

MAPPINGS OF NONPOSITIVELY CURVED MANIFOLDS

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1. Introduction.

In recent papers with S. S. Chern [3] and T. Ishihara [4], the author studied both the volume—and distance—decreasing properties of harmonic mappings thereby obtaining real analogues and generalizations of the classical Schwarz-Ahlfors lemma, as well as Liouville's theorem and the little Picard theorem. The domain M in the first case was the open ball with the hyperbolic metric of constant negative curvature, and the target was a negatively curved Riemannian manifold with sectional curvature bounded away from zero. In this paper, it is shown that M may be taken to be any complete Riemannian manifold of non-positive curvature.

THEOREM 1. *Let $f: M \rightarrow N$ be a harmonic K -quasiconformal mapping of Riemannian manifolds of dimensions m and n , respectively. If M is complete, and (a) the sectional curvatures of M are nonpositive and bounded below by a negative constant $-A$, and (b) the sectional curvatures of N are bounded above by the constant $-((m-1)/(k-1))kAK^4$, $k = \min(m, n)$, then f is distance-decreasing. If $m = n$ and (b) is replaced by the condition (b') the sectional curvatures of N are bounded away from zero by $-AK^4$, then f is volume-decreasing.*

Thus, even in the 1-dimensional case, that is, even when M is a Riemann surface, the theorem is a generalization of Schwarz's lemma. P. J. Kiernan [8] assumed the ratio of distances attained its maximum on M in order to achieve this.

By assuming f is a mapping of bounded dilatation of order K (see [6]), a more general result may be obtained.

The concept of a K -quasiconformal mapping of equidimensional manifolds, $m = n > 2$, was introduced by Lavrentiev, Markusevic and Kreines

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in 1938, but it did not receive serious attention until the mid fifties. This notion was subsequently extended in [5] to include the cases $m \neq n$.

The proof of the theorem is inspired by the technique used so successfully to obtain the generalized Schwarz-Ahlfors lemma, as well as the real analogues and generalizations of Liouville's theorem and Picard's first theorem (see [5], § 5), viz., the manifold M is exhausted by convex open submanifolds defined in terms of the "distance from a point" function. This function is continuous and, in fact, convex since the sectional curvature of M is nonpositive.

2. Harmonic mappings and curvature.

We begin by reviewing the theory of harmonic mappings as found in [3]. Let ds_M^2 and ds_N^2 be the Riemannian metrics of M and N , respectively. Then, locally,

$$ds_M^2 = \omega_1^2 + \cdots + \omega_m^2, \quad ds_N^2 = \omega_1^{*2} + \cdots + \omega_n^{*2}$$

where the ω_i and ω_a^* are linear differential forms in M and N , respectively. (In the sequel, the range of indices $i, j, k, \dots = 1, \dots, m$, and $a, b, c, \dots = 1, \dots, n$.) The structure equations in M are

$$\begin{aligned} d\omega_i &= \sum_j \omega_j \wedge \omega_{ji}, \\ d\omega_{ij} &= \sum_k \omega_{ik} \wedge \omega_{kj} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k,l} R_{ijkl} \omega_k \wedge \omega_l. \end{aligned}$$

The Ricci tensor R_{ij} is defined by

$$R_{ij} = \sum_k R_{ikjk}$$

and the scalar curvature by

$$R = \sum_i R_{ii}.$$

Similar equations are valid in N , where we will denote the corresponding quantities in the same notation with asterisks.

Let $f: M \rightarrow N$ be a C^∞ mapping, and

$$f^* \omega_a^* = \sum_i A_i^a \omega_i$$

where f^* is the pull-back mapping, that is the dual of the tangent mapping f_* . If e_1, \dots, e_m and f_1, \dots, f_n are orthonormal bases of the tangent

spaces $T_x(M)$ and $T_{f(x)}(N)$, respectively, then

$$(f_*)_x e_i = \sum_a A_i^a e_a^* .$$

It is evident that

$$\|f_*\|^2 = \sum_{a,i} (A_i^a)^2$$

is an upper bound for the ratio function of distances on M and N , respectively (see §3 for the definition of the norm).

Later on we will drop f^* in such formulas when its presence is clear from the context.

The covariant differential of A_i^a is defined by

$$(2.1) \quad DA_i^a \equiv dA_i^a + \sum_j A_j^a \omega_{ji} + \sum_j A_i^b \omega_{ba}^* = \sum_j A_{ij}^a \omega_j \text{ (say)}$$

with

$$(2.2) \quad A_{ij}^a = A_{ji}^a .$$

The mapping f is called *harmonic* if

$$(2.3) \quad \sum_i A_{ii}^a = 0 .$$

Taking the exterior derivative of (2.1), and employing the structure equations in M and N , we obtain

$$(2.4) \quad \sum_j DA_{ij}^a \wedge \omega_j = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,k,\ell} A_j^a R_{jik\ell} \omega_k \wedge \omega_\ell - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{b,c,d} A_i^b R_{baca}^* \omega_c^* \wedge \omega_d^*$$

where

$$DA_{ij}^a \equiv dA_{ij}^a + \sum_b A_{ij}^b \omega_{ba}^* + \sum_k A_{kj}^a \omega_{ki} + \sum_k A_{ik}^a \omega_{kj} = \sum_k A_{ijk}^a \omega_k \text{ (say)} .$$

From (2.4)

$$(2.5) \quad A_{ij\ell k}^a - A_{i\ell kj}^a = -\sum_\ell A_\ell^a R_{\ell i k j} - \sum_{b,c,d} A_i^b A_c^a A_j^d R_{baca}^* .$$

By (2.2) and (2.5), the laplacian

$$\Delta A_i^a \equiv \sum_k A_{i\ell k k}^a = \sum_k A_{k i k}^a = \sum_k A_{k k i}^a + \sum_j A_j^a R_{ji} - \sum_{b,c,d,k} R_{baca}^* A_k^b A_k^c A_i^d$$

is easily calculated. For a harmonic mapping

$$(2.6) \quad \Delta A_i^a = \sum_j A_j^a R_{ji} - \sum_{b,c,d,k} R_{baca}^* A_k^b A_k^c A_i^d .$$

Put $u = \|f_*\|^2$. Then

$$(2.7) \quad du = \sum_j u_j \omega_j$$

where

$$(2.8) \quad u_j = 2 \sum_{a,i} A_i^a A_{ij}^a.$$

Taking the exterior derivative of (2.7), we get

$$\sum_k \left(du_k - \sum_i u_i \omega_{ki} \right) \wedge \omega_k = 0.$$

We may therefore set

$$du_k - \sum_i u_i \omega_{ki} = \sum_j u_{kj} \omega_j$$

where $u_{jk} = u_{kj}$. Thus, from (2.8),

$$u_{kj} = 2 \sum_{a,i} A_{ik}^a A_{ij}^a + 2 \sum_{a,i} A_i^a A_{ikj}^a.$$

For a harmonic mapping, (2.5) yields the laplacian

$$(2.9) \quad \frac{1}{2} \Delta u \equiv \frac{1}{2} \sum_j u_{jj} = \sum_{a,i,j} (A_{ij}^a)^2 + \sum_{a,i,j} R_{ij} A_i^a A_j^a \\ - \sum_{\substack{a,b,c,d \\ i,j}} R_{abcd}^* A_i^a A_j^b A_i^c A_j^d.$$

Let $A^a = (A_1^a, \dots, A_m^a)$ and $A_i = (A_i^1, \dots, A_i^n)$ be local vector fields in M and N , respectively. Then, locally, $\sum \|A^a\|^2 = \sum \|A_i\|^2 = \|f_*\|^2$. If M is pinched, that is, if there are constants C_1 and C_2 such that

$$C_1 \leq \text{sectional curvature of } M \leq C_2,$$

then it is easily checked that

$$(m-1)C_1 \|f_*\|^2 \leq \sum R_{ij} A_i^a A_j^a \leq (m-1)C_2 \|f_*\|^2.$$

Let $\|A_i \wedge A_j\|$ denote the area of the parallelogram spanned by A_i and A_j at each point. Then,

$$\sum_{i < j} \|A_i \wedge A_j\|^2 = \|\wedge^2 f_*\|^2.$$

The last term in formula (2.9) may be expressed as

$$\sum R_{abcd}^* A_i^a A_j^b A_i^c A_j^d = 2 \sum_{i < j} R^*(A_i, A_j) \|A_i \wedge A_j\|^2$$

where $R^*(A_i, A_j)$ denotes the sectional curvature of N along the section spanned by A_i and A_j at each point. Hence, if the sectional curvature of N is bounded above by a nonpositive constant $-B$, we obtain

$$-\sum R_{abcd}^* A_i^a A_j^b A_i^c A_j^d \geq 2B \|\wedge^2 f_*\|^2 .$$

3. K -quasiconformal mappings.

Let V_1 and V_2 be Euclidean vector spaces over the reals of dimensions m and n , respectively, and let $A: V_1 \rightarrow V_2$ be a linear mapping. Let e_1, \dots, e_m and f_1, \dots, f_n be orthonormal bases of V_1 and V_2 , respectively. If $p \leq \min(m, n)$, A may be extended to the linear mapping $\wedge^p A: \wedge^p V_1 \rightarrow \wedge^p V_2$ given by

$$\wedge^p A(e_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge e_{i_p}) = A e_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge A e_{i_p}$$

where $1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_p \leq m$.

Denoting the dual space of V_1 by V_1^* , $\wedge^p A$ may be regarded as an element of $\wedge^p V_1^* \otimes \wedge^p V_2$, the space of $\wedge^p V_2$ -valued p -forms. Set $A e_i = \sum A_i^a f_a$, put $I \equiv (i_1, \dots, i_p)$ with $1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_p \leq m$, $J \equiv (a_1, \dots, a_p)$ with $1 \leq a_1 < \dots < a_p \leq n$, and let D_I^J denote $\det(A_{i_\beta}^{a_\alpha})$, where the i_β are the components of I and the a_α are the components of J . Moreover, let

$$e_I = e_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge e_{i_p}, \quad f_J = f_{a_1} \wedge \dots \wedge f_{a_p}, \quad \theta^I = \theta^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge \theta^{i_p}$$

where $\theta^1, \dots, \theta^m$ is the dual basis of e_1, \dots, e_m . Then,

$$\wedge^p A = \sum D_I^J \theta^I \otimes f_J,$$

the sum being taken over all possible I and J .

The inner products on V_1 and V_2 induce an inner product \langle, \rangle on $\wedge^p V_1^* \otimes \wedge^p V_2$, and a norm $\|\wedge^p A\|$ is then defined by

$$\|\wedge^p A\|^2 = \sum_I \langle \wedge^p A(e_I), \wedge^p A(e_I) \rangle .$$

Set $G = {}^t A A$. Then,

$$\|\wedge^p A\|^2 = \text{trace } \wedge^p G, \quad p \leq \min(m, n) .$$

In the sequel, we assume $\text{rank } A = k$. Then, $k \leq \min(m, n)$ and $\text{rank } G = k$. Let $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_k > \lambda_{k+1} = \dots = \lambda_m = 0$ be the eigenvalues of G . If $p \leq k$, $\text{trace } \wedge^p G$ is the p -th elementary symmetric

function of the positive eigenvalues of G , that is

$$\text{trace } \wedge^p G = \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_p}^k \lambda_{i_1} \cdots \lambda_{i_p}.$$

From Newton's inequalities, we therefore obtain

$$(3.1) \quad \left[\|\wedge^p A\|^2 / \binom{k}{p} \right]^{1/p} \geq \left[\|\wedge^q A\|^2 / \binom{k}{q} \right]^{1/q}, \quad 1 \leq p < q \leq k.$$

Assume now that A has maximal rank k . By an orthogonal transformation A is transformed to a diagonal matrix with entries $\gamma_i = \lambda_i^{1/2}$, $i = 1, \dots, k$. Let S^{k-1} be the unit sphere of dimension $k-1$ in V_1 . Then $A(S^{k-1})$ is an ellipsoid of dimension $k-1$ in V_2 . For a given constant $K \geq 1$, A is said to be K -quasiconformal if the ratio of the largest to the smallest axes of the ellipsoid $A(S^{k-1})$ is less than K . Since $\gamma_1 \geq \dots \geq \gamma_k > 0$, A is K -quasiconformal if and only if $\gamma_1/\gamma_k \leq K$ or $\lambda_1/\lambda_k \leq K^2$. As $\|\wedge^p A\|^2$ is the p -th elementary symmetric function of $\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_k > 0$, $p \leq k$, we then obtain

$$\left[\|\wedge^p A\|^2 / \binom{k}{p} \right]^{1/p} \leq K^2 \left[\|\wedge^q A\|^2 / \binom{k}{q} \right]^{1/q}, \quad 1 \leq p < q \leq k$$

if A is K -quasiconformal.

Let $f: M \rightarrow N$ be a C^∞ mapping. Then, the norm $\|\wedge^p f_*\|$ may be regarded as the "ratio function of intermediate volume elements" of M and N . In particular, $\|\wedge^k f_*\|$ is the ratio of volume elements when $k = m = n$, where $k = \text{rank } f$. If $\text{rank } f_* = k$ everywhere, then

$$(3.2) \quad \left[\|\wedge^p f_*\|^2 / \binom{k}{p} \right]^{1/p} \geq \left[\|\wedge^q f_*\|^2 / \binom{k}{q} \right]^{1/q}, \quad 1 \leq p < q \leq k.$$

Let f be a C^∞ mapping of maximal rank and $K \geq 1$. Then, f is K -quasiconformal if at each $x \in M$, $(f_*)_x$ is a K -quasiconformal linear mapping of $T_x(M)$ into $T_{f(x)}(N)$.

LEMMA 3.1. *If f is K -quasiconformal, then*

$$\left[\|\wedge^p f_*\|^2 / \binom{k}{p} \right]^{1/p} \leq K^2 \left[\|\wedge^q f_*\|^2 / \binom{k}{q} \right]^{1/q}, \quad 1 \leq p < q \leq k.$$

4. Proof of Theorem 1.

Let $d\tilde{s}_M^2$ be a Riemannian metric on M conformally related to ds_M^2 . Then, there is a function $p > 0$ on M such that $d\tilde{s}_M^2 = p^2 ds_M^2$. Let $\tilde{u} = \Sigma(\tilde{A}_i^a)^2 = p^{-2}\Sigma(A_i^a)^2$, and let $\tilde{\Delta}$ be the laplacian associated with $d\tilde{s}_M^2$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2}\tilde{\Delta}\tilde{u} &= \Sigma(\tilde{A}_{i_j}^a)^2 + \Sigma\tilde{A}_i^a\tilde{A}_{i_j j}^a \\ &= \Sigma(\tilde{A}_{i_j}^a)^2 + \Sigma\tilde{R}_{i_j}\tilde{A}_i^a\tilde{A}_j^a - \Sigma R_{abcd}^*\tilde{A}_i^a\tilde{A}_j^b\tilde{A}_i^c\tilde{A}_j^d \\ &\quad + p^{-4}\Sigma A_i^a[A_{jji}^a - 2A_{jj}^ap_i + (m-2)A_{ji}^ap_j \\ &\quad\quad + (m-2)A_j^a(p_{ji} - 2p_jp_i)] \end{aligned}$$

where p_i is given by $d \log p = \Sigma p_i \omega_i$, and $p_{ij} = p_{ji}$ is defined by

$$(4.1) \quad \Sigma p_{ij} \omega_j = dp_i - \Sigma p_j \omega_{ij} .$$

If f is harmonic with respect to (ds_M^2, ds_N^2) , then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2}\tilde{\Delta}\tilde{u} &= \Sigma(\tilde{A}_{i_j}^a)^2 + \Sigma\tilde{R}_{i_j}\tilde{A}_i^a\tilde{A}_j^a - \Sigma R_{abcd}^*\tilde{A}_i^a\tilde{A}_j^b\tilde{A}_i^c\tilde{A}_j^d \\ &\quad + (m-2)p^{-4}[\Sigma A_i^aA_{ij}^ap_j + \Sigma A_i^aA_j^a(p_{ij} - 2p_i p_j)] . \end{aligned}$$

Let \tilde{u} attain its maximum at x . Then at x ,

$$d\tilde{u} = 2p^{-2}\Sigma[\Sigma A_i^aA_{ij}^a - p_j \Sigma (A_i^a)^2]\omega_j = 0 ,$$

so

$$\Sigma A_i^aA_{ij}^a = p_j \Sigma (A_i^a)^2 ,$$

and

$$\Sigma A_i^aA_{ij}^ap_j + \Sigma A_i^aA_j^a(p_{ij} - 2p_i p_j) = \Sigma A_i^aA_j^a[p_{ij} + \delta_{ij} \Sigma (p_k)^2 - 2p_i p_j]$$

at x .

LEMMA 4.1. *Let $f : M \rightarrow N$ be harmonic with respect to (ds_M^2, ds_N^2) , and let \tilde{u} attain its maximum at $x \in M$. If the symmetric matrix function*

$$X_{ij} = p_{ij} + \delta_{ij} \Sigma (p_k)^2 - 2p_i p_j$$

is positive semi-definite everywhere on M , then

$$-\Sigma R_{abcd}^*\tilde{A}_i^a\tilde{A}_j^b\tilde{A}_i^c\tilde{A}_j^d \leq -\Sigma\tilde{R}_{i_j}\tilde{A}_i^a\tilde{A}_j^a$$

at x .

Assume now that M is simply connected. Let y be a point of M and denote by $d(x, y)$ the distance-from- y function. Then

$$t(x) = (d(x, y))^2, \quad x \in M$$

is C^∞ and convex on M (see [2]). The function

$$\tau(x) = d(x, y)$$

is also convex, but it is only continuous on M . It is, however, C^∞ in $M - \{y\}$. The convex open submanifolds

$$M_\rho = \{x \in M \mid t(x) < \rho\}$$

of M exhaust M , that is $M = \bigcup_{\rho < \infty} M_\rho$.

The nonnegative function

$$v_\rho = \log \frac{\rho}{\rho - t}$$

is a C^∞ convex function on M_ρ , that is its hessian

$$(v_\rho)_{ij} = \frac{1}{(\rho - t)^2} t_i t_j + \frac{1}{\rho - t} t_{ij},$$

where t_i is given by $dt = \Sigma t_i \omega_i$ and t_{ij} is its covariant derivative (see (4.1)), is positive semi-definite. Observe that $v_\rho \rightarrow \infty$ on the boundary ∂M_ρ of M_ρ , and for x fixed, $v_\rho(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $\rho \rightarrow \infty$.

Consider the metric $d\tilde{s}^2 = e^{2v_\rho} ds^2$ on M_ρ . Then,

$$\tilde{u} = e^{-2v_\rho} u = \left(\frac{\rho - t}{\rho} \right)^2 u$$

is nonnegative and continuous on the closure \bar{M}_ρ of M_ρ and vanishes on ∂M_ρ . Since \bar{M}_ρ is compact, \tilde{u} has a maximum in M_ρ . We compute the matrix X_{ij} when $p = e^{v_\rho}$. It is easily seen that $p_i = (v_\rho)_i$ (the right hand side being given by $dv_\rho = \Sigma (v_\rho)_i \omega_i$), and $p_{ij} = (v_\rho)_{ij}$, so that

$$\begin{aligned} X_{ij} &= (v_\rho)_{ij} + \delta_{ij} \sum (v_\rho)_k^2 - 2(v_\rho)_i (v_\rho)_j \\ &= \frac{1}{\rho - t} t_{ij} + \frac{1}{(\rho - t)^2} [\delta_{ij} \sum (t_k)^2 - t_i t_j]. \end{aligned}$$

Since the function $t(x)$ is convex, the matrix X_{ij} is positive semi-definite, so from Lemma 4.1

$$-\sum R_{abcd}^* \tilde{A}_i^a \tilde{A}_j^b \tilde{A}_i^c \tilde{A}_j^d \leq -\sum \tilde{R}_{ij} \tilde{A}_i^a \tilde{A}_j^a .$$

The relation between \tilde{R}_{ij} and R_{ij} is given by

$$e^{2\nu_\rho} \tilde{R}_{ij} = R_{ij} - \frac{m-2}{\rho-t} t_{ij} - \frac{1}{\rho-t} \left(\Delta t + \frac{m-1}{\rho-t} \langle dt, dt \rangle \right) \delta_{ij} ,$$

from which

$$\begin{aligned} \sum \tilde{R}_{ij} \tilde{A}_i^a \tilde{A}_j^a &= \left(\frac{\rho-t}{\rho} \right)^2 \sum R_{ij} \tilde{A}_i^a \tilde{A}_j^a \\ (4.2) \quad &- \frac{\rho-t}{\rho^2} (m-2) \sum t_{ij} \tilde{A}_i^a \tilde{A}_j^a - \frac{\rho-t}{\rho^2} \Delta t \|f_*\|_\rho^2 \\ &- \frac{m-1}{\rho^2} \langle dt, dt \rangle \|f_*\|_\rho^2 . \end{aligned}$$

To see this, let $\{\tilde{\omega}_i\}$ be an orthonormal coframe such that $\tilde{\omega}_i = p\omega_i$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} d\tilde{\omega}_i &= dp \wedge \omega_i + p d\omega_i \\ &= dp \wedge \omega_i + \sum p\omega_j \wedge \omega_{ji} \\ &= \frac{1}{p} dp \wedge \tilde{\omega}_i + \sum \tilde{\omega}_j \wedge \omega_{ji} \\ &= d \log p \wedge \tilde{\omega}_i + \sum \tilde{\omega}_j \wedge \omega_{ji} . \end{aligned}$$

Now, we know

$$d \log p = dv_\rho = \sum (v_\rho)_j \omega_j .$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} d\tilde{\omega}_i &= \sum (v_\rho)_j \omega_j \wedge \tilde{\omega}_i + \sum \tilde{\omega}_j \wedge \omega_{ji} \\ &= \sum \tilde{\omega}_j \wedge (\omega_{ji} + (v_\rho)_j \omega_i) \\ &= \sum \tilde{\omega}_j \wedge \{ \omega_{ji} + ((v_\rho)_j \omega_i - (v_\rho)_i \omega_j) \} . \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we obtain

$$\tilde{\omega}_{ji} = \omega_{ji} + (v_\rho)_j \omega_i - (v_\rho)_i \omega_j .$$

Substituting this in $\frac{1}{2} \sum \tilde{R}_{ijkl} \tilde{\omega}_k \wedge \tilde{\omega}_l = \sum \tilde{\omega}_{ik} \wedge \tilde{\omega}_{kj} - d\tilde{\omega}_i$, gives

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{2} \sum \tilde{R}_{ijkl} \tilde{\omega}_k \wedge \tilde{\omega}_l \\ &= \sum (\omega_{ik} + (v_\rho)_i \omega_k - (v_\rho)_k \omega_i) \wedge (\omega_{kj} + (v_\rho)_k \omega_j - (v_\rho)_j \omega_k) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& - (d\omega_{ij} + d(v_\rho)_i \wedge \omega_j + (v_\rho)_i d\omega_j - d(v_\rho)_j \wedge \omega_i - (v_\rho)_j d\omega_i) \\
= & \sum \omega_{ik} \wedge \omega_{kj} - d\omega_{ij} \\
& - \sum (d(v_\rho)_i + (v_\rho)_k \omega_{ki}) \wedge \omega_j + \sum (d(v_\rho)_j + (v_\rho)_k \omega_{kj}) \wedge \omega_i \\
& + \sum (v_\rho)_i (v_\rho)_k \omega_k \wedge \omega_j + \sum (v_\rho)_k (v_\rho)_j \omega_i \wedge \omega_k - \sum (v_\rho)_k^2 \omega_i \wedge \omega_j \\
= & \frac{1}{2} \sum \left[R_{ijkl} - (v_\rho)_{ik} \delta_{jl} + (v_\rho)_{il} \delta_{jk} + (v_\rho)_{jk} \delta_{il} - (v_\rho)_{jl} \delta_{ik} \right. \\
& + (v_\rho)_i (v_\rho)_k \delta_{jl} - (v_\rho)_i (v_\rho)_l \delta_{jk} - (v_\rho)_j (v_\rho)_k \delta_{il} \\
& \left. + (v_\rho)_j (v_\rho)_l \delta_{ik} - \sum_h (v_\rho)_h^2 (\delta_{ik} \delta_{jl} - \delta_{il} \delta_{jk}) \right] \omega_k \wedge \omega_l.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
p^2 \tilde{R}_{ijkl} = & R_{ijkl} - (v_\rho)_{ik} (v_\rho)_{jl} + (v_\rho)_{il} \delta_{jk} + (v_\rho)_{jk} \delta_{il} \\
& - (v_\rho)_{jl} \delta_{ik} + (v_\rho)_i (v_\rho)_k \delta_{jl} - (v_\rho)_i (v_\rho)_l \delta_{jk} \\
& - (v_\rho)_j (v_\rho)_k \delta_{il} + (v_\rho)_j (v_\rho)_l \delta_{ik} - \sum_h (v_\rho)_h^2 (\delta_{ik} \delta_{jl} - \delta_{il} \delta_{jk}).
\end{aligned}$$

LEMMA 4.2. For each ρ , there exists a positive constant $\varepsilon(\rho)$ such that the inequality

$$-\sum \tilde{R}_{ij} \tilde{A}_i^a \tilde{A}_j^a \leq [(m-1)A + \varepsilon(\rho)] \tilde{u}$$

holds on M_ρ . Moreover, $\varepsilon(\rho) \rightarrow 0$ as $\rho \rightarrow \infty$.

Proof. Since $\langle dt, dt \rangle = 4t^2 \langle d\tau, d\tau \rangle = 4t$, the last term on the right hand side of (4.2) tends to zero as $\rho \rightarrow \infty$. The lemma will follow if we can show that $\Delta\tau$ is bounded as $\tau \rightarrow \infty$. For, $\Delta t = 2\tau \Delta\tau + 2\langle d\tau, d\tau \rangle = 2(t^3 \Delta\tau + 1)$. Under the circumstances $(\rho - t)\Delta t / \rho^2$ will tend uniformly to zero. Moreover, since the matrix t_{ij} is positive semi-definite, the quadratic form $\sum t_{ij} \tilde{A}_i^a \tilde{A}_j^a \leq \lambda_0 ((\rho - t) / \rho)^2 \tilde{u}$, where λ_0 is the least upper bound of the largest eigenvalues of t_{ij} on M_ρ .

To see that $\Delta\tau$ is bounded as $\tau \rightarrow \infty$, observe that the level hypersurfaces of τ are spheres S with y as center. The hessian $D^2\tau$ of τ can be identified with the second fundamental form of those spheres, extended to be 0 in the normal direction. For, the value of $D^2\tau$ on a vector v is the second derivative of τ along the geodesic generated by v . Along a geodesic from y , τ is linear, so the second derivative is 0. This shows that $D^2\tau$ is 0 on the normals to the spheres. One way of viewing the second fundamental form is as follows. On the tangent space $T_x(S)$ we define a function $\delta(v)$ to be the signed distance from $\exp_x(v)$ to S . Then, the second fundamental form h is the hessian of δ at 0, where $T_0(T_x(S))$

is identified with $T_x(S)$ in the usual way, that is,

$$h(w, w) = \frac{d^2}{dt^2}(0)(\delta(tw)) , \quad w \in T_x(S) .$$

But, for $S = \tau^{-1}(r)$, the signed distance to S is simply $\tau - r$, so $\frac{d^2}{dt^2}(0) \cdot (\delta(tw))$ is just the second derivative of $\tau - r$ along the geodesic $t \rightarrow \exp_x(tw)$. Since r is constant, this is just $D^2\tau(w, w)$. It follows that $\Delta\tau = \text{trace } D^2\tau = \text{trace } h = (m - 1) \cdot$ mean relative curvature of S .

If the curvature $K \geq a^2$ [in fact, if the Ricci curvature $\geq (m - 1)a^2$], then from [1; pp. 247–255]

$$\Delta\tau \leq (m - 1)a \frac{\cos a\tau}{\sin a\tau} .$$

If we put $a^2 = -\alpha^2$, then

$$\Delta\tau \leq (m - 1)\alpha \coth \alpha\tau .$$

It is now clear that $\Delta\tau$ is bounded as $\tau \rightarrow \infty$.

To complete the proof of the theorem, Lemmas 4.1 and 4.2 imply

$$-\sum R_{abcd}^* \tilde{A}_i^a \tilde{A}_j^b \tilde{A}_i^c \tilde{A}_j^d \leq [(m - 1)A + \varepsilon]\tilde{u}$$

at x where $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ as $\rho \rightarrow \infty$. Let $\|\wedge^2 f_*\|_\rho$ denote the norm of $\wedge^2 f_*$ with respect to $d\tilde{s}^2$. Then, if the sectional curvature of N is bounded above by a negative constant $-B$,

$$2B \|\wedge^2 f_*\|_\rho^2 \leq [(m - 1)A + \varepsilon] \cdot \|f_*\|_\rho^2$$

at x , where $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ as $\rho \rightarrow \infty$. It follows from Lemma 3.1 that

$$\|f_*\|_\rho^2 \leq \frac{kK^4}{B(k - 1)} [(m - 1)A + \varepsilon]$$

everywhere on M_ρ . Since this inequality holds for every ρ and $\lim_{\rho \rightarrow \infty} \|f_*\|_\rho^2 = \|f_*\|^2$, we conclude that

$$\|f_*\|^2 \leq k \left(\frac{m - 1}{k - 1} \right) \frac{A}{B} K^4 .$$

The first part of the theorem follows by taking $B = ((m - 1)/(k - 1)) \cdot kAK^4$. Applying the inequality (3.2) we conclude that

$$\|\wedge^p f_*\|^{2/p} \leq \frac{m-1}{k-1} \binom{k}{p}^{1/p} \frac{A}{B} K^4.$$

Putting $k = m = n$ and $B = AK^4$, the volume-decreasing statement is obtained. The assumption of simple connectedness is clearly not essential.

By taking $M = E^m$ with the standard flat metric the above proof quickly yields the following real version and generalization of Liouville's theorem as well as Picard's first theorem originally obtained in [4]. However, the definition of K -quasiconformality must be slightly revised to allow for the possibility that f_* vanish at each point x of M .

THEOREM 2. *Let N be an n -dimensional Riemannian manifold with negative sectional curvature bounded away from zero. Then, if $f: E^m \rightarrow N$ is a harmonic quasiconformal mapping, it is a constant.*

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