# Singular and tangent slit solutions to the Löwner equation 

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#### Abstract

We consider the Löwner differential equation generating univalent maps of the unit disk (or of the upper half-plane) onto itself minus a single slit. We prove that the circular slits, tangent to the real axis are generated by Hölder continuous driving terms with exponent $1 / 3$ in the Löwner equation. Singular solutions are described, and the critical value of the norm of driving terms generating quasisymmetric slits in the disk is obtained.


Mathematics Subject Classification (2000). Primary 30C35, 30C20; Secondary 30C62.
Keywords. Univalent function, Löwner equation, Slit map.

## 1. Introduction

Let $\mathbb{D}=\{z \in \mathbb{C}:|z|<1\}$ be the unit disk and $\mathbb{T}:=\partial \mathbb{D}$. The famous Löwner equation was introduced in 1923 [3] in order to represent a dense subclass of the whole class of univalent conformal maps $f(z)=z\left(1+c_{1} z+\ldots\right)$ in $\mathbb{D}$ by the limit

$$
f(z)=\lim _{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{t} w(z, t), \quad z \in \mathbb{D}
$$

where $w(z, t)=e^{-t} z\left(1+c_{1}(t) z+\ldots\right)$ is a solution to the equation

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d w}{d t}=-w \frac{e^{i u(t)}+w}{e^{i u(t)}-w}, \quad w(z, 0) \equiv z \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

with a continuous driving term $u(t)$ on $t \in[0, \infty)$, see [3, page 117]. All functions $w(z, t)$ map $\mathbb{D}$ onto $\Omega(t) \subset \mathbb{D}$. If $\Omega(t)=\mathbb{D} \backslash \gamma(t)$, where $\gamma(t)$ is a Jordan curve in $\mathbb{D}$ except one of its endpoints, then the driving term $u(t)$ is uniquely defined and we call the corresponding map $w$ a slit map. However, from 1947 [5] it is known that solutions to (1) with continuous $u(t)$ may give non-slit maps, in particular, $\Omega(t)$ can be a family of hyperbolically convex digons in $\mathbb{D}$.

[^0]Marshall and Rohde [4] addressed the following question: Under which condition on the driving term $u(t)$ the solution to (1) is a slit map? Their result states that if $u(t)$ is $\operatorname{Lip}(1 / 2)$ (Hölder continuous with exponent $1 / 2$ ), and if for a certain constant $C_{\mathbb{D}}>0$, the norm $\|u\|_{1 / 2}$ is bounded $\|u\|_{1 / 2}<C_{\mathbb{D}}$, then the solution $w$ is a slit map, and moreover, the Jordan arc $\gamma(t)$ is s quasislit (a quasiconformal image of an interval within a Stolz angle). As they also proved, a converse statement without the norm restriction holds. The absence of the norm restriction in the latter result is essential. On one hand, Kufarev's example [5] contains $\|u\|_{1 / 2}=3 \sqrt{2}$, which means that $C_{\mathbb{D}} \leq 3 \sqrt{2}$. On the other hand, Kager, Nienhuis, and Kadanoff [1] constructed exact slit solutions to the half-plane version of the Löwner equation with arbitrary norms of the driving term.

Let us give here the half-plane version of the Löwner equation. Let $\mathbb{H}=\{z: \operatorname{Im} z>0\}$, $\mathbb{R}=\partial \mathbb{H}$. The functions $h(z, t)$, normalized near infinity by $h(z, t)=z-2 t / z+b_{-2}(t) / z^{2}+\ldots$, solving the equation

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d h}{d t}=\frac{-2}{h-\lambda(t)}, \quad h(z, 0) \equiv z \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\lambda(t)$ is a real-valued continuous driving term, map $\mathbb{H}$ onto a subdomain of $\mathbb{H}$. The question about the slit mappings and the behaviour of the driving term $\lambda(t)$ in the case of the half-plane $\mathbb{H}$ was addressed by Lind [2]. The techniques used by Marshall and Rohde carry over to prove a similar result in the case of the equation (2), see [4, page 765]. Let us denote by $C_{\mathbb{H}}$ the corresponding bound for the norm $\|\lambda\|_{1 / 2}$. The main result by Lind is the sharp bound, namely $C_{\mathbb{H}}=4$.

In some papers, e.g., $[1,2]$, the authors work with equations $(1,2)$ changing $(-)$ to $(+)$ in their right-hand sides, and with the mappings of slit domains onto $\mathbb{D}$ or $\mathbb{H}$. However, the results remain the same for both versions.

Marshall and Rohde [4] remarked that there exist many examples of driving terms $u(t)$ which are not $\operatorname{Lip}(1 / 2)$, but which generate slit solutions with simple arcs $\gamma(t)$. In particular, if $\gamma(t)$ is tangent to $\mathbb{T}$, then $u(t)$ is never $\operatorname{Lip}(1 / 2)$.

Our result states that if $\gamma(t)$ is a circular arc tangent to $\mathbb{R}$, then the driving term $\lambda(t) \in \operatorname{Lip}(1 / 3)$. Besides, we prove that $C_{\mathbb{D}}=C_{\mathbb{H}}=4$, and consider properties of singular solutions to the one-slit Löwner equation.

The authors are greateful for the referee's remarks which improved the presentation.

## 2. Circular tangent slits

We shall work with the half-plane version of the Löwner equation and with the sign $(+)$ in the right-hand side, consequently with the maps of slit domains onto $\mathbb{H}$.

We construct a mapping of the half-plane $\mathbb{H}$ slit along a circular arc $\gamma(t)$ of radius 1 centered on $i$ onto $\mathbb{H}$ starting at the origin directed, for example, positively. The inverse mapping we denote by $z=f(w, t)=w-2 t / w+\ldots$ Then $\zeta=1 / f(w, t)$ maps $\mathbb{H}$ onto the lower half-plane slit along a ray co-directed with $\mathbb{R}^{+}$and having the distance $1 / 2$ between them. Let $\zeta_{0}$ be the tip of this ray. Applying the Christoffel-Schwarz formula we find $f$ in
the form

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{1}{f(w, t)}=\int_{0}^{1 / w} \frac{(1-\gamma w) d w}{(1-\alpha w)^{2}(1-\beta w)}=\frac{\beta-\gamma}{(\alpha-\beta)^{2}} \log \frac{w-\alpha}{w-\beta}+\frac{\alpha-\gamma}{\alpha-\beta} \frac{1}{w-\alpha} \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

where the branch of logarithm vanishes at infinity, and $f(w, t)$ is expanded near infinity as

$$
f(w, t)=w-\frac{2 t}{w}+\ldots
$$

The latter expansion gives us two conditions: there is no constant term and the coefficient is $-2 t$ at $w$, which implies $\gamma=2 \alpha+\beta$ and $\alpha(\alpha+2 \beta)=-6 t$. The condition $\operatorname{Im} \zeta_{0}=-1 / 2$ yields

$$
\frac{-2 \alpha}{(\alpha-\beta)^{2}}=\frac{1}{2 \pi} .
$$

Then, $\beta=\alpha+2 \sqrt{-\alpha \pi}$, and $\alpha(3 \alpha+4 \sqrt{-\alpha \pi})=-6 t$. Considering the latter equation with respect to $\alpha$ we expand the solution $\alpha(t)$ in powers of $t^{1 / 3}$. Hence,

$$
\alpha(t)=-\left(\frac{9}{4 \pi}\right)^{1 / 3} t^{2 / 3}+A_{2} t+A_{3} t^{4 / 3}+\ldots
$$

and

$$
\beta(t)=(12 \pi)^{1 / 3} t^{1 / 3}+B_{2} t^{2 / 3}+\ldots
$$

Formula (3) in the expansion form regarding to $1 / w$ gives

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\beta-\alpha}{2 \pi} \frac{1}{w}+\frac{\beta^{2}-\alpha^{2}}{4 \pi} \frac{1}{w^{2}}+\cdots+\left(1+2 \frac{\alpha}{\beta}+2 \frac{\alpha^{2}}{\beta^{2}}+\ldots\right)\left(\frac{1}{w}+\frac{\alpha}{w^{2}}+\ldots\right)=\zeta \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

Remember that this formula is obtained under the conditions $\gamma=2 \alpha+\beta$ and $(\alpha-\beta)^{2}=4 \alpha \pi$. We substitute the expansions of $\alpha(t)$ and $\beta(t)$ in this formula and consider it as an equation for the implicit function $w=h(z, t)$. Calculating coefficients $B_{2} \ldots B_{4}$ in terms of $A_{2}, \ldots, A_{4}$, and verifying $A_{2}=-3 / 4 \pi$ we come to the following expansion for $h(z, t)$ :

$$
w=h(z, t)=h\left(\frac{1}{\zeta}, t\right)=\frac{1}{\zeta}+2 \zeta t+\frac{3}{2}(12 \pi)^{1 / 3} t^{4 / 3}+\ldots
$$

This version of the Löwner equation admits the form

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d h}{d t}=\frac{2}{h-\lambda(t)}, \quad h(z, 0) \equiv z \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

Being extended onto $\mathbb{R} \backslash \lambda(0)$ the function $h(z, t)$ satisfies the same equation. Let us consider $h(z, t), z \in \widehat{\mathbb{H}} \backslash \lambda(0)$ with a singular point at $\lambda(0)$, where $\widehat{\mathbb{H}}$ is the closure of $\mathbb{H}$. Then

$$
\lambda(t)=h(z, t)-\frac{2}{d h(z, t) / d t}=\lambda(0)+(12 \pi)^{1 / 3} t^{1 / 3}+\ldots
$$

about the point $t=0$. Thus, the driving term $\lambda(t)$ is $\operatorname{Lip}(1 / 3)$ about the point $t=0$ and analytic for the rest of the points $t$.

Remark 2.1. The radius of the circumference is not essential for the properties of $\lambda(t)$. Passing from $h(z, t)$ to the function $\frac{1}{r} h(r z, t)$ we recalculate the coefficients of the function $h(z, t)$ and the corresponding coefficients in the expansion of $\lambda(t)$ that depend continuously on $r$. Therefore, they stay within bounded intervals whenever $r$ ranges within the bounded interval.

Remark 2.2. In particular, the expansion for $h(z, t)$ reflects the Marshall and Rohde's remark [4, page 765] that the tangent slits can not be generated by driving terms from Lip(1/2).

## 3. Singular solutions for slit images

Suppose that the Löwner equation (5) with driving term $\lambda(t)$ generates a map $h(z, t)$ from $\Omega(t)=\mathbb{H} \backslash \gamma(t)$ onto $\mathbb{H}$, where $\gamma(t)$ is a quasislit. Extending $h$ to the boundary $\partial \Omega(t)$ we obtain a correspondence between $\gamma(t) \subset \partial \Omega(t)$ and a segment $I(t) \subset \mathbb{R}$, while the remaining boundary part $\mathbb{R}=\partial \Omega(t) \backslash \gamma(t)$ corresponds to $\mathbb{R} \backslash I(t)$. The latter mapping is described by solutions to the Cauchy problem for the differential equation (5) with the initial data $h(x, 0)=x \in \mathbb{R} \backslash \lambda(0)$. The set $\{h(x, t): x \in \mathbb{R} \backslash \lambda(0)\}$ gives $\mathbb{R} \backslash I(t)$, and $\lambda(t)$ does not catch $h(x, t)$ for all $t \geq 0$, see [2] for details.

The image $I(t)$ of $\gamma(t)$ can be also described by solutions $h(\lambda(0), t)$ to (5), but the initial data $h(\lambda(0), 0)=\lambda(0)$ forces $h$ to be singular at $t=0$ and to possess the following properties.
(i) There are two singular solutions $h^{-}(\lambda(0), t)$ and $h^{+}(\lambda(0), t)$ such that $I(t)=$ $\left[h^{-}(\lambda(0), t), h^{+}(\lambda(0), t)\right]$.
(ii) $h^{ \pm}(\lambda(0), t)$ are continuous for $t \geq 0$ and have continuous derivatives for all $t>0$.
(iii) $h^{-}(\lambda(0), t)$ is strictly decreasing and $h^{+}(\lambda(0), t)$ is strictly increasing, so that $h^{-}(\lambda(0), t)<\lambda(t)<h^{+}(\lambda(0), y)$.

We will focus on studying the singularity character of $h^{ \pm}$at $t=0$.
Theorem 3.1. Let the Löwner differential equation (5) with the driving term $\lambda \in \operatorname{Lip}(1 / 2)$, $\|\lambda\|_{1 / 2}=c$, generate slit maps $h(z, t): \mathbb{H} \backslash \gamma(t) \rightarrow \mathbb{H}$ where $\gamma(t)$ is a quasislit. Then $h^{+}(\lambda(0), t)$ satisfies the condition

$$
\lim _{t \rightarrow 0+} \sup \frac{h^{+}(\lambda(0), t)-h^{+}(\lambda(0), 0)}{\sqrt{t}} \leq \frac{c+\sqrt{c^{2}+16}}{2}
$$

and this estimate is the best possible.
Proof. Assume without loss of generality that $h^{+}(\lambda(0), 0)=\lambda(0)=0$. Denote $\varphi(t):=$ $h^{+}(\lambda(0), t) / \sqrt{t}, t>0$. This function has a continuous derivative and satisfies the differential equation

$$
t \varphi^{\prime}(t)=\frac{2}{\varphi(t)-\lambda(t) / \sqrt{t}}-\frac{\varphi(t)}{2}
$$

This implies together with property (iii) that $\varphi^{\prime}(t)>0$ iff

$$
\frac{\lambda(t)}{\sqrt{t}}<\varphi(t)<\varphi_{1}(t):=\frac{\lambda(t)}{2 \sqrt{t}}+\sqrt{\frac{\lambda^{2}(t)}{4 t}+4}
$$

Observe that $\varphi_{1}(t) \leq A:=\left(c+\sqrt{c^{2}+16}\right) / 2$.
Suppose that $\lim _{t \rightarrow 0+} \sup \varphi(t)=B>A$, including the case $B=\infty$. Then there exists $t^{*}>0$, such that $\varphi\left(t^{*}\right)>B-\epsilon>A$, for a certain $\epsilon>0$. If $B=\infty$, then replace $B-\epsilon$ by $B^{\prime}>A$. Therefore, $\varphi^{\prime}\left(t^{*}\right)<0$ and $\varphi(t)$ increases as $t$ runs from $t^{*}$ to 0 . Thus, $\varphi(t)>B-\epsilon$ for all $t \in\left(0, t^{*}\right)$ and we obtain from (5) that

$$
\frac{d h^{+}(\lambda(0), t)}{d t} \leq \frac{2}{\sqrt{t}(B-\epsilon-c)}
$$

for such $t$. Integrating this inequality we get

$$
h^{+}(\lambda(0), t) \leq \frac{4 \sqrt{t}}{B-\epsilon-c}<\frac{4 \sqrt{t}}{A-c}
$$

that contradicts our supposition. This proves the estimate of Theorem 3.1.
In order to attain the equality sign in Theorem 3.1, one chooses $\lambda(t)=c \sqrt{t}$. Then $h^{+}(\lambda(0), t)=A \sqrt{t}$ solves equation (5) with singularity at $t=0$. This completes the proof.

Remark 3.1. Estimates similar to Theorem 3.1 hold for the other singular solution $h^{-}(\lambda(0) . t)$.
Remark 3.2. Let us compare Theorem 3.1 with the results from Section 2. The image of a circular arc $\gamma(t) \subset \mathbb{H}$ tangent to $\mathbb{R}$ is $I(t)=\left[h^{-}(\lambda(0), t), h^{+}(\lambda(0), t)\right]$, where $h^{-}(\lambda(0), t)=$ $\alpha(t)=-(9 / 4 \pi)^{1 / 3} t^{2 / 3}+\ldots$, and $h^{+}(\lambda(0), t)=\beta(t)=(12 \pi)^{1 / 3} t^{1 / 3}+\ldots$, so that $h^{-}(\lambda(0), t) \in$ $\operatorname{Lip}(2 / 3)$ and $h^{+}(\lambda(0), t) \in \operatorname{Lip}(1 / 3)$.

Remark 3.3. Singular solutions to the differential equation (5) appear not only at $t=0$ but at any other moment $\tau>0$. More precisely, there exist two families $h^{-}(\gamma(\tau), t)$ and $h^{+}(\gamma(\tau), t), \tau \geq 0, t \geq \tau$, of singular solutions to (5) that describe the image of arcs $\gamma(t)$, $t \geq \tau$ under map $h(z, t)$. They correspond to the initial data $h(\gamma(\tau), \tau)=\lambda(\tau)$ in (5) and satisfy the inequalities $h^{-}(\gamma(\tau), t)<\lambda(t)<h^{+}(\gamma(\tau), t), t>\tau$. These two families of singular solutions have no common inner points and fill in the set

$$
\left\{(x, t): h^{-}(\lambda(0), t) \leq x \leq h^{+}(\lambda(0), t), 0 \leq t \leq t_{0}\right\}
$$

for some $t_{0}$.

## 4. Critical norm values for driving terms

In this section we discuss the results and techniques of Marshall and Rohde [4] and Lind [2]. The authors of [4] proved the existence of $C_{\mathbb{D}}$ such that driving terms $u(t) \in \operatorname{Lip}(1 / 2)$ with $\|u\|_{1 / 2}<C_{\mathbb{D}}$ in (1) generate quasisymmetric slit maps. This result remains true for an absolute number $C_{\mathbb{H}}$ in the half-plane version of the Löwner differential equation (2), see e.g. [2].

Lind [2] claimed that the disk version (1) of the Löwner differential equation is 'more challenging', than the half-plane version (2). Working with the half-plane version she showed that $C_{\mathbb{H}}=4$. The key result is based on the fact that if $\lambda(t) \in \operatorname{Lip}(1 / 2)$ in (2), and $h(x, t)=\lambda(t)$, say at $t=1$, then $\Omega(t)=h(\mathbb{H}, t)$ is not a slit domain and $\|\lambda\|_{1 / 2} \geq 4$. Moreover, there is an example of $\lambda(t)=4-4 \sqrt{1-t}$ that yields $h(2,1)=\lambda(1)$. Although
there may be more obstacles for generating slit half-planes than that of the driving term $\lambda$ catching up some solution $h$ to (2), Lind showed that this is basically the only obstacle. The latter statement was proved by using techniques of [4].

We will modify here the main Lind's reasonings so that they could be applied to the disk version of the Löwner equation. After that it remains to refer to [4] and [2] to state that $C_{\mathbb{D}}$ also equals 4.

Suppose that slit disks $\Omega(t)$ correspond to $u \in \operatorname{Lip}(1 / 2)$ in (1) with the sign ' + ' in its right-hand side instead of '-'. Then the maps $w(z, t)$ are extended continuously to $\mathbb{T} \backslash\left\{e^{i u(0)}\right\}$. Let $z_{0} \in \mathbb{T} \backslash\left\{e^{i u(0)}\right\}$, and let $\alpha\left(t, \alpha_{0}\right):=\arg w\left(z_{0}, t\right)$ be a solution to the following real-valued initial value problem

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d \alpha(t)}{d t}=\cot \frac{\alpha-u}{2}, \quad \alpha(0)=\alpha_{0} \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

Similarly, suppose that slit half-planes $\Omega(t)$ correspond to $\lambda \in \operatorname{Lip}(1 / 2)$ in (2) with the sign ' + ' in its right-hand side instead of ' - '. Then the maps $h(z, t)$ are extended continuously to $\mathbb{R} \backslash \lambda(0)$. Let $x_{0} \in \mathbb{R} \backslash \lambda(0)$ and let $x\left(t, x_{0}\right):=h\left(x_{0}, t\right)$ be a solution to the following realvalued initial value problem

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d x(t)}{d t}=\frac{2}{x(t)-\lambda(t)}, \quad x\left(t_{0}\right)=x_{0} \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

For all $t \geq 0, \tan ((\alpha(t)-u(t)) / 2) \neq 0$ in (6), and $x(t)-\lambda(t) \neq 0$ in (7) (see [2] for the half-plane version). Let us show a connection between the solutions $\alpha(t)$ to (6), and $x(t)$ to (7), where the driving terms $u(t)$ and $\lambda(t)$ correspond to each other.

Lemma 4.1. Given $\lambda(t) \in \operatorname{Lip}(1 / 2)$, there exists $u(t) \in \operatorname{Lip}(1 / 2)$, such that equations (6) and (7) have the same solutions. Conversely, given $u(t) \in \operatorname{Lip}(1 / 2)$ there exists $\lambda(t) \in \operatorname{Lip}(1 / 2)$, such that equations (6) and (7) have the same solutions.

Proof. Given $\lambda(t) \in \operatorname{Lip}(1 / 2)$, denote by $x\left(t, x_{0}\right)$ a solution to the initial value problem (7). Then the solution $\alpha\left(t, \alpha_{0}\right)$ to the initial value problem (6) is equal to $x\left(t, \alpha_{0}\right)$ when

$$
\tan \frac{\alpha-u}{2}=\frac{x-\lambda}{2}
$$

and

$$
x_{0}=\lambda(0)+2 \tan \frac{\alpha_{0}-u(0)}{2}
$$

The function $u(t)$ is normalized by choosing

$$
u(0)=x_{0}-\arctan \frac{x_{0}-\lambda(0)}{2}
$$

This condition makes $\alpha_{0}$ and $x_{0}$ equal. Hence, the first part of Lemma 1 is true if we put

$$
\begin{equation*}
u(t)=x\left(t, x_{0}\right)-2 \arctan \frac{x\left(t, x_{0}\right)-\lambda(t)}{2} \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

Obviously, (8) preserves the $\operatorname{Lip}(1 / 2)$ property.
Conversely, given $u(t) \in \operatorname{Lip}(1 / 2)$, a solution $x\left(t, x_{0}\right)$ is equal to $\alpha\left(t, \alpha_{0}\right)$ when

$$
\begin{equation*}
\lambda(t)=\alpha\left(t, \alpha_{0}\right)-2 \tan \frac{\alpha\left(t, \alpha_{0}\right)-u(t)}{2} . \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

Again (9) preserves the $\operatorname{Lip}(1 / 2)$ property. This ends the proof.
Observe that in some extreme cases relations (8) or (9) preserve not only the Lipschitz class but also its norm. Lind [2] gave an example of the driving term $\lambda(t)=4-4 \sqrt{1-t}$ in (7). It is easily verified that $x(t, 2)=4-2 \sqrt{1-t}$. If $t=1$, then $x(1,2)=\lambda(1)=4$, and $\lambda$ cannot generate slit half-plane at $t=1$. This implies that $C_{\mathbb{H}} \leq 4$. Going from (7) to (6) we use (8) to put

$$
u(t)=x(t, 2)-2 \arctan \frac{x(t, 2)-\lambda(t)}{2}=4-2 \sqrt{1-t}-2 \arctan \sqrt{1-t}
$$

From Lemma 4.1 we deduce that $\alpha(1,2)=u(1)$. Hence $u$ cannot generate slit disk at $t=1$, and $C_{\mathbb{D}} \leq\|u\|_{1 / 2}$. Since

$$
\sup _{0 \leq t<1} \frac{u(1)-u(t)}{\sqrt{1-t}}=\sup _{0 \leq t<1}\left(2+2 \frac{\arctan \sqrt{1-t}}{\sqrt{1-t}}\right)=4,
$$

we have that $\|u\|_{1 / 2} \leq 4$. It is now an easy exercise to show that $\|u\|_{1 / 2}=4$. This implies that $C_{\mathbb{D}} \leq 4$.

Lemma 4.2. Let $u \in \operatorname{Lip}(1 / 2)$ in (6) with $u(0)=0$ and $\alpha_{0} \in(0, \pi)$. Suppose that $\alpha(t)$ is a solution to (6) and $\alpha(1)=u(1)$. Then $\|u\|_{1 / 2} \geq 4$.

Proof. Observe that $\alpha(t)$ is increasing on $[0,1]$, and $\alpha(t)-u(t)>0$ on $(0,1)$. Let $u \in \operatorname{Lip}(1 / 2)$ in (3), and $\|u\|_{1 / 2}=c$. Then,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\alpha(t)-u(t) \leq \alpha(1)-u(1)+c \sqrt{1-t}=c \sqrt{1-t} \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

Given $\epsilon>0$, there exists $\delta>0$, such that

$$
\tan \frac{c \sqrt{1-t}}{2}<\frac{c \sqrt{1-t}}{2}(1+\epsilon)
$$

for $1-\delta<t<1$ and all $0<c \leq 4$. We apply this inequality to (6) and obtain that

$$
\frac{d \alpha}{d t} \geq \cot \frac{c \sqrt{1-t}}{2}>\frac{2}{c \sqrt{1-t}(1+\epsilon)}
$$

Integrating gives that

$$
\alpha(1)-\alpha(t) \geq \frac{4 \sqrt{1-t}}{c(1+\epsilon)}
$$

This allows us to improve (10) to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\alpha(t)-u(t) \leq \alpha(1)-\frac{4 \sqrt{1-t}}{c(1+\epsilon)}-u(1)+c \sqrt{1-t}=\left(c-\frac{4}{c(1+\epsilon)}\right) \sqrt{1-t} \tag{11}
\end{equation*}
$$

Repeating these iterations we get

$$
\alpha(t)-u(t) \leq c_{n} \sqrt{1-t}
$$

where $c_{0}=c, c_{n+1}=c-4 /\left[(1+\varepsilon) c_{n}\right]$, and $c_{n}>0$. Let $g_{n}$ be recursively defined by (see Lind [2])

$$
g_{1}(y)=y-\frac{4}{y}, \quad g_{n}(y)=y-\frac{4}{g_{n-1}(y)}, \quad n \geq 2
$$

It is easy to check that $c_{n}<g_{n}((1+\varepsilon) c)<(1+\varepsilon) c_{n}$
Lind [2] showed that $g_{n}\left(y_{n}\right)=0$ for an increasing sequence $\left\{y_{n}\right\}$, and $g_{n+1}(y)$ is an increasing function from $\left(y_{n}, \infty\right)$ to $\mathbb{R}$. So $c(1+\epsilon)>y_{n}$ for all $n$, and it remains to apply Lind's result [2] that $\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{n}=4$. Hence, $c \geq 4 /(1+\epsilon)$. The extremal estimate is obtained if $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ which leads to $c \geq 4$. This completes the proof.

Now Lind's reasonings in [2] based on the techniques from [4] give a proof of the following statement.
Proposition 4.1. If $u \in \operatorname{Lip}(1 / 2)$ with $\|u\|_{1 / 2}<4$, then the domains $\Omega(t)$ generated by the Löwner differential equation (1) are disks with quasislits.

In other words, Proposition 4.1 states that $C_{\mathbb{D}}=C_{\mathbb{H}}=4$.

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[^0]:    The first author was partially supported by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research (grant 07-01-00120) and the second by the grants of the Norwegian Research Council \#177355/V30, and of the European Science Foundation RNP HCAA..

