# ON THE FIRST PROLONGATIONAL LIMIT SET OF FLOWS OF FREE MAPPINGS 

ZBIGNIEW LEŚNIAK


#### Abstract

We consider an equivalence relation defined for a given flow of the plane which has no fixed points. We prove that the first prolongational limit set of every point from the boundary of an equivalence class is contained in the boundary of this class. Moreover, if two points lying on two different boundary orbits of a class are contained in the same component of the complement of an orbit of this class, then each of these two points is contained in the first prolongational limit set of the other one.


## 1. Introduction

We assume that $f$ is a free mapping, i.e. a homeomorphism of the plane onto itself without fixed points which preserves orientation. We consider a relation in $\mathbb{R}^{2}$ defined in the following way:
$p \sim q$ if $p=q$ or $p$ and $q$ are endpoints of some arc $K$ for which $f^{n}(K) \rightarrow \infty$ as $n \rightarrow \pm \infty$. By an arc $K$ with endpoints $p$ and $q$ we mean the image of a homeomorphism $c:[0,1] \rightarrow$ $c([0,1])$ satisfying conditions $c(0)=p, c(1)=q$, where the topology on $c([0,1])$ is induced by the topology of $\mathbb{R}^{2}$. It turns out that the relation defined above is an equivalence relation (see [5]) and has the same equivalence classes as the relation defined by S. Andrea in [1].

From now on we assume that $f$ is embeddable in a flow $\left\{f^{t}: t \in \mathbb{R}\right\}$. It follows from the Jordan theorem that each orbit $C$ of $\left\{f^{t}: t \in \mathbb{R}\right\}$ divides the plane into two simply connected regions. Note that each of them is invariant under $f^{t}$ for $t \in \mathbb{R}$. Thus two different orbits $C_{p}$ and $C_{q}$ of points $p$ and $q$, respectively, divide the plane into three simply connected invariant regions, one of which contains both $C_{p}$ and $C_{q}$ in its boundary. We will call this region by the strip between $C_{p}$ and $C_{q}$ and denote by $D_{p q}$.

For any distinct orbits $C_{p_{1}}, C_{p_{2}}, C_{p_{3}}$ of $\left\{f^{t}: t \in \mathbb{R}\right\}$ one of the following two possibilities must be satisfied: exactly one of the orbits $C_{p_{1}}, C_{p_{2}}, C_{p_{3}}$ is contained in the strip between the other two or each of the orbits $C_{p_{1}}, C_{p_{2}}, C_{p_{3}}$ is contained in the strip between the other two. In the first case if $C_{p_{j}}$ is the orbit which lies in the strip between $C_{p_{i}}$ and $C_{p_{k}}$ we will write $C_{p_{i}}\left|C_{p_{j}}\right| C_{p_{k}}(i, j, k \in\{1,2,3\}$ and $i, j, k$ are different). In the second case we will write $\left|C_{p_{i}}, C_{p_{j}}, C_{p_{k}}\right|$ (see [3]).

[^0]Put

$$
\begin{aligned}
& J^{+}(q):=\left\{p \in \mathbb{R}^{2}: \text { there exist a sequence }\left(q_{n}\right)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}\right. \text { and a sequence } \\
&\left(t_{n}\right)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \text { such that } q_{n} \rightarrow q, t_{n} \rightarrow+\infty, f^{t_{n}}\left(q_{n}\right) \rightarrow p \\
&\text { as } n \rightarrow+\infty\}, \\
& J^{-}(q):=\left\{p \in \mathbb{R}^{2}: \text { there exist a sequence }\left(q_{n}\right)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}\right. \text { and a sequence } \\
&\left(t_{n}\right)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \text { such that } q_{n} \rightarrow q, t_{n} \rightarrow-\infty, f^{t_{n}}\left(q_{n}\right) \rightarrow p \\
&\text { as } n \rightarrow+\infty\} .
\end{aligned}
$$

The set $J(q):=J^{+}(q) \cup J^{-}(q)$ is called the first prolongational limit set of $q$. Let us observe that $p \in J(q)$ if and only if $q \in J(p)$ for any $p, q \in \mathbb{R}^{2}$. For a subset $H \subset \mathbb{R}^{2}$ we define

$$
J(H):=\bigcup_{q \in H} J(q) .
$$

One can observe that for each $p \in \mathbb{R}^{2}$ the set $J(p)$ is invariant.
In this paper we study the structure of the first prolongational limit set $J\left(\mathbb{R}^{2}\right)$ of a flow of free mappings. To this end we use equivalence classes of the equivalence relation defined above. These results can be useful in finding maximal parallelizable domains of such flows, because the boundary of each maximal parallelizable domain is contained in $J\left(\mathbb{R}^{2}\right)$ (see [9]).

Now we collect the results from [5], [6], [7] and [8] which are needed in our considerations.
Proposition 1.1 (see [5]) Each equivalence class is invariant under for $t \in \mathbb{R}$. In particular, each orbit of $\left\{f^{t}: t \in \mathbb{R}\right\}$ is contained in exactly one equivalence class of the relation $\sim$.

Proposition 1.2. (see [8]) The boundary of each equivalence class is a union of a family of orbits. In particular, the boundary of each class is invariant.

Proposition 1.3. (see [7]) If $q \in \operatorname{int} G_{0}$ for an equivalence class $G_{0}$, then $q \notin J\left(\mathbf{R}^{2}\right)$, i.e. $J(q)=$ $\varnothing$.

Proposition 1.4. (see [6]) Let $p \in \operatorname{fr} G_{0}$ and $q \in G_{0} \backslash C_{p}$ for an equivalence class $G_{0}$. Let $K$ be an arc with endpoints $p$ and $q$ such that $K \backslash\{p, q\} \subset D_{p q}$ and $C_{p}\left|C_{r}\right| C_{q}$ for every $r \in K \backslash\{p, q\}$. Then $r \in G_{0}$ for every $r \in K \backslash\{p\}$. Moreover, $C_{p}\left|C_{s}\right| C_{q}$ for every $s \in D_{p q} \cap G_{0}$.

Proposition 1.5. (see [6]) Let $p \in \operatorname{fr} G_{0}$ for an equivalence class $G_{0}$. Then for every class $G$ such that $G \backslash C_{p} \neq \varnothing$ the set $\operatorname{cl} G \backslash C_{p}$ is contained in exactly one of the components of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{p}$.

Proposition 1.6. (see [8]) Let $C_{1}, C_{2}$ be any orbits of $\left\{f^{t}: t \in \mathbb{R}\right\}$. If $C_{1}, C_{2}$ are contained in an equivalence class, then each point of the strip between $C_{1}$ and $C_{2}$ belongs to the interior of this class.

Proposition 1.7. (see [5]) For any orbit $C_{1}, C_{2}, C_{3}$ of $\left\{f^{t}: t \in \mathbb{R}\right\}$, if $\left|C_{1}, C_{2}, C_{3}\right|$, then $C_{1}, C_{2}$, $C_{3}$ cannot be contained in the same equivalence class of $\sim$.

## 2. First Prolongational Limit Set of a Boundary Point of a Class

In this section we prove that the first prolongational limit set of every point from the boundary of a class is contained in the boundary of this class.

Theomrem 2.1. Let $G_{0}$ be an equivalence class which does not consist of just one orbit. Let $H_{0}$ the component of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{p}$ which contains $\operatorname{cl} G_{0} \backslash C_{p}$. Assume that $p \in \operatorname{fr} G_{0}, q \in H_{0}$ and $q \in J(p)$. Then $q \in \operatorname{cl} G_{0}$.

Proof. Denote by $L$ the straight line segment with endpoints $q$ and $p$. Let $p_{0}$ be the first point of $L$ belonging to $C_{p}$. Then by Proposition 1.2 we have $p_{0} \in \operatorname{fr} G_{0}$. Moreover, $p_{0} \in J(q)$, since $p_{0} \in C_{p}, p \in J(q)$ and $J(q)$ is invariant. Let $L_{0}$ denote the subsegment of $L$ having $q$ and $p_{0}$ as its endpoints.

Let $q_{0}$ be the first point of $L_{0}$ belonging to $\mathrm{cl} G_{0}$. Such a point $q_{0}$ exists on account of the Weierstrass theorem, since $L_{0} \cap \operatorname{cl} G_{0}$ is a compact set. Now we will prove that $q_{0} \in \operatorname{fr} G_{0}$. If $s \in L_{0} \cap \operatorname{int} G_{0}$, then there exists a ball $B(s, \varepsilon)$ centered at $s$ with a radius $\varepsilon>0$ such that $\operatorname{cl} B(s, \varepsilon) \subset \operatorname{int} G_{0}$. Hence $s$ cannot be the first point of $L_{0}$ belonging to $\mathrm{cl}_{0}$, and consequently $s \neq q_{0}$. Thus $q_{0} \in \operatorname{fr} G_{0}$, since $q_{0} \in L_{0} \cap \operatorname{cl} G_{0}$ and $s \neq q_{0}$ for all $s \in L_{0} \cap \operatorname{int} G_{0}$.

Now we will show that $q_{0} \notin C_{p}$, i.e. $q_{0} \neq p_{0}$. On account of the Whitney-Bebutov theorem (see [2], p. 52) there exists a neighbourhood $V_{1}$ of $p$ which is a union of orbits such that $\left\{\left.f^{t}\right|_{V_{1}}\right.$ : $t \in \mathbb{R}\}$ is conjugate with the flow of translations, i.e. there exists a homeomorphism $\psi: V_{1} \rightarrow$ $(-\infty,+\infty) \times(-1,1)$ such that $\psi(p)=(0,0)$ and for every orbit $C$ contained in $V_{1}$ the image of $C$ under $\psi$ is a horizontal straight line in the open set $(-\infty,+\infty) \times(-1,1)$. Then $J\left(V_{1}\right) \cap V_{1}=\varnothing$ (see [2], p. 46 and 49), and consequently $q \notin V_{1}$.

Since $p \in \operatorname{fr} G_{0}$ and $G_{0}$ does not consist of just one orbit, there exists a point $r_{1} \in V_{1} \cap H_{0}$ such that $r_{1} \in G_{0}$. Let $K_{1}$ be a section of $V_{1}$ passing through $p_{0}$ and $r_{1}$ (as $K_{1}$ we can take the preimage of the straight line containing $\psi\left(p_{0}\right)$ and $\left.\psi\left(r_{1}\right)\right)$. Then by Proposition 1.4, $s \in G_{0}$ for every $s \in K_{1} \cap D_{r_{1} p}$. Hence by Proposition 1.1 we have $V_{1} \cap D_{r_{1} p} \subset G_{0}$. Let $B_{1}$ be the preimage of a closed ball with center at $\psi\left(p_{0}\right)$ contained in $(-\infty,+\infty) \times(-1,1)$ which has no common point with $(-\infty,+\infty) \times\left\{\psi\left(r_{1}\right)\right\}$. Then $B_{1} \cap H_{0} \subset V_{1} \cap D_{r_{1} p}$ and fr $B_{1}$ is a Jordan curve having exactly two common points with $C_{p}$. Denote these points by $z_{1}$ and $z_{2}$.

Since $q \notin V_{1}$ and $B_{1} \subset V_{1}$, we have $q \notin B_{1}$. Hence the endpoint $q$ of $L_{0}$ lies outside of the Jordan curve $\mathrm{fr} B_{1}$, whereas the second endpoint $p_{0}$ of $L_{0}$ lies inside of $\mathrm{fr} B_{1}$. Thus by the Jordan Theorem there exists a point $x_{1} \in L_{0} \cap \mathrm{fr} B_{1}$. By the fact that $p_{0}$ is the only point of $L_{0}$ belonging to $C_{p}$, we have $x_{1} \neq z_{1}$ and $x_{1} \neq z_{2}$. Since $L_{0} \subset \operatorname{cl} H_{0}$, the point $x_{1}$ belongs to the arc of $\operatorname{fr} B_{1}$ having $z_{1}$ and $z_{2}$ as its endpoints which is contained in $\mathrm{cl} H_{0}$. Since every point of this arc different from $z_{1}$ and $z_{2}$ belongs to $V_{1} \cap D_{r_{1} p}$ and $V_{1} \cap D_{r_{1} p} \subset G_{0}$, we have $x_{1} \in G_{0}$. Hence $q_{0}$ belongs to the subarc of $L_{0}$ having $q$ and $x_{1}$ as its endpoints, since $q_{0}$ is the first point of $L_{0}$ belonging to cl $G_{0}$. Thus $q_{0} \notin C_{p}$, and consequently $q_{0} \in \operatorname{cl} G_{0} \backslash C_{p}$.

Now we show that $q=q_{0}$. Suppose, on the contrary, that $q \neq q_{0}$. Since $q_{0} \in \operatorname{fr} G_{0}$, we have by Proposition 1.5 that the set $\operatorname{cl} G_{0} \backslash C_{q_{0}}$ is contained in exactly one of the components of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{q_{0}}$. Denote this component by $F_{0}$. In particular, $p \in F_{0}$, since $q_{0} \notin C_{p}$. In the same way as before we can find a neighbourhood $V_{2}$ of $q_{0}$ which is a union of orbits such that $\left\{\left.f^{t}\right|_{V_{2}}: t \in \mathbb{R}\right\}$ is conjugate with the flow of translations and a homeomorphic preimage $B_{2}$ of a closed ball such that $B_{2} \cap F_{0} \subset V_{2} \cap D_{r_{2} q_{0}} \subset G_{0}$ for some $r_{2} \in V_{2} \cap F_{0} \cap G_{0}, q_{0} \in \operatorname{int} B_{2}, q \notin B_{2}$ and $\operatorname{fr} B_{2}$ is a Jordan curve having exactly two common points with $C_{q_{0}}$. Denote these points by $y_{1}$ and $y_{2}$.

Denote by $L_{1}$ the subarc of $L_{0}$ having $q$ and $q_{0}$ as its endpoints. By the Jordan Theorem, there exists a point $x_{2} \in L_{1} \cap \mathrm{fr} B_{2}$. It follows from Propositions 1.1 and 1.2 that $\mathrm{cl}_{0}$ is a union of orbits. Hence by the fact that $y_{1}, y_{2} \in C_{q_{0}}$, we have $y_{1}, y_{2} \in \operatorname{cl} G_{0}$. Since $q_{0}$ is the only point of $L_{1}$ belonging to $\operatorname{cl} G_{0}$ and $q_{0} \in \operatorname{int} B_{2}$, we have $x_{2} \neq y_{1}$ and $x_{2} \neq y_{2}$. Moreover, the point $q_{0}$ is the first point of $L_{1}$ belonging to $C_{q_{0}}$, since it is the first point of $L_{1}$ belonging to cl $G_{0}$. Hence $L_{1} \backslash\left\{q_{0}\right\}$ is contained in one of the components of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{q_{0}}$. By the definition of $J(p)$ we have $J(p) \subset F_{0} \cup C_{q_{0}}$. Since $p \in F_{0}$ and $F_{0}$ is invariant, we get from the assumption $q \in J(p)$ that $q \in F_{0} \cup C_{q_{0}}$. Consequently $L_{1} \backslash\left\{q_{0}\right\} \subset F_{0}$. Hence $x_{2} \in K_{2} \backslash\left\{y_{1}, y_{2}\right\}$, where $K_{2}$ is the arc of fr $B_{2}$ having $y_{1}$ and $y_{2}$ as its endpoints which is contained in $F_{0}$. Since this arc is a subset of $G_{0}$, we have $x_{2} \in G_{0}$. But this contradicts the fact that $q_{0}$ is the first point of $L_{1}$ belonging to $\mathrm{cl} G_{0}$. Thus $q=q_{0}$, and consequently $q \in \operatorname{cl} G_{0}$.

Corollary 2.2. Let $G_{0}$ be an equivalence class which does not consist of just one orbit. Let $H_{0}$ be the component of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{p}$ which contains $\operatorname{cl} G_{0} \backslash C_{p}$. Assume that $p \in \operatorname{fr} G_{0}, q \in H_{0}$ and $q \in J(p)$. Then $q \in \operatorname{fr} G_{0}$.

Proof. By Theorem 2.1, we have that $q \in \operatorname{cl} G_{0}$. On account of Proposition 1.3 the point $q$ cannot belong to int $G_{0}$. Thus $q \in \operatorname{fr} G_{0}$.

## 3. Properties of Boundary Orbits

In this section we prove that if two points lying on two different boundary orbits of a class are contained in the same component of the complement of an orbit of this class, then each of these two points is contained in the first prolongational limit set of the other one.

Proposition 3.1. Let $G_{0}$ be an equivalence class which does not consist of just one orbit. Let $p \in \operatorname{fr} G_{0}, q \in \operatorname{fr} G_{0}$ and $C_{p} \neq C_{q}$. Assume that $p$ and $q$ belong to the same component of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{r_{0}}$ for an $r_{0} \in G_{0}$. Then $p$ and $q$ belong to the same component of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{r}$ for every $r \in \operatorname{int} G_{0}$.

Proof. Fix an $r \in \operatorname{int} G_{0} \backslash C_{r_{0}}$. Denote by $H_{0}$ the component of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{r_{0}}$ which contains $p$ and $q$. If $r \notin H_{0}$, then $p$ and $q$ belong to the component of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{r}$ which contains $r_{0}$. Now assume that $r \in H_{0}$. Then by Proposition 1.6 neither $p$ nor $q$ belongs to $D_{r r_{0}}$, since $p \notin$ int $G_{0}$ and $q \notin \operatorname{int} G_{0}$. Thus $p$ and $q$ belong to the same component of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{r}$, since $p, q \in H_{0} \backslash\left(D_{r r_{0}} \cup C_{r}\right)$.

Theorem 3.2. Let $G_{0}$ be an equivalence class which does not consist of just one orbit. Let $p \in \operatorname{fr} G_{0}, q \in \operatorname{fr} G_{0}$ and $C_{p} \neq C_{q}$. Assume that $p$ and $q$ belong to the same component of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{r}$ for an $r \in G_{0}$. Then $p \in J(q)$.

Proof. First we prove that $p \notin G_{0}$ and $q \notin G_{0}$. Suppose, on the contrary, that one of the points $p, q$ belongs to $G_{0}$. Let $p \in G_{0}$. By Proposition 1.5, $q$ and $r$ are contained in the same component of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{p}$. On the other hand, by our assumption, $q$ and $p$ are contained in the same component of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{r}$. Thus $q \in D_{p r}$. Hence by Proposition $1.6 q \in \operatorname{int} G_{0}$, since $p \in G_{0}$. But this contradicts the assumption that $q \in \operatorname{fr} G_{0}$.

On account of the Whitney-Bebutov theorem (see [2], p. 52) there exists a neighbourhood $V_{1}$ of $p$ which is a union of orbits such that $\left\{\left.f^{t}\right|_{V_{1}}: t \in \mathbb{R}\right\}$ is conjugate with the flow of
translations, i.e. there exists a homeomorphism $\psi_{1}$ of $V_{1}$ onto $(-\infty,+\infty) \times(-1,1)$ such that $\psi_{1}(p)=(0,0)$ and for every orbit $C$ contained in $V_{1}$ the image of $C$ under $\psi_{1}$ is a horizontal straight line in the open set $(-\infty,+\infty) \times(-1,1)$. Without loosing of generality we can assume that $r \notin V_{1}$. Since $p \in \operatorname{fr} G_{0}$, there exists a point $s_{1} \in V_{1}$ such that $s_{1} \in G_{0}$. Then by Proposition $1.5 s_{1}$ and $r$ are contained in the same component of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{p}$.

Take as $K_{0}$ the image under $\psi_{1}^{-1}$ of the segment in $(-\infty,+\infty) \times(-1,1)$ from $\psi_{1}\left(s_{1}\right)$ to $\psi_{1}(p)$. Then $K_{0}$ has just one common point with every orbit contained in $D_{p s_{1}} \cap V_{1}, K_{0} \backslash\left\{p, s_{1}\right\} \subset D_{p s_{1}}$ and $C_{p}\left|C_{x}\right| C_{s_{1}}$ for all $x \in K_{0} \backslash\left\{p, s_{1}\right\}$. Then by Proposition 1.4 we have $K_{0} \backslash\{p\} \subset G_{0}$. In the same way we can find a neighbourhood $V_{2}$ of $q$ which is a union of orbits such that $\left\{\left.f^{t}\right|_{V_{2}}\right.$ : $t \in \mathbb{R}\}$ is conjugate with the flow of translations and $r \notin V_{2}$, a point $s_{2} \in V_{2} \cap G_{0}$ and an arc $L_{0}$ from $s_{2}$ to $q$ such that $L_{0}$ has just one common point with every orbit contained in $D_{q s_{2}} \cap V_{2}$, $L_{0} \backslash\left\{q, s_{2}\right\} \subset D_{q s_{2}}$ and $L_{0} \backslash\{q\} \subset G_{0}$.

Fix $\varepsilon_{1}, \varepsilon_{2}>0$ such that $\operatorname{cl} B\left(p, \varepsilon_{1}\right) \cap \operatorname{cl} B\left(q, \varepsilon_{2}\right)=\varnothing, s_{1}, s_{2} \notin \operatorname{cl} B\left(p, \varepsilon_{1}\right), s_{1}, s_{2} \notin \operatorname{cl} B\left(q, \varepsilon_{2}\right)$, $\mathrm{cl} B\left(p, \varepsilon_{1}\right) \cap C_{r}=\phi, \operatorname{cl} B\left(q, \varepsilon_{2}\right) \cap C_{r}=\varnothing, \operatorname{cl} B\left(p, \varepsilon_{1}\right) \cap C_{q}=\phi$ and $\mathrm{cl} B\left(q, \varepsilon_{2}\right) \cap C_{p}=\phi$. Denote by $p_{0}$ the last point of $K_{0}$ which belongs to $\operatorname{fr} B\left(p, \varepsilon_{1}\right)$ and let $K_{1}$ be the subarc of $K_{0}$ having $p_{0}$ and $p$ as its endpoints. Then $K_{1} \backslash\{p\} \subset G_{0}$ and $K_{1} \backslash\left\{p_{0}\right\} \subset B\left(p, \varepsilon_{1}\right)$. Take a positive $\varepsilon_{3} \leq \varepsilon_{2}$ such that $\operatorname{cl} B\left(q, \varepsilon_{3}\right) \cap C_{p_{0}}=\varnothing$. Denote by $q_{0}$ the last point of $L_{0}$ which belongs to $\operatorname{fr} B\left(q, \varepsilon_{3}\right)$. Let $L_{1}$ be the subarc of $L_{0}$ having $q_{0}$ and $q$ as its endpoints. Then $L_{1} \backslash\{q\} \subset G_{0}$ and $L_{1} \backslash\left\{q_{0}\right\} \subset B\left(q, \varepsilon_{3}\right)$.

On account of Proposition 1.7 the relation $\cdot|\cdot| \cdot$ holds for the orbits $C_{p_{0}}, C_{q_{0}}, C_{r}$, since $p_{0}, q_{0}, r \in G_{0}$. Suppose that $C_{p_{0}}\left|C_{q_{0}}\right| C_{r}$. Then $\operatorname{cl} B\left(q, \varepsilon_{3}\right) \subset D_{r p_{0}}$, since $\operatorname{cl} B\left(q, \varepsilon_{3}\right) \cap C_{p_{0}}=\varnothing$, $\operatorname{cl} B\left(q, \varepsilon_{3}\right) \cap C_{r}=\varnothing$ and $q_{0} \in \operatorname{cl} B\left(q, \varepsilon_{3}\right)$. Hence by Proposition 1.6 we have $q \in \operatorname{int} G_{0}$, which is impossible. Consequently, $C_{q_{0}}\left|C_{p_{0}}\right| C_{r}$, since $q_{0}$ and $p_{0}$ belong to the same component of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{r}$.

From the definition of $p_{0}$ and $q_{0}$ it follows that $p, q, p_{0}$ and $q_{0}$ belong to the same component of of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{r}$. Suppose that $p \in D_{r q_{0}}$. Then by Proposition 1.6 we have $p \in \operatorname{int} G_{0}$, which is impossible. Thus $p \notin D_{r q_{0}}$. Moreover, $p \notin C_{q_{0}}$, since $p \notin G_{0}$ and $q_{0} \in G_{0}$. Consequently $p$ belongs to the component of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{q_{0}}$ which does not contain $r$. Thus $p_{0}$ and $p$ lies in different components of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{q_{0}}$, which means that $C_{p}\left|C_{q_{0}}\right| C_{p_{0}}$. In the same way we can show that $C_{q}\left|C_{q_{0}}\right| C_{p_{0}}$. Hence $L_{1}$ and $p$ are contained in the same component of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{p_{0}}$. On the other hand, by Proposition 1.5, $L_{1}$ and $p_{0}$ are contained in the same component of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{p}$, since $L_{1} \subset \operatorname{cl} G_{0}, p_{0} \in G_{0}$ and $q \notin C_{p}$. Thus $L_{1} \subset D_{p p_{0}}$.

Take a sequence $\left(q_{n}\right)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ such that $q_{n} \rightarrow q$ as $n \rightarrow \infty, q_{n} \neq q$ and $q_{n} \in L_{1}$ for all $n$. Then $q_{n} \in D_{p p_{0}} \cap G_{0}$, since $L_{1} \subset D_{p p_{0}}$ and $L_{1} \backslash\{q\} \subset G_{0}$. By Proposition 1.4 we have $C_{p_{0}}\left|C_{q_{n}}\right| C_{p}$. Hence $C_{q_{n}} \cap K_{1} \neq \varnothing$ for every $n$. Since $K_{1}$ has at most one common point with each orbit, the set $C_{q_{n}} \cap K_{1}$ consists of just one point for every $n$. Denote this point by $p_{n}$. Thus there exists a sequence $\left(t_{n}\right)$ such that $p_{n}=f^{t_{n}}\left(q_{n}\right)$. Since $\operatorname{cl} B\left(p, \varepsilon_{1}\right) \cap \operatorname{cl} B\left(q, \varepsilon_{3}\right)=\varnothing$, we have $K_{1} \cap L_{1}=\varnothing$. Hence either $t_{n}>0$ for all $n$ or $t_{n}<0$ for all $n$. We assume without loosing of generality that $t_{n}>0$ for all $n$.

Now we show that $p_{n} \rightarrow p$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Fix an $\varepsilon>0$. Let $\varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_{1}$. Denote by $z$ the last point of $K_{1}$ which belongs to fr $B(p, \varepsilon)$. Denote by $K_{2}$ the subarc of $K_{1}$ having $z$ and $p$ as its endpoints. Then $K_{2} \backslash\{z\} \subset B(p, \varepsilon)$. Let $V_{3}:=V_{2} \cap H_{z}$, where $H_{z}$ denotes the component of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash C_{z}$ which contains $q$. Since $V_{3}$ is a neighbourhood of $q$ and $q_{n} \rightarrow q$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, there exists an $n_{0}$ such that $q_{n} \in V_{3}$ for all $n>n_{0}$. In the same way as before (taking $z$ instead of $p_{0}$ and $q_{n}$ instead of
$q_{0}$ ) we get that $C_{z}\left|C_{q_{n}}\right| C_{q}$ and $C_{z}\left|C_{q_{n}}\right| C_{p}$. Hence $p \in H_{z}$ and consequently $K_{2}=K_{1} \cap H_{z}$. Thus for all $n>n_{0}$ we have $p_{n} \in K_{2}$, since $C_{q_{n}} \in H_{z}$ for all $n>n_{0}$ and $p_{n} \in C_{q_{n}}$. Hence by the fact that $K_{2} \backslash\{z\} \subset B(p, \varepsilon)$ we have $p_{n} \in B(p, \varepsilon)$ for all $n>n_{0}$.

To finish the proof we show that there exists a subsequence $\left(t_{n_{k}}\right)$ of the sequence $\left(t_{n}\right)$ which tends to $+\infty$ as $n_{k} \rightarrow \infty$. Suppose, on the contrary, that there exists a positive integer $\alpha$ such that $t_{n} \leq \alpha$ for all $n$. Denote by $J$ the Jordan curve which is a union of $L_{1}, f^{\alpha}\left(L_{1}\right)$, the subarc of $C_{q_{0}}$ with endpoints $q_{0}$ and $f^{\alpha}\left(q_{0}\right)$ and the subarc of $C_{q}$ with endpoints $q$ and $f^{\alpha}(q)$. Let $B:=J \cup$ ins $J$, where by ins $J$ we mean the bounded component of $\mathbb{R}^{2} \backslash J$. Then $B$ is a closed set and $f^{t_{n}}\left(q_{n}\right) \in B$ for every $n$. Hence by the fact that $p=\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} f^{t_{n}}\left(q_{n}\right)$ we have $p \in B$. But this is impossible, since $B \subset G_{0} \cup C_{q}$ and $\left(G_{0} \cup C_{q}\right) \cap C_{p}=\varnothing$. Thus there exists a subsequence ( $t_{n_{k}}$ ) of the sequence $\left(t_{n}\right)$ such that $\lim _{k \rightarrow \infty} t_{n_{k}}=+\infty$. Hence $\lim _{k \rightarrow \infty} q_{n_{k}}=q$ and $\lim _{k \rightarrow \infty} f^{t_{n_{k}}}\left(q_{n_{k}}\right)=p$, since $\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} q_{n}=q$ and $\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} f^{t_{n}}\left(q_{n}\right)=p$. Consequently $p \in$ $J(q)$.

## References

[1] S. A. Andrea, On homeomorphisms of the plane which have no fixed points, Abh. Math. Sem. Hamburg 30(1967), 61-74.
[2] N. P. Bhatia, G. P. Szegö, Stability Theory of Dynamical Systems, Springer-Verlag, Berlin-HeidelbergNew York 1970.
[3] W. Kaplan, Regular curve-families filling the plane I, Duke Math. J. 7(1940), 154-185.
[4] W. Kaplan, Regular curve-families filling the plane II, Duke Math. J. 8 (1941), 11-46.
[5] Z. Leśniak, On an equivalence relation for free mappings embeddeable in a flow, Internat. J. Bifur. Chaos Appl. Sci. Engrg. 13(2003), 1911-1915.
[6] Z. Leśniak, On boundary orbits of a flow of free mappings of the plane, Int. J. Pure Appl. Math. 42(2008), 5-11.
[7] Z. Leśniak, On maximal parallelizable regions offlows of the plane, Int. J. Pure Appl. Math. 30(2006), 151-156.
[8] Z. Leśniak, On parallelizability offlows of free mappings, Aequationes Math. 71(2006), 280-287.
[9] R. C. McCann, Planar dynamical systems without critical points, Funkcial. Ekvac. 13(1970), 67-95.

Institute of Mathematics, Pedagogical University, Podchorążych 2, 30-084 Kraków, Poland.
E-mail: zlesniak@ap.krakow.pl


[^0]:    Received December 25, 2006; revised June 3, 2008.
    2000 Mathematics Subject Classification. Primary 39B12; Secondary 54H20, 37E30.
    Key words and phrases. Free mapping, first prolongational limit set, parallelizable flow.

