2}} \left[ \left\{ \rho - \cos\left(\theta - \frac{\pi}{6}\right) \right\}^{-\frac{3}{2}} + \left\{ \rho - \cos\left(\theta + \frac{\pi}{6}\right) \right\}^{-\frac{3}{2}} \right], \end{aligned}$$

where  $\rho = \frac{r^2 + 12}{4\sqrt{3}r}$ , ( $\geq 1$ ). Here we note that  $1.3 > \rho > 1$  in the case of  $\sqrt{10/3} \leq r < 2\sqrt{3}$ .

Now we put  $f_1^*(P) = (4\sqrt{3}r)^{-\frac{3}{2}} g_1(\theta)$  and differentiate  $g_1(\theta)$  with respect to  $\theta$  for fixed  $r$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial g_1(\theta)}{\partial \theta} &= -\frac{3}{2} \left\{ \rho - \cos\left(\theta - \frac{\pi}{6}\right) \right\}^{-\frac{5}{2}} \sin\left(\theta - \frac{\pi}{6}\right) \\ &\quad - \frac{3}{2} \left\{ \rho - \cos\left(\theta + \frac{\pi}{6}\right) \right\}^{-\frac{5}{2}} \sin\left(\theta + \frac{\pi}{6}\right). \end{aligned}$$

If we put

$$(5) \quad \varphi(\theta) = \sin \theta (\rho - \cos \theta)^{-\frac{5}{2}},$$

we have

$$-\frac{2}{3} \left( \frac{\partial g_1(\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right) = \varphi\left(\theta - \frac{\pi}{6}\right) + \varphi\left(\theta + \frac{\pi}{6}\right).$$

We see easily that the condition  $f_1^{*'}(\theta) = (4\sqrt{3}r)^{-\frac{3}{2}} g_1'(\theta) \geq 0$  is equivalent to the condition

$$(6) \quad \varphi\left(\theta - \frac{\pi}{6}\right) + \varphi\left(\theta + \frac{\pi}{6}\right) \leq 0.$$

Hence in order to prove Lemma 1, it is enough to show that (6) establishes in  $0 \leq \theta \leq \theta_0(r)$ .

Now let us prove this fact by using the graph of (5). For this purpose it is sufficient to investigate the shape of the graph of (5) in the intervals

$$-\frac{\pi}{6} \leq \theta \leq -\frac{\pi}{6} + \theta_0(r) \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\pi}{6} \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{6} + \theta_0(r) .$$

But since the solutions of  $\varphi(\theta) = 0$  are  $\theta = n\pi$  and  $\varphi(\theta)$  is an odd function, finally it is sufficient to investigate  $\varphi(\theta)$  in the interval

$$(7) \quad \frac{\pi}{6} - \theta_0(r) \leq \theta \leq \theta_0(r) + \frac{\pi}{6} .$$

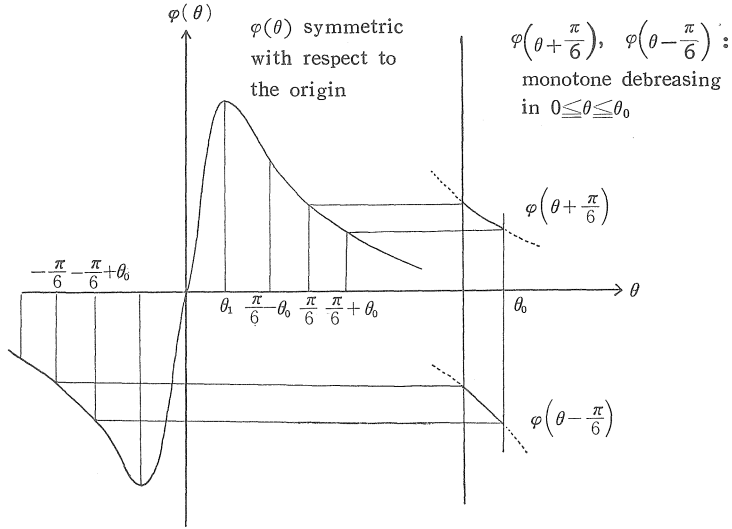


Fig. 1

5. At first we shall seek for the maximum of  $\varphi(\theta)$  in  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$ . Differentiating  $\varphi(\theta)$ , we obtain

$$\varphi'(\theta) = -\frac{3}{2}(\rho - \cos \theta)^{-\frac{7}{2}} \left( \cos \theta + \frac{\sqrt{\rho^2 + 15} + \rho}{3} \right) \left( \cos \theta - \frac{\sqrt{\rho^2 + 15} - \rho}{3} \right) .$$

Since  $\rho > 1$  from (4), it holds  $(\sqrt{\rho^2 + 15} + \rho)/3 > 5/3 > 1$  and  $1 > (\sqrt{\rho^2 + 15} - \rho)/3 > 0$ . Hence  $\varphi(\theta)$ , ( $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$ ) attains the maximum at

$$(8) \quad \theta_1 = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{\sqrt{\rho^2 + 15} - \rho}{3} \right) .$$

If it holds that

$$(9) \quad \theta_1 \leq \frac{\pi}{6} - \theta_0(r) ,$$

then  $\varphi(\theta)$  is monotone decreasing in the interval (7) and hence (6) establishes, where  $\varphi(-\frac{\pi}{6}) + \varphi(\frac{\pi}{6}) = 0$ . Then  $f_1^{*'}(\theta) \geq 0$  is proved and our claim is completed.

Now since  $0 < \theta_1$  and  $\frac{\pi}{6} - \theta_0(r) < \frac{\pi}{2}$ , (9) is equivalent to

$$(10) \quad \cos \theta_1 \geq \cos \left( \frac{\pi}{6} - \theta_0(r) \right).$$

We can find the value of  $\cos \left( \frac{\pi}{6} - \theta_0(r) \right)$  in the following two cases (a) and (b) (Figure 2).

(a) The case of  $\frac{10}{3} \leq r < 2$ .

From the figure it is easily seen that

$$(11) \quad \cos \left( \frac{\pi}{6} - \theta_0(r) \right) = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{r}.$$

(b) The case of  $2 \leq r < 2\sqrt{3}$ .

From the figure we get the following simultaneous equations :

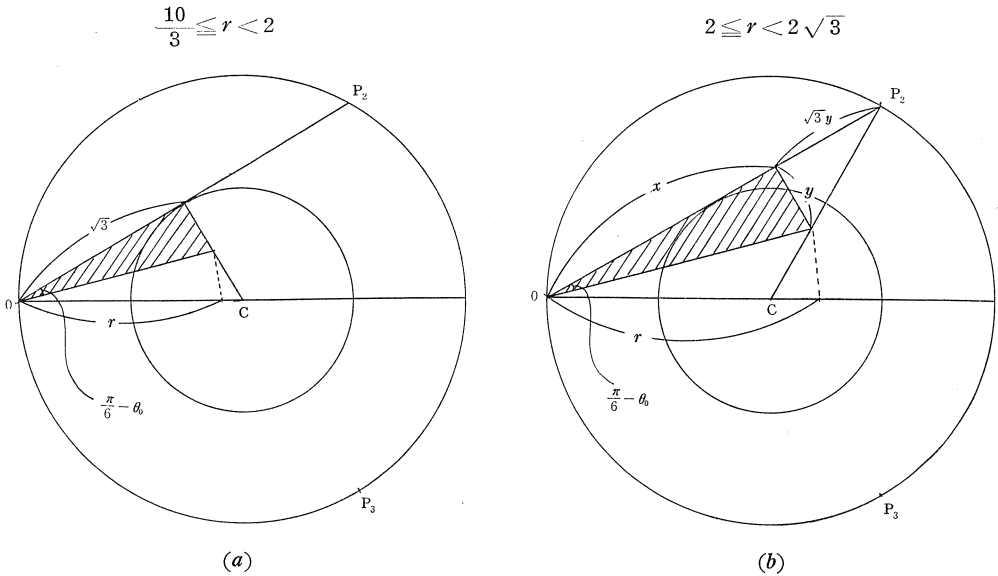


Fig. 2

$$(12) \quad \begin{cases} x + \sqrt{3}y = 2\sqrt{3} \\ x^2 + y^2 = r^2 \end{cases}$$

Solving (12) and considering the relation  $\cos \left( \frac{\pi}{6} - \theta_0 \right) = \frac{x}{r}$ , we obtain

$$(13) \quad \cos \left( \frac{\pi}{6} - \theta_0(r) \right) = \frac{\sqrt{3}(1 + \sqrt{r^2 - 3})}{2r}.$$

We shall prove from (8), (10), (11) and (13) the following inequality

$$(14) \quad \frac{\sqrt{\rho^2+15}-\rho}{3} \geq \begin{cases} \frac{\sqrt{3}}{r}, & \text{for } \sqrt{\frac{10}{3}} \leq r < 2, \\ \frac{\sqrt{3}(1+\sqrt{r^2-3})}{2r}, & \text{for } 2 \leq r < 2\sqrt{3}, \end{cases}$$

where  $\rho = \frac{r^2+12}{4\sqrt{3}r}$ , ( $\geq 1$ ).

(i) The case of  $\sqrt{\frac{10}{3}} \leq r < 2$ .

It holds

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\sqrt{\rho^2+15}-\rho}{3} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{r} &= \frac{1}{3r} \{ r\sqrt{\rho^2+15} - (r\rho + 3\sqrt{3}) \} \\ &= \frac{54(r^2 - \frac{10}{3})}{\sqrt{3}r \{ \sqrt{(r^2+12)^2+48 \times 15r^2} + (r^2+48) \}} \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

(ii) The case of  $2 \leq r < 2\sqrt{3}$ .

We obtain from (14)

$$\begin{aligned} (15) \quad & \frac{\sqrt{\rho^2+15}-\rho}{3} - \frac{\sqrt{3}(1+\sqrt{r^2-3})}{2r} \\ &= \frac{1}{12\sqrt{3}r} \{ \sqrt{(r^2+12)+48 \times 15r^2} - (r^2+30+18\sqrt{r^2-3}) \} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{3} \{ (10r^2+6) - (r^2+30)\sqrt{r^2-3} \}}{r \{ \sqrt{(r^2+12)^2+48 \times 15r^2} + (r^2+30+\sqrt{r^2-3}) \}}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $\sqrt{r^2-3}$  is replaced by  $t$  in (15), then the right hand side of (15) is modified into the following :

$$(16) \quad \frac{-\sqrt{3}(t-3)^2(t-4)}{r \{ \sqrt{(r^2+12)^2+48 \times 15r^2} + (r^2+30+\sqrt{r^2-3}) \}}.$$

Since  $2 \leq r < 2\sqrt{3}$  corresponds to  $1 \leq t < 3$  from  $t = \sqrt{r^2-3}$ , (16) and hence the left hand side of (15) is positive. Thus we can prove the inequalities in (14) from the above and the proof of Lemma 1 is complete. *q.e.d.*

6. Next we must prove the following

Lemma 2. *If P moves on the interval [0, 3], the function*

$$(17) \quad f_3(P) = \overline{OP}^{-3} + \overline{P_2P}^{-3} + \overline{P_3P}^{-3} = r^{-3} + 2 \{ 3 + (3-r)^2 \}^{-\frac{3}{2}}$$

*does not attain its minimum on [2.557, 3], (Fig. 3).*

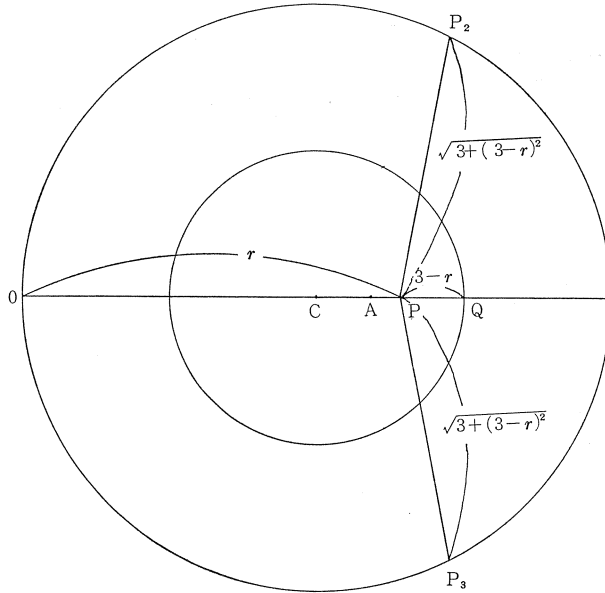


Fig. 3

*Proof.* If we differentiate  $f_3(P)$  with respect to  $r$ , we have

$$(18) \quad f_3'(r) = \frac{3 \{ 2r^4(3-r) - (\sqrt{3+(3-r)^2})^5 \}}{r^4(\sqrt{3+(3-r)^2})^5}.$$

Further we differentiate  $f_3'(r)$  with respect to  $r$ , so we obtain

$$(19) \quad \frac{1}{3} f_3''(r) = \frac{2 [ 2 \{ 3 + (3-r)^2 \} \{ \sqrt{3+(3-r)^2} \}^5 + r^5 \{ 4(3-r)^2 - 3 \} ]}{r^5 (\sqrt{3+(3-r)^2})^7}$$

If  $f(r)$  attains its minimum at  $r$ , then it hold

$$f_3'(r) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad f_3''(r) \geq 0.$$

Hence we have from (18) and (19)

$$(20) \quad (\sqrt{3+(3-r)^2})^5 = 2r^4(3-r)$$

and

$$(21) \quad 2 \{ 3 + (3-r)^2 \} \{ \sqrt{3+(3-r)^2} \}^5 + r^5 \{ 4(3-r)^2 - 3 \} \geq 0.$$

Substituting (20) into (21) and dividing by  $r^4$ , we obtain

$$4(3-r)^2 + 5(3-r) - 3 \geq 0.$$

Therefore we have

$$r \leq \frac{29 - \sqrt{73}}{8} < \frac{20.456}{8} = 2.557,$$

since  $r \geq \frac{29 + \sqrt{73}}{8}$  is not satisfied by the assumption.

*q.e.d.*

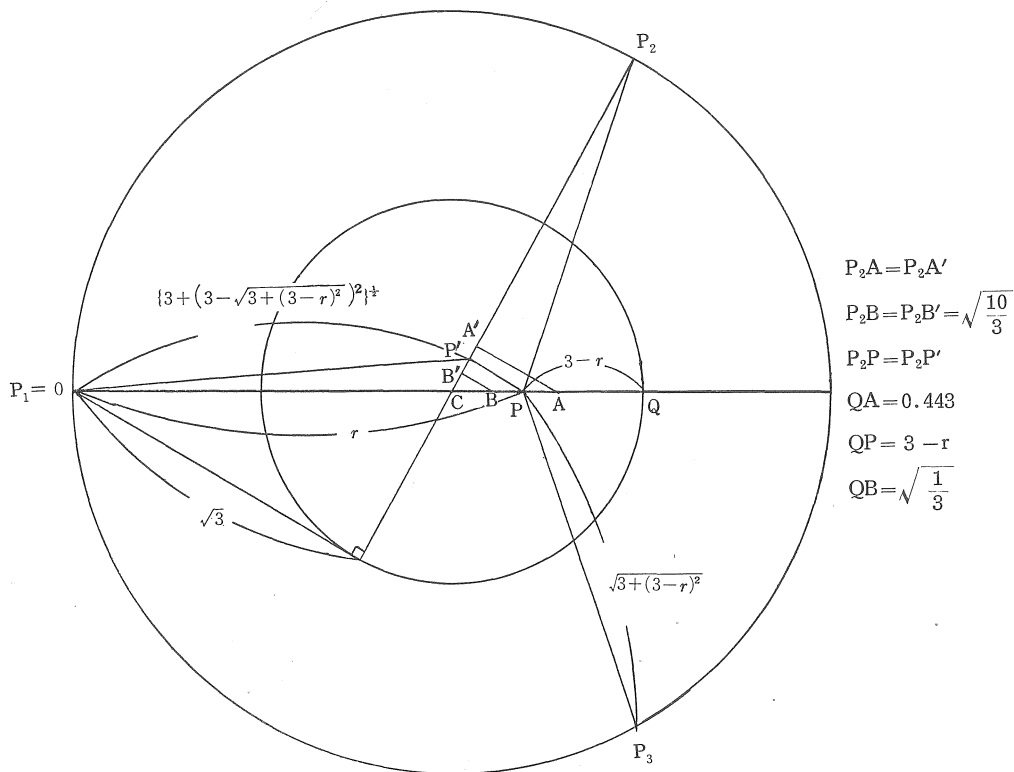


Fig. 4

Take any point  $P$  on the closed interval  $[O, Q]$  with distance  $r$  from the origin  $P_1=O$ . It is easily seen that  $\overline{PP_2} = \overline{PP_3} = \sqrt{3 + (3 - r)^2}$ , (Fig. 4). Describe a circle with radius  $PP_2$  and the center at  $P_2$  and denote by  $P'$  the intersecting point with  $CP_2$ . It is obvious that  $\overline{P'P_1} = \overline{P'P_3} = \sqrt{3 + \{3 - \sqrt{3 + (3 - r)^2}\}^2}$ . We consider the following quantity  $D(r) = f_3(P) - f_3(P') = (\overline{PP_1}^{-3} + \overline{PP_2}^{-3} + \overline{PP_3}^{-3}) - (\overline{P'P_1}^{-3} + \overline{P'P_2}^{-3} + \overline{P'P_3}^{-3}) = (\overline{PP_1}^{-3} + \overline{PP_2}^{-3}) - (\overline{P'P_1}^{-3} + \overline{P'P_3}^{-3}) = [r^{-3} + \{3 + (3 - r)^2\}^{-\frac{3}{2}}] - 2[3 + \{3 - \sqrt{3 + (3 - r)^2}\}^2]^{-\frac{3}{2}}$ . Then we have the following

Lemma 3.  $D(r)$  is positive on  $I^* = [3 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, 2.557]$  and it holds  $f_3(P) > f_3(P')$  on  $I^*$ .

*Proof.* It holds for  $3 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \leq r \leq 2.557$

$$(22) \quad \begin{cases} r^2 \leq 2.557^2 < \frac{19.62}{3} \\ 3 + (3 - r)^2 \leq 3 + \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2 = \frac{10}{3} \\ 3 + \{3 - \sqrt{3 + (3 - r)^2}\}^2 \geq 3 + \left(3 - \sqrt{\frac{10}{3}}\right)^2 > \frac{46 - 32.87}{3} = \frac{13.13}{3} \end{cases}$$



Therefore we have from (22)

$$\begin{aligned}
 & D(r) \times [3 + \{3 - \sqrt{3 + (3-r)^2}\}^2]^{\frac{3}{2}} \\
 &= \left[ \frac{3 + \{3 - \sqrt{3 + (3-r)^2}\}^2}{r^2} \right]^{\frac{3}{2}} + \left[ \frac{3 + \{3 - \sqrt{3 + (3-r)^2}\}^2}{3 + (3-r)^2} \right]^{\frac{3}{2}} - 2 \\
 &\cong \left( \frac{13.13}{19.62} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} + \left( \frac{13.13}{10} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} - 2 > (0.64)^{\frac{3}{2}} + 1.313\sqrt{1.313} - 2 \\
 &> 0.8^3 + 1.313 \times 1.145 - 2 = 0.015385 > 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

*q.e.d.*

7. Now let us prove Theorem B by using the above Lemmas.

*Proof of Theorem B.*

It is obvious that  $f_3(P)$  is symmetric with respect to lines  $P_iC$  ( $i = 1, 2, 3$ ), that is, the values  $f_3(P_i^*)$ , ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, 6$ ) in *Figure 5* are the same.

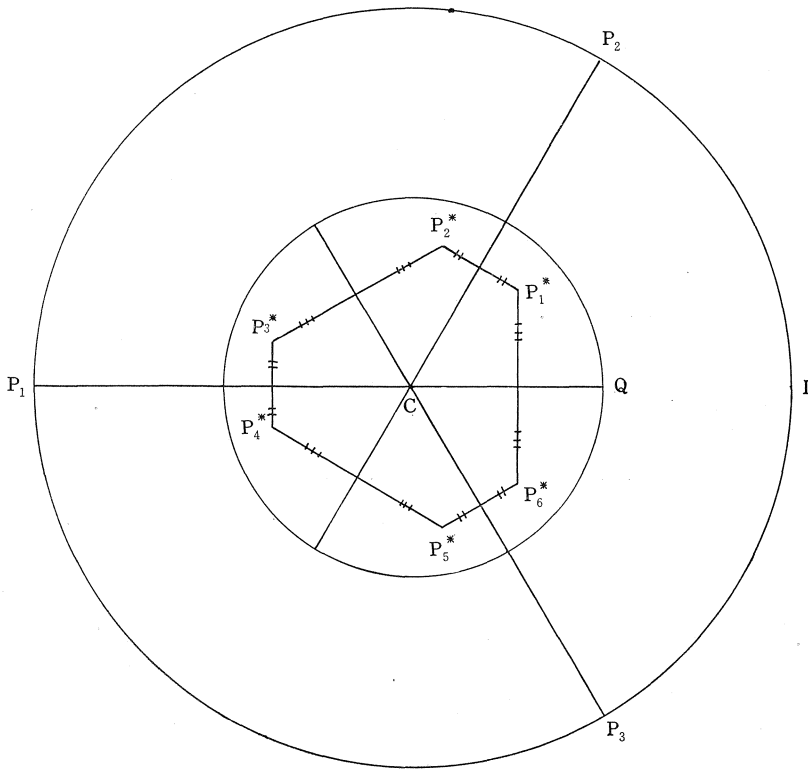
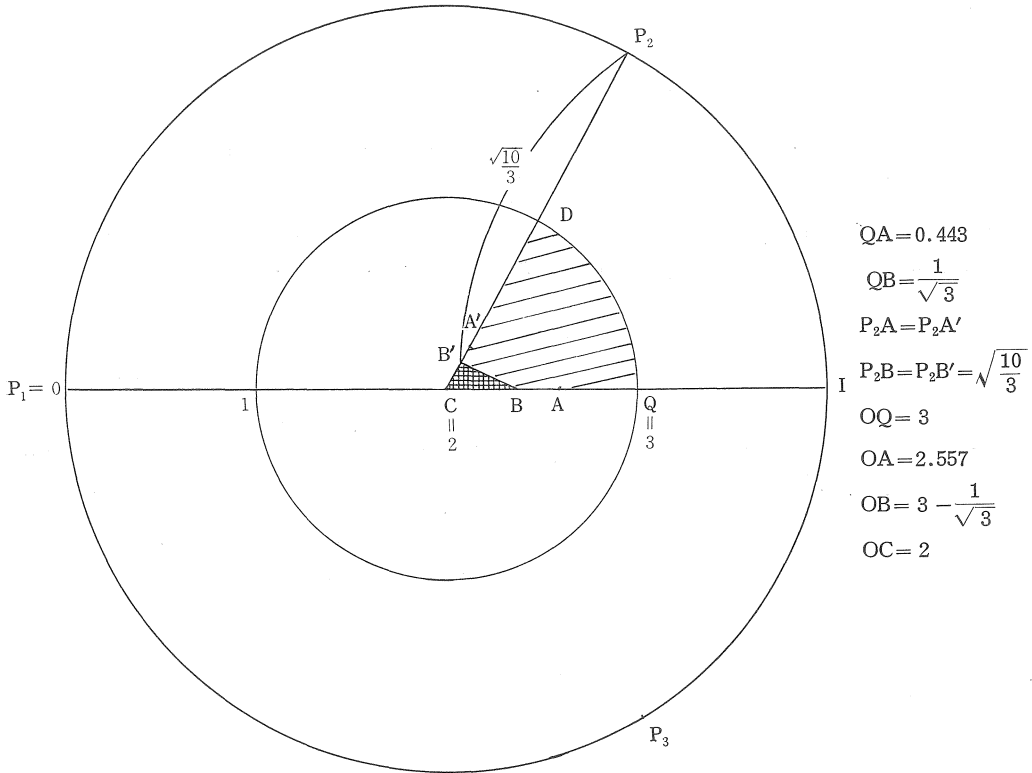


Fig. 5

Hence it is enough to investigate  $f_3(P)$  in the angular domain  $ICP_2$ . Let  $P_1$  be the origin  $O$  of polar coordinates and  $P_1C = OC$  be the basic line. (See Fig. 6)



- QA=0.443
- QB= $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$
- P<sub>2</sub>A=P<sub>2</sub>A'
- P<sub>2</sub>B=P<sub>2</sub>B'= $\sqrt{\frac{10}{3}}$
- OQ=3
- OA=2.557
- OB=3 -  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$
- OC=2

Fig. 6

Let the moving point  $P=re^{i\theta}$  restrict in the closed interval  $[2, 3]$ . Then the function

$$f_3(P) = f_1^*(P) + r^{-3}$$

is monotone increasing as the function of the variable  $\theta$  in  $0 \leq \theta \leq \theta_0(r)$  from Lemma 1. Hence there exists a point  $P_0$  only on the segment  $CQ$  at which  $f_3(P)$  attains its minimum in the angular domain  $QCD$ .  $P_0$  is restricted on the closed interval  $[C, A]$  from Lemma 2, where  $\overline{OA}=2.557$  and  $\overline{AQ}=0.443$ .

Take a point  $B$  on the closed interval  $[C, A]$  so that  $\overline{P_2B}=\sqrt{\frac{10}{3}}$ . Further we take any point  $P$  in  $[B, A]$  and describe a circle with radius  $P_2P$  and the center  $P_2$  and denote by  $P'$  the intersecting point with the segment  $CP_2$ . Then we have from Lemma 3  $D(r)=f_3(P)-f_3(P')>0$ , and hence  $P_0$  is not on the segment  $AB$ , but necessarily on the segment  $\overline{CB}$ .

Now it holds that  $\overline{P_2P} \geq \sqrt{\frac{10}{3}}$  for any point  $P \neq C$  on  $CB$ . Considering the point  $P_2$  as the origin and the line segment  $P_2C$  as the basic line and using Lemma 1 for  $2 > r \geq \sqrt{\frac{10}{3}}$  again, we obtain the result that  $f_3(P') < f_3(P)$  for the point  $P'$  on the line segment  $P_2C$  so that  $\overline{P_2P'}=\overline{P_2P}$ . Hence the point  $P_0$  in which  $f_3(P)$  attains its minimum is not  $P$ . On the other hand there exists such point  $P_0$ , since  $f_3(P)$  is continuous on the closed interval  $[C, B]$ . Thus  $P_0$  must coincide with  $C$ .

*q.e.d.*

*Remark.* (1) We can prove that Theorem B establishes in the case of the exponent  $\alpha$  ( $3 < \alpha < 4$ ) by the similar manner.

(2) Does the function  $f_{n,j_n}(z)$  converge absolutely and uniformly in  $D_{0,0}$ , as  $n$  tends to infinity? If it is true, then  $f(z) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_{n,j_n}(z)$  will be also subharmonic in  $D_{0,0}$  and attains its minimum at the origin

(3) When the points  $P_{n,j_n}$  are located at the vertices of the general normal polygon and the distances from  $P_{n,j_n}$  to the origin are more complicated, it is conjectured to obtain the interesting results.

### References

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## On the Number of Prime Factors of Integers

to Professor IKUZO YAMAMOTO on his 70th Birthday

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**1. Introduction.** Throughout the paper, the letters  $p, p_1, p_2, \dots$  will be reserved for prime numbers. Let  $\omega(n)$  be the number of distinct prime factors of a positive integer  $n$ , and let  $x$  be a positive real number. Let  $f_i(\xi)$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ) be polynomials in  $\xi$ , satisfying the following conditions :

- (c<sub>1</sub>) Each  $f_i(\xi)$ , ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ) has integral coefficients ;
- (c<sub>2</sub>) Each  $f_i(\xi)$ , ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ) is of positive degree ;
- (c<sub>3</sub>) Each  $f_i(\xi)$ , ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ) is positive for  $\xi \geq 1$  ;
- (c<sub>4</sub>)  $f_1(\xi), \dots, f_k(\xi)$  are relatively prime in pairs.

Let  $r_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ) be the number of the primitive and irreducible factors of  $f_i(\xi)$ . Let  $c_1, c_2, \dots$ , be positive absolute constants. We put  $g(x) = (\ln \ln x)^{1/4k} (\ln \ln \ln x)^{1/2k}$ . Let  $A\{\dots\}$  denote the number of positive integers with some conditions..... We put, for integers  $n \geq 3$  and for  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,

$$\frac{\omega\{f_i(n)\} - r_i \ln \ln n}{\sqrt{r_i \ln \ln n}} = u_i(n)$$

To each integer  $n \geq 3$ , there corresponds a point  $(u_1(n), \dots, u_k(n))$  in a  $k$ -dimensional space  $R^k$ . Let  $E$  be a Jordan-measurable set, bounded or unbounded, in  $R$ . Let  $A(x; E)$  denote the number of integers  $n$  ( $3 \leq n \leq x$ ), for which the points  $(u_1(n), \dots, u_k(n))$  belong to the set  $E$ . Tanaka obtained the following Theorem A :

**Theorem A.** 
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{A(x; E)}{x} = (2\pi)^{-k/2} \int_E \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^k u_i^2\right) du_1 \dots du_k.$$

The integral is the sense of Riemann. [ 3 ].

Similarly, by using the sieve method of A. Selberg [ 2 ], [ 1 ] and Tanaka's method [ 3 ], we shall prove the following main theorem :

**Main Theorem.** Let  $\alpha_i, \beta_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ) be any real numbers with  $\alpha_i < \beta_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ). We put

$$A(x) = A\left\{3 \leq n \leq x ; r_i \ln \ln n + \alpha_i \sqrt{r_i \ln \ln n} < \omega\{f_i(n)\} < r_i \ln \ln n + \beta_i \sqrt{r_i \ln \ln n}\right\},$$

( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ).

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