

## LOWER BOUNDS FOR THE AREA OF THE IMAGE OF A CIRCLE

B.A. KLISHCHUK, R.R. SALIMOV

**Abstract.** In the work we consider  $Q$ -homeomorphisms w.r.t  $p$ -modulus on the complex plane as  $p > 2$ . We obtain a lower bound for the area of the image of a circle under such mappings. We solve the extremal problem on minimizing the functional of the area of the image of a circle.

**Keywords:**  $p$ -modulus of a family of curves,  $p$ -capacity of condenser, quasiconformal mappings,  $Q$ -homeomorphisms w.r.t.  $p$ -modulus.

**Mathematics Subject Classification:** 3065

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The problem on area deformations under quasi-conformal mappings originates from work by B. Bojarskii [1]. A series of results in this direction were obtained in works [2]–[4].

First an upper bound for the area of the image of a circle under quasi-conformal mappings was provided in monograph by M.A. Lavrent'ev, see [5]. In [6, Prop. 3.7], the Lavrentiev's inequality was specified in terms of the angular dilatation. Also earlier in works [7]–[8] there were obtained the upper bounds for the area deformation for annular and lower and  $Q$ -homeomorphisms. In the present work we obtain lower bounds for the area of the image of a circle under  $Q$ -homeomorphisms w.r.t.  $p$ -modulus as  $p > 2$ .

To simplify the presentation, we restrict ourselves by the planar case. We recall some definitions. Assume that we are given a family  $\Gamma$  of curves  $\gamma$  in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ . A Borel function  $\varrho : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  is called *admissible* for  $\Gamma$ , which is written as  $\varrho \in \text{adm } \Gamma$ , if

$$\int_{\gamma} \varrho(z) |dz| \geq 1 \quad \forall \gamma \in \Gamma. \quad (1)$$

Let  $p \in (1, \infty)$ . Then a  $p$ -modulus of the family  $\Gamma$  is the quantity

$$\mathcal{M}_p(\Gamma) = \inf_{\varrho \in \text{adm } \Gamma} \int_{\mathbb{C}} \varrho^p(z) dm(z). \quad (2)$$

Assume that  $D$  is a domain in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ , that is, an open connected subset  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $Q : D \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  is a measurable function. A homeomorphism  $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is called a  $Q$ -homeomorphism w.r.t.  $p$ -modulus if

$$\mathcal{M}_p(f\Gamma) \leq \int_D Q(z) \varrho^p(z) dm(z) \quad (3)$$

for each family  $\Gamma$  of curves in  $D$  and each admissible function  $\varrho$  for  $\Gamma$ .

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The study of the inequalities of type (3) as  $p = 2$  goes back to L. Ahlfors, see, for instance, [9, Ch. I, Sect. D, Thm. 3] as well as to O. Lehto and K. Virtanen [10, Ch. V, Sect. 6.3, Ineq. (6.6)]. In work [11] by C.J. Bishop, V.Ya. Gutlaynskii, O. Martio, M. Vuorinen, a multi-dimensional analogue of inequality (3) was proved for quasi-conformal mappings.

We also note that if the function  $Q$  in (3) is bounded almost everywhere by some constant  $K \in [1, \infty)$  and  $p = 2$ , then we arrive at classical quasi-conformal mappings introduced originally in works by Grötzsch, Lavrentiev and Morrey.

Let  $Q : D \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  be a measurable function. For each number  $r > 0$  we denote by

$$q_{z_0}(r) = \frac{1}{2\pi r} \int_{S(z_0, r)} Q(z) |dz|$$

the integral mean of the function  $Q$  over the circle  $S(z_0, r) = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z - z_0| = r\}$ .

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $D$  and  $D'$  be bounded domains in  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $f : D \rightarrow D'$  be a  $Q$ -homeomorphism w.r.t.  $p$ -modulus,  $p > 2$ ,  $Q \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(D \setminus \{z_0\})$ . Then for all  $r \in (0, d_0)$ ,  $d_0 = \text{dist}(z_0, \partial D)$  the estimate*

$$|fB(z_0, r)| \geq \pi \left( \frac{p-2}{p-1} \right)^{\frac{2(p-1)}{p-2}} \left( \int_0^r \frac{dt}{t^{\frac{1}{p-1}} q_{z_0}^{\frac{1}{p-1}}(t)} \right)^{\frac{2(p-1)}{p-2}} \quad (4)$$

holds true, where  $B(z_0, r) = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z - z_0| \leq r\}$ .

We note that as  $p > 2$  and  $Q(z) \leq K$ , by Theorem 1 we arrive to the result for a circle in [12, Lm. 7].

## 2. PROOF OF MAIN THEOREM

We provide some auxiliary information about the capacity of a condenser. Following work [13], the pair  $\mathcal{E} = (A, C)$ , where  $A \subset \mathbb{C}$  is an open set and  $C$  is a non-empty compact set contained in  $A$  is called *condenser*. A condenser  $\mathcal{E}$  is called an *annular condenser* if  $\mathfrak{R} = A \setminus C$  is an annulus, that is, if  $\mathfrak{R}$  is a domain whose complement  $\overline{\mathbb{C}} \setminus \mathfrak{R}$  consists exactly of two components. A condenser  $\mathcal{E}$  is called a *bounded condenser* if the set  $A$  is bounded. We also say that a condenser  $\mathcal{E} = (A, C)$  lies in the domain  $D$  if  $A \subset D$ . It is obvious that if  $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is a continuous open mapping and  $\mathcal{E} = (A, C)$  is a condenser in  $D$ , then  $(fA, fC)$  is also a condenser in  $fD$ . We also have  $f\mathcal{E} = (fA, fC)$ .

Let  $\mathcal{E} = (A, C)$  be a condenser. By  $\mathcal{C}_0(A)$  we denote the set of continuous compactly supported functions  $u : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1$ , by  $\mathcal{W}_0(\mathcal{E}) = \mathcal{W}_0(A, C)$  we denote the family of non-negative functions  $u : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1$  such that

- 1)  $u \in \mathcal{C}_0(A)$ ,
- 2)  $u(x) \geq 1$  for  $x \in C$ ,
- 3)  $u$  belongs to the class ACL.

As  $p \geq 1$ , the quantity

$$\text{cap}_p \mathcal{E} = \text{cap}_p(A, C) = \inf_{u \in \mathcal{W}_0(\mathcal{E})} \int_A |\nabla u|^p dm(z), \quad (5)$$

where

$$|\nabla u| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right)^2} \quad (6)$$

is called a  $p$ -capacity of the condenser  $\mathcal{E}$ . In what follows we shall make use the identity

$$\text{cap}_p \mathcal{E} = \mathcal{M}_p(\Delta(\partial A, \partial C; A \setminus C)) \quad (7)$$

established in work [14], where for the sets  $\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ , the symbol  $\Delta(\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2; \mathcal{F})$  stands for the family of all continuous curves connecting  $\mathcal{F}_1$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2$  in  $\mathcal{F}$ .

It is known [15, Prop. 5] that as  $p \geq 1$ ,

$$\text{cap}_p \mathcal{E} \geq \frac{[\inf l(\sigma)]^p}{|A \setminus C|^{p-1}}. \quad (8)$$

Here  $l(\sigma)$  is the length of a smooth (infinitely differentiable) curve  $\sigma$  being the boundary  $\sigma = \partial U$  of a bounded open set  $U$  containing  $C$  and contained together with its closure  $\bar{U}$  in  $A$  and the infimum is taken over all such  $\sigma$ .

*Proof of Theorem 1.* Let  $\mathcal{E} = (A, C)$  be a condenser, where  $A = \{z \in D : |z - z_0| < t + \Delta t\}$ ,  $C = \{z \in D : |z - z_0| \leq t\}$ ,  $t + \Delta t < d_0$ . Then  $f\mathcal{E} = (fA, fC)$  is an annular condenser in  $D'$  and according to (7) we have the identity

$$\text{cap}_p f\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{M}_p(\Delta(\partial fA, \partial fC; f(A \setminus C))). \quad (9)$$

By inequality (8) we obtain

$$\text{cap}_p f\mathcal{E} \geq \frac{[\inf l(\sigma)]^p}{|fA \setminus fC|^{p-1}}. \quad (10)$$

Here  $l(\sigma)$  is the length of a smooth (infinitely differentiable) curve  $\sigma$  being the boundary  $\sigma = \partial U$  of a bounded open set  $U$  containing  $C$  and contained together with its closure  $\bar{U}$  in  $A$  and the infimum is taken over all such  $\sigma$ .

On the other hand, by the definition of  $Q$ -homomorphism w.r.t.  $p$ -modulus we have

$$\text{cap}_p f\mathcal{E} \leq \int_D Q(z) \varrho^p(z) dm(z) \quad (11)$$

for each  $\varrho \in \text{adm } \Delta(\partial A, \partial C; A \setminus C)$ .

It is easy to check that the function

$$\varrho(z) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{|z - z_0| \ln \frac{t+\Delta t}{t}}, & z \in A \setminus C \\ 0, & z \notin A \setminus C \end{cases}$$

is admissible for the family  $\Delta(\partial A, \partial C; A \setminus C)$  and hence,

$$\text{cap}_p f\mathcal{E} \leq \frac{1}{\ln^p \left(\frac{t+\Delta t}{t}\right)} \int_R \frac{Q(z)}{|z - z_0|^p} dm(z), \quad (12)$$

where  $R = \{z \in D : t \leq |z - z_0| \leq t + \Delta t\}$ .

Combining inequalities (10) and (12), we get

$$\frac{[\inf l(\sigma)]^p}{|fA \setminus fC|^{p-1}} \leq \frac{1}{\ln^p \left(\frac{t+\Delta t}{t}\right)} \int_R \frac{Q(z)}{|z - z_0|^p} dm(z). \quad (13)$$

By the Fubini theorem we have

$$\int_R \frac{Q(z)}{|z - z_0|^p} dm(z) = \int_t^{t+\Delta t} \frac{d\tau}{\tau^p} \int_{S(z_0, \tau)} Q(z) |dz| = 2\pi \int_t^{t+\Delta t} \tau^{1-p} q_{z_0}(\tau) d\tau, \quad (14)$$

where  $q_{z_0}(\tau) = \frac{1}{2\pi\tau} \int_{S(z_0, \tau)} Q(z) |dz|$  and  $S(z_0, \tau) = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z - z_0| = \tau\}$ . Thus,

$$\inf l(\sigma) \leq (2\pi)^{\frac{1}{p}} \frac{|fA \setminus fC|^{\frac{p-1}{p}}}{\ln\left(\frac{t+\Delta t}{t}\right)} \left[ \int_t^{t+\Delta t} \tau^{1-p} q_{z_0}(\tau) d\tau \right]^{\frac{1}{p}}. \quad (15)$$

Employing the isoperimetric inequality

$$\inf l(\sigma) \geq 2\sqrt{\pi|fC|}, \quad (16)$$

we obtain

$$2\sqrt{\pi|fC|} \leq (2\pi)^{\frac{1}{p}} \frac{|fA \setminus fC|^{\frac{p-1}{p}}}{\ln\left(\frac{t+\Delta t}{t}\right)} \left[ \int_t^{t+\Delta t} \tau^{1-p} q_{z_0}(\tau) d\tau \right]^{\frac{1}{p}}. \quad (17)$$

We introduce a function  $\Phi(t)$  for this homeomorphism  $f$  as follows:

$$\Phi(t) = |fB(z_0, t)|, \quad (18)$$

where  $B(z_0, t) = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z - z_0| \leq t\}$ . Then it follows from (17) that

$$2\sqrt{\pi\Phi(t)} \leq (2\pi)^{\frac{1}{p}} \frac{[\frac{\Phi(t+\Delta t) - \Phi(t)}{\Delta t}]^{\frac{p-1}{p}}}{\frac{\ln(t+\Delta t) - \ln t}{\Delta t}} \left[ \frac{1}{\Delta t} \int_t^{t+\Delta t} \tau^{1-p} q_{z_0}(\tau) d\tau \right]^{\frac{1}{p}}. \quad (19)$$

Letting  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$  in inequality (19) and taking into consideration a monotonous increasing of the function  $\Phi$  in  $t \in (0, d_0)$ , for almost all  $t$  we have:

$$\frac{2\pi^{\frac{p-2}{2(p-1)}}}{t^{\frac{1}{p-1}} q_{z_0}^{\frac{1}{p-1}}(t)} \leq \frac{\Phi'(t)}{\Phi^{\frac{p}{2(p-1)}}(t)}. \quad (20)$$

This implies easily the following inequality:

$$\frac{2\pi^{\frac{p-2}{2(p-1)}}}{t^{\frac{1}{p-1}} q_{z_0}^{\frac{1}{p-1}}(t)} \leq \left( \frac{\Phi^{\frac{p-2}{2(p-1)}}(t)}{\frac{p-2}{2(p-1)}} \right)'. \quad (21)$$

Since  $p > 2$ , the function

$$g(t) = \frac{\Phi^{\frac{p-2}{2(p-1)}}(t)}{\frac{p-2}{2(p-1)}}$$

is non-decreasing on  $(0, d_0)$ , where  $d_0 = \text{dist}(z_0, \partial D)$ . Integrating both sides of the inequality in  $t \in [\varepsilon, r]$  and taking into consideration that

$$\int_{\varepsilon}^r \left( \frac{\Phi^{\frac{p-2}{2(p-1)}}(t)}{\frac{p-2}{2(p-1)}} \right)' dt = \int_{\varepsilon}^r g'(t) dt \leq g(r) - g(\varepsilon) \leq \frac{\Phi^{\frac{p-2}{2(p-1)}}(r) - \Phi^{\frac{p-2}{2(p-1)}}(\varepsilon)}{\frac{p-2}{2(p-1)}}, \quad (22)$$

see, for instance, [16, Thm. IV.7.4], we obtain

$$2\pi^{\frac{p-2}{2(p-1)}} \int_{\varepsilon}^r \frac{dt}{t^{\frac{1}{p-1}} q_{z_0}^{\frac{1}{p-1}}(t)} \leq \frac{\Phi^{\frac{p-2}{2(p-1)}}(r) - \Phi^{\frac{p-2}{2(p-1)}}(\varepsilon)}{\frac{p-2}{2(p-1)}}. \quad (23)$$

Letting  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  in inequality (23), we arrive at the estimate

$$\Phi(r) \geq \pi \left( \frac{p-2}{p-1} \right)^{\frac{2(p-1)}{p-2}} \left( \int_0^r \frac{dt}{t^{\frac{1}{p-1}} q_{z_0}^{\frac{1}{p-1}}(t)} \right)^{\frac{2(p-1)}{p-2}}. \quad (24)$$

Finally, denoting  $\Phi(r) = |fB(z_0, r)|$  in the latter inequality, we get

$$|fB(z_0, r)| \geq \pi \left( \frac{p-2}{p-1} \right)^{\frac{2(p-1)}{p-2}} \left( \int_0^r \frac{dt}{t^{\frac{1}{p-1}} q_{z_0}^{\frac{1}{p-1}}(t)} \right)^{\frac{2(p-1)}{p-2}} \quad (25)$$

and this completes the proof of Theorem 1.  $\square$

### 3. COROLLARIES OF THEOREM 1

Theorem 1 implies the following statements.

Employing the condition  $q_{z_0}(t) \leq q_0 t^{-\alpha}$ , we estimate the right hand side of inequality (4) and after elementary transformations we arrive at the following result.

**Corollary 1.** *Let  $D$  and  $D'$  be bounded domains in  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $f : D \rightarrow D'$  be a  $Q$ -homeomorphism w.r.t.  $p$ -modulus as  $p > 2$ . Assume that the function  $Q$  satisfies the condition*

$$q_{z_0}(t) \leq q_0 t^{-\alpha}, \quad q_0 \in (0, \infty), \quad \alpha \in [0, \infty) \quad (26)$$

for  $z_0 \in D$  and almost all  $t \in (0, d_0)$ ,  $d_0 = \text{dist}(z_0, \partial D)$ . Then for each  $r \in (0, d_0)$  the estimate

$$|fB(z_0, r)| \geq \pi^{-\frac{\alpha}{p-2}} \left( \frac{p-2}{\alpha+p-2} \right)^{\frac{2(p-1)}{p-2}} q_0^{\frac{2}{2-p}} |B(z_0, r)|^{1+\frac{\alpha}{p-2}} \quad (27)$$

holds true.

In particular, letting here  $\alpha = 0$ , we obtain the following conclusion.

**Corollary 2.** *Let  $D$  and  $D'$  be bounded domains in  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $f : D \rightarrow D'$  be a  $Q$ -homeomorphism w.r.t.  $p$ -modulus as  $p > 2$  and  $q_{z_0}(t) \leq q_0 < \infty$  for almost each  $t \in (0, d_0)$ ,  $d_0 = \text{dist}(z_0, \partial D)$ . Then the estimate*

$$|fB(z_0, r)| \geq q_0^{\frac{2}{2-p}} |B(z_0, r)| \quad (28)$$

holds true for each  $r \in (0, d_0)$ .

**Corollary 3.** *Suppose that the assumptions of Theorem 1 are satisfied and  $Q(z) \leq K < \infty$  for almost each  $z \in D$ . Then the estimate*

$$|fB(z_0, r)| \geq K^{\frac{2}{2-p}} |B(z_0, r)| \quad (29)$$

holds true for each  $r \in (0, d_0)$ .

**Remark 1.** *Corollary 3 is a particular result by Gehring for  $E = B(z_0, r)$ , see [12, Lm. 7].*

**Corollary 4.** *Let  $f : \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$  be a  $Q$ -homeomorphism w.r.t.  $p$ -modulus as  $p > 2$ . Assume that the function  $Q(z)$  satisfies the condition*

$$q(t) \leq \frac{q_0}{t \ln^{\frac{1}{p-1}} \frac{1}{t}}, \quad q_0 \in (0, \infty), \quad (30)$$

for almost each  $t \in (0, 1)$ , where  $q(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi t} \int_{S_t} Q(z) |dz|$  is the integral mean over the circumference  $S_t = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| = t\}$ . Then for each  $r \in (0, 1)$  the estimate

$$|fB_r| \geq \pi \left( \frac{p-2}{p-1} \right)^{\frac{2(p-1)}{p-2}} q_0^{\frac{2}{2-p}} \left( r \ln \frac{e}{r} \right)^{\frac{2(p-1)}{p-2}} \quad (31)$$

holds true, where  $B_r = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| \leq r\}$ .

## 4. EXTREMAL PROBLEMS FOR AREA FUNCTIONAL

Let  $Q : \mathbb{B} \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  be a measurable function satisfying the condition

$$q(t) \leq q_0, \quad q_0 \in (0, \infty) \quad (32)$$

for almost each  $t \in (0, 1)$ , where  $q(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi t} \int_{S_t} Q(z) |dz|$  is the integral mean over the circumference  $S_t = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| = t\}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}(q_0, p, \mathbb{B})$  be the set of all  $Q$ -homeomorphisms  $f : \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  w.r.t.  $p$ -modulus as  $p > 2$  obeying condition (32). On the class  $\mathcal{H}$  we consider the area functional

$$\mathbf{S}_r(f) = |fB_r|. \quad (33)$$

**Theorem 2.** *For each  $r \in [0, 1]$  the identity*

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \mathbf{S}_r(f) = \pi q_0^{\frac{2}{2-p}} r^2 \quad (34)$$

holds true.

*Proof.* Corollary 2 implies immediately the estimate

$$\mathbf{S}_r(f) \geq \pi q_0^{\frac{2}{2-p}} r^2. \quad (35)$$

Let us specify a homeomorphism  $f \in \mathcal{H}$ , at which the minimum of the functional  $\mathbf{S}_r(f)$  is attained. Let  $f_0 : \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ , where

$$f_0(z) = q_0^{\frac{1}{2-p}} z. \quad (36)$$

It is obvious that (35) becomes the identity at the mapping  $f_0$ . It remains to show that the mapping defined in such way is a  $Q$ -homeomorphism w.r.t.  $p$ -modulus with  $Q(z) = q_0$ . Indeed,

$$l(z, f_0) = L(z, f_0) = q_0^{\frac{1}{2-p}}, \quad J(z, f_0) = q_0^{\frac{2}{2-p}} \quad (37)$$

and

$$K_{I,p}(z, f_0) = \frac{J(z, f_0)}{l^p(z, f_0)} = q_0. \quad (38)$$

By Theorem 1.1 in work [17], the mapping  $f_0$  is a  $Q$ -homeomorphism w.r.t.  $p$ -modulus with  $Q(z) = K_{I,p}(z, f_0) = q_0$ .  $\square$

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