

# On the Karlsson–Nussbaum conjecture for resolvents of nonexpansive mappings

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**Abstract.** Let  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a bounded convex domain and  $F: D \rightarrow D$  a 1-Lipschitz mapping with respect to the Hilbert metric  $d$  on  $D$  satisfying condition  $d(sx + (1-s)y, sz + (1-s)w) \leq \max\{d(x, z), d(y, w)\}$ . We show that if  $F$  does not have fixed points, then the convex hull of the accumulation points (in the norm topology) of the family  $\{R_\lambda\}_{\lambda>0}$  of resolvents of  $F$  is a subset of  $\partial D$ . As a consequence, we show a Wolff–Denjoy type theorem for resolvents of nonexpansive mappings acting on an ellipsoid  $D$ .

## Karlssonin–Nussbaumin konjektuuri venyttämättömien kuvausten resolventeille

**Tiivistelmä.** Olkoon  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  rajallinen konvekksi alue ja  $F: D \rightarrow D$  Lipschitzin kuvaus vakioilla 1 alueen  $D$  Hilbertin metriikan  $d$  suhteen, joka toteuttaa ehdon  $d(sx + (1-s)y, sz + (1-s)w) \leq \max\{d(x, z), d(y, w)\}$ . Osoitamme, että jos kuvauksella  $F$  ei ole kiintopisteitä, niin sen resolventtiperheen  $\{R_\lambda\}_{\lambda>0}$  (normitopologian määrittämien) kasautumispisteiden konvekksi verho on reunan  $\partial D$  osajoukko. Tämän seurauksena osoitamme Wolffin–Denjoyn-tyyppisen lauseen ellipsoidin  $D$  venyttämättömien kuvausten resolventeille.

## 1. Introduction

The study of dynamics of nonlinear mappings started by considering iterates of holomorphic mappings on one-dimensional bounded domains. In this field, one of the first theorems is the classical Wolff–Denjoy theorem which describes dynamics of iteration of holomorphic self-mappings on the unit disc of the complex plane. It asserts that if  $f: \Delta \rightarrow \Delta$  is a holomorphic map of the unit disc  $\Delta \subset \mathbb{C}$  without a fixed point, then there is a point  $\xi \in \partial\Delta$  such that the iterates  $f^n$  converge locally uniformly to  $\xi$  on  $\Delta$ . Generalizations of this theorem in different directions have been obtained by numerous authors (see [1, 6, 9, 15, 13] and references therein). One such generalization was formulated by Beardon who noticed that the Wolff–Denjoy theorem can be considered in a purely geometric way depending only on the hyperbolic properties of a metric and gave its proof using geometric methods (see [4]). In [5], Beardon extended his approach for strictly convex bounded domains with the Hilbert metric. Considering the notion of the omega limit set  $\omega_f(x)$  as the set of accumulation points of the sequence  $f^n(x)$  and the notion of the attractor  $\Omega_f = \bigcup_{x \in D} \omega_f(x)$ , we can formulate a generalization of the Wolff–Denjoy theorem known as the Karlsson–Nussbaum conjecture, which was formulated independently by Karlsson and Nussbaum (see [10, 15]). This conjecture states that if  $D$  is a bounded convex domain in a finite-dimensional real vector space and  $f: D \rightarrow D$  is a fixed point free nonexpansive mapping acting on the Hilbert metric space  $(D, d_H)$ ,

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then there exists a convex set  $\Omega \subseteq \partial D$  such that for each  $x \in D$ , all accumulation points  $\omega_f(x)$  of the orbit  $O(x, f)$  lie in  $\Omega$ .

The aim of this note is to show a variant of the Karlsson–Nussbaum conjecture for resolvents of nonexpansive (1-Lipschitz) mappings. For this purpose we construct in Section 3 the family of resolvents of a nonexpansive mapping and prove its main properties: nonexpansivity and the resolvent identity. In the literature, the resolvents usually occur in the context of Banach spaces or geodesic spaces that are Busemann convex, see e.g., [3, 17]. Then their construction is based on the Banach contraction principle. Since a Hilbert metric space  $(D, d_H)$  is in general not Busemann convex, our construction of resolvents is a little more complicated and exploits the argument related to Edelstein’s theorem [8].

In Section 4 we formulate and prove the main theorem of this work. We show that if  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is a bounded convex domain and  $F: D \rightarrow D$  is a fixed point free nonexpansive mapping with respect to the Hilbert metric  $d_H$  on  $D$  satisfying condition

$$(D) \quad d_H(sx + (1-s)y, sz + (1-s)w) \leq \max\{d_H(x, z), d_H(y, w)\},$$

then the convex hull of the accumulation points of the family  $\{R_\lambda\}_{\lambda>0}$  of resolvents of  $F$  is a subset of  $\partial D$ . Since a Hilbert metric space  $(D, d_H)$  is Busemann convex if and only if  $D$  is ellipsoid, we obtain as a corollary a Wolff–Denjoy type theorem for resolvents of nonexpansive mappings acting on an ellipsoid  $D$ .

## 2. Preliminaries

Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional real vector space,  $D \subset V$  a convex bounded domain and  $(D, d)$  a metric space. A curve  $\sigma: [a, b] \rightarrow D$  is said to be *geodesic* if  $d(\sigma(t_1), \sigma(t_2)) = |t_1 - t_2|$  for all  $t_1, t_2 \in [a, b]$ . We will use the same name for the image  $\sigma([a, b]) \subset D$  of  $\sigma$ , denoted by  $[\sigma(a), \sigma(b)]$ . We say that  $D$  is a *geodesic space* if every two points of  $D$  can be joined by a geodesic. A map  $F: D \rightarrow D$  is called *contractive* if  $d(F(x), F(y)) < d(x, y)$  for any distinct points  $x, y \in D$ . A map  $F: D \rightarrow D$  is called *nonexpansive* if for any  $x, y \in D$ ,  $d(F(x), F(y)) \leq d(x, y)$ .

We recall the definition of *the Hilbert metric space*. If  $x, y \in D$ , consider the straight line passing through  $x$  and  $y$  that intersects the boundary of  $D$  in precisely two points  $a$  and  $b$ . Assuming that  $x$  is between  $a$  and  $y$ , and  $y$  is between  $x$  and  $b$ , we define the cross-ratio metric

$$d_H(x, y) = \log \left( \frac{\|y - a\| \|x - b\|}{\|x - a\| \|y - b\|} \right), \quad x \neq y.$$

Furthermore, we put  $d_H(x, y) = 0$  if  $x = y$ .

Following Beardon [5] we consider the subsequent lemmas.

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $D_1, D_2 \subset V$ ,  $D_1 \subset D_2$  be bounded convex domains and  $(D_1, d_1)$ ,  $(D_2, d_2)$  be Hilbert metric spaces, then  $d_2 \leq d_1$ . Furthermore, for distinct points  $x, y \in D_1$ ,  $d_1(x, y) = d_2(x, y)$  iff the segment  $L_{xy} \cap D_1$  coincides with  $L_{xy} \cap D_2$ .*

**Lemma 2.2.** *Suppose that  $(D, d_H)$  is a Hilbert metric space,  $x_0 \in D$  and  $l \in [0, 1)$ . Then the mapping  $g(x) = x_0 + l(x - x_0)$  is contractive.*

*Proof.* Fix  $x_0 \in D$  and  $l \in [0, 1)$ . Let  $x, y \in D$  and consider the straight line passing through  $x$  and  $y$  that intersects  $\partial D$  in two points  $x'$  and  $y'$  such that  $x$  is between  $x'$  and  $y$ , and  $y$  is between  $x$  and  $y'$ . Take two points  $z' = (1-l)x_0 + lx' \in \partial g(D)$ ,  $w' = (1-l)x_0 + ly' \in \partial g(D)$ , and note that the points  $z', g(x), g(y), w'$

are collinear such that  $g(x)$  is between  $z'$  and  $g(y)$ , and  $g(y)$  is between  $g(x)$  and  $w'$ . Since  $g(D)$  lies in a compact subset of  $D$ , it follows from Lemma 2.1 that  $d_H(g(x), g(y)) < d_2(g(x), g(y))$ , where  $d_2$  denotes the Hilbert metric in  $g(D)$ . By definition of the Hilbert metric space we have

$$\begin{aligned} d_H(x, y) &= \log \left( \frac{\|x' - y\| \|x - y'\|}{\|x' - x\| \|y - y'\|} \right) = \log \left( \frac{\|z' - g(y)\| \|w' - g(x)\|}{\|z' - g(x)\| \|w' - g(y)\|} \right) \\ &= d_2(g(x), g(y)). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we get  $d_H(g(x), g(y)) < d_H(x, y)$ .  $\square$

Note that if  $D \subset V$  is a bounded convex domain, then the Hilbert metric  $d_H$  is locally equivalent to the euclidean norm in  $V$ . Furthermore, for any  $w \in D$ , if  $\{x_n\}$  is a sequence in  $D$  converging to  $\xi \in \partial D = \overline{D} \setminus D$ , then

$$d_H(x_n, w) \rightarrow \infty$$

(see [5, 9]). The above property is equivalent to properness of  $D$ , that is, every closed and bounded subset of  $(D, d_H)$  is compact. It is not difficult to show that for  $x, y, z \in D$  and  $s \in [0, 1]$ ,

$$(C) \quad d_H(sx + (1-s)y, z) \leq \max\{d_H(x, z), d_H(y, z)\}.$$

In what follows, we will assume a more restrictive condition: for all  $x, y, z, w \in D$  and  $s \in [0, 1]$ ,

$$(D) \quad d_H(sx + (1-s)y, sz + (1-s)w) \leq \max\{d_H(x, z), d_H(y, w)\}.$$

### 3. Resolvents of nonexpansive mappings

In this section we describe the construction of a resolvent of a nonexpansive mapping acting on a Hilbert metric space. Let  $D \subset V$  be a convex bounded domain and  $F : D \rightarrow D$  a nonexpansive mapping with respect to the Hilbert metric  $d$  on  $D$ . Recall that the topology of  $(D, d)$  coincides with the Euclidean topology and  $(D, d)$  is proper metric space, that is, every closed ball  $\overline{B}(x_0, r)$ ,  $x_0 \in D$ , is compact. We fix  $x \in D$ ,  $\lambda > 0$ , and define a mapping

$$G_{x,\lambda}(y) = \frac{1}{1+\lambda}x + \frac{\lambda}{1+\lambda}F(y), \quad y \in D.$$

It follows from Lemma 2.2 that  $G_{x,\lambda}$  is contractive.

We show that  $G_{x,\lambda}(D)$  is bounded. For this purpose, we select  $w \in G_{x,\lambda}(D)$ . Note that there exists  $y \in D$  such that  $w = \frac{1}{1+\lambda}x + \frac{\lambda}{1+\lambda}F(y)$ . We show that  $B(w, \frac{1}{1+\lambda}d) \subset D$ , where  $d = \inf_{v \in \partial D} \|v - x\|$ . Choose any  $w' \in B(w, \frac{1}{1+\lambda}d)$ . Then there exists  $z \in D$  such that  $w' = \frac{1}{1+\lambda}z + \frac{\lambda}{1+\lambda}F(y)$ . Note that

$$\|w - w'\| = \left\| \frac{1}{1+\lambda}x + \frac{\lambda}{1+\lambda}F(y) - \frac{1}{1+\lambda}z + \frac{\lambda}{1+\lambda}F(y) \right\| = \frac{1}{1+\lambda}\|x - z\|.$$

If  $\|w - w'\| < \frac{1}{1+\lambda}$ , then  $\|x - z\| = (1+\lambda)\|w - w'\| < d$ . It implies that  $z \in D$  and hence  $w' \in D$ . It follows that for all  $w \in G_{x,\lambda}(D)$ ,

$$(3.1) \quad \inf_{v \in \partial D} \|v - w\| \geq \frac{1}{1+\lambda}d.$$

Take a sequence  $\{w_n\} \subset G_{x,\lambda}(D)$ . Since  $\overline{D}$  is compact in the Euclidean topology, there exists a subsequence  $\{w_{n_k}\}$  and  $x_0 \in \overline{D}$  such that  $\|w_{n_k} - x_0\| \rightarrow 0$ , if  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . It follows from (3.1) that  $x_0 \in D$ , and hence  $d(w_{n_k}, x_0) \rightarrow 0$  since the topology of  $(D, d)$

coincides with the Euclidean topology. Therefore,  $G_{x,\lambda}(D)$  is bounded in  $(D, d)$  and by properness of  $D$  we have that  $\overline{G_{x,\lambda}(D)}$  is compact in  $(D, d)$ .

Note that  $D \supset G_{x,\lambda}(D) \supset G_{x,\lambda}^2(D) \supset \dots$ , which means that the orbits of  $G_{x,\lambda}$  are bounded. Fix  $y \in D$ . Since  $\overline{G_{x,\lambda}(D)}$  is compact, there exists a subsequence  $\{G_{x,\lambda}^{m_k}(y)\}$  of  $\{G_{x,\lambda}^n(y)\}$  converging to some  $z \in D$ . Let

$$d_n = d(G_{x,\lambda}^n(y), G_{x,\lambda}^{n+1}(y)).$$

Since  $G_{x,\lambda}$  is contractive, the sequence  $\{d_n\}$  is decreasing and hence it converges to some  $\zeta$ , as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Hence

$$\zeta \leftarrow d_{n_k} = d(G_{x,\lambda}^{m_k}(y), G_{x,\lambda}^{m_k+1}(y)) \rightarrow d(G_{x,\lambda}(z), z),$$

and

$$\zeta \leftarrow d_{n_k+1} = d(G_{x,\lambda}^{m_k+1}(y), G_{x,\lambda}^{m_k+2}(y)) \rightarrow d(G_{x,\lambda}^2(z), G_{x,\lambda}(z)).$$

We get

$$d(G_{x,\lambda}^2(z), G_{x,\lambda}(z)) = d(G_{x,\lambda}(z), z) = \zeta.$$

Since the map  $G_{x,\lambda}$  is contractive,  $G_{x,\lambda}(z) = z$ . Moreover,  $z$  is the unique fixed point of  $G_{x,\lambda}$ . Indeed, otherwise if  $z_1, z_2 \in D$ ,  $z_1 \neq z_2$  are fixed points of  $G_{x,\lambda}$ , then

$$d(z_1, z_2) = d(G_{x,\lambda}(z_1), G_{x,\lambda}(z_2)) < d(z_1, z_2),$$

and we obtain a contradiction. Define  $z = R_\lambda(x)$ . We refer to the mapping  $R_\lambda: D \rightarrow D$  as *the resolvent of  $F$* . We have

$$z = G_{x,\lambda}(z) = \frac{1}{1+\lambda}x + \frac{\lambda}{1+\lambda}F(z), \quad x \in D, \lambda > 0,$$

and hence

$$(3.2) \quad R_\lambda(x) = \frac{1}{1+\lambda}x + \frac{\lambda}{1+\lambda}F(R_\lambda(x)), \quad x \in D, \lambda > 0.$$

Furthermore, any converging subsequence  $G_{x,\lambda}^{m_k}(y)$  has the limit  $z$  (the unique fixed point), as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . This gives the formula:

$$(3.3) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} G_{x,\lambda}^n(y) = R_\lambda(x), \quad y \in D.$$

It turns out that if  $(D, d)$  is sufficiently regular, then the resolvent of a nonexpansive mapping is also nonexpansive.

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $(D, d)$  be a Hilbert metric space satisfying condition (D),  $F: D \rightarrow D$  a nonexpansive mapping, and  $\lambda > 0$ . Then the resolvent  $R_\lambda: D \rightarrow D$  is nonexpansive.*

*Proof.* Fix  $z_0, z_1, z_2 \in D$ . First we show that  $d(G_{z_1,\lambda}^n(z_0), G_{z_2,\lambda}^n(z_0)) \leq d(z_1, z_2)$  for each  $n$ . We proceed by induction. For  $n = 1$ , it follows from condition (C) that

$$\begin{aligned} d(G_{z_1,\lambda}(z_0), G_{z_2,\lambda}(z_0)) &= d\left(\frac{1}{1+\lambda}z_1 + \frac{\lambda}{1+\lambda}F(z_0), \frac{1}{1+\lambda}z_2 + \frac{\lambda}{1+\lambda}F(z_0)\right) \\ &\leq \max\{d(z_1, z_2), d(F(z_0), F(z_0))\} = d(z_1, z_2). \end{aligned}$$

Fix  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and suppose that  $d(G_{z_1, \lambda}^n(z_0), G_{z_2, \lambda}^n(z_0)) \leq d(z_1, z_2)$ . Then it follows from (D) that

$$\begin{aligned} & d(G_{z_1, \lambda}^{n+1}(z_0), G_{z_2, \lambda}^{n+1}(z_0)) \\ &= d\left(\frac{1}{1+\lambda}z_1 + \frac{\lambda}{1+\lambda}F(G_{z_1, \lambda}^n(z_0)), \frac{1}{1+\lambda}z_2 + \frac{\lambda}{1+\lambda}F(G_{z_2, \lambda}^n(z_0))\right) \\ &\leq \max\{d(z_1, z_2), d(G_{z_1, \lambda}^n(z_0), G_{z_2, \lambda}^n(z_0))\} = d(z_1, z_2). \end{aligned}$$

Now the formula (3.3) yields

$$d(R_\lambda(z_1), R_\lambda(z_2)) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d\left(G_{z_1, \lambda}^n(z_0), G_{z_2, \lambda}^n(z_0)\right) \leq d(z_1, z_2),$$

which shows that  $R_\lambda$  is a nonexpansive mapping.  $\square$

We will also use the following property called the resolvent identity.

**Proposition 3.2.** *Suppose that  $F: D \rightarrow D$  is a nonexpansive mapping. Then its resolvent  $R_\lambda$  satisfies*

$$R_\lambda(x) = R_\mu\left(\frac{\lambda - \mu}{\lambda}R_\lambda(x) + \frac{\mu}{\lambda}x\right), \quad x \in D,$$

for all  $\lambda > \mu > 0$ .

*Proof.* Fix  $x \in D$  and  $\lambda, \mu > 0$  such that  $\lambda > \mu$ . Define

$$(3.4) \quad y := \frac{\lambda - \mu}{\lambda}R_\lambda(x) + \frac{\mu}{\lambda}x.$$

It follows from (3.2) that there exists the unique point

$$(3.5) \quad z := R_\mu(y) = \frac{1}{1+\mu}y + \frac{\mu}{1+\mu}F(R_\mu(y)).$$

On the other hand, we have

$$(3.6) \quad \tilde{z} := R_\lambda(x) = \frac{1}{1+\lambda}x + \frac{\lambda}{1+\lambda}F(R_\lambda(x)).$$

From the above and (3.4) we get  $\lambda y - \mu \tilde{z}(1 + \lambda) = (\lambda - \mu)\tilde{z} - \lambda \mu F(\tilde{z})$ , which implies

$$\tilde{z} = \frac{1}{1+\mu}y + \frac{\mu}{1+\mu}F(\tilde{z}).$$

Therefore, from the uniqueness of the construction of the point  $z$  and by (3.5) and (3.6), we have

$$R_\mu(y) = z = \tilde{z} = R_\lambda(x). \quad \square$$

For any  $x \in D$ ,  $F: D \rightarrow D$ , the set of accumulation points (in the norm topology) of the sequence  $\{F^n(x)\}$  is called the *omega limit set* of  $x$  and is denoted by  $\omega_F(x)$ . In a similar way, if  $R_\lambda: D \rightarrow D$ ,  $\lambda > 0$ , is a family of resolvents of  $F$ , we define

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_{\{R_\lambda\}_{\lambda>0}}(x) &= \{y \in \overline{D} : \|R_{\lambda_n}(x) - y\| \rightarrow 0 \\ &\quad \text{for some increasing sequence } \{\lambda_n\}, \lambda_n \rightarrow \infty\}, \end{aligned}$$

and the *attractor* of  $\{R_\lambda\}_{\lambda>0}$ ,

$$\Omega_{\{R_\lambda\}_{\lambda>0}} = \bigcup_{x \in D} \omega_{\{R_\lambda\}_{\lambda>0}}(x).$$

**Lemma 3.3.** *Suppose that  $F: D \rightarrow D$  is a nonexpansive mapping without fixed points and  $R_\lambda: D \rightarrow D$ ,  $\lambda > 0$  is a family of resolvents of  $F$ . Then  $\Omega_{\{R_\lambda\}_{\lambda>0}} \subset \partial D$ .*

*Proof.* On the contrary, we suppose that there exists  $y \in D$  such that  $\|R_{\lambda_n}(x) - y\| \rightarrow 0$  for some  $x \in D$  and an increasing sequence  $\{\lambda_n\}$ ,  $\lambda_n \rightarrow \infty$ . Then

$$(3.7) \quad \|R_{\lambda_n}(x) - F(R_{\lambda_n}(x))\| = \frac{1}{1 + \lambda_n} \|x - F(R_{\lambda_n}(x))\| \rightarrow 0,$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Since the topology of  $(D, d)$  coincides with the norm topology,  $F: D \rightarrow D$  is norm-continuous, and hence

$$\|F(y) - y\| \leq \|F(y) - F(R_{\lambda_n}(x))\| + \|F(R_{\lambda_n}(x)) - R_{\lambda_n}(x)\| + \|R_{\lambda_n}(x) - y\| \rightarrow 0,$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Thus  $F(y) = y$ , and we obtain a contradiction.  $\square$

#### 4. Main theorem

We begin by recalling one of the fundamental properties of a Hilbert metric space that allows Karlsson and Noskov to extend Beardon's Wolff–Denjoy theorem for bounded strictly convex domains (see [11, Theorem 5.5],[14, Proposition 8.3.3]).

**Lemma 4.1.** *Let  $D \subseteq V$  be an open bounded convex set and  $d$  a Hilbert metric on  $D$ . If  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{y_n\}$  are convergent sequences in  $D$  with limits  $x$  and  $y$  in  $\partial D$ , respectively, and the segment  $[x, y] \not\subseteq \partial D$ , then for each  $z \in D$  we have*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [d(x_n, y_n) - \max\{d(x_n, z), d(y_n, z)\}] = \infty.$$

We also need the following standard argument that can be found for example in [7, Lemma 5.4].

**Lemma 4.2.** *Let  $(D, d)$  be a separable metric space and let  $a_n: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a nonexpansive mapping for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If for every  $x \in D$ , the sequence  $\{a_n(x)\}$  is bounded, then there exists a subsequence  $\{a_{n_j}\}$  of  $\{a_n\}$  such that  $\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} a_{n_j}(x)$  exists for every  $x \in D$ .*

Fix  $x_0 \in D$  and consider a sequence  $\{x_n \in D: n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  contained in  $D$ . Define  $a_n(x) = d(x, x_n) - d(x_n, x_0)$  for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Note that

$$|a_n(y) - a_n(x)| \leq d(x, y),$$

i.e.,  $a_n$  is nonexpansive and the sequence  $\{a_n(y)\}$  is bounded (by  $d(y, x_0)$ ) for every  $y \in D$ . It follows from Lemma 4.2 that there exists a subsequence  $\{x_{n_j}\}$  of  $\{x_n\}$  such that  $\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} a_{n_j}(x)$  exists for any  $x \in D$ , i.e.,

$$(4.1) \quad \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} d(x, x_{n_j}) - d(x_{n_j}, x_0)$$

exists for every  $x \in D$ .

Now we are in a position to prove a variant of the Karlsson–Nussbaum conjecture for resolvents of nonexpansive mappings.

**Theorem 4.3.** *Let  $D \subset V$  be a bounded convex domain. Suppose that  $(D, d)$  is a Hilbert metric space satisfying condition (D) and  $R_\lambda: D \rightarrow D$ ,  $\lambda > 0$ , is a family of resolvents of a nonexpansive mapping  $F: D \rightarrow D$  without fixed points. Then  $\text{co} \Omega_{\{R_\lambda\}_{\lambda > 0}} \subseteq \partial D$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose on the contrary that there exist  $z_1, \dots, z_m \in D$ ,  $\zeta^1 \in \omega_{\{R_\lambda\}_{\lambda > 0}}(z_1)$ ,  $\dots, \zeta^m \in \omega_{\{R_\lambda\}_{\lambda > 0}}(z_m)$  and  $0 < \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m < 1$  with  $\sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i = 1$  such that  $\sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i \zeta^i \in D$ . Since  $F$  does not have fixed points, it follows from Lemma 3.3 that the omega limit sets  $\omega_{\{R_\lambda\}_{\lambda > 0}}(z_i) \subseteq \partial D$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , and, following [14, Theorem 8.3.11], we can assume that  $m \geq 2$  is minimal with the property that

$\sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i \zeta^i \in D$ . It follows that  $R_{\lambda_j^i}(z_i) \rightarrow \zeta^i \in \partial D$  for some increasing sequences  $\{\lambda_j^i\}_j, \lambda_j^i \rightarrow \infty$ , as  $j \rightarrow \infty, i = 1, \dots, m$ . We put  $\zeta = \zeta^1$  and  $\eta = \sum_{i=2}^m \mu_i \zeta^i$ , where  $\mu_i = \frac{\alpha_i}{1-\alpha_1}$  for  $i \in [2, m]$ . Let  $\eta^j = \sum_{i=2}^m \mu_i R_{\lambda_j^i}(z_i)$  for all  $j \geq 1$ . Since  $m$  is minimal, we have  $\zeta, \eta \in \partial D$  and  $\alpha_1 \zeta + (1-\alpha_1)\eta \in D$ . Since  $D$  is convex, we get  $\alpha \zeta + (1-\alpha)\eta \in D$  for all  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ . By passing to a subsequence we can assume from (4.1) that for every  $x \in D$  there exists the limit

$$(4.2) \quad g(x) = \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} d(x, R_{\lambda_j^1}(z_1)) - d(R_{\lambda_j^1}(z_1), z_1).$$

Since

$$\left\| y - \frac{\lambda_j^1 - \mu}{\lambda_j^1} y - \frac{\mu}{\lambda_j^1} z_1 \right\| = \frac{\mu}{\lambda_j^1} \|y - z_1\| \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{as } \lambda_j^1 \rightarrow \infty,$$

and topologies of  $(D, d)$  and  $(\overline{D}, \|\cdot\|)$  coincide on  $D$ , we have

$$(4.3) \quad d\left(y, \frac{\lambda_j^1 - \mu}{\lambda_j^1} y + \frac{\mu}{\lambda_j^1} z_1\right) \rightarrow 0,$$

if  $\lambda_j^1 \rightarrow \infty$ . According to Lemma 3.1, Proposition 3.2, (4.3) and condition (C), we get

$$\begin{aligned} g(R_\mu(y)) &= \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} d(R_\mu(y), R_{\lambda_j^1}(z_1)) - d(R_{\lambda_j^1}(z_1), z_1) \\ &= \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} d\left(R_\mu(y), R_\mu\left(\frac{\lambda_j^1 - \mu}{\lambda_j^1} R_{\lambda_j^1}(z_1) + \frac{\mu}{\lambda_j^1} z_1\right)\right) - d(R_{\lambda_j^1}(z_1), z_1) \\ &\leq \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} d\left(y, \frac{\lambda_j^1 - \mu}{\lambda_j^1} R_{\lambda_j^1}(z_1) + \frac{\mu}{\lambda_j^1} z_1\right) - d(R_{\lambda_j^1}(z_1), z_1) \\ &= \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} d\left(\frac{\lambda_j^1 - \mu}{\lambda_j^1} y + \frac{\mu}{\lambda_j^1} z_1, \frac{\lambda_j^1 - \mu}{\lambda_j^1} R_{\lambda_j^1}(z_1) + \frac{\mu}{\lambda_j^1} z_1\right) - d(R_{\lambda_j^1}(z_1), z_1) \\ &\leq \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} d(y, R_{\lambda_j^1}(z_1)) - d(R_{\lambda_j^1}(z_1), z_1) = g(y). \end{aligned}$$

From the above we have  $g(R_\mu(y)) \leq g(y) \leq d(y, z_1)$  for every  $y \in D$  and  $\mu > 0$ . It follows from (C) that for any  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$g(\eta^k) = g\left(\sum_{i=2}^m \mu_i R_{\lambda_k^i}(z_i)\right) \leq \max_{i=2, \dots, m} g(z_i) \leq \max_{i=2, \dots, m} d(z_i, z_1) = M.$$

Consequently, by diagonal method, there exists a subsequence  $\lambda_{j_1}^1 \leq \lambda_{j_2}^1 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_{j_k}^1 \leq \dots$  of  $\{\lambda_j^1\}$  such that

$$(4.4) \quad \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} d(\eta^k, R_{\lambda_{j_k}^1}(z_1)) - d(R_{\lambda_{j_k}^1}(z_1), z_1) \leq M + 1.$$

Since  $R_{\lambda_j^i}(z_i) \rightarrow \zeta^i$ , as  $j \rightarrow \infty$  for any  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , we have

$$\|\eta^j - \eta\| = \left\| \sum_{i=2}^m \mu_i R_{\lambda_j^i}(z_i) - \sum_{i=2}^m \mu_i \zeta^i \right\| \leq \sum_{i=2}^m \mu_i \|R_{\lambda_j^i}(z_i) - \zeta^i\| \rightarrow 0, \quad j \rightarrow \infty,$$

which implies that  $\|\eta^j - \eta\| \rightarrow 0, j \rightarrow \infty$ . Moreover, since  $[\zeta, \eta] \not\subseteq \partial D$  it follows from Lemma 4.1 that

$$\liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} d(\eta^k, R_{\lambda_{j_k}^1}(z_1)) - d(R_{\lambda_{j_k}^1}(z_1), z_1) = \infty.$$

However, the above formula contradicts (4.4).  $\square$

We can use Theorem 4.3 to show a Wolff–Denjoy type theorem for resolvents of nonexpansive mappings. Let  $(D, d)$  be a geodesic metric space and  $[x, y], [x', y']$  two arbitrary geodesic segments in  $D$ . For every  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ , consider the point  $z = \alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y$  on segment  $[x, y]$  such that  $d(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y, y) = \alpha d(x, y)$  and in the same way, the point  $z' = \alpha x' + (1 - \alpha)y'$  on segment  $[x', y']$  such that  $d(\alpha x' + (1 - \alpha)y', y') = \alpha d(x', y')$ . Recall that a geodesic space  $(D, d)$  is called *Busemann convex* if

$$d(z, z') \leq (1 - \alpha)d(x, x') + \alpha d(y, y')$$

for every  $x, y, x', y' \in D$  and  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ .

Combining Corollary 3.3 and Proposition 3.4 in [2], we obtain the following proposition (see also [12], [16, p. 191]).

**Proposition 4.4.** *Let  $D \subset V$  be a bounded convex domain. A Hilbert metric space  $(D, d)$  is Busemann convex if and only if  $D$  is an ellipsoid.*

Since in Hilbert’s metric spaces every straight-line segment is a geodesic, it follows from Proposition 4.4 that  $(D, d)$  satisfies condition (D), whenever  $D$  is an ellipsoid. This leads to the following Wolff–Denjoy type theorem for resolvents of nonexpansive mappings.

**Corollary 4.5.** *Suppose that  $D \subset V$  is an ellipsoid and  $R_\lambda: D \rightarrow D, \lambda > 0$ , is the resolvent of a nonexpansive mapping  $F: D \rightarrow D$  (with respect to Hilbert’s metric) without fixed points. Then there exists  $\xi \in \partial D$  such that  $\{R_\lambda\}_{\lambda > 0}$  converge uniformly on bounded sets of  $D$  to  $\xi$ .*

*Proof.* It follows from Theorem 4.3 that  $\text{co} \Omega_{\{R_\lambda\}_{\lambda > 0}} \subseteq \partial D$ . Since  $D$  is strictly convex,  $\Omega_{\{R_\lambda\}_{\lambda > 0}}$  consists of a single element  $\xi \in \partial D$ . The proof of uniform convergence on bounded sets is standard (see, e.g., [5]): suppose, on the contrary, that there exist an open neighbourhood  $U \subset \overline{D}$  of  $\xi$ , a bounded set  $K \subset D$  and a sequence  $\{y_{\lambda_n}\} \subset K$  ( $\lambda_n \rightarrow \infty$ ) such that  $R_{\lambda_n}(y_{\lambda_n}) \notin U$  for each  $n$ . Then

$$d(R_{\lambda_n}(y_{\lambda_n}), R_{\lambda_n}(y)) \leq d(y_{\lambda_n}, y) \leq \text{diam } K$$

for any  $y \in K$  and, since  $R_{\lambda_n}(y) \rightarrow \xi$ , we deduce from Lemma 4.1 that  $R_{\lambda_n}(y_{\lambda_n}) \rightarrow \xi \in \overline{D} \setminus U$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

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