

# THE $L^p$ -INTEGRABILITY OF THE PARTIAL DERIVATIVES OF A QUASICONFORMAL MAPPING

BY

F. W. GEHRING

*University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48104, USA*<sup>(1)</sup>

## 1. Introduction

Suppose that  $D$  is a domain in euclidean  $n$ -space  $R^n$ ,  $n \geq 2$ , and that  $f: D \rightarrow R^n$  is a homeomorphism into. For each  $x \in D$  we set

$$\begin{aligned} L_f(x) &= \limsup_{y \rightarrow x} \frac{|f(y) - f(x)|}{|y - x|}, \\ J_f(x) &= \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{m(f(B(x, r)))}{m(B(x, r))}, \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

where  $B(x, r)$  denotes the open  $n$ -ball of radius  $r$  about  $x$  and  $m = m_n$  denotes Lebesgue measure in  $R^n$ . We call  $L_f(x)$  and  $J_f(x)$ , respectively, the maximum stretching and generalized Jacobian for the homeomorphism  $f$  at the point  $x$ . These functions are nonnegative and measurable in  $D$ , and

$$J_f(x) \leq L_f(x)^n \tag{2}$$

for each  $x \in D$ . Moreover, Lebesgue's theorem implies that

$$\int_E J_f dm \leq m(f(E)) < \infty \tag{3}$$

for each compact  $E \subset D$ , and hence that  $J_f$  is locally  $L^1$ -integrable in  $D$ .

Suppose next that the homeomorphism  $f$  is  $K$ -quasiconformal in  $D$ . Then

$$L_f(x)^n \leq K J_f(x) \tag{4}$$

a.e. in  $D$ , and thus  $L_f$  is locally  $L^n$ -integrable in  $D$ . Bojarski has shown in [1] that a little

---

<sup>(1)</sup> This research was supported in part by the U.S. National Science Foundation, Contract GP 28115, and by a Research Grant from the Institut Mittag-Leffler.

more is true in the case where  $n=2$ , namely that  $L_f$  is locally  $L^p$ -integrable in  $D$  for  $p \in [2, 2+c)$ , where  $c$  is a positive constant which depends only on  $K$ . Bojarski's proof consists of applying the Calderón-Zygmund inequality [2] to the Hilbert transform which relates the complex derivatives of a normalized plane quasiconformal mapping. Unfortunately this elegant two-dimensional argument does not suggest what the situation is when  $n > 2$ .

In the present paper we give a new and quite elementary proof for the Bojarski theorem which is valid for  $n \geq 2$ . More precisely, we show in section 5 that  $L_f$  is locally  $L^p$ -integrable in  $D$  for  $p \in [n, n+c)$ , where  $c$  is a positive constant which depends only on  $K$  and  $n$ . The argument depends upon an inequality in section 4, relating the  $L^1$ - and  $L^n$ -means of  $L_f$  over small  $n$ -cubes, and upon a lemma in section 3, which derives the integrability from this inequality. We conclude in section 6 with a pair of applications.

## 2. An inequality

We begin with the following inequality for Stieltjes integrals.

LEMMA 1. *Suppose that  $q \in (0, \infty)$  and  $a \in (1, \infty)$ , that  $h: [1, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is nonincreasing with*

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} h(t) = 0, \quad (5)$$

and that

$$-\int_t^\infty s^q dh(s) \leq a t^a h(t) \quad (6)$$

for  $t \in [1, \infty)$ . Then

$$-\int_1^\infty t^p dh(t) \leq \frac{q}{aq - (a-1)p} \left( -\int_1^\infty t^a dh(t) \right) \quad (7)$$

for  $p \in [q, qa/(a-1))$ . This inequality is sharp.

*Proof.* Suppose first that there exists a  $j \in (1, \infty)$  such that  $h(t) = 0$  for  $t \in [j, \infty)$ , and for each  $r \in (0, \infty)$  set

$$I(r) = -\int_1^\infty t^r dh(t) = -\int_1^j t^r dh(t).$$

If  $p \in (0, \infty)$ , then integration by parts yields

$$I(p) = -\int_1^j t^{p-a} t^a dh(t) = I(q) + (p-q)J,$$

where

$$J = \int_1^j t^{p-a-1} \left( -\int_t^j s^a dh(s) \right) dt.$$

Next with (6) and a second integration by parts we obtain

$$J \leq a \int_1^j t^{p-1} h(t) dt \leq -\frac{1}{p} I(q) + \frac{a}{p} I(p),$$

and (7) follows whenever  $p \in [q, qa/(a-1))$ .

In the general case, (5) implies that

$$j^a h(j) \leq - \int_j^\infty t^a dh(t)$$

when  $j \in (1, \infty)$ . For each such  $j$  set

$$h_j(t) = \begin{cases} h(t) & \text{if } t \in [1, j], \\ 0 & \text{if } t \in [j, \infty). \end{cases}$$

Then  $h_j: [1, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is nonincreasing and

$$- \int_t^\infty s^a dh_j(s) \leq a t^a h_j(t)$$

for  $t \in [1, \infty)$ . Hence by what was proved above,

$$\begin{aligned} - \int_1^j t^p dh(t) &\leq - \int_1^j t^p dh_j(t) \leq \frac{q}{aq - (a-1)p} \left( - \int_1^j t^a dh_j(t) \right) \\ &\leq \frac{q}{aq - (a-1)p} \left( - \int_1^\infty t^a dh(t) \right), \end{aligned}$$

and we obtain (7) by letting  $j \rightarrow \infty$ .

The function 
$$h(t) = t^{-qa/(a-1)}$$

satisfies the hypotheses of Lemma 1, (7) holds with equality, and hence inequality (7) is sharp.

### 3. Maximal functions, means, and integrability

Suppose that  $q \in (1, \infty)$ , that  $E \subset R^n$  has finite positive measure, and that  $g: E \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  is  $L^q$ -integrable. Then Hölder's inequality implies that the  $L^1$ -mean of  $g$  over  $E$  is dominated by the corresponding  $L^q$ -mean of  $g$ , with equality if and only if  $g$  is a.e. constant, and hence a.e. bounded. We show here that  $g$  is  $L^p$ -integrable for some  $p > q$  if the  $L^q$ -mean of  $g$  over certain subsets of  $E$  do not exceed the corresponding  $L^1$ -means of  $g$  by more than a fixed factor.

We shall base the proof of this fact on a similar result for maximal functions which may be of independent interest. Suppose that  $g: R^n \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  is locally  $L^1$ -integrable. The maximal function  $M(g): R^n \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  for  $g$  is defined by

$$M(g)(x) = \sup \frac{1}{m(B)} \int_B g \, dm$$

for each  $x \in R^n$ , where the supremum is taken over all  $n$ -balls  $B$  with center at  $x$ . Next if  $q \in (1, \infty)$  and  $g$  is locally  $L^q$ -integrable, then Hölder's inequality implies that

$$M(g)^q \leq M(g^q)$$

in  $R^n$ .

LEMMA 2. Suppose that  $q, b \in (1, \infty)$ , that  $Q$  is an  $n$ -cube in  $R^n$ , that  $g: R^n \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  is locally  $L^q$ -integrable in  $R^n$ , and that

$$M(g^q) \leq b M(g)^q \quad (8)$$

a.e. in  $Q$ . Then  $g$  is  $L^p$ -integrable in  $Q$  with

$$\frac{1}{m(Q)} \int_Q g^p \, dm \leq \frac{c}{q+c-p} \left( \frac{1}{m(Q)} \int_Q g^q \, dm \right)^{p/q} \quad (9)$$

for  $p \in [q, q+c)$ , where  $c$  is a positive constant which depends only on  $q, b$  and  $n$ .

*Proof.* Inequality (9) is trivial if  $g=0$  a.e. in  $Q$ . Hence by replacing  $g$  by  $dg$ , where  $d$  is a suitably chosen constant, we may assume without loss of generality that

$$\int_Q g^q \, dm = m(Q). \quad (10)$$

Next for each  $t \in (0, \infty)$  let

$$E(t) = \{x \in Q: g(x) > t\}. \quad (11)$$

We begin by showing that

$$\int_{E(t)} g^q \, dm \leq a t^{q-1} \int_{E(t)} g \, dm \quad (12)$$

for  $t \in [1, \infty)$ , where  $a$  is a constant which depends only on  $q, b$  and  $n$ .

Fix  $t \in [1, \infty)$  and choose  $s \in (t, \infty)$  so that

$$s^q = a_n b \left( \frac{q}{q-1} t \right)^q, \quad a_n = \Omega_n n^{n/2},$$

where  $\Omega_n = m(B(0, 1))$ . Since

$$\frac{1}{m(Q)} \int_Q g^q \, dm \leq s^q,$$

we can employ a well known subdivision argument due to Calderón and Zygmund [2] to obtain a disjoint sequence of parallel  $n$ -cubes  $Q_j \subset Q$  such that

$$s^q < \frac{1}{m(Q_j)} \int_{Q_j} g^q dm \leq 2^n s^q \tag{13}$$

for all  $j$ , and such that  $g \leq s$  a.e. in  $Q \sim G$ , where  $G = \bigcup_j Q_j$ . (See page 418 of [7] or page 18 of [9].) Then  $m(E(s) \sim G) = 0$  and with (13) we have

$$\int_{E(s)} g^q dm \leq \sum_j \int_{Q_j} g^q dm \leq 2^n s^q m(G). \tag{14}$$

Next if  $B = B(x, r)$  where  $x \in Q_j$  and  $r = \text{dia}(Q_j)$ , then (13) implies that

$$M(g^q)(x) \geq \frac{1}{m(B)} \int_B g^q dm > \frac{s^q}{a_n},$$

and with (8) we obtain  $M(g)(x) > \frac{q}{q-1} t$

for  $x \in F \subset G$ , where  $m(G \sim F) = 0$ .

For each  $x \in F$  there exists an  $n$ -ball  $B$  about  $x$  such that

$$\frac{1}{m(B)} \int_B g dm \geq \frac{q}{q-1} t.$$

Since  $F$  is bounded, we can apply a familiar covering theorem to find a disjoint sequence of such balls  $B_j$  such that

$$m(G) = m(F) \leq 5^n \sum_j m(B_j). \tag{15}$$

(See, for example, page 9 of [9].) For each  $j$ ,

$$\frac{q}{q-1} t m(B_j) \leq \int_{B_j} g dm \leq \int_{B_j \cap E(t)} g dm + t m(B_j)$$

whence

$$m(B_j) \leq \frac{q-1}{t} \int_{B_j \cap E(t)} g dm,$$

and combining this inequality with (14) and (15) yields

$$\int_{E(s)} g^q dm \leq 10^n s^q \frac{q-1}{t} \int_{E(t)} g dm. \tag{16}$$

Obviously

$$\int_{E(t) \sim E(s)} g^q dm \leq s^{q-1} \int_{E(t)} g dm,$$

and we obtain (12) with

$$a = 10^n \left(\frac{s}{t}\right)^q (q-1) + \left(\frac{s}{t}\right)^{q-1} < 50^n qb.$$

Now for each  $t \in [1, \infty)$  set

$$h(t) = \int_{E(t)} g dm.$$

Then  $h: [1, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is nonincreasing,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} h(t) = 0,$$

and it is easy to verify that

$$\int_{E(t)} g^r dm = - \int_t^\infty s^{r-1} dh(s)$$

for all  $r, t \in [1, \infty)$ . Thus inequality (12) implies that  $h$  satisfies the remaining hypothesis (6) of Lemma 1, and we can apply (7) to conclude that

$$\int_{E(1)} g^p dm \leq \frac{c}{q+c-p} \int_{E(1)} g^q dm$$

for  $p \in [q, q+c)$ , where

$$c = \frac{q-1}{a-1} > \frac{q-1}{50^n qb}.$$

Since  $g^p \leq g^q$  in  $Q \sim E(1)$ ,

$$\int_Q g^p dm \leq \frac{c}{q+c-p} \int_Q g^q dm$$

for  $p \in [q, q+c)$ , and this together with (10) yields (9).

**LEMMA 3.** *Suppose that  $q, b \in (1, \infty)$ , that  $Q$  is an  $n$ -cube in  $R^n$ , that  $g: Q \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  is  $L^q$ -integrable in  $Q$ , and that*

$$\frac{1}{m(Q')} \int_{Q'} g^q dm \leq b \left( \frac{1}{m(Q')} \int_{Q'} g dm \right)^q \quad (17)$$

for each parallel  $n$ -cube  $Q' \subset Q$ . Then  $g$  is  $L^p$ -integrable in  $Q$  with

$$\frac{1}{m(Q)} \int_Q g^p dm \leq \frac{c}{q+c-p} \left( \frac{1}{m(Q)} \int_Q g^q dm \right)^{p/q} \quad (18)$$

for  $p \in [q, q+c)$ , where  $c$  is a positive constant which depends only on  $q, b$  and  $n$ .

*Proof.* Assume that (10) holds and define  $E(t)$  as in (11). Next for  $t \in [1, \infty)$  pick  $s \in [1, \infty)$  so that

$$s^q = b \left( \frac{q}{q-1} t \right)^q,$$

and choose a disjoint sequence of parallel  $n$ -cubes  $Q_j \subset Q$  for which (13) and (14) hold. Then (13) and (17) imply that

$$s^q < \frac{1}{m(Q_j)} \int_{Q_j} g^q dm \leq b \left( \frac{1}{m(Q_j)} \int_{Q_j} g dm \right)^q$$

and hence that

$$m(Q_j) \leq \frac{q-1}{t} \int_{Q_j \cap E(t)} g dm$$

for each  $j$ . Combining this inequality with (14) yields (16) with  $2^n$  in place of  $10^n$ , and we obtain (12) with

$$a = 2^n \left( \frac{s}{t} \right)^q (q-1) + \left( \frac{s}{t} \right)^{q-1} < 2^{n+2} qb.$$

This then yields (18) with

$$c = \frac{q-1}{a-1} > \frac{q-1}{2^{n+2} qb}.$$

If  $g = 0$  in  $R^n \sim Q$ , then inequality (17) implies that

$$M(g^q) \leq dM(g)^q$$

in  $Q$ , where  $d$  is a constant which depends only on  $q$ ,  $b$  and  $n$ . Hence Lemma 3 is a direct consequence of Lemma 2. However, the direct argument sketched above yields a substantially better estimate for the constant  $c$ .

#### 4. An inequality for quasiconformal mappings

We show next that for a quasiconformal mapping  $f$ , the  $L^n$ -mean of  $L_f$  over a small  $n$ -cube is dominated by a fixed factor times the corresponding  $L^1$ -mean of  $L_f$ .

LEMMA 4. *Suppose that  $D$  is a domain in  $R^n$ , that  $f: D \rightarrow R^n$  is a  $K$ -quasiconformal mapping, and that  $Q$  is an  $n$ -cube in  $D$  with*

$$\text{dia } f(Q) < \text{dist}(f(Q), \partial f(D)). \tag{19}$$

Then 
$$\frac{1}{m(Q)} \int_Q L_f^n dm \leq b \left( \frac{1}{m(Q)} \int_Q L_f dm \right)^n, \tag{20}$$

where  $b$  is a constant which depends only on  $K$  and  $n$ .

*Proof.* We begin with some notation. We denote by  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  the basis vectors in  $R^n$ , and by  $\bar{R}^n$  the one point compactification  $R^n \cup \{\infty\}$  of  $R^n$ . Next for  $t \in (0, \infty)$  we let  $R_T(t)$  denote the ring with

$$\{x = se_1: s \in [-1, 0]\}, \quad \{x = se_1: s \in [t, \infty]\}$$

as its complementary components in  $\bar{R}^n$ . Then

$$\text{mod } R_T(t) \leq \log \lambda^2(t+1), \quad (21)$$

where  $\lambda$  is a constant which depends only on  $n$ ,

$$\lambda \leq 4 \exp \left( \int_1^\infty \left( \frac{s^2+1}{s^2-1} \right)^{\frac{n-2}{n-1}} - 1 \right) \frac{ds}{s}.$$

(See, for example, [3] or [4].) In particular, it is easy to verify that

$$4 \leq \lambda \leq 4 \left( \frac{e^n}{2} \right)^{\frac{n-2}{n-1}}.$$

By performing preliminary isometries, we may assume that  $Q$  is the closed  $n$ -cube

$$Q = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n): |x_i| \leq s, i=1, \dots, n\}, \quad s \in (0, \infty),$$

and that  $f(0) = 0$ . Let

$$r = \frac{s}{3^{\frac{1}{n}} \lambda^{2\frac{n-2}{n-1}}},$$

and let  $R_1$  be the ring with

$$C_1 = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n): |x_i| \leq r, i=1, \dots, n\}, \quad C_2 = \bar{R}^n \sim \text{int } Q$$

as its complementary components. Since  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are separated by the spherical annulus

$$R = \{x \in R^n: n^{\frac{1}{2}}r < |x| < s\},$$

we have  $\text{mod } R_1 \geq \text{mod } R = K \log 3\lambda^2$ . (22)

Next let  $r' = \max_{x \in \partial C_1} |f(x)|$ ,  $s' = \min_{x \in \partial C_2} |f(x)|$ ,  $t' = \max_{x \in \partial C_2} |f(x)|$ ,

and choose points  $x \in \partial C_1$  and  $y \in \partial C_2$  such that  $|f(x)| = r'$  and  $|f(y)| = s'$ . The ring  $f(R_1)$  then separates  $f(x)$  and 0 from  $f(y)$  and  $\infty$ , and hence

$$\text{mod } f(R_1) \leq \text{mod } R_T \left( \frac{|f(y)|}{|f(x)|} \right) = \text{mod } R_T \left( \frac{s'}{r'} \right). \quad (23)$$



(See, for example, [3], [4], or [8].) Thus (21), (22), (23) and the fact that  $f$  is  $K$ -quasiconformal imply that

$$K \log 3 \lambda^2 \leq K^{1/(n-1)} \operatorname{mod} f(R_1) \leq K \log \lambda^2 \left( \frac{s'}{r'} + 1 \right)$$

or simply that (24)

$$s' \geq 2r'.$$

Let  $P: R^n \rightarrow R^{n-1}$  denote the projection

$$P(x_1, \dots, x_n) = (x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}),$$

and for each  $y \in P(C_1)$  let  $\gamma = \gamma(y)$  denote the closed segment joining  $y + re_n$  to  $y + se_n$ . Since  $f$  is quasiconformal, there exists a Borel set  $E \subset P(C_1)$  such that

$$m_{n-1}(E) = m_{n-1}(P(C_1)) = (2r)^{n-1}$$

and such that  $f$  is absolutely continuous on  $\gamma$  whenever  $y \in E$ . By Fubini's theorem, we can choose a  $y \in E$  such that

$$\int_{\gamma} L_f ds \leq \frac{1}{m_{n-1}(E)} \int_Q L_f dm = \frac{1}{(2r)^{n-1}} \int_Q L_f dm. \tag{25}$$

Then since  $y + re_n \in \partial C_1$  and  $y + se_n \in \partial C_2$ ,

$$s' - r' \leq |f(y + se_n)| - |f(y + re_n)| \leq \int_{\gamma} L_f ds,$$

and we obtain

$$s' \leq \frac{2}{(2r)^{n-1}} \int_Q L_f dm \tag{26}$$

from (24) and (25).

Now suppose that  $s' < t'$  and let

$$R'_2 = \{x \in R^n: s' < |x| < t'\}.$$

Then (19) implies that  $R'_2 \subset f(D)$ , and hence  $R_2 = f^{-1}(R'_2)$  is a ring which separates  $x$  and 0 from  $y$  and  $\infty$ , where  $x, y \in \partial C_2$ . Thus

$$\operatorname{mod} R_2 \leq \operatorname{mod} R_T \left( \frac{|y|}{|x|} \right) \leq \operatorname{mod} R_T(n^{\frac{1}{2}}),$$

and we obtain

$$\log \frac{t'}{s'} = \operatorname{mod} R'_2 \leq K^{1/(n-1)} \operatorname{mod} R_2 \leq K \log \lambda^2 (n^{\frac{1}{2}} + 1),$$

or simply (27)

$$t' \leq a s', \quad a = \lambda^{2K} (n^{\frac{1}{2}} + 1)^K,$$

from (21) and the fact that  $f$  is  $K$ -quasiconformal. (See also Lemma 3 in [6].) Since  $a > 1$ , (27) also holds if  $t' = s'$ .

Finally  $f(Q)$  obviously lies inside the closed ball  $\bar{B}(0, t')$ . Hence if we combine (3), (4), (26) and (27), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{m(Q)} \int_Q L_f^n dm &\leq K \frac{m(f(Q))}{m(Q)} \leq K \Omega_n \left( \frac{as'}{2s} \right)^n \\ &\leq K \Omega_n \left( 2a \left( \frac{s}{r} \right)^{n-1} \frac{1}{m(Q)} \int_Q L_f dm \right)^n \\ &= b \left( \frac{1}{m(Q)} \int_Q L_f dm \right)^n, \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{where} \quad b = K \Omega_n (2a)^n (3^\kappa \lambda^{2\kappa} n^{\frac{1}{2}})^{n(n-1)}. \quad (28)$$

This completes the proof of Lemma 4.

### 5. Main result

We now apply Lemmas 3 and 4 to obtain the following  $n$ -dimensional version of Bojarski's theorem.

**THEOREM 1.** *Suppose that  $D$  is a domain in  $R^n$  and that  $f: D \rightarrow R^n$  is a  $K$ -quasiconformal mapping. Then  $L_f$  is locally  $L^p$ -integrable in  $D$  for  $p \in [n, n+c)$ , where  $c$  is a positive constant which depends only on  $K$  and  $n$ .*

*Proof.* Choose an  $n$ -cube  $Q \subset D$  such that

$$\text{dia}(f(Q)) < \text{dist}(f(Q), \partial f(D)). \quad (29)$$

Then  $L_f$  is  $L^n$ -integrable in  $Q$ . If  $Q' \subset Q$  is an  $n$ -cube, then (29) implies that

$$\text{dia}(f(Q')) < \text{dist}(f(Q'), \partial f(D))$$

and hence, with Lemma 4, that

$$\frac{1}{m(Q')} \int_{Q'} L_f^n dm \leq b \left( \frac{1}{m(Q')} \int_{Q'} L_f dm \right)^n,$$

where  $b$  depends only on  $K$  and  $n$ . Thus by (3), (4) and Lemma 3,  $L_f$  is  $L^p$ -integrable in  $Q$  with

$$\frac{1}{m(Q)} \int_Q L_f^p dm \leq \frac{c}{n+c-p} \left( K \frac{m(f(Q))}{m(Q)} \right)^{p/n} < \infty$$

for  $p \in [n, n+c)$ , where  $c$  is a positive constant which depends only on  $K$  and  $n$ ,

$$c > \frac{n-1}{2^{n+2}nb}. \tag{30}$$

Since each compact  $E \subset D$  can be covered by a finite number of  $n$ -cubes  $Q$  satisfying (29), it follows that  $L_f$  is locally  $L^p$ -integrable in  $D$  for  $p \in [n, n+c)$ , where  $c$  is as above. This completes the proof.

Inequalities (27), (28) and (30) yield an explicit positive lower bound for the constant  $c$  in Theorem 1. However, this estimate is undoubtedly far from best possible since we have made no attempt to obtain sharp bounds in Lemmas 3 and 4.

To obtain an upper bound for the constant  $c$  in Theorem 1, set

$$f(x) = |x|^{a-1}x, \quad a = K^{1/(1-n)}.$$

Then  $f: R^n \rightarrow R^n$  is a  $K$ -quasiconformal mapping with

$$L_f(x) = |x|^{a-1}.$$

Since  $L_f$  is not  $L^p$ -integrable near the origin whenever  $p(a-1) \leq -n$ , we see that

$$c \leq \frac{n}{K^{1/(n-1)} - 1}.$$

It seems probable that this upper bound for  $c$  is sharp.

### 6. Final remarks

We conclude this paper with two applications of Theorem 1. The first of these sharpens the well known result that a quasiconformal mapping is absolutely continuous with respect to Lebesgue measure.

**THEOREM 2.** *Suppose that  $D$  is a domain in  $R^n$ , that  $f: D \rightarrow R^n$  is a  $K$ -quasiconformal mapping, and that  $c$  is the constant in Theorem 1. For each  $a \in (0, c/(n+c))$  and each compact  $F \subset D$  there exists a constant  $b$  such that*

$$m(f(E)) \leq b m(E)^a$$

for each measurable  $E \subset F$ .

*Proof.* Choose  $a \in \left(0, \frac{c}{n+c}\right)$  and set

$$q = \frac{1}{1-a} \in \left(1, 1 + \frac{c}{n}\right).$$

Then Theorem 1 and (2) imply that  $J_f$  is locally  $L^q$ -integrable in  $D$ ,

$$b = \left( \int_F J_f^q dm \right)^{1/q} < \infty,$$

and with Hölder's inequality we obtain

$$m(f(E)) = \int_E J_f dm \leq b m(E)^a$$

for each measurable  $E \subset F$ .

The second application is concerned with Hausdorff dimension. Suppose that  $E \subset R^n$ . For  $a \in (0, \infty)$  the Hausdorff  $a$ -dimensional outer measure of  $E$  is defined as

$$H_a(E) = \lim_{d \rightarrow 0} \left( \inf \sum_j \text{dia}(E_j)^a \right),$$

where the infimum is taken over all countable coverings of  $E$  by sets  $E_j$  with  $\text{dia}(E_j) < d$ . The Hausdorff dimension of  $E$  is then given by

$$H\text{-dim } E = \inf \{a: H_a(E) = 0\}.$$

Obviously  $0 \leq H\text{-dim } E \leq n$ .

The following result describes what happens to the Hausdorff dimension of a set under a quasiconformal mapping. (See Theorems 8 and 12 in [6].)

**THEOREM 3.** *Suppose that  $D$  is a domain in  $R^n$ , that  $f: D \rightarrow R^n$  is a  $K$ -quasiconformal mapping, and that  $c$  is the constant in Theorem 1. Then*

$$\frac{c\alpha}{c+n-\alpha} \leq H\text{-dim } f(E) \leq \frac{(c+n)\alpha}{c+\alpha} \quad (31)$$

for each  $E \subset D$  with  $H\text{-dim } E = \alpha$ .

*Proof.* A simple limiting argument shows we may assume that  $E$  is contained in an open set with compact closure  $F \subset D$ . Next for each  $a \in (\alpha, \infty)$  and each  $\gamma \in (0, c)$  set

$$b = \frac{(\gamma+n)a}{\gamma+a}, \quad q = 1 + \frac{\gamma}{n}.$$

Then  $H_a(E) = 0$ ,  $J_f$  is  $L^q$ -integrable in  $F$ , and we obtain

$$H_b(f(E)) = 0$$

from the proof of Theorem 12 in [6] with 2 replaced by  $n$ . Letting  $a \rightarrow \alpha$  and  $\gamma \rightarrow c$  then yields the right-hand side of (31). The left-hand side of (31) follows from applying what was proved above to  $f^{-1}$ .

Theorem 3 shows that sets of Hausdorff dimension 0 and  $n$  are preserved under  $n$ -dimensional quasiconformal mappings, thus completing the proof of Conjecture 15 in [6]. Theorem 5 in [6] shows, on the other hand, that no such statement is true for sets of Hausdorff dimension  $\alpha$  when  $\alpha \in (0, n)$ .

### References

- [1]. BOJARSKI, B. V., Homeomorphic solutions of Beltrami systems. *Dokl. Akad. Nauk SSSR*, 102 (1955), 661–664. (Russian)
- [2]. CALDERÓN, A. P. & ZYGMUND, A., On the existence of certain singular integrals. *Acta Math.*, 88 (1952), 85–139.
- [3]. CARAMAN, P., *Homeomorfisme quasiconforme  $n$ -dimensionale*. Bucharest, 1968.
- [4]. GEHRING, F. W., Symmetrization of rings in space. *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.*, 101 (1961), 499–519.
- [5]. — Rings and quasiconformal mappings in space. *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.*, 103 (1962), 353–393.
- [6]. GEHRING, F. W. & VÄISÄLÄ, J., Hausdorff dimension and quasiconformal mappings. *J. London Math. Soc.*, 6 (1973), to appear.
- [7]. JOHN, F. & NIRENBERG, L., On functions of bounded mean oscillation. *Comm. Pure Appl. Math.*, 14 (1961), 415–426.
- [8]. MOSTOW, G. D., Quasi-conformal mappings in  $n$ -space and the rigidity of hyperbolic space forms. *Inst. Hautes Études Sci. Publ. Math.*, 34 (1968), 53–104.
- [9]. STEIN, E. M., *Singular integrals and differentiability properties of functions*. Princeton Univ. Press, 1970.
- [10]. VÄISÄLÄ, J., *Lectures on  $n$ -dimensional quasiconformal mappings*. Lecture notes in mathematics 229, Springer Verlag, 1971.

*Received September 25, 1972*