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# ON THE EXISTENCE OF AUTOMORPHIC QUASIMEROMORPHIC MAPPINGS IN R<sup>n</sup>

#### **O. MARTIO and U. SREBRO**

## 1. Introduction

Let G be a Möbius group in  $\overline{R}^n = R^n \cup \{\infty\}$ ,  $n \ge 2$ , and D a domain in  $R^n$ . A mapping  $f: D \to \overline{R}^n$  is said to be *automorphic* with respect to G if f is continuous, open, discrete, sense-preserving, and  $f \circ g = f$  for all  $g \in G$ . Note that if G has automorphic mappings  $f: D \to \overline{R}^n$ , then G is discrete and D is invariant under G. Discrete Möbius groups which have invariant domains are called *function groups*.

A mapping  $f: D \to \mathbb{R}^n$  is called *quasiregular*, abbreviated qr, if f is continuous, ACL<sup>n</sup>, and

 $(1.1) |f'(x)|^n \le KJ(x, f)$ 

a.e. in *D* for some  $K \in [1, \infty)$ . If  $f: D \to \overline{R}^n$ , then the ACL<sup>n</sup> condition and (1.1) can be checked at  $f^{-1}(\infty)$  by means of auxiliary Möbius transformations. If these conditions hold the mapping is then said to be *quasimeromorphic*, abbreviated *qm*. If n=2 and (1.1) holds with K=1, then *f* is meromorphic.

The purpose of this note is to prove

1.2. Theorem. Let G be a discrete Möbius group acting on  $B^n$ ,  $n \ge 2$ , with  $V(B^n/G) < \infty$ . Then G has qm automorphic mappings  $f: B^n \to \overline{R}^n$ .

In the above theorem  $V(B^n/G)$  denotes the hyperbolic volume of the orbit space  $B^n/G$ , see [4].

The proof is constructive. It is based on a modification of the method of Alexander [1], on basic properties of Möbius groups, see Chapter 3, and on the properties of radial streethings, see Chapter 2. We shall not estimate the dilatations of f in terms of G. For the sake of simplicity we shall restrict ourselves to the case n=3. The same method applies to n>3 and to n=2.

It is known that every function group in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  has meromorphic automorphic mappings. We do not know whether function groups in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , n>2, have qm automorphic mappings, nor we know whether the condition  $V(\mathbb{B}^n/G) < \infty$  in Theorem 1.2 is essential. We have examples, see [4, 4.2], of qm automorphic mappings  $f: \mathbb{B}^n \to \overline{\mathbb{R}}^n$ for infinite groups with  $V(\mathbb{B}^n/G) = \infty$ .

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The notation and terminology will be as in [4]. In particular we denote  $x=(x_1, \ldots, x_n)=\sum x_i e_i$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $B^n(a, r)=\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n: |x-a| < r\}$ ,  $B^n(r)=B^n(0, r)$ ,  $B^n=B^n(1)$ ,  $S^{n-1}(a, r)=\partial B^n(a, r)$ ,  $S^{n-1}(r)=S^{n-1}(0, r)$ ,  $S^{n-1}=S^{n-1}(1)$ ,  $H^n(h)==\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n: x_n > h\}$ , and  $H^n=H^n(0)$ . For Möbius groups G acting on  $B^n$  we let Fix  $G=\{x \in B^n: g(x)=x \text{ for some } g \in G \setminus \{id\}\}$ .

## 2. Radial stretchings

2.1. In this chapter we consider a special class of bi-lipschitzian mappings. A mapping  $f: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , is called bi-lipschitzian if

(2.2) 
$$|x-y|/L \le |f(x)-f(y)| \le L|x-y|$$

for all x and y in A and for some  $L \ge 1$ . The smallest L for which (2.2) holds will be denoted by L(f).

2.3. A bounded domain  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is said to be *strictly star shaped* if each ray L from 0 meets  $\partial D$  at exactly one point. It follows that  $0 \in D$  and that the mapping  $\varphi^* \colon \partial D \to S^{n-1}$  which sends  $L \cap \partial D$  to  $L \cap S^{n-1}$  is a homeomorphism. We let  $\varphi \colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$  denote the radial linear extension of  $\varphi^*$ , i.e.  $\varphi(x) = x\varphi^*(x^*)/|x^*|, x \neq 0$ , and  $\varphi(0) = 0$  where  $\{x^*\} = \partial D \cap \{tx: t > 0\}$ . This mapping  $\varphi$  which is an automorphism of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and maps D onto  $\mathbb{B}^n$  will be called the *radial linear stretching* defined by D.

2.4. Lemma. Suppose that D is strictly star shaped and  $\varphi^*: \partial D \to S^{n-1}$  is bi-lipschitzian. Then  $\varphi$  is bi-lipschitzian.

*Proof.* Let  $M = \sup \{|x|: x \in \partial D\}$  and  $m = \inf \{|x|: x \in \partial D\}$ . Let  $x, y \in R^n$ . We may assume that  $x \neq 0$  and that  $\varphi(x) = x$  i.e.  $\varphi^*(x^*) = x^*$  since otherwise we consider the mapping  $\varphi \circ F_x$  where  $F_x(z) = |x^*|z$ . Then  $F_x$  is bi-lipschitzian with  $L(F_x) \leq \max(M, 1/m), \varphi \circ F_x(x) = x$ , and  $\varphi$  is bi-lipschitzian if and only if  $\varphi \circ F_x$  is. Let  $\alpha \in [0, \pi]$  denote the angle between the vectors x and y. If y=0 we set  $\alpha=0$ . We claim that

$$|\varphi(y) - y| \leq |y| (L(\varphi^*) + 1) \alpha/m.$$

If y=0 then (2.5) is trivial. Suppose  $y\neq 0$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned} |\varphi(y) - y| &= |y| |\varphi^*(y^*) - y^*| / |y^*| \\ &\leq |y| (|\varphi^*(y^*) - x^*| + |y^* - x^*|) / m \\ &\leq |y| (|\varphi^*(y^*) - \varphi^*(x^*)| + L(\varphi^*) |\varphi^*(y^*) - \varphi^*(x^*)|) / m \\ &\leq |y| (\alpha + L(\varphi^*) \alpha) / m \end{aligned}$$

and (2.5) follows.

To prove that  $|\varphi(x) - \varphi(y)| \le K|x-y|$  suppose first that  $\alpha \ge \pi/2$ . Then  $|x-y| \ge |y|$  and (2.5) yields

$$|\varphi(x) - \varphi(y)|/|x - y| \le 1 + \pi (L(\varphi^*) + 1)/m.$$

If  $\alpha < \pi/2$ , then  $|x-y| \ge |y| \sin \alpha$  and (2.5) implies

$$|\varphi(x) - \varphi(y)| / |x - y| \leq 1 + \alpha (L(\varphi^*) + 1) / (m \sin \alpha)$$
  
$$< 1 + \pi (L(\varphi^*) + 1) / m_*$$

To prove the opposite inequality let  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ . Then

$$|\varphi(x) - \varphi(y)| = \left| |x| \varphi^*(x^*) / |x^*| - |y| \varphi^*(y^*) / |y^*| \right| \ge |x - y| / M$$

and since this inequality is trivial when x=0 or y=0, the lemma follows.

2.6. Let D be a bounded domain in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with  $0 \in D$  and let  $\beta \in (0, \pi/4]$ . We say that D satisfies the  $\beta$ -cone condition if the open cone

$$C(x, \beta) = \{ z \in \mathbb{R}^n : |z - x| < |x|, (x - z) \cdot x > |x - z| |x| \cos \beta \}$$

with vertex x and central angle  $\beta$  lies in D whenever  $x \in \partial D$ . Note that if D satisfies the  $\beta$ -cone condition, then D is strictly star shaped.

2.7. Lemma. Suppose that D satisfies the  $\beta$ -cone condition for some  $\beta > 0$ . Then  $\varphi^*$  is bi-lipschitzian.

*Proof.* Let  $x, y \in \partial D$ . Then

$$|\varphi^*(x) - \varphi^*(y)| \le |x - y|/m$$

where  $m = \inf \{ |z| : z \in \partial D \}.$ 

To prove the other inequality we may assume that  $\varphi^*(x) = x$  and  $|y| \leq |x|$ . Let  $\alpha \in (0, \pi]$  denote the angle between x and y. Suppose first that  $\alpha \geq \pi/2$ . Then

$$|\varphi^*(x) - \varphi^*(y)| \ge \sqrt{2} \ge |x - y|/\sqrt{2}.$$

Suppose now that  $\alpha < \pi/2$ . Since y is outside the cone  $C(x, \beta)$ , elementary trigonometry yields

$$|x-y| \leq |y| \sin \alpha / \sin \beta \leq |\varphi^*(x) - \varphi^*(y)| / \sin \beta,$$

and the lemma follows.

Since every bi-lipschitzian mapping of  $R^n$  is quasiconformal, see [3], the above lemmas imply:

2.8. Corollary. Suppose that D satisfies the  $\beta$ -cone condition for some  $\beta > 0$ . Then the radial linear stretching  $\varphi: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$  defined by D is quasiconformal.

2.9. Remarks. (a) We shall mainly use Corollary 2.8 to show that the homeomorphism  $\varphi|D$  onto  $B^n$  is quasiconformal.

(b) It is easy to see that if D is strictly star shaped, then  $\varphi$  is bi-lipschitzian if and only if D satisfies the  $\beta$ -cone condition for some  $\beta > 0$ . Moreover, for n=3 the cone condition is equivalent to the boundary condition of [3, 5.3].

(c) We shall later use the following elementary property of linear stretchings: Let  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  be strictly star shaped domains and  $\varphi_1$ ,  $\varphi_2$  the corresponding linear stretchings. Define  $\varphi = \varphi_2^{-1} \circ \varphi_1$ . Suppose that  $x, y \in \partial D_1$  and E(x) = y for some  $E \in O(n)$ . If  $|\varphi(x)| = |\varphi(y)|$ , then  $E \circ \varphi(x) = \varphi \circ E(x)$ .

## 3. Fundamental polyhedra for Möbius groups

3.1. Normal fundamental polyhedra. Let G be a discrete Möbius group acting on  $B^n$ . Then G is countable and thus  $B^n \setminus \text{Fix } G \neq \emptyset$ . The normal fundamental polyhedron P centered at a point  $x_0 \in B^n \setminus \text{Fix } G$  is defined by

$$P = \{ x \in B^n : d(x, x_0) < d(x, g(x_0)) \text{ for all } g \in G \setminus \{ \text{id} \} \}.$$

Here *d* denotes the hyperbolic distance in  $B^n$ . *P* is a convex polyhedron in the hyperbolic sense, possibly with infinite number of faces. Each (n-1)-face, considering only  $\partial P \cap B^n$ , lies in a hyperbolic (n-1)-plane

$$H(A, x_0) = \{x \in B^n : d(x, x_0) = d(x, A(x_0))\}$$

for some  $A \in G \setminus \{id\}$ . Since  $AH(A^{-1}, x_0) = H(A, x_0)$ , the (n-1)-faces of P are pairwise G-equivalent. Note also that  $H(A^{-1}, 0)$  is contained in the isometric sphere  $I(A) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : |A'(x)| = 1\}$  of A and  $A = E \circ I$  where I is the reflection in  $H(A^{-1}, 0)$  and E is an orthogonal transformation in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Indeed,  $(I \circ A^{-1})B^n = B^n$ and  $(I \circ A^{-1})(0) = 0$  and so  $I \circ A^{-1} \in O(n)$ . Therefore  $A = E \circ I$  for some  $E \in O(n)$ , and |A'(x)| = 1 for all  $x \in H(A^{-1}, 0)$ . Finally, recall that if G is discrete and the hyperbolic measure  $V(B^n/G)$  is finite, then, see [2], [5], or [6], every normal fundamental polyhedron P has finitely many faces and  $\overline{P} \cap S^{n-1}$  is either empty, which happens only when  $B^n/G$  is compact, or consists of finitely many points, called *boundary vertices*. We summarize the above facts:

3.2. Lemma. Let G be a discrete Möbius group acting on  $B^n$  with  $V(B^n/G) < \infty$ . Suppose that  $0 \notin \text{Fix } G$  and let P be a normal fundamental polyhedron centered at 0. Then P is of the form

$$P = B^n \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^{2k} \overline{B}^n(x_i, r_i)$$

where each  $S_i = S^{n-1}(x_i, r_i)$ , i = 1, ..., 2k, is orthogonal to  $S^{n-1}$ ,  $r_i = r_{i+k}$ , and  $T_i S_i = S_{i+k}$  for some  $T_1, ..., T_k \in G$ . Furthermore, each  $T_i$ , i = 1, ..., k, is of the form  $T_i = E_i \circ I_i$  where  $I_i$  denotes the reflection in  $S_i$  and  $E_i \in O(n)$ .

3.3. Simple fundamental polyhedron. Let G be a discrete Möbius group acting on  $B^n$  with  $V(B^n/G) < \infty$ . A normal fundamental polyhedron P for G is said to be simple if no two boundary vertices of P are G-equivalent. In other words, P is simple if and only if for each boundary vertex  $p \in \overline{P} \cap S^{n-1}$  all the (n-1)-faces of P which meet at p are pairwise G-equivalent. By [4, Lemma 3.5], G has always simple fundamental polyhedra. To understand the action of G near a boundary vertex p of a simple fundamental polyhedron P centered at  $x_0 \in B$ , choose a Möbius transformation A with  $AB^n = H^n$ ,  $A(p) = \infty$ , and  $A(x_0) = e_n$ . Then  $P_1 = AP$  is a simple fundamental polyhedron centered at  $e_n$  for the group  $G_1 = AGA^{-1}$  with a boundary vertex at  $\infty$ . The (n-1)-faces of  $P_1$  which meet at  $\infty$  are pairwise equivalent via elements of  $G_1$  which generate the stabilizer  $G_{\infty} = \{g \in G_1: g(\infty) = \infty\}$ . Each g in  $G_{\infty} \setminus \{id\}$  is a similarity in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with a unique fixed point at  $\infty$  and acts on each (n-1)-plane  $\partial H^n(h)$ , h>0, in the same manner, see [4]. The normal fundamental polyhedron  $P_2$  for  $G_{\infty}$  centered at  $e_n$  is of the form  $P_2 = Q \times (0, \infty)$  where Q is a finite bounded convex euclidean (n-1)-dimensional polyhedron. There exists  $h_0>0$  such that  $P_1 \cap H^n(h) = P_2 \cap H^n(h)$  for all  $h \ge h_0$ .

For the sake of notational simplicity we shall from now on restrict our considerations to the case n=3. The extension to the general case n>3 and n=2 is quite straightforward.

3.4. Lemma. Let G be a discrete Möbius group acting on  $B^3$  with  $V(B^3/G) < \infty$ . Suppose that G has a simple fundamental polyhedron P centered at 0. Then there exist a finite convex euclidean 3-dimensional polyhedron  $Q \subset B^3$  with all its vertices in  $S^2$  and a homeomorphism  $h: \overline{P} \to \overline{Q}$  such that

(i) h|P is quasiconformal,

(ii)  $h \circ T_i(x) = E_i \circ h(x)$  for all  $x \in S_i \cap \partial P$ , i = 1, ..., k, where  $S_i$ ,  $T_i$ , and  $E_i$  are as in Lemma 3.2.

*Proof.* Case 1:  $B^3/G$  is compact. Let  $z_1, ..., z_m$  be the vertices of P and let  $\varphi_1$ and  $\varphi_2$  be the radial linear stretchings defined by P and the euclidean polyhedron Q which is spanned by  $\varphi_1(z_1), ..., \varphi_1(z_m)$ , respectively. Then  $h = \varphi_2^{-1} \circ \varphi_1$  is the required mapping. Indeed, h maps  $\overline{P}$  homeomorphically onto  $\overline{Q}$ , and since P and Q satisfy the  $\beta$ -cone condition for some  $\beta > 0$ ,  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  are quasiconformal by Corollary 2.8 and consequently so is h|P. For (ii) let  $x \in S_i \cap \partial P$ . Then by Lemma 3.2

$$h \circ T_i(x) = h \circ E_i \circ I_i(x) = h \circ E_i(x).$$

Since  $|x_i| = |x_{i+k}|$  and  $r_i = r_{i+k}$ , it follows by the nature of  $h|\partial P$  and  $E_i$ , see 2.9 (c), that  $h \circ E_i(x) = E_i \circ h(x)$  and so (ii) follows.

Case 2:  $B^3/G$  is non-compact. Since now P does not satisfy the  $\beta$ -cone condition for any  $\beta > 0$ , we first map P quasiconformally onto a domain  $R \subset B^3$  which satisfies the  $\beta$ -cone condition and then proceed as in Case 1.

Let  $p_1, \ldots, p_q$  be the boundary vertices of P. For each  $j=1, \ldots, q$  choose a Möbius transformation  $A_j$  with  $A_j B^3 = H^3$ ,  $A_j(p_j) = \infty$ , and  $A_j(0) = e_3$ . Pick

h>0 such that  $A_j^{-1}(H^3(h)) \cap A_l^{-1}(H^3(h)) = \emptyset$  for  $j \neq l$  and so that  $\bigcup A_j^{-1}(H^3(h))$ does not contain any vertex of P. By 3.3 each set  $C_j = A_j(P) \cap H^3(h)$  is of the form  $Q_j \times (h, \infty)$  where  $Q_j$  is a convex, bounded, and finite 2-dimensional euclidean polyhedron containing 0. Let  $\psi_j^* \colon R^2 \to R^2$  be the radial linear stretching defined by  $Q_j$  and let  $\psi_j \colon R^2 \times [h, \infty) \to H^3$  be the mapping  $\psi_j(x, s) = (\psi_j^*(x), s-h)$ . Then  $\psi_j$  is bi-lipschitzian and hence quasiconformal and maps  $C_j$  onto the semi-infinite cylinder  $Z = B^2 \times (0, \infty)$ . Next we construct a quasiconformal mapping of Z onto a finite cylinder.

Let  $(r, \varphi, x_3)$  and  $(t, \varphi, \Theta)$  denote the cylinder and spherical coordinates of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , respectively. The polar angle is measured from the positive half of the  $x_3$ -axis. The mapping  $f_1: \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{B}^3 \cap \mathbb{H}^3$  which is defined by  $t = e^{-x_3}$ ,  $\varphi = \varphi$ , and  $\Theta = \pi r/2$  is quasiconformal, see [3, p. 47], surjective, and maps the discs  $\mathbb{B}^2 \times \{x_3\}$ ,  $x_3 > 0$ , onto the hemispheres  $S^2(e^{-x_3}) \cap \mathbb{H}^3$ . Let  $f_2$  denote the reflection in the sphere  $S^2(e_2/3, 2/3)$ . Then  $f_2$  is anti-conformal and maps  $\mathbb{B}^3 \cap \mathbb{H}^3$  onto  $\mathbb{H}^3 \setminus \overline{\mathbb{B}^3}(e_2/2, 1/2)$ ,  $\mathbb{B}^3(1/3) \cap \mathbb{H}^3$  onto  $\{x \in \mathbb{H}^3: x_2 < -1/3\}$  and the 2-planes through the  $x_3$ -axis onto the spheres centered on the line  $L = \{x \in \partial \mathbb{H}^3: x_2 = -1/3\}$  and passing through the points  $e_2/3$  and  $-e_2$ . Using cylinder coordinates  $(r, \varphi, x_1)$  with L as the axis of symmetry and  $\varphi$  measured from the direction of the vector  $-e_2$  to the direction of  $e_3$ , we define a mapping  $f_3: \mathbb{H}^3 \to \mathbb{H}^3$  by

$$f_3(r, \varphi, x_1) = (r, \pi/2 + \varphi/4, x_1), \quad 0 \le \varphi < 2\pi/3,$$
$$= (r, \varphi, x_1), \quad 2\pi/3 \le \varphi < \pi.$$

Then  $f_3$  is quasiconformal, maps  $H^3 \setminus \overline{B}^3(e_2/2, 1/2)$  onto  $\{x \in H^3: x_2 > -1/3\} \setminus \overline{B}^3(e_2/2, 1/2)$ , maps each sphere which is centered on L and which passes through the points  $e_2/3$  and  $-e_2$  into itself, and maps half-planes through L rigidly into half-planes through L.

Finally, let  $\psi = f_1^{-1} \circ f_2^{-1} \circ f_3 \circ f_2 \circ f_1$ . Then  $\psi$  maps the semi-infinite cylinder Z quasiconformally onto the finite cylinder  $Z' = B^2 \times (0, \log 3)$  and has the following properties:

(a)  $\psi$  has a homeomorphic extension to  $\overline{Z}$  denoted again by  $\psi$ ,

(b)  $\psi(x) = x$  for  $x \in \partial Z \cap \partial H^3$ , and

(c) each plane through the  $x_3$ -axis is mapped into itself in the same manner.

To map P onto a domain R in  $B^3$  which satisfies the  $\beta$ -cone condition for some  $\beta > 0$ , define  $\varphi: P \rightarrow B^3$  by  $\varphi(x) = A_j^{-1} \circ \psi_j^{-1} \circ \psi \circ \psi_j \circ A_j(x)$  for  $x \in P \cap A_j^{-1}(H^3(h))$ ,  $j=1, \ldots, q$ , and  $\varphi(x) = x$  otherwise. Then  $\varphi$  is quasiconformal with a homeomorphic extension, denoted by  $\varphi$ , to  $\overline{P}$ . The image domain  $R = \varphi P$  is obtained from P by cutting away balls tangent to  $S^2$  at the boundary vertices and hence R satisfies the  $\beta$ -cone condition for some  $\beta > 0$ . Because of (c),

(3.5) 
$$\varphi \circ E_i(x) = E_i \circ \varphi(x)$$

for every  $x \in \partial P \cap S_i$ .

Let  $\{z_1, ..., z_m\}$  be the set of all vertices of P and let  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  be the radial linear stretchings defined by R and by the euclidean polyhedron Q which is spanned by  $\{\varphi_1(z_1), ..., \varphi_1(z_m), p_1, ..., p_q\}$ , respectively. Finally, let  $h = \varphi_2^{-1} \circ \varphi_1 \circ \varphi$ . Then h maps P quasiconformally onto Q with a homeomorphic extension to  $\overline{P}$ .

To prove (ii) note that, by Lemma 3.2 and by the symmetry of Q, see 2.9 (c),

$$h \circ T_i(x) = h \circ E_i \circ I_i(x) = h \circ E_i(x) = \varphi_2^{-1} \circ \varphi_1 \circ E_i(x) = E_i \circ \varphi_2^{-1} \circ \varphi_1(x) = E_i \circ h(x)$$

for  $x \in \partial P \setminus \bigcup A_j^{-1}(H^3(h))$ . Suppose now that  $x \in \partial P \cap A_j^{-1}(H^3(h)) \cap S_i$  for some j and i. Then  $h(x) = \varphi_2^{-1} \circ \varphi_1 \circ \varphi(x)$  and hence by (3.5) and Lemma 3.2,  $h \circ T_i(x) = \varphi_2^{-1} \circ \varphi_1 \circ E_i \circ \varphi(x)$ . By the same reason as above we can now interchange  $E_i$  and  $\varphi_2^{-1} \circ \varphi_1$ . This yields (ii) and the proof is complete.

# 4. Construction of a QM automorphic mapping in $B^3$

4.1. Simplices in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Given a simplex  $\sigma = (x^0, x^1, x^2, x^3)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  we let  $|\sigma|$  denote the closed tetrahedron in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  which is spanned by the vertices  $x^0, x^1, x^2, x^3$  and let  $\mathbb{C}|\sigma| = \overline{\mathbb{R}^3} \setminus \operatorname{int} |\sigma|$ . All 3-simplices in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  will be oriented by the sign of the standard determinant function associated with the basis  $e_1, e_2, e_3$ .

4.2. Lemma. Given any two simplices  $\sigma = (x^0, x^1, x^2, x^3)$  and  $\tau = (y^0, y^1, y^2, y^3)$ in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  there exists a sense-preserving homeomorphism  $h = h_{\sigma\tau}$  from  $|\sigma|$  into  $\mathbb{R}^3$  such that

- (i)  $h(|\sigma|) = |\tau|$  if  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  have the same orientation and  $h(|\sigma|) = \mathbb{C} |\tau|$  otherwise,
- (ii)  $h(x^i) = y^i$ , i = 0, 1, 2, 3,
- (iii)  $h|\partial|\sigma|$  is a piecewise linear homeomorphism,
- (iv)  $h|int |\sigma|$  is quasiconformal.

*Proof.* If  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  have the same orientations, then the piecewise linear map of  $|\sigma|$  onto  $|\tau|$  which is defined by (ii) satisfies (i), (iii), and (iv).

Suppose now that  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  have different orientations. We may assume that  $0 \in \operatorname{int} |\tau|$ . The radial linear stretching  $\varphi$  defined by  $\operatorname{int} |\tau|$  is quasiconformal in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and has a quasiconformal extension to  $\mathbb{R}^3$  with  $\varphi(\infty) = \infty$ . Let *I* denote the reflection in  $S^2$  and  $h_1: |\sigma| \to |\tau|$  the sense-reversing piecewise linear map which satisfies  $h_1(x^i) = y^i$ , i = 0, 1, 2, 3. Then it is easy to check that  $h = \varphi^{-1} \circ I \circ \varphi \circ h_1$  is the required map.

4.3. Proof of Theorem 1.2 for n=3. Let P be a simple fundamental polyhedron for G centered at  $x_0 \in B^3$ . We may assume that  $x_0=0$ , otherwise consider first  $AGA^{-1}$  for some Möbius transformation A with  $AB^3=B^3$  and  $A(x_0)=0$ .

Let  $T_i$  and  $E_i$ , i=1, ..., k, be as in Lemma 3.2 and Q and  $h: \overline{P} \rightarrow \overline{Q}$  as in Lemma 3.4. Using planes through 0 triangulate Q so that any two  $E_i$ -equivalent faces in  $\partial Q$  have  $E_i$ -equivalent sub-triangulations. In this triangulation, call it K, identify  $E_i$ -equivalent faces in  $\partial Q$  and thus denote vertices of K which are  $E_i$ -equivalent

alent,  $i=1, \ldots, k$ , by the same symbols. Now K can be made fine enough so that all four vertices of any 3-simplex are distinct. Let  $S = \{\sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_\nu\}$  be the set of all 3-simplices in K and  $\{0, x^2, \ldots, x^N\}$  the set of all vertices in K. Then each  $\sigma_i$  is of the form  $(0, x^{i_1}, x^{i_2}, x^{i_3})$ . Choose N points  $0, y^2, \ldots, y^N$  in general position in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , i.e. no four points are coplanar, and associate with each 3-simplex  $\sigma_i = (0, x^{i_1}, x^{i_2}, x^{i_3})$  in S the simplex  $\tau_i = (0, y^{i_1}, y^{i_2}, y^{i_3})$ . Now define  $g: \overline{Q} \to \overline{\mathbb{R}}^3$ by  $g ||\sigma_i| = h_{\sigma_i \tau_i}$  for  $i=1, \ldots, \nu$ . Here  $h_{\sigma_i \tau_i}$  is as in Lemma 4.2. Finally let  $f: \mathbb{B}^3 \to \overline{\mathbb{R}}^3$  be defined for  $x \in T^{-1}(\overline{P}) \cap \mathbb{B}^3$ ,  $T \in G$ , by  $f(x) = g \circ h \circ T(x)$ .

Finally let  $f: B^3 \to \overline{R}^3$  be defined for  $x \in T^{-1}(\overline{P}) \cap B^3$ ,  $T \in G$ , by  $f(x) = g \circ h \circ T(x)$ . Then f is continuous by Lemma 3.4 (ii) and by the construction of K and g. f is automorphic with respect to G, and since  $g \circ h$  is qm in P by Lemma 3.4 and Lemma 4.2, it follows that so is f in  $B^3$ .

4.4. Remark. The automorphic mapping f constructed above has the property  $N(A, f) < \infty$  where A is any fundamental set for G and  $N(A, f) = \sup \operatorname{card} (f^{-1}(y) \cap A)$  over all  $y \in \overline{R}^3$ .

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University of Helsinki Department of Mathematics SF-00100 Helsinki 10 Finland

Technion — Israel Institute of Technology Department of Mathematics Haifa Israel

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