

# PUZZLES WITH SEVERAL CRITICAL POINTS

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# Branner-Hubbard Conjecture

## BH conjecture

For any degree  $d$  polynomial  $f$ ,  $J(f)$  is a Cantor set if and only if every critical component of  $K(f)$  is not periodic.

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Koslovski-vanStrien and Qiu-Yin proved this conjecture.

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### Dynamics

If  $f : U \rightarrow V$  is a ramified covering of degree  $d$  and  $A \subset U$ ,  $B \subset V$  are closed disks,  $mod(U \setminus A) \geq \frac{1}{d} mod(V \setminus B)$

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## Definition

The point  $x$  has property  $(\star)$  if :

$\exists z, (k_n)_{n \geq 0} \mid f^{k_n} : P_{k_n+k_0}(x) \rightarrow P_{k_0}(z), \forall n \geq 1$ , has bounded degree.

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For a graph  $\Gamma$ , say that  $z$  *accumulates*  $y$  if for every  $n \geq 0$  there exists  $k > 0$  such that  $f^k(z) \in P_n(y)$ . Write  $y \in \omega(z)$ .

## Lemma

Every point  $x$  falls in one of the cases:

- If  $\omega(x) \cap \text{Crit} = \emptyset$  then  $(\star)$  is satisfied ;

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- For  $\forall c \in \omega(x) \cap \text{Crit}$  and  $\forall c' \in \omega(c) \cap \text{Crit}$  we have that  $c \notin \omega(c')$  we call it the recurrent case.



## First entrance

Let  $U, V$  be puzzle pieces. For  $y \in U$ , let  $r$  be the smallest integer such that  $f^r(y) \in V$ , then  $\deg(f^r : U \rightarrow V) \leq \delta^b$ .

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 $f^{n-i} : P_n(c) = P_i(c)$  and every critical point appears at most twice in  $\{f^j(P_n(c)) \mid 0 \leq j < n - i\}$ .

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### Theorem :

There exists a sequence of puzzle pieces  $(K_n)$  in the nest  $(P_j(c))$  defined by the operator  $\Gamma$  and two operators  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  of bounded degree:  
 $K_n := \mathcal{A}(\Gamma^{b+1}(K_{n-1}))$  and  $K'_n := \mathcal{B}(\Gamma^{b+1}(K_{n-1}))$  with the property that  $K'_n \setminus K_n$  does not intersect the postcritical set.

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It is called the **enhanced nest** by Kozlovski, Shen, van Strien ▶ KSS

Corollary (from the construction of the nest) :

- $f^{p_n}(K_n) = K_{n-1}$ ,  $p_{n+1} \geq 2p_n$ ,  $\deg(f^{p_n} : K_n \rightarrow K_{n-1}) \leq C(b, \delta)$ .

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The annulus  $K'_n \setminus \bar{K}_n$  is **non-degenerate** . Denote by  $\mu_n$  its modulus.

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Using "Kahn-Lyubich covering Lemma", we can prove that  **$\liminf \mu_n$  is bounded from below.** ▶ K-L

Hence  $\text{Imp}(c) = \{c\}$ .  $\square$

## From KSS nest to Kahn-Lyubich Lemma

For any  $m$  consider  $f^\xi : K'_{m+2} \rightarrow K_m$  and denote by  $y$  the point  $f^\xi(c)$ .



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Pull back by  $f^l$  the pieces  $K_m \subset K'_m$  to  $B \subset B'$  containing  $z$ , and then by  $f^M$  to puzzle pieces  $A \subset A'$  containing  $y$ .

## Claim

- $f^\xi(K_{m+2}) \subset A$
- the degree of  $f|_{K'_{m+2}}^\xi$  is bounded by  $C_1$  independently of  $Z, m$ ;
- the degree of  $f|_{A'}^M$  is bounded by  $C_2$  independently of  $Z, m$ ;
- the degree of  $f|_U^M$  is bounded by  $C$  independent of  $m$ ;
- the degree of  $f|_{B'}^l$  is bounded by  $C_3$  independently of  $Z, m$ .

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Hence

- $\text{mod}(U \setminus A) \leq \text{mod}(U \setminus f^\xi(K_{m+2})) \leq \frac{1}{C_1} \mu_{m+2}$ .
- $\text{mod}(B' \setminus B) \geq \frac{1}{C_3} \mu_m$
- Choose  $m$  so that  $\mu_{m+2} \leq \mu_k$  for  $k \leq m + 2$ .

Hence we get the condition of the covering Lemma:

$$\text{mod}(B' \setminus B) \geq \frac{1}{C_1 C_3} \text{mod}(U \setminus A)$$

So that either  $\text{mod}(U \setminus A) > \epsilon(C_1 C_3, D)$  or

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Looking at the first entrance of  $z$  in the annuli  $K'_i \setminus \bar{K}_i$  for  $m \leq i \leq m - Z + 1$  :

$$\text{mod}(V \setminus B) \geq \mu_m + \mu_{m-1} + \dots + \mu_{m-Z+1} \geq Z\mu_{m+2}.$$

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So that the first inequality implies that

$$\frac{1}{C_1} \mu_{m+2} \geq \frac{Z}{C_1 C_3 2(C_2)^2} \mu_{m+2}.$$

which is not possible for large  $Z$ .



## Theorem

Let  $f : U \rightarrow V$  be a degree  $D$  ramified covering. For any  $\eta > 0$ , there exists  $\epsilon = \epsilon(\eta, D) > 0$  such that :

- if  $A \subset\subset A' \subset\subset U$  and  $B \subset\subset B' \subset\subset V$  are sequences of disks ;
- if  $f$  is a proper map from  $A$  to  $B$ , and from  $A'$  to  $B'$  with degree  $d$  ;
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Then

- $\text{mod}(U \setminus A) > \epsilon$
- or  $\text{mod}(U \setminus A) > \frac{\eta}{2d^2} \text{mod}(V \setminus B)$ .

▸ retour

Given a puzzle piece  $I$  containing  $c$  there exist puzzle pieces  $\mathcal{A}(I)$  and  $\mathcal{B}(I)$  containing  $c$  such that

- they are pullback of  $I$ ;
- $\mathcal{A}(I) \subset \mathcal{B}(I)$ ;
- the degrees  $\mathcal{A}(I) \rightarrow I$  and  $\mathcal{B}(I) \rightarrow I$  are bounded by  $C(b, \delta)$  and one meets  $c$  at most  $b + 1$ , resp.  $b$  times;
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Then define  $K'_{n+1} = \mathcal{B}(I_{n+1})$ . [retour](#)