



proof of converse of Möbius transformation cross-ratio preservation theorem

Canonical name	ProofOfConverseOfMobiusTransformationCrossratioPreservationTheorem
Date of creation	2013-03-22 17:01:51
Last modified on	2013-03-22 17:01:51
Owner	rspuzio (6075)
Last modified by	rspuzio (6075)
Numerical id	6
Author	rspuzio (6075)
Entry type	Proof
Classification	msc 30E20

Suppose that a, b, c, d are distinct. Consider the transform μ defined as

$$\mu(z) = \frac{(b-d)(c-d)}{(c-b)(z-d)} - \frac{b-d}{c-b}.$$

Simple calculation reveals that $\mu(b) = 1$, $\mu(c) = 0$, and $\mu(d) = \infty$. Furthermore, $\mu(a)$ equals the cross-ratio of a, b, c, d .

Suppose we have two tetrads with a common cross-ratio λ . Then, as above, we may construct a transform μ_1 which maps the first tetrad to $(\lambda, 1, 0, \infty)$ and a transform μ_2 which maps the first tetrad to $(\lambda, 1, 0, \infty)$. Then $\mu_2^{-1} \circ \mu_1$ maps the former tetrad to the latter and, by the group property, it is also a Möbius transformation.