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Guillaume Havard, Michel Zinsmeister

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THERMODYNAMIC FORMALISM AND VARIATIONS OF THE HAUSDORFF DIMENSION OF QUADRATIC JULIA SETS

GUILLAUME HAVARD, MICHEL ZINSMEISTER

ABSTRACT. Let $d(c)$ denotes the Hausdorff dimension of the Julia set of the polynomial $z \mapsto z^2 + c$. The function d restricted to $[0, +\infty)$ is real analytic in $[0, \frac{1}{4}) \cup (\frac{1}{4}, +\infty)$ ([Ru²]), is left-continuous at $\frac{1}{4}$ ([Bo,Zi]) but not continuous ([Do,Se,Zi]). We prove that $c \mapsto d'(c)$ tends to $+\infty$ from the left at $\frac{1}{4}$ as $(\frac{1}{4} - c)^{d(\frac{1}{4}) - \frac{3}{2}}$. In particular the graph of d has a vertical tangent on the left at $\frac{1}{4}$, result which comforts the numerical experiments.

1. INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT OF THE RESULT

By quadratic family we mean the family of polynomials

$$P_c : z \mapsto z^2 + c, \quad c \in \mathbb{C}.$$

As usual K_c and J_c will denote respectively the filled-in Julia set and the Julia set of P_c . We recall that $J_c = \partial K_c$ and that K_c is the set of complex numbers z for which the sequence obtained by induction by $z_0 = z, z_{n+1} = P_c(z_n)$ does not converge to ∞ .

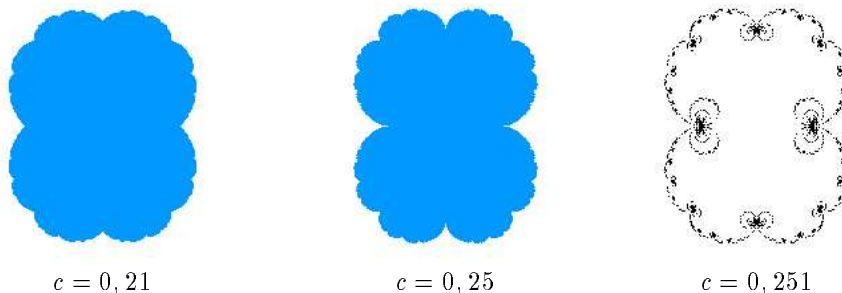


FIGURE 1. Filled-in Julia sets for different values of the parameter c
(Pictures made with Arnaud Cheritat's program).

We are interested in the function $c \mapsto d(c)$ where $d(c)$ denotes Hausdorff dimension of J_c . A well known result of Ruelle ([Ru²]), based on thermodynamic formalism (Bowen Formula) asserts that this function is real-analytic on the complement of the Mandelbrot set $\mathbb{M} = \{c \in \mathbb{C} \mid K_c \text{ is connected}\}$ as well as on every hyperbolic component of $\overset{\circ}{\mathbb{M}}$.

So d is real-analytic on $] \frac{-3}{4}, \frac{1}{4}[\cup] \frac{1}{4}, \infty[$, since $] \frac{-3}{4}, \frac{1}{4}[$ is the trace on \mathbb{R} of the main cardioid of \mathbb{M} , the hyperbolic component of values of c such that P_c has an attracting

fixed point, and $] \frac{1}{4}, \infty[\subset \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{M}$

The point $\frac{1}{4}$ corresponds dynamically to a bifurcation; for $0 < c < \frac{1}{4}$ P_c has two real fixed points, one attracting and one repelling and they both converge to $\frac{1}{2}$, the parabolic fixed point for $P_{\frac{1}{4}}$, as c goes to $\frac{1}{4}$. When c is greater than $\frac{1}{4}$, P_c possesses two repelling conjugated fixed points.

In [Bo,Zi] it has been proved that $d_{\mathbb{R}}$ is continuous from the left at $\frac{1}{4}$. On the other hand, parabolic implosion produces a topological discontinuity which induces a jump of the function d ; more precisely it is shown in [Do,Se,Zi] that

$$d\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) < \liminf_{c \rightarrow \frac{1}{4}+0} d(c) \leq \limsup_{c \rightarrow \frac{1}{4}+0} d(c) < 2.$$

Notice that it is not known if d has a limit from the right at $\frac{1}{4}$.

The purpose of the present article is to precise the speed of convergence of $d(c)$ towards $d(\frac{1}{4})$ from the left. From now on we write $\delta = d(\frac{1}{4})$.

Bowen's formula is relatively well adapted to computation and several numerical experiments have been performed [Ga], [Bo,Zi], [McMu]. They all show the same behaviour before $\frac{1}{4}$, namely a vertical tangent at this point. We prove this rigorously modulo the accepted bound $\delta < \frac{3}{2}$. Indeed all quoted numerical values give $\delta \simeq 1,07^+0,02$ which is very far from $\frac{3}{2}$. We do not feel like going into tedious computations to prove this, even if it can certainly be done.

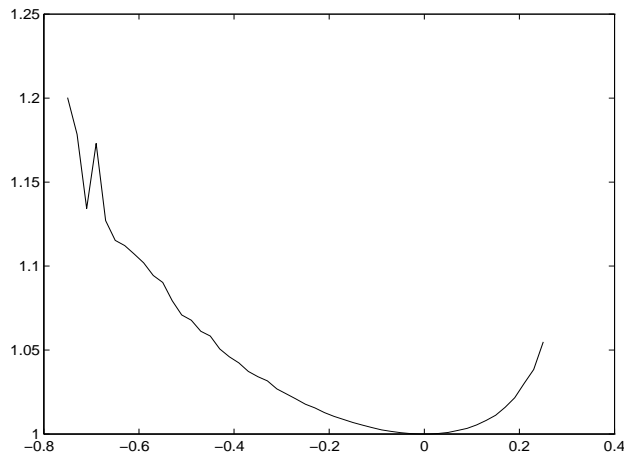


FIGURE 2. The graph of d obtained in [Bo,Zi].

Theorem 1.1. *There exist $c_0 < \frac{1}{4}$ and $K > 1$ such that*

$$\forall c \in [c_0, \frac{1}{4}[\quad \frac{1}{K} \leq \left(\frac{1}{4} - c\right)^{\left(\frac{3}{2} - \delta\right)} d'(c) \leq K.$$

Remark 1.2. Notice that it implies

$$\delta - d(c) \sim \left(\frac{1}{4} - c\right)^{\delta - \frac{1}{2}}.$$

2. BOWEN'S FORMULA AND THERMODYNAMIC FORMALISM.

The Julia set J_0 admits a natural Markov partition corresponding to dyadic development of the argument measured in “numbers of turns”; namely the partition into two half circles $[0, \frac{1}{2}]$ and $[\frac{1}{2}, 1[$ which will be denoted by **0** and **1** respectively. On the other hand the polynomials P_c , $0 \leq c \leq \frac{1}{4}$ admit a Böttcher coordinate, i.e. there exists $\phi_c : \mathbb{C} \setminus \overline{\mathbb{D}} = \mathbb{C} \setminus K_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \setminus K_c$ holomorphic bijective satisfying $\phi_c(z) = z + \dots$ at infinity and conjugating P_0 into P_c . The sets J_c being for $0 \leq c \leq \frac{1}{4}$ Jordan curves, the ϕ_c 's have homeomorphic extensions from J_0 to J_c , which allow to define a Markov partition for all J_c 's. This Markov partition has of course refining at all orders n ; more specifically J_c is for every n a union of 2^n cylinders γ two of these cylinders having closure intersecting at at most one point. We denote by $\Gamma_n(c)$ the set of all cylinders of order n for J_c . If $c < \frac{1}{4}$ then P_c is hyperbolic and Koebe distortion theorem applies to all cylinders : there exists a constant $c \geq 1$ independent of x or n (but not on c !) such that

$$(2.1) \quad \frac{1}{K} \text{diam } \gamma_n(z) \leq |(P_c^{\circ n})'(z)|^{-1} \leq K \text{diam } \gamma_n(z)$$

where $\gamma_n(z)$ is the cylinder of order n containing z . Writing, for a cylinder γ of order n , if f is a continuous function on $\overline{\gamma}$

$$f(\gamma) = \sup_{z \in \overline{\gamma}} f(z),$$

we define

$$(2.2) \quad \Pi_n(t) = \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma_n(c)} |(P_c^n)'|^{-t}(\gamma)$$

Then we have (see [Bow], [Wa¹], [Ru¹]) that

$$(2.3) \quad \Pi(t) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\log \Pi_n(t)}{n}$$

exists and define a convex function on \mathbb{R} strictly decreasing from $+\infty$ to $-\infty$. Bowen's formula [Bow] asserts that $d(c)$ is the unique real t such that $\Pi(t) = 0$. Using Böttcher coordinate, (2.2) becomes

$$(2.4) \quad \Pi_n(t) = \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma_n(0)} e^{S_n(-t \log |2\phi_c|)(\gamma)}$$

where

$$S_n(\varphi)(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \varphi(z^{2^k}).$$

The function Π then appears to be the pressure of the continuous function $-t \log |2\phi_c|$. For a continuous function φ on J_0 the pressure $P(\varphi)$ is defined (see [Wa¹]) by

$$(2.5) \quad P(\varphi) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{n} \log \left(\sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma_n(0)} e^{S_n(\varphi)(\gamma)} \right).$$

Notice that ϕ_c (and thus $\log |2\phi_c|$) is a Hölder function on J_0 because $(c, z) \mapsto \phi_c(z)$ is a holomorphic motion and thus for all $c \in [0, \frac{1}{4}[$, ϕ_c has a quasiconformal extension to \mathbb{C} . Ruelle theorem follows from the fact that the map $\varphi \mapsto P(\varphi)$ is real-analytic on the spaces of Hölder functions.

The key in Ruelle's result is to interpret the pressure in terms of an operator called

transfer operator or Ruelle operator.

If φ is continuous on J_0 , the associated operator is defined as

$$(2.6) \quad \forall x \in \partial\mathbb{D} \quad \mathcal{L}_\varphi(f)(x^2) = e^{\varphi(x)}f(x) + e^{\varphi(-x)}f(-x).$$

Perron-Frobenius-Ruelle theorem [Ru¹] asserts that if φ is Hölder then $\beta = e^{P(\varphi)}$ is a single eigenvalue of \mathcal{L}_φ associated with an eigenvector $h > 0$ which is Hölder with same exponent.

On the other hand there exists a unique probability measure ω on the circle such that $\mathcal{L}_\varphi^*(\omega) = \beta\omega$. When $\varphi = \varphi_c = -d(c) \log |2\phi_c|$ this measure corresponds on J_c to a measure ω_c which is The Hausdorff measure (normalized to be of mass 1) in dimension $d(c)$ on J_c .

It can be shown that it is the unique conformal measure on J_c , i.e. it is the unique probability measure for which there exists $t > 0$ such that

$$(2.7) \quad \omega_c(P_c(A)) = \int_A |P_c'|^t d\omega_c$$

for every $A \subset J_c$ on which P_c is injective.

For every $0 < c < \frac{1}{4}$, if \tilde{h}_c denote the eigenvector of \mathcal{L}_{φ_c} we define $h_c = \tilde{h}_c \circ \phi_c^{-1}$. We can choose \tilde{h}_c so that $\mu_c = h_c \omega_c$ is a probability measure. It is then the unique P_c -invariant measure equivalent to ω_c . In thermodynamic terms, it is an equilibrium state, that is an invariant probability measure maximizing some functional called free energy. There is no other equilibrium state (no phase transition). For $c = \frac{1}{4}$, there are exactly two equilibrium states [Ha¹]; there is a phase transition similar to the transition water-ice.

This long introduction on thermodynamic formalism had for purpose the following theorem which will allow us to start the computation.

Proposition 2.1. *Let $0 < c < \frac{1}{4}$, we have*

$$(2.8) \quad d'(c) = - \frac{d(c)}{\int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} \log |2\phi_c| d\tilde{\mu}_c} \int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} \frac{\partial}{\partial c} (\log |2\phi_c|) d\tilde{\mu}_c.$$

Proof. Let $\varphi_c = -d(c) \log |2\phi_c|$: because of Bowen's formula, we know that the pressure of φ_c is 0. So \mathcal{L}_{φ_c} and $\mathcal{L}_{\varphi_c}^*$ have an eigenvector associated with the eigenvalue 1. Denote by \tilde{h}_c and $\tilde{\omega}_c$ those eigenvectors. We choose $\tilde{\omega}_c$ so that it is a probability measure and \tilde{h}_c so that $\tilde{\mu}_c = \tilde{h}_c \tilde{\omega}_c$ is a probability measure.

We have

$$\mathcal{L}_{\varphi_c}(\tilde{h}_c) = \tilde{h}_c.$$

Differentiating, we obtain

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial c} \mathcal{L}_{\varphi_c} \right) (\tilde{h}_c) + \mathcal{L}_{\varphi_c} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial c} \tilde{h}_c \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial c} \tilde{h}_c.$$

Now we integrate with respect to $\tilde{\omega}_c$. Using the fact that it is an eigenvector for $\mathcal{L}_{\varphi_c}^*$ we get

$$(2.9) \quad \int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial c} \mathcal{L}_{\varphi_c} \right) (\tilde{h}_c) d\tilde{\omega}_c = 0.$$

Using (2.6) we compute

$$\forall f \in C(\partial\mathbb{D}) \quad \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial c} \mathcal{L}_{\varphi_c} \right) (f) = \mathcal{L}_{\varphi_c} \left(\left[-d'(c) \log |2\phi_c| - d(c) \frac{\partial}{\partial c} (\log |2\phi_c|) \right] f \right),$$

and (2.9) leads to

$$\int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} \left(-d'(c) \log |2\phi_c| - d(c) \frac{\partial}{\partial c} (\log |2\phi_c|) \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c = 0$$

which is what we wanted. ■

The result of [Bo,Zi] implies that $d(c) \rightarrow \delta$ as $c \rightarrow \frac{1}{4}$. On the other hand the denominator in (2.8) is the Lyapounov exponent of P_c . In the next paragraph we prove the convergence as $c \rightarrow \frac{1}{4}$ of this Lyapounov exponent towards the Lyapounov exponent of $P_{\frac{1}{4}}$ which is positive.

Finally the numerator will be estimated in section 4.

3. CONVERGENCE OF EQUILIBRIUM STATES AND LYAPOUNOV EXPONENTS

3.1. Approximate Fatou coordinates. We will denote z_c and ζ_c respectively the repelling and attracting fixed point of P_c :

$$z_c = \frac{1 + \sqrt{1-4c}}{2} \quad \zeta_c = \frac{1 - \sqrt{1-4c}}{2}.$$

If $\varepsilon_c = \frac{1}{4} - c$, the approximate Fatou coordinates is defined as

$$(3.1) \quad Z_c(z) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}} \log \left(\frac{z - z_c}{z - \zeta_c} \right)$$

$$\mathbb{C} \setminus [\zeta_c, z_c] \xrightarrow{\frac{z - z_c}{z - \zeta_c}} \mathbb{C} \setminus]-\infty, 0[\xrightarrow{\frac{1}{2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}} \log(\cdot)} \{ \operatorname{Re} z \in \mathbb{R} \} \cap \{ \operatorname{Im} z \in]-i\frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}, i\frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}[\}.$$

Notice that z being fixed we have

$$Z_c \underset{\varepsilon_c \rightarrow 0}{\sim} -\frac{1}{z - \frac{1}{2}} :$$

which is the approximate Fatou coordinate for $c = \frac{1}{4}$.

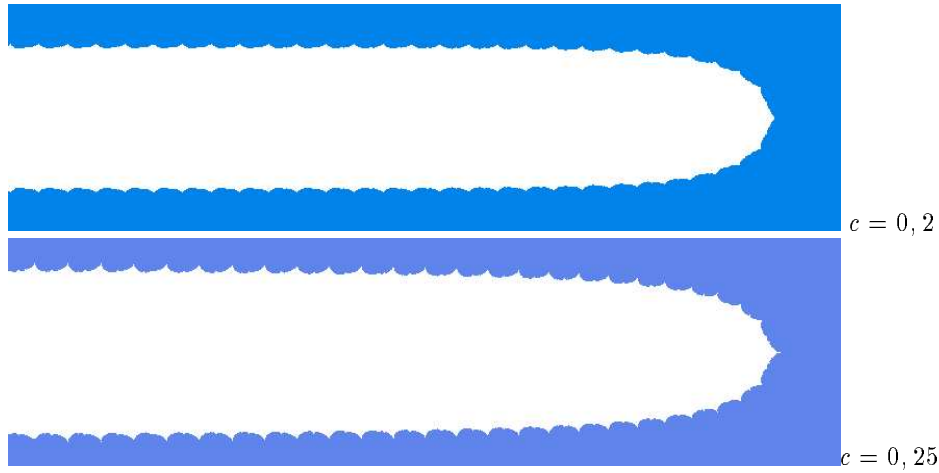


FIGURE 3. Filled-in Julia sets in Fatou coordinates
(Pictures made with Arnaud Cheritat's program).

Under this change of coordinates P_c is conjugated to F_c .

Let $E_c(Z) = e^{2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}Z}$: one can compute using $c - \zeta_c = \zeta_c^2$ and $c - z_c = z_c^2$,

(3.2)

$$F_c(Z) = Z + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}} \log(1 + 2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}) + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}} \log \left(1 + \frac{4E_c(Z)\varepsilon_c}{(1 - 4\varepsilon_c)E_c(Z) - (1 + 2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c})} \right).$$

Next lemma gives an estimation of how far from translation by one is F_c when $|Z|$ is big.

Lemma 3.1. *There exist $K > 0$ and $\varepsilon_0 > 0$ such that for $\Re e Z \leq -K$ and $\varepsilon_c \leq \varepsilon_0$,*

$$|F_c(Z) - (Z + 1)| \leq \frac{1}{4}.$$

Proof. By formula (3.2) this boils down to proving that

$$\left| \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}} \log \left(1 + \frac{4E_c(Z)\varepsilon_c}{(1 - 4\varepsilon_c)E_c(Z) - (1 + 2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c})} \right) \right| \leq \frac{1}{10},$$

for $\Re e Z \leq -K$ and $\varepsilon_c \leq \varepsilon_0$.

Put $K \geq 100$, then if $\Re e Z \leq -K$,

$$\begin{aligned} |(1 + 2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}) - (1 - 4\varepsilon_c)E_c(Z)| &\geq (1 + 2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}) - (1 - 4\varepsilon_c)e^{-100\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}} \\ &\geq 50\sqrt{\varepsilon_c} \quad \text{if } \varepsilon_c \leq \varepsilon_0. \end{aligned}$$

For $\Re e Z \leq -K < -100$ and $\varepsilon_c \leq \varepsilon_0$ this leads to

$$\left| \frac{4E_c(Z)\varepsilon_c}{(1 - 4\varepsilon_c)E_c(Z) - (1 + 2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c})} \right| \leq \frac{4\varepsilon_c e^{-K\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}}{50\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}.$$

So we can conclude that

$$\left| \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}} \log \left(1 + \frac{4E_c(Z)\varepsilon_c}{(1 - 4\varepsilon_c)E_c(Z) - (1 + 2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c})} \right) \right| \leq \frac{1}{10}. \quad \blacksquare$$

We want now to estimate the size of the cylinders near z_c . For $n \geq 1$ let $C_n(c)$ be the set of points of J_c with external angle belonging to $[2^{-(n+1)}, 2^{-n}]$. In symbolic dynamics it corresponds to the cylinder

$$C_n(c) = \underbrace{\mathbf{1} \cdots \mathbf{1}}_n \mathbf{0}.$$

Lemma 3.2. *There exist $c_0 < \frac{1}{4}$ and $K > 0$ such that*

$$\forall c \in [c_0, \frac{1}{4}] \quad \forall z_n \in C_n(c) \quad \sum_{n \geq 0} |\Im z_n| \leq K.$$

Proof. The proof will be done by showing relations between $\Im z_n = y_n$ and $\Im Z_c(z_n) = \Im Z_n = Y_n$.

By construction,

$$z_n = \frac{1}{2} + \sqrt{\varepsilon_c} + 2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c} \frac{e^{2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}Z_n}}{1 - e^{2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}Z_n}}.$$

This leads to

$$y_n = \frac{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}{2} \frac{\sin(\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}Y_n)}{(\sinh(\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}X_n))^2 + (\sin(\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}Y_n))^2}.$$

This can also be written

$$(3.3) \quad y_n = \frac{\sin(\sqrt{\varepsilon_c} Y_n)}{2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}} \frac{1}{\left(\frac{\sinh(\sqrt{\varepsilon_c} X_n)}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c} X_n}\right)^2 X_n^2 + \left(\frac{\sin(\sqrt{\varepsilon_c} Y_n)}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c} Y_n}\right)^2 Y_n^2}.$$

Using this relation and the fact that $\sqrt{\varepsilon_c} Y_n \in [-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$, we easily get

$$(3.4) \quad |y_n| \leq \frac{\pi^2}{8} \frac{|Y_n|}{|Z_n|^2}.$$

With the lemma 3.1 this leads to

$$(3.5) \quad |y_n| \leq \lambda \frac{|Y_n|}{n^2} \leq \frac{\lambda}{n}.$$

On the other hand, $|Y_n| \leq |Y_0| + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} |Y_{k+1} - Y_k|$, and

$$|Y_{k+1} - Y_k| = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}} \left| \operatorname{Im} \log \left(\frac{z_{k+1} - z_c}{z_k - z_c} \frac{z_k - \zeta_c}{z_{k+1} - \zeta_c} \right) \right|.$$

Since $\frac{z_{k+1} - z_c}{z_k - z_c} = \frac{z_{k+1} - z_c}{P_c(z_{k+1}) - P_c(z_c)} = \frac{1}{z_{k+1} + z_c}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |Y_{k+1} - Y_k| &\leq \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}} \left| \operatorname{Im} \log \left(\frac{z_{k+1} + \zeta_c}{z_{k+1} + z_c} \right) \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}} \left| \operatorname{Arg} \left(1 - \frac{2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}(z_{k+1} + z_c)}{|z_{k+1} + z_c|^2} + i \frac{2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c} y_k}{|z_{k+1} + z_c|^2} \right) \right|. \end{aligned}$$

We can conclude that there is $\lambda > 0$ such that

$$(3.6) \quad |Y_{k+1} - Y_k| \leq \lambda |y_k| \quad \text{and also } |Y_n| \leq |Y_0| + \lambda \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} |y_k|.$$

We use (3.5) and obtain

$$(3.7) \quad |y_n| \leq \frac{\lambda |Y_0|}{n^2} + \frac{\lambda}{n^2} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} \leq \lambda \frac{\log n}{n^2}.$$

The proof of the lemma is finished since $\sum \frac{\log n}{n^2} < +\infty$. ■

Using (3.6) and the lemma 3.2 one obtains

Corollary 3.3. *There exists $c_0 < \frac{1}{4}$ and $K > 0$ such that*

$$\forall c \in [c_0, \frac{1}{4}] \quad Z_c(J_c) \subset \{\operatorname{Im} Z \in [-K, K]\}.$$

We are now in position to prove the main technical result of this section.

Lemma 3.4. *There exist $\alpha > 0$, $c_0 < \frac{1}{4}$ and $K > 0$ such that for all $c \in [c_0, \frac{1}{4}]$, all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and all $Z_n = X_n + iY_n \in C_n(c)$ we have*

$$\begin{aligned} n\sqrt{\varepsilon_c} < \alpha &\implies \frac{1}{Kn^2} \leq \operatorname{diam}(C_n(c)) \leq \frac{K}{n^2} \\ n\sqrt{\varepsilon_c} \geq \alpha &\implies \frac{\varepsilon_c e^{2X_n \sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}}{K} \leq \operatorname{diam}(C_n(c)) \leq K \varepsilon_c e^{2X_n \sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}. \end{aligned}$$

Remark 3.5. There is K such that inequalities

$$\frac{\varepsilon_c e^{-Kn\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}}{K} \leq \text{diam}(C_n(c)) \leq \frac{K}{n^2}$$

are true for all integer n and all $c \in [c_0, \frac{1}{4}]$.

Proof. Let Z_n be a point in $Z_c(C_n(c))$, by lemma 3.1

$$|Z_n| \geq A + Bn.$$

Then by bounded distortion

$$\text{diam } Z_c(C_n(c)) \leq K|Z_n - Z_{n+1}| \leq K,$$

and

$$\frac{1}{K}|(Z_c^{-1})'(Z_n)| \leq \text{diam } C_n(c) \leq K|(Z_c^{-1})'(Z_n)|.$$

But

$$Z_c^{-1}(Z) = \frac{\zeta_c E_c(Z) - z_c}{E_c(Z) - 1} \quad \text{and} \quad (Z_c^{-1})'(Z) = \frac{4\varepsilon_c E_c(Z)}{(E_c(Z) - 1)^2} = \frac{\varepsilon_c}{(\sinh(\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}Z))^2}.$$

So we have

$$\begin{aligned} |(Z_c^{-1})'(Z)| &= \frac{\varepsilon_c}{(\sinh(\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}X))^2 + (\sin(\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}Y))^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{\left(\frac{\sinh(\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}X)}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}X}\right)^2 X^2 + \left(\frac{\sin(\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}Y)}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}Y}\right)^2 Y^2}. \end{aligned}$$

But $\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}Y \in [-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$ thus $\frac{4}{\pi^2} \leq \left(\frac{\sinh(\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}Y)}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}Y}\right)^2 \leq 1$. And if $-\alpha \leq \sqrt{\varepsilon_c}X \leq 2$ then $1 \leq \left(\frac{\sin(\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}X)}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}X}\right)^2 \leq \left(\frac{\sinh(\alpha)}{\alpha}\right)^2$. So if $Z \in Z_c(J_c)$ and if $-\alpha \leq \sqrt{\varepsilon_c}X \leq 2$ then

$$(3.8) \quad \left(\frac{\alpha}{\sinh(\alpha)}\right)^2 \frac{1}{|Z|^2} \leq |(Z_c^{-1})'(Z)| \leq \frac{\pi^2}{4} \frac{1}{|Z|^2}.$$

On the other hand if Z lies in $Z_c(J_c)$, corollary 3.3 implies $|\text{Im } Z| \leq K$. If $\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}X \leq -\alpha$ and if ε_c is small enough then

$$\left(\frac{1 - e^{-2\alpha}}{2}\right)^2 e^{-2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}X} \leq (\sinh(\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}X))^2 + (\sin(\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}Y))^2 \leq e^{-2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}X}.$$

We can conclude that for $Z \in Z_c(J_c)$ and $\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}X \leq -\alpha$ we have

$$(3.9) \quad \varepsilon_c e^{2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}X} \leq |(Z_c^{-1})'(Z)| \leq \frac{4}{(1 - e^{-2\alpha})^2} \varepsilon_c e^{2\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}X}$$

Applying estimations (3.8) and (3.9) with $Z = Z_n$ gives the result. ■

3.2. Equicontinuity of the ϕ_c 's. The function $c \mapsto \phi_c(1)$ converges to $\phi_{\frac{1}{4}}(1)$ when c grows to $\frac{1}{4}$. It follows that ϕ_c converges to $\phi_{\frac{1}{4}}$ on the dense set of points of the unit circle with dyadic argument. To show that ϕ_c converges uniformly on $\partial\mathbb{D}$ to $\phi_{\frac{1}{4}}$ it thus suffices to show that the family $\{\phi_c\}$ is equicontinuous.

In order to prove this it suffices to find a sequence ε_n decreasing to 0 such that

$$(3.10) \quad \forall \gamma_c \in \Gamma_n(c) \quad \text{diam } \gamma_c < \varepsilon_n$$

Among the cylinders $\Gamma_n(c)$ we will distinguish the “good” cylinders as the ones for which the symbolic writing ends with $\mathbf{1\ 0}$ or $\mathbf{0\ 1}$. These cylinders are the cylinders for which the diameter may be computed “uniformly” by Koebe distortion theorem. More precisely there exists $K > 0$ independent of c such that if $\gamma_n(c)$ is a good cylinders of order n then

$$(3.11) \quad \frac{1}{K} \frac{1}{|(P_c^{\circ n})'(\gamma_n(c))|} \leq \text{diam } \gamma_n(c) \leq \frac{K}{|(P_c^{\circ n})'(\gamma_n(c))|}$$

Lemma 3.6. *There exist $c_0 \in]0, \frac{1}{4}[$, $n_0 > 0$ and a constant $K > 0$ such that if $\gamma_n(c)$ is a good cylinder of order $n \geq n_0$ and $c \in [c_0, \frac{1}{4}[$ then*

$$(3.12) \quad |(P_c^{\circ n})'(\gamma_n(c))| \geq \lambda n^2$$

Proof. First of all let us consider a point in the cylinder $\mathbf{0\ 0\ 1}$. Its image by P_c is in the cylinder $\mathbf{0\ 1}$ which is easily seen to be included in $E = \{|z| \geq \frac{1}{2}\} \cap \{\Re e z \leq 0\} \cap \{\Im m z \geq 0\}$. So $z \in \mathbf{0\ 0\ 1}$ can be written $\sqrt{\zeta - c}$ with $\zeta \in E$. It follows that

$$|z| = \sqrt{|\zeta - c|} \geq \left(\frac{1}{4} + c^2\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} = m_c.$$

Since m_c converges to $\frac{5^{\frac{1}{4}}}{2}$ as c converges to $\frac{1}{4}$ we conclude that there exists $c_0 \in [0, \frac{1}{4}[$ and $\varepsilon_0 > 0$ such that

$$\forall c \geq c_0 \quad \forall z \in \mathbf{0\ 0\ 1} \quad |2z| \geq 1 + \varepsilon_0.$$

By symmetry it is also true for $\mathbf{0\ 1\ 0}$, $\mathbf{1\ 0\ 1}$ and $\mathbf{1\ 1\ 0}$.

In other words if z belongs to a good cylinder of order 3 then $|2z| \geq 1 + \varepsilon_0$ if $c \in [c_0, \frac{1}{4}[$.

Let now $\gamma_n(c)$ be any good cylinder of order $n \geq 3$, $\gamma_n(c) = x_1 \cdots x_n$ ($x_i \in \{\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}\}$). Let p be the number of indices $i \leq n - 3$ such that $x_i x_{i+2} x_{i+2}$ is a good cylinder and let k_1, \dots, k_q be the lengths of the long (≥ 2) sequences of $\mathbf{0}$ or $\mathbf{1}$ that appear in $\gamma_n(c)$. Clearly $p \geq q$ and by the result of the preceding paragraph

$$|(P_c^{\circ n})'(M_n \mathbf{0})| \geq \max(\lambda n^2, 1)$$

where M_n denotes the cylinder of length n with $n \mathbf{1}$. The above estimation implies

$$(3.13) \quad |(P_c^{\circ n})'(\gamma_n(c))| \geq (1 + \varepsilon_0)^p (\max(\lambda k_1^2, 1)) \cdots (\max(\lambda k_q^2, 1))$$

If $(1 + \varepsilon_0)^p \geq n^2$ there is nothing to prove. If $(1 + \varepsilon_0)^p \leq n^2$ then $p \leq K \log n$. On the other hand the largest k_j is greater than $\frac{k_1 + \dots + k_q}{q}$. It follows that

$$|(P_c^{\circ n})'(\gamma_n(c))| \geq \lambda (1 + \varepsilon_0)^p \left(\frac{k_1 + \dots + k_q}{q} \right)^2.$$

Since $p \leq \log n$, necessarily $k_1 + \dots + k_q \geq \frac{n}{2}$ if n is greater than some n_0 , and

$$|(P_c^{\circ n})'(\gamma_n(c))| \geq \frac{\lambda (1 + \varepsilon_0)^p}{4 q^2} n^2 \geq K n^2,$$

since $\frac{(1+\varepsilon_0)^p}{q^2} \geq \frac{(1+\varepsilon_0)^p}{p^2} \geq K$.

■

If $\gamma_n(c)$ is a good cylinder, the lemma 3.6 and (3.11) immediately imply

$$(3.14) \quad \text{diam } \gamma_n(c) \leq \frac{K}{n^2}$$

We recall that M_n is the cylinder of length n with $n-1$, and let \overline{M}_n be the cylinder of length n with $n-0$.

M_n can be written as $\cup_{k \geq n} M_k-0$, thus

$$\text{diam } M_n \leq \sum_{k \geq n} \text{diam } M_k-0.$$

But M_k-0 ends with a good cylinder so that

$$(3.15) \quad \text{diam } M_n \leq \frac{K}{n}.$$

One can now conclude. Let X be any cylinder of order $n \geq n_0$. If it is good we already know that $\text{diam } X \leq \frac{K}{n^2}$. If not then we may assume that $X = Y M_k$ (or $X = Y \overline{M}_k$) with $k \geq 2$ and Y good. If $k \geq \frac{n}{2}$ then $\text{diam } X \leq K \text{diam } M_k \leq \frac{K}{n}$. If $k < \frac{n}{2}$ then Y is a good cylinder of order $n-k \geq \frac{n}{2}$ and

$$\text{diam } X \leq \text{diam } Y \leq \frac{K}{n^2}.$$

In any case we have proven that there exists $K > 0$ such that

$$(3.16) \quad \forall n \geq n_0 \quad \forall \gamma_n(c) \in \Gamma_n(c) \quad \text{diam } \gamma_n(c) \leq \frac{K}{n}$$

3.3. Weak convergence of equilibrium states. As we already know that the ϕ_c 's converge uniformly, and in order to prove that the Lyapounov exponents converge to a non zero limit, it suffices to prove that the equilibrium states weakly converge to a measure $\tilde{\mu}$ such that

$$(3.17) \quad \int_{\partial \mathbb{D}} \log |2\phi_{\frac{1}{4}}| d\tilde{\mu} > 0.$$

The first prove of this fact is in [Ha²]. The strategy there is as follow : we write $\tilde{\mu}_c = \tilde{h}_c \tilde{\omega}_c$ and we use the fact that $\tilde{\omega}_c$ converges weakly to $\tilde{\omega}_{\frac{1}{4}}$, the normalized Hausdorff measure on $J_{\frac{1}{3}}$ ([Bo,Zi]). Unfortunately $(\tilde{h}_c)_{c \in [c_0, \frac{1}{4}[}$ is not an equicontinuous family because $\tilde{h}_c(\phi_c(1))$ tends to $+\infty$ as c grows to $\frac{1}{4}$. The difficulty is overcome by showing that $(\frac{1}{h_c})_{c \in [c_0, \frac{1}{4}[}$ actually is equicontinuous. Every weak limit of $\tilde{\mu}_{c_k}$ is then seen to be absolutely continuous with respect to $\tilde{\omega}_{\frac{1}{4}}$. The author then uses Aaronson-Denker-Urbański theorem [Aa,De,Ur] saying that there is only one measure and that it satisfies (3.17).

In the purpose of being self contained we give another proof. It uses the same idea as in [Do,Se,Zi]; we use a renormalization of P_c which will appear to be uniformly hyperbolic.

We denote by C_0 the set of points in J_0 with external angles between $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{2}{3}$ and by C_j , $j \geq 1$ the successive inverse images of C_0 that are in the upper-half plane. The associated Markov partition is then $\{C_j, j \geq 0\} \cup \{\overline{C}_j, j \geq 1\}$. On each C_j or \overline{C}_j we replace P_c by $P_c^{o_j}$ sending C_j into C_0 . The advantage is that this new

dynamical system is uniformly hyperbolic, the drawback being that the "alphabet" becomes infinite. But the results of Walters or Mauldin-Urbański [Wa²], [Ma,Ur] show that usual features go through in this case. In particular for every $c \in [0, \frac{1}{4}]$ there exists a unique invariant measure μ_c^r (r for renormalized) for the new dynamics which is equivalent to the conformal measure ω_c , which is independent of the renormalization. Moreover, we claim that $(\mu_c^r)_c \in [0, \frac{1}{4}[$ weakly converges to $\mu_{\frac{1}{4}}^r$. Indeed $\mu_c^r = h_c^r \omega_c$ and in this case, because of thermodynamic formalism, the family $(h_c^r)_c \in [0, \frac{1}{4}[$ is equicontinuous.

It remains to elucidate the link between μ_c^r and μ_c . We first observe that, if continuous on $C(\partial\mathbb{D})$, the linear form

$$\varphi \longmapsto \int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} S_{N(x)}(\varphi)(x) d\widetilde{\mu}_c^r(x),$$

where $N(x) = j$ if $x \in C_j \cup \overline{C_j}$, defines a P_0 -invariant measure. This form is indeed continuous since

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} |S_{N(x),c}(\varphi)(x)| d\widetilde{\mu}_c^r(x) &\leq \|\varphi\|_\infty \int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} N(x) d\widetilde{\mu}_c^r(x) \\ &\leq K \|\varphi\|_\infty \left(\sum_{j \geq 0} (1+j) \widetilde{\omega}_c(C_j) \right) \\ &\leq K \|\varphi\|_\infty \left(\sum_{j \geq 0} \frac{1}{j^{2d(c)-1}} \right) \\ &\leq K \|\varphi\|_\infty. \end{aligned}$$

Since $d(c) \geq 1 + \alpha$ for some $\alpha > 0$ on $[\frac{1}{8}, \frac{1}{4}]$.

One can now conclude. If $\varphi \in C(\partial\mathbb{D})$ then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} \varphi d\widetilde{\mu}_c &= \int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} S_{N(x)}(\varphi)(x) d\widetilde{\mu}_c^r(x) \\ &\xrightarrow[c \rightarrow \frac{1}{4}]{} \int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} S_{N(x)}(\varphi)(x) d\widetilde{\mu}_{\frac{1}{4}}^r(x) = \int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} \varphi d\widetilde{\mu}_{\frac{1}{4}}. \end{aligned}$$

This approach also allows us to have estimates on $\mu_c(C_j)$ which will be used later. What precedes indeed also proves that μ_c is uniformly equivalent to ω_c on C_0 and

Lemma 3.7. *There exist $c_0 < \frac{1}{4}$, $\lambda > 1$ such that for all $c \in [c_0, \frac{1}{4}]$ and all $n \geq 1$,*

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} \varepsilon_c^{d(c)-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-\lambda n \sqrt{\varepsilon_c}} \leq \widetilde{\mu}_c(C_n(c)) \leq \frac{\lambda}{n^{2d(c)-1}}.$$

Notice that this approach gives a new proof in this particular case of the theorem in [Aa,De,Ur].

Proof. By construction,

$$\widetilde{\mu}_c(C_n(c)) = \sum_{k=n}^{+\infty} \widetilde{\mu}_c^r(C_k(c)).$$

But $\frac{1}{\lambda} \widetilde{\mu}_c^r \leq \widetilde{\omega}_c \leq \lambda \widetilde{\mu}_c^r$. On the other hand ω_c is normalized Hausdorff measure and bounded distortion theorem implies

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} \widetilde{\omega}_c(C_n(c)) \leq \text{diam}(C_n(c))^{d(c)} \leq \lambda \widetilde{\omega}_c(C_n(c)).$$

Using lemma 3.4 and remark 3.5 we get

$$\frac{\varepsilon_c^{d(c)}}{\lambda} \sum_{k=n}^{+\infty} e^{-\lambda k \sqrt{\varepsilon_c}} \leq \widetilde{\mu}_c(C_n(c)) \leq \lambda \sum_{k=n}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{k^{2d(c)}}.$$

And this leads to

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} \varepsilon_c^{d(c)-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-\lambda n \sqrt{\varepsilon_c}} \leq \widetilde{\mu}_c(C_n(c)) \leq \frac{\lambda}{n^{2d(c)-1}}.$$

■

4. PROOF OF THE MAIN THEOREM

First of all if we want to give an estimation of $d'(c)$ we need (see 2.8) an explicit expression of $\frac{\partial}{\partial c}(\log |2\phi_c|)$.

Differentiating the following functional equation

$$(4.1) \quad \phi_c(z^2) = \phi_c(z)^2 + c$$

we obtain, denoting $\dot{\phi}_c$ for $\frac{\partial}{\partial c}(\phi_c)$,

$$(4.2) \quad \dot{\phi}_c(z^2) = 2\phi_c(z) \dot{\phi}_c(z) + 1.$$

This can also be written

$$(4.3) \quad \dot{\phi}_c(z) = -\frac{1}{2\phi_c(z)} - \frac{1}{2\dot{\phi}_c(z)} \dot{\phi}_c(z^2).$$

Reinjecting this formula one obtains

$$(4.4) \quad \dot{\phi}_c(z) = -\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{1}{2\phi_c(z)2\phi_c(z^2)\cdots 2\phi_c(z^{2^k})} - \frac{1}{2\phi_c(z)2\phi_c(z^2)\cdots 2\phi_c(z^{2^{n-1}})} \dot{\phi}_c(z^{2^n})$$

For $c < \frac{1}{4}$ the rest in (4.4) tends to 0 as n grows to infinity. So $\dot{\phi}_c$ can be written as an infinite sum

$$(4.5) \quad \dot{\phi}_c(z) = -\sum_{k=0}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{2\phi_c(z)2\phi_c(z^2)\cdots 2\phi_c(z^{2^k})}.$$

In particular we will use later the following functional equality

$$(4.6) \quad \dot{\phi}_c(z) = \frac{1}{(P_c^{o n})'(\phi_c(z))} \dot{\phi}_c(z^{2^n}) + \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{(P_c^{o k})'(\phi_c(z))}.$$

Notice finally that

$$(4.7) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial c}(\log |2\phi_c|) = \mathcal{R}e \left(\frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right).$$

In order to prove that the main contribution in $\int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} \mathcal{R}e \left(\frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right) d\widetilde{\mu}_c$ comes from the integral near z_c , we must show that as long as we keep far from z_c , the integral of the modulus is bounded by a constant independent of $c_0 < c < \frac{1}{4}$.

Let N be an integer which will be chosen later. We define \mathcal{B}_N as $\mathbb{D} \setminus \mathcal{M}_N$, where

$\mathcal{M}_N = M_N \cup \overline{M_N}$. Because of bounded distortion theorem and our estimation in section 3.3 we know that there is $\lambda(N) > 0$ independent of $c_0 < c < \frac{1}{4}$ such that

$$(4.8) \quad \forall z \in \partial\mathbb{D} \quad P_c^{on}(\phi_c(z)) \in \mathcal{B}_N \implies \frac{1}{|(P_c^{on})'(\phi_c(z))|} \leq \frac{\lambda(N)}{n^2}$$

and also

$$(4.9) \quad \forall A \subset \mathcal{B}_N \quad \tilde{\mu}_c(A) \leq \lambda(N)\tilde{\omega}_c(A)$$

We prove

Proposition 4.1. *For all $N \in \mathbb{N}$ there exists $\lambda(N) > 0$ such that*

$$\forall c \in [c_0, \frac{1}{4}[\quad \int_{\mathcal{B}_N} \left| \frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right| d\tilde{\mu}_c \leq \lambda(N).$$

Proof. Notice that $|\phi_c| \geq \frac{1}{2}$ so we just have to bound $\int_{\mathcal{B}_N} |\dot{\phi}_c| d\tilde{\mu}_c$.

Let U_n ($n \geq 1$) denotes the set of points in $\partial\mathbb{D}$ that come back or arrived for the first time in \mathcal{B}_N after exactly n iterations of $T : z \mapsto z^2$.

Let N_0 be an integer and set $A_{N_0, n} = T^{-N_0}(U_n) \cap \mathcal{B}_N$. The set $\{A_{N_0, n}\}_{n \geq 1}$ is a $\tilde{\mu}_c$ -partition of \mathcal{B}_N . So we can write

$$(4.10) \quad \int_{\mathcal{B}_N} |\dot{\phi}_c| d\tilde{\mu}_c = \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \int_{A_{N_0, n}} |\dot{\phi}_c| d\tilde{\mu}_c.$$

Now we study $\int_{A_{N_0, n}} |\dot{\phi}_c| d\tilde{\mu}_c$ and using (4.6) with $n + N_0$ we get

$$\int_{A_{N_0, n}} |\dot{\phi}_c| d\tilde{\mu}_c \leq \int_{A_{N_0, n}} \frac{1}{|(P_c^{o(n+N_0)})'(\phi_c)|} |\dot{\phi}_c \circ T^{o(n+N_0)}| d\tilde{\mu}_c + (n + N_0)\tilde{\mu}_c(A_{N_0, n})$$

But if $z \in A_{N_0, n}$ then $P_c^{o(n+N_0)}(\phi_c(z)) \in \mathcal{B}_N$ so using (4.8) we obtain

$$\int_{A_{N_0, n}} |\dot{\phi}_c| d\tilde{\mu}_c \leq \frac{\lambda(N)}{(n + N_0)^2} \int_{A_{N_0, n}} |\dot{\phi}_c \circ T^{o(n+N_0)}| d\tilde{\mu}_c + (n + N_0)\tilde{\mu}_c(A_{N_0, n}).$$

We recall that $\tilde{\mu}_c$ is T -invariant, and also that $\mathbb{1}_{A_{N_0, n}} \leq \mathbb{1}_{\mathcal{B}_N} \circ T^{o(n+N_0)}$ so we have

$$(4.11) \quad \int_{A_{N_0, n}} |\dot{\phi}_c| d\tilde{\mu}_c \leq \frac{\lambda(N)}{(n + N_0)^2} \int_{\mathcal{B}_N} |\dot{\phi}_c| d\tilde{\mu}_c + (n + N_0)\tilde{\mu}_c(A_{N_0, n}).$$

We need an estimation of $\tilde{\mu}_c(A_{N_0, n})$. But $A_{N_0, n}$ can be written as

$$A_{N_0, n} = \bigcup_{i=2}^{N_0} \bigcup_{X \in \mathbb{B}_i} XC_{n+N+N_0-i},$$

where \mathbb{B}_i is the set of good cylinders of length i (see section 1). We use (4.9) in order to obtain

$$(4.12) \quad \tilde{\mu}_c(A_{N_0, n}) \leq \lambda(N) \sum_{i=2}^{N_0} \sum_{X \in \mathbb{B}_i} \tilde{\omega}_c(XC_{n+N+N_0-i}).$$

We know that $\tilde{\omega}_c$ is a kind of quasi-Bernoulli measure on good cylinders. More precisely there exists $\lambda > 1$ independent of $c \in [c_0, \frac{1}{4}[$ such that :

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} \tilde{\omega}_c(X) \tilde{\omega}_c(Y) \leq \tilde{\omega}_c(XY) \leq \lambda \tilde{\omega}_c(X) \tilde{\omega}_c(Y)$$

for all good cylinders X . This leads to

$$\tilde{\mu}_c(A_{N_0, n}) \leq \lambda(N) \sum_{i=2}^{N_0} \tilde{\omega}_c(C_{n+N+N_0-i}) \sum_{X \in \mathbb{B}_i} \tilde{\omega}_c(X).$$

But $\tilde{\omega}_c(C_{n+N+N_0-i}) \leq \frac{\lambda}{(n+N+N_0-i)^{2d(c)}}$, and $\sum_{X \in \mathbb{B}_i} \tilde{\omega}_c(X) \leq 1$. So we have shown that

$$\tilde{\mu}_c(A_{N_0, n}) \leq \lambda(N) \frac{N_0}{(n+N)^{2d(c)}}.$$

This estimation in (4.11) gives

$$\int_{A_{N_0, n}} |\dot{\phi}_c| d\tilde{\mu}_c \leq \frac{\lambda(N)}{(n+N_0)^2} \int_{\mathcal{B}_N} |\dot{\phi}_c| d\tilde{\mu}_c + \lambda(N) N_0 \frac{n+N_0}{(n+N)^{2d(c)}}.$$

And with (4.10) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathcal{B}_N} |\dot{\phi}_c| d\tilde{\mu}_c &\leq \lambda(N) \left(\sum_{n=N_0}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \right) \int_{\mathcal{B}_N} |\dot{\phi}_c| d\tilde{\mu}_c + N_0 \lambda(N) \sum_{n=N}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{n^{2d(c)-1}} + N_0^2 \lambda(N) \sum_{n=N}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{n^{2d(c)}} \\ &\leq \frac{\lambda(N)}{N_0} \int_{\mathcal{B}_N} |\dot{\phi}_c| d\tilde{\mu}_c + \frac{\lambda(N) N_0}{N^{2d(c)-2}} + \frac{\lambda(N) N_0^2}{N^{2d(c)-1}}. \end{aligned}$$

For $\frac{\lambda(N)}{2} < N_0 \leq \frac{\lambda(N)}{2} + 1$ we get

$$\int_{\mathcal{B}_N} |\dot{\phi}_c| d\tilde{\mu}_c \leq \frac{\lambda(N)}{N^{2d(c)-1}}.$$

■

We are now in position to give a proof theorem 1.1.

Proof. By (2.8) and (4.7) we know that

$$(4.13) \quad d'(c) = \frac{d(c)}{\int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} \log |2\dot{\phi}_c| d\tilde{\mu}_c} \int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} \mathcal{R}e \left(-\frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c.$$

Let N be an integer, we have

$$\int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} \mathcal{R}e \left(-\frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c \geq \int_{\mathcal{M}_N} \mathcal{R}e \left(-\frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c - \int_{\mathcal{B}_N} \left| \frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right| d\tilde{\mu}_c.$$

So using proposition 4.1 we get

$$\int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} \mathcal{R}e \left(-\frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c \geq \int_{\mathcal{M}_N} \mathcal{R}e \left(-\frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c - \lambda(N).$$

We study $\int_{\mathcal{M}_N} \mathcal{R}e \left(-\frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c$. We know that

$$\int_{\mathcal{M}_N} \mathcal{R}e \left(-\frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c = \sum_{n=N}^{+\infty} \int_{C_n} \mathcal{R}e \left(\sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{(P_c^k)'(\phi_c(z))} \frac{1}{\phi_c(z)} \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c(z).$$

This leads to

$$\int_{\mathcal{M}_N} \mathcal{R}e \left(-\frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c \geq \sum_{n=N}^{+\infty} \sum_{k=1}^n \int_{C_n} \mathcal{R}e \left(\frac{1}{(P_c^k)'(\phi_c(z))} \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c(z) -$$

$$\sum_{n=N}^{+\infty} \int_{C_n} \left| \sum_{k=n+1}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{(P_c^k)'(\phi_c(z))} \right| d\tilde{\mu}_c(z).$$

But

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{1}_{C_n}(z) \left| \sum_{k=n+1}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{(P_c^k)'(\phi_c(z))} \right| &= \mathbb{1}_{C_n}(z) \left| \frac{1}{(P_c^n)'(\phi_c(z))} \right| \left| \dot{\phi}_c \circ T^n(z) \right| \\ &\leq \frac{\lambda(N)}{n^2} \mathbb{1}_{\mathcal{B}_N} \circ T^{on}(z) \left| \dot{\phi}_c \circ T^n(z) \right|. \end{aligned}$$

Using the T -invariance we get

$$\sum_{n=N}^{+\infty} \int_{C_n} \left| \sum_{k=n+1}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{(P_c^k)'(\phi_c(z))} \right| d\tilde{\mu}_c(z) \leq \lambda(N) \int_{\mathcal{B}_N} \left| \dot{\phi}_c \right| d\tilde{\mu}_c \sum_{n=N}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}.$$

With proposition 4.1 this leads to

$$(4.14) \quad \sum_{n=N}^{+\infty} \int_{C_n} \left| \sum_{k=n+1}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{(P_c^k)'(\phi_c(z))} \right| d\tilde{\mu}_c(z) \leq \lambda(N).$$

Concerning $\int_{\mathcal{M}_N} \mathcal{R}e \left(-\frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c$ we have

$$\int_{\mathcal{M}_N} \mathcal{R}e \left(-\frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c \geq \sum_{n=N}^{+\infty} \sum_{k=1}^n \int_{C_n} \mathcal{R}e \left(\frac{1}{(P_c^k)'(\phi_c(z))} \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c(z) - \lambda(N).$$

Now we fix N large enough so that $|\text{Arg}((P_c^k)'(\phi_c(z)))| \leq \frac{\pi}{8}$ for all $z \in C_n$ with $n \geq N$ and $k \leq n$. Thanks to lemma 3.2 we know that it is possible and we obtain

$$\forall n \geq N \quad \forall k \geq n \quad \forall z \in C_n \quad \mathcal{R}e \left(\frac{1}{(P_c^k)'(\phi_c(z))} \right) \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \frac{1}{|(P_c^k)'(\phi_c(z))|}.$$

So we have shown that

$$\int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} \mathcal{R}e \left(-\frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \sum_{n=N}^{+\infty} \sum_{k=1}^n \int_{C_n} \frac{1}{|(P_c^k)'(\phi_c(z))|} d\tilde{\mu}_c(z) - \lambda(N).$$

The estimation

$$(4.15) \quad \forall z \in C_n \quad |(P_c^k)'(\phi_c(z))| \leq \lambda \frac{n^2}{(n-k)^2},$$

which is a consequence of lemma 3.4, is true for $n\sqrt{\varepsilon_c} < \alpha$, ($\varepsilon_c = \frac{1}{4} - c$).

Using (4.15) we write

$$\int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} \mathcal{R}e \left(-\frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c \geq \lambda \sum_{n=0}^{\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}} \sum_{k=1}^n \tilde{\mu}_c(C_n) \left(\frac{n-k}{n} \right)^2 - \lambda(N).$$

We know (see lemma 3.7) that $\tilde{\mu}_c(C_n) \geq \lambda \varepsilon_c^{d(c)-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-\lambda n \sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}$. This leads to

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} \mathcal{R}e \left(-\frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c &\geq \frac{1}{\lambda} \varepsilon_c^{d(c)-\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{n=N}^{\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}} \frac{e^{-\lambda n \sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}}{n^2} \sum_{k=1}^n k^2 - \lambda(N) \\ &\geq \frac{1}{\lambda} \varepsilon_c^{d(c)-\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{n=N}^{\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}} n e^{-\lambda n \sqrt{\varepsilon_c}} - \lambda(N) \\ &\geq \frac{1}{\lambda} \varepsilon_c^{d(c)-\frac{3}{2}} - \lambda(N). \end{aligned}$$

Finally we obtain

$$\int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} \operatorname{Re} \left(-\frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c \geq \frac{\lambda}{\left(\frac{1}{4} - c\right)^{\frac{3}{2} - d(c)}} - \lambda(N).$$

In particular $d'(c) \rightarrow +\infty$ as $c \rightarrow \frac{1}{4}$ and so if $c \in [c_0, \frac{1}{4}]$, $d(c) < \delta$ and

$$\forall c \in [c_0, \frac{1}{4}] \quad d'(c) \geq \frac{K}{\left(\frac{1}{4} - c\right)^{\frac{3}{2} - \delta}}.$$

In order to get the opposite inequality we note that

$$(4.16) \quad \left| \int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} \operatorname{Re} \left(-\frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c \right| \leq \int_{\mathcal{M}_N} \left| \frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right| d\tilde{\mu}_c + \int_{\mathcal{B}_N} \left| \frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right| d\tilde{\mu}_c.$$

Since the proposition 4.1 asserts that $|\int_{\mathcal{B}_N}|$ is bounded by a constant $\lambda(N)$ which only depends on N , we have

$$(4.17) \quad \left| \int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} \operatorname{Re} \left(-\frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c \right| \leq \int_{\mathcal{M}_N} \left| \frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right| d\tilde{\mu}_c + \lambda(N).$$

For $\int_{\mathcal{M}_N}$ we write

$$\int_{\mathcal{M}_N} \left| \frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right| d\tilde{\mu}_c \leq \sum_{n=N}^{+\infty} \sum_{k=1}^n \int_{C_n} \frac{1}{|(P_c^{\circ k})'(\phi_c)|} d\tilde{\mu}_c + \sum_{n=N}^{+\infty} \int_{C_n} \left| \sum_{k=n+1}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{(P_c^{\circ k})'(\phi_c)} \right| d\tilde{\mu}_c.$$

We use (4.14) and we obtain

$$(4.18) \quad \int_{\mathcal{M}_N} \left| \frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right| d\tilde{\mu}_c \leq \sum_{n=N}^{+\infty} \sum_{k=1}^n \int_{C_n} \frac{1}{|(P_c^{\circ k})'(\phi_c)|} d\tilde{\mu}_c + \lambda(N).$$

Note that bounded distortion theorem implies

$$\frac{1}{|(P_c^{\circ k})'(\phi_c(C_n))|} \sim \frac{|(P_c^{\circ(n-k)})'(\phi_c(C_{n-k}))|}{|(P_c^{\circ n})'(\phi_c(C_n))|} \leq \lambda \frac{\operatorname{diam} C_n(c)}{\operatorname{diam} C_{n-k}(c)}.$$

Using this inequality, the lemma 3.7 and inequality (4.18), (4.17) becomes

$$\left| \int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} \operatorname{Re} \left(-\frac{\dot{\phi}_c}{\phi_c} \right) d\tilde{\mu}_c \right| \leq \lambda(N) + \lambda \sum_{n=N}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{n^{2d(c)-1}} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\operatorname{diam} C_n(c)}{\operatorname{diam} C_k(c)}.$$

Let $S_1 = \sum_{n=N}^{\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon c}}} \sum_{k=1}^n$, $S_2 = \sum_{\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon c}}}^{+\infty} \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon c}}}$ and $S_3 = \sum_{\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon c}}}^{+\infty} \sum_{k=\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon c}}}^n$, we study those three pieces showing that they are all bounded by $\lambda(\frac{1}{4} - c)^{d(c) - \frac{3}{2}}$.

For $n \leq \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon c}}$ and $k \leq n$, lemma 3.4 implies

$$\frac{\operatorname{diam} C_n(c)}{\operatorname{diam} C_k(c)} \leq \lambda \left(\frac{k}{n} \right)^2.$$

So we have

$$\begin{aligned}
|S_1| &\leq \lambda \sum_{n=N}^{\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}} \frac{1}{n^{2d(c)+1}} \sum_{k=1}^n k^2 \\
&\leq \lambda \sum_{n=N}^{\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}} \frac{1}{n^{2d(c)-2}} \\
&\leq \lambda \varepsilon_c^{d(c)-\frac{3}{2}}.
\end{aligned}$$

For $n \geq \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}$ and $1 \leq k \leq \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}$ lemma 3.4 implies

$$\frac{\text{diam } C_n(c)}{\text{diam } C_k(c)} \leq \lambda k^2 \varepsilon_c e^{-\lambda n \sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}.$$

So

$$\begin{aligned}
|S_2| &\leq \lambda \varepsilon_c \sum_{n=\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}}^{+\infty} \frac{e^{-\lambda n \sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}}{n^{2d(c)-1}} \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}} k^2 \\
&\leq \lambda \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}} \sum_{n=\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{n^{2d(c)-1}} \\
&\leq \lambda \varepsilon_c^{d(c)-\frac{3}{2}}.
\end{aligned}$$

And for $n \geq \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}$ and $\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}} \leq k \leq n$, we have

$$\frac{\text{diam } C_n(c)}{\text{diam } C_k(c)} \leq \lambda e^{2(X_n - X_k)\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}$$

where X_n and X_k are real part respectively of $Z_n \in C_n(c)$ and $Z_k \in C_k(c)$. Bounded distortion theorem and lemma 3.1 imply

$$(X_n - X_k) \leq -\lambda(n - k)$$

and we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
|S_3| &\leq \lambda \sum_{n=\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{n^{2d(c)-1}} \sum_{k=\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}}^n e^{-\lambda(n-k)\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}} \\
&\leq \lambda \sum_{n=\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{n^{2d(c)-1}} \sum_{k=0}^{n-\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}} e^{-\lambda k \sqrt{\varepsilon_c}} \\
&\leq \lambda \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}} \sum_{n=\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_c}}}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{n^{2d(c)-1}} \\
&\leq \lambda \varepsilon_c^{d(c)-\frac{3}{2}}
\end{aligned}$$

We have shown

$$(4.19) \quad d'(c) \leq \lambda \left(\frac{1}{4} - c\right)^{d(c)-\frac{3}{2}}.$$

To finish the proof it remains to see why inequality (4.19) is actually equivalent with the same one with $d(c)$ replaced by δ . We would like to thank Pierrette Sentenac for showing us the following proof.

Putting $t = \frac{1}{4} - c$ and $y(t) = \delta - d(\frac{1}{4} - t)$, the question boils down to proving that $t \mapsto t^{-y(t)}$ is bounded at the origin. But we know that $y(t)$ converges to 0 at 0, so

$y(t) \leq \frac{1}{2}$ for t less than some $\eta > 0$. Integrating the analogue of (4.19) for y we then see that $|y(t)| \leq Kt^{\delta-1}$, $t < \eta$, and the result follows. ■

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