

## CONTINUA WHICH ARE CURVILINEAR CLUSTER SETS

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### 1. Introduction

Let  $D$  be the unit disk  $|z| < 1$  and let  $f$  be a complex-valued function continuous in  $D$ . The *cluster set*  $C(f, e^{i\theta})$  of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  is defined by

$$C(f, e^{i\theta}) = \bigcap_{r>0} \overline{f(N(r, e^{i\theta}) \cap D)},$$

where  $N(r, e^{i\theta})$  is the disk with center at  $e^{i\theta}$  and radius  $r$ . By a *path* to  $e^{i\theta}$  we mean a Jordan arc  $\gamma$  in  $D \cup \{e^{i\theta}\}$  with end point at  $e^{i\theta}$ . A *curvilinear cluster set* of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  is a set of the form

$$C_\gamma(f, e^{i\theta}) = \bigcap_{r>0} \overline{f(N(r, e^{i\theta}) \cap D \cap \gamma)},$$

where  $\gamma$  is a path to  $e^{i\theta}$ . The *intersection curvilinear cluster set* of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  is the set

$$\Pi(f, e^{i\theta}) = \bigcap_\gamma C_\gamma(f, e^{i\theta})$$

where the intersection is taken over all paths to  $e^{i\theta}$ . Finally, by a *continuum* we mean a closed connected subset of the Riemann sphere  $W$ . For simplicity of wording we will allow a set consisting of a single point to be called a continuum here, even though this use of the word is sometimes not allowed by other authors.

It is well known that for an arbitrary continuum  $K$  and an arbitrary path  $\gamma$  to  $e^{i\theta}$  there exists a meromorphic function  $f$  in  $D$  such that  $C_\gamma(f, e^{i\theta}) = K$  [1, Theorem 4, p. 193]. In this paper we wish to consider the following problem: given a continuous function  $f$  in  $D$  and a point  $e^{i\theta}$ , what are necessary and sufficient conditions for a continuum  $K$  to be a curvilinear cluster set of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ ? The results in this paper are theorems and examples related to this question.

For any path  $\gamma$  to  $e^{i\theta}$  it is necessary that

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$$\Pi(f, e^{i\theta}) \subset C_r(f, e^{i\theta}) \subset C(f, e^{i\theta}),$$

where the containments may be proper or improper. It is known [3, Theorem 4.6, p. 73] that  $C(f, e^{i\theta})$  is a curvilinear cluster set of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ . The set  $\Pi(f, e^{i\theta})$  may be the empty set, but  $C_r(f, e^{i\theta})$  is not empty, so that  $\Pi(f, e^{i\theta})$  is not necessarily a curvilinear cluster set.

In section 2, we show by example that a continuum  $K$  satisfying  $\Pi(f, e^{i\theta}) \subsetneq K \subsetneq C(f, e^{i\theta})$  need not be a curvilinear cluster set of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ , even in the case where  $f$  is a meromorphic function. In fact, it is shown that even if  $K$  is “between” two curvilinear cluster sets of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  it need not be a curvilinear cluster set itself. We prove that if  $\Pi(f, e^{i\theta}) \neq C(f, e^{i\theta})$  then the cardinality of the set of all curvilinear cluster sets of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  is equal to the cardinality of the set of real numbers.

In section 3 we introduce the idea of a permissible continuum for  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  by using concepts related to the theory of prime ends. We prove that it is necessary, but not sufficient, that a continuum be permissible for  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  in order that it be a curvilinear cluster set of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ . Some relationships with other types of cluster sets are given.

In section 4 we give some sufficient conditions for there to exist a curvilinear cluster set of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  between two specified sets.

## 2. The Cardinality of Curvilinear Cluster Sets

If  $\Pi(f, e^{i\theta}) \neq C(f, e^{i\theta})$  then there exists at least one continuum  $K$  such that  $\Pi(f, e^{i\theta}) \subset K \subsetneq C(f, e^{i\theta})$  and such that  $K$  is a curvilinear cluster set of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ . However, not every such continuum  $K$  is a curvilinear cluster set of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ , as the following example shows.

**EXAMPLE 1.** *There exists a function  $f$  continuous in  $D$  together with two continua  $K_1$  and  $K_2$ , where both  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  are curvilinear cluster sets of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ ,  $K_1 \subset K_2$ , and if  $K_3$  is a continuum satisfying  $K_1 \subsetneq K_3 \subsetneq K_2$ , then  $K_3$  is not a curvilinear cluster set of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $B(z)$  be a conformal mapping sending the disk  $D$  onto the upper half plane  $U$  such that  $B(e^{i\theta}) = 0$ . Let  $z = x + iy$  and let  $F$  be the function defined on  $U$  by

$$F(z) = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{1}{y}\right)\sin\frac{1}{y}, & \text{for } 0 < \arg z \leq \frac{\pi}{4} \\ \left(\frac{y-x}{y}\right)i + \left(\frac{x}{y^2}\right)\sin\frac{1}{y}, & \text{for } \frac{\pi}{4} < \arg z \leq \frac{\pi}{2} \\ \left(\frac{x+y}{y}\right)i - \left(\frac{x}{y}\right)\sin\frac{1}{y}, & \text{for } \frac{\pi}{2} < \arg z \leq \frac{3\pi}{4} \\ \sin\frac{1}{y}, & \text{for } \frac{3\pi}{4} < \arg z < \pi. \end{cases}$$

It is easy to see that both the segment  $[-1, 1]$  and the whole real line  $R$  are curvilinear cluster sets of  $f$  at  $0$ . But if  $[a, b]$  is any closed interval of the real line such that  $[-1, 1] \not\subseteq [a, b] \neq R$ , then there is no path  $\gamma$  to  $0$  contained in  $U \cup \{0\}$  such that  $C_\gamma(F, 0) = [a, b]$ . Thus we have the desired result if we set  $f(z) = F(B(z))$ ,  $K_1 = [-1, 1]$ , and  $K_2 = R$ .

We remark that Example 1 shows that even continua which are ‘‘between’’ two curvilinear cluster sets of a function  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  need not themselves be curvilinear cluster sets of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ . Such a result also holds for meromorphic functions, as the following example shows.

**EXAMPLE 2.** *There exists a meromorphic function  $f$  in  $D$  and two continua  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  such that  $K_1 \subset K_2 \subset C(f, e^{i\theta})$ , where  $K_1$  is a curvilinear cluster set of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  and  $K_2$  is not a curvilinear cluster set of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $L$  be the left half plane, let

$$V_1 = \left\{ z = x + iy : 0 \leq x < 1, 2n\pi < y < \left(2n + \frac{1}{2}\right)\pi, n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \right\}$$

and let

$$V_2 = \left\{ z = x + iy : 0 \leq x < 1, \left(2n + \frac{1}{2}\right)\pi < y < (2n+1)\pi, n = -1, -2, -3, \dots \right\}.$$

Let  $V = L \cup V_1 \cup V_2$ , and let  $B(z)$  be a conformal mapping of  $D$  onto  $V$  such that  $B(e^{i\theta}) = \infty$ . Let  $F(z) = e^z$  for  $z \in V$ . Let

$$D(r, \theta_1, \theta_2) = \{z : |z| = r, \theta_1 \leq \arg z \leq \theta_2\}$$

let

$$S(a, b, \theta) = \{z : a \leq |z| \leq b, \arg z = \theta\}$$

let

$$S = D(1, \pi/2, 2\pi) \cup D(e, 0, \pi/2) \cup S(1, e, 0) \cup S(1, e, \pi/2)$$

and let

$$T = D(1, 0, 2\pi) \cup D(e, 0, \pi) \cup S(1, e, 0) \cup S(1, e, \pi/2).$$

Clearly,  $S \subsetneq T \subsetneq C(F, \infty)$  and there exists a path  $\Gamma$  to  $\infty$  in  $V$  along the upper portion of the boundary of  $V$  such that  $C_\Gamma(F, \infty) = S$ . However, if  $\Gamma'$  were a path to  $\infty$  in  $V$  such that  $T \subset C_{\Gamma'}(F, \infty)$ , then  $\Gamma'$  must meet both the upper and the lower half planes infinitely often so that, since  $\Gamma'$  has no basic point of accumulation on the negative real axis, we must have that  $0 \in C_{\Gamma'}(F, \infty)$  and hence  $T \neq C_{\Gamma'}(F, \infty)$ . It follows that  $T$  is not a curvilinear cluster set of  $F$  at  $\infty$ . Setting  $f(z) = F(B(z))$ ,  $K_1 = S$  and  $K_2 = T$ , we obtain the result claimed.

In spite of the two previous examples, the following theorem shows that there are, except in trivial cases, many curvilinear cluster sets of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ .

**THEOREM 1.** *If  $f$  is a continuous function in  $D$  and if  $\Pi(f, e^{i\theta}) \neq C(f, e^{i\theta})$  then the cardinality of the set of curvilinear cluster sets of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  is equal to the cardinality of the set of real numbers.*

*Proof.* The cardinality of the set of all continua on the Riemann sphere is equal to the cardinality of the set of real numbers, and since each curvilinear cluster set of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  must be a continuum, the cardinality of the set of all curvilinear cluster sets of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  is not greater than the cardinality of the set of real numbers.

If  $\Pi(f, e^{i\theta}) \neq C(f, e^{i\theta})$ , then there exists a path  $\gamma$  to  $e^{i\theta}$  such that  $C_\gamma(f, e^{i\theta}) \neq C(f, e^{i\theta})$ . Let  $w_0$  be a point in  $C(f, e^{i\theta}) - C_\gamma(f, e^{i\theta})$  and let  $K = C_\gamma(f, e^{i\theta})$ . Let  $r_0 = \mathcal{L}(w_0, K)$ , the chordal distance on  $W$  between  $w_0$  and  $K$ , and let  $r$  be a fixed real number such that  $0 < r < r_0$ . For each natural number  $n$  such that  $r + 1/n < r_0$ , set

$$G_n = \{w \in W : \mathcal{L}(w, K) < r + 1/n\}$$

and set

$$H_n = \{z \in D : f(z) \in G_n\} \cap \{z \in D : |z - e^{i\theta}| < 1/n\}.$$

Finally, let  $J_n$  be the component of  $H_n$  containing  $\gamma$  (where  $\gamma$  is shortened, if necessary, so that  $\gamma$  is contained in  $H_n$ ). Since  $C(f, e^{i\theta})$  is a connected

set containing both  $K$  and  $w_0$ , there exists a point  $z_n \in J_n$  such that  $\mathcal{L}(f(z_n), K) = r$ . We may assume that  $z_n \neq z_m$  for  $n \neq m$ . Let  $\{\gamma_n\}$  be a collection of disjoint subarcs of  $\gamma$  such that the sets  $\{\gamma_n\}$  converge to  $e^{i\theta}$ ,  $\gamma_n \subset J_n$ , and the chordal diameter of  $f(\gamma_n)$  on  $W$  is less than  $1/n$ . Since  $z_n \in J_n$  and  $J_n$  is a connected set, we can replace  $\gamma_n$  by a simple arc  $\gamma'_n$ , where  $\gamma'_n \subset J_n$ ,  $z_n \in \gamma'_n$ , and the end points of  $\gamma'_n$  are the end points of  $\gamma_n$ . Replacing each  $\gamma_n$  by  $\gamma'_n$  but leaving all other points of  $\gamma$  fixed, and by then judiciously deleting the loops from the resulting path, we obtain a path  $\Gamma$  to  $e^{i\theta}$  with the property that  $K \subset C_\Gamma(f, e^{i\theta})$  and that:

$$C_\Gamma(f, e^{i\theta}) \subset \{w \in W : \mathcal{L}(w, K) \leq t\}$$

if and only if  $t \geq r$ . Thus we see that our construction of  $\Gamma$  depended on the choice of  $r$ , and that a different choice of  $r$  would lead to a different curvilinear cluster set  $C_\Gamma(f, e^{i\theta})$ . Thus the cardinality of the set of curvilinear cluster sets of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  is not less than the cardinality of the set of real numbers in the open interval  $(0, r_0)$ . Thus the theorem is proved.

### 3. The Sets $K_S$

The Jordan arc  $s$  is a *crosscut of  $D$  at  $e^{i\theta}$*  if  $s$  has endpoints  $e^{i\theta_1}$  and  $e^{i\theta_2}$ , where

$$\theta - \pi < \theta_1 < \theta < \theta_2 < \theta + \pi$$

and  $s \subset D \cup \{e^{i\theta_1}\} \cup \{e^{i\theta_2}\}$ . If  $S = \{s_n\}$  is a sequence of crosscuts of  $D$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ , we say that  $S$  *converges to  $e^{i\theta}$*  if the diameter of  $S_n$  tends to zero as  $n$  goes to  $\infty$ . For each sequence  $S$  of crosscuts of  $D$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  converging to  $e^{i\theta}$ , let

$$K_S(f) = \bigcap_{k=1}^\infty \overline{(\bigcup_{n=k}^\infty f(s_n))},$$

where  $f$  is a function defined in  $D$ . As we will be considering specific functions,  $K_S(f)$  will be abbreviated simply by  $K_S$ .

If  $L$  is a continuum and  $f$  is a continuous function in  $D$ , then  $L$  will be called a *permissible continuum for  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$*  if

- (1)  $\Pi(f, e^{i\theta}) \subset L \subset C(f, e^{i\theta})$ , and
- (2)  $L \cap K_S \neq \phi$  for each sequence  $S$  of crosscuts of  $D$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  converging to  $e^{i\theta}$ .

We note that if  $L$  is a permissible continuum for  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  and if  $L \subset K \subset$

$C(f, e^{i\theta})$ , where  $K$  is a continuum, then  $K$  is also a permissible continuum for  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ .

**THEOREM 2.** *If a continuum  $L$  is a curvilinear cluster set of the continuous function  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ , then  $L$  is a permissible continuum for  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ .*

*Proof.* Clearly condition (1) above must be satisfied by  $L$ . If  $S = \{s_n\}$  is a sequence of crosscuts of  $D$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  converging to  $e^{i\theta}$ , and if  $L = C_\gamma(f, e^{i\theta})$ , where  $\gamma$  is a path to  $e^{i\theta}$ , then  $\gamma \cap s_n \neq \emptyset$  for  $n$  sufficiently large, so that  $K_S \cap L \neq \emptyset$ . Thus condition (2) is satisfied and the theorem is proved.

Unfortunately, the condition that  $L$  is a permissible continuum for  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  is not sufficient for  $L$  to be a curvilinear cluster set of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ , as can easily be verified from Examples 1 and 2 above. As Example 2 demonstrates, the added condition that  $f$  be a meromorphic function does not help.

It should be noted that two permissible continua for a function  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  may be disjoint, even if  $f$  is meromorphic. Any example of an ambiguous point (in the sense of Bagemihl) will suffice (see [2] or [3, p. 86]).

Although it is not essential to our main purpose, we note some interesting relationships between various types of cluster sets and certain of the sets  $K_S$ . Let  $Z(f, e^{i\theta})$  denote the set of all points  $w$  of the Riemann sphere  $W$  for which there exists a sequence  $S$  of crosscuts of  $D$  converging to  $e^{i\theta}$  such that  $K_S$  is the singleton set  $\{w\}$ .

**THEOREM 3.** *If  $f$  is a continuous function in  $D$ , then  $Z(f, e^{i\theta}) \subset \Pi(f, e^{i\theta})$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $w$  be such that  $\{w\} = K_S$ , where  $S = \{s_n\}$  is a sequence of crosscuts of  $D$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  converging to  $e^{i\theta}$ . If  $\gamma$  is any path to  $e^{i\theta}$ , then  $\gamma \cap s_n \neq \emptyset$  for  $n$  sufficiently large, and hence  $w \in C_\gamma(f, e^{i\theta})$ . Thus  $w \in \Pi(f, e^{i\theta})$  and  $Z(f, e^{i\theta}) \subset \Pi(f, e^{i\theta})$ .

Let  $A(f, e^{i\theta})$  be the set of asymptotic values of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ , i.e.,  $A(f, e^{i\theta})$  is the set of all  $w \in W$  for which there exists a path  $\gamma$  to  $e^{i\theta}$  for which  $C_\gamma(f, e^{i\theta})$  is the singleton set  $\{w\}$ .

**THEOREM 4.** *If  $f$  is a continuous function in  $D$ , then*

$$A(f, e^{i\theta}) \subset \bigcap K_S,$$

where the intersection is taken over all sequences  $S$  of crosscuts of  $D$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  converging to  $e^{i\theta}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $S = \{s_n\}$  be any sequence of crosscuts of  $D$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  converging to  $e^{i\theta}$  and let  $w \in A(f, e^{i\theta})$ . Then there exists a path  $\gamma$  to  $e^{i\theta}$  such that  $\{w\} = C_\gamma(f, e^{i\theta})$ . But for  $n$  sufficiently large,  $\gamma \cap s_n \neq \phi$  and hence  $w \in K_S$ . Thus, since  $S$  is arbitrary,  $w \in \cap K_S$  and hence  $A(f, e^{i\theta}) \subset \cap K_S$ .

That equality need not occur in either Theorems 3 or 4 is seen by the following example.

**EXAMPLE 3.** *There exists a function  $f$  continuous in  $D$  and a point  $e^{i\theta}$  such that  $Z(f, e^{i\theta}) = \phi$ ,  $A(f, e^{i\theta}) = \phi$ ,  $\Pi(f, e^{i\theta})$  is the closed interval  $[-1, 1]$ , and  $K_S^* = [-1, 1]$  for each sequence  $S$  of crosscuts of  $D$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  converging to  $e^{i\theta}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $B(z)$  be the conformal mapping of the disk  $D$  onto the upper half plane  $U$  such that  $B(e^{i\theta})=0$ . Let  $F(z)=\sin 1/y$ , where  $z=x+iy \in U$ . Then it is easy to verify that the function in  $D$  defined by  $f(z) = F(B(z))$  has the desired properties.

#### 4. Sufficient Conditions

In this section we investigate some sufficient conditions for there to exist a continuum which is a curvilinear cluster set for a continuous function and which is between two other specified continua.

**THEOREM 5.** *Let  $K$  be a permissible continuum for the continuous function  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  such that there exists a sequence  $S$  of crosscuts converging to  $e^{i\theta}$  for which  $K_S \subset \frac{1}{2}K$ . Then there exists a path  $\gamma$  to  $e^{i\theta}$  such that*

$$K_S \subset C_\gamma(f, e^{i\theta}) \subset K.$$

*Proof.* Let  $\{G_n\}$  be a descending chain of open connected sets such that  $K = \cap G_n$ . Let  $S = \{s_n\}$ ,  $S_k^* = \{s_n: n \geq k\}$  and let

$$H_n = \{z \in D: f(z) \in G_n \text{ and } |z - e^{i\theta}| < 1/n\}.$$

We note that since  $K_S \subset G_n$  for each  $n$ , then for a fixed  $k$  we have that  $s_n \subset H_k$  for  $n$  sufficiently large. We claim that for each  $k$  there exists an integer  $n_k$  such that  $S_{n_k}^*$  is contained in a single component of  $H_k$ .

Suppose the claim is false. Let  $C_n$  be the component of  $H_k$  containing  $s_n$ , and suppose there exists a number  $n'$  greater than  $n$  such that  $s_{n'}$  is not contained in  $C_n$ . Then  $D - H_k$  has a component which separates  $s_n$  from  $s_{n'}$ . But then there exists a crosscut which we will call  $s_n^*$  of  $D$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  such that

$$f(s_n^*) \subset \{w: \mathcal{L}(w, W - G_k) < 1/n\}$$

where  $s_n^*$  lies between  $s_n$  and  $s_{n'}$ . Since  $s_n^*$  will exist for infinitely many different choices of  $n$  (where  $k$  is kept fixed) we have that  $S^* = \{s_n^*\}$  is a sequence of crosscuts of  $D$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  converging to  $e^{i\theta}$  and  $K_{S^*} \subset W - G_k$ . Since  $K \subset G_k$ , we would have that  $K_{S^*} \cap K = \emptyset$ , in violation of our hypothesis that  $K$  is a permissible continuum for  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ . Thus the claim is valid.

Let  $J_k$  be the component of  $H_k$  containing  $S_{n_k}^*$ . Since  $H_{k+1} \subset H_k$ , we have that  $J_{k+1} \subset J_k$  and that  $\bigcap \bar{J}_k = \{e^{i\theta}\}$ . Let  $\{z_k\}$  be a sequence of points such that  $z_k \in J_k$  and  $\{f(z_k)\}$  is dense in  $K_S$ . Since  $z_k$  and  $z_{k+1}$  are both in  $J_k$ , they can be joined by an arc  $r_k$  contained in  $J_k$ . Let  $r$  be the path resulting from the union of all the  $r_k$ , where loops are eliminated, if necessary, such that  $r$  is a path to  $e^{i\theta}$  for which

$$K_S \subset C_r(f, e^{i\theta}) \subset G_n$$

for each  $n$ . Thus we have

$$K_S \subset C_r(f, e^{i\theta}) \subset K.$$

We note that we cannot guarantee the existence of a path  $r$  to  $e^{i\theta}$  such that  $C_r(f, e^{i\theta})$  will be precisely either  $K$  or  $K_S$  under the hypothesis of Theorem 5, as the following example shows.

**EXAMPLE 4.** *There exists a continuous function  $f$  in  $D$ , a permissible continuum  $K$  for  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ , and a sequence  $S$  of crosscuts of  $D$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  converging to  $e^{i\theta}$  such that  $K_S \subset K$  and neither  $K$  nor  $K_S$  is a curvilinear cluster set of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $B(z)$  be a conformal mapping of  $D$  onto the upper half plane  $U$  such that  $B(e^{i\theta}) = \infty$ . For each natural number  $n$  let

$$U_n = \{z \in U: n - 1/4 \leq |z| \leq n + 1/4, |z - n| \geq 1/4\},$$

$$V_n = \{z \in U: |z - n| = 1/5\},$$

$$Y_n = \{z \in U: |z - n| \leq 1/6\},$$

and

$$T_n = \{z \in U: |z| = n + 1/2\}.$$

By the Tietze Extension Theorem there exists a function  $F$  continuous in  $U$  such that  $F(z) = \text{Arg } z$  for  $z \in U_n$ ,  $F(z) = i$  for  $z \in V_n$ ,  $F(z) = 2\pi$  for  $z \in T_n$ , and  $F(z) = -6 + 1/(|z - n|)$  for  $z \in Y_n$ ,  $|F(z)| \leq 2\pi$  for  $z \in (\bigcup_{n=1}^\infty Y_n)$ , and



$F(z)$  is real valued for each  $z \in U$  such that  $|z - n| \geq 1/4$  for each natural number  $n$ .

Let  $K$  be the real line and let  $S = \{s_n\}$  where

$$s_n = \{z \in U : |z| = n + 1/4\}.$$

Then since  $F(z) = \text{Arg } z$  for  $z \in s_n$  we have that  $K_S = [0, \pi]$ . But for any path  $\gamma$  to  $\infty$ , we have that  $\gamma \cap T_n \neq \emptyset$  for  $n$  sufficiently large, so that  $2\pi \in C_\gamma(F, \infty)$  and hence  $K_S \neq C_\gamma(F, \infty)$ . However, if  $K \subset C_\gamma(F, \infty)$ , then  $\gamma$  must meet infinitely many of the sets  $Y_n$ . But this means that  $\gamma$  must meet infinitely many of the sets  $V_n$ , so that  $i \in C_\gamma(F, \infty)$ . Thus  $C_\gamma(F, \infty) \neq K$ , and neither  $K$  nor  $K_S$  is a curvilinear cluster set of  $F$  at  $\infty$ . Setting  $f(z) = F(B(z))$  we have the corresponding result for  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ .

As an immediate result of Theorem 5, we obtain the following corollary.

**COROLLARY.** *If  $f$  is a continuous function in  $D$  and there exists a sequence  $S$  of crosscuts of  $D$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  converging to  $e^{i\theta}$  such that  $K_S$  is a permissible continuum for  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ , then  $K_S$  is a curvilinear cluster set for  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ .*

**THEOREM 6.** *Let  $f$  be a continuous function in  $D$  and let  $K$  be a continuum which is a curvilinear cluster set of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$ . If  $S$  is a sequence of crosscuts of  $D$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  converging to  $e^{i\theta}$  such that  $K_S - K \neq \emptyset$ , then there exists a path  $\gamma$  to  $e^{i\theta}$  such that*

$$K \not\subseteq C_\gamma(f, e^{i\theta}) \subset K \cup K_S.$$

*Proof.* Let  $S = \{s_n\}$  and let  $\{G_n\}$  be a descending chain of open connected sets such that  $K_S = \bigcap G_n$ . Let  $H(n, k)$  be the component of  $f^{-1}(G_n)$  such that  $s_k$  is contained in  $H(n, k)$ . For a fixed  $n$  and for  $k$  sufficiently large we have that  $f(s_k) \subset G_n$  so that for each natural number  $n$ ,  $H(n, k)$  will exist for  $k$  sufficiently large.

Let  $\Gamma$  be a path to  $e^{i\theta}$  such that  $C_\Gamma(f, e^{i\theta}) = K$ , let  $w \in K_S - K$ , and let  $\{z_k\}$  be a sequence of points such that  $z_k \in s_k$  and  $f(z_k) \rightarrow w$ . For each natural number  $n$  choose an integer  $k_n$  such that  $H(n, k_n)$  exists,  $k_n \geq n$ , and choose points  $p_n$  and  $q_n$  on  $\Gamma \cap H(n, k_n)$  such that  $p_n$  comes before  $q_n$  on  $\Gamma$ , where  $\Gamma$  is oriented toward  $e^{i\theta}$ , and such that the chordal diameter in  $W$  of the image of  $\Gamma$  between  $p_n$  and  $q_n$  is less than  $1/n$ . It is possible

to alter  $\Gamma$  by replacing the portions of  $\Gamma$  between the points  $p_n$  and  $q_n$  by arcs  $r_n$ , where  $r_n \subset H(n, k_n)$  and  $z_{k_n} \in r_n$ . Infinitely many replacements can be made so that  $\Gamma$  is altered into a curve  $\gamma$  such that  $C_\Gamma(f, e^{i\theta}) \subset C_\gamma(f, e^{i\theta})$  and  $w \in C_\gamma(f, e^{i\theta})$ . Since all the new points of  $\gamma$  are contained in  $H(n, k_n)$  for some integer  $n$ , and since  $K_S = \cap G_n$ , we have that

$$K \subsetneq C_\gamma(f, e^{i\theta}) \subset K \cup K_S.$$

Thus  $\gamma$  is the desired path to  $e^{i\theta}$ .

We note that the method of the proof can be extended to construct a path  $\gamma$  such that  $C_\gamma(f, e^{i\theta}) = K \cup K_S$ , but we do not present the details here.

**THEOREM 7.** *Let  $f$  be a continuous function in  $D$  for which  $\Pi(f, e^{i\theta}) \neq C(f, e^{i\theta})$ . If there exists an ascending chain of permissible continua  $\{K_n\}$  for  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  and a sequence  $\{S_n\}$  of sequences of crosscuts of  $D$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  converging to  $e^{i\theta}$  such that  $K_1$  is a curvilinear cluster set of  $f$  at  $e^{i\theta}$  and for each natural number  $n$ ,  $K_{n+1} = K_n \cup K_{S_n}$ , then there exists a sequence  $\{K'_n\}$  of continua together with a sequence  $\{r_n\}$  of paths to  $e^{i\theta}$  such that  $K_n \subset K'_n \subset K_{n+1}$  and  $C_{r_n}(f, e^{i\theta}) = K'_n$ .*

Theorem 7 follows immediately from Theorem 6 and is, in some sense, a clarification of Theorem 1.

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