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**The Herman-Świątec Theorem  
with applications**

**Carsten Lunde Petersen**

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**IMFUFA**

**ROSKILDE UNIVERSITETSCENTER**  
INSTITUT FOR STUDIET AF MATEMATIK OG FYSIK SAMT DERES  
FUNKTIONER I UNDERVISNING, FORSKNING OG ANVENDELSER

IMFUFA, ROSKILDE UNIVERSITY, POSTBOX 260, DK-4000 ROSKILDE  
DENMARK.

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**Abstract**

The paper provides a proof of the Herman-Świąteć Theorem [Her] that a  $C^3$  critical circle homeomorphism with one non-flat critical point and irrational rotation number  $\theta$  is quasi-symmetrically conjugate to the corresponding rigid rotation, if and only if  $\theta$  is Diophantine of exponent 2. Moreover the Herman-Świąteć Theorem is applied to prove there exist quadratic Siegel polynomials,  $F_\theta(z) = e^{i2\pi\theta}z + z^2$ , with  $\theta$  of unbounded type, for which the Julia set is locally connected.

# The Herman-Świąteć Theorem with applications

Carsten Lunde Petersen

## Abstract

The paper provides a proof of the Herman-Świąteć Theorem [Her] that a  $C^3$  critical circle homeomorphism with one non-flat critical point and irrational rotation number  $\theta$  is quasi-symmetrically conjugate to the corresponding rigid rotation, if and only if  $\theta$  is Diophantine of exponent 2. Moreover the Herman-Świąteć Theorem is applied to prove there exist quadratic Siegel polynomials,  $P_\theta(z) = e^{i2\pi\theta}z + z^2$ , with  $\theta$  of unbounded type, for which the Julia set is locally connected.

## 1 Introduction

Let  $f$  be a  $C^3$ , orientation preserving circle homeomorphism with irrational rotation number  $\theta$ . We suppose moreover that  $f$  has exactly one critical point  $a_0$ , which is non flat. We shall identify the circle with  $\mathbb{T} = \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$  and give  $\mathbb{T}$  the induced orientation. Moreover by abuse of notation we shall not distinguish  $f$  and lifts of  $f$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ . Technically it suffices that :

**Hypothesis 1.1** *The homeomorphism  $f$  is  $C^1$ , has a critical point  $a_0$  and there exists a neighbourhood  $W \subseteq \mathbb{T}$  of  $a_0$  such that :*

1.  $f$  is  $C^3$  on  $W$  and has negative Schwarzian derivative  $Sf$  on  $W \setminus a_0$ .
2. There exists a constant  $A > 0$  and  $l \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$\forall x \in W : A|x - a_0|^{2l} < f'(x) < 2A|x - a_0|^{2l}$$

3. The variation of  $\log f'$  on  $\mathbb{T} \setminus W$  is bounded by some number, say  $\rho$ .

#### 4. $f$ has irrational rotation number $\theta \in \mathbb{T}$

In this article we shall prove the following Theorem:

**Theorem 1.2 (Herman-Swiatec, 86)** *Let  $f$  be a circle homeomorphism with rotation number  $\theta$  and satisfying the hypotheses above. Then  $f$  is  $c$ -quasi symmetrically conjugate to the rigid rotation (of angle  $\theta$ ), if and only if  $\theta$  has constant type. Moreover the constant  $c > 1$  depends only on the bound  $N$  on the coefficients of the continued fraction expansion for  $\theta$ .*

The proof is based partially on a more extensive, but unpublished manuscript by J.-C. Yoccoz, [Yoc].

For  $|\theta| = 1$  let  $c_\theta$  be the complex number for which the quadratic polynomial  $Q_{c_\theta}(z) = z^2 + c_\theta$  has a fixed point with multiplier  $\exp(i2\pi\theta)$ . Herman has proved that there exists irrational numbers  $\theta$  not of constant type for which the quadratic polynomial  $Q_{c_\theta}$  has a Siegel disk, whose boundary is a Jordan curve containing the critical point 0. Here we take his proof one step further and prove:

**Theorem 1.3** *There exist irrational  $\theta$  not of constant type, such that the Julia set of the quadratic polynomial  $Q_{c_\theta}$  is locally connected.*

Following the established conventions of the subject, we shall freely use the letter  $c$  to denote any constant, which depends only on  $Df$ . The obtained constants are by no means optimal. It should be noted however that unless stated explicitly otherwise *the constants  $c$  depend only on those macroscopic properties of  $Df$ , stipulated in the first three items of the above hypotheses.* In particular the constants do not depend on the irrational rotation number  $\theta$  of  $f$ . Thus given some  $f$  then for any  $\eta \in \mathbb{T}$  such that  $f_\eta = f + \eta$  have irrational rotation number, the constants only depend on  $f$ .

## 2 Notation and prerequisites

**Notation 2.1** *We shall use freely the following notations:*

1. The sequence of irreducible rational numbers  $\left\{ \frac{p_n}{q_n} \right\}_{n \geq 0}$  will denote the convergents of  $\theta$ . Moreover the sequence  $\{b_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  denotes the coefficients of the continued fraction expansion of  $\theta$ , so that  $p_n = b_n p_{n-1} + p_{n-2}$  and  $q_n = b_n q_{n-1} + q_{n-2}$ . The number  $\theta$  is Diophantine of exponent 2

or equivalently, has constant type, if and only if the sequence  $b_n$  is bounded.

2. For each  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$  define  $a_i = f^{-i}(a_0)$ , (note the critical orbit is indexed time reversedly).
3. For  $a < b < c < d < a + 1$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  we define the cross-ratio :

$$[a, b, c, d] = \frac{b - a}{c - a} \frac{d - c}{d - b}$$

4. For  $n \geq 0$  we define

$$I_n(x) = \begin{cases} [x, f^{-q_n}(x)], & n \text{ odd,} \\ [f^{-q_n}(x), x], & n \text{ even.} \end{cases}$$

$$m_n(x) = |f^{q_n}(x) - x|,$$

$$K_n = \{a_i \mid 0 \leq i < q_n\}, \quad K_n^* = K_n - \{a_{q_n}\}$$

Let us recall some basic properties of circle homeomorphism with irrational rotation numbers in general and critical such circle homeomorphism in particular. The first property is the Poincaré semi-conjugation Theorem.

**Theorem 2.2 (Poincaré semi-conjugation Theorem)** *Let  $f$  be any orientation preserving circle homeomorphism with irrational rotation number  $\theta$ . Then  $f$  is semi conjugate to the rigid rotation  $R_\theta(z) = z + \theta$  with angle  $\theta$ , i.e. there exists a continuous map  $\phi : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{T}$  such that  $\phi \circ f = R_\theta \circ \phi$ .*

The Poincaré semi-conjugation Theorem implies that the combinatorial orbit structure of any orientation preserving circle homeomorphism is the same as that for the rigid rotation.

**Remark 2.3** *Recall the following properties of circle homeomorphisms:*

1. For even  $n$  (respectively for odd  $n$ ) the point of  $K_n^*$  following (respectively preceding) a point  $a_i$  for  $0 \leq i < q_n$  is  $a_j$  with

$$j = \begin{cases} i + q_{n-1}, & \text{if } 0 \leq i < q_n - q_{n-1} \\ i + q_{n-1} - q_n, & \text{if } q_n - q_{n-1} < i < q_n \end{cases}$$

2. For any  $x \in \mathbb{T}$  and any  $n \geq 1$  all the intervals  $I_n(f^j(x))$  for  $0 \leq j < q_{n+1}$  and  $I_{n+1}(f^j(x))$  for  $0 \leq j < q_n$  have mutually disjoint interiors.

3. For any  $x \in \mathbb{T}$

$$\mathbb{T} = \bigcup_{0 \leq j < q_{n+1} + q_n} I_n(f^j(x)) = \bigcup_{0 \leq j < q_{n+1}} I_n(f^j(x)) \cup \bigcup_{0 \leq j < q_n} I_{n+1}(f^j(x))$$

4. Let  $a < b < c < d < a + 1$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  be arbitrary and let  $N \geq 1$ . If the open interval  $]a, d[$  does not contain any of the points  $a_j$ ,  $0 \leq j < N$  and if  $Sf^N \leq 0$  on  $]a, d[$ , then

$$[f^N(a), f^N(b), f^N(c), f^N(d)] \leq [a, b, c, d].$$

Here as elsewhere  $Sf$  denotes the Schwarzian derivative of  $f$  and is given by

$$\begin{aligned} Sf &= D^2 \log Df - \frac{1}{2}(D \log Df)^2 \\ &= (D^3 Df - \frac{3}{2}(D^2 f)^2)(Df)^{-2} \\ &= -2(Df)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \cdot D^2(Df)^{-\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 2.4 (Świątec)** There exists a constant  $c > 1$  such that for any quadruple  $a < b < c < d < a + 1$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  and any  $N > 0$  one has

$$[f^N(a), f^N(b), f^N(c), f^N(d)] \leq c^m \cdot [a, b, c, d],$$

where  $m$  is the covering number :

$$m = \max_{x \in \mathbb{T}} \#\{j | 0 \leq j < N \text{ and } x \in ]f^j(a), f^j(d)[\}.$$

**Proof :** This is the *Cross-Ratio Inequality* of Świątec [Swi, p.112]. **q.e.d.**

Combining Remark 2.3.4. and Theorem 2.4 we have

**Corollary 2.5** Suppose  $f$  is  $C^3$  and  $Sf(x) \leq 0, \forall x \in \mathbb{T} - \{a_0\}$ . Then there exists a constant  $c > 1$  such that for any  $N > 0$  and any  $a < b < c < d < a + 1$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  one has

$$[f^N(a), f^N(b), f^N(c), f^N(d)] \leq c^m \cdot [a, b, c, d],$$

where  $m = \#\{j | 0 \leq j < N \text{ and } a_0 \in ]f^j(a), f^j(d)[\}$ .

### 3 The a priori bounds

Let us fix  $n \geq 0$ , say even to fix the ideas. Set  $q = q_n$ ,  $m(x) = m_n(x)$ ,  $I(x) = I_n(x)$  for  $x \in \mathbb{T}$  and define

$$\Delta(x) = [f^{-2q}(x), f^{-q}(x), x, f^q(x)] \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbb{T}.$$

**Lemma 3.1** *There exists a constant  $c > 1$  such that  $\forall x \in \mathbb{T}$  and for all  $z \in I(x)$*

$$c^{-1} \cdot \min\{m(z), m(f^q(z))\} \leq m(x) \leq m(z) + m(f^q(z)).$$

**Proof :** The right-hand inequality is a useful but trivial observation. Towards the left hand inequality, let us prove that, there exists a constant  $c_1 > 1$  such that

$$m(x) \geq c_1^{-1} \cdot \min\{m(f^q(x)), m(f^{-q}(x))\} \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{T}. \quad (1)$$

For any  $x \in \mathbb{T}$  the inequality  $m(x) \leq \min\{m(f^q(x)), m(f^{-q}(x))\}$  implies  $\Delta(x) \geq \frac{1}{4}$ . Write  $r(x) \cdot m(x) = \min\{m(f^q(x)), m(f^{-q}(x))\}$ , and assume  $r(x) > 1$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(f^{-q}(x)) &= \frac{m(f^{-2q}(x))}{m(f^{-2q}(x)) + m(f^{-q}(x))} \cdot \frac{m(x)}{m(x) + m(f^{-q}(x))} \\ &\leq \frac{m(x)}{m(x) + m(f^{-q}(x))} \leq \frac{1}{1 + r(x)}. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand the intervals  $f^j([f^{-3q}(x), x])$ ,  $0 \leq j < q$  cover any point

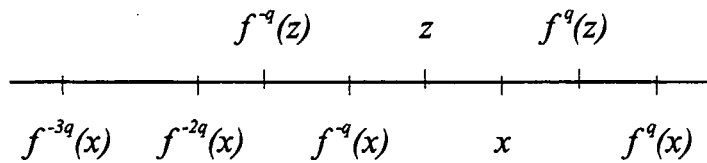


Figure 1:

$y \in \mathbb{T}$  at most 3 times. Let  $c_0 > 1$  be the constant of the Świątec Theorem (2.4), then

$$\frac{1}{4} \leq \Delta(x) \leq c_0^3 \cdot \Delta(f^{-q}(x)) \leq \frac{c_0^3}{1 + r(x)},$$

thus  $r(x) \leq 4 \cdot c_0^3 - 1$ .

Let  $c = 4 \cdot c_0^3$ , so that the constant  $c_1 = c - 1$  applies in (1), by arbitrariness of  $x \in \mathbb{T}$ . Let  $x \in \mathbb{T}$  and  $z \in I(x)$  be arbitrary. Then by (1) either

$$\begin{aligned} m(z) &< m(f^{-q}(x)) + m(x) \leq (c_1 + 1) \cdot m(x) = c \cdot m(x) && \text{or} \\ m(f^q(z)) &< m(f^q(x)) + m(x) \geq (c_1 + 1) \cdot m(x) = c \cdot m(x). \end{aligned}$$

q.e.d.

**Proposition 3.2** *There exists a constant  $c > 1$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{T}$  and  $z \in I(x)$  one has*

$$c^{-1} \cdot m(x) \leq m(z) \leq c \cdot m(x).$$

**Proof:** By the above Lemma 3.1 it suffices to prove that there exists  $c_1 > 1$  such that for all  $z \in \mathbb{T}$

$$c_1^{-1} \cdot m(z) \leq m(f^{-q}(z)) \leq c_1 \cdot m(z) \quad (2)$$

Let  $y \in \mathbb{T}$  be a point where the continuous function  $z \mapsto m(z)$  attains its minimum, and let  $y_j = f^{-j}(y)$  for all  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Given any  $z \in \mathbb{T}$  let  $j$  be the minimal non negative integer with  $y_j \in I_n(f^{2q}(z))$ . Then  $0 \leq j < q_{n+1} + q_n$  by Remark 2.3.2. Thus by the Świątecz Theorem there exists  $c_1 > 1$  such that  $c_1^{-1} \leq \Delta(y_j)$ , because the intervals  $]y_{i+2q}, y_{i-q}[$ ,  $0 < i \leq j$  cover any point of the circle at most three times. Furthermore again by the Świątecz Theorem we can suppose  $\Delta(y_{j+q}), \Delta(y_{j+2q}) \geq c_1^{-1}$  increasing  $c_1$  if necessary. Writing

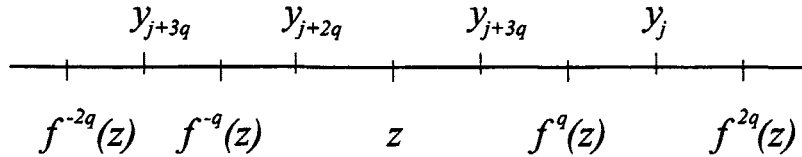


Figure 2:

out the definitions of  $\Delta(y_j), \Delta(y_{j+q}), \Delta(y_{j+2q})$  we obtain for  $c_2 = c_1 + 1$  that:

$$\begin{aligned} c_1^{-1} \leq \Delta(y_j) &\Rightarrow m(y_j) \leq c_2 m(y_{j+q}) \\ c_1^{-1} \leq \Delta(y_j) &\Rightarrow \begin{cases} m(y_{j+q}) \leq c_2 m(y_j) \\ m(y_{j+q}) \leq c_2 m(y_{j+2q}) \end{cases} \\ c_1^{-1} \leq \Delta(y_{j+2q}) &\Rightarrow m(y_{j+2q}) \leq c_2 m(y_{j+q}) \end{aligned}$$



So that

$$c_2^{-1}m(y_{j+q}) \leq m(y_j), m(y_{j+2q}) \leq c_2m(y_{j+q}) \quad (3)$$

Let  $c_3$  be the constant from Lemma 3.1 then

$$c_3^{-1} \min\{y_{j+2q}, y_{j+q}\} \leq m(z) \leq y_{j+2q} + y_{j+q} \quad (4)$$

$$c_3^{-1} \min\{y_j, y_{j+q}\} \leq m(f^q(z)) \leq y_j + y_{j+q} \quad (5)$$

Combining the estimates (3) with the pair of estimates (4) and (5) we obtain (2), and the Proposition follows. q.e.d.

**Corollary 3.3** *The circle homeomorphism  $f$  is minimal, i.e every orbit is dense and any Poincaré semi conjugacy is a homeomorphism and true conjugacy.*

**Proof :** Suppose to the contrary that  $f$  is a Denjoy counter example with invariant Cantor set  $L$ . Let  $z$  be a left endpoint of some interval  $I$  of the complement of  $L$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} m_{2n}(z) &= 0, \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} m_{2n}(f^{q2n}(z)) &= |I| > 0, \end{aligned}$$

which contradicts Proposition 3.2. Here  $|I|$  denotes the length of the interval  $I$ . q.e.d.

**Theorem 3.4** *There exists a constant  $c > 1$  such that*

$$\forall x \in K_n : m_{n-1}(x) \leq c \cdot m_n(x).$$

**Proof :** To fix the ideas let us suppose  $n$  is even and define for  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_i &= [a_{i+q_n}, a_i, a_{i+q_{n-1}}, a_{i+2q_{n-1}}] \\ &= \frac{m_n(a_i)}{m_n(a_i) + m_{n-1}(a_i)} \cdot \frac{m_{n-1}(a_{i+2q_{n-1}})}{m_{n-1}(a_{i+q_{n-1}}) + m_{n-1}(a_{i+2q_{n-1}})} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$u_i = \frac{m_n(a_i)}{m_{n-1}(a_i)} = \frac{a_i - a_{i+q_n}}{a_{i+q_{n-1}} - a_i}.$$



Figure 3:

then by Proposition 3.2 there exists  $c_1 > 1$  such that

$$c_1^{-1} \frac{u_i}{1 + u_i} \leq \Sigma_i \leq u_i \quad (6)$$

Thus it suffices to prove that there exists  $c > 1$  such that

$$c^{-1} \leq \Sigma_i \quad \text{for } 0 \leq i \leq q_n. \quad (7)$$

Moreover by the Świątec-Theorem it suffices to prove (7) in the case  $i = 0$ , because the intervals  $]a_{i+q_n}, a_{i+2q_{n-1}}[$ ,  $0 < i \leq q_n$  cover any point of the circle at most three times.

Comparing interval by interval and using Proposition 3.2 we find that there exists  $c_2 > 1$  such that

$$\Sigma_0 \leq c_2 \cdot \Sigma_{-q_n}. \quad (8)$$

Increasing  $n$  if necessary we can suppose  $I_{n-1}(a_0), I_n(a_0) \subset W$  so that (by integrating  $f'$ ) there exists  $c_3 > 1$  with

$$\Sigma_{-1} \leq u_{-1} \leq c_3 u_0^{2l+1}.$$

Invoking Theorem 2.4 again (from  $\Sigma_{-1}$  to  $\Sigma_{-q_n}$ ) we can suppose, increasing  $c_3$  if necessary that

$$\Sigma_{-q_n} \leq c_3 \cdot u_0^{2l+1}. \quad (9)$$

Suppose  $u_0 < 1$  we then obtain from (6), (8) and (9)

$$\frac{u_0}{2c_1} \leq \Sigma_0 \leq c_2 \cdot c_3 \cdot u_0^{2l+1}$$

This shows that both  $u_0$  and  $\Sigma_0$  are bounded from below and completes the proof. q.e.d.

The above Theorem/or the following Corollary is often referred to as a-priori real bounds for critical circle maps. They are used as a bootstrap to control the geometry and topology of holomorphic maps, which restricts to critical circle homeomorphisms. See for example [dF], [dFdM], [dFaWdM], [GS], [Pet] and [Yam]. The papers [GS] and [dFdM] also contain proofs of the a-priori real bounds, not much different from the one presented here.

**Corollary 3.5 (a-priori real bounds)** *There exists a constant  $c > 1$  such that*

$$\forall n \geq 2 : |a_0 - a_{q_{n-1}}| \leq c \cdot |a_{q_n} - a_0|.$$

## 4 Quasi-symmetric conjugacies

**Corollary 4.1** *Suppose  $\theta$  has constant type. Then there exists a constant  $c > 1$  depending only on  $Df$  and on the bound  $N$  on the coefficients  $b_n$  so that*

$$\forall z \in \mathbb{T}, \forall n \in \mathbb{N} : \frac{m_n(z)}{m_{n+1}(z)} \leq c.$$

**Proof :** Let  $z \in \mathbb{T}$  be arbitrary. Given  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists  $x \in K_n$  such that either  $z \in I_{n-1}(z)$  or  $z \in I_{n-1}(f^{-q_{n-1}}(z))$  by Remark 2.3.2. For this  $x$  there exists  $k \leq N + 1$  such that  $z \in I_n(f^{\pm k q_n})$ . Let  $c_1$  be the constant from Proposition 3.2 and let  $c_2$  be the constant from Proposition 3.4 then we obtain

$$\frac{m_{n-1}(z)}{m_n(z)} \leq c_2 c_1^{k+1} \leq c_2 c_1^{N+2}.$$

q.e.d.

For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $M_n = d(\mathbb{Z}, q_n \theta) = |z - R_\theta^{q_n}(z)|$ , where the last equality holds for any  $z \in \mathbb{T}$  exactly because  $R_\theta$  is a rigid rotation. Then for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$a_{n+1} M_n < M_{n-1} < (1 + a_{n+1}) M_n.$$

**Corollary 4.2** *Suppose  $\theta$  has constant type. Then there exists a constant  $c > 1$  depending only on  $Df$  and on the bound  $N$  on the coefficients  $b_n$  so that  $f$  is  $c$ -quasi-symmetrically conjugate to the rigid rotation  $R_\theta$ .*

**Proof :** By Corollary 3.3 there exists a homeomorphism  $h : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{T}$  conjugating the rigid rotation  $R_\theta$  to  $f$ . Let  $z \in \mathbb{T}$  and  $0 < \delta < \frac{1}{2}$  be arbitrary. Choose  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $M_{n+1} < \delta \leq M_n$ . Let us suppose  $n$  is even to fix the ideas ( $n$  odd being similar) then

$$m_{n+1}(h(z)) \leq |h([z, z + \delta])| \leq m_n(f^{q_n}(h(z))) \quad (10)$$

$$m_{n+1}(f^{q_{n+1}}(h(z))) \leq |h([z - \delta, z])| \leq m_n(h(z)). \quad (11)$$

Let  $c_1$  be the constant from Proposition 3.2 and let  $c_2$  be the constant from

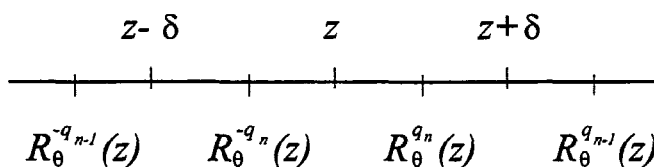


Figure 4:

Proposition 4.1 then we obtain

$$\frac{1}{c_2} \leq \frac{|h([z, z + \delta])|}{|h([z - \delta, z])|} \leq c_1^2 c_2.$$

q.e.d.

**Corollary 4.3** Suppose  $\theta$  does not have constant type. Then  $f$  is not quasi symmetrically conjugate to the rigid rotation.

**Proof :** It suffices to prove that a homeomorphism  $h : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{T}$  conjugating  $f$  to the rigid rotation  $R_\theta$  is not quasi symmetric. To this end choose a subsequence  $\{b_{n_k}\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  diverging to  $\infty$ . Then

$$\frac{h(I_{n_k-1}(a_0))}{h(I_{n_k-2}(a_0))} = \frac{M_{n_k-1}}{M_{n_k-2}} \leq \frac{1}{a_{n_k}},$$

which contradicts that  $h$  is quasi symmetric, because  $I_{n_k-1}(a_0)$  and  $I_{n_k-2}(a_0)$  are commensurable by Corollary 3.4. q.e.d.

## 5 Local connectivity of Julia sets

Let  $f_0 : \overline{\mathbb{C}} \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{C}}$  denote the Blaschke product

$$f_0(z) = z^2 \frac{z-3}{1-3z}.$$

For each irrational  $\theta \in ]0, 1[$  let  $\lambda_\theta$  be the unique unimodular constant for which the restriction  $f_\theta = \lambda_\theta \cdot f_0 : \mathbb{S}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^1$  has rotation number  $\theta$ . Let  $J_{f_\theta}$  denote the Julia set of  $f_\theta$  and let  $J_\theta \subset J_{f_\theta}$  denote the boundary of the immediate attracted basin  $\Lambda_\theta(\infty)$  for  $\infty$ . It was proved in [Pet] that

**Theorem 5.1** *For every irrational  $\theta$  the subset  $J_\theta$  and the full Julia set  $J_{f_\theta}$  are locally connected.*

We shall prove the following Theorem which combined with Theorem 5.1 implies Theorem 1.3:

**Theorem 5.2** *There exists irrational  $\theta$  of unbounded type for which the Julia set  $J_{c_\theta}$  for  $Q_{c_\theta}$  is homeomorphic to  $J_\theta$ .*

The equivalent of Theorem 5.2 in the case of constant type  $\theta$  was proven simultaneously by Douady, Ghys, Herman, Hubbard and Shishikura, who all used the following procedure:

Suppose the number  $\theta$  is of constant type. Let  $h : \mathbb{S}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^1$  denote the conjugacy, between  $f_\theta$  and the rigid rotation  $R_\theta$ . As  $\theta$  has constant type, the Herman-Świątec Theorem 1.2 implies that the map  $h$  is  $c$ -quasi-symmetric, with a constant  $c > 1$ , which only depends on the bound  $N$  on the coefficients of the continued fraction expansion for  $\theta$ . Let  $\psi_\theta : \overline{\mathbb{D}} \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{D}}$  be a  $K$ -quasi-conformal extension of  $h$  (with a  $K > 1$  which only depends on  $c$  and hence on  $N$ ) and define  $F_\theta : \overline{\mathbb{C}} \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{C}}$  by

$$F_\theta(z) = \begin{cases} f_\theta(z) & \text{if } z \in \overline{\mathbb{C}} \setminus \mathbb{D} \\ \psi_\theta^{-1} \circ R_\theta \circ \psi_\theta & \text{if } z \in \overline{\mathbb{D}}. \end{cases}$$

Let  $\sigma_0$  denote the standard almost complex structure on  $\overline{\mathbb{C}}$ , and let  $\sigma_\theta$  denote the  $F_\theta$  invariant almost complex structure given by

$$\sigma_\theta(z) = \begin{cases} \psi^*(\sigma_0)(z) & \text{if } z \in \mathbb{D} \\ ((\psi \circ F_\theta^n)^*(\sigma_0))(z) & \text{if } F^n(z) \in \mathbb{D} \\ \sigma_0(z) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Finally let  $\phi_\theta : \bar{\mathbb{C}} \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{C}}$  be the integrating map, the quasi-conformal homeomorphism for which  $\sigma_\theta = \phi_\theta^*(\sigma_0)$ , normalized so that the conjugate map  $\phi_\theta \circ F_\theta \circ \phi_\theta^{-1}$  equals the quadratic polynomial  $Q_\theta(z) = z^2 + c_\theta$ , with an indifferent fixed point of multiplier  $e^{i2\pi\theta}$ .

The conjugacy  $h : \mathbb{S}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^1$  between  $f_\theta$  and  $R_\theta$ , normalized by  $h(1) = 1$  depends continuously on  $\theta$  in the  $C^0$ -topology, because  $f_\theta$  and  $R_\theta$  depend continuously on  $\theta$  in the  $C^0$ -topology.

Thus by choosing the quasi-conformal extension  $\psi_\theta$  in some canonical way, say by using the Ahlfors-Beurling extension, [LV, Th. 6.3] or the Douady-Earle extension, [DE] we can suppose that also the quasi-conformal extensions  $\psi_\theta$  depend continuously on  $\theta$  in the  $C^0$ -topology. To fix the ideas we choose to use say the Douady-Earle extension for every  $\theta$ .

**Lemma 5.3** *Let  $(\theta_n)$  be a sequence of irrationals converging to some irrational  $\theta_0$ . Suppose the  $\theta_n$  have constant type with a uniform constant type bound  $N$ . Then  $\theta_0$  has constant type with bound  $N$  and the two sequences  $(\phi_{\theta_n})$  and  $(\phi_{\theta_n}^{-1})$  converges to  $\phi_{\theta_0}$  respectively  $\phi_{\theta_0}^{-1}$  in the  $C^0$ -topology.*

**Proof:** The coefficients of  $\theta_n$  converge to those of  $\theta_0$  so that  $\theta_0$  has constant type with bound  $N$ . We shall prove that  $\phi_{\theta_n}$  converges uniformly ( $C^0$ ) to  $\phi_{\theta_0}$ , from which the Lemma follows.

There exists  $K(N) \geq 1$ , such that each map  $\phi_{\theta_n}$  is  $K$ -quasi conformal. Thus extracting a subsequence, if necessary we can assume the sequence converge  $C^0$  to a  $K$  quasi-conformal homeomorphism  $\phi_0$ . We shall prove that

$$\phi_0 = \phi_{\theta_0}. \quad (12)$$

As  $(F_{\theta_n})$  converges  $C^0$  to  $F_{\theta_0}$  and  $(Q_{c_{\theta_n}})$  converges  $C^0$  to  $Q_{c_{\theta_0}}$  the map  $\phi_0$  conjugates  $F_{\theta_0}$  to  $Q_{\theta_0}$  and the restriction of  $\phi_0$  to the immediate attracted basin of  $\infty$  is biholomorphic. Thus (12) holds on the closure of the immediate attracted basin of  $\infty$ , by uniqueness of the holomorphic conjugacy. Moreover (12) also holds on the 'Siegel-disk'  $\mathbb{D}$ , because the Douady-Earle extension depends continuously on the boundary data  $h_\theta$ . Finally it holds on the grand orbit of  $\mathbb{D}$ , because both  $\phi_0$  and  $\phi_{\theta_0}$  conjugates dynamics. Thus any ( $C^0$ ) limit function of the  $\phi_{\theta_n}$  equals  $\phi_{\theta_0}$ . Combining this with the precompactness of the sequence  $(\phi_{\theta_n})$  and the compactness of  $\bar{\mathbb{C}}$  completes the proof. **q.e.d.**

**Proof of Theorem 5.2:** Let  $(\epsilon_n)$  be a summable sequence of strictly positive numbers. Let  $(d_n)$  be any unbounded sequence of natural numbers and let  $\theta_1$  be any irrational of constant type. Given a natural number  $k_1$  let for each  $n \geq 1$  the irrational number  $\theta_{1,n}$  be obtained from  $\theta_1$  by replacing the  $(n + k_1)$ -th coefficient  $b_{n+k_1}$  in the continued fraction expansion of  $\theta_1$  with  $d_1$ . Then the sequence  $(\theta_{1,n})$  converges to  $\theta_1$ . Hence by Lemma 5.3 there exists  $n$  such that

$$d_{C^0}(\phi_{\theta_1}, \phi_{\theta_{1,n}}) \leq \epsilon_1 \quad \text{and} \quad d_{C^0}(\phi_{\theta_1}^{-1}, \phi_{\theta_{1,n}}^{-1}) \leq \epsilon_1$$

Let  $\theta_2 = \theta_{1,n}$  and let  $k_2 = k_1 + n$ . Then we may restart the process using  $\theta_2$ ,  $k_2$ ,  $d_2$  and  $\epsilon_2$  to obtain an irrational  $\theta_3$  of constant type, but with  $b_{k_2} = d_1$  and  $b_{k_3} = d_2$ . Proceeding inductively we find a sequence  $(\theta_n)$  of irrational numbers of constant type converging to some irrational of non constant type  $\theta_0$  and a Cauchy sequence (in the  $C^0$ -norm) of (quasi-conformal) homeomorphisms  $(\phi_{\theta_n})$ , such that also the the sequence of inverse maps is a Cauchy sequence. Let  $\phi_0$  denote the limit of the sequence  $(\phi_{\theta_n})$ , then  $\phi_0$  is a homeomorphism conjugating  $F_{\theta_0}$  to  $Q_{c_0}$ . In particular  $J_{c_{\theta_0}} = \phi_0(J_{\theta_0})$ . **q.e.d.**

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