

On a biharmonic function in the unit disc

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In this note we examine for a given function $f(t)$ with Fourier coefficients a_0, a_n, b_n the biharmonic function $f(r, \varphi)$ defined in the disc $|re^{i\varphi}| < 1$ by

$$(1) \quad f(r, \varphi) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[1 + \frac{n}{2}(1-r^2) \right] r^n (a_n \cos n\varphi + b_n \sin n\varphi).$$

It can easily be verified (cf. [3], pp. 395-400) that

$$(2) \quad f(r, \varphi) = \frac{(1-r^2)^2}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \frac{1-r\cos(t-\varphi)}{[1+r^2-2r\cos(t-\varphi)]^2} dt$$

for any $f(t)$ Lebesgue-integrable in $\langle -\pi, \pi \rangle$; these functions $f(t)$, with period 2π , are considered below. Our theorems complete the results announced in [2].

For the sake of brevity, we shall write

$$K(r, t) = \frac{(1-r^2)^2(1-r\cos t)}{2\pi[1+r^2-2r\cos t]^2} = \frac{(1-r^2)^2(1-r+2r\sin^2(t/2))}{2\pi[(1-r)^2+4r\sin^2(t/2)]^2}.$$

Then, by (2),

$$f(r, \varphi) = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) K(r, t-\varphi) dt = \int_0^{\pi} [f(\varphi+t) + f(\varphi-t)] K(r, t) dt.$$

In particular, the last representation together with (1) gives

$$1 = 2 \int_0^{\pi} K(r, t) dt.$$

Hence

$$(3) \quad f(r, \varphi) - f(\varphi) = \int_0^{\pi} [f(\varphi+t) - 2f(\varphi) + f(\varphi-t)] K(r, t) dt.$$

The kernel $K(r, t)$ is positive decreasing in $t \in \langle 0, \pi \rangle$ such that $K(r, \theta) \rightarrow 0$ as $r \rightarrow 1 -$ for arbitrarily small $\theta > 0$. Thus we have

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 1-} f(r, \varphi) = f(\varphi)$$

at almost every φ , and the convergence is uniform over every closed interval of points of continuity.

Let $f(\varphi)$ be bounded in $\langle -\pi, \pi \rangle$ and let $\omega_2(\delta) = \omega_2(\delta; f)$ be the second modulus of smoothness of f , i.e.

$$\omega_2(\delta; f) = \sup_{0 \leq t \leq \delta} \left\{ \sup_{|\varphi| \leq \pi} |f(\varphi + t) - 2f(\varphi) + f(\varphi - t)| \right\}.$$

We shall denote by Z_a ($0 < a \leq 2$) the class of all these f 's for which

$$\omega_2(\delta; f) \leq 2\delta^a \quad \text{when} \quad 0 \leq \delta \leq \pi.$$

Moreover, we shall write

$$U_a(r) = \sup_{f \in Z_a} \left\{ \max_{|\varphi| \leq \pi} |f(r, \varphi) - f(\varphi)| \right\}.$$

THEOREM 1. *The following asymptotic formula*

$$U_a(r) = \frac{2}{\pi} B\left(\frac{1+a}{2}, \frac{3-a}{2}\right) (1-r)^a + \begin{cases} O\{(1-r)^{3a}\} & \text{for } 0 < a \leq 1/2, \\ O\{(1-r)^{1+a}\} & \text{for } 1/2 < a < 1, \\ O\{(1-r)^2\} & \text{for } 1 < a < 2 \end{cases}$$

holds as $r \rightarrow 1 -$.

Proof. By (3),

$$\max_{|\varphi| \leq \pi} |f(r, \varphi) - f(\varphi)| \leq 2 \int_0^\pi t^a K(r, t) dt$$

for any $f \in Z_a$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} (4) \quad U_a(r) &\leq 2^{a+2} \int_0^{\pi/2} t^a K(r, 2t) dt \\ &= 2^{a+2} \left[\int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^a t K(r, 2t) dt + \int_0^{\pi/2} (t^a - \sin^a t) K(r, 2t) dt \right]. \end{aligned}$$

The function

$$f_a(\varphi) = |2 \sin(\varphi/2)|^a \quad (0 < a \leq 2)$$

is of class Z_a (see [1]), and

$$f_a(r, 0) - f_a(0) = 2^{a+2} \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^a t K(r, 2t) dt$$

$(f_a(r, \varphi)$ is the function (1) for $f_a(\varphi)$); whence

$$(5) \quad U_a(r) \geq 2^{a+2} \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^a t K(r, 2t) dt .$$

Inequalities (4) and (5) lead to

$$\begin{aligned} U_a(r) &= 2^{a+2} \left[\int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^a t K(r, 2t) dt + C_a(r) \int_0^{\pi/2} (t^a - \sin^a t) K(r, 2t) dt \right] \\ &= 2^{a+2} [I_1 + C_a(r) I_2], \quad \text{where } 0 \leq C_a(r) \leq 1 . \end{aligned}$$

Clearly,

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 &= \int_0^{\pi/4} \sin^a t K(r, 2t) dt + O\{(1-r)^2\} \\ &= \int_0^{\pi/4} \sin^a t \cos t K(r, 2t) dt + \int_0^{\pi/4} \sin^a t (1 - \cos t) K(r, 2t) dt + O\{(1-r)^2\} \\ &= Y_1 + Y_2 + O\{(1-r)^2\} . \end{aligned}$$

A change of variable $4r \sin^2 t / (1-r)^2 = x$ gives

$$\begin{aligned} Y_1 &= \frac{(1-r^2)^2}{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi/4} \sin^a t \cos t \frac{1-r+2r \sin^2 t}{[(1-r)^2+4r \sin^2 t]^2} dt \\ &= \frac{(1+r)^2(1-r)^a}{\pi \cdot 2^{a+4} (\sqrt{r})^{a+1}} \int_0^{2r/(1-r)^2} x^{(a-1)/2} \frac{2+(1-r)x}{(1+x)^2} dx \\ &= \frac{(1+r)^2(1-r)^a}{\pi \cdot 2^{a+4} (\sqrt{r})^{a+1}} \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{(a-1)/2}}{(1+x)^2} dx + \begin{cases} O\{(1-r)^{1+a}\} & \text{for } 0 < a < 1, \\ O\{(1-r)^2\} & \text{for } 1 < a < 2. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Since $(1 - \cos t) = 2 \sin^2(t/2) \leq 2 \sin t \cos t$ ($0 \leq t \leq \pi/4$), we have

$$\begin{aligned} Y_2 &\leq \frac{(1-r^2)^2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi/4} \sin^{(1+a)} t \cos t \frac{1-r+2r \sin^2 t}{[(1-r)^2+4r \sin^2 t]^2} dt \\ &= \frac{(1+r)^2(1-r)^{1+a}}{\pi \cdot 2^{a+4} (\sqrt{r})^{a+2}} \int_0^{2r/(1-r)^2} \frac{x^{a/2}}{(1+x)^2} dx , \end{aligned}$$

i.e.

$$Y_2 = \begin{cases} O\{(1-r)^{1+a}\} & \text{for } 0 < a < 1, \\ O\{(1-r)^2\} & \text{for } 1 < a < 2. \end{cases}$$

Thus we get

$$I_1 = \frac{(1+r)^2(1-r)^a}{\pi \cdot 2^{a+3}(\sqrt{r})^{a+1}} \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{(a-1)/2}}{(1+x)^2} dx + \begin{cases} O\{(1-r)^{1+a}\} & \text{if } 0 < a < 1, \\ O\{(1-r)^2\} & \text{if } 1 < a < 2. \end{cases}$$

Consider now the integral I_2 . Suppose first that $0 < a < 1$. Then the inequality

$$t^a - \sin^a t \leq d_a \sin^{3a} t \quad (0 \leq t \leq \pi/2), \quad \text{where} \quad d_a = \frac{1}{(3!)^a} \left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)^{3a},$$

implies

$$I_2 \leq d_a \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{3a} t K(r, 2t) dt = d_a \int_0^{\pi/4} \sin^{3a} t K(r, 2t) dt + O\{(1-r)^2\}.$$

Further,

$$\begin{aligned} I_2 &\leq \sqrt{2} d_a \int_0^{\pi/4} \sin^{3a} t \cos t K(r, 2t) dt + O\{(1-r)^2\} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2} d_a (1+r)^2 (1-r)^{3a}}{\pi \cdot 2^{3a+4} (\sqrt{r})^{3a+1}} \int_0^{\pi/4} x^{(3a-1)/2} \frac{2+(1-r)x}{(1+x)^2} dx + O\{(1-r)^2\} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2} d_a (1+r)^2 (1-r)^{3a}}{\pi \cdot 2^{3a+3} (\sqrt{r})^{3a+1}} \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{(3a-1)/2}}{(1+x)^2} dx + \\ &\quad + \begin{cases} O\{(1-r)^{3a+1}\} & \text{for } 0 < a \leq 1/3, \\ O\{(1-r)^2\} & \text{for } 1/3 < a < 1. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,

$$I_2 = \begin{cases} O\{(1-r)^{3a}\} & \text{for } 0 < a \leq 2/3, \\ O\{(1-r)^2\} & \text{for } 2/3 < a < 1. \end{cases}$$

In the case of $1 < a < 2$,

$$t^a - \sin^a t \leq \left(\frac{t^4}{3}\right)^{a/2} \leq \frac{1}{3^{a/2}} \left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)^{2a} \sin^{2a} t \quad (0 \leq t \leq \pi/2).$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} I_2 &\leq \frac{1}{3^{a/2}} \left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)^{2a} \frac{(1-r)^2}{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^2 t \frac{1-r+2r \sin^2 t}{[(1-r)^2+4r \sin^2 t]^2} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{3^{a/2}} \left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)^{2a} \frac{(2+r)}{16} (1-r)^2, \end{aligned}$$

i.e.

$$I_2 = \begin{cases} O\{(1-r)^{3a}\} & \text{for } 0 < a \leq 2/3, \\ O\{(1-r)^2\} & \text{for } 2/3 < a < 1 \text{ or } 1 < a < 2. \end{cases}$$

Putting together the results, we obtain

$$U_a(r) = \frac{(1+r)^2(1-r)^a}{2\pi(\sqrt{r})^{a+1}} \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{(a-1)/2}}{(1+x)^2} dx + \begin{cases} O\{(1-r)^{3a}\} & \text{if } 0 < a \leq 1/2, \\ O\{(1-r)^{1+a}\} & \text{if } 1/2 < a < 1, \\ O\{(1-r)^2\} & \text{if } 1 < a < 2, \end{cases}$$

and the desired formula follows immediately.

Analogously, for $a = 1$, the asymptotic relation

$$U_1(r) = \frac{2}{\pi}(1-r) + O\{(1-r)^2|\ln(1-r)|\} \quad \text{as } r \rightarrow 1-$$

can also easily be deduced (cf. [2], theorem 3).

Notice also that the inequalities

$$I(r) \leq U_2(r) \leq (\pi/2)^2 I(r),$$

where $I(r) = 2^4 \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^2 t K(r, 2t) dt = (2+r)(1-r)^2$, imply

$$2 \leq U_2(r)/(1-r)^2 \leq 3(\pi/2)^2.$$

THEOREM 2. *Suppose that for certain fixed φ_0 , a ($0 < a < 2$) the finite limit*

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0+} \frac{f(\varphi_0+t) - 2f(\varphi_0) + f(\varphi_0-t)}{t^a} = l$$

exists, and that $f(\varphi_0+t) + f(\varphi_0-t)$ remains bounded in $\langle 0, \pi \rangle$. Then

$$f(r, \varphi_0) = f(\varphi_0) + \frac{l}{\pi} B\left(\frac{1+a}{2}, \frac{3-a}{2}\right) (1-r)^a + o\{(1-r)^a\} \quad \text{as } r \rightarrow 1-.$$

Proof. By hypothesis, we can write

$$(6) \quad f(\varphi_0+t) - 2f(\varphi_0) + f(\varphi_0-t) = [l + \lambda(t)](2 \sin(t/2))^a,$$

where the function $\lambda(t)$ is bounded in $(0, \pi)$, say $|\lambda(t)| \leq M$, and $\lambda(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow 0+$.

Applying (3) and (6),

$$\begin{aligned} f(r, \varphi_0) - f(\varphi_0) &= l \int_0^\pi (2 \sin(t/2))^a K(r, t) dt + \int_0^\pi (2 \sin(t/2))^a \lambda(t) K(r, t) dt \\ &= l I_a(r) + Y_a(r). \end{aligned}$$

Given $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a $\delta > 0$ such that $|\lambda(t)| < \varepsilon$ for $0 < t \leq \delta$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{Y_a(r)}{I_a(r)} \right| &\leq \frac{1}{I_a(r)} \left[\varepsilon \int_0^\delta (2 \sin \frac{t}{2})^a K(r, t) dt + M \int_\delta^\pi (2 \sin \frac{t}{2})^a K(r, t) dt \right] \\ &\leq \varepsilon + \frac{M}{I_a(r)} \int_\delta^\pi (2 \sin \frac{t}{2})^a K(r, t) dt. \end{aligned}$$

The last integral is $O\{(1-r)^2\}$. Further,

$$\begin{aligned} I_a(r) &= 2^{a+1} \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^a t K(r, 2t) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} B\left(\frac{1+a}{2}, \frac{3-a}{2}\right) (1-r)^a + \begin{cases} O\{(1-r)^{1+a}\} & \text{if } 0 < a < 1, \\ O\{(1-r)^2\} & \text{if } 1 < a < 2, \end{cases} \\ I_1(r) &= \frac{1}{\pi} (1-r) + O\{(1-r)^2 |\ln(1-r)|\}. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently

$$I_a(r) = \frac{1}{\pi} B\left(\frac{1+a}{2}, \frac{3-a}{2}\right) (1-r)^a + o\{(1-r)^a\} \quad \text{for } 0 < a < 2.$$

Thus we have $Y_a(r) = O\{I_a(r)\}$ as $r \rightarrow 1-$, and the proof is completed.

THEOREM 3. *Let $f(\varphi)$ be bounded in $\langle -\pi, \pi \rangle$ and let $\omega_2(\delta)$ signify the second modulus of smoothness of this function. Then*

$$\max_{|\varphi| \leq \pi} \left| \frac{\partial^2 f(r, \varphi)}{\partial \varphi^2} \right| \leq C \frac{r \omega_2(1-r)}{(1-r)^2} \quad \text{for } 0 \leq r < 1,$$

with an absolute constant C .

Proof. Starting with the identity

$$\frac{\partial^2 f(r, \varphi)}{\partial \varphi^2} = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(\varphi+t) \frac{\partial^2 K(r, t)}{\partial t^2} dt,$$

and observing that, by (1), (2), $\partial^2 K(r, t)/\partial t^2$ is even and its integral extended over the interval $\langle -\pi, \pi \rangle$ vanishes, we obtain

$$\frac{\partial^2 f(r, \varphi)}{\partial \varphi^2} = \int_0^{\pi} [f(\varphi+t) - 2f(\varphi) + f(\varphi-t)] \frac{\partial^2 K(r, t)}{\partial t^2} dt.$$

Direct computation gives

$$\frac{\partial^2 K(r, t)}{\partial t^2} = \frac{r(1-r^2)^2}{2\pi} \left[\frac{2r \cos 2t - (3-r^2) \cos t}{(1+r^2-2r \cos t)^3} + \frac{6r \sin^2 t (3-r^2-2r \cos t)}{(1+r^2-2r \cos t)^4} \right].$$

Hence

$$\left| \frac{\partial^2 f(r, \varphi)}{\partial \varphi^2} \right| \leq \frac{r(1-r^2)^2}{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \omega_2(t) [Q_1(r, t) + Q_2(r, t)] dt,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} Q_1(r, t) &= \frac{2(1-r)(3+r) + t^2(3+8r-r^2)}{2[(1-r)^2 + 4rt^2/\pi^2]^3}, \\ Q_2(r, t) &= \frac{6rt^2[(1-r)(3+r) + rt^2]}{[(1-r)^2 + 4rt^2/\pi^2]^4}. \end{aligned}$$

Now, it is easily seen that if $0 \leq r \leq 1/2$,

$$\left| \frac{\partial^2 f(r, \varphi)}{\partial \varphi^2} \right| \leq \frac{16r}{\pi} \int_0^\pi \omega_2(t) (7 + 91t^2 + 12t^4) dt,$$

and by the inequality

$$\omega_2(t) \leq \{(1-r+t)^2 \omega_2(1-r)\} / (1-r)^2,$$

we have

$$\max_{|\varphi| \leq \pi} \left| \frac{\partial^2 f(r, \varphi)}{\partial \varphi^2} \right| \leq C_1 \frac{r \omega_2(1-r)}{(1-r)^2} \quad (C_1 = \text{const}).$$

In the case of $1/2 < r < 1$,

$$\left| \frac{\partial^2 f(r, \varphi)}{\partial \varphi^2} \right| \leq \frac{r(1+r)^2(1-r)^3}{4\sqrt{r}} \int_0^{2\sqrt{r/(1-r)}} \omega_2\left(\frac{\pi(1-r)}{2\sqrt{r}}x\right) [Q_1^*(r, x) + Q_2^*(r, x)] dx,$$

where $Q_i^*(r, x) = Q_i(r, \pi(1-r)x/2\sqrt{r})$. Applying the estimate

$$\omega_2\left(\frac{\pi(1-r)}{2\sqrt{r}}x\right) \leq \left(1 + \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{r}}x\right)^2 \omega_2(1-r),$$

we get

$$\left| \frac{\partial^2 f(r, \varphi)}{\partial \varphi^2} \right| \leq \frac{r \omega_2(1-r)}{2(1-r)^2} \int_0^\infty \left(1 + \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{r}}x\right)^2 \left[\frac{32 + 6\pi^2 x^2}{(1+x^2)^3} + \frac{3\pi^2 x^2(32 + \pi^2 x^2)}{2(1+x^2)^4} \right] dx.$$

Consequently

$$\max_{|\varphi| \leq \pi} \left| \frac{\partial^2 f(r, \varphi)}{\partial \varphi^2} \right| \leq C_2 \frac{r \omega_2(1-r)}{(1-r)^2} \quad (C_2 = \text{const}).$$

The proof is thus completed.

THEOREM 4. *If a finite derivative $f^{(s)}(\varphi_0)$ (s is 1 or 2) exists, then*

$$\lim_{(r, \varphi)} \frac{\partial^s f(r, \varphi)}{\partial \varphi^s} = f^{(s)}(\varphi_0)$$

as (r, φ) approaches $(1, \varphi_0)$ in such a way that $(\varphi - \varphi_0)/(1-r)$ remains bounded (cf. [4], pp. 100-101).

Proof. Let us confine ourselves to the case of $-\pi < \varphi_0 < \pi$, $s = 2$. The function

$$f_*(t) = f(\varphi_0) + f'(\varphi_0) \sin(t - \varphi_0) + \frac{1}{2} f''(\varphi_0) \sin^2(t - \varphi_0)$$

is 2π -periodic infinite-differentiable in $(-\infty, \infty)$,

$$f_*^{(\nu)}(\varphi_0) = f^{(\nu)}(\varphi_0) \quad \text{for } \nu = 0, 1, 2.$$

Moreover,

$$\eta(t) = (f(t) - f_*(t)) / \sin^2(t - \varphi_0) \quad \text{tends to zero as } t \rightarrow \varphi_0.$$

As for the Poisson integral,

$$\frac{\partial^2 f_*(r, \varphi)}{\partial \varphi^2} = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_*(t) \frac{\partial^2 K(r, t - \varphi)}{\partial t^2} dt = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_*''(t) K(r, t - \varphi) dt$$

and

$$\lim_{\substack{r \rightarrow 1^- \\ \varphi \rightarrow \varphi_0}} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_*''(t) K(r, t - \varphi) dt = f_*''(\varphi_0) = f''(\varphi_0).$$

Writing $h(t) = f(t) - f_*(t)$, we have

$$\frac{\partial^2 f(r, \varphi)}{\partial \varphi^2} = \frac{\partial^2 f_*(r, \varphi)}{\partial \varphi^2} + \frac{\partial^2 h(r, \varphi)}{\partial \varphi^2},$$

and

$$\frac{\partial^2 h(r, \varphi)}{\partial \varphi^2} = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \eta(t) \sin^2(t - \varphi_0) \frac{\partial^2 K(r, t - \varphi)}{\partial t^2} dt.$$

Given any $\varepsilon > 0$, let δ ($0 < \delta \leq \min(\pi - \varphi_0, \pi + \varphi_0)$) be such that $|\eta(t)| \leq \varepsilon$ for $|t - \varphi_0| \leq \delta$. Then,

$$\left| \frac{\partial^2 h(r, \varphi)}{\partial \varphi^2} \right| \leq \varepsilon \int_{|t - \varphi_0| \leq \delta} \sin^2(t - \varphi_0) \left| \frac{\partial^2 K(r, t - \varphi)}{\partial t^2} \right| dt + |I_\delta(r, \varphi)|,$$

where

$$I_\delta(r, \varphi) = \int_{|t - \varphi_0| > \delta} \eta(t) \sin^2(t - \varphi_0) \frac{\partial^2 K(r, t - \varphi)}{\partial t^2} dt.$$

Clearly,

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{|t - \varphi_0| \leq \delta} \sin^2(t - \varphi_0) \left| \frac{\partial^2 K(r, t - \varphi)}{\partial t^2} \right| dt \\ & \leq \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin^2(t - \varphi_0) \left| \frac{\partial^2 K(r, t - \varphi)}{\partial t^2} \right| dt \\ & = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin^2 t \left| \frac{\partial^2 K(r, t)}{\partial t^2} \right| dt + \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} [\sin^2(t + \varphi - \varphi_0) - \sin^2 t] \times \\ & \quad \times \left| \frac{\partial^2 K(r, t)}{\partial t^2} \right| dt = A + B. \end{aligned}$$

The integral A is uniformly bounded in r ($0 \leq r < 1$),

$$\begin{aligned} |B| &\leq |\varphi - \varphi_0| \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |\sin(t + \varphi - \varphi_0) + \sin t| \left| \frac{\partial^2 K(r, t)}{\partial t^2} \right| dt \\ &\leq 2|\varphi - \varphi_0| \left\{ 2 \int_0^{\pi} \sin t \left| \frac{\partial^2 K(r, t)}{\partial t^2} \right| dt + |\varphi - \varphi_0| \int_0^{\pi} \left| \frac{\partial^2 K(r, t)}{\partial t^2} \right| dt \right\} \\ &\leq M_1 |\varphi - \varphi_0| / (1 - r) + M_2 (\varphi - \varphi_0)^2 / (1 - r)^2 \quad (M_s = \text{const}). \end{aligned}$$

Also, it can easily be observed that

$$\lim I_0(r, \varphi) = 0 \quad \text{as} \quad (r, \varphi) \rightarrow (1, \varphi_0).$$

Putting together the results, we get the above-mentioned assertion.

THEOREM 5. For any bounded function $f(\varphi)$ with modulus $\omega_2(\delta)$, we have

$$\max_{|\varphi| \leq \pi} \left| \frac{\partial f(r, \varphi)}{\partial r} \right| \leq M \frac{\omega_2(1-r)}{1-r} \quad \text{for} \quad 0 < r_0 \leq r < 1,$$

where M is a constant depending only on r_0 . In particular, if $\omega_2(\delta) = o(\delta)$, the relation

$$(7) \quad \lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{\partial f(r, \varphi)}{\partial r} = 0$$

holds uniformly in φ .

Proof. Let $A_0 = a_0/2$, $A_n(\varphi) = a_n \cos n\varphi + b_n \sin n\varphi$, where a_0, a_n, b_n are the Fourier coefficients of f . In view of (1),

$$\frac{\partial f(r, \varphi)}{\partial r} = (1 - r^2) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(n + \frac{n^2}{2} \right) r^{n-1} A_n(\varphi).$$

Denote by $f^*(r, \varphi)$ the Abel-Poisson means of the Fourier series of f , i.e.

$$f^*(r, \varphi) = A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} r^n A_n(\varphi),$$

and write

$$S_r(\varphi) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} nr^n A_n(\varphi), \quad T_r(\varphi) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^2 r^n A_n(\varphi).$$

Then, by (1),

$$f(r, \varphi) = f^*(r, \varphi) + \frac{1}{2}(1 - r^2) S_r(\varphi).$$

Applying Theorem 1 of [2], and observing that

$$|f^*(r, \varphi) - f(\varphi)| \leq C_3 \frac{\omega_2(1-r)}{1-r} \quad \text{for} \quad 0 \leq r < 1,$$

we get

$$|f(r, \varphi) - f^*(r, \varphi)| \leq C_4 \frac{\omega_2(1-r)}{1-r} \quad (C_{3,4} = \text{const});$$

whence

$$(1-r^2)|S_r(\varphi)| \leq 2C_4 \frac{\omega_2(1-r)}{1-r} \quad \text{for } 0 \leq r < 1.$$

It is easily seen (cf. [4], pp. 108-109) that if $0 \leq r < 1$,

$$|T_r(\varphi)| = \left| \frac{\partial^2 f^*(r, \varphi)}{\partial \varphi^2} \right| \leq C_5 \frac{r\omega_2(1-r)}{(1-r)^2} \quad (C_5 = \text{const}).$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{\partial f(r, \varphi)}{\partial r} \right| &= \frac{1-r^2}{r} \left| S_r(\varphi) + \frac{1}{2} T_r(\varphi) \right| \\ &\leq \left(\frac{2C_4}{r} + \frac{(1+r)C_5}{2} \right) \frac{\omega_2(1-r)}{1-r} \leq M \frac{\omega_2(1-r)}{1-r} \quad \text{as } r \geq r_0. \end{aligned}$$

For the whole class Z_a the estimate in the last theorem cannot be improved. Indeed, the function

$$f(\varphi) = K_a \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos n\varphi}{n^{1+a}} \quad (0 < a < 2),$$

with a suitable constant K_a , is of class Z_a . Its Abel-Poisson means possesses the derivative

$$\frac{\partial^2 f^*(r, \varphi)}{\partial \varphi^2} = -K_a \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{1-a} r^n \cos n\varphi \quad (0 \leq r < 1).$$

Since

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{1-a} r^n = \Gamma(a)/(1-r)^{2-a} + \varrho_r(a),$$

where

$$\varrho_r(a) = \begin{cases} O\{(1-r)^{a-1}\} & \text{for } 0 < a < 1, \\ O\{|\ln(1-r)|\} & \text{for } a = 1, \\ O(1) & \text{for } 1 < a < 2 \end{cases}$$

as $r \rightarrow 1$ - (see [4], pp. 76-77), we have

$$\left| \frac{\partial^2 f^*(r, \varphi)}{\partial \varphi^2} \Big|_{\varphi=0} \right| \geq \frac{C_6}{(1-r)^{2-a}} \quad \text{for } 0 < r_1 \leq r < 1,$$

where C_6 is a positive constant depending only on a and r_1 . Now, it can easily be observed that there is a positive constant C_7 such that

$$\max_{|\varphi| \leq \pi} \left| \frac{\partial f(r, \varphi)}{\partial r} \right| \geq \frac{C_7}{(1-r)^{1-a}} \quad \text{for } 0 < r_1 \leq r < 1.$$

The biharmonic function generated by

$$f(\varphi) = 4 \sin^2(\varphi/2) = 2(1 - \cos \varphi)$$

belonging to Z_2 is of the form:

$$f(r, \varphi) = 2 - (3 - r^2)r \cos \varphi.$$

Hence,

$$\max_{|\varphi| \leq \pi} \left| \frac{\partial f(r, \varphi)}{\partial r} \right| = 3(1 - r^2) \geq 3(1 - r) \quad \text{for } 0 \leq r < 1.$$

If $f(\varphi) = |2 \sin(\varphi/2)|$,

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 1-} \frac{\partial f(r, 0)}{\partial r} = -\frac{2}{\pi} < 0.$$

Thus, there exist functions $f(\varphi)$ satisfying the Lipschitz condition for which relation (7) is false at some φ .

Evidently, if $f(\varphi)$ possesses a finite second derivative in a set E , the relation

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 1-} \frac{\partial^2 f^*(r, \varphi)}{\partial \varphi^2} = f''(\varphi)$$

implies (7) for any $\varphi \in E$.

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