

K. Wilderotter (Univ. Bonn, Germany)

ON  $n$ -WIDTHS OF BOUNDED PERIODIC HOLOMORPHIC FUNCTIONS

The even-dimensional Kolmogorov widths  $d_{2n}$ , Gel'fand widths  $d^{2n}$  and linear widths  $\delta_{2n}$  of  $\tilde{A}$  in  $\tilde{L}_q$  and  $\tilde{C}$  are determined exactly. It is shown that all three  $n$ -widths are equal and a characterization of the widths in terms of Blaschke products is given.

Точно визначені колмогоровські поперечники  $d_{2n}$ , поперечники Гельфанда  $d^{2n}$  та лінійні поперечники  $\delta_{2n}$  звуження  $\tilde{A}$  в просторах  $\tilde{L}_q$  і  $\tilde{C}$ . Показано, що всі ці  $n$ -поперечники рівні та наведено характеристики цих поперечників у термінах добутків Бляшке.

**1. Introduction and Statement of Results.** The Kolmogorov  $n$ -widths of a subset  $A$  of a Banach space  $X$  is defined by

$$d_n(A, X) = \inf_{X_n} \sup_{x \in A} \inf_{y \in X_n} \|x - y\|,$$

where  $X_n$  runs over all  $n$ -dimensional subspaces of  $X$ .

The Gel'fand  $n$ -width of  $A$  in  $X$  is defined by

$$d^n(A, X) = \inf_{L^n} \sup_{x \in L^n \cap A} \|x\|,$$

where  $L^n$  runs over all subspaces of codimension  $n$ .

The linear  $n$ -width of  $A$  in  $X$  is given by

$$\delta_n(A, X) = \inf_{P_n} \sup_{x \in A} \|x - P_n x\|,$$

where  $P_n$  varies over all linear operators of rank  $n$ , which map  $X$  into itself.

Much information on where  $n$ -widths may be found in the book of A. Pinkus [1]. In particular, the following fundamental inequality is always valid:

$$d^n(A, X), d_n(A, X) \leq \delta_n(A, X). \quad (1)$$

In the present paper we determine the even-dimensional  $n$ -widths of the following class of analytic functions. Let  $S_\beta = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |\operatorname{Im}(z)| < \beta\}$ , and let  $\tilde{H}_\beta^\infty$  denote the space of functions  $f$ , which are analytic in  $S_\beta$ , real and  $2\pi$ -periodic on the  $x$ -axis, and satisfy  $\|f\|_{\tilde{H}_\beta^\infty} := \sup\{|f(z)| : z \in S_\beta\} < \infty$ . Let  $\tilde{A}$  be the restriction of the real axis of the unit ball of  $\tilde{H}_\beta^\infty$ . We seek the value of the  $n$ -widths of  $\tilde{A}$  in the Banach space  $\tilde{X}$ , where  $\tilde{X}$  represents either

$$\tilde{L}_q = \left\{ f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, f \text{ } 2\pi\text{-periodic and } \|f\|_q = \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} |f(x)|^q dx \right)^{1/q} < \infty \right\},$$

$$1 \leq q < \infty,$$

or

$$\tilde{C} = \{f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, f \text{ } 2\pi\text{-periodic and continuous}\}.$$

We emphasize that all these spaces are real, but not complex vector spaces.

Our approach to periodic functions will consist in transferring the analysis from the strip  $S_\beta$  to the annulus  $\Omega_R = \{w \in \mathbb{C} : R < |w| < R^{-1}\}$ , where  $R = e^{-\beta}$ . The transformation  $w = e^{iz}$  maps  $S_\beta$  onto  $\Omega_R$  and the operator  $U: f(z) \rightarrow g(w) = f((1/i)\ln(w))$  yields an isometry between  $\tilde{H}_\beta^\infty$  and  $H^\infty(\Omega_R)$ , the space of all functions  $g$ , which are analytic in  $\Omega_R$ , real-valued on the unit circle  $E = \{w \in \mathbb{C} : |w| = 1\}$ , and satisfy  $\|g\|_{H^\infty(\Omega_R)} := \sup\{|g(w)| : w \in \Omega_R\} < \infty$ . Furthermore  $U$  maps the spaces  $\tilde{L}_q$  and  $\tilde{C}$  isometrically onto the corresponding spaces  $L_q(E)$  and  $C(E)$ , respectively. Denoting by  $A$  the unit ball in  $H^\infty(\Omega_R)$  and by  $X$  either  $L_q(E)$ ,  $1 \leq q < \infty$ , or  $C(E)$ , we see that the  $n$ -widths of  $\tilde{A}$  in  $\tilde{X}$  are equal to the  $n$ -widths of  $A$  in  $X$ . In the following we will concentrate on the later problem.

In order to determine the  $n$ -widths of  $A$  in  $X$  we generalize a technique of Fisher and Micchelli [2] (see also [3] and [4]). For this purpose we need some more terminology from complex analysis. Let  $g(z, \zeta)$  be the Green's function for  $\Omega_R$  with singularity at  $\zeta$ , that is,  $g(z, \zeta)$  is harmonic and positive on  $\Omega_R$  except for a logarithmic pole at  $\zeta$  and  $g(z, \zeta) = 0$ , if  $z \in \partial\Omega_R$ . Let  $h(z, \zeta)$  be the harmonic conjugate of  $g(z, \zeta)$  on  $\Omega_R$ ;  $h$  is not single-valued. Its period about  $\Gamma^{(1)}$  is given by  $2\pi\omega(\zeta)$ . Here  $\Gamma^{(1)}$  and  $\Gamma^{(0)}$  denote the inner and outer boundary of  $\Omega_R$ , and  $\omega$  is the harmonic measure of  $\Gamma^{(1)}$ , i. e.  $\omega$  is the unique harmonic function in  $\Omega_R$  with constant boundary values 1 on  $\Gamma^{(1)}$  and 0 on  $\Gamma^{(0)}$ ;  $\omega$  is given explicitly by

$$\omega(\zeta) = \frac{\ln|\zeta| + \ln R}{2\ln R} \quad (2)$$

and possesses the important symmetry property

$$\omega(\zeta) + \omega(\bar{\zeta}^{-1}) = 1, \quad \zeta \in \Omega_R, \quad \omega(\zeta) = 1/2, \quad \zeta \in E. \quad (3)$$

A Blaschke product  $B$  of degree  $m$  on  $\Omega_R$  is a function of the form

$$B(z) = \lambda \exp\left(-\sum_{j=1}^m P(z, \zeta_j)\right),$$

where  $|\lambda| = 1$  and  $\zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_m$  are points in  $\Omega_R$ , not necessarily distinct, and  $P(z, \zeta) = g(z, \zeta) + ih(z, \zeta)$ , is the complex Green's function. In general  $B$  is multiple-valued;  $B$  is single-valued if and only if

$$\sum_{j=1}^m \omega(\zeta_j) \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (4)$$

Finally we denote by

$$\mathbb{B}_{2n} = \{B_{2n}(z) = \exp(-P(z, \zeta_1) - \dots - P(z, \zeta_{2n})) \text{ with } \zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_{2n} \in E\}$$

the set of all Blaschke products of degree  $2n$ , all whose zeros lie on  $E$ . After scaling we may assume that  $B_{2n}(z)$  is real for all  $z \in E$ . Furthermore, all functions in  $\mathbb{B}_{2n}$  are single-valued in view of (3) and (4).

We are now ready to formulate our first main result.

**Theorem 1.**

$$d_{2n}(A, X) = d^{2n}(A, X) = \delta_{2n}(A, X) = \inf \{ \|B\|_X : B \in \mathbb{B}_{2n} \}.$$

As already mentioned, our proof of Theorem 1 is built on the technique of Fisher and Micchelli [2]. Indeed, the upper estimate  $\delta_{2n}(A, X) \leq \inf \{ \|B\|_X : B \in \mathbb{B}_{2n} \}$  follows immediately from the cited paper. However, Fisher and Micchelli could only establish a lower bound of the form  $\inf \{ \|B\|_X : B \in \mathbb{B}_{2n+1} \} \leq d_{2n}(A, X)$ , where  $\mathbb{B}_{2n+1}$  denotes the set of single-valued Blaschke products of degree at most  $2n+1$ . Theorem 1 closes the gap between the lower and upper bound of Fisher and Micchelli under the additional assumption that all arising functions are real-valued on the unit circle  $E$ .

In the case  $X = C(E)$ , we are able to show that the infimum in Theorem 1 is attained by the Blaschke product  $B^*$ , whose nodes are equidistant.

**Theorem 2.** Set  $\zeta_k^* = \exp(i(2k-1)\pi/2n)$  for  $k = 1, \dots, 2n$  and  $B^*(z) = \exp(-P(z, \zeta_1^*) - \dots - P(z, \zeta_{2n}^*))$ . Then

$$\|B^*\|_{C(E)} = \inf \{ \|B\|_{C(E)} : B \in \mathbb{B}_{2n} \}.$$

Finally we determine the asymptotic behavior of  $d_{2n}(A, C(E))$  and establish an interesting connection between the widths  $d_{2n}(A, C(E))$  and  $d_n(A(H^\infty(G)), C[-1, 1])$ . Here  $G$  denotes the interior of the ellipse with foci at the points  $\mp 1$  and sum of semi-axes  $c = e^\beta$ , and  $H^\infty(G)$  is Hardy space of bounded analytic functions on  $G$  with unit ball  $A(H^\infty(G))$ .

**Theorem 3.**

$$d_{2n}(A, C(E)) = d_{2n}(A, \tilde{C}) = d_n(A(H^\infty(G)), C[-1, 1]).$$

The same equation holds for the linear and Gel'fand widths. Asymptotically we have  $d_{2n}(A, C(E)) = 2R^n + O(R^{5n})$ .

**2. Proof of the Theorems.**

**Proof of Theorem 1.** As mentioned in the introduction, the upper bound  $\delta_{2n}(A, X) \leq \inf \{ \|B\|_X : B \in \mathbb{B}_{2n} \}$  follows directly from [2].

In order to establish the lower bound for  $d_n(A, X)$  and  $d^{2n}(A, X)$ , we need the following version of the Pick-Nevanlinna interpolation theorem for the space  $H^\infty(\Omega_R, \mathbb{C})$ . By definition  $H^\infty(\Omega_R, \mathbb{C})$  consists of all complex-valued bounded holomorphic functions on  $\Omega_R$ . In contrast to  $H^\infty(\Omega_R)$ , functions in  $H^\infty(\Omega_R, \mathbb{C})$  are not necessarily real-valued on the unit circle  $E$ .

**Theorem 4.** Fix  $2n+1$  distinct points  $z_0, \dots, z_{2n}$  in  $E$  and let  $t_0, \dots, t_{2n}$  be  $2n+1$  real numbers with  $\sum_{j=0}^{2n} |t_j|^2 = 1$ . Then the vector  $t = (t_0, \dots, t_{2n})$  belongs to the unit sphere  $S^{2n}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^{2n+1}$ . Set  $\rho(t) = \inf \{ \|f\|_{H^\infty} : f \in H^\infty(\Omega_R, \mathbb{C}), f(z_j) = t_j, 0 \leq j \leq 2n \}$ . Then we have:

(i)  $\rho$  is a continuous function on  $S^{2n}$ .

(ii) There is a unique function  $B_t \in H^\infty(\Omega_R, \mathbb{C})$  with  $\|B_t\| = 1$  and  $B_t(z_j) = t_j/\rho(t)$ ,  $0 \leq j \leq 2n$ .

(iii) The function  $B_t$  is a single-valued Blaschke product of degree at most  $2n+1$ .

(iv)  $V: t \rightarrow B_t$  is a continuous mapping from  $S^{2n}$  into the set  $\mathbb{B}_{2n+1}$  of single-valued Blaschke products of degree at most  $2n+1$ , when  $\mathbb{B}_{2n+1}$  is given the topology of uniform convergence on compact subsets of  $\Omega_R$ .

For a detailed exposition of the Pick–Nevanlinna theorem we refer to ([3], Chapter 5).

Theorem 4 guarantees the existence of a unique Blaschke product  $B_t \in \mathbb{B}_{2n+1}$  interpolating the data  $t_j/\rho(t)$  with minimal  $H^\infty$ -norm. A priori it is possible that  $B_t$  is complex-valued on  $E$ . However, since the data  $t$  are real, the Schwarz reflection principle implies, that the function  $\overline{B_t(1/\bar{z})}$  is a minimal interpolant as well. In view of the uniqueness of the minimal interpolant we conclude that  $B_t(z) = \overline{B_t(1/\bar{z})}$ . Therefore  $B_t$  is real-valued on  $E$  and its zeros are located symmetrically with respect to  $E$ . We numerate the zeros in the following order:

$$z_1, 1/\bar{z}_1, \dots, z_l, 1/\bar{z}_l, z_{l+1}, \dots, z_k,$$

where  $z_1, \dots, z_l \notin E$  and  $z_{l+1}, \dots, z_k \in E$ . By (3) we have  $\omega(z_j) + \omega(1/\bar{z}_j) = 1$  for  $j=1, \dots, l$ ,  $\omega(z_j) = 1/2$  for  $j=l+1, \dots, k$ . Since  $B_t$  is single-valued, we obtain from (4) that

$$\sum_{j=1}^l (\omega(z_j) + \omega(1/\bar{z}_j)) + \sum_{j=l+1}^k \omega(z_j) \in \mathbb{N}.$$

This is possible only if  $k-l$  is an even number. Consequently  $B_t$  possesses always an even number of zeros and in particular the degree of  $B_t$  must be less or equal  $2n$ .

Let us denote by  $\hat{\mathbb{B}}_{2n}$  the set of single-valued Blaschke products, which are real-valued on  $E$  with an even number of zeros less or equal  $2n$ , which are located on  $E$  or symmetrically with respect to  $E$ . As a result of the preceding analysis we obtain a mapping

$$V: S^{2n} \rightarrow \hat{\mathbb{B}}_{2n}, \quad t \rightarrow B_t;$$

$V$  is a continuous odd mapping, when  $\hat{\mathbb{B}}_{2n}$  has the topology of local uniform convergence.

Having established the existence of  $V$ , we use now the same technique based on Borsuk's theorem like Fisher and Micchelli [2] to conclude that

$$\inf \{ \|B\|_X : B \in \hat{\mathbb{B}}_{2n} \} \leq d_{2n}(A, X), \quad d^{2n}(A, X).$$

From the last inequality we see that Theorem 1 will be proved, if we manage to show that

$$\inf \{ \|B\|_X : B \in \hat{\mathbb{B}}_{2n} \} = \inf \{ \|B\|_X : B \in \mathbb{B}_{2n} \}.$$

For this purpose we remark, that, since  $\hat{\mathbb{B}}_{2n}$  is compact with respect to local uniform convergence on  $\Omega_R$ , there exist a  $B^* \in \hat{\mathbb{B}}_{2n}$  such that  $\|B^*\|_X = \inf \{ \|B\|_X : B \in \hat{\mathbb{B}}_{2n} \}$ ;  $B^*$  must possess  $2n$  zeros, counted with multiplicities. Indeed, assuming that the number of zeros of  $B^*$  were less than  $2n$ , the Blaschke product

$\exp(-2P(z, 1))B^*(z)$  would belong to  $\hat{\mathbb{B}}_{2n}$ . Since  $|\exp(-2P(z, 1))| = |\exp(-2g(z, 1))| < 1$  on  $E$ , we obtain the contradiction  $\|\exp(-2P(z, 1))B^*(z)\|_X < \|B^*(z)\|_X$ . Hence  $B^*$  has  $2n$  zeros  $z_1^*, \dots, z_{2n}^*$ .

We claim that all zeros of  $B^*$  lie on  $E$ . Again we assume the contrary to be true: Suppose, the zeros  $z_1^*$  does not lie on  $E$ . Since zeros, which are not located on  $E$ , always occur in pairs,  $z_2^* = \overline{1/z_1^*}$  is a zero of  $B^*$  as well. After rotation we may assume  $z_1^*, z_2^* \in (R, 1/R)$ . For  $z \in E$  we obtain by symmetry that  $|\exp(-P(z, z_1^*) - P(z, z_2^*))| = \exp(-2g(z, z_1^*))$ . Since for fixed  $z \in E$  and variable  $\alpha \in (R, 1/R)$  the function  $g(z, \alpha)$  attains its maximum in  $\alpha = 1$ , we conclude that  $|\exp(-2P(z, 1))| < |\exp(-P(z, z_1^*) - P(z, z_2^*))|$ . Consequently, if we set  $B^{**}(z) = \exp(-P(z, 1) - P(z, z_1^*) - P(z, z_2^*) - \dots - P(z, z_{2n}^*))$ , we arrive at the contradiction  $\|B^{**}\|_X < \|B^*\|_X$ . Hence all zeros of  $B^*$  lie on  $E$ . This observation completes the proof of Theorem 1.

*Proof of Theorem 2* is based essentially on the following theorem.

**Theorem 5.** Let  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  be two Blaschke products in  $\mathbb{B}_{2n}$ . Let  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{2n}$  be  $2n$  distinct points on  $E$ . If  $B_1(\alpha_k) = B_2(\alpha_k)$  for  $k = 1, \dots, 2n$  and  $B_1(1/R) = B_2(1/R)$ , then  $B_1(z) = B_2(z)$  for all  $z \in \Omega_R$ , i. e.  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  coincide.

*Proof of Theorem 5.* By the Schwarz reflection principle we can continue both Blaschke products across the boundary  $\partial\Omega_R$  onto a domain  $\hat{\Omega}$  with  $\Omega_R \subset \hat{\Omega}$ .

For each  $\varepsilon > 0$ , and all  $z \in \partial\Omega_R$ ,

$$|(1 + \varepsilon)B_1(z)| > |-B_2(z)| = |[(1 + \varepsilon)B_1(z) - B_2(z)] - (1 + \varepsilon)B_1(z)|.$$

Thus by Rouché's Theorem the functions  $(1 + \varepsilon)B_1 - B_2$  and  $(1 + \varepsilon)B_1$  have the same number of zeros in  $\Omega_R$ , namely  $2n$ .

The function  $(1 + \varepsilon)B_1 - B_2$  converges locally uniformly on  $\hat{\Omega}$  to  $B_1 - B_2$  for  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ . Suppose that  $B_1 - B_2$  is not identically zero. Then by a well known result from complex analysis each function  $(1 + \varepsilon)B_1 - B_2$  has at least  $2n + 1$  zero in  $\hat{\Omega}$  for sufficiently small  $\varepsilon$ , which converge to the  $2n + 1$  zeros  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{2n}$  and  $1/R$  of  $B_1 - B_2$ . Since  $(1 + \varepsilon)B_1 - B_2$  has exactly  $2n$  zeros in  $\Omega_R$ , one zero  $z_\varepsilon$  must lie in  $\hat{\Omega} \setminus \Omega_R$ . Let  $(1/R^2)(1/\bar{z}_\varepsilon)$  be the point in  $\Omega_R$ , which is conjugate to  $z_\varepsilon$  with respect to the outer boundary of  $\Omega_R$ . Because of the Schwarz reflection principle the equation  $(1 + \varepsilon)B_1(z_\varepsilon) - B_2(z_\varepsilon) = 0$  implies the equation

$$(1 + \varepsilon)B_2\left(\frac{1}{R^2}\frac{1}{\bar{z}_\varepsilon}\right) - B_1\left(\frac{1}{R^2}\frac{1}{\bar{z}_\varepsilon}\right) = 0.$$

Hence the function  $(1 + \varepsilon)B_2 - B_1$  possesses the zero  $(1/R^2)(1/\bar{z}_\varepsilon)$  in  $\Omega_R$ , which tends to  $1/R$  for  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ . On the other hand, repeating the above analysis once more, we see that  $(1 + \varepsilon)B_2 - B_1$  has exactly  $2n$  zero in  $\Omega_R$ , which converge to  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{2n}$ . This is a contradiction. Hence  $B_1 - B_2$  must be identically zero and Theorem 5 is proved.

In order to prove Theorem 2 we denote by  $B^*$  the Blaschke product with equidistant nodes  $z_1^*, \dots, z_{2n}^*$ . Let  $B$  be an arbitrary other Blaschke product in

$\mathbb{B}_{2n}$ . After rotating we may assume that  $B^*(1/R) = B(1/R)$ . Furthermore both  $B^*$  and  $B$  are real-valued on  $E$ .

The decisive idea of proof relies on the fact that  $B^*$  has an extremal alternant consisting of  $2n$  points. Therefore the assumption  $\|B\|_{C(E)} < \|B^*\|_{C(E)}$  implies that  $B^* - B$  has at least  $2n$  zeros on  $E$ . Since furthermore  $B^*(1/R) = B(1/R)$ , we obtain  $B^* = B$  and the minimal property of  $B^*$  is proved.

*Proof of Theorem 3.* In order to determine the asymptotic behavior of  $\|B^*\|_{C(E)}$ , we transform the domain of definition  $\Omega_R$  of  $B^*$  twice. In the first step we pass over from  $B^*(z)$  to  $B^*(e^{i\omega})$ ; which is a periodic, even and analytic function in the strip  $S_\beta$  with zeros in  $w_k^* = (2k-1)\pi/2n$ ,  $k=1, \dots, 2n$ .

In the second step the change of variables  $w \rightarrow v = \cos(w)$  maps  $S_\beta$  analytically onto the interior of the ellipse  $G$  with foci at the points  $\mp 1$  and sum of semi-axes  $c = e^\beta$ . Furthermore, the transformation  $F(v) \rightarrow f(w) = F(\cos(w))$  yields a one-to-one correspondence between functions  $F$  analytic in  $G$  and functions  $f$ , which are periodic, even and analytic in  $S_\beta$ . Consequently  $\Phi^*(v) = B^*(\exp(i \arccos(v)))$  is a well defined analytic function on  $G$  with the following properties:

- (i)  $\Phi^*(v) = 1$  for  $v \in \partial G$ ;
- (ii)  $\Phi^*(\cos((2k-1)\pi/2n)) = 0$ ,  $k=1, \dots, n$ .

Hence  $\Phi^*$  is a Blaschke product of degree  $n$  on the simply connected domain  $G$  with zeros in the Chebyshev nodes of the interval  $[-1, 1]$ . Osipenko [5] showed that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\Phi^*\|_{C[-1,1]} = \\ & = \inf \{ \|\Phi\|_{C[-1,1]} : \Phi \text{ is a Blaschke product on } G \text{ of degree at most } n \} = \\ & = d_n(A(H^\infty(G)), C[-1, 1]). \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore Osipenko [5] gave an explicit formula for  $\|\Phi^*\|_{C[-1,1]}$  in terms of elliptic functions. In particular he established the following asymptotic behavior:

$$\|\Phi^*\|_{C[-1,1]} = 2c^{-n} + O(c^{-5n}).$$

Since  $c = e^\beta$  and  $\beta = \ln(1/R)$ , we obtain the statement of Theorem 3 by using the inverse transformation.

The results of this paper are part of the author's dissertation [6].

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