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# SMOOTHNESS PROPERTIES OF FUNCTIONS IN R<sup>2</sup> (X) AT CERTAIN BOUNDARY POINTS

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<u>ABSTRACT</u>. Let X be a compact subset of the complex plane &fmullet. We denote by  $R_0(X)$  the algebra consisting of the (restrictions to X of) rational functions with poles off X. Let m denote 2-dimensional Lebesgue measure. For  $p \ge 1$ , let  $R^p(X)$  be the closure of  $R_0(X)$  in  $L^p(X,dm)$ .

In this paper, we consider the case p = 2. Let  $x \in \partial X$  be both a bounded point evaluation for  $R^2(X)$  and the vertex of a sector contained in Int X. Let L be a line which passes through x and bisects the sector. For those  $y \in L \cap X$  that are sufficiently near x we prove statements about |f(y) - f(x)| for all  $f \in R^2(X)$ .

<u>KEY WORDS AND PHRASES</u>. Rational functions, compact set, L<sup>P</sup>-spaces, bounded point evaluation, admissible function.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION.

Let X be a compact subset of the complex plane  $\oint$ . We denote by  $R_0(X)$  the algebra consisting of the (restrictions to X of) rational functions with poles off X. Let m denote 2-dimensional Lebesgue measure. For  $p \ge 1$ , let  $L^p(X) = L^p(X,dm)$ . The closure of  $R_0(X)$  in  $L^p(X)$  will be denoted by  $R^p(X)$ . Whenever p and q both appear, we will assume that  $p^{-1} + q^{-1} = 1$ .

In "Bounded point evaluations and smoothness properties of functions in  $\mathbb{R}^{p}(X)$ ", [6, p. 76], we proved the following:

THEOREM 1.1. Let  $\phi$  be an admissible function and s a nonnegative integer. Suppose that p > 2 and that there is an  $x \in X$  represented by a function  $g \in L^q(X)$  such that  $(z-x)^{-s}\phi(|z-x|)^{-1}g \in L^q(X)$ . Then for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is a set E in X having full area density at x such that for every  $f \in R^p(X)$ 

(i) 
$$f = \sum_{j=0}^{S} (D_x^j f) (z-x)^j + R$$
 where  $R \in R^p(X)$  satisfies  
(ii)  $|R(y)| \le \varepsilon |y-x|^s \phi (|y-x|) ||f||_p$  for all  $y \in E$ , and  
(iii) app  $\lim_{y \to x} \frac{R(y)}{|y-x|^s \phi (|y-x|)} = 0.$ 

It is natural to ask whether a similar result holds for the case p = 2. The problem in extending the proof of Theorem 1.1 to the case p = 2 is that  $z^{-1} \notin L^2_{loc}$ . Fernström and Polking have shown at least one way in which the case p > 2 differs from p = 2 [2, pp. 5-9]. They have constructed a compact set X such that  $R^2(X) \neq L^2(X)$  but no point in X is a bounded point evaluation for  $R^2(X)$ . In this paper we consider the case p = 2 when  $x \in \partial X$  is a bounded point evaluation for  $R^2(X)$  and is a special kind of boundary point. We will assume that  $x \in \partial X$  is the vertex of a sector contained in Int X. To prove our theorem we will need the representing functions used in [6]and a capacity defined in terms of a Bessel kernel. We will also use results of Fernström and Polking to construct a representing function for x with support outside the sector mentioned above.

## 2. REPRESENTING FUNCTIONS.

In this paper z will denote the identity function.

DEFINITION 2.1. A point  $x \in X$  is a <u>bounded point evaluation</u> (BPE) for  $R^{2}(X) \subset L^{2}(X)$  if there is a constant C such that

$$|f(\mathbf{x})| \leq C\{\int |f|^2 dm\}^{1/2}$$
 for all  $f \in \mathbb{R}^2(X)$ .

It follows from the Riesz representation theorem that if  $x \in X$  is a BPE for  $R^2(X)$  then there is a function  $g \in L^2(X)$  such that  $f(x) = \int fg \, dm$ for all  $f \in R^2(X)$ . Such a g is called a <u>representing function for</u> x.

DEFINITION 2.2. We define the Cauchy transform of g to be

$$\hat{g}(y) = \int (z-y)^{-1} g \, dm$$
  
for each y such that 
$$\int |z-y|^{-1} |g| dm < \infty$$

The following lemma was proved by Bishop for the sup norm case. The proof for our case is similar and is found in [6, p. 73].

LEMMA 2.1. Suppose that  $g \in L^2(X)$  and that  $\int fg \, dm = 0$  for all  $f \in R^2(X)$ . Suppose that  $\hat{g}(y)$  is defined and  $\frac{1}{7}$  0 and that  $(z-y)^{-1}g \in L^2(X)$ . Then  $\hat{g}(y)^{-1}(z-y)^{-1}g$  is a representing function for y.

Let  $c(y) = \int (z-x)(z-y)^{-1}g \, dm = 1 + (y-x)\hat{g}(y)$ . From the above lemma there follows

COROLLARY 2.1. Let  $g \in L^2(X)$  be a representing function for  $x \in X$ . Then  $c(y)^{-1}(z-x)(z-y)^{-1}g$  is a representing function for y whenever c(y) is defined and  $\frac{1}{7}$  0, and  $(z-y)^{-1}g \in L^2(X)$ .

## 3. CAPACITY DEFINED USING A BESSEL KERNEL.

Denote the Bessel kernel of order 1 by  $G_1$  where  $G_1$  is defined in terms of its Fourier transform by

$$\hat{G}_{1}(z) = (1+|z|^{2})^{-1/2}$$

For f  $\epsilon$  L<sup>2</sup>(C) we define the potential

 $U_1^{f}(z) = \int G_1(z-y)f(y)dm(y).$ 

DEFINITION.  $L_1^2$  denotes the space of functions  $U_1^f$ ,  $f \in L^2$ , where the norm is defined by  $||U_1^f|| = ||f||_2$ .

DEFINITION.  $L_1^2$  is the Sobolev space of functions in  $L^2$  whose distribution derivatives of order 1 are functions in  $L^2$ .

The Calderón-Zygmund theory shows that  $\mathcal{L}_1^2$  equals the space of functions  $L_1^2$  and that the norms are equivalent [4].

We recall the definition of the capacity  $\Gamma_2$ .

DEFINITION. Let  $E \subset c$  be an arbitrary set. Then  $\Gamma_2(E) = \inf_{\omega} \int |\operatorname{grad} \omega|^2 dm$  where the infimum is taken over all  $\omega \in L_1^2$  such that  $\omega \geq 1$  on E. Hedberg has used this capacity to characterize BPE's for  $\mathbb{R}^2(X)$  [3]. The next theorem is proved in [6, p. 82].

THEOREM 3.1. Let  $0 \in X$  be a BPE for  $R^2(X)$  that is represented by a function  $v \in L^2(X)$ . Suppose that  $\phi$  is an admissible function such that  $\phi(|z|)^{-1}v \in L^2(X)$ . Then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^{2n}\phi(2^{-n})^{-2}\Gamma_2(A_n \setminus X) < \infty$ .

REMARK. The theorem is, in fact, true if  $\phi$  is any positive nondecreasing function defined on  $(0,\infty)$ .

Now we define the Bessel capacity which Fernström and Polking use to describe BPE's for  $R^2(X)$ .

DEFINITION. Let  $E \subset \varphi$  be an arbitrary set. Then  $C_{1,2}(E) = \inf \int |f|^2 dm$  where the infimum is taken over all  $f \in L^2(\varphi)$  such that  $f(z) \ge 0$  and  $U_1^f(z) \ge 1$  for all  $z \in E$ .

The equivalence of the norms on  $\mathcal{L}_1^2$  and  $L_1^2$  implies that the capacities  $\Gamma_2$  and  $C_{1,2}$  are equivalent.

4. <u>A FUNDAMENTAL SOLUTION FOR</u>  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \overline{z}}$ 

We will use  $\beta = (\beta_1, \beta_2)$  to denote a double index that may be (0,0), (0,1), or (1,0). We set  $|\beta| = \beta_1 + \beta_2$ . Letting z = x + iy, we denote the first order partial derivatives by

$$D^{\beta} = \frac{\partial^{\beta} 1}{\partial x^{\beta} 1} \frac{\partial^{\beta} 2}{\partial y^{\beta} 2} .$$

The differential operator  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \overline{x}} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial y}$  has the function H(w,z) = $\frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{1}{z-w}\right) \text{ as a bi-regular fundamental solution. Hence } \frac{\partial}{\partial \overline{z}} H(z,w) = \delta_{w} \text{ and } \delta_{z} \text{ is the formal adjoint of } \frac{\partial}{\partial \overline{z}} \text{ and } \delta_{z} \text{ is the formal adjoint of } \frac{\partial}{\partial \overline{z}} = 0$ Dirac measure supported at z. We note that for  $\beta = (0,0)$ , (0,1), (1,0)

$$|D^{\beta}H(0,z)| \leq \frac{1}{\pi} |z|^{-1-|\beta|}, z \neq 0.$$

The next lemma links BPE's to the function H(w,z). A proof which includes this as a special case is in [2, p. 3].

LEMMA 4.1. A point  $z_0 \in X$  is a BPE for  $R^2(X) \subset L^2(X)$  if and only if there is a function  $f \in L^2_{1,loc}(\mathbf{c})$ , such that  $f(z) = \frac{1}{\pi}(\frac{1}{z-z_0})$  for all zε¢\X.

The next lemma we need is proved by Fernström and Polking in [2, pp. 13-15]. It is interesting that this lemma holds for  $\beta = (0,0)$  as well as (0,1)and (1,0). Before stating it we introduce more notation.

DEFINITION. For a compact set X, let

$$X = \{z | Dist(z, X) < \varepsilon\}.$$

DEFINITION. We denote  $A_k(0) = \{z | 2^{-k-1} \le |z| \le 2^{-k+1}\}$  by  $A_k$ . DEFINITION. Let  $A'_k = \{z | 2^{-k-2} \le |z| \le 2^{-k+1} \}.$ LEMMA 4.2. Let X  $\subset$  ¢ be compact and suppose that

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} 2^{2k} C_{1,2}(A_k \setminus X) < \infty.$$

Then for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  and for each  $k \ge 0$  there is a function  $\psi_k \in C^{\infty}$  such that

(i) 
$$\psi_{\mathbf{k}}(z) \equiv 1$$
 for  $z$  near  $A_{\mathbf{k}}' \setminus X_{\varepsilon}$ , and  
(ii) 
$$\int |D^{\beta}\psi_{\mathbf{k}}(z)|^{2}dm(z) \leq F2^{-2\mathbf{k}(1-|\beta|)}C_{1,2}(A_{\mathbf{k}}'\setminus X)$$
 $|z|\leq 2^{-\mathbf{k}+1}$ 
for  $\beta = (0,0)$ ,  $(0,1)$ , and  $(1,0)$ . The constant  $F$  is independent of  $\mathbf{k}$ .

#### 5. THE MAIN RESULT.

It is no restriction to assume that the boundary point  $x \in \partial X$  is the origin (x = 0). Also, we may assume that  $X \subset \{|z| < 2\}$ . In taking 0 to be the vertex of a sector in Int X we mean that there are numbers  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $0 \le \alpha < \beta < 2\pi$ , and a number a, 0 < a < 2, such that if  $(r,\theta)$  are polar coordinates, and  $S = \{(r,\theta) | \alpha \le \theta \le \beta, 0 \le r \le a\}$ , then Int  $S \subset$  Int X. Let L be the mid-line  $L = \{(r,\theta) | \theta = \frac{\beta-\alpha}{2}, 0 \le r < a\}$ . Since  $y \in$  Int X is a BPE for  $R^2(X)$ , we may use f(y) to represent the value of that linear functional at a given  $f \in R^2(X)$ . We want to study f(y) - f(0) for  $f \in R^2(X)$  as y approaches 0 along L.

First we will construct a function  $g \in L^2(X)$  which represents 0 for  $R^2(X)$  and which has support disjoint from a sector surrounding L. This second sector S' is a subset of S defined by

S' = {(r, 
$$\theta$$
) | $\alpha$  +  $\frac{\beta-\alpha}{3} \le \theta \le \beta - \frac{\beta-\alpha}{3}$ ,  $0 \le r \le a$ }.

LEMMA 5.1. Suppose that 0 is a BPE for  $R^2(X)$  that is the vertex of a sector S in X. Then, there is a function  $g \in L^2(X)$  such that:

- (i) g represents 0 for  $R^2(X)$ ,
- (ii) m((supp g) ∩ S') = 0,
- (iii) For all  $n \ge 0$ ,

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$$\int_{A_{n}} \int_{X} |g|^{2} dm \leq F \sum_{k=n-1}^{n+1} 2^{2k} C_{1,2}(A_{k}' \setminus X)$$

where F is a constant independent of n. PROOF. Choose  $\lambda \in C_0^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^1)$  such that

$$\lambda(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t \leq \frac{1}{4} \text{ or } t \geq 2 \\ \\ 1 & \text{if } \frac{1}{2} \leq t \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

For each integer k set

$$\lambda_{k}(z) = \lambda(2^{k}|z|) / \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} \lambda(2^{j}|z|) \text{ for } z \in \mathcal{C} \setminus \text{Int S.}$$

For those values of z in Int S define  $\lambda_k(z)$  so that the following three conditions are satisfied:

- (1)  $\lambda_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{z}) \in C^{\infty}$
- (2)  $\lambda_k(z) = 0$  for  $z \in X \cap S'$ , and
- (3) There are constants  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  such that for all k

$$\left|\frac{\partial \lambda_k(z)}{\partial x}\right| \leq F_1 2^k \text{ and } \left|\frac{\partial \lambda_k(z)}{\partial y}\right| \leq F_2 2^k.$$

The constants  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are independent of k.

Given  $\varepsilon > 0$  choose the functions  $\psi_k$  of Lemma 4.2. On the complement of  $X_{\varepsilon}$  we have  $\psi_k \lambda_k \equiv \lambda_k$  since supp  $\lambda_k \subset A'_k$ . Thus,  $\sum_{0}^{\infty} \psi_k \lambda_k \equiv 1$  on  $\Delta(0,1/4) \setminus X_{\varepsilon}$ . Choose  $\chi \in C_0^{\infty}$  with  $\chi(z) \equiv 1$  near X. Set  $h(z) = \chi(z)H(0,z)$ where  $H(0,z) = \frac{1}{\pi z}$ .

For each double index  $\beta = (0,0)$ , (0,1), and (1,0) there is a constant  $F_{\beta}$  such that

$$\left| \mathsf{D}^{\beta} \mathsf{h}(z) \right| \leq \mathsf{F}_{\beta} \left| z \right|^{-1 - \left| \beta \right|}.$$

These inequalities follow from those of Section 4 and the fact that  $\chi$  and its derivatives are bounded. Set  $f_{\varepsilon} = h \sum_{0}^{\infty} \psi_k \lambda_k = \sum_{0}^{\infty} \psi_k h_k$  where  $h_k = \lambda_k h$ . Since  $\sup \lambda_k \subset A'_k$ , the above inequalities imply that E. WOLF

(\*) 
$$|D^{\beta}h_{k}(z)| \leq F_{\beta}2^{k(1+|\beta|)}$$

Henceforth, we will limit the number of symbols denoting constants by letting F denote any constant. The inequalities (\*) combined with Lemma 4.2 imply that

$$\begin{aligned} \left|\left|f_{\varepsilon}\right|\right|_{L_{1}^{2}}^{2} &\leq F\sum_{\substack{|\beta+\lambda|\leq 1}}\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}\int\left|D^{\beta}h_{k}(z)D^{\gamma}\psi_{k}(z)\right|^{2}dm(z) \\ &\leq F\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}\sum_{\substack{|\beta+\lambda|\leq 1}}2^{2k(1+|\beta|)}\int_{\substack{|z|\leq 2^{-k+1}}}D^{\lambda}\psi_{k}(z)\right|^{2}dm(z) \\ &\leq F\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}2^{2k}C_{1,2}(A_{k}^{\prime}\backslash X). \end{aligned}$$

Finally, by the subadditivity of the capacity  $C_{1,2}$ , we have

$$||\mathbf{f}_{\varepsilon}||_{L_{1}^{2}}^{2} \leq \mathbf{F} \quad \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} 2^{2k} \mathbf{C}_{1,2}(\mathbf{A}_{k} \setminus \mathbf{X}).$$

The net  $\{f_{\varepsilon}\}$  is bounded in  $L_1^2$ . We can choose a subsequence  $\{f_{\varepsilon}\}$ that converges weakly in  $L_1^2$ . Let  $f(z) = \lim_{\substack{j \to \infty \\ j \to \infty \\ \varepsilon_j}} f(z) + (1-\chi)H(0,z)$  for  $z \in \langle X \rangle$ . Then  $f \in L_{1,1oc}^2$ , and f(z) = H(0,z) for  $z \in \langle X \rangle$ . Note that since  $f_{\varepsilon_j}(z) = 0$  for all  $z \in X \land S'$ , f(z) = 0 for a.e.  $z \in X \land S'$ . If necessary, we may redefine f on  $X \land S'$  so that f(z) = 0 for every  $z \in X \land S'$ .

Set  $g = \frac{t_{\partial}}{\partial \overline{z}} f$ . Then  $g \in L^2(X)$ , and g is a representing function for 0 (see [2, p. 3]). If  $z \notin X$ , g(z) = 0. Clearly,  $m((supp g) \cap S') = 0$ . We have

$$\int_{A_{n} \cap X} |g|^{2} dm \leq F \qquad \sum_{|\beta| \leq 1} \int_{A_{n} \cap X} |D^{\beta}f|^{2} dm$$
$$\leq F \qquad \sum_{|\beta+\lambda| \leq 1} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \int_{A_{n} \cap X} |D^{\beta}h_{k}D^{\lambda}\psi_{k}|^{2} dm.$$

The integral  $\int |D^{\beta}h_{k}\psi_{k}|^{2}dm$  will be nonzero only for those k such that  $A_{n} \wedge X$ 

 $A'_k \cap A_n \cap X \neq \phi$ , i.e., k = n - 1, n, n + 1. Thus, by (\*) and Lemma 4.2,

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$$\int_{A_{n} \wedge X} |g|^{2} dm \leq F \sum_{\substack{|\beta+\lambda| \leq 1 \\ \leq 1 \\ \leq F \\ k=n-1}} \sum_{\substack{|\beta+\lambda| \leq 1 \\ k=n-1}} \int_{A_{n} \wedge X} |D^{\beta}h_{k}D^{\lambda}\psi_{k}|^{2} dm$$

This completes the proof of (i), (ii), and (iii).

We will use the next lemma to obtain representing functions for points near 0 on the line segment L. Let 0,X,S, and g be as in the previous lemma, and let c(y) be as defined in Section 2.

LEMMA 5.2. Let  $0 \in X$  be represented by a function  $v \in L^2(X)$ . Suppose that  $\phi$  is an admissible function and that  $v(z)\phi(|z|)^{-1} \in L^2(X)$ . Then for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a  $\delta$  such that if  $|y| < \delta$  and  $y \in L$ , then  $|c(y)| = |1 + y\hat{g}(y)| > 1 - \varepsilon$ .

PROOF. Since the capacities  $\Gamma_2$  and  $C_{1,2}$  are equivalent, Theorem 3.1 implies that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^{2n} \phi(2^{-n})^{-2} C_{1,2}(A_n \setminus X) < \infty.$$

To show that c(y) is defined, we first note that

$$|\mathbf{y}| \int \mathbf{g} \cdot (\mathbf{z}-\mathbf{y})^{-1} d\mathbf{m} | \leq \phi(|\mathbf{y}|) \psi(|\mathbf{y}|) \int |\mathbf{g}| \psi(|\mathbf{z}-\mathbf{y}|)^{-1} \phi(|\mathbf{z}-\mathbf{y}|)^{-1} d\mathbf{m}.$$

where  $\psi(\mathbf{r}) = \mathbf{r} \cdot \phi(\mathbf{r})^{-1}$ . By definition of S' there is a constant  $\mathbf{k}_1$  such that  $\mathbf{k}_1 |\mathbf{z}-\mathbf{y}| \ge |\mathbf{z}|$  for any  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{L}$  and  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbf{X} \setminus \mathbf{S}' - \{0\}$ . Similarly, there is a constant  $\mathbf{k}_2$  such that  $\mathbf{k}_2 |\mathbf{z}-\mathbf{y}| \ge |\mathbf{y}|$  for any  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{L}$  and  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbf{X} \setminus \mathbf{S}' - \{0\}$ . Since  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  are both increasing,

$$\phi(|z|)\phi(|z-y|)^{-1} \le k_1$$
 and  $\psi(|y|)\psi(|z-y|)^{-1} \le k_2$ .

Hence

$$|\mathbf{y}| \left| \int g \cdot (\mathbf{z}-\mathbf{y})^{-1} d\mathbf{m} \right| \leq F\phi(|\mathbf{y}|) \int |\mathbf{g}| \cdot \phi^{-1} d\mathbf{m}.$$
  
We claim that  $g \cdot \phi^{-1} \in L^2(X)$  and therefore  $g \cdot \phi^{-1} \in L^1(X)$ . First observe

that

$$\int |g|^2 \cdot \phi^{-2} dm \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \phi(2^{-n})^{-2} \int |g|^2 dm.$$

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By Lemma 5.1 and the subadditivity of  $C_{1,2}$  we get  $\int |g|^2 \phi^{-2} dm \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \phi(2^{-n})^{-2} 2^{2n} C_{1,2}(A_n \setminus X).$ 

The capacity series converges. Thus,  $\hat{g}(y)$  is defined. Since  $\lim \phi(r) = 0$ ,  $r \rightarrow 0$ we can choose for any given  $\varepsilon > 0$  a  $\delta > 0$  such that

$$\left| y\hat{g}(y) \right| = \left| y \right| \left| \int g \cdot (z - y)^{-1} dm \right| \le F\phi(\left| y \right|) \int \left| g \right| \cdot \phi^{-1} dm < \varepsilon$$

for  $|y| < \delta$  and  $y \in L$ . It follows that  $|c(y)| = |1 + y\hat{g}(y)| > 1 - \varepsilon$ .

In the following theorem, X, 0, and L are just as they have been.

THEOREM 5.1. Let  $0 \in \partial X$  be a BPE for  $R^2(X)$  which is represented by function  $v \in R^2(X)$ . Suppose that  $\phi$  is an admissible function and that  $v(z)\phi(|z|)^{-1} \in L^2(X)$ . Then for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is a  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $y \in L \cap \Delta(0, \delta)$ ,

$$|f(y) - f(0)| \le \varepsilon\phi(|y|)||f||_2$$

for all  $f \in R^2(X)$ .

PROOF. Let  $g \in L^2(X)$  be a representing function for 0 as in Lemma 5.1. Choose  $\delta_1$  by Lemma 5.2 so that for  $y \in L$  and  $|y| < \delta_1$ , |c(y)| > 1/2. Then by Corollary 2.1,

$$f(y) - f(0) = c(y)^{-1} \int [f - f(0)]z(z-y)^{-1}gdm$$
  
=  $c(y)^{-1} \int [f - f(0)][1 + y(z-y)^{-1}]gdm$   
=  $yc(y)^{-1} \int [f - f(0)](z-y)^{-1}gdm.$ 

Thus, for  $y \in L$  and  $|y| < \delta_1$  $|f(y) - f(0)| \le 2|y| \int |f - f(0)| |z-y|^{-1}|g| dm$ .

There exists a monotone, increasing function  $\overline{\phi}$  such that  $\lim_{r \to 0^+} \overline{\phi}(r) = 0$ and  $\phi(|z|)^{-1}\overline{\phi}(|z|)^{-1}v(z) \in L^2(X)$  (see [6, p. 74]). Moreover, we may choose  $\overline{\phi}$  so that the function  $r\phi(r)^{-1}\overline{\phi}(r)^{-1}$  is also monotone increasing. Let  $\phi(r) = \phi(r) \cdot \overline{\phi}(r)$ . Then recalling that  $k_1|z-y| \ge |z|$  and  $k_2|z-y| \ge |y|$  for  $y \in L$  and  $z \in X \setminus S' - \{0\}$ , we have

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$$|f(y) - f(0)| \le F\Phi(|y|) ||f||_2 \{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \Phi(2^{-n})^{-2} \int_{A_n} |g|^2 dm \}^{1/2}$$

If the sum of the infinite series is less than 1, the theorem is nearly proved. Suppose the sum is greater than or equal to 1. Then

$$\begin{aligned} |f(y) - f(0)| &\leq F|(|y|)||f||_{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^{2n} \phi(2^{-n})^{-2} C_{1,2}(A_{n} \setminus X) \\ &\leq F\bar{\phi}(|y|)\phi(|y|)||f||_{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^{2n} \phi(2^{-n})^{-2} C_{1,2}(A_{n} \setminus X) \end{aligned}$$

Since the capacity series converges by Theorem 3.1, we may choose  $\delta_2$  such that for  $|y| < \delta_2 \quad F\overline{\phi}(|y|) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^{2n} \phi (2^{-n})^{-2} C_{1,2}(A_n \setminus X) < \varepsilon$ . Then  $|f(y) - f(0)| \le \varepsilon \phi(|y|) ||f||_2$  for  $|y| < \min(\delta_1, \delta_2)$  and  $y \in L$ . This concludes the proof.

REMARKS. (i) If  $0 \in \delta X$  is a BPE for  $R^2(X)$ , there always exists an admissible function  $\phi$  as in the hypotheses of Theorem 5.1 (see [5, p. 74]).

(ii) The theorem may be extended by techniques of Wang [5] to include bounded point derivations of order s so that a statement similar to Theorem 1.1(ii) holds for  $y \in L \land \Delta(0, \delta)$ .

(iii) For certain sets X a point  $0 \in \partial X$  which is a BPE for  $\mathbb{R}^2(X)$  may not be the vertex of any sector having interior in Int X. Suppose, however, that 0 is a cusp for a curve whose interior is in Int X. Let L be a line segment which bisects the cusp at 0 and let C denote the interior of the cusp near 0. Then if  $y \in L \cap C$  and  $z \in X \setminus C$ ,  $|y-z|\tau(|y|) \ge |y|$  where  $\tau$  is a monotone decreasing function such that  $\lim_{r \to 0^+} \tau(r) = \infty$ . Depending on how rapidly  $\tau$  approaches  $\infty$  at 0 (or how rapidly the cusp "narrows"), we can show that functions in  $\mathbb{R}^2(X)$  satisfy an inequality similar to that of Theorem 5.1.

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