How To Draw a Conformal Map

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Riemann Mapping Theorem: If Ω is a simply connected, proper subdomain of the plane, then there is a conformal map $f : \mathbb{D} \to \Omega$.





Conformal = angle preserving





Our Founder



William Fogg Osgood First proof of RMT, 1900



Paul Koebe Modern Proof of RMT,

- Assume Ω is bounded, choose $z_0 \in \Omega$.
- $\mathcal{F} = \text{conformal maps into } \mathbb{D}, z_0 \to 0$
- $\mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$: $(z \to z z_0)/\operatorname{diam}(\Omega) \in \mathcal{F}$.
- There is $f \in \mathcal{F}$ that maximizes $|f'(z_0)|$.
- This f is onto (hence Riemann map).

Last two steps are hard parts.

Next to last step uses compactness (normal families).

Last step is proof by contradiction.

General Möbius transformations (conformal, 1-1, group):

$$z \to \frac{az+b}{cz+d}$$

Special case:

$$z \to \frac{z-w}{1-\bar{w}z}$$

maps unit disk to itself and maps $w \to 0$ and $0 \to -w$.





Assume $|f'(z_0)|$ is maximal, but $f(\Omega) \neq \mathbb{D}$. Choose $w \in \mathbb{D} \setminus f(\Omega)$.

Lemma: If $0 \in \Omega \subset \mathbb{D}$ is simply connected but not the whole disk then there is conformal map $g : \Omega \to \Omega' \subset \mathbb{D}$ with |g'(0)| > 1.

 $g \circ f : \Omega \to \mathbb{D}$ is conformal and by chain rule $\frac{d}{dz}|g \circ f(z_0)| > |f'(z_0)|.$

Contradiction. Hence f is onto \mathbb{D} .

Proof of lemma: Choose Möbius maps σ,τ of disk so

$$\sigma(w) = 0, \qquad \tau(\sqrt{\sigma(0)}) = 0.$$

Compute derivative at 0 of $g = \tau(\sqrt{\sigma})$

$$|\frac{d}{dz}\tau(\sqrt{\sigma(z)})|_0 \geq \frac{1+|w|}{2\sqrt{|w|}} > 1.$$

Proof of RMT gives an algorithm:

- Choose linear map of Ω into \mathbb{D} .
- Choose image boundary point closest to origin.
- Compose f with $g = \tau(\sqrt{\sigma}) : \mathbb{D} \to \mathbb{D}$.
- Repeat.

$$d_n = \operatorname{dist}(\partial \Omega_n, 0)$$

Lemma: If $k \ge 4/(1 - \sqrt{d_n})$, then $d_{n+k} > \sqrt{d_n}$.

Cor: If $d_0 \ge 1/2$ then $d_n = 1 - O(1/n)$.

Takes 1,000,000 iterations to get $d_n = .000001$.







2nd iteration









First 80 iterations





Koebe's iteration: it works, but is slow.

Numerous faster methods.

Schwarz-Christoffel formula (1867):

$$f(z) = A + C \int_{k=1}^{z} \prod_{k=1}^{n} (1 - \frac{w}{z_k})^{\alpha_k - 1} dw,$$

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Christoffel



Schwarz

Schwarz-Christoffel formula (1867):

$$f(z)=A+C\int^z\prod_{k=1}^n(1-\frac{w}{z_k})^{\alpha_k-1}dw,$$

 $\{\alpha_1\pi,\ldots,\alpha_n\pi\}$, are interior angles of polygon. $\{z_1,\ldots,z_n\}$ are points on circle mapping to vertices.

 α 's are known.

z's must be solved for.

Basic idea: guess some parameters. Use formula to draw the corresponding polygon. Compare to target polygon and revise guesses.

Davis' method:

- Compare guessed polygon to target polygon.
- If an edge is too long, shorten corresponding parameter arc.
- If too long, lengthen the gap.

new gap = old gap
$$\times \frac{\text{target side}}{\text{old side}}$$



20 iterations of Davis' method for a rectangle.



20 iterations of Davis' method - QC error.





50 iterations of Davis' method.



QC error for 50 iterations of Davis' method.





QC error for 400 iterations of Davis' method.

Conformal Crowding:

Riemann map can dramatically shrink distances.

For a $1 \times R$ rectangle, two parameters are $\leq e^{-\pi R}$ apart.

If $e^{-\pi R} \leq 10^{-16}$ = machine precision, they are the same point to the computer. $R \approx 11$.

QC mappings: distort angles by bounded amount.

$$\partial f = \frac{1}{2}(f_x - if_y), \quad \overline{\partial} f = \frac{1}{2i}(f_x + if_y).$$

Conformal $f : \mathbb{D} \to \Omega$ with $\overline{\partial} f = 0$ (Cauchy-Riemann).

We measure distance to conformality by dilatation

$$||f|| = \sup |\mu_f| \equiv \sup |\overline{\partial}f/\partial f|.$$



Affine map between triangles $\{0, 1, a\}$ and $\{0, 1, b\}$ is

$$f(z) \to \alpha z + \beta \bar{z}$$

where $\alpha + \beta = 1$ and $\beta = (b - a)/(a - \bar{a})$. Then
$$K_f = \frac{1 + |\mu_f|}{1 - |\mu_f|},$$

where

$$\mu_f = \frac{f_{\bar{z}}}{f_z} = \frac{\beta}{\alpha} = \frac{b-a}{b-\bar{a}},$$



How to compute integrals in SC-formula (error $< 10^{-16}$)?

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x)dx \approx \sum_{k=1}^{n} a_{n}f(x_{n})$$

- Right-hand-rule: error = $O(n^{-1})$.
- Midpoint rule: error = $O(n^{-2})$.
- Simpson's rule: error = $O(n^{-4})$.
- Gauss Quadrature: error = $O(n^{-2n})$.

Evaluation points $\{x_k\}$ and weights $\{a_k\}$ are given in terms of orthogonal polynomials.
SC-parameters by Newton's method.

- $\mathbb{T} =$ unit circle
- $\mathbb{T}_n = \text{ordered } n\text{-tuple on circle} (= \text{SC parameter guess})$
- $\mathbb{C} = \text{complex numbers}$
- $\mathbb{C}_n = n$ -tuple of complex numbers (= polygons)

Fix angles in SC-formula. Then we get map: $S : \mathbb{T}_n \to \mathbb{C}_n \text{ (parameters \to polygons)}$

Guessing map: $G: \mathbb{C}_n \to \mathbb{T}_n \text{ (polygons } \to \text{ parameters)}$

Compose $H = G \circ S : \mathbb{T}_n \to \mathbb{T}_n \text{ (para \to para)}$



If P is target polygon, let $z_0 = G(P)$.

Let
$$F(z) = H(z) - z_0$$
.

Find solution of F(z) = 0 by Newton's method.

Then $H(z) = z_0 \Rightarrow G \circ S(z) = G(P) \Rightarrow S(z) = P$ (if G is 1-1).

We need:

- G to be 1-1.
- G to be computable.

How to solve F(z) = 0?

Define an iteration by

$$z_{n+1} = z_n - D_F^{-1}(F(z_n)).$$

where D_F is the derivative matrix of $F = (F_1, \ldots, F_d)$

$$(D_F)_{jk} = \frac{dF_k}{dx_j}.$$

In one dimension, this is

$$z_{n+1} = z_n - \frac{F(z_n)}{F'(z_n)}.$$

A couple of problems with this:

- What is a good G to choose?
- How do we compute D_F ?
- $z_n, F(z_n) \in \mathbb{T}$. How do we do linear algebra?

We will deal with these in reverse order.



Triangulate the points.



Choose a root triangle.



For each triangle adjacent to root, form quadrilateral by union of the two triangles How to make *n*-tuples on circle into a vector space? Record the cross ratio of the four points

$$\operatorname{cr}(a, b, c, d) = \frac{(d-a)(b-c)}{(c-d)(a-b)}.$$

Invariant under Möbius transformations.

Points on circle \Rightarrow cross ratio real valued.

The n-2 numbers $\log |\rho|$ determine *n*-tuple on circle up to a Möbius transformation of disk (free to place vertices of root triangle where we please).

If two *n*-tuples differ by a Möbius transformation, Schwarz-Christoffel gives similar polygons. $\mathbb{T}_n^* = \mathbb{R}^{n-3}$ = equivalence classes of ordered *n*-tuples on circle identified via Möbius transformations.

 $\mathbb{C}_n^* = n\text{-tuples on complex numbers modulo similarities}$

We can think of

$$G: \mathbb{C}_n^* \to \mathbb{T}_n^*, \qquad S: \mathbb{T}_n^* \to \mathbb{C}_n^*,$$
$$F: \mathbb{T}_n^* \to \mathbb{T}_n^*,$$

or

and

$$F: \mathbb{R}^{n-3} \to \mathbb{R}^{n-3}.$$

So now we can do linear algebra.

How do we compute derivative of $F = G \circ S$? (1) Use a discrete approximation

$$\partial_j F_k(x_1, \dots, x_m) = \frac{1}{h} [(F_k(x_1, \dots, x_j + he_j, \dots, x_m) - F_k(x_1, \dots, x_j, \dots, x_m)].$$

Gives good result but slow (m + 1 evaluations of F).

(2) Assume DF = Id. Easy, fast, often works.

(3) Broyden updates. Start by assuming DF = Id, but update DF after each evaluation of F. Often best compromise between speed and accuracy.

What is a good choice for G, the guessing function?
Davis's method: based on edge lengths.
CRDT : based on triangulation and cross ratios.
Iota: based on hyperbolic geometry.

CRDT

Cross Ratios and Delaunay Triangulations

- Toby Driscoll and Stephen Vavasis, 1998
- Triangulate polygon
- Choose root triangle
- For non-roots form quadrilateral of triangle and parent
- Compute cross ratio ρ of 4 vertices (complex number).
- Record $\log |\rho|$.
- Identify with n-tuple (modulo Möbius) as before. Full CRFT: DF = discrete approximation Simple CRDT: DF = Identity Shortcut CRDT: DF using Broyden updates















What is Delaunay Triangulation?

A triangulation is Delaunay if whenever triangles share and edge, the opposite angles sum to $\leq \pi$.

A DT always exists and minimizes the maximum angle.

Not needed to define CRDT, but makes it work better.











Comparison of Davis and CRDT







A 98-gon and its Delaunay triangulation.



10 iterations of shortcut CRDT applied to a 98-gon.



QC error of shortcut CRDT applied to the 98-gon.

For a pentagon, the iteration is on \mathbb{R}^2 .

We can draw a picture: connect z to F(z) by a segment.





The map $F = G \circ S$. We want to solve $F(z) = z_0$.



Iteration $\mathbf{z} \to \mathbf{z} - (F(\mathbf{z}) - \mathbf{z}_0)$. We want fixed point.

Another guessing map: iota



Consider interior disks with ≥ 2 contacts on boundary.

Another guessing map: iota



Consider interior disks with ≥ 2 contacts on boundary.


Consider interior disks with ≥ 2 contacts on boundary.



Centers of all such disks define **medial axis**.



Centers of all such disks define **medial axis**.



Take a finite set of medial axis disks. Choose a root.



Foliate crescents by orthogonal arcs.



Follow arcs to define map of boundary to circle.

Similar flow for any simply connected domain.









Thm: Iota is 8-QC close to conformal. **Thm:** Iota is computable in O(n) time.



How does iota compare to CRDT?









